

# The 20 Best- and Worst-Paid College Majors

By Kayla Webley, Time Magazine May 24, 2011

A new report shows some undergraduate degrees pay off more than others — literally. Using data from the U.S. Census, the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce's "What's It Worth: The Economic Value of College Majors" report, issued May 24, looked at 171 different majors and found that the difference in earning potential between one field of study and another can be more than 300%. TIME took a look at the 10 highest- and the 10 lowest-earning majors

## Full List

### Highest-Earning Majors

- 10. Mining and Mineral Engineering
- 9. Metallurgical Engineering
- 8. Mechanical Engineering
- 7. Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering
- 6. Electrical Engineering
- 5. Chemical Engineering
- 4. Aerospace Engineering
- 3. Mathematics and Computer Sciences
- 2. Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and Administration
- 1. Petroleum Engineering

### Lowest-Earning Majors

- 10. Health and Medical Preparatory Programs
- 9. Visual and Performing Arts
- 8. Communication-Disorders Sciences and Services
- 7. Studio Arts
- 6. Drama and Theater Arts
- 5. Social Work
- 4. Human Services and Community Organizations
- 3. Theology and Religious Vocations
- 2. Early-Childhood Education
- 1. Counseling and Psychology

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