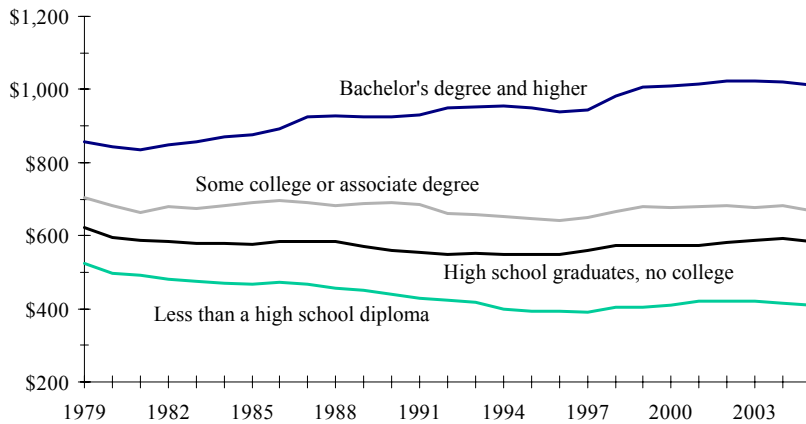


Chart 2-6. Real median weekly earnings for college graduates have trended up over time

Median weekly earnings of full-time workers (In constant 2005 dollars)



NOTE: Median weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years of age and over. Earnings data have been adjusted using the CPI-U-RS research series. Beginning in 1992, data are based on highest diploma or degree received; prior to 1992, data were based on years of school completed.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Chart 2-6. Real median weekly earnings for college graduates have trended up over time

- Only college graduates have experienced growth in real median weekly earnings since 1979. In contrast, high school dropouts have seen their real median weekly earnings decline by about 20 percent.
- Real earnings for high school graduates and for persons with some college or an associate degree were little changed over the 1979-2005 period.
- For most workers, real earnings have been relatively flat since 1999.