Textbook Affordability: What Are Students Saying?

Results of the 2022 Textbook and Instructional Materials Survey

Survey Audience: 13,800 students from Florida's public higher education institutions

Textbook costs decreased in 2022 survey

13,800 students surveyed

Textbook Costs to Students

- How much are students spending on textbooks?
  - **2018**
    - Under $300: 56%
    - $301-500: 30%
    - Over $500: 14%
  - **2022**
    - Under $300: 68%
    - $301-500: 23%
    - Over $500: 9%

How are they dealing with the costs?

- **2018**
  - Rent printed textbooks: 51%
  - Rent digital textbooks: 50%
  - Buy books from a source other than the campus bookstore: 40%
  - Buy used copies from the campus bookstore: 29%
- **2022**
  - Rent printed textbooks: 50%
  - Rent digital textbooks: 40%
  - Buy books from a source other than the campus bookstore: 29%
  - Buy used copies from the campus bookstore: 24%

Does financial aid help?

Only 24% of respondents said financial aid covered all their textbooks.
IMPACT OF TEXTBOOK COSTS ON STUDENT PROGRESS

The high cost of textbooks is negatively impacting students’ academic progress.

How are they coping?*

- 53% Did not purchase a required textbook
- 44% Take fewer courses
- 38% Did not register for a specific course
- 24% Drop a course

How are these choices impacting their learning?

- 32% Earn a poor grade
- 19% Fail a course

Are all required books used at some point in an academic career?

- 2.6 required textbooks

Who spends more on books, college or university students?

- College: 33%
- University: 35%

Notes

* More than one answer may apply.
Source: 2022 Student Textbook and Course Materials Survey Results and Findings. To view the full report, visit www.dlss.flvc.org.