
The University of North Carolina Retention & Graduation Report 2012-13



The University of North Carolina
General Administration

February 2014

Executive Summary

The traditional definitions for graduation and retention rates reflect those used by the US Department of Education's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). These familiar four- and six-year graduation rates focus on the degree completion of First-time, Full-time (FTFT) freshmen cohorts who begin college in the Fall Semester. Because of this, ***not all undergraduates are counted in the traditional IPEDS-reported measures.*** Excluded from these measures are part-time freshmen, students who transfer among institutions, and those enrolling in the Spring Semester. The IPEDS measures also prove punitive for institutions in which students do not remain continuously enrolled (e.g., military serving institutions).

Due to the importance of transfer students to UNC's five year strategic plan, we supplement the traditional IPEDS measures with indicators that capture transfer student success, enrollment, and graduation rates across institutions. For the first time this year, we also provide analysis of results from the UNC Graduating Senior Survey, which provides some explanations of factors that extend students' time-to-degree beyond four years.

Highlights for the UNC System during 2012-13 include:

- As a system, UNC surpasses the national average in retention rate, four-year graduation rate, and six-year graduation rate.
- The Fall 2013 freshman-to-sophomore retention rate is 83.3% (+0.7 annual percentage point change).
- The 2012-13 IPEDS four-year graduation rate is 39.6% (+0.8 annual percentage point change).
- The 2012-13 IPEDS six-year graduation rate is 61.2% (+1.0 annual percentage point change).
- While four-year and six-year graduation rates are the most frequently reported statistics, the largest gain (+19.0 percentage point change) occurs in the fifth year.

Introduction

Frequent measures of student success include retention and graduation rates for FTFT freshmen. These rates mirror indicators used by IPEDS and their widespread use enables us to benchmark student achievement against national trends and peer institutions.¹ In spite of the frequent use of IPEDS data, ***this student population excludes a third of all 2013 UNC undergraduates.***

Despite the continued importance of these traditional retention and graduation rates, two rapidly changing factors necessitate UNC General Administration's (UNC GA) reporting alternative measures of success to the BoG and public. First, a growing number of students transfer to UNC from community colleges and, second, many of our students move among institutions during their postsecondary career. To capture transfer student achievement we report the graduation rates for students transferring to UNC from the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS). To understand the complexities surrounding broader inter-institutional transfer, we report the results of the publicly available Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA). All UNC institutions are part of the VSA, an effort which leverages data following students throughout their postsecondary experience, both within North Carolina and across the country.

The body of this report focuses on system-level graduation and retention rates with campus-level and corresponding peer benchmarks provided in Appendix A.² As is customary with indicators that track educational performance over time, these measures group students into cohorts based on their matriculation into the university (for retention and graduation rates). Where possible, corresponding national rates are reported as well. In all measures, UNC surpasses these national rates.³

1 Unless otherwise indicated, all national rates come from the National Center for Education Statistics 2012 Digest of Education Statistics, Tables 376 & 378 (Public 4-year institutions: Available: http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d12/tables/dt12_376.asp?referrer=report and http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d12/tables/dt12_378.asp)

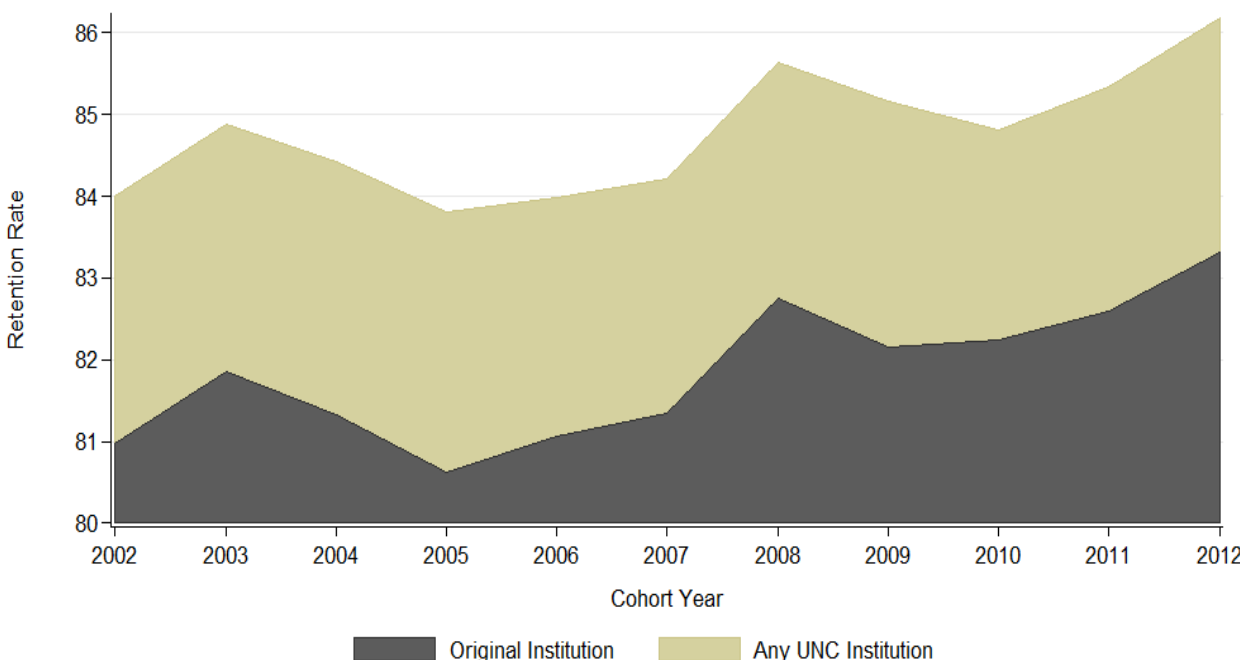
2 Peers are calculated using institutional-level peers approved by the BoG in 2011.

3 National rates presented in this report are to be compared with "UNC Original Institution" rates. All national rates are presented for the most recent cohort available, which are older than the UNC data.

Retention Rates

Over the past ten years, the UNC System improved its IPEDS freshman-to-sophomore retention rate. For example, 80.7% of the FTFT freshmen who entered in Fall 2002 returned to their original institution the following year while 83.3% of students beginning in 2012 returned in Fall 2013. If we expand this to include the entire system, 86.2% of FTFT freshmen in Fall 2012 returned to a UNC institution.

Figure 1: Retention Rates of UNC First-Time, Full-Time Freshmen, 2002-2012 Cohorts



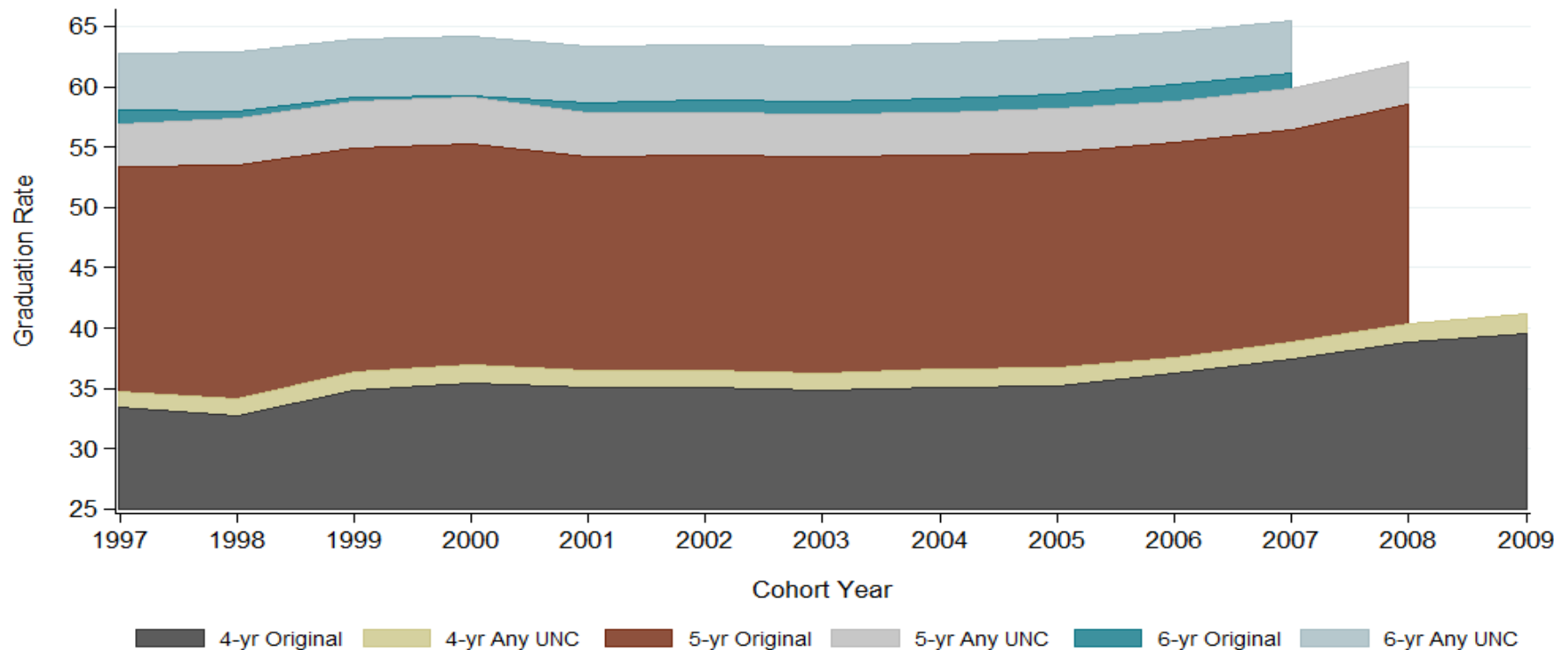
Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001

- 2012 Freshmen Cohort Retention Rate
 - Original UNC institution: 83.3% (+0.7 annual change, +2.3% ten year change)
 - Any UNC institution: 86.2% (+0.8 annual change, +2.2% ten year change)
 - » National Rate: 79.3% (2010 Cohort)
- Over a five-year period, nine campuses have improved their retention rates.

Four-, Five-, and Six-Year Graduation Rates

Tracking the graduation rate of FTFT cohorts over time yields further understanding of the progress made on degree attainment. Figure 2 details the four-, five-, and six-year graduation rates from the freshmen cohort of 1997 to the class beginning in Fall 2009. **While four-year and six-year graduation rates are the most frequently reported statistics, the largest gain (+19.0 percentage point change) occurs in the fifth year.**

Figure 2: Four-, Five-, and Six-Year Graduation Rates of First-Time, Full-Time Freshmen, 1997-2009 Cohorts



Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001

Four-year graduation rate (2009 Cohort)

- Original UNC institution: 39.6%
 - +0.7 annual change
 - +4.7% ten year change
- Any UNC institution: 41.2%
 - +0.8 annual change
 - +4.8% ten year change

» National rate: 38.6% (2005 Cohort)

Five-year graduation rate (2008 Cohort)

- Original UNC institution: 58.6%
 - +2.1% annual change
 - +5.0% ten year change
- Any UNC institution: 62.0%
 - +2.2% annual change
 - +4.7% ten year change

» National rate: 54.3% (2005 Cohort)

Six-year graduation rate (2007 Cohort)

- Original UNC institution: 61.2%
 - +1.0% annual change
 - +3.1% ten year change
- Any UNC institution: 65.5%
 - +1.0% annual change
 - +2.8% ten year change

» National rate: 58.3% (2005 Cohort)

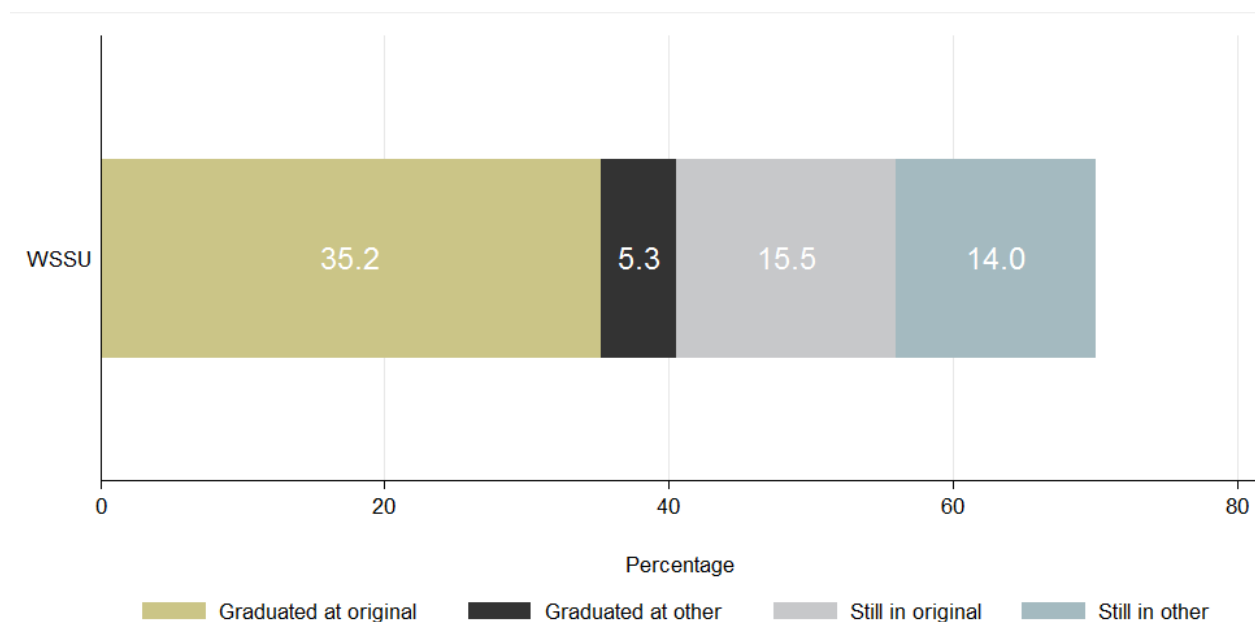
Alternative Measure of Success

Six-Year Student Success Measures from the Voluntary System of Accountability

The Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA) supplements traditional IPEDS measures of retention and graduation by tracking a cohort across the nation to expand graduation to any institution and include students who remain enrolled. Importantly, their measure uses enrollment and graduation across all *participating* universities, representing over 70% of the bachelor's degrees awarded in the nation. All UNC campuses report to the VSA, which was developed to standardize reporting of key educational data. As directed by *Our Time, Our Future*, all campuses regularly report campus data to increase the visibility of student and academic success measures.

For example, using the traditional methodology as reported on the VSA website, WSSU has a six-year graduation rate of 35.2% for its Fall 2006 cohort (see Figure 3). When accounting for all other institutions nationally, the graduation rate increases to 40.5%. Additionally, data show that another 29.5% are still enrolled and seeking a degree at WSSU or another institution. These numbers together (graduated and still enrolled) constitute the VSA measure for student success, which for WSSU is 70.0%: a 34.8% increase over the traditional measure.

Figure 3: WSSU Undergraduate Six-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Who First Enrolled in Fall 2006



Source: Voluntary System of Accountability, 2013

- Using the VSA student success measure, the campuses with the largest improvements over the traditional IPEDS success measures are: WSSU (34.8%), UNCP (32.1%), NCCU (30.6%), FSU (30.2%), and UNCC (27.8%)

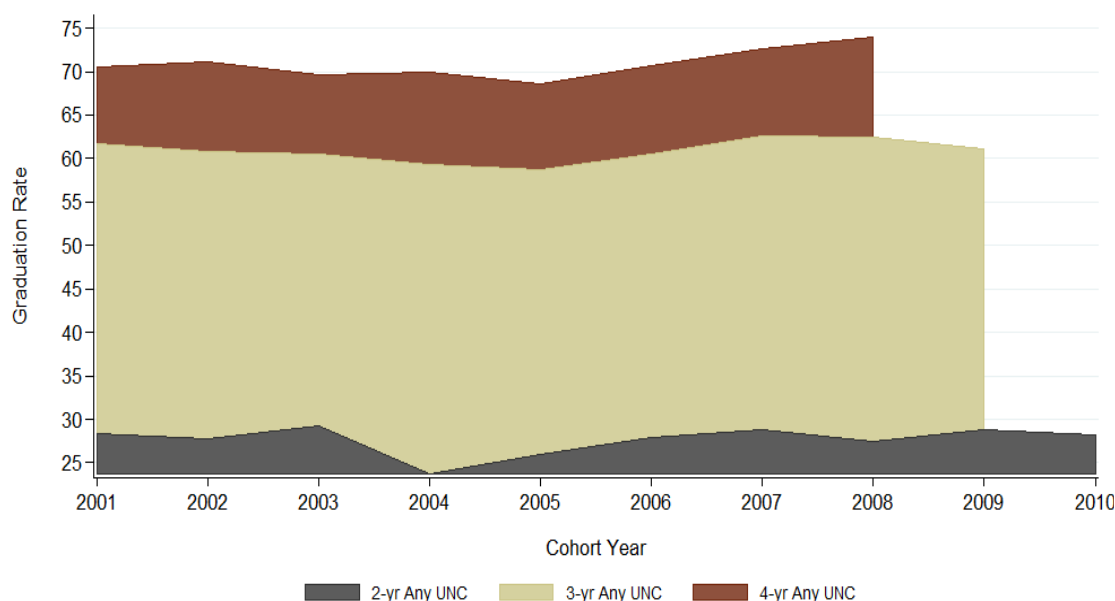
Two-, Three-, and Four-Year Graduation Rates of NCCCS Transfers with AA/AS

As noted previously, the traditional IPEDS graduation rates do not include transfer students; a population critical to the UNC's strategic plan, *Our Time, Our Future*. Figure 4 provides the graduation rates for this subpopulation of NCCCS transfer students. Two details distinguish the graduation rates:

1. The two-, three-, and four-year graduation rates for NCCCS transfer students are provided, which are akin to FTFT freshmen's four-, five-, and six-year rates.
2. We find that after transferring, few students move among UNC campuses. Consequently we do not report "at original UNC institution." Instead, we use graduation rates at "any UNC institution" to include transfer students.

As illustrated by Figure 4, many of the students who transfer with an Associates of Arts or Science graduate within 3 years, with over 74% obtaining their Bachelor's Degree in four years or less. A more detailed report on transfer students will be presented to the BoG later this year.

Figure 4: Two-, Three-, and Four-Year Graduation Rates of NCCCS AA/AS Degree Recipients Who Transferred to UNC Institutions, 2001-2010 Cohorts



Source: Persist.PR003C

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- Two-year graduation rate (2010 Cohort)
 - Any UNC institution: 28.3% (-0.5 annual change, -0.1% nine year change)
 - Three-year graduation rate (2009 Cohort)
 - Any UNC institution: 61.1% (-1.4% annual change, -0.6% eight year change)
 - Four-year graduation rate (2008 Cohort)
 - Any UNC institution: 74.0% (+1.4% annual change, +3.4% seven year change)
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Self-Reported Reasons for Delayed Graduation

Every three years, UNC GA works closely with campuses to facilitate a system-wide survey of graduating seniors. These scheduled surveys provide insight into a number of important areas, including barriers to timely degree completion.⁴

The survey instrument asks graduating seniors a variety of questions about their undergraduate experience, including whether or not they have taken more than four years to graduate and, if so, their reasons. The most recent survey of seniors was completed in Spring 2013 with this sub-population of students reporting “Personal Reasons” as the most frequent cause for extending their time-to-degree.⁵ However, many students also report other barriers graduating in four years, issues that are being addressed through institutional or BoG policies, such as Fostering Undergraduate Student Success (UNC Policy 400.1.5).

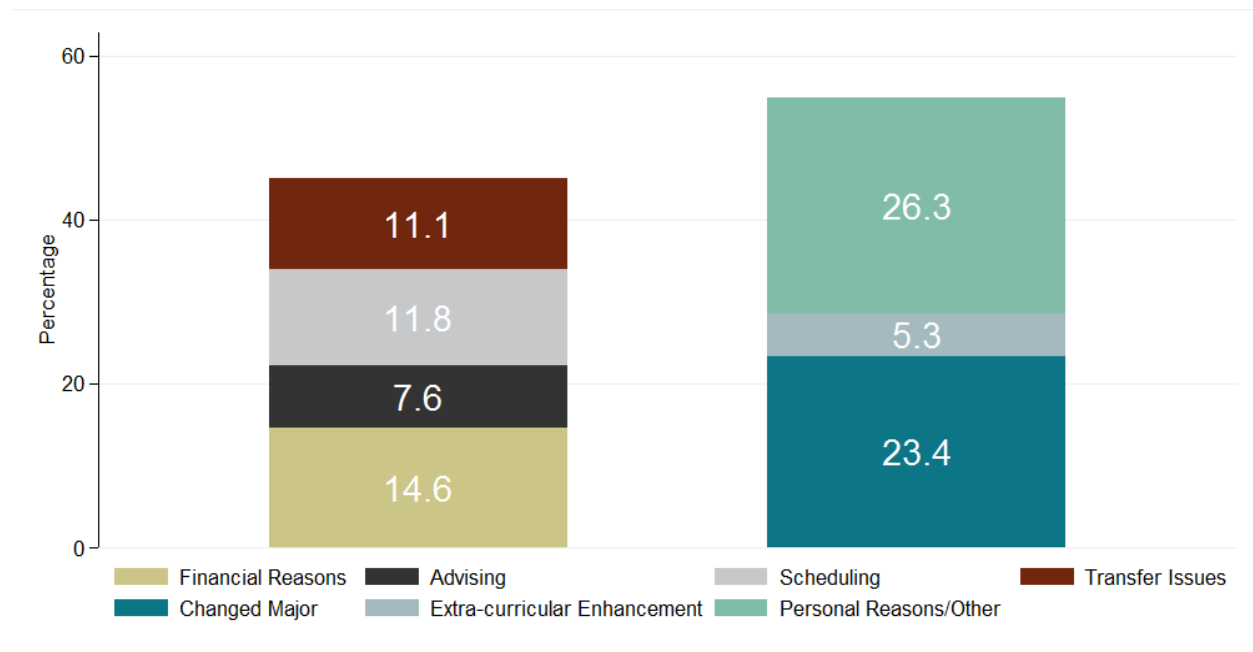
Figure 5 presents responses from the Graduating Senior Survey in two groupings. The first group highlights areas that can be addressed through policy action and improved services and resources on campuses (e.g., improved advising, transfer support, and articulation issues). The second group includes reasons stemming from students’ personal lives, situations over which campuses may have little or no control (e.g. taking a semester off for personal, non-financial reasons, such as medical or family situations).

While there are many life circumstances that may cause students to prolong their studies beyond four years, several require additional focus. Through its strategic directions plan and the efforts of the BoG, UNC is directly addressing many of the areas in the first group in Figure 5 (Financial Reasons, Advising, Scheduling, and Transfer Issues). With regards to financial considerations prolonging time-to-degree, North Carolina’s constitutional commitment to maintaining affordable tuition for its citizens reflects the state’s historical leadership in this policy arena. Proposals to improve academic advising and the availability of courses to students are included in *Our Time, Our Future* as well. Additionally, UNC is working closely with a variety of partners to improve transfer student success across the system, including revising the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement with the NCCCS, which will improve credit transfers between the two systems.

4 The overall response rate for the Graduating Senior Survey 2013 was 34.2%. Individual campus response rates are provided in Appendix B.

5 The original 12 optional responses to the survey item were collapsed into the seven presented here. The frequencies for the original 12 responses are presented in Appendix C.

Figure 5: Seniors Self-Reported Reasons for Graduating in More Than Four Years, 2013



Source: UNC Graduating Senior Survey, 2013

- 26.3% indicated “Personal Reasons” for needing additional time to graduate
- 23.4% indicated “Changing Major “ for needing additional time to graduate
- 14.6% indicated “Financial Reasons” for needing additional time to graduate

Appendix A

UNC Retention and Graduation Data by Campus

Appalachian State University

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	86.4%	87.0%	87.6%	87.6%	87.2%
Any UNC Institution	89.3%	89.9%	90.4%	90.0%	90.2%
Public Peers Avg.	81.2%	81.7%	81.4%	80.8%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	38.3%	39.8%	41.5%	44.0%	46.4%
Any UNC Institution	40.8%	41.4%	43.6%	46.2%	48.5%
Public Peers Avg.	40.3%	40.2%	41.3%	*	*
5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	61.7%	60.9%	62.5%	64.4%	66.2%
Any UNC Institution	66.8%	66.3%	67.0%	68.7%	70.5%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	64.4%	65.7%	65.1%	66.1%	68.5%
Any UNC Institution	70.7%	72.0%	71.2%	71.8%	73.8%
Public Peers Avg.	64.9%	65.0%	64.3%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
67.1%	9.8%	3.0%	5.9%	85.8%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

East Carolina University

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	78.8%	81.2%	81.0%	78.4%	80.9%
Any UNC Institution	81.4%	83.9%	83.5%	81.0%	84.0%
Public Peers Avg.	77.5%	78.6%	76.9%	75.4%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	32.5%	32.7%	30.8%	32.4%	35.4%
Any UNC Institution	33.9%	33.9%	32.1%	33.9%	37.1%
Public Peers Avg.	26.5%	27.5%	28.1%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	50.8%	53.8%	53.2%	51.6%	54.3%
Any UNC Institution	54.9%	57.6%	56.2%	54.6%	57.4%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	56.8%	56.0%	58.5%	58.2%	56.3%
Any UNC Institution	61.5%	61.3%	62.9%	62.1%	60.5%
Public Peers Avg.	54.0%	53.9%	54.8%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Institution	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
57.7%	10.6%	4.4%	9.2%	81.9%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

APPENDIX S
Elizabeth City State University

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	76.3%	73.6%	77.3%	79.1%	72.5%
Any UNC Institution	79.2%	77.1%	78.8%	81.9%	75.5%
Public Peers Avg.	73.8%	73.0%	73.9%	73.1%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	17.8%	16.9%	21.4%	14.9%	16.1%
Any UNC Institution	18.2%	17.0%	22.0%	17.3%	17.1%
Public Peers Avg.	20.5%	21.4%	22.9%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	34.9%	38.1%	36.3%	37.7%	31.8%
Any UNC Institution	37.5%	39.7%	37.3%	40.1%	36.3%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	45.8%	41.2%	43.7%	42.7%	41.5%
Any UNC Institution	47.9%	44.4%	46.8%	44.2%	45.0%
Public Peers Avg.	42.5%	43.2%	43.5%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
45.1%	5.9%	9.6%	10.5%	71.1%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

Fayetteville State University

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	73.6%	69.1%	72.3%	75.6%	71.3%
Any UNC Institution	79.3%	74.4%	77.0%	80.5%	76.7%
Public Peers Avg.	70.3%	70.7%	70.4%	70.3%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	9.3%	11.8%	12.0%	17.1%	16.0%
Any UNC Institution	9.8%	12.5%	12.5%	18.5%	17.5%
Public Peers Avg.	20.6%	20.0%	20.2%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	26.2%	23.7%	25.0%	27.2%	29.9%
Any UNC Institution	28.2%	25.3%	27.5%	29.1%	34.2%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	31.5%	33.6%	30.5%	31.0%	32.1%
Any UNC Institution	34.8%	36.1%	32.7%	34.4%	36.0%
Public Peers Avg.	41.7%	41.0%	40.8%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
31.8%	5.9%	9.4%	14.9%	62.0%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	78.3%	72.4%	74.3%	73.5%	79.8%
Any UNC Institution	79.6%	74.7%	75.9%	75.5%	81.3%
Public Peers Avg.	75.8%	76.3%	75.4%	75.8%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	16.5%	16.4%	16.0%	21.5%	20.4%
Any UNC Institution	16.8%	16.6%	16.1%	21.9%	21.2%
Public Peers Avg.	23.6%	24.6%	26.2%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	32.7%	34.6%	36.1%	34.7%	40.3%
Any UNC Institution	33.9%	36.0%	37.7%	35.0%	41.2%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	37.2%	38.3%	40.6%	42.4%	42.9%
Any UNC Institution	39.3%	39.8%	42.6%	44.8%	44.0%
Public Peers Avg.	50.0%	50.7%	52.0%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
41.5%	5.2%	9.3%	11.9%	67.9%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

North Carolina Central University

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	77.0%	69.2%	67.7%	71.5%	73.2%
Any UNC Institution	80.5%	73.4%	70.9%	74.8%	77.1%
Public Peers Avg.	72.3%	70.6%	70.9%	69.6%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	15.1%	14.8%	15.0%	21.8%	16.0%
Any UNC Institution	15.9%	15.2%	15.4%	22.9%	17.1%
Public Peers Avg.	20.1%	21.0%	21.3%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	31.8%	31.3%	34.8%	33.3%	42.6%
Any UNC Institution	33.6%	33.8%	36.2%	34.6%	45.0%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	44.4%	38.3%	38.4%	42.4%	39.7%
Any UNC Institution	46.5%	40.8%	41.6%	44.6%	42.1%
Public Peers Avg.	44.5%	43.8%	44.8%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
40.7%	4.3%	11.4%	14.9%	71.3%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

North Carolina State University

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	90.9%	89.5%	89.4%	92.0%	92.6%
Any UNC Institution	93.1%	92.0%	91.2%	93.9%	93.8%
Public Peers Avg.	90.3%	90.6%	90.8%	91.0%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	40.8%	39.3%	41.3%	43.0%	44.3%
Any UNC Institution	42.4%	40.8%	42.9%	44.6%	46.2%
Public Peers Avg.	49.0%	49.8%	50.8%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	67.0%	66.5%	66.0%	68.1%	69.8%
Any UNC Institution	70.1%	70.6%	69.5%	71.5%	72.9%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	73.2%	72.4%	72.4%	71.2%	73.9%
Any UNC Institution	78.0%	76.5%	77.4%	75.7%	72.9%
Public Peers Avg.	76.6%	77.6%	77.7%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
73.2%	7.6%	4.1%	4.7%	89.6%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

University of North Carolina, Asheville

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	81.9%	81.5%	80.6%	78.4%	80.3%
Any UNC Institution	86.0%	86.4%	85.7%	82.5%	84.8%
Public Peers Avg.	79.9%	79.5%	80.1%	79.7%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	32.7%	31.6%	36.9%	38.4%	36.0%
Any UNC Institution	37.6%	34.3%	40.2%	41.1%	39.1%
Public Peers Avg.	38.3%	43.9%	45.6%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	51.4%	56.1%	50.4%	55.6%	60.8%
Any UNC Institution	58.3%	65.8%	55.0%	66.3%	66.6%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	58.7%	55.2%	60.5%	55.0%	59.4%
Any UNC Institution	68.5%	63.6%	72.2%	61.2%	68.9%
Public Peers Avg.	54.8%	60.8%	61.8%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
54.2%	14.1%	2.7%	10.3%	81.3%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	95.7%	96.4%	97.2%	97.2%	96.1%
Any UNC Institution	96.4%	96.9%	97.7%	97.8%	97.1%
Public Peers Avg.	94.1%	94.2%	94.0%	94.6%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	75.2%	76.1%	80.5%	80.4%	81.3%
Any UNC Institution	75.8%	76.9%	81.1%	80.8%	81.8%
Public Peers Avg.	59.4%	60.2%	62.0%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	86.0%	86.1%	87.3%	88.4%	89.1%
Any UNC Institution	87.0%	87.3%	88.7%	89.4%	90.0%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	84.9%	88.0%	88.9%	89.2%	89.9%
Any UNC Institution	86.3%	89.3%	90.6%	90.9%	91.2%
Public Peers Avg.	82.7%	83.0%	83.2%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
87.5%	3.3%	1.5%	1.9%	94.2%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

University of North Carolina, Charlotte

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	77.9%	77.5%	78.0%	77.1%	80.4%
Any UNC Institution	81.9%	81.0%	81.7%	80.4%	83.9%
Public Peers Avg.	74.5%	75.5%	75.4%	75.2%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	25.9%	26.3%	25.5%	25.0%	26.0%
Any UNC Institution	27.8%	28.3%	27.3%	27.3%	27.8%
Public Peers Avg.	19.0%	19.5%	19.7%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	48.6%	47.0%	46.9%	47.7%	48.8%
Any UNC Institution	52.7%	51.7%	51.4%	52.6%	53.6%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	53.9%	55.1%	52.6%	53.3%	53.8%
Any UNC Institution	59.2%	59.9%	58.5%	58.8%	59.5%
Public Peers Avg.	44.5%	45.1%	45.2%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
53.3%	12.6%	5.7%	9.5%	81.1%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

University of North Carolina, Greensboro

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	76.6%	76.8%	75.7%	76.1%	73.9%
Any UNC Institution	80.5%	80.7%	79.1%	79.6%	77.7%
Public Peers Avg.	75.9%	77.3%	75.7%	76.0%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	27.9%	29.4%	29.5%	30.6%	32.2%
Any UNC Institution	29.7%	31.0%	31.9%	32.6%	33.9%
Public Peers Avg.	22.6%	23.6%	23.4%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	48.1%	47.8%	49.2%	49.9%	50.1%
Any UNC Institution	53.4%	52.3%	53.9%	54.7%	55.0%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	51.6%	52.8%	53.4%	54.3%	55.2%
Any UNC Institution	58.4%	59.6%	59.6%	60.4%	61.7%
Public Peers Avg.	49.6%	50.5%	50.5%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
53.7%	9.5%	3.4%	10.6%	77.2%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

University of North Carolina, Pembroke

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	67.7%	72.9%	62.4%	64.4%	67.6%
Any UNC Institution	72.4%	77.6%	67.1%	71.1%	72.5%
Public Peers Avg.	69.4%	68.8%	69.1%	68.4%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	14.8%	15.9%	15.4%	14.9%	18.1%
Any UNC Institution	16.1%	17.9%	17.3%	16.6%	19.7%
Public Peers Avg.	20.6%	19.2%	18.4%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	31.8%	30.1%	28.5%	28.0%	30.1%
Any UNC Institution	35.1%	33.7%	33.8%	33.0%	35.6%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	34.1%	37.5%	33.5%	34.2%	32.7%
Any UNC Institution	40.4%	41.8%	38.7%	41.4%	35.6%
Public Peers Avg.	41.1%	39.8%	39.8%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
32.9%	12.2%	6.7%	13.2%	65.0%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

University of North Carolina, Wilmington

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	84.7%	86.4%	85.6%	85.8%	86.4%
Any UNC Institution	88.5%	89.6%	89.0%	89.7%	90.4%
Public Peers Avg.	85.2%	85.2%	85.9%	85.8%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	43.5%	49.0%	51.7%	49.2%	50.1%
Any UNC Institution	45.9%	50.8%	54.3%	51.8%	52.9%
Public Peers Avg.	43.8%	43.8%	45.1%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	63.1%	64.1%	66.1%	67.8%	67.6%
Any UNC Institution	69.5%	69.9%	70.8%	72.9%	73.2%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	68.5%	65.9%	66.9%	68.5%	70.8%
Any UNC Institution	76.6%	73.4%	73.9%	74.2%	76.7%
Public Peers Avg.	69.6%	69.9%	69.6%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
68.6%	11.9%	2.6%	5.9%	89.0%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

University of North Carolina School of the Arts

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	77.4%	79.6%	84.5%	85.0%	84.8%
Any UNC Institution	78.7%	82.2%	85.9%	86.7%	87.1%
Public Peers Avg.	88.8%	88.4%	89.0%	89.2%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	53.8%	60.4%	57.4%	58.5%	66.9%
Any UNC Institution	56.3%	61.5%	58.0%	58.5%	67.5%
Public Peers Avg.	48.9%	49.1%	50.2%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	55.0%	55.7%	62.1%	59.2%	60.4%
Any UNC Institution	55.9%	58.2%	63.9%	61.5%	61.0%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	61.2%	55.9%	58.2%	62.1%	59.8%
Any UNC Institution	63.6%	59.5%	62.7%	63.9%	63.3%
Public Peers Avg.	76.4%	76.0%	77.6%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
60.1%	15.0%	0.7%	5.2%	81.0%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

Western Carolina University

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	76.2%	74.2%	72.0%	73.7%	78.6%
Any UNC Institution	81.1%	79.2%	75.5%	77.9%	82.1%
Public Peers Avg.	76.0%	75.3%	75.5%	74.6%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	29.1%	27.7%	32.0%	39.8%	36.6%
Any UNC Institution	31.0%	29.8%	34.1%	40.9%	38.9%
Public Peers Avg.	26.2%	26.9%	26.7%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	46.8%	47.0%	43.8%	48.2%	55.4%
Any UNC Institution	52.3%	51.5%	49.7%	53.6%	58.5%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	48.8%	51.0%	50.2%	47.7%	51.0%
Any UNC Institution	54.6%	58.1%	55.5%	55.7%	58.5%
Public Peers Avg.	50.6%	52.4%	51.3%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
50.8%	10.9%	2.9%	10.4%	75.0%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

Winston-Salem State University

Retention Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

Retention	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort	2010 Cohort	2011 Cohort	2012 Cohort
Original Institution	77.8%	77.0%	80.4%	78.3%	75.0%
Any UNC Institution	81.2%	80.6%	82.3%	82.3%	79.3%
Public Peers Avg.	70.7%	69.8%	69.4%	68.2%	*

Graduation Rates of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen

4-Year Graduation	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort	2009 Cohort
Original Institution	15.9%	14.8%	17.8%	17.3%	17.0%
Any UNC Institution	17.0%	15.9%	18.3%	18.0%	17.9%
Public Peers Avg.	16.3%	15.8%	15.9%	*	*

5-Year Graduation [#]	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort	2008 Cohort
Original Institution	29.2%	33.0%	31.7%	38.3%	38.4%
Any UNC Institution	31.5%	35.8%	34.4%	40.9%	41.6%

6-Year Graduation	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort	2007 Cohort
Original Institution	36.5%	35.6%	41.0%	40.5%	45.5%
Any UNC Institution	39.0%	40.0%	45.1%	44.1%	49.5%
Public Peers Avg.	38.0%	37.8%	36.9%	*	*

Source: SDF.ER001, SCF.PPM001, & IPEDS

* Data not available from IPEDS

Undergraduate 6-Year Success and Progress Rate, First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2006

Graduated from Home Inst.	Graduated from Other Inst.	Still Enrolled in Home Inst.	Still Enrolled in Other Inst.	Total Rate
35.2%	5.3%	15.5%	14.0%	70.0%

Source: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), College Portrait web page

[#]Public peer averages are not calculated by IPEDS for 5-year graduation rates and thus are not presented here

Appendix B - UNC Senior Survey Response Rates by Campus

	Spring Senior Student Population	Spring Senior Respondents	Survey Response Rate
ASU	3,306	1,789	54.1%
ECU	4,251	1,150	27.1%
ECSU	444	136	30.6%
FSU	966	443	45.9%
NCA&T	1,351	456	33.8%
NCCU	1,035	587	56.7%
NCSU	5,122	1,643	32.1%
UNCA	738	327	44.3%
UNC-CH	4,625	1,372	29.7%
UNCC	4,089	1,738	42.5%
UNCG	3,015	857	28.4%
UNCP	983	127	12.9%
UNCSA	165	132	80.0%
UNCW	2,792	309	11.1%
WCU	1,687	348	20.6%
WSSU	1,402	889	63.4%
UNC Total	35,971	12,303	34.2%

APPENDIX S

Appendix C - UNC Senior Survey Frequencies and Responses for Survey Question:⁶ “For which of the following reasons has it taken you longer than four years to graduate?”

Collapsed Categories	Original Survey Questions	ASU	ECSU	ECU	FSU	NCA&T	NCCU	NCSU	UNCA	UNC-CH	UNCC	UNCG	UNCP	UNCSA	UNCW	WCU	WSSU	Total
Financial Reasons	Financial Reasons	36	9	35	31	9	49	50	20	11	197	54	6	3	7	0	53	570
	The number of hours I spent working for pay	67	8	79	46	5	56	96	36	10	277	88	16	0	17	0	70	871
Category Sub-total		1,441																
Advising	I wanted to/was advised to take a lighter course load	47	7	49	21	8	30	105	21	9	146	48	7	0	5	12	55	570
Category Sub-total		570																
Scheduling	I could not get the classes I needed	83	14	77	56	19	46	95	32	10	276	70	7	0	10	5	88	888
Category Sub-total		888																
Transfer Issues	I lost credits when I transferred to [INSTITUTION]	57	9	80	45	16	48	95	47	18	233	86	9	7	19	6	59	834
Category Sub-total		834																
Changed Major	I changed majors	193	26	209	56	40	118	210	46	21	428	138	16	3	32	21	198	1,755
Category Sub-total		1,755																
Extra-Curricular Enhancement	My participation in a Study Abroad Program	9	0	9	0	1	4	26	7	0	29	15	2	1	5	0	7	115
	My participation in a co-op, internship, practicum, student teaching, etc.	28	3	36	5	7	19	76	11	5	53	22	1	0	6	0	24	296
Category Sub-total		411																
Personal Reasons/Other	I went part-time for personal (non-financial) reasons (e.g., medical, family, etc.)	18	8	30	33	7	30	36	18	11	101	31	1	0	12	10	25	371
	I am graduating with more than one major	32	2	30	4	5	12	67	19	11	81	27	2	0	13	9	21	335
	I took a semester or more off for personal (non-financial) reasons (e.g., medical, family, etc.)	77	22	68	69	13	67	88	38	39	203	74	6	1	20	12	55	852
	Other reasons (open ended)	79	17	72	48	31	75	62	43	32	173	73	12	2	13	14	92	838
Category Sub-total		2,396																
Total		726	125	774	414	161	554	1,006	338	177	2,197	726	85	17	159	89	747	8,295

⁶ Respondents were able to indicate multiple reasons for extending time-to-degree, potentially reporting several barriers to completing their degree in four years. The numbers presented here reflect the frequency of responses reported, not the number of individuals selecting the response. Figure 5 presented on page 7 presents the percentages based on unduplicated survey responses, where respondents would not be counted more than once if they selected multiple items in the collapsed categories listed above.