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Salary Increase By Major

Your parents might have worried when you chose Philosophy or International Relations as a major. But a year-long survey of 1.2 million people with only a bachelor's degree by PayScale Inc. shows that graduates in these subjects earned 103.5% and 97.8% more, respectively, about 10 years post-commencement. Majors that didn't show as much salary growth include Nursing and Information Technology.

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Undergraduate Major	Starting Median Salary	Mid-Career Median Salary	Percent change from Starting to Mid-Career Salary	Mid-Career 10th Percentile Salary	Mid-Career 25th Percentile Salary	Mid-Career 75th Percentile Salary	Mid-Career 90th Percentile Salary
Accounting	\$46,000.00	\$77,100.00	67.6	\$42,200.00	\$56,100.00	\$108,000.00	\$152,000.00
Aerospace Engineering	\$57,700.00	\$101,000.00	75.0	\$64,300.00	\$82,100.00	\$127,000.00	\$161,000.00
Agriculture	\$42,600.00	\$71,900.00	68.8	\$36,300.00	\$52,100.00	\$96,300.00	\$150,000.00
Anthropology	\$36,800.00	\$61,500.00	67.1	\$33,800.00	\$45,500.00	\$89,300.00	\$138,000.00
Architecture	\$41,600.00	\$76,800.00	84.6	\$50,600.00	\$62,200.00	\$97,000.00	\$136,000.00
Art History	\$35,800.00	\$64,900.00	81.3	\$28,800.00	\$42,200.00	\$87,400.00	\$125,000.00
Biology	\$38,800.00	\$64,800.00	67.0	\$36,900.00	\$47,400.00	\$94,500.00	\$135,000.00
Business Management	\$43,000.00	\$72,100.00	67.7	\$38,800.00	\$51,500.00	\$102,000.00	\$147,000.00
Chemical Engineering	\$63,200.00	\$107,000.00	69.3	\$71,900.00	\$87,300.00	\$143,000.00	\$194,000.00
Chemistry	\$42,600.00	\$79,900.00	87.6	\$45,300.00	\$60,700.00	\$108,000.00	\$148,000.00
Civil Engineering	\$53,900.00	\$90,500.00	67.9	\$63,400.00	\$75,100.00	\$115,000.00	\$148,000.00
Communications	\$38,100.00	\$70,000.00	83.7	\$37,500.00	\$49,700.00	\$98,800.00	\$143,000.00
Computer Engineering	\$61,400.00	\$105,000.00	71.0	\$66,100.00	\$84,100.00	\$135,000.00	\$162,000.00
Computer Science	\$55,900.00	\$95,500.00	70.8	\$56,000.00	\$74,900.00	\$122,000.00	\$154,000.00
Construction	\$53,700.00	\$88,900.00	65.5	\$56,300.00	\$68,100.00	\$118,000.00	\$171,000.00
Criminal Justice	\$35,000.00	\$56,300.00	60.9	\$32,200.00	\$41,600.00	\$80,700.00	\$107,000.00
Drama	\$35,900.00	\$56,900.00	58.5	\$36,700.00	\$41,300.00	\$79,100.00	\$153,000.00
Economics	\$50,100.00	\$98,600.00	96.8	\$50,600.00	\$70,600.00	\$145,000.00	\$210,000.00
Education	\$34,900.00	\$52,000.00	49.0	\$29,300.00	\$37,900.00	\$73,400.00	\$102,000.00
Electrical Engineering	\$60,900.00	\$103,000.00	69.1	\$69,300.00	\$83,800.00	\$130,000.00	\$168,000.00
English	\$38,000.00	\$64,700.00	70.3	\$33,400.00	\$44,800.00	\$93,200.00	\$133,000.00
Film	\$37,900.00	\$68,500.00	80.7	\$33,900.00	\$45,500.00	\$100,000.00	\$136,000.00
Finance	\$47,900.00	\$88,300.00	84.3	\$47,200.00	\$62,100.00	\$128,000.00	\$195,000.00
Forestry	\$39,100.00	\$62,600.00	60.1	\$41,000.00	\$49,300.00	\$78,200.00	\$111,000.00
Geography	\$41,200.00	\$65,500.00	59.0	\$40,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$90,800.00	\$132,000.00
Geology	\$43,500.00	\$79,500.00	82.8	\$45,000.00	\$59,600.00	\$101,000.00	\$156,000.00
Graphic Design	\$35,700.00	\$59,800.00	67.5	\$36,000.00	\$45,500.00	\$80,800.00	\$112,000.00
Health Care Administration	\$38,800.00	\$60,600.00	56.2	\$34,600.00	\$45,600.00	\$78,800.00	\$101,000.00
History	\$39,200.00	\$71,000.00	81.1	\$37,000.00	\$49,200.00	\$103,000.00	\$149,000.00

Hospitality & Tourism	\$37,800.00	\$57,500.00	52.1	\$35,500.00	\$43,600.00	\$81,900.00	\$124,000.00
Industrial Engineering	\$57,700.00	\$94,700.00	64.1	\$57,100.00	\$72,300.00	\$132,000.00	\$173,000.00
Information Technology (IT)	\$49,100.00	\$74,800.00	52.3	\$44,500.00	\$56,700.00	\$96,700.00	\$129,000.00
Interior Design	\$36,100.00	\$53,200.00	47.4	\$35,700.00	\$42,600.00	\$72,500.00	\$107,000.00
International Relations	\$40,900.00	\$80,900.00	97.8	\$38,200.00	\$56,000.00	\$111,000.00	\$157,000.00
Journalism	\$35,600.00	\$66,700.00	87.4	\$38,400.00	\$48,300.00	\$97,700.00	\$145,000.00
Management Information Systems (MIS)	\$49,200.00	\$82,300.00	67.3	\$45,300.00	\$60,500.00	\$108,000.00	\$146,000.00
Marketing	\$40,800.00	\$79,600.00	95.1	\$42,100.00	\$55,600.00	\$119,000.00	\$175,000.00
Math	\$45,400.00	\$92,400.00	103.5	\$45,200.00	\$64,200.00	\$128,000.00	\$183,000.00
Mechanical Engineering	\$57,900.00	\$93,600.00	61.7	\$63,700.00	\$76,200.00	\$120,000.00	\$163,000.00
Music	\$35,900.00	\$55,000.00	53.2	\$26,700.00	\$40,200.00	\$88,000.00	\$134,000.00
Nursing	\$54,200.00	\$67,000.00	23.6	\$47,600.00	\$56,400.00	\$80,900.00	\$98,300.00
Nutrition	\$39,900.00	\$55,300.00	38.6	\$33,900.00	\$44,500.00	\$70,500.00	\$99,200.00
Philosophy	\$39,900.00	\$81,200.00	103.5	\$35,500.00	\$52,800.00	\$127,000.00	\$168,000.00
Physician Assistant	\$74,300.00	\$91,700.00	23.4	\$66,400.00	\$75,200.00	\$108,000.00	\$124,000.00
Physics	\$50,300.00	\$97,300.00	93.4	\$56,000.00	\$74,200.00	\$132,000.00	\$178,000.00
Political Science	\$40,800.00	\$78,200.00	91.7	\$41,200.00	\$55,300.00	\$114,000.00	\$168,000.00
Psychology	\$35,900.00	\$60,400.00	68.2	\$31,600.00	\$42,100.00	\$87,500.00	\$127,000.00
Religion	\$34,100.00	\$52,000.00	52.5	\$29,700.00	\$36,500.00	\$70,900.00	\$96,400.00
Sociology	\$36,500.00	\$58,200.00	59.5	\$30,700.00	\$40,400.00	\$81,200.00	\$118,000.00
Spanish	\$34,000.00	\$53,100.00	56.2	\$31,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$76,800.00	\$96,400.00

Source: PayScale Inc.

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