

Undergraduate Programs Retention Study: Focus on “Stopouts”

The tables in this section of the Undergraduate Programs Retention Study are focused upon stopouts from the program. These data provide a profile of the “typical” stopout, and attempt to identify any differences from the larger group of students. The data are drawn from the same source as the overall retention study – that is, a database of 32,856 course enrollments of undergraduate students between 19981 and 20051.

First, a definition. For the purposes of this study, a stopout is not merely an individual who was enrolled last term, but didn’t re-enroll in the current term. Stopout counts and rates are not measured until one full term has been completed since the student’s last enrollment.

Stopout Behavior Patterns (see histogram and line graph)

- The “typical” undergraduate student stops out an average of 3.44 terms, with a very large standard deviation of 4.226 terms. These data are based upon the enrollment histories of 2,632 undergraduate students since 1998.
- Stopouts re-enroll in patterns that have shifted from 1998-2000 and 2001-2003:
 - Stopouts from the **1998, 1999, and 2000 admit groups**: Summer 2 term of the second and third years saw the highest percent of stopouts re-enrolling (as a percent of Summer 2 enrolled students).

Stopouts from the **2001, 2002, and 2003 admit groups**: Fall term of the second and third years saw the highest percent of stopouts re-enrolling (as a percent of Fall enrolled students).

 - Unlike stopouts in the MSA program, the percent of Summer 2 and Fall term enrollments that are accounted for by stopout re-enrollments **do not** rise steeply over time.
 - Stopouts re-enroll at much lower rates in Winter and Summer 1 terms, as a percent of current term enrollments.

Stopout Characteristics – Statistically Significant Differences

Contingency tables, with tests for statistical significance were developed to show different stopout behaviors broken out by student characteristics. Two sets of comparisons – stopping out by undergraduate degree and by concentration - met the twin criteria of statistical and practical significance. Those findings are summarized, as follows:

- **By Concentration - Community Service** students maintained stopout patterns that differed significantly from those of students in other concentrations. Community Service students refrained from stopping out at all at a **much higher** rate than other groups. Moreover, they stopped out for 4-6

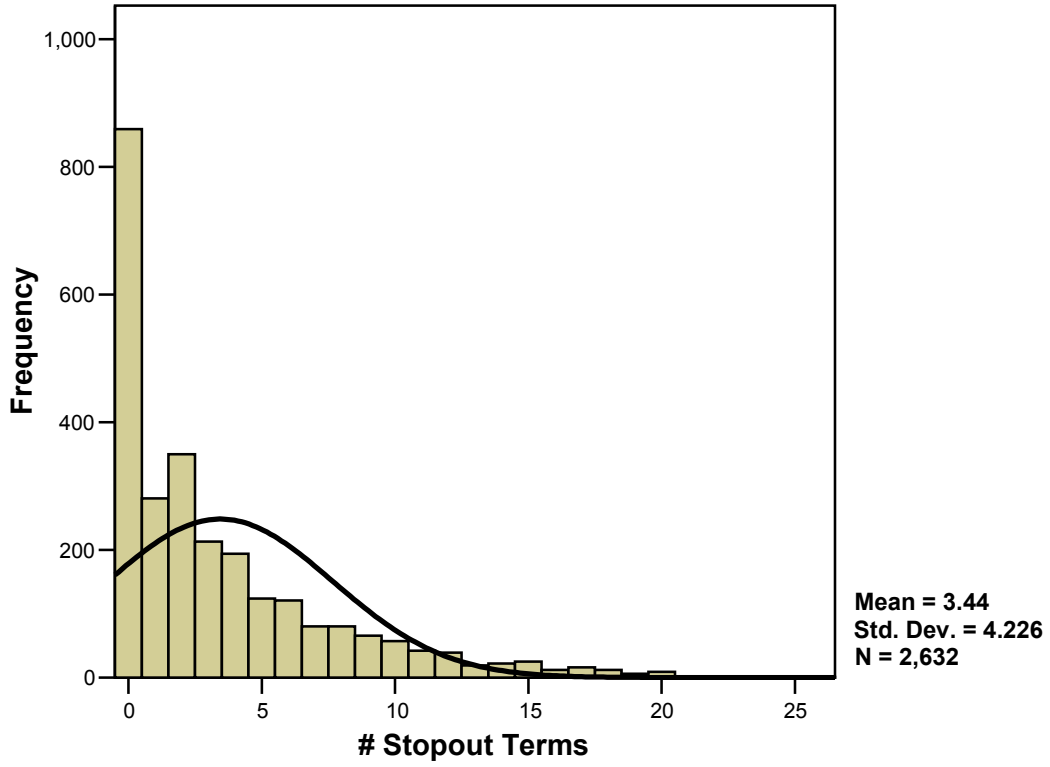
terms at a **lower** rate than other concentration groups, and stopped out for > 6 terms at a **lower** rate than other groups.

- **By Degree Program – Bachelor of Science in Community Development** students maintained stopout patterns that differed significantly from the aggregate. These students refrained from stopping out at a rate **higher** than other groups. Moreover, these students stopped out for 4-6 term at a **lower** rate than other groups.

Stopout Profile

Students who stopped out during their undergraduate program, by and large, are representative of the aggregate characteristics of undergraduate students, in terms of gender and race/ethnicity.

Stopouts in Undergraduate Programs: Number of Terms Stopped Out, All Students 1998 - 2003



Undergraduate Programs Enrollment Patterns 4: Stopouts Who Re-Enrolled, as a Percent of Enrolled Students, by Term

		Vehicle Design	Organization Administration	Community Service	Industrial Administration	TOTAL
Did not stop out	Count	259	218	99	56	632
	Expected Count	277.6	235.0	62.7	56.7	632.0
	% of Dropout group	41.0%	34.5%	15.7%	8.9%	100.0%
	% of Concentration group	29.4%	29.2%	49.7%	31.1%	31.5%
Stopped out 1 – 3 terms	Count	265	242	63	64	634
	Expected Count	278.4	235.8	62.9	56.9	634.0
	% of Dropout group	41.8%	38.2%	9.9%	10.1%	100.0%
	% of Concentration group	30.1%	32.4%	31.7%	35.6%	31.6%
Stopped out 4 – 6 terms	Count	163	132	19	35	349
	Expected Count	153.3	129.8	34.6	31.3	349.0
	% of Dropout group	46.7%	37.8%	5.4%	10.0%	100.0%
	% of Concentration group	18.5%	17.7%	9.5%	19.4%	17.4%
Stopped out > 6 terms	Count	194	154	18	25	391
	Expected Count	171.7	145.4	38.8	35.1	391.0
	% of Dropout group	49.6%	39.4%	4.6%	6.4%	100.0%
	% of Concentration group	22.0%	20.6%	9.0%	13.9%	19.5%
Total	Count	881	746	199	180	2,006
	Expected Count	881.0	746.0	199.0	180.0	2006.0
	% of Dropout group	43.9%	37.2%	9.9%	9.0%	100.0%
	% of Concentration group	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	Degrees of Freedom	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	50.784(a)	9	.000
Likelihood Ratio	51.998	9	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	18.553	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	2,006		

a 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 31.32.

Contingency Table: Undergraduate Students Who Did and Did Not Stop Out, by Degree Program

		Bachelor of Science	Bachelor of Science in Community Development	Bachelor of Science with Major in Administration	TOTAL
Did not stop out	Count	319	148	327	794
	Expected Count	358.4	104.9	330.6	794.0
	% of Dropout group	40.2%	18.6%	41.2%	100.0%
	% of Concentration group	28.7%	45.5%	31.9%	32.3%
Stopped out 1 – 3 terms	Count	336	104	353	793
	Expected Count	358.0	104.8	330.2	793.0
	% of Dropout group	42.4%	13.1%	44.5%	100.0%
	% of Concentration group	30.3%	32.0%	34.5%	32.2%
Stopped out 4 – 6 terms	Count	191	30	186	407
	Expected Count	183.7	53.8	169.5	407.0
	% of Dropout group	46.9%	7.4%	45.7%	100.0%
	% of Concentration group	17.2%	9.2%	18.2%	16.6%
Stopped out > 6 terms	Count	264	43	158	465
	Expected Count	209.9	61.5	193.6	465.0
	% of Dropout group	56.8%	9.2%	34.0%	100.0%
	% of Concentration group	23.8%	13.2%	15.4%	18.9%
Total	Count	1,110	325	1,024	2,459
	Expected Count	1110.0	325.0	1024.0	2459.0
	% of Dropout group	45.1%	13.2%	41.6%	100.0%
	% of Concentration group	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	Degrees of Freedom	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	63.432(a)	6	.000
Likelihood Ratio	63.587	6	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	16.644	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	2,459		

a 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 53.79.

**Undergraduate Programs:
Profile of Stopouts, 19981 – 20051**

	Did Not Stop Out		Stopped Out 1 – 3 Terms		Stopped Out 4 – 6 Terms		Stopped Out > 6 Terms		TOTAL	
	Count	Percent of Total	Count	Percent of Total	Count	Percent of Total	Count	Percent of Total	Count	Percent of Total
GENDER:										
Female	78	51.3%	439	52.1%	211	48.1%	238	48.6%	966	50.2%
Male	74	48.7%	404	47.9%	228	51.9%	252	51.4%	958	49.8%
Total	152	100.0%	843	100.0%	439	100.0%	490	100.0%	1924	100.0%
RACE/ETHNICITY:										
White	93	61.2%	546	66.3%	299	69.2%	312	65.0%	1250	66.2%
African American	37	24.3%	171	20.8%	71	16.4%	115	24.0%	394	20.9%
Hispanic	1	0.7%	15	1.8%	11	2.5%	9	1.9%	36	1.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	3.3%	13	1.6%	5	1.2%	2	0.4%	25	1.3%
International Student in U.S.	5	3.3%	16	1.9%	5	1.2%	3	0.6%	29	1.5%
Native American	0	0.0%	3	0.4%	6	1.4%	3	0.6%	12	0.6%
Unknown	11	7.2%	59	7.2%	35	8.1%	36	7.5%	141	7.5%
Total	152	100.0%	823	100.0%	432	100.0%	480	100.0%	1887	100.0%
DEGREE and CONCENTRATION										
Bachelor of Applied Arts -	5	100.0%	30	100.0%	20	100.0%	19	100.0%	74	100.0%
• Guest Services Administration	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%
• Industrial Administration	1	20.0%	7	23.3%	3	15.0%	3	15.8%	14	18.9%
• Organization Administration	4	80.0%	22	73.3%	16	80.0%	16	84.2%	58	78.4%
• Undecided or Unknown	0	0.0%	1	3.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%
Bachelor of Science -	58	100.0%	326	100.0%	188	100.0%	257	100.0%	829	100.0%
• Community Service	2	3.4%	6	1.8%	1	0.5%	3	1.2%	12	1.4%
• Health Services Administration	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	2	0.8%	3	0.4%
• Industrial Administration	0	0.0%	8	2.5%	3	1.6%	4	1.6%	15	1.8%
• Organization Administration	3	5.2%	37	11.3%	18	9.6%	42	16.3%	100	12.1%
• Public Administration	0	0.0%	8	2.5%	2	1.1%	12	4.7%	22	2.7%
• Vehicle Design	52	89.7%	265	81.3%	163	86.7%	194	75.5%	674	81.3%
• Undecided or Unknown	1	1.7%	1	0.3%	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	3	0.4%
Bachelor of Science Community Development	29	100.0%	106	100.0%	30	100.0%	43	100.0%	208	100.0%
• Community Service	18	62.1%	57	53.8%	18	60.0%	15	34.9%	108	51.9%
• Health Sciences	4	13.8%	16	15.1%	4	13.3%	5	11.6%	29	13.9%
• Public Administration	7	24.1%	27	25.5%	8	26.7%	21	48.8%	63	30.3%
• Undecided or Unknown	0	0.0%	6	5.7%	0	0.0%	2	4.7%	8	3.8%

Bachelor of Science Major in Administration	41	100.0%	249	100.0%	140	100.0%	123	100.0%	553	100.0%
• Guest Services Administration	6	14.6%	6	2.4%	6	4.3%	2	1.6%	20	3.6%
• Industrial Administration	5	12.2%	49	19.7%	29	20.7%	18	14.6%	101	18.3%
• Organization Administration	28	68.3%	183	73.5%	98	70.0%	96	78.0%	405	73.2%
• Service Sector Administration	2	4.9%	11	4.4%	6	4.3%	6	4.9%	25	4.5%
• Undecided or Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	1	0.8%	2	0.4%