

the condition of education 2004



INDICATOR 14

Annual Earnings of Young Adults

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2004*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2004* visit the NCES web site (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004077>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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Economic Outcomes

Annual Earnings of Young Adults

The earnings of young adults with at least a bachelor's degree increased over the past 20 years relative to their counterparts with less education.

Full-time male and female workers ages 25–34 have lower median annual earnings in constant dollars in 2002 than in 1971 at all education levels, except those with a bachelor's or higher degree (see supplemental table 14-1). Among those with a bachelor's degree or higher, no significant difference in earnings was detected among males, and earnings were higher in 2002 than in 1971 among females.

For both males and females, earnings increase with education: full-time workers with at least a bachelor's degree have higher median earnings than those with less education. For example, in 2002, male college graduates earned 65 percent more than male high school completers¹ (see supplemental table 14-2). Females with a bachelor's or higher degree earned 71 percent more than female high school completers. Males and females who dropped out of high school earned 23 and 27 percent less, respectively, than male and female high school completers.

The median earnings of young adults who have at least a bachelor's degree declined in the 1970s relative to their counterparts who were

high school completers, before increasing between 1980 and 2002. Males with a bachelor's degree or higher had earnings 19 percent higher than male high school completers in 1980 and had earnings 65 percent higher in 2002. Among females, those with at least a bachelor's degree had earnings 34 percent higher than female high school completers in 1980, compared with earnings 71 percent higher in 2002.

Gaps in median earnings between male and female full-time workers ages 25–34 exist at all levels of educational attainment, but these gaps have narrowed. In 1971, for example, males earned 56 percent more than females, but by 2002 this percentage had declined to 18 percent (see supplemental table 14-3).

There is considerable variation in earnings within education levels. For example, in 2002, among males ages 25–34 with at least a bachelor's degree, those in the highest income quarter earned \$40,511 more than those in the lowest quarter (see supplemental table 14-4). The comparable gap for females was \$26,040.

¹Includes those who earned a high school diploma or a General Education Development (GED) certificate.

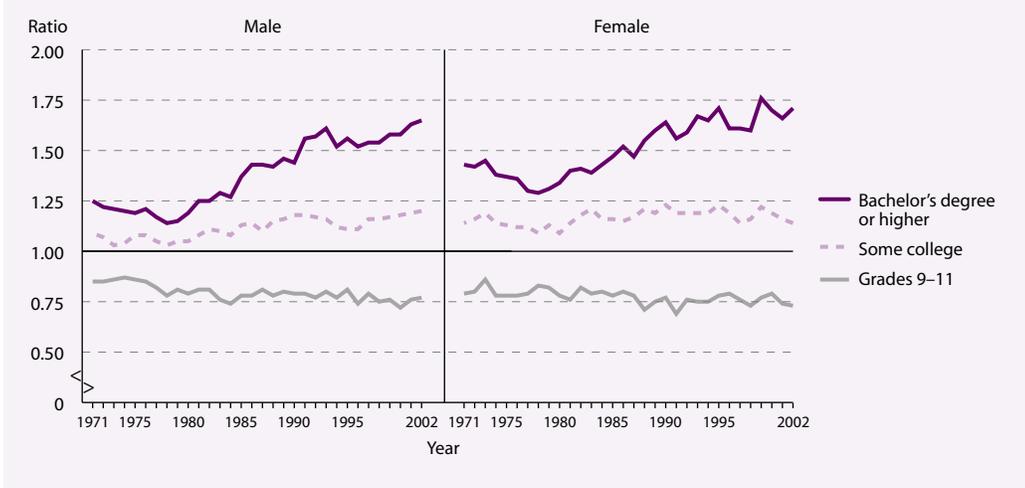
NOTE: The ratio in the graph is the median annual earnings of full-time, full-year workers ages 25–34 at a certain level of education attainment divided by the median annual earnings of those who have completed high school. This ratio is most useful when compared to the ratio for high school completers (1.0). For example, the ratio of 1.65 for males in 2002 whose highest education level was a bachelor's or higher degree indicates that they earned 65 percent more than males who had a high school diploma or GED. The ratio of 0.73 for females in 2002 whose highest education level was grades 9–11 indicates that they earned 27 percent less than females who had a high school diploma or GED. The Current Population Survey (CPS) questions used to obtain educational attainment were changed in 1992. In 1994, the survey methodology for the CPS was changed and weights were adjusted. See supplemental note 2 for further discussion.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), March Supplement, 1972–2003, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Supplemental Notes 2, 9
Supplemental Tables 14-1,
14-2, 14-3, 14-4



ANNUAL EARNINGS: Ratio of median annual earnings of all full-time, full-year wage and salary workers ages 25–34 whose highest educational level was grades 9–11, some college, or a bachelor's degree or higher, compared with those with a high school diploma or GED, by sex: 1971–2002



Annual Earnings of Young Adults

Table 14-1. Median annual earnings (in constant 2002 dollars) of all full-time, full-year wage and salary workers ages 25–34, by sex and educational level: 1971–2002

Year	Male					Female				
	All males	Grades 9–11	High school diploma or GED	Some college	Bachelor's degree or higher	All females	Grades 9–11	High school diploma or GED	Some college	Bachelor's degree or higher
1971	\$42,918	\$35,087	\$41,113	\$44,743	\$51,218	\$27,567	\$19,888	\$25,217	\$28,749	\$36,096
1972	44,524	36,217	42,630	45,527	52,087	28,848	20,671	25,944	30,122	36,850
1973	44,783	37,029	43,179	44,502	52,273	28,549	21,842	25,289	30,175	36,654
1974	42,726	35,716	41,080	42,581	49,283	27,687	19,392	24,932	28,437	34,323
1975	41,348	34,050	39,464	42,816	47,031	27,794	19,465	25,026	28,370	34,276
1976	41,901	33,355	39,325	42,662	47,584	27,999	19,755	25,310	28,287	34,496
1977	42,362	33,307	40,406	42,324	47,151	28,210	20,316	25,709	28,696	33,451
1978	42,852	32,596	41,542	42,605	47,191	27,879	20,973	25,400	27,734	32,663
1979	41,473	32,131	39,750	41,629	45,842	27,150	20,160	24,581	27,782	32,320
1980	38,693	29,253	36,922	38,833	44,109	26,307	18,951	24,258	26,476	32,509
1981	38,361	28,635	35,376	38,322	44,303	26,036	17,668	23,263	26,532	32,529
1982	37,601	27,765	34,147	37,921	42,593	26,560	18,744	22,824	26,974	32,152
1983	37,584	26,196	34,400	37,841	44,520	26,991	18,104	23,052	27,908	32,143
1984	37,688	26,320	35,381	38,299	45,004	27,053	18,739	23,523	27,193	33,704
1985	37,267	26,167	33,541	37,944	45,938	27,684	18,651	23,838	27,533	35,147
1986	37,314	26,205	33,614	38,430	47,915	27,785	18,902	23,775	27,452	36,030
1987	37,457	27,162	33,693	36,968	48,225	27,610	18,676	24,064	28,101	35,326
1988	36,966	26,012	33,167	38,033	47,181	27,864	16,774	23,499	28,335	36,525
1989	36,073	25,464	31,819	36,981	46,386	28,455	17,533	23,350	27,891	37,467
1990	34,973	24,031	30,441	35,825	43,799	27,495	17,336	22,547	27,622	36,912
1991	34,464	23,366	29,713	34,982	46,457	27,449	15,965	23,053	27,404	35,894
1992	34,051	22,318	29,165	34,024	45,756	27,834	17,315	22,718	27,134	36,177
1993	32,568	22,267	27,988	32,457	44,980	27,103	16,666	22,331	26,475	37,358
1994	32,333	22,112	28,860	32,376	43,901	26,779	16,363	21,748	25,918	35,948
1995	32,524	22,973	28,302	31,428	44,201	26,229	16,260	20,720	25,467	35,514
1996	33,242	21,571	29,146	32,350	44,375	26,668	16,958	21,445	25,499	34,504
1997	33,955	22,974	29,260	33,821	45,070	27,647	16,929	22,250	25,428	35,924
1998	34,886	22,523	29,906	34,597	46,185	28,496	16,619	22,866	26,472	36,622
1999	35,261	22,596	29,920	34,863	47,256	28,441	16,844	21,884	26,770	38,446
2000	36,026	22,115	30,759	36,229	48,506	28,629	17,635	22,369	26,518	37,980
2001	35,778	22,636	29,857	35,598	48,782	29,723	17,021	23,029	26,769	38,331
2002	35,487	22,903	29,647	35,552	48,955	30,093	17,114	23,458	26,828	40,021

NOTE: The Current Population Survey (CPS) questions used to obtain educational attainment were changed in 1992. In 1994, the survey methodology for the CPS was changed and weights were adjusted. See *supplemental note 2* for further discussion. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) was used to adjust earnings into constant dollars. See *supplemental note 9* for further discussion.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), March Supplement, 1972–2003, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

Annual Earnings of Young Adults

Table 14-2. Ratio of median annual earnings of all full-time, full-year wage and salary workers ages 25–34 whose highest educational level was grades 9–11, some college, or a bachelor's degree or higher, compared with those with a high school diploma or GED, by sex: 1971–2002

Year	Total population		Grades 9–11		Some college		Bachelor's degree or higher	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1971	1.04	1.09	0.85	0.79	1.09	1.14	1.25	1.43
1972	1.04	1.11	0.85	0.80	1.07	1.16	1.22	1.42
1973	1.04	1.13	0.86	0.86	1.03	1.19	1.21	1.45
1974	1.04	1.11	0.87	0.78	1.04	1.14	1.20	1.38
1975	1.05	1.11	0.86	0.78	1.08	1.13	1.19	1.37
1976	1.07	1.11	0.85	0.78	1.08	1.12	1.21	1.36
1977	1.05	1.10	0.82	0.79	1.05	1.12	1.17	1.30
1978	1.03	1.10	0.78	0.83	1.03	1.09	1.14	1.29
1979	1.04	1.10	0.81	0.82	1.05	1.13	1.15	1.31
1980	1.05	1.08	0.79	0.78	1.05	1.09	1.19	1.34
1981	1.08	1.12	0.81	0.76	1.08	1.14	1.25	1.40
1982	1.10	1.16	0.81	0.82	1.11	1.18	1.25	1.41
1983	1.09	1.17	0.76	0.79	1.10	1.21	1.29	1.39
1984	1.07	1.15	0.74	0.80	1.08	1.16	1.27	1.43
1985	1.11	1.16	0.78	0.78	1.13	1.16	1.37	1.47
1986	1.11	1.17	0.78	0.80	1.14	1.15	1.43	1.52
1987	1.11	1.15	0.81	0.78	1.10	1.17	1.43	1.47
1988	1.11	1.19	0.78	0.71	1.15	1.21	1.42	1.55
1989	1.13	1.22	0.80	0.75	1.16	1.19	1.46	1.60
1990	1.15	1.22	0.79	0.77	1.18	1.23	1.44	1.64
1991	1.16	1.19	0.79	0.69	1.18	1.19	1.56	1.56
1992	1.17	1.23	0.77	0.76	1.17	1.19	1.57	1.59
1993	1.16	1.21	0.80	0.75	1.16	1.19	1.61	1.67
1994	1.12	1.23	0.77	0.75	1.12	1.19	1.52	1.65
1995	1.15	1.27	0.81	0.78	1.11	1.23	1.56	1.71
1996	1.14	1.24	0.74	0.79	1.11	1.19	1.52	1.61
1997	1.16	1.24	0.79	0.76	1.16	1.14	1.54	1.61
1998	1.17	1.25	0.75	0.73	1.16	1.16	1.54	1.60
1999	1.18	1.30	0.76	0.77	1.17	1.22	1.58	1.76
2000	1.17	1.28	0.72	0.79	1.18	1.19	1.58	1.70
2001	1.20	1.29	0.76	0.74	1.19	1.16	1.63	1.66
2002	1.20	1.28	0.77	0.73	1.20	1.14	1.65	1.71

NOTE: This ratio is most useful when compared with 1.0. For example, the ratio of 1.65 for males in 2002 whose highest education level was a bachelor's or higher degree indicates that they earned 65 percent more than males who had a high school diploma or GED. The ratio of 0.73 for females in 2002 whose highest education level was grades 9–11 indicates that they earned 27 percent less than females who had a high school diploma or GED. The Current Population Survey (CPS) questions used to obtain educational attainment were changed in 1992. In 1994, the survey methodology for the CPS was changed and weights were adjusted. See *supplemental note 2* for further discussion.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), March Supplement, 1972–2003, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

Annual Earnings of Young Adults

Table 14-3. Ratio of median annual earnings of all male to all female full-time, full-year wage and salary workers ages 25–34, by educational level: 1971–2002

Year	Total population	Grades 9–11	High school diploma or GED	Some college	Bachelor's degree or higher
1971	1.56	1.76	1.63	1.56	1.42
1972	1.54	1.75	1.64	1.51	1.41
1973	1.57	1.70	1.71	1.47	1.43
1974	1.54	1.84	1.65	1.50	1.44
1975	1.49	1.75	1.58	1.51	1.37
1976	1.50	1.69	1.55	1.51	1.38
1977	1.50	1.64	1.57	1.47	1.41
1978	1.54	1.55	1.64	1.54	1.44
1979	1.53	1.59	1.62	1.50	1.42
1980	1.47	1.54	1.52	1.47	1.36
1981	1.47	1.62	1.52	1.44	1.36
1982	1.42	1.48	1.50	1.41	1.32
1983	1.39	1.45	1.49	1.36	1.39
1984	1.39	1.40	1.50	1.41	1.34
1985	1.35	1.40	1.41	1.38	1.31
1986	1.34	1.39	1.41	1.40	1.33
1987	1.36	1.45	1.40	1.32	1.37
1988	1.33	1.55	1.41	1.34	1.29
1989	1.27	1.45	1.36	1.33	1.24
1990	1.27	1.39	1.35	1.30	1.19
1991	1.26	1.46	1.29	1.28	1.29
1992	1.22	1.29	1.28	1.25	1.26
1993	1.20	1.34	1.25	1.23	1.20
1994	1.21	1.35	1.33	1.25	1.22
1995	1.24	1.41	1.37	1.23	1.24
1996	1.25	1.27	1.36	1.27	1.29
1997	1.23	1.36	1.32	1.33	1.25
1998	1.22	1.36	1.31	1.31	1.26
1999	1.24	1.34	1.37	1.30	1.23
2000	1.26	1.25	1.38	1.37	1.28
2001	1.20	1.33	1.30	1.33	1.27
2002	1.18	1.34	1.26	1.33	1.22

NOTE: This ratio is most useful when compared with 1.0. For example, the ratio of 1.18 for total population in 2002 indicates that males earned 18 percent more than females. The Current Population Survey (CPS) questions used to obtain educational attainment were changed in 1992. In 1994, the survey methodology for the CPS was changed and weights were adjusted. See *supplemental note 2* for further discussion.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), March Supplement, 1972–2003, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

Annual Earnings of Young Adults

Table 14-4. Difference in median annual earnings (in constant 2002 dollars) for all full-time, full-year wage and salary workers ages 25–34 between the highest and the lowest quarters, by sex and educational level: 1971–2002

Year	Male				Female			
	Grades 9–11	High school diploma or GED	Some college	Bachelor's degree or higher	Grades 9–11	High school diploma or GED	Some college	Bachelor's degree or higher
1971	\$20,489	\$20,078	\$23,213	\$29,565	\$15,428	\$19,103	\$22,386	\$24,818
1972	21,526	20,258	24,231	31,229	15,473	19,813	22,294	26,632
1973	22,489	20,134	24,325	30,380	15,133	19,437	22,416	26,629
1974	21,660	20,784	23,256	29,158	13,725	18,485	21,811	22,642
1975	21,756	21,926	23,382	25,757	13,666	18,210	20,177	22,470
1976	21,301	21,991	25,493	25,758	14,049	18,745	20,817	22,762
1977	22,228	23,751	24,421	25,872	15,505	19,167	20,418	21,380
1978	23,231	23,871	23,148	26,770	15,118	19,051	20,364	21,363
1979	23,209	23,224	25,280	26,027	14,398	18,137	18,989	20,773
1980	19,985	22,167	23,277	25,874	13,731	17,287	17,784	20,097
1981	20,122	22,260	22,978	26,619	12,329	16,557	18,622	21,154
1982	21,268	21,675	23,641	26,477	13,884	16,579	18,935	20,592
1983	19,106	22,457	24,446	28,598	13,828	17,061	19,682	20,004
1984	20,909	23,643	25,364	27,595	14,447	17,263	18,205	20,423
1985	17,954	23,606	24,438	30,562	14,133	17,834	19,297	23,013
1986	18,793	23,143	26,356	30,212	14,984	17,364	21,031	23,329
1987	19,844	23,541	26,214	30,156	13,166	17,283	19,545	22,773
1988	19,551	22,309	25,400	31,252	13,469	17,051	20,862	23,825
1989	18,561	21,468	23,694	30,348	12,979	16,466	19,779	24,155
1990	17,126	20,610	23,277	29,144	12,882	15,537	18,398	22,653
1991	17,203	21,294	22,643	30,305	11,285	16,705	18,813	22,866
1992	16,426	20,672	23,112	30,768	13,758	17,870	20,368	21,878
1993	17,216	19,141	22,157	31,067	12,322	16,933	18,893	24,669
1994	16,394	19,482	21,923	30,755	12,414	16,137	19,561	23,434
1995	16,478	20,295	21,465	31,256	11,434	15,514	18,966	23,456
1996	14,410	19,215	20,979	29,599	12,650	15,485	18,639	21,106
1997	15,526	18,804	22,041	34,887	12,459	15,850	17,760	22,367
1998	16,482	19,595	21,945	38,806	12,414	16,223	17,885	22,526
1999	15,785	20,384	22,470	40,549	12,482	15,610	18,330	23,497
2000	15,760	19,383	25,132	41,148	13,304	16,433	17,571	24,620
2001	14,787	20,400	22,761	40,696	13,097	16,043	18,951	25,294
2002	16,146	19,283	24,213	40,511	12,733	16,293	18,488	26,040

NOTE: The Current Population Survey (CPS) questions used to obtain educational attainment were changed in 1992. In 1994, the survey methodology for the CPS was changed and weights were adjusted. See *supplemental note 2* for further discussion. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) was used to adjust earnings into constant dollars. See *supplemental note 9* for further discussion.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), March Supplement, 1972–2003, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

Annual Earnings of Young Adults

Table S14. Standard errors for the ratio of median annual earnings of all full-time, full-year wage and salary workers ages 25–34 whose highest educational level was grades 9–11, some college, or a bachelor's degree or higher, compared with those with a high school diploma or GED, by sex: 1971–2002

Year	Grades 9–11		Some college		Bachelor's degree or higher	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1971	0.018	0.033	0.023	0.040	0.023	0.036
1972	0.023	0.040	0.020	0.037	0.020	0.037
1973	0.026	0.039	0.018	0.031	0.026	0.036
1974	0.022	0.035	0.017	0.035	0.023	0.032
1975	0.025	0.044	0.022	0.027	0.024	0.031
1976	0.025	0.045	0.021	0.027	0.021	0.029
1977	0.025	0.032	0.023	0.027	0.021	0.028
1978	0.022	0.037	0.019	0.028	0.020	0.027
1979	0.033	0.036	0.018	0.024	0.020	0.032
1980	0.032	0.038	0.020	0.019	0.020	0.027
1981	0.033	0.038	0.025	0.025	0.024	0.025
1982	0.041	0.037	0.023	0.027	0.030	0.025
1983	0.032	0.046	0.022	0.030	0.028	0.033
1984	0.031	0.046	0.018	0.026	0.020	0.035
1985	0.025	0.036	0.025	0.026	0.027	0.030
1986	0.022	0.028	0.027	0.025	0.031	0.031
1987	0.023	0.028	0.025	0.025	0.021	0.024
1988	0.023	0.031	0.024	0.032	0.022	0.035
1989	0.024	0.030	0.019	0.027	0.023	0.028
1990	0.024	0.038	0.019	0.024	0.021	0.028
1991	0.028	0.025	0.022	0.023	0.035	0.030
1992	0.032	0.046	0.023	0.028	0.030	0.041
1993	0.033	0.046	0.021	0.027	0.029	0.042
1994	0.033	0.039	0.020	0.031	0.027	0.047
1995	0.033	0.039	0.024	0.026	0.037	0.039
1996	0.030	0.043	0.026	0.029	0.048	0.039
1997	0.019	0.037	0.018	0.026	0.028	0.028
1998	0.021	0.027	0.016	0.026	0.021	0.036
1999	0.024	0.032	0.030	0.030	0.061	0.036
2000	0.021	0.041	0.035	0.025	0.039	0.034
2001	0.026	0.034	0.035	0.027	0.051	0.042
2002	0.033	0.040	0.027	0.031	0.054	0.046

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), March Supplement, 1972–2003, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

Annual Earnings of Young Adults

Table S14-1. Standard errors for the median annual earnings (in constant 2002 dollars) of all full-time, full-year wage and salary workers ages 25–34, by sex and educational level: 1971–2002

Year	Male					Female				
	All males	Grades 9–11	High school diploma or GED	Some college	Bachelor's degree or higher	All females	Grades 9–11	High school diploma or GED	Some college	Bachelor's degree or higher
1971	\$329	\$628	\$424	\$802	\$777	\$395	\$771	\$373	\$904	\$724
1972	344	907	404	757	710	391	966	473	772	699
1973	304	1,050	427	634	975	346	902	436	594	671
1974	284	816	409	557	786	327	802	406	749	568
1975	280	919	426	751	791	294	1,071	348	555	604
1976	346	913	459	673	627	277	1,109	393	536	516
1977	362	900	559	715	562	309	758	396	544	515
1978	297	830	527	548	567	282	875	405	548	458
1979	281	1,268	441	546	616	232	848	313	477	657
1980	339	1,150	383	630	583	195	893	273	346	546
1981	355	1,076	514	677	565	297	851	267	499	449
1982	273	1,320	521	516	773	284	813	280	508	409
1983	282	1,023	507	510	696	272	1,010	403	491	511
1984	252	1,052	388	473	517	232	1,029	389	426	620
1985	258	753	425	704	707	237	790	394	410	412
1986	405	680	377	786	904	236	580	390	401	427
1987	418	735	351	764	491	246	646	289	489	394
1988	394	716	349	706	524	332	695	296	672	675
1989	319	713	301	509	602	335	680	269	531	496
1990	231	695	313	460	464	269	827	275	423	445
1991	235	756	439	421	774	224	523	328	356	481
1992	264	869	462	423	471	240	995	446	366	610
1993	227	877	390	395	532	221	970	423	333	615
1994	206	892	409	369	472	232	781	470	374	656
1995	333	844	486	391	713	221	753	366	293	522
1996	425	848	308	662	1,309	325	858	445	337	452
1997	211	524	262	431	714	329	783	345	424	299
1998	193	577	317	323	407	231	580	321	458	649
1999	420	520	643	518	1,499	220	627	373	480	436
2000	575	452	633	779	656	263	853	386	323	378
2001	260	562	680	636	1,054	447	701	449	341	601
2002	242	850	595	387	1,268	263	847	565	333	485

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), March Supplement, 1972–2003, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

Annual Earnings of Young Adults

Table S14-2. Standard errors for the ratio of median annual earnings of all full-time, full-year wage and salary workers ages 25–34 whose highest educational level was grades 9–11, some college, or a bachelor’s degree or higher, compared with those with a high school diploma or GED, by sex: 1971–2002

Year	Total population		Grades 9–11		Some college		Bachelor’s degree or higher	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1971	0.013	0.023	0.018	0.033	0.023	0.040	0.023	0.036
1972	0.013	0.025	0.023	0.040	0.020	0.037	0.020	0.037
1973	0.012	0.024	0.026	0.039	0.018	0.031	0.026	0.036
1974	0.012	0.022	0.022	0.035	0.017	0.035	0.023	0.032
1975	0.013	0.019	0.025	0.044	0.022	0.027	0.024	0.031
1976	0.015	0.020	0.025	0.045	0.021	0.027	0.021	0.029
1977	0.017	0.021	0.025	0.032	0.023	0.027	0.021	0.028
1978	0.015	0.021	0.022	0.037	0.019	0.028	0.020	0.027
1979	0.014	0.017	0.033	0.036	0.018	0.024	0.020	0.032
1980	0.014	0.015	0.032	0.038	0.020	0.019	0.020	0.027
1981	0.019	0.018	0.033	0.038	0.025	0.025	0.024	0.025
1982	0.019	0.019	0.041	0.037	0.023	0.027	0.030	0.025
1983	0.018	0.024	0.032	0.046	0.022	0.030	0.028	0.033
1984	0.014	0.021	0.031	0.046	0.018	0.026	0.020	0.035
1985	0.016	0.022	0.025	0.036	0.025	0.026	0.027	0.030
1986	0.017	0.022	0.022	0.028	0.027	0.025	0.031	0.031
1987	0.017	0.017	0.023	0.028	0.025	0.025	0.021	0.024
1988	0.017	0.021	0.023	0.031	0.024	0.032	0.022	0.035
1989	0.015	0.020	0.024	0.030	0.019	0.027	0.023	0.028
1990	0.014	0.019	0.024	0.038	0.019	0.024	0.021	0.028
1991	0.019	0.020	0.028	0.025	0.022	0.023	0.035	0.030
1992	0.021	0.026	0.032	0.046	0.023	0.028	0.030	0.041
1993	0.018	0.025	0.033	0.046	0.021	0.027	0.029	0.042
1994	0.017	0.029	0.033	0.039	0.020	0.031	0.027	0.047
1995	0.023	0.025	0.033	0.039	0.024	0.026	0.037	0.039
1996	0.019	0.030	0.030	0.043	0.026	0.029	0.048	0.039
1997	0.013	0.024	0.019	0.037	0.018	0.026	0.028	0.028
1998	0.014	0.020	0.021	0.027	0.016	0.026	0.021	0.036
1999	0.029	0.024	0.024	0.032	0.030	0.030	0.061	0.036
2000	0.030	0.025	0.021	0.041	0.035	0.025	0.039	0.034
2001	0.029	0.032	0.026	0.034	0.035	0.027	0.051	0.042
2002	0.025	0.033	0.033	0.040	0.027	0.031	0.054	0.046

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), March Supplement, 1972–2003, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

Annual Earnings of Young Adults

Table S14-3. Standard errors for the ratio of median annual earnings of all male to all female full-time, full-year wage and salary workers ages 25–34, by educational level: 1971–2002

Year	Total population	Grades 9–11	High school diploma or GED	Some college	Bachelor's degree or higher
1971	0.025	0.075	0.029	0.056	0.036
1972	0.024	0.093	0.034	0.046	0.033
1973	0.022	0.085	0.034	0.036	0.037
1974	0.021	0.087	0.031	0.044	0.033
1975	0.019	0.107	0.028	0.040	0.033
1976	0.019	0.105	0.030	0.037	0.028
1977	0.021	0.075	0.033	0.037	0.027
1978	0.019	0.076	0.033	0.036	0.027
1979	0.017	0.092	0.027	0.032	0.035
1980	0.017	0.095	0.023	0.031	0.029
1981	0.022	0.099	0.028	0.037	0.026
1982	0.018	0.095	0.029	0.033	0.029
1983	0.017	0.099	0.034	0.030	0.031
1984	0.015	0.095	0.030	0.028	0.029
1985	0.015	0.072	0.029	0.033	0.025
1986	0.019	0.056	0.028	0.035	0.030
1987	0.019	0.064	0.022	0.036	0.021
1988	0.021	0.077	0.023	0.040	0.028
1989	0.019	0.069	0.020	0.031	0.023
1990	0.015	0.077	0.022	0.026	0.019
1991	0.013	0.067	0.026	0.023	0.028
1992	0.014	0.089	0.032	0.023	0.025
1993	0.013	0.094	0.029	0.021	0.024
1994	0.013	0.084	0.034	0.023	0.026
1995	0.016	0.084	0.034	0.021	0.027
1996	0.022	0.082	0.032	0.031	0.041
1997	0.016	0.070	0.024	0.028	0.022
1998	0.012	0.059	0.023	0.026	0.025
1999	0.018	0.059	0.037	0.030	0.041
2000	0.023	0.066	0.037	0.034	0.021
2001	0.020	0.064	0.039	0.029	0.034
2002	0.013	0.083	0.040	0.022	0.035

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), March Supplement, 1972–2003, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

Annual Earnings of Young Adults

Table S14-4. Standard errors for the difference in median annual earnings (in constant 2002 dollars) for all full-time, full-year wage and salary workers ages 25–34 between the highest and the lowest quarters, by sex and educational level: 1971–2002

Year	Male				Female			
	Grades 9–11	High school diploma or GED	Some college	Bachelor's degree or higher	Grades 9–11	High school diploma or GED	Some college	Bachelor's degree or higher
1971	\$1,196	\$695	\$1,239	\$1,557	\$935	\$573	\$1,241	\$1,667
1972	1,332	606	1,096	1,524	1,101	727	1,065	1,556
1973	1,332	739	1,553	1,250	962	632	1,001	1,359
1974	1,216	773	1,239	1,190	895	660	1,109	1,468
1975	1,210	729	1,175	859	1,058	504	829	1,229
1976	1,348	746	1,045	1,222	847	549	1,037	967
1977	1,659	700	865	953	872	617	1,007	955
1978	1,534	834	1,105	913	828	625	794	1,229
1979	1,544	691	913	828	956	463	847	1,109
1980	1,055	557	739	939	967	533	923	820
1981	1,153	493	887	871	819	473	726	1,039
1982	1,233	572	888	1,229	952	564	836	804
1983	994	683	885	1,067	961	569	649	1,008
1984	1,321	628	804	765	1,072	538	710	674
1985	1,500	578	1,019	984	927	499	894	867
1986	1,103	521	1,119	859	778	463	937	864
1987	1,120	522	1,027	1,165	843	412	753	775
1988	1,219	573	958	1,281	788	442	712	1,144
1989	985	738	745	856	727	411	684	1,049
1990	986	644	769	909	906	517	763	807
1991	892	741	794	1,384	644	502	830	949
1992	717	735	955	1,451	1,271	514	650	956
1993	791	813	865	937	1,091	517	777	769
1994	928	752	1,162	1,069	876	484	636	785
1995	956	545	880	1,551	958	524	581	683
1996	776	550	679	1,518	1,078	466	588	733
1997	986	523	809	2,071	951	517	505	1,304
1998	1,143	837	928	1,767	1,060	666	537	644
1999	908	492	526	1,638	838	774	875	894
2000	1,204	572	1,218	1,448	1,343	532	693	829
2001	1,023	528	1,513	1,205	1,322	441	625	1,064
2002	1,373	563	886	1,195	1,253	463	606	1,656

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), March Supplement, 1972–2003, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).