California Community Colleges

Transfer Overview and Outcomes

February 2024

CCC Transfer Function & Context

The Transfer Function

Based on the CA Master Plan:

- A primary mission of the CCCs is providing instruction through the first two years of undergraduate education (lower division).

- The transfer function is an essential component of the commitment to access (to bachelor's degree programs).

- The CSU and UC are to establish transfer opportunities to the upper division for CCC students, and eligible CCC students are to be given priority in the admissions process.

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Key Transfer Policy Questions

Important questions to prioritize CCC Students & Close Equity Gaps:

- How many CCC students apply to transfer and what are their transfer admissions outcomes?

- How many CCC students transfer to 4-year institutions?

- What kind of preparation is needed to ensure that CCC students successfully transfer?

- What are the outcomes for CCC transfer students once they enroll in bachelor's degree institutions?

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Disparate Transfer Governance Contexts

CCC Chancellor's Office, CSU, and UC **separately**:

- Create transfer policies or guidance

- Work in partnership with their respective faculty and staff

- Manage system-specific student-level data

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CCC Transfer Data Availability

In the absence of a statewide data system, information on **individual** CCC transfer trajectories is limited.

- Data <u>available</u> to the CCCCO:
  - CCC course-taking
  - CCC unit accumulation
  - CCC credential completion
  - Transfer to a 4-year institution
  - Four-year completion date

- Data <u>unavailable</u> to the CCCCO:
  - Transfer application data
  - Four-year admissions criteria
  - Course-taking in the 4-year
  - Unit accumulation in the 4-year
  - Four-year time-to-completion

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Transfer Context for CCC Students

Students can transfer with <u>some combination</u> of the following:

Credentials

- No degree

- A traditional associate degree (e.g., AA or an AS)

- An Associate Degree for Transfer (most relevant to CSU)

Other Qualifications

- CSU General Education Breadth Pattern*

- Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum*

- UC Transfer Admission Guarantee*

- UC Transfer Pathways*

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* Indicates that there is no systematic data collection available for monitoring or evaluation.

CCC Transfer Outcomes

More CCC Students are Earning Associate Degrees

Academic Year	Traditional Associate Degree (A.A. or A.S.)	Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT)
2012-2013	72,849	5,172
2013-2014	75,214	11,356
2014-2015	68,645	19,294
2015-2016	70,254	28,639
2016-2017	71,774	36,101
2017-2018	76,325	43,953
2018-2019	84,294	50,915
2019-2020	86,610	58,689
2020-2021	86,658	62,922
2021-2022	85,027	58,351

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Source: Chancellor's Office Management Information System (COMIS)

There is a growing supply of transfer-aspiring CCC students.

- Approximately 160,000 associate degrees were conferred in 2019-2020.

- All completers may not want to transfer; however, the ~62,000 ADTs are most likely seeking to transfer (to a CSU) within two-years.

- Students can transfer without a degree, so data from transfer destination institutions is needed.

- It is not clear why students earn dual (associate) degrees, and the implications for CCC time-to-completion or 4-year (CSU) admission outcomes.

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CSU and UC Transfer Data

California's 116 Community Colleges serve 60% of all undergraduate students in California.

31% percent of University of California graduates started at a community college.

54% of California State University graduates started at a community college.

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CCC-CSU Transfer Applications and Enrollments are Increasing Steadily

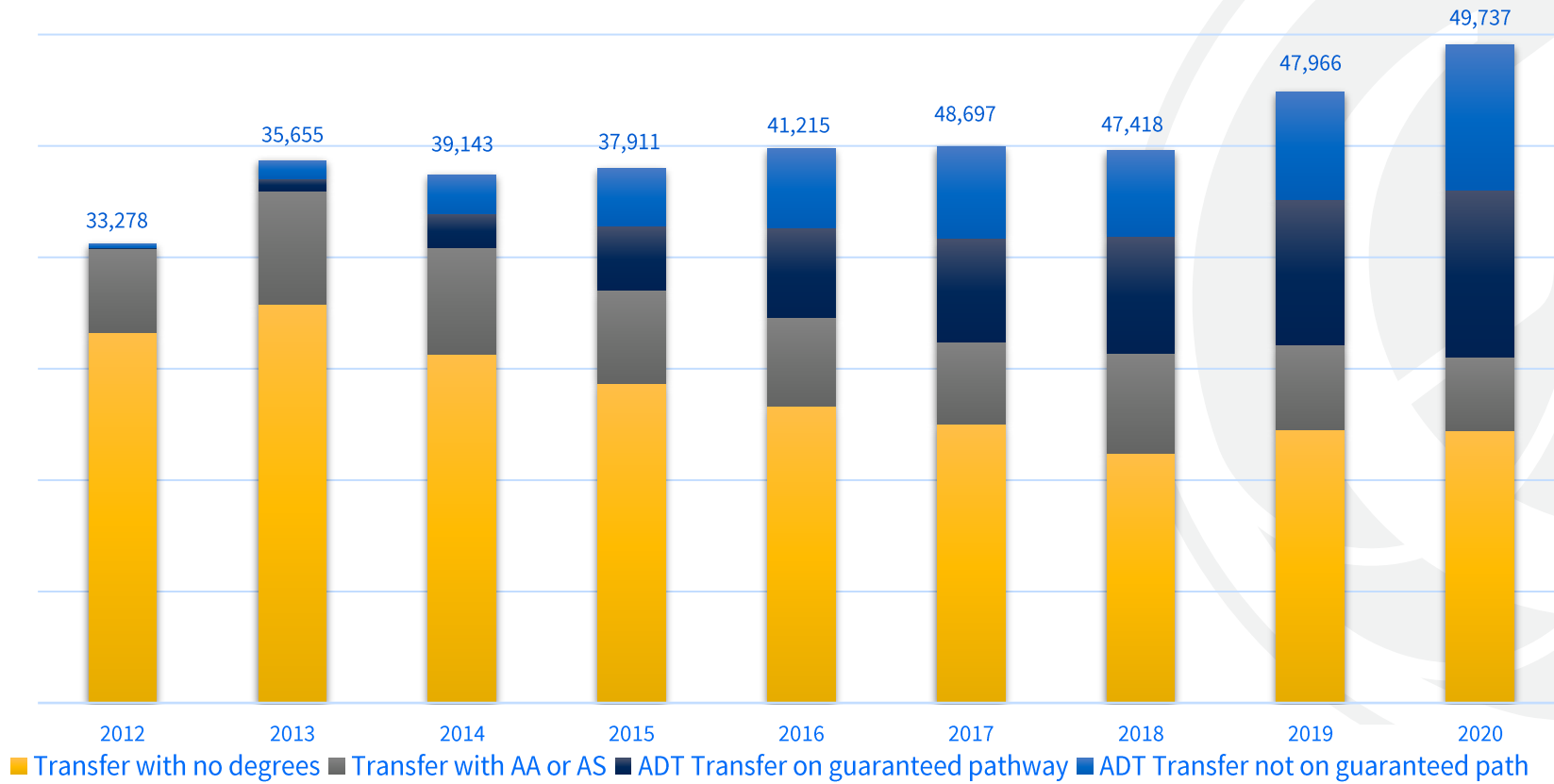The fall yield (enrolled/admitted) has hovered between 60% and 64.5% over the last 10-years.

Fall Term	Applied	Admitted	Enrolled
2012	88,720	67,610	41,215
2013	104,048	79,906	48,697
2014	101,575	76,839	47,418
2015	100,966	78,455	47,966
2016	103,306	82,197	49,737
2017	104,721	82,514	49,910
2018	97,467	77,223	49,859
2019	102,155	88,574	54,839
2020	102,287	91,938	59,029
2021	99,362	86,479	53,500
2022	86,958	76,996	46,323
2023	82,038	73,578	45,197

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Source: CSU Transfer Dashboard (2024)

Completion Profile of New Fall CCC-CSU Transfers

The number of ADT transfers with **and without** a guarantee is almost equal

Legend: ■ Transfer with no degrees ■ Transfer with AA or AS ■ ADT Transfer on guaranteed pathway ■ ADT Transfer not on guaranteed path

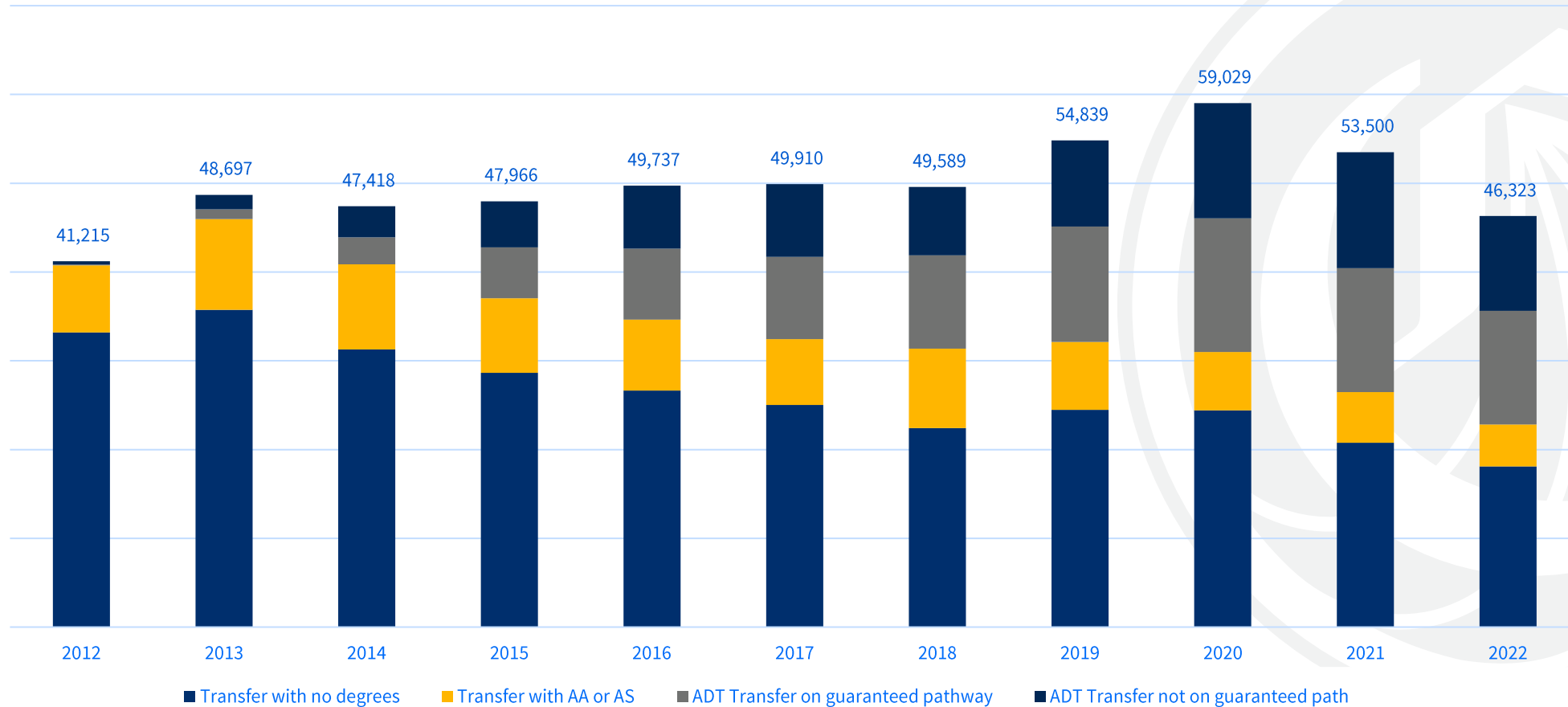**Source:** CSU Transfer Dashboard (2024)

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Completion Profile of New Fall CCC-CSU Transfers

The number of ADT transfers with **and without** a guarantee is almost equal

Legend: Transfer with no degrees · Transfer with AA or AS · ADT Transfer on guaranteed pathway · ADT Transfer not on guaranteed path

Data labels by year: 2012: 41,215 · 2013: 48,697 · 2014: 47,418 · 2015: 47,966 · 2016: 49,737 · 2017: 49,910 · 2018: 49,589 · 2019: 54,839 · 2020: 59,029 · 2021: 53,500 · 2022: 46,323
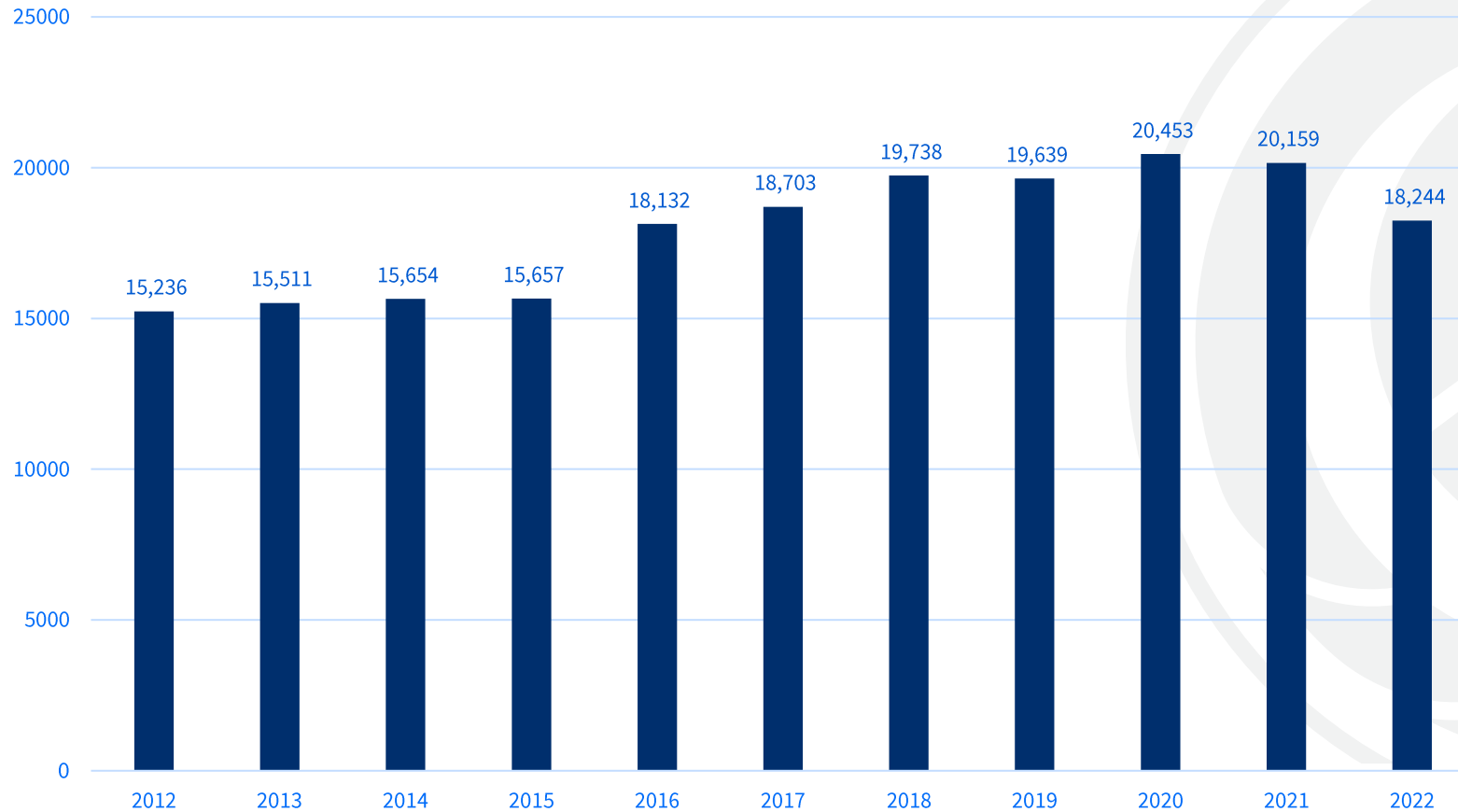
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CCC-UC Transfer Applications and Enrollments are Increasing Steadily

The yield (enrolled/admitted) has decreased slightly from 76% to 74%.

Fall Term	Applied	Admitted	Enrolled
2012	29,136	20,221	15,236
2013	29,208	20,309	15,511
2014	29,169	20,346	15,654
2015	29,630	20,532	15,657
2016	33,038	23,615	18,132
2017	32,259	24,393	18,703
2018	34,933	26,319	19,738
2019	35,280	26,470	19,066
2020	36,900	27,771	20,453
2021	38,917	28,208	20,159
2022	33,413	25,222	18,244

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New Fall CCC-UC Transfers are Increasing

There is no public information on the CCC completion profile of transfers

Year	Transfers
2012	15,236
2013	15,511
2014	15,654
2015	15,657
2016	18,132
2017	18,703
2018	19,738
2019	19,639
2020	20,453
2021	20,159
2022	18,244

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Policy Implications of Transfer Data

- The steady increase in CSU and UC applications and admission suggests an increase in perceived and confirmed preparation by the CCC system.

- The completion profile of CCC transfers to the CSU does not mirror policy aspirations to increase:
  - Attainment at transfer, and
  - Transfer with a guarantee

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