

NC University

2021-2022 Graduating Senior Survey:

Introduction, Methods, and Student Demographic Profile

Introduction

The Graduating Senior Survey (GSS) is one of an on-going series of surveys regularly administered to students at NC State. Students who graduated in December 2021 or May 2022 are included in the AY21-22 GSS population. Survey topics include: student goals and intentions; academic environment and faculty contributions; academic and non-academic services for students; NC State's contribution to student knowledge, skills, and personal growth; campus climate; and student employment and involvement in extracurricular and high impact activities.

This introductory report describes the survey's methodology and provides a demographic profile of survey respondents in comparison to the population of AY21-22 graduates. Specifically, it compares the gender, race/ethnicity¹, and academic unit of survey respondents with those characteristics of AY21-22 graduates. A separate report, AY21-22 Graduating Senior Student Survey: Overall Results, provides detailed results on each individual survey topic. Results broken out by gender, race/ethnicity, and college are available on the [AY21-22 GSS Dashboard](#). The [GSS Trends Dashboard](#) provides results for all years of the survey administration.

Survey Administration

Institutional Strategy and Analysis at NC State was responsible for administering the survey, analyzing the data, and preparing and distributing reports on results to various units on campus. Students planning to graduate in December 2021 or May 2022 were eligible to complete the survey. The survey was available online from the start of the fall semester in early August 2021 until commencement on May 7, 2022.

Graduating seniors were prompted to complete the survey at the time they submitted their online application for degree. Late in each semester, those who had applied to graduate but who had not submitted the survey were sent an e-mail invitation from the Chancellor to complete the survey. Up to three follow-up reminders were emailed to nonrespondents.

¹ The term "racial/ethnic" is used throughout these reports to recognize the potentially blurred distinction between the individual terms. In application materials, students were asked to identify themselves using any number of the following categories: Hispanic or Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander White, and Multiracial.

Population and Survey Respondents

Of the 5,608 students who graduated in fall 2021 (N=1,417) or spring 2022 (N=4,191), 57 percent (N=3,221) submitted usable surveys.

Table 1: Response Rate by Semester

Semester of Graduation	Graduating Senior Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate	Margin of Sampling Error
	N	%	N	%		
Fall 2021	1,417	25.3%	805	25.0%	56.8%	1.5
Spring 2022	4,191	74.7%	2,416	75.0%	57.6%	0.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>5,608</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>3,221</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>57.4%</i>	<i>0.7</i>

By Gender and Race/Ethnicity (Tables 2-3)

There were no significant differences in participation rates by gender. Half of the survey participants are women and half men, nearly identical to their proportion in the population. Similarly, while participation rates varied somewhat by race/ethnicity, the proportion of participants of any given race/ethnicity very closely mirrors that of all graduating seniors. Almost three-fourths of respondents are white (72.2%), nine percent Asian (9.1%), seven percent Hispanic (6.5%), five percent Black/African American (4.8%) and the remaining of another or unknown race/ethnicity.

Table 2: Gender of the Graduating Senior Class and Survey Respondents

Gender	Graduating Senior Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate	Margin of Sampling Error
	N	%	N	%		
Women	2,838	50.6%	1,611	50.0%	56.8%	1.1
Men	2,770	49.4%	1,610	50.0%	58.1%	1.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>5,608</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>3,221</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>57.4%</i>	<i>0.7</i>

Table 3: Race/Ethnicity of the Graduating Senior Class and Survey Respondent

Race/Ethnicity	Graduating Senior Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate	Margin of Sampling Error
	N	%	N	%		
Unknown	190	3.4%	102	3.2%	53.7%	4.5
Hispanic	369	6.6%	210	6.5%	56.9%	2.9
Native American / American Indian	16	0.3%	11	0.3%	68.8%	9.2
Asian American	545	9.7%	293	9.1%	53.8%	2.6
Black / African American	278	5.0%	155	4.8%	55.8%	3.5
Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	5	0.1%	2	0.1%	40.0%	41.6
White	3,998	71.3%	2,325	72.2%	58.2%	0.9
Multiracial	207	3.7%	123	3.8%	59.4%	3.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>5,608</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>3,221</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>57.4%</i>	<i>0.7</i>

By Academic Units (Table 4)

Table 4 shows enrollment of the AY21-22 graduating senior population and survey respondents by academic unit. Again, there are no notable differences between the senior population and the survey respondents by academic unit, with each college being represented among respondents in proportions nearly equal to the actual number of graduates.

Table 4: Classification by Academic Unit (1st major if more than one)

Academic Unit	Graduating Senior Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate	Margin of Sampling Error
	N	%	N	%		
CALS	642	11.4%	386	12.0%	60.1%	2.0
Design	106	1.9%	52	1.6%	49.1%	6.9
CED	144	2.6%	88	2.7%	61.1%	4.1
COE	1,415	25.2%	835	25.9%	59.0%	1.4
CNR	362	6.5%	233	7.2%	64.4%	2.3
CHASS	1,080	19.3%	609	18.9%	56.4%	1.7
COS	693	12.4%	393	12.2%	56.7%	2.1
TEX	193	3.4%	91	2.8%	47.2%	5.4
PCOM	973	17.4%	534	16.6%	54.9%	1.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>5,608</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>3,221</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>57.4%</i>	<i>0.7</i>

For more information on the AY21-22 Graduating Senior Survey contact:
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