B20004. MEDIAN EARNINGS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (IN 2009 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS) BY SEX BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT FOR THE POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER - Universe: POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER WITH EARNINGS
Data Set: 2009 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates
Survey: American Community Survey

NOTE. Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see Survey Methodology.

	Alaska	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	37,754	+/-1,048
Less than high school graduate	17,793	+/-3,317
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	28,949	+/-1,557
Some college or associate's degree	36,038	+/-1,373
Bachelor's degree	48,038	+/-2,268
Graduate or professional degree	61,858	+/-2,636
Male:	46,259	+/-2,312
Less than high school graduate	21,411	+/-4,792
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	37,148	+/-3,062
Some college or associate's degree	47,820	+/-2,137
Bachelor's degree	59,100	+/-3,562
Graduate or professional degree	68,447	+/-5,363
Female:	30,013	+/-1,414
Less than high school graduate	13,251	+/-1,218
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	21,850	+/-1,542
Some college or associate's degree	28,837	+/-1,299
Bachelor's degree	40,459	+/-1,775
Graduate or professional degree	58,615	+/-2,833

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. The degree of uncertainty for an estimate arising from sampling variability is represented through the use of a margin of error. The value shown here is the 90 percent margin of error. The margin of error can be interpreted roughly as providing a 90 percent probability that the interval defined by the estimate minus the margin of error and the estimate plus the margin of error (the lower and upper confidence bounds) contains the true value. In addition to sampling variability, the ACS estimates are subject to nonsampling error (for a discussion of nonsampling variability, see Accuracy of the Data). The effect of nonsampling error is not represented in these tables.

The methodology for calculating median income and median earnings changed between 2008 and 2009. Medians over $75,000 were most likely affected. The underlying income and earning distribution now uses $2,500 increments up to $250,000 for households, non-family households, families, and individuals and employs a linear interpolation method for median calculations. Before 2009 the highest income category was $200,000 for households, families and non-family households ($100,000 for individuals) and portions of the income and earnings distribution contained intervals wider than $2,500. Those cases used a Pareto Interpolation Method.

While the 2009 American Community Survey (ACS) data generally reflect the November 2008 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) definitions of metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas; in certain instances the names, codes, and boundaries of the principal cities shown in ACS tables may differ from the OMB definitions due to differences in the effective dates of the geographic entities.

Estimates of urban and rural population, housing units, and characteristics reflect boundaries of urban areas defined based on Census 2000 data. Boundaries for urban areas have not been updated since Census 2000. As a result, data for urban and rural areas from the ACS do not necessarily reflect the results of ongoing urbanization.

Explanation of Symbols:
1. An '**' entry in the margin of error column indicates that either no sample observations or too few sample observations were available to compute a standard error and thus the margin of error. A statistical test is not appropriate.
2. An '-' entry in the estimate column indicates that either no sample observations or too few sample observations were available to compute an estimate, or a ratio of medians cannot be calculated because one or both of the median estimates falls in the lowest interval or upper interval of an open-ended distribution.
3. An '-' following a median estimate means the median falls in the lowest interval of an open-ended distribution.
4. An '+' following a median estimate means the median falls in the upper interval of an open-ended distribution.
5. An '***' entry in the margin of error column indicates that the median falls in the lowest interval or upper interval of an open-ended distribution. A statistical test is not appropriate.
6. An '*****' entry in the margin of error column indicates that the estimate is controlled. A statistical test for sampling variability is not appropriate.

Standard Error/Variance documentation for this dataset:
Accuracy of the Data