

University of Kansas

Attendance Patterns of First-time, Full-time Freshmen Retention and Graduation

DEFINITIONS

Fall Semester of Entering Freshman Classes/Entering Freshmen

Each Fall semester a cohort of new freshmen are admitted to the University of Kansas. The definition of first-time freshmen is:

- Entering freshmen who have never attended any college;
- Students enrolled in the fall term who attended college for the first time in the prior summer term;
- Students who entered with advance standing (college credits earned before graduation from high school);
- Any student who graduated from high school in the previous spring semester, regardless of whether or not they earned college credit prior to graduation or during the summer semester prior to the fall semester enrollment.

Retention Rates

Student enrollment is captured as of 20th day of classes for each semester. Retention data are reported for students enrolled in the two subsequent spring and fall terms.

Cumulative Graduation Rates

Graduation rates are captured for students who graduate after 3, 4, 5, and 6 years. The rates are cumulative. For example, the six-year calculation includes students who graduated after 3, 4, 5, and 6 years.

Continuation Rates

The continuation rates represent students who have not graduated from KU and are enrolled as an undergraduate for the designated fall semesters.

Full-time Status

Students are categorized as full-time or part-time based on the number of hours enrolled during the first semester at KU. Full-time status is given to students enrolled in 12 or more hours. Once this status is set, it does not change regardless of how many hours the student enrolls in during subsequent semesters.

Ethnicity/Race

The ethnicity of the student is self-reported. The data are captured during the student's first semester.

Residency

Residency is based on coding used for fee purposes. Students who have established residency in the State of Kansas are referred to as residents. Out-of-state students are labeled nonresidents.

ACT / Converted SAT Scores

ACT analyses are based on the composite score. ACT composite scores earned prior to 1990 have been enhanced on an individual basis for purposes of this study. For Fall 1995 and later the SAT Total scores are converted to ACT scores and are included in the retention and graduation analyses.