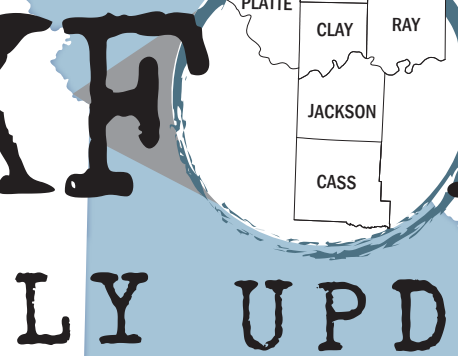


June 8, 2017

WORKFORCE



WEEKLY UPDATE

Local workforce information for the Kansas City area.

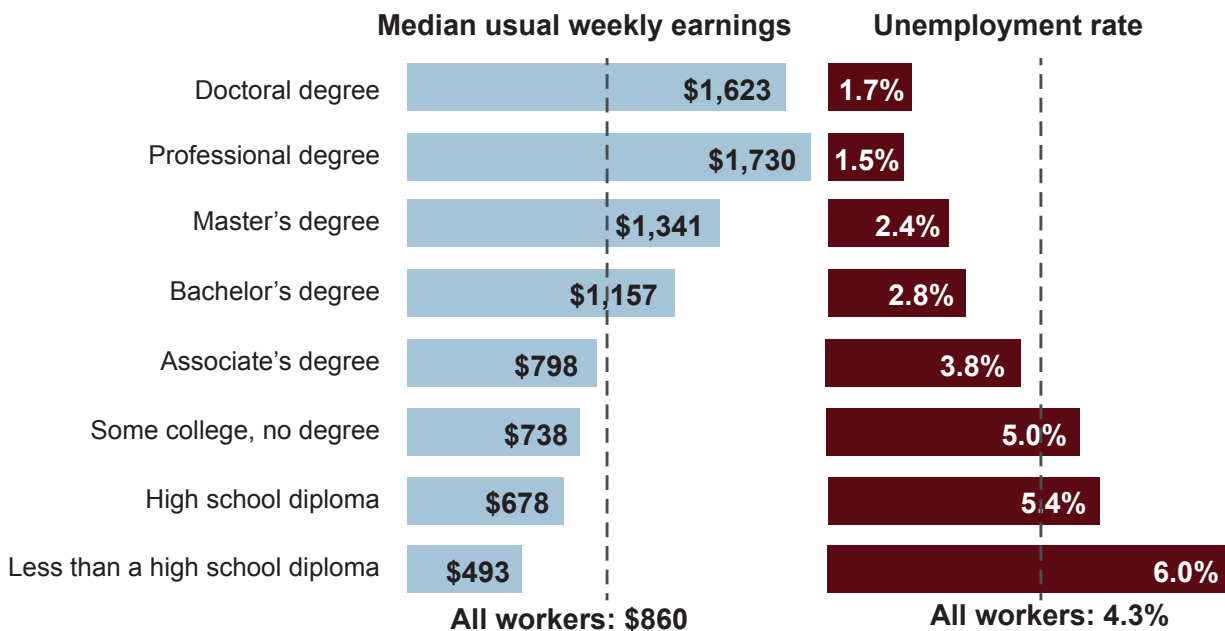
Click here to
SUBSCRIBE



EDUCATION, WAGES, AND EMPLOYMENT IN MISSOURI

The link between education and earnings is clear. At each increased level of educational attainment, there is a significant increase in average wage. At its basic level, obtaining a high school diploma or its equivalency increases a workers average annual wage in Missouri by two-thirds, when compared to those without a high school degree or equivalence. Those attaining a Bachelor's degree or higher, on average, earn almost twice as much than those with a high school degree.

Earnings and Unemployment Rates by Educational Attainment, 2015



Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.

Not only does a higher educational attainment level lead to higher wages, but it also increases employment opportunities. At each increasing level of educational attainment, unemployment rates steadily decline. In fact, those with less than a high school diploma are unemployed at a rate nearly three times higher than those with a Bachelor's degree or higher. At every step, increasing educational attainment not only leads to a higher annual wage potential, but also increases the likelihood that people find a career in their chosen field.

Education Attained	Unemployment Rate in 2015	Median Weekly Earnings in 2015
Doctoral degree	1.7%	\$1,623
Professional degree	1.5%	\$1,730
Master's degree	2.4%	\$1,341
Bachelor's degree	2.8%	\$1,137
Associate's degree	3.8%	\$798
Some college, no degree	5.0%	\$738
High school diploma	5.4%	\$678
Less than a high school diploma	8.0%	\$493
All workers	4.3%	\$860

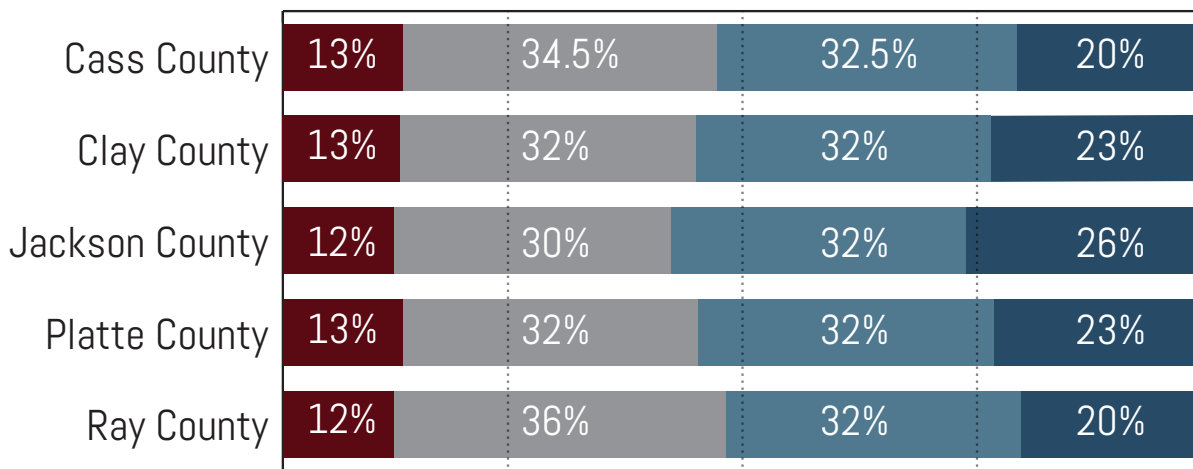
Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.

Information extracted from MERIC (Missouri Economic Research and Information Center) at www.missourieconomy.org. * Product funded by the U.S. Employment and Training Administration, Workforce Information Grant (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and Current Population Survey (CPS) data)

Educational attainment rates for the Kansas City Region workforce are above that of the rest of Missouri for those that completed a bachelor's or advanced degree. In the Kansas City Region, 88 percent of the workforce has a high school diploma or equivalent, and 25 percent has a bachelor's or advanced degree. By comparison, the Missouri workforce has an 88 percent rate with a high school diploma or equivalent and has 23 percent with a bachelor's or advanced degree. The graph below shows a breakdown of the Kansas City Region by county.

Educational Attainment, 2015 Annual Average

Information extracted from MERIC (Missouri Economic Research and Information Center) at www.missourieconomy.org.



■ Less than HS ■ HS or equivalent (no college)

■ Some college or Associate Degree ■ Bachelor's degree or advanced degree

HIRING FAIR See our online CALENDAR