

Stop Out Survey Report 2019

May 8, 2020

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Survey Overview

Every summer, DASA Assessment emails a survey to students who were enrolled at NC State 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 and provide any resources that may be needed to help a student become re-enrolled.

The 2019 Stop Out sample consisted of 887 students. Approximately 9% (N=80) of the students in the 2019 Stop Out sample submitted a complete or partial response.

The questions provided students with a list of reasons 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.

Highlights

Representativeness

Female students were overrepresented at 53.8% of respondents but only 37.5% of the Stop Out population. Differences between the sample and survey population with respect to race/ethnicity and college were all <5%, with the exception of the College of Engineering which was slightly underrepresented. Sophomore students were overrepresented (32.5% of the sample versus 22.1% of the population) and juniors were underrepresented (13.8% of the sample versus 25.4% of the population). Survey respondents were disproportionately in good academic standing (76.2%) compared to the population (69.0%) with a higher median GPA compared to non-respondents (2.9 versus 2.5).

Reasons for Dis-enrolling

Students were asked to choose the single most important reason they were not enrolled for fall 2019 (Table 10). **The most common primary reasons for not enrolling were: Other (23.8% out of 80 students), Emotional/health related problem (12.5%), Financial reasons (10.0%), Wanted to transfer to another institution (8.8%), and Dissatisfaction with overall atmosphere at NC State (8.8%).** The "Other" category gave students the option to type in their reason for not enrolling. Upon qualitative analysis of these responses, assessment staff found no emerging themes and observed that responses were related to various reasons already provided as options for this question.

Students were also asked to report other contributing factors to their decision to dis-enroll other than their primary reasons. Common responses included various forms of academic difficulty and not feeling connected to campus. See Table 9 for specifics.

Future Plans

50.0% of respondents "strongly" or "somewhat" agreed that they planned to return to NC State. Students who reported that they were not attending and did not plan to attend another postsecondary institution for fall 2019 (48.8% of the sample) were asked if they plan to attend another postsecondary institution in the future. 38.5% reported "No" (Table 15). Finally, 83.7% of students who took the survey strongly or somewhat agreed that they could succeed at NC State.

Table 1: Gender Demographics

Gender	Survey Respondent		Survey Population		Undergrad Population	
	%	N	%	N	%	N
Male	46.2%	37	62.5%	554	52.8%	12675
Female	53.8%	43	37.5%	333	47.2%	11344
Total	100.0%	80	100.0%	887	100.0%	24019

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 2: Race/Ethnicity Demographics

Race/Ethnicity	Survey Respondent		Survey Population		Undergrad Population	
	%	N	%	N	%	N
American Indian Alaska Native	0.0%	0	0.6%	5	0.4%	90
Asian	8.8%	7	8.6%	76	7.0%	1684
Black or African American	6.2%	5	7.9%	70	5.5%	1332
Hispanics of Any Race	6.2%	5	8.1%	72	5.7%	1368
Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.1%	17
Non-Resident Alien	5.0%	4	5.7%	51	4.0%	951
Two or More Races	8.8%	7	4.6%	41	3.7%	886
Unknown	8.8%	7	4.2%	37	8.0%	1914
White	56.2%	45	60.3%	535	65.7%	15777
Total	100.0%	80	100.0%	887	100.0%	24019

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 3: College Demographics

College	Survey Respondent		Survey Population		Undergrad Population	
	%	N	%	N	%	N
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences	13.8%	11	11.7%	104	13.1%	2815
College of Design	2.5%	2	2.4%	21	2.5%	540
College of Education	0.0%	0	1.0%	9	2.3%	499
College of Engineering	15.0%	12	21.4%	190	27.7%	5928
College of Humanities and Social Sciences	20.0%	16	21.6%	192	16.0%	3437
College of Natural Resources	3.8%	3	5.6%	50	6.6%	1418
College of Sciences	16.2%	13	13.2%	117	13.6%	2907
Wilson College of Textiles	2.5%	2	2.4%	21	4.0%	855
Poole College of Management	12.5%	10	11.5%	102	14.1%	3023
University College	13.8%	11	9.1%	81	10.8%	1347
Total	100.0%	80	100.0%	887	100.0%	24019

Note 1: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 4: Grade Level Demographics

Class Level	<u>Survey Respondent</u>		<u>Survey Population</u>		<u>Undergrad Population</u>	
	%	N	%	N	%	N
First Year	18.8%	15	14.4%	128	14.4%	3466
Junior	13.8%	11	25.4%	225	21.8%	5247
Senior	35.0%	28	38.1%	338	24.4%	5853
Sophomore	32.5%	26	22.1%	196	33.5%	8058
Fifth Year	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.1%	18
Unclassified	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	5.7%	1377
Total	100.0%	80	100.0%	887	100.0%	24019

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 5: First Generation Status Demographics

Status	<u>Survey Respondent</u>		<u>Survey Population</u>	
	%	N	%	N
First Generation	17.5%	14	25.6%	227
Not First Generation	67.5%	54	64.9%	576
Unknown	15.0%	12	9.5%	84
Total	100.0%	80	100.0%	887

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 6: Rural Status Demographics

Status	<u>Survey Respondent</u>		<u>Survey Population</u>	
	%	N	%	N
Out of State or International	17.5%	14	14.0%	124
Tier 1 & 2	31.2%	25	32.5%	288
Tier 3	51.2%	41	53.6%	475
Total	100.0%	80	100.0%	887

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 7: **Academic Standing**

Standing	<u>Survey Respondent</u>		<u>Survey Population</u>	
	%	N	%	N
Good Standing	76.2%	61	69.0%	612
Suspended	8.8%	7	15.1%	134
Unknown	0.0%	0	0.3%	3
Warning	15.0%	12	15.6%	138
Total	100.0%	80	100.0%	887

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 8: **Grade Point Average**

	Respondents	Non-Respondents
Minimum	1.1	0.0
1st Quartile	2.3	2.0
Median	3.0	2.5
Mean	2.9	2.5
3rd Quartile	3.6	3.1
Maximum	4.0	4.0

Note 1: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Note 2: Respondents participated in the Stop Out survey, Non-respondents did not

Table 9: To What Extent Was Each of The Following a Reason In Your Decision Not to Enroll In The Fall 2019 Semester?

To What Extent Was Each of The Following a Reason In Your Decision Not to Enroll In The Fall 2019 Semester?	Mean Rating	4. A Great Deal	3. Somewhat	2. A Little	1. Not at All	N
Desired Major Not Offered	1.3	3.8%	11.2%	3.8%	81.2%	80
Didn't Meet GPA Requirements to Declare Change Major	1.3	8.8%	3.8%	7.5%	80.0%	80
A Problem With Academic Policy (i.e. Withdrawal, Policies, etc.)	1.3	2.5%	8.9%	8.9%	79.7%	79
Poor Academic Choices (e.g. Poor Time Management, Skipping Class, Not Completing Assignments)	1.4	11.2%	12.5%	8.8%	67.5%	80
Unable to Get Courses Needed	1.5	11.2%	10.0%	5.0%	73.8%	80
Courses Were Too Difficult	1.4	6.2%	8.8%	22.5%	62.5%	80
Suspended Academically	1.2	2.5%	0.0%	10.0%	87.5%	80
Suspended For Disciplinary Reasons	1.1	1.2%	1.2%	0.0%	97.5%	80
Wanted to Transfer to Another Institution	2.1	33.8%	8.8%	10.0%	47.5%	80
Needed a Break From School	1.6	15.0%	8.8%	10.0%	66.2%	80
Not Sure What I Want to Do	1.5	7.5%	11.2%	10.0%	71.2%	80
Financial Reasons	2.1	23.8%	12.5%	13.8%	50.0%	80
Stress of School Work	1.7	17.5%	11.2%	11.2%	60.0%	80
Family Crisis	1.3	5.0%	7.5%	7.5%	80.0%	80
Wanted to Live Closer to Family, Friends, Significant Other, etc.	1.7	11.2%	8.8%	10.0%	70.0%	80
Lack of Connection to My Peers	1.6	13.8%	11.2%	12.5%	62.5%	80
Lack of Connection to Faculty and Staff	1.6	16.2%	11.2%	12.5%	60.0%	80
Felt Alone or Isolated	1.9	22.5%	11.2%	13.8%	52.5%	80
Poor Personal Choices (e.g. Alcohol or Drug Abuse, Unhealthy Relationships, etc.)	1.2	2.5%	3.8%	11.2%	82.5%	80
Physical Health Related Problem	1.1	2.5%	5.0%	6.2%	86.2%	80
Emotional Health Related Problem	1.7	21.2%	12.5%	11.2%	55.0%	80
Military Obligations	1.4	8.8%	1.2%	0.0%	90.0%	80
Had to Work, Not Enough Time For Classes	1.5	6.2%	8.8%	7.5%	77.5%	80
New or Revised Job Requirements	1.2	6.2%	1.2%	5.0%	87.5%	80
Difficulties With Being a Commuter Student	1.2	3.8%	3.8%	5.0%	87.5%	80
Not Enough Support For Minority Students	1.1	5.0%	0.0%	3.8%	91.2%	80
Dissatisfaction With Overall Atmosphere at NC State	1.8	26.2%	6.2%	11.2%	56.2%	80
Dissatisfaction With Major or Program	1.6	13.8%	12.5%	11.2%	62.5%	80
Dissatisfaction With Quality of Academic Instruction	1.7	16.2%	8.8%	17.5%	57.5%	80
Dissatisfaction With Campus Appearance	1.3	5.0%	6.2%	6.2%	82.5%	80
Dissatisfaction With Urban Environment	1.5	8.8%	3.8%	6.2%	81.2%	80
Dissatisfaction With Academic Advising	1.4	10.0%	11.2%	17.5%	61.3%	80
Dissatisfaction With Activities Outside The Classroom	1.2	5.0%	13.8%	11.2%	70.0%	80
Dissatisfaction With Size of Classes	1.5	10.0%	11.2%	8.8%	70.0%	80
Dissatisfaction With Size of Institution	1.3	5.0%	10.0%	8.8%	76.2%	80
Dissatisfaction With My Academic Performance	1.7	22.5%	7.5%	7.5%	62.5%	80
Dissatisfaction With Living Environment	1.6	16.2%	8.8%	8.8%	66.2%	80
Dis-enrolled Due to Lack of Progress Toward Degree	1.4	6.3%	12.7%	6.3%	74.7%	79
Other	2.5	51.2%	0.0%	0.0%	48.8%	43

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 10: Please Select The Single Most Important Reason that Influenced Why You Chose Not to Enroll For Fall 2019

Please Select The Single Most Important Reason that Influenced Why You Chose Not to Enroll For Fall 2019	%	N
Desired major not offered	3.8%	3
Didn't meet GPA requirements to declare/change major	3.8%	3
A problem with academic policy (i.e: withdrawal policies, etc.)	0.0%	0
Poor academic choices (e.g. poor time management, skipping class, not completing assignments)	1.2%	1
Unable to get courses needed	2.5%	2
Courses were too difficult	0.0%	0
Suspended academically	2.5%	2
Suspended for disciplinary reasons	1.2%	1
Wanted to transfer to another institution	8.8%	7
Needed a break from school	2.5%	2
Not sure what I want to do	0.0%	0
Financial reasons	10.0%	8
Stress of school work	0.0%	0
Family crisis	1.2%	1
Wanted to live closer to family, friends, significant other, etc.	1.2%	1
Lack of connection to my peers	0.0%	0
Lack of connect to faculty and staff	0.0%	0
Felt alone or isolated	1.2%	1
Poor personal choices (e.g. alcohol or drug abuse, unhealthy relationships, etc.)	0.0%	0
Physical health-related problem	1.2%	1
Emotional health-related problem	12.5%	10
Military obligations	7.5%	6
Had to work-not enough time for classes	0.0%	0
New or revised job requirements	0.0%	0
Difficulties with being a commuter student	0.0%	0
Not enough support for minority students	0.0%	0
Dissatisfaction with overall atmosphere at NC State	8.8%	7
Dissatisfaction with major or program	3.8%	3
Dissatisfaction with quality of academic instruction	0.0%	0
Dissatisfaction with campus appearance	0.0%	0
Dissatisfaction with urban environment	0.0%	0
Dissatisfaction with academic advising	1.2%	1
Dissatisfaction with activities outside the classroom	0.0%	0
Dissatisfaction with size of classes	0.0%	0
Dissatisfaction with size of institution	0.0%	0
Dissatisfaction with my academic performance	0.0%	0
Dissatisfaction with living environment	0.0%	0
Dis-enrolled due to lack of Progress Toward Degree	1.2%	1
Other	23.8%	19
Total	100.0%	80

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 11: Please Indicate If You Agree or Disagree With The Following Statements:

Please Indicate If You Agree or Disagree With The Following Statements:	Mean Rating	4. Strongly Agree	3. Somewhat Agree	2. Somewhat Disagree	1. Strongly Disagree	N
When I First Enrolled at NC State, I Intended to Complete a Degree From NC State	3.7	82.5%	10.0%	1.2%	6.2%	80
I Plan to Return to NC State	2.5	33.3%	16.7%	12.8%	37.2%	78
I Could Succeed at NC State	3.3	57.5%	26.2%	7.5%	8.8%	80

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 12: When You Made Your Decision Not to Enroll, Did You Seek Out Assistance/Guidance From Any of The Following?

When You Made Your Decision Not to Enroll, Did You Seek Out Assistance/Guidance From Any of The Following?	Mean Rating	4. A Great Deal	3. Some	2. A Little	1. None	N
University Counseling Center	1.6	8.9%	12.7%	11.4%	67.1%	79
Your Academic Advisor	2.3	20.3%	27.8%	12.7%	39.2%	79
Financial Aid	1.4	5.1%	12.8%	1.3%	80.8%	78
Other Faculty or Staff On Campus	1.5	10.6%	10.6%	0.0%	78.8%	66

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 13: If You Plan to Return, In Which Semester Will You Enroll?

If You Plan to Return, In Which Semester Will You Enroll?	%	N
Fall 2019	12.2%	5
Spring 2020	29.3%	12
Summer 2020	0.0%	0
After Summer 2020	29.3%	12
Not Sure	22.0%	9
Not Returning	7.3%	3
Total	100.0%	41

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 14: Are You Currently Attending Another Postsecondary Institution or Will You Be Attending Another Postsecondary Institution this Fall?

Are You Currently Attending Another Postsecondary Institution or Will You Be Attending Another Postsecondary Institution this Fall?	%	N
Yes	51.2%	41
No	48.8%	39
Total	100.0%	80

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 15: Are You Planning to Attend Another Postsecondary Institution In The Future?

Are You Planning to Attend Another Postsecondary Institution In The Future?	%	N
Yes	30.8%	12
Maybe	30.8%	12
No	38.5%	15
Total	100.0%	39

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 16: Were You Employed In The 2018-2019 School Year While Still a Student at NC State?

Were You Employed In The 2018-2019 School Year While Still a Student at NC State?	%	N
Yes	42.5%	34
No	57.5%	46
Total	100.0%	80

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 17: If You Were Employed During The 2018-2019 School Year While Still a Student, How Many Hours a Week Did You Work On Campus?

If You Were Employed During The 2018-2019 School Year While Still a Student, How Many Hours a Week Did You Work On Campus?	%	N
None On Campus	61.8%	21
10 Hours or Fewer	17.6%	6
11-19	8.8%	3
20-29	5.9%	2
30 or More Hours	5.9%	2
Total	100.0%	34

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 18: If You Were Employed During The 2018-2019 School Year While Still a Student, How Many Hours a Week Did You Work Off Campus?

If You Were Employed During The 2018-2019 School Year While Still a Student, How Many Hours a Week Did You Work Off Campus?	%	N
None On Campus	17.6%	6
10 Hours or Fewer	17.6%	6
11-19	14.7%	5
20-29	38.2%	13
30 or More Hours	11.8%	4
Total	100.0%	34

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 19: What is Your Gender?

What is Your Gender?	%	N
Male	43.8%	35
Female	53.8%	43
Transgender - Male to Female	0.0%	0
Transgender - Female to Male	1.2%	1
Prefer Not to Answer	1.2%	1
I Identify Using a Different Term	0.0%	0
Total	100.0%	80

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place

Table 20: Do You Consider Yourself to Be:

Do You Consider Yourself to Be:	%	N
Heterosexual or Straight	81.0%	64
Gay	2.5%	2
Lesbian	1.3%	1
Bisexual	6.3%	5
Prefer Not to Answer	6.3%	5
I Identify Using a Different Term	2.5%	2
Total	100.0%	79

Note: Percentages rounded to 1 decimal place