

The Graduate Transfer Experience Report

February 2014

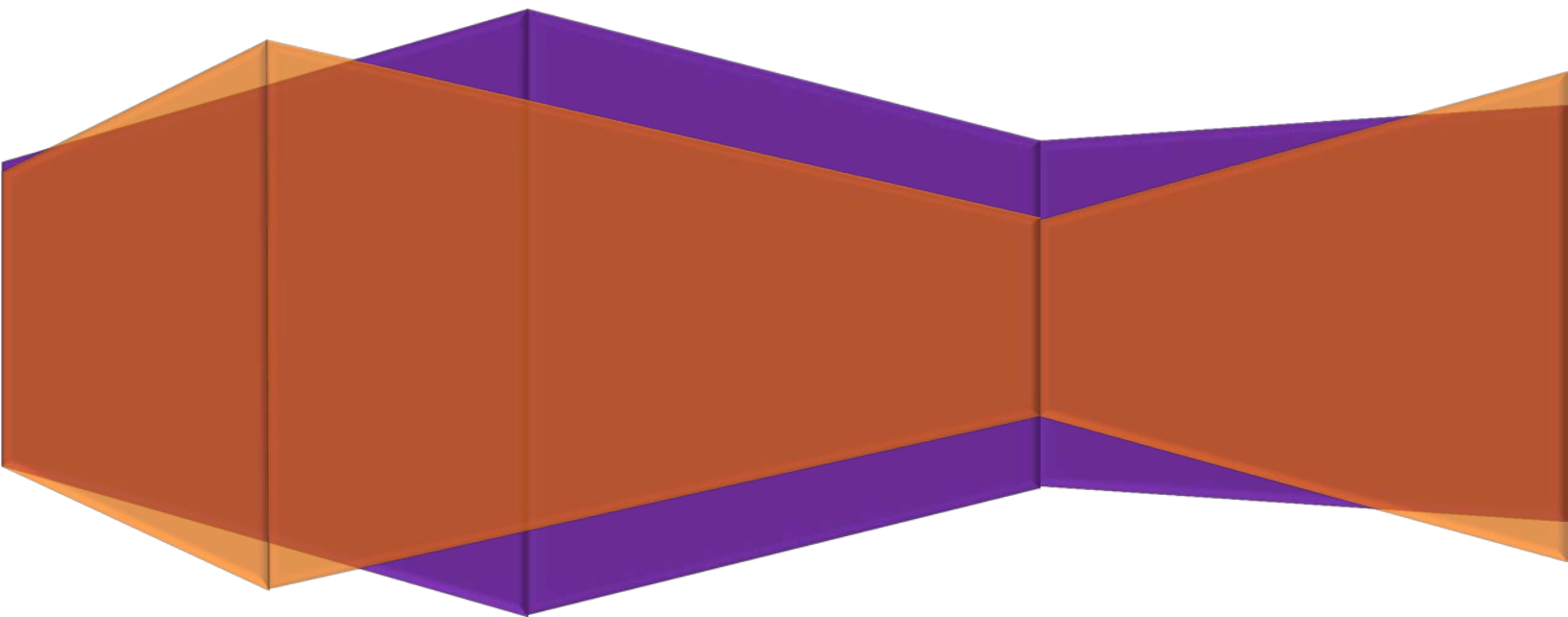


Table of Contents

<i>Executive Summary</i>	1
<i>The Survey</i>	1
<i>The Respondents</i>	1
<i>The Transfer Experience</i>	2
<i>Introduction</i>	3
<i>The Survey Questions</i>	3
<i>Section 1: The Respondents</i>	4
<i>Degrees Received from BCC</i>	4
<i>Transfer Institutions</i>	6
<i>Transfer Degrees</i>	8
<i>Current Enrollment Status</i>	9
<i>Section 2: The Transfer Experience</i>	11
<i>Credits Accepted by Transfer Institution</i>	11
<i>Credits Needed to Complete Transfer Degree</i>	12
<i>General Education Requirements</i>	14
<i>Accepted Bergen Courses</i>	15
<i>Appendix A: BCC Degree by Transfer Institution Degree</i>	16
<i>Appendix B: Additional Comments</i>	17
<i>Positive Comments</i>	17
<i>Neutral Comments</i>	19
<i>Negative Comments</i>	20

Executive Summary

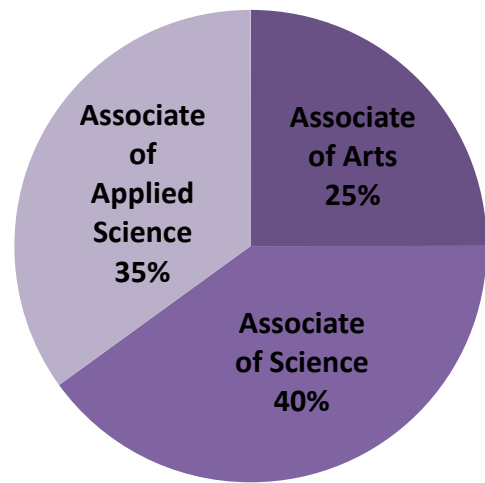
The Survey

- A ten-question survey was sent to 2,345 FY2012 and FY2013 graduates of Bergen Community College who had transferred to a four-year institution.
- A web link to an online survey was sent out to the students' school and personal email addresses and 203 responses were collected.
- The students were asked questions about their current institution, their current degree program, the number of credits they had transferred from BCC, the number of credits they have left to complete, general education requirements, and any courses that were not accepted while transferring.

The Respondents

- The 203 respondents graduated from 40 different programs. Forty percent of these were A.S. degrees, 35% were A.A.S. degrees, and 25% were A.A. degrees.
- The General Natural Sciences (AS) degree was the most popular with 61 graduates among the respondents (30.0%), this was followed by the General Liberal Arts (AA) degree (36 respondents, 17.7%), and the Business Administration (AS) degree (11 respondents, 5.4%).
- The respondents transferred to 36 different colleges and universities.
- Fifteen of the transfer institutions were located in New Jersey while 21 were out-of-state. However, despite fewer in-state schools, the number of respondents who stayed in New Jersey (174) was six times more than the number of respondents who left the state (28).
- The top five transfer institutions were Ramapo College of New Jersey, William Paterson University, Montclair State University, Rutgers; The State University of New Jersey, and the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Degrees Received from BCC

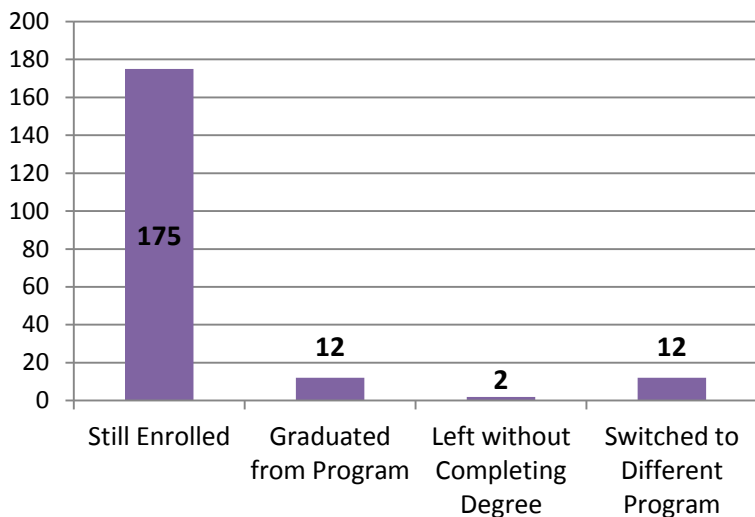


Transfer Institution	# of Transfers	%
In-state Transfers	174	86.1%
Out-of-state Transfers	28	13.9%
TOTAL	202	100.0%

Transfer Institution	Freq.	%
Ramapo College of New Jersey	39	22.4%
William Paterson University	33	19.0%
Montclair State University	32	18.4%
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey	30	17.2%
New Jersey Institute of Technology	9	5.2%

- A crosswalk between degrees awarded at BCC and degree programs enrolled upon transferring showed that Nursing majors from BCC (Nursing, Day and Nursing, Evening) showed the most consistency between institutions as 100% (10 out of 10) of BCC Nursing majors enrolled in a Nursing program at their transfer institution.

Current Enrollment Status

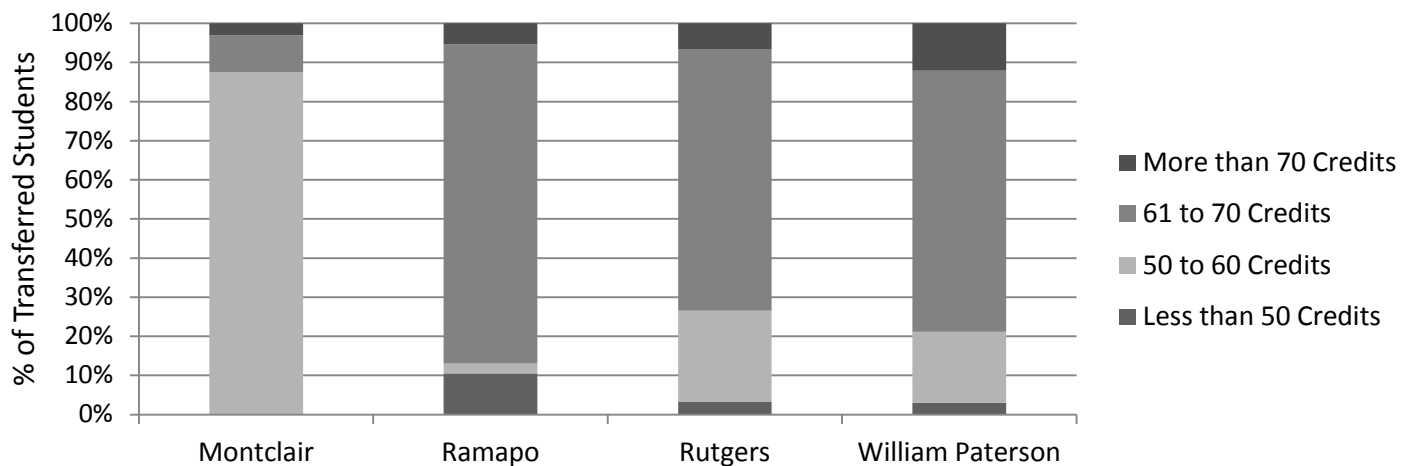


- The respondents who majored in some form of Business Administration at BCC (Business Administration (AS), Banking and Finance (AAS), Accounting (AAS), or Accounting (AS)) saw a high level of consistency as 22 out of 26 of those respondents pursued degrees in either Accounting or Business Administration upon transferring to their four-year institution.
- One hundred and seventy-five of the respondents (87.1%) were still enrolled in the same school and same major at the time of the survey. Twelve had graduated, 2 had left without graduating, and 12 switched to a different program in the same institution.

The Transfer Experience

- One hundred of the respondents (49.8%) had between 61 to 70 BCC credits accepted by their transfer institution.
- Out-of-state schools accepted 50 to 60 credits at a higher proportion than in-state schools (42.9% of out-of-state respondents to only 30.2% of in-state respondents).
- The majority of the respondents from Ramapo, Rutgers, and William Paterson successfully transferred 61 to 70 credits. Montclair does not follow this same trend in that 28 of 32 respondents who transferred to Montclair from BCC (87.5%) only had 50 to 60 credits accepted.

Credits Accepted by Top Transfer Schools



- One hundred and sixty-one respondents (80.5%) were not required to retake a general education requirement. Of the 39 students who had to retake a General Education course, 11 went to Ramapo College.
- One hundred and thirty-eight respondents (69.0%) were able to successfully transfer over every class they had taken at BCC. Sixty-two students (31.0%) had BCC courses rejected at their transfer institutions.
- The majority of rejected courses were science and math classes including Statistics (6 rejected courses), Intermediate Accounting (5 rejected courses), Biology (4 rejected courses), and Chemistry (3 rejected courses).
- Eighty-three respondents wrote-in additional comments. Forty-four of these comments (53.0%) were positive.

Introduction

In December 2013, a ten-question survey was sent to FY2012 and FY2013 graduates of Bergen Community College who had transferred to a four-year institution according to data from the National Student Clearing House. The goal of this questionnaire was to garner feedback on the transfer experience of BCC graduates. In total, the survey was sent to 2,345 graduates who received an Associate degree from BCC, whether it was an Associate of Applied Science degree (AAS), an Associate of Arts degree (AA), an Associate of Fine Arts degree (AFA), or an Associate of Science degree (AS). A web link to an online survey was sent out to the students' school and personal email addresses and 203 responses were collected (8.7% response rate). These responses were then analyzed and are presented to the BCC community in the form of this report.

The Survey Questions

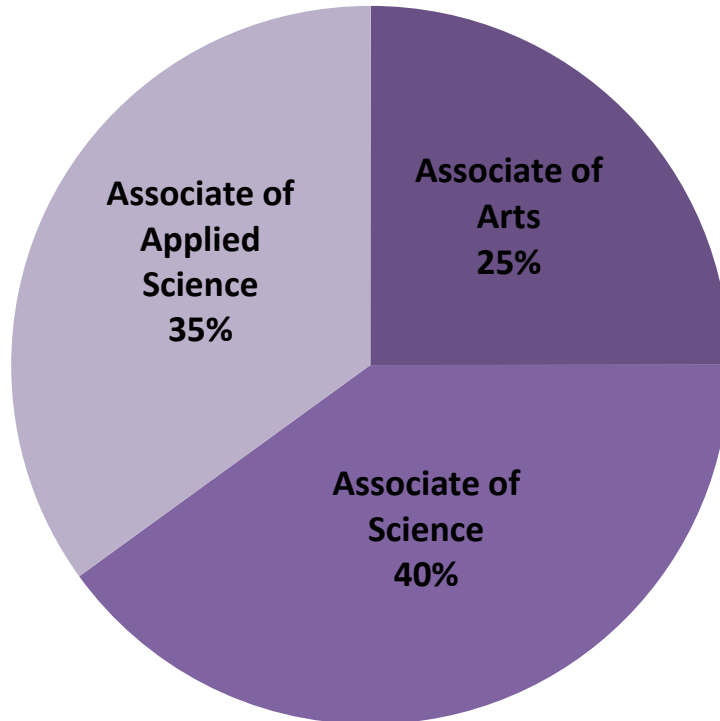
1. What degree did you receive from Bergen Community College?
2. In what four-year college did you enroll after completing your degree at Bergen Community College?
3. In what degree did you enroll at your transfer institution?
4. Are you still enrolled in this program?
 - a. Yes, I am still currently enrolled in this program.
 - b. No, I have graduated from this program and received my degree.
 - c. No, I have left my transfer institution without completing a degree.
 - d. No, I am at the same institution but have switched to a different program (please identify below).
5. Approximately how many credits completed at Bergen were accepted by your transfer institution?
6. When you transferred to your four-year institution, approximately how many credits did you need to complete your program?
7. Were there any General Education course requirements you completed at Bergen that you were required to retake at your four-year institution?
 - a. No
 - b. Yes (Please identify which courses)
8. Were there any courses you completed at Bergen that were not accepted at your four-year institution?
 - a. No
 - b. Yes (Please specify)
9. Please provide your name (optional).
10. Please use the space below to provide any additional comments you may have regarding your transfer experience between Bergen Community College and your current institution.

Section 1: The Respondents

Degrees Received from BCC

Before delving into the transfer experience, it is important to first identify the transfer students who took the survey. The first question that was asked on the survey was “**What degree did you receive from Bergen Community College?**” The students were given a drop-down menu with all of the active programs offered at BCC and asked to select the one in which they had received a degree. Figure 1 shows the breakdown of BCC degrees into types while Table 1 shows the breakdown of the specific degrees earned by the respondents.

Figure 1: Degree Types Received from BCC



- The General Natural Sciences (AS) degree was the most popular major (61 respondents, 30%).
- The General Liberal Arts (AA) degree was the second most popular with 36 graduates (17.7%) and the Business Administration degree was third with 11 graduates (5.4%).
- Of the 40 programs reported, 10 were Associate of Arts degrees, 16 were Associate of Science degrees, and 14 were Associate of Applied Science degrees (Criminal Justice counted toward both the A.S. and A.A.S. totals).

Table 1: Degrees Received from Bergen Community College

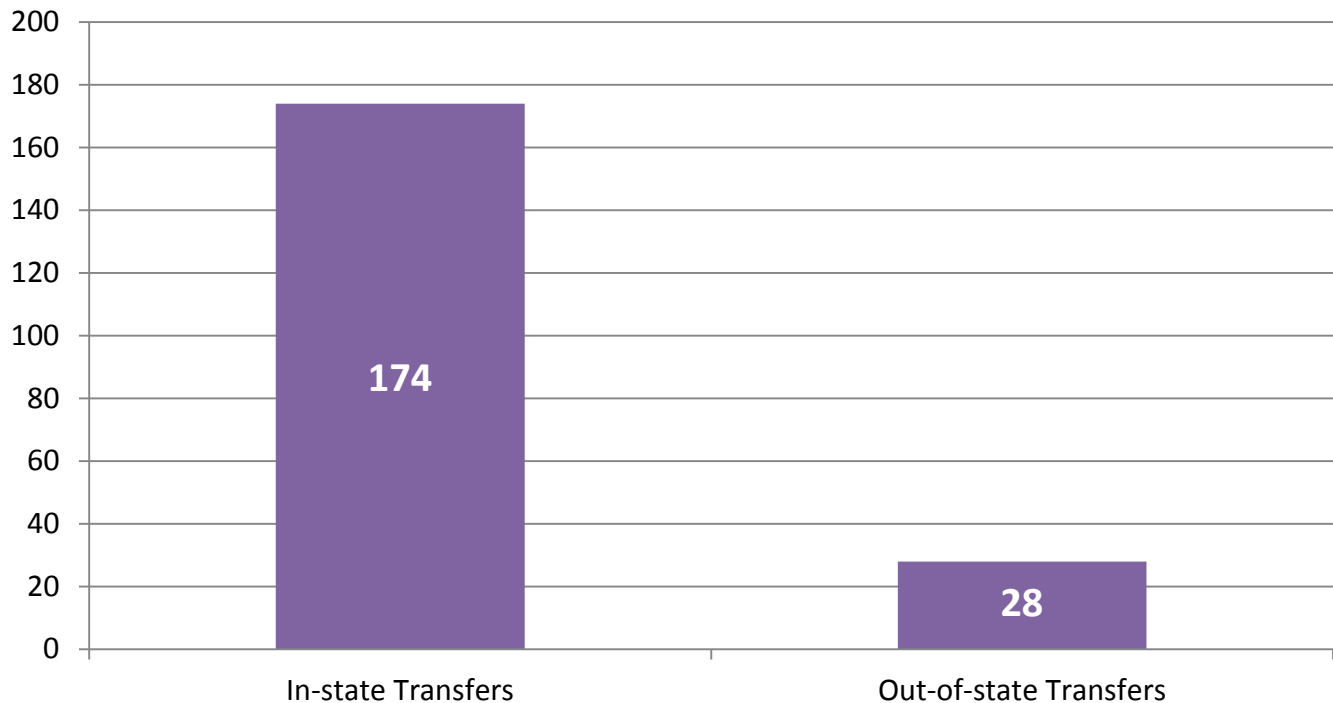
Degree Name and Type	Freq.	%	Degree Name and Type	Freq.	%
General Liberal Arts (AA)	36	17.7%	Exercise Science (AS)	3	1.5%
General Natural Sciences (AS)	61	30.0%	Graphic Design (AAS)	2	1.0%
General Professional Studies (AS)*	9	4.4%	Health Science (AAS)	1	0.5%
Art (AA)	4	2.0%	History (AA)	1	0.5%
Biology (AS)	3	1.5%	Event Planning and Mgmt. (AAS)	1	0.5%
Broadcasting (AS)	1	0.5%	Information Technology (AAS)	2	1.0%
Accounting (AAS)	3	1.5%	Journalism (AS)	2	1.0%
Accounting (AS)	9	4.4%	Paralegal Studies (AAS)	1	0.5%
Banking and Finance (AAS)	3	1.5%	Literature (AA)	1	0.5%
Business Administration (AS)	11	5.4%	Mathematics (AS)	2	1.0%
International Trade (AS)	2	1.0%	Nursing, Day (AAS)	6	3.0%
Management (AS)	5	2.5%	Nursing, Evening (AAS)	4	2.0%
Marketing (AS)	4	2.0%	Philosophy (AA)	1	0.5%
Cinema Studies (AA)	1	0.5%	Political Science (AA)	2	1.0%
Communications (AA)	1	0.5%	Psychology (AA)	6	3.0%
Computer Science (AS)	1	0.5%	Radiography (AAS)	1	0.5%
Criminal Justice (AS,AAS)	2	1.0%	Social Sciences (AA)	2	1.0%
Education (AS)	2	1.0%	Social Work (AS)	3	1.5%
Electronics Technology (AAS)	1	0.5%	Veterinary Technology (AAS)	1	0.5%
Engineering Science (AS)	2	1.0%	TOTAL	203	100.0%

*On the survey form, AS.PS.GEN, General Professional Studies (AS), was mislabeled as General Public Service (AS)

Transfer Institutions

The respondents were asked to identify the institution they transferred to after completing their degree at Bergen Community College. Two hundred and two respondents wrote in 36 different colleges and universities. Fifteen of these institutions were located in New Jersey while 21 were out-of-state. Despite fewer in-state schools, the number of respondents who stayed in New Jersey (174) vastly outnumbered those who did not (28) as seen in Figure 2. Table 2 shows the breakdown of the specific transfer institutions.

Figure 2: In-state vs. Out-of-state Transfers



- The school with the most transfers, in-state or out-of-state, was Ramapo College of New Jersey with 39 respondents.
- Ramapo was followed by William Paterson University (33), Montclair State University (32) and Rutgers; The State University of New Jersey (30).
- With 4 respondents, New York University topped the list of out-of-state transfer institutions.
- Eighty-six percent of the respondents stayed in-state, six times more than those who went out-of-state.

Table 2: Transfer Institutions

Transfer Institution	Freq.	%
In-state Transfers	174	86.1%
Out-of-state Transfers	28	13.9%
TOTAL	202	100.0%

New Jersey Transfer Institution	Freq.	%
Bloomfield College	2	1.1%
Fairleigh Dickinson University	8	4.6%
Felician College	1	0.6%
Kean University	5	2.9%
Montclair State University	32	18.4%
New Jersey City University	7	4.0%
New Jersey Institute of Technology	9	5.2%
Ramapo College of New Jersey	39	22.4%
Rowan University	1	0.6%
Rutgers; The State University of NJ	30	17.2%
Saint Peter's University	1	0.6%
Seton Hall University	2	1.1%
Stevens Institute of Technology	2	1.1%
Thomas Edison State College	2	1.1%
William Paterson University	33	19.0%
TOTAL	174	100.0%

Out-of-state Transfer Institution	Freq.	%
Barry University	1	3.6%
Baruch College	2	7.1%
Belmont University	1	3.6%
Berkeley College	1	3.6%
Chaminade University of Honolulu	1	3.6%
Drexel University	1	3.6%
Hunter College	2	7.1%
John Jay College	1	3.6%
Johnson and Wales College	1	3.6%
Lehman College	2	7.1%
Marist College	1	3.6%
Mercy College	1	3.6%
New York University	4	14.3%
St. John's University	1	3.6%
The George Washington University	1	3.6%
University of Georgia	1	3.6%
University of Illinois, Chicago	1	3.6%
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	1	3.6%
University of Texas, Arlington	2	7.1%
University of Vermont	1	3.6%
Utah Valley University	1	3.6%
TOTAL	28	100.0%

Transfer Degrees

In order to see how degrees awarded at BCC translated into degrees pursued at transfer institutions, the five BCC degrees with the most respondents were examined. The students were asked to write in their transfer degrees, which were later grouped into 12 categories. Table 3 shows the crosswalk between the five BCC degrees and the degree categories the respondents enrolled in at their transfer institutions. To see the full list of transfer degrees organized into these 12 categories, see Appendix A.

Table 3: Crosswalk between BCC Degree and Transfer Institution Degree

General Natural Sciences (AS)			General Liberal Arts (AA)			Business Administration (AS)		
Transfer Degree	Freq.	%	Transfer Degree	Freq.	%	Transfer Degree	Freq.	%
Accounting	1	1.6%	Accounting	1	2.8%	Accounting	4	36.4%
Business Administration	4	6.6%	Business Administration	2	5.6%	Business Administration	4	36.4%
Communication	5	8.2%	Communication	8	22.2%	Communication	0	0.0%
Education	2	3.3%	Education	7	19.4%	Education	0	0.0%
Engineering	3	4.9%	Engineering	1	2.8%	Engineering	0	0.0%
Fine and Performing Arts	2	3.3%	Fine and Performing Arts	0	0.0%	Fine and Performing Arts	0	0.0%
Information Technology	0	0.0%	Information Technology	0	0.0%	Information Technology	0	0.0%
Liberal Arts	7	11.5%	Liberal Arts	8	22.2%	Liberal Arts	3	27.3%
Natural Sciences and Math	17	27.9%	Natural Sciences and Math	3	8.3%	Natural Sciences and Math	0	0.0%
Nursing	5	8.2%	Nursing	0	0.0%	Nursing	0	0.0%
Psychology	5	8.2%	Psychology	3	8.3%	Psychology	0	0.0%
Other	10	16.4%	Other	3	8.3%	Other	0	0.0%
TOTAL	61	100.0%	TOTAL	36	100.0%	TOTAL	11	100.0%

General Professional Studies (AS)*			Accounting (AS)		
Transfer Degree	Freq.	%	Transfer Degree	Freq.	%
Accounting	2	22.2%	Accounting	6	66.7%
Business Administration	1	11.1%	Business Administration	3	33.3%
Communication	2	22.2%	Communication	0	0.0%
Education	0	0.0%	Education	0	0.0%
Engineering	0	0.0%	Engineering	0	0.0%
Fine and Performing Arts	1	11.1%	Fine and Performing Arts	0	0.0%
Information Technology	0	0.0%	Information Technology	0	0.0%
Liberal Arts	0	0.0%	Liberal Arts	0	0.0%
Natural Sciences and Math	0	0.0%	Natural Sciences and Math	0	0.0%
Nursing	0	0.0%	Nursing	0	0.0%
Psychology	1	11.1%	Psychology	0	0.0%
Other	2	22.2%	Other	0	0.0%
TOTAL	9	100.0%	TOTAL	9	100.0%

*On the survey form, AS.PS.GEN, General Professional Studies (AS), was mislabeled as General Public Service (AS)

- Of the 61 respondents who graduated from BCC with a degree in General Natural Sciences (AS), 17 (27.9%) remained within the Natural Sciences and Math field upon transferring while 7 (11.5%) switched to a more Liberal Arts based major and 5 (8.2%) pursued Nursing.
- The General Professional Studies (AS) graduates saw no consistency in transfer majors as none of the areas had more than 2 students in it.
- The Business Administration (AS) and Accounting (AS) programs saw the most consistency as 8 of the 11 Business Administration (AS) respondents (72.8%) remained in Business Administration or Accounting and 9 out of 9 Accounting (AS) students remained in Business Administration or Accounting.

Current Enrollment Status

The students were asked to explain their current enrollment status at their transfer institution and in their transfer program; whether they were still enrolled, graduated, left, or transferred to a different program. Table 4 shows the breakdown of this question. If the respondents had switched to another program, they were asked to provide the name of that new program. Table 5 shows the program they transferred out of as well as the program into which they switched. Unlike Table 3, the transfer programs in Table 5 are not grouped into categories; they are the actual program names that the respondents wrote down during the survey.

Table 4: Current Enrollment Status

Status	Freq.	%
Still Enrolled	175	87.1%
Graduated from Program	12	6.0%
Left without Completing Degree	2	1.0%
Switched to Different Program	12	6.0%
TOTAL	201	100.0%

Table 5: Respondents Who Switched Programs

University/College	Original Program	New Program
Hunter College	Political Science	Psychology
Montclair State University	B.A., Studio Concentration	Painting
Montclair State University	Nutrition Food and Dietetics	Biology
Montclair State University	B.S.	Education
Ramapo College of New Jersey	B.S.W.	Social Science
Ramapo College of New Jersey	B.S.W.	Social Science
Ramapo College of New Jersey	Business Administration	Psychology
University of Illinois Chicago	B.S., Liberal Arts and Sciences	Economics
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	B.S.	Comparative Literature
William Paterson University	B.S., Biology	Exercise Science
William Paterson University	Communications	Education
William Paterson University	Psychology	Sociology

- Of the 201 respondents, 175 (87.1%) were still enrolled in the same school and same major at the time of the survey. Only 2 (1.0%) had left without completing their degree, while 12 switched to a different program.
- Of the 12 students who switched majors after entering their transfer institution, 9 went to NJ Institutions; Montclair (3), Ramapo (3), and William Paterson (3).

A Transfer's Perspective:

"The process of transferring from Bergen was more tedious than anticipated. By this, I mean to say that the offices involved in the sending of transcripts were inadequately supervised and the communication between offices at Bergen was less than satisfactory."

-Current Comparative Literature major at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Table 6 shows the breakdown of the 12 students who reported they had already graduated from their transfer degree program. Like Table 5, the transfer programs in Table 6 are not grouped into categories; they are the actual program names the respondents provided on the survey.

Table 6: Respondents Who Graduated from Their Transfer Institution

University/College	Degree Earned
Berkeley College	B.S., Accounting
Fairleigh Dickinson University	Master’s Degree in Public Administration
Montclair State University	B.A., Psychology
Montclair State University	B.S., Business Management
Ramapo College of New Jersey	B.S., Digital Filmmaking
Rutgers; The State University of New Jersey	B.S., Business - Accounting/Supply Chain Management
Rutgers; The State University of New Jersey	Political Science
Seton Hall University	Business Administration, Criminal Justice
William Paterson University	B.A., Communications
William Paterson University	B.S., Marketing
William Paterson University	B.A., Criminal Justice
William Paterson University	B.A., English Literature

- Of the 12 respondents who graduated from their transfer institution at the time of the survey, 4 attended William Paterson University while 2 each attended Rutgers and Montclair.
- The breakdown of the degrees awarded was as follows; 5 reported B.S. degrees, 4 reported B.A. degrees, and 1 reported a Master’s Degree.

A Transfer’s Perspective:

“Transferring was very easy, and I’m currently taking the 9 credits I’ll need to finish my B.A.”

–Current Psychology major at Thomas Edison State College

Section 2: The Transfer Experience

Credits Accepted by Transfer Institution

The respondents were asked to provide the approximate number of BCC credits that were accepted by their transfer institution. The students were able to type in their responses and the answers ranged from 12 credits to 165 credits. In order to simplify the analysis, credits were grouped into four numeric categories as shown in Table 7 below.

Table 7: Credits Accepted at Transfer Institution

# of Credits Accepted	Freq.	%
Less than 50 Credits	18	9.0%
50 to 60 Credits	65	32.3%
61 to 70 Credits	100	49.8%
More than 70 Credits	18	9.0%
TOTAL	201	100.0%

- Using these ranges, it was easily seen that students who had less than 50 credits accepted and those who had more than 70 credits accepted were outliers as 165 of the respondents (82.1%) had between 50 to 70 credits accepted by their transfer institution.

Table 8 splits the credits accepted into in-state schools and out-of-state schools to get a better understanding of how BCC credits are being accepted at the transfer institutions.

Table 8: Credits Accepted at In-state vs. Out-of-state Schools

# of Credits Accepted	In-state		Out-of-state	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Less than 50 Credits	15	8.7%	3	10.7%
50 to 60 Credits	52	30.2%	12	42.9%
61 to 70 Credits	90	52.3%	10	35.7%
More than 70 Credits	15	8.7%	3	10.7%
TOTAL	172	100.0%	28	100.0%

- The disaggregation of accepted credits into in-state and out-of-state schools reveals a consistent distribution in the number of credits accepted with out-of-state schools accepting 50 to 60 credits at a higher proportion than in-state schools (42.9% of out-of-state respondents to only 30.2% of in-state respondents).
- In-state institutions accepted 61 credits and above at a higher proportion than out-of-state schools (61% of in-state respondents to only 46.4% of out-of-state respondents).

Table 9 delves deeper to see how many credits were accepted by the top transfer institutions around BCC.

Table 9: Credits Accepted by Top Transfer Schools

# of Credits Accepted	Montclair		Ramapo		Rutgers		William Paterson		NJIT	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Less than 50 Credits	0	0.0%	4	10.5%	1	3.3%	1	3.0%	3	33.3%
50 to 60 Credits	28	87.5%	1	2.6%	7	23.3%	6	18.2%	1	11.1%
61 to 70 Credits	3	9.4%	31	81.6%	20	66.7%	22	66.7%	3	33.3%
More than 70 Credits	1	3.1%	2	5.3%	2	6.7%	4	12.1%	2	22.2%
TOTAL	32	100.0%	38	100.0%	30	100.0%	33	100.0%	9	100.0%

- Among the top five transfer schools, the majority of the respondents from Ramapo, Rutgers, and William Paterson successfully transferred between 61 to 70 credits.
- Montclair does not follow the same trend as its in-state partners in that 28 of 32 respondents (87.5%) only transferred 50 to 60 credits from BCC.

Table 10 serves to compare the number of credits accepted at the transfer institution and the student's transfer program. Only the top five transfer institution degree categories (not including the "Other" category) are examined in Table 10.

Table 10: Credits Accepted by Transfer Degree

# of Credits Accepted	Accounting		Business Administration		Communication		Liberal Arts		Natural Sciences and Math	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Less than 50 Credits	1	5.0%	4	19.0%	0	0.0%	2	6.3%	2	7.7%
50 to 60 Credits	6	30.0%	6	28.6%	5	29.4%	8	25.0%	11	42.3%
61 to 70 Credits	13	65.0%	10	47.6%	9	52.9%	20	62.5%	12	46.2%
More than 70 Credits	0	0.0%	1	4.8%	3	17.6%	2	6.3%	1	3.8%
TOTAL	20	100.0%	21	100.0%	17	100.0%	32	100.0%	26	100.0%

- All five of the transfer institution degree programs followed a similar trend in that most of the graduates were able to get 61 to 70 credits transferred.
- Four respondents (19.0%) who majored in Business Administration at their transfer institution were not able to transfer any more than 49 credits over from BCC, the most out of any program.
- The Natural Sciences and Math had the largest percentage of graduates who transferred 50 to 60 BCC credits (42.3%).
- Three Communication majors were able to get more than 70 credits transferred; the most out of any program (17.6%).

A Transfer's Perspective:

"Earning my Associate's Degree gave me a huge advantage. Most of my credits transferred, therefore I did not need to retake any classes, nor take any additional classes, and all of my classes went into my curriculum towards my degree."

-Current Human Resources Management major at Bloomfield College

Credits Needed to Complete Transfer Degree

The students were asked, “When you transferred to your four-year institution, approximately how many credits did you need to complete your program?” The intent of this question was to learn how many more credits were still *needed* to complete a four-year degree after the students factored out the credits transferred over from BCC. In response to this question, the number of credits ranged from 8 to 160 and it was clear that the question was misconstrued by some respondents. Those who answered 120 and above, it can be safely assumed, thought the question was asking how many credits *in total* were needed to complete a four-year degree at their transfer institution regardless of how many credits they had transferred. For the 35 respondents who answered 120 credits or above, the number of credits they said were accepted at their transfer institution was subtracted from the number of total credits they needed to graduate. For example, a student reported that his transfer institution accepted 65 BCC credits. He also reported that he needed 120 credits to graduate from his transfer institution. For the restructured data, 65 was subtracted from 120 and the total number of credits needed for that student to graduate was reported as 55 credits. Table 11 shows the difference between the original Credits Needed data versus the restructured Credits Needed data.

Table 11: Credits Needed Original vs. Credits Needed Restructured

Original			Restructured		
# of Credits Needed	Freq.	%	# of Credits Needed	Freq.	%
Less than 50 Credits	29	14.9%	Less than 50 Credits	31	16.0%
50 to 60 Credits	62	32.0%	50 to 60 Credits	80	41.2%
61 to 70 Credits	51	26.3%	61 to 70 Credits	59	30.4%
More than 70 Credits	52	26.8%	More than 70 Credits	24	12.4%
TOTAL	194	100.0%	TOTAL	194	100.0%

- Given that most four-year degrees are around 120 credits and that most respondents had 61 to 70 credits accepted at their transfer institution (Table 8, 110 respondents, 49.8%), it stands to reason that the majority of graduates would only need an additional 50 to 60 credits to earn a Bachelor’s degree (80 respondents, 41.2%).

A Transfer’s Perspective:

“I loved BCC. It was the smartest move I ever made. I was missing one class to get my Associate’s Degree from BCC and that screwed me up at William Paterson. It is taking me longer to graduate. I recommend people get their Associate’s first. I don’t have that many loans compared to other people.”

-Current Sociology major at William Paterson University

General Education Requirements

The students were asked if there were any General Education course requirements they completed at Bergen that they were required to retake at their four-year institution. Table 12 shows the breakdown of the responses this question.

Table 12: Retaking General Education Requirements

	Freq.	%
Not Required to Retake Gen Ed Courses	161	80.5%
Required to Retake Gen Ed Courses	39	19.5%
TOTAL	200	100.0%

- One hundred and sixty-one students were not required to retake a general education requirement; 80.5% of the respondents.

For the 39 students who were required to retake their general education requirement, a follow-up question was asked to discern which BCC General Education courses were not accepted. Table 13 shows the courses reported by the 39 students and are represented by the transfer institutions.

Table 13: General Ed Courses Rejected by Transfer Institution

College/University	General Education Course	College/University	General Education Course
Barry University	Nutrition	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Science
Chaminade University of Honolulu	Biology	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Science
Drexel University	Math	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Social Issues
Fairleigh Dickinson University	Chemistry	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Statistics and Probability
Fairleigh Dickinson University	English Composition I and II	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Statistics and Probability
Fairleigh Dickinson University	Math	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Statistics and Probability
Johnson and Wale College	Advanced Composition	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Writing 101, 201
Montclair State University	Chemistry	Rutgers; The State University of New Jersey	Algebra
Montclair State University	Language	Rutgers; The State University of New Jersey	Business Law
Montclair State University	Science	Rutgers; The State University of New Jersey	Chemistry
Montclair State University	Second Language, Gym	Seton Hall University	Microbiology
Montclair State University	Statistics and Probability	The George Washington University	Writing 101, 201
New Jersey City University	Math, English	Utah Valley University	Political Science, Math
New Jersey Institute of Technology	Math	William Paterson University	Economics
New Jersey Institute of Technology	Music, Economics	William Paterson University	History
New York University	Writing 101, 201	William Paterson University	Psychology
Ramapo College of New Jersey	Abnormal Psychology	William Paterson University	Science
Ramapo College of New Jersey	World Sustainability	William Paterson University	Writing 101, 201
Ramapo College of New Jersey	Math	William Paterson University	Writing 101, 201
Ramapo College of New Jersey	Math		

- Of the 39 students who had to retake General Education courses, 11 went to Ramapo College of New Jersey.
- Ramapo mainly rejected Science and Math Gen Ed courses, which is in line with the overall trend that the majority of Gen Ed courses that had to be retaken came from the Natural Sciences and Math area (22 out of 39 courses, 56.4%).

A Transfer's Perspective:

"Generally, this worked pretty well. I got transferred in as a junior. I do wish I didn't have to take yet another course called "Human Resources" and the math I took at Bergen did not meet the math requirements at Ramapo for my degree. Math needs to be calculus, pre-calculus, or math with apps (half probability, half calculus) to be transferrable."

-Current Business Administration major at Ramapo College of New Jersey

Accepted Bergen Courses

Aside from General Education courses, the students were asked, “Were there any courses you completed at Bergen that were not accepted at your four-year institution?” Table 14 shows the responses to this question.

Table 14: Retaking Completed Bergen Courses

	Freq.	%
All Classes Accepted at Transfer Institution	138	69.0%
Not All Classes Accepted at Transfer Institution	62	31.0%
TOTAL	200	100.0%

- One hundred and thirty-eight respondents (69.0%) were able to get all of their classes transferred to their four-year institution while 62 (31.0%) had one or more classes rejected.

In order to figure out which of Bergen’s classes were not getting transferred, a follow up question asked the 62 respondents to write in the name of the class. Table 15 shows the classes that were rejected by institution.

Table 15: Rejected BCC Courses by Transfer Institution

Transfer Institution	Rejected Course(s)	Transfer Institution	Rejected Course(s)
Baruch College	Astronomy	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Statistics and Probability
Chaminade University of Honolulu	Biology	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Psychology
Drexel University	Drafting/Auto-CAD Courses	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Unknown
Fairleigh Dickinson University	Statistics and Probability	Ramapo College of New Jersey	MAT-155
Fairleigh Dickinson University	College Algebra	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Law Classes
Fairleigh Dickinson University	Chemistry	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Intro to Psych, Intro to Soc
Hunter College	HIS-101, HIS-102	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Computer Science
Hunter College	Biology	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Calculus 3
Kean University	Biology	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Vietnamese
Lehman College of CUNY	Korean II	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Statistics and Microbiology
Lehman College of CUNY	Anthropology	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Physics 185
Mercy College	Exercise Kinesiology	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Unknown
Montclair State University	Unknown	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Unknown
Montclair State University	Unknown	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Unknown
Montclair State University	Microbiology	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Unknown
Montclair State University	Education	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Intermediate Accounting
Montclair State University	Education	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Intermediate Accounting
Montclair State University	Domestic Violence	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Intermediate Accounting
Montclair State University	Chemistry	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Intermediate Accounting
Montclair State University	Biotechnology	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Intermediate Accounting
Montclair State University	Biology	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Event Planning and Management
Montclair State University	Anatomy	Rutgers; The State University of NJ	Business Math
New Jersey City University	THR-101, MAT-285	Seton Hall University	Chemistry
New Jersey City University	Hospitality Classes	Seton Hall University	Accounting 101
New Jersey Institute of Technology	Statistics and Probability	Stevens Institute of Technology	Statistics and Probability
New Jersey Institute of Technology	Art	Stevens Institute of Technology	Astronomy
New Jersey Institute of Technology	Anthropology	The George Washington University	Precalculus and Trigonometry
New York University	TV 1, TV 2	University of Illinois Chicago	Remedial Courses
Ramapo College of New Jersey	Wex 101 and 205	William Paterson University	Unknown
Ramapo College of New Jersey	Statistics and Probability	William Paterson University	History, Science Math
Ramapo College of New Jersey	Statistics and Probability	William Paterson University	Health and Fitness
		William Paterson University	Communications

- Of the 62 students who had BCC courses rejected at their transfer institution, 13 went to Rutgers, 11 went to Ramapo, and 10 attended Montclair.
- The majority of the classes rejected were science and math classes. Specifically, 6 were Statistics classes, 5 Intermediate Accounting classes, 4 Biology classes, and 3 were Chemistry classes.
- Rutgers was the only institution to reject Intermediate Accounting.

Appendix A: BCC Degree by Transfer Institution Degree

Table 16 shows the crosswalk between the degrees awarded at BCC and the degrees the respondents enrolled in once they transferred. The transfer degrees were split up into 12 categories (including an “Other” category) in order to simplify the numerous variations of similar degrees that the students submitted via open response.

Table 16: Crosswalk between BCC Degree and Transfer Institution Degree

		Transfer Institution Degrees												
		Accounting	Business Administration	Communication	Education	Engineering	Fine and Performing Arts	Information Technology	Liberal Arts	Natural Sciences and Math	Nursing	Other	Psychology	TOTAL
BCC Degrees	General Liberal Arts (AA)	1	2	8	7	1	0	0	8	3	0	3	3	36
	General Natural Sciences (AS)	1	4	5	2	3	2	0	7	17	5	10	5	61
	General Professional Studies (AS)	2	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	9
	Art (AA)	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	4
	Biology (AS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
	Broadcasting (AS)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Accounting (AAS)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
	Accounting (AS)	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
	Banking and Finance (AAS)	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
	Business Administration (AS)	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	11
	International Trade (AS)	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Management (AS)	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	5
	Marketing (AS)	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
	Cinema Studies (AA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Communications (AA)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Computer Science (AS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Criminal Justice (AS,AAS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
	Education (AS)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
	Electronics Technology (AAS)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Engineering Science (AS)	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Exercise Science (AS)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	3
	Graphic Design (AAS)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
	Health Science (AAS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	History (AA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Event Planning and Mgmt. (AAS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Information Technology (AAS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Journalism (AS)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
	Paralegal Studies (AAS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Literature (AA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Mathematics (AAS)	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Nursing, Day (AAS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	6
	Nursing, Evening (AAS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4
	Philosophy (AA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Political Science (AA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
	Psychology (AA)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	6
	Radiography (AAS)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Social Sciences (AA)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
	Social Work (AS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
	Veterinary Technology (AAS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	TOTAL	20	21	18	14	9	6	3	33	26	16	23	14	203

- General Natural Sciences (AS) graduates went on to pursue degrees in every category with the exception of the Information Technology category.
- The respondents who majored in some form of Business Administration (Business Administration (AS), Banking and Finance (AAS), Accounting (AAS), or Accounting (AS)) saw a high level of consistency as 22 out of 26 of those respondents pursued degrees in either Accounting or Business Administration upon transferring to their four-year institution.
- The most consistency existed among those who majored in Nursing at BCC (Nursing, Day and Nursing, Evening) as all 10 graduates went on to major in Nursing at their transfer institution.

Appendix B: Additional Comments

In addition to the questions above, the students were asked to provide additional comments on their transfer experience. Eighty-three respondents provided additional comments that are transcribed below. The comments have been edited for grammar and spelling, but the content has not been changed. Table 17 shows the breakdown of the 83 additional comments into Positive, Neutral, and Negative statements. The comments are presented in this same order below.

Table 17: Additional Comments by Type

Type of Comment	Freq.	%
Positive Comments	44	53.0%
Neutral Comments	14	16.9%
Negative Comments	25	30.1%
TOTAL	83	100.0%

Positive Comments

1. Bergen Community College helped me with transferring to the full extent. I am fully satisfied with my whole experience with BCC during the 3 years I spent there.
2. I appreciated Bergen sending copies of my transcripts to universities without charging. It made it a lot easier to afford applying to a few schools. I wish the process for getting a letter from financial aid to send to schools requesting application fees be waived was just as easy and quick.
3. Great experience.
4. The transfer was good. Most of my credits were not applied to the program because they were not related to my degree. I will be having a minor added on in Criminal Justice and then most of my Bergen credits will be applied to my program.
5. Bergen was efficient in the transfer process.
6. The transition from BCC to Montclair was very smooth and convenient.
7. It was a very easy process.
8. It was easy and smooth.
9. All the credits I gained from courses at Bergen transferred to Montclair. The reason why only 62 out of my 65 credits transferred was because I took an AP exam in high school which Bergen took as 6 credits, but Montclair only took it as 3 credits. Other than that, my transfer experience has been great. I miss Bergen though!
10. Bergen community college was an awesome experience and an easy transfer.
11. Seamless transfer, I am very happy with my experiences at BCC.
12. The fact that Berkeley College grant 50% scholarship to any student that graduated from Bergen with a 3.0 GPA or higher and honor mostly all credits taken at Bergen made it very appealing and affordable.
13. BCC has helped me transfer to a four year school where I can pursue my Bachelor's Degree. I am very happy at Baruch College where I also joined the swim team. I feel that I have found the perfect school for me. :) Thank you BCC for educating me and giving me the opportunity to learn all the important skills that I needed to transfer to a four year school.
14. Bergen helped me straighten up my perspectives on college.
15. I do believe that I greatly benefitted from attending Bergen Community College first before attending a four year institution. The process of completing the required courses at BCC and transferring them over to Montclair was

simple. The transfer counselors were very helpful in getting me through the process of applying to other colleges. They were very easy to talk to.

16. My experience at Bergen Community College was great and transferring to Rutgers was very easy and quick!
17. I believe that receiving my degree from BCC is what enabled me to be accepted at Rowan.
18. I couldn't be more grateful to the faculty and administration at BCC. They really provided me with some excellent experiences and made my transfer process super easy.
19. It is hard to find a good counselor who has the interest to help a student with the classes and programs at Montclair. It was a nice experience to have such a nice counselor like Aida Castro from EOF at BCC.
20. My transfer process was smooth. Bergen and my transfer advisor were very helpful with answering any questions and expediting any information and forms that Ramapo required.
21. Bergen was a great college. It got me on the right foot and it prepared me for a four year college.
22. Great experience, I loved Bergen and think it was a better experience than Montclair.
23. The transfer was very easy to accomplish. Of the 53 hours which are required to complete the program, 3 hours are on the Texas State Govt.
24. I loved BCC. It was the smartest move I ever made. I was missing one class to get my Associate's Degree from BCC and that screwed me up at William Paterson. It took me longer to graduate. I recommend people get their Associate's first. I don't have that many loans compared to other people.
25. Bergen is a great school.
26. Getting my general degree at Bergen was great because it helped me take all my gen ed. classes while also allowing me to take a variety of courses to see what I was interested in and wanted to actually study.
27. I had a wonderful learning experience with the teaching staff at BCC; I appreciated it. In addition, I am a self-motivated individual who always strives for high achievements and never gives up. I was also lucky to meet the right people at RBS. Therefore, my transition was pleasant and smooth. I had only 29 remaining credits to complete because I transferred an additional 25 credits from a previous 4-year college from my country. My suggestion, regarding business major students would be to emphasize more communication skills in business; both in oral presentations and in written propositions, greetings to all at BCC.
28. Bergen is a great college, I loved it, and it is helping me to be a good student at Lehman now.
29. The transfer process was fairly easy, I have no complaints. It also helped that the program director at Bergen ensured me that the Radiography program requirements matched what the transfer university required - thus minimizing/eliminating the need to take or retake any additional Gen Ed. courses (math/Eng./speech).
30. Aside from the Teacher Education program at Montclair not accepting any transfer credits at all, once I stuck with the Family/Child Studies; Family Services major, everything transferred beautifully. In fact, I am walking out of MSU this summer with not only my major, but minors in both Psych and Sociology and most of those requirements were met with my transfers from Bergen.
31. The transfer process was excellent for me. Bergen did everything they needed to in a timely manner to make my transfer process quick and successful. Thank you Bergen!
32. Bergen was my pillar in my education. I feel that Bergen made a huge impact on my life. Not only their facilities, but their professors are the best of the best.
33. I miss Bergen! Overall, I felt very connected to some of my professors who were more willing to help me achieve my goals than at my current school.
34. It was very easy and my advisor at Montclair accepted many credits so I had to take the least amount of classes to graduate.
35. I had a great experience transferring from Bergen Community College to Belmont University. The classes at Bergen were great and every credit transferred. I love where I am now and am glad I chose to go to Bergen and then transfer.

36. I just want to thank both institutions and their staff for their fast action on my needs for my curriculum development. I am coursing my last two classes and I am registered to graduate already.
37. Transferring from Bergen Community College to Saint Peter's University was a smooth process. They took every credit from Bergen. The atmosphere is slightly different in the fact the buildings are separated and not under one roof like Bergen. I have to thank Bergen for giving me the tools and knowledge I need to excel and pursue my future endeavors.
38. Quick and easy.
39. I did not use any of BCC transfer workshops, not that i did not want to, but I just did it on my own and the transfer experience was great.
40. Transferring was very easy, and I'm currently taking the 9 credits I'll need to finish my B.A.
41. I enjoyed Bergen tremendously!
42. My transfer went smoothly. I feel I was prepared. Ramapo is a very challenging school and I work hard to receive good grades. I transferred to Bergen after one year away at college. I never regretted my decision to attend Bergen and earn my A.A. degree. Thank you.
43. Bergen Community College is a great community college. I have received a great education. Thank you for everything!
44. Earning my Associate's Degree gave me a huge advantage. Most of my credits transferred, therefore I did not need to retake any classes, nor take any additional classes, and all of my classes went into my curriculum towards my degree.

Neutral Comments

1. Not much to say.
2. For this university, half or more than half of my credits have to be from William Paterson to graduate.
3. The microbiology course was counted as an elective at Ramapo, not an actual microbiology course because it was a 100 level course.
4. You're a fool not to complete the STARS program.
5. Completed 74 credits, but only had 65 accepted due to the transfer rule from the 2 year college.
6. I attended William Paterson prior to Bergen Community and so I was a readmit-transfer. I had already earned about 7 credits while I was there, so when I re-admitted, I only needed 51 credits to complete my degree.
7. I would suggest having an "exiting student" meeting (with a guidance counselor) so transfers can have a general idea of what to expect at an institution. Also, it can be used as a coaching lesson so students can have their best degree met, not just an AA transfer, as sometimes this stops them from fully completing on time.
8. Sort of rough, but i made it.
9. I felt that Bergen Community College was sympathetic to my transfer needs, but lacked considerable knowledge of the out-of-state process. I would have liked a counselor to have had more communication with the colleges at which I was preparing to enroll. However, the transfer process was smooth and took a short amount of time from start to finish. I think in the future if students are transferring then there should be a mandatory counseling session prior to graduation so that the student has an outlet to discuss the stress involved in the whole transfer process and so that any student can have a better understanding of what is needed for the process to begin. For example, finances, personal information, health information, college, goals, etc.
10. Generally, this worked pretty well. I got transferred in as a junior. I do wish I didn't have to take yet another course called "Human Resources" and the math I took at Bergen did not meet the math requirements at Ramapo for my

degree. Math needs to be calculus, pre-calculus, or math with apps (half probability, half calculus) to be transferrable.

11. It would be nice if there was more information on BCC's website for transfer students to use. It took a lot of digging to find the information I needed and because BCC has a lot of students transferring, I think it would make more sense to have better tools online about what needs to be done to transfer. The counselors who helped me were very knowledgeable and a great resource but I wish they had a packet or handout with information and a checklist to help students who are transferring to four year schools.
12. I should have finished language requirements at BCC.
13. The only thing I would have liked BCC to improve on is letting their soon to be graduating students know when and how to enroll for graduation. I was unaware of how to do this and did not have my degree until after I transferred to WPU. Another thing I would have liked BCC to be better at was the amount of time it took for them to send the transcripts to my new school. I literally had to do it 4 times before my school got the right transcripts and was able to take in all of my credits. Other than this, Bergen was great!
14. I wish that advisors gave more information about the benefits of taking more classes at Bergen specifically for accounting major students (mostly go for 150 credits so it makes sense to take extras at Bergen rather than at a 4-year school).

Negative Comments

1. Please get rid of Moodle and fire the person who created it. Worst user platform ever. Extremely glitchy and does not function to par. Web advisor functioned more smoothly than Moodle... Aloha.
2. I took a lot of courses at Bergen because I was looking to get into the nursing program, the advisors were horrible because they told me to take a chemistry course, which they said would be the same at Fairleigh Dickinson, but it ended up not being the same. So now I owe the \$886.00 at Bergen for a class I didn't even need because they never looked closely at it. Horrible advising and I will never take a course at Bergen because they wasted my time and money. They didn't give me the right advice. I am glad I took a lot of science classes on my own and was able to transfer those to my new school. Maybe you need to talk to the advisors so they can all know what to do and be more prepared.
3. First off Bergen did not help. The staff is not helpful at all and the students have to figure out everything alone. There was no support at all from Bergen. So maybe you want to get staff that actually cares about their students. Especially administrative staff, teachers are great, but the counselors are not so great.
4. I only had about 45 credits transferred in my first semester at WPU. I had to be in constant contact with the registrar to ensure that I got the rest of my credits transferred to William Paterson.
5. Going back and forth between both colleges to make sure that all of the credits transferred was a challenge.
6. No one at Bergen told me I would need two consecutive languages at Montclair so now I must spend more money to take a second year of a language.
7. The transfer councilor was not helpful at aiding me through the process.
8. The transfer process took a very long time. They accepted all of my credits at my four year school, but I had to keep going back to Bergen resend my transcripts because they kept messing up.
9. The counselors at BCC were not as helpful as they could have been. They pretty much just directed me to njtransfer.com and told me I was on my own. Only once I had transferred to Ramapo did I learn that I was required to take more courses
10. Worst program ever, there is no job placement. It was a bad idea.

11. There was an issue on what classes would be credited. The classes transferred were randomly chosen to be credited or not. Students must be attentive to this issue or they may have to take a class already previously taken.
12. There needs to be more of an understanding in the difference between an AA and an AAS degree and why a person would get an AA or an AAS degree. I wasted time and money getting 2 AAS degrees that were not completely transferable only to need to come back and get another AA degree. Something should be done to make sure that the difference is clear.
13. Counselors should really push languages, or language should be a gen ed. requirement at BCC for an AA. This was the ONLY non-major requirement that I did not complete at BCC, but no counselors pushed language as a priority. Now, at Montclair, 2 consecutive language courses (or 1 higher level language course) are required for graduation. This provides less flexibility in my scheduling to accommodate language classes.
14. When I requested my health records be sent over, Bergen did not send all the proper paperwork over! If someone could contact me regarding this, I would really appreciate it!
15. I left BCC in 2010 to go to William Paterson and was told that basically without my Associate's (which I needed 2 classes to finish) I was going to have to re-take all of my Gen. Ed. requirements. Not only was it a waste, it was going to cost a lot more! WPU basically said they would accept some classes from BCC, but most of my transfer credits would not count towards a degree. So I had about 50 classes just floating on my Degree Audit listed as "Electives". So I left and went back to BCC to finish up my remedial algebra requirements and my mathematics requirements to get my degree. I did that by August 2012 (two remedial algebra classes and then a statistics class in summer 2012) and then went back to WPU. I needed 42 credits to finish and I had to seriously fight, holler, and make death threats to get them to accept and align my transfer credits in the proper way. I might have saved money on going through community college but I paid dearly. This process cost me years off my life- no joke. Now I'm in a Master's Program in Seton Hall and I absolutely see the difference between a community college, state school, and privately funded university.
16. Counseling advice should be better. I took way too many courses at Bergen which were not necessary.
17. Since graduating, I still have not found a job and am in debt for loans. Thanks for ruining my life.
18. I really enjoyed attending WPUNJ. There was a huge difference between the two facilities. Bergen was tough, it was hard to get motivated and teachers treated you like children. Once I got to a 4-year school, they made you feel like you deserve to be there, and that they are happy to have you there. Teachers are well educated, have great world experience, they care about their students and make you feel like they want you to succeed. Unlike Bergen where everyone acts like they're doing you a favor by letting you enter the building. If you started with the teachers and their attitude towards the job they should be doing, I think a lot of people would finish BCC in two years, and maybe even enjoy it.
19. You should carefully choose the classes so the students can have the possibility to transfer more than half of their credits to their 4-year institutions.
20. It was extremely difficult to get my Associate's Degree in just two years. Many other people have echoed this statement.
21. While I found my education at BCC to be excellent and it provided me with the necessary background to succeed at my four-year university, I feel the transfer counseling office needs work. Instead of working to help me towards my goal of attending a top flight program, various state schools were pushed onto me on the basis of affordability and acceptance rate. The counselor was unaware of basic articulation agreements outside of NJ. For example, the counselor was unaware of NYU's Community College Transfer Opportunity Program. This is a program that is aimed towards attracting students from BCC specifically and a program that has allowed several BCC students to attend NYU. I believe the counseling department needs to broaden their horizons and work with each student's individual goals and get away from a system that makes it appear that state schools are the only option.

22. Although my transfer from Bergen was fairly smooth, I feel the advisors at Bergen should be better informed about the core courses that can be taken at Bergen.
23. BCC should have better digital communication with their students for better understanding of the courses. This survey was interesting because I did not get any information from Bergen Community College when I was enlisted. I just find it bizarre that BCC doesn't help its current students.
24. I am glad I joined and graduated from Bergen Community College. However, there was a lack of knowledge in regards to the transferring program. If I wasn't so on top of things, I would've wasted time and resources, because of the information I was given by counselors. Luckily, I met the right counselor a year before graduating and in combination with the information I received from Rutgers on my own I was able to satisfy the general requirements. I will be graduating this upcoming spring from Rutgers Business with a degree in Accounting.
25. The process of transferring from Bergen was more tedious than anticipated. By this, I mean to say that the offices involved in the sending of transcripts were inadequately supervised and the communication between offices at Bergen was less than satisfactory.