

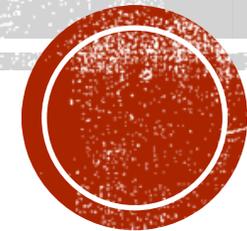


MAPWORKS FALL TRANSITION SURVEY FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

Commitment to HSU and Intent to Return Question Analysis

5 Years of data for first-year students (Fall 2013-Fall 2017)

Weeks 3-5 of first semester



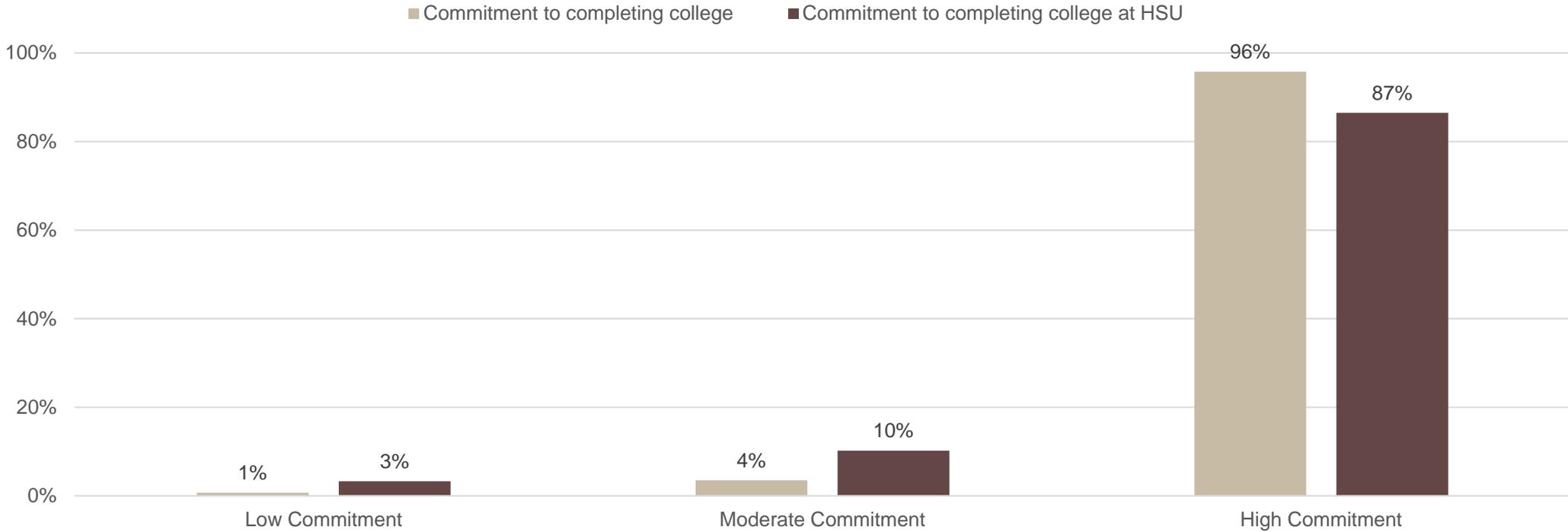
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Office of Institutional Effectiveness

March 6, 2018

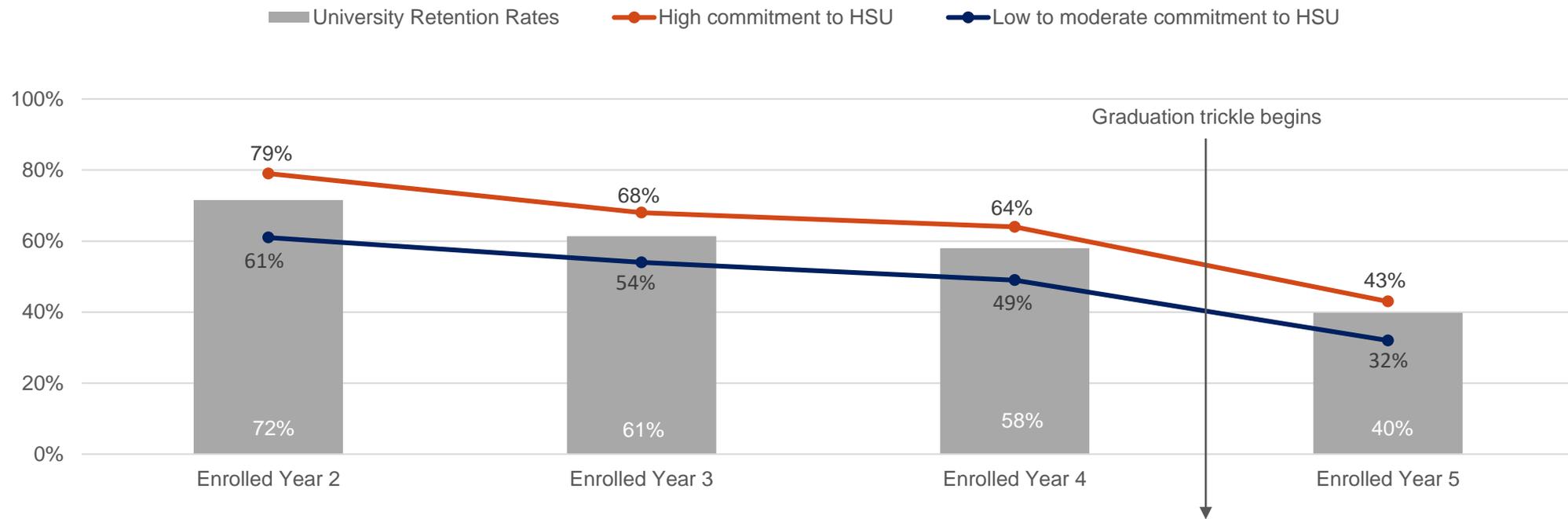
COMMITMENT TO COMPLETING COLLEGE

Commitment to completing college vs. commitment to completing college *at HSU* (n=3,807)



RETENTION BASED ON COMMITMENT TO HSU

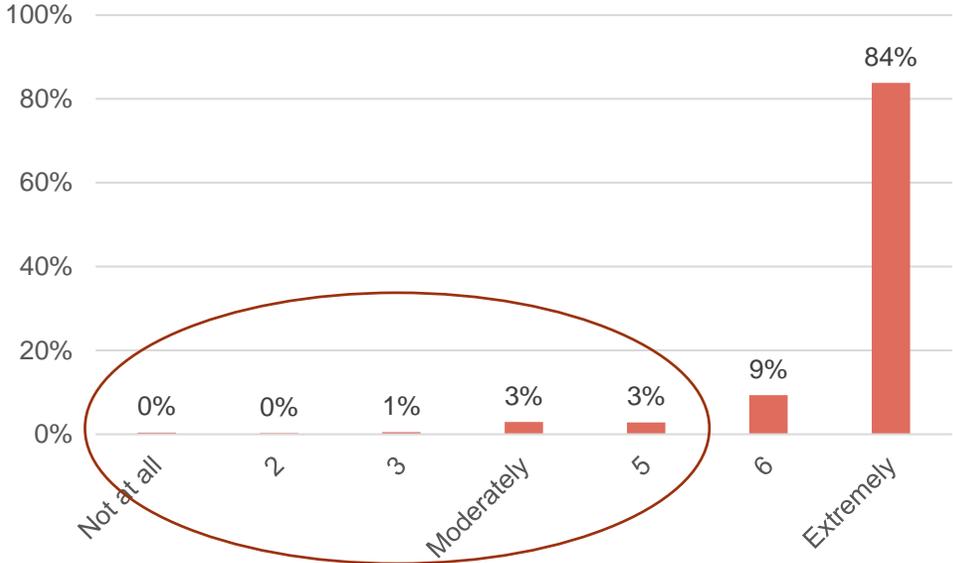
To what degree are you committed to completing a degree, certificate or licensure *at HSU*? (n=3,807)



INTENT TO RETURN

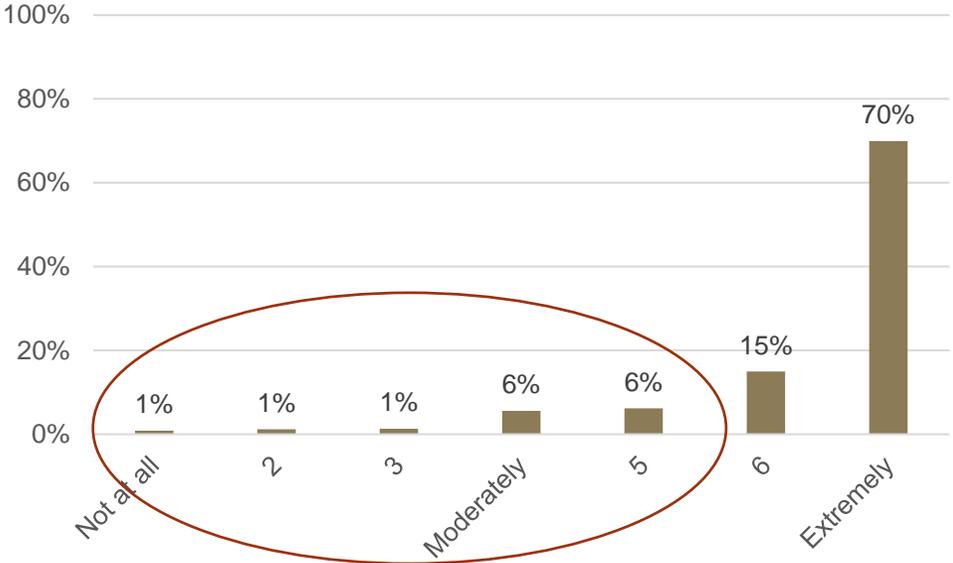
For the Spring Term

To what degree do you intend to come back to HSU for the spring term? (n=3,770)



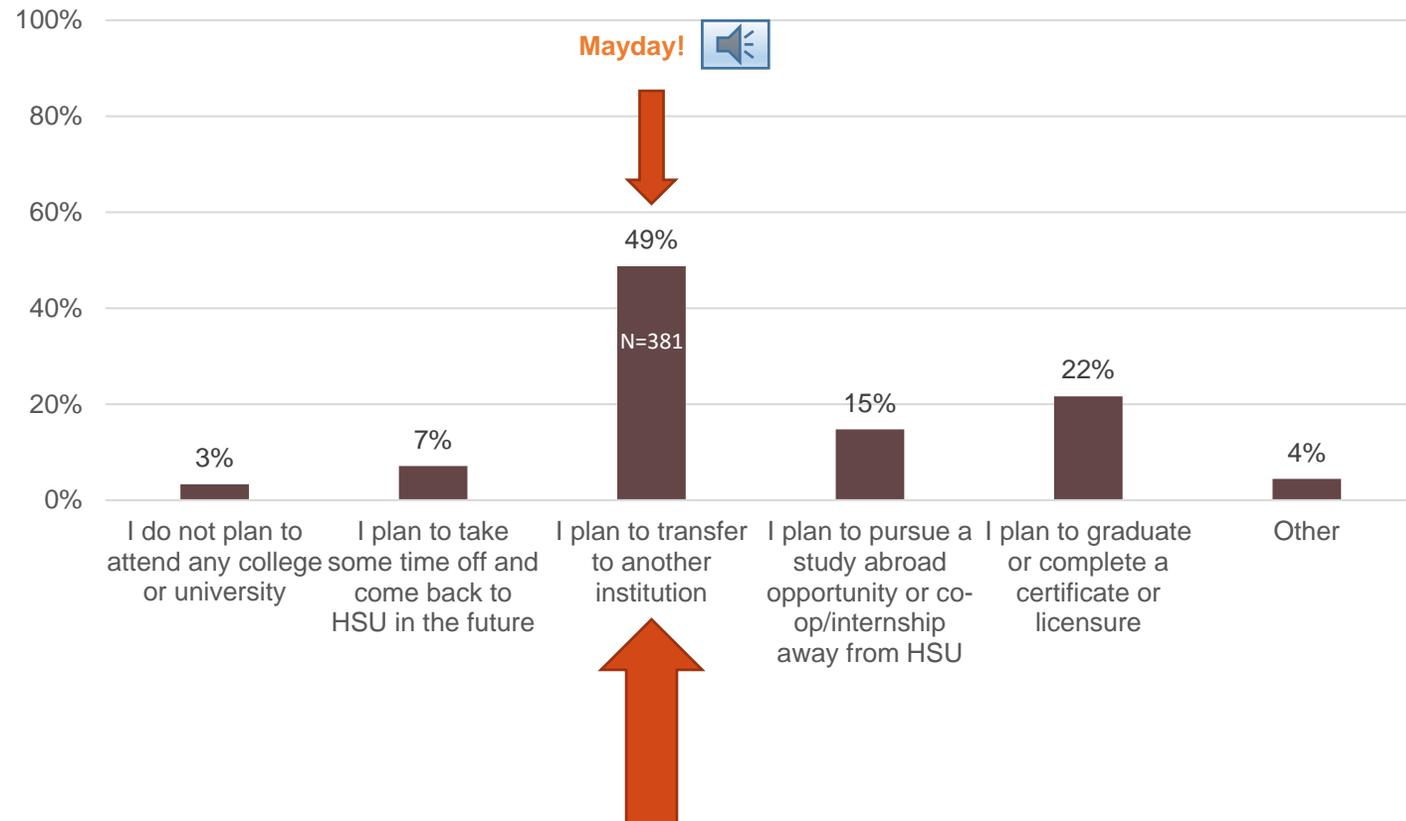
For the Next Academic Year

To what degree do you intend to come back to HSU for the next academic year? (n=3,760)



SO, WHAT'S THE PLAN?

If you do not return to HSU, which of the following best describes your plan?
(n=783)



First-year students who plan to transfer to another institution:

- N=381, which is 10% of total respondents.
- **NO** statistically significant differences between:
 - URG/not URG
 - First gen/not first gen
 - Low-income/not low-income
 - Male/female
- There **WERE** statistically significant differences between low/moderate and high commitment levels to HSU.



WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS WHO WANT TO TRANSFER TO ANOTHER INSTITUTION?

Low/Moderate Commitment to HSU (n=177)

- 39% said HSU was their first choice
- 55% intended to transfer when they entered HSU
- Most plan on transferring to another CSU
- 36% said there was a high likelihood of choosing HSU again if they could do it over
- 56% said they would recommend HSU to someone who wants to attend college
- 32% said they would rate their experience at HSU as excellent

High Commitment to HSU (n=196)

- 50% said HSU was their first choice
- 74% intended to transfer when they entered HSU
- Most plan on transferring to another CSU
- 61% said there was a high likelihood of choosing HSU again if they could do it over
- 81% said they would recommend HSU to someone who wants to attend college
- 61% said they would rate their experience at HSU as excellent





TOP 5 REASONS FOR WANTING TO TRANSFER TO ANOTHER INSTITUTION

Low/Moderate Commitment to HSU (*n*=177)

1. Personal reasons
2. Want a different location
3. Financial issues
4. Academic reasons
5. Social reasons

High Commitment to HSU (*n*=196)

1. Want a different location
2. Personal reasons
3. Financial issues
4. Academic reasons
5. Pursue a degree not at HSU



LISTENING TO THE STUDENT VOICE: “I NEED TO BE CLOSER TO HOME”

Low/Moderate Commitment to HSU (n=177)

- “I am looking at institutions closer to home due to family needs. I need to take care of my family.”
- “I want to be closer to home. Being away is causing a lot of unnecessary stress in my life.”
- “I don’t think I can manage being miles away from friends and family.”
- **“I have come to realize Humboldt is too far from home and too expensive. It was exciting at first, but now it’s lowly tolerable.”**
- “I feel lonely here at HSU. I miss home. I’m stressed about exams and being stressed makes me miss home even more. Transferring to a school closer to home might help me and make my learning experience better.”
- **“I love the campus and the faculty but Humboldt is 16 hours away from home and I faced some racism in the nearby towns. I am the first one in my family to attend a university and it's hard for them to understand and it's hard for us getting used to being separated. Especially my mother who is developing depression because I am not close to her. In Eureka not long ago, I was close to getting hit by a car with a "Trump" supporter sticker in the back, I had to run and the driver laughed. Yet, if things can get better, I would gladly stay in Humboldt.”**

High Commitment to HSU (n=196)

- **“If I were to leave it would be to go to another institution much closer to my home and be able to have much more things made available to me.”**
- **“If I leave HSU, I plan to go to another university closer to home to help my parents with my siblings. My family relies on me a lot and I should be closer for them.”**
- “Although I am enjoying a new change of scenery, I am missing my hometown and thinking about the next 4 years at Humboldt is hard to envision happening.”
- **“It has been very hard for me to be this far away from family and I have more options at Chico State.”**
- “I plan to transfer to a university closer to home after I have enough credits. I would like to transfer to SDSU.”
- “I want to go to school closer to home.”



LISTENING TO THE STUDENT VOICE: “THE AREA IS NOT A GOOD FIT”

Low/Moderate Commitment to HSU (n=177)

- “I can’t see myself being successful here.”
- “I do not feel comfortable here. I do not feel as though I can thrive.”
- **“This isn’t what I expected, not what I hoped for.”**
- **“I want to open up my opportunities to connect with bigger companies and more internship opportunities.”**
- **“I want to work in my major, but still be able to intern at the place I want to eventually work.”**
- **“There are no jobs here. I want to find a place where there are more jobs however I know this is the best place for my major, so I’m not sure.”**
- **“I plan on transferring to another university that has more connections for opportunities. I also plan on finding my career in the city of the university that I plan on transferring to.”**
- “There’s not much things to do here to have fun.”
- “I’m disappointed with how I feel about Humboldt and it’s surrounding towns.”
- “It’s too secluded for my comfort.”
- “I don’t know if I can spend 4 years here.”
- “This isn’t the right school for me.”
- “I’m not enjoying my life at HSU.”

High Commitment to HSU (n=196)

- **“The big environmental change was a bit too much to bear, as well as the cultural shock.”**
- **“I just don’t like the fact that the city is so small and kind of conservative.”**
- **“I do not like the community.”**
- “There isn’t enough sun for my comfort ability.”
- “I’m going to see how the winter is here.”
- Humboldt is far from where I am from and I think my degree would be better exercised in a bigger city.”
- **“The school isn’t the right fit for me.”**
- “I feel as though this may not be the place for me.”
- **“It’s too far away from home and more remote than I originally thought. I didn’t think it would take so much effort to go back home for breaks.”**





LISTENING TO THE STUDENT VOICE: “IT’S RELATED TO MY MAJOR”

Low/Moderate Commitment to HSU (*n*=177)

- “HSU doesn’t offer the major I want.”
- “I want to go to a college that is a better fit for my major.”
- **“I want to go to an institution located in an environment with more off-campus opportunities pertaining to my future plans.”**
- “There are some classes that HSU does not have that I am interested in related to my major and to some of my interests, so I plan to transfer in order to expand my horizons.”
- “I feel like maybe some programs here are not what I need to follow the career path that I wish to pursue.”

High Commitment to HSU (*n*=196)

- **“I plan to leave because I want to attend vet school. I’m just trying to take the required courses here to be able to transfer.”**
- “I want to go to a larger program with more research opportunities.”
- **“I have a two year warranty on this institution after I get all my GE requirements. I am currently undecided and if I could get good grades, find out what it is that I want to do, find an institution that offers the best program for that career path, then I will transfer accordingly.”**
- “I plan to transfer to another college that is more specialized in what I want to do in the future.”
- “I plan on transferring from this institution to pursue my major in mechanical engineering.”





LISTENING TO THE STUDENT VOICE: “THE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP IS TOO MUCH”

Low/Moderate Commitment to HSU (n=177)

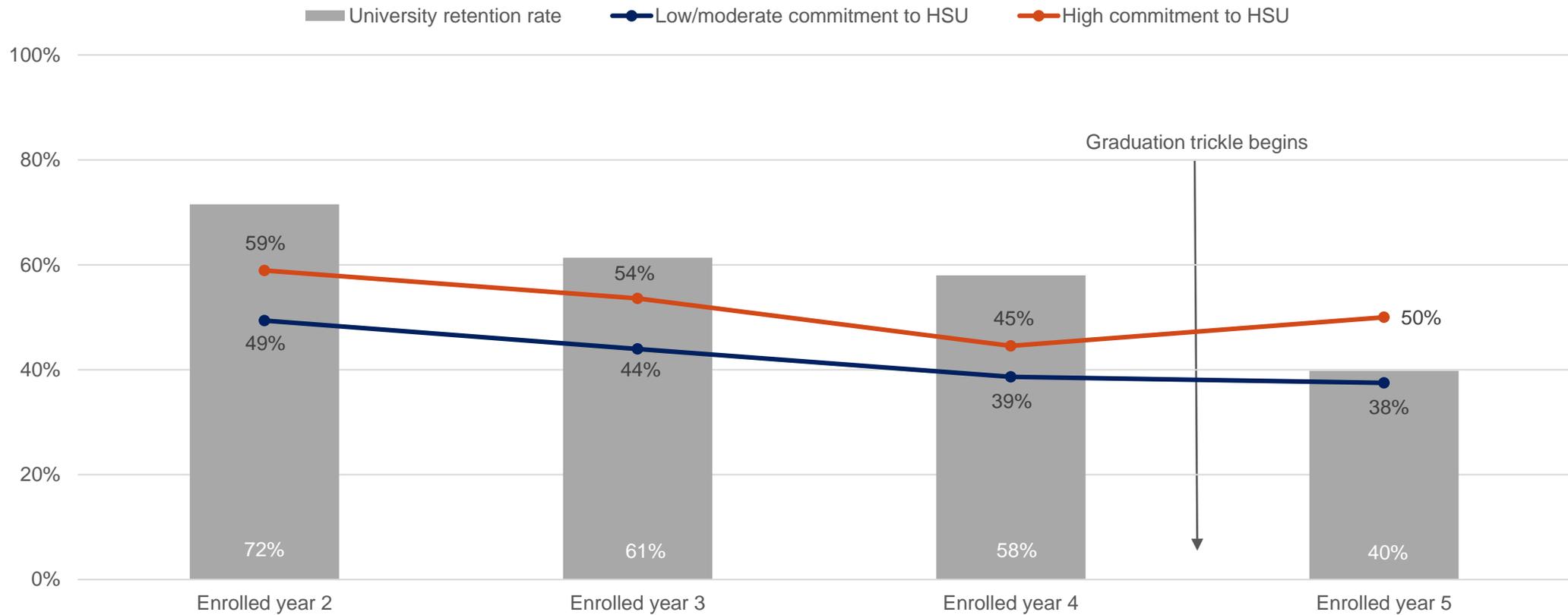
- “It’s really expensive. I hate loans.”
- “I may not be able to afford to go to a state university anymore and will go to a community college instead.”
- **“Taking student loans out here is really going to eat on my future regardless if I graduate or not. Being closer to home would take off some of the loans that go toward housing.”**
- “I cannot fund another year here at HSU.”
- “Transfer and attend community college due to financial burden and family issues.”

High Commitment to HSU (n=196)

- “It would be cheaper to attend a college closer to home.”
- “I’ll probably try to get an associates degree back at home or transfer to another Cal State and get my BA.”
- **“Living away from home has been really expensive, and I know money has been an issue for my parents right now. I do not want to stress my parents about money, so I’d rather get the same education back at home and save money.”**
- “I’m an out-of-state student and don’t have enough money to even make it through the end of this academic year, so unless some miracle happens, I might go back to [home state] to go to school there.”
- “It would probably be due to financial reasons, so I would look to finish my degree somewhere that I could afford without taking out too many loans.”



RETENTION RATES FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS WHO PLANNED ON TRANSFERRING TO ANOTHER INSTITUTION



STRONGEST 1 YEAR RETENTION PREDICTORS FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS WHO PLANNED ON TRANSFERRING

Low/Moderate Commitment to HSU (n=177)

Strongest Predictors
Total Loans \$
Total Grants \$
Cumulative 1yr GPA (not necessarily on probation)
Homesick: Distressed

In Comparison (n=3,426)

- > Cumulative 1 year GPA
- > Grant total
- > Loan total
- > Commitment to the Institution
- > Financial Factor Score
- > EOP
- > On-campus living: social aspects
- > Time management
- > RAMP
- > CNRS major (-)
- > EOP/RAMP combo

High Commitment to HSU (n=196)

Strongest Predictors
Cumulative 1yr GPA (not necessarily on probation)
Total Grants \$
Total Loans \$

*There were high levels of correlation between financial aid variables and low-income, first-generation status. Financial aid variables explained a higher percentage of the variance, so low-income and first-generation were removed from the models.



STRONGEST 2 YEAR RETENTION PREDICTORS FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS WHO PLANNED ON TRANSFERRING

Low/Moderate Commitment to HSU (n=177)

Strongest Predictors
Total Grants \$
Served by RAMP
Total Loans \$
Cumulative 1yr GPA (not necessarily on probation)

In Comparison (n=3,426)

- > Cumulative 1 year GPA
- > Grant total
- > Loan total
- > EOP
- > Financial Factor score
- > Commitment to the Inst.
- > Time Management
- > College Ready (-)
- > Scholarship total
- > Arts Humanities Social Sciences
- > EOP/RAMP combo
- > Peer Connection
- > Gender (F)

High Commitment to HSU (n=196)

Strongest Predictors
Total Grants \$
Cumulative 1yr GPA (not necessarily on probation)

*There were high levels of correlation between financial aid variables and low-income, first-generation status. Financial aid variables explained a higher percentage of the variance, so low-income and first-generation were removed from the models.



STRONGEST 3 YEAR RETENTION PREDICTORS FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS WHO PLANNED ON TRANSFERRING

**Low/Moderate Commitment to HSU
(n=177)**

High Commitment to HSU (n=196)





WHAT NOW?

- QUESTIONS?
- Things to consider:
 - How does this information inform recruitment/retention processes?
 - What do we have control over?
 - What groups might we want to put resources toward?
 - Infrastructure for the work
- Institutional ponderings:
 - What kind of school does HSU WANT to be?
 - What kind of school does HSU NEED to be to serve California's college students?
 - How do we communicate who we are in a way that sets up congruent expectations between what students need/want and what HSU and the surrounding community can offer?

