

Fall 2011 Undergraduate Applications
to the University of California
Information Summary

Universitywide application volume (Tables 1 and 2.1). The University of California received a record number of applications for admission to the fall 2011 term. Overall application volume for fall 2011 admission increased by 6.1 percent over fall 2010 (from 134,029 to a record high of 142,235), which includes a 5.7 percent increase (from 100,320 to 106,070) at the freshman level, and a 7.3 percent increase (from 33,709 to 36,165) at the transfer level. Since 2009, applications from transfer students have increased by 26 percent.

Applications from California freshman applicants increased 3.6 percent, while those from out-of-state freshmen increased by 10.7 percent; international freshman applications grew by 22.5 percent. California transfer applications increased by 8.5 percent, while out-of-state transfer applicants increased by 2.2 percent. Applications from international transfer applicants decreased slightly (-2.6 percent).

Applications by Campus (Table 1). All campuses experienced growth in freshman applications this year. San Diego, Merced, and Riverside had healthy growth in freshman applicants at 11.2 percent, 8.9 percent, and 8.5 percent respectively. Freshman applicants to other campuses grew moderately: Los Angeles (6.8 percent), Davis (5.9 percent), Santa Barbara (5.0 percent), Irvine (3.3 percent), Berkeley (5.2 percent), and Santa Cruz (1.7 percent).

Continuing the growth trend of recent years, seven campuses also experienced double-digit increases in transfer applications. The increases in transfers ranged from 31.2 percent at Riverside to 15.1 percent at Irvine. Berkeley and UCLA saw increases of 5.6 percent and 5.3 percent respectively. Systemwide, transfer applications have increased 26 percent since 2009.

Detailed information on campus applicant counts by level and residency is displayed in tables 2.2 and 2.3.

Applications by Ethnicity (Table 3.1). Data on the California freshman applicant pool reflect an increase in the number of applicants from many racial/ethnic groups compared to fall 2010 outcomes. The largest increases were from Chicano/Latino (18.0 percent). Asian freshman applicants grew by 5.0 percent. Freshman applicants from African American and white applicants also grew slightly, 2.3 percent and 1.5 percent, respectively. Among transfer applicants, there were increases of 26.4 percent for Chicano/Latino applicants 14.7 for Asian Americans and 12.3 percent for whites. Applicants from Pacific Islanders increased by nearly a third, however the numbers are small. The percent of applicants for whom ethnicity is missing dropped by over half at both levels.

Detailed information on campus applicant counts by level and ethnicity is displayed in tables 3.2 and 3.3.

Transfer Applications from California Community Colleges (Table 3.3). Systemwide the number of transfer applicants from California Community Colleges (CCC) increased this year by 9.6 percent, or 2,710 students. The two-year increase in CCC applicants is 32.2 percent. All campuses experienced increases for the fall 2011 term, ranging from 34.7 percent at Riverside to 9.6 percent at Berkeley.

Applications by California Region. The Los Angeles, San Francisco Bay Area, and southern California regions in general continue to be the most strongly represented regions in the California applicant pool. More than seven out of ten freshman and transfer applicants come from one of these three regions. The relative proportion of applications across most regions has remained stable over the last several years.

The University also continues to experience slight gains among student who report they will be the first in their family to graduate from college and who attend California's lowest performing public high schools as determined by the Academic Performance Index rank.

Notes:

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.

Effective with the 2011-12 admissions cycle, the University is using a redesigned admissions application that facilitates the collection of more complete and accurate applicant information. We have noted applicants are providing more complete information than they did in previous years, for example on estimated family income, and that fewer are refusing to report their ethnicity (see the decline in "missing"). As a result of this change, any slight fluctuation up or down in certain categories may be artificial and do not reflect a shift in the characteristics of the applicant pool.

Based on the UCAP file of 1/06/11.]