

The University of California excels in national and international rankings

College and university rankings vary widely in how they assess the quality of higher education institutions. However, across the diverse approaches used, University of California campuses do very well. That is true again in 2016, whether the rankings focus on academic and research excellence, serving the public good, or in providing a high-quality education to underserved students.

The U.S. News and World Report, in its 2017 ranking system for institutions, focuses on academic reputation, financial resources, and selectivity in admissions. Its assessment on these metrics placed UC campuses among the very best public universities in the country:

- For more than a decade, UC Berkeley continues to be the top public institution.
- Six UC campuses are among the top 10 public institutions in the nation.
- For public and private institutions combined, six UC campuses rank among the top 50.

We note that numerical rankings provide false precision with very little difference among campuses that rank between 37

and 44 having composite scores ranging from 63 to 65.

2017 U.S. News & World Report*

	Public	National
Berkeley	1	20
UCLA	2	24
Santa Barbara	8	37
Irvine	9	39
Davis	10	44
San Diego	10	44
Santa Cruz	30	79
Riverside	N/A	118
Merced	N/A	152

Other ranking systems recognize UC's performance in critical dimensions of college quality. For example, the Washington Monthly considers social mobility, research and public service. Using these criteria, in its 2016 rankings:

- Four UC campuses are among the top 10 institutions in the nation.
- Six rank among the top 25.

2016 Washington Monthly

San Diego	4
Berkeley	7
UCLA	8
Davis	10
Riverside	12
Santa Barbara	17
Irvine	35
Merced	41
Santa Cruz	97

*Only the top 30 public national universities were provided.

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UC campuses also stand out internationally. Four UC campuses rank among the top 25 best universities in the world according to the Academic Rankings of World Universities (ARWU) by the Shanghai Ranking Consultancy. Factors considered in these rankings include quality of the faculty and research output.

Finally, within five years of graduation, a majority of these students earn more than their families, demonstrating how investing in these students results in positive financial returns for these individuals, their families and the State.

2016 ARWU Shanghai

Berkeley	3
UCLA	12
San Diego	14
UCSF	21
Santa Barbara	42
Irvine	58
Davis	75
Santa Cruz	83
Riverside	151-200

While we are proud of these rankings, we are even prouder of UC's record of promoting social mobility.

UC enrolls a higher percentage of Pell recipients (40%) than any other leading research university in the nation, and sees 83% of these students graduate within six years. These graduation rates are comparable to those of all students (85%).