

What Do We Know about the Undergraduate Class of 2022?

As happened with last year's class, twice as many UPIKE graduates came to UPIKE as new freshmen than as transfer students: 69% started here as first-time students; 31% transferred to UPIKE from another institution of higher education.

- 23% of graduates had participated in the UPIKE dual credit program
- 39% of transfers came from a KCTCS institution, which is the lowest it has ever been
 - 89% of these coming from Big Sandy Community and Technical College

The three most popular majors are Business Administration 19.5%, Nursing (Associates) 17.8%, and Biology 14.5%.

The oldest graduate is 48 years old (2 students) and the youngest graduate is 19 years old (3 students).

The average time to degree completion for graduates who started at UPIKE as first-time students and receiving bachelor's degrees is about 4-1/4 years (4.28). The "Endurance Award" goes to Kenneth Huffman (BBA in Business Administration, Management), who is graduating today after originally beginning his studies at Pikeville College in fall 1999.

Two thirds (67%) 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 2022 UPIKE graduates is \$24,250 (about \$1,000 MORE than last year's class). [The average student loan debt nationally for the Class of 2020 was \$28,400. (Source: <https://studentloanhero.com/student-loan-debt-statistics/>)]

- Because all courses were online during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is expected that 100% took at least one online and/or hybrid course at UPIKE; on average these students took almost half (46.0%) of all of their UPIKE credit hours in some type of distance learning format
- 78% are Kentucky residents, which is similar to the general student population (74%)
 - 34% of these graduated from a high school in Pike County, Kentucky
 - More than half of these graduated from either Pike Central HS (36%) or Shelby Valley HS (25%)
- 78% are from Appalachia, which is similar to the general student population (74%)
- 65% qualified for Federal need-based aid, which is higher than the general student population (58%)
 - 35% are from families in poverty, which is similar to the general student population (35%)
- 64% graduated with the same major as what they intended at the time of admission to UPIKE
- 61% were involved with intercollegiate athletics at some point during their matriculation at UPIKE which is higher than the general student population (48%)
 - 19% football
 - 12% softball
 - 11% basketball
 - 9% soccer
 - 9% cheerleading and dance
 - 8% baseball
 - 7% bowling
 - 6% volleyball
 - 19% all other sports
- More than half (54%) of the graduates had lived in campus housing at some point during their matriculation at UPIKE
- 44% are male, which is similar to the general student population (47%)
- 33% of the graduates are first generation college students, which is similar to the general student population (38%)
- 17% are students of color and/or international students, which is similar to the general student population (18%)
- About one in seven (15%) 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