

The University of North Carolina
Report
to the North Carolina General Assembly

This report is submitted on behalf of the University of North Carolina Board of Governors, consistent with the requirement contained within S.L. 2014-100.

December 18, 2014

The University of North Carolina is committed to the success of military-affiliated students. As such, the Board of Governors established policy (700.7.1) in June 2013 to provide a framework for the constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina to develop and maintain a comprehensive network of services for military-affiliated students seeking to meet their educational goals. The constituent institutions are working diligently to implement the requirements of this policy and to promote the general welfare of service members, veterans, spouses, and dependent family members at the constituent institutions.

UNC Compliance with Section 11.12. (c)

The University of North Carolina is unable to provide the data required¹ by the North Carolina General Assembly. Concurrent to enactment of SL 2014-100, *The Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2014*, the Congress enacted legislation that substantially alters the University's ability to participate in the Yellow Ribbon program at the federal and state levels in accordance with current statute. The Congressional action is outlined in this report.

Federal Action

On June 9, 2014, the *Veterans' Access to Care through Choice, Accountability, and Transparency Act of 2014* (S. 2450) was introduced in the Senate, and the *Veteran Access to Care Act of 2014* (H.R. 4810) was introduced in the United States House of Representatives (House). The House passed its measure on June 10, but the United States Senate (Senate) chose to act on its proposal by substituting the text of S. 2450 for that of H.R. 3230, a measure previously received from the House. The two chambers proceeded to conference on their respective versions of H.R. 3230. On July 28, the Co-Chairmen of the Conference Committee, Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and Representative Jeff Miller (R-CA), announced that an agreement had been reached, and reported the measure. The conferees voted on the conference report (H. Rept. 113-564) on the same day.

The full House passed the "Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014" (H.R. 3230; H.Rept. 113-564) on July 30, and the Senate passed the conference measure on July 31. The President signed the *Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014* into law (P.L. 113-146) on August 7, 2014. The NC Senate's final passage of the budget conference report occurred on

¹ SECTION 11.12. (c): *The Board of Governors and the State Board of Community Colleges shall each report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by January 1, 2015, regarding their planned participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program for the 2015 - 2016 academic year. Each report shall include the following information:*

- (1) *The number and identity of constituent institutions or community colleges that will participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program.*
- (2) *The methodology used by each governing board to select the institutions of higher education that will participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program.*
- (3) *For each institution that will participate, the maximum number of students and the maximum award amount per student.*
- (4) *A list of the institutions of higher education that will not participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program and the reason each institution is not participating.*

August 1, 2014, while the NC House's final approval of the budget conference report took place on August 2nd. The budget was signed into law by Gov. Pat McCrory on August 7th, the same day President Obama signed the VA reform bill.

Technical Correction

On September 26, 2014, the *Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2014* (H.R. 5404; P.L. 113-175) was signed into law. Sections 408 and 409 of P.L. 113-175 made technical amendments to section 702 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014. Section 702 addresses the approval of courses of education provided by public institutions of higher learning for purposes of all-volunteer force educational assistance program and Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Conditional on in-state tuition rate for veterans.

Section 702 requires the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs to disapprove a "course" at a public institution of higher learning (IHL) if the IHL charges tuition and fees above the in-state rate for that course to a qualifying Post-9/11 GI Bill or All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance Program (MGIB-AD) participant who is living in the state in which the IHL is located.

The course disapproval only applies to the Post-9/11 GI Bill and MGIB-AD. Qualifying Post-9/11 GI Bill and MGIB-AD participants are those who were discharged or released from a period of not fewer than 90 days of service in the active military, naval, or air service less than three years before the date of enrollment in said course and to their Post-9/11 GI Bill-eligible dependents and survivors. If a course is disapproved, the qualifying participant cannot be approved for subsequent courses at the same IHL if continuously enrolled. This section is effective for terms beginning after July 1, 2015.

Section 701 Amendment

Public Law 111-32, the *Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2009*, amended the Post-9/11 GI Bill to establish the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship for the children of service members who died in the line of duty after September 10, 2001. Eligible children are entitled to 36 months of benefits at the 100 percent level and may use the benefit until their 33rd birthday.

Prior to section 701, the surviving spouses of service members who died in the line of duty were only eligible to receive survivors' and dependents' educational assistance (hereinafter, "Chapter 35"). Chapter 35 benefits provide a spouse up to \$1,003 per month as a full-time college student, which may require the spouse to find other sources of income or funding to offset the high cost of education. Additionally, recipients of Chapter 35 do not receive a separate living allowance.

The *Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014* included Section 701, an expansion of the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship.

Section 701 expands eligibility for the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship program to the spouse of an individual who, on or after September 11, 2001, dies in the line of duty while serving on active duty as a member of the Armed Forces.

Under this section a spouse would be entitled to the scholarship until the earlier of 15 years following the service member's death or remarriage. A similarly circumstanced spouse is currently eligible for educational assistance under the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance program (DEA). Section 701 requires the spouse to make an irrevocable election to receive benefits under either the scholarship or DEA. The amendment is effective for terms beginning after December 31, 2014.

UNC Board of Governors Request of the North Carolina General Assembly

The UNC Board of Governors includes the following in its state policy agenda for the biennium as well as the requisite funding in its budget request:

Provide In-state tuition for military veterans

In 2014, Congress passed comprehensive Veterans Administration (VA) reform legislation requiring public universities to provide in-state tuition for certain veterans or risk being barred from collecting all VA educational benefits. Prior to the federal legislation, the NC legislature passed a budget that included recurring funding for UNC institutions to participate in the VA's Yellow Ribbon Program with the first awards to be issued in the 2015-16 school year. In light of the federal legislation, the Yellow Ribbon Program proposal is no longer workable for public universities.

We encourage the legislature to pass conforming legislation providing in-state tuition for certain veterans beginning July 1, 2015, and carry-forward the 2014-15 appropriation being held in escrow, thereby permitting UNC to use these funds to pay for the transition cost associated with complying with federal law requiring in-state tuition for qualified veterans.

Military-Affiliated Student Data

The following tables and charts on military-affiliated students offer the most recent data available to the University. Of particular interest are the following data points:

- Military-affiliated students continue to enroll in the University at a steady pace.
- Overwhelmingly, dependents of military/veterans are age 23 and younger; Veterans or active duty students are generally 24 years of age and older.
- Overwhelmingly, dependents of military/veterans are seeking an undergraduate degree; Veterans or active duty students are equally divided as undergraduate and graduate students.
- Veterans and active duty students are seeking degrees in high-need, relevant degree fields of importance to the North Carolina economy.

- Veterans and active duty students consistently outperform the general student population when comparing grade point average (GPA). The average UNC constituent institution GPA ranges from 2.75 to 3.21.
- Veterans and active duty students are consistently improving their GPA.

Military Affiliated Student Data: Tables and Graphs

Fall 2012 & Fall 2013

UNC General Administration | October 18, 2014

*Data prepared and analyzed by Ms. Jennifer Akin, MPA student,
of North Carolina State University.*

UNC System-Wide Data

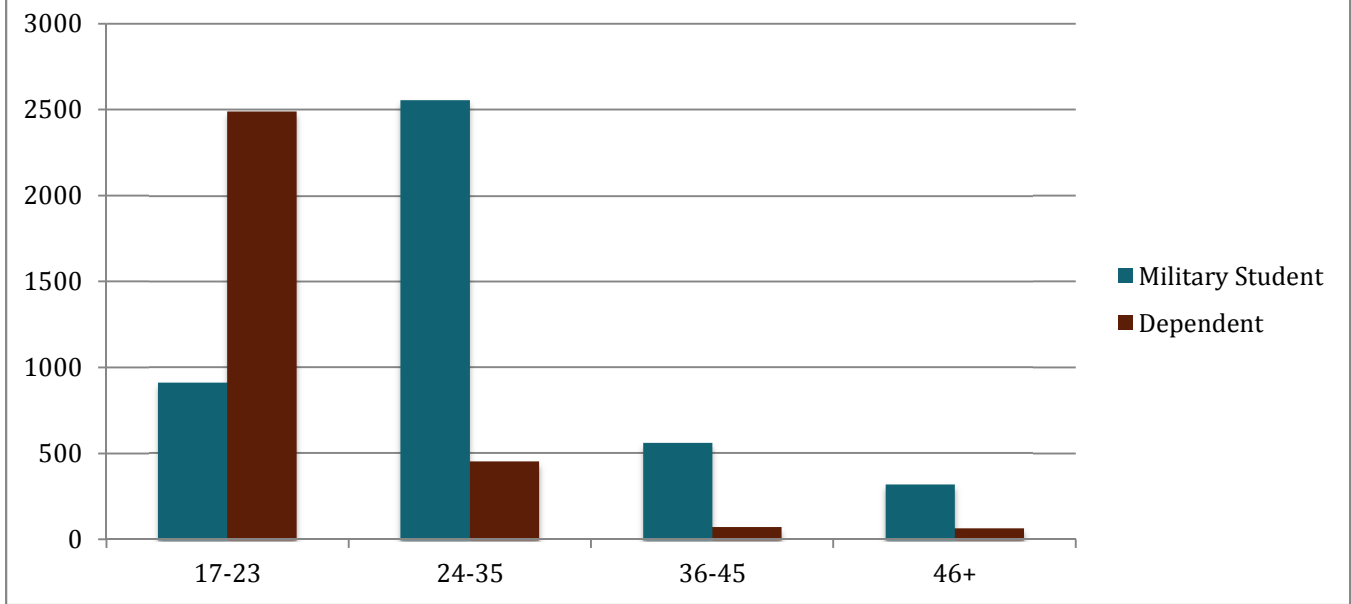
Fall 2012: Cross-Tabulation, Reported Veteran Status by Campus

	Active Duty	Veteran	Guard/ Reserve	Vocational Rehabilitation	Dependent	Unknown	Total
ASU	28	106	61	7	208	0	410
ECSU	4	45	22	1	74	12	158
ECU	12	443	114	26	441	0	1036
FSU	0	435	49	51	275	0	810
NCAT	15	2	63	10	122	211*	423
NCCU	0	75	52	19	212	5	363
NCSU	34	218	31	21	309	0	613
UNC-CH	11	240	10	12	152	0	425
UNCA	0	9	5	5	16	67*	102
UNCC	0	568	109	46	198	0	921
UNCG	0	214	43	22	259	0	538
UNCP	0	200	30	17	224	0	471
UNCSA	0	5	0	0	13	0	18
UNCW	0	260	7	1	36	0	304
WCU	95	128	17	8	117	0	365
WSSU	11	7	29	17	89	84	237
Total	210	2955	642	263	2745	379	7194

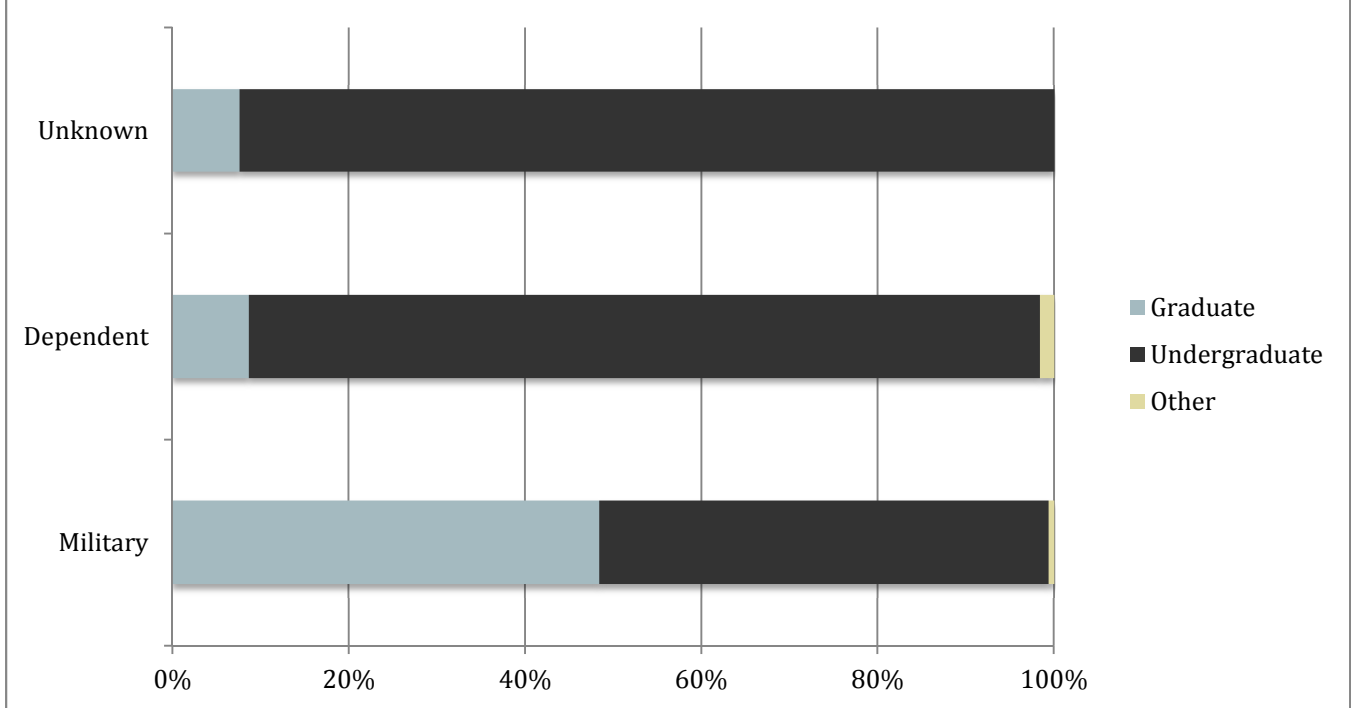
Fall 2013: Cross-Tabulation, Reported Veteran Status by Campus

	Active Duty	Veteran	Guard/ Reserve	Vocational Rehabilitation	Dependent	Unknown	Total
ASU	22	118	57	0	218	0	415
ECSU	0	45	22	0	66	9	142
ECU	10	390	125	1	533	2	1061
FSU	0	474	43	67	263	0	847
NCAT	10	16	71	0	129	205*	431
NCCU	0	99	46	0	197	4	346
NCSU	22	239	42	0	315	0	618
UNC-CH	0	277	4	0	197	0	478
UNCA	0	81	5	0	16	0	102
UNCC	0	534	104	38	291	0	967
UNCG	0	219	47	22	285	0	573
UNCP	0	215	29	0	263	0	507
UNCSA	0	4	1	0	14	0	19
UNCW	0	540	13	0	103	0	656
WCU	83	129	18	0	118	2	350
WSSU	7	16	33	0	73	80	209
Total	154	3396	660	128	3081	97	7721

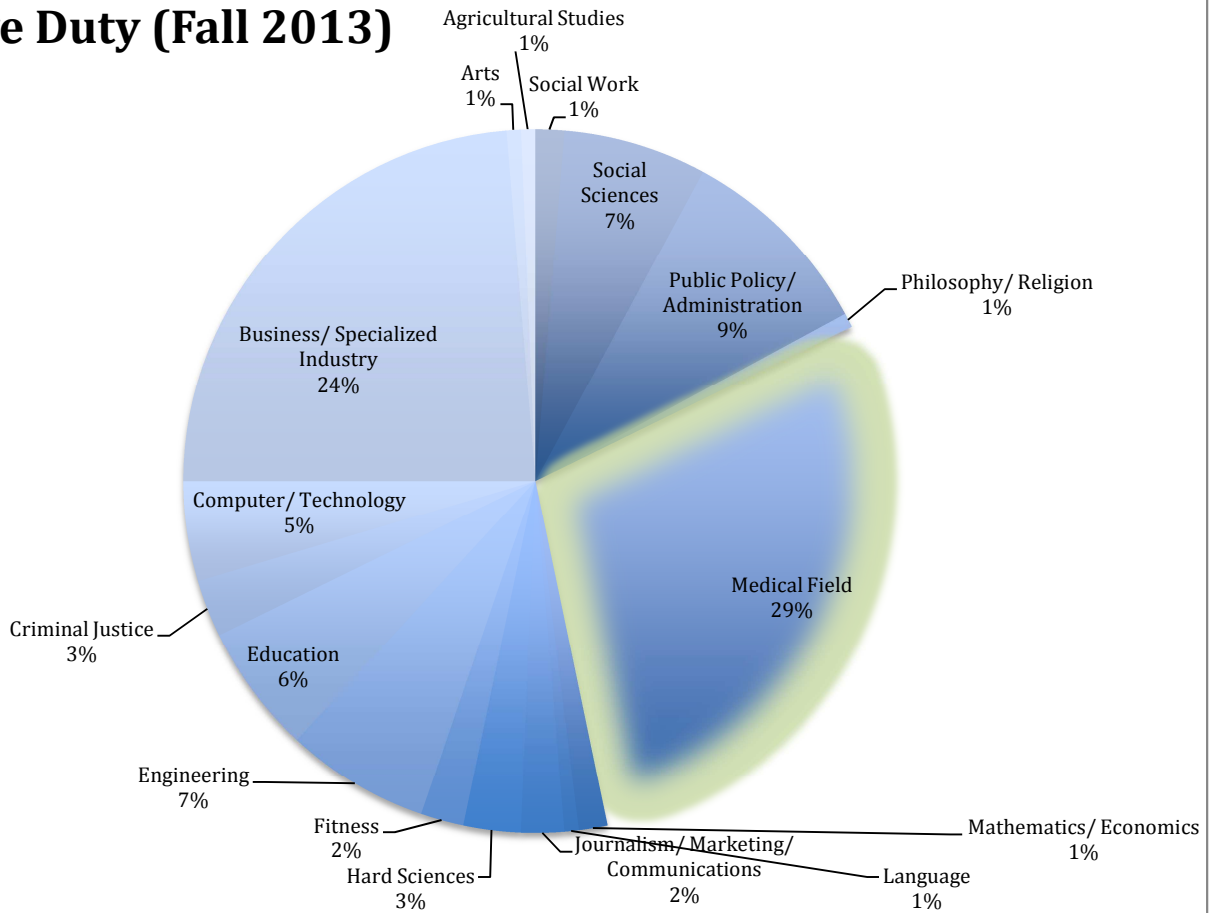
Veteran Student Totals by Age Range



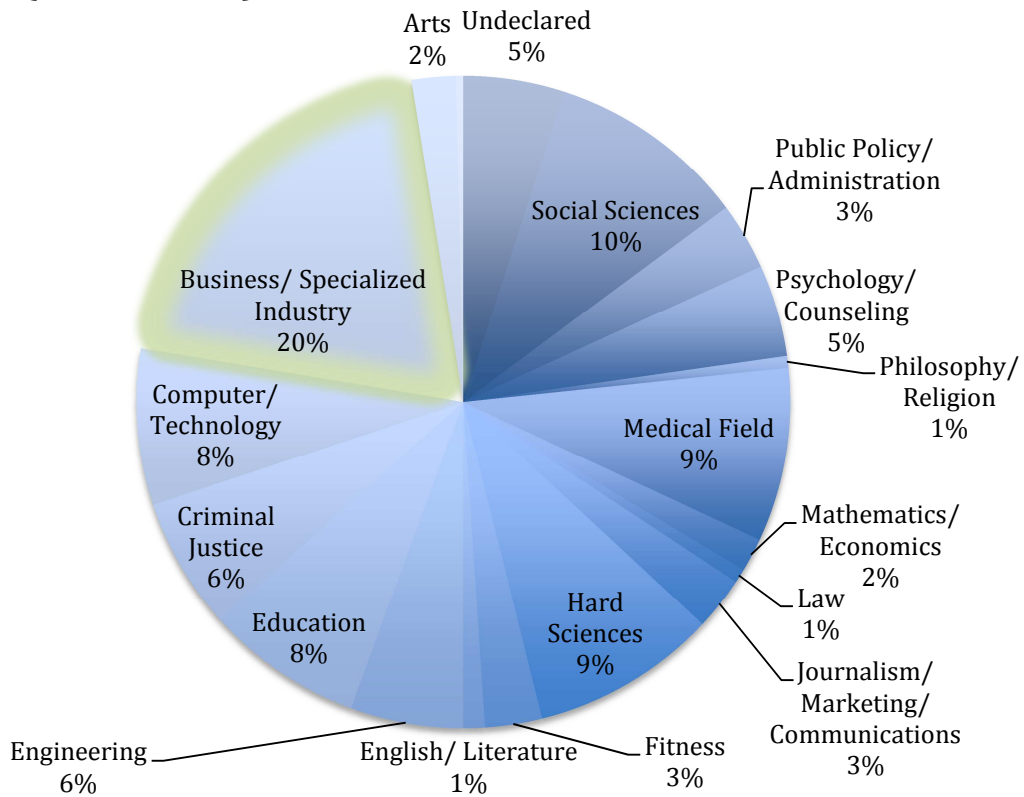
Fall 2013: Degree Sought by Veteran Status



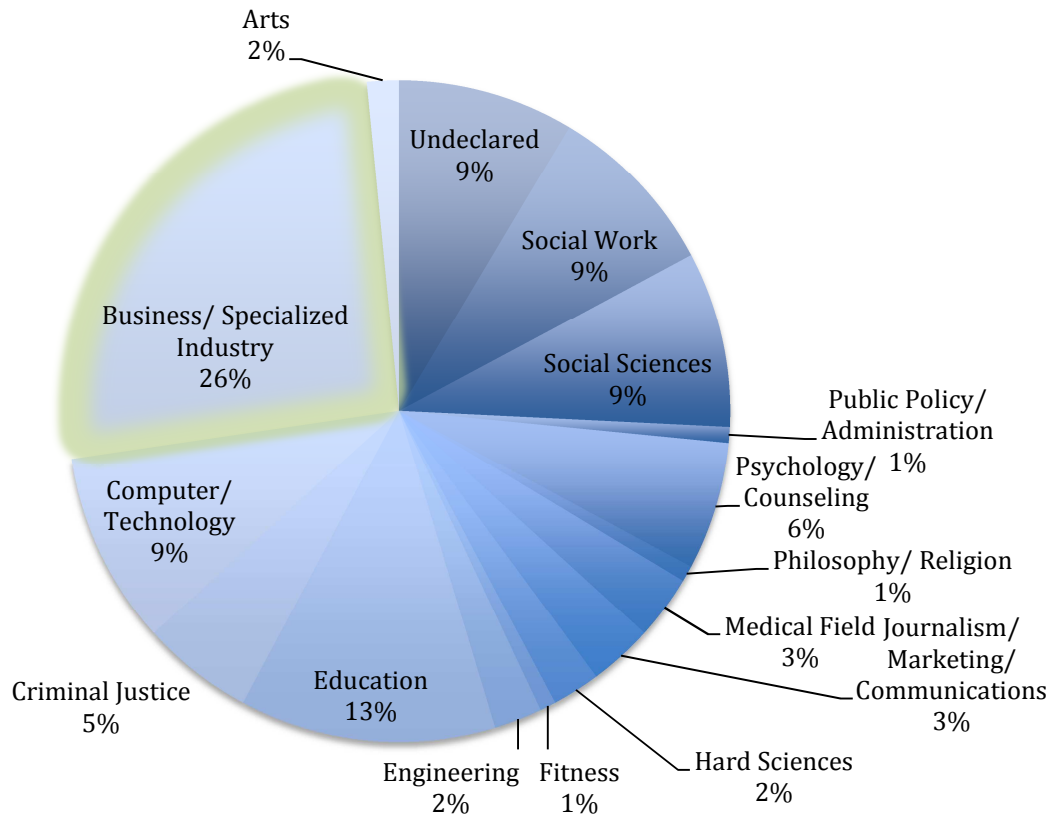
Active Duty (Fall 2013)



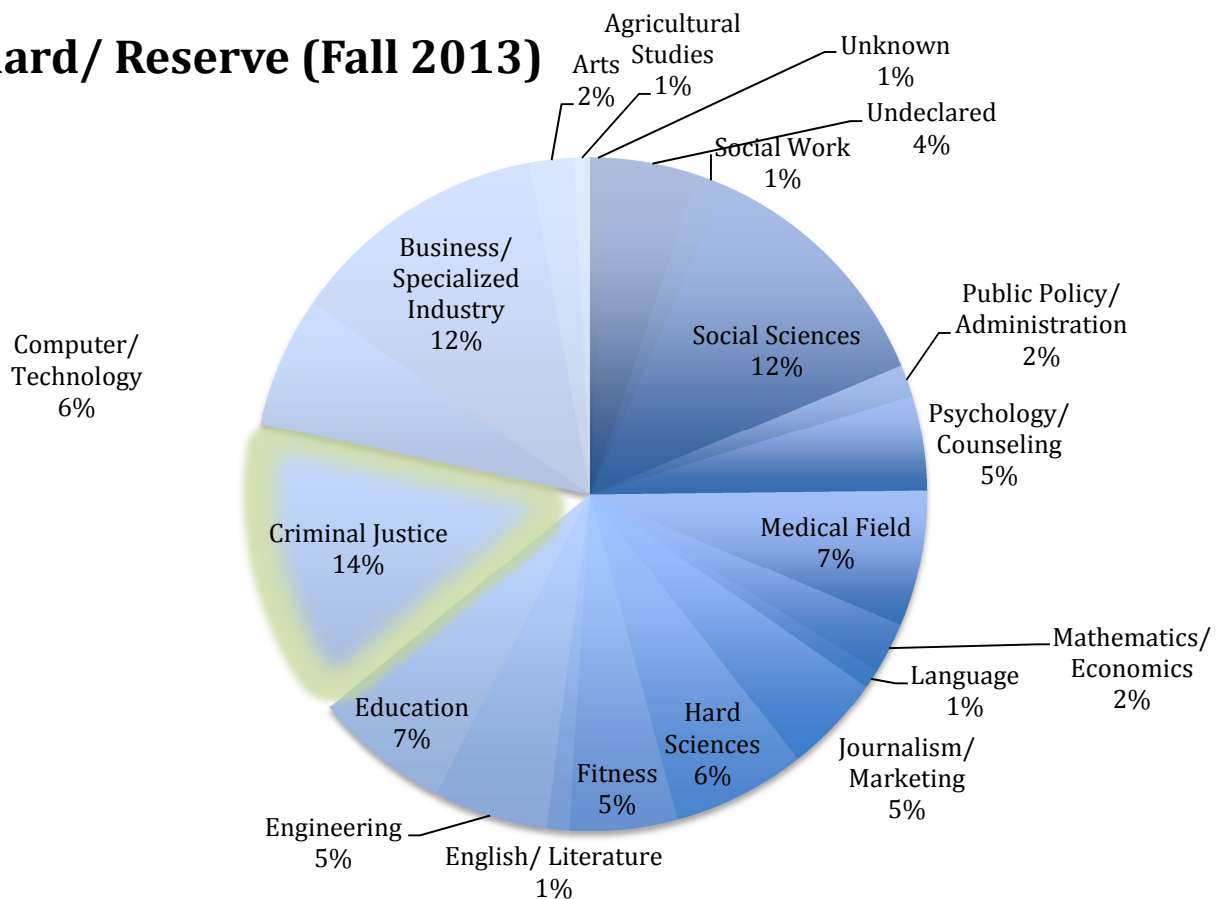
Veterans (Fall 2013)



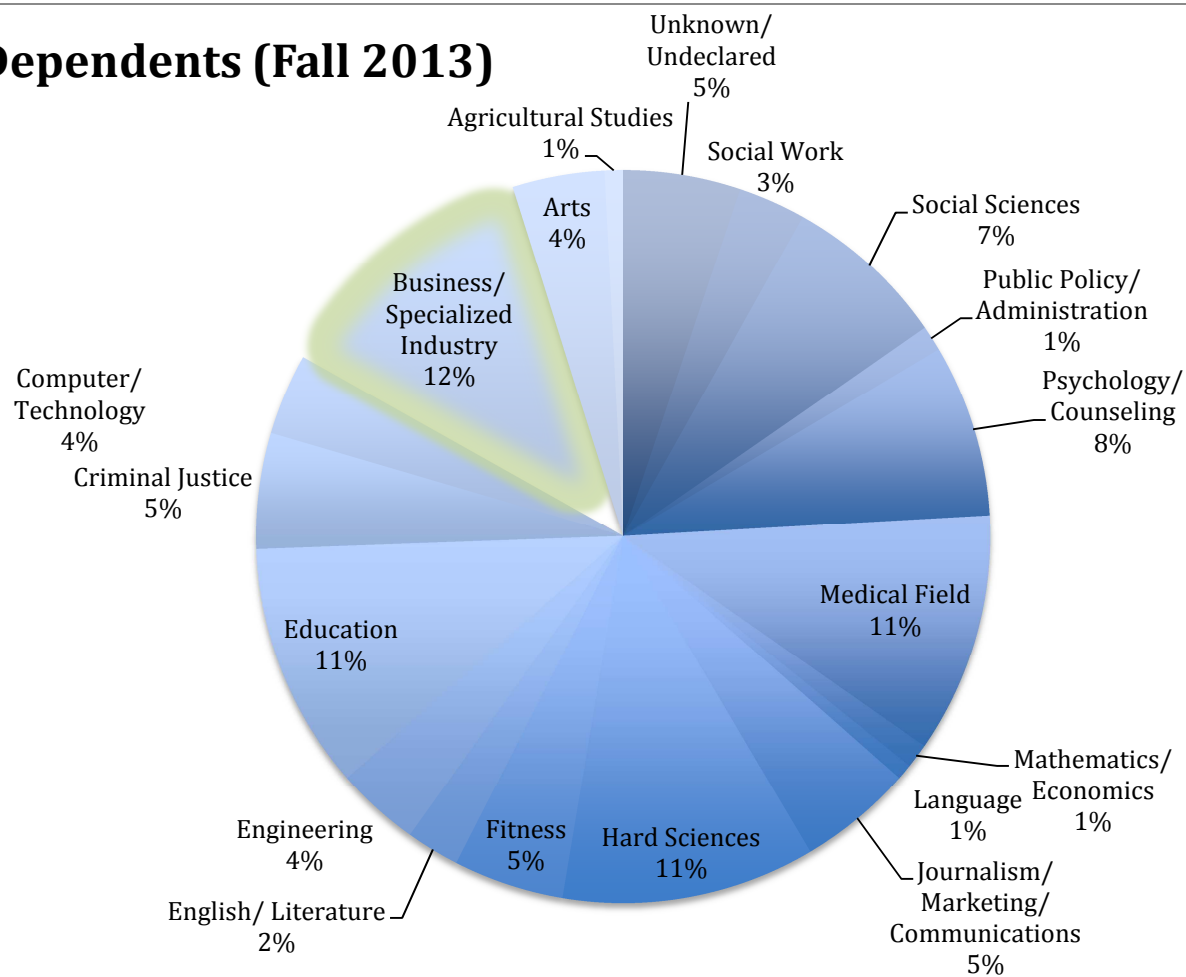
Vocational Rehabilitation (Fall 2013)



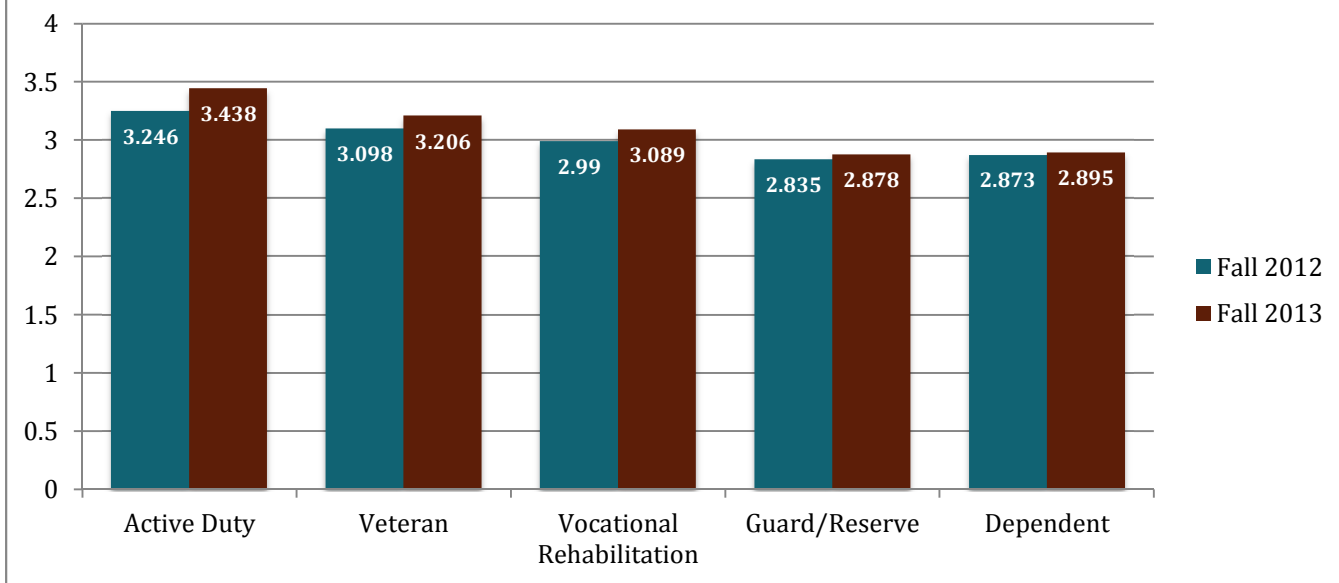
Guard/ Reserve (Fall 2013)



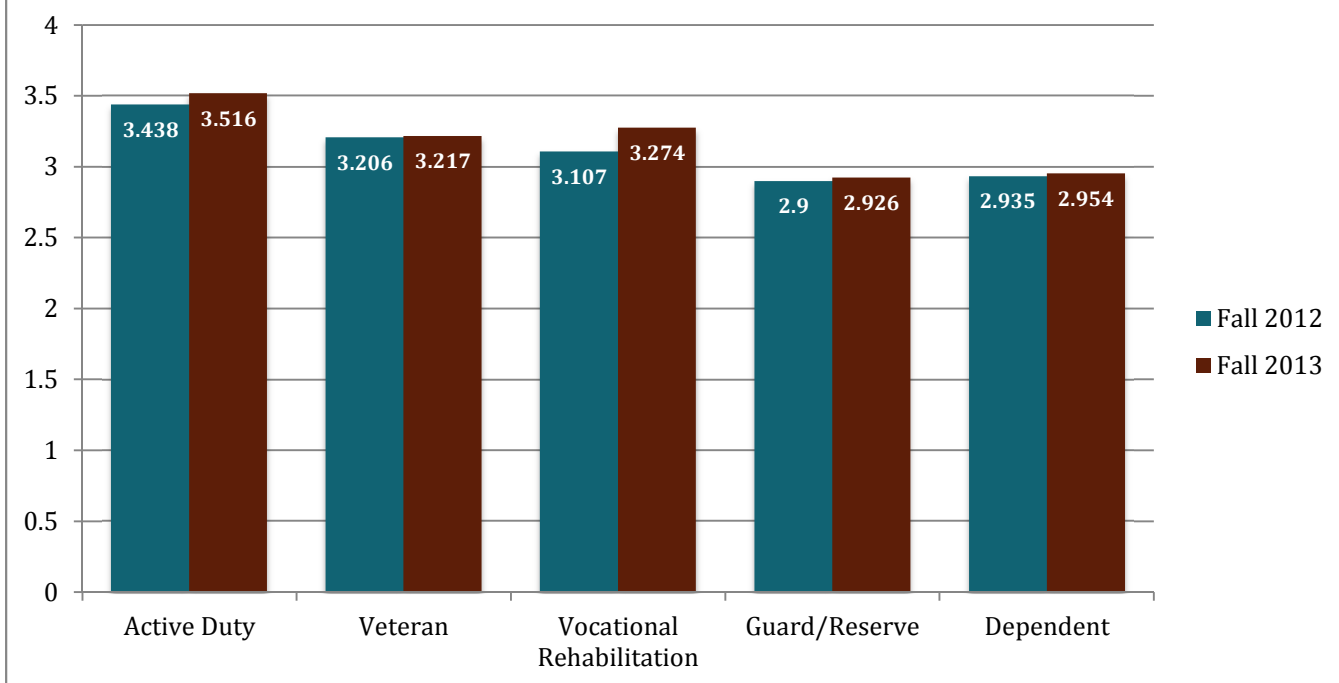
Dependents (Fall 2013)



Average GPA by Veteran Status



Median GPA by Veteran Status



Appendix I: Standardization Protocols for Fields of Study

Standardizing Fields of Study/ Majors: Each UNC campus is home to unique majors and programs. For that reason, miscellaneous majors and certifications were re-grouped into the following fields of study for the purposes of analysis:

Agricultural Studies: Agricultural Education, Agricultural Profession, Animal Science, Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Business, Laboratory Animal Science, Landscape Architecture, Poultry Science, Wood Products, Horticulture Science, Animal Science

Arts: Photography, Art, Theatre Arts, Music Industry Studies, Graphic Arts and Imaging Technology, Music Therapy, Music Performance, Stage & Screen, Motion Picture/Television Production, Visual Arts, New Media, Film Studies, Studio Art, Musical Theater, Filmmaking, Dance, Design and Production, Music, Performance, Drama, Media Studies, Jazz, Design Studies

Business or Specialized Industry: Business administration, international business, management, building sciences, industrial design, recreation management, accounting, Finance and Banking, Hospitality, Occupational Safety, Construction Management, Industrial Distribution and Logistics, Finance, Interior Design, Entrepreneurship, Project Management, Human Resources, Hospitality and Tourism Management, Professional Development, Supply Chain Management, Leadership Studies, Manufacturing Systems, Organizational Science, Mathematical Finance, Interior Architecture, family and consumer science, Management and Society, Motorsports Management, Construction Engineering and Management, Professional Golf Management, Agricultural Business Management, Fashion and Textile Management, Sustainable Development

Computer & Technological Innovation: Appropriate Technology, Computer Information Systems, Computer Engineering, Technology Systems, Network Technology, Industrial Technology, Information and Computer Technologies, Management Information Systems, Electronic and Computer Engineering Technician, GIS, Textile Technology

Criminal Justice: Criminal Justice, Criminology, Justice Studies

Education: Educational Administration, any level of specialized Educational training, specialized counseling, Educational Media, Library Science, Instructional Technology, Special Education, School Administration, Adult Education, Health Education and Promotion, Counselor Education, Distance Learning and Administration, Child Life, School Counseling, College Student Personnel, Educational Leadership, Special Education, Community Health Education, Curriculum and Instruction, University and College Administration, Information science, Library Science

Engineering: Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Architectural Engineering, Industrial and Systems Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Bioengineering, Geomatics (Geospatial Engineering), Manufacturing Systems (Motorsports), Engineering Management, Optical Science & Engineering, Fire Engineering Tech, Paper Science Engineering, Nuclear Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Aviation Science, Textiles Engineering

English and Literature: English, Literature, Creative Writing

Fitness: Health Promotion, Exercise Science, Athletic Training, Exercise and Sport Science, Physiology, Sports Studies, Exercise Physiology, Health Fitness Specialist, Physical Education, Sports Management, Health and Wellness Promotion, Recreation and Sports Leadership, Clinical Exercise Physiology, Kinesiology, Recreation Administration, Exercise and Sport Science, Therapeutic Recreation

Hard Sciences: Biology, Fermentation Sciences, Biofeedback, Maritime Studies, Interdisciplinary Biological Science, Biochemistry, Actuarial Science, Physics, Forensic Science, Geology, Environmental Science, Environmental Health, Clinical Laboratory Science, Chemistry, Science Education, Applied Atmospheric Science, Environmental Studies, Clinical Research, Nanoscale Science, Meteorology, Applied Science, Microbiology, Fisheries Wildlife and Conservation Biology, Chemical Engineering, Fermentation Sciences; Science, Technology, Society

Journalism, Marketing, and Communications: Marketing & Journalism: Graphic Design, Advertising, Communications, Merchandising, Journalism and Mass Communication, Broadcast Production, Graphic Communication Systems, Mass Communication

Language: Spanish, Romance Languages, German, Japanese, Linguistics

Mathematics and Economics: Mathematics, Applied Analytics, Statistics, Economics

Medical: Gerontology, Nursing, Nutrition, Health Promotion, Health Care Management, Dental Medicine, Speech Therapy, Physician Assistant Studies, Medicine, Physical Therapy, Health Services Management, Recreational Therapy, Rehabilitation Services, Speech and Hearing Sciences, Health Sciences, Nurse Administration, Nurse Anesthesia, Family Nurse Practitioner, Emergency Medical Care, Communication Science & Disorder, Health Psychology, Nurse Anesthesia, Gerontology, Respiratory Therapy, Professions in Deafness, Pharmaceutical Science, Medicine, Dentistry, Radiological Science, Prosthodontics, Dental Hygiene, Maternal and Child Health, Occupational Therapy, Rehabilitation Counseling, Rehabilitation Studies

Psychology and Counseling: Marriage and Family Therapy, Health Psychology, Family Community Services, Counseling, Clinical Mental Health, Military Behavioral Health, Mental Health Counseling, Rehab Counseling and Psychology

Public Policy and Administration: Public Administration, Public Policy, Public Health, Coastal Resources Management, Urban and Regional Planning, Public Affairs, Emergency and Disaster Management, Natural Resource & Conservation Management, Parks and Recreation Management, Fire Science Management, Public Health Policy and Management, Health Policy and Management, City and Regional Planning, Leadership in the Public Sector, Coastal Resources Management

Social Sciences: Political Science, History, Anthropology, Geography, Global Studies, International Studies, International Relations, Security Studies, Multidisciplinary Studies, Interdisciplinary Studies, Intelligence Studies, Women's Studies, Liberal Studies, Cultural Change Sociology, Conflict Management and Resolution, Pre Law, Latin American Studies, Africana Studies, Conflict Resolution, Contemporary European Studies; Peace, War, and Defense