

FIGURE 16.5: EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

The chart shows the percentage of population over twenty-five years of age whose highest level of education as of the year 2000 is described by the column heading.

	No Diploma	High School Diploma	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Graduate Degree
UPPER PROVIDENCE	4.6%	36.2%	6.7%	29.2%	23.3%
Edgmont	9.4%	35.4%	6.3%	28.7%	20.2%
Marple	12.0%	48.4%	5.8%	20.8%	13.0%
Media Borough	11.1%	42.5%	6.4%	26.1%	13.9%
Middletown	16.6%	42.1%	5.8%	20.8%	14.7%
Nether Providence	6.8%	36.9%	5.8%	25.4%	25.1%
Newtown	7.4%	43.6%	4.8%	26.7%	17.5%
Delaware County	13.5%	50.4%	6.1%	18.2%	11.8%

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of the Census and Delaware Valley Planning Commission, 2003.

The chart shows that Upper Providence and the surrounding municipalities are generally better educated than the County as a whole. Upper Providence has the highest proportion of college graduates (i.e., the sum of the “Bachelor’s” and “Graduate” columns) of the communities shown at 52.5%, and only Nether Providence has a higher percentage of people with graduate degrees. Upper Providence also has the lowest percentage (4.6%) of persons lacking a high school diploma. These data suggest a relatively well-employed and affluent community. Employment and income are reviewed in greater detail in following sections.

Employment - The Census Bureau collects employment data based upon both occupation and industry. The figures apply to employed civilians who are at least sixteen years old.

“Occupation” refers to the tasks the individual performs, while “industry” describes the individual’s employer. This distinction can be blurred in some cases. For example, “farming” is both an occupation type as well as an industry.