

Project Part 1

Topic of Interest

In 2019, 66.2% of high school graduates immediately enrolled in college. Many high school students place their hopes on their dream school and often spend a lot of time wondering if they will be accepted. Many students also worry about how they will pay for college and whether they will make the right decision when they commit to a college. What if we could help ease some of their worries? My topic of interest is college admissions/attributes in the United States. I would like to find out how different aspects, such as acceptance rates, tuition, and graduation rates, compare across colleges. Hopefully, by exploring these aspects of college admissions and general attributes in context, we can gain a better understanding of colleges and the way they work as a whole.

Research Questions

1. How does average graduation rate differ between public and private universities?
2. Do public universities in states that allocate more money toward higher education have generally lower in-state tuition compared to those in states that do not allocate as much money?
3. Do universities with higher net tuition revenues per student (how much profit a college makes per student) have higher acceptance rates?
4. How does the average acceptance rate differ between religiously affiliated universities and all other universities that are not religiously affiliated?

Populations of Interest

The population of interest for research question one is all public and private universities in the United States. The population of interest for research question two is all public universities in the United States. The population of interest for both research questions three and four is all universities in the United States.

Appropriate Data

Data that would be appropriate to answer my research questions would consist of a comprehensive collection of different types of universities in the United States with statistics such as their average acceptance rate, graduation rate, in-state tuition, out-of-state tuition, and net tuition rate per student, as well as whether they are public or private and whether they are religiously affiliated. Data on allocation of state funds is also needed, specifically to discern how much a state allocates to higher education.

References

1. <https://admissionsly.com/percentage-who-go-to-college/>