

## The value of education

*Education achievement increases earnings and leads to lower unemployment rates.*

### Median weekly earnings by education attainment for workers ages 25 and older, 2017



**Source:** U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Career Outlook: Measuring The Value of Education," April 2018.



Labor market data continue to indicate that earnings increase for each educational level achieved. According to data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, median weekly earnings for workers ages 25 and older with less than a high school diploma was \$502 compared to \$774 for those with some college but no degree. Conversely, unemployment rates decline as the level of education attainment increases. In 2017, the average unemployment rate was 3.6 percent for the total population compared to 6.5 percent for individuals with less than a high school diploma and 4.6 percent for those with a high school diploma.

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