Using Data to Inform Campus Affordability Programs
Cruz Grimaldo
Associate Director, Financial Aid and Scholarships Office

Kaegy Pabulos
Federal Direct Loans Program Coordinator and Quality Assurance Manager, Financial Aid and Scholarships Office

Kelle Jacobs
Business Intelligence Analyst, Office of Planning and Analysis
Cap and Frown: Grads Face College Debt

Class of 2013 shares its thoughts on student debt in a new Fidelity study

- 70% of this year’s graduating class is leaving college with debt
- 50% are surprised by how much debt they accumulated
- 57% think they could have saved more to cut debt
- Graduates with debt average $35,200
- 56% think it will take 7 years or more to pay off their debt
- 39% would have made different choices had they known more
- 59% say they chose a major in order to have better job opportunities

Source: Fidelity Investments

Fidelity Investments’ Cost-Conscious College Graduates Study examines how the cost of college and resulting student debt levels have affected the choices and future financial outlook of the college classes of 2011, 2012 and 2013. An online survey among a national sample of 750 college graduates was conducted by ORC International, an independent research firm, from April 3-15, 2013. Of the total sample surveyed, 352 students are graduating in 2013 and 398 graduated in 2011 and 2012. The results of Fidelity’s Cost-Conscious College Graduates Study may not be representative of all students meeting the same criteria as those surveyed for this study.

Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC, Member NYSE, SIPC, 900 Salem Street, Smithfield, RI 02917
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Berkeley Student Debt Fast Facts

Undergraduate students at graduation in 2012-13

- 41% had federal debt
- $16,092 was their average federal loan balance
- 64% had federal debt of $5,000 or less

Masters Degree students at graduation in 2012-13

- 37% had federal debt*
- $48,547 was their average federal loan balance*
- 65% had federal debt of $5,000 or less*

*includes loans originated in undergraduate and other prior programs
Identify students with a high borrowing history who may benefit from financial literacy workshops.
Spot trends in a department's debt in order to maximize future impact of departmental awards.
Combine/Compare data from Cal Answers with data from other reliable sources.
Resources on Cal Answers website: calanswers.berkeley.edu

✓ Office Hours Sign-Up
✓ Newsletter Sign-Up
✓ Wiki Site: Data Dictionaries & Report Documentation
✓ Help Desk Contact Info
  • calanswers-help@berkeley.edu
  • 664-9000 x122