

## Median Earnings by Educational Attainment

Data on median earnings by educational attainment in Table 7 are for all individuals 25 years and older with earnings and are not limited to full-time, year-round workers.

A person's level of education is a predictor of earnings—the more education, the larger the earnings potential. Table 7 shows that this

was true for both men and women in 2006. The median earnings of men who were not high school graduates were \$22,151. This increased to \$31,715 for male high school graduates and to \$40,217 for men with some college or an associate's degree. Men who completed college and received a bachelor's degree earned a median of \$55,446. The highest median earnings, \$73,991, were for men

with a graduate or professional degree.

Women who did not complete high school earned \$13,255 in 2006, while graduating from high school increased women's earnings to \$20,650. Attending but not completing college, or receiving an associate's degree, resulted in median earnings of \$26,300, while women who completed a bachelor's degree had median earnings of

Table 7.  
**Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months of Workers by Sex and Women's Earnings as a Percentage of Men's Earnings by Selected Characteristics for the United States: 2006**

(In 2006 inflation-adjusted dollars. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [www.census.gov/acs/www/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/))

Selected characteristic	Median earnings (dollars)				Women's earnings as a percentage of men's earnings	
	Men		Women		Estimate	Margin of error <sup>1</sup> (±)
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<b>Race and Hispanic Origin</b>						
Full-time, year-round workers 16 and older with earnings . . . .	42,210	51	32,649	93	77.4	0.2
White alone . . . . .	45,727	71	34,133	103	74.7	0.2
White alone, not Hispanic . . . . .	47,814	126	35,151	74	73.5	0.2
Black alone . . . . .	34,480	327	30,398	122	88.2	0.9
American Indian and Alaska Native alone . . . . .	32,684	1,220	27,370	669	83.7	3.5
Asian alone . . . . .	50,159	336	38,613	685	77.0	1.3
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone . . . . .	34,641	1,986	31,171	906	90.0	5.5
Some Other Race alone . . . . .	27,156	159	23,962	276	88.2	1.0
Two or More Races . . . . .	38,600	855	32,005	385	82.9	2.0
Hispanic (any race) . . . . .	27,490	203	24,738	203	90.0	0.8
<b>Educational Attainment</b>						
Population 25 years and older with earnings . . . . .	39,041	111	26,322	44	67.4	0.2
Less than high school graduate . . . . .	22,151	85	13,255	112	59.8	0.5
High school graduate (includes equivalency) . . . . .	31,715	55	20,650	52	65.1	0.2
Some college or associate's degree . . . . .	40,217	74	26,300	66	65.4	0.2
Bachelor's degree . . . . .	55,446	198	36,875	94	66.5	0.3
Graduate or professional degree . . . . .	73,991	590	49,164	294	66.4	0.6
<b>Industry</b>						
Full-time, year-round civilian workers 16 years and older with earnings . . . . .	42,359	53	32,769	93	77.4	0.2
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting . . . . .	26,770	287	21,914	645	81.9	2.5
Mining . . . . .	51,934	452	41,341	1,047	79.6	2.1
Construction . . . . .	36,745	156	34,952	509	95.1	1.4
Manufacturing . . . . .	44,351	292	31,611	113	71.3	0.5
Wholesale trade . . . . .	43,969	608	35,072	360	79.8	1.4
Retail trade . . . . .	34,872	266	25,082	107	71.9	0.6
Transportation and warehousing . . . . .	44,879	377	36,856	294	82.1	1.0
Utilities . . . . .	58,654	1,179	43,082	1,545	73.5	3.0
Information . . . . .	57,284	559	41,952	310	73.2	0.9
Finance and insurance . . . . .	67,233	637	37,390	173	55.6	0.6
Real estate and rental and leasing . . . . .	41,976	300	36,908	318	87.9	1.0
Professional, scientific, and technical services . . . . .	72,184	243	45,459	264	63.0	0.4
Management of companies and enterprises . . . . .	72,383	4,633	45,432	1,778	62.8	4.5
Administrative and support and waste management services . . . . .	31,058	218	28,230	477	90.9	1.7
Educational services . . . . .	45,821	263	38,069	293	83.1	0.7
Health care and social assistance . . . . .	48,062	520	32,122	89	66.8	0.7
Arts, entertainment, and recreation . . . . .	35,033	575	28,908	590	82.5	2.3
Accommodation and food services . . . . .	25,172	189	19,908	236	79.1	1.0
Other services (except public administration) . . . . .	34,856	367	25,035	265	71.8	1.1
Public administration . . . . .	52,095	175	40,602	190	77.9	0.4

See footnote at end of table.