Salaries in Sociology: Faculty Salaries Comparable to Other Social Sciences

Over the past 10 years, sociology, anthropology and political science salaries have been comparable, while economics salaries have been consistently higher. After adjusting for inflation, the figure below shows that over the last decade, salaries in economics grew the most (by about 7 percent) while sociology salaries grew by about 2 percent, including recovery from some post-recession declines. In the last year, sociology salaries grew by less than one percent, but it was the only discipline to show any growth; anthropology and political science declined during this same period and economics remained flat.

Mean Faculty Salaries by Discipline in U.S. Dollars (Current Dollars)

Mean Faculty Salaries by Discipline in U.S. Dollars (Adjusted Dollars)

Notes: Full-time assistant, associate, and full professors at 4-year institutions; data series labels included for economics and sociology only; 'Adjusted Dollars' were calculated using the 2016 Consumer Price Index.

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), 2009-2017. Analysis by ASA.