



# **UC Graduate Student Support Survey: Trends in the Comparability of Graduate Support Stipends**

**OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT AND VICE PROVOST FOR GRADUATE,  
UNDERGRADUATE AND EQUITY AFFAIRS  
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2020 Graduate Student Support Survey assesses the competitiveness of the financial support offered by the University of California to academic doctoral students. The survey includes students admitted to UC for the Fall 2020 term. It provides insight into the financial aid offers made by UC campuses and their top competitor institutions, the degree to which students choose to attend UC over other institutions, and the factors that influence their decisions. UCOP has conducted the Graduate Student Support Survey every three to four years since 2001. The last time it was conducted was with admitted graduate students for Fall 2017. The 2020 survey reveals the following findings:

**The average net stipend – the amount of funding from fellowships and assistantships after accounting for tuition and fees – offered by UC was lower than the average offered by students’ top-choice non-UC institutions in 2020, but the competitive gap increased slightly since 2017.**

- Systemwide, the gap in the average net stipend offered to students narrowly increased by \$210, from \$740 in 2017 to \$950 in 2020. UC offers increased by 4.8 percent in the past three years, but the average non-UC offer increased by 5.4 percent (in constant dollars), resulting in a larger competitive gap. See Table 5.
- On average, the competitiveness of offers from Berkeley, Davis, San Francisco, and Santa Cruz all improved since 2017. The competitiveness gap increased at Irvine, San Diego and Santa Barbara. The gap was nearly identical at Los Angeles and Riverside. The small number of complete responses from Merced makes the 2020 results unreliable. See Table 6.
- UC’s competitiveness improved more in some disciplines than in others. UC’s competitiveness improved in Engineering/CS, Health Sciences, Humanities, and Professional Ph.D. In contrast, UC offers in the Fine Arts, Social Sciences, and Life Sciences became less competitive overall. See Table 7.
- The survey suggests that UC has improved in competitiveness for domestic nonresident students and international students. However, the average net stipends offered by UC to domestic nonresident and international students continue to lag those of its competitors. Though the UC offers were slightly more on average than offers from non-UC institutions for California residents in 2013 and 2017, the average UC offer became slightly lower than its competition for residents in 2020. See Table 8 and Figure 2.

**The cost of living differential between UC campuses and non-UC institutions is significant and contributes to UC’s competitive disadvantage.**

- The average cost of living for UC campus communities is 87 percent higher than the national average. The average for UC’s top competitor institutions is 72 percent higher than the national average. See Table 10.
- The relatively higher cost of living near UC campuses means that a student offered the same net stipend from UC and a non-UC institution will find that the purchasing power of the UC net stipend is \$2,690 less, on average, than that of the competitive offer. See Table 11.

**Among prospective graduate students, UC rates highly in many factors such as academic reputation and faculty quality, but rates lower than its competitors in areas related to financial support and the local cost of living.**

- UC ranks higher than its competitors in academic reputation, quality of faculty, quality of labs and facilities, location of campuses, student diversity, and providing a caring and welcoming environment. See Table 14.
- Competitor institutions rank higher than UC in the amount and type of financial support offered and the availability of affordable housing. See Table 14.

## INTRODUCTION

The University of California's graduate student financial support strategy focuses on enhancing the competitiveness of the University. Unlike the University's undergraduate financial aid strategy, which focuses on ensuring access to higher education for all academically eligible students, the goal of graduate student financial support is to attract and enroll a diverse pool of the most highly qualified students to serve the University's research and workforce development missions. Achieving this goal requires levels of student support that are both adequate relative to the cost of attending the University and competitive with those offered by institutions competing for the same pool of highly qualified students. Evaluating progress towards this goal requires regular assessments of the competitiveness of the University's graduate financial support offers, the enrollment decisions made by prospective UC graduate students, and the reasons for their enrollment decisions.

The University of California launched its first Graduate Student Support Survey (GSSS) in 2001 and has conducted the survey every three to four years since then – in 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013, 2017, and 2020. The primary goal of the survey is to measure the competitiveness of UC's offers of student financial support relative to those provided by UC's primary competitor institutions. The survey also provides insight into additional factors that influence students' enrollment decisions.

## SCOPE OF THE REPORT

The 2020 survey asked the same questions included in prior surveys in order for the results of the survey to be compared with previous survey findings. This report examines the findings for the 2020 survey and evaluates any meaningful changes that have occurred since the 2013 and 2017 surveys were conducted. The report includes systemwide averages, along with averages by campus and broad academic discipline. Among the questions addressed are:

- How competitive are UC financial aid offers with non-UC institution offers for that same student, and how has competitiveness changed over time?
- Which non-UC institutions are most frequently named as top competitors?
- How frequently do students choose to enroll in a non-UC institution, and how has that choice changed over time?
- What is the cost of living differential between UC and non-UC institutions, and to what degree does that impact UC's competitiveness?

The report also examines:

- The competitiveness of offers based on student residency status
- The composition of offers (fellowships, assistantships, portable support, etc.)
- UC's competitiveness in non-financial factors, including perceptions about academic reputation and faculty quality

## METHODS

The 2020 GSSS was a comprehensive, 75-question survey conducted online. All academic doctoral admits to the University as of April 17, 2020 were invited to participate. Only students who had made their decision about what institution they planned to attend were allowed to complete the survey. The survey included questions asking students to provide the following information:

- Whether they would be attending a UC or a non-UC institution
- Their single top-choice UC and non-UC institution among the schools that had admitted them
- The total amount of competitive financial support (fellowships and assistantships) offered by their top-choice UC and non-UC institution (by award type)
- The amount of tuition and/or fees, if any, to be paid to their top UC and non-UC institution
- The importance of various factors that may have played a role in their enrollment decision
- Their assessment of their top-choice UC and non-UC institutions on the factors that influenced their enrollment decision

For the purposes of this report, the net stipend amount refers to the calculation of the reported aid amount minus the amount the student would have to pay in tuition and fees; simply put, how much will the student have to cover living expenses?

## RESPONSE RATE

As Table 1 shows, over 9,000 admitted students were invited to participate in the 2020 survey. The overall response rate of 67 percent, which included all respondents who entered the online survey, is six percentage points lower than the response rate achieved in 2017 (73 percent). This may partially be due to the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. The rate is nevertheless quite high for student surveys in general.

The “dual admit” response rate is the percent of respondents who were admitted to academic doctoral programs at both a UC and non-UC institutions; this systemwide dual response rate is 52 percent, down six points again from the prior year (58 percent). The “full completion rate” of 28 percent represents the responses that are used in the data analysis for this report, unless otherwise noted. The systemwide full completion rate is also six percentage points lower than that in 2017 (34 percent).

Both Merced and Riverside had full completion rates below 20 percent and campus-specific results should be interpreted with that in mind.



**Table 1: Response Rates by Campus of Admission, 2020**

Campus	Survey Invitees	Responded to Survey	Response Rate	Dual Admits	Dual Admit Response Rate	Full Completions	Full Completion Rate
Berkeley	1,898	1,362	72%	1,198	63%	703	37%
Davis	1,534	1,088	71%	816	53%	455	30%
Irvine	1,369	987	72%	709	52%	380	28%
Los Angeles	1,752	1,212	69%	975	56%	547	31%
Merced	335	226	67%	131	39%	62	19%
Riverside	439	225	51%	118	27%	49	11%
San Diego	1,586	1,074	68%	881	56%	505	32%
San Francisco	335	211	63%	177	53%	100	30%
Santa Barbara	1,198	746	62%	592	49%	336	28%
Santa Cruz	504	337	67%	228	45%	108	21%
Systemwide	9,012	6,067	67%	4,672	52%	2,537	28%

\* Systemwide totals and response rates based on unduplicated number of admits and differ from total of campuses

## DATA LIMITATIONS

The 2020 GSSS study estimates the comparability of UC financial aid offers by identifying the average net stipend amounts for UC and its top competitor institutions as identified by the survey respondents. The net stipend represents the funding from fellowships and assistantships that students will have to cover their living expenses after tuition and fees have been paid. Because this information is self-reported, the data quality relies on the accuracy with which students report their award amounts after taking tuition and fees into account.

The following factors should also be considered when interpreting the results of the survey:

- Beyond a lower response rate, impacts of the coronavirus pandemic are unknown.
- Fully complete survey responses from Merced students were too small for reliable results. See dramatic swings in Table 6.
- The survey population includes only students admitted to the University by April 17, 2020.
- Respondents who chose a non-US or non-Canadian institution were excluded from the analysis due to concerns about whether figures reported by those students would accurately reflect currency exchange rates and because of limited cost of living data for institutions in other locations.
- The survey compares the average net stipends offered to students, not the actual cost to support a graduate student. It is costlier to support non-resident and international students due to the need to cover these students' Nonresident Supplemental Tuition (NRST).
- The survey does not provide useful information on changes in the number of students admitted to UC. Changes in funding availability may cause departments to admit more or fewer students in a given year.



- Survey responses that indicated unusually high or low net stipend amounts (greater than \$75,600 or less than -\$75,600) were excluded from the analysis because they were likely erroneous. Responses with missing stipend amounts for either the top UC or non-UC institution were also excluded, i.e., only responses with valid net stipend amounts reported for both UC and non-UC institutions were included as part of the analysis.

## TRENDS IN ADMISSION TO NON-UC INSTITUTIONS

The survey asked respondents to identify the top-choice non-UC institution where they were admitted. The ten most frequently cited institutions accounted for about 40% of all responses, and the institutions varied only slightly from those identified in the previous survey. Stanford University is consistently identified as the top UC competitor, followed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Chicago, University of Washington, and Harvard University. Of the list top ten competitors, three are public institutions. Table 2 shows the top ten schools most frequently cited as respondents' top non-UC institution in each of the past three surveys.

**Table 2: Distribution of Top Non-UC Institutions**

<b>2020</b>		
<b>Institution</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Stanford University	164	6.5%
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	121	4.8%
University of Chicago	115	4.5%
University of Washington - Seattle	108	4.3%
Harvard University	105	4.1%
University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	90	3.5%
University of Texas at Austin	85	3.4%
Princeton University	75	3.0%
Columbia University in the City of New York	71	2.8%
Cornell University, All Campuses	67	2.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,001</b>	<b>39.5%</b>

<b>2017</b>		
<b>Institution</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Stanford University	224	7.3%
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	166	5.4%
Harvard University	129	4.2%
University of Southern California	126	4.1%
University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	107	3.5%
University of Washington - Seattle	104	3.4%
University of Chicago	84	2.7%
Princeton University	81	2.6%
Cornell University, All Campuses	81	2.6%
Yale University	73	2.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,175</b>	<b>38.1%</b>

<b>2013</b>		
<b>Institution</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Stanford University	217	7.5%
University of Washington - Seattle	129	4.5%
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	126	4.4%
Harvard University	119	4.1%
University of Michigan At Ann Arbor	106	3.7%
University of Wisconsin-Madison	95	0.3%
University of Southern California	88	3.1%
University of Texas At Austin	85	3.0%
Columbia University in the City of New York	81	2.8%
Cornell University, All Campuses	75	2.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>38.9%</b>

\* Among respondents who are dual admits.

Shaded boxes indicate institutions in top list every survey cycle

The survey also asked respondents to identify each UC campus and non-UC institution that admitted them. As shown in Table 3, respondents were admitted to an average of 1.4 UC campuses and 3.5 non-UC institutions. The average number of admission offers from UC campuses remained steady over the 2013, 2017, and 2020 surveys while for non-UC institutions, the average number of offers increased in 2017.

**Table 3: Respondents' Average Number of Offers of Admission**

	2013					2017					2020				
			Avg. #	Avg. #	Avg. #			Avg. #	Avg. #	Avg. #			Avg. #	Avg. #	Avg. #
	n	Percent	Non-UC Offers	UC Offers	All Offers	n	Percent	Non-UC Offers	UC Offers	All Offers	n	Percent	Non-UC Offers	UC Offers	All Offers
All Respondents	5,764	100%	2.6	1.4	3.9	6,499	100%	3.5	1.4	4.9	5,855	100%	3.5	1.4	4.9
Admitted to:															
Multiple UCs	1,579	27%	2.8	2.4	5.3	1,732	27%	3.8	1.4	6.2	1,651	28%	3.8	2.4	6.2
>=1 non-UC	4,607	80%	3.5	1.4	4.6	5,281	81%	4.1	2.5	5.5	4,672	80%	4.1	1.4	5.5

## ENROLLMENT PATTERNS

As shown in Table 4, 50 percent of survey respondents chose to attend a UC campus over a non-UC competitor institution, slightly lower than the proportion in 2013 and 2017, although the rate varied by campus. Enrollment rates also varied by broad academic discipline, as depicted in Appendix 1a.

**Table 4: Enrollment Choice by Top-Choice UC Campus**

Top-Choice UC	2013		2017		2020	
	Completers	Chose to Attend UC	Completers	Chose to Attend UC	Completers	Chose to Attend UC
Berkeley	756	51%	754	51%	678	48%
Davis	326	48%	341	47%	327	49%
Irvine	239	53%	324	55%	264	48%
Los Angeles	462	53%	433	55%	430	53%
Merced	13	69%	36	50%	39	59%
Riverside	140	56%	167	54%	47	83%
San Diego	419	51%	459	47%	373	47%
San Francisco	115	56%	142	51%	76	62%
Santa Barbara	289	47%	308	48%	225	41%
Santa Cruz	121	40%	124	50%	78	44%
Systemwide	2,877	51%	3,088	51%	2,537	50%

Survey respondents reported the amount and composition of the offers they received from their top-choice UC and non-UC institutions. A net stipend was then calculated for each offer based on the amount of tuition and/or fees, if any, respondents expect to pay from their offer. The result is a net

stipend that shows the amount of the award available for students' other expenses – books and supplies, living expenses, personal use, etc. (A negative net stipend represents the amount of tuition and/or fees a student will have to cover from personal resources.) This metric permits a direct comparison of UC's financial support offers with those at other public and private institutions, independent of differences in tuition and fee levels.

Table 5 shows the average net stipend among all full-completion respondents, along with the average net stipend among those respondents who were offered positive net stipends from both their top-choice UC and non-UC institutions. Among all respondents, the average UC net stipend (\$26,900) was \$951 less than the average reported for non-UC institutions. This competitive gap was less than the gap reported by students in 2013 (\$1,648 in inflation-adjusted dollars), but slightly more than the gap in 2017 (\$736). The increased gap in 2020 is attributable to both an increase in UC's average net stipend and a slightly greater rise in the average net stipend offered by UC's competitors. The percentage of UC offers that included positive net stipends in 2020 (93 percent) was higher than that of 2017 (90 percent) and 2013 (91 percent). The proportion of UC offers with positive net stipends in 2020 (93 percent) was slightly higher than non-UC offers with net positive stipends (91 percent).

**Table 5: Per Capita UC and Non-UC Net Stipend**

<b>All Full Completions</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2020</b>
Number of Responses	2,877	3,088	2,537
Per Capita UC Net Stipend	\$ 24,880	\$ 25,677	\$ 26,900
Per Capita Non-UC Net Stipend	\$ 26,528	\$ 26,413	\$ 27,851
Difference	\$ (1,648)	\$ (736)	\$ (951)

<b>Percent of Full Completions Supported</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2020</b>
UC	91%	90%	93%
Non-UC	92%	89%	91%
Difference	-1%	1%	1%

<b>Full Completions with Positive Net Stipends</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2020</b>
Number of Responses	2,455	2,570	2,204
Per Capita UC Net Stipend	\$ 30,424	\$ 29,915	\$ 30,184
Per Capita Non-UC Net Stipend	\$ 31,937	\$ 31,293	\$ 31,954
Difference	\$ (1,514)	\$ (1,378)	\$ (1,770)

\*2013 and 2017 figures have been adjusted to 2020 dollars based on the Consumer Price Index.

As in previous years, the survey showed wide variance in the competitiveness of UC's offers by campus; see Table 6. The campuses with the greatest improvement in either closing the deficit between it and its competitors, or increasing its existing advantage, were Berkeley, Davis, Merced, San Francisco, and Santa Cruz. Again, it is worth noting that full complete response rates for both Riverside and Merced were below 20 percent when interpreting the results below.

**Table 6: Trends in Per Capita Net Stipend by Top-Choice UC Campus**

Campus	2013			2017			2020		
	Per Capita UC Net Stipend	Per Capita Non-UC Net Stipend	Difference	Per Capita UC Net Stipend	Per Capita Non-UC Net Stipend	Difference	Per Capita UC Net Stipend	Per Capita Non-UC Net Stipend	Difference
Berkeley	\$29,077	\$31,352	-\$2,276	\$27,743	\$30,689	-\$2,946	\$30,110	\$31,931	-\$1,821
Davis	\$21,762	\$25,494	-\$3,732	\$23,418	\$24,531	-\$1,113	\$23,779	\$23,476	\$303
Irvine	\$27,388	\$23,441	\$3,947	\$26,393	\$24,980	\$1,413	\$23,569	\$24,362	-\$792
Los Angeles	\$21,737	\$24,448	-\$2,712	\$22,200	\$23,742	-\$1,542	\$25,481	\$27,045	-\$1,564
Merced**	\$18,277	\$21,298	-\$3,021	\$22,307	\$23,575	-\$1,268	\$15,642	\$8,824	\$6,818
Riverside	\$25,088	\$16,718	\$8,371	\$23,335	\$19,769	\$3,566	\$24,509	\$21,004	\$3,505
San Diego	\$24,047	\$25,583	-\$1,536	\$26,011	\$27,568	-\$1,557	\$27,556	\$29,782	-\$2,226
San Francisco	\$34,455	\$35,322	-\$866	\$35,472	\$33,618	\$1,853	\$39,079	\$36,139	\$2,940
Santa Barbara	\$21,848	\$26,483	-\$4,635	\$25,571	\$24,014	\$1,557	\$26,223	\$27,266	-\$1,043
Santa Cruz	\$15,683	\$20,325	-\$4,643	\$21,542	\$21,856	-\$314	\$25,190	\$24,998	\$192
Systemwide	\$24,880	\$26,528	-\$1,648	\$25,677	\$26,413	-\$736	\$26,900	\$27,851	-\$951

\* 2013 and 2017 figures adjusted to 2020 dollars based on changes in the CPI. Systemwide figures are weighted averages of number of admits in each campus.

\*\*Merced figures have to be interpreted with caution as there were fewer survey responses, some Master's students being included, and change in response for disciplines.

Table 7 depicts the average net stipends offered by student's top-choice UC and non-UC institutions by broad academic discipline. UC's competitiveness improved in some disciplines – notably, in Engineering/CS, Health Sciences, Humanities, and Professional PHD; UC's competitiveness in Physical Sciences decreased slightly. Health Science and Professional PHD became significantly more competitive at UC, cutting their competitive gap by over \$3,700 and \$2,300 respectively. UC has a competitive advantage in three disciplines: Health Sciences, and Humanities. UC's greatest competitive disadvantage is in Fine Arts and Professional disciplines: the average stipend among UC competitors exceeded UC's average net stipend by more than \$6,770 in Fine Arts and by more than \$1,710 in Professional disciplines.

**Table 7: Trends in Per Capita Net Stipend by Discipline**

Broad Discipline	2013			2017			2020		
	Average UC	Average Non-UC	Difference	Average UC	Average Non-UC	Difference	Average UC	Average Non-UC	Difference
Engineering/CS	\$21,197	\$22,005	-\$808	\$23,166	\$24,431	-\$1,266	\$24,593	\$25,448	-\$856
Fine Arts	\$25,192	\$26,458	-\$1,266	\$24,306	\$19,430	\$4,876	\$19,312	\$26,083	-\$6,772
Health Sciences	\$20,766	\$21,073	-\$307	\$24,144	\$23,085	\$1,058	\$22,814	\$17,863	\$4,951
Humanities	\$24,646	\$24,472	\$175	\$25,151	\$25,346	-\$195	\$26,290	\$26,087	\$203
Life Sciences	\$32,038	\$32,578	-\$540	\$30,763	\$30,831	-\$68	\$30,814	\$32,097	-\$1,283
Physical Sciences	\$29,246	\$29,835	-\$590	\$27,736	\$27,979	-\$243	\$29,354	\$30,129	-\$775
Professional PhD	\$14,584	\$22,415	-\$7,831	\$19,263	\$23,397	-\$4,134	\$22,519	\$24,238	-\$1,719
Social Sciences	\$21,987	\$25,418	-\$3,430	\$24,034	\$23,635	\$399	\$25,025	\$25,902	-\$877
Systemwide	\$24,880	\$26,528	-\$1,648	\$25,677	\$26,413	-\$736	\$26,900	\$27,851	-\$951

\* 2013 and 2017 dollars adjusted to 2020 dollars based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.

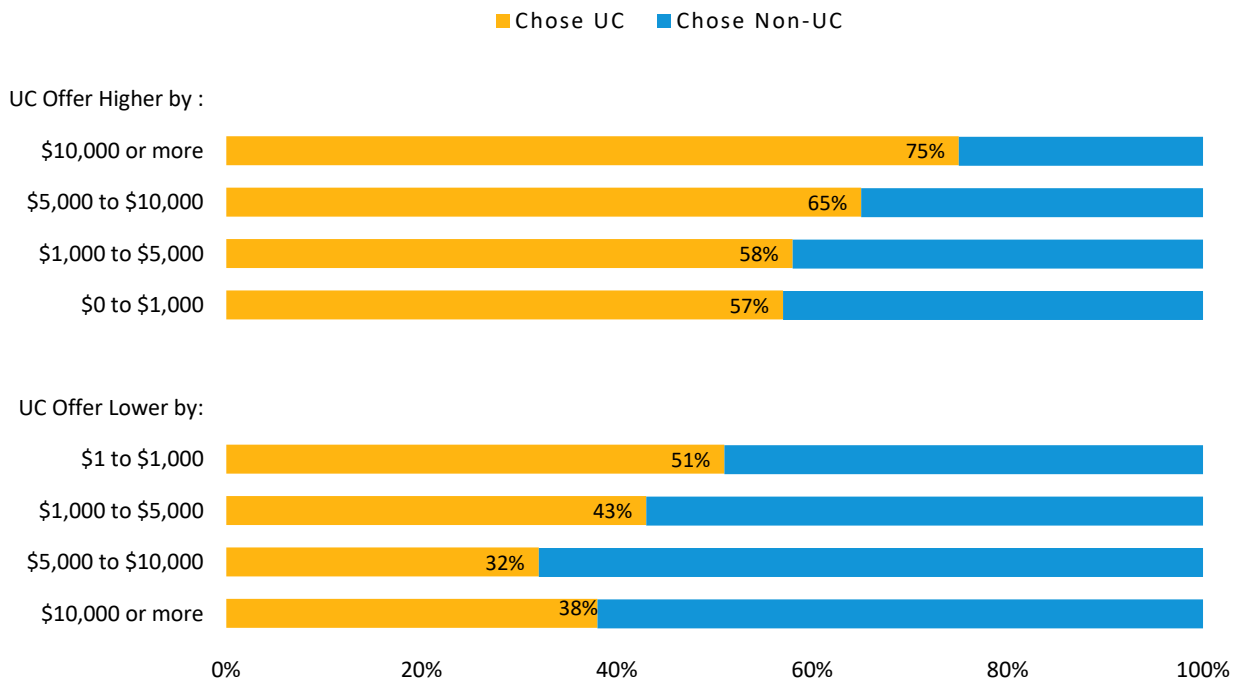
## NET STIPEND COMPETITIVENESS AND YIELD

As in past iterations of the survey, results from the 2020 survey suggest that the competitiveness of students' offers from their top-choice institutions influence their enrollment decisions. The

relationship between the size of this impact and the competitiveness of students' awards is shown in Figure 1. When UC's net stipend was greater than the non-UC net stipend by at least \$10,000, 75 percent of respondents chose to attend UC. In contrast, among respondents whose UC net stipends were lower than non-UC's by at least \$10,000, only 38 percent chose UC. The overall relationship between award competitiveness and students' enrollment decisions was similar to that observed in earlier surveys.

Note that in cases where the net stipends offered by a student's top-choice UC and non-UC institution differed by less than \$1,000, respondents choose UC at a rate of 51 percent. (This rate, which is not shown in Figure 1, reflects instances where UC's offer was either higher or lower than that of its competitor by no more than \$1,000.) This is noteworthy in light of substantially higher cost of living in UC campus communities (as discussed in the "Relative Value of Net Stipends" section of this report).

**Figure 1: Percent of Respondents Choosing to Attend UC, By Net Stipend Difference**



## RESIDENT, NON-RESIDENT, AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Providing competitive awards to domestic non-resident and international students can be particularly challenging due to the need to cover these students' Nonresident Supplemental Tuition (NRST) in addition to the standard student fees. Domestic nonresident graduate students are typically subject to NRST for only one year, at which point they can establish California residency. International students cannot establish California residency and are hence subject to NRST every year until they advance to candidacy, when they are exempt from NRST for up to three years.

The 2020 data shows that UC's competitive gap narrowed among domestic non-resident and international students, as shown in Table 8 and Figure 2, below. By contrast, the competitive advantage for California residents has declined. Figure 8 depicts that UC has been closing the competitive gap for domestic non-resident and international students since 2013.

**Table 8: Trends in Per Capita Net Stipend by Residency Status**

UC Net Stipend	2013	2017	2020
Domestic Resident	\$26,799	\$26,675	\$27,679
Domestic Non-resident	\$27,604	\$27,049	\$28,206
International	\$18,234	\$21,587	\$24,096
All Students	\$24,880	\$25,677	\$26,900

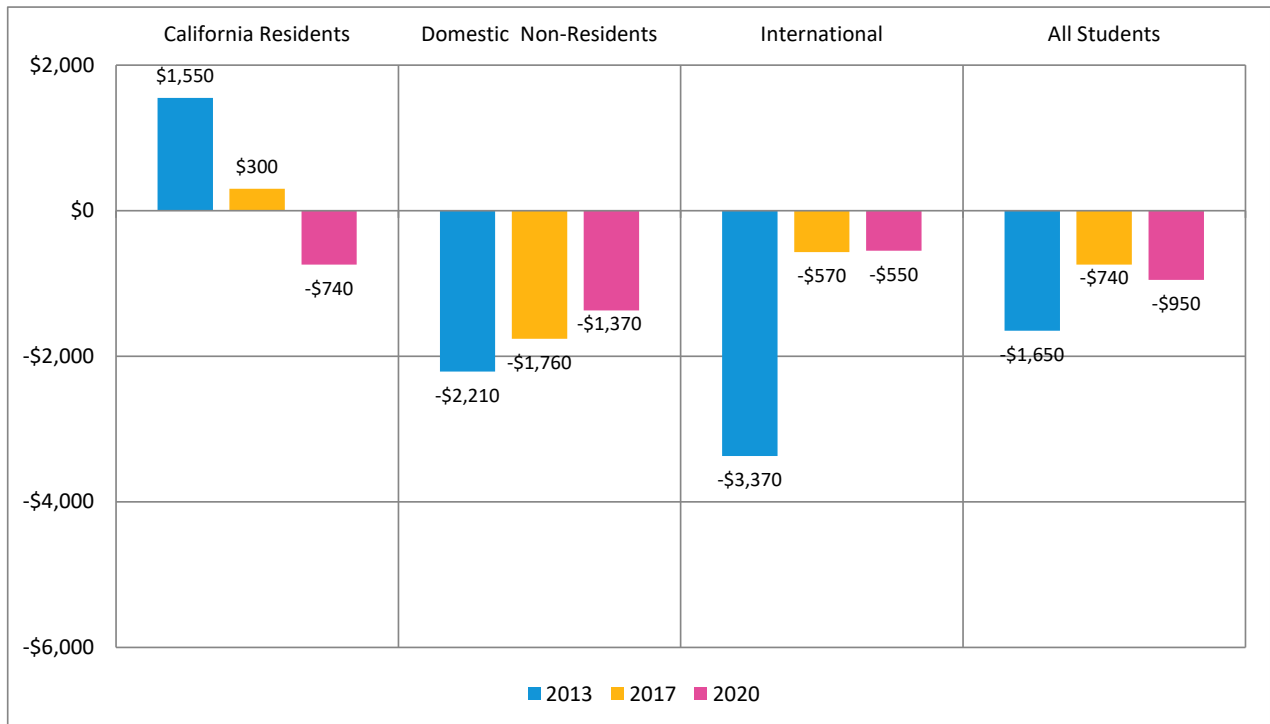
Non UC Net Stipend	2013	2017	2020
Domestic Resident	\$25,252	\$26,377	\$28,422
Domestic Non-resident	\$29,814	\$28,808	\$29,575
International	\$21,605	\$22,161	\$24,642
All Students	\$26,528	\$26,413	\$27,851

Difference	2013	2017	2020
Domestic Resident	\$1,546	\$298	(\$744)
Domestic Non-resident	(\$2,210)	(\$1,759)	(\$1,369)
International	(\$3,372)	(\$574)	(\$545)
All Students	(\$1,648)	(\$736)	(\$951)

\*2013 and 2017 dollars adjusted to 2020 dollars based on changes in the Consumer Price



**Figure 2: Difference Between UC and Non-UC Stipends by Residency for 2013, 2017, and 2020**



## COMPOSITION OF OFFERS

The survey asks students to report the composition of their financial support offers by indicating the portion of their awards derived from institutional fellowships, research assistantships, teaching assistantships, and portable extramural fellowships. The composition of award offers is shown in Table 9.

Historically, UC has trailed competitors in the percent of students offered institutional fellowships and research assistantships, but has offered a higher percentage of teaching assistantships than other institutions. In 2017 and 2020, however, the percent of students offered UC institutional fellowships have been similar; it was 65 percent compared to 61 percent among UC's competitors in 2017, and 67 percent compared to 68 percent among its competitors in 2020. Fellowships remained the most common type of support offered by UC to first-year students, and were cited far more frequently than either teaching assistantships (29 percent) or research assistantships (27 percent).

Respondents indicated that 74 percent of UC offers were multi-year offers compared to 76 percent of offers from UC's competitors. This suggests this potential competitive disadvantage for UC has been declining since 2013.

**Table 9: Composition of Award Offers**

Award Type	2013			2017			2020		
	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.
Extramural Fellowship	5%	5%	0%	10%	10%	0%	6%	6%	0%
Institutional Support	91%	91%	0%	88%	85%	3%	89%	89%	-1%
Institutional Fellowship	66%	62%	4%	65%	61%	3%	67%	68%	-1%
Research Assistantship	24%	27%	-3%	18%	20%	-2%	27%	28%	-1%
Teaching Assistantship	28%	23%	5%	34%	26%	8%	29%	22%	7%
Multi-year Offer	72%	78%	-6%	66%	71%	-4%	74%	76%	-2%

## RELATIVE VALUE OF NET STIPENDS

The dollar amount of the net stipends shown in Tables 6 and 7 does not reflect differences in the cost of living in the areas where UC campuses and other institutions are located. Two similar net stipends can provide very different lifestyles depending on the local cost of living (housing, transportation, etc.), which may in turn influence students' enrollment decisions.

Consistent with the past surveys, a local cost of living (COL) index obtained from a proprietary database was assigned to each U.S. and Canadian institution identified in the survey. The index captures each institution's local cost of living relative to a national average, assuming a common student lifestyle.

Once a COL index was established for each institution, the indexes were applied to a standard graduate student budget to calculate a COL "adjustor." The adjustor is a dollar amount that represents the estimated difference in purchasing power between the net stipends offered by UC and its competitor institutions. See Appendix 15 for details regarding the COL adjustor calculations.

Table 10 shows the average COL for UC campuses and their competitor institutions. (An index of 100 reflects the average cost of living in the United States.) UC campuses are located in communities with an average COL that is 87 percent higher than the national average; for UC competitor institutions, the comparable figure is 72 percent. The relatively higher cost of UC communities results in an average COL adjustor of -\$2,690. In other words, at the systemwide level, UC's nominal competitive gap of -\$950 is equivalent to a competitive gap of -\$3,640 in terms of students' actual purchasing power.

**Table 10: Trends in Systemwide Cost of Living and Net Stipend Value**

	2013	2017	2020
<b>Cost of Living Index</b>			
UC	172.6	180.8	187.2
Non-UC	154.1	164.7	172.1
Difference	18.5	16.1	15.1
<b>COL Adjustor</b>	-\$3,020	-\$2,940	-\$2,690
<b>Net Stipend (2020 Dollars)</b>			
UC	\$24,880	\$25,680	\$26,900
Non-UC	\$26,530	\$26,410	\$27,850
Difference	-\$1,650	-\$730	-\$950
<b>COL-adjusted Difference</b>	-\$4,670	-\$3,670	-\$3,640

\*2013 and 2017 figures have been adjusted to 2020 dollars based on changes in the CPI.

Figures rounded to nearest 10.

California historically has a higher cost of living than the U.S. average. Yet the average COL for UC competitor institutions is also well above the national average and has changed at about the same rate since 2017. Among UC's most frequent competitors shown in Table 2 earlier in this report, two (Stanford and University of Washington) are located in high-cost areas of San Francisco Bay Area and Seattle, and three (MIT, Harvard, and Columbia) are located in high-priced East Coast regions. Therefore, the difference between the COL-adjusted net stipends between 2017 and 2020 (\$3,670 minus \$3,640 equals \$30) is generally the same.

Individual UC campus indexes vary greatly, as shown in Table 11. San Francisco, for example, has a COL index of 271 – far higher than the national average (100) and considerably higher than the average among its competitors (208.6). This results in a cost of living adjustor of \$11,096 for UC San Francisco.

Table 11 shows the COL indexes and the adjustor amounts for each campus and its competitors for 2013, 2017, and 2020. COL indexes have increased since 2017 in most cities where UC campuses and non-UC institutions are located. The increase since 2010 likely reflects the economic recovery of the succeeding seven years. As Table 11 shows, the COL Indexes in some UC locations have increased significantly since 2013, but only modestly since 2017.

**Table 11: UC Campus COL vs. National Average**

Top-Choice UC	2013			2017			2020		
	UC COL Index	Non-UC COL Index	COL Adjustor	UC COL Index	Non-UC COL Index	COL Adjustor	UC COL Index	Non-UC COL Index	COL Adjustor
Berkeley	217.9	175.2	-\$6,960	212.3	181.1	-\$5,693	215.4	193.5	-\$3,894
Davis	123.0	130.6	\$1,236	124.3	128.6	\$785	130.0	133.6	\$640
Irvine	164.0	138.4	-\$4,175	167.3	149.8	-\$3,193	171.7	149.8	-\$3,894
Los Angeles	182.2	155.8	-\$4,307	196.6	182.5	-\$2,573	202.0	179.9	-\$3,930
Merced	109.6	125.4	\$2,579	103.1	122.5	\$3,540	105.1	111.2	\$1,085
Riverside	123.2	123.9	\$120	127.1	130.3	\$584	127.6	135.1	\$1,334
San Diego	145.5	151.6	\$989	184.1	172.9	-\$2,043	190.1	185.4	-\$836
San Francisco	241.5	190.9	-\$8,246	271.8	207.8	-\$11,677	271.0	208.6	-\$11,096
Santa Barbara	140.7	145.5	\$790	162.5	150.8	-\$2,135	172.4	161.4	-\$1,956
Santa Cruz	170.3	142.3	-\$4,570	174.3	171.5	-\$511	176.0	163.2	-\$2,276
Systemwide	172.6	154.1	-\$3,017	180.8	164.7	-\$2,940	187.2	172.1	-\$2,687

\* 2013 and 2017 figures adjusted to 2020 dollars based on the Consumer Price Index.

Cost of living adjustments lowered the relative value of UC's net stipend offers at seven UC campuses and increased the relative value at three others. Table 12 shows the effect of COL adjustments on net stipend offers at each campus.

**Table 12: Trends in Net Stipend and Cost of Living Differences, by Campus**

Top-Choice UC Campus	UC Per Capita Net Stipend			Non-UC Per Capita Net Stipend			COL Adjustor			Total Advantage (Disadvantage) of UC over Non-UC Net Stipend Offer		
	2013	2017	2020	2013	2017	2020	2013	2017	2020	2013	2017	2020
Berkeley	\$29,077	\$27,743	\$30,110	\$31,352	\$30,689	\$31,931	-\$6,960	-\$5,693	-\$3,894	-\$9,236	-\$8,639	-\$5,715
Davis	\$21,762	\$23,418	\$23,779	\$25,494	\$24,531	\$23,476	\$1,236	\$785	\$640	-\$2,496	-\$329	\$943
Irvine	\$27,388	\$26,393	\$23,569	\$23,441	\$24,980	\$24,362	-\$4,175	-\$3,193	-\$3,894	-\$228	-\$1,780	-\$4,687
Los Angeles	\$21,737	\$22,200	\$25,481	\$24,448	\$23,742	\$27,045	-\$4,307	-\$2,573	-\$3,930	-\$7,019	-\$4,115	-\$5,494
Merced	\$18,277	\$22,307	\$15,642	\$21,298	\$23,575	\$8,824	\$2,579	\$3,540	\$1,085	-\$442	\$2,272	\$7,903
Riverside	\$25,088	\$23,335	\$24,509	\$16,718	\$19,769	\$21,004	\$120	\$584	\$1,334	\$8,490	\$4,150	\$4,838
San Diego	\$24,047	\$26,011	\$27,556	\$25,583	\$27,568	\$29,782	\$989	-\$2,043	-\$836	-\$547	-\$3,601	-\$3,062
San Francisco	\$34,455	\$35,472	\$39,079	\$35,322	\$33,618	\$36,139	-\$8,246	-\$11,677	-\$11,096	-\$9,112	-\$9,824	-\$8,156
Santa Barbara	\$21,848	\$25,571	\$26,223	\$26,483	\$24,014	\$27,266	\$790	-\$2,135	-\$1,956	-\$3,846	-\$578	-\$2,999
Santa Cruz	\$15,683	\$21,542	\$25,190	\$20,325	\$21,856	\$24,998	-\$4,570	-\$511	-\$2,276	-\$9,213	-\$825	-\$2,084
Systemwide	\$24,880	\$25,677	\$26,900	\$26,528	\$26,413	\$27,851	-\$3,017	-\$2,940	-\$2,687	-\$4,665	-\$3,676	-\$3,638

\* 2013 and 2017 figures have been adjusted to 2020 dollars based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.

Table 13 shows the relative value of net stipend offers after making COL adjustments within each broad discipline. In 2020, the COL adjustment reduced the value of UC net stipend offers in seven out of eight disciplines (except Physical Sciences), placing UC at an overall disadvantage in every field of study.

**Table 13: Trends in Net Stipend and Cost of Living Differences, by Broad Discipline**

Broad Discipline	UC Per Capita Net Stipend			Non-UC Per Capita Net Stipend			COL Adjustor			Total Advantage (Disadvantage) of UC over Non-UC Net Stipend		
	2013	2017	2020	2013	2017	2020	2013	2017	2020	2013	2017	2020
Engineering/Computer Science	\$21,197	\$23,166	\$24,593	\$22,005	\$24,431	\$25,448	-\$4,070	-\$4,278	-\$3,332	-\$4,878	-\$5,544	-\$4,188
Fine Arts	\$25,192	\$24,306	\$19,312	\$26,458	\$19,430	\$26,083	-\$129	-\$732	-\$658	-\$1,395	\$4,144	-\$7,430
Health Sciences	\$20,766	\$24,144	\$22,814	\$21,073	\$23,085	\$17,863	-\$4,781	-\$6,356	-\$5,277	-\$5,088	-\$5,298	-\$326
Humanities	\$24,646	\$25,151	\$26,290	\$24,472	\$25,346	\$26,087	-\$2,133	-\$3,311	-\$1,932	-\$1,958	-\$3,506	-\$1,729
Life Sciences	\$32,038	\$30,763	\$30,814	\$32,578	\$30,831	\$32,097	-\$3,189	-\$456	-\$596	-\$3,729	-\$524	-\$1,879
Physical Sciences	\$29,246	\$27,736	\$29,354	\$29,835	\$27,979	\$30,129	-\$2,866	-\$2,241	\$68	-\$3,456	-\$2,484	-\$707
Professional PhD	\$14,584	\$19,263	\$22,519	\$22,415	\$23,397	\$24,238	-\$3,093	-\$1,028	-\$577	-\$10,924	-\$5,162	-\$2,295
Social Sciences	\$21,987	\$24,034	\$25,025	\$25,418	\$23,635	\$25,902	-\$1,517	\$370	-\$20	-\$4,947	\$769	-\$897
Systemwide	\$24,880	\$25,677	\$26,900	\$26,528	\$26,413	\$27,851	-\$3,017	-\$2,940	-\$2,687	-\$4,665	-\$3,676	-\$3,638

\*2013 and 2017 figures adjusted to 2020 dollars based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.

## QUALITATIVE FACTORS

The survey also asked respondents to rate the importance of qualitative factors that influenced their enrollment decisions. Respondents then evaluated both their top-choice UC and non-UC institution on each factor, using a rating of “Above Average,” “Average,” or “Below Average.”

Table 14 shows the percentage of respondents who rated influential factors as “Above Average” or “Average.” UC campuses received ratings that were notably lower than those of their competitors on four factors related to financial support: the amount of support, the type of support, the duration of support, and the availability of affordable housing. UC campuses received slightly higher ratings than their competitors for factors related to educational quality (academic reputation, quality of faculty, etc.), for high-quality labs and facilities, for providing a caring and welcoming environment, and for the diversity of its students. UC campuses received much higher ratings than their competitors for the desirability of campus location.

**Table 14: Respondents’ Ratings of Top-Choice UC vs. Top-Choice Non-UC Schools**

Factor	2013*			2017*			2020*		
	UC Rating	Non-UC Rating	Diff.	UC Rating	Non-UC Rating	Diff.	UC Rating	Non-UC Rating	Diff.
Academic Reputation	96.2%	95.6%	0.6%	96.7%	94.9%	1.8%	97.1%	95.4%	1.7%
Aligns with Research Interest	94.9%	95.2%	-0.2%	95.2%	92.9%	2.3%	95.5%	94.3%	1.2%
Quality of Faculty	98.3%	97.6%	0.6%	98.5%	96.3%	2.1%	98.7%	97.0%	1.7%
Amount of Financial Support	77.7%	89.0%	-11.3%	79.1%	88.3%	-9.2%	79.1%	88.3%	-9.2%
Type of Financial Support	79.3%	86.6%	-7.4%	80.7%	86.4%	-5.7%	79.6%	87.1%	-7.5%
Multi -Year Support	77.2%	85.5%	-8.3%	84.6%	86.7%	-2.0%	85.6%	87.9%	-2.4%
Location of Campus	87.4%	72.3%	15.1%	87.2%	74.3%	12.9%	87.0%	74.9%	12.1%
Diversity of Students	76.4%	71.9%	4.4%	85.0%	77.3%	7.7%	85.6%	83.8%	1.7%
Availability of Affordable Housing	51.3%	73.3%	-22.0%	50.1%	75.7%	-25.6%	43.8%	76.8%	-33.0%
Caring Environment	84.7%	83.6%	1.0%	90.8%	87.9%	2.9%	90.8%	87.9%	2.9%
High Quality Labs and Facilities	91.7%	92.0%	-0.4%	93.7%	92.9%	0.7%	93.7%	93.6%	0.1%

Ratings limited to students who indicated each factor as being important in their general enrollment decision-making process. ☐

\* Indicates a rating of Average or Above Average.

## CONCLUSION

The 2020 survey results suggest that the competitiveness of UC's offers of graduate student financial support has declined slightly since 2017. The decline reflects that in constant dollars, there has been both a slight increase in the average net stipend offered by UC campuses, and a moderate increase in the average net stipend offered by non-UC institutions.

While the average net stipend offered by most UC campuses remains below that offered by its competitors, there are signs of improvement at some campuses and in some disciplines. In particular, the competitive of UC's offers has improved in Engineering/CS, Health Sciences, Humanities, and Professional Ph.D.

There is ongoing concern about UC's ability to attract the best graduate students – particularly nonresident domestic and international students.

The stipend gap between UC and non-UC institutions is magnified by the higher cost of living in many UC campus communities. The previous economic growth (prior to the pandemic) and increased housing costs in California may have widened the gap between the cost of living near UC campuses and the average cost of living nationwide (as well as the cost of living near competing institutions).

Students continue to give UC high marks on many factors that are important to their enrollment decisions, including the academic reputation of the university, the quality of the faculty, the quality of labs and facilities, the diversity of the student body, and the location of UC campuses. UC received lower ratings in areas related to student financial support

Moreover, survey results indicate that the competitiveness of graduate student support matters: a student is more likely to enroll at UC when UC's offer exceeds that of its competitors, and less likely to enroll at UC when it does not. UC continues to face significant challenges in this area although UC has closed the competitive gap in net stipend offered to students since 2010 and 2013.

# APPENDICES FROM THE GRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT SURVEY



**Appendix 1a**  
**Enrollment Choice by Broad Discipline**

	<b>2013</b>		<b>2017</b>		<b>2020</b>	
<b>Broad Discipline</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Chose to Attend UC</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Chose to Attend UC</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Chose to Attend UC</b>
Engineering/Computer Science	656	52%	652	52%	537	48%
Fine Arts	40	58%	39	64%	38	68%
Health Sciences	28	57%	53	62%	31	52%
Humanities	300	50%	317	50%	222	56%
Life Sciences	560	53%	638	52%	507	50%
Physical Sciences	683	49%	738	45%	652	43%
Professional PhD	355	50%	368	52%	305	56%
Social Sciences	255	48%	283	54%	245	50%
Systemwide	2,877	51%	3,088	51%	2,537	50%

**Appendix 1b**  
**Enrollment Choice by Top-Choice UC Campus**  
**Among Respondents Whose UC Offer Exceeded Their non-UC Offer**

<b>Top-Choice UC Campus</b>	<b>2013</b>		<b>2017</b>		<b>2020</b>	
	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Chose to Attend UC</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Chose to Attend UC</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Chose to Attend UC</b>
Berkeley	256	71%	266	64%	256	63%
Davis	121	66%	134	65%	136	65%
Irvine	122	75%	166	63%	101	61%
Los Angeles	216	71%	173	72%	166	70%
Merced	4	100%	11	73%	20	70%
Riverside	72	68%	86	67%	28	89%
San Diego	176	69%	203	61%	128	64%
San Francisco	47	66%	68	59%	51	65%
Santa Barbara	105	65%	150	59%	85	61%
Santa Cruz	40	65%	53	62%	41	51%
Systemwide	1,159	70%	1,310	64%	1,012	65%

**Appendix 1c**  
**Enrollment Choice by Top-Choice UC Campus**  
**Among Respondents Whose Non-UC Offer Exceeded Their UC Offer**

<b>Top-Choice UC Campus</b>	<b>2013</b>		<b>2017</b>		<b>2020</b>	
	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Chose to Attend UC</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Chose to Attend UC</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Chose to Attend UC</b>
Berkeley	456	40%	454	42%	392	39%
Davis	197	36%	198	36%	187	36%
Irvine	104	26%	153	44%	154	38%
Los Angeles	229	33%	246	42%	251	43%
Merced	9	56%	26	42%	14	43%
Riverside	64	41%	86	43%	19	74%
San Diego	228	36%	255	35%	241	37%
San Francisco	62	45%	59	44%	25	56%
Santa Barbara	170	35%	153	33%	133	28%
Santa Cruz	75	24%	67	42%	35	37%
Systemwide	1,594	36%	1,697	40%	1,451	39%

**Appendix 2: Top Choice Non-UC Institutions by Top UC Campus\***

<b>Top Choice UC Campus</b>	<b>Top Choice Non-UC Institutions</b>	<b>N</b>
BERKELEY	Stanford University	84
	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	68
	Harvard University	62
	University of Chicago	46
	Princeton University	39
	Yale University	29
	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	26
	Columbia University in the City of New York	25
	University of Washington - Seattle	23
	California Institute of Technology	23
	University of Texas at Austin	22
	Northwestern University	21
	Cornell University, All Campuses	17
	University of Wisconsin-Madison	17
	University of Pennsylvania	15
DAVIS	Cornell University, All Campuses	14
	University of Texas at Austin	13
	University of Washington - Seattle	13
	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	12
	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	10
	University of Colorado at Boulder	9
	University of Florida	8
	University of Southern California	8
	Emory University	8
	University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	7
	University of Chicago	7
	University of Wisconsin-Madison	7
	University of Pennsylvania	6
	Duke University	6
IRVINE	University of Texas at Austin	11
	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	10
	Cornell University, All Campuses	10
	University of Washington - Seattle	9
	University of Colorado at Boulder	8
	Boston University	7
	University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	7
	Pennsylvania State U, Main Campus	7
	University of Chicago	7
	Stanford University	7
	Duke University	6
	New York University	6

**Appendix 2: Top Choice Non-UC Institutions by Top UC Campus\***

<b>Top Choice UC Campus</b>	<b>Top Choice Non-UC Institutions</b>	<b>N</b>
LOS ANGELES	University of Chicago	23
	University of Southern California	23
	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	17
	Columbia University in the City of New York	17
	Stanford University	17
	University of Texas at Austin	14
	Yale University	14
	Harvard University	13
	Cornell University, All Campuses	13
	Northwestern University	13
	University of Pennsylvania	11
	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	11
	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	11
	University of Washington - Seattle	11
	Johns Hopkins University	10
MERCED	University of Texas at El Paso	2
	University of Rochester	2
	University of Utah	2
	Michigan State University	2
	University Of Alberta	2
	University of Iowa	1
	University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio	1
	University of Oregon	1
	Louisiana Tech University	1
	Georgia Institute of Technology, Main Campus	1
	Miami University, All Campuses	1
RIVERSIDE	University of Illinois at Chicago	4
	Indiana University at Bloomington	3
	University of Southern California	2
	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	2
	University of South Carolina at Columbia	2
	Temple University	2
	University of Texas at Austin	2
	University of Arizona	2
	Rutgers the State University of NJ New Brunswick	2
	Baylor University	1
	Texas A&M University Main Campus	1
	Loyola University of Chicago	1
	North Carolina State University at Raleigh	1
	University of Georgia	1
	Ohio State University, Main Campus	1
	University of Massachusetts at Amherst	1

**Appendix 2: Top Choice Non-UC Institutions by Top UC Campus\***

<b>Top Choice UC Campus</b>	<b>Top Choice Non-UC Institutions</b>	<b>N</b>
SAN DIEGO	University of Washington - Seattle	27
	Stanford University	24
	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	19
	Harvard University	17
	University of Texas at Austin	16
	University of Chicago	16
	Princeton University	14
	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	13
	University of Pennsylvania	12
	University of Southern California	11
	Yale University	11
	Columbia University in the City of New York	10
	University of Maryland at College Park	10
	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	10
	Duke University	10
SAN FRANCISCO	Stanford University	12
	Harvard University	6
	University of Washington - Seattle	6
	Columbia University in the City of New York	6
	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	5
	Johns Hopkins University	5
	Rockefeller University	4
	University of Pennsylvania	4
	Vanderbilt University	3
	Yale University	2
	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	2
	Oregon Health Sciences University	2
	Pennsylvania State U, Main Campus	2
	University of Chicago	2
	University of Pittsburgh Main Campus	1
	University of Texas Southwestern Med Center Dallas	1
	University of Texas at Dallas	1

**Appendix 2: Top Choice Non-UC Institutions by Top UC Campus\***

<b>Top Choice UC Campus</b>	<b>Top Choice Non-UC Institutions</b>	<b>N</b>
SANTA BARBARA	University of Chicago	13
	Stanford University	13
	University of Colorado at Boulder	13
	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	12
	University of Washington - Seattle	12
	California Institute of Technology	9
	University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	9
	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	7
	Northwestern University	6
	University of Wisconsin-Madison	6
	Cornell University, All Campuses	6
	Pennsylvania State U, Main Campus	6
	Columbia University in the City of New York	5
	University of Maryland at College Park	4
	University of Southern California	4
	Northeastern University	4
	Princeton University	4
SANTA CRUZ	University of Washington - Seattle	5
	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	4
	University of Texas at Austin	4
	Cornell University, All Campuses	3
	Northwestern University	3
	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	3
	Carnegie Mellon University	3
	University of Massachusetts at Amherst	2
	University of South Florida	2
	University of Pennsylvania	2
	Princeton University	2
	Washington University	2
	Rutgers the State Univ of NJ New Brunswick	2
	University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	2

\*Among respondents who  
are dual admits



**Appendix 3: Top-Choice Non-UC Institutions by  
Broad Discipline\***

<b>Broad Discipline</b>	<b>Top-Choice Non-UC Institutions</b>	<b>N</b>
ENGINEERING/CS	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	56
	Stanford University	48
	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	24
	University of Texas at Austin	23
	Carnegie Mellon University	23
	University of Washington - Seattle	22
	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	19
	Georgia Institute of Technology, Main Campus	16
	Northwestern University	16
	Cornell University, All Campuses	15
	University of Southern California	15
	Columbia University in the City of New York	12
	Johns Hopkins University	11
	University of Maryland at College Park	11
	University of Chicago	11
FINE ARTS	Yale University	5
	University of Southern California	5
	Columbia University in the City of New York	3
	University of Illinois at Chicago	2
	University of Texas at Austin	2
	University of Oregon	1
	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	1
	SUNY at Stony Brook, All Campuses	1
HEALTH SCIENCES	Emory University	3
	University of Southern California	2
	Yale University	2
	University of Washington - Seattle	2
	Harvard University	2
	Vanderbilt University	2
HUMANITIES	University of Chicago	21
	Harvard University	10
	Northwestern University	9
	Cornell University, All Campuses	8
	University of Pennsylvania	8
	University of Southern California	8
	Indiana University at Bloomington	8
	Princeton University	8
	Stanford University	7
	University of Washington - Seattle	6
	New York University	6
	Duke University	6

\* Among respondents who are dual admits.

**Appendix 3: Top-Choice Non-UC Institutions by  
Broad Discipline\***

<b>Broad Discipline</b>	<b>Top-Choice Non-UC Institutions</b>	<b>N</b>
LIFE SCIENCES	Stanford University	45
	Harvard University	33
	University of Washington - Seattle	28
	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	17
	Yale University	16
	University of Pennsylvania	15
	Johns Hopkins University	14
	University of Wisconsin-Madison	14
	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	13
	Columbia University in the City of New York	12
	Baylor College of Medicine	12
	University of Southern California	11
	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	11
	University of Chicago	11
	Emory University	10
PHYSICAL SCIENCES	Stanford University	39
	University of Washington - Seattle	38
	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	38
	University of Chicago	33
	California Institute of Technology	29
	University of Colorado at Boulder	29
	Princeton University	28
	Harvard University	27
	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	26
	University of Texas at Austin	24
	Columbia University in the City of New York	21
	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	20
	Cornell University, All Campuses	17
	Northwestern University	15
	University of Wisconsin-Madison	14
	Yale University	14
	University of Pennsylvania	13
PROFESSIONAL PhD	University of Chicago	19
	University of Texas at Austin	17
	Harvard University	17
	Stanford University	13
	Columbia University in the City of New York	12
	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	11
	Princeton University	10
	University of Maryland at College Park	9
	Yale University	9
	Cornell University, All Campuses	9
	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	9
	New York University	8

**Appendix 3: Top-Choice Non-UC Institutions by  
Broad Discipline\***

<b>Broad Discipline</b>	<b>Top-Choice Non-UC Institutions</b>	<b>N</b>
SOCIAL SCIENCES	University of Chicago	19
	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	13
	Princeton University	13
	Stanford University	12
	Cornell University, All Campuses	10
	Harvard University	10
	Yale University	8
	University of Washington - Seattle	8
	Northwestern University	7
	University of Texas at Austin	7
	Columbia University in the City of New York	6
	Pennsylvania State U, Main Campus	6
	University of Pennsylvania	6
	University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	5
	University of Maryland at College Park	5

\* Among respondents who are dual admits.

**Appendix 4**  
**Difference Between Top-Choice UC and Non-UC Net Stipends in 2020**  
**By Campus and Enrollment Choice**

Top-Choice UC Campus	Enrolling at UC			Enrolling at Non-UC		
	Per Capita UC Net Stipend	Per Capita Non-UC Net Stipend	Difference	Per Capita UC Net Stipend	Per Capita Non-UC Net Stipend	Difference
Berkeley	\$30,103	\$28,737	\$1,366	\$30,117	\$34,925	-\$4,808
Davis	\$22,445	\$18,178	\$4,267	\$25,073	\$28,615	-\$3,541
Irvine	\$22,737	\$19,283	\$3,453	\$24,330	\$28,999	-\$4,669
Los Angeles	\$25,782	\$24,268	\$1,514	\$25,137	\$30,209	-\$5,072
Merced	\$16,215	\$8,770	\$7,446	\$14,818	\$8,902	\$5,916
Riverside	\$23,851	\$19,130	\$4,722	\$27,714	\$30,144	-\$2,430
San Diego	\$27,231	\$27,133	\$97	\$27,847	\$32,148	-\$4,301
San Francisco	\$39,444	\$35,428	\$4,017	\$38,488	\$37,292	\$1,196
Santa Barbara	\$23,733	\$19,850	\$3,883	\$27,978	\$32,490	-\$4,513
Santa Cruz	\$23,073	\$20,311	\$2,762	\$26,826	\$28,620	-\$1,794
Systemwide	\$26,364	\$24,067	\$2,297	\$27,359	\$31,533	-\$4,174

**Appendix 5**  
**Difference Between Top-Choice UC and Non-UC Net Stipends in 2020**  
**By Broad Discipline and Enrollment Choice**

Broad Discipline	Enrolling at UC			Enrolling at Non-UC		
	Per Capita UC Net Stipend	Per Capita Non-UC Net Stipend	Difference	Per Capita UC Net Stipend	Per Capita Non-UC Net Stipend	Difference
Engineering/CS	\$24,204	\$20,682	\$3,522	\$24,958	\$29,922	-\$4,965
Fine Arts	\$18,664	\$23,676	-\$5,011	\$20,714	\$31,299	-\$10,585
Health Sciences	\$29,406	\$14,821	\$14,586	\$15,782	\$21,107	-\$5,325
Humanities	\$26,829	\$22,039	\$4,789	\$25,608	\$31,209	-\$5,601
Life Sciences	\$29,784	\$29,977	-\$193	\$31,848	\$34,225	-\$2,377
Physical Sciences	\$28,766	\$27,213	\$1,553	\$29,805	\$32,366	-\$2,561
Professional PhD	\$21,999	\$18,695	\$3,305	\$23,174	\$31,217	-\$8,044
Social Sciences	\$25,823	\$22,828	\$2,995	\$24,220	\$29,002	-\$4,782
Systemwide	\$26,364	\$24,067	\$2,297	\$27,359	\$31,533	-\$4,174

**Appendix 6**  
**Percent of Students Reporting They Will Receive Summer Support**  
**By Campus and Discipline**

Campus	UC	Non-UC	Difference
Berkeley	22.7%	27.9%	-5.2%
Davis	25.4%	32.4%	-7.0%
Irvine	30.3%	29.9%	0.4%
Los Angeles	26.3%	30.0%	-3.7%
Merced	28.2%	25.6%	2.6%
Riverside	17.0%	17.0%	0.0%
San Diego	20.9%	27.1%	-6.2%
San Francisco	18.4%	14.5%	3.9%
Santa Barbara	20.9%	23.6%	-2.7%
Santa Cruz	30.8%	32.1%	-1.3%
Systemwide	24.1%	28.0%	-3.9%

Discipline	UC	Non-UC	Difference
Engineering/Computer Science	18.8%	24.6%	-5.8%
Fine Arts	10.5%	23.7%	-13.2%
Health Sciences	12.9%	9.7%	3.2%
Humanities	29.3%	27.0%	2.3%
Life Sciences	18.1%	21.5%	-3.4%
Physical Sciences	30.2%	34.8%	-4.6%
Professional PhD	20.0%	26.6%	-6.6%
Social Sciences	35.9%	36.7%	-0.8%
Systemwide	24.1%	28.0%	-3.9%

**Appendix 7a**  
**Fellowship Award Offers by Top-Choice UC Campus**

Top-Choice UC Campus	2013			2017			2020		
	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.
Berkeley	65%	71%	-6%	61%	71%	-10%	65%	75%	-10%
Davis	63%	57%	6%	61%	60%	1%	62%	63%	-1%
Irvine	70%	55%	15%	67%	54%	13%	59%	60%	0%
Los Angeles	71%	65%	6%	66%	65%	2%	77%	71%	6%
Merced	15%	38%	-23%	52%	50%	2%	36%	41%	-5%
Riverside	83%	45%	38%	85%	44%	41%	98%	60%	38%
San Diego	64%	61%	3%	65%	63%	2%	73%	73%	0%
San Francisco	64%	68%	-4%	72%	74%	-2%	64%	68%	-4%
Santa Barbara	52%	52%	0%	57%	51%	6%	56%	60%	-4%
Santa Cruz	75%	63%	12%	78%	50%	29%	81%	67%	14%
Systemwide	66%	62%	4%	65%	61%	3%	67%	68%	-1%



**Appendix 7b**  
**Fellowship Award Offers by Broad Discipline**

Broad Discipline	2013			2017			2020		
	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.
Engineering/Computer Science	57%	52%	5%	58%	55%	3%	64%	65%	-1%
Fine Arts	90%	85%	5%	81%	60%	21%	76%	84%	-8%
Health Sciences	75%	61%	14%	67%	57%	10%	65%	65%	0%
Humanities	85%	77%	7%	83%	76%	7%	85%	82%	4%
Life Sciences	66%	64%	2%	68%	67%	2%	66%	69%	-4%
Physical Sciences	56%	50%	6%	54%	54%	0%	53%	58%	-6%
Professional PhD	75%	72%	3%	72%	67%	6%	78%	75%	3%
Social Sciences	75%	76%	-1%	71%	65%	6%	82%	78%	4%
Systemwide	66%	62%	4%	65%	61%	3%	67%	68%	-1%

**Appendix 8a**  
**Multi-Year Award Offers by Top-Choice UC Campus**

Top-Choice UC Campus	2013			2017			2020		
	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.
Berkeley	76%	83%	-7%	69%	73%	-4%	75%	83%	-8%
Davis	62%	76%	-14%	60%	65%	-6%	68%	75%	-6%
Irvine	79%	75%	4%	72%	72%	0%	83%	78%	6%
Los Angeles	74%	78%	-4%	66%	70%	-4%	75%	75%	0%
Merced	38%	69%	-31%	58%	72%	-14%	68%	48%	21%
Riverside	86%	63%	23%	75%	55%	20%	96%	49%	47%
San Diego	69%	77%	-8%	64%	71%	-7%	67%	77%	-10%
San Francisco	79%	89%	-10%	68%	77%	-8%	78%	85%	-8%
Santa Barbara	67%	80%	-13%	69%	76%	-7%	72%	70%	1%
Santa Cruz	50%	70%	-20%	45%	63%	-18%	78%	73%	5%
Systemwide	72%	78%	-6%	66%	71%	-4%	74%	76%	-2%

**Appendix 8b**  
**Multi-Year Award Offers by Broad Discipline**

Broad Discipline	2013			2017			2020		
	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.
Engineering/Computer Science	50%	60%	-10%	53%	59%	-6%	49%	64%	-14%
Fine Arts	83%	88%	-5%	92%	72%	21%	98%	82%	16%
Health Sciences	57%	64%	-7%	53%	68%	-15%	76%	63%	13%
Humanities	90%	89%	1%	80%	83%	-2%	91%	81%	10%
Life Sciences	80%	87%	-7%	67%	72%	-5%	76%	84%	-8%
Physical Sciences	73%	77%	-4%	63%	67%	-4%	79%	78%	1%
Professional PhD	70%	83%	-13%	74%	79%	-5%	81%	80%	1%
Social Sciences	87%	91%	-4%	77%	78%	-1%	91%	80%	12%
Systemwide	72%	78%	-6%	66%	71%	-4%	74%	76%	-2%

**Appendix 9a**  
**Multi-Year Award Length (Years) by Top-Choice UC Campus**

Top-Choice UC Campus	2013			2017			2020		
	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.
Berkeley	4.1	4.1	0.0	2.8	3.7	-0.9	4.3	4.3	0.0
Davis	3.7	4.1	-0.4	3.1	3.8	-0.7	3.8	4.0	-0.2
Irvine	3.9	4.0	-0.1	3.4	3.8	-0.4	4.3	4.2	0.1
Los Angeles	3.7	4.1	-0.4	2.7	3.4	-0.8	4.0	4.2	-0.2
Merced	3.6	3.7	-0.1	3.2	4.0	-0.8	3.9	3.5	0.3
Riverside	3.5	4.0	-0.5	2.5	3.4	-0.9	3.8	3.9	-0.1
San Diego	4.0	4.2	-0.2	3.3	3.9	-0.6	4.3	4.2	0.1
San Francisco	4.3	4.2	0.1	3.7	4.3	-0.6	4.5	4.5	-0.1
Santa Barbara	4.0	4.0	0.0	2.9	3.6	-0.7	4.1	4.1	0.0
Santa Cruz	3.2	4.0	-0.8	3.0	3.4	-0.3	4.0	4.1	-0.1
Systemwide	3.9	4.1	-0.2	3.1	3.7	-0.7	4.2	4.2	0.0

**Appendix 9b**  
**Multi-Year Award Length (Years) by Broad Discipline**

Broad Discipline	2013			2017			2020		
	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.	UC	Non-UC	Diff.
Engineering/Computer Science	3.4	3.7	-0.3	1.9	3.5	-1.5	3.8	3.9	-0.1
Fine Arts	3.7	4.1	-0.4	3.2	3.6	-0.4	4.0	4.0	0.0
Health Sciences	3.4	3.8	-0.4	3.0	3.5	-0.5	3.8	4.0	-0.2
Humanities	4.1	4.2	-0.1	3.4	3.7	-0.3	4.3	4.4	0.0
Life Sciences	4.2	4.4	-0.2	3.2	4.0	-0.8	4.3	4.4	-0.1
Physical Sciences	4.1	4.1	0.0	2.9	3.7	-0.8	4.2	4.2	0.0
Professional PhD	3.6	3.9	-0.3	3.3	3.5	-0.2	3.9	4.0	-0.1
Social Sciences	3.9	4.1	-0.2	3.5	3.7	-0.2	4.4	4.3	0.0
Systemwide	3.9	4.1	-0.2	3.1	3.7	-0.7	4.2	4.2	0.0

**Appendix 10**  
**Enrollment Choice and Net Stipend Offer Difference, Systemwide**

	2013		2017		2020	
	N	% Choose UC	N	% Choose UC	N	% Choose UC
<b><u>UC higher offer</u></b>						
\$10,000 or more	349	83%	481	70%	325	75%
\$5,000 to \$10,000	242	69%	268	67%	246	65%
\$1,000 to \$5,000	449	63%	444	60%	365	58%
\$0 to \$1,000	243	60%	236	53%	212	57%
<b><u>Non-UC higher offer</u></b>						
\$10,000 or more	492	21%	566	39%	468	38%
\$5,000 to \$10,000	375	36%	442	34%	422	32%
\$1,000 to \$5,000	608	46%	549	43%	474	43%
\$1 to \$1,000	119	50%	102	48%	88	51%

**Appendix 11**  
**Importance of Qualitative Factors in Enrollment Decision**

	2013	2017	2020
<b>Factor</b>	<b>Percent of Respondents Who Consider it Important</b>	<b>Percent of Respondents Who Consider it Important</b>	<b>Percent of Respondents Who Consider it Important</b>
Academic Reputation	99.3%	99.4%	99.3%
Aligns with Research Interests	99.4%	99.8%	99.8%
Amount of Financial Support	92.2%	94.9%	97.1%
Type of Financial Support	83.4%	88.0%	89.3%
Multi-Year Financial Support	91.0%	95.7%	96.2%
Location of Campus	87.7%	89.7%	92.3%
Diversity of Students	64.3%	81.0%	86.8%
Availability of Affordable Housing	79.8%	89.6%	93.1%
Caring Environment	89.1%	91.7%	95.2%
Quality of Labs and Facilities	95.1%	97.4%	97.5%

**Appendix 12: UC and Non-UC Average Net Stipend by Campus and Broad Discipline\***

	BERKELEY	DAVIS	IRVINE	LOS ANGELES	MERCED	RIVERSIDE	SAN DIEGO	SAN FRANCISCO	SANTA BARBARA	SANTA CRUZ
<b>Engineering/Computer Science (n)</b>	162	64	61	65	9	7	95	1	70	15
UC Net Stipend	\$26,960	\$23,370	\$20,449	\$18,291	\$3,684	\$30,956	\$27,696	\$41,200	\$31,118	\$14,338
Non-UC Net Stipend	\$29,556	\$20,877	\$20,416	\$22,076	(\$1,341)	\$24,370	\$27,258	\$47,200	\$31,613	\$17,622
Difference	(\$2,596)	\$2,494	\$33	(\$3,784)	\$5,026	\$6,586	\$438	(\$6,000)	(\$495)	(\$3,284)
<b>Fine Arts (n)</b>	7	2	5	17		1	5		2	2
UC Net Stipend	\$32,857	\$13,187	\$22,382	\$19,739		(\$19,860)	\$6,144		\$22,000	\$5,250
Non-UC Net Stipend	\$29,809	\$3,458	\$26,560	\$26,383		\$20,615	\$26,191		\$20,500	\$34,206
Difference	\$3,048	\$9,730	(\$4,178)	(\$6,644)		(\$40,475)	(\$20,047)		\$1,500	(\$28,956)
<b>Health Sciences (n)</b>	7	2	10	7	1		1	3		
UC Net Stipend	\$27,146	\$25,000	\$19,660	\$22,157	\$2,100		(\$10,000)	\$41,133		
Non-UC Net Stipend	\$23,996	(\$1,250)	\$10,665	\$17,229	\$25,000		\$29,000	\$35,671		
Difference	\$3,149	\$26,250	\$8,995	\$4,929	(\$22,900)		(\$39,000)	\$5,463		
<b>Humanities (n)</b>	54	31	28	49	1	10	26		22	7
UC Net Stipend	\$31,578	\$26,054	\$20,856	\$26,039	\$0	\$23,583	\$24,252		\$23,424	\$37,002
Non-UC Net Stipend	\$29,882	\$24,617	\$23,475	\$27,581	\$0	\$24,731	\$22,681		\$20,505	\$32,952
Difference	\$1,696	\$1,436	(\$2,619)	(\$1,543)	\$0	(\$1,148)	\$1,571		\$2,919	\$4,050
<b>Life Sciences (n)</b>	109	78	33	83	6	8	108	69	12	16
UC Net Stipend	\$34,325	\$23,724	\$23,914	\$29,812	\$28,681	\$30,501	\$31,000	\$40,676	\$17,209	\$29,245
Non-UC Net Stipend	\$36,249	\$26,614	\$27,868	\$31,606	\$7,621	\$26,144	\$33,906	\$37,469	\$27,799	\$23,414
Difference	(\$1,924)	(\$2,890)	(\$3,954)	(\$1,794)	\$21,061	\$4,357	(\$2,906)	\$3,207	(\$10,591)	\$5,831
<b>Physical Sciences (n)</b>	202	78	68	107	9	13	81		74	27
UC Net Stipend	\$32,027	\$25,935	\$27,235	\$30,749	\$27,077	\$21,592	\$28,622		\$28,603	\$26,980
Non-UC Net Stipend	\$32,708	\$25,555	\$29,001	\$31,090	\$21,646	\$18,702	\$31,647		\$29,217	\$26,292
Difference	(\$681)	\$380	(\$1,766)	(\$341)	\$5,431	\$2,891	(\$3,025)		(\$614)	\$688
<b>Professional PhD (n)</b>	94	46	30	66	6	4	37		26	7
UC Net Stipend	\$26,274	\$20,127	\$21,156	\$20,606	\$14,167	\$24,600	\$25,374		\$17,817	\$24,192
Non-UC Net Stipend	\$31,243	\$23,821	\$19,435	\$21,788	(\$6,428)	\$3,275	\$25,220		\$20,270	\$25,021
Difference	(\$4,969)	(\$3,695)	\$1,721	(\$1,182)	\$20,595	\$21,325	\$154		(\$2,454)	(\$829)
<b>Social Sciences (n)</b>	53	36	37	48	9	5	31	5	23	6
UC Net Stipend	\$29,572	\$22,658	\$26,334	\$24,853	\$10,482	\$32,829	\$24,028	\$16,000	\$23,811	\$22,652
Non-UC Net Stipend	\$30,971	\$18,544	\$27,187	\$26,372	\$16,618	\$19,263	\$31,178	\$15,400	\$23,175	\$18,333
Difference	(\$1,399)	\$4,114	(\$853)	(\$1,519)	(\$6,136)	\$13,566	(\$7,150)	\$600	\$636	\$4,318

\*It has to be noted that Fine Arts has a small number of respondents (n), which may contribute to large fluctuations in net stipend differences between UC and non-UC competitor institutions.



APPENDICES FROM THE  
GRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT SURVEY

**Appendix 13: Percent Receiving Offer in Excess of Tuition and Fees by Campus and Broad Discipline**

	BERKELEY	DAVIS	IRVINE	LOS ANGELES	MERCED	RIVERSIDE	SAN DIEGO	SAN FRANCISCO	SANTA BARBARA	SANTA CRUZ
<b>Engineering/Computer Science</b>	160	63	59	64	9	6	92	1	69	14
Percent with UC Net Stipend >0	86%	81%	90%	77%	56%	100%	92%	100%	97%	79%
Percent with Non-UC Net Stipend >0	91%	81%	81%	81%	44%	100%	89%	100%	94%	93%
Difference	-4.4%	0.0%	8.5%	-4.7%	11.1%	0.0%	3.3%	0.0%	2.9%	-14.3%
<b>Fine Arts</b>	7	1	4	16		1	5		2	2
Percent with UC Net Stipend >0	100%	100%	100%	94%		0%	40%		100%	50%
Percent with Non-UC Net Stipend >0	100%	0%	100%	94%		100%	100%		100%	100%
Difference	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%		-100.0%	-60.0%		0.0%	-50.0%
<b>Health Sciences</b>	7	2	10	7	1		1	3		
Percent with UC Net Stipend >0	86%	100%	80%	86%	100%		0%	100%		
Percent with Non-UC Net Stipend >0	86%	0%	70%	71%	100%		100%	100%		
Difference	0.0%	100.0%	10.0%	14.3%	0.0%		-100.0%	0.0%		
<b>Humanities</b>	53	30	27	48	1	10	24		22	7
Percent with UC Net Stipend >0	94%	97%	93%	98%	0%	90%	96%		95%	100%
Percent with Non-UC Net Stipend >0	96%	87%	85%	98%	0%	100%	92%		91%	86%
Difference	-1.9%	10.0%	7.4%	0.0%	0.0%	-10.0%	4.2%		4.5%	14.3%
<b>Life Sciences</b>	109	76	33	77	6	8	104	67	12	15
Percent with UC Net Stipend >0	97%	86%	91%	96%	100%	100%	98%	100%	75%	100%
Percent with Non-UC Net Stipend >0	97%	88%	94%	96%	67%	100%	97%	97%	92%	93%
Difference	0.0%	-2.6%	-3.0%	0.0%	33.3%	0.0%	1.0%	3.0%	-16.7%	6.7%
<b>Physical Sciences</b>	201	77	66	107	9	13	80		72	27
Percent with UC Net Stipend >0	96%	95%	94%	98%	100%	92%	96%		97%	96%
Percent with Non-UC Net Stipend >0	96%	92%	97%	99%	89%	85%	96%		96%	93%
Difference	-0.5%	2.6%	-3.0%	-0.9%	11.1%	7.7%	0.0%		1.4%	3.7%
<b>Professional PhD</b>	88	44	28	65	6	4	37		26	7
Percent with UC Net Stipend >0	91%	89%	93%	86%	83%	100%	95%		77%	100%
Percent with Non-UC Net Stipend >0	94%	91%	82%	83%	33%	25%	86%		77%	100%
Difference	-3.4%	-2.3%	10.7%	3.1%	50.0%	75.0%	8.1%		0.0%	0.0%
<b>Social Sciences</b>	53	34	37	46	7	5	30	5	22	6
Percent with UC Net Stipend >0	100%	97%	100%	96%	57%	100%	90%	60%	95%	83%
Percent with Non-UC Net Stipend >0	96%	79%	97%	87%	86%	100%	100%	60%	86%	67%
Difference	3.8%	17.6%	2.7%	8.7%	-28.6%	0.0%	-10.0%	0.0%	9.1%	16.7%

**Appendix 14: Top Choice Non-UC Institutions by Campus and Broad Discipline**

	BERKELEY	DAVIS	IRVINE	LOS ANGELES	SAN DIEGO	SAN FRANCISCO	SANTA BARBARA
<b>Engineering/Computer Science</b>	MIT (35) Stanford (29) Carnegie Mellon(9) U. of Michigan (8) U. of Texas Austin (6)			USC (5)	Stanford (9) MIT (7) U. of Texas Austin (6) U. of Washington(6) U. of Illinois (6)		MIT (10) U. of Colorado (6) U of Minnesota (6) Stanford (5)
<b>Humanities</b>	U. of Chicago (12) Harvard (7) Yale (5) Princeton (5)						
<b>Life Sciences</b>	Stanford (19) Harvard (11) U. of Washington (8) MIT (6) Columbia (6)		USC (5)	Harvard (7) USC (6) U. of Michigan (5)	Harvard (9) U. of Washington (9) Duke (7) Yale (7) Stanford (6)	Stanford (11) Harvard (6) U. of Washington (5) MIT (5) Columbia (5)	
<b>Physical Sciences</b>	Harvard(21) Stanford (21) Cal Tech (18) MIT (17)	U. of Washington (7) U. of Texas Austin (6) U. of Colorado (6)	U. of Michigan (5) U. of Colorado (5) Cornell (5)	U. of Chicago (10) U. of Michigan (6) U. of Illinois (6) Stanford (6) MIT (6)	MIT (9) Stanford (7) U. of Washington (6)		U. of Washington (8) U. of Colorado (6) Caltech (5) U. of Chicago (5)
<b>Professional PhD</b>	Harvard (11) Stanford (9) U. of Chicago (8) MIT (7)		New York University (5)	U of Texas Austin (6) U. of Maryland (5)			
<b>Social Sciences</b>	Harvard (8) Chicago (6) Princeton (5)			Chicago (5) New York University (5)	Princeton (5)		

### Appendix 15: Cost of Living Adjustments

To compare the purchasing power of net stipends offered by different institutions, it is important to take into account differences in the local cost of living (COL) in the communities where those institutions are located. To do this, we obtained city-specific cost of living indexes using the Economic Research Institute's (ERI) Relocation Assessor software.<sup>1</sup> Each index describes a city's COL as a percentage of the national "average city" COL. (For example, a city with a COL that is twice the national average would have a COL index of 200%.) An index was obtained for each UC campus and for every U.S. or Canadian institution identified by respondents as their top-choice, non-UC alternative. Translating these COL indexes into differences in purchasing power for a typical graduate student involved a three-step process.

1. The COL indexes for UC campuses were used to calculate the cost of a "standard" UC graduate student lifestyle across the system, expressed in terms of the baseline "average city" COL. The resulting figure reflects both (a) varied assumptions about costs and student lifestyles made by UC campuses in developing the student budgets that they use to award need-based financial aid, and (b) the COL index for each campus location. The systemwide average – \$17,782 – represents the theoretical cost of the average UC student lifestyle in the "average city."
2. We then calculated the difference in the COL for each UC campus location and the average COL for its competitors' locations. The systemwide average difference of 15.1% indicates that, for a given lifestyle, the average difference in the COL between UC locations and non-UC locations is 15.1% of the cost of that lifestyle in the "average city." San Francisco emerged as the most expensive location relative to UCSF's non-UC competitors, exceeding their cost of living by 62.4% of the 'average city' budget. In contrast, Riverside's cost of living was lower than that of its competitors' cities by 7.5% of the "average city."
3. To translate these relative differences into dollars, we multiplied the COL difference for each campus by the cost of a "standard" UC graduate lifestyle calculated in Step 1 (\$17,782).

	Step 1: Determine Systemwide Average Budget			Step 2: Calculate a Percentage Adjustment For Campuses			Step 3: Calculate Cost of Living Adjusted Amount		
Top-Choice UC Campus	2020-21 Graduate Student Budget	UC COL Index (%)	"Average City" Student Budget	UC COL Index (%)	Non-UC COL Index (%)	Difference (%)	Difference (%)	UC "Average City" Systemwide Budget	Cost of Living Adjustor
Berkeley	\$33,920	215.4	\$15,747	215.4	193.5	-21.9	-21.9	\$17,782	(\$3,894)
Davis	\$27,760	130.0	\$21,354	130.0	133.6	3.6	3.6	\$17,782	\$640
Irvine	\$32,902	171.7	\$19,163	171.7	149.8	-21.9	-21.9	\$17,782	(\$3,894)
Los Angeles	\$31,925	202.0	\$15,804	202.0	179.9	-22.1	-22.1	\$17,782	(\$3,930)
Merced	\$24,617	105.1	\$23,422	105.1	111.2	6.1	6.1	\$17,782	\$1,085
Riverside	\$25,926	127.6	\$20,318	127.6	135.1	7.5	7.5	\$17,782	\$1,334
San Diego	\$30,524	190.1	\$16,057	190.1	185.4	-4.7	-4.7	\$17,782	(\$836)
San Francisco	\$33,141	271.0	\$12,229	271.0	208.6	-62.4	-62.4	\$17,782	(\$11,096)
Santa Barbara	\$27,648	172.4	\$16,037	172.4	161.4	-11.0	-11.0	\$17,782	(\$1,956)
Santa Cruz	\$31,131	176.0	\$17,688	176.0	163.2	-12.8	-12.8	\$17,782	(\$2,276)
Average			\$17,782	187.2	172.1	-15.1	-15.1	\$17,782	(\$2,687)

<sup>1</sup> The ERI software calculates the index based on a "typical" lifestyle for a specified level of income. For purposes of our analysis, we assumed an annual income of \$40,000.

**APPENDIX 16: LIST OF PROGRAMS BY BROAD DISCIPLINE\***

BROAD DISCIPLINE CATEGORY	PROGRAMS	
Engineering/ Computer Science	Aerospace Engineering Biochemical Engineering Bioengineering Biological Systems Engineering Biomedical Engineering Bio-molecular Engineering and Bioinformatics Bio-molecular Science and Engineering Chemical Engineering Chemical and Environmental Engineering Chemistry and Environmental Engineering Civil Engineering Civil and Environmental Engineering Computer Engineering Computer Science Computer Science and Engineering Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Electrical and Computer Engineering Engineering Engineering Science Environmental Engineering	Industrial Engineering & Operations Research Informatics Information Management and Systems Information Studies Information and Computer Science Materials Materials Science and Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Media Arts and Technology Nano Engineering Networked Systems Nuclear Engineering Software Engineering Structural Engineering Transportation Sciences Transportation Technology & Policy
Fine Arts	Art History Culture and Performance Drama and Theater (Joint Degree) Film and Digital Media Film and Media Studies Film and Television	Composition, Improvisation, and Technology Music Composition Musicology Theater and Dance Theater and Performance Studies
Health Sciences	Audiology Environmental Health Science Community Health Sciences Environmental Health Sciences Health Services and Policy Analysis History of Health Sciences Interdisciplinary Research on Substance Use Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacology Molecular and Medical Pharmacology Nursing Nursing-Doctor in Nursing Practice Oral Biology	Oral and Craniofacial Sciences Oral and Craniofacial Sciences Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacogenomics Pharmacological Science with a concentration in Pharmaceutical Science Pharmacology Pharmacology & Toxicology Physics & Biology in Medicine Public Health Sciences Rehabilitation Science Vision Science

APPENDICES FROM THE  
GRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT SURVEY

BROAD DISCIPLINE CATEGORY	PROGRAMS	
Humanities	African American Studies Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology Archeology Art History, Theory and Criticism Asian Languages and Culture Buddhist Studies Chicana and Chicano Studies Chinese Language Classics Comparative Literature Cultural Studies East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies East Asian Languages and Literature English Entomology Ethnic Studies Ethnomusicology Feminist Studies French French and Francophone Studies German Germanic Languages Gender Studies Hispanic Language and Literature Hispanic Language- Lit Hispanic Literature History History of Art	History of Art and Architecture History of Consciousness Indo European Studies Interdisciplinary Humanities Islamic Studies Italian Italian Studies Japanese Language Language and Communication Disorders Latin American Studies Latin American and Latino Studies Linguistics Literature Logic and Methodology of Science Logic and Philosophy of Science Native American Studies Near East Languages and Cultures Near Eastern Studies Performance Studies Philosophy Religious Studies Rhetoric Romance Languages and Literatures Scandinavian Languages and Literatures Slavic Languages and Literatures South and Southeast Asian Studies Spanish Study of Religion Visual Studies
Life Sciences	Plant Biology Plant Pathology Quantitative and Systems Biology	Soils and Biogeochemistry TETRAD

APPENDICES FROM THE  
GRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT SURVEY

BROAD DISCIPLINE CATEGORY	PROGRAMS	
Physical Sciences	Applied Mathematics Applied Science and Technology Applied Statistics Astronomy Astronomy and Astrophysics Astrophysics Atmospheric Science Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences Chemical and Material Physics Chemistry Chemistry & Biochemistry Chemistry-Chemical & Material Physics Earth Science Earth Sciences Earth Science System Earth and Planetary Sciences Energy and Resources Energy Systems	Geochemistry Geological Sciences Geology Geophysics and Space Physics Hydrologic Sciences Math Behavioral Science Math and Science Education (Joint Degree) Mathematical, Computational, and Systems Biology Mathematics Ocean Sciences Physics Physics-Chemical & Material Physics Physics and Chemistry Scripps Institute of Oceanography Statistics Statistical Science Statistics and Applied Mathematics Statistics and Applied Probability
Professional PhD	Agricultural and Resource Economics Architecture Business Administration City and Regional Planning Clinical Psychology (Joint Degree) Communication Counsel, Clinical & School Psychology Economics Economics with a concentration in Monetary Policy and Central Banking Economics--Transportation Economics Education Education Leadership Education Leadership Program (Ed. D) Education (MA/PHD) Environmental Science and Management Environmental Science, Policy & Management Food Science Global Health Sciences Health Policy Health Policy and Management	Horticulture and Agronomy Human Development Industrial Engineering and Operations Research Jurisprudence and Social Policy Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning Management Management of Complex Systems Nutritional Biology Planning, Policy and Design Psychology Public Choice-Economics Public Health Public Policy Science and Math Education Social Welfare Special Education Technology Management Transportation Economics Urban Planning

APPENDICES FROM THE  
GRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT SURVEY

BROAD DISCIPLINE CATEGORY	PROGRAMS
Social Sciences	<div> <div> Anthropology Classical Archaeology Cognitive and Information Sciences Criminology, Law and Society Demography Geography Medical Anthropology Political Science Politics Political Science-Public Choice </div> <div> Political Psychology Population Biology Psychology and Social Behavior Psychological and Brain Sciences Psychological Sciences Psychology-Cognitive Neuro Science Social Ecology Sociology Sociology and Demography Doctoral Program </div> </div>

\*The listed programs were based on the response on the Survey and may not reflect all UC academic doctoral programs provided by campuses for the Survey in April 2020.