Table 2

Median annual real earnings of college graduates: 2014–20

(Constant 2021 Dollars)

Characteristic	Calendar year prior to survey reference year			
	2014	2016	2018	2020
Full-time workers in survey reference year who worked at all in given calendar year	76,700	79,000	78,800	80,600
Total population in survey reference year who worked at all in given calendar year	66,400	68,900	70,100	71,200
Total population in survey reference year, regardless of whether they worked in given calendar year	57,200	57,600	58,300	57,600

Note(s):
The National Survey of College Graduates asks respondents to report their total earned income in the year prior to the survey reference year. Earnings are expressed in constant 2021 U.S. dollars by inflating pre-2021 earnings observations according to the Consumer Price Index published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Full-time employment is at least 35 hours per typical week of the survey reference year; part-time employment is less than 35 hours per typical week of the survey reference year. College graduates who have never worked are excluded from this table.

Source(s):
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Survey of College Graduates.