



2020
CIEC

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Conference Plenary Session

The Future of the Engineering Profession

American Society for Engineering Education
Conference for Industry and Education Collaboration
(CIEC)

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Transformative Decade for U.S.

Major Tectonic Shifts in Demographics

(all firsts in U.S. History)



- 1) **We're Getting Older** - Baby Boomers (1946 – 1964; 78.8M) will all be 65 or older in 2030 – “Graying” society
 - a) U.S. population is increasing at a decreasing rate – population is growing more slowly

- 2) **The Racial and Ethnic Composition** of our Nation is Rapidly Changing
 - a) The number of minority children under the age of 18 will surpass the number of non-minority children (2020)
 - b) Primary driver of population growth - Immigration will overtake natural increase in 2028-2030
 - Not because of increases in international migration, but because of declining fertility rates and aging of native-born population

- 3) **Shrinking Bench Strength**; Fewer, Newer, Us
 - a) Older adults (65+) will outnumber children (<18) in 2035
 - b) Dwindling working age population (18-64)



What the Data Shows

- High School graduating, college bound student **POPULATION IS SHRINKING** (1.5M since 2012)

and...

- Those that graduate from high school and have parents that pay a significant share of college expenses –

- **ARE SHRINKING IN NUMBER.**

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What does this mean?

- More 1st Gen Students
- Less Financial Resources

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It means this