

- x 18 years old (84%)
- x No freshman scholarship (72%)
- x White (67%)
- x Female (54%)
- x From Mobile or Baldwin County (51%)
- x Lived off-campus (51%)
- x USA GPA of 2.0 or below (48%)
- x Earned 12.5-18 USA credit hours (33%)
- x High school GPA between 3.01-3.5 (33%)
- x Composite ACT score of 19 or 20 (26%)
- x Attended the fifth freshman new student orientation session (20%)

Where Non-returning Students Transferred

Of the 173 non-returning students who transferred, a large majority transferred to an institution with one or more of three characteristics: 1) the institution was likely public (89%), 2) two year institution (71%), and/or 3) located in Alabama (62%). Mississippi (16%) was also a likely transfer destination (see Table 1: Types of Institutions Where USA Students Transferred and Table 2: Top 5 States Where USA Students Transferred).

Table 1: Types of Institutions Where USA Students Transferred

2 or 4 Year Institution	Count	%	Public or Private Institution
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The most common two year institutions of choice were Faulkner State (40), Bishop State (23), and Mississippi Gulf Coast (22). Of the four year universities, Auburn (5) and Alabama (5) were the most common transfer destinations (see Table 3: Top 10 Institutions Where USA Students Transferred tables).

Table 3: Top 10 Institutions Where USA Students Transferred

Rank	College	Count	%
1	FAULKNER STATE COLLEGE	40	23%
2	BISHOP STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	23	13%
3	MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE	22	13%
4	AUBURN UNIVERSITY	5	3%
4	UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA	5	3%
4	SOUTHERN UNION STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	5	3%
7	PENSACOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE	4	2%
7	WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	4	2%
9	JEFFERSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	3	2%

- x 74% of the non-returning students who “stopped out” had a USA GPA of 2.0 or below (214) compared to 48% of non-returning students who transferred (79).

were far more likely to “stop out” while students from other regions, particularly the Mississippi service area were more likely to transfer than students from the same region

- x 74% of nonreturning students who “stopped out” came from Mobile or Baldwin County (239) compared to 51% of nonreturning students who transferred (89).
- x 15% of nonreturning students who transferred came from the Mississippi service area (25) compared to 4% of nonreturning students who “stopped out” (14).

Five other comparison groups showed percentage based differentials greater than or equal to 10% between students who “stopped out” and students who transferred. The other five comparison groups were 1) orientation session, 2) housing, 3) gender, 4) high school GPA (included two sub groups), and 5) age

- x 29% of nonreturning students who “stopped out” attended the adult or August new student orientation session (5) compared to 17% of nonreturning students who transferred (2).
- x 62% of nonreturning students who “stopped out” lived off-campus (202) compared to 51% of nonreturning students who transferred (89).
- x 56% of nonreturning students who “stopped out” were male (182) while 46% of nonreturning students who transferred were male (80).
- x 20% of nonreturning students who “stopped out” had a high school GPA of 2.5 or below (51) compared to 10% of nonreturning students who transferred (4). In addition, 28% of nonreturning students who transferred had a high school GPA of 3.51 or higher (41) compared to 6% of nonreturning students who “stopped out” (41).
- x 84% of nonreturning students who transferred were 18 years old (45) compared to 69% of nonreturning students who “stopped out” (222).

Implications

- x Findings indicated a large percentage based difference between students who “stopped out” with less than six USA earned hours (29%) or students with a USA GPA of 2.0 or below (26%) compared to

persistence at USAr to prepare them to transfer elsewhere. While the preference is to encourage USA freshmen students to continue and persist at USA, a student who successfully transfers to another institution could also be considered a secondary measure of success compared to a complete "stop out" from higher education.

- x Early alert signals for students at greater risk to "stop out" altogether instead of transferring elsewhere include local students (23%), attendance at the adult or August orientation session (12%), students living off campus (11%), high school GPA of 2.5 or below (10%), and male students (10%). Students with those characteristics are unlikely to transfer to another institution.
- x 58% of nonreturning students who "stopped out" attended the adult, August, or fifth freshman new student orientation session. Students attending one of these orientation sessions should be targeted with interventions to help them persist and return.

APPENDIX

Crosstabs of Fall 2008 Freshman Cohort Non-returning Students

		Stopped Out	Transferred		
Total		Count	214	79	293
		% within Transferred from USA	73.8%	47.9%	64.4%
		Count	41	29	70
		% within Transferred from USA	14.1%	17.6%	15.4%
		Count	18	28	46
		% within Transferred from USA	6.2%	17.0%	10.1%
		Count	10	16	26
		% within Transferred from USA	3.4%	9.7%	5.7%
		Count	7	13	20
		% within Transferred from USA	2.4%	7.9%	4.4%
		Count	290	165	455
		% within Transferred from USA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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		Stopped Out	Transferred		
Region	Mobile or Baldwin County	Count	239	89	328
		% within Transferred from USA	73.8%	51.4%	66.0%
	Rest of Alabama	Count	44	37	81
		% within Transferred from USA	13.6%	21.4%	16.3%
	Florida Service Area	Count	14	25	39
		% within Transferred from USA	4.3%	14.5%	7.8%
	Rest of United States	Count	7	4	11
		% within Transferred from USA	2.2%	2.3%	2.2%
	International	Count	16	17	33
		% within Transferred from USA	4.9%	9.8%	6.6%
	Total	Count	4	1	5
		% within Transferred from USA	1.2%	.6%	1.0%
	Count	324	173	497	
	% within Transferred from USA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

		Transferred from USA		
		Stopped		
		Out	Transferred	Total
USA Hours Earned	Count	178	45	223
	% within Transferred from USA	54.9%	26.0%	44.9%
	Count	90	56	146
	% within Transferred from USA	27.8%	32.4%	29.4%
	Count	47	57	104
	% within Transferred from USA	14.5%	32.9%	20.9%
	Count	4	8	12
	% within Transferred from USA	1.2%	4.6%	2.4%
	Count	2	3	5
	% within Transferred from USA	.6%	1.7%	1.0%
Total	Count	324	173	497
	% within Transferred from USA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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		Transferred from USA			
		Stopped			
		Out	Transferred	Total	
Housing	No	Count	202	89	291
		% within Transferred from USA	62.3%	51.4%	58.6%
	Yes	Count	122	84	206
		% within Transferred from USA	37.7%	48.6%	41.4%
Total		Count	324	173	497
		% within Transferred from USA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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		Transferred from USA			
		Stopped			
		Out	Transferred	Total	
HS GPA	2.5 or below	Count	51	14	65
		% within Transferred from USA	20.0%	9.5%	16.2%
	2.51-3.0	Count	86	44	130
		% within Transferred from USA	33.7%	29.9%	32.3%
	3.01-3.5	Count	77	48	125
		% within Transferred from USA	30.2%	32.7%	31.1%
	3.51-4.0	Count	41	41	82
		% within Transferred from USA	16.1%	27.9%	20.4%
Total		Count	255	147	402
		% within Transferred from USA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

	Stopped Out	Transferred	
Count	222	145	367
% within Transferred from USA	68.5%	83.8%	73.8%
Count	23	11	34

Composite ACT Score

Composite ACT Score		Count	Transferred from USA		Total
			Stopped Out	Transferred	
18 or below		70	36	106	
	% within Transferred from USA	23.7%	22.0%	23.1%	
19-20		84	42	126	
	% within Transferred from USA	28.5%	25.6%	27.5%	
21-23		83	38	121	
	% within Transferred from USA	28.1%	23.2%	26.4%	
24-26		31	30	61	
	% within Transferred from USA	10.5%	18.3%	13.3%	
27-29		22	11	33	
	% within Transferred from USA	7.5%	6.7%	7.2%	
30 or above		5	7	12	
	% within Transferred from USA	1.7%	4.3%	2.6%	
Total		295	164	459	
	% within Transferred from USA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

College

College		Count	Transferred from USA		Total
			Stopped Out	Transferred	
AS		137	73	210	
	% within Transferred from USA	42.3%	42.2%	42.3%	
AH		34	29	63	
	% within Transferred from USA	10.5%	16.8%	12.7%	
BU		34	19	53	
	% within Transferred from USA	10.5%	11.0%	10.7%	
CS		18	1	19	
	% within Transferred from USA	5.6%	.6%	3.8%	
ED		22	10	32	
	% within Transferred from USA	6.8%	5.8%	6.4%	
EG		35	15	50	
	% within Transferred from USA	10.8%	8.7%	10.1%	
NU		43	23	66	
	% within Transferred from USA	13.3%	13.3%	13.3%	
OF		4	0	4	
	% within Transferred from USA	1.3%	0.0%	1.3%	

	Stopped Out	Transferred	
Count	244	125	369
% within Transferred from USA	75.3%	72.3%	74.2%
Count	80	48	128
% within Transferred from USA	24.7%	27.7%	25.8%
Count	324	173	497
% within Transferred from USA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

	Stopped Out	Transferred	
Count	271	151	422
% within Transferred from USA	83.6%	87.3%	84.9%
Count	53	22	75
% within Transferred from USA	16.4%	12.7%	15.1%
Count	324	173	497
% within Transferred from USA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

	Stopped Out	Transferred
Count	210	

			Transferred from USA		Total
			Stopped Out	Transferred	
Gender	Female	Count	142	93	235
		% within Transferred from USA	43.8%	53.8%	47.3%
	Male	Count	182	80	262
		% within Transferred from USA	56.2%	46.2%	52.7%
Total	Count		324	173	497
	% within Transferred from USA		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%