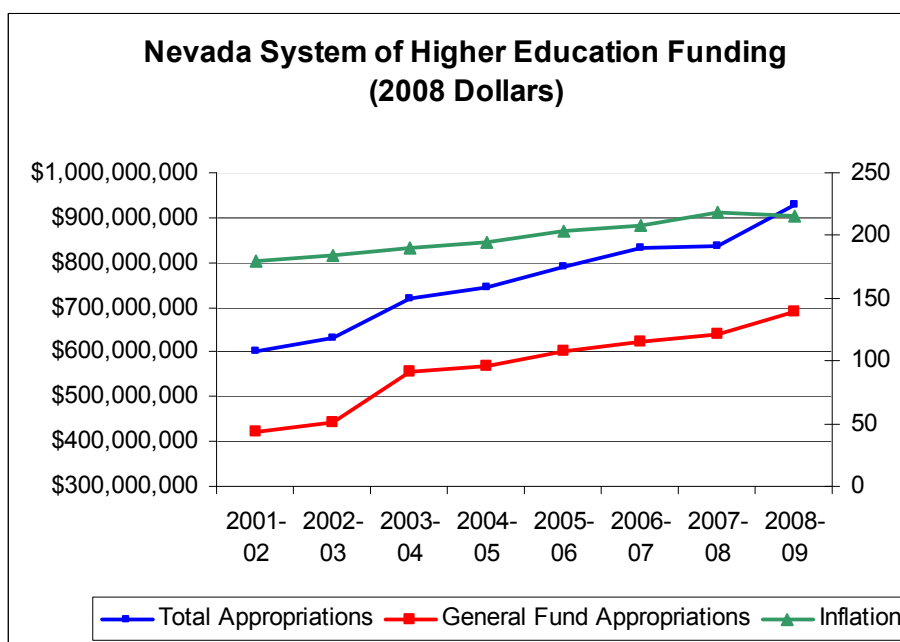


## Nevada Policy Research Institute

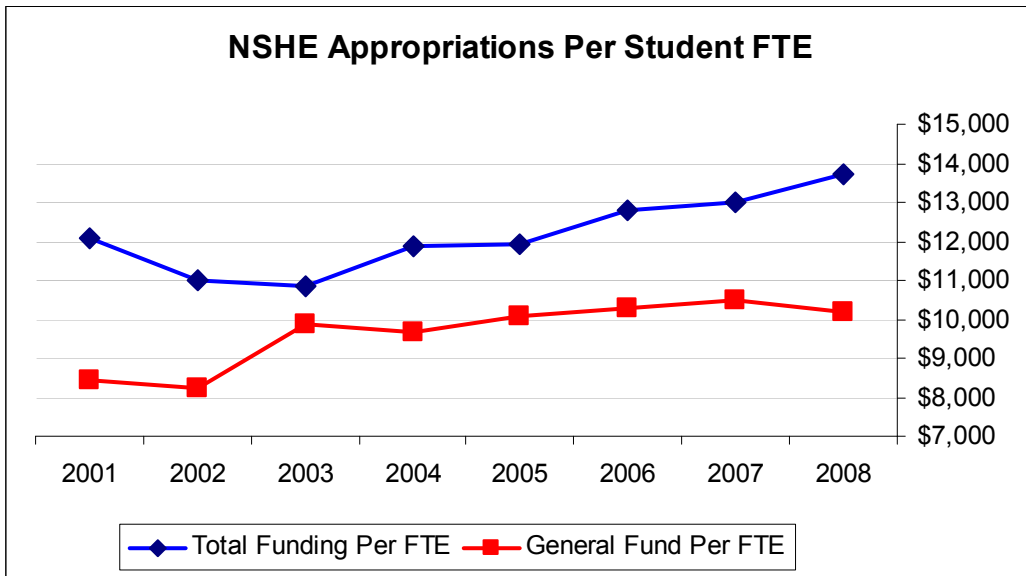
### Fast Facts 2009: Higher Education

#### *Nevada System of Higher Education*

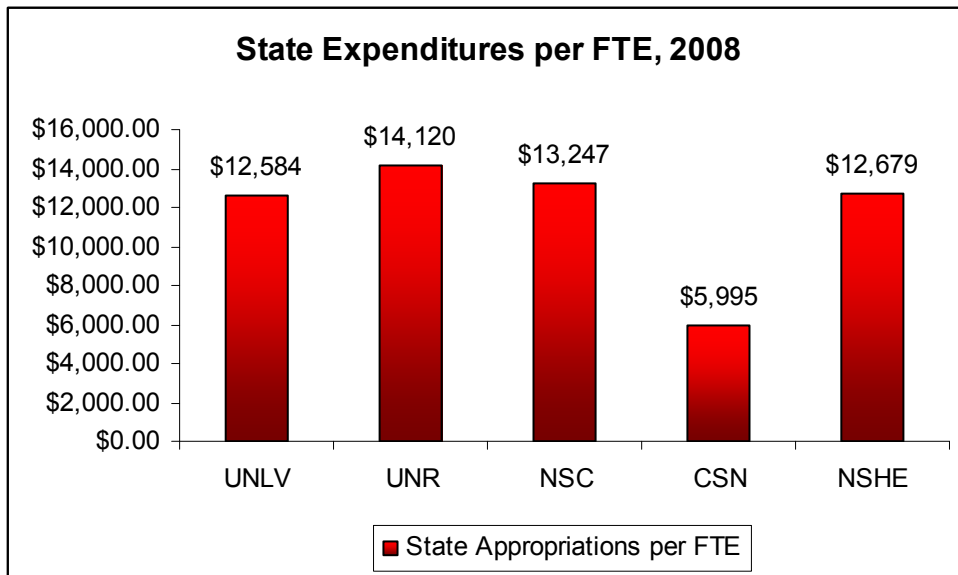
- Just 29 percent of all American jobs in 2004 required a college degree.<sup>1</sup>
- An estimated 60 percent of American workers in 2004 had at least some college education.<sup>2</sup>
- Between now and 2014, the jobs with the most growth in the U.S. economy will not require a college degree.<sup>3</sup>
- Since the 2001-02 school year, appropriations to the Nevada System of Higher Education have seen an annual growth rate three times higher than the annual growth in inflation over the same period.<sup>4</sup>
- NSHE is not facing 50 percent cuts; this is a myth that disregards millions of dollars in appropriations to NSHE.<sup>5</sup> For example, this myth ignores \$84 million in additional appropriations to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, of which \$73.1 million comes from student and registration fees.
- According to the Delta Project's Report "Trends in College Spending," Nevada's state research universities rank 18<sup>th</sup> highest nationally in per-pupil spending.<sup>6</sup>
- According to the Delta Project's report, there has been a nationwide trend over the last decade that has seen tuition increases used to pay for non-education-related expenses.<sup>7</sup>
- Fewer than half of students entering NSHE will graduate within six years. Students who fail to graduate within six years are unlikely to ever graduate from college. Low graduation rates are not due to part-time students or lack of funds.<sup>8</sup>
- Part-time students do not cause graduation rates to be reduced. Part-time students are NOT counted in graduation rates.<sup>9</sup>



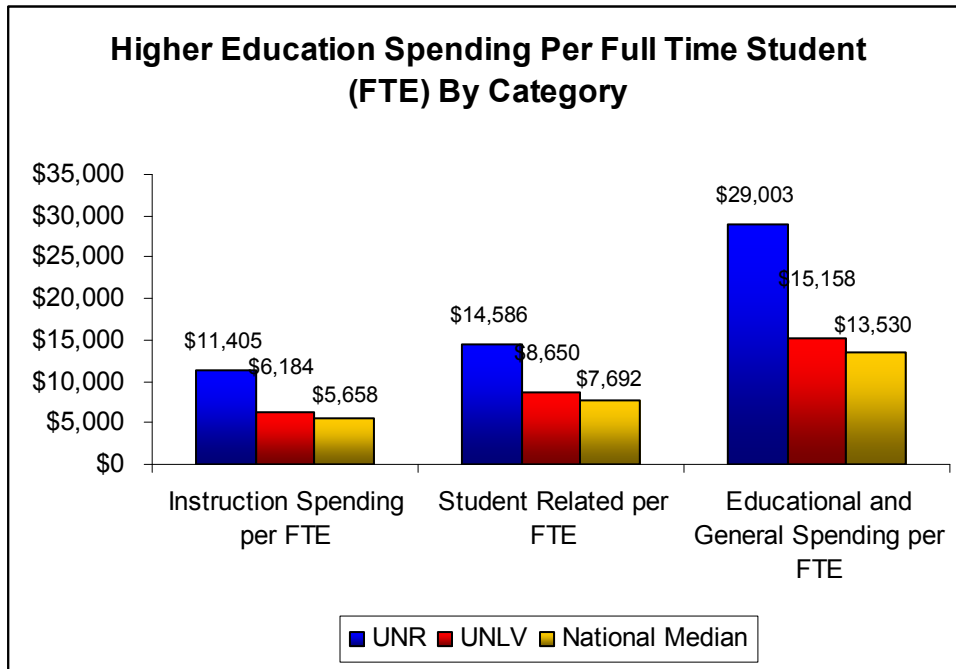
Source: appropriation data from [http://www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/fiscal/Appropriation%20Reports/2007%20Appropriations%20Report/Education\\_Section.pdf](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/fiscal/Appropriation%20Reports/2007%20Appropriations%20Report/Education_Section.pdf) and other fiscal years. Enrollment data: <http://ir.unlv.edu/IAP/Reports/Content/FTE+-+NSHE+Enrollments.aspx>.



Source: appropriation data from [http://www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/fiscal/Appropriation%20Reports/2007%20Appropriations%20Report/Education\\_Section.pdf](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/fiscal/Appropriation%20Reports/2007%20Appropriations%20Report/Education_Section.pdf) and other fiscal years. Enrollment data: <http://ir.unlv.edu/IAP/Reports/Content/FTE+-+NSHE+Enrollments.aspx>.



Source: appropriation data from [www.nevadaspending.com](http://www.nevadaspending.com) enrollment data: <http://ir.unlv.edu/IAP/Reports/Content/FTE+-+NSHE+Enrollments.aspx>.



Source: The Education Trust, [www.collegeresults.com](http://www.collegeresults.com).

### Budget Cuts to Nevada System of Higher Education

	FY 2008	FY 2010	FY 2011	Difference
<b>NSHE</b>	\$842	\$638	\$648	(\$194)
<b>UNLV</b>	\$253	\$174	\$174	(\$79)
<b>UNR</b>	\$181	\$125	\$125	(\$56)
<b>CSN</b>	\$126	\$99	\$104	(\$22)
<b>Medical Science</b>	\$38.2	\$37.5	\$37.8	(\$0.4)
<b>Dental</b>	\$13.2	\$13.4	\$13.4	\$0.2
<b>Law School</b>	\$12.7	\$12.6	\$12.7	\$0.0
<b>NSC</b>	\$17.8	\$11.9	\$12.8	(\$5.0)

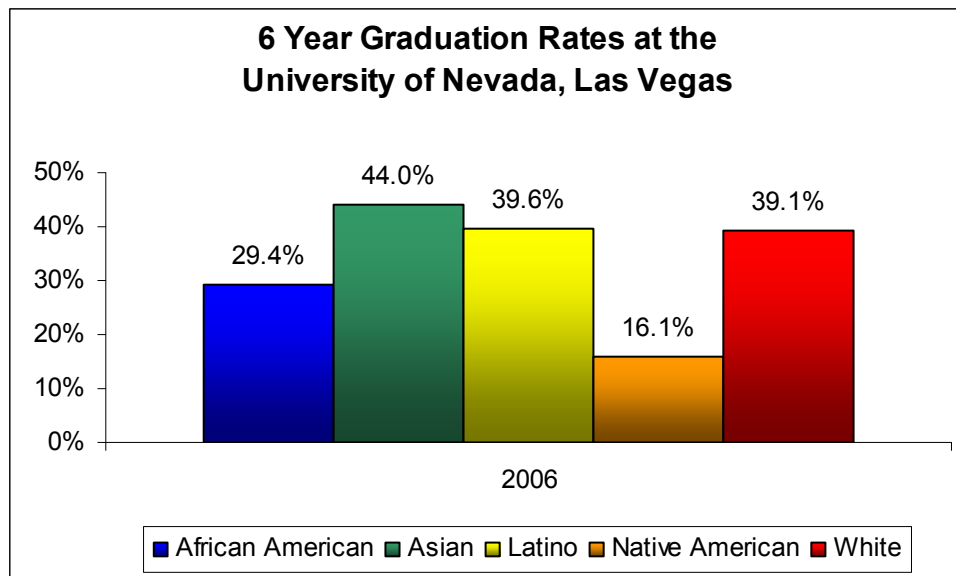
\*In millions of dollars. No Actuals available for FY 2009 at this time.

### NSHE Appropriation Growth Rates

Year	Total	% Increase	General Fund	% Increase
2002	\$495,831,297		\$346,845,022	
2003	\$530,804,136	7.05%	\$370,593,608	6.85%
2004	\$623,544,443	17.47%	\$482,655,305	30.24%
2005	\$660,235,771	5.88%	\$506,746,590	4.99%
2006	\$734,687,365	11.28%	\$557,374,664	9.99%
2007	\$792,195,555	7.83%	\$591,814,068	6.18%
2008	\$837,905,664	5.77%	\$639,293,540	8.02%
2009	\$912,423,319	8.89%	\$677,091,932	5.91%
2010	\$638,402,117	-30.03%	\$424,311,898	-37.33%
2011	\$648,169,309	1.53%	\$419,562,022	-1.12%

*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

- The average admitted student has an SAT score of 1015.<sup>10</sup>
- UNLV had an operating budget of \$27,319 per full-time student (FTE) in 2006.<sup>11</sup>
- UNLV ranks 190<sup>th</sup> out of 506 public colleges and universities in the Education Trust database for “Instruction Spending Per Full Time Student.”<sup>12</sup>
- UNLV ranks 327<sup>th</sup> out of 507 public colleges and universities in the Education Trust database for six-year graduation rates.<sup>13</sup>
- A total of 316 public colleges and universities in the Education Trust database spend less on instruction than UNLV, yet UNLV only outperforms 176 (out of more than 500) in six-year graduation rates.
- Just 11.3 percent of students at UNLV will graduate on time.<sup>14</sup>
- Just 39.6 percent will graduate within six years.<sup>15</sup>



Source: The Education Trust, [www.collegeresults.com](http://www.collegeresults.com).

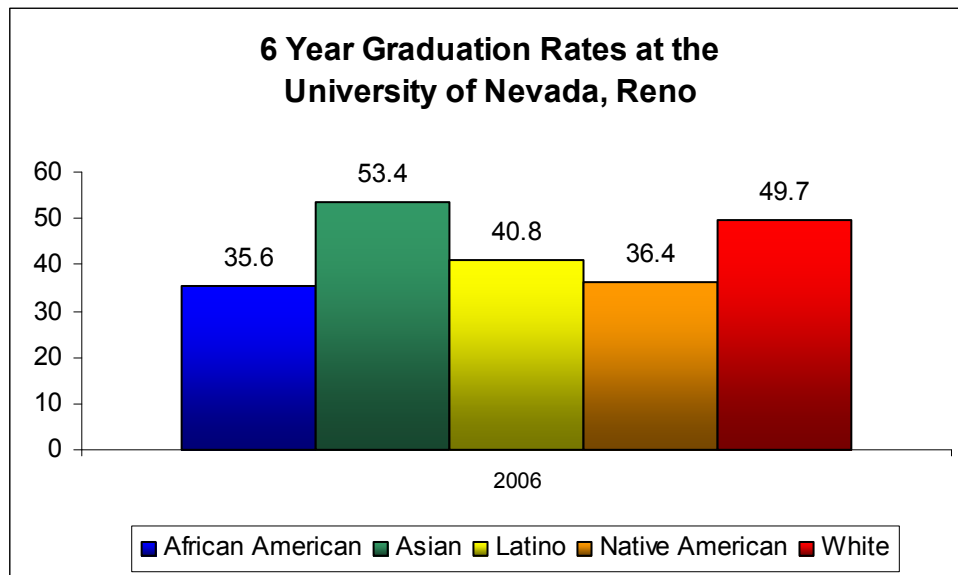
**Per Pupil Spending by Category**

	<b>Instructional</b>	<b>Student Related</b>	<b>Education and General</b>
<b>UNR</b>	\$11,405	\$14,586	\$29,003
<b>UNLV</b>	\$6,184	\$8,650	\$15,158
<b>Average</b>	\$6,425	\$8,795	\$16,477
<b>Median</b>	\$5,658	\$7,962	\$13,530

Source: The Education Trust, [www.collegeresults.com](http://www.collegeresults.com).

*University of Nevada, Reno*

- The average admitted student has an SAT score of 1060.<sup>16</sup>
- UNR had an estimated operating budget of \$42,878 per full-time student (FTE) in 2008.<sup>17</sup>
- UNR ranks 25<sup>th</sup> out of 506 public colleges and universities in the Education Trust database for “Instruction Spending Per Full Time Student.”<sup>18</sup>
- UNR spends \$5,747 per student above the national median. That difference, totaled, exceeds the entire instructional spending levels of 262 public colleges and universities (more than half in the Education Trust database). To put it another way, UNR spends twice as much per student on instruction as do 392 other public colleges in the database.
- UNR ranks 211<sup>th</sup> out of 507 public colleges and universities in the Education Trust database for six-year graduation rates.<sup>19</sup>
- Just 15.2 percent of UNR students will graduate on time.<sup>20</sup>
- Just 48.8 percent of UNR students will graduate within six years.<sup>21</sup>



Source: The Education Trust, [www.collegeresults.com](http://www.collegeresults.com).

	Instructional	Student Related	Education and General
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Source: The Education Trust, [www.collegeresults.com](http://www.collegeresults.com).

## Citations

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<sup>1</sup> Barton, Paul E. “How Many College Graduates Does the U.S. Labor Force Really Need?” The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. February 2008.

<http://www.carnegiefoundation.org/change/sub.asp?key=98&subkey=2509>.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Nevada State Government data, found at [www.nevadaspending.com](http://www.nevadaspending.com) and

[http://www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/fiscal/Appropriation%20Reports/2007%20Appropriations%20Report/Education\\_Section.pdf](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/fiscal/Appropriation%20Reports/2007%20Appropriations%20Report/Education_Section.pdf).

<sup>5</sup> See [www.nevadaspending.com](http://www.nevadaspending.com).

<sup>6</sup> Delta Project “Trends in College Spending” [http://www.deltacostproject.org/resources/pdf/trends\\_in\\_spending-report.pdf](http://www.deltacostproject.org/resources/pdf/trends_in_spending-report.pdf).

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Both the College of Southern Nevada and Nevada State College are new four-year public colleges and therefore have no comparable graduation data. When CSN was still a community college, its overall graduation rate was 10 percent. <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/?q=College+of+Southern+Nevada&s=all&id=182005>.

<sup>9</sup> The Education Trust, <http://www.collegeresults.org/aboutthedata.aspx>.

<sup>10</sup> The Education Trust, “University of Nevada, Las Vegas” [www.collegeresults.com](http://www.collegeresults.com).

<sup>11</sup> Operating budget data from <http://www.unlv.edu/about/facts.html> and enrollment data: from <http://ir.unlv.edu/IAP/Reports/Content/FTE+-+NSHE+Enrollments.aspx>.

<sup>12</sup> Extrapolated from The Education Trust database, [www.collegeresults.com](http://www.collegeresults.com), see NPRI’s rankings here: [http://npri.org/docLib/20090306\\_Fast\\_Facts\\_09\\_-\\_Univ\\_Spending.pdf](http://npri.org/docLib/20090306_Fast_Facts_09_-_Univ_Spending.pdf).

<sup>13</sup> Ibid. See NPRI’s graduation rate rankings here: [http://npri.org/docLib/20090310\\_gradranks.pdf](http://npri.org/docLib/20090310_gradranks.pdf).

<sup>14</sup> The Education Trust, “University of Nevada, Las Vegas” [www.collegeresults.com](http://www.collegeresults.com).

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> The Education Trust, “University of Nevada, Reno” [www.collegeresults.com](http://www.collegeresults.com).

<sup>17</sup> Operating budget based on statements made by university President Milton Glick and enrollment data from <http://ir.unlv.edu/IAP/Reports/Content/FTE+-+NSHE+Enrollments.aspx>.

<sup>18</sup> Extrapolated from The Education Trust database, [www.collegeresults.com](http://www.collegeresults.com), NPRI’s rankings here: [http://npri.org/docLib/20090306\\_Fast\\_Facts\\_09\\_-\\_Univ\\_Spending.pdf](http://npri.org/docLib/20090306_Fast_Facts_09_-_Univ_Spending.pdf).

<sup>19</sup> Ibid. See NPRI’s graduation rate rankings here [http://npri.org/docLib/20090310\\_gradranks.pdf](http://npri.org/docLib/20090310_gradranks.pdf).

<sup>20</sup> The Education Trust, “University of Nevada, Reno” [www.collegeresults.com](http://www.collegeresults.com).

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.