

Georgia

College Affordability Profile 2017

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

Families in Georgia needed to pay, on average, 17 percent of their income in 2014 to cover educational expenses for a full-time student at public two-year institutions in the state. This was about the same as the SREB average and lower than the national average.

Families in Georgia needed 32.8 percent of their income to pay for educational expenses for a full-time student at public four-year, non-research institutions. This was higher than the SREB and national averages.

	Georgia, 2008	Georgia, 2014	SREB Average, 2014	U.S. Average, 2014
Public Four-Year Category 1	22.1%	26.1%	29.0%	30.1%
Public Four-Year Category 2	24.0%	32.8%	28.1%	27.8%
Public Two-Year	14.9%	17.0%	17.1%	18.5%
Public Technical	14.8%	12.6%	20.1%	18.5%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Financial Aid Files, Instructional Activity Files and Directory Files, 2008-2014. American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2008-2014. Institutional sectors based on categories in the *SREB Fact Book on Higher Education*. Analysis by SREB consultant.

How Much Is Spent Per Student on Financial Aid?

No need-based financial aid was awarded at the state level in 2014. Awards for Georgia's first public-private, needs-based scholarship program — the REACH program — will be made for the academic year 2017-2018. Based on criteria other than need, the average award per student was \$1,779 in 2014. This was much higher than the SREB and national averages.

	Georgia, 2004	Georgia, 2007	Georgia, 2014	SREB Average, 2014	U.S. Average, 2014
Need-Based Financial Aid Only	\$4	\$0	\$0	\$363	\$508
Other Financial Aid	\$1,390	\$1,468	\$1,779	\$506	\$218

Sources: National Association of State Student Grant & Aid Programs 2004, 2007 and 2014 annual surveys. U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System Instructional Activity and Directory Files, 2004, 2007 and 2014. Analysis by SREB consultant.

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

Twenty-six percent of families in Georgia made less than \$30,000 per year in 2014. For these families, the cost of tuition and fees at the lowest-priced public institutions was 14 percent of income. This was lower than the SREB and national averages.

	2008	2014
Percentage of Families Earning Less than \$30,000 Annually	24%	26%
Tuition and Fees at Lowest-Priced Public Colleges	\$1,296	\$2,285
Average Income of Georgia Families Earning Less than \$30,000 Annually	\$17,169	\$16,670
Percentage of Income Needed for Tuition and Fees at the Lowest-Priced Public Institutions	8%	14%
SREB Average	11%	16%
U.S. Average	14%	18%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Charges Data Files 2008 and 2013, Instructional Activity Data Files 2008-2014, and Directory Files 2008-2014. American Community Survey Public Use Micro Sample Files 2008-2014. Analysis by SREB consultant.

How Much Do Graduates Borrow?

Graduates from public four-year research universities in Georgia in 2014 typically borrowed \$21,702. This was about the same as the SREB and national averages.

	Georgia, 2008	Georgia, 2014	SREB Average, 2014	U.S. Average, 2014
Public Four-Year Category 1	\$13,737	\$21,702	\$21,883	\$21,598
Public Four-Year Category 2	\$14,552	\$24,659	\$22,622	\$20,574

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, College Scorecard. U.S. Department of Education, 2014 and 2015. Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Instructional Activity Data Files 2009-2015 and Directory Files 2008-2014.

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, 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, 2014

	Average in This Income Level	Percentage of Families in This Income Level	Net Price	Percentage of Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$16,670	26%	\$9,091	55%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,007	17%	\$10,811	28%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,929	21%	\$14,027	23%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,188	17%	\$15,583	17%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$188,218	19%	\$15,746	8%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Financial Aid Files, Instructional Activity Files and Directory Files, 2008-2014. American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2008-2014. Institutional sectors based on categories in the *SREB Fact Book on Higher Education*. Analysis by SREB consultant.

At public four-year category 1 institutions in Georgia, families making less than \$30,000 in 2014 needed 55 percent of income for educational expenses. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 28 percent of income for a full-time student.

Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Four-Year Category 2 Institutions, 2014

	Average in This Income Level	Percentage of Families in This Income Level	Net Price	Percentage of Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$16,670	26%	\$12,508	75%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,007	17%	\$13,411	34%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,929	21%	\$15,905	26%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,188	17%	\$17,354	19%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$188,218	19%	\$17,683	9%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Financial Aid Files, Instructional Activity Files and Directory Files, 2008-2014. American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2008-2014. Institutional sectors based on categories in the *SREB Fact Book on Higher Education*. Analysis by SREB consultant.

At public four-year category 2 institutions in Georgia, families earning less than \$30,000 in 2014 needed 75 percent of income for educational expenses. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 34 percent of income for a full-time student.

Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Two-Year Institutions, 2014

	Average in This Income Level	Percentage of Families in This Income Level	Net Price	Percentage of Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$16,670	26%	\$5,968	36%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,007	17%	\$6,619	17%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,929	21%	\$8,925	15%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,188	17%	\$10,638	12%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$188,218	19%	\$10,744	6%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Financial Aid Files, Instructional Activity Files and Directory Files, 2008-2014. American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2008-2014. Institutional sectors based on categories in the *SREB Fact Book on Higher Education*. Analysis by SREB consultant.

At public two-year institutions in Georgia, families making less than \$30,000 in 2014 needed 36 percent of income for educational expenses. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 17 percent of income for a full-time student.

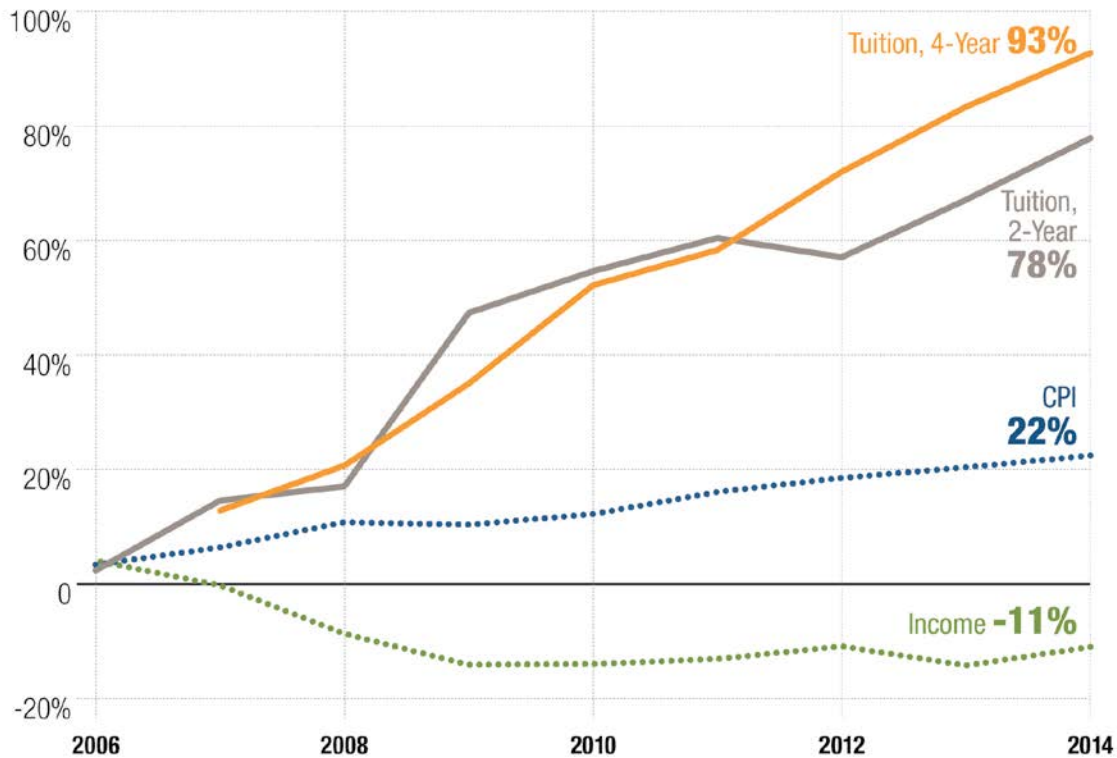
Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Technical Institutions, 2014

	Average in This Income Level	Percentage of Families in This Income Level	Net Price	Percentage of Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$16,670	26%	\$4,162	25%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,007	17%	\$4,804	12%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,929	21%	\$7,127	12%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,188	17%	\$8,142	9%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$188,218	19%	\$9,566	5%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Financial Aid Files, Instructional Activity Files and Directory Files, 2008-2014. American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2008-2014. Institutional sectors based on categories in the *SREB Fact Book on Higher Education*. Analysis by SREB consultant.

At public technical institutions in Georgia, families making less than \$30,000 in 2014 needed 25 percent of income for educational expenses. Families earning between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 12 percent of income for a full-time student.

Georgia: Changes in Tuition and Fees



Sources: Consumer Price Index: Bureau of Labor Statistics, South urban area, 2015. Tuition and fees: National Center for Education Statistics Digest of Education Statistics, 2017. Median family income: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements, South region, Table F-6, 2017.

Additional Context

- The Georgetown Center for the Workforce projects that by 2020, 65 percent of jobs in Georgia will require a postsecondary education, higher than the average for the South (59 percent) and about the same as the U.S. average (65 percent).
- In 2015, 26 percent of students in Georgia were enrolled in public four-year category 1 institutions, 32 percent were at public four-year category 2 institutions, 17 percent were in public two-year colleges and 25 percent were at technical colleges.
- In 2015, 24 percent of children in Georgia were living in poverty. This was up from 2004, when 21 percent were living in poverty.

Sources: Workforce data: Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce, 2015. Enrollment data: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems, 2015. Children in poverty data: Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Book, 2017.

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
Fort Valley State University
Georgia College and State University
Georgia Gwinnett College
Georgia Southern University
Georgia Southwestern State University
Savannah State University
Valdosta State University
University of North Georgia
University of West Georgia

Public Two-Year

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

Technical Colleges

Albany Technical College
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College
Columbus Technical College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College

Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
Lanier Technical College
North Georgia Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Savannah Technical College
South Georgia Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Southeastern Technical College
West Georgia Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

Notes

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 group includes institutions that primarily award associates degrees; the list may include two-year institutions that award bachelor's degrees.

These profiles list only institutions that reported data for 2014-15 by March 2017 to the IPEDS Student Financial Aid Data Dictionary.

These profiles do not report data for the technical college sector if a state's technical colleges enroll less than 3 percent of students.

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.