

What Do We Know about the Undergraduate Class of 2018?

For the third year in a row, more of the graduates came to UPIKE as new freshmen than as transfer students: 61% started here as first-time students; 39% transferred to UPIKE from another institution of higher education.

- o 28% of new freshmen had participated in the UPIKE dual credit program
- o 40% of transfers came from a KCTCS institution
 - 80% of these coming from Big Sandy Community and Technical College

The three most popular majors are Nursing (Associates) 17.6%, Biology 13.3%, and Business Administration 12.9%

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 4½ years (4.48). The "Enrollment by Degree Program" at Pikeville College in fall 2000.

The oldest graduate is 53 years old and the youngest

About two-thirds (69%) 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 2018 UPIKE graduates is \$22,527 (LESS than last year). [The average student loan debt for the Class of 2016 graduates was \$37,172. (Source: <https://studentloanhero.com/student-loan-debt-statistics/>)]

88% took at least one online and/or hybrid course at UPIKE (same as last year); on average these students took 18.1% of their UPIKE credit hours in some type of distance learning format (HIGHER than last year)

78% are Kentucky residents, which is a little higher than the general student population

- o 56% of these graduated from a high school in Pike County, Kentucky
 - 26% of these graduated from Shelby Valley High School

76% are from Appalachia, which is equivalent to the general student population