Student Mobility and Transfer

*Patterns, outcomes and questions*

WICHE Passport Convening
Boulder, CO, March 24, 2014

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National Student Clearinghouse Research Center
Outline

1. What transfer looks like in the NSC dataset
2. Scale and patterns of transfer
   • Pathways
   • Timing
3. Completion rates for transfers from 2-yr to 4-yr institutions
   • Student behaviors
4. Summary and questions for further research
What transfer looks like in the NSC dataset

- Anytime, anywhere, any institution type, any state
- Timing, duration, outcomes
  - Origin and destination institutions
  - Enrollment terms, dates, intensity
  - Graduation dates and (most of time) degree type and major
- Academic progress??
  - No data on credits or remediation
  - Not much data on program status or class level
- May be just swirl
  - Mobility or Change of institution
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Up to one quarter of 2nd year persistence takes place at a different institution

Percent of Fall 2006 entering cohort returning for 2nd fall at a:

- Different institution
- Same institution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Type</th>
<th>Different Institution</th>
<th>Same Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private 4-year</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public 4-year</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public 2-year</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
One-Third of Students Enroll in a Different Institution within the First 5 Years or a Degree (whichever comes first)

| Prevalence of Transfer and Mobility Among All Students in Entry Cohort, Fall 2006 |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--------|
|                               | N                | %      |
| Transferring and Moving       | 923,196          | 33.1%  |
| Staying put                   | 1,869,765        | 67.0%  |
| **Total**                     | **2,792,961**    | **100.0%** |
Five-Year Mobility & Transfer Rates by Sector & Level of Origin Institution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Origin Institution</th>
<th>Two-Year</th>
<th>Four-Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Nonprofit</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private For-Profit</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</table>
45 Percent of Four-Year Degrees Go to Students with Previous Enrollment in a Two-Year Institution

2010/11 degrees awarded

U.S. Overall = 45%

*Students were considered enrolled at two-year institutions if they had at least one full-time or part-time enrollment at a two-year institution prior to the four-year completion date.
One Quarter of Those Two-Year Enrollments Occurred More Than 5 Years Back

Number of Years Since Most Recent Two-Year Enrollment

- 0-2 Years: 35%
- 3-5 Years: 41%
- 6-10 Years: 19%
- Over 10 Years: 5%
Timing of First Mobility or Transfer For 2006 Cohort

- Year 1 (2006-07): 15.5%
- Year 2 (2007-08): 37.1%
- Year 3 (2008-09): 25.2%
- Year 4 (2009-10): 13.3%
- Year 5 (2010-11): 8.9%

Total for All Students Who Transferred
Mobility & Transfer Rates by Level of Origin and Destination Institution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Origin Institution</th>
<th>Two-Year</th>
<th>Four-Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two-Year</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four-Year</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
27 Percent of All Students Who Changed Institutions Also Crossed a State Line

Institutional Origins of Transfer Students

- Public
- Private Nonprofit
- Private For-Profit

Two-Year

- Transferred Out of State
- Transferred Within State

Four-Year
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6-Year Bachelors Completions for Fall 2007
Two-Year Starters (N=857,600)

Overall (N=857,607)
- With Degree or Cert from 2-Yr: 7.1%
- Without Degree or Cert from 2-Yr: 10.0%

Exclusively Full-Time (N=200,039)
- With Degree or Cert from 2-Yr: 17.2%
- Without Degree or Cert from 2-Yr: 11.8%

Exclusively Part-Time (N=78,883)
- With Degree or Cert from 2-Yr: 1.9%
- Without Degree or Cert from 2-Yr: 0.7%

Mixed Enrollment (N=578,686)
- With Degree or Cert from 2-Yr: 4.4%
- Without Degree or Cert from 2-Yr: 10.7%
6-Year Bachelors Completions for Fall 2007
Two-Year Starters (N=851,600)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>With Degree or Cert from 2-Yr</th>
<th>Without Degree or Cert from 2-Yr</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 or Younger (N=618,785)</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;20–24 (N=74,504)</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over Age 24 (N=158,294)</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community College Transfer

• 17% of students who start at a 2-year institution complete at a 4-year within six years.

• This report looks at the completion rates for a transfer cohort.

• What percent of those who transfer complete a 4-yr degree?

• What enrollment behaviors correspond to success?
Type of Four-Year Destination Institution
2005-'06 Transfer Cohort (N=356,842)

- Public: 68.6%
- Private Non-Profit: 20.8%
- Private For-Profit: 10.6%
Post-Transfer Enrollment Intensity
2005–'06 Transfer Cohort

Exclusively Full-Time: 37.0%
Exclusively Part-Time: 8.4%
Mixed Enrollment: 54.7%
Outcomes of Students who Transferred from 2-yr to 4-yr Institutions in 2005/06, 6 years after transfer

- Not Enrolled (At Any Institution): 26.6%
- Completion or Still Enrolled in Two-Year Sector: 4.0%
- Still Enrolled at Four-Year Institution: 7.8%
- Completion at Four-Year Institution: 61.6%

N=320,911
Six-Year Outcomes by Enrollment Intensity

- Exclusively Full-Time (n=118,058): 80.2% Not Enrolled, 1.8% Still Enrolled, 18.0% Completion
- Exclusively Part-Time (n=26,787): 24.5% Not Enrolled, 8.8% Still Enrolled, 66.7% Completion
- Mixed (n=174,570): 33.2% Not Enrolled, 11.7% Still Enrolled, 55.0% Completion
6-Year Outcomes by Associate’s Degree Status

- Transfer With 2-yr Degree/Cert. (n=115,769)
  - Still Enrolled at a 4-yr Institution: 5.6%
  - Degree from a 4-yr Institution: 71.6%

- Transfer Without 2-yr Degree/Cert. (n=205,141)
  - Still Enrolled at a 4-yr Institution: 9.0%
  - Degree from a 4-yr Institution: 55.9%
6-year Outcomes by Type of Destination Institution

- **Public** (n=232,542): 64.8% Still Enrolled, 7.1% Degree from 4-yr Institution
- **Private Nonprofit** (n=63,162): 60.2% Still Enrolled, 8.0% Degree from 4-yr Institution
- **Private For-Profit** (n=25,170): 35.1% Still Enrolled, 13.5% Degree from 4-yr Institution
Outcomes by Institution Type and Enrollment Intensity

Transfers to Four-Year Public Institutions

- Exclusively Full-Time (n=82,400): 14.9% Not Enrolled, 24.8% Exclusively Full-Time, 63.1% Exclusively Part-Time.
- Exclusively Part-Time (n=19,291): 12.1% Not Enrolled, 24.4% Exclusively Full-Time, 63.1% Exclusively Part-Time.
- Mixed (n=130,053): 24.4% Not Enrolled, 62.1% Exclusively Full-Time, 13.5% Exclusively Part-Time.

Transfers to Four-Year Private Nonprofit Institutions

- Exclusively Full-Time (n=26,845): 19.2% Not Enrolled, 79.0% Exclusively Full-Time, 1.8% Exclusively Part-Time.
- Exclusively Part-Time (n=5,596): 12.8% Not Enrolled, 31.3% Exclusively Full-Time, 17.5% Exclusively Part-Time.
- Mixed (n=30,383): 29.7% Not Enrolled, 52.9% Exclusively Full-Time, 17.5% Exclusively Part-Time.

Chart represents outcomes by institution type and enrollment intensity.
6-year Outcomes by Timing of Transfer, Since Last 2-year Enrollment

Timing of transfer, from last 2-yr enrollment

- **Within One Year (n=263,587)**
  - Still Enrolled at a 4-yr Institution: 6.8%
  - Degree from a 4-yr Institution: 66.3%

- **More Than One Year (n=57,324)**
  - Still Enrolled at a 4-yr Institution: 12.3%
  - Degree from a 4-yr Institution: 40.0%
6-year Outcomes by Number of Terms Enrolled Before Transfer

**Students With Pre-transfer Degree**

- One to Three (n=6,649) 62.2%
- Four to Six (n=40,421) 75.9%
- More Than Six (n=68,700) 69.9%

**Students Without Pre-transfer Degree**

- One to Three (n=76,768) 48.6%
- Four to Six (n=69,316) 59.6%
- More Than Six (n=59,058) 61.1%
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Key Numbers

- **Mobility & Transfer**
  - 1/3 of all students transfer or enroll elsewhere. 1/2 of all enrollees.

- **Completion**
  - 45% of all bachelors completions have some prior enrollment elsewhere.
  - 17% of 2-year starters complete a 4-year degree within 6 years of starting.
  - 61% of 2-to-4 transfer students complete degree within 6 years of transfer.
Student behaviors matter

• 2-yr to 4-yr Transfer Behaviors

• Higher completion with Full-Time enrollment
• Higher completion with Associate’s degree
• Higher completion at Public 4-years
• Higher completion with 4 to 6 terms at 2-year institution
• Higher completion with immediate transfer
Further research to improve policy and institutional practice

- Enrollment patterns prior to transfer
- Time to degree
- Strong-pair institutional pathways & articulation agreements
- State variation & policy impact
- Field of study & STEM
- Link student-level outcomes to richer academic and demographic data:
  - Credits earned and GPA
  - Race and ethnicity
  - Pell, loans, etc.
Research Center Snapshots and Reports:
http://research.studentclearinghouse.org/

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