

Topic in Brief

Pell Grant Awards as a Peer Metric

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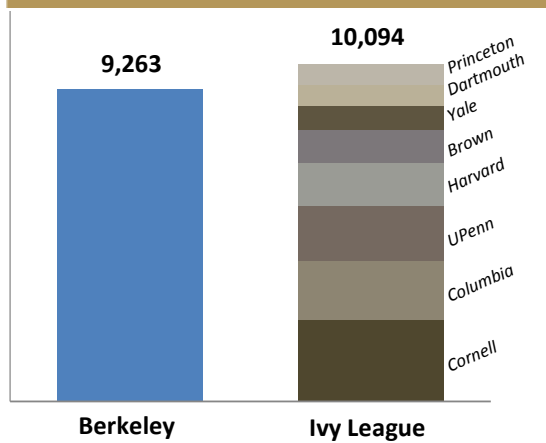
A higher percentage of UC Berkeley undergraduate students (36%) receive Pell Grants than the combined Ivy League (17%).

As an indicator of the University's ongoing commitment to provide *affordability and access*, our Pell Grant recipient counts are compared to peers using annual reporting from the U.S. Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE).

When comparing the number of Pell Grant awards as a percentage of the undergraduate population, Berkeley's 36% is far higher than any or all Ivy League institutions.

UC Berkeley has nearly the same number of Pell Grant recipients as the eight Ivy League schools combined.

2012-13 Pell Grant Awards



This represents the most recent data published by OPE, which is the best source for peer data due to the consistent, near-final reconciliation methodology that is employed.

Pell Grant Description: The Federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based financial aid for low-income undergraduates through some 5,400 participating colleges and universities. The amount of the award is determined by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) using a standard formula, and depends on student's financial need, the cost to attend, and full or part-time attendance status.

Pell Grant and Enrollment Trend

	2011-12	2012-13	% Chg	Fall '12* Undergrads	% Pell of Undergrads
UCB	9,571	9,263	-3%	25,774	36%
Cornell	2,472	2,404	-3%	14,261	17%
Columbia	1,800	1,819	1%	8,274	22%
Penn	1,670	1,683	1%	9,682	17%
Harvard	1,308	1,274	-3%	7,342	17%
Brown	973	982	1%	6,435	15%
Yale	749	710	-5%	5,405	13%
Princeton	638	649	2%	5,336	12%
Dartmouth	632	573	-9%	4,193	14%
Ivy League	10,242	10,094	-1%	60,928	17%

*as used by U.S. News in *America's Best Colleges*

Source: Berkeley data from Cal Answers, is slightly higher than OPE (9,487 in 2011 and 9,216 in 2012). Peer data from 2012-13 Distribution of Federal Pell Grant Program Funds by Institution, U.S. Office of Postsecondary Education, and IPEDS Fall Degree-Seeking Undergraduate Enrollment.

<http://www2.ed.gov/finaid/prof/resources/data/pell-institution.html>
<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/datacenter/Default.aspx>

The data shows that Berkeley had a 3% decline in Pell Grant awards over the prior year, while Ivy League schools ranged from a 9% decline (Dartmouth) to a 2% increase (Princeton), a 1% decline overall.

Office Address

Office of Planning & Analysis
 655 University Hall, Mail Code 1510
 Berkeley, CA 94720-1510
 Phone: 510-642-5735