

# CAREER FACT SHEET

## Life Scientists

### Snapshot

Life Scientists examine the anatomy physiology and biochemistry of humans, animals, plants and other living organisms to better understand how living organisms function and interact with each other and the environment in which they live."

How many are employed in this occupation?	9,600
What are the average weekly earnings for full time workers?	2,016
How does unemployment compare with other occupations?	Average
What are the job prospects for this occupation?	Medium
What will be the likely future employment growth for the next five years?	Moderate Growth

### Main employing industries

Education and Training; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; Public Administration and Safety; Health Care and Social Assistance

### Tasks

This occupation may include associated occupations with varying tasks.

designing and conducting experiments, making observations and measurements, researching information, analysing data, preparing or supervising the preparation of laboratory reports and scientific papers, presenting findings at scientific meetings and conferences, and supervising the work of staff studying the forms and structures of bodily organs and tissues by systematic observation, dissection and microscopic examination

investigating the chemical structure and function of living cells and their isolated components, organs and tissues in humans, animals, plants, and micro-organisms

examining micro-organisms, such as bacteria, fungi, yeast and their enzymes, and using the knowledge gained to create and develop new, and improve existing, products, materials and processes

investigating the effects of environmental factors, such as rainfall, temperature, sunlight, soil, topography and disease, on plant growth

planning and undertaking experiments to study, measure and understand marine animals and plants

studying the growth and characteristics of micro-organisms, such as bacteria, algae and fungi, and the effects they have on plants, animals and humans to develop medical, veterinary, industrial, environmental and other practical applications

investigating the interrelationships between animals in their natural surroundings, in captivity and in laboratories

# INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

## Professional, Scientific and Technical Services

If you aspire to hold a highly responsible, skilled, professional position then you should explore the possibilities to be found in the Professional, Scientific and Technical Services Industry. This diverse industry primarily supports other services by providing a range of specialist, formal skills. However, you don't need to jump right into becoming a fully certified Accountant or Solicitor straight away. Many successful employees in these occupations worked their way up to becoming fully qualified; combining work experience in support roles with on-the-job training to gain a thorough understanding and skills base for their chosen profession. Legal and Accounting Services as well as Computer System Design are some of the fields in this sector predicted to have strong job prospects.



**Professional, Scientific and Technical Services**

### Possible job pathways

- Barristers
- Architects and Landscape Architects
- Accounting Clerks
- Auditors and Company Secretaries
- Bookkeepers
- Economists
- Finance Managers
- Financial Investment Advisers and Managers
- Actuaries, Mathematicians and Statisticians
- Conveyancers and Legal Executives
- Court and Legal Clerks
- Human Resource Managers
- Office Managers
- Solicitors
- Cartographers and Surveyors
- Construction Managers
- Computer Network Professionals
- ICT Managers
- ICT Support Technicians
- Software and Applications Programmers
- Telecommunications Engineering Professionals
- Civil Engineering Draftspersons and Technicians
- Civil Engineering Professionals
- Electrical Engineers
- Engineering Managers
- Industrial, Mechanical and Production Engineers
- Mining Engineers
- Mechanical Engineering Draftspersons, Technicians
- Science Technicians
- Marine Transport Professionals
- Veterinarians
- Artistic Directors, Media Producers & Presenters
- Photographers
- Public Relations Professionals
- Environmental Scientists
- Life Scientists
- Interior Designers
- Multimedia Specialists and Web Developers

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