

FIRST-TIME TRANSFER STUDENTS HIGHLIGHTS

Enrollment and academic trends of first-time transfer students show the following.

- Transfer students who came to Coastal from other South Carolina higher education institutions were about 38% of the total transfer student population in 2005. Most of those students came from Horry-Georgetown Technical College.
- The first-time full-time transfer student profile for the Fall 2002 through Fall 2006 cohorts shows the following. Percentages of women and men transfer students were relatively close. The percentage of ethnic minority transfer students was about 14% for the Fall 2002 through Fall 2006 cohorts but the largest group was White, non-Hispanic. The majority of transfer students was 22 years of age or younger. Except for the Fall 2002 cohort, more transfer students came from outside South Carolina. The largest percentage of in-state transfer students was from Horry County. The highest percentage of new transfer students came to Coastal with more than 30 cumulative academic hours. Between fall 2002 and fall 2005, the percentage of new transfer students attaining a first semester Coastal GPA of at least 3.00 was approaching 50%.
- “Popular” academic majors for first-time full-time transfer students between fall 2002 and fall 2006 were Management (38%-49% of Wall College of Business Administration majors), Elementary Education (18%-36% of Spadoni College of Education majors), History (19%-25% of Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts majors), and Marine Science (22%-31% of College of Natural and Applied Science majors). New transfer students who were Undeclared made up between 2% and 6% of the Fall 2002 through Fall 2006 cohorts.
- For first-time full-time transfer students, one-year retention was 67.3% for the Fall 2005 cohort, a decrease from that of the Fall 2004 cohort. One-semester retention of first-time full-time transfer students was 83.6% for the Fall 2005 cohort, a decrease from that of the Fall 2004 cohort. In general, resident transfer students had higher one-year retention rates than non-resident transfer students. As with freshmen, transfer students with strong first semester GPAs were likely to be retained.
- Over half of the Fall 2000 transfer student cohort graduated within six years.