

University Exploratory Studies Program

2023-24 Annual Report and Data Collection

Team Members

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Sarah Kate Griffin ◇ Academic Advisor and

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Brittini Wisner ◇ Graduate Advising Intern (summer 2023)

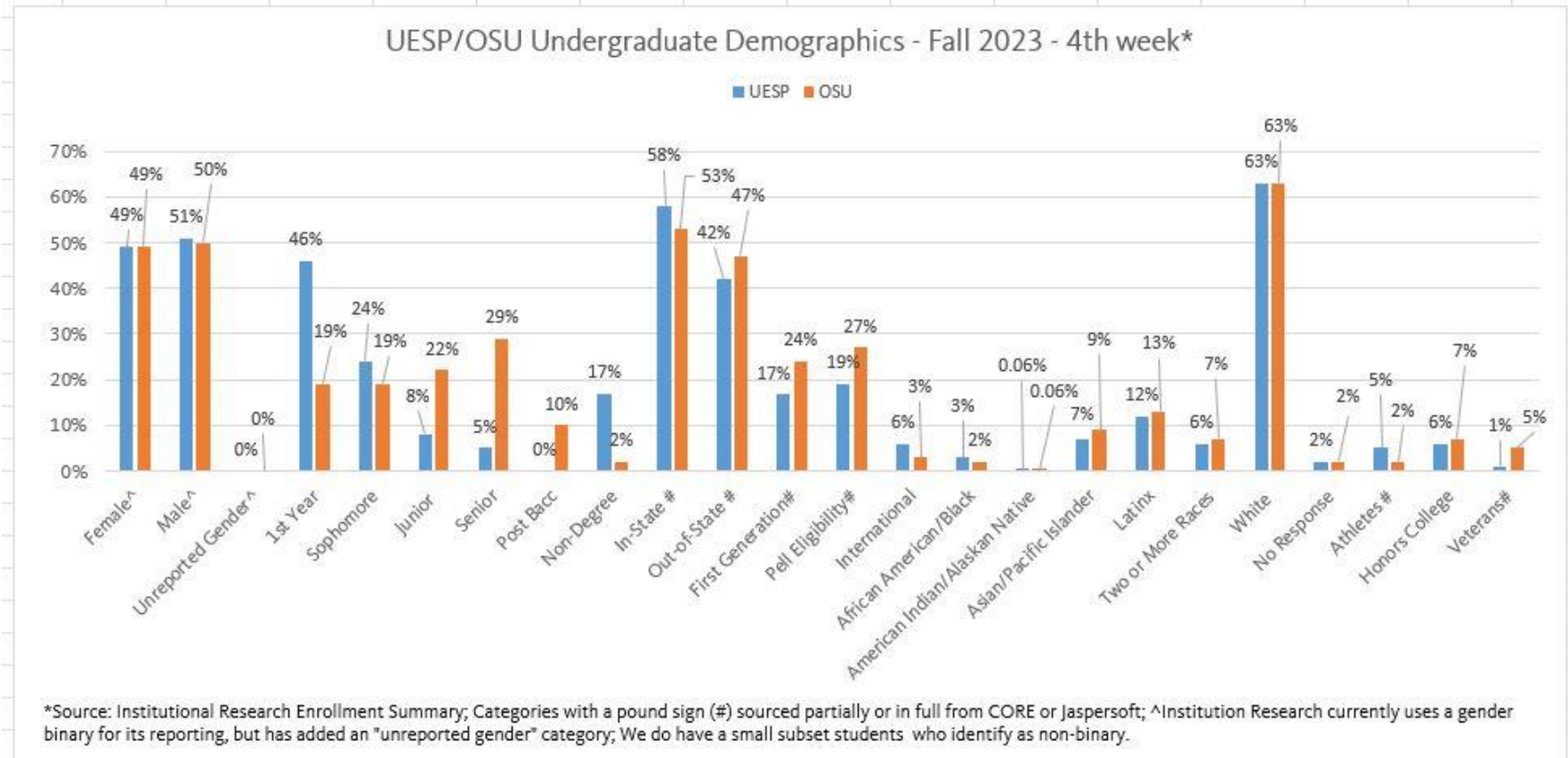
Program Highlights

- Successfully navigated campus transition to Beaver Hub (institutional CRM) and switched from Microsoft Bookings to the appointment scheduling system in this tool.
- For the first time since we shifted to our “Explore in 4” model in 2017, we exceeded the 60% threshold for a key part of core mission – our cohort analysis of students who started their first term in fall at OSU with UESP showed that 62% were declared into a major by the beginning of the subsequent fall term.
- Per institutional mandate to transition to websites built in Drupal 10, we completed a complete overhaul of our site, and integrated a new feature, “Meet an Explorer” where we profile former UESP students who share details of their exploration journey - <https://uesp.oregonstate.edu/meet-explorer>.
- We continued to ramp up our prospective student engagement, both through our participation in structured Admission Campus Visit Days and making team members available for one-on-one consultation via in-person and Zoom meeting options.
- Thanks to gracious support from the Division of Student Affairs, we were able to fund three OSU-Corvallis students (Coral Lee, Lora Glenn, and Sofia Castillo) and one OSU-Cascades student (Belen Carranza Garcia) to participate in undergraduate research through the URSA-Engage program.
- UESP Team Members represented and participated in several campus-initiatives including Academic Advising Renovation, Core Education Implementation, New Student Onboarding, and Mental Health Task Force.
- We worked closely with the College of Engineering to prepare for the implementation of their new “Calculus-Ready” requirement for admits starting in or after fall 2024.
- Our team did a common read of the book, *Relationship Rich Education* by Peter Felten and Leo Lambert and explored how our work aligned with concepts and examples from the text and considered ways we could be better in our advising and teaching spaces.

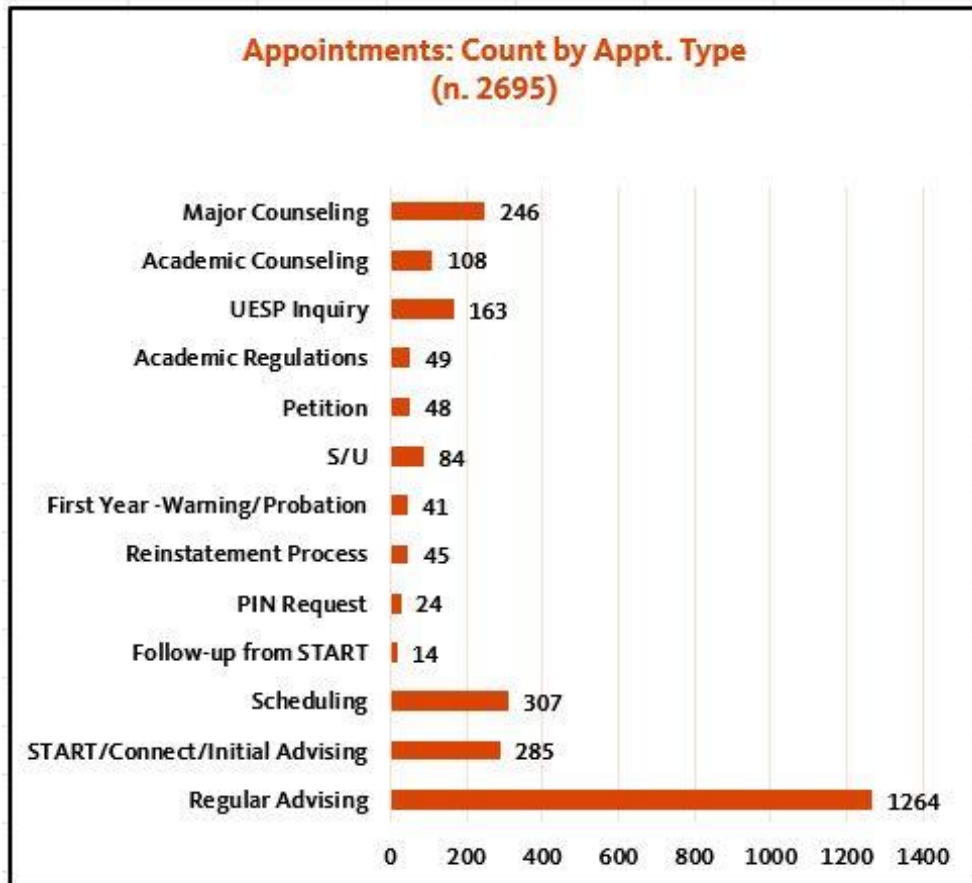
Data

Subsequent pages include charts outlining UESP data related to demographics and appointments for 2022-23. This data is derived from several data sources including Institutional Research reports, OSU's cooperative reporting system, and an internal Access database.

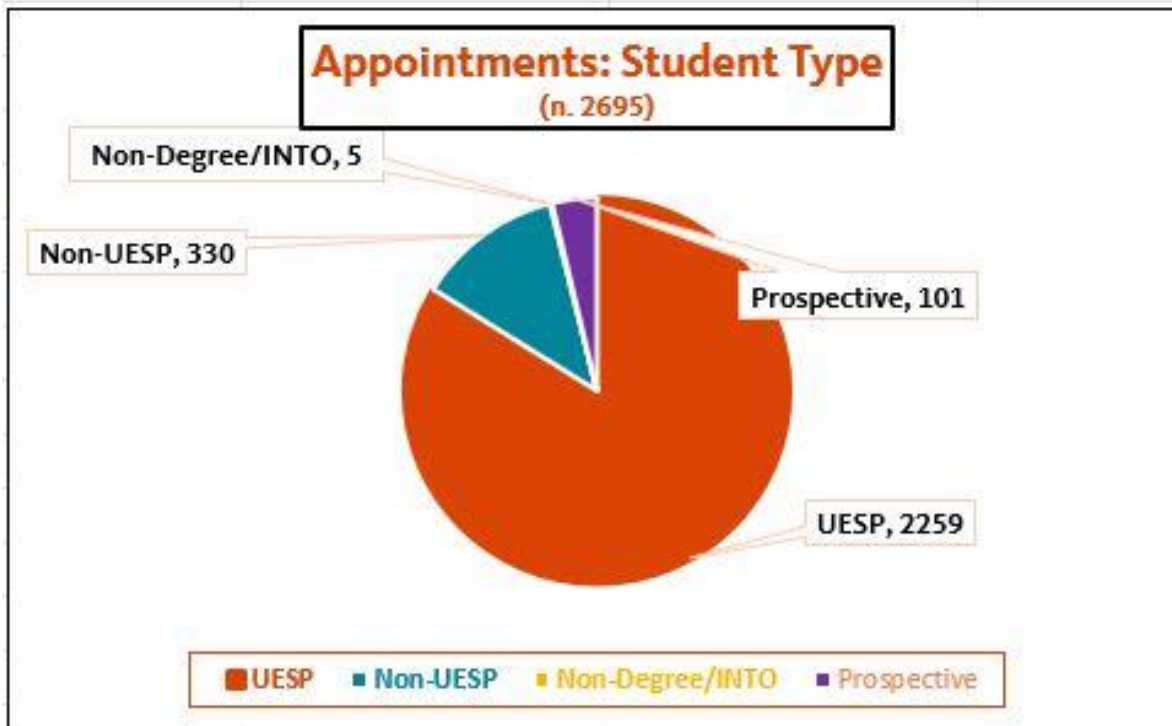
Demographic Snapshot (Fall 2023)



Appointment Data (July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024)



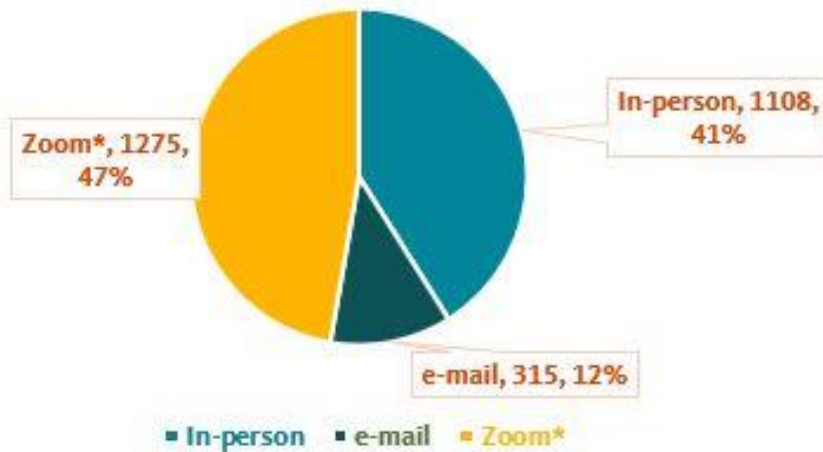
During 2023-24, we had 166 recorded No-Shows and 21 recorded Cancellations. In reality, those numbers are higher, but we don't track non-UESP and prospective appointment No-Shows in our Access database.



While our Non-UESP number dipped this year, we still see higher numbers on non-UESP and Prospective student than we did pre-pandemic.

Appointments: Mode of Contact

(n. 2695)



In 2023-2024, two of our advisors worked a hybrid schedule. *The Zoom category is inclusive of a small number of Phone appointments as the students actually dialed into Zoom, not our office lines.

The percentage of in-person appointments increased nearly 17%, showing student demand for the in-person appointment modality is trending upward.

Migration Table

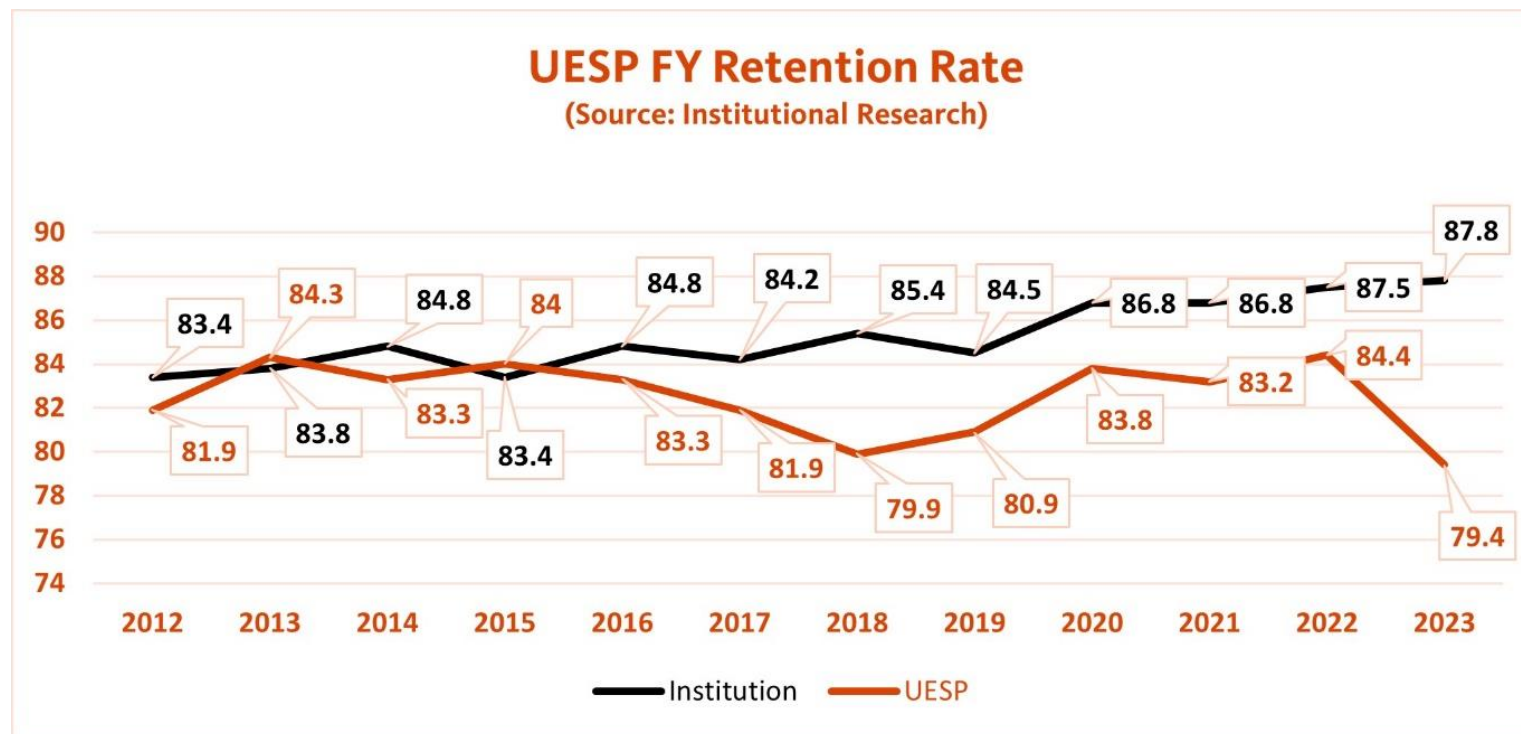
Migration (2019-2024)

Transferring Into UESP						College	Transferring Out of UESP					
AY24	AY23	AY22	AY21	AY20	AY19		AY19	AY20	AY21	AY22	AY23	AY24
1%	4%	2%	3%	5%	3%	Ag Sciences	3%	5%	7%	4%	3%	3%
9%	5%	3%	10%	8%	8%	Business	23%	24%	21%	17%	15%	21%
14%	19%	68%*	51%	33%	40%	Engineering	7%	9%	9%	25%*	27%*	29%*
52%	49%					Engineering suspends						
1%	1%	1%	0%	3%	1%	Forestry	2%	2%	5%	3%	6%	4%
7%	4%	3%	7%	11%	7%	Liberal Arts	32%	32%	27%	25%	24%	21%
12%	14%	19%	22%	29%	32%	Science	8%	9%	10%	7%	9%	8%
1%	1%	2%	5%	7%	7%	Health	20%	17%	19%	15%	9%	9%
2%	2%	1%	1%	4%	2%	Earth, Ocean, & Atmospheric Sci	4%	3%	2%	4%	4%	4%
<1%	<1%**					Education					3%**	1%
339	273	294	174	165	198	Total	500	437	393	570	393	569

*Engineering migration numbers in and out of UESP are skewed by students being suspended and subsequently returning to Engineering. This year, we created a distinctive database code for students who join our program because of an Engineering suspension, and they by far make the highest percentage of our "Transfer Ins".

**The College of Education implemented a primary degree in Teaching-elementary education.

Retention Charts



A look at this chart shows the volatility of the exploring student population. After hitting our peak FY retention rate with the 2022 cohort, we hit our lowest mark in a decade. We know we typically will be lower than the institution at large, but the sizable gap between UESP and the institution was disappointing. At the start of spring 2024, we got the news that we could search for an additional advisor, so we are hopeful the additional staff member helps push the number back above 80%.

UESP Underrepresented Minority Retention

(Source: Institutional Research)



We are pleased that our URM retention rate stayed above 80% and hope to replicate the higher numbers we saw in 2021 and 2022 in the coming years.

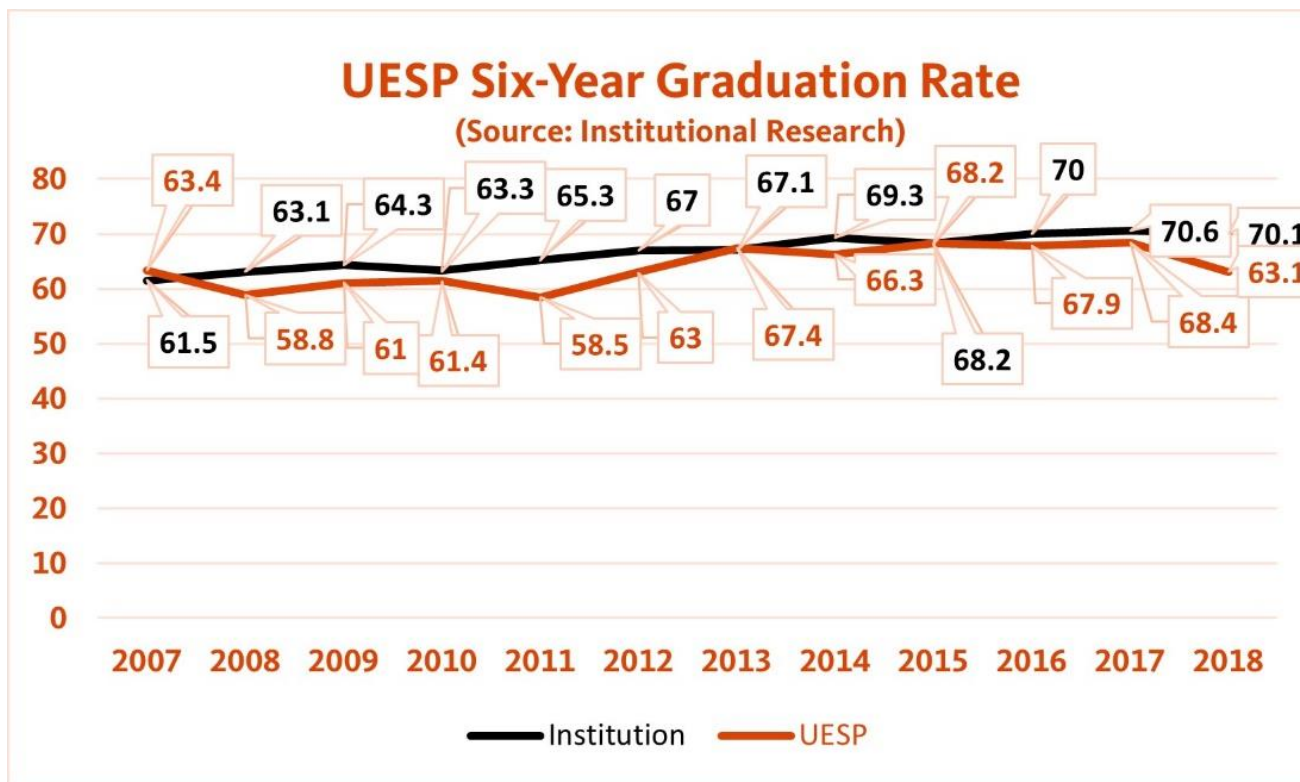
UESP Pell Recipient Retention

(Source: Institutional Research)



Our best showing with retention numbers was with Pell recipients, where we outperformed institutional rate and have had a string of three years above 80%.

Six-Year Graduation Rate



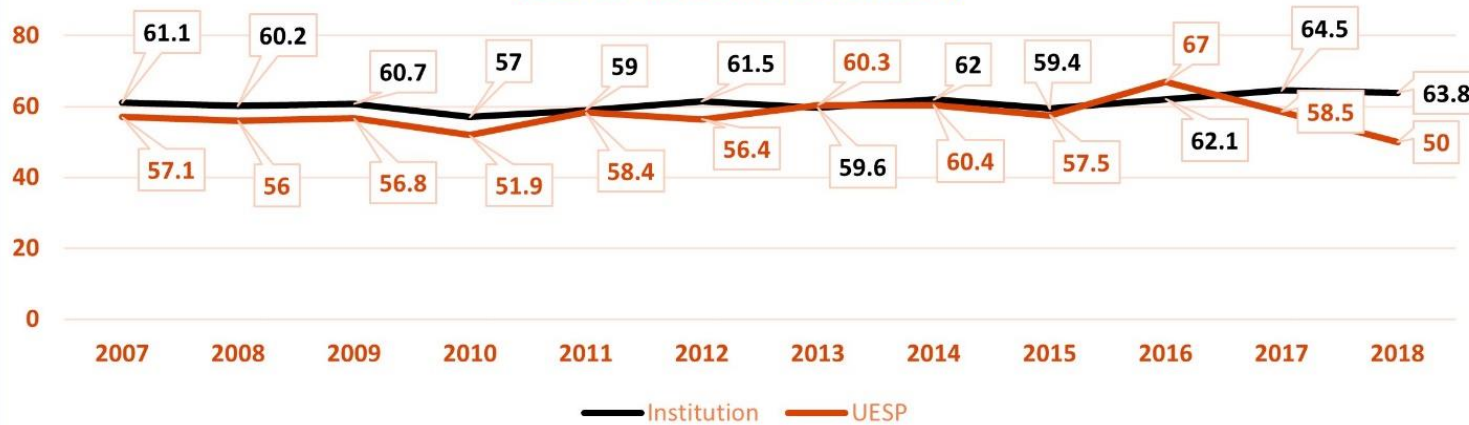
As the institution Six-Year Graduation Rate has steadily, so too have the numbers for the UESP-identified cohort. The most recent cohort pull from 2018 showed a dip. Our guess is that there is some pandemic influence there, but we're thankful the institution at large has stay above 70% the last few years.

UESP Underrepresented Minority Six-Year Graduation Rate (Source: Institutional Research)



Our URM Six-Year grad rate has been at or above institutional levels, with the exception of 2018 where we saw a decline. Again, the pandemic likely is playing a role in this number. There is no reported 2018 institutional number, so we can't say how our number compared to the institution at large, but a scan of other colleges shows very broad range in this rate – from a low of 42.9% to a high of 75%. Most, but not all, colleges experienced a dip but ours was precipitous.

UESP Pell Recipient Six-Year Graduation Rate (Source: Institutional Research)



This Pell-Recipient six-year rate echoes what we have seen for other 2018 cohort numbers. It will be interesting to see how this bears out over the next few pandemic-affected cohorts.

Transfer Out Survey (September 2023-September 2024) *

We track migration and major declaration at the end of each term. We administer a web-based survey to most of our students once they transfer out (shared survey link with 383 students). We ask questions about our service and their exploration. This includes the opportunity to choose factors that were most influential in helping with their major decision-making from list of 11 options. All factors were selected, but here were the top 5 by percentage:

1. Taking a class related to my new major (79%)
2. Conversations with my family (60%)
3. Conversations with my friends (60%)
4. Conversations with my UESP Advisor (55%)
5. Conversations with advisor(s) in my new major (48%)

More from the survey respondents:

88% said UESP advisors and staff were attentive to their concerns.

100% said UESP advisors and staff were respectful towards them.

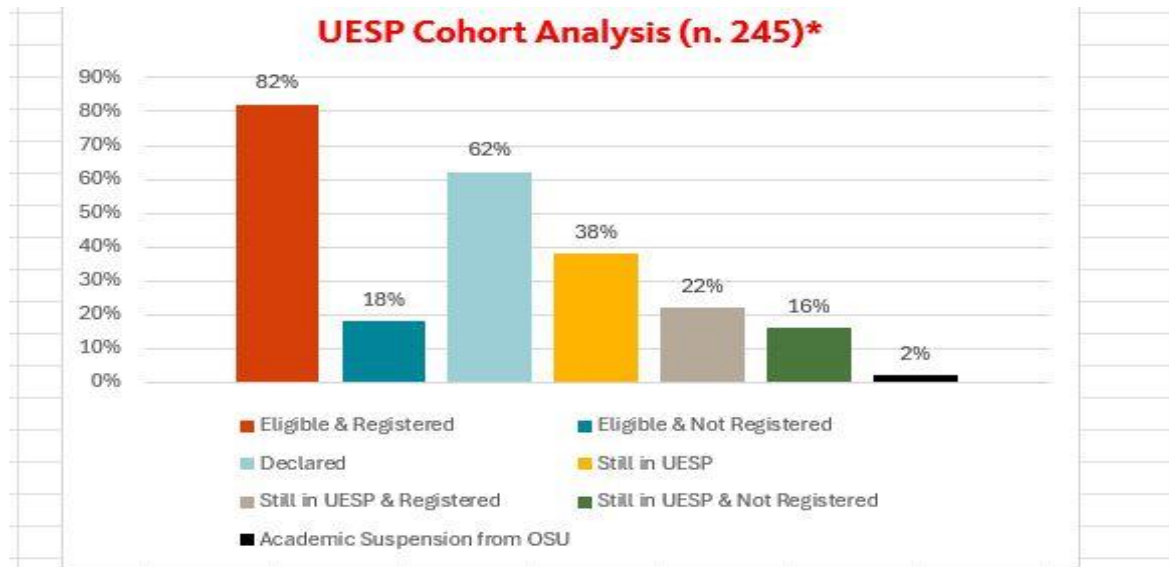
83% said that UESP advisors/resources helped them gain a better understanding of their interests and abilities.

92% said that UESP advisors/resources helped them learn about majors that fit their interests and abilities.

88% shared a substantive explanation of how their new major fit with their academic interest and abilities.

*Survey response rate: 13%

A Cohort Analysis



*This analysis captures a cohort from week 4 of fall 2023. There were 245 new to OSU students in UESP at that point in the term. The data reflect where they stood at the end of week 3 in fall 2023. The first to second year retention of this subset aligns with numbers we typically see in UESP. Of note to me is the 62% number for declared students. In 2017, we implemented our Explore-in-4 policy to inspire earlier declaration. We did an analysis in the two years following implementation and saw that the policy created an 11% jump from 2016 to 2017 (43% to 54%), and that number stayed at 54% for 2018. We now see that declaration percentage exceeding 60% by the time students start their second year.

Of the students 18% of students who were not registered in fall of 2024

- 30% indicated to an advisor that they planned to transfer to another insitution
- 4% indicated to an advisor that they planned to take a gap year
- 38% left after their first term
- 15% left after their second term
- 45% left after their third term

UESP Ecampus by the Numbers

56	unique Ecampus UESP students took classes this year
27	were from the state of Oregon
54	were from the United States
2	were international (Mexico, South Korea)
40	were transfer students
44	attended school part time
25	Identified as BIPOC or mixed race
22	were over 30 years old
1	was military affiliated
17	declared into a major during the course of the year

UESP Instruction: ALS 114 and 191

UESP offers two courses to support transition and academic and career exploration. Each year, our Coordinator of Outreach and Instruction does a summative report on our classroom efforts. The full ALS 114 and 191 report can be found in this [Box File](https://oregonstate.box.com/s/ng9ao866jh7k3n6dm96x5qy73367ygnw):
<https://oregonstate.box.com/s/ng9ao866jh7k3n6dm96x5qy73367ygnw>

Organizational Transition

After a seven-year stint in the Division of Student Affairs, including the last five years as part of the Office of the Dean of Students, we learned at the end of this past year that we were shifting back to Academic Affairs. We will now sit organizationally in Undergraduate Academic Affairs under the University Advising umbrella and report up to the new Executive Director of University Advising. We are excited for the change and the opportunities for UESP to be a key player in OSU's heightened attention to quality academic advising.