

## Who Defined Economics As A Science Which Deals With Wealth

The Wealth Definition is the first economic definition. Economists from the Classical School of Economics came up with this term. Adam Smith is considered as the Father of Economics since he was the first economist to define economics. "Economics is a science of Wealth," according to Adam Smith. Economics was once thought to be the study that investigated the creation and consumption of wealth. In 1776, he wrote "an examination into the nature and causes of wealth of countries," which became known as "Wealth of Nations."

According to the definitions above, economics is the study of how wealth is created, dispersed, and traded for consumption. So, according to the traditional definition of Economics, human beings' primary goal is to acquire riches in order to live comfortably.

- Economics is the study of money. It is concerned with the creation, distribution, and transfer of wealth.
- The term "wealth" refers to a state of being wealthy or having an abundance of money.
- Ways and means of boosting societal prosperity.

### **The Wealth of Nations and Notable Achievements**

Smith focused on getting some of his lectures published throughout his time teaching and working in Glasgow. In 1759, his treatise, *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*, was published. After returning from France and settling in Kirkcaldy, Scotland, Smith wrote his most famous book, *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations* (shortened to *The Wealth of Nations*), in 1776.

Smith popularised many of the theories that underpin classical economics in his work. Others relied on Smith's work to cement classical economic theory, which remained the dominant school of thinking during the Great Depression. Smith's views may be found in the writings of David Ricardo and Karl Marx in the nineteenth century, as well as John Maynard Keynes and Milton Friedman in the twentieth.

Smith's study examines how human civilization progressed from a hunter-gatherer stage with no property rights or permanent dwellings to nomadic agriculture with movable residences. The next step is a feudal society, in which favoured classes are protected by laws and property rights. Finally, contemporary society is defined by laissez-faire or free markets, in which new institutions are created to facilitate market transactions. Smith's work is on the "economic man," who is described as someone who seeks self-interested aims and interests, which influences their economic behaviour.

### **The Free Market Philosophy**

The free market theory stresses limiting government intrusion and taxation in the free market. Despite his support for small government, Smith believed that the government should be in charge of a country's education and defence.

The concept of the "invisible hand" that governs the forces of supply and demand in an economy stems from Smith. According to this hypothesis, by looking out for themselves, everyone unwittingly contributes to the greatest possible outcome for everyone.

In this economy, a hypothetical butcher, brewer, and baker seek to make money by selling goods that others desire to buy. They will be rewarded financially if they are successful in addressing the wants of their clients. They engage in business to make money while also providing items that others want. This type of arrangement, Smith maintained, generates riches for the butcher, brewer, and baker, as well as for the entire nation.

### **The Theory of the Invisible Hand**

A prosperous society, according to Smith's thoughts and philosophy, is one where inhabitants labour effectively to better themselves and meet their financial demands. A man would spend his capital in the firm most likely to help him make the maximum return for a given risk level in this type of economy, according to Smith. The invisible-hand idea is frequently described as a natural phenomena that directs free markets and capitalism in the direction of efficiency, rather than as something that leads to individual well-being, through supply and demand and competition for finite resources.

According to Smith, an institutional framework is required to guide persons toward productive endeavours that benefit society. Institutions such as the judicial system are part of this framework, which are meant to safeguard and encourage free and fair competition. Competition, on the other hand, must underpin this framework, and competition is the "want that comes with us from the womb and never leaves us until we die." Smith studied philosophy and literature before being known as "the father of economics."

### **Method of Production: Assembly Line**

The concepts presented in "The Prosperity of Nations" drew international attention and were a driving force behind the shift from land-based wealth to wealth created by assembly-line manufacturing processes enabled by the division of labour. To demonstrate the usefulness of this strategy, Smith used the work required to create a pin as an example.

Only a few pins might be made every week if one individual completed the 18 steps necessary to accomplish the assignments. If the 18 activities were executed in an assembly-line way by ten people, weekly production would increase to thousands of pins. Smith claimed that the division of labour and subsequent specialisation lead to wealth.

### **Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is a measure of how (GDP)**

The Wealth of Nations' concepts gave birth to the notion of gross domestic product (GDP) and revolutionised the importing and exporting industry. Countries claimed their wealth based on the value of their gold and silver deposits prior to the publication of "The Wealth of Nations."

Smith, on the other hand, was a staunch opponent of mercantilism, arguing that countries should be judged on their levels of output and trade. The GDP statistic for gauging a country's prosperity was based on this notion.

Many countries were unwilling to trade with one another after *The Wealth of Nations* was released. Smith maintained that a free exchange should be established since the transaction benefits both countries.

Imports and exports both increased as a result of this shift in views about commerce. Smith also advocated for laws to make trading as simple as feasible.

### **WEALTH DEFINITION LIMITATIONS**

Many economists, including Rukin, Carlyle, and Matthew Arnold, criticised the wealth concept of Economics. Economics has been nicknamed the "bread-and-butter science" by them. The traditional concept of economics has also been challenged as a discipline that teaches greed and a love of money, as well as being a gloomy and dreary science. According to opponents, the recognition of Economics as a study of wealth tends to limit or confine the subject's scope needlessly. If Economics is defined as the study of wealth, it follows that it investigates the actions of men and women who are involved in the creation and use of wealth. People who are not involved in the creation of tangible goods did not and could not be considered part of the economic system. As a result, the Wealth Definition of Economics is not a full Economic Definition. To summarise, Classical thinkers have failed to provide a sufficient definition, as evidenced by the following:

- The acquisition and growth of riches are given much too much weight, while human welfare is disregarded.
- Human welfare is influenced by a variety of factors, including money, love and affection, social service, national service, and so on.
- It has narrowed the scope of Economics by excluding non-material items such as the services of physicians, teachers, attorneys, singers, and others.