Educational Session

**Covid-19 Impacts on Student Transfer and How the Clearinghouse Can Help with Data-Driven Decisions to Impact Those Students**
Diversity and Inclusion, Matriculation Trends and Issues

Recognizing the urgency of Covid-19’s impact, the Clearinghouse Research Center will report on student transfer, mobility, and progress, providing information for institutions, policy makers, and learners to understand how the pandemic is changing higher education. The new Postsecondary Data Partnership service provides institutions with richer insights based on a comprehensive set of student data, all new students, including transfer students who enter your institution at any time.

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National Student Clearinghouse Research Center

**Ken McVearry,** *Senior Specialist, Data Partnership*
National Student Clearinghouse
Covid-19 Impacts on Student Transfer and how the Clearinghouse can help with data driven decision to impact those students

Jan 25, 2021

Poppy Liu | Ken McVearry
National Student Clearinghouse Research Center
Transfer and Mobility - Method in Brief

- The Research Center is using NSC data very differently than in the past
  - Same-school, percent changes y-o-y, 2019-2020 vs. 2018-2019
- Defining Transfer and Mobility
  - Students who enroll in fall 2020 without prior undergraduate completion.
  - Transfer-in students
- Three Student Groups
  - First-Time
  - Continuing
  - Returning
- Direction of transfer:
  - Upward
  - Lateral
  - Reverse
Highlights

• In fall 2020, transfer-in enrollment fell by more than three times the decrease in non-transfer students (-8.1% VS -2.4%)

• Student mobility fell in all transfer pathways
  – Reverse transfers (-19.4%)
  – Lateral transfers (-12.6%)
  – Upward transfers (-0.7%)

• Four-year colleges experienced relatively smaller declines

• Black and Hispanic transfer students have been impacted the most, particularly at community colleges

• Although returned students declined (-16.7%), more returning students transferred to a primarily online institution
### Change in Transfer and Non-Transfer Enrollments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall 2019</th>
<th>Fall 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transfers</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four-Year</td>
<td>-0.6%</td>
<td>-2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two-Year</td>
<td>-3.7%</td>
<td>-18.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>-1.7%</td>
<td>-8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nontransfers</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four-Year</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two-Year</td>
<td>-2.5%</td>
<td>-7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
<td>-2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td>-0.7%</td>
<td>-3.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Transfer enrollment decreased sharply this fall compared to fall 2019 (-8.1% VS -1.7%)
- Transfer enrollment fell by more than three times the rate of non-transfer enrollment (-8.1% VS -2.4%)
Direction of Transfer in 2020

- Reverse transfer enrollment dropped by more than five times the pre-pandemic decline rate (-19.4% VS -3.6%)
- Upward transfers saw a slight decline, in contrast with a slight increase in the pre-pandemic trend (-0.7% VS +0.2%)
Proportion shifts in Transfer Direction

- Upward transfers are growing as a proportion of all transfer-in students, most pronounced among continuing students
- Lateral and reverse transfers comprised smaller proportions among continuing and returning students
### Enrollment Changes by Sector and Race/Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall 2019</th>
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<th>% Change from Previous Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transfer Students</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Four-Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>-3.3%</td>
<td>-3.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>-4.4%</td>
<td>-6.4%</td>
<td>-10.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>-1.1%</td>
<td>-0.3%</td>
<td>-0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>-1.1%</td>
<td>-1.9%</td>
<td>-3.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Nonprofit Four-Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Two-Year</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>-5.7%</td>
<td>-17.0%</td>
<td>-22.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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- Among transfer students, only Asians saw increases at Public Four-Year and Private Nonprofit Four-Year institutions.
- Black and Hispanic students saw steepest declines at Community Colleges.
Implications

• The decline in student transfer and mobility is steep and widespread
  – All directions show signs of disruption from the pandemic

• Divides are severe in many ways
  – Demographic disparities
  – Disparity between two-year and four-year institutions

• Community colleges are facing a multifaceted threat
  – Sharp drops in freshmen, reverse transfers, returning and continuing students
Coming up from the Research Center

- **High School Benchmarks COVID-19 Update**  
  Feb 25
- **COVID-19: Stayed Informed Spring 2021**
  - Spring 2021 #1  
    March 11
  - Spring 2021 #2  
    April 22
- **COVID-Impacts on Transfer**
  - First look Spring results  
    March 30
  - Final Spring results  
    May 27
  - Special transfer report  
    August

All available as online dashboards for free, public download at [nsciresearchcenter.org](http://nsciresearchcenter.org)
Postsecondary Data Partnership

Transformative way for your institution to measure and report student progress and success. The Postsecondary Data Partnership (PDP) empowers your institution with more comprehensive data, easier analysis & insights, centralized reporting, and better visuals to help you understand and improve student outcomes.
Data Usage

Successful institutions aggressively use data in order to understand and address the most pervasive obstacles to student progress and completion!
Data Submission

**Cohort File**
- Entry status
- High school completion & GPA
- First-generation status
- Race/ethnicity
- Dual enrollment
- Number credits attempted & transferred
- Math & English readiness

**Course File**
- Pell status
- Program Intent (degree type, transfer)
- GPA (term, cumulative)
- Course identifiers
- Course credits, grade, etc.
- Gateway Math & English
- Degree type sought
- Reverse Transfer information
How the PDP Works

Institution Submits Course and Cohort Files

Combine DegreeVerify and EnrollmentVerify

Institutions Access PDP Dashboards

Dashboards

Analysis-Ready File

3rd Parties
National Initiatives
National Associations

Option to participate in Reverse Transfer service
Interactive Dashboards

- **Overview:**
  - Executive Summary
  - Enrollment

- **Early momentum indicators:**
  - Credit accumulation rate
  - Credit completion ratio
  - Gateway course completion
  - Term to Term

- **Outcomes over time:**
  - Persistence/retention
  - Transfers
  - Outcome measures
  - Credentials conferred and time to credential
Interactive Dashboards

Filters:
- Cohort
- Cohort Term
- Credential Type Sought
- Age
- Race/Ethnicity
- Gender
- Enrollment Type
- Attendance
- Dual/summer Enrollment
- Pell
- First Generation
- GPA
- College Prepared Math and English

Dig into the data to look at equity gaps
Benchmarking

Retention/Persistence

Select an Institution

Hometown University

What is the KPI measuring?

1. What proportion of your students are enrolled or have completed a credential after one year at your institution (retention) or another institution (persistence)?

2. Which students have neither completed a credential nor are they enrolled after one year?

Please read before filtering

In order to ensure data in the benchmarking, you must filter in the following order:

Step 1: Always use the Global filters at the very top.

Step 2: Use the Benchmark filters.

Students Retained, Persisted, Not Enrolled

Selected Filters: Cohort All, Credential Type Sought All, Enrollment Type All, Attendance All, Dual/Summer Enrollment All, Age Group All, Race/Ethnicity All, Gender All, Pell Grant Recipient All, First Generation All, GPA Range All, Math Prep All, English Prep All

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Benefits

• Spend more time analyzing data
• Reveal impact on students
• Empower staff with data access
• See and address equity gaps
Contact Us!

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Thank You

https://www.studentclearinghouse.org/colleges/pdp/