

Table 3: Distribution of Federal Pell Grant Recipients by Family Income and Grant Level

Table 3A: *Total*

Table 3B: *Dependent*

Table 3C: *Independent*

Tables 3A, 3B, and 3C present the distribution of Federal Pell Grant recipients by family income and grant level for all recipients, dependents and independents, respectively.

Table 3A supports the relationship introduced with Table 2 that as family income increases, grant size decreases. Just under half (47.3 percent) of all grant recipients report family income of \$9,000 or less. Of these recipients, 38.1 percent receive the maximum grant of \$2,300. Only 20.2 percent of these recipients received grants of less than \$900. Of recipients reporting income greater than \$20,000, 42.9 percent receive grants less than \$900, and less than 7.0 percent receive the maximum grant.

Independents Receive Higher Grants. Tables 3B and 3C show that the majority of recipients receiving both the maximum and other high or moderately high grants are independent as illustrated in Figure 7.

P Nearly two-thirds (59.2 percent) of those receiving the maximum grant are independent.

P Approximately 57.2 percent of recipients receiving grants of \$1,500 or more are independent. Almost half (49.2 percent) of all independent recipients receive grants greater than \$1,500 with 29.5 percent receiving the maximum grant.

P Independent recipients receive 59.3 percent of all grants awarded.

It should be noted that independents report far lower family incomes than dependents on the whole and therefore are more likely to qualify for larger grants. Dependents who must report their parents' income are more likely to receive a smaller grant.

P Although 53.7 percent of all dependent recipients receive grants larger than \$1,500, 33.1 percent of these recipients report a family income of \$9,000 or less; over 76.7 percent report a family income of \$20,000 or less.

Almost 23.8 percent of all dependent recipients receive grants less than \$900.

For the most part, recipients with relatively large incomes are more likely than their low income counterparts to receive a small grant. It is important to note that educational cost and enrollment status are also determinants of grant level. Although 20.2 percent of recipients with incomes of \$9,000 or less received grants less than \$900; it is likely that many of these students attend low-cost institutions or were enrolled on a part-time basis.

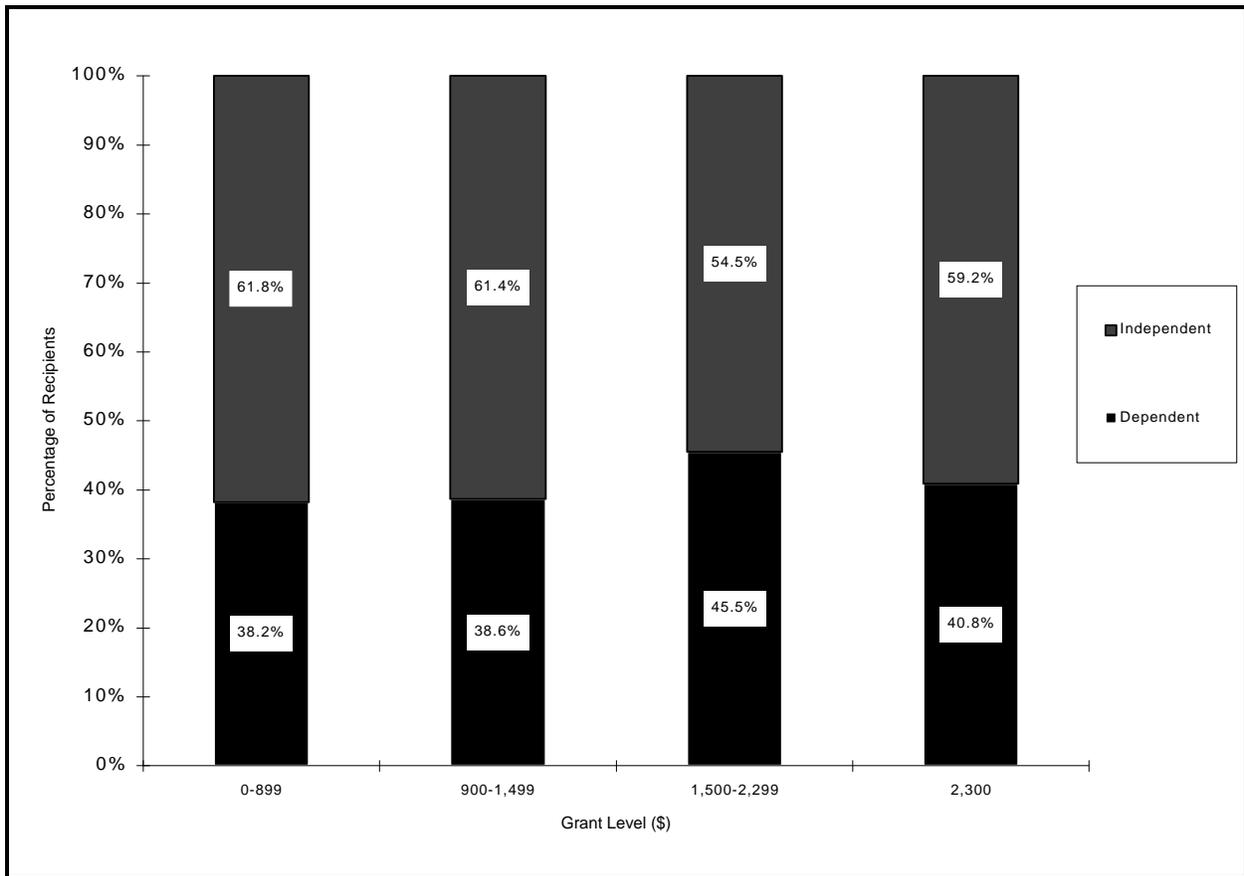


Figure 7: Distribution of Grants by Dependency Status

