

Math Lesson 1: Teacher Guide

The objective of this lesson is to help students understand how income is affected by various levels of education.

Discussion

Start this lesson by asking students if they have thought about the types of careers they are interested in and how much income they could have based on their level of education. Ask if they have ideas about how much education or training they will need for the occupations they are interested in. Here are some questions that will help facilitate the discussion:

- Do you have any idea how much income level differs between workers who have only completed high school and those who hold four-year college degrees?
- How much money do you think you'll need to earn each year to support yourself? To support a family?
- How do wages in your state compare to U.S. averages? Do you think they are higher or lower?

Part of this lesson is based on percentiles. If your students do not yet understand percentiles, explain the difference between 10th percentile, median, and 90th percentile.

Online Activity

Log in to Kuder Navigator® (<http://www.indianacareerexplorer.org>) and hand out the student worksheet(s). Your students should all have individual accounts. If they do not, you can obtain their login information from your Kuder Administrative Database Management System® or check with your site administrator (typically your career teachers or school counselors). Even if students only have their user names, they can still reset their passwords.

Although the worksheet is self-explanatory, you may want to walk through the assignment yourself prior to leading students through the activity in case they need assistance.

Post-Online Activity

Split students into discussion groups of four to five students. Have them discuss the results they found online about salaries and income based on level of education. Ask each group to

share one interesting thing they learned from this activity that might impact their career choices.

Post-Activity Discussion

Ask students if they were surprised how similar or different salaries were based on educational levels. Ask students to share some of the data they collected. Who found the biggest income gap? Who found careers that had high earnings with only a high school education?