

Section 14. Campus Rankings

GOALS

Although limited in scope and often biased in one direction or another, indices that rank colleges and universities can give an indication of their overall academic quality and allow institutions to assess their performance relative to their peers in a way that is often very public.

The University has no stated goals with respect to its position in any particular index, nor does it endorse any particular set of rankings. Further, it cautions readers to consider the differing methodologies employed by the indices. These result in substantial differences across indices and across years. This summary is offered as a guide to the various rankings that routinely are in the news.

NARRATIVE

This section reports college rankings for the UC campuses and their comparison institutions from seven different ranking schemes—the 1995 National Research Council, The Center for Measuring University Performance at Arizona State University, *U.S. News and World Report's* Best Graduate Programs, *U.S. News and World Report's* Best National Universities, *U.S. News and World Report's* Top 50 Public National Universities, *Washington Monthly* Rankings, and the Academic Ranking of World Universities from Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China. It also presents information on the relative size of campus libraries from the Association of Research Libraries Investment Index.

Indicator 86

National Research Council’s Ratings of UC Doctoral Programs, 1995

	Total Number of Programs Rated	Number of Programs Ranked in Top 10 on Faculty Quality	Percent of Programs Ranked in Top 10 on Faculty Quality
Berkeley	37	36	97%
Davis	26	1	4%
Irvine	24	2	8%
Los Angeles	36	13	36%
Riverside	19	-	0%
San Diego	29	14	48%
San Francisco	9	6	67%
Santa Barbara	32	4	13%
Santa Cruz	17	2	12%
Total UC	229	78	34%
U of Illinois	37	10	27%
U of Michigan	41	14	34%
SUNY at Buffalo	35	-	0%
U of Virginia	32	5	16%
Harvard	30	26	87%
MIT	23	20	87%
Stanford	43	32	74%
Yale	30	19	63%

- Considered the gold standard of academic quality rankings, the National Research Council’s assessments of research-doctorate programs are the most comprehensive and respected evaluations of Ph.D. programs in the United States.
- Although dated, the 1995 rankings are the most recent NRC rankings as of May 2010. The NRC plans to release an updated set of rankings using a revised methodology later in 2010.
- In 1995, the NRC assessed doctoral programs in 41 fields of study at 274 universities. Overall, a third of all of UC’s programs that were ranked in 1995 were in the top 10 percent nationally in terms of faculty quality.

Source: National Resource Council

Indicator 87

The Center for Measuring University Performance: Top American Research Universities, 2005 to 2008

	Number of Measures in Top 25 (max = 9)			
	2005	2006	2007	2008
Berkeley	8	8	8	7
Davis	2	2	2	2
Irvine	-	1	-	-
Los Angeles	7	7	7	7
Riverside	-	-	-	-
San Francisco	6	6	6	6
San Diego	5	5	5	5
Santa Barbara	-	1	1	1
Santa Cruz	-	-	-	-
U of Illinois	5	5	4	4
U of Michigan	8	8	8	8
SUNY at Buffalo	-	-	-	-
U of Virginia	2	2	2	2
Harvard	8	9	9	8
MIT	9	9	9	9
Stanford	9	9	9	9
Yale	7	7	7	8

- The Center for Measuring University Performance at Arizona State University ranks the Top American Research Universities (defined as those with at least \$20 million in research expenditures) into two tiers: 1-25 and 26-50.
- The Center places institutions into one of two clusters according to how many times they rank in the top 25 (or top 50) on one of nine measures—total research, federal research, endowment assets, annual giving, National Academy members, faculty awards, doctorates granted, postdoctoral appointees and SAT/ACT scores. Institutions that score in the top 25 on at least one measure fall into its top tier.
- In 2008, six UC campuses—Berkeley, Davis, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco and Santa Barbara—were listed in the top tier among American research universities.
- Unlike *U.S. News and World Report* rankings, The Center relies exclusively on objective measures and does not include academic reputation in its ranking scheme. However, its rankings are biased toward institutions with large medical centers since both total and federal research expenditures are heavily influenced by NIH funding, which primarily funds health sciences research. Data from The Center also are not normalized by faculty size, resulting in lower rankings for smaller institutions.

Source: The Center for Measuring University Performance at Arizona State University

Indicator 88

U.S. News and World Report's America's Top National Universities, 2001 to 2010

	Ranking Among National Universities									
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Berkeley	20	20	20	21	21	20	21	21	21	21
Davis	41	41	43	43	42	48	47	42	44	42
Irvine	41	41	45	45	43	40	44	44	44	46
Los Angeles	25	26	25	26	25	25	26	25	25	24
Riverside	73	82	85	84	81	85	88	96	89	96
San Diego	31	31	31	32	35	32	38	38	35	35
Santa Barbara	45	48	47	45	45	45	47	44	44	42
Santa Cruz	64	67	76	67	74	68	76	79	96	71
U of Illinois	41	36	38	40	37	42	41	38	40	39
U of Michigan	25	25	25	25	22	25	24	25	26	27
SUNY at Buffalo	3 rd tier	3 rd tier	3 rd tier	3 rd tier	3 rd tier	3 rd tier	3 rd tier	3 rd tier	121	121
U of Virginia	20	24	23	21	22	23	24	23	23	24
Harvard	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	1
MIT	5	5	4	4	5	7	4	7	4	4
Stanford	6	5	4	5	5	5	4	4	4	4
Yale	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

- *U.S. News and World Report's* college rankings are the oldest and most well-known of all college rankings. The rankings are based on seven major variables: peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance and alumni-giving rate.
- *USNWR's* rankings tend to favor elite private institutions over public universities. Privates tend to score higher than publics on four of *USNWR's* indicators: graduation rates, faculty resources, financial resources and alumni-giving rates, which together count for 55 percent of a school's total score.
- The next indicator shows *USNWR's* rankings for all public national universities with private universities excluded.

Note: *USNWR* labels its rankings for the prospective year; the 2010 rankings were published August 2009. Also, up through its 2008 rankings, *USNWR* only ranked institutions in its first and second tier (generally those ranked 100 or higher). Beginning in 2009, it published rankings for third-tier schools as well. San Francisco is not ranked because it is a graduate health sciences campus and Merced, which opened in 2005, is not ranked because it has interim accreditation.

Indicator 89

U.S. News and World Report's America's Top 50 Public National Universities, 2001 to 2010

	Ranking Among Public Universities									
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Berkeley	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Davis	10	10	11	11	11	14	13	11	12	11
Irvine	10	10	12	12	12	10	12	13	12	14
Los Angeles	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	3	2
Riverside	33	28	36	39	37	38	39	45	40	43
San Diego	7	7	7	7	8	7	8	8	7	7
Santa Barbara	14	15	14	12	13	12	13	13	12	11
Santa Cruz	26	28	36	27	32	28	33	35	45	29
U of Illinois	10	9	9	10	9	11	10	8	10	9
U of Michigan	3	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	4	4
SUNY at Buffalo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
U of Virginia	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	2

- U.S. News and World Report's Top 50 Public National Universities' ranking follows its list of Best National Universities, with the private universities excluded.
- Six UC campuses—Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, San Diego and Santa Barbara—are among USNWR's list of the top 25 public national universities.

Source: U.S. News and World Report

Indicator 90

U.S. News and World Report's Professional Program Rankings, 2001 to 2010

Rankings among Top 20 Programs Nationally										
BUSINESS	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Berkeley	10	7	10	7	8	6	7	8	7	7
Los Angeles	11	12	15	14	12	11	10	16	11	14
U of Michigan	9	10	10	13	10	10	11	11	12	13
U of Virginia	11	15	10	11	12	14	13	12	14	15
Harvard	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
MIT	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Stanford	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2
Yale	16	12	13	14	14	15	15	14	13	10

EDUCATION	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Berkeley	4	6	11	11	6	7	6	8	7	7
Los Angeles	5	4	2	3	3	2	2	5	3	5
U of Michigan	7	7	7	8	10	9	9	6	9	14
Harvard	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	6	6
Stanford	2	2	1	2	1	3	4	2	1	2

ENGINEERING	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Berkeley	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Los Angeles	21	22	21	19	16	15	15	16	13	14
San Diego	15	16	14	11	13	11	11	13	11	12
Santa Barbara	25	22	24	24	21	21	21	19	19	18
U of Illinois	6	6	5	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
U of Michigan	4	4	6	6	8	6	6	9	9	9
MIT	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Stanford	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

Source: US News and World Report

Indicator 90 (continued) U.S. News and World Report's Professional Program Rankings, 2001 to 2010

LAW	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Berkeley	8	9	7	10	13	11	8	8	6	6
Los Angeles	16	16	16	16	16	15	15	15	16	15
U of Michigan	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	9	9
U of Virginia	8	7	7	9	9	8	8	10	9	10
Harvard	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2
Stanford	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	3	3
Yale	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

MEDICINE: RESEARCH	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Los Angeles	10	14	13	14	14	11	11	13	9	11
San Diego	23	24	20	16	17	14	14	14	14	15
San Francisco	7	7	6	6	6	5	4	5	5	5
U of Michigan	12	9	8	8	7	9	11	10	11	11
Harvard	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Stanford	10	9	11	8	8	8	7	7	8	6
Yale	8	8	9	10	10	11	9	8	9	6

MEDICINE: PRIMARY CARE	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Los Angeles	4	17	11	16	23	33	38	18	12	10
San Francisco	9	4	3	3	8	8	10	8	6	5
U of Michigan	28	26	14	22	23	27	28	45	17	7
Harvard	2	11	7	17	42	11	25	13	7	15

Indicator 90 (continued) *U.S. News and World Report's* Professional Program Rankings, 2001 to 2010

- *U.S. News and World Report* has ranked professional programs in business, education, engineering, law and medicine since 2000.
- An institution may not be reported in the list above for one of two reasons: It either does not have a program in the designated area, or its program fell below 20 in *USNWR's* graduate program rankings in 2010.
- *USNWR's* professional program rankings have been criticized for being somewhat arbitrary and relying on small sample sizes.

Note: *USNWR* labels its rankings for the prospective year; the 2010 rankings were published in March 2009. UC Merced is not ranked because it does not have graduate professional programs in business, education, law or medicine; it does offer graduate study in engineering areas, but the programs are too new to have awarded degrees or to be reviewed by *USNWR*.

Indicator 91 *Washington Monthly* Rankings, 2005 to 2009

	Ranking among National Universities				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Berkeley	3	2	3	n/a	1
Davis	17	10	8	n/a	10
Irvine	-	72	49	n/a	
Los Angeles	2	4	2	n/a	3
Riverside	-	22	15	n/a	16
San Diego	8	6	4	n/a	2
Santa Barbara	-	57	36	n/a	21
Santa Cruz	-	68	76	n/a	56
U of Illinois	13	16	11	n/a	24
U of Michigan	10	18	6	n/a	18
SUNY at Buffalo	--	203	111	n/a	101
U of Virginia	22	20	16	n/a	26
Harvard	16	28	27	n/a	11
MIT	1	1	27	n/a	12
Stanford	5	7	13	n/a	4
Yale	15	12	38	n/a	23

- *Washington Monthly* developed its ranking scheme in 2005 as an alternative to *U.S. News and World Report's* Best Colleges ranking.
- Unlike *USNWR*, which tends to rank colleges and universities on their wealth, *Washington Monthly* ranks colleges and universities on their contribution to society. Its three basic measures—being an engine of social mobility, fostering scientific and humanistic research and fostering an ethic of service to the country—all reflect UC's values.
- In the 2009 rankings, six UC campuses—Berkeley, Davis, UCLA, Riverside, San Diego and Santa Barbara—were ranked among the top 25 universities in the nation.

Note: *Washington Monthly* published its first list of its top 30 national universities in 2005 and expanded the list to include all national universities in subsequent years. No rankings were published in 2008.

Indicator 92

Academic Rankings of World Universities, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 2006 to 2009

Ranking among World Universities				
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Berkeley	4	3	3	3
Davis	42	43	48	49
Irvine	44	45	46	46
UCLA	14	13	13	13
Riverside	102-150	102-150	101-151	101-151
San Diego	13	14	14	14
San Francisco	18	18	18	18
Santa Barbara	35	35	36	35
Santa Cruz	102-150	102-150	101-151	101-151
Illinois	25	26	26	25
Michigan	21	21	21	22
SUNY at Buffalo	201-300	203-304	201-302	201-302
Virginia	102-150	102-150	95	91
Harvard	1	1	1	1
MIT	5	5	5	5
Stanford	3	2	2	2
Yale	11	11	11	11

Ranking among U.S. Public Universities				
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Berkeley	1	1	1	1
Davis	16	16	18	18
Irvine	17	17	17	16
UCLA	3	2	2	2
Riverside	31-40	31-40	31-41	34
San Diego	2	3	3	3
San Francisco	6	6	6	6
Santa Barbara	11	11	11	11
Santa Cruz	31-40	31-40	31-41	35
Illinois	8	8	8	8
Michigan	7	7	7	7
SUNY-Buffalo	57-78	57-77	61-76	59
Virginia	31-40	31-40	30	28

Source: Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Indicator 92 (continued) Academic Rankings of World Universities, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 2006 to 2009

- Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China has ranked the world's top 500 universities since 2003 using several indicators of academic or research performance, including alumni and staff winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals, highly cited researchers, articles published in two leading scientific journals (*Nature* and *Science*), scholarly citation indices, and the per capita academic performance of an institution.
- The Academic Rankings of World's Universities (ARWU) are based almost entirely on measures of strength in research. Institutions with strong research programs, especially in the sciences, tend to score higher than those whose major strengths are in the humanities and social sciences.
- Seven UC campuses placed among the top 50 universities in the world in the 2009 ARWU rankings.
- The ARWU rankings have become increasingly more influential, in part because they rely upon carefully selected indicators and upon internationally comparable data that can be cross-checked and verified.
- English-speaking, and especially U.S., universities dominate the top of the Shanghai Jiao Tong University's list of the world's best universities.

Indicator 93

Association of Research Libraries Rankings of Campus Libraries, UC and Comparison Institutions, 2005 to 2008

	2005	2006	2007	2008
Berkeley	6	5	5	5
Davis	53	60	64	73
Irvine	82	75	68	63
Los Angeles	8	6	7	6
Merced	-	-	-	-
Riverside	93	93	95	101
San Diego	39	41	37	34
San Francisco	-	-	-	-
Santa Barbara	81	78	83	79
Santa Cruz	-	-	-	-
U of Illinois	7	16	13	18
U of Michigan	5	7	6	7
SUNY at Buffalo	63	62	65	70
U of Virginia	22	19	24	24
Harvard	1	1	1	1
MIT	76	55	51	50
Stanford	-	-	-	-
Yale	2	2	2	2

Note: Schools/campuses without values are not members of the Association of Research Libraries.

- The UC campuses house more than 100 libraries, collectively representing the largest research/academic library in the world with more than 36 million volumes. The UC libraries have one of the world's largest collections of digital materials, including 36,000 electronic journals licensed cooperatively through UC's California Digital Library.
- Each year, the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) calculates a "Library Investment Index" that summarizes the relative size of libraries among its members. The variables used to calculate the ARL Index are determined by factor analysis and include expenditures and number of professional and library support staff.
- The ARL rankings are limited in that they do not measure a library's services, quality of collections or its success in meeting the needs of users. They also do not account for the transformative effect of membership in a consortium. Scholars at any UC campus can and do access the libraries of all the other UC campuses through online access to many resources, as well as through interlibrary loan.

Note: The ARL is a membership organization of 124 research libraries at comprehensive, research-extensive institutions in the U.S. and Canada that share similar missions, aspirations, and achievements. Seven UC campuses are members; three (Merced, San Francisco and Santa Cruz) are not.

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