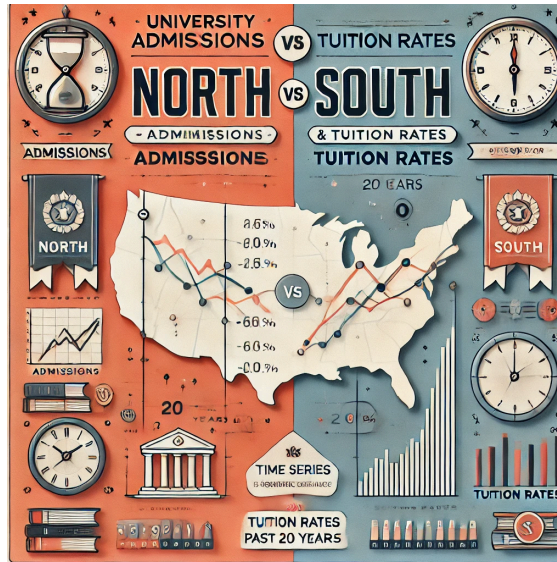


# Decoding University Admission Trends



**Background:** Over the past two decades, higher education in the United States has undergone significant changes. Admissions and tuition rates have fluctuated in ways that could impact access to education and equity among regions. The US Department of Education is seeking data-driven insights to understand these trends and ensure informed policy decisions that promote accessibility and affordability.

**Mission:** As an analyst for the US Department of Education, your mission is to uncover trends in university admissions and tuition rates across the North and South regions of the United States. Using data provided by the US Department of Education, you will analyze patterns over the past 20 years. You may explore techniques such as time series analysis, statistical testing, or visualization to identify trends and regional differences. How you approach the task is up to you—your creativity and technical skills will guide the way.

**Deliverable:** Your deliverable will include detailed code and explanations that outline the trends and regional comparisons you identify. Your reasonings should be supported by relevant visualizations, statistical tests, and any models you employ. Additionally, it should include a clear explanation of your methodology and key findings, ensuring it is both professional and accessible for policymakers.

**Are you ready to help shape the future of education in the United States?**