

Career Outcomes of Life Science PhD Graduates 2003-2024



Sector Upon Graduation (N=4,801)

Coalition for Next Generation Life Sciences

	Academia		For-Profit		Government		Nonprofit		Not found	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	50	42%	23	19%	17	14%	6	5%	22	19%
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	215	47%	107	23%	32	7%	36	8%	67	15%
Biological Chemistry	32	43%	10	13%	5	7%	9	12%	19	25%
Biology	146	40%	90	25%	33	9%	27	7%	67	18%
Biomedical Engineering	193	39%	172	35%	34	7%	30	6%	60	12%
Biophysics	53	51%	23	22%	9	9%	5	5%	13	13%
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	6	55%	4	36%	0	0%	0	0%	1	9%
Biostatistics	93	60%	43	28%	6	4%	0	0%	14	9%
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	193	51%	94	25%	18	5%	33	9%	44	12%
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	29	62%	8	17%	0	0%	3	6%	7	15%
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	75	27%	134	48%	19	7%	12	4%	37	13%
Chemical Biology	21	43%	15	31%	5	10%	2	4%	6	12%
Chemical Engineering	4	40%	3	30%	1	10%	0	0%	2	20%
Chemistry	146	42%	111	32%	35	10%	12	3%	44	13%
Clinical Investigation	97	72%	6	4%	3	2%	6	4%	22	16%
Environmental Health and Engineering	27	52%	10	19%	9	17%	2	4%	4	8%
Epidemiology	233	52%	67	15%	50	11%	24	5%	70	16%
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	26	72%	1	3%	1	3%	0	0%	8	22%
Geography and Environmental Engineering	39	30%	35	27%	14	11%	4	3%	40	30%
Human Genetics and Genomics	91	44%	43	21%	19	9%	18	9%	37	18%
Immunology	60	51%	19	16%	9	8%	14	12%	16	14%
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	61	39%	32	21%	28	18%	13	8%	22	14%
Neuroscience	135	53%	53	21%	7	3%	23	9%	39	15%
Pathobiology	53	43%	33	27%	10	8%	7	6%	19	16%
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	72	41%	48	27%	20	11%	14	8%	23	13%
Program in Molecular Biophysics	35	44%	19	24%	10	13%	8	10%	8	10%

Sector Five Years After Graduation (N=3,823)

	Academia		For-Profit		Government		Nonprofit		Not found	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	30	31%	24	25%	10	10%	7	7%	25	26%
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	125	32%	106	27%	32	8%	24	6%	100	26%
Biological Chemistry	17	26%	11	17%	4	6%	9	14%	25	38%
Biology	99	35%	78	27%	23	8%	19	7%	67	23%
Biomedical Engineering	106	29%	126	35%	28	8%	20	6%	80	22%
Biophysics	36	44%	14	17%	9	11%	7	9%	16	20%
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	2	33%	3	50%	0	0%	0	0%	1	17%
Biostatistics	54	44%	38	31%	7	6%	2	2%	22	18%
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	112	37%	78	26%	15	5%	24	8%	74	24%
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	16	44%	5	14%	0	0%	2	6%	13	36%
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	38	21%	93	52%	9	5%	8	4%	30	17%
Chemical Biology	7	23%	13	42%	5	16%	1	3%	5	16%
Chemical Engineering	4	40%	3	30%	1	10%	0	0%	2	20%
Chemistry	75	28%	100	37%	32	12%	9	3%	55	20%
Clinical Investigation	55	50%	5	5%	0	0%	6	5%	44	40%
Environmental Health and Engineering	12	44%	5	19%	4	15%	3	11%	3	11%
Epidemiology	172	45%	50	13%	34	9%	13	3%	115	30%
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	20	67%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%	9	30%
Geography and Environmental Engineering	32	28%	22	19%	9	8%	2	2%	48	42%
Human Genetics and Genomics	59	35%	35	20%	15	9%	15	9%	47	27%
Immunology	39	41%	17	18%	8	8%	9	9%	22	23%
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	43	30%	38	27%	19	13%	13	9%	28	20%
Neuroscience	81	39%	36	17%	9	4%	17	8%	67	32%
Pathobiology	33	36%	24	26%	6	7%	6	7%	22	24%
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	41	28%	52	35%	17	11%	7	5%	32	21%
Program in Molecular Biophysics	18	27%	26	39%	9	13%	3	4%	11	16%

Sector Ten Years After Graduation (N=2,647)

	Academia		For-Profit		Government		Nonprofit		Not found	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	19	27%	18	25%	8	11%	4	6%	22	31%
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	97	34%	89	32%	22	8%	19	7%	55	20%
Biological Chemistry	15	30%	9	18%	4	8%	6	12%	16	32%
Biology	61	32%	68	35%	11	6%	6	3%	46	24%
Biomedical Engineering	67	29%	104	45%	13	6%	10	4%	38	16%
Biophysics	28	43%	20	31%	7	11%	0	0%	10	15%
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Biostatistics	40	54%	18	24%	2	3%	0	0%	14	19%
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	63	32%	59	30%	16	8%	16	8%	45	23%
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	11	42%	7	27%	0	0%	4	15%	4	15%
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	27	24%	54	48%	7	6%	3	3%	22	19%
Chemical Biology	1	11%	2	22%	2	22%	0	0%	4	44%
Chemical Engineering	4	40%	2	20%	1	10%	0	0%	3	30%
Chemistry	41	22%	87	46%	18	9%	6	3%	38	20%
Clinical Investigation	42	55%	4	5%	3	4%	4	5%	24	31%
Epidemiology	141	46%	42	14%	35	11%	13	4%	74	24%
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	14	64%	0	0%	0	0%	2	9%	6	27%
Geography and Environmental Engineering	25	30%	16	19%	6	7%	2	2%	35	42%
Human Genetics and Genomics	36	31%	32	27%	11	9%	6	5%	32	27%
Immunology	27	40%	14	21%	5	7%	6	9%	16	24%
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	24	24%	33	33%	16	16%	7	7%	20	20%
Neuroscience	68	49%	25	18%	6	4%	10	7%	29	21%
Pathobiology	23	38%	19	31%	4	7%	3	5%	12	20%
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	28	25%	49	44%	13	12%	5	4%	17	15%
Program in Molecular Biophysics	10	20%	20	41%	5	10%	1	2%	13	27%

Sector Fifteen Years After Graduation (N=1,455)

	Academia		For-Profit		Government		Nonprofit		Not found	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	8	19%	12	28%	3	7%	1	2%	19	44%
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	34	20%	34	20%	9	5%	10	6%	80	48%
Biological Chemistry	6	18%	1	3%	2	6%	4	12%	20	61%
Biology	23	20%	24	21%	2	2%	3	3%	63	55%
Biomedical Engineering	16	15%	18	17%	8	8%	6	6%	57	54%
Biophysics	8	22%	3	8%	4	11%	1	3%	21	57%
Biostatistics	12	24%	8	16%	0	0%	1	2%	28	57%
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	20	21%	15	16%	3	3%	9	9%	48	51%
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	2	22%	0	0%	0	0%	1	11%	6	67%
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	5	11%	15	33%	1	2%	0	0%	24	53%
Chemical Engineering	4	40%	3	30%	1	10%	0	0%	2	20%
Chemistry	13	11%	34	30%	9	8%	3	3%	56	49%
Clinical Investigation	9	22%	1	2%	0	0%	1	2%	30	73%
Epidemiology	44	23%	17	9%	11	6%	6	3%	115	60%
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	2	18%	0	0%	0	0%	1	9%	8	73%
Geography and Environmental Engineering	8	15%	3	6%	1	2%	0	0%	42	78%
Human Genetics and Genomics	13	25%	7	13%	3	6%	2	4%	28	53%
Immunology	9	24%	5	14%	3	8%	1	3%	19	51%
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	5	8%	12	20%	9	15%	1	2%	32	54%
Neuroscience	21	30%	4	6%	1	1%	5	7%	40	56%
Pathobiology	5	22%	5	22%	0	0%	1	4%	12	52%
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	10	17%	12	21%	2	3%	4	7%	30	52%
Program in Molecular Biophysics	6	19%	10	31%	2	6%	0	0%	14	44%

Job Type Upon Graduation (N=4,801)

	Further training or education		Primarily research		Primarily teaching		Science-related		Not related to science	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	50	42%	22	19%	5	4%	12	10%	7	6%
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	200	44%	92	20%	20	4%	35	8%	42	9%
Biological Chemistry	23	31%	20	27%	4	5%	4	5%	3	4%
Biology	145	40%	72	20%	16	4%	23	6%	44	12%
Biomedical Engineering	135	28%	134	27%	28	6%	73	15%	58	12%
Biophysics	51	50%	19	18%	4	4%	7	7%	8	8%
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	4	36%	2	18%	1	9%	1	9%	2	18%
Biostatistics	36	23%	55	35%	31	20%	11	7%	8	5%
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	131	34%	88	23%	30	8%	57	15%	26	7%
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	21	45%	7	15%	2	4%	6	13%	3	6%
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	73	26%	109	39%	5	2%	25	9%	29	10%
Chemical Biology	21	43%	14	29%	0	0%	2	4%	4	8%
Chemical Engineering	4	40%	0	0%	1	10%	1	10%	2	20%
Chemistry	133	38%	86	25%	18	5%	28	8%	31	9%
Clinical Investigation	1	1%	37	28%	48	36%	19	14%	7	5%
Environmental Health and Engineering	23	44%	11	21%	3	6%	7	13%	3	6%
Epidemiology	76	17%	153	34%	64	14%	48	11%	22	5%
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	6	17%	9	25%	12	33%	0	0%	1	3%
Geography and Environmental Engineering	16	12%	27	20%	13	10%	17	13%	17	13%
Human Genetics and Genomics	73	35%	48	23%	11	5%	19	9%	19	9%
Immunology	51	43%	23	19%	7	6%	13	11%	5	4%
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	66	42%	28	18%	6	4%	18	12%	11	7%
Neuroscience	91	35%	46	18%	14	5%	47	18%	18	7%
Pathobiology	46	38%	28	23%	8	7%	14	11%	5	4%
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	68	38%	44	25%	12	7%	15	8%	14	8%
Program in Molecular Biophysics	37	46%	18	23%	2	3%	5	6%	10	13%

Job Type Five Years After Graduation (N=3,823)

	Further training or education		Primarily research		Primarily teaching		Science-related		Not related to science	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	23	24%	19	20%	7	7%	11	11%	10	10%
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	89	23%	97	25%	22	6%	42	11%	32	8%
Biological Chemistry	16	24%	12	18%	3	5%	5	8%	3	5%
Biology	67	23%	69	24%	19	7%	20	7%	44	15%
Biomedical Engineering	50	14%	102	28%	29	8%	48	13%	53	15%
Biophysics	21	26%	21	26%	3	4%	7	9%	10	12%
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	1	17%	1	17%	1	17%	0	0%	1	17%
Biostatistics	3	2%	55	45%	25	20%	12	10%	6	5%
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	59	19%	62	20%	29	10%	48	16%	29	10%
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	12	33%	5	14%	2	6%	2	6%	2	6%
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	21	12%	74	42%	14	8%	20	11%	19	11%
Chemical Biology	6	19%	12	39%	0	0%	1	3%	2	6%
Chemical Engineering	2	20%	0	0%	2	20%	2	20%	2	20%
Chemistry	40	15%	98	36%	21	8%	29	11%	25	9%
Clinical Investigation	0	0%	21	19%	28	25%	11	10%	5	5%
Environmental Health and Engineering	5	19%	8	30%	2	7%	4	15%	1	4%
Epidemiology	23	6%	119	31%	71	18%	32	8%	23	6%
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	2	7%	11	37%	8	27%	0	0%	0	0%
Geography and Environmental Engineering	8	7%	26	23%	13	12%	12	11%	9	8%
Human Genetics and Genomics	33	19%	41	24%	18	11%	16	9%	11	6%
Immunology	23	24%	27	28%	13	14%	8	8%	1	1%
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	22	16%	42	30%	11	8%	24	17%	12	9%
Neuroscience	51	24%	34	16%	16	8%	26	12%	15	7%
Pathobiology	17	19%	23	25%	10	11%	15	16%	5	5%
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	23	15%	41	28%	11	7%	24	16%	17	11%
Program in Molecular Biophysics	11	16%	24	36%	4	6%	7	10%	10	15%

Job Type Ten Years After Graduation (N=2,647)

	Further training or education		Primarily research		Primarily teaching		Science-related		Not related to science	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	6	8%	16	23%	9	13%	10	14%	8	11%
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	21	7%	90	32%	29	10%	41	15%	35	12%
Biological Chemistry	4	8%	16	32%	8	16%	2	4%	3	6%
Biology	9	5%	57	30%	25	13%	20	10%	31	16%
Biomedical Engineering	6	3%	65	28%	32	14%	41	18%	38	16%
Biophysics	8	12%	18	28%	7	11%	9	14%	6	9%
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
Biostatistics	0	0%	32	43%	18	24%	6	8%	3	4%
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	6	3%	44	22%	32	16%	39	20%	23	12%
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	2	8%	7	27%	5	19%	6	23%	1	4%
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	6	5%	32	28%	11	10%	17	15%	22	19%
Chemical Biology	1	11%	2	22%	0	0%	0	0%	1	11%
Chemical Engineering	1	10%	0	0%	3	30%	1	10%	3	30%
Chemistry	4	2%	60	32%	20	11%	20	11%	41	22%
Clinical Investigation	0	0%	14	18%	25	32%	9	12%	4	5%
Epidemiology	5	2%	102	33%	62	20%	38	12%	18	6%
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	0	0%	7	32%	8	36%	1	5%	1	5%
Geography and Environmental Engineering	2	2%	17	20%	12	14%	7	8%	9	11%
Human Genetics and Genomics	7	6%	37	32%	13	11%	10	9%	14	12%
Immunology	5	7%	20	29%	11	16%	7	10%	6	9%
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	3	3%	29	29%	9	9%	23	23%	11	11%
Neuroscience	8	6%	39	28%	27	20%	16	12%	18	13%
Pathobiology	5	8%	17	28%	10	16%	9	15%	6	10%
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	5	4%	30	27%	16	14%	21	19%	18	16%
Program in Molecular Biophysics	1	2%	13	27%	4	8%	5	10%	10	20%

Job Type Fifteen Years After Graduation (N=1455)

	Further training or education		Primarily research		Primarily teaching		Science-related		Not related to science	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	3	7%	5	12%	5	12%	6	14%	5	12%
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	4	2%	27	16%	19	11%	20	12%	20	12%
Biological Chemistry	1	3%	6	18%	5	15%	0	0%	1	3%
Biology	1	1%	12	10%	17	15%	7	6%	18	16%
Biomedical Engineering	1	1%	10	10%	15	14%	9	9%	14	13%
Biophysics	1	3%	3	8%	4	11%	3	8%	4	11%
Biostatistics	0	0%	10	20%	8	16%	3	6%	0	0%
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	4	4%	7	7%	16	17%	9	9%	12	13%
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	0	0%	1	11%	2	22%	0	0%	0	0%
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	0	0%	6	13%	5	11%	1	2%	10	22%
Chemical Engineering	0	0%	0	0%	3	30%	3	30%	2	20%
Chemistry	2	2%	19	17%	4	3%	8	7%	27	23%
Clinical Investigation	0	0%	1	2%	4	10%	5	12%	1	2%
Epidemiology	1	1%	17	9%	34	18%	16	8%	13	7%
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	0	0%	1	9%	3	27%	0	0%	0	0%
Geography and Environmental Engineering	1	2%	4	7%	3	6%	2	4%	2	4%
Human Genetics and Genomics	0	0%	9	17%	11	21%	2	4%	3	6%
Immunology	2	5%	3	8%	6	16%	4	11%	3	8%
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	0	0%	8	14%	3	5%	7	12%	11	19%
Neuroscience	1	1%	4	6%	14	20%	5	7%	7	10%
Pathobiology	0	0%	4	17%	3	13%	2	9%	2	9%
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	3	5%	7	12%	8	14%	4	7%	5	9%
Program in Molecular Biophysics	0	0%	4	13%	4	13%	3	9%	7	22%