



NEBRASKA OPPORTUNITY GRANT 2020-21 YEAR-END REPORT

**Reviewed by the Commission
December 2, 2021**

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NEBRASKA OPPORTUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

The Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) program provides financial aid to students who are residents of Nebraska; have not earned a bachelor's, graduate, or professional degree; have high financial need (defined as having an expected family contribution equal to or less than 110% of the maximum family contribution that qualifies students for a federal Pell Grant); and who are attending eligible Nebraska colleges and universities to earn a degree or credential. The NOG program uses information from the federal Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as the basis for determining eligibility; there is no separate application.

NOG is the State of Nebraska's only need-based financial aid program for postsecondary students and is funded through General fund appropriations and lottery funds. As of the 2018-19 academic year, when analyzing national need-based undergraduate grant dollars per undergraduate enrollment, Nebraska ranked 34th in the country, one spot higher than our ranking from 2017-18.

The NOG program is a decentralized financial aid program. The commission allocates state funding to participating institutions based on a statutory formula that takes into account the proportion of all eligible students attending each institution and their tuition and fees (capped at tuition and fees at the University of Nebraska Lincoln) and verifies student eligibility but does not determine individual student award amounts or dictate how many eligible students receive NOG grants. Participating institutions award NOG grants to eligible students subject to eligibility criteria, maximum award limits, and available allocations.

For the 2020-21 NOG program award year:

- \$21,087,141 was awarded
- 13,109 students received a Nebraska Opportunity Grant
- \$1,608.60 was the average grant award

Pages 3-6 include charts showing the number of Nebraska students who received a federal Pell grant and the unmet financial need of these students as reported by the institutions. The US Department of Education defines financial need as the difference between how much college costs and how much a student and the student's family can pay towards those costs. The difference between financial need and the amount of financial aid offered by the college to the student to cover the financial need is considered unmet financial need. Students must cover their unmet need from either private loans or out-of-pocket funds.

The remainder of the report reflects various details specifically related to the NOG program, broken out by sector. Of particular interest is the table on page 13 showing the percentage of eligible students that received a NOG award by sector. The table demonstrates both that the NOG program is an important part of the overall financial aid strategy of postsecondary institutions and that many eligible students are not served by the NOG program due to lack of funding.

NOG Program Participating Institutions

University of Nebraska

- University of Nebraska at Kearney
- University of Nebraska –Lincoln
- University of Nebraska Medical Center
- University of Nebraska at Omaha
- Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture

State Colleges

- Chadron State College
- Peru State College
- Wayne State College

Community Colleges

- Central Community College
- Metropolitan Community College
- Mid-Plains Community College
- Northeast Community College
- Southeast Community College
- Western Nebraska Community College

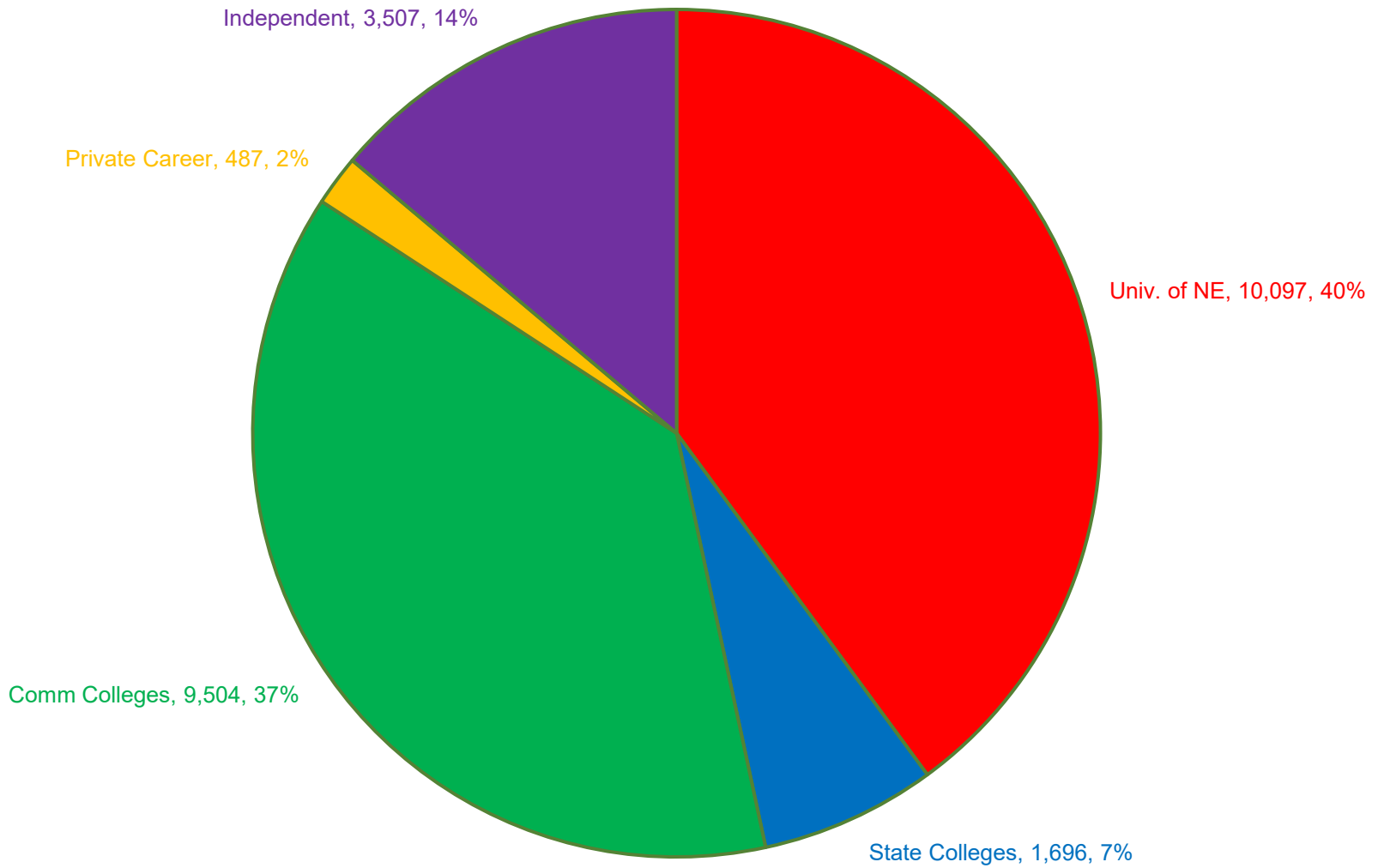
Private Career Colleges

- Capitol School of Hairstyling
- College of Hair Design
- Creative Center
- Joseph's College of Beauty
- Xenon International School of Hair

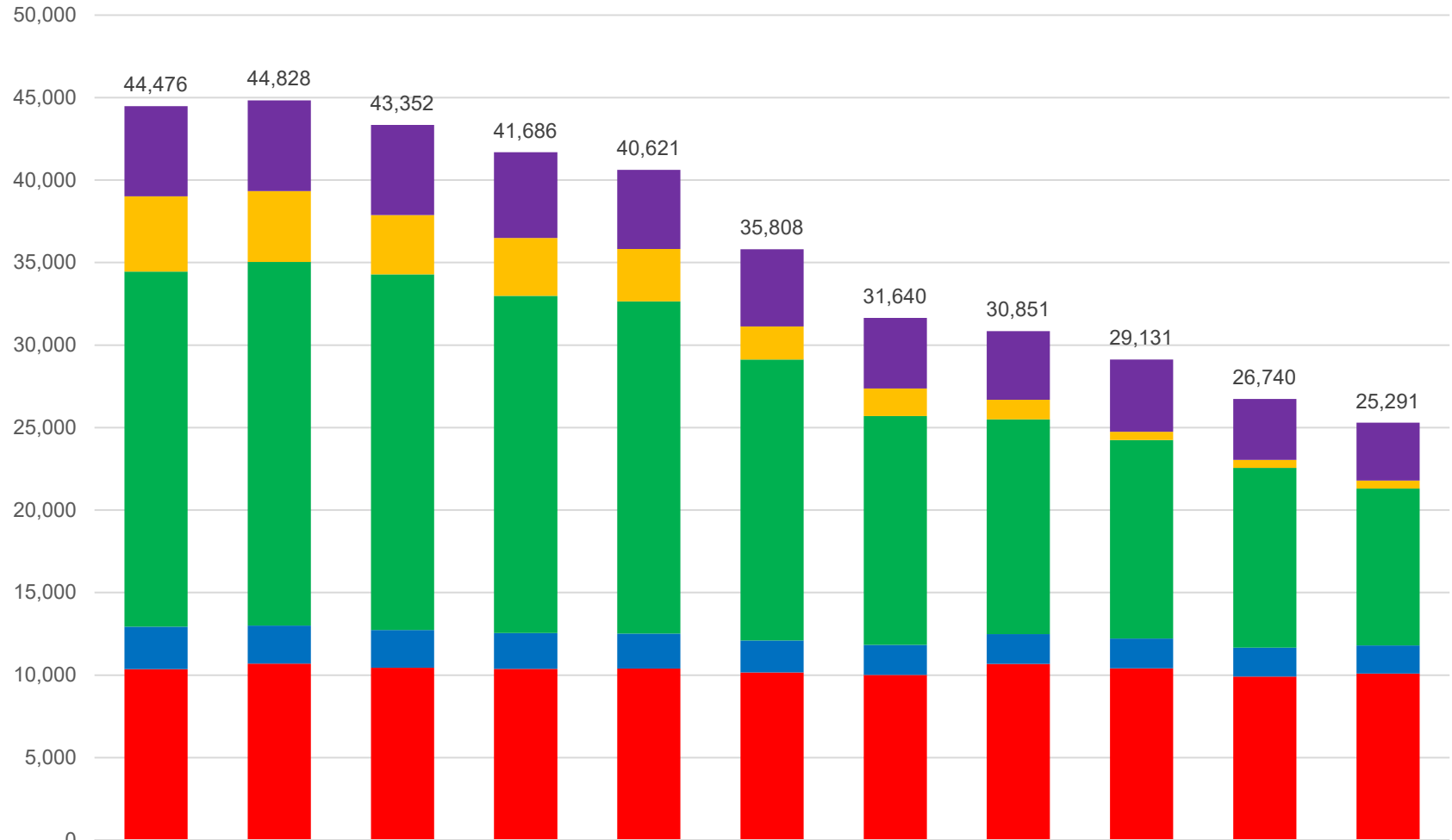
Independent Colleges & Universities

- Bellevue University
- Bryan College of Health Science
- Clarkson College
- College of Saint Mary
- Concordia University
- Creighton University
- Doane University
- Hastings College
- Little Priest Tribal College
- Midland University
- Nebraska Indian Community College
- Nebraska Methodist College
- Nebraska Wesleyan University
- Purdue University Global
- Union College
- York College

2020-21 Nebraska Resident Pell Grant-Eligible Students by Sector (percentage is of total enrollment)

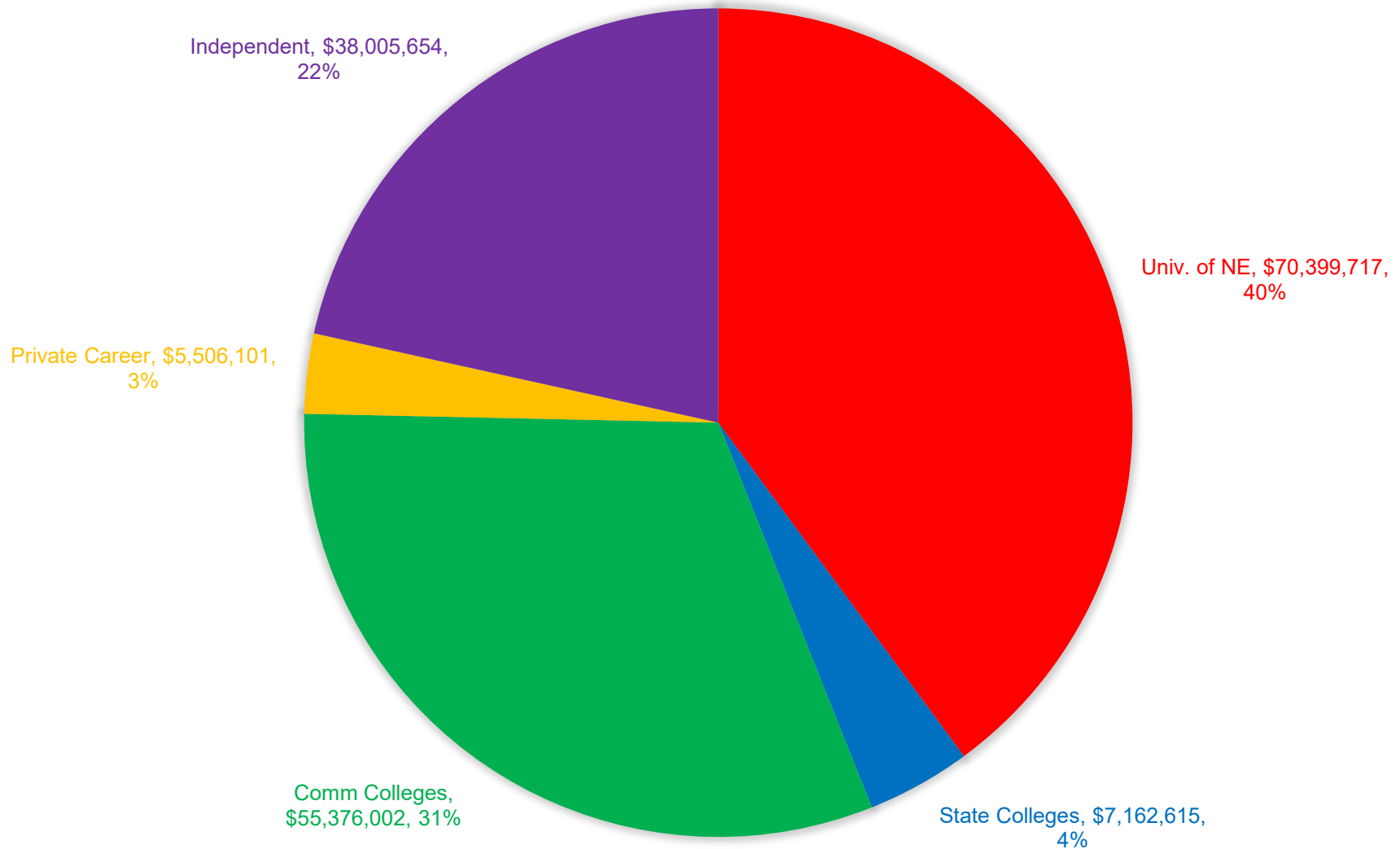


Nebraska Resident Pell Grant-Eligible Students by Sector

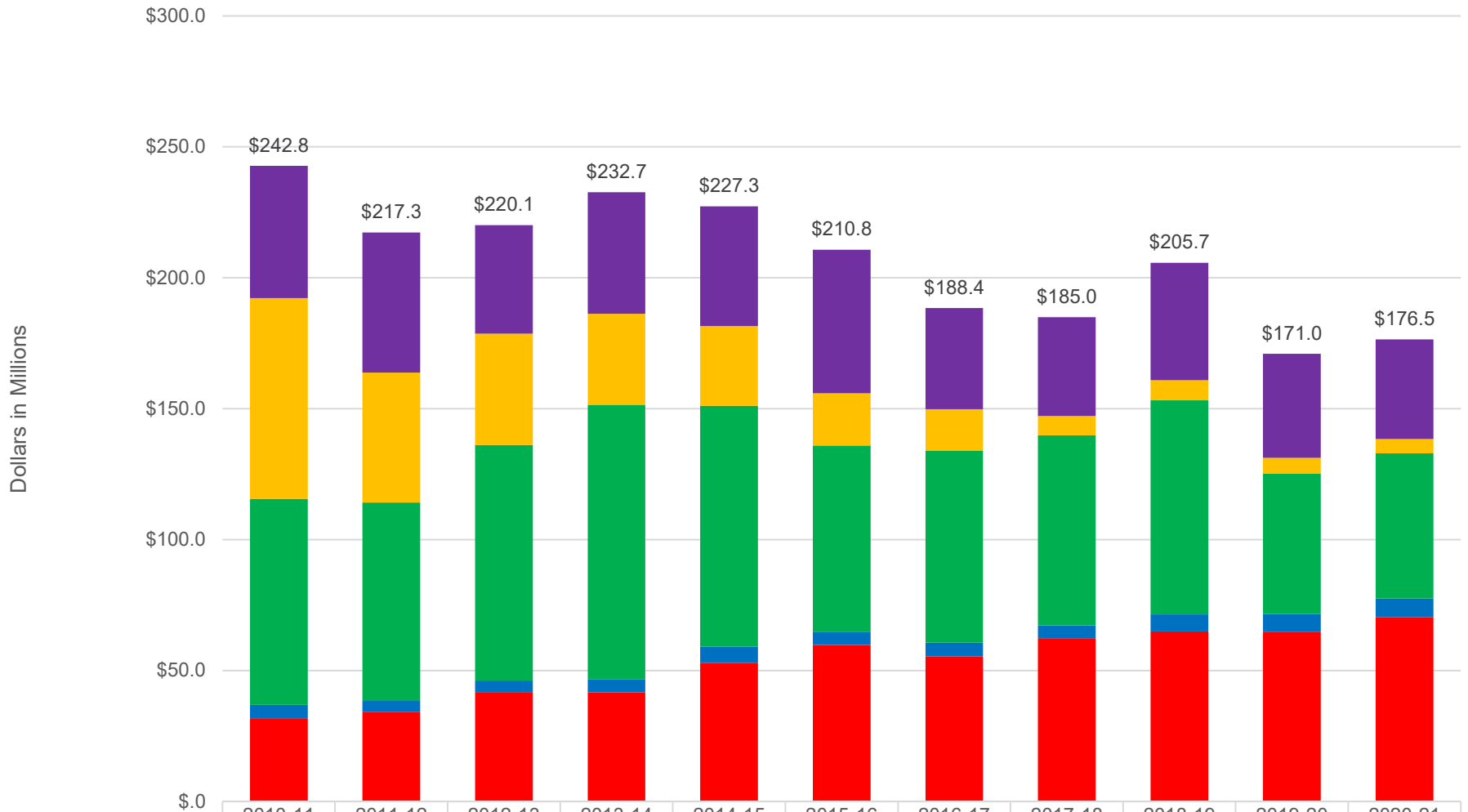


	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Total	44,476	44,828	43,352	41,686	40,621	35,808	31,640	30,851	29,131	26,740	25,291
■ Independent	5,467	5,489	5,464	5,194	4,799	4,681	4,270	4,170	4,390	3,696	3,507
■ Private Career	4,555	4,298	3,607	3,504	3,168	2,009	1,674	1,174	499	480	487
■ Comm Colleges	21,521	22,043	21,548	20,433	20,132	17,019	13,861	13,032	12,021	10,894	9,504
■ State Colleges	2,580	2,304	2,296	2,177	2,135	1,944	1,824	1,805	1,815	1,762	1,696
■ Univ. of NE	10,353	10,694	10,437	10,378	10,387	10,155	10,011	10,670	10,406	9,908	10,097

**2020-21 UNMET NEED OF PELL GRANT-ELIGIBLE STUDENTS
(PERCENTAGE IS OF TOTAL AMOUNT)**



Nebraska Resident Pell Grant-Eligible Unmet Need by Sector



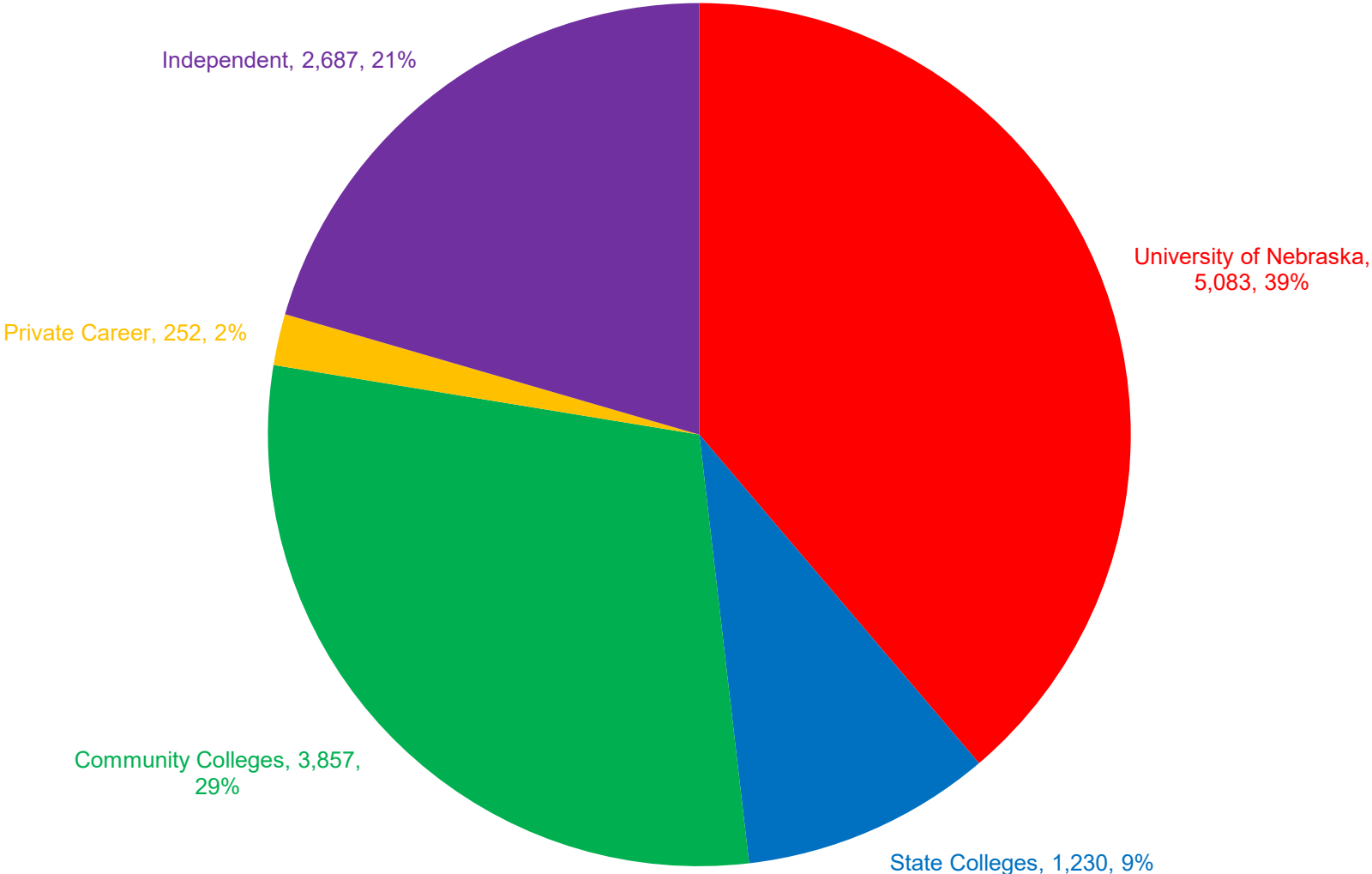
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Total	\$242.8	\$217.3	\$220.1	\$232.7	\$227.3	\$210.8	\$188.4	\$185.0	\$205.7	\$171.0	\$176.5
Independent	\$50.6	\$53.5	\$41.4	\$46.4	\$45.8	\$54.9	\$38.6	\$37.8	\$44.8	\$39.7	\$38.0
Private Career	\$76.6	\$49.6	\$42.6	\$34.8	\$30.5	\$20.0	\$15.8	\$7.4	\$7.7	\$6.0	\$5.5
Community Colleges	\$78.7	\$75.8	\$89.9	\$104.9	\$92.0	\$71.2	\$73.3	\$72.6	\$81.8	\$53.6	\$55.4
State Colleges	\$5.1	\$4.3	\$4.4	\$4.9	\$6.1	\$4.9	\$5.3	\$5.1	\$6.5	\$6.8	\$7.2
Univ. of NE	\$31.8	\$34.1	\$41.8	\$41.7	\$53.0	\$59.8	\$55.3	\$62.1	\$64.9	\$64.8	\$70.4

NOG Yearly Process

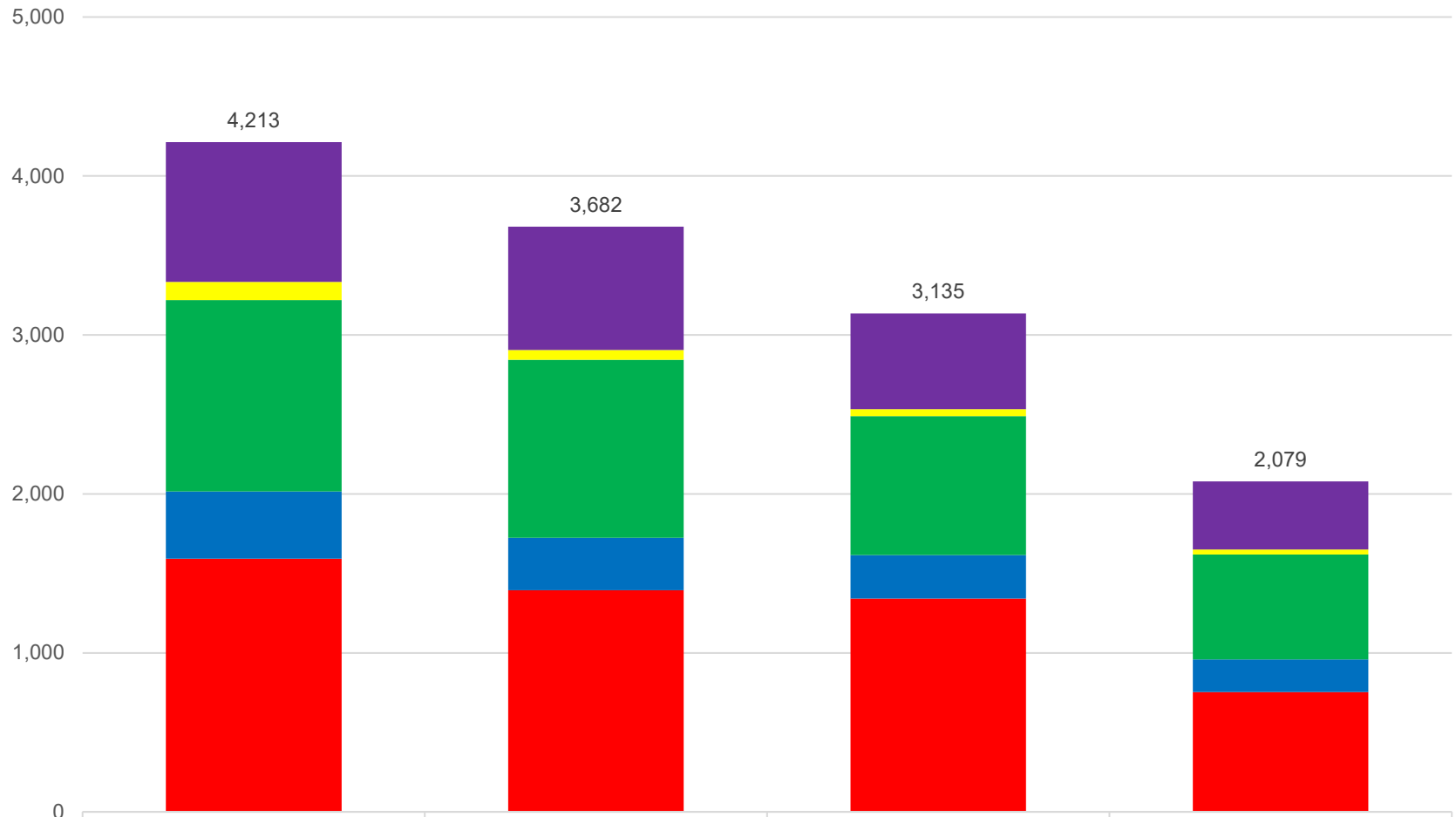
Each year the Commission allocates NOG funding that has been appropriated by the Legislature to participating institutions. In order to provide these institutions timely information, funding estimates are used until a final appropriation bill is approved in late spring. Allocations are calculated using the formula found in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1912. Below are key events of the NOG process:

- Tentative allocation using estimated state General and lottery funds is sent out to institutions in January for the next academic year
- NOG applications to participate are sent to institutions and returned to the Commission in June
- Data from the applications, including the calculation of full-time-equivalent eligible students and tuition and fees charged, are used in the allocation formula
- Final lottery distribution received by the Commission in June
- Final allocation notice sent to institutions in July
- Institutions submit a list of recommended students for Commission approval
 - Must be done prior to disbursement to student
 - Send in multiple lists throughout the year
 - Funds sent at least twice a year based on approved list of students
 - Final submission must be submitted by May 31st of the academic year
- Commission performs audits of student eligibility at each participating institution every fall

2020-21 NOG Recipients by Sector

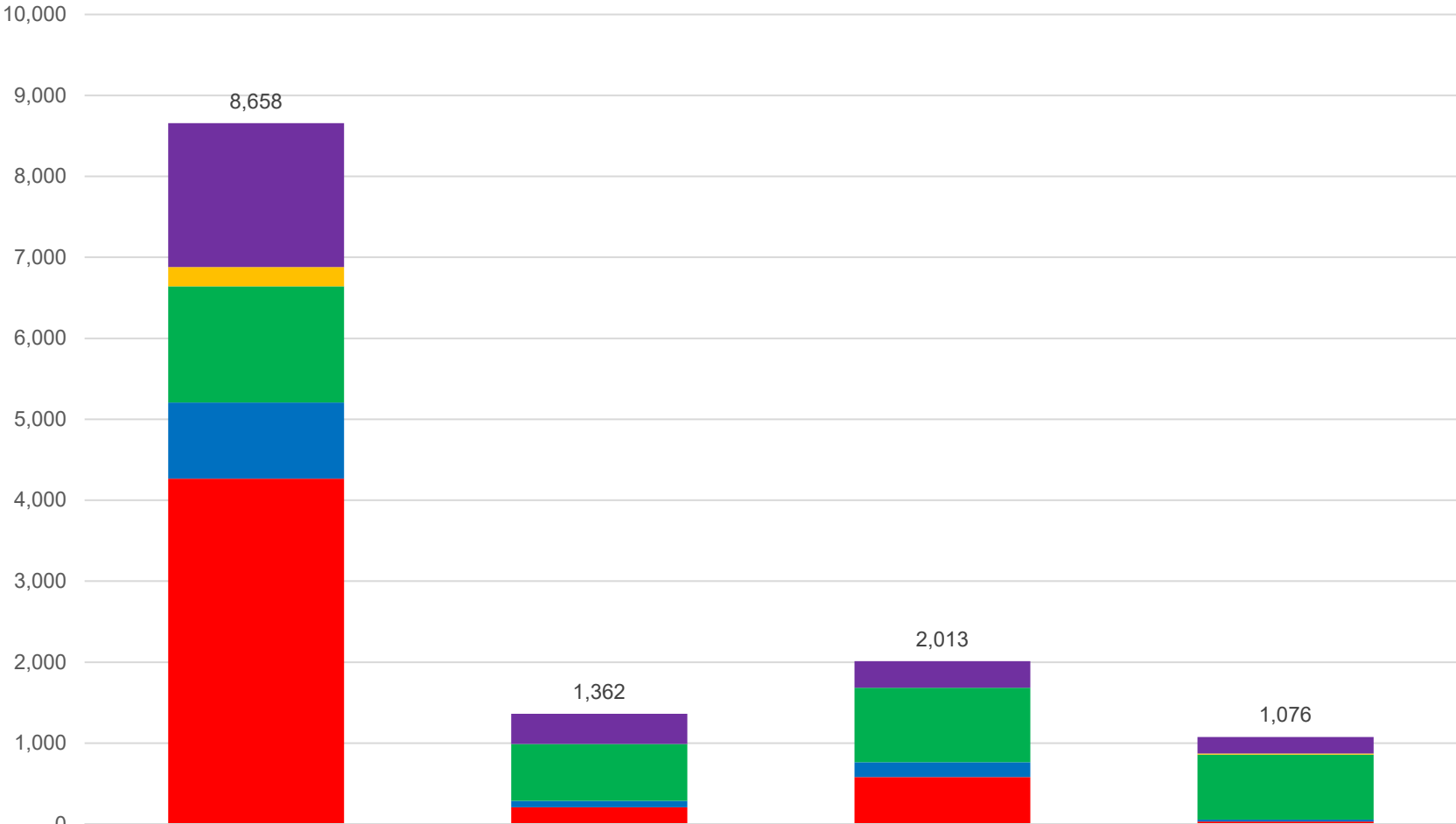


2020-21 NOG Recipients by Family Income



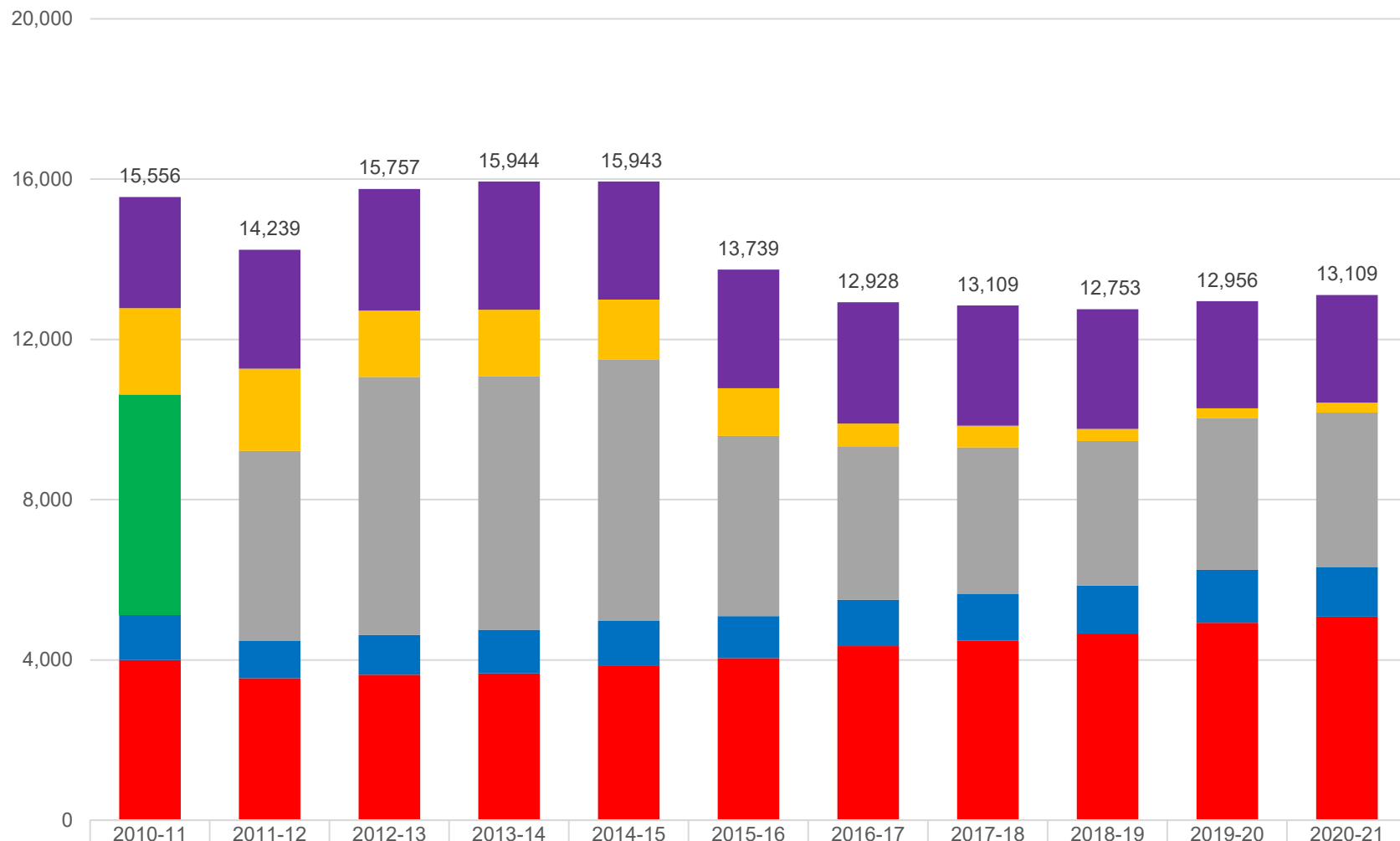
	0-\$19,999	\$20,000-\$39,999	\$40,000-\$59,999	\$60,000+
Total	4,213	3,682	3,135	2,079
Independent	880	777	601	429
Private Career	114	61	45	32
Comm Colleges	1,203	1,120	874	660
State Colleges	423	329	274	204
Univ. of NE	1,593	1,395	1,341	754

2020-21 Recipients by Sector by Enrollment



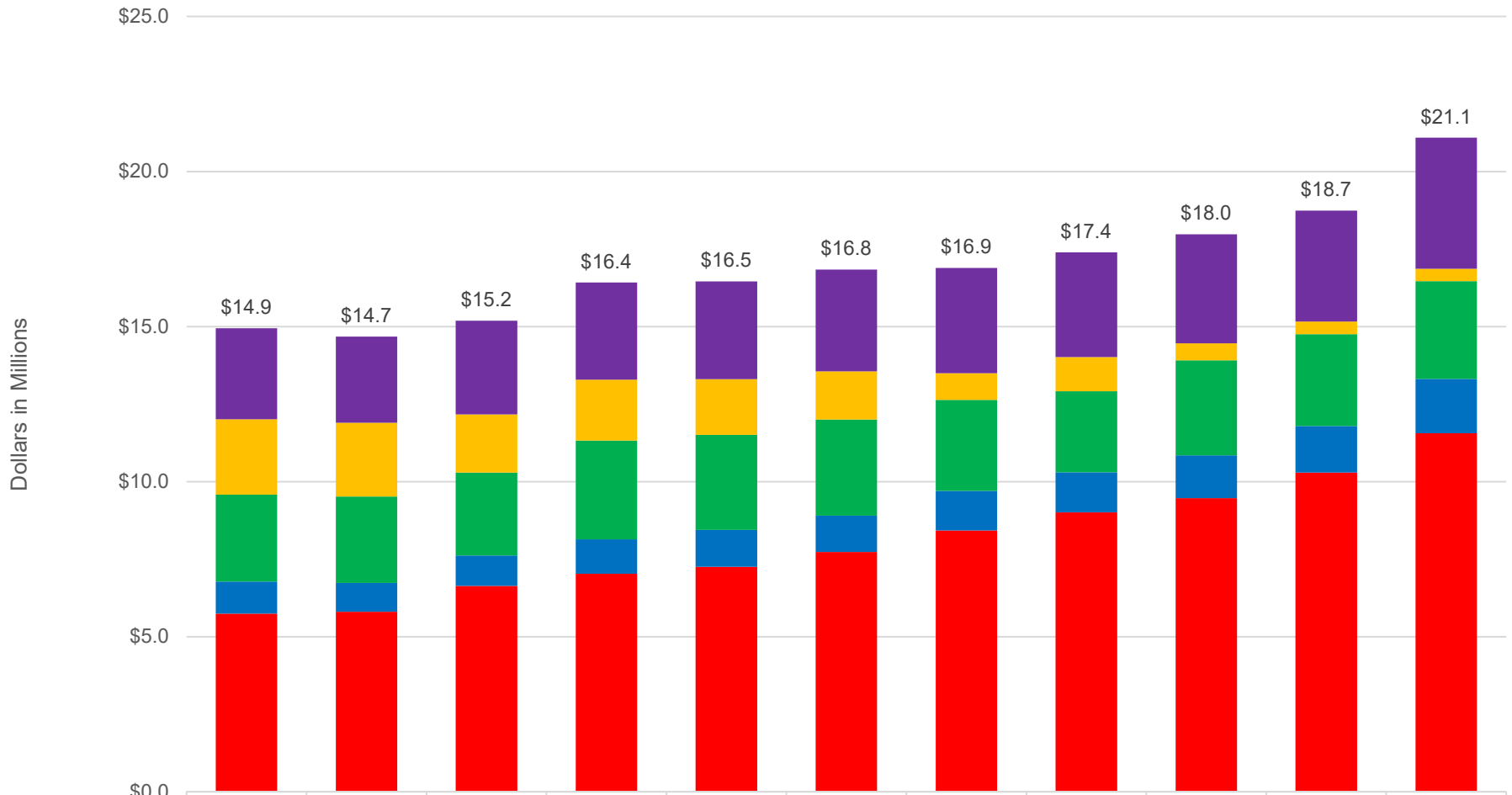
	Full-Time	3/4 Time	1/2 Time	Less Than 1/2 Time
Total	8,658	1,362	2,013	1,076
Independent	1,779	374	330	204
Private Career	237	0	0	15
Comm Colleges	1,436	700	918	803
State Colleges	940	82	185	23
Univ. of NE	4,266	206	580	31

NOG Recipients by Sector



	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Total	15,556	14,239	15,757	15,944	15,943	13,739	12,928	13,109	12,753	12,956	13,109
Independent	2,779	2,968	3,037	3,208	2,950	2,956	3,029	3,003	2,985	2,674	2,687
Private Career	2,163	2,051	1,658	1,664	1,489	1,195	581	542	305	246	252
Comm Colleges	5,496	4,746	6,439	6,320	6,530	4,492	3,814	3,663	3,607	3,784	3,857
State Colleges	1,124	934	996	1,090	1,109	1,053	1,160	1,156	1,198	1,324	1,230
Univ. of NE	3,994	3,540	3,627	3,662	3,865	4,043	4,344	4,485	4,658	4,928	5,083

NOG Amount Awarded by Sector



	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Total	\$14.9	\$14.7	\$15.2	\$16.4	\$16.5	\$16.8	\$16.9	\$17.4	\$18.0	\$18.7	\$21.1
Independent	\$2.9	\$2.8	\$3.0	\$3.1	\$3.1	\$3.3	\$3.4	\$3.4	\$3.5	\$3.6	\$4.2
Private Career	\$2.4	\$2.4	\$1.9	\$2.0	\$1.8	\$1.6	\$0.9	\$1.1	\$0.5	\$0.4	\$0.4
Comm Colleges	\$2.8	\$2.8	\$2.7	\$3.2	\$3.1	\$3.1	\$2.9	\$2.6	\$3.1	\$3.0	\$3.1
State Colleges	\$1.0	\$0.9	\$1.0	\$1.1	\$1.2	\$1.2	\$1.3	\$1.3	\$1.4	\$1.5	\$1.8
Univ. of NE	\$5.7	\$5.8	\$6.6	\$7.0	\$7.3	\$7.7	\$8.4	\$9.0	\$9.5	\$10.3	\$11.6

Sector	# and % of Eligible Students	# and % of NOG Recipients	% of Elig who Received NOG	\$ and % of NOG Awarded	Average NOG Award
University of Nebraska (5)	11,553 37.7%	5,083 38.8%	44.0%	\$11,560,388 54.8%	\$2,274.32
State Colleges (3)	2,112 6.9%	1,230 9.4%	58.2%	\$1,752,168 8.3%	\$1,424.53
Community Colleges (6)	12,594 41.0%	3,857 29.4%	30.6%	\$3,149,919 14.9%	\$816.68
Private Career Schools (5)	483 1.6%	252 1.9%	52.2%	\$402,908 1.9%	\$1,598.84
Independent Colleges & Universities (16)	3,940 12.8%	2,687 20.5%	68.2%	\$4,221,758 20.0%	\$1,571.18
Total	30,682 100.0%	13,109 100.0%	42.7%	\$21,087,141 100.0%	\$1,608.60

The National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) is a not-for-profit organization that serves as a central repository of postsecondary student enrollment, degree, and diploma data voluntarily submitted by more than 3,700 colleges and universities. These institutions enroll an estimated 97.0% of the college students in the United States that attend Title IV, degree-granting institutions. In Nebraska, all institutions except three private career schools report to NSC.

The cumulative graduation rates tables include only first-time students that also received a NOG scholarship beginning in their first year. Graduation rates were calculated for the student's initial enrollment institution regardless of the type of institution of the subsequent graduation.

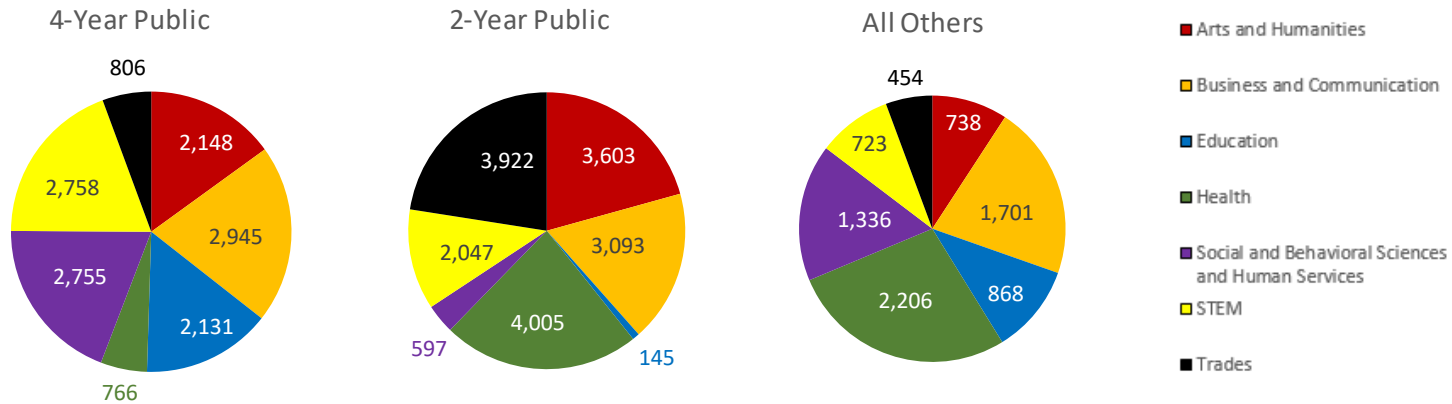
Cumulative Graduation Rates by Year: First-time Students Initially Enrolled in a 2-Year Institution and Received NOG Beginning with Their First Academic Year									
Academic Year First Received NOG	n	Years to Graduate							
		1 or less	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2010-11	803	1.5%	21.4%	34.2%	40.6%	45.2%	48.3%	50.2%	51.9%
2011-12	713	1.1%	22.9%	34.2%	41.5%	46.6%	49.5%	52.2%	53.6%
2012-13	1,055	0.6%	15.4%	25.5%	30.4%	35.2%	37.9%	39.1%	
2013-14	1,098	3.8%	19.0%	29.5%	36.2%	41.1%	44.4%		
2014-15	903	4.4%	22.7%	33.1%	37.5%	41.6%			
2015-16	796	7.5%	27.3%	37.4%	44.2%				

Cumulative Graduation Rates by Year: First-time Students Initially Enrolled in a 4-Year Institution and Received NOG Beginning with Their First Academic Year									
Academic Year First Received NOG Scholarship	n	Years to Graduate							
		1 or less	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2010-11	929	0.3%	3.4%	6.6%	29.0%	49.1%	58.4%	61.9%	63.4%
2011-12	702	2.6%	5.4%	9.3%	29.5%	49.7%	56.3%	59.3%	61.1%
2012-13	722	0.6%	3.2%	5.0%	23.3%	45.4%	54.0%	58.2%	
2013-14	846	0.6%	1.7%	4.4%	24.6%	44.9%	52.6%		
2014-15	952	1.4%	4.8%	7.6%	27.4%	47.4%			
2015-16	946	1.1%	3.8%	6.4%	22.5%				

By the Numbers: 2010-11 through 2018-19

Unique students awarded a NOG scholarship	73,445	Majors conferred to NOG recipients after receiving a NOG scholarship	39,747
Unique NOG recipients that earned a degree, diploma, or certificate after receiving a NOG (Does not include students currently attending an institution that have not earned a first award.)	37,489	Number of first-time freshman awarded a NOG scholarship in their freshman year	13,671

Majors Conferred to NOG Recipients after Receiving a NOG Scholarship, by Discipline Cluster



All degree majors earned after a student received a NOG scholarship are included in the above charts. NSC data provides discipline information at the degree major level only. Not all institutions report the degree earned or degree major.