KEY UNIVERSITY METRICS: Data definitions

Institutional Research & Decision Support
Stanford University

Last update: December 10, 2015

STUDENTS

Bachelor’s degrees: BA, BS, BAS
Master’s degrees: ENG, JSM, LLM, MA, MBA, MFA, MLA, MLS, MPP, MS, MS
Doctoral degrees: DMA, JD, JSD, MD, PHD

The category ‘under-represented minority’ ('URM') is based on historically under-represented minority groups in the US. It includes individuals who self-identify as American Indian or Alaska Native, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. For individuals who self-identify with two or more races, where further detail is available, ‘URM’ also includes those individuals who self-identify with at least one of the categories considered ‘URM.’

For students, following federal reporting conventions, non-resident aliens are not included in any other race/ethnicity category; thus, no non-resident aliens are included in counts of under-represented minorities.

Student enrollment data are counts of all degree-seeking students enrolled as of the third week of fall quarter (October) of each year. Each student is counted at a single degree level.

Students working towards coterminal bachelor’s and master’s degrees are counted as master’s students if they have reached graduate status by completing 180 units or 13 quarters.

Graduate students pursuing more than one degree program are also counted only once, in their highest-ranking degree program (where MD is top-ranked, then PHD, JSD, DMA, JD, MLS, LLM, JSM, ENG, MLA, MPP, MFA, MBA, MS, and MA).

References: Budget Plan: Appendix B, schedules 1 & 6
Population Report
Stanford Facts: Academics › Undergraduate Program, Graduate Studies
Stanford University Statistics: Tables I-1 – I-7

Admission data reflect each year’s entering class, where applications occurred during the previous year.

Undergraduate admission data include new freshmen only, excluding transfer students.
Graduate admission data include only students entering programs via a central admission process.

Admission rate is the percent of applicants who were admitted.
Yield is the percent of those admitted students who ultimately enrolled.

References: Budget Plan: Appendix B, schedules 2 & 3
Stanford University Statistics: Tables I-10, I-15, I-16
**DEGREES**

**Degree data** are counts of unique majors leading to degrees conferred for undergraduate students, and counts of unique degrees conferred for graduate students. Degrees are counted over summer through spring quarter of each year (e.g., summer 2014 through spring 2015); this time period aligns with federal reporting definitions.

For graduate students, a degree is granted upon completion of each master’s and/or doctoral program. A student completing e.g. two MS programs will earn two MS degrees.

An undergraduate student, however, may earn only a single degree of each type (BA, BS, BAS); when an undergraduate graduates with two majors both leading to a single BA (or BS, or BAS), only a single degree is granted. In order to reflect all program completions for undergraduates, here, “degrees awarded” counts each major completed by students earning undergraduate degrees.

References:  
Stanford University Statistics: Tables I-17 – I-24  
Stanford Facts: Academics › Undergraduate Program, Graduate Studies

**Postdoctoral scholars** are also counted as of the third week of fall quarter (October) of each year. Headcounts include both postdoctoral research fellows and medical fellows.

References:  
Budget Plan: Appendix B, schedule 4  
Population Report  
Stanford University Statistics: Table I-4

**TUITION & FINANCIAL AID**

The Health Services Fee ($197 per quarter/$591 annually, for 2015-16) is the only **mandatory fee** included. This fee is mandatory for all undergraduate and graduate students enrolled on the Stanford main campus.

Undergraduate ‘graduates’ with student loan debt are those earning undergraduate degrees during summer 2014 through spring 2015.

Some undergraduate students may receive need-based (or non-need-based) financial aid from sources external to Stanford; this aid is not included.

Where Stanford is aware of external aid received by graduate students, this is included in ‘outside awards.’

References:  
Budget Plan: Appendix B, schedules 5–9  
Stanford Facts: Academics › Undergraduate Program  
Stanford University Statistics: Tables III-1 – III-4

**FACULTY & STAFF**

**Faculty headcounts** are as of September 1 at the start of each year. Each faculty member is counted once, in the school of his or her primary appointment. Counts include professoriate faculty only: tenure line faculty, other Academic Council faculty, and Medical Center Line faculty. Emeriti are not included.

See above for details on **under-represented minorities**. For faculty, unlike students, Stanford’s internal convention is to report race/ethnicity for the full population, including non-resident aliens; thus, non-resident aliens are included in counts of under-represented minority faculty members.
Staff headcounts are from payroll snapshots as of October of each year, and include all active employees on each snapshot date. Note that staff snapshot dates have changed slightly over time, to increase consistency with other sources (details below).

Teaching staff include both benefits-eligible and non-benefits eligible employees. 2009-10 data are as of 10/15/2009; 2015-16 data are as of 10/31/2015. Teaching staff include all Academic Staff-Teaching (primarily lecturers and senior lecturers), Other Teaching Staff (e.g., acting, visiting, consulting, and courtesy professors), and coaches.

Reference: Stanford University Statistics: Table II-9

Non-teaching staff include benefits-eligible employees only. 2009-10 data are as of 10/15/2009; 2015-16 data are as of 10/31/2015. Counts include (among many others) academic research staff and librarians.

Academic units: All 7 schools, Dean of Research, Libraries, VPUE, VPGE, VPTL
Administrative units: All other units
Auxiliary units: Athletics, Residential & Dining Enterprises

References: UHR Staff Headcount and FTE Report
Budget Plan: Appendix B, schedule 14
Population Report

RANKINGS & AWARDS

Academic Rankings: All are the most recent published rankings, generally released during 2015. Publishers’ labelling of these rankings varies; the rankings shown here are “2015” rankings for Princeton Review and Shanghai ARWU, and “2016” rankings for all others.
References: Publication websites

Faculty Awards: Awards are those held by members of Stanford’s 2015 community of scholars, including professoriate faculty, emeriti, and others. ‘National Academy members’ includes the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and National Academy of Education.
Reference: Stanford Facts: Academics › Faculty

Athletics: Counts are cumulative totals of honors earned by Stanford athletes.
Reference: Stanford Facts: Campus Life › Athletics

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES; BALANCE SHEET; ENDOWMENT & RESERVES

Reference: Annual Financial Report
DEVELOPMENT

2014-15 gifts include the appraised value of the Anderson Collection at Stanford University. The total number of donors may be rounded in some years.

Reference: Stanford Facts: Administration & Finances › University Finances

SPONSORED RESEARCH

Expenditures are fiscal year totals. Note that these are different from the sponsored revenue figures which appear in the Annual Financial Report's Statement of Activities. Expenses include only sponsored research; sponsored instruction and other non-research sponsored activity are not included.

References: Budget Plan: Appendix B, schedule 16
Sponsored Projects Report: Schedules R-1, V-1, V-2

New proposals and awards are all proposals submitted, and all awards received, during each fiscal year. Awards do not include supplements, and include the full amount awarded for each project, many of which are multi-year projects. Note that projects are often proposed and awarded in different fiscal years, so the ratio of awards to proposals in a given year cannot be taken as a measure of proposals' success.

Source: Office of Sponsored Research

TECHNOLOGY LICENSING

Patent and license data reflect new patents and licenses issued during each fiscal year. Revenues include licensing royalties and equity realization.

Source: Office of Technology Licensing

CAPITAL PLANNING

Reference: Budget Plan: Capital Plan

CREDIT RATINGS

Credit ratings are all current values (released during 2015).