

American Economic Association 2023–2024 Universal Academic Questionnaire Summary Statistics

The Universal Academic Questionnaire (UAQ) is an annual survey of US economics departments conducted by the AEA. Each *Papers and Proceedings* issue includes tables assembled from the latest responses, collected over the six months preceding the issue. The questionnaire is distributed to each institution that offers a degree in economics, addressed to the chair of the department of economics.

Responses apply only to that department. Economists employed in other academic units are not included in the tabulations.

We would like to thank Jarrod McGoun for his excellent work in developing the new system

in 2023 when we transitioned to an exclusively electronic survey. Small changes to individual survey questions were made in 2024.

We try to maintain the confidentiality of individuals' responses; consequently, some data are not reported for disclosure reasons. The accuracy and scope of the tables depend on the cooperation of departments in completing the UAQ accurately.

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TABLE 1A—NOMINAL 2023–2024 ACADEMIC-YEAR SALARIES OF TENURED OR TENURE-TRACK ACADEMIC ECONOMISTS

	Professor	Associate professor	Assistant professor
<i>Panel A. Mean of institutional means^a</i>			
PhD institutions	\$242,699 (76) [\$84,795]	\$179,793 (66) [\$55,837]	\$154,250 (62) [\$33,315]
MA institutions	\$147,248 (14) [\$24,512]	\$121,899 (15) [\$16,281]	\$101,937 (9) [\$16,802]
BA institutions	\$142,871 (52) [\$30,799]	\$119,328 (41) [\$20,263]	\$109,095 (28) [\$18,285]
<i>Panel B. Median of institutional means</i>			
PhD institutions	\$225,250	\$162,931	\$146,848
MA institutions	\$148,440	\$124,080	\$100,000
BA institutions	\$140,000	\$119,842	\$107,410

Notes: Numbers of reporting institutions are in parentheses; standard deviations are in brackets. Includes salaries of faculty on leave; excludes visiting faculty. Calendar-year salaries converted to academic year by multiplying by 0.818.

^aInstitution category based on highest degree awarded in economics.

TABLE 1B—NOMINAL 2023–2024 MEAN ACADEMIC-YEAR SALARIES OF TENURED OR TENURE-TRACK FULL, ASSOCIATE, AND ASSISTANT PROFESSORS OF ECONOMICS AT PHD-GRANTING UNIVERSITIES, BY 1995 NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL “TIERS”

	Professor	Associate professor	Assistant professor
Tiers 1 and 2 (ranks 1–15)	\$408,424 (8) [\$63,995]	\$266,950 (8) [\$39,021]	\$200,712 (7) [\$23,355]
Tier 3 (ranks 16–30)	\$315,833 (9) [\$43,983]	\$231,516 (8) [\$58,677]	\$183,998 (9) [\$44,015]
Tier 4 (ranks 31–48)	\$256,390 (14) [\$42,816]	\$188,408 (12) [\$36,237]	\$153,846 (14) [\$15,213]
Tier 5 (ranks 49+)	\$194,350 (45) [\$46,617]	\$147,835 (38) [\$29,213]	\$135,896 (32) [\$19,729]

Notes: Numbers of reporting institutions are in parentheses; standard deviations are in brackets. Includes salaries of faculty on leave; excludes visiting faculty. Calendar-year salaries converted to academic year by multiplying by 0.818.

TABLE 2—NOMINAL ACADEMIC-YEAR SALARIES OF TENURED OR TENURE-TRACK ACADEMIC ECONOMISTS OVER THREE YEARS FOR A MATCHED SAMPLE (PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR IN PARENTHESES)

	Professor	Associate professor	Assistant professor
<i>PhD institutions</i>			
Institutions	52	47	46
2023–2024	\$255,594 (5.5%) [\$88,126]	\$182,473 (7.4%) [\$34,878]	\$156,825 (5.8%) [\$34,878]
2022–2023	\$242,200 (4.5%) [\$76,493]	\$169,826 (8.1%) [\$47,247]	\$148,180 (3.6%) [\$28,148]
2021–2022	\$231,844 [\$71,598]	\$157,142 [\$41,062]	\$143,007 [\$26,721]
<i>BA institutions</i>			
Institutions	26	16	17
2023–2024	\$149,461 (2.7%) [\$30,481]	\$122,044 (2.7%) [\$14,058]	\$103,613 (3.0%) [\$14,058]
2022–2023	\$145,489 (4.5%) [\$26,068]	\$118,814 (3.4%) [\$14,846]	\$100,636 (2.9%) [\$12,180]
2021–2022	\$139,229 [\$22,877]	\$114,858 [\$13,405]	\$97,784 [\$11,463]

Notes: Salaries are means of institutional means; not all institutions report at each rank every year. Individual faculty move among ranks from year to year. Includes salaries of faculty on leave; excludes visiting faculty. Calendar-year salaries converted to academic year by multiplying by 0.818. Standard deviations are in brackets. Growth rates are in parentheses.

TABLE 3—EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS FOR NEW ASSISTANT PROFESSORS HOLDING PhDs, 2023–2024
(MEANS OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS: NUMBER REPORTING IN PARENTHESES)^a

	Salary	Additional compensation ^b	Teaching load (courses per year)
PhD institutions	\$149,378 (42) [\$33,048]	\$39,796 (42) [\$57,622]	3.0 (42) [1.1]
MA institutions	\$104,120 (12) [\$20,901]	\$21,947 (12) [\$36,497]	3.2 (12) [1.4]
BA institutions	\$102,376 (25) [\$21,716]	\$7,681 (25) [\$13,224]	5.0 (25) [1.5]

^aSome institutions hired more than one new assistant professor; thus, means cover more people than institutions but are not weighted by number of new hires. Standard deviations are in brackets.

^bIncludes guaranteed summer compensation (over all years) and other compensation of cash value to employees, such as a signing bonus. Does not include fringe benefits, moving expenses, or computer that remains the property of the institution.

TABLE 4—DISTRIBUTIONS OF FACULTY, 2023–2024

	Number of sample institutions	Full time							Part time			
		Tenured or tenure track				Nontenure track			Tenured or tenure track	Nontenure track		
		Full professor	Associate professor	Assistant professor	Instructor	Teaching-focused	Research-focused	Other		Teaching-focused	Research-focused	Other
<i>Rank</i>												
PhD institutions	93	1,293	535	528	32	405	32	15	24	190	1	4
Percent at rank		42.3	17.5	17.3	1.0	13.2	1.0	0.5	0.8	6.2	0.0	0.1
MA institutions	23	98	89	55	3	70	0	3	7	66	1	16
Percent at rank		24.0	21.8	13.5	0.7	17.2	0.0	0.7	1.7	16.2	0.2	3.9
BA institutions	149	499	355	295	11	215	2	6	39	131	1	5
Percent at rank		32.0	22.8	18.9	0.7	13.8	0.1	0.4	2.5	8.4	0.1	0.3
<i>Sex (percent female)</i>												
PhD institutions	93	16.6	25.8	35.4	40.6	39.8	37.5	33.3	25.0	28.4	0.0	25.0
MA institutions	23	25.5	32.6	29.1	0.0	40.0	0.0	33.3	14.3	30.3	0.0	31.2
BA institutions	149	26.3	34.9	44.4	27.3	40.9	100.0	33.3	25.6	35.9	100.0	20.0
<i>Black or Hispanic (percent)^a</i>												
PhD institutions	84	6.8	7.7	12.7	9.4	9.4	15.6	20.0	0.0	16.3	0.0	0.0
MA institutions	21	5.1	9.0	3.6	0.0	7.1	0.0	0.0	14.3	18.2	0.0	0.0
BA institutions	121	5.4	9.0	13.6	0.0	7.9	0.0	16.7	7.7	12.2	0.0	0.0
<i>Asian (percent)^a</i>												
PhD institutions	84	11.1	20.2	21.8	12.5	12.8	9.4	26.7	12.5	14.2	0.0	0.0
MA institutions	21	12.2	16.9	16.4	100.0	21.4	0.0	66.7	0.0	10.6	0.0	0.0
BA institutions	121	14.0	21.4	26.4	27.3	14.4	100.0	0.0	5.1	7.6	0.0	20.0

Notes: Includes faculty on leave during 2023–2024 but excludes visiting appointments. Person who is full time at the institution but only part time in the economics department is considered full time.

^aEthnic representation includes only US citizens and permanent residents.

TABLE 5—DISTRIBUTION OF FACULTY OVER TEN YEARS FOR A MATCHED SAMPLE^a

	Number of sample institutions	Tenured or tenure track				Full time nontenure track	Part time	
		Full professor	Associate professor	Assistant professor	Instructor		Tenured or tenure track	Nontenure track
<i>Panel A. 2013–2014</i>								
PhD institutions	74	964	371	472	18	217	84	153
Percent at rank		42.3	16.3	20.7	0.8	9.5	3.7	6.7
BA institutions	92	372	215	206	25	95	54	111
Percent at rank		34.5	19.9	19.1	2.3	8.8	5.0	10.3
<i>Sex (percent female)</i>								
PhD institutions	74	10.2	21.0	26.5	16.7	36.9	15.5	29.4
BA institutions	92	20.7	31.6	40.3	44.0	34.7	27.8	28.8
<i>Black or Hispanic (percent)</i>								
PhD institutions	61	2.5	7.5	8.5	0.0	2.6	2.4	4.6
BA institutions	64	3.2	7.9	5.8	8.0	4.2	7.4	1.8
<i>Asian (percent)</i>								
PhD institutions	61	7.4	14.8	16.7	5.6	8.8	4.8	7.2
BA institutions	64	9.1	17.2	14.6	4.0	7.4	13.0	3.6
<i>Panel B. 2023–2024</i>								
PhD institutions	74	1,043	430	465	26	384	17	149
Percent at rank		41.5	17.1	18.5	1.0	15.3	0.7	5.9
BA institutions	92	338	231	200	5	151	30	90
Percent at rank		32.3	22.1	19.1	0.5	14.4	2.9	8.6
<i>Sex (percent female)</i>								
PhD institutions	74	16.0	26.0	34.6	42.3	39.1	23.5	27.5
BA institutions	92	25.7	36.4	46.0	20.0	46.4	23.3	35.6
<i>Black or Hispanic (percent)</i>								
PhD institutions	61	5.7	7.4	11.2	7.7	8.6	0.0	15.4
BA institutions	64	3.6	8.7	10.0	0.0	7.9	6.7	6.7
<i>Asian (percent)</i>								
PhD institutions	61	10.1	18.8	19.1	15.4	12.5	17.6	8.7
BA institutions	64	15.4	19.9	25.0	40.0	15.9	6.7	8.9
		PhD institutions			BA institutions			
		2013–2014	2023–2024	2013–2014	2023–2024			
<i>Panel C. Comparison of 2013–2014 to 2023–2024</i>								
Total faculty		2,279	2,514	1,078	1,045			
Faculty per institution		30.8	34.0	11.7	11.4			
Percent full or associate professor		58.6	58.6	54.4	54.4			
Percent female full professor		10.2	16.0	20.7	25.7			
Percent Black or Hispanic full professor		2.5	5.7	3.2	3.6			
Percent Asian full professor		7.4	10.1	9.1	15.4			
Percent full time nontenure track		9.5	15.3	8.8	14.4			
Percent part time		10.4	6.6	15.3	11.5			

Notes: Ethnic representation includes only US citizens and permanent residents. Person who is full time at the institution but only part time in the economics department is considered full time.

^aMatched sample contains identical institutions in 2013–2014 and 2023–2024. Includes faculty on leave but excludes visiting appointments.

TABLE 6—GRADUATE PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS, 2023–2024

	Applications	Offers of admission	Acceptances	New students enrolled
<i>PhD students (N = 89)</i>				
Number	22,838	3,750	1,141	1,025
Percent female	34.4	39	36.3	36.5
Percent change from 2022–2023	1.9	3.2	9.6	5.7
<i>MA students at PhD-granting institutions (N = 62)</i>				
Number	11,234	5,374	2,038	1,454
Percent female	43.7	42.6	39.4	41.9
Percent change from 2022–2023	0.1	3.6	–1.2	–1.4
<i>MA students at MA (only)–granting institutions (N = 24)</i>				
Number	1,551	806	390	283
Percent female	33.3	37.5	41	45.2
Percent change from 2022–2023	–6.1	–7.7	–2.5	–3.1

Note: No double counting between MA and PhD students.

TABLE 7—DEGREES AWARDED JULY 1, 2022–JUNE 30, 2023

	90 PhD institutions		17 MA institutions		124 BA institutions		All 231 institutions	
	Total	Percent female	Total	Percent female	Total	Percent female	Total	Percent female
BA	18,628	36.3	1,050	33.3	4,689	34.6	24,367	35.9
MA	2,081	41.0	249	44.6			2,330	41.4
PhD	911	31.4					911	31.4

Note: Percent female based on only those institutions reporting sex breakdown.