

Kentucky

College Affordability Profile 2017

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

Families in Kentucky needed to pay, on average, 14.8 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 lower than the SREB and national averages.

Families in Kentucky needed 24.4 percent of their income to pay for educational expenses for a full-time student at public four-year non-research institutions. This was lower than the SREB and national averages.

	Kentucky, 2008	Kentucky, 2014	SREB Average, 2014	U.S. Average, 2014
Public Four-Year Category 1	21.5%	32.5%	29.0%	30.1%
Public Four-Year Category 2	23.5%	24.4%	28.1%	27.8%
Public Two-Year	13.6%	14.8%	17.1%	18.5%
Public Technical	NA%	15.7%	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?

In Kentucky, need-based aid per student was \$337 in 2014. This was lower than the SREB average and considerably lower than the national average. Based on criteria other than need, the average award per student was \$657 in 2014. This was substantially higher than the SREB and national averages.

	Kentucky, 2004	Kentucky, 2007	Kentucky, 2014	SREB Average, 2014	U.S. Average, 2014
Need-Based Financial Aid Only	\$275	\$345	\$337	\$363	\$508
Other Financial Aid	\$501	\$572	\$657	\$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-eight percent of families in Kentucky 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 21 percent of income. This was substantially higher than the SREB average and higher than the national average.

	2008	2014
Percentage of Families Earning Less than \$30,000 Annually	29%	28%
Tuition and Fees at Lowest-Priced Public Institutions	\$2,904	\$3,528
Average Income of Kentucky Families Earning Less than \$30,000 Annually	\$16,787	\$16,623
Percentage of Income Needed for Tuition and Fees at the Lowest-Priced Public Institutions	17%	21%
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 Kentucky in 2014 typically borrowed \$21,105. This was lower than the SREB and national averages.

	Kentucky, 2008	Kentucky, 2014	SREB Average, 2014	U.S. Average, 2014
Public Four-Year Category 1	\$14,090	\$21,105	\$21,883	\$21,598
Public Four-Year Category 2	\$15,029	\$23,798	\$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	\$16,623	28%	\$11,694	70%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,149	18%	\$12,596	32%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,873	22%	\$16,539	27%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$90,998	17%	\$19,341	21%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$177,499	15%	\$20,211	11%

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 Kentucky, families making less than \$30,000 in 2014 needed 70 percent of income for educational expenses. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 32 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	\$16,623	28%	\$8,576	52%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,149	18%	\$10,346	26%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,873	22%	\$12,529	21%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$90,998	17%	\$14,023	15%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$177,499	15%	\$14,397	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 2 institutions in Kentucky, families making less than \$30,000 in 2014 needed 52 percent of income for educational expenses. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 26 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	\$16,623	28%	\$5,326	32%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,149	18%	\$5,372	14%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,873	22%	\$7,179	12%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$90,998	17%	\$9,726	11%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$177,499	15%	\$9,880	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 Kentucky, families making less than \$30,000 in 2014 needed 32 percent of income for educational expenses. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 14 percent of income for a full-time student.

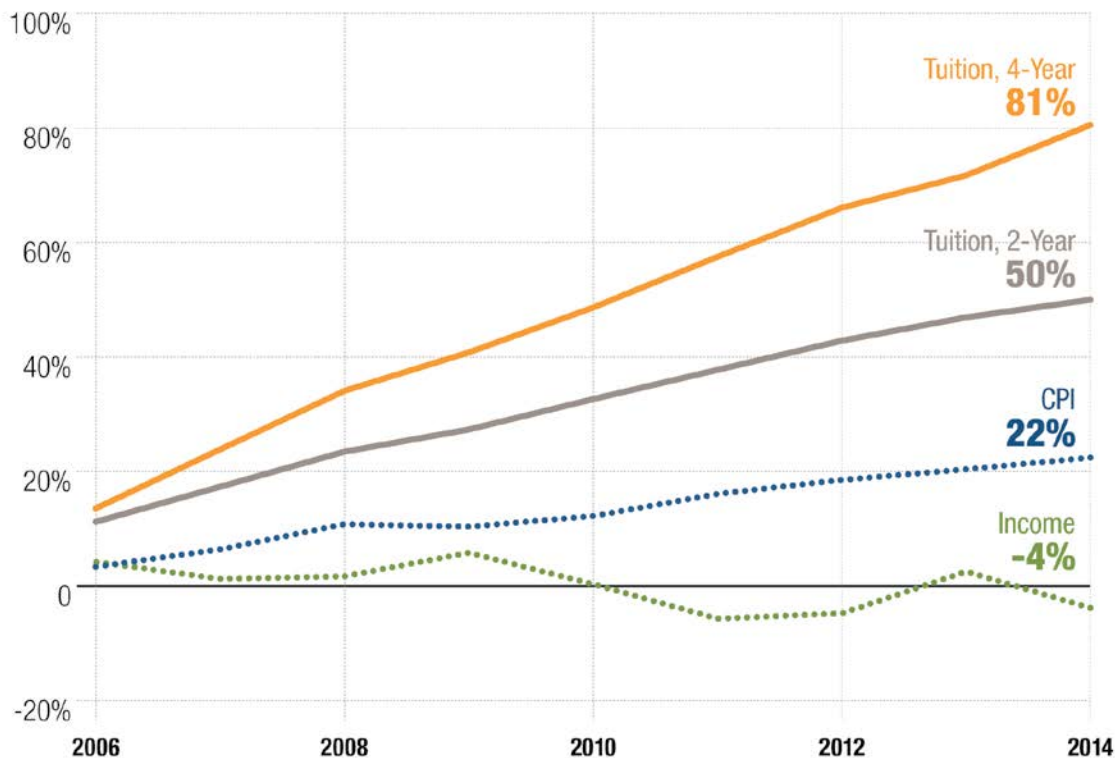
Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Technical Institutions, 2014

	Average in This Income Level	Percentage of Families in This Income Level	Net Price	Percentage of Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$16,623	28%	\$5,612	34%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,149	18%	\$5,376	14%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,873	22%	\$8,331	14%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$90,998	17%	\$10,133	11%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$177,499	15%	\$10,864	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 technical institutions in Kentucky, families making less than \$30,000 in 2014 needed 34 percent of income for educational expenses. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 14 percent of income for a full-time student.

Kentucky: 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, 62 percent of jobs in Kentucky will require a postsecondary education, higher than the average for the South (59 percent) and lower than the U.S. average (65 percent).
- In 2015, 27 percent of students in Kentucky were enrolled in public four-year category 1 institutions, 41 percent were enrolled at public four-year category 2 institutions, 29 percent were in public two-year colleges and 4 percent were at technical colleges.
- In 2015, 26 percent of children in Kentucky were living in poverty. This is up slightly from 2004, when 25 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.

Kentucky Institutions by Type

Public Four-Year Category 1

University of Kentucky
University of Louisville

Public Four-Year Category 2

Eastern Kentucky University
Kentucky State University
Morehead State University
Murray State University
Northern Kentucky University
Western Kentucky University

Public Two-Year

Ashland Community and Technical College
Big Sandy Community and Technical College
Elizabethtown Community and Technical College
Hazard Community and Technical College
Henderson Community College
Hopkinsville Community College
Jefferson Community and Technical College
Madisonville Community College
Maysville Community and Technical College
Owensboro Community and Technical College
Somerset Community College
Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College

Technical Colleges

Gateway Community and Technical College
Southcentral Kentucky Community and 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.