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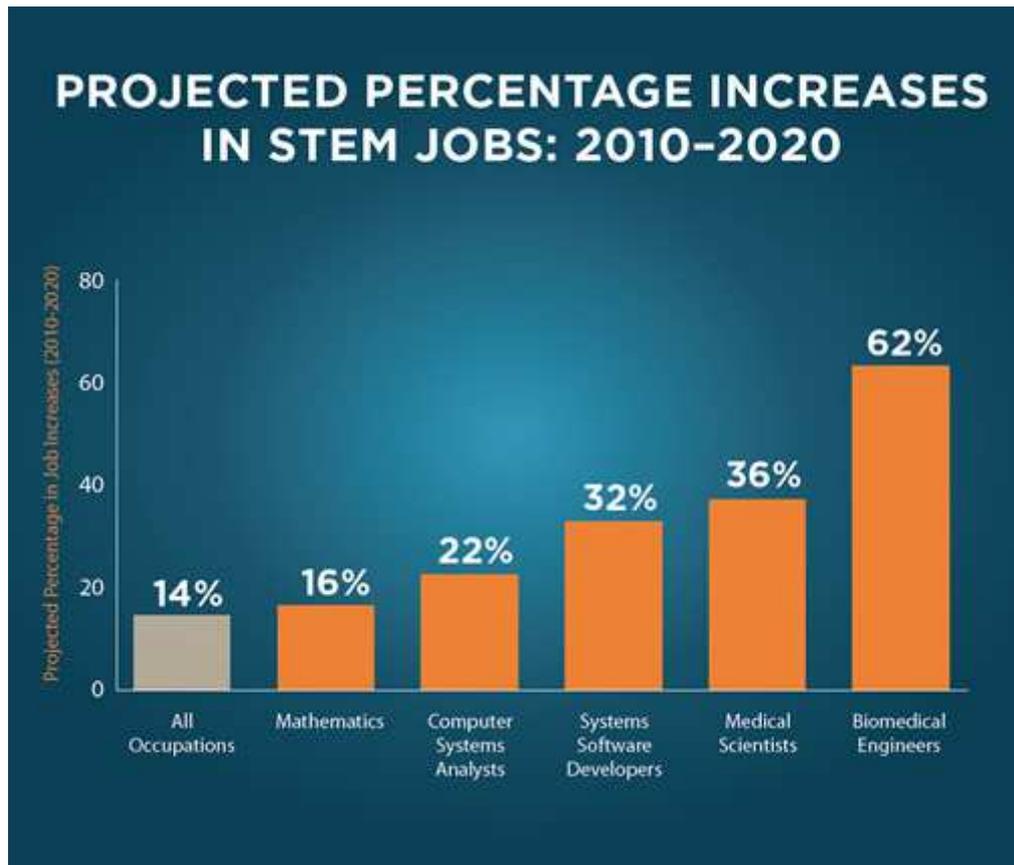
## Science, Technology, Engineering and Math: Education for Global Leadership



"... Leadership tomorrow depends on how we educate our students today—especially in science, technology, engineering and math."

— President Barack Obama, September 16, 2010

The United States has become a global leader, in large part, through the genius and hard work of its scientists, engineers and innovators. Yet today, that position is threatened as comparatively few American students pursue expertise in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)—and by an inadequate pipeline of teachers skilled in those subjects. President Obama has [set a priority](#) of increasing the number of students and teachers who are proficient in these vital fields.



### The need

Only 16 percent of American high school seniors are proficient in mathematics and interested in a STEM career. [\[expand/collapse\]](#)

### The goals

President Obama has articulated a clear priority for STEM education: within a decade, American students must "move from the middle to the top of the pack in science and math." [\[expand/collapse\]](#)

### The plan

The [Committee on STEM Education \(CoSTEM\)](#), comprised of 13 partner agencies—including all of the mission science agencies and the Department of Education—will facilitate a cohesive national strategy, with new and repurposed funds, to reorganize STEM education programs and increase the impact of federal investments in five areas: P-12 STEM instruction; increasing and sustaining public and youth engagement with STEM; improving the STEM experience of undergraduate students; better serving groups historically underrepresented in STEM fields; and designing graduate education for tomorrow's STEM workforce. [\[expand/collapse\]](#)

### Learn more

- [STEM Programs at ED](#)
- [White House STEM](#)
- [Educating a Competitive Workforce](#)
- [Federal 5-year Strategic Plan for STEM Education](#)