Economists analyze social and individual behaviors based on available incentives and disincentives. Using a cost-benefit approach, they often evaluate data related to national, international or micro-level institutions and individuals. Economists must understand past trends, interpret data, and make policy predictions in order to assist an organization with important decision-making. Many corporations require the skills of macroeconomists for projecting customer demand or product sales of their clients’ firm and their competitors to maximize profit. These economists also review new legislation, like minimum wage requirements or tariffs to analyze how it will affect their client. Multi-national companies with satellite branches in different locations might also have economists assess the economy of countries where branches exist or where they are looking to open new branches. Smaller businesses often hire economists as consultants or from research firms to identify consumer preferences, links between health and economic well-being, and how people can maximize savings for retirement.

### Average Salary & Trajectory*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry-Level</th>
<th>Mid-Level</th>
<th>Executive-Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$53,000 annually</td>
<td>$99,000 annually</td>
<td>$177,000 annually</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Forecast Analyst
- Risk Management Analyst
- Loss Control Representative
- Actuary
- Logistics Analyst
- Asset Management Associate
- Senior Economic Analyst
- Senior Market Research Analyst
- Senior Financial Analyst
- Operations Manager
- Senior Budget Analyst
- Senior Credit Analyst
- Data Analyst
- Forecast Planning Manager
- Chief Economist
- Economics Professor
- Risk Management Director
- Financial Reporting Director

*Note: Salaries are highly dependent on location, company type, and candidate experience/education. For the purposes of this guide we are providing average starting salaries as determined by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), overall average salaries as determined by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), as well as supplemental information found from various industry-specific sources.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the median annual wage for economists with a master’s degree was $99,180 in 2015. The lowest 10% earned approximately $52,540 and the top 10% earned approximately $176,960.

### Learn More With O*Net

Visit O*Net OnLine to explore the sample roles in economics. The database provides career exploration tools to the public at no cost and is continually updated by surveying a broad range of workers from each occupation. Learn about the knowledge, skills, tasks, and activities required for each occupation, as well as median wages and employment trends reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and other federal agencies.

**O*Net Keywords:**
- Economics
- Forecasting
- Risk Management
- Credit Analyst

**Roles:**
- Acquisitionist
- Operations Manager
- Branch Manager
- Economic Developer

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Economics - Private/Corporate

Skills/Experience Suggested:
- Knowledge of analytical or scientific software
- Understanding of content workflow software
- Experience with database user interface and query software
- Usage of information retrieval or search software
- Familiarity of object or component-oriented development software
- Ability to use critical thinking and judgment skills to make decisions
- Capacity to analyze and solve complex problems and use mathematical reasoning

Advanced Degrees:
- Master of Art in Economics
- Master of Applied Economics
- Doctorate of Economics

Professional Certifications:
- Certified Business Economist
- Certified Economic Developer
- Economic Development Finance Professional

Professional Associations:
- American Economics Association
- National Association for Business Economics
- National Economists Club
- Association for Social Economics
- International Economic Development Council
- California Council on Economic Education

Campus Resources:
- Economics Association
- Center for Economic Education (SGMH 3230)
- Department of Economics (SGMH 3313)

Don’t forget to check out the list of career path advisors
business.fullerton.edu/Programs/Undergraduate/#career-path-advisors

Industry Research & Tools: Job & Internship Search Sites:
- NABE.com
- AEAWeb.org
- Economist.com
- CareerOverview.com
- Vault.com—accessible through your Student Portal
- Titan Connection
- EconJobsNABE.CareerWebsite.com
- Econ-Jobs.com
- LookSharp.com
- Indeed.com
- Vault.com—accessible through your Student Portal

Employers Hiring Mihaylo Graduates:

Amazon.com
Carrington Home Solutions, L.P.
LD Appliance
Irvine Company
Paramount
State Farm

About this guide: This resource guide is intended to provide an introduction to the industry and relay a sampling of the resources available to candidates. It is by no means comprehensive, nor intended to replace individual research based on specific job targets and/or recommendations from an advisor.