



Louisiana

College Affordability Profile

October 2016

To support the work of the SREB's member states and its Commission on College Affordability, SREB commissioned the Higher Education Policy Institute to prepare a college affordability profile for each SREB state, as well as a synthesis of relevant trends in the SREB region. These profiles detail college affordability data and trends specific to the state to assist policymakers in assessing the dimensions of the affordability issue and the need for state policy initiatives or interventions.

In addition to this state profile, other affordability resources from SREB include:

- *Shared Responsibility for College Affordability*, the Commission's final report and executive summary
- *College Affordability: Trends in the SREB Region*
- *College Affordability: SREB Technical Report*
- *College Affordability Policy and Practice Review: A Statewide Framework*
- *College Affordability: Promising State Policies and Practices*
- *SREB Fact Book on Higher Education*

Each of these documents is available at SREB.org/Affordability.

Louisiana College Affordability Profile

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

Families in Louisiana would need to pay 20.1 percent of their income to cover educational expenses for a student at a public two-year institution in the state. This is higher than the SREB average and higher than the national average.

Families in Louisiana would need to pay 24.1 percent of their income to cover educational expenses for a student at a public four-year, non-research institution in the state. This is lower than the SREB average and lower than the national average.

	Louisiana, 2008	Louisiana, 2013	SREB Average, 2013	U.S. Average, 2013
Public Four-Year Category 1	14.1%	20.5%	29.0%	29.9%
Public Four-Year Category 2	18.2%	24.1%	27.3%	27.4%
Public Two-Year	16.8%	20.1%	17.2%	18.6%
Public Technical	16.7%	19.0%	18.3%	18.6%

How Much Is Spent Per Student on Financial Aid?

In Louisiana need-based aid per student is \$156. This is lower than the SREB average and lower than the national average. Aid based on criteria other than need is \$1160 per student. This is higher than the SREB average and higher than the national average.

	Louisiana, 2004	Louisiana, 2007	Louisiana, 2013	SREB Average, 2013	U.S. Average 2013
Need Only	\$0	\$0	\$156	\$338	\$474
Other	\$588	\$744	\$1,160	\$480	\$210

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

Twenty-eight percent of families in Louisiana make less than \$30,000 per year. For a student in these families, tuition and fees at the lowest-priced public colleges would require 16 percent of income. This is about the same as the SREB average and lower than the national average.

	2008	2013
Percentage of Families	30%	28%
Tuition and Fees	\$839	\$2,620
Income	\$16,681	\$16,373
Percentage of Income	5%	16%
SREB Average	11%	16%
National Average	14%	18%

How Much Do Graduates Borrow?

Graduates from public four-year research universities in Louisiana have borrowed, on average, \$19,892. This is lower than the SREB average and lower than the national average.

	Louisiana, 2008	Louisiana, 2013	SREB Average, 2013	U.S. Average, 2013
Public Four-Year Category 1	\$15,563	\$19,892	\$22,052	\$22,018
Public Four-Year Category 2	\$19,566	\$24,066	\$22,959	\$20,980
Public Two-Year	\$11,686	\$13,830	\$11,082	\$10,906
Public Technical	\$7,836	N/A	\$10,267	N/A

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 — relative to family income. *Net price* = tuition and required fees plus room and board, 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, 2013

Annual Income	Average in This Income Level	Percentage of Families in This Income Level	Net Price	Percentage of Income Needed
\$0 - \$30,000	\$16,373	28%	\$6,330	39%
\$30,000 - \$48,000	\$38,874	17%	\$8,644	22%
\$48,000 - \$75,000	\$61,095	20%	\$11,942	20%
\$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,420	17%	\$13,476	15%
\$110,000 and above	\$183,365	18%	\$13,694	7%

At public four-year category 1 institutions in Louisiana, families making less than 30,000 would need 39 percent of their income to cover educational expenses for a student. For families making between \$30,000 and 48,000, 22 percent of income would be needed to attend.

Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Four-Year Category 2 Institutions, 2013

Annual Income	Average in This Income Level	Percentage of Families in This Income Level	Net Price	Percentage of Income Needed
\$0 - \$30,000	\$16,373	28%	\$8,842	54%
\$30,000 - \$48,000	\$38,874	17%	\$9,836	25%
\$48,000 - \$75,000	\$61,095	20%	\$11,977	20%
\$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,420	17%	\$13,281	15%
\$110,000 and above	\$183,365	18%	\$13,117	7%

At public four-year category 2 institutions in Louisiana, 54 percent of income would be needed to cover educational expenses for a student in a family making less than \$30,000. For families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000, 25 percent of income would be needed.

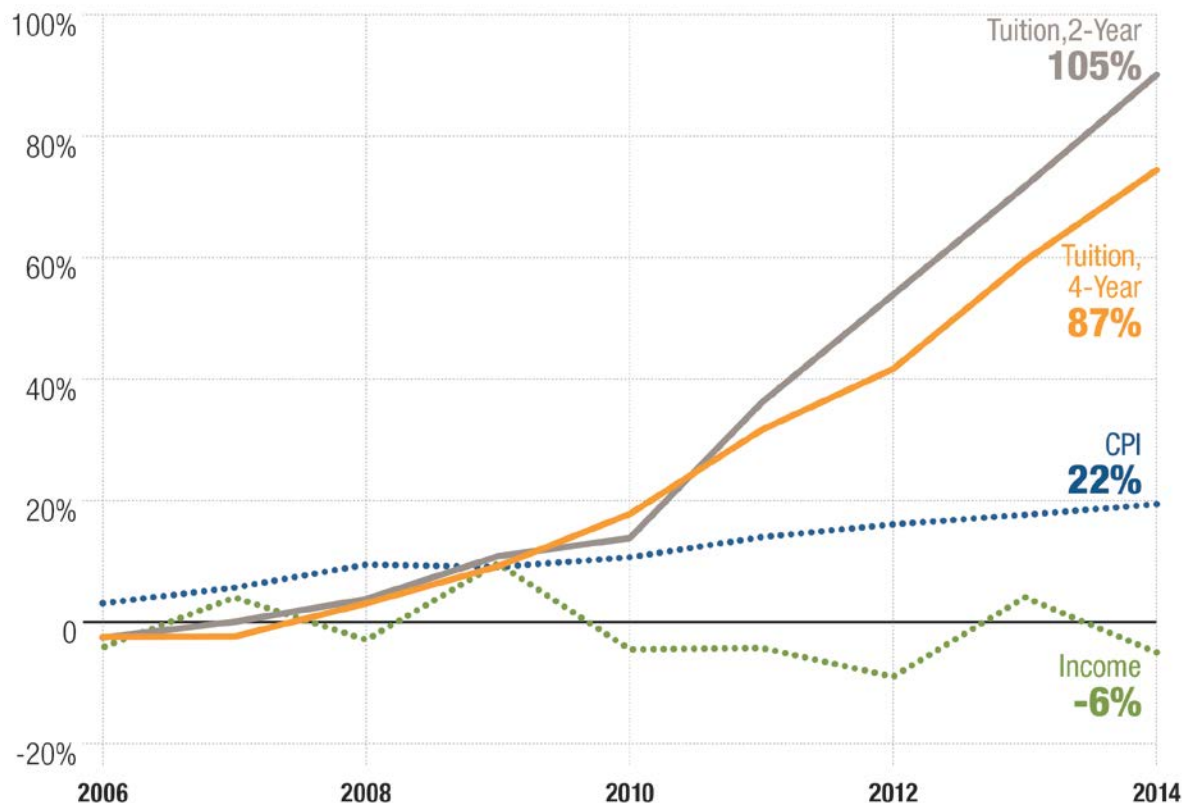
Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Two-Year institutions, 2013

Annual Income	Average in This Income Level	Percentage of Families in This Income Level	Net Price	Percentage of Income Needed
\$0 - \$30,000	\$16,373	28%	\$7,252	44%
\$30,000 - \$48,000	\$38,874	17%	\$8,026	21%
\$48,000 - \$75,000	\$61,095	20%	\$10,223	17%
\$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,420	17%	\$11,438	13%
\$110,000 and above	\$183,365	18%	\$11,684	6%

At public two-year institutions in Louisiana, 44 percent of income would be needed to cover educational expenses for a student in a family making less than \$30,000. For families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000, 21 percent of income would be needed to attend.

Louisiana: Changes in Tuition and Fees

Tuition and fees at both public and four-year and public two-year institutions in Louisiana have been growing much more rapidly than either inflation or family income.



Notes and sources: Consumer Price Index: Bureau of Labor Statistics, South urban area. Tuition and fees: National Center for Education Statistics *Digest of Education Statistics*; Median family income: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements, South region, Table F-6.

Other Contextual Information

- By 2020, the Georgetown Center for the Workforce predicts that 56 percent of jobs in Louisiana will require a postsecondary education or above, lower than the average for the South (59 percent) and also below the U.S. average (65 percent).
- Forty-three percent of students in Louisiana are enrolled in public four-year category 1 institutions; 29 percent are enrolled in category 2 four-year institutions; and 26 percent are enrolled in community colleges.
- In 2014, 28 percent of children in Louisiana were living in poverty. This is up slightly from 2004 when 27 percent were living in poverty.

Louisiana Institutions by Type

Category 1 Public Four-Year Institutions

Louisiana State University and A&M College
Louisiana Tech University
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
University of New Orleans

Category 2 Public Four-Year Institutions

Grambling State University
Louisiana State University at Alexandria
Louisiana State University in Shreveport
McNeese State University
Nicholls State University
Northwestern State University
Southeastern Louisiana University
Southern University and A&M College at Baton Rouge
Southern University at New Orleans
University of Louisiana at Monroe'

Community Colleges

Baton Rouge Community College
Bossier Parish Community College
Delgado Community College
Louisiana Delta Community College LA3
Louisiana State University at Eunice
Nunez Community College
River Parishes Community College
South Louisiana Community College
Southern University in Shreveport

*Category 1 four-year institutions award at least 30 doctoral degrees in five different areas.
Category 2 includes all other four-year institutions.*