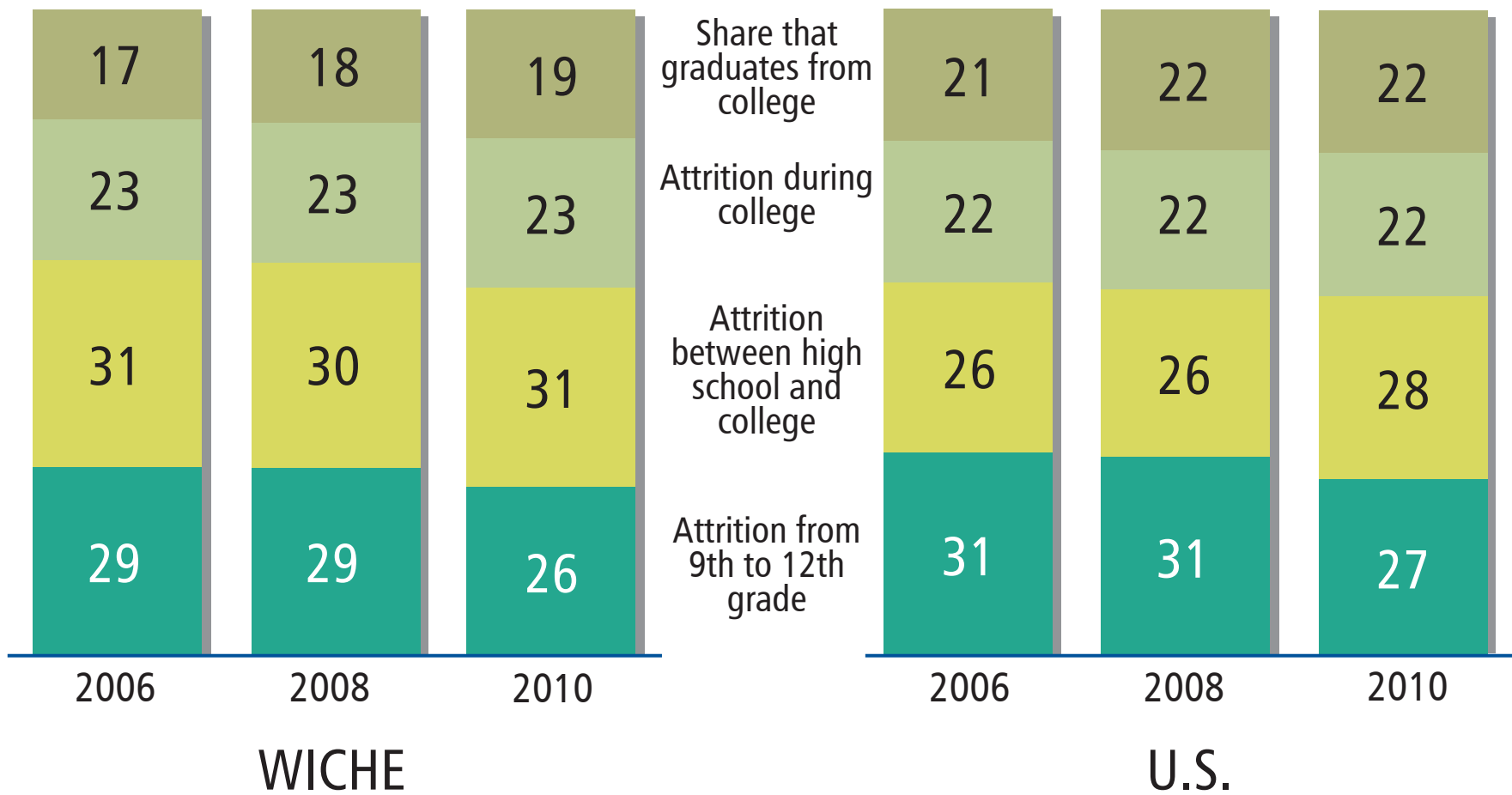


BENCHMARKS

WICHE Region 2014

Figure 1. The Educational Pipeline

Based on 2010 data, out of 100 ninth graders in the West, 26 do not finish high school and an additional 31 do not go on to college. Only 19 graduate on time from college. Nationally, about 27 out of 100 ninth graders do not finish high school and 28 more do not go on to college. About 22 graduate on time from college.

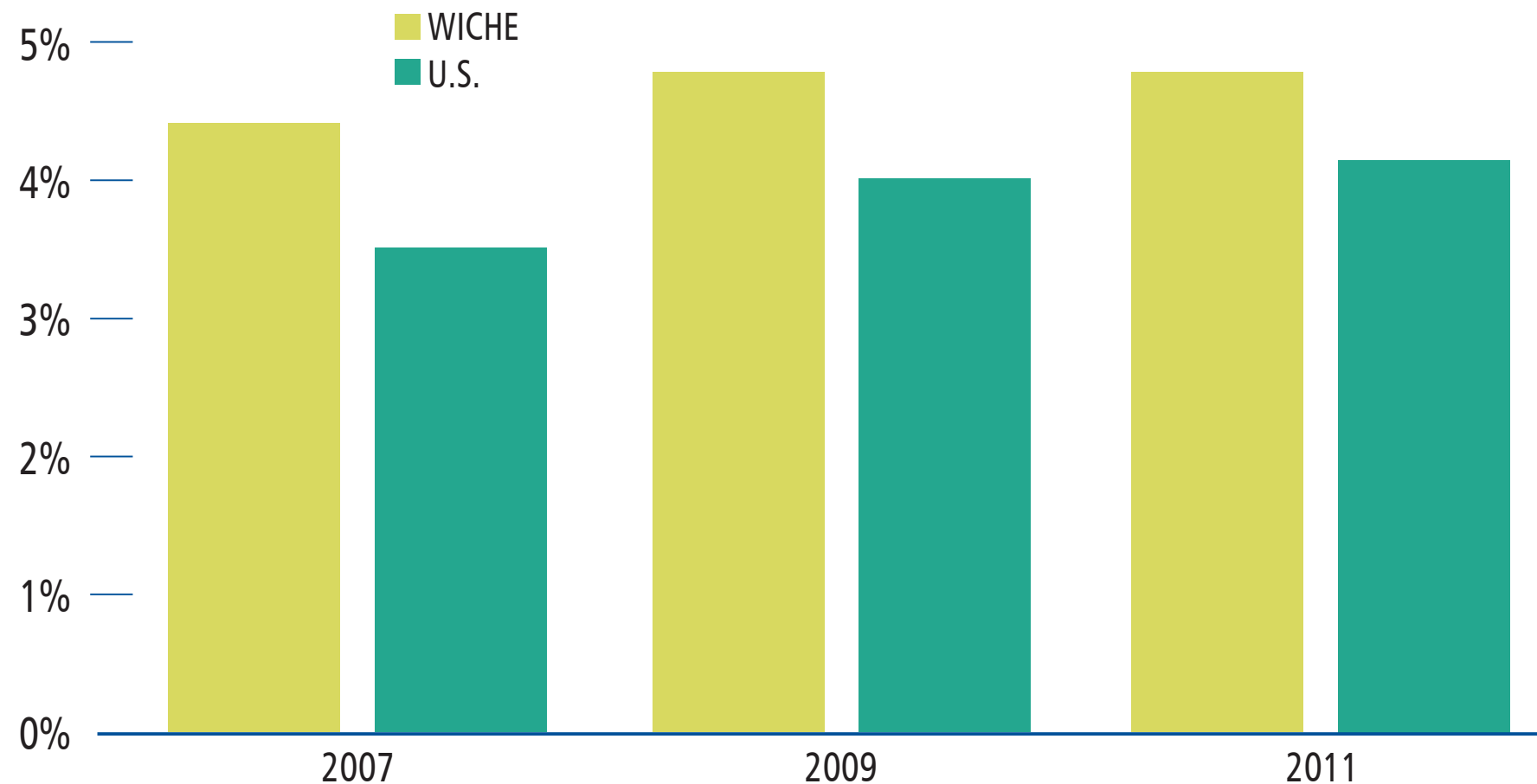


Note: Data are approximate in order to ensure that each state's sum equals 100.

Source: National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS), www.higheredinfo.org, *Student Pipeline - Transition and Completion Rates from 9th Grade to College*, as of September 29, 2014.

Figure 2. Adult Enrollment

The Western region consistently surpasses the U.S. on the enrollment of adult students as undergraduates as a percent of the total adult population. After recent upticks presumably related to the reduced opportunity cost of college attendance in a recessionary economy, the ratios were slightly down in 2011.

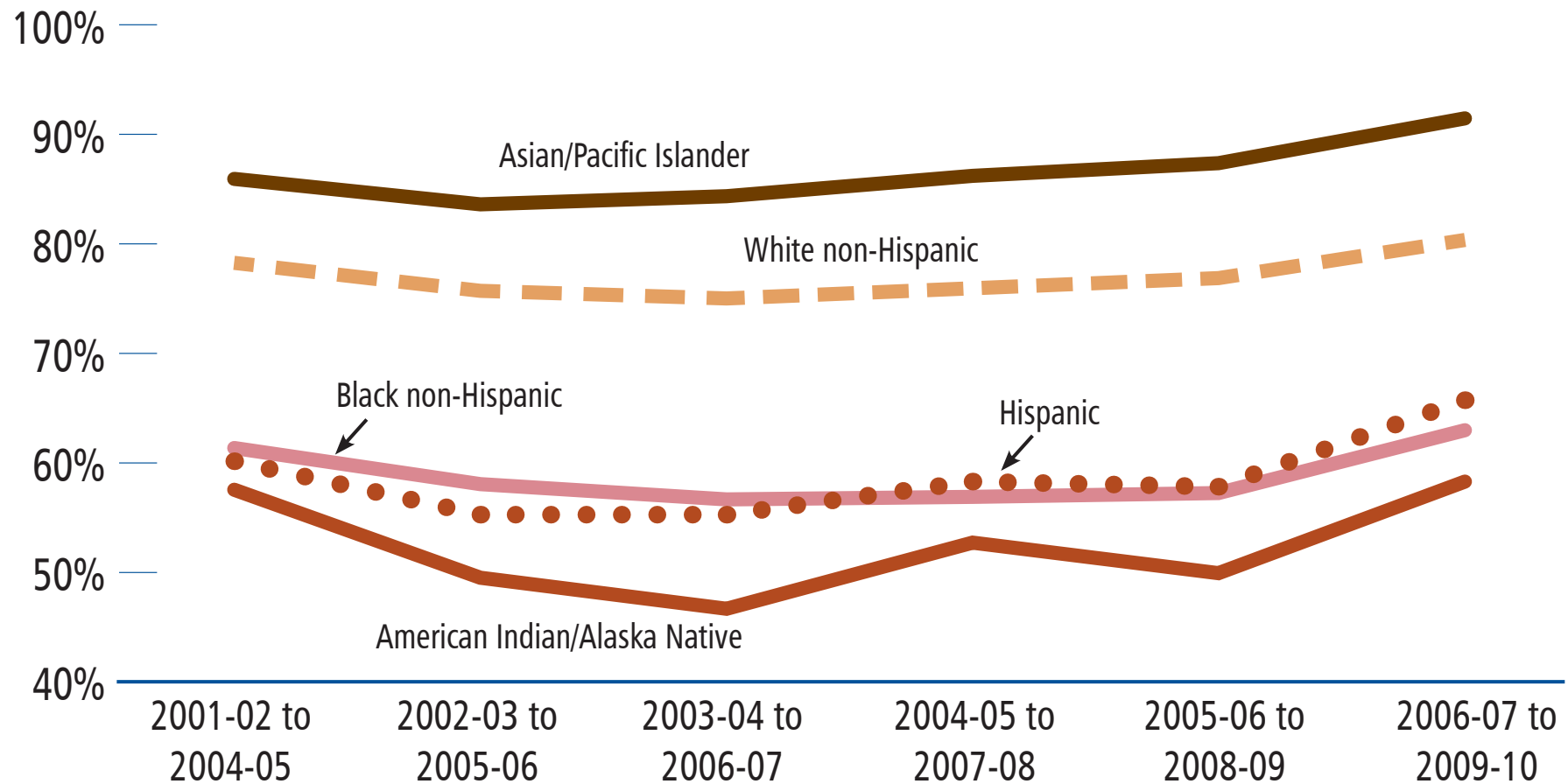


Notes: Data are undergraduate students age 25-49 enrolled for credit at degree-granting, non-profit, Title IV-eligible, public and private two- and four-year institutions. Enrollment by age is mandatory for reporting only in odd-year IPEDS collection cycles.

Sources: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Intergrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems (IPEDS), *Fall Enrollment Survey*. U.S. Census Bureau, *Population Estimates*. WICHE Calculations.

Figure 3. Progression from 9th Grade to HS Graduation

In the West, successfully progressing from ninth grade to high school graduation varies starkly by race/ethnicity. The most recent data shows small upticks for all races/ethnicities, but American Indians/Alaska Natives, Black non-Hispanics and Hispanics lag substantially.

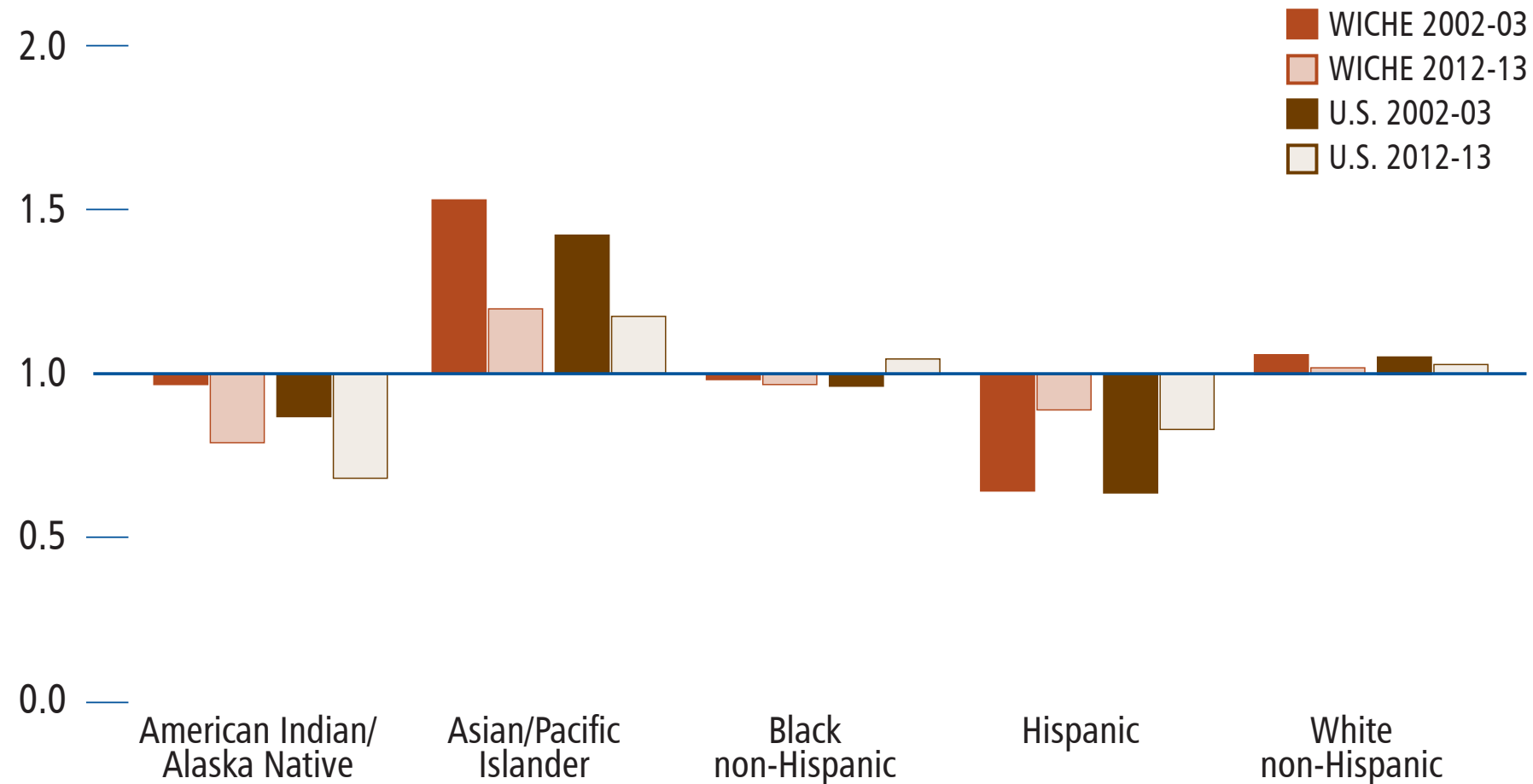


Notes: Completers are those who received a high school diploma; GED recipients are not included. Detailed information about the data used is available at www.wiche.edu/knocking-8th/technicalNotes.

Sources: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), *Common Core of Data*. WICHE, *Knocking at the College Door: Projections of High School Graduates by State and Race/Ethnicity*, 2012.

Figure 4. Undergraduate Enrollment

The West in 2012 enrolled slightly higher proportions of students of Asian/Pacific Islander and White non-Hispanic origin than their proportional share of the general population. And while the West improved its enrollment rate among Hispanics over 2002, enrollment proportions for Black non-Hispanics and American Indians/Alaska Natives declined.

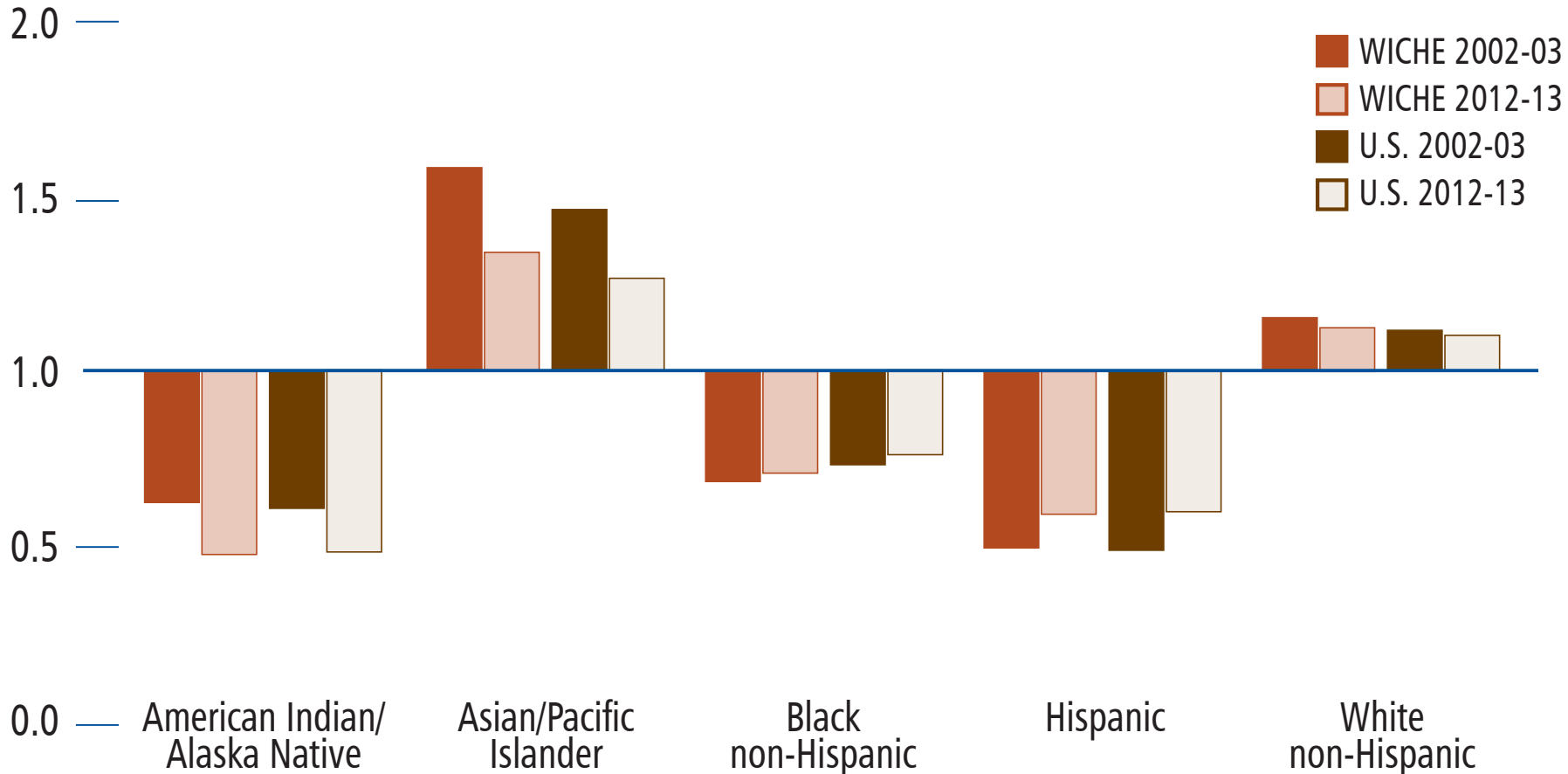


Notes: Calculated as the ratio of the proportion of full-time undergraduates of each race/ethnic group among all full-time undergraduates, to the proportion of members of each race/ethnic group in the total population. Students from the unknown race/ethnic group and nonresident aliens are not counted in the population of full-time undergraduate students. Members of two or more races and "other" races are counted in the total population.

Sources: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems (IPEDS), *Fall Enrollment Survey*. U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates.

Figure 5. Bachelor's Completion

In 2012-13, the West awarded proportionately fewer bachelor's degrees to students from Black non-Hispanic, Hispanic and American Indian/Alaska Native backgrounds, as measured against each group's share of the general population. The West improved the most among Hispanics when comparing to bachelor's completion in 2002.

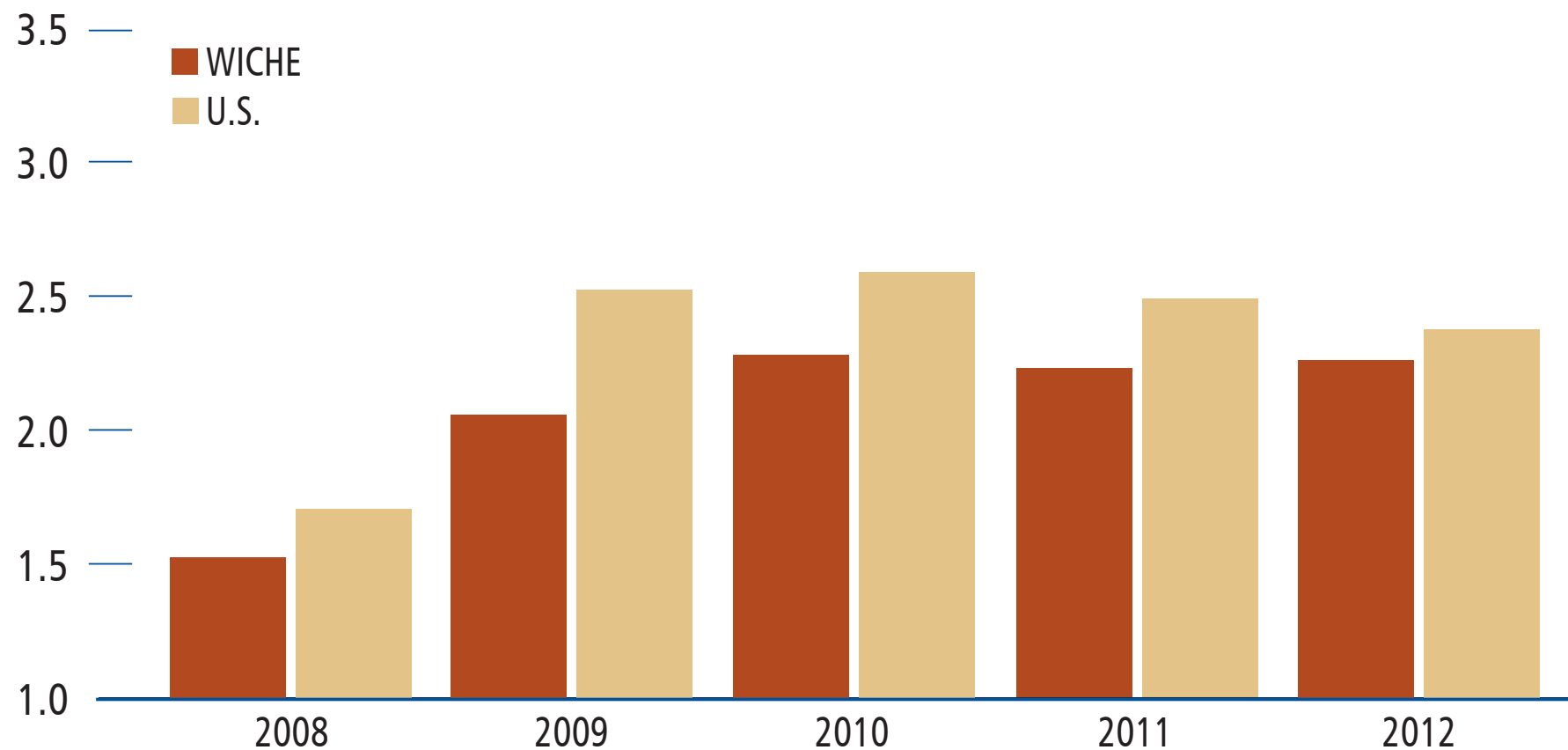


Notes: Calculated as the ratio of the proportion of the bachelor's degrees awarded to members of each race/ethnic group among all bachelor's degrees awarded to the proportion of members of each race/ethnic group in the total population. Students from the unknown race/ethnic group and nonresident aliens are not counted in the population of full-time undergraduate students. Members of two or more races and "other races" are counted in the total population.

Sources: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems (IPEDS), *Completions Survey*. U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates.

Figure 6. Pell Receipt vs. Poverty

Poverty rates among youth approaching traditional college age in the West are slightly higher than the nation. But, the West lags the nation in the share of Pell recipients among undergraduates. These ratios and Figure 11 attempt to measure access and affordability for low-income populations, albeit imperfectly due to data limitations. Some recent data collection changes are taking effect that may provide better data in future years. Regardless, the nation and the West will struggle to serve increasing numbers of under-resourced students that are predicted by ongoing demographic and economic shifts.

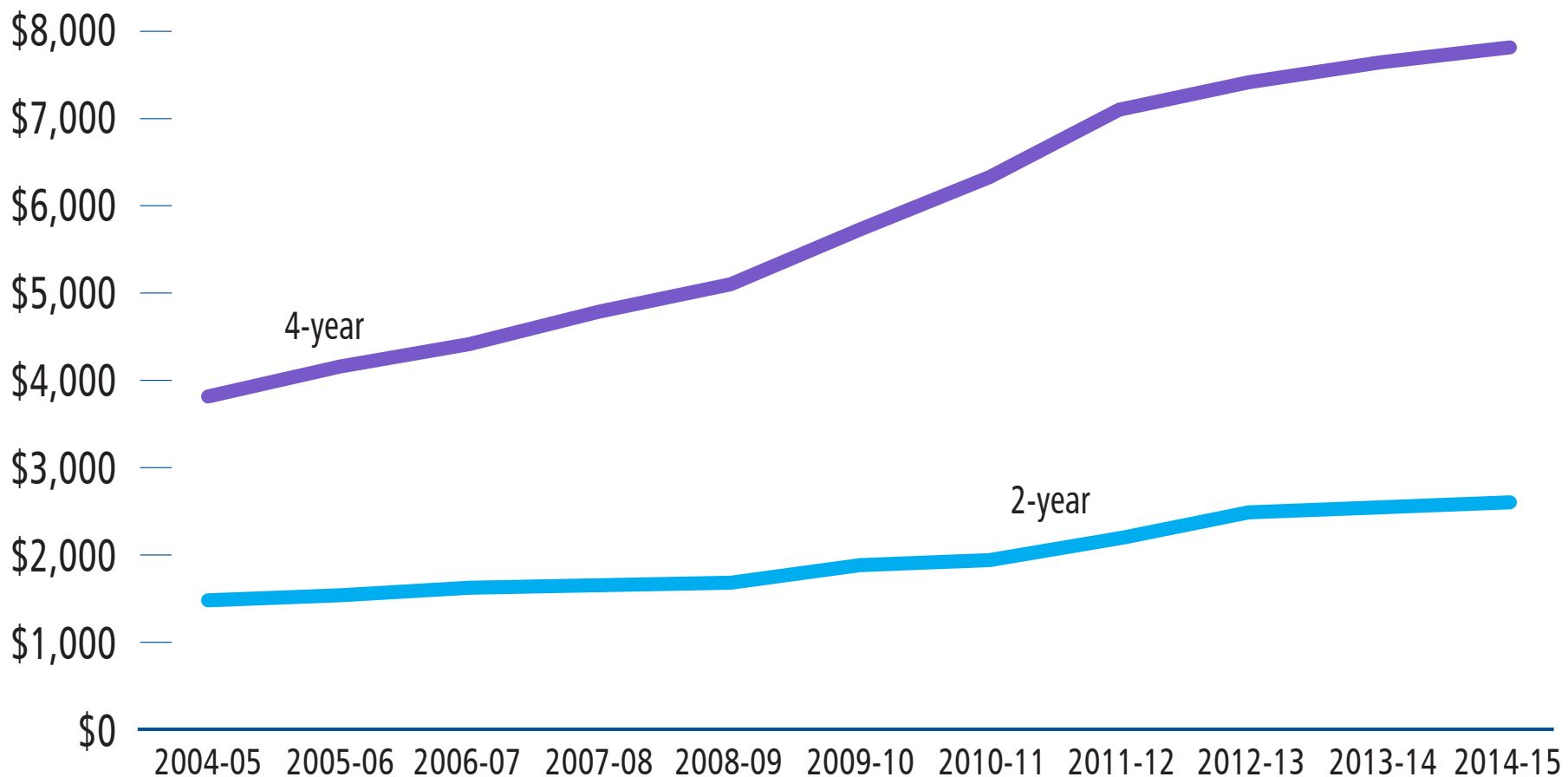


Notes: Total undergraduate enrollment at degree-granting, Title IV-eligible, non-profit two- and four-year institutions, excluding U.S. service academies. Pell data are available for Northern Marianas College, the Commonwealth's only public institution, but ACS data are not; therefore, the WICHE averages do not include the Northern Mariana Islands.

Sources: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), *Fall Enrollment Survey*; Pell data from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education; U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey 2011*, Table B17001: "Poverty status in the past 12 months by sex by age", 1 year estimates.

Figure 7. Public Undergraduate Tuition & Fees

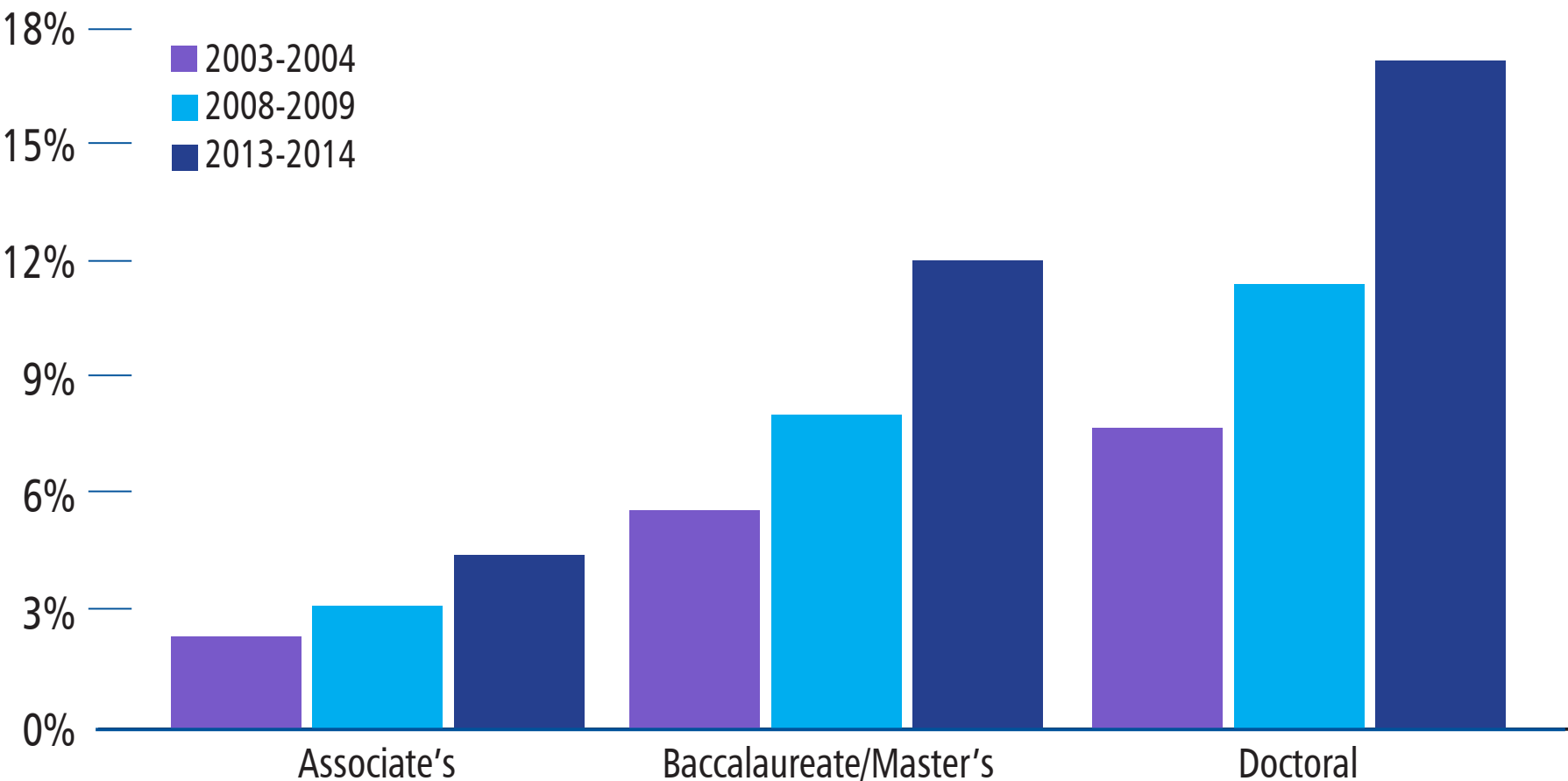
In the past decade, the average tuition and fees published price at public four-year institutions in the West has increased 105 percent, and 71 percent at public two-year colleges.



Sources: Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, *Tuition and Fees in Public Higher Education in the West*.

Figure 8. Ratio of Tuition & Fees to Household Income

The ratio of household income to average published tuition and fees at public institutions has increased dramatically over the past decade at all institutional types.

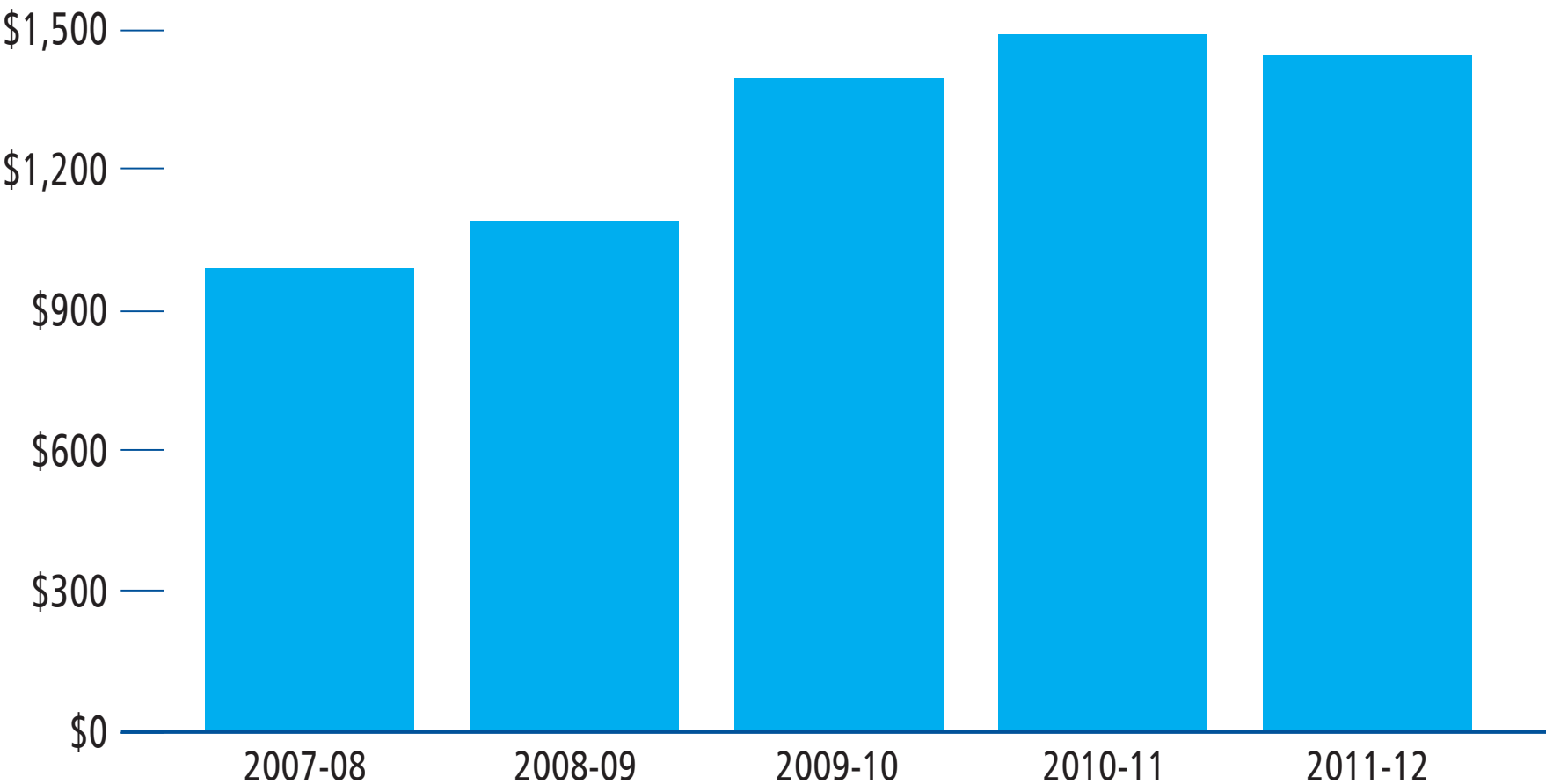


Notes: Tuition and fees amounts are the simple average of the amounts charged to resident undergraduates at institutions within each state, by institution type. The WICHE average median household income was calculated as a simple average of the 15 member states. The WICHE regional ratio of tuition and fees at public two-year institutions to median household income was calculated with and without California two-year colleges because the large number of two-year institutions and the historically low matriculation fee structure distort regional patterns.

Sources: Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, *Tuition and Fees in Public Higher Education in the West*. U.S. Census Bureau, *Table H-8: Median household income by state: 1984 to 2012*. Accessed 10/27/2014 from <<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/income/data/statemedian/>>.

Figure 9. Grant Aid per FTE

The amount of total grant financial aid per FTE in the region's public institutions increased almost 50 percent over the five academic years between 2007-08 to 2011-12, but has leveled out in the last couple of years.

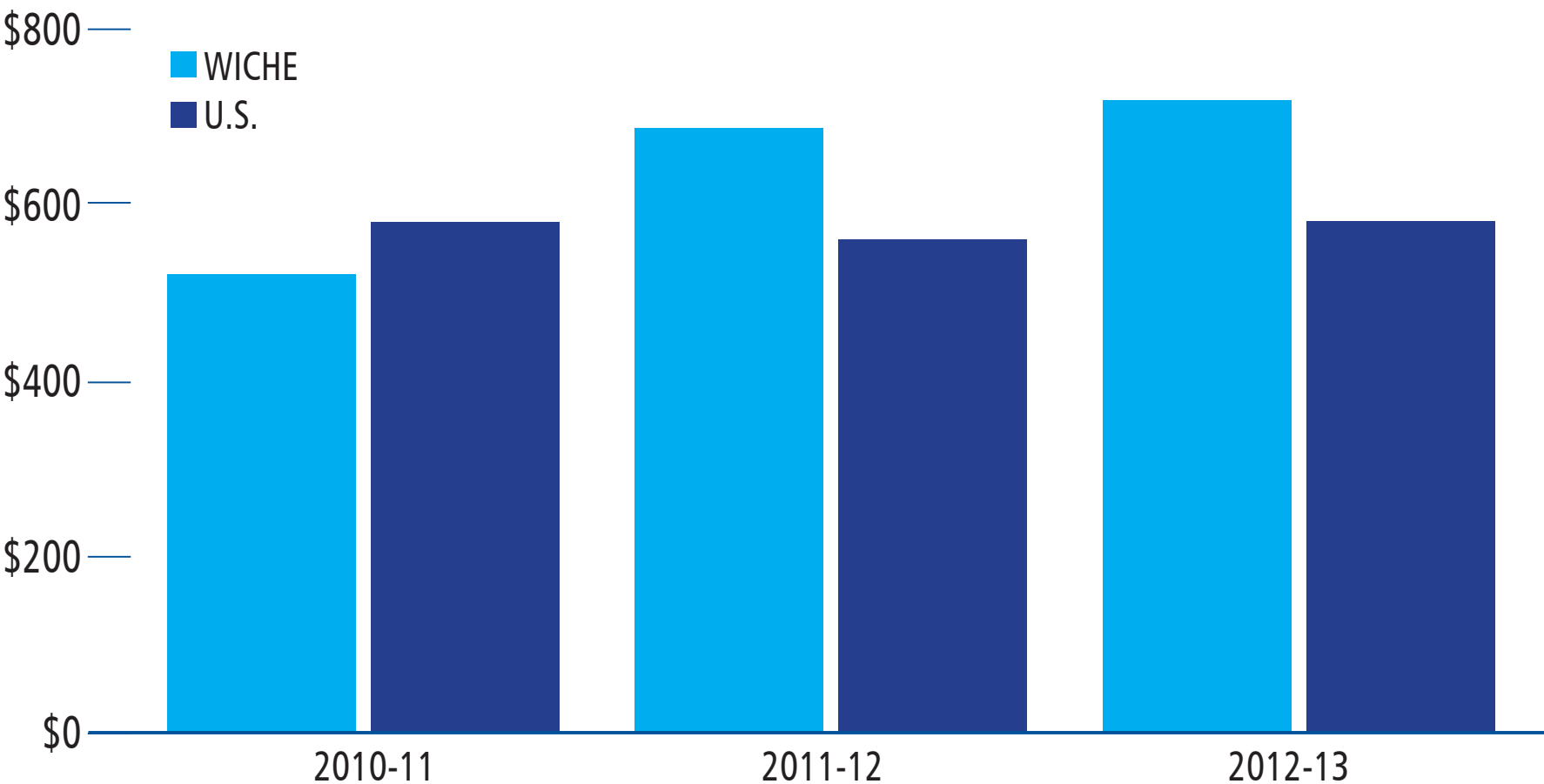


Notes: Data are for grant aid expenditures, not including discounts and allowances, from all sources at public institutions only. Data not available for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS, Finance and Enrollment Surveys, 2007-2012.

Figure 10. Need-Based Aid

In the West, state need-based grant aid to undergraduates per FTE has risen about five percent between academic years 2011-12 and 2012-13 (the last year data are available). And it rose almost 50 percent over the five years between 2008-09 and 2012-13, while it rose almost ten percent for the U.S. as a whole over the same time period.

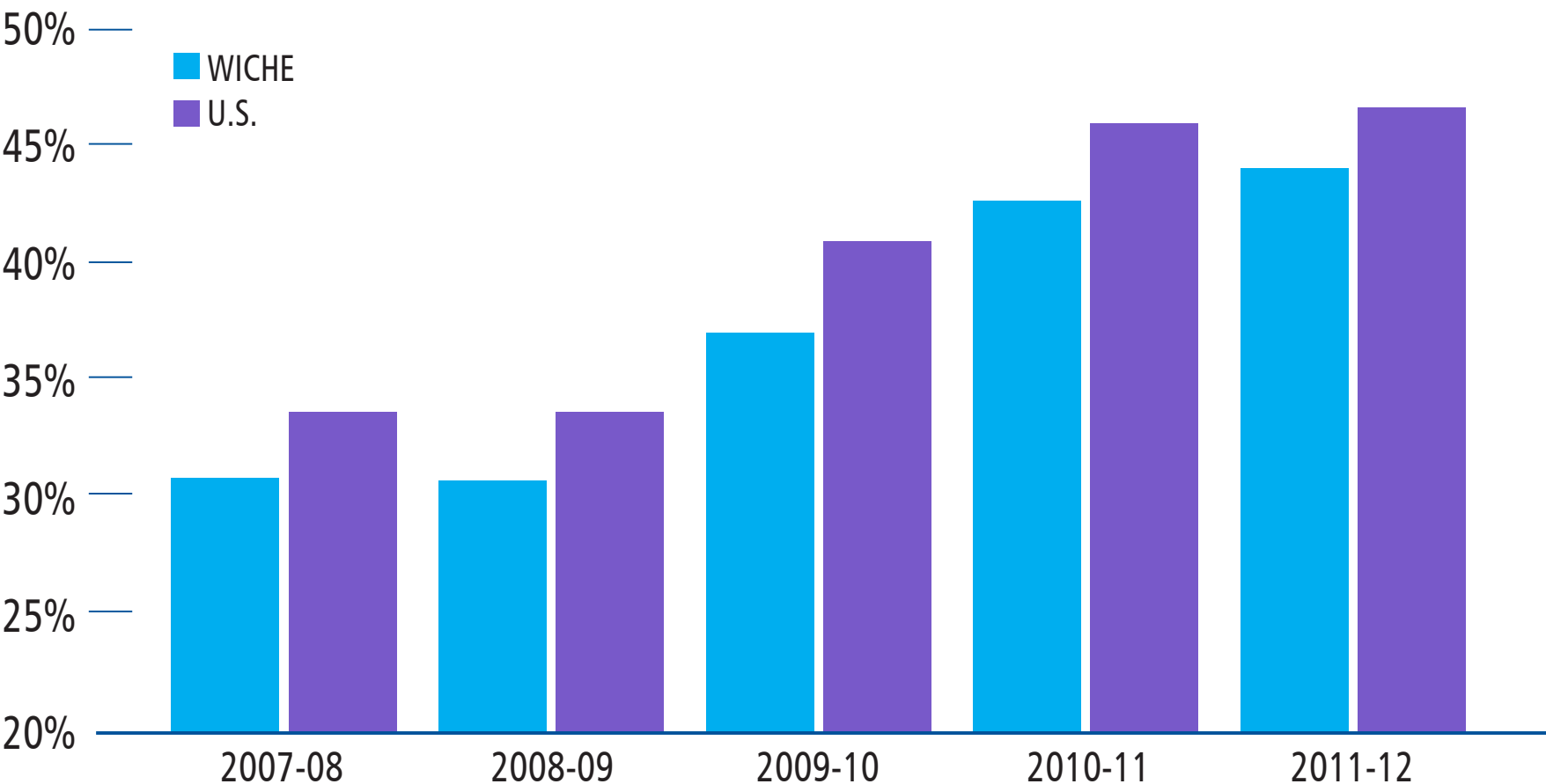


Notes: FTE data are for Title IV-participating, degree-granting, public and independent two- and four-year institutions only and are calculated full-time undergraduate enrollment plus 1/3 part-time undergraduate enrollment.

Source: National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs. National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), IPEDS *Fall Enrollment Survey*. WICHE calculations.

Figure 11. Federal Grant Aid

The share of the full-time entering cohort of students in the West receiving federal financial aid (mainly Pell grants) climbed dramatically since the outset of the recession.

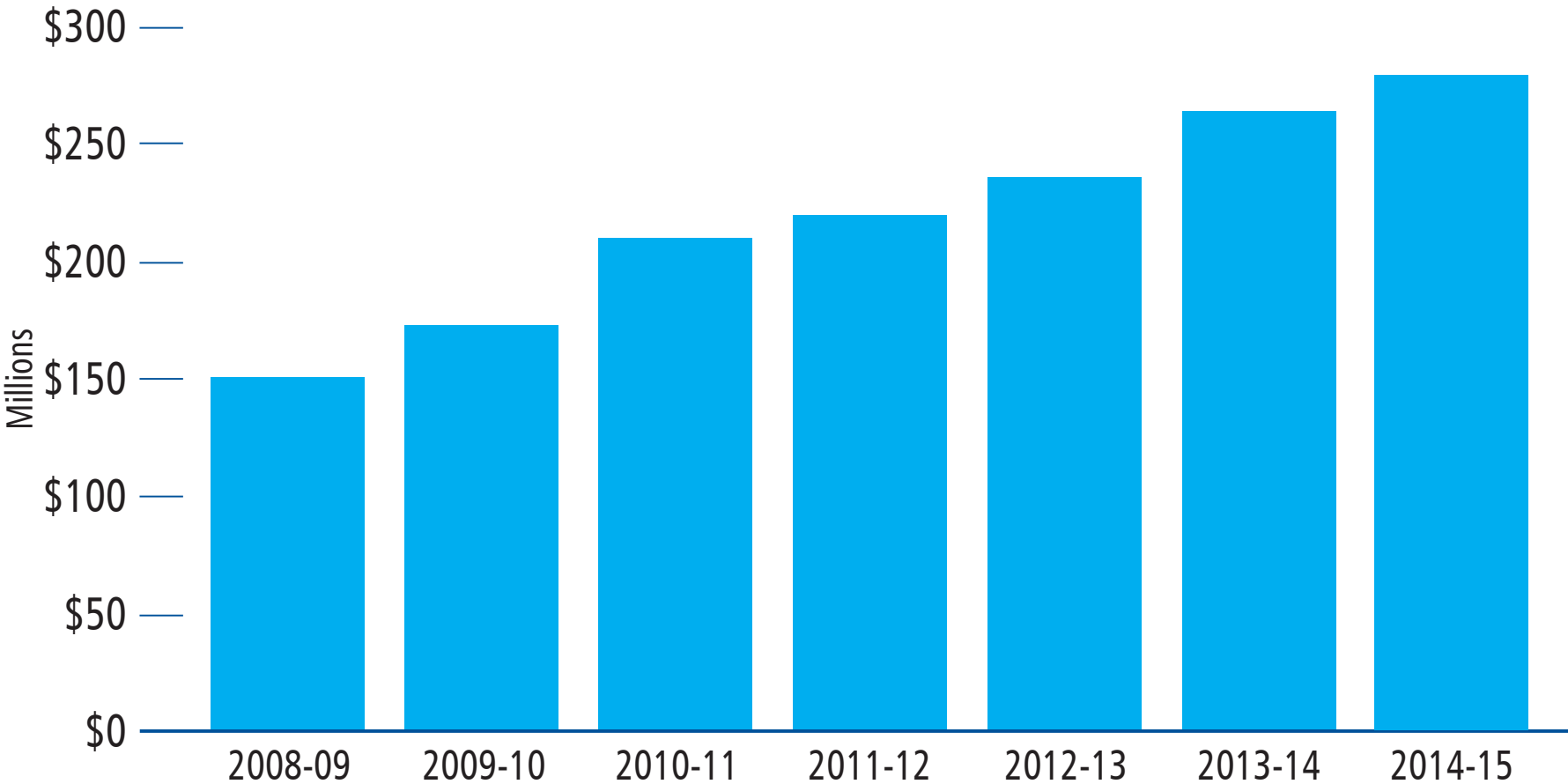


Notes: Data are for public institutions, excluding U.S. service academies. Federal grant aid includes grants awarded principally through the Pell Grant and SEOG programs, but also includes educational assistance grants awarded through the Veteran's Administration, Department of Labor, and other federal agencies. The WICHE average includes the data for the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas ("Northern Mariana"), which is for its sole public institution of higher education, Northern Marianas College.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), *Student Financial Aid Survey*.

Figure 12. WUE Savings

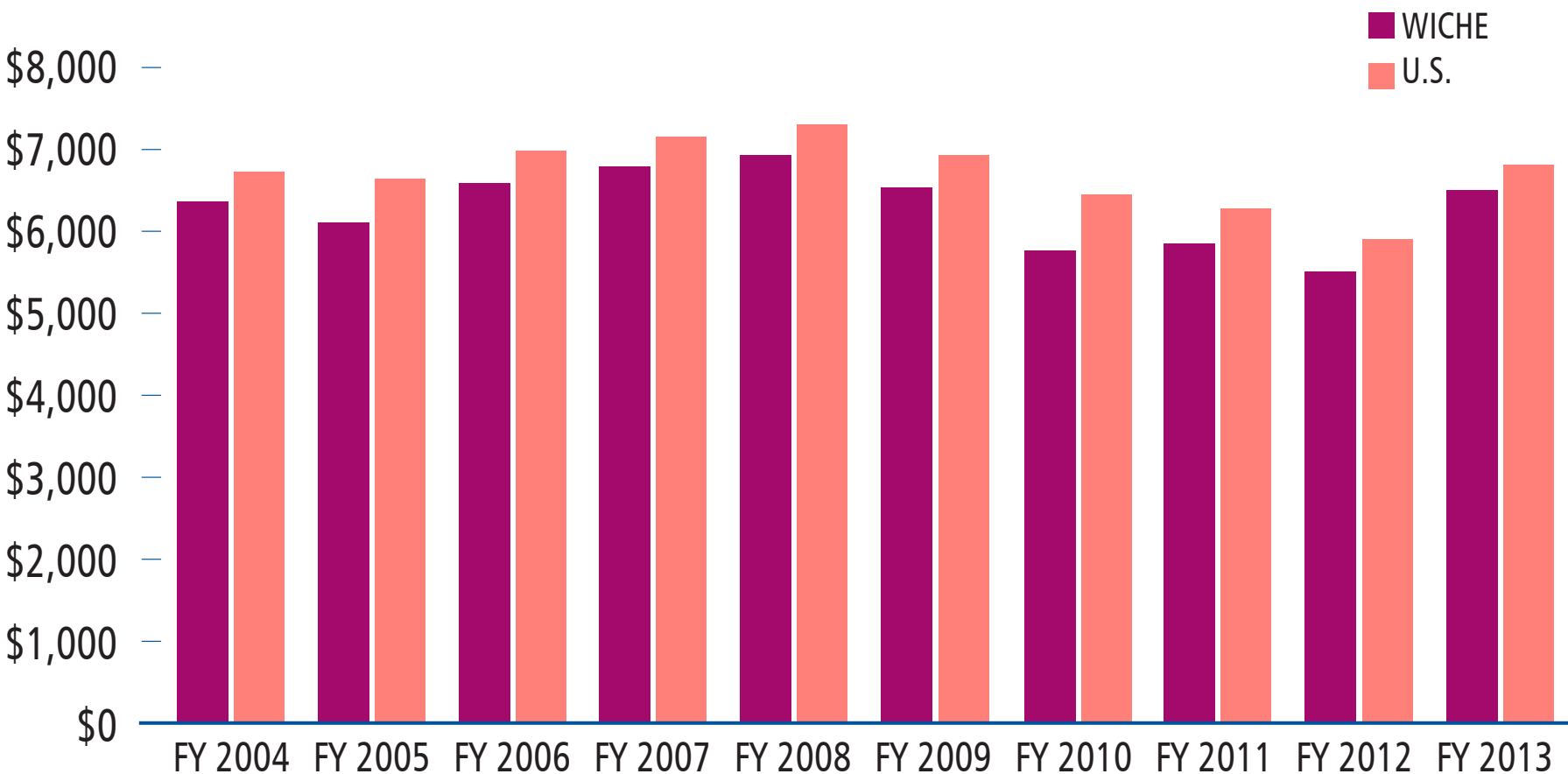
Savings to families and/or students through participation in WICHE's Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program have grown substantially in the last several years.



Source: Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.

Figure 13. State Appropriations per FTE

State appropriations per FTE in the region showed an increase of almost 17 percent in FY 2013 over the previous year, but they remain down by six percent compared to before the economic recession.

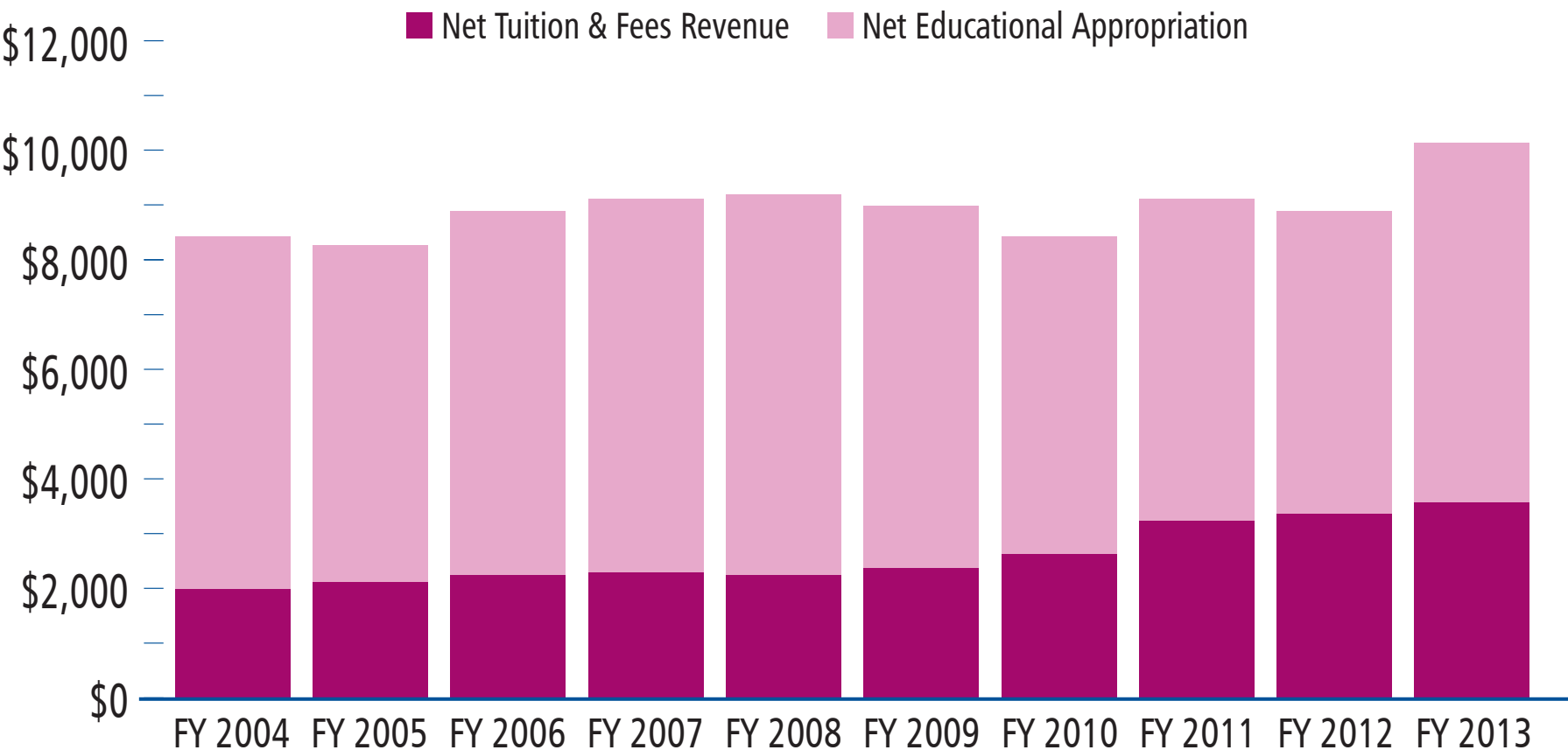


Notes: Data are adjusted for enrollment mix, cost of living, and inflation. Inflation-adjusted using the Higher Education Cost Adjustment (HECA, 2013 Dollars).

Source: State Higher Education Executive Officers, *State Higher Education Finance Survey*.

Figure 14. Revenues per FTE

Net tuition and fees in the West accounted for 36 percent of total revenue from appropriations and tuition and fees in FY 2013, compared to 25 percent in FY 2008.

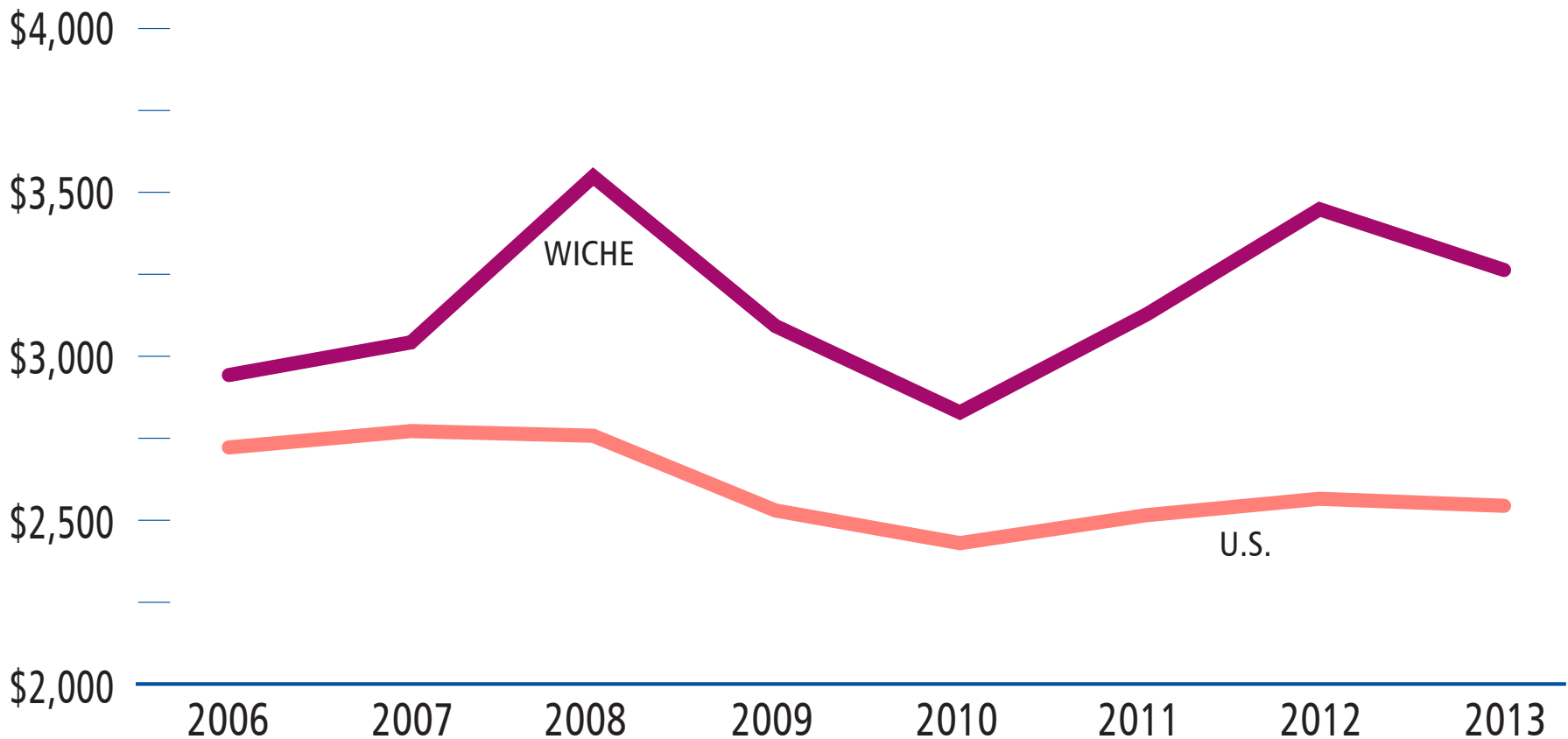


Notes: Data are adjusted for enrollment mix, cost of living, and inflation. Inflation-adjusted using the Higher Education Cost Adjustment (HECA, 2013 Dollars). "State and Local Net Educational Appropriations" are state tax and non-tax support not including support to independent institutions. "Net Tuition and Fees Revenues" do not include discounts or waivers, state-funded student financial aid, and medical student tuition revenues. FTEs do not include medical students. WICHE values are calculated as the average of the member states.

Source: State Higher Education Executive Officers, *State Higher Education Finance Survey*.

Figure 15. State Tax Revenues

The regional average state tax revenue per capita, adjusted for inflation, fell substantially between 2008 and 2010, and then picked up in the last several years, although it dipped slightly again in 2013. The West's rate remains well above the national figure.



Note: Inflation-adjusted using the CPI-U series from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2013 Dollars). The value for the WICHE region is a simple average of the member states. As defined by the Census Bureau, "taxes" include "all compulsory contributions exacted by a government for public purposes, except employer and employee assessments for retirement and social insurance purposes, which are classified as insurance trust revenue. Outside the scope of this report, accordingly, are collections for the unemployment compensation 'taxes' imposed by each of the state governments and the District of Columbia. Included, however, are all receipts from licenses and compulsory fees, including those that are imposed for regulatory purposes, as well as those designated to provide revenue. Tax revenue is further defined to include related penalty and interest receipts of a government, but to exclude protested amounts and refunds. The deduction from gross collections of amounts refunded is particularly significant with respect to motor fuel sales taxes ('gasoline' taxes) and individual income taxes". Beginning in 2006, the source report no longer separately provided per capita tax revenues; these were calculated using the Census Bureau's state population estimates.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *State Government Tax Collections Report*. U.S. Census Bureau, *National and State Population Estimates (Table NST-EST2013-01)*.