
North Dakota University System

2022 Affordability Report



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North Dakota University System (NDUS) 2022 Affordability Report

College affordability is a significant factor in student access, retention, and completion. Tuition and fee rates are a major component of affordability, as is the availability of financial aid programs from federal, state, institutional and private sources. Strategically designed approaches to college affordability can better assist families in preparing for post-secondary education, accessing programs, and attaining educational goals. This report outlines key affordability factors within the North Dakota University System.

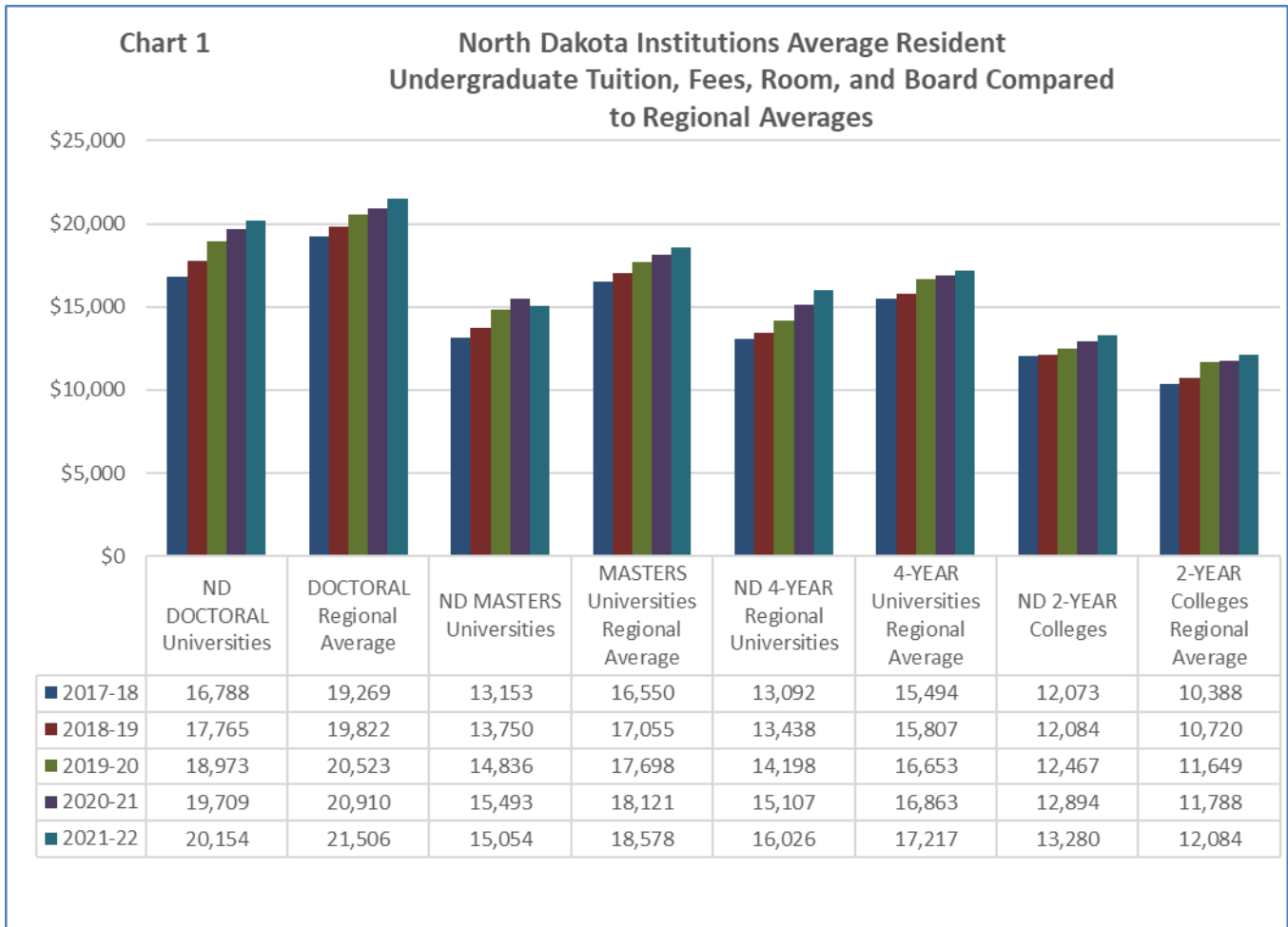
Executive Summary

- The average 2021-22 total cost of tuition, fees, room, and board, prior to financial aid and other discounts was \$20,154 at doctoral universities, 6.2% less than regional peers, \$15,054 at the master's university, 19% less than regional peers, and \$16,026 at the regional four-year universities, 7% less than regional peers. The average at two-year colleges was \$13,280, which was above regional peers. (Chart 1)
 - The 2021-22 tuition and mandatory fee rates at the state masters (Minot State) was lower than the regional peers, while doctoral (UND and NDSU) universities, regional four-year universities (Mayville State, Dickinson State and Valley City State), and two-year colleges were above their regional peers.
 - The 2021-22 Room and board rates at all state doctoral, masters, and four-year universities were significantly lower than regional peer averages, while two-year colleges continue to be above their regional counterparts.
- In 2020-21, 59% of all NDUS students received some type of financial aid, which is the same as national average. Of the aid disbursed, 42% of aid was in the form on non-repayable grants, scholarships, and tuition waivers. This is up 2% from the prior year. (Chart 3b)
- In the past 5 years, 61% of total aid disbursed was in the form of self-help aid (student loans and Work Study), 34% came from various sources of grants and scholarships, and 5% from tuition waivers. (Chart 3b)
- Federal student loan and grant aid in the NDUS in 2020-21 totaled \$144.76 million. This was a 14% decrease from 5 years earlier and a 27% decrease from 10 years earlier. (Chart 4 and 4a)
- All NDUS institution types saw a reduction in total federal loan amount borrowed, number of borrowers, and number of borrowers compared to headcount from 5 and 10 years prior to 2020-21. (Table 5)
- Alternative student loan borrowing has been increasing while federal student loan borrowing has been decreasing. Parent PLUS loan borrowing has been increasing, while Perkins volume decreased to \$0 with the expiration of that federal program. (Chart 5a and 5b)

- Student loan indebtedness for 2021 NDUS undergraduate graduates increased by 1.5% from 2020, averaging \$29,112. The last national indebtedness level provided by TICAS, the source for comparison, was in 2019 at \$28,950. At that time, NDUS was trending nearly identical to the national indebtedness level. TICAS lags by one year and they did not calculate an indebtedness average in 2020. (Chart 6)
- Grants, scholarships, and waivers totaled \$117.6 million in 2020-21. (Chart 7)
 - Institutional scholarships totaled \$36.9 million, a 5% increase from the prior year.
 - Private scholarships totaled \$12.3 million, a 3% increase from the prior year.
 - Federal grants totaled \$34.1 million, an 8% decrease from the prior year.
 - NDUS tuition waivers totaled \$17.1 million, an 8% increase.
 - State grants and scholarships were \$17.2 million, nearly identical to the prior year.
- In 2020-21, 46% of gross tuition charged to degree-seeking undergraduate students in the NDUS was covered by scholarships, grants, and tuition waivers. When room/board and mandatory fees are added, 32% of the cost is covered. Self-help aid (student loans and Work Study) add to affordability, wherein 77% of tuition, room/board and mandatory fees is covered by all aid sources.
- Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits contributed an additional \$5.9 million in awards made to 906 students in 2019-20. The 5-year average is \$6.4 million awarded to 1,056 students through the Post 9/11 GI Bill. (Table 9)
- Net Price at all NDUS institution types is below or comparable to regional counterparts, both for the lowest income-earners and middle-income earners, however, low-income families require a greater percent of their income to cover net price in comparison to middle-income families. (Charts 10a, 10b and Table 10c)

Tuition, Mandatory Fees, Room, and Board

The average tuition, fees, room, and board for NDUS doctoral, masters, and four-year regional universities is less than the regional peer institutions in 2021-22. The two-year college cost trend continues to be above the regional comparisons. Regional comparisons include peer institutions from Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. The following table details estimated student cost.

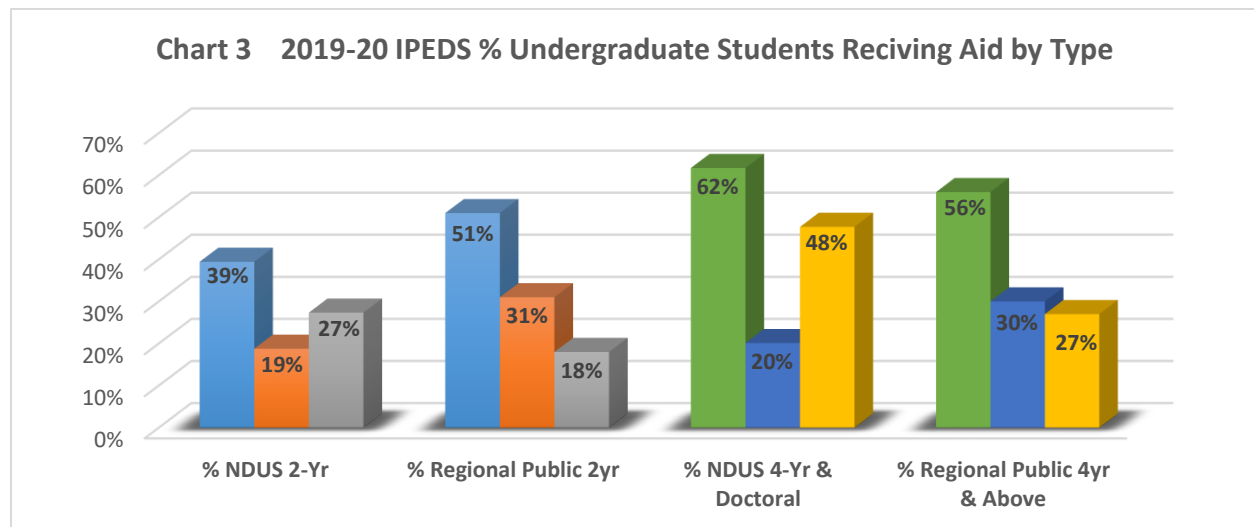


Additional costs that students may incur consist of indirect educational-related expenses, such as books, supplies, transportation, and other miscellaneous expenses. These costs can vary by campus and by individual student and are impacted by inflation. However, NDUS institutions have been able to reduce the estimated cost of books and supplies over the years. In 2017/18, the average NDUS financial aid cost component for books and supplies was \$1,055. In 2021-22, the average is \$1,009. The system’s use of open educational resources, which offer low-cost/no-cost textbooks, make a positive impact for students.

Financial Aid Overview

In addition to costs, college affordability is dependent on the availability of financial aid. Financial aid includes, but is not limited to, federal and state grants, federal work study, and federal and private student loans. Additionally, students may receive state, institutional, or other private scholarships, tuition waivers and military benefits. This report focuses on these sources of aid.

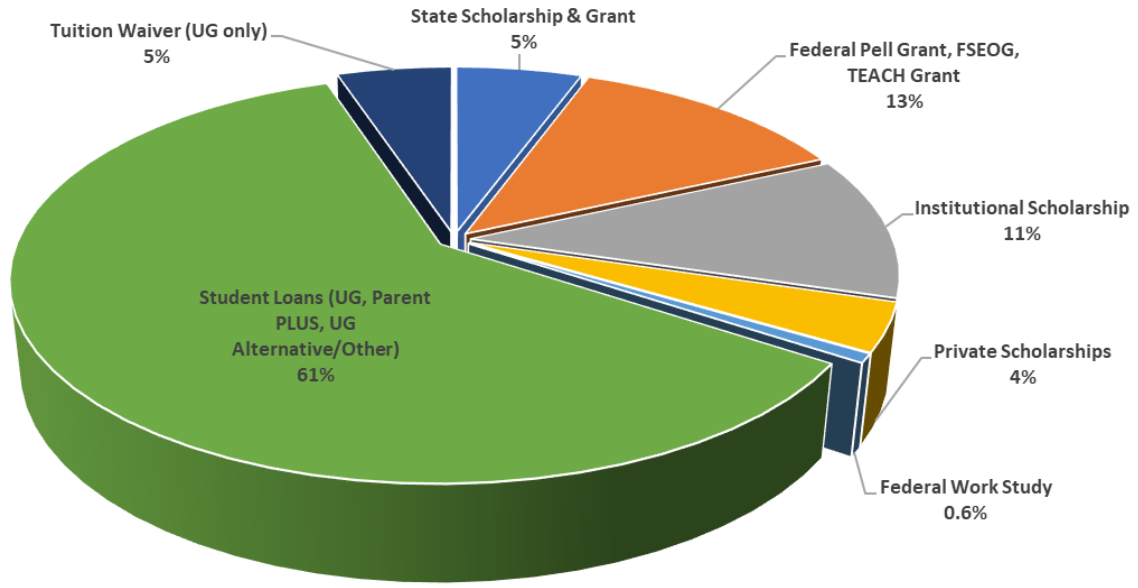
In 2020-21, 59% of all NDUS undergraduate students received some form of financial aid from one or more sources. This is on-target with national rates for public institutions. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) data shows that in 2019-20, 59% students enrolled at public institutions received some type of grant or scholarship. Chart 3 provides the average percentage of aid by type for NDUS institutions versus rates for regional comparison state's public institutions. It is important to note that the focus of institutions can vary greatly. For example, NDUS 2-year institutions have a high focus on early entry/dual credit enrollment, which may be a factor in the lower percent of scholarship and grants provided to students. Additionally, Pell Grant eligibility is based on federal formulas and is not reflective of institutional choices, but rather, student eligibility. However, this visual points toward the importance of ongoing discussions promoting the importance of state, federal and other sources of grant and scholarship funding for students and creating opportunities to reduce student loan borrowing.



During the 5-year period through 2020-21, approximately 61% of all aid received was in the form of self-help aid, which includes federal and private alternative student loans, Parent PLUS Loans, and Federal Work Study. The remainder came from various sources of federal, state, institutional and private grants, scholarships, and waivers. Federal grants (Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), and TEACH Grant) accounted for 13%, NDUS tuition waivers 5%, institutional scholarships 11%, state aid programs 5%, and private scholarships 4%.

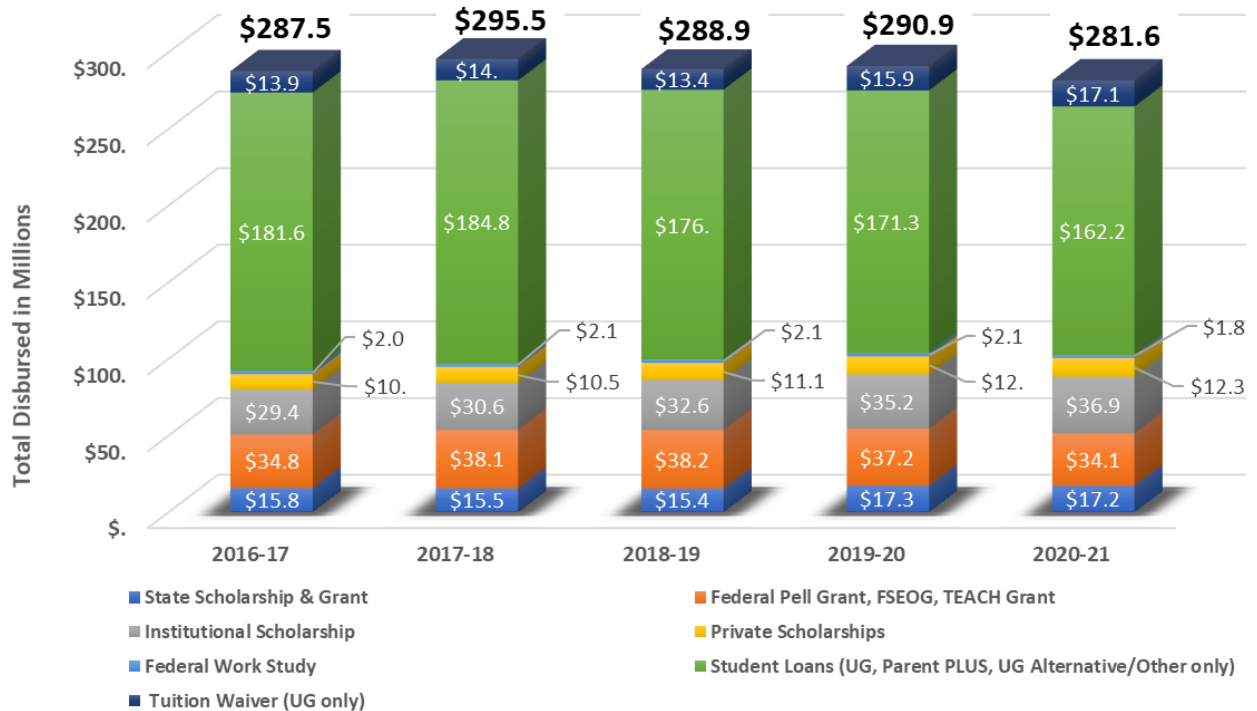
Parent PLUS Loans are loans issued to parents to pay for college expenses for their dependent children. Parent PLUS Loans accounted for 5% of total student loans issued to undergraduate students from 2016-17 through 2020-21. Alternative student loans are issued directly to students, however, often require a qualifying co-signer. Alternative/other student loans accounted for 31% of all student loans disbursed to undergraduate students during this time. The remainder of the student loans, 64%, were issued through federal student loan programs.

**Chart 3a - NDUS Undergraduate 5-Yr % Disbursed by Aid Type
(GR loans & GR tuition waiver excluded)**



In 2020-21 NDUS institutional scholarships and tuition waivers accounted for 19% of all aid disbursed, which is above the 5-year NDUS average. Self-help aid (student loans and work), accounted for 58% of aid disbursed in 2020-21, below the 5-year average. Federal grants accounted for 12%, state scholarships and grants 6%, and private scholarships 4%, all like the 5-year averages.

**Chart 3b - NDUS 5-Yr Undergraduate Dollars Disbursed by Aid Type
(GR loans & GR tuition waiver excluded)**



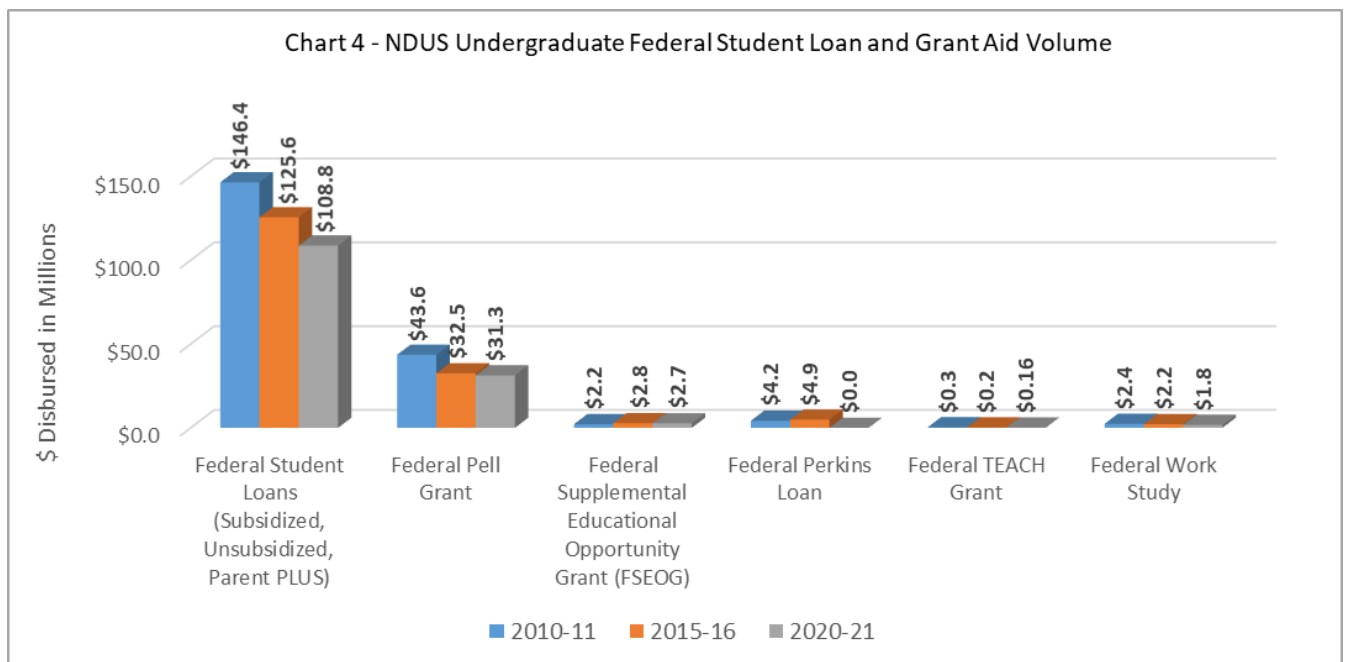
Federal Financial Aid

Federal aid plays an important role in affordability for students; however, it has been declining in the past 10 years. This section focuses on the following federal aid sources for undergraduate students. Graduate aid is excluded when possible.

- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
- Federal Work Study (FWS)
- TEACH Grant
- Perkins Loan (last awarded in 2017-18)
- Federal Students Loans (Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Parent PLUS)

The Pell Grant, FSEOG, FWS, Federal Subsidized Loan, and the Perkins Loan are all based on financial need. Subsidized Loans do not accrue interest while a student is enrolled at least half-time, or during periods of deferment, while Unsubsidized Loan interest begins accruing on the date of disbursement. The federal TEACH Grant is different from other federal grants because it requires students to complete a specific teaching service obligation as a condition of receiving the grant. Students failing to meet the criteria have the grant converted to a loan, that must be repaid with interest. The Perkins Loan program expired on September 30, 2017.

System-wide, all federal aid categories declined, or showed no significant increase, compared with 5 and 10 years earlier, as shown in Table 4a. Federal student loan volume decreased by 13% from 2015-16 to 2020-21. In the 2020-21, NDUS institutions disbursed \$6 million less in Pell, FSEOG, and Perkins funding than five years earlier, a 15% drop. The considerable drop in these sources is contributed primarily to Perkins Loan program no longer being federally funded. The last year that Perkins Loans were issued was in 2017-18, leaving a gap for the neediest students. Federal Work Study decreased by 18% from 2015-16 to 2020-21. The TEACH Grant makes up a minor portion of all aid disbursed.



**Table 4a - History of Undergraduate Federal Loan and Grant Aid Volume
(Millions of Dollars)**

	2010-11	2015-16	2020-21	2010-11 vs 2020-21 (10-year)		2015-16 vs 2020-21 (5-year)	
Doctoral (NDSU, UND)							
Federal Student Loans (Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Parent PLUS)	\$92.7	\$85.4	\$72.7	-\$20.0	-21.6%	-\$12.8	-14.9%
Federal Pell Grant	\$21.9	\$17.9	\$16.1	-\$5.7	-26.1%	-\$1.7	-9.7%
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	\$1.5	\$2.0	\$1.9	\$0.4	28.6%	-\$0.2	-7.5%
Federal Perkins Loan	\$3.2	\$3.6	\$0.0	-\$3.2	-100.0%	-\$3.6	-100.0%
Federal TEACH Grant	\$0.2	\$0.14	\$0.07	-\$0.1	-51.6%	-\$0.1	-49.1%
Federal Work Study	\$1.6	\$1.5	\$1.3	-\$0.3	-21.3%	-\$0.2	-16.1%
Four-Year (DSU, MaSU, MiSU, VCSU)							
Federal Student Loans (Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Parent PLUS)	\$25.2	\$19.6	\$18.8	-\$6.4	-25.3%	-\$0.7	-3.7%
Federal Pell Grant	\$9.3	\$6.4	\$6.7	-\$2.6	-27.6%	\$0.4	5.6%
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	\$0.3	\$0.4	\$0.5	\$0.1	33.4%	\$0.0	10.7%
Federal Perkins Loan	\$0.7	\$0.9	\$0.0	-\$0.7	-100.0%	-\$0.9	-100.0%
Federal TEACH Grant	\$0.2	\$0.1	\$0.1	-\$0.1	-55.9%	\$0.01	7.3%
Federal Work Study	\$0.44	\$0.5	\$0.36	-\$0.1	-18.4%	-\$0.1	-21.7%
Two-year (BSC, LRSC, WSC, NDSCS, DCB)							
Federal Student Loans (Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Parent PLUS)	\$28.5	\$20.6	\$17.3	-\$11.3	-39.5%	-\$3.3	-16.2%
Federal Pell Grant	\$12.4	\$8.3	\$8.4	-\$4.0	-32.5%	\$0.1	1.1%
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	\$0.4	\$0.3	\$0.4	\$0.0	2.2%	\$0.0	9.0%
Federal Perkins Loan	\$0.3	\$0.4	\$0.0	-\$0.3	-100.0%	-\$0.4	-100.0%
Federal TEACH Grant	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	n/a	\$0.0	n/a
Federal Work Study	\$0.3	\$0.24	\$0.18	-\$0.1	-43.0%	-\$0.1	-23.3%
NDUS Total							
Federal Student Loans (Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Parent PLUS)	\$146.4	\$125.6	\$108.8	-\$37.7	-25.7%	-\$16.8	-13.4%
Federal Pell Grant	\$43.6	\$32.5	\$31.3	-\$12.3	-28.3%	-\$1.3	-3.9%
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	\$2.2	\$2.8	\$2.7	\$0.5	25.0%	-\$0.1	-2.8%
Federal Perkins Loan	\$4.2	\$4.9	\$0.0	-\$4.2	-100.0%	-\$4.9	-100.0%
Federal TEACH Grant	\$0.3	\$0.2	\$0.16	-\$0.2	-54.0%	-\$0.1	-29.2%
Federal Work Study	\$2.4	\$2.2	\$1.8	-\$0.6	-23.7%	-\$0.4	-18.1%

The Federal Pell Grant, while showing an increase to the annual award amount, has not kept pace with increases in inflation according to The College Board. Since 2012-13, the maximum Pell Grant award has increased on average only \$95 per year, from \$5,550 in 2011-12 to \$6,495 in 2021-22. As noted in the 2021 College Board *Trends in College Pricing and Student Aid*, “Between 2011-12 and 2021-22, tuition and fees increased by 9% at public four-year institutions, while the maximum Pell Grant fell by 2% after adjusting for inflation.” Additionally noted was that in 2021-22, a full Pell Grant covers approximately 60% of published tuition and fees at public four-year institutions nationwide, a drop from 67% ten years earlier. When considering room and board costs in addition to tuition and fees, the Pell Grant only covers 29% of costs in 2021-22, as shown in chart 4b below.

Table 4b - Maximum Pell Grant as a Percentage of Published Prices in 2021 Dollars		
Academic Year	Public Four-Year Institutions (national)	
	Maximum Pell Grant as a % of In-State Tuition and Fees	Maximum Pell Grant as a % of Tuition, Fees, Room & Board
2001-02	99%	42%
2006-07	70%	32%
2011-12	67%	32%
2016-17	60%	29%
2021-22	60%	29%

Source: College Board Trends in College Pricing and Student Aid 2021, Fig SA16

Annual Student Loan Disbursements

As previously indicated, federal loan borrowing has declined over time. The decline in the rate of student loan borrowing has outpaced the decline in headcount. Table 5 shows that in 2020-21 the number of borrowers and total amount borrowed declined at all institution types from both 5 and 10 years earlier. Additionally, the percent of borrowers to total headcount enrollment also declined. The average loan amount per borrower, however, has continued to increase. It is important to note that Perkins Loan borrowing, which went to the neediest students, fell from \$4.2 million in 2010-11 to \$0 beginning in 2018-19 due to the federal program being eliminated.

Table 5 - Federal Undergraduate Student Loans - Loan Disbursements					
Doctoral Universities (NDSU, UND)					
Year	Loan Amount Borrowed (millions of dollars) ¹	Number of Borrowers ²	% of Borrowers/Total Headcount ³ Enrollment	Avg Annual Loan Per Borrower	Fall Degree-Credit Headcount ³
2010-11	\$95.9	16,303	70.5%	\$5,882	23,116
2015-16	\$89.0	15,258	64.6%	\$5,835	23,614
2020-21	\$72.7	10,835	53.2%	\$6,705	20,351
5-yr change	-18.4%	-29.0%	-11.4%	14.9%	-13.8%
10-yr change	-24.2%	-33.5%	-17.3%	14.0%	-12.0%
4-Year Universities Annual Loan Volume (DSU, MaSU, MiSU, VCSU)					
Year	Loan Amount Borrowed (millions of dollars) ¹	Number of Borrowers ²	% of Borrowers/Total Headcount ³ Enrollment	Avg Annual Loan Per Borrower	Fall Degree-Credit Headcount ³
2010-11	\$25.9	4,648	55.7%	\$5,567	8,339
2015-16	\$20.4	3,659	54.3%	\$5,585	6,743
2020-21	\$18.8	2,999	44.6%	\$6,278	6,723
5-yr change	-7.9%	-18.0%	-9.7%	12.4%	-0.3%
10-yr change	-27.2%	-35.5%	-11.1%	12.8%	-19.4%
2-Year Colleges Annual Loan Volume (BSC, LRSC, DCB, NDSCS, WSC)					
Year	Loan Amount Borrowed (millions of dollars) ¹	Number of Borrowers ²	% of Borrowers/Total Headcount ³ Enrollment	Avg Annual Loan Per Borrower	Fall Degree-Credit Headcount ³
2010-11	\$28.9	5,524	51.5%	\$5,224	10,718
2015-16	\$21.0	4,043	37.3%	\$5,189	10,849
2020-21	\$17.3	3,115	30.1%	\$5,545	10,335
5-yr change	-17.7%	-23.0%	-7.1%	6.9%	-4.7%
10-yr change	-40.1%	-43.6%	-21.4%	6.2%	-3.6%

¹ Undergraduate Federal Loans: Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Perkins and Parent PLUS Loans included; Graduate PLUS, Private/Other loans excluded.

² Borrowers may be duplicated if receiving more than one loan type.

³ Undergraduate fall degree-credit headcount excludes graduate students.

In contrast to federal loan borrowing declining, private educational student loan borrowing has been increasing. Except for 2-year colleges, total alternative loan borrowing has been increasing. NDUS 2-year colleges have shown a decline of 2% from 2015-16 to 2020-21. It is important to note that federal Parent PLUS borrowing has not increased significantly during this time, which may suggest that families are selecting alternative student loan sources over the federal Parent PLUS Loan. Additionally, alternative student loans can be awarded up to total cost of attendance while federal student loans have annual & lifetime caps. The annual maximum level of borrowing for federal loans is \$5,500 for freshmen; \$6,500 for sophomores; and \$7,500 for juniors/seniors. These caps have not been increased since 2008. Federal student loan borrowing is often viewed and encouraged to be the first source of loan borrowing. The NDUS percent of students seeking federal loans reflect this. In 2020-21, the percent of federal loan borrowers to total headcount far-exceeded the percent of alternative loan borrowers to total headcount. However, alternative loan borrowing continues to be an important source of funding to fill the gap that some students may have to pay for their education. Chart 5a shows the undergraduate borrowing trend of the various loan programs, as well as a historical view of alternative undergraduate student loan borrowing.

Chart 5a - NDUS Undergraduate Loan Volume - ALL Student Loans

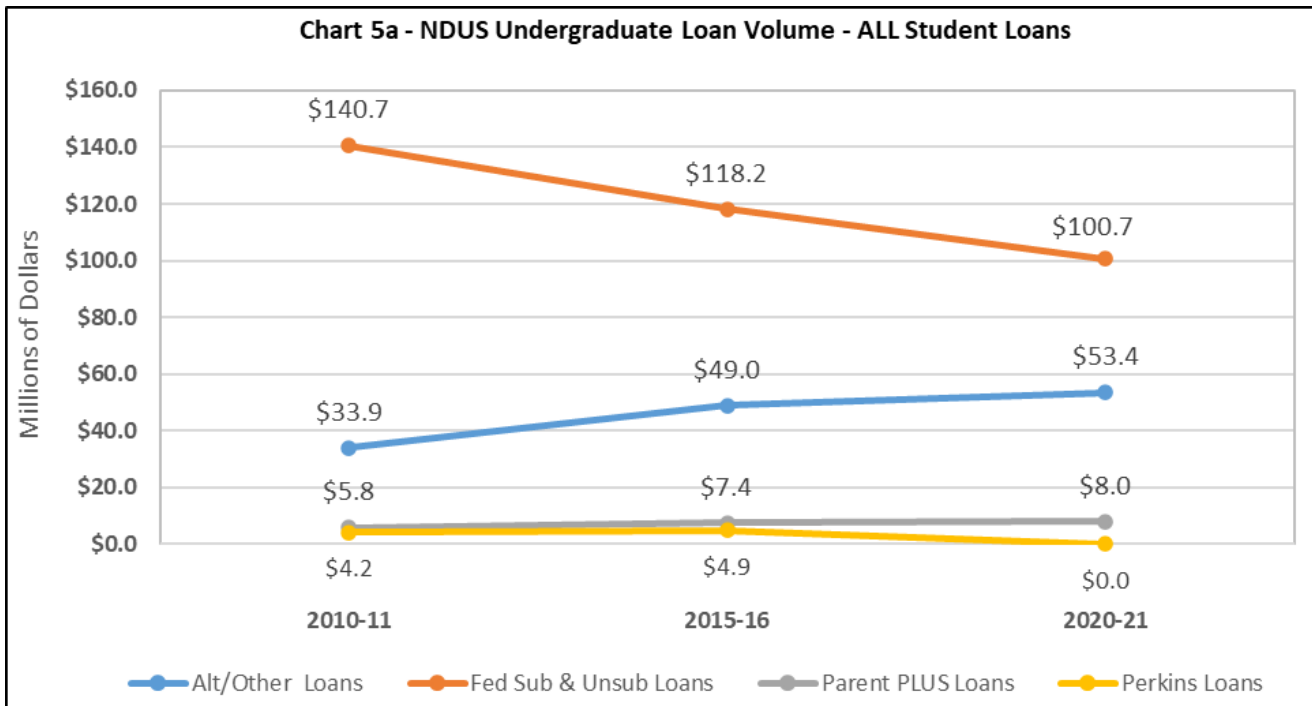


Table 5b - Alternative/Other Undergraduate Student Loans - Loan Disbursements

Doctoral Universities (NDSU, UND)					
Year	Loan Amount Borrowed (millions of dollars) ¹	Number of Borrowers ²	% of Borrowers/Total Headcount ³ Enrollment	Avg Annual Loan Per Borrower	Fall Degree-Credit Headcount ³
2010-11	\$28.9	3,899	16.9%	\$7,422	23,116
2015-16	\$41.6	4,580	19.4%	\$9,080	23,614
2020-21	\$46.1	4,025	19.8%	\$11,454	20,351
5-yr change	10.9%	-12.1%	0.4%	26.1%	-13.8%
10-yr change	59.3%	3.2%	2.9%	54.3%	-12.0%
4-Year Universities Annual Loan Volume (DSU, MaSU, MiSU, VCSU)					
Year	Loan Amount Borrowed (millions of dollars) ¹	Number of Borrowers ²	% of Borrowers/Total Headcount ³ Enrollment	Avg Annual Loan Per Borrower	Fall Degree-Credit Headcount ³
2010-11	\$2.2	462	5.5%	\$4,827	8,339
2015-16	\$3.1	523	7.8%	\$5,845	6,743
2020-21	\$3.1	446	6.6%	\$6,924	6,723
5-yr change	1.0%	-14.7%	-1.1%	18.5%	-0.3%
10-yr change	38.5%	-3.5%	1.1%	43.4%	-19.4%
2-Year Colleges Annual Loan Volume (BSC, LRSC, DCB, NDSCS, WSC)					
Year	Loan Amount Borrowed (millions of dollars) ¹	Number of Borrowers ²	% of Borrowers/Total Headcount ³ Enrollment	Avg Annual Loan Per Borrower	Fall Degree-Credit Headcount ³
2010-11	\$2.7	534	5.0%	\$5,082	10,718
2015-16	\$4.3	657	6.1%	\$6,597	10,849
2020-21	\$4.2	528	5.1%	\$8,043	10,335
5-yr change	-2.0%	-19.6%	-0.9%	21.9%	-4.7%
10-yr change	56.5%	-1.1%	0.1%	58.3%	-3.6%

¹ Undergraduate alternative private student loans/other student loans only; excludes federal loans.

² Borrowers may be duplicated if receiving more than one loan type.

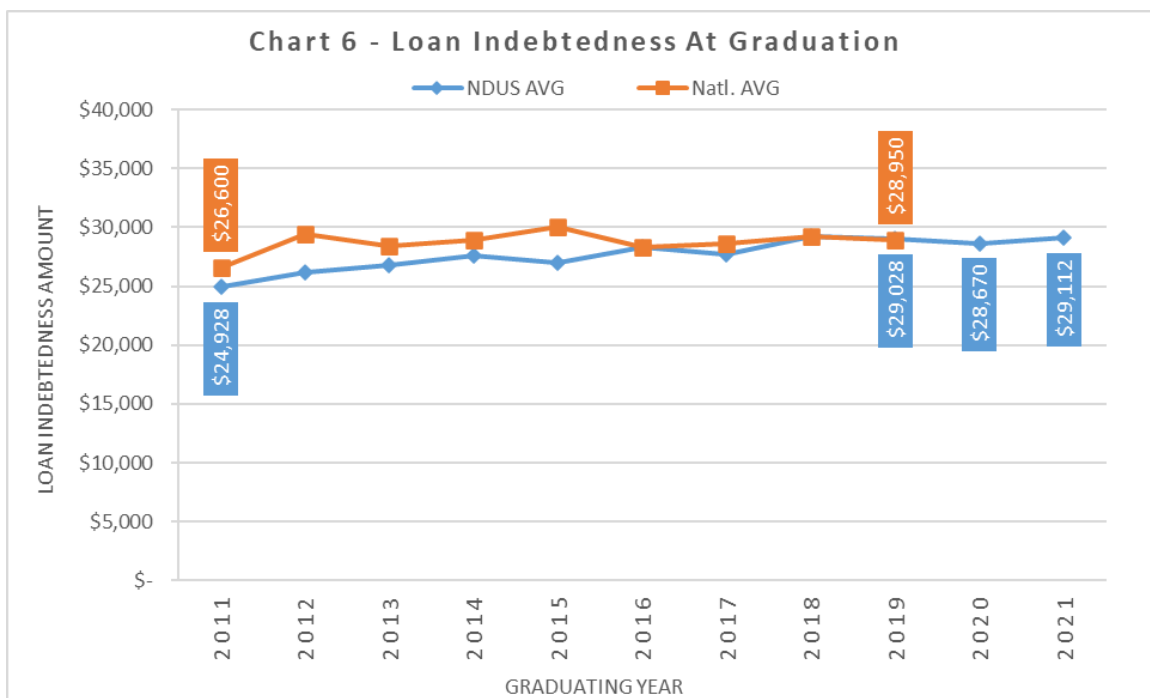
³ Undergraduate fall degree-credit headcount excludes graduate students.

Indebtedness at Graduation

Student loans, when borrowed conservatively and for real educational expenses, can assist students in their degree attainment goals. For some, borrowing helps to reduce the stress of working long hours while attending classes and doing homework, but it can also impact life decisions once graduates transition into the workforce. For this reason, loan indebtedness at graduation it is an important topic to consider when discussing affordability.

Tracking and collection of graduate loan indebtedness is not mandated by federal regulation. Within the NDUS Affordability Report, national indebtedness data has historically come from The Institute for College Access & Success (TICAS). TICAS data relies upon schools voluntarily providing debt information, which may not always be complete and does not include all post-secondary institutions. Therefore, the national debt level may be understated by TICAS. According to TICAS, the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS) is a more comprehensive and reliable source of financial aid data at the national level; however, the survey is only done every four years, does not provide representative data for states, and provides no data for individual colleges. For these reasons, TICAS data remains the benchmark for purposes of comparison in this report. The last national indebtedness figure reported by TICAS was in 2019. TICAS did not produce a national average for the class of 2020.

To formulate a complete and consistent picture of indebtedness among NDUS graduates, NDUS data is obtained from system reports based on specific graduating cohorts of students. The NDUS data includes all loan types (federal, private, and institutional loans) for undergraduate students. Parent PLUS loans are excluded as this debt is the responsibility of the parent who borrows a federal loan for their dependent student. Chart 6 provides the average loan debt for non-transfer, first-time undergraduate students who started at an NDUS institution and who completed their program during the specified year. The NDUS average indebtedness remains below or close to the national averages reported by TICAS and has remained relatively constant since 2016.

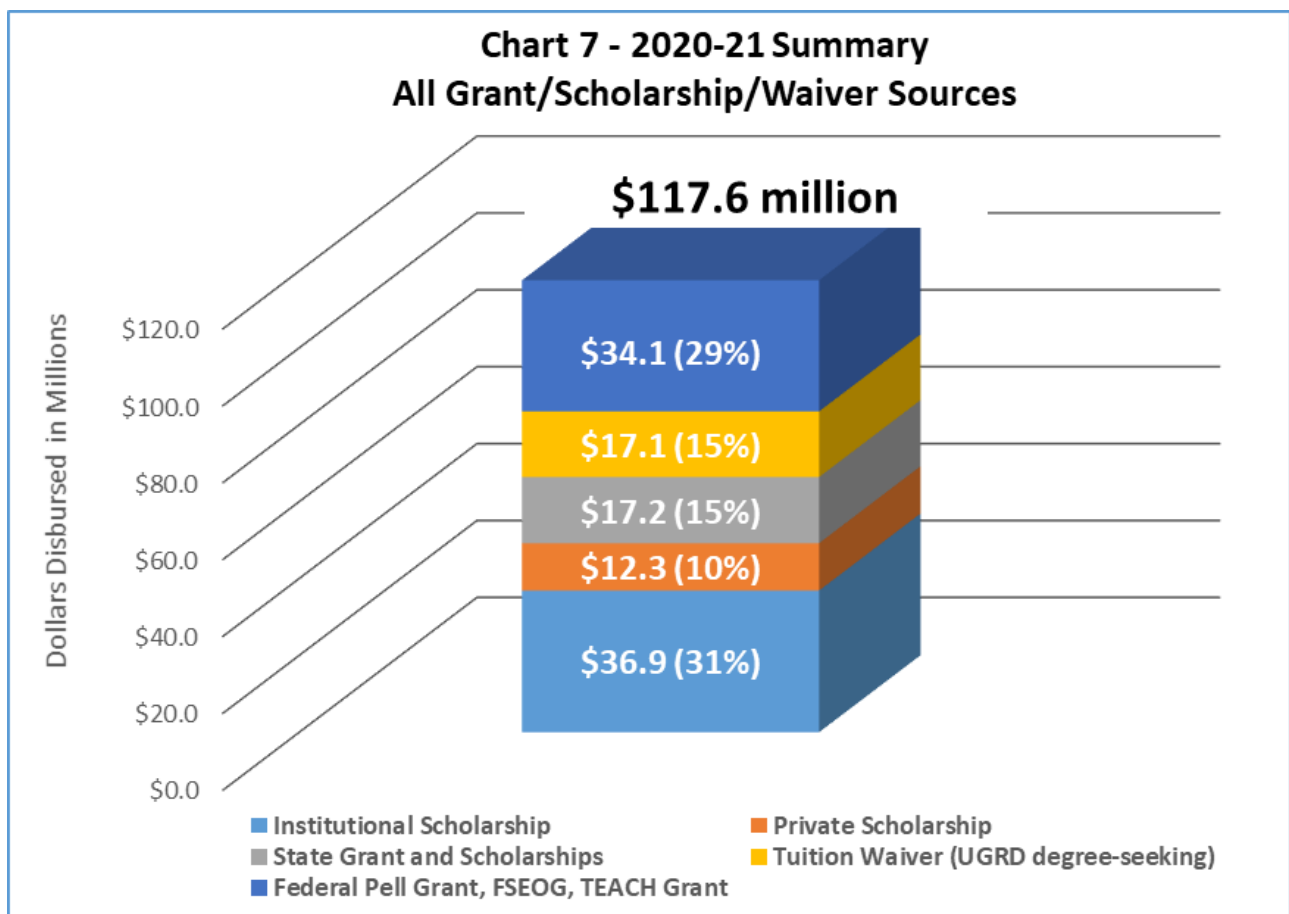


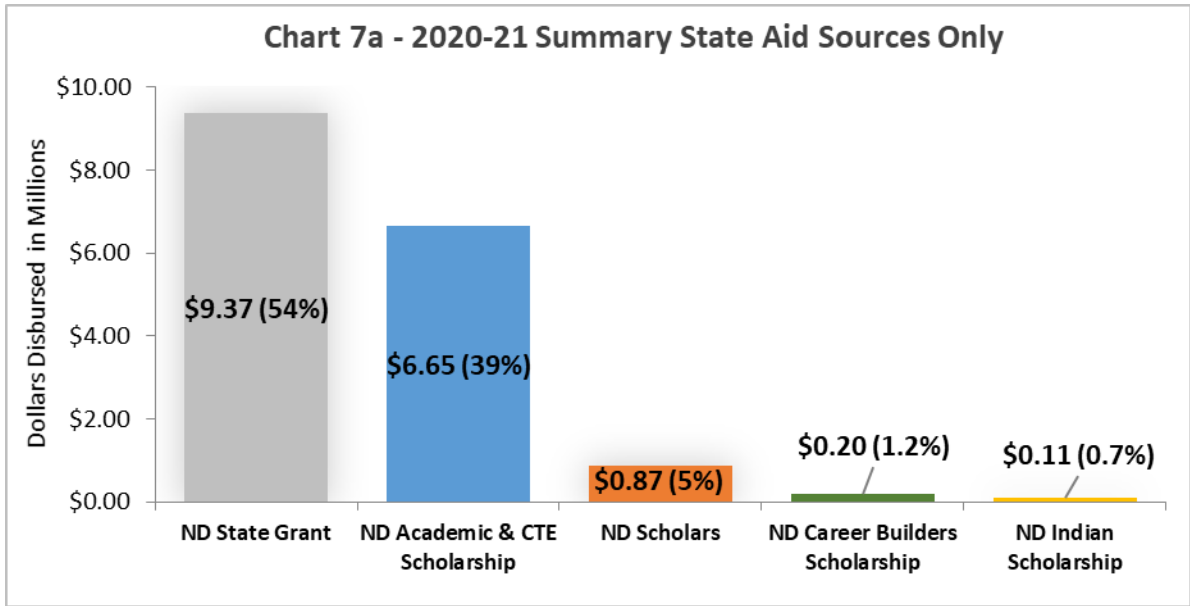
2020-21 Grants, Scholarships and Waivers

Federal financial aid is only one source of funding for students. Further contributing to affordability are state-funded grants and scholarships, tuition waivers, institutional scholarships, and privately funded scholarships, among others.

In 2020-21 federal grants (Pell, FSEOG & Teach) totaled \$34.1 million, a drop of \$3.1 million from the prior year. Non-federal grants and scholarships, which include state funded programs, institutional scholarships, and privately funded scholarships, accounted for \$66.4 million, a \$1.9 million increase from the prior year. NDUS undergraduate tuition waivers further contributed to affordability at \$17.1 million, a \$1.2 million increase from the prior year. Total non-repayable grant, scholarship, and waiver sources in 2020-21 were \$117.6 million, nearly identical to 2019-20.

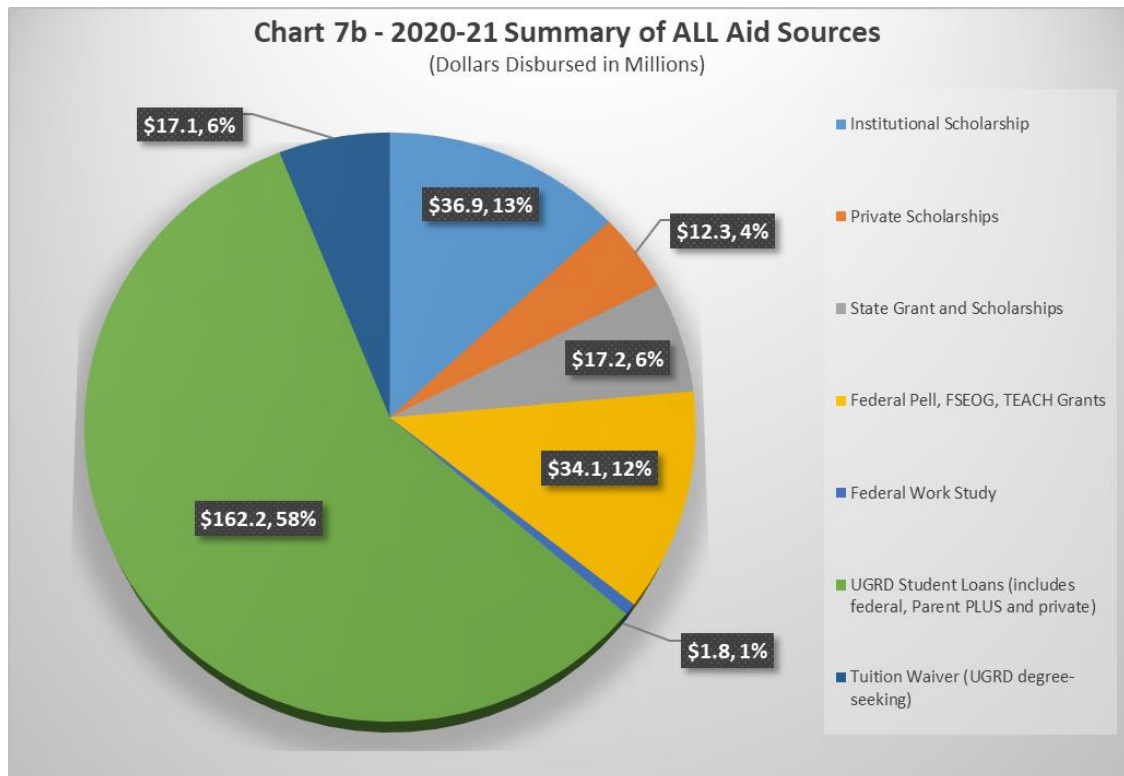
Institutional scholarships are often funded through endowments and gifts to institutions for the benefit of students meeting specific requirements. Students were awarded institutional scholarships of \$36.9 million, or 31% of total grant, scholarship and waiver dollars, the largest percent. Private sector scholarships contributed another \$12.3 million, a slight increase from 2019-20. State-funded grants and scholarships to ND resident students totaled \$17.2 million. Of the state dollars, 54% was provided in the form of the need-based state grant. ND Academic and CTE Scholarships account for the second largest category of state aid awarded to students attending NDUS institutions at 39%.





2020-21 Financial Aid Disbursements and % of Cost Covered

Disbursements of all undergraduate student financial aid in 2020-21 totaled \$281.6 million. Non-repayable scholarships, grants and waivers totaled \$117.6 million. Student loans and Federal Work Study totaled \$164 million. Total tuition charges to degree-seeking undergraduate students in the NDUS in 2020-21 were \$255.3 million. Non-repayable grants, scholarships and waivers covered 46% of tuition cost. When adding in room/board, and mandatory fees (\$109 million), grants, scholarships, and waivers covered 32% of costs. Student loans and Federal Work Study contributed to affordability, covering 77% of tuition, room/board, and mandatory fees.



State Financial Aid Program's Purpose

State-funded scholarships and grants for ND resident students are designed for different purposes. All offer access to an affordable educational opportunity.

- The ND State Grant is need-based and assists the neediest resident students. Students must complete the FAFSA application annually to be considered.
- The ND Academic and CTE Scholarships are based on performance in high school and are awarded for achievement by the Dept. of Public Instruction following high school graduation.
- The ND Scholars program is the premier merit-based award in the state. Scholars are awarded based on their national testing scores on the ACT or SAT.
- The ND Indian Scholarship is based on ethnicity, awarded to resident American Indian students. Recipients can qualify for either a merit-based scholarship or a need-based scholarship.
- ND Career Builders is a workforce development program that encourages students to enroll in programs that lead to a certificate or degree that fills an in-demand occupation in the state. This dual-purpose program not only contributes to the workforce, but also to college affordability. Recipients of this award may qualify for a scholarship, loan repayment, or both. Scholarships funds from the private sector are matched with state funds to double the award, up to a maximum of \$17,000.
- A new program established by the 2021 Legislative Assembly is the Dual-Credit Tuition Scholarship. This program has a special purpose as it rewards post-secondary students for their enrollment in dual credit courses while in high school. The maximum scholarship is \$750. This program incentivizes students to seek dual credit opportunities, which are a cost-effective way to earn a degree. As of March 2022, 1,566 resident students had applied with total awards of \$843,710, mostly issued in the 2021-22 academic year. Results of this program will be incorporated into next year's Affordability Report.

State Financial Aid Program Appropriations

North Dakota's investment in financial aid has grown significantly since 2009. The 2009 Legislative Assembly established the ND Academic & CTE Scholarship and added over \$14 million to the need-based State Grant and ND Scholars program. Since that time, the state has continued to expand financial aid programs to assist ND resident students in accessing an affordable education. Table 8 shows the state-funded programs over the past 4 biennia. The ND Career Builders program and the Dual Credit Tuition Scholarship are funded through the Bank of ND. The state scholarships and grants were reduced as part of the 2015-17 allotment process, and the ND State Grant carry-over was further reduced by \$5 million by the 2017 Legislative Assembly. Additionally, \$2.5 million was transferred from the ND State Grant to the ND Academic and CTE Scholarship in the 2019-21 biennium to cover the shortfall of commitments to that program. This anticipated shortfall was identified by the NDUS in the 2017 legislative session, and funding was requested.

Program	² 2015-17	⁴ 2017-19	³ 2019-21	2021-23
State Grant	\$23,886,160	\$21,917,306	\$21,417,306	\$23,917,306
Academic, CTE, ND Scholarship	\$13,134,096	\$12,016,749	\$14,516,749	\$16,216,749
ND Scholars	\$2,113,584	\$1,807,115	\$1,807,115	\$1,807,115
ND Indian Scholarship	\$649,267	\$555,323	\$555,323	\$555,323
¹ Dual Credit Tuition Scholarship				\$1,500,000
¹ NDCB Scholarship & Loan Repayment			\$6,000,000	\$4,500,000
PSEP	\$3,941,754	\$3,699,342	\$3,699,342	\$3,699,342
TCCAG	\$967,250	\$600,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
EDU Incentives (STEM and Teacher Loan Forgiveness)	\$3,089,000	\$2,603,393		
Doctoral Program Funding (NDSU & UND)	\$260,000	\$260,000	\$260,000	\$260,000
TOTAL	\$48,041,111	\$43,459,228	\$49,255,835	\$53,455,835

¹Funded through BND (not general appropriation)

²Post-allotment amounts

³\$2.5M transferred from State Grant to Academic & CTE Scholarship to cover shortfall in appropriation

⁴\$5M State Grant carry-over reduction in 2017-19 biennium

Other Sources

Federal, state, institutional and private sources of financial aid make up most of the financial aid for students, however, there may be other sources. A source of funding not previously mention is military benefits. The Post 9/11 GI Bill is a significant source of financial aid for NDUS students. In 2019-20, IPEDS reported that GI Bill benefits were provided to 906 undergraduate students in an amount of nearly \$6.0 million. Over the 5-year period through 2019-20, the average GI Bill benefits in the NDUS was \$6.4 million per year, slightly above the previous 5-year period. IPEDS data lags by one year and therefore, the 2020-21 data was not yet available at the time of this report and therefore is not included in the charts in this report.

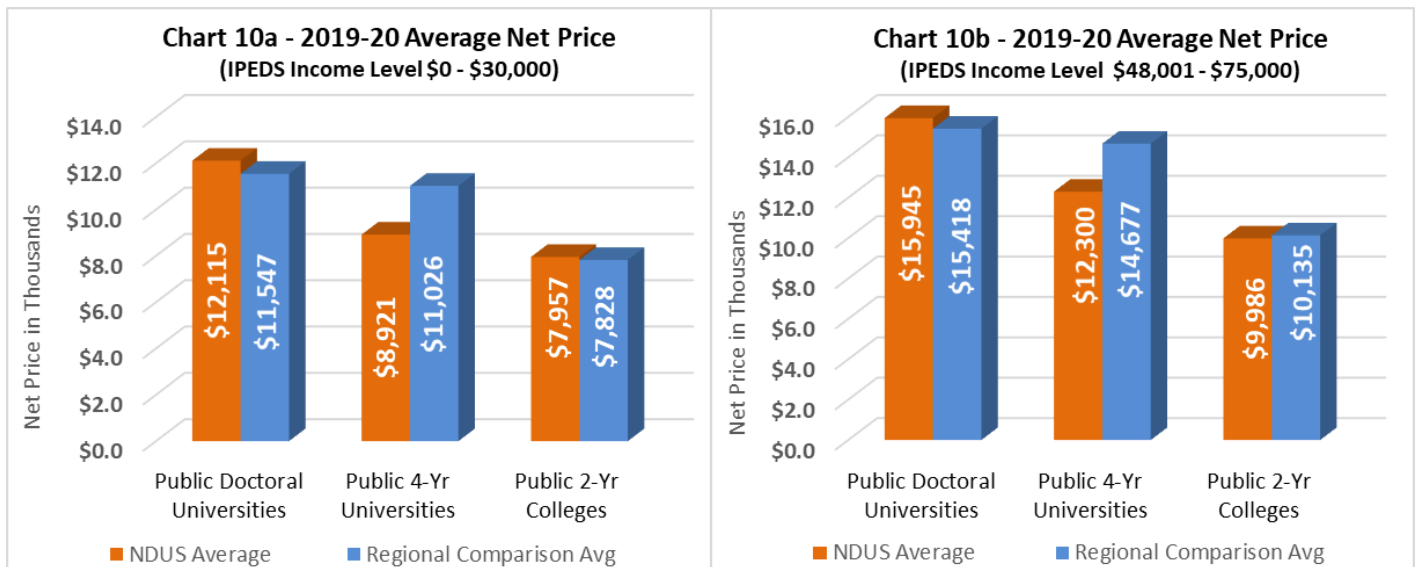
Institution	IPEDS Reported 9/11 GI Bill Benefits To Undergraduate Students									
	2019-20		2018-19		2017-18		2016-17		2015-16	
	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$
BSC	118	\$429,625	121	\$429,556	139	\$533,720	147	\$514,247	176	\$639,910
DSU	20	\$127,806	33	\$144,289	33	\$143,996	32	\$141,988	26	\$131,113
LRSC	32	\$87,806	40	\$99,090	66	\$159,720	68	\$168,859	62	\$146,499
MASU	20	\$60,042	28	\$138,109	17	\$51,090	16	\$56,582	18	\$58,742
MISU	133	\$779,821	164	\$973,032	195	\$1,086,271	220	\$1,107,994	250	\$1,239,853
MISUB	18	\$56,803	17	\$46,964	23	\$47,690	29	\$60,421	31	\$68,730
NDSCS	30	\$139,858	41	\$164,967	55	\$176,012	48	\$166,663	36	\$71,093
NDSU	170	\$1,242,861	174	\$1,270,652	204	\$1,295,427	202	\$1,321,153	206	\$1,292,644
UND	334	\$2,881,864	322	\$2,584,413	334	\$2,976,808	341	\$2,998,968	351	\$3,157,542
VCSU	21	\$71,309	22	\$90,856	23	\$97,029	21	\$76,310	5	\$11,246
WSC	10	\$37,664	12	\$43,302	7	\$13,756	8	\$20,681	13	\$34,724
TOTAL	906	\$5,915,459	974	\$5,985,230	1096	\$6,581,519	1,132	\$6,633,866	1,174	\$6,852,096
5-Yr Avg	1,056	\$6,393,634.00								

A final source for this year’s report that is worthy of mention is CARES Act funding. NDUS students impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic received millions of dollars in federal grants as part of the CARES Act. In spring 2020, federal aid was issued to institutions to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations. A second round of federal emergency financial aid was issued in the 2020-21 academic year, a portion again that was issued directly to students, especially those with need. These funds, while providing the financial support to persist in their programs of study, also provided support for items such as food, housing, health care, childcare, or new medical expenses. Between 2019-20 and 2020-21, NDUS institutions issued \$19.8 million in CARES Act funding to students as a component of financial aid. It is important to note that these funds are not reoccurring, and therefore are not included in the charts contained within this report.

Net Price

Net price is the estimated out-of-pocket cost after all scholarships and grants are applied to full cost of attendance. Full cost of attendance is the average tuition, fees, books, supplies, room and board, transportation, and miscellaneous living expenses. Net price helps families estimate what they might owe, either through savings, work, or students loans, to attend their institution of choice. The net price data in this report represents the average for a full-time, first-time, degree-seeking undergraduate student paying in-state tuition rates, and who was awarded grant or scholarship aid.

In 2019-20, income earners below \$30,000 had a lower average net price at the NDUS 4-year universities, and comparable net price at the doctoral universities and 2-year colleges, in comparison with regional counterparts. For middle income earners between \$48,001-\$75,000, net price at NDUS 4-year universities and 2-year colleges was below the comparable regional averages, and slightly above at doctoral universities. Regional comparisons include public four-year and public two-year institutions in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.



While net price is a tool for cost comparison, it is also important to look at family income levels when discussing net price. A family's ability to pay may be better reflected by the percentage of income required to cover net price as shown in Table 10c. Lower income families earning around \$30,000 require a greater percentage of their income to cover estimated net price at NDUS institutions compared to families earning an income of \$75,000. By focusing on need-based aid sources to lower income families, this gap can be narrowed.

Table 10c					
% Of \$30,000 Income Required to Cover Net Price			% Of \$75,000 Income Required to Cover Net Price		
Institution Category	Net Price	% Of Income	Institution Category	Net Price	% Of Income
NDUS Doctoral Universities	\$12,115	40%	NDUS Doctoral Universities	\$15,945	21%
NDUS 4-Year Universities	\$8,921	30%	NDUS 4-Year Universities	\$12,300	16%
NDUS 2-Year Colleges	\$7,957	27%	NDUS 2-Year Colleges	\$9,986	13%