

FOCUS ON FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

1 OF 5

Houston Gulf Coast Region*

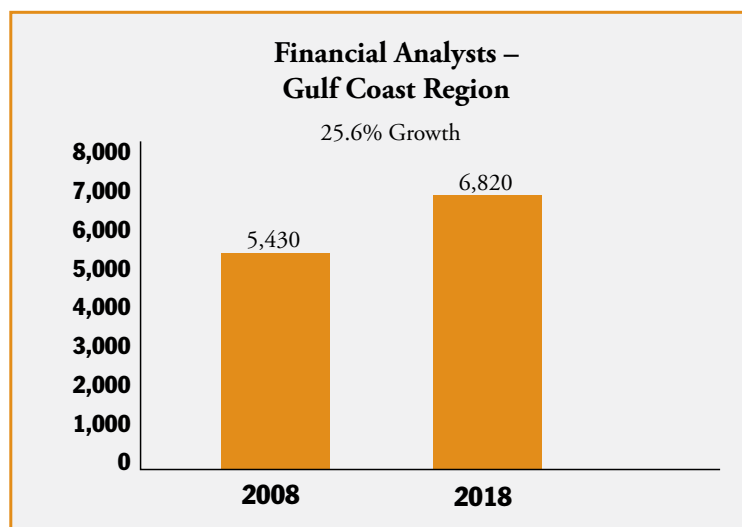
CAREER OPTIONS ADDING UP FOR FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

In today's volatile markets, making the best investment decisions is vital to protecting a company's business assets and achieving its financial goals. Financial analysts study the performance of stocks, bonds, investments, and commodities to make investment recommendations. Some financial analysts devise investment strategies for businesses, while others help banks and other firms sell stocks, bonds, and other investments. Financial analysts usually specialize in a specific industry, region, or product.



As stock, bond, investment and commodity markets become more complex, competitive and volatile, there is a greater demand for financial analysts. The occupation is growing faster than the average occupation in the region, making financial analyst careers a great choice for individuals with strong math, analytical and problem-solving skills.

THE NUMBER OF FINANCIAL ANALYSTS IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE BY 25.6 PERCENT FROM 2008 TO 2018.



Brought to you by the Education Committee of The Gulf Coast Workforce Board. For more information visit us on the web at www.wrksolutions.com
Latest data available. May 2011.

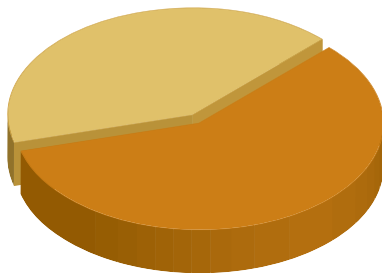
*Includes the following counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton.

FOCUS ON FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

THE GULF COAST REGION NEEDS TO TRAIN 240 NEW FINANCIAL ANALYSTS A YEAR!

Annual Job Openings – Gulf Coast Region

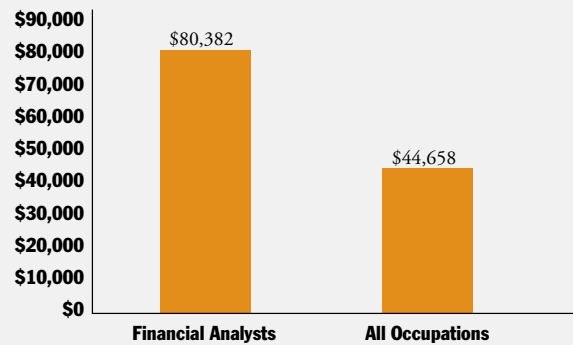
Due to Replacement – 100



Due to Growth – 140

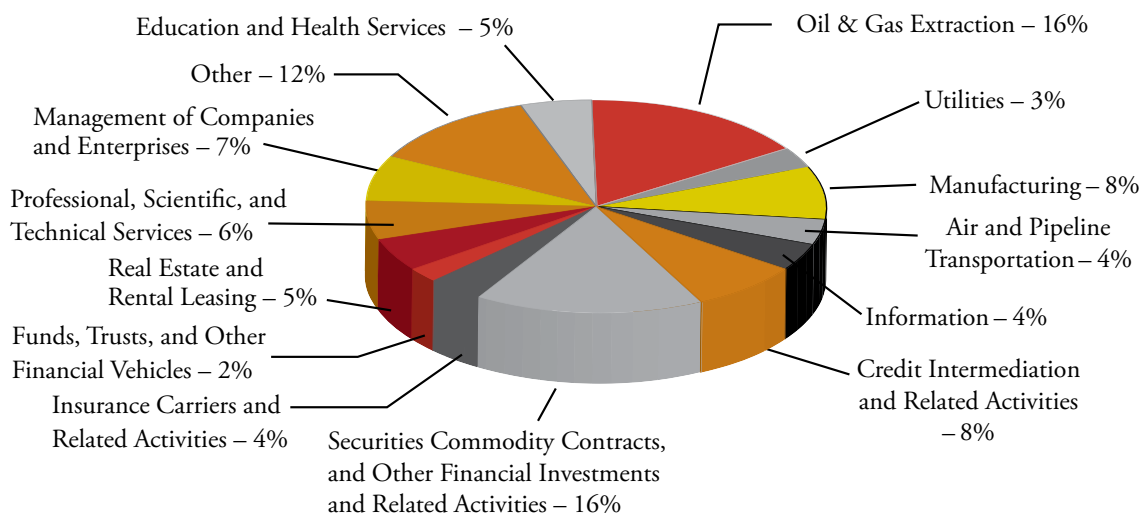
FINANCIAL ANALYSTS EARN WAGES THAT ARE MUCH HIGHER THAN AVERAGE, WITH MANY EARNING MORE THAN \$90,000 A YEAR.

Average Yearly Wages – Gulf Coast Region



WHILE THE LARGEST NUMBER OF FINANCIAL ANALYSTS WORK IN THE FINANCE AND INSURANCE INDUSTRIES, MORE THAN TWO-THIRDS WORK ACROSS A VARIETY OF OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Financial Analyst – Gulf Coast Region 2018



FOCUS ON FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

PATHWAY TO BECOMING A FINANCIAL ANALYST

Entry level positions for financial analysts generally require a bachelor's degree in business administration, accounting, statistics, or finance. Regardless of the degree being sought, coursework is required in statistics, economics and business. Candidates must be knowledgeable in accounting policies and procedures, corporate budgeting, and financial analysis. A master's degree may be required for some specialty positions and in more responsible positions.

CERTIFICATIONS

While certifications are not generally required, they can enhance a candidate's professional standing and demonstrate knowledge of investments principles.

The CFA Institute offers three levels of certifications that are recognized across a number of industries. For more information, visit its website at www.cfainstitute.org.

The American Academy of Financial Management (AAFMM) offers several different professional certifications for financial analysts. For more information, visit this website at www.aafm.us.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Learn more about the finance industry from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), an independent regulator for the securities industry. www.finra.org.

START EARLY AND BE PREPARED

High school students should strive for a high GPA to give them the necessary edge for acceptance into a bachelor's degree program and successful completion.



FOCUS ON FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

PREPARING FOR A CAREER AS A FINANCIAL ANALYST

9th Grade	Suggested Coursework		
	English I	World Geography	Career-Related Electives: Accounting I or Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance or Touch Sys- tem Data Entry
	Algebra I	Languages other than English I	
	Biology	Physical Education	
10th Grade	Suggested Coursework		
	English II	World History	Career-Related Electives: Banking and Financial Services or Business Management or Computer Programming or Professional Selling
	Geometry	Languages other than English II	
	Chemistry		
11th Grade	Suggested Coursework		
	English III	United States History	Career-Related Electives: Accounting II or Money Matters or Virtual Business or Business Information Management II
	Mathematical Models with Applications	Professional Communications	
	Physics		
12th Grade	Suggested Coursework		
	English IV	Government/Economics	Career-Related Electives: Business Information Management II or Business Law or Business English or Problems and Solutions or Precalculus
	Precalculus	Fine Arts	
	Environmental Systems		

*Source: AchieveTexas.org, adopted from Business Analysis Pathway

FOCUS ON FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

GULF COAST REGION

FINANCIAL ANALYST AND RELATED DEGREE PROGRAM

UNIVERSITIES

- Houston Baptist University
- Prairie View A&M University
- Rice University
- Sam Houston State University
- Texas Southern University
- Texas Woman's University
- University of Houston
- University of St. Thomas



MAJOR EMPLOYERS IN THE GULF COAST REGION

- AIM Investments
- Amegy Bank of Texas
- Baker Hughes
- Bank of America
- BP America
- Chevron Texaco Corporation
- Compass Bank
- ConocoPhillips
- Deloitte & Touche
- Hewlett-Packard Company
- Edward Jones
- Ernst & Young
- Exxon Mobil
- JPMorgan Chase
- KPMG
- Marathon Oil
- Merrill Lynch
- Morgan Stanley Smith Barney
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- SolomonEdwardsGroup
- Wells Fargo

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