South Carolina
Commission on Higher Education
Accessibility | Excellence | Accountability

SC Transfer Students Outcomes Dashboard

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Goal

- This analysis has **two main goals**:

- to show the main transfer trends among South Carolina postsecondary institutions
- to explore transfer students' success

Data Source

- Commission on Higher Education Management Information System (CHEMIS) Data:

- Enrollment data
- Transfer data
- Completion data

Definitions

Transfer Institution (from) – the institution code (FICE) for the in-state postsecondary institution upon which acceptance was based and from which the student transferred credits.

Start Institution – is the institution where a student was enrolled as first-time undergraduate, freshman, and degree seeking student.

Another institution – is the institution that a student completed after transferring that is different from the start institution.

Cohort

first-time undergraduate, freshman, and degree seeking students in the fall semester

- merged enrollment data for the next seven consecutive years (include registration status, institution code, and education program code variables)
- merged “start institution” with the “transferred from” to identify the transfer students
- merged completion data for the next eight consecutive years to determine the degree granting institution and graduation program

Key Findings

- The share of transfer students out of the entire entering 2016 cohort was 16 percent.

- The 2016 cohort recorded 3 percentage points (pp) more students who transferred after graduating the start institution than the 2014 cohort.

- The level of completion after transfer was maintained at around 60 percent from another institution and 70 percent from another and start institution combined.

Key Findings

- For both cohorts the same institutions (Clemson, USC-Columbia, USC-Upstate, College of Charleston, and Tri-County Technical College) remain the top transfer to and graduate from destinations.

- There is a 5 pp increase in graduation from Public 4 and 2-year affiliated institutions and graduation with a Bachelor's degree.

Key Findings

- More than a half of transfer students were in the Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities major.
- About a half of transfer students graduate with a Business Management, Marketings and Related Support Services, Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences, or Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities major.
- There is a slight increase in graduates share (2pp each) for Business and Health Professions between 2014 and 2016 cohorts.

This indicates that some pathways for these particular programs have been facilitated and/or improved.

Summary

The comparison analysis of these two cohorts (2014 and 2016) showed:

- Transfer students seem to have a better access to information related to the transfer process and/or more available pathways to specific programs, and start institutions seem to organize a more informed/structured path for completion and then transfer.

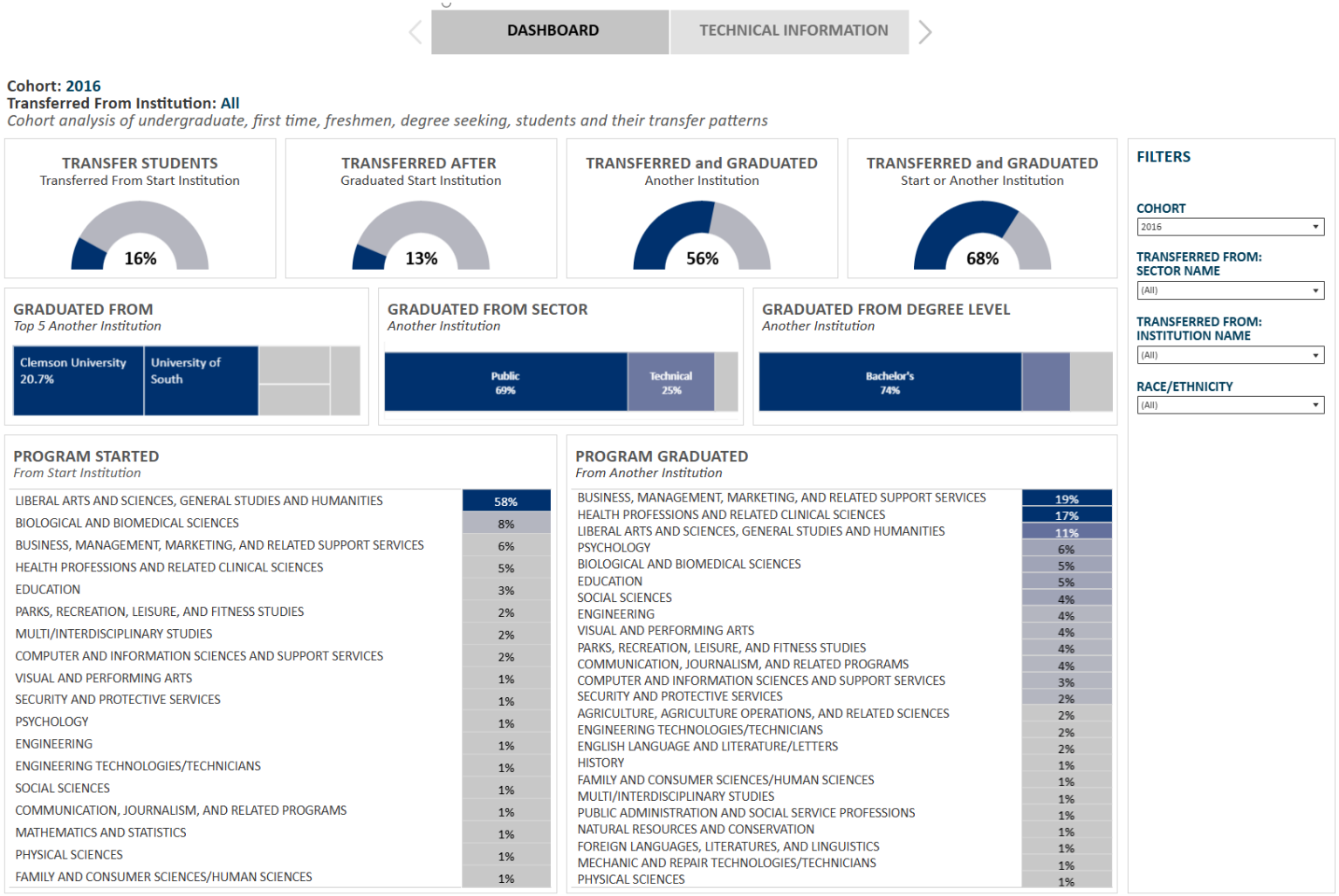
- However, these changes indicate that more intentional actions around this group of students are needed since just more than half of all transfer students graduated after transfer in both cohorts from another institution.

Updates

- new cohort will be 2018 and the work on the data and dashboard will start in 2026

- continue exploring different improvement options based on institutions feedback

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https://che.sc.gov/sctransferoutcomes

Questions

Thank you!