

### Characteristics of Leavers: What do we know about students who leave UC Merced without a degree?

This analysis included Frosh from Fall 2011 through 2014 cohorts.

- Academic Attributes
  - Most were not doing well academically - 54% had a GPA under 2.0; only 6% had a GPA of 3.5 or above.
  - Nearly half (46%) were Academically Dismissed. Only 30% left in Good [Academic Standing](#).
  - Over half (54%) were Frosh - 25% were Sophomores, 12% Juniors, and 11% were Seniors.
- Schools/Majors
  - 22% left without declaring a major.
  - 32% left with a major in the School of Natural Sciences, with most leaving from Biological Sciences (22% of all leavers).
  - 24% left with a major in the School of Engineering, with most leaving from Computer Science & Engineering (9% of all leavers).
  - 22% left with a major in the School of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts, with most leaving from Psychology (6% of all leavers).
- Demographics
  - 54% were Male.
  - 69% were First Generation<sup>1</sup>.
  - 65% were Pell Grant eligible in their last term.
  - 61% were Underrepresented Minorities<sup>2</sup>.

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### Destinations: Where do students who leave UC Merced go and what do they do next?

- Initial Destinations (i.e., first semester enrolled at any educational institution after leaving UC Merced)
  - 62% of initial destinations were 2-year institutions; 22% had no records and 16% were at 4-year institutions.
    - Most initial destinations were California Community Colleges (61%); 8% were UCs and 3% CSUs.
    - 29% of initial destinations were in Central California and 29% were in Southern California.
    - The most common institution was Merced College, with 15% of initial destinations.
- Most Recent Destinations (i.e., last known enrollment at any educational institution)
  - 44% of most recent destinations were 2-year institutions; 22% had no record and 34% were at 4-year institutions.
    - Most of the recent destinations were at California Community Colleges (43%); 16% were CSUs and 8% UCs.
    - 29% of the recent destinations were in Southern California and 25% were in Central California.
    - The most common recent destination was Merced College, with 9% of most recent destinations; 3% enrolled at CSU Stanislaus and 3% at UC San Diego.
- Fields of Study at Most Recent Destination
  - The most common fields of study were:
    - Business, Management, Marketing and Related, with the most common major Business Administration.
    - Health Professions and Related, with the most common major Registered Nursing.

## Fast Facts About Students Who Leave UC Merced Without a Degree

- Liberal Arts/general studies, with the most common major Liberal Arts.
- Biological and Biomedical Sciences, with the most common major Biological Sciences
- The most common individual majors were:
  - Biological Sciences (also offered by UC Merced)
  - Psychology (also offered by UC Merced)
  - Liberal Arts (not offered by UC Merced)
  - Business Administration (offered by UC Merced, e.g., Management and Business Economics)
  - Registered Nursing (not offered by UC Merced)

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### Further Exploration

- ❖ For more in depth analyses on specific types of Leavers, see the [High Unit Leavers](#) and [High Achieving Leavers](#) briefs.
- ❖ To explore the data in detail, please see the [interactive dashboard](#) on the Analytics Hub

### Endnotes

1. First generation is defined as neither parent having earned a 4-year degree.
2. Underrepresented Minority is defined as American Indian/Alaskan Native, African American, and Hispanic.

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