

# What Do We Know about the Undergraduate Class of 2019?

For the fourth year in a row, more of the graduates came to UPIKE as new freshmen than as transfer students: 62% started here as first-time students; 38% transferred to UPIKE from another institution of higher education.

- 25% of graduates had participated in the UPIKE dual credit program
- 50% of transfers came from a KCTCS institution
  - 90% of these coming from Big Sandy Community and Technical College

The three most popular majors are Business Administration 20.5%, Nursing (Associates) 14.3%, and Biology 10.3%.

The oldest graduate is 45 years old and the youngest graduate is 19 years old.

The average time to degree completion for graduates who started at UPIKE as first-time students and receiving bachelor's degrees continues to be less than 5 years (4.89). The "Endurance Award" goes to Heather Addington (BS in Education), who is graduating today after originally beginning her studies at Pikeville College in fall 1992.

About three-quarters (78%) of the graduates who started at UPIKE as first-time students and receiving bachelor's degrees took out student loans to pay for their education. The average per borrower cumulative principal borrowed for the Class of 2019 UPIKE graduates is \$24,200 (an increase from last year's class).

[The average student loan debt nationally for the Class of 2018 was \$29,800. (Source: <https://studentloanhero.com/student-loan-debt-statistics/>)]

- 91% took at least one online and/or hybrid course at UPIKE (HIGHER than last year's class); on average these students took 18.2% of their UPIKE credit hours in some type of distance learning format (similar to last year's class)
- 82% are from Appalachia, which is HIGHER than the general student population (75%)
- 81% are Kentucky residents, which is HIGHER than the general student population (77%)
  - 54% of these graduated from a high school in Pike County, Kentucky
    - Almost half of these graduated from either East Ridge HS (24%) or Shelby Valley HS (24%)
- 69% qualified for Federal need-based aid, which is HIGHER than the general student population (66%)
  - 33% are from families in poverty, which is LESS than the general student population (41%)
- 66% graduated with the same major as what they intended at the time of admission to UPIKE
- Only about half (53%) lived on campus at some point during their matriculation at UPIKE
- 46% are first generation college students, which is HIGHER than the general student population (41%)
- 45% are male, which is LESS than the general student population (49%)
- 45% were involved with intercollegiate athletics at some point during their matriculation at UPIKE
  - 18% football
  - 15% baseball
  - 11% bowling
  - 10% basketball
  - 9% soccer
  - 5% volleyball
  - 5% softball
  - 27% all other sports
- About one third (35%) of the graduates who started at UPIKE as first-time students had enrolled in at least one developmental course during their first term of college (on average, 47% of new freshmen to UPIKE enroll in at least one developmental course during their first term)
- About one in five (19%) graduates are non-traditional students [i.e., over the age of 25, married, and/or have children], which is lower than last year's class