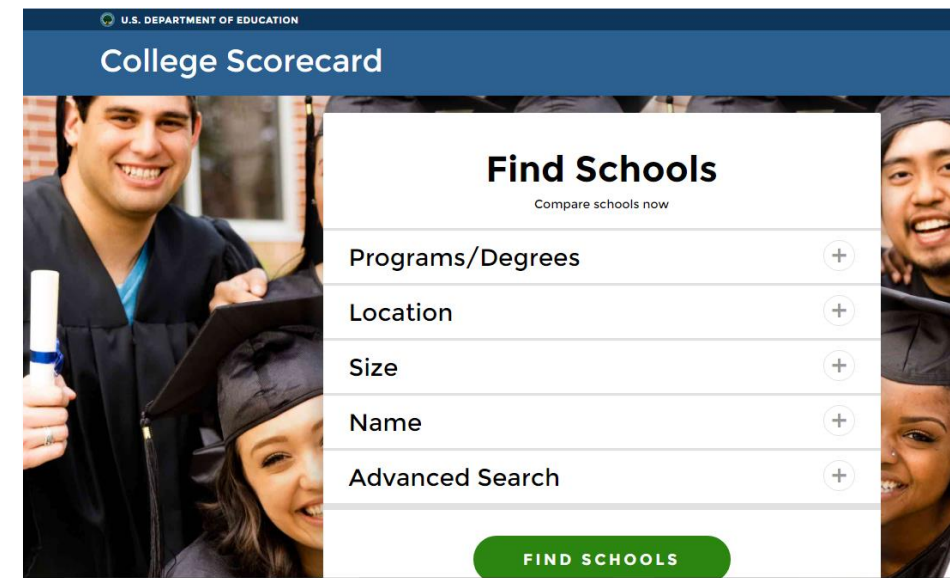




COLLEGE SCORECARD DATA

SHINY APP

- Higher education is no longer a luxury; average earnings of college graduates are more than twice that of workers with only a high school diploma.
- Since 1980, college tuition has increased by 260%.
- Over 70% of students with four-year college degrees graduate with debt.
- Since 2015, the Department of Education has provided a [College Scorecard](#) and associated data.
- The data is designed to:
 - 1 Improve transparency of higher education for students and families.
 - 2 Hold colleges accountable for measures such as value and quality.





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- The full College Scorecard dataset has information on almost 8,000 U.S. higher-education institutions and contains over 1,500 variables.
 - **Data Strengths:**
 - ✓ Fills a gap in available earnings data (other than self-reported data).
 - ✓ Reports earnings data up to 10 years after entry (a better predictor of lifetime earnings).
 - **Data Shortcomings:**
 - ✗ Many data points only represent students who receive federal loans.
- I focused my analysis on specific variables related to cost and post-graduation outcomes like debt and earnings.
- I specifically looked at institutions that offer four-year undergraduate degrees.



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- 1 **General Exploration:** What schools cost the most? Where do students have the most debt and earnings after graduation?
- 2 **Best Value Schools:** What schools cost less but provide students with higher earning potential? What schools have high overall costs but poor outcomes?
- 3 **State Variation:** Do college costs and outcomes vary by state? What states have students with the highest and lowest earnings?
- 4 **Outcomes by School Type:** Does the data validate [recent studies](#) about private for-profit schools? Specifically, do they target low-income students and result in worse outcomes (i.e., higher debt and lower earnings)?

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