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COLLEGE GAME PLAN

College debt is much worse for black students



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Thursday, 5 May 2016 | 9:00 AM ET



Paying for education is not easy for anyone, with four-year **tuition and room and board** at private colleges averaging nearly \$44,000 and close to \$20,000 at public colleges.

For black students, particularly those from low- and moderate-income families, the hurdles are even higher. They are twice as likely to borrow for college as their white counterparts, according to a recent study of **race and debt** by a Brookings Institution senior fellow and others.

In addition, low- and moderate-income black students who borrow wind up with debt that is about \$7,700 larger than those of whites. These black students' debt averaged over \$27,000, compared with a little under \$20,000 for white students. Asian and Hispanic students had even less debt than whites.



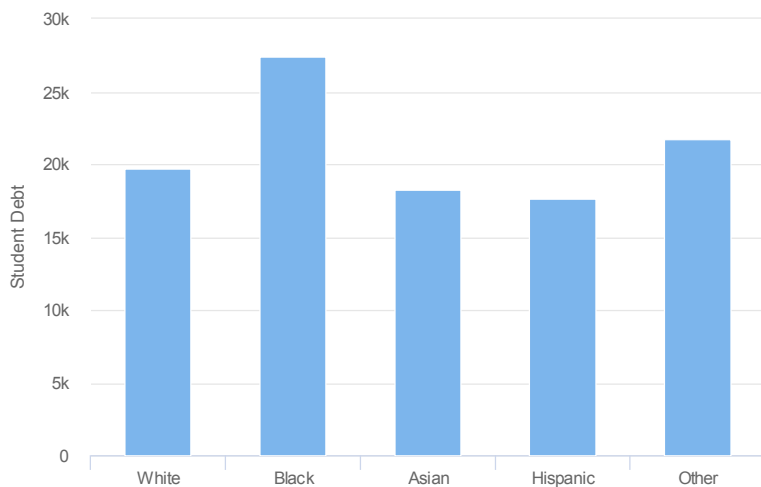
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Race and debt

Estimated education debt burden by race



Source: Grinstein-Weiss, Perantie, Taylor, Guo, & Raghavan (2016)

"We were expecting something like this, but I don't know that I expected the magnitude," said Michal Grinstein-Weiss, lead author of the study and an associate professor at Washington University in St.

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