



MORE THAN 125 YEARS OF ENCOURAGING ECONOMIC RESEARCH

AMERICAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION FACT SHEET

The American Economic Association (AEA) was founded in 1885 in Saratoga Springs, New York, by a small group interested in economics. It was incorporated in Washington, D.C., on February 3, 1923. Headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee, the Association promotes:

- The encouragement of economic research, especially the historical and statistical study of the actual conditions of industrial life,
- The issue of publications on economic subjects, and
- The encouragement of perfect freedom of economic discussion.

The Association is nonpartisan.

Below is an overview of some of the AEA's services and offerings:

- **Annual Meeting:** the AEA in conjunction with over 50 other associations hosts a three-day meeting, which includes 500 scholarly sessions, on general economic subjects. Some highlights of the Annual Meeting are:
 - **Ely Lecture**
 - **Presidential Address**
 - **AEA/AFA Luncheon**
 - **Nobel Laureate Recognition Luncheon**
 - **Placement Service:** A placement service to assist employers and job applicants which begins a day prior to the annual meetings
 - **Continuing Education:** A continuing education program held immediately after the annual meeting.

The American Economic Association publishes seven journals, including:

- ***American Economic Review (AER):*** the *AER* was first published in 1911. It is one of the most highly cited journals in economics. Each of its four quarterly issues contains articles and shorter papers on economic subjects. Its May issue contains approximately 100 papers that are presented at the Association's Annual Meeting.
- ***Journal of Economic Literature (JEL):*** the *JEL* was first published in 1969. The *JEL* contains commissioned survey and review articles, book reviews, and a list of new books classified by subject matter. The December issue includes a subject index of recent dissertations from North American universities.

- ***Journal of Economic Perspectives (JEP)***: Introduced in 1987, the *JEP* provides accessible articles that report on and critique recent research findings, evaluate public policy initiatives, and serve as insightful readings for classroom use. Articles are commissioned by the editor.
- **Four new journals were initiated in 2009**: The journals share a general title: *American Economic Journal* and are subtitled: *Applied Economics*, *Economic Policy*, *Macroeconomics*, and *Microeconomics*.

The AEA offers the following services:

- ***EconLit***: *EconLit* is the AEA's electronic bibliography. It is a comprehensive index to peer-reviewed journal articles, books, book reviews, collective volume articles, working papers, and dissertations. This service indexes nearly forty years of economics literature from around the world. It contains approximately a million citations to economic research published since 1969.
- ***Job Openings for Economists (JOE)***: Founded in October 1974, *JOE* lists job vacancies for economists. It is published electronically and monthly with the exception of January and July. *JOE* lists over 2,000 jobs annually.
- **Awards**: The AEA awards the John Bates Clark Medal for outstanding research accomplishments in economics to a scholar under the age of 40. The Association also recognizes three outstanding American or Canadian economists as *Distinguished Fellows* each year.
- **Statistics**: The AEA conducts an annual survey of academic economics departments and reports results in the May issue of the *AER*.
- **Information for Students**: Information for prospective undergraduate economics majors and for prospective economics Master's and Ph.D. students is available at: www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/students, and www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/gradstudents. Students receive a discounted membership rate.
- ***Resources for Economists (RFE)***: An electronic guide that lists more than 2,000 resources in 1,000 classifications. Included are data sources, departments, grant opportunities, forthcoming conferences, software, teaching resources, and other items that are of interest to economists.

The AEA has several committees that help foster the Association, including:

- The Committee on Economic Education (AEACEE)
- The Committee on Economic Statistics (AEASat)
- The Committee on the Status of Minority Groups in the Economics Profession (CSMGEP)
- The Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP)

For more information about the AEA, please visit www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA.