



Council for Education Policy,  
Research and Improvement

# Trends in Student Aid and College Pricing FLORIDA

## 1997-98 to 2001-02

May 2003

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OSFA  
Office of Student Financial Assistance

epi  
Educational Policy Institute

### Trends in Student Aid and College Pricing FLORIDA

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# PURPOSE

- A comprehensive accounting of student financial aid trends in Florida.
- Complete inventory of direct aid to students, from all sources, at all types of institutions:
  - 2-year and 4-year
  - Public and independent
  - nonprofit and for-profit.
- 5 – year look to span periods of growth and decline in state and national economies.

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# PURPOSE

- Recipients and dollars awarded.
- Family resources available to students.
- And the amount it costs these students to attend college in Florida.

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# FOCUS

- Units of analysis:
  - Sectors, not individual institutions.
  - Financial aid programs, not individual awards.
  - Report data in both current and constant dollars, to promote accurate interpretation of trends, controlling for the variable purchasing power of the dollar over time
- Comparisons nationally and to peer states

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# USEFULNESS TO POLICYMAKERS

- We don't know what we don't know
- Data to inform public policy regarding postsecondary affordability and access.
- Project marks the beginning on ongoing tracking of trends in:
  - indicators of cost, aid, and student/family ability to pay
  - Relative contributions by those with “shared responsibility” for making postsecondary accessible

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# WHAT WE COLLECTED

- Program years 1997-98 through 2001-02
- Count what is “countable”
- Direct aid to students

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# WHAT WE COLLECTED: SPECIFICS

- Federal Aid
- State Aid
- Institutional Aid (need and merit)
- Aid from Private Sources
- Dual Enrollment
- Fee Waivers and Exemptions

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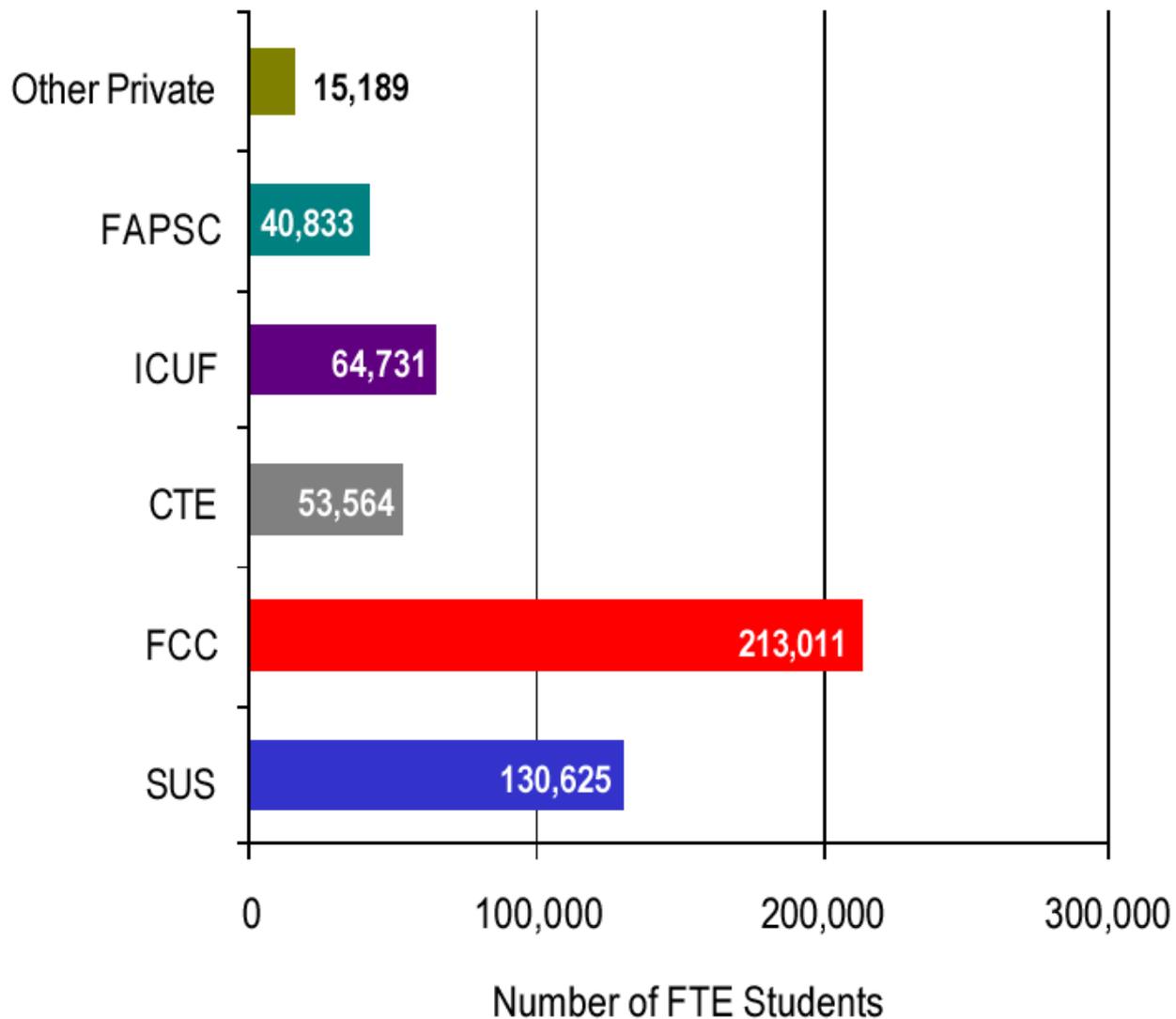
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*Exhibit 1. Florida FTE totals by institutional sector, 2001-02*



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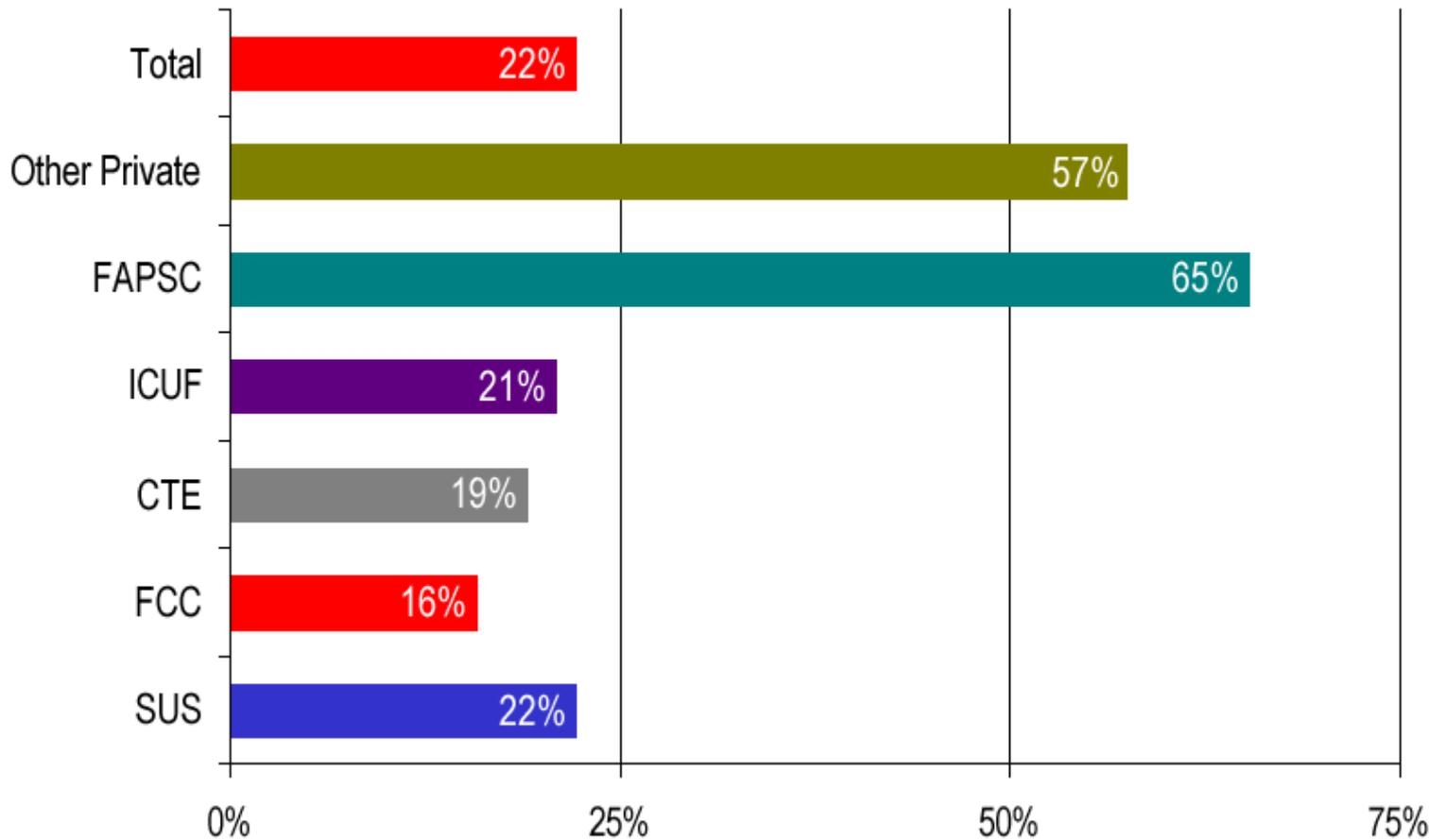
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Exhibit X. Florida FTE percentage growth by institutional sector, 1997-98 to 2001-02



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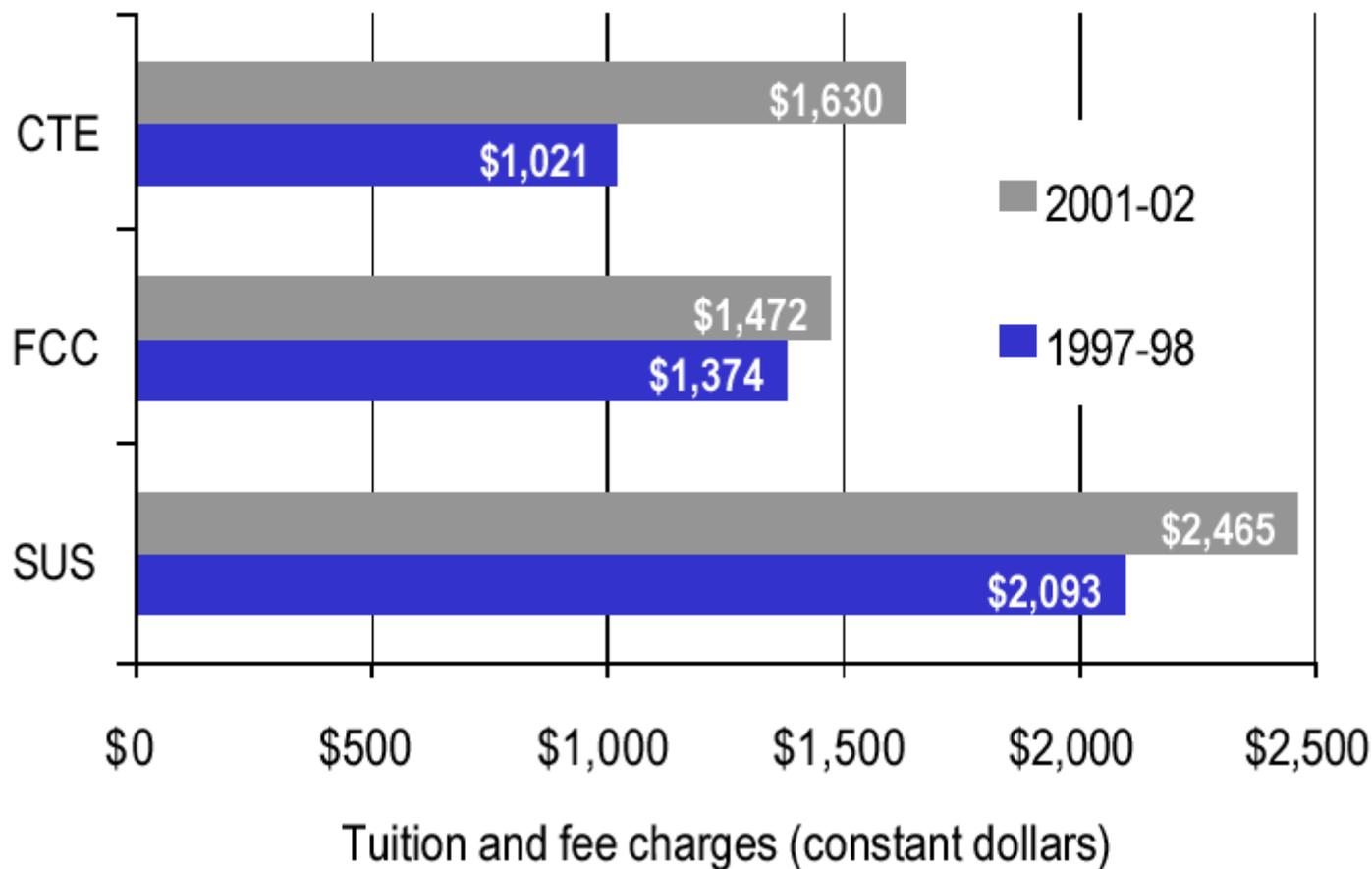
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*Exhibit 2. Enrollment-weighted tuition and fee charges for Florida Public Institutions, 1997-98 and 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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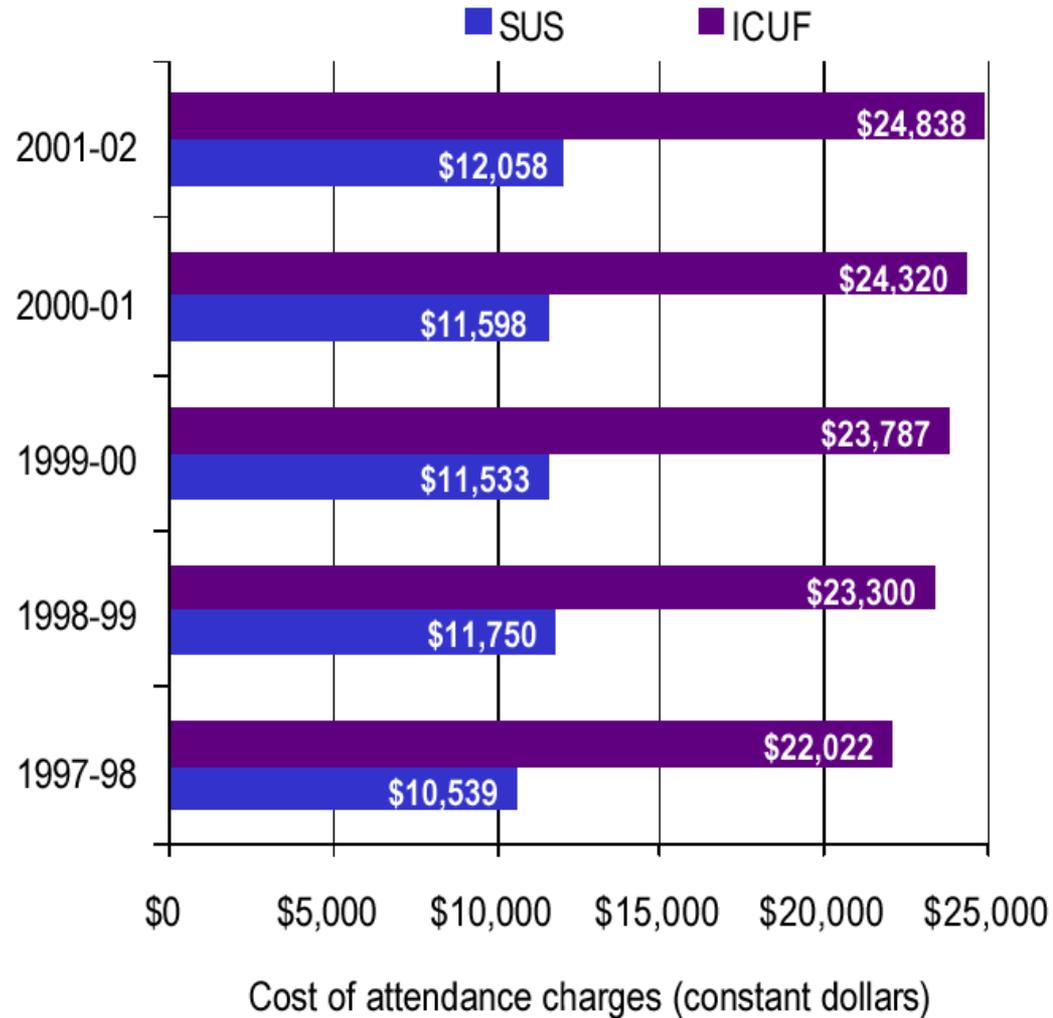
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*Exhibit 3. Enrollment-weighted cost of attendance charges for  
SUS and ICUF Institutions, 1997-98 to 2001-02  
(constant dollars)*



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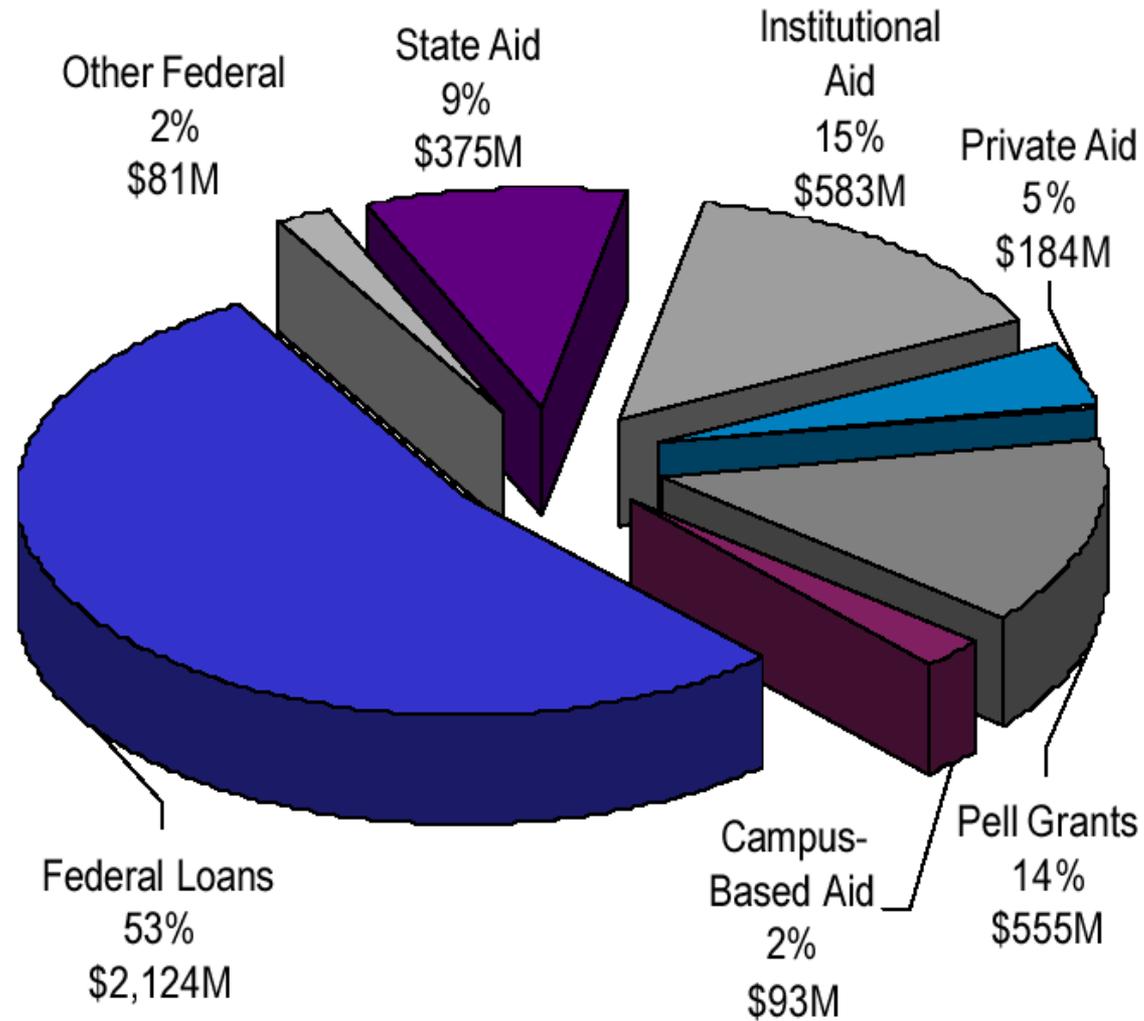
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Exhibit 4. Florida student aid by source, 2001-02



**TOTAL AID TO STUDENTS = \$4.0 Billion**

*May not sum to total due to rounding*

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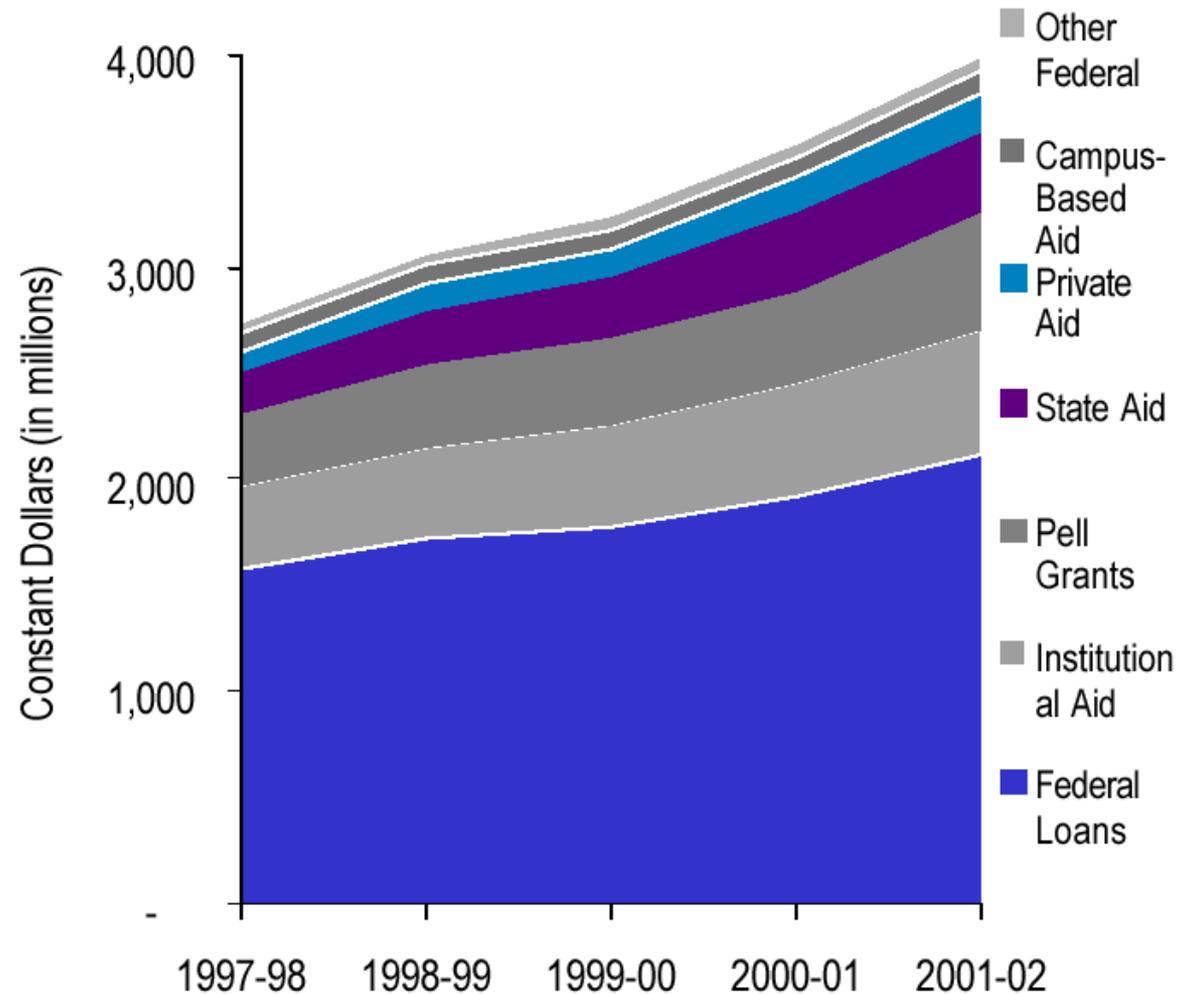
1997-98 to 2001-02





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*Exhibit 5. Distribution of aid to students attending all Florida postsecondary institutions, by aid program, 1997-98 to 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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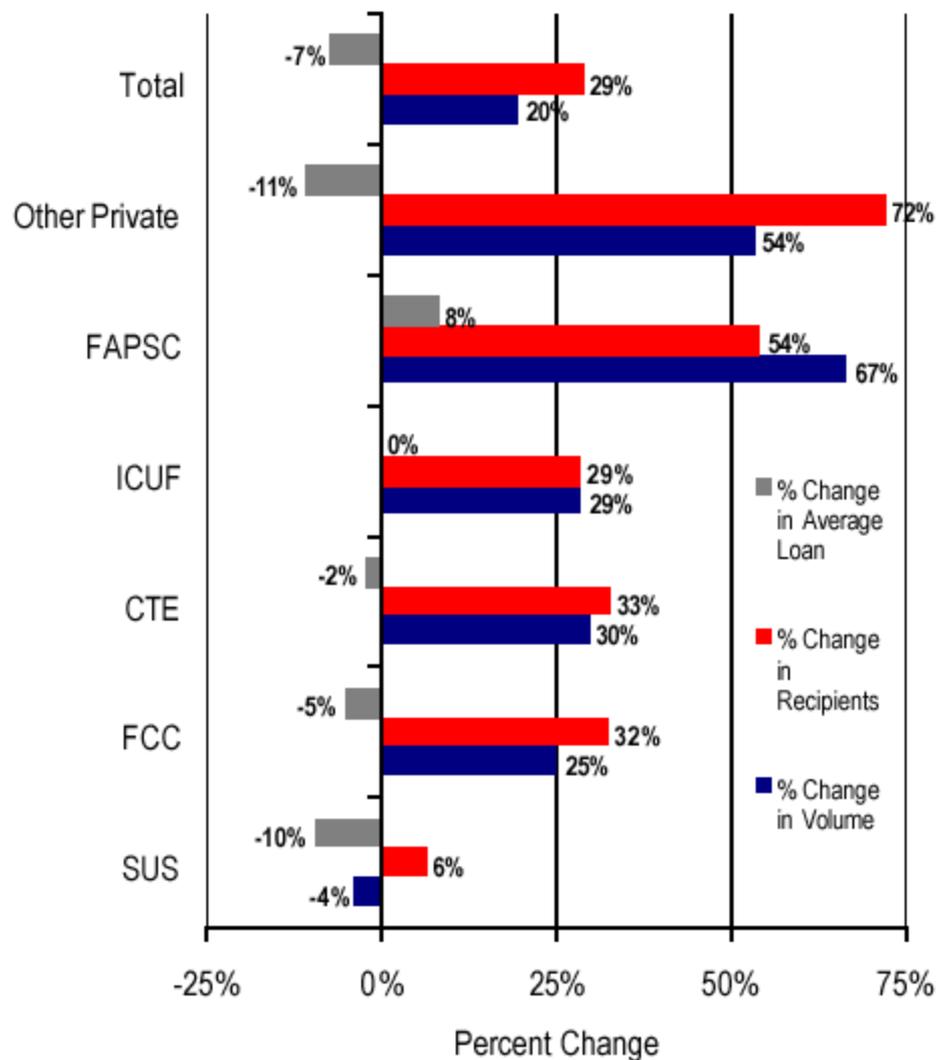
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*Exhibit 17. Percent change in unsubsidized loan volume, recipients, and average loan, by sector, 1997-98 to 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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1997-98 to 2001-02

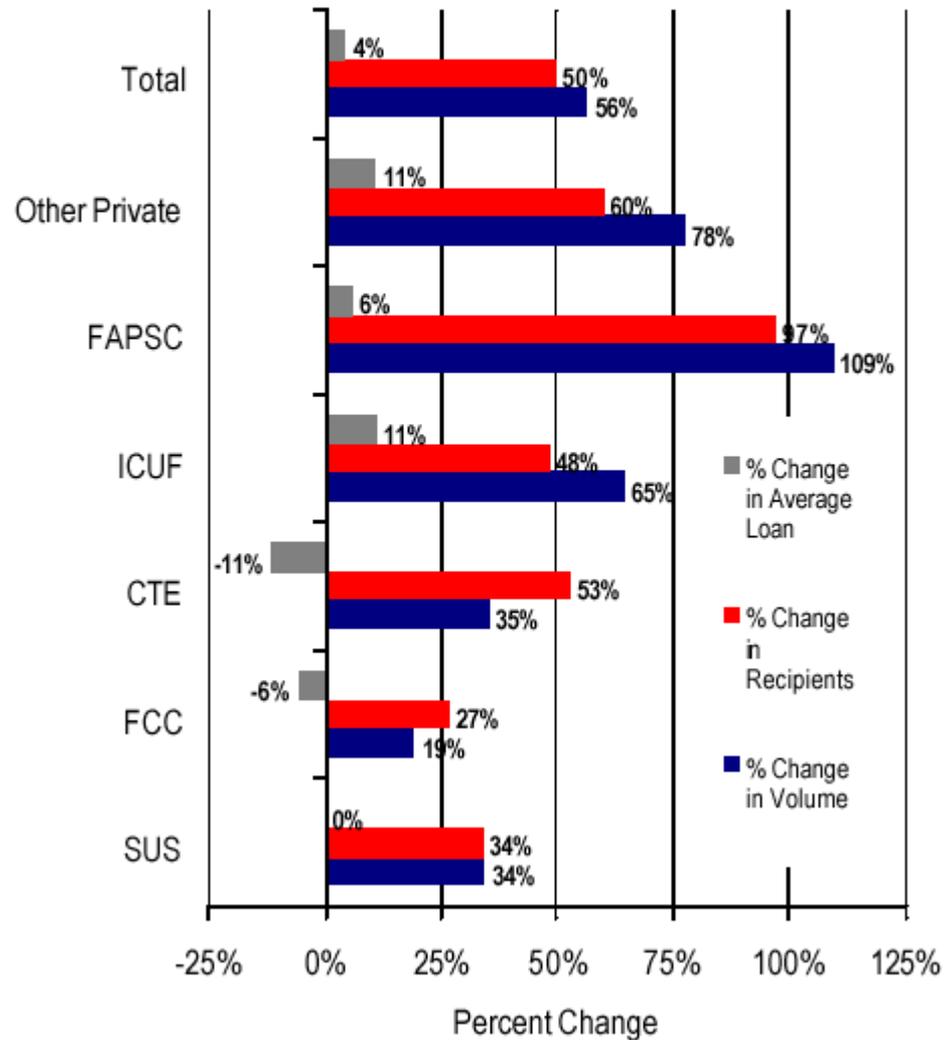
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*Exhibit 20. Percent change in subsidized loan volume, recipients, and average loan, by sector, 1997-98 to 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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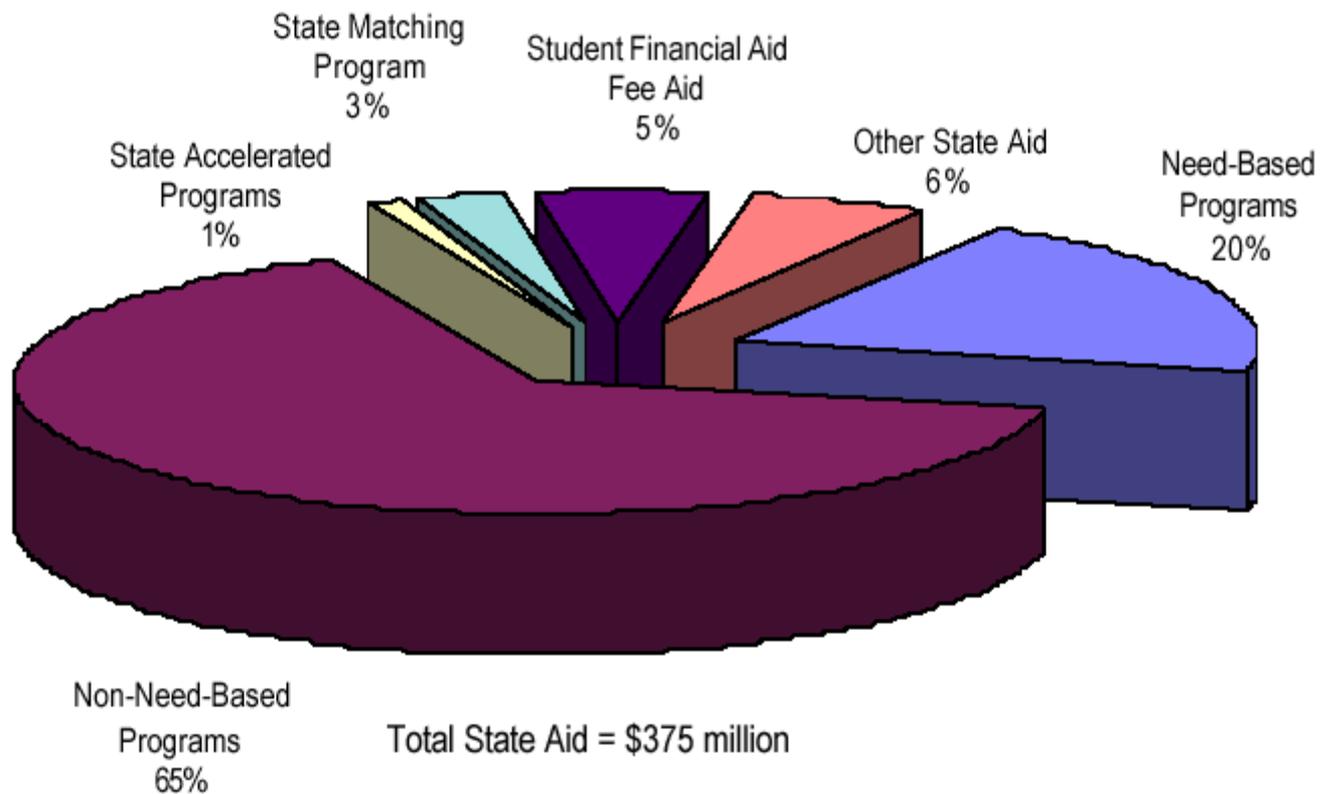




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## *Exhibit 22. Distribution of Florida state student aid, 2001-02*

Distribution of Florida State Student Aid, 2001-02



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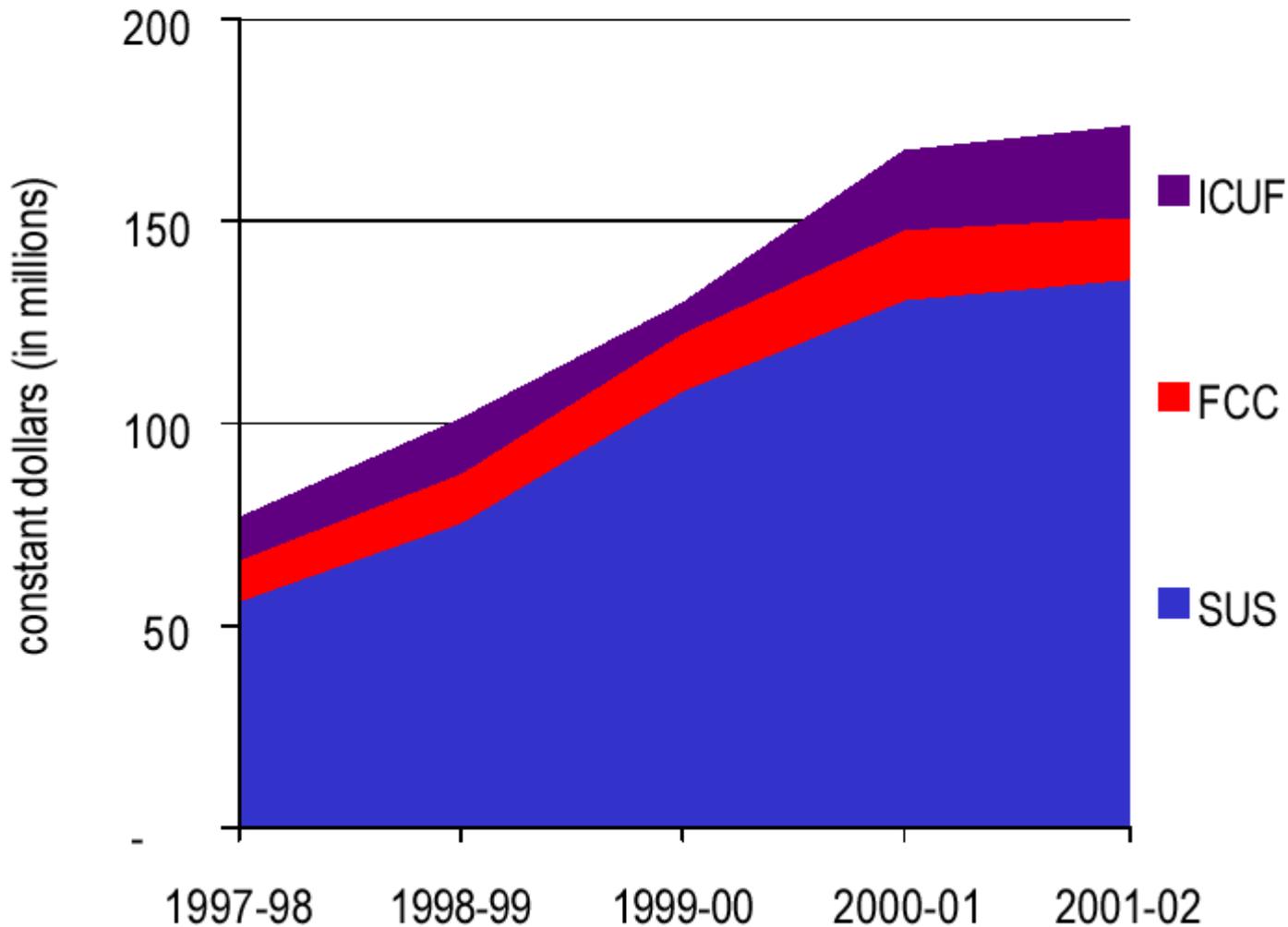
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*Exhibit 23. Bright Futures volume at Florida postsecondary institutions, by sector, 1997-98 to 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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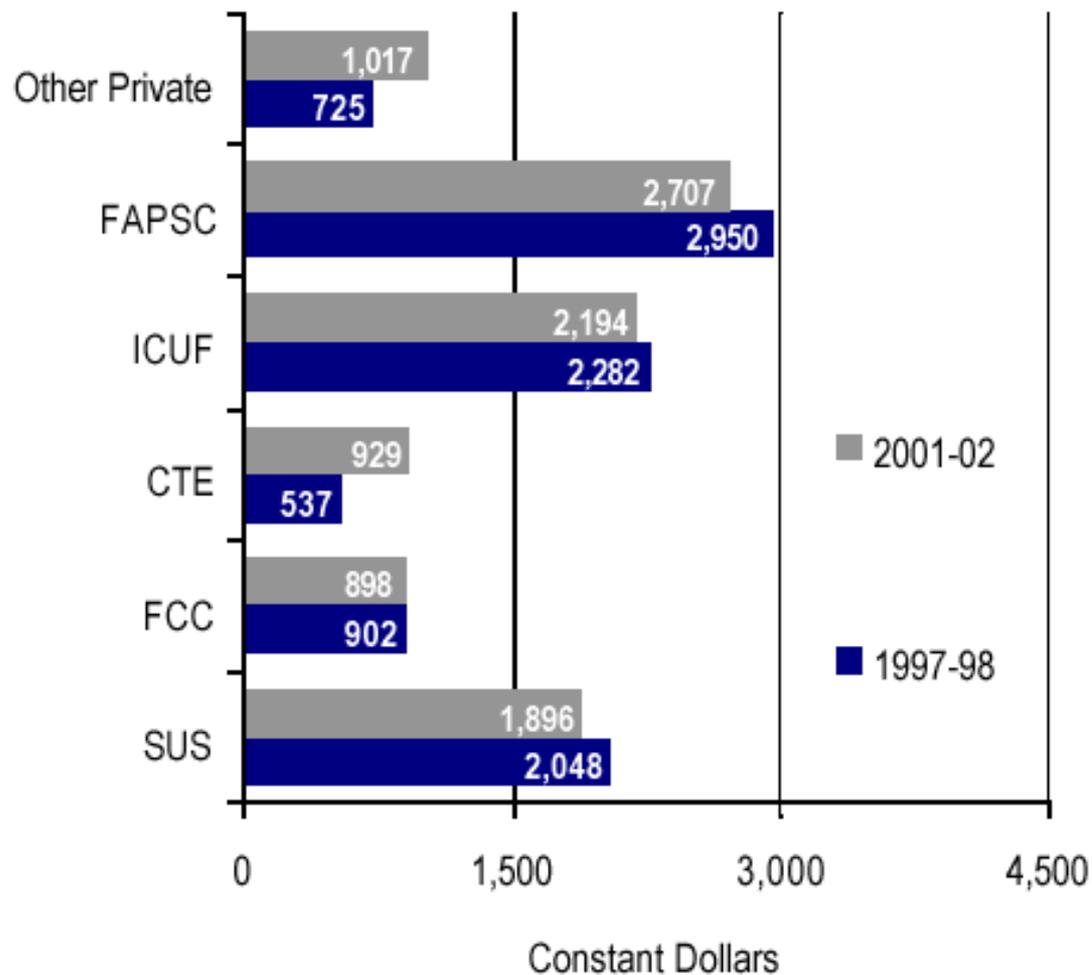
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*Exhibit 25. Average Bright Futures grant at Florida institutions, 1997-98 and 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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1997-98 to 2001-02

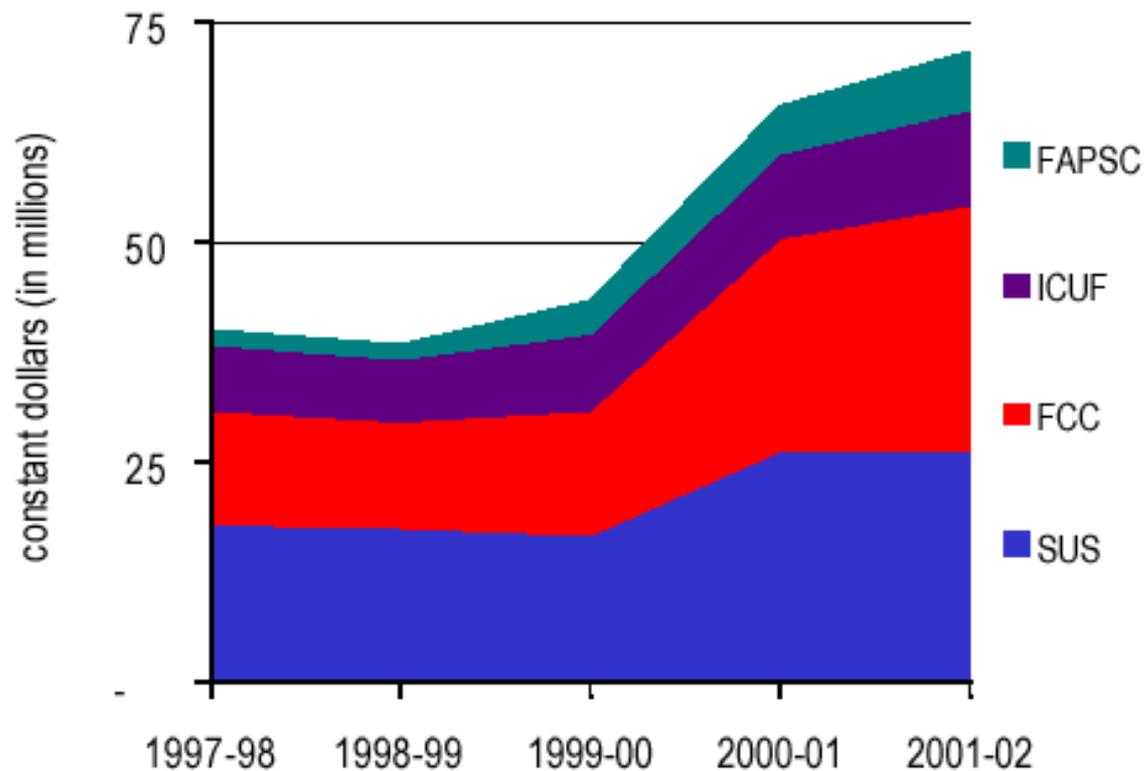
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*Exhibit 26. FSAG volume at Florida postsecondary institutions,  
by sector, 1997-98 to 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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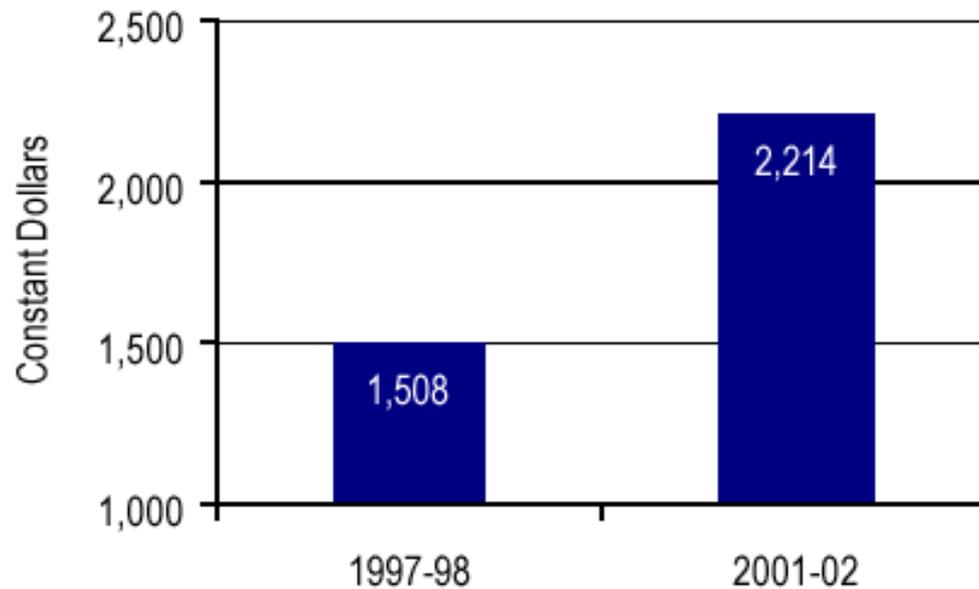
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*Exhibit 29. Average FRAG grant at ICUF institutions, 1997-98 and 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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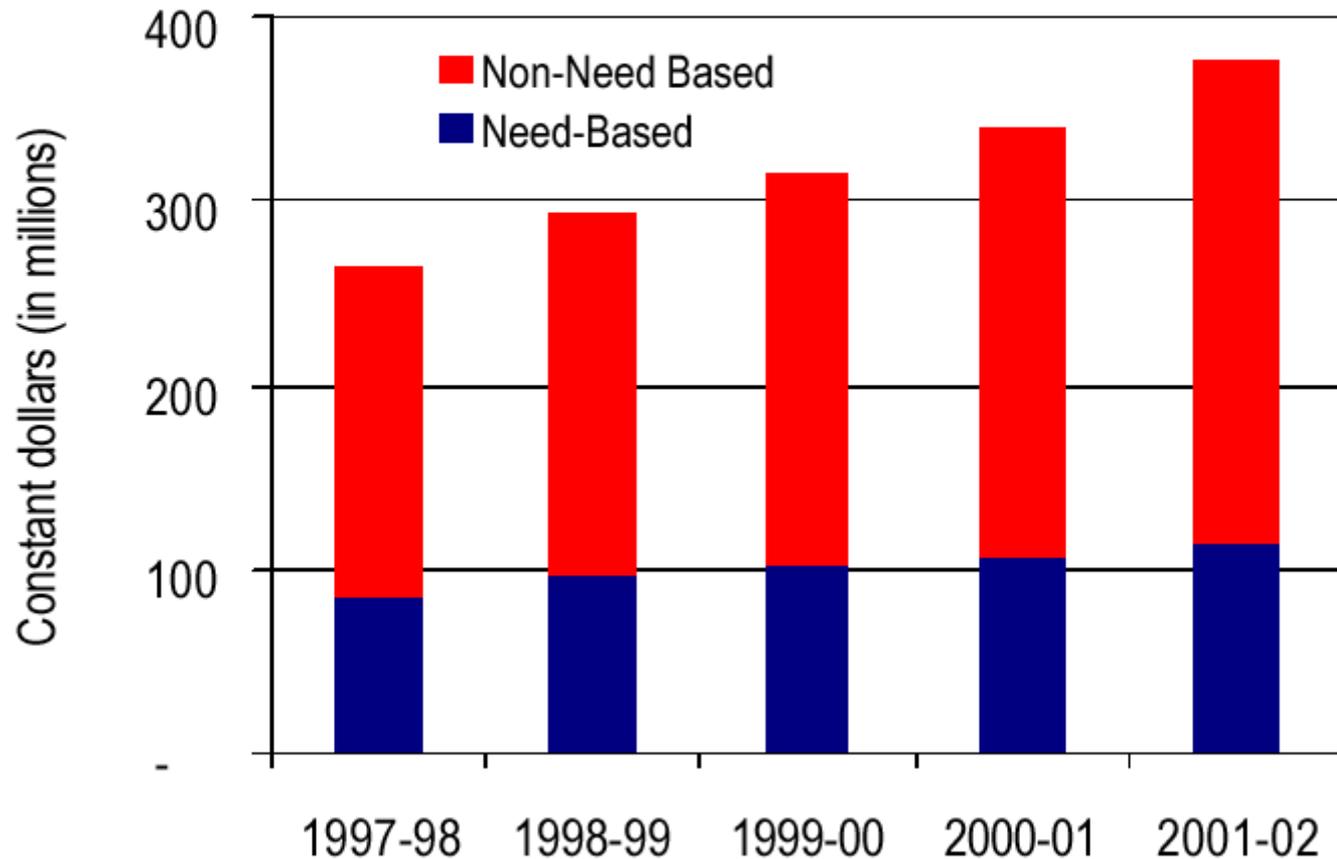
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*Exhibit 36. Institutional need- and non-need-based aid, 1997-98 to 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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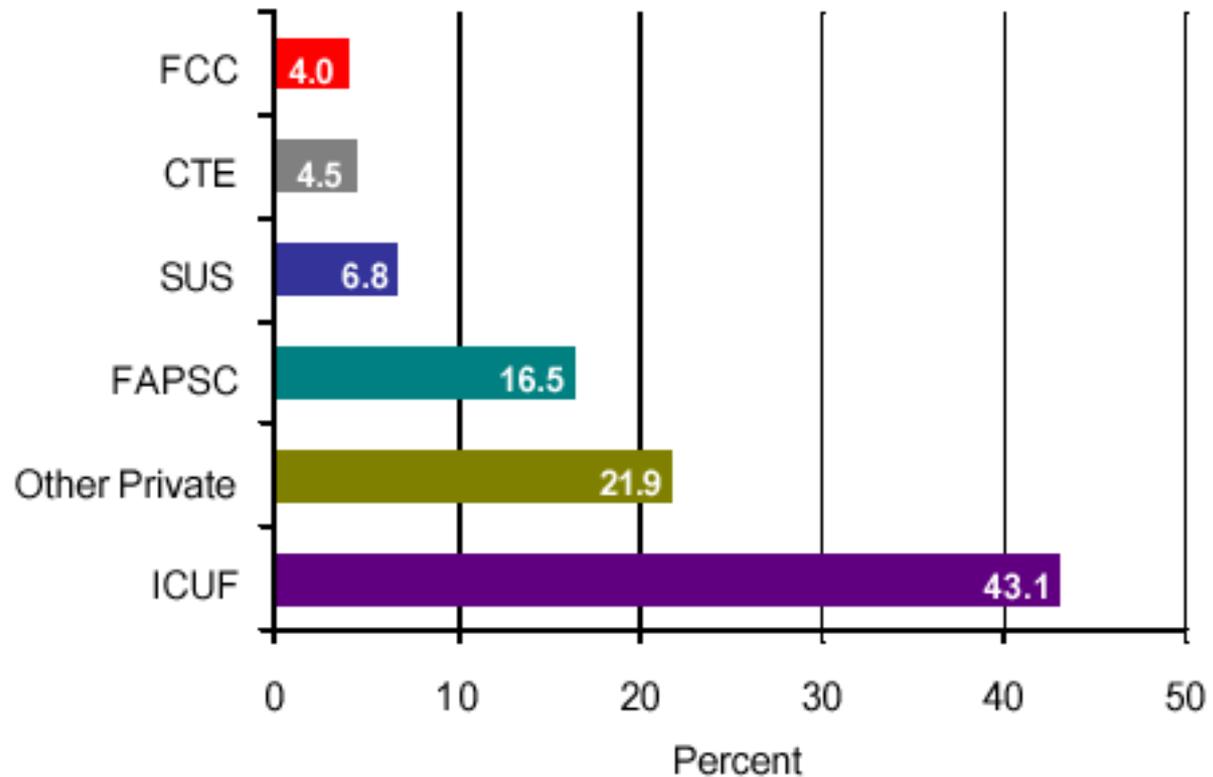
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*Exhibit 38. Tuition and fee charges as a percentage of median household income for Florida postsecondary institutions, by sector, 2001-02*



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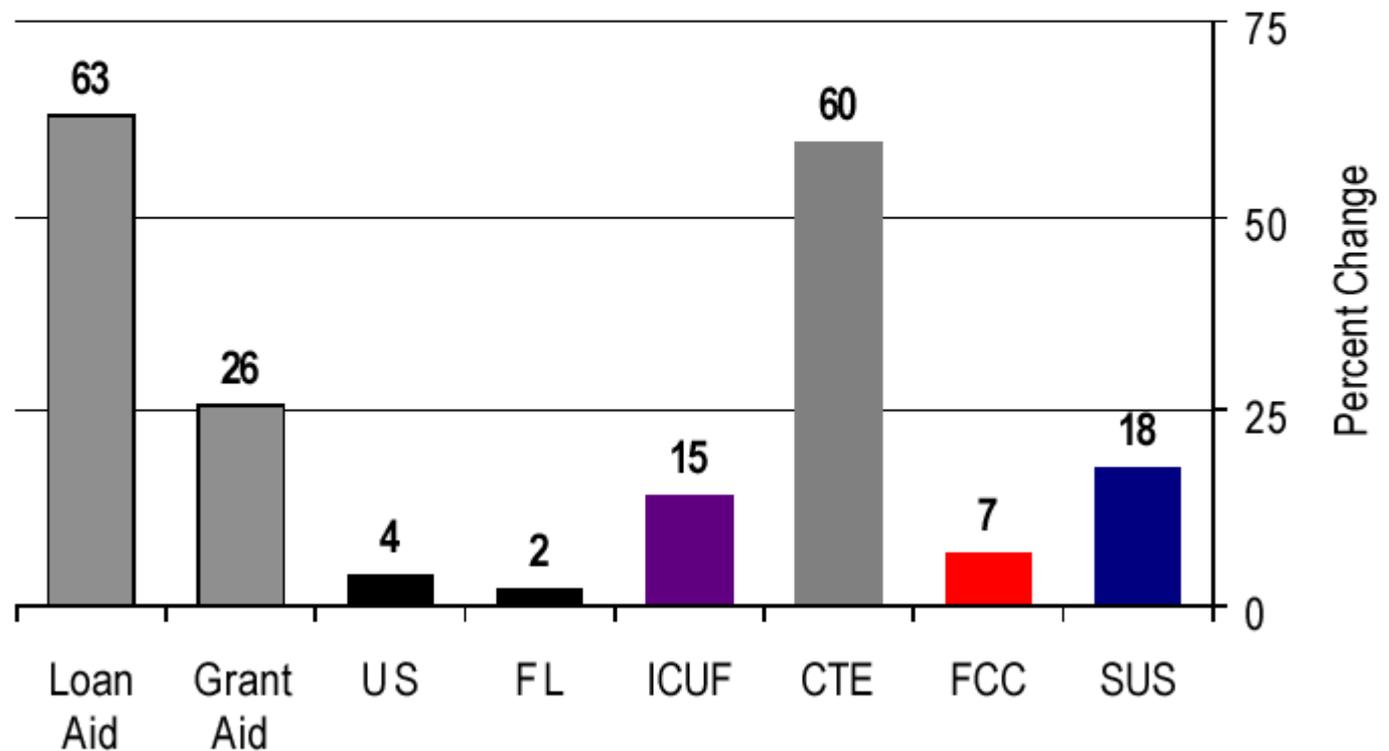
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*Exhibit 40. Five-year percent change in tuition and fee charges, median family income, and grant and loan aid, 1997-98 to 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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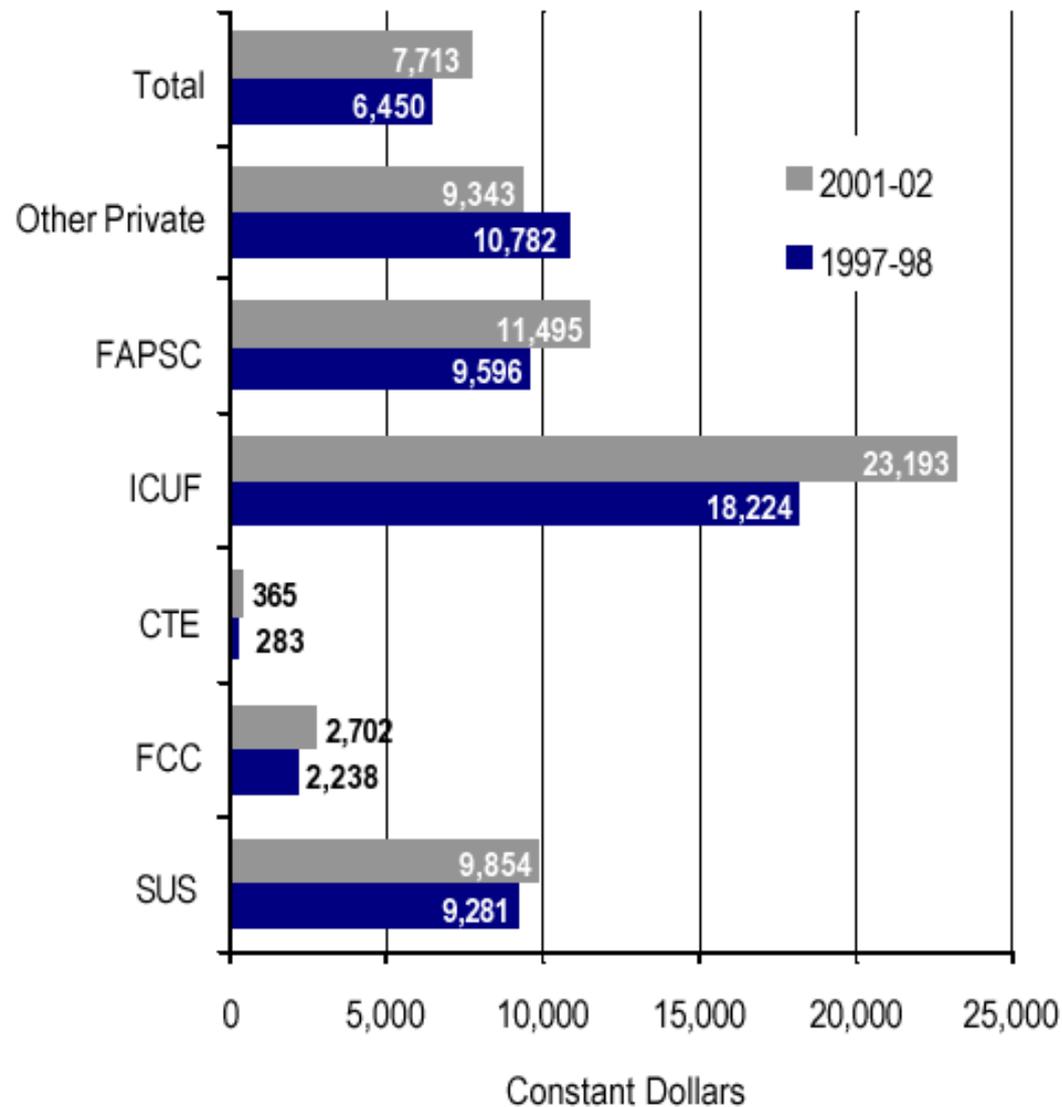
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*Exhibit 41. Average total aid per FTE at Florida institutions,  
1997-98 and 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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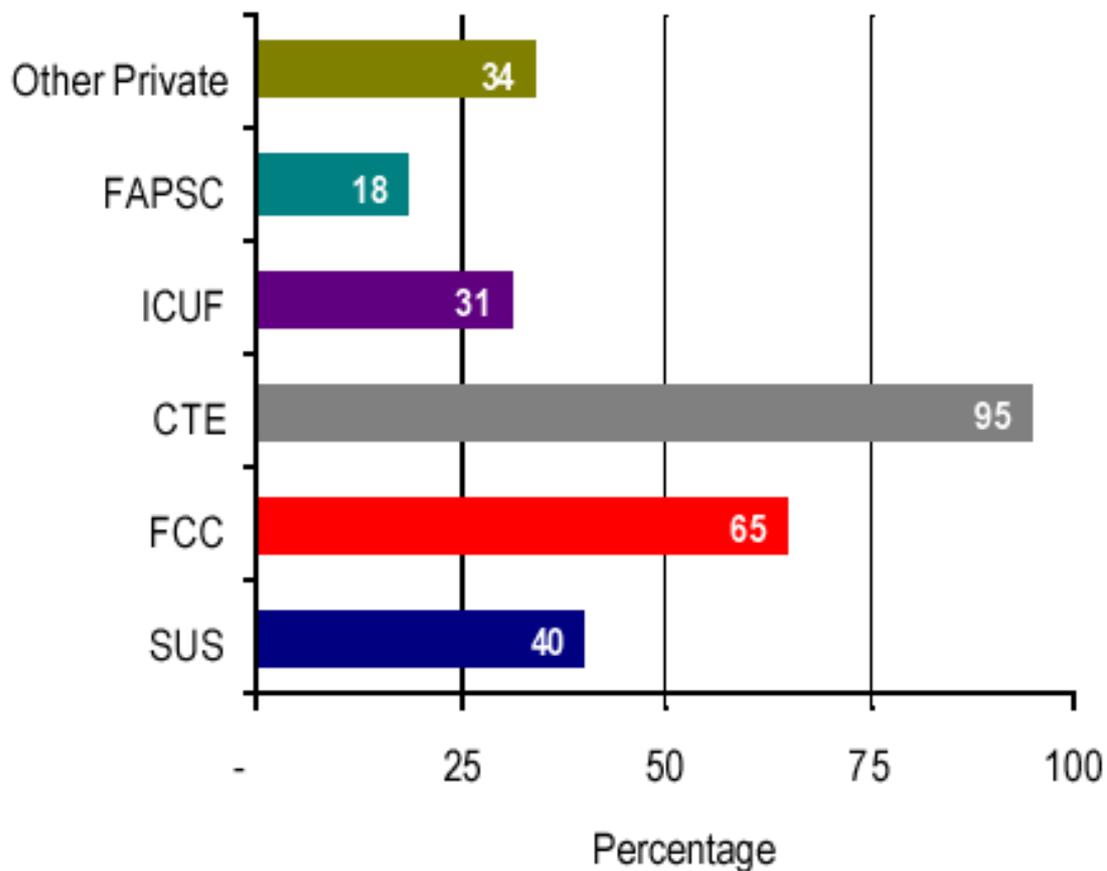
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*Exhibit 42. Percent of grant aid versus total grant and loan aid, by sector, 2001-02*



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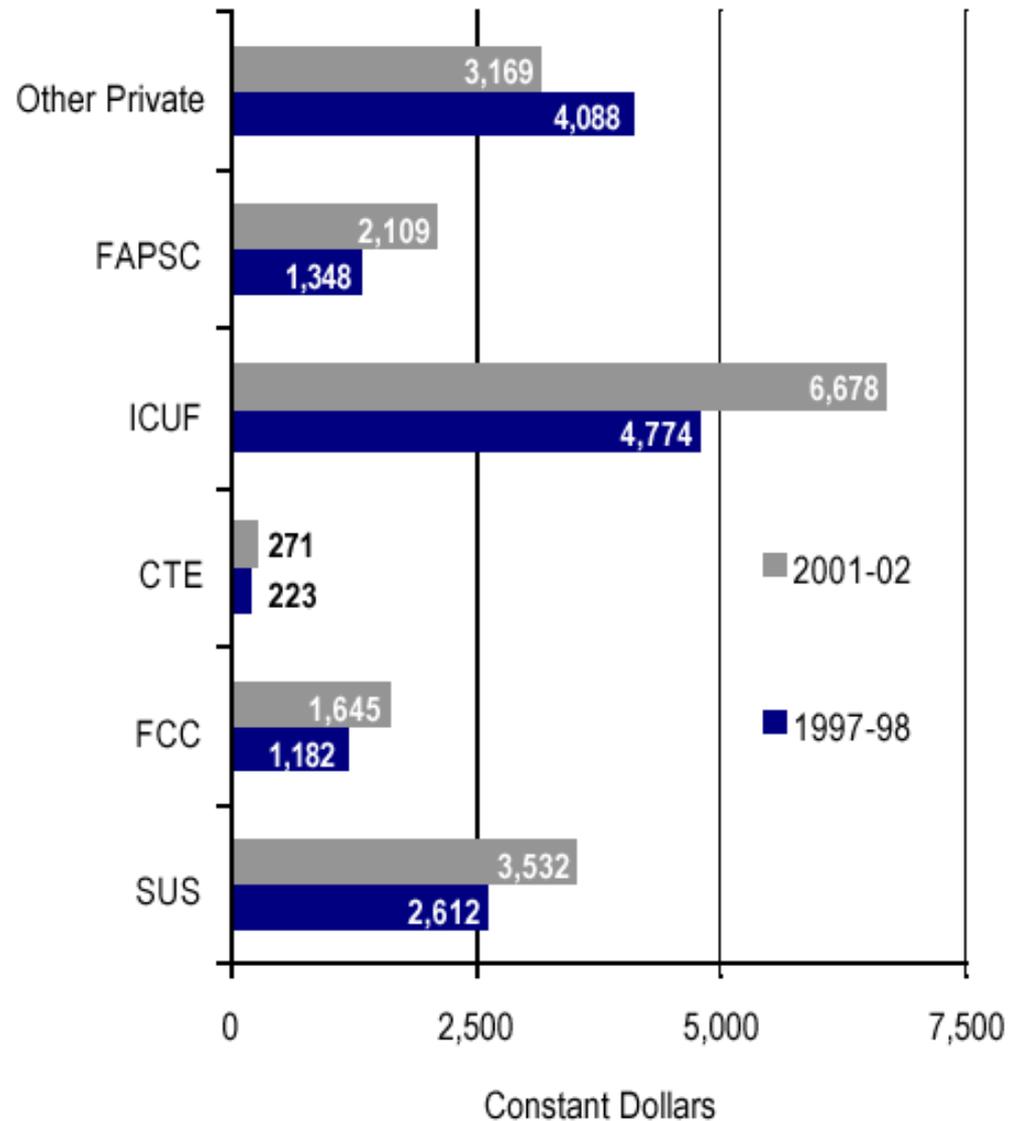
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*Exhibit 43. Average grant aid per FTE at Florida institutions,  
1997-98 and 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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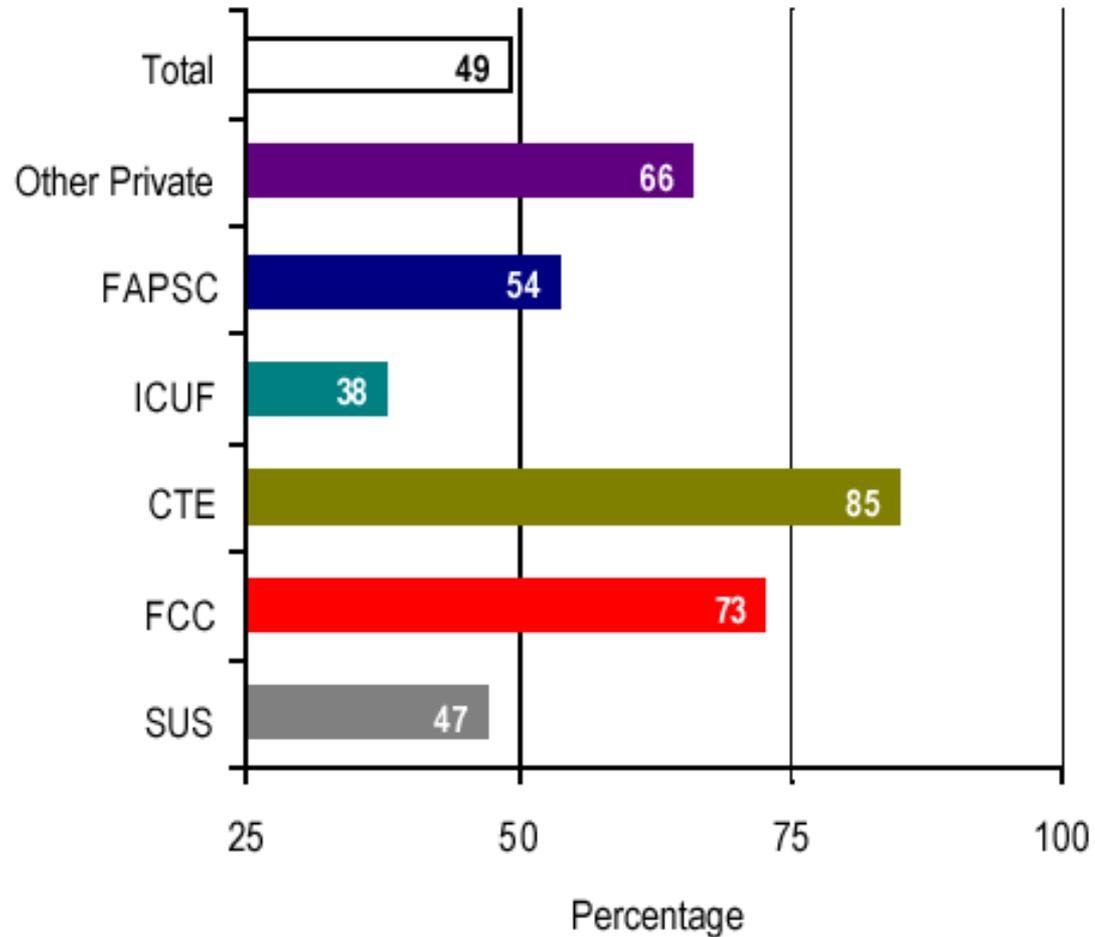
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*Exhibit 46. Percent of need-based student aid versus total aid,  
by sector, 2001-02*



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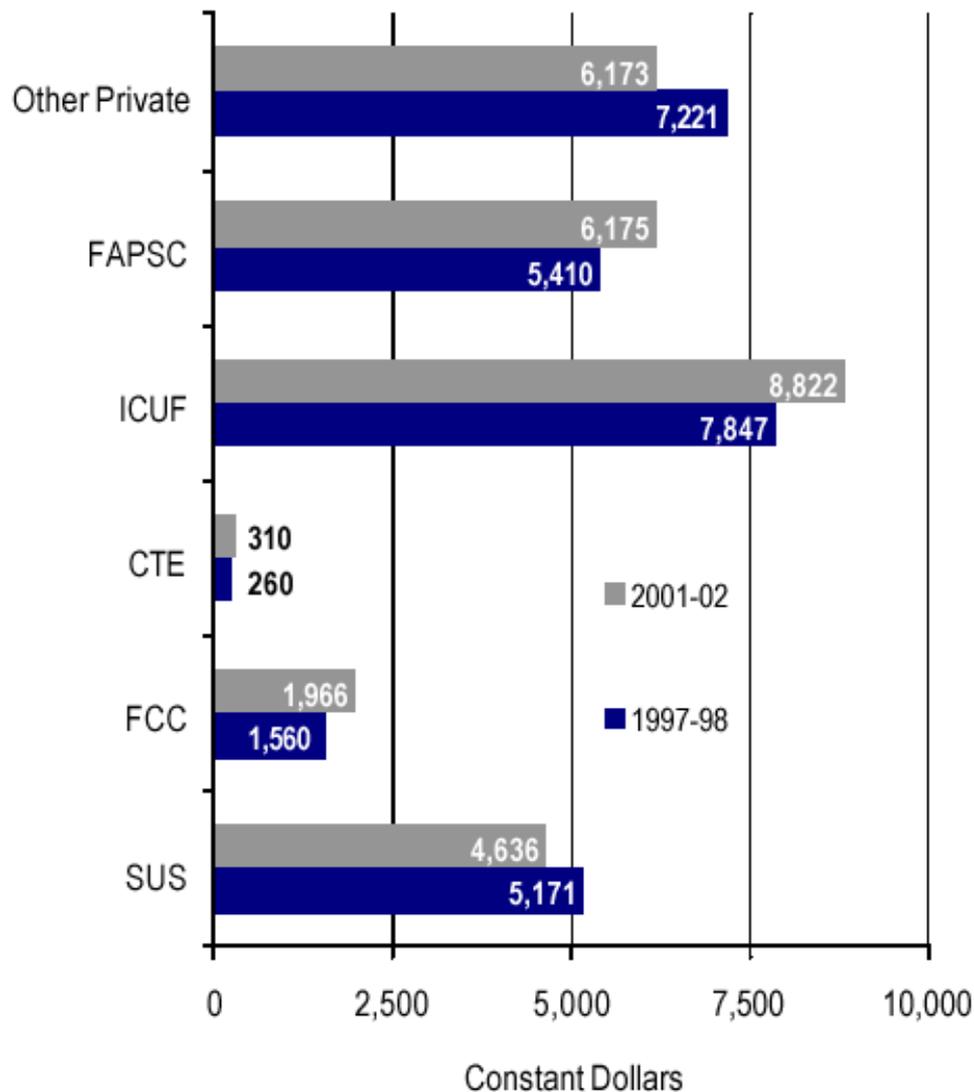


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*Exhibit 47. Average need-based aid per FTE at Florida institutions, 1997-98 and 2001-02 (constant dollars)*



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# Policy Implications

## 1. Reaffirm the commitment to need-based aid

Florida law (Section 1009.93, F.S.) directs that state student financial aid be provided primarily on the basis of financial need. This is not presently the case.

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# Policy Implications

## 2. Consider the rate of fee increases over time within a broader context

Current proposals suggest that tuition should be increased significantly to offset budget shortfalls. This could have serious implications on affordability for many students.

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# Policy Implications

## 3. **Develop a more consistent and appropriate balance between need- and merit-based aid**

Florida is heavily weighted on merit aid, due primarily to Bright Futures. To meet the state statute requirements, and to provide an essence of fairness, legislators should review the current trends in merit-based aid.

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# Policy Implications

4. **Undertake a thorough review and reappraisal of financing, including state funding, student pricing, and student aid delivery.**
  - Awareness and predictability of Aid
  - Nontraditional Students
  - Simplification

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# Policy Implications

- 5. Expand pre-college outreach programs to disadvantaged students**
  - Maintain and expand CROP
  - Look at other models and possibilities for expansion of programming to students

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