

Fall 2005 Undergraduate Applications
to the University of California
Information Summary

Universitywide application volume: The University of California received a record total of 100,138 on-time freshman and transfer applications for Fall 2005, a 0.9 percent increase from the 99,234 undergraduate applications received for Fall 2004.

Prospective freshmen filed 76,152 applications, a 2.8 percent increase from the 74,059 recorded for Fall 2004.

The increase in the number of applications from California applicants at the freshman level was 3.7 percent, while those from out-of-state freshman applicants declined by 4.7 percent. Following a decline in applications for Fall 2004, international freshman applications were up by 6.2 percent.

California transfer applications were down by 0.4 percent, while out-of-state and international transfers were down by 27.3 percent and 13.8 percent, respectively.

The average freshman applicant applied to 3.6 campuses, while transfer students applied to an average of 2.8 campuses.

UC Merced: UC Merced accepted its first freshman applicants for Fall 2005 enrollment. Merced attracted 8,883 undergraduate applications—7,987 of them prospective freshmen and 889 of them transfer students. UC Merced's applicants accounted for 8.9 percent of the overall systemwide applicant pool, 10.5 percent of the freshman pool, and 3.7 percent of the transfer pool.

California Freshman Applicants vs. Public High School Graduates: The increase in freshman applications from public high schools (5.8 percent) exceeds the Department of Finance's projected increase for California public high school graduates, which was 2.3 percent for 2005.

California Applications by Ethnicity: The number of freshman applicants from all racial/ethnic groups increased compared to last year, with the exception of American Indians, for whom there was a decrease of 2.6 percent. The largest increase was among Chicano/Latinos (9.6 percent), followed by Asian American (6.7 percent), White/Other (4.4 percent), African American (3.7 percent), and Filipino (0.2 percent). The number of applicants who declined to provide information on their racial/ethnic identity decreased 23.9 percent from the previous year. Underrepresented minorities (African Americans, American Indians, Chicanos and Latinos) increased as a proportion of the applicants from 22.7 percent last year to 23.7 percent this year.

The number of transfer applicants from most racial/ethnic groups increased compared to last year, with the exception of American Indians, for whom there was a decrease of 20.9 percent or 39 students, and Chicano/Latinos, for whom there was a decrease of 2.4 percent or 74 students. The largest increase in transfer applicants was among Filipino

Americans (7.5 percent), followed by Asian American (5.1 percent), African American (2.4 percent), and White/Other (0.4 percent). The number of applicants who declined to provide information on their racial/ethnic identity decreased 23.9 percent from the previous year. (Percentage changes related to ethnic groups in this section should be viewed with caution due to the relatively small number of transfer applicants within each group.)

Applications by Gender and Level: The total applicant pool for Fall 2005 was 54.6 percent female and 45.4 percent male, exactly the same as last year.

Applications by Geographic Region: Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area continue to be the most strongly represented regions in the California applicant pool followed by Orange County and the San Diego/Imperial region. The relative proportion of applications across most regions has remained stable over the last several years.

[Note: The systemwide totals used above and in the attached tables are preliminary and “unduplicated,” meaning that each student is counted only once, even if he or she applied to multiple campuses. As a result, the systemwide totals are not the sum of the individual campus counts.]