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survey title:
How Did You Choose Where to Apply to Grad School? Edit Title   design survey   collect responses   analyze results

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| 1. Academic Program | | | Create Chart | Download |

	Deciding Factor	Contributing Factor	Not Substantial Factor	Response Count
availability of interesting courses	15.6% (12)	**53.2% (41)**	31.2% (24)	77
presence/absence of comprehensive/qualifying exams	1.3% (1)	24.7% (19)	**74.0% (57)**	77
course requirements	1.3% (1)	36.0% (27)	**62.7% (47)**	75
time to take until completion	3.9% (3)	**48.1% (37)**	**48.1% (37)**	77
specialty degree programs in my research area	**48.1% (37)**	27.3% (21)	24.7% (19)	77
strong industry affiliations with department/university	9.1% (7)	26.0% (20)	**64.9% (50)**	77
other	29.3% (12)	2.4% (1)	**68.3% (28)**	41

Hide replies (please specify)   15

1.	location/specific supervisor	Sun, Sep 13, 2009 12:32 AM	Find...
2.	moving to academia	Sun, Sep 13, 2009 12:00 AM	Find...
3.	availability of specific professor(s)	Sat, Sep 12, 2009 10:01 PM	Find...
4.	Prestige of the school	Fri, Sep 11, 2009 1:54 PM	Find...
5.	It is close to where I moved (and could not find work)	Fri, Sep 11, 2009 1:37 PM	Find...

25 responses per page

answered question   **77**

skipped question   **0**

1. Academic Program

6.	Faculty reputation	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 10:44 PM	Find...
7.	reputation - national ranking	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 8:57 PM	Find...
8.	interdisciplinary linguistics/cog psych/computer sci	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 12:00 PM	Find...
9.	The presence of a certain faculty/researcher whose work I adored. Fortunately, he's now my advisor.	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 6:54 AM	Find...
10.	reputation of school, department, individual professor in program	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 6:53 AM	Find...
11.	Undergrad faculty recommendations	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 10:15 PM	Find...
12.	the quality of academic staffs (e.g. professors)	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 7:14 PM	Find...
13.	Whether I felt like I could get in: I did my undergrad at a small (but academically rigorous) religious liberal arts school, and didn't apply to tier 1 programs (probably underselling myself)	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 6:29 PM	Find...
14.	i mainly looked for professors whose work i liked. i didn't apply for work in nlp though (i'm computational cognitive science).	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 3:49 PM	Find...
15.	strong connections with other deparments (linguistics, statistics, ee)	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 3:20 PM	Find...

25 responses per page

answered question	**77**
skipped question	**0**

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2. Application Process

	Deciding Factor	Contributing Factor	Not Substantial Factor	Response Count
application cost (too expensive, or cheap/free)	6.5% (5)	26.0% (20)	**67.5% (52)**	77
ease of application (too time-consuming/annoying, or very easy)	11.7% (9)	29.9% (23)	**58.4% (45)**	77
application deadline (e.g., too early or inconvenient)	13.2% (10)	31.6% (24)	**55.3% (42)**	76
other	10.8% (4)	2.7% (1)	**86.5% (32)**	37

Hide replies (please specify)   4

1.	application quality (subj): can I accurately represent myself within these constraints?	Sat, Sep 12, 2009 10:01 PM	Find...
2.	TOEFL is a stupid test and should be abolished.	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 6:54 AM	Find...

answered question	**77**
skipped question	**0**

2. Application Process   **Download**

3. I largely avoided upper level math courses as an undergrad, and as   Wed, Sep 9, 2009 6:29 PM   🔍 Find...
a result did very poorly on the CS GRE, so I avoided programs that
required that score to be submitted (e.g., Berkeley)

4. Other requirements: GRE, TOEFL, etc.   Wed, Sep 9, 2009 5:44 PM   🔍 Find...

answered question	**77**
skipped question	**0**

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3. Faculty Member(s)   **Download**

	Deciding Factor	Contributing Factor	Not Substantial Factor	Response Count
read research papers by faculty member	**44.2% (34)**	42.9% (33)	13.0% (10)	77
have friend who works with faculty member	14.5% (11)	23.7% (18)	**61.8% (47)**	76
heard talk by faculty member at technical conference	13.2% (10)	32.9% (25)	**53.9% (41)**	76
heard talk by faculty member at your undergraduate school	10.7% (8)	28.0% (21)	**61.3% (46)**	75
used textbook written by faculty member	9.3% (7)	34.7% (26)	**56.0% (42)**	75
other	25.6% (10)	7.7% (3)	**66.7% (26)**	39
💬 Hide replies (please specify)				13

1. research by faculty member in area of interest   Sun, Sep 13, 2009 12:00 AM   🔍 Find...

2. When I met the chair, she was very helpful. Didn't put me off the   Fri, Sep 11, 2009 1:37 PM   🔍 Find...
course, at least.

3. reputation in field   Thu, Sep 10, 2009 10:44 PM   🔍 Find...

4. research careers and prominence of former students of faculty   Thu, Sep 10, 2009 8:12 PM   🔍 Find...
member

5. i chose my school because of my advisor   Thu, Sep 10, 2009 4:43 PM   🔍 Find...

6. areas of interest of faculty (depth and breadth)   Thu, Sep 10, 2009 12:00 PM   🔍 Find...

7. faculty members with my specific areas of interest   Thu, Sep 10, 2009 11:14 AM   🔍 Find...

8. qualified faculty   Wed, Sep 9, 2009 10:47 PM   🔍 Find...

25 responses per page

answered question	**77**
skipped question	**0**

3. Faculty Member(s)   **Create Chart**   **Download**

9.	Faculty members' research interests as described by UG faculty	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 10:15 PM	Find...
10.	publications at prestigious conferences/journals	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 7:14 PM	Find...
11.	have faculty member(s) working in my research area	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 5:44 PM	Find...
12.	reputation of faculty member in discipline's community	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 4:48 PM	Find...
13.	met faculty member	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 4:01 PM	Find...

25 responses per page

answered question   **77**

skipped question   **0**

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4. Geographic Area   **Create Chart**   **Download**

	Deciding Factor	Contributing Factor	Not Substantial Factor	Response Count
wanted or needed to stay near employer	6.5% (5)	13.0% (10)	**80.5% (62)**	77
locality to industry	3.9% (3)	22.4% (17)	**73.7% (56)**	76
locality to other universities	1.3% (1)	30.3% (23)	**68.4% (52)**	76
family reasons (e.g., significant other, 2-body problem, relatives, etc.)	25.0% (19)	28.9% (22)	**46.1% (35)**	76
outside interests/personal preference	15.6% (12)	**50.6% (39)**	33.8% (26)	77
other	10.8% (4)	13.5% (5)	**75.7% (28)**	37

Hide replies (please specify)   7

1.	weather, language	Sun, Sep 13, 2009 12:32 AM	Find...
2.	weather	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 10:44 PM	Find...
3.	Grad school must be in a metropolitan city like Toronto!	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 8:57 PM	Find...
4.	fun to go abroad (is that outside interests?)	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 12:00 PM	Find...
5.	state school expense, expense of daily living, time commuting	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 6:53 AM	Find...
6.	Online program	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 6:56 PM	Find...
7.	friends in area (similar to family reasons?)	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 4:48 PM	Find...

answered question   **77**

skipped question   **0**

5. Recommendations from People

	Deciding Factor	Contributing Factor	Not Substantial Factor	Response Count
professors in technical area	**44.7% (34)**	35.5% (27)	19.7% (15)	76
teachers/academic advisors	32.0% (24)	**50.7% (38)**	17.3% (13)	75
non-academic employer	5.3% (4)	18.7% (14)	**76.0% (57)**	75
technical colleagues (e.g., fellow students or co-workers that study/work in the same area as you)	19.7% (15)	36.8% (28)	**43.4% (33)**	76
non-technical friends or family members	2.7% (2)	33.8% (25)	**63.5% (47)**	74
other	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	**100.0% (36)**	36
			(please specify)	0
			answered question	**76**
			skipped question	**1**

6. Reputation   **Create Chart**   **Download**

	Deciding Factor	Contributing Factor	Not Substantial Factor	Response Count
ranking of university	35.1% (27)	**44.2% (34)**	20.8% (16)	77
general reputation of university	33.8% (26)	**59.7% (46)**	6.5% (5)	77
reputation of department/college	**50.6% (39)**	42.9% (33)	6.5% (5)	77
reputation of research group	**61.0% (47)**	28.6% (22)	10.4% (8)	77
other	5.9% (2)	0.0% (0)	**94.1% (32)**	34
		Hide replies	(please specify)	2

1.	reputation of my advisor	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 10:44 PM	Find...
2.	eminent faculty in research area (a.k.a. potential mentors)	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 4:01 PM	Find...

answered question	**77**
skipped question	**0**

7. Research Group   <u>Create Chart</u>   <u>Download</u>

	Deciding Factor	Contributing Factor	Not Substantial Factor	Response Count
many faculty/students in a specialty area (e.g., machine learning)	**44.2% (34)**	**44.2% (34)**	11.7% (9)	77
many faculty/students in a general area (e.g., artificial intelligence)	32.5% (25)	**46.8% (36)**	20.8% (16)	77
research group publishes a lot	26.3% (20)	**44.7% (34)**	28.9% (22)	76
research group works on interesting problems	**55.3% (42)**	35.5% (27)	9.2% (7)	76
other	3.0% (1)	9.1% (3)	**87.9% (29)**	33
			Hide replies (please specify)	3

1.	cross-fertilization between research groups	Sat, Sep 12, 2009 10:01 PM	Find...
2.	Its small size makes it less intimidating.	Fri, Sep 11, 2009 1:37 PM	Find...
3.	(more) gender-balanced research group	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 7:30 PM	Find...

                                            answered question   **77**

                                            skipped question   **0**

7. Research Group   <u>Create Chart</u>   <u>Download</u>

answered question   **77**

skipped question   **0**

8. Web Presence   <u>Create Chart</u>   <u>Download</u>

	Deciding Factor	Contributing Factor	Not Substantial Factor	Response Count
learned about research group via web search	36.8% (28)	**47.4% (36)**	15.8% (12)	76
learned about department/university via web search	24.0% (18)	**41.3% (31)**	34.7% (26)	75
was turned on/off by research group's web site	12.0% (9)	40.0% (30)	**48.0% (36)**	75
was turned on/off by department/university's web site	5.3% (4)	37.3% (28)	**57.3% (43)**	75
other	0.0% (0)	5.9% (2)	**94.1% (32)**	34

Hide replies (please specify)   3

1.	i applied before the WWW (though not before the internet!)	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 12:00 PM	Find...
2.	My advisor has barely updated his homepage from 2000 but everything I wanted know about him was in the ACL anthology.	Thu, Sep 10, 2009 6:54 AM	Find...
3.	some departments had terrible web sites, which I took as a reflection of their program (I probably gave it more weight than I should have, given what I know now)	Wed, Sep 9, 2009 6:29 PM	Find...

answered question   **76**

skipped question   **1**

9. General   <u>Create Chart</u>   <u>Download</u>

	Deciding Factor	Contributing Factor	Not Substantial Factor	Response Count
history of successful startup creation at school	1.3% (1)	21.1% (16)	**77.6% (59)**	76
size of department/university	5.3% (4)	**55.3% (42)**	39.5% (30)	76
diversity of faculty/students at department/university	10.5% (8)	39.5% (30)	**50.0% (38)**	76

answered question   **77**

skipped question   **0**

9. General   <u>Create Chart</u>   <u>Download</u>

high likelihood of being accepted (e.g., safe school)	11.8% (9)	**55.3% (42)**	32.9% (25)	76
low likelihood of being accepted (e.g., don't want to waste money/time)	6.6% (5)	40.8% (31)	**52.6% (40)**	76
existing friends/colleagues in the research group or dept	9.2% (7)	26.3% (20)	**64.5% (49)**	76
funding availability (easy/hard to obtain, long-term guarantees, etc.)	**49.4% (38)**	26.0% (20)	24.7% (19)	77
other	0.0% (0)	3.2% (1)	**96.8% (30)**	31

💬 Hide replies   (please specify)   1

1.   I should have thought more about funding   Thu, Sep 10, 2009 8:12 AM   🔍 Find...

answered question   **77**

skipped question   **0**

10. Optional Demographic Information (sorry for the awkward phrasing to make these fit as yes/no questions)   <u>Create Chart</u>   <u>Download</u>

	Yes	No	Response Count
did you apply to grad school before the year 2000?	15.8% (12)	**84.2% (64)**	76
is your research area machine learning and/or nlp?	**80.5% (62)**	19.5% (15)	77
are you male?	**85.7% (66)**	14.3% (11)	77
is your undergraduate degree from north america?	**62.3% (48)**	37.7% (29)	77
did you go to graduate school in north america?	**72.7% (56)**	27.3% (21)	77
did you go directly to graduate school from undergrad?	**50.6% (39)**	49.4% (38)	77

answered question   **77**

skipped question   **0**