

The Graduate Transfer Experience Report



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Executive Summary

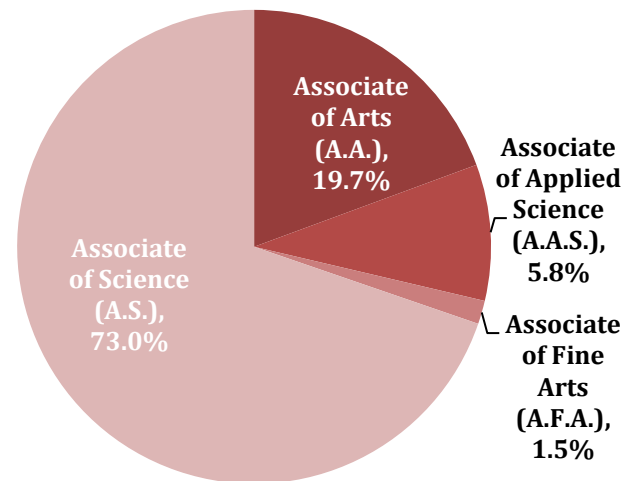
The Survey

- A 13-question survey was sent to 1,200 2017¹ graduates of Bergen Community College who transferred to a four-year institution.
- A web link to an online survey was sent out to the students’ school and personal email addresses. One hundred thirty-seven responses were collected (11.4% response rate).
- The students were asked questions regarding their current institution, their current degree program, the number of credits they transferred from Bergen, the number of credits they have left to complete at their transfer institution, general education requirements, and any courses that were not accepted by their transfer institution.

The Respondents

- Of the 137 respondents, the majority of students transferred with an Associate of Science (A.S.) degree (73.0%). Twenty percent transferred with an Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree, 5.8% transferred with an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree, and 1.5% transferred with an Associate of Fine Arts degree (A.F.A.).
- The most popular degree program that respondents graduated from before transferring were: A.S. General Professional Studies with 42 graduates (30.7%) and A.S. Business Administration with 11 graduates (8.0%).
- Ninety-eight respondents (81.0%) transferred to an in-state institution, whereas 23 respondents (19.0%) transferred to an out-of-state institution.
- The most frequently transferred-to institutions were Montclair State University, Ramapo College of New Jersey, and William Paterson University.

Degree Types Received from Bergen



Transfer Institution Location	N	%
In-State	98	81.0
Out-of-State	23	19.0
Total	121	100.0

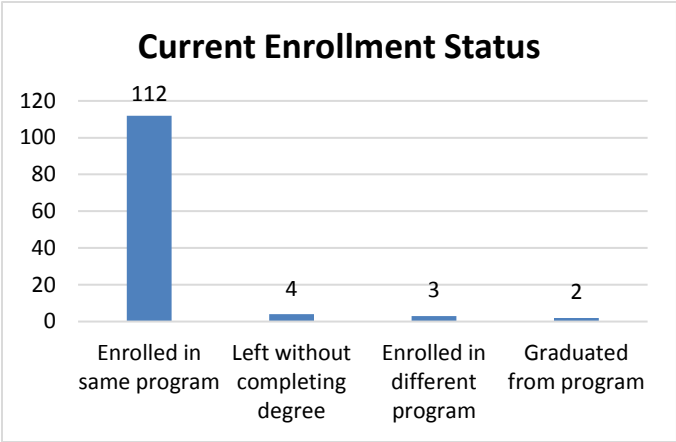
Top Transfer Institutions	N	% ²
Montclair State University	26	26.5
Ramapo College of New Jersey	15	15.3
William Paterson University	12	12.2

¹2017 graduation dates include August 2016, December 2016, and May 2017.

² Percent out of all transfer colleges.

Current Enrollment Status

The majority of respondents were still enrolled at their transfer institution at the time of the survey (112 respondents, 92.6%). Four students left without completing a degree (3.3%), three students enrolled in a different program (2.5%), and two graduated from the transfer institution (1.7%).

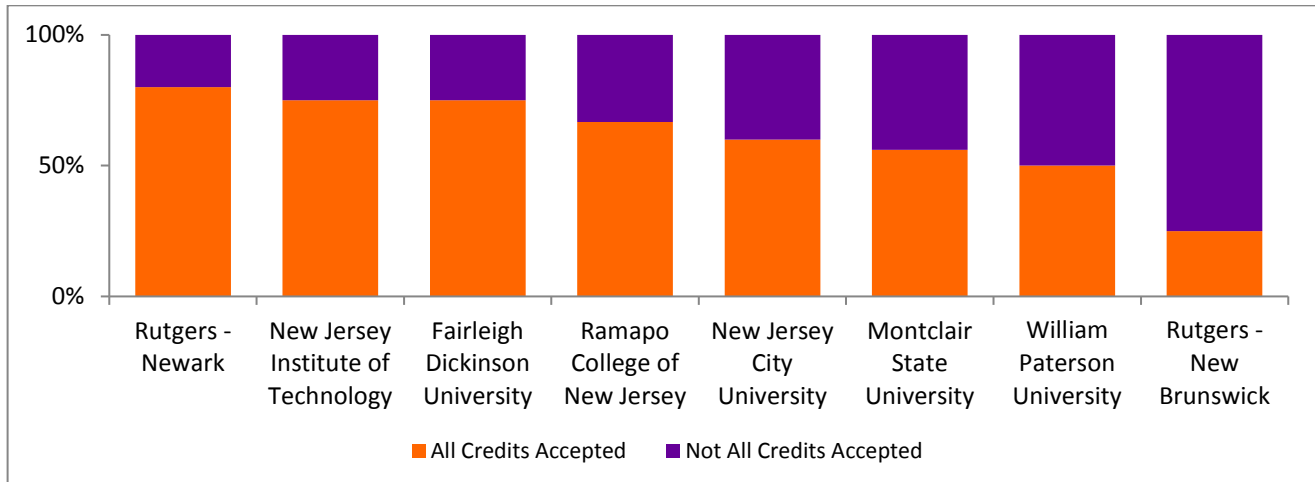


Graduates’ original programs of study at Bergen were compared with the program in which they enrolled at their transfer institution. Those with a degree in General Professional Studies A.S. most frequently transferred into a Natural Sciences and Math program. Those from the Business Administration A.S. program typically transferred into a Business Administration program. Fifty percent of respondents with a degree in General Natural Sciences and Math A.S. transferred within a Natural Sciences and Math program. Respondents who were General Liberal Arts A.A. majors at Bergen enrolled in Education, Psychology or Social Sciences program at their transfer institutions. Eighty-five percent of graduates from the Accounting A.S. program transferred into an Accounting program.

The Transfer Experience

Sixty-eight transfer students (49.3%) reported that all of the credits they had earned at Bergen Community College were accepted by their transfer institution. In-state transfer institutions were more likely to accept all transfer credits (60.9%) than were out-of-state institutions (52.2%). When looking at transfer degrees, 85.7% of respondents who went into a Social Sciences program at their transfer institution had all of their credits accepted. Only 12.5% of respondents who went into an Education program at their transfer institution had all of their credits accepted.

The percentage of accepted credits was broken out by transfer institution to see which of the top transfer colleges more frequently accepted all credits from Bergen. Eighty-percent of respondents who transferred to Rutgers – Newark had all of their transfer credits accepted. Both New Jersey Institute of Technology and Fairleigh Dickinson University accepted all transfer credits 75% of the time.



Introduction

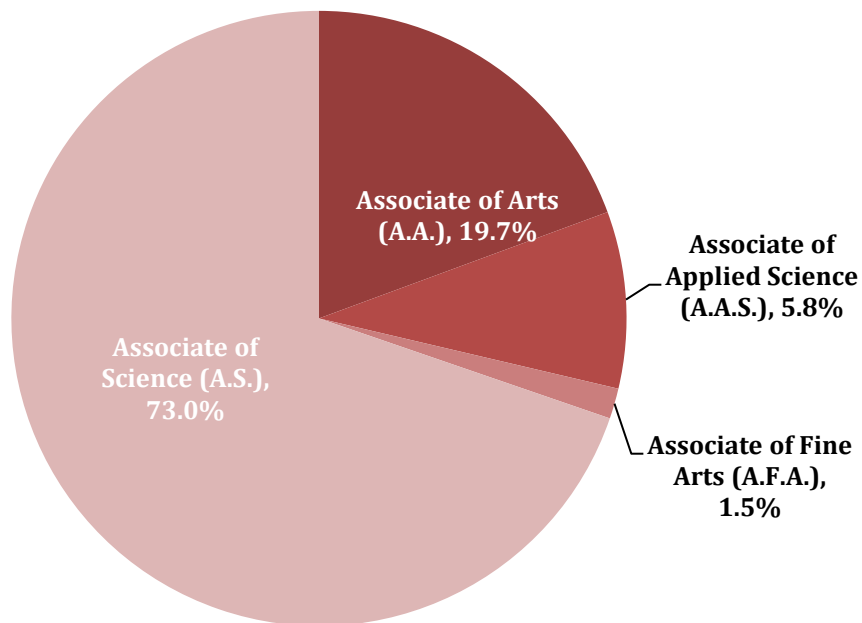
In November 2017, a 13-question survey was distributed to 2017³ graduates of Bergen Community College who had transferred to a four-year institution, according to data from the National Student Clearing House. The goal of this questionnaire was to garner feedback regarding the transfer experience of Bergen graduates. In total, the survey was sent to 1,200 graduates who received an Associate of Arts (A.A.), Associate of Fine Arts (A.F.A.), Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.), or an Associate of Science (A.S.) degree. A link to an online survey was sent to the students' Bergen and personal email addresses and 137 responses were collected (11.4% response rate). These responses were then analyzed and the findings are presented in this report.

Section I: The Respondents

Degrees Received from Bergen

Program data was collected from Colleague, student information system, by matching students' 7-digit identification numbers. Figure 1 below shows the breakdown of Bergen degree types and Table 1 shows the breakdown of the specific degrees earned by the respondents. Overall, 100 respondents (73.0%) graduated with an Associate of Science (A.S.) degree, 27 respondents (19.7%) received an Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree, 8 respondents (5.8%) received an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree and 2 respondents (1.5%) received an Associate of Fine Arts (A.F.A.) degree.

Figure 1. Degree Types Received from Bergen



³ 2017 graduation dates include August 2016, December 2016, and May 2017.

As shown below in Table 1, the most popular major was General Professional Studies A.S., in which 42 respondents (30.7%) received degrees. Following in popularity, 11 respondents (8.0%) received a degree in Business Administration A.S., 10 respondents (7.3%) graduated with a General Liberal Arts A.A. degree, and another 10 respondents with a General Natural Sciences and Math A.S. degree.

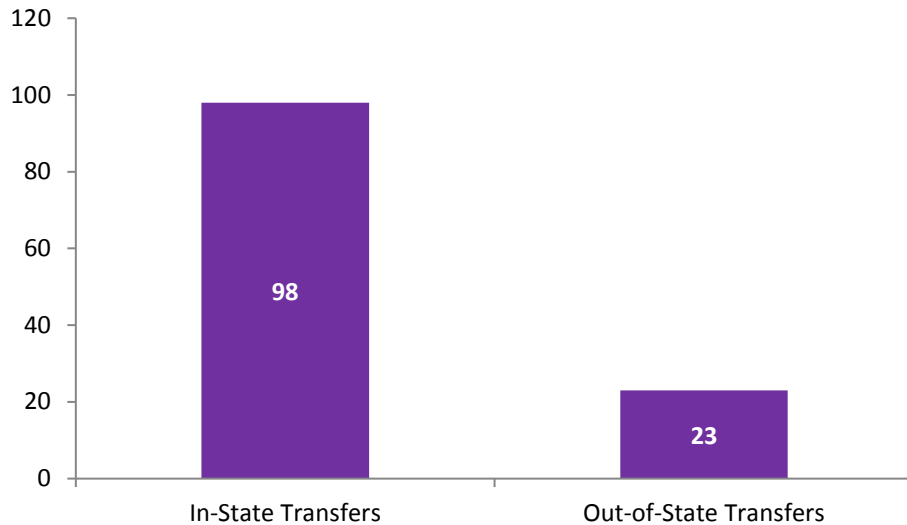
Table 1. Degrees Received from Bergen

Degree Name and Type	N	%
General Professional Studies A.S.	42	30.7
Business Administration A.S.	11	8.0
General Liberal Arts A.A.	10	7.3
General Natural Sciences and Math A.S.	10	7.3
Accounting A.S.	8	5.8
Nursing A.A.S.	5	3.6
Psychology A.A.	5	3.6
Biology A.S.	4	2.9
Criminal Justice A.S.	4	2.9
Biotechnology A.S.	3	2.2
Literature A.A.	3	2.2
Social Work A.S.	3	2.2
Communication A.A.	2	1.5
Computer Science A.S.	2	1.5
Early Childhood Education A.S.	2	1.5
Economics A.A.	2	1.5
Engineering Science A.S.	2	1.5
Hospitality A.S.	2	1.5
Music Technology A.F.A.	2	1.5
Networking Administration A.A.S.	2	1.5
Dental Hygiene A.A.S.	1	0.7
Exercise Science A.S.	1	0.7
Global Studies A.A.	1	0.7
International Trade A.S.	1	0.7
Journalism A.S.	1	0.7
Management A.S.	1	0.7
Marketing A.S.	1	0.7
Mathematics A.S.	1	0.7
Physics A.S.	1	0.7
Political Science A.A.	1	0.7
Theatre Arts - Acting A.A.	1	0.7
Theatre Arts - Dance A.A.	1	0.7
World Languages and Cultures A.A.	1	0.7
Total	137	100.0

Transfer Institutions

Respondents were asked to identify the institution they transferred to after graduating from Bergen. The majority of graduates (81.0%) transferred within the state of New Jersey. Twenty-three respondents (19.0%) transferred to an out-of-state institution (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Number of In-State vs. Out-of-State Transfers



Shown in Table 2, the in-state institutions that accepted the most transfers were Montclair State University (26.5%), Ramapo College of New Jersey (15.3%), and William Paterson University (12.2%). For those who transferred out of state, top institutions were John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Hunter College, New York University and Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Table 2. Transfer Institutions

In-State Transfer Institutions	N	%	Out-of-State Transfer Institutions	N	%
Montclair State University	26	26.5	John Jay College of Criminal Justice	2	8.7
Ramapo College of New Jersey	15	15.3	Hunter College	2	8.7
William Paterson University	12	12.2	New York University	2	8.7
Rutgers - Newark	11	11.2	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences	2	8.7
New Jersey City University	5	5.1	Academy of Art University	1	4.3
New Jersey Institute of Technology	5	5.1	City College of New York	1	4.3
Rutgers - New Brunswick	5	5.1	Emporia State University	1	4.3
Fairleigh Dickinson University	4	4.1	Manhattan College	1	4.3
Felician University	3	3.1	New York University College of Dentistry	1	4.3
Seton Hall University	2	2.0	Oklahoma City University	1	4.3
Thomas Edison State College	2	2.0	Pace University	1	4.3
The College of New Jersey	2	2.0	Pennsylvania College of Technology	1	4.3
Kean University	1	1.0	Queens College	1	4.3
Bloomfield College	1	1.0	SUNY Cobleskill	1	4.3
Drew University	1	1.0	Temple University	1	4.3
Rider University	1	1.0	University of Bridgeport	1	4.3
Saint Peter's University	1	1.0	University of Pennsylvania	1	4.3
Stockton University	1	1.0	University of Southern California	1	4.3
Total	98	100.0	University of Southern New Hampshire	1	4.3
			Total	23	100.0

Transfer Degrees

In order to show how degrees awarded at Bergen Community College aligned with the degrees pursued at transfer institutions, the top five Bergen degrees were examined. The students were asked to provide their transfer degrees, which were later grouped into 12 categories. Table 3 shows the crosswalk between the top 5 Bergen degrees and the 12 transfer degree categories.

Respondents from the General Professional Studies A.S. degree program transferred most frequently into a Natural Sciences and Math (13.5%) or Other⁴ program (13.5%). Seventy percent of Business Administration A.S. graduates transferred into a Business Administration program. Fifty percent of the students who graduated from Bergen with a degree in General Natural Sciences and Math pursued a degree in Natural Sciences and Math at their transfer institution. Graduates of the General Liberal Arts A.A. program transferred to Education, Psychology or Social Sciences programs (22.2% in each program). Of those who received an Accounting A.S. degree from Bergen, 85.7% enrolled in an Accounting program. Appendix A shows the crosswalk between every degree awarded by Bergen and the programs in which transfer students enrolled at their new institution.

Table 3. Crosswalk between Bergen Degree and Transfer Institution Degree

12 Transfer Degree Categories	General Professional Studies A.S.		Business Administration A.S.		General Natural Sciences and Math A.S.		General Liberal Arts A.A.		Accounting A.S.	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Accounting	2	5.4	1	10.0	0	0.0	1	11.1	6	85.7
Business Administration	4	10.8	7	70.0	0	0.0	1	11.1	1	14.3
Communication	3	8.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	11.1	0	0.0
Education	2	5.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	22.2	0	0.0
Information Technology	0	0.0	1	10.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Liberal Arts	4	10.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Natural Sciences and Math	5	13.5	0	0.0	5	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Nursing	4	10.8	0	0.0	1	10.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other	5	13.5	1	10.0	4	40.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Psychology	3	8.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	22.2	0	0.0
Public Health	2	5.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Social Sciences	3	8.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	22.2	0	0.0
Total	37	100.0	10	100.0	10	100.0	9	100.0	7	100.0

⁴ The category 'Other' includes Communication Disorders, Dental Hygiene, Doctor of Pharmacy, Engineering, Public Administration, and Sports Management.

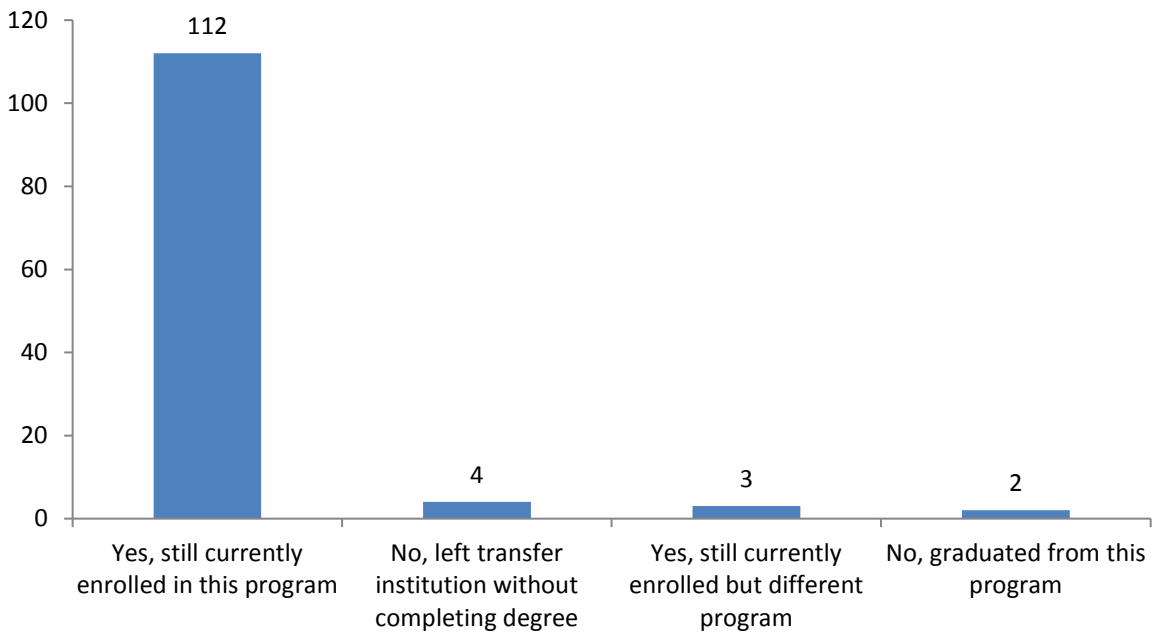
Current Enrollment Status

Students were asked about their current enrollment status at their transfer institution, to determine whether they were still enrolled in the same program, graduated, left without completing a degree, or still enrolled (but switched to a different program). Shown in Table 4, the majority (92.6%) stated that they were still enrolled in the same program at their transfer institution. Three respondents (2.5%) stated that they had enrolled in a different program at their transfer institution, two respondents (1.7%) already graduated from their program, and four students (3.3%) left without completing a degree.

Table 4. Current Enrollment Status

Status	N	%
Still Enrolled in Program	112	92.6
Left Without Completing Degree	4	3.3
Enrolled in Different Program	3	2.5
Graduated from Program	2	1.7
Total	121	100.0

Figure 3. Current Enrollment Status



Section II: The Transfer Experience

Credits Accepted by Transfer Institutions

Respondents were asked to report if all of their general education course credits and non-general education course credits transferred to their new institution.

If respondents answered ‘yes’ to both questions, all of their credits had been accepted, if respondents answered ‘no’ to one of or both of the questions, some of their credits did not transfer.

The acceptance of credits was broken out by in-state and out-of-state transfer institutions. As shown in Table 5, a higher proportion of respondents who transferred within the state had all of their credits accepted by their transfer institution (60.9%).

Table 5. Credits Accepted by In-State vs. Out-of-State Institutions

Institution Type	All Credits Accepted		Not all Credits Accepted		Total
	N	%	N	%	N
In-State	56	60.9%	36	39.1%	92
Out-of-State	12	52.2%	11	47.8%	23
Total	68	59.1%	47	40.9%	115

Table 6 and Figure 4 show the percentage of accepted credits broken out by transfer institution to show which of the top transfer schools more frequently accepted the most credits from Bergen. Eighty percent of respondents who transferred to Rutgers – Newark had all of their transfer credits accepted. Both New Jersey Institute of Technology and Fairleigh Dickinson University accepted all transfer credits 75.0% of the time.

Table 6. Credits Accepted at Transfer Institution

Transfer Institution	All Credits Accepted		Not All Credits Accepted		Total
	N	%	N	%	N
Rutgers - Newark	8	80.0	2	20.0	10
New Jersey Institute of Technology	3	75.0	1	25.0	4
Fairleigh Dickinson University	3	75.0	1	25.0	4
Ramapo College of New Jersey	10	66.7	5	33.3	15
New Jersey City University	3	60.0	2	40.0	5
Montclair State University	14	56.0	11	44.0	25
William Paterson University	5	50.0	5	50.0	10
Rutgers - New Brunswick	1	25.0	3	75.0	4

Figure 4. Credits Accepted at Transfer Institution

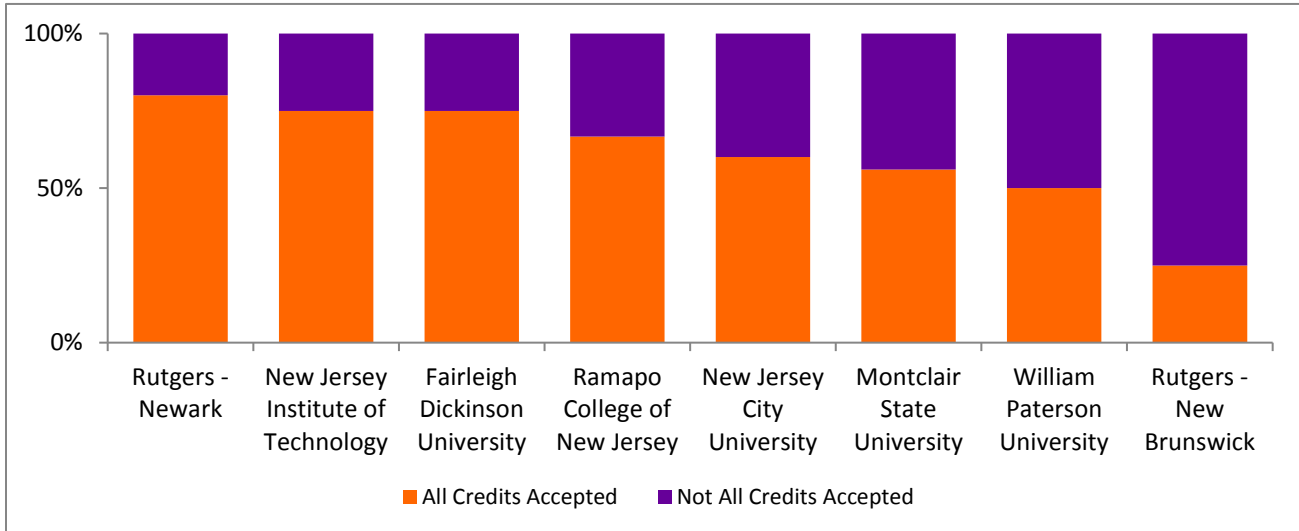


Table 7 shows the acceptance of credits broken out by transfer degree enrollment⁵ categories (not including the ‘Other’ degree category). Eighty-six percent of graduates who transferred into a Social Sciences degree program at their transfer institution reported that all of their credits transferred, while 80.0% of Communication degree recipients had all of their credits accepted by their transfer institution. Only 12.5% of respondents who went into an Education program reported having all of their credits accepted.

Table 7. Credits Accepted by Transfer Degree

Top Transfer Degrees	All Credits Accepted		Not All Credits Accepted		Total N
	N	%	N	%	
Social Sciences	12	85.7	2	14.3	14
Communication	4	80.0	1	20.0	5
Liberal Arts	4	66.7	2	33.3	6
Nursing	6	66.7	3	33.3	9
Public Health	2	66.7	1	33.3	3
Business Administration	12	63.2	7	36.8	19
Psychology	5	62.5	3	37.5	8
Accounting	5	55.6	4	44.4	9
Natural Sciences and Math	8	53.3	7	46.7	15
Information Technology	1	25.0	3	75.0	4
Education	1	12.5	7	87.5	8

⁵ Including programs with enrollment of 3 students or more

Credits Needed to Complete Transfer Degree

The students were asked “At your four-year transfer institution, how many TOTAL credits are required to complete your degree?” In response, students reported a four-year degree consisting of anywhere from 18 to 180 credits with an average reported amount of 111.6 credits.

As a follow-up, they were then asked “Approximately how many credits, completed at Bergen, were accepted by your transfer institution?” In response, students reported four-year institutions accepting anywhere from 6 to 90 credits with an average reported amount of 58.6 credits.

These reported amounts are consistent with the general consensus that a four-year degree takes around 120 credits and students leave Bergen with around 60 transferrable credits.

General Education Requirements

Respondents were asked if all of the General Education courses that they had taken at Bergen Community College were accepted by their transfer institution. Ninety-two respondents (80.0%) stated that all of their General Education course credits successfully transferred to their transfer institution, as Table 8 shows.

Table 8. General Education Course Credits Accepted

General Education Course Credits	N	%
All Gen. Ed Credits Accepted	92	80.0
Not All Gen. Ed Credits Accepted	23	20.0
Total	115	100.0

Those who specified that not all of their General Education courses had been accepted were asked to specifically list any rejected courses. Across ten institutions, mathematics courses were most likely rejected after transfer (five different sections were not accepted). Additionally, writing, biology, and communication courses were likely not to be accepted (two different sections of each were not accepted). Table 9 shows some of the General Education courses that were not accepted by transfer institution. Appendix C further analyzes general education credits that were not accepted.

Table 9. General Education Courses Rejected by Transfer Institution

Transfer Institution	Course	Course Title
Felician University	ART-101	Introduction to Art and Visual Culture
	MAT-280	Calculus I
	MAT-282	Calculus III
	PHY-111	Astronomy
Montclair State University	BIO-103	The Human Body
	BIO-107	Introduction to Human Biology
	CHM-100	Introduction to Chemistry
	COM-102	Public Speaking
Ramapo College of New Jersey	MAT-130	Contemporary Math
	WRT-101	English Composition I
Rutgers - Newark	BIO-103	The Human Body
	BIO-107	Introduction to Human Biology

Accepted Bergen Courses

In addition, respondents were asked to report if any Non-General Education courses were rejected by their transfer institution. Eighty respondents (69.6%) reported that all of their Non-General Education courses were accepted, as shown in Table 10.

Table 10. Non-General Education Credits Accepted

Non-General Education Course Credits	N	%
All Non-Gen. Ed Credits Accepted	80	69.6
Not All Non-Gen. Ed Credits Accepted	35	30.4
Total	115	100.0

If respondents stated that some of their Non-General Education courses were rejected by their institution, they were asked to provide the specific courses that were rejected. Business and music courses had the highest rejection rates. Table 11 shows some of the Non-General Education courses that were not accepted broken out by transfer institution. Appendix C further analyzes Non-General Education credits that were not accepted.

Table 11. Non-General Education Courses Rejected by Transfer Institution

Transfer Institution	Course	Course Title
Felician University	CIS-277	Data Structures and Algorithms
	CIS-288	Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science
	MAT-160	Intermediate Algebra
Montclair State University	ACC-202	Intermediate Accounting I
	BIO-222	Embryology
	BUS-101	Introduction to Business
	BUS-105	Business Communications
	BUS-233	Business Law I
	DAN-102	Ballet
	MUS-119	Songwriting Workshop
	MUS-120	Pop/Rock Ensemble I
	MUS-121	Chorus I
	PSY-201	Child Psychology
	THR-120	Stage Make-Up
	WEX-170	Yoga
WEX-171	Golf	
New Jersey City University	PSY-102	Introduction to Abnormal Psychology

Appendix A: Bergen Degree by Transfer Institution Degree

Table 12 shows the crosswalk between the degrees awarded by Bergen and the programs in which transfer students enrolled at their new institution. The “Transfer Institution Degrees” have been recoded into 12 categories shown below (including “Other”) to organize the various degree types available at other institutions into similar subjects.

Table 12. Crosswalk between Bergen Degree and Transfer Institution Degree

Bergen Degrees	Transfer Institution Degrees												
	Accounting	Business Administration	Communication	Education	Information Technology	Liberal Arts	Natural Sciences and Math	Nursing	Other	Psychology	Public Health	Social Sciences	Total
Accounting A.S.	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Biology A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Biotechnology A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Business Administration A.S.	1	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	10
Communication A.A.	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Computer Science A.S.	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Criminal Justice A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
Dental Hygiene A.A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Early Childhood Education A.S.	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Economics A.A.	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Engineering Science A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Exercise Science A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
General Liberal Arts A.A.	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	9
General Natural Science and Math A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	4	0	0	0	10
General Professional Studies A.S.	2	4	3	2	0	4	5	4	5	3	2	3	37
Global Studies A.A.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hospitality A.S.	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
International Trade A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Journalism A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Literature A.A.	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Management A.S.	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Marketing A.S.	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Mathematics A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Music Technology A.F.A.	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Networking Administration A.A.S.	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Nursing A.A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
Physics A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Political Science A.A.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Psychology A.A.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	4
Social Work A.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Theatre Arts - Acting A.A.	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Theatre Arts - Dance A.A.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Languages and Cultures A.A.	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	10	19	6	8	4	6	17	9	17	8	3	14	121

Appendix B: Additional Comments

At the end of the survey, an “Additional Comments” section was provided for transfer students to voice their opinions regarding their transfer experiences between Bergen Community College and their transfer institution. The comments were broken down into either “Positive”, “Neutral”, or “Negative” categories to observe an overall view of the transfer experience. Shown in Table 13, 48.7% of respondents provided positive comments and 43.6% of respondents provided negative comments regarding their transfer experiences. The comments are shown below and are verbatim.

Table 13. Additional Comments by Type

Comment Type	N	%
Positive	19	48.7
Neutral	3	7.7
Negative	17	43.6
Total	39	100.0

Positive Comments

1. BCC is a great school.
2. Bergen actually changed my life since I was able to transfer 70 credits. I did not even have to complete the common core at my school, which saved me from taking unnecessary classes and save a lot of money. Overall, money well spent. My math skills are stronger now as I developed a good foundation there.
3. Bergen community college is good school. Great professors and good environment!
4. Bergen Community was a great decision, I completed my pre-reqs for my major at Bergen and all of my professors were great. The veterans center was very helpful and I had an overall great experience at BCC. For anyone looking to transfer I have to say do your best at Bergen and you can definitely achieve your goals to transfer to the 4 year school of your choice !
5. Bergen was pretty good about transferring my credits, almost all of them got accepted into Montclair and I've had no issues with it.
6. I am very grateful for the education I received at BCC. Attending Bergen Community College has helped me prepare for my future and figure out what I want to do with my life. I cannot be thankful enough for the amazing professors at BCC who have impacted my life both academically and personally. My transfer experience has been a dream come true, as I am now attending my dream school at the University of Southern California. I could not have done it without the faculty at Bergen Community College.
7. I loved to study at Bergen Community College. I hate all the professor in this school because they don't provide anything to study and the exam is too difficult to solve them. I definitely say Bergen Community College is the best school in my life. Thank you.
8. I miss BCC.
9. I prepare my self before transferring to NJIT by taking more classes which could transfer over to NJIT from BCC,. I am always thankful to Bergen Community College (BCC) For providing me opportunity to take more class at Bergen which could transfer to NJIT and Wonderful Experience.
10. I wasn't able to go to the College Fairs in the Student Center to ask directly about Felician and their programs. However, Angie Goldszmidt from PTK guided me in regards of the transfer information about Felician by connecting me with the former transfer director of Felician, Mr. Michael Toth. As for the transfer of the credits, I learned a lot from the Transfer workshops by Prof. Feder. I hope that there'll be more of those in different times and also flexible times for the college fair so that all students with different schedules can go. Overall, my transfer experience was easy and smooth.
11. It was a lot smoother an easier than I thought it would be, at the time.
12. It was extremely smooth and the staff that helped me during the time made it easy. I miss Bergen! So thankful to have had the opportunity to be a part of a wonderful school.
13. It was very beneficial to have that adviser directly working with FDU.

14. My transition into ramapo was very smooth and I had no problems whatsoever. Nicole Pidoto was my transfer counselor and she was very helpful. Having a transfer counselor from a four year institution at Bergen is very convenient
15. Overall, the transfer experience was a positive one. I believe that the advisors at Bergen Community College should exchange more frequently with advisors at MSU on which courses students need to take for their intended major. This would help save students time and money. I feel well prepared as an alumni of Bergen Community College and was able to finish my first semester at MSU with a 4.0 GPA.
16. The professors at BCC helped me get comfortable with approaching college professors. I found that when I transferred, I was much more comfortable with being involved with the class than a lot of my peers.
17. There was a smooth transition into MSU, there were a few issues but on the MSU end. Many of my classes were counted as free electives but as I go further into my major and minor I found I am able to use some BCC classes to count in ways I was not aware. Getting an associates degree made things easier in the sense I did not need to complete any gen ed requirements here.
18. Transferring from community college is such a great experience at William Paterson. It takes normally 64 credits to complete an associates degree of arts or science and as per the transfer agreement, they will transfer to William Paterson. WP will only accept 60 credits, requiring the last 60 credits to be completed at WP. I decided to complete two bachelors degrees so I am required to obtain 150 credits in total so I can become a CPA. Overall Bergen has saved me money, allowed me to figure out what I wanted to do without ruining my GPA. Once I transferred to WP my GPA was wiped clean and that is a great feature for students who have no clue what major they want to pursue.

Neutral Comments

1. I felt prepared. Also felt less stressed out, because of a easier credit load i experienced versus the full 18 credit load typical students have to take per semester
2. If you pass in Bergen with a D and you transfer before getting your associate you're going to have to take the class again. But if you get a D and still graduate from Bergen and get your associate it will be transferred and you don't have to take it again
3. Some credits that transferred don't count towards my major so not sure if that means it transferred or not?

Negative Comments

1. A large number of classes that were required at Bergen counted toward no requirements at WPUNJ.
2. Although I am no longer at TCNJ, I transferred to Rutgers-Newark. Neither TCNJ or Rutgers accepted my Intermediate Accounting credits as an equal to their respective Int. ACC class, but still accepted the credits. Admittedly, I found transferring more of a stressful process than I had anticipated.
3. Bergen community needs to get rid of Professor Cohen. Her managerial accounting class and her teaching abilities are not sufficient enough for students to be effective when moving on. The 4 year schools have much better cost/managerial accounting classes and professors
4. I took three major classes that they were supposed to be transferred after I spoke to my advisor and I end up taking these classes again at Montclair State University because they didn't transfer it.
5. I was surprised because some of my classes did not transfer as same credit equivalent. For example some of my 4 credits classes transferred as 1 or 2 credits. While attending at bcc no one told me about this.
6. If a bergen student transfers to City college of ny they will not transfer more than 3-4 classes such as speech com 100 , calculus 1 and 2 Please make that clear to students so they do not waste their money. I had a really bad experience.
7. It was a literal hell. Transcript of lost in mail. Course didn't transfer. Took me almost a year and a half to transfer all my credits from Bergen to Ramapo.
8. It wasn't a bad situation for me personally. But the atmosphere of Montclair State is just different. I dont have the same ability to handle my Financial aid and class registration as easily as at Bergen. But to be honest I hated bergen. Great school just some of the students make it unbearable to be on campus. Happy Holidays!
9. Most of the transfer councilors were pretty useless

10. No help at all. Had to figure everything by out on my own because your offices don't know anything about other in school offices. I've constantly had to leave work early to fix problems that have been brought up to me last minute.
11. No one at BCC helped me with my transfer. When I was searching for a 4-year institution none of the counselors were able to help me. I found Montclair on my own and did everything on my own. My son is about to graduate from there now and we find ourselves in the same situation, me doing all the legwork. No one has contacted him to see if he needs help. Also, FYI, I've completed the BA portion of my degree (120 credits) which include graduate classes. The MA portion is 33 credits and I have completed 12 already. Projected graduation is May 2019.
12. Probably the worst experience in my collegiate career, I had to rush an application for my transfer where I wasn't able to seek out for more colleges to accept my transcript, I almost didn't go to my current university for the lack of communication on Bergens transcript process, I was also upset on how long my transcript was kept, because i had to go to the board of education to complete a process where I was told would take 2 weeks I waisted and nothing happened and when I got into the office it took one phone call to have it available to send out where I was too close to my deadline on applying for university.
13. Should require student to come to guidance/advisor once a year to confirm their progress if they plan on transferring. I was misinformed about a program and was setback over a year at Bergen.
14. that there should not be a social work program in the community college if they do not look into all the colleges around and see what they need. I felt many of the classes I took was aimed for me to attend Ramapo and I had no intentions of attending there. This made it hard to transtion into rutgers since i had no advisment on the transation
15. The transcript process took longer than expected and more than one copy was lost in transition
16. There needs to be a better counseling process. Unless you are a diligent student, it is easy to get lost in all of the commotion between transferring. If possible, assign students to each guidance counselor when they begin at Bergen so they can have someone to consistently go to if there is an issue or may need guidance. It is frustrating to have to re-explain a problem repeatedly because each time you visit the advising office you meet with a different person.
17. There should be a resource available where transfer students between Bergen and a New York school can check on their own account whether a course will transfer or not. (Similar to NJTransfer.com). I had to do a lot of back and forth between ordering transcripts and calling/commuting into the city to talk to various counselors concerning transfer credits. The process could've been smoother.

Appendix C: Analysis of Courses Not Accepted

Further analysis was conducted to explore the courses that students were unable to transfer to their transfer institutions. Courses were broken up by general education courses and non-general education courses. Respondents mentioned 21 general education courses that were not accepted across 6 transfer institutions. William Paterson University did not accept 6 different general education courses (28.6%). Mathematics (23.8%) and biological sciences (19.0%) courses were most frequently not accepted. While one student received an E grade in an unaccepted general education course (rendering it unacceptable), the majority of respondents received an A in their unaccepted general education courses (71.4%).

General Education Courses	N	%
Courses Not Accepted by Transfer Institutions	21	100.0
Courses by Transfer Institution		
Felician University	4	19.0
Montclair State University	4	19.0
New Jersey Institute of Technology	3	14.3
Ramapo College of New Jersey	2	9.5
Rutgers - Newark	2	9.5
William Paterson University	6	28.6
Courses by Type		
Art	1	4.8
Biological Sciences	4	19.0
Chemistry	3	14.3
Communication	1	4.8
History	1	4.8
Mathematics	5	23.8
Philosophy and Religion	1	4.8
Physical Sciences	1	4.8
Sociology	2	9.5
Writing	2	9.5
Grades		
A	15	71.4
B+	2	9.5
C+	1	4.8
C	2	9.5
E	1	4.8
Transferrable to the New Jersey Institution		
Yes	18	85.7
No	3	14.3
Transferrable to Institution As...		
Gen Ed	9	50.0
Elective	3	16.7
Gen Ed or Elective	2	11.1
Not Specified	4	22.2

Respondents mentioned 39 non-general education courses that were not accepted across 12 transfer institutions. Montclair State University did not accept 17 different non-general education courses (43.6%). Computer science (17.9%) and mathematics (15.4%) courses were the most frequently not accepted non-general education courses. The majority of respondents received an A in their unaccepted non-general education course (53.8%).

Non- General Education Courses	N	%
Courses Not Accepted by Transfer Institutions	39	100.0
Courses by Transfer Institution		
City College of New York	5	12.8
Felician University	3	7.7
Kean University	2	5.1
Montclair State University	17	43.6
New Jersey City University	3	7.7
New York University College of Dentistry	1	2.6
Ramapo College of New Jersey	2	5.1
Rutgers – New Brunswick	1	2.6
Rutgers – Newark	1	2.6
Seton Hall University	1	2.6
University of Pennsylvania	1	2.6
William Paterson University	2	5.1
Courses by Type		
Accounting	1	2.6
Biological Sciences	5	12.8
Banking and Finance	1	2.6
Business Administration	4	10.3
Chemistry	1	2.6
Computer Science	7	17.9
Communication	1	2.6
Dance	1	2.6
Homeland Security	1	2.6
Information Technology	1	2.6
Mathematics	6	15.4
Medical Office Assistant	1	2.6
Music	3	7.7
Psychology	2	5.1
Sociology	1	2.6
Theatre	1	2.6
Wellness and Exercise	2	5.1
Grades		
A	21	53.8
B+	6	15.4
B	3	7.7
C+	4	10.3
C	3	7.7
D	1	2.6
F	1	2.6
Transferrable to New Jersey Institution		

Yes	25	83.3
No	5	16.7
Transferrable to Institution As...		
Gen Ed	12	40.0
Elective	12	40.0
Gen Ed or Elective	1	3.3
Not Specified	5	16.7

The Survey Questions

1. Please enter your 7-digit student ID, provided to you in your e-mail survey invitation.
2. After leaving Bergen, in which four-year institution did you enroll?
3. In what type of degree did you enroll at your transfer institution?
 - a. BA
 - b. BS
 - c. MA
 - d. MS
4. In What type of program did you enroll at you transfer institution? (e.g., Accounting, Business Administration, Sociology, etc.)
5. Are you still enrolled in this program?
 - a. Yes, I am still currently enrolled in this program.
 - b. No, I have graduated from this program.
 - c. No, I have left my transfer institution without completing a degree.
 - d. No, I am at the same institution but have switched to a different program (please identify below).
6. At your four-year transfer institution, how many TOTAL credits are required to complete your degree?
7. Approximately how many credits, completed at Bergen, were accepted by your transfer institution?
8. Did your Success 101 (IST-123) course transfer to your four-year institution?
9. Did ALL of the General Education course requirements you completed at Bergen transfer to your four-year institution?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
10. If you selected 'No' in response to Question 9:
Which General Education courses did not transfer, please specify, if known (Ex: COM-100 OR Speech Communication)
11. Did all of the additional, Non-General Education courses you completed at Bergen transfer to your four-year institution?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
12. If you selected 'No' in response to Question 10:
Which Non-General Education courses did not transfer, please specify, if known (Ex: BUS-101 OR Introduction to Business)
13. Please use the space below to provide any additional comments you may have regarding your transfer experience between Bergen Community College and your current institution.