Research Roundup & Counter-Narratives: International Students at UCLA

Post-Grad Plans & Career Prep

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A special thanks to Jack Guo & his colleagues from USAC for suggesting questions around preparedness

How Prepared Do You Feel to Manage Your Professional Path?
UGn=657, Gn=698

Source: Dashew Center Biennial Survey of International Students, 2016-17

- UG: 39% feel prepared or very prepared
- Grad: 62% feel prepared or very prepared

How Prepared Do You Feel to Manage Your Professional Path?

Source: Dashew Center Biennial Survey of International Students, 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Very prepared</th>
<th>Prepared</th>
<th>Slightly prepared</th>
<th>Not prepared</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALL UG</td>
<td></td>
<td>39%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh</td>
<td></td>
<td>30%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Soph</td>
<td></td>
<td>33%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td></td>
<td>34%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
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<td></td>
<td>55%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer</td>
<td></td>
<td>34%</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

39% feel prepared or very prepared

How Prepared Do You Feel to Manage Professional Path
Very prepared + prepared, n=698

Source: Dashew Center Biennial Survey of International Students, 2016-17

Spotlight

• International graduate students feel more prepared to manage their professional path than international undergraduates.

• However, international undergraduates nearly catch up by the time they are seniors.

• Professional students feel the most prepared among graduate students.
Post-Graduation Plans

62% Plan to Stay in the U.S. After Graduation for Work or Study

Not sure

Work in the U.S. (OPT/EB)

Degree in the U.S.

Degree outside the U.S.

Work outside the U.S.

**Post-Graduation Plans, International Undergraduate Students**

Source: Dashew Center Biennial Survey of International Students, 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Plan to Stay in the U.S. After Graduation for Work or Study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALL UG</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soph</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The percentages are based on the survey of 574 international undergraduate students from 2016-17.

Post-Graduation Plans, International Graduate Students, n=546

Source: Dashew Center Biennial Survey of International Students, 2016-17

- **1st Year Grad** (n=104): 50% Plan to Stay in the U.S. for Work or Study
- **Prof** (n=29): 66% Plan to Stay in the U.S. for Work or Study
- **Masters** (n=219): 79% Plan to Stay in the U.S. for Work or Study
- **Doctoral** (n=284): 55% Plan to Stay in the U.S. for Work or Study
- **ALL GRAD** (n=546): 64% Plan to Stay in the U.S. for Work or Study

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Over 60% of international students plan to stay in the U.S. for work or study. International undergraduates start with more uncertainty about their post-graduate plans. As students progress, their uncertainty dissolves and more international undergraduates report plans to work or study inside and outside of the U.S.

Among graduate students, Master’s students plan to stay in the U.S. at the highest rates followed by professional degree students. Doctoral students report the most uncertainty around their post-graduate plans and have the lower rates of planning to stay in the U.S. for work or study.
Questions