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.

8,221 humanities majors reside in South Dakota and work full-time. They represent 3% of the state’s full-time workers.

### Earnings

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

- **Engineering**: $77,077
- **Natural Sciences**: $66,347
- **Business**: $55,882
- **Behavioral & Social Sciences**: $53,526
- **Humanities**: $53,526
- **Arts**: $50,466
- **Education**: $48,173
- **Associate’s Degree**: $41,197
- **High School Only**: $40,000

**MEDIAN EARNINGS OF HUMANITIES MAJORS**

- **$24,485** workers aged 22–26
- **$46,548** bachelor’s degree only
- **$59,306** workers aged 30–59
- **$62,525** advanced degree in any field

See back for information on humanities graduates’ employment.
All estimates are derived from the American Community Survey 5-Year Public Use Microdata Sample (2017–2021). Unless otherwise specified, earnings estimates are for workers aged 25–59. Unemployment estimates are for those aged 22–65.