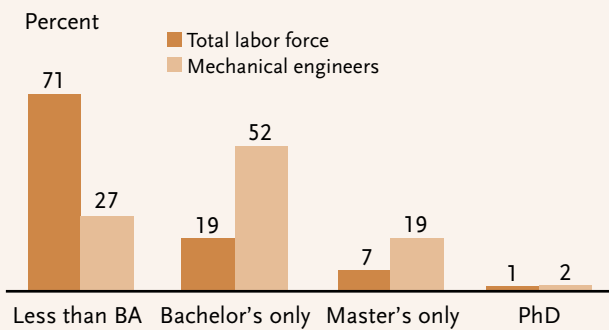




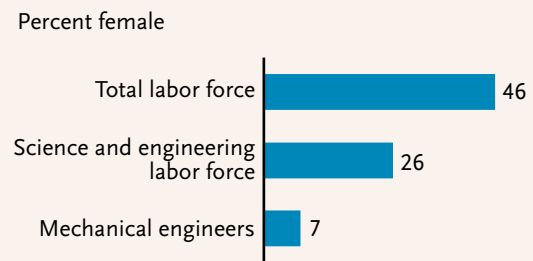
# Mechanical Engineers in the United States, 2007

This profile summarizes the demographic, social, and economic characteristics of the 238,000 Mechanical Engineers in the United States. In 2007, the unemployment rate for Mechanical Engineers was 2% and median earnings were \$71,000.

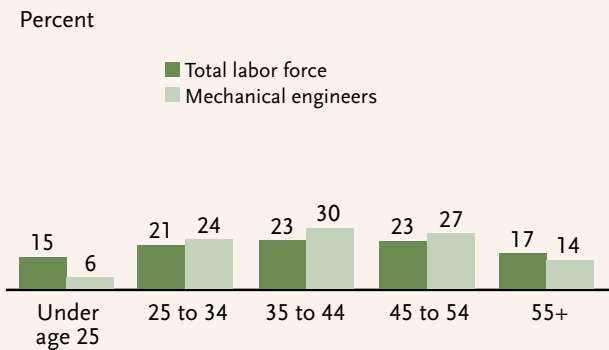
## Educational Attainment, 2007



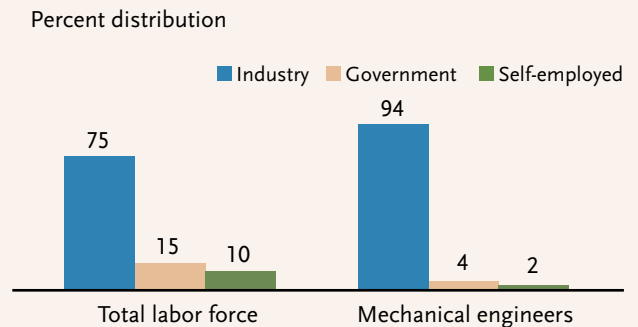
## Female Labor Force Participation, 2007



## Age Distribution, 2007



## Class of Worker, 2007



## Race/Ethnic Composition, 2007

	Mechanical engineers (%)	Total labor force (%)
White*	81	68
African American*	4	11
American Indian*	0	1
Asian*	8	5
Other race*	1	1
Hispanic	5	14
Foreign-born	17	16

\*Non-Hispanic

## Labor Force Trends, 2005-2007

	2005	2007	Percent change
<b>All science and engineering occupations</b>			
Size of labor force	7,362,000	7,553,000	2.6*
Median earnings	\$62,000	\$61,000	-1.6
<b>Mechanical engineers</b>			
Size of labor force	242,000	238,000	-1.7
Median earnings	\$70,000	\$71,000	1.4

\*Statistically significant change.

## Science and Engineering Occupations in the United States, Ranked by 2007 Earnings

	Labor force (margin of error)	Median earnings (margin of error)		Labor force (margin of error)	Median earnings (margin of error)
Petroleum, mining and geological engineers	26,000 (+/-4,000)	92,000 (+/-6,000)	Chemists and materials scientists	95,000 (+/-8,000)	61,000 (+/-2,000)
Actuaries	21,000 (+/-4,000)	86,000 (+/-6,000)	Computer scientists and systems analysts	781,000 (+/-23,000)	61,000 (+/-500)
Economists	26,000 (+/-4,000)	86,000 (+/-6,000)	Environmental scientists and geoscientists	76,000 (+/-7,000)	61,000 (+/-1,000)
Chemical engineers	59,000 (+/-6,000)	84,000 (+/-4,000)	Network and computer systems administrators	234,000 (+/-13,000)	60,000 (+/-2,000)
Astronomers and physicists	14,000 (+/-3,000)	83,000 (+/-8,000)	Market and survey researchers	165,000 (+/-11,000)	55,000 (+/-3,000)
Aerospace engineers	137,000 (+/-10,000)	81,000 (+/-2,000)	Urban and regional planners	24,000 (+/-4,000)	55,000 (+/-2,000)
Computer software engineers	794,000 (+/-23,000)	81,000 (+/-500)	Network systems and data communications analysts	353,000 (+/-16,000)	54,000 (+/-2,000)
Miscellaneous engineers, incl. nuclear engineers	456,000 (+/-18,000)	79,000 (+/-2,000)	Agricultural and food scientists	25,000 (+/-4,000)	51,000 (+/-3,000)
Electrical and electronic engineers	234,000 (+/-13,000)	77,000 (+/-2,000)	Psychologists	173,000 (+/-11,000)	51,000 (+/-1,000)
Computer hardware engineers	65,000 (+/-7,000)	75,000 (+/-3,000)	Conservation scientists and foresters	27,000 (+/-4,000)	50,000 (+/-2,000)
Marine engineers and naval architects	13,000 (+/-3,000)	74,000 (+/-3,000)	Geological and petroleum technicians	18,000 (+/-4,000)	50,000 (+/-5,000)
Biomedical and agricultural engineers	14,000 (+/-3,000)	73,000 (+/-4,000)	Biological scientists	91,000 (+/-8,000)	49,000 (+/-2,000)
Civil engineers	318,000 (+/-15,000)	71,000 (+/-2,000)	Surveyors, cartographers, and photogrammetrists	44,000 (+/-6,000)	49,000 (+/-2,000)
Environmental engineers	32,000 (+/-5,000)	71,000 (+/-3,000)	Engineering technicians	442,000 (+/-17,000)	46,000 (+/-500)
Mechanical engineers	238,000 (+/-13,000)	71,000 (+/-1,000)	Computer support specialists	466,000 (+/-18,000)	44,000 (+/-1,000)
Atmospheric and space scientists	10,000 (+/-3,000)	69,000 (+/-10,000)	Chemical technicians	75,000 (+/-7,000)	43,000 (+/-2,000)
Materials engineers	31,000 (+/-5,000)	69,000 (+/-3,000)	Social scientists	45,000 (+/-6,000)	43,000 (+/-3,000)
Database administrators	100,000 (+/-8,000)	68,000 (+/-2,000)	Drafters	219,000 (+/-12,000)	41,000 (+/-2,000)
Computer programmers	529,000 (+/-19,000)	66,000 (+/-1,000)	Biological technicians	21,000 (+/-4,000)	39,000 (+/-4,000)
Industrial engineers	171,000 (+/-11,000)	66,000 (+/-2,000)	Surveying and mapping technicians	93,000 (+/-8,000)	36,000 (+/-1,000)
Mathematicians and statisticians	40,000 (+/-5,000)	66,000 (+/-3,000)	Agricultural and food science technicians	27,000 (+/-4,000)	33,000 (+/-2,000)
Operations research analysts	112,000 (+/-9,000)	66,000 (+/-3,000)	Life, physical, and social science technicians	174,000 (+/-11,000)	28,000 (+/-1,000)
Physical scientists, all other	140,000 (+/-10,000)	66,000 (+/-1,000)			
Medical scientists	101,000 (+/-8,000)	63,000 (+/-3,000)			
Architects	200,000 (+/-12,000)	61,000 (+/-2,000)			

### Sources and Notes

**Source:** Population Reference Bureau analysis of the 2005 and 2007 American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Samples. The ACS, conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, is a nationwide annual survey designed to provide communities with reliable and timely demographic, housing, social, and economic data each year. For more information about the ACS, see [www.census.gov/acs](http://www.census.gov/acs).

**Notes:** The science and engineering labor force includes people employed or unemployed (based on their last job) in information technology, engineering, architecture, life sciences, physical sciences, or social sciences. ACS estimates are based on a survey of the population and are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error.

This project was funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. The information presented in this profile was not provided by and does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Foundation.

© 2008 Population Reference Bureau. All rights reserved.

POPULATION REFERENCE BUREAU | 1875 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 520 | Washington, DC 20009 | 202-483-1100 | Fax: 202-328-3937 | [www.prb.org](http://www.prb.org)