

Other assumptions in this estimate are:

(1) That the allowance of 150 gross square feet per student will be adequate to meet future educational needs.

(2) That enrollments will increase during the decade by an average of slightly over 5 percent per year, leading to a total enrollment in fiscal year 1975 of approximately 8.7 million students.

As far as space is concerned, the per student allowance will probably be adequate. It should be noted, however, that the need to educate students for a world of increasingly complex technology, together with changes in educational technology itself, are expected to add very rapidly to the demands for costly equipment in higher education. This allowance, therefore, translated into dollar equivalents, is probably quite modest.

Capital outlay requirements will be very sensitive to changes in enrollments. Hence, the uncertainty of the enrollment estimate used here should be emphasized. Specifically, it should be noted that enrollment projections make no allowance for the effect of the Veterans' Readjustment Benefit Act of 1966, nor do they take into account the growing belief that the education of most students should be extended at least 2 years beyond high school graduation. The projection does imply an increasing ratio of college enrollment to "college-age" (18-24) population, as shown below:

	Percent	
1960.....	22	1970.....
1965.....	25	1975.....

Whether the estimated increase will be sufficient to reflect rising demand for higher education is a matter of judgment. Even small changes in the ratio will have substantial effects, because the population in this age group is large. To be explicit, an increase in the 1975 ratio of only 2 percentage points (from 33 to 35 percent) would require an upward adjustment in the projected enrollment of more than half a million students. At construction costs estimated in 1975, such an increase would mean an added capital outlay requirement of approximately \$3 billion.⁵

(b) *Distribution of Needs by Population Size of Community*

The proportions of projected facility needs ascribable to places of various population sizes cannot be reliably estimated at this time. In view of the increasing preponderance of large institutions in higher education, it can be assumed that the bulk of the required construction will occur in communities of substantial size.

(c) *Types of Institutions Responsible for Projected Outlay*

The proportions of prospective capital outlay to be expended by public and private institutions are estimated as follows: Public, 59 percent; private, 41 percent.

In the public sector, the proportion of funds to be expended other than State governments and State agencies cannot be reliably estimated. In the private sector, the overwhelming majority of institutions are nonprofit.

⁵ In fact, it appears likely that the effect of enrollment increases, beyond the levels currently projected, will be partially offset by gains in the efficiency of the educational process, and by increases in the average length of the "academic year," resulting from the current trend toward the adoption of quarter and semester calendars in higher education.