

# **Stop Out Survey Report 2018**

**August 28, 2018**

**Survey Results**

**Prepared by:**

**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 2018 Stop Out sample consisted of 1155 students. Approximately 6.23% (72 of 1155) of the students in the 2018 Stop Out sample submitted a complete or partial response. The following is a summary of the results of that survey. The questions provided students with a list of reasons regarding why 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 not have been on the pre-populated list. Students were asked to name any office or person on campus they may have reached out to for assistance with their decision. Other factors were addressed as well, including employment status while at NCSU, future plans to continue their postsecondary education, and overall experience while enrolled.

## Survey Highlights

\*Summary highlights regarding 2018 Stop Out respondents' decisions not to enroll in Fall 2018 include relatively high frequencies of moderate ("Somewhat") to strong ("A Great Deal") personal, environmental, social, and academic influential factors.

- **Approximately 40.3% of survey respondents** noted the desire to **"transfer to another institution"** as a moderate to strong influence on their decision not to enroll.
- **Approximately 31.9% of survey respondents** indicated feelings of **loneliness or isolation** as an influential factor in their decision not to enroll, as indicated by choices of "A Great Deal" or "Somewhat".
- **Approximately 29.2% of survey respondents** selected "A Great Deal" or "Somewhat" in regards to **financial reasons** influencing their decision not to enroll.
- **Approximately 29.2% of survey respondents** selected "A Great Deal" or "Somewhat" in regards to **dissatisfaction with academic performance** influencing their decision not to enroll.

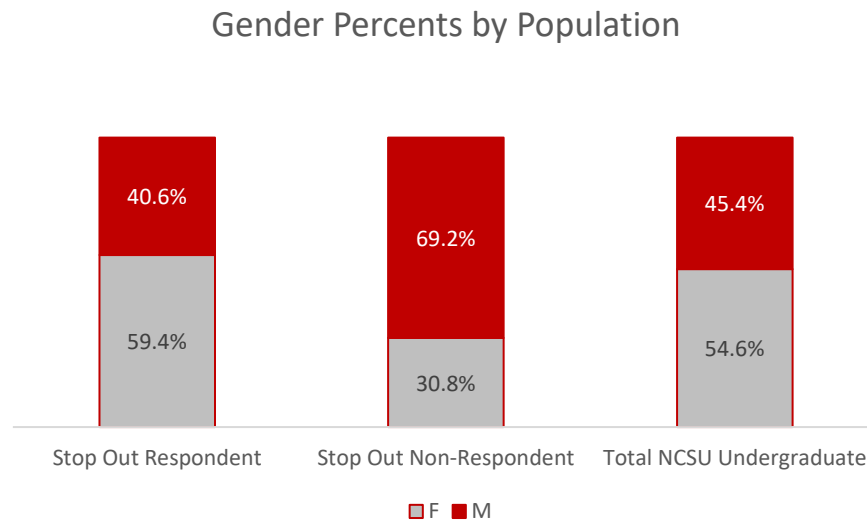
Notably, **approximately 84.7% of survey respondents** indicated that they "Strongly Agree" or "Somewhat Agree" with the statement **"I could succeed at NC State"**. In addition, **approximately 45.8% of survey respondents** were considering **returning to NC State**.

*\*Percentages in Survey Highlights are rounded to one decimal place.*

## Demographics

Respondents (n=72)\*\*

**Figure 1. Gender Proportions for 2018 Stop Out Respondents, Stop Out Population and NCSU Undergraduate Population.**



The gender percentages seen above show unequal proportions across populations, particularly for the population of Stop Out non-respondents with respect to the total NCSU undergraduate population.

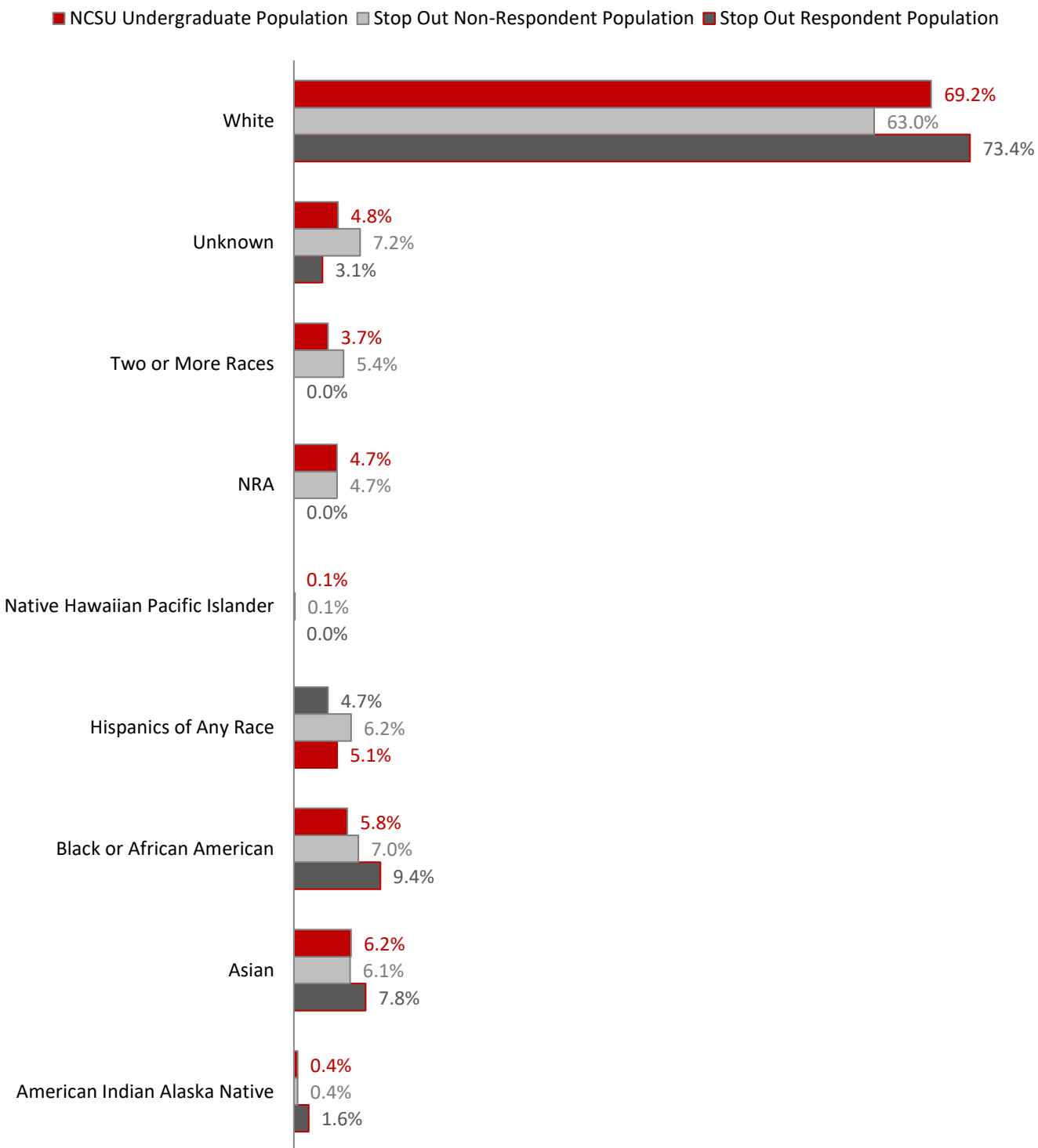
**Figure 2. Distribution of Academic Performance of 2018 Stop Out Respondents.**



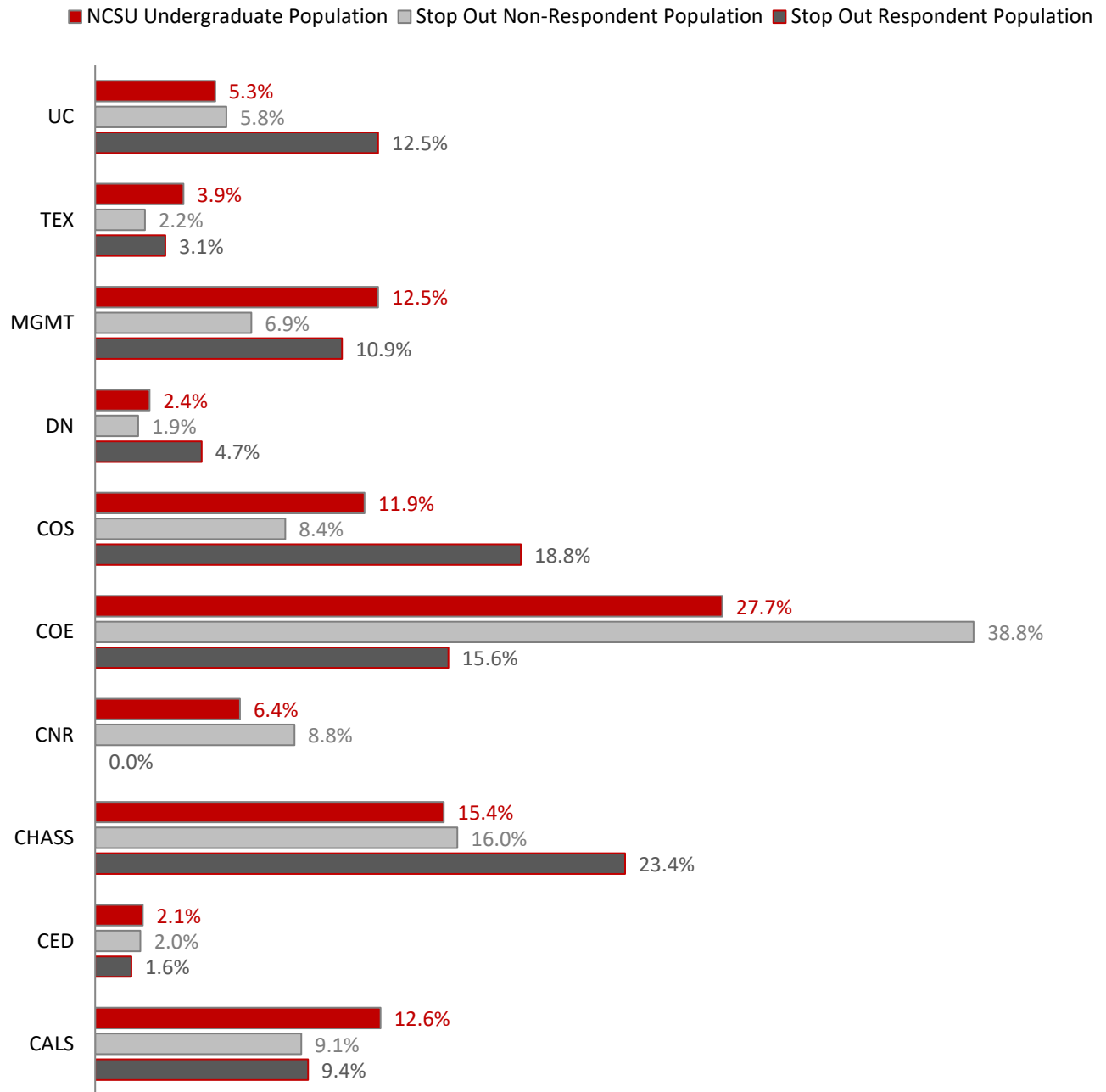
The mean GPA for 2018 was 2.9 for respondents, and 2.3 for non-respondents, indicating a difference in these Stop Out 2018 populations.

\*\*Due to rounding to one decimal place, percentages may not exactly total 100%.

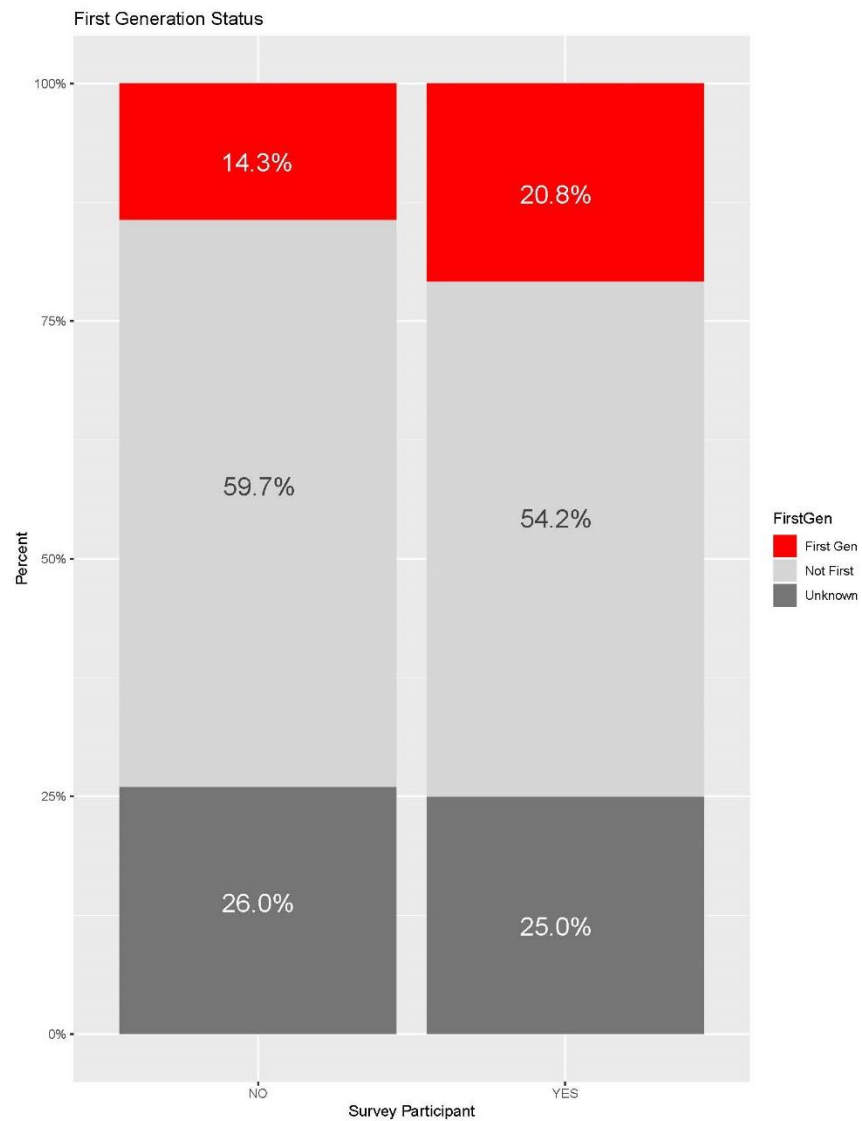
**Figure 3. Race/Ethnicity of 2018 Stop Out Respondents, Stop Out Non-Respondents and Overall NCSU Undergraduate Population.**



**Figure 4. Distribution of Students by Academic College for 2018 Stop Out Respondents, Stop Out Non-Respondents and Overall NCSU Undergraduate Population.**



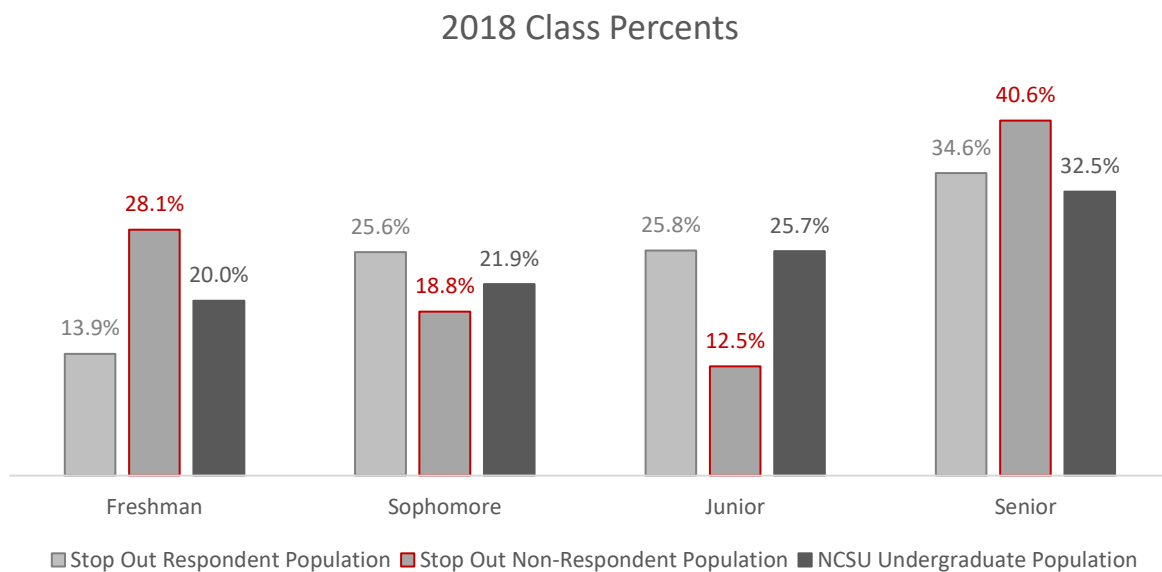
**Figure 5. First Generation Status Percentages of 2018 Stop Out Respondents and Stop Out Non-Respondents.**



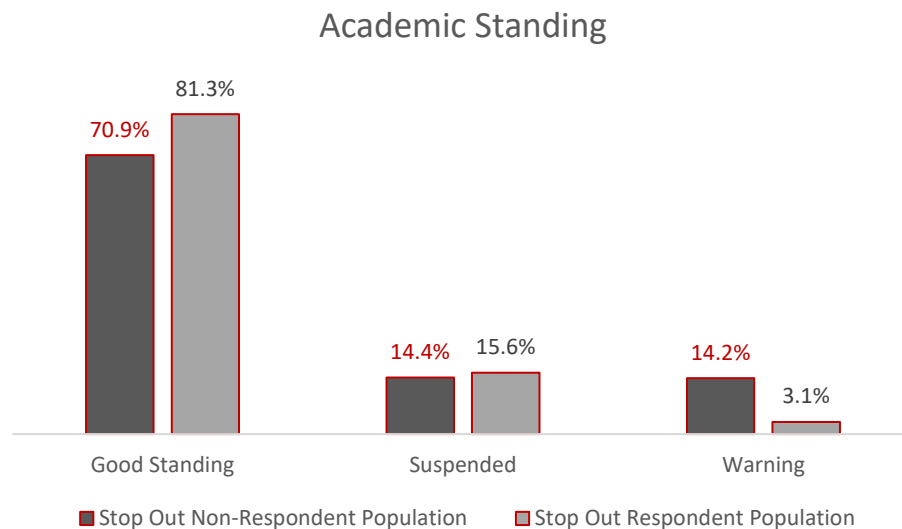
**Figure 6. Percent Rural Status for 2018 Stop Out Respondents and Non-Respondents.**

| Rural Status               | Stop Out Non-Respondent | Stop Out Respondent |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
|                            | %                       | %                   |
| Rural                      | 7.6%                    | 6.3%                |
| Mixed Rural                | 31.6%                   | 23.8%               |
| Mixed Urban                | 33.1%                   | 39.7%               |
| Urban                      | 14.1%                   | 15.9%               |
| Out of State/International | 13.6%                   | 14.3%               |

**Figure 7. Class Year of 2018 Stop Out Respondents, Stop Out Non-Respondents and Total NCSU Undergraduate Population.**



*Percentages do not include 5<sup>th</sup>-year representation or other class year classifications (<1% in stop out population and not included in total undergraduate count). Missing entries excluded from percent calculations. Percentages may not exactly total 100%.*

**Figure 8. Academic Standing of 2018 Stop Out Population Respondents and Stop Out Non-Respondents.**

Percentages are displayed for academic standing categories for the Stop Out population by participant status. (<.05% falling into different categories for non-respondent population not included in the graph).

**Figure 9. Academic Standing by School Year Percentages for the Entire Stop Out Population.**

|               | Freshman | Sophomore | Junior | Senior |
|---------------|----------|-----------|--------|--------|
| Good Standing | 16.2%    | 22.2%     | 20.1%  | 41.4%  |
| Suspended     | 18.7%    | 26.7%     | 30.7%  | 24.0%  |
| Warning       | 11.4%    | 22.9%     | 29.3%  | 36.4%  |

118 out of 1155 missing observations excluded from table percentages. 5 individuals falling into other academic standing categories omitted from the table. Two fifth year students omitted from the table. Totals may not add to exactly 100%.



**Reasons for Not Returning**

Students were asked to indicate the extent to which each of the following statements was a reason in deciding not to enroll for fall 2018.

**Figure 10. Academic Policy Related Reasons: Percent Degree of Influence on Not Enrolling in Fall 2018 for 2018 Stop Out Respondents.**

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| <b>Dissatisfied with Major or Program</b>       |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                        | 15.3% |
| A Little or Not at All                          | 84.7% |
| <b>Lack of Connection to Peers</b>              |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                        | 26.4% |
| A Little or Not at All                          | 73.6% |
| <b>Dissatisfied with Academic Advising</b>      |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                        | 8.3%  |
| A Little or Not at All                          | 91.7% |
| <b>Desired Major Not Offered</b>                |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                        | 19.4% |
| A Little or Not at All                          | 80.6% |
| <b>Dissatisfied with Quality of Instruction</b> |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                        | 9.7%  |
| A Little or Not at All                          | 90.3% |
| <b>A Problem with Academic Policy</b>           |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                        | 6.9%  |
| A Little or Not at All                          | 93.1% |
| <b>Unable to get Courses Needed</b>             |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                        | 6.9%  |
| A Little or Not at All                          | 93.1% |
| <b>Dissatisfied with Class Size</b>             |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                        | 8.3%  |
| A Little or Not at All                          | 91.7% |

**Figure 11. Personal Academic Reasons: Percent Degree of Influence on Not Enrolling in Fall 2018 for 2018 Stop Out Respondents.**

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| <b>Dissatisfied with Academic Performance</b>        |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                             | 29.2% |
| A Little or Not at All                               | 70.8% |
| <b>Stress of School Work</b>                         |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                             | 23.6% |
| A Little or Not at All                               | 76.4% |
| <b>Poor Academic Choices</b>                         |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                             | 18.1% |
| A Little or Not at All                               | 81.9% |
| <b>Courses too Difficult</b>                         |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                             | 12.5% |
| A Little or Not at All                               | 87.5% |
| <b>Did Not Meet GPA requirements to Change Major</b> |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                             | 11.1% |
| A Little or Not at All                               | 88.9% |
| <b>Suspended Academically</b>                        |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                             | 8.3%  |
| A Little or Not at All                               | 91.7% |
| <b>Lack of Progress Towards Degree</b>               |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                             | 11.1% |
| A Little or Not at All                               | 87.5% |
| No Response  | 1.4%  |

**Figure 12. Personal Environment Reasons: Percent Degree of Influence on Not Enrolling in Fall 2018 for 2018 Stop Out Respondents.**

**Wanted to Transfer**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 40.3% |
| A Little or Not at All   | 59.7% |

**Financial Reasons**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 29.2% |
| A Little or Not at All   | 70.8% |

**Felt Alone or Isolated**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 31.9% |
| A Little or Not at All   | 68.1% |

**Emotional Health Problems**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 25.0% |
| A Little or Not at All   | 75.0% |

**Needed a Break from School**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 20.8% |
| A Little or Not at All   | 79.2% |

**Not Sure What I Want to Do**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 20.8% |
| A Little or Not at All   | 79.2% |

**Wanted to Live Closer to Family and Friends**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 16.7% |
| A Little or Not at All   | 83.3% |

Figure 12 (continued).

**Family Crisis**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 15.3% |
| A Little or Not at All   | 83.3% |
| No Response              | 1.4%  |

**Had to Work, No Time for Class**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 6.9%  |
| A Little or Not at All   | 93.1% |

**Physical Health Problems**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 1.4%  |
| A Little or Not at All   | 97.2% |
| No Response              | 1.4%  |

**New or Revised Job Requirements**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 4.2%  |
| A Little or Not at All   | 94.4% |
| No Response              | 1.4%  |

**Difficulties Commuting**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 4.2%  |
| A Little or Not at All   | 95.8% |

**Poor Personal Choices**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 2.8%  |
| A Little or Not at All   | 95.8% |
| No Response              | 1.4%  |

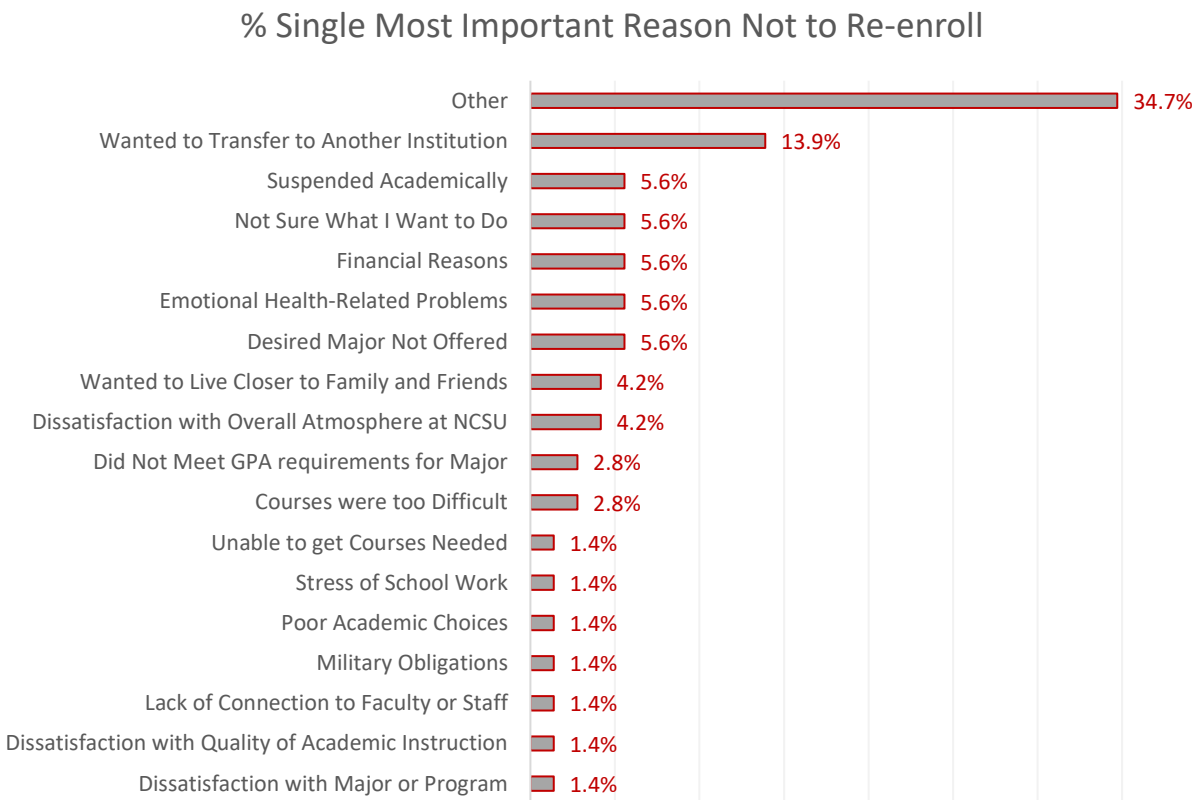
**Figure 13. College Environment Reasons: Percent Degree of Influence on Not Enrolling in Fall 2018 for 2018 Stop Out Respondents.**

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| <b>Dissatisfied with Living Environment</b>         |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                            | 9.7%  |
| A Little or Not at All                              | 90.3% |
| <b>Lack of Connection to Peers</b>                  |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                            | 26.4% |
| A Little or Not at All                              | 73.6% |
| <b>Dissatisfied with NCSU Atmosphere</b>            |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                            | 16.7% |
| A Little or Not at All                              | 81.9% |
| No Response   | 1.4%  |
| <b>Dissatisfied with Extracurricular Activities</b> |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                            | 8.3%  |
| A Little or Not at All                              | 91.7% |
| <b>Dissatisfied with Campus Appearance</b>          |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                            | 6.9%  |
| A Little or Not at All                              | 93.1% |
| <b>Dissatisfied with Urban Environment</b>          |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                            | 8.3%  |
| A Little or Not at All                              | 91.7% |
| <b>Dissatisfied with Class Size</b>                 |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                            | 8.3%  |
| A Little or Not at All                              | 91.7% |
| <b>Not Enough Support for Minority Students</b>     |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat                            | 5.6%  |
| A Little or Not at All                              | 94.4% |

The following table indicates influence category percentages for Stop Out respondents with respect to “Other” reasons for not enrolling in Fall 2018.

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| <b>Other</b>             |       |
| A Great Deal or Somewhat | 26.4% |
| A Little or Not at All   | 33.3% |
| No Response              | 40.3% |

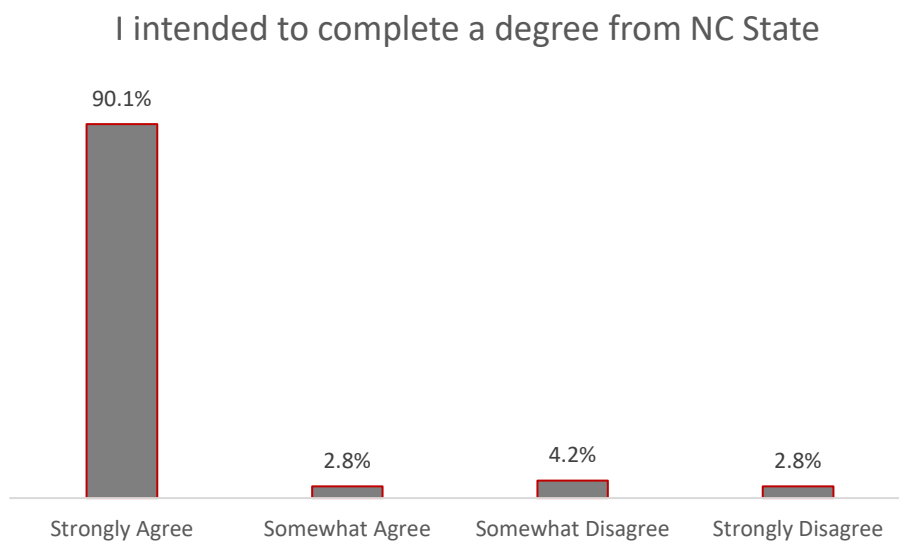
**Figure 14. Single Most Important Reasons for Not Re-enrolling for 2018 Stop Out Respondents.**



## NC State Experience

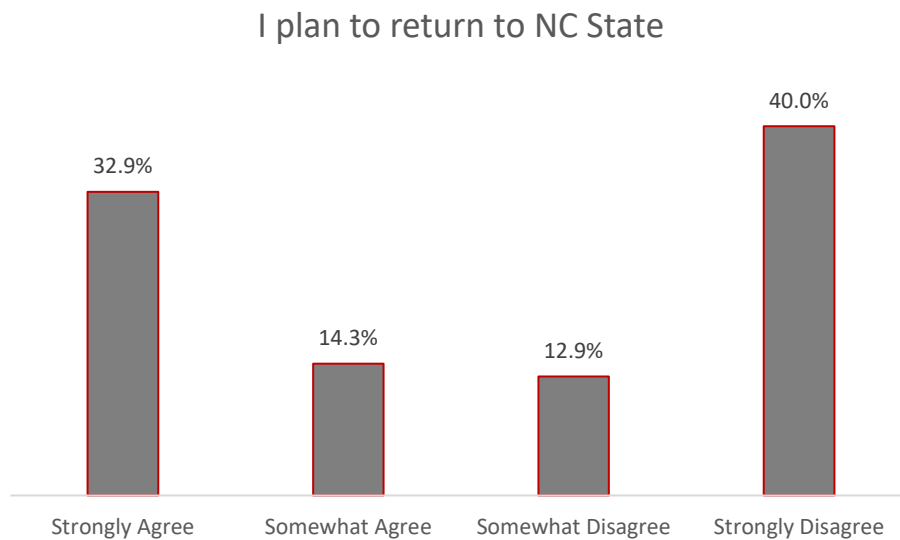
Students were asked to indicate if they agreed or disagreed with the statements “I plan to return to NC State”, “I could succeed at NC State”, and “When I first enrolled at NC State, I intended to complete a degree from NC State”.

**Figure 15. Percent of 2018 Stop Out Respondents Who Intended to Complete a Degree from NC State When They First Enrolled at NC State.**



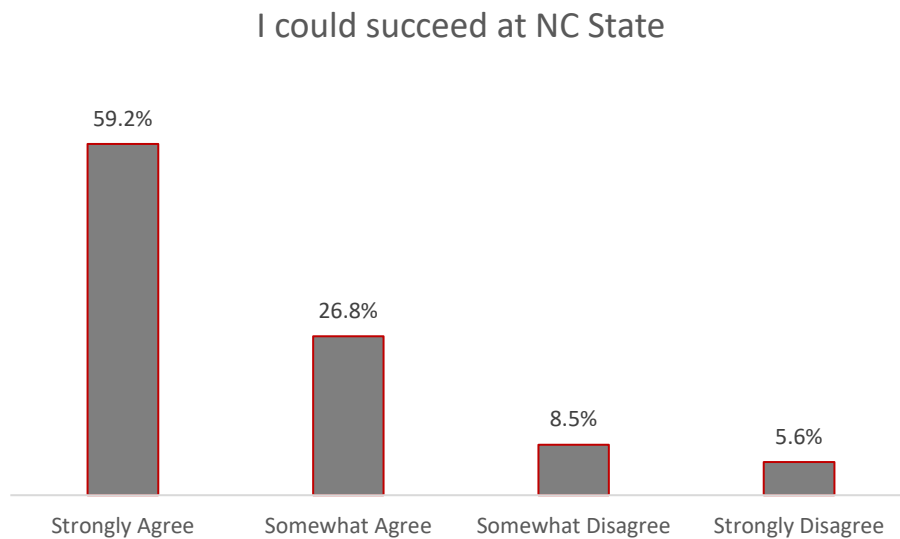
*Percentages here are excluding non-respondents (1 out of 72)*

**Figure 16. Percent of 2018 Stop Out Respondents Planning to Return to NC State.**



*Percentages here are excluding non-respondents (2 out of 72)*

**Figure 17. Percent of 2018 Stop Out Respondents Who Thought They Could Succeed at NC State.**



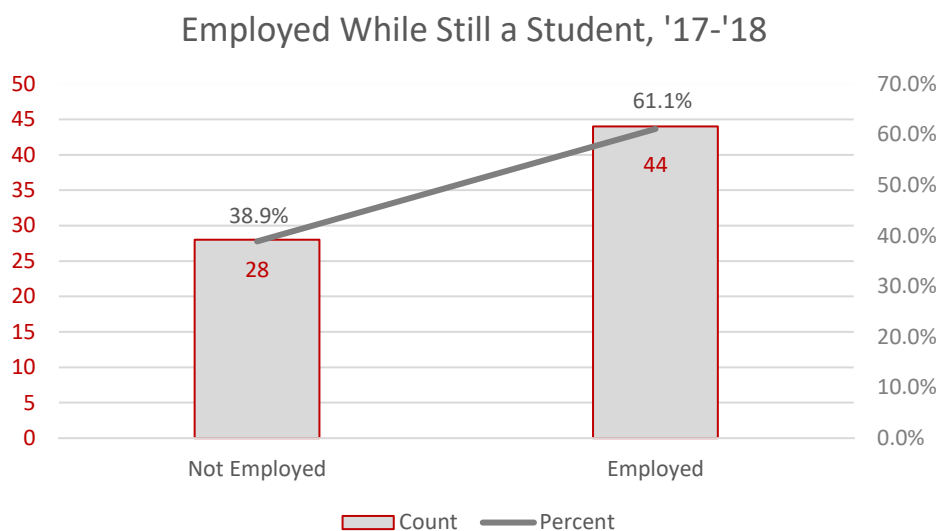
*Percentages here are excluding non-respondents (1 out of 72)*



**Employment while at NC State**

Students were asked if they were employed during the 2017-2018 school year while still a student at NC State.

**Figure 18. Percent and Count of 2018 Stop Out Respondents Who Were Employed During the 2017-2018 School Year While Enrolled at NC State.**

***Hours worked on campus***

The table below lists the counts and percents of student responses to hours worked per week on campus for 43 out of the 44 respondents who indicated working while being a student during the 2017-2018 school year.

| Hours Worked on Campus | Count | Percent |
|------------------------|-------|---------|
| None on campus         | 20    | 46.5%   |
| 10 hours or fewer      | 7     | 16.3%   |
| 11 to 19               | 9     | 20.9%   |
| 20 to 29               | 3     | 7.0%    |
| 30 or more hours       | 4     | 9.3%    |

***Hours worked off campus***

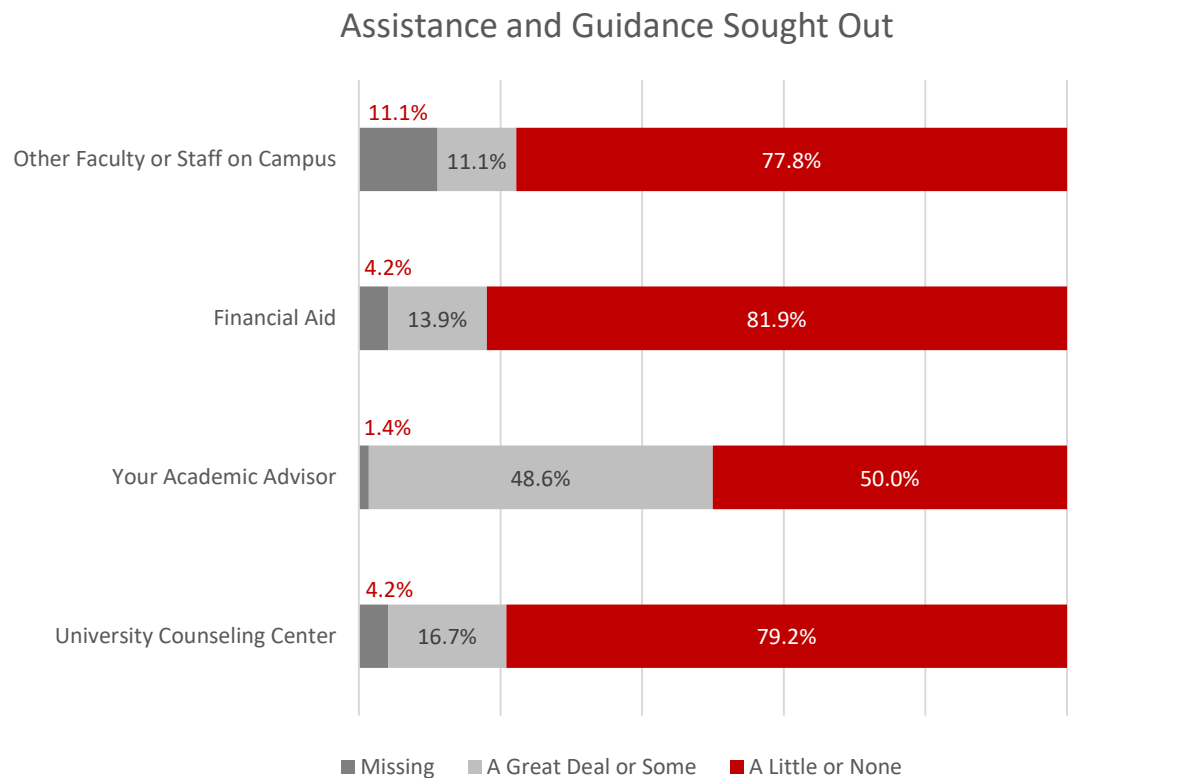
The table below lists the counts and percents of student responses to hours worked per week off campus for 43 out of the 44 respondents who indicated working while being a student during the 2017-2018 school year.

| Hours worked off Campus | Count | Percent |
|-------------------------|-------|---------|
| None off campus         | 15    | 34.9%   |
| 10 hours or fewer       | 9     | 20.9%   |
| 11 to 19                | 8     | 18.6%   |
| 20 to 29                | 6     | 14.0%   |
| 30 or more hours        | 5     | 11.6%   |

## Assistance with Decision not to Re-enroll

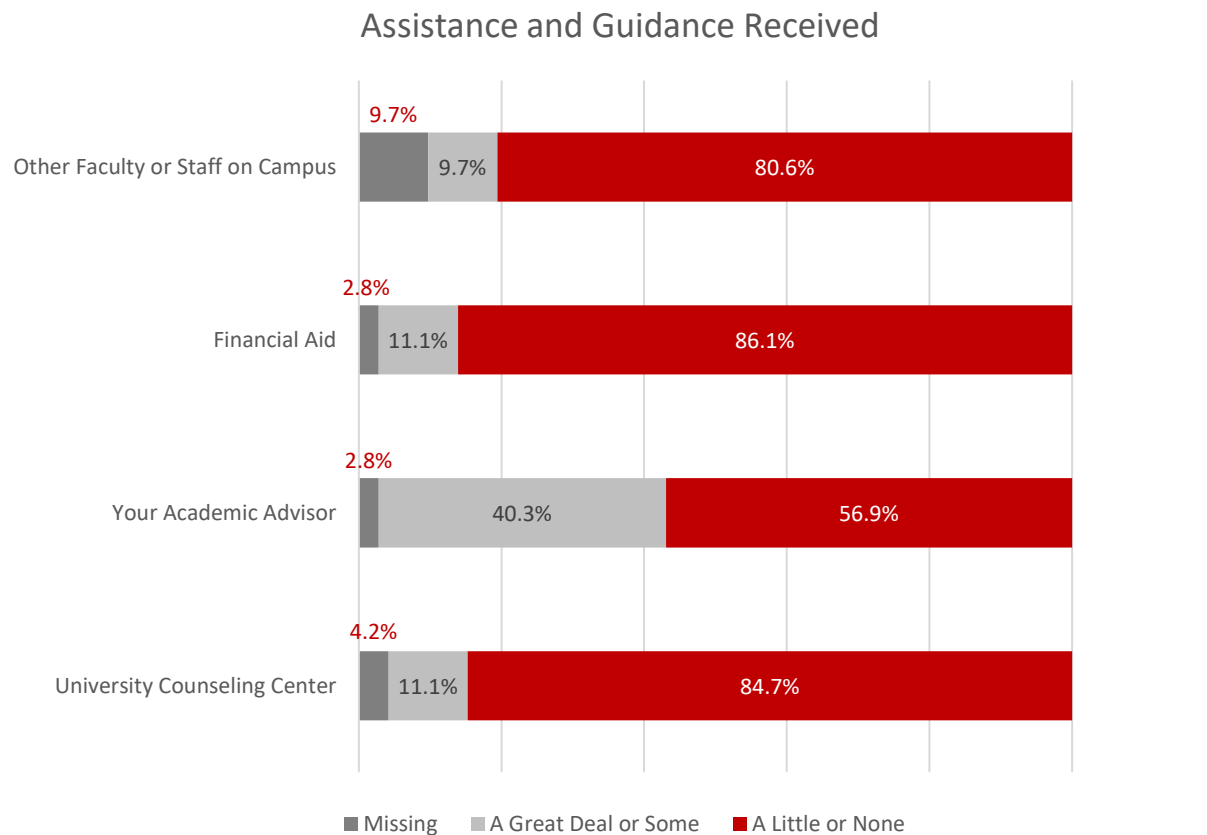
Students were asked: “When you made your decision not to enroll, did you seek out assistance/guidance from any of the following?” (Categories listed in the graph below).

**Figure 19. How Much Assistance/Guidance 2018 Stop Out Respondents Sought Out When Deciding not to Re-enroll.**



Students were asked “When you made your decision not to enroll, how much assistance/guidance did you receive from each of the following” (categories listed in the graph below).

**Figure 20. How Much Assistance/Guidance 2018 Stop Out Respondents Received upon Deciding not to Re-enroll.**



**Help From Financial Aid**

The table below displays the percentages of respondents' indicated degrees that "Financial Reasons" influenced their decision not to re-enroll versus how much help they sought and received from Financial Aid.

| Financial Reasons    | <b><i>Sought</i> Help From Financial Aid</b> |                  |         | <b><i>Received</i> Help From Financial Aid</b> |                  |         |
|----------------------|--|------------------|---------|--|------------------|---------|
|                      | A Great Deal or Some                         | A Little or None | Missing | A Great Deal or Some                           | A Little or None | Missing |
| A Great Deal or Some | 6.9%   | 22.2%            | 0.0%    | 5.6%   | 23.6%            | 0.0%    |
| A Little or None     | 6.9%   | 59.7%            | 4.2%    | 5.6%   | 62.5%            | 2.8%    |

The table below displays the percentages of students falling into the various categories for seeking and receiving help from Financial Aid. 8.3% of respondents sought "A Great Deal or Some" help from financial aid and received "A Great Deal or Some" help from Financial Aid. 5.6% of respondents sought "A Great Deal or Some" help from financial aid and received "A Little or None".

| <b><i>Sought</i> Help From Financial Aid</b> | Missing | <b><i>Received</i> Help From Financial Aid</b> |                  |
|--|---------|--|------------------|
|  |         | A Great Deal or Some                           | A Little or None |
| Missing                                      | 2.8%    | 1.4%   | 0.0%             |
| A Great Deal or Some                         | 0.0%    | 8.3%   | 5.6%             |
| A Little or None                             | 0.0%    | 1.4%   | 80.6%            |

**Help From University Counseling Center**

The table below displays the percentages of respondents' indicated degrees that "Emotional Health" influenced their decision not to re-enroll versus how much help they sought and received from the University Counseling Center.

| <b>Emotional Health</b> | <b><i>Sought</i> Help From University Counseling Center</b> |                      |                  | <b><i>Received</i> Help From University Counseling Center</b> |                      |                  |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------|------------------|---|----------------------|------------------|
|                         | Missing   | A Great Deal or Some | A Little or None | Missing   | A Great Deal or Some | A Little or None |
| A Great Deal or Some    | 0.0%  | 11.1%                | 13.9%            | 0.0%  | 8.3%                 | 16.7%            |
| A Little or None        | 4.2%  | 5.6%                 | 65.3%            | 4.2%  | 2.8%                 | 68.1%            |

The table below displays the percentages of students falling into the various categories for seeking and receiving help from University counseling. 9.7% of respondents sought "A Great Deal or Some" help from the University Counseling Center and received "A Great Deal or Some" help from the University Counseling Center. 6.9% of respondents sought "A Great Deal or Some" help from the University counseling Center and received "A Little or None".

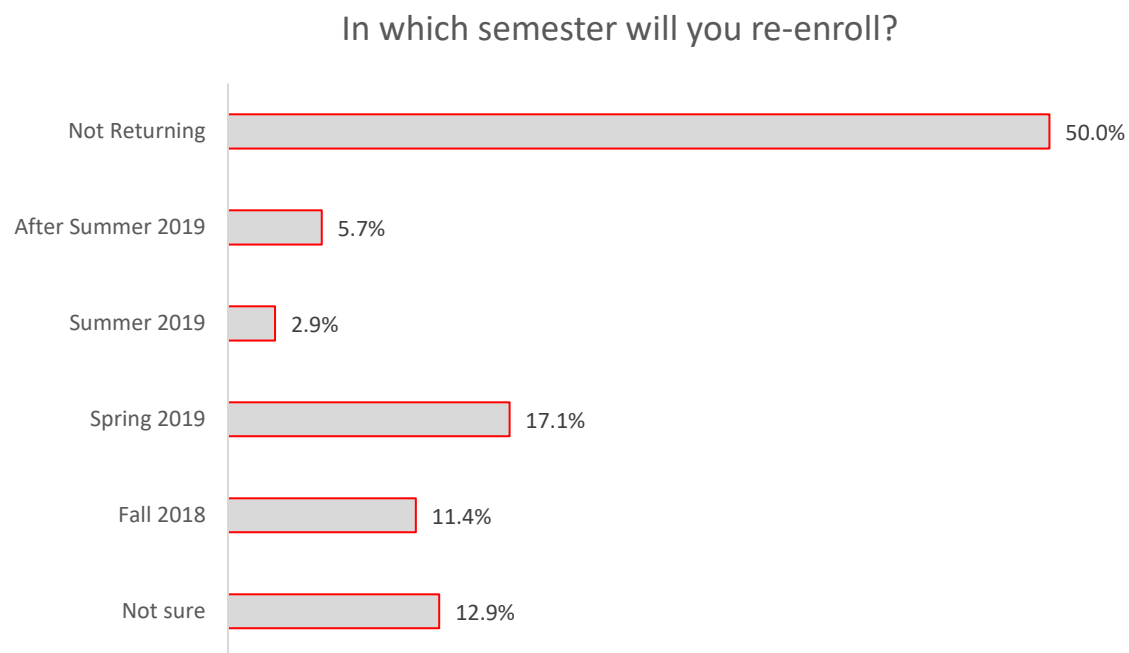
| <b><i>Sought</i> Help From University Counseling Center</b> | <b><i>Received</i> Help From University Counseling Center</b> |                      |                  |
|---|---|----------------------|------------------|
|   | Missing   | A Great Deal or Some | A Little or None |
| Missing   | 4.2%  | 0.0%                 | 0.0%             |
| A Great Deal or Some  | 0.0%  | 9.7%                 | 6.9%             |
| A Little or None  | 0.0%  | 1.4%                 | 77.8%            |

## Future Intentions

### *Re-enrollment*

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

**Figure 21. Semester in Which 2018 Stop Out Respondents Intending to Return Planned to Re-enroll by Percentage.**



### *Immediate Persistence for 2018*

Below is a table indicating survey respondent counts and percentages to the question “Are you currently attending another postsecondary institution or will you be attending another postsecondary institution in the fall?”. One survey respondent omitted a response.

| Another Postsecondary Institution? |       |       |       |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| No                                 |       | Yes   |       |
| Count                              | %     | Count | %     |
| 35                                 | 49.3% | 36    | 50.7% |

***Future Persistence for 2018***

Students who answered “No” to the previous question were asked: “Are you planning to attend another postsecondary institution in the future?”.

| Future Postsecondary Institution Plans? |        |       |        |       |        |
|---|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| Maybe                                   |        | No    |        | Yes   |        |
| Count                                   | %      | Count | %      | Count | %      |
| 13                                      | 37.14% | 11    | 31.43% | 11    | 31.43% |