

# State Outlook: Nebraska

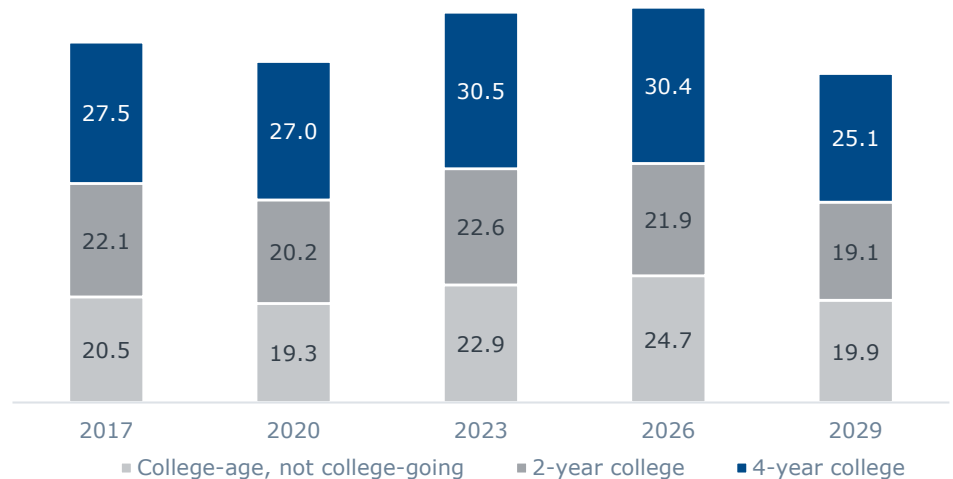
## Demographics Trends

### Recruitment Pool to Shrink in the Next Decade

An uptick in enrollment of four-year college-going students between 2020 and 2023 will be followed by a sizable decrease post-2026 (18% decline between 2026 and 2029).

### Forecasted Number of College-Aged and College-Going Students in Nebraska, Kansas, North Dakota, and South Dakota<sup>1</sup> (Thousands), by Year of High School Graduation

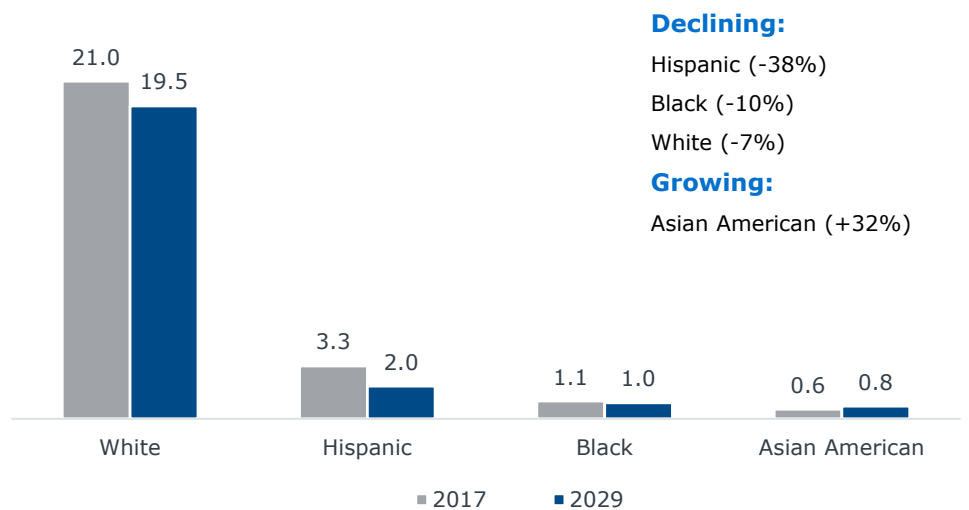
**-9%** Decline among four-year college-going students between 2017 and 2029



### Decline Among All Student Segments Except Asian Americans

The greatest rate of decline will be seen among Hispanic students (38% drop between 2017 and 2029). White and Black student segments will also decrease in size, while the Asian American student population will grow by 32%.

### Projected Number of Four-Year College-Going Students in Nebraska, Kansas, North Dakota, and South Dakota (Thousands), by Race/Ethnicity



<sup>1</sup>) The states of South Dakota, North Dakota, Kansas and Nebraska 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.

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## Affordability Trends

### Household Income Distribution in Nebraska Largely Mimics National Figures

46% of Nebraska's households make less than \$50,000 per year, identical to the national average.

### NE's Public Institutions Less Affordable Than Median States'

The average net price at Nebraska's public institutions is 24% of the state's median household income, making it less economical than the net price of public institutions in most US states.

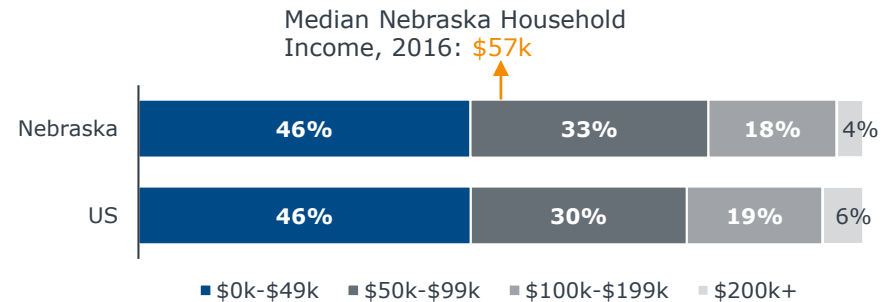
### NE's Private Institutions More Affordable Than Most States'

In contrast to publics, the average net price as a percentage of median household income at Nebraska's private institutions is lower than the net price of private colleges in most states.

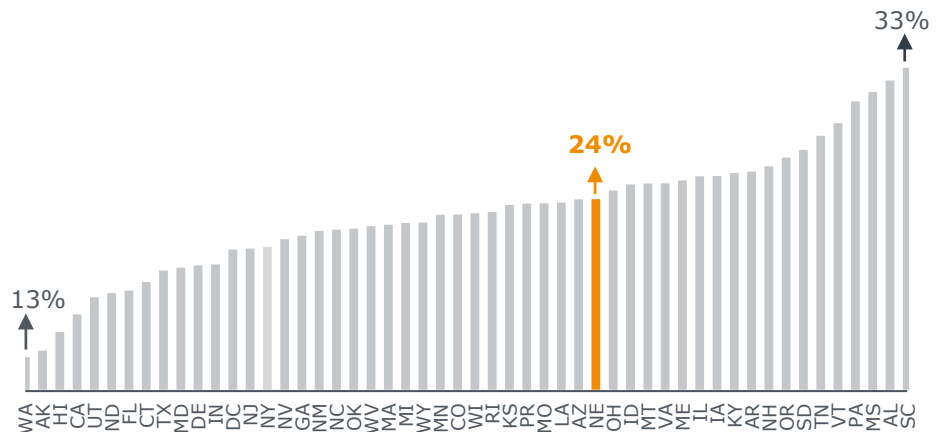
### Average Debt Among Graduates

The percentage of college graduates in debt in Nebraska is identical to the national average. Average debt per borrower is also on par with that of the average US borrower.

### Number of Households by Income Segment (Thousands), 2016



### Average Public Institution Net Price as % of Median Household Income



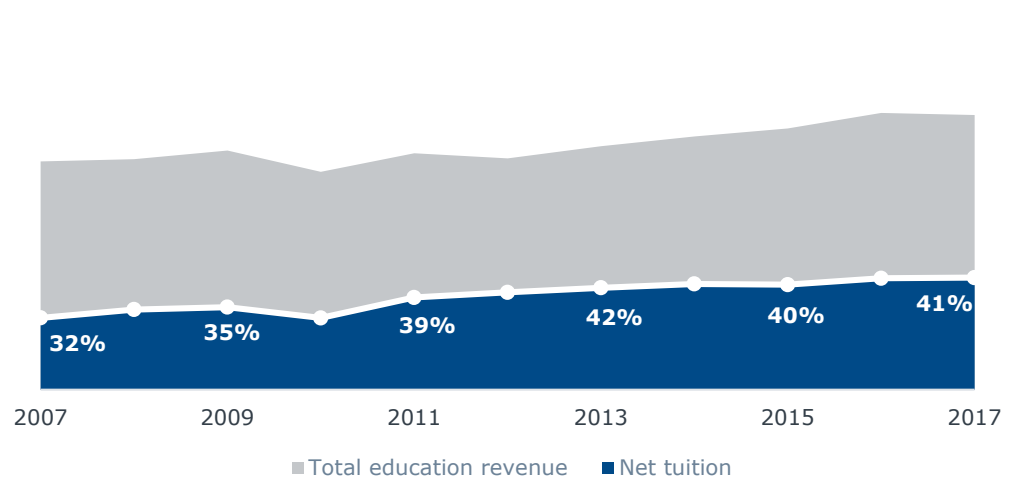
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## Funding and Appropriations Trends

### Reliance on Net Tuition Increased Post-Recession

Net tuition now comprises 41% of total education revenue in Nebraska—an increase of 9 percentage points since 2007.

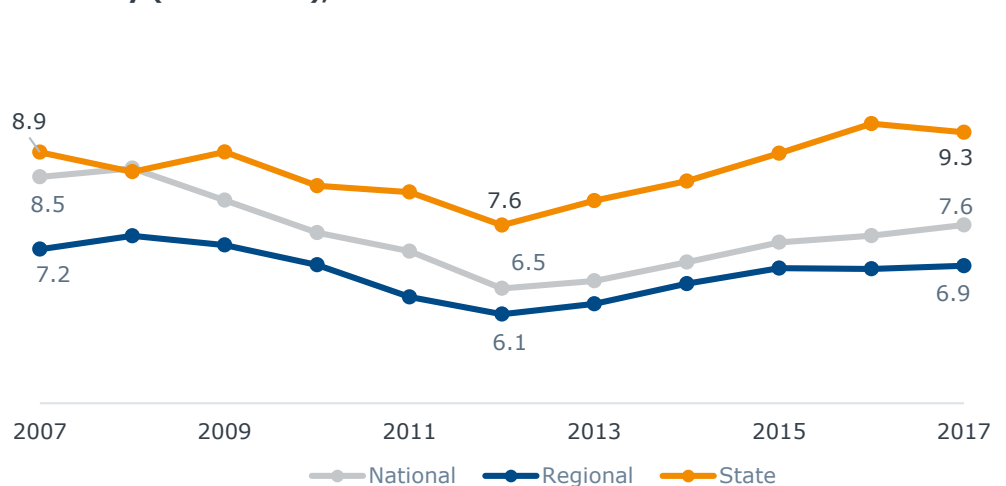
Net Tuition as a Proportion of Total Education Revenues, per Student FTE



### State Appropriations per Student FTE Well Above Regional and National Figures

Educational appropriations per student FTE in Nebraska have remained consistently higher than national and regional levels since 2008.

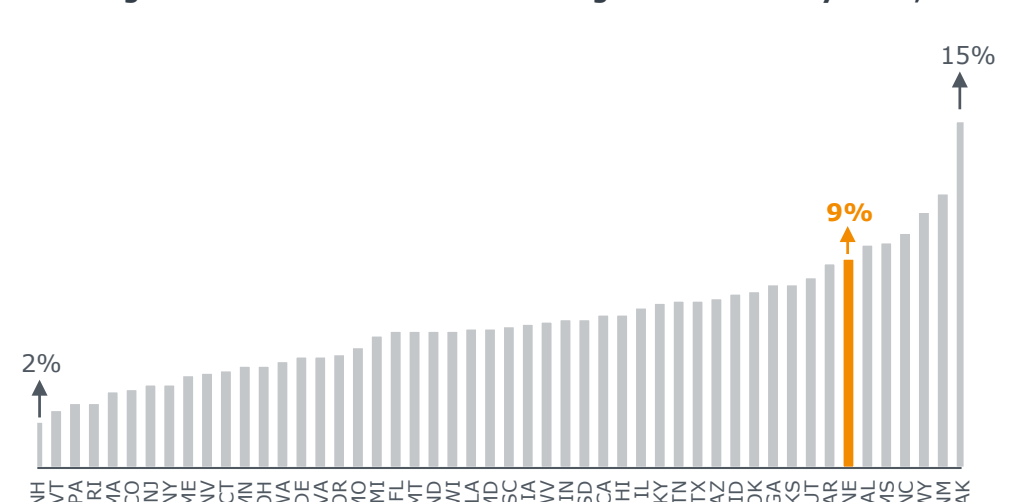
Educational Appropriations per Student FTE in NE, Regionally<sup>1</sup> and Nationally (Thousands), 2007-2017



### Larger Proportion of Tax Revenues Allocated to Higher Education

Given the high levels of state educational appropriations per student FTE in Nebraska, it is unsurprising that Nebraska allocates a larger proportion of its tax revenues to higher education than most states.

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



<sup>1</sup>) Refers to West North Central region, which includes Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Source: "2016 State Higher Education Finance (SHEF) Report," State Higher Education Executive Officers, <http://www.sheeo.org/projects/shef-fy16>; EAB analysis.