

Learning About the Geosciences - Section One	Percentage of VS Agreeing with the Statement
The geosciences address all issues relating to Earth Systems, including the solid Earth, oceans, and atmosphere.	88%
A person interested in a career in geology enjoys the outdoors, working on issues that relate to the Earth, solving puzzles, and likes to travel.	85%
Geoscientists study the forces and factors that shape the Earth.	88%
Geoscientists discover and develop supplies of fossil fuels, groundwater, construction materials and mineral ores.	76%
Geoscientists study and mitigate geohazards such as volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, floods, and landslides.	85%
Geoscientists explore and discover new ideas about the natural world from the depths of the oceans and the core of the Earth to the outer reaches of space.	73%
Geoscientists work on a range of issues, from natural resource management, to hazard mitigation, to environmental assessment, to name a few.	84%
Geoscientists work at all levels of employment, from technicians monitoring wells to chief executives of multi-national firms.	80%
Characteristics of Successful Students in the Geosciences and Getting a Geoscience Degree	Percentage of VS Agreeing with the Statement
A strong interest in science and a good education are the most important elements in becoming a geoscientist.	80%
The geosciences draw on biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, and engineering. High school courses related to these subjects plus a geology or earth-science course, or an integrated science curriculum, will help prepare you for college.	74%
In choosing a college or university, look at the course listings for departments of geology, geoscience, earth-systems science, or environmental science to identify the geoscience programs that best match your interests.	74%

Due to the relatively low number of qualified geoscience graduates and the large number of expected retirements, opportunities are expected to be good in most areas of geosciences. Graduates with a master's degree may have the best opportunities.	77%
A majority of geoscience graduates find equally rewarding careers in other areas, for which they are very well suited by their general scientific training and the wide range of core skills developed during their degree courses. Geoscientists are often attractive to employers, even outside of the profession, because of the unique blend of analytical skills most geoscience training provides.	70%
Geoscience Employment - Section Four	
While minorities earn almost 15 percent of the total bachelor's degrees granted in science and engineering, they earn only 4.6 percent of all Bachelor of Science degrees in geosciences. At the master's and doctorate levels, the percentages for minorities earning degrees in geosciences are 3.3 percent and 5 percent respectively.	58%
Today nearly 20% of geoscientists are female and females are beginning to be seen in the upper levels of management.	78%
In 2005, the Federal Government's average salary for geologists in managerial, supervisory, and nonsupervisory positions was \$83,178 for geologists, \$94,836 for geophysicists, and \$87,007 for oceanographers.	58%
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Many geoscientists are self-employed as geological consultants or work with consulting firms. Most consulting geologists have had extensive professional experience in industry, teaching, or research	67%
Historically the petroleum industry employs the largest number of geoscientists and currently nearly 40% of geoscientists are employed in the exploration and production of oil and gas.	77%

The environmental industry now employs nearly 20% of geoscientists, many working in consulting firms	78%
Mining was once a dominate geoscience employer, but today only about 10% of geoscientists work in private industry related to mining.	72%
Government agencies employ another 10% of geoscientists, including most oceanographers and atmospheric scientists	68%
Geoscientists in the government work in many different capacities, from pure research to policy development	84%