How to Really be a Millionaire

True or False?

Most millionaires are college graduates.

True

- 4/5 millionaires are college graduates

- 18% have Master's degrees

- 8% have law degrees

- 6% have medical degrees

- 6% are Ph.Ds

Most millionaires work fewer than 40 hours a week.

False

- Approx 2/3 work 45-55 hours a week

More than half of all millionaires never received money from a trust fund or estate.

True

- 19% receive some income/wealth from trust fund or an estate

- <10% inherited 10%+ of their wealth

More millionaires have American Express gold cards than Sears cards.

False

- 28.6% have American Express Gold Cards

- 43% have Sears credit cards

- only 6.2% have American Express Platinum Cards

More millionaires drive Fords than Cadillacs.

True

- 9.4% prefer Ford

- 8.8% prefer Cadillac

- 7.8% prefer Lincoln

- Only 23% drive a current-year (new) car

Most millionaires work in glamorous jobs, such as sports, entertainment, or high tech.

False

- Majority are in ordinary industries and jobs

- Most are proficient in targeting marketing opportunities

Most millionaires work for big Fortune 500 companies.

False

- 3 out of 4 are self employed and consider themselves entrepreneurs

- Most others are professionals such as doctors, accountants, and lawyers

Many poor people become millionaires by winning the lottery.

False

- Few people get rich the easy way

- Chances of winning lottery about 1 in 12 million
  Average person who plays lottery every day would have to live about 33,000 years to win once

- By comparison . . .
  A person has a 1 in 1.9 million chance of being struck by lightning
  A pregnant woman has 1 chance in 705,000 births of having quadruplets

College graduates earn about 65 percent more than high school graduates earn.

True

- Average college grad earned 66% more than average high school grad

- People with professional degrees earned 150% more than high school grades

If an average 18-yr-old high school grad spends as much as an average high school dropout until both are 65 years old, but the grad invests the difference in earnings at 8% annual interest, the grad would have $5.5 million.

True

Difference in earnings is about $8,000 at age 18

Day traders usually beat the stock market and many of them become millionaires.

False

- 80% of day traders lose money

If at age 18 you decide to invest $1.50 a day at 8% annual interest, at age 67 you would have accumulated almost $300,000.

True

- Because of power of compound interest, small savings can make a difference

If you save $2,000 a year from age 22 to age 65 at 8% annual interest, your savings will be over $700,000 at age 65.

True

- Again, because of power of compound interest, small savings can make a difference

Single people are more often millionaires than married people.

False

- Most are married and stay married

- For some, divorce is a gateway to poverty

What did you find interesting about this data?