

Caring for the Whole Student

How Faculty and Department Leaders Can Address Their Students' Mental Health



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Agenda

By the end of this presentation, we hope to be able to answer the following questions:

1. What **burdens** are students facing?
2. How does this **impact education**?
3. What can faculty and department leaders **do**?
4. Where can I find **more resources**?

We have also reserved time for a general Q&A.

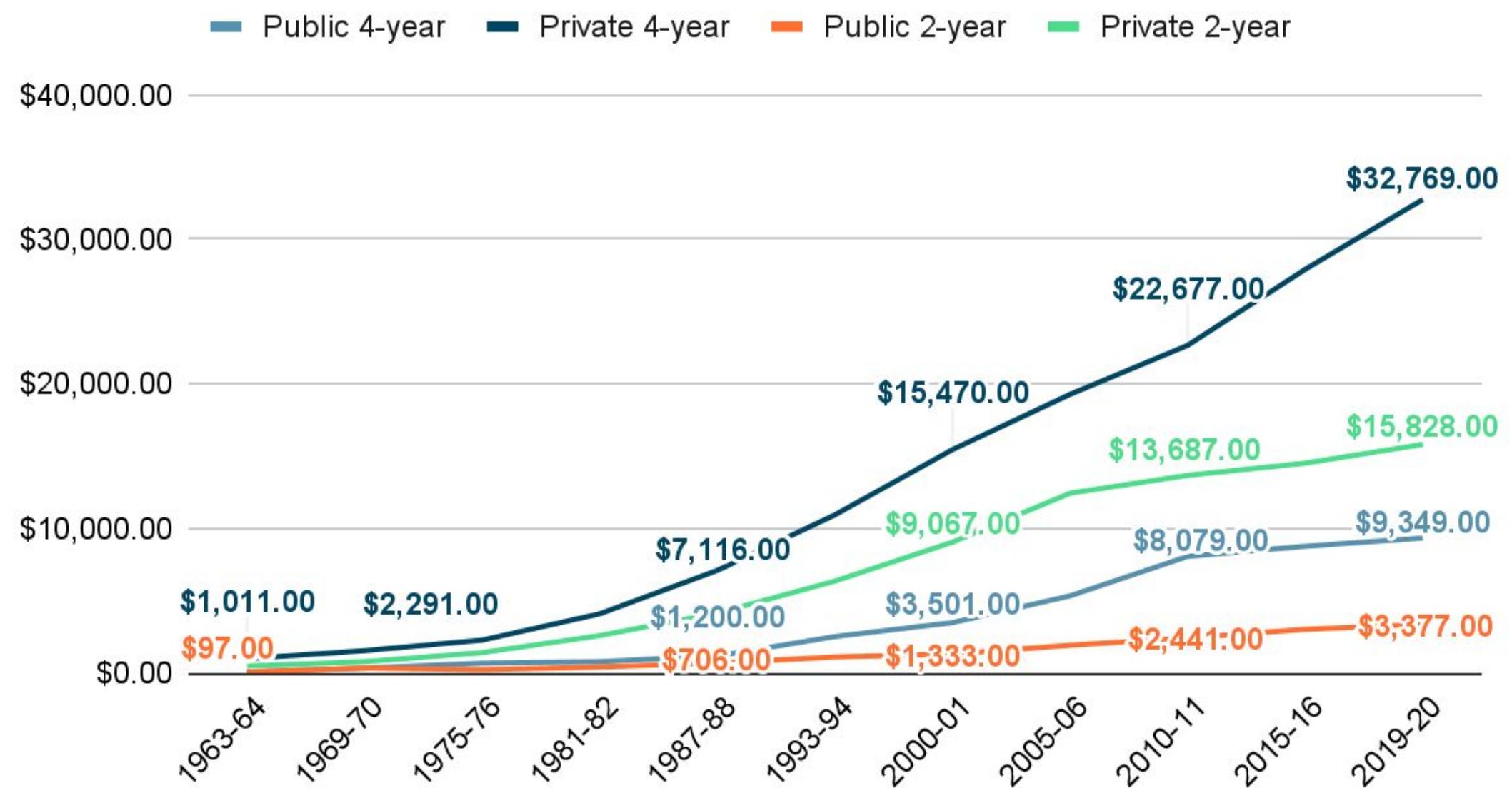
What burdens are students facing?

- Financial insecurity
- Climate change
- Healthcare

What burdens are students facing?

Financial insecurity

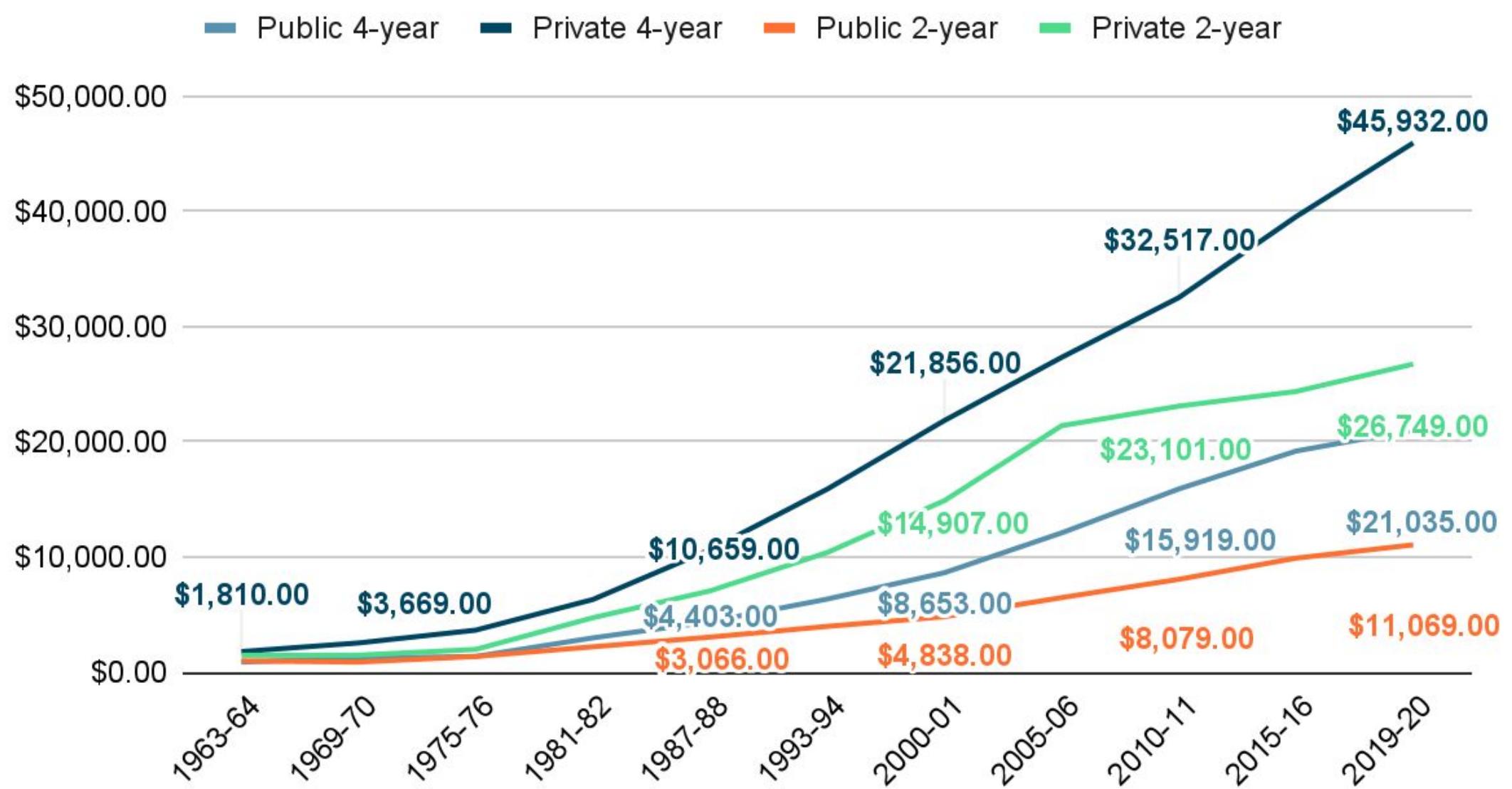
Historical Cost of Tuition & Fees



What burdens are students facing?

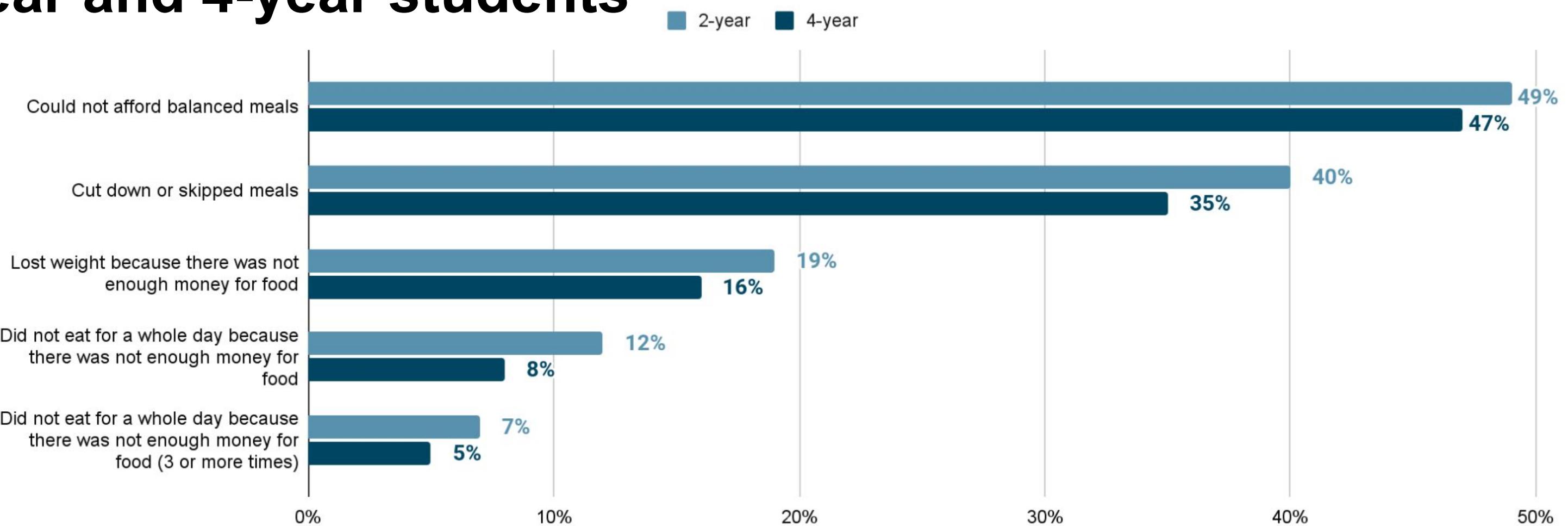
Financial insecurity

Historical Cost of Tuition, Fees, Room & Board



What burdens are students facing?

Food insecurity: 2-year and 4-year students



What burdens are students facing?

“I've always thought about finances. That's the first thing on my mind, anywhere.”

Poverty-Impacted Student
University of Massachusetts Amherst²

What burdens are students facing?

Climate change



**"I see surface temperatures in the city
that routinely exceed what you might
find in the desert."**

- Stuart Gaffin, Columbia University



The hottest surface temperature recorded from space in the past decade was 159°F, in Iran's Lut Desert. The temperature of black tar rooftops in New York City can reach 180°F in summer.



CLIMATE 365

climate365.tumblr.com | go.nasa.gov/climate365

What burdens are students facing?

Climate change

Climate change **disproportionately impacts** Black, Latinx, and Indigenous students and students who are affected by poverty.³

Students are aware of and **frightened** about the looming crisis.⁴

Common feelings: **Fear, fatalism, and hopelessness.**⁵

3. Patnaik, A., Son, J., Feng, A., & Ade, C. (2020, August 15). *Racial Disparities and Climate Change*. PSCI. [Source URL](#)
4. Hiser, K., & Lynch, M. (2021). Worry and Hope: What College Students Know, Think, Feel, and Do about Climate Change. *Journal of Community Engagement and Scholarship*, 13(3). [Source URL](#)
5. Wray, B. (2019, May). *How climate change affects your mental health*. TED. [Source URL](#)

What burdens are students facing?

“I think it’ll take years to recover from the Thomas Fire. I’ll remember the panic and chaos it created for the rest of my life.”

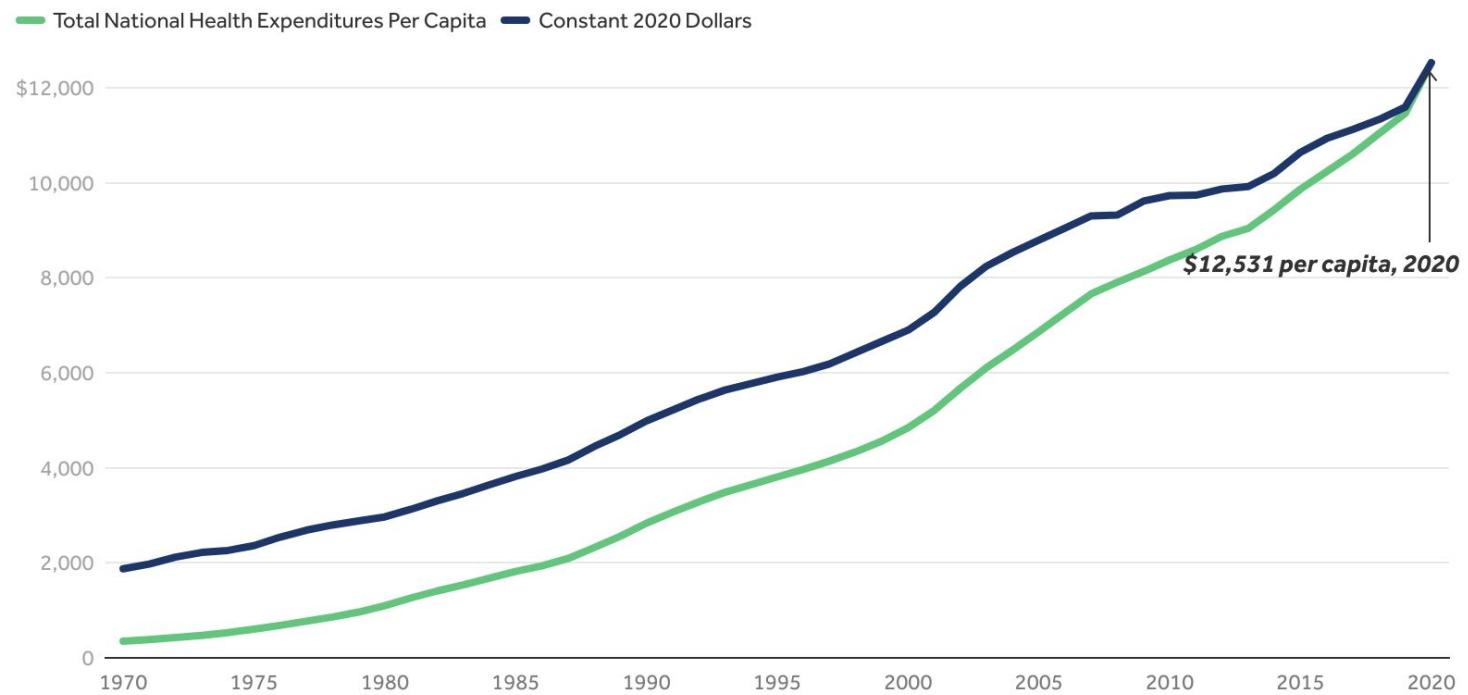
Julie Madsen

Senior at Buena Vista High School, Ventura, CA⁶

What burdens are students facing?

Healthcare

Total national health expenditures, US \$ per capita, 1970-2020



Source: KFF analysis of National Health Expenditure (NHE) data

Peterson-KFF
Health System Tracker

Health consumption expenditures per capita, U.S. dollars, PPP adjusted, 2020 or nearest year



Notes: U.S. value obtained from National Health Expenditure data. Data from Australia, Belgium, Canada, Japan and Switzerland are from 2019. Data for Australia, France, and Japan are estimated. Data for Austria, Canada, Germany, Netherlands, and Sweden are provisional. Health consumption does not include investments in structures, equipment, or research.

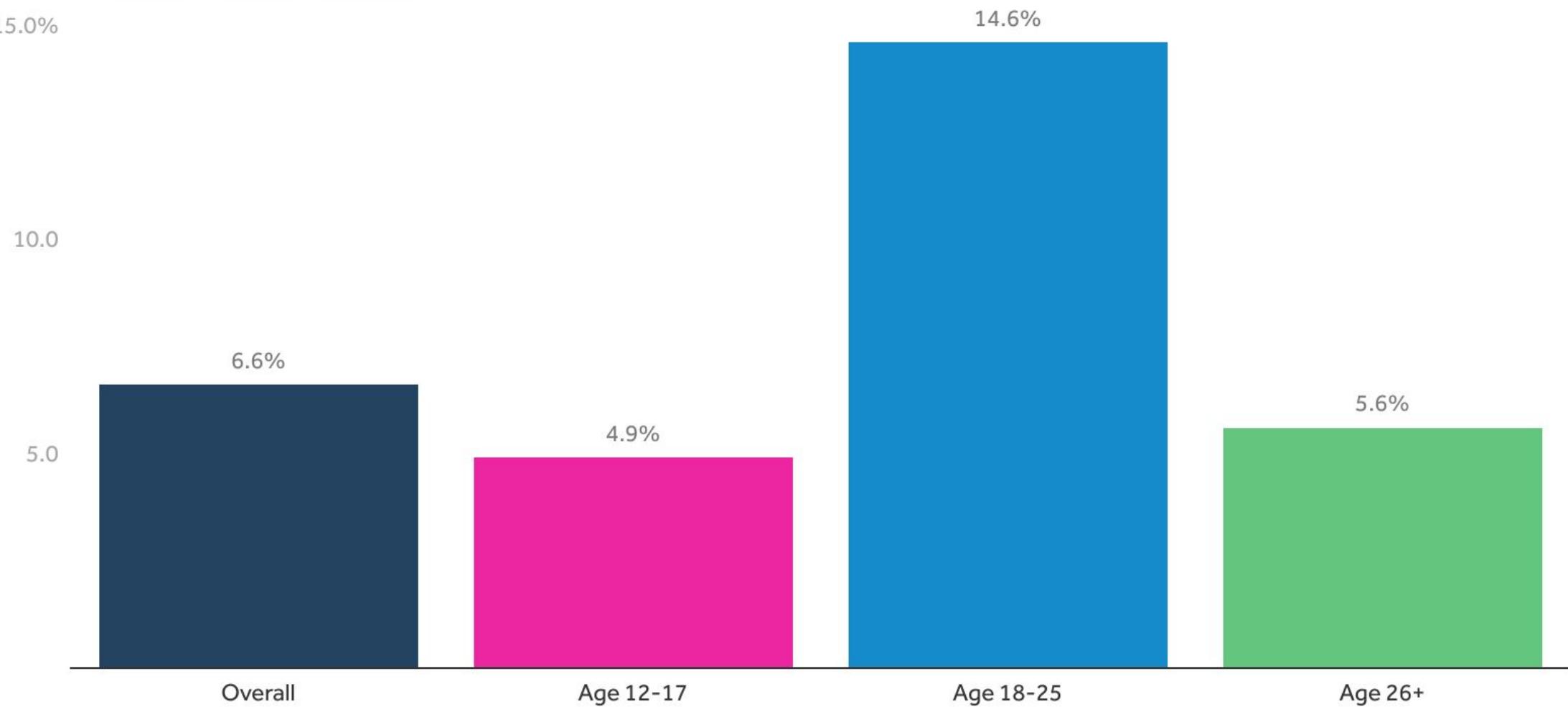
Source: KFF analysis of National Health Expenditure (NHE) and OECD data

Peterson-KFF
Health System Tracker

What burdens are students facing?

Healthcare

12-month prevalence of illicit drug disorder among population age 12+, **by age**, 2020



Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, NSDUH 2020

Peterson-KFF
Health System Tracker

How does this impact students' education?

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Impacts on students' education



How can faculty and department leaders help?

- Reduce cost and promote access
- Adapt pedagogy and policies to climate change
- Cultivate a supportive learning environment

How can faculty and department leaders help?

Reduce costs and promote access

- Switch to **low-/no-cost instructional materials**, such as OER.
- Provide at least **two weeks of free access** to all content.
- Partner with and/or identify **student support programs** that provide extra course materials.
- Create a **consolidated resource in the LMS** that orients students to the availability of resources.

How can faculty and department leaders help?

Adapt pedagogy and policies to better support students

- Create a course that has **flexible deadlines**.
- Ground instructional materials in **emerging needs**.
- Remain **culturally responsive** in your approach.
- Approach teaching and learning from a **trauma-informed perspective**.

How can faculty and department leaders help?

Cultivate a supportive learning environment

- Create a syllabus that is **welcoming and inviting**.
- Create **alternative methods for assessment**.
- **Be mindful** of the use of online proctoring software and lockdown browsers.

Where can I find more information and resources?

- You can find and download the full version of *Caring for the Whole Student* (and more!) by visiting us at everylearnereverywhere.org/resources.
- For a short list of other related resources, [CLICK HERE](#).

June 8, 2022

Prepared for
Every Learner @ REMOTE

Thank you.
Questions?