

Textbook Affordability in the U.S.

Since the 1970s, the cost of textbooks and course materials in the U.S. has increased at three times the rate of inflation

3x inflation

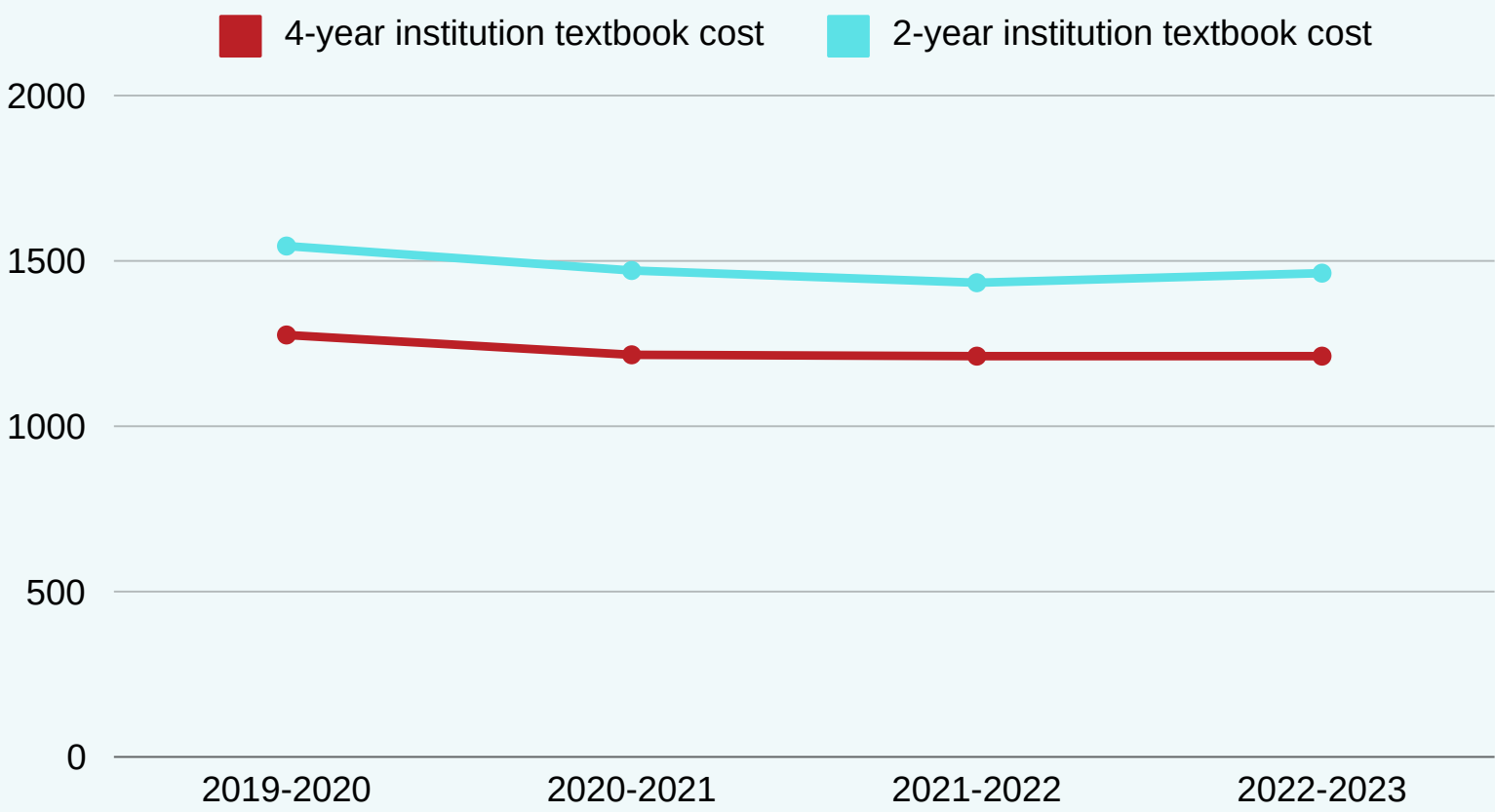


In recent years, costs have remained consistent, but still high, especially as the overall cost of living continues to soar

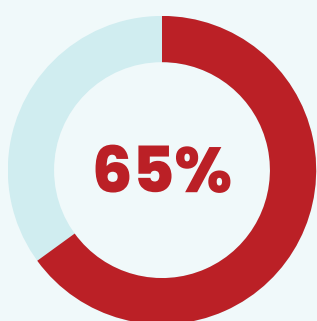
\$1,212 Average cost at 4-year institutions in 2023

\$1,463 Average cost at 2-year institutions in 2023

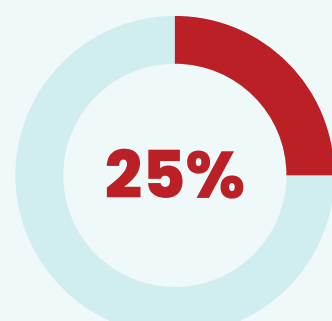
Prices have remained relatively stagnant but high



Because of this, students have needed to make sacrifices



Skipped buying textbooks



Skipped meals or picked up extra shifts

There has been some relief for students through ebooks, open educational resources, and better grant funding

\$1 = \$20

Every dollar invested in OER grants saves students an average of \$10-\$20



\$1 billion+ in savings

Several reports assert textbook cost savings to date over \$1 billion dollars. Because OER activity is decentralized, exact figures are hard to quantify.



3x faculty awareness

Faculty awareness and use of OER has tripled since 2016



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