



TIAA-CREF *institute*

Access to the Most Selective Private Colleges by High-Ability, Low-Income Students

Are They Out There?



Access to the Most Selective Private Colleges by High-Ability, Low-Income Students

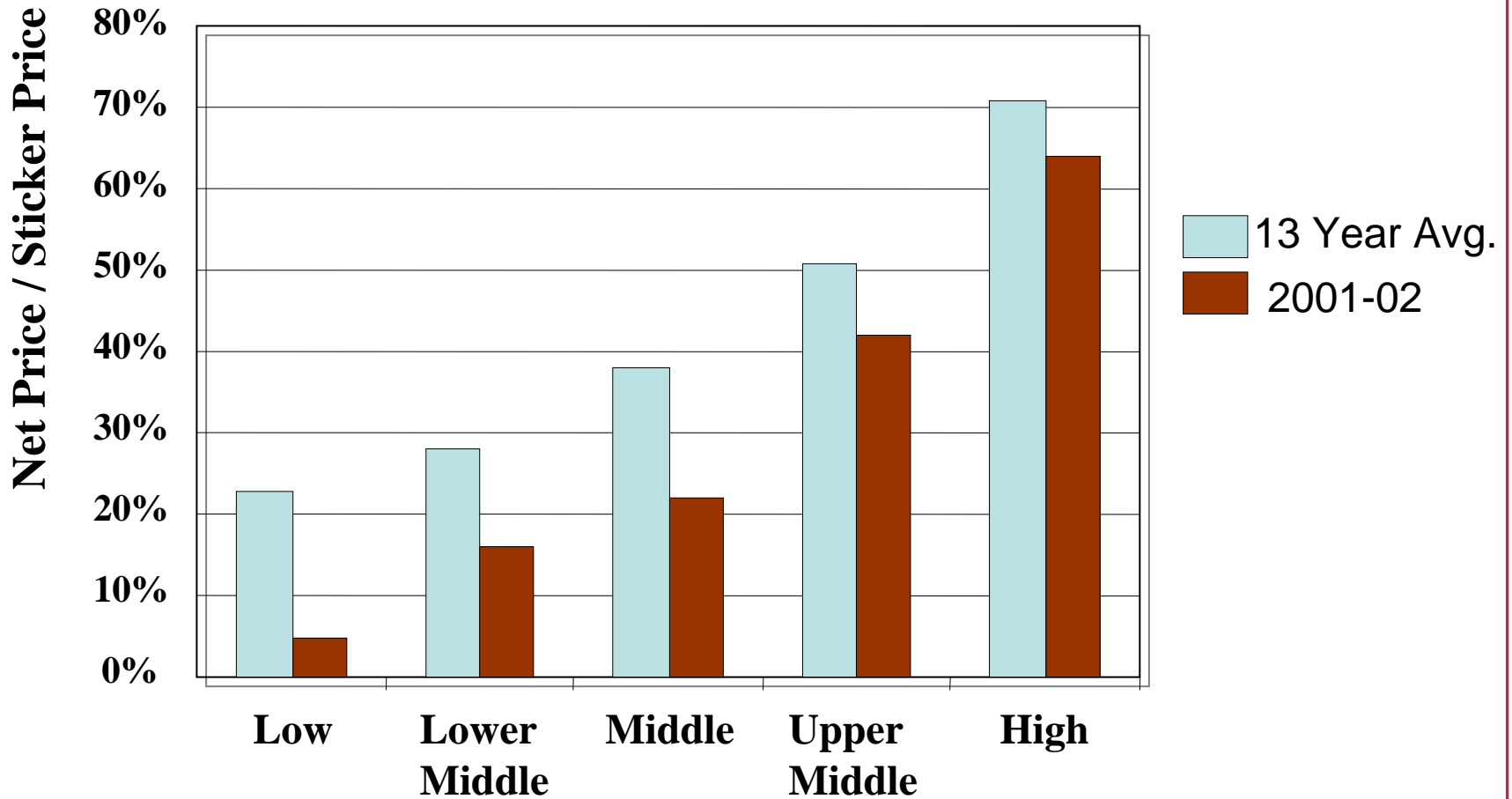
Gordon C. Winston

Catharine B. Hill

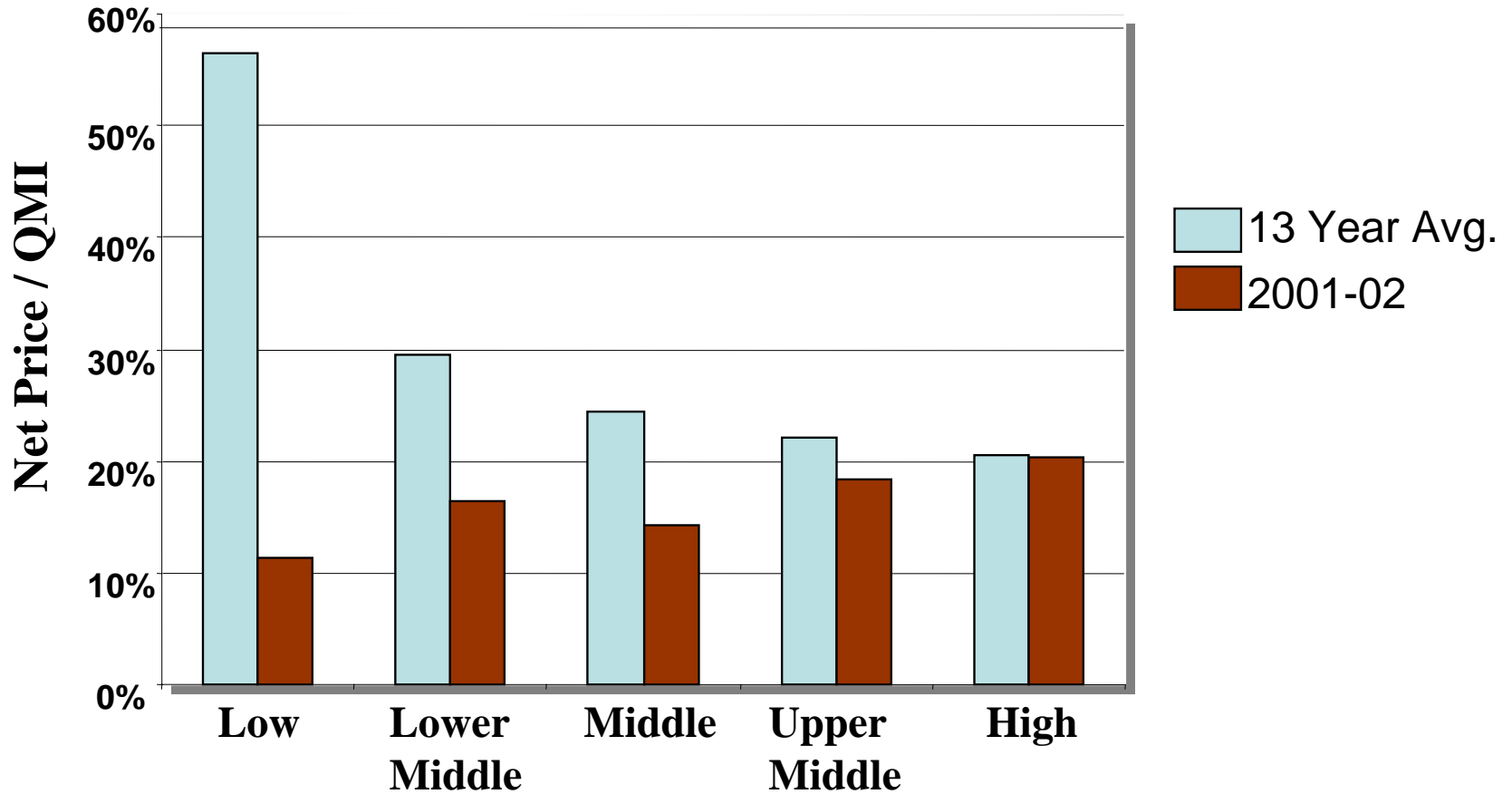


Williams College 2001-02 and Previous Aid Policies

Net Price as Share of Sticker Price



Williams College 2001-02 and Previous Aid Policies Net Price as Share of Median Family Income



Income Distribution of Students Over Family Income – 28 Highly Selective Private Schools

Family Income						
Income	Lowest	Lower Middle	Middle	Upper Middle	High	Total Enrolled
Lower Bound		\$24,001	\$41,001	\$61,379	\$91,701	
Quintile Median	\$15,347	\$32,416	\$50,890	\$74,418	\$113,689	
<i>Number of Students</i>						
COFHE Schools	5,086	5,956	8,053	12,086	75,803	108,721
Coed Colleges	698	958	1,242	1,951	10,501	15,471
Women's Colleges	532	641	752	962	5,515	8,620
Ivy League Universities	2,079	2,290	3,130	4,747	32,870	45,609
Non-Ivy Universities	1,777	2,067	2,929	4,426	26,918	39,022
<i>Percent of Total Enrollment</i>						
COFHE Schools	5%	5%	7%	11%	70%	100%
Coed Colleges	5%	6%	8%	13%	68%	100%
Women's Colleges	6%	7%	9%	11%	64%	100%
Ivy League Universities	5%	5%	7%	10%	72%	100%
Non-Ivy Universities	5%	5%	8%	11%	69%	100%
All unaided students are assumed to be from high income families.					2001/02 data.	
Hill, Winston, and Boyd, 2005.						



Distribution of Students over Family Income by Ability Level

National SAT and ACT Test Taking Populations Combined (2003)

SAT Equivalent Score	Family Income						
<i>Income</i>	Lowest	Lower Middle	Middle	Upper Middle	High	Total Reporting	No Income Report
Lower Bound	--	\$24,001	\$41,001	\$61,379	\$91,701		
Quintile Med.	\$15,347	\$32,416	\$50,890	\$74,418	\$113,689		
1600	7	30	48	112	252	449	506
<i>Percent</i>	1.60%	6.70%	10.70%	24.90%	56.10%	100%	
1520 & above	193	598	1,052	1,871	3,711	7,425	5,116
<i>Percent</i>	2.60%	8.10%	14.20%	25.20%	50.00%	100%	
1420 & above	1,229	3,047	5,363	8,406	15,288	33,333	20,776
<i>Percent</i>	3.70%	9.10%	16.10%	25.20%	45.90%	100%	
1300 & above	5,982	13,977	23,318	32,912	48,747	124,936	70,334
<i>Percent</i>	4.80%	11.20%	18.70%	26.30%	39.00%	100%	
1220 & above	13,360	30,238	47,683	63,113	85,448	239,842	127,219
<i>Percent</i>	5.60%	12.60%	19.90%	26.30%	35.60%	100%	



Distribution of Students over Family Income by Ability Level (Contd.)

National SAT and ACT Test Taking Populations Combined (2003)

SAT Equivalent Score	Family Income					Total Reporting	No Income Report
	Income	Lowest	Lower Middle	Middle	Upper Middle		
Lower Bound	--	\$24,001	\$41,001	\$61,379	\$91,701		
Quintile Med.	\$15,347	\$32,416	\$50,890	\$74,418	\$113,689		
1110 & above	36,304	72,706	104,950	128,841	152,152	494,953	238,079
<i>Percent</i>	7.30%	14.70%	21.20%	26.00%	30.70%	100%	
1030 & above	62,404	117,124	158,043	184,752	198,566	720,889	329,027
<i>Percent</i>	8.70%	16.20%	21.90%	25.60%	27.50%	100%	
910 & above	122,412	199,916	245,299	266,401	257,655	1,091,683	464,440
<i>Percent</i>	11.20%	18.30%	22.50%	24.40%	23.60%	100%	
830 & above	173,758	256,333	296,051	307,457	283,905	1,317,504	540,701
<i>Percent</i>	13.20%	19.50%	22.50%	23.30%	21.50%	100%	



Distribution of Students over Family Income by Ability Level (Contd.)

National SAT and ACT Test Taking Populations Combined (2003)

SAT Equivalent Score	Family Income					Total Reporting	No Income Report
	Lowest	Lower Middle	Middle	Upper Middle	High		
<i>Income</i>							
Lower Bound	--	\$24,001	\$41,001	\$61,379	\$91,701		
Quintile Med.	\$15,347	\$32,416	\$50,890	\$74,418	\$113,689		
740 & above	227,465	303,930	330,957	334,082	297,906	1,494,340	599,439
<i>Percent</i>	15.20%	20.30%	22.10%	22.40%	19.90%	100%	
620 & above	270,223	332,459	348,452	345,527	303,641	1,600,302	638,845
<i>Percent</i>	16.90%	20.80%	21.80%	21.60%	19.00%	100%	
500 & above	286,576	341,063	353,194	348,324	305,050	1,634,207	653,726
<i>Percent</i>	17.50%	20.90%	21.60%	21.30%	18.70%	100%	
400 & above	289,061	342,113	353,654	348,653	305,207	1,638,688	655,841



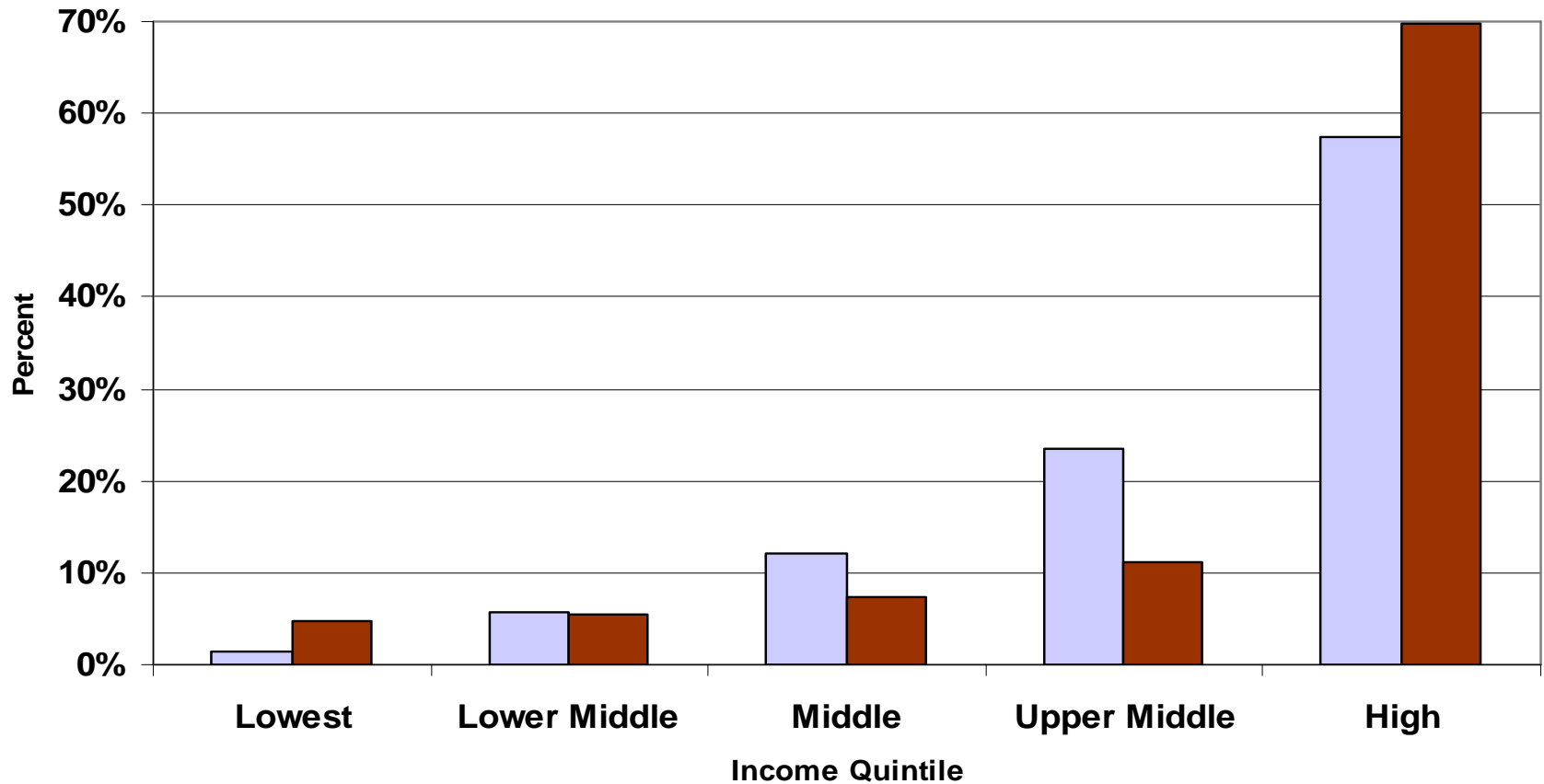
Data from College Board and ACT

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Distribution of Students by Income and Test Score

1600

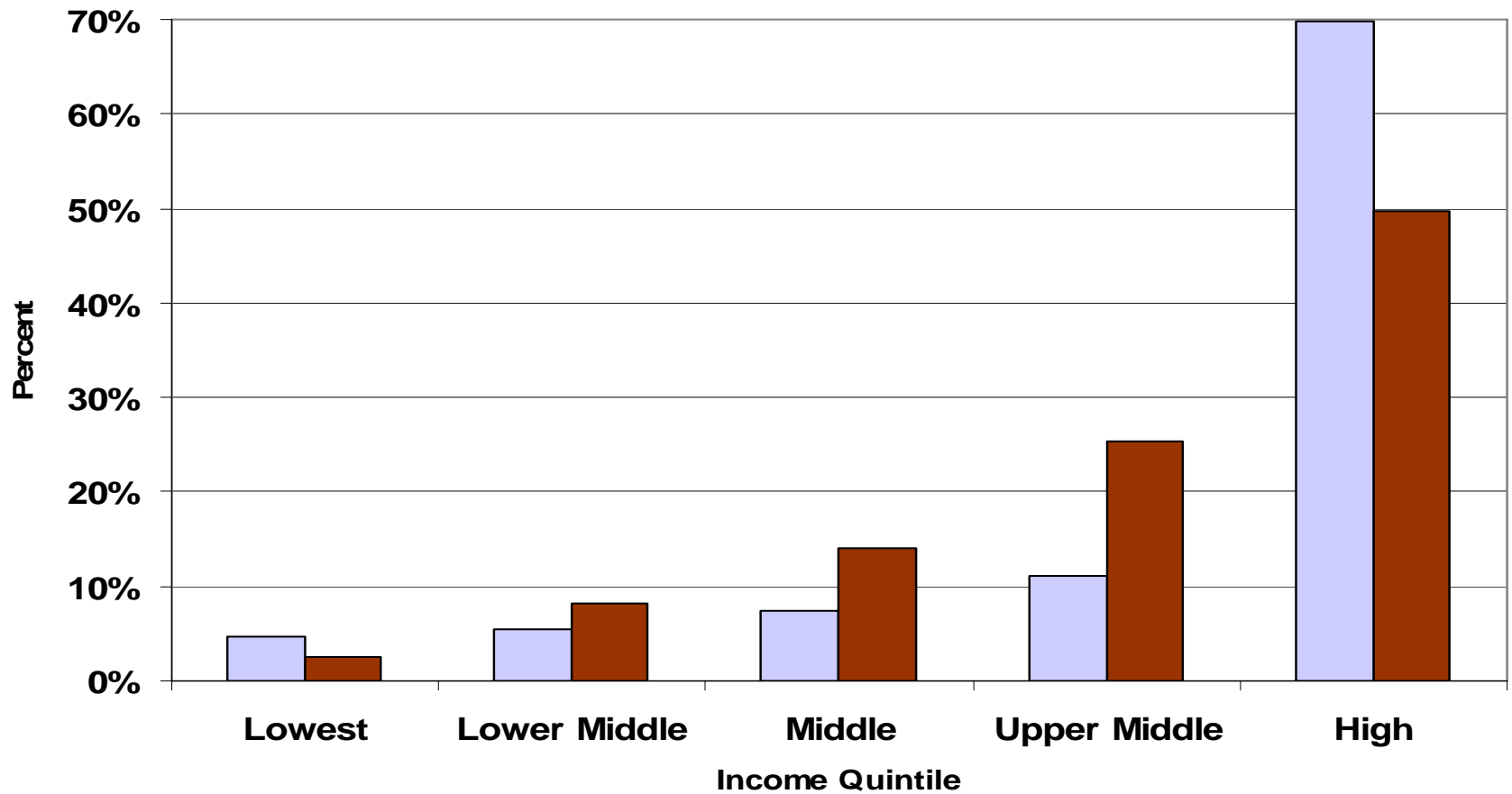
(National v. COFHE)



■ National ■ COFHE Schools



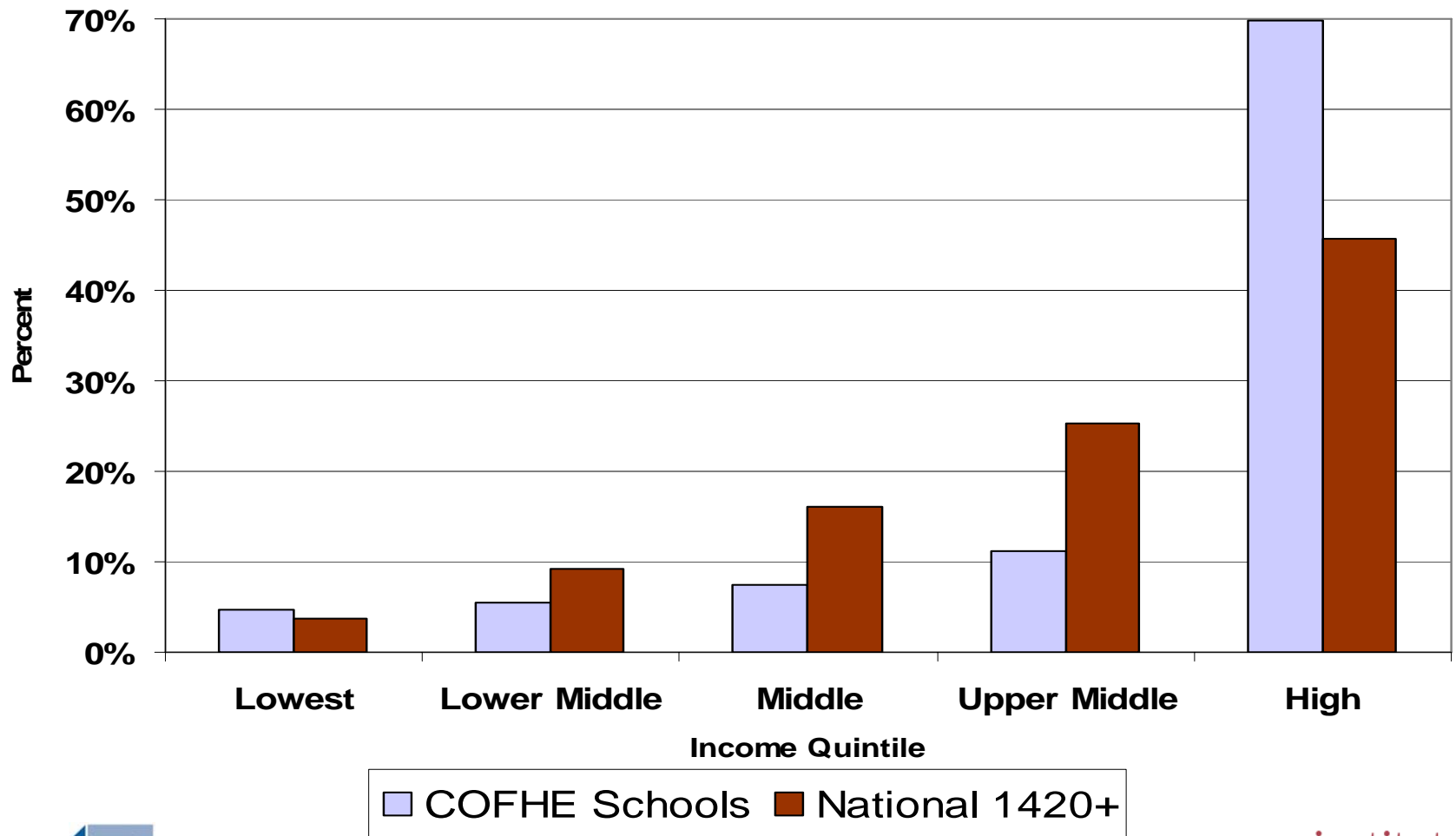
Distribution of Students by Income and Test Score 1520 & Above



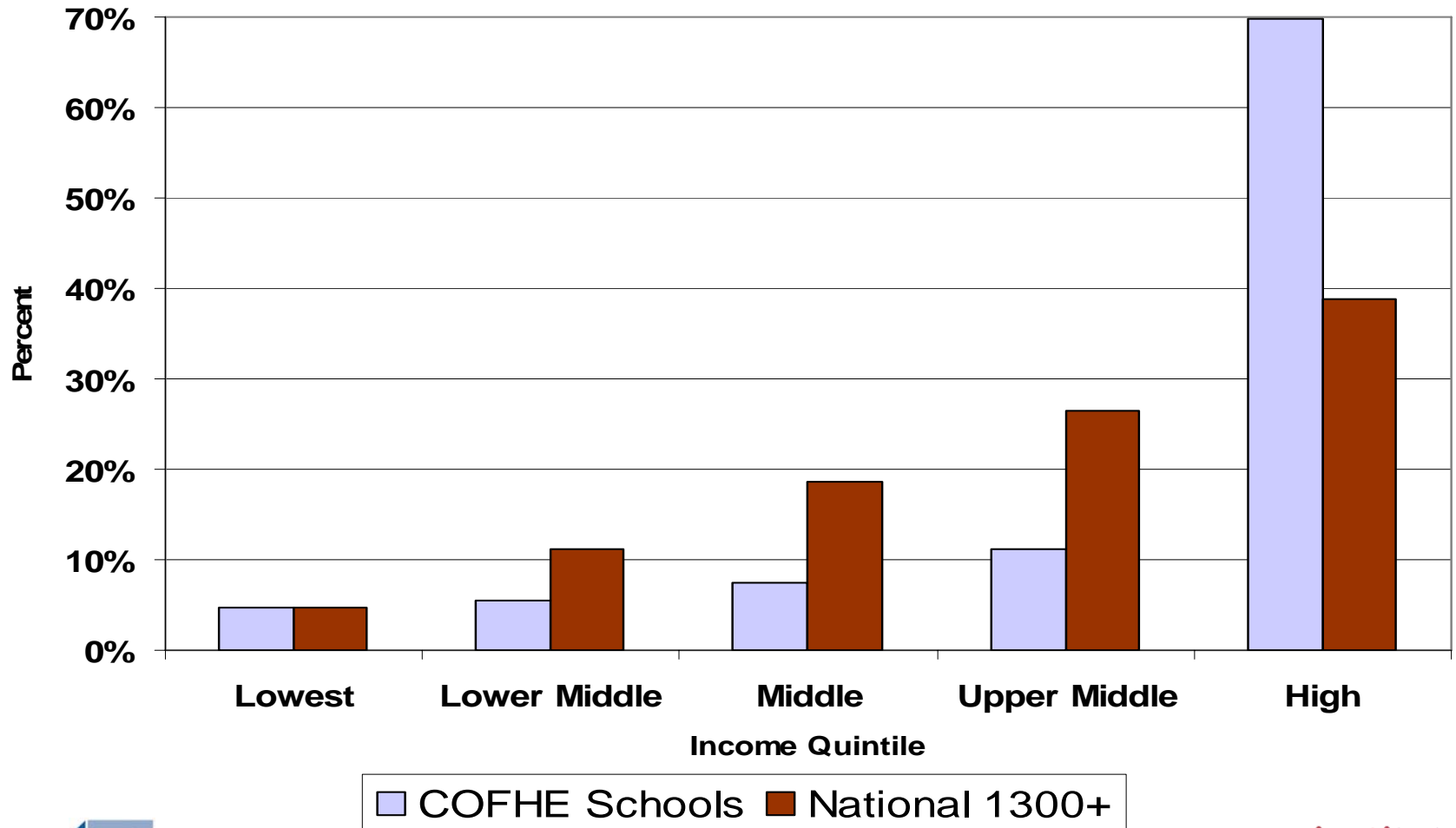
COFHE Schools National 1520+



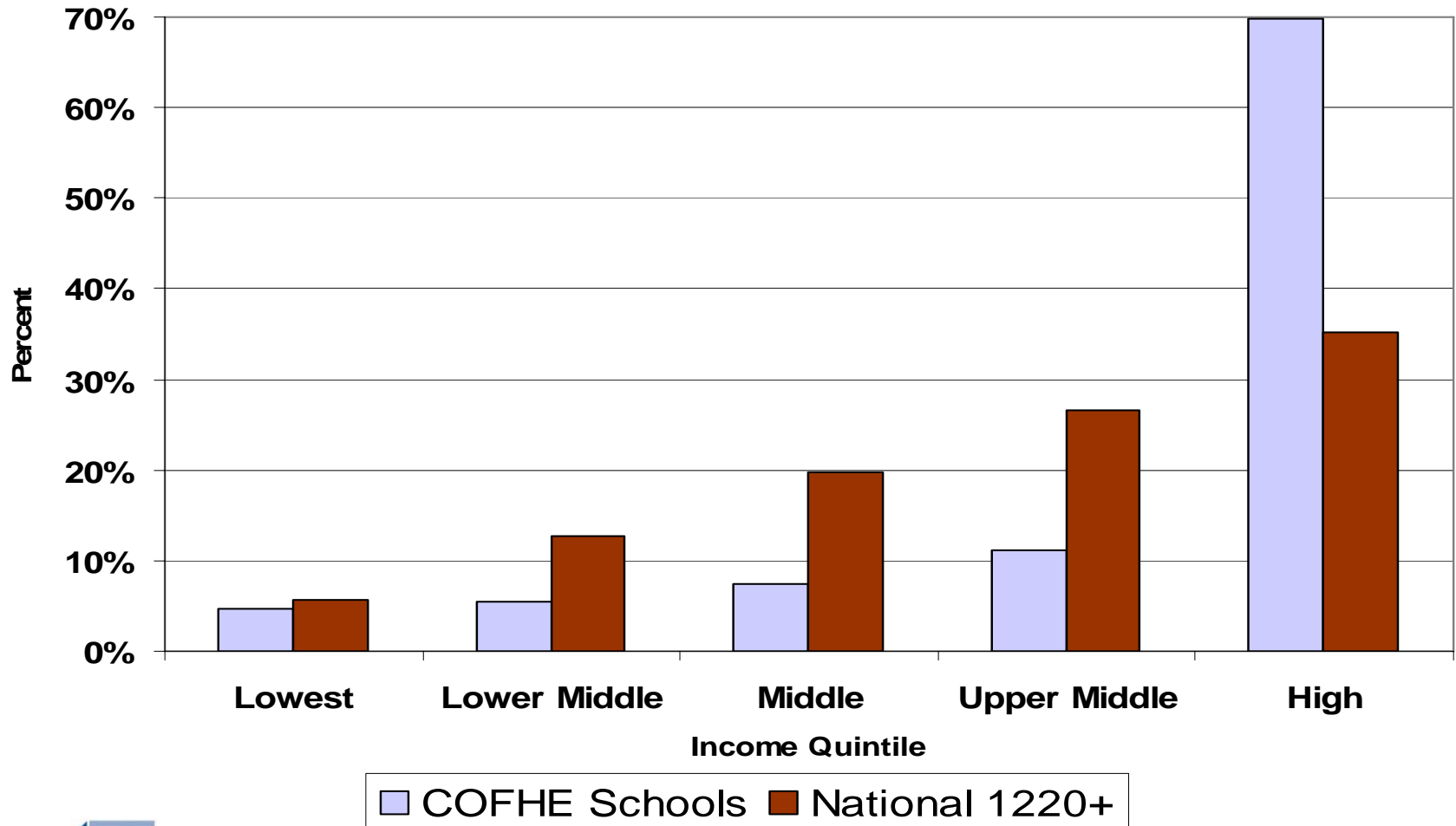
Distribution of Students by Income and Test Score 1420 & Above



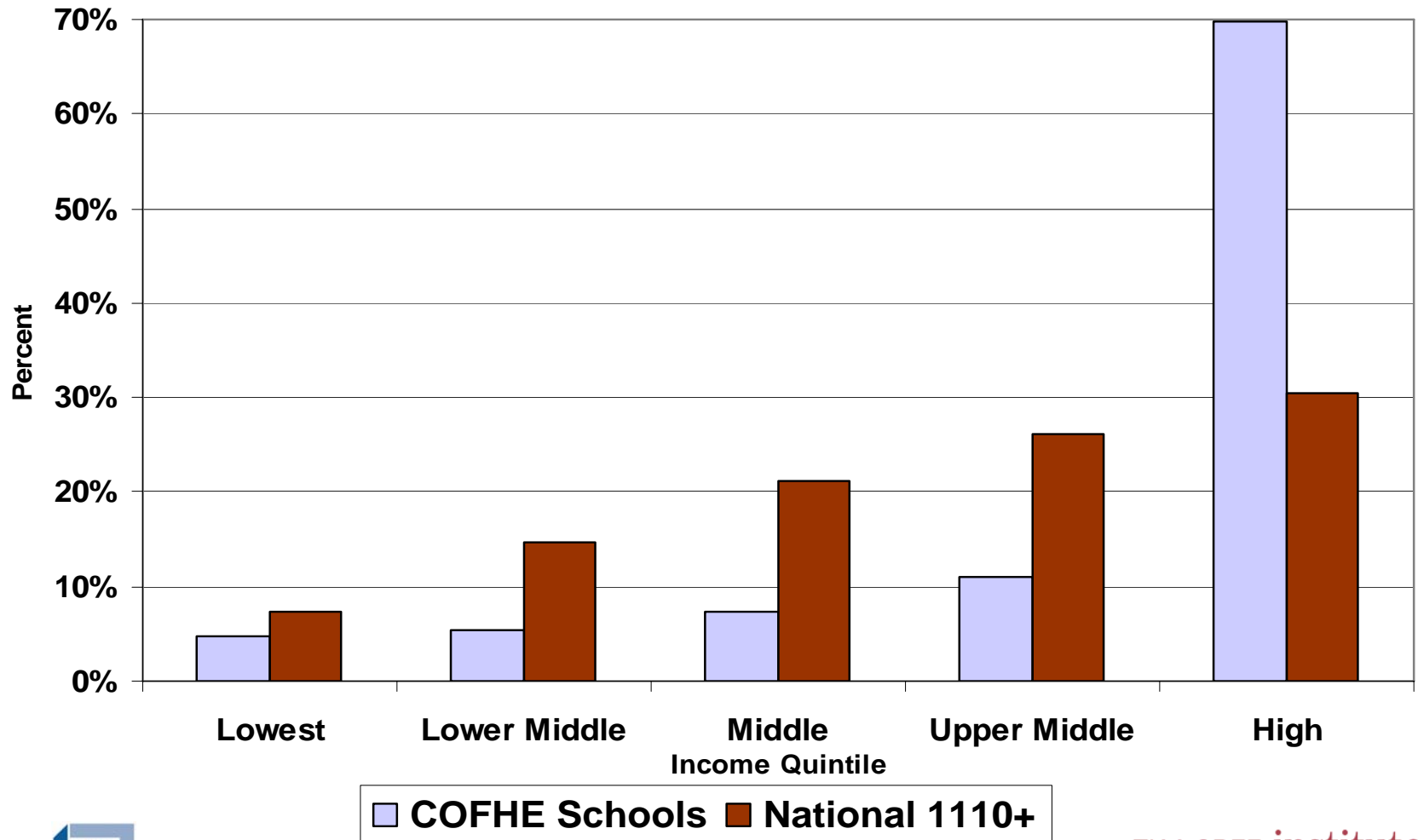
Distribution of Students by Income and Test Score 1300 & Above



Distribution of Students by Income and Test Score 1220 & Above



Distribution of Students by Income and Test Score 1110 & Above



FACT (in the COFHE study of pricing)

10% of COFHE students come from the bottom 40% of family income distribution.



WHY???

High prices?

Poor kids are kept out?

More high-ability low-income kids don't exist?

Information: they exist but don't know of low prices, need-blind admission?

Preferences: they don't want to go to these schools?

