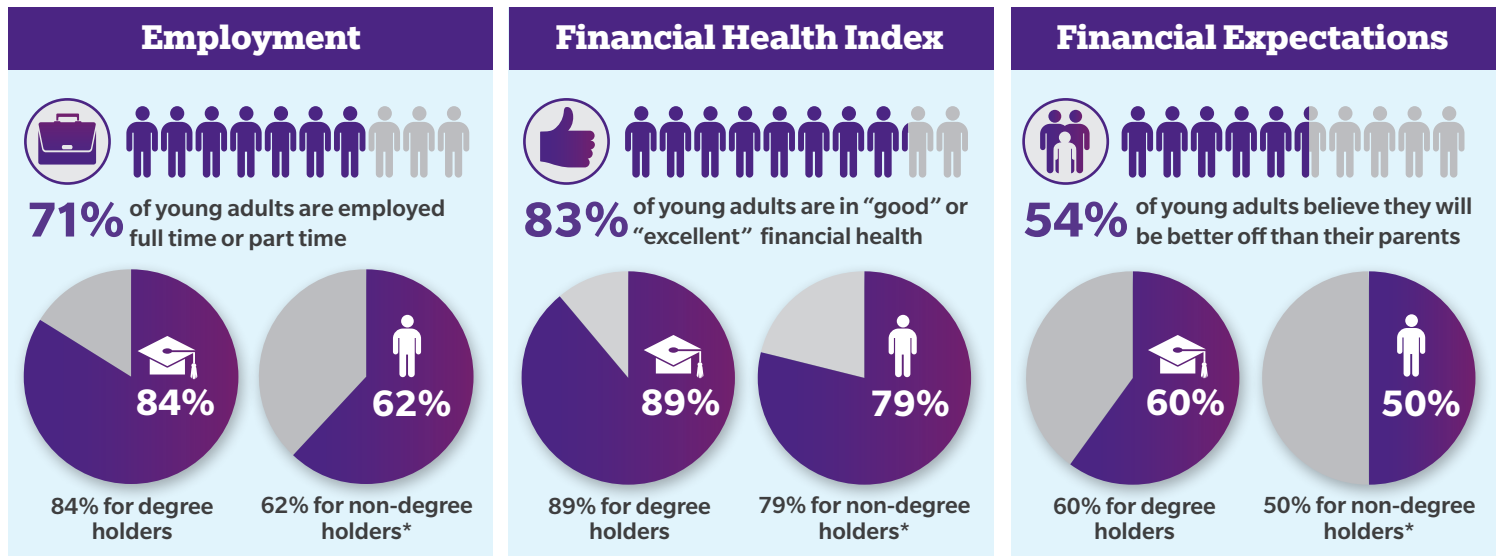


A national study of 3,011 young adults aged 22 to 35 conducted by Navient and Ipsos reveals the latest insights on the financial health of young Americans.

2017

Value of Education Remains Strong for Young Adults who Complete a Degree

Now in its third year, *Money Under 35* again confirms the value of education. Degree holders exhibit higher levels of financial health across many measures compared to those who did not go to college or those who attended some college but do not have a degree. Adults who attended college but did not complete a degree often lag their peers in measures of financial health. College degree holders are more likely to be employed, have higher incomes, own a home, be in “good” or “excellent” financial health and be more optimistic about their financial future.



*Non-degree holders include those who attended some college but did not earn a degree, students, and those with a high school education or less.

Highest Level of Education Attained	Personal Median Income	Employment	Very Positive About Their Financial Health	Believe They Will Be Better Off Than Their Parents
High school or less	\$37,500	62%	35%	48%
Current student, no degree	\$37,500 ¹	55%	32%	63%
Some college, no degree (not currently in school)	\$37,500	67%	20%	46%
Associate degree	\$42,500	74%	34%	55%
Bachelor’s degree	\$57,500	84%	42%	58%
Advanced degree	\$101,630	92%	63%	70%

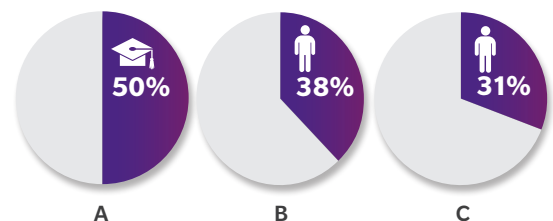
1. Note that 55% of these adult students aged 22 to 35 are working full or part time.

Home Ownership



56% of degree holders who did not borrow and 46% of degree holders who borrowed for their education own a home; regardless of borrowing status degree holders are more likely to own a home than non-degree holders:

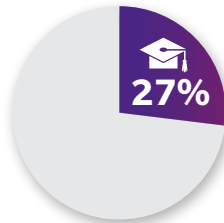
50% of degree holders own a home (A)
 38% of adults with a high school education or less own a home (B)
 31% of adults who have attended some college but do not have a degree own a home (C)



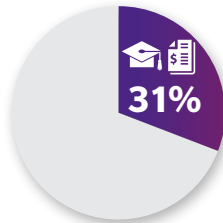
Trouble Paying the Bills



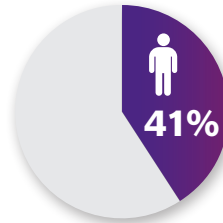
35% of young adults reported having trouble making payments on their bills in 2017, down from 48% in 2016. Non-completers* are especially likely to have trouble making payments.



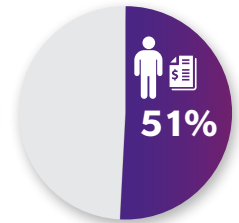
27% for degree holders



31% for degree holders who borrowed



41% for non-completers



51% for non-completers who borrowed

*Non-completers are those who attended some college but did not earn a degree and are not currently in school.

Family Background: Income

Young adults characterized the income of the household in which they spent their childhood on a spectrum from low to high. About half (49%) of adults who report growing up in a middle-, upper-middle- or high-income household have earned a college degree, compared to 29% of adults who report growing up in a low-income or lower-middle-income household.

These young adults who report growing up in a low- or lower-middle-income household are less likely to attend college (65% attended vs. 74% of those who report growing up in a middle-, upper-middle-, or high-income household). Among those young adults who did attend college, those who report growing up in a low- or lower-middle-income household are more at risk for not completing their degree (44% are non-completers) compared to those who report growing up in middle-, upper-middle- or high-income household (23% are non-completers).



Completed a degree



Faced challenges while completing degree



Exhibit high persistence



Grew up in a lower-income household



Currently employed



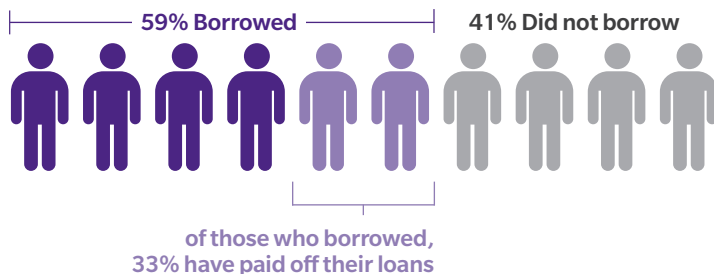
Earn > \$100,000

Education

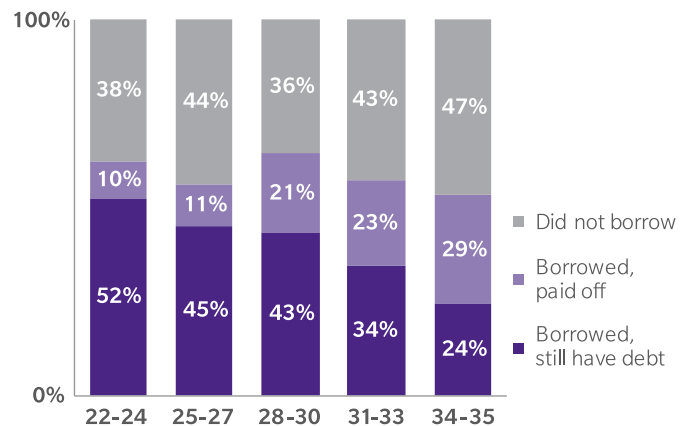
	First-in-family (30% of those who attended college)	College-educated family (70% of those who attended college)
Completed a degree	64%	61%
Faced challenges while completing degree	82%	69%
Exhibit high persistence	42%	30%
Grew up in a lower-income household	45%	33%
Currently employed	79%	74%
Earn > \$100,000	25%	19%

Borrowing for college

Of those who attended college:



Once they reach their 30s, more student loan borrowers have paid off their loans.



Base: All those who attended college and are no longer students, including some college, no degree; associate, bachelor's and advanced degree

Visit Navient.com/MoneyUnder35 to read the complete study.

@Navient
 facebook.com/Navient
 linkedin.com/company/Navient
 medium.com/@Navient