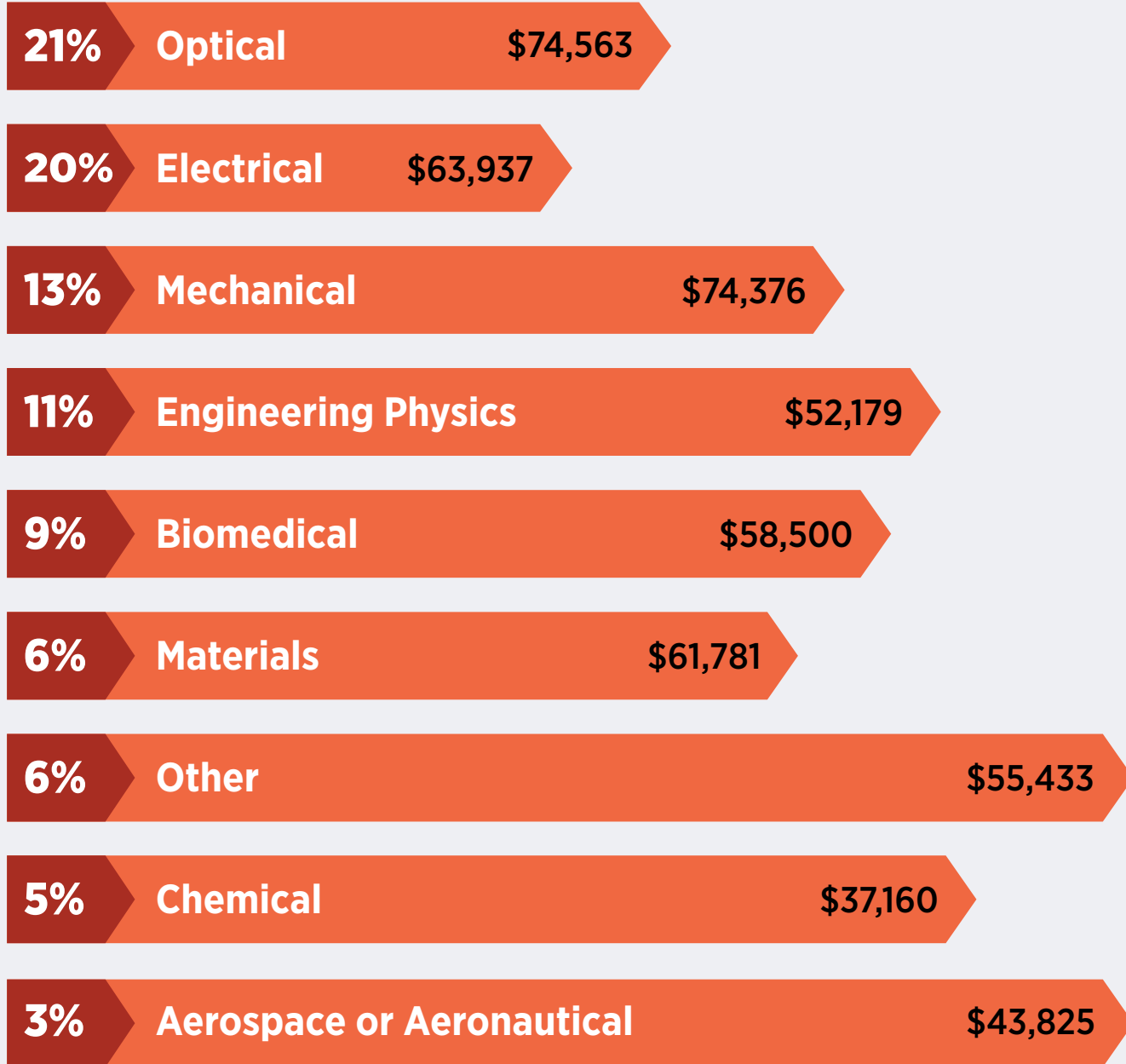


# Early career salaries in optics and photonics

Early career professionals earn a worldwide mean salary of \$66,569 working in optical engineering, electrical engineering, physics, and other light-focused fields.

presented by SPIE.

## What are the most popular engineering degrees for early career professionals?



Median salaries by engineering degree

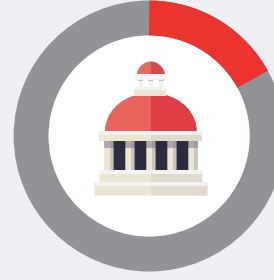
## Where do early career professionals work?



**47%**  
For-profit companies  
Median Salary: \$74,563



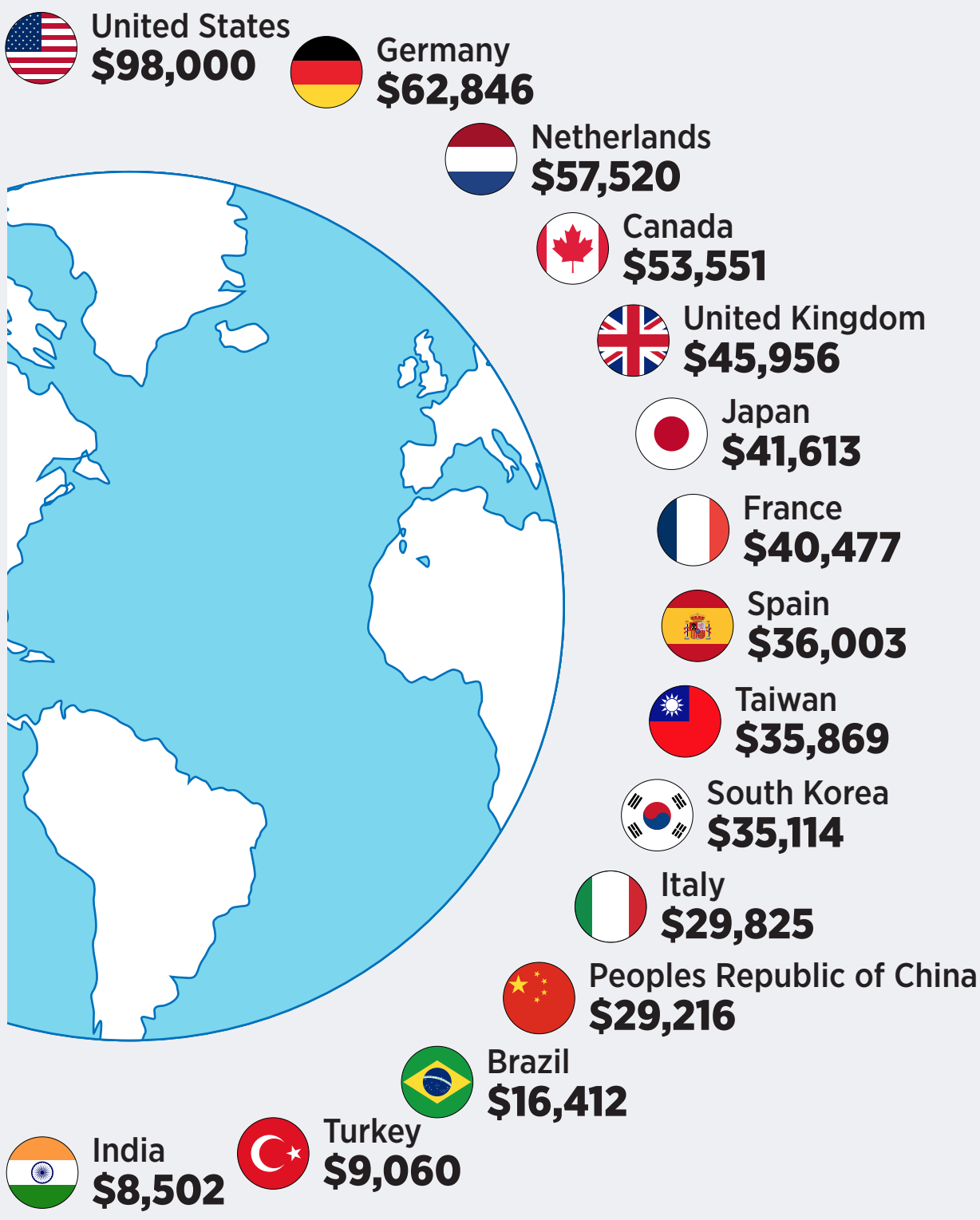
**38%**  
Academic Institutions  
Median Salary: \$47,967



**15%**  
Government/Military  
Median Salary: \$58,823

## How do early career salaries break down across countries, and how early career professionals find their current jobs?

### ECPs around the world



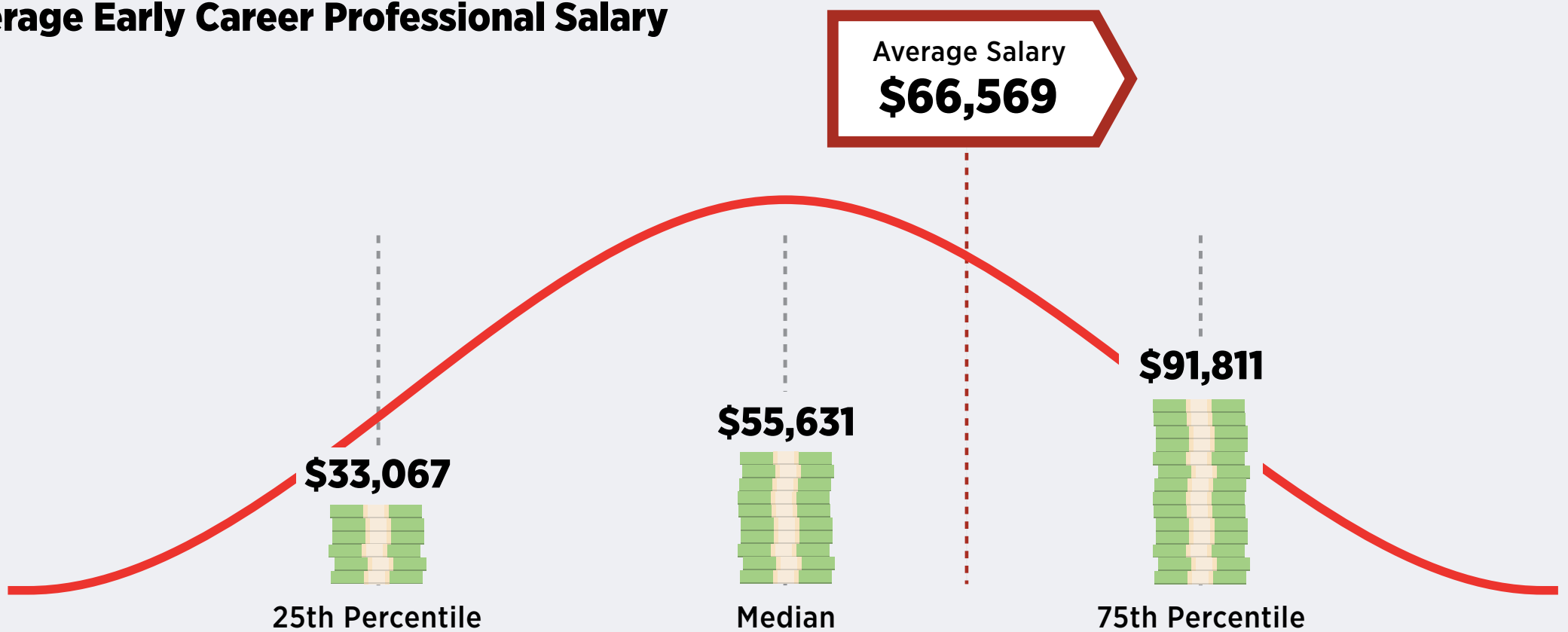
Median salaries by country

### How did early career professionals find their current jobs?



Early career professionals are defined by SPIE as post-secondary graduates within five years of graduating with what they anticipate will be their highest degree.

### Average Early Career Professional Salary



Half of early career professionals earn over \$55,631 per year, with the top 25 percent earning more than \$91,811.