

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

2021 Incoming Transfer Student Survey: Introduction, Methods, and Student Demographic Profile

Introduction

This series of reports presents findings from the 2021 Incoming Transfer Student Survey at NC State University. Each year since 2013, students transferring to NC State in the Fall semester have been asked to participate in the survey. NC State's Institutional Strategy and Analysis office is responsible for administering the survey, analyzing the data, and preparing and distributing reports on results to various units on campus. The online survey is administered shortly after New Student Orientation in the summer before classes begin, and closes two weeks after the start of the Fall semester. In the survey, students are asked about their experiences with the application process and deciding to enroll at NC State; their satisfaction with various NC State services and programs; how they are paying for their education; their preparation for college and their educational goals; what they are excited and concerned about in starting their first year of college; and a variety of demographic information.

This introductory report describes the survey's methodology, provides a demographic profile of transfer students entering NC State in the Fall 2021 semester, and compares the gender, race/ethnicity, and academic unit of survey respondents with those characteristics of all Fall 2021 transfer students. A separate report, "[2021 Incoming Transfer Student Survey: Overall Results](#)," provides detailed results for each individual survey topic. A link to a dashboard with tables and charts with results broken out by gender, race/ethnicity, and college, as well as a copy of the questionnaire, is available online through the "[2021 Incoming Transfer Student Survey: Table of Contents](#)."

Survey Administration

The Incoming Transfer Student Survey opened on July 13 and closed on August 30. Shortly after they attended their on-campus New Student Orientation session over the summer, incoming transfer students were sent an email from NC State Chancellor Randy Woodson inviting them to participate in the survey. Survey nonrespondents were sent up to four email reminders to participate in the survey as an incentive for participating. Four students who completed the survey by the final deadline of Monday, August 30 were randomly selected to each win a \$25 Amazon.com eGift card.

To decrease the overall length of the survey for any given respondent, the 2021 Incoming Transfer Student Survey utilized a split-half design method in which students were randomly assigned to two groups (Class A and Class B), each of which only saw certain questions. The specific sections/questions on the survey were divided into three groups (1, 2, and 3), each with about the same number of questions. While all respondents were presented with the questions in group 1, only those respondents in Class A saw the questions in group 2, and only those in Class B saw the questions in group 3.

Population and Survey Respondents

Based on Fall 2021 Census data (i.e., two weeks after the first day of classes on August 16th), of the 1,388 transfer students in all academic programs eligible to participate and have their responses recorded for final analyses, a total of 598 of them submitted usable surveys (43.1%).¹

¹ Respondents from the Agricultural Institute have been excluded from the analyses presented in the following reports so that the data presented reflects the views and circumstances of students pursuing a four-year baccalaureate degree.

By Gender and Race/Ethnicity (Tables 1-2)

Women were significantly more likely than men to participate in the 2021 Incoming Transfer Student Survey. While women account for 49 percent of the incoming transfer student class, they make up 58 percent of survey respondents.

Table 1: Gender of the Incoming Transfer Student Class and Survey Respondents

Gender	Incoming Transfer Student Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate
	%	N	%	N	%
Women	48.9%	679	58.2%	348	51.2%
Men	51.1%	709	41.8%	250	35.3%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>1,446</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>598</i>	<i>43.1%</i>

Although participation in the survey varied somewhat by race/ethnicity, the racial ethnic breakdown of survey respondents generally mirrors that of the incoming transfer student population. Among survey respondents, 65 percent are white, 12 percent are Hispanic, nine percent are Asian, six percent are multi-racial, five percent are African American/Black, and less than one percent are American Indian. The remaining two percent are of another or unknown race/ethnicity.

Table 2: Gender of the Incoming Transfer Student Class and Survey Respondents

Race/Ethnicity	Incoming Transfer Student Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate
	%	N	%	N	%
African American/Black	5.3%	74	5.4%	32	43.2%
American Indian	0.4%	5	0.3%	2	40.0%
Asian	9.0%	125	9.4%	56	44.8%
Hispanic	11.7%	162	12.2%	73	45.1%
White	66.1%	918	64.6%	386	42.1%
Multi-racial	5.6%	78	6.2%	37	47.4%
Other/Unknown	1.9%	26	2.0%	12	46.2%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>1,388</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>598</i>	<i>43.1%</i>

Table 3 presents enrollment data for the Fall 2021 incoming transfer student population from the beginning of the Fall semester and survey respondents by academic unit. Given their high response rates relative to other colleges, the Wilson College of Textiles is slightly overrepresented among survey respondents, while the Poole College of Management is slightly underrepresented due to their relatively lower response rates.

Table 3: Classification by Academic Unit

Academic Unit	Incoming Transfer Student Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate
	%	N	%	N	%
Agriculture and Life Sciences	11.9%	165	12.9%	77	46.7%
Design	1.7%	24	1.7%	10	41.7%
Education	3.0%	41	3.3%	20	48.8%
Engineering	20.0%	277	19.1%	114	41.2%
Natural Resources	6.5%	90	6.9%	41	45.6%
Humanities and Social Sciences	28.0%	388	27.9%	167	43.0%
Sciences	10.0%	139	10.4%	62	44.6%
Textiles	1.4%	20	2.0%	12	60.0%
Management	17.6%	244	15.9%	95	38.9%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>1,388</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>598</i>	<i>43.1%</i>

For more information on the 2021 Incoming Transfer Student Survey, contact:

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Posted: January, 2022