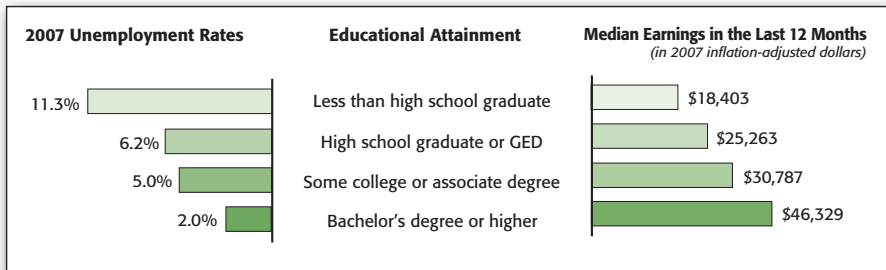


Education Pays in Missouri

The road to riches is paved by education – or so the data suggest. As the chart shows, median earnings increased with educational attainment by Missourians age 25 to 64 years. There was a substantial earnings differential from the highest to the lowest levels of attainment: the median earnings of workers who had a professional degree were more than 2.5 times those of high school dropouts. But workers did not need that much education to earn a bigger paycheck – the payoff began for those who completed high school and went on to complete some college or an associate degree.



Source: Missouri Economic Research Information Center, www.missourieconomy.org