

Financial Aid Summary

AID YEAR 2016-2017



Institutional Research

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Introduction

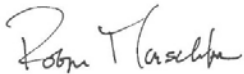
Welcome to our annual report on the distribution of financial aid among UCCS students. The report is intended to satisfy the need for greater transparency and to inform campus decision-makers as well as students and their families about types and amounts of financial aid distributions.

Included in the analysis are financial aid distributions *throughout aid year 2016-2017 among students who were enrolled during the Fall 2016 semester*. Please note that students enrolled only during the Spring 2017 semester may have received financial aid but are not included in this report.

The information in this report is drawn from a dataset used to report student-level financial aid to the Colorado Department of Higher Education via the Student Unit Record Data System (SURDS) and to the National Center for Education Statistics via the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems (IPEDS). It is a cross-section of data that does not always match the exact financial transactions that occur throughout the aid year.

For more information about the intricacies of financial aid, contact the Financial Aid Office for direct support. To request further analyses or ask questions about *this* report, please contact the Institutional Research Office.

Thank you,



Robyn Marschke, Ph.D.

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Contents

Undergraduate Financial Aid	4
Student Budget, Estimated Family Contribution, & Need	5
Sources of Aid	6
Types of Aid	6
Student Characteristics	8
Class Level and Dependency	8
College and Residency	9
Undergraduate Athletic Scholarships	10
Student Persistence & Transfers Out	10
Trends in Undergraduate Aid	12
Federal Aid Dwarfs Other Aid	12
State Aid Declines	12
Private Aid Continues to Grow	13
Institutional Aid Rebounds	13
One-Third of Undergraduates Receive Pell Grants	14
Loan Aid Exceeds \$55 Million	14
Parent Loans Approach 1/3 of All Loans	15
Students Persist Despite Loan Amounts	15
Graduate Student Financial Aid	16
Sources and Types of Aid	16
Average Awards by Type	17
Common Forms of Graduate Aid	17
Aid by College	18
Summary Table of Disbursed Aid	19

Undergraduate Financial Aid

First, a brief primer on Budgets, Need, and Estimated Family Contribution; these are three vital calculations that determine a student's financial aid package. The primer is followed by brief summaries of aid sources and aid types. The Office of Institutional Research is responsible for the methods used in this report. *For the best explanation of financial aid, always refer to the Office of Financial Aid at www.uccs.edu/finaid.*

While considering the contents of this report, be aware that the College Opportunity Fund (COF) for residents of Colorado is considered a tuition reduction rather than financial aid. Likewise, many third parties and military benefit programs fund students' educational costs as tuition assistance but are not managed as financial aid. Education tax credits and deductions also help students cover the cost of their education, but are not considered to be financial aid.

Student Budget, Estimated Family Contribution, & Need

81%

Undergrads Applied

Among 10,188 undergraduate students in Fall 2016, **81% applied for aid** and **69% received financial aid**.

69%

Undergrads Aided

The Financial Aid Office determines a **student budget** based upon costs of attendance and student information provided in the application. Each student *who applies for aid* has a budget that includes room and board, textbooks, transportation, and other living expenses in addition to tuition and fees for Fall and Spring terms. At UCCS, the budget assigned to each financial aid applicant is similar to the cost of attendance for one year. In fall 2016, 8246 undergraduates had a student budget and the average student budget was \$25,010. Compared to last year, this is an 7.4% increase in students and a 2.7% increase in the average student budget.

\$25,010

Avg Budget

The US Department of Education calculates the **expected family contribution** (EFC) based upon information students report in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). EFC incorporates several factors for dependency, family size, and individual and household income. It is used to determine aid eligibility and is not the actual amount of tuition and fees provided by a student's family. The average EFC was \$13,315 which represents an 9.2% increase of last year's average EFC.

\$13,315

Avg EFC

\$16,327

Avg Need

Need is the student budget minus the expected family contribution.

\$10,524

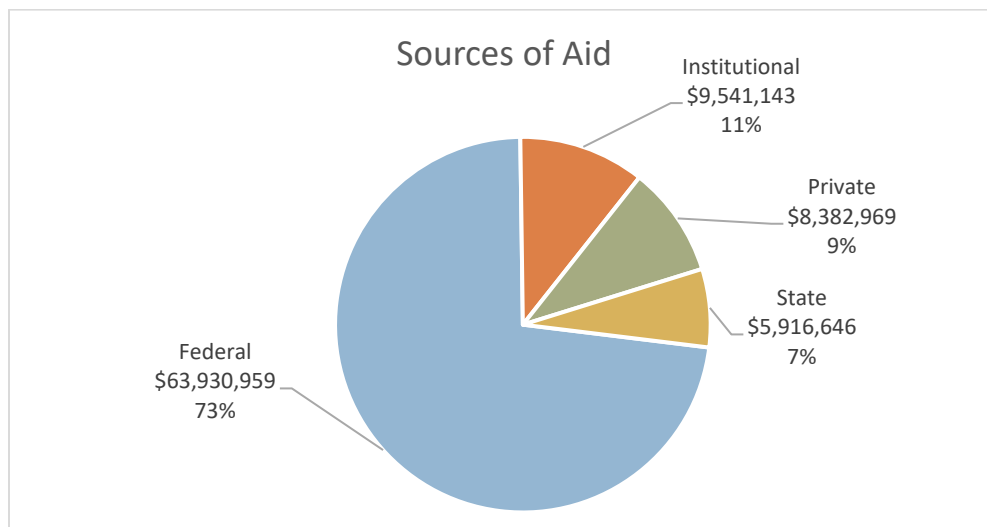
Avg Aid

Approximately 23% of students who applied for aid were determined to have no need. The average need was \$16,327.

The average amount of aid was \$8,615 (this includes applicants not awarded aid; the average award among *recipients* was \$12,399). The average aid among those awarded covered 48% of the average student budget.

Sources of Aid

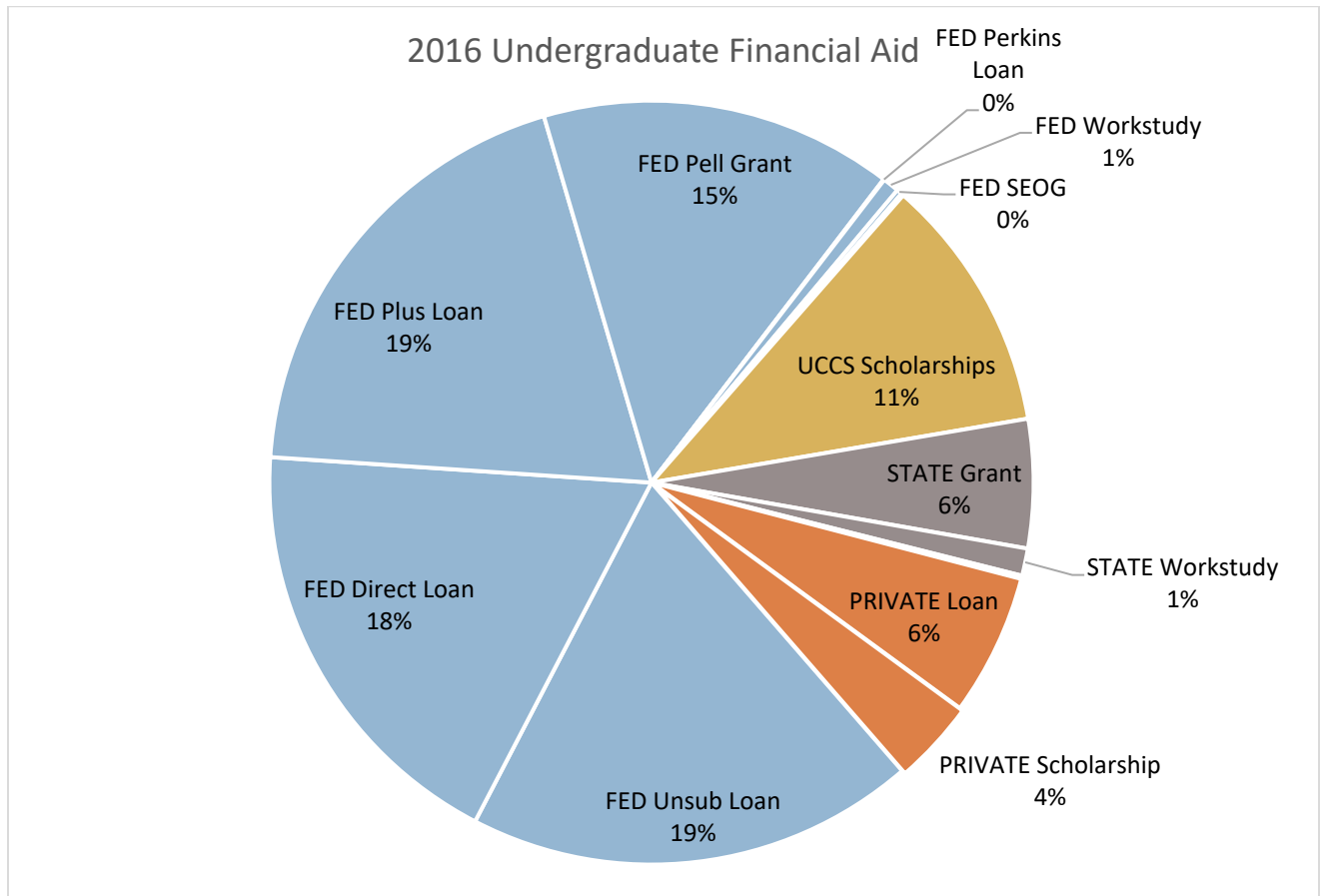
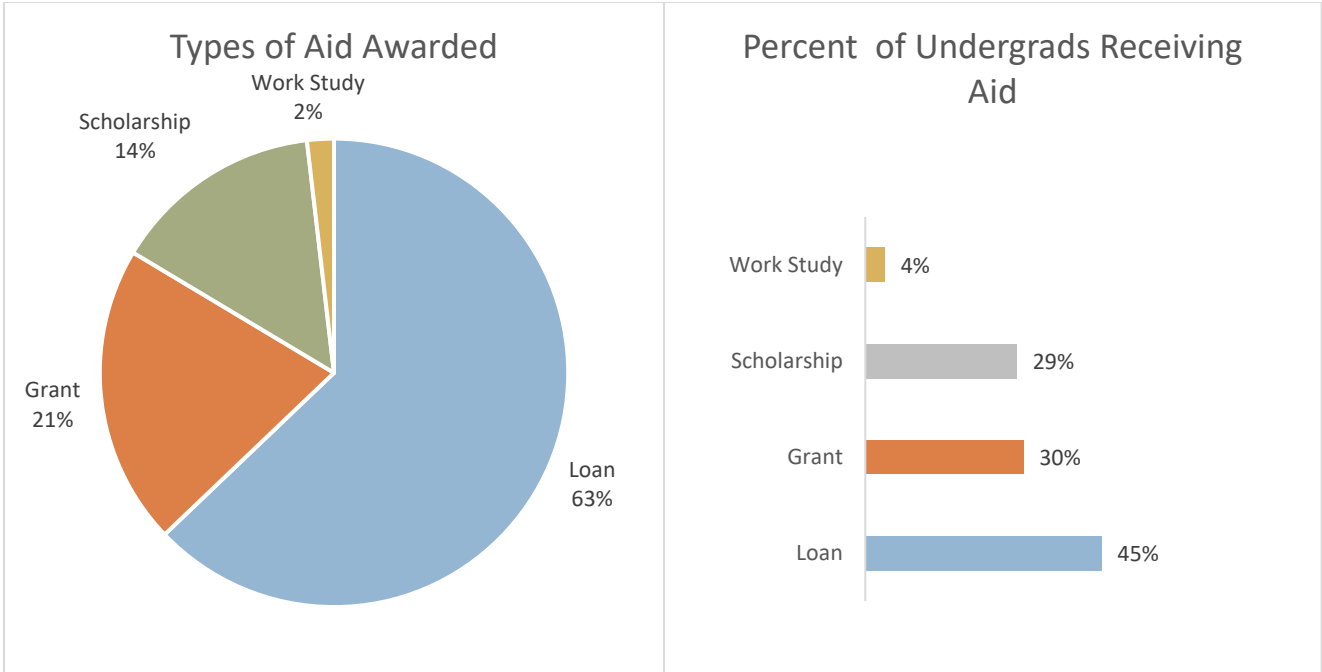
There are four sources of financial aid: federal, state, institutional, and private. The largest source distributed at UCCS is federal aid (73%) followed by institutional aid (11%), private (9%), and state aid (7%). **Federal Aid** includes Federal Direct Loans (subsidized and unsubsidized), Federal Perkins Loans, Federal Parent’s Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS), Federal Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG), and Federal Work Study. **Institutional Aid** includes need-based and merit-based scholarships. Athletic scholarships are an example of merit-based institutional aid. **Private Aid** consists of scholarships and loans from organizations outside the government. **State Aid** is provided via the state government and includes the Colorado State Grant, Colorado Undergraduate Merit Grant, GearUp Scholarships, and Colorado Work Study.



Types of Aid

Aid comes in the form of scholarships, grants, work study, and loans. Scholarships and grants do not require repayment and are the most desirable type of aid. Perkins Loans and subsidized Federal Direct Loans are more desirable than other loans because the government subsidizes or pays for the interest while the student is enrolled. The government does not cover the interest for unsubsidized Federal Direct Loans, but they do regulate the interest rate, which is usually better than private loan interest rates. Federal Need-Based Work Study is also subsidized by the government with funds provided to institutions to cover wages earned by students. The majority of aid was in the form of loans (63%), followed by grants (21%), scholarships (15%), and work study (2%).

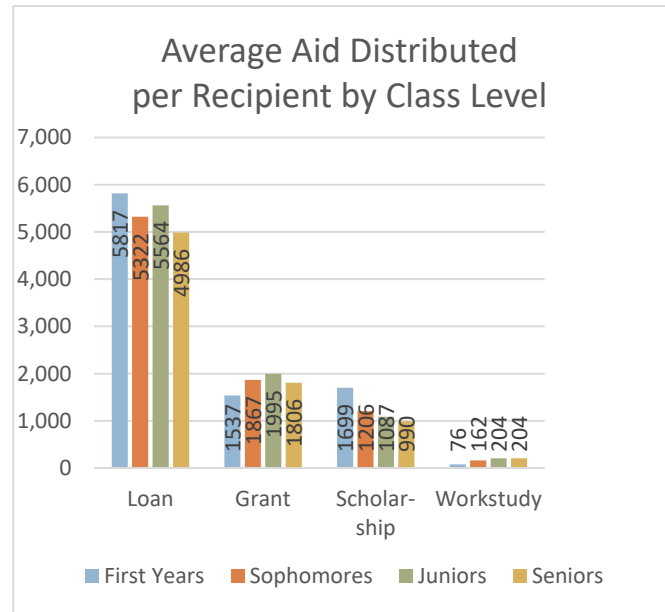
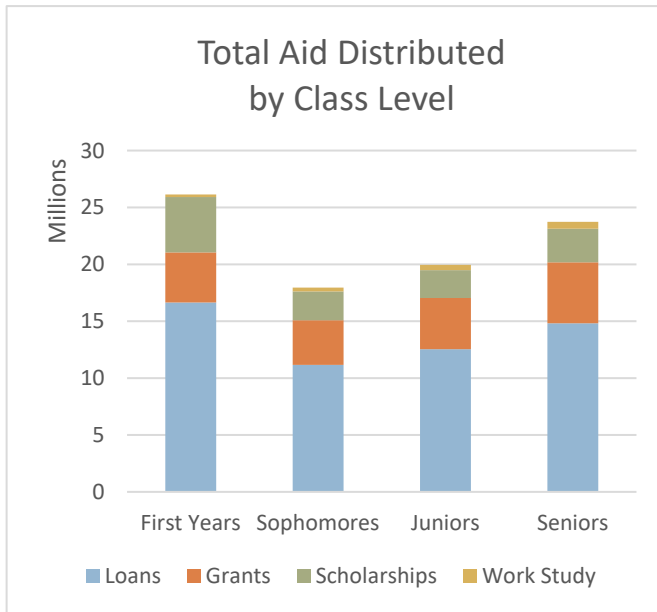
	Total	Percent of Total Aid	Average Award among Recipients	Recipients
TOTAL AID	87,771,717	100.0%	\$12,399	7,079
LOAN	55,183,110	62.9%	\$10,932	5,048
GRANT	18,180,254	20.7%	\$5,384	3,377
SCHOLARSHIP	12,784,873	14.6%	\$3,954	3,233
WORK STUDY	1,623,480	1.8%	\$3,912	415



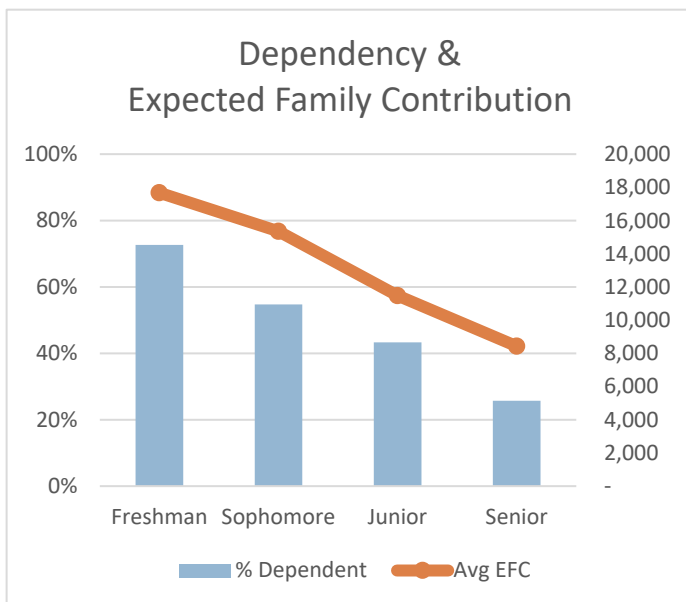
Student Characteristics

Class Level and Dependency

Like previous years, more aid was distributed to freshmen and seniors than sophomores and juniors. Freshmen received the most scholarship aid while seniors received the most grant and work study aid. Sophomores



received the least amount of aid. For a better comparison, refer to the average aid distributed per recipient by class level. First-year students have the highest average loan and scholarship amounts while sophomores and juniors have greater average grants.

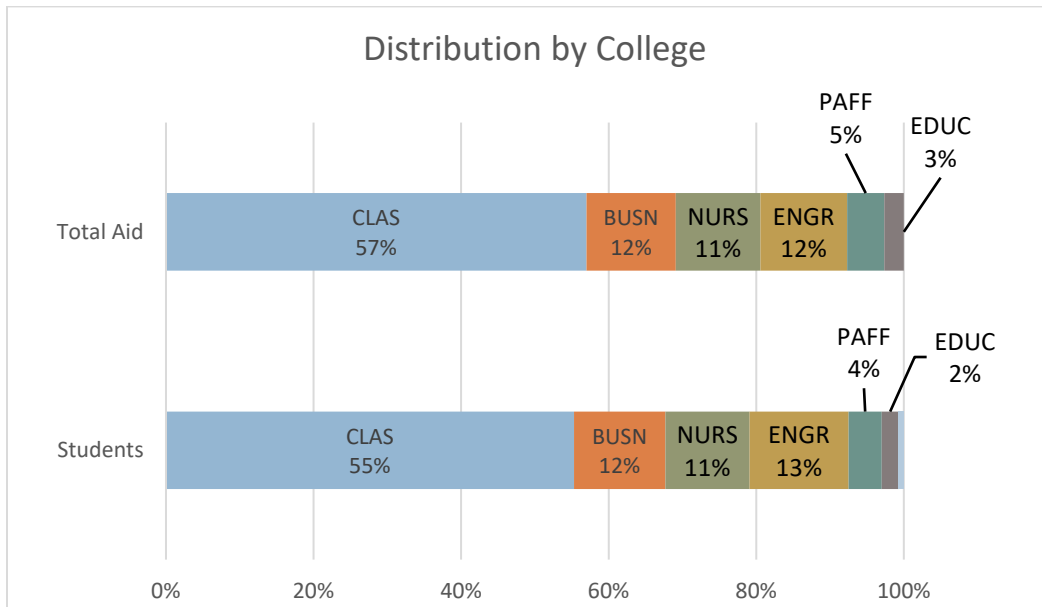


The percentage of students deemed dependent on their parents decreases as student progress through class levels. While 73% of first year students are dependent, only 26% of seniors are dependent.

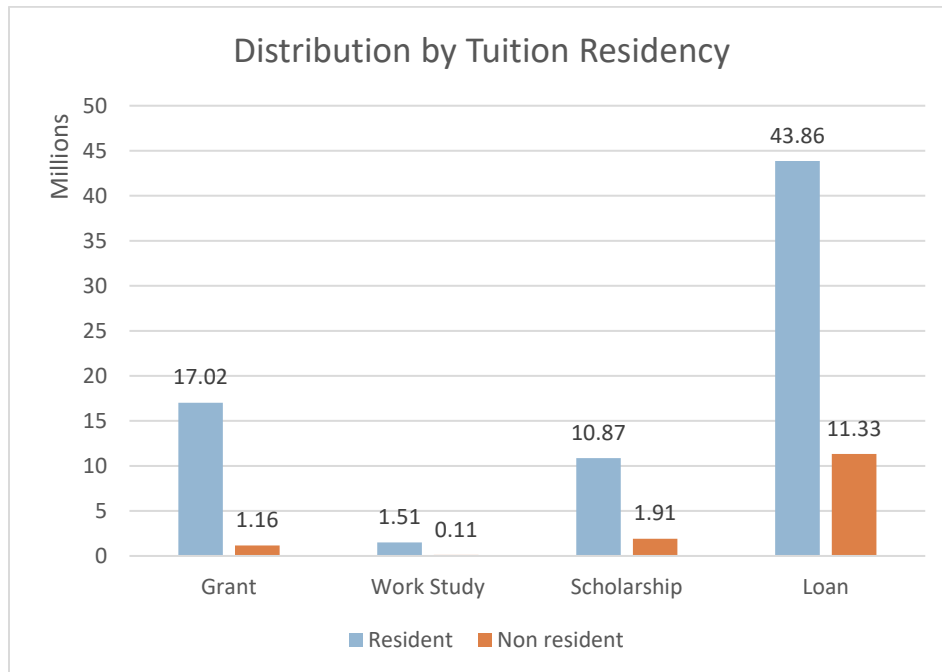
As students become less dependent on their parents, the contribution expected from their parents also declines. First year students have an average EFC of \$17,674 in comparison to seniors at \$8,428.

College and Residency

The distribution of aid among college programs is similar to the distribution of students among college programs, indicating that aid is not disproportionately concentrated in a particular college although tuition rates differ by college.

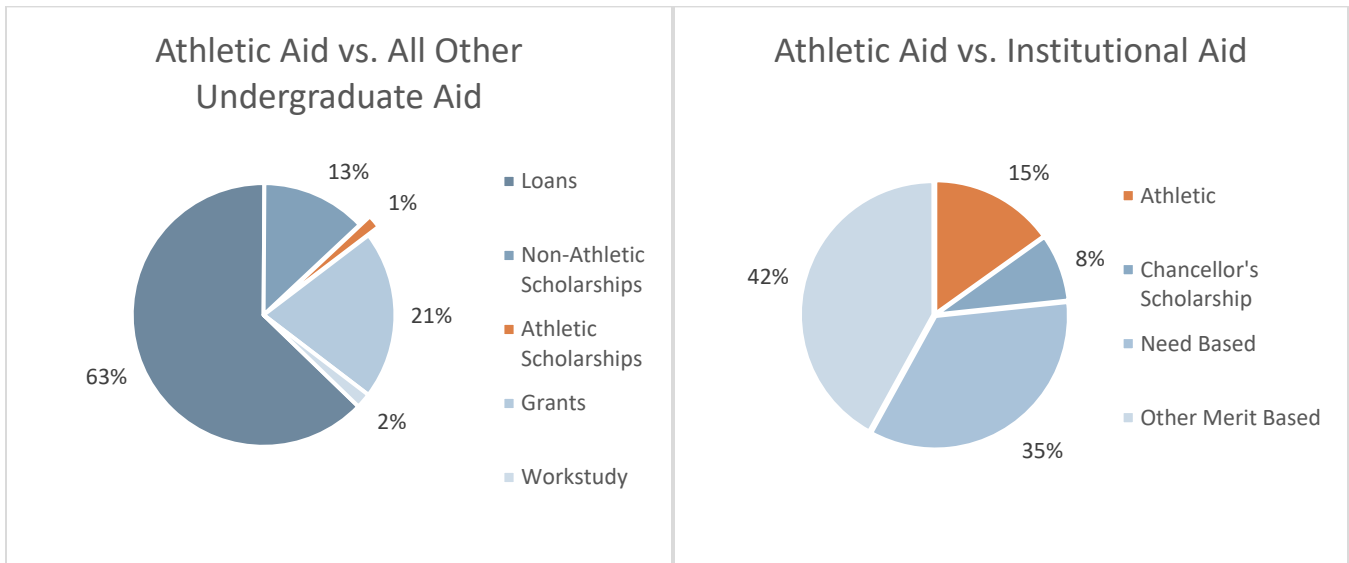


The distribution by residency indicates that the bulk of work study (93%) and grant aid (94%) as well as scholarship aid (85%) and loan aid (79%) was distributed to residents. During the fall semester, 87% of the undergraduate students were classified as residents.



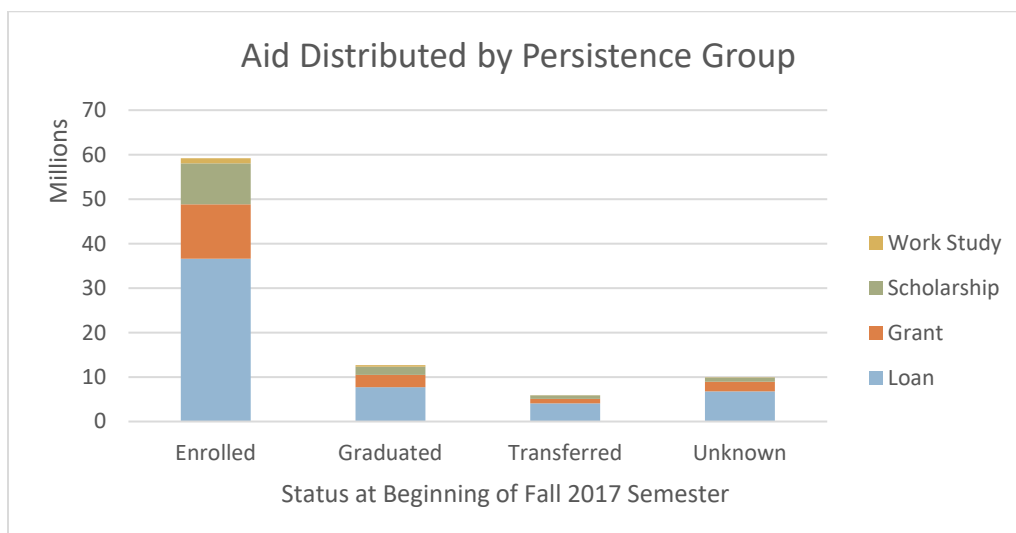
Undergraduate Athletic Scholarships

A total of 256 undergraduates received institutional athletic aid¹: \$1,442,769 dollars were disbursed for an average award of \$5,636. The athletic aid comprised 15% of institutional aid but only 1.6% of total undergraduate aid.



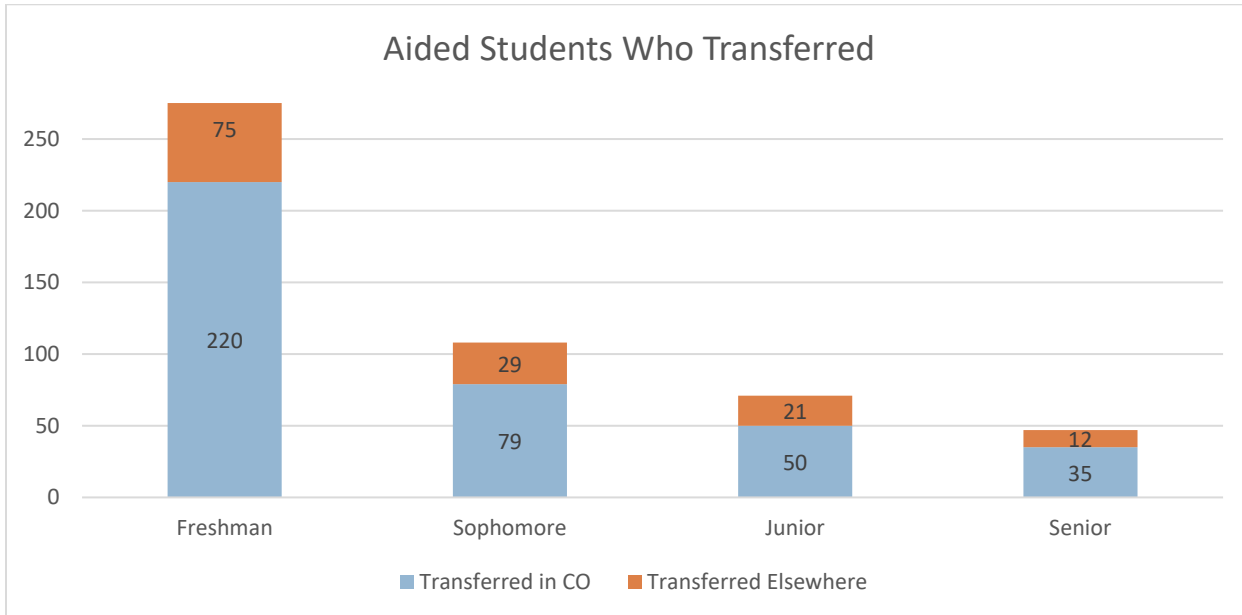
Student Persistence & Transfers Out

In bar chart below, the intention is to show the distribution of aid to students who have or have not persisted at UCCS one year later. The aid distribution is concentrated among students who return to UCCS. Approximately 20% of loan aid, 18% of grant aid, 13% of scholarship aid, and 7% of work study aid was disbursed to students who either transferred to another institution or dropped out of higher education by the beginning of the fall 2017 semester. Overall, 82% of aid was distributed to students who either returned or graduated (or both).



¹ Athletic aid is drawn from a live query rather than the SURDS dataset, using "item type codes" in Campus Solutions. We work with the Financial Aid Office to make sure we have all athletic related item types and then consider the sum to be a subset of the total institutional aid recorded within the SURDS dataset.

Aided students who transferred to another institution by October 1, 2017, were mostly resident freshmen who transferred to institutions in Colorado. The 521 students who received aid at UCCS and then transferred to another institution by Fall 2017 had received \$5,916,417 in aid at UCCS or approximately 6.7% of the aid awarded to undergraduates.

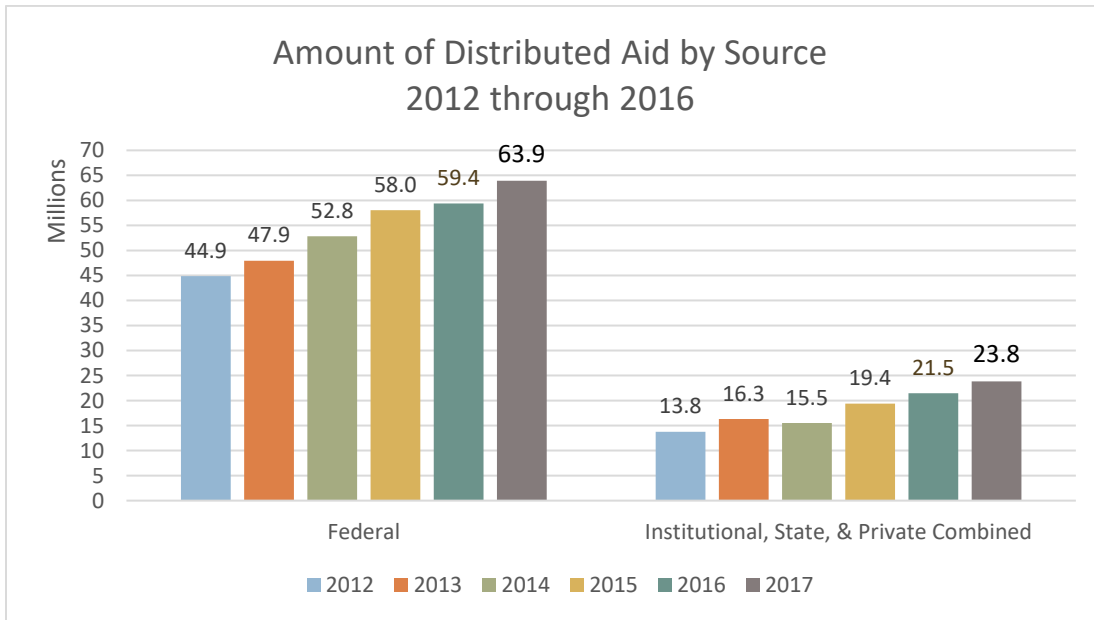


Top 10 Institutions Aided Students Transferred to:	Number of Transfers	Total Aid	Avg Aid
PIKES PEAK COMMUNITY COLLEGE	224	1,401,875	6,258
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER	66	495,498	7,508
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY	40	225,793	5,645
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER	37	162,566	4,394
FRONT RANGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	31	370,154	11,940
METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER	25	237,367	9,495
ARAPAHOE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	22	174,503	7,932
PUEBLO COMMUNITY COLLEGE	16	136,422	8,526
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY - PUEBLO	13	115,374	8,875
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY	12	47,538	3,962

Trends in Undergraduate Aid

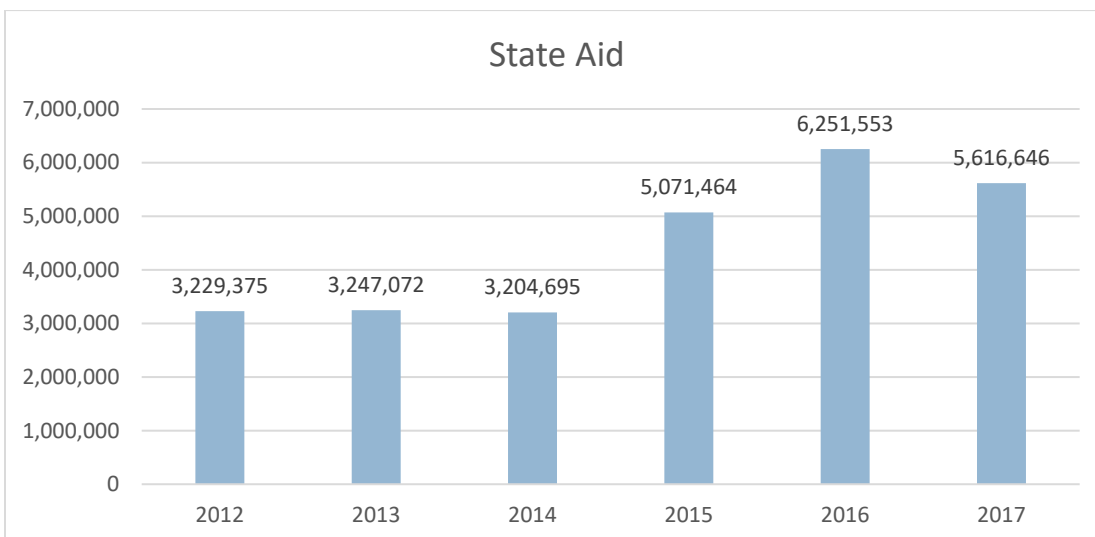
Federal Aid Dwarfs Other Aid

Federal aid continues to be the largest and most vital source of aid. Federal aid increased by 4.5 million whereas institutional, state, and private aid combined increased by 2.3 million. The increase in the latter is due to institutional and private aid (state aid declined).



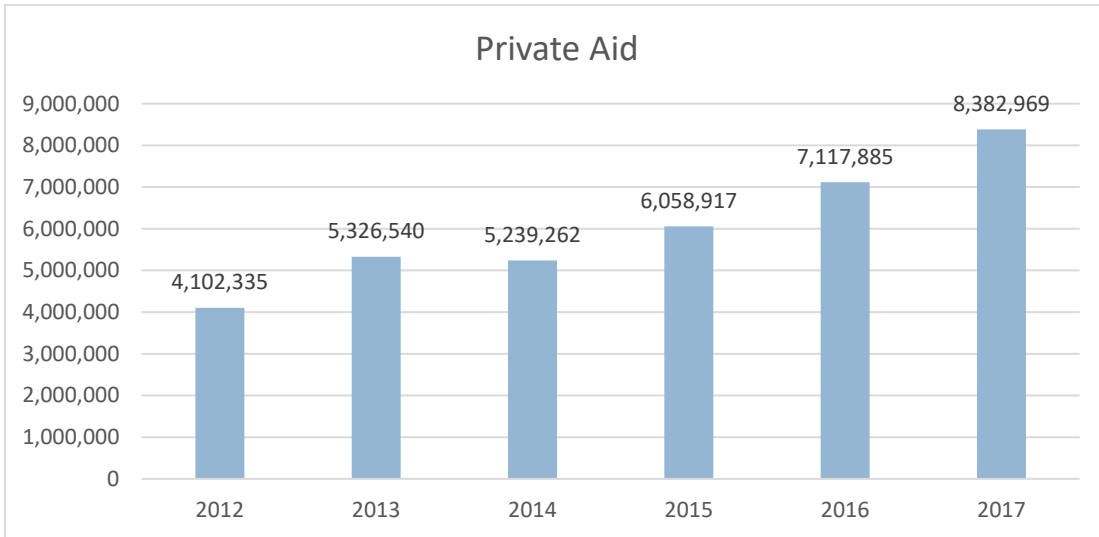
State Aid Declines

The amount of undergraduate state aid decreased by \$334,907 or 5.4% this year after following two years of substantial growth.



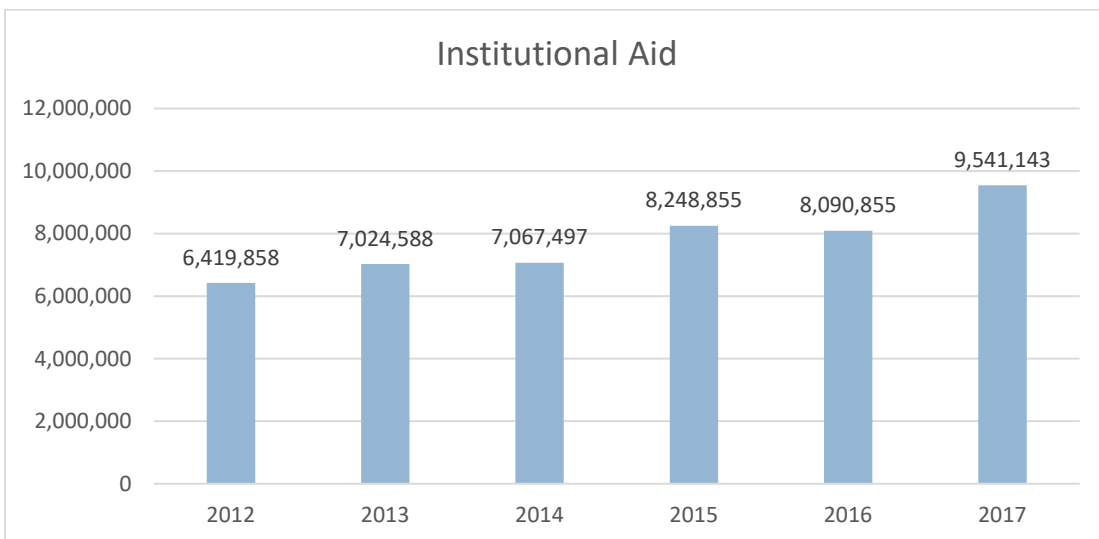
Private Aid Continues to Grow

Private aid increased by over \$1 million and it continues to be the third largest source of aid. The distribution grew by 18% this year, from \$7.1 million in 2016 to \$8.4 million in 2017.

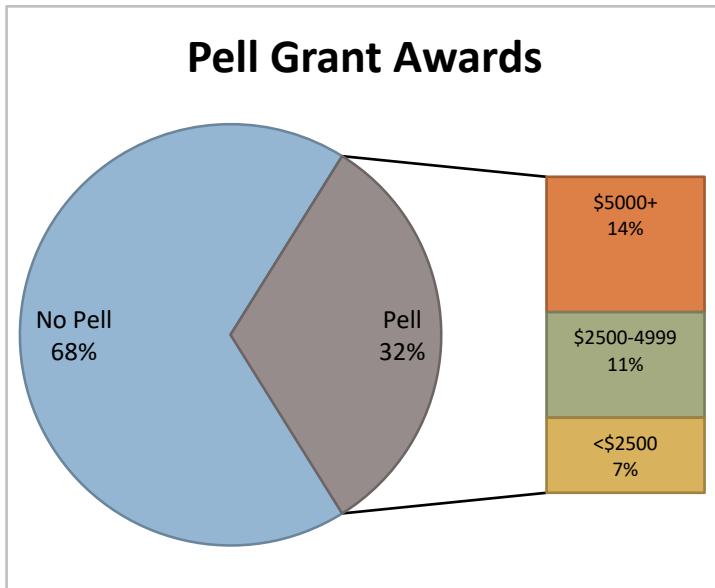


Institutional Aid Rebounds

After a decline between 2015 and 2016, institutional aid has rebounded with an increase of 18%. The growth can be attributed to intentional efforts to increase institutional aid via merit-based scholarships.



One-Third of Undergraduates Receive Pell Grants



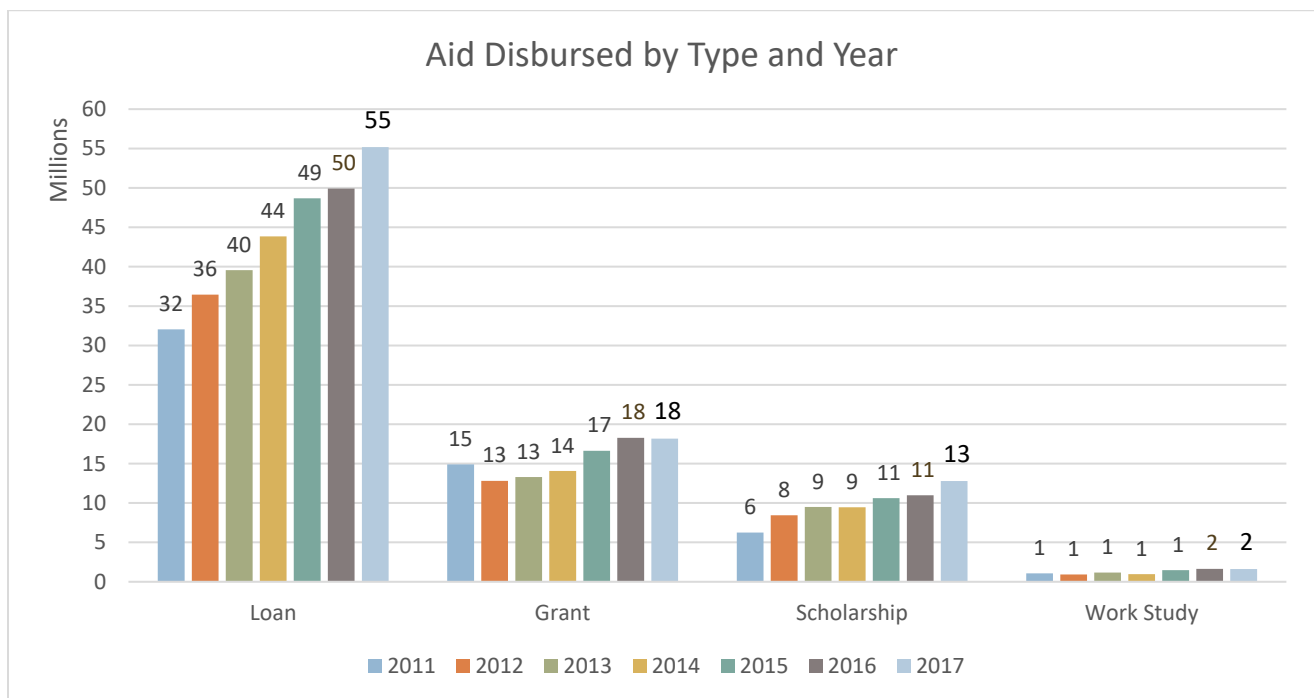
Federal Pell Grants continue to be an important part of undergraduate financial aid packages. Approximately 32% of all undergraduates received a Pell Grant with a total disbursement of \$13,113,351.

The average award decreased slightly from \$4002 last year to \$3994 this year. About 14% of undergraduates received a Pell Grant of \$5000 or more.

The maximum Federal Pell Grant changes every year. Please see the Office of Financial Aid for recent and upcoming eligibility requirements at www.uccs.edu/finaid/types/grants.html.

Loan Aid Exceeds \$55 Million

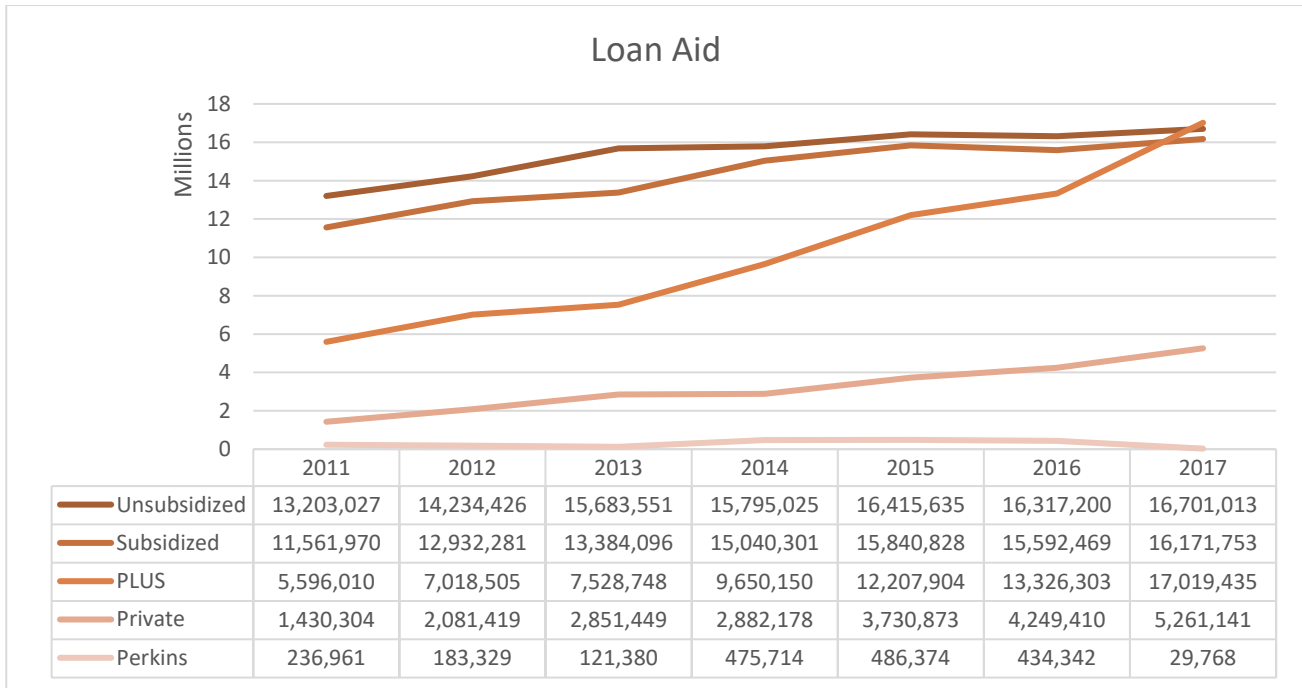
Loan aid far exceeds the other types of aid and increased to over \$55 million this year and continues to increase at a substantial rate. Benchmarked against the 2016-2017 tuition revenue², total aid represents 82% and loan aid itself represents 52% of tuition revenue.



² Tuition revenue of \$106,396,233 according to the General Fund Budget Fast Facts FY 2016-2017 available online at <https://www.uccs.edu/vcaf/budget-transparency/fy-16-17.html>.

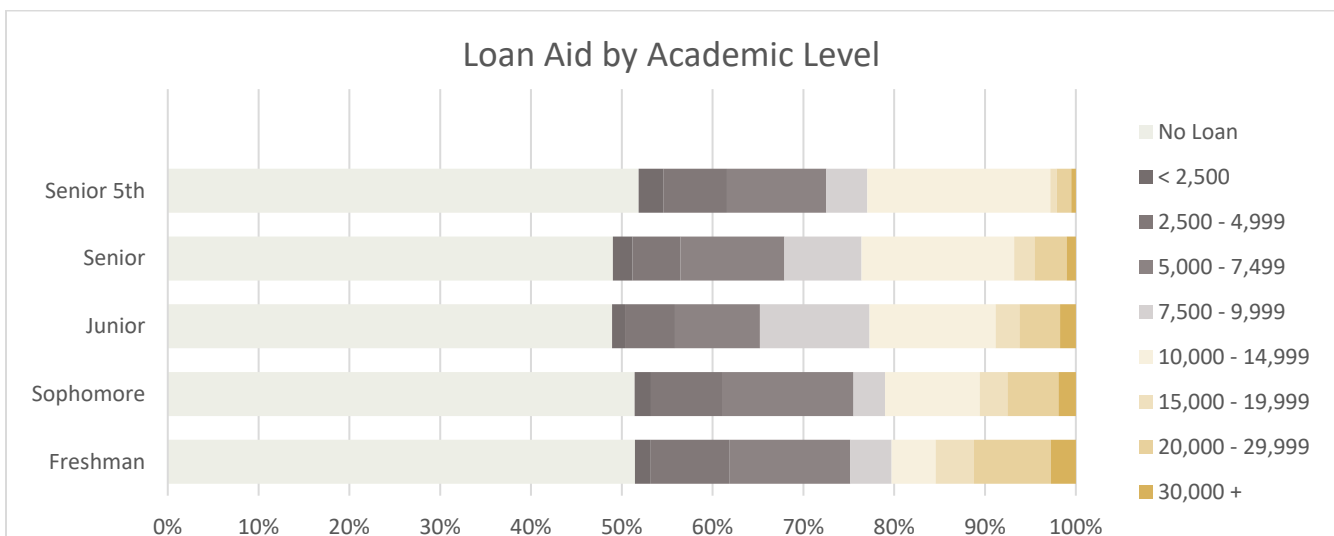
Parent Loans Approach 1/3 of All Loans

Among loans, recall that there are federal, private, and parent loans. PLUS loans are parent loans. The chart below shows the disbursed amounts per type of loan over each of the past five years. In 2011, PLUS loans were 17% of loan aid; the proportion has increased to 31% in 2017. The dramatic increase in PLUS loans reflects the extent to which students rely on their parents to finance their education.



Students Persist Despite Loan Amounts

While loan aid reached \$55 million dollars this year, half of the undergraduate students *did not have a loan at all*. About 25% had loans under \$10,000 with the remaining 25% of students having loans above \$10,000. About 7% of undergraduates took loans for over \$20,000 for the year. A large loan amount may seem like an at-risk factor that would dampen student success; however, 81% of the 730 students with loans of \$10,000 or more either graduated or enrolled by the fall 2016 semester. This is a higher success rate than that of students with loans less than \$10,000 (77% success rate) and students without loans (also a 77% success rate).

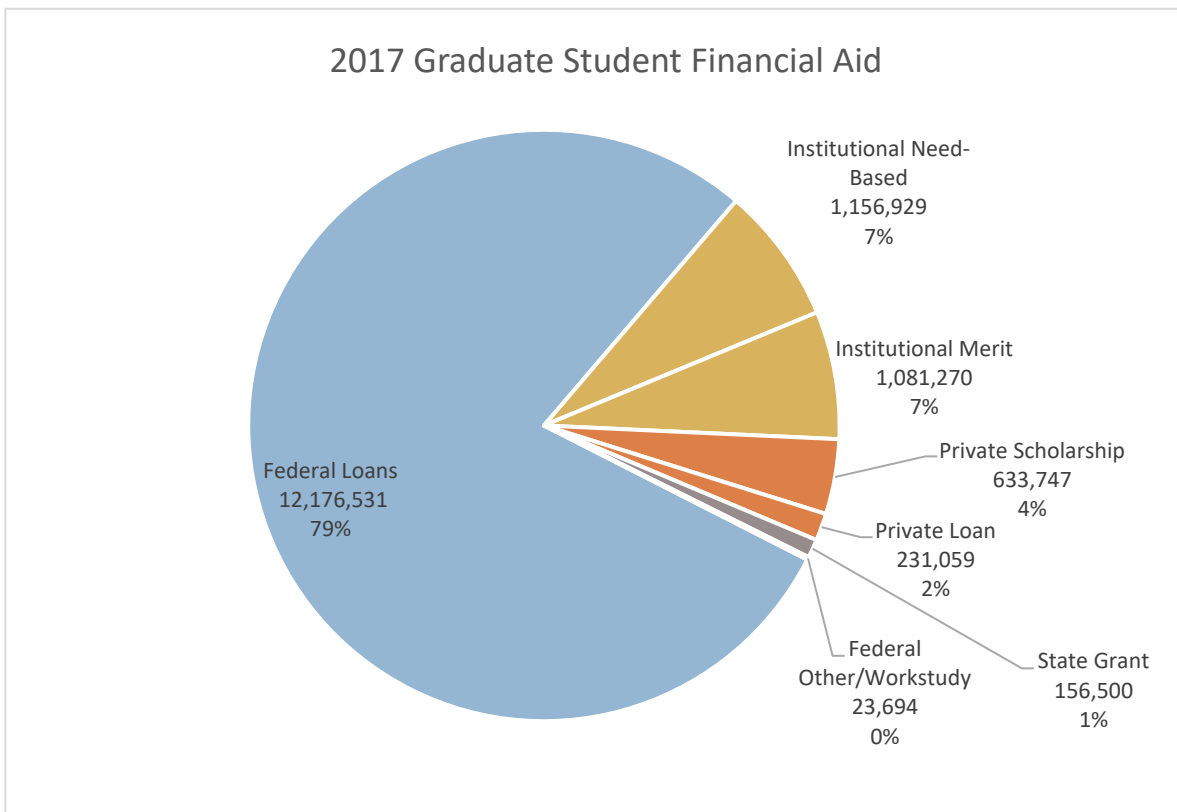


Graduate Student Financial Aid

Financial aid for graduate students is not as robust as that for undergraduate students. Among 1,829 graduate-level students, 56% applied for aid and 50% received aid. The average disbursement per recipient was \$12,567 for non-degree graduates and \$17,648 for graduate students. Approximately 8% of the graduate student population was in the “non-degree” career that includes post-baccalaureate and certificate-seeking students; the non-degree graduate students received 2% of the aid to graduate students and most of their aid (84%) was in the form of Direct Unsubsidized Loans.

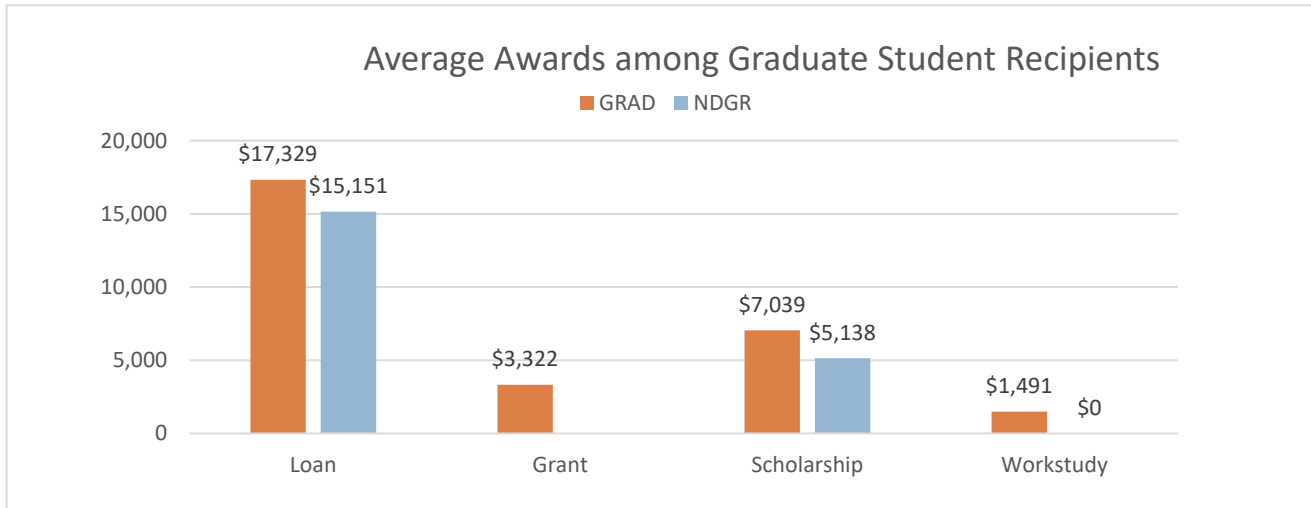
Sources and Types of Aid

The bulk of aid disbursed to graduate students is in the form of federal loans (79%) followed by institutional aid (14%), and private aid (6%). The state provided 1% of the aid disbursed to graduate students. The state aid consisted of the Colorado Graduate Grant available to Colorado residents who are STEM majors with an Expected Family Contribution of \$4600 or less. The maximum Colorado Graduate Grant award is \$5000 per student per year.



Average Awards by Type

Among graduate students, the average loan amount was \$17,329 for graduate and \$15,151 for non-degree graduate students. Approximately 40% of graduate students received a loan, 23% received a scholarship, and 3% received a grant.



Common Forms of Graduate Aid

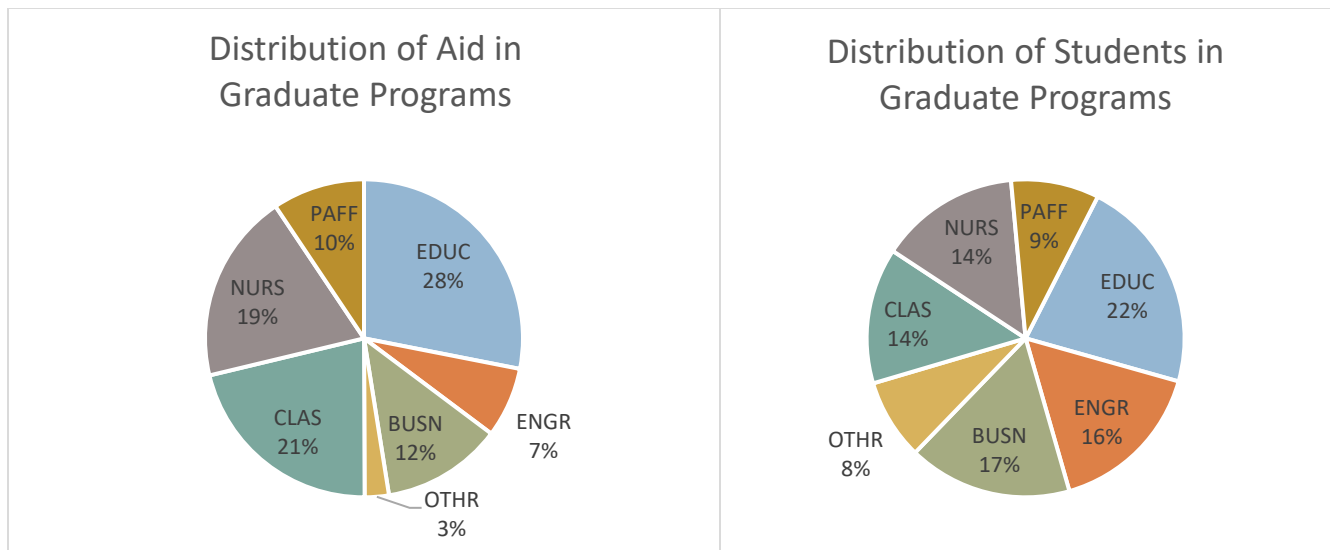
The most common form of aid to graduate students is the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan, which makes up 73% of all financial aid disbursed to graduate students. The next largest disbursement is the Federal Grad PLUS Loan (8%) followed by institutional need-based aid (7%) and institutional merit-based aid (5%).

Type of Aid	Graduate	Non-Degree Graduate	Total	Aid as % of Total Aid
Enrolled students	1684	145	1829	
Enrolled and receiving aid	876	31	907	
Federal Direct Unsub. Loan	\$10,911,270	\$326,180	\$11,237,450	71%
Federal Grad PLUS Loan	\$1,260,889	\$12,751	\$1,273,640	8%
Institutional Need-Based	\$1,156,929	\$0	\$1,156,929	7%
Institutional Merit –Based	\$1,081,270	\$21,037	\$1,102,307	7%
Private Scholarship	\$633,747	\$20,068	\$653,815	4%
Private Loan	\$231,059	\$4,047	\$235,106	1%
State Colorado Graduate Grant	\$156,500	\$0	\$156,500	1%
Other Federal Amounts	\$28,066	\$5,500	\$33,566	0%

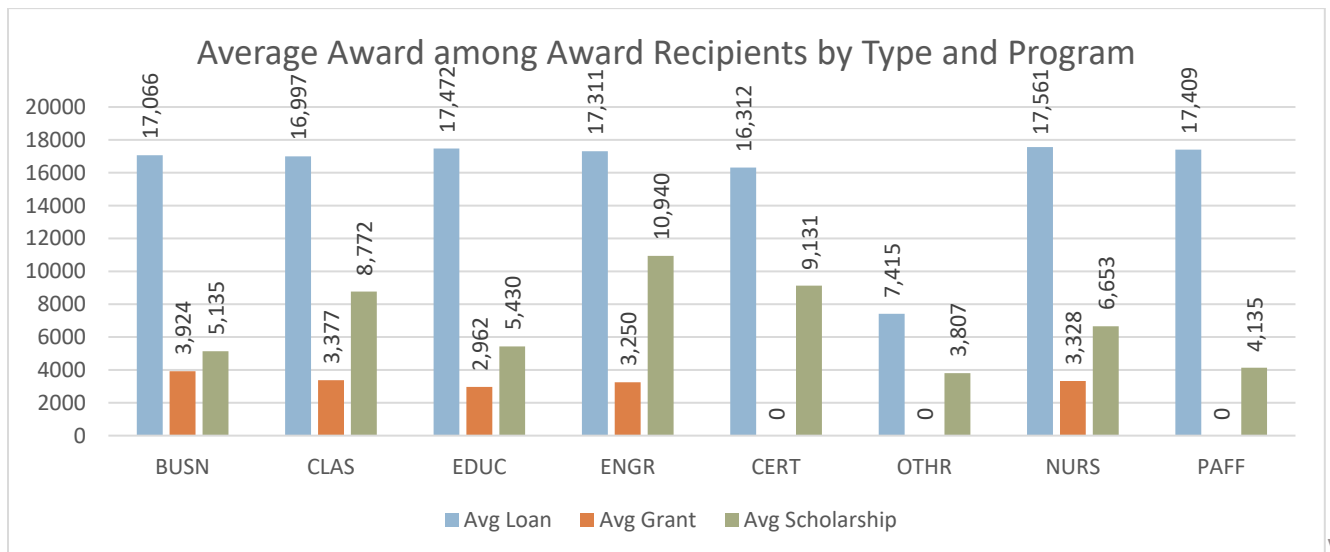
Aid by College

The pie charts (below) show the distribution of students and disbursed aid among the graduate programs, abbreviated as follows: School of Public Affairs (PAFF), Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Beth-El College of Nursing & Health Sciences (NURS), College of Engineering & Applied Sciences (ENGR), College of Education (EDUC), College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences (CLAS), College of Business (BUSN), Gainful Employment Certificate Students (CERT), and Non-Degree and Concurrent Students (OTHR).

EDUC (Education) students are the largest proportion of graduate students (22%) and receive the largest proportion of aid (28%), mostly in the form of loans. The distribution of aid to Engineering students is disproportionately low because there are many aid-ineligible international students in Engineering. Aid distributed to CLAS and NURS students is greater than their proportion of the graduate students because CLAS and NURS students are the primary beneficiaries of the STEM-based Colorado Graduate Grant. *Therefore, interpret the distributions with caution as pie charts do not provide the context needed to understand the proportions depicted.*



The bar chart (below) illustrates the average award by type among recipients in each academic program.



Summary Table of Disbursed Aid

*Count of less than 10 students in a category is suppressed. Contact IR for help understanding the codes.

Academic Career	Students	Total Aid	Total Loans	Total Grants	Total Scholarships	Total Workstudy
UGRD	10,188	87,771,717	55,183,110	18,180,254	12,784,873	1,623,480
GRAD	1,684	15,459,731	12,407,590	172,738	2,871,947	7,456
NDGR	145	389,583	348,478	0	41,105	0
Academic Level						
Unclassified	155	65,815	31,282	0	34,533	0
First Year	2,795	26,112,794	16,645,467	4,399,043	4,851,748	216,536
Sophomore	2,099	17,960,020	11,169,950	3,918,467	2,530,575	341,029
Junior	2,254	19,947,241	12,541,245	4,496,536	2,449,920	459,540
Senior	1,975	16,891,244	10,350,749	3,872,369	2,240,718	427,408
Senior 5yr	997	6,839,690	4,466,661	1,493,839	700,222	178,967
Graduate	1,742	15,804,227	12,733,824	172,738	2,890,209	7,456
IPEDS Full Time Status						
UGRD Full time	7,940	75,480,424	46,562,085	15,552,022	11,917,182	1,449,135
UGRD Part time	2,248	12,291,294	8,621,025	2,628,232	867,691	174,346
GRAD Full time	392	5,057,695	3,782,089	54,924	1,220,682	0
GRAD Part time	1,292	10,402,035	8,625,501	117,814	1,651,264	7,456
NDGR Full time	6	2,500	0	0	2,500	0
NDGR Part time	139	387,083	348,478	0	38,605	0
Undergrad Cohort						
Continuing/Returning	6,722	55,398,382	34,610,977	12,686,390	6,676,544	1,424,471
First-time	2,083	21,110,757	12,636,007	3,297,955	5,043,645	133,150
Transfer-in	1,314	11,239,351	7,927,088	2,195,909	1,050,495	65,859
Non-degree	68	20,728	9,038	0	11,690	0
Online Group						
100% Online	1,069	7,660,734	6,552,433	650,690	444,050	13,561
Some Online	2,235	20,907,730	14,023,257	3,951,635	2,646,707	286,131
Not Online	8,713	75,052,568	47,363,488	13,750,667	12,607,168	1,331,245

Tuition Residency	Students	Total Aid	Total Loans	Total Grants	Total Scholarships	Total Workstudy
Extended Studies	1	17,679	0	5,815	6,100	5,764
Nonresident	928	11,202,893	8,411,957	689,982	2,062,812	38,142
ASTMP	2	3,500	0	0	3,500	0
Exchange	14	678	0	0	678	0
Online	144	1,016,142	947,727	16,819	51,596	0
Pres Sch A	17	178,340	62,960	8,430	106,950	0
Pres Schlr	33	318,829	166,944	40,455	107,560	3,870
WUE	448	4,863,103	3,905,105	406,035	483,886	68,077
Resident	9,267	79,019,788	49,796,878	15,536,789	12,224,043	1,462,079
ActDty PCS	448	2,937,656	2,107,117	537,701	261,658	31,180
ADEP	28	115,353	79,036	33,567	2,750	0
ASSET	29	43,490	0	0	43,490	0
Can Mil	2	500	0	0	500	0
CO NatlGrd	7	3,588	0	0	3,588	0
Econ Incen	1	5,500	5,500	0	0	0
Exchange	9	79,479	73,202	5,815	462	0
HDDEP	7	24,354	15,548	5,906	2,900	0
Hon Dischg	296	1,863,577	1,076,612	686,029	84,962	15,974
Olymp Ath	17	113,638	53,500	19,888	40,250	0
Online	203	1,185,122	838,207	220,635	126,280	0
VetDepCAct	80	354,927	180,681	137,396	31,000	5,850
W Reg Grad	19	248,272	199,555	0	48,717	0
Under Review	17	24,622	18,649	1,730	4,243	0
Campus Housing						
No	10,389	81,974,557	53,917,172	15,664,896	11,014,717	1,377,772
Yes	1,628	21,646,474	14,022,006	2,688,096	4,683,208	253,164

Military Service Indicator	Students	Total Aid	Total Loans	Total Grants	Total Scholarships	Total Workstudy
Active Duty Military	72	414,108	251,233	96,050	66,071	754
Active Duty Military FamilyMem	209	764,965	493,813	161,953	92,106	17,093
Veteran	912	5,584,726	2,941,578	1,971,873	613,727	57,548
Veteran Family Member	277	1,512,519	827,238	415,643	238,677	30,961
#N/A	10,547	95,344,713	63,425,316	15,707,473	14,687,344	1,524,580
Race/Ethnicity						
AMERIND	46	462,465	279,419	95,877	79,870	7,299
ASIAN	370	2,502,359	1,365,322	671,424	403,954	61,659
BLACK	450	5,266,047	3,193,698	1,192,557	773,860	105,932
HISPANIC	1,924	19,313,512	11,992,940	4,061,342	2,856,833	402,398
NONRESALIEN	248	618,487	87,460	0	531,027	0
PACIFIC	31	253,521	161,895	39,712	45,914	6,000
TWOPLUS	830	7,822,929	4,955,336	1,570,935	1,168,391	128,267
UNKNOWN	255	1,765,007	1,238,075	323,727	190,559	12,646
WHITE	7,863	65,616,704	44,665,033	10,397,418	9,647,517	906,736
Gender						
F	6,295	60,164,205	39,740,247	10,312,334	9,125,098	986,526
M	5,696	43,249,175	28,046,826	8,019,193	6,540,352	642,804
U	26	207,651	152,105	21,465	32,475	1,606
Admit Type						
CON	8,251	68,410,909	45,164,444	13,183,604	8,640,492	1,422,369
DFO	30	378,412	180,951	0	197,461	0
DFR	13	152,585	94,114	0	58,471	0
FR	49	412,836	243,478	75,631	93,679	48
FRF	1,369	14,015,966	8,980,079	2,062,097	2,892,480	81,310
FRN	246	1,984,587	777,144	430,760	753,974	22,709
FRO	388	4,489,766	2,542,994	647,988	1,269,700	29,084
MFO	231	2,576,288	1,938,850	34,390	601,192	1,856
MFR	105	1,225,260	1,029,515	27,924	166,781	1,040

ND	1	0	0	0	0	0
NFG	46	142,717	117,217	0	25,500	0
NFU	40	45,894	23,000	16,409	6,485	0
NRG	46	75,245	62,902	0	12,343	0
NRU	19	23,369	0	5,815	11,790	5,764
RUC	40	197,116	171,908	24,896	0	312
RUE	35	102,713	54,031	36,433	6,535	5,714
RUO	1	3,649	3,649	0	0	0
TR	26	267,418	199,160	54,603	13,655	0
TRB	55	369,848	284,423	74,310	8,460	2,655
TRC	45	331,134	268,501	48,613	14,020	0
TRN	40	346,720	214,000	72,704	60,016	0
TRO	941	8,068,600	5,588,818	1,556,815	864,891	58,075
