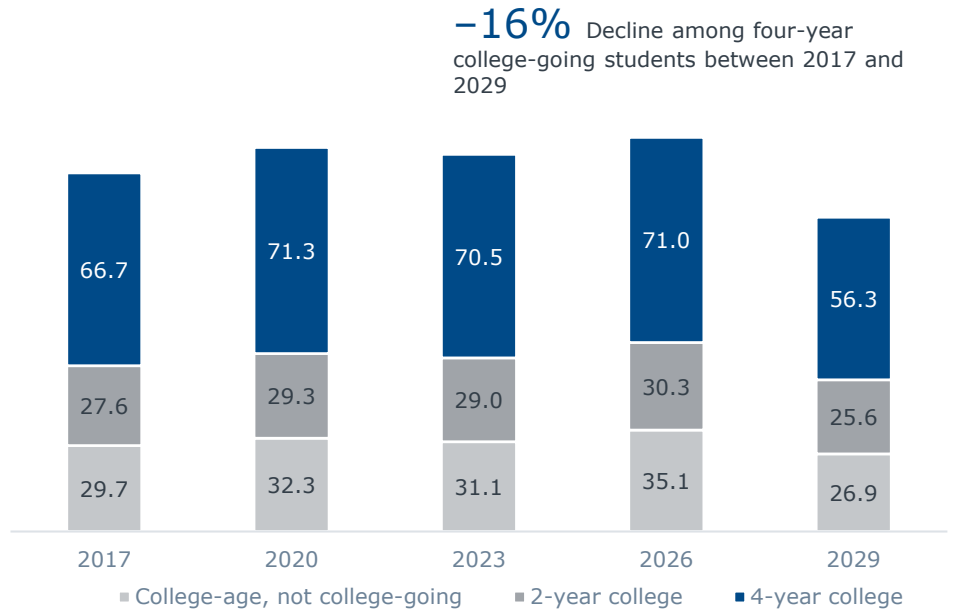# State Outlook: Connecticut

Demographics Trends

Recruitment Pool Set to Shrink in the Next Decade

An uptick in enrollment of four-year college-going students until 2026 will be followed by a steep decline between 2026 and 2029.
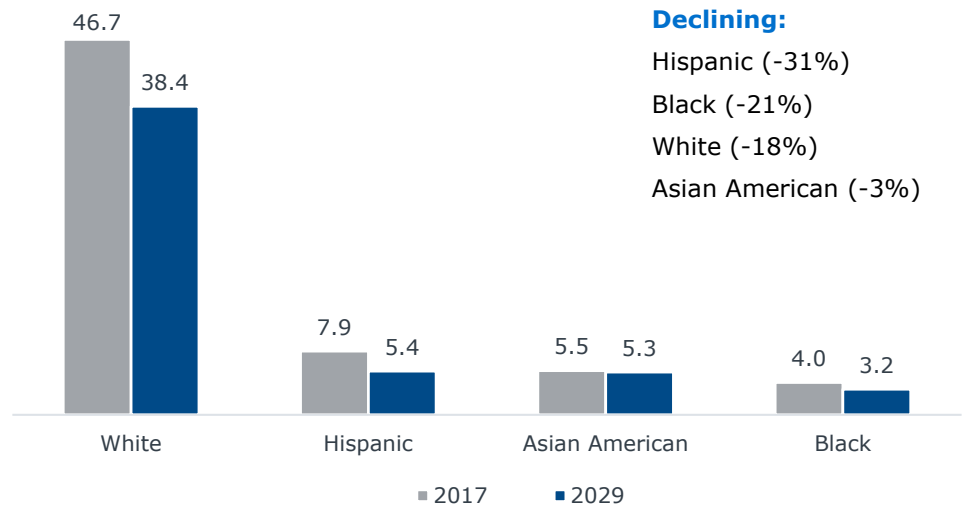
Forecasted Number of College-Aged and College-Going Students in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island[1] (Thousands), by Year of High School Graduation

−16% Decline among four-year college-going students between 2017 and 2029

	2017	2020	2023	2026	2029
4-year college	66.7	71.3	70.5	71.0	56.3
2-year college	27.6	29.3	29.0	30.3	25.6
College-age, not college-going	29.7	32.3	31.1	35.1	26.9

■ College-age, not college-going ■ 2-year college ■ 4-year college

Declining Enrollment Among College-Going Students from All Races/Ethnicities

Non-Hispanic White students will experience the largest decline in absolute terms (loss of 8,000 students over the next decade). Other student segments will also decrease in size.

Projected Number of 4 Year College-Going Students in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island[1] (Thousands), by Race/Ethnicity

	White	Hispanic	Asian American	Black
2017	46.7	7.9	5.5	4.0
2029	38.4	5.4	5.3	3.2

Declining:

Hispanic (-31%)

Black (-21%)

White (-18%)

Asian American (-3%)

■ 2017 ■ 2029

1) The states of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island are grouped together in the enrollment projections in order to maintain sufficient sample size and maximize the predictive power of the forecasts.

Source: Grawe, Nathan D., *Demographics and the Demand for Higher Education*, 2017; EAB analysis.

State Outlook: Connecticut

Affordability Trends

Smaller Proportion of Low-Income Households

36% of Connecticut households make less than $50,000 per year compared to 46% nationally in the same income category. Similarly, Connecticut has a larger proportion of wealthy households making over $100,000 per annum.

Number of Households by Income Segment (Thousands), 2016

Median Connecticut Household Income, 2016: **$73k**

Connecticut	36%	29%	25%	10%
US	46%	30%	19%	6%

■ $0k-$49k ■ $50k-$99k ■ $100k-$199k ■ $200k+

CT Public Institutions Less Affordable Than Most States'

The average net price at Connecticut's public institutions is 18% of the state's median household income, making it more affordable than 80% of US states.

Average Public Institution Net Price as % of Median Household Income

33%

18%

13%

WA AK HI CA UT ND FL CT TX MD DE IN DC NJ NY NV GA NM NC OK WV MA WY MT MN CO WI RI KS PR MO LA AZ NE OH ID MT VA ME IL IA KY AR NH OR SD TN VT PA MS AL SC
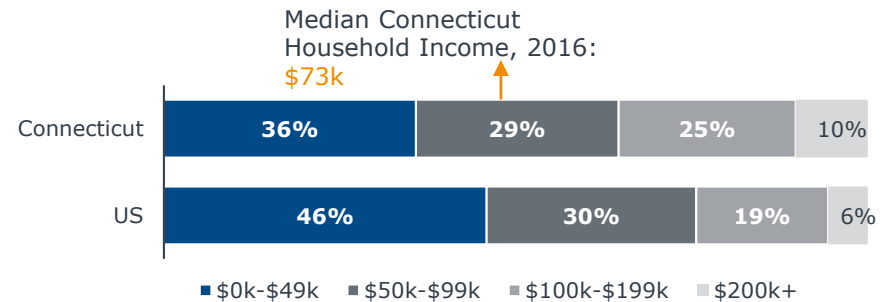
CT Private Institutions Less Affordable Than Most States'

Unsurprisingly, Connecticut's private institutions are much more expensive than their public counterparts (net price 34% of median household income for privates vs. 18% for publics). But similar to publics, Connecticut's private institutions fall below the average among all states in terms of affordability.

Average Private Institution Net Price as % of Median Household Income

49%

34%

21%

AK ND NJ HI MD NY UT DE VA SD MN CT DC NE ID KS NH PR CO IL MS IA MT WI CA TX SC MA AL WA MO MI AR GA KY NM TN AZ NC OH IN FL OK WY PA ME LA WV NV OR VT RI
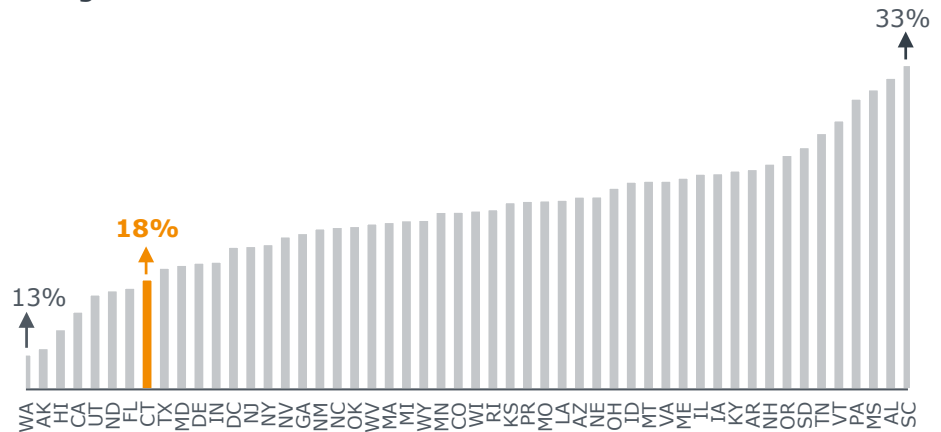
More Debt Among Graduates

While Connecticut's percentage of college graduates in debt is on par with the rest of the country, the average debt per borrower is noticeably higher than the average US borrower.
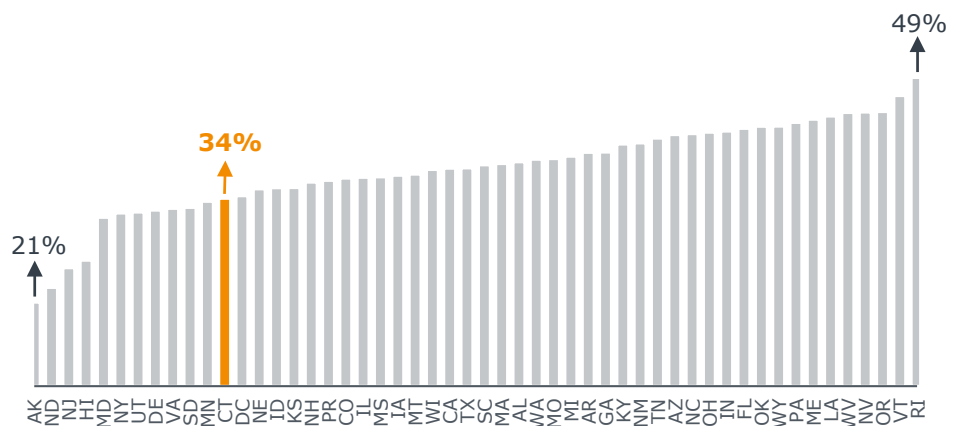
Student Loan Statistics, 2016

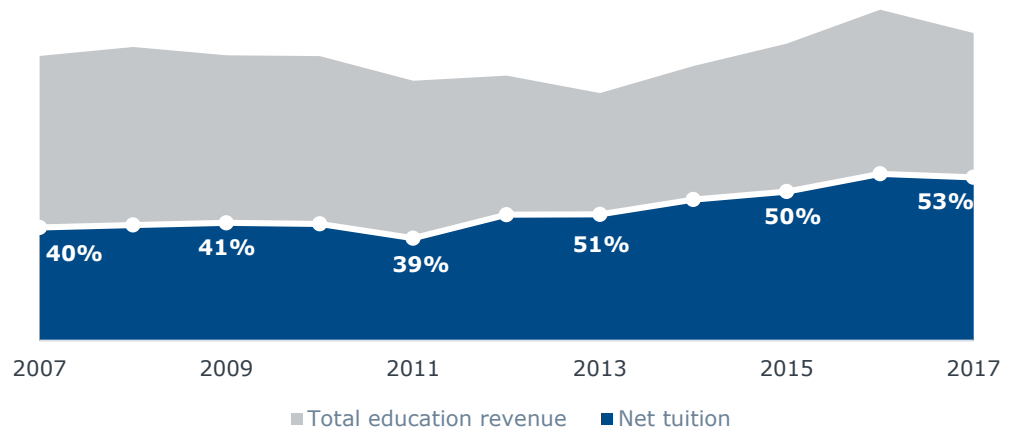|	Connecticut	US
Percentage of College Graduates with Student Debt	60%	60%
Average Debt per Borrower	$32,326	$27,975

State Outlook: Connecticut

Funding and Appropriations Trends

Reliance on Net Tuition Increased Post-Recession

Net tuition now comprises more than half of total education revenue, a 13-percentage point increase since 2007.
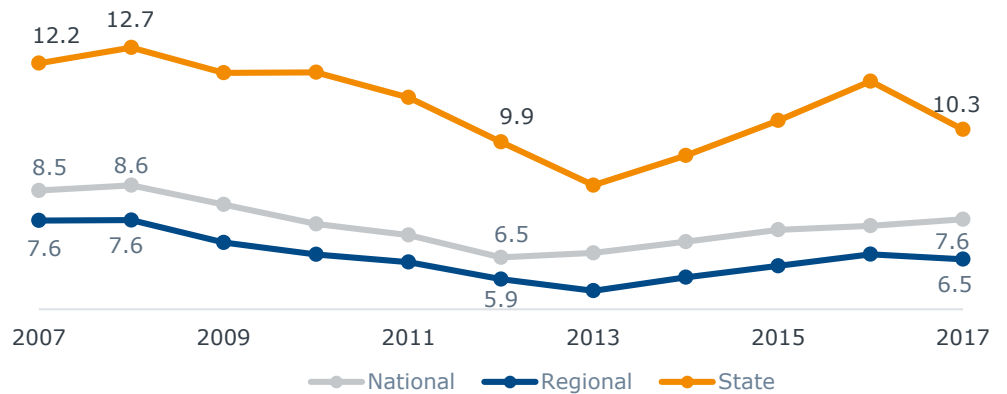
Net Tuition as a Proportion of Total Education Revenues, per Student FTE

40% 41% 39% 51% 50% 53%

2007 2009 2011 2013 2015 2017

■ Total education revenue ■ Net tuition

CT Educational Appropriations per Student Well Above Regional and National Levels

Connecticut's educational appropriations have consistently remained higher than those of the rest of the country.
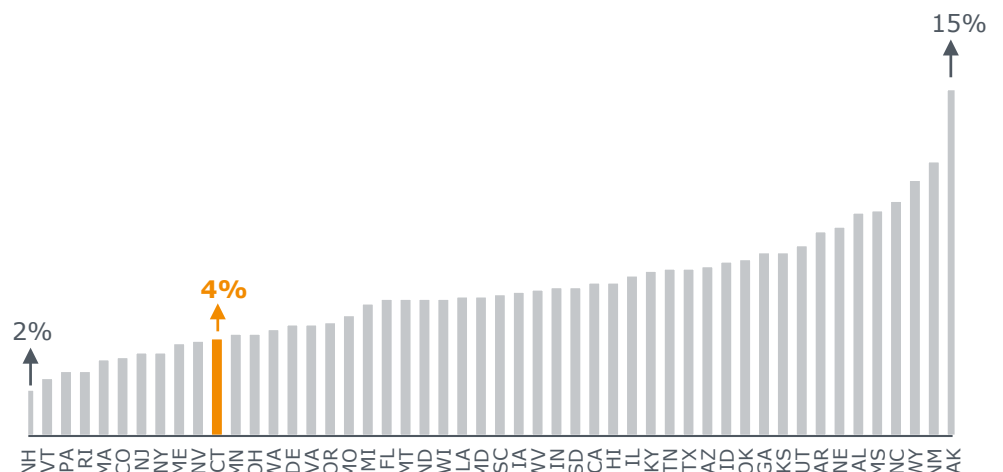
Educational Appropriations per Student FTE in CT, Regionally[1] and Nationally (Thousands), 2007-2017

12.2 12.7 9.9 10.3
8.5 8.6 6.5 7.6
7.6 7.6 5.9 6.5

2007 2009 2011 2013 2015 2017

── National ── Regional ── State

Smaller Proportion of Tax Revenues Allocated to Higher Education

Connecticut allocates only 4% of its tax revenues to higher education - a lower proportion than most states in the US.

Percentage of Tax Revenues Allocated to Higher Education by State, 2015

2% 4% 15%

NH VT PA RI MA CO NJ NY ME NV CT MN OH WA DE VA OR MO MI FL MT ND WI LA MD SC IA WV IN SD CA HI IL KY TN TX AZ ID OK GA KS UT AR NE AL MS NC WY NM AK