



## Research and Policy Brief

### Georgia Military College Transfers to USG

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**Overview:** The following memo describes the demographic characteristics and academic outcomes of students that transferred from Georgia Military College (GMC) to the University System of Georgia. The study sample consists of students that transferred into USG from FY 2012 to FY 2017. For comparison to GMC transfers, data is also provided on three other groups of transfers: Transfers from TCSG, Other Georgia schools (which includes GMC), and Out of State schools (all groups are mutually exclusive). The data for this analysis is based on USG data records, and from secondary data sources.<sup>1</sup>

#### Georgia Military College

GMC is a military junior college that offers a liberal arts-based, two-year undergraduate curriculum designed to support attainment of an associates degree and/or transfer to a four-year college. GMC offers 3 types of associates: Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Associate of Applied Sciences (AAS). Students that attain an AAS are able to pursue a Bachelor of Applied Science degree at GMC, which is intended to train/prepare students for career advancement or supervisory roles in their technical or occupational field. GMC has 13 campuses across Georgia, including a designated online campus where all of its associates degrees are completely online. Below is list of salient features of GMC and its students:

- GMC experienced a 4% increase in enrollment from 13,816 in FY16 to 14,363 in FY17.
- GMC awarded 1,721 degrees in FY17.
- Three-year graduation rate for the Fall 2013 cohort is 28% (for USG's full-time associate degree seekers, the rate is 12.7%)
- One-year retention rate for the Fall 2015 cohort is 53% (for USG's full-time associate degree seekers, the rate is 67.9%)
- 61% of GMC's students are female. 44% of students are Black and an equal percent are White.
- 29% of GMC students are fully enrolled online (N=4,206)
- The number of dual enrollment students in FY 17 was 2,278.

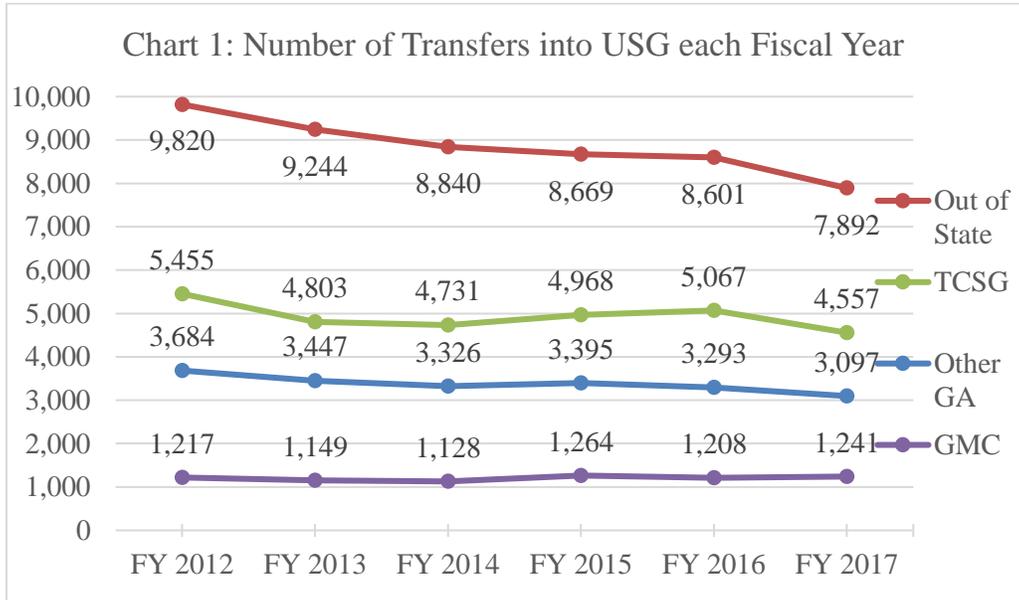
#### Transfers to USG

##### *A: Number and Characteristics of Transfers*

Chart 1 details the number of students transferring into USG during the last six fiscal years for the four types of transfer students. The number of GMC transfers has fluctuated only minimally, with a low of 1,128 in FY14 to a high of 1,241 in FY17. GMC transfers have been growing as a proportion of Other GA transfers (this is primarily due to Other GA declining over time): In FY12, 33% of the Other GA transfers were from GMC and it grew to 40% in FY17. GMC is the only transfer group that showed an increase from FY16 to FY17.

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<sup>1</sup> This includes data from IPEDS and information taken from the Georgia Military College website at <https://www.gmc.edu/>



For GMC transfers only, Chart 2 details which USG sector these students enroll in. The largest number of transfers enroll in State Universities, followed by Comprehensive, Research, and State Colleges. Appendix Table 1 details the number of GMC transfers to each USG receiving school. The top 5 receiving schools over this period are Valdosta State University, Middle Georgia State University, Augusta University, Georgia College & State University, and Georgia State University.

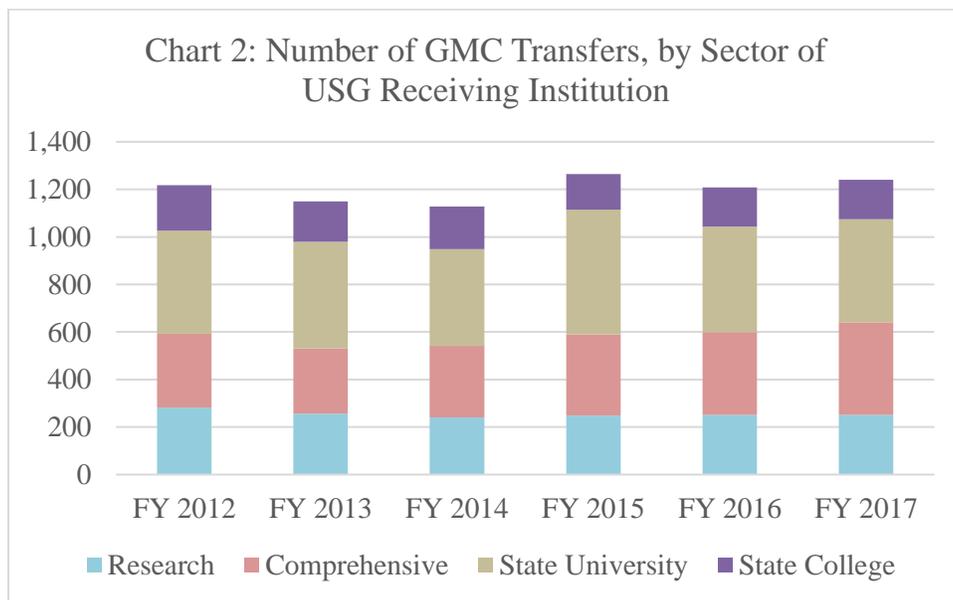
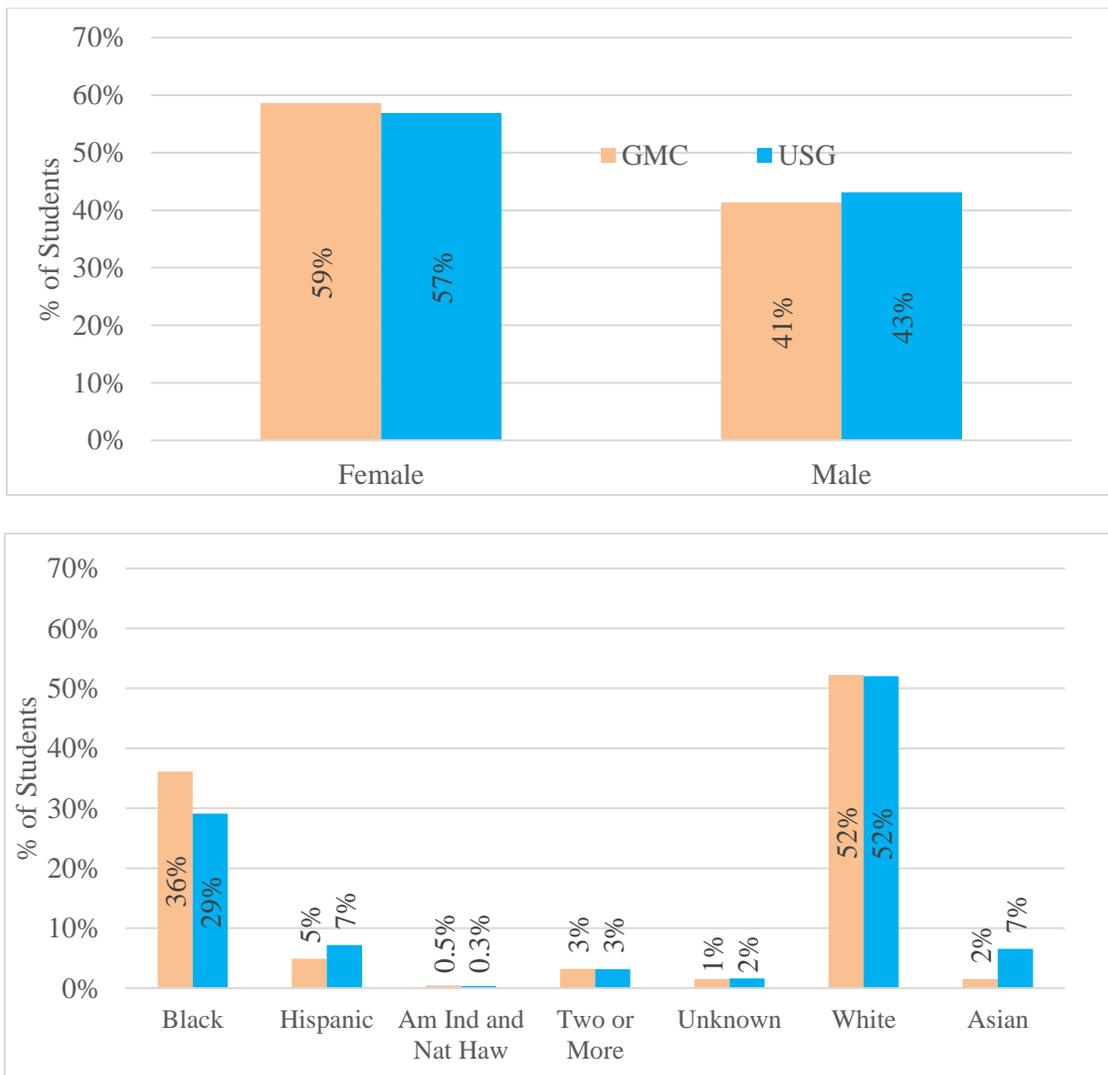


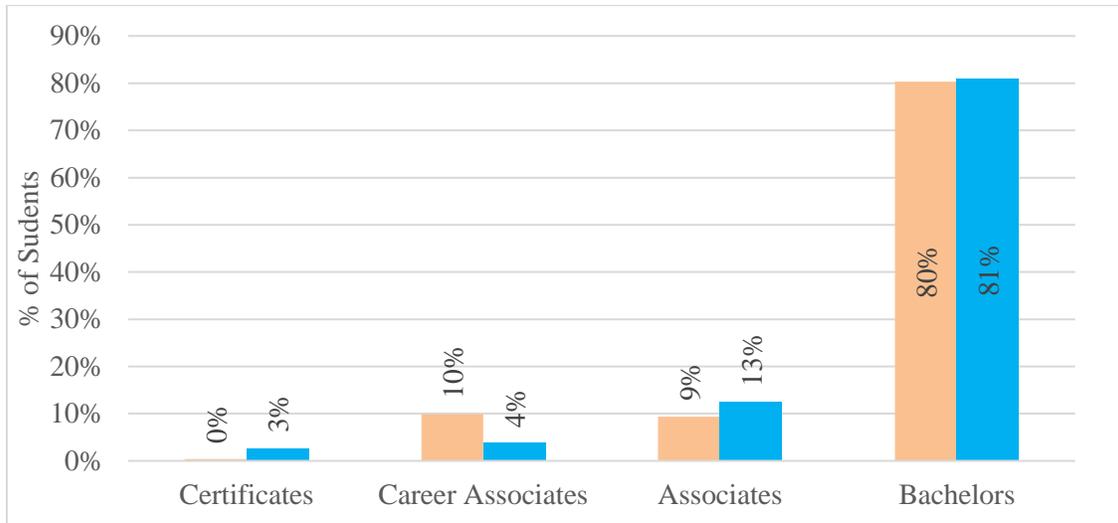
Chart 3 details the composition of GMC transfers by gender, race, and degree level being sought upon transfer to USG. For comparison purposes, the same information is displayed for all undergraduates at USG.<sup>2</sup> For this chart students from FY12-17 were pooled together (a year-by-year analysis does not reveal any meaningful changes over time). Looking just at GMC transfers, a larger percentage are female, seeking a bachelor’s degree upon transfer, and are White. Comparing these transfers to the general USG undergraduate population, we observe that both groups are similar in terms of gender representation, percentage of bachelor’s degree seekers, and White students. However, a larger percentage of GMC transfers are pursuing a career associates, and are Black. A smaller percentage are Hispanic or Asian.

Chart 3: Demographic Characteristics and Degree Level Pursued by GMC Transfers and USG Undergrads, FY12-FY17



<sup>2</sup> Undergraduates from USG were chosen for the comparison as opposed to both undergraduates and graduates since those transferring to USG are seeking undergraduate level degrees.

Chart 3 Continued



*B. Average GPA and Credit Hours Earned at USG of Transfers*

Chart 4 details the average GPA and credit hours earned at USG (does not include transfer hours) through the last term of the fiscal year in which students transferred, for the four transfer groups.<sup>3</sup> The average GPA of GMC transfers has remained relatively steady between 2.6 and 2.7, and is consistently lower than the other transfer groups by 0.1 to 0.2 grade points. In terms of hours earned, GMC transfers earn an average of 15 to 16 hours which is equal to or slightly smaller than what transfers from Other GA schools and Out of State schools earn, but is larger than that of TCSG transfers (approximately 14 hours earned). In general, the average GPA and credit hours earned by all these transfer groups has remained steady over time.

Chart 4: Average Cumulative GPA and Hours Earned at USG through end Transfer Fiscal Year				
Sending Institution	FY of Transfer to USG	Number of Transfers	Last Term Enrolled in FY of Transfer	
			Average GPA	Average Hours
Other GA	2012	3,684	2.66	16
Out of State		9,820	2.79	15
TCSG		5,455	2.71	13
GMC		1,217	2.61	15
Other GA	2013	3,447	2.65	16
Out of State		9,244	2.80	16
TCSG		4,803	2.73	14
GMC		1,149	2.59	16
Other GA	2014	3,325	2.68	17
Out of State		8,841	2.85	16
TCSG		4,731	2.78	14
GMC		1,128	2.61	16
Other GA	2015	3,395	2.7	17
Out of State		8,669	2.84	17
TCSG		4,968	2.74	14
GMC		1,264	2.66	16
Other GA	2016	3,293	2.66	17
Out of State		8,601	2.81	16
TCSG		5,067	2.74	14
GMC		1,208	2.63	16
Other GA	2017	3,097	2.69	17
Out of State		7,892	2.83	18
TCSG		4,557	2.77	15
GMC		1,241	2.67	16

<sup>3</sup> Depending on transfer term and subsequent enrollment, this could be as little as one semester after transfer or as much as three.

C. Retention and Graduation Rates of Transfers

Chart 5 details system-wide one-year retention and four-year graduation rates for transfers into the USG. For simplicity, we focus just on those transfers that entered USG in a fall semester. Focusing first on retention, GMC transfers have the highest retention rate (between 70 and 76%), and the lowest is shared by Out of State and TCSG transfers. In terms of graduation rates, again GMC transfers have the highest, and it has grown over time from 41% among the Fall 2011 transfers to 50% among the Fall 2013 transfers. Further future data is required to determine whether this increase continues among later cohorts.

Chart 5: System-Wide 1 Year Retention and 4 Year Graduation Rates of Transfers into USG						
Sending Institution	Fall Term of Transfer	Number of Students Transferred In	One-Year Retention		Four-Year Graduation	
			Number of Students Retained the Following Fall	%	Number of Students Graduated within Four Years	%
Other GA	Fall 2011	2,057	1,413	68.7	758	36.9
Out of State		5,270	3,279	62.2	1,681	31.9
TCSG		2,660	1,656	62.3	705	26.5
GMC		688	498	72.4	284	41.3
Other GA	Fall 2012	1,981	1,360	68.7	750	37.9
Out of State		5,009	3,159	63.1	1,555	31.0
TCSG		2,355	1,483	63.0	602	25.6
GMC		652	458	70.2	308	47.2
Other GA	Fall 2013	1,906	1,348	70.7	727 <sup>†</sup>	38.1
Out of State		4,817	3,097	64.3	1493 <sup>†</sup>	31.0
TCSG		2,354	1,541	65.5	653 <sup>†</sup>	27.7
GMC		673	503	74.7	338 <sup>†</sup>	50.2
Other GA	Fall 2014	2,037	1,499	73.6	N/A	N/A
Out of State		4,858	3,199	65.9	N/A	N/A
TCSG		2,577	1,684	65.4	N/A	N/A
GMC		772	588	76.2	N/A	N/A
Other GA	Fall 2015	1995	1,424	71.4	N/A	N/A
Out of State		4749	3108	65.4	N/A	N/A
TCSG		2615	1,663	63.6	N/A	N/A
GMC		720	525	72.9	N/A	N/A

N/A: 4 year graduation rates not yet available for Fall 2014, 2015.

† The four year graduation rate includes the Summer term of the fourth year. As a result, the graduation rates for the Fall 2013 cohort of transfers is preliminary because it doesn't include degree recipients in Summer 2018.

## Appendix

Appendix Chart 1: GMC Transfers to USG Institutions (FY12-FY17)

Receiving Institution	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	Total
Valdosta State University	170	151	162	171	165	190	1,009
Middle Georgia State University	154	164	127	200	164	125	934
Augusta University	146	114	88	110	95	111	664
Georgia College & State University	121	107	118	113	80	114	653
Georgia State University	107	107	109	89	111	100	623
Kennesaw State University	48	52	53	75	89	84	401
Georgia Southern University	62	52	59	63	63	86	385
Darton State College	62	53	48	57	51	50	321
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	57	58	71	31	43	48	308
Clayton State University	32	49	37	48	47	52	265
Columbus State University	29	27	30	63	52	38	239
University of Georgia	25	35	43	46	45	40	234
University of West Georgia	30	19	26	33	31	30	169
Fort Valley State University	24	19	15	22	31	28	139
University of North Georgia	29	25	23	26	15	18	136
Armstrong State University	15	18	24	27	20	22	126
Georgia Southwestern State University	19	19	23	15	19	17	112
Gordon State College	20	10	12	14	14	13	83
South Georgia State College	16	18	12	15	6	7	74
East Georgia State College	2	3	17	8	19	19	68
Georgia Gwinnett College	5	11	7	10	12	11	56
Albany State University	7	13	7	9	5	9	50
Atlanta Metropolitan State College	9	6	4	8	8	5	40
Savannah State University	4	7	3	2	11	11	38
College of Coastal Georgia	8	4	4	4	6	9	35
Georgia Highlands College	8	5	2	2	2	3	22
Georgia Institute of Technology	4	1	1	3			9
Bainbridge State College	4	1	2				7
Dalton State College		1	1		4	1	7
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>1,149</b>	<b>1,128</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>1,208</b>	<b>1,241</b>	<b>7,207</b>