What Can I Do With a Major in…?  
Economics

**OVERVIEW**

Economists study how society distributes resources, such as land, labor, raw materials, and machinery, to produce goods and services. They may conduct research, collect and analyze data, monitor economic trends, or develop forecasts. Economists research a wide variety of issues including energy costs, inflation, interest rates, exchange rates, business cycles, taxes, and employment levels, among others.

Economists develop methods for obtaining the data they need. For example, sampling techniques may be used to conduct a survey and various mathematical modeling techniques may be used to develop forecasts. Preparing reports, including tables and charts, on research results also is an important part of an economist’s job. Presenting economic and statistical concepts in a clear and meaningful way is particularly important for economists whose research is intended for managers and others who do not have a background in economics. Some economists also perform economic analysis for the media.

**RELATED CAREERS**

Accountant  
Actuary  
Agriculture Economist  
Appraiser  
Auditor  
Bank Examiner  
Bank Officer  
Budget Analyst  
Chambers of Commerce Analyst City Manager  
Claims Adjuster/Agent  
Commercial Banker  
Commodity-Industry Analyst  
Consultant  
Cost Analyst  
Credit Lender  
Demographer  
Economic Researcher  
Economic Forecaster  
Economist  
Energy Researcher  
FBI/CIA Agent  
Financial Analyst/Planner  
Government Economist  
Historical Researcher  
Industrial Economist  
Insurance Underwriter  
Internal Revenue Agent  
International Economist  
International-Trade Economist  
Investment Analyst  
Journalist  
Management Analyst  
Mathematicians  
Media Buyer  
Labor Economist  
Loan Officer  
Operations Research Analyst  
Purchasing Managers/Buyers  
Price Economist/Analyst  
Professor  
Profit Investment Coordinator  
Public Administration  
Rate Analyst  
Real Estate Agent  
Research Analyst  
Risk Manager  
Sales Analyst  
Security Broker  
Statistician  
Store Manager  
Systems Analyst  
Tax Preparer/Economist  
Underwriter  
Urban Planner
MAJOR SKILLS

- Researching Abilities
- Strong Communication
- Explaining Ideas Clearly
- Writing and Presenting Information
- Decision Making
- Organization
- Planning
- Critical Thinking
- Quantitative Analysis
- Summarizing Ideas
- Flexibility
- Team Player
- Creativity

RELATED WEB SITES

Job Listings:

- MonsterTRAK: [www.monstertrak.com](http://www.monstertrak.com)
- Department of Labor Information: [www.bls.gov/oco/ocos055.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos055.htm)
- "Job Openings for Economists": [http://www.eco.utexas.edu/joe/](http://www.eco.utexas.edu/joe/)
- “Econ Jobs” [www.econjobs.com](http://www.econjobs.com)
- Economics Bulletin: [www.economicsbulletin.com](http://www.economicsbulletin.com)
- The Riley Guide: [www.rileyguide.com](http://www.rileyguide.com)
- Federal Reserve Board of Governors: [http://www.bog.frb.fed.us/](http://www.bog.frb.fed.us/)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- American Economics Association: [www.aeaweb.org](http://www.aeaweb.org)
- Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP): [http://www.denison.edu/economics/cswe](http://www.denison.edu/economics/cswe)