



More Americans are leaving the workforce

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Lebanon Daily News

SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2026 | LDNEWS.COM

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Group: Brazil farm costs far below those in U.S.



Corn seed cost U.S. farmers 68% more on average than Brazilian growers from 2023 to 2025, according to a report by analytics company Kynetec. TY WRIGHT/LANCASTER EAGLE-GAZETTE FILE

Association says report shows need for competition, transparency

Donnelle Eller
Des Moines Register | USA TODAY NETWORK

DES MOINES – Farmers in the United States are paying significantly more for the seed, chemicals and other supplies needed to grow crops than their major global competitors in Brazil, a new report from the National Corn Growers Association shows.

The July 8 report says the difference in the costs to grow corn and soybeans is contributing to U.S. farmers’ financial struggle over the past four years – a period they and others in the agriculture industry

are comparing to the 1980s Farm Crisis.

“In recent years, rising input costs have put intense pressure on corn farmers,” Krista Swanson, NCGA chief economist, said in a statement. “It’s easy to focus on corn prices when talking about the farm economy, but that misses a big part of the story. The other side of the equation is what farmers are paying to put a crop in the ground, and those costs have kept climbing to levels that are becoming unsustainable.”

Corn seed cost U.S. farmers 68% more on

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Top schools pitch more free tuition models

Middle class too rich for assistance, not rich enough to afford college

Daniel de Visé
USA TODAY

In the admissions process at many prestigious universities, financial aid pledges have grown more generous in recent years – and more complicated.

Elite colleges tell applicants they will meet 100% of “demonstrated financial need,” often without loans. But first students must wade through a thicket of forms to determine their “expected family contribution,” which might be an eye-popping sum.

Many families don’t understand the byzantine aid formulas. Others don’t trust the math.

So, some universities are trying a different approach. A growing number are rolling out a new kind of financial aid pledge that could not be simpler: If your family earns less than \$100,000 or so, tuition is \$0.

At Emory University in Atlanta this fall, undergraduate students whose families earn \$200,000 or less will pay no tuition.

The University of Notre Dame in Indiana will charge no tuition this fall to students with family incomes up to \$150,000, and half tuition to families earning from \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore is now tuition-free for families earning up to \$200,000. For families earning up to \$100,000, the university also covers fees and living expenses.

Those schools join Carnegie Mellon, Tufts, the University of Pennsylvania,

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Trump at PA defense summit: ‘Iran will be defeated very soon’

Mark Walters
USA TODAY NETWORK

President Donald Trump touted his “commitment to peace through strength” at the Pennsylvania Defense and Innovation Summit at the U.S. Army War College in North Middleton Township, Cumberland County.

The two-day event sparked investments supporting more than 4,000 jobs in Pennsylvania, according to U.S. Sen. Dave McCormick, who said, “Over 30 individual announcements were made advancing American shipbuilding, munitions, space industry, innovation and emerging technologies such as AI and

robotics.”

Investments will bolster Trump’s military initiatives and support his \$1.5 trillion defense budget. The military spending plan represented a 50% increase from last year’s. It does not include the cost of the monthslong Iran war.

Trump’s military actions

“I built the military in my first term and I used it in my second term,” Trump said during his remarks to a full auditorium at the college.

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President Donald Trump, center, is flanked, from left to right, by JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon, U.S. Sen. Dave McCormick and U.S. Secretary of War Pete Hegseth during the Pennsylvania Defense and Innovation Summit at U.S. Army War College in Cumberland County on July 15.

MARK WALTERS/ USA TODAY NETWORK





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Volume 154 | No. 265
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