

2018 Incoming Transfer Student Survey: Introduction, Methods, and Student Demographic Profile

Introduction

This series of reports presents findings from the 2018 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 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 2018 incoming transfer student class. Specifically, it compares the gender, race/ethnicity, and academic unit of survey respondents with those characteristics of AY18-19 incoming transfer students. A separate report, "[2018 Incoming Transfer Student Survey: Overall Results](#)," focuses on results for each individual survey topic. Links to tables with gender and racial/ethnic comparisons, as well as comparisons between colleges, are available online through "[2018 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 transfer 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 Friday, August 31, 2018 were randomly selected to each win a \$25 Amazon gift card.

Population and Survey Respondents

Of the 1,341 incoming transfer students who were eligible to participate and have their responses recorded for final analyses for the 2018 Incoming Transfer Student Survey, 49.3% submitted usable surveys (N=661).

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

Women were significantly more likely than men to participate in the 2018 Incoming Transfer Student Survey. Even though women account for just under half of the incoming transfer class, they make up nearly 53 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 and multi-racial students, and a slight underrepresentation of white students. Among survey respondents, 64 percent are white, 10 percent are Hispanic, nine percent are Asian, six percent are African American/Black, four percent are multi-racial, and less than one percent are American Indian. The remaining four percent of respondents are of another or unknown race/ethnicity.

Table 1: Gender of the Incoming Freshmen Class and Survey Respondents

Gender	Incoming Freshmen Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate
	%	N	%	N	%
Women	47.9%	642	52.8%	349	54.4%
Men	52.1%	699	47.2%	312	44.7%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>1,341</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>661</i>	<i>49.3%</i>

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

Race/Ethnicity	Incoming Freshmen Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate
	%	N	%	N	%
African American/Black	5.4%	73	6.4%	42	57.5%
American Indian	0.4%	5	0.3%	2	40.0%
Asian	9.3%	124	9.4%	62	50.0%
Hispanic	10.2%	137	10.7%	71	51.8%
White	66.2%	888	64.3%	425	47.9%
Multi-racial	3.9%	52	4.4%	29	55.8%
Other/Unknown	4.6%	62	4.5%	30	48.4%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>1,341</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>661</i>	<i>49.3%</i>

By Academic Units (Table 3)

Table 3 presents enrollment data of the AY18-19 incoming transfer student population at the beginning of the Fall 2018 semester and that of 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 rate relative to other colleges, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is slightly overrepresented among survey respondents, while those in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences are slightly underrepresented due to their relatively lower response rate.

Table 3: Classification by Academic Unit

Academic Unit	Incoming Freshmen Class		Survey Respondents		Response Rate
	%	N	%	N	%
Agriculture and Life Sciences	12.0%	161	13.6%	90	56.0%
Design	3.3%	44	3.6%	24	54.6%
Education	2.2%	29	2.7%	18	62.1%
Engineering	22.6%	303	22.5%	149	49.2%
Natural Resources	7.1%	95	7.3%	48	50.5%
Humanities and Social Sciences	27.3%	366	23.3%	154	42.1%
Sciences	10.4%	139	10.9%	72	51.8%
Textiles	1.8%	24	2.0%	13	54.2%
Management	13.4%	180	14.1%	93	51.7%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>1,341</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>661</i>	<i>49.3%</i>

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