

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

2021 Incoming First-Year Student Survey: Open-Ended Comment Coding Scheme

The Incoming First-Year Student Survey includes two open-end questions asking students 1) what they are most excited about in coming to NC State; and 2) what they are most concerned or nervous about in starting their first semester of college. Verbatim comments for each question were grouped into different categories by topic. (A single comment could be included in multiple categories.) The different categories for open-end comments are listed alphabetically below.

Adapting to College (e.g., *Adapting to college lifestyle, Experiencing new things/a "fresh start", Navigating campus, Finding classes, Leaving one's hometown*)

Most Excited

Biggest Concerns

Campus Life/Involvement (e.g., *Student organizations, Club sports, Arts/Theater, Campus events, ACC athletics.*)

Most Excited

Biggest Concerns

Career Development (e.g., *Job, Internships, Interviewing, Resume, Job Placement, Employment*)

Most Excited

Biggest Concerns

Co-curricular Activities (e.g., *Co-op, Student research, Internships, Service learning/programs, ROTC*)

Most Excited

There were no comments relating to co-curricular activities in response to the questions asking what students were most concerned about in coming to NC State

COVID-19 (e.g., *concerns or worries relating to starting at NC State during the COVID-19 pandemic*)

Most Excited

Biggest Concerns

Community/Campus Environment (e.g., *Atmosphere, Location, Prestige/reputation of university*)

Most Excited

Biggest Concerns

Disability (e.g., *Campus accessibility*)

There were no comments relating to disabilities in response to the questions asking what students were most excited about in coming to NC State

Biggest Concerns

Diversity (e.g., *Different types of people, Exposure to different cultures*)

Most Excited

Biggest Concerns

Financial (e.g., *Financial aid and loans, Scholarships, Tuition, Managing finances*)

Most Excited

Biggest Concerns

Gender (e.g., Gender Issues)Most ExcitedBiggest Concerns**Health** (e.g., Mental health, Physical health, Feeling stressed/overwhelmed)Most ExcitedBiggest Concerns**Housing** (e.g., Sharing space with others, Relationship with roommates/suitemates, Quality of living facilities, Unique campus housing)Most ExcitedBiggest Concerns**Independence** (e.g., Making decisions on one's own, Freedom, Leaving home/family of origin)Most ExcitedBiggest Concerns**Instruction** (e.g., Classes, Faculty/instructors)Most ExcitedBiggest Concerns**Instructional Mode** (e.g., In-person classes, Remote learning, Zoom)Most ExcitedBiggest Concerns**Learning** (e.g., Education, Program of Study, Knowledge)Most ExcitedBiggest Concerns**Opportunities** (e.g., academic, social, independence, new people)Most ExcitedBiggest Concerns**Performance/Workload** (e.g., Difficulty of coursework, Performing well/receiving good grades, Ability to keep up with course demands, Volume of coursework/homework)Most ExcitedBiggest Concerns**Race/Ethnicity** (e.g., Issues related to different ethnicities and cultures)Most ExcitedBiggest Concerns**Registration** (e.g., Getting into necessary courses, Enrolling in correct/enjoyable courses, Waitlisting)Most ExcitedBiggest Concerns**Safety** (e.g., Fear of crime, particularly theft, assault, and rape, General safety concerns, Fear of harassment)Most ExcitedBiggest Concerns

Sexual Orientation (e.g., GLBT)

There were no comments relating to Sexual Orientation in response to the questions asking what students were most excited about in coming to NC State

Biggest Concerns

Social Life (e.g., Making friends/establishing a social network, Meeting new people, Fitting in, Feeling lonely)

Most Excited

Biggest Concerns

Spirit (e.g., NC State pride, Tradition, Reputation)

Most Excited

Biggest Concerns

Time Management (e.g., Meeting deadlines, Staying organized/focused, Balancing different demands, Autonomy to control one's time)

Most Excited

Biggest Concerns

Transportation (e.g., Busing, Parking, Getting around without a personal vehicle)

Most Excited

Biggest Concerns

For more information on the 2021 Incoming First-Year Student Survey, contact:

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