There are many ways of understanding the value of a college education in the humanities. Drawing on American Community Survey data, this profile explores humanities majors’ career outcomes: what they do for work, how much they earn, and how they compare to graduates from other fields.

**50,289** humanities majors reside in DC and work full-time.

They represent **17%** of the District’s full-time workers.

**Earnings**

**Annual Earnings of College-Educated Workers (Full-Time), by Undergraduate Major**

- **Humanities**
  - Associate’s Degree: $41,000
  - Bachelor’s Degree: $85,000
  - Advanced Degree: $117,000 (in any field)

**Median Earnings of Humanities Majors**

- **$56,000**
  - Workers aged 22–26
- **$117,000**
  - Workers aged 30–59
- **$85,000**
  - Bachelor’s degree only
- **$117,000**
  - Advanced degree in any field

See back for information on humanities graduates’ employment.
All of the estimates presented here are derived from the American Community Survey 5-Year Public Use Microdata Sample (2017–2021). Unless otherwise specified, earnings and unemployment estimates are for workers aged 25–59.

Additional information (including earnings estimates by gender, race/ethnicity, and humanities discipline) and our methodology are available at:

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