

NUVEEN CALIFORNIA DIVIDEND ADVANTAGE MUNICIPAL FUND

Form NSAR-A

April 28, 2003

PAGE 1  
000 A000000 02/28/2003  
000 C000000 0001074952  
000 D000000 N  
000 E000000 NF  
000 F000000 Y  
000 G000000 N  
000 H000000 N  
000 I000000 6.1  
000 J000000 A  
001 A000000 NUVEEN CALIFORNIA DIVIDEND ADVANTAGE FUND  
001 B000000 811-09161  
001 C000000 3129178200  
002 A000000 333 WEST WACKER DRIVE  
002 B000000 CHICAGO  
002 C000000 IL  
002 D010000 60606  
002 D020000 1286  
003 000000 N  
004 000000 N  
005 000000 N  
006 000000 N  
007 A000000 N  
007 B000000 0  
007 C010100 1  
007 C010200 2  
007 C010300 3  
007 C010400 4  
007 C010500 5  
007 C010600 6  
007 C010700 7  
007 C010800 8  
007 C010900 9  
007 C011000 10  
008 A000001 NUVEEN ADVISORY CORP  
008 B000001 A  
008 C000001 801-12353  
008 D010001 CHICAGO  
008 D020001 IL  
008 D030001 60606  
008 D040001 1286  
011 A000001 DELETE  
011 A000002 DELETE  
011 A000003 DELETE  
011 A000004 DELETE  
012 A000001 EQUISERVE INC.  
012 B000001 84-05925  
012 C010001 BOSTON  
012 C020001 MA  
012 C030001 02940  
013 A000001 ERNST & YOUNG  
013 B010001 CHICAGO  
PAGE 2  
013 B020001 IL  
013 B030001 60611  
014 A000001 NUVEEN INVESTMENTS, LLC  
014 B000001 8-13464  
015 A000001 STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY  
015 B000001 C

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015 C010001 BOSTON  
015 C020001 MA  
015 C030001 02206  
015 E010001 X  
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015 A000003 DELETE  
015 A000004 DELETE  
015 A000005 DELETE  
015 A000006 DELETE  
015 A000007 DELETE  
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019 B000000 141  
019 C000000 NUVEENFUND  
020 C000001 0  
020 C000002 0  
020 C000003 0  
020 C000004 0  
020 C000005 0  
020 C000006 0  
020 C000007 0  
020 C000008 0  
020 C000009 0  
020 C000010 0  
021 000000 0  
022 A000001 DAIN RAUSCHER  
022 B000001 41-0212020  
022 C000001 8470  
022 D000001 1263  
022 A000002 JPMORGAN SECURITIES  
022 B000002 13-3224016  
022 C000002 9673  
022 D000002 0  
022 A000003 BEAR STEARNS  
022 B000003 13-3604093  
022 C000003 4995  
022 D000003 1529  
022 A000004 MORGAN STANLEY DEAN WITTER  
022 B000004 13-2655998  
022 C000004 3637  
022 D000004 2734  
022 A000005 MERRILL LYNCH  
022 B000005 13-5674085  
022 C000005 0  
022 D000005 5715  
PAGE 3  
022 A000006 SAMUEL A. RAMIREZ & CO.  
022 B000006 13-2695511  
022 C000006 0  
022 D000006 5107  
022 A000007 GOLDMAN SACHS  
022 B000007 13-5108880  
022 C000007 0  
022 D000007 4173  
022 A000008 PIPER, JAFFRAY & HOPWOOD  
022 B000008 41-0953246  
022 C000008 1000  
022 D000008 1000  
022 A000009 BANCAMERICA  
022 B000009 94-1687675  
022 C000009 0  
022 D000009 1012

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|     |           |       |
|-----|-----------|-------|
| 022 | C000010   | 0     |
| 022 | D000010   | 0     |
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| 025 | D000008   | 0     |
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| 026 | F000000 N |       |
| 026 | G010000 N |       |
| 026 | G020000 N |       |
| 026 | H000000 N |       |
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| 028 | A030000   | 0     |
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| 028 | B030000   | 0     |
| 028 | B040000   | 0     |
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| 028 | C020000   | 0     |
| 028 | C030000   | 0     |
| 028 | C040000   | 0     |
|     | PAGE 4    |       |
| 028 | D010000   | 0     |
| 028 | D020000   | 0     |
| 028 | D030000   | 0     |
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| 028 | E010000   | 0     |
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| 028 | F010000   | 0     |
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| 031 | B000000   | 0     |
| 032 | 000000    | 0     |
| 033 | 000000    | 0     |
| 035 | 000000    | 0     |
| 036 | B000000   | 0     |

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|     |         |         |
|-----|---------|---------|
| 038 | 000000  | 0       |
| 042 | A000000 | 0       |
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| 042 | C000000 | 0       |
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| 042 | E000000 | 0       |
| 042 | F000000 | 0       |
| 042 | G000000 | 0       |
| 042 | H000000 | 0       |
| 043 | 000000  | 0       |
| 044 | 000000  | 0       |
| 045 | 000000  | Y       |
| 046 | 000000  | N       |
| 047 | 000000  | Y       |
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| 048 | A020000 | 0.650   |
| 048 | B010000 | 125000  |
| 048 | B020000 | 0.638   |
| 048 | C010000 | 250000  |
| 048 | C020000 | 0.625   |
| 048 | D010000 | 500000  |
| 048 | D020000 | 0.613   |
| 048 | E010000 | 1000000 |
| 048 | E020000 | 0.600   |
|     | PAGE    | 5       |
| 048 | F010000 | 0       |
| 048 | F020000 | 0.000   |
| 048 | G010000 | 0       |
| 048 | G020000 | 0.000   |
| 048 | H010000 | 0       |
| 048 | H020000 | 0.000   |
| 048 | I010000 | 0       |
| 048 | I020000 | 0.000   |
| 048 | J010000 | 0       |
| 048 | J020000 | 0.000   |
| 048 | K010000 | 2000000 |
| 048 | K020000 | 0.575   |
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| 052 | 000000  | N       |
| 053 | A000000 | Y       |
| 053 | B000000 | Y       |
| 053 | C000000 | N       |
| 054 | A000000 | Y       |
| 054 | B000000 | N       |
| 054 | C000000 | N       |
| 054 | D000000 | N       |
| 054 | E000000 | N       |
| 054 | F000000 | N       |
| 054 | G000000 | N       |
| 054 | H000000 | Y       |
| 054 | I000000 | N       |
| 054 | J000000 | Y       |
| 054 | K000000 | N       |
| 054 | L000000 | N       |
| 054 | M000000 | Y       |
| 054 | N000000 | N       |
| 054 | O000000 | Y       |
| 055 | A000000 | Y       |
| 055 | B000000 | N       |

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056 000000 N  
 057 000000 N  
 058 A000000 N  
 059 000000 Y  
 060 A000000 Y  
 060 B000000 Y  
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 062 A000000 Y  
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 062 C000000 0.0  
 062 D000000 0.0  
 062 E000000 0.0  
 062 F000000 0.0  
 062 G000000 0.0  
 062 H000000 0.0  
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 068 A000000 N  
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 070 B010000 N  
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 070 C010000 Y  
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 070 D010000 N  
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 070 F020000 N  
 070 G010000 Y  
 070 G020000 N  
 070 H010000 N  
 070 H020000 N  
 070 I010000 N  
 070 I020000 N  
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 070 J020000 N  
 070 K010000 Y  
 070 K020000 N  
 070 L010000 N  
 070 L020000 N  
 070 M010000 N  
 070 M020000 N  
 070 N010000 N

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|       |         |   |        |
|-------|---------|---|--------|
| 070   | N020000 | N |        |
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| 070   | O020000 | N |        |
| 070   | P010000 | N |        |
| 070   | P020000 | N |        |
|       | PAGE    | 7 |        |
| 070   | Q010000 | N |        |
| 070   | Q020000 | N |        |
| 070   | R010000 | N |        |
| 070   | R020000 | N |        |
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| 071   | B000000 |   | 25640  |
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| 072   | B000000 |   | 13673  |
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| 072   | F000000 |   | 1672   |
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| 072   | J000000 |   | 70     |
| 072   | K000000 |   | 6      |
| 072   | L000000 |   | 12     |
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| 072   | P000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | Q000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | R000000 |   | 8      |
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| 072   | T000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | U000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | V000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | W000000 |   | 271    |
| 072   | X000000 |   | 2059   |
| 072   | Y000000 |   | 797    |
| 072   | Z000000 |   | 12411  |
| 072AA | 000000  |   | 650    |
| 072BB | 000000  |   | 0      |
| 072CC | 010000  |   | 3552   |
| 072CC | 020000  |   | 0      |
| 072DD | 010000  |   | 10711  |
| 072DD | 020000  |   | 0      |
| 072EE | 000000  |   | 0      |
| 073   | A010000 |   | 0.4575 |
| 073   | A020000 |   | 0.0000 |
| 073   | B000000 |   | 0.0000 |
| 073   | C000000 |   | 0.0000 |
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| 074   | C000000 |   | 0      |
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| 074   | E000000 |   | 0      |
| 074   | F000000 |   | 0      |
|       | PAGE    | 8 |        |
| 074   | G000000 |   | 0      |
| 074   | H000000 |   | 0      |
| 074   | I000000 |   | 0      |
| 074   | J000000 |   | 10     |

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|           |                   |              |
|-----------|-------------------|--------------|
| 074       | K000000           | 0            |
| 074       | L000000           | 7621         |
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| 074       | N000000           | 538092       |
| 074       | O000000           | 0            |
| 074       | P000000           | 136          |
| 074       | Q000000           | 0            |
| 074       | R010000           | 0            |
| 074       | R020000           | 0            |
| 074       | R030000           | 0            |
| 074       | R040000           | 1134         |
| 074       | S000000           | 175000       |
| 074       | T000000           | 361822       |
| 074       | U010000           | 23412        |
| 074       | U020000           | 0            |
| 074       | V010000           | 15.45        |
| 074       | V020000           | 0.00         |
| 074       | W000000           | 0.0000       |
| 074       | X000000           | 255          |
| 074       | Y000000           | 21237        |
| 075       | A000000           | 0            |
| 075       | B000000           | 357803       |
| 076       | 000000            | 14.11        |
| 077       | A000000           | Y            |
| 077       | Q030000           | Y            |
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| 080       | C000000           | 0            |
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| 086       | C020000           | 0            |
| 086       | D010000           | 0            |
| 086       | D020000           | 0            |
| 086       | E010000           | 0            |
| 086       | E020000           | 0            |
| 086       | F010000           | 0            |
| 086       | F020000           | 0            |
| 087       | A010000           | COMMON STOCK |
| 087       | A020000           | 67066Y105    |
| 087       | A030000           | NAC          |
| 088       | A000000           | N            |
|           | PAGE              | 9            |
| 088       | B000000           | N            |
| 088       | C000000           | N            |
| 088       | D000000           | Y            |
| SIGNATURE | STEPHEN D. FOY    |              |
| TITLE     | V.P. & CONTROLLER |              |