

DegreeTree Study Reveals Correlation between Unemployment, Education and Income

Infographic intended to help future students make rational degree and career decisions

CHARLOTTE, N.C., July 24, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- DegreeTree.com, an online resource for connecting students with accredited degree programs and schools, has released the results of a recent study comparing unemployment vs education vs income. The infographic makes use of DegreeTree data which shows that states with the highest unemployment rates are also the states with the highest number of degree seekers. The infographic was created in order to help students make informed decisions when deciding on degrees and future career paths, and is the latest in a series of informative guides.

(Logo: http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20110518/MM04455LOGO)

"With unemployment being so high in some states, many who are unemployed are choosing to go back to school," says Teri Didjurgis, General Manager of DegreeTree. "This information is meant to help them discern between careers with high and low unemployment so they can make good decisions when choosing a degree."

It should come as no surprise that higher education means lower unemployment rates. Statistical data shows that unemployment decreases significantly the more education a person has. However, the data presented by DegreeTree goes a step further to show the correlation between jobs that not only have a high salary, but also have low unemployment.

Of course, the information is supposed to be fun. "We've pitted different degrees and careers against each other in an Olympic style boxing match," says Ralph Miller, marketing manager for DegreeTree. "You're going to see a few surprise knockouts when you see high paying careers that just don't match up to others when it comes to actually getting a job. You wouldn't train for the Olympics in a sport that didn't compete, so why would you get a degree in an area with high unemployment rates?"

"We want to make sure the degrees people choose are the ones that make the most sense. It's not just about personal fulfillment. People also need to consider salary potential, benefits, working conditions and the level of demand a degree carries. The latter is particularly true in states like California and Nevada, where the unemployment rate is over 10%."

In addition to the infographic, DegreeTree offers <u>education resources</u> to assist people choosing a career for the first time, or starting a new one.

About DegreeTree

DegreeTree, a subsidiary of Tree.com, is the trusted online portal for connecting prospective students with accredited online degree programs and institutions. Through its comprehensive information center, DegreeTree.com provides online tools and resources to help students make the right choice for advancing their education.

About LendingTree, LLC

LendingTree, LLC is the nation's leading online lender exchange and personal finance resource, helping consumers take charge of all their financial decisions, from budgeting to money management to mortgages to credit cards and more. LendingTree provides a marketplace that connects consumers with multiple lenders that compete for their business, as well as an array of online tools to aid consumers in their financial decisions. Since inception, LendingTree has facilitated more than 30 million loan requests and \$214 billion in closed loan transactions. LendingTree provides access to lenders offering mortgages and refinance loans, home equity loans/lines of credit, and more.LendingTree, LLC is a subsidiary of Tree.com, Inc. (NASDAQ: TREE). For more information go to www.lendingtree.com, dial 800-555-TREE, join our Facebook page and/or follow us on Twitter @LendingTree.

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