**Income, Affordability, & Debt**

This section of the Program Outcomes Report covers multiple indicators that speak to our students' financial and economic status.

Additionally -new to this year's report- we included a simple comparative analysis to the Federal Poverty Line. And, while there are limitations to this analysis, these views offer a different perspective into our students' socioeconomic backgrounds.

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* [Average Family Income](https://tbl500amory.sharepoint.com/sites/ReportingDocumentation/SitePages/Incom.aspx#average-family-income)
* [Access College Affordability](https://tbl500amory.sharepoint.com/sites/ReportingDocumentation/SitePages/Incom.aspx#access-college-affordability)
* [Average Debt for Graduates](https://tbl500amory.sharepoint.com/sites/ReportingDocumentation/SitePages/Incom.aspx#average-debt-for-graduates)
* [Average Debt for Current Students](https://tbl500amory.sharepoint.com/sites/ReportingDocumentation/SitePages/Incom.aspx#average-debt-for-current-students)
* [On/Off track Affordability Classification (Over/Under $31,000)](https://tbl500amory.sharepoint.com/sites/ReportingDocumentation/SitePages/Incom.aspx#on-track-and-off-track-affordability-classification-%28over-under-$31%2c000%29)
* [Poverty Standards](https://tbl500amory.sharepoint.com/sites/ReportingDocumentation/SitePages/Incom.aspx#federal-poverty-line-standards)

**Average Family Income**

* **Definition**: This view will show the average (arithmetic mean) family income for our students.
  + Students with no data captured are excluded from the calculation.
  + Students with $0.00 income are included in the calculation[[10]](https://tbl500amory.sharepoint.com/sites/ReportingDocumentation/SitePages/Incom.aspx#10-students-with-$0.00-income-are-counted-in-the-calculation-because-a-$0.00-represents-a-lack-of-income-in-the-household-and-no).

**[10] Students with $0.00 income are counted in the calculation because a $0.00 represents a lack of income in the household and not a “blank/data missing” in our salesforce records.**

**Access College Affordability**

* **Definition**:  this speaks to the college affordability decisions students in the Access program make.
  + The field used for this visual is a compound of multiple fields that assess the college affordability for each individual student in the following sequence:
    - First, the gap is determined by subtracting the school cost from the expected family contribution.
    - Second, the result of this gap is added to the total expected amount of loans a student would have to borrow if they were to attend that school.
    - Third, the amount previously calculated is compared to our affordability index:
      * A school is deemed “More Affordable” if the gap is less than or equal to $8,500
      * A school is deemed “Less Affordable” if the gap is between $8,500 and $11,500
      * A school is deemed “Least Affordable” if the gap is greater than $11,500

**Average Debt for Graduates**

* **Definition**: ​​​​​​​This view will show the average (arithmetic mean) amount of student debt that students in the Success program accrued by the time they graduated.
  + Students are not included in the calculation if the amount registered is equal to 0, or if there is no data.
  + Students are not included if they have not graduated yet

**Average Debt for Current Students**

* **Definition**: This view will show the average (arithmetic mean) amount of student debt that students in the Success program have accrued by the end of the year.
  + Students are not counted if they have already graduated
* **Note:** Students are not counted if there is no data or if the amount registered is equal to 0[[11]](https://tbl500amory.sharepoint.com/sites/ReportingDocumentation/SitePages/Incom.aspx#11-we-currently-have-no-way-to-identify-students-who-receive-no-financial-aid-vs.-students-with-no-data-they-all-default-to-$0.-)

**[11] We currently have no way to identify students who receive no financial aid vs. students with no data- they all default to $0. Additionally, this calculation excludes students with a loan amount of $0.**

**On-track and Off-track affordability classification (Over/Under $31,000)**

* **Definition:**This view will show an on-track or off-track status for a student’s debt compared to Bottom Line's Affordability benchmark of $31,000[[12]](https://tbl500amory.sharepoint.com/sites/ReportingDocumentation/SitePages/Incom.aspx#12-bottom-line%E2%80%99s-affordability-benchmark-of-$31%2c000-is-based-on-the-maximum-amount-of-aid-that-a-student-can-borrow-in-federal-s). Students are on-track or off- track based on the following thresholds:
  + Student has borrowed $5,500 or less the first year
  + Student has borrowed $12,000 ($6,500+$5,500) or less the second year
  + Student has borrowed $19,500 ($7,500+$6,500+$5,500) or less the third year
  + Student has borrowed $27,000 ($7,500+$7,500+$6,500+$5,500) or less the fourth year
  + Student has borrowed $31,000 ($4,000+$7,500+$7,500+$6,500+$5,500) or less the fifth year
  + Student has borrowed $31,000 or less the sixth year

**[12] Bottom Line’s Affordability benchmark of $31,000 is based on the maximum amount of aid that a student can borrow in Federal Student Loans. For more information on thresholds or eligibility for Federal Student Loans visit**[**this site.**](https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans/subsidized-unsubsidized)

**Federal Poverty Line Standards**

* **Definition**: This view shows the number and percentage of students whose family income follows above or below the Federal Poverty Line.
  + ​​​​​​​Federal Poverty Line Income standards change every year, and the analysis could only be done for those years where sufficient data was available (both for Bottom Line data and data from the Federal Government).
  + For Access, only one year of data is shown. For Success, all years with data availability are shown.
  + The Federal Poverty Line guidelines followed this standard for each corresponding year:
    - [​​​​​​​​​​​​​​2017](https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines/prior-hhs-poverty-guidelines-federal-register-references/2017-poverty-guidelines)
    - [2018](https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines/prior-hhs-poverty-guidelines-federal-register-references/2018-poverty-guidelines)
    - [2019](https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines/prior-hhs-poverty-guidelines-federal-register-references/2019-poverty-guidelines)
    - [2020](https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines/prior-hhs-poverty-guidelines-federal-register-references/2020-poverty-guidelines)
    - [2021](https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines/prior-hhs-poverty-guidelines-federal-register-references/2021-poverty-guidelines)