



#### Pandemic Impact on Community College Students and their Pathways to a Baccalaureate: Latest Updates for Fall 2022

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#### **Overview**

- Section I: Transfer Enrollment During the Pandemic
  - How did transfer opportunities and pathways shift during the pandemic?
  - Which student populations were affected the most by these changes in transfer from community colleges?
- Section II: Tracking Upward Transfer Student Progress and Success
  - How has the pandemic influenced post-transfer outcomes?
- What are the implications for community colleges?
- Using the *Transfer and Progress* data dashboard.



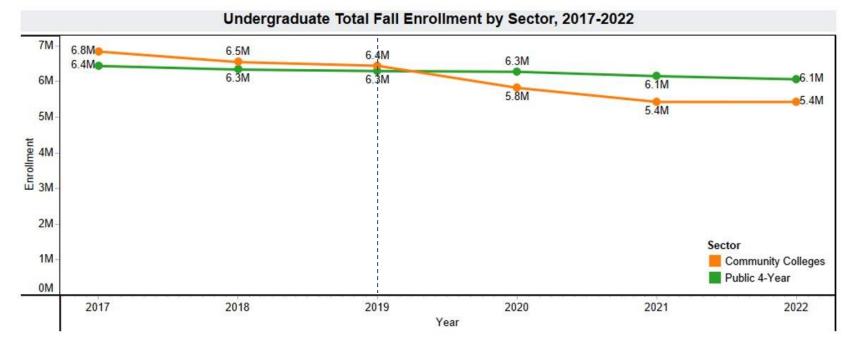


## How Did Transfer Opportunities and Pathways Shift During the Pandemic?





#### Community College Enrollment Changes







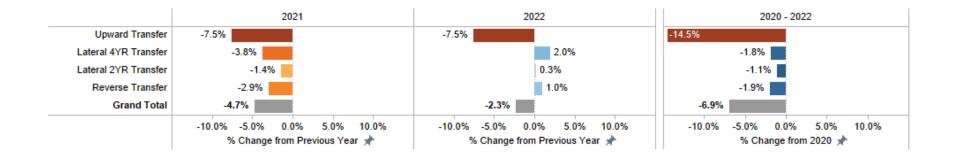
#### Fall transfer enrollment slowed its decline in 2022 but still declined at a faster rate than nontransfer enrollment

		2021		2022		2020 - 2022	
Transfer	Continuing	-5.0%		-7.3%		-11.9%	
	Returning	-4.4%			5.4%		0.8%
	Total	-4.7%		-2.3%		-6.9%	
Non-Transfer	Continuing	-5.3%		-0.7%		-5.9%	
	Returning		16.2%	-11.1%			3.3%
	Total	-4.0%		-1.4%		-5.4%	
Grand Total		-4.1%		-1.5%		-5.6%	
		-10.0% 0.0%	10.0%	-10.0% 0.0%	10.0%	-10.0%	0.0% 10.0%
		% Change from Previo	ous Year	% Change from Previous Year		% Change from 2020	





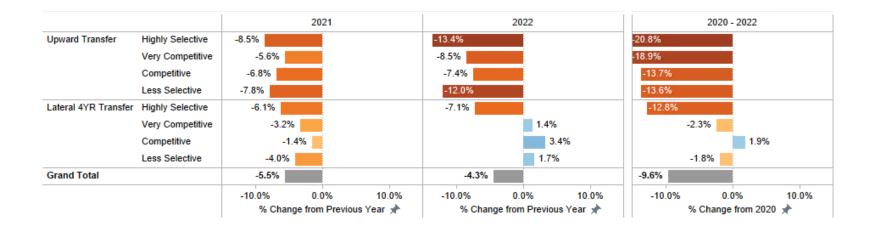
#### Upward transfer declined further in fall 2022







#### Upward transfer declines were especially large at highly selective four-year institutions





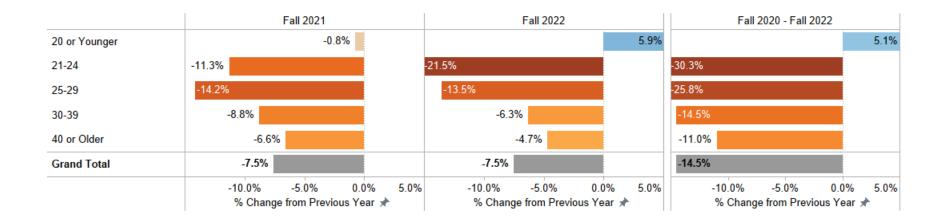


Which Students Were Affected Most? *Disparities in Transfer Patterns* 





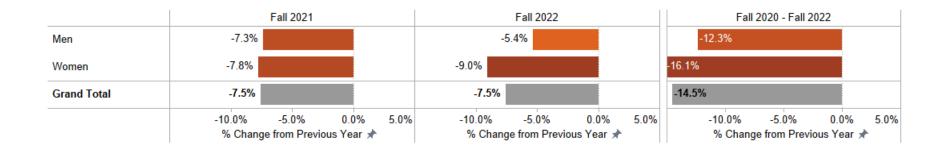
## *Upward transfer enrollment grew only for younger students (20 or younger)*







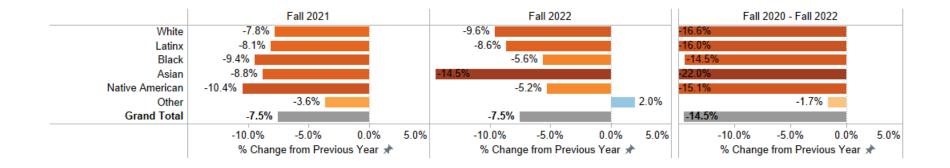
## *Upward transfer enrollment fell more for women*







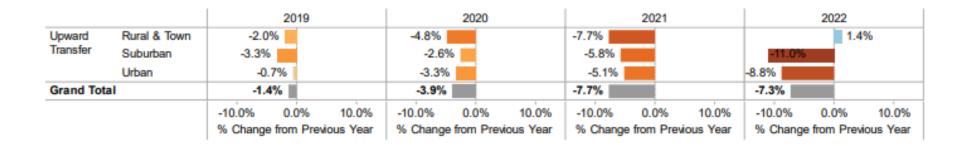
## Upward transfer enrollment declined across all major racial and ethnic groups







#### Bachelor's degree programs appear increasingly out of reach, especially for students enrolled in urban and suburban community colleges







#### *Upward transfers from transfer-focused community colleges experienced the steepest declines*

		2019	2020	2021	2022	
Upward Transfer	High Transfer	-1.3%	-2.1%	-7.7%	-11.2%	
	High Vocational	-1.5%	-3.6%	-5.8%	0.7%	
	Mixed Transfer	-2.8%	-5.5%	-3.2%	-5.4%	
Grand Total		-1.4%	-3.9%	-7.7%	-7.3%	
		-10.0% 0.0% 10.0% % Change from Previous Year				





#### Upward transfer mobility has significantly deteriorated across all income quintiles during the pandemic

		2019	2020	2021	2022	2019 - 2022
Upward	Top Quintile (Top 20%)	0.4	4% 0.7%	-4.1%	-13.3%	-16.0%
Transfer	Upper Middle Quintile	-1.2%	-4.2%	-4.6%	-7.4%	-16.4%
	Middle Quintile	-1.5%	-5.0%	-6.7%	-3.1%	-15.3%
	Lower Middle Quintile	-1.4%	-6.1%	-7.8%	-0.6%	-15.1%
	Bottom Quintile	-1.5%	-7.6%	-8.6%	-0.8%	-17.5%
	Income Missing	-4.8%	-8.8%	-10.6%	-4.4%	-25.8%
	Total	-1.2%	-4.0%	-6.1%	-6.7%	-16.9%
ateral 4YR	Top Quintile (Top 20%)	0.	7% -2.7%	0.5%	2.1%	0.5%
Transfer	Upper Middle Quintile	-0.7%	-6.6%	1.2%	3.7%	-2.6%
	Middle Quintile	-0.3%	-7.2%	-0.7%	4.7%	-3.8%
	Lower Middle Quintile	-1.0%	-7.6%	-1.7%	4.6%	-5.9%
	Bottom Quintile	-0.8%	-8.0%	-2.6%	3.2%	-8.3%
	Income Missing	-6.3%	-10.3%	-1.8%	0.0%	-17.5%
	Total	-0.9%	-6.2%	-0.3%	3.1%	-4.6%
Grand Total		-2.3%	-10.2%	-2.7%	-0.7%	-15.2%
		-20.0% -10.0% 0.0% % Change From Previous Ye	-20.0% -10.0% 0.0% ear % Change From Previous Year	-20.0% -10.0% 0.0% M Change From Previous Year	-20.0% -10.0% 0.0% % Change From Previous Year	-20.0% -10.0% 0.0% % Change From 2019 📌





#### Transfer pathways to highly selective four-year institutions are dominated by students from the top 20% of the U.S. household income distribution

Upward Highly		2021	6.5%	6.5% <mark>4.7%</mark> 7.4% 11.8% 21.1% 48.6%						Top Quintile (Top 2			
Transfer Selectiv Very Compet	Selective	2022	6.1% 5	. <b>0% 8</b> .6	%	12.8%	21.6%			46.0%			Upper Middle Qu
		2021	7.6%	6.4%	10.2%	15.2%	23	8%		36.8%			Middle Quintile
	Competitive	2022	7.7%	7.0%	11.1%	16.2%		23.9%		34.09	%		Bottom Quintile
	Competitive	2021	8.8%	11.19	6	14.6%	18.0%	2	2.8%		24.7%		Income Missing
		2022	9.0%	11.4	%	15.3%	18.5%		22.5%		23.3%		
	Less Selective	2021	8.9%	12.9	9%	15.1%	18.2%		21.7%		23.1%		
	Selective	2022	9.4%	14	.1%	15.8%	18.2%		21.2%		21.3%		
Lateral 4YR Transfer	Highly Selective	2021	13.1% <mark>4.1%</mark>		% 6.1%	9.9%	18.4%	8.4%		48.4%			
Inansier	Selective	2022	12.8	% <mark>4.1</mark> 9	6.3%	10.3%	18.8%		4	7.7%			
	Very Competitive	2021	9.1%	6.4%	10.3%	15.6%		23.3%		35.2%	5		
	Competitive	2022	8.7%	6.0%	10.1%	15.8%	2	3.8%		35.7%			
	Competitive	2021	9.8%	9.7%	6	13.8%	18.5%	2	3.5%		24.7%		
Less Selec		2022	9.5%	9.6%	b l	14.0%	18.5%	2	3.6%		24.8%		
	Less Selective	2021	11.1%	<b>b</b>	13.1%	14.8%	18.5%		21.8%		20.7%		
	Geleotive	2022	11.1%	5	13.6%	14.9%	18.7%		21.2%		20.5%		
			0.0%	10.0%	20.0%	30.0%	40.0% 50.0 s	% 60.0% Share	70.0%	80.0%	90.0%	100.0%	

Community College Beginning Cohorts: How has the pandemic influenced Post-Transfer Outcomes?





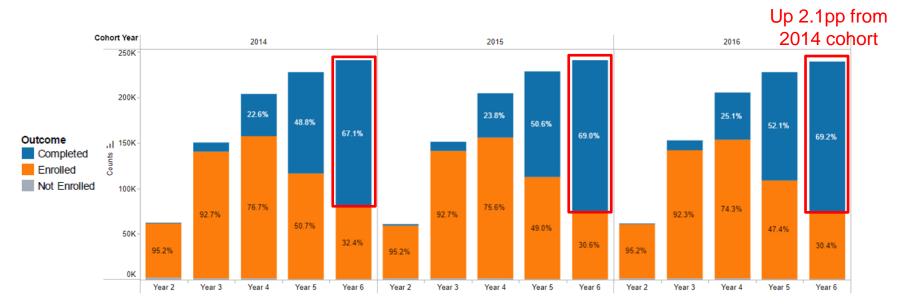
#### **Community College Beginning Cohort**

- Size of pre-pandemic beginning cohorts was consistently around one million students until the pandemic-impacted 2020 cohort, which decreased in size by 17.1% or 166,700 students from 2019.
- Upward transfer rates in the first three years were relatively consistent across the fall 2014, fall 2015, and fall 2016 cohorts.
- Across cohorts, the share of upward transfer students earning bachelor's degrees in six years rose from 55.4% (fall 2014 cohort) to 58.0% (fall 2016 cohort).





#### Six-year completion rate improved for upward transfers from the 2014 to 2016 cohort

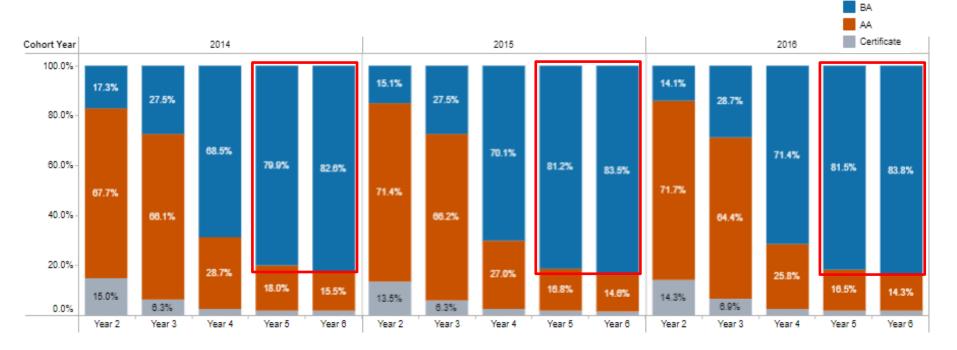




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#### More students earned bachelor's degree even during their pandemic-impacted 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years of enrollment

Credential Type

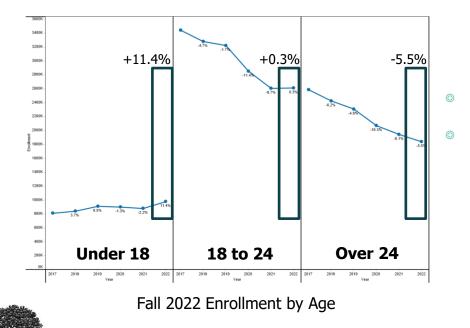


# What are the implications for community colleges?





#### Overall community college enrollment has begun to level off. Will transfer from community college continue to decline or stabilize?



National Student Clearinghouse Research Center Return of freshmen is encouraging Large role of dual enrollees in community college enrollment recovery is less likely to lead to a fast recovery in transfer from CCs



## Skilled trade program enrollment is growing faster than most traditional transfer majors

More students are pursuing programs that are not traditionally gateways to a bachelor's

	20	19	2020		202	21	202		
CIP Category	N	% Change							
Liberal Arts and Sciences,	1,796,818	-4.0%	1,586,689	-11.7%	1,441,532	-9.1%	1,440,383	-0.1%	
Health Professions and R	738,633	-3.5%	724,923	-1.9%	694,055	-4.3%	662,792	-4.5%	
Business, Management,	542,647	-2.9%	490,436	-9.6%	463,561	-5.5%	459,034	-1.0%	TOP 5
Computer and Information	211,087	0.8%	202,548	-4.0%	196,336	-3.1%	210,568	7.2%	
Security and Protective S	177,038	-4.4%	151,672	-14.3%	133,204	-12.2%	125,368	-5.9%	
Mechanic and Repair Tec	105,902	2.1%	90,107	-14.9%	93,689	4.0%	98,762	5.4%	
Construction Trades	60,754	7.5%	54,552	-10.2%	62,986	15.5%	67,490	7.2%	SELECT
Personal and Culinary Ser	63,609	-1.9%	52,056	-18.2%	53,268	2.3%	57,505	8.0%	TRADES
Precision Production	59,058	1.5%	49,050	-16.9%	52,124	6.3%	55,985	7.4%	



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#### **Summary and Implications**

- Upward transfer is the only type of transfer that had not started to grow by fall 2022.
- Overall CC enrollment is beginning to stabilize but many drivers of CC enrollment recovery (dual enrollees; growth of skilled trade program enrollment) do not necessarily translate into upward transfer gains.
- The pandemic reduced upward transfer among women, older students, and urban and transfer-focused community colleges.
- Six-year baccalaureate degree attainment rates improved for community college starters transferring to four-year institutions even during their pandemic-impacted years.





### **Transfer and Progress** Data Dashboard Demonstration





#### **Transfer and Progress Dashboard**

- To read the report, explore the data dashboard, and download the appendix, visit: <u>https://nscresearchcenter.org/transfer-and-progress/</u>
  - Transfer enrollment overview
  - Transfer enrollment by community college type, major, and state
  - Transfer enrollment by demographic background
  - Student income background
  - Progress of community college entering cohorts
- Guiding questions





#### **Transfer and Progress Dashboard**

#### • Guiding questions

- How did six-year completion rates differ by race/ethnicity for upward transfer students in the fall 2014, fall 2015, and fall 2016 community college entering cohorts?
- Is the share of in- versus out-of-state transfer students in my state different now than it was before the pandemic?
- Outside of students enrolled in broad Liberal Arts programs, are upward transfer students more likely to change their major after transferring than students who transfer to another two-year institution?





#### Lead Organizations and Funder



TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



National Student Clearinghouse<sup>™</sup> Research Center<sup>™</sup>



The Center for Community College Leadership and Research



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# **Thanks!**

#### **Upcoming NSCRC Publications**

Summer 2023: *Persistence and Retention* 

Fall 2023: *High School Benchmarks Stay Informed*: First Look Fall '23 Enrollment

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