

Perspective on..



What Would It Take To Be “Average”? May 1999

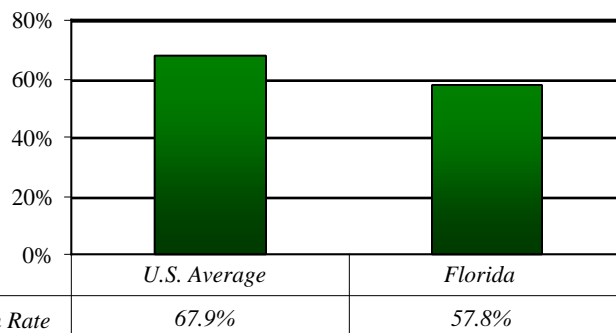
According to Tom Mortenson, *Postsecondary Education Opportunity*, February 1999, an individual’s chance for college by age 19 is the product of two factors: a.) high school graduation rate and b.) college continuation rate. Florida currently ranks 47th in the nation in chance for college by age 19 based on these indicators. Data on these and other factors related to postsecondary access and success are provided in this issue of *Perspective On...*

In 1996, Florida ranked 47th in high school graduation rate. To reach the national average, the number of Florida public high school graduates that year would have had to increase by 15,890 students.

The number of 1996 Florida high school graduates continuing on to college would have had to increase by 7,317 students in order to reach the national average. Florida is ranked 42nd in the nation that year on this measure.

According to an analysis in *Postsecondary Education Opportunity*, every one percent gain in the proportion of adults who have a bachelor’s degree adds about 2.7 percent of state per capita personal income. Florida’s current per capita personal income is \$25,255, while the national per capita income is \$25,598.

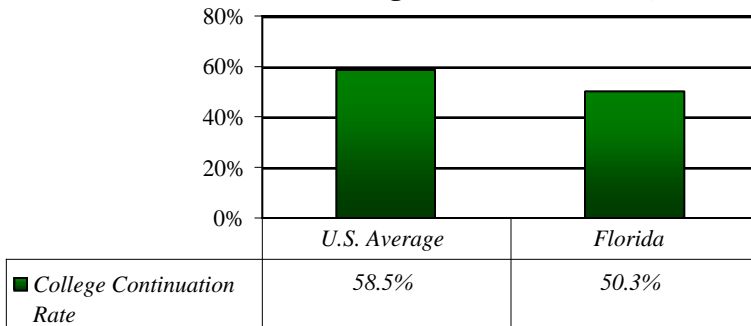
High School Graduation Rate, 1996



SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics

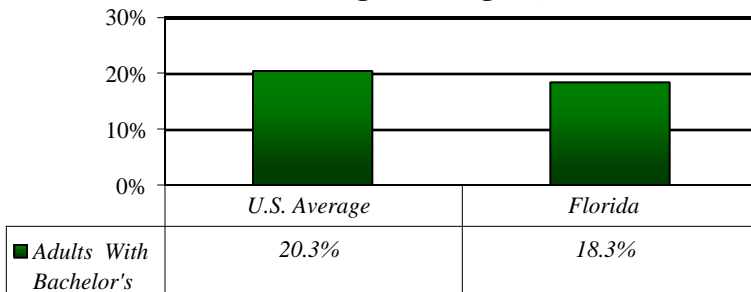
Does not include special diplomas, certificates, or GED’s.

College Continuation Rate, 1996



SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics

Percent of Adult Population Holding a Bachelor Degree or Higher, 1998



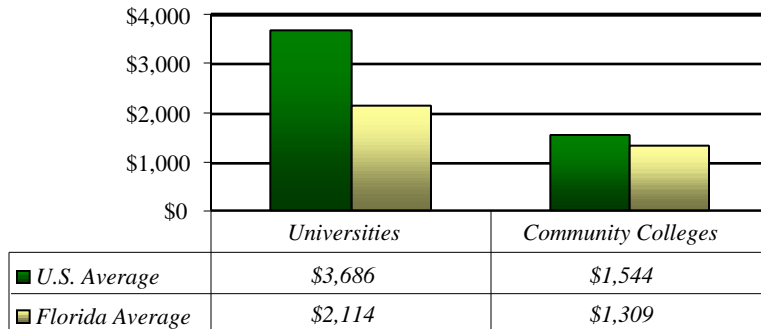
SOURCE: *The Chronicle of Higher Education Almanac, 1998-99*

To reach the national average, Florida would have to increase its public university tuition (currently 49th in the nation) by 74 percent and its community college tuition (33rd in the nation) by 18 percent.

Florida would have to increase its state appropriations per FTE for operating expenses of higher education by 3 percent to reach the national average.

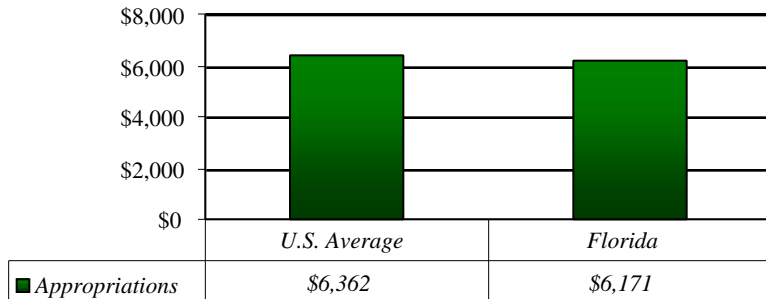
To reach the national average, need-based aid per college-age Florida resident would need to increase by 258 percent.

Resident Tuition and Fees, 1998-99



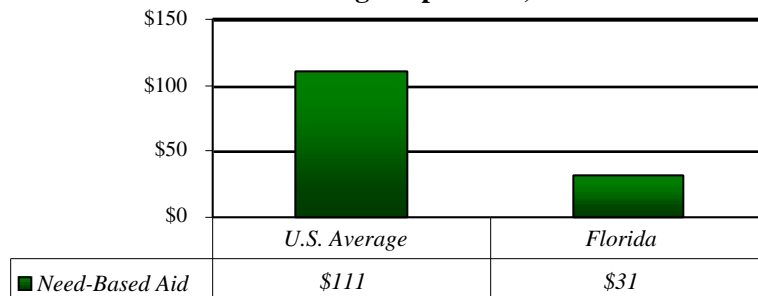
SOURCE: 1998-99 Tuition and Fee Rates; A National Comparison

State Appropriations per FTE for Operating Expenses of Higher Education, 1997-98



SOURCE: Grapevine, 1997-98 and IPEDS Enrollment Data

Need-Based Aid To Undergraduates Per College-Age Population, 1997-98



SOURCE: National Association of State Student Grants and Aid Programs, 29th Annual Survey Report, 1997-98 Academic Year

College-Age Population is age 18-24.

The Postsecondary Education Planning Commission, established in 1980, serves as a citizen board to coordinate the efforts of postsecondary institutions and to provide independent policy analyses and recommendations to the State Board of Education and Legislature. *Perspective on...* is a supplement to the Commission's newsletter, *Perspective*. It is published periodically to present statistical analysis and commentary on topics relevant to Florida postsecondary education.

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