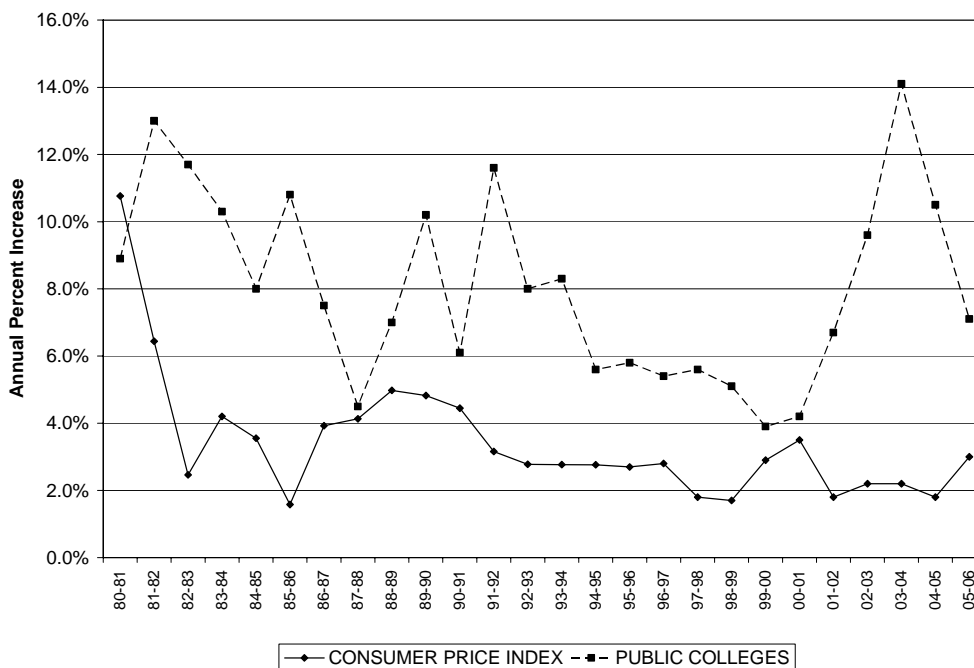


2.0 TUITION AND FEES

2.1 National Trends

**Changes in College Tuition
Compared With Consumer Price Index**



Concerns over the rising costs of attending colleges and universities have heightened in the past few years and are influencing state policies regarding tuition and fees. Since 1981-82 the average cost of attending colleges and universities has increased faster than the rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI). As indicated by the chart above, this trend strengthened markedly between 2000-01 and 2004-05 as states reduced general fund appropriations for public higher education in response to declining tax revenues. Colleges and universities increased tuition to compensate. There was considerable improvement in 2005-06 as the economy improved in most states, including Virginia.

Factors involved in rising costs for higher education include:

- Reduction in state general fund support,
- Faculty salaries rising faster than general inflation,
- Relative decline in federal student grant programs,
- High cost of institutionally funded financial aid,
- Migration of students from low to high cost disciplines,
- Administrative support and governmentally imposed requirements have risen,
- The need to keep pace with new technologies,
- Federal funding for research has not kept up with institutional expenditures for research,
- Program expansion, and
- New construction or renovation.

Expanding enrollments in the 1960s and 70s permitted colleges and universities to spread fixed

costs and increase total expenditures (15 percent per year from 1970 to 1975) while holding per student expenditure increases to 4.0 percent annually. In the decade of the 1980s, the rate of increase in tuition did not come down as fast as the CPI because — at least in part — students were paying a larger share of the costs of their education. In the public sector, more than half of the added tuition revenue from 1982 to 2005 represents increases in the share of educational costs borne by students to compensate for decreases in state general fund support.

Virginia's tuition and fees are higher than corresponding national and regional charges. The Commonwealth's position as a high tuition state is reflected in national comparisons that rank Virginia 12th highest among the fifty states. This is an improvement from previous years when Virginia was ranked as high as 2nd. The lower ranking reflects the tuition freeze initiated by Governor Allen in 1996 and funded by the 1996 through 2001 General Assemblies.

The 1998 Acts of Assembly established the Joint Subcommittee on Higher Education Funding Policies to develop funding guidelines. The Joint Subcommittee adopted higher education funding guidelines for Virginia public institutions in December 2000. The funding guidelines for operation and maintenance of plant were developed and added to the higher education funding guidelines in 2001.

In addition, the Joint Subcommittee on Higher Education Funding Policies adopted a fund share policy of 67/33 between general fund support and tuition revenue for base funding estimates derived by the funding guidelines in 2003.

The following pages contain two tables (pages 4 and 5) and two graphics (pages 6 and 7) comparing Virginia's and JMU's positions on tuition and fees relative to national data from forty-six states. The two tables on pages 4 and 5 compare the rate of increase in undergraduate tuition and required fees, by state, for state colleges and universities for in-state (page 4) and out-of-state (page 5) students. Virginia's four-year rate of increase in 2004-05 was the 25th highest out of 46 states for in-state students and 33rd highest for out-of-state students. In 1990-00 Virginia's four-year ranking was 46th out of 46 for in-state students and 46th for out-of-state students. In other words, tuition and fee increases in Virginia moderated substantially between 1995-96 and 1999-00, but have increased since then. The graphic on page 6 compares in-state undergraduate tuition and required fees for selected states. Virginia ranked 12th highest among the fifty states and \$415 above the national average. In 1995-96 Virginia was ranked 2nd. However, it remains to be seen how JMU's rankings will change after the massive budget cuts and rapidly increasing tuition rates that have occurred recently.

The graphic on page 7 compares JMU's tuition and fees to those of our SCHEV peer group. JMU ranks 12th highest out of 25 peer institutions. JMU's 2005-06 tuition and required fees are \$5,886. This figure is below our peer group average of \$9,229. However, when JMU's figure is compared with the 19 other publicly funded peer institutions, it ranks 13th highest, a decline from 11th one year ago. The public average for 2005-06, including JMU, is \$5,442.

Virginia's one-year rate of change for in-state tuition and required fees for 2004-05 was 9.1 percent. This was 0.1 percent higher than the national average of 9.0 percent. For out-of-state students, Virginia's average increase was 6.6 percent -1.2 percent below the national average of 7.8 percent.

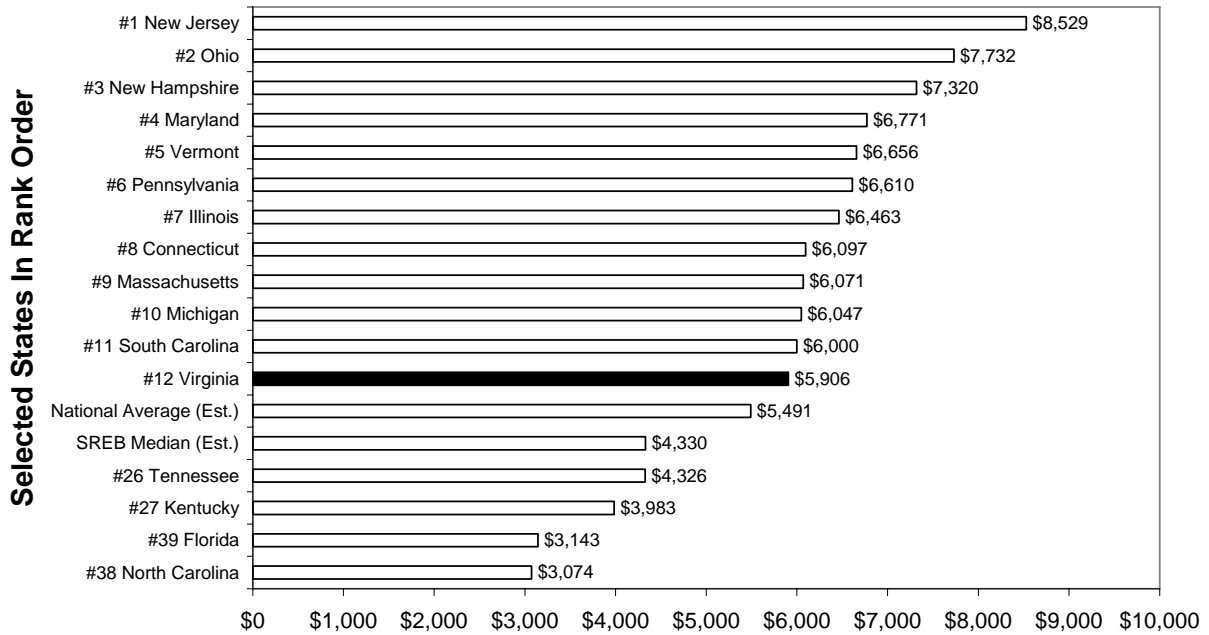
**RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE TUITION AND REQUIRED FEES
(STATE AVERAGES) COLLEGES AND STATE UNIVERSITIES**

State	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	One Year	Four Year
Alabama	2,916	3,261	3,488	3,913	4,413	12.8%	51.3%
Arizona	2,344	2,486	2,583	3,593	4,067	13.2%	73.5%
Arkansas	2,974	3,477	3,725	4,130	4,575	10.8%	53.8%
California	1,859	1,897	2,072	2,649	2,993	13.0%	61.0%
Colorado	2,353	2,511	2,704	2,765	2,951	6.7%	25.4%
Connecticut	3,908	4,172	4,556	5,149	5,630	9.3%	44.1%
Florida	2,348	2,551	2,698	2,876	3,111	8.2%	32.5%
Georgia	2,361	2,480	2,605	2,848	3,019	6.0%	27.9%
Idaho	2,514	2,732	3,060	3,350	3,610	7.8%	43.6%
Illinois	4,001	4,215	4,606	5,238	5,968	13.9%	49.2%
Indiana	3,697	3,947	4,468	4,936	5,390	9.2%	45.8%
Iowa	3,130	3,440	4,118	4,916	5,387	9.6%	72.1%
Kansas	2,354	2,424	2,593	2,946	3,285	11.5%	39.5%
Kentucky	2,699	2,897	3,205	3,644	4,189	15.0%	55.2%
Louisiana	2,473	2,492	2,587	2,983	3,260	9.3%	31.8%
Maine	3,510	3,690	3,860	4,183	4,496	7.5%	28.1%
Maryland	4,650	4,759	5,225	5,747	6,252	8.8%	34.5%
Massachusetts	3,260	3,295	4,075	4,988	5,556	11.4%	70.4%
Michigan	4,027	4,501	4,943	5,423	5,584	3.0%	38.7%
Minnesota	3,238	3,561	3,970	4,517	5,098	12.9%	57.4%
Mississippi	2,789	3,207	3,531	3,531	3,801	7.6%	36.3%
Missouri	3,202	3,436	4,127	4,562	4,941	8.3%	54.3%
Montana	2,924	3,222	3,707	3,827	4,140	8.2%	41.6%
Nebraska	2,693	2,916	3,199	3,659	3,930	7.4%	45.9%
Nevada	2,220	2,295	2,370	2,550	2,850	11.8%	28.4%
New Hampshire	5,309	5,557	5,995	6,375	6,759	6.0%	27.3%
New Jersey	5,328	5,762	6,533	7,166	7,875	9.9%	47.8%
New Mexico	1,933	2,042	2,222	2,471	2,687	8.7%	39.0%
New York	4,006	4,068	4,153	5,129	5,180	1.0%	29.3%
North Carolina	2,025	2,255	2,677	2,812	3,129	11.3%	54.5%
North Dakota	2,790	2,909	3,191	3,594	4,138	15.1%	48.3%
Ohio	4,674	5,058	5,920	6,620	7,139	7.8%	52.7%
Oklahoma	1,996	2,171	2,377	2,762	3,027	9.6%	51.7%
Oregon	3,435	3,650	4,223	4,493	4,985	11.0%	45.1%
Pennsylvania	4,695	4,969	5,532	5,820	6,103	4.9%	30.0%
Rhode Island	3,371	3,521	3,761	3,995	4,340	8.6%	28.7%
South Carolina	3,350	3,790	4,340	5,082	5,540	9.0%	65.4%
South Dakota	3,485	3,702	3,987	4,322	4,566	5.6%	31.0%
Tennessee	2,852	3,246	3,491	3,958	4,200	6.1%	47.3%
Texas	2,651	2,724	3,259	3,763	4,201	11.6%	58.5%
Utah	2,106	2,252	2,426	2,632	2,876	9.3%	36.6%
Vermont	4,944	5,132	5,374	5,806	6,146	5.9%	24.3%
Virginia	3,730	3,841	4,417	5,023	5,479	9.1%	46.9%
Washington	2,890	3,071	3,471	3,700	3,947	6.7%	36.6%
West Virginia	2,494	2,593	2,870	3,162	3,545	12.1%	42.1%
Wisconsin	3,058	3,272	3,526	4,180	4,730	13.2%	54.7%
National Average	3,164	3,379	3,735	4,169	4,545	9.0%	43.6%
Virginia Ranking	11	12	11	12	12	24	20

**NONRESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE TUITION AND REQUIRED FEES
(STATE AVERAGES) COLLEGES AND STATE UNIVERSITIES**

State	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	Percentage Increase	
						One Year	Four Year
Alabama	5,628	6,252	6,694	7,500	8,485	13.1%	50.8%
Arizona	9,288	10,352	11,103	12,113	12,755	5.3%	37.3%
Arkansas	6,026	7,019	7,535	8,176	8,986	9.9%	49.1%
California	9,241	9,279	10,532	11,109	13,151	18.4%	42.3%
Colorado	8,406	8,851	9,501	10,290	10,784	4.8%	28.3%
Connecticut	9,661	10,145	10,758	12,134	13,146	8.3%	36.1%
Florida	9,686	10,439	11,971	13,781	15,540	12.8%	60.4%
Georgia	7,989	8,501	8,860	9,781	10,298	5.3%	28.9%
Idaho	8,634	8,952	9,380	10,010	10,678	6.7%	23.7%
Illinois	8,580	8,425	9,158	10,159	11,239	10.6%	31.0%
Indiana	9,594	10,186	11,438	12,379	13,334	7.7%	39.0%
Iowa	8,094	8,762	10,426	11,874	12,705	7.0%	57.0%
Kansas	7,549	7,759	8,253	9,206	9,949	8.1%	31.8%
Kentucky	7,255	7,739	8,419	9,290	10,697	15.1%	47.4%
Louisiana	7,858	7,893	8,017	8,403	8,708	3.6%	10.8%
Maine	8,120	8,490	8,980	9,763	10,476	7.3%	29.0%
Maryland	10,175	10,567	11,511	12,701	13,877	9.3%	36.4%
Massachusetts	9,805	10,433	11,480	12,636	13,288	5.2%	35.5%
Michigan	9,149	10,243	11,164	12,205	12,617	3.4%	37.9%
Minnesota	6,574	7,180	6,781	7,939	8,498	7.0%	29.3%
Mississippi	6,510	7,487	8,152	8,152	8,718	6.9%	33.9%
Missouri	6,002	6,451	7,732	8,552	9,156	7.1%	52.5%
Montana	8,056	9,049	10,319	11,116	12,123	9.1%	50.5%
Nebraska	4,654	5,140	5,760	6,595	7,061	7.1%	51.7%
Nevada	9,200	9,510	10,155	11,037	11,524	4.4%	25.3%
New Hampshire	10,619	11,057	11,655	12,425	13,199	6.2%	24.3%
New Jersey	8,530	9,239	10,447	11,430	12,537	9.7%	47.0%
New Mexico	7,078	7,706	8,438	9,023	9,695	7.4%	37.0%
New York	8,906	8,968	9,115	11,079	11,440	3.3%	28.5%
North Carolina	9,244	10,121	11,534	12,112	12,504	3.2%	35.3%
North Dakota	6,167	6,435	6,944	7,983	9,292	16.4%	50.7%
Ohio	10,471	11,161	12,685	13,759	14,731	7.1%	40.7%
Oklahoma	4,651	5,064	5,530	6,662	7,386	10.9%	58.8%
Oregon	9,567	10,020	10,843	11,304	13,149	16.3%	37.4%
Pennsylvania	9,698	10,305	11,356	12,058	12,196	1.1%	25.8%
Rhode Island	8,471	8,911	9,525	10,195	11,110	9.0%	31.2%
South Carolina	6,610	7,410	8,530	10,029	10,935	9.0%	65.4%
South Dakota	7,438	7,785	8,236	9,033	9,410	4.2%	26.5%
Tennessee	8,524	9,768	10,502	11,834	12,650	6.9%	48.4%
Texas	8,835	8,980	9,734	10,799	12,222	13.2%	38.3%
Utah	6,283	6,718	7,292	7,958	8,736	9.8%	39.0%
Vermont	10,632	11,048	11,586	12,360	13,086	5.9%	23.1%
Virginia	10,572	10,970	11,995	13,068	13,927	6.6%	31.7%
West Virginia	5,993	6,338	7,016	7,767	8,544	10.0%	42.6%
Wisconsin	10,586	12,040	13,572	14,226	14,776	3.9%	39.6%
Washington	9,989	10,651	11,626	12,168	12,751	4.8%	27.7%
National Average		6.7%	9.0%	9.5%	7.8%	7.8%	32.7%
Virginia Ranking	4	5	3	4	4	31	31

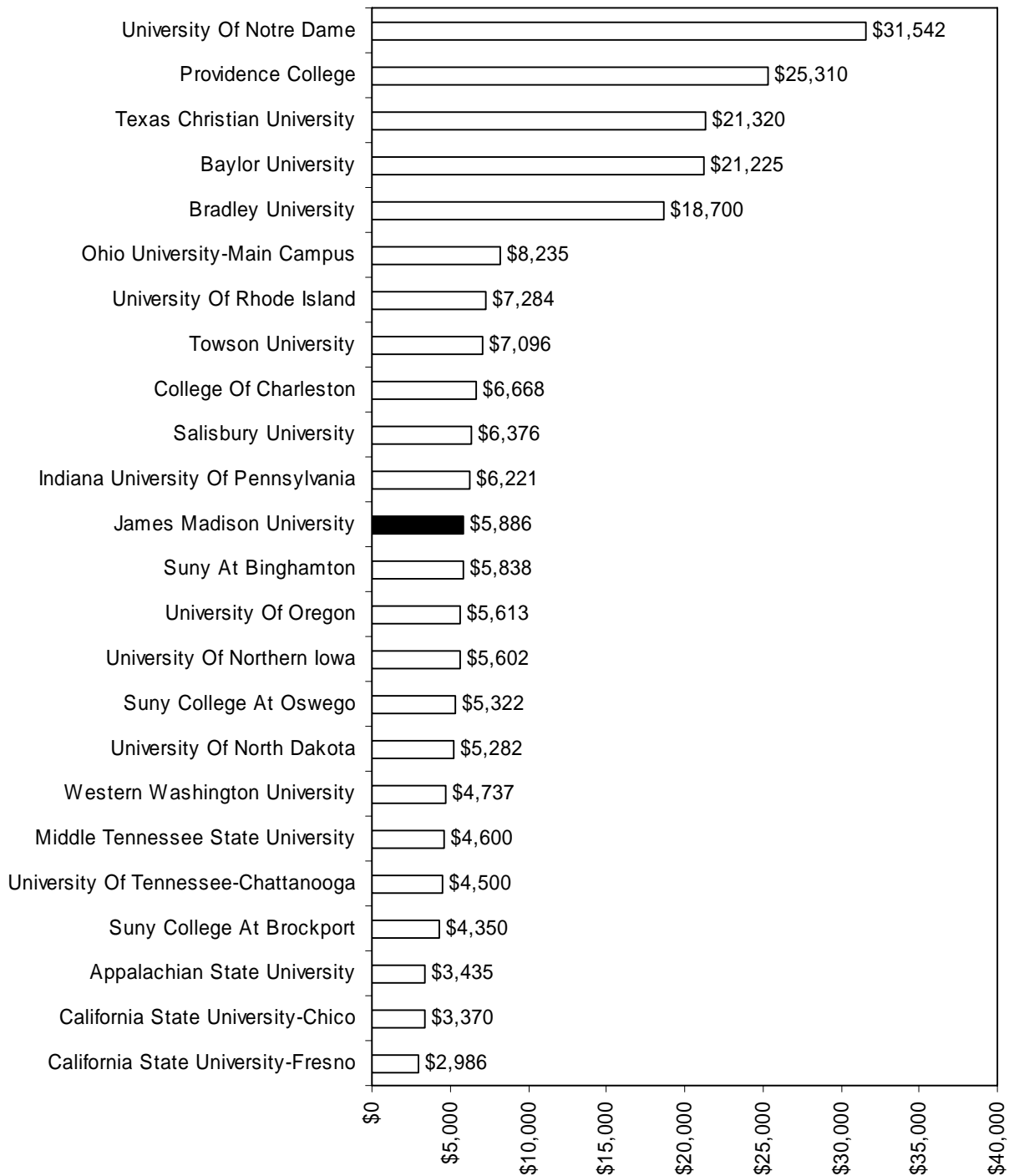
2005-06 Estimated In-State Tuition & Fees Public Comprehensives



Source: SCHEV

Note: SREB and National tuition and fees were estimated to increase by 7.1 percent during 2005-06.

2005-06 SCHEV Peer Group: In-State Tuition and Required Fees



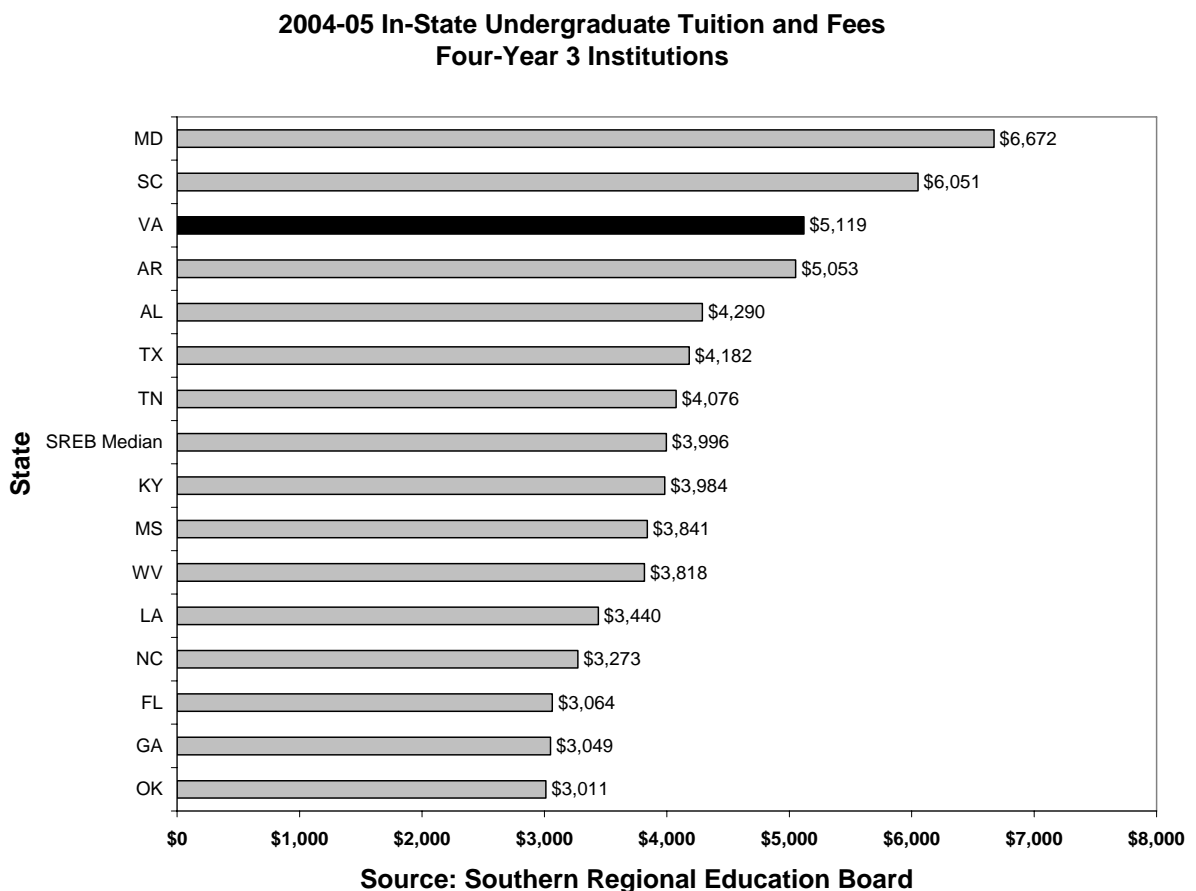
Average = \$9,229; Public Average = \$5,442

2.2 Regional Trends

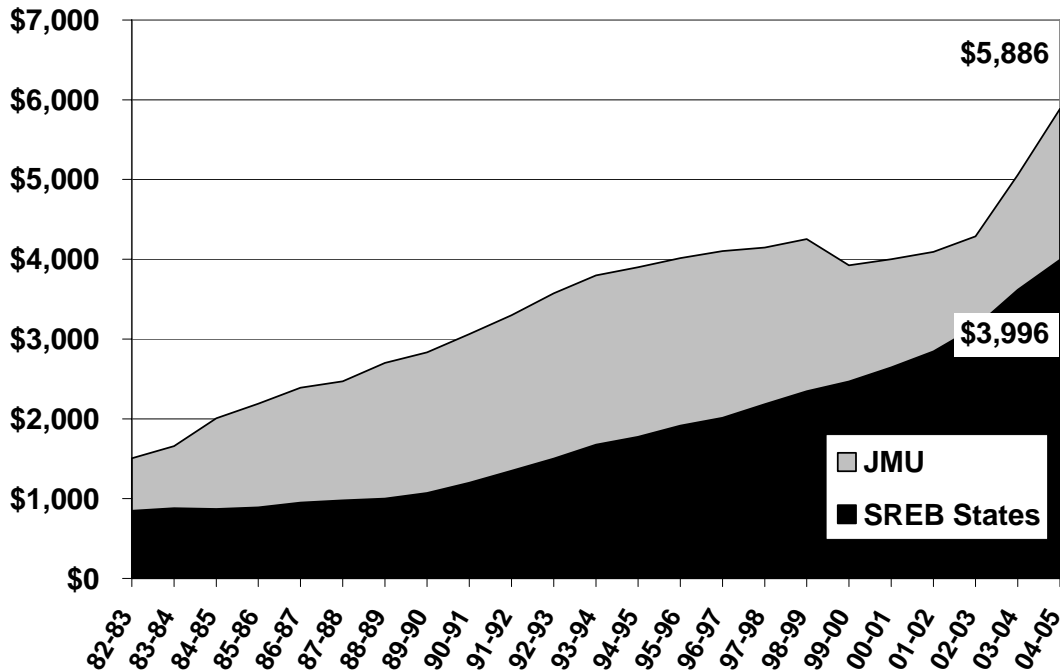
Virginia is part of the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) – the nation's first interstate compact for education. SREB was created in 1948 at the request of southern governors and acts as a clearinghouse for information on trends and issues that affect education in the south.

Colleges and universities are classified according to SREB definitions based on institutional size and degree programs. Undergraduate tuition and fees charged students in each state's universities and colleges are compared with specific groups based on SREB definitions. For example, James Madison University is considered to be a Four-Year 3 institution. A Four-Year 3 institution awards at least 100 doctoral, masters, education specialist, or post-master's certificates and degrees distributed among at least 10 broad program areas. JMU and Radford are the Four-Year 3 institutions in the Virginia system of higher education. Data for 2005-06 will be available in December 2006 and will appear in next year's report.

As the graphic below demonstrates, Virginia has the third highest tuition and fees for in-state undergraduates at regional Four-Year 3 institutions. This is the same position as in 2003-04. Virginia's increase (11 percent) was slightly above the median (10 percent) for all the states.



In-State Tuition and Fees JMU & SREB States, 1982-83 to 2004-05



Source: SREB

"Tuition and fees" refers to the annual tuition and mandatory fees charged all full-time undergraduate students. Mandatory fees do not include special fees assessed in particular programs; for example music, science laboratories, or nursing. Nor are other fees unique to given situations included; for example late registration fees or automobile registration fees. Mandatory fees do include health service fees, building use fees, student activity fees, and athletic fees where the fee is not optional for full-time students.

Tuition and fees for in-state undergraduate students at JMU increased less than the SREB median for Four-Year 3 institutions over the past ten years. Since 1982-83, in-state undergraduate student charges at JMU rose 291 percent while median charges in the region went up 370 percent. JMU's tuition and fees are now 147 percent (less than the 151 percent in 2000-01, but down from 255 percent in 1990-91) of the SREB regional median for Four-Year 3 institutions. In 2004-05, JMU's in-state tuition and required fees were \$1,890 above the regional median for comparable institutions. The chart above shows how JMU's changes in tuition and fees have been far more erratic than the SREB region institutions as a whole.

The tuition and fee data for 2003-05 reversed the pattern of the previous ten years as the Virginia institutions were allowed to raise tuition and fees for 2003-04 and 2004-05 to recover some of the revenues lost from the Commonwealth.

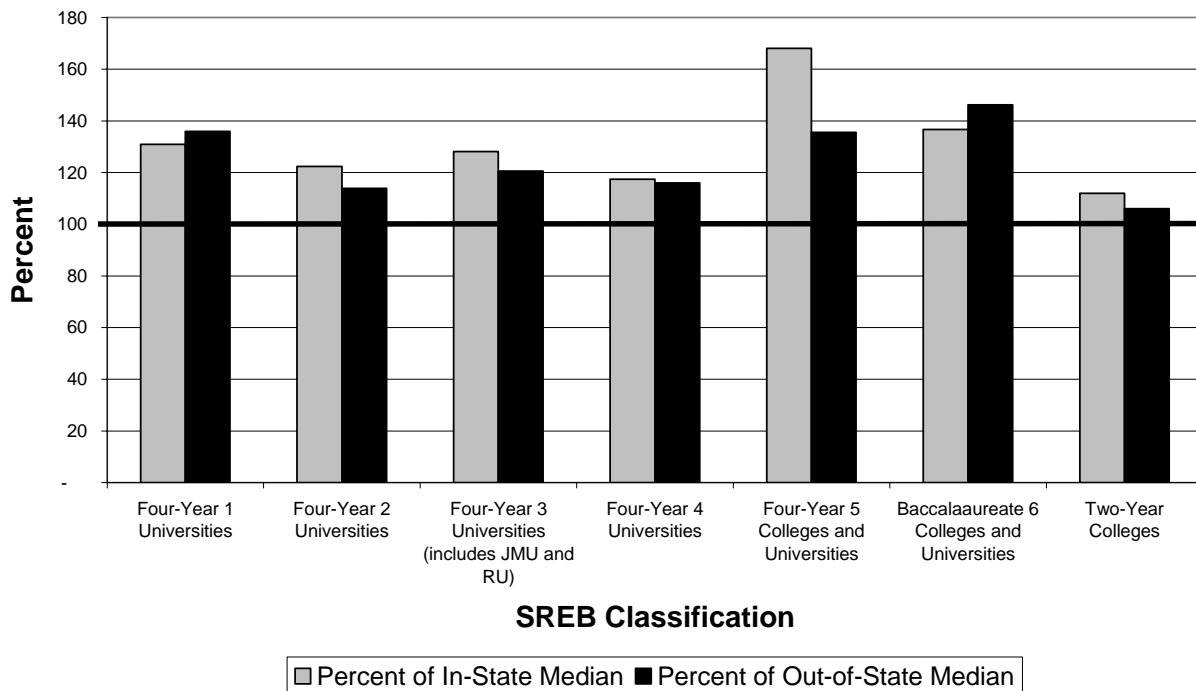
The following two charts illustrate Virginia's percentage ranking for in-state and out-of-state tuition and fees as compared to the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) institutional median.

Virginia Highlights
Percent of SREB Median Tuition and Fees by Residence
2004-05

SREB Classification	Percent of In-State Median	Percent of Out-of-State Median
Four-Year 1 Universities	131	136
Four-Year 2 Universities	122	114
Four-Year 3 Universities (includes JMU and RU)	128	121
Four-Year 4 Universities	117	116
Four-Year 5 Colleges and Universities	168	136
Baccalaureate 6 Colleges and Universities	137	146
Two-Year Colleges	112	106

Source: SREB Data Exchange

Percent Of SREB Median Tuition And Fees By Residence, 2004-05



2.3 State Trends

Among the state's fifteen four-year colleges and universities, JMU's in-state tuition ranks 13th highest, required fees ranks 4th, and room and board ranks 5th. Total in-state tuition, required fees, and room and board ranks 8th and JMU's out-of-state total cost ranks 7th.

In-State and Out-of-State Undergraduate Tuition, Required Fees And Room and Board for Virginia's State-Supported Institutions Of Higher Education, 2005-06

Rank	In-State Tuition		Out-of-State Tuition		Required Fees		Room and Board		Total In-State		Total Out-of-State	
1	UVA	\$5,714	UVA	\$22,634	VMI	\$4,284	CNU	\$7,500	VMI	\$14,332	UVA	\$30,489
2	VPI	\$5,297	VMI	\$18,582	LU	\$3,354	VCU	\$7,042	CWM	\$14,195	CWM	\$29,603
3	CWM	\$4,815	VPI	\$16,756	CWM	\$2,963	VSU	\$6,484	UVA	\$13,569	VMI	\$28,532
4	VMI	\$4,382	VCU	\$16,067	JMU	\$2,888	NSU	\$6,674	CNU	\$13,326	VCU	\$24,482
5	GMU	\$4,356	GMU	\$15,636	VSU	\$2,517	JMU	\$6,372	LU	\$12,627	GMU	\$23,640
6	VCU	\$4,012	ODU	\$13,322	CNU	\$2,350	CWM	\$6,417	VCU	\$12,427	VPI	\$22,359
7	UMW	\$3,960	UVAW	\$13,169	NSU	\$2,300	GMU	\$6,480	GMU	\$12,360	JMU	\$21,694
8	LU	\$3,666	UMW	\$13,102	ODU	\$2,072	UVA	\$6,389	JMU	\$12,258	ODU	\$21,271
9	ODU	\$3,542	NSU	\$12,441	UVAW	\$2,040	RU	\$6,120	UMW	\$11,636	NSU	\$21,215
10	CNU	\$3,476	JMU	\$12,434	RU	\$1,895	UMW	\$6,002	UVAW	\$11,636	UVAW	\$21,174
11	RU	\$3,235	CNU	\$10,548	UMW	\$1,674	ODU	\$5,877	NSU	\$11,354	UMW	\$20,778
12	UVAW	\$3,041	RU	\$10,473	GMU	\$1,524	UVAW	\$5,965	VSU	\$11,318	CNU	\$20,398
13	JMU	\$2,998	LU	\$10,400	UVA	\$1,466	VMI	\$5,666	RU	\$11,250	LU	\$19,361
14	NSU	\$2,580	VSU	\$9,529	VCU	\$1,373	LU	\$5,607	VPI	\$10,900	RU	\$18,488
15	VSU	\$2,317	CWM	\$20,223	VPI	\$1,081	VPI	\$4,522	ODU	\$11,491	VSU	\$18,530

Source: SCHEV Report on 2005-06 Tuition and Fees, Appendices D-1 and D-2, July 2005.

NOTES:

- All required fees listed are for general undergraduate students, living both on- and off-campus and, therefore, exclude any special fees for specific curriculums or special charges associated with dormitory living, such as room and board.
- Room and board charges are weighted averages for double occupancy rooms.
- Old Dominion University charges a per credit hour rate to all undergraduate and graduate students. The full-time charges for undergraduate tuition and required fees are based on 30 regular session credit hours, 15 hours per semester.
- At Virginia Military Institute, all students are required to live on post; therefore, room, board and laundry fees are also required fees.

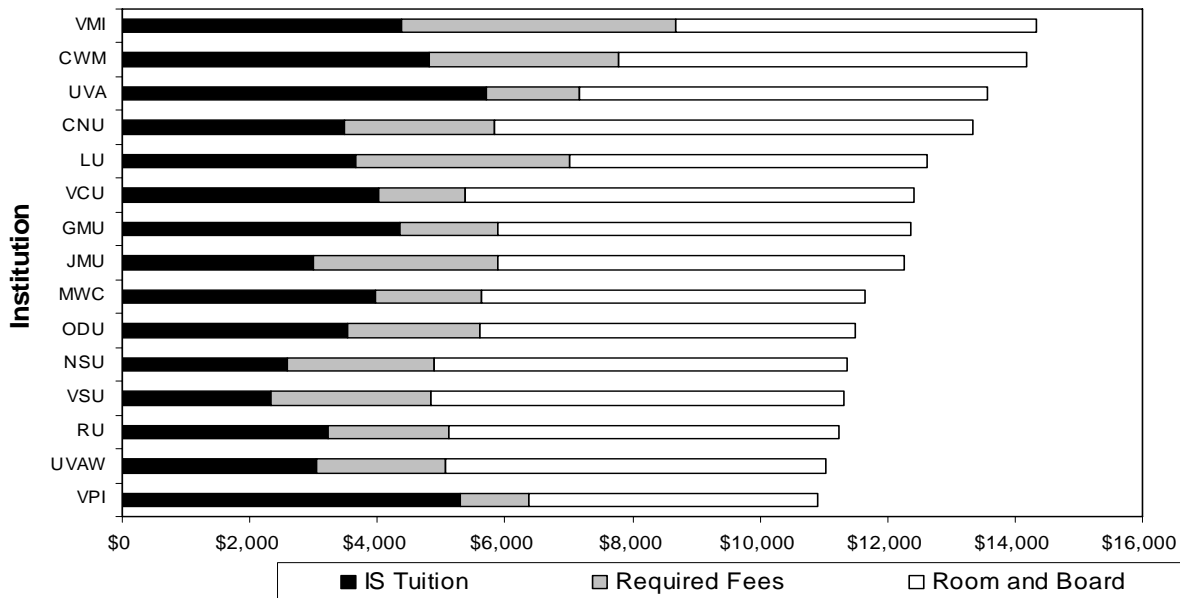
2005-06 Full-Time In-State Undergraduate Student Charges

Institution	Tuition and Mandatory Fees	Percent Change From 04-05	Room and Board	Percent Change From 03-04	Total	Percent Change From 03-04
GMU	\$5,880	7.9%	\$6,480	7.3%	\$12,360	7.6%
ODU	\$5,614	6.6%	\$5,877	3.0%	\$11,491	4.7%
UVA	\$7,180	8.8%	\$6,389	7.2%	\$13,569	8.0%
VCU	\$5,385	4.8%	\$7,042	1.8%	\$12,427	3.1%
VPI	\$6,378	9.2%	\$4,522	5.5%	\$10,900	7.6%
CWM	\$7,778	9.6%	\$6,417	5.8%	\$14,195	7.8%
CNU	\$5,826	9.6%	\$7,500	4.2%	\$13,326	6.5%
UVA-Wise	\$5,081	6.3%	\$5,965	6.4%	\$11,046	6.3%
JMU	\$5,886	7.5%	\$6,372	4.2%	\$12,258	5.7%
LU	\$7,020	9.0%	\$5,607	3.9%	\$12,627	6.7%
UMW	\$5,634	9.9%	\$6,002	4.5%	\$11,636	7.0%
NSU	\$4,888	13.6%	\$6,474	3.8%	\$11,354	7.8%
RU	\$5,130	7.7%	\$6,120	4.0%	\$11,250	5.6%
VMI	\$8,666	7.6%	\$5,666	3.5%	\$14,332	5.9%
VSU	\$4,834	6.4%	\$6,484	3.6%	\$11,318	4.8%
RBC	\$2,350	6.8%	N/A	N/A	\$2,350	6.8%
VCCS	\$2,135	6.4%	N/A	N/A	\$2,135	6.4%
4-Year Avg.	\$6,078	8.3%	\$6,194	4.5%	\$12,273	6.4%
2-Year Avg.	\$2,242	6.6%	N/A	N/A	\$2,242	6.6%
Avg.-All	\$5,672	8.2%	\$6,194	4.5%	\$11,093	6.4%

Source: SCHEV Report on 2005-06 Tuition and Fees, June 30, 2005.

Annual increases in Virginia for the senior institutions for in-state tuition, required fees, and room and board ranged from 3.1 percent at Virginia Commonwealth University to 8.0 percent at the University of Virginia.

VA Public In-State Charges, 2005-06 Combined Tuition/Fees, Room/Board



2005-06 Full-Time Out-of-State Undergraduate Student Charges

Institutions	Tuition & Mandatory Fees	Percent Change	Mandatory Non-E&G Fees	Percent Change	Room & Board	Percent Change	Total Out-of-State	Percent Change
GMU	15,636	8.9%	1,524	4.1%	6,480	7.3%	23,640	8.2%
ODU	13,322	5.0%	2,072	3.8%	5,877	3.0%	21,271	4.3%
UVA	22,634	6.0%	1,466	8.0%	6,389	7.2%	30,489	6.4%
VCU	16,067	0.5%	1,373	4.3%	7,042	1.8%	24,482	1.1%
VT	16,756	7.6%	1,081	6.8%	4,522	5.5%	22,359	7.1%
W&M	20,223	5.4%	2,963	9.3%	6,417	5.8%	29,603	5.8%
CNU	10,548	0.0%	2,350	10.4%	7,500	4.2%	20,398	2.6%
UVA-Wise	13,169	7.4%	2,040	5.0%	5,965	6.4%	21,174	6.9%
JMU	12,434	6.3%	2,888	6.0%	6,372	4.2%	21,694	5.6%
LU	10,420	4.9%	3,354	10.3%	5,607	3.9%	19,361	5.5%
UMW	13,102	8.5%	1,674	15.0%	6,002	4.5%	20,778	7.8%
NSU	12,441	2.1%	2,300	10.8%	6,474	3.8%	21,215	3.5%
RU	10,473	5.0%	1,895	6.0%	6,120	4.0%	18,488	4.8%
VMI	18,582	5.9%	4,284	8.0%	5,666	3.5%	28,532	5.7%
VSU	9,529	5.1%	2,517	5.1%	6,484	3.6%	18,530	4.6%
VCCS	6,566	2.4%	14	6.0%	0	0.0%	6,581	2.4%
Avg. Senior Institutions	14,354	5.3%	2,252	7.7%	6,194	4.5%	22,801	5.3%
Avg. All*	13,611	5.3%	1,994	7.7%	6,194	4.5%	21,071	5.3%

Source: SCHEV Report on 2005-06 Tuition and Fees, Appendix D-2, June 30, 2005.

Annual percent changes in Virginia for out-of-state tuition and required fees from 2003-04 to 2004-05 for the senior institutions ranged from 0.5 percent at Virginia Commonwealth University to 10.3 percent at Virginia Tech. Annual increases in Virginia for out-of-state tuition, required fees, and room and board for the senior institutions ranged from 1.2 percent for Old Dominion University to 8.8 percent at Virginia Commonwealth University.

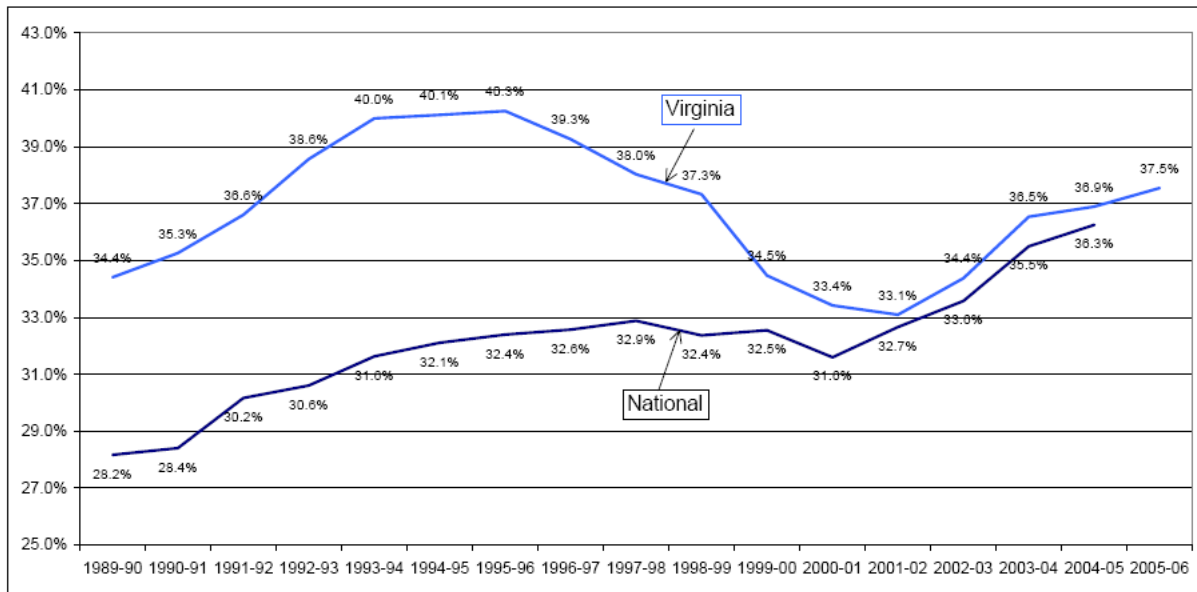
The following contains analyses from SCHEV illustrates the ability of the average Virginian to afford higher education at one of the Commonwealth's public colleges or universities.

According to SCHEV's annual tuition and fee report,

“Compared to other states, Virginia’s median in-state undergraduate charges as a percentage of per capita disposable income have exceeded the national average over the last decade. In 1990, Virginia’s per capita disposable income was about 6 percent higher than the national average. In contrast, the median total undergraduate charge (including room and board) for in-state undergraduate students was nearly 30 percent higher than the national norm. Nationally, total charges represented 28.2 percent of per capita disposable income, while the rate was 34.4 percent in Virginia. However, the Commonwealth’s policy to restrain and reduce in-state undergraduate tuition between 1994 and 2002 has reduced the gap between the state and national averages. By 2001-02, the relationship between student charges and income had changed substantially in Virginia. The median charges for in-state undergraduates represented about the same percentage of income in Virginia (33.1 percent)

as they did nationally (32.7 percent). Since that time, the relationship between median total charges and per capita disposable income in the Commonwealth has mirrored national trends, with Virginia remaining within 1 percentage point higher than the national average as shown in Chart 7A. It should be noted that the 37.5 percent cost share to a Virginia family in 2005-06 is still less than the 40 percent share paid ten years ago. National data for 2005-06 will not be available until late 2005, so the impact of the recent tuition and fee increases in Virginia relative to the nation is yet to be evaluated.”

Chart 7A
Average Public 4-Year Total Undergraduate Charges
As a Percent of Per Capita Disposable Income



Note: Cost includes tuition and mandatory fees, and room and board.

Source: College Board, US Bureau of Economic Analysis, and SCHEV.

The graphic above from SCHEV demonstrates that a higher education at a Virginia public institution became considerably more affordable between the mid 1990s and 2002-03. The upward trend in the last four years is – however – disturbing and very similar to when the state was coming out of the recession of the early 1990s. Actions taken by the General Assembly to give boards of visitors more discretion in setting tuition and fee rates and increased General Fund support resulted in lower tuition and fee increases in 2005-06.

2.4 JMU Tuition and Fee History

JMU Tuition, Fee, and Room and Board Charges 1996-97 to 2005-06

	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06
IN-STATE										
Tuition & Fees	\$1,940	\$1,940	\$1,982	\$1,586	\$1,586	\$1,586	\$1,728	\$2,420	\$2,752	\$2,998
Comp. Fee	\$2,164	\$2,208	\$2,274	\$2,340	\$2,414	\$2,508	\$2,560	\$2,638	\$2,724	\$2,888
Total Commuter	\$4,104	\$4,148	\$4,256	\$3,926	\$4,000	\$4,094	\$4,288	\$5,058	\$5,476	\$5,886
Room & Board ²	\$4,884	\$4,994	\$5,264	\$5,392	\$5,504	\$5,678	\$5,794	\$5,966	\$6,116	\$6,372
Total On-Campus	\$8,988	\$9,142	\$9,520	\$9,318	\$9,504	\$9,772	\$10,082	\$11,024	\$11,592	\$12,258
OUT-OF-STATE										
Tuition & Fees	\$6,416	\$6,608	\$6,982	\$7,192	\$7,436	\$8,098	\$8,912	\$10,642	\$11,696	\$12,434
Comp. Fee	\$2,164	\$2,208	\$2,274	\$2,340	\$2,414	\$2,508	\$2,560	\$2,638	\$2,724	\$2,888
Total Commuter	\$8,580	\$8,816	\$9,256	\$9,532	\$9,850	\$10,606	\$11,472	\$13,280	\$14,420	\$15,322
Room & Board*	\$4,884	\$4,994	\$5,264	\$5,392	\$5,504	\$5,678	\$5,794	\$5,966	\$6,116	\$6,372
Total On-Campus	\$13,464	\$13,810	\$14,520	\$14,924	\$15,354	\$16,284	\$17,266	\$19,246	\$20,536	\$21,694

Source: JMU Budget Office

¹ Before mid-year tuition increases

² Based on 19-meal plan

JMU Tuition and Fee History 1996-97 to 2005-06

