

NATIONAL STUDENT AID PROFILE: OVERVIEW OF 2018 FEDERAL PROGRAMS



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Overview

Dear Reader:

NASFAA's National Student Aid Profile is an annual publication designed to give a high-level overview of the federal student financial aid programs that provide funding to millions of students each year.

In this profile, you will find an overview of:

- The Federal Pell Grant Program
- The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program
- The Federal Work-Study Program
- The Federal Perkins Loan Program
- The Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loan Programs
- The Direct PLUS Loan Program

For each program, in addition to a basic description, you will find the most up-to-date data and information on the:

- Number of Recipients
- Total Volume of Awards
- Federal Funding Levels
- Distribution by Family Income

In addition, we provide an appropriations update on Title IV program funding for the 2018-2019 award year.

This year NASFAA has added two new sets of data to the National Profile. The first is from the Office of Federal Student Aid's "FSA Data Center" and includes data on repayment status, loan status, delinquency status, and the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program. The second is the 2015-2016 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16), released by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). NPSAS is a comprehensive, nationally representative survey of the characteristics of undergraduate and graduate students in postsecondary education, with a special focus on student financing. The data include focus on the characteristics of students who receive specific types of federal financial aid, and include analyses of the distribution of aid recipients.

The new data allow for rich, creative analyses. It is our hope that you utilize this document not only to answer existing questions, but to also ask new, insightful questions about the federal student aid programs, who they serve, and how well they are working. As always, if you have any questions or would like more information, please reach out to NASFAA at policy@nasfaa.org or 202-785-0453.

Sincerely,

NASFAA Policy & Federal Relations Staff

Table 1. Summary Descriptions of the Major Federal Student Aid Programs

Program Name	Program Description	Number of Recipients and Average Awards	Volume 2016-2017
Federal Pell Grant	Provides grants to low-income undergraduates who have not yet earned a first bachelor’s degree with the greatest demonstrated financial need. The 2017-2018 maximum award was \$5,920; the minimum award was \$596. For 2018-2019, the maximum award is \$6,095 and the statutory minimum is \$652, but because midpoints are used for both the expected family contribution (EFC) columns and the cost of attendance (COA) rows in constructing the schedules, the actual 2018-2019 Award Year minimum award amount for a full-time student is \$650.	Approximately 7.8 million recipients in 2015-2016. Average award was \$3,760. Just over 70 percent of recipients had family incomes of less than \$30,000.	The total volume for Pell Grants was \$26.6 billion.
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	Provides grants to low-income undergraduates with the greatest demonstrated financial need. Maximum award is \$4,000; minimum award is \$100. Priority must be given to students who receive Federal Pell Grants, and awards must be made first to students who have the lowest expected family contributions. At least 25 percent of FSEOG awards must come from institutional resources.	Approximately 1.5 million recipients in 2015-2016. Average award was \$649. Just under 68 percent of dependent recipients came from families with an income of less than \$30,000.	The total federal volume was \$1 billion.
Federal Work-Study (FWS)	Provides part-time jobs to financially needy undergraduate and graduate/professional students. Jobs must, to the extent possible, be related to students’ academic or career goals. Institutions must generally contribute at least 25 percent of wages paid.	Approximately 634,000 recipients in 2015-2016. The average award was \$1,726. Of dependent undergraduate recipients, 45 percent had family incomes below \$42,000.	The total federal volume was \$1.1 billion.
Federal Perkins Loan	Statutory authority to make Perkins Loans expired on Sept. 30, 2016 for graduate students and Sept. 30, 2017 for undergraduate students. Prior to those dates, the program distributed low-interest loans (5 percent) to undergraduate and graduate/professional students with financial need; priority was given to those with exceptional need. Borrowing was subject to annual and aggregate loan limits. Borrowers usually repay the loans directly to their postsecondary institutions; repayments were used to make new loans. Institutions matched at least 33 percent of their federal program allocations, when applicable. Loan repayments may be cancelled for borrowers who perform certain volunteer, military, health care, or other services.	Approximately 422,000 recipients in 2015-2016. Average award was \$2,479. Thirty-one percent of dependent recipients had family incomes of less than \$30,000, and 73 percent of independent recipients had an income of less than \$20,000.	New loans were made for a total of \$1 billion from institutions’ revolving funds.

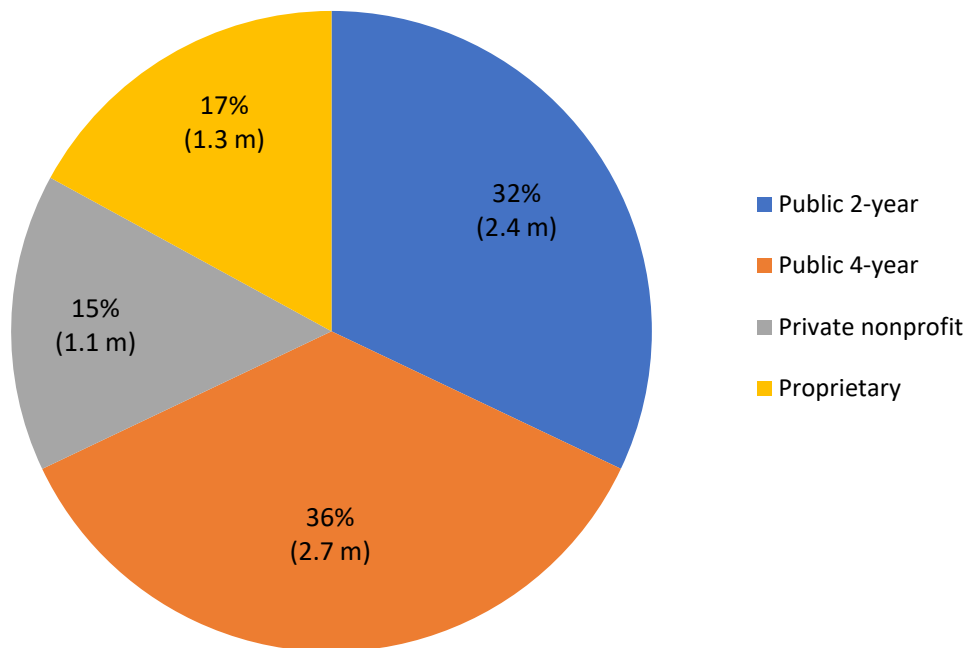
Table 1. Summary Descriptions of the Major Federal Student Aid Programs (continued)

Program Name	Program Description	Number of Recipients and Average Awards	Volume 2016-2017
Direct Subsidized Loan	Provides low-interest loans to financially needy undergraduate students. Interest on the loans is paid by the government while borrowers are in school, in the 6-month grace period, and during deferment. Borrowing is subject to annual and aggregate loan limits. Borrowers begin repaying loans six months after ceasing at least half-time enrollment in postsecondary education, unless borrower qualifies for deferment. Cancellation of loans is available for employment in certain designated fields, under certain conditions.	Approximately 5.8 million borrowers in 2016-2017. Average loan of \$3,743.	The total loan volume was \$22 billion.
Direct Unsubsidized Loan	Provides low-interest loans to undergraduate and graduate/professional students. Loans are provided regardless of borrowers' income or financial need, as long as total aid does not exceed cost of attendance. Recipients are charged interest on the loans at all times. Borrowing is subject to annual and aggregate loan limits; limits are higher for independent students. Unless borrowers qualify for deferment, loan repayment begins six months after they cease at least half-time enrollment in postsecondary education. Cancellation of loans is available for employment in certain designated fields, under certain conditions.	Approximately 7.1 million borrowers in 2016-2017. Average loan of \$4,023 for undergraduate students and \$18,132 for graduate students.	The total loan volume was \$49 billion.
Direct PLUS Loan	Provides loans to (1) the parents of dependent undergraduates, as defined by the Higher Education Act (HEA), and (2) graduate and professional students. Borrowers may obtain loans up to the full amount of the cost of attendance, minus any aid students receive from other sources. Loans are provided regardless of income, but borrowers must pass a credit check or obtain an endorser.	Approximately 855,000 parent borrowers in 2016-2017. Average loan of \$14,665. In the same award year, an estimated 403,341 graduate/professional students borrowed an average of \$23,228 in Grad PLUS loans.	PLUS borrowers (parents and graduate/professional students) received \$22 billion.

The Federal Pell Grant Program

Program Description. The Federal Pell Grant Program is the “foundational” federal student aid program. The program provides grants to financially needy undergraduate students who have not yet earned their first bachelor’s degree to help pay the costs of attending postsecondary institutions. (In very limited circumstances, post-baccalaureate students in teacher education programs may also qualify for Pell Grants.) Schools must determine a student’s Federal Pell Grant eligibility before calculating eligibility for other federal student aid programs. During the annual congressional appropriations process, the minimum and maximum Pell Grant award levels are established for the upcoming award year. In award year 2017-2018, grants ranged between \$596 and \$5,902. In award year 2018-2019, grants range from \$652 to \$6,095. The amounts students receive are based on their educational costs and their family’s ability to contribute to college costs.

Figure 1. Distribution of Pell Grant Recipients by Type of Institution, Award Year 2015-2016



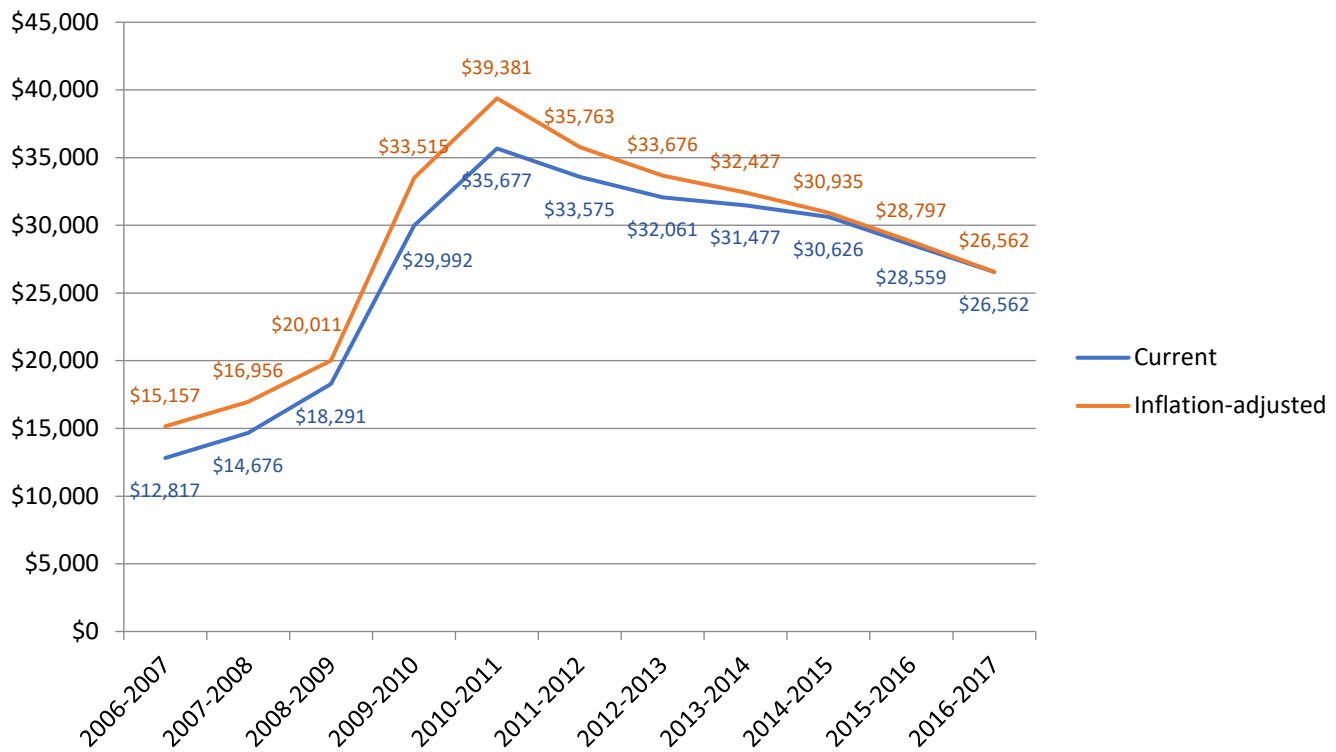
Source: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Pell Grant Program End-of-Year Report, 2015-2016.

Table 2. Number and Distribution of Pell Grant Recipients by Family Income Level, Award Year 2015-2016

Family Income Level	Number	Percentage
\$6,000 or less	1,658,896	21.7%
\$6,001 to \$15,000	1,545,333	20.2%
\$15,001 to \$20,000	863,414	11.3%
\$20,001 to \$30,000	1,291,932	16.9%
\$30,001 to \$40,000	894,149	11.7%
\$40,001 to \$50,000	629,832	8.2%
\$50,001 to \$60,000	410,435	5.4%
\$60,001 and over	366,045	4.8%
Total	7,660,036	100.0%

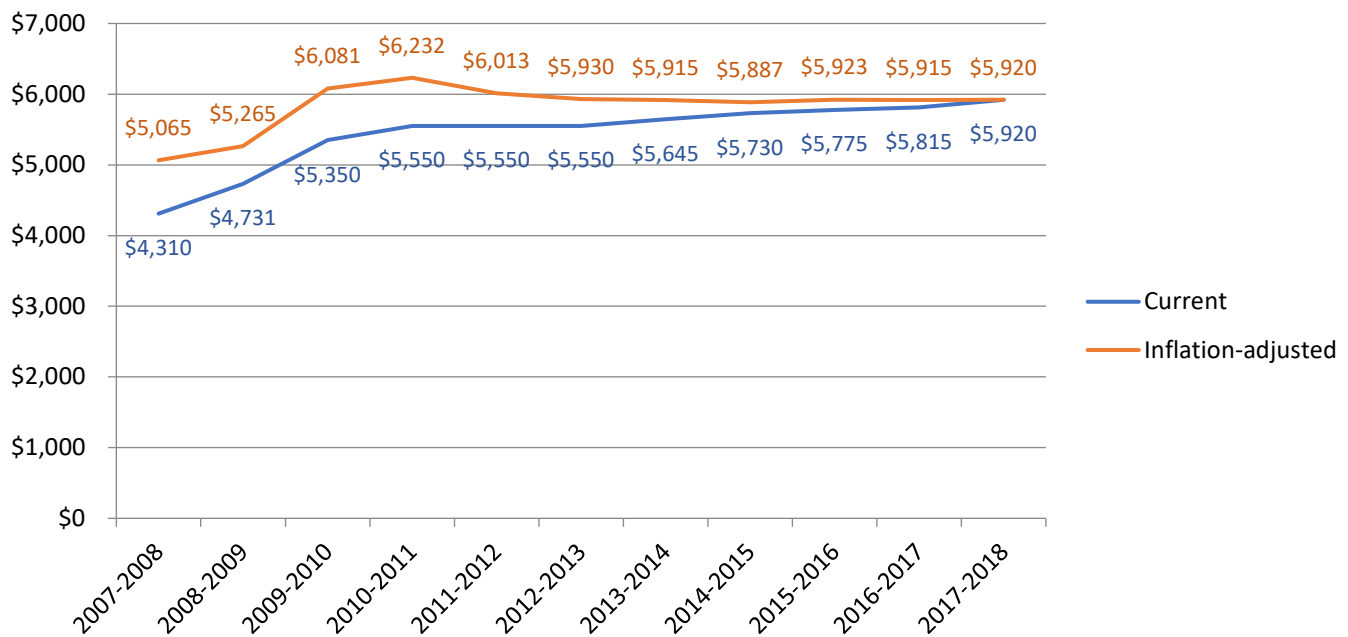
Source: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Pell Grant Program End-of-Year Report, 2015-2016.

Figure 2. Federal Pell Grant Expenditures in Current and Inflation-Adjusted Dollars (in millions), 2006-2007 to 2016-2017



Source: The College Board, Trends in Student Aid, 2017.

Figure 3. Maximum Pell Grant Award in Current and Inflation-Adjusted Dollars, 2007-2008 to 2017-2018



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Pell Grant Program End-of-Year Report, 2015-2016; College Board, Trends in Student Aid, 2017. Inflation-adjusted to 2017 dollars calculated by NASFAA, using the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for the July beginning the award year.

Campus-Based Aid Programs

Congress requires schools to contribute a portion of the funding for campus-based aid programs, but financial aid administrators at each participating postsecondary institution must use federal program guidelines to determine which students will receive awards and how much they will receive. These programs include: the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program, the Federal Work-Study Program, and the Federal Perkins Loan Program.

The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program

Program Description. The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) Program provides grants to financially needy undergraduates at postsecondary institutions. Financial assistance from the FSEOG Program generally supplements the aid students receive from other sources. Students must have “exceptional” financial need to receive FSEOG awards. Schools must give priority to students who receive Federal Pell Grants, and awards must first be made to students with the lowest expected family contributions (EFC) — that is, starting with students who have an EFC of zero and then moving upward. The minimum FSEOG award is \$100, and the maximum is \$4,000. Institutions that participate in the program receive federal allocations to distribute awards. These institutions must match their federal allocations with funds from their own resources, so that no more than 75 percent of FSEOG awards represent the federal share.

Table 3a. Number of Dependent Undergraduates Who Received Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants by Family Income Level, Award Year 2015-2016

Family Income Level	Recipients	Recipients Percentage	Total FSEOG Dollars**	Dollars Percentage	Average FSEOG Award
Less than \$6,000	119,801	16.1%	\$88,467,073	14.9%	\$738
\$6,000 to \$11,999	73,999	10.0%	56,526,938	9.5%	764
\$12,000 to \$23,999	221,628	29.9%	172,320,208	29.0%	778
\$24,000 to \$29,999	91,655	12.3%	74,434,234	12.5%	812
\$30,000 to \$41,999	123,589	16.7%	103,669,051	17.5%	839
\$42,000 to \$59,999	78,868	10.6%	69,209,302	11.7%	878
\$60,000 and over	32,681	4.4%	29,284,526	4.9%	896
Total**	742,221	100.0%	\$593,911,332	100.0%	\$800

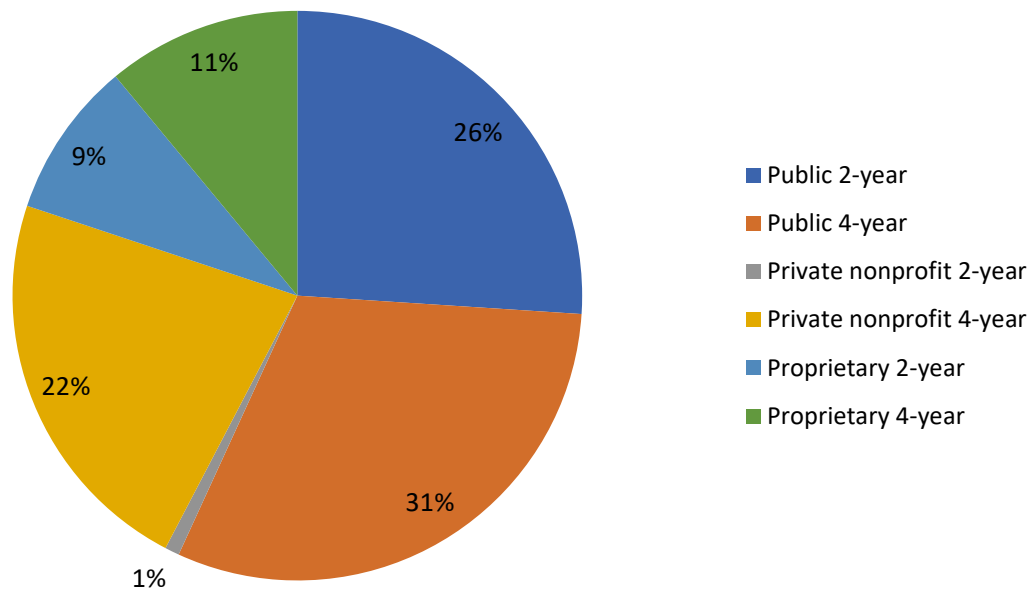
Table 3b. Number of Independent Undergraduates Who Received Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants by Family Income Level, Award Year 2015-2016

Family Income Level	Recipients	Recipients Percentage	Total FSEOG Dollars**	Dollars Percentage	Average FSEOG Award
Less than \$2,000	197,245	25.0%	\$106,050,391	26.6%	\$538
\$2,000 to \$3,999	50,665	6.4%	28,203,081	7.1%	557
\$4,000 to \$7,999	101,886	12.9%	54,936,349	13.8%	539
\$8,000 to \$11,999	105,384	13.4%	53,191,599	13.3%	505
\$12,000 to \$15,999	70,667	9.0%	32,915,699	8.3%	466
\$16,000 to \$19,999	59,574	7.6%	27,133,417	6.8%	455
\$20,000 and over	202,538	25.7%	96,533,010	24.2%	477
Total**	787,959	100.0%	\$398,963,546	100.0%	\$506

**Total dollar amounts include federal funds and institutional matching funds.

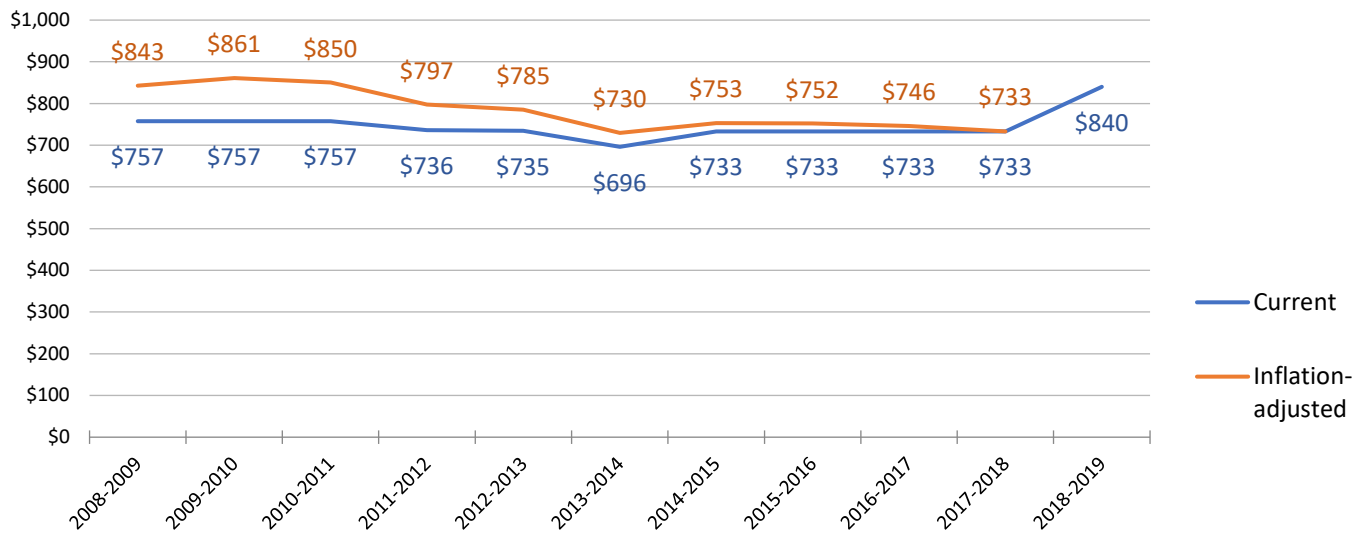
Source for Tables 3a and 3b: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Campus-Based Programs Data Book, 2017.

Figure 4. Distribution of FSEOG Recipients by Type of Institution, Award Year 2015-2016



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Campus-Based Programs Data Book, 2017.

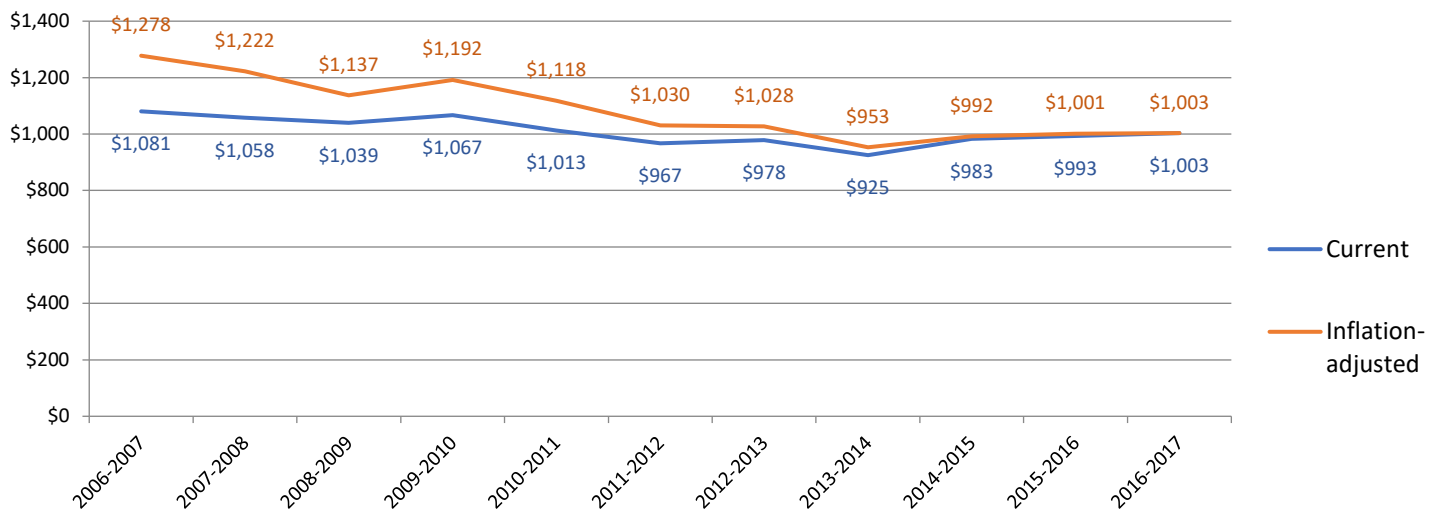
Figure 5a. Federal Appropriations for the FSEOG Program in Current and Inflation-Adjusted Dollars (in millions), 2008-2009 to 2018-2019



Source: Education Department Budget History Table: FY 1980—FY 2018 and P.L. 115-141.

Note: Does not include institutional matching funds.

Figure 5b. FSEOG Program Volume in Current and Inflation-Adjusted Dollars (in millions), 2006-2007 to 2016-2017



** Total dollar amounts include federal funds and institutional matching funds.

Source for Figures 5a and 5b: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Campus-Based Programs Data Book, 2017; 2016-2017 estimated by NASFAA

The Federal Work-Study Program

Program Description. The Federal Work-Study (FWS) Program provides part-time jobs to undergraduate, graduate, and professional students at postsecondary institutions. Generally, aid from the FWS Program supplements the assistance students receive from Federal Pell Grants and other sources. The FWS Program is a need-based program; that is, recipients must have demonstrated financial need.

Award amounts must be based on demonstrated financial need, the number of hours students are expected to work each week, and the anticipated hourly wage.

For most FWS jobs, the federal program funds are used to pay 75 percent of the students' wages. The remaining 25 percent is provided by the institution or the students' employers. (Private for-profit businesses that employ FWS recipients must pay at least 50 percent of students' wages from their own resources.) A lower non-federal share is permitted under specific limited conditions.

Table 4a. Number of Dependent Undergraduates Who Received Federal Work-Study Awards by Family Income Level, Award Year 2015-2016

Family Income Level	Recipients	Recipients Percentage	Total FWS Dollars **	Dollars Percentage	Average FWS Award
Less than \$6,000	35,566	7.2%	\$59,527,748	7.6%	\$1,674
\$6,000 to \$11,999	22,106	4.5%	38,508,671	4.9%	1,742
\$12,000 to \$23,999	67,299	13.7%	116,128,734	14.8%	1,726
\$24,000 to \$29,999	32,585	6.6%	55,322,190	7.0%	1,698
\$30,000 to \$41,999	62,250	12.7%	105,196,619	13.4%	1,690
\$42,000 to \$59,999	75,639	15.4%	124,432,728	15.8%	1,645
\$60,000 and over	196,484	39.9%	286,643,813	36.5%	1,459
Total**	491,929	100.0%	\$785,760,503	100.0%	\$1,597

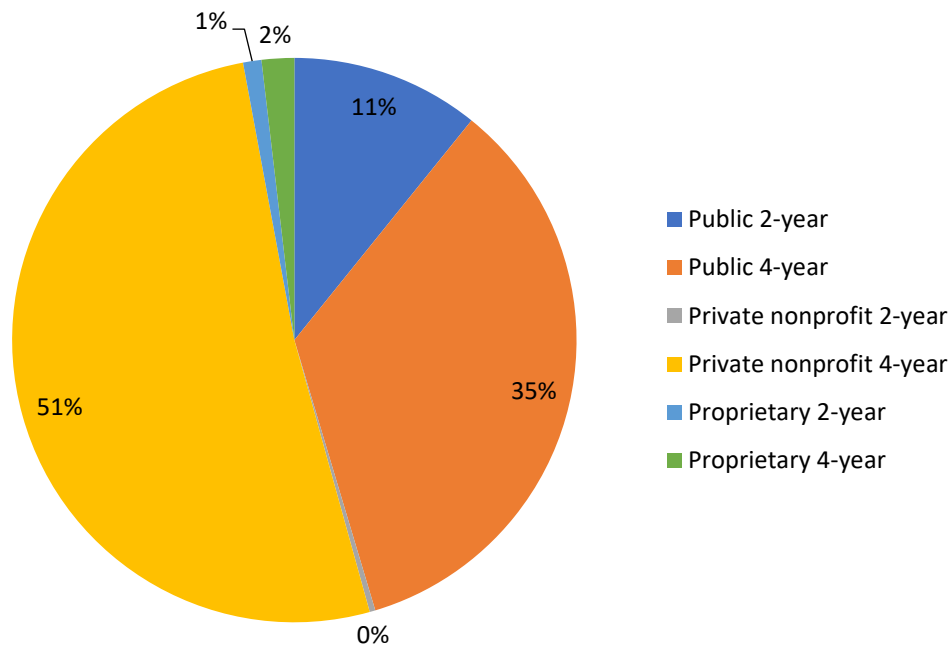
Table 4b. Number of Independent Undergraduates Who Received Federal Work-Study Awards by Family Income Level, Award Year 2015-2016

Family Income Level	Recipients	Recipients Percentage	Total FWS Dollars **	Dollars Percentage	Average FWS Award
Less than \$2,000	28,596	29.2%	\$54,507,547	27.9%	\$1,906
\$2,000 to \$3,999	9,603	9.8%	18,624,754	9.5%	1,939
\$4,000 to \$7,999	16,197	16.5%	33,540,008	17.2%	2,071
\$8,000 to \$11,999	12,985	13.3%	27,469,821	14.1%	2,116
\$12,000 to \$15,999	8,687	8.9%	18,077,794	9.3%	2,081
\$16,000 to \$19,999	5,593	5.7%	11,207,727	5.7%	2,004
\$20,000 and over	16,323	16.7%	31,962,772	16.4%	1,958
Total**	97,984	100.0%	\$195,390,423	100.0%	\$1,994

**Total dollar amounts include federal funds and nonfederal matching funds.

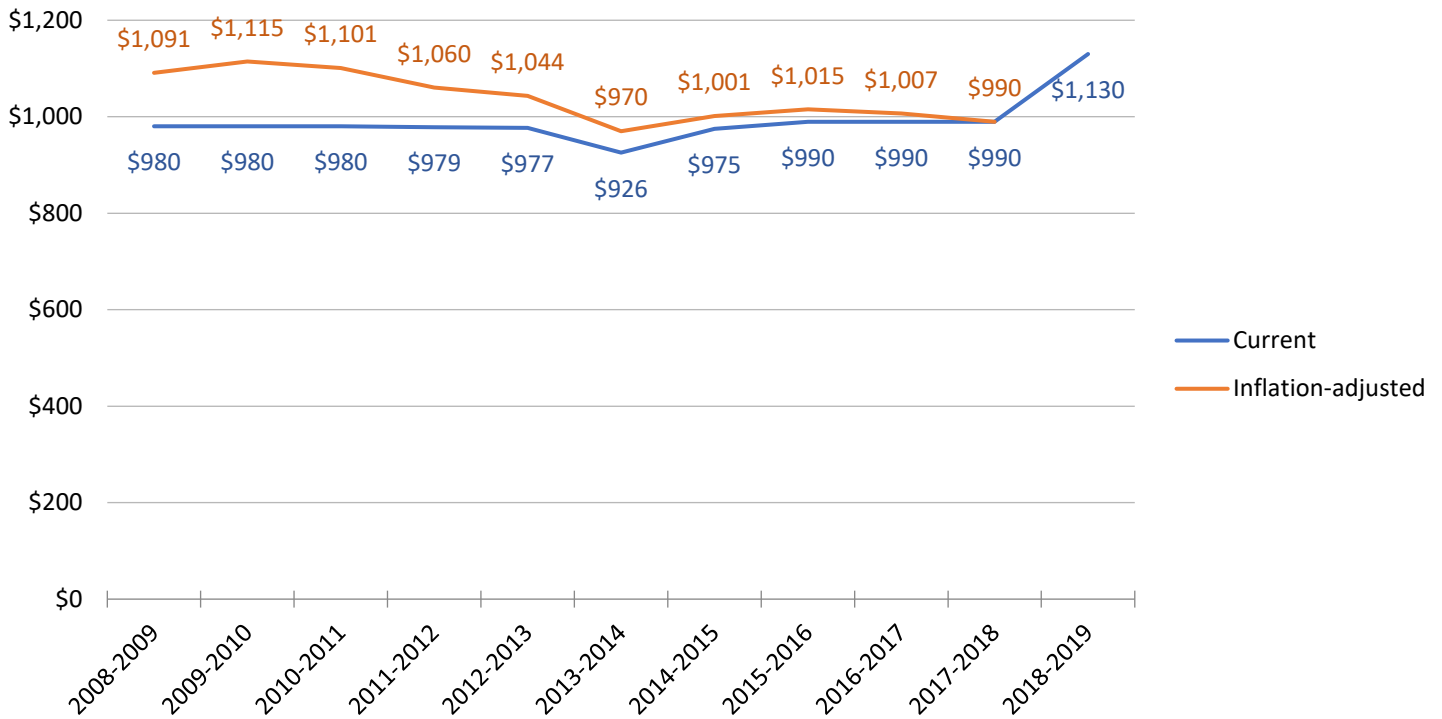
Source for Tables 4a and 4b: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Campus-Based Programs Data Book, 2017.

Figure 6. Distribution of FWS Recipients by Type of Institution, Award Year 2015-2016



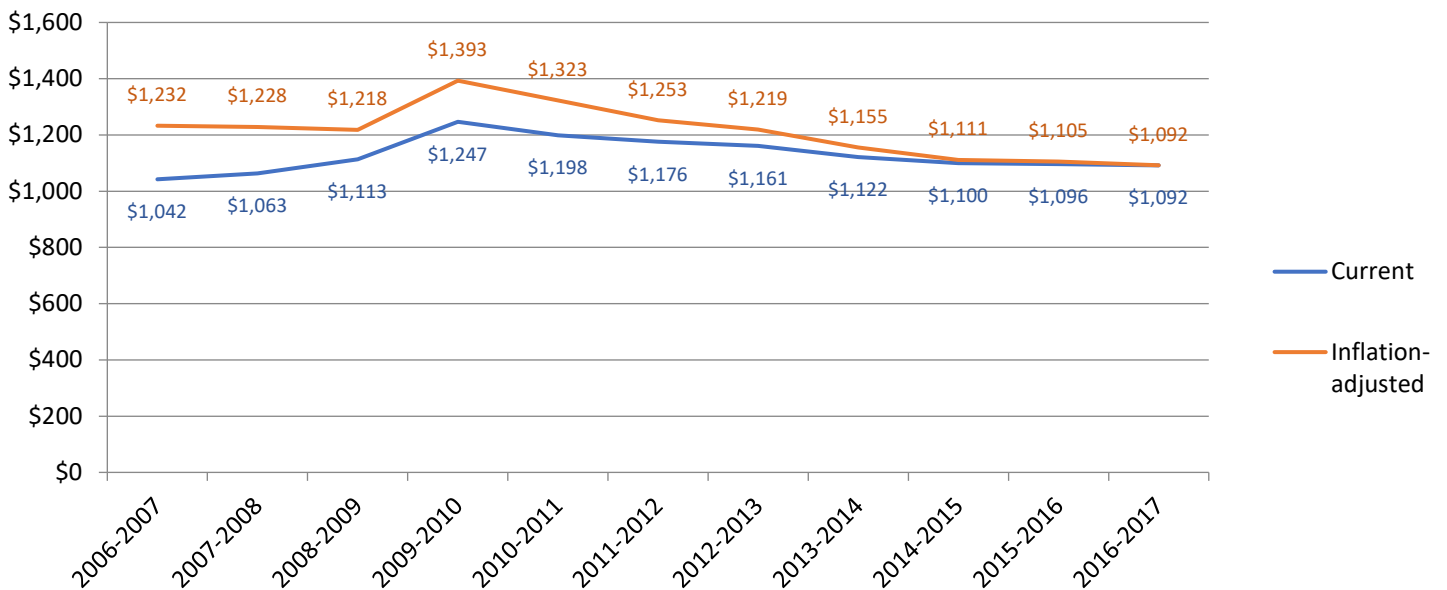
Source: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Campus-Based Programs Data Book, 2017.

Figure 7a. Federal Appropriations for the FWS Program in Current and Inflation Adjusted Dollars (in millions), 2008-2009 to 2018-2019



Source: Education Department Budget History Table: FY 1980—FY 2018 and P.L. 115-141.
 Note: Does not include nonfederal matching funds.

Figure 7b. FWS Program Volume in Current and Inflation-Adjusted Dollars (in millions), 2006-2007 to 2016-2017



Source: The College Board, Trends in Student Aid, 2017.

The following table lists 2018-2019 federal allocations for FSEOG and FWS by state. Approved allocations for FSEOG total \$839,284,002 for 3,591 schools, with FWS obligated funds totaling \$1,119,303,861 for 3,178 schools. These programs operate in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and six U.S. territories. The five states with the largest total FSEOG and FWS allocations include California, New York, Texas, Pennsylvania, and Florida.

Table 5. Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant and Federal Work-Study Obligated Funds by State, Award Year 2018-2019

State	FSEOG		FWS	
	Participating Institutions	Allocation	Participating Institutions	Allocation
Alabama	58	\$12,513,714	55	\$16,658,593
Alaska	7	\$719,017	7	\$855,930
American Samoa	1	\$27,150	1	\$34,684
Arizona	47	\$25,226,307	39	\$16,883,901
Arkansas	45	\$5,950,889	44	\$8,137,962
California	394	\$103,177,263	332	\$128,608,359
Colorado	54	\$13,026,274	48	\$16,980,644
Connecticut	44	\$11,175,906	40	\$14,637,227
Delaware	10	\$1,791,396	9	\$2,421,236
District of Columbia	12	\$7,154,505	11	\$13,219,082
Florida	150	\$42,614,014	107	\$53,856,726
Georgia	95	\$21,575,924	91	\$29,310,460
Guam	3	\$250,396	3	\$526,830
Hawaii	15	\$1,859,512	14	\$2,385,022
Idaho	11	\$2,383,084	10	\$2,729,760
Illinois	143	\$36,602,842	136	\$52,520,920
Indiana	62	\$16,621,920	54	\$21,227,130
Iowa	63	\$13,172,965	53	\$12,191,167
Kansas	53	\$6,035,322	53	\$8,932,485
Kentucky	54	\$9,616,890	51	\$15,699,354
Louisiana	55	\$9,134,083	38	\$14,469,084
Maine	28	\$6,902,335	27	\$8,551,950
Maryland	61	\$12,341,909	53	\$17,240,013
Massachusetts	109	\$30,132,183	98	\$48,086,251
Michigan	80	\$24,820,176	76	\$32,750,141
Minnesota	77	\$18,048,845	72	\$23,386,837
Mississippi	31	\$8,976,662	30	\$12,211,044
Missouri	79	\$13,702,858	69	\$20,739,308

State	FSEOG		FWS	
	Participating Institutions	Allocation	Participating Institutions	Allocation
Montana	21	\$1,634,180	21	\$3,173,185
Nebraska	32	\$4,410,800	29	\$6,274,882
Nevada	12	\$3,038,552	11	\$4,046,965
New Hampshire	22	\$5,776,481	19	\$6,551,852
New Jersey	87	\$19,918,685	57	\$24,672,529
New Mexico	22	\$4,275,354	21	\$7,117,676
New York	253	\$60,650,454	217	\$101,223,663
North Carolina	123	\$20,834,091	119	\$29,490,462
North Dakota	18	\$2,644,116	18	\$3,130,978
Northern Mariana Is.	1	\$55,812	1	\$45,938
Ohio	130	\$27,148,839	108	\$38,466,288
Oklahoma	55	\$8,291,202	47	\$11,653,275
Oregon	52	\$10,272,189	45	\$14,260,554
Palau	1	\$43,796	1	\$127,850
Pennsylvania	172	\$41,414,229	153	\$58,560,184
Puerto Rico	82	\$13,812,712	74	\$18,287,454
Rhode Island	11	\$5,906,613	11	\$7,969,886
South Carolina	60	\$11,707,639	56	\$14,533,400
South Dakota	20	\$3,245,414	20	\$3,901,916
Tennessee	93	\$13,864,454	89	\$19,389,454
Texas	188	\$53,235,796	166	\$64,797,594
Utah	20	\$9,156,399	16	\$6,254,909
Vermont	20	\$5,203,683	20	\$5,474,176
Virgin Islands	1	\$85,982	1	\$92,310
Virginia	84	\$19,222,006	76	\$29,026,707
Washington	65	\$14,753,775	61	\$18,970,416
West Virginia	35	\$4,569,880	34	\$6,239,989
Wisconsin	62	\$17,832,218	58	\$19,436,890
Wyoming	8	\$724,310	8	\$880,379
Total	3,591	\$839,284,002	3,178	\$1,119,303,861

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Final Notification of Campus-Based Funding for Period: July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

The Federal Perkins Loan Program

Program Description. Prior to its expiration, the Federal Perkins Loan Program provided low-interest loans to financially needy undergraduate, graduate, and professional students. Unlike Federal Pell Grants, FSEOG, and FWS awards, students must repay Federal Perkins Loans after they graduate, leave, or fall below half-time attendance status at their postsecondary institutions (attendance status is determined at each institution). Loan repayments are usually made directly to the borrower's school. Interest on the loan accrues at a rate of 5 percent per year. However, interest does not begin to accrue until borrowers enter repayment, which may be deferred for approved reasons.

The maximum amount students could borrow was based on their academic grade level:

- Undergraduate students could borrow up to \$5,500 annually
- Graduate and professional students could borrow up to \$8,000 annually

Authorization for the Federal Perkins Loan Program expired on Sept. 30, 2015; however, the Federal Perkins Loan Program Extension Act of 2015, effective Dec. 18, 2015, extended the Federal Perkins Loan Program through Sept. 30, 2017 for new and current undergraduate Federal Perkins Loan borrowers. As part of the extension, graduate and professional student eligibility expired on Sept. 30, 2016.

The Extension Act prohibited additional extensions of the Federal Perkins Loan Program. President Donald Trump did not propose an extension in his fiscal year 2018 or 2019 budgets, and Congress has yet to advance an extension.

Table 6a. Number of Dependent Undergraduates Who Received Perkins Loans by Family Income Level, Award Year 2015-2016

Family Income Level	Recipients	Recipients Percentage	Total Perkins Dollars **	Dollars Percentage	Average Perkins Award
Less than \$6,000	18,483	6.4%	\$40,456,956	6.5%	\$2,189
\$6,000 to \$11,999	12,322	4.3%	26,866,013	4.3%	2,180
\$12,000 to \$23,999	38,462	13.3%	83,446,054	13.4%	2,170
\$24,000 to \$29,999	19,903	6.9%	42,715,617	6.8%	2,146
\$30,000 to \$41,999	40,482	14.0%	86,316,727	13.8%	2,132
\$42,000 to \$59,999	51,273	17.7%	109,325,270	17.5%	2,132
\$60,000 and over	107,976	37.4%	235,616,017	37.7%	2,182
Total**	288,901	100.0%	\$624,742,654	100.0%	\$2,162

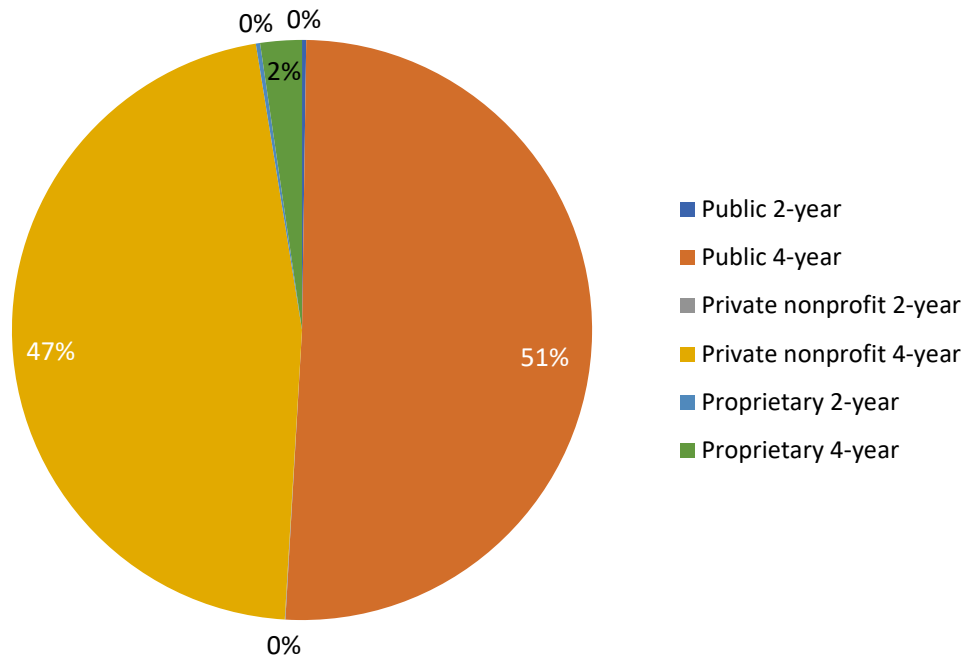
Table 6b. Number of Independent Undergraduates Who Received Perkins Loans by Family Income Level, Award Year 2015-2016

Family Income Level	Recipients	Recipients Percentage	Total Perkins Dollars **	Dollars Percentage	Average Perkins Award
Less than \$2,000	17,139	23.1%	\$40,255,321	23.2%	\$2,349
\$2,000 to \$3,999	5,524	7.4%	12,903,823	7.4%	2,336
\$4,000 to \$7,999	10,337	13.9%	23,582,564	13.6%	2,281
\$8,000 to \$11,999	9,401	12.7%	21,154,098	12.2%	2,250
\$12,000 to \$15,999	6,600	8.9%	15,418,622	8.9%	2,336
\$16,000 to \$19,999	5,233	7.0%	12,018,622	6.9%	2,297
\$20,000 and over	19,996	26.9%	48,467,125	27.9%	2,424
Total**	74,230	100.0%	\$173,800,175	100.0%	\$2,341

**Total dollar amounts include federal funds and institutional matching funds.

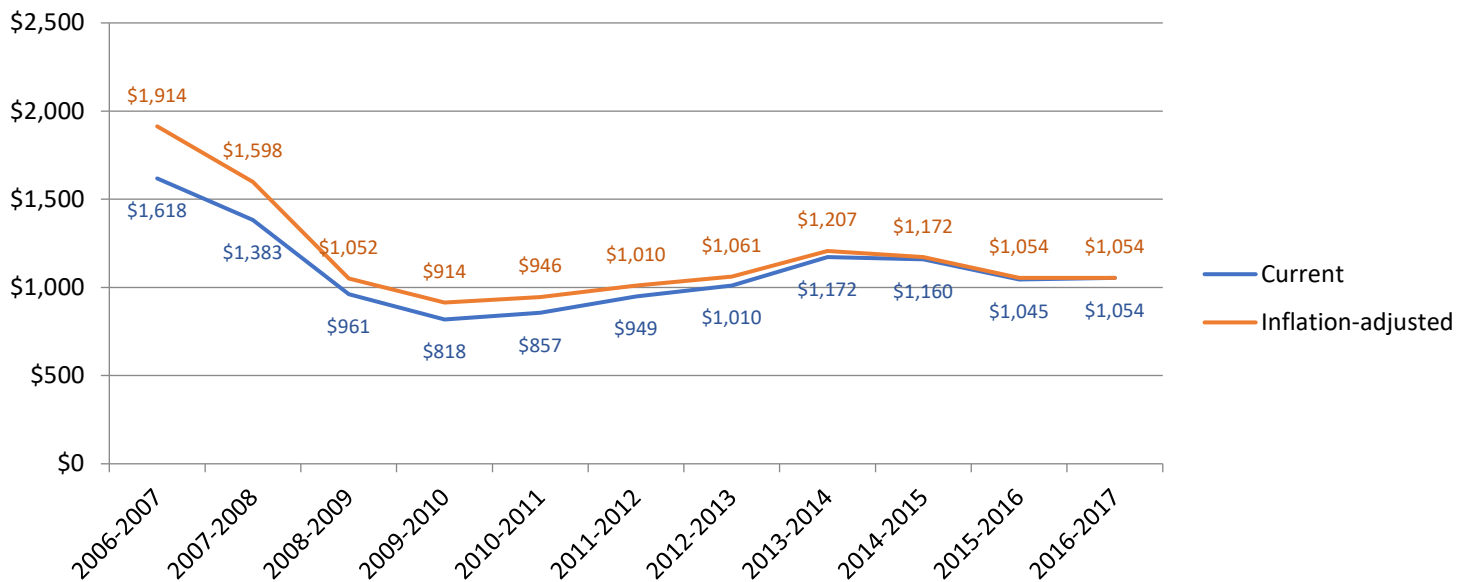
Source for Tables 6a and 6b: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Campus-Based Programs Data Book, 2017; 2016-17 estimated by NASFAA.

Figure 8. Distribution of Perkins Loan Recipients by Type of Institution, Award Year 2015-2016



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Campus-Based Programs Data Book, 2017.

Figure 9. Federal Perkins Loan Program Volume in Current and Inflation-Adjusted Dollars (in millions), 2006-2007 to 2016-2017



Source: The College Board, Trends in Student Aid, 2017.

The Federal Family Education Loan Program and the William D. Ford Direct Student Loan Program

Program Description. Before July 1, 2010, Title IV of the Higher Education Act authorized two programs for distributing loans to students and parents of dependent undergraduate students. While the terms of the loans ran parallel between the two programs, the difference was the source of funding. The Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP), formerly known as the Guaranteed Student Loan Program, utilized private and nonprofit sector funding under a system of federal guarantees and support. FFELP ceased operations in July 2010 (other than the collection and servicing of outstanding loans) in favor of maintaining just one loan program, the William D. Ford Direct Student Loan Program, which is federally funded and administered by the U.S. Department of Education. The Direct Loan Program continues to provide low-interest loans to undergraduate and graduate/professional students and parents of dependent undergraduate students to help pay the costs of attending postsecondary institutions. Loans are “entitlements,” which means that all eligible and qualified borrowers may receive the program funds and benefits, but borrowers are subject to annual and aggregate limits.

The Direct Loan Program is an umbrella for four loans made for undergraduate and graduate study (as was FFELP):

- Direct Subsidized Loans (also referred to as Subsidized Stafford Loans)
- Direct Unsubsidized Loans (also referred to as Unsubsidized Stafford Loans)
- PLUS Loans, which are made to parents of dependent students and to graduate and professional students
- Consolidation Loans, a repayment option rather than a loan made for attendance at an institution

Borrowers of Direct Loans pay an origination fee on every new loan disbursed. Established in statute, for subsidized and unsubsidized loans, the origination fee is 1 percent, and for PLUS loans the fee is 4 percent. Under sequestration imposed in the Budget Control Act of 2011, origination fees are increased annually based on the mandatory adjustment percentage provided by the Office of Management and Budget.

Origination fees on loans first disbursed on or after

	Oct. 1, 2017, to Sept. 30, 2018	Oct. 1, 2018, to Sept. 30, 2019
Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans	1.066	1.062
PLUS Loans	4.264	4.248

Interest rate structures have varied greatly over the years – sometimes being variable with a maximum cap, sometimes fixed. As written in the Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act of 2013, all Direct Loans, except for Direct Consolidation Loans, with a first disbursement date on or after July 1, 2013, have variable fixed, market-based interest rates. Interest rates for new Direct Loans will change every July 1 based on market rates and then remain fixed for the life of that loan. All interest rates will apply to loans disbursed on or after July 1 of a given year to June 30 of the following year only. This law provides protection to consumers from market spikes by placing the following rate caps:

- 8.25 percent on Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans for undergraduate students
- 9.5 percent for Direct Unsubsidized Loans for graduate/professional students
- 10.5 percent for Parent/Graduate PLUS Loans

The Department of Education calculates the interest rates for these loans using a base 10-year Treasury Note Index plus an add-on amount for each loan program. The following chart outlines the interest rates for the last three award years:

	Treasury Note Index	Add-On Amount	Interest Rate
Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans: <i>Undergraduate Students</i>			
2016-2017	1.71	2.05	3.76
2017-2018	2.4	2.05	4.45
2018-2019	2.995	2.05	5.05
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans: <i>Graduate Students</i>			
2016-2017	1.71	3.6	5.31
2017-2018	2.4	3.6	6.00
2018-2019	2.995	3.6	6.60
Federal Direct PLUS Loans: <i>Parents and Graduate/Professional Students</i>			
2016-2017	1.71	4.6	6.31
2017-2018	2.4	4.6	7.00
2018-2019	2.995	4.6	7.60

Subsidized Loans: Direct Subsidized Loans are provided to undergraduate students based on their demonstrated financial need. Annual and aggregate limits apply to award amounts. Students do not have to pay the accrued interest on subsidized loans while they are enrolled at their institutions at least half-time. Interest on the loans begins to accrue as soon as borrowers receive the funds. However, a portion of the federal appropriation for subsidized loans is used to pay the accrued interest on the borrowers' behalf. This provision in the subsidized loan program is commonly referred to as the "in-school interest subsidy" and was also available to needy graduate students prior to July 1, 2012.

Repayment begins following a six-month "grace period" after the student is no longer enrolled at least half-time. The interest subsidy extends through the grace period. However, that provision was temporarily suspended for new loans for which the first disbursement was made on or after July 1, 2012, and before July 1, 2014. Borrowers are responsible for paying accruing interest once they enter the repayment period, beginning at the end of the grace period, except during authorized periods of deferment.

Unsubsidized Loans: The second type of Direct student loan, the unsubsidized loan, works similarly to subsidized loans, but borrowers are responsible for all interest that accrues. Eligibility for unsubsidized loans is not based on students' financial need. That is, students may receive these loans regardless of their incomes or assets, and may use them to replace the expected family contribution. Annual and aggregate limits apply to award amounts.

Students who receive unsubsidized loans do not have an in-school interest subsidy. These borrowers are charged the accrued interest on these loans while they are enrolled. Accrued interest may be paid during periods of enrollment, or may be capitalized (added to the principal balance of the loans). Interest on these loans must also be paid or capitalized during any deferment periods.

Loan Limits. The amount a student may borrow in subsidized funds is the result of subtracting other aid and the expected family contribution (EFC) from the cost of attendance (COA), or the applicable annual loan limit, whichever is less. The annual maximum amount of loans students may borrow varies by academic grade level. As of July 1, 2007, the annual loan limits are as follows:

	Dependent Students	Independent Students (and dependent students whose parents cannot obtain a PLUS loan)
First Year Undergraduate Students	\$5,500 <i>No more than \$3,500 can be subsidized.</i>	\$9,500 <i>No more than \$3,500 can be subsidized.</i>
Second Year Undergraduate Students	\$6,500 <i>No more than \$4,500 can be subsidized.</i>	\$10,500 <i>No more than \$4,500 can be subsidized.</i>
Third Year and Beyond Undergraduate Students	\$7,500 <i>No more than \$5,500 can be subsidized.</i>	\$12,500 <i>No more than \$5,500 can be subsidized.</i>
Graduate/Professional Students	N/A	\$20,500 <i>As of July 1, 2012, unsubsidized funds only.</i>

As of July 1, 2007, the aggregate loan limits are as follows:

	Dependent Students	Independent Students (and students whose parents cannot obtain a PLUS loan)
Undergraduate Students	\$31,000 <i>No more than \$23,000 can be subsidized.</i>	\$57,500 <i>No more than \$23,000 can be subsidized.</i>
Graduate Students	N/A	\$138,500 <i>No more than \$65,500 can be subsidized. Undergraduate borrowing counts toward graduate aggregate limit.</i>

PLUS: The PLUS Loan Program provides loans to the parents of dependent undergraduates and to students who are in graduate or professional programs (who are, by federal definition, independent of their parents). Parents must use the loan funds to pay their children's higher education costs. To qualify for a PLUS Loan, borrowers may not have an adverse credit history (credit history is not considered for subsidized and unsubsidized loans). Borrowers with adverse credit histories can obtain a loan if they provide an endorser or appeal the credit decision with the Department of Education.

PLUS Loans are limited to the difference between the student's COA and other anticipated financial aid; there are no absolute annual or aggregate limits.

Table 7. Undergraduates Who Received Federal Direct Subsidized Loans by Family Income Level, Award Year 2015-2016

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)	Recipients (Estimated)	Percent	Average Award
Less than \$20,000	1,677,431	30.4%	\$3,680
\$20,000 to \$39,999	1,395,172	25.3%	3,738
\$40,000 to \$59,999	857,203	15.6%	3,832
\$60,000 to \$79,999	594,442	10.8%	3,842
\$80,000 to \$99,999	406,515	7.4%	3,801
\$100,000 and over	578,306	10.5%	3,782
Total	5,509,068	100.0%	\$3,722

Table 8. Undergraduates Who Received Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans by Family Income Level, Award Year 2015-2016

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)	Recipients (Estimated)	Percent	Average Award
Less than \$20,000	1,407,960	26.1%	\$4,368
\$20,000 to \$39,999	1,143,610	21.2%	3,926
\$40,000 to \$59,999	725,936	13.4%	3,453
\$60,000 to \$79,999	539,686	10.0%	3,385
\$80,000 to \$99,999	440,823	8.2%	3,513
\$100,000 and over	1,140,215	21.1%	4,625
Total	5,398,231	100.0%	\$4,045

Table 9. Undergraduates Whose Parents Received Federal PLUS Loans by Family Income Level, Award Year 2015-2016

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)	Recipients (Estimated)	Percent	Average Award
Less than \$20,000	82,936	10.2%	\$10,097
\$20,000 to \$39,999	120,637	14.8%	10,727
\$40,000 to \$59,999	119,438	14.7%	11,268
\$60,000 to \$79,999	102,327	12.6%	12,739
\$80,000 to \$99,999	95,279	11.7%	13,972
\$100,000 and over	294,256	36.1%	18,454
Total	814,872	100.0%	\$14,027

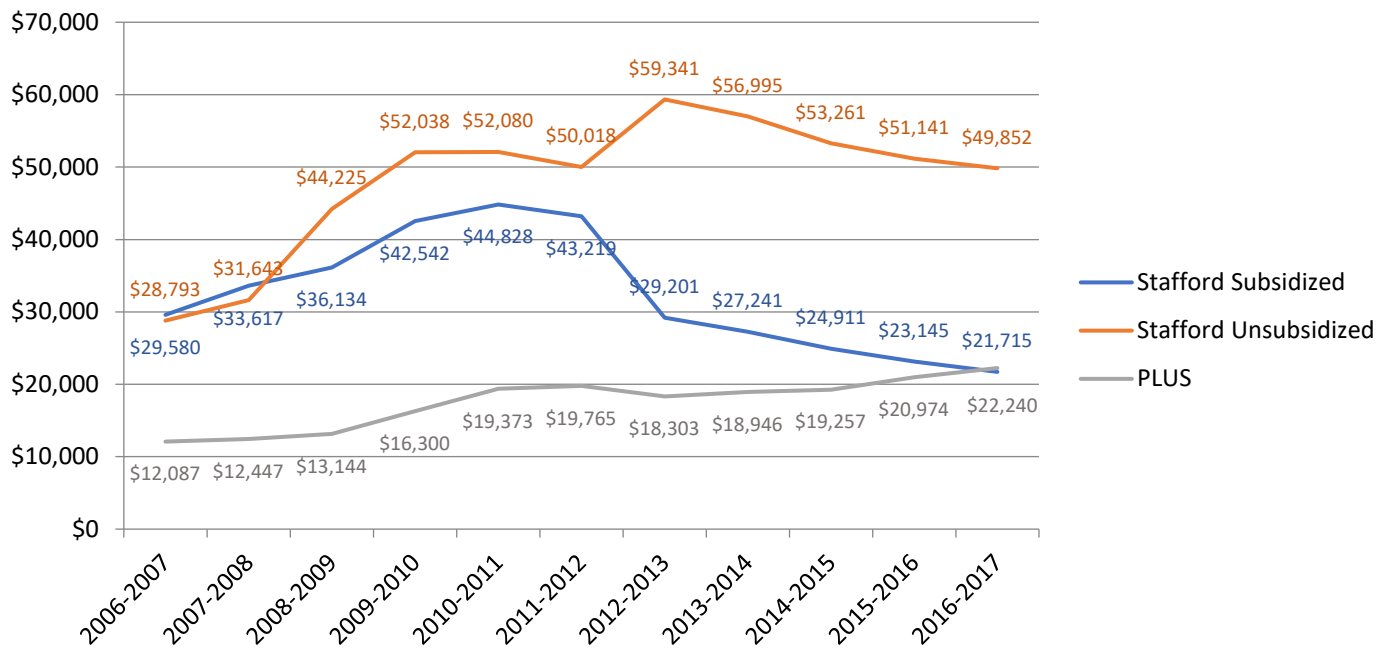
Table 10. Graduate/Professional Students Who Received Federal Direct PLUS Loans by Family Income Level, Award Year 2015-2016

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)	Recipients (Estimated)	Percent	Average Award
Less than \$20,000	152,084	52.8%	\$21,979
\$20,000 to \$39,999	52,969	18.4%	19,435
\$40,000 to \$59,999	31,555	11.0%	20,881
\$60,000 to \$79,999	17,224	6.0%	24,384
\$80,000 to \$99,999	11,887	4.1%	16,700
\$100,000 and over	22,069	7.7%	22,328
Total	287,788	100.0%	\$22,316

Note: Estimates for number of recipients calculated by NASFAA. Some students did not report income and were excluded from the calculation.

Source for tables 7-10: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015-2016 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16)

Figure 10. Federal Student Loan Volume (Inflation-Adjusted Dollars, in millions), 2006-2007 to 2016-2017



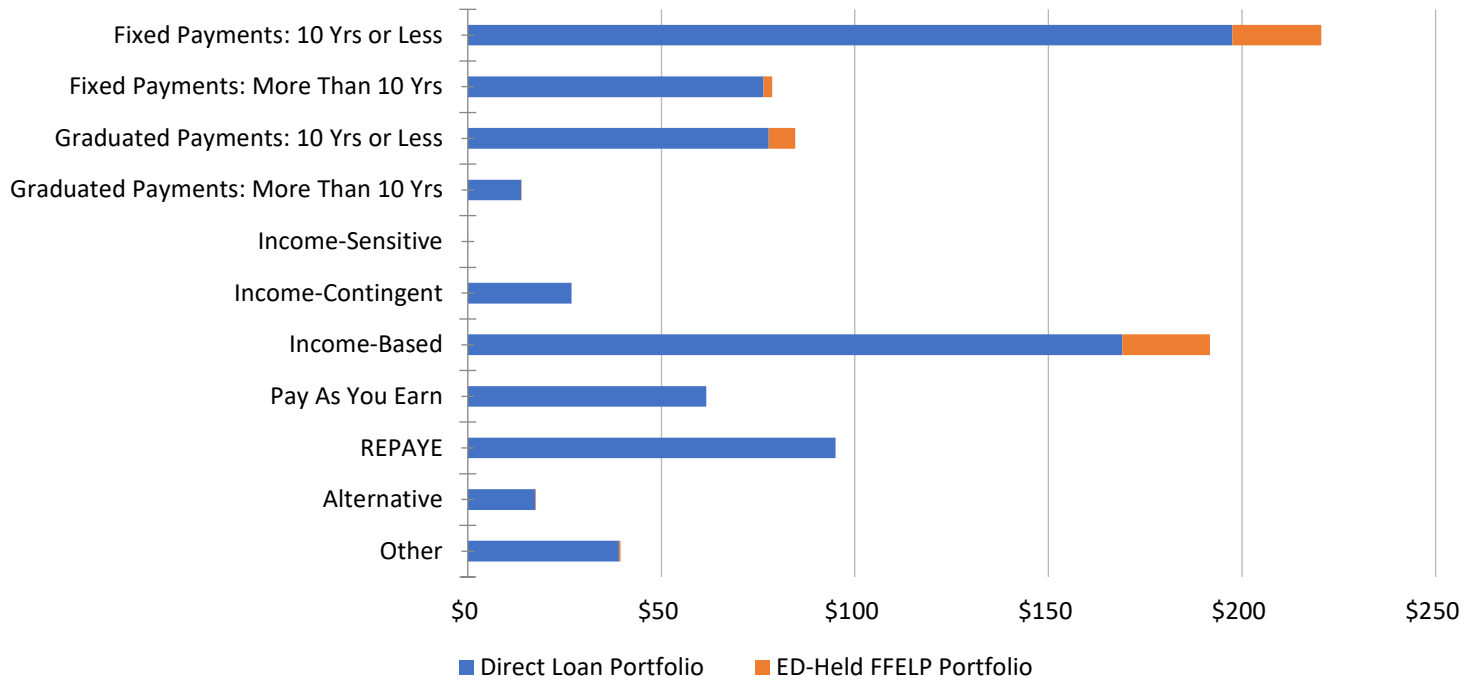
Source: The College Board, Trends in Student Aid, 2017.

Repayment, Loan, and Delinquency Status

Repayment Status: The federal government offers an array of repayment options for student borrowers. Borrowers, based on a variety of eligibility factors, can elect repayment plans with fixed or graduated payments up to 10 or 25 years, or choose to enroll in one of several income-driven repayment (IDR) plans. Income-contingent repayment (ICR), income-based repayment (IBR), income-sensitive repayment (ISR), Pay As You Earn (PAYE), and Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE) are each IDR plans with differing eligibility, monthly payment, and verification requirements.

As of September 2017, outstanding dollars from student loans in repayment totaled \$829.8 billion. Outstanding dollars for the Department of Education-held FFELP loans that were subsequently sold to the federal government totaled \$55.4 billion in 2017 — 41.5 percent assigned to 10-year fixed payment plans and 40.9 percent to IDR plans. Outstanding dollars from the Direct Loan portfolio, totaling \$774.4, were divided among a number of repayment plans. Similar to FFELP loans held by the Department of Education, 10-year fixed and IDR plans housed the largest share of Direct Loan dollars at 26 percent and 21.8 percent, respectively, with REPAYE plans holding 12.3 percent of outstanding dollars.

Figure 11. Dollars Outstanding (in billions) by Repayment Plan, as of September 30, 2017

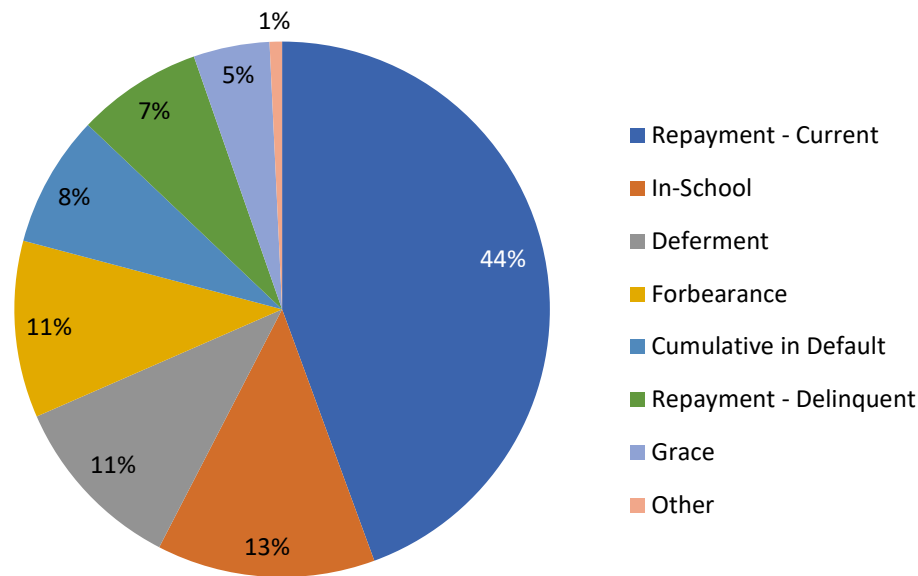


Note: Includes outstanding principal and interest balances of Direct Loan borrowers in Repayment, Deferment, and Forbearance; excludes borrowers in Default, In-School, and Grace. Data is run at the end of each quarter listed by federal fiscal year, in this case 2017 Q4. Information on repayment plans was not available for FFELP.

Source: National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), available from FSA Data Center (<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/data-center/student/portfolio>).

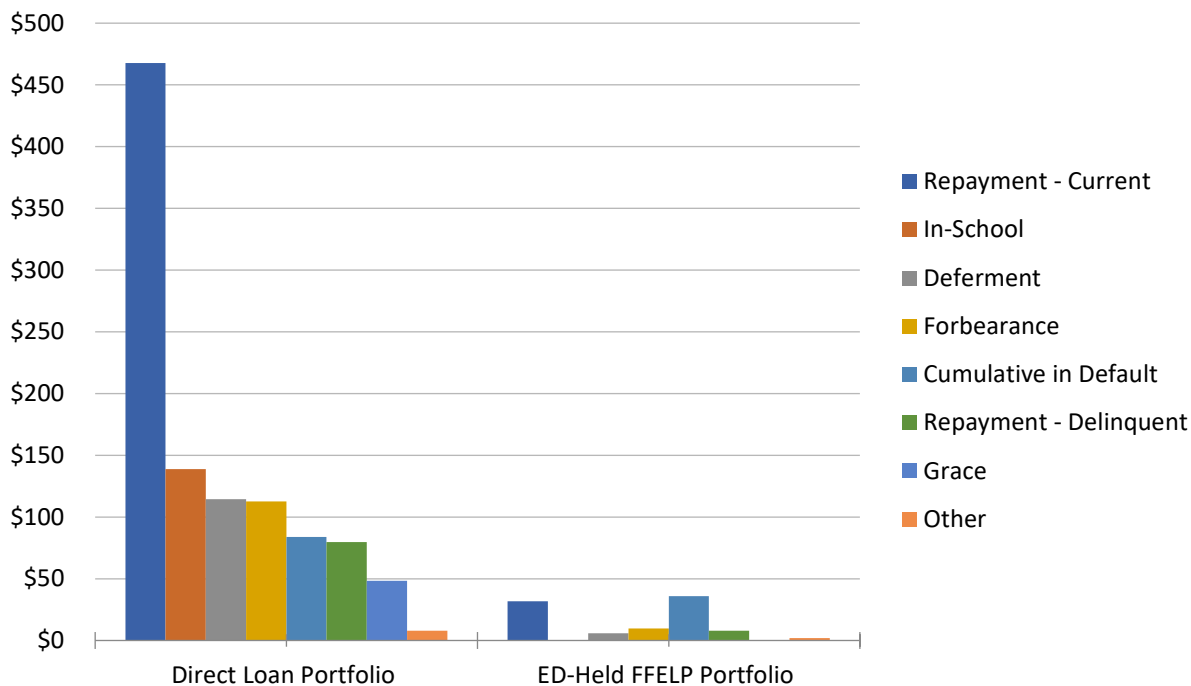
Loan Status: In 2017, \$499.6 billion (39.5 percent) of total outstanding Direct Loan and ED-held FFELP dollars were in current repayment. The remaining \$765 billion (60.5 percent) fell into several non-current repayment categories. Eleven percent of outstanding debt belonged to students still enrolled in school, and close to 5 percent was held by students in a six-month grace period. Loans in forbearance and deferment accounted for 12 percent and 11 percent, respectively, of uncollected dollars, with 14.5 percent of the dollars in default.

Figure 12. Dollars Outstanding in Direct Loan Portfolio (in billions), by Loan Status, as of September 30, 2017



Note: Note: Includes outstanding principal and interest balances. Data are run at the end of each quarter listed by federal fiscal year, in this case 2017 Q4. Numbers for FSA tables on loan status and delinquency status may differ due to rounding and the timing of data runs. Calculation of repayment current and delinquent by NASFAA.
 Source: National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), available from FSA Data Center (<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/data-center/student/portfolio>).

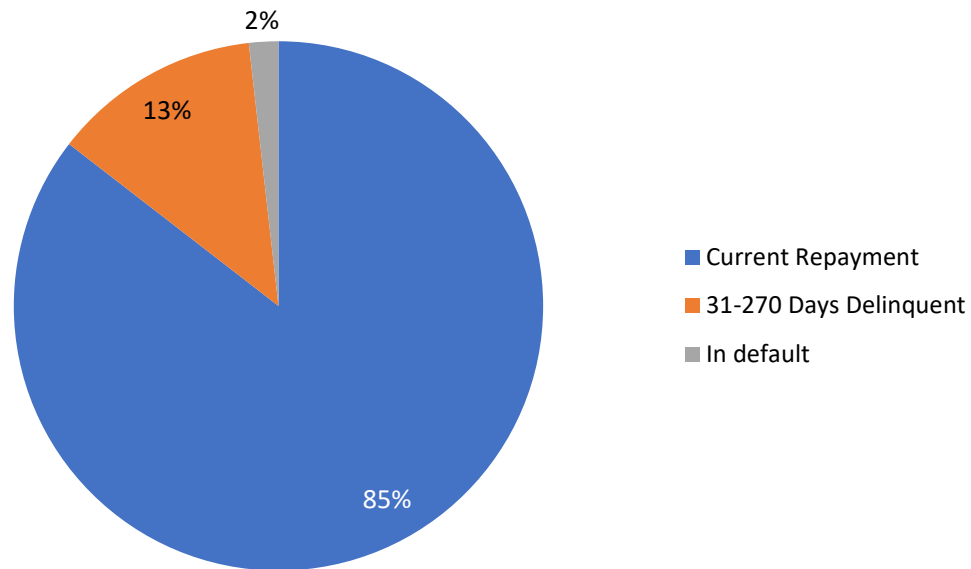
Figure 13. Distribution of Dollars Outstanding (in billions), by Loan Status, as of September 30, 2017



Note: Includes outstanding principal and interest balances. Data is run at the end of each quarter listed by federal fiscal year, in this case 2017 Q4. Numbers for FSA tables on loan status and delinquency status may differ due to rounding and the timing of data runs. Calculation of repayment current and delinquent by NASFAA.
 Source: National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), available from FSA Data Center (<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/data-center/student/portfolio>).

Delinquency Status: A delinquency period for federal student loan borrowers begins the day after they miss a payment. As of September 2017, \$87.3 billion of the \$499.60 billion in repayment made up of 17.5 percent of borrowers in repayment were in a delinquency status, meaning they had missed a payment and as of Sept. 30, 2017 had not restarted making on-time payments.

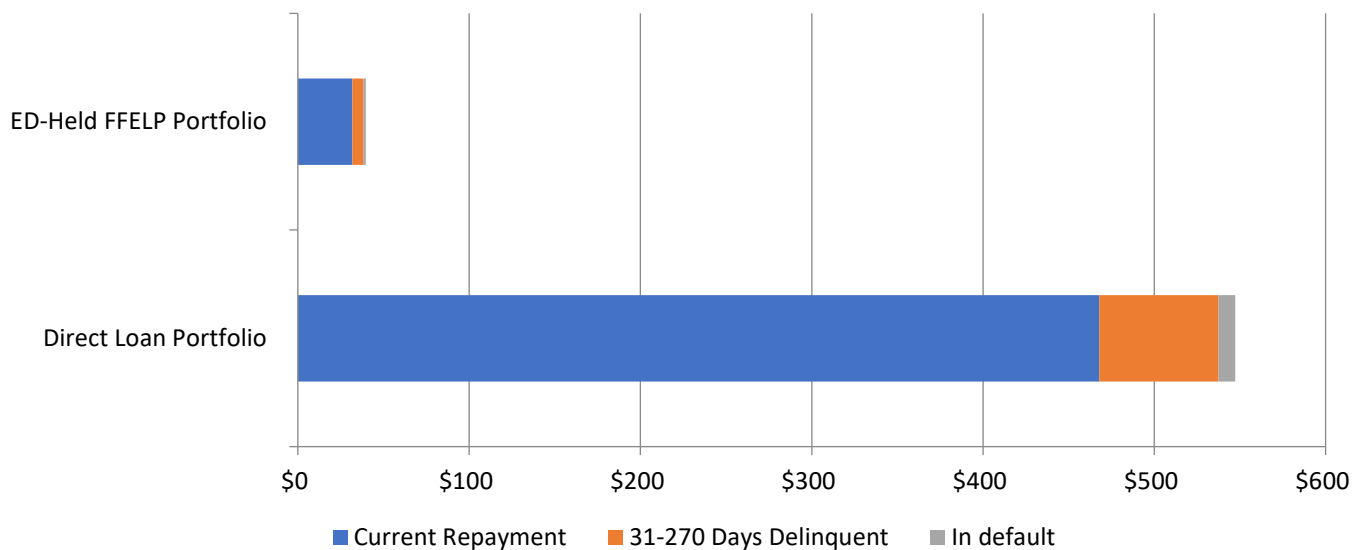
Figure 14. Direct Loan Dollars Outstanding (in billions) for Borrowers in Repayment Status, by Delinquency Status, as of September 30, 2017



Note: Includes outstanding principal and interest balances. The category for In Default includes technical default (271 days delinquent), default (361 days delinquent), and loans transferring to the Debt Management and Collections System.

Source: National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), available from FSA Data Center (<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/data-center/student/portfolio>).

Figure 15. Distribution of Direct Loan Dollars Outstanding (in billions) for Borrowers in Repayment Status, by Delinquency Status, as of September 30, 2017



Source: National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), available from FSA Data Center (<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/data-center/student/portfolio>).

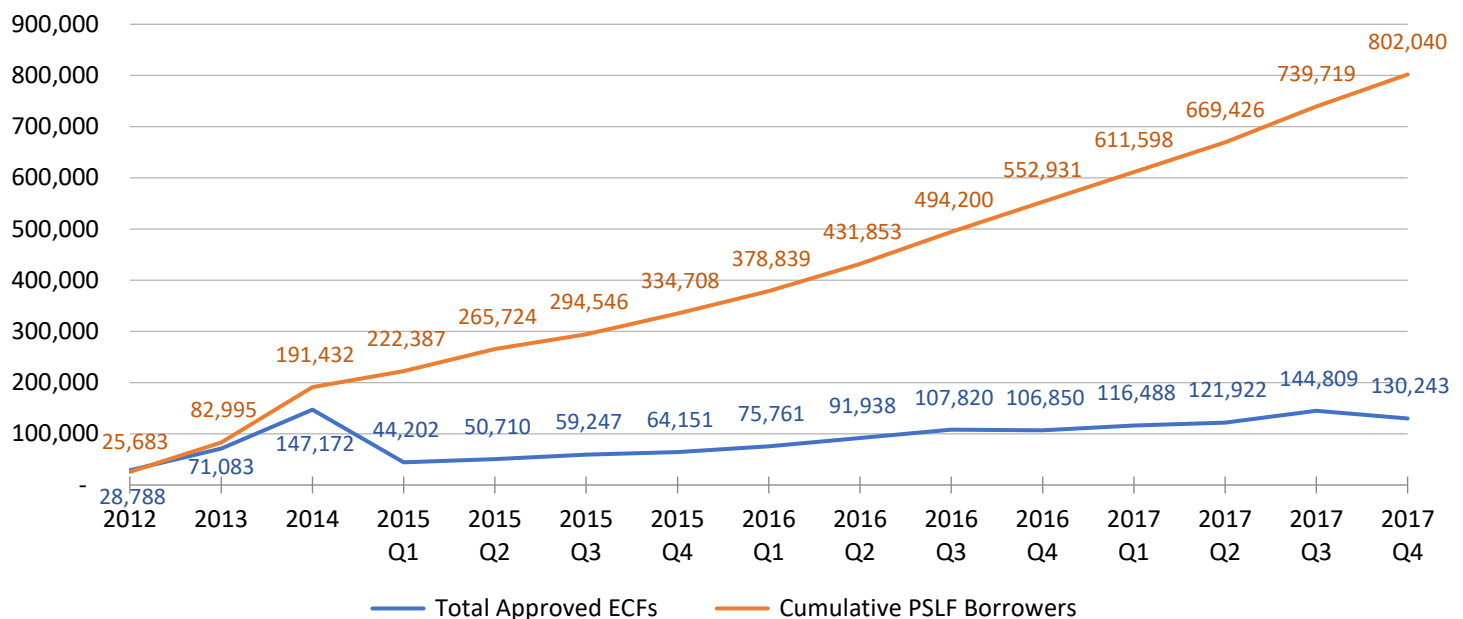
Public Service Loan Forgiveness

Program Description: Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) is a federal program that allows Direct Loan borrowers who are working full-time in the public service sector to have the remainder of their Direct Loan balances forgiven after making 120 qualifying payments. The program was created in 2007 under the College Cost Reduction and Access Act as a way to provide relief to professionals working in government, state, local, and non-profit sector jobs.

Beyond having a qualifying workplace, borrowers must also be enrolled in a qualified repayment plan and complete an “Employment Certification Form” (ECF) to be eligible for forgiveness. As only loan payments made after Oct. 1, 2007 qualify toward the 120 required payments, the first PSLF recipients received forgiveness in 2017. Submission of the ECF on an annual basis is voluntary, and the Department of Education (ED) tracks submission of ECFs as an indicator of interest in, and potential eligibility for, PSLF. Submission of one or more ECFs does not necessarily indicate that a borrower will ultimately receive forgiveness. Although there is a high number of ECFs submitted, ED estimated that fewer than 1,000 borrowers will actually receive loan forgiveness in 2018.

In recent years, Republicans have expressed interest in eliminating the PSLF program. President Trump proposed eliminating PSLF for new borrowers in his fiscal year 2019 budget. In addition, the PROSPER Act, the House Republicans’ comprehensive Higher Education Act (HEA) reauthorization bill, proposes ending the PSLF program, though current borrowers would be grandfathered in.

Figure 16. Public Service Loan Forgiveness Employment Certification Forms (ECFs) 2012-2017



Note: Includes only borrowers who have self-identified as interested in PSLF based on their submission of an Employment Certification Form. The Department of Education introduced a voluntary ECF in January 2012 to help borrowers track their progress toward meeting PSLF requirements. Borrowers are encouraged, but not required, to submit an ECF annually. Cumulative PSLF borrowers are borrowers who have one or more approved ECFs. Quarters are based on calendar year.

Source: FedLoan Servicing, available from FSA Data Center (<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/data-center/student/portfolio>).

Federal Need Analysis

Description: The application for all Title IV programs is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which collects demographic, income, and asset information from aid applicants and their families. ED uses this information to confirm students' general eligibility to receive Title IV funds and calculates an index, called the Expected Family Contribution (EFC), that schools use as one of several factors to determine the amount of financial aid a student may receive during a given award year.

The EFC is determined by a need analysis formula established under Title IV of the Higher Education Act (HEA); the formula is called the Federal Methodology (FM). Parents of dependent students are expected to provide financial information on the FAFSA and to contribute some amount, if they are able, to the financing of their child's education.

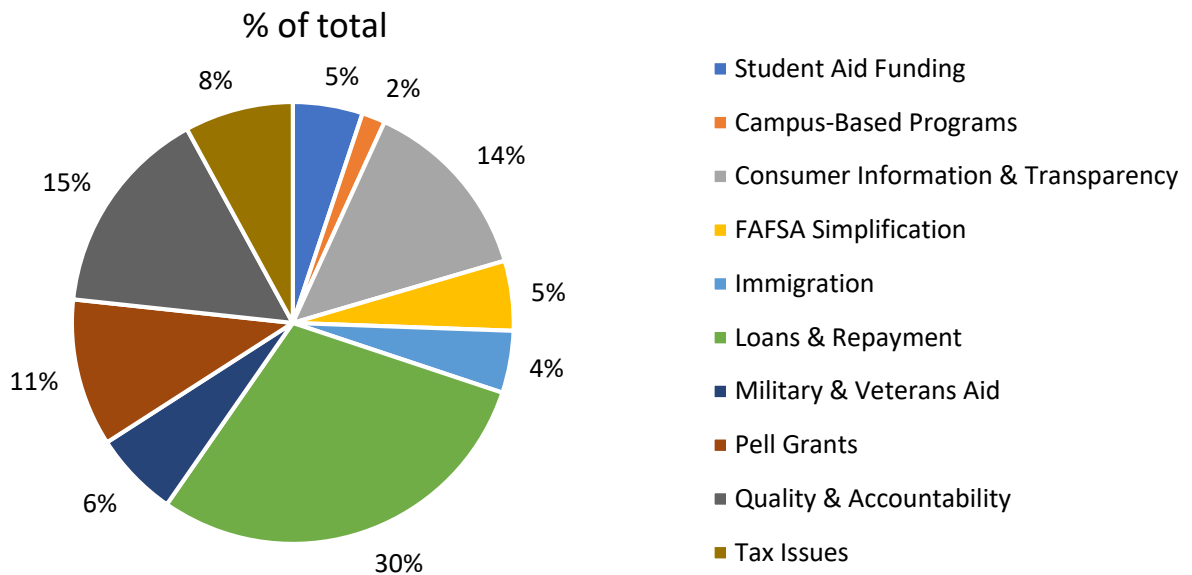
In September 2015, President Barack Obama and then-Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced their intention to use their existing authority in HEA [Sec. 480(a)(B)(1)] to adjust the year of income tax data used to determine federal aid eligibility, a move supported by NASFAA and other higher education advocates. Before, the FM calculated a student's financial need using prior year income data. On Oct. 1, 2016, FM began using income data from the prior-prior year ("PPY") and the FAFSA release date moved up from January 1 to October 1.

Use: Financial aid administrators use the EFC and other information to determine which students will receive federal student aid authorized under Title IV of the HEA and the amounts they will receive from these programs. Students are eligible to receive need-based federal student aid (Federal Pell Grant, FWS, FSEOG, Federal Perkins Loans, and Direct Subsidized Loans) only if the sum of the EFC and other estimated financial assistance is less than the total cost of attendance (COA). The COA includes tuition and fees, estimated living expenses, books and educational supplies, transportation to and from the postsecondary institution, and other miscellaneous expenses.

Introduced Legislation on Student Aid by Topic

In 2017, members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate introduced a combined total of 156 bills on student aid-related issues, up from 107 in 2016. When categorized by topic, Congress demonstrated a commitment to addressing student loans and repayment, quality and accountability, and consumer information and transparency (30 percent, 15 percent, and 14 percent of legislation introduced on student aid topics addressed these issues, respectively).

Figure 17. Bills Introduced in 2017 by Topic



Source: NASFAA Legislative Tracker – www.nasfaa.org/legislative_tracker

Fiscal Year 2018 Budget and Appropriations Update

Each year, Congress must go through the process of determining funding levels for most of the federal student aid programs. Fiscal year (FY) 2018 funding, which impacts the 2018-2019 award year, was finalized by Congress and signed into law by President Trump in March 2018 in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018. The measure included several unexpected boosts for student aid programs, including the Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), and Federal Work-Study (FWS) programs.

Funding for the Pell Grant Program comes from both discretionary (subject to the annual appropriations process) and mandatory (set in law) funding streams. Through the appropriations process, Congress has agreed to fund the discretionary base maximum Pell Grant award at \$4,860 level since 2009-2010. However, because the mandatory annual inflation adjustment add-on to the maximum award expired after FY 2017, which would have left the add-on at \$1,060 (resulting in a \$5,920 total maximum grant), Congress opted to increase the discretionary base maximum to \$5,035. Combined with the \$1,060 mandatory add-on, the total maximum Pell Grant award for FY 2018 (award year 2018-2019), stands at \$6,095, a \$175 increase over FY 2017.

The chart below highlights Pell Grant funding over the last three fiscal years.

Program	FY16	FY17	FY18	Change from FY17 to FY18
Pell Grant (discretionary)	\$22,475,352,000	\$22,475,352,000	\$22,475,352,000	\$0
Pell Grant maximum award	\$5,815	\$5,920	\$6,095	+\$175

The spending package included the “Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship Act,” which allows students who were less than 24 years old or enrolled at an institution of higher education at the time of the death of a parent or guardian who died in the line of duty as a police officer, firefighter, or other public safety officer to receive the maximum Pell Grant award.

In the final FY 2018 agreement, both the FSEOG Program and the FWS Program received significant funding increases. FSEOG saw a \$107 million boost, the largest increase in a single year in the program’s history, and the first funding increase since FY 2014. Funding for FWS increased by \$140 million, surpassing \$1 billion for the first time since FY 2009. The funding for FSEOG and FWS are highlighted in the following chart.

Program	FY16	FY17	FY18	Change from FY17 to FY18
FSEOG	\$733,130,000	\$733,130,000	\$840,000,000	+\$107 million
FWS	\$989,728,000	\$989,728,000	\$1,130,000,000	+\$140 million

The spending agreement also made adjustments to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program, setting aside \$350 million to allow Direct Loan borrowers who made otherwise qualifying payments — but under an extended or graduated repayment plan instead of another approved plan — to qualify for loan forgiveness under PSLF. Certain graduated or extended monthly payments that fell below the amount specified under the standard 10-year plan can now qualify for forgiveness. The spending package instructed the Department of Education (ED) to develop a simple method for borrowers to apply for forgiveness under the new provisions, and approved \$2.3 million for ED to reach out to borrowers who would otherwise qualify for PSLF but are enrolled in an ineligible repayment plan.

The higher education community continues to advocate for adequate funding of the federal student aid programs.

Special National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16) Update

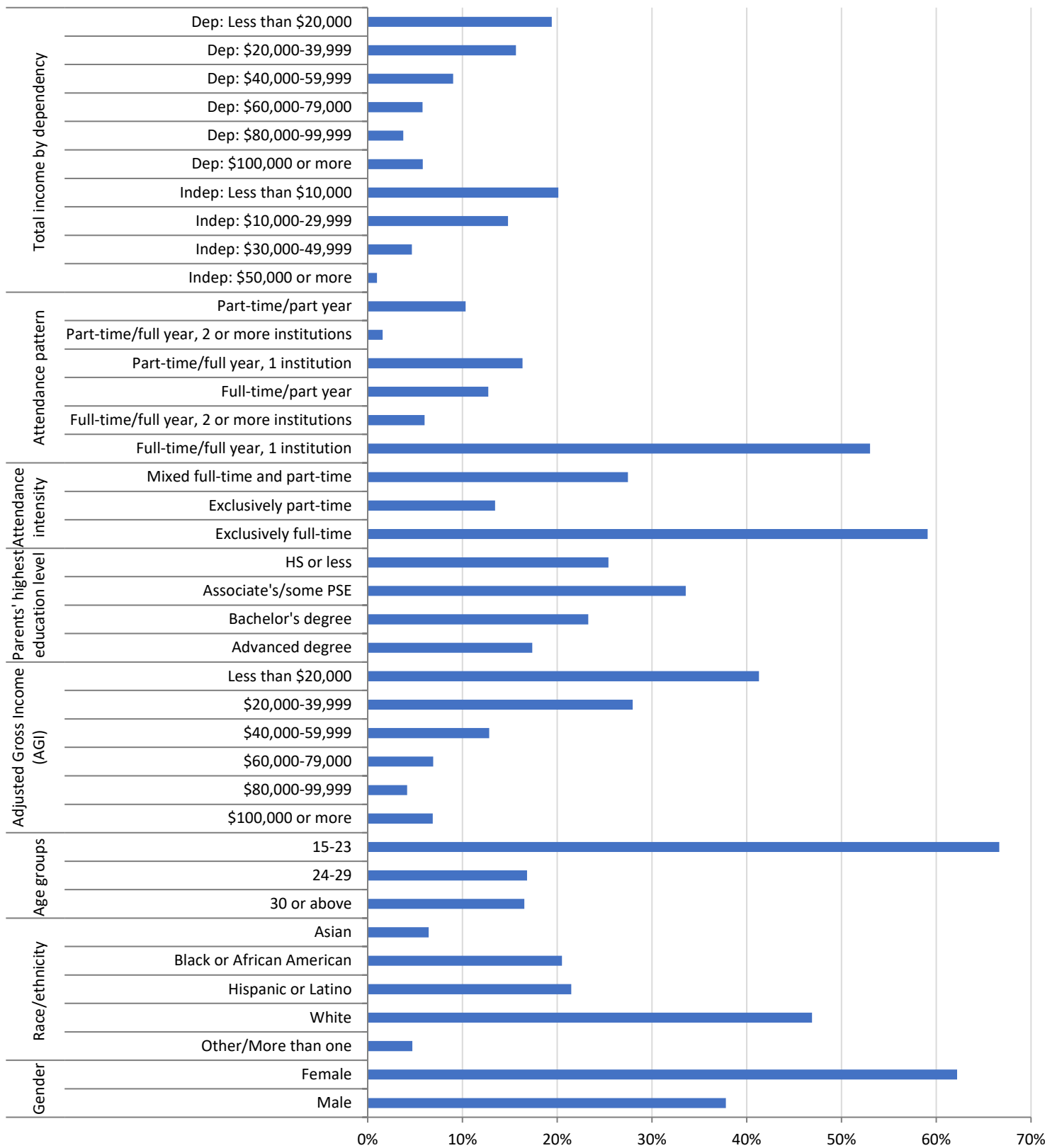
Program Description: This section examines new data released by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) from the 2015-2016 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16). NPSAS is a comprehensive, nationally representative survey of the characteristics of students in postsecondary education, with a special focus on student financing. It includes undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in Title IV eligible institutions in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The survey includes detailed data on participation in student financial aid programs, as well as information about demographics, family circumstances, and education and work experiences.

Data in each of the following sections focus on the characteristics of students who receive specific types of federal financial aid, and include analyses of the distribution of aid recipients by the following:

- Annual aid types include total federal loans — Subsidized Loans, Unsubsidized Loans, Parent PLUS Loans (undergraduates), Grad PLUS Loans (graduate students) — and total campus-based aid — FSEOG, Perkins Loans, and Federal Work-Study. (Note that students can receive more than one type of aid.)
- For each type of aid, distribution of aid recipients by student characteristics. Each set of characteristics sums to 100 percent.
- By race/ethnicity, gender, and race/ethnicity combined with gender
- By age, income, and age combined with income
- By income and dependency status
- By parents' highest level of education
- Cumulative loans overall by student characteristics
- Graduate student data also include distribution by degree program

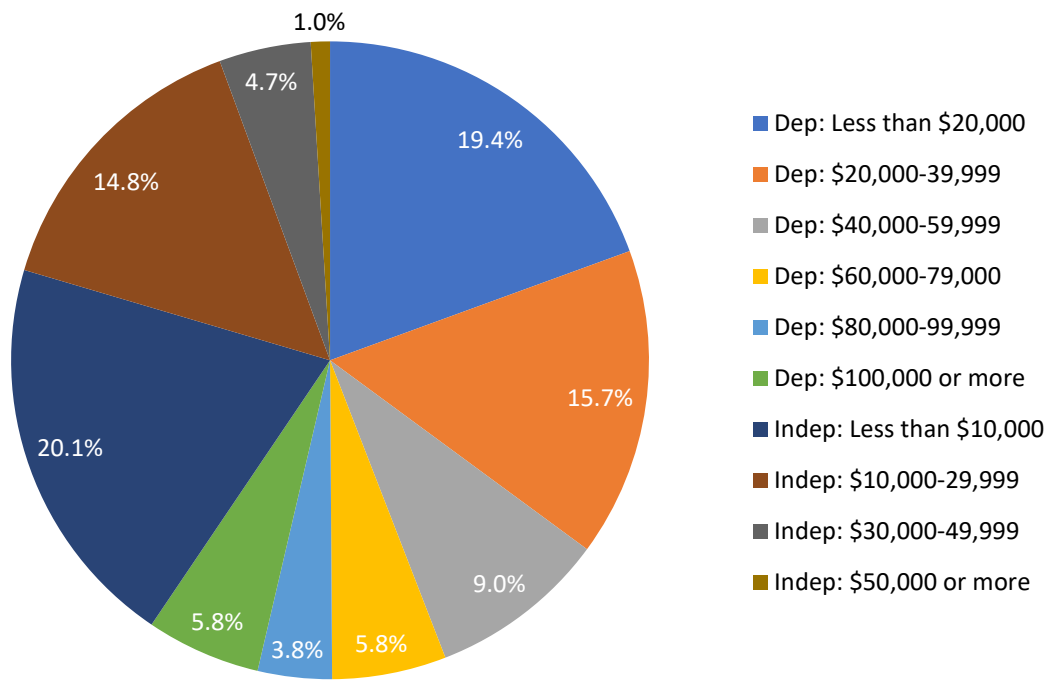
Campus-Based Aid for Undergraduate Students: As mentioned earlier in this document, these programs include: the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program (FSEOG), the Federal Work-Study (FWS) Program, and the Federal Perkins Loan Program.

Figure 18. Percentage Distribution of Total Undergraduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients (FSEOG, Perkins, FWS) by Student Characteristics, 2015-2016



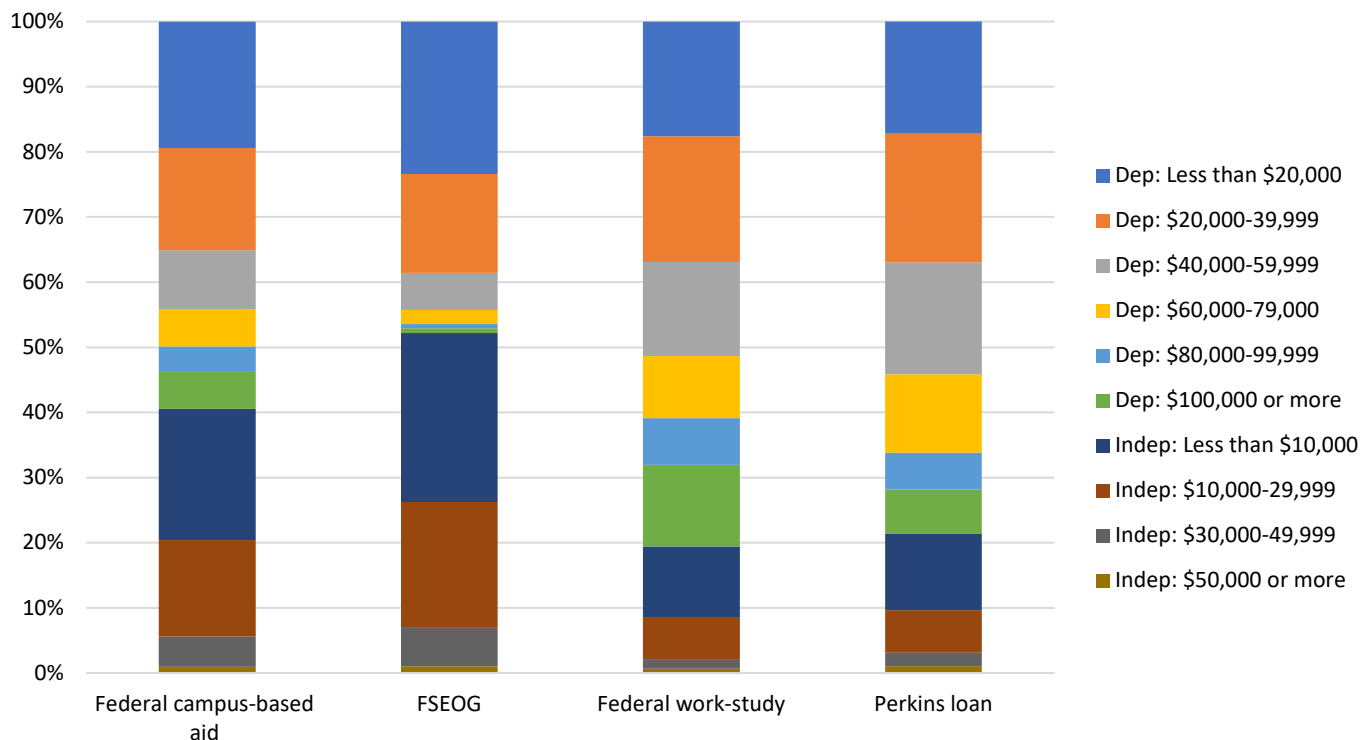
Notes: Parents' highest education level excludes unknown. Low sample sizes for Perkins, Indep: \$50,000 or more.

Figure 19. Percentage Distribution of Total Undergraduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients by Income and Dependency Status, 2015-2016



Notes: Low sample sizes for Perkins, Indep: \$50,000 or more.

Figure 20. Percentage Distribution of Undergraduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients by Income, Dependency Status, and Aid Type, 2015-2016



Notes: Low sample sizes for Perkins, Indep: \$50,000 or more.

Figure 21. Percentage Distribution of Undergraduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients by Attendance Intensity and Aid Type, 2015-2016

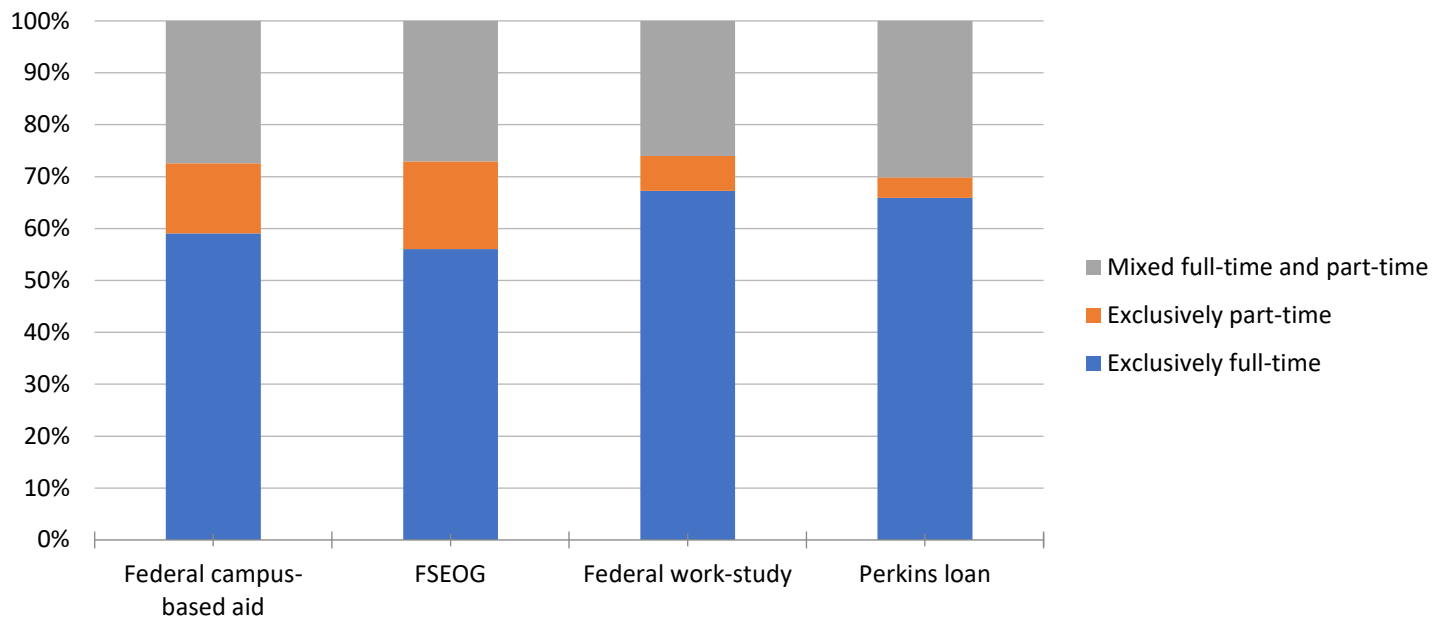


Figure 22. Percentage Distribution of Undergraduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients by Gender and Aid Type, 2015-2016

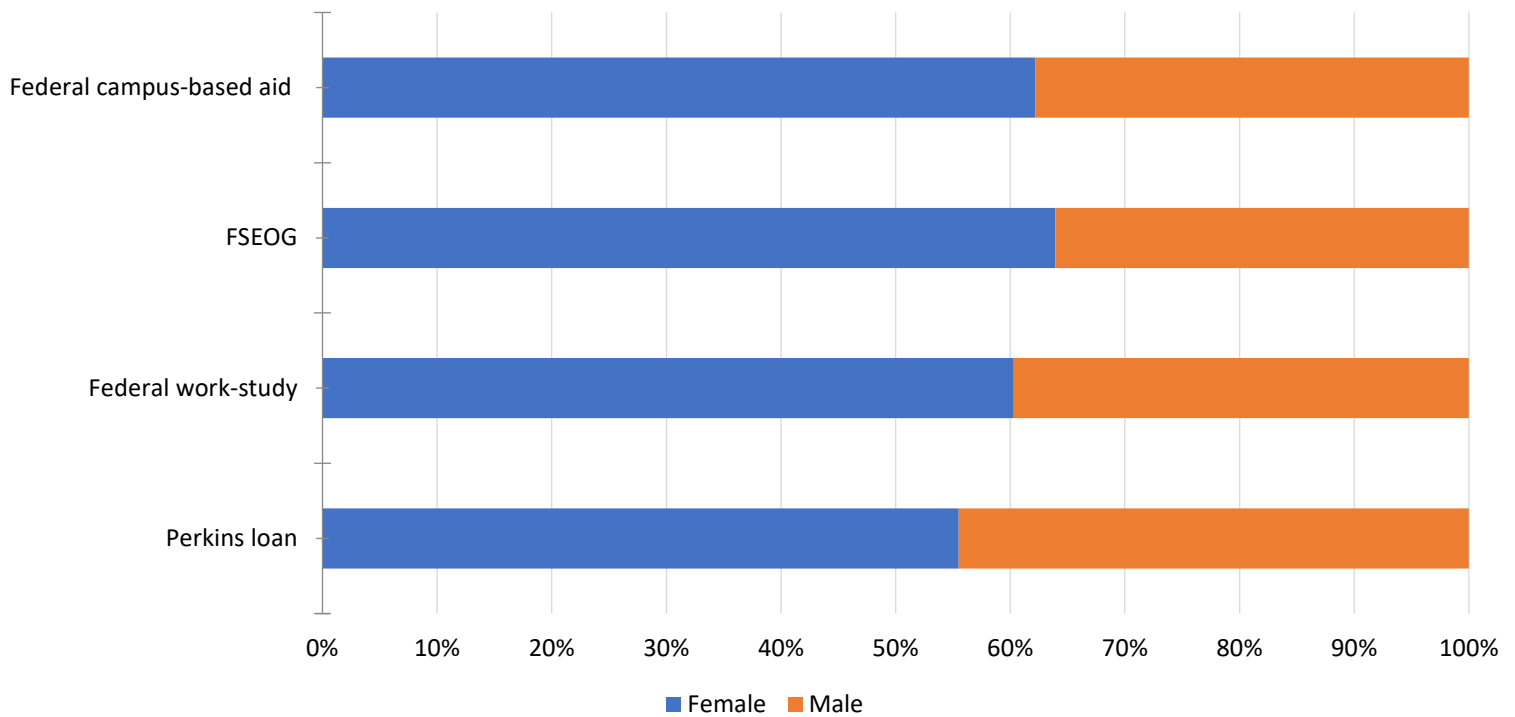
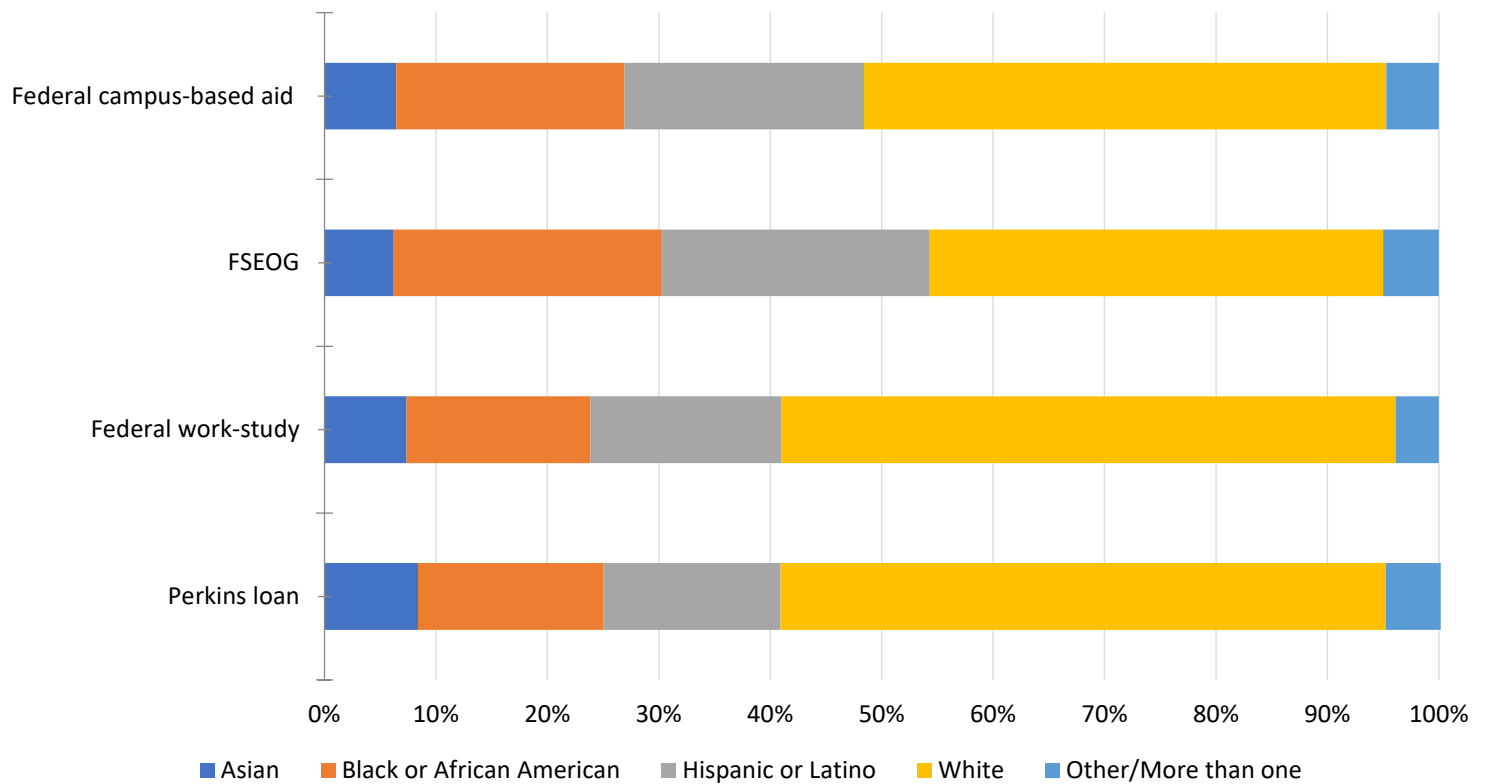
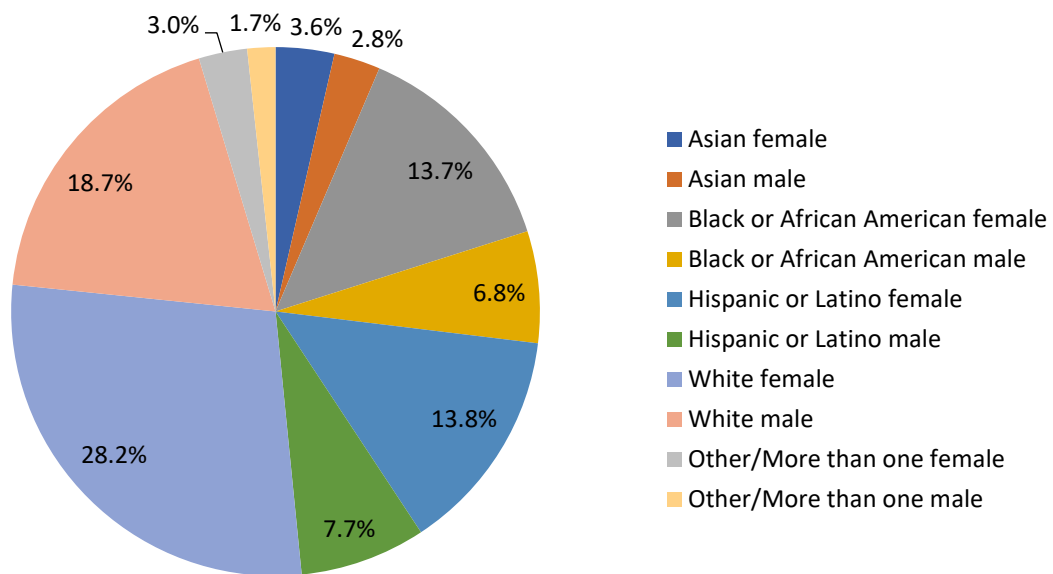


Figure 23. Percentage Distribution of Undergraduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients by Race/Ethnicity and Aid Type, 2015-2016



Note: Some small sample sizes for categories in Other (American Indian/Alaska Native and Pacific Islander/Hawaiian).

Figure 24. Percentage Distribution of Total Undergraduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients by Race/Ethnicity and Gender, 2015-2016



Note: Some small sample sizes for categories in Other (American Indian/Alaska Native and Pacific Islander/Hawaiian).

Figure 25. Percentage Distribution of Undergraduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients by Race/Ethnicity, Gender, and Aid Type, 2015-2016

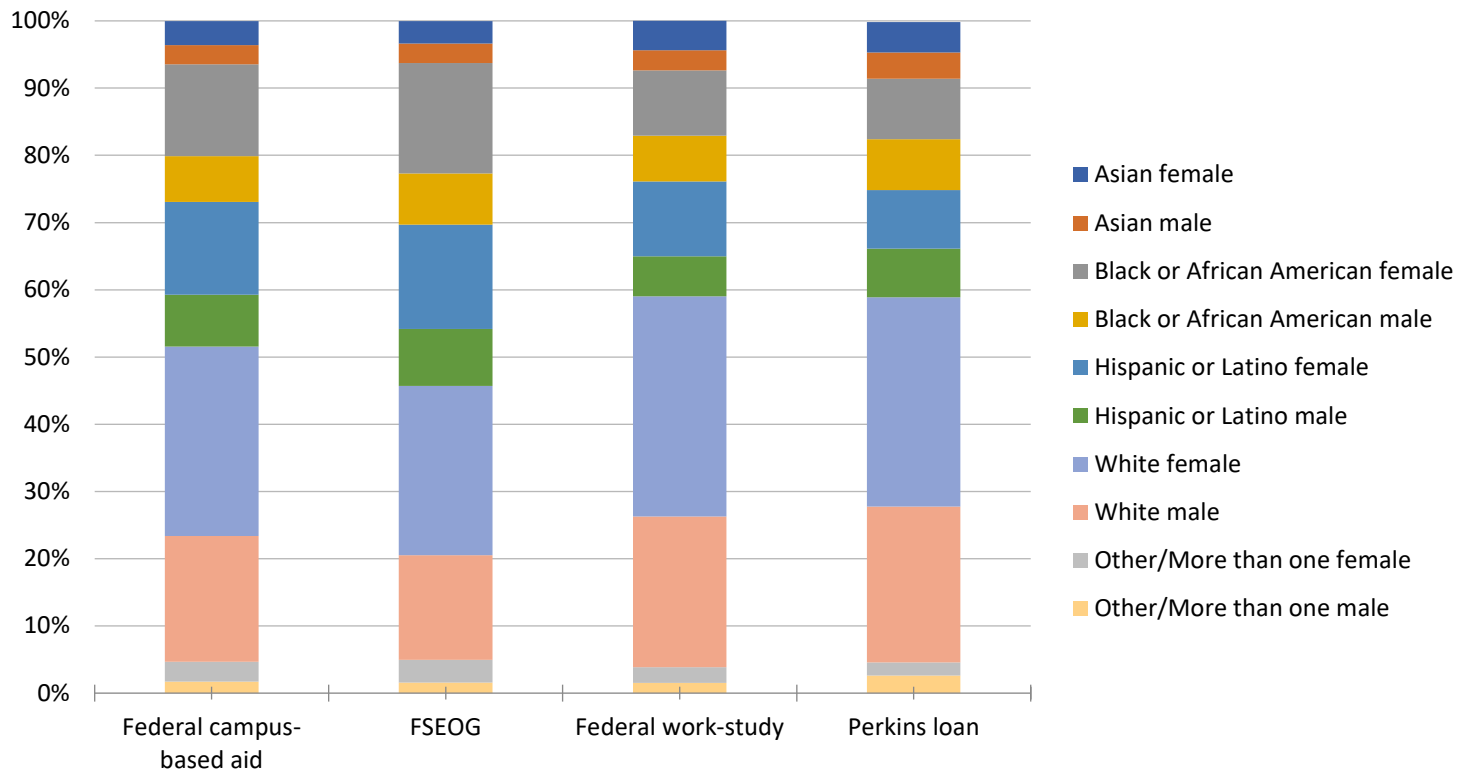
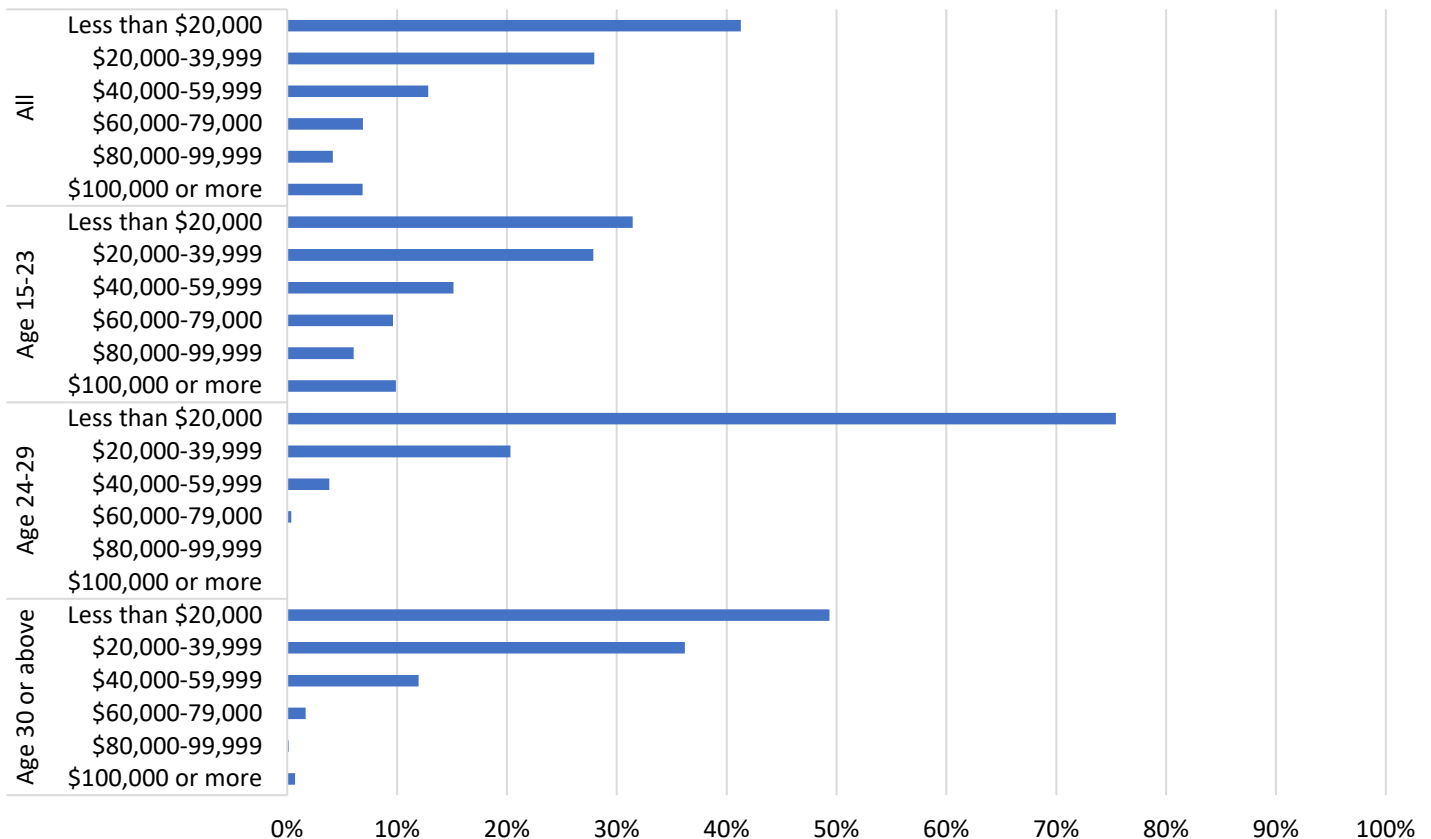


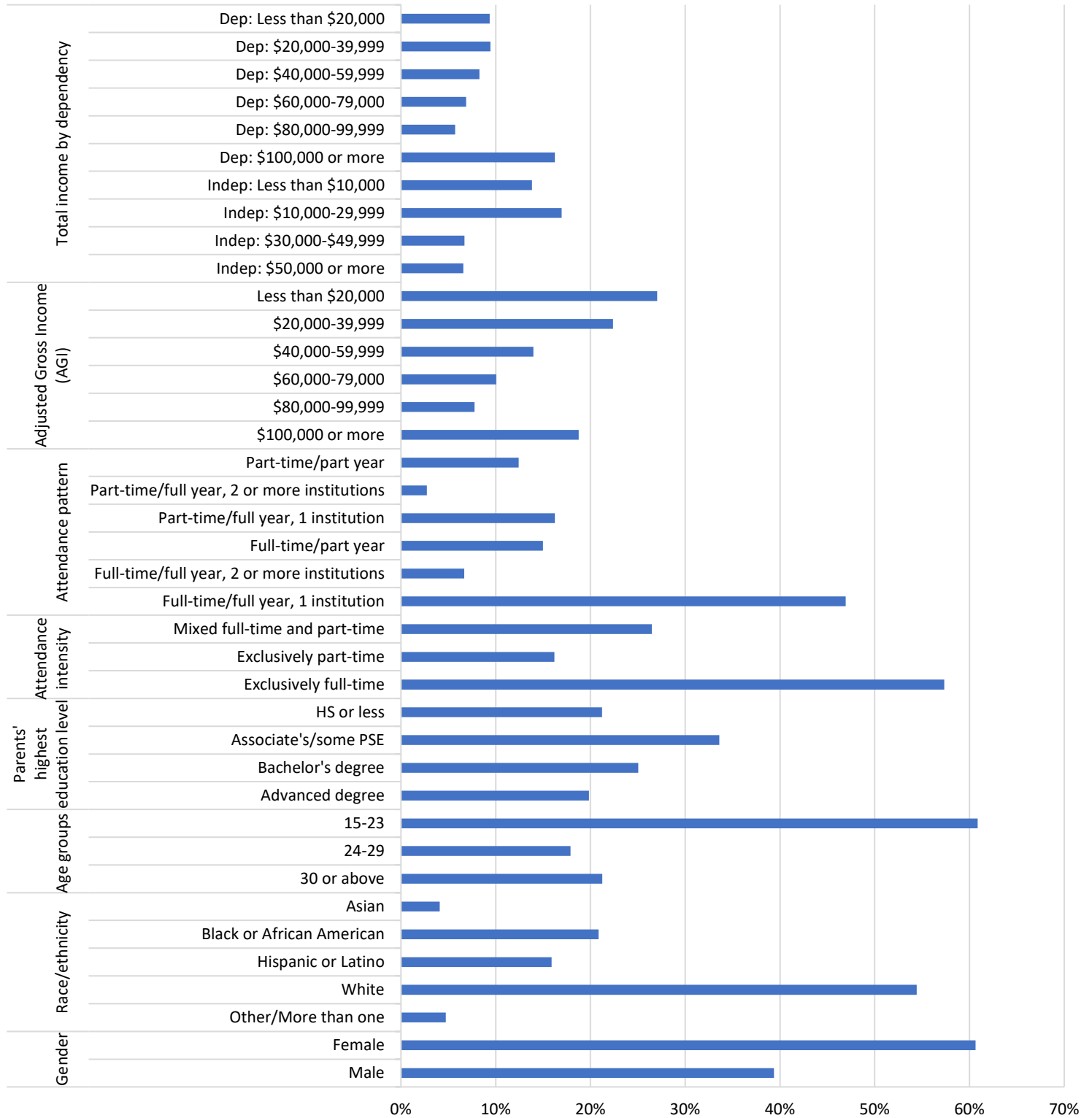
Figure 26. Percentage Distribution of Total Undergraduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients by Age and Income, 2015-2016



Note: Some low sample sizes for aged 24 and older for income categories of \$40,000 and over.

Loans for Undergraduate Students: As stated earlier in this document, the Direct Loan Program is an umbrella for four loans (as was FFELP). Undergraduate students are eligible for the following loan types: Direct Subsidized Loans (also referred to as Subsidized Stafford Loans), Direct Unsubsidized Loans (also referred to as Unsubsidized Stafford Loans), Parent PLUS Loans, which are made to parents of dependent students, and Federal Perkins Loans.

Figure 27. Percentage Distribution of Total Undergraduate Federal Loan Recipients (excluding Parent PLUS) by Student Characteristics, 2015-2016



Note: Parents' highest education level excludes unknown. Parent PLUS is not available for independent students and students aged 24 and above.

Figure 28. Percentage Distribution of Total Undergraduate Federal Loan Recipients (excluding Parent PLUS) by Income and Dependency Status, 2015-2016

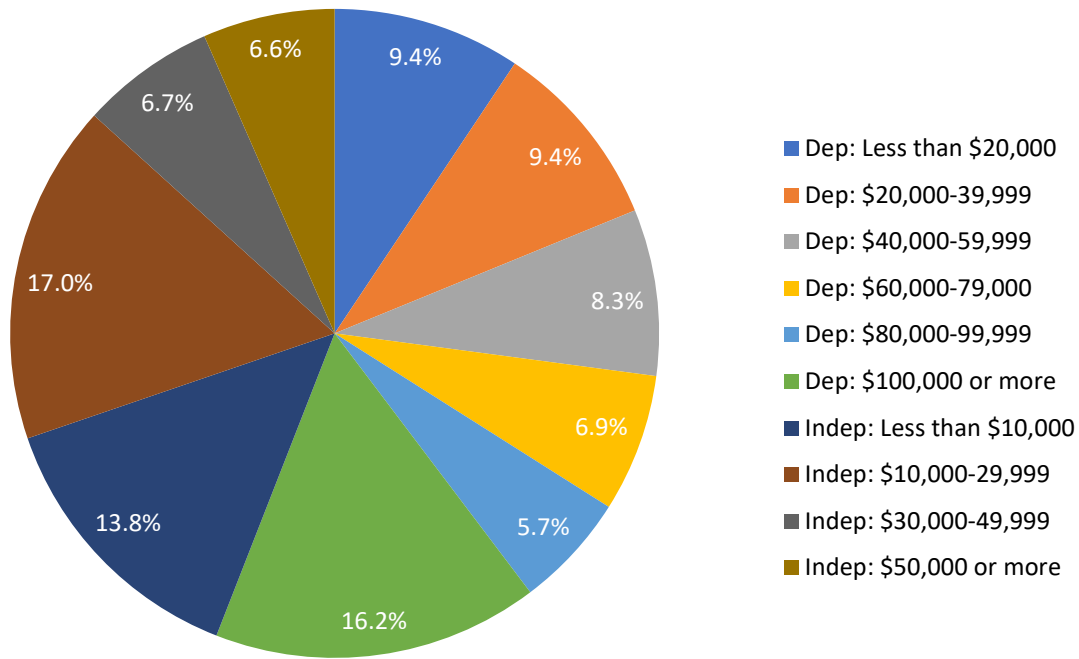
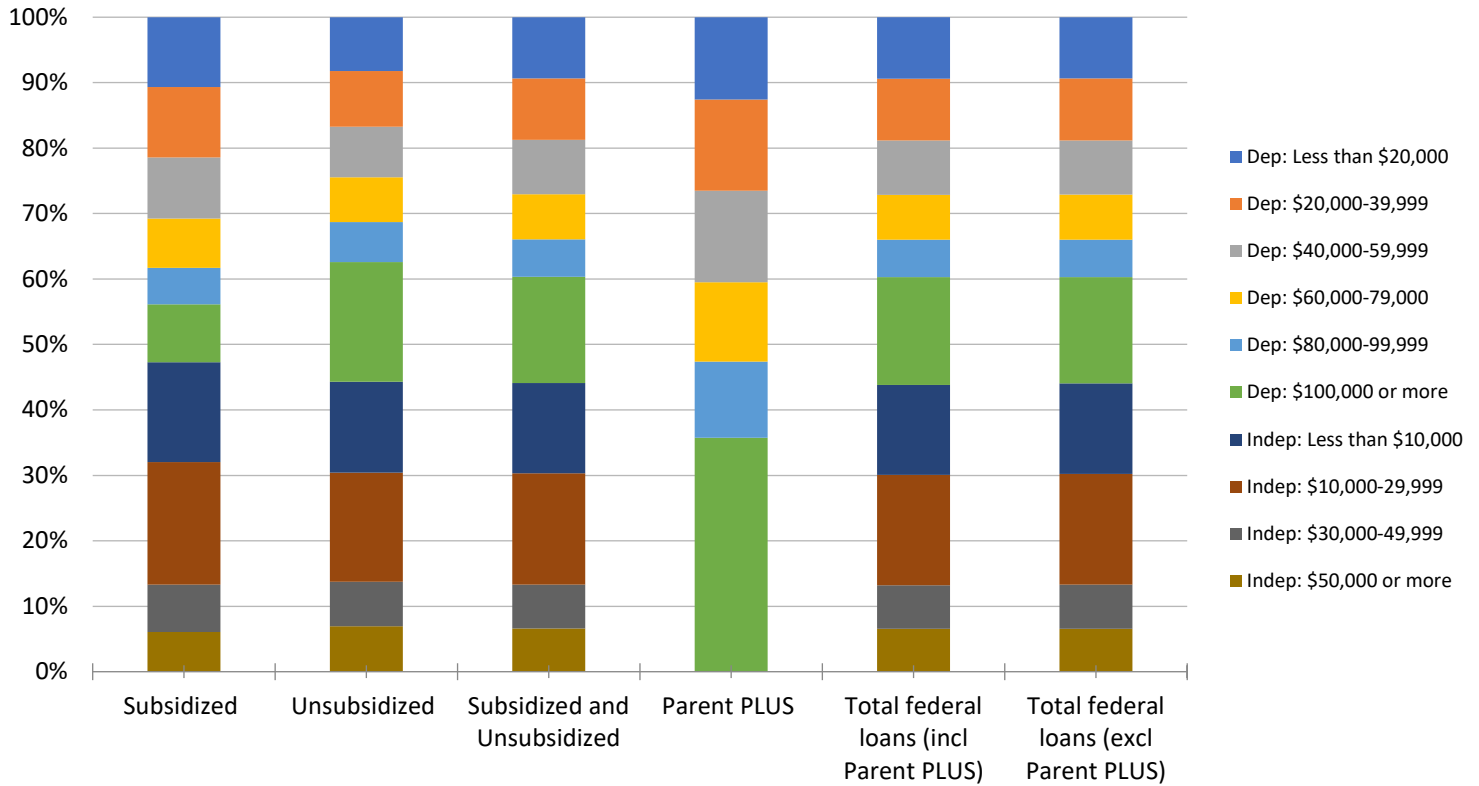


Figure 29. Percentage Distribution of Undergraduate Federal Loan Recipients by Income, Dependency Status, and Loan Type, 2015-2016



Note: Parent PLUS is not available for independent students and students aged 24 and above.

Figure 30. Percentage Distribution of Undergraduate Federal Loan Recipients by Attendance Intensity and Loan Type, 2015-2016

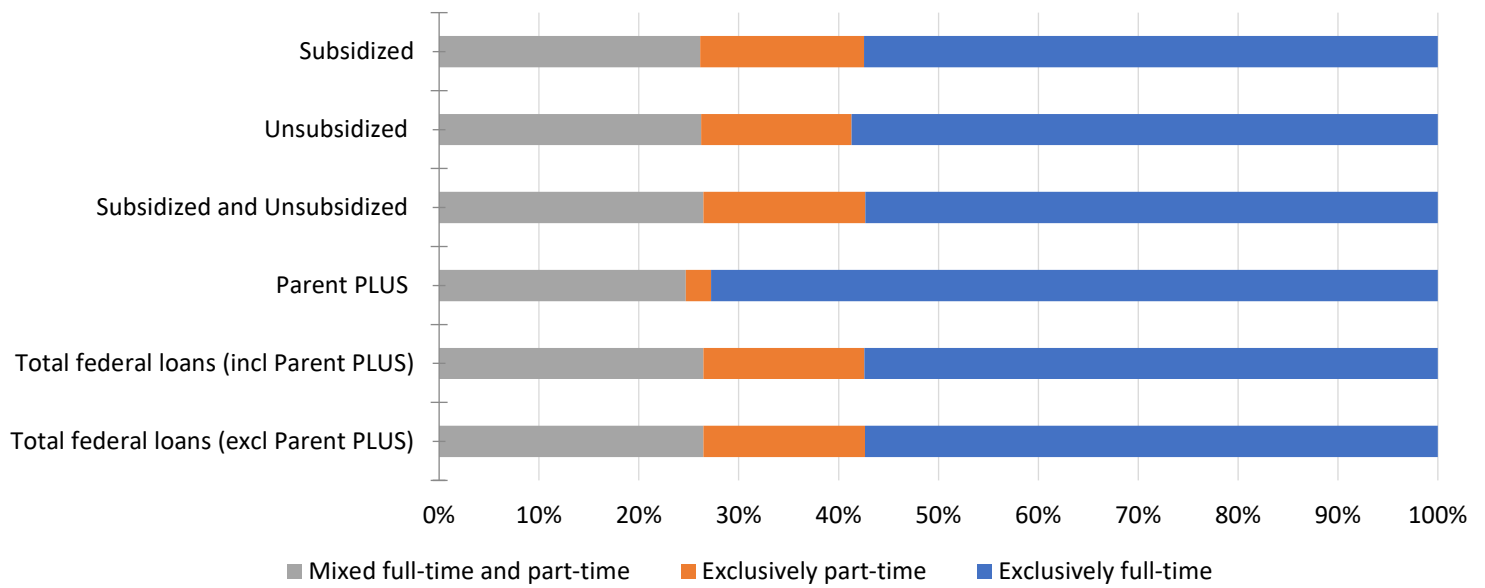


Figure 31. Percentage Distribution of Undergraduate Federal Loan Recipients by Gender and Loan Type, 2015-2016

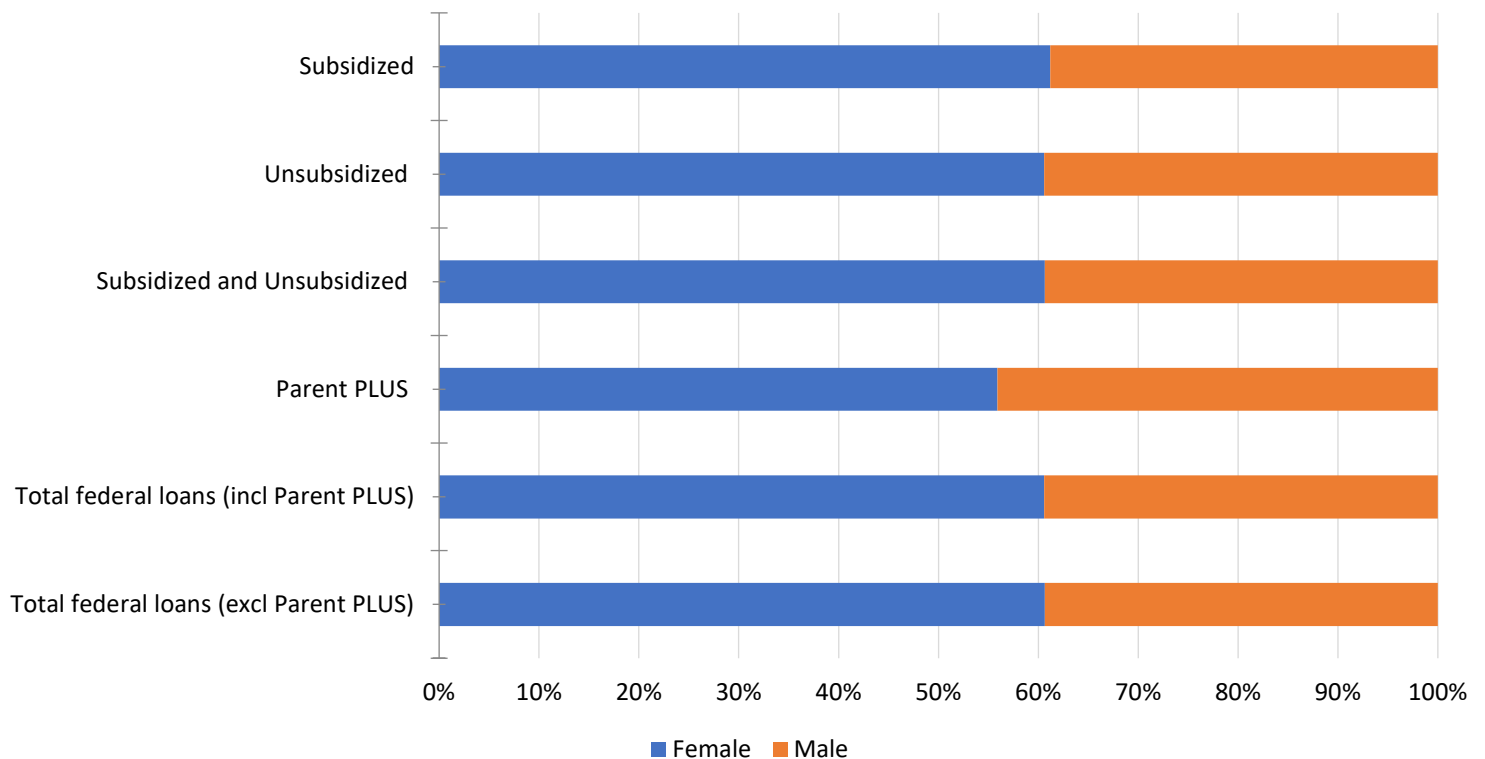
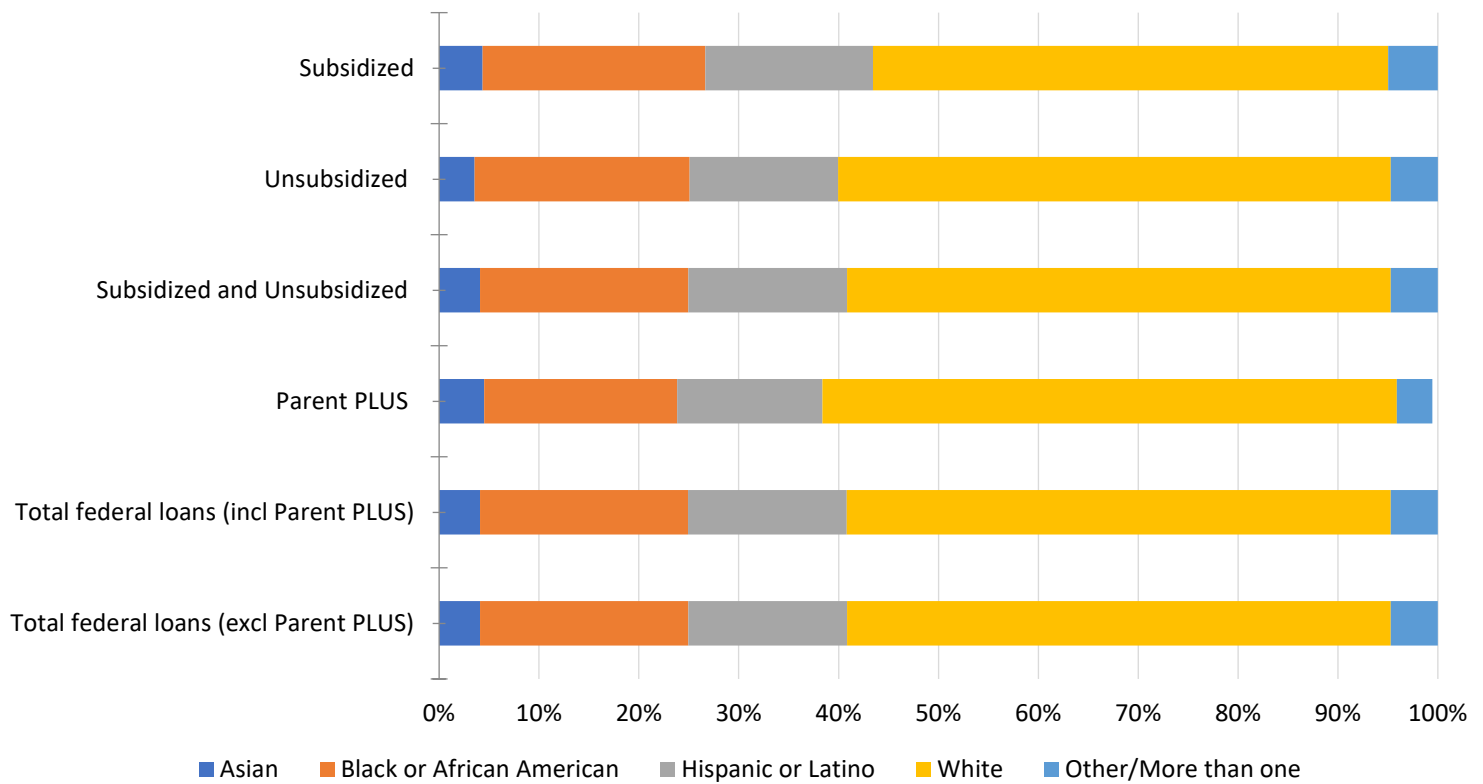
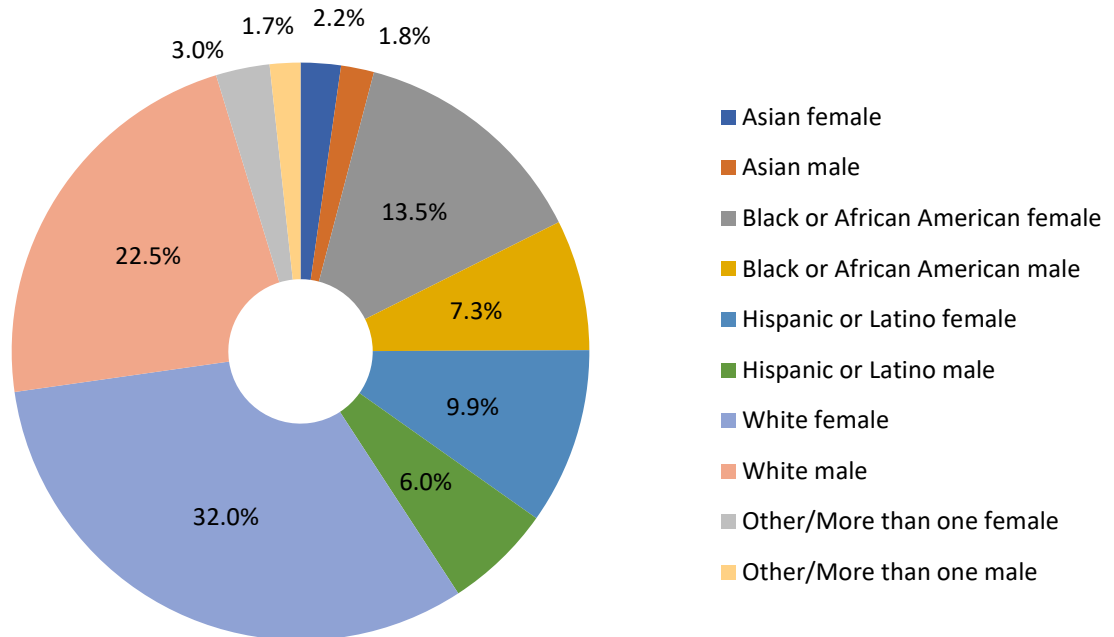


Figure 32. Percentage Distribution of Undergraduate Federal Loan Recipients by Race/Ethnicity and Loan Type, 2015-2016



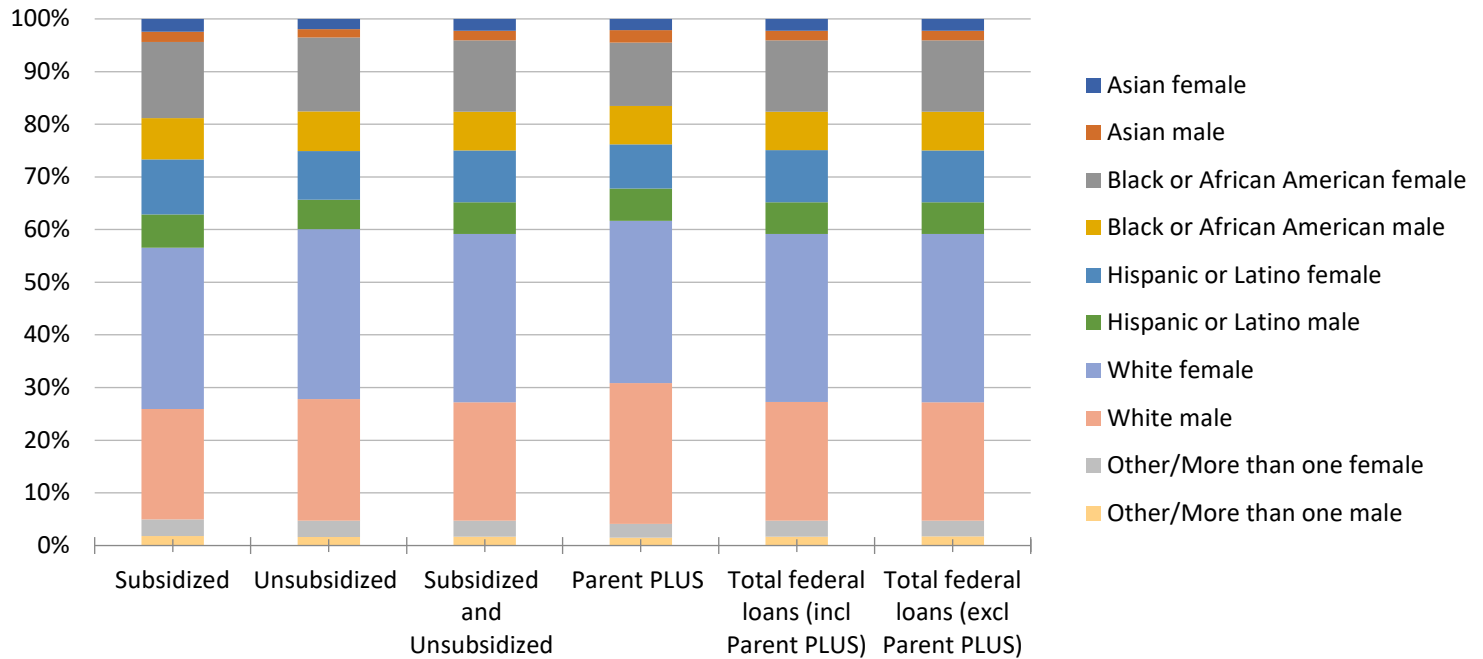
Note: Low sample sizes in some categories in Other/More than one for Parent PLUS loans.

Figure 33. Percentage Distribution of Total Undergraduate Federal Loan Recipients (excluding Parent PLUS) by Race/Ethnicity and Gender, 2015-2016



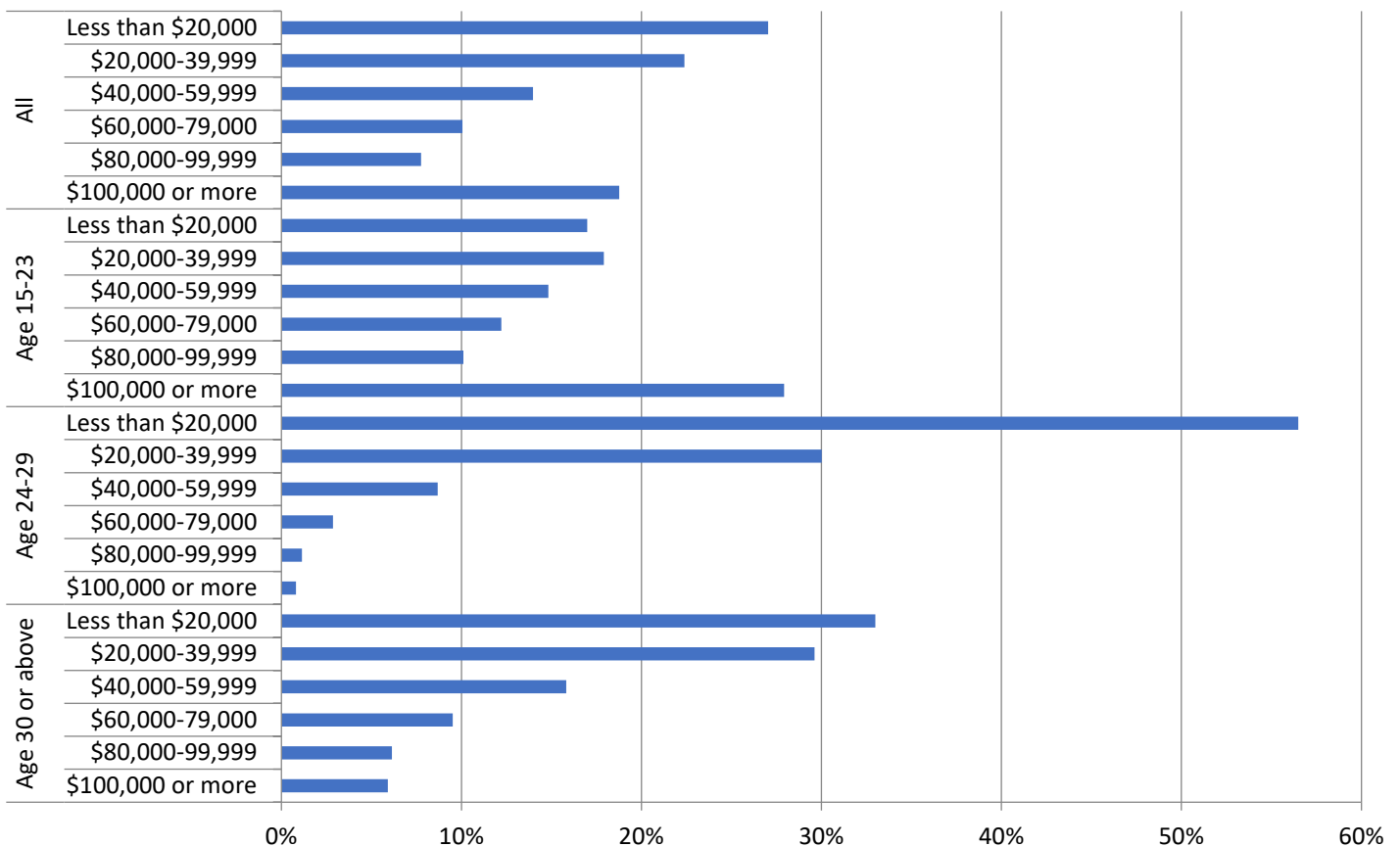
Note: Low sample sizes in some categories in Other/More than one for Parent PLUS loans.

Figure 34. Percentage Distribution of Undergraduate Federal Loan Recipients by Race/Ethnicity and Gender, and Loan Type, 2015-2016



Note: PLUS has some small sample sizes for categories in Other (American Indian/Alaska Native and Pacific Islander/Hawaiian).

Figure 35. Percentage Distribution of Total Undergraduate Federal Loan Recipients (excluding Parent PLUS) by Age and Income, 2015-2016



Graduate Student Aid: As stated earlier in this document, the Direct Loan Program is an umbrella for four loans (as was FFELP). Graduate students are eligible for the following loan types: Direct Unsubsidized Loans (also referred to as Unsubsidized Stafford Loans), Grad PLUS Loans, and Federal Perkins Loans. For the purposes of this section all of those loan types are included.

Figure 36. Percentage Distribution of All Graduate Students by Graduate Degree Program, 2015-2016

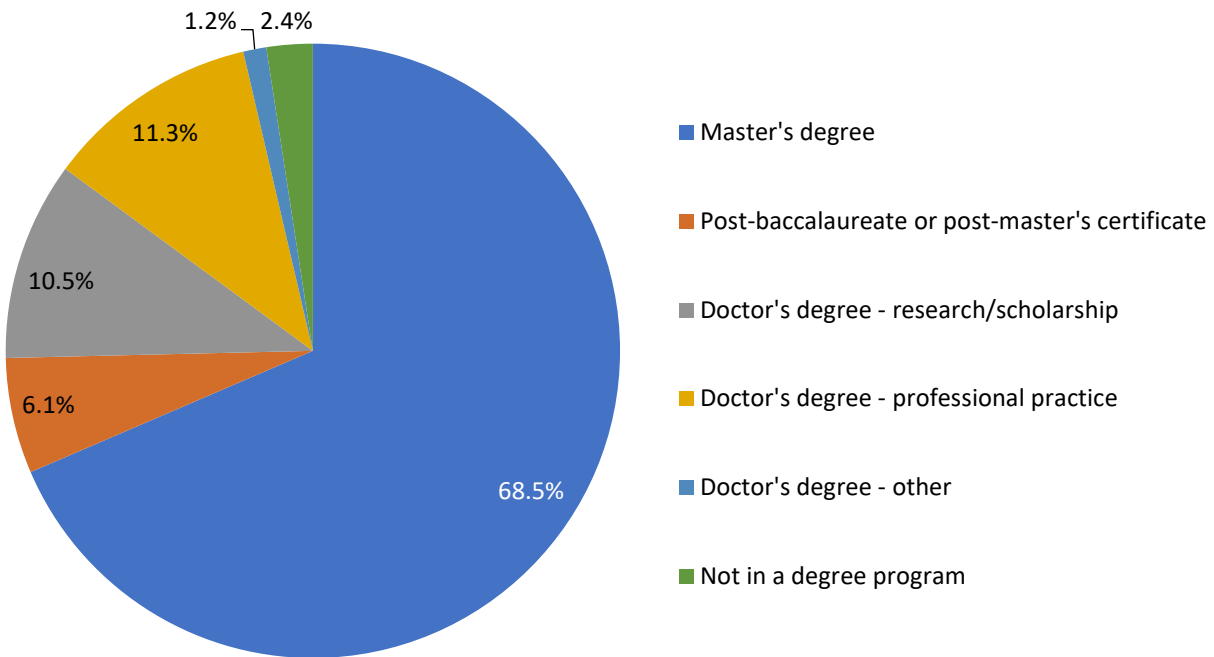
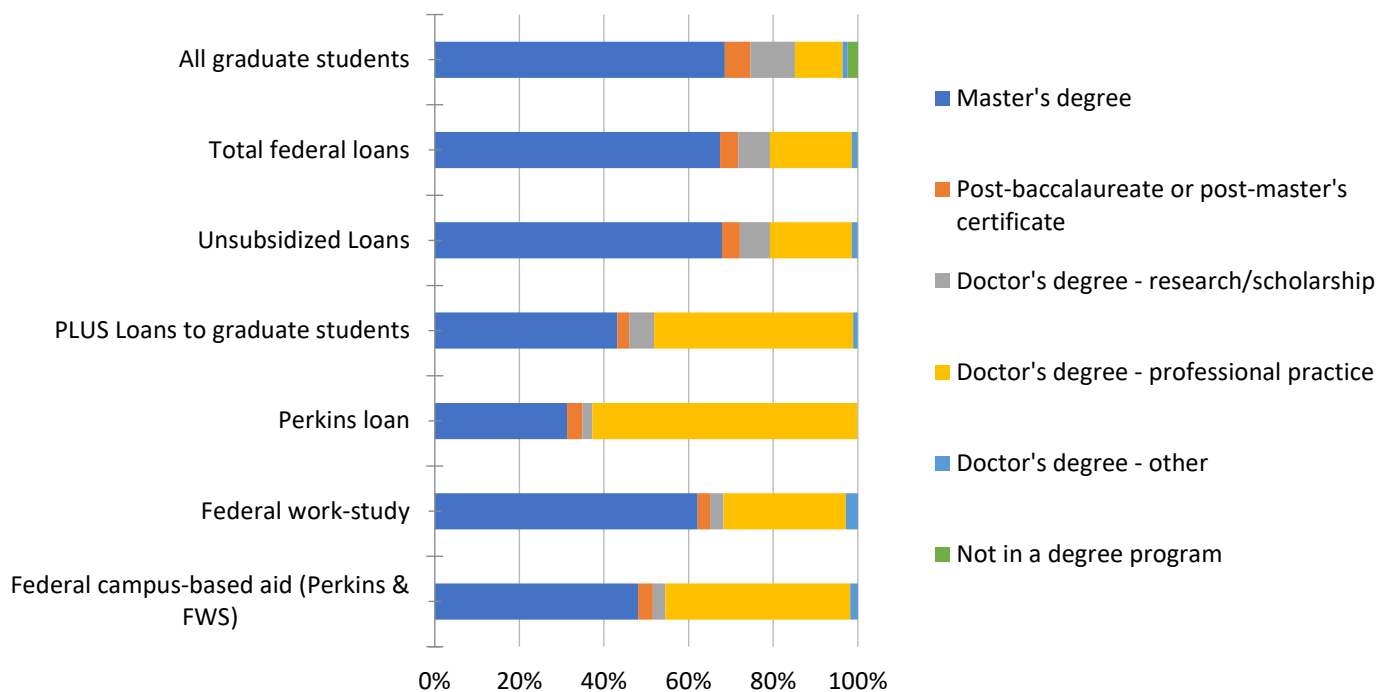


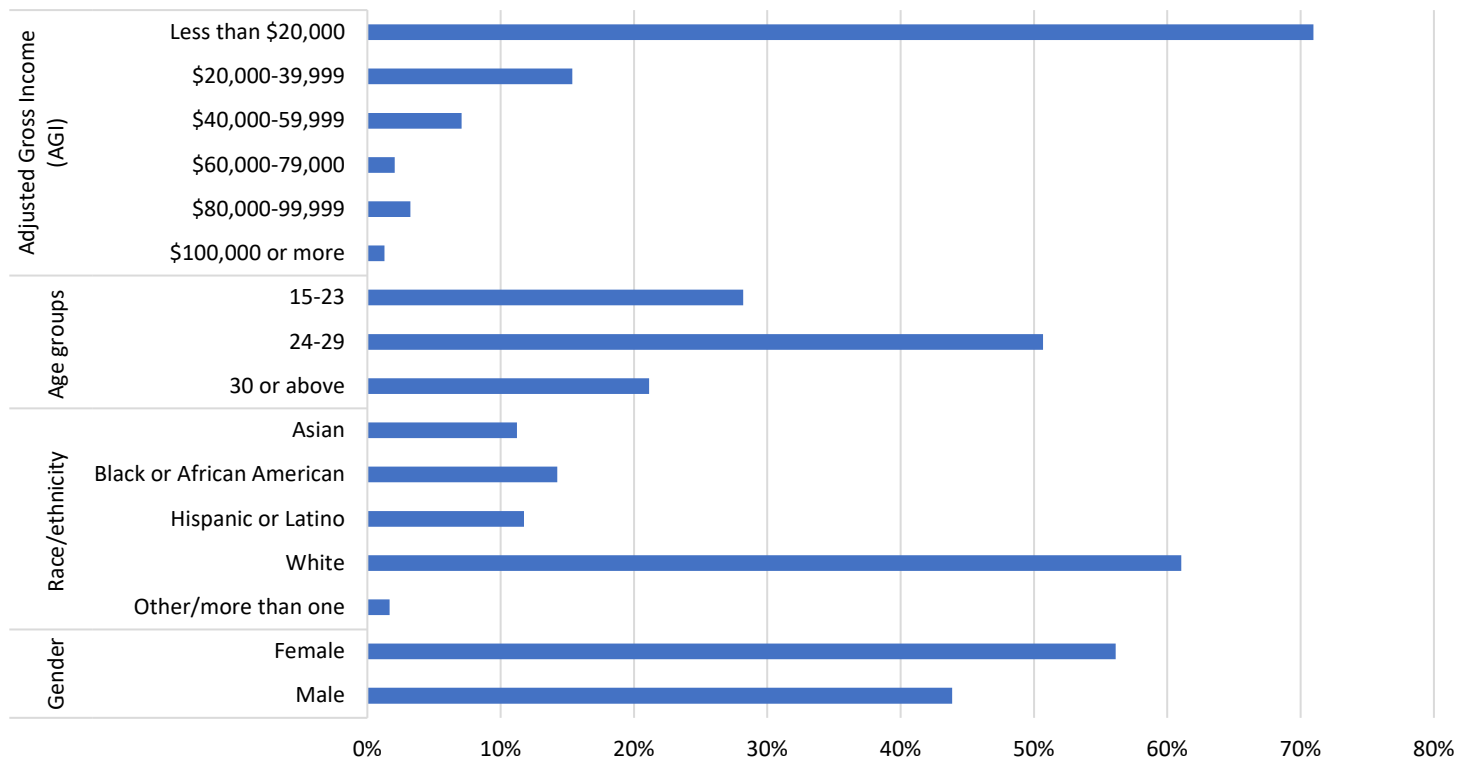
Figure 37. Percentage Distribution of Graduate Students by Degree Program, for Each Aid Type, 2015-2016



Note: There are some low sample sizes for the certificate, other doctorate, and not in a degree program categories.

Campus-based aid Recipients:

Figure 38. Percentage Distribution of Total Graduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients, by Student Characteristics, 2015-2016



Note: There are some low sample sizes in race/ethnicity categories as well as for income categories in the case of campus based aid.

Figure 39. Percentage Distribution of Graduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients by Gender and Aid Type, 2015-2016

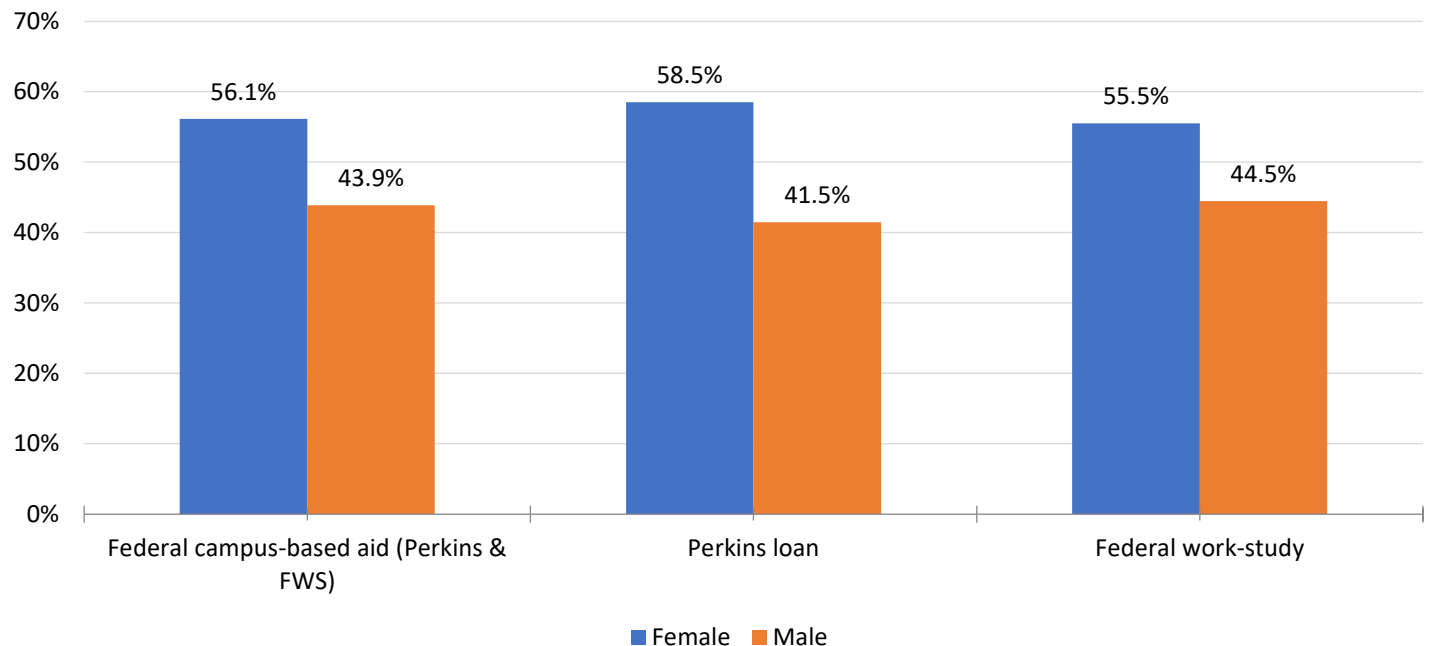
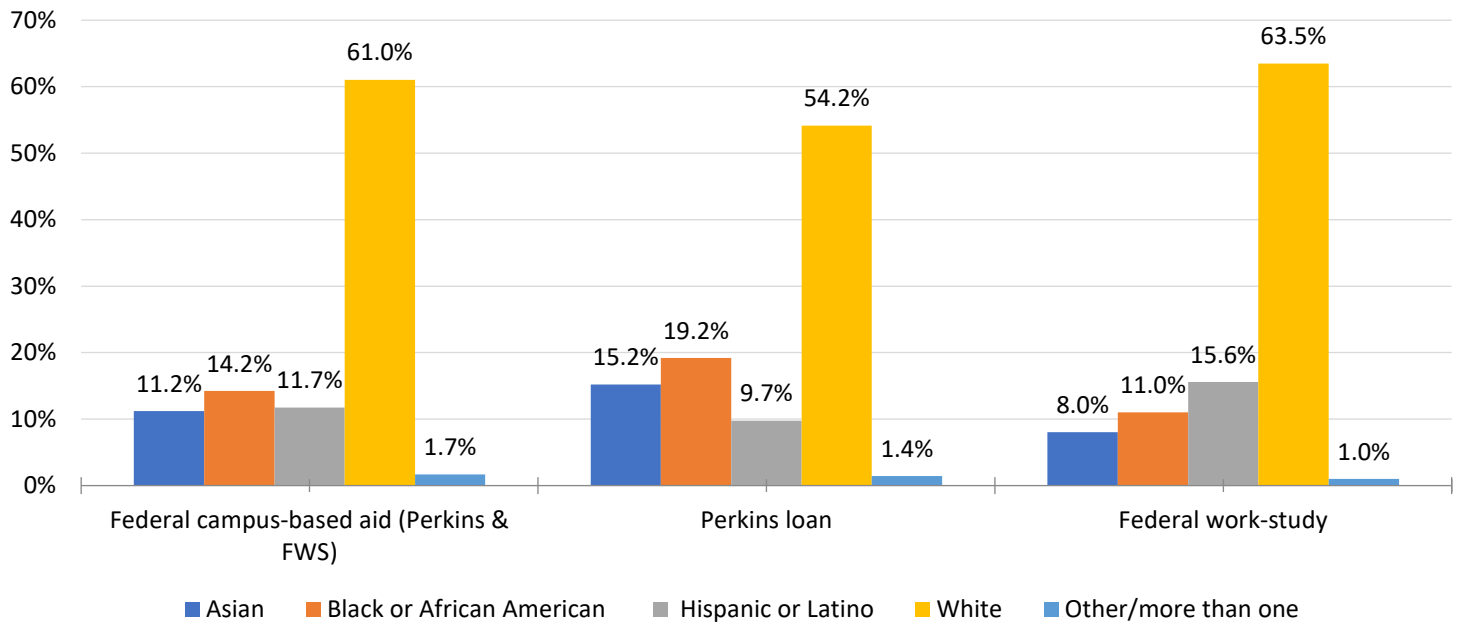


Figure 40. Percentage Distribution of Graduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients by Race/Ethnicity and Aid Type, 2015-2016



Note: There are low sample sizes in some race/ethnicity categories as well as Other/More than one.

Figure 41. Percentage Distribution of Graduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients by Age and Aid Type, 2015-2016

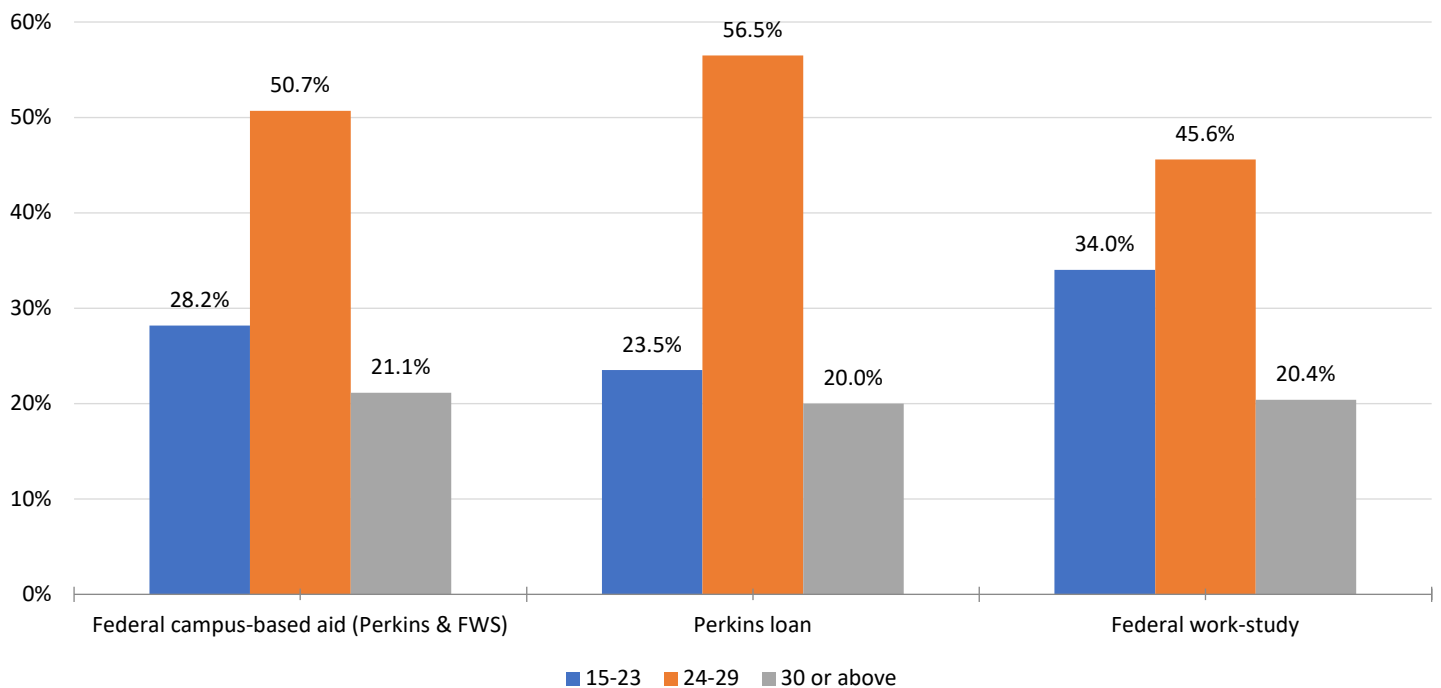
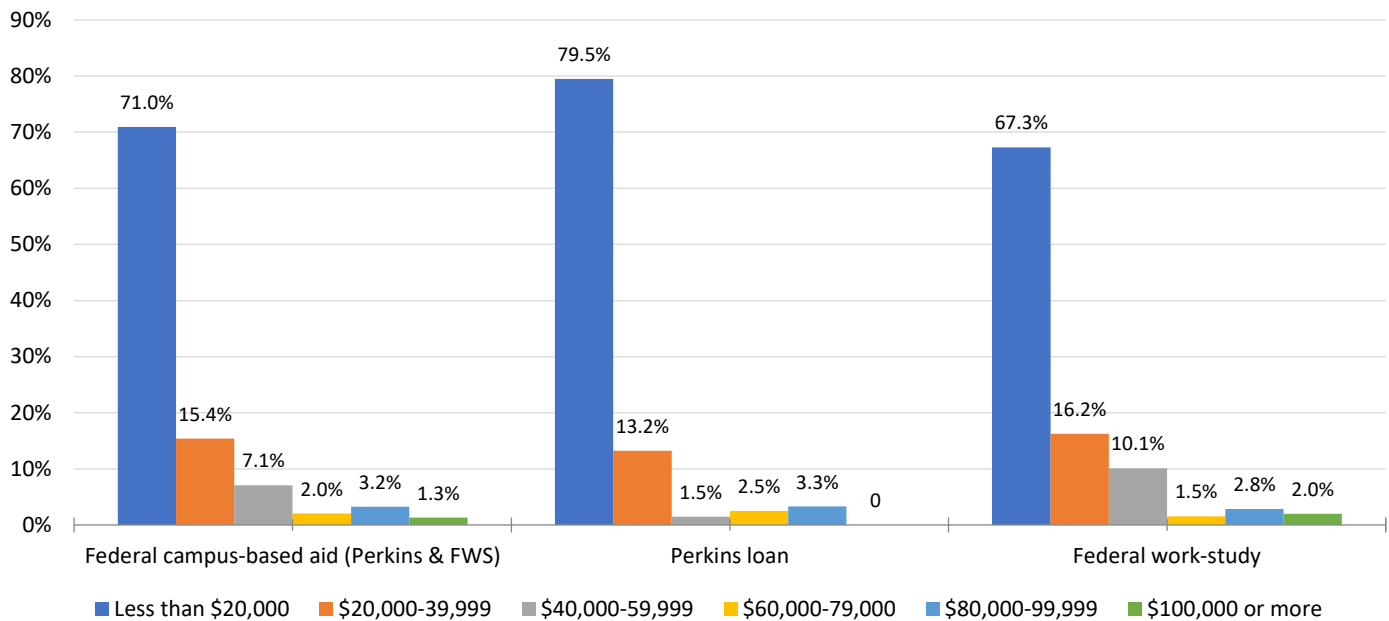


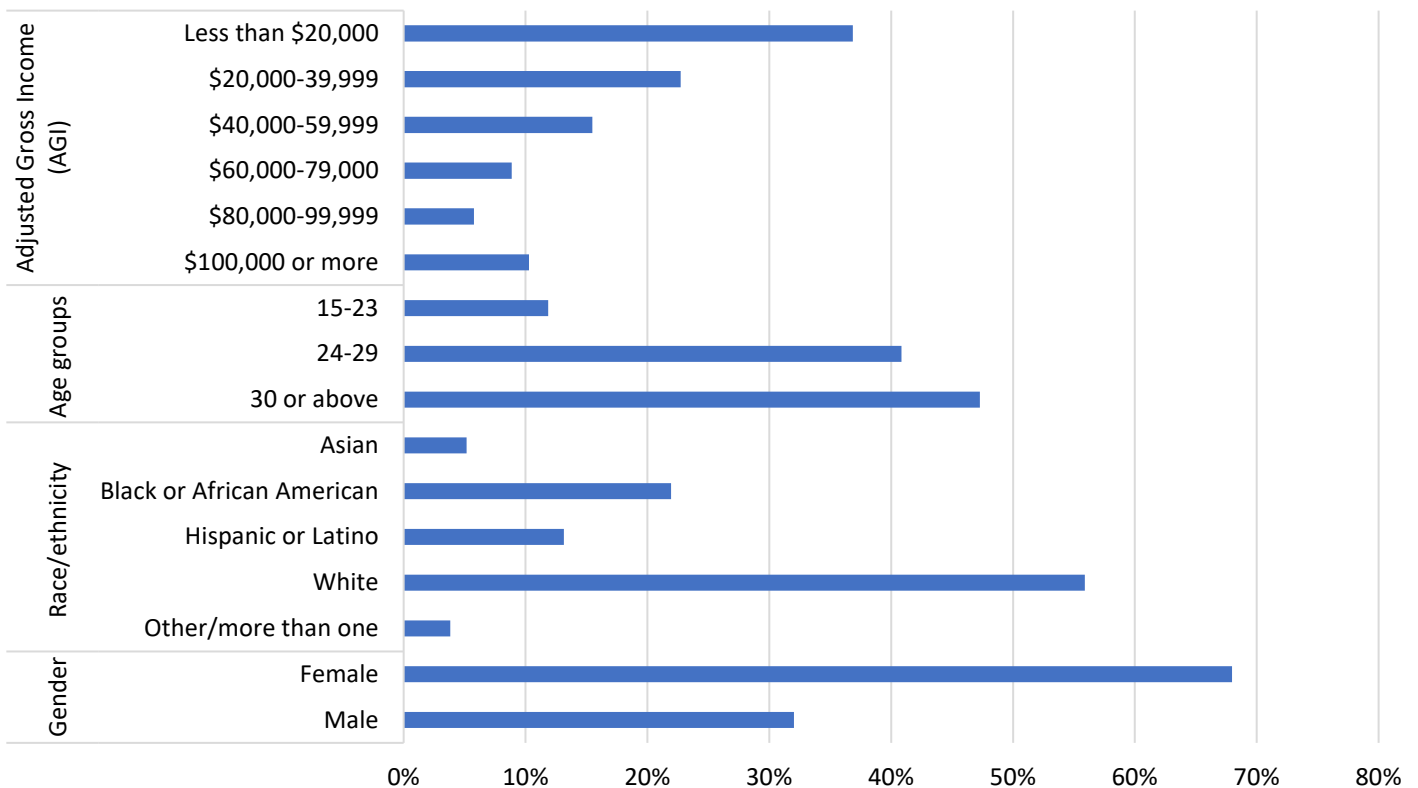
Figure 42. Percentage Distribution of Graduate Federal Campus-Based Aid Recipients by Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) and Aid Type, 2015-2016



Note: There are low sample sizes in most income categories (over \$20,000).

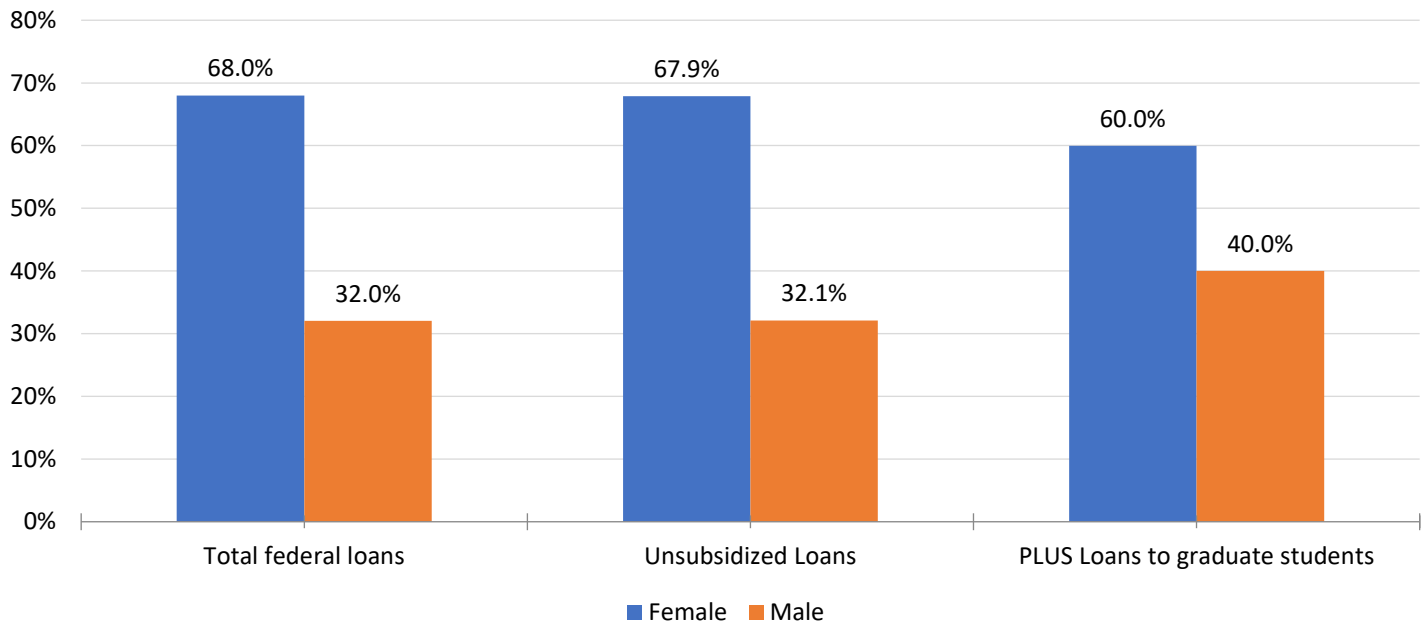
Loan Recipients:

Figure 43. Percentage Distribution of Total Graduate Federal Loan Recipients, by Student Characteristics, 2015-2016



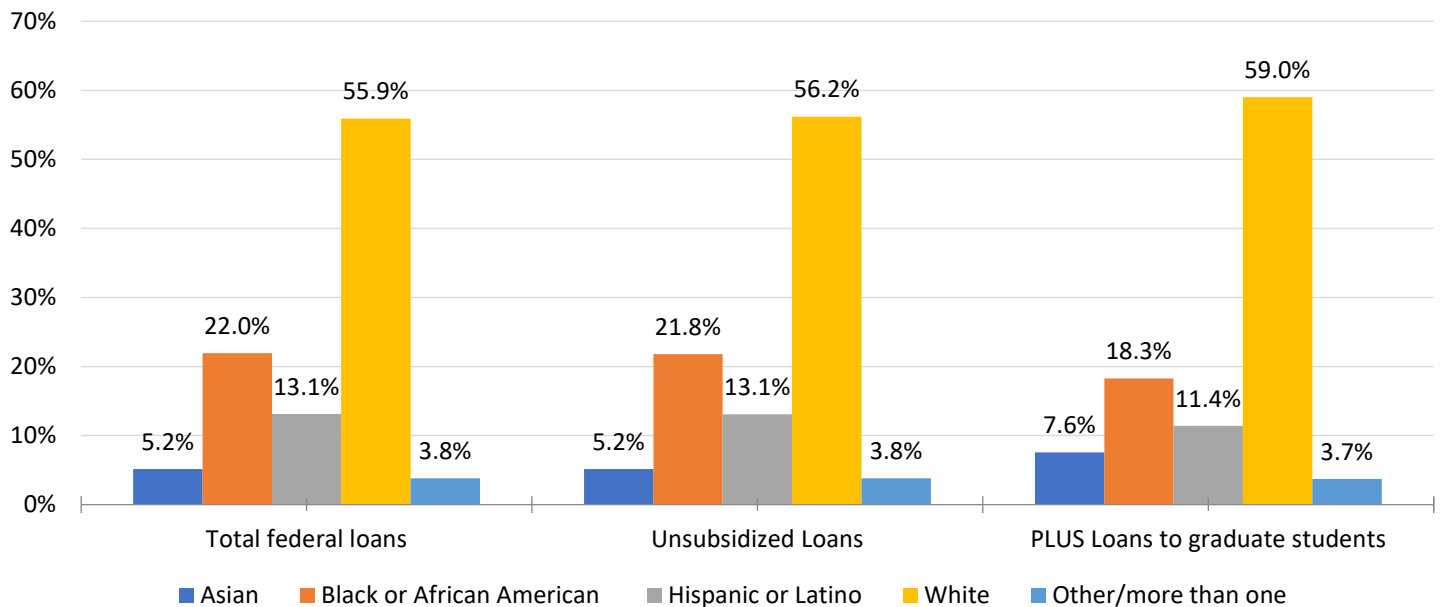
Note: Total federal loans includes Perkins. There are some low sample sizes in race/ethnicity categories, as well as in the income categories for Perkins.

Figure 44. Percentage Distribution of Graduate Federal Loan Recipients by Gender and Loan Type, 2015-2016



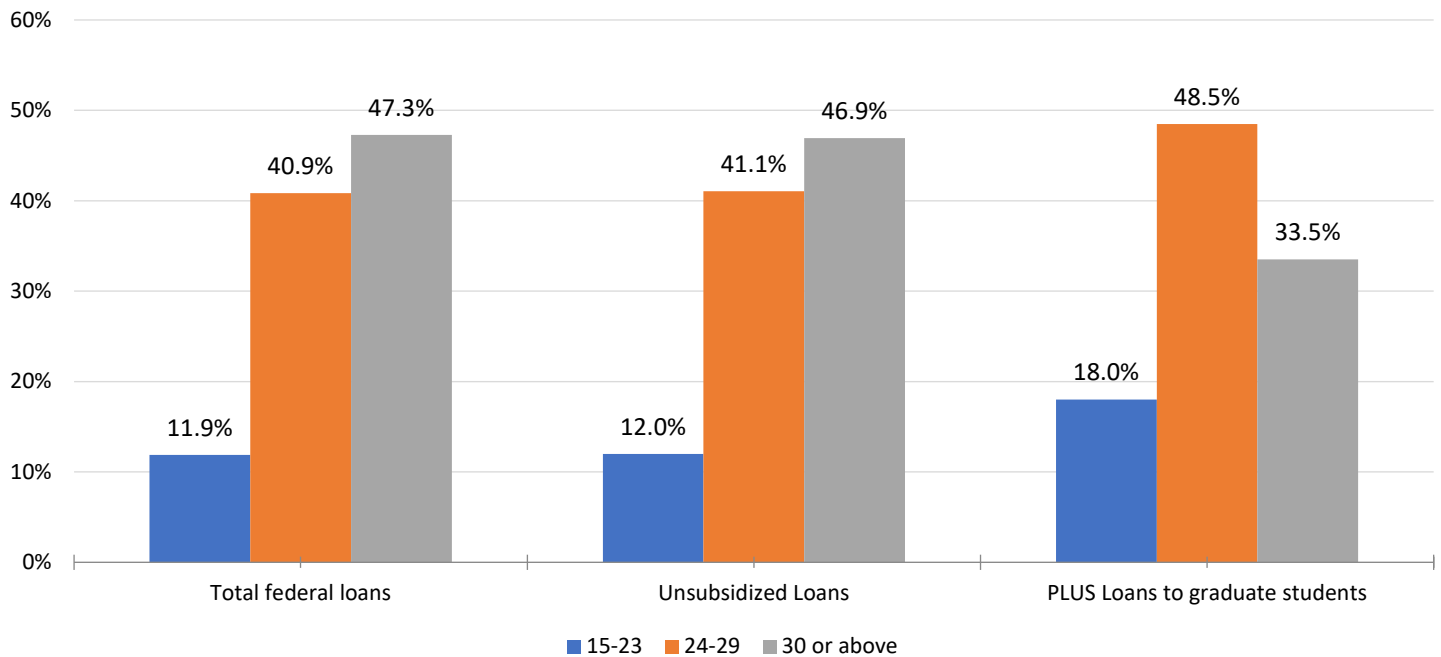
Note: Total federal loans includes Perkins.

Figure 45. Percentage Distribution of Graduate Federal Loan Recipients by Race/Ethnicity and Loan Type, 2015-2016



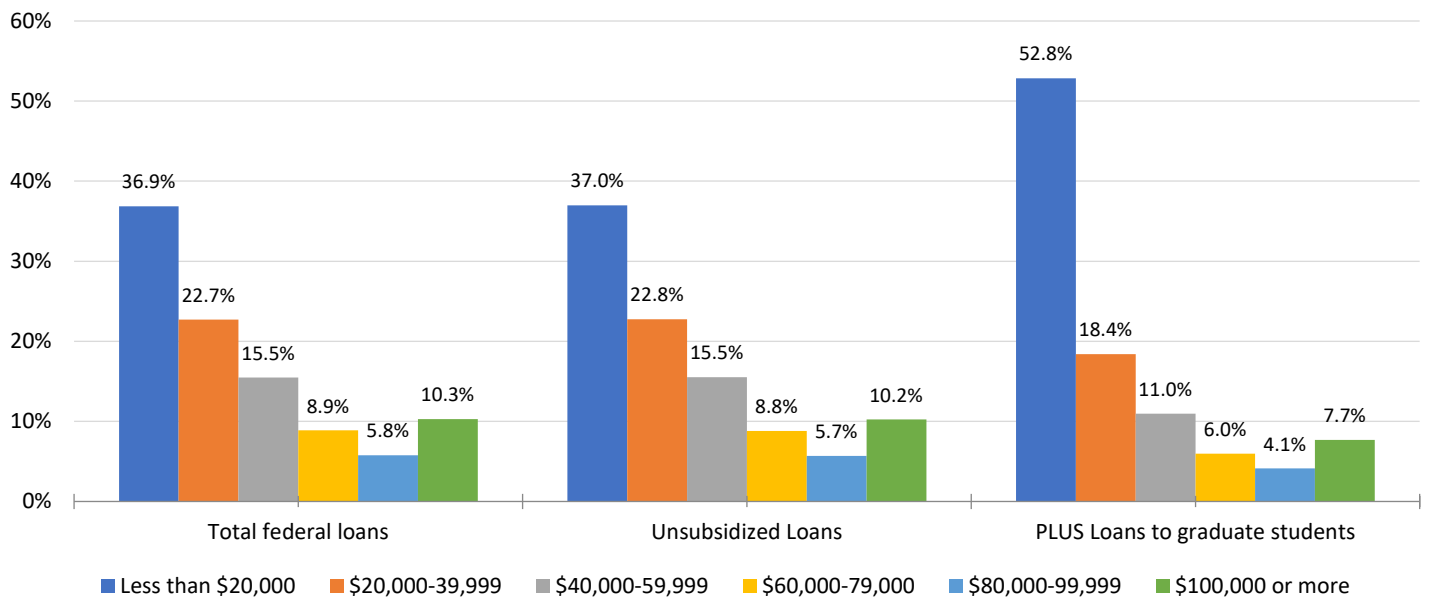
Note: Total federal loans includes Perkins. There are low sample sizes in the race/ethnicity Other/More Than One category.

Figure 46. Percentage Distribution of Graduate Federal Loan Recipients by Age and Loan Type, 2015-2016



Note: Total federal loans includes Perkins.

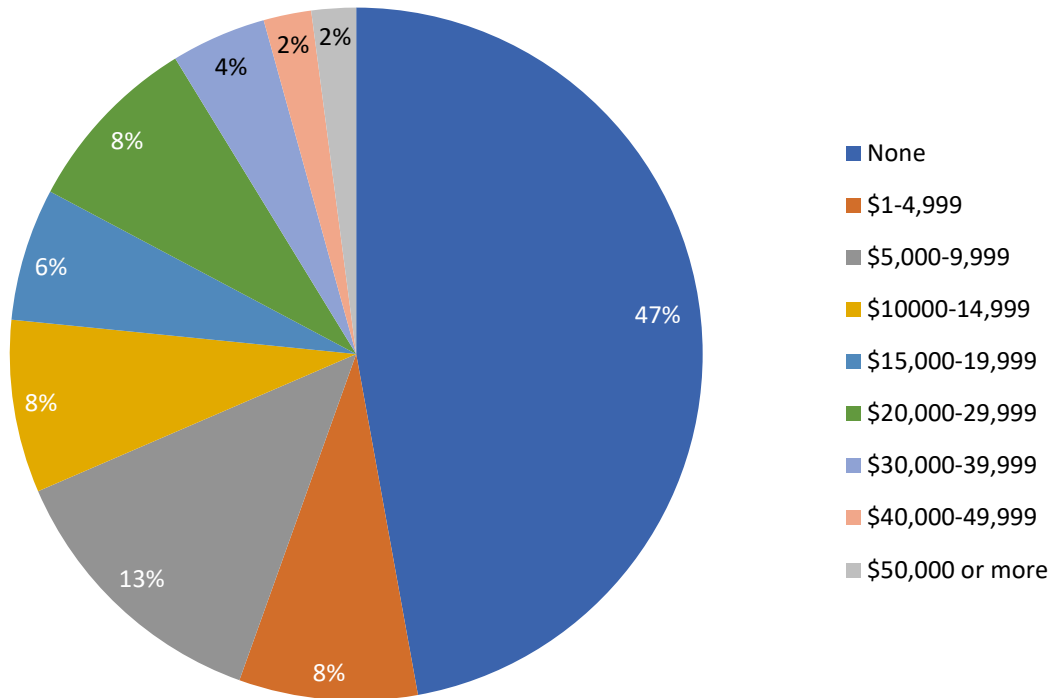
Figure 47. Percentage Distribution of Graduate Federal Loan Recipients by Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) and Loan Type, 2015-2016



Note: Total federal loans includes Perkins.

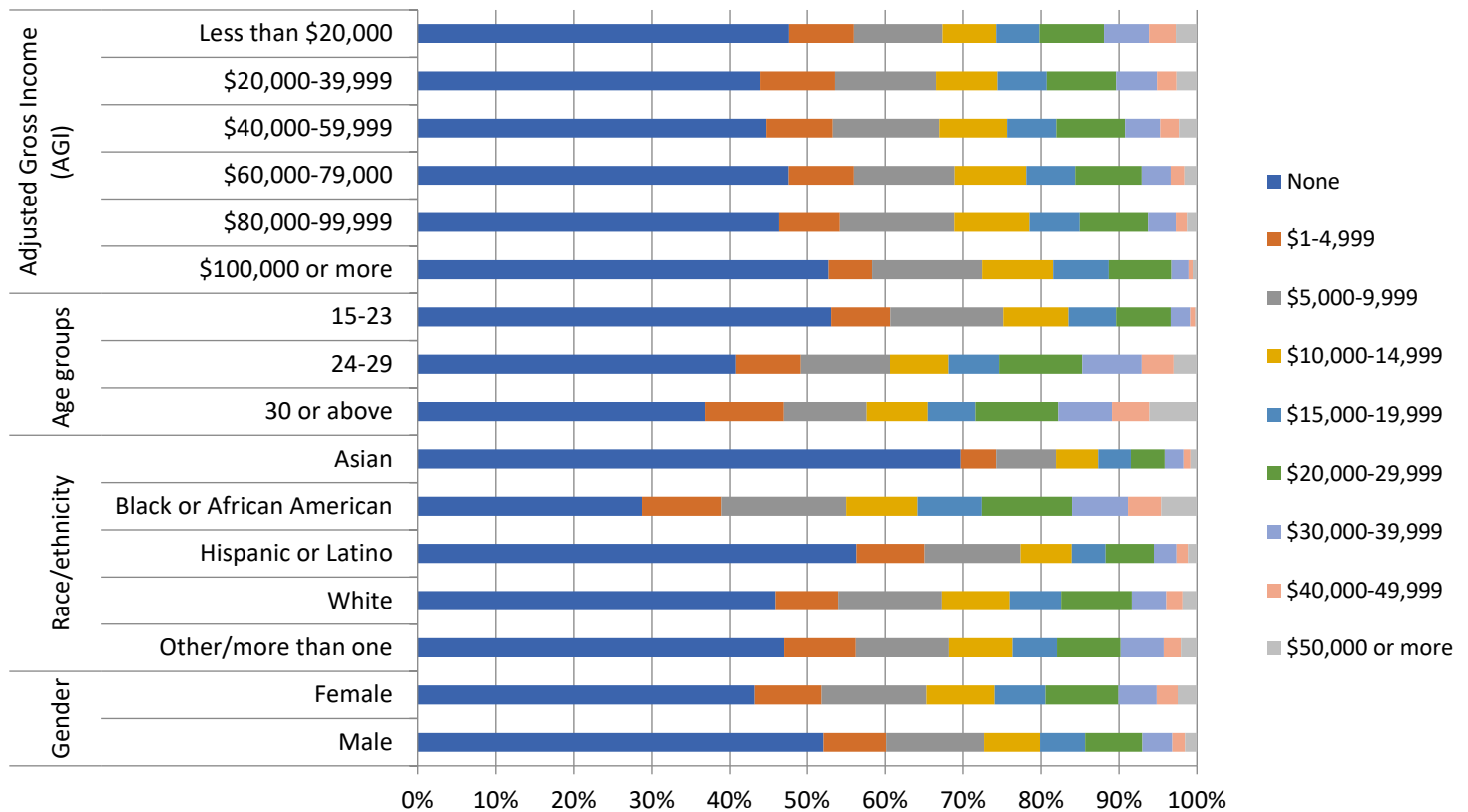
Cumulative Federal Aid: The figures to follow include both Direct and Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Grad PLUS, Supplemental Loans for Students, and Federal Perkins Loans across a student’s entire academic career — undergraduate and graduate. Federal Perkins Loans may be understated, because Federal Perkins Loans were not always reported to the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS). For the purposes of this section, Parent PLUS loans are excluded from analysis.

Figure 48. Percentage Distribution of Cumulative Federal Loan Amounts for Undergraduate Education, All Undergraduate Students, 2015-2016



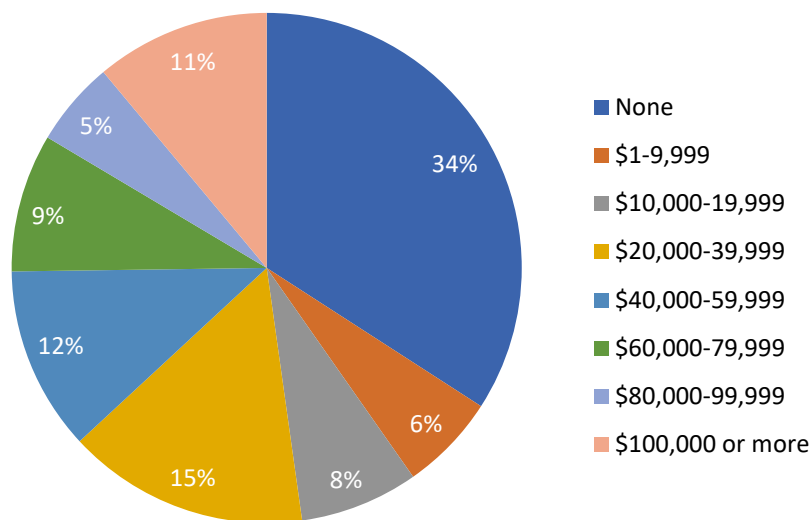
Note: Based on National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) loan data. Includes both Direct and Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Supplemental Loans for Students, and Perkins loans. Perkins Loans may be understated, because they were not always reported to NSLDS. Excludes Parent PLUS loans.

Figure 49. Percentage Distribution of Cumulative Federal Loan Amounts for Undergraduate Education, by Undergraduate Student Characteristics, 2015-2016



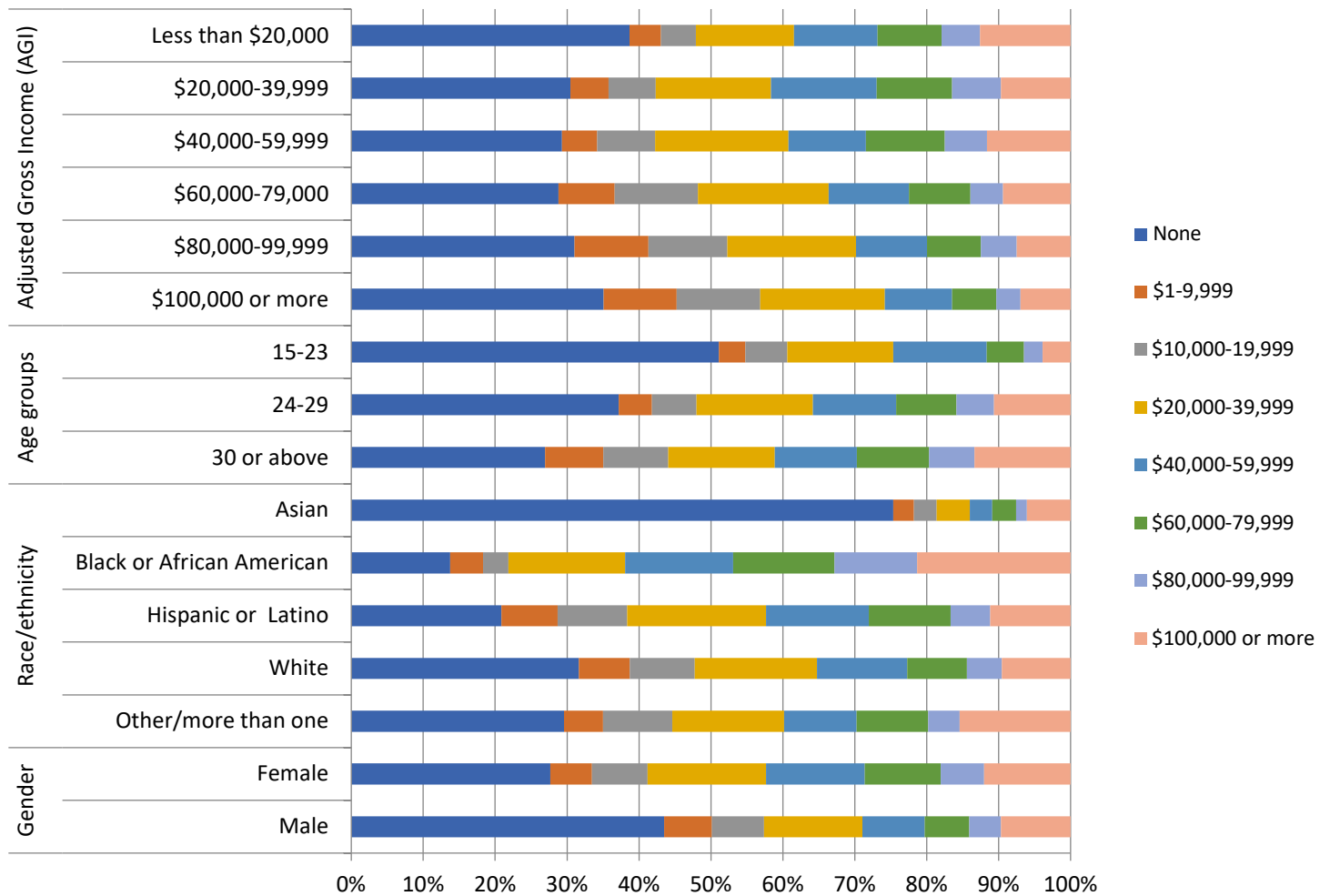
Note: Based on National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) loan data. Includes both Direct and Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Supplemental Loans for Students, and Perkins loans. Perkins Loans may be understated, because they were not always reported to NSLDS. Excludes Parent PLUS loans.

Figure 50. Percentage Distribution of Cumulative Federal Loan Amounts for Graduate Students' Undergraduate and Graduate Education, 2015-2016



Note: Based on National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) loan data. Includes both Direct and Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Supplemental Loans for Students, Graduate PLUS loans, and Perkins loans. Perkins Loans may be understated, because Perkins Loans were not always reported to NSLDS.

Figure 51. Percentage Distribution of Cumulative Federal Loan Amounts for Graduate Students' Undergraduate and Graduate Education, by Student Characteristics, 2015-2016



Note: Based on National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) loan data. Includes both Direct and Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Supplemental Loans for Students, Graduate PLUS loans, and Perkins loans. Perkins Loans may be understated, because Perkins Loans were not always reported to NSLDS.

Source for Figures 18 - 51: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015-2016 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16)

Conclusion

Since enactment of the Higher Education Act (HEA) in 1965, federal financial aid has been a central and critical pathway for college access. Given the importance of federal financial aid, this booklet serves as a resource describing seven prominent Title IV programs. While these financial aid programs may have changed over time, the general principles of each program have stayed the same.

NASFAA hopes the information in this booklet is helpful to you. You may find a more detailed version of this document online at www.nasfaa.org. We also have produced other publications that help students and families find ways to pay for postsecondary education. Should you need any additional information, please contact us at policy@nasfaa.org or 202.785.0453.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS

1801 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW, SUITE 850
WASHINGTON, DC 20006-3606

202.785.0453 FAX. 202.785.1487 WWW.NASFAA.ORG