

Remarks before the  
National Academies'  
Commission on the Health of the  
US IT R&D Ecosystem

Trends in U.S. IT Workforce and Education



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Senior Policy Analyst  
Technology Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce



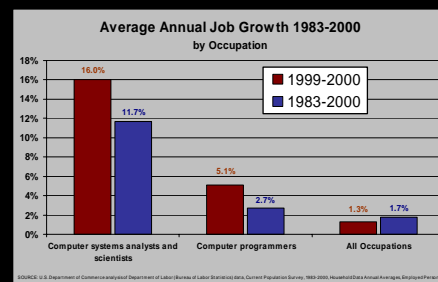
## Overview

- Employment
  - 1990s: Rapid growth
  - Early 2000s: Small reduction
  - Recent: Small growth
  - Today: There are more professional IT workers in the United States than ever
  - Future: Strong growth projected
- Wages
  - Growing, but growth rates vary substantially by occupation
- Education
  - Rapid degree growth through 1986
  - Rapid degree decline from 1986 to 1994
  - Rapid new enrollment growth from 1995 to 2001
  - Rapid new enrollment decline from 2001 to 2005

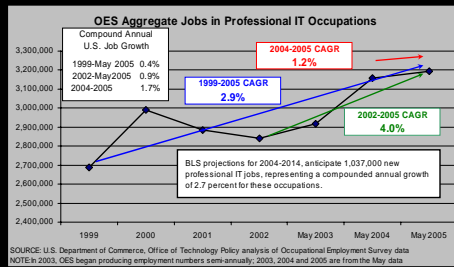
## Employment

A Glass Half-Empty or Half-Full?

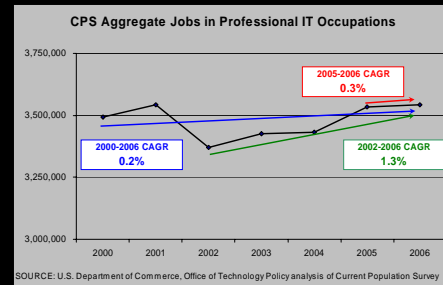
## Historical Perspective: Stellar Job Growth



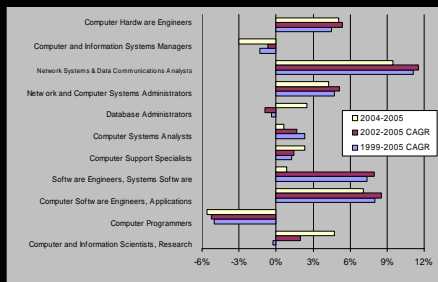
## Strong, Not Stellar... Much Better Than Overall U.S. Job Growth



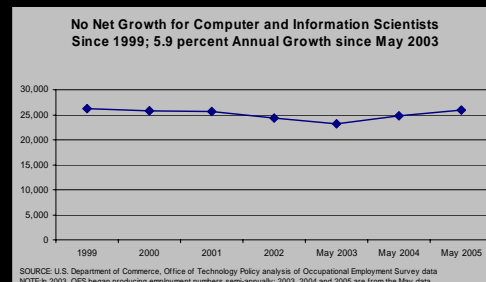
## CPS Data Shows Weaker Job Growth Than OES Data



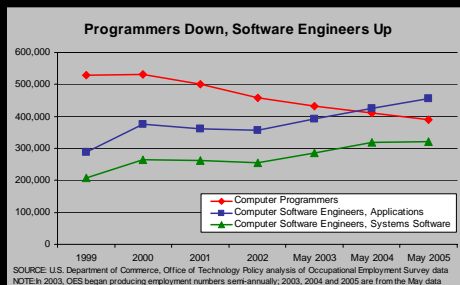
## Growth Rates Vary Substantially Among IT Professions



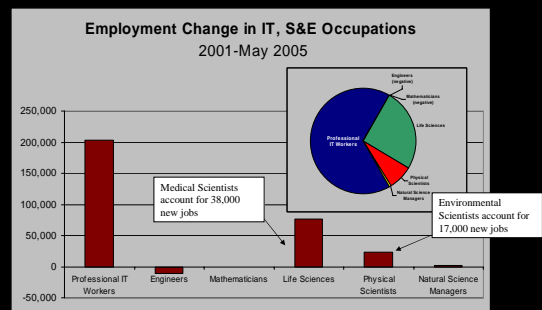
## Computer and Information Scientists: Return to Growth in 2003



## Computer Software Engineers Offsetting Computer Programmers' Losses



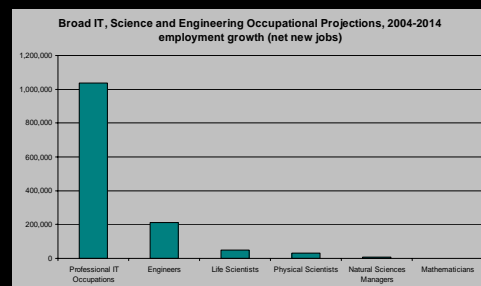
## Professional IT Occupations Continue to Dominate Technical Job Growth



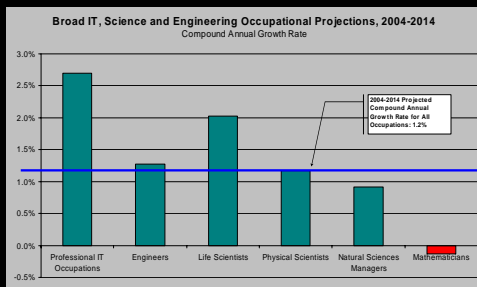
## Occupational Projections

IT Job Growth Dominates S&E  
Occupational Growth,  
Outstrips Overall U.S. Job Growth

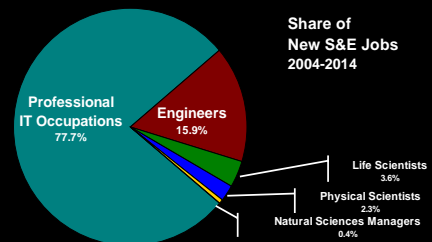
## Professional IT Occupations Account for Lion's Share of Projected S&E Job Growth



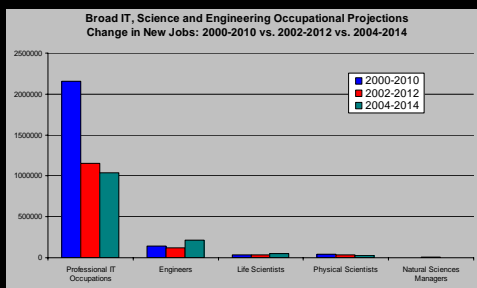
## Only IT and Life Sciences Occupations Have Growth Rates Significantly Higher Than for Overall Jobs



## IT Occupations Account for More Than 3 of 4 Projected New Jobs in S&E



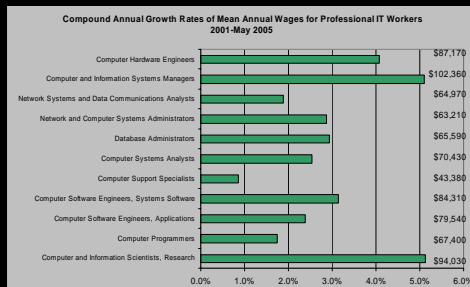
## Job Growth Projections for Professional IT Occupations: Still Down, But Dominant



## IT Wage Growth

Everybody's Getting More;  
The Highest Paid Are Growing Fastest

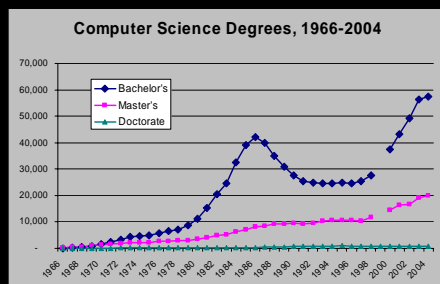
## Strong Wage Growth in High Wage IT Occupations



## Computer Science Degrees, Enrollment

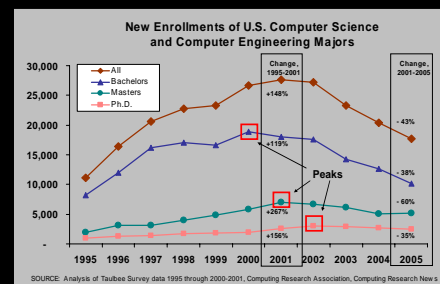
A Market-responsive Rollercoaster Ride

## Degree Production Follows Market Demand with Lag



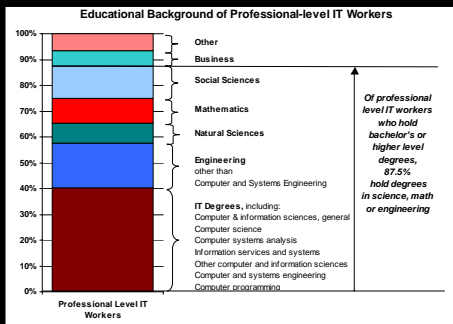
Source: National Science Foundation

## Enrollments in CS Up, Then Down, in Response to Market Signals

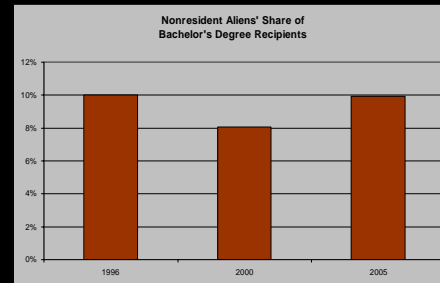


Source: Computing Research Association Taulbee Survey, 1995-2005

## Professional Level IT Workers Hold a Wide Array of Science, Engineering and Other Degrees

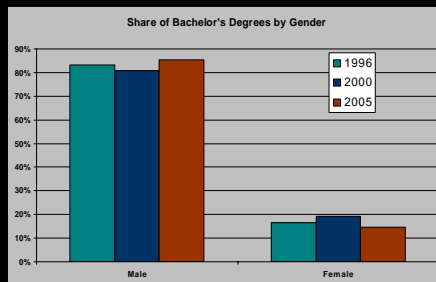


## Share of Foreign Students Earning B.S. Degrees in CS Remains Steady at ~10%



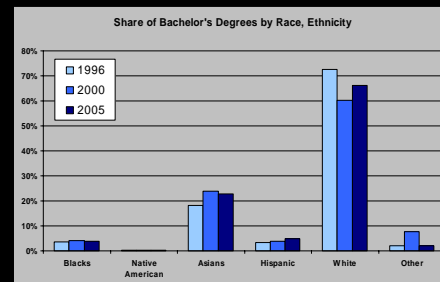
Source: Computing Research Association Taulbee Survey, 1995-2005

## Women Remain Underrepresented in CS

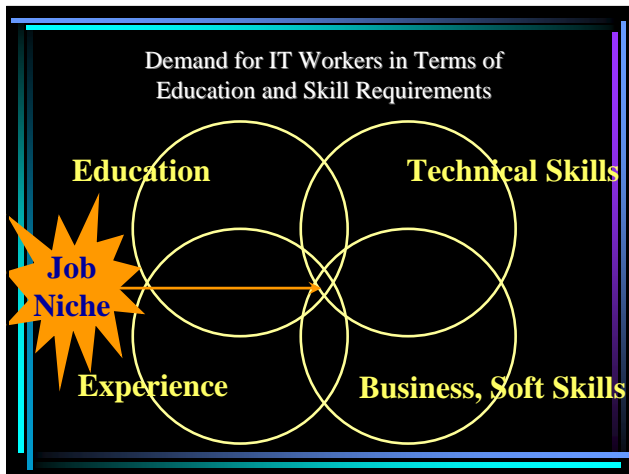


Source: Computing Research Association Taulbee Survey, 1995-2005

## Blacks, Hispanics, Native Americans Remain Underrepresented in CS, as in Colleges Generally



Source: Computing Research Association Taulbee Survey, 1995-2005



### Some Implications

- Rapid diffusion, improved education and training delivery systems, improved knowledge capture and sharing systems mean:
  - Hot technical skills become a commodity—and ripe for off-shoring—faster
  - Reduction in the number of jobs U.S. can capture from its technical innovations as they mature and diffuse

### Characteristics of IT Work Favorable for Performance in the United States

- Work in which there is uncertainty about what the customer wants or what the specifications should be.
- Projects that require highly iterative development processes.
- Work that crosses many disciplines.
- Work that requires a high degree of personal interaction with end-users/clients.
- Applications with complex procedures, including ones that involve substantial manual intervention and data fixes.
- Applications that involve a high degree of integration with other systems developed and maintained on-shore.
- Work involving nuances or deep cultural understanding.

### Characteristics of IT Work Favorable for Performance in the United States

- Work in which much of the knowledge exists only in the minds of the on-shore IT staff
- Analytical tasks, leading-edge research and non-rule-based decision-making
- High levels of creativity, innovation, insight, “thinking outside the box”
- High management requirements
- Process design and business analysis
- Technology and systems integration (applications, hardware and networks)
- Fusion of industry knowledge, high-level IT skills, and business process expertise
- Requires U.S. security clearance

## Contact Information

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## Characteristics of Work Favorable to Performance Offshore

- High wage differential with similar occupation/level in destination country
- High labor intensity
- Clearly defined requirements, little nuance
- Repetitive tasks
- Rule-based decision-making and problem solving
- Documented or easily transferred content and process knowledge
- Discreet, separable; low degree of interaction across different services, applications
- Low degree of personal interaction with end-users, clients
- Stable applications with minimum of "firefighting"

## Characteristics of Work Favorable to Performance Offshore

- Long projected useful life to amortize offshore set-up costs
- Low-to-medium business criticality
- Less time-sensitive, longer transition periods
- Projects involving simple and standard hardware and software
- Digital, Internet-enabled
- Low setup barriers
- Low-to-medium technical complexity
- Not multi-disciplinary
- Projects in business areas in which offshoring is a broadly accepted concept
- Tightly defined work processes
- Stable process



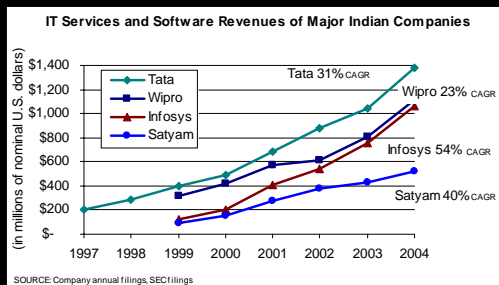
## A Difference Mix of Skills

- Project Development Management and Program Management (with technology skills)
- Communications, Liaison, and Relationship-building
- Technology and Systems Integration
- Business Analysis
- Business Process Knowledge
- Domain (industry-specific) Knowledge
- Business Savvy
- Broad Technology Acumen
- Process Design
- Business Planning and Management
- Technology Management
- Business Problem Solving
- Contracting
- Negotiation
- Compliance Monitoring

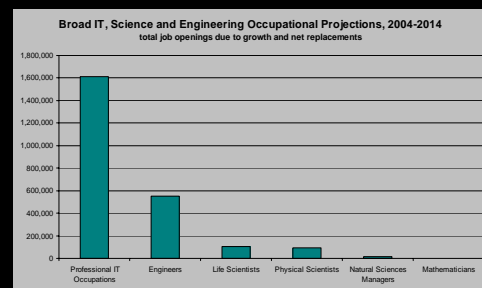
## A Difference Mix of Skills

- Financial and Accounting
- Supply Management (such as strategic sourcing and vendor management)
- Human Capital Management
- Business Development
- Security Analysis
- Service Management
- Data Mining
- Business Intelligence
- Network Engineering and Architecture
- Internet/Web Architecture
- Middleware
- Open Standards Software (including legal, intellectual property, and industry practices in the open standards arena)
- Business Transformation
- IT Consulting

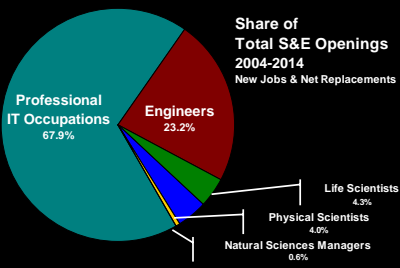
## Rapidly Changing Landscape



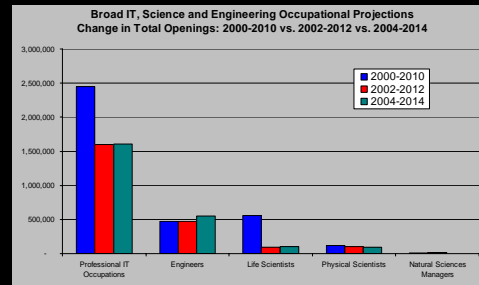
## Professional IT Occupations Account for Lion's Share of Total Projected S&E Job Openings



## IT Occupations Account for More Than 2 of 3 Projected Openings in S&E



## Total Openings in Professional IT Occupations: Still Down, but Dominant



## Groupings of Occupations for This Analysis

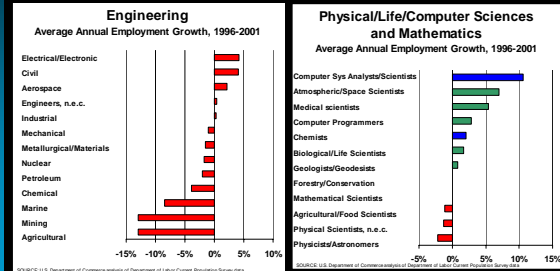
- Professional IT Occupations**
  - Computer support specialists
  - Computer programmers
  - Computer systems analysts
  - Computer software engineers, applications
  - Computer and information systems managers
  - Computer software engineers, systems software
  - Network and computer systems administrators
  - All other computer specialists
  - Network systems and data communications analysts
  - Databases administrators
  - Computer hardware engineers
  - Computer and information scientists, research
- Engineers**
  - Aerospace engineers
  - Agricultural engineers
  - Biomedical engineers
  - Chemical engineers
  - Civil engineers
  - Electrical engineers
  - Electronics engineers, except computer
  - Environmental engineers
  - Health and safety engineers, except mining safety engineers and inspectors
  - Industrial engineers
  - Marine engineers and naval architects
  - Materials engineers
  - Mechanical engineers
  - Mining and geological engineers, including mining safety engineers
  - Nuclear engineers
  - Patroleum engineers
  - All other engineers
  - Engineering managers
- Life Scientists**
  - Agricultural and food scientists
  - Biochemists and biophysicists
  - Microbiologists
  - Zoologists and wildlife biologists
  - Biological scientists, all other
  - Conservation scientists
  - Foresters
  - Epidemiologists
  - Medical scientists, except epidemiologists
  - All other life scientists
- Physical Scientists**
  - Astronomers
  - Physicists
  - Atmospheric and space scientists
  - Chemists
  - Materials scientists
  - Environmental scientists and specialists, including health
  - Geoscientists, except hydrologists and geographers
  - Hydrologists
  - All other physical scientists
- Natural sciences managers**
- Mathematicians**

## Alarm Bells...

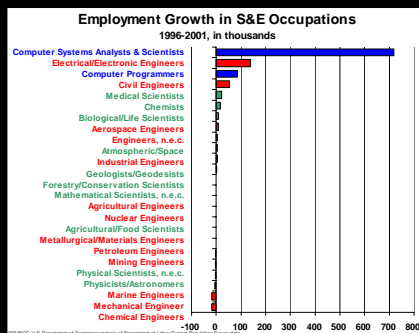
- "... the nation may likely face **severe shortages** in SET workers..."
  - **Land of Plenty**, Commission on the Advancement of Women and Minorities in Science, Engineering, and Technology Development (CAWMSET)
- "There is a quiet crisis building in the United States [that] stems from the **gap** between the nation's growing need for scientists, engineers, and other technically skilled workers, and its production of them."
  - **The Quiet Crisis: Falling Short in Producing American Scientific and Technical Talent**, Building Engineering and Science Talent (BEST)
- "... U.S. need for the highest quality human capital in science, mathematics and engineering is **not being met**."
  - **Hart-Rudman Commission**
- "Our 1998 study found a **shortage** of 346,000 programmers, systems analysts and computer scientists."
  - ITAA president Harris Miller
- "We are **not training enough** American scientists and engineers to retain our prosperity ...."
  - American Scientist magazine, 2001
- "a **serious deficit of scientists and engineers**" resulting in "an evaporating dominance."
  - Dan Goldin, former NASA administrator, 2001

## Demand for S&E Workers

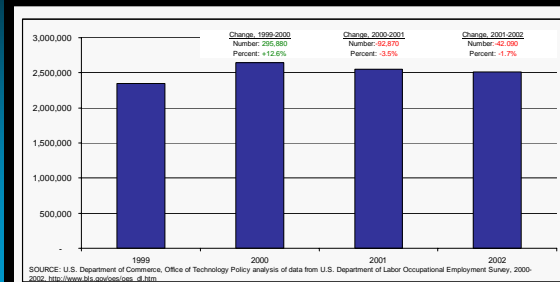
## Recent Occupational Growth Growth Rates



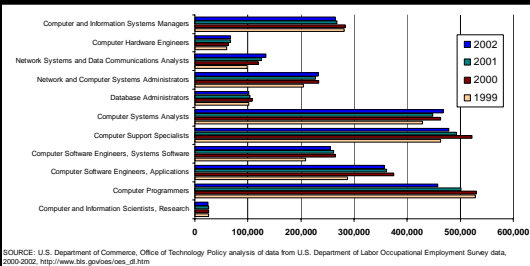
## Recent Occupational Growth Growth in Numbers



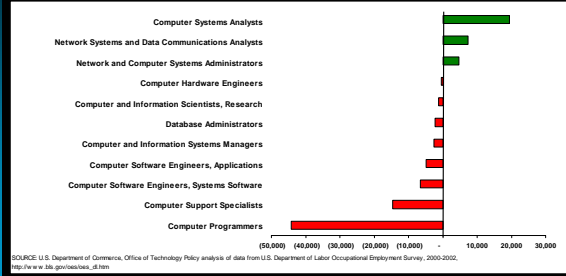
## Aggregate IT Employment 1999-2002



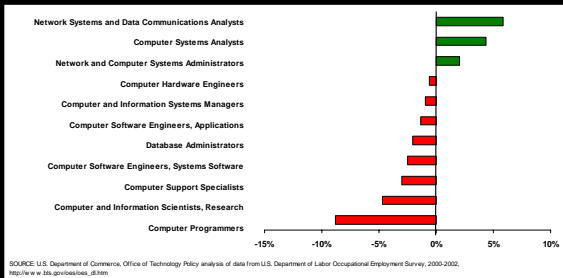
## IT Occupational Employment 1999-2002



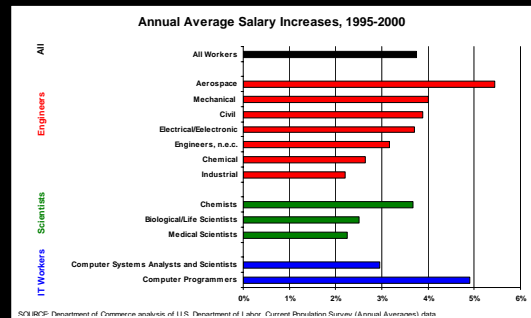
## Change in IT Occupational Employment Number, 2001-2002



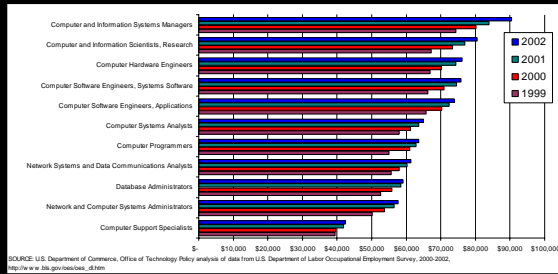
## Change in IT Occupational Employment Percentage, 2001-2002



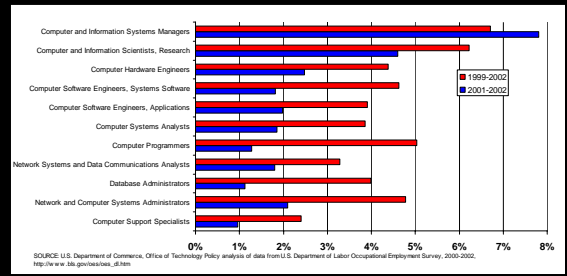
## Salary Growth



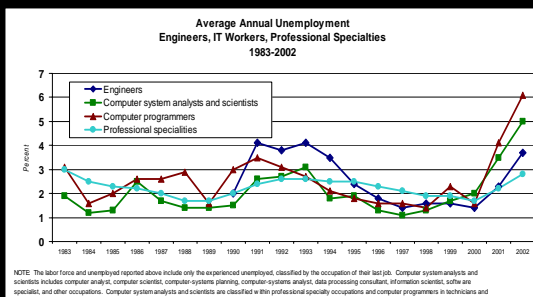
## Salary Growth in IT Occupations 1999-2002



## Percent Salary Growth in IT Occupations 1999-2002, 2001-2002

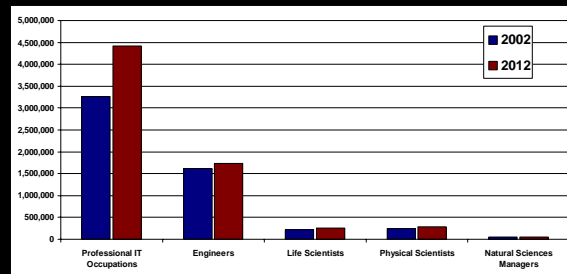


## Unemployment Rates



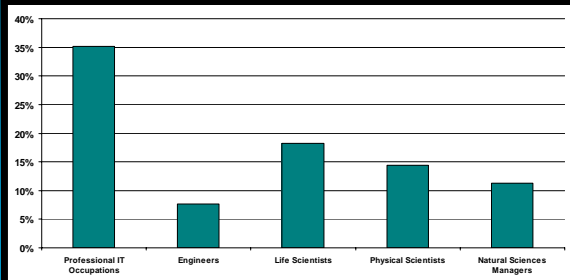
## IT, Science and Engineering Occupational Projections, 2002-2012

### Employment, Numbers



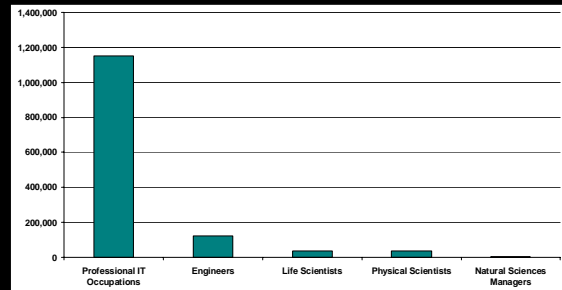
IT, Science and Engineering Occupational Projections, 2002-2012

## Employment Growth: Rate



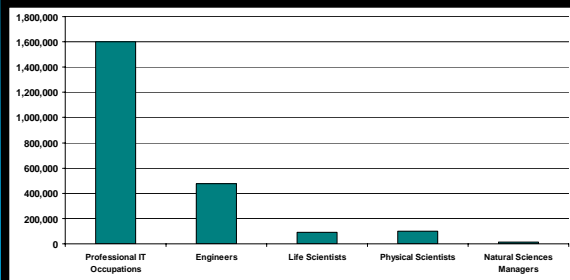
IT, Science and Engineering Occupational Projections, 2002-2012

## Employment Growth: Numbers

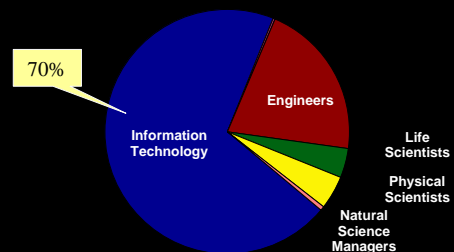


IT, Science and Engineering Occupational Projections, 2002-2012

## Total Job Openings

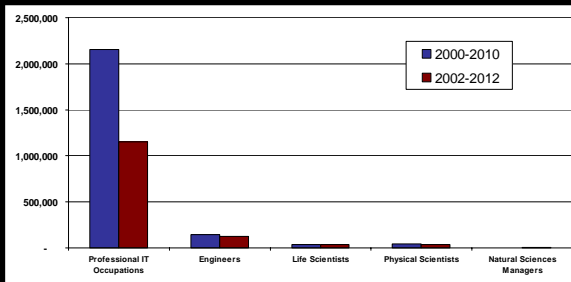


## Occupational Distribution of Projected S&E Job Openings (new jobs plus net replacements) 2002-2012



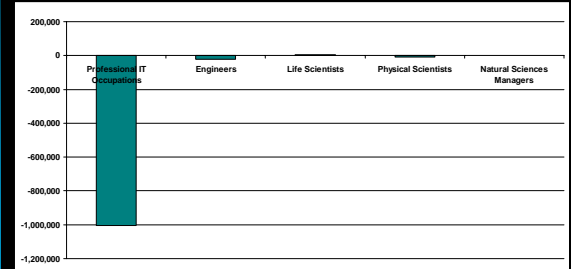
# IT, Science and Engineering Occupational Projections, 2002-2012

## Job Growth: 2000-2010 vs. 2002-2012



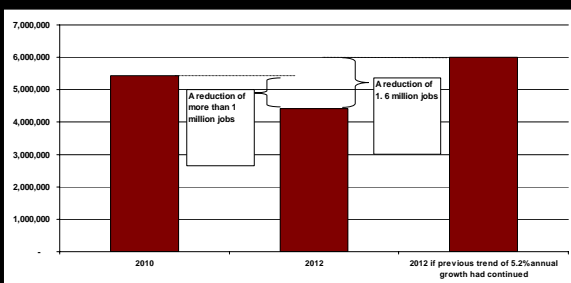
# IT, Science and Engineering Occupational Projections, 2002-2012

## Change in Growth: 2000-2010 vs. 2002-2012



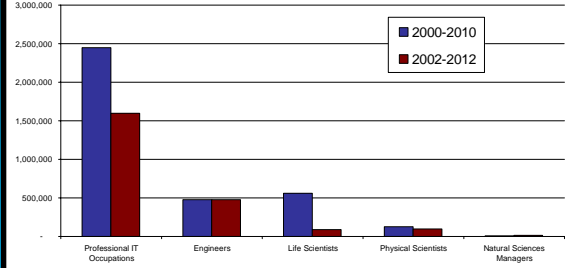
# IT, Science and Engineering Occupational Projections, 2002-2012

## Projected IT Job Growth 2010 vs. 2012 Projections



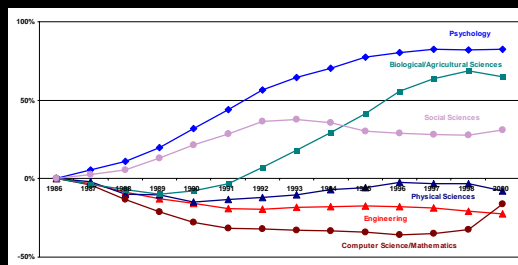
# IT, Science and Engineering Occupational Projections, 2002-2012

## Change in Total Openings: 2000-2010 vs. 2002-2012



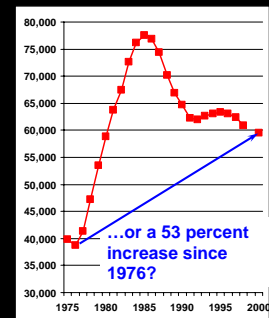
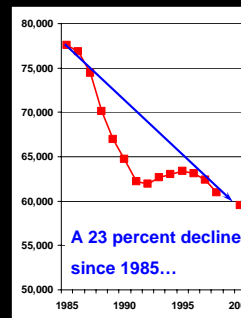
## S&E Bachelor's Degrees

Life Sciences Up...

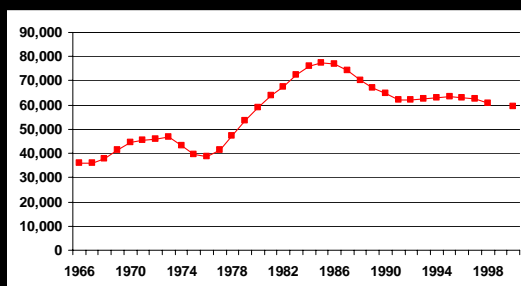


...Engineering, Physical Sciences, and Math Down

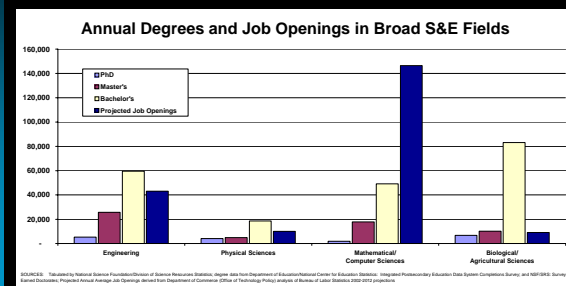
## Engineering Bachelor's Degrees... Half Empty or Half Full?



## Both, depending on your perspective...

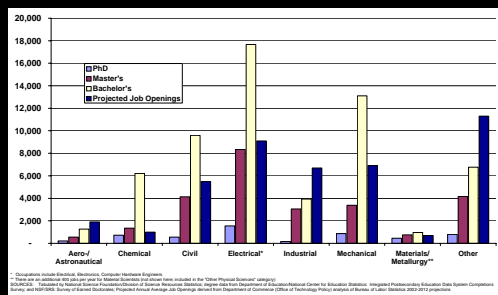


## The Market Perspective Degree Production vs. Projected Job Openings

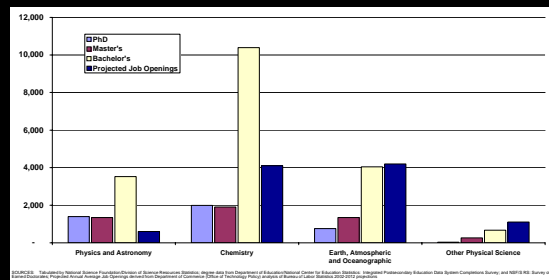




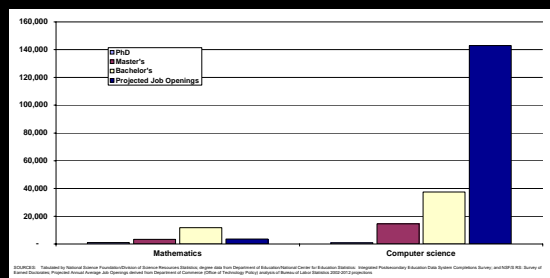
## Engineering Degrees & Projected Job Openings



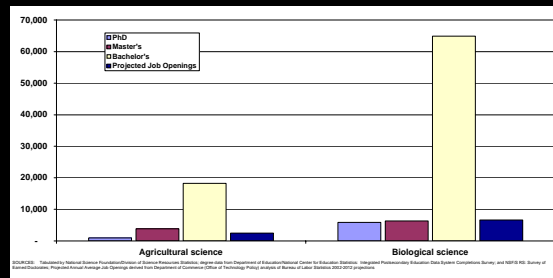
## Physical Sciences Degrees & Projected Job Openings



## Mathematics and Computer Science Degrees & Projected Job Openings



## Biological and Agricultural Sciences Degrees & Projected Job Openings



## IT Education & Training Landscape

### How IT Workers Get and Maintain their Skills

- IT Bachelor's Degrees
- IT-Related Minors
- Combined IT Bachelors/Masters Degree Programs
- IT-Related Masters of Science Programs
- Techno MBAs
- Two-Year IT Degrees at Community Colleges
- IT Certificate Programs
- Private, For-Profit Education and Training Institutions
- Vendor and Vendor-neutral IT Certification
- Federal, State and Regional IT Training Initiatives
- Boot Camps and Seminars
- Employer Programs
- On-Line, CD-ROM, Books
- The Churn

## Possible Niche Areas of Need

- Emerging Disciplines
- Converging Disciplines
- Industries Affected by Past/Current Federal Demand
- University Professors in High Demand Disciplines
- Federal S&E Employees: Unique Challenges
- Industries with Past Workforce Shocks

## Challenge to the Community:

### Action

- Amplify Market Signals
  - Industry Feedback to Post-Secondary Institutions
  - Post-Secondary Institutions' Responsiveness to Market Demands
    - Preparation for industry careers
    - Technical skills in demand
    - Soft and business skills
  - Career Awareness in Middle, High School
  - Dissemination of Occupational Data
    - Demand, job characteristics, unemployment, etc.
- Improve Math and Science Education in K-12

## Challenge to the Community:

### Action

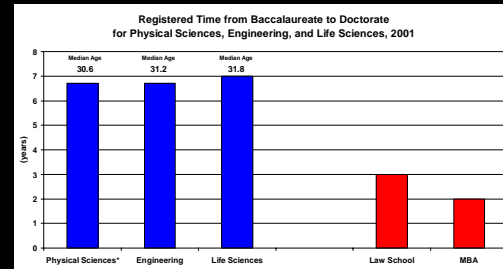
- Math and Science Education in K-12
- Image of Scientists and Engineers
- S&E Career Awareness in Middle, High School
- Industry Feedback to Post-Secondary Institutions
- Post-Secondary Institutions' Responsiveness to Market Demands
- Industry Must Help Itself

## Challenges to Growing Domestic S&E Workforce

- Cost-Benefit of Grad Education in S&E vs. Law, Business

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- Cost-Benefit of Grad Education in S&E vs. Law, Business



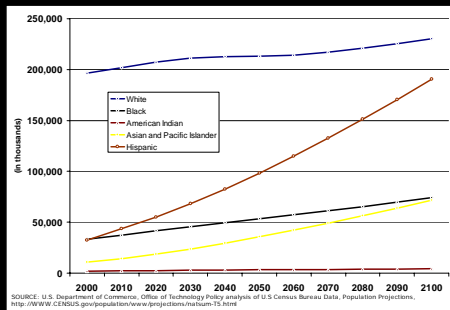
## Challenges to Growing Domestic S&E Workforce

- Cost-Benefit of Grad Education in S&E vs. Law, Business
- Attractiveness of Careers in S&E vs. Law, Business
- Strong Emphasis by Other Nations, Cultures on S&E Education
- Access to Foreign Labor in the U.S. (H-1B, L1)
- Access to Foreign Labor Abroad (Offshoring—direct and through contract)
  - Significantly lower salary costs
  - Pools of well-educated S&E talent
  - Improved national infrastructure, political stability
- Large Government, Industry Focus on Health R&D

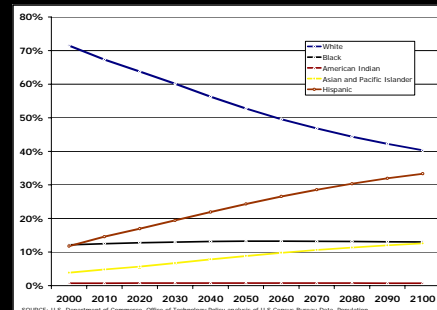
## Factors Supporting U.S. Ability to Grow Domestic S&E Workforce

- Premier Academic Research Institutions
- Elite Students Among Best in World
- Powerful Industrial Base, Potential Partners in S&E Education and Training
- Money Talks!

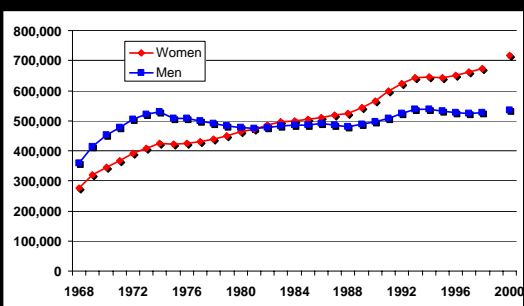
## Census Bureau Projections Thru 2100 U.S. Race/Ethnic Composition, numbers



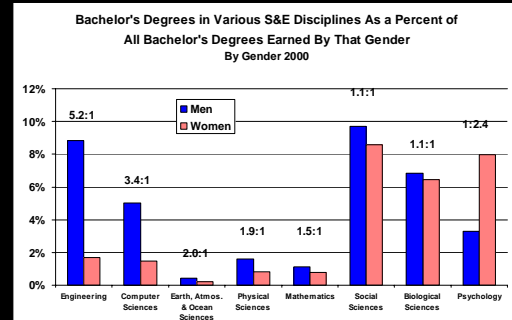
## Census Bureau Projections Thru 2100 U.S. Race/Ethnic Composition, percent



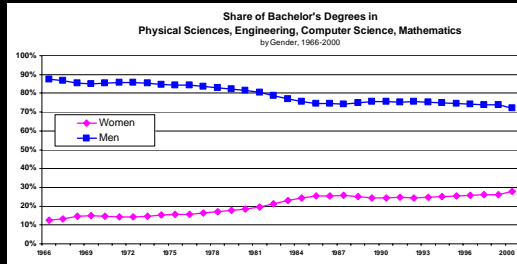
## Bachelor's Degrees Awarded, by Gender



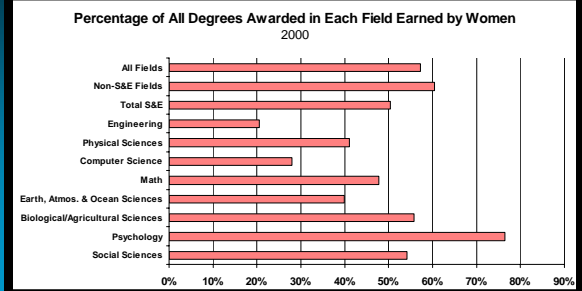
## S&E Bachelor's Degrees, by Gender



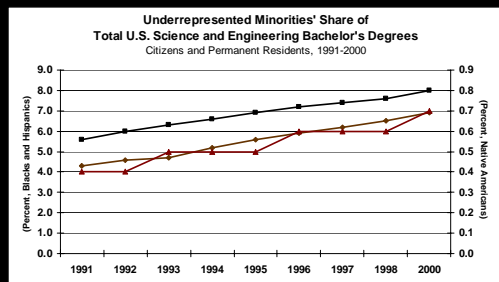
## Women's Share of MEPS Bachelor's Degrees Growing, Still Comparatively Low



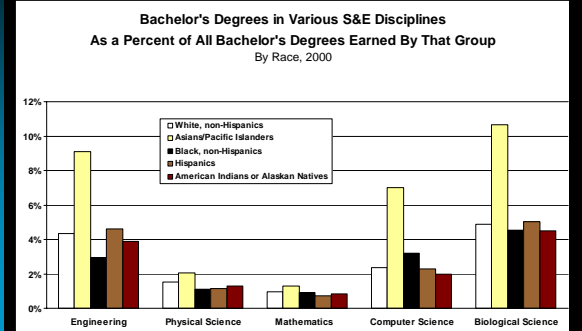
## Share of Bachelor's Degrees in Each Field Earned by Women, 2000



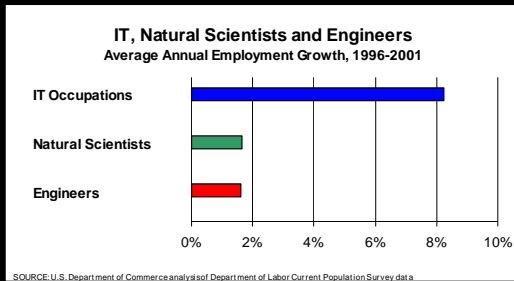
## Share of Total U.S. S&E Bachelor's Degrees



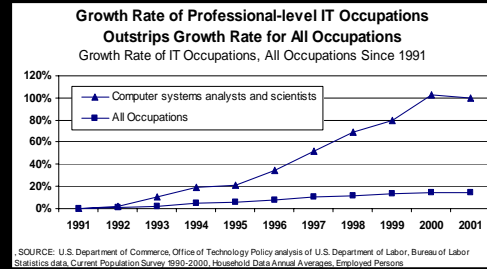
## S&E Bachelor's Degrees, by Race



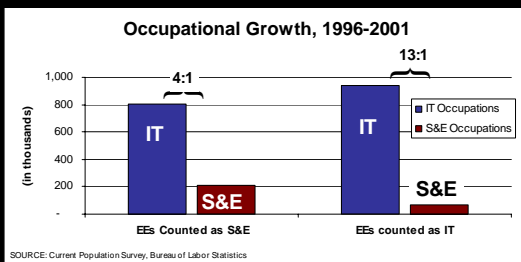
## IT Occupational Growth Rate 5 Times Greater Than Natural Scientists, Engineers



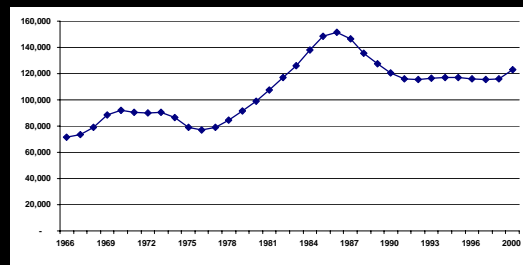
## Occupational Growth Rates IT vs. All Occupations



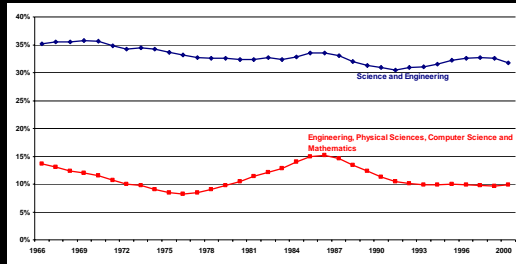
## S&E Occupational Growth Dominated by Information Technology Occupations



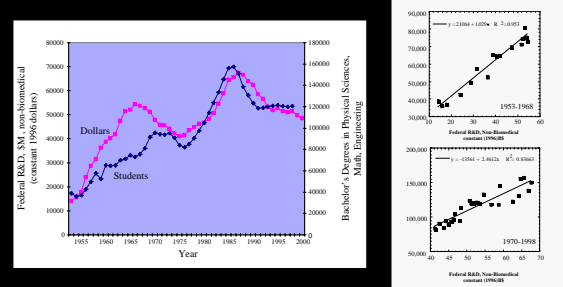
## Total Bachelor's Degrees in Engineering, Physical Sciences, Computer Science and Mathematics Stable



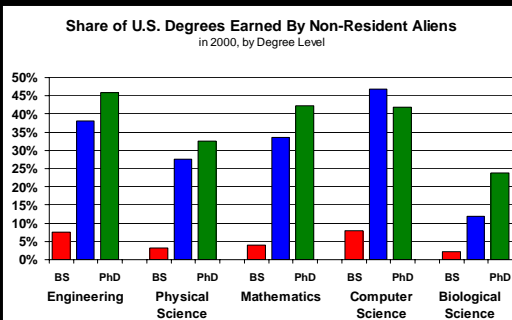
## Science and Engineering, MEPS as a Share of All Bachelor's Degrees



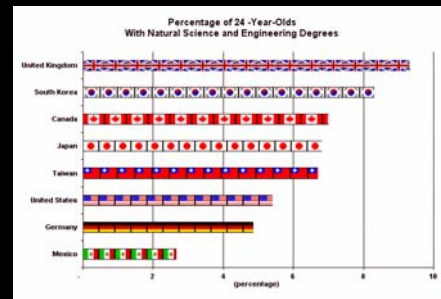
## Strong correlation between Federal R&D investments in MEPS and bachelor's degree production in MEPS fields



## Share of Total S&E Degrees Earned by Non-Resident Aliens, by Degree Level



## U.S. Lags Other Nations in Share of 24-Year-Olds With Natural Science, Engineering Degrees



Also: The United States ranks 61st out of 63 nations in the share of S&E degrees as a total of all bachelor's degrees.