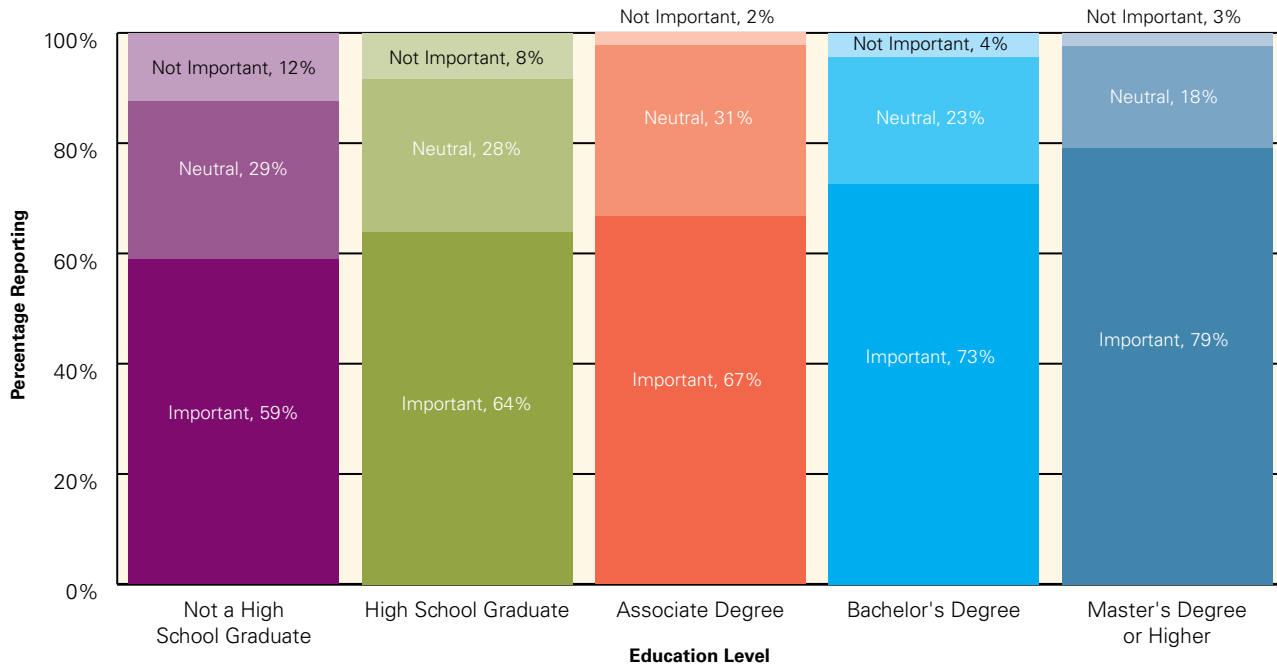


Benefits to Society

Figure 1.20: Importance Placed by Individuals Ages 25 and Older on Trying to Understand Opinions of Others, by Education Level, 2004



Sources: National Opinion Research Center, *General Social Survey*, 2004 Citizenship Module; calculations by the authors.

- The typical college graduate working full-time year-round pays about 134 percent more in federal taxes and almost 80 percent more in total federal, state and local taxes than the typical high school graduate.
- College graduates are more likely than others to donate blood.
- In every age group, adults with higher levels of education are more likely to vote.
- Adults with higher levels of education are more likely than others to be open to differing opinions.
- Workers with lower education levels earn more if others in the same metropolitan area are more educated.
- College graduates are much less likely than individuals with lower levels of education to be unemployed, rely on public assistance programs, or live in a poverty-level household.
- Among all racial/ethnic groups, unemployment rates are much lower for college graduates than for high school graduates.