

The recently updated 2017 federal College Scorecard demonstrates that UC continues to excel in access and affordability and remains a good investment for students, families, and the federal and state governments

The University of California (UC) supports transparency, as demonstrated through its annual [Accountability Report](#), highlighting key metrics on all UC operations, and by its continued development of the [UC Information Center](#), an interactive website for the public to learn about and explore the University.

The US Department of Education's [College Scorecard](#) provides a single, transparent source to help prospective students and their families in choosing a college. Launched in 2015 and updated with [new data](#) in September 2017, the Scorecard is the product of collaboration between the White House and several federal agencies. It leverages education, population, and labor market data from the Department of Education, Treasury, Census Bureau and others.

The Scorecard allows prospective students to compare colleges in terms of costs, financial aid, characteristics of enrolled students, and the likelihood of graduation on time. The Scorecard also provides information on cumulative student loan debt and post-college earnings. The main limitation of the Scorecard data is that earnings only reflect federal aid recipients.

The 2017 update to the College Scorecard highlights why UC continues to be a solid investment for students and families, and for the federal and state governments. UC continues to be an engine of social mobility with an undergraduate enrollment that is 43 percent first generation students and 38 percent Pell Grant recipients, and ensuring positive outcomes where 84 percent of freshmen graduate and receive average earnings that increase from \$43,217 to \$63,818 between six and ten years after enrolling.

This summary of the September 2017 Scorecard data compares UC to its peer institutions: members of the Association of American Universities (AAU) and California State University (CSU) institutions.

**KEY FACT POINTS**

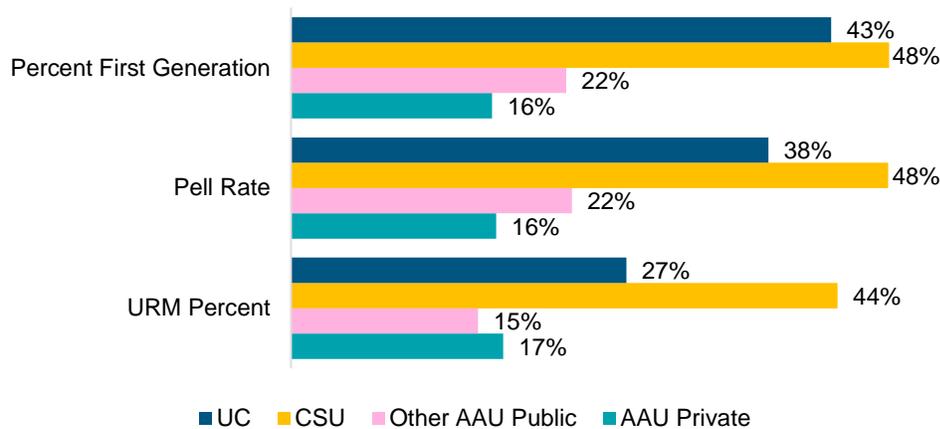
- UC provides greater access to low income, first generation and underrepresented minorities than non-UC AAU public and private peers
- UC has higher percentages of Pell grant recipients than non-UC AAU public and private peers
- UC continues to provide an affordable education with a lower average net price of attendance than other AAU public and private peers
- While UC and CSU both strive to provide affordable access to low income students, UC students have much higher graduation rates and average earnings

**ACCESS**

The University of California does particularly well on providing access to high-quality higher education for low income and first generation students, and underrepresented minorities. Overall, UC compares favorably to its public and private peers on measures of access:

- UC serves a higher percentage of students who are first generation (43%) compared to the average for non-UC AAU public institutions (22%) and more than double the average at AAU private institutions (16%)
- UC serves a higher share of Pell recipients (38%), a share far higher than its non-UC AAU comparison institutions (22%) but below the share at CSU (48%)
- UC also enrolls higher proportions of underrepresented minorities (URM) (27%) than non-UC AAU peers, both public (15%) and private (17%)

**Percent first generation, Pell grant recipients, and Underrepresented Minority at UC and comparison institutions**

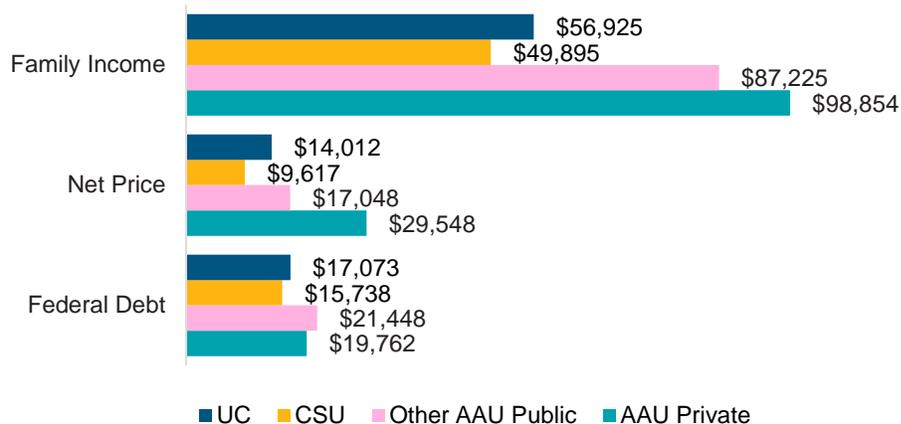


Note: UC figures are from Fall 2016 and based on all enrolled students. All other institutions' figures are from 2014-15 and 2015-16 grouped cohorts using Scorecard data and based on federally aided students. All averages are weighted based on cohort sizes.

**AFFORDABILITY**

The College Scorecard highlights the affordability of UC among the nation’s top universities. UC provides access to a large portion of low income students and as a result, the average family income of UC students is much lower than non-UC AAU public and private peers.

**Average family income, average net price, and median federal student loan debt at UC and comparison institutions**



Note: Average family income is for the 2014-15 and 2015-16 grouped cohorts in 2015 inflation adjusted dollars. All averages are weighted based on cohort sizes.

The net price of attendance — which reflects the costs faced by the student for tuition, room, and board after considering financial aid — for UC (\$14,012), is higher than the CSU system average (\$9,517), but below the non-UC AAU public and private peers. The median federal debt after graduation for UC students is below the non-UC AAU public and private peers, and slightly higher than CSU.

UC keeps attendance affordable through a strong financial aid program, which includes grants, scholarships and loans. UC students, like students at most public universities in the nation, rely on federal loans to finance part of their educations. As the figure below shows, 39% of UC students used federal loans to pay for college in 2015. This is slightly higher than the federal borrowing rates at CSU and the same as other AAU public universities. Less than one-third of students at AAU private institutions had federal loans.

**Federal loan receipt at UC and comparison institutions**



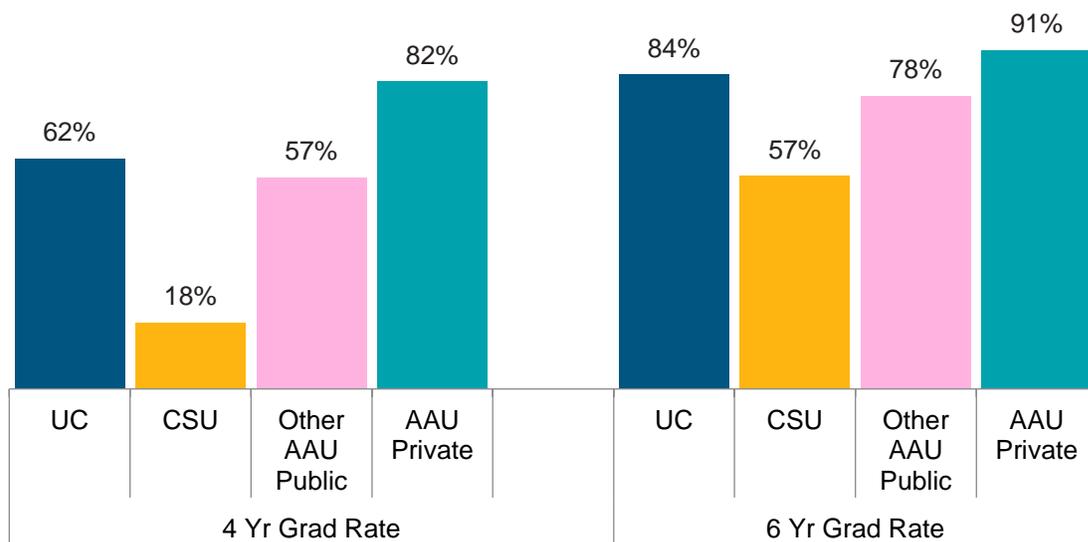
**OUTCOMES**

In addition to promoting access and affordability, UC student outcomes are strong with high graduation rates and annual earnings— illustrating why UC is a good investment for students and their families.

Compared to other institutions UC has strong graduation rates:

- UC’s 6-year graduation rate for the 2009 cohort of first time full time freshmen is 84 percent
- UC has a higher 6-year graduation rate than both CSU and other non-UC AAU public institutions
- UC’s 6-year graduation rate is lower than AAU private institutions

**Four-year and Six-year graduation rates at UC and comparison institutions**



The College Scorecard provides data on the short and longer term earnings outcomes of students from all postsecondary institutions. The data are relative to when a student entered a university, and capture both students who graduated and those who did not graduate. Earnings six years after entry roughly correspond to a starting salary after exiting, while earnings ten years after entry offer a longer term perspective.

- UC students’ average starting salaries of \$43,217 exceed those of CSU students (\$38,164) but are below those of non-UC AAU public schools (\$44,722) and AAU privates (\$67,752)
- UC students earn \$63,818 at ten years after entry, which exceeds the non-UC AAU public peers but is below AAU private schools

- The average earnings for UC students increase from \$43,217 to \$63,818 between six and ten years, demonstrating higher gains when compared to those of CSU and non-UC AAU publics

**Average earnings six, eight, and ten years after entering university, UC and comparison institutions**



This strong earnings trajectory has enabled UC students to successfully repay their student loan debt after receiving their degrees. More than three quarters of UC students had begun repaying their federal loan debt within three years of graduating, which is higher than the repayment rate at CSU and other AAU public institutions<sup>1</sup>.

**Federal loan repayment rates at UC and comparison institutions, 3-year average**



<sup>1</sup> This graph reflects a methodology correction to the repayment rate calculation by the US Department of Education.