PART II. Universitywide Indicators with Campus Comparisons

Section 3. Undergraduate Access

Goals
The University’s undergraduate access goals are defined by the Master Plan for Higher Education in California. The Master Plan dictates that UC enroll freshmen from the top 12.5 percent of California’s public high school graduates but leaves it to UC to define that pool. UC has historically done this by establishing academic criteria by which students can become “eligible.” UC then guarantees admission to the students who have satisfied the eligibility requirements.

The Master Plan also provides a “second chance” for students that are not in the top 12.5 percent of public high school graduates to earn a UC undergraduate degree. It dictates that UC create a well-defined route for students that attend a California Community College to transfer to UC. UC provides this well-defined route by establishing academic criteria by which students can become “eligible” to transfer and be guaranteed admissions to all transfer students who have satisfied the eligibility requirements. In addition, all UC campuses give junior level California community college students priority over other transfer applicants and seven campuses offer individual admission guarantee agreements. More than 90 percent of UC’s transfer students come from the California community colleges.

Measures
This section provides measures of access, including applications, admissions and enrollments for both freshman and transfer students. It also includes information on academic quality indicators for new students, such as their grade point averages and scores on standardized tests. By any measure, UC undergraduates enter with excellent preparation to engage in the learning offered by UC campuses.
Indicator 3.1
Percent of Underrepresented Minority Students in UC’s Freshman Class Compared to California’s High School Graduates, Fall 1989 to Fall 2007

- UC has classified as “underrepresented” students from groups whose presence in the top 12.5 percent of the state’s high school graduates is disproportionately small compared to their presence in the general population. At present, these include African Americans, American Indians and Chicano-Latinos.

- In 1996 the voters of California passed Proposition 209, which prohibits public institutions from considering race and ethnicity, among other characteristics, in admissions. Although Proposition 209 went into effect with the entering class of 1998, UC saw a drop in applications from underrepresented students beginning in 1995, when the issue was first raised. This, combined with lower enrollment rates, led to a reduction in absolute numbers as well as proportion of these students in UC’s freshman class.

- The proportion of UC’s enrolled freshmen who are underrepresented minorities has increased steadily since the low point in 1996. However, most of this increase simply reflects growth in the proportion of those students among high school graduates. In 2006 and 2007, the gap between the proportion of underrepresented students among high school graduates and among UC freshmen narrowed slightly.

Source: UCOP Student Affairs Office
UC freshman enrollment has increased rapidly in the past ten years, both because the number of high school graduates has increased rapidly, more of these students are meeting UC’s eligibility requirements and a greater proportion are applying to the University.

Freshman enrollment dropped in 2004 when funding for enrollment growth was excluded from the 2004-05 state budget. Although these funds were later restored, UC denied an unusually large number of students for fall 2004.

Note: Universitywide data are unduplicated counts. Students typically apply to more than one UC campus so the sum of campus details will exceed the Universitywide totals.

Source: UCOP StatFinder files (statfinder.ucop.edu)
3.2 (continued) UC Freshman Applicants, Admits and Enrollees, Fall 1995 to Fall 2007

(San Francisco has no undergraduates.)
Annually, transfer students make up approximately 30 percent of incoming students. The tables shown here display the fall admissions cycle only, however additional transfer students matriculate in other terms.

Approximately 90 percent of transfer students come to UC from the California Community Colleges. In accordance with California’s Master Plan for Higher Education, these students are given priority in admission over transfer applicants from other institutions.

If offered admission, transfer students are more likely to enroll at UC than their freshman counterparts. This is because transfer students are often more focused — they have completed specific lower-division course work to prepare for admission to a specific UC campus.

Source: UCOP StatFinder files (statfinder.ucop.edu)
3.3 (continued) UC Transfer Applicants, Admits and Enrollees, Fall 1994 to Fall 2007

Berkeley

Davis

Irvine

Los Angeles

Merced

Riverside

San Diego

(San Francisco has no undergraduates.)

Santa Barbara

Santa Cruz
Draft for Discussion

Indicator 3.4
Middle 50% of SAT Math and Critical Reading Score Range — Entering Freshmen, Fall 2006

UC and Comparison Institutions

Berkeley
Davis
Irvine
Los Angeles
Merced
Riverside
San Diego
Santa Barbara
Santa Cruz
U of Illinois
U of Michigan
SUNY at Buffalo
U of Virginia
Harvard
MIT
Stanford
Yale

0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 1400 1600

Data for the SAT Writing Test are not available for comparison institutions. San Francisco does not enroll freshmen.

Indicator 3.5
Average SAT Scores — Entering UC Freshmen, Fall 2000 to Fall 2007

Universitywide

Data is scored on a 1600-point scale. The old SAT scores were based on the Math and Verbal tests; the new SAT scores are based on the Math and Critical Reading tests.

- The scores reported here represent admitted students’ highest total SAT scores (or converted ACT scores) from any single test administration. This is the score used in determining UC eligibility and in most campus selection processes.

- With the changes to the SAT in 2006 — the elimination of analogies and the addition of more critical reading passages and higher level mathematics questions — UC experienced a slight decline in the average test scores of fall 2007 applicants. This dip continued in 2006 and has been reported by the College Board and other institutions around the country.

Source: UCOP StatFinder files (statfinder.ucop.edu)
Draft for Discussion

3.5 (continued) Average SAT Scores — Entering UC Freshmen, Fall 2000 to Fall 2007

(San Francisco has no undergraduates.)
Indicator 3.6
Middle 50% of SAT Score Range — Entering UC Freshmen, Fall 2007

- The horizontal bars above represent the range of test scores for the middle 50 percent of new freshmen. The left-most number on each bar represents the 25\textsuperscript{th} percentile; the right-most number represents the 75\textsuperscript{th} percentile of the range.

Source: UCOP Statfinder files.
3.6 (continued) Middle 50% of SAT Score Range — Entering UC Freshmen, Fall 2007

(Berkeley)

(Critical Reading: 580, Math: 710, Writing: 590)

(Davis)

(Critical Reading: 490, Math: 630, Writing: 500)

(Irvine)

(Critical Reading: 510, Math: 610, Writing: 520)

(Los Angeles)

(Critical Reading: 560, Math: 680, Writing: 570)

(Merced)

(Critical Reading: 440, Math: 610, Writing: 440)

(Riverside)

(Critical Reading: 450, Math: 610, Writing: 450)

(San Diego)

(Critical Reading: 540, Math: 660, Writing: 590)

(Santa Barbara)

(Critical Reading: 530, Math: 640, Writing: 530)

(Santa Cruz)

(Critical Reading: 500, Math: 620, Writing: 500)

(San Francisco has no undergraduates.)
In determining students' eligibility for UC, UC considers only grades earned in college preparatory (“a-g”) coursework completed in 10th and 11th grade.

The “weighted” GPA used to determine eligibility recognizes the degree of difficulty in a student’s curriculum by assigning an additional grade point for successfully completing difficult courses, such as those in the College Board’s Advanced Placement program. An A in an honors course receives 5 points, a B receives 4 points, etc. The number of honors courses included in the weighted GPA used to determine eligibility is capped at 8 semesters.

In making admissions decisions, some campuses also consider the unweighted GPA. This reflects grades earned in college preparatory courses without any additional bonus points and is calculated on a 4-point scale with an A receiving 4 grade points, a B receiving 3 grade points, etc.

Source: UCOP StatFinder files (statfinder.ucop.edu)
3.7 (continued) Average High School GPA of Entering UC Freshmen, Fall 2000 to Fall 2007

Berkeley

Davis

Irvine

Los Angeles

Merced

Riverside

San Diego

(San Francisco has no undergraduates.)

Santa Barbara

Santa Cruz

High School GPA – Weighted Capped

High School GPA – Unweighted

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Indicator 3.8
Average College GPA — Entering UC Transfer Students, Fall 2000 to Fall 2007

The maximum average GPA for entering transfer students is 4.00. Grades included are for college-level academic courses from the college(s) where students were previously enrolled.

Source: UCOP StatFinder files (statfinder.ucop.edu)
3.8 (continued) Average College GPA — Entering UC Transfer Students, Fall 2000 to Fall 2007

(San Francisco has no undergraduates.)