

International Undergraduates at Berkeley: Areas of Success & Potential for Improvement

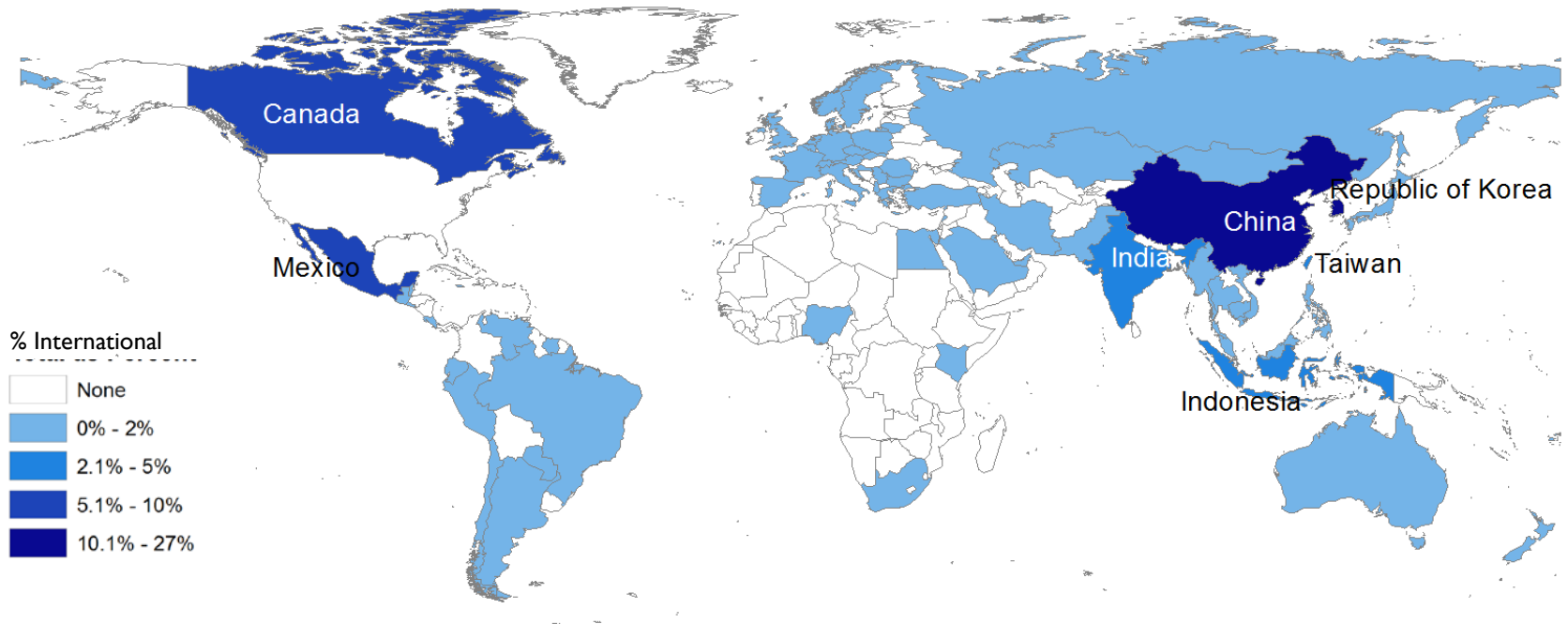
Office of Planning & Analysis

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Current Presentation

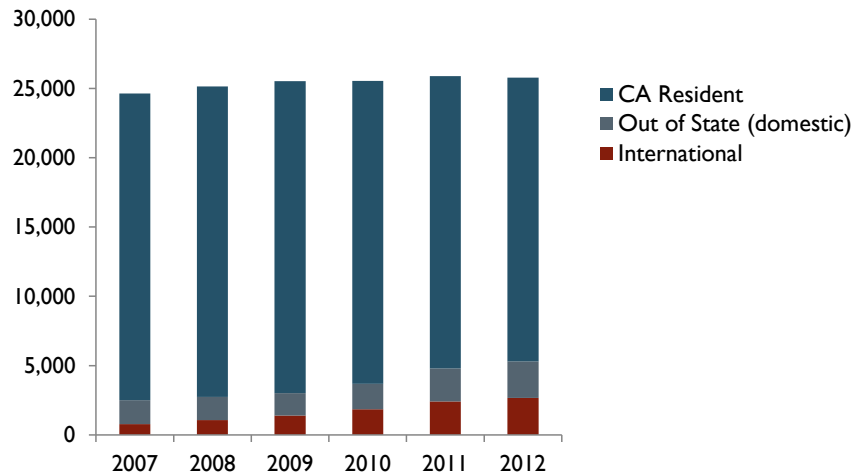
- Who are our international undergraduates?
- How have the demographics of Berkeley changed over the last six years?
- What do we know about international students' courseloads, their academic background, and their eventual success at Berkeley?
- What opportunities for improvement exist across various student success indicators (e.g., retention, graduation and probation rates), and among sub-populations?

Demographics: New Fall 2012 International Students



951 new international students entered UC Berkeley in fall 2012 (527 new freshmen & 424 new transfers). A large percentage of these new freshmen and transfer international students report an Asian country of origin—with China (27%), South Korea (20%), and Hong Kong (8%) topping the list.

The changing undergraduate population & top majors of international students



International students have grown from about 3% of total undergraduate enrollment in Fall 2007 (n = 706) to 10% in Fall 2012 (n = 2,669).

International Freshmen Entrants:

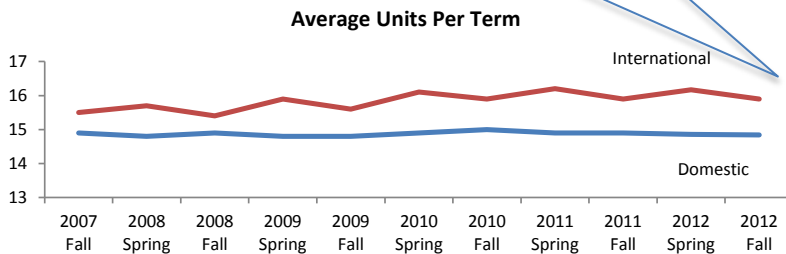


International Transfer Entrants:



International students take higher course loads than domestic students

When asked on the 2012 Survey of New Students about strategies used to meet their financial needs, the 2nd most popular strategy for new international students was taking more courses per term in order to "finish on-time or early."

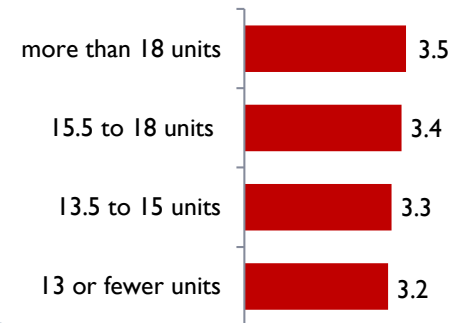


International undergraduates tend to take higher course loads than domestic students, especially in spring semesters.

Average # of Units Attempted in the 1st term, by Residency (Fall 2012 Cohort)

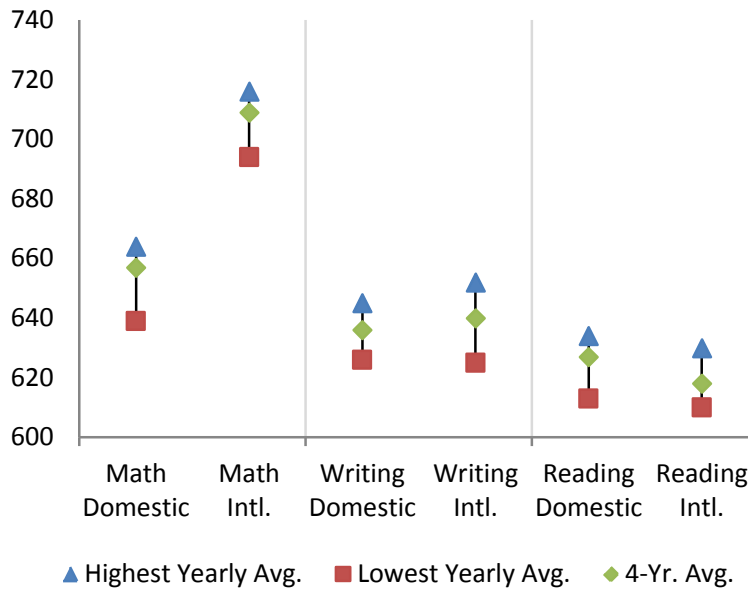
	New Freshmen	New Transfers
International	15.6	14.3
Out-of-state (domestic)	14.8	14.2
CA Resident	14.5	13.9

1st Term GPA by # of 1st Term Units Attempted (Fall 2012; International Freshmen)

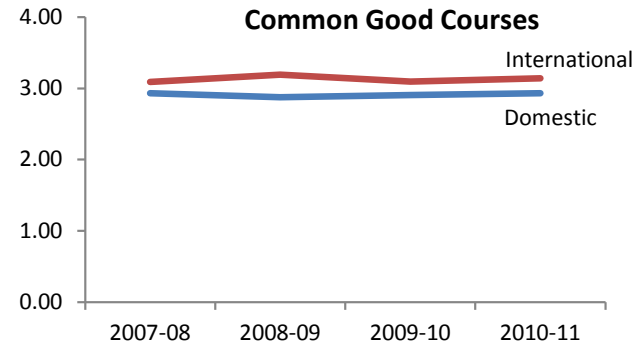


Math, Science, Reading, & Writing Performance

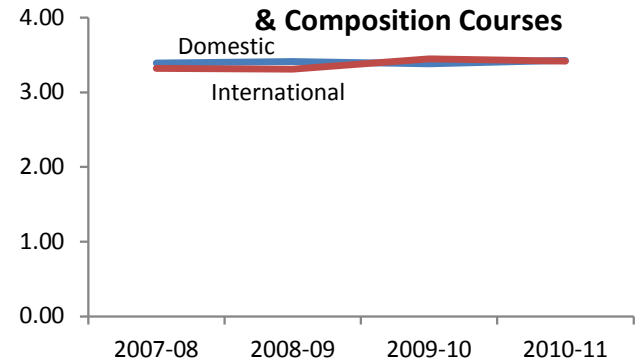
SAT Scores for Registered New Freshmen, 2007 - 2011



Avg. Grades in Math & Science Common Good Courses

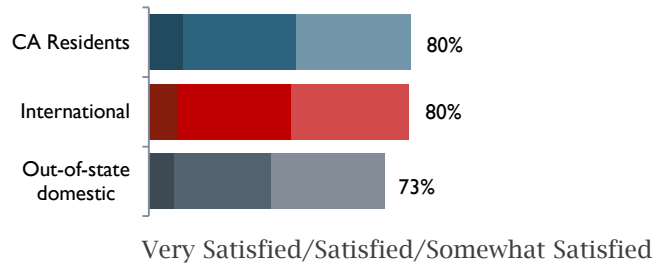


Avg. Grades in Reading & Composition Courses

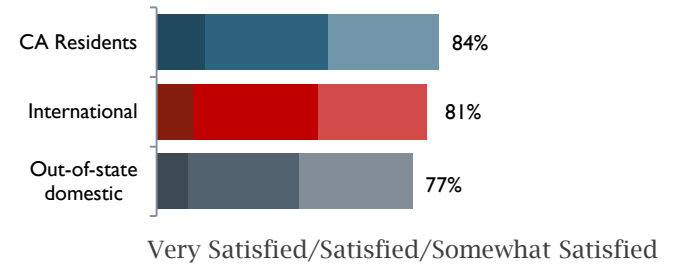


Although satisfaction with advising is relatively high, out-of-state domestic students stand out as having lower rates

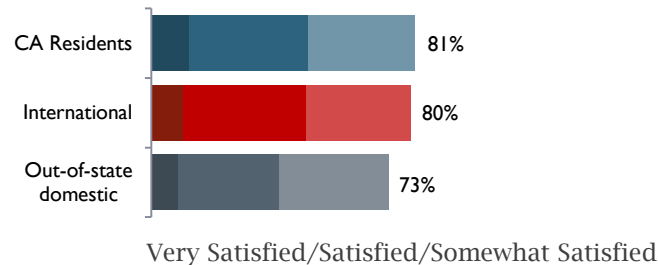
Satisfaction with College/School Advising on Academic Matters (2012 UCUES):



Satisfaction with Dept./Major Advising on Academic Matters (2012 UCUES):



Satisfaction with Faculty Advising on Academic Matters (2012 UCUES):



Probation rates a concern for international transfers, whereas retention a concern for both international & out-of-state domestic freshmen

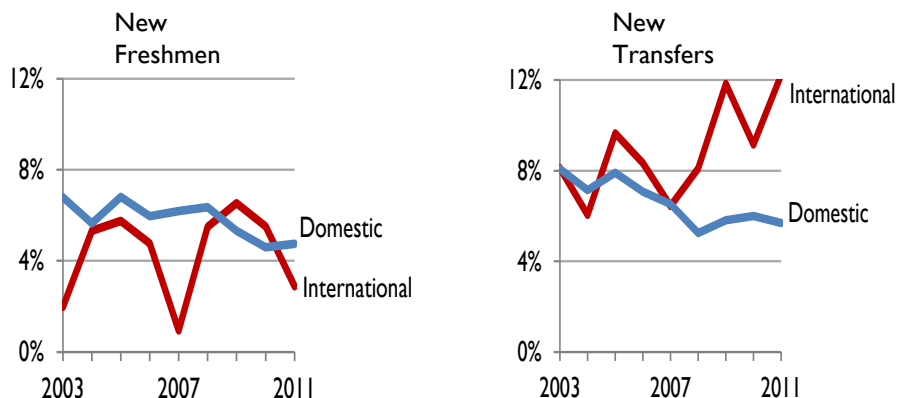
Ist year Probation Rate

(Fall 2011 cohort)	New Freshmen	New Transfers
CA Resident	4%	6%
Out-of-state (domestic)	6%	5%
International	3%	12%

I-year Retention Rate

(Fall 2011 cohort)	New Freshmen	New Transfers
CA Resident	98%	96%
Out-of-state (domestic)	93%	97%
International	93%	89%*

*The international transfer student 1-year retention rate of 89% is down 5% when compared to the fall 2009 entering cohort of international transfers, and down 3% as compared to the fall 2010 cohort.

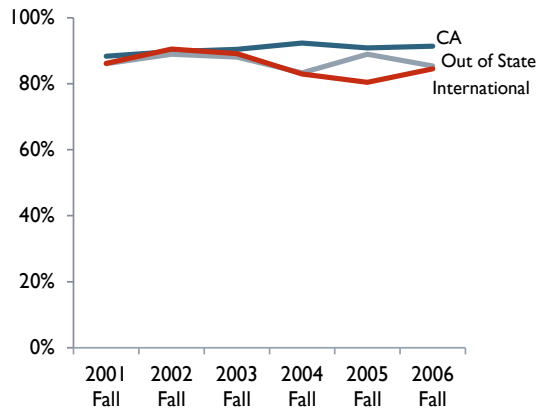


International transfer students have a historical probation rate that appears to be trending upward.

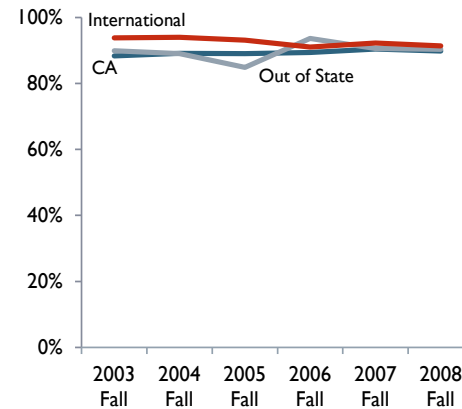
When disaggregating further, we found that transfer students of South Korean nationality had a particularly high 1st- year probation rate at 18%.

Among freshmen entrants, graduation rates are higher for CA residents; Among transfers, international students graduate more quickly

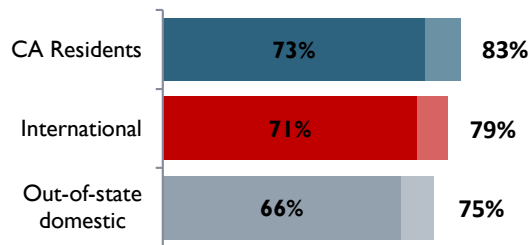
Freshmen (6-year rate)



Transfers (4-year rate)

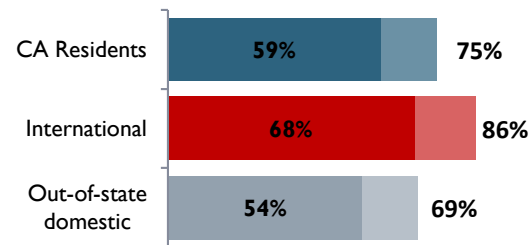


Freshmen (4 & 4.5-year rates)



2007 entry cohort

Transfers (2 & 2.5-year rates)



2009 entry cohort

Summary

- Roughly half of new international undergraduates at Berkeley report their home country as being either China or South Korea.
- The Writing & Math SAT scores of international students attending Berkeley were as high as, or higher than, domestic students.
- Once at Berkeley, 1st-term GPA (3.3), the GPA at time of degree (3.3), and Reading & Composition GPA (3.4) for international students are no different than the GPAs of domestic students in those respective areas.
- International students take a higher courseload than domestic students and, for those who do graduate, their time-to-degree is shorter than that of domestic students.
- Overall, international students appear to be satisfied with the academic advising received from college, department, and faculty.

Summary (cont'd):

- 1-year retention of international and out-of-state domestic freshmen is lower than the 1-year retention of CA resident freshmen. On the transfer side, 1-year retention is also more recently a problem for international students as well.
- The graduation rates for international transfer students are exceptionally high. However, among freshmen entrants, graduation rates for both international and out-of-state domestic students are lower than the rates we see for freshmen who are CA residents—particularly when examining the 6-year graduation rates.
- Probation rates for domestic freshmen, domestic transfer students, and international freshmen are relatively low and show signs of declining. However, international transfer students have a significantly higher 1st- year probation rate of 12%.

Potential Areas for Improvement:

Freshmen International Students:

- **1-year retention**
- **6-year graduation rate**
 - Particularly an issue for South Korean freshmen entrants
- Similarly, 1-year retention & 6-year graduation are an issue for out-of-state domestic freshmen who have identical rates as international freshmen entrants.

Transfer International Students:

- **1-year retention**
- **1st year academic probation**
 - Particularly an issue for South Korean transfer students
- International transfer students make timely progress to degree; 86% of them graduate within 2.5 years. By contrast, out-of-state domestic transfers have the lowest 2.5 year graduation rate (69%). This would be an additional area for improvement.