

# **Examining the Transfer Student Landscape**

New Perspectives on Transfer Recruitment, Enrollment, and Retention

Johanna Trovato, Eduventures Senior Analyst
Cara Quackenbush, Vice President for Research



# What We Are Talking About Today

- Why transfer students matter
- What we learned in 2018/19
- What's new in 2020?
- Where to find transfer students
- · Looking ahead to upcoming transfer student insights

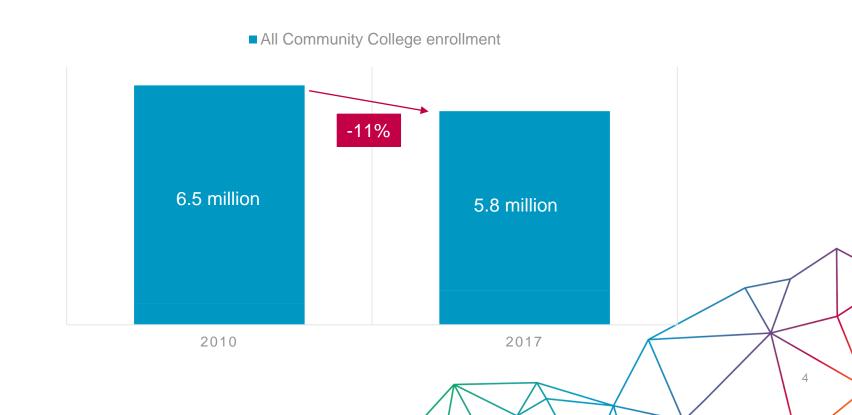
2

# Why Transfer Students Matter



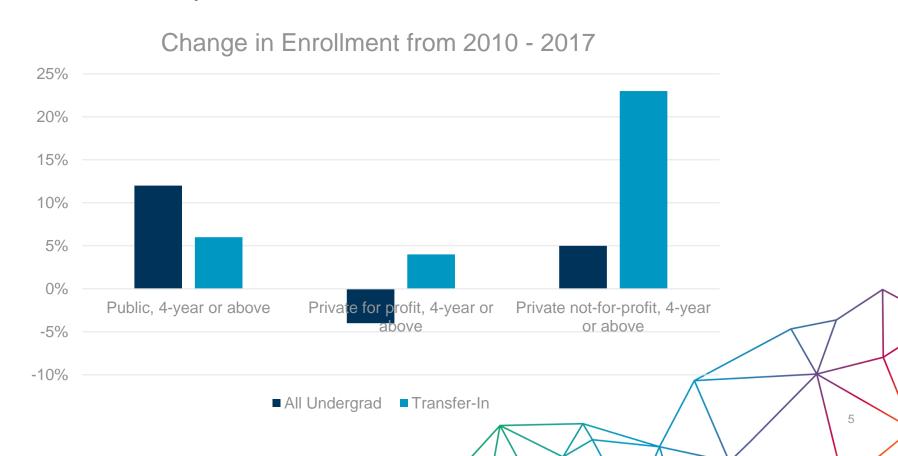
# Overall community college enrollment dropped 11% between 2010 and 2017...





# Private schools are getting a bigger piece of the transfer pie





# What We Learned in 2018/19



## 2018 Transfer Student Survey



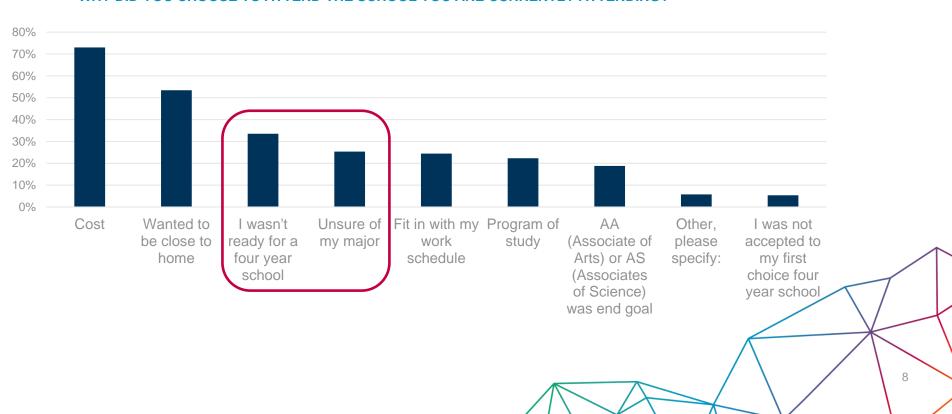
- 990 total responses
- 100% enrolled in a community college
- 2/3 have completed at least one year
- 27% have previously attended a four-year institution



# It Is About Cost And Proximity To Home, But For Different Reasons



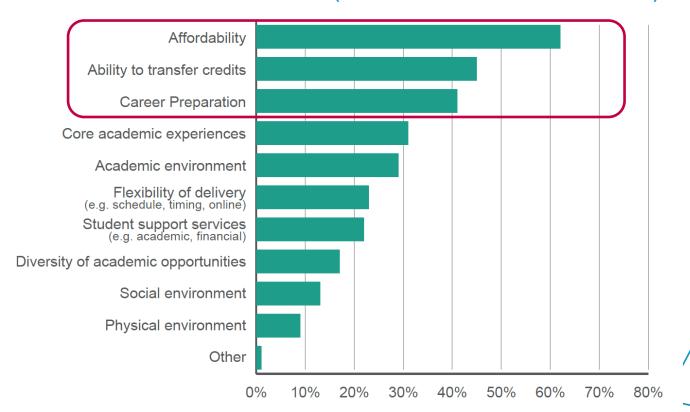
#### WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO ATTEND THE SCHOOL YOU ARE CURRENTLY ATTENDING?



# Transferring Credits and Career Preparation Also Play a Big Role



WHAT ARE THE TOP 3 THINGS YOU CARE ABOUT MOST (WHEN TRANSFERRING TO A 4-YEAR SCHOOL)?

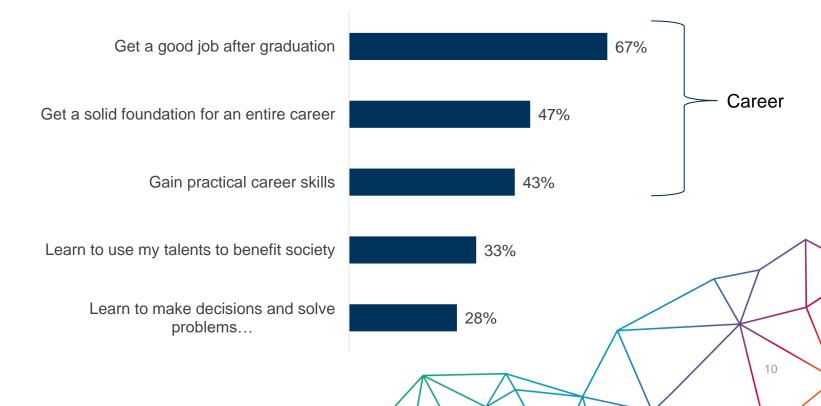




# Top 5 Expectations for College



• WHAT ARE THE TOP FIVE EXPECTATIONS FOR YOUR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION?





# Concerns About Credits Transferring Tops the List

What (if anything) has been the most challenging part of the transfer pro	ocess?
1. Credits Transferring	18%
2. Requirements for Transferring (including classes needed to take)	11%
3. Completing Application - "Getting everything organized"	9%
4. Finding and/or Deciding on a School	8%
5. Finding or Communicating with Advisors	6%
6. Financial Aid or Cost/Money	5%
7. Overall Process	4%
8. Finding Information about Programs and/or Classes	3%
9. Communication with New School	2%
10. Waiting to hear on Acceptance or Getting Accepted	2%

11

# What's New in 2020?



### 2019 Transfer Student Survey

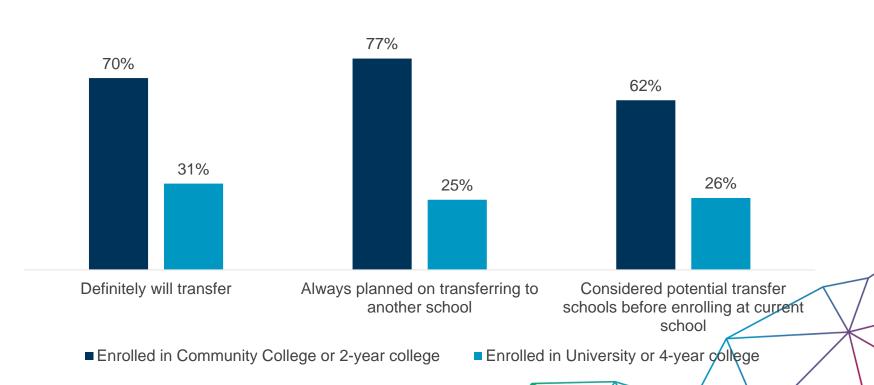


- Revised survey questions
- 1,600 total responses
  - 800 who already transferred
  - 800 who are planning to transfer
- Of those who plan to transfer:
- 81% enrolled in a community college,
  19% enrolled in a four-year school
- 90% have completed at least one year



# Distinct Differences Between 2-year and 4-year Students

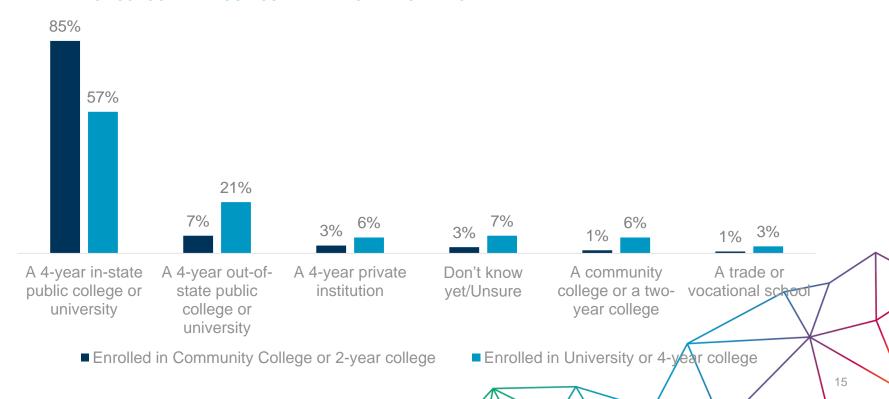




# Community College Students Have a Clear Destination

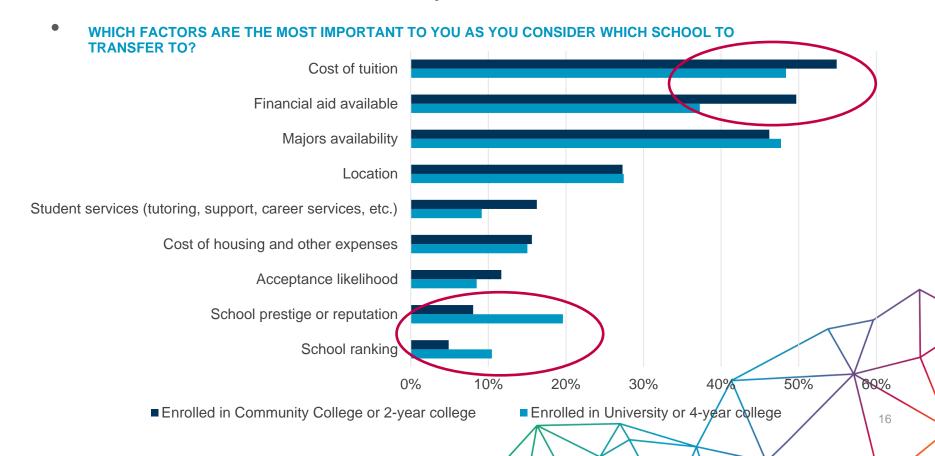


#### WHAT TYPE OF SCHOOL ARE YOU MOST LIKELY TO TRANSFER TO?





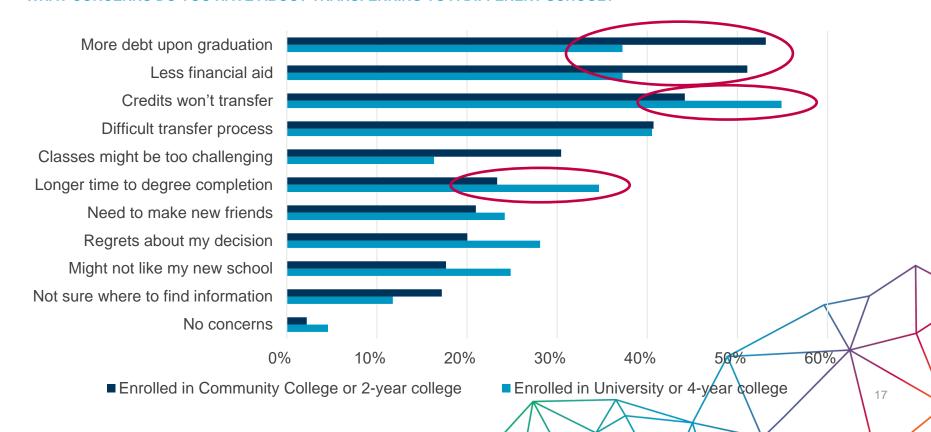
## Cost and Financial Aid is Top of Mind





## Concerns Differ by School of Origin

WHAT CONCERNS DO YOU HAVE ABOUT TRANSFERRING TO A DIFFERENT SCHOOL?



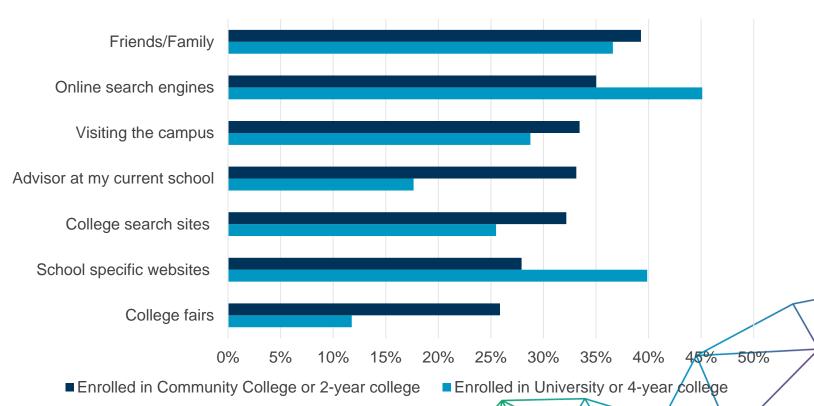
# Where to Find Them





### Personal Connections vs. DIY Attitude

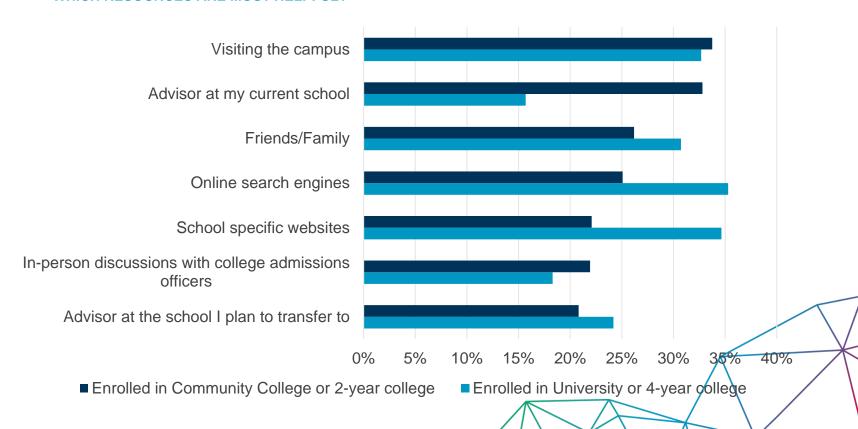
#### **HOW DID YOU START YOUR RESEARCH?**





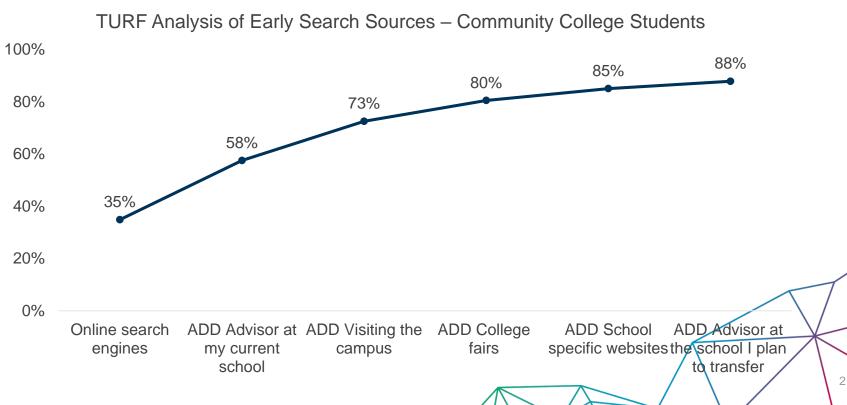
### Campus Visits Are Important

#### WHICH RESOURCES ARE MOST HELPFUL?



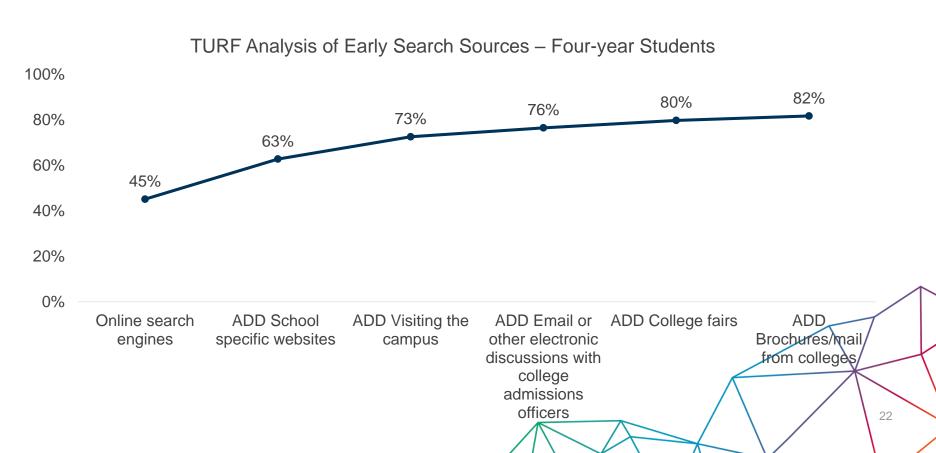


## A Mix of Digital and High-Touch Reaches Many





## Digital is Key for Four-year Students

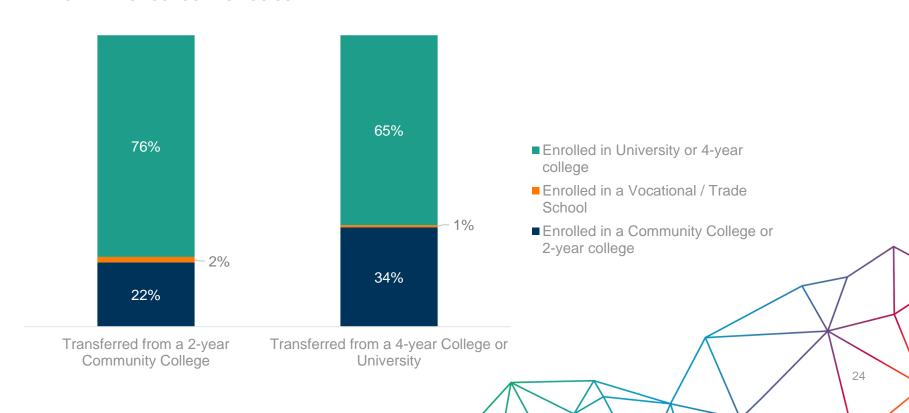


Looking Ahead: Students After the Transfer

# A Four-year College Is the Most Common Destination



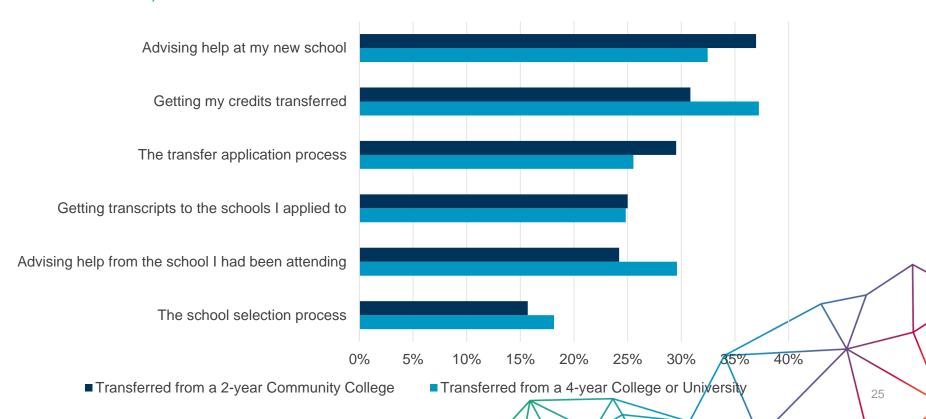
#### WHICH TYPE OF SCHOOL DO YOU CURRENTLY ATTEND?





## Transfer Students Wish For More Advising

IN HINDSIGHT, IN WHICH AREAS COULD YOU HAVE USED MORE HELP?



### What's to Come



- Transfer Student Types™
- Differences between prospective transfer students and those who did transfer
- The reality of the credit transfer process
- Which information sources were best, in hindsight?
- Were expectations met?



