# Retention Rates

The National Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)* defines full-time retention rates as *the number of full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students who enter the institution for the first-time in the fall and who return to the same institution the following fall (as either full- or part-time), divided by the total number of full-time, first-time, degree/certificate-seeking undergraduates in the fall of first entrance. For 4-year institutions offering a bachelor's degree, this rate is reported only for those first-time students seeking a bachelor's degree.*

| Reporting Year | Total Students | # Returned Second Year | % Returned Second Year |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2003 | 294 | 196 | 67% |
| 2004 | 251 | 183 | 73% |
| 2005 | 280 | 204 | 73% |
| 2006 | 247 | 176 | 71% |
| 2007 | 244 | 173 | 71% |
| 2008 | 226 | 166 | 73% |
| 2009 | 190 | 142 | 75% |
| 2010 | 235 | 175 | 74% |
| 2011 | 268 | 200 | 75% |
| 2012 | 266 | 207 | 78% |
| 2013 | 188 | 159 | 85% |
| 2014 | 239 | 188 | 79% |
| 2015 | 212 | 161 | 76% |
| 2016 | 171 | 132 | 77% |
| 2017 | 168 | 115 | 68% |
| 2018 | 137 | 112 | 82% |
| 2019 | 106 | 85 | 80% |
| 2020 | 111 | 78 | 70% |
| 2021 | 105 | 64 | 61% |
| 2022 | 94 | 70 | 75% |
| 2023 | 75 | 66 | 88% |
| 2024 | 108 | 86 | 80% |
| 2025 | 87 | 71 | 82% |
| 2026 | 103 | 83 | 81% |

Note: Current IPEDS definition of retention rates focus on students seeking a bachelor's degree. Therefore, the numbers exclude students pursuing an associate degree (such as Nursing or Health Professions) or a transfer program. For this reason, the number of students reported in each year's cohort numbers is considerably smaller than the entire freshman class for the year.