

APPROACHING COLLEGE “ENROLLMENT CLIFF”



WHAT IS IT?

The anticipated reduction of college-aged people beginning in 2025.

WHY?

Contributing factors include decrease in birth rate, increase in cost of college, and the lack of diverse options for students



HOW IT COULD AFFECT FUTURE COLLEGE STUDENTS?

- Fewer choices- Some smaller universities are expected to close (1,2).
- Admission rates:
 - Less selective universities will become less competitive for schools as there will a decrease in applicants(1).
 - Elite institutions are predicted to become even more difficult to get accepted to (4).
- Change in academic program offerings - Some institutions may close programs to cut costs (1).
- Class size changes- Staffing cutbacks could result in larger class sizes and less support (1,2).
- Tuition cost- Some institutions may raise their tuition and fees to offset the decrease in enrollment (1).
- Reduced aid- Students may receive less scholarships/funding due to decreased budgets of certain institutions (1)
- Location- Students may have to travel farther away due to institutions closing (1).
- Some students may have to consider other post secondary options if their desired institution is impacted by the enrollment cliff (1,3).

CITATIONS

1. [Best Colleges](#)
2. [CUPAHR](#)
3. [Hannon Hill](#)
4. [Hechinger Report](#)

