

## **University System of Georgia Undergraduate Student Transfer in FY2006**

The University System of Georgia (USG) is committed to access for and success of transfer students. The annual transfer report is designed to provide feedback to the USG on the mobility of its students and to sending institutions on the success of their students up to one year after transfer. Results are summarized in this report, and detailed information is provided to USG institutions.

Ensuring the success of transfer students is a responsibility shared by the sending institution, the receiving institution, and the transfer students themselves. A fully articulated Core Curriculum for USG institutions was designed in part to assure that there were no impediments to transfer success. To further improve transfer articulation within Georgia, a “mini-Core” of selected Core Curriculum courses in English and mathematics was developed for transfer between USG institutions and technical colleges within the Department of Technical and Adult Education (DTAE).

This report summarizes data on undergraduates who transferred to USG institutions during FY2006 from other USG institutions, from non-USG Georgia colleges and universities, including DTAE institutions, and from out-of-state colleges and universities.<sup>1</sup>

The sending institution of transfer students in this report is defined as the last institution attended prior to transfer. However, the student may have enrolled at other institutions prior to the sending institution. The number of transfer hours and transfer GPA reported by receiving institutions include all hours earned at all institutions attended by the student before transferring. For example, a student who moved from out of state with 20 college-level credit hours and enrolled for the equivalent of three credit hours at a DTAE technical college would be shown as transferring from a DTAE technical college with 23 credit hours.

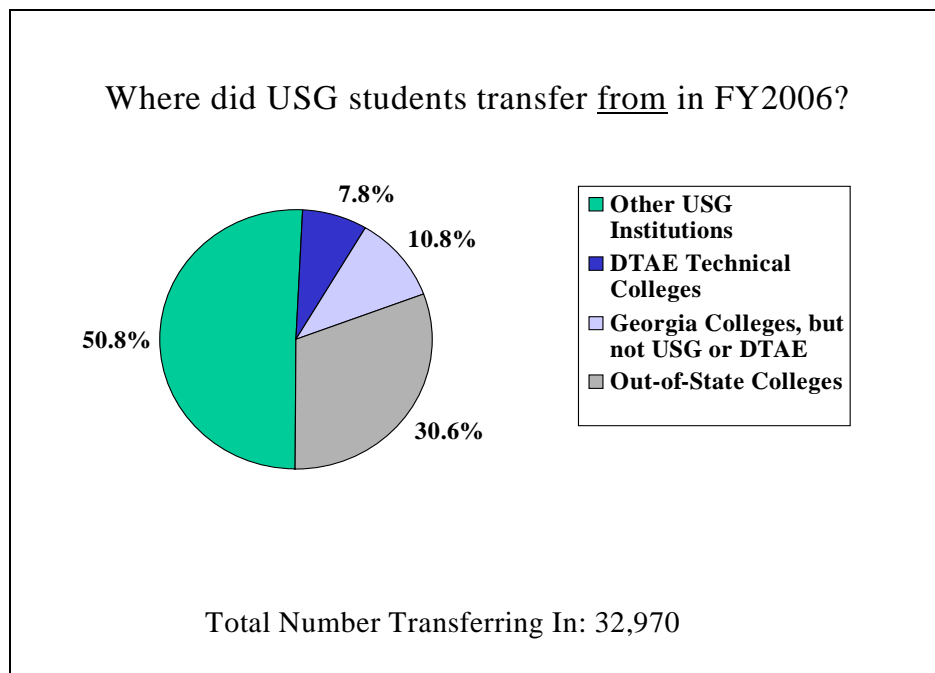
### **Transferring In: The Viewpoint of the Receiving Institution**

- In FY2006, 32,970 students transferred into System institutions from other System institutions, non-System Georgia institutions, and out-of-state institutions. This was an increase of 2.6 percent from the 32,130 transfer students in FY2005.
- The number of students transferring from one USG institution to another increased from 16,146 in FY2005 to 16,745 in FY2006, an increase of 3.7 percent. In FY2006, slightly more than half of the students who transferred into a USG institution came from another USG institution.

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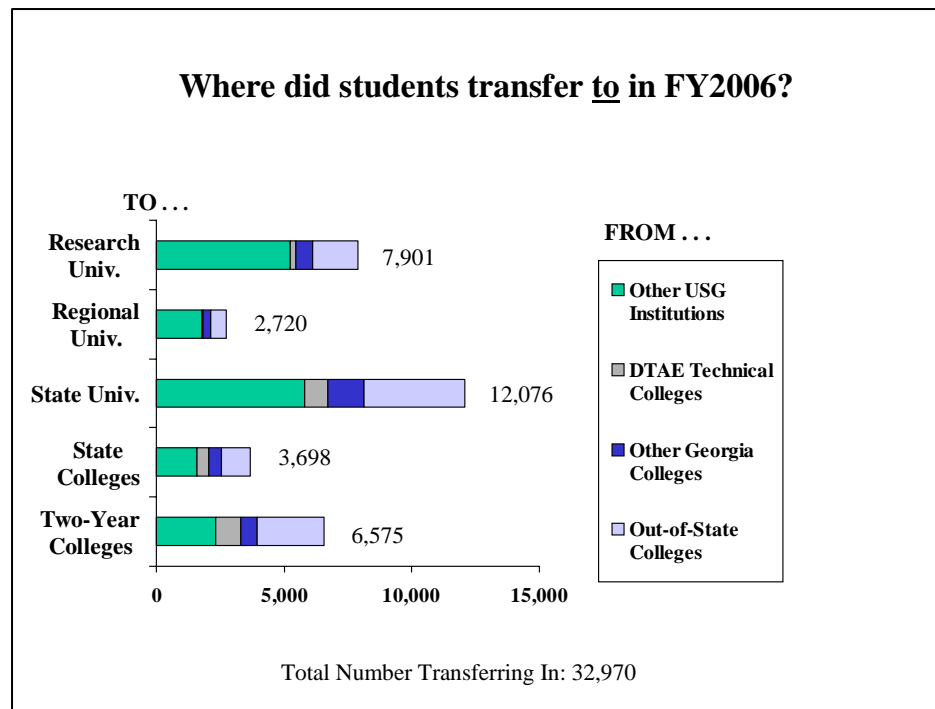
<sup>1</sup> Students transferring from out-of-state colleges and universities include both Georgia residents who returned after leaving the state to attend college and students who were formerly residents of other states.

- Of the students who transferred into USG institutions from institutions outside the System, 6,139 were from in-state, non-USG institutions, and 10,086 were from out-of-state institutions. Of the students from in-state, non-USG institutions, 2,581 were from DTAE institutions (representing 7.8 percent of all transfers to USG institutions).
- Of students who transferred to a USG institution, 24 percent transferred to research universities, 8.2 percent to regional universities, 36.6 percent to state universities, and 31.2 percent to state and two-year colleges.
- The largest numbers of transfer students were received by Georgia Perimeter College (3,901), Georgia State University (3,433), Kennesaw State University (3,279), and University of Georgia (3,027). These four institutions received more than 40 percent of all transfers into System institutions.



- Of within-System transfers to research universities, 58.1 percent came from USG two-year or state colleges.
- The largest proportion of students transferring from out of state enrolled in state universities (39.0 percent), followed by two-year colleges (26.0 percent), research universities (17.6 percent), state colleges (11.5 percent), and regional universities (6 percent).

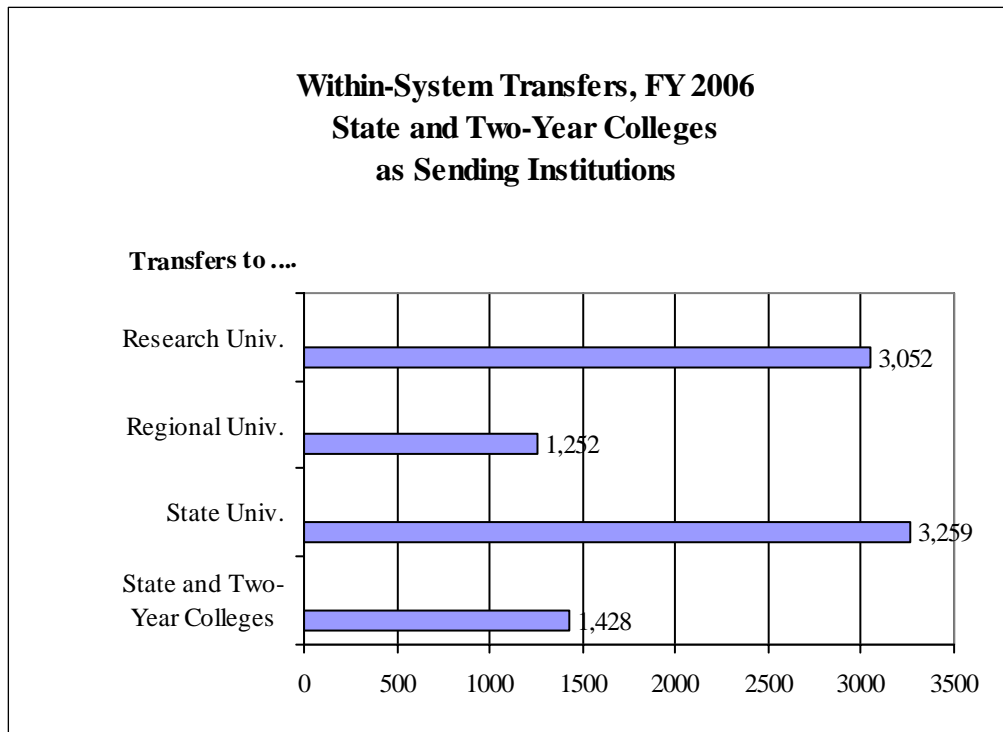
- The largest receivers of transfers from out-of-state colleges were Georgia Perimeter College (1,838), Kennesaw State University (1,083), and Georgia State University (990). Out-of-state transfers to those three institutions accounted for almost 40 percent of all transfers from out of state. University of Georgia received the largest number of transfers from within the System (2,309).
- The following points summarize the origin of transfer students by sector in the USG:
  - At research universities, 66.5 percent of transfers came from other USG institutions, 22.4 percent from out-of-state colleges, and 11.1 percent from non-System Georgia colleges. At University of Georgia, the percentage of the total transfers that came from USG institutions increased in recent years from 59.1 percent in FY2002 to 76.3 percent in FY2006.
  - At regional universities, 65 percent of transfers came from other USG institutions, 22.1 percent from out-of-state colleges, and 12.8 percent from non-System Georgia colleges.
  - At state universities, 48.1 percent of transfers came from other USG institutions, 32.6 percent from out-of-state colleges, and 19.3 percent from non-System Georgia colleges.
  - At state and two-year colleges, 38.1 percent came from other USG institutions, 36.8 percent from out-of-state colleges, and 25.2 percent from non-System Georgia colleges.



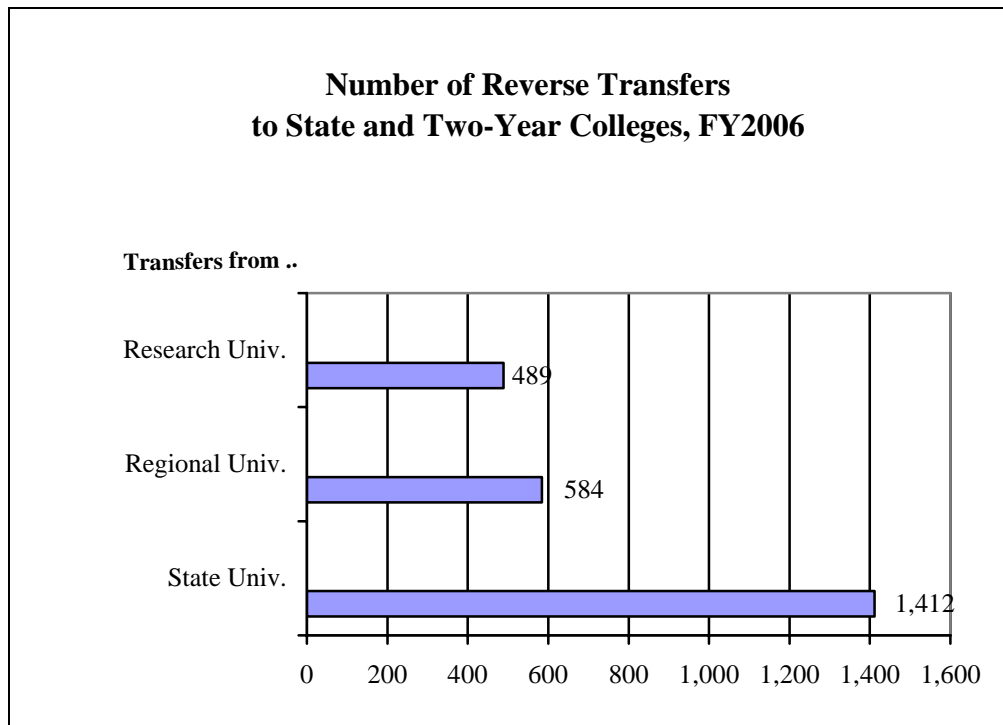
## Transferring Out: The Viewpoint of the Sending Institution

The USG can analyze transfer within the System (from the point of view of both the receiving institution and the sending institution), but it is not able to track students who transfer from the System to non-System institutions. The following analysis looks only at those 16,745 students who transferred from one System institution to another.

- A major mission of two-year and state colleges is to prepare students for transfer to a research, regional, or state university. The transfer mission of USG state and two-year colleges appears to function well, based on the following facts:
  - In the USG, 53.7 percent of within-System transfer students transferred from two-year or state colleges.
  - Most within-System transfers from two-year and state colleges (84.1 percent) went to a research, regional or state university.
  - Of within-System transfers to research universities, 58.1 percent came from two-year or state colleges, compared with 70.8 percent of within-System transfers to regional universities and 56.1 percent of within System transfers to state universities.



- The next largest group of transfers out was from state universities, sending out 4,326 (25.8 percent) of within-System transfers. Research universities transferred out 1,780 students (10.6 percent of within-System transfers), and regional universities transferred out 1,648 students (9.8 percent).
- Reverse transfer, that is, students who earn credit at a university and then transfer to a two-year or state college, occurs both in the nation and in the USG.
  - In FY2006, 2,485 students transferred from a research, regional, or state university to a two-year or state college, representing 14.8 percent of all within-System transfers.
  - An additional 1,328 students (7.9 percent of all within-USG transfers) transferred from a sector with higher admissions standards to one with lower ones (from a research to a state university, for example).



- Significant transfer mobility also occurs within sectors. Research universities transferred 551 students to other research universities, state universities transferred 1,305 students to other USG state universities, and state and two-year colleges transferred 1,428 students to other state or two-year colleges.

The following table provides summary information on transfer activity between and within sectors.

**University System of Georgia**  
**Within-USG Transfers**  
**Number and Percent by Sector, FY2006**

<b>Percent Sent by Sector--Column Percentages</b>												
<i><b>RECEIVING INSTITUTION</b></i>	<i><b>SENDING INSTITUTIONS</b></i>											
	<b>Research Universities</b>		<b>Regional Universities</b>		<b>State Universities</b>		<b>State Colleges</b>		<b>Two-Year Colleges</b>		<b>Total</b>	
	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>
<b>Research Universities</b>	551	31.0	396	24.0	1,254	29.0	1,036	30.3	2,016	36.2	5,253	31.4
<b>Regional Universities</b>	82	4.6	80	4.9	355	8.2	448	13.1	804	14.4	1,769	10.6
<b>State Universities</b>	658	37.0	588	35.7	1,305	30.2	1,219	35.7	2,040	36.6	5,810	34.7
<b>State Colleges</b>	140	7.9	249	15.1	526	12.2	324	9.5	360	6.5	1,599	9.5
<b>Two-Year Colleges</b>	349	19.6	335	20.3	886	20.5	390	11.4	354	6.4	2,314	13.8
<b>Total</b>	1,780		1,648		4,326		3,417		5,574		16,745	

<b>Percent Received by Sector--Row Percentages</b>												
<i><b>RECEIVING INSTITUTION</b></i>	<i><b>SENDING INSTITUTIONS</b></i>											
	<b>Research Universities</b>		<b>Regional Universities</b>		<b>State Universities</b>		<b>State Colleges</b>		<b>Two-Year Colleges</b>		<b>Total</b>	
	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	
<b>Research Universities</b>	551	10.5	396	7.5	1,254	23.9	1,036	19.7	2,016	38.4	5,253	
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<b>State Universities</b>	658	11.3	588	10.1	1,305	22.5	1,219	21.0	2,040	35.1	5,810	
<b>State Colleges</b>	140	8.8	249	15.6	526	32.9	324	20.3	360	22.5	1,599	
<b>Two-Year Colleges</b>	349	15.1	335	14.5	886	38.3	390	16.9	354	15.3	2,314	
<b>Total</b>	1,780	10.6	1,648	9.8	4,326	25.8	3,417	20.4	5,574	33.3	16,745	

## Success of Students Following Transfer

The table below summarizes the performance of students transferring to USG institutions by the type of sending institution. Because the transfer GPA and number of hours reported by the sending institution are not available for sending institutions outside of the USG, the average GPA at transfer as reported by the receiving institution is provided along with the average GPA of students at the end of the year after transfer. (The results for the end of the year after transfer are through spring semester for students who transferred in summer, fall, or spring. They do not necessarily include a full year of work.)

It is logical that two-year college transfer students should generally do as well as native students. Only a small proportion of students transfer relative to the overall student body, and it is assumed that transfer students (with the exception of reverse transfers) are among the best prepared students.

<b>University System of Georgia Average GPA and Number of Hours Earned before and after Transfer by Type of Sending Institution, FY2006</b>					
		<b>Reported by Receiving Institution at Transfer</b>		<b>At End of Year after Transfer</b>	
	<b>Number of Students</b>	<b>Avg. GPA</b>	<b>Avg. Hours</b>	<b>Avg. GPA</b>	<b>Avg. Hours</b>
<b>USG</b>					
<b>Research University</b>	1,780	2.93	52	3.12	18
<b>Regional University</b>	1,648	2.69	44	2.71	17
<b>State University</b>	4,326	2.81	45	2.79	17
<b>State/Two-Year College</b>	8,991	2.96	51	2.84	18
<b>Non-USG</b>					
<b>DTAE Technical College</b>	2,581	2.95	27	2.73	13
<b>Other Georgia Institution</b>	3,558	2.88	46	2.74	16
<b>Out-of-State Institution</b>	10,086	2.80	46	2.88	15

- In general, students transferring within the USG from a two-year college to a university were well-prepared for transfer.
  - Students transferring from state and two-year colleges to research universities were generally successful, earning an average GPA of 2.98 after transferring. This represented a decrease, however, from the last average GPA calculated by the state and two-year colleges (3.29) and the average GPA at transfer as calculated by the receiving universities (3.19).

- The average number of hours at transfer for state and two-year college students transferring to research universities was 43. However, the receiving institutions reported the average number of transfer hours as 56, indicating that many of these students had earned transfer hours from more than one institution. As in previous years, it appears that most students are not completing the requirements for a two-year degree before transferring.
- Students with lower average GPAs transferred from state and two-year colleges to universities in the other sectors, but the average GPAs of the students declined less after transfer.
- Reverse transfer students increased their average GPA after transfer. For example, many students transferring from research universities to two-year colleges were not doing well (average GPA of 2.19) at the research university but increased their average GPA to 2.96 by the end of the first year after transfer.
- Students transferring from in-state, non-System institutions to a university had a decrease from the average transfer GPA calculated by the receiving institution. The average GPA showed a decrease of .22 for research universities, .27 for regional universities, and .23 for state universities. The average GPA at transfer for the 2,581 students transferring from DTAE institutions was 2.95. Although the average GPA of these students decreased to 2.73 after transfer and the average number of hours earned (13) was the lowest for any group, the transfers from DTAE generally appear to have been successful at USG institutions.
- For out-of-state transfers, there was an increase from the average transfer GPA of 2.80 calculated by the receiving institution to an average GPA of 2.88 by the end of the year.

Transfer mobility appears to be effective in increasing opportunities for students, whether by preparing students at two-year colleges to succeed at a university or by providing a second chance for students not doing well at universities to succeed in a two-year college.

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