

SREB

Louisiana

Featured Facts

from the *SREB Fact Book on Higher Education*

2013

Southern
Regional
Education
Board

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The College Completion Challenge

Educating an Increasingly Diverse Population to Higher Levels

Education progress is harder than ever given changing demographics.

As SREB states launch their *Challenge to Lead 2020* Goals for Education, they know their economic and social health depends on the ability of public education to serve their changing student population. Between 2012 and 2022, the SREB region is expected to grow by almost 13.4 million people and to become more than 38 percent of the U.S. population, with a particularly dramatic increase among Hispanic residents.

By 2020, Hispanic public high school graduates are projected to account for 25 percent of the SREB region's total, and white graduates will constitute less than half. Only one other major U.S. region has a higher estimate of future non-white graduates: the West, at 56 percent, with four of its states topping 60 percent.

Preparing the more diverse high school graduates to move successfully into the postsecondary world of study and productive careers is a vital goal for state leaders. The United States is being challenged as never before to increase higher education attainment and to regain lost ground internationally — where the United States is no longer the top nation. In 2010, the United States fell to fourth place, with 42 percent of working-age adults with associate's degrees or higher, behind Canada with 51 percent, Israel with 46 percent and Japan with 45 percent.

The nation has historically maintained decade-by-decade improvement in education attainment, which had been a driving force behind economic success and social progress. But changing demographics will increase the difficulty of sustaining these gains. The reality is that the fastest-growing racial and ethnic groups taken together, including black and Hispanic adults, have lower education attainment levels. In 2011, 28 percent of white adults ages 25 and older in the SREB region had a bachelor's degree or higher. In contrast, 18 percent of black and 15 percent of Hispanic adults had at least a bachelor's degree.

The future depends on today's state and institutional leaders staying well informed about changing demographics and trends in student progression through the education pipeline and taking appropriate actions to ensure that attainment gaps are closed.

Enrollment and graduation trends are promising.

The SREB region has made good progress in education attainment since 2000. The percentage of adults with bachelor's degrees or higher has risen 3 percentage points for white adults, 4 percentage points for black adults and 3 percentage points for Hispanic adults in the region. Will these improvements be sufficient to help today's younger generation achieve higher education levels than their parents and compete internationally?

In 2011, 36 percent of black young adults 18 to 24 years old, 35 percent of Hispanic young adults, 42 percent of white and 60 percent of Asian young adults were enrolled in college. In 2006, however, the college-going rate of Hispanic young adults was 9 percentage points lower than the rate for black young adults. The college-going rate for Hispanic young adults increased 11 percentage points from 2006 to 2011.

More promising is the fact that minority students led enrollment growth from 2006 to 2011. The enrollment of black students in the region rose 33 percent — well above the 23 percent rate for all students. The number of Hispanic students rose 54 percent in SREB states. That amounts to 679,600 more black and Hispanic students, compared to 301,900 more white students over the same period. In 2011, black students accounted for 17 percent of the bachelor's degrees awarded, and Hispanic students 10 percent.

Continued inside back cover



The College Completion Challenge

Educating an Increasingly Diverse Population to Higher Levels

The challenge ahead is brought home by persistent gaps in the graduation rates of the various groups of students. The SREB states' six-year graduation rate for bachelor's degree recipients in 2011 was 65 percent for Asian students, 58 percent for white students, 48 percent for Hispanic students and 38 percent for black students. Large percentages of these graduates were transfer students at the college that granted their degrees, demonstrating the importance of improved articulation and transfer policies. If colleges and universities are not able to close the gaps in graduation rates, the gaps in education attainment will persist.

College affordability is a major factor in boosting completion and participation.

College costs are also an increasing challenge for students, particularly those from middle- and lower-income families. Students in SREB states pay less to attend college than their peers nationwide: 94 percent of the U.S. median in 2011-12. But in 2011, median household income in the SREB region was 85 percent of the U.S. average. As a result, college costs consume a larger share of household income in the SREB region.

The portion of annual household income needed for a student to attend a public four-year college or university for one year has risen significantly in recent years for students from middle- and lower-income households. Nationwide, in 2001-02, students from middle-income families used the equivalent of 22 percent of family income to pay for one year of tuition, fees, room and board. The costs climbed to 34 percent of family income by 2011-12. For a family in the lowest fifth of incomes, one year at a public university in 2011-12 cost the equivalent of 149 percent of annual income — a huge jump from 91 percent in 2001-02.

Demographics and affordability collide.

There are more low-income households among the fastest-growing racial and ethnic student groups. In 2009, 32 percent of black households were low income, as were 30 percent of Hispanic households and 13 percent of white households.

Recent revenue shortfalls in state budgets have adversely affected state appropriations for colleges. Colleges and universities have had greater difficulty meeting rising operational costs without tuition increases. Tuition and fee revenues rose faster than state and local appropriations at public colleges and universities. State appropriations for the SREB region's public four-year colleges and universities decreased 12 percent (\$2 billion) from 2008-09 to 2011-12, and tuition and fee revenues went up 27 percent (\$4 billion). During the same period at public two-year colleges, state and local appropriations fell slightly (\$13 million) and tuition and fee revenues went up 43 percent (\$1.7 billion). When combined, these funds amounted to a 15 percent increase for two-year colleges and a 6 percent increase for four-year colleges. But, recognizing enrollment growth and adjusting for inflation, per-student funding fell 7 percent at public four-year colleges and universities and 9 percent at public two-year colleges.

The bottom line is that in 2010-11 the net price in-state undergraduates at public four-year colleges and universities in the SREB region had to pay after scholarship and grant aid was \$10,600; this price was 9 percent or \$800 more than in 2008-09. At public two-year colleges, net price remained \$6,100 after scholarship and grant aid.

These are the out-of-pocket dollars a student had to come up with from loans, savings, family contribution and employment to stay in college that year — an out-of-pocket cost that may not be affordable for a large and growing number of students. And yet, more of these very students are needed by the SREB states to earn postsecondary credentials or degrees in order to stay economically competitive and ensure progress in education attainment.



Charting the path to education improvement

Our challenge is clear: preparing students better and helping more of them make progress through to high school and college completion. This is particularly critical for underrepresented groups of students. Much of our region's population growth in the coming years will be among racial and ethnic minorities who traditionally have been the least likely to attend and graduate from postsecondary education institutions. If SREB states do not focus on helping these students complete college, these states and the nation could see greater numbers of undereducated working-age adults and lower overall education attainment levels.

Students, their families, and education and state leaders must dedicate themselves to helping students complete a postsecondary credential — bachelor's degree, associate's degree, career certificate or other postsecondary workplace training. In doing so, they will help America maintain education progress and states retain their prospects for economic progress and improving quality of life.

When SREB first published a *Fact Book on Higher Education* in 1956, 5 to 6 percent of the SREB region's adults 25 years and older held bachelor's degrees or higher. By 1980, when school reform efforts started to bloom, 15 percent had bachelor's degrees or higher. Today the figure is more than 28 percent. And, 36 percent of the working-age population has an associate's degree or higher. Now SREB's *Challenge to Lead 2020* Goals for Education calls for 60 percent of the working-age adults to hold a postsecondary career certificate of value or at least an associate's degree by 2025. You can see the challenge ahead.

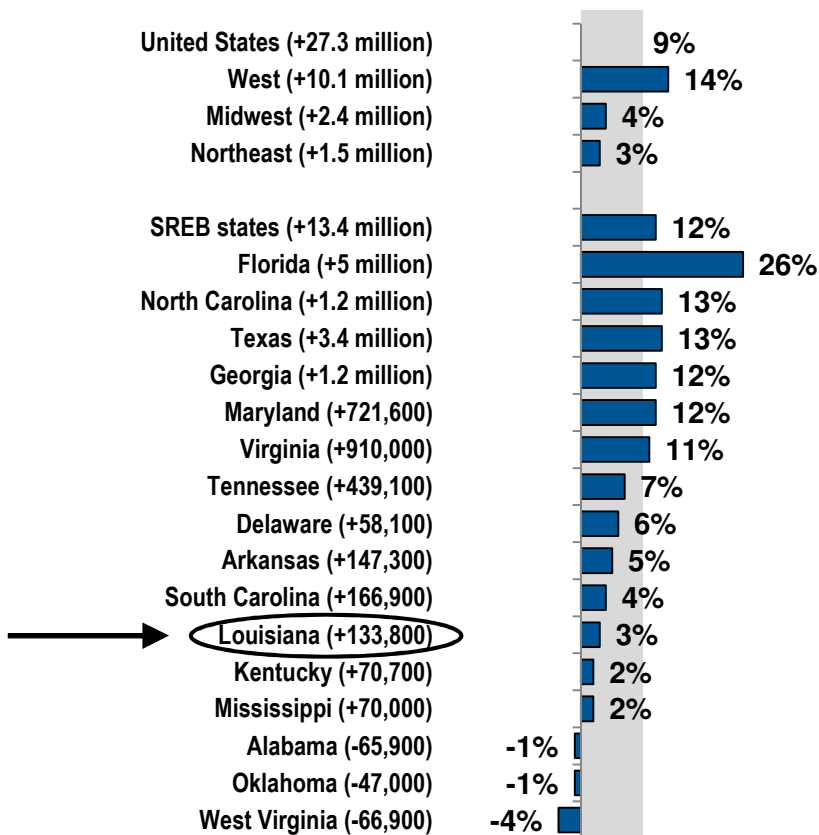
To bring about the necessary changes in a systematic and rational way, policy-makers and education leaders need current facts analyzed into meaningful trends that can shed light on the region's future. The *SREB Fact Book on Higher Education 2013* provides the region's trends in a full 50-state and national geographic context. Education leaders and policy-makers in every state can know how far their state has come and what trends shape current decisions.

Helping our 16 member states monitor their progress and chart their path to education improvement is a cornerstone of SREB's mission.

Dave Spence
President



Projected Population Change 2012 to 2022

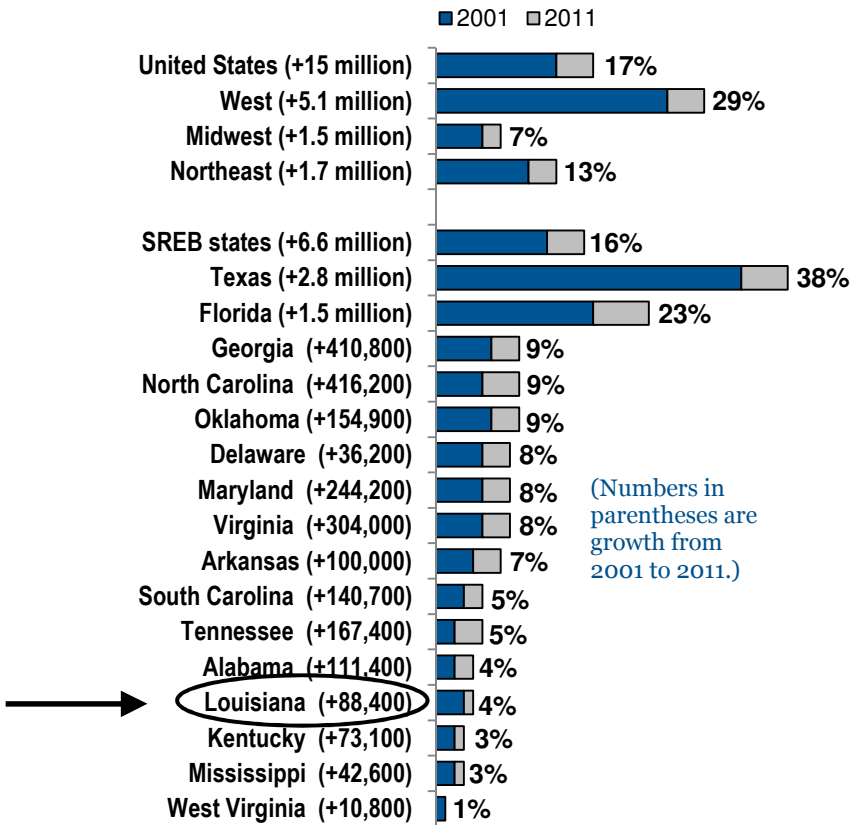


Source: Table 1, U.S. Census Bureau.

Almost half (49 percent) of the nation's population growth from 2012 to 2022 is expected to be in the 16 SREB states — an increase of 13.4 million. Louisiana is one of 13 SREB states projected to increase from 2012 to 2022 — by 133,800, or 3 percent.



Hispanic Population Representation 2001 and 2011

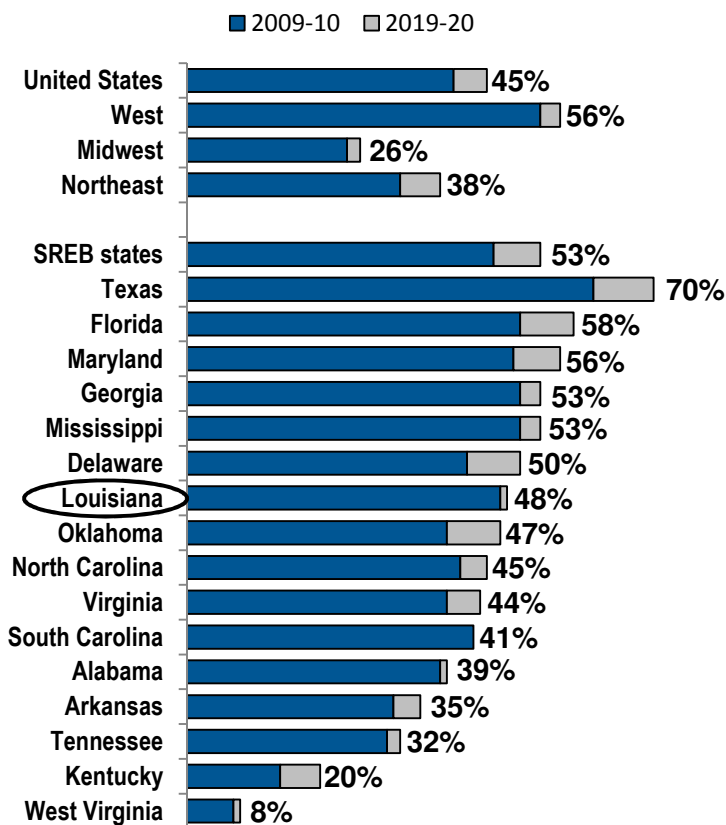


Source: Table 5, U.S. Census Bureau.

The increase in Hispanic residents is the region's major demographic trend. Hispanic population growth accounted for 47 percent of all growth in the SREB region from 2001 to 2011. The Hispanic population in Louisiana grew by 88,400 — increasing the percentage of Hispanic residents in the state. This increase raised the proportion of Hispanic residents to 4 percent of the overall resident population of Louisiana in 2011.



Non-White Public High School Graduates 2009-10 and 2019-20



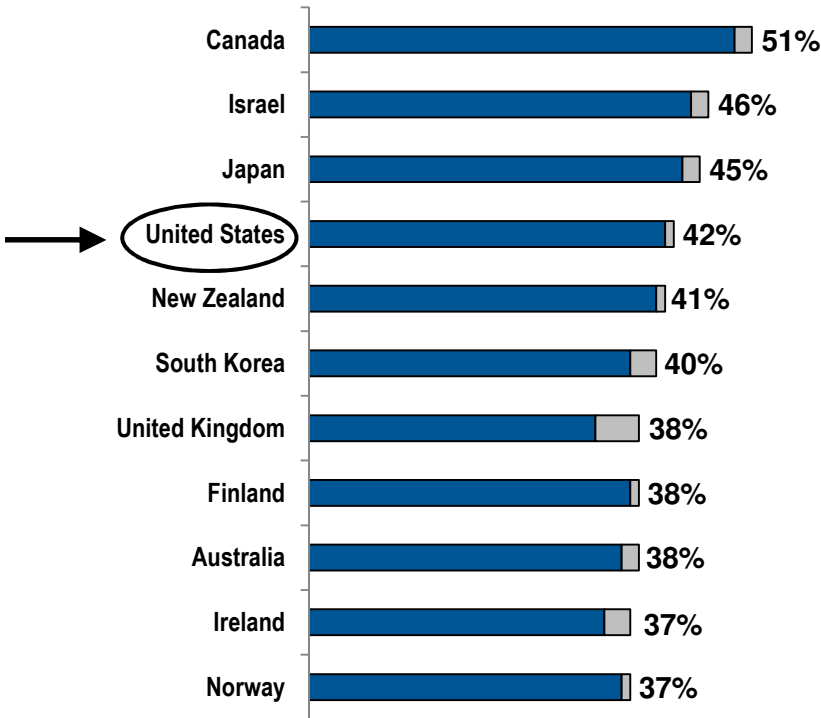
Source: Table 9, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.

By 2019-20, non-white students are expected to account for 53 percent of the SREB region's public high school graduates. In Louisiana, non-white students are expected to rise from 47 percent in 2009-10 to 48 percent in 2019-20.



**Percent of Working-Age*
Population With an Associate's
Degree or Higher
2008 and 2010**

■ 2008 ■ 2010



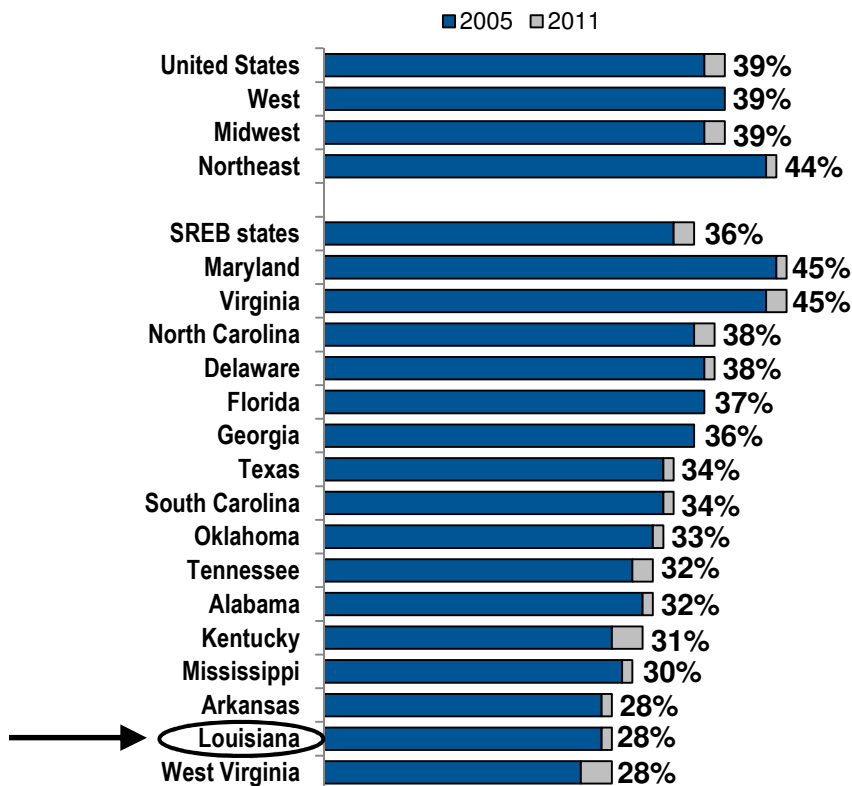
*Ages 25 to 64.

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Working-age adults have become a new focus among national leaders when comparing education levels. Using an equivalency yardstick common for international attainment comparisons (percent with the equivalent of an associate's degree or higher), the United States has slipped to fourth place internationally behind Canada, Israel and Japan.



Working-Age* Adults With an Associate's Degree or Higher 2005 and 2011



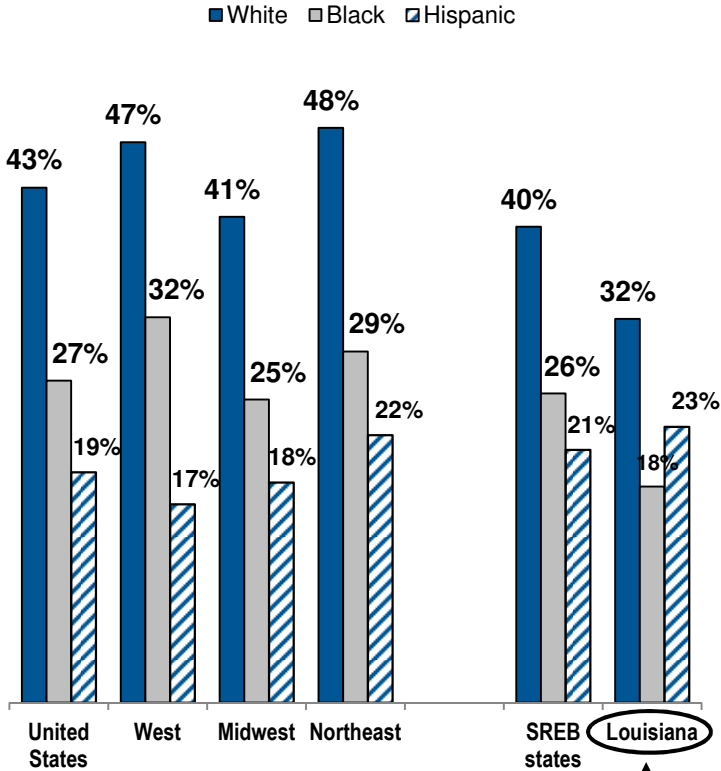
* Ages 25 to 64.

Source: Table 3, U.S. Census Bureau.

On U.S.-based measures of the 50 states, the percentage of adults with associate's or higher degrees has risen since 2005 nationally and in 14 SREB states. In 2011, 28 percent of adults ages 25 to 64 in Louisiana had at least an associate's degree, up from 27 percent in 2005.



Working-Age* Adults With an Associate's Degree or Higher 2010

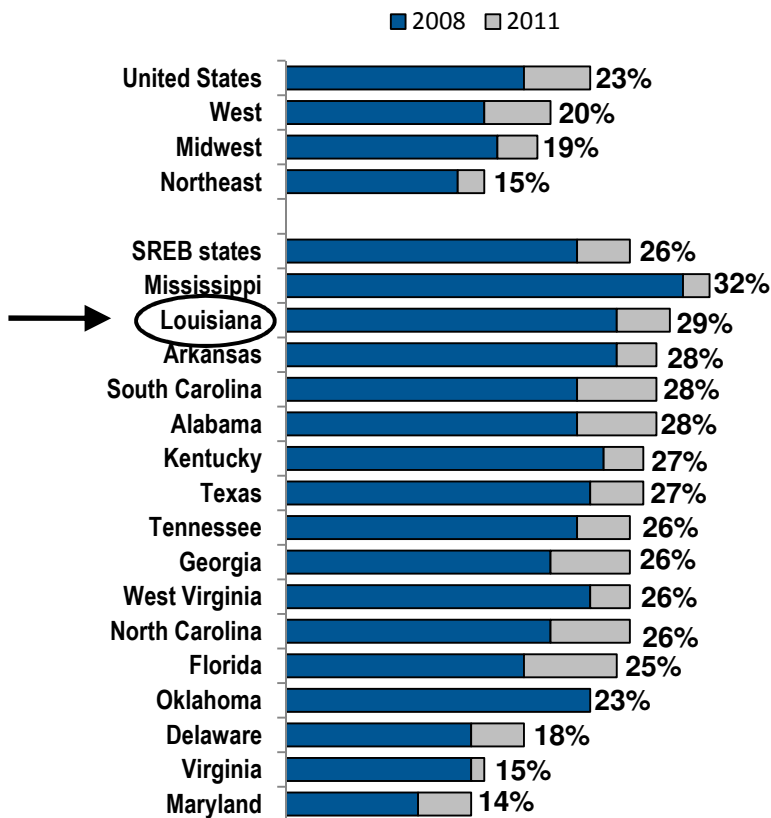


* Ages 25 to 64.
Source: Table 4, U.S. Census Bureau.

Working-age adults with at least an associate's degree vary greatly among racial/ethnic groups. The SREB region rates are below the national averages for white and black adults but above the average for Hispanic adults. In 2010, 23 percent of Hispanic working-age adults in Louisiana had an associate's or higher degree, compared with 18 percent for black adults and 32 percent for the white working-age population.



Poverty Rates Among Children 2008 and 2011

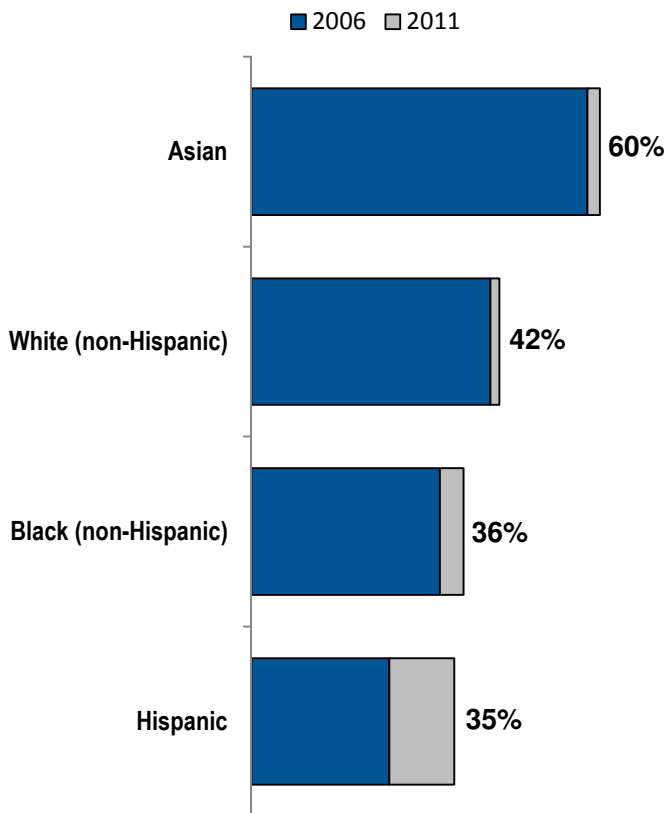


Source: Table 12, U.S. Census Bureau.

The percentage of children in poverty since the economic downturn increased 5 percentage points nationally and 4 percentage points in the SREB region. By 2011 in Louisiana, 29 percent of children were in poverty, up from 25 percent in 2008.



18- to 24-Year Olds in College United States, 2006 and 2011



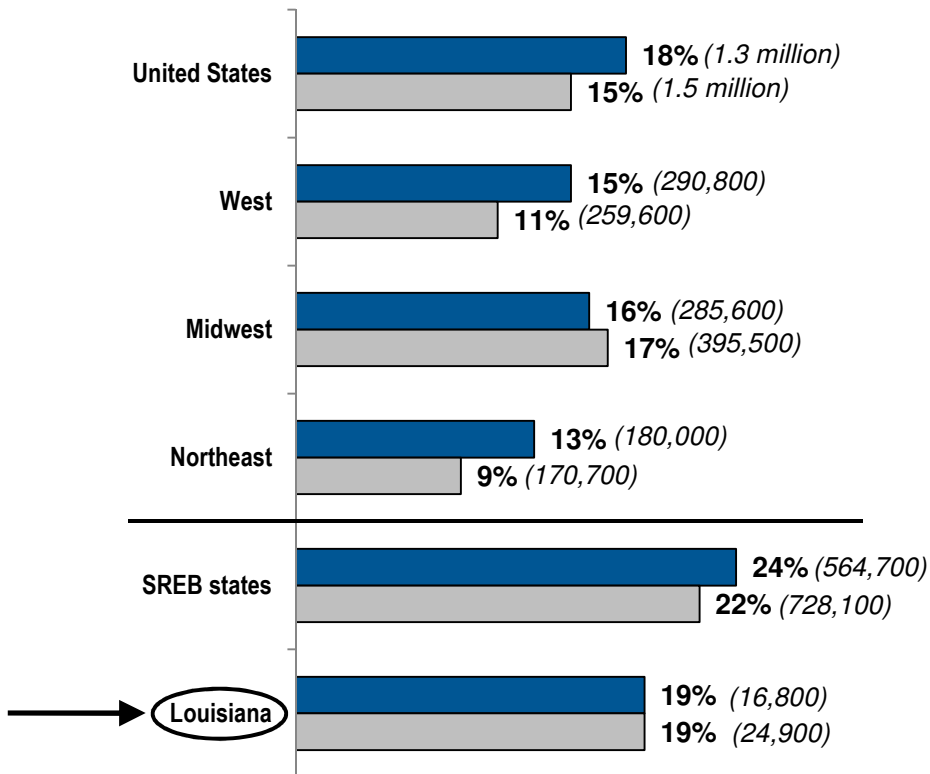
Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Even after years of progress, a smaller proportion (35 percent) of Hispanic young adults attended college than black young adults (36 percent) and white young adults (42 percent) in 2011. This means that the fastest-growing population in the United States had the lowest percentage enrolled in college.



Enrollment Growth All Degree-Granting Institutions 2006 to 2011

■ Men □ Women

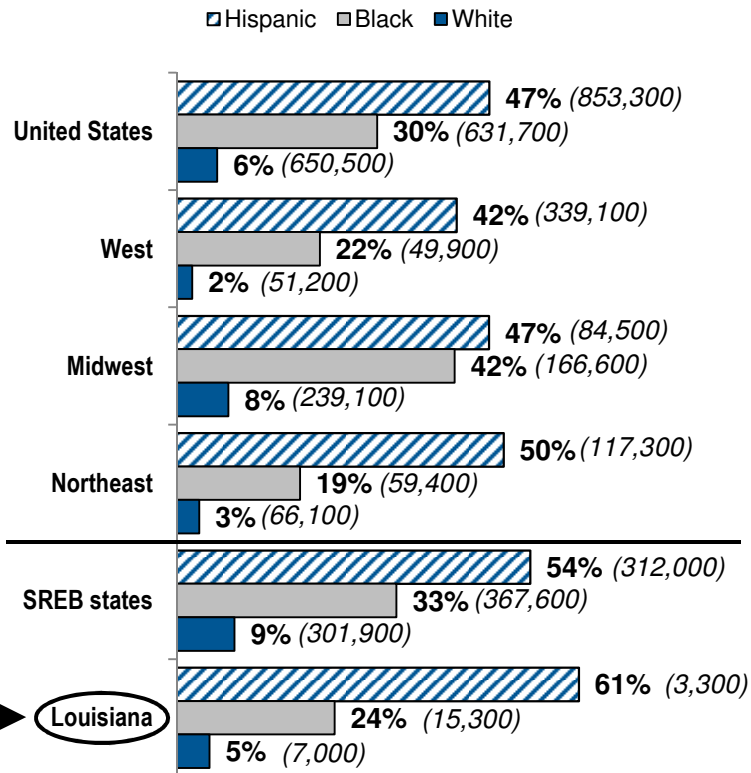


Source: Table 24, National Center for Education Statistics.

For the first time in recent history, the enrollment of men in U.S. colleges and universities increased faster than the enrollment of women. In Louisiana, however, enrollment rose 19 percent for both the men (16,800) and women (24,900) from 2006 to 2011.



Hispanic, Black and White Enrollment Growth 2006 to 2011

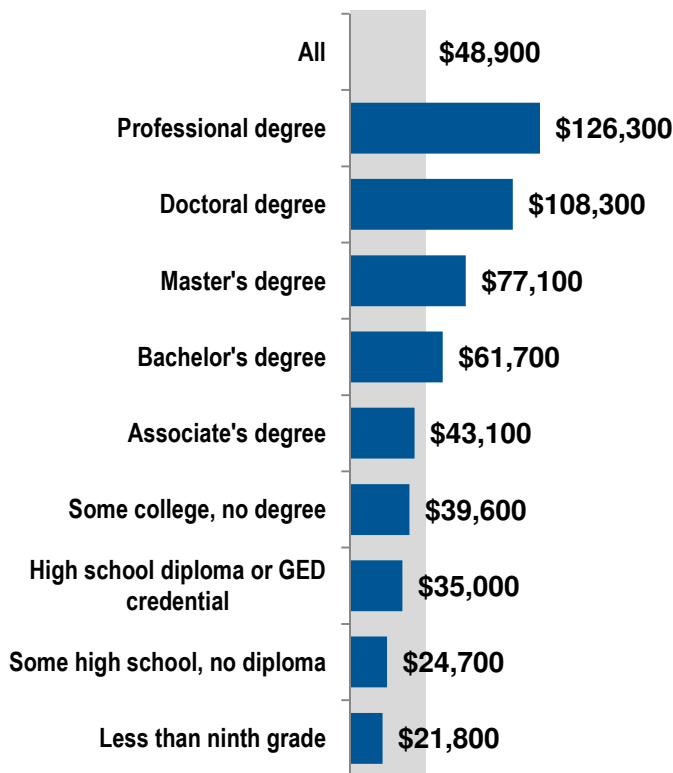


Source: Table 24, National Center for Education Statistics.

Among racial/ethnic groups, the number of black and Hispanic college students grew quite rapidly nationwide from fall 2006 to fall 2011. In Louisiana, enrollment increased by 3,300 Hispanic students, 15,300 more black students and 7,000 more white students from 2006 to 2011.



Average Annual Earnings of Adults United States, 2011

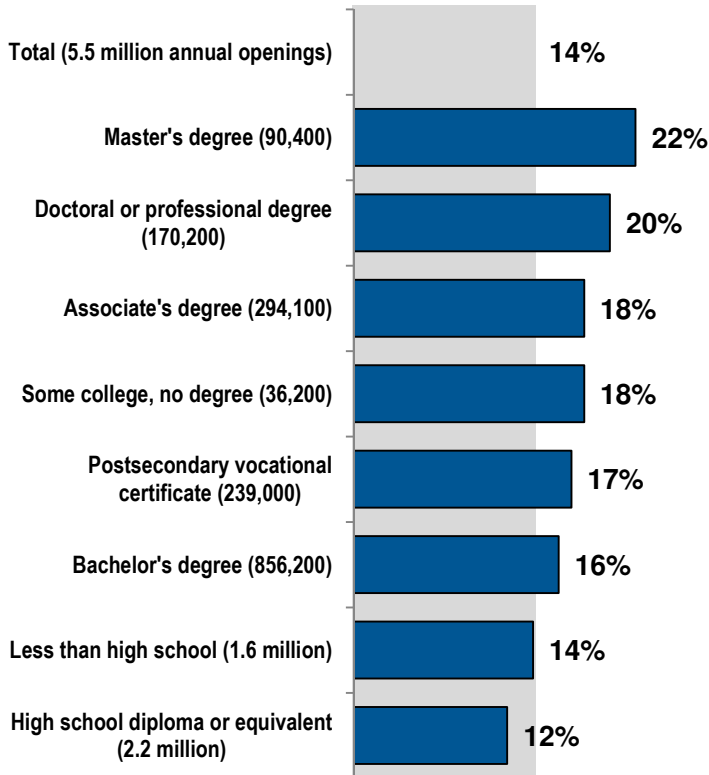


Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Education pays. In 2011, adults ages 25 and older with associate's degrees earned 23 percent more than those with only high school-level credentials. Those with bachelor's degrees earned 43 percent more than those with associate's degrees. And, those with professional degrees in fields such as law and medicine earned 105 percent more than those with bachelor's degrees.



Projected Increase in Job Openings* by Education or Training United States, 2010 to 2020



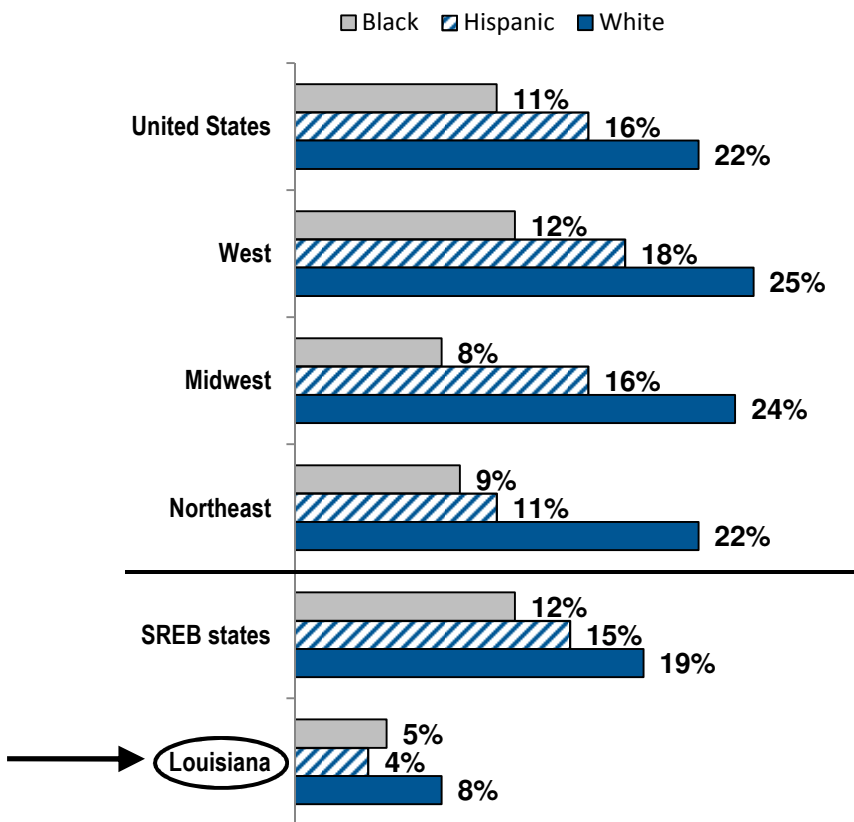
*Numbers in parentheses represent employment increases and replacement needs.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

In the U.S., the fastest-growing, highest-paying jobs require education beyond high school. For all job categories requiring education beyond high school, jobs are projected to increase more than the overall 14 percent gain in total job openings. Still, most job openings will require high school-level credentials or less.



Three-Year Graduation Rates Public Two-Year Colleges, 2008 Cohort

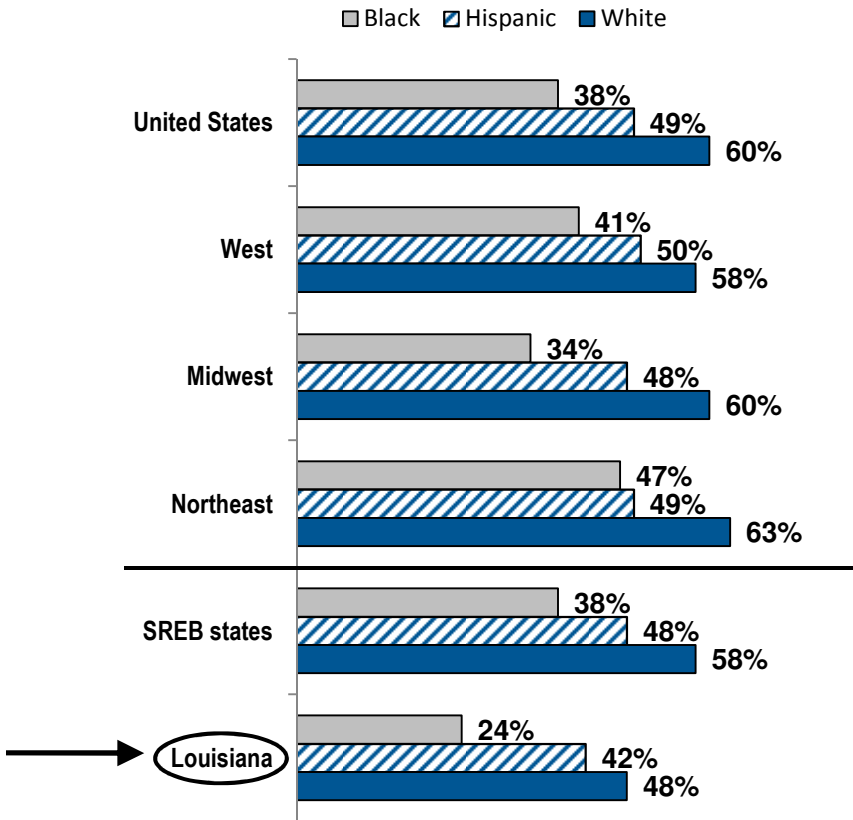


Source: Table 46, National Center for Education Statistics.

At public two-year colleges, the highest three-year graduation rates for the 2008 cohort were in the West. Gaps in the rates for racial and ethnic groups remain in all regions. Graduation rates in Louisiana were below the SREB average for each of the three dominant groups.



Six-Year Graduation Rates Public Four-Year Colleges, 2005 Cohort



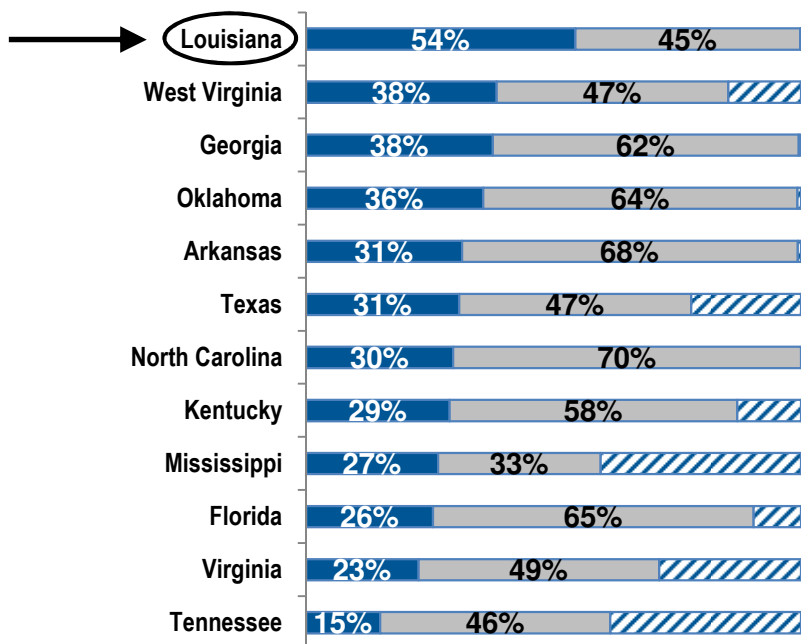
Source: Table 46, National Center for Education Statistics.

At public four-year colleges, the SREB region's six-year graduation rates for Hispanic and white students in the 2005 cohort were below those of their national counterparts. In Louisiana, graduation rates for all of the three dominant student groups were below the SREB averages for their counterparts.



Transfer Status of Associate's Graduates Public Two-Year Colleges Participating SREB States, 2010-11

- Transfer student at graduating college
- First time in college at graduating college
- ▨ Other or unknown whether first-time or transfer

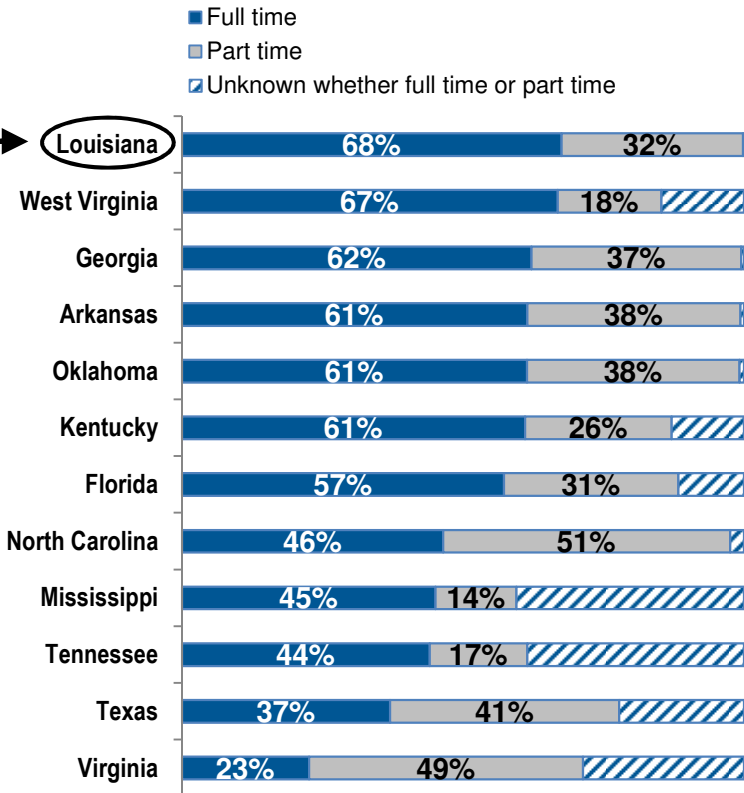


Source: Table 52, SREB-State Data Exchange.

A significant percentage of associate's degree graduates in 2010-11 were transfer students to the colleges awarding their degrees. Among the 12 states to participate in an SREB data collection on entering status of graduates, the percentage of transfers ranged from 54 percent in Louisiana to 15 percent in Tennessee. The entering transfer status of many graduates, however, was unknown in several states.



Full-Time Status of Associate's Graduates Public Two-Year Colleges Participating SREB States, 2010-11

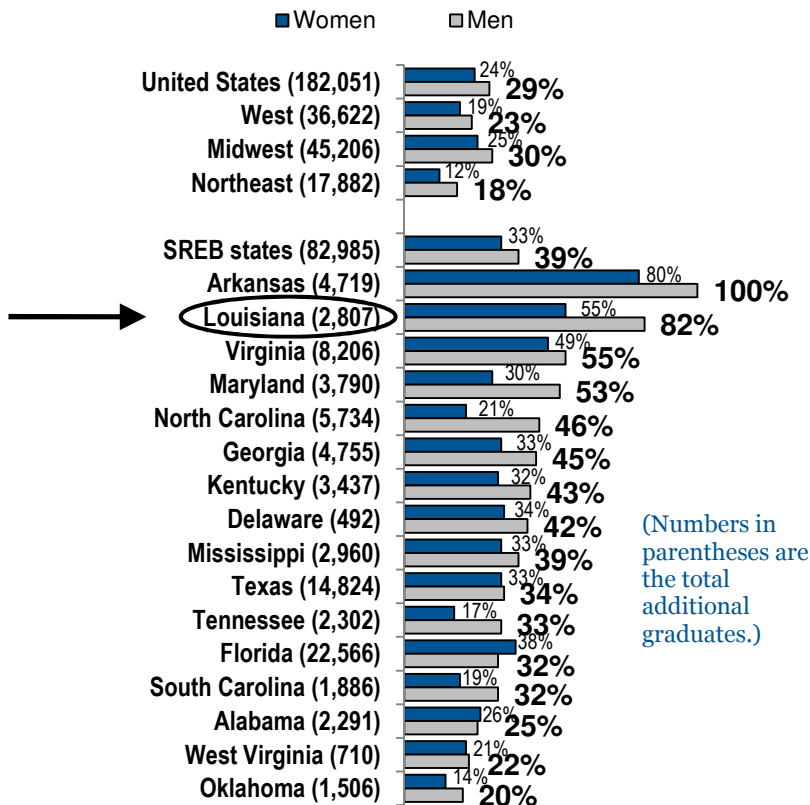


Source: Table 52, SREB-State Data Exchange.

In many states, most 2010-11 associate's degree graduates entered the colleges from which they graduated as full-time students. Among the 12 states to participate in an SREB data collection on entering status of graduates, the percentage who attended full time ranged from 68 percent in Louisiana to 23 percent in Virginia. The full- or part-time entering status of many graduates, however, was unknown in several states.



Increase in Associate's Degrees Earned by Men and Women 2005-06 to 2010-11

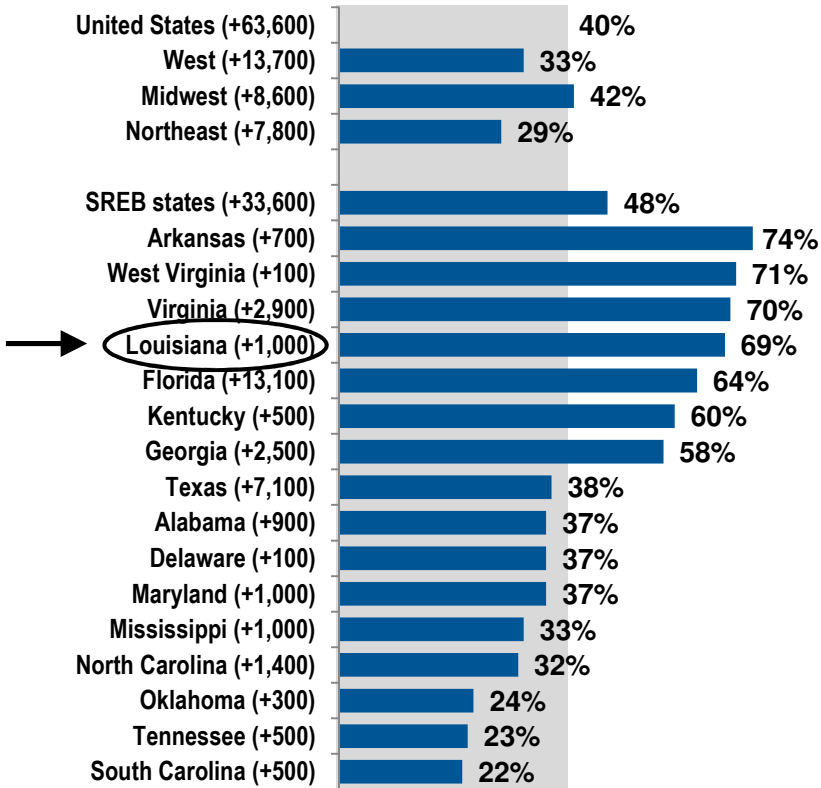


Source: Table 50, National Center for Education Statistics.

In all but two SREB states, reversing recent trends, associate's degrees awarded to men rose faster than those to women from 2005-06 to 2010-11. In Louisiana, the men's increase was 82 percent and the women's increase was 55 percent. In Louisiana, men were 32 percent of the associate's graduates in 2005-06 and reached 36 percent in 2010-11.



Increase in Associate's Degrees Earned by Black and Hispanic Students 2005-05 to 2010-11



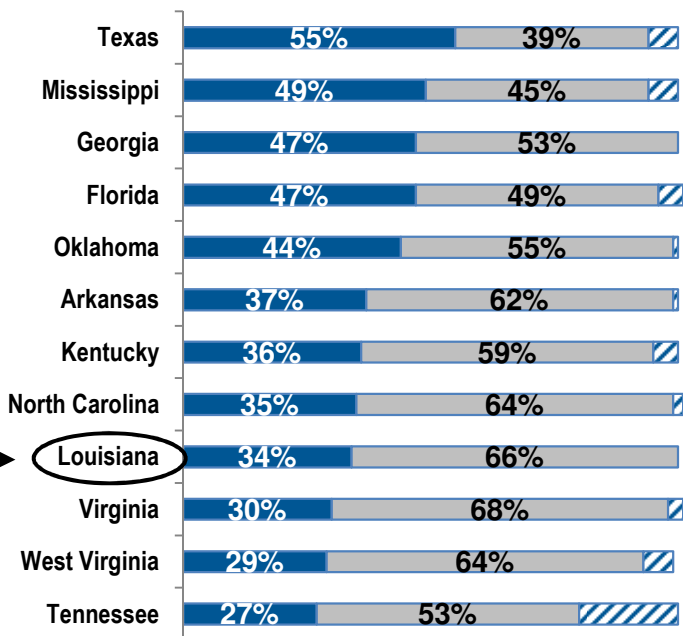
Source: Table 50, National Center for Education Statistics.

The number of black and Hispanic graduates increased by 40 percent nationally and by 48 percent in the SREB region from 2005-06 to 2010-11. In Louisiana, black and Hispanic graduates rose by 1,000 students or 69 percent. Furthermore, in Louisiana in 2010-11, black and Hispanic students added up to 35 percent of the graduates in the state.



Transfer Status of Bachelor's Graduates Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities Participating SREB States, 2010-11

- Transfer student at graduating college
- First time in college at graduating college
- ▨ Other or unknown whether first-time or transfer

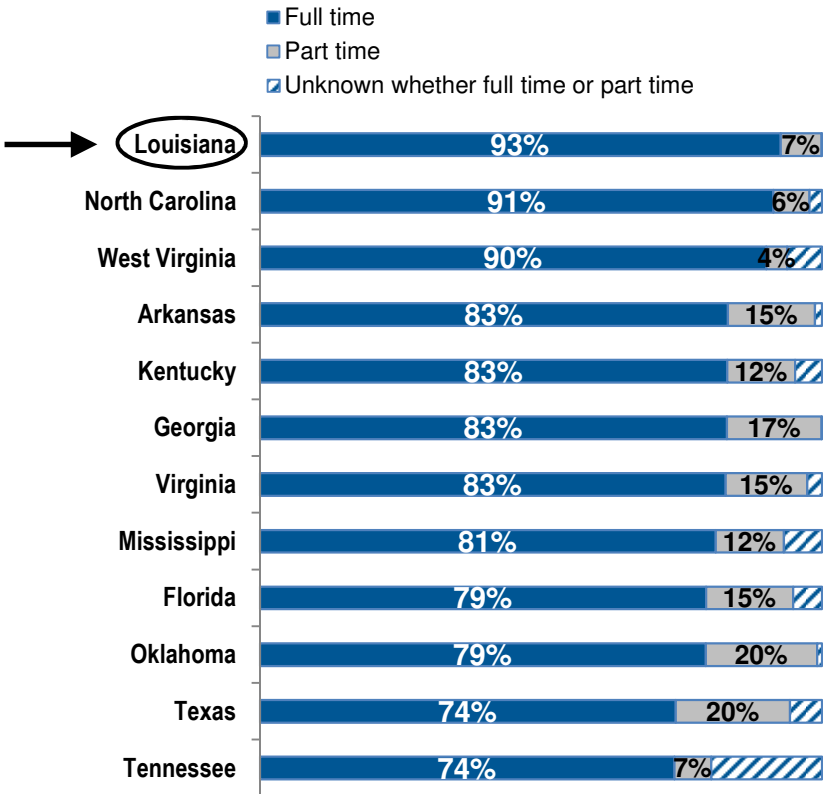


Source: Table 53, SREB-State Data Exchange.

A significant percentage of bachelor's degree graduates in 2010-11 were transfer students to the colleges awarding their degrees. Among the 12 states to participate in an SREB data collection on entering status of graduates, the percentage of transfers ranged from 55 percent in Texas to 27 percent in Tennessee. The entering transfer status of many graduates, however, was unknown in several states.



Full-Time Status of Bachelor's Graduates Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities Participating SREB States, 2010-11

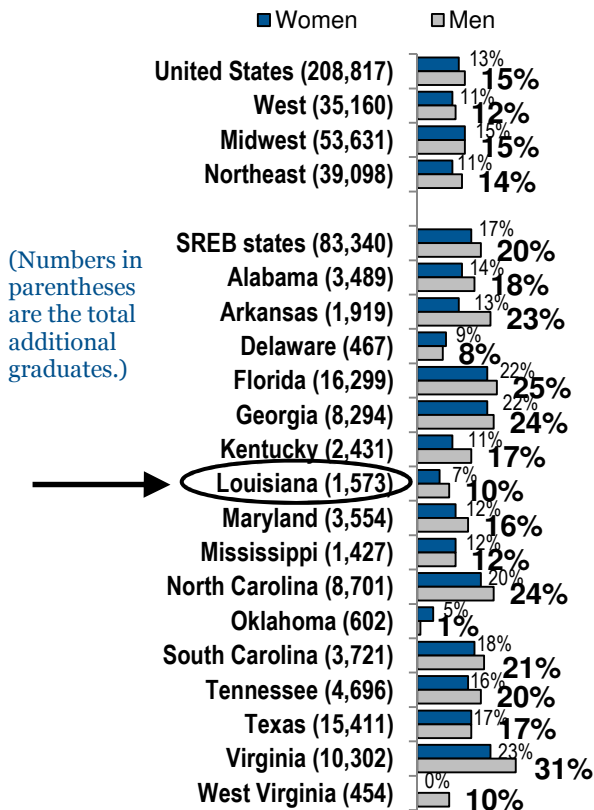


Source: Table 53, SREB-State Data Exchange.

A very high percentage of bachelor's degree graduates in 2010-11 entered the colleges from which they graduated as full-time students. Among the 12 states participating in an SREB data collection on entering status of graduates, the percentage who attended full time ranged from 93 percent in Louisiana to 74 percent in Tennessee and Texas. The full- or part-time entering status of some graduates, however, was unknown in several states.



Increase in Bachelor's Degrees Earned by Men and Women 2005-06 to 2010-11



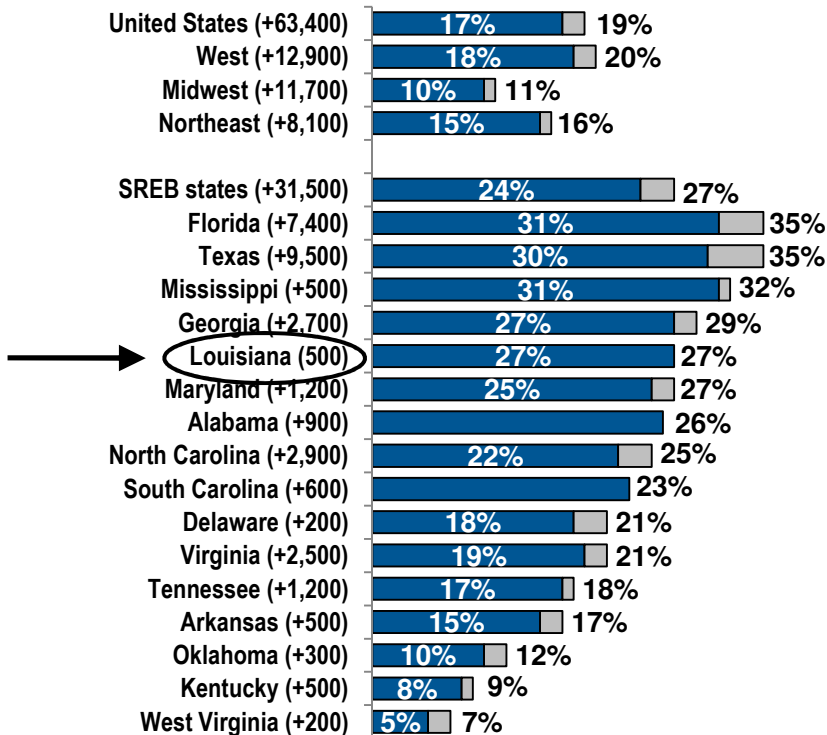
Source: Table 51, National Center for Education Statistics.

In all but four SREB states, reversing recent trends, bachelor's degrees awarded to men rose faster than those to women from 2005-06 to 2010-11. In Louisiana, the men's increase was 10 percent and the women's increase was 7 percent. In Louisiana, men were 39 percent of graduates in 2005-06 and reached 40 percent in 2010-11.



Bachelor's Degrees Earned by Black and Hispanic Students 2005-06 to 2010-11

■ 2005-06 ■ 2010-11

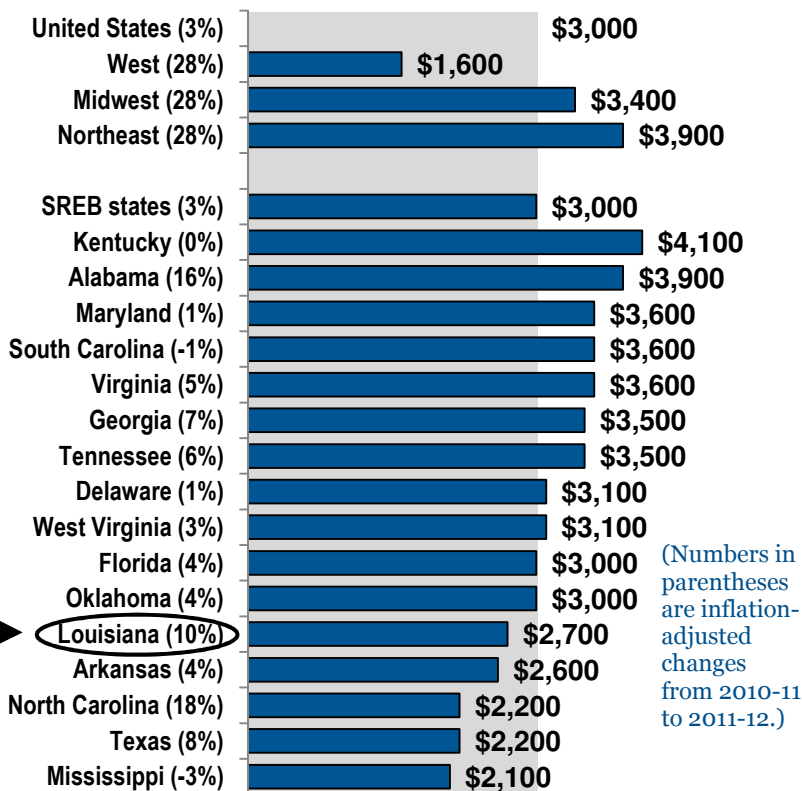


Source: Table 54, National Center for Education Statistics.

The number of black and Hispanic graduates increased from 17 percent of the total nationally in 2005-06 to 19 percent in 2010-11. In Louisiana, black and Hispanic graduates rose by 500 students and remained at 27 percent of the total.



Tuition and Required Fees Public Two-Year Colleges In-State Undergraduates, 2011-12



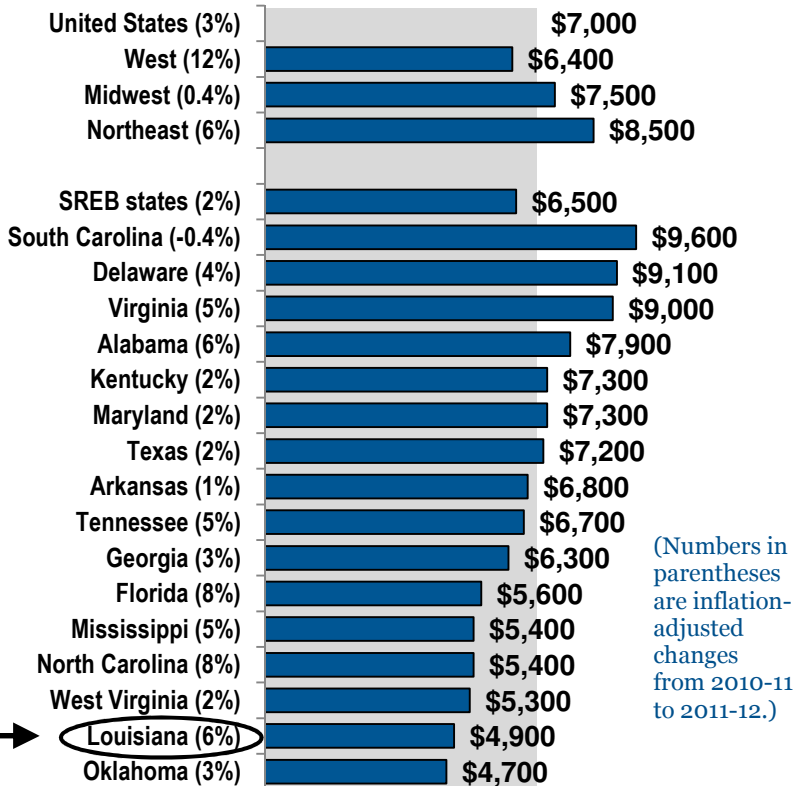
Note: Based on the academic-year Consumer Price Index, which rose 3.6 percent over the period.

Source: Table 63, SREB-State Data Exchange and National Center for Education Statistics.

Median annual tuition and required fees (often called sticker price) reached \$3,000 in SREB states in 2011-12. This was 3 percent more than in 2010-11 after adjusting for inflation. In Louisiana, tuition and fees were \$2,700 — 10 percent higher than in 2010-11 after adjusting for inflation.



Tuition and Required Fees Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities In-State Undergraduates, 2011-12



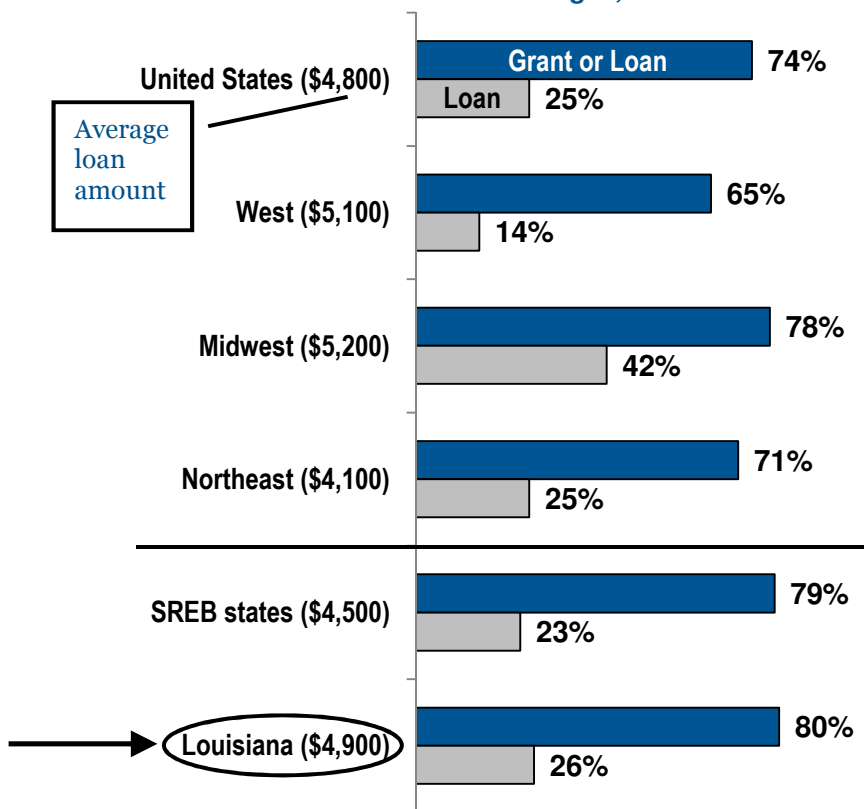
Note: Based on the academic-year Consumer Price Index, which rose 3.6 percent over the period.

Source: Table 63, SREB-State Data Exchange and National Center for Education Statistics.

Median annual tuition and required fees (often called sticker price) were \$6,500 for the SREB region in 2011-12. This was 2 percent more than in 2010-11 after adjusting for inflation. In Louisiana, tuition and fees were \$4,900 — an increase of 6 percent from 2010-11.



Percent of Freshmen With Grants or Loans Public Two-Year Colleges, 2010-11

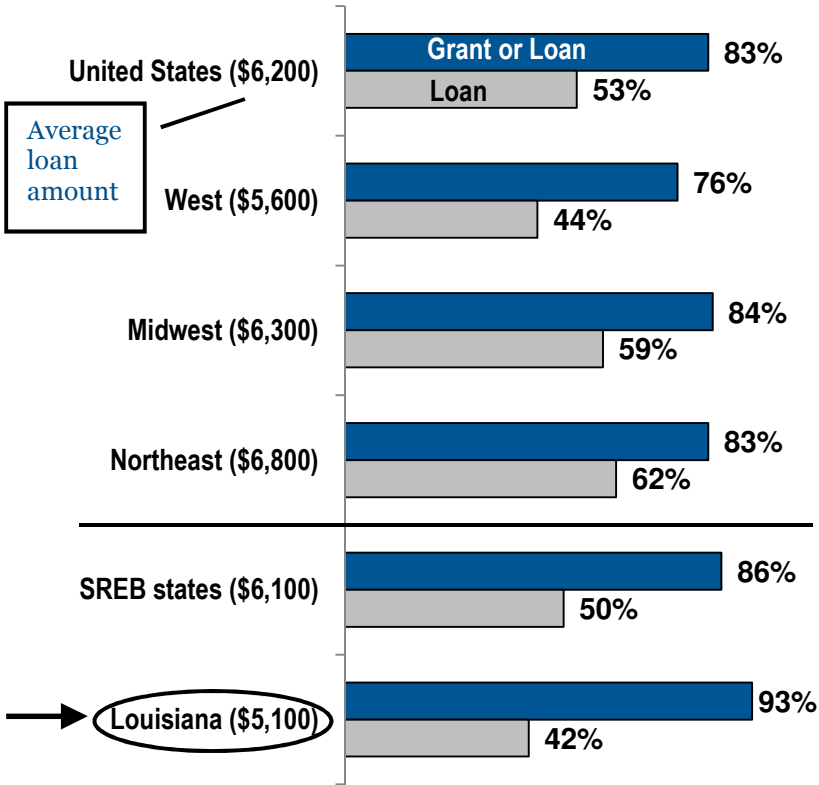


Source: Table 71, National Center for Education Statistics.

Nationally, 74 percent of first-time, full-time freshmen seeking degrees or certificates at public two-year colleges received a financial aid grant, took out a student loan, or both, in 2010-11. Twenty-five percent took out loans. In Louisiana, 80 percent had a grant, loan or both, and 26 percent had loans, which averaged \$4,900 that year.



**Percent of Freshmen With
Grants or Loans
Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities
2010-11**

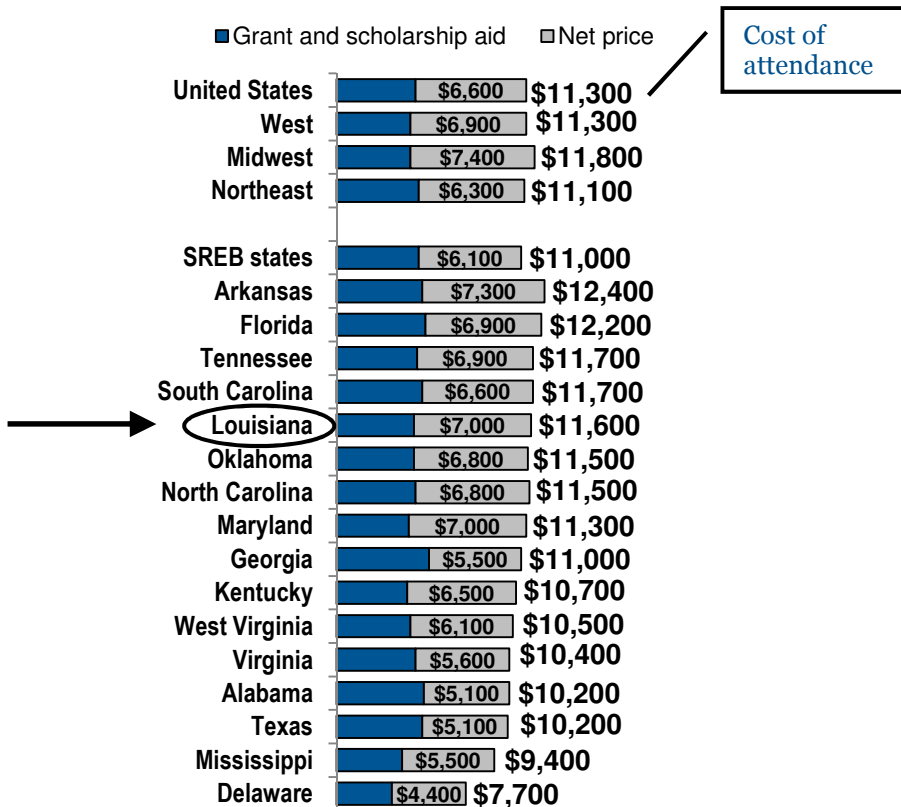


Source: Table 70, National Center for Education Statistics.

Nationally, 83 percent of first-time, full-time freshmen seeking undergraduate degrees at public four-year colleges or universities received a financial aid grant, took out a student loan, or both, in 2010-11. Fifty-three percent took out loans. In Louisiana, the percentages were 93 percent and 42 percent, respectively. The average loan amount for Louisiana freshmen taking out loans that year was \$5,100.



Cost of Attendance and Net Price After Grant Aid Public Two-Year Colleges, 2010-11



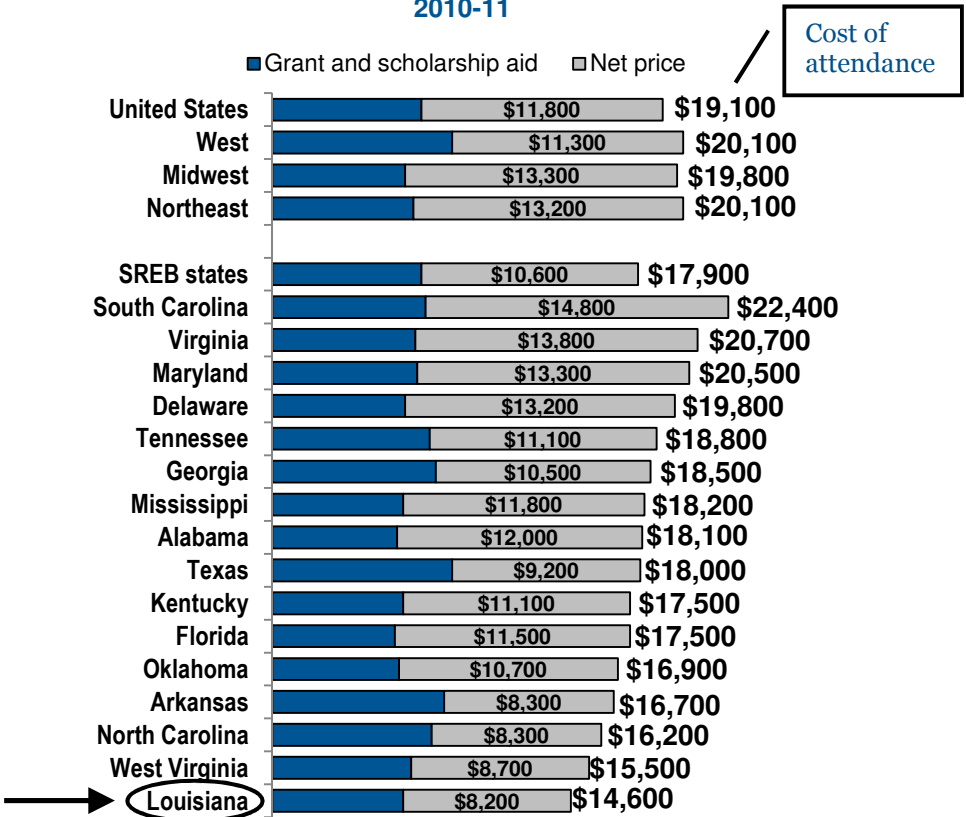
*Cost of attendance consists of tuition/fees, books/supplies, room/board and other expenses. Figures are for fall-term, full-time, degree-/certificate-seeking undergraduates who paid in-state or in-district tuition and received government or institutional scholarships or grants.

Source: Table 72, National Center for Education Statistics.

The net price of college (cost of attendance minus grant and scholarship aid) for full-time, in-state undergraduates at public two-year colleges in the SREB region in 2010-11 was \$6,100, the lowest of any U.S. region. In Louisiana, the net price was \$7,000.



Cost of Attendance and Net Price After Grant Aid Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities 2010-11



*Cost of attendance consists of tuition/fees, books/supplies, room/board and other expenses. Figures are for fall-term, full-time, degree-/certificate-seeking undergraduates who paid in-state or in-district tuition and received government or institutional scholarships or grants.

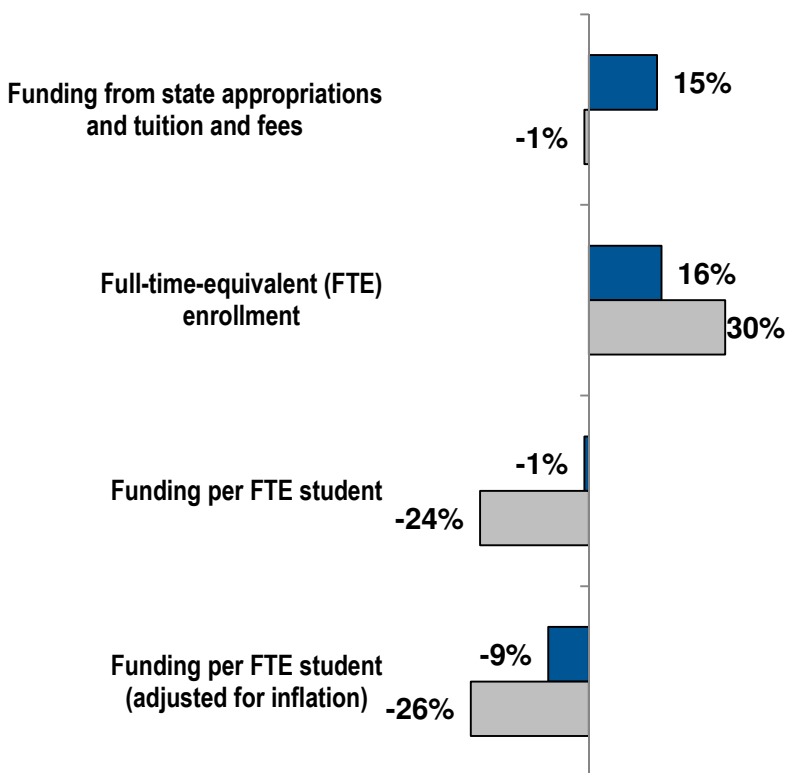
Source: Table 72, National Center for Education Statistics.

The net price of college (cost of attendance minus grant and scholarship aid) for full-time, in-state undergraduates at public four-year colleges and universities in the SREB region in 2010-11 was \$10,600, the lowest of any U.S. region. In Louisiana, the net price was \$8,200.



Enrollment and Funding Changes Public Two-Year Colleges, 2008-09 to 2011-12

■ SREB states □ Louisiana



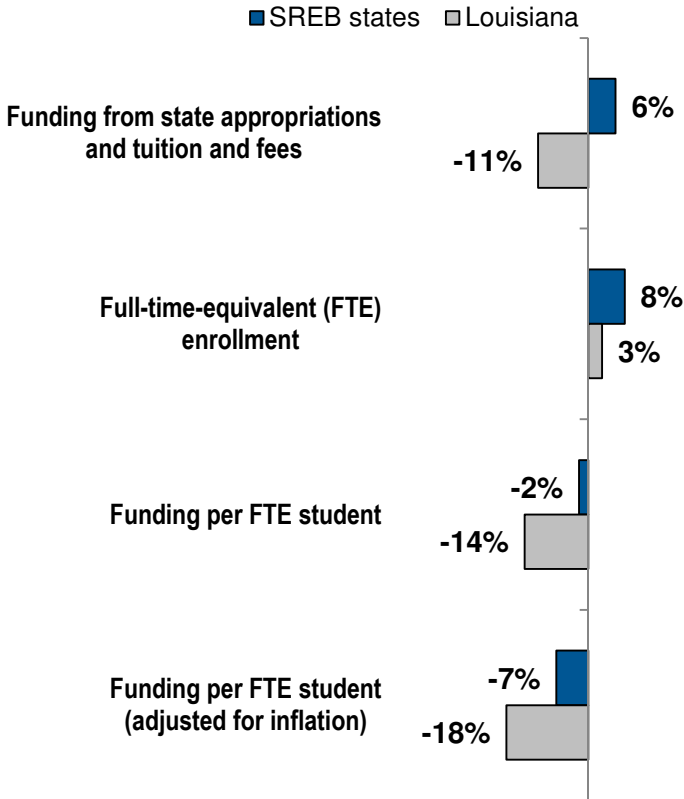
Note: Based on the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI), which increased by 5.6 percent from 2008-09 to 2011-12.

Source: Table 90, SREB-State Data Exchange.

In Louisiana in 2011-12, funding from state appropriations and tuition and fees per FTE student for public two-year colleges was \$5,500 — 26 percent (\$2,000) less than in 2008-09 after adjusting for inflation. The regional average funding per FTE student was \$6,900 — 9 percent (\$700) less than in 2008-09 after adjusting for inflation.



Enrollment and Funding Changes Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities 2008-09 to 2011-12



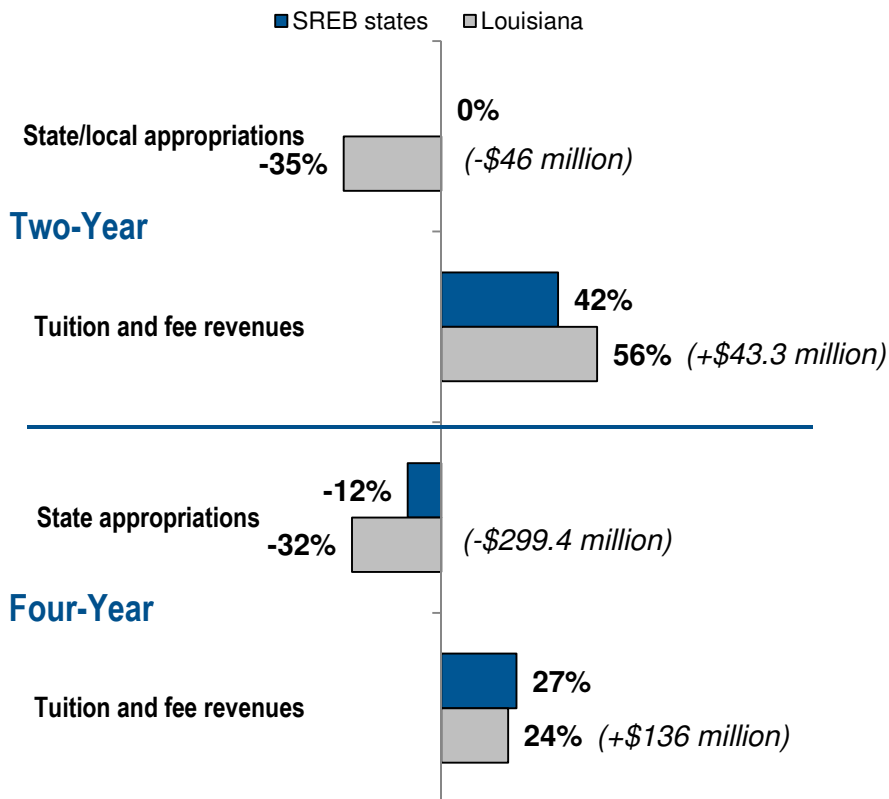
Note: Based on the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI), which increased by 5.6 percent from 2008-09 to 2011-12.

Source: Table 89, SREB-State Data Exchange.

In Louisiana in 2011-12, funding from state appropriations and tuition and fees per FTE student for public four-year colleges and universities was \$10,900 — 18 percent (\$2,400) less than in 2008-09 after adjusting for inflation. The regional average funding per FTE student was \$14,000 — 7 percent (\$1,100) less than in 2008-09 after adjusting for inflation.



Change in Appropriations and Tuition Public Colleges and Universities 2008-09 to 2011-12



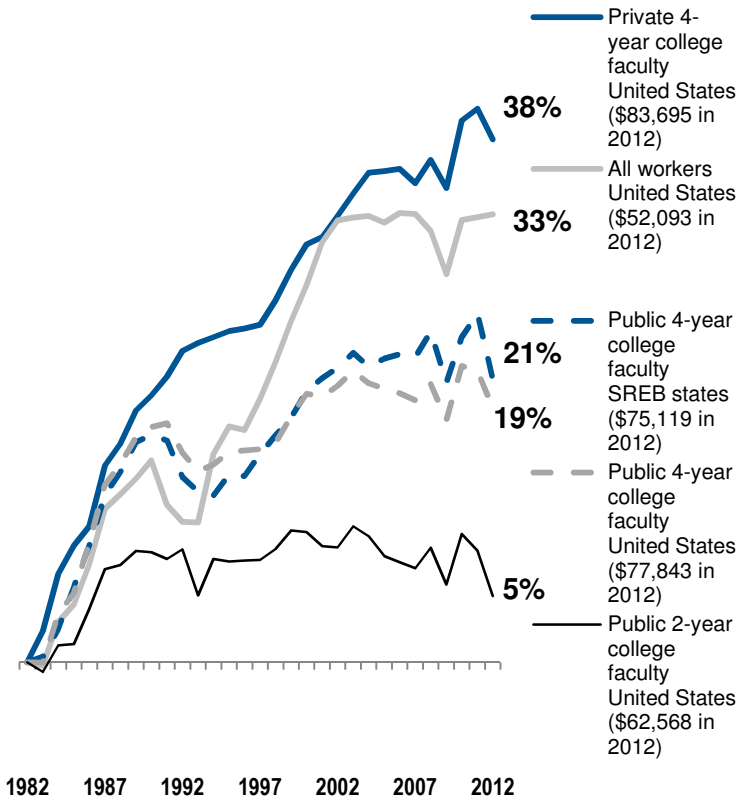
Sources: Tables 89-90, SREB-State Data Exchange.

At Louisiana's public two-year colleges, state/local appropriations fell \$46 million from 2008-09 to 2011-12, while tuition and fee revenue increased \$43.3 million — for a net funding decrease of \$2.7 million.

At Louisiana's public four-year colleges, state appropriations fell \$299.4 million from 2008-09 to 2011-12, while tuition and fee revenue increased \$136 million — for a net funding decrease of \$163.4 million.



Changes in Annual Pay (adjusted for inflation)

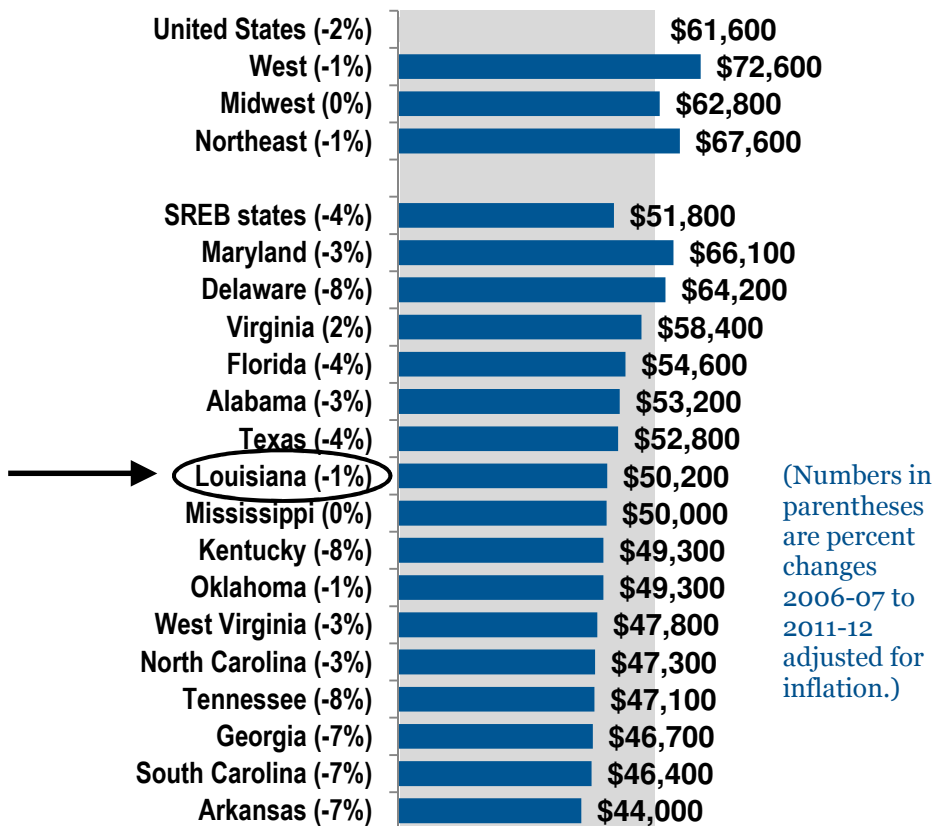


Sources: SREB-State Data Exchange, National Center for Education Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau.

College faculty have higher levels of education and higher pay than American workers overall, but public sector faculty salaries have not grown as fast when compared with growth of the average American wage. Faculty salaries at public four-year colleges in the SREB region were 21 percent higher in 2012 than in 1982 when adjusted for inflation. The average increase for all workers nationwide was 33 percent.



Faculty Salaries Public Two-Year Colleges, 2011-12



Note: Inflation adjustment based on the academic-year Consumer Price Index, which rose 11 percent over the period.

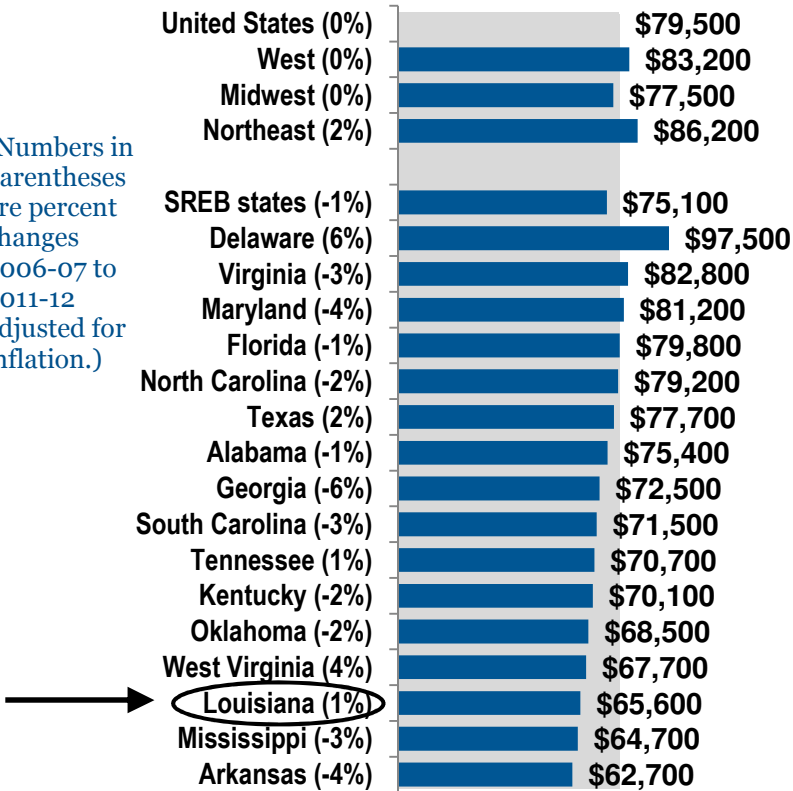
Source: Table 84, SREB-State Data Exchange and National Center for Education Statistics.

From 2006-07 to 2011-12, the SREB region's average two-year faculty salary, when adjusted for inflation, decreased 4 percent to \$51,800 and remained lower than the national average of \$61,600. The average salary in Louisiana declined 1 percent to \$50,200.



Faculty Salaries Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities 2011-12

(Numbers in parentheses are percent changes 2006-07 to 2011-12 adjusted for inflation.)



Note: Inflation adjustment based on the academic-year Consumer Price Index, which rose 11 percent over the period.

Source: Table 83, SREB-State Data Exchange and National Center for Education Statistics.

From 2006-07 to 2011-12, the SREB region's average four-year faculty salary decreased 1 percent to \$75,100 when adjusted for inflation and remained below the national average of \$79,500. The average salary in Louisiana rose 1 percent to \$65,600.

Copies of the *Fact Book* are available from the SREB publications office. All of the databases for the *SREB Fact Book* are continuously updated as new comparative data are available on the SREB website: www.sreb.org/data. The website also contains online editions of the state *Featured Facts* reports for each of the 16 SREB states. For more information about the *SREB Fact Book on Higher Education*, contact Joe Marks, director of Education Data Services, at (404) 875-9211 or Joe.Marks@SREB.org.