

RESEARCH BRIEF

57-16

October 2016

Three-Year Transfer Analysis: Fall 2013 First-Time in College Cohort

The majority of NOVA students who transferred during the 2014-15 academic year transferred without first earning a NOVA credential. To better understand transfer student behavior, students in the Fall 2013 first-time in college (FTIC) cohort were tracked for three years from their time at NOVA to transfer at a four-year institution.

There were 8,211 FTIC¹ in Fall 2013.

- **Twenty percent:** Of the 8,211 FTIC in Fall 2013, 1,663 transferred to a four-year institution within three years of their initial enrollment at NOVA.
 - Of the 1,663 students who transferred within three years, 688 students (41 percent) graduated from NOVA with a degree or certificate prior to transfer.
 - Of the 1,663 students who transferred within three years, **975 students** (59 percent) did so without earning a credential at NOVA ([See Table 1 and Figure 1 next page](#)).
 - Of the 975 who transferred without earning a credential, 455 students (47 percent) transferred within two semesters (fall and spring) of initial enrollment at NOVA.
 - Students who transferred after two semesters at NOVA enrolled in an average of 25 total credits prior to transfer.
 - Students who transferred after three semesters at NOVA enrolled in an average of 38 total credits prior to transfer.
- **Nine percent:** An additional 694 students earned a degree within three years of enrollment and did not transfer during that time.
- **Twenty percent** of the Fall 2013 FTIC cohort (1,635 students) remained enrolled at NOVA in Fall 2016².
- **Fifty-one percent** of the Fall 2013 FTIC had not graduated, remained enrolled, or transferred to a four-year institution within three years.

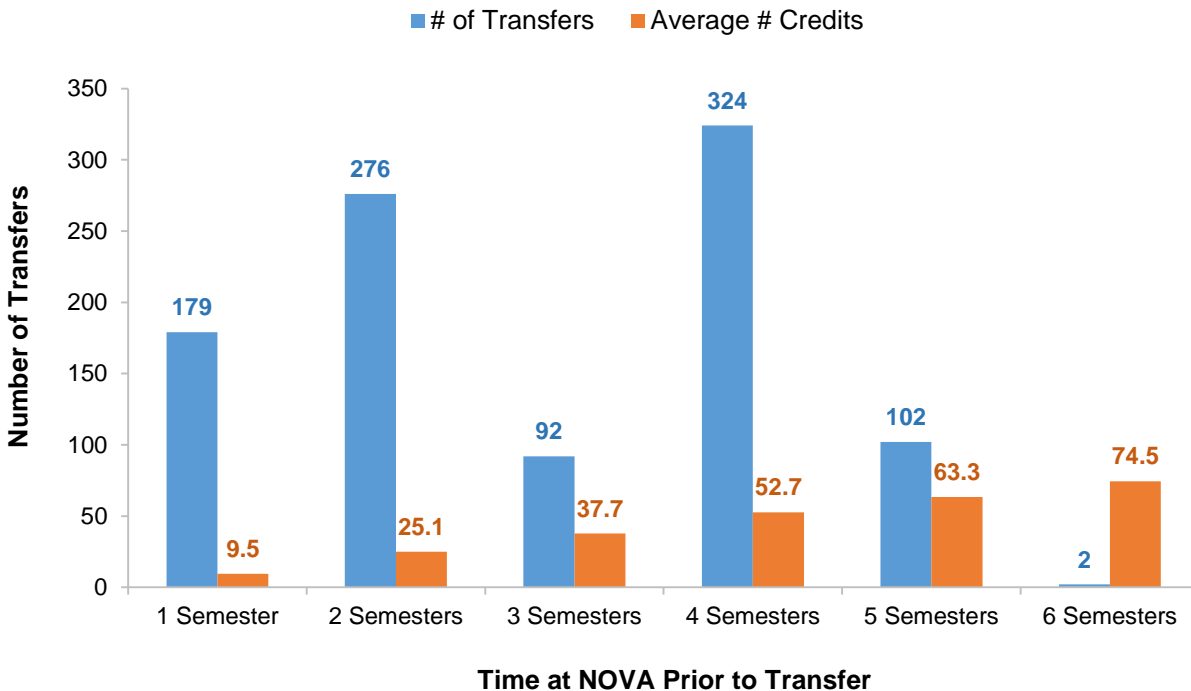
¹ Fall 2013 FTIC cohort excludes students who were dual-enrolled to limit the focus to college enrollment and transfer patterns of students who are not in high school.

² Fall 2016 enrollment preliminary as of September 27, 2016.

Table 1. Students Who Transferred to a Four-Year Institution without Earning a Credential within Three Years³ by NOVA Credits Earned: Fall 2013 FTIC Cohort

NOVA Credits	Fall/Spring Terms at NOVA						Total	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	#	%
0-9	83	13	1	-	-	-	97	9.9%
10-18	96	39	5	2	-	-	142	14.6%
19-27	-	106	4	2	-	-	112	11.5%
28-36	-	112	21	13	4	-	150	15.4%
37-45	-	5	53	41	2	-	101	10.4%
46-54	-	1	7	115	9	-	132	13.5%
55-63	-	-	1	122	25	-	148	15.2%
64+	-	-	-	29	62	2	93	9.5%
Total	179 (18.4%)	276 (28.3%)	92 (9.4%)	324 (33.2%)	102 (10.5%)	2 (0.2%)	975	100.0%

Figure 1. Students Who Transferred to a Four-Year Institution without Earning a Credential within Three Years: Fall 2013 FTIC Cohort



³ Includes students who transferred to four-year institutions without earning a credential at NOVA between August 1, 2013 and July 7, 2016. Students are included regardless of enrollment status at transfer institution. Students who transferred may continue to enroll in courses at NOVA.