

United States Senate

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Schumer Study: Hundreds of Thousands of NY College Students Taking on Billions in Debt

A new Schumer study found that the 459,292 current full-time and part-time students currently enrolled in college in Upstate New York could be saddled with \$6.43 billion worth of student loan debt when they graduate. Rising student loan debt can affect a student's livelihood for decades after graduation. Student loan debt can limit post-collegiate career options, delay the purchase of large items like a home or a car, and discourage borrowers from starting a family. In the most extreme cases, burdensome debt can cause some students to default, resulting in lifelong ruined credit.

The Schumer study is based on data from National Center for Education Statistics and New York State Office of Higher Education.

Of the **68,389** current undergraduate students in the **Capital Region**, over the next four years an estimated **45,957** will graduate with **\$957,660,468** worth of debt.

County	Total Number of Undergraduate Students	Number of Students who Took Out Loans to Pay for College	Estimated Amount Borrowed by Current Undergraduate Students
Albany	26,230	17,627	\$367,302,257
Montgomery	2,203	1,480	\$30,848,909
Rensselaer	18,029	12,115	\$252,462,539
Saratoga	12,295	8,262	\$172,168,557
Schenectady	7,154	4,807	\$100,178,435
Schoharie	2,478	1,665	\$34,699,771
Capital Region Total	68,389	45,957	\$957,660,468

Of the **61,394** current undergraduate students in **Central New York**, over the next four years an estimated **41,257** will graduate with **\$859,708,532** worth of debt.

County	Total Number of Undergraduate Students	Number of Students who Took Out Loans to Pay for College	Estimated Amount Borrowed by Current Undergraduate Students
Onondaga	28,449	19,118	\$398,375,216
Oswego	7,138	4,797	\$99,954,385
Cortland	5,949	3,998	\$83,304,656
Madison	7,055	4,741	\$98,792,124
Oneida	12,803	8,604	\$179,282,150
Central New York Total	61,394	41,257	\$859,708,532

Of the **88,298** current undergraduate students in the **Rochester/Finger Lakes Region**, over the next four years an estimated **59,336** will graduate with **\$1,236,448,903** worth of debt.

County	Total Number of Undergraduate Students	Number of Students who Took Out Loans to Pay for College	Estimated Amount Borrowed by Current Undergraduate Students
Monroe	47,890	32,182	\$670,610,183
Cayuga	4,258	2,861	\$59,625,353
Livingston	5,307	3,566	\$74,314,643
Ontario	6,778	4,555	\$94,913,256
Tompkins	22,797	15,320	\$319,229,491
Yates	1,268	852	\$17,755,976
Finger Lakes Total	88,298	59,336	\$1,236,448,903

Of the **89,034** current undergraduate students in the **Hudson Valley**, over the next four years an estimated **59,831** will graduate with **\$1,246,755,211** worth of debt.

County	Total Number of Undergraduate Students	Number of Students who Took Out Loans to Pay for College	Estimated Amount Borrowed by Current Undergraduate Students
Westchester	35,967	24,170	\$503,650,793
Orange	8,480	5,699	\$118,746,593
Columbia	1,728	1,161	\$24,197,419
Dutchess	19,809	13,312	\$277,388,121
Rockland	11,749	7,895	\$164,522,845
Sullivan	1,684	1,132	\$23,581,281
Ulster	9,617	6,463	\$134,668,159
Hudson Valley Total	89,034	59,831	\$1,246,755,211

Of the **31,578** current undergraduate students in the **North County**, over the next four years, an estimated **21,220** will graduate with **\$442,191,029** worth of debt.

County	Total Number of Undergraduate Students	Number of Students who Took Out Loans to Pay for College	Estimated Amount Borrowed by Current Undergraduate Students
Clinton	7,595	5,104	\$106,353,818
St. Lawrence	10,879	7,311	\$152,340,117
Warren	3,493	2,347	\$48,912,954
Essex	1,605	1,079	\$22,475,033
Franklin	846	569	\$11,846,653
Herkimer	3,575	2,402	\$50,061,211
Jefferson	3,585	2,409	\$50,201,243
North Country Total	31,578	21,220	\$442,191,029

Of the **41,340** current undergraduate students in the **Southern Tier**, over the next four years, an estimated **27,780** will graduate with **\$578,889,642** worth of debt.

County	Total Number of Undergraduate Students	Number of Students who Took Out Loans to Pay for College	Estimated Amount Borrowed by Current Undergraduate Students
Broome	17,903	12,031	\$250,698,144
Allegany	6,614	4,445	\$92,616,742
Chemung	1,845	1,240	\$25,835,786
Delaware	2,557	1,718	\$35,806,019
Otsego	7,111	4,779	\$99,576,300
Steuben	5,310	3,568	\$74,356,652
Southern Tier Total	41,340	27,780	\$578,889,642

Of the **79,239** current undergraduate students in **Western New York**, over the next four years an estimated **53,249** will graduate with **\$1,109,594,494** worth of debt.

County	Total Number of Undergraduate Students	Number of Students who Took Out Loans to Pay for College	Estimated Amount Borrowed by Current Undergraduate Students
Erie	53,145	35,713	\$744,196,663
Genesee	6,490	4,361	\$90,880,353
Niagara	8,364	5,621	\$117,122,230
Cattaraugus	2,235	1,502	\$31,297,009
Chautauqua	9,005	6,051	\$126,098,240
Western NY Total	79,239	53,249	\$1,109,594,494

*** Enrollment numbers represent students, from New York or elsewhere, who attend an undergraduate college or university, either part-time or full-time, in a given county in the State of New York