

The Demographic Decline and Colleges' Financial Future

An Inside Higher Ed webcast
Thursday, March 10, 2022
2 p.m. EST

Presenters



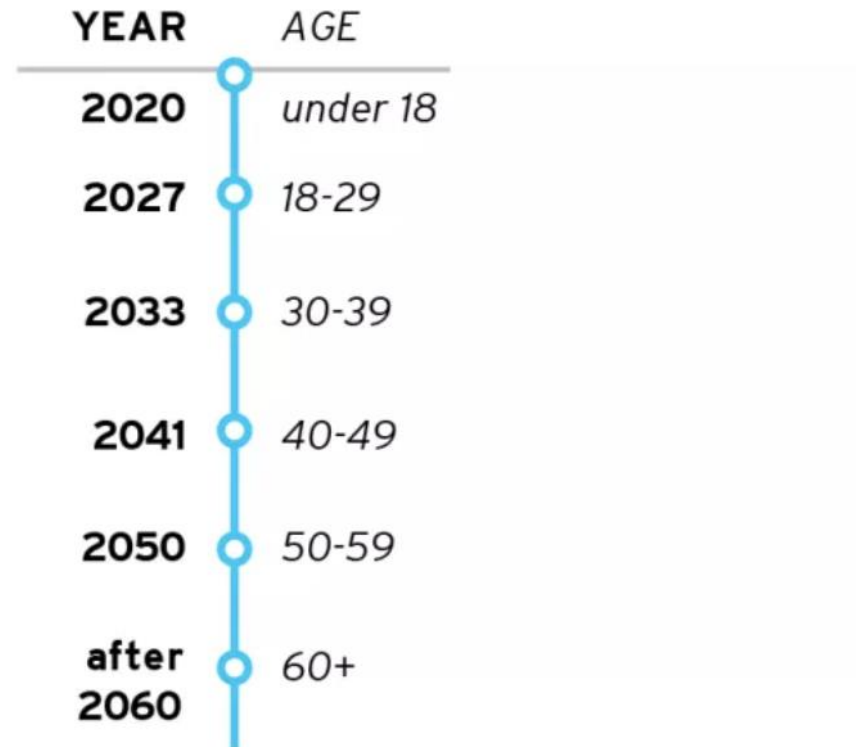
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Continued Shifts in Composition

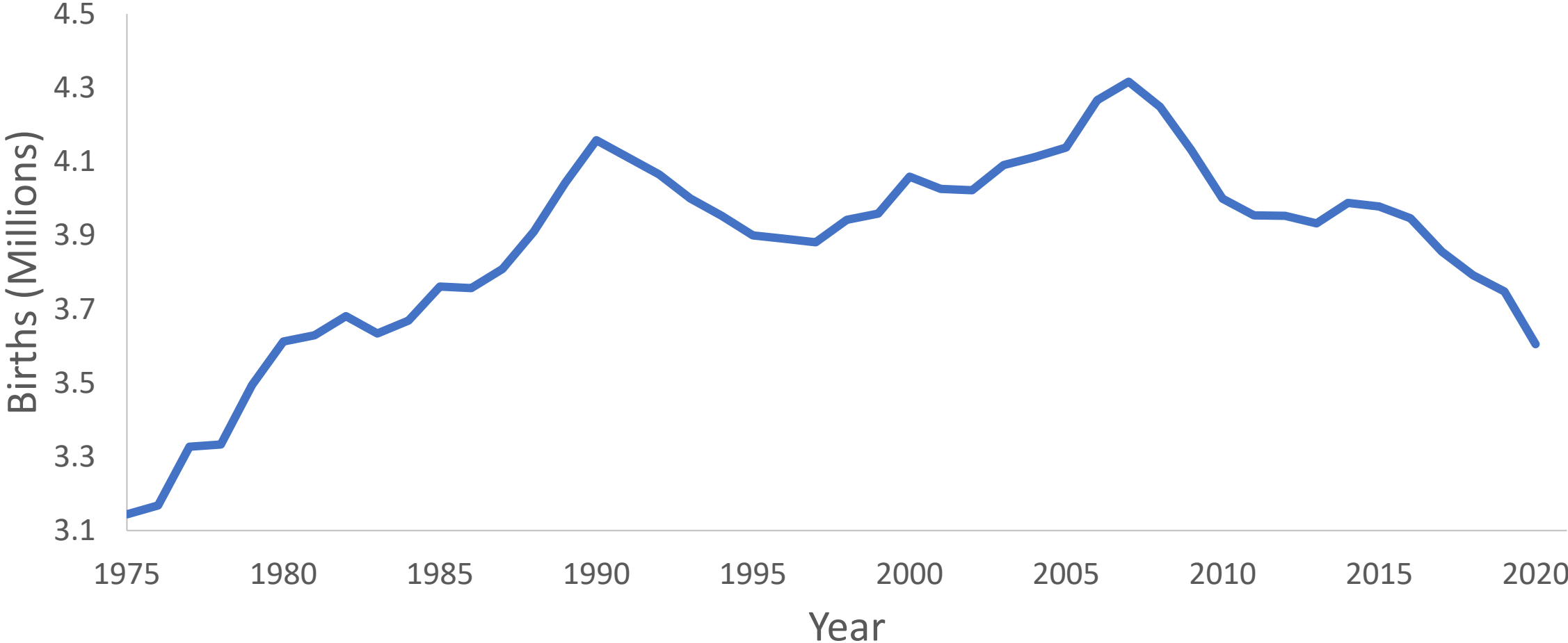
Year When Whites Become Minority by Age Group



Source: William H Frey analysis of U.S. Census population projections released March 13, 2018 and revised September 6, 2018

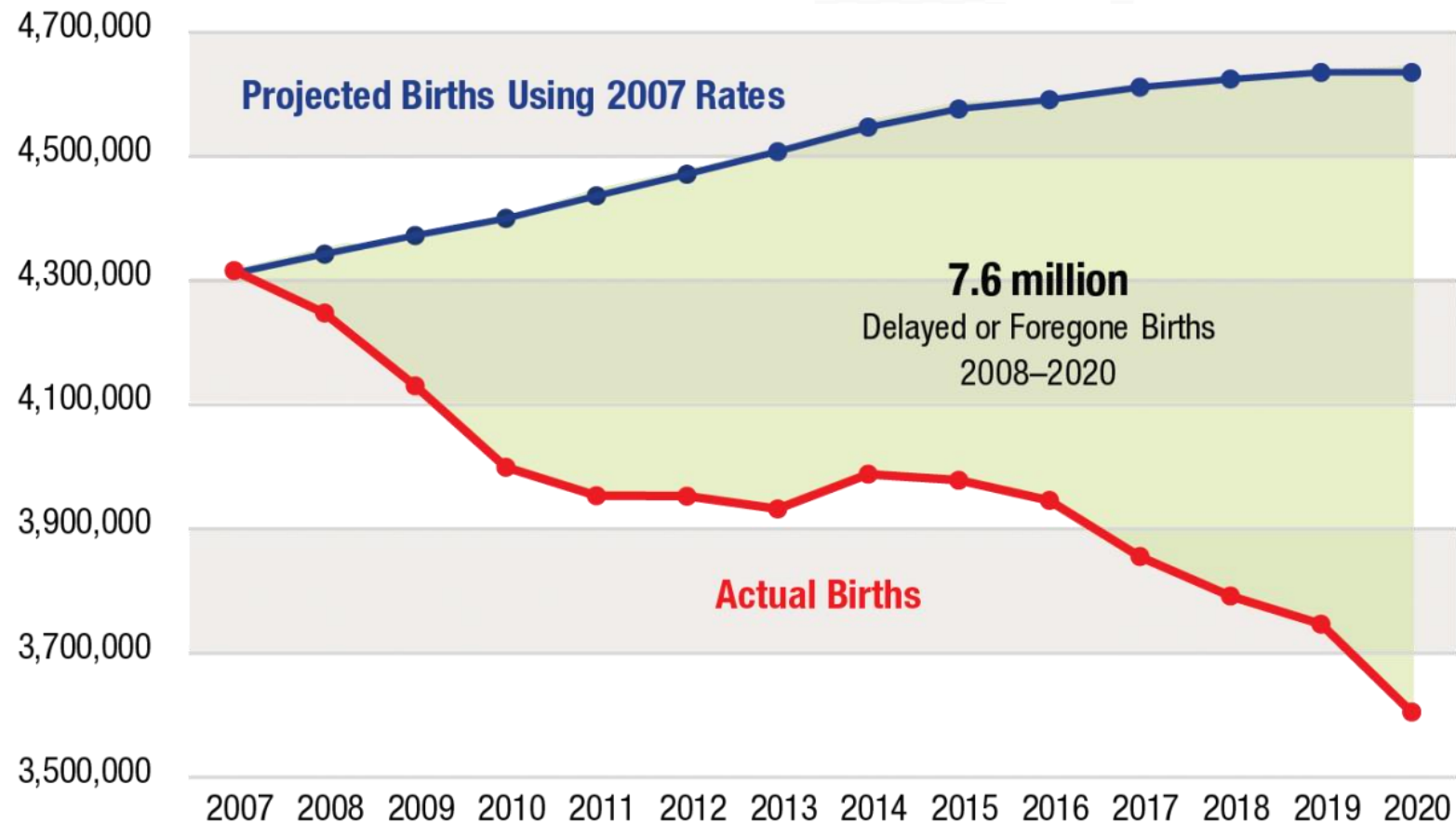
B Metropolitan Policy Program
at BROOKINGS

Number of Births, 1975- 2020



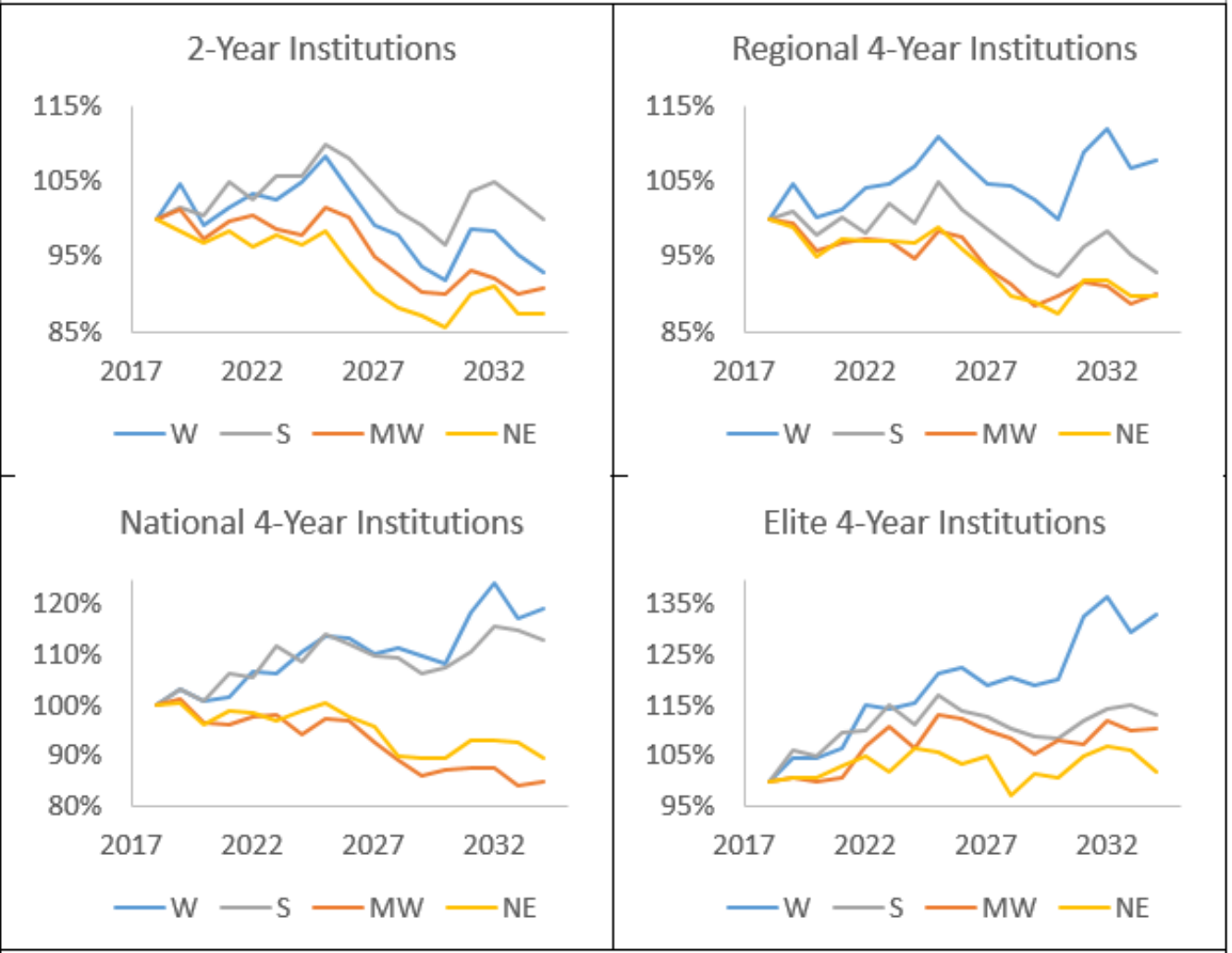
Source: National Vital Statistics Reports, various years

Cumulative Effect of Fertility Downturn, 2008-2020

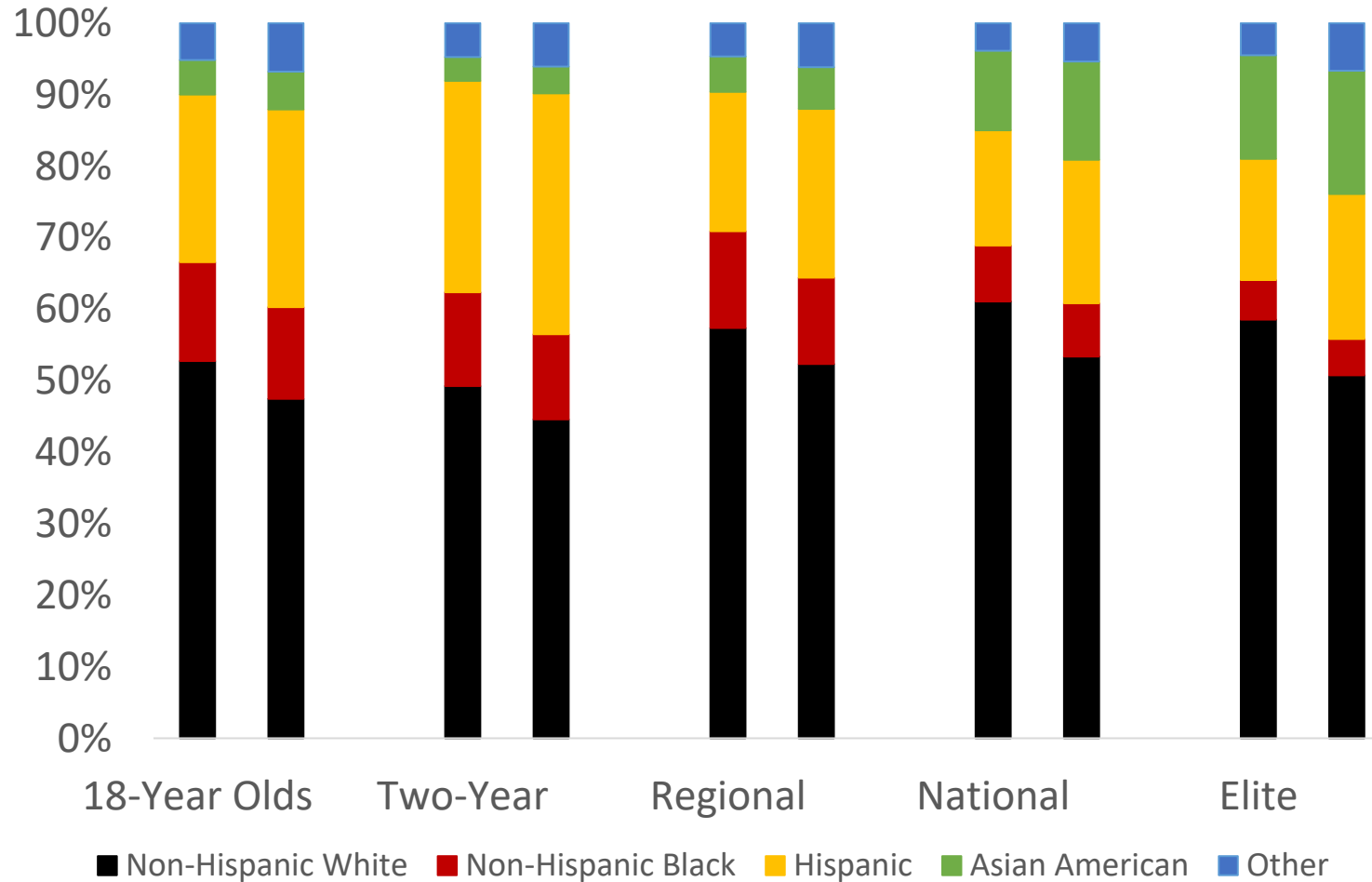


Source: Kenneth M. Johnson (2021)

Projected Number of College-Going Students Relative to 2018, by Region



Race/Ethnicity Distribution of College-Going Students, 2018-19 and 2033-34



Financial Implications

Compositional Change

- Declining average net financial income ... but changing composition offers hope for stability in “full-pay” population
- Tension between short-run (NFI vs. diversity tradeoff) and long-run (need to invest in a diversifying future) considerations
- Continued need for professional development related to changing demographic

Fertility Decline

- Shrinking pool from mid-2020s until at least end of 2030s
- Increased value of access agenda
- Increased premium on retention and persistence

Questions?

Thanks



SYNTELLIS