

Educational Levels

According to the US Census Bureau, the following are median earnings for 2004, by educational level completed:

- High School Drop-out: \$13,280 - \$21,760
- High School/GED: \$19,821 - \$31,183
- **Certificate/Associate's Degree: \$25,235 - \$37,883**
- Bachelor's Degree: \$35,195 - \$52,242
- Graduate/Professional Degree: \$46,004 - \$68,239

While these averages do not necessarily reflect specific trades or regional demographics, they clearly show that the more education you attain, the greater your earning potential. Even better, the higher your salary the greater percentage of your income that can be used on discretionary (your choice) spending after basic needs are met, which translates to expanded life-style options.