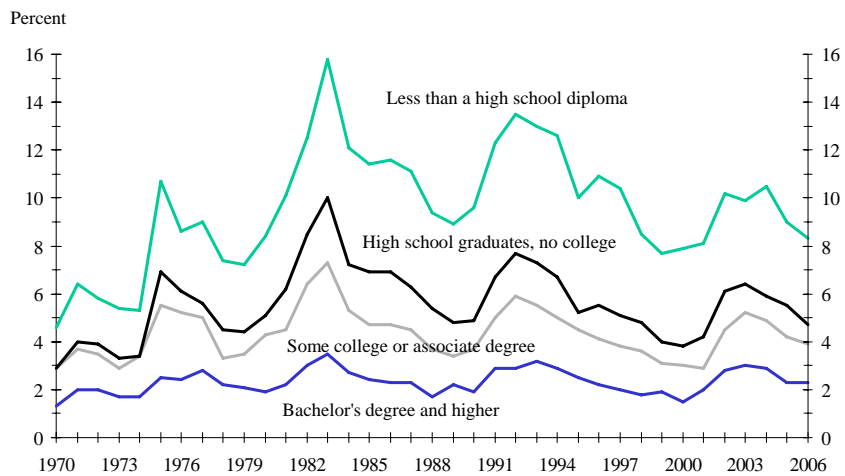


## Chart 2-2. The higher the education level, the lower the unemployment rate

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NOTE: Data are from the March 1970-2006 Current Population Survey and are for persons 25 to 64 years old. Beginning in 1992, data are based on highest diploma or degree received; prior to this time, data were based on years of school completed.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Chart 2-2. The higher the education level, the lower the unemployment rate

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- In March 2006, the unemployment rate for persons 25 to 64 years old without a high school diploma was 8.3 percent, while the jobless rate for college graduates was 2.3 percent. This compares with unemployment rates of 4.6 and 1.3 percent, respectively, in March 1970.
- The unemployment rate for high school dropouts trended upward until the early 1980s. Although the rate has generally trended lower since then, it remains considerably higher than in 1970.
- In contrast, the jobless rate for college graduates has held fairly steady over the long term.