MIRO VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM

August, 2021

What Data Can Tell Us about Transfers

Symposium Registration Form Questions & Answers

Q1: What is the average age of your transfer students? How do I get the data on transfer students compared to students who start at UH Manoa as freshmen?

A: The average age of our degree-seeking new transfers is 24 years old. To pull the data for transfers and students who start at Manoa as freshmen, you can use the filter of “Start at Manoa” in our web apps.

Q2: In my department, we have far fewer new majors in Fall 2021 than pre-pandemic, and of those new majors, the percentage who are transfer students is much lower than usual. I'm very curious to know if this is true across the university, or just something unusual in my own department?

A: To address this question, you can use our enrollment web app and select “new transfers” in the filter of “Registration Type”. If you want to select a specific academic unit (like a major, a department, or a college), please remember to also check the “include second majors” function to have all your students counted.

Q3: Many attendees are interested in transfer students' retention and graduation rates. They want to know how we calculate transfer students' retention and graduation rates since they are coming in with different transferred credits?

A. We developed a Student Persistence web app to address the issue of retention and graduation rates. In the web app, we have a filter called "education level", which includes freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior. The education level is defined by the amount of credits students have. By selecting a specific education level, you should be able to get the retention and graduation rates for students who came in with different transferred credits. For the calculation methods, please refer to the web app video tutorial if you have access to the site.

Q4: Do you have any specific enrollment projection techniques up your sleeve?

A. We haven't used a statistical approach to projecting transfer students' enrollment; instead, we encourage academic units to use our open-ended survey web apps to read students' feedback and address their concerns. Those web apps could be found in the "MIRO surveys" section of the Decision Support System. We believe that this approach can help us attract more applicants, provide better quality of programs and services, and improve the retention and graduation rates in the long run.

Q5: What are some of the things your transfer students have expressed? How do you collect data on the perceptions of your transfer students?

Q6: What do they say about library services?

Q7:What are the students' problems with transferring General Education courses or credits when they come to Manoa from the community colleges or non-UH schools.

A. It would be difficult to use numbers to answer those questions. However, our qualitative data tools could be helpful. UHM faculty and staff can log in the "Campus Experience Survey", and select a specific topic or area to read students' comments, such as library, advising, parking, courses, and financial concerns. In addition, users can use the "Search Keywords" web app to type in specific keywords, such as "general education" or "library" to find relevant comments. For attendees outside of UH Manoa, we suggest trying a qualitative approach to pay more attention to individual student's experiences.

Live Questions from the Symposium & Answers

Q: Is UHM Admin open to sharing resources to develop staff & advocates for transfer students.

A: ***This question has been answered live.***