

The University of California in national and international rankings

Washington Monthly

Washington Monthly ranks “National universities—four-year institutions that award a significant number of doctoral degrees—based on their contribution to the public good in three broad categories: social mobility, research, and promoting public service.” Five UC campuses placed in the top 20 and all placed in the top 100 out of 395 ranked institutions.

2019 Washington Monthly

San Diego	7
Davis	11
UCLA	12
Irvine	18
Berkeley	20
Santa Barbara	21
Riverside	27
Merced	53
Santa Cruz	86

Money Magazine

Money Magazine ranks high-value colleges based on institutions’ educational quality, affordability, and outcomes. In the 2019 ranking, four UC campuses placed in the top 10 and eight in the top 100, out of 744 ranked four-year institutions.

2019 Money Magazine

Irvine	1
UCLA	4
Davis	5
San Diego	9
Berkeley	11
Riverside	12
Santa Barbara	30
Santa Cruz	103

U.S. News and World Report

The U.S. News and World Report (USNWR) 2020 university rankings aim to measure institutions on undergraduate academic quality. The categories used are: expert opinion, outcomes, faculty resources, financial resources, student excellence, and alumni giving. In 2020, the rankings discontinued the use of high school counselor opinions and incorporated regional price variations as part of ranking faculty salaries. The number of schools in the national category also grew by about 25% due to changes in the Carnegie classification methodology.

2020 U.S. News & World Report

	Public	National
UCLA	1	20
Berkeley	2	22
Santa Barbara	7	34
Irvine	9	36
San Diego	10	37
Davis	11	39
Santa Cruz	34	84
Riverside	39	91
Merced	44	104

In USNWR’s ranking of economic diversity among the top 25 national universities, UCLA and Berkeley were ranked first and second, respectively. In its ranking of top national performers on social mobility, UC campuses took the top three spots: Riverside (1), Santa Cruz (2), Irvine (3); others followed closely: Merced (7), Davis and Santa Barbara (9--tied), UCLA (13), San Diego (21); and Berkeley at 70.

Academic Ranking of World Universities

The Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) evaluates the quality of education based on alumni winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals, quality of faculty based on similar awards and research citations, research output based on papers in Nature and Science and Science and Social Science citations, and per capita academic performance. Eight of the UC campuses placed in the top 100 out of the 1,000 universities ranked.

2019 ARWU Shanghai

Berkeley	5
UCLA	11
San Diego	18
UCSF	20
Santa Barbara	48
Irvine	80
Davis	90
Santa Cruz	101-150
Riverside	151-200
Merced	401-500

Times Higher Education

The Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings evaluates universities based on teaching, research, citations, industry income, and international outlook. Six UC campuses placed in the top 100 out of 1,258 universities that were ranked.

2019 THE World University

Berkeley	15
UCLA	17
San Diego	30
Santa Barbara	52
Davis	59
Irvine	96
Santa Cruz	167
Riverside	201-250
Merced	351-400

U.S. News & World Report (Global)

In addition to its national rankings, the U.S. News and World Report ranks the top universities in the world based on institutions' academic research performance and their global and regional reputations. Eight UC campuses placed in the top 100 out of 1,250 ranked institutions.

2019 U.S. News & World Report (Global)

Berkeley	4
UCLA	13
UCSF	15
San Diego	17
Santa Barbara	37
Santa Cruz	58
Davis	60
Irvine	78
Riverside	151
Merced	644

Note: UC San Francisco is often not ranked because it is an exclusively graduate institution.