

Georgia

College Affordability Profile 2018

The socioeconomic future of SREB states depends in large part on substantially increasing the number of residents with postsecondary credentials of value. As the population of SREB states become more diversified, Georgia faces a critical challenge to help more people succeed in postsecondary education and earn a living wage. This 2018 college affordability profile illustrates how affordable different public institutions are for Georgia families at various income levels.

What Percentage of Average Family Income Is Required to Attend College Full Time?

In 2015-16, families in Georgia needed on average close to 28 percent of their income to pay for educational expenses for a full-time student at public category 1 institutions and 32 percent at public four-year category 2 institutions. These percentages were much higher than they were in 2010-11. While the percentage needed at category 1 institutions was somewhat lower than SREB and national averages in 2015-16, the percentage needed at category 2 institutions was higher than the SREB and national averages.

For a full-time student at public two-year institutions, families in Georgia needed to pay, on average, nearly 19 percent of their income in 2015-16 to cover educational expenses. This was higher than the nearly 15 percent needed in 2010-11 and somewhat higher than the SREB and national averages in 2015-16.

	Georgia, 2010-11	Georgia, 2015-16	SREB Average, 2015-16	U.S. Average, 2015-16
Public Four-Year Category 1	17.1%	27.8%	30.5%	30.8%
Public Four-Year Category 2	24.7%	32.1%	28.8%	27.9%
Public Two-Year	14.6%	18.5%	17.0%	18.2%
Public Technical	14.8%	11.7%	18.6%	18.2%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Directory files 2010 and 2015, Student Financial Aid files and 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files 2011 and 2016; American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples 2010 and 2015. Institutional sectors are based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

How Much Is Spent Per Student on Financial Aid?

Georgia does not have a funded statewide need-based financial aid program. The state spent \$1,587 on average per full-time-equivalent student on merit-based aid in 2015-16 compared to \$1,341 in 2010-11. The SREB average was \$416 and the national average was \$168 in 2015-16. The state also spent \$366, on average, per FTE for special purpose financial aid in 2015-16, much more than the SREB average for special purpose aid at \$64 and the national average of \$39.

Financial Aid Category	Georgia, 2010-11	Georgia, 2015-16	SREB Average, 2015-16	U.S. Average, 2015-16
Need Only	\$0	NA	\$343	\$376
Need and Merit	NA	NA	\$135	\$214
Merit Only	\$1,341	\$1,587	\$416	\$168
Special Purpose	\$607	\$366	\$64	\$39

Sources: National Association of State Student Grant & Aid Programs 2011 and 2016 annual surveys (results for public institutions only); U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files, 2011 and 2016, and Directory files, 2010 and 2015.

For Families Making Less Than \$30,000, What Percentage of Income Is Required for Tuition at Lowest-Priced Colleges?

Twenty-five percent of families in Georgia made less than \$30,000 in 2015. For these families, the cost of tuition and fees at the lowest-priced public institutions averaged 14 percent of income that year, compared to 12 percent in 2010-11. These percentages were lower than the SREB and national averages in 2010-11 and 2015-16.

	2010-11	2015-16
Percentage of Families Earning Less than \$30,000 Annually	25%	25%
Tuition and Fees at Lowest-Priced Public Colleges	\$1,991	\$2,254
Average Income of Georgia Families Earning Less than \$30,000 Annually	\$17,095	\$16,668
Percentage of Income Needed for Tuition and Fees at the Lower-Priced Public Institutions	12%	14%
SREB Average	13%	17%
U.S. Average	15%	18%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Charges files and Directory files 2010 and 2015, 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files 2011 and 2016; American Community Survey Public Use Micro Sample files 2010 and 2015.

How Much Do Graduates Borrow?

Graduates who sought a degree or certificate from public four-year category 1 universities in Georgia in 2015-16 borrowed, on average, \$21,907 and graduates of four-year category 2 institutions borrowed \$22,065 on average. These amounts were noticeably higher than average amounts borrowed in 2010-11 but close to the SREB average in 2015-16.

Students at public two-year colleges borrowed, on average, \$12,326 in 2015-16, much more than the average amount borrowed in 2010-11 higher than SREB and national averages.

	Georgia, 2010-11	Georgia, 2015-16	SREB Average, 2015-16	U.S. Average, 2015-16
Public Four-Year Category 1	\$16,705	\$21,907	\$21,703	\$21,505
Public Four-Year Category 2	\$17,558	\$22,065	\$22,391	\$19,893
Public Two-Year	\$9,283	\$12,326	\$9,829	\$9,655

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, College Scorecard, 2010 and 2015; Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files 2011 and 2016 and Directory files 2010 and 2015. Institutional sectors are based on SREB State Data Exchange categories.

A Closer Look at Family Ability to Pay

SREB’s Commission on College Affordability defined affordability as the relationship of the price required to attend higher education — or the net price — to family income.

Net price is the sum of tuition and required fees, plus room and board, books and other expenses, minus grant aid students receive from the federal or state government or the institution.

Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Four-Year Category 1 Institutions

At Georgia’s public four-year category 1 institutions, families making less than \$30,000 in 2015 needed 58 percent of their income for educational expenses. In 2010, that percentage was 29 percent. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 30 percent of their income for a full-time student in 2015-16; these families needed 19 percent of their income in 2010-11 to cover educational expenses.

Family Income	Average in This Income Level, 2015	Percentage of Families in This Income Level, 2015	Net Price, 2015-16	Percentage of 2010 Income Needed	Percentage of 2015 Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$16,668	25%	\$9,739	29%	58%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,039	17%	\$11,656	19%	30%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$61,014	21%	\$14,501	17%	24%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,264	17%	\$16,573	14%	18%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$190,721	20%	\$16,871	7%	9%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Directory files 2010 and 2015, Student Financial Aid files and 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files 2011 and 2016; American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2010 and 2015. Institutional sectors are based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Four-Year Category 2 Institutions

At public four-year category 2 institutions in Georgia, families making less than \$30,000 in 2015 needed 73 percent of their income for educational expenses compared to 53 percent in 2010. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 33 percent of their income in 2015 compared to 26 percent in 2010-11 for a full-time student.

Family Income	Average in This Income Level, 2015	Percentage of Families in This Income Level, 2015	Net Price, 2015-16	Percentage of 2010 Income Needed	Percentage of 2015 Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$16,668	25%	\$12,248	53%	73%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,039	17%	\$13,062	26%	33%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$61,014	21%	\$15,700	21%	26%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,264	17%	\$17,166	16%	19%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$190,721	20%	\$17,385	8%	9%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Directory files 2010 and 2015, Student Financial Aid files and 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files 2011 and 2016; American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2010 and 2015. Institutional sectors are based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Two-Year Institutions

At public two-year institutions in Georgia, families making less than \$30,000 in 2015 needed 39 percent of their income for educational expenses compared to 30 percent in 2010. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 in 2015 needed 19 percent of their income for a full-time student, higher than the 14 percent needed in 2010.

Family Income	Average in This Income Level, 2015	Percentage of Families in This Income Level, 2015	Net Price, 2015-16	Percentage of 2010 Income Needed	Percentage of 2015 Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$16,668	25%	\$6,583	30%	39%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,039	17%	\$7,372	14%	19%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$61,014	21%	\$9,562	13%	16%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,264	17%	\$11,320	11%	12%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$190,721	20%	\$11,410	5%	6%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Directory files 2010 and 2015, Student Financial Aid files and 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity Files 2011 and 2016; American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2010 and 2015. Institutional sectors are based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Technical Institutions

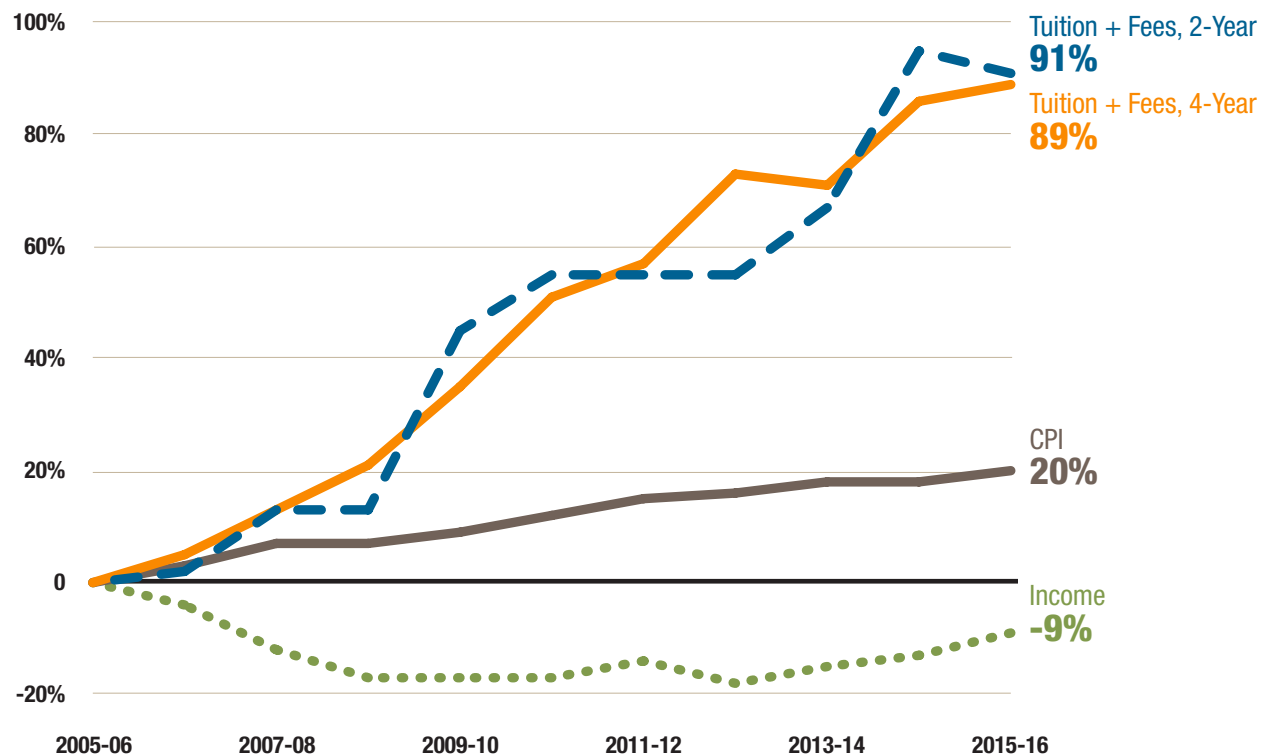
At public technical institutions in Georgia, families making less than \$30,000 in 2015 needed 24 percent of income for education expenses compared to 29 percent in 2010. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 in 2015 needed 12 percent of income for a full-time student, less than the 15 percent needed in 2010.

Family Income	Average in This Income Level, 2015	Percentage of Families in This Income Level, 2015	Net Price, 2015-16	Percentage of 2010 Income Needed	Percentage of 2015 Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$16,668	25%	\$3,929	29%	24%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,039	17%	\$4,631	15%	12%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$61,014	21%	\$6,329	13%	10%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,264	17%	\$7,582	10%	8%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$190,721	20%	\$8,704	8%	5%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Directory files 2010 and 2015, Student Financial Aid Files and 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files 2011 and 2016; American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2010 and 2015. Institutional sectors are based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

Changes in Tuition and Fees, CPI, and Income

Compared to the Consumer Price Index and household income, tuition and fees at Georgia public colleges and universities increased substantially between 2006 and 2016. Over that decade, the CPI increased by 20 percent and household income declined by 9 percent, while tuition and fees at four-year institutions increased by 89 percent and by 91 percent at two-year institutions.

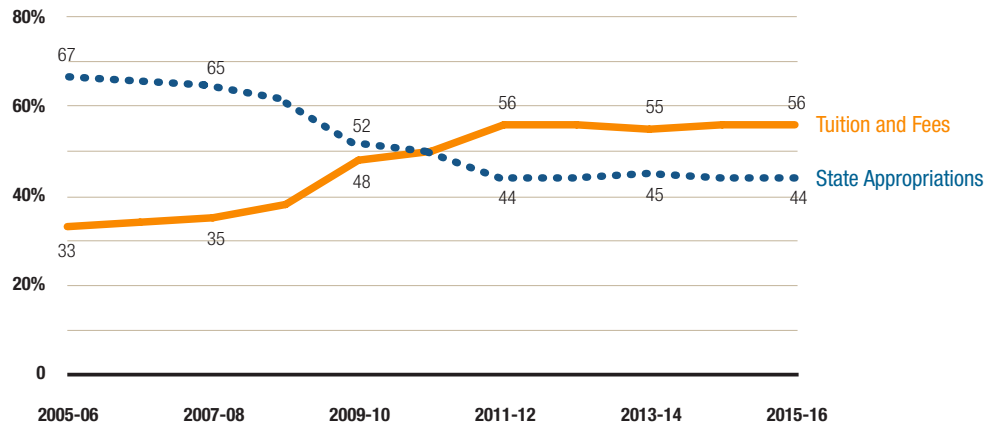


Sources: Consumer Price Index retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; Bureau of Labor Statistics, South urban area, 2016. Tuition and fees retrieved from the U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Institutional Characteristics files, 2005 to 2015. Median household income retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements, South region, 2018.

Ratio of State Appropriations and Tuition and Fee Revenues

Public Four-Year Institutions

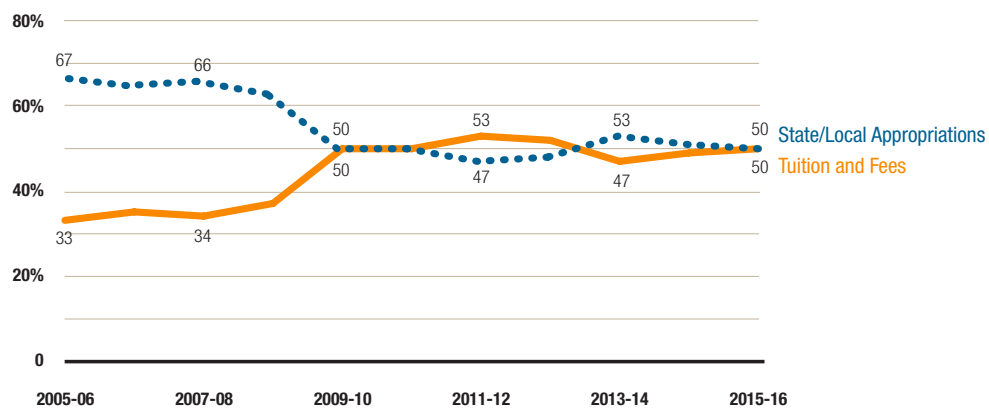
In 2015-16, net tuition and fees at Georgia's four-year institutions made up 56 percent of total funds available for operations of the state's public institutions, while state appropriations supplied the remaining 44 percent. In comparison, state appropriations provided 67 percent in 2005-06.



Source: SREB-State Data Exchange.

Public Two-Year Institutions

Georgia's two-year colleges are now funded equally between state and local appropriations and tuition and fees. Although appropriations provided 67 percent of revenues in 2005-06, that share had dropped to 50 percent by 2015-16; tuition and fees made up 50 percent of revenues that year compared to 33 percent in 2005-06.



Source: SREB-State Data Exchange.

Additional Context

Attainment — In 2016, 48 percent of Georgia’s working adult population between ages 25 and 64 had a postsecondary credential of value. The state’s educational attainment goal is to reach 60 percent by 2025.

Poverty — In 2016, 23 percent of children in Georgia were living in poverty. This was down from 2010, when 25 percent were living in poverty. The SREB region and the nation saw overall declines in this rate from 26 to 23 percent and from 22 to 20 percent during this time period, respectively.

FAFSA — Through June 2018, approximately 58 percent of Georgia’s 2017-18 12th grade class had completed a FAFSA application, a one-year increase of around 3 percent. Nationwide, the FAFSA completion rate was nearly 61 percent.

Enrollment — In 2015-16, nearly 21 percent of students in Georgia were enrolled in public four-year category 1 institutions, close to 43 percent were enrolled at public four-year category 2 institutions, 15 percent were enrolled in public two-year colleges, and 21 percent were enrolled at public technical colleges.

Automation — A recent study has found that individuals face a reduced risk of job automation if they have achieved a higher level of educational attainment and that “Artificial Intelligence puts more low-skilled jobs at risk than previous waves of technological progress.” According to this study, approximately 10 percent of the jobs in the United States can be considered at high risk of automation (in that they have an over 70 percent probability of being automated), with roughly an additional 25 percent of jobs at risk of significant change due to automation.

Sources: Educational attainment: State higher education master plans and Lumina Foundation, “A Stronger Nation,” 2017. Children in poverty: U.S. Census Bureau. FAFSA completion: National College Access Network. Enrollment: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems, 2016. Automation: Nedelkoska, L. and G. Quintini, “Automation, skills use and training,” OECD, 2018.

Georgia Institutions by Type

Public Four-Year Category 1

Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus
Georgia State University
University of Georgia

Public Four-Year Category 2

Albany State University
Armstrong State University
Clayton State University
Columbus State University
Dalton State College
Fort Valley State University

Georgia Southwestern State University
Georgia College and State University
Georgia Southern University
Savannah State University
Valdosta State University
University of West Georgia
Georgia Gwinnett College
Augusta University
Middle Georgia State University
University of North Georgia
Kennesaw State University

Public Two-Year

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Darton State College
Atlanta Metropolitan State College
Bainbridge State College
College of Coastal Georgia
East Georgia State College
Georgia Highlands College
Gordon State College
Georgia Perimeter College
South Georgia State College
Georgia Military College

Technical Colleges

Albany Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Augusta Technical College
West Georgia Technical College
Columbus Technical College

Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
Lanier Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College
North Georgia Technical College
Savannah Technical College
South Georgia Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Athens Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Southeastern Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College

Notes and Sources

Category 1 four-year institutions award at least 30 doctoral degrees in five different areas. **Category 2** includes all other four-year institutions. The **public two-year category** includes institutions that primarily award associate degrees; the list may include two-year institutions that award bachelor's degrees. The **technical college category** includes postsecondary institutions that offer programs of less than two years' duration below the baccalaureate level and occupational and vocational schools with programs that do not exceed 1800 contact hours. This profile does not report data for the technical college category if less than 3 percent of students are enrolled in this sector.

Institutions are listed as they were categorized in the 2015-16 Data Exchange Survey and if they submitted the data required for this profile.

This profile is based on data reported to IPEDS by institutions during the 2010-11 and 2015-16 academic years. Some IPEDS surveys collect data for the prior academic year; for instance, the 2015-16 Student Financial Aid survey reports data for 2014-15.

Institutions or states may update data that were previously reported to an organization or adjust the methodology to calculate a statistic. As a result, some data reported in past Affordability Profiles may differ from data in the current profile, even though the data are for the same time period.

See the technical guide at SREB.org/Affordability for detailed sources and explanatory notes.

SREB College Affordability Profiles detail data and trends specific to each SREB state to assist policymakers with decisions on postsecondary affordability and attainment. For additional resources, including recommendations of the Commission on College Affordability in the South and the SREB Fact Book on Higher Education, visit SREB.org/Affordability.