At-a-Glance Statistics

Sample Job Titles
Air Quality Chemist, Analytical Chemist, Chemical Laboratory Scientist, Chemist, Forensic Chemist, Forensic Scientist, Quality Control Chemist (QC Chemist), Research Chemist, Scientist, Senior Chemist

Key Tasks
- Analyze organic or inorganic compounds to determine chemical or physical properties, composition, structure, relationships, or reactions, using chromatography, spectroscopy, or spectrophotometry techniques.
- Conduct quality control tests.
- Maintain laboratory instruments to ensure proper working order and troubleshoot malfunctions when needed.
- Prepare test solutions, compounds, or reagents for laboratory personnel to conduct tests.
- Induce changes in composition of substances by introducing heat, light, energy, or chemical catalysts for quantitative or qualitative analysis.
- Evaluate laboratory safety procedures to ensure compliance with standards or to make improvements as needed.
- Compile and analyze test information to determine process or equipment operating efficiency or to diagnose malfunctions.
- Write technical papers or reports or prepare standards and specifications for processes, facilities, products, or tests.
- Confer with scientists or engineers to conduct analyses of research projects, interpret test results, or develop nonstandard tests.
- Develop, improve, or customize products, equipment, formulas, processes, or analytical methods.
- Direct, coordinate, or advise personnel in test procedures for analyzing components or physical properties of materials.

**Education and Training**

- Bachelor’s Degree: 86%
- Master’s Degree: 7%
- Associate’s: 4%

**Median Wages**

- Hourly: $36.97
- Annually: $76,890

**Top Industries**

- Manufacturing
- Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

**Number Employed**

- 88,000 positions
- 4,400 job openings

**Top Ten States for Occupational Percentage Growth**

- UT: 36%
- CO: 21%
- WI: 20%
- NE: 18%
- IA: 18%
- FL: 18%
- TX: 17%
- OR: 17%
- MO: 16%
- AZ: 16%