

SELECTIVE TRANSFER TRENDS

IACAC CONFERENCE
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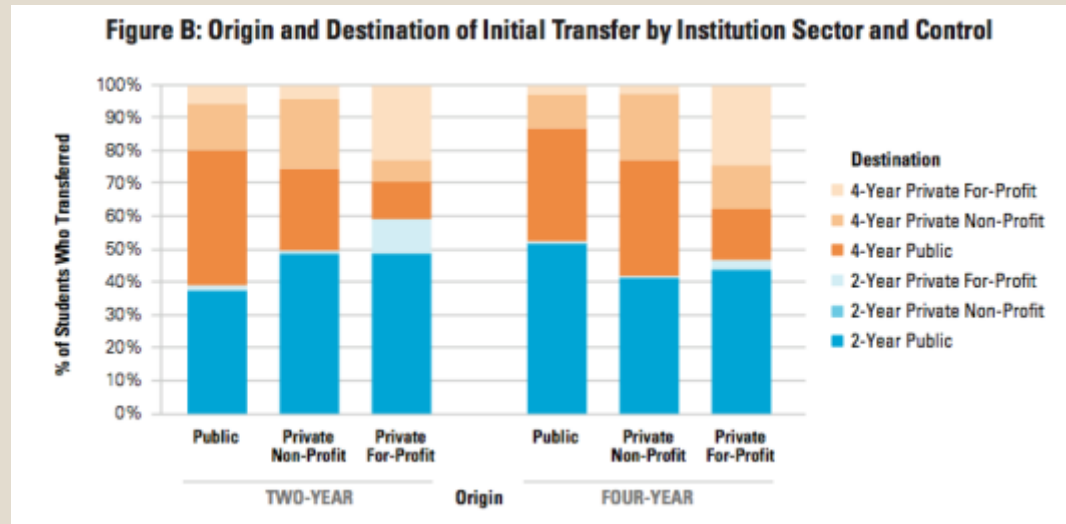
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INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW

- Why are transfer students of interest?
 - Growing population: various studies estimate that between **30% and 50%** of current undergraduates have attended multiple institutions
- Notes/Caveats
 - Varying **definitions** of transfer students
 - How do four-year **selective institutions** fit in?

TRANSFER MOBILITY

■ Where are students transferring to/from?



Hossler, D., Shapiro, D., Dundar, A., Ziskin, M., Chen, J., Zerquera, D., & Torres, V. (2012). *Transfer & mobility: A national view of pre-degree student movement in post-secondary institutions*. Herndon, VA: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center.

■ Why are students transferring?

- Economic
- Personal
- Other

RESOURCES & ALIGNMENT

■ Resources

- Variable by institution
- Institutional conscience
- How to prioritize transfer students?

■ Paradox, lack of understanding

- Affects our work
- Disconnect for both students and administrators
- Whose responsibility?

TYPICAL REASONS TO TRANSFER (ILLINOIS)

- Not happy at current institution but admissible as freshman
- Can no longer afford current institution
- Always intended on going the community college route first
- Did not do well in high school, but has excelled in college

TRANSFER POPULATION (ILLINOIS)

- 1300 new fall transfers; 350 spring transfers
- 50% from IL community colleges and 50% from other institutions
- 75% are IL residents
- Top 5 feeders include: Parkland, COD, Harper, CLC, ICC

REVIEW PROCESS (ILLINOIS)

- Accept transfers at all credit levels for fall and spring semesters
- HS credentials reviewed if fewer than 30 graded hours at the time of application
- Each major has GPA/required coursework for admission
- Genuine interest/relatable experience are plus factors

TYPICAL REASONS TO TRANSFER (NORTHWESTERN)

■ Some

- Not happy at current institution but admissible as freshman
- Always intended on going the community college route first
- Did not do well in high school, but has excelled in college

■ Most

- Waitlisted or denied as freshman applicant
- Want to move closer to home
- International students seeking more challenging programs

TRANSFER POPULATION (NORTHWESTERN)

- 100 new fall transfers; <20 winter transfers
- 2% from community colleges and 98% from other institutions
- Students come from wide geographic area and internationally
- Hard to name feeders with small number

REVIEW PROCESS (NORTHWESTERN)

- Accept transfers for fall and winter quarters
- HS credentials and test scores reviewed for all applicants
- Some majors have preferences for sophomore v. junior entry
- Some majors have extremely limited space for transfers
- Genuine interest/relatable experience are plus factors

TIPS/ADVICE FOR TRANSFERS

- Do your research! Institutions have different requirements.
- Get off to a good start if you think transferring is in the picture.
- Try to settle on a major by the end of your first year to allow for required courses that need to be taken.
- General Education courses do not always equal requirements for admission.
- Keep syllabi in case of course articulation issues.

DISCUSSION

- Potential impact of American Honors
- Your experiences helping students transfer to selective universities
- Successful orientation practices for transfers at selective universities

Thank you!

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