

State of Higher Education



IN OUR GRIT, OUR GLORY™

Trends and Challenges in Higher Education

- Reliance on data analytics
- Focus on diversity, inclusion, and fairness
- Focus on health, safety and mental well-being
- Implementation of responsibility centered management (RCM)
- Increased research focus and establishment of centers
- Competency-based or “on-demand” programs
- Micro-masters and graduate certificates
- Badging and stackable programs
- Continued increase in online programs





Trends and Challenges in Higher Education

- Opportunities in workplace development
- Moving away from standardized testing
- More scrutiny over admissions
- Higher expectations for job placement
- Virtual reality programming
- Reliance on AI for grading and student feedback
- Pathway programs for transnational education (pre-COVID)

Trends and Challenges in Higher Education

- Increasing competition and cut-throat recruiting
- Shorter tenure for leadership (average president <7 years)
- Title IX vs. #Metoo
- Decreasing state appropriations
- Increasing cost
- Aging faculty and insurance cost
- Decreasing enrollment (pre-COVID)
- Anti-intellectualism



Effects of COVID

- Budget cuts, salary cuts, furloughs, layoffs, program closures
- Hiring freezes, staff promotion freezes
- College closures and mergers
- Loss of income, tax revenue, future state appropriations
- Loss of high revenue athletics
- Loss of community and cultural traditions
- Change in remote working conditions
- Change in expectations for online learning
- Questioning of the value of legacy universities
- Recession typically increases enrollment





Sources

<https://precisioncampus.com/blog/trends-higher-education/>

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/06/20/donations-colleges-are-number-donors-down>

<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2018/postsecondary.html>

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/01/28/slow-growth-competency-based-education-survey-finds-interest-and-optimism-about-it>

<https://www.edx.org/micromasters>

<https://www.insidehighered.com/digital-learning/article/2018/11/07/new-data-online-enrollments-grow-and-share-overall-enrollment>

<https://www.educationdive.com/news/report-46-of-colleges-employ-virtual-reality-in-courses/525349/>

<https://www.educationdive.com/news/7-higher-education-trends-to-watch-in-2020/569629/>

<https://www.northeastern.edu/graduate/blog/trends-in-higher-education/>

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/education-plus-development/2019/01/10/top-6-trends-in-higher-education/>

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/the-trends-report-2020/>