

# WHAT'S IT WORTH?



## THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF COLLEGE MAJORS

Anthony P. Carnevale  
Jeff Strohl  
Michelle Melton

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY



Center  
on Education  
and the Workforce

# Acknowledgements

We would like to express our gratitude to the individuals and organizations that have made this report possible. First, we thank the Lumina Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for their support of our research over the past few years, and in particular, we are grateful for the support of Jamie Merisotis, Hilary Pennington, Holly Zanville, and Parminder Jassal. We are honored to be partners in their mission of promoting postsecondary access and completion for all Americans.

We also want to thank our editor, Vic Caleca, and our designer, Woodpile Studios, as well as Ban Cheah, Nicole Smith, Stephen Rose, Tamara Jayasundera, Laura Meyer, Peter Daniels, and numerous other colleagues, too many to list here, who provided support and insight throughout the process.



# Table of Contents

■	Introduction	6
■	Summary of Findings	8
■	Table of Major Groups	30
<hr/>		
■	Comparison Across Major Groups	32
■	Agriculture and Natural Resources	46
■	Arts	54
■	Biology and Life Science	62
■	Business	74
■	Communications and Journalism	82
■	Computers and Mathematics	90
■	Education	98
■	Engineering	110
■	Health	124
■	Humanities and Liberal Arts	132
■	Industrial Arts and Consumer Services	144
■	Law and Public Policy	152
■	Physical Sciences	160
■	Psychology and Social Work	168
■	Social Science	176

# Introduction

**When considering the question of whether earning a college degree is worth the investment in these uncertain economic times, here is a number to keep in mind:**

**84 percent.**

On average, that is how much more money a full-time, full-year worker with a Bachelor's degree can expect to earn over a lifetime than a colleague who has no better than a high school diploma.

Clearly, for most students, when asked whether to go to college, the answer should be a resounding "yes." And statistics show that Americans are drawing that conclusion in ever-growing numbers. Since 1992, the proportion of workers with Bachelor's degrees in the U.S. labor force has grown from 28 percent to 34 percent.

**At the extreme, the highest earning major earns 314 percent more at the median than the lowest-earning major at the median.**

Answering that big general question has been relatively easy, then. But other, more specific questions have been harder to resolve. Namely, *which* majors should students consider if they want the best chance of earning family-sustaining wages? And, are all Bachelor's degrees the same?

Over the years, there has been a persistent lack of available information about the economic consequences of choosing one academic major over another. As a result, students have had little financial data on hand to help them choose between majors.

No longer. Our report finds that different majors have different economic value. While going to college is undoubtedly a wise decision, what you take while you're there matters a lot, too. On average, as we stated, Bachelor's degree holders earn 84 percent more than those with a high school diploma. However, returns to majors run a wide gamut. **At the extreme, the highest earning major earns 314 percent more at the median than the lowest-earning major at the median.**

Although earning potential is not the only issue a student should consider when selecting a major, we believe it is an important one. That is why we detail the economic value of 171 specific undergraduate majors.<sup>1</sup>



To summarize, while we found that any degree is better than no degree, we also found that there are significant differences. For example, the median earnings for full-time, full-year workers with Bachelor's degrees (but no graduate diplomas) vary dramatically — from \$29,000 for Counseling Psychology majors to \$120,000 for Petroleum Engineering majors.

In some ways, then, a student's choice of undergraduate college major can be almost as important as deciding whether to get a Bachelor's degree at all.

Among other things, we detail:

- Median earnings and earnings variation among typical workers (at the 25th and 75th percentiles) for **all** (not only recent graduates) full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's degree.
- These same earnings information by gender and race/ethnicity.
- The likelihood that a person with a specific major will obtain a graduate degree and the subsequent earnings return that a graduate degree confers.
- The pathways between education and work: which occupations and industries employ the most workers with various majors.
- Data on labor market attachment (employment and work status) by specific undergraduate major.

In the summary of findings, we give an overview that compares *all* detailed majors by earnings, gender and racial/ethnic composition, labor force characteristics, and the like. The second section aggregates the 171 majors into 15 major groups. These groups are:

- Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Arts
- Biology and Life Science
- Business
- Communications and Journalism
- Computers and Mathematics
- Education
- Engineering
- Health
- Humanities and Liberal Arts
- Industrial Arts and Consumer Services
- Law and Public Policy
- Physical Sciences
- Psychology and Social Work
- Social Science

The second section compares earnings and other outcomes across broad major groups. For example, we detail the wages for Physical Sciences majors compared to Humanities and Liberal Arts, and the likelihood of attaining a graduate degree between Education and Communications and Journalism majors.

The remaining sections deal in detail with each of the 15 major groups. They compare the majors within these groups, providing information on, for instance, the differences in earnings between a General Business major and an Accounting major.

The list of all 171 majors and the 15 groups into which they fall can be found on page 30.

***Not all Bachelor's degrees are the same. Earnings are a function not only of which degree you have, but also what you have majored in.***

<sup>1</sup> Our study evaluates the economic impact of different majors only on full-time, full-year workers, and all of our data, with one exception, analyzes holders of Bachelor's degrees only (those who do not get a graduate degree).

# Summary of Findings: Highlights and Tables of Detailed Majors

The 2009 American Community Survey includes questions on major field of study for all individuals holding a Bachelor's degree that results in 171 majors. This section details findings at the specific major level.

## Most and Least Popular Majors

Given the immense number of majors available, any one attracts only a small percentage of the total population.

- Business Management and Administration (8 percent) is the most popular major, followed by General Business (5 percent), Accounting (5 percent), and Nursing (4 percent).
- The least popular majors include Military Technologies, Soil Science, and Pharmacology (all less than 1 percent of all majors). (See Tables 1-2)

*Which degree you  
have matters—but  
so does your major.*

## Gender Concentrations by Major

- Early Childhood Education is the major with the highest proportion of women (97 percent). It is followed by Medical Assisting Services (96 percent), and Communication Disorders Sciences and Services (94 percent).
- The majors in which women are most heavily concentrated are almost exclusively in the Education and Health fields.
- The majors with the highest proportion of men are Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering (97 percent), and Mechanical Engineering and Related Technologies (94 percent).
- The top 10 majors with the highest proportion of men are in the Engineering and Industrial Arts and Consumer Services majors. (See Tables 3-4)

## Top Majors by Race/Ethnicity

- Asians with Bachelor's degrees are most concentrated in Computer Engineering (33 percent of people in these majors are Asian), followed by Statistics and Decision Science (30 percent) and Neuroscience (27 percent).
- School Student Counseling has the highest proportion of African-American Bachelor's degree holders (38 percent), followed by Human Services and Community Organization (21 percent) and Counseling Psychology (20 percent).
- Biological Engineering has the highest concentration of Hispanic Bachelor's degree holders (22 percent), followed by International Business (21 percent), and Social Psychology (19 percent).

- Other Races (including Pacific Islanders and Native Americans) are most concentrated in Court Reporting (8 percent), followed by Mathematics and Computer Science (4 percent), and Cognitive Science and Biopsychology (3 percent).
- White Bachelor's degree holders are concentrated in Forestry (93 percent), Natural Resources Management (92 percent), and Agriculture Production and Management (92 percent). (See Tables 5-9)

#### Earnings for the Most Popular and Least Popular Majors<sup>2</sup>

- Business Management and Administration is the most popular major (8 percent of all majors). Bachelor's degree holders with this major earn \$58,000 at the median and their earnings range from \$40,000 at the 25th Percentile to \$85,000 at the 75th Percentile.
- General Business is the second most popular major (5 percent of all majors) with median earnings of \$60,000, ranging from \$40,000 at the 25th percentile to \$90,000 at the 75th percentile.
- Accounting is the third most popular major (4 percent) and earns \$63,000 at the median and ranges from \$43,000 at the 25th percentile to \$95,000 at the 75th percentile.
- At the other end of the spectrum, some of the least popular majors include Actuarial Science (median \$68,000), Oceanography (median \$70,000), Botany (median \$42,000), and Miscellaneous Agriculture (median \$47,000). (See Tables 10-11)

#### Highest- and Lowest-earning Majors

- Petroleum Engineering is by far the highest-earning Bachelor's degree major with median earnings of \$120,000 and 75th percentile earnings of \$189,000. This is followed by Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration with median earnings of \$105,000 and Mathematical and Computer Science with median earnings of \$98,000.
- Counseling Psychology is the lowest-paying Bachelor's degree major with a median of \$29,000 and a 75th percentile peak of \$42,000. This is followed by Early Childhood Education, with median earnings of \$36,000 and Theology and Religious Vocations and Human Services and Community Organization, which both have median earnings of \$38,000. (See Tables 12-13)

#### Majors with the Lowest Earnings at the 25th Percentile

Another way to understand the value of a major is by the earnings at the 25th percentile. From this perspective:

- Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration (25th percentile: \$83,000), Petroleum Engineering (25th percentile: \$82,000), and Mathematics and Computer Science (25th percentile: \$75,000) are the top three earning majors.
- Counseling Psychology has the lowest 25th percentile earnings (\$21,000), followed by Health and Medical Preparatory Programs (25th percentile: \$24,000), and Studio Arts (25th percentile: \$26,000). (See Tables 29-30)

**Median earnings for those with Bachelor's degrees vary greatly—from \$29,000 for Counseling Psychology majors to \$120,000 for Petroleum Engineering majors.**

<sup>2</sup> All earnings data are for full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's degree (no graduate degree).

**While having the highest median earnings, Petroleum Engineering also has extreme variation. The gap between the typical highest earning and typical lowest earnings is \$107,000.**

### Variations in Earnings

There are numerous reasons why Bachelor's-degree holders earn widely varying amounts—even within a given major. As might be expected, majors that earn the most also have the highest variation in earnings.

- Petroleum Engineering has the largest gap between earnings at the 25th and 75th percentiles: \$107,000.
- This is followed by Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering majors (variation: \$76,000) and Mining and Mineral Engineering majors (variation: \$73,000).
- Early Childhood Education majors have the least variation (\$16,000), followed by Teacher Education (\$18,000), and Special Needs Education majors (\$18,000). (See Tables 27-28)

### Highest- and Lowest-earning Majors: Women

- Female Bachelor's degree holders<sup>3</sup> earn the most with a Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration (median \$100,000), followed by Information Sciences (median \$75,000), and Chemical Engineering (median \$72,000).
- Female Bachelor's degree holders earn the least in Theology and Religious Vocations (median \$33,000) followed by Human Services and Community Organization (median \$35,000), and Cosmetology Services and Culinary Arts (median \$36,000). (See Tables 14-15)

### Highest- and Lowest-earning Majors: Men

- Male Bachelor's degree holders<sup>4</sup> earn the most with a major in Petroleum Engineering (median \$120,000), Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration (median \$110,000), and Chemical Engineering (median: \$92,000).
- Male Bachelor's degree holders earn the least with a Visual and Performing Arts major (median: \$36,000); one of the few majors where women earn more than men. This is followed by Theology and Religious Vocations (median: \$40,000) and Human Services and Community Organization (median: \$40,000). (See Tables 16-17)

### Earnings by Race/Ethnicity<sup>5</sup>

- Whites have the highest earnings with a Bachelor's degree in Petroleum Engineering (median: \$120,000) and earn the least with a major in Early Childhood Education (median: \$36,000).
- African-Americans earn the most with a major in Electrical Engineering (median: \$68,000) which is significantly less than the median for Whites (\$90,000) and Asians (\$80,000) in these majors, but just slightly ahead of the Hispanics (\$60,000).
- African-American Bachelor's degree holders earn the least with a major in General Medical and Health Services (median: \$32,000) which is \$18,000 lower than Whites with the same major.
- Hispanics earn the most with a major in Mechanical Engineering (\$70,000 median). However, the median for Hispanics is \$13,000 less than the median for Whites with the same major.
- Hispanics earn the least in Theology and Religious Vocation majors with median earnings of \$30,000, which is less than the White and African-American medians in this field.

<sup>3</sup> This analysis is done only on women working full-time, full-year with a terminal Bachelor's degree.

<sup>4</sup> This analysis is done on men working full-time, full-year with a terminal Bachelor's degree.

<sup>5</sup> The variations in earnings by race are complicated—they could be due to a variety of factors, including occupational and industrial segregation, age structure of people who attained these majors (older workers would earn more), or discrimination. We have not analyzed the reasons for these differences. However, all earnings by race are for full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's degree.



- Asians earn the most with a Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration major (median: \$100,000) which is just slightly under that of Whites (\$108,000).
- Asians earn the least with a major in Elementary Education (median: \$34,000) which is slightly less than that of Whites (\$40,000).
- Other Races (including Pacific Islanders and American Indians) earn the most with a major in Nursing (median: \$60,000) and the least with a major in General Business (median: \$40,000). (See Tables 18-26)

### Where Majors End Up Working By Occupation

Bachelor's degree majors link to occupations with different levels of connectivity, but no major is perfectly linked to an occupation.

- 82 percent of Nursing majors end up in Health Practice Occupations, but 6 percent are found in Management occupations.
- Special Needs Education is another example of a major that tightly links to an occupation (71 percent of these majors are found in Education). (See Table 31)

However, most majors lead to broad sets of occupations. The underlying data suggests that this is one explanation of earnings variation. For instance:

- Physics majors can be found in Computer occupations (19 percent), Management occupations (19 percent), Engineering occupations (14 percent) and Sales occupations (9 percent).
- Liberal Arts majors are found in Management occupations (18 percent), Sales occupations (15 percent), Office occupations (14 percent), and Education occupations (13 percent).

### By Industry

Frequently, knowledge is used widely across industrial sectors, but in limited cases majors have a tight relationship with an industrial sector. This is especially the case in the Health Services and Educational Services sectors.

For instance:

- Nursing majors lead to employment in the Health Services industry 84 percent of the time.
- 77 percent of Bachelor's degree holders who majored in Medical Assisting Services work in the Health Services industry.
- 70 percent of Special Needs Education majors work in the Education Services sector. (See Table 32)

However, it is more often the case that a major opens employment doors across many industries. For instance:

- Liberal Arts Majors are found in the Educational Services (17 percent), Health Services (11 percent), Retail Trade (9 percent) and Financial Services (9 percent) industries.
- Biological Engineering majors are widely dispersed through industries. They are in Durable Manufacturing (16 percent), Construction (11 percent), Professional Services (10 percent), and Non-Durable Manufacturing (9 percent) industries. (See Table 34)

### Graduate Degree Attainment and Impact of Graduate School on Earnings

Some majors are more likely to obtain a graduate degree than others. The majors with the highest rates of graduate degree attainment include:

- School Student Counseling (91 percent);
- Educational Administration and Supervision (89 percent);
- Health and Medical Preparatory Programs (79 percent).

In contrast, other majors are less likely to obtain a graduate degree. Those majors with the lowest rates of graduate degree attainment include:

- Commercial Art and Graphic Design (9 percent);
- Communication Technologies (11 percent);
- Construction Services (11 percent).  
(See Tables 35-36)

Obtaining a graduate degree leads to higher earnings. How much additional earnings a graduate degree confers varies by undergraduate major.<sup>6</sup> Those with the highest earnings bump from a graduate degree include:

- Health and Medical Preparatory Programs (190 percent);
- Miscellaneous Social Sciences (134 percent);
- Zoology (123 percent).

Those majors which get the lowest earnings boost from graduate education include:

- Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology (1 percent);
- Studio Arts (3 percent);
- Petroleum Engineering (7 percent).  
(See Table 37-38)

## Work and Employment Status

Some majors, such as Genetics (99 percent), Mining and Mineral Engineering (99 percent), and Geological and Geophysical Engineering (97 percent) are associated with high rates of working full-time.

Other fields, such as Medical Assisting Services (48 percent), Visual and Performing Arts (35 percent), and Communication Disorders Sciences and Services (32 percent) are associated with more part-time work. (See Tables 39-40)

Some majors have virtually no unemployment, including Geological and Geophysical Engineering, Military Technologies, Pharmacology, and School Student Counseling.

Other majors have relatively high unemployment rates, among them Social Psychology (16 percent), Nuclear Engineering (11 percent), and Educational Administration and Supervision (11 percent). (See Tables 41-42)

<sup>6</sup>This varies for a variety of reasons, and we do not claim that it varies solely based on the undergraduate major.

# Tables 1–42

## 1: TOP 10 MOST POPULAR MAJORS

	Percent Total	Percent Female	Percent Male
Business Management and Administration	8	44	56
General Business	5	39	61
Accounting	5	52	48
Nursing	4	92	8
Psychology	4	71	29
Elementary Education	4	91	9
Marketing and Marketing Research	3	51	49
General Education	3	76	24
English Language and Literature	3	67	33
Communications	3	58	42

## 2: LEAST POPULAR MAJORS

	Percent Total	Percent Female	Percent Male
Precision Production and Industrial Arts	<.01	11	89
Geological and Geophysical Engineering	<.01	27	73
Nuclear Engineering	<.01	9	91
Soil Science	<.01	24	76
Geosciences	<.01	36	64
Educational Administration and Supervision	<.01	53	47
Pharmacology	<.01	56	44
Astronomy and Astrophysics	<.01	27	73
Military Technologies	<.01	7	93
School Student Counseling	<.01	94	6

**More people with Bachelor's degrees majored in Business Management than any other major.**

**3: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH HIGHEST CONCENTRATION OF WOMEN\***

	Percent Women	Percent Men
Early Childhood Education	97	3
Medical Assisting Services	96	4
School Student Counseling	94	6
Communication Disorders Sciences and Services	94	6
Library Science	93	7
Family and Consumer Sciences	93	7
Nursing	92	8
Elementary Education	91	9
Nutrition Sciences	89	11
Special Needs Education	88	12

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

**4: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH HIGHEST CONCENTRATION OF MEN**

	Percent Women	Percent Men
Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering	3	97
Mechanical Engineering Related Technologies	6	94
Military Technologies	7	93
Construction Services	8	92
Electrical and Mechanic Repairs And Technologies	9	91
Nuclear Engineering	9	91
Industrial Production Technologies	9	91
Mechanical Engineering	10	90
Mining and Mineral Engineering	10	90
Electrical Engineering Technology	10	90

**5: TOP 10 MAJORS BY CONCENTRATION OF ASIAN BACHELOR'S DEGREE HOLDERS<sup>Δ</sup>**

	Percent White	Percent African-American	Percent Hispanic	Percent Asian	Percent Other Races & Ethnicities
Computer Engineering	54	4	9	33	<0.5
Statistics and Decision Science	61	8	1	30	<0.5
Neuroscience	67	5	1	27	<0.5
Biomedical Engineering	68	0	5	26	1
Other Foreign Languages	67	3	3	26	1
Electrical Engineering	64	6	7	22	1
Military Technologies	61	4	14	22	<0.5
Biochemical Sciences	68	5	6	20	1
Applied Mathematics	66	6	8	20	1
Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration	71	5	4	20	<0.5

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

**Women are heavily concentrated in Education and Health majors.**

**Asians are most concentrated in Computer Engineering.**



**6: TOP 10 MAJORS BY CONCENTRATION OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN BACHELOR'S DEGREE HOLDERS<sup>†</sup>**

	Percent White	Percent African-American	Percent Hispanic	Percent Asian	Percent Other Races & Ethnicities
School Student Counseling	56	38	<0.5	6	<0.5
Human Services and Community Organization	65	21	11	1	2
Counseling Psychology	72	20	3	5	1
Health and Medical Administrative Services	71	18	6	5	1
Public Administration	67	18	10	4	2
Social Work	71	16	9	3	1
Miscellaneous Social Sciences	77	16	3	4	<0.5
General Medical and Health Services	71	15	7	6	1
Public Policy	72	15	6	7	1
Community and Public Health	73	14	4	7	1

<sup>†</sup> There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

**7: TOP 10 MAJORS BY CONCENTRATION OF HISPANIC BACHELOR'S DEGREE HOLDERS<sup>Δ</sup>**

	Percent White	Percent African-American	Percent Hispanic	Percent Asian	Percent Other Races & Ethnicities
Biological Engineering	62	3	22	12	<0.5
International Business	58	4	21	16	1
Social Psychology	67	12	19	2	<0.5
Court Reporting	61	14	15	2	8
Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering	70	5	14	9	1
Military Technologies	61	4	14	22	<0.5
Clinical Psychology	70	14	14	2	<0.5
Industrial and Organizational Psychology	69	13	14	3	1
General Engineering	61	7	13	18	1
International Relations	73	4	13	10	<0.5

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

**8: TOP 10 MAJORS BY CONCENTRATION OF OTHER RACES & ETHNICITIES BACHELOR'S DEGREE HOLDERS<sup>†</sup>**

	Percent White	Percent African-American	Percent Hispanic	Percent Asian	Percent Other Races & Ethnicities
Court Reporting	61	14	15	2	8
Mathematics and Computer Science	82	8	2	4	4
Molecular Biology	68	6	7	16	3
Cognitive Science and Biopsychology	64	6	11	16	3
Astronomy and Astrophysics	84	<0.5	8	5	2
Area Ethnic and Civilization Studies	69	8	7	13	2
Human Services and Community Organization	65	21	11	1	2
Public Administration	67	18	10	4	2
Intercultural and International Studies	75	3	9	11	2
Electrical Engineering Technology	62	11	6	18	2

<sup>†</sup> There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

**9: TOP 10 MAJORS BY CONCENTRATION OF WHITE BACHELOR'S DEGREE HOLDERS\*<sup>Δ</sup>**

	Percent White	Percent African-American	Percent Hispanic	Percent Asian	Percent Other Races & Ethnicities
Forestry	93	1	4	2	1
Natural Resources Management	92	2	3	2	<0.5
Agriculture Production and Management	92	2	3	3	<0.5
Plant Science and Agronomy	92	2	4	2	<0.5
Nuclear Engineering	91	4	4	1	<0.5
Animal Sciences	91	3	4	1	<0.5
Soil Science	91	<0.5	3	6	<0.5
Miscellaneous Agriculture	90	3	5	2	<0.5
Agricultural Economics	90	5	3	1	1
Art and Music Education	90	4	4	2	<0.5

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

**10: EARNINGS FOR THE TOP 10 MOST POPULAR MAJORS\*\***

	Percent of All Majors	Median	Earnings at 25th Percentile	Earnings at 75th Percentile
Business Management and Administration	8	58,000	40,000	85,000
General Business	5	60,000	40,000	90,000
Accounting	5	63,000	43,000	95,000
Nursing	4	60,000	48,000	80,000
Psychology	3	45,000	31,000	65,000
Marketing and Marketing Research	3	58,000	40,000	88,000
Communications	3	50,000	35,000	77,000
Elementary Education	3	40,000	31,000	50,000
Computer Science	3	75,000	50,000	100,000
Finance	3	65,000	43,000	100,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

**11: EARNINGS FOR THE TOP 10 LEAST POPULAR MAJORS\*\***

	Percent of All Majors	Median	Earnings at 25th Percentile	Earnings at 75th Percentile
Actuarial Science	<.01	68,000	53,000	126,000
Electrical and Mechanic Repairs and Technologies	<.01	57,000	39,000	70,000
Metallurgical Engineering	<.01	80,000	50,000	106,000
Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering	<.01	82,000	44,000	120,000
Botany	<.01	42,000	29,000	56,000
Mining and Mineral Engineering	<.01	80,000	52,000	125,000
Oceanography	<.01	70,000	42,000	110,000
Physical Sciences	<.01	69,000	50,000	92,000
Mathematics and Computer Science	<.01	98,000	75,000	134,000
Miscellaneous Agriculture	<.01	47,000	30,000	54,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

**12: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE HIGHEST MEDIAN EARNINGS\*\***

	Median	Earnings at 25th Percentile	Earnings at 75th Percentile
Petroleum Engineering	120,000	82,000	189,000
Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration	105,000	83,000	120,000
Mathematics and Computer Science	98,000	75,000	134,000
Aerospace Engineering	87,000	60,000	115,000
Chemical Engineering	86,000	60,000	120,000
Electrical Engineering	85,000	60,000	110,000
<b>Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering</b>	<b>82,000</b>	<b>44,000</b>	<b>120,000</b>
Mechanical Engineering	80,000	59,000	105,000
Metallurgical Engineering	80,000	50,000	106,000
Mining and Mineral Engineering	80,000	52,000	125,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

**13: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE LOWEST MEDIAN EARNINGS\*\***

	Median	Earnings at 25th Percentile	Earnings at 75th Percentile
Counseling Psychology	29,000	21,000	42,000
Early Childhood Education	36,000	29,000	45,000
Theology and Religious Vocations	38,000	27,000	52,000
Human Services and Community Organization	38,000	27,000	53,000
Social Work	39,000	30,000	52,000
Drama and Theater Arts	40,000	29,000	60,000
Studio Arts	40,000	26,000	60,000
Communication Disorders Sciences and Service	40,000	31,000	59,000
Visual and Performing Arts	40,000	26,000	60,000
Health and Medical Preparatory Programs	40,000	24,000	71,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

**14: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE HIGHEST MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR WOMEN\***

First Field of Degree 5% code	Percent Female	Median Female Earnings	Percent Male	Median Male Earnings
Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration	42	100,000	58	110,000
Information Sciences	26	75,000	74	65,000
Chemical Engineering	23	72,000	77	92,000
Computer Science	22	70,000	78	79,000
Electrical Engineering	7	70,000	93	86,000
Mechanical Engineering	7	70,000	93	80,000
Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering	17	67,000	83	80,000
Computer Engineering	14	67,000	86	80,000
Business Economics	30	64,000	70	80,000
Civil Engineering	13	62,000	87	80,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Women earn the most with a degree in Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration, and the least in Theology and Religious Vocations.**

**15: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE LOWEST MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR WOMEN\***

	Percent Female	Median Female Earnings	Percent Male	Median Male Earnings
Theology and Religious Vocations	24	33,000	76	40,000
Human Services and Community Organization	78	35,000	22	40,000
Early Childhood Education	100	36,000	•	•
Animal Sciences	41	36,000	59	53,000
Cosmetology Services and Culinary Arts	32	36,000	68	56,000
Agriculture Production and Management	19	37,000	81	52,000
Social Work	86	38,000	14	48,000
Linguistics and Comparative Language and Literature	67	38,000	33	52,000
Studio Arts	59	38,000	41	45,000
General Agriculture	22	38,000	78	50,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**16: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE HIGHEST MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR MEN\*\***

	Percent Female	Median Female Earnings	Percent Male	Median Male Earnings
Petroleum Engineering	•	•	100	120,000
Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration	42	100,000	58	110,000
Chemical Engineering	23	72,000	77	92,000
Aerospace Engineering	•	•	100	90,000
Electrical Engineering	7	70,000	93	86,000
Engineering and Industrial Management	•	•	100	82,000
Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering	•	•	100	82,000
Environmental Engineering	•	•	100	80,000
Metallurgical Engineering	•	•	100	80,000
Mechanical Engineering	7	70,000	93	80,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\*\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**17: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE LOWEST MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR MEN\***

	Percent Female	Median Female Earnings	Percent Male	Median Male Earnings
Visual And Performing Arts	65	40,000	35	36,000
Human Services And Community Organization	78	35,000	22	40,000
Theology And Religious Vocations	24	33,000	76	40,000
Drama And Theater Arts	56	39,000	44	42,000
Social Science Or History Teacher Education	44	40,000	56	44,000
Physiology	49	49,000	51	45,000
Teacher Education: Multiple Levels	70	40,000	30	45,000
Music	41	40,000	59	45,000
Elementary Education	88	39,000	12	45,000
Studio Arts	59	38,000	41	45,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**18: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE HIGHEST MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR WHITES\*\***

	White Median Earnings	African-American Median Earnings	Hispanic Median Earnings	Asian Median Earnings	Other Races & Ethnicities Median Earnings
Petroleum Engineering	120,000	•	•	•	•
Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration	108,000	•	•	100,000	•
Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering	97,000	•	•	•	•
Chemical Engineering	95,000	•	59,000	70,000	•
Aerospace Engineering	92,000	•	•	•	•
Electrical Engineering	90,000	68,000	60,000	80,000	•
Mining and Mineral Engineering	83,000	•	•	•	•
Mechanical Engineering	83,000	65,000	70,000	70,000	•
Engineering and Industrial Management	80,000	•	•	•	•
Engineering Mechanics Physics and Science	80,000	•	•	•	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

19: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE LOWEST MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR WHITES\*

	White Median Earnings	African-American Median Earnings	Hispanic Median Earnings	Asian Median Earnings	Other Races & Ethnicities Median Earnings
Counseling Psychology	32,000	•	•	•	•
Early Childhood Education	36,000	35,000	•	•	•
Human Services and Community Organization	38,000	37,000	•	•	•
Theology and Religious Vocations	38,000	42,000	30,000	•	•
Communication Disorders Sciences and Services	40,000	•	•	•	•
Studio Arts	40,000	•	•	•	•
Teacher Education: Multiple Levels	40,000	•	•	•	•
Elementary Education	40,000	40,000	40,000	34,000	•
Social Work	40,000	38,000	38,000	•	•
Family and Consumer Sciences	41,000	35,000	41,000	37,000	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**Even in their highest-paying major, Electrical Engineering, African-Americans earn \$22,000 less than Whites and \$12,000 less than Asians with the same major.**

20: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE HIGHEST MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR AFRICAN-AMERICANS\*

	White Median Earnings	African-American Median Earnings	Hispanic Median Earnings	Asian Median Earnings	Other Races & Ethnicities Median Earnings
Electrical Engineering	90,000	68,000	60,000	80,000	•
Mechanical Engineering	83,000	65,000	70,000	70,000	•
Information Sciences	70,000	65,000	•	65,000	•
Computer Science	80,000	61,000	62,000	75,000	•
General Engineering	76,000	60,000	50,000	70,000	•
Nursing	60,000	60,000	58,000	70,000	60,000
Management Information Systems and Statistics	70,000	56,000	65,000	64,000	•
Architecture	65,000	55,000	59,000	65,000	•
Medical Technologies Technicians	58,000	55,000	•	60,000	•
Computer Networking and Telecommunications	56,000	54,000	•	•	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**21: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE LOWEST MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR AFRICAN-AMERICANS\*\***

	White Median Earnings	African- American Median Earnings	Hispanic Median Earnings	Asian Median Earnings	Other Races & Ethnicities Median Earnings
General Medical and Health Services	50,000	32,000	•	•	•
Early Childhood Education	36,000	35,000	•	•	•
Family and Consumer Sciences	41,000	35,000	41,000	37,000	•
Human Services and Community Organization	38,000	37,000	•	•	•
Social Work	40,000	38,000	38,000	•	•
Fine Arts	46,000	38,000	40,000	44,000	•
Physical Fitness Parks Recreation and Leisure	44,000	39,000	43,000	•	•
Liberal Arts	50,000	40,000	43,000	40,000	•
Mass Media	47,000	40,000	41,000	38,000	•
Elementary Education	40,000	40,000	40,000	34,000	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**22: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE HIGHEST MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR HISPANICS\*\***

	White Median Earnings	African- American Median Earnings	Hispanic Median Earnings	Asian Median Earnings	Other Races & Ethnicities Median Earnings
Mechanical Engineering	83,000	65,000	70,000	70,000	•
Civil Engineering	80,000	•	65,000	72,000	•
Management Information Systems and Statistics	70,000	56,000	65,000	64,000	•
Computer Science	80,000	61,000	62,000	75,000	•
Electrical Engineering	90,000	68,000	60,000	80,000	•
Computer and Information Systems	65,000	51,000	60,000	60,000	•
Chemical Engineering	95,000	•	59,000	70,000	•
Architecture	65,000	55,000	59,000	65,000	•
Nursing	60,000	60,000	58,000	70,000	60,000
Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering	80,000	•	56,000	80,000	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**23: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE LOWEST MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR HISPANICS\***

	White Median Earnings	African- American Median Earnings	Hispanic Median Earnings	Asian Median Earnings	Other Races & Ethnicities Median Earnings
Theology and Religious Vocations	38,000	42,000	30,000	•	•
Advertising and Public Relations	50,000	42,000	38,000	•	•
General Education	43,000	42,000	38,000	37,000	•
Social Work	40,000	38,000	38,000	•	•
Mathematics	70,000	50,000	40,000	70,000	•
Physical and Health Education Teaching	47,000	43,000	40,000	•	•
Biology	52,000	43,000	40,000	51,000	•
Psychology	45,000	40,000	40,000	50,000	•
Elementary Education	40,000	40,000	40,000	34,000	•
Fine Arts	46,000	38,000	40,000	44,000	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**24: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE HIGHEST MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR ASIANS\*\***

	White Median Earnings	African- American Median Earnings	Hispanic Median Earnings	Asian Median Earnings	Other Races & Ethnicities Median Earnings
Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration	108,000	•	•	100,000	•
Computer Engineering	80,000	•	50,000	80,000	•
Electrical Engineering	90,000	68,000	60,000	80,000	•
Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering	80,000	•	56,000	80,000	•
Computer Science	80,000	61,000	62,000	75,000	•
Physics	75,000	•	•	74,000	•
Civil Engineering	80,000	•	65,000	72,000	•
Chemical Engineering	95,000	•	59,000	70,000	•
General Engineering	76,000	60,000	50,000	70,000	•
Mathematics	70,000	50,000	40,000	70,000	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\*\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**25: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE LOWEST MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR ASIANS\***

	White Median Earnings	African-American Median Earnings	Hispanic Median Earnings	Asian Median Earnings	Other Races & Ethnicities Median Earnings
Music	42,000	•	•	33,000	•
Elementary Education	40,000	40,000	40,000	34,000	•
Family and Consumer Sciences	41,000	35,000	41,000	37,000	•
General Education	43,000	42,000	38,000	37,000	•
Mass Media	47,000	40,000	41,000	38,000	•
General Agriculture	48,000	•	•	40,000	•
Liberal Arts	50,000	40,000	43,000	40,000	•
Fine Arts	46,000	38,000	40,000	44,000	•
History	50,000	50,000	42,000	44,000	•
English Language and Literature	49,000	45,000	42,000	45,000	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.  
 • Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**26: EARNINGS FOR OTHER RACES\*\***

	White Median Earnings	African-American Median Earnings	Hispanic Median Earnings	Asian Median Earnings	Other Races & Ethnicities Median Earnings
Nursing	60,000	60,000	58,000	70,000	60,000
Business Management and Administration	60,000	48,000	46,000	50,000	51,000
Accounting	70,000	52,000	45,000	53,000	50,000
General Business	63,000	43,000	50,000	49,000	40,000
Commercial Art and Graphic Design	45,000	40,000	45,000	47,000	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.  
 \* Sample size problems prevent us from providing great detail about the earnings of Other Races/Ethnicities.  
 • Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**27: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE MOST EARNINGS VARIATION BETWEEN THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

	Earnings at the 25th Percentile	Earnings at the 75th Percentile	Difference
Petroleum Engineering	82,000	189,000	107,000
Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering	44,000	120,000	76,000
Mining And Mineral Engineering	52,000	125,000	73,000
Actuarial Science	53,000	126,000	73,000
Engineering Mechanics Physics and Science	42,000	110,000	68,000
Engineering and Industrial Management	52,000	120,000	68,000
Oceanography	42,000	110,000	68,000
Physics	38,000	105,000	67,000
Economics	42,000	108,000	66,000
Business Economics	50,000	115,000	65,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.



**28: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE LEAST VARIATION BETWEEN THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

	<b>Earnings at the 25th Percentile</b>	<b>Earnings at the 75th Percentile</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Early Childhood Education	29,000	45,000	16,000
Special Needs Education	35,000	53,000	18,000
Teacher Education: Multiple Levels	33,000	51,000	18,000
Mathematics Teacher Education	35,000	54,000	19,000
Elementary Education	31,000	50,000	19,000
Language and Drama Education	34,000	55,000	21,000
Counseling Psychology	21,000	42,000	21,000
Social Work	30,000	52,000	22,000
General Education	32,000	56,000	24,000
Art and Music Education	32,000	56,000	24,000

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

**29: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE HIGHEST EARNINGS AT THE 25TH PERCENTILE\***

	<b>Median Earnings</b>	<b>Earnings at the 25th Percentile</b>	<b>Earnings at the 75th Percentile</b>
Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration	105,000	83,000	120,000
Petroleum Engineering	120,000	82,000	189,000
Mathematics and Computer Science	98,000	75,000	134,000
Chemical Engineering	86,000	60,000	120,000
Aerospace Engineering	87,000	60,000	115,000
Electrical Engineering	85,000	60,000	110,000
Mechanical Engineering	80,000	59,000	105,000
Civil Engineering	78,000	57,000	103,000
Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering	75,000	55,000	101,000
Computer Engineering	75,000	55,000	100,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**30: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE LOWEST EARNINGS AT THE 25TH PERCENTILE\*\***

	<b>Earnings at the 25th Percentile</b>	<b>Earnings at the 75th Percentile</b>
Counseling Psychology	21,000	42,000
Health and Medical Preparatory Programs	24,000	71,000
Studio Arts	26,000	60,000
Visual and Performing Arts	26,000	60,000
Human Services and Community Organization	27,000	53,000
Theology and Religious Vocations	27,000	52,000
Molecular Biology	28,000	63,000
Miscellaneous Health Medical Professions	28,000	57,000
Botany	29,000	56,000
Early Childhood Education	29,000	45,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\*\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

**31: OCCUPATIONAL CONCENTRATION: EXAMPLES OF MAJORS WITH TIGHT LINKAGES WITH AN OCCUPATION**

	1st Occupation (%)	2nd Occupation (%)	3rd Occupation (%)
Nursing	HLTH PROF (82)	MGMT (6)	HLTH SUP (2)
Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration	HLTH PROF (76)	SALES (7)	MGMT (5)
Special Needs Education	EDU (71)	MGMT (8)	OFF (5)
Medical Assisting Services	HLTH PROF (69)	OFF (8)	HLTH SUP (5)
Elementary Education	EDU (66)	OFF (9)	MGMT (6)

**32: OCCUPATIONAL CONCENTRATION: EXAMPLES OF MAJORS THAT ARE DISPERSED ACROSS OCCUPATIONS**

	1st Occupation (%)	2nd Occupation (%)	3rd Occupation (%)	4th Occupation (%)
Physics	COMP (19)	MGMT (19)	ENGR (14)	SALES (9)
Zoology	MGMT (19)	SALES (13)	LS (10)	HLTH PROF (9)
Drama and Theater Arts	MGMT (18)	OFF (16)	ARTS (12)	SALES (10)
Ecology	MGMT (18)	LS (16)	SALES (9)	HLTH PROF (8)
History	MGMT (18)	SALES (16)	OFF (15)	EDU (11)
Liberal Arts	MGMT (18)	SALES (15)	OFF (14)	EDU (13)
Miscellaneous Psychology	MGMT (18)	EDU (11)	OFF (11)	COMM (10)
Multi-Disciplinary or General Science	MGMT (18)	HLTH PROF (13)	SALES (13)	OFF (10)
Philosophy and Religious Studies	MGMT (18)	SALES (13)	OFF (12)	COMM (10)

*Some majors link up with specific occupations— but some majors do not.*

<b>Occupation Abbreviations:</b>	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Architecture = ARCH	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Arts = ARTS	Installation = INST
Blue Collar = BC	Legal = LGL
Building = BLDG	Life Science = LS
Business = BUS	Management = MGMT
Community Service = COMM	Office = OFF
Computer Services = COMP	Personal Service = PERS
Construction = CON	Production = PROD
Education = EDU	Protective Services = PROT
Engineering = ENGR	Sales = SALES
Finance = FIN	Social Science = SS
Food Service = FOOD	Transportation = TRAN

**33: INDUSTRY CONCENTRATION: EXAMPLES OF MAJORS THAT HAVE TIGHT LINKAGES WITH A PARTICULAR INDUSTRY**

	1st Industry (%)	2nd Industry (%)	3rd Industry (%)
Nursing	HS (84)	EDU (3)	PUB (3)
Medical Assisting Services	HS (77)	PROF (3)	EDU (3)
Medical Technologies Technicians	HS (75)	PROF (5)	EDU (3)
Special Needs Education	EDU (70)	HS (11)	PUB (4)
Construction Services	CON (69)	PROF (6)	MAN-d (4)
Treatment Therapy Professions	HS (69)	EDU (9)	PUB (3)
Elementary Education	EDU (66)	HS (8)	FIN (4)
Nuclear, Industrial Radiology, and Biological Technologies	HS (64)	MAN-d (7)	RETL (7)
Teacher Education: Multiple Levels	EDU (62)	HS (5)	MAN-nd (4)
Educational Administration and Supervision	EDU (60)	RETL (13)	OS (8)

**34: INDUSTRY CONCENTRATION: EXAMPLES OF MAJORS THAT ARE WIDELY DISPERSED ACROSS INDUSTRIES**

	1st Industry (%)	2nd Industry (%)	3rd Industry (%)	4th Industry (%)
General Social Sciences	EDU (17)	PUB (15)	HS (12)	FIN (9)
International Relations	FIN (17)	PROF (17)	EDU (10)	PUB (8)
Liberal Arts	EDU (17)	HS (11)	RETL (9)	FIN (9)
Mathematics	FIN (17)	PROF (17)	EDU (15)	MAN-d (9)
Miscellaneous Agriculture	EDU (17)	RETL (11)	PUB (11)	AG (10)
Operations Logistics and E-Commerce	MAN-d (17)	RETL (11)	PROF (10)	MAN-nd (9)
Agriculture Production and Management	AG (16)	RETL (11)	FIN (7)	CON (6)
Biological Engineering	MAN-d (16)	CON (11)	PROF (10)	MAN-nd (9)
Ecology	PROF (16)	HS (10)	PUB (10)	ARTS (9)
Fine Arts	PROF (16)	EDU (14)	RETL (13)	MAN-nd (6)
General Business	FIN (16)	RETL (11)	PROF (10)	MAN-d (8)

<b>Industry Abbreviations:</b>	
Administrative Services = ADMN	Mining = MNG
Agriculture = AG	Other Service = OS
Arts = ARTS	Professional Services = PROF
Construction = CON	Public Administration = PUB
Education Services = EDU	Real Estate = RE
Financial Services = FIN	Retail Trade = RETL
Food Service = FS	Sales = SALES
Health Services = HS	Social Science = SS
Information = INFO	Transportation = TRAN
Management Services = MGMT	Utilities = UTIL
Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d	Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d
Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd	Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd

**35: TOP 10 MAJORS MOST LIKELY TO OBTAIN A GRADUATE DEGREE**

	Percent with Graduate Degree
School Student Counseling	91
Educational Administration and Supervision	89
Health and Medical Preparatory Programs	79
Communication Disorders Sciences and Services	72
Counseling Psychology	70
Library Science	67
Physics	67
Clinical Psychology	66
Biochemical Sciences	64
Nuclear Engineering	64

*91 percent of School Student Counseling majors obtain a graduate degree, while only 9 percent of Commercial Art and Graphic Design majors do so.*

**36: TOP 10 MAJORS LEAST LIKELY TO OBTAIN A GRADUATE DEGREE**

	Percent with Graduate Degree
Commercial Art and Graphic Design	9
Communication Technologies	11
Construction Services	11
Cosmetology Services and Culinary Arts	11
Electrical And Mechanic Repairs and Technologies	12
Hospitality Management	12
Nuclear, Industrial Radiology, and Biological Technologies	12
Film Video and Photographic Arts	13
Marketing and Marketing Research	14
Advertising and Public Relations	15

**37: HIGHEST AVERAGE EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

	Percent Boost from a Graduate degree
Health and Medical Preparatory Programs	190
Miscellaneous Social Sciences	134
Zoology	123
Molecular Biology	115
Public Policy	107
Biology	106
Biochemical Sciences	101
Chemistry	93
Pre-Law and Legal Studies	81
Physiology	78

**38: LOWEST AVERAGE EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

	Percent Boost from a Graduate degree
Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology	1
Studio Arts	3
Petroleum Engineering	7
Oceanography	11
Mass Media	11
Advertising and Public Relations	12
Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration	13
Forestry	15
Computer Engineering	16
Miscellaneous Education	16

**39: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH HIGH FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT\***

	Full-Time Percent
Genetics	99
Mining and Mineral Engineering	99
Geological and Geophysical Engineering	97
Engineering Mechanics Physics and Science	96
Nuclear Engineering	96
Oceanography	96
Mechanical Engineering	95
Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering	95
Petroleum Engineering	95
Agricultural Economics	94

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

**40: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH HIGHEST PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT**

	Part-Time Percent
Medical Assisting Services	48
Visual and Performing Arts	35
Communication Disorders Sciences and Services	32
Pharmacology	31
Health and Medical Preparatory Programs	30
Linguistics and Comparative Language and Literature	30
Treatment Therapy Professions	29
Studio Arts	29
Music	29
Botany	29

**41: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE HIGHEST EMPLOYMENT RATES\***

	<b>Employment Rate</b>
Geological and Geophysical Engineering	100
Military Technologies	100
Pharmacology	100
School Student Counseling	100
Medical Assisting Services	99
Metallurgical Engineering	99
Treatment Therapy Professions	99
Agricultural Economics	98
Agriculture Production and Management	98
Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology	98

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

**42: TOP 10 MAJORS WITH THE HIGHEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATES\*\***

	<b>Unemployment Rate</b>
Social Psychology	16
Nuclear Engineering	11
Educational Administration and Supervision	11
Biomedical Engineering	11
Linguistics and Comparative Language and Literature	10
Mathematics and Computer Science	10
United States History	10
Court Reporting	10
Counseling Psychology	10
Studio Arts	9

\* There was a tie for last place, and we are representing some, but not all, of those majors that tied.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.



# Table of Major Groups

## AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
 AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION & MANAGEMENT  
 ANIMAL SCIENCES  
 FOOD SCIENCE  
 FORESTRY  
 GENERAL AGRICULTURE  
 MISCELLANEOUS AGRICULTURE  
 NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT  
 PLANT SCIENCE & AGRONOMY  
 SOIL SCIENCE

## ARTS

COMMERCIAL ART & GRAPHIC DESIGN  
 DRAMA & THEATER ARTS  
 FILM VIDEO & PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS  
 FINE ARTS  
 MUSIC  
 STUDIO ARTS  
 VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

## BIOLOGY & LIFE SCIENCE

BIOCHEMICAL SCIENCES  
 BIOLOGY  
 BOTANY  
 COGNITIVE SCIENCE & BIOPSYCHOLOGY  
 ECOLOGY  
 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE  
 GENETICS  
 MICROBIOLOGY  
 MISCELLANEOUS BIOLOGY  
 MOLECULAR BIOLOGY  
 NEUROSCIENCE  
 PHARMACOLOGY  
 PHYSIOLOGY  
 ZOOLOGY

## BUSINESS

ACCOUNTING  
 ACTUARIAL SCIENCE  
 BUSINESS ECONOMICS  
 BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION  
 FINANCE  
 GENERAL BUSINESS  
 HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT  
 HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT  
 INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS  
 MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS & STATISTICS  
 MARKETING & MARKETING RESEARCH  
 MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS & MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION  
 OPERATIONS LOGISTICS & E-COMMERCE

## COMMUNICATIONS & JOURNALISM

ADVERTISING & PUBLIC RELATIONS  
 COMMUNICATIONS  
 JOURNALISM  
 MASS MEDIA

## COMPUTERS & MATHEMATICS

APPLIED MATHEMATICS  
 COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES  
 COMPUTER ADMINISTRATION MANAGEMENT & SECURITY  
 COMPUTER & INFORMATION SYSTEMS  
 COMPUTER ENGINEERING  
 COMPUTER NETWORKING & TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
 COMPUTER PROGRAMMING & DATA PROCESSING  
 COMPUTER SCIENCE  
 INFORMATION SCIENCES  
 MATHEMATICS  
 MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE

## EDUCATION

ART & MUSIC EDUCATION  
 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
 EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION & SUPERVISION  
 ELEMENTARY EDUCATION  
 GENERAL EDUCATION  
 LANGUAGE & DRAMA EDUCATION  
 LIBRARY SCIENCE  
 MATHEMATICS TEACHER EDUCATION  
 MISCELLANEOUS EDUCATION  
 PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION TEACHING  
 SCHOOL STUDENT COUNSELING  
 SCIENCE & COMPUTER TEACHER EDUCATION  
 SECONDARY TEACHER EDUCATION  
 SOCIAL SCIENCE OR HISTORY TEACHER EDUCATION  
 SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION  
 TEACHER EDUCATION: MULTIPLE LEVELS

## ENGINEERING

AEROSPACE ENGINEERING  
 ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING  
 ARCHITECTURE  
 BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING  
 BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING  
 CHEMICAL ENGINEERING  
 CIVIL ENGINEERING  
 ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
 ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY  
 ENGINEERING & INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT  
 ENGINEERING MECHANICS PHYSICS & SCIENCE  
 ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGIES  
 ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING  
 GENERAL ENGINEERING

GEOLOGICAL &  
GEOPHYSICAL ENGINEERING

INDUSTRIAL &  
MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION  
TECHNOLOGIES

MATERIALS ENGINEERING &  
MATERIALS SCIENCE

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING RELATED  
TECHNOLOGIES

METALLURGICAL ENGINEERING

MINING & MINERAL ENGINEERING

MISCELLANEOUS ENGINEERING

MISCELLANEOUS ENGINEERING  
TECHNOLOGIES

NAVAL ARCHITECTURE &  
MARINE ENGINEERING

NUCLEAR ENGINEERING

PETROLEUM ENGINEERING

## HEALTH

COMMUNITY & PUBLIC HEALTH

GENERAL MEDICAL & HEALTH SERVICES

HEALTH & MEDICAL ADMINISTRATIVE  
SERVICES

HEALTH & MEDICAL PREPARATORY  
PROGRAMS

MEDICAL ASSISTING SERVICES

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES TECHNICIANS

MISCELLANEOUS HEALTH MEDICAL  
PROFESSIONS

NURSING

NUTRITION SCIENCES

PHARMACY PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES  
& ADMINISTRATION

TREATMENT THERAPY PROFESSIONS

## HUMANITIES & LIBERAL ARTS

ANTHROPOLOGY & ARCHEOLOGY

AREA, ETHNIC, & CIVILIZATION STUDIES

ART HISTORY & CRITICISM

COMPOSITION & SPEECH

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

FRENCH, GERMAN, LATIN, & OTHER  
COMMON FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDIES

HISTORY

HUMANITIES

INTERCULTURAL & INTERNATIONAL  
STUDIES

LIBERAL ARTS

LINGUISTICS & COMPARATIVE  
LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

OTHER FOREIGN LANGUAGES

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES

THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS

UNITED STATES HISTORY

## INDUSTRIAL ARTS & CONSUMER SERVICES

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

COSMETOLOGY SERVICES &  
CULINARY ARTS

ELECTRICAL & MECHANIC REPAIRS &  
TECHNOLOGIES

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

MILITARY TECHNOLOGIES

PHYSICAL FITNESS, PARKS, RECREATION,  
& LEISURE

PRECISION PRODUCTION &  
INDUSTRIAL ARTS

TRANSPORTATION SCIENCES &  
TECHNOLOGIES

## LAW & PUBLIC POLICY

COURT REPORTING

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & FIRE PROTECTION

PRE-LAW & LEGAL STUDIES

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

PUBLIC POLICY

## PHYSICAL SCIENCES

ASTRONOMY & ASTROPHYSICS

ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES &  
METEOROLOGY

CHEMISTRY

GEOLOGY & EARTH SCIENCE

GEOSCIENCES

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY OR GENERAL SCIENCE

NUCLEAR, INDUSTRIAL RADIOLOGY, &  
BIOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGIES

OCEANOGRAPHY

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

PHYSICS

## PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIAL WORK

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

HUMAN SERVICES &  
COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

INDUSTRIAL &  
ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

MISCELLANEOUS PSYCHOLOGY

PSYCHOLOGY

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

SOCIAL WORK

## SOCIAL SCIENCE

CRIMINOLOGY

ECONOMICS

GENERAL SOCIAL SCIENCES

GEOGRAPHY

INTERDISCIPLINARY SOCIAL SCIENCES

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

MISCELLANEOUS SOCIAL SCIENCES

POLITICAL SCIENCE & GOVERNMENT

SOCIOLOGY

STATISTICS AND DECISION SCIENCE

# Comparison Across Major Groups

We have categorized 171 undergraduate majors into the following major groups:

- **Agriculture and Natural Resources**
- **Arts**
- **Biology and Life Science**
- **Business**
- **Communications and Journalism**
- **Computers and Mathematics**
- **Education**
- **Engineering**
- **Health**
- **Humanities and Liberal Arts**
- **Industrial Arts and Consumer Services**
- **Law and Public Policy**
- **Physical Sciences**
- **Psychology and Social Work**
- **Social Science**

The most popular major group is Business, with 25 percent of all students; the least popular are Industrial Arts and Consumer Services and Agriculture and Natural Resources, with 1.6 percent each.

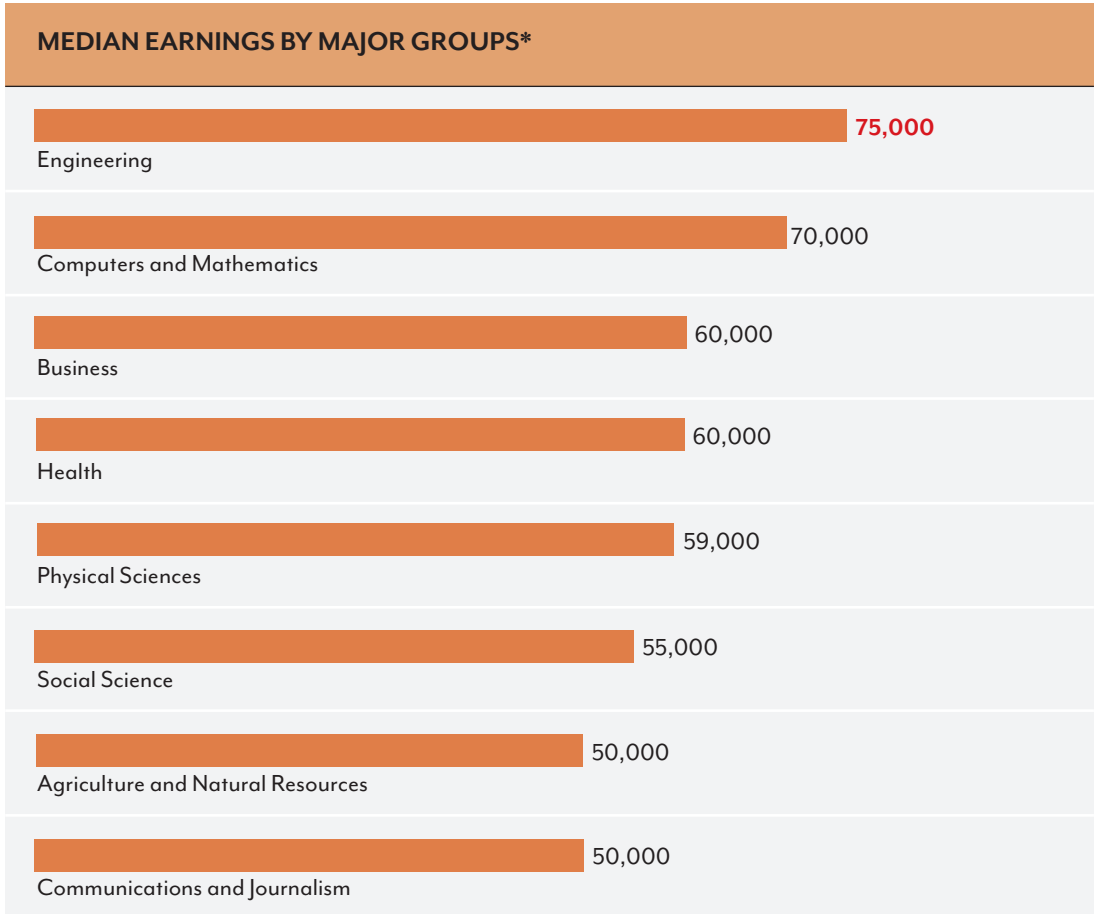
The highest median earnings are found in the Engineering major group (\$75,000), while the lowest are the Education and Psychology and Social Work groups (\$42,000). Women with an undergraduate major in the Social Science group have the largest earnings differentials, making \$18,000 less than men in this category (followed closely by Engineering and Physical Sciences, where women earn \$17,000 less than their male counterparts). There are racial differences, too. For example, the median earnings for Whites with an undergraduate major in Engineering are higher than those for Asians, African-Americans, Other Races, and Hispanics (Whites make \$80,000, Asians make \$72,000, African-Americans make \$60,000, Other Races make \$57,000, and Hispanics make \$56,000). However, in Health, Law and Public Policy, Psychology and Social Work, and Biology and Life Science, Asians make more than Whites.

The major groups that have the greatest concentrations of women are Health (85 percent), Education (77 percent), and Psychology and Social work (74 percent), while the major groups with the highest concentrations of men are Engineering (84 percent) and Agriculture and Natural Resources (70 percent). The major group with the highest concentrations of Whites is Agriculture and Natural Resources (90 percent). The highest concentration of Asians can be found in Computers and Mathematics (16 percent), while the highest concentration of African-Americans is in Law and Public Policy (14 percent). Law and Public Policy also has the highest concentration of Hispanics (10 percent).

Earnings within these major groups can differ widely. The group with the widest variation is Computers and Mathematics, where the 25th percentile median earnings are \$48,000, and the 75th percentile are \$100,000 (a difference of \$52,000).

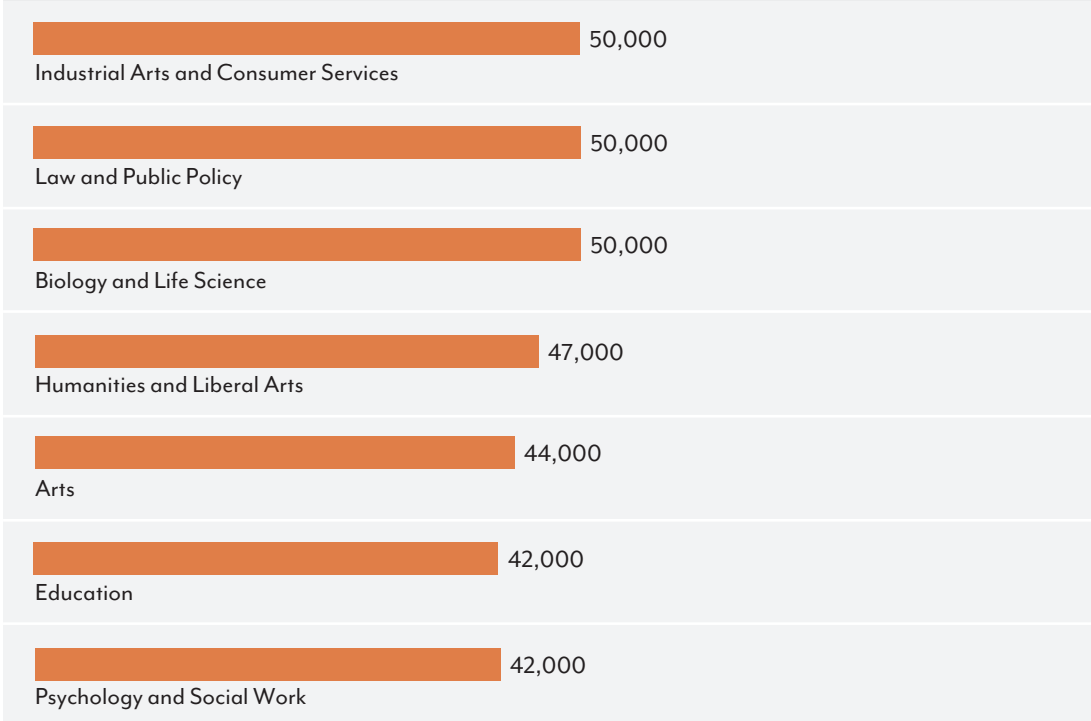
The likelihood of obtaining a graduate degree varies significantly by major group. People with an undergraduate major in Biology and Life Science are the most likely to obtain an advanced graduate degree (54% do so), while those in the Communications and Journalism and Industrial Arts and Consumer Services major groups are the least likely (only 20 percent do so), followed closely by Business (21 percent). However, Biology and Life Sciences majors get the largest return to a graduate degree (101%), and Arts majors get the smallest returns (23%).

Engagement with the labor force also varies significantly by major group. Those most likely to work full-time are in Engineering (93 percent) and those most likely to work part time are in the Arts group (24 percent). The likelihood of being unemployed fluctuates by major group as well. Those most likely to be unemployed are in the Arts group (8 percent), while those least likely to be unemployed are in the Health major group (with unemployment of only 2 percent).



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

### MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR GROUPS\* (Continued)



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.



**ALL**

	Agriculture and Natural Resources	Arts	Biology and Life Science	Business	Communications and Journalism	Computers and Mathematics	Education
<b>POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup></b>							
Total Bachelor's	530,888	1,539,384	1,197,003	<b>8,446,263</b>	1,986,030	1,728,959	3,568,392
% of All Majors	1.6	4.6	3.5	<b>25.0</b>	5.9	5.1	10.6
<b>MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR*</b>							
Median earnings	50,000	44,000	50,000	60,000	50,000	70,000	42,000
<b>EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE*</b>							
Earnings at the 25th percentile	35,000	30,000	35,000	40,000	34,000	48,000	32,000
Earnings at the 75th percentile	75,000	65,000	75,000	90,000	75,000	100,000	55,000
Difference	40,000	35,000	40,000	50,000	41,000	<b>52,000</b>	23,000
<b>PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>							
Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	73	77	46	79	<b>80</b>	68	56
Obtain graduate degree (%)	27	23	<b>54</b>	21	20	32	44
<b>EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>							
% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	35	23	<b>101</b>	40	25	31	33
<b>WORK STATUS*</b>							
Full-time (%)	90	76	81	90	82	91	82
Part-time (%)	10	<b>24</b>	19	10	18	9	18
<b>PERCENT EMPLOYED**</b>							
Employed (%)	96	92	95	95	94	94	96

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

Engineering	Health	Humanities and Liberal Arts	Industrial Arts and Consumer Services	Law and Public Policy	Physical Sciences	Psychology and Social Work	Social Science
<b>POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup></b>							
2,786,488	2,320,732	3,287,782	554,707	768,978	936,633	1,808,669	2,341,689
8.2	6.9	9.7	1.6	2.3	2.8	5.4	6.9
<b>MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR*</b>							
<b>75,000</b>	60,000	47,000	50,000	50,000	59,000	42,000	55,000
<b>EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE*</b>							
<b>53,000</b>	45,000	32,000	33,000	36,000	38,000	30,000	38,000
<b>102,000</b>	80,000	70,000	75,000	74,000	87,000	62,000	87,000
49,000	35,000	38,000	42,000	38,000	49,000	32,000	49,000
<b>PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>							
63	69	59	<b>80</b>	76	52	55	60
37	31	41	20	24	48	45	40
<b>EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>							
32	50	48	35	45	70	43	57
<b>WORK STATUS*</b>							
<b>93</b>	77	80	84	90	86	79	86
7	23	20	16	10	14	21	14
<b>PERCENT EMPLOYED**</b>							
94	<b>98</b>	93	95	95	95	94	94

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

### GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS

	Agriculture and Natural Resources	Arts	Biology and Life Science	Business	Communications and Journalism	Computers and Mathematics	Education
Percent Female	30	61	55	45	64	31	77
Percent Male	70	39	45	55	36	69	23

### EARNINGS BY GENDER\*

	Agriculture and Natural Resources	Arts	Biology and Life Science	Business	Communications and Journalism	Computers and Mathematics	Education
Female Median Earnings	40,000	40,000	45,000	50,000	44,000	60,000	40,000
Male Median Earnings	55,000	48,000	57,000	66,000	55,000	73,000	48,000
Difference	15,000	8,000	12,000	16,000	11,000	13,000	8,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

## RACE AND ETHNICITY

### RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup>

	Agriculture and Natural Resources	Arts	Biology and Life Science	Business	Communications and Journalism	Computers and Mathematics	Education
% White	90	81	76	76	81	67	82
% African-American	2	5	7	8	8	9	7
% Hispanic	4	7	6	7	6	7	7
% Asian	3	7	11	8	4	16	3
% Other Races and Ethnicities	<0.5	1	1	1	1	1	1

### MEDIAN EARNINGS BY RACE\*

	Agriculture and Natural Resources	Arts	Biology and Life Science	Business	Communications and Journalism	Computers and Mathematics	Education
White Median Earnings	50,000	45,000	51,000	63,000	50,000	73,000	42,000
African-American Median Earnings	36,000	38,000	45,000	47,000	41,000	59,000	42,000
Hispanic Median Earnings	40,000	40,000	40,000	48,000	43,000	55,000	40,000
Asian Median Earnings	43,000	44,000	53,000	51,000	45,000	71,000	37,000
Other Races and Ethnicities Median Earnings	•	•	•	48,000	•	50,000	36,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

Engineering

Health

Humanities and Liberal Arts

Industrial Arts and Consumer Services

Law and Public Policy

Physical Sciences

Psychology and Social Work

Social Science

**GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS**

16	<b>85</b>	58	35	41	42	74	47
<b>84</b>	15	42	65	59	58	26	53

**EARNINGS BY GENDER\***

<b>62,000</b>	60,000	43,000	40,000	42,000	48,000	40,000	46,000
<b>79,000</b>	70,000	50,000	55,000	58,000	65,000	52,000	64,000
17,000	10,000	7,000	15,000	16,000	17,000	12,000	<b>18,000</b>

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

Engineering

Health

Humanities and Liberal Arts

Industrial Arts and Consumer Services

Law and Public Policy

Physical Sciences

Psychology and Social Work

Social Science

**RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup>**

71	73	80	83	72	74	76	75
5	9	6	7	<b>14</b>	8	11	9
9	5	6	6	<b>10</b>	6	8	7
14	13	7	3	3	11	5	8
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

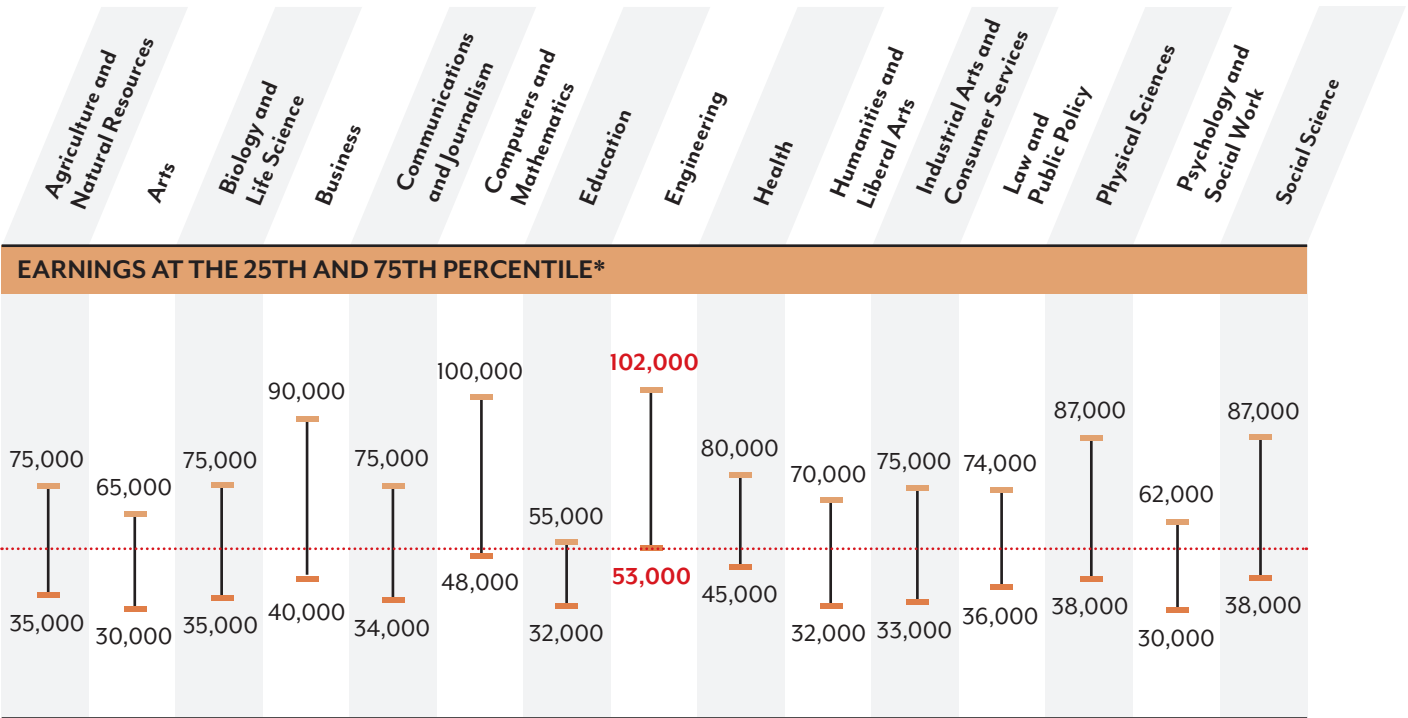
**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY RACE\***

<b>80,000</b>	60,000	48,000	50,000	52,000	60,000	44,000	60,000
<b>60,000</b>	55,000	44,000	40,000	42,000	47,000	40,000	44,000
<b>56,000</b>	52,000	42,000	42,000	50,000	44,000	40,000	48,000
<b>72,000</b>	70,000	44,000	45,000	55,000	52,000	48,000	50,000
57,000	<b>60,000</b>	42,000	•	•	•	42,000	45,000

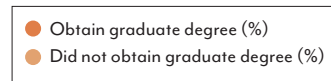
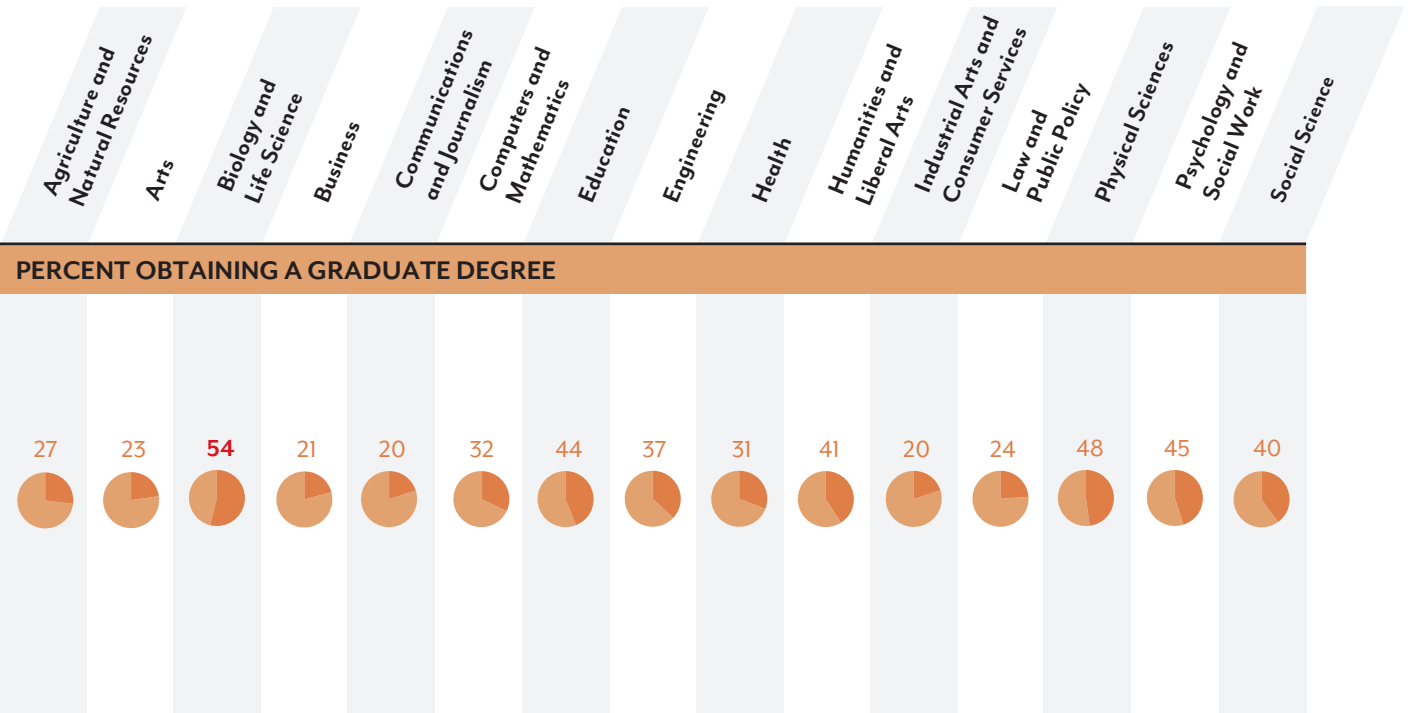
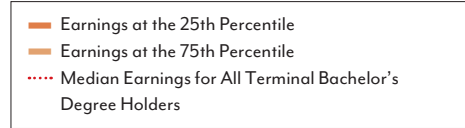
\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

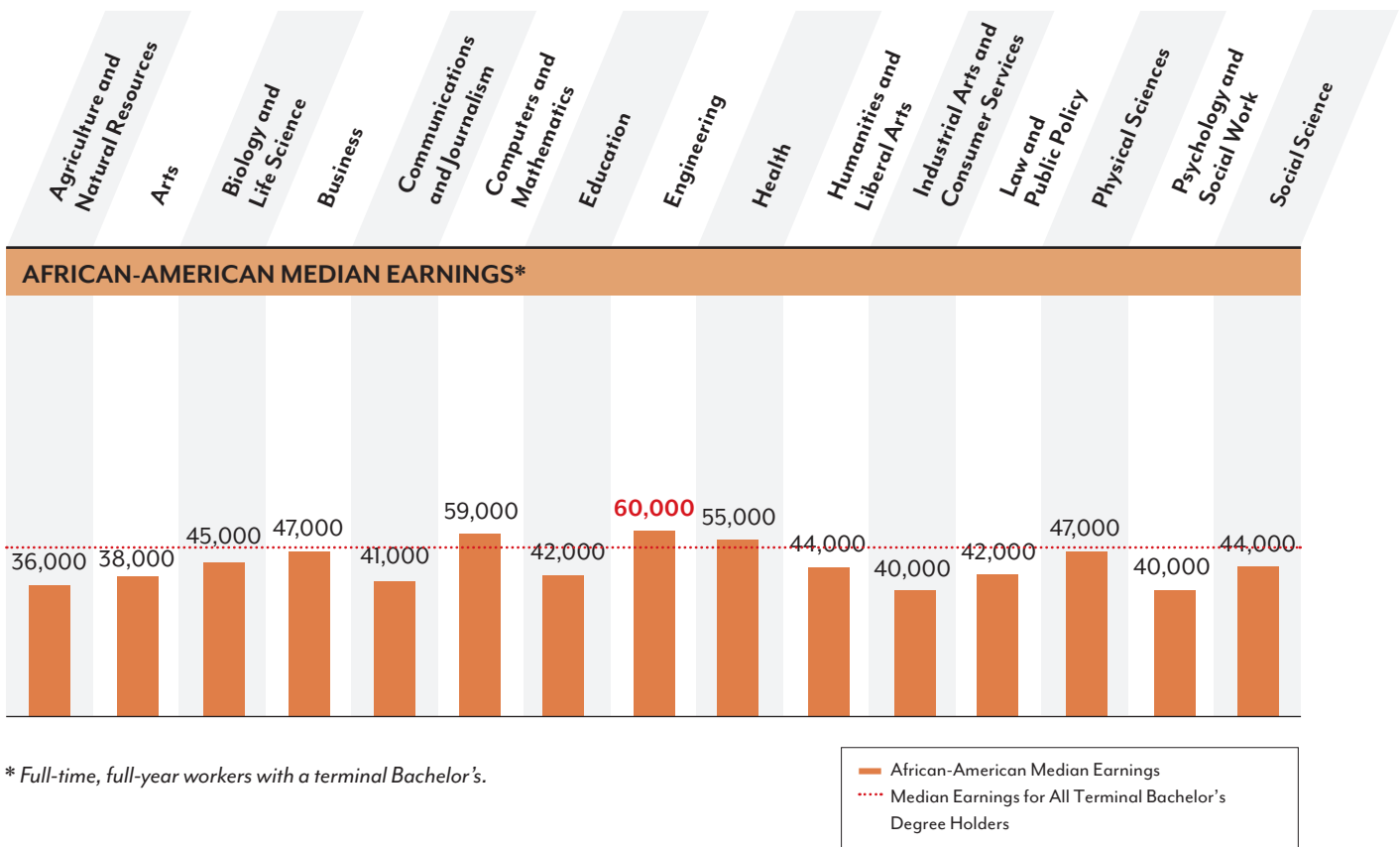
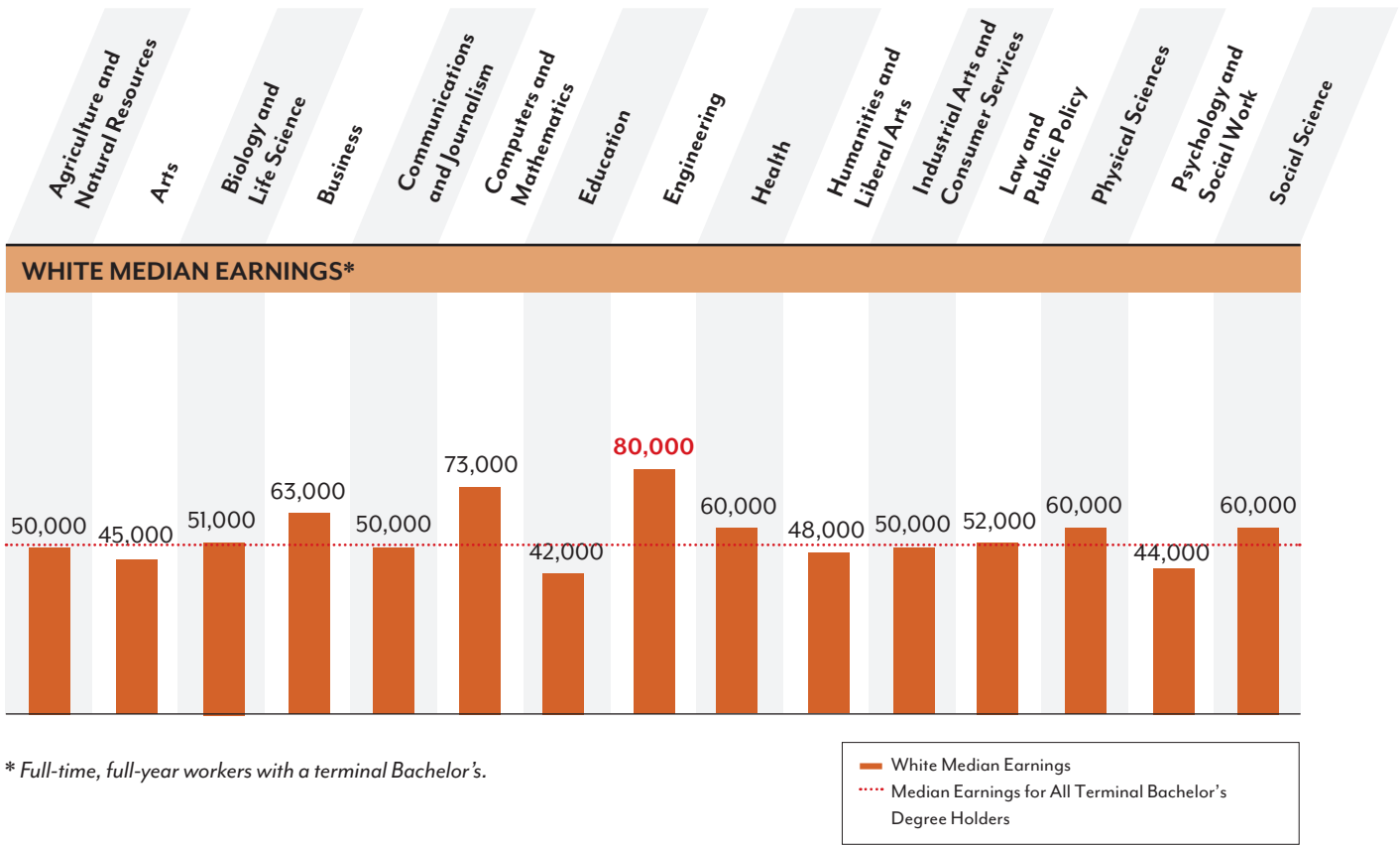
• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

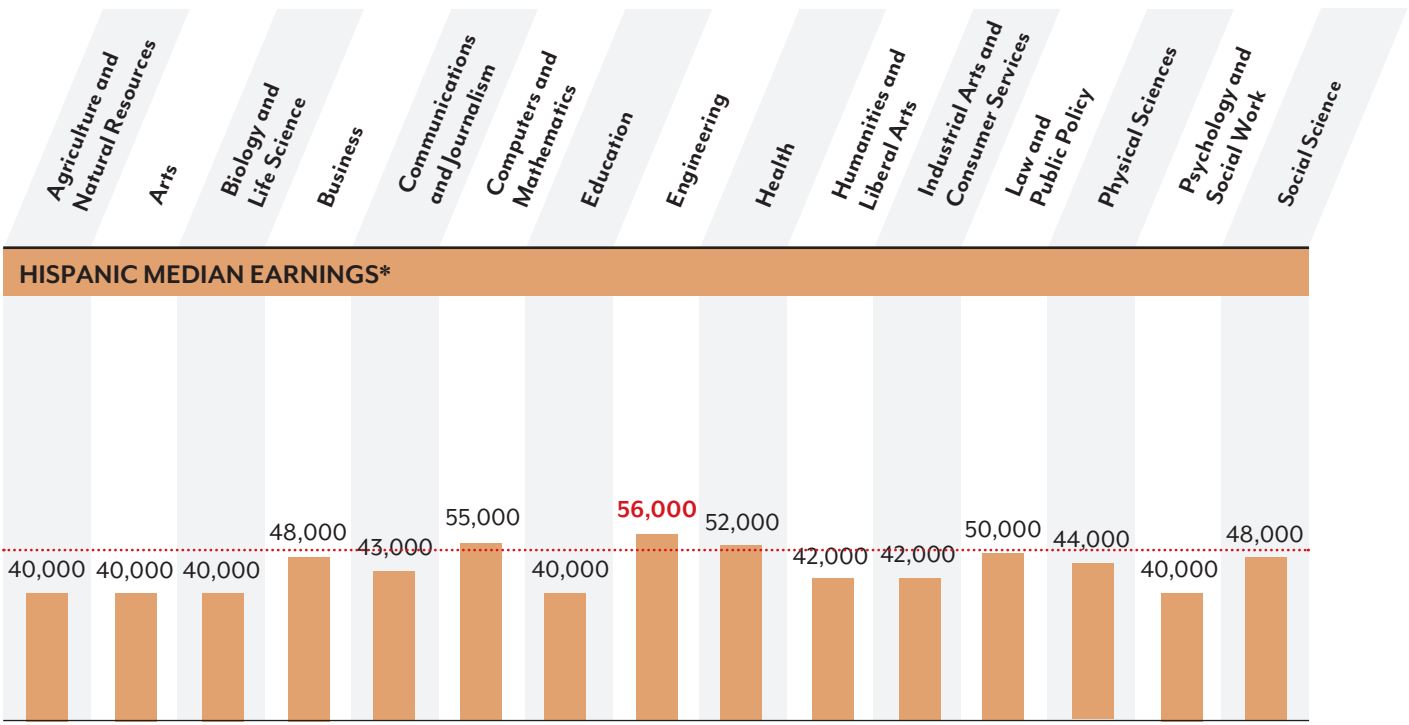


\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

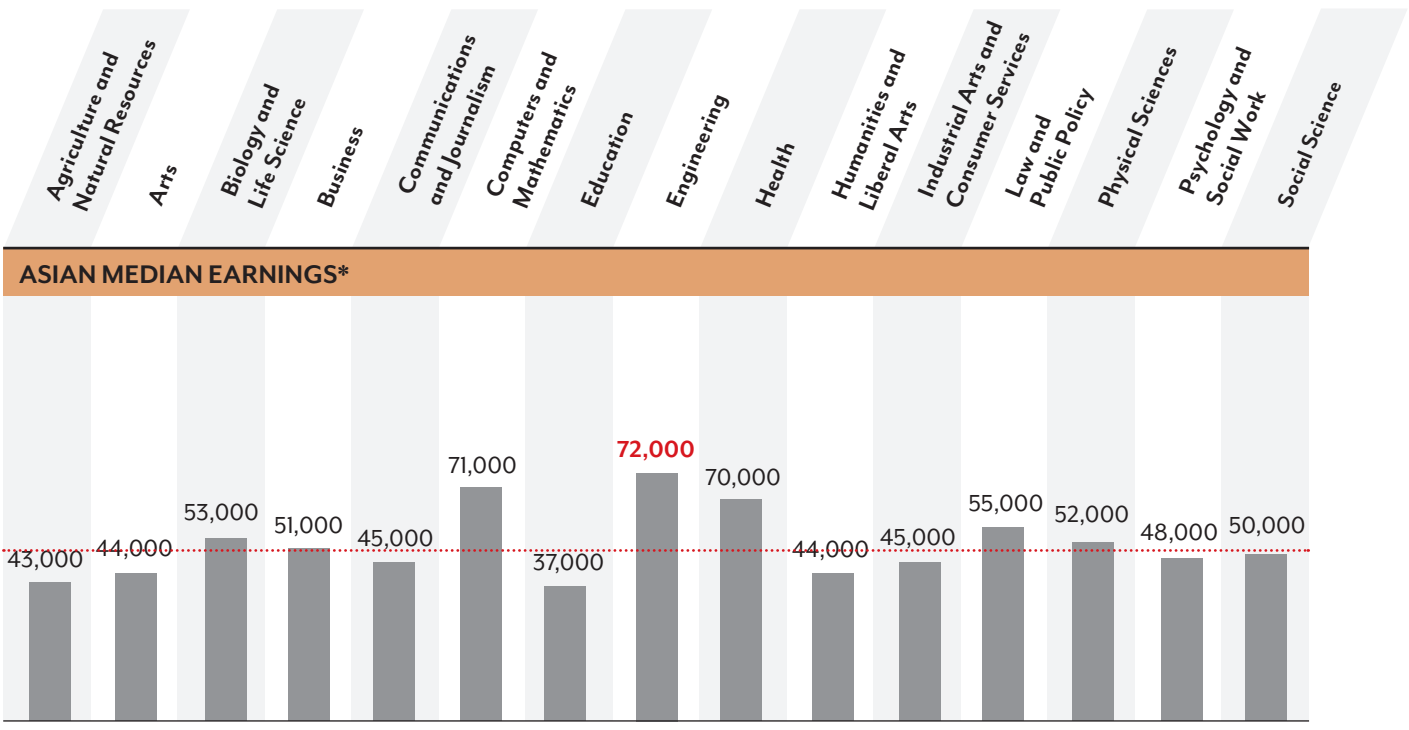
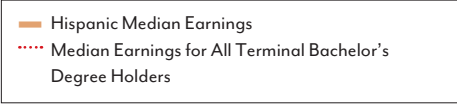




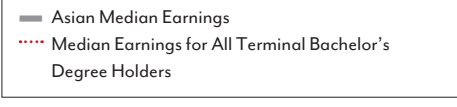


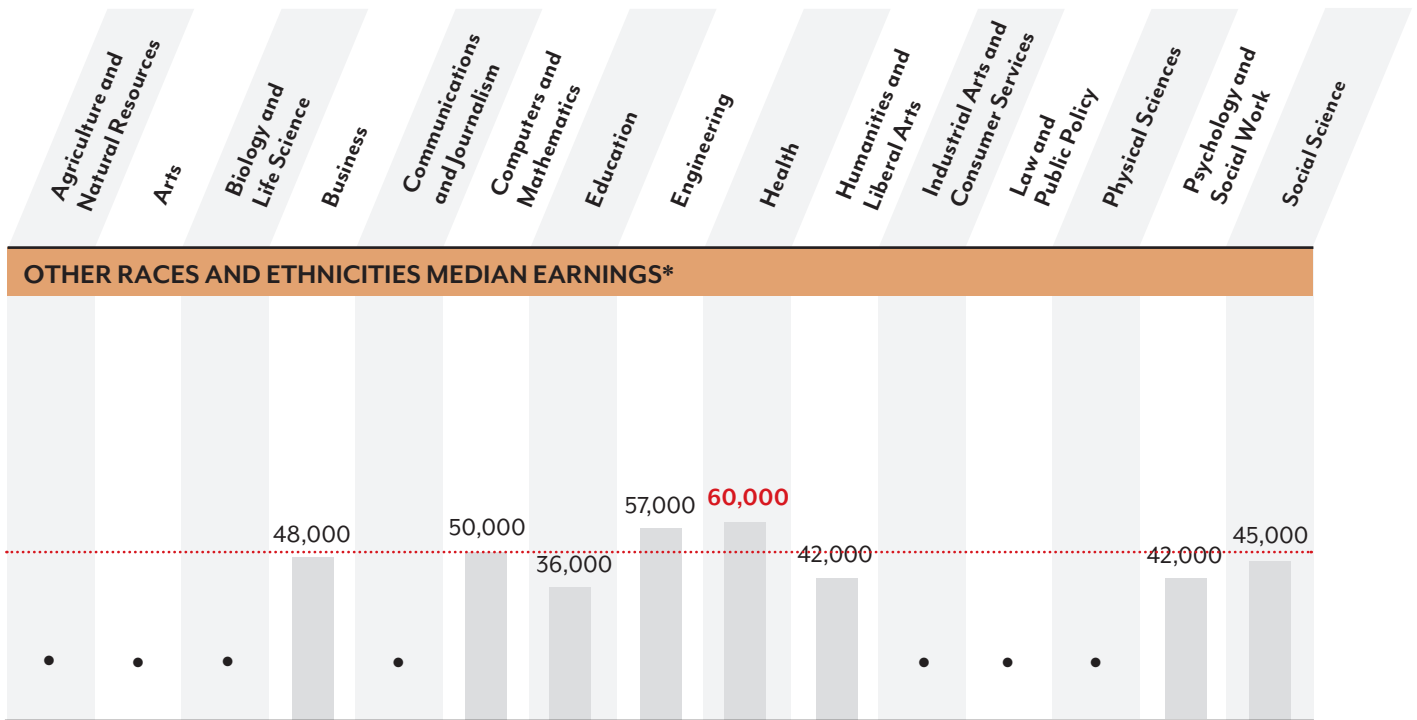


\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.



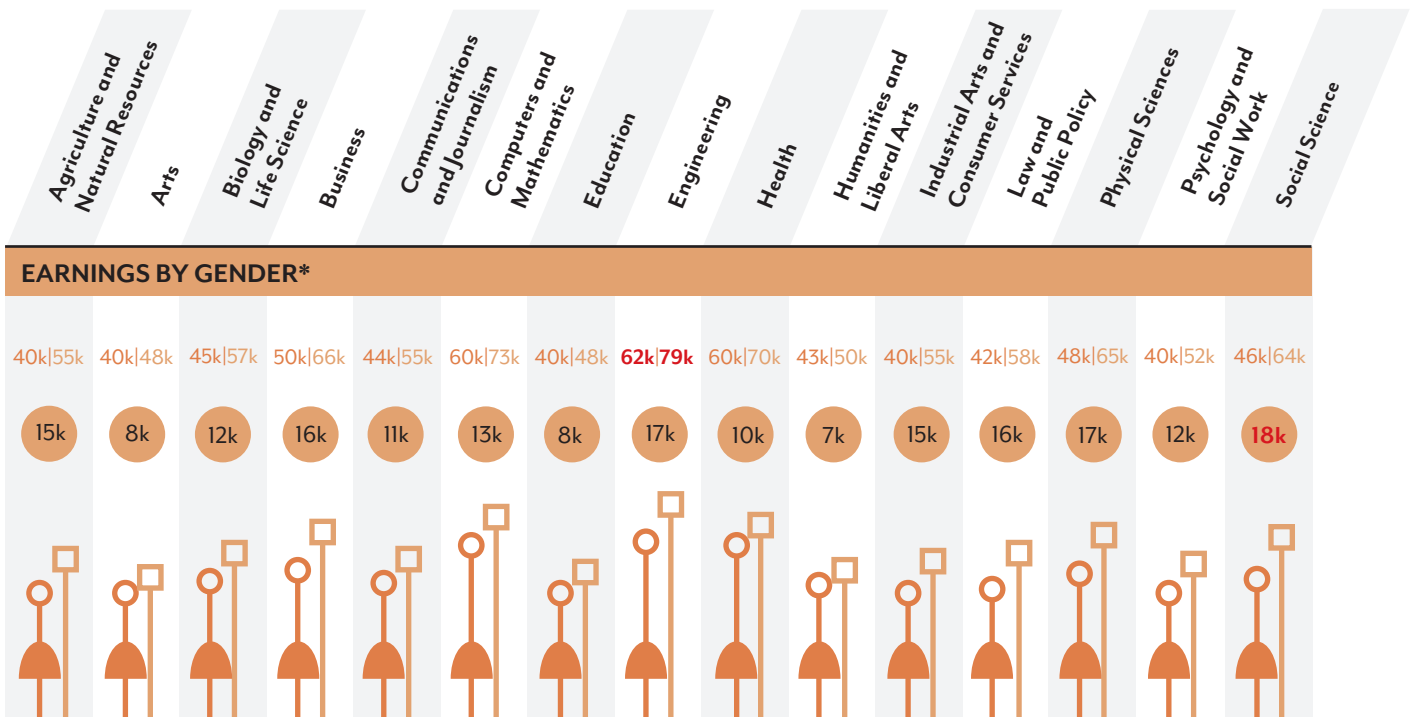
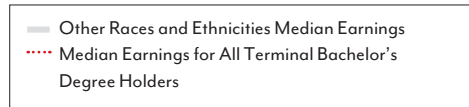
\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.



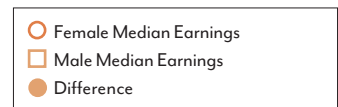


\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.



**WHERE MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	1st Occupation (%)	2nd Occupation (%)	3rd Occupation (%)	4th Occupation (%)	5th Occupation (%)
<b>Agriculture and Natural Resources</b>	MGMT (24)	SALES (15)	LS (8)	OFF (7)	BLDG (4)
<b>Arts</b>	ARTS (25)	MGMT (14)	OFF (12)	SALES (12)	EDU (8)
<b>Biology and Life Science</b>	MGMT (16)	HLTH PROF (15)	LS (12)	SALES (11)	OFF (8)
<b>Business</b>	MGMT (25)	SALES (18)	FIN (18)	OFF (12)	BUS (6)
<b>Communications and Journalism</b>	MGMT (21)	SALES (17)	ARTS (14)	OFF (14)	EDU (7)
<b>Computers and Mathematics</b>	COMP (46)	MGMT (16)	OFF (7)	SALES (6)	BUS (4)
<b>Education</b>	EDU (54)	MGMT (9)	OFF (9)	SALES (6)	BUS (3)
<b>Engineering</b>	ENGR (32)	MGMT (22)	COMP (9)	SALES (7)	ARCH (4)
<b>Health</b>	HLTH PROF (69)	MGMT (8)	OFF (4)	SALES (3)	HLTH SUP (3)
<b>Humanities and Liberal Arts</b>	MGMT (18)	OFF (15)	SALES (14)	EDU (11)	ARTS (6)
<b>Industrial Arts and Consumer Services</b>	MGMT (22)	SALES (12)	EDU (9)	TRAN (8)	OFF (7)
<b>Law and Public Policy</b>	PROT (32)	MGMT (11)	OFF (11)	COMM (9)	SALES (8)
<b>Physical Sciences</b>	MGMT (18)	SALES (11)	LS (10)	HLTH PROF (10)	OFF (8)
<b>Psychology and Social Work</b>	COMM (18)	MGMT (16)	OFF (15)	SALES (11)	EDU (8)
<b>Social Science</b>	MGMT (22)	SALES (16)	OFF (13)	FIN (7)	BUS (6)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Occupation Abbreviations:</b>	
Architecture = ARCH	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Arts = ARTS	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Blue Collar = BC	Installation = INST
Building = BLDG	Legal = LGL
Business = BUS	Life Science = LS
Community Service = COMM	Management = MGMT
Computer Services = COMP	Office = OFF
Construction = CON	Personal Service = PERS
Education = EDU	Production = PROD
Engineering = ENGR	Protective Services = PROT
Finance = FIN	Sales = SALES
Food Service = FOOD	Social Science = SS
	Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	1st Industry (%)	2nd Industry (%)	3rd Industry (%)	4th Industry (%)	5th Industry (%)
<b>Agriculture and Natural Resources</b>	AG (13)	PUB (11)	RETL (9)	MAN-nd (7)	PROF (7)
<b>Arts</b>	PROF (18)	RETL (12)	EDU (11)	INFO (8)	HS (6)
<b>Biology and Life Science</b>	HS (19)	PROF (14)	EDU (11)	PUB (9)	MAN-nd (8)
<b>Business</b>	FIN (17)	PROF (12)	RETL (10)	MAN-d (8)	PUB (7)
<b>Communications and Journalism</b>	INFO (14)	PROF (13)	EDU (10)	RETL (9)	FIN (9)
<b>Computers and Mathematics</b>	PROF (26)	FIN (12)	MAN-d (11)	INFO (7)	EDU (7)
<b>Education</b>	EDU (55)	HS (9)	RETL (5)	FIN (5)	PUB (4)
<b>Engineering</b>	MAN-d (25)	PROF (22)	CON (9)	MAN-nd (7)	PUB (6)
<b>Health</b>	HS (72)	RETL (6)	EDU (4)	PUB (4)	FIN (3)
<b>Humanities and Liberal Arts</b>	EDU (15)	PROF (11)	FIN (10)	RETL (9)	HS (9)
<b>Industrial Arts and Consumer Services</b>	CON (13)	EDU (12)	TRAN (10)	HS (10)	ARTS (8)
<b>Law and Public Policy</b>	PUB (43)	HS (8)	FIN (7)	PROF (7)	RETL (5)
<b>Physical Sciences</b>	PROF (14)	HS (14)	EDU (10)	MAN-nd (9)	MAN-d (8)
<b>Psychology and Social Work</b>	HS (26)	EDU (12)	PUB (12)	FIN (9)	PROF (7)
<b>Social Science</b>	FIN (16)	PUB (13)	PROF (11)	HS (9)	RETL (8)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<p><b>Industry Abbreviations:</b>                  Administrative Services = ADMN                  Agriculture = AG                  Arts = ARTS                  Construction = CON                  Education Services = EDU                  Financial Services = FIN                  Food Service = FS                  Health Services = HS                  Information = INFO                  Management Services = MGMT                  Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d                  Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd</p>	<p>Mining = MNG                  Other Service = OS                  Professional Services = PROF                  Public Administration = PUB                  Real Estate = RE                  Retail Trade = RETL                  Sales = SALES                  Social Science = SS                  Transportation = TRAN                  Utilities = UTIL                  Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d                  Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd</p>
--	---

# Agriculture and Natural Resources

This group includes the following majors:

- **Agricultural Economics**
- **Agriculture Production and Management**
- **Animal Sciences**
- **Food Science**
- **Forestry**
- **General Agriculture**
- **Miscellaneous Agriculture**
- **Natural Resources Management**
- **Plant Science and Agronomy**
- **Soil Science**

Agriculture and Natural Resources make up 1.6 percent of all majors. Median earnings for people with a Bachelor's in the Agriculture and Natural Resources major group are \$50,000.<sup>1</sup> The gender makeup is fairly lopsided—70 percent of people in these majors are men and 30 percent are women. However, women with these majors make, in the aggregate, \$15,000 less per year than men. The racial composition also is heavily skewed in one direction: 90 percent White, 4 percent Hispanic; 3 percent Asian; and 2 percent African-American.<sup>2</sup> Likewise, earnings for Asians (\$43,000), African-Americans (\$36,000), and Hispanics (\$40,000) are less than the \$50,000 median earnings of Whites.

There are significant earnings variations among the specific majors within this group. The lowest-earning are General Agriculture, Animal Sciences, and Miscellaneous Agriculture while the highest-earning is Food Science. Overall, median earnings in Agriculture and Natural Resources can vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$35,000, and the 75th percentile earning \$75,000—a difference of \$40,000.

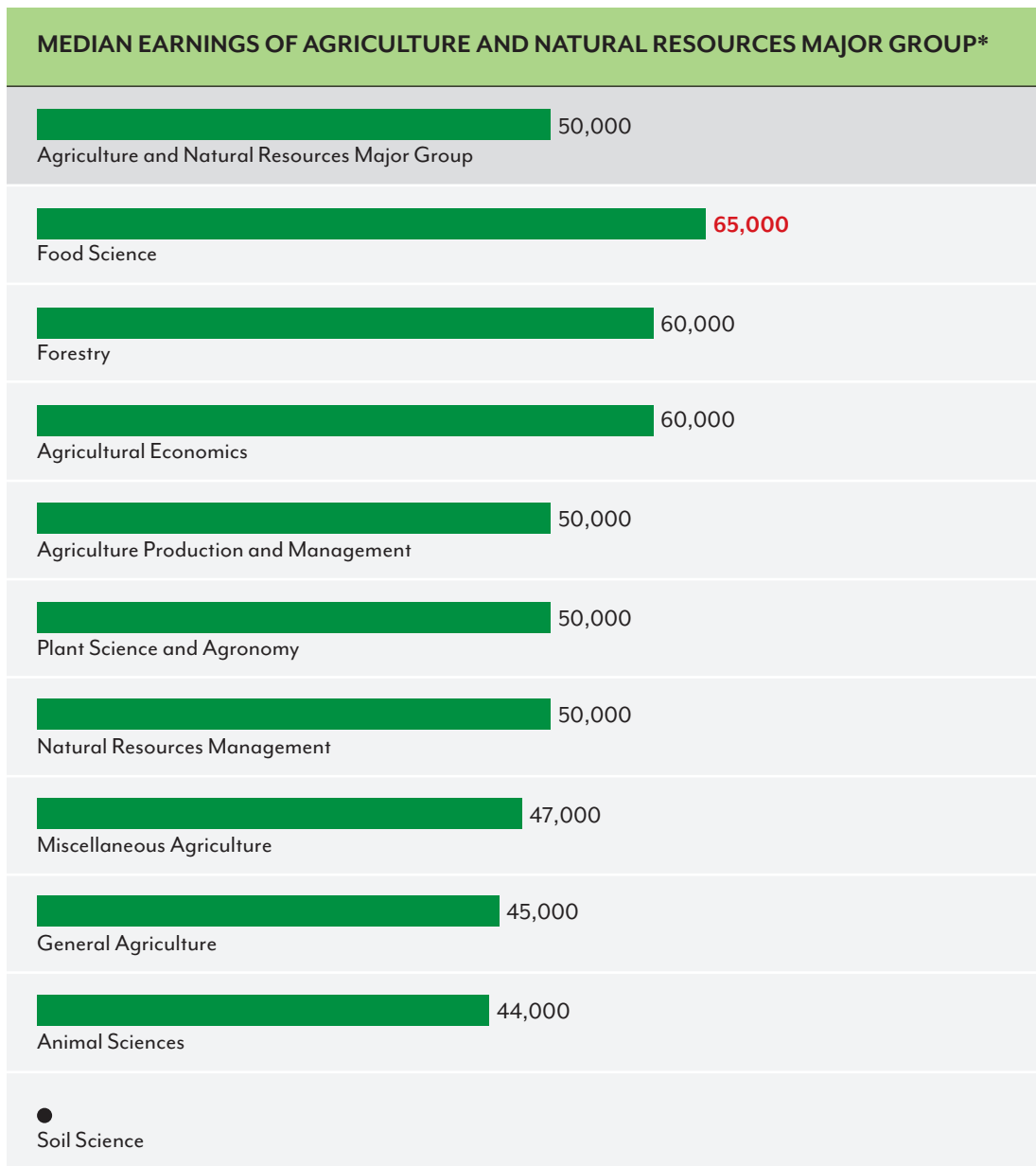
About 27 percent of people with these undergraduate majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 35 percent.

Of people who majored in Agriculture and Natural Resources, 24 percent work in Management, 15 percent in Sales, 8 percent in Life Science, 7 percent in Office, and 4 percent in Building occupations. By industry, 13 percent work in Agriculture, 11 percent in Public Administration, 9 percent in Retail Trade, 7 percent in Manufacturing, 7 percent in Professional and Business Services, and 6 percent in Financial Services.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

Fully 90 percent of people with an undergraduate major in Agriculture and Natural Resources who are in the labor force and employed work full-time. About 4 percent are unemployed.



*Median earnings for people with a Bachelor's in the Agriculture and Natural Resources major group are \$50,000.*

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

● Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**ALL**

Agriculture and Natural Resources Major Group

Agricultural Economics

Agriculture Production and Management

Animal Sciences

Food Science

Forestry

General Agriculture

Miscellaneous Agriculture

Natural Resources Management

Plant Science and Agronomy

Soil Science

**POPULARITY OF MAJORS†**

Total Bachelor's	530,888	32,427	82,921	88,828	18,071	57,437	<b>96,752</b>	7,877	72,168	69,264	5,143
% of Major Group	100	6	16	17	3	11	<b>18</b>	1	14	13	1

**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR\***

Median earnings	50,000	60,000	50,000	44,000	<b>65,000</b>	60,000	45,000	47,000	50,000	50,000	•
-----------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	---------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	---

**EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

Earnings at the 25th percentile	35,000	39,000	34,000	30,000	41,000	<b>45,000</b>	30,000	30,000	38,000	33,000	•
Earnings at the 75th percentile	75,000	92,000	75,000	70,000	<b>100,000</b>	85,000	74,000	54,000	72,000	75,000	•
Difference	40,000	53,000	41,000	40,000	<b>59,000</b>	40,000	44,000	24,000	34,000	42,000	•

**PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	73	72	<b>82</b>	67	57	74	75	68	72	75	60
Obtain graduate degree (%)	27	28	18	33	<b>43</b>	26	25	32	28	25	40

**EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	35	40	30	<b>54</b>	28	15	31	•	45	24	•
---------------------------------------	----	----	----	-----------	----	----	----	---	----	----	---

**WORK STATUS\***

Full-time (%)	90	<b>94</b>	92	88	89	92	88	86	88	91	83
Part-time (%)	10	6	8	12	11	8	12	14	12	9	<b>17</b>

**PERCENT EMPLOYED\*\***

Employed (%)	96	<b>98</b>	<b>98</b>	97	92	97	95	97	95	96	94
--------------	----	-----------	-----------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

† The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

### GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS

	Agriculture and Natural Resources Major Group	Agricultural Economics	Agriculture Production and Management	Animal Sciences	Food Science	Forestry	General Agriculture	Miscellaneous Agriculture	Natural Resources Management	Plant Science and Agronomy	Soil Science
Percent Female	30	18	22	49	<b>63</b>	17	25	48	33	28	24
Percent Male	70	82	78	51	37	<b>83</b>	75	52	67	72	76

### EARNINGS BY GENDER\*

Female Median Earnings	40,000	•	37,000	36,000	<b>52,000</b>	50,000	38,000	•	43,000	42,000	•
Male Median Earnings	55,000	60,000	52,000	53,000	<b>72,000</b>	60,000	50,000	•	53,000	50,000	•
Difference	15,000	•	15,000	17,000	<b>20,000</b>	10,000	12,000	•	10,000	8,000	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

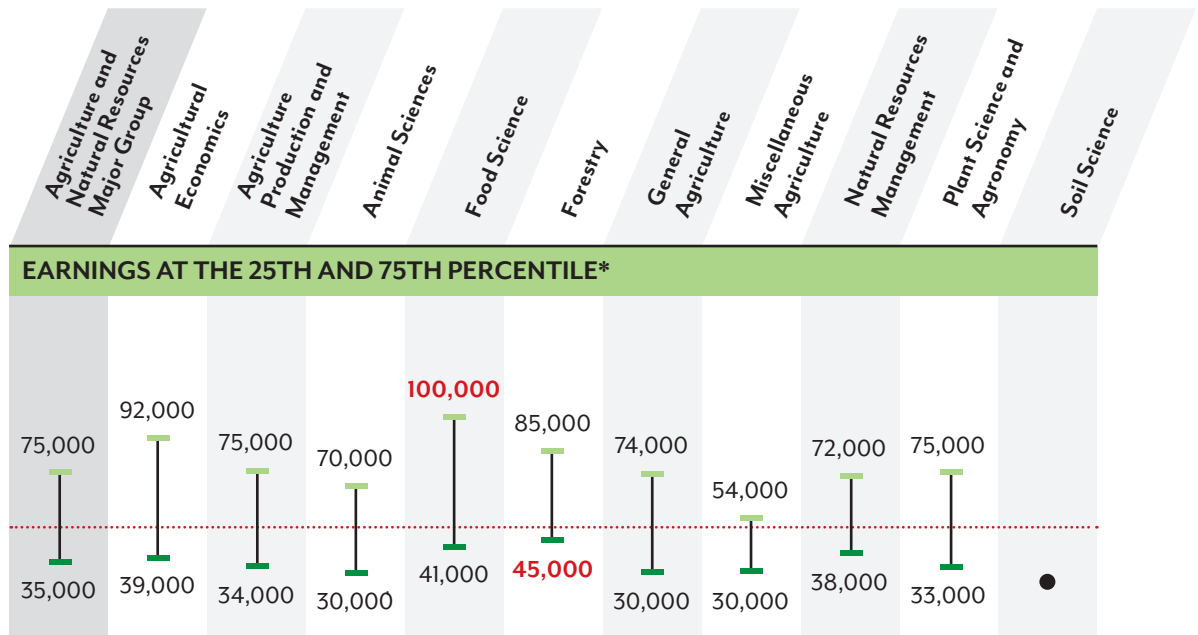
## RACE AND ETHNICITY

### RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup>

% White	90	90	<b>92</b>	91	77	93	84	90	<b>92</b>	<b>92</b>	91
% African-American	2	5	2	3	<b>6</b>	1	3	3	2	2	<0.5
% Hispanic	4	3	3	4	3	4	<b>6</b>	5	3	4	3
% Asian	3	1	3	1	<b>15</b>	2	7	2	2	2	6
% Other Races and Ethnicities	<0.5	<b>1</b>	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5

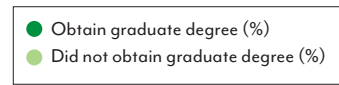
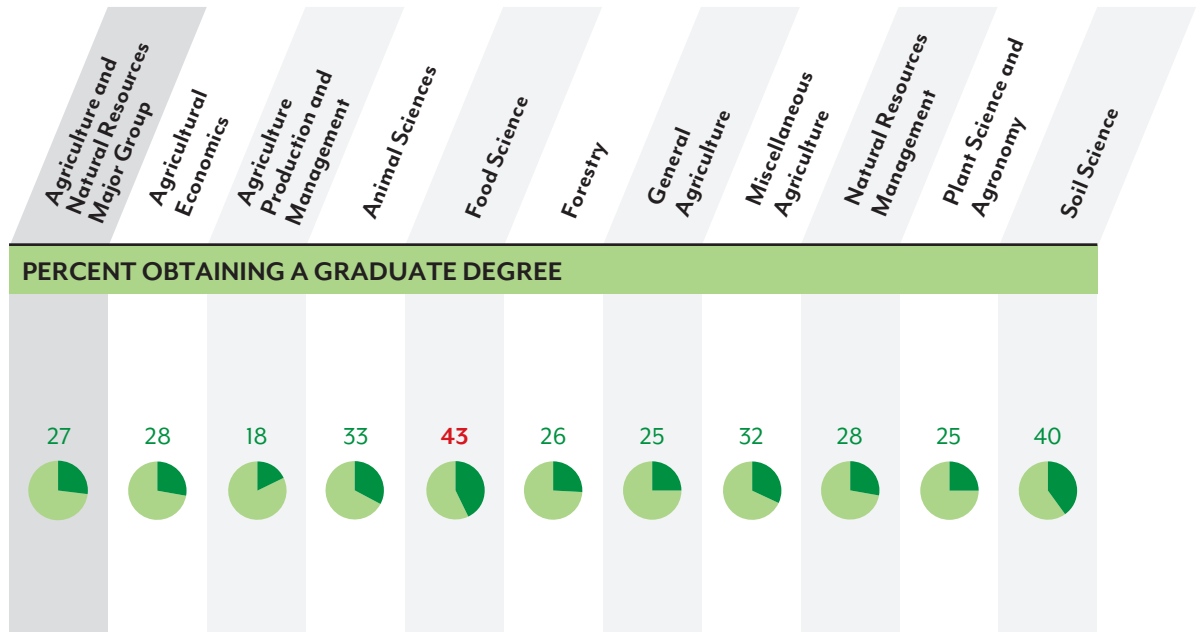
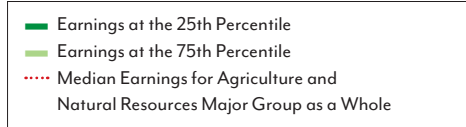
<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.





\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

● Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**WHERE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	1st Occupation (%)	2nd Occupation (%)	3rd Occupation (%)	4th Occupation (%)	5th Occupation (%)
<b>Agriculture and Natural Resources Major Group</b>	MGMT (24)	SALES (15)	LS (8)	OFF (7)	BLDG (4)
<b>Agricultural Economics</b>	MGMT (36)	SALES (21)	FIN (11)	OFF (6)	BUS (3)
<b>Agriculture Production and Management</b>	MGMT (27)	SALES (19)	OFF (8)	BLDG (7)	FIN (6)
<b>Animal Sciences</b>	MGMT (24)	SALES (14)	HLTH PROF (8)	OFF (8)	EDU (7)
<b>Food Science</b>	MGMT (27)	SALES (16)	LS (14)	PROD (8)	OFF (5)
<b>Forestry</b>	LS (22)	MGMT (17)	SALES (12)	PROD (6)	BC (5)
<b>General Agriculture</b>	MGMT (23)	SALES (18)	OFF (9)	TRAN (5)	BUS (5)
<b>Miscellaneous Agriculture</b>	EDU (17)	MGMT (17)	SALES (15)	ARTS (12)	INST (9)
<b>Natural Resources Management</b>	MGMT (21)	LS (12)	SALES (9)	OFF (8)	PROT (7)
<b>Plant Science and Agronomy</b>	MGMT (23)	SALES (15)	BLDG (12)	LS (10)	OFF (7)
<b>Soil Science</b>	MGMT (22)	LS (21)	SALES (16)	OFF (6)	PROT (6)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Occupation Abbreviations:</b>	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Architecture = ARCH	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Arts = ARTS	Installation = INST
Blue Collar = BC	Legal = LGL
Building = BLDG	Life Science = LS
Business = BUS	Management = MGMT
Community Service = COMM	Office = OFF
Computer Services = COMP	Personal Service = PERS
Construction = CON	Production = PROD
Education = EDU	Protective Services = PROT
Engineering = ENGR	Sales = SALES
Finance = FIN	Social Science = SS
Food Service = FOOD	Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	<b>1st Industry (%)</b>	<b>2nd Industry (%)</b>	<b>3rd Industry (%)</b>	<b>4th Industry (%)</b>	<b>5th Industry (%)</b>
<b>Agriculture and Natural Resources Major Group</b>	AG (13)	PUB (11)	RETL (9)	MAN-nd (7)	PROF (7)
<b>Agricultural Economics</b>	FIN (21)	AG (11)	RETL (8)	PUB (8)	WHLS-d (7)
<b>Agriculture Production and Management</b>	AG (16)	RETL (11)	FIN (7)	CON (6)	MAN-nd (6)
<b>Animal Sciences</b>	AG (14)	MAN-nd (10)	PROF (10)	EDU (9)	PUB (9)
<b>Food Science</b>	MAN-nd (35)	RETL (13)	PROF (8)	PUB (8)	ADMN (6)
<b>Forestry</b>	AG (21)	PUB (17)	PROF (9)	MAN-d (8)	CON (6)
<b>General Agriculture</b>	AG (15)	RETL (11)	PUB (11)	MAN-nd (7)	PROF (6)
<b>Miscellaneous Agriculture</b>	EDU (17)	RETL (11)	PUB (11)	AG (10)	FIN (7)
<b>Natural Resources Management</b>	PUB (21)	PROF (14)	EDU (7)	ARTS (7)	CON (5)
<b>Plant Science and Agronomy</b>	AG (14)	RETL (11)	ADMN (11)	PUB (10)	WHLS-d (7)
<b>Soil Science</b>	AG (18)	PROF (14)	RETL (13)	HS (12)	PUB (11)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Industry Abbreviations:**

Administrative Services = ADMN	Mining = MNG
Agriculture = AG	Other Service = OS
Arts = ARTS	Professional Services = PROF
Construction = CON	Public Administration = PUB
Education Services = EDU	Real Estate = RE
Financial Services = FIN	Retail Trade = RETL
Food Service = FS	Sales = SALES
Health Services = HS	Social Science = SS
Information = INFO	Transportation = TRAN
Management Services = MGMT	Utilities = UTIL
Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d	Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d
Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd	Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd



# Arts

**This group includes the following majors:**

- **Commercial Art and Graphic Design**
- **Drama and Theater Arts**
- **Film Video and Photographic Arts**
- **Fine Arts**
- **Music**
- **Studio Arts**
- **Visual and Performing Arts**

Arts account for 4.6 percent of all majors. Median earnings for those with a Bachelor's degree who majored in Arts are \$44,000.<sup>1</sup> Sixty-one percent of all people in these majors are women, and 39 percent are men. However, women with these majors make, in the aggregate, \$8,000 less than men. The racial makeup of these majors, on average, is 81 percent White, 7 percent Asian, 7 percent Hispanic, 5 percent African-American, and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Earnings for Asians (\$44,000), African-Americans (\$38,000), and Hispanics (\$40,000) are less than the \$45,000 median wage earned by Whites.

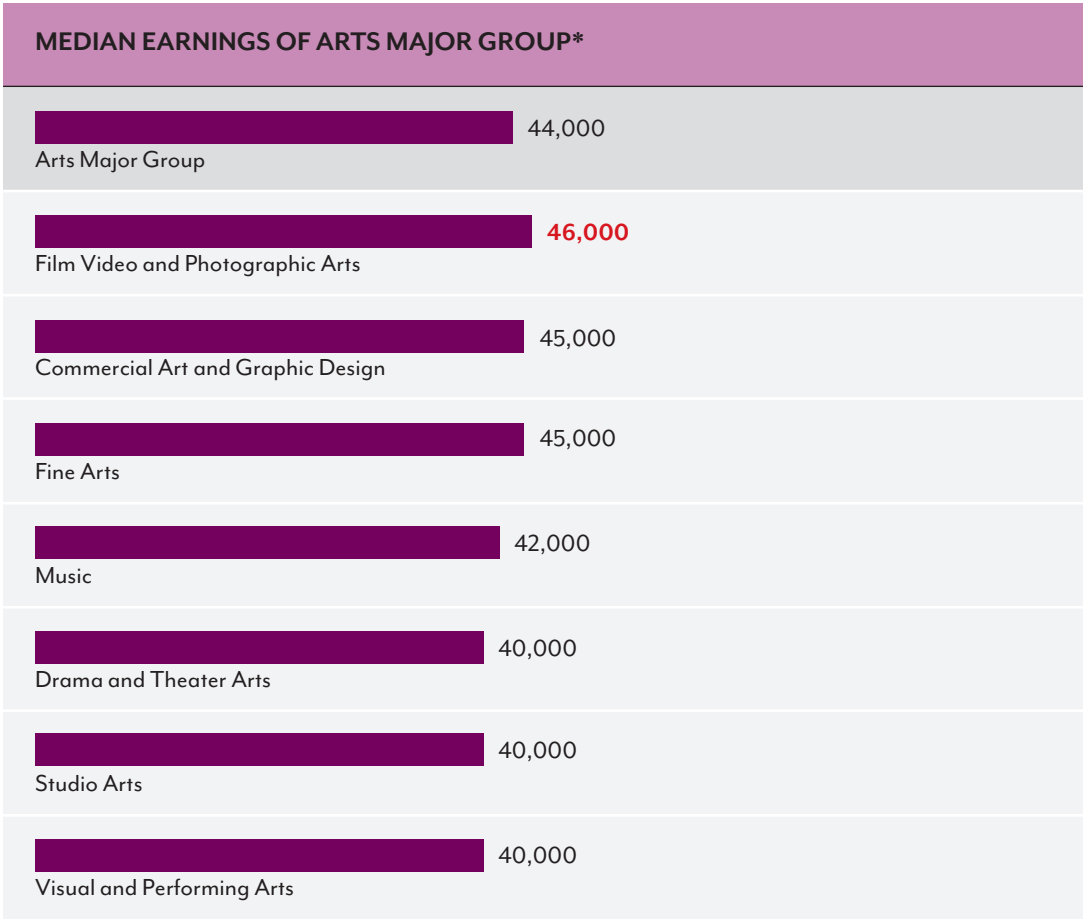
There are great earnings variations among the specific majors within this group. The lowest-earning are Studio Arts, Drama and Theater Arts, and Visual and Performing Arts, while the highest-earning is Fine Arts. Earnings in Arts as a whole can vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$30,000 and the 75th percentile earning \$65,000—a difference of \$35,000.

About 23 percent of people with these undergraduate majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 23 percent.

Of people who have majored in Arts, 25 percent work in Arts, 14 percent in Management, 12 percent in Sales, 12 percent in Office, and 8 percent in Education occupations. By industry, 18 percent work in Professional and Business Services, 12 percent in Retail Trade, 11 percent in Education Services, 8 percent in Information Services, and 6 percent in Health Services. About 76 percent of those with a major in Arts who are employed and in the labor force work full-time, and 8 percent are unemployed.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**ALL**

Arts Major Group

Commercial Art and Graphic Design

Drama and Theater Arts

Film Video and Photographic Arts

Fine Arts

Music

Studio Arts

Visual and Performing Arts

**POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup>**

Total Bachelor's	1,539,384	445,432	161,540	101,214	<b>490,604</b>	224,859	67,218	48,517
% of Major Group	100	29	10	7	<b>32</b>	15	4	3

**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR\***

Median Earnings	44,000	45,000	40,000	<b>46,000</b>	45,000	42,000	40,000	40,000
-----------------	--------	--------	--------	---------------	--------	--------	--------	--------

**EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

Earnings at the 25th percentile	30,000	<b>32,000</b>	29,000	30,000	31,000	30,000	26,000	26,000
Earnings at the 75th percentile	65,000	65,000	60,000	65,000	<b>66,000</b>	58,000	60,000	60,000
Difference	35,000	33,000	31,000	<b>35,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	28,000	34,000	34,000

**PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	77	<b>91</b>	76	87	77	59	72	77
Obtain graduate degree (%)	23	9	24	13	23	<b>41</b>	28	23

**EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	23	27	<b>40</b>	24	22	28	3	30
---------------------------------------	----	----	-----------	----	----	----	---	----

**WORK STATUS\***

Full-time (%)	76	<b>80</b>	72	79	77	71	71	65
Part-time (%)	24	20	28	21	23	29	29	<b>35</b>

**PERCENT EMPLOYED\*\***

Employed (%)	92	92	91	92	92	<b>95</b>	91	93
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	-----------	----	----

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

	Arts Major Group	Commercial Art and Graphic Design	Drama and Theater Arts	Film Video and Photographic Arts	Fine Arts	Music	Studio Arts	Visual and Performing Arts
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>								
Percent Female	61	67	60	42	63	51	66	<b>77</b>
Percent Male	39	33	40	<b>58</b>	37	49	34	23
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>								
Female Median Earnings	40,000	<b>42,000</b>	39,000	41,000	40,000	40,000	38,000	40,000
Male Median Earnings	48,000	<b>50,000</b>	42,000	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	45,000	45,000	36,000
Difference	8,000	8,000	3,000	9,000	<b>10,000</b>	5,000	7,000	-4,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

## RACE AND ETHNICITY

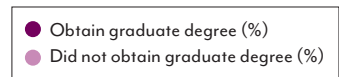
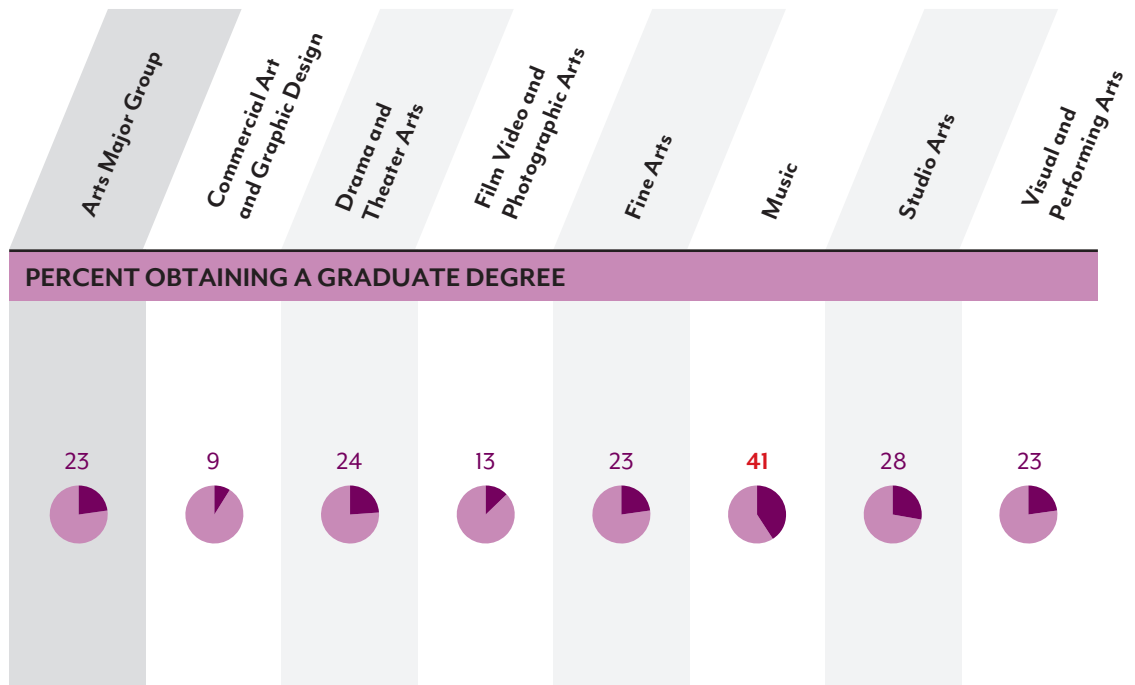
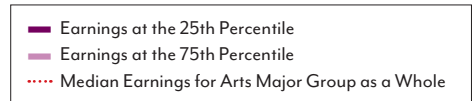
	Arts Major Group	Commercial Art and Graphic Design	Drama and Theater Arts	Film Video and Photographic Arts	Fine Arts	Music	Studio Arts	Visual and Performing Arts
<b>RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>								
% White	81	78	<b>86</b>	81	81	80	85	80
% African-American	5	5	5	4	5	<b>6</b>	3	5
% Hispanic	7	8	6	<b>10</b>	5	6	5	8
% Asian	7	<b>9</b>	2	5	8	8	6	7
% Othe Races and Ethnicities	1	<0.5	1	<0.5	1	<0.5	<b>2</b>	<0.5

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.





\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.



**WHERE ART MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	<b>1st Occupation (%)</b>	<b>2nd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>3rd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>4th Occupation (%)</b>	<b>5th Occupation (%)</b>
<b>Arts Major Group</b>	ARTS (25)	MGMT (14)	OFF (12)	SALES (12)	EDU (8)
<b>Commercial Art and Graphic Design</b>	ARTS (41)	MGMT (12)	SALES (11)	OFF (8)	COMP (5)
<b>Drama and Theater Arts</b>	MGMT (18)	OFF (16)	ARTS (12)	SALES (10)	EDU (8)
<b>Film Video and Photographic Arts</b>	ARTS (28)	MGMT (15)	OFF (12)	SALES (11)	PERS (4)
<b>Fine Arts</b>	ARTS (22)	MGMT (14)	SALES (13)	OFF (13)	EDU (9)
<b>Music</b>	OFF (16)	EDU (16)	MGMT (14)	SALES (11)	ARTS (10)
<b>Studio Arts</b>	ARTS (18)	OFF (12)	SALES (10)	MGMT (10)	EDU (8)
<b>Visual and Performing Arts</b>	OFF (17)	EDU (15)	SALES (13)	MGMT (13)	ARTS (11)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Occupation Abbreviations:**

Architecture = ARCH	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Arts = ARTS	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Blue Collar = BC	Installation = INST
Building = BLDG	Legal = LGL
Business = BUS	Life Science = LS
Community Service = COMM	Management = MGMT
Computer Services = COMP	Office = OFF
Construction = CON	Personal Service = PERS
Education = EDU	Production = PROD
Engineering = ENGR	Protective Services = PROT
Finance = FIN	Sales = SALES
Food Service = FOOD	Social Science = SS
	Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE ART MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	<b>1st Industry (%)</b>	<b>2nd Industry (%)</b>	<b>3rd Industry (%)</b>	<b>4th Industry (%)</b>	<b>5th Industry (%)</b>
<b>Arts Major Group</b>	PROF (18)	RETL (12)	EDU (11)	INFO (8)	HS (6)
<b>Commercial Art and Graphic Design</b>	PROF (26)	RETL (14)	MAN-nd (8)	MAN-d (7)	INFO (6)
<b>Drama and Theater Arts</b>	EDU (13)	PROF (12)	ARTS (12)	INFO (10)	RETL (8)
<b>Film Video and Photographic Arts</b>	INFO (25)	PROF (15)	HS (9)	RETL (8)	EDU (6)
<b>Fine Arts</b>	PROF (16)	EDU (14)	RETL (13)	MAN-nd (6)	MAN-d (6)
<b>Music</b>	EDU (19)	RETL (10)	PROF (8)	HS (8)	OS (8)
<b>Studio Arts</b>	PROF (14)	RETL (11)	EDU (11)	FIN (7)	ARTS (7)
<b>Visual and Performing Arts</b>	EDU (20)	FIN (10)	INFO (9)	PROF (9)	ARTS (8)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Industry Abbreviations:**

Administrative Services = ADMN

Agriculture = AG

Arts = ARTS

Construction = CON

Education Services = EDU

Financial Services = FIN

Food Service = FS

Health Services = HS

Information = INFO

Management Services = MGMT

Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d

Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd

Mining = MNG

Other Service = OS

Professional Services = PROF

Public Administration = PUB

Real Estate = RE

Retail Trade = RETL

Sales = SALES

Social Science = SS

Transportation = TRAN

Utilities = UTIL

Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d

Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd



# ***Biology and Life Science***

**This group includes the following majors:**

- **Biochemical Sciences**
- **Biology**
- **Botany**
- **Cognitive Science and Biopsychology**
- **Ecology**
- **Environmental Science**
- **Genetics**
- **Microbiology**
- **Miscellaneous Biology**
- **Molecular Biology**
- **Neuroscience**
- **Pharmacology**
- **Physiology**
- **Zoology**

Biology and Life Science majors account for 3.5 percent of all majors. Median earnings for those with a Bachelor's degree who majored in Biology and Life Science are \$50,000.<sup>1</sup> There is a small gender imbalance in these majors (women are 55 percent; men are 45 percent). Women with these majors make a median wage of \$45,000, about \$12,000 less than men. The racial makeup of these majors, on average, is 75 percent White, 11 percent Asian, 7 percent African-American, 6 percent Hispanic, and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Earnings for African-Americans (\$45,000) and Hispanics (\$40,000) are less than the \$51,000 median wage earned by Whites, while Asians earn slightly more (\$53,000).

There is great variation in earnings among the majors that make up this group. The major with the lowest median earnings is Botany, while the highest is Microbiology. Earnings in Biology and Life Science as a whole vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$35,000 and the 75th percentile earning \$75,000—a difference of \$40,000.

About 54 percent of people with these majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 101 percent.

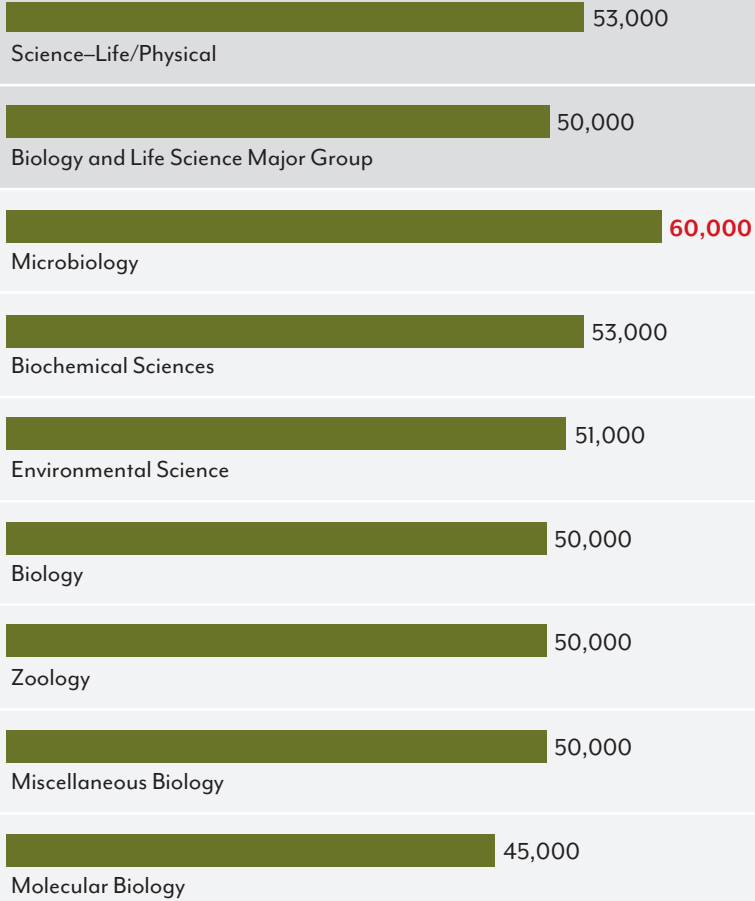
Of people who majored in Biology and Life Science, 16 percent work in Management, 15 percent in Health, 12 percent in Life Science, and 11 percent in Sales occupations. By industry, 19 percent work in Health Services, 14 percent in Professional Services, 11 percent in Education, and 9 percent in Public Administration.

Of all Biology and Life Science majors who are in the labor force and employed, 81 percent work full-time. About 5 percent are unemployed.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

### MEDIAN EARNINGS OF BIOLOGY AND LIFE SCIENCE MAJOR GROUP\*



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

### MEDIAN EARNINGS OF BIOLOGY AND LIFE SCIENCE MAJOR GROUP\* (Continued)

45,000  
Physiology

44,000  
Ecology

42,000  
Botany

●  
Genetics

●  
Pharmacology

●  
Neuroscience

●  
Cognitive Science and Biopsychology

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

● Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**ALL**

Science-  
Life/Physical

Biology and  
Life Science  
Major Group

Biochemical  
Sciences

Biology

Botany

Cognitive Science  
and Biopsychology

Ecology

**POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup>**

Total Bachelor's		1,197,003	63,315	<b>745,760</b>	13,593	8,181	39,041
% of All Majors		100	5	<b>62</b>	1	1	3

**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR\***

Median earnings	53,000	50,000	53,000	50,000	42,000	•	44,000
-----------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	---	--------

**EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

Earnings at the 25th percentile	36,000	35,000	33,000	36,000	29,000	•	30,000
Earnings at the 75th percentile	80,000	75,000	80,000	75,000	56,000	•	60,000
Difference	44,000	40,000	<b>47,000</b>	39,000	27,000	•	30,000

**PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	48	46	36	44	46	60	64
Obtain graduate degree (%)	52	54	<b>64</b>	56	54	40	36

**EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	86	101	101	106	49	•	74
---------------------------------------	----	-----	-----	-----	----	---	----

**WORK STATUS\***

Full-time (%)	83	81	83	80	71	80	83
Part-time (%)	17	19	17	20	29	20	17

**PERCENT EMPLOYED\*\***

Employed (%)	95	95	95	95	97	98	94
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

	Environmental Science	Genetics	Microbiology	Miscellaneous Biology	Molecular Biology	Neuroscience	Pharmacology	Physiology	Zoology
<b>POPULARITY OF MAJORS†</b>									
	97,406	7,977	61,196	32,133	22,138	8,380	4,257	42,944	50,682
	8	1	5	3	2	1	<0.5	4	4
<b>MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR*</b>									
	51,000	•	<b>60,000</b>	50,000	45,000	•	•	45,000	50,000
<b>EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE*</b>									
	37,000	•	37,000	35,000	28,000	•	•	33,000	<b>38,000</b>
	72,000	•	<b>84,000</b>	72,000	63,000	•	•	75,000	75,000
	35,000	•	<b>47,000</b>	37,000	35,000	•	•	42,000	37,000
<b>PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>									
	<b>71</b>	39	47	61	43	43	45	45	39
	29	61	53	39	57	57	55	55	61
<b>EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>									
	40	•	67	47	115	•	•	78	<b>123</b>
<b>WORK STATUS*</b>									
	84	<b>99</b>	81	81	84	78	69	76	82
	16	1	19	19	16	22	<b>31</b>	24	18
<b>PERCENT EMPLOYED**</b>									
	93	96	94	96	98	94	<b>100</b>	96	92

† The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

### GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS

	Science- Life/Physical	Biology and Life Science Major Group	Biochemical Sciences	Biology	Botany	Cognitive Science and Biopsychology	Ecology
Percent Female	49	55	52	57	60	53	60
Percent Male	51	45	48	43	40	47	40

### EARNINGS BY GENDER\*

Female Median Earnings	46,000	45,000	49,000	45,000	•	•	40,000
Male Median Earnings	60,000	57,000	60,000	58,000	•	•	51,000
Difference	14,000	12,000	11,000	13,000	•	•	11,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

## RACE AND ETHNICITY

### RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup>

% White	75	76	68	75	72	64	<b>88</b>
% African- American	7	7	5	<b>9</b>	5	6	2
% Hispanic	6	6	6	6	4	<b>11</b>	6
% Asian	11	11	20	10	17	16	4
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	1	1	1	1	<b>3</b>	1

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

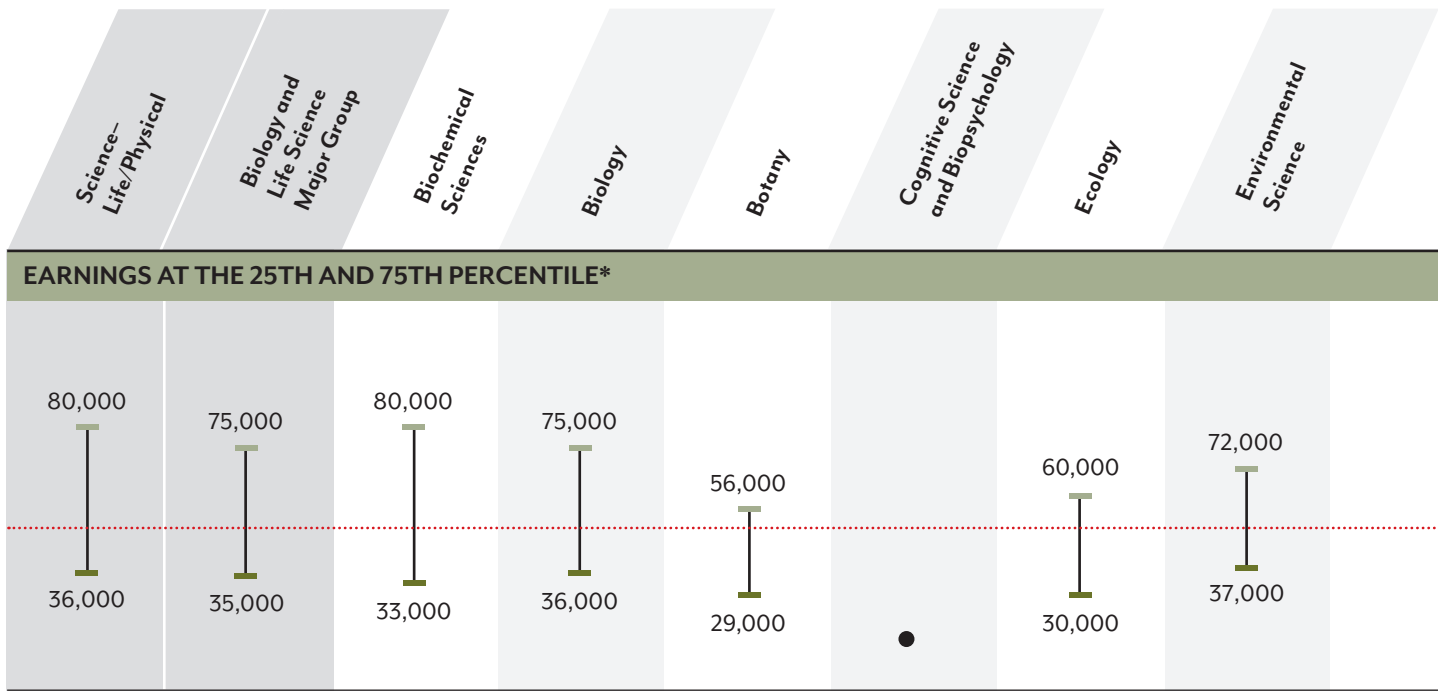
Environmental Science	Genetics	Microbiology	Miscellaneous Biology	Molecular Biology	Neuroscience	Pharmacology	Physiology	Zoology
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>								
43	55	62	45	52	<b>64</b>	56	55	50
<b>57</b>	45	38	55	48	36	44	45	50
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>								
42,000	•	<b>55,000</b>	40,000	43,000	•	•	49,000	45,000
55,000	•	<b>68,000</b>	57,000	50,000	•	•	45,000	57,000
13,000	•	13,000	<b>17,000</b>	7,000	•	•	-4,000	12,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

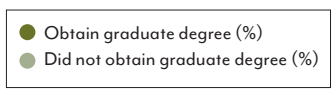
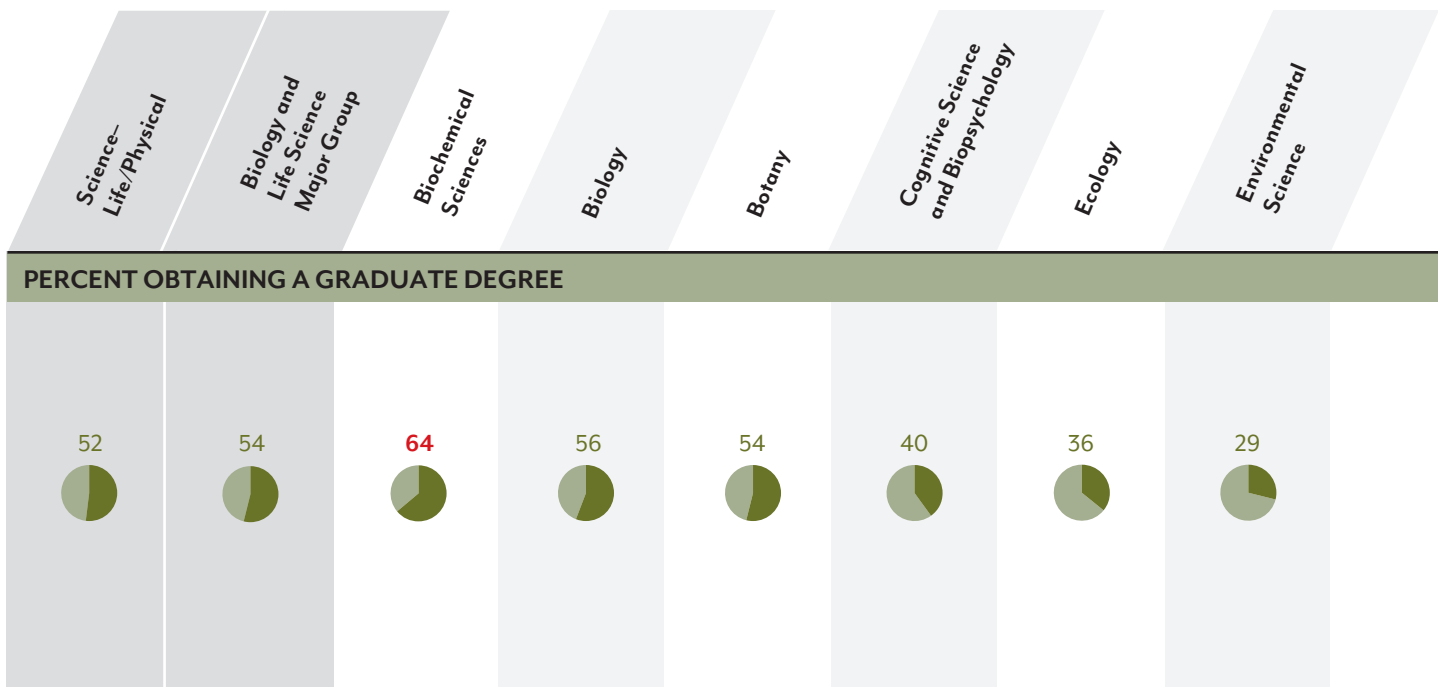
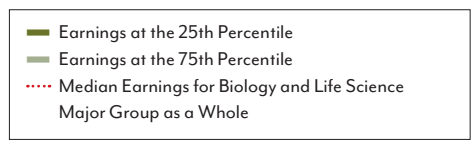
• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

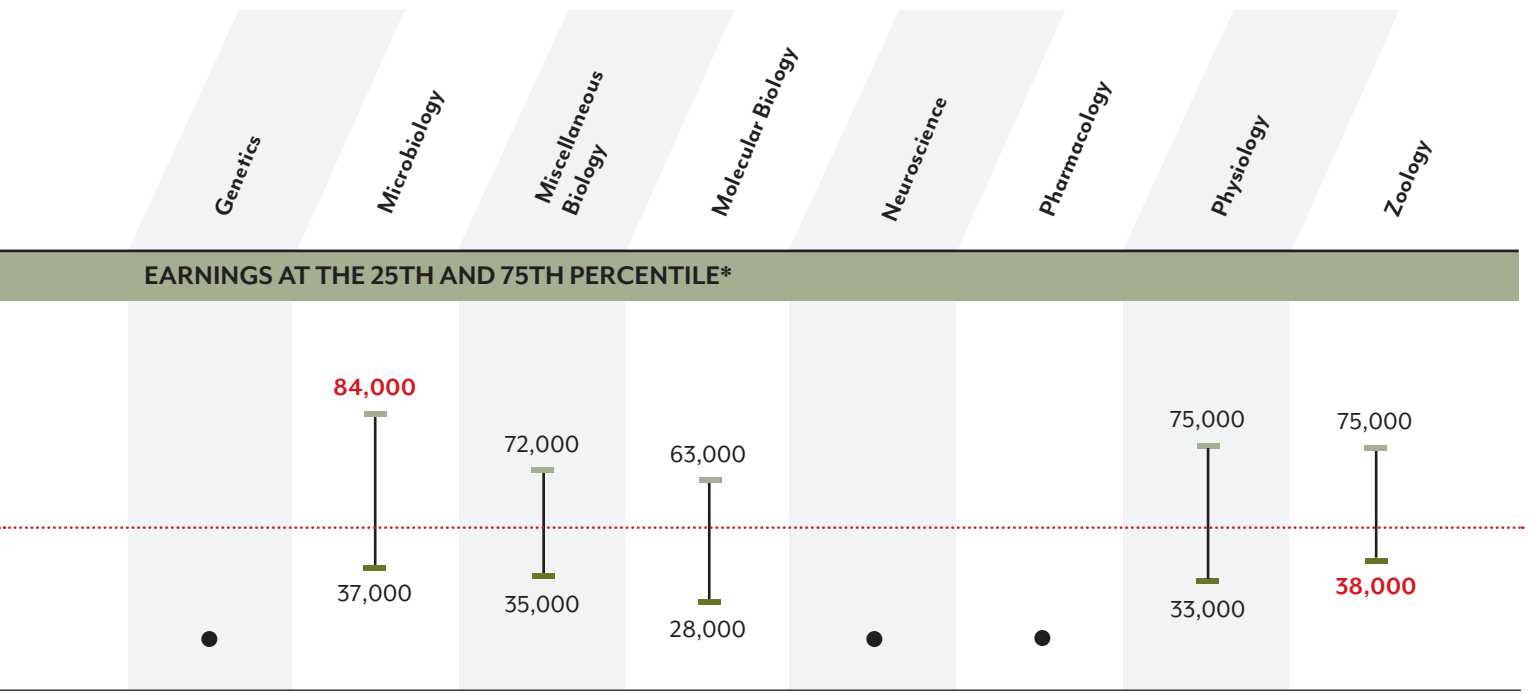
Environmental Science	Genetics	Microbiology	Miscellaneous Biology	Molecular Biology	Neuroscience	Pharmacology	Physiology	Zoology
<b>RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>								
<b>88</b>	74	71	80	68	67	72	75	82
3	8	7	4	6	5	1	7	4
5	<0.5	5	8	7	1	7	8	3
3	18	17	8	16	<b>27</b>	19	10	10
1	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<b>3</b>	<0.5	<0.5	1	1

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



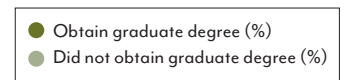
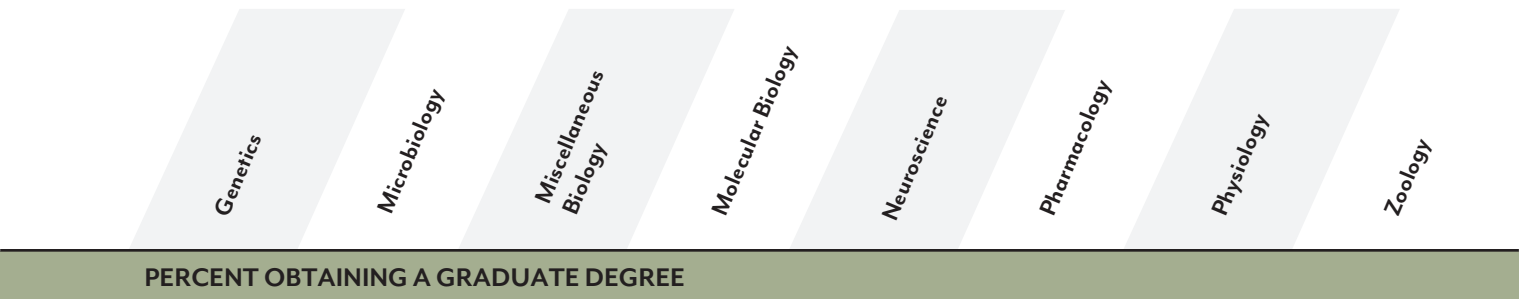
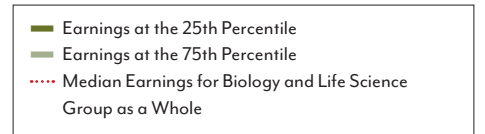
\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.  
 • Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.





\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**WHERE BIOLOGY AND LIFE SCIENCE MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	<b>1st Occupation (%)</b>	<b>2nd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>3rd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>4th Occupation (%)</b>	<b>5th Occupation (%)</b>
<b>Science– Life/Physical</b>	MGMT (17)	HLTH PROF (13)	LS (11)	SALES (11)	OFF (8)
<b>Biology and Life Science Major Group</b>	MGMT (16)	HLTH PROF (15)	LS (12)	SALES (11)	OFF (8)
<b>Biochemical Sciences</b>	LS (20)	HLTH PROF (14)	MGMT (12)	EDU (10)	SALES (8)
<b>Biology</b>	HLTH PROF (17)	MGMT (16)	LS (11)	SALES (11)	OFF (8)
<b>Botany</b>	OFF (24)	MGMT (15)	SALES (10)	LS (9)	EDU (8)
<b>Cognitive Science and Biopsychology</b>	MGMT (27)	SALES (14)	COMP (9)	OFF (8)	FOOD (7)
<b>Ecology</b>	MGMT (18)	LS (16)	SALES (9)	HLTH PROF (8)	OFF (7)
<b>Environmental Science</b>	MGMT (19)	LS (13)	SALES (12)	BUS (8)	OFF (6)
<b>Genetics</b>	LS(29)	HLTH PROF (19)	MGMT (12)	SALES (9)	COMP (8)
<b>Microbiology</b>	HLTH PROF (21)	MGMT(17)	LS (17)	SALES (11)	PROD (5)
<b>Miscellaneous Biology</b>	HLTH PROF (16)	LS (15)	MGMT (13)	PROT (11)	OFF (8)
<b>Molecular Biology</b>	HLTH PROF (17)	LS (17)	MGMT (13)	OFF (9)	EDU (9)
<b>Neuroscience</b>	HLTH PROF (28)	ENGR (22)	EDU (17)	LS (12)	MGMT (10)
<b>Pharmacology</b>	HLTH PROF (40)	LS (20)	ENGR (11)	COMM (10)	PROD (6)
<b>Physiology</b>	HLTH PROF (22)	MGMT (16)	SALES (13)	OFF (9)	COMM (5)
<b>Zoology</b>	MGMT (19)	SALES (13)	LS (10)	HLTH PROF (9)	OFF (7)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Occupation Abbreviations:**

Architecture = ARCH  
 Arts = ARTS  
 Blue Collar = BC  
 Building = BLDG  
 Business = BUS  
 Community Service = COMM  
 Computer Services = COMP  
 Construction = CON  
 Education = EDU  
 Engineering = ENGR  
 Finance = FIN  
 Food Service = FOOD

Health Professionals = HLTH PROF  
 Health Support = HLTH SUP  
 Installation = INST  
 Legal = LGL  
 Life Science = LS  
 Management = MGMT  
 Office = OFF  
 Personal Service = PERS  
 Production = PROD  
 Protective Services = PROT  
 Sales = SALES  
 Social Science = SS  
 Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE BIOLOGY AND LIFE SCIENCE MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	1st Industry (%)	2nd Industry (%)	3rd Industry (%)	4th Industry (%)	5th Industry (%)
Science– Life/Physical	HS (17)	PROF (14)	EDU (11)	PUB (9)	MAN-nd (8)
<b>Biology and Life Science Major Group</b>	HS (19)	PROF (14)	EDU (11)	PUB (9)	MAN-nd (8)
<b>Biochemical Sciences</b>	MAN-nd (18)	EDU (16)	PROF (15)	HS (15)	MAN-d (9)
<b>Biology</b>	HS (21)	PROF (13)	EDU (11)	MAN-nd (8)	PUB (8)
<b>Botany</b>	PUB (13)	RETL (12)	EDU (11)	AG (8)	HS (8)
<b>Cognitive Science and Biopsychology</b>	PROF (27)	EDU (10)	WHLS-nd (9)	INFO (9)	FIN (8)
<b>Ecology</b>	PROF (16)	HS (10)	PUB (10)	ARTS (9)	FIN (7)
<b>Environmental Science</b>	PROF (19)	PUB (17)	RETL (7)	MAN-nd (6)	EDU (6)
<b>Genetics</b>	PROF (31)	EDU (19)	HS (14)	MAN-d (9)	FS (9)
<b>Microbiology</b>	HS (30)	PROF (14)	MAN-nd (12)	EDU (8)	RETL (7)
<b>Miscellaneous Biology</b>	PUB (22)	HS (15)	PROF (11)	EDU (8)	FIN (6)
<b>Molecular Biology</b>	PROF (22)	HS (22)	EDU (17)	MAN-nd (7)	MAN-d (7)
<b>Neuroscience</b>	EDU (59)	PROF (23)	HS (8)	ADMIN (5)	RETL (2)
<b>Pharmacology</b>	RETL (34)	MAN-d (16)	HS (15)	PROF (13)	EDU (11)
<b>Physiology</b>	HS (32)	EDU (9)	RETL (7)	FIN (7)	PUB (7)
<b>Zoology</b>	HS (13)	EDU (12)	PROF (11)	PUB (11)	MAN-nd (7)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Industry Abbreviations:**

Administrative Services = ADMN  
 Agriculture = AG  
 Arts = ARTS  
 Construction = CON  
 Education Services = EDU  
 Financial Services = FIN  
 Food Service = FS  
 Health Services = HS  
 Information = INFO  
 Management Services = MGMT  
 Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d  
 Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd

Mining = MNG  
 Other Service = OS  
 Professional Services = PROF  
 Public Administration = PUB  
 Real Estate = RE  
 Retail Trade = RETL  
 Sales = SALES  
 Social Science = SS  
 Transportation = TRAN  
 Utilities = UTIL  
 Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d  
 Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd



# ***Business***

**This group includes the following majors:**

- **Accounting**
- **Actuarial Science**
- **Business Economics**
- **Business Management and Administration**
- **Finance**
- **General Business**
- **Hospitality Management**
- **Human Resources and Personnel Management**
- **International Business**
- **Management Information Systems and Statistics**
- **Marketing and Marketing Research**
- **Miscellaneous Business and Medical Administration**
- **Operations Logistics and E-commerce**

Business is the most popular major group; it accounts for 25% of all majors. Median earnings are \$60,000 for those with a Bachelor's who majored in Business.<sup>1</sup> The gender ratio of in this major group is close to even; 45 percent of all people in these majors are women, and 55 percent are men. However, women with these majors make \$16,000 less than men with these majors. The racial make-up of these majors are, on average, 76 percent White, 8 percent Asian, 8 percent African-American, and 7 percent Hispanic, and 1 percent other.<sup>2</sup> Earnings for Asians (\$51,000), African-Americans (\$47,000), Hispanics (\$48,000), and Other races (\$48,000) are less than the median wages for Whites (\$63,000).

There is also great variation within these majors; the major with the lowest median earnings is Hospitality Management, while the major with the highest median earnings is Business Economics. Earnings in Business can vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$40,000 and the 75th percentile earning \$90,000 — a difference of \$50,000.

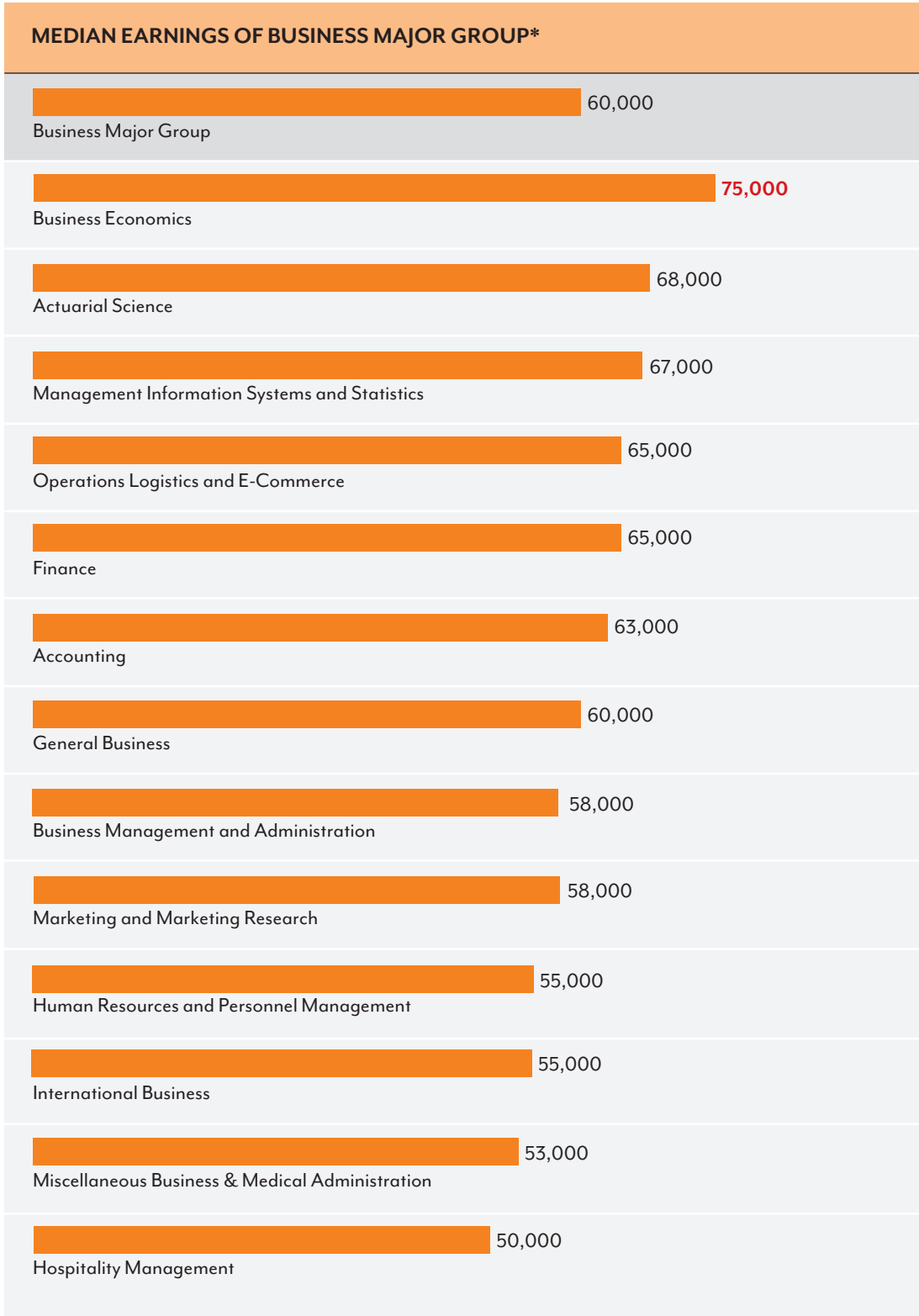
About 21 percent of people with these majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 40 percent.

Of people who received an undergraduate major in Business, 25 percent work in Management occupations, 18 percent work in Sales occupations, 18 percent work in Finance occupations, 12 percent work in Office occupations, and 6 percent work in business occupations. By industry, 17 percent work in Financial Services, 12 percent work in Professional and Business Services, 10 percent work in Retail Trade, 8 percent work in Manufacturing, and 7 percent work in Public Administration.

Of people who obtained an undergraduate major in Business that are in the labor force and employed, 90 percent work full-time. About 5 percent are unemployed.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**ALL**

Business Major Group

Accounting

Actuarial Science

Business Economics

Business Management and Administration

Finance

General Business

Hospitality Management

Human Resources and Personnel Management

International Business

Management Information Systems and Statistics

Marketing and Marketing Research

Miscellaneous Business & Medical Administration

Operations Logistics and E-Commerce

**POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup>**

Total Bachelor's	8,446,263	1,511,333	9,565	58,520	<b>2,785,421</b>	761,004	1,647,538	168,020	146,873	74,537	133,110	1,015,843	86,021	48,478
% of Major Group	100	18	<0.5	1	<b>33</b>	9	20	2	2	1	2	12	1	1

**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR\***

Median earnings	60,000	63,000	68,000	<b>75,000</b>	58,000	65,000	60,000	50,000	55,000	55,000	67,000	58,000	53,000	65,000
-----------------	--------	--------	--------	---------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------

**EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

Earnings at the 25th percentile	40,000	43,000	<b>53,000</b>	50,000	40,000	43,000	40,000	33,000	39,000	38,000	50,000	40,000	35,000	47,000
Earnings at the 75th percentile	90,000	95,000	<b>126,000</b>	115,000	85,000	100,000	90,000	72,000	78,000	80,000	94,000	88,000	81,000	94,000
Difference	50,000	52,000	<b>73,000</b>	65,000	45,000	57,000	50,000	39,000	39,000	42,000	44,000	48,000	46,000	47,000

**PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	79	76	82	70	80	74	79	<b>88</b>	71	72	80	86	83	76
Obtain graduate degree (%)	21	24	18	<b>30</b>	20	26	21	12	29	28	20	14	17	24

**EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	40	37	•	18	35	43	43	45	33	51	25	32	43	<b>63</b>
---------------------------------------	----	----	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----------

**WORK STATUS\***

Full-time (%)	90	89	<b>91</b>	89	90	<b>91</b>	90	86	89	88	<b>91</b>	88	87	89
Part-time (%)	10	11	9	11	10	9	10	<b>14</b>	11	12	9	12	13	11

**PERCENT EMPLOYED\*\***

Employed (%)	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	94	94	<b>95</b>	94	93	92	<b>95</b>	94	93	93
--------------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	----	----	-----------	----	----	----	-----------	----	----	----

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

**GENDER**

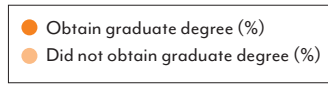
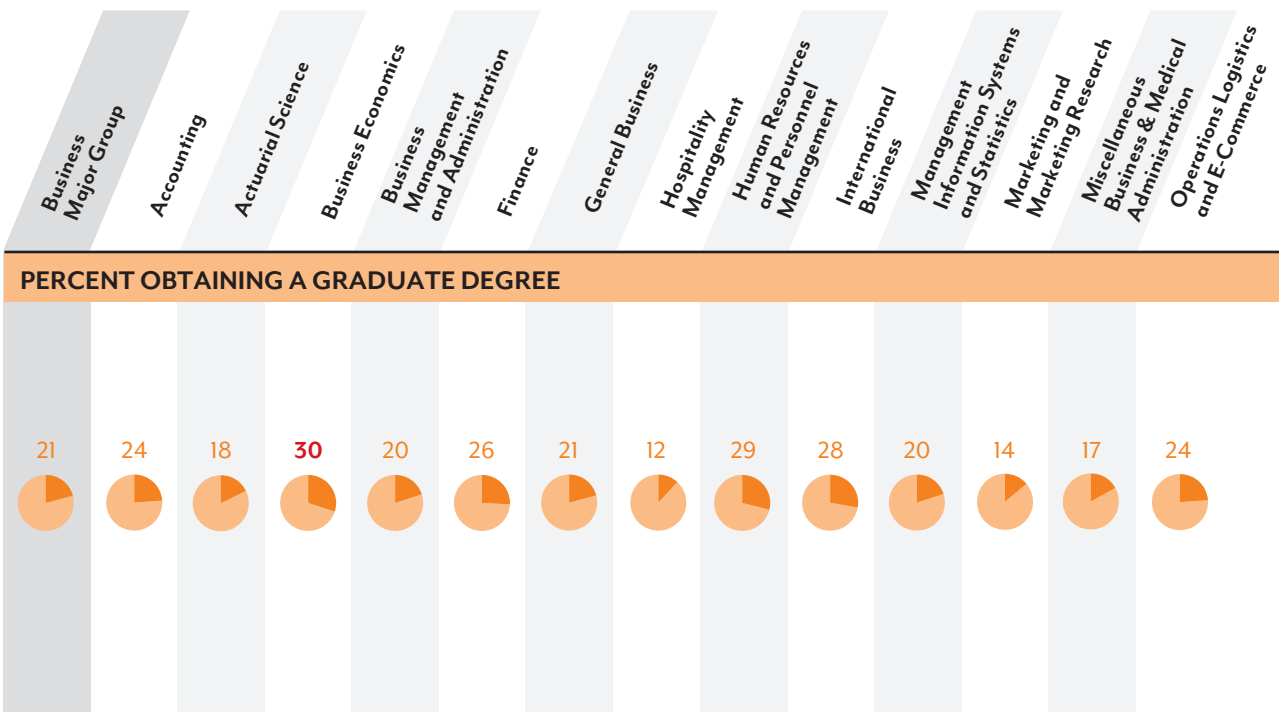
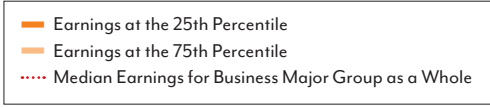
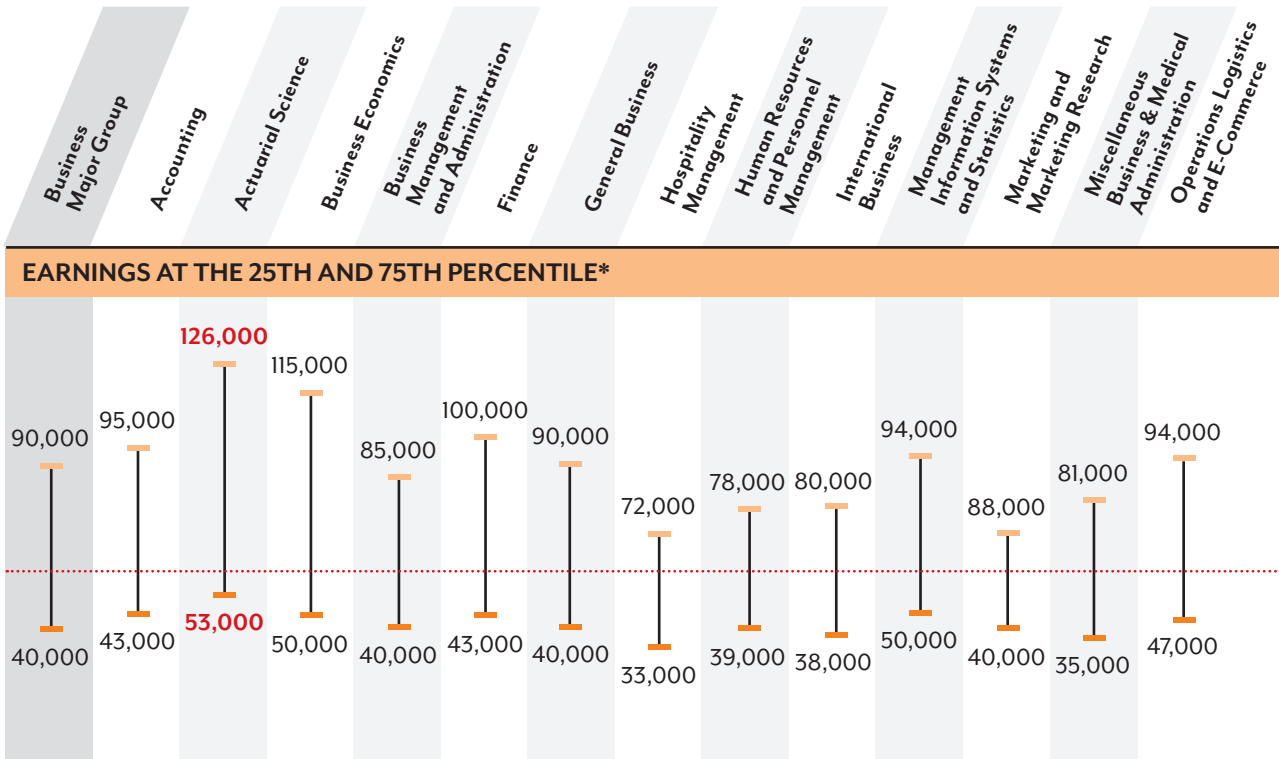
	Business Major Group	Accounting	Actuarial Science	Business Economics	Business Management and Administration	Finance	General Business	Hospitality Management	Human Resources and Personnel Management	International Business	Management Information Systems and Statistics	Marketing and Marketing Research	Miscellaneous Business & Medical Administration	Operations Logistics and E-Commerce
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>														
Percent Female	45	52	40	36	44	36	39	56	64	59	38	51	47	35
Percent Male	55	48	60	64	56	64	61	44	36	41	62	49	53	65
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>														
Female Median Earnings	50,000	55,000	•	64,000	50,000	52,000	50,000	42,000	50,000	48,000	60,000	48,000	41,000	57,000
Male Median Earnings	66,000	75,000	•	80,000	64,000	70,000	65,000	55,000	64,000	70,000	70,000	65,000	62,000	69,000
Difference	16,000	20,000	•	16,000	14,000	18,000	15,000	13,000	14,000	22,000	10,000	17,000	21,000	12,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.  
 • Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**RACE AND ETHNICITY**

	Business Major Group	Accounting	Actuarial Science	Business Economics	Business Management and Administration	Finance	General Business	Hospitality Management	Human Resources and Personnel Management	International Business	Management Information Systems and Statistics	Marketing and Marketing Research	Miscellaneous Business & Medical Administration	Operations Logistics and E-Commerce
<b>RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>														
% White	76	71	79	79	75	77	76	74	75	58	73	83	78	83
% African-American	8	8	4	4	10	6	8	4	13	4	9	7	7	7
% Hispanic	7	9	4	4	8	6	6	10	8	21	6	5	10	3
% Asian	8	12	11	12	6	10	9	11	3	16	12	5	5	6
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	1	1	<0.5	1	<0.5	1	1	<0.5	1	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	1

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



**WHERE BUSINESS MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	1st Occupation (%)	2nd Occupation (%)	3rd Occupation (%)	4th Occupation (%)	5th Occupation (%)
<b>Business Major Group</b>	MGMT (25)	SALES (18)	FIN (18)	OFF (12)	BUS (6)
<b>Accounting</b>	FIN (49)	MGMT (19)	OFF (9)	SALES (7)	BUS (3)
<b>Actuarial Science</b>	COMP (51)	BUS (11)	MGMT (11)	FIN (10)	OFF (8)
<b>Business Economics</b>	MGMT (29)	FIN (20)	SALES (20)	OFF (11)	BUS (4)
<b>Business Management and Administration</b>	MGMT (26)	SALES (18)	OFF (15)	FIN (10)	BUS (7)
<b>Finance</b>	MGMT (26)	FIN (25)	SALES (18)	OFF (11)	BUS (5)
<b>General Business</b>	MGMT (25)	SALES (22)	OFF (12)	FIN (10)	BUS (6)
<b>Hospitality Management</b>	MGMT (34)	SALES (15)	OFF (15)	FOOD (9)	BUS (5)
<b>Human Resources and Personnel Management</b>	MGMT (25)	BUS (22)	OFF (13)	SALES (12)	FIN (6)
<b>International Business</b>	MGMT (24)	SALES (20)	OFF (16)	BUS (12)	FIN (10)
<b>Management Information Systems and Statistics</b>	COMP (40)	MGMT (23)	SALES (9)	OFF (8)	BUS (4)
<b>Marketing and Marketing Research</b>	SALES (32)	MGMT (25)	OFF (12)	BUS (7)	FIN (5)
<b>Miscellaneous Business &amp; Medical Administration</b>	MGMT (25)	SALES (18)	OFF (15)	FIN (9)	BUS (6)
<b>Operations Logistics and E-Commerce</b>	MGMT (31)	OFF (16)	SALES (15)	BUS (14)	COMP (7)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Occupation Abbreviations:</b>	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Architecture = ARCH	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Arts = ARTS	Installation = INST
Blue Collar = BC	Legal = LGL
Building = BLDG	Life Science = LS
Business = BUS	Management = MGMT
Community Service = COMM	Office = OFF
Computer Services = COMP	Personal Service = PERS
Construction = CON	Production = PROD
Education = EDU	Protective Services = PROT
Engineering = ENGR	Sales = SALES
Finance = FIN	Social Science = SS
Food Service = FOOD	Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE BUSINESS MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	1st Industry (%)	2nd Industry (%)	3rd Industry (%)	4th Industry (%)	5th Industry (%)
<b>Business Major Group</b>	FIN (17)	PROF (12)	RETL (10)	MAN-d (8)	PUB (7)
<b>Accounting</b>	PROF (19)	FIN (14)	PUB (9)	MAN-d (7)	RETL (7)
<b>Actuarial Science</b>	FIN (54)	PROF (24)	RETL (5)	CON (4)	RE (3)
<b>Business Economics</b>	FIN (24)	PROF (15)	MAN-d (9)	RETL (8)	WHLS-nd (5)
<b>Business Management and Administration</b>	FIN (15)	RETL (10)	MAN-d (9)	PROF (9)	PUB (8)
<b>Finance</b>	FIN (39)	PROF (10)	RETL (7)	MAN-d (6)	RE (4)
<b>General Business</b>	FIN (16)	RETL (11)	PROF (10)	MAN-d (8)	HS (6)
<b>Hospitality Management</b>	FS (35)	RETL (7)	PROF (7)	HS (6)	FIN (5)
<b>Human Resources and Personnel Management</b>	FIN (13)	PUB (12)	HS (11)	RETL (8)	MAN-d (7)
<b>International Business</b>	FIN (18)	PROF (12)	RETL (9)	WHLS-d (7)	EDU (7)
<b>Management Information Systems and Statistics</b>	PROF (21)	FIN (15)	MAN-d (8)	RETL (8)	PUB (8)
<b>Marketing and Marketing Research</b>	RETL (15)	FIN (15)	PROF (11)	MAN-d (7)	MAN-nd (5)
<b>Miscellaneous Business &amp; Medical Administration</b>	FIN (13)	PROF (10)	RETL (9)	RE (9)	MAN-d (7)
<b>Operations Logistics and E-Commerce</b>	MAN-d (17)	RETL (11)	PROF (10)	MAN-nd (9)	TRAN (8)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Industry Abbreviations:</b>	
Administrative Services = ADMN	Mining = MNG
Agriculture = AG	Other Service = OS
Arts = ARTS	Professional Services = PROF
Construction = CON	Public Administration = PUB
Education Services = EDU	Real Estate = RE
Financial Services = FIN	Retail Trade = RETL
Food Service = FS	Sales = SALES
Health Services = HS	Social Science = SS
Information = INFO	Transportation = TRAN
Management Services = MGMT	Utilities = UTIL
Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d	Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d
Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd	Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd



# Communications and Journalism

**This group includes the following majors:**

- **Advertising and Public Relations**
- **Communications**
- **Journalism**
- **Mass Media**

Communications and Journalism account for 5.9 percent of all majors. Median earnings for those with only a Bachelor's degree who majored in Communications and Journalism are \$50,000.<sup>1</sup> Almost two-thirds (64 percent) of people in these majors are women, and 36 percent are men. However, women with these majors make, in the aggregate, \$11,000 less than men (\$44,000 vs. \$55,000). The racial makeup of these majors, on average, is 81 percent White; 4 percent Asian; 8 percent African-American; 6 percent Hispanic; and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Earnings for Asians (\$45,000), African-Americans (\$41,000), and Hispanics (\$43,000) are less than the \$50,000 in median wages earned by Whites.

Earnings for those with an undergraduate major in Communications and Journalism can vary widely; for instance, the 25th percentile median earnings are \$34,000, while the 75th percentile median earnings are \$75,000—a difference of \$41,000. The major with the highest median earnings is Journalism, and the major with the lowest median earnings is Mass Media.

About 20 percent of people with these majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 25 percent.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

Of people who have received an undergraduate major in Communications and Journalism, 21 percent work in Management, 17 percent in Sales, 14 percent in Arts, 14 percent in Office, and 7 percent in Education occupations. By industry, 14 percent work in Information Services, 13 percent in Professional and Business Services, 10 percent in Education, 9 percent in Retail Trade, 9 percent in Financial Services, and 8 percent in Health Services.

Of those with Communications and Journalism majors who are in the labor force and employed, 82 percent work full-time. About 6 percent are unemployed.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

ALL	Communications and Journalism Major Group	Advertising and Public Relations	Communications	Journalism	Mass Media
<b>POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup></b>					
Total Bachelor's	1,986,030	174,776	<b>898,096</b>	389,564	204,344
% of Major Group	100	9	<b>45</b>	20	10
<b>MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR*</b>					
Median Earnings	50,000	50,000	50,000	<b>51,000</b>	45,000
<b>EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE*</b>					
Earnings at the 25th percentile	34,000	34,000	<b>35,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	32,000
Earnings at the 75th percentile	75,000	73,000	77,000	<b>80,000</b>	71,000
Difference	41,000	39,000	42,000	<b>45,000</b>	39,000
<b>PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>					
Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	80	<b>85</b>	81	78	83
Obtain graduate degree (%)	20	15	19	<b>22</b>	17
<b>EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>					
% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	25	12	26	<b>28</b>	11
<b>WORK STATUS*</b>					
Full-time (%)	82	<b>84</b>	83	81	<b>84</b>
Part-time (%)	18	16	17	<b>19</b>	16
<b>PERCENT EMPLOYED**</b>					
Employed (%)	94	93	93	<b>94</b>	93

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

**GENDER**

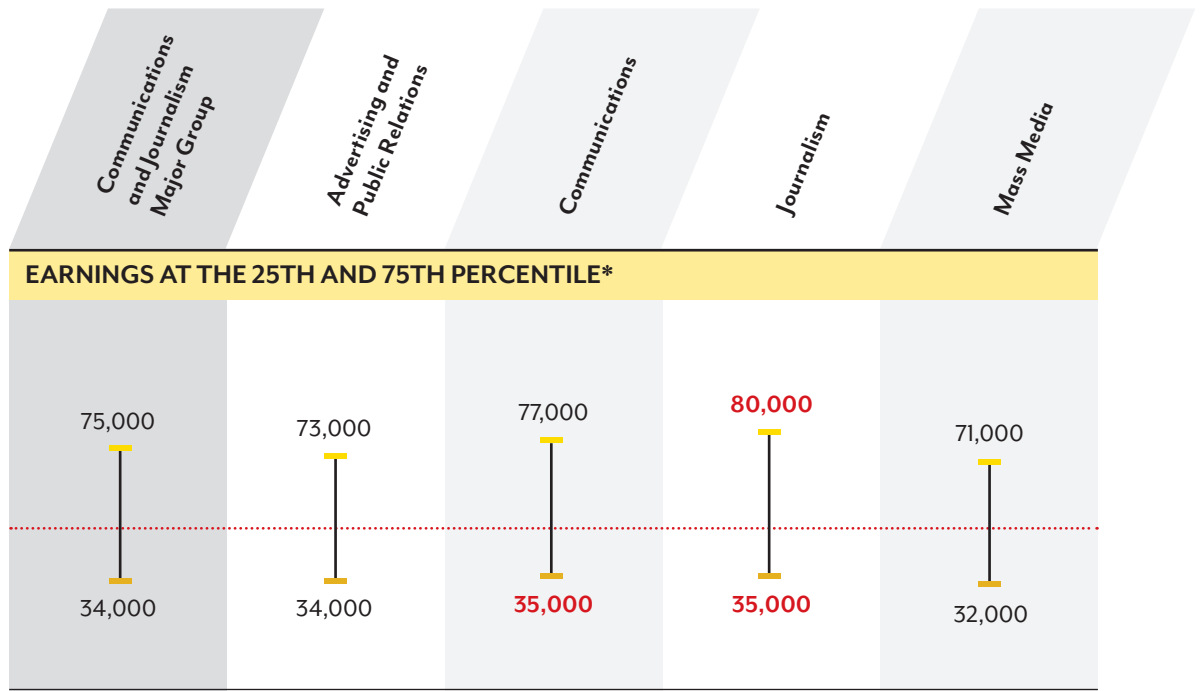
	<i>Communications and Journalism Major Group</i>	<i>Advertising and Public Relations</i>	<i>Communications</i>	<i>Journalism</i>	<i>Mass Media</i>
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>					
Percent Female	64	<b>66</b>	58	59	48
Percent Male	36	34	<b>42</b>	41	52
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>					
Female Median Earnings	44,000	46,000	46,000	<b>47,000</b>	40,000
Male Median Earnings	55,000	55,000	56,000	<b>60,000</b>	50,000
Difference	11,000	9,000	10,000	<b>13,000</b>	10,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

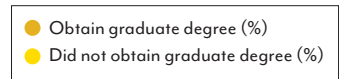
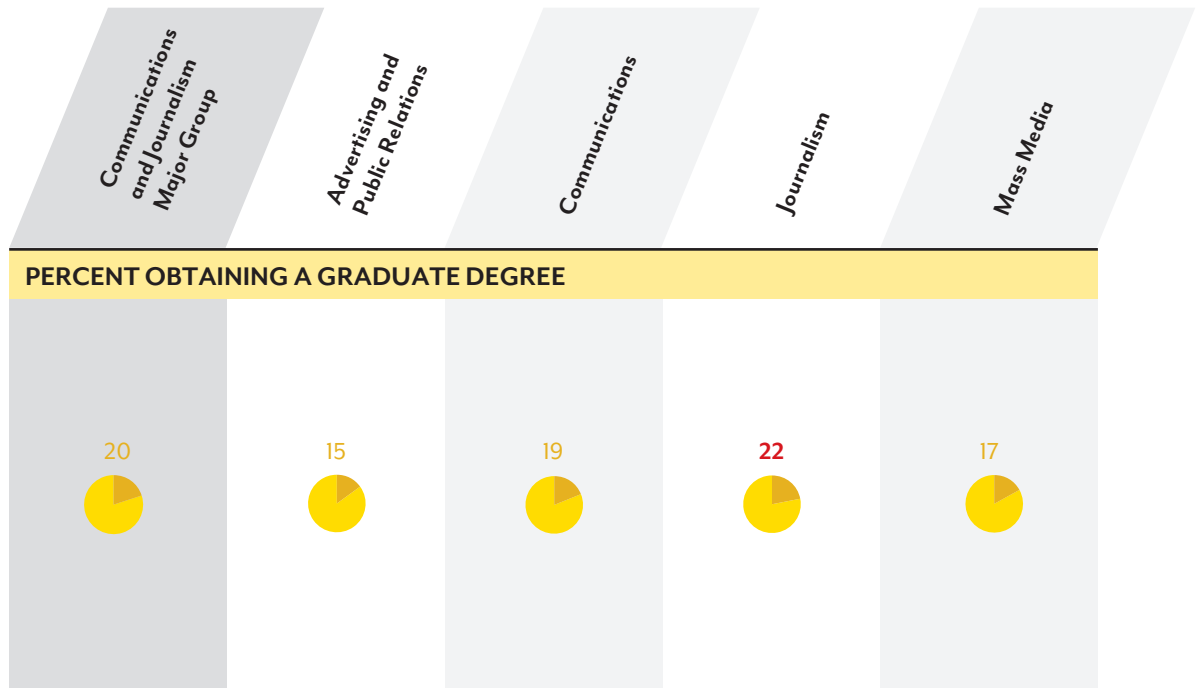
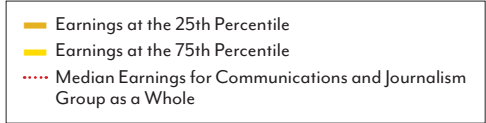
**RACE AND ETHNICITY**

	<i>Communications and Journalism Major Group</i>	<i>Advertising and Public Relations</i>	<i>Communications</i>	<i>Journalism</i>	<i>Mass Media</i>
<b>RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>					
% White	81	<b>84</b>	80	<b>84</b>	77
% African-American	8	6	9	7	<b>10</b>
% Hispanic	6	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	5	<b>6</b>
% Asian	4	3	3	3	<b>6</b>
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	<b>1</b>	<0.5	<b>1</b>	<0.5

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.



**WHERE COMMUNICATIONS AND JOURNALISM MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	<b>1st Occupation (%)</b>	<b>2nd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>3rd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>4th Occupation (%)</b>	<b>5th Occupation (%)</b>
<b>Communications and Journalism Major Group</b>	MGMT (21)	SALES (17)	ARTS (14)	OFF (14)	EDU (7)
<b>Advertising and Public Relations</b>	MGMT (25)	SALES (20)	OFF (16)	ARTS (9)	BUS (5)
<b>Communications</b>	MGMT (23)	SALES (21)	OFF (14)	ARTS (10)	BUS (7)
<b>Journalism</b>	ARTS (28)	MGMT (22)	SALES (14)	OFF (10)	EDU (4)
<b>Mass Media</b>	ARTS (19)	SALES (17)	MGMT (16)	OFF (15)	COMP (7)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Occupation Abbreviations:</b>	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Architecture = ARCH	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Arts = ARTS	Installation = INST
Blue Collar = BC	Legal = LGL
Building = BLDG	Life Science = LS
Business = BUS	Management = MGMT
Community Service = COMM	Office = OFF
Computer Services = COMP	Personal Service = PERS
Construction = CON	Production = PROD
Education = EDU	Protective Services = PROT
Engineering = ENGR	Sales = SALES
Finance = FIN	Social Science = SS
Food Service = FOOD	Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE COMMUNICATIONS AND JOURNALISM MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	<b>1st Industry (%)</b>	<b>2nd Industry (%)</b>	<b>3rd Industry (%)</b>	<b>4th Industry (%)</b>	<b>5th Industry (%)</b>
<b>Communications and Journalism Major Group</b>	INFO (14)	PROF (13)	EDU (10)	RETL (9)	FIN (9)
<b>Advertising and Public Relations</b>	PROF (22)	RETL (11)	FIN (10)	INFO (8)	EDU (8)
<b>Communications</b>	INFO (12)	PROF (12)	FIN (11)	RETL (9)	EDU (9)
<b>Journalism</b>	INFO (26)	PROF (14)	EDU (9)	FIN (7)	RETL (6)
<b>Mass Media</b>	INFO (22)	PROF (13)	RETL (10)	EDU (9)	FIN (6)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Industry Abbreviations:**

Administrative Services = ADMN

Agriculture = AG

Arts = ARTS

Construction = CON

Education Services = EDU

Financial Services = FIN

Food Service = FS

Health Services = HS

Information = INFO

Management Services = MGMT

Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d

Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd

Mining = MNG

Other Service = OS

Professional Services = PROF

Public Administration = PUB

Real Estate = RE

Retail Trade = RETL

Sales = SALES

Social Science = SS

Transportation = TRAN

Utilities = UTIL

Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d

Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd





# Computers and Mathematics

This group includes the following majors:

- **Applied Mathematics**
- **Communication Technologies**
- **Computer Administration Management and Security**
- **Computer and Information Systems**
- **Computer Engineering**
- **Computer Networking and Telecommunications**
- **Computer Programming and Data Processing**
- **Computer Science**
- **Information Sciences**
- **Mathematics**
- **Mathematics and Computer Science**

Computers and Mathematics account for 5.1 percent of all majors. Median earnings for those with only a Bachelor's degree who majored in Computers and Mathematics are \$70,000.<sup>1</sup> Less than a third (31 percent) of people in these majors are women, and 69 percent are men. However, women with these majors make, in the aggregate, \$13,000 less than men. The racial makeup of these majors, on average, is 67 percent White, 16 percent Asian, 9 percent African-American, 7 percent Hispanic, and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Earnings for Asians (\$71,000), African-Americans (\$59,000), Hispanics (\$55,000), and Other Races (\$50,000) are less than the \$73,000 in median wages earned by Whites.

Earnings in Computers and Mathematics can vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$48,000 and the 75th percentile earning \$100,000 — a difference of \$52,000. The major with the highest median earnings is Mathematics and Computer Science, and the major with the lowest median is Communication Technologies.

About 32 percent of people with these majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 31 percent.

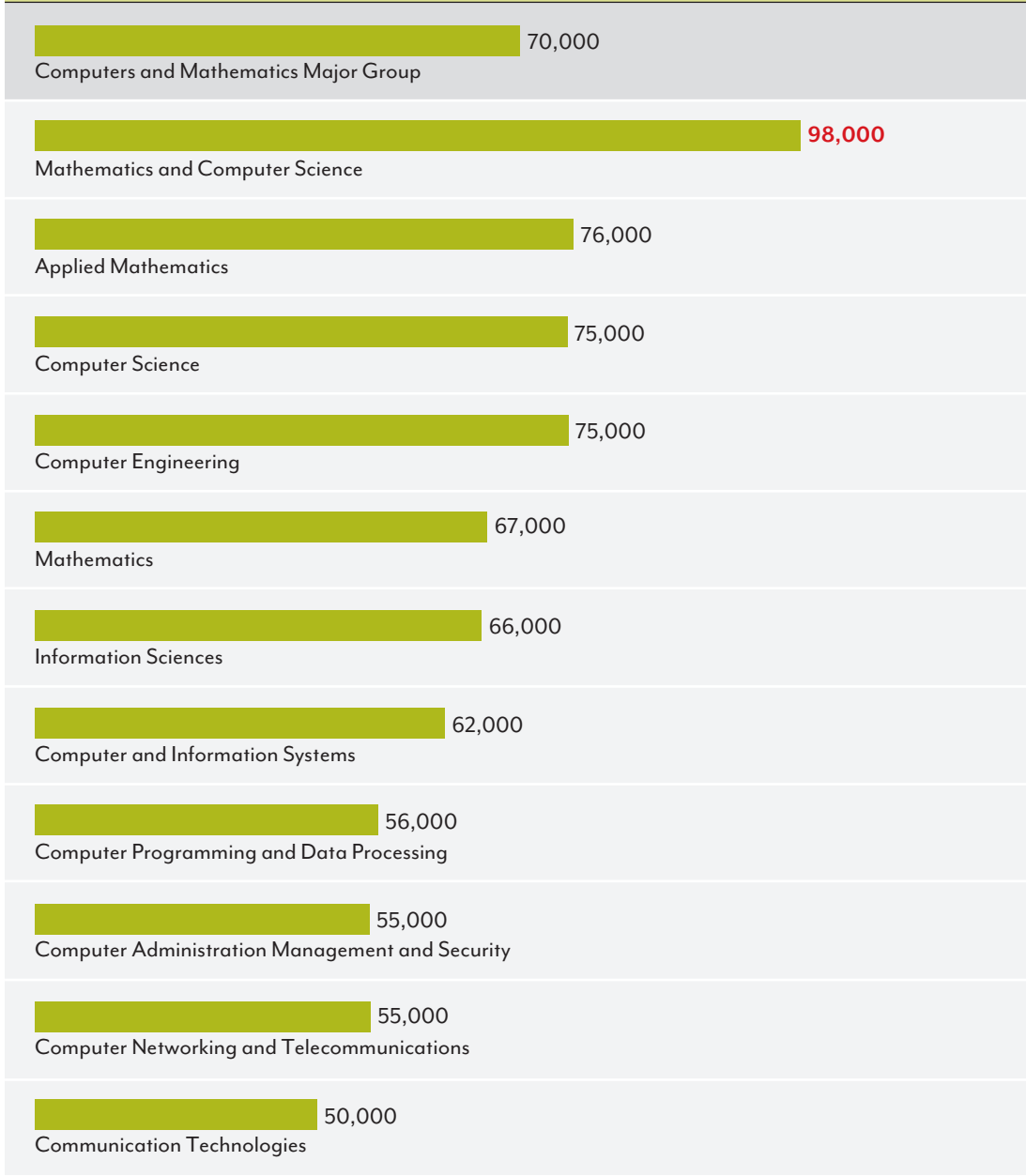
Of people who majored in Computers and Mathematics, 46 percent work in Computers, 16 percent in Management, 7 percent in Office, 6 percent in Sales, and 4 percent in Business occupations. By industry, 26 percent work in Professional and Business Services, 12 percent in Financial Services, 11 percent in Manufacturing, 7 percent in Information Services, and 7 percent in Education Services.

Of those with a Bachelor's in Computers and Mathematics who are in the labor force and employed, 91 percent of those people work full-time. About 6 percent are unemployed.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

### MEDIAN EARNINGS OF COMPUTERS AND MATHEMATICS MAJOR GROUP\*



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**ALL**

Computers and  
Mathematics  
Major Group

Applied Mathematics

Communication  
Technologies

Computer  
Administration  
and Security

Computer and  
Information Systems

Computer  
Engineering

Computer  
Networking and  
Telecommunications

Computer  
Programming and  
Data Processing

Computer Science

Information Sciences

Mathematics

Mathematics and  
Computer Science

**POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup>**

Total Bachelor's	1,728,959	14,765	55,657	36,500	240,508	146,057	58,836	27,858	<b>718,316</b>	68,546	354,087	7,829
% of Major Group	100	1	3	2	14	8	3	2	<b>42</b>	4	20	<0.5

**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR\***

Median earnings	70,000	76,000	50,000	55,000	62,000	75,000	55,000	56,000	75,000	66,000	67,000	<b>98,000</b>
-----------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	---------------

**EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

Earnings at the 25th percentile	48,000	49,000	35,000	40,000	45,000	55,000	39,000	35,000	50,000	50,000	42,000	<b>75,000</b>
Earnings at the 75th percentile	100,000	101,000	70,000	75,000	86,000	100,000	80,000	82,000	100,000	90,000	100,000	<b>134,000</b>
Difference	52,000	52,000	35,000	35,000	41,000	45,000	41,000	47,000	50,000	40,000	58,000	<b>59,000</b>

**PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	68	48	<b>89</b>	81	80	67	81	81	72	76	53	71
Obtain graduate degree (%)	32	<b>52</b>	11	19	20	33	19	19	28	24	47	29

**EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	31	<b>56</b>	•	44	25	16	25	•	25	22	33	•
---------------------------------------	----	-----------	---	----	----	----	----	---	----	----	----	---

**WORK STATUS\***

Full-time (%)	91	86	83	88	<b>94</b>	<b>94</b>	91	92	92	93	86	89
Part-time (%)	9	14	<b>17</b>	12	6	6	9	8	8	7	14	11

**PERCENT EMPLOYED\*\***

Employed (%)	94	<b>95</b>	92	94	94	<b>95</b>	93	94	94	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	90
--------------	----	-----------	----	----	----	-----------	----	----	----	-----------	-----------	----

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS												
	Computers and Mathematics Major Group	Applied Mathematics	Communication Technologies	Computer Administration and Security	Computer and Information Systems	Computer Engineering	Computer Networking and Telecommunications	Computer Programming and Data Processing	Computer Science	Information Sciences	Mathematics	Mathematics and Computer Science
Percent Female	31	36	33	31	35	19	27	31	27	29	44	33
Percent Male	69	64	67	69	65	81	73	69	73	71	56	67
EARNINGS BY GENDER*												
Female Median Earnings	60,000	•	50,000	45,000	56,000	67,000	44,000	•	70,000	75,000	54,000	•
Male Median Earnings	73,000	78,000	50,000	60,000	65,000	80,000	60,000	60,000	79,000	65,000	75,000	•
Difference	13,000	•	•	15,000	9,000	13,000	16,000	•	9,000	-10,000	21,000	•

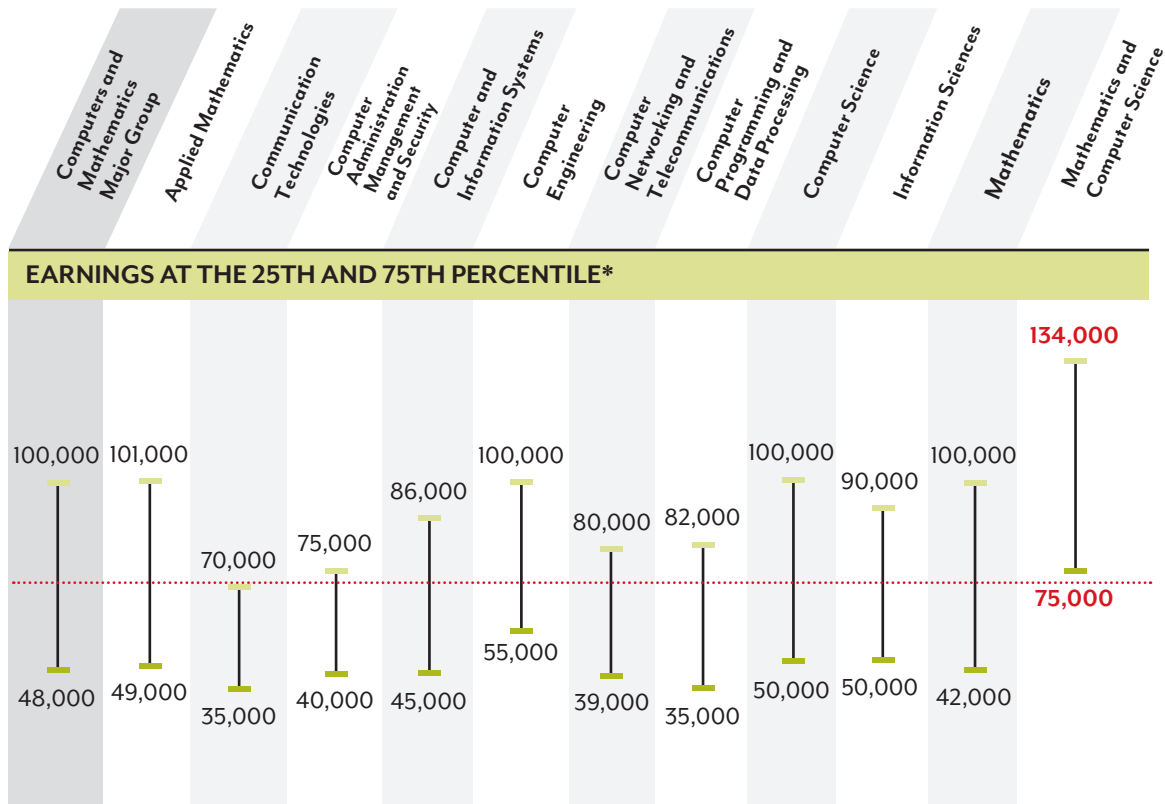
\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

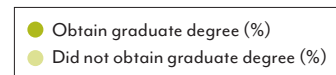
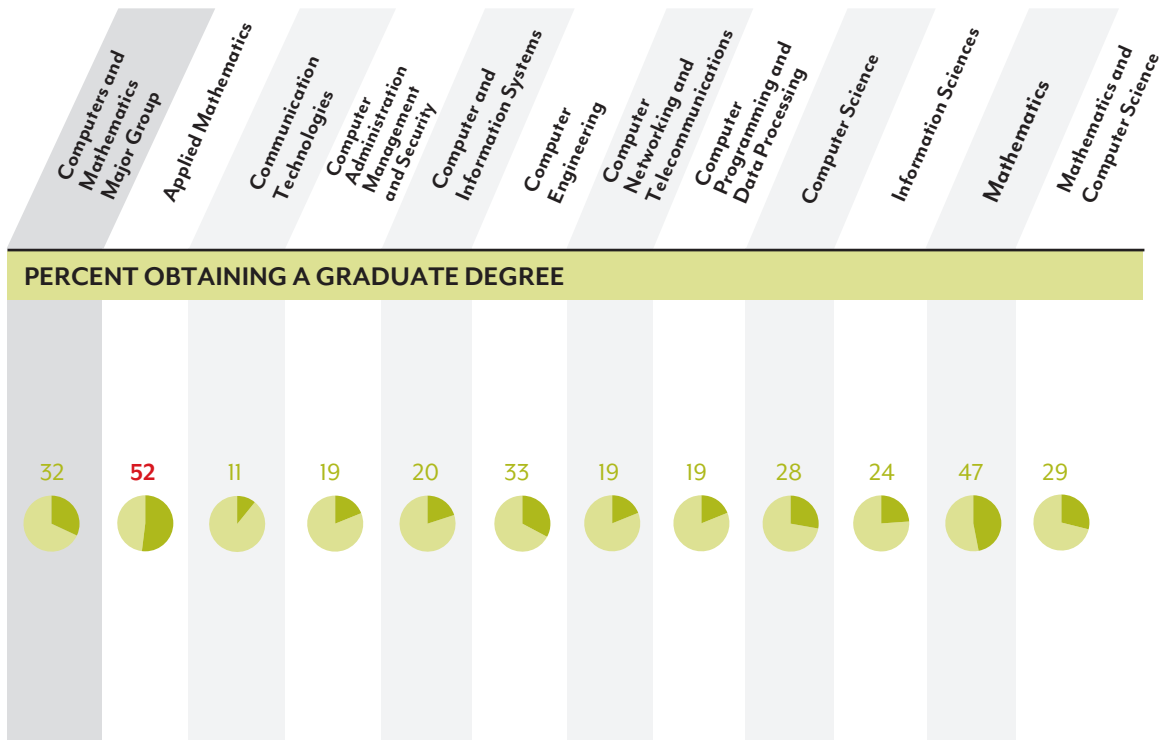
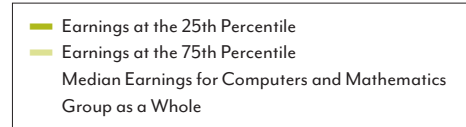
## RACE AND ETHNICITY

RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS <sup>Δ</sup>												
	Computers and Mathematics Major Group	Applied Mathematics	Communication Technologies	Computer Administration and Security	Computer and Information Systems	Computer Engineering	Computer Networking and Telecommunications	Computer Programming and Data Processing	Computer Science	Information Sciences	Mathematics	Mathematics and Computer Science
% White	67	66	79	69	64	54	72	67	64	68	78	82
% African- American	9	6	7	13	13	4	14	5	9	12	6	8
% Hispanic	7	8	7	9	8	9	7	12	7	6	5	2
% Asian	16	20	6	9	14	33	7	15	19	13	10	4
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	1	1	<0.5	1	<0.5	1	<0.5	1	<0.5	1	4

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.



**WHERE COMPUTERS AND MATHEMATICS MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	1st Occupation (%)	2nd Occupation (%)	3rd Occupation (%)	4th Occupation (%)	5th Occupation (%)
<b>Computers and Mathematics Major Group</b>	COMP (46)	MGMT (16)	OFF (7)	SALES (6)	BUS (4)
<b>Applied Mathematics</b>	COMP (33)	MGMT (19)	SALES (10)	EDU (6)	FIN (5)
<b>Communication Technologies</b>	ARTS (26)	MGMT (14)	SALES (14)	COMP (10)	OFF (9)
<b>Computer Administration Management and Security</b>	COMP (38)	MGMT (17)	SALES (8)	OFF (6)	BUS (6)
<b>Computer and Information Systems</b>	COMP (48)	MGMT (17)	OFF (8)	BUS (5)	SALES (4)
<b>Computer Engineering</b>	COMP (55)	MGMT (14)	ENGR (10)	OFF (4)	SALES (4)
<b>Computer Networking and Telecommunications</b>	COMP (22)	MGMT (16)	SALES (13)	OFF (11)	ARTS (11)
<b>Computer Programming and Data Processing</b>	COMP (49)	OFF (13)	MGMT (6)	SALES (6)	PROD (5)
<b>Computer Science</b>	COMP (55)	MGMT (17)	OFF (5)	SALES (5)	ENGR (3)
<b>Information Sciences</b>	COMP (46)	MGMT (18)	BUS (8)	SALES (7)	OFF (7)
<b>Mathematics</b>	COMP (26)	MGMT (17)	EDU (11)	SALES (9)	OFF (8)
<b>Mathematics and Computer Science</b>	COMP (42)	MGMT (37)	SALES (7)	TRAN (3)	EDU (3)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Occupation Abbreviations:</b>	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Architecture = ARCH	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Arts = ARTS	Installation = INST
Blue Collar = BC	Legal = LGL
Building = BLDG	Life Science = LS
Business = BUS	Management = MGMT
Community Service = COMM	Office = OFF
Computer Services = COMP	Personal Service = PERS
Construction = CON	Production = PROD
Education = EDU	Protective Services = PROT
Engineering = ENGR	Sales = SALES
Finance = FIN	Social Science = SS
Food Service = FOOD	Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE COMPUTERS AND MATHEMATICS MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	1st Industry (%)	2nd Industry (%)	3rd Industry (%)	4th Industry (%)	5th Industry (%)
<b>Computers and Mathematics Major Group</b>	PROF (26)	FIN (12)	MAN-d (11)	INFO (7)	EDU (7)
<b>Applied Mathematics</b>	FIN (18)	PROF (15)	TRAN (11)	EDU (10)	MAN-d (8)
<b>Communication Technologies</b>	PROF (19)	INFO (18)	MAN-nd (10)	RETL (8)	FIN (8)
<b>Computer Administration Management and Security</b>	PROF (19)	FIN (12)	PUB (9)	INFO (8)	EDU (8)
<b>Computer and Information Systems</b>	PROF (24)	FIN (13)	PUB (10)	MAN-d (9)	EDU (8)
<b>Computer Engineering</b>	PROF (36)	MAN-d (20)	FIN (8)	INFO (7)	PUB (5)
<b>Computer Networking and Telecommunications</b>	INFO (19)	PROF (12)	RETL (10)	FIN (10)	MAN-d (9)
<b>Computer Programming and Data Processing</b>	PROF (26)	FIN (14)	HS (11)	MAN-d (9)	RETL (8)
<b>Computer Science</b>	PROF (31)	MAN-d (12)	FIN (10)	INFO (7)	RETL (6)
<b>Information Sciences</b>	PROF (27)	FIN (13)	MAN-d (9)	PUB (8)	INFO (7)
<b>Mathematics</b>	FIN (17)	PROF (17)	EDU (15)	MAN-d (9)	RETL (6)
<b>Mathematics and Computer Science</b>	PROF (43)	FIN (12)	MAN-d (11)	EDU (6)	TRAN (5)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Industry Abbreviations:**

Administrative Services = ADMN

Agriculture = AG

Arts = ARTS

Construction = CON

Education Services = EDU

Financial Services = FIN

Food Service = FS

Health Services = HS

Information = INFO

Management Services = MGMT

Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d

Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd

Mining = MNG

Other Service = OS

Professional Services = PROF

Public Administration = PUB

Real Estate = RE

Retail Trade = RETL

Sales = SALES

Social Science = SS

Transportation = TRAN

Utilities = UTIL

Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d

Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd





# Education

This group includes the following majors:

- Art and Music Education
- Early Childhood Education
- Educational Administration and Supervision
- Elementary Education
- General Education
- Language and Drama Education
- Library Science
- Mathematics Teacher Education
- Miscellaneous Education
- Physical and Health Education Teaching
- School Student Counseling
- Science and Computer Teacher Education
- Secondary Teacher Education
- Special Needs Education
- Social Science or History Teacher Education
- Teacher Education: Multiple Levels

Education accounts for 10.6 percent of all majors. Median earnings for those with a Bachelor's degree who majored in Education are \$42,000.<sup>1</sup> This major group has a significant gender imbalance—some 77 percent of people in these majors are women, and 23 percent are men. In spite of much larger numbers, women with these majors make, in the aggregate, \$8,000 less than men (\$40,000 versus \$48,000). The racial makeup, on average, is 82 percent White, 7 percent African-American, 7 percent Hispanic, 3 percent Asian, and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Likewise, earnings for Asians (\$37,000), Hispanics (\$40,000), and Other Races (\$36,000) are less than the \$42,000 in median wages earned by Whites and African-Americans.

Earnings in Education vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$32,000 and the 75th percentile earning \$55,000—a difference of \$23,000. The major with the lowest median earnings is Early Childhood Education, while the major with the highest median earnings is Miscellaneous Education.

About 44 percent of people with these majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 33 percent.

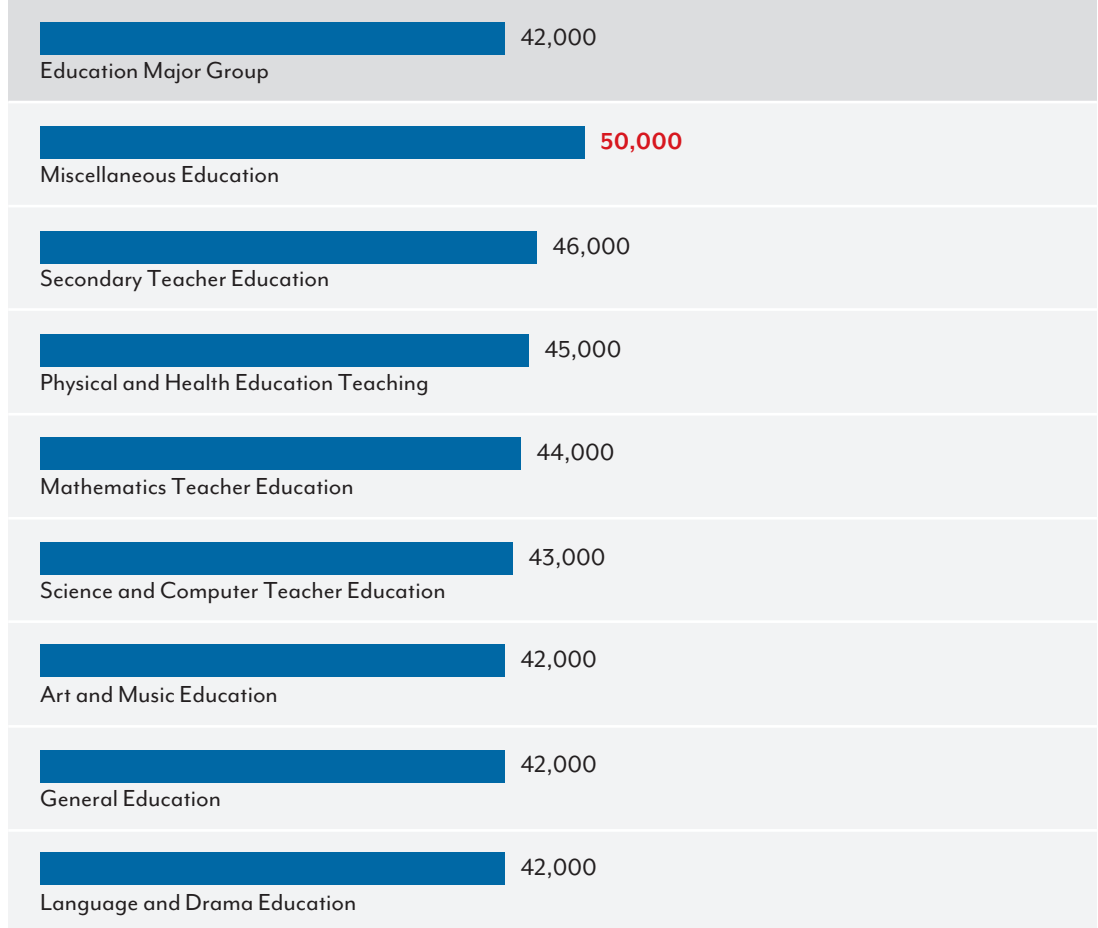
Of people who have received an undergraduate major in Education, 54 percent work in Education, 9 percent in Management, 9 percent work in Office, and 6 percent in Sales occupations. By industry, 55 percent work in Education Services, 9 percent in Health Services, 5 percent in Retail Trade, 5 percent in Financial Services, and 4 percent in Public Administration.

Of those who are in the labor force and employed, 82 percent of work full-time. About 4 percent are unemployed.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

### MEDIAN EARNINGS OF EDUCATION MAJOR GROUP\*



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

### MEDIAN EARNINGS OF EDUCATION MAJOR GROUP\* (Continued)

42,000  
Social Science or History Teacher Education

42,000  
Special Needs Education

41,000  
Teacher Education: Multiple Levels

40,000  
Elementary Education

36,000  
Early Childhood Education

●  
Educational Administration and Supervision

●  
Library Science

●  
School Student Counseling

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

● Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**ALL**

Education Major Group

Art and Music Education

Early Childhood Education

Educational Administration and Supervision

Elementary Education

General Education

Language and Drama Education

Library Science

**POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup>**

Total Bachelor's	3,568,392	176,005	149,806	4,452	<b>1,169,732</b>	963,718	136,460	9,692
% of Major Group	100	5	4	<0.5	<b>33</b>	27	4	<0.5

**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR\***

Median Earnings	42,000	42,000	36,000	•	40,000	42,000	42,000	•
-----------------	--------	--------	--------	---	--------	--------	--------	---

**EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

Earnings at the 25th percentile	32,000	32,000	29,000	•	31,000	32,000	34,000	•
Earnings at the 75th percentile	55,000	56,000	45,000	•	50,000	56,000	55,000	•
Difference	23,000	24,000	16,000	•	19,000	24,000	21,000	•

**PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	56	55	<b>66</b>	11	58	57	50	33
Obtain graduate degree (%)	44	45	34	89	42	43	50	67

**EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	33	30	41	•	36	32	30	•
---------------------------------------	----	----	----	---	----	----	----	---

**WORK STATUS\***

Full-time (%)	82	78	80	79	80	84	80	83
Part-time (%)	18	<b>22</b>	20	21	20	16	20	17

**PERCENT EMPLOYED\*\***

Employed (%)	96	96	95	89	96	96	96	93
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

Mathematics Teacher Education	Miscellaneous Education	Physical & Health Education Teaching	School Student Counseling	Science & Computer Teacher Education	Secondary Teacher Education	Social Science or History Teacher Education	Special Needs Education	Teacher Education: Multiple Levels
<b>POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup></b>								
60,658	158,300	227,949	1,271	44,271	182,537	97,899	126,909	58,733
2	4	6	<0.5	1	5	3	4	2
<b>MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR*</b>								
44,000	<b>50,000</b>	45,000	•	43,000	46,000	42,000	42,000	41,000
<b>EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE*</b>								
35,000	<b>36,000</b>	35,000	•	34,000	<b>36,000</b>	32,000	35,000	33,000
54,000	<b>75,000</b>	62,000	•	58,000	60,000	60,000	53,000	51,000
19,000	<b>39,000</b>	27,000	•	24,000	24,000	28,000	18,000	18,000
<b>PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>								
51	60	61	9	51	51	54	44	57
49	40	39	<b>91</b>	49	49	46	56	43
<b>EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>								
32	16	33	•	<b>49</b>	26	39	32	36
<b>WORK STATUS*</b>								
83	85	83	<b>93</b>	87	84	84	81	83
17	15	17	7	13	16	16	19	17
<b>PERCENT EMPLOYED**</b>								
97	97	96	<b>100</b>	95	95	96	96	94

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

	Education Major Group	Art and Music Education	Early Childhood Education	Educational Administration and Supervision	Elementary Education	General Education	Language and Drama Education	Library Science
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>								
Percent Female	77	70	97	53	91	76	82	93
Percent Male	23	30	3	47	9	24	18	7
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>								
Female Median Earnings	40,000	40,000	36,000	•	39,000	40,000	42,000	•
Male Median Earnings	48,000	48,000	•	•	45,000	49,000	46,000	•
Difference	8,000	8,000	•	•	6,000	9,000	4,000	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

## RACE AND ETHNICITY

	Education Major Group	Art and Music Education	Early Childhood Education	Educational Administration and Supervision	Elementary Education	General Education	Language and Drama Education	Library Science
<b>RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>								
% White	82	90	80	85	87	74	87	64
% African-American	7	4	10	3	5	9	4	13
% Hispanic	7	4	6	6	5	11	7	10
% Asian	3	2	2	5	3	6	2	13
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	<0.5	1	1	1	1	<0.5	<0.5

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

Mathematics Teacher Education	Miscellaneous Education	Physical & Health Education Teaching	School Student Counseling	Science & Computer Teacher Education	Secondary Teacher Education	Social Science or History Teacher Education	Special Needs Education	Teacher Education: Multiple Levels
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>								
63	57	49	94	58	57	48	88	74
37	43	51	6	42	43	<b>52</b>	12	26
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>								
40,000	<b>44,000</b>	<b>44,000</b>	•	39,000	43,000	40,000	42,000	40,000
46,000	<b>60,000</b>	50,000	•	50,000	50,000	44,000	48,000	45,000
6,000	<b>16,000</b>	6,000	•	11,000	7,000	4,000	6,000	5,000

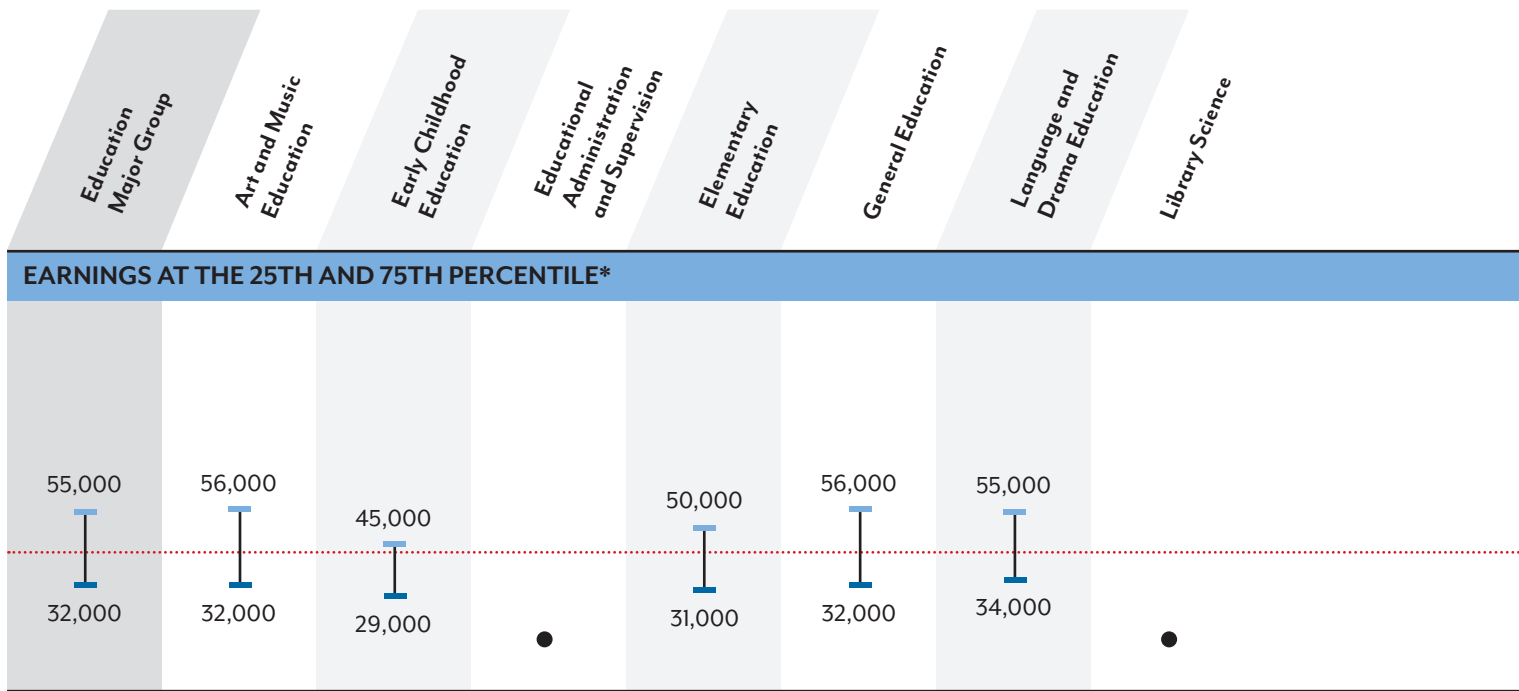
\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

Mathematics Teacher Education	Miscellaneous Education	Physical & Health Education Teaching	School Student Counseling	Science & Computer Teacher Education	Secondary Teacher Education	Social Science or History Teacher Education	Special Needs Education	Teacher Education: Multiple Levels
<b>RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>								
86	82	84	56	87	85	88	85	88
5	10	7	<b>38</b>	6	6	6	8	4
6	5	5	<0.5	3	5	4	5	4
2	2	3	6	4	3	2	1	2
<0.5	<0.5	<b>1</b>	<0.5	<0.5	<b>1</b>	<0.5	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

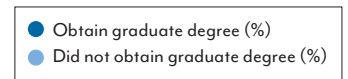
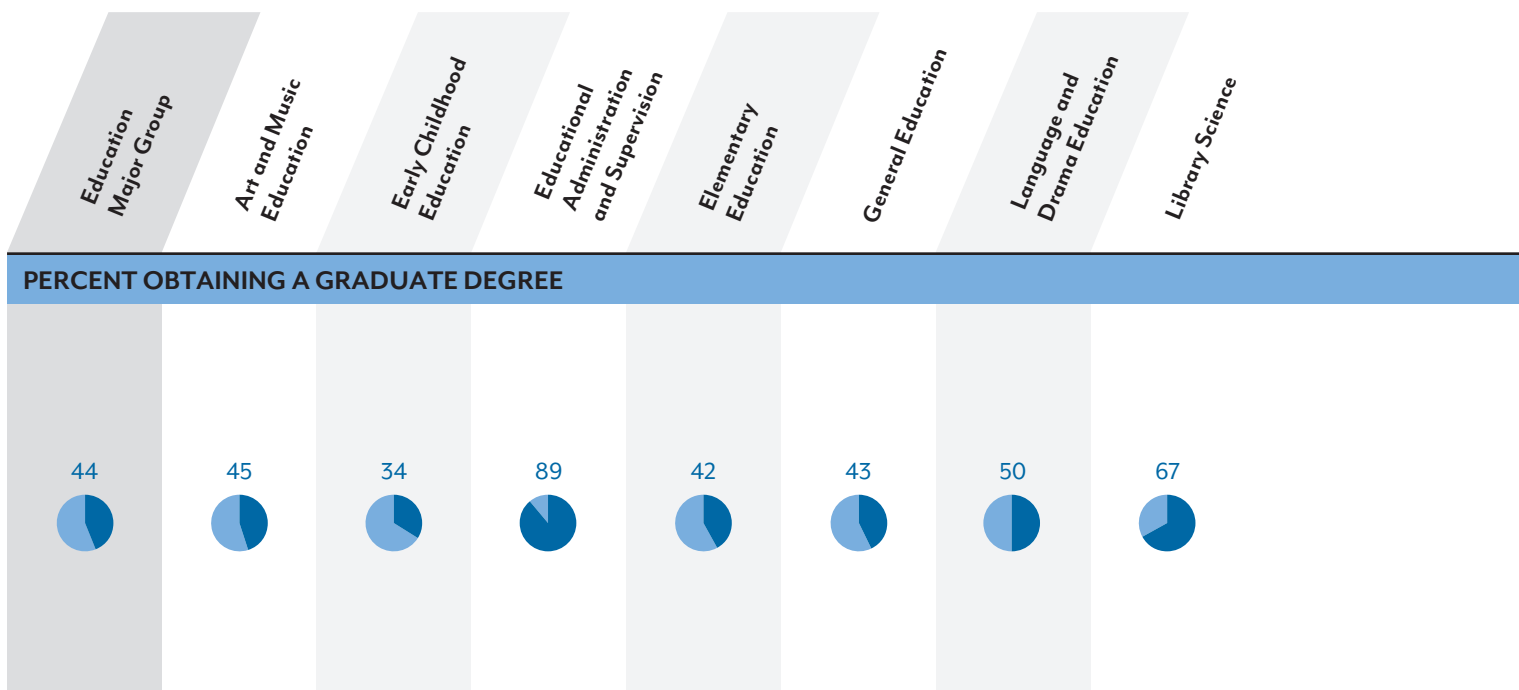
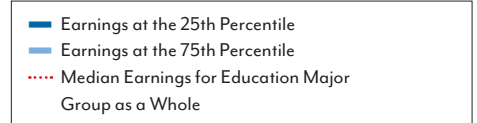
<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

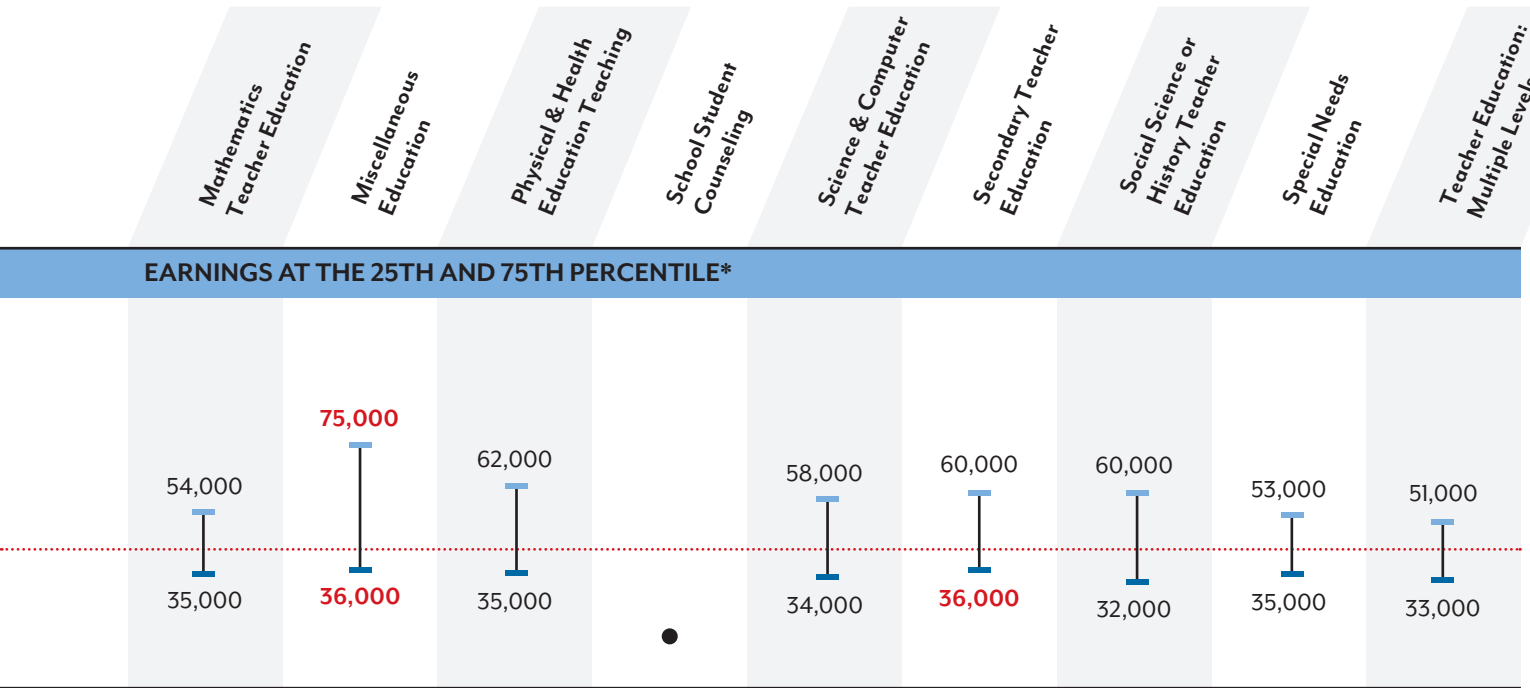




\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

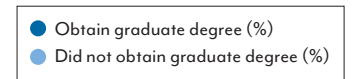
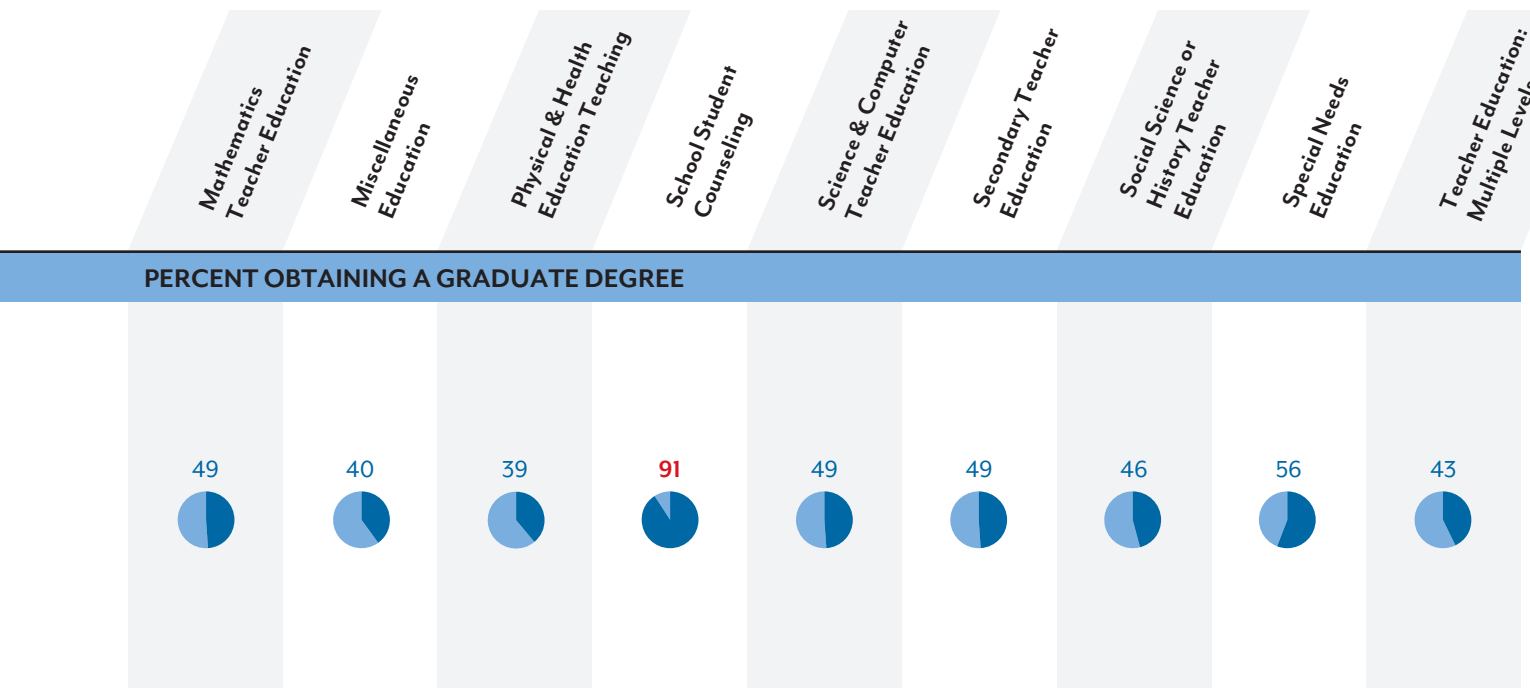
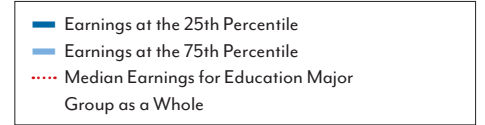
• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.





\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**WHERE EDUCATION MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	<b>1st Occupation (%)</b>	<b>2nd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>3rd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>4th Occupation (%)</b>	<b>5th Occupation (%)</b>
<b>Education Major Group</b>	EDU (54)	MGMT (9)	OFF (9)	SALES (6)	BUS (3)
<b>Art and Music Education</b>	EDU (54)	SALES (8)	MGMT (8)	OFF (7)	COMM (4)
<b>Early Childhood Education</b>	EDU (65)	MGMT (9)	OFF (7)	SALES (4)	COMM (3)
<b>Educational Administration and Supervision</b>	EDU (28)	BUS (26)	MGMT (20)	COMM (8)	COMP (6)
<b>Elementary Education</b>	EDU (66)	OFF (9)	MGMT (6)	SALES (4)	BUS (2)
<b>General Education</b>	EDU (50)	MGMT (10)	OFF (9)	SALES (7)	BUS (3)
<b>Language and Drama Education</b>	EDU (52)	OFF (12)	SALES (8)	MGMT (7)	ARTS (3)
<b>Library Science</b>	EDU (25)	OFF (18)	BLDG (14)	LGL (9)	COMP (7)
<b>Mathematics Teacher Education</b>	EDU (57)	OFF (9)	COMP (7)	MGMT (7)	FIN (5)
<b>Miscellaneous Education</b>	EDU (25)	MGMT (18)	OFF (12)	SALES (11)	BUS (5)
<b>Physical and Health Education Teaching</b>	EDU (34)	MGMT (11)	SALES (11)	OFF (9)	HLTH PROF (4)
<b>School Student Counseling</b>	COMM (43)	HLTH PROF (21)	OFF (19)	MGMT (17)	
<b>Science and Computer Teacher Education</b>	EDU (50)	MGMT (12)	OFF (9)	BUS (3)	COMP (3)
<b>Secondary Teacher Education</b>	EDU (45)	MGMT (12)	OFF (9)	SALES (8)	HLTH PROF (3)
<b>Social Science or History Teacher Education</b>	EDU (38)	MGMT (13)	OFF (10)	SALES (8)	BUS (4)
<b>Special Needs Education</b>	EDU (71)	MGMT (8)	OFF (5)	SALES (3)	COMM (2)
<b>Teacher Education: Multiple Levels</b>	EDU (65)	MGMT (7)	OFF (6)	SALES (6)	PROD (4)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Occupation Abbreviations:</b>	
Architecture = ARCH	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Arts = ARTS	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Blue Collar = BC	Installation = INST
Building = BLDG	Legal = LGL
Business = BUS	Life Science = LS
Community Service = COMM	Management = MGMT
Computer Services = COMP	Office = OFF
Construction = CON	Personal Service = PERS
Education = EDU	Production = PROD
Engineering = ENGR	Protective Services = PROT
Finance = FIN	Sales = SALES
Food Service = FOOD	Social Science = SS
	Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE EDUCATION MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	<b>1st Industry (%)</b>	<b>2nd Industry (%)</b>	<b>3rd Industry (%)</b>	<b>4th Industry (%)</b>	<b>5th Industry (%)</b>
<b>Education Major Group</b>	EDU (55)	HS (9)	RETL (5)	FIN (5)	PUB (4)
<b>Art and Music Education</b>	EDU (53)	RETL (7)	HS (7)	FIN (4)	OS (4)
<b>Early Childhood Education</b>	EDU (56)	HS (23)	RETL (3)	FIN (3)	PROF (2)
<b>Educational Administration and Supervision</b>	EDU (60)	RETL (13)	OS (8)	ARTS (6)	PUB (6)
<b>Elementary Education</b>	EDU (66)	HS (8)	FIN (4)	RETL (3)	PUB (3)
<b>General Education</b>	EDU (52)	HS (8)	RETL (6)	PUB (5)	FIN (4)
<b>Language and Drama Education</b>	EDU (54)	FIN (6)	HS (6)	PROF (5)	RETL (4)
<b>Library Science</b>	EDU (23)	HS (13)	OS (12)	INFO (11)	MNG (9)
<b>Mathematics Teacher Education</b>	EDU (57)	FIN (7)	PROF (6)	PUB (5)	MAN-nd (3)
<b>Miscellaneous Education</b>	EDU (29)	PUB (10)	RETL (8)	HS (7)	MAN-d (6)
<b>Physical and Health Education Teaching</b>	EDU (39)	HS (10)	PUB (7)	RETL (6)	FIN (6)
<b>School Student Counseling</b>	HS (45)	PUB (15)	UTIL (13)	EDU (12)	FIN (8)
<b>Science and Computer Teacher Education</b>	EDU (52)	HS (7)	RETL (4)	PROF (4)	PUB (4)
<b>Secondary Teacher Education</b>	EDU (47)	HS (8)	PUB (7)	MAN-d (4)	FIN (4)
<b>Social Science or History Teacher Education</b>	EDU (42)	HS (10)	RETL (7)	PUB (7)	FIN (6)
<b>Special Needs Education</b>	EDU (70)	HS (11)	PUB (4)	RETL (3)	FIN (3)
<b>Teacher Education: Multiple Levels</b>	EDU (62)	HS (5)	MAN-nd (4)	RETL (4)	FIN (4)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<p><b>Industry Abbreviations:</b>                  Administrative Services = ADMN                  Agriculture = AG                  Arts = ARTS                  Construction = CON                  Education Services = EDU                  Financial Services = FIN                  Food Service = FS                  Health Services = HS                  Information = INFO                  Management Services = MGMT                  Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d                  Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd</p>	<p>Mining = MNG                  Other Service = OS                  Professional Services = PROF                  Public Administration = PUB                  Real Estate = RE                  Retail Trade = RETL                  Sales = SALES                  Social Science = SS                  Transportation = TRAN                  Utilities = UTIL                  Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d                  Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd</p>
--	---

# Engineering

This group includes the following majors:

- Aerospace Engineering
- Architectural Engineering
- Architecture
- Biological Engineering
- Biomedical Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Electrical Engineering Technology
- Engineering and Industrial Management
- Engineering Mechanics Physics and Science
- Engineering Technologies
- Environmental Engineering
- General Engineering
- Geological and Geophysical Engineering
- Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering
- Industrial Production Technologies
- Materials Engineering and Materials Science
- Mechanical Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering Related Technologies
- Metallurgical Engineering
- Miscellaneous Engineering
- Miscellaneous Engineering Technologies
- Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering
- Nuclear Engineering
- Petroleum Engineering

Engineering makes up 8.2 percent of all majors. Median earnings for those with a Bachelor's degree who majored in Engineering are \$75,000.<sup>1</sup> The gender composition is heavily skewed, as 84 percent of engineering majors are men and 16 percent are women. However, women make significantly less than men, earnings \$62,000 (\$17,000 less than median earnings for men). The racial makeup of these majors, on average, is 71 percent White, 14 percent Asian, 5 percent African-American, 9 percent Hispanic, and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Earnings for Asians (\$72,000), African-Americans (\$60,000), Hispanics (\$56,000), and Other Races (\$57,000) are significantly less than the \$80,000 median earnings of Whites.

Earnings in Engineering can vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$53,000 and the 75th percentile earning \$102,000 (a difference of \$49,000). The major with the highest median earnings is Petroleum Engineering and the major with the lowest median earnings is Biological Engineering.

About 37 percent of people with these majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 32 percent.

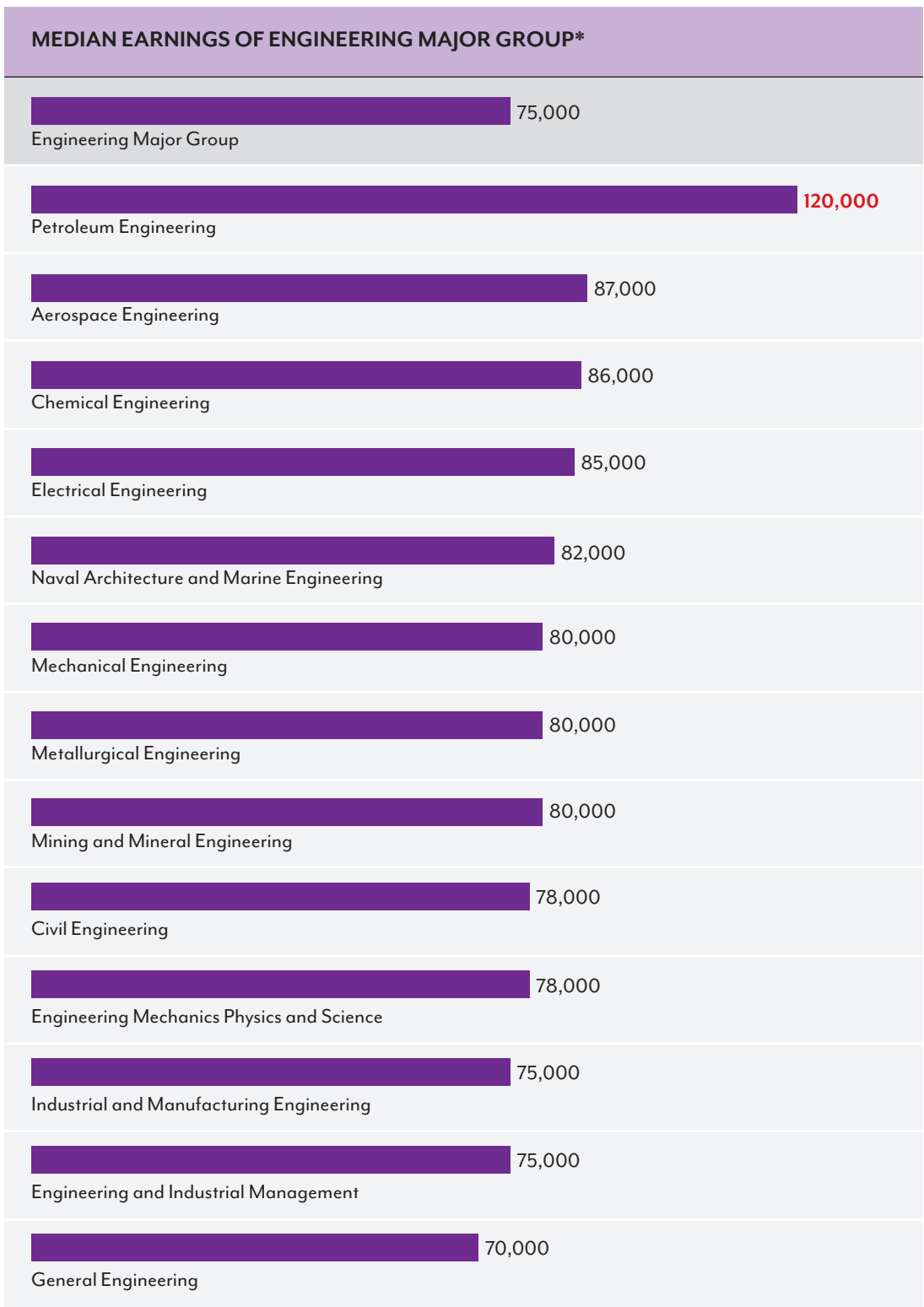
Of people who majored in Engineering, 32 percent work in Engineering, 22 percent in Management, 9 percent in Computers, 7 percent in Sales, and 4 percent in Architecture occupations. By industry, 32 percent work in Manufacturing, 22 percent in Professional and Business Services, 9 percent in Construction, and 6 percent in Public Administration.

Of Engineering majors who are in the labor force and employed, 93 percent work full-time. About 6 percent are unemployed.

***Median earnings for those with a Bachelor's degree who majored in Engineering are \$75,000.***

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

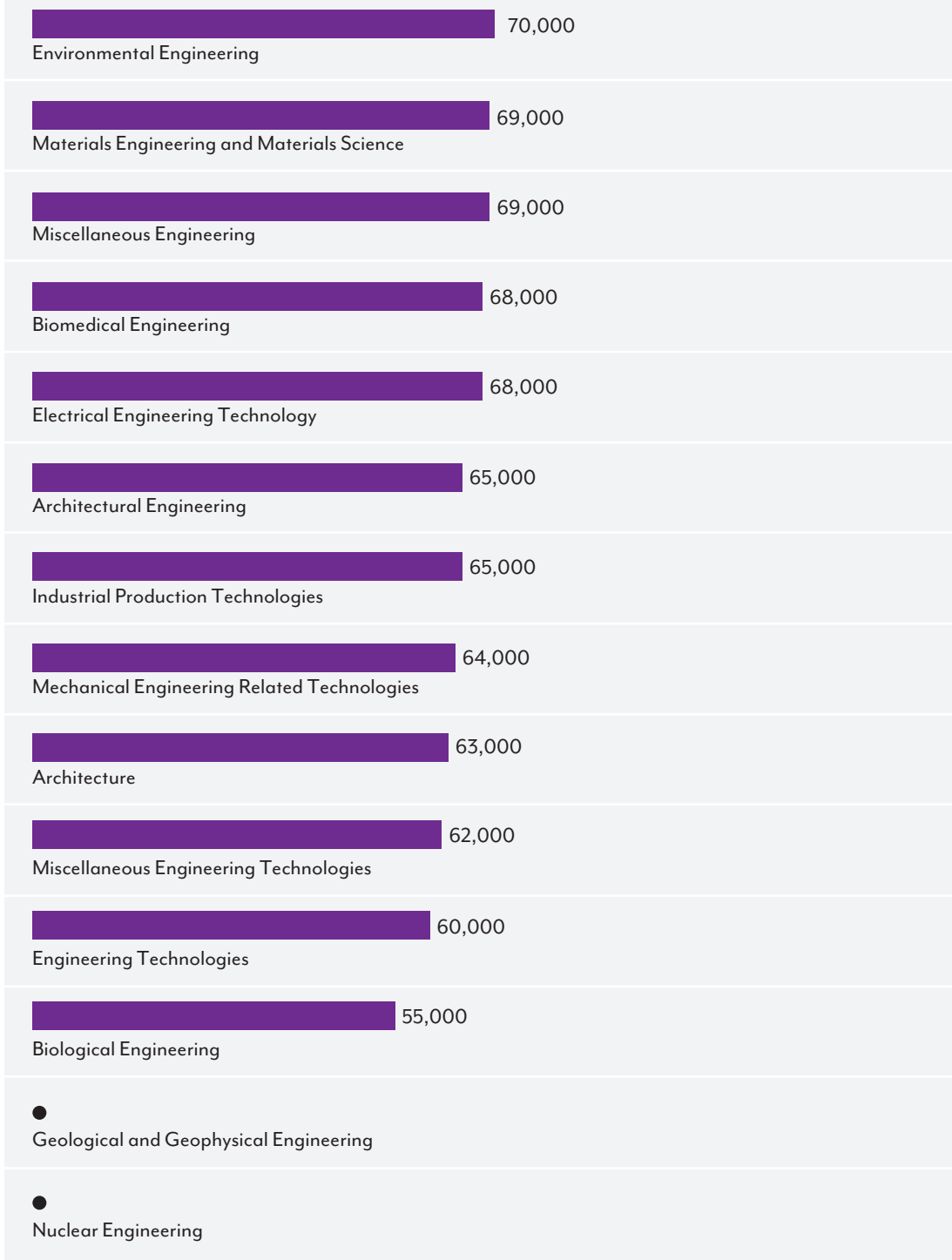
<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

**MEDIAN EARNINGS OF ENGINEERING MAJOR GROUP\* (Continued)**



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

● Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**ALL**

Engineering Major Group

Aerospace Engineering

Architectural Engineering

Architecture

Biological Engineering

Biomedical Engineering

Chemical Engineering

Civil Engineering

Electrical Engineering

Electrical Engineering Technology

Engineering and Industrial Management

Engineering Mechanics Physics and Science

**POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup>**

Total Bachelor's	2,786,488	58,041	14,249	264,402	29,054	15,496	153,537	285,331	<b>578,380</b>	78,067	38,164	15,897
% of Major Group	100	2	1	9	1	1	6	10	<b>21</b>	3	1	1

**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR\***

Median earnings	75,000	87,000	65,000	63,000	55,000	68,000	86,000	78,000	85,000	68,000	75,000	78,000
-----------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------

**EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

Earnings at the 25th percentile	53,000	60,000	50,000	45,000	35,000	50,000	60,000	57,000	60,000	48,000	52,000	42,000
Earnings at the 75th percentile	102,000	115,000	83,000	87,000	84,000	100,000	120,000	103,000	110,000	90,000	120,000	110,000
Difference	49,000	55,000	33,000	42,000	49,000	50,000	60,000	46,000	50,000	42,000	68,000	68,000

**PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	63	59	72	68	62	50	55	65	58	80	72	53
Obtain graduate degree (%)	37	41	28	32	38	50	45	35	42	20	28	47

**EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	32	28	•	19	24	48	23	25	30	23	17	40
---------------------------------------	----	----	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

**WORK STATUS\***

Full-time (%)	93	90	88	88	87	89	93	93	93	94	89	96
Part-time (%)	7	10	12	12	<b>13</b>	11	7	7	7	6	11	4

**PERCENT EMPLOYED\*\***

Employed (%)	94	95	94	91	96	89	95	95	94	93	91	95
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

Engineering Technologies	Environmental Engineering	General Engineering	Geological and Geophysical Engineering	Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering	Industrial Production Technologies	Materials Engineering and Materials Science	Mechanical Engineering	Mechanical Engineering Related Technologies	Metallurgical Engineering	Mining and Mineral Engineering	Miscellaneous Engineering	Miscellaneous Engineering Technologies	Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering	Nuclear Engineering	Petroleum Engineering
<b>POPULARITY OF MAJORS†</b>															
29,471	11,843	362,948	5,556	109,930	73,740	24,444	458,432	25,925	9,041	7,085	47,772	58,629	10,931	5,482	14,641
1	<0.5	13	<0.5	4	3	1	16	1	<0.5	<0.5	2	2	<0.5	<0.5	1
<b>MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR*</b>															
60,000	70,000	70,000	•	75,000	65,000	69,000	80,000	64,000	80,000	80,000	69,000	62,000	82,000	•	<b>120,000</b>
<b>EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE*</b>															
44,000	51,000	50,000	•	55,000	48,000	48,000	59,000	47,000	50,000	52,000	45,000	44,000	44,000	•	<b>82,000</b>
88,000	93,000	100,000	•	101,000	90,000	96,000	105,000	90,000	106,000	125,000	91,000	87,000	120,000	•	<b>189,000</b>
44,000	42,000	50,000	•	46,000	42,000	48,000	46,000	43,000	56,000	73,000	46,000	43,000	76,000	•	<b>107,000</b>
<b>PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>															
79	55	68	59	60	81	52	62	80	49	63	67	<b>84</b>	61	36	67
21	45	32	41	40	19	48	38	20	51	37	33	16	39	<b>64</b>	33
<b>EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>															
35	22	41	•	24	32	39	28	•	33	•	<b>56</b>	18	•	•	7
<b>WORK STATUS*</b>															
94	94	94	97	93	94	89	95	91	94	<b>99</b>	94	93	95	96	95
6	6	6	3	7	6	11	5	9	6	1	6	7	5	4	5
<b>PERCENT EMPLOYED**</b>															
96	97	95	<b>100</b>	95	94	92	95	95	99	97	95	94	97	89	97

† The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

### GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS

	Engineering Major Group	Aerospace Engineering	Architectural Engineering	Architecture	Biological Engineering	Biomedical Engineering	Chemical Engineering	Civil Engineering	Electrical Engineering	Electrical Engineering Technology	Engineering and Industrial Management	Engineering Mechanics Physics and Science
Percent Female	16	12	19	31	26	45	28	16	11	10	17	17
Percent Male	84	88	81	69	74	55	72	84	89	90	83	83

### EARNINGS BY GENDER\*

	Engineering Major Group	Aerospace Engineering	Architectural Engineering	Architecture	Biological Engineering	Biomedical Engineering	Chemical Engineering	Civil Engineering	Electrical Engineering	Electrical Engineering Technology	Engineering and Industrial Management	Engineering Mechanics Physics and Science
Female Median Earnings	62,000	•	•	55,000	•	•	72,000	62,000	70,000	•	•	•
Male Median Earnings	79,000	90,000	70,000	65,000	58,000	79,000	92,000	80,000	86,000	70,000	82,000	73,000
Difference	17,000	•	•	10,000	•	•	20,000	18,000	16,000	•	•	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

## RACE AND ETHNICITY

### RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup>

	Engineering Major Group	Aerospace Engineering	Architectural Engineering	Architecture	Biological Engineering	Biomedical Engineering	Chemical Engineering	Civil Engineering	Electrical Engineering	Electrical Engineering Technology	Engineering and Industrial Management	Engineering Mechanics Physics and Science
% White	71	79	77	75	62	68	71	76	64	62	89	79
% African-American	5	3	7	4	3	<0.5	5	3	6	11	5	5
% Hispanic	9	6	7	11	22	5	8	8	7	6	2	8
% Asian	14	12	8	10	12	26	15	12	22	18	4	7
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	1	<0.5	1	1	2	<0.5	<0.5

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

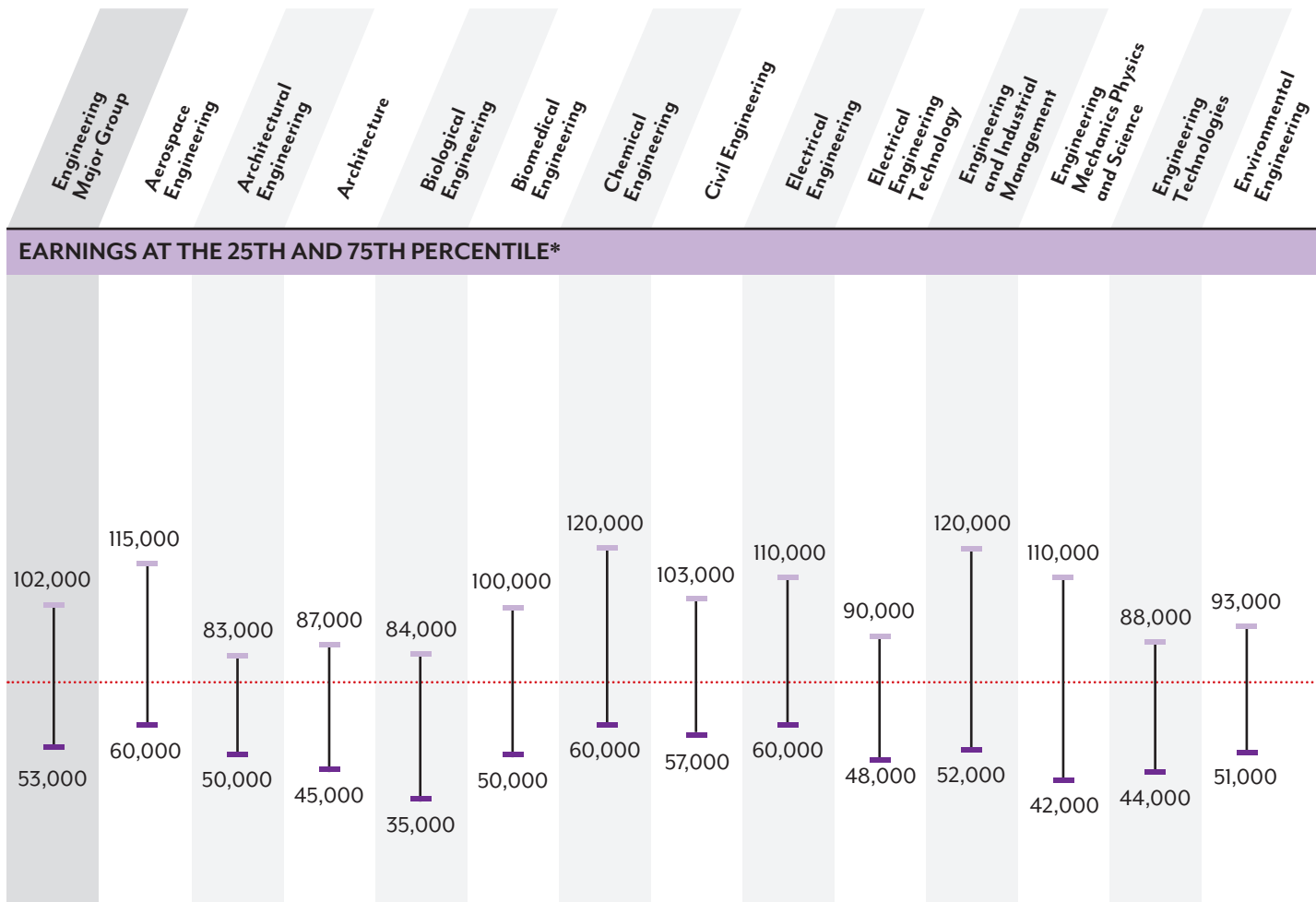
Engineering Technologies	Environmental Engineering	General Engineering	Geological and Geophysical Engineering	Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering	Industrial Production Technologies	Materials Engineering and Materials Science	Mechanical Engineering	Mechanical Engineering Related Technologies	Metallurgical Engineering	Mining and Mineral Engineering	Miscellaneous Engineering	Miscellaneous Engineering Technologies	Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering	Nuclear Engineering	Petroleum Engineering
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>															
13	33	15	27	21	9	29	10	6	17	10	21	20	3	9	13
87	67	85	73	79	91	71	90	94	83	90	79	80	97	91	87
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>															
•	•	60,000	•	67,000	•	•	70,000	•	•	•	55,000	53,000	•	•	•
60,000	80,000	72,000	•	80,000	65,000	74,000	80,000	63,000	80,000	78,000	70,000	65,000	82,000	•	120,000
•	•	12,000	•	13,000	•	•	10,000	•	•	•	15,000	12,000	•	•	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

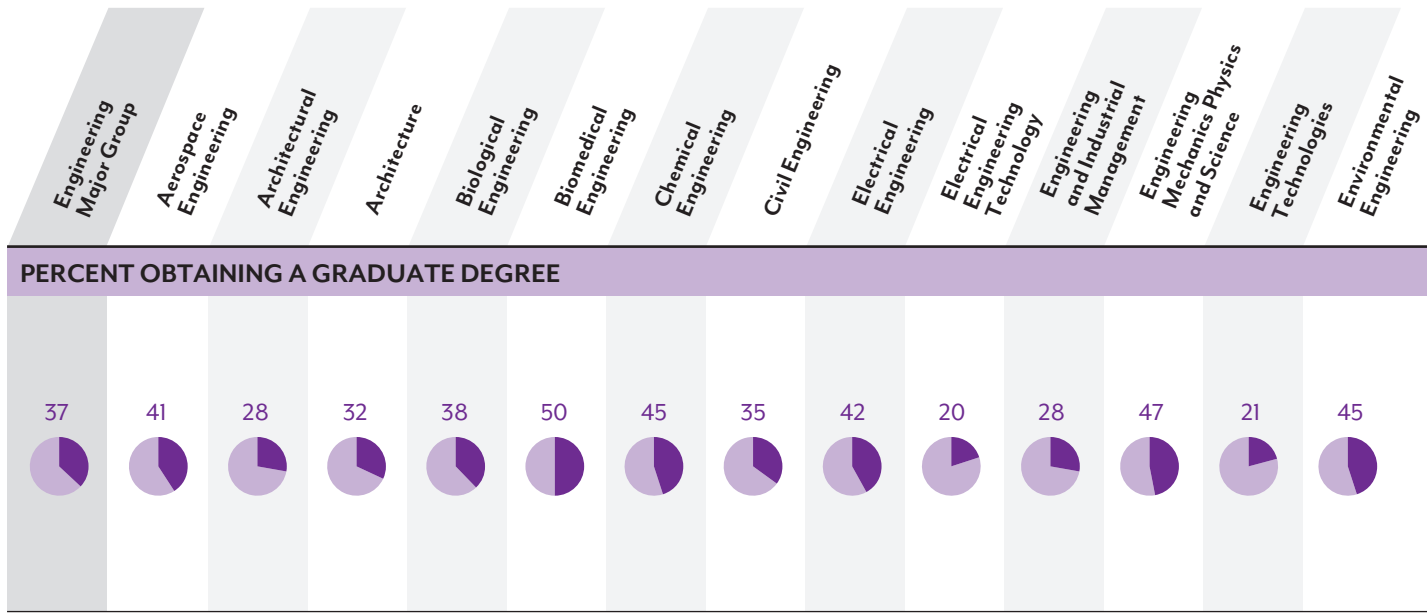
• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

Engineering Technologies	Environmental Engineering	General Engineering	Geological and Geophysical Engineering	Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering	Industrial Production Technologies	Materials Engineering and Materials Science	Mechanical Engineering	Mechanical Engineering Related Technologies	Metallurgical Engineering	Mining and Mineral Engineering	Miscellaneous Engineering	Miscellaneous Engineering Technologies	Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering	Nuclear Engineering	Petroleum Engineering
<b>RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>															
75	85	61	83	70	82	79	76	85	79	88	81	75	81	91	83
11	5	7	2	5	9	3	3	4	2	2	4	12	<0.5	4	1
9	4	13	6	14	5	5	7	6	5	2	7	7	3	4	12
5	6	18	9	9	4	13	13	5	13	8	7	6	16	1	4
<0.5	<0.5	1	<0.5	1	1	<0.5	1	<0.5	1	<0.5	<0.5	1	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5

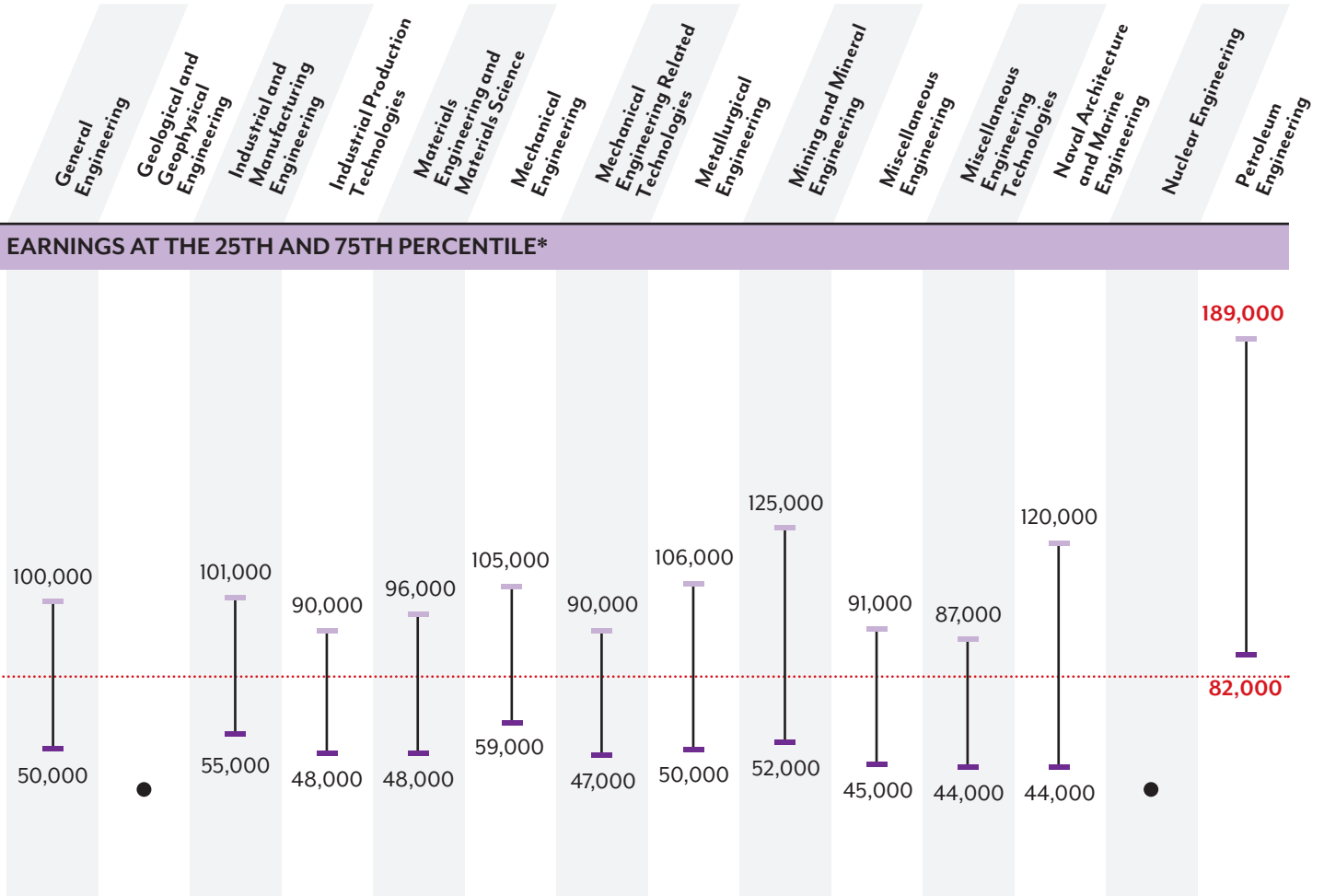
<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



■ Earnings at the 25th Percentile  
■ Earnings at the 75th Percentile  
⋯ Median Earnings for Engineering Major Group as a Whole

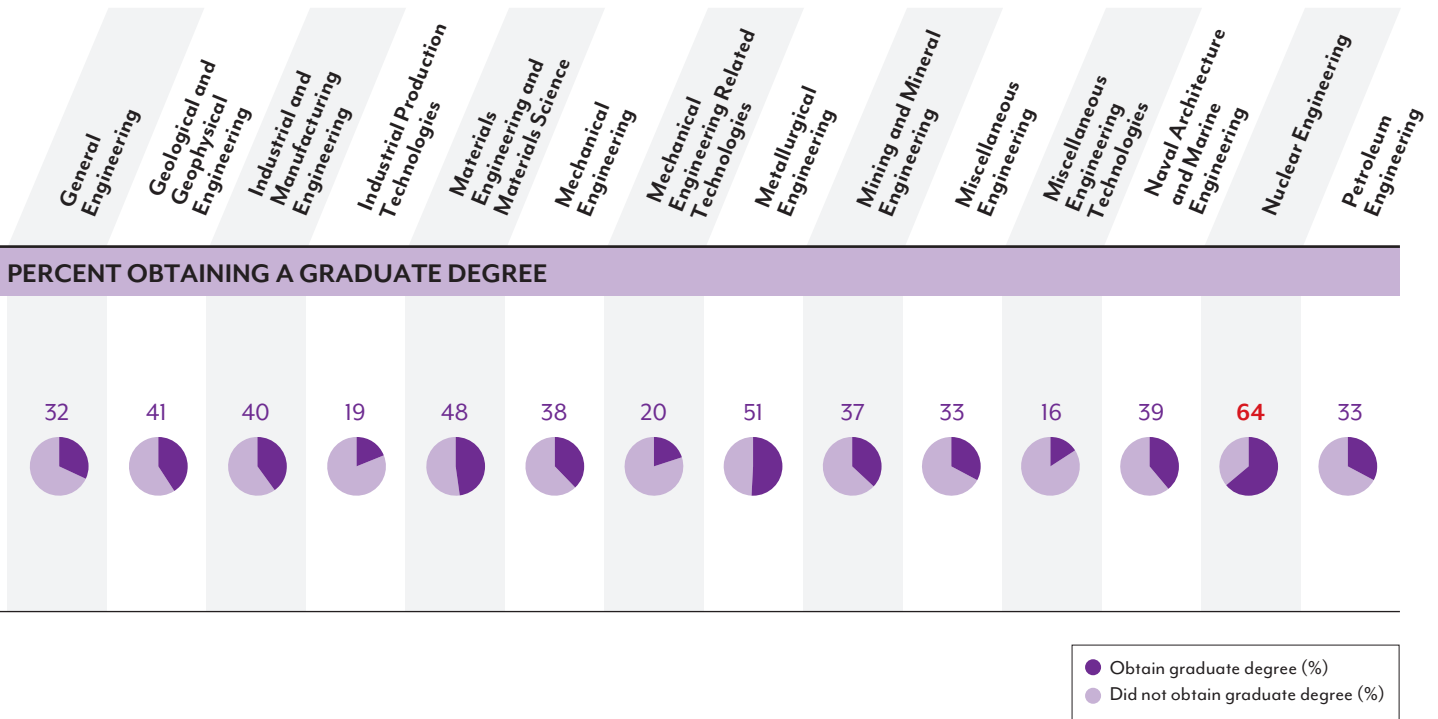


● Obtain graduate degree (%)  
● Did not obtain graduate degree (%)



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.  
 • Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

- Earnings at the 25th Percentile
- Earnings at the 75th Percentile
- ⋯ Median Earnings for Engineering Major Group as a Whole



- Obtain graduate degree (%)
- Did not obtain graduate degree (%)

**WHERE ENGINEERING MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	<b>1st Occupation (%)</b>	<b>2nd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>3rd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>4th Occupation (%)</b>	<b>5th Occupation (%)</b>
<b>Engineering Major Group</b>	ENGR (32)	MGMT (22)	COMP (9)	SALES (7)	ARCH (4)
<b>Aerospace Engineering</b>	ENGR (34)	MGMT (16)	TRAN (15)	COMP (10)	SALES (5)
<b>Architectural Engineering</b>	ENGR (39)	MGMT (18)	CON (8)	ARTS (8)	BUS (6)
<b>Architecture</b>	ARCH (36)	MGMT (22)	ARTS (7)	SALES (7)	OFF (4)
<b>Biological Engineering</b>	ENGR (21)	MGMT (19)	OFF (7)	SALES (7)	BLDG (6)
<b>Biomedical Engineering</b>	ENGR (23)	MGMT (20)	SALES (12)	BUS (7)	COMP (7)
<b>Chemical Engineering</b>	ENGR (35)	MGMT (26)	SALES (7)	COMP (6)	PROD (4)
<b>Civil Engineering</b>	ENGR (45)	MGMT (26)	CON (5)	OFF (4)	SALES (4)
<b>Electrical Engineering</b>	ENGR (37)	COMP (18)	MGMT (17)	SALES (6)	INST (3)
<b>Electrical Engineering Technology</b>	ENGR (24)	MGMT (16)	COMP(16)	INST (9)	SALES (8)
<b>Engineering and Industrial Management</b>	MGMT (36)	SALES (17)	ENGR (9)	BUS (7)	COMP (6)
<b>Engineering Mechanics Physics and Science</b>	MGMT (19)	ENGR (19)	COMP (15)	INST (9)	TRAN (8)
<b>Engineering Technologies</b>	MGMT (24)	COMP (17)	ENGR (17)	OFF (5)	PROD (5)
<b>Environmental Engineering</b>	ENGR (48)	MGMT (17)	PROD (9)	SALES (7)	BUS (3)
<b>General Engineering</b>	ENGR (31)	MGMT (18)	COMP (10)	SALES (8)	PROD (5)
<b>Geological and Geophysical Engineering</b>	ENGR (28)	LS (19)	MGMT (18)	COMP (6)	BLDG (4)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Occupation Abbreviations:**

Architecture = ARCH  
 Arts = ARTS  
 Blue Collar = BC  
 Building = BLDG  
 Business = BUS  
 Community Service = COMM  
 Computer Services = COMP  
 Construction = CON  
 Education = EDU  
 Engineering = ENGR  
 Finance = FIN  
 Food Service = FOOD

Health Professionals = HLTH PROF  
 Health Support = HLTH SUP  
 Installation = INST  
 Legal = LGL  
 Life Science = LS  
 Management = MGMT  
 Office = OFF  
 Personal Service = PERS  
 Production = PROD  
 Protective Services = PROT  
 Sales = SALES  
 Social Science = SS  
 Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE ENGINEERING MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\* (Continued)**

	<b>1st Occupation (%)</b>	<b>2nd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>3rd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>4th Occupation (%)</b>	<b>5th Occupation (%)</b>
<b>Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering</b>	MGMT (31)	ENGR (28)	SALES (8)	COMP (6)	BUS (5)
<b>Industrial Production Technologies</b>	MGMT (24)	ENGR (16)	SALES (10)	OFF (8)	PROD (8)
<b>Materials Engineering and Materials Science</b>	MGMT (29)	ENGR (28)	SALES (17)	COMP (6)	PROD (4)
<b>Mechanical Engineering</b>	ENGR (44)	MGMT (24)	SALES (7)	COMP (6)	PROD (4)
<b>Mechanical Engineering Related Technologies</b>	ENGR (29)	MGMT (21)	SALES (11)	INST (8)	PROD (7)
<b>Metallurgical Engineering</b>	ENGR (32)	MGMT (29)	SALES (11)	COMP (8)	OFF (5)
<b>Mining and Mineral Engineering</b>	MGMT (31)	ENGR (28)	HLTH PROF (7)	OFF (7)	SALES (6)
<b>Miscellaneous Engineering</b>	MGMT (28)	ENGR (23)	CON (8)	OFF (7)	SALES (6)
<b>Miscellaneous Engineering Technologies</b>	MGMT (27)	COMP (14)	ENGR (11)	SALES (8)	OFF (6)
<b>Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering</b>	ENGR (31)	MGMT (22)	INST (12)	OFF (9)	SALES (7)
<b>Nuclear Engineering</b>	ENGR (42)	MGMT (22)	BUS (8)	COMP (7)	HLTH PROF (7)
<b>Petroleum Engineering</b>	ENGR (45)	MGMT (32)	SALES (6)	OFF (5)	CON (4)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Occupation Abbreviations:**

Architecture = ARCH  
 Arts = ARTS  
 Blue Collar = BC  
 Building = BLDG  
 Business = BUS  
 Community Service = COMM  
 Computer Services = COMP  
 Construction = CON  
 Education = EDU  
 Engineering = ENGR  
 Finance = FIN  
 Food Service = FOOD

Health Professionals = HLTH PROF  
 Health Support = HLTH SUP  
 Installation = INST  
 Legal = LGL  
 Life Science = LS  
 Management = MGMT  
 Office = OFF  
 Personal Service = PERS  
 Production = PROD  
 Protective Services = PROT  
 Sales = SALES  
 Social Science = SS  
 Transportation = TRAN



**WHERE ENGINEERING MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	<b>1st Industry (%)</b>	<b>2nd Industry (%)</b>	<b>3rd Industry (%)</b>	<b>4th Industry (%)</b>	<b>5th Industry (%)</b>
<b>Engineering Major Group</b>	MAN-d (25)	PROF (22)	CON (9)	MAN-nd (7)	PUB (6)
<b>Aerospace Engineering</b>	MAN-d (33)	TRAN (18)	PROF (17)	PUB (9)	RETL (4)
<b>Architectural Engineering</b>	PROF (38)	CON (23)	MAN-d (10)	FS (5)	PUB (5)
<b>Architecture</b>	PROF (47)	CON (11)	PUB (7)	MAN-d (4)	RETL (4)
<b>Biological Engineering</b>	MAN-d (16)	CON (11)	PROF (10)	MAN-nd (9)	PUB (9)
<b>Biomedical Engineering</b>	PROF (28)	MAN-d (19)	HS (16)	EDU (8)	INFO (7)
<b>Chemical Engineering</b>	MAN-nd (34)	PROF (15)	MAN-d (14)	PUB (6)	FIN (4)
<b>Civil Engineering</b>	PROF (34)	CON (27)	PUB (11)	MAN-d (6)	UTIL (4)
<b>Electrical Engineering</b>	MAN-d (33)	PROF (21)	INFO (6)	UTIL (5)	PUB (5)
<b>Electrical Engineering Technology</b>	MAN-d (30)	PROF (13)	TRAN (7)	RETL (6)	INFO (6)
<b>Engineering and Industrial Management</b>	MAN-d (27)	RETL (10)	PROF (9)	MAN-nd (7)	CON (6)
<b>Engineering Mechanics Physics and Science</b>	MAN-d (21)	PROF (13)	PUB (8)	FIN (7)	ADMN (7)
<b>Engineering Technologies</b>	MAN-d (18)	PROF (15)	PUB (13)	CON (11)	MAN-nd (7)
<b>Environmental Engineering</b>	PROF (45)	MAN-d (14)	MAN-nd (10)	PUB (9)	UTIL (5)
<b>General Engineering</b>	MAN-d (24)	PROF (21)	CON (9)	MAN-nd (5)	RETL (5)
<b>Geological and Geophysical Engineering</b>	PROF (24%)	Mining (22)	FIN (11)	PUB (10)	EDU (9)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Industry Abbreviations:**

Administrative Services = ADMN  
 Agriculture = AG  
 Arts = ARTS  
 Construction = CON  
 Education Services = EDU  
 Financial Services = FIN  
 Food Service = FS  
 Health Services = HS  
 Information = INFO  
 Management Services = MGMT  
 Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d  
 Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd

Mining = MNG  
 Other Service = OS  
 Professional Services = PROF  
 Public Administration = PUB  
 Real Estate = RE  
 Retail Trade = RETL  
 Sales = SALES  
 Social Science = SS  
 Transportation = TRAN  
 Utilities = UTIL  
 Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d  
 Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd

**WHERE ENGINEERING MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	<b>1st Industry (%)</b>	<b>2nd Industry (%)</b>	<b>3rd Industry (%)</b>	<b>4th Industry (%)</b>	<b>5th Industry (%)</b>
<b>Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering</b>	MAN-d (36)	PROF (11)	MAN-nd (10)	FIN (6)	CON (5)
<b>Industrial Production Technologies</b>	MAN-d (32)	MAN-nd (10)	PROF (9)	RETL (6)	CON (5)
<b>Materials Engineering and Materials Science</b>	MAN-d (41)	MAN-nd (16)	PROF (8)	RETL (7)	FIN (5)
<b>Mechanical Engineering</b>	MAN-d (40)	PROF (18)	MAN-nd (7)	UTIL (5)	CON (5)
<b>Mechanical Engineering Related Technologies</b>	MAN-d (33)	PROF (13)	TRAN (10)	RETL (8)	CON (6)
<b>Metallurgical Engineering</b>	MAN-d (46)	PROF (13)	WHLS-nd (11)	MAN-nd (4)	RE (4)
<b>MNG and Mineral Engineering</b>	MNG (27)	PROF (22)	PUB (12)	MAN-nd (7)	HS (7)
<b>Miscellaneous Engineering</b>	CON (30)	MAN-d (14)	MAN-nd (11)	PROF (9)	PUB (5)
<b>Miscellaneous Engineering Technologies</b>	PROF (16)	MAN-d (14)	CON (13)	MAN-nd (8)	FIN (8)
<b>Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering</b>	PROF (23)	MAN-d (14)	TRAN (13)	UTIL (10)	CON (5)
<b>Nuclear Engineering</b>	UTIL (46)	PROF (16)	MAN-d (15)	PUB (9)	HS (6)
<b>Petroleum Engineering</b>	MNG (44)	MAN-nd (12)	PROF (10)	WHLS-d (8)	RE (5)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<p><b>Industry Abbreviations:</b>                  Administrative Services = ADMN                  Agriculture = AG                  Arts = ARTS                  Construction = CON                  Education Services = EDU                  Financial Services = FIN                  Food Service = FS                  Health Services = HS                  Information = INFO                  Management Services = MGMT                  Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d                  Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd</p>	<p>Mining = MNG                  Other Service = OS                  Professional Services = PROF                  Public Administration = PUB                  Real Estate = RE                  Retail Trade = RETL                  Sales = SALES                  Social Science = SS                  Transportation = TRAN                  Utilities = UTIL                  Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d                  Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd</p>
--	---

# Health

**This group includes the following majors:**

- **Community and Public Health**
- **General Medical and Health Services**
- **Health and Medical Administrative Services**
- **Health and Medical Preparatory Programs**
- **Medical Assisting Services**
- **Medical Technologies Technicians**
- **Miscellaneous Health Medical Professions**
- **Nursing**
- **Nutrition Sciences**
- **Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration**
- **Treatment Therapy Professions**

Health accounts for 6.9 percent of all majors. Median earnings for those with only a Bachelor's degree who majored in Health are \$60,000.<sup>1</sup> There is a significant gender imbalance in this major group (85 percent of people with these majors are women, 15 percent are men). However, women with these majors make about \$60,000, which is \$10,000 less than men. The racial makeup of these majors, on average, is 73 percent White, 13 percent Asian, 9 percent African-American, 5 percent Hispanic, and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Earnings for Whites (\$60,000), African-Americans (\$55,000), Hispanics (\$52,000), and Other Races (\$60,000) fall well below the \$70,000 in median wages earned by Asians.

The lowest-earning of these majors is Health and Medical Preparatory Programs, while the highest-earning is Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration. Earnings in Health as a whole vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$45,000 and the 75th percentile earning of \$80,000 — a difference of \$35,000.

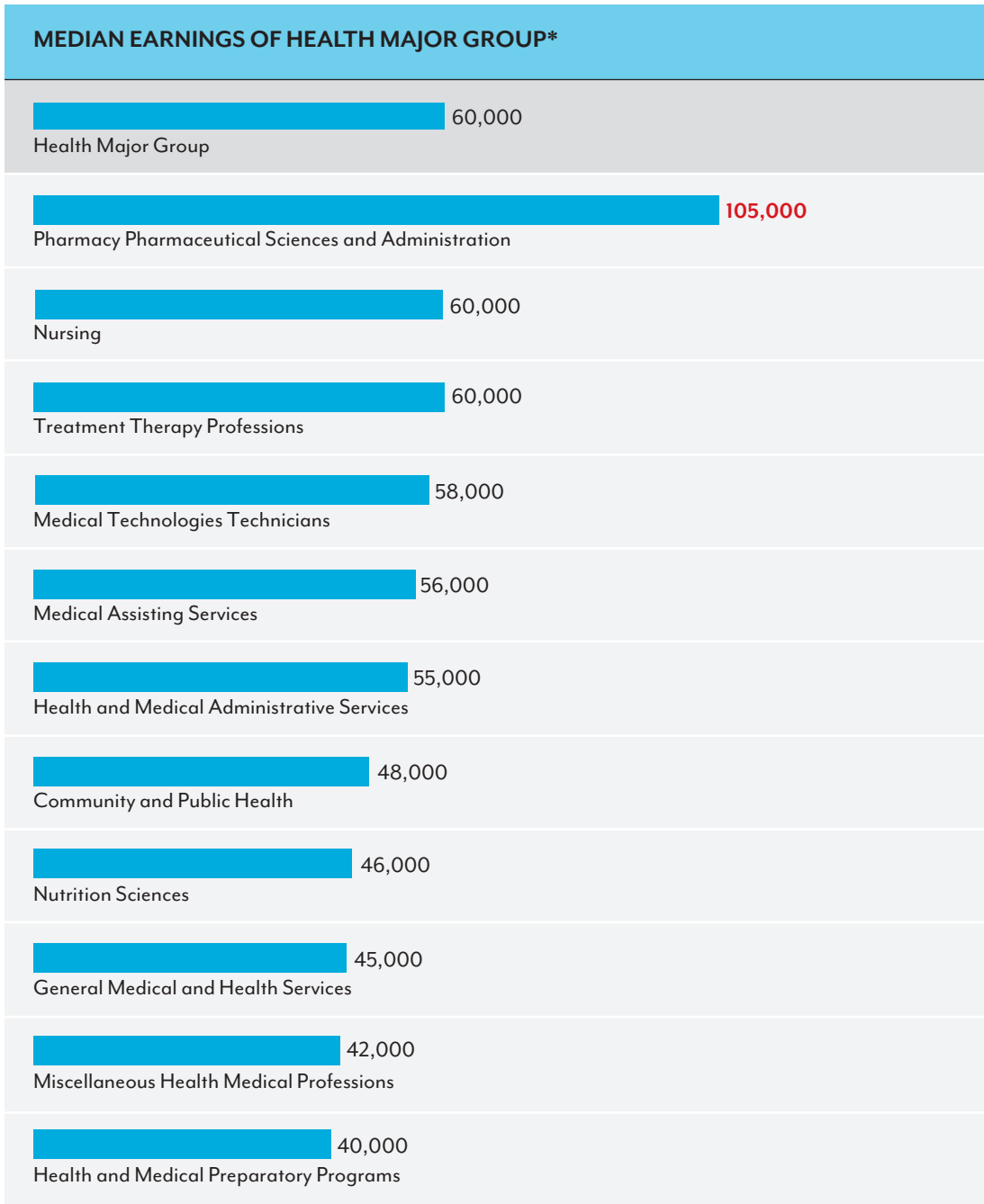
About 31 percent of people with these majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 50 percent.

Of people who majored in Health, 69 percent work in Health Practice, 8 percent in Managerial, and 4 percent in Office occupations. By industry, 72 percent work in Health Services, 6 percent in Retail, and 4 percent in Education Services.

Of Health majors who are in the labor force and employed, 77 percent work full-time. About 2 percent are unemployed.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**ALL**

Health Major Group  
 Community and Public Health  
 General Medical and Health Services  
 Health and Medical Administrative Services  
 Health and Medical Preparatory Programs  
 Medical Assisting Services  
 Medical Technologies Technicians  
 Miscellaneous Health Medical Professions  
 Nursing  
 Nutrition Sciences  
 Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration  
 Treatment Therapy Professions

**POPULARITY OF MAJORS†**

Total Bachelor's	2,320,732	44,552	92,271	81,759	18,844	54,919	144,531	59,842	<b>1,396,379</b>	66,457	133,981	227,197
% of Major Group	100	2	4	4	1	2	6	3	<b>60</b>	3	6	10

**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR\***

Median earnings	60,000	48,000	45,000	55,000	40,000	56,000	58,000	42,000	60,000	46,000	<b>105,000</b>	60,000
-----------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	----------------	--------

**EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

Earnings at the 25th percentile	45,000	35,000	32,000	39,000	24,000	40,000	44,000	28,000	48,000	35,000	<b>83,000</b>	40,000
Earnings at the 75th percentile	80,000	71,000	67,000	77,000	71,000	78,000	72,000	57,000	80,000	67,000	<b>120,000</b>	80,000
Difference	35,000	36,000	35,000	38,000	<b>47,000</b>	38,000	28,000	29,000	32,000	32,000	37,000	40,000

**PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	69	60	63	68	21	<b>78</b>	73	60	76	63	52	64
Obtain graduate degree (%)	31	40	37	32	<b>79</b>	22	27	40	24	37	48	36

**EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	50	58	76	40	<b>190</b>	66	46	57	43	42	13	20
---------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

**WORK STATUS\***

Full-time (%)	77	78	76	<b>88</b>	70	52	81	76	77	74	81	71
Part-time (%)	23	22	24	12	30	<b>48</b>	19	24	23	26	19	29

**PERCENT EMPLOYED\*\***

Employed (%)	98	94	95	97	95	<b>99</b>	97	96	98	97	98	<b>99</b>
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	-----------	----	----	----	----	----	-----------

† The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

	Health Major Group	Community and Public Health	General Medical and Health Services	Health and Medical Administrative Services	Health and Medical Preparatory Programs	Medical Assisting Services	Medical Technologies Technicians	Miscellaneous Health Medical Professions	Nursing	Nutrition Sciences	Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration	Treatment Therapy Professions
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>												
Percent Female	85	70	76	77	55	<b>96</b>	79	85	92	89	52	77
Percent Male	15	30	24	23	45	4	21	15	8	11	<b>48</b>	23
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>												
Female Median Earnings	60,000	42,000	45,000	51,000	•	55,000	55,000	41,000	60,000	45,000	<b>100,000</b>	58,000
Male Median Earnings	70,000	60,000	46,000	62,000	•	•	65,000	48,000	68,000	•	<b>110,000</b>	65,000
Difference	10,000	<b>18,000</b>	1,000	11,000	•	•	10,000	7,000	8,000	•	10,000	7,000

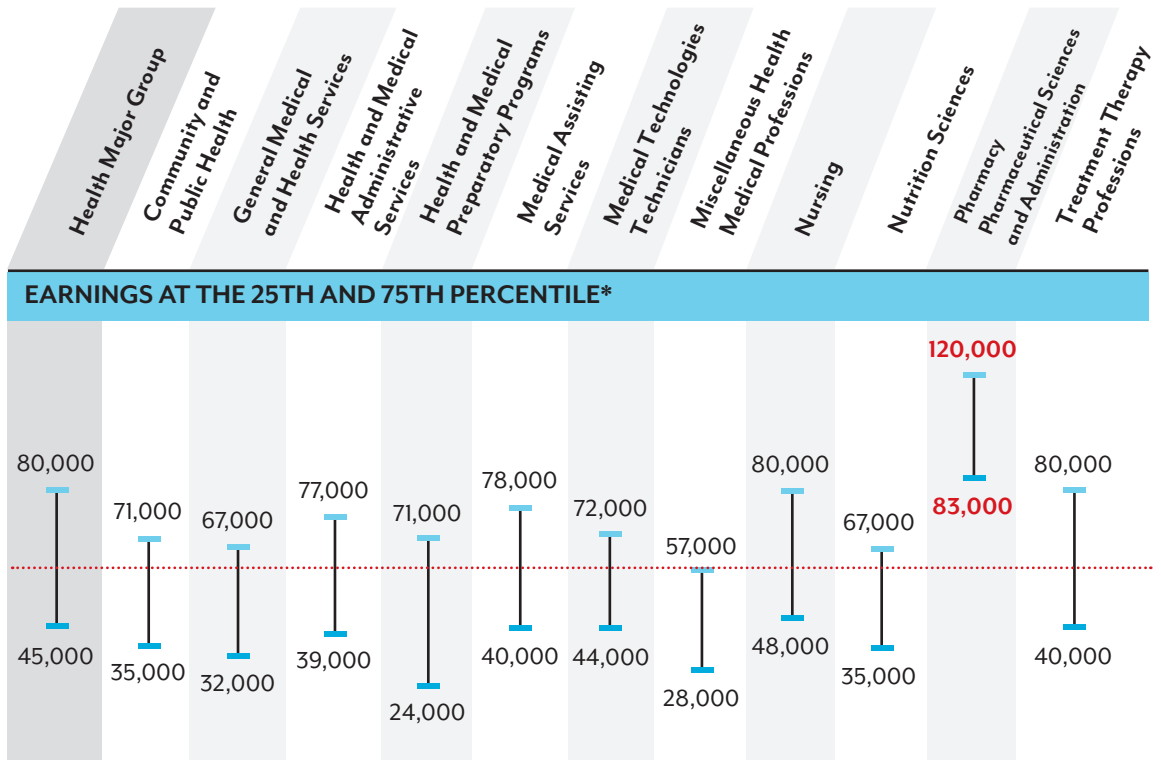
\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

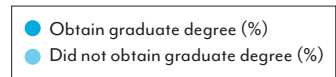
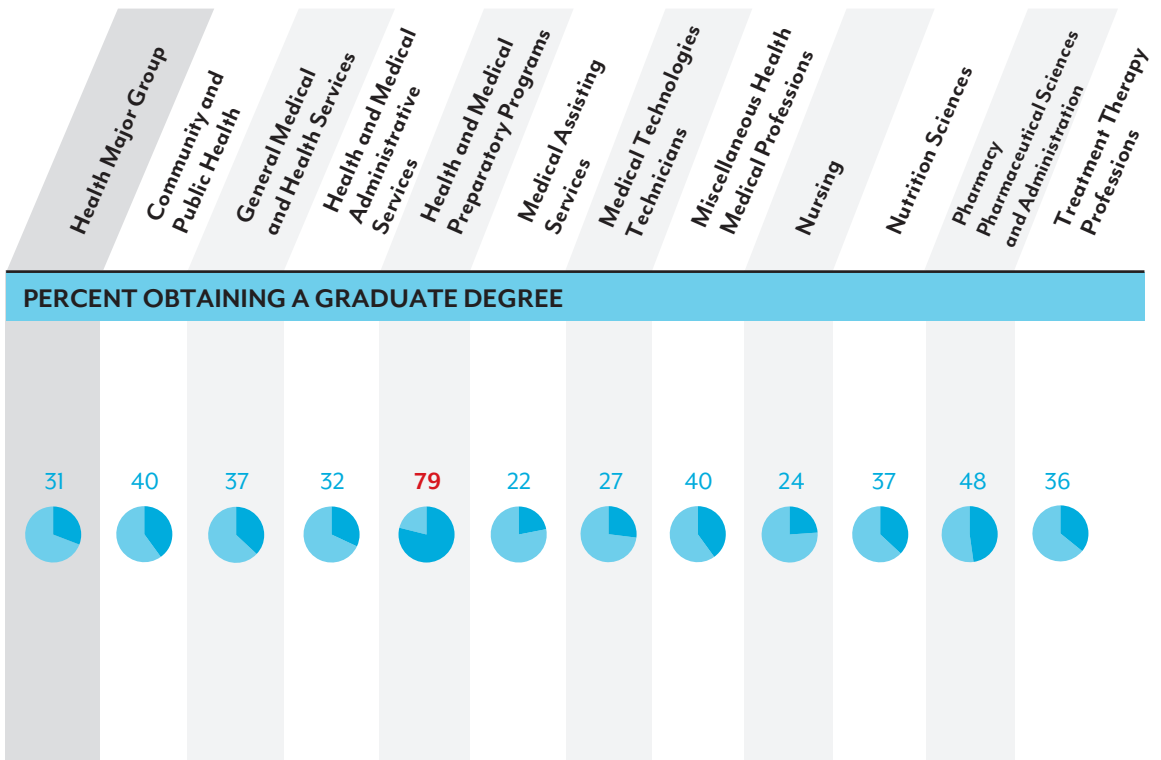
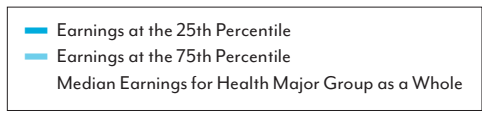
## RACE AND ETHNICITY

	Health Major Group	Community and Public Health	General Medical and Health Services	Health and Medical Administrative Services	Health and Medical Preparatory Programs	Medical Assisting Services	Medical Technologies Technicians	Miscellaneous Health Medical Professions	Nursing	Nutrition Sciences	Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration	Treatment Therapy Professions
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>												
% White	73	73	71	71	65	<b>83</b>	72	77	73	72	71	80
% African- American	9	14	15	<b>18</b>	12	5	6	10	9	5	5	6
% Hispanic	5	4	7	6	<b>8</b>	5	4	7	5	7	4	5
% Asian	13	7	6	5	13	8	16	6	13	16	<b>20</b>	9
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	1	1	1	<b>2</b>	<0.5	1	<0.5	1	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.



**WHERE HEALTH MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>
	<b>Occupation (%)</b>	<b>Occupation (%)</b>	<b>Occupation (%)</b>	<b>Occupation (%)</b>	<b>Occupation (%)</b>
<b>Health Major Group</b>	HLTH PROF (69)	MGMT (8)	OFF (4)	SALES (3)	HLTH SUP (3)
<b>Community and Public Health</b>	MGMT (20)	HLTH PROF (16)	OFF (12)	SALES (9)	BUS (6)
<b>General Medical and Health Services</b>	HLTH PROF (27)	MGMT (13)	OFF (12)	SALES (9)	EDU (8)
<b>Health and Medical Administrative Services</b>	MGMT (25)	OFF (22)	HLTH PROF (15)	BUS (10)	SALES (8)
<b>Health and Medical Preparatory Programs</b>	SALES (17)	MGMT (17)	OFF (12)	HLTH SUP (11)	HLTH PROF (10)
<b>Medical Assisting Services</b>	HLTH PROF (69)	OFF (8)	HLTH SUP (5)	MGMT (3)	BUS (3)
<b>Medical Technologies Technicians</b>	HLTH PROF (62)	MGMT (9)	LS (6)	HLTH SUP (4)	OFF (3)
<b>Miscellaneous Health Medical Professions</b>	HLTH PROF (22)	OFF (16)	COMM (15)	MGMT (13)	SALES (6)
<b>Nursing</b>	HLTH PROF (82)	MGMT (6)	HLTH SUP (2)	OFF (2)	SALES (2)
<b>Nutrition Sciences</b>	HLTH PROF (35)	MGMT (14)	OFF (13)	SALES (9)	EDU (5)
<b>Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration</b>	HLTH PROF (76)	SALES (7)	MGMT (5)	HLTH SUP (3)	OFF (2)
<b>Treatment Therapy Professions</b>	HLTH PROF (60)	MGMT (9)	OFF (5)	COMM (5)	HLTH SUP (4)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Occupation Abbreviations:</b>	
Architecture = ARCH	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Arts = ARTS	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Blue Collar = BC	Installation = INST
Building = BLDG	Legal = LGL
Business = BUS	Life Science = LS
Community Service = COMM	Management = MGMT
Computer Services = COMP	Office = OFF
Construction = CON	Personal Service = PERS
Education = EDU	Production = PROD
Engineering = ENGR	Protective Services = PROT
Finance = FIN	Sales = SALES
Food Service = FOOD	Social Science = SS
	Transportation = TRAN



**WHERE HEALTH MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	1st Industry (%)	2nd Industry (%)	3rd Industry (%)	4th Industry (%)	5th Industry (%)
<b>Health Major Group</b>	HS (72)	RETL (6)	EDU (4)	PUB (4)	FIN (3)
<b>Community and Public Health</b>	HS (34)	PUB (15)	EDU (12)	PROF (6)	FIN (5)
<b>General Medical and Health Services</b>	HS (47)	EDU (11)	FIN (8)	PUB (8)	RETL (4)
<b>Health and Medical Administrative Services</b>	HS (53)	PROF (7)	FIN (6)	PUB (6)	RETL (4)
<b>Health and Medical Preparatory Programs</b>	HS (25)	RETL (13)	FIN (13)	PUB (7)	MAN-d (6)
<b>Medical Assisting Services</b>	HS (77)	PROF (3)	EDU (3)	ARTS (3)	INFO (2)
<b>Medical Technologies Technicians</b>	HS (75)	PROF (5)	EDU (3)	MAN-nd (2)	MAN-d (2)
<b>Miscellaneous Health Medical Professions</b>	HS (34)	PUB (10)	EDU (9)	RETL (7)	FIN (7)
<b>Nursing</b>	HS (84)	EDU (3)	PUB (3)	FIN (2)	MAN-nd (1)
<b>Nutrition Sciences</b>	HS (40)	EDU (9)	FS (7)	PUB (7)	RETL (6)
<b>Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration</b>	RETL (58)	HS (27)	MAN-nd (3)	WHLS-d (2)	FS (2)
<b>Treatment Therapy Professions</b>	HS (69)	EDU (9)	PUB (3)	RETL (2)	FS (2)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<p><b>Industry Abbreviations:</b>                  Administrative Services = ADMN                  Agriculture = AG                  Arts = ARTS                  Construction = CON                  Education Services = EDU                  Financial Services = FIN                  Food Service = FS                  Health Services = HS                  Information = INFO                  Management Services = MGMT                  Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d                  Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd</p>	<p>Mining = MNG                  Other Service = OS                  Professional Services = PROF                  Public Administration = PUB                  Real Estate = RE                  Retail Trade = RETL                  Sales = SALES                  Social Science = SS                  Transportation = TRAN                  Utilities = UTIL                  Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d                  Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd</p>
--	---



# *Humanities and Liberal Arts*

This group includes the following majors:

- Anthropology and Archeology
- Area, Ethnic, and Civilization Studies
- Art History and Criticism
- Composition and Speech
- English Language and Literature
- French, German, Latin, and Other Common Foreign Language Studies
- History
- Humanities
- Intercultural and International Studies
- Liberal Arts
- Linguistics and Comparative Language and Literature
- Other Foreign Languages
- Philosophy and Religious Studies
- Theology and Religious Vocations
- United States History

Humanities and Liberal Arts make up 9.7 percent of all majors. Median earnings for those with only a Bachelor's degree who majored in Humanities and Liberal Arts are \$47,000.<sup>1</sup> These majors have a gender imbalance: 58 percent of people in these majors are women and 42 percent are men. However, women with these majors make, in the aggregate, \$43,000, which is \$7,000 less than men. The racial makeup of these majors, on average, is 80 percent White, 7 percent Asian, 6 percent African-American, 6 percent Hispanic, and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Earnings for Asians (\$44,000), African-Americans (\$44,000), Hispanics (\$42,000), and Other Races (\$42,000) are somewhat lower than the median earnings of \$48,000 for Whites.

There is considerable earnings variation among the majors that make up this group. The major with the lowest median earnings is Theology and Religious Vocations, while the highest is United States History. Earnings in Humanities and Liberal Arts as a whole vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$32,000 and the 75th percentile earning \$70,000 — a difference of \$38,000.

About 41 percent of people with these majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 48 percent.

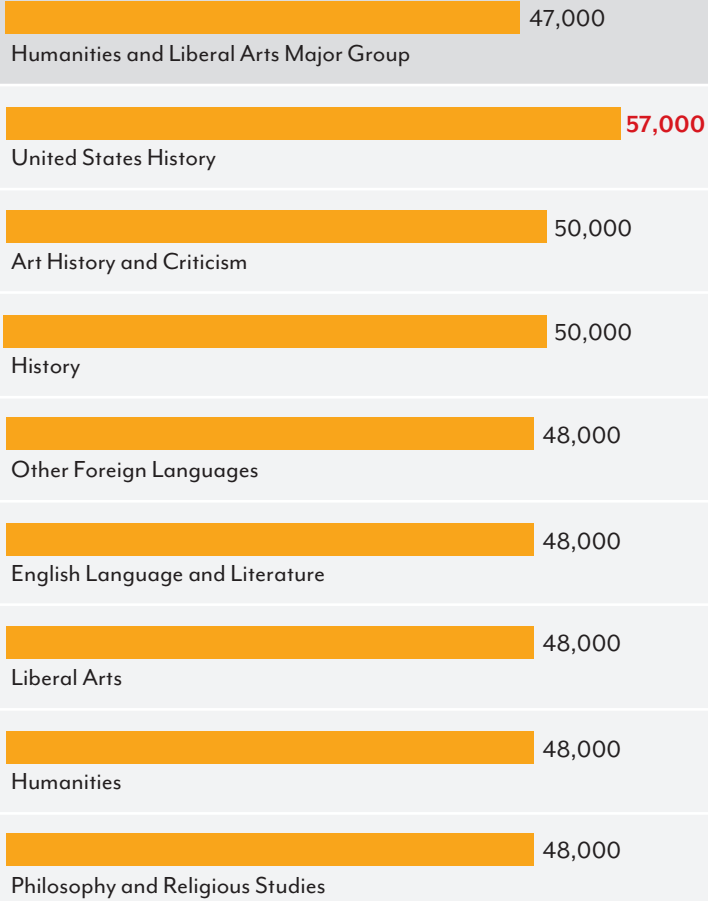
Of people who majored in Humanities and Liberal Arts, 18 percent work in Managerial, 15 percent in Office, and 14 percent in Sales occupations. By industry, 15 percent work in Education Services, 11 percent in Professional Services, and 10 percent in Financial Services.

Of those with these majors who are in the labor force and employed, 80 percent work full-time. About 7 percent are unemployed.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

### MEDIAN EARNINGS OF HUMANITIES AND LIBERAL ARTS MAJOR GROUP\*



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**MEDIAN EARNINGS OF HUMANITIES AND LIBERAL ARTS MAJOR GROUP\* (Continued)**



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**ALL**

	Humanities and Liberal Arts Major Group	Anthropology and Archeology	Area, Ethnic, and Civilization Studies	Art History and Criticism	Composition and Speech	English Language and Literature	French, German, Latin, and Other Common Foreign Language Studies
<b>POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup></b>							
Total Bachelor's	3,287,782	125,427	92,012	80,235	67,336	<b>925,073</b>	185,943
% of All Majors	100	4	3	2	2	<b>28</b>	6
<b>MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR*</b>							
Median earnings	47,000	45,000	45,000	50,000	45,000	48,000	45,000
<b>EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE*</b>							
Earnings at the 25th percentile	32,000	30,000	32,000	35,000	32,000	34,000	33,000
Earnings at the 75th percentile	70,000	66,000	70,000	70,000	65,000	71,000	68,000
Difference	38,000	36,000	38,000	35,000	33,000	37,000	35,000
<b>PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>							
Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	59	57	56	65	66	57	52
Obtain graduate degree (%)	41	43	44	35	34	43	48
<b>EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>							
% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	48	43	51	51	55	42	43
<b>WORK STATUS*</b>							
Full-time (%)	80	78	74	76	80	80	76
Part-time (%)	20	22	26	24	20	20	24
<b>PERCENT EMPLOYED**</b>							
Employed (%)	93	94	92	91	93	93	95

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

History	Humanities	Intercultural and International Studies	Liberal Arts	Linguistics and Comparative Language and Literature	Other Foreign Languages	Philosophy and Religious Studies	Theology and Religious Vocations	United States History
<b>POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup></b>								
595,216	40,063	46,333	637,288	58,617	48,403	178,822	191,715	15,299
18	1	1	19	2	1	5	6	<0.5
<b>MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR*</b>								
50,000	48,000	44,000	48,000	45,000	48,000	48,000	38,000	<b>57,000</b>
<b>EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE*</b>								
34,000	35,000	30,000	33,000	30,000	30,000	32,000	27,000	<b>37,000</b>
77,000	67,000	73,000	70,000	70,000	73,000	75,000	52,000	<b>85,000</b>
43,000	32,000	43,000	37,000	40,000	43,000	43,000	25,000	<b>48,000</b>
<b>PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>								
54	63	64	<b>75</b>	53	56	47	62	50
46	37	36	25	47	44	<b>53</b>	38	50
<b>EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>								
60	35	59	42	45	<b>69</b>	36	21	52
<b>WORK STATUS*</b>								
<b>84</b>	77	78	82	70	78	80	81	83
16	23	22	18	<b>30</b>	22	20	19	17
<b>PERCENT EMPLOYED**</b>								
93	91	93	94	90	91	92	<b>96</b>	90

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.



## GENDER

GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS							
	Humanities and Liberal Arts Major Group	Anthropology and Archeology	Area, Ethnic, and Civilization Studies	Art History and Criticism	Composition and Speech	English Language and Literature	French, German, Latin, and Other Common Foreign Language Studies
Percent Female	58	61	70	85	60	67	76
Percent Male	42	39	30	15	40	33	24
EARNINGS BY GENDER*							
Female Median Earnings	43,000	40,000	42,000	45,000	42,000	45,000	42,000
Male Median Earnings	50,000	52,000	49,000	52,000	50,000	52,000	56,000
Difference	7,000	12,000	7,000	7,000	8,000	7,000	14,000

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

## RACE AND ETHNICITY

RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS <sup>Δ</sup>							
	Humanities and Liberal Arts Major Group	Anthropology and Archeology	Area, Ethnic, and Civilization Studies	Art History and Criticism	Composition and Speech	English Language and Literature	French, German, Latin, and Other Common Foreign Language Studies
% White	80	87	69	88	85	82	78
% African- American	6	3	8	1	7	6	4
% Hispanic	6	6	7	5	4	5	12
% Asian	7	4	13	6	3	6	6
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	<0.5	2	1	1	1	<0.5

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

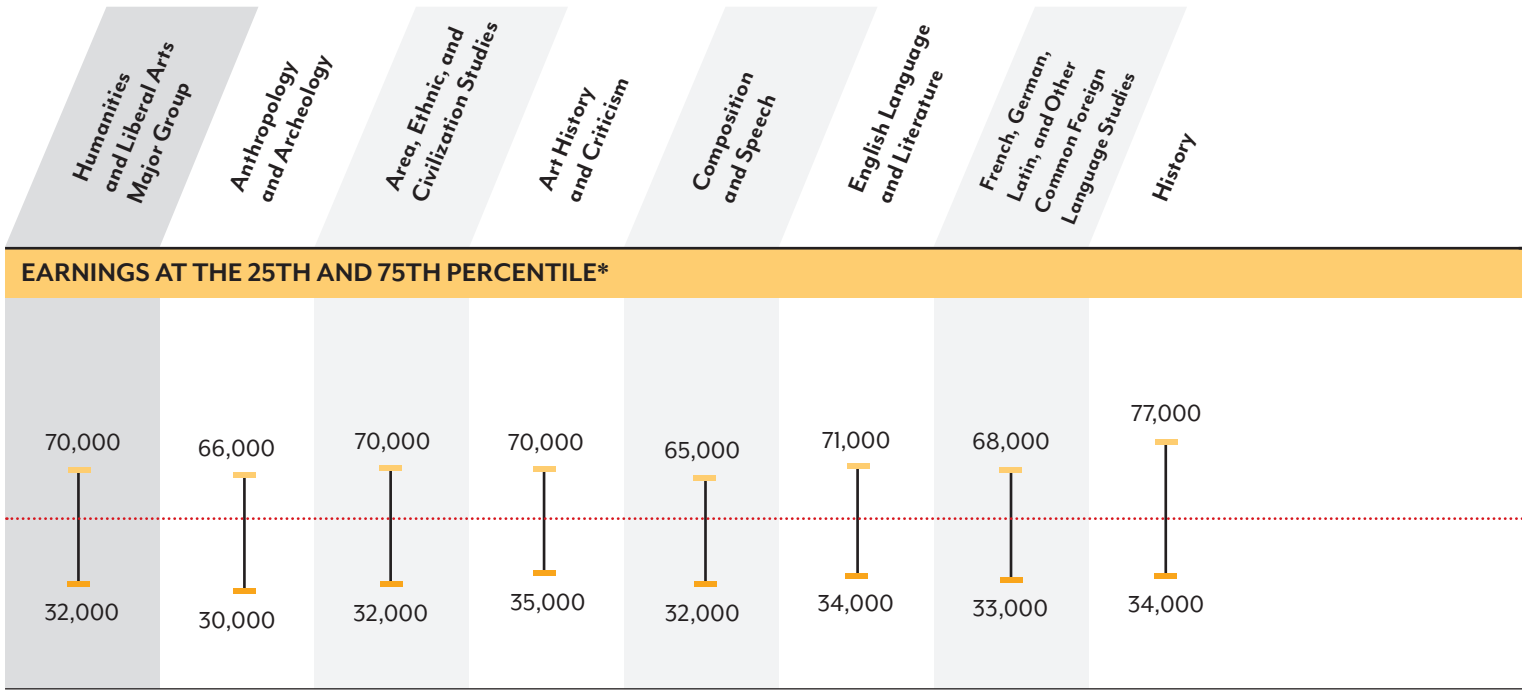
	History	Humanities	Intercultural and International Studies	Liberal Arts	Linguistics and Comparative Language and Literature	Other Foreign Languages	Philosophy and Religious Studies	Theology and Religious Vocations	United States History
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>									
	40	61	65	60	78	60	35	34	42
	60	39	35	40	22	40	65	<b>66</b>	58
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>									
	40,000	<b>46,000</b>	42,000	42,000	38,000	40,000	42,000	33,000	•
	55,000	50,000	55,000	54,000	52,000	50,000	50,000	40,000	<b>60,000</b>
	<b>15,000</b>	4,000	13,000	12,000	14,000	10,000	8,000	7,000	•

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

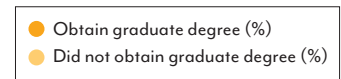
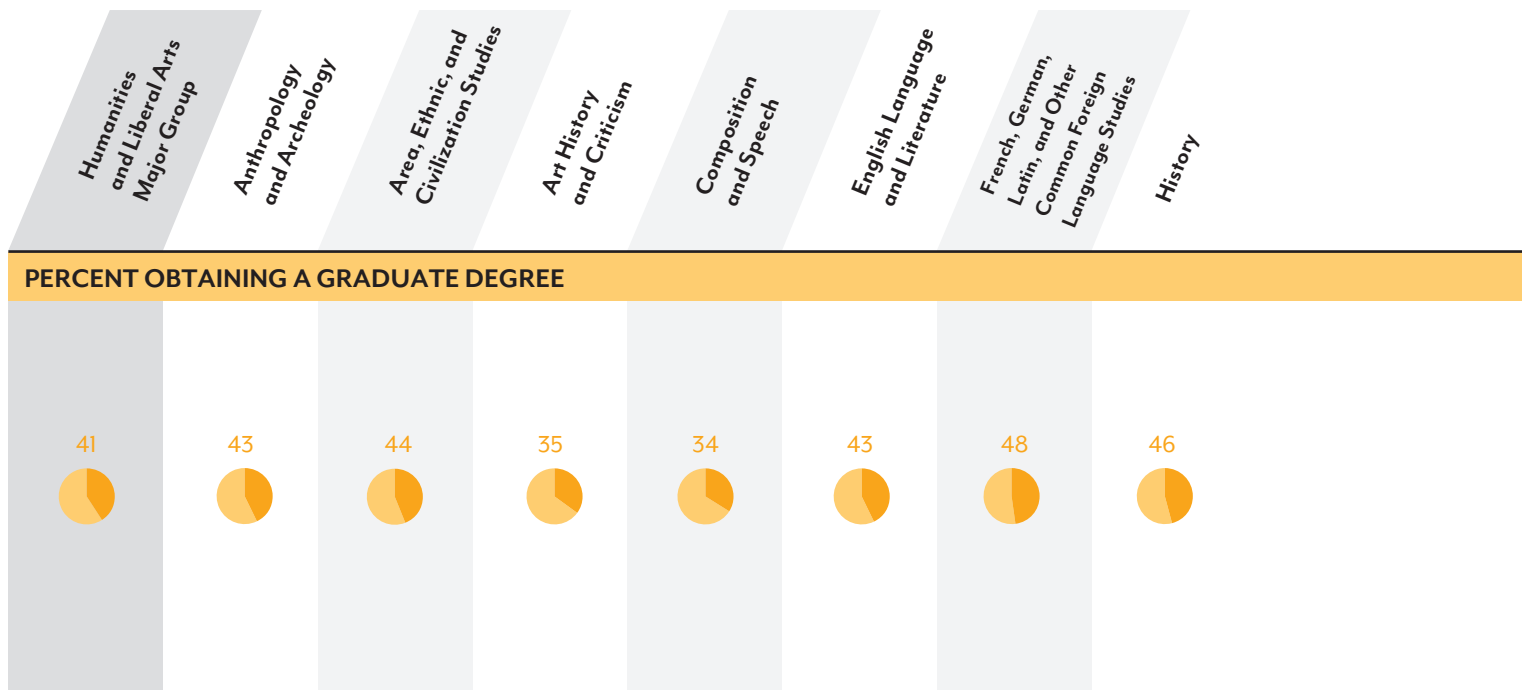
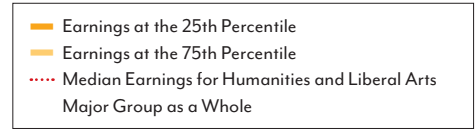
• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

	History	Humanities	Intercultural and International Studies	Liberal Arts	Linguistics and Comparative Language and Literature	Other Foreign Languages	Philosophy and Religious Studies	Theology and Religious Vocations	United States History
<b>RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>									
	86	73	75	75	65	67	82	79	75
	5	8	3	7	7	3	6	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>
	5	10	9	9	<b>12</b>	3	4	5	11
	4	8	11	8	16	<b>26</b>	7	4	2
	<0.5	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	1	1	1	1	<0.5	<0.5

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

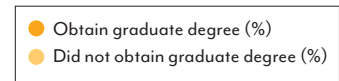
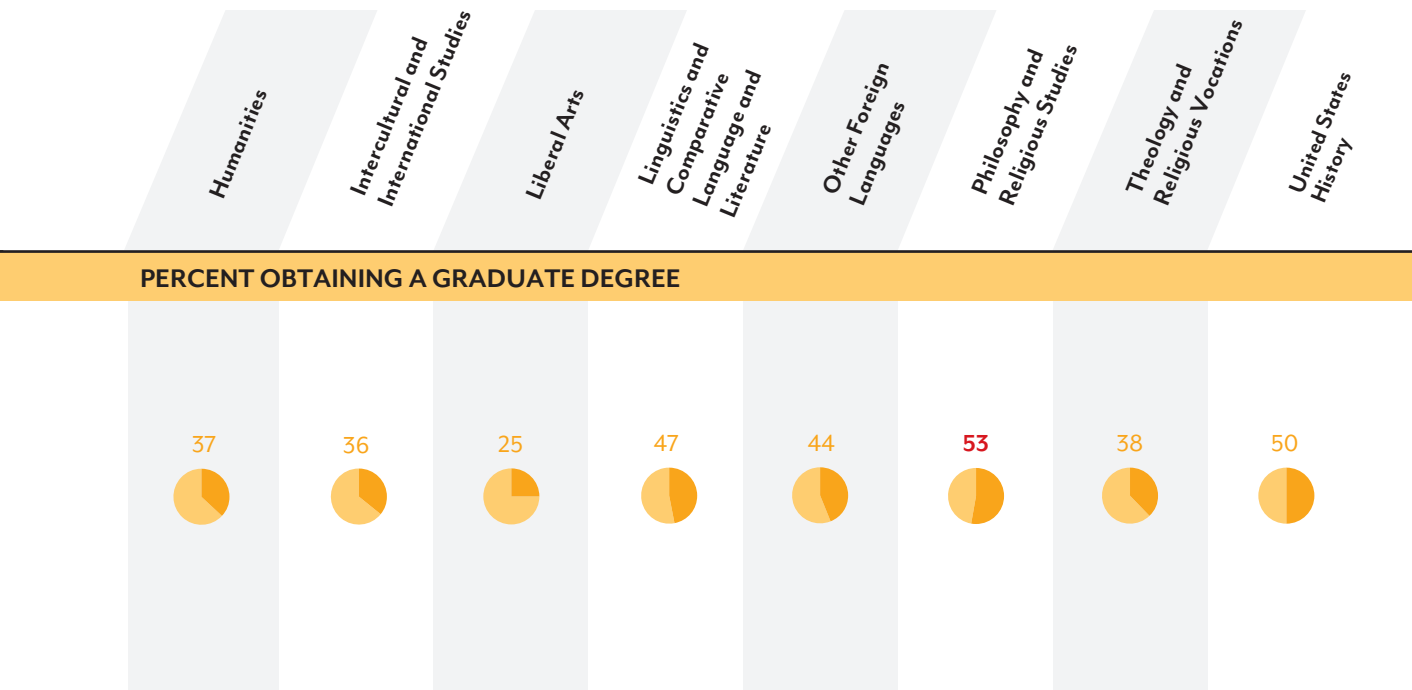
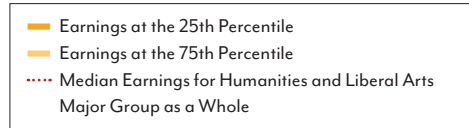


\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.





\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.



**WHERE HUMANITIES AND LIBERAL ARTS MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	1st Occupation (%)	2nd Occupation (%)	3rd Occupation (%)	4th Occupation (%)	5th Occupation (%)
<b>Humanities and Liberal Arts Major Group</b>	MGMT (18)	OFF (15)	SALES (14)	EDU (11)	ARTS (6)
<b>Anthropology and Archeology</b>	OFF (17)	SALES (13)	MGMT (12)	EDU (8)	BUS (7)
<b>Area, Ethnic, and Civilization Studies</b>	MGMT (20)	OFF (15)	SALES (10)	EDU (9)	COMM (8)
<b>Art History and Criticism</b>	SALES (21)	OFF (20)	MGMT (18)	ARTS (8)	BUS (7)
<b>Composition and Speech</b>	ARTS (17)	MGMT (16)	EDU (14)	OFF (12)	SALES (10)
<b>English Language and Literature</b>	MGMT (20)	OFF (15)	SALES (13)	EDU (11)	ARTS (10)
<b>French, German, Latin, and Other Common Foreign Language Studies</b>	MGMT (17)	OFF (16)	EDU (16)	SALES (13)	BUS (6)
<b>History</b>	MGMT (18)	SALES (16)	OFF (15)	EDU (11)	BUS (6)
<b>Humanities</b>	MGMT (20)	OFF (13)	SALES (11)	EDU (10)	ARTS (10)
<b>Intercultural and International Studies</b>	MGMT (21)	OFF (18)	SALES (14)	EDU (8)	LGL (6)
<b>Liberal Arts</b>	MGMT (18)	SALES (15)	OFF (14)	EDU (13)	BUS (5)
<b>Linguistics and Comparative Language and Literature</b>	MGMT (17)	OFF (16)	SALES (14)	EDU (12)	ARTS (12)
<b>Other Foreign Languages</b>	MGMT (19)	OFF (15)	SALES (9)	ARTS (7)	COMP (7)
<b>Philosophy and Religious Studies</b>	MGMT (18)	SALES (13)	OFF (12)	COMM (10)	COMP (8)
<b>Theology and Religious Vocations</b>	COMM (32)	OFF (12)	MGMT (11)	EDU (9)	SALES (7)
<b>United States History</b>	MGMT (23)	SALES (16)	EDU (12)	OFF (11)	COMP (9)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Occupation Abbreviations:</b>	Computer Services = COMP	Health Support = HLTH SUP	Production = PROD
Architecture = ARCH	Construction = CON	Installation = INST	Protective Services = PROT
Arts = ARTS	Education = EDU	Legal = LGL	Sales = SALES
Blue Collar = BC	Engineering = ENGR	Life Science = LS	Social Science = SS
Building = BLDG	Finance = FIN	Management = MGMT	Transportation = TRAN
Business = BUS	Food Service = FOOD	Office = OFF	
Community Service = COMM	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF	Personal Service = PERS	

**WHERE HUMANITIES AND LIBERAL ARTS MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	1st Industry (%)	2nd Industry (%)	3rd Industry (%)	4th Industry (%)	5th Industry (%)
<b>Humanities and Liberal Arts Major Group</b>	EDU (15)	PROF (11)	FIN (10)	RETL (9)	HS (9)
<b>Anthropology and Archeology</b>	PROF (15)	RETL (11)	HS (11)	EDU (9)	PUB (9)
<b>Area, Ethnic, and Civilization Studies</b>	EDU (14)	HS (14)	FIN (10)	PROF (9)	OS (9)
<b>Art History and Criticism</b>	RETL (18)	PROF (13)	ARTS (8)	EDU (7)	INFO (6)
<b>Composition and Speech</b>	EDU (18)	INFO (13)	PROF (10)	RETL (8)	HS (7)
<b>English Language and Literature</b>	EDU (17)	PROF (12)	INFO (10)	FIN (10)	RETL (8)
<b>French, German, Latin, and Other Common Foreign Language Studies</b>	EDU (21)	FIN (11)	PROF (10)	HS (9)	RETL (7)
<b>History</b>	EDU (15)	FIN (14)	RETL (10)	PUB (10)	PROF (9)
<b>Humanities</b>	EDU (15)	PROF (13)	HS (13)	RETL (9)	FIN (9)
<b>Intercultural and International Studies</b>	PROF (18)	EDU (15)	FIN (12)	PUB (8)	RETL (7)
<b>Liberal Arts</b>	EDU (17)	HS (11)	RETL (9)	FIN (9)	PROF (9)
<b>Linguistics and Comparative Language and Literature</b>	EDU (18)	FIN (14)	INFO (11)	PROF (9)	RETL (8)
<b>Other Foreign Languages</b>	PROF (13)	EDU (11)	PUB (11)	HS (10)	OS (9)
<b>Philosophy and Religious Studies</b>	OS (13)	FIN (11)	PROF (11)	EDU (10)	HS (9)
<b>Theology and Religious Vocations</b>	OS (33)	EDU (12)	HS (10)	RETL (7)	PUB (6)
<b>United States History</b>	FIN (15)	EDU (13)	RETL (10)	INFO (9)	PROF (9)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Industry Abbreviations:</b>	Food Service = FS	Mining = MNG	Social Science = SS
Administrative Services = ADMN	Health Services = HS	Other Service = OS	Transportation = TRAN
Agriculture = AG	Information = INFO	Professional Services = PROF	Utilities = UTIL
Arts = ARTS	Management Services = MGMT	Public Administration = PUB	Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d
Construction = CON	Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d	Real Estate = RE	Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd
Education Services = EDU	Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd	Retail Trade = RETL	
Financial Services = FIN		Sales = SALES	

# Industrial Arts and Consumer Services

**This group includes the following majors:**

- **Construction Services**
- **Cosmetology Services and Culinary Arts**
- **Electrical and Mechanical Repairs and Technologies**
- **Family and Consumer Sciences**
- **Military Technologies**
- **Physical Fitness, Parks, Recreation, and Leisure**
- **Precision Production and Industrial Arts**
- **Transportation Sciences and Technologies**

Industrial Arts and Consumer Services account for 1.6 percent of all majors. Median earnings for those with a Bachelor's degree who majored in Industrial Arts and Consumer Services are \$50,000.<sup>1</sup> There is a gender imbalance in these majors (65 percent men, 35 percent women). However, women with these majors make, in the aggregate, \$40,000, which is \$15,000 less than men. The racial makeup of these majors, on average, is 83 percent White, 7 percent African-American, 6 percent Hispanic, 3 percent Asian, and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Earnings for Asians (\$45,000), African-Americans (\$40,000), and Hispanics (\$42,000) are somewhat lower than the median wage of \$50,000 earned by Whites.

There is considerable earnings variation among the majors that make up this group. The major with the lowest median earnings is Family and Consumer Services, while the highest is Construction Services. Earnings in Industrial Arts and Consumer Services as a whole vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$33,000 and the 75th percentile earning \$75,000—a difference of \$42,000.

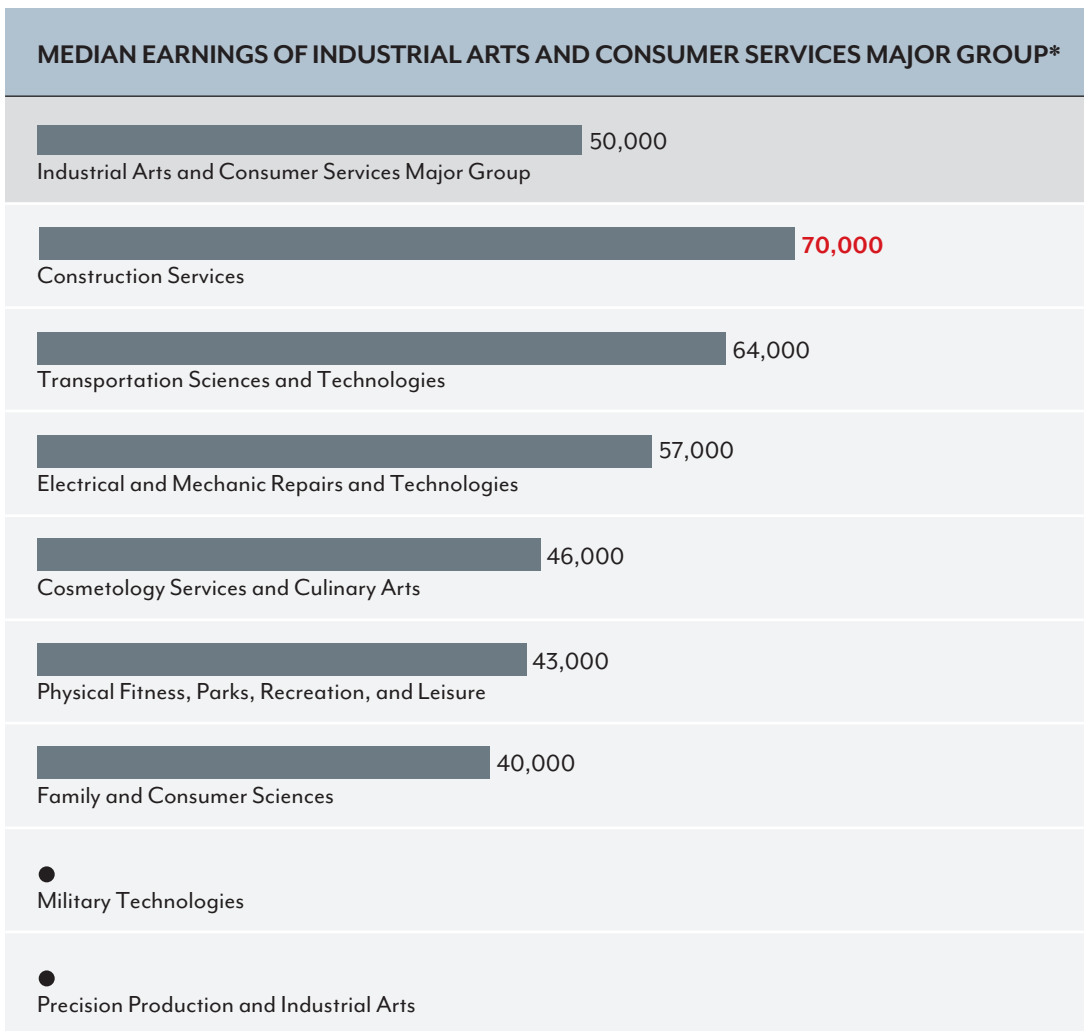
About 20 percent of people with Industrial Arts and Consumer Services majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 35 percent.

Of people with these majors, 22 percent work in Managerial, 12 percent in Sales, and 9 percent in Education occupations. By industry, 13 percent work in Construction, 12 percent in Education Services, and 10 percent in Transportation.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.

Of those with Industrial Arts and Consumer Services majors who are in the labor force and employed, 84 percent work full-time. About 5 percent are unemployed.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**ALL**

Industrial Arts and  
Consumer Services  
Major Group

Construction  
Services

Cosmetology  
Services and  
Culinary Arts

Electrical and  
Mechanic Repairs  
and Technologies

Family and  
Consumer Sciences

Military  
Technologies

Physical Fitness,  
Parks, Recreation,  
and Leisure

Precision Production  
and Industrial Arts

Transportation  
Sciences and  
Technologies

**POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup>**

Total Bachelor's	554,707	70,750	36,159	9,692	319,250	2,791	<b>331,342</b>	6,272	97,701
% of All Majors	100	13	7	2	16	1	<b>60</b>	1	18

**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR\***

Median earnings	50,000	<b>70,000</b>	46,000	57,000	40,000	•	43,000	•	64,000
-----------------	--------	---------------	--------	--------	--------	---	--------	---	--------

**EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

Earnings at the 25th percentile	33,000	<b>50,000</b>	30,000	39,000	30,000	•	30,000	•	40,000
Earnings at the 75th percentile	75,000	<b>100,000</b>	68,000	70,000	59,000	•	61,000	•	90,000
Difference	42,000	<b>50,000</b>	38,000	31,000	29,000	•	31,000	•	<b>50,000</b>

**PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	80	<b>89</b>	<b>89</b>	88	74	70	76	77	84
Obtain graduate degree (%)	20	11	11	12	26	<b>30</b>	24	23	16

**EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	35	19	•	•	37	•	<b>50</b>	•	31
---------------------------------------	----	----	---	---	----	---	-----------	---	----

**WORK STATUS\***

Full-time (%)	84	<b>93</b>	87	<b>93</b>	76	90	81	<b>93</b>	85
Part-time (%)	16	7	13	7	<b>24</b>	10	19	7	15

**PERCENT EMPLOYED\*\***

Employed (%)	95	95	91	96	96	<b>100</b>	95	92	96
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	------------	----	----	----

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS									
	Industrial Arts and Consumer Services Major Group	Construction Services	Cosmetology Services and Culinary Arts	Electrical and Mechanic Repairs and Technologies	Family and Consumer Sciences	Military Technologies	Physical Fitness, Parks, Recreation, and Leisure	Precision Production and Industrial Arts	Transportation Sciences and Technologies
Percent Female	35	8	38	9	93	7	49	11	11
Percent Male	65	92	62	91	7	93	51	89	89
EARNINGS BY GENDER*									
Female Median Earnings	40,000	•	36,000	•	40,000	•	40,000	•	•
Male Median Earnings	55,000	72,000	56,000	60,000	55,000	•	46,000	•	65,000
Difference	15,000	•	20,000	•	15,000	•	6,000	•	•

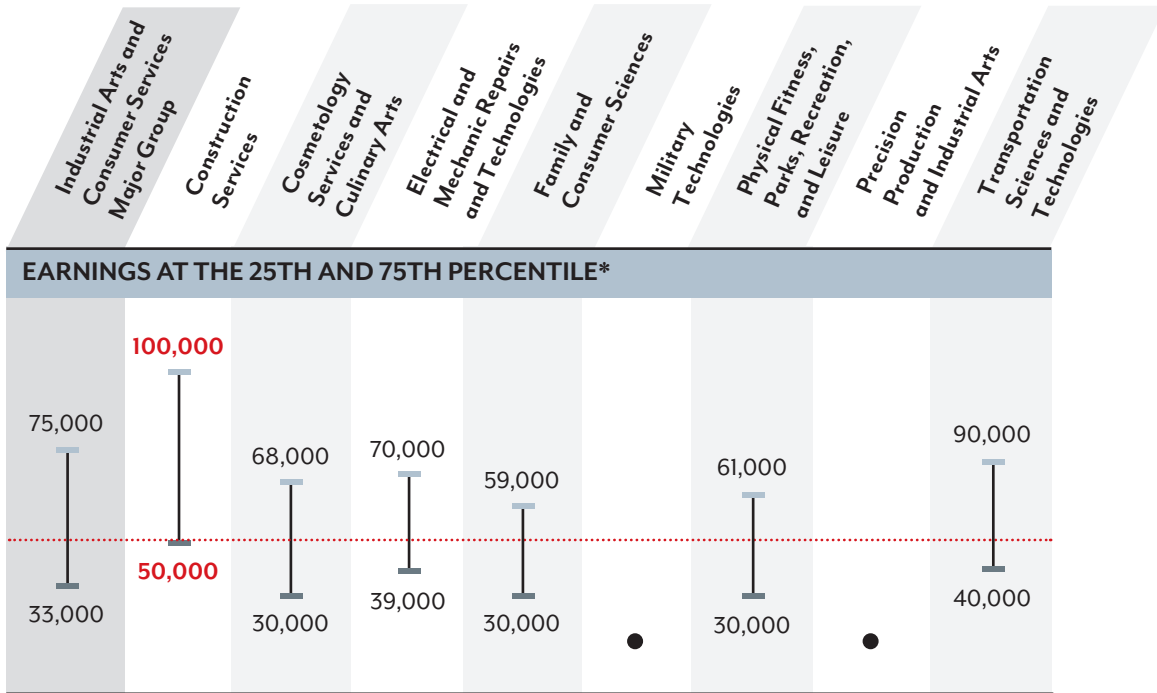
\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

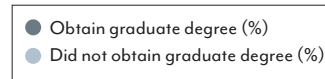
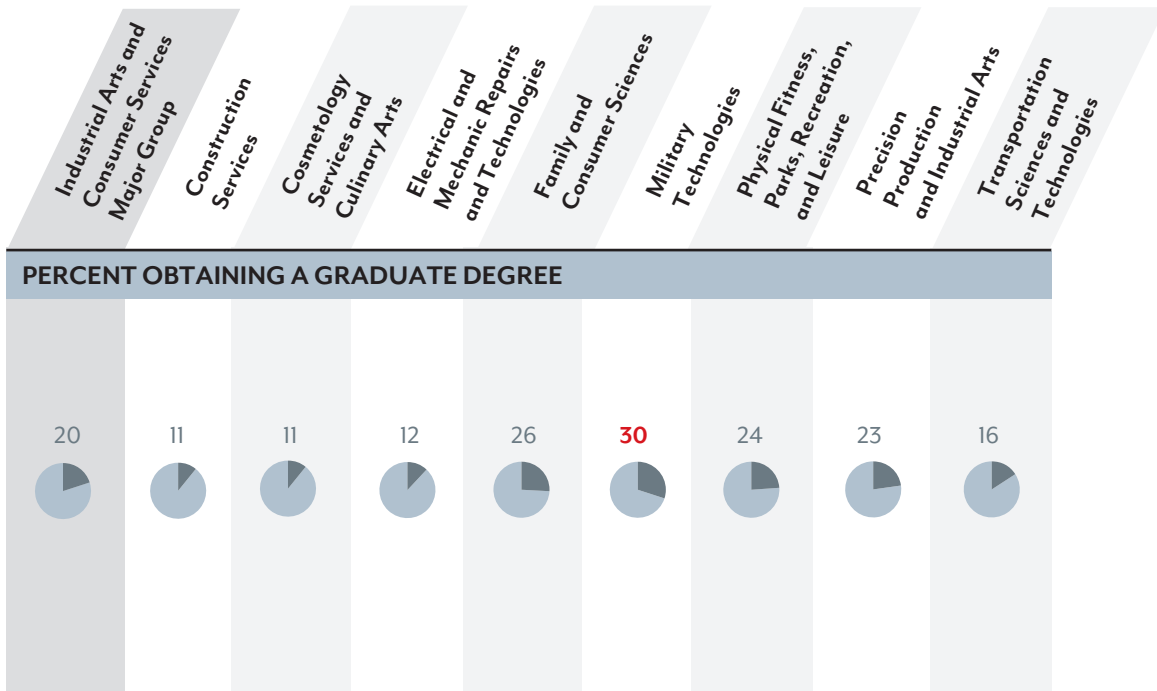
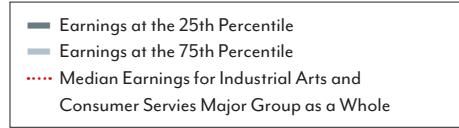
## RACE AND ETHNICITY

RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS <sup>Δ</sup>									
	Industrial Arts and Consumer Services Major Group	Construction Services	Cosmetology Services and Culinary Arts	Electrical and Mechanic Repairs and Technologies	Family and Consumer Sciences	Military Technologies	Physical Fitness, Parks, Recreation, and Leisure	Precision Production and Industrial Arts	Transportation Sciences and Technologies
% White	83	87	78	77	79	61	84	82	80
% African-American	7	5	7	8	8	4	8	10	6
% Hispanic	6	6	8	10	6	14	6	5	6
% Asian	3	2	5	4	7	22	2	4	7
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	1	1	1	<0.5	<0.5	1	<0.5	1

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.  
 • Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**WHERE INDUSTRIAL ARTS AND CONSUMER SERVICES MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>
	<b>Occupation (%)</b>	<b>Occupation (%)</b>	<b>Occupation (%)</b>	<b>Occupation (%)</b>	<b>Occupation (%)</b>
<b>Industrial Arts and Consumer Services Major Group</b>	MGMT (22)	SALES (12)	EDU (9)	TRAN (8)	OFF (7)
<b>Construction Services</b>	MGMT (54)	CON (12)	ENGR (9)	BUS (7)	SALES (5)
<b>Cosmetology Services and Culinary Arts</b>	FOOD (32)	MGMT (30)	SALES (14)	OFF (7)	PROD (5)
<b>Electrical and Mechanic Repairs and Technologies</b>	INST (37)	PROD (12)	TRAN (11)	OFF (8)	SALES (7)
<b>Family and Consumer Sciences</b>	EDU (21)	MGMT (15)	OFF (15)	SALES (11)	COMM (8)
<b>Military Technologies</b>	OFF (29)	PROT (19)	SALES (13)	MGMT (12)	COMP (8)
<b>Physical Fitness, Parks, Recreation, and Leisure</b>	MGMT (16)	SALES (16)	EDU (13)	OFF (9)	PERS (9)
<b>Precision Production and Industrial Arts</b>	MGMT (22)	PROD (14)	INST (13)	SALES (8)	PROT (7)
<b>Transportation Sciences and Technologies</b>	TRAN (32)	MGMT (14)	SALES (8)	OFF (7)	INST (6)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Occupation Abbreviations:</b>	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Architecture = ARCH	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Arts = ARTS	Installation = INST
Blue Collar = BC	Legal = LGL
Building = BLDG	Life Science = LS
Business = BUS	Management = MGMT
Community Service = COMM	Office = OFF
Computer Services = COMP	Personal Service = PERS
Construction = CON	Production = PROD
Education = EDU	Protective Services = PROT
Engineering = ENGR	Sales = SALES
Finance = FIN	Social Science = SS
Food Service = FOOD	Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE INDUSTRIAL ARTS AND CONSUMER SERVICES MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	1st Industry (%)	2nd Industry (%)	3rd Industry (%)	4th Industry (%)	5th Industry (%)
<b>Industrial Arts and Consumer Services Major Group</b>	CON (13)	EDU (12)	TRAN (10)	HS (10)	ARTS (8)
<b>Construction Services</b>	CON (69)	PROF (6)	MAN-d (4)	RETL (3)	UTIL (2)
<b>Cosmetology Services and Culinary Arts</b>	FS (36)	OS (14)	RETL (8)	HS (7)	EDU (6)
<b>Electrical and Mechanic Repairs and Technologie</b>	TRAN (26)	MAN-d (22)	CON (12)	RETL (11)	OS (7)
<b>Family and Consumer Sciences</b>	HS (24)	EDU (21)	RETL (9)	PUB (7)	FIN (6)
<b>Military Technologies</b>	RETL (24)	PUB (19)	PROF (18)	UTIL (13)	MAN-nd (8)
<b>Physical Fitness, Parks, Recreation, and Leisure</b>	EDU (18)	HS (15)	ARTS (14)	RETL (7)	FIN (7)
<b>Precision Production and Industrial Arts</b>	MAN-d (24)	PUB (16)	CON (12)	PROF (12)	WHLS-nd (7)
<b>Transportation Sciences and Technologies</b>	TRAN (40)	PUB (10)	MAN-d (8)	EDU (6)	RETL (5)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Industry Abbreviations:**

Administrative Services = ADMN  
 Agriculture = AG  
 Arts = ARTS  
 Construction = CON  
 Education Services = EDU  
 Financial Services = FIN  
 Food Service = FS  
 Health Services = HS  
 Information = INFO  
 Management Services = MGMT  
 Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d  
 Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd

Mining = MNG  
 Other Service = OS  
 Professional Services = PROF  
 Public Administration = PUB  
 Real Estate = RE  
 Retail Trade = RETL  
 Sales = SALES  
 Social Science = SS  
 Transportation = TRAN  
 Utilities = UTIL  
 Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d  
 Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd



# Law and Public Policy

**This group includes the following majors:**

- **Court Reporting**
- **Criminal Justice and Fire Protection**
- **Pre-law and Legal Studies**
- **Public Administration**
- **Public Policy**

Law and Public Policy make up 2.3 percent of all majors. Median earnings for those with only a Bachelor's degree who majored in Law and Public Policy are \$50,000.<sup>1</sup> Within these majors, there is a significant gender imbalance (59 percent male, 41 percent female). Women with these majors make, in the aggregate, \$42,000, which is \$16,000 less than men. The racial makeup of these majors, on average, is 72 percent White, 14 percent African-American, 10 percent Hispanic, 3 percent Asian and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Earnings of Whites (\$52,000), African-Americans (\$42,000), and Hispanics (\$50,000) are somewhat lower than the \$55,000 median earnings of Asians.

Earnings for majors within this group can vary significantly. The major with the lowest median earnings is Public Policy, while the highest is Public Administration. Earnings in Law and Public Policy as a whole vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$36,000 and the 75th percentile earning \$74,000—a difference of \$38,000.

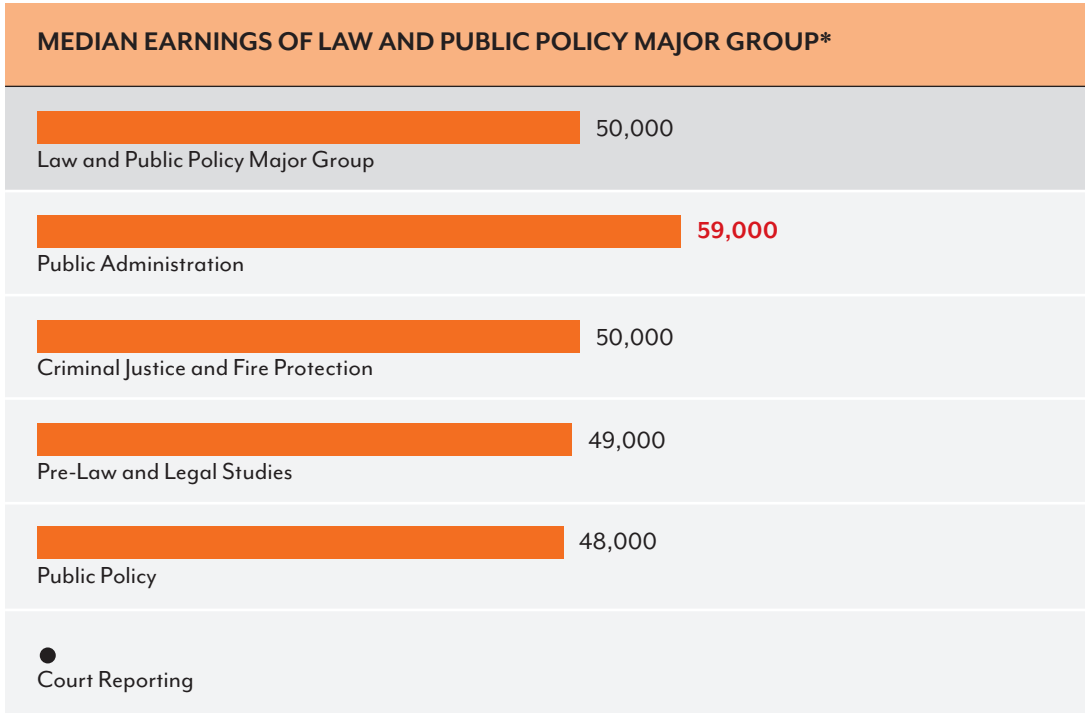
About 24 percent of people with these majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 45 percent.

Of people who majored in Law and Public Policy, 32 percent work in Protective, 11 percent in Management, and 11 percent in Office occupations. By industry, 43 percent work in Public Administration, 8 percent in Health Services, and 7 percent in Financial Services.

Of Law and Public Policy majors who are in the labor force and employed, 90 percent work full-time. About 5 percent are unemployed.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

● Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**ALL**

	Law and Public Policy Major Group	Court Reporting	Criminal Justice and Fire Protection	Pre-Law and Legal Studies	Public Administration	Public Policy
<b>POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup></b>						
Total Bachelor's	768,978	6,281	<b>652,085</b>	52,864	44,315	13,433
% of Major Group	100	1	<b>85</b>	7	6	2
<b>MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR*</b>						
Median Earnings	50,000	•	50,000	49,000	<b>59,000</b>	48,000
<b>EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE*</b>						
Earnings at the 25th percentile	36,000	•	35,000	36,000	<b>40,000</b>	34,000
Earnings at the 75th percentile	74,000	•	73,000	66,000	<b>94,000</b>	75,000
Difference	38,000	•	38,000	30,000	<b>54,000</b>	41,000
<b>PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>						
Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	76	72	<b>80</b>	64	56	50
Obtain graduate degree (%)	24	28	20	36	44	<b>50</b>
<b>EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE</b>						
% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	45	•	34	81	35	<b>107</b>
<b>WORK STATUS*</b>						
Full-time (%)	90	85	<b>90</b>	88	89	82
Part-time (%)	10	15	10	12	11	<b>18</b>
<b>PERCENT EMPLOYED**</b>						
Employed (%)	95	90	<b>95</b>	91	94	94

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

	Law and Public Policy Major Group	Court Reporting	Criminal Justice and Fire Protection	Pre-Law and Legal Studies	Public Administration	Public Policy
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>						
Percent Female	41	57	39	<b>72</b>	43	48
Percent Male	59	43	<b>61</b>	28	57	52
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>						
Female Median Earnings	42,000	•	41,000	45,000	<b>50,000</b>	•
Male Median Earnings	58,000	•	58,000	59,000	<b>70,000</b>	•
Difference	16,000	•	17,000	14,000	<b>20,000</b>	•

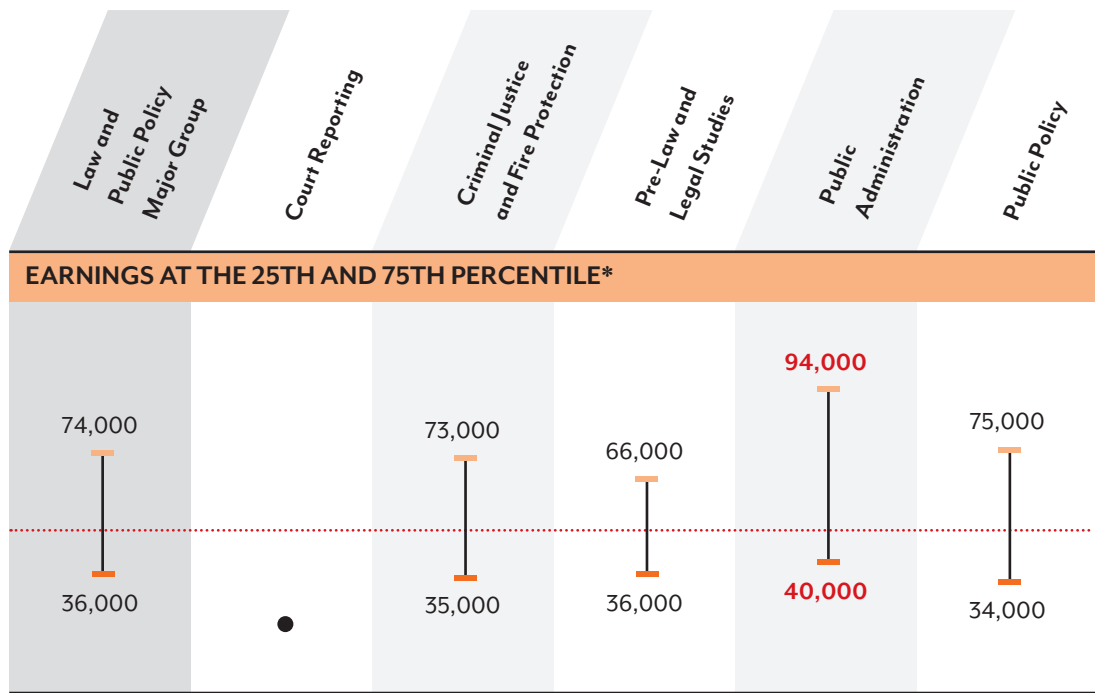
\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

## RACE AND ETHNICITY

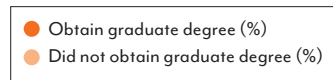
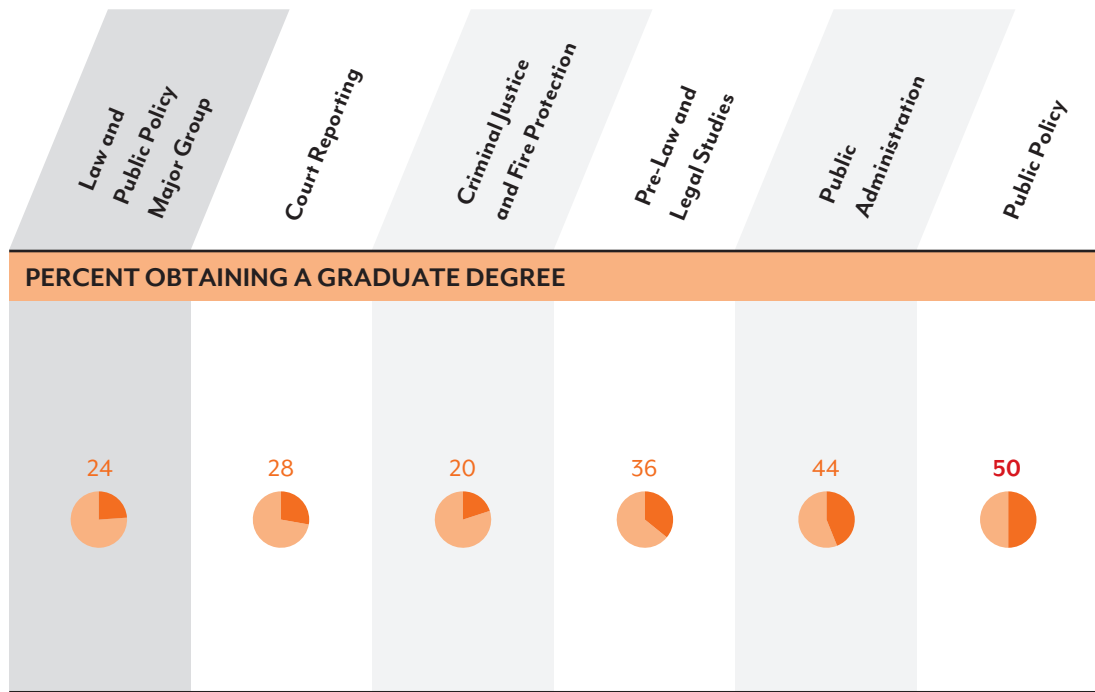
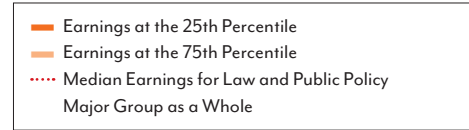
	Law and Public Policy Major Group	Court Reporting	Criminal Justice and Fire Protection	Pre-Law and Legal Studies	Public Administration	Public Policy
<b>RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>						
% White	72	61	<b>73</b>	70	67	72
% African-American	14	14	14	14	<b>18</b>	15
% Hispanic	10	<b>15</b>	10	8	10	6
% Asian	3	2	2	<b>8</b>	4	7
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	<b>8</b>	1	<0.5	2	1

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

● Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**WHERE LAW AND PUBLIC POLICY MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	<b>1st Occupation (%)</b>	<b>2nd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>3rd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>4th Occupation (%)</b>	<b>5th Occupation (%)</b>
<b>Law and Public Policy Major Group</b>	PROT (32)	MGMT (11)	OFF (11)	COMM (9)	SALES (8)
<b>Court Reporting</b>	PROT (23)	MGMT (22)	INST (13)	OFF (9)	BUS (7)
<b>Criminal Justice and Fire Protection</b>	PROT (36)	OFF (10)	COMM (10)	MGMT (10)	SALES (8)
<b>Pre-Law and Legal Studies</b>	LGL (28)	OFF (15)	MGMT (10)	SALES (9)	BUS (6)
<b>Public Administration</b>	MGMT (27)	PROT (14)	SALES (13)	OFF (11)	FIN (7)
<b>Public Policy</b>	MGMT (29)	OFF (17)	COMP (10)	SALES (9)	BUS (8)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Occupation Abbreviations:**

Architecture = ARCH  
 Arts = ARTS  
 Blue Collar = BC  
 Building = BLDG  
 Business = BUS  
 Community Service = COMM  
 Computer Services = COMP  
 Construction = CON  
 Education = EDU  
 Engineering = ENGR  
 Finance = FIN  
 Food Service = FOOD

Health Professionals = HLTH PROF  
 Health Support = HLTH SUP  
 Installation = INST  
 Legal = LGL  
 Life Science = LS  
 Management = MGMT  
 Office = OFF  
 Personal Service = PERS  
 Production = PROD  
 Protective Services = PROT  
 Sales = SALES  
 Social Science = SS  
 Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE LAW AND PUBLIC POLICY MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	<b>1st Industry (%)</b>	<b>2nd Industry (%)</b>	<b>3rd Industry (%)</b>	<b>4th Industry (%)</b>	<b>5th Industry (%)</b>
<b>Law and Public Policy Major Group</b>	PUB (43)	HS (8)	FIN (7)	PROF (7)	RETL (5)
<b>Court Reporting</b>	PUB (28)	FIN (14)	ADMN (13)	OS (10)	FS (8)
<b>Criminal Justice and Fire Protection</b>	PUB (46)	HS (8)	FIN (7)	RETL (5)	PROF (5)
<b>Pre-Law and Legal Studies</b>	PROF (31)	FIN (15)	PUB (11)	HS (7)	RETL (5)
<b>Public Administration</b>	PUB (35)	HS (11)	FIN (8)	EDU (8)	PROF (7)
<b>Public Policy</b>	EDU (16)	INFO (13)	PUB (13)	TRAN (9)	FIN (8)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Industry Abbreviations:**

Administrative Services = ADMN

Agriculture = AG

Arts = ARTS

Construction = CON

Education Services = EDU

Financial Services = FIN

Food Service = FS

Health Services = HS

Information = INFO

Management Services = MGMT

Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d

Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd

Mining = MNG

Other Service = OS

Professional Services = PROF

Public Administration = PUB

Real Estate = RE

Retail Trade = RETL

Sales = SALES

Social Science = SS

Transportation = TRAN

Utilities = UTIL

Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d

Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd



# Physical Sciences

**This group includes the following majors:**

- **Astronomy and Astrophysics**
- **Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology**
- **Geology and Earth Science**
- **Geosciences**
- **Multi-disciplinary or General Science**
- **Nuclear, Industrial Radiology, and Biological Technologies**
- **Oceanography**
- **Physical Science**
- **Physics**

Physical Sciences make up 2.8 percent of all majors. Median wages for those with only a Bachelor's degree who majored in Physical sciences are \$59,000.<sup>1</sup> There is a slight gender imbalance in these majors (men 58 percent and women 42 percent). However, women with these majors make, in the aggregate, \$48,000, which is \$17,000 less than men. The racial makeup of these majors, on average, is 74 percent White, 11 percent Asian, 8 percent African-American, 6 percent Hispanic, and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Earnings for Asians (\$52,000), African-Americans (\$47,000) and Hispanics (\$44,000) are significantly less than the \$60,000 in median wages earned by Whites.

There is also great variation in median pay for the majors within this group. The major with the lowest median earnings is Nuclear, Industrial Radiology, and Biological Technologies, while the highest are Physics and Oceanography. Earnings in Physical Sciences as a whole vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$38,000 and the 75th percentile earning \$87,000 — a difference of \$49,000.

About 48 percent of people with these majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 70 percent. Of people who majored in Physical Sciences, 18 percent work in Management, 11 percent in Sales, 10 percent in Life Science, and 10 percent in Health Practice occupations. By industry, 14 percent work in Professional Services, 14 percent in Health Services, 10 percent in Education, and 9 percent in Manufacturing.

Of those with these majors who are in the labor force and employed, 86 percent work full-time. About 5 percent are unemployed.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

● Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**ALL**

Science-Life/Physical  
Physical Sciences Major Group  
Astronomy and Astrophysics  
Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology  
Chemistry  
Geology and Earth Science  
Geosciences  
Multi-Disciplinary or General Science  
Nuclear, Industrial Radiology, and Biological Technologies  
Oceanography  
Physical Science  
Physics

**POPULARITY OF MAJORS†**

Total Bachelor's	936,633	3,680	13,408	236,855	94,270	4,918	<b>460,091</b>	14,771	7,954	9,232	91,454
% of Major Group	100	<0.5	1	25	10	1	<b>49</b>	2	1	1	10

**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR\***

Median earnings	53,000	59,000	•	67,000	58,000	62,000	•	55,000	52,000	<b>70,000</b>	69,000	<b>70,000</b>
-----------------	--------	--------	---	--------	--------	--------	---	--------	--------	---------------	--------	---------------

**EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

Earnings at the 25th percentile	36,000	38,000	•	42,000	39,000	40,000	•	37,000	42,000	42,000	<b>50,000</b>	38,000
Earnings at the 75th percentile	80,000	87,000	•	100,000	86,000	94,000	•	80,000	80,000	<b>110,000</b>	92,000	105,000
Difference	44,000	49,000	•	58,000	47,000	54,000	•	43,000	38,000	<b>68,000</b>	42,000	67,000

**PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	48	52	43	64	40	55	37	68	<b>88</b>	51	59	33
Obtain graduate degree (%)	52	48	57	36	60	45	63	32	12	49	41	<b>67</b>

**EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	86	70	•	1	<b>93</b>	27	•	73	•	11	•	41
---------------------------------------	----	----	---	---	-----------	----	---	----	---	----	---	----

**WORK STATUS\***

Full-time (%)	83	86	86	82	87	88	91	87	86	<b>96</b>	86	83
Part-time (%)	17	14	14	<b>18</b>	13	12	9	13	14	4	14	17

**PERCENT EMPLOYED\*\***

Employed (%)	95	95	94	<b>98</b>	95	95	95	94	<b>98</b>	94	91	94
--------------	----	----	----	-----------	----	----	----	----	-----------	----	----	----

† The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

	Science- Life/Physical	Physical Sciences Major Group	Astronomy and Astrophysics	Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology	Chemistry	Geology and Earth Science	Geosciences	Multi-Disciplinary or General Science	Nuclear, Industrial Radiology, and Biological Technologies	Oceanography	Physical Science	Physics
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>												
Percent Female	49	42	27	20	44	27	36	51	51	33	31	18
Percent Male	51	58	73	80	56	73	64	49	49	67	69	82
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>												
Female Median Earnings	46,000	48,000	•	•	50,000	50,000	•	48,000	•	•	•	40,000
Male Median Earnings	60,000	65,000	•	75,000	63,000	66,000	•	62,000	60,000	•	•	75,000
Difference	14,000	17,000	•	•	13,000	16,000	•	14,000	•	•	•	35,000

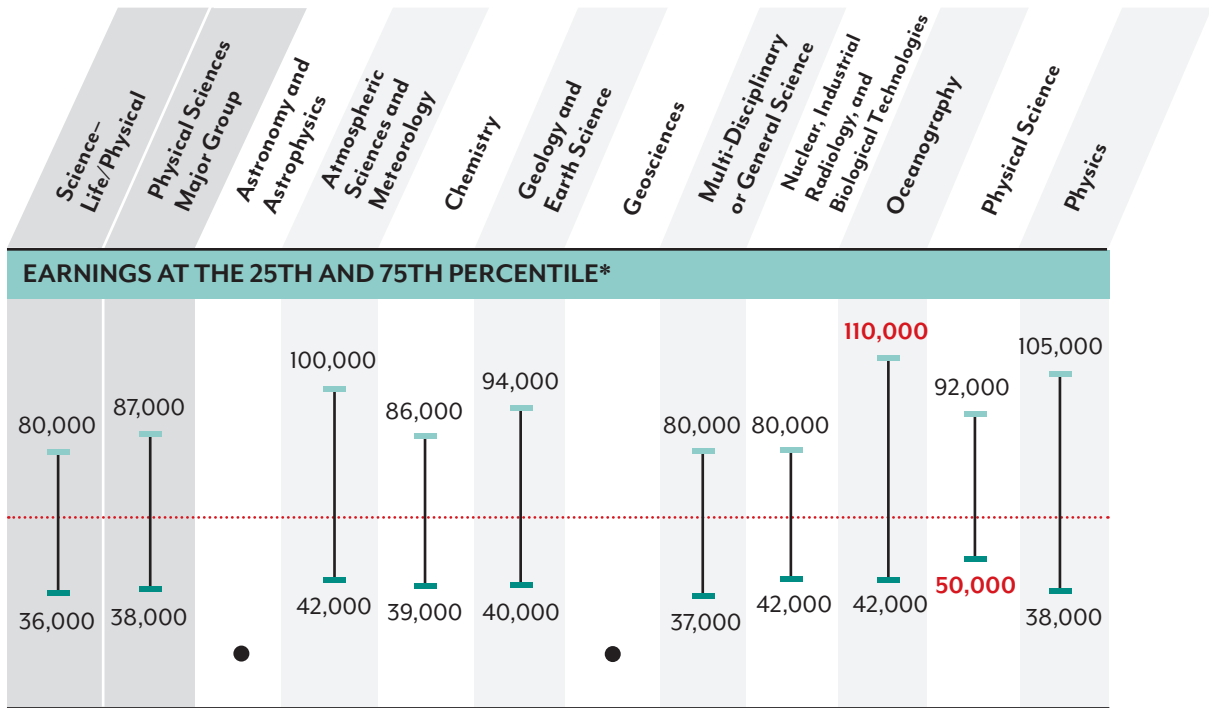
\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

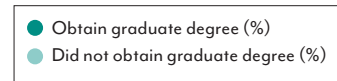
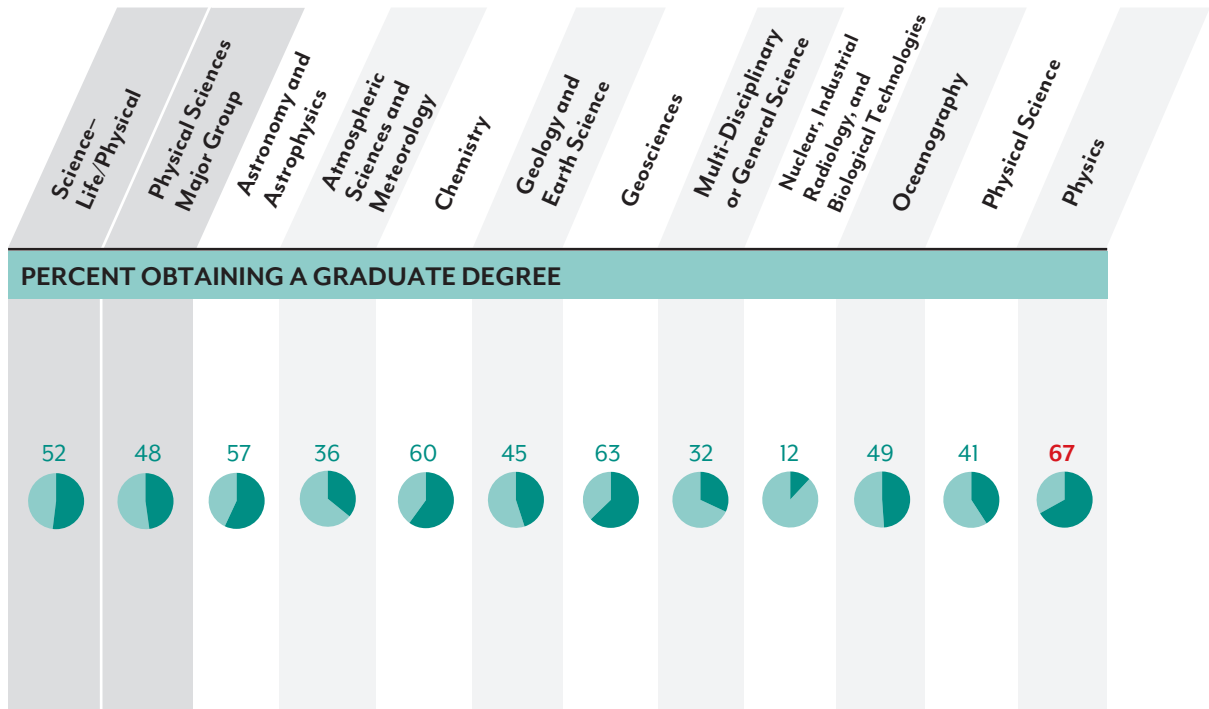
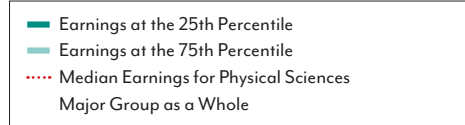
## RACE AND ETHNICITY

	Science- Life/Physical	Physical Sciences Major Group	Astronomy and Astrophysics	Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology	Chemistry	Geology and Earth Science	Geosciences	Multi-Disciplinary or General Science	Nuclear, Industrial Radiology, and Biological Technologies	Oceanography	Physical Science	Physics
<b>RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>												
% White	75	74	84	90	69	89	81	73	77	83	72	73
% African- American	7	8	<0.5	7	7	4	<0.5	10	4	2	11	5
% Hispanic	6	6	8	<0.5	6	3	5	8	4	8	7	4
% Asian	11	11	5	3	17	3	14	9	14	5	10	17
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	1	2	<0.5	1	1	<0.5	1	1	2	<0.5	1

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.  
 • Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**WHERE PHYSICAL SCIENCES MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	<b>1st Occupation (%)</b>	<b>2nd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>3rd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>4th Occupation (%)</b>	<b>5th Occupation (%)</b>
<b>Science– Life/Physical</b>	MGMT (17)	HLTH PROF (13)	LS (11)	SALES (11)	OFF (8)
<b>Physical Sciences Major Group</b>	MGMT (18)	SALES (11)	LS (10)	HLTH PROF (10)	OFF (8)
<b>Astronomy and Astrophysics</b>	EDU (43)	COMP (12)	MGMT (9)	FOOD (8)	OFF (8)
<b>Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology</b>	LS (33)	COMP (10)	OFF (9)	FIN (8)	MGMT (7)
<b>Chemistry</b>	LS (22)	MGMT (19)	EDU (8)	SALES (8)	HLTH PROF (8)
<b>Geology and Earth Science</b>	LS (19)	MGMT (19)	SALES (11)	COMP (5)	PROD (5)
<b>Geosciences</b>	LS (41)	MGMT (17)	SALES (13)	COMP (8)	FIN (7)
<b>Multi- Disciplinary or General Science</b>	MGMT (18)	HLTH PROF (13)	SALES (13)	OFF (10)	EDU (7)
<b>Nuclear, Industrial Radiology, and Biological Technologies</b>	HLTH PROF (46)	MGMT (15)	SALES (8)	ENGR (5)	BUS (4)
<b>Oceanography</b>	LS (26)	MGMT(23)	TRAN (9)	EDU (6)	PROT (6)
<b>Physical Science</b>	MGMT (24)	LS (10)	EDU (10)	OFF (8)	BUS (7)
<b>Physics</b>	COMP (19)	MGMT (19)	ENGR (14)	SALES (9)	EDU (8)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Occupation Abbreviations:**

Architecture = ARCH	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Arts = ARTS	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Blue Collar = BC	Installation = INST
Building = BLDG	Legal = LGL
Business = BUS	Life Science = LS
Community Service = COMM	Management = MGMT
Computer Services = COMP	Office = OFF
Construction = CON	Personal Service = PERS
Education = EDU	Production = PROD
Engineering = ENGR	Protective Services = PROT
Finance = FIN	Sales = SALES
Food Service = FOOD	Social Science = SS
	Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE PHYSICAL SCIENCES MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	<b>1st Industry (%)</b>	<b>2nd Industry (%)</b>	<b>3rd Industry (%)</b>	<b>4th Industry (%)</b>	<b>5th Industry (%)</b>
<b>Science– Life/Physical</b>	HS (17)	PROF (14)	EDU (11)	PUB (9)	MAN-nd (8)
<b>Physical Sciences Major Group</b>	PROF (14)	HS (14)	EDU (10)	MAN-nd (9)	MAN-d (8)
<b>Astronomy and Astrophysics</b>	EDU (45)	MAN-d (11)	FS (8)	OS (8)	WHLS-d (6)
<b>Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology</b>	PUB (18)	PROF (15)	INFO (14)	MAN-d (10)	EDU (9)
<b>Chemistry</b>	MAN-nd (22)	PROF (14)	EDU (11)	HS (10)	MAN-d (9)
<b>Geology and Earth Science</b>	PROF (24)	PUB (18)	MNG (6)	MAN-d (6)	RETL (6)
<b>Geosciences</b>	PROF (28)	PUB (20)	MNG (12)	EDU (12)	FIN (9)
<b>Multi- Disciplinary or General Science</b>	HS (20)	PROF (10)	EDU (10)	RETL (8)	MAN-d (7)
<b>Nuclear, Industrial Radiology, and Biological Technologies</b>	HS (64)	MAN-d (7)	RETL (7)	UTIL (3)	WHLS-d (3)
<b>Oceanography</b>	PUB (18)	PROF (16)	MAN-nd (10)	TRAN (9)	EDU (8)
<b>Physical Science</b>	PUB (19)	PROF (13)	MAN-nd (11)	EDU (10)	INFO (9)
<b>Physics</b>	PROF (21)	MAN-d (19)	EDU (14)	FIN (7)	RETL (6)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Industry Abbreviations:**

Administrative Services = ADMN	Mining = MNG
Agriculture = AG	Other Service = OS
Arts = ARTS	Professional Services = PROF
Construction = CON	Public Administration = PUB
Education Services = EDU	Real Estate = RE
Financial Services = FIN	Retail Trade = RETL
Food Service = FS	Sales = SALES
Health Services = HS	Social Science = SS
Information = INFO	Transportation = TRAN
Management Services = MGMT	Utilities = UTIL
Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d	Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d
Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd	Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd



# Psychology and Social Work

**This group includes the following majors:**

- **Clinical Psychology**
- **Communications Disorders Sciences and Services**
- **Counseling Psychology**
- **Educational Psychology**
- **Human Services and Community Organization**
- **Industrial and Organizational Psychology**
- **Miscellaneous Psychology**
- **Psychology**
- **Social Psychology**
- **Social Work**

Psychology and Social Work make up 5.4 percent of all majors. Median earnings for those with only a Bachelor's degree who majored in Psychology and Social Work are \$42,000.<sup>1</sup> There is a significant gender imbalance in this major group (74 percent female, 26 percent male). However, women with these majors make, in the aggregate, \$40,000, which is \$12,000 less than men. The racial makeup of these majors, on average, is 74 percent White, 11 percent African-American, 8 percent Hispanic, 5 percent Asian and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Whites (\$44,000), African-Americans (\$40,000) and Hispanics (\$40,000) all make somewhat less than the median wages of \$48,000 earned by Asians.

There is great variation within the majors that make up this group. The major with the lowest median earnings is Counseling Psychology, while the highest is Industrial and Organizational Psychology. Earnings in Psychology and Social Work as a whole vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$30,000 and the 75th percentile earning \$62,000—a difference of \$32,000.

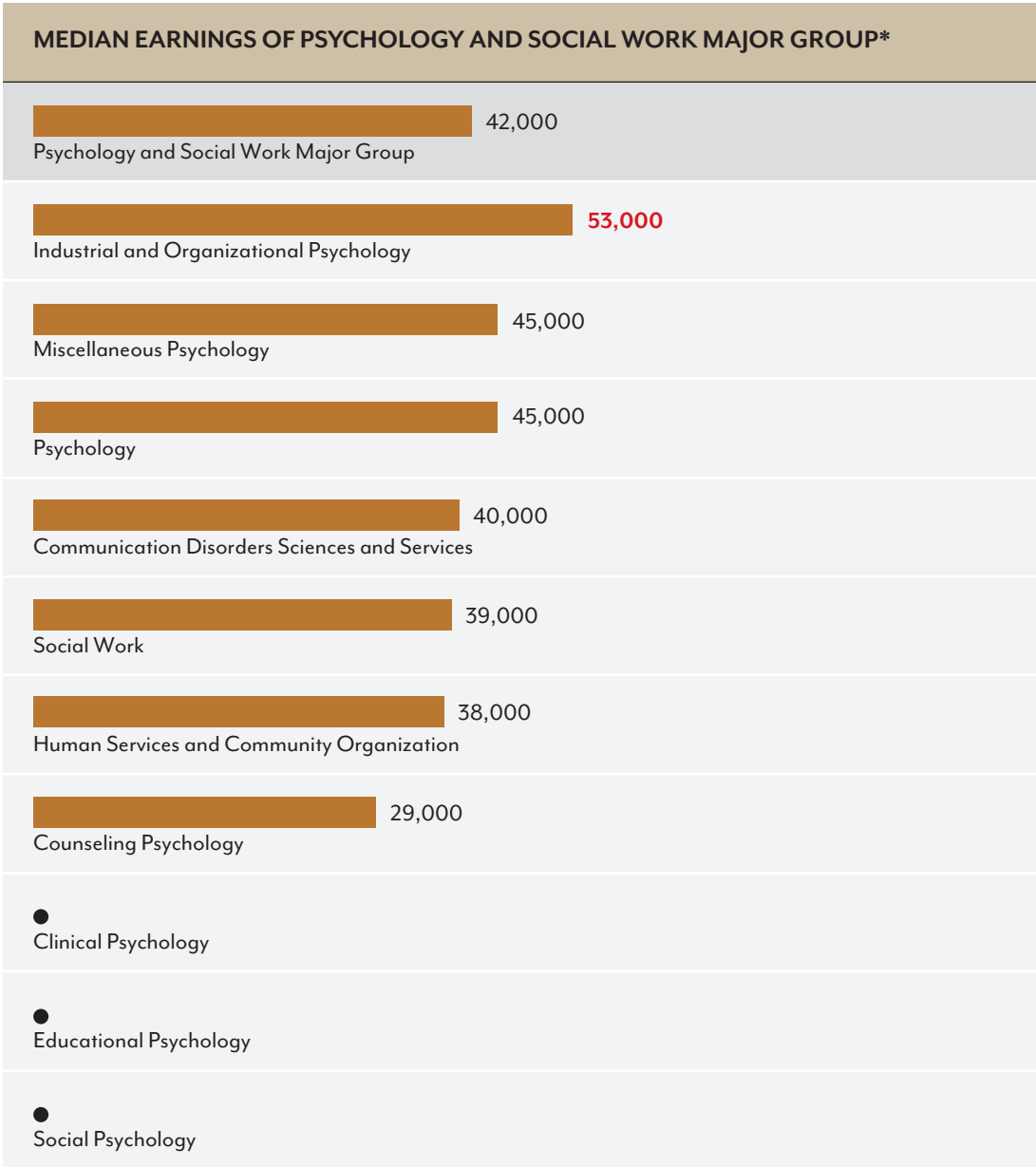
About 45 percent of people with these majors obtain a graduate degree, which gives them an average earnings boost of 43 percent.

Of people who majored in Psychology and Social Work, 18 percent work in Community Services, 16 percent in Management, 15 percent in Office, 11 percent in Sales, and 8 percent in Education occupations. By industry, 26 percent work in Health Services, 12 percent in Education, and 12 percent in Public Administration.

Of those with a major in Psychology and Social work who are in the labor force and employed, 79 percent work full-time. About 6 percent are unemployed.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.



**ALL**



**POPULARITY OF MAJORS†**

Total Bachelor's	1,808,669	10,762	63,482	14,715	8,562	64,606	17,149	30,059	<b>1,318,539</b>	7,798	272,997
% of Major Group	100	1	4	1	<0.5	4	1	2	<b>73</b>	<0.5	15

**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR\***

Median earnings	42,000	●	40,000	29,000	●	38,000	<b>53,000</b>	45,000	45,000	●	39,000
-----------------	--------	---	--------	--------	---	--------	---------------	--------	--------	---	--------

**EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

Earnings at the 25th percentile	30,000	●	31,000	21,000	●	27,000	<b>37,000</b>	30,000	31,000	●	30,000
Earnings at the 75th percentile	62,000	●	59,000	42,000	●	53,000	<b>78,000</b>	64,000	65,000	●	52,000
Difference	32,000	●	28,000	21,000	●	26,000	<b>41,000</b>	34,000	34,000	●	22,000

**PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	55	34	28	30	38	<b>73</b>	62	50	57	52	57
Obtain graduate degree (%)	45	66	<b>72</b>	70	62	27	38	50	43	48	43

**EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	43	●	49	67	●	37	28	<b>69</b>	45	●	32
---------------------------------------	----	---	----	----	---	----	----	-----------	----	---	----

**WORK STATUS\***

Full-time (%)	79	79	68	81	88	88	79	84	79	<b>93</b>	80
Part-time (%)	21	21	<b>32</b>	19	12	12	21	16	21	7	20

**PERCENT EMPLOYED\*\***

Employed (%)	94	95	<b>97</b>	90	96	94	94	94	94	84	95
--------------	----	----	-----------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

† The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

● Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

	Psychology and Social Work Major Group	Clinical Psychology	Communication Disorders Sciences and Services	Counseling Psychology	Educational Psychology	Human Services and Community Organization	Industrial and Organizational Psychology	Miscellaneous Psychology	Psychology	Social Psychology	Social Work
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>											
Percent Female	74	76	94	74	78	81	63	71	71	68	88
Percent Male	26	24	6	26	22	19	37	29	29	32	12
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>											
Female Median Earnings	40,000	•	40,000	•	•	35,000	57,000	42,000	41,000	•	38,000
Male Median Earnings	52,000	•	•	•	•	40,000	•	55,000	53,000	•	48,000
Difference	12,000	•	•	•	•	5,000	•	13,000	12,000	•	10,000

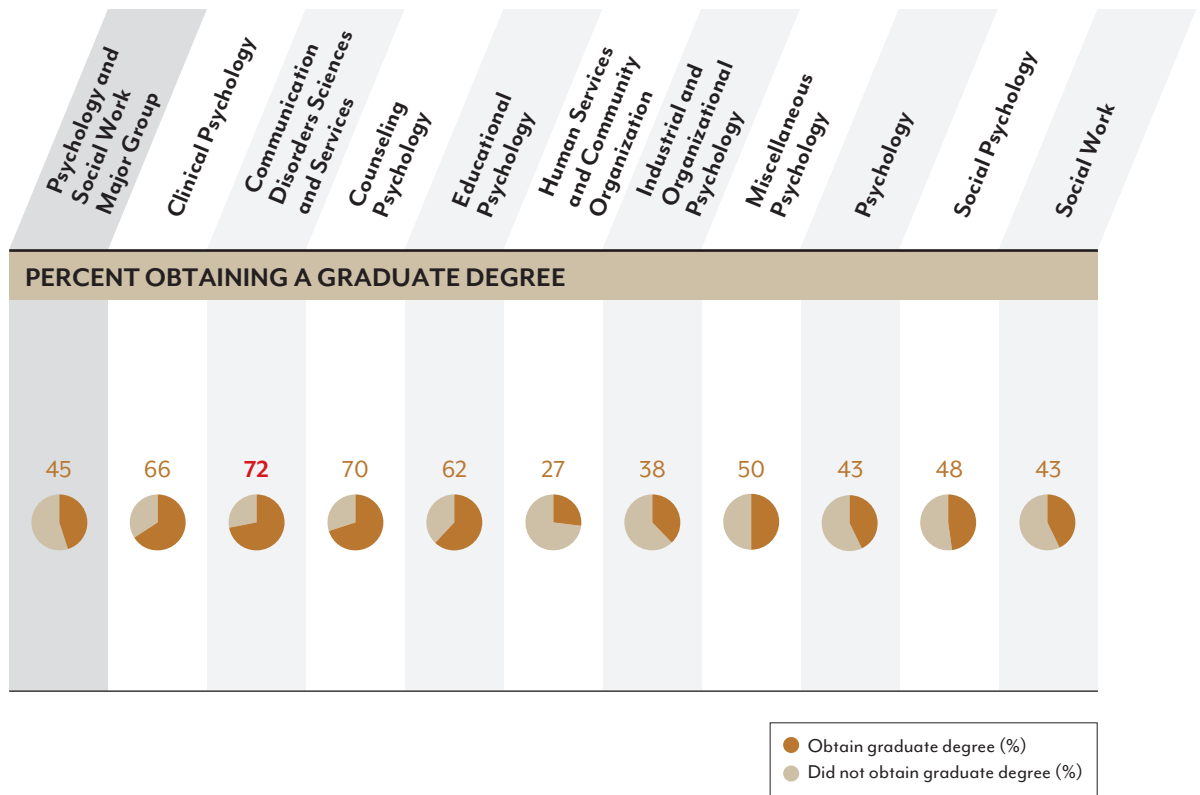
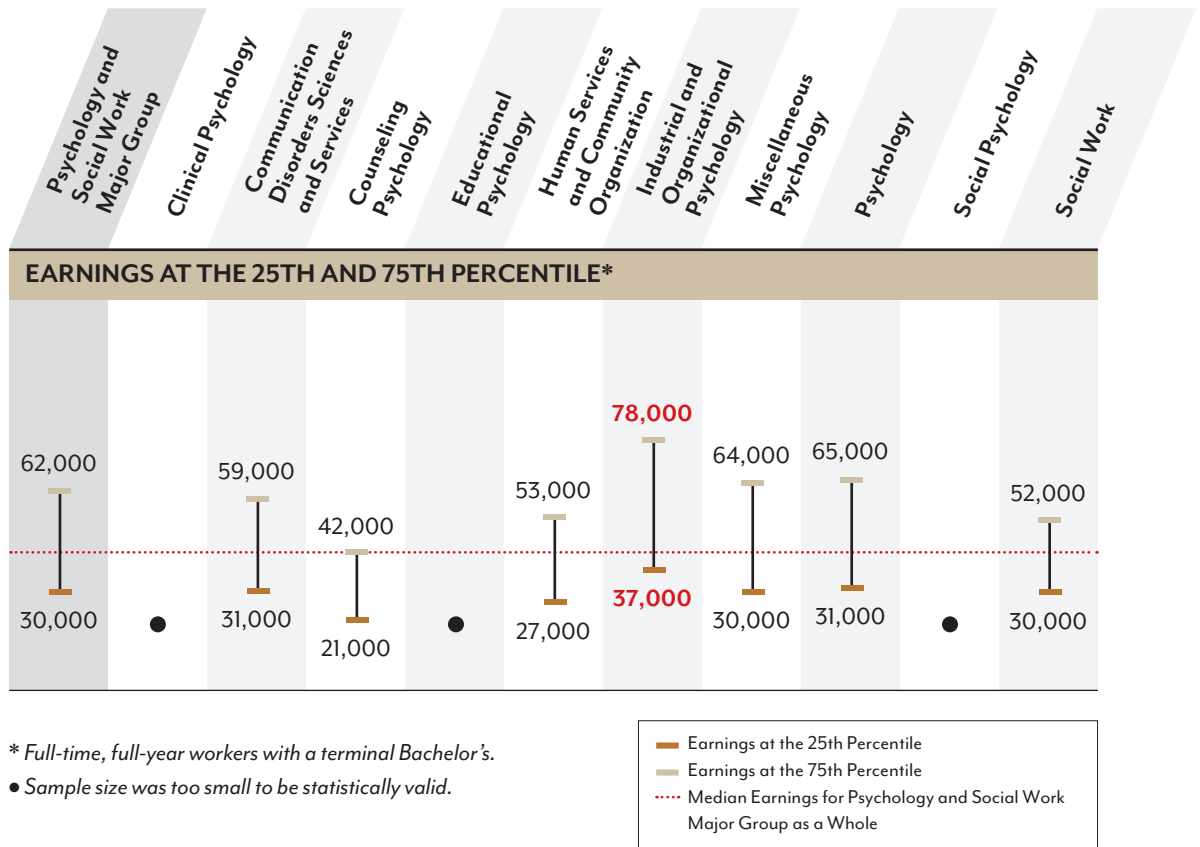
\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

## RACE AND ETHNICITY

	Psychology and Social Work Major Group	Clinical Psychology	Communication Disorders Sciences and Services	Counseling Psychology	Educational Psychology	Human Services and Community Organization	Industrial and Organizational Psychology	Miscellaneous Psychology	Psychology	Social Psychology	Social Work
<b>RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>											
% White	76	70	85	72	80	65	69	71	77	67	71
% African-American	11	14	5	20	12	21	13	12	9	12	16
% Hispanic	8	14	5	3	4	11	14	10	8	19	9
% Asian	5	2	4	5	4	1	3	7	5	2	3
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	<0.5	<0.5	1	<0.5	2	1	<0.5	1	<0.5	1

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



**WHERE PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	<b>1st Occupation (%)</b>	<b>2nd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>3rd Occupation (%)</b>	<b>4th Occupation (%)</b>	<b>5th Occupation (%)</b>
<b>Psychology and Social Work Major Group</b>	COMM (18)	MGMT (16)	OFF (15)	SALES (11)	EDU (8)
<b>Clinical Psychology</b>	SALES (23)	MGMT (21)	OFF (12)	COMM (12)	HLTH PROF (7)
<b>Communication Disorders Sciences and Services</b>	EDU (19)	HLTH PROF (18)	OFF (16)	SALES (12)	MGMT (9)
<b>Counseling Psychology</b>	COMM (29)	OFF (15)	BUS (15)	EDU (11)	MGMT (9)
<b>Educational Psychology</b>	EDU (43)	OFF (22)	BUS (8)	MGMT (7)	SALES (7)
<b>Human Services and Community Organization</b>	COMM (27)	OFF (15)	MGMT (15)	EDU (7)	PROT (6)
<b>Industrial and Organizational Psychology</b>	MGMT (25)	OFF (20)	BUS (13)	FIN (10)	SALES (10)
<b>Miscellaneous Psychology</b>	MGMT (18)	EDU (11)	OFF (11)	COMM (10)	SALES (9)
<b>Psychology</b>	MGMT (17)	OFF (15)	COMM (13)	SALES (12)	EDU (8)
<b>Social Psychology</b>	MGMT (30)	COMM (21)	OFF (11)	FIN (9)	COMP (7)
<b>Social Work</b>	COMM (45)	OFF (13)	MGMT (11)	SALES (6)	EDU (5)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Occupation Abbreviations:</b>	
Architecture = ARCH	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Arts = ARTS	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Blue Collar = BC	Installation = INST
Building = BLDG	Legal = LGL
Business = BUS	Life Science = LS
Community Service = COMM	Management = MGMT
Computer Services = COMP	Office = OFF
Construction = CON	Personal Service = PERS
Education = EDU	Production = PROD
Engineering = ENGR	Protective Services = PROT
Finance = FIN	Sales = SALES
Food Service = FOOD	Social Science = SS
	Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	<b>1st Industry (%)</b>	<b>2nd Industry (%)</b>	<b>3rd Industry (%)</b>	<b>4th Industry (%)</b>	<b>5th Industry (%)</b>
<b>Psychology and Social Work Major Group</b>	HS (26)	EDU (12)	PUB (12)	FIN (9)	PROF (7)
<b>Clinical Psychology</b>	HS (28)	WHLS-nd (13)	RETL (11)	PUB (11)	EDU (10)
<b>Communication Disorders Sciences and Services</b>	EDU (30)	HS (22)	PROF (10)	RETL (7)	FIN (6)
<b>Counseling Psychology</b>	HS (52)	EDU (10)	FIN (7)	RETL (5)	MAN-nd (4)
<b>Educational Psychology</b>	EDU (46)	RETL (19)	HS (11)	ADMN (8)	PROF (5)
<b>Human Services and Community Organization</b>	HS (34)	PUB (21)	EDU (12)	FIN (6)	RETL (5)
<b>Industrial and Organizational Psychology</b>	FIN (16)	PUB (16)	PROF (13)	RE (9)	MAN-d (7)
<b>Miscellaneous Psychology</b>	HS (20)	EDU (12)	PUB (12)	FIN (10)	MAN-d (8)
<b>Psychology</b>	HS (22)	EDU (12)	FIN (10)	PUB (10)	PROF (8)
<b>Social Psychology</b>	HS (29)	EDU (19)	PUB (15)	PROF (11)	TRAN (5)
<b>Social Work</b>	HS (45)	PUB (17)	EDU (9)	OS (5)	RETL (4)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Industry Abbreviations:**

Administrative Services = ADMN

Agriculture = AG

Arts = ARTS

Construction = CON

Education Services = EDU

Financial Services = FIN

Food Service = FS

Health Services = HS

Information = INFO

Management Services = MGMT

Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d

Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd

Mining = MNG

Other Service = OS

Professional Services = PROF

Public Administration = PUB

Real Estate = RE

Retail Trade = RETL

Sales = SALES

Social Science = SS

Transportation = TRAN

Utilities = UTIL

Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d

Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd



# Social Science

**This group includes the following majors:**

- **Criminology**
- **Economics**
- **General Social Sciences**
- **Geography**
- **Interdisciplinary Social Sciences**
- **International Relations**
- **Miscellaneous Social Sciences**
- **Political Science and Government**
- **Sociology**
- **Statistics and Decision Science**

Social Science accounts for 6.9 percent of all majors. The median wages for those with a Bachelor's degree who majored in Social Science are \$55,000.<sup>1</sup> The gender makeup in these majors is fairly balanced overall (53 percent men, 47 percent women). Women with these majors make, in the aggregate, about \$46,000, which is \$18,000 less than men. The racial makeup, on average, is 75 percent White, 9 percent African-American, 8 percent Asian, 7 percent Hispanic, and 1 percent Other Races.<sup>2</sup> Earnings for Asians (\$50,000), African-Americans (\$44,000), Hispanics (\$48,000), and Other Races (\$45,000) are significantly less than the \$60,000 median earnings for Whites.

There is great variation among the majors that make up this group. The major with the lowest median earnings is Sociology, while the highest is Economics. Earnings in Social Science as a whole vary widely, with the 25th percentile earning \$38,000 and the 75th percentile earning \$87,000—a difference of \$49,000.

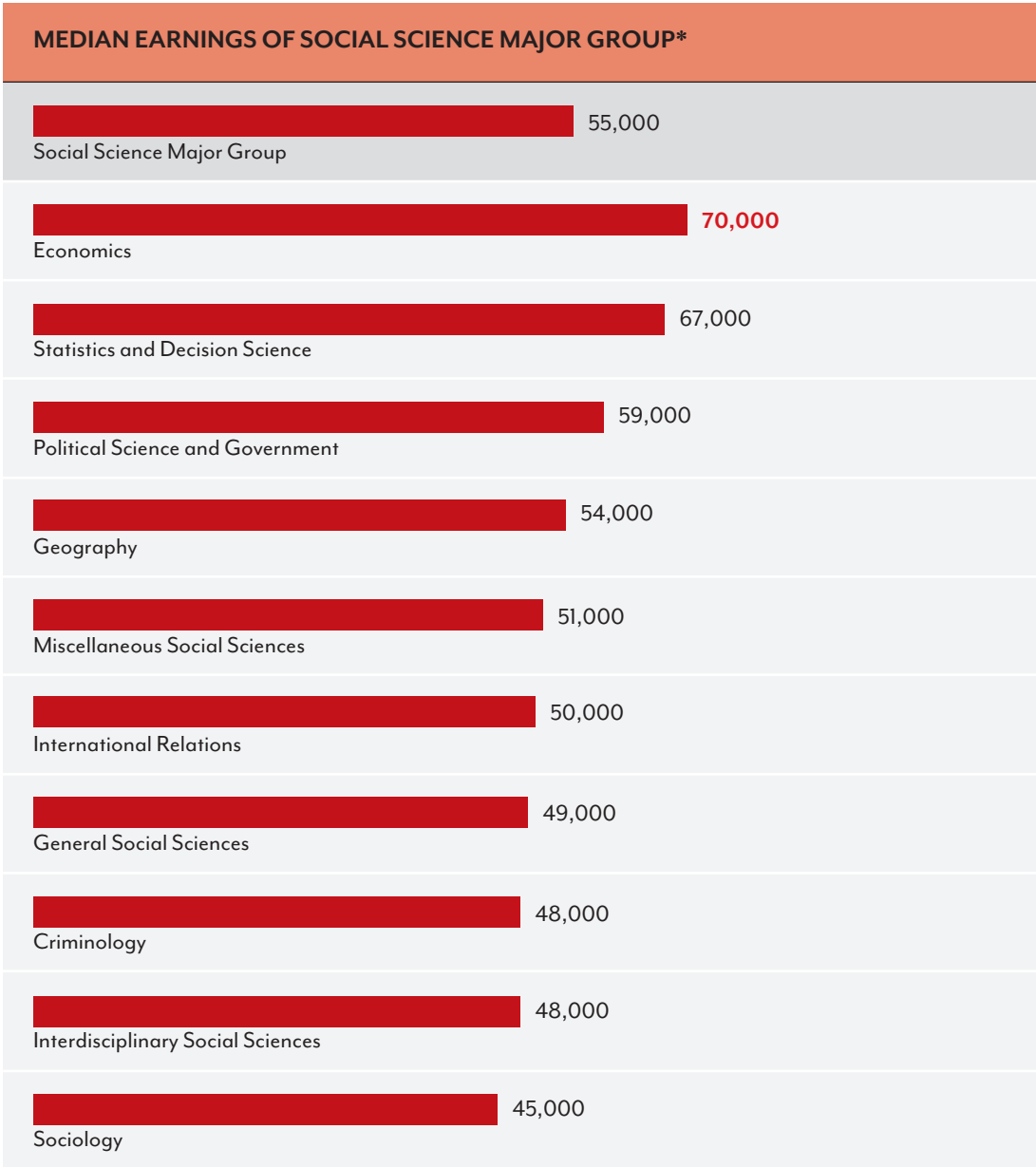
About 40 percent of the people with Social Science majors obtain a graduate degree and, as a result, get an average earnings boost of 57 percent.

Of people who majored in Social Science, 22 percent work in Management, 16 percent in Sales, 13 percent in Office, 7 percent in Finance, and 6 percent in Business occupations. By industry, 16 percent work in Financial Activities, 13 percent in Public Administration, 11 percent in Professional Services, 9 percent in Health Services, and 8 percent in Retail Trade.

Of Social Science majors who are in the labor force and employed, 86 percent work full-time. About 6 percent are unemployed.

<sup>1</sup> All of the earnings data presented here is on full-time, full-year workers with a Bachelor's degree only.

<sup>2</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.



**ALL**

Social Science Major Group

Criminology

Economics

General Social Sciences

Geography

Interdisciplinary Social Sciences

International Relations

Miscellaneous Social Sciences

Political Science and Government

Sociology

Statistics and Decision Science

**POPULARITY OF MAJORS<sup>†</sup>**

Total Bachelor's	2,341,689	62,536	656,030	108,176	104,259	50,626	66,172	16,592	<b>674,123</b>	586,523	16,652
% of Major Group	100	3	28	5	4	2	3	1	<b>29</b>	25	1

**MEDIAN EARNINGS BY MAJOR\***

Median earnings	55,000	48,000	<b>70,000</b>	49,000	54,000	48,000	50,000	51,000	59,000	45,000	67,000
-----------------	--------	--------	---------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------

**EARNINGS AT THE 25TH AND 75TH PERCENTILE\***

Earnings at the 25th percentile	38,000	32,000	42,000	34,000	38,000	34,000	33,000	40,000	39,000	33,000	<b>50,000</b>
Earnings at the 75th percentile	87,000	68,000	<b>108,000</b>	69,000	75,000	71,000	85,000	74,000	90,000	68,000	92,000
Difference	49,000	36,000	<b>66,000</b>	35,000	37,000	37,000	52,000	34,000	51,000	35,000	42,000

**PERCENT OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

Did not obtain graduate degree (%)	60	<b>78</b>	60	64	70	68	53	54	53	66	48
Obtain graduate degree (%)	40	22	40	36	30	32	47	46	47	34	<b>52</b>

**EARNINGS BOOST FROM OBTAINING A GRADUATE DEGREE**

% Earnings Boost from Graduate Degree	57	67	50	47	42	38	51	<b>134</b>	62	34	24
---------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	------------	----	----	----

**WORK STATUS\***

Full-time (%)	86	87	<b>90</b>	80	89	80	85	78	86	82	81
Part-time (%)	14	13	10	20	11	20	15	<b>22</b>	14	18	19

**PERCENT EMPLOYED\*\***

Employed (%)	94	<b>97</b>	94	94	94	91	93	<b>97</b>	93	95	92
--------------	----	-----------	----	----	----	----	----	-----------	----	----	----

<sup>†</sup> The ACS data are best used to discuss distributional characteristics of the underlying population. However, we also include the number of degree holders to provide the reader with an 'order of magnitude' sense of the number of people with this major.

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

\*\* Of people in the labor force.

## GENDER

	Social Science Major Group	Criminology	Economics	General Social Sciences	Geography	Interdisciplinary Social Sciences	International Relations	Miscellaneous Social Sciences	Political Science and Government	Sociology	Statistics and Decision Science
<b>GENDER COMPOSITION OF MAJORS</b>											
Percent Female	47	42	34	56	30	70	60	54	41	68	51
Percent Male	53	58	66	44	70	30	40	46	59	32	49
<b>EARNINGS BY GENDER*</b>											
Female Median Earnings	46,000	42,000	57,000	42,000	44,000	41,000	42,000	•	49,000	42,000	•
Male Median Earnings	64,000	52,000	74,000	54,000	60,000	63,000	68,000	54,000	63,000	54,000	73,000
Difference	18,000	10,000	17,000	12,000	16,000	22,000	26,000	•	14,000	12,000	•

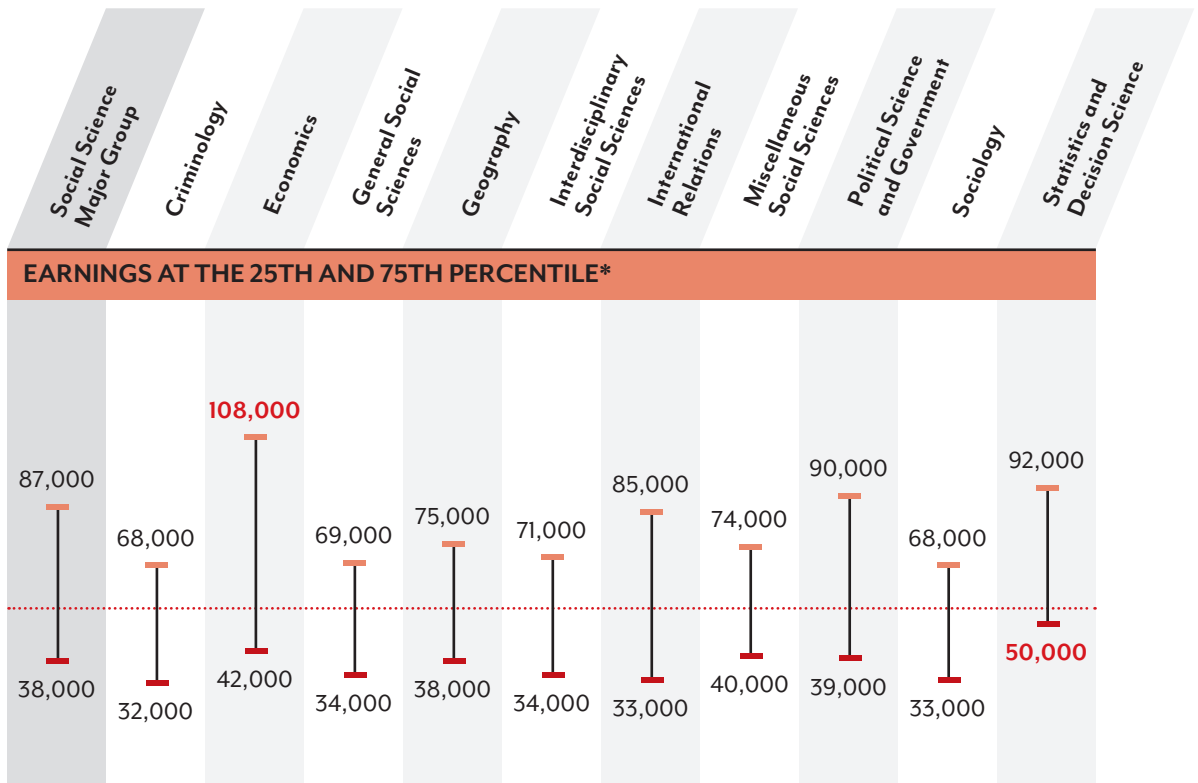
\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

• Sample size was too small to be statistically valid.

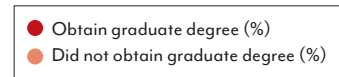
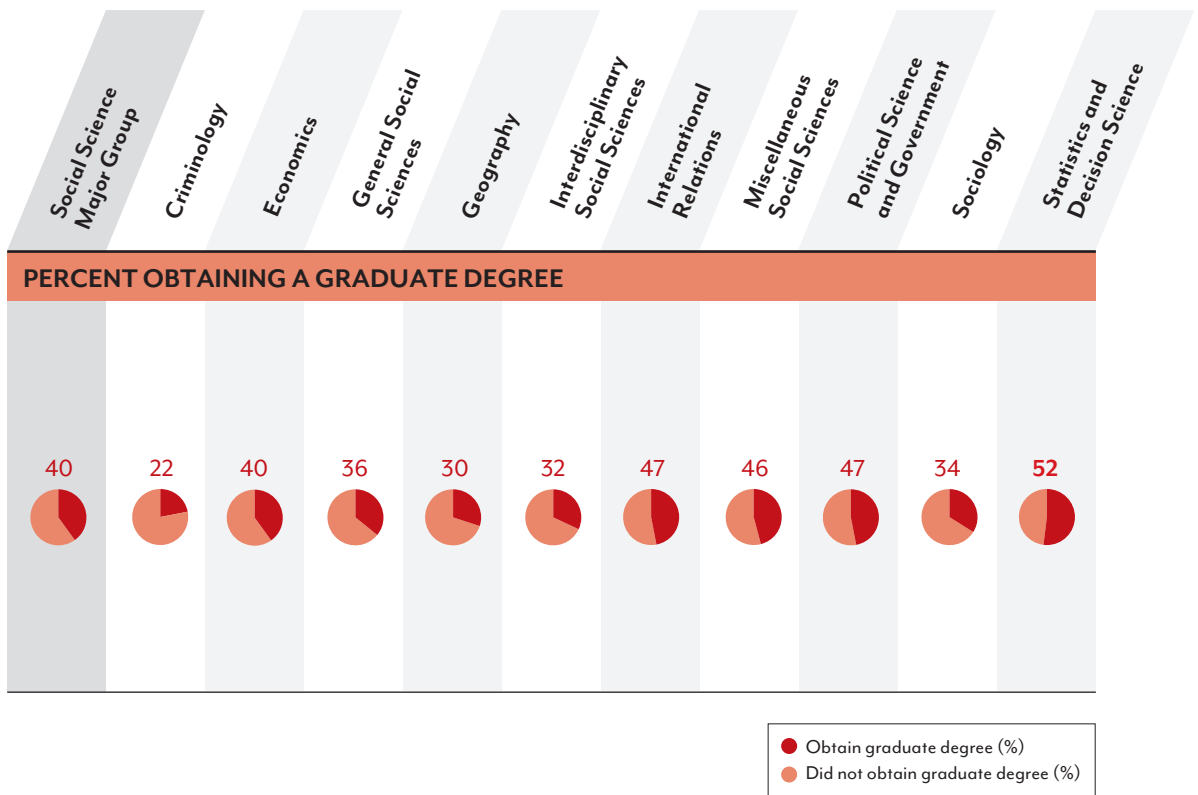
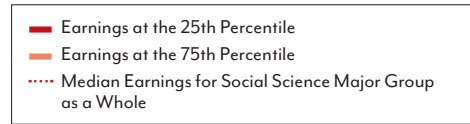
## RACE AND ETHNICITY

	Social Science Major Group	Criminology	Economics	General Social Sciences	Geography	Interdisciplinary Social Sciences	International Relations	Miscellaneous Social Sciences	Political Science and Government	Sociology	Statistics and Decision Science
<b>RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MAJORS<sup>Δ</sup></b>											
% White	75	73	73	71	89	81	73	77	79	72	61
% African-American	9	9	6	13	3	9	4	16	8	14	8
% Hispanic	7	12	6	9	3	7	13	3	7	7	1
% Asian	8	4	15	6	4	3	10	4	5	5	30
% Other Races and Ethnicities	1	2	<0.5	1	<0.5	1	<0.5	<0.5	1	1	<0.5

<sup>Δ</sup> Due to rounding, these may not add to 100 percent.



\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.



**WHERE SOCIAL SCIENCE MAJORS END UP BY OCCUPATION\***

	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>
	<b>Occupation (%)</b>	<b>Occupation (%)</b>	<b>Occupation (%)</b>	<b>Occupation (%)</b>	<b>Occupation (%)</b>
<b>Social Science Major Group</b>	MGMT (22)	SALES (16)	OFF (13)	FIN (7)	BUS (6)
<b>Criminology</b>	PROT (31)	OFF (13)	SALES (9)	MGMT (9)	COMM (7)
<b>Economics</b>	MGMT (26)	SALES (20)	FIN (14)	OFF (10)	COMP (6)
<b>General Social Sciences</b>	MGMT (16)	OFF (16)	SALES (14)	COMM (10)	EDU (10)
<b>Geography</b>	MGMT (19)	OFF (13)	COMP (10)	SALES (9)	ARCH (6)
<b>Interdisciplinary Social Sciences</b>	OFF (17)	MGMT (15)	EDU (12)	SALES (11)	COMM (10)
<b>International Relations</b>	MGMT (21)	OFF (19)	SALES (12)	BUS (10)	FIN (6)
<b>Miscellaneous Social Sciences</b>	MGMT (30)	OFF (15)	COMP (8)	SALES (7)	PROT (6)
<b>Political Science and Government</b>	MGMT (24)	SALES (18)	OFF (13)	BUS (7)	PROT (5)
<b>Sociology</b>	MGMT (17)	OFF (16)	COMM (14)	SALES (12)	EDU (7)
<b>Statistics and Decision Science</b>	MGMT (29)	COMP (29)	FIN (13)	OFF (10)	ENGR (6)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

<b>Occupation Abbreviations:</b>	Health Professionals = HLTH PROF
Architecture = ARCH	Health Support = HLTH SUP
Arts = ARTS	Installation = INST
Blue Collar = BC	Legal = LGL
Building = BLDG	Life Science = LS
Business = BUS	Management = MGMT
Community Service = COMM	Office = OFF
Computer Services = COMP	Personal Service = PERS
Construction = CON	Production = PROD
Education = EDU	Protective Services = PROT
Engineering = ENGR	Sales = SALES
Finance = FIN	Social Science = SS
Food Service = FOOD	Transportation = TRAN

**WHERE SOCIAL SCIENCE MAJORS END UP BY INDUSTRY\***

	<b>1st Industry (%)</b>	<b>2nd Industry (%)</b>	<b>3rd Industry (%)</b>	<b>4th Industry (%)</b>	<b>5th Industry (%)</b>
<b>Social Science Major Group</b>	FIN (16)	PUB (13)	PROF (11)	HS (9)	RETL (8)
<b>Criminology</b>	PUB (38)	RETL (11)	HS (9)	FIN (6)	PROF (5)
<b>Economics</b>	FIN (27)	PROF (11)	RETL (7)	MAN-d (6)	PUB (6)
<b>General Social Sciences</b>	EDU (17)	PUB (15)	HS (12)	FIN (9)	RETL (7)
<b>Geography</b>	PROF (20)	PUB (16)	FIN (9)	RETL (7)	TRAN (6)
<b>Interdisciplinary Social Sciences</b>	HS (24)	PUB (15)	EDU (14)	PROF (11)	FIN (10)
<b>International Relations</b>	FIN (17)	PROF (17)	EDU (10)	PUB (8)	HS (7)
<b>Miscellaneous Social Sciences</b>	PUB (20)	EDU (12)	OS (11)	HS (10)	PROF (8)
<b>Political Science and Government</b>	PUB (14)	FIN (13)	PROF (13)	RETL (9)	EDU (8)
<b>Sociology</b>	HS (19)	PUB (16)	EDU (11)	FIN (9)	PROF (8)
<b>Statistics and Decision Science</b>	PROF (28)	FIN (26)	PUB (15)	HS (5)	RETL (4)

\* Full-time, full-year workers with a terminal Bachelor's.

**Industry Abbreviations:**

Administrative Services = ADMN

Agriculture = AG

Arts = ARTS

Construction = CON

Education Services = EDU

Financial Services = FIN

Food Service = FS

Health Services = HS

Information = INFO

Management Services = MGMT

Manufacturing (durable) = MAN-d

Manufacturing (non-durable) = MAN-nd

Mining = MNG

Other Service = OS

Professional Services = PROF

Public Administration = PUB

Real Estate = RE

Retail Trade = RETL

Sales = SALES

Social Science = SS

Transportation = TRAN

Utilities = UTIL

Wholesale Trade (durable) = WHLS-d

Wholesale Trade (non-durable) = WHLS-nd



---

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

---



Center  
on Education  
and the Workforce

---

3300 Whitehaven Street, NW, Suite 5000

Washington, DC 20007

Mail: Campus Box 571444, Washington, DC 20057

[cew.georgetown.edu](http://cew.georgetown.edu)

***What's it Worth?: The Economic Value of College Majors***

is comprised of Selected Findings and a main report. The main report is available from the Center on Education and the Workforce and at [cew.georgetown.edu/whatsitworth](http://cew.georgetown.edu/whatsitworth)

