



## Facts about Undergraduate Transfers and Changing Demographics, 1997-2008.

The transfer function is an essential component of the commitment to access. The California Higher Education Master Plan (California State Department of Education, *A Master Plan for Higher Education in California, 1960–1975*, Sacramento: 1960) prescribed the inclusion of undergraduate transfer students into the tiered California higher education pipeline. All eligible California Community College transfer students are to be provided a place and are to be given priority over freshmen in the admissions process. Therefore, the California State University system and the University of California system are to provide transfer opportunities to the upper division for Community College students.

### Majority of Transfers from California Community Colleges

The facts support the steady performance of CSU Stanislaus in the transfer function in providing enrollment access to thousands of undergraduate students from within its service region. The overwhelming majority of transfer students are from the California Community Colleges: 87.1 percent in fall 1997, and 88.6 percent in fall 2008. Moreover, the facts also indicate clearly evolving demographic, education, and cultural shifts among the entering cohorts of transfer students during this time.

**Table 1. Facts about Undergraduate Transfers, Fall 1997 to Fall 2008**

| Cohort Year (Fall)                      | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total Undergraduate Transfers           | 877  | 781  | 879  | 935  | 975  | 961  | 897  | 928  | 878  | 984  | 979  | 791  |
| %Hispanic                               | 19.0 | 20.2 | 22.4 | 20.9 | 20.8 | 19.8 | 23.2 | 25.9 | 23.8 | 24.1 | 24.8 | 26.5 |
| %Minority                               | 34.9 | 33.8 | 34.5 | 33.0 | 35.6 | 31.9 | 36.6 | 40.7 | 40.1 | 41.6 | 40.9 | 45.1 |
| %Women                                  | 64.2 | 61.8 | 64.7 | 67.8 | 68.1 | 65.8 | 67.3 | 61.2 | 65.9 | 65.9 | 62.9 | 63.2 |
| %Stanislaus, Merced, San Joaquin        | 73.9 | 71.3 | 74.4 | 71.3 | 74.9 | 74.8 | 75.7 | 75.3 | 83.9 | 83.1 | 84.4 | 82.7 |
| %First Generation                       | 37.5 | 33.4 | 52.1 | 32.8 | 34.2 | 33.5 | 34.2 | 40.6 | 38.6 | 35.7 | 38.0 | 37.4 |
| %Pell Grant                             | 36.6 | 37.6 | 38.5 | 37.8 | 36.6 | 38.1 | 39.5 | 41.5 | 40.5 | 36.9 | 38.1 | 49.4 |
| %California Community College Transfers | 87.1 | 83.2 | 86.0 | 86.5 | 84.3 | 84.7 | 85.2 | 84.4 | 85.4 | 85.3 | 84.1 | 88.6 |
| %Other CA State University Transfers    | 4.6  | 5.4  | 3.3  | 4.5  | 5.4  | 6.0  | 6.6  | 5.3  | 5.1  | 6.5  | 6.6  | 5.1  |
| %Out of State Transfers                 | 5.4  | 5.4  | 5.8  | 4.9  | 6.1  | 5.1  | 3.7  | 4.6  | 5.2  | 4.0  | 5.6  | 3.2  |
| Average Age of Transfer Student         | 27.3 | 26.6 | 26.4 | 26.7 | 26.9 | 26.6 | 25.6 | 26.1 | 26.2 | 25.5 | 25.3 | 25.5 |
| Transfer GPA                            | 2.88 | 2.88 | 2.91 | 2.90 | 2.93 | 2.95 | 2.93 | 2.94 | 2.95 | 2.95 | 2.94 | 2.95 |
| #Regularly Admitted Transfer            | 561  | 605  | 709  | 750  | 776  | 829  | 791  | 862  | 780  | 820  | 786  | 674  |
| %Regularly Admitted Transfer            | 64.0 | 77.5 | 80.7 | 80.2 | 79.6 | 86.3 | 88.2 | 92.9 | 88.8 | 83.3 | 80.3 | 85.2 |
| % Requiring Remediation in English      | 5%   | 5%   | 3%   | 4%   | 3%   | 3%   | 2%   | 3%   | 2%   | 3%   | 3%   | 2%   |
| % Requiring Remediation in Math         | 30%  | 22%  | 17%  | 16%  | 11%  | 7%   | 10%  | 10%  | 9%   | 10%  | 14%  | 6%   |
| #Full-time* Transfer                    | 521  | 481  | 576  | 582  | 622  | 589  | 587  | 611  | 566  | 642  | 634  | 527  |
| %Full-time* Transfer                    | 59.4 | 61.6 | 65.5 | 62.2 | 63.8 | 61.3 | 65.4 | 65.8 | 64.5 | 65.2 | 64.8 | 66.6 |
| 4-yr Graduation Rate                    | 72.2 | 77.3 | 80.0 | 76.4 | 75.3 | 72.2 | 77.3 | 75.2 | 77.6 |      |      |      |
| 5-yr Graduation Rate                    | 75.1 | 78.1 | 82.9 | 80.2 | 79.5 | 75.1 | 78.1 | 77.0 |      |      |      |      |
| 6-yr Graduation Rate                    | 75.7 | 78.5 | 84.0 | 80.5 | 80.5 | 75.7 | 78.5 |      |      |      |      |      |

*Source: CSU Stanislaus, Office of Institutional Research. Asterisk identifies full-time at entry. Full-time are students attempting 12 or more units as of census date. Graduation Rate based on Full-time students.*

### Majority of Transfers from Local Service Region

The primary service area of CSU Stanislaus is the six-county region of Stanislaus, Merced, San Joaquin, Tuolumne, Calaveras, and Mariposa Counties. Of these, Stanislaus, Merced, and San Joaquin counties comprise the primary sending region of transfer students. In fall 1997, 73.9 percent of transfers were from these three counties. The proportion increased to 82.7 percent by fall 2008.

### **Demographic Change Indicators**

During the 12-year period the size of the entering cohort has fluctuated, from 877 transfer students in fall 1997, to a high of 984 in fall 2006, to 791 in fall 2008. (Only fall 1998 was lower at 781 transfer students). While the number of entering Hispanic transfer students has varied, the proportion has remained steady and increased during this time, from 19 percent in fall 1997, to 26.5 percent in fall 2008. All minorities together increased as well, from 34.9 percent in fall 1997, to 45.1 percent in fall 2008. In addition, similar to the first-time freshman enrollment pattern (*Analysis Brief, Vol.1, No. 4*, September 15, 2009), women predominate in undergraduate transfer enrollment. Females accounted for 64.2 percent of transfer students in fall 1997, and 63.2 percent of transfer students in fall 2008.

### **First-Generation Students**

Greater than one-third of undergraduate transfers are first-generation students (students whose parents have no college experience and no college degree): 37.5 percent were first-generation students in fall 1997, and again 37.4 percent in fall 2008. The percent of transfer students receiving Pell Grants also changed from 36.6 percent in fall 1997, to 49.4 percent in fall 2008. Transfer GPA has remained about the same throughout the period, 2.88 GPA in fall 1997, and 2.95 in fall 2008. In terms of average age, the trend shows a narrowing of the age group. The average age of transfer students was 27.2 years in fall 1997, and 25.5 years in fall 2008.

### **Remediation Needs are Low**

The trends show more transfer students are regularly admitted. Regular admits increased significantly from 64 percent in fall 1997, to 85.2 percent in fall 2008. Transfer student, full-time enrollment also increased from 59.4 percent in fall 1997, to 66.6 percent in fall 2008. Regarding remediation, undergraduate transfers requiring English and math remediation has been low: English remediation changed from five percent in fall 1997, to 2 percent in fall 2008. In fall 1997, 30 percent required remediation in math. By fall 2008, the percent dropped to six percent.

### **Graduation Rate Improved**

Finally, the graduation rate appears stable in recent years with the 6-year rate improving over the long haul. The 4-year graduation rate remained well above 70 percent; the change was from 72.2 percent for the fall 1997 cohort, to 77.6 percent for the fall 2005 cohort. Both the 5-year and 6-year rates remained above 75 percent. The 5-year rate improved from 75.1 percent for the fall 1997 cohort, to 77.0 percent for the fall 2002 cohort. The 6-year rate improved from 75.7 percent for the fall 1997 cohort, to 78.5 percent for the fall 2003 cohort.

Note. Please visit [www.csustan.edu/ir](http://www.csustan.edu/ir) to download Transfer Graphs presented in this publication.

#### *About the Office of Institutional Research (IR).*

IR tracks the enrollment of all undergraduate, post-baccalaureate and graduate students for each term of the college year. IR is responsible for compiling student data, for analyzing and presenting statistical information from many university-wide sources regarding applications received, new enrollments, continuing enrollments, credentials awarded and degrees conferred. These data are gathered to fulfill the reporting requirements of the Office of the Chancellor, the State of California Legislature, as well as Federal reporting requirements. The information about our students is also central to fulfilling the University's need for continuous feedback that informs the university budget allocation process, fee revenues, academic policies, as well as providing statistical profiles regarding university progress on matters such as access, diversity, growth, retention and graduation, to name only a few.