

Tracking the Fall 2001 Cohort: Transfer and Back

This month's *In the Abstract* provides transfer information about a group of students we refer to as "Cohort 2001." These are the 2,994 students who first enrolled at Oakton in Fall 2001. The National Student Clearinghouse (NSCH) has provided us with the records of enrollment for each of these students since the end of the Fall 2001 term. The NSCH, which has been mentioned in past *In the Abstracts*, is a national student-tracking service that claims to have records and dates of enrollment for students who attend 90% of the nation's colleges or universities.

Five hundred and fifty-three (19%) of Cohort 2001 already had a Bachelor's degree or higher before enrolling at Oakton in Fall 2001. The data provided by NSCH show that 652 (22%) of Cohort 2001's 2,994 students left Oakton after the Fall 2001 term and haven't enrolled at another college/university since. Of the 652 students who haven't enrolled at any college since they were first at Oakton in Fall 2001, 226 students already

had a bachelor's degree or higher before they enrolled here. Two thousand and ten (67%) of Cohort 2001 students returned to Oakton for at least one semester between Spring 2002 and Spring 2007.

Of the entire 2001 cohort, 1,261 (42%) transferred to another college after Oakton, and of these students, 858 (68%) transferred to a 4-year institution for at least one term. The top colleges of choice for Cohort 2001 transfer students are listed in the table below.

Most interestingly, 929 of the 1,261 students (74%) who attended another college/university after Fall 2001 came back to Oakton for at least one term after enrolling at the subsequent institution, suggesting a high rate of inter-institutional movement for this cohort. Of these students, 177 were concurrently enrolled at Oakton and another college/university for at least one term.

Top 10 Institutions for Cohort 2001 Transfers

College/University	Number of Students Attending this Institution
Northeastern Illinois University	178
William Rainey Harper College	157
University Of Illinois At Chicago	127
DePaul University	105
College Of Lake County	73
City Of Chicago - Wright College	70
Triton College	53
Loyola University Chicago	51
College Of DuPage	46
Columbia College	43
National-Louis University	38

(Note that numbers include duplicate headcounts as some students enrolled at more than 1 institution over this five-year period)