

Mississippi

College Affordability Profile 2017

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

Families in Mississippi needed to pay, on average, 12.8 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 considerably lower than the SREB and national averages.

Families in Mississippi needed 30.3 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.

	Mississippi, 2008	Mississippi, 2014	SREB Average, 2014	U.S. Average, 2014
Public Four-Year Category 1	28.6%	32.8%	29.0%	30.1%
Public Four-Year Category 2	22.6%	30.3%	28.1%	27.8%
Public Two-Year	12.0%	12.8%	17.1%	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 Mississippi, need-based aid per student was \$0 in 2014. Based on criteria other than need, the average award per student was \$201 in 2014. This was substantially lower than the SREB average and lower than the national average.

	Mississippi, 2004	Mississippi, 2007	Mississippi, 2014	SREB Average, 2014	U.S. Average, 2014
Need-Based Financial Aid Only	\$0	\$6	\$0	\$363	\$508
Other Financial Aid	\$165	\$169	\$201	\$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?

Thirty-three percent of families in Mississippi 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 in 2014. This was lower than the SREB and national averages.

	2008	2014
Percentage of Families Earning Less than \$30,000 Annually	35%	33%
Tuition and Fees at Lowest-Priced Public Colleges	\$1,625	\$2,325
Average Income of Mississippi Families Earning Less than \$30,000 Annually	\$16,431	\$16,433
Percentage of Income Needed for Tuition and Fees at the Lowest-Priced Public Institutions	10%	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 Mississippi in 2014 typically borrowed \$23,619. This was higher than the SREB and national averages.

	Mississippi, 2008	Mississippi, 2014	SREB Average, 2014	U.S. Average, 2014
Public Four-Year Category 1	\$15,462	\$23,619	\$21,883	\$21,598
Public Four-Year Category 2	\$16,095	\$23,543	\$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	\$16,433	33%	\$12,396	75%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$38,769	19%	\$12,838	33%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,789	21%	\$16,026	26%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$90,447	15%	\$17,513	19%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$176,535	12%	\$17,259	10%

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 Mississippi, families making less than \$30,000 in 2014 needed 75 percent of income for educational expenses. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 33 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	\$16,433	33%	\$11,712	71%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$38,769	19%	\$12,132	31%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,789	21%	\$14,941	25%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$90,447	15%	\$14,524	16%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$176,535	12%	\$14,602	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 Mississippi, families making less than \$30,000 in 2014 needed 71 percent of income for educational expenses. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 31 percent of income for a full-time student.

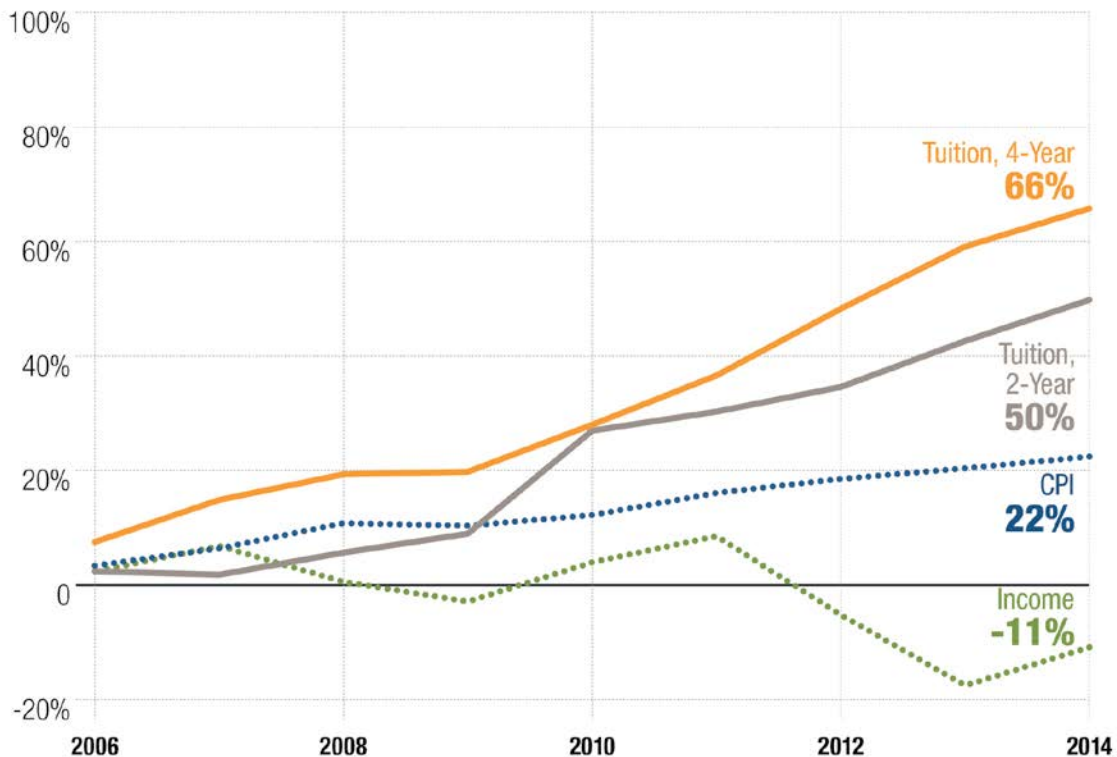
Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Two-Year Institutions, 2014

	Average in This Income Level	Percentage of Families in This Income Level	Net Price	Percentage of Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$16,433	33%	\$4,509	27%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$38,769	19%	\$4,861	13%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,789	21%	\$6,561	11%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$90,447	15%	\$8,139	9%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$176,535	12%	\$7,834	4%

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 Mississippi, families making less than \$30,000 in 2014 needed 27 percent of income for educational expenses. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 13 percent of income for a full-time student.

Mississippi: 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, 61 percent of jobs in Mississippi 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, 41 percent of students in Mississippi were enrolled in public four-year category 1 institutions, 8 percent were enrolled at public four-year category 2 institutions and 51 percent were enrolled in public two-year colleges.
- In 2015, 31 percent of children in Mississippi were living in poverty. This was the same as in 2004.

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.

Mississippi Institutions by Type

Public Four-Year Category 1

Jackson State University
Mississippi State University
University of Mississippi
University of Southern Mississippi

Public Four-Year Category 2

Alcorn State University
Delta State University
Mississippi University for Women
Mississippi Valley State University

Public Two-Year

Coahoma Community College
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
East Central Community College
East Mississippi Community College
Hinds Community College
Holmes Community College
Itawamba Community College
Jones County Junior College
Meridian Community College
Mississippi Delta Community College
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

Northeast Mississippi Community College
Northwest Mississippi Community College
Pearl River Community College
Southwest Mississippi Community 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.