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Here are some of the important ways in which the public's investment in the California State University system provides exceptional returns.

Affordable Costs:

While the cost of a college education is a concern for most students and their families, the California State University provides a high-quality education that is far less than the cost of the national public university average, as evidenced below.

"STICKER" AND "NET" TUITION & FEES*	
Average tuition and fee "sticker" charged to private four-year full-time undergraduates in academic year 2008-09	\$22,449
Average tuition and fee "sticker" charged to public 4-year full-time in-state undergraduates in academic year 2008-09	\$6,319
Average tuition and fee "sticker" charged to all CSU full-time undergraduates in academic year 2008-09	\$3,826
Average tuition and fee "net" paid by CSU full-time undergraduates in academic year 2008-09	\$2,393
CSU "net" percent of "sticker" tuition & fees	63%

**The "sticker" price is the university's average tuition and fees charged to full-time undergraduates; the "net" price is the amount actually paid, on average, by a CSU full-time undergraduate after grants and scholarships.*

Access to All Students

The CSU is the nation's most diverse university system and the largest recipient of Pell awards in the country, with more than 118,000 students receiving grants. The CSU's percentage of undergraduate Pell Grant recipients is 34 percent, greater than the national average of 30 percent.

Economic Diversity: Access & Completion

BACHELOR'S DEGREE AWARDS BY RACIAL AND ETHNIC BACKGROUND		
RACIAL/ETHNIC BACKGROUND	CSU	% OF STATE
African American/Black	3,708	48%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	629	53%
Asian/Pacific Islander	12,972	38%
Latino	15,389	54%
White, Non-Latino	29,891	46%
International	2,521	44%
Other Ethnicity/Unknown	9,533	52%
Total	74,643	46%

UNDERGRADUATE PELL GRANT RECIPIENTS (2007-08)	
CSU Undergraduates	407,881
CSU Undergraduate Pell Grant Recipients	118,272
CSU Pell Percentage of Undergraduates	34%
National Pell Percentage of Undergraduates	30%
CSU Bachelor's Degrees	74,643
CSU Pell & Degree Recipients	27,907
Pell Percentage of Bachelor's Degree Recipients	37%

Lower Loan Debt

CSU students' loan debt upon graduation is significantly less than the national average, with only 42 percent of CSU students carrying a debt of approximately \$14,000 at graduation while the national average stands at 62 percent with an average debt of \$23,000.

PERCENT OF 2007-08 BACCALAUREATE RECIPIENTS WHO ASSUMED LOAN DEBT

CSU Percentage	42%
State Percentage	48%
National Percentage	62%

AVERAGE LOAN DEBT OF 2007-08 BACCALAUREATE RECIPIENTS WHO ASSUMED LOAN DEBT

CSU Average	\$14,330
State Average	\$17,795
National Average	\$23,200

Higher Salaries

CSU students' starting and mid-career salaries are in line with national averages.

SALARIES OF BACCALAUREATE RECIPIENTS: P academic year SCALE 2010

National average starting median salary of graduates from the top 175 public universities	\$45,794
CSU graduates' average starting median salary	\$45,240
National average mid-career median salary of graduates from the top 175 public universities	\$81,551
CSU graduates' average mid-career median salary	\$80,120

Workforce Contributions

The CSU provides California's industries with highly-qualified, well-prepared college graduates. The CSU awards nearly half of all the bachelor's degrees awarded by all of the universities, public and private, in the state and nearly one-third of all the master's degrees.

DEGREES GRANTED 2008-09		
TOTAL DEGREE AWARDS	CSU	% OF STATE
Bachelor's	74,643	46%
Master's	18,926	30%
Doctoral	85	1%
Total	93,654	40%

BACHELOR'S DEGREE AWARDS IN HIGH DEMAND FIELDS		
FIELD	CSU	% OF STATE
Agriculture	882	62%
Business and Professional Services	16,533	54%
Criminal Justice	2,546	72%
Education	2,227	78%
Engineering	3,879	45%
Information Technology	1,212	28%
Life Sciences	7,083	39%
Media/Culture/Design	8,639	43%
Nursing	2,326	56%
Public Administration	1,494	57%
Tourism and Hospitality Management	465	94%