California’s Higher Education Funding Landscape

Technical Appendix

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Appendix A. Differences Within and By Systems

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Appendix A. Differences Within and By Systems

The value in using Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) measures for state and local appropriations and tuition revenue is it makes revenue comparisons between colleges and universities within California and the rest of the US possible. In this appendix we share variation over time within the systems, as well as variation over time in California systems of higher education compared to similar colleges and universities in the rest of the nation. We compare the tuition and state and local appropriation revenue by calculating a ratio of tuition to appropriations for each college and university. A ratio of 1 would mean that the university has equal parts tuition revenue and state appropriation revenue. A ratio of 2, for example, would mean that the university brings in twice the revenue from tuition than it does from the state. And a ratio of 0.5 would mean that the university brings in half as much tuition revenue than it does state appropriation revenue. Institutions within systems vary considerably. In 2005, all of the UC, CSU, and CCC institutions brought in more state appropriations than tuition (Figure A1). By 2015, after the Great Recession, a handful of CSU and all UC campuses relied more on tuition than state appropriations. By 2021, that had not changed for most UC campuses, but almost all CSU campuses were back to relying on state appropriation more than they were tuition. The CCC institutions almost exclusively rely on state funding, and that did not change throughout the recession and recovery.

FIGURE A1
There is variation in funding sources within systems and over time

![Chart showing variation in tuition to state appropriation ratio over time for UC, CSU, and CCC institutions.]

SOURCE: Authors calculations from Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).
NOTE: State appropriations and local revenue are net of capital funding. Tuition revenue is net of tuition discounts and waivers.

Next, we are able to compare California institutions to similar institutions across the US over time. The University of California has grown more reliant on tuition over time, matching the national trend for similar universities –
those public institutions across the US that offer primarily bachelor’s degrees but also doctoral degrees (Figure A2). Though the recession impacted CSU and similar institutions across the nation, the CSU has maintained more reliance on state funding (Figure A3). The ratio of tuition to state appropriations rose and fell in a similar way for community colleges around the country, but in California the ratio hardly changed at all from its consistently low level throughout these years.

**FIGURE A2**
The UC have grown more reliant on tuition than other similar universities

![Figure A2](image-url)

*SOURCE: Authors calculations from Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).*

*NOTE: State appropriations and local revenue are net of capital funding. Tuition revenue is net of tuition discounts and waivers.*
The CSU still rely on state funding more than similar institutions across the US

SOURCE: Authors calculations from Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).
NOTE: State appropriations and local revenue are net of capital funding. Tuition revenue is net of tuition discounts and waivers.
FIGURE A4
Community colleges across the US rely on tuition more than CCC

SOURCE: Authors calculations from Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).

NOTE: State appropriations and local revenue are net of capital funding. Tuition revenue is net of tuition discounts and waivers.
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