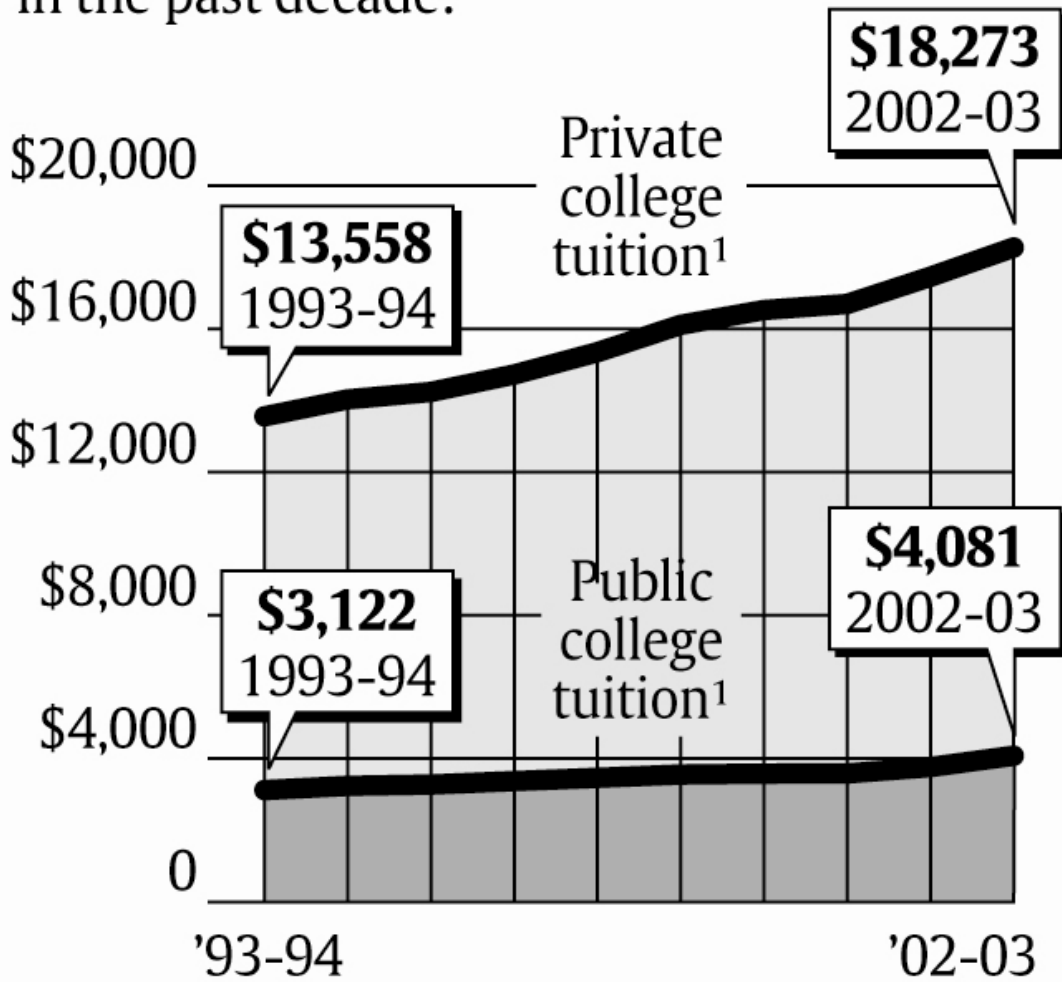


College costs surge

Average tuition increases at four-year colleges have outstripped inflation by more than 30% in the past decade:



1 — Adjusted for inflation in 2002 dollars.

Source: College Board

By Bob Laird, USA TODAY