



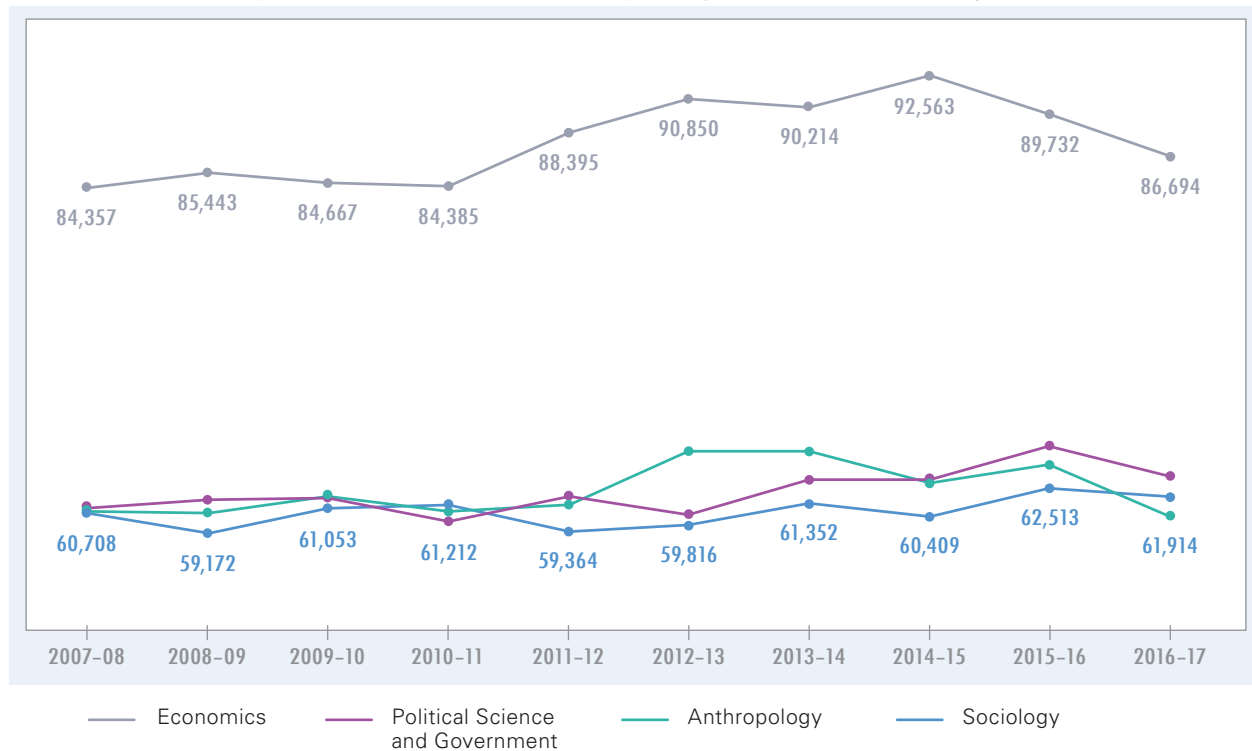
Research SNAPSHOT

SALARIES IN SOCIOLOGY: STARTING SALARIES KEEP PACE WITH OTHER SOCIAL SCIENCES

The figure above demonstrates that after adjusting for inflation, starting salaries in sociology have seen minimal change over the past 10 years, hovering around \$60,000. Across most of this period average starting salaries in anthropology and political science have also stayed within a narrow band, although at a level slightly higher than in sociology. Anthropology has seen recent variability starting with a jump in 2012 followed by a steady decline. New assistant professors in economics have enjoyed the highest starting salaries of the disciplines compared here, on average receiving between \$20,000 to \$30,000 more than new professors in sociology.

Between the academic years of 2010–11 and 2014–15, economics starting salaries sharply increased by nearly 10 percent, but have since dropped for an overall 2.8 percent increase since 2007–08. Political science’s starting salaries have seen the largest increase across the period—nearly 4 percent, followed by economics, then sociology with a 2 percent increase, and finally anthropology with a 0.6 percent decline.

Mean Salary for New Assistant Professors by Discipline in U.S. Dollars (Adjusted Dollars)



Notes: Full-time assistant, associate, and full professors at 4-year institutions; ‘Adjusted Dollars’ were calculated using the 2016 Consumer Price Index. Data series labels included for economics and sociology only; the smaller number of anthropology faculty represented in the data may explain some of this variability.

Source: College and University Professional Association for Human Resources. *Faculty in Higher Education Salary Survey for Four-Year Colleges and Universities* (formerly the *National Faculty Salary Survey*), 2003-2017. Analysis by ASA.