

Topic in Brief

Pell Grant Recipients as a Peer Metric

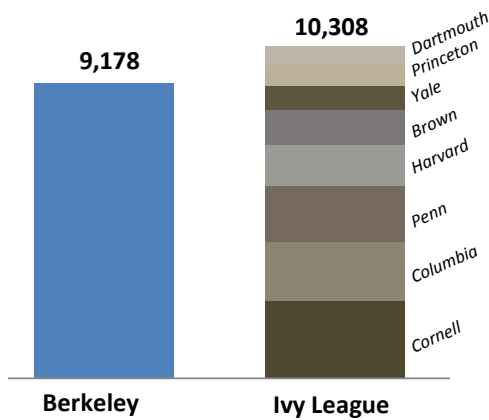
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A higher percentage of UC Berkeley undergraduate students (34%) receive Pell Grants than the combined Ivy League (17%).

As an indicator of the University's ongoing commitment to economic diversity in our student population, our Pell Grant recipient counts are compared to peers using annual reporting from the U.S. Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE).

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

2014-15 Pell Grant Recipients



Both count Summer, Fall and Spring Pell Grant recipients.

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.

In comparing the number of Pell Grant recipients as a percentage of the undergraduate population, Berkeley's 34% is higher than the Ivy League average of 17% and Columbia's 23%, the highest of the Ivies.

Pell Grant and Enrollment Trend

	2013-14	2014-15	% Chg	Fall '14* Undergrads	% Pell of Undergrads
UCB	9,176	9,178	0%	27,126	34%
Cornell	2,386	2,313	-3%	14,366	16%
Columbia	1,838	1,905	4%	8,410	23%
Penn	1,697	1,636	-4%	9,746	17%
Harvard	1,288	1,236	-4%	6,636	19%
Brown	1,088	1,109	2%	6,264	18%
Princeton	684	790	15%	5,258	15%
Yale	673	724	8%	5,473	13%
Dartmouth	591	595	1%	4,184	14%
Ivy League	10,245	10,308	1%	60,337	17%

* degree-seeking population

Source: Berkeley data from Cal Answers is slightly higher than OPE (9,091 in 2013, 9,125 in 2014). Peer data from 2014-15 Distribution of Federal Pell Grant Program Funds by Institution, U.S. Office of Postsecondary Education, and enrollment from schools' Common Data Sets.

<http://www2.ed.gov/finaid/prof/resources/data/pell-institution.html>

The data shows almost no change in Pell Grant recipients over the prior year for Berkeley, while Ivy League schools ranged from a 4% decline (Penn and Harvard) to a 15% increase (Princeton). The change for all Ivies combined is a 1% increase.

Berkeley's 34% is now the lowest percentage of Pell Grants among UC campuses, which range from 61% at Merced to 37% at UCLA. Irvine (+6%), Santa Barbara (+4%) and Santa Cruz (+3%) increased in recipients, while other campuses remained steady or declined by one percent.