

BIOMETRICIAN



*...if you like to measure
with a big ruler.*

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Biometricians advise researchers who are planning experiments, or they analyze data for trends and underlying relationships. Sometimes they forecast future conditions of resources like forests or watersheds. Often they work as part of a team. The biometrician's skills are important to quality control and assurance in research and operations management. In a large organization, a biometrics staff may support others in projects such as forest inventory design, agricultural research, and production process analysis. Biometricians may conduct their own research to improve statistical methods or the understanding of subjects like crop development or climate change.



Photos: Kathryn Elssesser-Luba

Biometricians work for state agencies seeking staff support for research, planning, or information management; federal research organizations; private firms with large research programs; or large environmental consulting firms who want their skills in analyzing and evaluation. Universities hire biometricians to support biological researchers or as faculty to teach and do research on applied problems.

To be a biometrician you need an analytical mind and experience working with computers. You should study hard and specialize in at least one area of science. You need good communication skills to work with team members and clientele, and to report methods and findings.

In high school, take [algebra](#), [trigonometry](#), [geometry](#), [calculus](#), and [computer science](#), plus [biology](#), [physics](#), [chemistry](#), and [economics](#). Develop communication skills by taking [writing](#) and [speaking](#) courses.

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