

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

2022 Incoming First-Year Student Survey Introduction, Methods, and Student Demographic Profile

Introduction

This series of reports presents findings from the 2022 Incoming First-Year Student Survey at NC State University. Each year since 1972, students beginning college at 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 a few weeks after the start of the 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, and compares the demographic profile of the 2022 first-year class to that of survey respondents with respect to their gender, race/ethnicity, and their college. A separate report, "[2022 Incoming First-Year Student Survey: Overall Results](#)," focuses on overall results. A link to a dashboard with results by gender, race/ethnicity, and college is available online through "[2022 Incoming First-Year Student Survey: Table of Contents](#)."

Survey Administration

The Incoming First-Year Student Survey opened on July 12 and closed on September 14. Shortly after they attended their on-campus New Student Orientation session over the summer, incoming first-year students were sent an email from NC State Chancellor Randy Woodson inviting them to participate in the survey. Survey nonrespondents were sent up to five email reminders. As an incentive for participating, ten respondents who completed the survey by Tuesday, July 19, and ten participants who completed the survey by Tuesday, August 16 were randomly selected to each win a \$20 Amazon.com eGift card. In addition, two students who completed the survey by the original deadline of Monday, September 12 were randomly selected to each win a \$50 Amazon.com eGift card. In an effort to increase response rates, we extended the deadline by two days and offered an additional incentive. One student who completed the survey between Monday, September 12 and Wednesday, September 14 was randomly selected to win a \$100 added to their WolfPack OneCard.

Population and Survey Respondents

Based on Fall 2022 Census data (i.e., two weeks after the first day of classes on September 2nd), of the 5,542 students in all academic programs who were eligible to participate and have their responses recorded for final analyses, a total of 3,008 of them submitted usable surveys (54.3%).

Gender and Race/Ethnicity (Tables 1-2)

Women were significantly more likely than men to participate in the 2022 Incoming First-Year Student Survey. While women account for slightly more than half of the incoming first-year class, they make up just under 60 percent of survey respondents.

Table 1: Gender of the Incoming First-Year Class and Survey Respondents

Gender	Incoming First-Year Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate
	%	N	%	N	%
Women	51.9%	2,877	57.4%	1,725	60.0%
Men	48.1%	2,665	42.6%	1,283	48.1%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>5,542</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>3,008</i>	<i>54.3%</i>

Although participation in the survey varied somewhat by race/ethnicity, the racial/ethnic breakdown of survey respondents generally mirrors that of the incoming first-year student population. Among survey respondents, two-thirds are white, 11 percent are Asian, 10 percent are Hispanic, six percent are African American/Black, five percent are multi-racial, and one half of a percent are American Indian. The remaining two percent of respondents are of another or unknown race/ethnicity.

Table 2: Race/Ethnicity of the Incoming First-Year Class and Survey Respondents

Race/Ethnicity	Incoming First-Year Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate
	%	N	%	N	%
African American/Black	6.0%	333	5.9%	177	53.2%
American Indian	0.4%	21	0.5%	14	66.7%
Asian	10.9%	606	10.6%	320	52.8%
Hispanic	8.8%	489	9.5%	287	58.7%
White	67.1%	3,721	66.5%	2,000	53.8%
Multi-racial	4.8%	267	5.2%	156	58.4%
Other/Unknown	1.9%	105	1.8%	54	51.4%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>5,542</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>3,008</i>	<i>54.3%</i>

Academic Units (Table 3)

Table 3 presents enrollment data for the incoming first-year student population at the beginning of the Fall 2022 semester compared to that of survey respondents by academic unit. While the distribution of academic units of survey respondents closely mirrors that of the population, given the combination of their size and their higher response rate relative to other colleges, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Engineering, and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences are slightly over represented among survey respondents, and given their size and relatively low response rates, Poole College of Management, the College of Natural Resources, and Exploratory Studies are slightly underrepresented.

Table 3: Classification by Academic Unit

Academic Unit	Incoming First-Year Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate
	%	N	%	N	%
Agriculture and Life Sciences	8.8%	489	9.8%	295	60.3%
Design	2.1%	115	1.8%	53	46.1%
Education	2.4%	133	2.4%	71	53.4%
Engineering	32.3%	1,789	34.5%	1038	58.0%
Natural Resources	4.6%	257	3.9%	117	45.5%
Humanities and Social Sciences	8.8%	489	9.3%	280	57.5%
Sciences	13.2%	734	13.5%	406	55.3%
Textiles	2.8%	157	2.4%	71	45.2%
Management	9.5%	525	8.1%	245	46.7%
Exploratory Studies	15.4%	854	14.4%	432	50.6%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>5,542</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>3,008</i>	<i>54.3%</i>

For more information on the 2022 Incoming First-Year Student Survey, contact:

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Posted: January, 2023