

Which College Degrees Get the Highest Salaries?

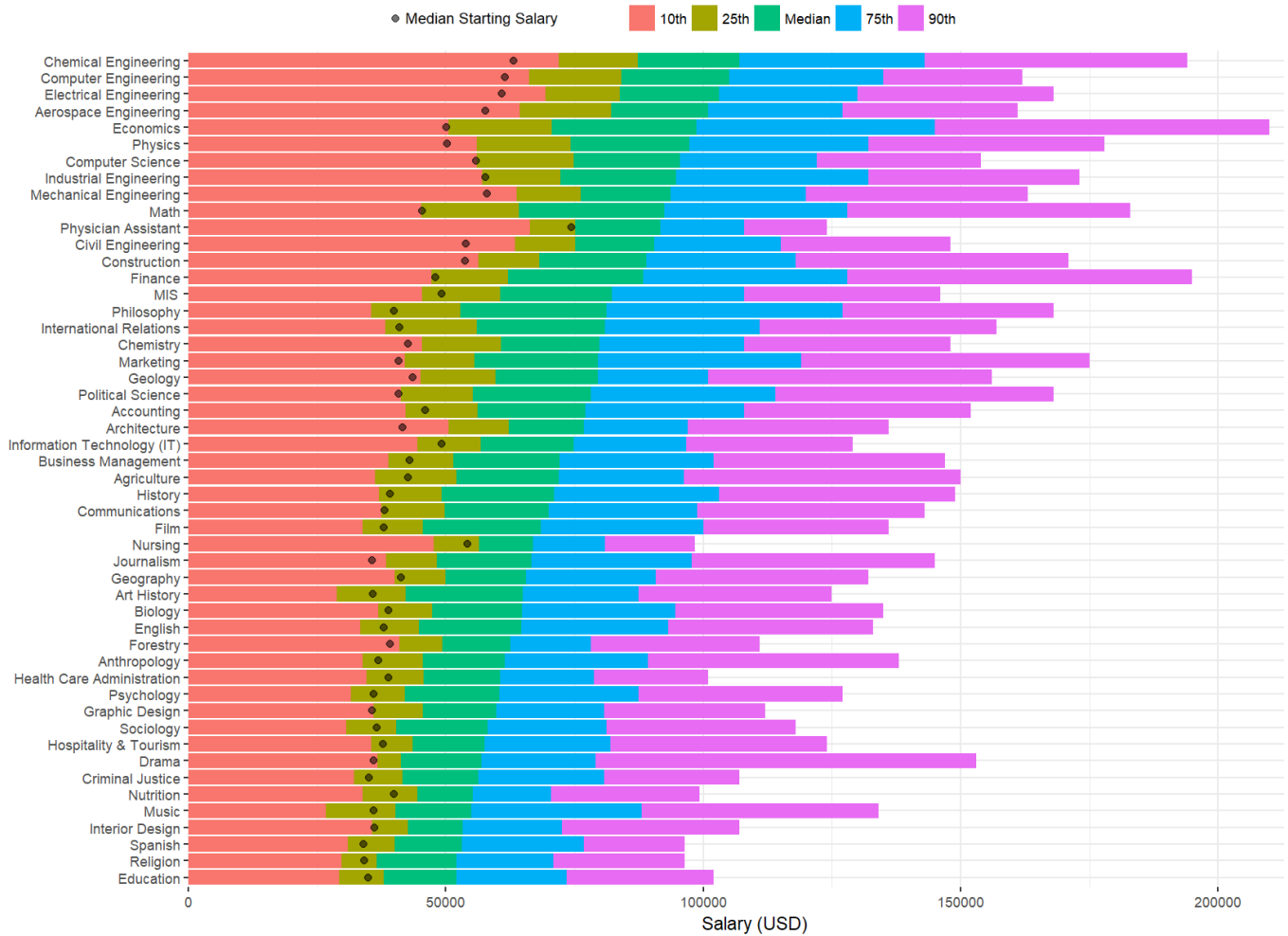
Undergraduate majors sorted by mid-career median salary (10 years in):

Rank	Undergraduate Major	Starting Median	Mid-Career Median	% Change
#1	Chemical Engineering	\$63,200	\$107,000	69.3%
#2	Computer Engineering	\$61,400	\$105,000	71.0%
#3	Electrical Engineering	\$60,900	\$103,000	69.1%
#4	Aerospace Engineering	\$57,700	\$101,000	75.0%
#5	Economics	\$50,100	\$98,600	96.8%
#6	Physics	\$50,300	\$97,300	93.4%
#7	Computer Science	\$55,900	\$95,500	70.8%
#8	Industrial Engineering	\$57,700	\$94,700	64.1%
#9	Mechanical Engineering	\$57,900	\$93,600	61.7%
#10	Math	\$45,400	\$92,400	103.5%
#11	Physician Assistant	\$74,300	\$91,700	23.4%
#12	Civil Engineering	\$53,900	\$90,500	67.9%
#13	Construction	\$53,700	\$88,900	65.5%
#14	Finance	\$47,900	\$88,300	84.3%
#15	Management Information Systems (MIS)	\$49,200	\$82,300	67.3%
#16	Philosophy	\$39,900	\$81,200	103.5%
#17	International Relations	\$40,900	\$80,900	97.8%
#18	Chemistry	\$42,600	\$79,900	87.6%
#19	Marketing	\$40,800	\$79,600	95.1%
#20	Geology	\$43,500	\$79,500	82.8%

The data comes from PayScale's year-long survey of 1.2 million users that graduated only with a bachelor degree in the United States.

Economics has the 5th highest mid-career median salary, second only to several types of engineering degrees.

The biggest increases in earning power post-graduation go to Math, Philosophy, International Relations, and **Economics** majors. All these degrees see a 90% or higher increase from median starting salary to median mid-career salary.



The data covers two different salary categories:

Starting median salary: The median of what people were earning after they graduated with their degree.

Mid-career Percentiles: Salary data from 10 years after graduation, sorted by percentile (10th, 25th, Median, 75th, and 90th)

Source: Visual Capitalist, July 2018

<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/visualizing-salaries-college-degrees/?mod=djemDailyShot&mod=djemDailyShot>