



Fall 2009 Freshman Cohort Non-returning Students: What do we know?

Executive Summary

The following report provides an analysis of 584 first-time full-time degree seeking freshmen in the University of South Alabama (USA) Fall 2009 freshman cohort who did not return to USA in Fall 2010. Of these non-returning students, 216 (37%) transferred to another institution prior to Fall 2010 and 368 (63%) “stopped out” or did not enroll in another college or university.

- Results indicated a large majority of students that transferred to another institution with one or more of the following characteristics: public, a two year institution, and/or located in Alabama, with the majority (65%) transferring to a community college.
- Findings showed a large percentage based differential between students who “stopped out” with a USA GPA of 2.0 or lower (26%) or students with less than six hours earned at USA (22%) and students who transferred and had a similar USA GPA or a similar number of USA earned hours.
- Indicators for students at greater risk to “stop out” instead of transferring to another institution included students of local origin from Mobile or Baldwin County (23%), living off campus (19

new student orientation session. Students attending one of these orientation sessions should be targeted early with interventions to help them persist and return to USA.

NSC) was used to identify whether non-returning
stopped out’ did not enroll in another higher
ference is for students to return and persist at
ution could be considered a secondary measure of
n over 3,300 (92)

Table 2: Top States Where USA Students Transferred

Rank	State	Count	%
1	Alabama	130	60%
2	Mississippi	37	17%
3	Florida	16	7%
4	Illinois	3	1%
4	North Carolina	3	1%
4	Ohio	3	1%
4	Texas	3	1%

The most common two year transfer institu(st)48 11sfer

Table 4: Greatest Differentials Between Non-Returner Transfers and Stop Outs

Top within Group Characteristics	Transferred (n=216)	% Transferred	Stopped Out (n=368)	% Stopped Out	% Difference Between Transferred & Stopped Out
<i>USA GPA (Note: n=360 Stopped Out; 208 Transferred)</i>					
2.0 or lower	111	53%	285	79%	-26%
2.51-3.0	33	16%	21	6%	+10%
<i>Region</i>					
Mobile/Baldwin County	92	43%	243	66%	-23%
<i># USA Earned Hours</i>					
0-6 hours	44	21%	154	43%	-22%
<i>Housing</i>					
Off-Campus	85	39%	215	58%	-19%
<i>Age</i>					
18 years old	175	81%	238	65%	+16%
20 years old or older	7	3%	49	13%	-10%
<i>Orientation Session</i>					
August/Transfer Orientation	30	14%	107	29%	-15%
<i>Gender</i>					
Male	91	42%	210	57%	-15%

Crosstabs of Fall 2009 Freshman Cohort Non-returning Students

USA GPA * T a _ USA C ab a _

			Transferred from USA		Total
			Stopped Out	Transferred	
USA GPA	2.0 or lower	Count	285	111	396
		% within Transferred from USA	79.2%	53.4%	69.7%
	2.01-2.5	Count	31	25	56
		% within Transferred from USA	8.6%	12.0%	9.9%
	2.51-3.0	Count	21	33	54
		% within Transferred from USA	5.8%	15.9%	9.5%
	3.01-3.5	Count	13	20	33
		% within Transferred from USA	3.6%	9.6%	5.8%
	3.51-4.0	Count	10	19	29
		% within Transferred from USA	2.8%	9.1%	5.1%
Total		Count	360	208	568
		% within Transferred from USA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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			Transferred from USA		Total
			Stopped Out	Transferred	
Region	Mobile or Baldwin County	Count	243	92	335
		% within Transferred from USA	66.0%	42.6%	57.4%
	Rest of Alabama	Count	65	55	120
		% within Transferred from USA	17.7%	25.5%	20.5%
	Mississippi Service Area	Count	21	33	54
		% within Transferred from USA	5.7%	15.3%	9.2%
	Florida Service Area	Count	14	11	25
		% within Transferred from USA	3.8%	5.1%	4.3%
	Rest of United States	Count	22	24	46
		% within Transferred from USA	6.0%	11.1%	7.9%
	International	Count	3	1	4
		% within Transferred from USA	0.8%	0.5%	0.7%
Total		Count	368	216	584
		% within Transferred from USA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

	Stopped Out	Transferred	
Count	154	44	198

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Age			Transferred from USA		Total
			Stopped Out	Transferred	
18 years old	Count		238	175	413
	% within Transferred from USA		64.7%	81.0%	70.7%
17 years or younger	Count		25	13	38
	% within Transferred from USA		6.8%	6.0%	6.5%
19 years old	Count		56	21	77
	% within Transferred from USA		15.2%	9.7%	13.2%
20 years or older	Count		49	7	56
	% within Transferred from USA		13.3%	3.2%	9.6%
Total	Count		368	216	584
	% within Transferred from USA		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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Orientation			Transferred from USA		Total
			Stopped Out	Transferred	
August/Transfer Orientation	Count		107	30	137
	% within Transferred from USA		29.1%	13.9%	23.5%
May Orientation	Count		25	12	37
	% within Transferred from USA		6.8%	5.6%	6.3%
Freshman Session 1	Count		34	30	64
	% within Transferred from USA		9.2%	13.9%	11.0%
Freshman Session 2	Count		31	31	62
	% within Transferred from USA		8.4%	14.4%	10.6%
Freshman Session 3	Count		49	31	80
	% within Transferred from USA		13.3%	14.4%	13.7%
Freshman Session 4	Count		49	39	88
	% within Transferred from USA		13.3%	18.1%	15.1%
Freshman Session 5	Count		73	43	116
	% within Transferred from USA		19.8%	19.9%	19.9%
Total	Count		368	216	584
	% within Transferred from USA		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

	Stopped Out	Transferred	
Count	86	46	132
% within Transferred from USA	29.1%		

	Stopped Out	Transferred	
Count	280	143	423
% within Transferred from USA	76.1%	66.2%	72.4%
Count			

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			Transferred from USA		Total
			Stopped Out	Transferred	
Gender	Female	Count	158	125	283
		% within Transferred from USA	42.9%	57.9%	48.5%
	Male	Count	210	91	301
		% within Transferred from USA	57.1%	42.1%	51.5%
Total	Count		368	216	584
	% within Transferred from USA		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%