Oregon’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.

76,191 humanities majors reside in Oregon and work full-time.

Earnings

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

- **Engineering**
  - 25th Percentile: $82,394
  - Median (50th Percentile): $86,354
  - 75th Percentile: $109,309

- **Natural Sciences**
  - 25th Percentile: $61,082
  - Median (50th Percentile): $64,492
  - 75th Percentile: $68,454

- **Business**
  - 25th Percentile: $42,125
  - Median (50th Percentile): $52,657
  - 75th Percentile: $61,082

- **Behavioral & Social Sciences**
  - 25th Percentile: $40,000
  - Median (50th Percentile): $52,657
  - 75th Percentile: $61,082

- **Humanities**
  - 25th Percentile: $40,000
  - Median (50th Percentile): $52,657
  - 75th Percentile: $61,082

- **Education**
  - 25th Percentile: $42,125
  - Median (50th Percentile): $52,657
  - 75th Percentile: $61,082

- **Arts**
  - 25th Percentile: $42,125
  - Median (50th Percentile): $52,657
  - 75th Percentile: $61,082

- **Associate’s Degree**
  - 25th Percentile: $42,125
  - Median (50th Percentile): $52,657
  - 75th Percentile: $61,082

- **High School Only**
  - 25th Percentile: $42,125
  - Median (50th Percentile): $52,657
  - 75th Percentile: $61,082

**MEDIAN EARNINGS OF HUMANITIES MAJORS**

- **$39,351**
  - workers aged 22–26

- **$61,796**
  - bachelor’s degree only

- **$72,646**
  - workers aged 30–59

- **$78,275**
  - 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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