

# 2014 Transfer First Term Survey

1/5/2015

Summary Report

## Survey Overview

The Transfer First Term Survey was administered from Monday, October 6 until Friday, October 31 to all new transfer students at NC State. This is the third year the survey was administered to these students. 1,224 students were contacted and given the opportunity to take the survey and 492 unique valid responses were received; a response rate of 40.2% which is substantially higher than the response rate in previous years (response rate was 27.9% in 2013). Of those 492 respondents, 91.5% (450) completed the full survey. The other 42 partial responses are included in the tables where available. Nine respondents are currently enrolled in distance education programs at NC State, and so their responses are not included in the tables below, leaving 483 respondents for the analysis.

Respondents were essentially evenly distributed between female (50.2%) and male (49.6) students, with one student self-identifying as transgender. Females are slightly over-represented in the sample, since female students only make up 45.7% of the new transfer student population. Respondents were distributed between the academic colleges at NC State roughly in line with the overall undergraduate population with one non-degree student included in the survey responses. The race/ethnicity of respondents also roughly match the overall population of new transfer students with white students slightly under-represented and other races/ethnicities slightly over-represented. See the tables below for specifics.

**Table 1: Survey respondents by college of enrollment**

College	Survey Respondents		All New Transfers
	n	%	%
CALS	81	16.8	17.5
CED	17	3.5	3.0
CHASS	88	18.2	21.6
CNR	28	5.8	6.7
COE	120	24.8	22.1
COS	43	8.9	7.4
DASA	5	1.0	1.6
DN	20	4.1	3.7
MGMT	71	14.7	14.7
NDS	1	.2	N/A
TEX	9	1.9	1.8
Total	483	100.0	100.0

**Table 2: Survey respondents by race/ethnicity\***

Race/Ethnicity	Survey Respondents		All New Transfers
	n	%	%
Intl	46	9.5	7.3
Unknown	15	3.1	1.8
Hispanic	27	5.6	5.3
Am Ind/Alaskan	2	.4	0.3
Asian	27	5.6	5.0
Black/Afr Am	26	5.4	4.5
White	326	67.5	73.0
Two or More	14	2.9	2.6
Total	483	100.0	100.0

\*Data from NC State Student Information System (SIS)

**Table 3: Survey respondents by self-reported\* race/ethnicity**

Race/Ethnicity	n	%
Other	16	3.3
Hispanic	30	6.2
Am Ind/Alaskan	4	0.8
Asian	45	9.3
Black/Afr Am	26	5.4
White	338	70.0
None selected	48	9.9

\*Self-reported data from survey; respondents were allowed to select multiple categories so percentages do not sum to 100%

**Survey Results**

The tables below provide an overview of the survey questions and responses.

**Table 4: How many schools (community college, technical school, college or university) have you attended prior to NC State?**

Schools	n	%
1	334	69.3
2	107	22.2
3	31	6.4
4	4	0.8
5	5	1.0
6+	1	0.2
Total	482	100.0

**Table 5: What type of institution(s) have you attended prior to NC State? (choose all that apply)**

Types of Institutions	n	%
2-year community college in NC	294	60.9
2-year out-of-state community college	42	8.7
2-year technical college in NC	24	5.0
2-year out-of-state technical college	3	0.6
4-year public college/university in NC	114	23.6
4-year out-of-state public college/university	56	11.6
4-year private college/university in NC	36	7.5
4-year out-of-state private college/university	29	6.0
Other	28	5.8

**Table 6: Which of the following best represents your reason for transferring out of your previous school?**

<b>Primary Reason</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Wanted to go to NC State initially, but went to another institution to start with	189	39.1
My intended major/program was not available at my previous institution	150	31.1
Did not feel connected to my previous institution	46	9.5
It was too far away from home	12	2.5
Other	86	17.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 7: What was the most influential factor in your decision to enroll at NC State?**

<b>What was the most influential factor in your decision to enroll at NC State?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Academic reputation	191	39.6
Availability of major/program	160	33.2
Location	46	9.5
Knew someone already enrolled at NC State (e.g., friend, family member)	31	6.4
Cost	16	3.3
Availability of scholarships/financial aid	10	2.1
Number of hours transferred/credited	5	1.0
Size	3	0.6
Contact with a faculty or staff member	1	0.2
Other	19	3.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 8: How certain are you of your choice of college major?**

<b>How certain are you of your choice of college major?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Very uncertain	6	1.3
Uncertain	44	9.2
Certain	170	35.4
Very certain	260	54.2
Total	480	100.0

**Table 9: From the time you enter NC State, how long do you intend to take to complete your bachelor’s degree?**

<b>From the time you enter NC State, how long do you intend to take to complete your bachelor’s degree?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
1 year	5	1.0
2 years	237	49.3
3 years	193	40.1
4 years	35	7.3
More than 4 years	8	1.7
Do not intend to complete a bachelor’s degree at NC State	3	0.6
Total	481	100.0

**Table 10: How prepared were you for your classes at NC State?**

<b>How prepared were you for your classes at NC State?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Not at all prepared	11	2.4
Slightly prepared	29	6.5
Moderately prepared	171	38.1
Very prepared	186	41.4
Extremely prepared	52	11.6
Total	449	100.0

**Table 11: When you started at NC State, how did the difficulty of university coursework compare to the expectations you had prior to starting?**

<b>When you started at NC State, how did the difficulty of university coursework compare to the expectations you had prior to starting?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
I expected it to be much less difficult	19	4.3
I expected it to be somewhat less difficult	83	18.6
The difficulty of coursework matched my expectations	209	46.8
I expected it to be somewhat more difficult	95	21.3
I expected it to be much more difficult	33	7.4
I had no expectations	8	1.8
Total	447	100.0

**Table 12: When you started at NC State, how did the difficulty of adjusting to daily life on campus compare to the expectations you had prior to starting?**

<b>When you started at NC State, how did the difficulty of adjusting to daily life on campus compare to the expectations you had prior to starting?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
I expected it to be much less difficult	37	8.3
I expected it to be somewhat less difficult	89	19.9
The difficulty of adjusting matched my expectations	194	43.4
I expected it to be somewhat more difficult	86	19.2
I expected it to be much more difficult	20	4.5
I had no expectations	21	4.7
Total	447	100.0

**Table 13: If the following programs were offered to you to assist in your transition to NC State, how likely would you have been or would you be to participate?**

If the following programs were offered to you to assist in your transition to NC State, how likely would you have been or would you be to participate?	Very unlikely		Unlikely		Likely		Very Likely		Total	Mean
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	
Leadership conference	67	15.8	156	36.9	139	32.9	61	14.4	423	2.5
Transfer success workshop series or academic bootcamp (e.g., study skills, testing taking strategies, note taking)	58	13.6	128	30	144	33.8	96	22.5	426	2.7
Service-based experience (i.e., community service projects, pre-orientation trips, exclusive first-year alternative service break trips)	59	13.8	135	31.6	170	39.8	63	14.8	427	2.6
Peer mentoring program (first-year student paired with an upperclass student)	75	17.7	151	35.6	135	31.8	63	14.9	424	2.4
Specialty institute (i.e., programs focusing on specific populations or identities like males, first generation students, military veterans)	119	28.3	182	43.3	85	20.2	34	8.1	420	2.1
Local arts and culture trips (e.g., trips to museums, concerts, athletic events)	67	15.9	121	28.7	161	38.2	72	17.1	421	2.6
Trips with faculty (i.e., course-based trips with a professor)	50	11.9	106	25.3	179	42.7	84	20.0	419	2.7
Traditions-based programs (e.g., learn the songs, university history, homecoming traditions)	83	19.8	145	34.5	136	32.4	56	13.3	420	2.4
Career-focused programs (e.g., resume workshops, how to get an internship)	17	4.0	47	10.9	186	43.3	180	41.9	430	3.2
Personal financial management programs (e.g., budgeting)	47	11.1	128	30.3	162	38.4	85	20.1	422	2.7

**Table 14: How confident are you in your ability to:**

How confident are you in your ability to:	Not at all confident		Not very confident		Somewhat confident		Very confident		Mean
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	
Find way around campus	7	1.6	34	7.7	195	44.4	203	46.2	3.4
Cope with stress by identifying and implementing healthy stress relief strategies	21	4.8	84	19.1	205	46.7	129	29.4	3.0
Relieve or reduce homesickness	8	1.8	30	6.9	107	24.7	288	66.5	3.6
Effectively manage your time	10	2.3	85	21.8	221	51.6	120	27.5	3.0
Identify at least one campus resource for academic support	10	2.3	42	9.6	184	42.1	201	46.0	3.3
Identify at least one activity/ group on campus in which you might like to get involved	21	4.8	57	13.1	122	28.0	235	54.0	3.3
Identify a group on campus that supports an identity important to you	34	7.9	102	23.6	154	35.6	143	33.0	2.9
Use online course management systems	2	0.5	23	5.2	149	33.9	265	60.4	3.6
Identify at least one campus resource for personal/ psychological/health support	23	5.3	34	14.7	144	33.0	205	47.0	3.2
Connect to other individuals on campus	24	5.5	77	17.6	169	38.7	167	38.2	3.1



**Table 15: To what extent have you done each of the following during your time thus far at NC State?**

To what extent have you done each of the following during your time thus far at NC State?	Not at all		A little		Some		A great deal		Mean
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	
Made friends with other students	21	4.8	92	21.1	183	42.1	139	32.0	3.0
Used students such as RAs, classmates or village members to learn about campus/activities	154	35.4	90	20.7	133	30.6	58	13.3	2.2
Gotten involved in campus activities	114	26.3	91	21.0	134	30.9	94	21.7	2.5
Developed a relationship with a faculty member	147	33.9	122	28.1	114	26.3	51	11.8	2.2
Developed a relationship with a staff member	214	49.9	91	21.2	91	21.2	33	7.7	1.9
Sought out academic assistance for help with school work	121	28.1	106	24.7	138	32.1	65	15.1	2.3
Used services offered by the Counseling Center	339	78.8	27	6.3	43	10.0	21	4.9	1.4
Used Student Health Services	255	59.4	67	15.6	74	17.2	33	7.7	1.7

**Table 16: How important it is to you that you experience a sense of belonging or community in each of the following settings at NC State?**

How important it is to you that you experience a sense of belonging or community in each of the following settings at NC State?	Not at all important		Slightly important		Moderately important		Very important		Mean
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	
With NC State overall	13	3.0	55	12.6	131	30.1	236	54.3	3.4
In formal organizations (e.g., student organizations, residence halls, learning villages, athletic groups)	50	11.5	102	23.6	147	33.9	134	30.9	2.8
In your academic college or major	6	1.4	22	5.0	96	22.0	312	71.6	3.6
In small groups (e.g., with friends)	5	1.1	34	7.8	135	31.0	261	60.0	3.5

**Table 17: To what extent do you actually experience a sense of belonging or community in each of the following settings at NC State?**

To what extent do you actually experience a sense of belonging or community in each of the following settings at NC State?	Not at all		A little		Some		A great extent		Mean
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	
With NC State overall	32	7.4	92	21.4	190	44.2	116	27.0	2.9
In formal organizations (e.g., student organizations, residence halls, learning villages, athletic groups)	123	28.7	93	21.7	142	33.2	70	16.4	2.4
In your academic college or major	40	9.3	103	24.0	177	41.2	110	25.6	3.0
In small groups (e.g., with friends)	36	8.4	78	18.2	162	37.8	153	35.7	2.8

**Table 18: Since arriving at NC State how often have you felt:**

Since arriving at NC State how often have you felt:	Never/ Once in a While		Sometimes		Often/ Constantly		Mean
	n	%	n	%	n	%	
Felt lonely	240	56.0	67	22.1	63	21.9	2.4
Felt homesick	331	77.1	28	15.4	22	7.4	1.8
Felt depressed	295	68.7	50	18.6	54	12.6	2.0
Felt overwhelmed	123	28.5	92	29.0	107	42.4	3.2
Felt bored	293	68.0	57	21.8	24	10.2	2.0
Felt concerned about financial issues	170	39.5	73	23.0	110	37.4	2.9
Felt academically underprepared	220	51.4	67	28.7	85	19.8	2.5
Felt concerned about family issues	291	68.4	66	18.3	51	13.4	2.1
Felt that NC State is not a good fit	364	84.8	31	8.6	28	6.5	1.6
Felt very distressed	245	57.2	52	23.4	51	19.4	2.3

**Table 19: If you had to pick, in which of the following group-sized settings would you say you typically prefer to be for campus-related social programs/activities?**

<b>Group Size you typically prefer to be for campus-related social programs/activities?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Huge crowd	25	5.6
Large crowd	49	11.1
Moderate-sized group	178	40.2
Relatively small group	145	32.7
Very small group	35	7.9
None - I prefer to be alone	11	2.5
Total	443	100.0

**Table 20: Thinking only about your comfort-level in being among groups of people, how likely are you to attend an organized social program/activity at NC State with the following attendance levels:**

<b>Thinking only about your comfort-level in being among groups of people, how likely are you to attend an organized social program/activity at NC State with the following attendance levels:</b>	<b>Not at all/ Not very likely</b>		<b>Somewhat/ Very likely</b>		<b>Total</b>
	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>n</b>
Huge crowd	150	34.7	282	65.3	432
Large crowd	124	28.7	308	71.3	432
Moderate-sized group	43	9.9	390	90.1	433
Relatively small group	47	10.9	384	89.1	431
Very small group	109	25.2	323	74.8	432

**Table 21: About how many individual class meetings have you missed this semester (total for all classes combined)?**

<b>About how many individual class meetings have you missed this semester (total for all classes combined)?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
None	121	27.8
1	81	18.6
2-3	134	30.8
4-5	70	16.1
6-9	15	3.4
10 or more	14	3.2
	435	100.0

**Table 22: For which of the following reasons have you missed class? (mark all that apply)**

<b>For which of the following reasons have you missed class? (mark all that apply)</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Overslept/lack of sleep	136	43.3
Personal physical health reasons	125	39.8
To finish other academic work	97	30.9
Personal or family issue	59	18.8
Attendance is not taken or does not influence my grade	52	16.6
Just didn't feel like going	48	15.3
Transportation/parking problems	43	13.7
Personal mental/psychological health reasons	42	13.4
Travel	34	10.8
Don't understand the professor/ don't like the class	27	8.6
Work on or off campus	19	6.1
Required court attendance	8	2.5
To participate in a student club/organization	8	2.5
I don't need the class for my major/minor	6	1.9
To attend a social or athletic event	3	1.0
Religious observance	3	1.0
Required military duty	1	0.3
Other (please describe)	35	11.1

**Table 23: On average, about how many hours per week are you currently working?**

On average, about how many hours per week are you currently working?	None		10 hours or less		11-19 hours		20-29 hours		30 or more hours	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
At an on-campus job for pay	358	88.2	27	6.7	19	4.7	0	0.0	2	0.5
At an off-campus job for pay	240	57.7	65	15.6	48	11.5	33	7.9	30	7.2
As an unpaid intern or volunteer, or in another unpaid job/position	337	84.7	44	11.1	9	2.3	3	0.8	5	1.3

**Table 24: Overall, how many hours are students working in total... (on or off campus and/or as an unpaid volunteer, intern, etc.)**

Overall, how many hours are students working in total... (on or off campus and/or as an unpaid volunteer, intern, etc.)	n	%
10 or less	331	67.3
10 to 30	115	23.4
More than 30	46	9.3
Total	492	100.0