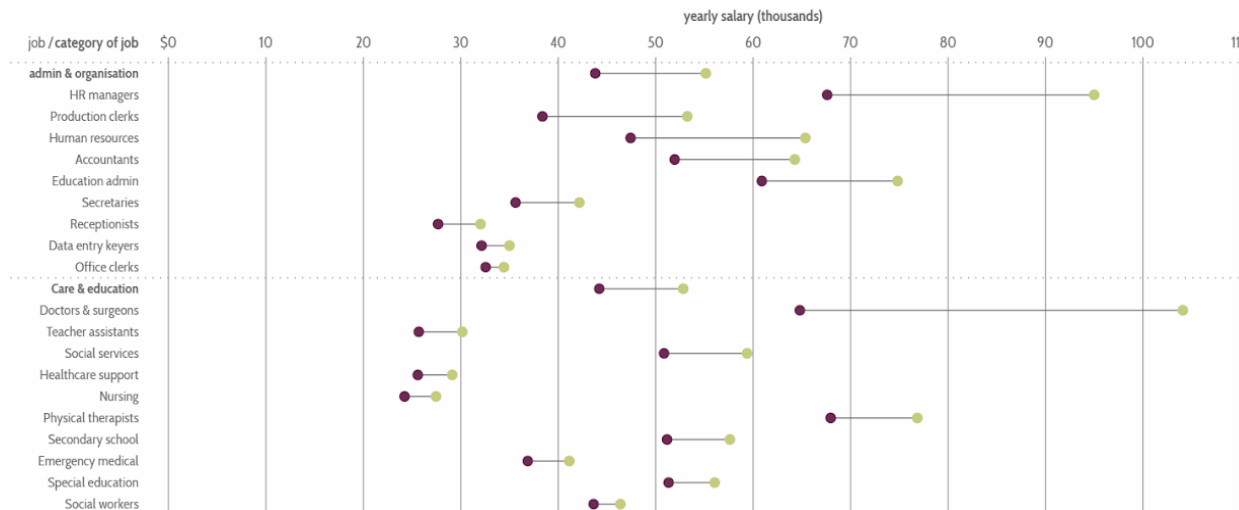


# Gender Pay Gap in the US by Profession



**Reference:** <https://informationisbeautiful.net/visualizations/gender-pay-gap/>

**Key Takeaway:** The gender pay gap is prevalent in nearly all industries, only the magnitude varies.

**Purpose:** This visualization is intended to illustrate the difference in pay for men and women in various jobs. The topic of gender pay gaps is important to current politics and policy, and it is useful to be able to quickly visualize general trends in salary differences. This graph helps answer questions about the extent of such a problem, whether or not it even exists, and which types of jobs show the greatest difference in pay between genders.

**Content:** The data for this graph comes from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, and is averaged by profession per gender so as to give just two data points for each job or category: one for women and one for men. This makes the graph simple to understand, and easy to find information on. It excludes extraneous information and focuses attention on the relevant content. This content is directly determined by the purpose, since the clearest depiction of a gender gap in any given profession is best represented by an *actual gap* between those two data points.

**Structure:** The data is represented on an inverted axis with job categories on the vertical axis, the salaries on the horizontal axis at the top and hourly pay on the horizontal axis at the bottom. Having categories on the vertical axis declutters the information and makes it easier to read, especially when there are several categories to be represented. Instead of using a stacked or adjacent bar-chart for comparison, which would have made the graph look very busy, the graph simply uses two points and a line through the data points to convey a lot of information. Each purple point represents the average salary of women while each green point conveys the average salary of men. The length of the line joining the two points represents the salary gap and makes the differences apparent. It also facilitates comparison between different job categories as it is easy to look at the length of each line to see where it is longer than others. Due to the horizontal layout, it also becomes evident that the purple points are always “behind” or to the left of the green points.

**Formatting:** The formatting of this graph is good. Bright colours are used for the data points which make them stand out but the size of the points aren’t too big, so the graph does not look cluttered. The salary gap is filled with a thin line to make it easier to recognize the gap but the thickness of the line is such that it does not overshadow the data points themselves. The axes labels are clear and easy to read.