

# 2024 TRANSFER STUDENT SURVEY

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DATA BRIEF

ANALYTICS & DECISION SUPPORT  
OFFICE OF PLANNING, ANALYTICS & INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH



## Transfer Student Survey (TSS)

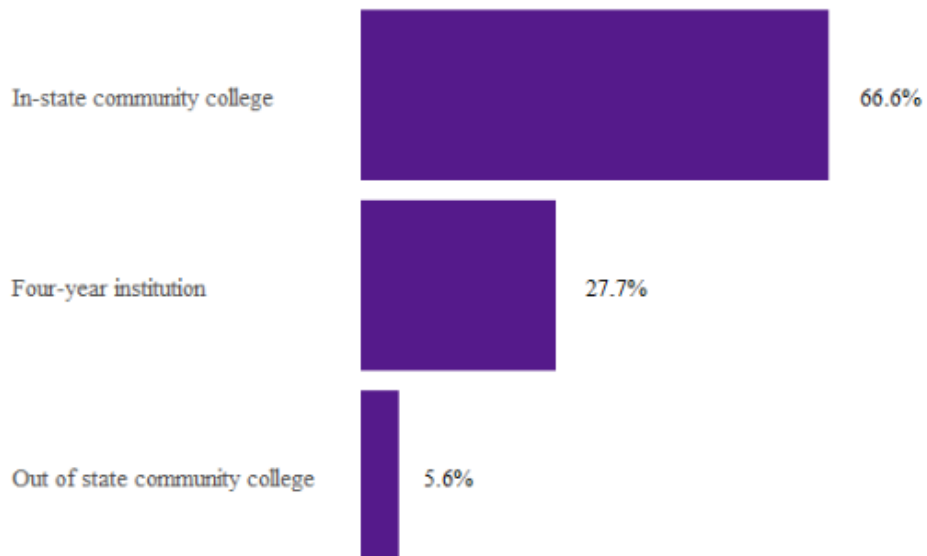
To gain a better understanding of the incoming transfer students and their needs, the Office of Planning, Analytics & Institutional Research (PAIR) administers the Transfer Student Survey (TSS) to all incoming students transferring from another institution. Survey responses were gathered between March 2024 and August 2024. Students receive a link to complete the First Year Survey as part of the [OneBook](#) process through orientation. There were 645 responses (80.9% response rate<sup>1</sup>).

This brief provides summary data to a sample of questions from the TSS focusing on sense of belonging and student characteristics. Survey dashboards on the PAIR website will be updated by November 2024.

### Preliminary Summary of Findings

- **The majority of transfer students are coming from Community Colleges in Virginia. Slightly more than one third (36%) expect to come into JMU with a transferable Associate’s Degree from the original institution.**

**Fig. 1 Where are Transfer Students Coming From?**



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<sup>1</sup> This is calculated based on the number of enrolled students as of on-campus census, September 11, 2024. Enrollment numbers may have subsequently changed.

- Overall, the majority of transfer students feel they belong at JMU.

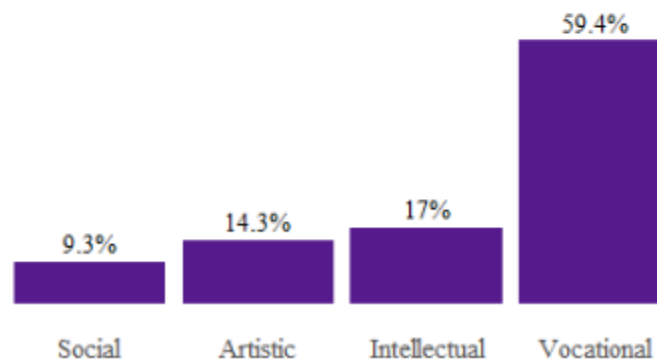
**Fig. 2 Sense of Belonging**

Percent who agree/strongly agree that they...



- The majority of transfer students have a vocational philosophy of education. The percentage of transfer students endorsing this philosophy of education rose from 45.8% in 2023.

**Fig. 3 Philosophy of Education**



**Vocational philosophy:** Education is primarily a preparation for an occupational future. Social, intellectual and extracurricular activities are less important.

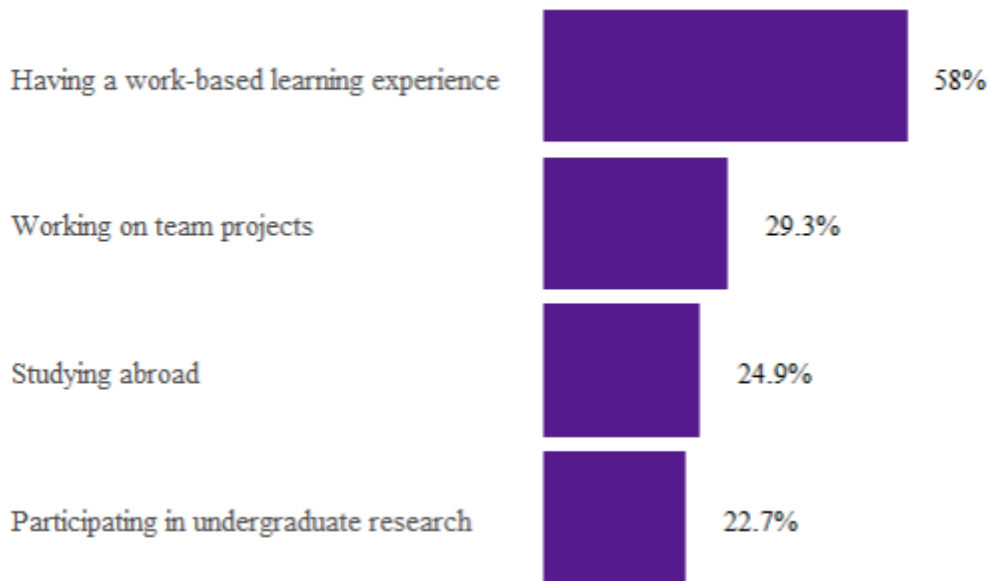
- **Half (50.3%) incoming transfer students are interested in pursuing graduate/professional degrees after their undergraduate education. Of note, nearly 64.2% of incoming first year students indicated interest in pursuing a graduate degree or postgraduate training.**
  
- **Most incoming transfer students indicated interested in accessing resources related to career planning and finding internships during their first year. The fourth most cited need was resources related to finding a job on campus**

**Fig. 4 Top Resources of Student Interest**



- More than half incoming transfer students indicated having a work-based learning experience (e.g., internship, student teaching, etc.) is very important to them.

**Fig. 5 Top High Impact Practices of Interest**  
Percent indicating the following are very important



### Coming Soon:

This brief provides a preliminary snapshot of responses to a few of the TSS questions. By November, the full dashboard suite will be updated on the PAIR website to address additional items on the TSS related to additional student characteristics.

To see historical data from past years, visit: <https://www.jmu.edu/pair/ads/survey-research.shtml>  
For additional questions, please contact [pair@jmu.edu](mailto:pair@jmu.edu).