

Employment Growth in Geoscience-related Occupations Over the Past Decade

Over the past year, aggregate employment in geoscience-related occupations has remained relatively steady. A few occupations (environmental engineers, mining and geological engineers, environmental scientists, geoscientists, and hydrologists) have seen a slight contraction in occupational employment between 2009 and 2010. Employment increased between 2009 and 2010 for geoscience natural science managers (+15%), geographers (+11%), and petroleum engineers (+10%).

Between 2001 and 2010, employment in geoscience-related occupations has increased by 52,377 (29%) with the largest growth occurring in petroleum engineering occupations. Since 2001, employment in petroleum engineering has increased by 16,790 (147%), with the majority of the growth occurring since 2007. Employment in two geoscience-related occupations has decreased over the past decade: hydrologists (-430) and geoscience engineering managers (-580) at -6 percent and -4 percent respectively.

Change in Employment in Science Occupations (2009-2010) and (2001-2010)

	2009-2010	2009-2010	2001-2010	2001-2010
All Occupations	-3,550,450	-3%	-883,250	-1%
All Scientists	-243,870	-19%	-3,220	-0.3%
All Engineers	-27,680	-2%	269,380	23%
All Geoscience-related Occupations	788	0.3%	52,377	29%
All Biological / Life Scientists	-5,480	-2%	119,570	91%
Physicists	3,230	24%	5,980	55%
Chemists	270	0.3%	-4,690	-6%
Geoscience-related Occupations				
Engineering Managers (Geoscience)	1,129	8%	-580	-4%
Natural Science Managers (Geoscience)	499	15%	837	27%
Environmental Engineers	-810	-2%	1,100	2%
Mining and Geological Engineers	-40	-1%	180	3%
Petroleum Engineers	2,670	10%	16,790	147%
Atmospheric and Space Scientists	320	4%	1,870	28%
Environmental Scientists	-1,840	-2%	24,260	42%
Geoscientists	-1,030	-3%	7,800	34%
Hydrologists	-240	-3%	-430	-6%
Geographers	130	11%	550	73%

Geoscience Currents Discussion Webinar:

Salary Trends and Employment Projections for Geoscience Careers

Listen to an in-depth discussion of Currents #49-53. Participation in the webinar is free.

Register at: www.agiweb.org/workforce/webinars.html

- Leila Gonzales