

Section 4. Undergraduate Student Success

GOALS

The University of California supports students toward the successful and timely completion of their degrees and prepares them for roles as the next generation of leaders for California and the nation.

NARRATIVE

By many measures, UC students are successful. Four-fifths of entering freshmen graduate from a UC campus within six years, and two years later more than a quarter are enrolled in graduate or professional programs. Surveys show that UC undergraduates, in large numbers, plan to take professional and managerial positions in the California labor force. However, there are continuing challenges—graduation rates, for example, vary by campus and tend to be higher for white and Asian-American students than for African-American or Chicano/Latino students (see the first accountability sub-report on student success at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/regents/regmeet/jul09/l1attach.pdf). The University will continue to carefully monitor these trends going forward.

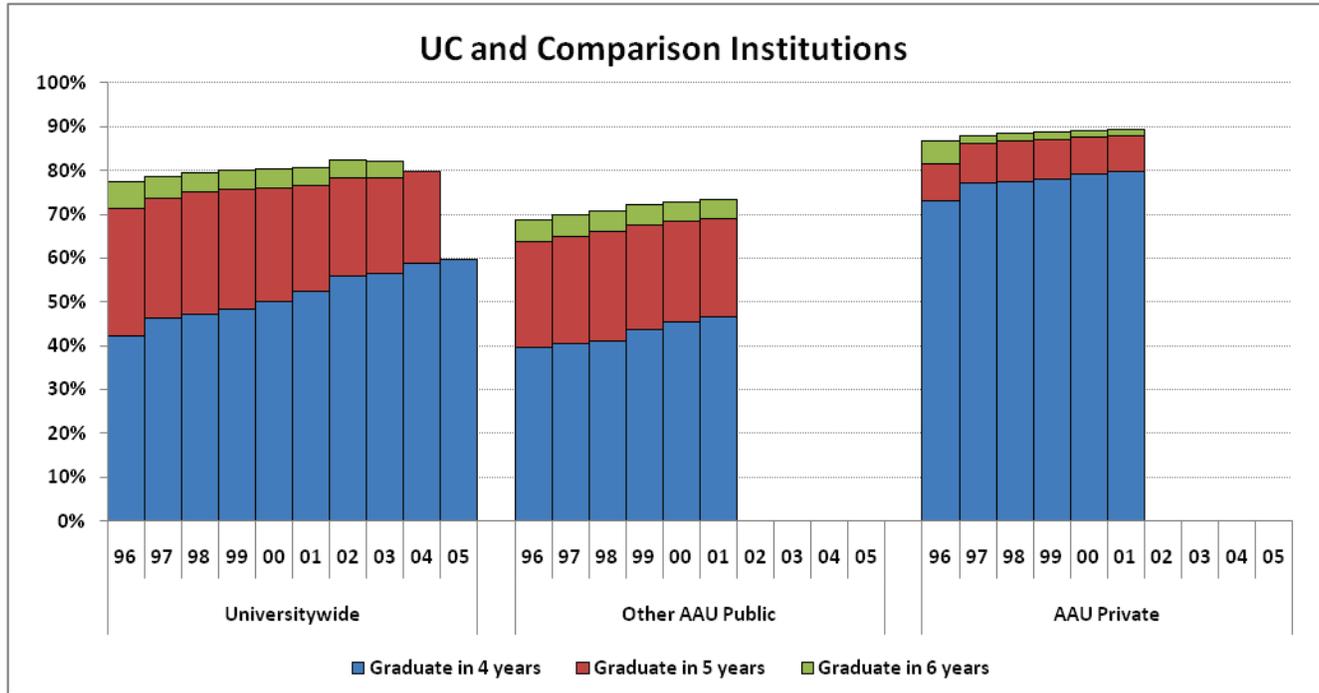
LOOKING FORWARD

The University remains committed to ensuring that undergraduate students are able to complete their degrees on time and to maintaining its excellent record of improving persistence and graduation rates. However, in response to the state budget cuts, the University in 2009-10 significantly reduced the number of permanent faculty and staff hires (in both new and replacement positions), narrowed course offerings, increased class size and reduced support services for students. Future editions of the accountability report will examine the impact of these budgetary actions upon student success.

Additionally, UC has only patchy information about the roles UC graduates play after they leave the University. In 2009-10, it launched a comprehensive survey of baccalaureate recipients who graduated five, 10 and 20 years ago (in 2004, 1999 and 1989). Data gathered through this survey will make an important contribution to our understanding about the role the University plays in furthering students' achievements over their life course and will make an important contribution to this section in the May 2011 report.

Indicator 22

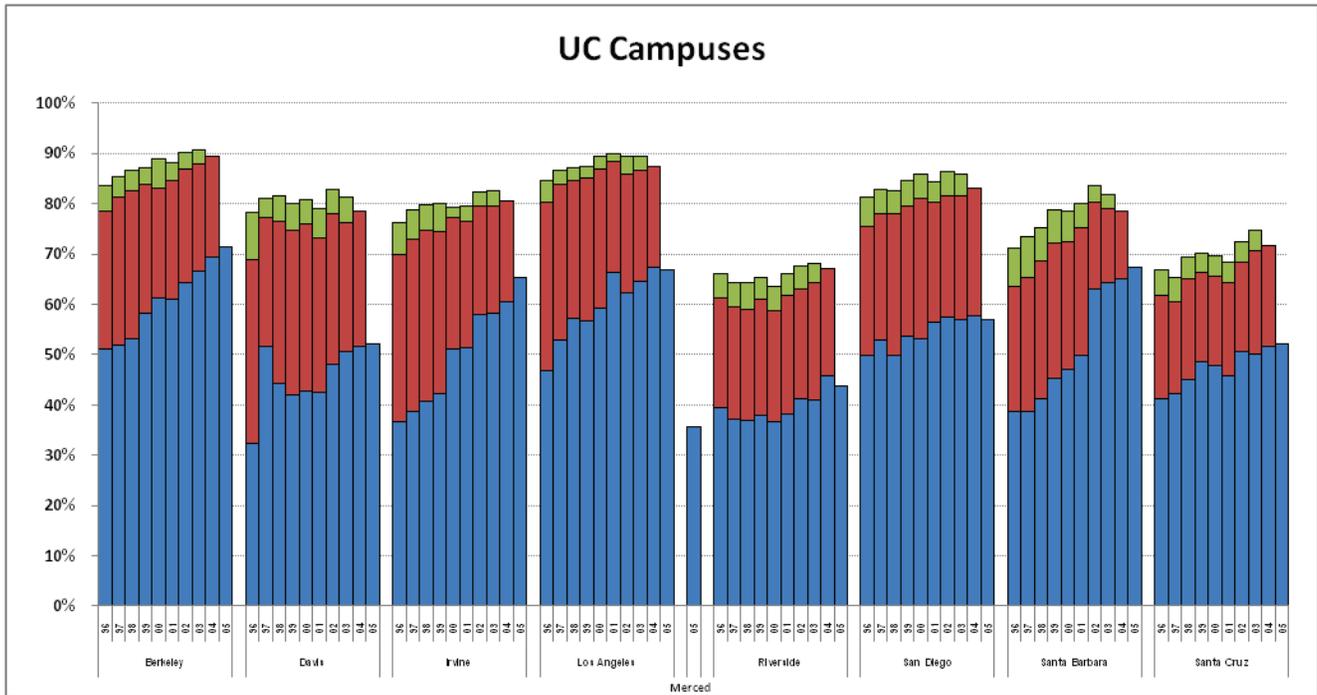
Graduation Rates for Entering Freshmen, UC and Comparison Institutions, Entering Cohorts, Fall 1997 to 2001



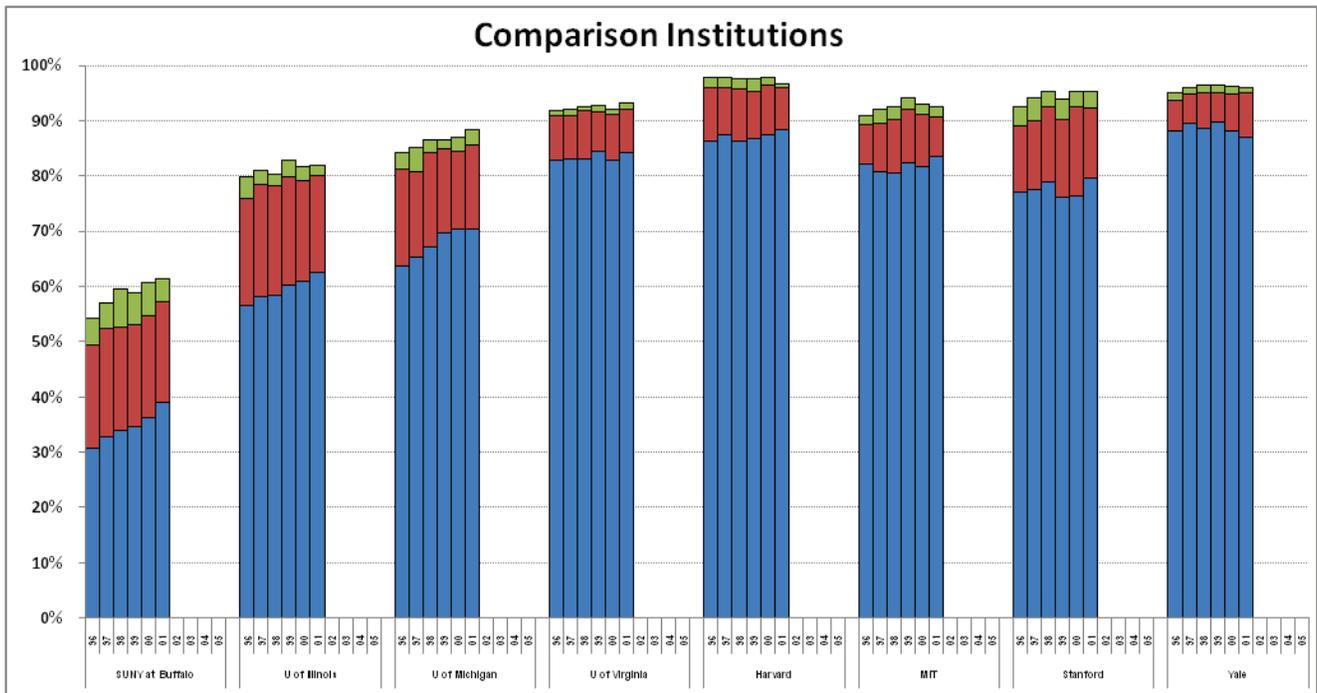
- More than 80 percent of students in the 2001-02 entering cohort of UC freshmen graduated in six years, compared to 73 percent at the AAU public and 89 percent at the AAU private universities.
- Differences in graduation rates between UC and the other AAUs can be explained, in part, by the fact that UC attracts a somewhat different and more diverse student body than is typical of other AAUs in general.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics' Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Graduation Rate Survey

Indicator 22 (continued) Graduation Rates for Entering Freshmen, UC and Comparison Institutions, Entering Cohorts, Fall 1997 to 2001

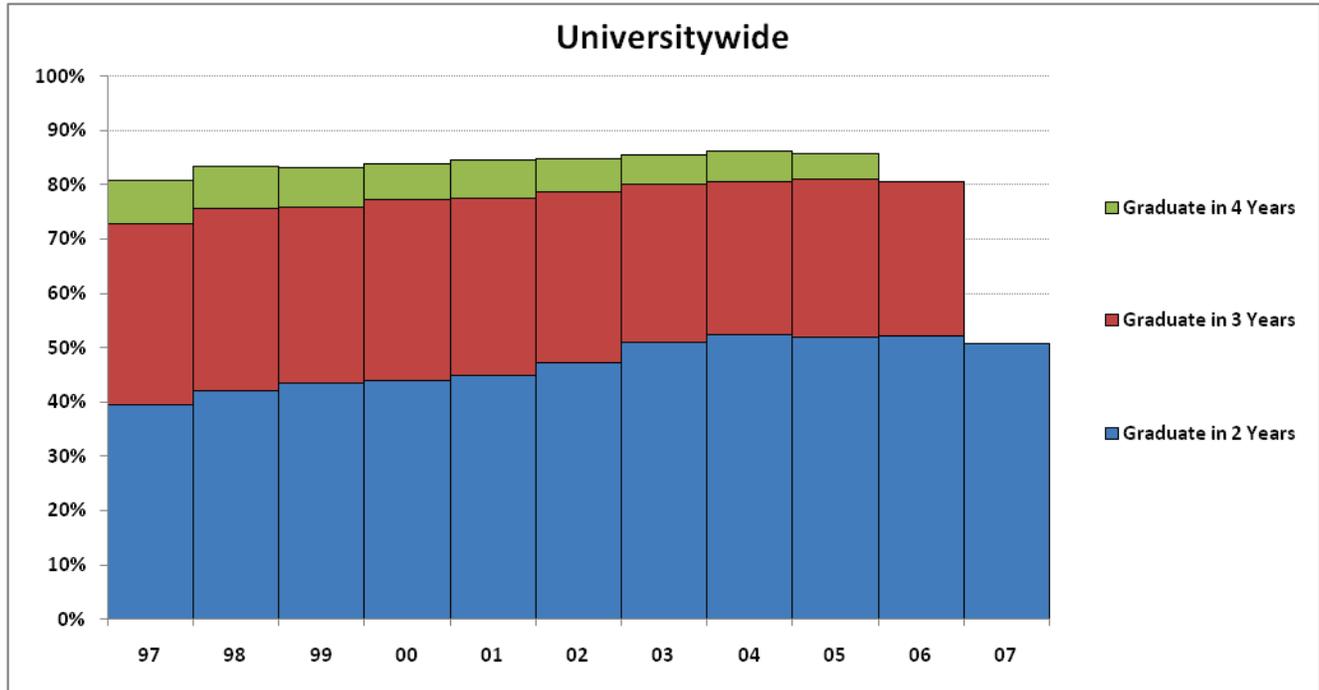


Note: San Francisco has no undergraduates.



Indicator 23

Graduation Rates for Entering Upper-Division California Community College Transfer Students, Entering Cohorts, Fall 1997 to 2007

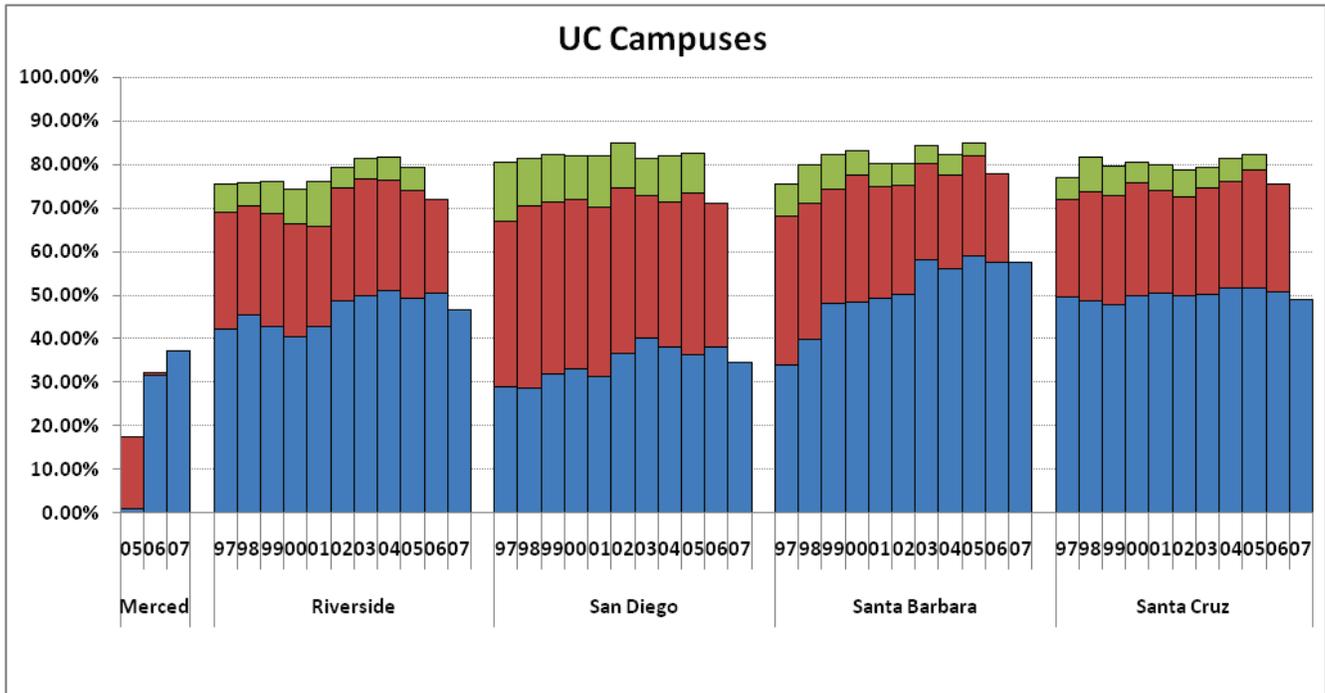
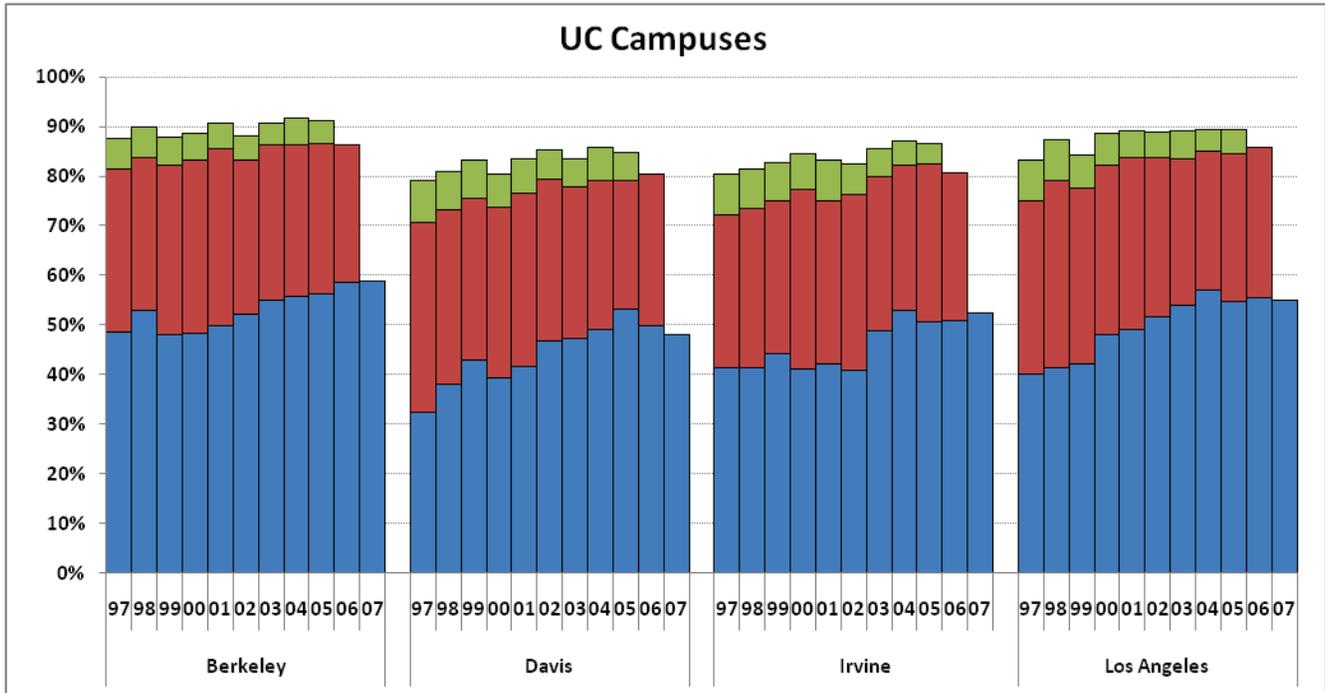


Note: Upper-division CCC transfer students are those who enter UC with 60 or more transferable units.

- Graduation rates for upper-division community college transfer students parallel those for entering freshmen—in 2005-06, 52 percent of CCC transfers graduated in two years, 81 percent in three years and 86 percent in four years.
- National data on graduation rates for transfer students are not available.

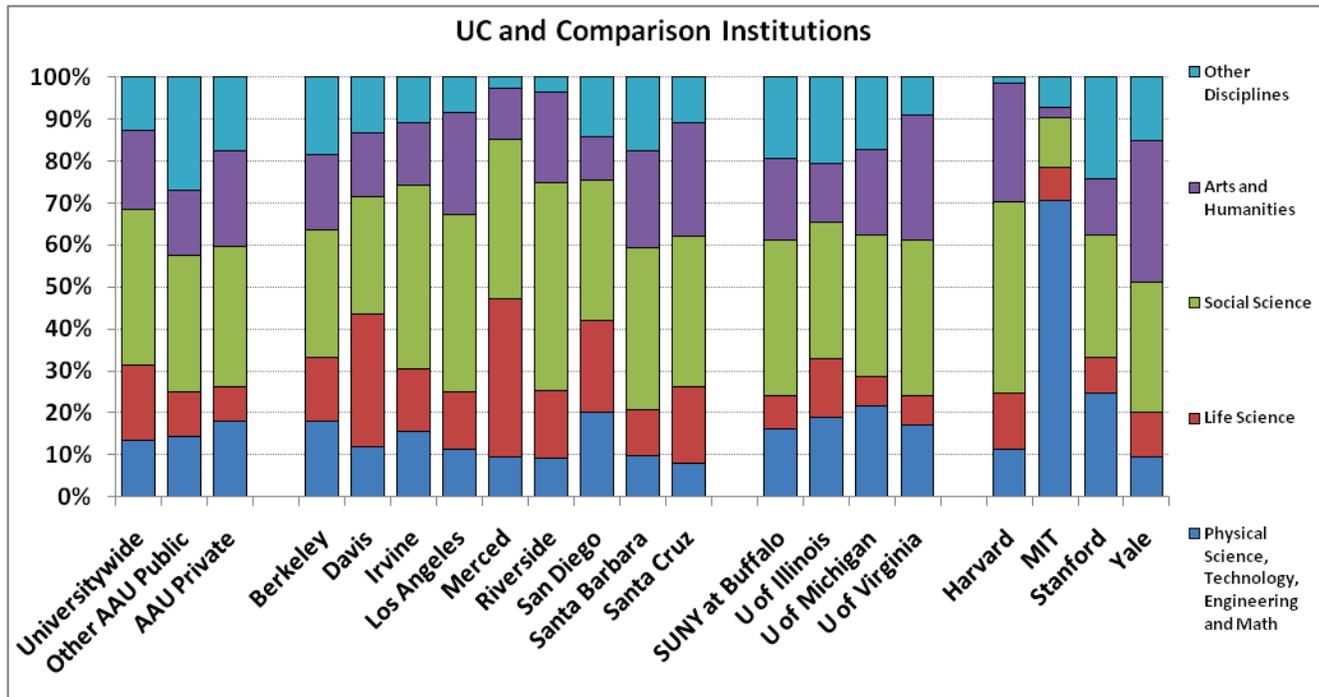
Source: UCOP StatFinder files (stafffinder.ucop.edu)

Indicator 23 (continued) Graduation Rates for Entering Upper-Division California Community College Transfer Students, Entering Cohorts, Fall 1997 to 2007



Indicator 24

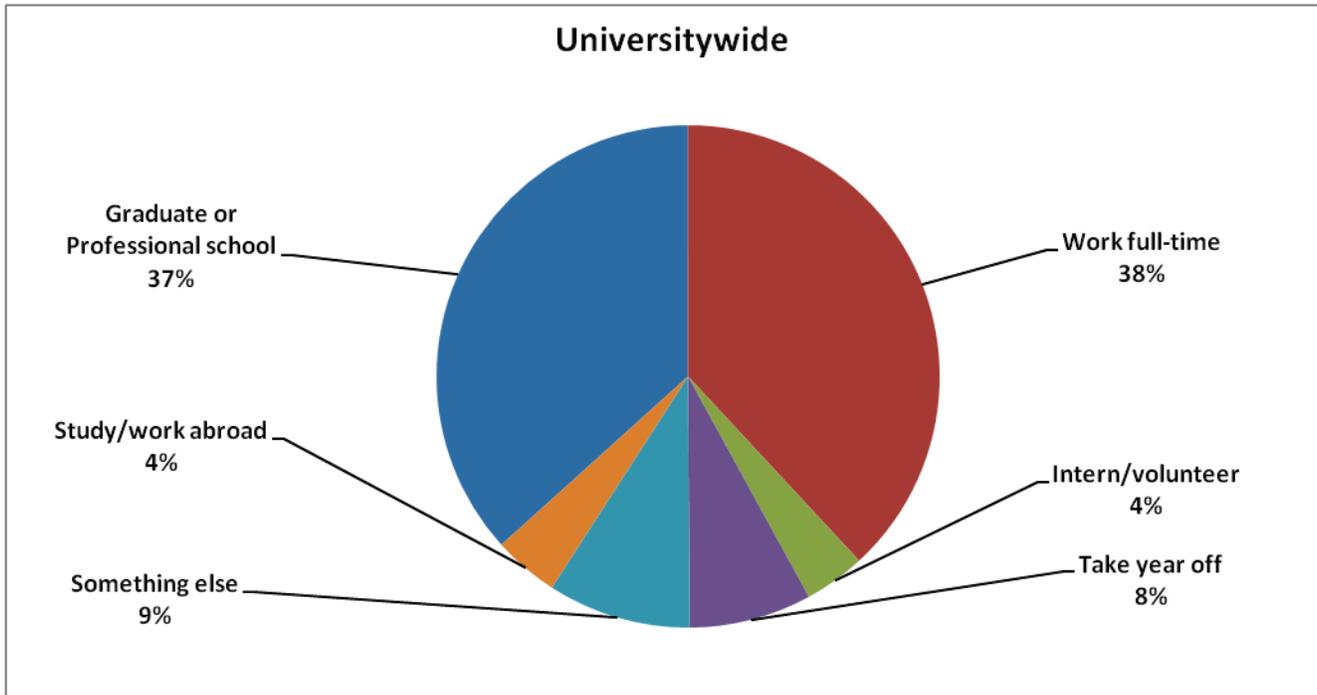
Undergraduate Degrees by Discipline, UC and Comparison Institutions, 2007-08



- Approximately 31 percent of undergraduate degrees awarded at UC are in the STEM fields (physical and life sciences, technology, engineering and math) compared to about 28 percent at other AAUs.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics' Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Completion Survey

Indicator 25
Post-Graduation Plans of Seniors, Spring 2008

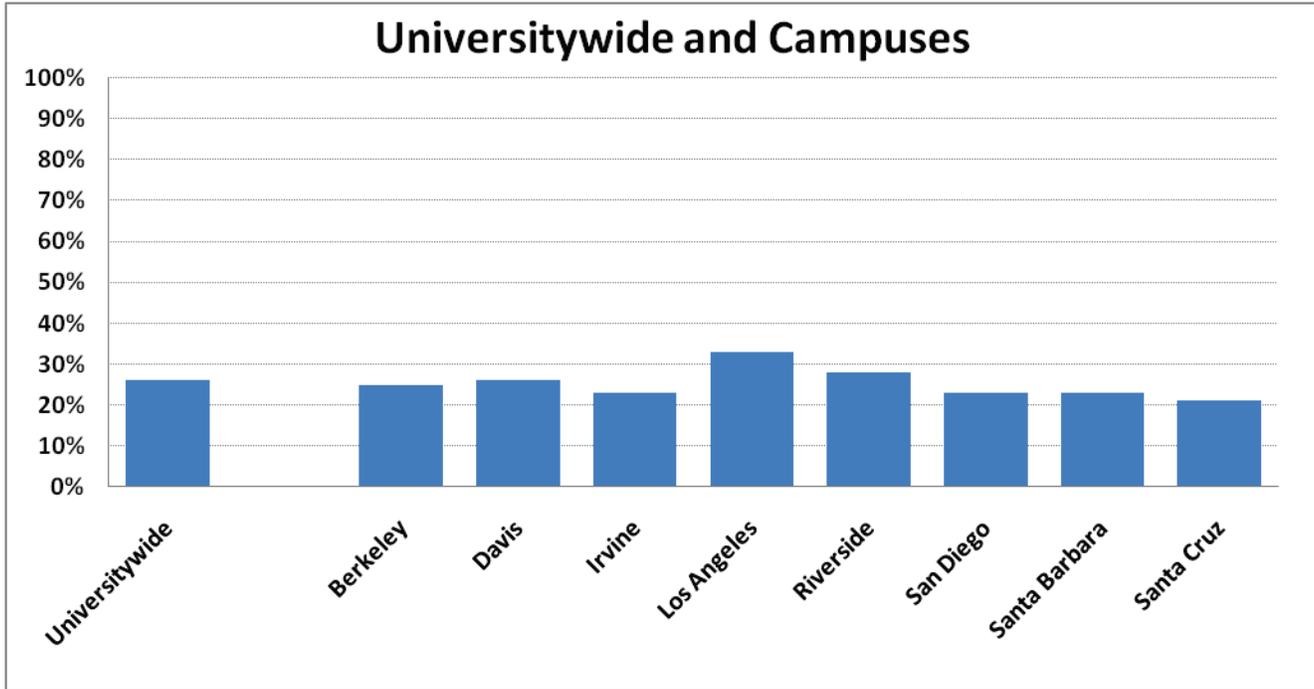


- Students' plans for the year following graduation often are in flux during their senior year.
- These data, from the annual University of California Undergraduate Experience Survey (UCUES), show that 37 percent of seniors planned to attend graduate or professional school the year after graduation. However, as Indicator 26 shows, data from National Student Clearinghouse enrollment reports show that two years after graduation only about 26 percent were actually enrolled in a four-year college or university.
- Other surveys at UC show that as seniors approach graduation, the number planning to work full time increases and the number planning to attend graduate or professional school the year immediately following graduation declines.

Source: Spring 2008 University of California Undergraduate Experience Survey (UCUES)

Indicator 26

Post-Graduation Enrollments of UC 2004-05 Graduates



- Systemwide, over a quarter of the graduating class at UC was continuing in higher education at the post-graduate level three years after graduation. More probably will enter graduate or professional school at a later point in time.
- UC graduates' entry into graduate or professional education shortly after earning their baccalaureate degrees speaks well to the University's ability to deliver to the state a very highly educated and well-prepared professional and managerial work force.

Source: National Clearinghouse enrollment reports. Data represent the proportion of UC graduates who were enrolled at a four-year college or university for at least two terms on a half-time basis or more after earning their baccalaureate degrees. Presumably these are students who have gone on to earn additional post-graduate degrees.