College enrollment grows during economic downturns

Source: Digest of Education Statistics, Table 303.25; March CPS

Lesley J. Turner. Vanderbilt University. lesley.j.turner@vanderbilt.edu. OIGI Spring Conference. Higher Ed, Who Pays? June 18, 2020
Effects are largest for open access institutions…

… where students fare worse, on average
Principles to Consider for Accountability Metrics

1. Simple and easily understood by prospective students.
2. Linked to unambiguously good student outcomes.
3. Difficult to manipulate.
4. Minimum threshold(s).
5. Measured quickly enough to protect most students from low-quality schools and/or programs.