

Fact Sheet: Chinese Americans in Science & Tech*

FACT	SUMMARY/REFLECTION
As of 2018, 15% of working Chinese Americans are employed in the occupations of life, physical and social sciences, computing and mathematics, and architecture and engineering—nearly three times as high as the percentage of total Americans who work in these fields.	
As of 2018, an estimated one in 25 American graduates with a bachelor's degree or above in disciplines including computer science, mathematics, biological and biomedical science, and engineering—is Chinese American.	
Between 1980 and 1984, 9% of high-tech start-ups in Silicon Valley were run by Chinese immigrants, mostly first-generation; this proportion more than doubled to 20% during 1995 to 1998.	
According to 2018 data, one-third of foreign students in the U.S.— approximately 403,000—are from China, and 42% major in a science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) field.	
Today, one in 25 aerospace engineers in the U.S. is Chinese American.	
In 2018, there were approximately 18,000 Chinese American biological scientists, medical scientists and other life scientists working in the U.S.—accounting for 7% of the workforce in these occupations.	
More than 80% of Chinese American life scientists are active within the pharmaceutical industry, research and development (R&D), hospitals and healthcare services, and universities.	
One in 20 surgeons, physicians, optometrists, pharmacists and dentists in the U.S. is Chinese American.	

**This data comes from the Committee of 100's report entitled, "From Foundations to Frontiers: Chinese American Contributions to the Fabric of America."*

