

GENDER EARNINGS GAP AT EVERY EDUCATION LEVEL

Women who work full time earn less than their male counterparts at every educational level, with the largest gender gap occurring among workers with advanced degrees, according to figures released by the Census Bureau. Among all full-time workers age 25 or older in 2007, women earned an average of \$35,759, which was \$11,029 or 24 percent less than the \$46,788 average for men.

By educational attainment, the largest gender gap occurred among persons with advanced degrees, 31 percent, while the gap was narrowest for women with less than a high school degree and those with some college, at 25 percent. Women with either a high school degree or a bachelor's degree earned 27 percent less than men in the same educational group.

About 85 percent of all Americans age 25 or older had completed high school in 2007, while 28 percent had attained at least a bachelor's degree. Among full-time workers, annual earnings were highest on average for men and women with advanced degrees (\$88,840 and \$61,228, respectively), followed by those with a bachelor's degree (\$65,011 and \$47,333, respectively) and workers with some college or an associate degree (\$46,562 and \$34,745, respectively). Workers with the lowest earnings were men and women who did not complete high school (\$27,180 and \$20,341, respectively), followed by those with only a high school diploma (\$37,632 and \$27,477, respectively).

The report is available at <http://www.census.gov/prod/2009pubs/p20-560.pdf>.

(Source: BNA, *Daily Labor Report*, No. 22, February 5, 2009, p. A7.)