Case Interview Preparation

Resources

There are many resources to help you prepare for a case interview. The important thing is to prepare sufficiently in advance. Do not walk into a case interview “cold.”

Online Interactive Resources

Employer websites. Most employers who conduct case interviews provide good online interactive case studies.

The following sites offer opportunities for you to practice case interviews interactively. Take advantage of them!

- cornelluniv.cqinteractive.com/cqiaccess/member_dashboard.cfm
- caseinterview.com/bonus
- mckinsey.com/careers/how_do_i_apply/how_to_do_well_in_the_interview/case_interview.aspx
- joinbain.com/apply-to-bain/interview-preparation/default.asp
- oliverwyman.com/careers/61.htm
- bcg.com/join_bcg/interactive_case/default.aspx
- lek.com/videos/practice-case-interview-answering-brewery-case-question
- mercer.com/pages/1444910
- linkedin.com/groups/Case-Interview-Practice-4202587
- monitor.com/joinmonitor/interviewphilosophy/caseinterviewpreparation/tabid/165/L/en-us/default.aspx
- mycareer.deloitte.com/us/en/students/gettingthejob/caseinterviewpreptool
- gcpny.com/case_studies.htm
- cornerstone.com/Search?searchtext=case&parent_id=3466

Career Insider (Vault)

More than 70 industry, employer, and career guides. Downloads are free and you have access to both online resources, located at career.cornell.edu… Career Library.

These books can be found in the Cornell Career Services Career Library in 103 Barnes Hall.

- Case Interview Secrets—Victor Cheng, a former McKinsey management consultant, reveals his proven, insider’s method for acing the case interview.
- Case in Point: Complete Case Interview Preparation—Focuses on the skills you will need to handle a case interview confidently. Includes recently asked case questions and Ivy case drills.
- How To Get A Job In Consulting—The essential guide for successfully navigating the consulting recruiting process.
- Crack The Case System—42 tough cases: all types, all problems; Solo and partner techniques; Step-by-step modular format; 21 skill building drills and exercises
- Vault Guide to the Case Interview—Frameworks for constructing and handling case questions, plus practice.
- Mastering the Case Interview—The complete guide to management, marketing, and strategic consulting case interviews.
- Ace Your Case! Consulting Interviews—What to expect in consulting interviews and how firms use cases differently. Explains different case types, provides example questions, and tells how to answer each type of question.
- Ace Your Case II! Consulting Interviews—An introduction to the case interview with explanations of most common question types and how to answer them. Detailed examples of good and bad answers.
- Ace Your Case III! Consulting Interviews—An introduction to the case interview with explanations of most common question types and how to answer them.
Statistics You Should Know
While you certainly shouldn't memorize the census report, there are certain statistics that you should be familiar with in order to help solve cases. Here are some useful facts.

**Populations:**
The U.S. population = 316.1 million ♥
The world population = 7.151 Billion ♠
Population of Cornell ♣
Undergraduates = 14,158
Graduate Students = 6,964
Total = 21,122

**Households:**
Average Household Size= 2.6 ♥
Median Annual Income Per Household in the U.S. = $53,046 ♥
Average Number of Cars per Household in the U.S= 1.92 ♦

**Top 5 Largest States in the U.S. by population:** ♥
- California- 38,332,521
- Texas- 26,448,193
- New York State- 19,651,127
- Florida- 19,552,860
- Illinois- 12,882,135

**Top 5 Largest Countries by Population:** ✶
- China- 1,355,692,576
- India- 1,236,344,631
- United States- 318,892,103
- Indonesia- 253,609,643
- Brazil- 202,656,788

**Top 5 Largest Cities in the U.S. by population:** ♥
- New York, NY - 8,336,697
- Los Angeles, CA - 3,857,799
- Chicago, IL - 2,714,856
- Houston, TX - 2,160,821
- Philadelphia, PA - 1,547,607

**Supplemental Facts:**
States with the highest and lowest minimum wage in the U.S.: ★
- Washington (State not DC)- $9.32/hour
- Georgia, Wyoming- $5.15/hour

Percent of Americans over 25 years of age with a bachelor’s degree or higher ♥ = 28.5%

Sources:
♥ U.S. Census Bureau Estimate
♠ U.S. Census Bureau Population Clock
♣ Cornell University Enrollment Statistics
♦ U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration
✶ U.S. Census Bureau, International Data Base
★ U.S. Department of Labor