Mississippi’s Humanities Majors: What They Earn & What They Do

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.

17,966 humanities majors reside in Mississippi and work full-time. They represent 2% of the state’s full-time workers.

Earnings

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>25th Percentile</th>
<th>50th (Median)</th>
<th>75th Percentile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>$51,496</td>
<td>$53,526</td>
<td>$56,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences</td>
<td>$51,496</td>
<td>$54,913</td>
<td>$58,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>$51,496</td>
<td>$54,913</td>
<td>$58,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>$53,526</td>
<td>$56,646</td>
<td>$61,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral &amp; Social Sciences</td>
<td>$48,173</td>
<td>$51,496</td>
<td>$56,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>$48,173</td>
<td>$51,496</td>
<td>$56,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>$43,257</td>
<td>$46,940</td>
<td>$51,496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate’s Degree</td>
<td>$35,764</td>
<td>$43,257</td>
<td>$53,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Only</td>
<td>$35,764</td>
<td>$43,257</td>
<td>$53,526</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MEDIAN EARNINGS OF HUMANITIES MAJORS

- **$34,792** workers aged 22–26
- **$46,032** bachelor’s degree only
- **$56,646** workers aged 30–59
- **$61,019** advanced degree in any field

See back for information on humanities graduates’ employment.
### Occupations

#### Humanities Graduates
- 25% Education
- 16% Service & Sales
- 11% Management
- 10% Office & Administrative Support
- 6% Business & Finance
- 4% Legal
- 4% Arts, Design, Entertainment, & Media
- 24% Other

#### All College Graduates
- 20% Education
- 14% Service & Sales
- 11% Management
- 8% Office & Administrative Support
- 8% Business & Finance
- 2% Legal
- 2% Arts, Design, Entertainment, & Media
- 35% Other

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**15%**

of college graduates in legal jobs majored in the humanities.

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### Unemployment by College Major

- **Humanities**: 3%
- **Natural Sciences**: 2%
- **Engineering**: 4%
- **Business**: 4%
- **High School Only**: 8%

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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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