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.

24,177 humanities majors reside in Maine and work full-time. They represent 5% of the state’s full-time workers.

**Earnings**

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

- **Engineering**: $89,410 (75th Percentile), $68,865 (50th Percentile), $67,975 (25th Percentile)
- **Business**: $63,188 (75th Percentile), $63,188 (50th Percentile), $67,975 (25th Percentile)
- **Natural Sciences**: $60,352 (75th Percentile), $60,352 (50th Percentile), $60,352 (25th Percentile)
- **Behavioral & Social Sciences**: $54,655 (75th Percentile), $54,655 (50th Percentile), $54,655 (25th Percentile)
- **Humanities**: $45,711 (75th Percentile), $50,055 (50th Percentile), $44,125 (25th Percentile)
- **Education**: $42,125 (75th Percentile), $42,125 (50th Percentile), $42,125 (25th Percentile)
- **Arts**: $30,352 (75th Percentile), $30,352 (50th Percentile), $30,352 (25th Percentile)
- **Associate’s Degree**: $25,055 (75th Percentile), $25,055 (50th Percentile), $25,055 (25th Percentile)
- **High School Only**: $20,055 (75th Percentile), $20,055 (50th Percentile), $20,055 (25th Percentile)

**Median Earnings of Humanities Majors**

- $33,529 for workers aged 22–26
- $54,586 for bachelor's degree only
- $63,160 for workers aged 30–59
- $67,400 for advanced degree in any field

See back for information on humanities graduates’ employment.
Occupations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Humanities Graduates</th>
<th>All College Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service &amp; Sales</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business &amp; Finance</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office &amp; Admin Support</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, Design, E&amp;M &amp; Media</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

47% of college graduates in library and museum jobs majored in the humanities.

34% of college graduates in legal jobs majored in the humanities.

Unemployment by College Major

- Humanities: 2%
- Engineering & Natural Sciences: 1%
- Business: 3%
- High School Only: 6%

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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