

Serving CSUN's Transfer Students: Highlighting Two Departments with a High Proportions of Transfer Students

This report was prepared by Dave Keating, IR Faculty Scholar and Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, and Taylor Doty, IR Data Intern and MA student in Psychology, in collaboration with the CSUN Office of Institutional Research.

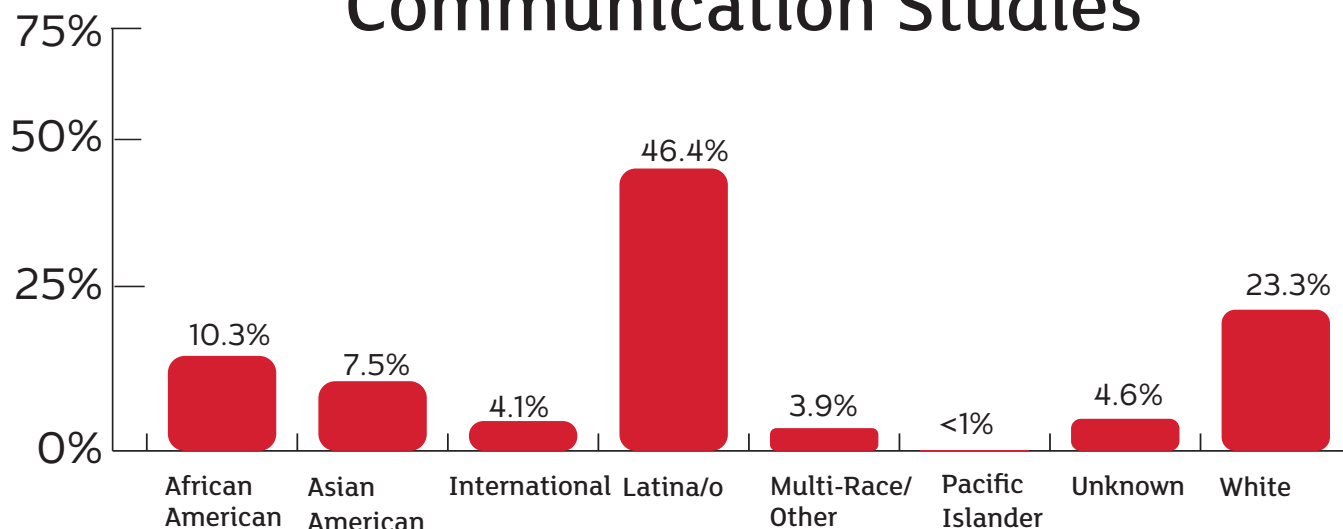
California State University, Northridge, is committed to serving first-time transfer students. In a series of reports, IR is sharing data about who our transfer students are, how they are doing, and how best to help them succeed at CSUN.



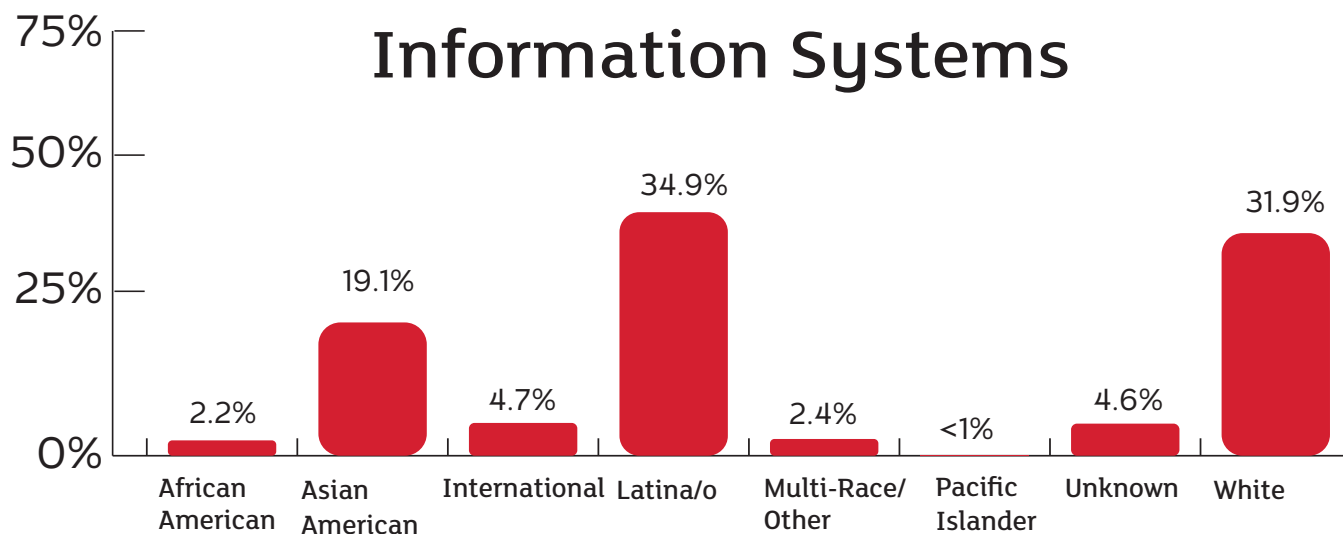
In the Fall 2018 cohort, about 80% of Accounting and Information Systems students were transfers and roughly 84% of Communication Studies students were transfers.

Below, transfer student success metrics are presented for each department and for CSUN overall. These percentages are averages which span the Fall 2009 to Fall 2017 cohorts.

Communication Studies



Accounting and Information Systems



	Overall	Communication Studies	Accounting and Information
1-year continuation	83.8%	85.1%	87.0%
2-year graduation	32.3%	50.6%	14.4%
3-year graduation	63.7%	75.2%	58.4%
4-year graduation	73.8%	79.4%	73.0%

The undergraduate programs in these departments are structured very differently, and each department's students have different academic and professional interests.



For instance, Accounting and Information Systems require lower-division coursework and have additional specializations and options.



Communication Studies is structured as an upper-division major with a substantial number of units coming from General Education coursework.

The differences reported here ultimately illustrate that initiatives implemented to enhance transfer student success must be tailored to the unique structure, offerings, and challenges of each department at CSUN. Faculty, staff, and students can learn much more about their department using the institutional data tools available on CSUN Counts (www.csun.edu/counts).

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