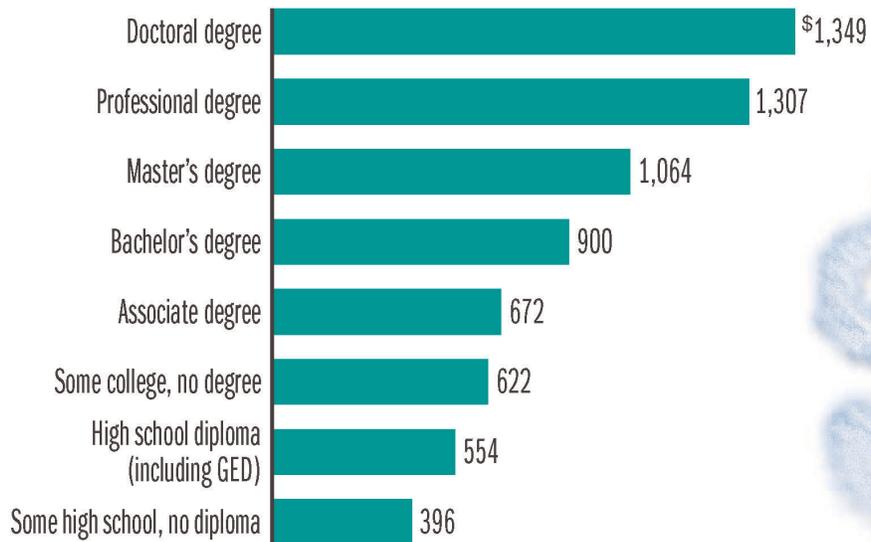


# Education pays



**Median weekly earnings for year-round, full-time workers age 25 and older, by educational attainment, 2003**

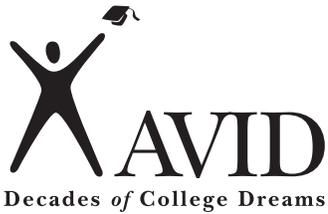


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

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<http://www.bls.gov/oco/home.htm>

Student Activity 1.9 (2 of 2)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Value of a High School Education (2 of 2)

II. Using the “Education Pays” handout, complete the calculations below to arrive at some figures about the “value” of a high school education.

Average annual income of someone who does not complete high school \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (a)

Average annual income of a high school graduate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (b)

- Determine the difference between the annual incomes using the figures above. \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Determine the number of years you think you will be working in your lifetime. \_\_\_\_\_
- Multiply this number by the average annual income of someone who does not complete high school. This is what that person would earn over a lifetime.

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ years} \times \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ (a)} = \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ lifetime earnings}$$

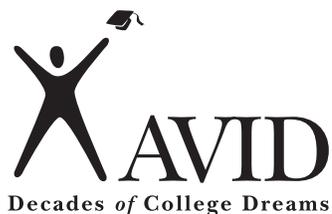
- Multiply the number of years working by the annual income of a high school graduate for that person’s lifetime earnings.

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ years} \times \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ (b)} = \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ lifetime earnings}$$

- Subtract the lifetime earnings of someone who does not complete high school from the lifetime earnings of a high school graduate. This is how much more you make over a lifetime by earning your high school diploma.

$$\begin{array}{l} \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{from \#4} \end{array} - \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ from \#3} = \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

## Student Activity 1.10 (2 of 2)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Value of a College Education (2 of 2)

II. Using the “Education Pays” handout, complete the calculations below to arrive at some figures about the “value” of a higher education.

1. Someone who graduates from high school but does not pursue any post-secondary education can expect to earn \$\_\_\_\_\_ in a lifetime. (See “The Value of a High School Education” for this figure.)
2. Someone who attends two years of college and earns an associate’s degree (A.A.) can expect an annual income of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (a).
3. Multiply the income from #2 by the number of years a person might work over a lifetime.  
\$\_\_\_\_\_
4. What’s the difference between the lifetime earnings of a person with a high school diploma and a person with an A.A. degree? \$\_\_\_\_\_
5. Someone with a bachelor’s degree (B.A. or B.S.) can expect to earn \$\_\_\_\_\_ over a lifetime (average annual income multiplied by the number of years working).
6. Over the course of a lifetime, how much more can a person with a bachelor’s degree earn than a person with an associate’s degree? \$\_\_\_\_\_
7. Over the course of a lifetime, how much more can someone with a bachelor’s degree earn than someone with a high school diploma? \$\_\_\_\_\_
8. Most master’s degrees (M.A. or M.S.) are earned in two years. Someone with a master’s degree can expect lifetime earnings of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
9. What is the difference between the lifetime earnings of someone with a master’s degree and someone with only a high school diploma? \$\_\_\_\_\_
10. Someone with a professional degree, such as a doctor, can expect to earn \$\_\_\_\_\_ over a lifetime.
11. What is the difference in lifetime earnings between someone with a professional degree and someone with only a high school diploma? \$\_\_\_\_\_