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Trends in Higher Education

The Trends in Higher Education publications include the annual Trends in College Pricing and Trends in Student Aid reports and the Education Pays series, along with How College Shapes Lives and other research reports and topical analysis briefs. These reports are designed to provide a foundation of evidence to strengthen policy discussions and decisions.

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Between 2013-14 and 2014-15, average published tuition and fee prices increased by 2.9% for in-state students in the public four-year sector, by 3.3% for out-of-state students in the public four-year sector and for in-district students at public two-year colleges, and by 3.7% at private nonprofit four-year institutions. These increases are higher than the 2.0% increase in the Consumer Price Index between July 2013 and July 2014, but in all sectors these price increases are lower than the average annual increases in the past five years, the past 10 years, and the past 30 years.

*Trends in College Pricing 2014* reports on the prices charged by colleges and universities in 2014-15, how prices have changed over time, and how they vary within and across types of institutions, states, and regions. We also include information on the estimated net prices students and families pay after taking financial aid into consideration. Data on institutional revenues and expenditures and on changing enrollment patterns over time supplement the data on prices to provide a clearer picture of the circumstances of students and the institutions in which they study.

**PUBLISHED TUITION AND FEES AND ROOM AND BOARD**
The increases in in-state published tuition and fees at public four-year institutions of 2.9% in 2014-15 and 2.8% in 2013-14 are the only increases since 1974-75 that have been less than 3% (not adjusted for inflation).

- Average published tuition and fees for in-state students in the public four-year sector increased by $254 (2.9%), from $8,885 in 2013-14 to $9,139 in 2014-15. Room and board charges are $9,804.
- Average published out-of-state tuition and fees at public four-year institutions rose by $735 (3.3%), from $22,223 in 2013-14 to $22,958 in 2014-15. Average total charges are $32,762.
- Average published tuition and fees at private nonprofit four-year institutions rose by $1,100 (3.7%), from $30,131 to $31,231 in 2014-15. Average total charges are $32,419.
- Average published tuition and fees at public two-year colleges increased by $106 (3.3%), from $3,241 in 2013-14 to $3,347 in 2014-15.
- Estimated average tuition and fees for full-time students in the for-profit sector increased by about $190 (1.3%), from $15,040 in 2013-14 to $15,230 in 2014-15.
- About two-thirds of full-time students pay for college with the assistance of grant aid; many receive federal tax credits and deductions to help cover expenses.

**VARIATION IN TUITION AND FEES**
Among full-time undergraduates at public and private nonprofit four-year institutions, the median published tuition and fee price in 2014-15 is $11,550.

- Twelve percent of full-time students in the public four-year sector attend institutions that did not increase their tuition prices at all in 2014-15 and another 43% faced increases below 3%; 5% of students attend institutions that increased their prices by 9% or more.
- In the private nonprofit four-year sector, 65% of full-time students attend institutions that increased their tuition and fees by between 3% and 6% in 2014-15; 30% attend institutions that increased their prices by less than 3%, and 2% faced increases of 9% or more.
- The average published in-state tuition and fee price for undergraduates enrolled at public master’s universities is $7,968, compared to $10,075 at public doctoral universities.
- The average published tuition and fee price for undergraduates enrolled at private nonprofit master’s universities is $27,594, compared to $39,008 at private doctoral universities.

**Differences Across States**
- Published in-state tuition and fees at public four-year institutions range from $4,646 in Wyoming and $6,138 in Alaska to $14,149 in Vermont and $14,712 in New Hampshire.
- In-district tuition and fees at public two-year colleges range from $1,429 in California and $1,645 in New Mexico to $6,500 in New Hampshire and $7,320 in Vermont.
- In 2014-15, published tuition and fees for in-state students at flagship universities range from $4,646 at the University of Wyoming and $6,099 at the University of Montana to $16,552 at the University of New Hampshire and $18,464 at Penn State.
- In 15 states, average in-state tuition and fees at public four-year institutions increased by less than 10% in inflation-adjusted dollars between 2009-10 and 2014-15. In 18 states the increase was 20% or more.
- California’s 58% inflation-adjusted increase in average published tuition and fees for full-time students at public two-year colleges between 2009-10 and 2014-15 was second only to Louisiana’s 62%, but California’s price remains the lowest in the country.
- In 2014-15, the published out-of-state tuition and fees at public four-year institutions range from $9,910 in South Dakota and $14,876 in Wyoming to $31,982 in Michigan and $34,331 in Vermont.
WHAT STUDENTS ACTUALLY PAY
Between 2009-10 and 2014-15, the average net tuition and fee price paid by in-state students at public four-year colleges increased from about $2,030 (in 2014 dollars) to an estimated $3,030.

– Despite increasing published prices, the average net tuition and fee prices that students paid after taking grant aid and tax benefits into consideration declined between 2004-05 and 2009-10 in public two-year and four-year institutions and in private nonprofit four-year institutions.

– Full-time students enrolled in private nonprofit institutions receive an average of about $18,870 in grant aid and federal tax benefits to help them pay for college. Average aid is about $6,110 at public four-year institutions and about $5,090 at public two-year colleges.

– In 2011-12, full-time dependent students from the lowest income quartile paid average net tuition and fees, after grant aid, of $11,300 in the for-profit sector, compared to $2,530 at the lowest-price and $9,860 at the highest-price nonprofit institutions.

– In 2011-12, full-time in-state students at public four-year universities from families with incomes below $30,000 received enough grant aid from all sources combined to cover tuition and fees and to have about $2,300 left to put toward room, board, and other expenses.

INSTITUTIONAL FINANCES
Over the 10 years from 2001-02 to 2011-12, average education expenditures per full-time equivalent (FTE) student increased by a total of 6% in inflation-adjusted dollars at public doctoral universities and declined by 7% at public two-year colleges.

– In 2013-14, public colleges and universities received an average of $7,161 per FTE student in state funding — 23% less than the $9,290 (in 2013 dollars) they received in 2007-08.

– Total state appropriations declined by 16%, from $90.5 billion (in 2013 dollars) in 2007-08 to $76.2 billion in 2013-14; public FTE enrollment increased by 9% over these six years.

– In 2013-14, state appropriations per FTE student for public colleges and universities ranged from $3,184 in New Hampshire and $3,494 in Colorado to $14,045 in Wyoming and $18,857 in Alaska.

– Between 1991 and 2011, the percentage of FTE staff members who were faculty increased from 31% to 34% at public institutions and from 29% to 34% at private institutions.

ENROLLMENT PATTERNS
Between 2010 and 2012, total enrollment in both public and private nonprofit four-year institutions increased by 2%. Enrollment declined by 6% in public two-year colleges and by 10% in for-profit institutions.

– Growth in public higher education enrollment between 2002 and 2012 ranged from 3% in Illinois to 37% in Florida.

– The percentage of students beginning college in fall 2012 who enrolled at institutions in their home states ranged from 53% in Vermont and 56% in New Hampshire to 90% in California and Arizona and 91% in Utah.

– In 2012-13, only 2% of the 2,580 four-year degree-granting colleges and universities in the United States accepted less than 25% of their applicants; 35% of these institutions accepted 90% or more of their applicants.

COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY
Average income was lower in inflation-adjusted dollars in 2013 than it had been in 2003 for all but the highest-income families.

– The $70,821 increase (in 2013 dollars) in the average income of the top 20% of families between 1983 and 2013 compares to an increase of $8,936 for the middle quintile and to an increase of $578 for the lowest quintile of families.

– Average published tuition and fees for in-state students attending public four-year colleges rose by $6,324 (in 2014 dollars) between 1983 and 2013 — 71% of the increase in income ($8,936) of the middle 20% of families and 9% of the increase in income ($70,821) of the 20% of families in the highest-income bracket.
Figures and tables that are only available online at trends.collegeboard.org.
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Introduction

Between 2013-14 and 2014-15, the percentage increases in published tuition and fees in all sectors were lower than the average annual increases in the past five years, the past 10 years, and the past 30 years. College price increases are not accelerating. But they are accumulating. Tuition and fees have been rising in real terms for decades. The inflation-adjusted average published price for in-state students at public four-year universities is 42% higher than it was 10 years ago and more than twice as high as it was 20 years ago. In the private nonprofit four-year sector, the increases were 24% over 10 years and 66% over 20 years.

With the price of college rising faster than the prices of most other goods and services, despite the high financial payoff to college, people perceive themselves as giving up increasing amounts of other things to pay for college. Even more important is the reality that real incomes have not increased for more than a decade, except at the top of the income scale. Much of the growth in the earnings gap between college graduates and high school graduates has been the result of declining wages at the lower end of the distribution, as opposed to increases for those with a college education.

Assuring that our nation continues to provide postsecondary education to all who are motivated and can benefit is a prerequisite for both a healthy economy and a society that provides meaningful paths to rewarding and independent lives for all individuals. While published college prices can be misleading because most students receive financial aid that reduces the amount they actually have to pay, these prices provide an important indication of social priorities, of opportunities, and of the struggles facing many students and families as they plan their futures.

*Trends in College Pricing* 2014 reports on the published prices in 2014-15 and in previous years. We also incorporate the latest data reported in *Trends in Student Aid* 2014 in calculating the net prices students and families pay after taking financial aid into consideration. The information in this report provides the basis for a better understanding of college financing and for the analysis of policy options designed to reduce the barriers to a more educated population.

**PUBLISHED PRICES FOR ONE YEAR OF FULL-TIME STUDY**

The prices reported in *Trends in College Pricing* are for one year of full-time study. Many students enroll part time, and prorating these prices does not always give an accurate picture of the published prices students face, much less of the net prices generated by the grant assistance and tax benefits provided by federal and state governments, colleges and universities, and employers and other private sources.

But even for full-time students, one-year prices at “two-year” and “four-year” institutions may not be adequate indicators of the cost to students of pursuing postsecondary certificates and degrees. Among students who began their studies full time at a four-year institution in 2005, 39% had completed bachelor’s degrees at their first institution after four years and 59% had completed after six years. In other words, about one-third of bachelor’s degree recipients took longer than four years to complete their degrees. Not all of these students paid more than four years of full-time tuition — they may have taken time off or enrolled part time for at least a semester. But for many of those who took longer than four years to earn their degrees, tuition and fees (before accounting for grant aid) were likely to be considerably more than four times the one-year price.

Taking more than two years to earn an associate degree or more than four years to earn a bachelor’s degree has financial implications beyond tuition and fee expenses. Forgone earnings from reduced participation in the labor force constitute the largest portion of the cost of college for most students. The more quickly students earn their degrees, the more time they have to earn college-level wages and reap the financial benefits of postsecondary education. Bachelor’s degree recipients between the ages of 25 and 34, for example, had median earnings 71% ($17,614) higher than those with high school diplomas in 2013 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 Income Data, Table PINC-03).

**PAST AND FUTURE**

As Figure 5 illustrates, the rate of growth of published tuition and fees is not accelerating over time. In both the public and private nonprofit four-year sectors, the inflation-adjusted increase in prices was smaller between 2004-05 and 2014-15 than over the previous decade, and the increase between 2009-10 and 2014-15 was smaller than the increase over the previous five years.

But Figure 6 shows how the price increases accumulate over time. The average published tuition and fee price in the public four-year sector is 3.25 times its level of 30 years ago, after adjusting for inflation. In the public two-year and private nonprofit four-year sectors, the prices are about 2.5 times their 1984-85 levels.

Institutional expenditures tell only a small part of the story behind these rising prices. As Figure 19B reveals, outside of private doctoral universities, per-student educational expenditures have not risen rapidly over the past decade. They have declined by 7% in the public two-year sector — where tuition and fees increased by 28% in constant dollars between 2004-05 and 2014-15. As in other sectors, net tuition revenues in the public two-year sector constitute a growing share of the budget. For public institutions, declining state revenues per student are a major factor behind this
trend. State funding for higher education is cyclical (Figure 16A), but there is also a long-term downward trend in this subsidy to postsecondary students.

**PUBLISHED AND NET PRICES**

Although it is generally the published prices that make headlines, the net prices paid by individual students are what matter the most for college access and affordability. We estimate that in 2014-15, while the average published in-state tuition and fee price at public four-year institutions is $9,139, the average net price is about $3,030. Grants and tax credits and deductions cover the remainder for the average full-time student.

As Figures 11, 12, and 13 indicate, the difference between the published tuition and fee prices and the average net prices that students pay has grown over time as grant aid and education tax benefits have come to play a larger role. In particular, from 2008-09 to 2010-11, the federal government markedly increased its funding for students, causing average net prices for students to decrease in years when tuition was rising rapidly. Private nonprofit colleges continue to increase their institutional grant aid, but for public four-year college students, the $800 increase in published tuition and fees (in 2014 dollars) between 2010-11 and 2014-15 was not met by an increase in grant aid per student.

These averages across sectors conceal considerable variation among students. As Figure 14 reveals, in 2011-12, full-time in-state students at public four-year institutions from families with incomes below $30,000 received enough grant aid from all sources combined to cover tuition and fees and have about $2,300 left to put toward room, board, and other expenses. Average aid covered tuition and fees for dependent students from families with incomes below $65,000, as well as for independent students at public two-year colleges. Despite the reality that, as documented in *Trends in Student Aid 2014*, significant amounts of student aid are allocated on the basis of factors other than financial need, net prices are positively correlated with family incomes.

**TUITION AND FEES VERSUS TOTAL CHARGES**

In addition to tuition and fees, we report room and board charges for residential students, living costs for commuter students, and other components of student budgets. Whether students live on campus or off campus, they must pay for housing and food, buy books and supplies, and cover transportation and other basic living costs.

Many of these expenses are not really part of the cost of attending college, but are expenses people face whether or not they are in school. The largest real college cost many students face is forgone earnings. It is very difficult to succeed in college while working full time. However, the cost of students’ time is difficult to measure, and we make no attempt to do so in this report. Because students tend to think of living expenses as part of the cost of going to college, and because they must come up with the funds to cover these outlays, it is useful to use these expenses as a proxy for forgone earnings.

The cost of living poses a significant hurdle for many students. Even those who receive grant aid sufficient to cover tuition and fee charges may struggle to cover living expenses. It is not so much the prices charged by institutions, but the very real costs students incur by devoting their time to school and forgoing the income needed to support themselves and their families while in school that create the burden for these students.

**COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY**

Understanding the difficulties many students and families face in covering postsecondary education expenses is not possible without taking trends in the level and distribution of incomes into consideration. As documented in Figure 22A, incomes have declined over the past decade for families at all but the top of the income distribution. Economic inequality in the United States has been growing over recent decades. For example, the share of all income going to the 20% of families with the lowest incomes declined from 4.9% in 1983 to 3.8% in 2013, while the share going to the top 5% of families rose from 15.3% to 21.2%.

Current income is not the only benchmark for college affordability, since students also borrow against their future incomes to help finance their education. Understanding reasonable debt levels must be part of the discussion of college prices and how students and families pay those prices.

In addition to the very different circumstances facing students from different backgrounds and of different ages, there is considerable variation in prices across sectors and across states and regions, as well as among institutions within these categories. College students in the United States have a wide variety of educational institutions from which to choose, with many different price tags and with different levels of financial aid. One of the problems many students face is how to make sense of all the options and complex pricing structures.
Postsecondary education is an investment that pays off well for most people. The investment also pays off for society as a whole, with individual students reaping only a portion of the benefits of their education. The information on college prices, enrollments, and revenue and expenditure patterns reported in *Trends in College Pricing 2014* is best understood in combination with information on student aid reported in *Trends in Student Aid 2014* and the information on the returns to education included in the College Board’s publications, *Education Pays 2013* and *How College Shapes Lives*.

**INTERPRETING THE DATA**

*Measuring Tuition*

A growing number of institutions charge different prices for different years of study and/or for different academic majors. We are able to incorporate some, but not all, of these differences in our price estimates. Another complexity is that some two-year colleges are offering a small number of four-year degrees or providing course work that leads to four-year degrees awarded on other campuses. Although we make every effort to adjust our methodology to accommodate these changes, it is impossible to draw precise lines between sectors and to develop exact measures. Over time, as institutional pricing structures become increasingly complicated, the average prices we are able to report may be less representative of the experiences of individual students.

*Trends in College Pricing 2014* presents detailed pricing data for public two-year and four-year colleges and private nonprofit four-year institutions. While we provide an estimate of the average charges at for-profit institutions, because of the relatively small sample of those institutions from which we are able to collect data and the complex pricing structures prevalent in this sector, it is important to interpret that information with caution. Full-time equivalent undergraduate enrollment in the for-profit sector declined by about 24% between fall 2010 and fall 2013 (IPEDS preliminary data), while overall enrollment declined by 5%. Still, the experiences of the 1.1 million undergraduates in that sector are an important component of the postsecondary landscape.

*Price Changes*

While the information reported here provides a best approximation of trends in college charges over time, we caution readers about placing too much reliance on either precise dollar amounts or precise annual percentage changes. Each year we revise the average prices calculated the previous year to account for corrected data we receive from institutions and to provide an enrollment-weighted average based on the most recent available data on the number of full-time students attending each institution. If, over time, increasing numbers of students were to enroll in the lower-priced institutions within a sector, our measure of the average price increase would be lower than if enrollment were stable. Details relating to our methodology and to other technical issues and data reliability can be found at the end of the report in the Notes and Sources section.

*The tables supporting all of the graphs in the Trends publications, PDF versions of the publications, PowerPoint files containing individual slides for all of the graphs, and other detailed data on student aid and college pricing are available on our website at trends.collegeboard.org. Please feel free to cite or reproduce the data in Trends for noncommercial purposes with proper attribution.*
The average published tuition and fee price for in-state students enrolled full time at public four-year colleges and universities is $9,139 in 2014-15, $254 (2.9%) higher than in 2013-14.

The average published tuition and fee price for full-time out-of-state students at public four-year institutions is about 2.5 times as high as the price for in-state students. The average out-of-state tuition premium increased from $13,338 in 2013-14 to $13,819 in 2014-15.

The average published in-district tuition and fee price for students enrolled full time at public two-year colleges increased by $106 (3.3%) between 2013-14 and 2014-15.

The average published tuition and fee price for students enrolled full time at private nonprofit four-year colleges and universities increased by $1,100 (3.7%) between 2013-14 and 2014-15.

Prices at for-profit institutions have risen more slowly in recent years than prices in other sectors, but the estimated $15,230 average tuition and fee price in 2014-15 is more than four times as high as the average price at public two-year colleges and 67% higher than the average in-state price at public four-year institutions.

**NOTES:** Prices in Table 1A are not adjusted for inflation. Prices reported for 2013-14 have been revised and may differ from those reported in *Trends in College Pricing 2013*. Public two-year room and board charges are based on commuter housing and food costs. Tuition and fee figures for the for-profit sector should be interpreted with caution because of the low response rate.

**SOURCE:** The College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges.

Enrollment-weighted tuition and fees weight the price charged by each institution by the number of full-time students enrolled in fall 2013. Public four-year in-state charges are weighted by total fall 2013 full-time enrollment in each institution, including both in-state students and out-of-state students. Out-of-state tuition and fees are computed by adding the average in-state price to the out-of-state premium weighted by the number of full-time out-of-state students enrolled at each institution. Room and board charges are weighted by the number of students residing on campus for four-year institutions and by the number of commuter students for public two-year institutions.

---

**Table 1A: Average Published Charges for Full-Time Undergraduates by Type and Control of Institution, 2014-15 (Enrollment-Weighted)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Public Two-Year In-District</th>
<th>Public Four-Year In-State</th>
<th>Public Four-Year Out-of-State</th>
<th>Private Nonprofit Four-Year</th>
<th>For-Profit</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuition and Fees</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
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<td>$22,958</td>
<td>$31,231</td>
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<td>2013-14</td>
<td>$3,241</td>
<td>$8,885</td>
<td>$22,033</td>
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<tr>
<td>$ Change</td>
<td>$106</td>
<td>$254</td>
<td>$735</td>
<td>$1,100</td>
<td>$190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Change</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Room and Board</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>$7,705</td>
<td>$9,804</td>
<td>$9,804</td>
<td>$11,188</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
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<td>$9,488</td>
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<td>$10,824</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>$ Change</td>
<td>$165</td>
<td>$306</td>
<td>$306</td>
<td>$384</td>
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<tr>
<td>% Change</td>
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<td>3.2%</td>
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<td>3.4%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuition and Fees and Room and Board</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
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<td>2013-14</td>
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<td>$271</td>
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<td>$1,041</td>
<td>$1,464</td>
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<tr>
<td>% Change</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

— Sample too small to provide reliable information.

**ALSO IMPORTANT:**

– About two-thirds of undergraduate students enrolled full time in 2011-12 received grants that reduced the actual price of college (NCES, NPSAS, 2012). In addition, many states and institutions grant tuition waivers to groups such as veterans, teachers, or dependents of employees. See Figures 11, 12, and 13 for estimates of net prices paid by students and **Trends in Student Aid 2014** for details about student aid.

– About one out of six full-time public two-year students are in California, which has the lowest tuition and fee price in that sector. Excluding California raises the average published price of public two-year colleges from $3,347 to $3,701.

– The total price of a college education depends on how long a student is enrolled before completing a degree. Many students spend more than four years earning a bachelor’s degree. Average time to degree is longer in public than in private nonprofit institutions.

– In fall 2012, 61% of students at public two-year colleges were enrolled part time, as were 23% of undergraduates at public four-year, 18% at private nonprofit four-year, and 28% at for-profit institutions. (NCES, *Digest of Education Statistics 2013*, Table 303.60)
Published Charges by Carnegie Classification, 2014-15

In 2014-15, average published tuition and fee prices for full-time in-state students in the public four-year sector range from $7,142 at bachelor’s colleges and $7,968 at master’s universities to $10,075 at public doctoral universities.

### TABLE 1B
Average Published Charges for Full-Time Undergraduates by Carnegie Classification, 2014-15 (Enrollment-Weighted)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Public Four-Year In-State</th>
<th>Private Nonprofit Four-Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Doctoral</td>
<td>Master’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuition and Fees</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>$10,075</td>
<td>$7,968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>$9,805</td>
<td>$7,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$ Change</td>
<td>$270</td>
<td>$228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Change</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Room and Board</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>$10,208</td>
<td>$9,109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>$9,882</td>
<td>$8,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$ Change</td>
<td>$326</td>
<td>$270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Change</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuition and Fees and Room and Board</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>$20,283</td>
<td>$17,077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>$19,687</td>
<td>$16,579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$ Change</td>
<td>$596</td>
<td>$498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Change</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percentage Distribution of Full-Time Undergraduates</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2013</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES: Prices in Table 1B are not adjusted for inflation. Prices reported for 2013-14 have been revised and may differ from those reported in Trends in College Pricing 2013. Special-focus institutions are not included in Table 1B. These institutions enroll less than 1% of all full-time undergraduate students in the public four-year sector and about 5% of all full-time undergraduate students in the private nonprofit four-year sector. See Notes and Sources on page 41 for definitions of the institutional categories in Table 1B.


Enrollment-weighted tuition and fees weight the price charged by each institution by the number of full-time students enrolled in fall 2013. Public four-year in-state charges are weighted by total fall 2013 full-time enrollment in each institution, including both in-state students and out-of-state students. Room and board charges are weighted by the number of students residing on campus.

- The average published tuition and fee price for full-time undergraduates at private nonprofit master’s universities is 71% of the price at private nonprofit doctoral universities — $27,594 versus $39,008.
- Average room and board charges at private nonprofit institutions range from $10,165 at bachelor’s colleges to $12,979 at doctoral universities.

ALSO IMPORTANT:
- Within each sector, the average institutional grant aid is higher at higher-price institutions. As a result, the differences in the published prices across types of institutions in each sector are greater than the differences in net prices. For example, in 2011-12, public doctoral universities awarded an average of $1,300 per full-time in-state student in institutional grant aid, compared to $700 for public master’s universities. (NCES, NPSAS, 2012)
- In the private nonprofit sector, institutional grant aid in 2011-12 averaged $10,700 per full-time student at doctoral universities, $7,600 at master’s universities, and $10,000 at bachelor’s colleges. (NCES, NPSAS, 2012)
- Over the five years from 2009-10 to 2014-15, the average published tuition and fee price for in-state students has risen by 17% beyond inflation at public doctoral universities, by 16% at public master’s universities, and by 10% at public bachelor’s colleges. (Trends in College Pricing 2010 and 2014, Table 1B; calculations by the authors)
- Over the five years from 2009-10 to 2014-15, average published tuition and fees have risen by 9% beyond inflation at private nonprofit doctoral universities, by 7% at private nonprofit master’s universities, and by 13% at private nonprofit bachelor’s colleges. (Trends in College Pricing 2010 and 2014, Table 1B; calculations by the authors)
Student Budgets, 2014-15

Tuition and fees constitute 39% of the total budget for in-state students living on campus at public four-year colleges and universities and 21% of the budget for public two-year college students who pay for off-campus housing.

- Student budgets are constructed by institutional financial aid offices. These budgets form the basis for determining the total cost of attendance, which can affect the amount of financial aid for which students are eligible.

- Tuition and fees differ more across sectors than room and board and other components of student budgets. As a result, while the average in-state published tuition and fee price at public four-year institutions is 2.7 times as high as the price at public two-year colleges, the total student budget is only 1.4 times as high.

- The average in-state published tuition and fee price at public four-year institutions is 29% of the average at private nonprofit four-year institutions, but the average student budget is 51% as high.

**Figure 1** Average Estimated Full-Time Undergraduate Budgets by Sector, 2014-15 (Enrollment-Weighted)

**Notes:** Expense categories are based on institutional budgets for students as reported by colleges and universities in the Annual Survey of Colleges. Figures for tuition and fees and room and board mirror those reported in Table 1A. Other expense categories are the average amounts allotted in determining total cost of attendance and do not necessarily reflect actual student expenditures.

**Source:** The College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges.

**Also Important:**
- According to the National Association of College Stores, the average price of a new textbook increased from $62 (in 2011 dollars) in 2006-07 to $68 in 2011-12. Students also rely on textbook rentals, used books, and digital resources. (http://www.nacs.org/research/industrystatistics/higheredfactsfigures.aspx)
Regional Variation in Charges

In 2014-15, average published tuition and fees for in-state students at public four-year colleges and universities range from $8,254 in the Southwest to $11,436 in New England.

In 2014-15, average published tuition and fees for full-time in-district students at public two-year colleges range from $2,350 in the West to $4,801 in New England.

The largest dollar gap between average 2014-15 tuition and fees at public four-year and public two-year institutions is $6,551 in the West. The smallest gap is $4,894 in the South.

Average room and board charges at public four-year institutions range from $8,145 in the Southwest to $11,745 in the West.

Over the decade from 2004-05 to 2014-15, dollar increases in average tuition and fees at public four-year institutions ranged from $1,866 (in 2014 dollars) in the Middle States region to $3,725 in the West. Percentage increases ranged from 24% in the Middle States region to 72% in the West.

The percentage increase in average tuition and fees at public four-year institutions over the decade beginning in 2004-05 was three times as large in the West as it was in the Middle States region, but the average published tuition and fee price in the West in 2014-15 is $876 (9%) lower than the price in the Middle States.

The largest percentage increase in average tuition and fees at public two-year colleges over the decade beginning in 2004-05 was 45% in the West, which has the lowest published tuition and fees in the nation in 2014-15.
Variation in Tuition and Fees, 2014-15

Half of all full-time undergraduates at public and private nonprofit four-year colleges and universities attend institutions that have published tuition and fees of $11,550 or less, and half attend institutions with published tuition and fees of $11,550 or more.

**FIGURE 3** Distribution of Full-Time Undergraduates at Four-Year Institutions by Published Tuition and Fees, 2014-15

- In 2014-15, among all full-time public four-year college students, including both in-state and out-of-state students, 41% are enrolled in institutions with published tuition and fee levels between $6,000 and $8,999; 17% face published prices of $15,000 or more.
- In 2014-15, among all full-time students at private nonprofit four-year colleges, 13% are enrolled in institutions with published tuition and fees below $15,000 and 17% face published prices of $45,000 or more.

**NOTES:**
For out-of-state students enrolled in public four-year institutions, the nonresident premium has been added to in-state tuition and fees. Some out-of-state students benefit from reciprocity agreements, which allow students from neighboring states to pay less than the full out-of-state price. The distribution of students across institutions is based on the latest available enrollment data, which are for fall 2013. Percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding.

**SOURCE:** The College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges.
Variation in Tuition and Fee Increases, 2014-15

The average increase in published tuition and fees at public four-year institutions in 2014-15 was 2.9% for in-state and 3.3% for out-of-state undergraduates, but 12% of full-time students in the sector attend institutions that did not increase their tuition and fees and 5% faced price increases of 9% or more.

The average increase in tuition and fees at private nonprofit four-year colleges and universities in 2014-15 was 3.7% with 65% of the full-time undergraduates in this sector attending institutions that increased their tuition and fees by between 3% and 6%.

Thirty percent of undergraduates in the private nonprofit four-year sector attend institutions that increased their prices by less than 3%, while 2% faced increases of 9% or more.

The median 2014-15 dollar increase in published tuition and fees was $268 for public four-year students and $1,140 for private nonprofit four-year students.

Also important:

- Increases in published prices do not necessarily correspond to increases in the amounts that students pay. The amounts students pay also depend on the amount of grant aid they receive.

Notes: For out-of-state students enrolled in public four-year institutions, the nonresident premium has been added to in-state tuition and fees. Some out-of-state students benefit from reciprocity agreements, which allow students from neighboring states to pay less than the full out-of-state price. The distribution of students across institutions is based on the latest available enrollment data, which are for fall 2013. Percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding.

Source: The College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges.
Published Charges over Time

In both the public four-year and the private nonprofit four-year sectors, the inflation-adjusted rate of increase in published tuition and fee prices was lower over the most recent decade, from 2004-05 to 2014-15, than over either of the preceding two decades.

– Because the unusually rapid increases in the middle of the decade were more than offset by small price increases since 2012-13, average published tuition and fees at public four-year colleges and universities increased less rapidly between 2004-05 and 2014-15 than over the two preceding decades.

– The average annual inflation-adjusted increase in published tuition and fees at private nonprofit four-year institutions declined from 4.0% to 3.0% to 2.2% over the three decades from 1984-85 to 2014-15.

– The rapid increase in tuition and fees at public two-year colleges between 1984-85 and 1994-95, followed by two decades of more moderate increases, has yielded an average annual growth rate of 3.1% per year beyond inflation in this 30-year period.

– Over the 30 years from 1984-85 to 2014-15, average published tuition and fees at private four-year institutions rose by 146%, from $12,716 (in 2014 dollars) to $31,231. The average published price at public two-year colleges rose by 150%, from $1,337 to $3,347, and the increase for in-state students at public four-year institutions was 225%, from $2,810 to $9,139.

ALSO IMPORTANT:

– Freshman students are more likely than upper-level students to live on campus. For example, two-thirds of 2003-04 beginning full-time undergraduates at public four-year institutions and three-quarters of those at private nonprofit four-year institutions lived on campus. By 2006-07, only 20% of those students who were enrolled full time at public colleges and 50% of those at private colleges lived on campus. (NCES, Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study 2009)
### Published Charges over Time

After increases as high as 9.5% beyond inflation in 2009-10 and 6.5% in 2010-11, average published tuition and fee prices for full-time in-state students at public four-year institutions increased by less than 1% in real terms in 2013-14 and again in 2014-15.

### TABLE 2A Average Tuition and Fees and Room and Board in 2014 Dollars, 1974-75 to 2014-15, Selected Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Private Nonprofit Four-Year</th>
<th>Five-Year % Change</th>
<th>Public Four-Year</th>
<th>Five-Year % Change</th>
<th>Public Two-Year</th>
<th>Five-Year % Change</th>
<th>Private Nonprofit Four-Year</th>
<th>Five-Year % Change</th>
<th>Public Four-Year</th>
<th>Five-Year % Change</th>
<th>Public Two-Year</th>
<th>Five-Year % Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1974-75</td>
<td>$10,273</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>$2,469</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>$1,338</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>$16,475</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>$7,938</td>
<td>—</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979-80</td>
<td>$10,511</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>$2,405</td>
<td>-3%</td>
<td>$1,157</td>
<td>-13%</td>
<td>$16,339</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td>$7,587</td>
<td>-4%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984-85</td>
<td>$12,716</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>$2,610</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>$1,337</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>$19,343</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>$8,427</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989-90</td>
<td>$16,591</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>$3,248</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>$1,611</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>$24,049</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$9,030</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>$18,814</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$4,343</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>$2,103</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>$26,487</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>$10,628</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>$22,179</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>$4,805</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>$2,257</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>$30,692</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>$11,548</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004-05</td>
<td>$25,215</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>$6,448</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>$2,615</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>$34,549</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$14,310</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>$28,476</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$7,825</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>$2,842</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>$38,799</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>$16,855</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>$31,231</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>$9,139</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>$3,347</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>$42,419</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>$18,943</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TABLE 2B Average Tuition and Fees and Room and Board in 2014 Dollars, 2004-05 to 2014-15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Private Nonprofit Four-Year</th>
<th>One-Year % Change</th>
<th>Public Four-Year</th>
<th>One-Year % Change</th>
<th>Public Two-Year</th>
<th>One-Year % Change</th>
<th>Private Nonprofit Four-Year</th>
<th>One-Year % Change</th>
<th>Public Four-Year</th>
<th>One-Year % Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004-05</td>
<td>$25,215</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>$6,448</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>$2,615</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>$34,549</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>$14,310</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>$25,581</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>$6,996</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>$2,660</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>$35,946</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>$14,772</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>$26,117</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>$6,795</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>$2,653</td>
<td>-0.3%</td>
<td>$35,705</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>$15,029</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>$26,787</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>$7,081</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>$2,624</td>
<td>-1.1%</td>
<td>$36,593</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>$15,507</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td>$26,881</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>$7,148</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>$2,580</td>
<td>-1.7%</td>
<td>$36,610</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>$15,567</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>$28,476</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>$7,825</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>$2,842</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>$38,799</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>$16,855</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>$29,251</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>$8,337</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>$2,997</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>$39,850</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>$17,680</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
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<td>2011-12</td>
<td>$29,405</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>$8,728</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>$3,135</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>$40,043</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>$18,092</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>$30,146</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>$8,991</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>$3,280</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>$41,022</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>$18,528</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>$30,731</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>$9,062</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>$3,306</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>$41,771</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>$18,749</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>$31,231</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>$9,139</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>$3,347</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>$42,419</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>$18,943</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Average tuition and fee prices reflect in-district charges for public two-year institutions and in-state charges for public four-year institutions.

**SOURCES:** The College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges; NCES, IPEDS data.

- Increases in inflation-adjusted published tuition and fees in the public two-year and private nonprofit four-year sectors were also below 2% in both 2013-14 and 2014-15.
- In the public four-year sector, the increase in published tuition and fees from $2,810 (in 2014 dollars) in 1984-85 to $9,139 in 2014-15 is an increase of 225%, or 4.0% per year over 30 years. The increase over the most recent five years, from 2009-10 to 2014-15, was 17%, or 3.2% per year.
- In the public two-year sector, the increase in published tuition and fees from $1,337 (in 2014 dollars) in 1984-85 to $3,347 in 2014-15 is an increase of 150%, or 3.1% per year over 30 years. The increase over the most recent five years, from 2009-10 to 2014-15, is 18%, or 3.3% per year.

- In the private nonprofit four-year sector, the increase in published tuition and fees from $12,716 (in 2014 dollars) in 1984-85 to $31,231 in 2014-15 is 146%, or 3.0% per year over 30 years. The increase over the most recent five years, from 2009-10 to 2014-15, is 10%, or 1.9% per year.

**ALSO IMPORTANT:**
- The decreases in the net prices that students actually pay, after taking grant aid and tax benefits into consideration, have been smaller over the long term than increases in published prices. See Figures 11, 12, and 13 for details on net prices over time.

For detailed data behind the graphs and additional information, please visit: trends.collegeboard.org.
Tuition and Fees by State — Public Two-Year

In 2014-15, average published tuition and fee prices for in-district students at public two-year institutions range from $1,429 in California and $1,645 in New Mexico to $6,500 in New Hampshire and $7,320 in Vermont.

– California’s 58% inflation-adjusted increase in average published tuition and fees for full-time students at public two-year colleges between 2009-10 and 2014-15 was second only to Louisiana’s 62%. Nonetheless, California’s price, the lowest in the country, is almost $2,000 below the national average of $3,347.

– In three of the four states that did not increase public two-year college prices in inflation-adjusted dollars between 2009-10 and 2014-15, the price remains above the national average.

ALSO IMPORTANT:

– California enrolled 21% of the nation’s full-time equivalent (FTE) public two-year and 8% of the nation’s public four-year FTE students in fall 2012. (Digest of Education Statistics 2013, Table 304.60)

– The difference between average published in-state tuition and fees at public four-year institutions and average in-district published tuition and fees at public two-year institutions ranges from $1,927 in Wyoming and $1,970 in South Dakota to $8,568 in New Jersey and $9,243 in Illinois.
Tuition and Fees by State — Public Four-Year In-State

In 2014-15, average published tuition and fee prices for in-state students at public four-year institutions range from $4,646 in Wyoming and $6,138 in Alaska to $14,419 in Vermont and $14,712 in New Hampshire.

In 15 states, average in-state tuition and fees at public four-year institutions increased by less than 10% in inflation-adjusted dollars between 2009-10 and 2014-15. In eight of those states, the 2014-15 prices are below the national average of $9,139; in seven of those states, the prices are above the national average.

In 18 states, average in-state tuition and fees at public four-year institutions increased by 20% or more in inflation-adjusted dollars between 2009-10 and 2014-15. In 11 of those states, the 2014-15 prices are below the national average of $9,139; in seven of those states, the prices are above the national average.

As Figure 17B indicates, Alaska and Wyoming, with the lowest in-state tuition and fees, had the highest state appropriations per FTE student in the country in 2013-14. New Hampshire and Vermont, with the highest prices, had the lowest and the sixth lowest appropriations per student, respectively.

Four of the five states with the smallest public four-year price increases between 2009-10 and 2014-15 were among the 15 states that did not reduce appropriations (in current dollars) for higher education between FY09 and FY14.

Four of the five states with the largest public four-year price increases between 2009-10 and 2014-15 were among the 14 states that reduced appropriations for higher education by 12% or more (in current dollars) between FY09 and FY14.


ALSO IMPORTANT:

– As Figure 17B indicates, Alaska and Wyoming, with the lowest in-state tuition and fees, had the highest state appropriations per FTE student in the country in 2013-14. New Hampshire and Vermont, with the highest prices, had the lowest and the sixth lowest appropriations per student, respectively.

– Four of the five states with the smallest public four-year price increases between 2009-10 and 2014-15 were among the 15 states that did not reduce appropriations (in current dollars) for higher education between FY09 and FY14.

– Four of the five states with the largest public four-year price increases between 2009-10 and 2014-15 were among the 14 states that reduced appropriations for higher education by 12% or more (in current dollars) between FY09 and FY14.
Tuition and Fees by State — Public Four-Year Out-of-State

In 2014-15, the highest average published out-of-state tuition and fees at public four-year institutions are in Vermont ($34,331) and Michigan ($31,982). For the nation as a whole, the average out-of-state tuition and fee price at public four-year institutions is $22,958.

The lowest average published out-of-state tuition and fees for public four-year colleges and universities in 2014-15 are $9,910 in South Dakota and $14,876 in Wyoming.

Over the five years from 2009-10 to 2014-15, percentage changes in average public four-year out-of-state tuition and fees ranged from inflation-adjusted declines of 2% in Rhode Island and 1% in Wisconsin to increases of 34% in Hawaii and 58% in Louisiana. Rhode Island’s out-of-state tuition remains higher than the national average and Louisiana’s remains lower.

**NOTE:** The percentages on the x-axis in the top graph represent the proportion of fall 2012 first-time freshman students in each state who were state residents.

**SOURCES:** The College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges; NCES, Digest of Education Statistics 2013, Table 309.10.

**ALSO IMPORTANT:**

- The difference between average in-state and out-of-state published tuition and fees ranges from $2,257 in South Dakota and $6,823 in Minnesota to $19,912 in Vermont and $20,073 in Michigan.
- Because of reciprocity agreements, not all out-of-state students pay the prices reported here, even before taking financial aid into consideration. See http://www.nasfaa.org/students/state__regional_college_tuition_discounts.aspx for details.
In 2014-15, published tuition and fees for full-time in-state students at flagship universities range from $4,646 at the University of Wyoming and $6,099 at the University of Montana to $16,552 at the University of New Hampshire and $18,464 at Penn State–University Park.

Changes in published tuition and fees for in-state students at flagship universities over the five years from 2009-10 to 2014-15 ranged from declines of less than 1% at the University of Texas–Austin and the University of Maine to increases of 51% at Louisiana State University and 59% at the University of Georgia.

In 2014-15, published tuition and fees for out-of-state students at flagship universities range from $10,104 at the University of South Dakota and $14,876 at the University of Wyoming to $41,906 at the University of Michigan–Ann Arbor and $42,184 at the University of Virginia.

In 17 states, the flagship universities increased their published tuition and fee price by less than 1% (not adjusted for inflation) in 2014-15 (online Table 6).

In 12 states, tuition and fees at flagship universities increased by 5% or more (not adjusted for inflation) in 2014-15 (online Table 6).
Average Net Price — Public Two-Year

Increases in average grant aid for full-time students in public two-year colleges have been sufficient to prevent average net prices, including living costs, from rising over time.

- Between 2004-05 and 2014-15, the average published tuition and fees at public two-year colleges increased by $730 (28%) after adjusting for inflation. Average combined grant aid and tax benefits increased by more than $2,000 over the decade.
- Since 2008-09, full-time students at public two-year colleges have received enough grant aid and tax benefits to cover published tuition and fees as well as a portion of other expenses.
- On average, after grant aid full-time students at public two-year colleges must cover about $6,000 in housing and food costs in 2014-15, in addition to books and supplies, transportation, and other living expenses.

ALSO IMPORTANT:
- The national average published tuition and fee price of $3,350 for full-time students at public two-year colleges in 2014-15 rises to $3,700 if California is excluded. The average net price is also higher if California, with the lowest tuition and fees and about one-sixth of the nation’s public two-year full-time college students, is not included in the estimate.

NOTES: Because information on grant aid for 2014-15 is not yet available, the net price for 2014-15 is estimated based on 2013-14 financial aid. Prices and grant aid are rounded to the nearest $10.

SOURCES: The College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges; Trends in Student Aid 2014.

Average Published and Net Prices and Total Grant Aid per Student in 2014 Dollars, Full-Time In-District Undergraduate Students at Public Two-Year Institutions, 1994-95 to 2014-15, Selected Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>94-95</th>
<th>96-97</th>
<th>98-99</th>
<th>00-01</th>
<th>02-03</th>
<th>04-05</th>
<th>06-07</th>
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<th>10-11</th>
<th>12-13</th>
<th>14-15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Published Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$2,100</td>
<td>$2,270</td>
<td>$2,210</td>
<td>$2,620</td>
<td>$2,650</td>
<td>$2,580</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$3,280</td>
<td>$3,350</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Published Tuition and Fees and Room and Board (TFRB)</td>
<td>$8,820</td>
<td>$9,320</td>
<td>$9,760</td>
<td>$9,950</td>
<td>$10,320</td>
<td>$10,290</td>
<td>$11,060</td>
<td>$10,920</td>
<td>$11,050</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$590</td>
<td>$190</td>
<td>$570</td>
<td>$180</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>$370</td>
<td>$1,680</td>
<td>$1,540</td>
<td>$1,740</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net TFRB</td>
<td>$7,310</td>
<td>$6,860</td>
<td>$6,880</td>
<td>$7,150</td>
<td>$7,740</td>
<td>$7,340</td>
<td>$6,380</td>
<td>$6,100</td>
<td>$5,960</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Aid and Tax Benefits per Student</td>
<td>$1,510</td>
<td>$2,460</td>
<td>$2,780</td>
<td>$2,800</td>
<td>$2,580</td>
<td>$2,950</td>
<td>$4,680</td>
<td>$4,820</td>
<td>$5,090</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Average Net Price — Public Four-Year

After declining from $2,680 (in 2014 dollars) in 2007-08 to $2,030 in 2009-10, the estimated average net tuition and fee price paid by full-time in-state students at public four-year institutions has risen to about $3,030 in 2014-15.

In 2014-15, full-time students at public four-year colleges receive an average of about $6,110 in a combination of grant aid from all sources and education tax credits and deductions.

In 2009-10, both the federal Pell Grant program and expanded education tax credits helped to reduce the net prices facing undergraduate students.

Between 2010-11 and 2012-13, published tuition and fees in the public four-year sector increased by 8% ($650 in 2014 dollars), while estimated grant aid per student declined, leading to rapid growth in the net prices facing students.

In addition to an estimated average net tuition and fee price of $3,030, students living on campus at public four-year colleges and universities face an average room and board charge of $9,800, leading to total net charges of $12,830 in 2014-15.

Also Important:

– Average net prices conceal considerable differences among students both within institutions and across institutions within the sector.

Notes: Because information on grant aid for 2014-15 is not yet available, the net price for 2014-15 is estimated based on 2013-14 financial aid. The estimate of average grant aid does not account for differences between the aid received by in-state and out-of-state students. Prices and grant aid are rounded to the nearest $10.

Sources: The College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges; Trends in Student Aid 2014.

Average Published and Net Prices and Average Grant Aid in 2014 Dollars, Full-Time In-State Undergraduate Students at Public Four-Year Institutions, 1994-95 to 2014-15, Selected Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>94-95</th>
<th>96-98</th>
<th>00-02</th>
<th>02-03</th>
<th>04-05</th>
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<th>10-11</th>
<th>12-13</th>
<th>14-15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Published Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$4,340</td>
<td>$4,740</td>
<td>$5,420</td>
<td>$6,450</td>
<td>$6,800</td>
<td>$7,150</td>
<td>$8,340</td>
<td>$8,990</td>
<td>$9,140</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Published Tuition and Fees and Room and Board (TFRB)</td>
<td>$10,630</td>
<td>$11,340</td>
<td>$12,790</td>
<td>$14,310</td>
<td>$15,030</td>
<td>$15,570</td>
<td>$17,680</td>
<td>$18,530</td>
<td>$18,940</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$2,020</td>
<td>$1,610</td>
<td>$1,570</td>
<td>$2,290</td>
<td>$2,540</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$2,140</td>
<td>$3,150</td>
<td>$3,030</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net TFRB</td>
<td>$8,310</td>
<td>$8,210</td>
<td>$8,940</td>
<td>$10,150</td>
<td>$10,770</td>
<td>$10,920</td>
<td>$11,480</td>
<td>$12,690</td>
<td>$12,830</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Aid and Tax Benefits per Student</td>
<td>$2,320</td>
<td>$3,130</td>
<td>$3,850</td>
<td>$4,160</td>
<td>$4,260</td>
<td>$4,650</td>
<td>$6,200</td>
<td>$5,840</td>
<td>$6,110</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Average Net Price — Private Nonprofit Four-Year

The average net tuition and fee price at private nonprofit four-year colleges declined by about 18% ($2,640 in 2014 dollars) between 2007-08 and 2010-11. Since 2010-11, the net price for this sector has leveled off, fluctuating between $12,000 and $12,400.

- Full-time undergraduates at private nonprofit four-year colleges receive an average of about $18,870 in grant aid from all sources and education tax benefits to help them pay the 2014-15 published tuition and fees of $31,230.
- The average net tuition and fees at private nonprofit four-year colleges and universities rose fairly steadily from 1994-95 through 2007-08, at the rate of about 2.5% per year beyond inflation before beginning to decline in 2008-09.
- Tuition and fees and room and board charges combined, net of grant aid and education tax credits and deductions, average $23,550 for private nonprofit college students in 2014-15.

Also Important:
- In 2011-12, 67% of full-time students at private nonprofit four-year institutions received grant aid from their institutions. Thirty-six percent received federal grant aid and 24% received state grant aid. (NCES, NPSAS, 2012)

Average Published and Net Prices and Total Grant Aid per Student in 2014 Dollars, Full-Time Undergraduate Students at Private Nonprofit Four-Year Institutions, 1994-95 to 2014-15, Selected Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>94-95</th>
<th>98-99</th>
<th>02-03</th>
<th>04-05</th>
<th>06-07</th>
<th>08-09</th>
<th>10-11</th>
<th>12-13</th>
<th>14-15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Published Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$18,810</td>
<td>$21,470</td>
<td>$23,890</td>
<td>$25,220</td>
<td>$26,120</td>
<td>$26,880</td>
<td>$29,250</td>
<td>$30,150</td>
<td>$31,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Published Tuition and Fees and Room and Board (TFRB)</td>
<td>$26,490</td>
<td>$29,870</td>
<td>$32,900</td>
<td>$34,550</td>
<td>$35,700</td>
<td>$36,610</td>
<td>$39,850</td>
<td>$41,020</td>
<td>$42,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$10,590</td>
<td>$11,900</td>
<td>$13,710</td>
<td>$14,170</td>
<td>$14,420</td>
<td>$13,860</td>
<td>$12,010</td>
<td>$12,120</td>
<td>$12,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net TFRB</td>
<td>$18,270</td>
<td>$20,300</td>
<td>$22,720</td>
<td>$23,550</td>
<td>$24,000</td>
<td>$23,590</td>
<td>$22,610</td>
<td>$22,990</td>
<td>$23,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Aid and Tax Benefits per Student</td>
<td>$8,220</td>
<td>$9,570</td>
<td>$10,180</td>
<td>$11,050</td>
<td>$11,700</td>
<td>$13,020</td>
<td>$17,240</td>
<td>$18,030</td>
<td>$18,870</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: The College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges; Trends in Student Aid 2014.

NOTE: Because information on grant aid for 2014-15 is not yet available, the net price for 2014-15 is estimated based on 2013-14 financial aid. Prices and grant aid are rounded to the nearest $10.

Sources: The College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges; Trends in Student Aid 2014.
Net Price by Income — Public Institutions

On average, in 2011-12, full-time in-state students at public four-year universities from families with incomes below $30,000 received enough grant aid to cover tuition and fees and have about $2,320 left to put toward room, board, and other expenses.

At public four-year institutions, in-state students from the lowest family income quartile had to cover about $11,020 for living costs and other expenses from sources other than grant aid.

At public four-year institutions, the difference between average net tuition and fees for in-state and out-of-state students in 2011-12 ranged from $8,590 for the lowest income quartile to $10,980 for full-time students from families with incomes of $106,000 or higher.

On average, in 2011-12, full-time independent students at public two-year colleges, as well as dependent students from families in both the lowest and the second income quartiles, received enough grant aid from all sources combined to cover tuition and fees as well as a portion of living and other expenses.

ALSO IMPORTANT:

– Tax credits and deductions are not included in the net price estimates in Figures 14A, 14B, 15A, and 15B. Total subsidies from federal education tax credits and deductions increased from about $7 billion in 2008 to about $17 billion in 2012.

NOTES: Family income quartiles are based on all dependent undergraduate students across all sectors. Lowest: less than $30,000; second: $30,000 to $64,999; third: $65,000 to $105,999; highest: $106,000 or higher. Total grant aid includes veterans’ benefits. Includes full-time undergraduate students who were U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Net Price by Income — Private Institutions

In 2011-12, full-time dependent students from the lowest income quartile paid average net tuition and fees, after grant aid, of $11,300 in the for-profit sector, compared to $2,530 at the lowest-price and $9,860 at the highest-price nonprofit institutions.

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### FIGURE 15A

Published and Net Prices of Full-Time Dependent Students at Private Nonprofit Four-Year Institutions, by Tuition and Fees and Family Income, 2011-12

Notices: Family income quartiles are based on all dependent undergraduate students across all sectors. Lowest: less than $30,000; second: $30,000 to $64,999; third: $65,000 to $105,999; highest: $106,000 or higher. Total grant aid includes veterans’ benefits. Includes full-time undergraduate students who were U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Source: NCES, National Postsecondary Student Aid Study, 2012.

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### FIGURE 15B

Published and Net Prices of Full-Time Students at For-Profit Institutions, by Dependency Status and Family Income, 2011-12

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Average grant aid for students from families with incomes below $30,000 covers over three-quarters of published tuition and fees at private nonprofit colleges and universities in all price categories.

Particularly for low-income students, the differences in the net prices of institutions in different tuition categories are smaller than the differences in published prices.

At private nonprofit institutions with published tuition and fees of $36,421 or higher in 2011-12, average prices net of grant aid from all sources ranged from $9,860 for dependent students from the lowest family income quartile to $29,110 for those from the highest income quartile.

At private nonprofit institutions with published tuition and fees of $22,104 or lower in 2011-12, average prices net of grant aid from all sources ranged from $2,530 for dependent students from the lowest family income quartile to $8,820 for those from the highest income quartile.

For dependent students from the lower half of the income distribution, the average net tuition and fee price in the for-profit sector is higher than in private nonprofit institutions in all price categories.
Institutional Revenues — State Funding

In 2013-14, public colleges and universities received an average of $7,161 per full-time equivalent (FTE) student in state funding — 23% less than the $9,290 (in 2013 dollars) per FTE student they received in 2007-08.

– The $7,161 per-student state funding in 2013-14 reflects an increase of $361 per student from the low point of $6,800 (in 2013 dollar) in 2011-12.
– Total state fiscal support declined by 16%, from $90.5 billion in 2007-08 (in 2013 dollars) to $76.2 billion in 2013-14, while FTE enrollment in public institutions increased by 9% over these six years.
– The sharp declines in per-student state funding in recent years were accompanied by rapid increases in public college tuition and fees. As state funding started to recover in 2012-13 and 2013-14, tuition increases were smaller.
– Similar combinations of declining per-student state funding and large price increases occurred in the early 1990s and the early 2000s.

ALSO IMPORTANT:
– From fall 2002 to fall 2012, total FTE enrollment in public institutions in the United States increased by 30%. Enrollment increases ranged from less than 3% in Illinois to 36% in Arkansas and Georgia, and to 37% in Florida. (Figure 27)
– Between 2008-09 and 2013-14, total inflation-adjusted state funding for higher education increased by 27% in Illinois and by 52% in North Dakota. Appropriations declined by 37% in Arizona and by 38% in Louisiana, and by more than 20% in seven additional states. (Illinois State University, Grapevine data, Table 1; calculations by the authors)

NOTES: Enrollment figures are fall FTE enrollments for public two-year and four-year institutions, with fall 2013 estimated based on preliminary IPEDS data. Funding is for both two-year and four-year institutions and includes tax revenues and other state funds for higher education, but excludes funding for capital expenditures. Tuition and fees reflect an FTE enrollment-weighted average of two-year and four-year prices.

SOURCES: The College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges; Illinois State University, Grapevine reports; NCES, Digest of Education Statistics 2013, Table 307.10; NCES, IPEDS Fall 2013 Preliminary Enrollment Data; calculations by the authors.
Institutional Revenues — State Funding

The portion of state resources going to support higher education, measured by funding per $1,000 in personal income, has declined steadily in recent decades.

FIGURE 17A  Average State Funding for Higher Education per $1,000 in Personal Income, 1989-90 to 2013-14

Note: The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) measure of personal income is the sum of income from all sources received by individuals, including earnings (net of social insurance taxes but not income taxes), interest, dividends, rental income, and transfer payments.

Sources: Illinois State University, Grapevine reports; calculations by the authors.

FIGURE 17B  State Funding for Higher Education per Student and per $1,000 in Personal Income, by State, 2013-14

- In 2013-14, state funding per full-time equivalent (FTE) student for the operating expenses of public colleges and universities ranged from $3,184 in New Hampshire and $3,494 in Colorado to $14,045 in Wyoming and $18,857 in Alaska.

- A given level of funding per $1,000 in personal income yields higher per-student support in states with higher levels of personal income (and also in states with lower college enrollment rates).

- For example, both Missouri and New Jersey provided about $4 per $1,000 in personal income, but Missouri’s $4,975 in fiscal support per FTE student was considerably smaller than New Jersey’s $7,484 figure.

- Kentucky and Minnesota each provided about $7,100 per student in funding, but Kentucky provided $7.44 per $1,000 in personal income while Minnesota provided $5.42.

Also Important:

- Between 2008-09 and 2013-14, state funding per FTE student declined by more than 20% (after adjusting for inflation) in 9 states and by 10% to 20% in another 17 states.

Sources: Illinois State University, Grapevine reports; calculations by the authors.
Institutional Revenues

Between 2006-07 and 2011-12, revenues from state and local appropriations per full-time equivalent (FTE) student declined by 29%, from $9,760 (in 2011 dollars) to $6,910 at public doctoral universities and by 26%, from $6,520 to $4,830 at public master’s universities.

In 2001-02, state and local appropriations accounted for 55% of all revenue at public doctoral universities, 32% at private nonprofit doctoral universities, 40% at public master’s universities, 27% at private nonprofit master’s universities, 60% at public bachelor’s universities, 37% at private nonprofit bachelor’s universities, and 62% at two-year colleges.

However, between 2001-02 and 2011-12, state and local appropriations as a percentage of total revenue fell to 14% at public doctoral universities, 2% at private nonprofit doctoral universities, 3% at public master’s universities, 0% at private nonprofit master’s universities, 2% at public bachelor’s universities, 5% at private nonprofit bachelor’s universities, and 0% at two-year colleges.

In 2001-02, state and local appropriations ranged from 44% of revenues at public doctoral universities to 62% at public two-year colleges. By 2011-12, this source of revenue for public institutions had declined to 27% at doctoral universities and to 51% at two-year colleges.

Between 2001-02 and 2011-12, the composition of revenues changed less at private nonprofit than at public institutions. However, net tuition revenues grew from 59% of the total to 62% at private nonprofit doctoral universities, from 90% to 96% at private nonprofit master’s universities, and from 88% to 95% at private nonprofit bachelor’s colleges.

Between 2006-07 and 2011-12, the most rapid growth in net tuition revenue per FTE student was 96% at private nonprofit master’s colleges and 92% at public master’s institutions. The slowest growth was 3% at private nonprofit bachelor’s colleges.

**ALSO IMPORTANT:**

- Over the 10 years from 2001-02 to 2011-12, revenue from private gifts, investment returns, and endowment income at private doctoral universities was about 72% as large as the sum of the revenue sources described in Figure 18B. The corresponding percentages were 66% for private bachelor’s colleges and 20% for private master’s institutions.

- Revenues from private gifts, investment returns, and endowment income fluctuate markedly from year to year. These sources provided more than the income from other sources combined at private doctoral universities in 2006-07, but generated losses slightly greater than the total revenues from other sources in 2008-09.

- Revenues from auxiliary enterprises such as residence and dining facilities, hospitals, and independent operations, not included in Figures 18A and 18B, are usually dedicated to running those operations.
Institutional Revenues and Expenditures

From 2001-02 to 2011-12, educational expenditures per full-time equivalent (FTE) student at public doctoral universities increased by 6% in inflation-adjusted dollars. Average net tuition revenues increased by 66%, while subsidies per FTE student declined by 32%, from $9,680 in 2011 dollars to $6,570.

- At public two-year colleges, average educational expenditures per FTE student declined by 7% over the decade. Net tuition revenues increased by 54%, while subsidies per FTE student declined by 26%, from $6,670 in 2011 dollars to $4,920.

- In 2001-02, net tuition revenues covered 38% of education and related expenditures at public doctoral universities, while the other 62% constituted subsidies to students. At private nonprofit doctoral universities, net tuition revenues covered 56% of expenditures and 44% constituted subsidies to students.

- In 2011-12, net tuition revenues covered a higher percentage of education and related expenditures at public doctoral universities (60%) than at private nonprofit doctoral universities (55%).

ALSO IMPORTANT:

- Doctoral and master’s universities enroll both undergraduate and graduate students while bachelor’s institutions enroll almost exclusively undergraduate students. Because average expenditures on graduate students are generally higher than average expenditures on undergraduate students, per-student revenues and expenditures at different types of institutions are not strictly comparable.

- In addition to the amounts included in “educational and related expenditures,” institutional budgets also include expenditures for other purposes such as research, public service, and auxiliary enterprises.

Percentage of Education and Related Expenditures Covered by Net Tuition Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Type and Academic Year</th>
<th>Public</th>
<th>Private Nonprofit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Doctoral</td>
<td>Master’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-02</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES: Net tuition revenue is the amount of revenue an institution takes in from tuition and fees, net of all institutional grant aid provided to students. Some of this revenue comes in the form of financial aid from federal and state governments and other sources. Education and related expenditures include spending on instruction, student services, and the education share of spending on central academic and administrative support, as well as operations and maintenance. Expenditures for both undergraduate and graduate students are included in these estimates. Institutional averages are weighted by 12-month FTE enrollments.

SOURCES: The Delta Cost Project, 2000-01 to 2009-10; NCES, IPEDS 2011-12 finance data; calculations by the authors.
Endowments

In 2011-12, the 10% of students enrolled in the private doctoral universities with the highest endowments per student benefited from endowments averaging $1.06 million per full-time equivalent (FTE) student. The median endowment per FTE student in this sector was $65,700.

There is a wide range of institutional wealth even within the top decile of private doctoral universities. In 2011-12, endowment per FTE student at these 11 universities ranged from $490,000 to $2.17 million. Assuming a 4% annual spending rate, this yields annual budget supplements ranging from $20,000 to $87,000 per FTE student.

In 2011-12, the 10% of students enrolled in the private nonprofit bachelor’s colleges with the highest endowments per student benefited from endowments averaging $453,000 per FTE student. The median endowment per student in this sector was $33,800.

Three out of 12 public doctoral universities in the top decile had endowments exceeding $100,000 per FTE student in 2011-12. The median for this sector was $15,500.

---

ALSO IMPORTANT:

- Ten private doctoral universities hold 45% of the total endowment assets of all private nonprofit four-year institutions combined; 10 public doctoral universities hold 36% of the total endowment assets of all public four-year institutions combined.
- By law, the principal of some endowment funds must be preserved in perpetuity and restricted endowment funds can only be used to support purposes specified by the donor. Institutions have more flexibility over the use of unrestricted endowment funds.
- Average expenditures on graduate students are higher than average expenditures on undergraduate students, so endowment differences between doctoral universities and bachelor’s institutions overstate the differences in the subsidies available to undergraduate students from endowment income.

NOTES: The value of endowment assets is as of the end of FY12. Based on data for 105 private doctoral, 342 private master’s, 463 private bachelor’s, 170 public doctoral, 258 public master’s, and 94 public bachelor’s institutions. The average endowment per student for each decile is calculated by ordering the institutions in the sector by assets per student and dividing the students in the sector into deciles. Total assets in institutions enrolling 10% of students in the sector are divided by the number of students in those institutions.

SOURCES: National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) Endowment Study; NCES, IPEDS finance data; calculations by the authors.
Endowments

At the end of 2011-12, the average endowment per full-time equivalent (FTE) student at private nonprofit colleges and universities was about 15% higher (after adjusting for inflation) than it had been at the 2008-09 low point, but still far below the peak in 2006-07.

- The average endowment per FTE student at private nonprofit four-year institutions peaked at about $136,000 (in 2011 dollars) in 2006-07 and fell to $93,000 in 2008-09. In 2011-12, the average endowment per FTE student was about $107,000.

- In 2009-10, institutions with endowments exceeding $500 million increased their spending rates sharply, while those with small endowments lowered their spending rates.

- By 2012-13, spending rates were converging again and ranged from 4.1% for institutions with endowments under $25 million to 4.8% for those with assets of $1 billion or more.

**FIGURE 21A** Private Nonprofit Four-Year College and University Endowment Assets per Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Student Relative to 2002-03

**FIGURE 21B** Average Reported Spending Rates for College and University Endowments by Endowment Size, 2000-01 to 2012-13

**NOTES:** The value of endowment assets is as of the end of June (i.e., June 2012 for 2011-12). Based on data from 1,018 private nonprofit institutions reporting each year from 2002-03 through 2011-12.

**SOURCES:** National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) Endowment Study; NCES, IPEDS finance data; calculations by the authors. Data are from NACUBO where available.

**ALSO IMPORTANT:**

- According to NACUBO, the overall average endowment spending rate for public institutions was 4.1% in 2011-12, compared to 4.6% for private nonprofit colleges and universities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Under $25 Million</td>
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<td>4.6%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
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<td>4.6%</td>
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<td>4.1%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5.2%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>4.7%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
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<td>4.5%</td>
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<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over $1 Billion</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
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<td>5.6%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SOURCES:** 2013 NACUBO-Commonfund Study of Endowments; 2008 NACUBO Endowment Study.
Family Income

With a deep recession followed by a recovery characterized by very slow increases in income, average income was lower in inflation-adjusted dollars in 2013 than it had been in 2003 for all but the highest-income families.

The $16,109 average income for the 20% of families with the lowest incomes in 2013 represented an 8% decline in real terms over a decade. The average income of the middle 20% of families was $63,916 in 2013, a 5% decline over 10 years. A 1% increase over the decade for the top 5% of families yielded an average income of $358,722 in 2013.

The $70,821 increase (in 2013 dollars) in the average income of the top 20% of families between 1983 and 2013 compares to an increase of $8,936 for the middle quintile and an increase of $578 for the lowest quintile of families over 30 years.

In 2013, when median family income for all families was $63,815, the median income for families headed by individuals ages 45 to 54 — the age bracket of most parents of traditional-age college students — was $79,246 (24% higher than the overall median).

In 2013, the median income for black and Hispanic families was less than 60% of the median income for white families.

In 2013, the $103,256 median family income for families headed by a four-year college graduate was more than twice the median income for families headed by a high school graduate.

ALSO IMPORTANT:

The share of all income going to the 20% of families with the lowest incomes has steadily declined, from 4.9% in 1983 to 4.1% in 1993 and 2003, to 3.8% in 2013. The share of income going to the top 5% of families rose from 15.3% in 1983 to 20.3% in 1993, to 20.5% in 2003, and to 21.2% in 2013.

Average published tuition and fees for in-state students attending public four-year colleges rose by $6,324 (in 2014 dollars) over this 30-year period — 71% of the increase in income ($8,936) of the middle 20% of families and 9% of the increase in income ($70,821) of the 20% of families in the highest-income bracket.

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2014 Annual Social and Economic Supplement, Table F-1, Table F-3, Table F-5, and FINC-01; calculations by the authors.
Enrollment Patterns over Time

After increasing by 21% between 2005 and 2010, total postsecondary fall enrollment declined by 2% between 2010 and 2012.

- Between 2010 and 2012, total enrollment in both public and private nonprofit four-year institutions increased by 2%. Enrollment declined by 6% in public two-year colleges and by 10% in for-profit institutions.
- There were 1.65 million more full-time undergraduate students and 1.12 million more part-time undergraduate students in 2012 than in 2005.
- After increasing from 2% in 1995 to 11% in 2010, the percentage of all students enrolled in the for-profit sector declined to 10% in 2012.
- The percentage of all undergraduate students who were enrolled full time increased from 58% in 1995 to 60% in 2000 and to 63% in 2005, 2010, and 2012.
- In 2012, 42% of all graduate students were enrolled in private nonprofit four-year colleges and universities. In contrast, 20% of full-time and 7% of part-time undergraduate students were enrolled in this sector.

**ALSO IMPORTANT:**

- Students enrolled in non-degree-granting institutions may be eligible for federal student aid if they are working toward certificates at accredited institutions.
- All of the students reported in Figure 23 were enrolled in institutions that participate in federal student aid programs. In the late 2000s, about 600,000–800,000 students were enrolled in for-profit institutions that do not participate in these programs. (S. Cellini & C. Goldin, “Does Federal Student Aid Raise Tuition? New Evidence on For-Profit Colleges,” NBER Working Paper 17827)

**NOTES:** Percentages on the y-axis represent the enrollment in each sector as a percentage of total enrollment. Non-degree-granting institutions do not award associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degrees. Percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding.

**SOURCE:** NCES, IPEDS enrollment data.
Enrollment and Degrees Granted

In 2002-03, the for-profit sector awarded 14% of all associate, 2% of all bachelor’s, and 3% of all graduate degrees. A decade later, this sector awarded 18% of all associate, 8% of bachelor’s, and 9% of graduate degrees.

- Just under half of the degrees awarded in 2012-13 were bachelor’s degrees, 25% were graduate degrees, and 27% were associate degrees.
- Because 61% of public two-year college students were enrolled part time in fall 2012, students in this sector represented 38% of all undergraduate students, but only 24% of full-time undergraduate students.
- In fall 2012, 46% of full-time undergraduates — and 38% of all undergraduates — were enrolled in public four-year institutions.

**ALSO IMPORTANT:**

- In addition to the 18.1 million undergraduate students enrolled in degree-granting institutions in fall 2012, there were 572,000 undergraduates enrolled in non-degree-granting institutions. Fifty-six percent of these students attended for-profit institutions. Many non-degree-seeking students are working toward vocational certificates. (NCES, IPEDS data)

**FIGURE 24** Degrees Granted by Type of Degree and Sector, 2002-03, 2007-08, and 2012-13

**FIGURE 25** Undergraduate Enrollment by Sector, Fall 2012

NOTES: Graduate degrees include master’s, first professional, and doctoral degrees. Percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding.


NOTES: Includes only students enrolled in degree-granting institutions. Percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding.

SOURCES: NCES, *Digest of Education Statistics 2013*, Table 303.60.
Public Enrollment by State

In fall 2012, 21% of the full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment in degree-granting public institutions in the United States was in either California or Texas.

– California and Texas accounted for 29% of the nation’s full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment in public two-year colleges and 17% of the total in public four-year institutions.

– Some state public higher education systems rely almost exclusively on four-year institutions, while in other states, many students enroll in community colleges. In fall 2012, 56% of California’s public enrollments, but only 2% of Alaska’s, were in public two-year colleges.

– In three states, 50% or more of public FTE enrollments were in public two-year colleges in 2012. In nine states, that percentage was below 20%.
Changes in Public Enrollment by State

Growth in public higher education enrollment between 2002 and 2012 ranged from 3% in Illinois to 37% in Florida.

**FIGURE 27** Percentage Increase in Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Enrollment in Public Institutions, by State, Fall 2002 to Fall 2012

**NOTE:** Based on FTE fall enrollment in degree-granting public two-year and four-year institutions.

**SOURCES:** NCES, *Digest of Education Statistics 2013*, Table 307.20; *Digest of Education Statistics 2004*, Table 201.

- Full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment in public institutions in the United States increased by 1.7 million between fall 2002 and fall 2012. Texas accounted for 12% of these new enrollments, Florida for 9%, and New York for 6%. Despite its relatively small rate of growth, California accounted for 5% of the new enrollments, as did Georgia, where the number of public college students grew rapidly.

- California enrolled 13% of the nation’s public postsecondary FTE students in 2012, down from 15% a decade earlier.

**ALSO IMPORTANT:**

- In the nation as a whole, between 2002 and 2012, growth in public four-year enrollments (25%) was more rapid than growth in public two-year enrollments (10%). Public two-year colleges in some states began offering a small number of bachelor’s degrees and some were reclassified as four-year institutions, contributing to this imbalance in growth rates.

- The most rapid growth in four-year public enrollments over the decade was in Florida and Nevada, where a number of two-year colleges were reclassified as four-year.

- The most rapid growth in two-year public enrollments over the decade was in West Virginia and Idaho.
Migration

The percentage of students beginning college in fall 2012 who enrolled at institutions in their home state ranged from 53% in Vermont and 56% in New Hampshire to 90% in California and Arizona, and 91% in Utah.

**FIGURE 28** Percentage of First-Time Students Staying in State and Percentage of First-Time Students Who Were State Residents, 2012

![Graph showing the percentage of first-time students staying in state and who were state residents for various states in 2012.](image)

**NOTE:** Based on headcount enrollment.

**SOURCE:** NCES, Digest of Education Statistics 2013, Table 309.10.

– The percentage of first-year students enrolled in degree-granting institutions in the state who were residents of the state ranged from 34% in Vermont and 44% in Rhode Island to 90% in California, 91% in New Jersey, and 92% in Texas.

– In California, a high percentage of students stay in state for college (90%) and most students enrolled in the state are residents (90%). In West Virginia, a similar percentage stay in state (87%), but there is a high level of in-migration, so a relatively low percentage of enrolled students are state residents (49%).

– In Rhode Island, a relatively low percentage of students stay in state for college (69%) and only 44% of the students enrolled in the state are residents. In New Jersey, a similar percentage of students stay in state for college (63%), but there is little in-migration, and 91% of the enrolled students are state residents.

– Arizona ranks high in terms of percentage of residents staying in state for college but enrolls an unusually large percentage of out-of-state students because of the University of Phoenix’s large number of online students. In fall 2012, the University of Phoenix–Online Campus enrolled a total of 14,275 first-time undergraduate students, 17% of the total first-time undergraduate students enrolled in the state. (NCES, IPEDS fall 2012 enrollment data; calculations by the authors)

**ALSO IMPORTANT:**

– The percentage of beginning college students who were residents of the states in which they were enrolled was 80% in both 2002 and 2012. The percentage of students who stayed in their own states to begin college increased from 81% in 2002 to 82% in 2012. (NCES, Digest of Education Statistics 2013, Table 309.10; Digest of Education Statistics 2004, Table 204)
Selectivity and Completion

In 2012-13, only 2% of the 2,580 four-year degree-granting colleges and universities in the United States accepted less than 25% of their applicants, while 35% of these institutions accepted 90% or more of their applicants.

In 2012-13, only 2% of the 2,580 four-year degree-granting colleges and universities in the United States accepted less than 25% of their applicants, while 35% of these institutions accepted 90% or more of their applicants.

Institutions accepting 75% or more of their applicants enrolled 41% of four-year college students in 2012-13. Those with acceptance rates below 50% enrolled 18% of the students.

Institutional selectivity is highly correlated with graduation rates. Only 33% of students who began full time at open-admission four-year institutions in 2006 and 48% of those who began at institutions accepting at least 90% of their applicants earned four-year degrees at their first institution within six years.

At the four-year institutions that accept less than 25% of applicants, where students generally have strong academic preparation, 86% of students who began their studies full time in 2006 had completed four-year degrees at their first institution by fall 2012.

Also Important:

- At open-admission four-year institutions, 20% of the students were enrolled part time, compared to 3% at those with acceptance rates below 25% and 9% overall.

- The completion rates reported here are from IPEDS data, which measure degree completion only of first-time, full-time students at the institution in which they first enrolled. Part-time and returning students are excluded. Students who transfer to other institutions are not counted as graduates.

- In fall 2012, there were 1,700 two-year degree-granting institutions in the U.S., including 934 in the public two-year sector, 97 in the private nonprofit sector, and 669 in the for-profit sector. Among students who began their studies full time at these institutions in fall 2009, 20%, 62%, and 63% had earned associate degrees or short-term certificates by 2012 at their original institution in the three sectors, respectively. (NCES, Digest of Education Statistics 2013, Tables 317.40 and 326.20)
Faculty and Staff

The percentage of staff who were faculty members increased between 1991-92 and 2001-02, and again between 2001-02 and 2011-12, at both public and private nonprofit colleges and universities.

- The growing “Other Professionals” category includes student, academic, and institutional support functions that require a bachelor’s degree or comparable experience. Examples include human resources specialists, accountants and auditors, computer specialists, counselors, librarians, and coaches.

- The number of executive/managerial/administrative employees per 100 full-time equivalent (FTE) students increased from 2.4 to 3.1 at private nonprofit institutions between 2001 and 2011. The number of nonprofessional staff per 100 FTE students declined from 9.5 to 7.5 over these years.

- At public institutions, the number of faculty per 100 FTE students declined from 6.2 to 5.9 between 2001 and 2011. The total number of staff per 100 FTE students at these institutions declined from 19.2 to 17.3 over this decade.

- The percentage of faculty with tenure at public four-year institutions with tenure systems declined from 70% to 65% between 1993-94 and 2011-12. At private nonprofit institutions, the decline was from 50% to 44%.

### ALSO IMPORTANT:

- The percentage of institutions that have tenure systems declined from 92% to 91% in the public four-year sector, from 62% to 58% in the public two-year sector, and from 66% to 60% at private nonprofit four-year institutions between 1993-94 and 2011-12. (NCES, Digest of Education Statistics 2013, Table 316.80)

- About 2% of for-profit institutions had tenure systems in 2011-12. (NCES, Digest of Education Statistics 2013, Table 316.80)
Notes and Sources

THE ANNUAL SURVEY OF COLLEGES

Prices described in this report are based on data reported to the College Board by colleges and universities in the Annual Survey of Colleges. Data for 2014-15 are from an online questionnaire distributed in October 2013, with data collected and reviewed through early September 2014. Tuition and fee figures are based on charges to full-time undergraduate students over the course of a nine-month academic year of 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours. For those institutions with tuition and fees that vary by year of study, weighted average undergraduate tuition levels are used in the analysis. We are not able to estimate differences in tuition and fees by program but rely on the prices reported by institutions.

ENROLLMENT-WEIGHTED AND UNWEIGHTED DATA

This report provides enrollment-weighted average prices. Charges reported by colleges with larger full-time enrollments are weighted more heavily than those of institutions with smaller enrollments.

Enrollment-weighted and unweighted averages describe different phenomena. The weighted averages may be more helpful to students and families in anticipating future education expenses. Some researchers, policy analysts, and academic administrators find unweighted averages useful in studying longitudinal trends and evaluating a particular institution’s practices against a larger set. Thus, the College Board computes both weighted and unweighted averages. Tables reporting unweighted tuition data can be found online at trends.collegeboard.org.

The most recent enrollment data available are for fall 2013. For 2013-14 and earlier years, prices are weighted by same-year enrollments. For 2014-15, prices are weighted by fall 2013 full-time enrollments. In other words, the percentage changes reported in Tables 1A and 1B reflect only price changes, not changes in enrollment patterns. In contrast, the historical data on changes in enrollment-weighted prices reported in Tables 2A and 2B reflect changes in both prices and the distribution of full-time students across institutions.

Weighted averages for each price are based on relevant populations:

– In-state tuition and fees are weighted by full-time undergraduate enrollment.
– Out-of-state tuition and fees are calculated by adding the nonresident premium, weighted by full-time out-of-state enrollment, to average in-state tuition and fees. Data are not available on out-of-state students receiving a waiver of the full tuition premium or a portion of it.
– Out-of-district charges for public two-year college students are not accounted for in the average prices reported here.
– Resident room and board charges are weighted by the number of undergraduates living in campus housing at each institution.
– Estimated other student budget components are weighted as follows:
  – Books and supplies are weighted by full-time undergraduate enrollment.
  – Resident transportation and other resident expenses are weighted by the number of undergraduates living in campus housing.
  – Commuter room and board, commuter transportation, and other commuter expenses are weighted by the number of commuting undergraduates at each institution.

INSTITUTIONS INCLUDED IN CALCULATIONS

Out of the 3,678 public two-year, public four-year, private nonprofit four-year, and for-profit institutions that were surveyed in both 2012 and 2013, 3,105 were included in this year’s analysis, including over 98% of the surveyed schools in the public and private nonprofit sectors and 39% of those in the for-profit sector. Our imputation process allows us to include schools for which we are missing one year of data. We exclude from our calculations military academies and other institutions that report zero tuition. Tables A1A and A1B describe the number of institutions that were included in this analysis, by sector and Carnegie Classification, respectively.

### TABLE A1A

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<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Number of Institutions Surveyed in Both 2012 and 2013</th>
<th>Number of Institutions Included in T&amp;F &amp; Analysis</th>
<th>Number of Institutions in Analysis with Imputed T&amp;F for Either Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Public Two-Year</td>
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<td>Public Four-Year</td>
<td>598</td>
<td>580</td>
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<td>Private Nonprofit Four-Year</td>
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<td>For-Profit</td>
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<td>58</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>3,678</td>
<td>3,105</td>
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### TABLE A1B

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<th>Carnegie Classification</th>
<th>Number of Institutions Surveyed in Both 2012 and 2013</th>
<th>Number of Institutions Included in T&amp;F &amp; Analysis</th>
<th>Number of Institutions in Analysis with Imputed T&amp;F for Either Year</th>
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<td>Public Doctoral In-State</td>
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<td>Public Master’s In-State</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Bachelor’s In-State</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Nonprofit Bachelor’s</td>
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<td>496</td>
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### REVISIONS OF BASE-YEAR VALUES

The prices for 2013-14 used in this analysis differ somewhat from the 2013-14 averages reported last year. One factor contributing to the revision is the reweighting of the prices, shifting from fall 2012 to fall 2013 full-time enrollment figures. The base-year numbers also shift because some institutions submit revised tuition figures for the previous year. The recomputed average for 2013-14 tuition and fees at public four-year institutions is $8 lower than the level we reported last year for in-state students and $20 higher for out-of-state students. Compared to the average tuition and fee prices we reported last year, the recomputed average for 2013-14 tuition and fees is $23 lower for public two-year in-district students and $37 higher for private nonprofit four-year students.
LONGITUDINAL DATA
In Tables 2A and 2B, tuition averages from years prior to 1987-88 are extracted from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). The two data sets, IPEDS and the College Board’s Annual Survey of Colleges, track very closely, but IPEDS averages are weighted by full-time equivalent enrollments, while the Annual Survey of Colleges prices are weighted by full-time enrollments. In addition, IPEDS tuition and fee data may be based on 24 semester hours while the Annual Survey of Colleges data are based on 30 semester hours. Annual historical data are available online at trends.collegeboard.org.

NET PRICE CALCULATIONS
The calculations of average net price for full-time undergraduates in Figures 11, 12, and 13, as well as the calculations in online Table 7, are a best approximation and are based on the aggregate amounts of each type of aid reported in Trends in Student Aid 2014 and on the allocation of each type of aid across institution types and between part-time and full-time students reported in 1993, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, and 2012 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS) data when such detailed information is not available in specific program data. Because financial aid data for 2014-15 are not yet available, amounts for that year are estimated based on past years. Total charges for public two-year students include an estimate of housing and food expenses for students not living with their parents, based on commuter room and board expenses reported by institutions when available and derived from public four-year room and board charges for earlier years in the analysis. The net price estimates reported here are not exactly comparable to those that appeared in 2013 because some figures have been updated.

Net price and grant totals in Figures 11, 12, and 13 are not comparable to those in Figures 14A, 14B, 15A, and 15B, which are based on NPSAS data over time. In addition, Figures 11, 12, and 13 take into account tax benefits and deductions, while Figures 14A, 14B, 15A, and 15B do not.

INSTITUTIONAL REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
Figures 18A, 18B, 19A, and 19B are based on data from the IPEDS Delta Cost data and the IPEDS 2011-12 finance data. Delta Cost data combine IPEDS data with information from the Financial Institution Shared Assessments Program database beginning in 1994. Further details and the entire database are available at nces.ed.gov/ipeds/deltacostproject/. Because Delta Cost data are not available for 2011-12, revenues and expenditures for that year are based on IPEDS data and calculations by the authors to match Delta Cost definitions and categories.

ENDOWMENTS
Data on endowments are from the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) and Commonfund Institute, supplemented by data from IPEDS for institutions for which NACUBO or Commonfund data are not available. Public university foundation endowment assets are included.

INFLATION ADJUSTMENT
The Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) is used to adjust for inflation. We use the CPI-U in July of the year in which the academic year begins. See www.bls.gov/data/ for changes in the CPI-U over time. Table A2 provides CPI data for 2004 through 2014. Additional historical data are available online. Each Factor column provides the user with a multiplication factor equal to the CPI in the base year (say, 2014) divided by the CPI of the year in question. A simple multiplication of a current-year figure by the associated factor will yield a constant-dollar result.

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<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>CPI (As of July at the Beginning of the Academic Year)</th>
<th>Factor Used in Trends in College Pricing to Convert to 2014 Dollars</th>
<th>Factor Used in Trends in Student Aid to Convert to 2013 Dollars</th>
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<td>2010-11</td>
<td>218.011</td>
<td>1.0928</td>
<td>1.0715</td>
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<td>2014-15</td>
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CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION 2010: BASIC CLASSIFICATION
“Doctoral universities” include institutions that award at least 20 doctoral degrees per year (excluding doctoral degrees that qualify recipients for entry into professional practice, such as the J.D., M.D., Pharm.D., DPT, etc.); “master’s colleges and universities” include institutions that award at least 50 master’s degrees per year; “bachelor’s colleges” include institutions where bachelor’s degrees represent at least 10% of all undergraduate degrees and that award fewer than 50 master’s degrees or fewer than 20 doctoral degrees per year. All of the categories above exclude “special focus institutions” and “tribal colleges.”
Trends in College Pricing was authored by Sandy Baum, senior fellow at the Urban Institute and research professor at the George Washington University Graduate School of Human Development, and Jennifer Ma, policy research scientist at the College Board, with invaluable assistance from D’Wayne Bell and Diane Cardenas Elliott.

Contact Information for the Authors
Sandy Baum, sbaum@gwu.edu
Jennifer Ma, jma@collegeboard.org

Trends in College Pricing and its companion report, Trends in Student Aid, are supplemented by a website that makes detailed data available for reference and downloading. The PDF versions of these reports, along with PowerPoint slides of all the graphs, are available on the Web: trends.collegeboard.org.

DEFINING TERMS

“Costs” refer to the expenditures associated with delivering instruction, including physical plant and salaries.

“Prices” are the expenses that students and parents face.

“Published price” is the price institutions charge for tuition and fees as well as room and board, in the case of students residing on campus. A full student expense budget also includes books, supplies, transportation, and other basic living costs.

“Net price” is what the student and/or family must cover after grant aid and savings from tax credits and deductions are subtracted.

“General subsidies” make it possible for institutions to charge less than the actual costs of instruction. State, federal, and local appropriations, as well as private philanthropy, reduce the prices faced by all students — whether or not they receive financial aid.

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