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ABSTRACT

Data collected in a longitudinal study made to determine the academic performance of Missouri junior/community college transfer students during a four-semester period at the University of Missouri-Kansas City are presented in tables. The data are divided into three areas of the transfer pattern: academic entry pattern, including GPA by group, sex, semester, and transfer shock; the attrition pattern; and the persistence pattern by academic division, sex, and age. The data are based on 235 students who transferred from six Missouri junior colleges in the fall of 1971, and completed at least the fall semester. Individual student files, student transcripts, and the Data Processing Center at the university were the data sources. Students were divided into four groups, based on their number of transfer hours. Results of the study showed that by the spring of 1973, 66 students from the original transfer population had earned B.A. degrees. Of the 76 students who transferred from the junior colleges with an A.A. degree, 31 students (41 percent) earned the B.A. degree by the spring of 1973. (DB)

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# University of Missouri

## Kansas City

STUDY OF MISSOURI JUNIOR/COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRANSFER STUDENTS

Compiled and Published

by

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## STUDY OF MISSOURI JUNIOR/COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRANSFER STUDENTS

### Purpose of the Study

This longitudinal study was undertaken to determine the academic performance of Missouri Junior/Community College transfer students for a four semester period at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

The study is divided into three significant areas of the Junior/Community College transfer pattern:

- 1) The Academic Entry Pattern (Tables 1 - 7) including GPA by group, sex, semester and transfer shock
- 2) The Attrition Pattern (Table 8)
- 3) The Persistence Pattern (Tables 9 - 12) by Academic Division, Sex and Age.

### Scope of the Study

In the Fall semester of 1971 the University of Missouri-Kansas City had a total enrollment of 9,894 students.

The statistical data for this study is based on 235 students who transferred from 6 Missouri junior colleges in the Fall of 1971 and completed at least the Fall semester.

These 6 Missouri junior colleges were chosen for inclusion in this study because five or more students transferred from each of these schools.

### Data for the Study

The data was obtained from individual student files, student transcripts and the Data Processing Center at UMKC.

All data pertaining to grade point averages is based on the 4.0 grade point system. The entering GPA's are based on the evaluation by the UMKC Admissions Office.

### Presentation of the Data

The students were divided into four groups based on the number of transfer hours. They will be referred to on all 12 tables by the following group numbers:

- Group I - Students transferring with 0 - 14 hours
- Group II - Students transferring with 15 - 53 hours
- Group III - Students transferring with 54 or more hours (with no A.A. degree)
- Group IV - Students transferring with an A.A. degree

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## ACADEMIC ENTRY PATTERN

TABLE 1 - GROUP I - (Students with 0 - 14 Hours)

ACADEMIC DIVISION	No.	Entering GPA	No.	Fall 1971	No.	Spring 1973
A & S	10	2.62	10	1.99	4	2.22
Administration						
Education						
Pharmacy						
Music	3	2.17	3	2.63	2	2.55
Total for All Div.	13	2.52	13	2.14	6	2.33

TABLE 2 - GROUP II - (Students with 15 - 53 Hours)

ACADEMIC DIVISION	No.	Entering GPA	No.	Fall 1971	No.	Spring 1973
A & S	56	2.49	56	2.19	40	2.35
Administration						
Education	1	3.50	1	3.00	1	3.00
Pharmacy	3	2.80	3	2.90	1	3.50
Music	2	2.85	2	1.75	0	
Div. for Cont. Ed. (off campus)	2	2.90	2	1.80	0	
Dental Hygiene	1	2.40	1	2.40	1	2.40
Total for All Div.	65	2.54	65	2.21	43	2.39

\* 8% of these students continued to Spring 1973 and Graduated (see Table 12)

TABLE 3 - GROUP III - 54 or more Hours (without an A.A. degree)

ACADEMIC DIVISION	No.	Entering GPA	No.	Fall 1971	No.	Spring 1973
A & S	60	2.62	60	2.45	40	2.60
Administration	4	2.27	4	2.77	3	2.60
Education	11	2.85	11	2.93	8	3.02
Pharmacy	1	2.50	1	2.20	1	2.30
Music	1	2.10	1	3.10	1	2.20
Div. of Cont. Ed. (off campus)	1	3.10	1	3.00	---	.
Dental Hygiene	3	2.50	3	2.63	3	3.07
Total for all Div.	81	2.62	81	2.55	56	2.65

\* 37% of these students continued to the Spring of 1973 and Graduated (see table 12)

TABLE 4 - GROUP IV - (with an A.A. Degree)

ACADEMIC DIVISION	No.	Entering GPA	No.	Fall 1971	No.	Spring 1973
A & S	57	2.63	57	2.40	41	2.65
Administration	12	2.47	12	2.35	10	2.56
Education	5	2.96	5	3.02	4	2.77
Pharmacy						
Music	2	2.45	2	3.10	0	---
Total for all Div.	76	2.62	76	2.45	55	2.64

\* 41% of these students continued to the Spring of 1973 and Graduated (see table 12)

TABLE 5 - Summary GPA by Groups

GROUPS	No.	Entering GPA	No.	Fall 1971	No.	Spring 1973
I (0-14 Hours)	13	2.53	13	2.14	6	2.33
II (15-53 Hours)	65	2.54	65	2.21	43	2.39
III (54 or more Hours no A.A.)	81	2.62	81	2.55	56	2.65
IV (A.A. Degree)	76	2.62	76	2.45	55	2.64
TOTAL STUDY	235	2.59	235	2.40	160	2.57

**CONCLUSION:**

The data in TABLE 5 indicates that all 4 groups of students had a drop in their over-all GPA after the first semester at UMKC and may have experienced what has commonly been termed "transfer shock". This "transfer shock" was greater in Groups I and II where students transferred with less than 54 hours.

In Groups III and IV the mean GPA for the Spring 1973 exceeded the entering GPA for the Fall 1971.



TABLE 6 - Transfer Entry Pattern by AGE

GROUP	No.	Average Age of Males	No.	Average Age of Females
I	6	20.50	7	20.14
II	49	21.76	14	26.14
III	51	23.20	26	24.58
IV	51	24.78	24	30.33

\* The mean age statistics are based on 228 students. The ages of seven students from the original 235 could not be determined from their files

TABLE 7 - Transfer Entry Pattern by SEX

GROUPS	Total No.	Females	Males
I	13	7	6
II	65	15	50
III	81	28	53
IV	76	25	51
Total of all 4 groups	235	75	160

## ATTRITION PATTERN

TABLE 8 - Attrition by Group

GROUP	Entering Fall 1971 No. of Students	Spring 1973 No. of Students	% of Attrition* Spring 1973
I	13	6	54%
II	65	43	34%
III	81	56	31%
IV	76	55	28%
Total for all 4 groups	235	160	32%

\* The Attrition percentages are based on percentages within each group

#### CONCLUSION:

The data indicates that the withdrawal or attrition rate is the greatest with students that transfer to UMKC with less than 15 hours (Group I). The least amount of attrition occurs with students who have earned their A.A. Degrees at the Junior College before transferring to UMKC (Group IV).

Tracing the Fall 1971 Population sample of 235 transfer students, the attrition rate was 32% for the total group at the conclusion of the Spring 1973 term.

## PERSISTENCE PATTERN

## FORWARD

By the Spring of 1973, 66 students from the original transfer population of 235 had earned their B.A. degree - (23 females, 10% of original class - 43 males, 18% of original class).

Surveying only Groups III and IV (students with 54 or more hours, and/or an A.A. degree) we see that of the 157 students in this isolated group, 61 students earned their B.A. degree.

However, the significance of this study emerges when you isolate the date and compare only the 76 students who transferred from the junior colleges with an A.A. degree. In this group 31 students or 41% continued with their studies and earned the B.A. degree by the Spring of 1973.

TABLE 9 - Summary of B.A. Degrees awarded (by Sex)

GROUPS	Total No. Ent. 1971	Total Grad. Females 1973	%age of Group (female)	Total Grad. Males 1973	%age of Group Males
I	13	0	0	0	0
II	65	3	5%	2	3%
III	81	11	14%	19	23%
IV	76	9	12%	22	29%
Total - All 4 Groups	235	23	10%	43	18%

TABLE 10 - Summary of B.A. Degrees Awarded (by Group)

GROUPS	Total No. Ent. 1971	Total Percentage Grad. 1973
I	13	0%
II	65	8%
III	81	37%
IV	76	41%
Total - All 4 Groups	235	28%

**TABLE 11 - Total Summary of B.A. Degrees Awarded - Spring 1973**

		<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Total Students 1971</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Attrition</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>32%</b>
<b>Continuing</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Total Students Graduated 1973</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>28%</b>

Table 12 - Composite Summary of Transfer Students Graduating with B.A. Degree - Spring 1973

GROUPS	Total No. Ent. 1971	Total Females	Total Grad. Females	% of Group	Total Males	Total Grad. Males	% of Group	Total %age Grad. 1973
I	13	7	0	0	6	0	0	(0) 0
II	65	15	3	5%	50	2	3%	(5) 8%
III	81	28	11	14%	53	19	23%	(30) 37%
IV	76	25	9	12%	51	22	29%	(31) 41%
<b>Total All 4 Groups</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>(66) 28%</b>

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