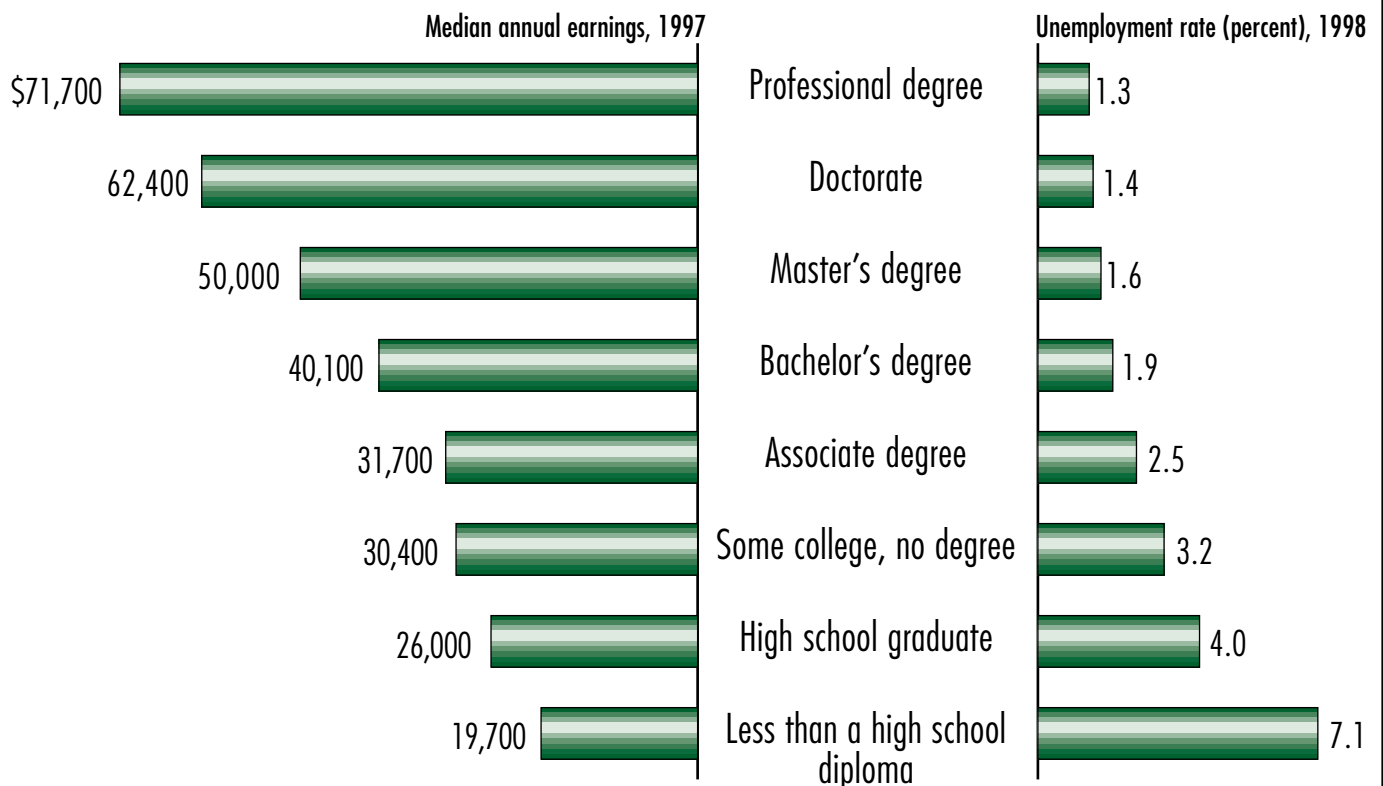


# More education: Higher earnings, lower unemployment

New data tell an old story: The more you learn, the more you earn—and the less likely you are to be unemployed. Earnings increase and unemployment decreases with additional years of education. But completing a program is worth more than attending college without earning a degree.

Education pays, in part, because employers believe educated workers learn tasks more easily and are better organized. However, the data here are averages; variations occur at all educational levels. The biggest reason for the variety in earnings is the different occupations people enter as a result of their education.

Earnings and unemployment for year-round, full-time workers age 25 and over, by educational attainment



SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, unpublished data from the Current Population Survey (unemployment); Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, PPL-99, *Educational Attainment in the United States: March 1998*, table 9 (unpublished data), and *Current Population Reports*, P20-513, October 1998, "Educational Attainment in the United States: March 1998 (Update)" (earnings). For more information, contact Jennifer C. Day or Andrea E. Curry at the Bureau of the Census, (301) 457-4608, or visit the Census website at <http://www.census.gov>.