

Stop Out Survey Report 2016

October 25, 2016

Survey Results

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Office of Assessment

About the Stop Out Survey:

Every summer, the Office of Assessment at North Carolina State University (NCSU) e-mails a survey to students who were enrolled at NCSU during the previous school year, but did not re-enroll for the following academic semester. Students leave college for a variety of reasons, and the Stop Out Survey seeks to gain a better understanding of why our students decide to dis-enroll.

The following is a summary of the results of that survey. The questions provided students with a list of reasons they may have decided to leave; students were asked to rank the effect of each particular reason on their decision to dis-enroll. They were also provided space to share reasons that may have not been on the list provided. Students were asked to name any office or person on campus who they reached out to for assistance with their decision. A few other factors were addressed as well, including employment status while at NCSU, future plans to continue their postsecondary education, and their overall experience while enrolled.

The response rate was 7.66 percent (N=74)*. Relative to the overall undergraduate population at NCSU, female students were overrepresented among survey respondents.

*Because 74 students took the survey (N = 74), any percentage throughout the report is rounded to one decimal place unless otherwise noted.

Demographics

Participants (N=74)*

The gender distribution of the participants indicates female students are overrepresented compared to the distribution in the survey population and overall NCSU undergraduate population.

Figure 1. Gender Distribution for 2016 Stop Out Participants, Stop-Out Population and NCSU Undergraduate Population:

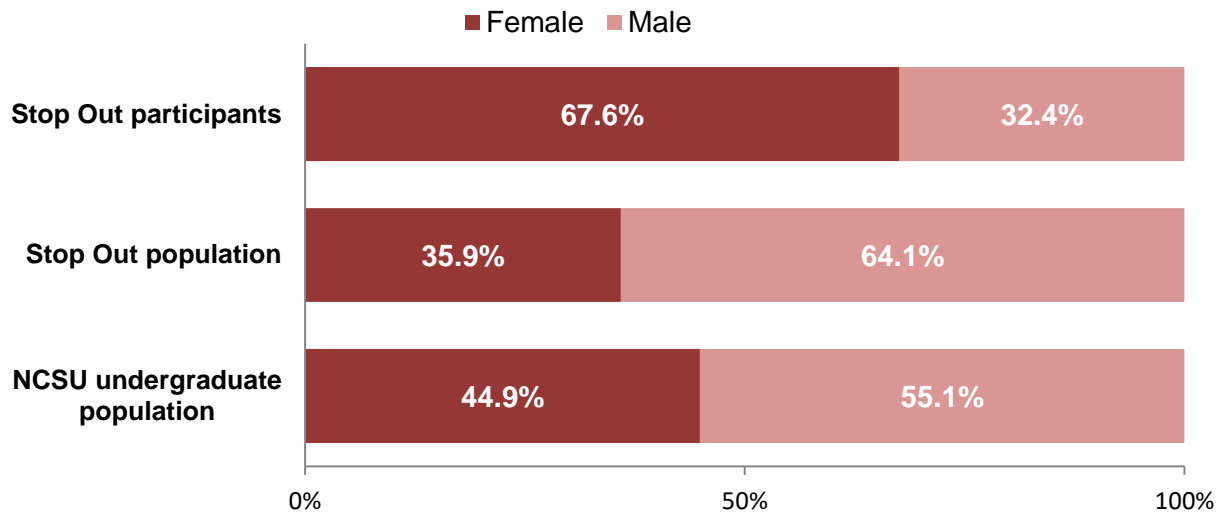
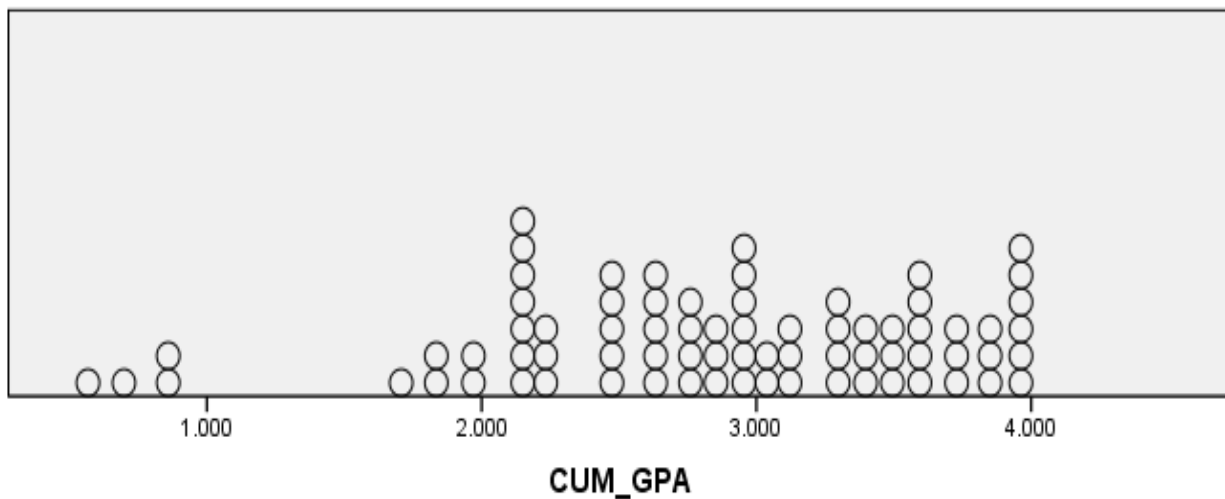
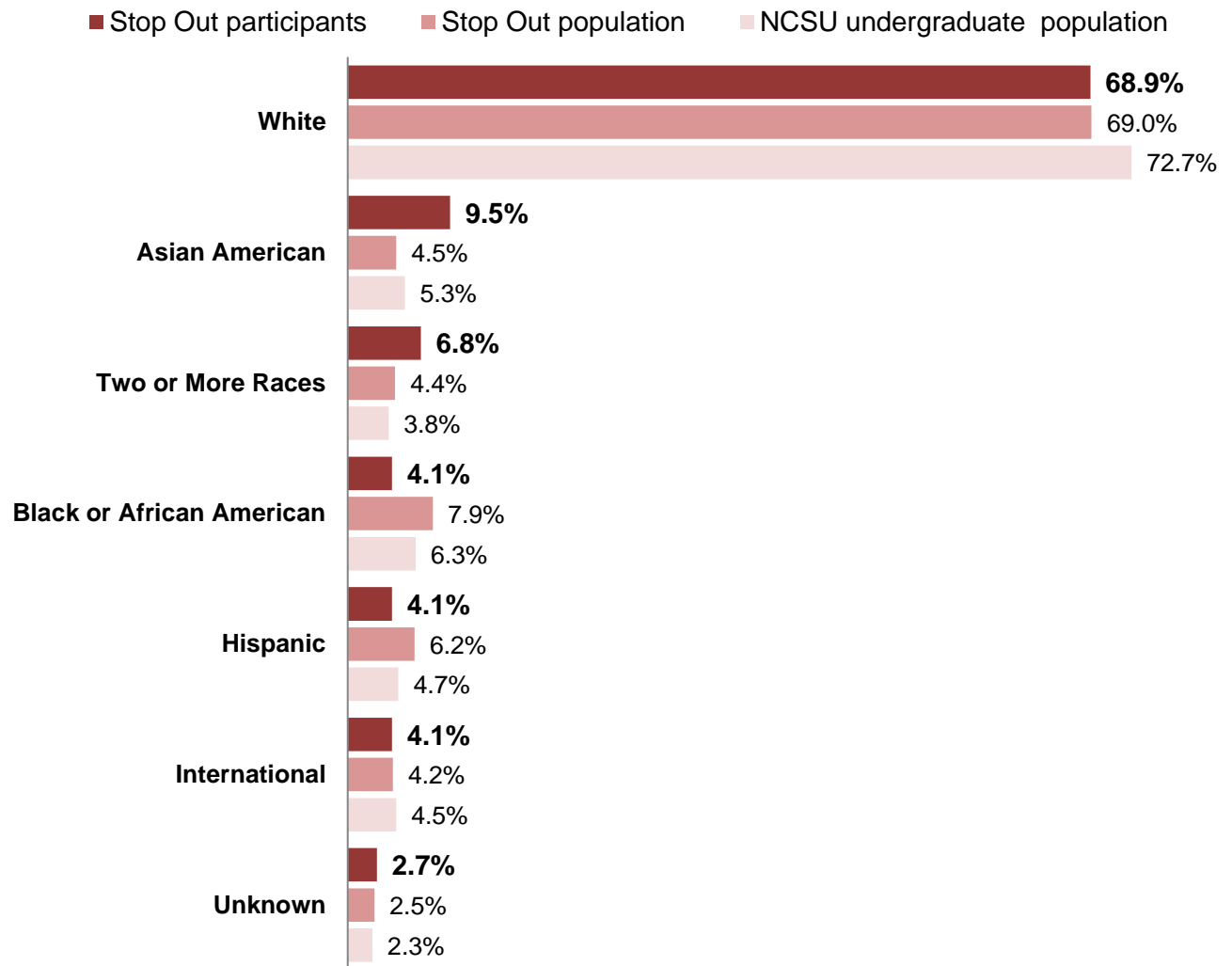


Figure 2. Academic Performance of 2016 Stop Out Participants:



*Because 74 students took the survey (N = 74), any percentage throughout the report is rounded to one decimal place unless otherwise noted.

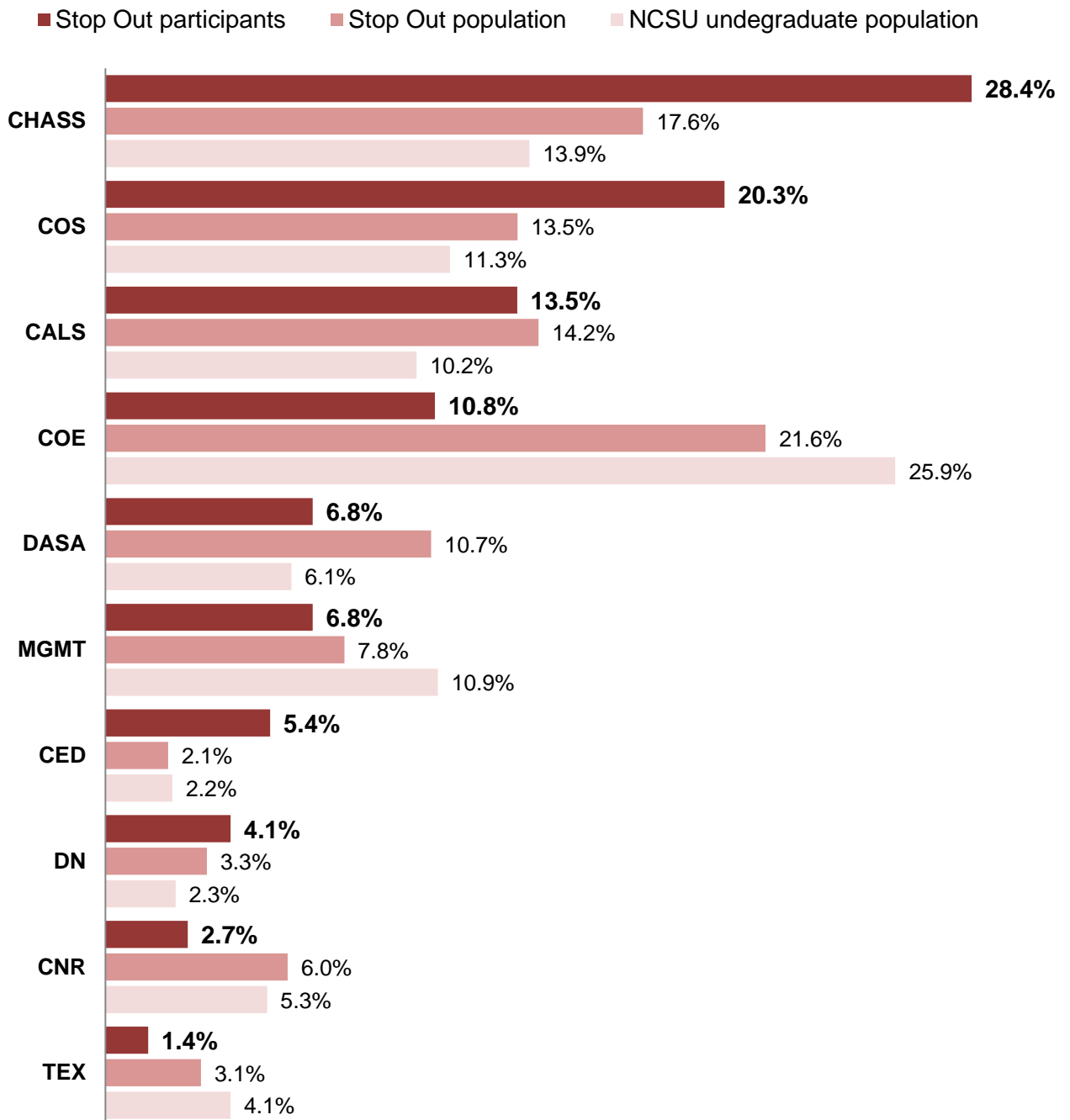
Figure 3. Race/Ethnicity of 2016 Stop Out Participants, Stop Out Population and Overall NCSU Undergraduate Population:



** Native American and Pacific Islander race categories were not reported due to lack of representation among survey participants.*

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Figure 4. Distribution of Students by Academic College for 2016 Stop Out Participants, Stop Out Population and Overall NCSU Undergraduate Population:

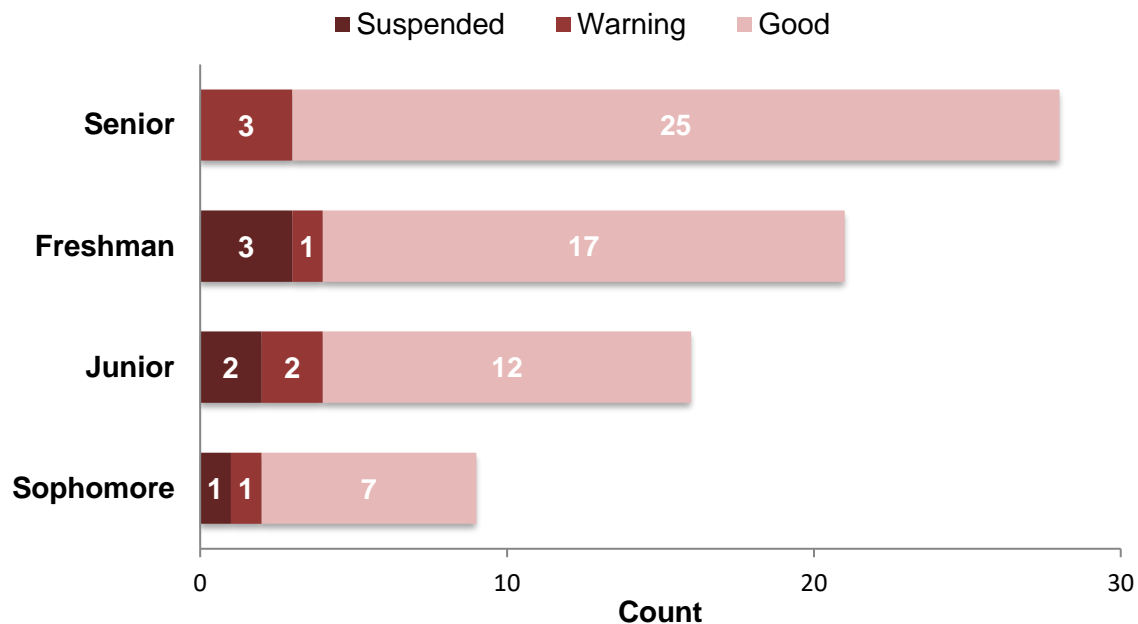


- 28.4% (N=21) of students surveyed were from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHASS).
- 20.3% (N=15) of students surveyed were from the College of Sciences (COS).

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- 13.5% (N=10) of students surveyed were from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CAL S).
- 10.8% (N=8) of students surveyed were from the College of Engineering (COE).
- 6.8% (N=5) of students surveyed were from the Department of Academic and Student Affairs (DASA).
- 6.8% (N=5) of students surveyed were from the College of Management (MGMT).
- 5.4% (N=4) of students surveyed were from the College of Education (CED).
- 4.1% (N=3) of students surveyed were from the College of Design (DN).
- 2.7% (N=2) of students surveyed were from the College of Natural Resources (CNR).
- 1.4% (N=1) of students surveyed were from the College of Textiles (TEX).

Figure 5. Distribution Count of Student Class Standing by Academic Standing for 2016 Stop out Participants:



Class Standing of 2016 Stop Out Participants:

- 28.4% (N=21) of students surveyed were freshmen
- 12.2% (N=9) of students surveyed were sophomores.
- 21.6% (N=16) of students surveyed were juniors.
- 37.8% (N=28) of students surveyed were seniors.

Academic Standing of 2016 Stop Out Participants:

- 82.4% (N=61) of students surveyed were in “Good” academic standing.
- 8.1% (N=6) of students surveyed were in “Warning” academic standing.
- 9.5% (N=7) of students surveyed were in “Suspended” academic standing.

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Survey Highlights:

Results suggest 2016 Stop Out survey respondents' decision not to enroll in Fall 2016 was greatly influenced by personal environment, academic policy, and personal academic reasons. *

- **Approximately 40% of survey respondents** noted the desire to “**transfer to another institution**” as having influenced their decision not to enroll “A Great Deal” or “Somewhat”.
- A large number of students indicated **financial reasons (37%), emotional health related problem (27%), needing a break from school (26%), wanting to live closer to family, friends, and significant other (26%), and feeling alone or isolated (20%)** as being central to their decision not to persist.
- Students also endorsed a **lack of connection with faculty and staff (23%), desired major not being offered (22%), and dissatisfaction with major or program (20%)** as affecting the decision to leave NCSU.
- Most common personal academic reasons selected were **stress of school work (23%) and dissatisfaction with my academic performance (23%)**.

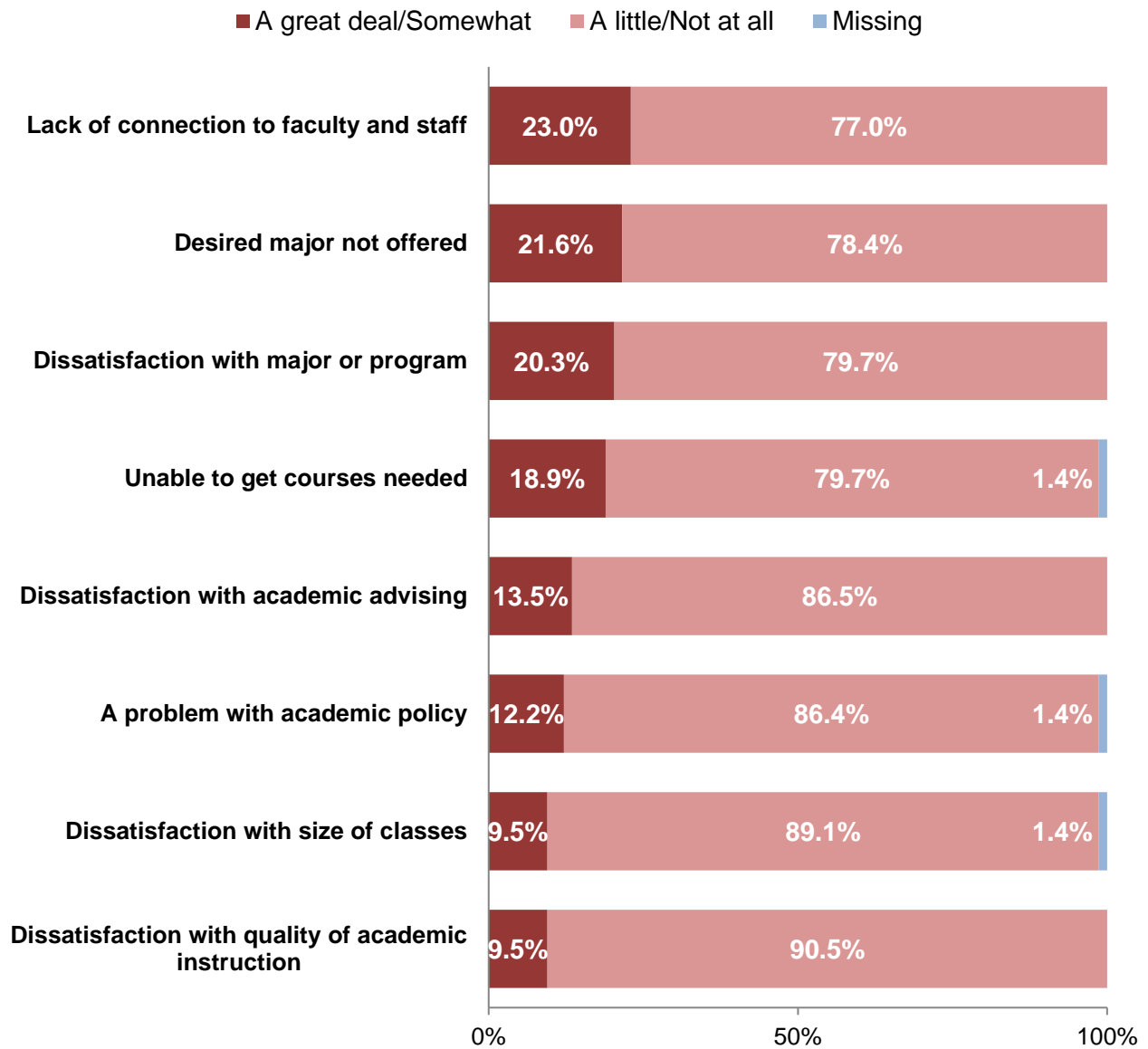
Notably, approximately 88% of students agreed with the statement “I could succeed at NC State”. However, **less than half of survey respondents (46%)** said they planned to return to NCSU.

**Percentages reflect rounding.*

Reasons for not Returning

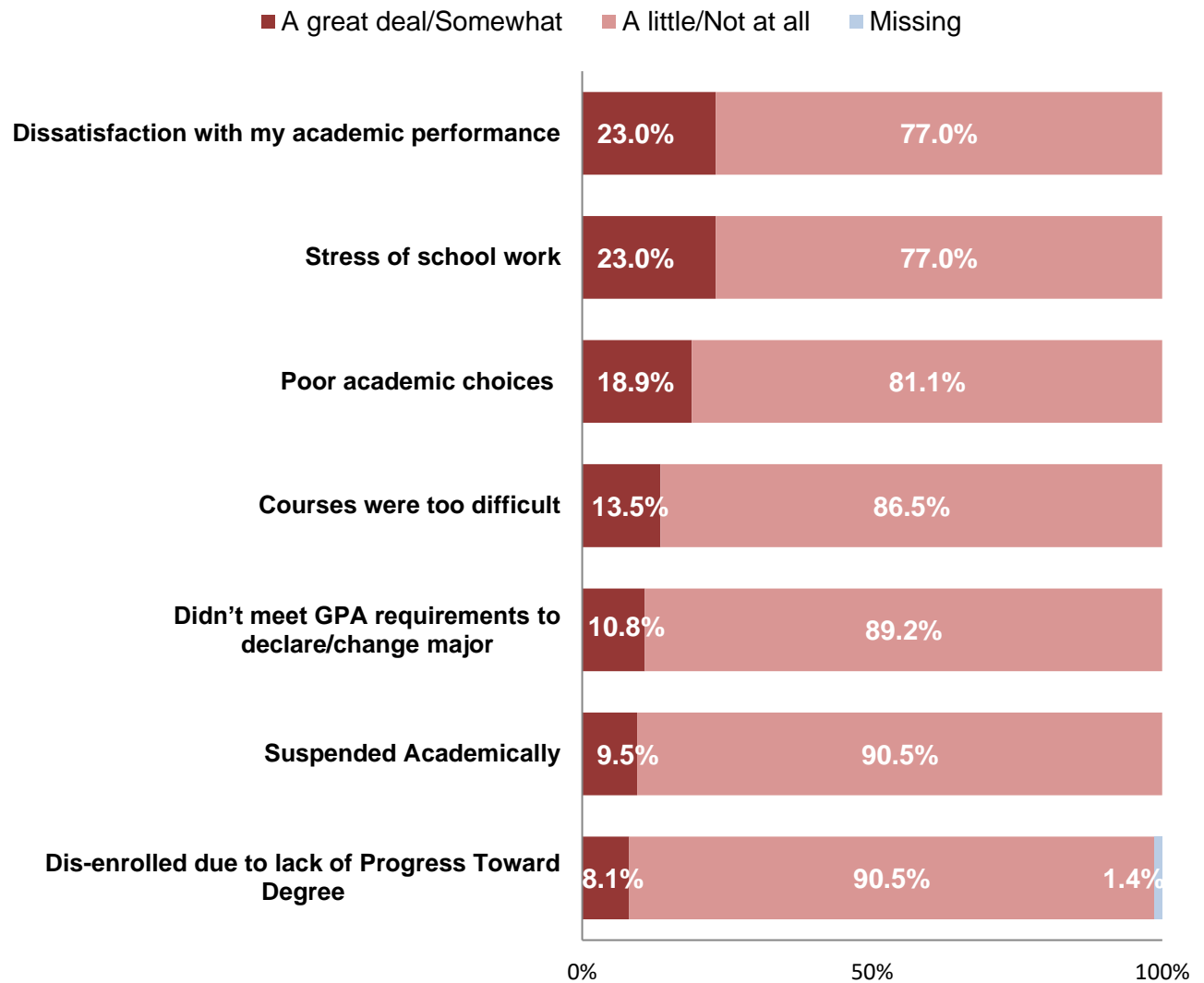
Students were asked to indicate the extent to which each of the following was a reason in deciding not to enroll for fall 2016.

Figure 6. Academic Policy Related Reasons Endorsed by 2016 Stop Out Participants as Influencing Their Decision not to Enroll in Fall 2016



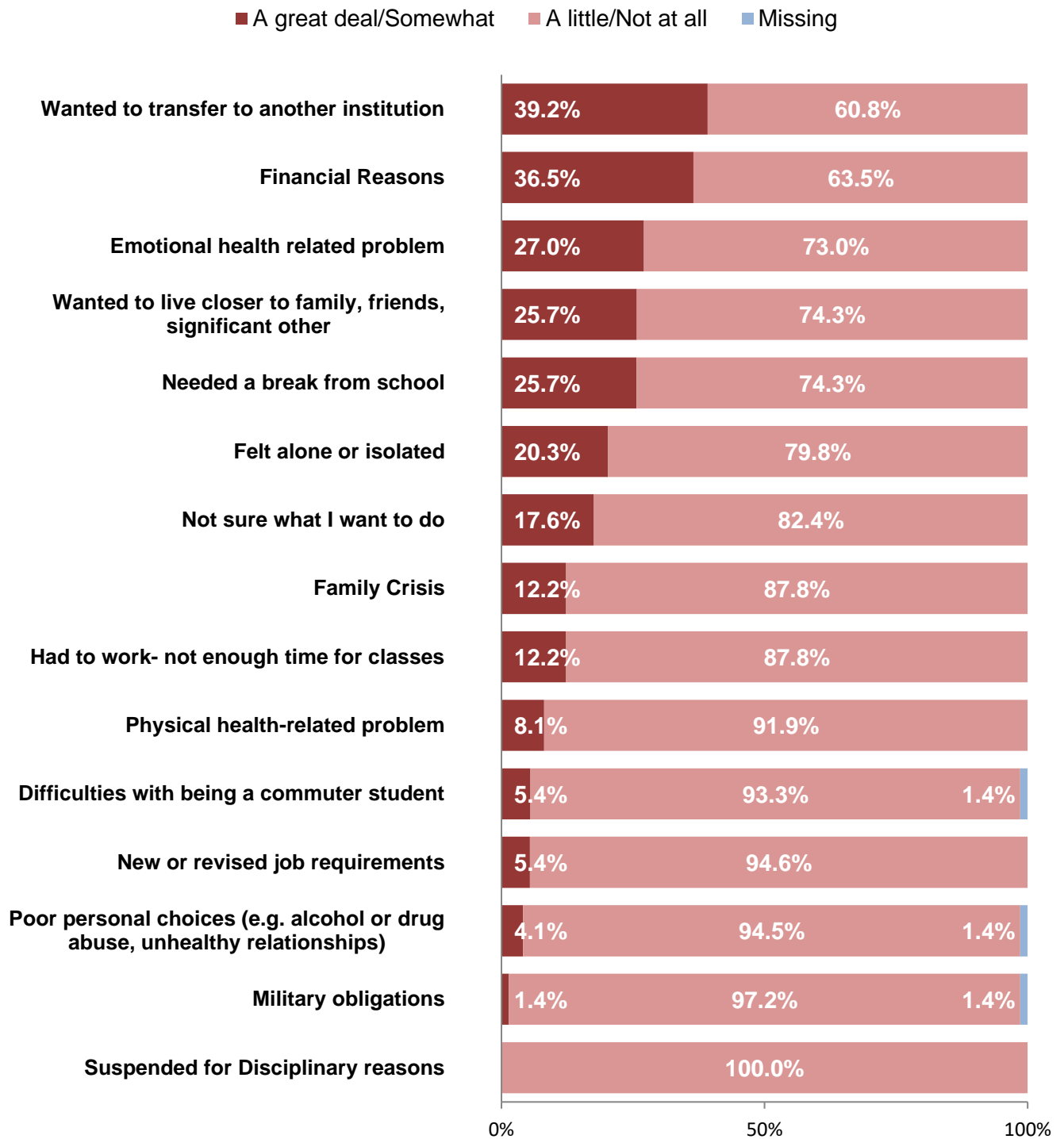
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Figure 7. Personal Academic Reasons Endorsed by 2016 Stop Out Participants as Influencing Their Decision not to Enroll in Fall 2016



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Figure 8. Personal Environment Reasons Endorsed by 2016 Stop Out Participants as Influencing Their Decision not to Enroll in Fall 2016



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Figure 9. College Environment Reasons Endorsed by 2016 Stop Out Participants as Influencing Their Decision not to Enroll in Fall 2016:

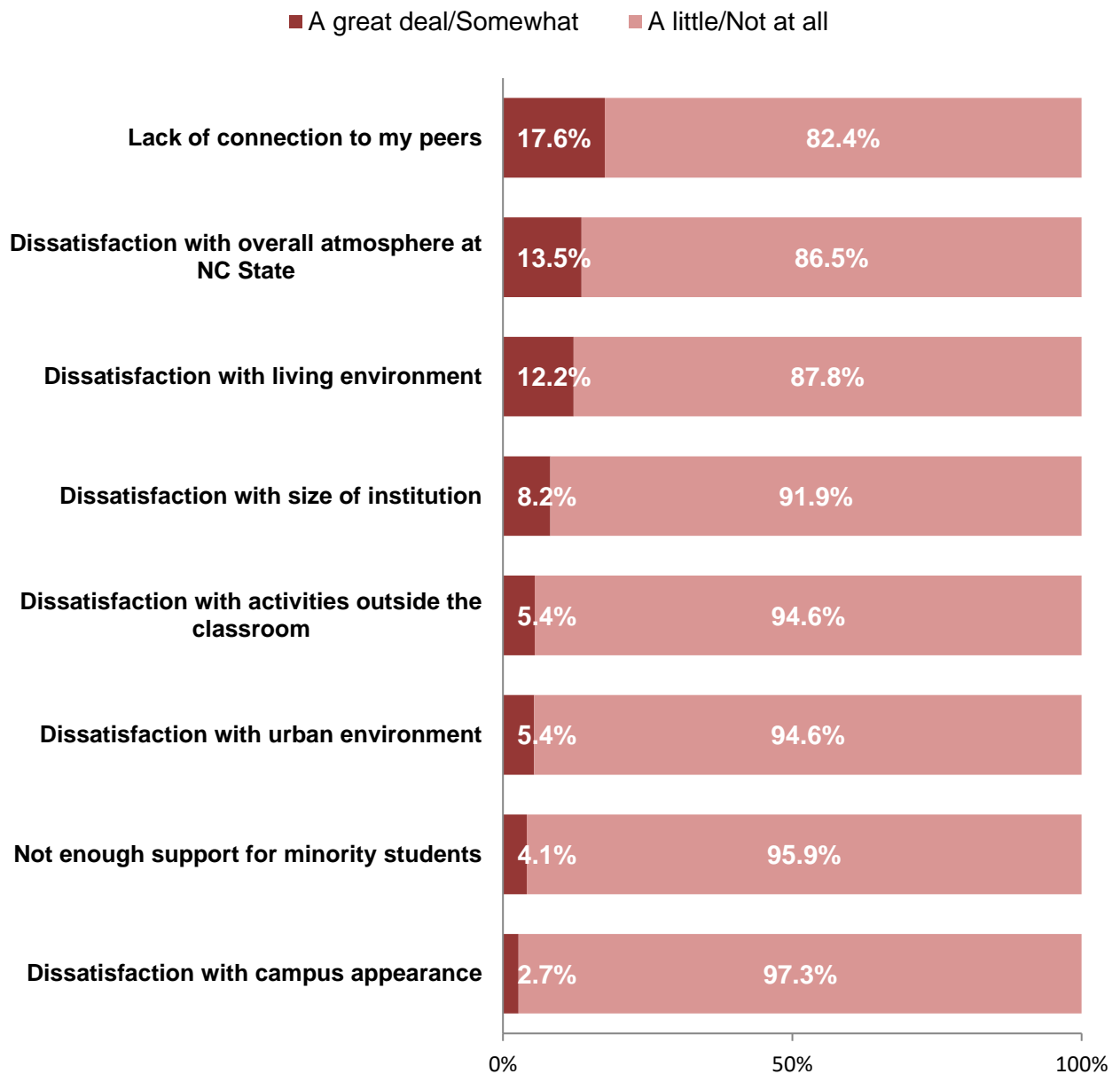
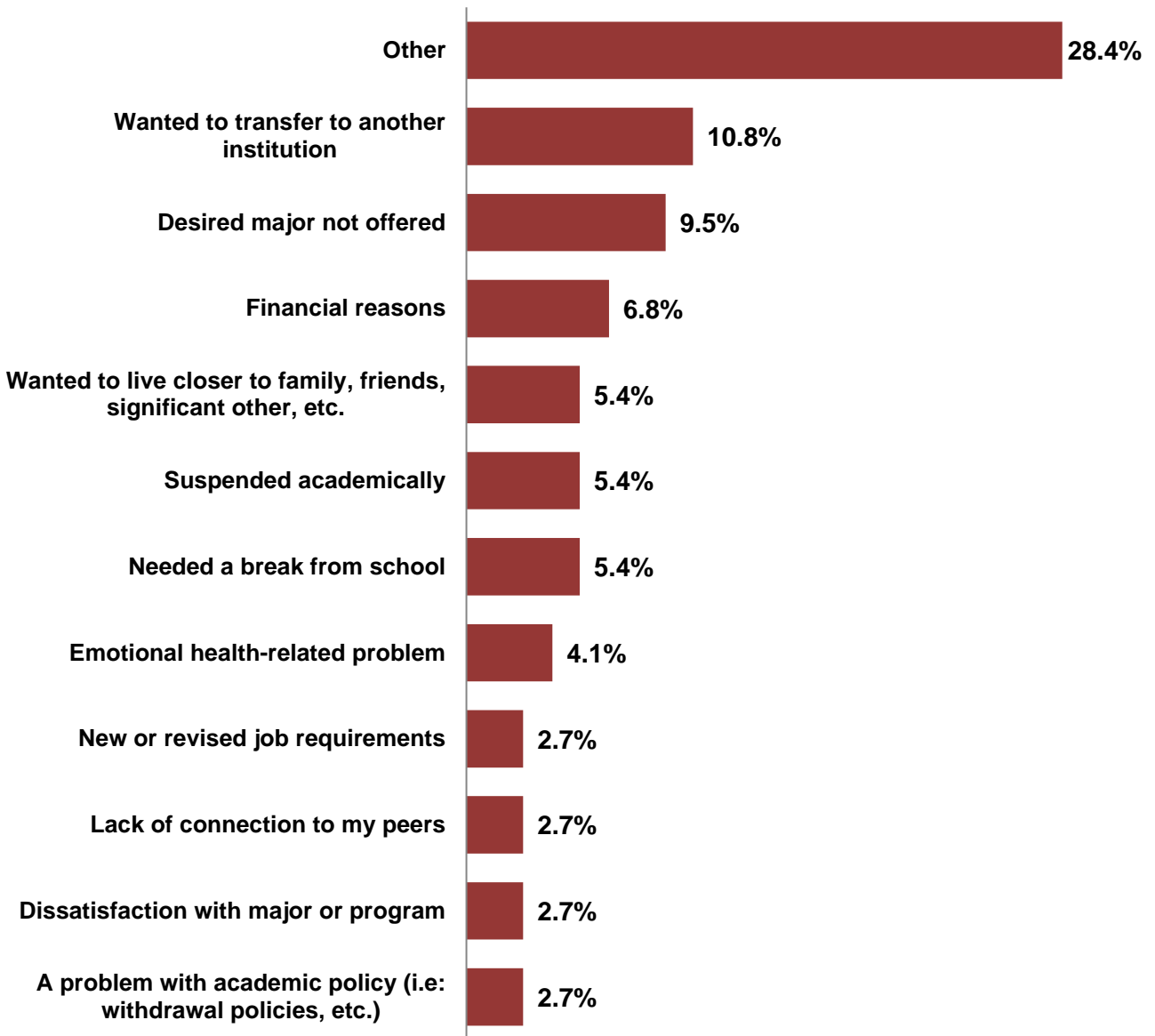


Figure 10. Single Most Important Reason for not Reenrolling Endorsed by 2016 Stop Out Participants



Additional reasons endorsed as most influential in students' decision to leave the institution included: courses were too difficult (N=1), dissatisfaction with overall atmosphere at NC State (N=1), dissatisfaction with academic advising (N=1), family crisis (N=1), physical health-related problem (N=1), poor academic choices (e.g. poor time management, skipping class, not completing assignments) (N=1), poor personal choices (e.g. alcohol or drug abuse, unhealthy relationships, etc.) (N=1), and unable to get courses needed (N=1).

NC State Experience

Students were asked to indicate if they agreed or disagreed with the statements “I plan to return to NC State”, “I could succeed at NC State”, and “When I first enrolled at NC State, I intended to complete a degree from NC State”.

Figure 11. Percent of 2016 Stop Out Participants Planning to Return to NC State

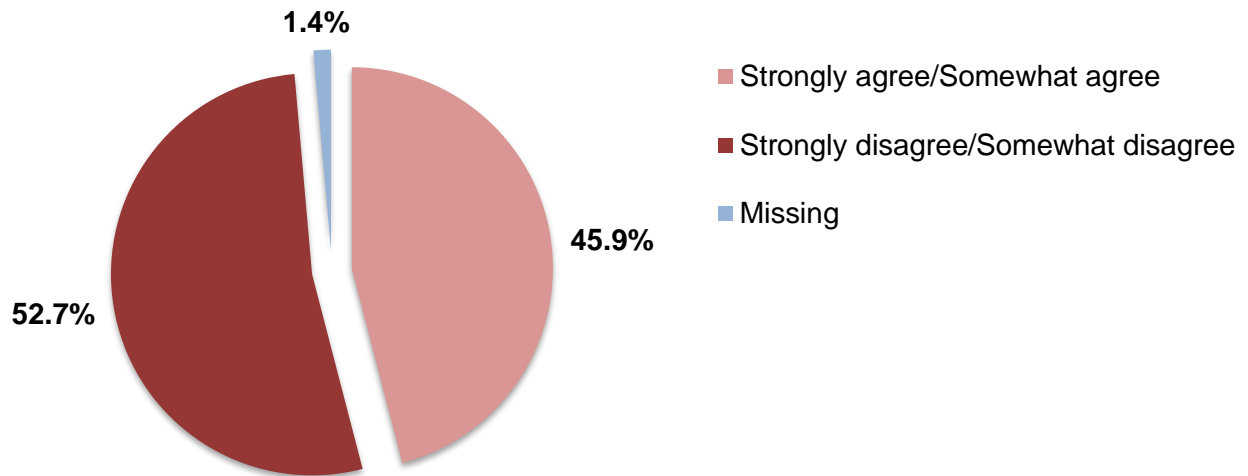


Figure 12. Percent of 2016 Stop Out Participants Who Thought They Could Succeed at NC State

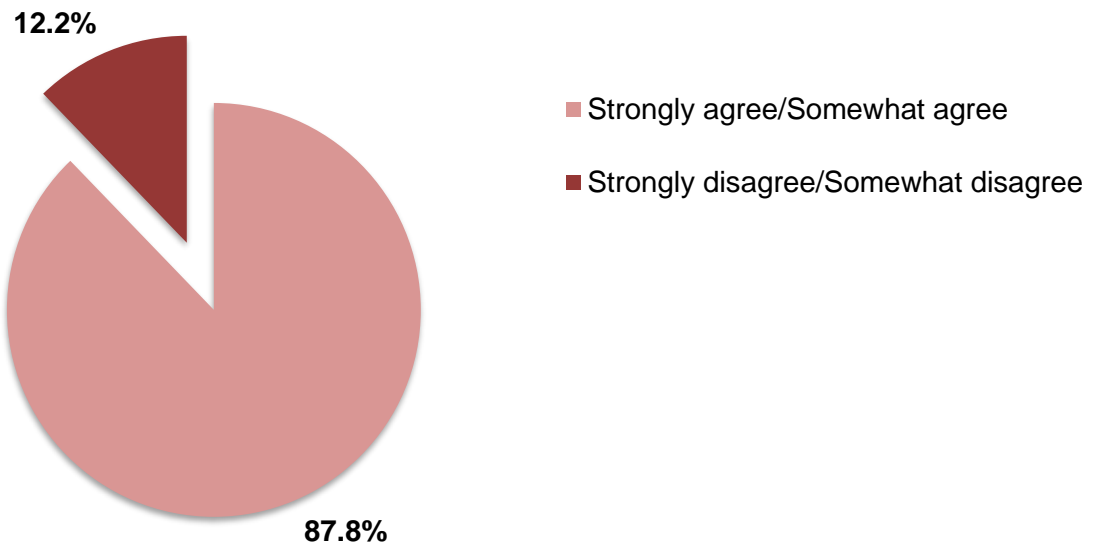
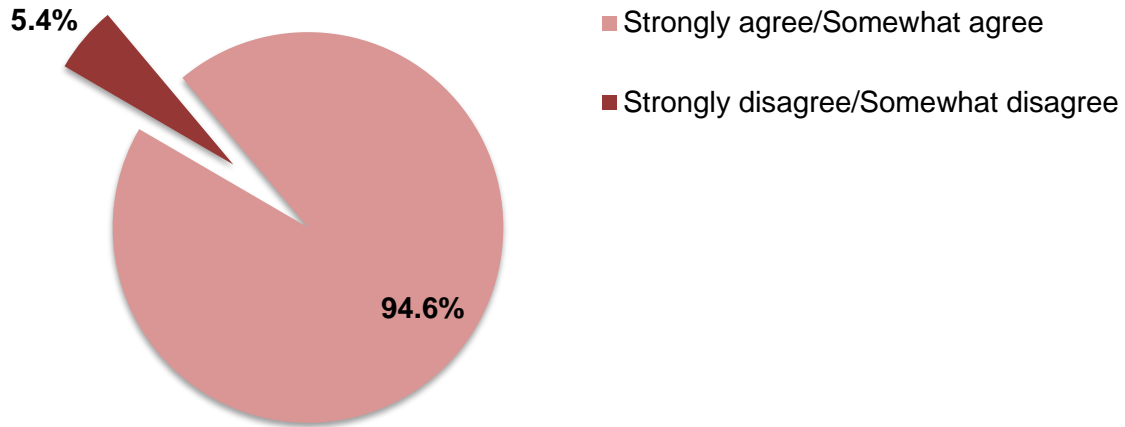


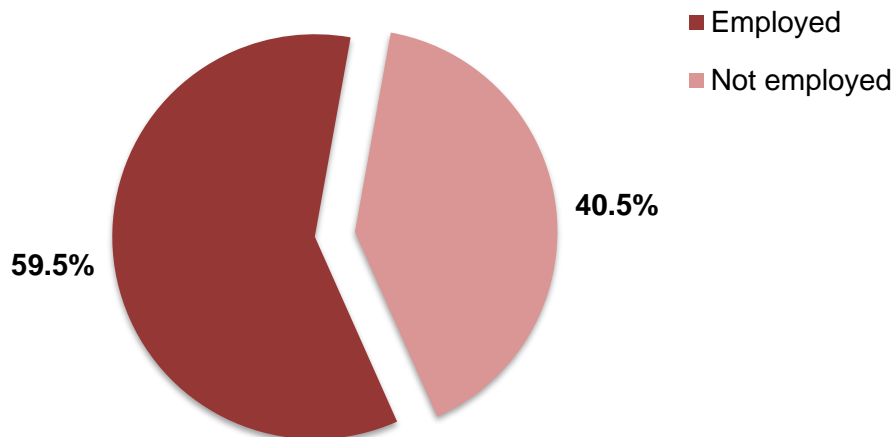
Figure 13. Percent of 2016 Stop Out Participants Who Intended to Complete a Degree from NC State When They First Enrolled at NC State:



Employment while at NC State

Students were asked if they were employed during the 2015-2016 school year while still a student at NC State.

Figure 14. Percent of 2016 Stop Out Participants Who Were Employed During the 2015-2016 School Year While Enrolled at NC State

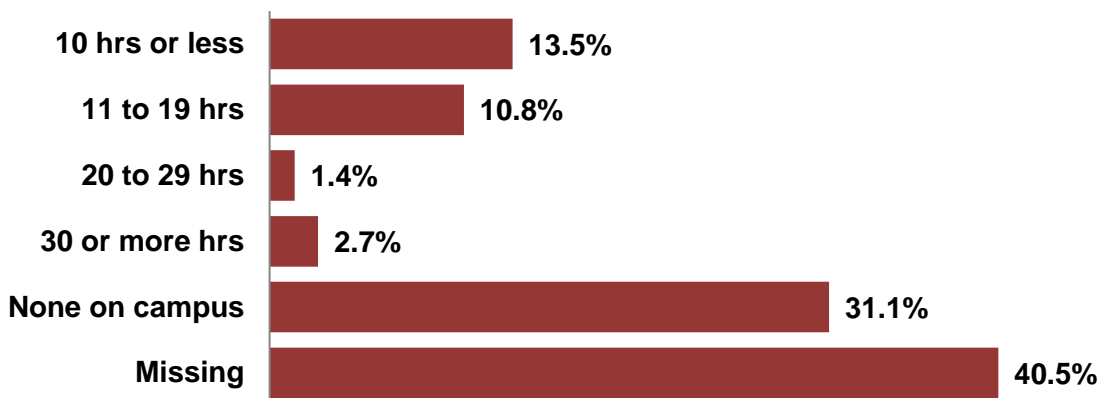


Hours worked on campus:

Students who said they were employed while at NC State were asked how many hours they worked a week on campus.

- 13.5% (N=10) said they worked 10 hours or less on campus.
- 10.8% (N=8) said they worked 11 to 19 hours on campus.
- 4.1% (N=3) said they worked more than 20 hours on campus
- 31.1% (N=23) said they worked no hours on campus
- 40.5% (N=30) of students did not respond to this question.

Figure 15. Hours Worked on Campus by 2016 Stop Out Participants During the 2015-2016 Academic Year

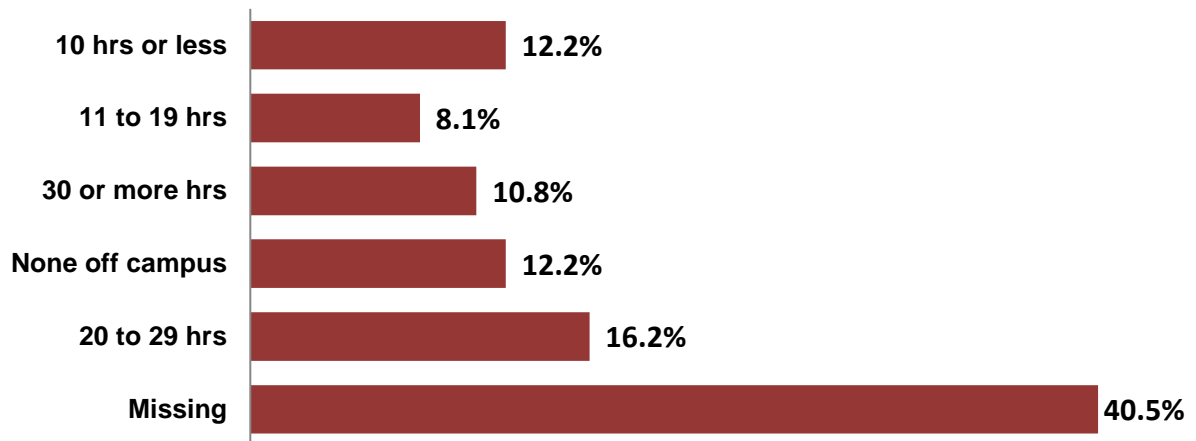


Hours worked off campus:

Students who said they were employed while at NC State were asked how many hours they worked a week off campus.

- 12.2% (N=9) said they worked “10 Hours or less” off campus.
- 8.1% (N=6) said they worked “11-19 hours” off campus.
- 16.2% (N=12) said they worked “20-29 hours” off campus.
- 10.8% (N=8) said they worked “30 or more hours” off campus.
- 12.2% (N=9) responded they worked none off campus.
- 40.5% (N=30) of students did not respond to this question.

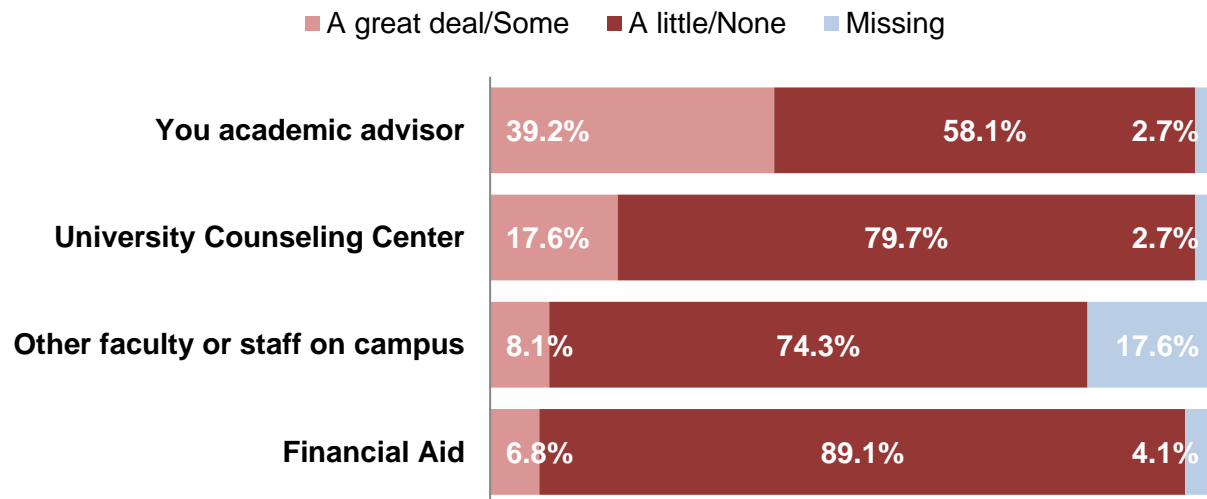
Figure 16. Hours Worked off Campus by 2016 Stop Out Participants During the 2015-2016 Academic Year



Assistance with Decision not to Re-enroll

Students were asked “how much assistance/guidance [they] receive[d] from each of the following”.

Figure 17. How Much Assistance/Guidance 2016 Stop Out Participants Received upon Deciding not to Reenroll



Of the students who indicated “financial reasons” played a part in their decision to leave, approximately 60% said they received “None” or “A Little” assistance/guidance from financial aid.

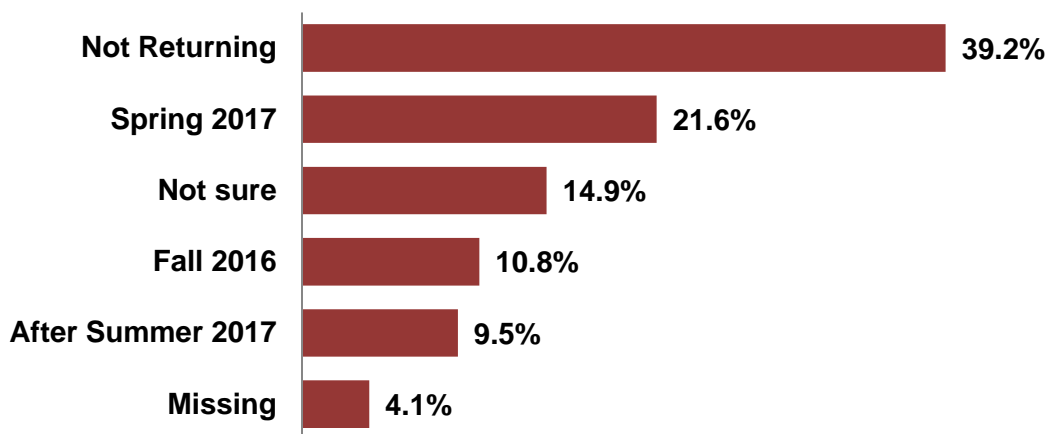
Of the students who indicated emotional health related problems or family crisis as playing a part in their decision to leave roughly 40% said they received “None” or “A Little” assistance/guidance from the University Counseling Center.

Future Intentions

Re-enrollment

Students were asked to indicate in which semester they will re-enroll if they plan to return.

Figure 18. Semester in Which 2016 Stop Out Participants Intending to Return Planned to Re-enroll

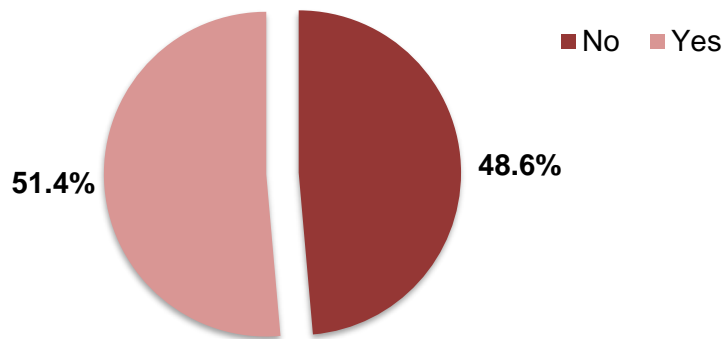


Immediate Persistence for 2016:

Students were asked if they are “currently attending another postsecondary institution or will [they] be attending another postsecondary institution in the fall”.

- 51.4% (N=38) of students indicated “Yes”.
- 48.6% (N=36) of students indicated “No”.

Figure 19. Percent of 2016 Stop Out Participants Attending Another Postsecondary Institution in Summer 2016 or Fall 2016



Future Persistence for 2016

Students who answered “No” to the previous question were asked if they are “planning to attend another postsecondary institution in the future”.

- 14.8% (N=11) of students responded “Yes”.
- 17.6% (N=13) of students responded “Maybe”
- 16.2% (N=12) of students responded “No”.
- 51.4% (N=38) of students did not respond to this question.

Figure 20. Percent of 2016 Stop Out Participants not Attending Another Postsecondary Institution in Summer 2016 or Fall 2016 but Planning to Attend Another Postsecondary Institution in the Future

