Graduation Rates

IPEDS Definition**: Graduation rates are those developed to satisfy the requirements of the Student Right-to-Know and Higher Education Opportunity Acts and are defined as *the total number of individuals from a given cohort of full-time, first-time, degree/certificate-seeking undergraduates who completed a degree or certificate within a given percent of normal time (for the degree or certificate), divided by the entire cohort of full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduates minus any allowable exclusions.*

Reporting Year	% Graduated 150% Time	% Transferred Out
2011	41%	45%
2012	49%	40%
2013	43%	41%
2014	45%	38%
2015	46%	36%
2016	44%	40%
2017	50%	37%
2018	50%	37%
2019	55%	29%
2020	57%	30%
2021	51%	35%
2022	40%	54%
2023	47%	51%
2024	51%	29%
2025	58%	7%

We need to note here that the current IPEDS definition of graduation rates can be faulted for its inability to describe true student success in cases of high student mobility. Adventist colleges and universities tend to have comparatively lower graduation rates precisely because of high student mobility since they serve a national and international denominational constituency. PUC's transfer-out rate is 30-40%, which is above the median for both national private non-profit institutions and Adventist institutions. At the same time, approximately equal numbers of students transfer in. As a result, the size of a typical PUC graduating class is about 70% of the size of its freshman class.