

NATURE OF WORK

Economists study society. They look at the world's supply and demand of goods and services to project economic trends and develop forecasts. Their goal is to help businesses understand their economic environment and for governments to structure policy that will increase the standard of living for the society's participants. Economists utilize mathematical models in their work.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Though they may work as a member of a team, economists usually work alone in a very structured environment. They use computers to prepare reports and statistical charts. Economists work under tight deadlines and will work overtime to meet them. Their normal work schedule may be interrupted with special projects.

TRAINING & QUALIFICATIONS

This career area requires a high degree of education. Economists need strong computer skills and the ability to perform complex research if they aspire to upper level positions. With a bachelor's degree a person may obtain an entry-level position such as a research assistant or as an administrative management trainee position. These jobs would typically be in government, industry, research organizations, and/or in a consulting firm. To qualify for a more responsible research or administrative position a master's degree is necessary. For top economist positions a Ph.D. is required.

JOB OUTLOOK

The employment of economists is expected to grow more slowly than the average from 2008 to 2018. The need to replace experienced workers who transfer to other occupations or who retire will result in job openings in this area. The opportunities for economists should be best in private industry, especially in scientific research and development, and consulting firms, as more companies contract out

CAREER OPTIONS

Macroeconomists, industrial/organizational economists, monetary or financial economists, international economists, labor or demographic economists

ESTIMATED SALARY RANGE

New Mexico— \$39,293 –63,431

Nationally — \$59,390- \$113,590

(depending on skill, experience and responsibility)

RELATED OCCUPATIONS

Accountants, auditors, actuaries, budget analysts, educator, financial analysts and personal financial advisors.

SJC Basic Program Information

The Associate of Arts Degree with an Economics concentration is intended for transfer to a four-year baccalaureate granting institution. Students intending to transfer to a baccalaureate granting institution and pursue a degree program in Economics are strongly encouraged to check with their advisors at both institutions.

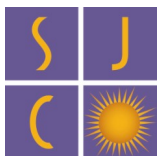
Students must receive a "C" or better in all courses to count toward a degree.

For further information go to:

www.sanjuancollege.edu/pages/158.asp

Click on link under Transfer Programs

www.bls.gov/oco/ocos055.htm



*Most of this information is from the Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2010-2011