

# North Carolina State University

## 2017 Incoming Transfer Student Survey: Introduction, Methods, and Student Demographic Profile

### Introduction

This series of reports presents findings from the 2017 Incoming Transfer Student Survey at NC State. Each year since 2013, students transferring to NC State in the fall semester have been asked to participate in the survey. NC State's Office of Institutional Research and Planning is responsible for administering the survey, analyzing the data, and preparing and distributing reports on results to various units on campus. The survey is conducted after New Student Orientation during the summer months prior to and at the start of the Fall semester. Survey topics include: experiences prior to enrolling at NC State; goals; finances and paying for college; satisfaction with NC State services; demographic and family background characteristics; and anticipating life at NC State.

This introductory report describes the survey's methodology and provides a demographic profile of the 2017 incoming transfer student class. Specifically, it compares the gender, race/ethnicity, and academic unit of survey respondents with those characteristics of AY17-18 incoming transfer students. A separate report, "[2017 Incoming Transfer Student Survey: Overall Results](#)," focuses on each individual survey topic. Links to tables with gender and racial/ethnic comparisons, as well as comparisons between colleges, are available online through the "[2017 Incoming Transfer Student Survey: Table of Contents](#)."

### Survey Administration

After attending New Student Orientation during the summer before the start of the fall semester, incoming transfer students were sent an invitation to participate in the survey from NC State Chancellor Woodson. Incoming students who did not attend Orientation were sent an invitation at the beginning of the fall semester. Non-respondents were sent up to four email reminders. As an incentive, four respondents who completed the survey by the final deadline of August 25, 2017 were randomly selected to each win a \$25 Amazon gift card.

### Population and Survey Respondents

Of the 1,269 incoming transfer students who were eligible to participate and have their responses recorded for final analyses for the 2017 Incoming Transfer Student Survey, 47.9% submitted usable surveys (N=608).

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

Women were significantly more likely than men to participate in the 2017 Incoming Transfer Student Survey. Even though women account for less than half of the incoming transfer class, they make up nearly 52 percent of survey respondents.

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, with a slight overrepresentation of African American/Black respondents and a slight underrepresentation of Asian, Hispanic and White students. Among survey respondents, about two-thirds are white, nine percent are Hispanic nearly eight percent are Asian, over seven percent are African American/Black, nearly five percent are multi-racial, and about one-quarter of a percent are American Indian. The remaining four percent of respondents are of another or unknown race/ethnicity.

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

Gender	Incoming Transfer Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate
	%	N	%	N	%
Women	47.0%	597	51.9%	316	52.9%
Men	53.0%	674	48.1%	293	43.5%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>1,271</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>609</i>	<i>47.9%</i>

**Table 2: Race/Ethnicity of the Incoming Transfer Class and Survey Respondents**

Race/Ethnicity	Incoming Transfer Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate
	%	N	%	N	%
African American/Black	6.1%	77	7.4%	45	58.4%
American Indian	0.2%	3	0.3%	2	66.7%
Asian	7.9%	101	7.6%	46	45.5%
Hispanic	9.8%	124	9.0%	55	44.4%
White	67.4%	857	66.8%	407	47.5%
Multi-racial	3.8%	48	4.6%	28	58.3%
Other/Unknown	4.8%	61	4.3%	26	42.6%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>1,271</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>609</i>	<i>47.9%</i>

By Academic Units (Table 3)

Table 3 presents enrollment of the AY17-18 incoming transfer student population at the beginning of the fall 2017 semester and survey respondents by academic unit. For the most part, few differences exist between the incoming transfer student population and the survey respondents by academic unit. Given their high response rates relative to other colleges, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Education and the College of Sciences are slightly overrepresented among respondents, while those in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Textiles and College of Management are slightly underrepresented due to their relatively lower response rates.

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

**Table 3: Classification by Academic Unit**

Academic Unit	Incoming Transfer Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate
	%	N	%	N	%
Agriculture and Life Sciences	13.1%	166	14.9%	91	54.8%
Design	2.0%	25	2.6%	16	64.0%
Education	1.9%	24	3.0%	18	75.0%
Engineering	21.2%	270	20.7%	126	46.7%
Natural Resources	7.3%	93	7.4%	45	48.4%
Humanities and Social Sciences	27.7%	352	25.6%	156	44.3%
Sciences	10.0%	127	12.8%	78	61.4%
Textiles	2.2%	28	2.0%	12	42.9%
Management	14.4%	183	10.8%	66	36.1%
University College	0.1%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>99.8%</i>	<i>1,269</i>	<i>99.8%</i>	<i>608</i>	<i>47.9%</i>
Agricultural Institute	0.2%	2	0.2%	1	50.0%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>1,271</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>609</i>	<i>47.9%</i>

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