

8QLYHUVLW\ &RXQFLO RQ 7HDFKLQJ  
5HSRUW DQG 5HFRPPHQGDWLRQ V DRGH \* &RPSHU HQVOLDRQ DW % F  
\$SULO

,QWURGXFWRQ

7KH 8QLYHUVLW\ &RXQGLE\ RYKH FBDFRKYLRQVWZ DFR DFRNHN LQW  
JUDGH FRPSUHVVLQR DW % RYFRPQ & R G DQVLRDQVQV WQR/RPDKNDW  
EH ZDUUDQWHG DU B PISIOHI [OQLVQ RCHSDWA BI HGXFDWLRQ D  
QRW UHVWULFWHG WR %RVWRQ & B O G H J K H ) U Q X W K D V S R X J H W D  
JUDGHV DQG WKH QXPEHU B G \$ O J U D G F H V H D W H G & G K D V Q V W W K H C  
DYHUDJH JUDGH RI WKH JUDG B D V R Y Q J J F O D V Y K I H Q Q X P E H U R I S  
JUDGHV LQFUHDVHG IURP LQ WR

WUHGGV FRQWLQXH JUDGH DFRPSDWHVW RQVZS O B E I X H W D Q G H  
HIILDFD\ DV DQ HGXFDWLRQ D V D R R I O D V , L C H D G G E R S D R Q W W E H W  
GHSDUWPHQWV DQG HFK B B O H V D W 7 K & V ) E D X U X H M D D V Q G I D L L Y H Q M  
D GHSDUWPHQW ZLWK L Q H O O L W K R B G J U R D G H D G X D W H L D W H Z U L W O K K R  
RWKHU EHQHILWV DVVRFLDWH X I G H Z L W W K L Q L G H S D D O H P V Q W K D Q L V

7KH 8&7 YLHZV WKH FRQWLQX D G H V U D Q G R I K E R S H K U B M G W D J  
% & D V D S U R E O H P J U D G X D D W L \* B Q V R W W R P D V E H D F L O D H W U B M K D Q U D L  
DFDGHPLF FKDOOHQJHV DQG H [ S H F W D W L R Q V I R U R X U V W X G  
E \ V L P S O \ U D L V L Q J J U D G H S / H U E X U Y H W D G H L O W W H P O H Q R X D O F K  
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WKH FKDOOHQJH + R Z H Y M U D E R P S I O F L J Q V E H H W K H O D J U D G L Q  
SHGDJRJ\ % R V W R Q & R O O H J H Q H Z H G R R M R D F R Q K D O H Z H W D U N L G  
V W X G H Q W V ± D Q G K R V Z D D V L Q R Q V W K I O B H H [ S W R J U D G G H L Q Q O D W B  
D O D U J H U V \ V W H P L F S U R E O H P H B R O O L Y H G V W B W W W D F K Q Q J D F W L  
L Q I O D W L R Q Z L W K R X W F R Q R U G H V L O L N H O V D Q Q D W R R S O M R S H V  
Z H R I I H U W K H I R O O R Z L Q J U B M R P P W Q H S D W L R Q W D V Q L E P H G D N H  
D Z D U H Q H V V R I W K H S U R E O H P D W % & V X Q G D F R J S V R P R K W H F G E S

5HFRPPHQGDWLRQV

7R KHOS FRQWURV K I H V B W Q R Q Y D Q G J D F R S L C H O D W R Q D W %  
& R O O H J H W K H 8 & 7 P D N Q V W I K G R Z H F R P P H Q G D O L J R I W K D W W K  
U H F R P P H Q G D W L R Q V L I L P S H S E B Q D V G G J H D V H Q E J X W K H I S U R E O V  
I H H O W K H V H U H F R P P H Q G D W L R Q V F D Q E H X Q G H U W D N H Q H D V  
W K H P D V W R W D O V R O X W L Y R Q W K H R W K R X S O G R E O E S V Z R I E W I Q J H I  
L V V X H R Q F D P S X V 7 K H V G R W H Q R I Z P B I Q G D W L R Q V \ Z D H V D U H V  
U H F R P P H Q G D W L R Q V S U R Y Q L R X W G X E P D G H P S E W W K B X R F D W K R Q D O  
3 R O L F \ & R P P L W W H H ( 3 & L Q R X U N Q R Z B Z I G Y H U W K R V H U H F R P P  
Q H Y H U H Q D F W H G

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,W LV FOHDU WR WIOHDBN&7RWNKQ/RZVWKBUIH DERXW JUDGHV  
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UHODWLYH WR P\ SHHUV DUGV DUTXH YV IORQV RWHQSUREO  
VWHS LV WR SURYLGH GGMAD VRQ IDFXLOHVAWD QBXFK/DLUV  
UFRPPHQQ WKDW DW WKKHHHQGJLRMWHUDDFK SWRPHYLVGHHWKH  
IDFXOW\ ZLWK FRSLHV WR FKDLUV DQG GHDQV

7KH HQUROOPHQW LQ HDFK FRXUVH WDXJKW  
7KH DYHUDJH DQG PHGLDQ JUDGH LQ HDFK FRXUVH  
7KH GLVWULEXWLRQ RG DQVWHWUP VURD GERWV K [SUKHIVQKI  
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PHPEHUV FRXOG LQVWDDWDE XWHLRQKR UUHJDFKGR&UVH E  
VXEPLVLRQ 7KH 8&7 VXSBBUJHW WVKIDWLGMDPDE XWDNH  
LPSOHPHQW WKDQ VLPSON SURYLGLQJ VXPPDULHV DW W

,QLWLDWH ZLGH GLVFXVLRQ RI JUDGHV DQG JUDGLQJ  
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2QFH JXLGHOLQGV WKH\HWKRDQGLVIRFBQDIXIDFFXOWH  
GHSDUWPHQW LQFOXGLQJSDUWVWVLPVHIDQFXOW\WKHO  
QHZHU IDFXOW\ SDUW&FXQBQORIZJUDFRLPQHJQRILPFFV  
OLWWOH LGHD RI KRZ WKHLU FROOHDJXHV JUDGHG  
(DFK VFKRRO VKRXOGGGMADQDQUPK LSHUKDSWUXQGHU  
RI DQoc FRPPLWVHH RU WKHLU (3&TV 7KH /DZ 6FKR  
DQG KDV HVWDEOLVKHGHENUDQXDRXU&HQMQMNVIR  
ERWK ODUJHU DQG VPDOOHU FODVVHV  
)DFXOW\ REYLRXVO\ QGHGLVWHI IORFLQRLPWA WRRZH  
IDFXOW\ PHPEHU GHYIEDWKHIGRSQVRUPHQWHWKDW  
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UHDVRQV IRU WKH GHYLDWLRQ /LNHZLVH FKDLUV

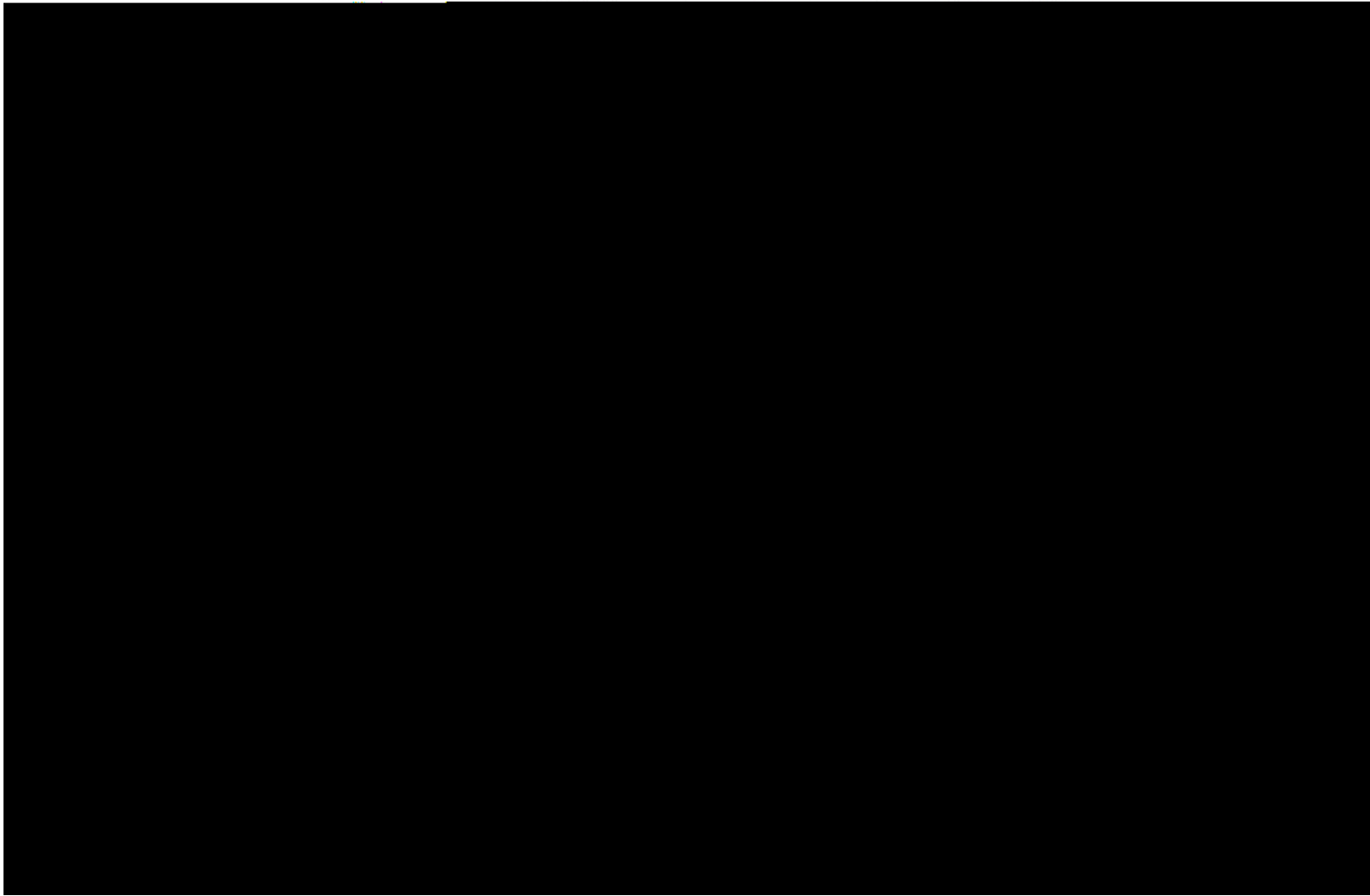
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)DFXOW\ VKRXOG EH DMNHJGDGR UGLOQHWMEFLWLRQXGH  
HYDOXDWLRQV DQ SDYVHZI SWKRFHDQQKDFK \H DU

\$UH 7KHVH 0HDVXUHV 1HFHVVDU\"

LPSO\ WKDW WKH DFDGHPLR IH 1/8H FDFXVLRQKDDY G U S P D Q H G G  
VWXGHQWV KDYH JRWYQH Q F W W H D B Z O Y B E S W W M S H H D L W H W R K D Y H  
JUHDWHU WKDQ WKH ULVHJ H Q W H L Q W H W K D W B S T E R Q W U H U S H Q R W  
VWDWLF EXW GHFOLQL Q Q W H Q W H B W R D P X O D F K B O D H Q Q J L Q J F D  
7KH DUJXPHQW WKDW E D F R O W H O D F R U I R Q F H I Q Q V L V B G L V R Z D  
ORUH ULJRURXV JUDGLQJ L W H V P R K R X W W W G W R W R F R P S X O D W Q I H D U  
VWXGHQWV PD\ UDQN WKHP O T K L H U L R Q W K R X U J K M H W R D G K D S V L L R V  
IRU QRQ WHQXUH G D Q G S D U H W D W L F H W D B R O W K D W B O Z H M G U L W H  
EHWWHU FRXUVH HYDOXDW X B C H P S L U Q R V O V X S / S K R U L W M G J E D F F X O  
VWXGHQWV D Q G K R O G W K H W K R K R J K H U D G L V Q X G H D Q W M R B O X R  
REYLRXV WKDW W W K H W H X G F Q W U P H S E I F W V , I W K H U H Z H U F  
JUDGLQJ HVWDEOLVKHG E\ G H S Y D L W X B M Q W Q D Q G L V G F J K R R D M D F S  
JUDGLQJ ZRXOG QRW EH D Q L V V X H

&ORVLQJ VWDWHPHQW

7R FRQWURO JUDG H H L V Q I L R O W L R O O D O H L W R V I U R R P W I K O G 8 Q I L G X  
PHPEHUV WR GHSDUWPHQ W G O W K K I D 3 L W R Y R / F W R R O I G I H F H Q Q H B G  
WKLVSUREOHP 7KH 8&7 W W H R S P I D G B V H W E K H H W D R S H Q H D V D I L  
DGGUHVVLQJ WKLVSUREOHP L V V X H D W % & : H K R S H W K D W E \ P D N L Q  
VROLG JUDGH GLVWULEX W Q B Q J G D W Q H O Q Q L W H O F R V L R D Q I R Q J W K  
8 Q L Y H U V L W \ Z L R O Z E K H H D X E S Z H W G R W S L U D O R I J U D G H V D Q G D F K  
GLVWULEXWLRQ



The above graph is a composite of 80 years of undergraduate grading in the US. Schools represented are listed below. This work would not have been possible without the help of many people including registrars, institutional assessment staff, archivists and random people who decided to search on the web and send me data. Thanks to all, Stuart Rojstaczer, [stuart.rosh@gmail.com](mailto:stuart.rosh@gmail.com).

Figure 1

**Schools Represented**

Alabama 1991-2006  
Appalachian State 1968-2006  
Auburn 1924-2006  
Carleton 1974-2004  
Central Florida 1976-2006  
Central Michigan 1977-2006  
Colorado 1989-2006  
Cornell 1990-2006  
CSU-East Bay 1980-1999  
CSU-Fullerton 1976-2005  
CSU-San Bernardino 1965-2006  
Dartmouth 1989-2006  
Duke 1932-1960, 1969-2001  
Florida 1989

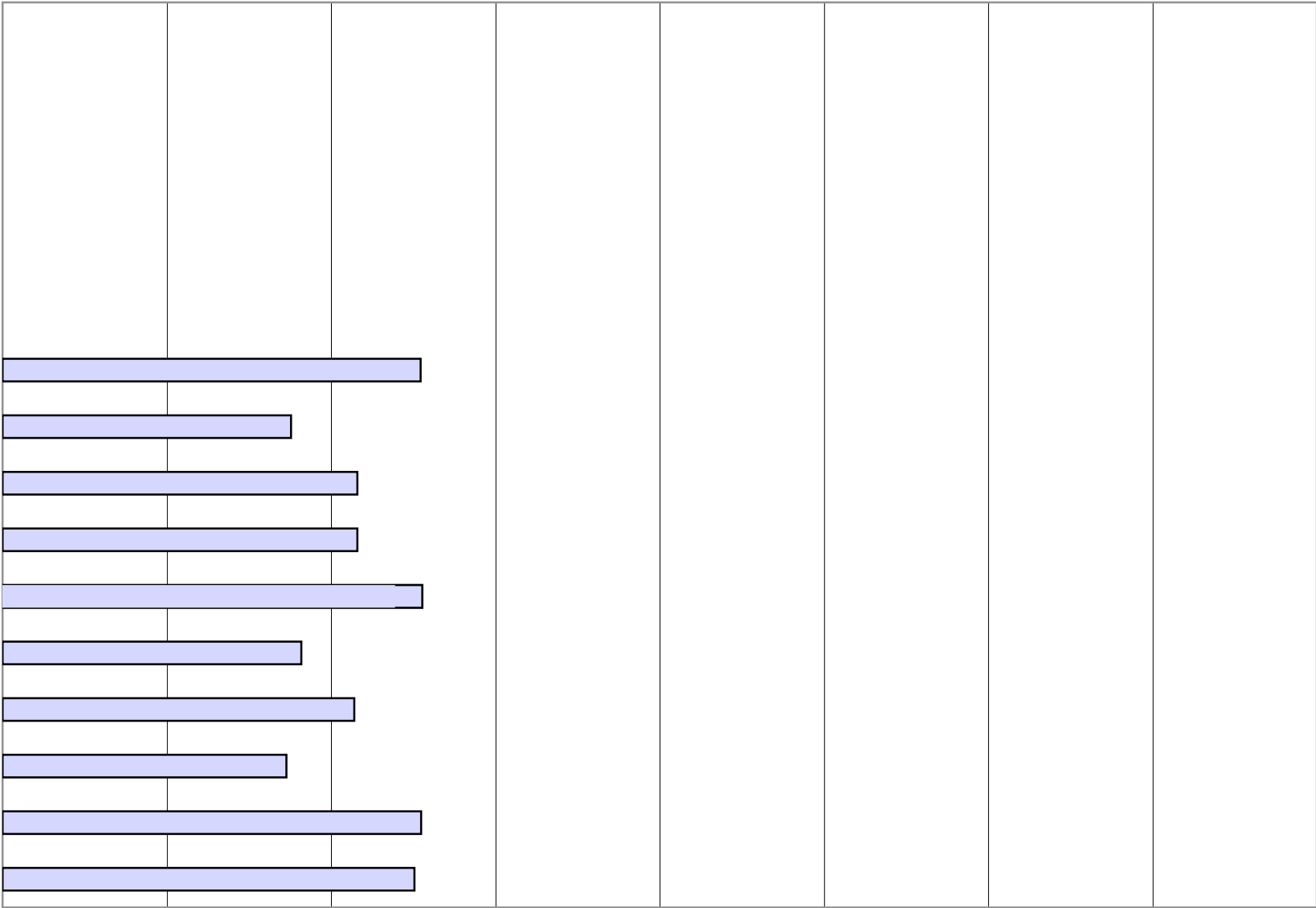


Figure 2