

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
Λαο	Employee	The age of an employee as of fall 15-day census (see
Age		Census).
	Financial Aid	Financial aid year that starts with the fall term and
Aid Year		finishes with the summer term. For example, the 2017
Ald Year		aid year is comprised of Fall 2016 and Winter, Spring,
		and Summer 2017.
Applied	Admissions	A student who applied (i.e., has an application).
Bachelor's (degree)	Degree	An undergraduate degree (e.g., Bachelor's of Science –
		BS).

Source: Cal Poly Institutional Research

Last Modified: 3/15/2023

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
Variable California Areas	Admissions	Geographic areas in California of enrolled students at the time of their application (i.e., prior to enrolling at Cal Poly). The counties that make up each area are noted below. Sacramento Area – El Dorado County, Sacramento County, Placer County, Sutter County, Yolo County, and Yuba County. San Francisco Bay Area – Alameda County, Contra Costa County, Marin County, Napa County, San Francisco County, San Mateo County, Santa Clara County, Santa Cruz County, Solano County, and Sonoma County. San Joaquin Valley – Fresno County, Kern County, Kings County, Madera County, Merced County, San Joaquin County, Stanislaus County, and Tulare County. Central Coast – Monterey County, San Benito County, San Luis Obispo County, and Santa Barbara County. Los Angeles Area – Los Angeles County, Orange County, and Ventura County.
		San Diego – San Diego County.

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
		Also called 15-day census, is the 15 th day of
		instruction, not including weekend days and holidays.
		The day official enrollment is taken, and all data in the
		CSU Enrollment Reporting System (ERS) files and the
		Cal Poly SLO internal files must be based (unless there
		are specific exceptions - e.g., late drop). In addition, it is
Census (also see Final		the day official employment is taken, and all data in the
Census)	N/A	CSU Academic Planning Database (APDB) faculty file
Census		and the Cal Poly SLO internal employee file must be
		based (unless there are specific exceptions-e.g., late
		hire). After 15-day census, exceptions like a late drop
		needs to be hard-coded (i.e., back-dated) in the
		enrollment table. Similarly, an exception like a late hire
		needs to have their effective date back-dated to 15-day
		census in the employee table.
		The class of an employee.
Class	Employee	Regular
		Temporary
		Intermittent

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
Cohort	Retention and Graduation Rates	A cohort is based on the federal Student Right-to-Know Act, which defines an entering cohort as first-time freshmen who entered in fall term or the immediately preceding summer term who were enrolled full-time in the fall term. In addition, deceased students or students who left for military service are allowable exclusions; therefore, persistence rates are calculated on a revised cohort that may be slightly lower than the original cohort.
Conort		The graduate cohort is defined as full-time, first-time, degree-seeking graduate student who entered in the fall term or enrolled in the immediately preceding summer term. This cohort includes students in the Blended BS/MS Degree program (BMS), also known as the 4+1 program. Students in the BMS program are considered graduate students once they submit a Formal Study Plan (graduate) and they are accepted into the program.
College	All	The college a student's major falls under or the college an employee's primary appointment is in. College of Architecture and Environmental Design (CAED) College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) College of Engineering (CENG) College of Liberal Arts (CLA) College of Science and Mathematics (CSM) Orfalea College of Business (OCOB) Other includes coaches, librarians, student service professionals (SSP), etc.

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
		Compares retention and graduation rates of Non-URM
Comparisons	Retention and Graduation Rates	to URM, Non-First Generation to First Generation and
		Non-Pell to Pell (see definitions).
		Institutional Research reports degrees awarded based
		on the students' actual term of completion rather than
		the date the degree was posted. While this allows for
		more accurate reporting of actual completion as well as
		more appropriate graduation rate reporting, these
		figures may change in future publications because
		degrees can be posted for students retroactively.
Degree Awarded	Degrees	Degrees awarded is not an unduplicated headcount.
1		Students who receive more than one degree are
		counted for each degree they receive.
		Note: Degrees are comprised of summer, fall, winter,
		and spring degrees. For example, 2021-22 is comprised
		of Summer 2021, Fall 2021, Winter 2022, and Spring
		2022. Summer is the leading term.
		The specific objective or type of degree awarded.
		Bachelor of Architecture
		Bachelor of Arts
		Bachelor of Fine Arts
		Bachelor of Landscape Architecture
		Bachelor of Science
Degree Objective	Degrees	
- •	-	Master of Agricultural Education
		Master of Arts
		Master of Business Administration
		Master of Professional Studies
		Master of City and Regional Planning
		Master of Public Policy
		Master of Science

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
		The level of degree awarded.
Degree Level	Degrees	
Degree Level	Degrees	Bachelor's
		Master's
		The division for an employee's primary appointment.
		Administration and Finance
		Academic Affairs
		Student Affairs
		Information Services
		Strategic Enrollment Management
Division	Employee	University Advancement
		University Marketing
		Research, Economic Development and Graduate
		Education (REDGE)
		President's Office
		University Support
		Diversity and Inclusivity
		Centrally Managed
Enrolled	Admissions	A student who is enrolled.
		A students enrollment status.
	Enrollment	Continuing
		First-Time Freshman
		New Transfer
Enrollment Status		New Graduate
Enroument		New Post-Bacc (non-master's seeking)
		Returning Undergraduate
		Returning Graduate (master's seeking)
		Returning Post-Bacc
		Undergraduate Other (non-degree)
	Post-Bacc Other (non-degree)	

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
		Ethnic origin according to Federal OMB Standards.
Ethnicity	All	Hispanic or Latino African American Native American Hawaiian or Pacific Islander Asian American Multi-Racial White Non-Resident*
		*Beginning in the Summer of 2022, based on guidance from IPEDS, undocumented students (students who do not possess a valid visa or other immigration documentation) are no longer reported as Non-Resident; instead, self-reported ethnicity is used. Click here for more information on the IPEDS policy.
Feeder Schools	Admissions	The last institution attended, which could be a high school (FTF), community college (NTR), etc. The dashboard will show the feeder schools for the Student Type that is selected. The default Student Type is "All", so it shows the schools for all students including NGR (e.g., Cal Poly, SLO). If you want to see high schools, then select FTF as Student Type.

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
Final Census (also see Census)	N/A	The 30 th day of instruction, not including weekend days and holidays. The day CSU Enrollment Reporting System (ERS) files are due to the Chancellor's Office and the Cal Poly SLO internal files are frozen and finalized. Institutional Research reporting and analysis is based on point-in-time (final census), Cal Poly SLO internal files. In addition, it is the day the CSU Academic Planning Database (APDB) section (i.e., course) and the Cal Poly SLO internal course files are frozen, as of 15-day census (or back-dated to 15-day census) in order to match enrollment. Due to back-dating, as noted in the Census definition, the Census tables may be different than the Final Census tables.
First Generation	Admissions, Enrollment and Retention and Graduation Rates	Neither parent/guardian attended college.
Full-Time Equivalents (FTE) - Employees	Employee	Paid: The amount of FTE for which the employee is paid. The sum of FTE across all employee's appointments. Instructional: The sum of instructional faculty fraction (IFF) across all employee's appointments.
Full-Time Equivalents (FTE) - Students	Enrollment	The sum of FTE's for a given term for all students. Undergraduate and post-baccalaureate FTE = attempted units / 15 Graduate FTE = attempted units / 12
Full-Time/Part-Time	Employee	If total full-time equivalent (FTE) is one (1) or higher then full-time, otherwise part-time.
Full-Time/Part-Time	Enrollment	Undergraduate: Twelve (12) or more units are considered full-time, otherwise part-time. Graduate/Post-Bac: Nine (9) or more units are considered full-time, otherwise part-time.

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
Gender	All	Men (male) Women (female) Non-Binary (see SB 179 Gender Recognition Act)
Graduation (graduated) Rate	Retention and Graduation Rates	Student has graduated (i.e., received a degree) through summer term of each time-period.
Headcount	Employee	The number of employees. Vacancies are not included.
Highest Degree	Employee	The highest education level of an employee (e.g., Doctoral).
High School Grade Point Average (GPA)	Admissions	A student's grade point average. Overall average (mean) and interquartile range (the 25 th and 75 th percentile) is provided.
Major	Enrollment	A specific subject area that students specialize in (e.g., Business).
Master's (degree)	Degree	A graduate degree (e.g.,Master's of Science – MS).
Origin/geographic region	Admissions	Region in California, state, or country of origin at the time of application. Central Coast Los Angeles San Francisco Bay Area San Joaquin San Diego Sacramento Area Other California Counties (various) – Not shown on dashboard. Other U.S. States (various) Foreign Countries (various) – Based on country of origin at the time of application. Note: The percent of California Areas on the
		Demographic & Geographic Admissions Data dashboard is based on the six areas shown.

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
		A federal grant awarded to students completing their
		first undergraduate degree. Given to students who
Pell Grant	Financial Aid	demonstrate exception need based on the income
		information provided on the federal aid application
		(FAFSA).
		The difference in percentage points between White and
Porcentage Point Can	Admissions	other ethnic categories. For example, if the percent of
Percentage-Point Gap	Authissions	White students is 50% and the percent of Asian students
		is 45%, then the gap is 5% (i.e., 5 percentage points).
		The rank of an employee.
		Professor
Rank	Employee	Associate Professor
		Assistant Professor
		Lecturer
		Other
		Based on residency used for tuition calculation at time
		of application.
Residency	All	
		Resident
		Non-Resident
		Student is still enrolled as of fall term (i.e., retained from
		previous fall term).
Retention (retained) Rate	Retention and Graduation Rates	Note: Retention rates include students who graduated.
,		For example, if 36.8% NGR's were still enrolled and
		42.7% graduated after one year, then the 1-year NGR
		retention rate would be 79.5%.
Selected	Admissions	A student who is accepted or selected to enroll.
		The percentage of applicants who were selected. It's the
Selection Rate	Admissions	number of selected students divided by the number of
		applied students.
Single or Multiple	Enrollment (Credential)	Single-subject or multiple-subject credential.

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
		Aid award source.
Source	Financial Aid	Federal: Funding comes from federal aid sources. Institutional: Funding comes from Cal Poly specific resources. State: Funding comes from state specified programs. Other: Funding from other agencies and donors not related to Cal Poly.
		The type of credential:
Status	Enrollment (Credential)	First (5) - A student admitted and enrolled in a California State University California Commission on Teacher Credentialing-approved education credential program (integrated or postbaccalaureate).
		Second (V) - Student who holds a valid first credential and is admitted and enrolled to a second credential program.
		The class level of a student (undergraduate class is based on units completed).
Student Class	Enrollment	Freshmen Sophomore Junior Senior 2 nd Bachelor's (students are counted as undergraduates to conform with federal reporting standards) Graduate (master's seeking) Credential Post-Baccalaureate Transitory
Student Credit Units (SCU)	Enrollment	The sum of attempted units for a given term for all students.

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
		Undergraduate
Student Level	Enrollment	Graduate (master's seeking)
		Post-Bacc or Post-Baccalaureate (non-master's seeking)
		The type of applicant.
		First-Time Freshmen (FTF)
		New Transfers (NTR)
Student Type	Admissions Retention and Craduation Rates	New Graduates (NGR)
Student Type	Admissions, Retention and Graduation Rates	New Post-Baccalaureate (NPB)
		Other (includes undergraduate returning [URT],
		graduate returning [GRT], post baccalaureate returning
		[PRT], undergraduate other [UOT] and post
		baccalaureate other [POT]).
		Tenured/Tenured-Track
	Employee	Non-Tenured (Lecturer)
Tenure		Other (includes coaches, teaching associates
renure		[instructors], volunteers, etc. that don't fall into the
		tenured/tenured-track or non-tenured (lecturer)
		categories.
	Employee	Faculty (includes teaching associates/instructors – see
Type		Other under Tenure)
Турс		Management
		Staff
		Aid award type.
		Loan: Aid that must be repaid.
		Grant: Aid that is not repaid and usually based on
Туре	Financial Aid	financial need.
		Scholarship: Aid that is not repaid and usually based on
		academic merit.
		Athletic: Aid that is not repaid and based on
		participation on NCAA athletic teams.
		Work/Study: Aid that is earned by working and is
		disbursed via monthly paychecks.

Variable	Dashboards	Definition/Values
Underrepresented Minority (URM)	Admissions, Enrollment and Retention and Graduation Rates	Hispanic or Latino, African American, Native American, Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, or Multi-Racial with at least one of these four ethnicities.
Units (Average)	Enrollment	The average (mean) of total units for all students within a student level (e.g., undergraduate) for a given year.
Year(s)	All	Fall term for a given year. Degrees are for an academic year (summer, fall, winter and spring). Years is a range of fall terms across several years.
Years of Service	Employee	An employee's years of service from their most recent hire date. Breaks in service are not factored in. Therefore, the numbers may be skewed.
Yield Rate	Admissions	The percentage of selected students who enrolled. It's the number of enrolled students divided by the number of selected students.