

Whose Graduates are Getting Jobs in Linguistics?

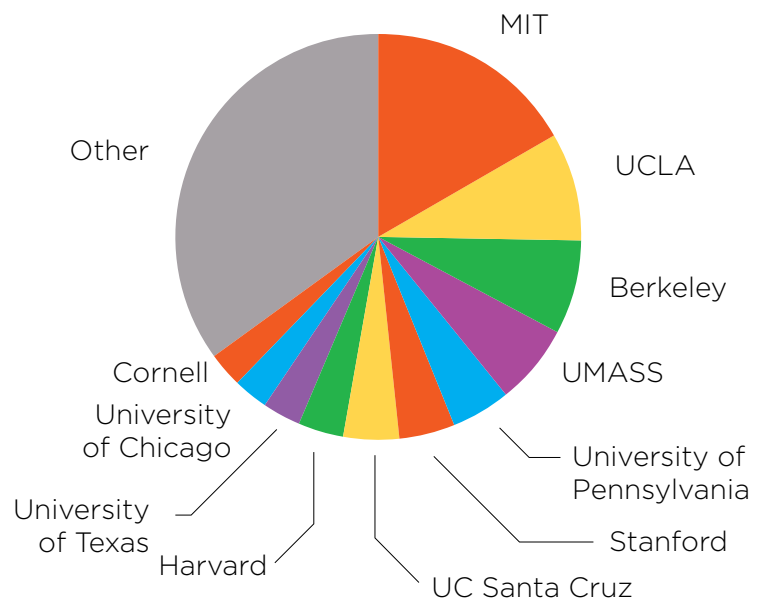
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On the following few pages I present some data discovered during my search for a graduate linguistics program. Essentially, one night I decided that I would take a representative sample of around 400 professors' CVs and webpages to determine where they got their degrees from and when they graduated.

I recently went back through the data and weeded out a large number (about 80) of professors from the sample because they did not earn their degrees at a US-based school or they didn't earn their degrees in a linguistics department. Some of these professors came from Slavic, Romance, or Germanic linguistics departments, and as I was not applying to any language family-specific programs, it seemed most reasonable to exclude these from the study. Additionally, a number of graduates from Canadian universities were excluded because I was not looking into attending a university in Canada. As for sampling, I selected a relatively equal number of schools of employment in the following areas of the country: northeast, southeast, midwest, southwest, California, and northwest. As the number of programs is not equal within these regions, the number of schools sampled was not identical across regions. That being said, I believe the sampling method reflects the distribution of linguists in linguistics departments across the US with reasonable accuracy. As for the specific universities selected, I was biased towards larger public universities, but smaller, as well as private institutions from a variety of regions were also included in the study. While the universities chosen tended to be large, public universities, the linguistics programs sampled ranged from small, interdisciplinary programs to large departments.

The findings presented below are constrained by a number of factors. First and most importantly, only general linguistics programs were sampled. Second, only active professors were included in this study. Professors emeritus, lecturers, and post-docs were thus excluded.

Note: I do not offer any interpretation of the data, although I realize that any presentation of data necessarily involves some amount of interpretation. The format and presentation of these findings were intended to make the data accessible without accompanying text.



**Portion of Employed Professors
by School Attended**

Number of Alumni who are Active Professors with Rankings

| School | Jobs | Rank |
|-----------------------|------|------|
| MIT | 54 | 1 |
| UCLA | 28 | 2 |
| UC Berkeley | 24 | 3 |
| UMASS | 21 | 4 |
| UPenn | 15 | 5 |
| Stanford | 14 | 6 |
| UC Santa Cruz | 14 | |
| Harvard | 12 | 8 |
| University of Texas | 10 | 9 |
| University of Chicago | 9 | 10 |
| Cornell | 9 | |
| Arizona | 8 | 12 |
| Indiana | 8 | |
| Ohio State | 8 | |
| Illinois | 7 | 15 |
| UC San Diego | 6 | 16 |
| Washington | 6 | |
| Maryland | 5 | 18 |
| NYU | 5 | |
| Rutgers | 5 | |
| Michigan | 4 | 21 |
| Northwestern | 4 | |
| Stonybrook | 4 | |
| USC | 4 | |
| UConn | 4 | |

| School | Jobs | Rank |
|-----------------------|------------|------|
| Colorado | 3 | 26 |
| Johns Hopkins | 3 | |
| Yale | 3 | |
| Brown | 2 | 29 |
| Columbia | 2 | |
| CUNY | 2 | |
| Duke | 2 | |
| Mighigan State | 2 | |
| South Carolina | 2 | |
| UNC | 2 | |
| Boston University | 1 | 36 |
| Delaware | 1 | |
| Georgetown | 1 | |
| Kansas | 1 | |
| Minnesota | 1 | |
| Oregon | 1 | |
| Penn State | 1 | |
| UC Davis | 1 | |
| University of Florida | 1 | |
| University of Georgia | 1 | |
| UT Dallas | 1 | |
| Wisconsin | 1 | |
| Total | 323 | |

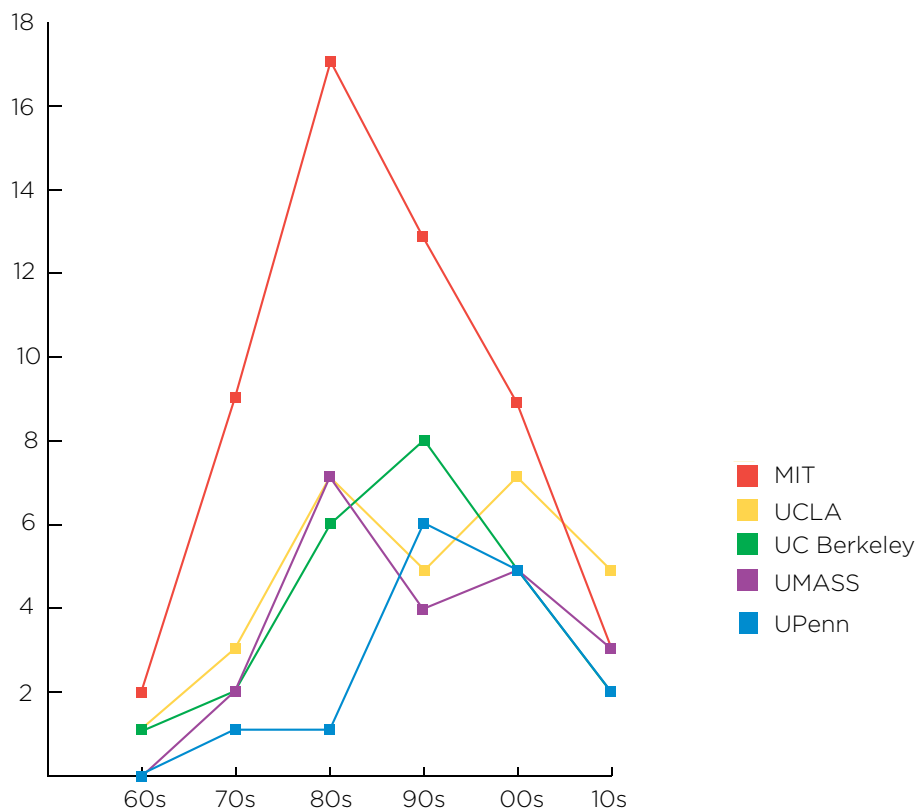
Job Placement by Decade of Degree Earned (only top 10)

| School | Decade | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1960s | 1970s | 1980s | 1990s | 2000s | 2010s |
| MIT | 2 | 9 | 17 | 13 | 9 | 3 |
| UCLA | 1 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 5 |
| UC Berkeley | 1 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 2 |
| UMASS | 0 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| UPenn | 0 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 2 |
| Stanford | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 1 |
| UC Santa Cruz | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 6 | 3 |
| Harvard | 0 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| University of Texas | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| University of Chicago | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Cornell | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

General Job Placement by Decade of Degree Earned

| Decade | Number of Jobs |
|--------|----------------|
| 1960s | 5 |
| 1970s | 40 |
| 1980s | 77 |
| 1990s | 79 |
| 2000s | 84 |
| 2010s | 38 |

Job Placement by Decade of Degree Earned (1-5)



Job Placement by Decade of Degree Earned (6-10)

