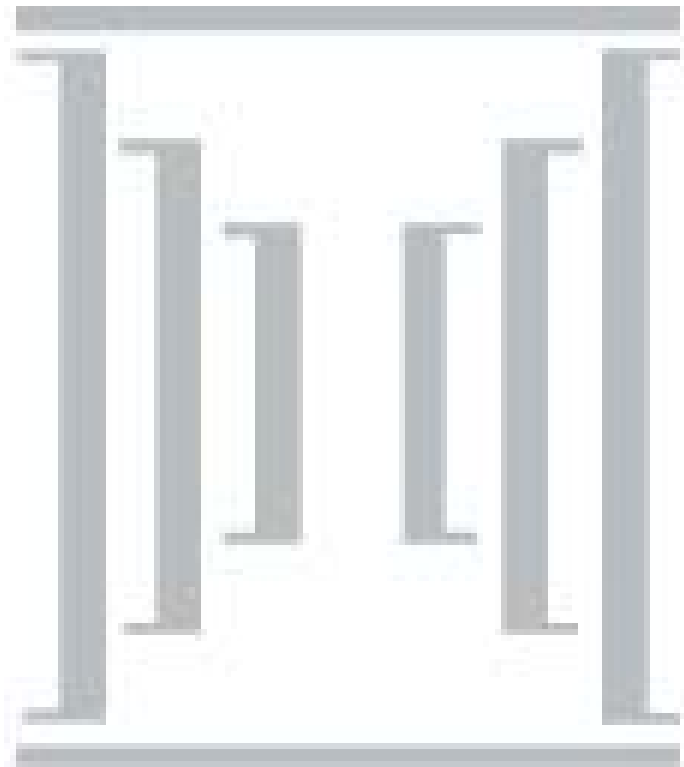


Data Trends and Briefings

December 1, 2008

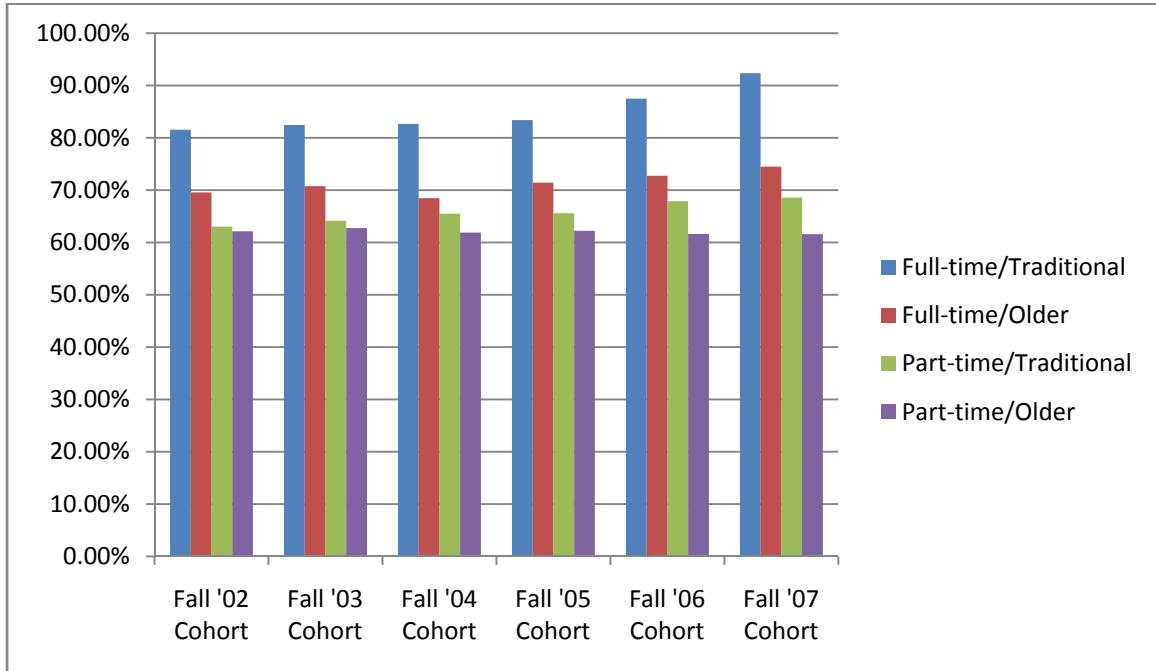


North Carolina Community College System
Office of the President

Curriculum Student Retention Analysis from 2002-03 to 2007-08: Six Year Trend Analysis

Matching student records in CRPFAR (Curriculum, Registration, Progress, and Financial Aid Report) data files from 2002-03 to 2007-08, retention rates of curriculum students were calculated. Attendance status was either full-time or part-time at the time of fall registration in each cohort. Age groups were divided into two: 22 years old and/or younger (traditional age) and 23 and/or older (older).

1. Persisted Fall to Spring (Within-Year Retention)



Within-Year Retention Rates by Age Group and Attendance Status – Fall to Spring

	Full-time/Traditional	Full-time/Older	Part-time/Traditional	Part-time/Older	Total
Fall '02 Cohort (N=36,109)	10,459 (81.56%)	5,355 (69.56%)	3,984 (63.02%)	5,758 (62.14%)	25,556 (70.77%)
Fall '03 Cohort (N=36,489)	11,089 (82.45%)	5,586 (70.77%)	4,088 (64.15%)	5,506 (62.75%)	26,269 (71.99%)
Fall '04 Cohort (N=36,235)	11,328 (82.65%)	5,007 (68.48%)	4,374 (65.51%)	5,287 (61.91%)	25,996 (71.74%)
Fall '05 Cohort (N=35,862)	9,138 (83.39%)	4,413 (71.44%)	5,867 (65.59%)	6,089 (62.24%)	25,507 (71.13%)
Fall '06 Cohort (N=32,473)	6,609 (87.49%)	3,100 (72.75%)	7,440 (67.90%)	5,977 (61.61%)	23,126 (71.22%)
Fall '07 Cohort (N=38,957)	6,781 (92.36%)	3,022 (74.51%)	10,778 (68.59%)	7,308 (61.59%)	27,889 (71.59%)

- Within-year retention rates for full-time/traditional -age group from 2002-03 to 2007-08 steadily increased. In this group, a low of 81.56% of fall '02 cohort to a high of 92.36% of fall '07 cohort returned to next spring semester.
- Same trend of fall to spring retention was observed for part-time traditional-age group with a low of 63.02% for the fall '02 cohort and a high of 68.59% for the fall '07 cohort.
- For older students, within-year retention rates were rather fluctuating year by year. However, fall to spring retention rates for full-time/older group were generally improving over the years, while the ones for part-time/older group were rather static.
- Overall within-year fall to spring retention rates — regardless of the attendance status and age group — indicated that seven out of ten students returned to next semester.

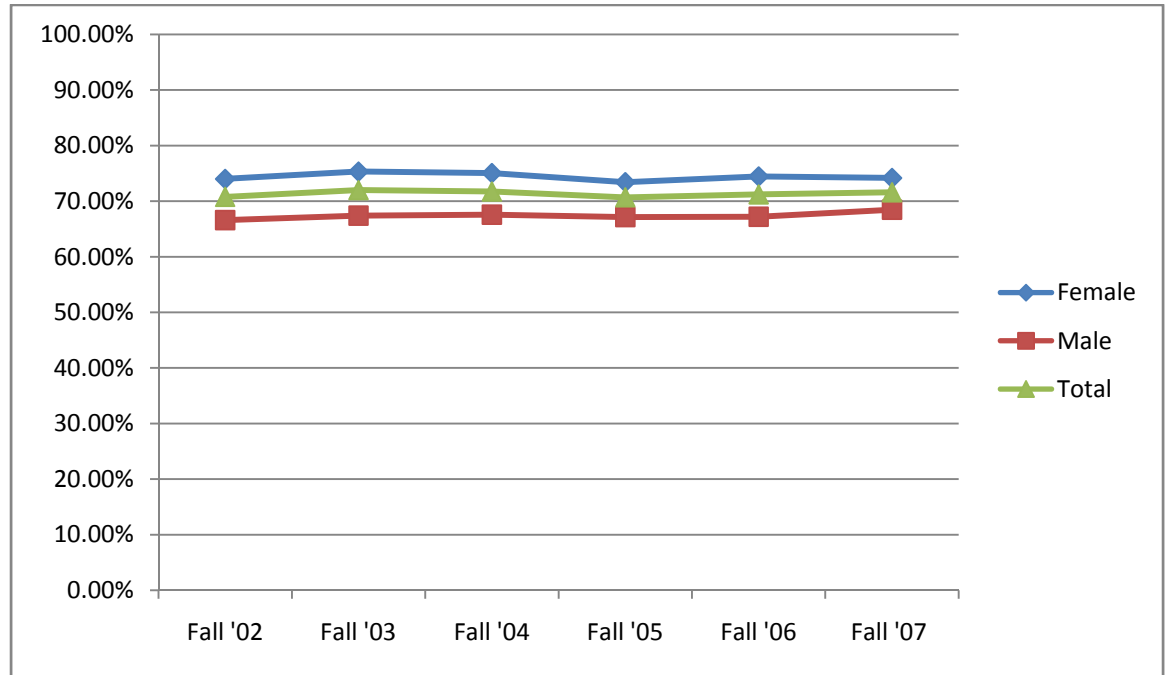
Within-Year Retention Rates by Gender – Fall to Spring

Gender	Fall '02 Cohort	Fall '03 Cohort	Fall '04 Cohort	Fall '05 Cohort	Fall '06 Cohort	Fall '07 Cohort
Female	15,063 (74.00%)*	15,574 (75.53%)*	15,158 (75.05%)*	14,932 (73.41%)*	13,372 (74.45%)*	15,840 (74.17%)*
Male	10,492 (66.60%)*	10,694 (67.39%)*	10,837 (67.58%)*	10,506 (67.15%)*	9,753 (67.21%)*	12,048 (68.46%)*
Total	25,555 (70.77%)*	26,268 (71.99%)*	25,995 (71.74%)*	25,438 (70.69%)*	23,125 (71.22%)*	27,888 (71.59%)*

*Percent of the students in the cell, who returned to spring semester.

- Gender difference in the within-year retention rates ranged from a high of 8.14% (fall '03 cohort) to a low of 4.52% (fall '05 cohort); more female students were retained from fall to spring semester over the years.
- After a big gender difference in retention rates from fall '03 to spring '04 (8.14%), the gap slightly decreased. For the fall '05 cohort, the gender difference in fall to spring retention rate was significantly less than the ones for other years (4.52%).
- Gender difference in within-year retention rates for the most recent years indicated it's improving over the years. But, the trend needs to be observed for longer period before it gets conclusive.

Within-Year Retention Rates by Gender – Fall to Spring



Within-Year Retention Rates by Race/Ethnicity – Fall to Spring

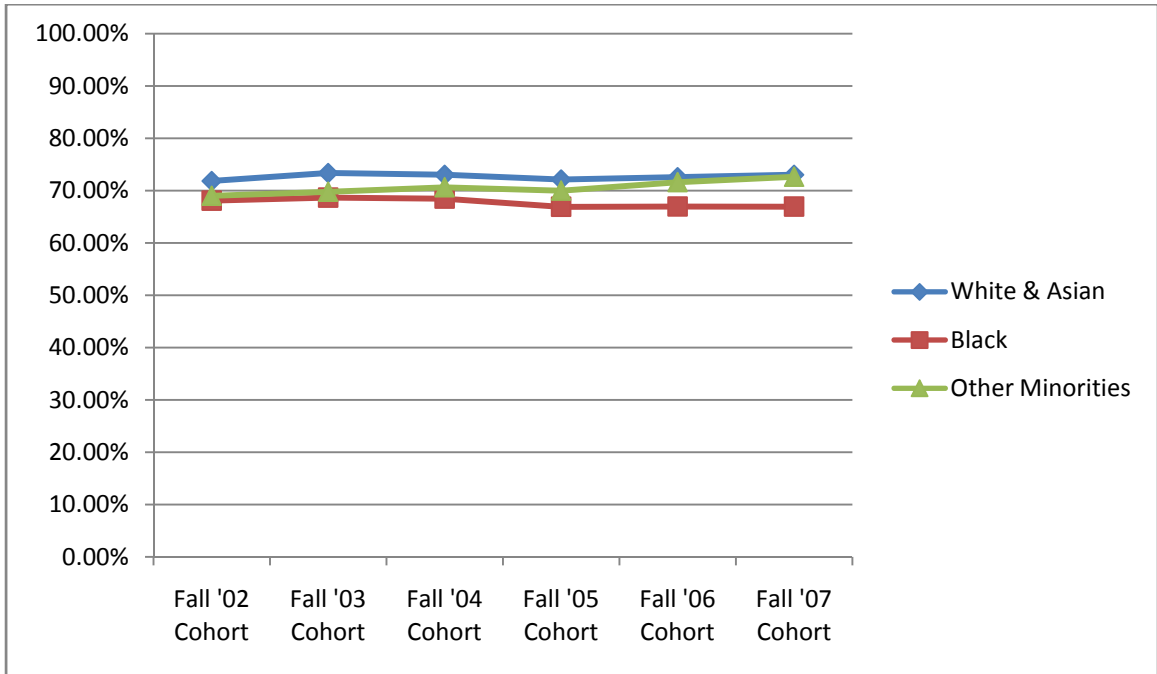
Race/Ethnicity	Fall '02 Cohort	Fall '03 Cohort	Fall '04 Cohort	Fall '05 Cohort	Fall '06 Cohort	Fall '07 Cohort
White	17,638 (71.72%)*	17,970 (73.33%)*	17,551 (72.94%)*	17,096 (72.13%)*	15,380 (72.45%)*	17,428 (72.91%)*
Black	5,755 (68.08%)*	6,008 (68.67%)*	5,931 (68.47%)*	5,809 (66.91%)*	4,832 (66.96%)*	5,924 (66.95%)*
Am. Indian	441 (67.43%)*	459 (67.40%)*	480 (71.11%)*	409 (67.38%)*	414 (69.58%)*	451 (69.17%)*
Hispanic	655 (69.90%)*	753 (69.08%)*	807 (68.33%)*	935 (71.65%)*	827 (71.73%)*	1,034 (72.82%)*
Asian	506 (76.09%)*	488 (74.96%)*	540 (75.63%)*	520 (71.92%)*	459 (76.50%)*	590 (76.62%)*
Other/Unknown	560 (69.39%)*	590 (72.57%)*	686 (73.06%)*	669 (69.33%)*	1,213 (72.25%)*	2,461 (73.22%)*

*Percent of the students in the cell, who returned to spring semester.

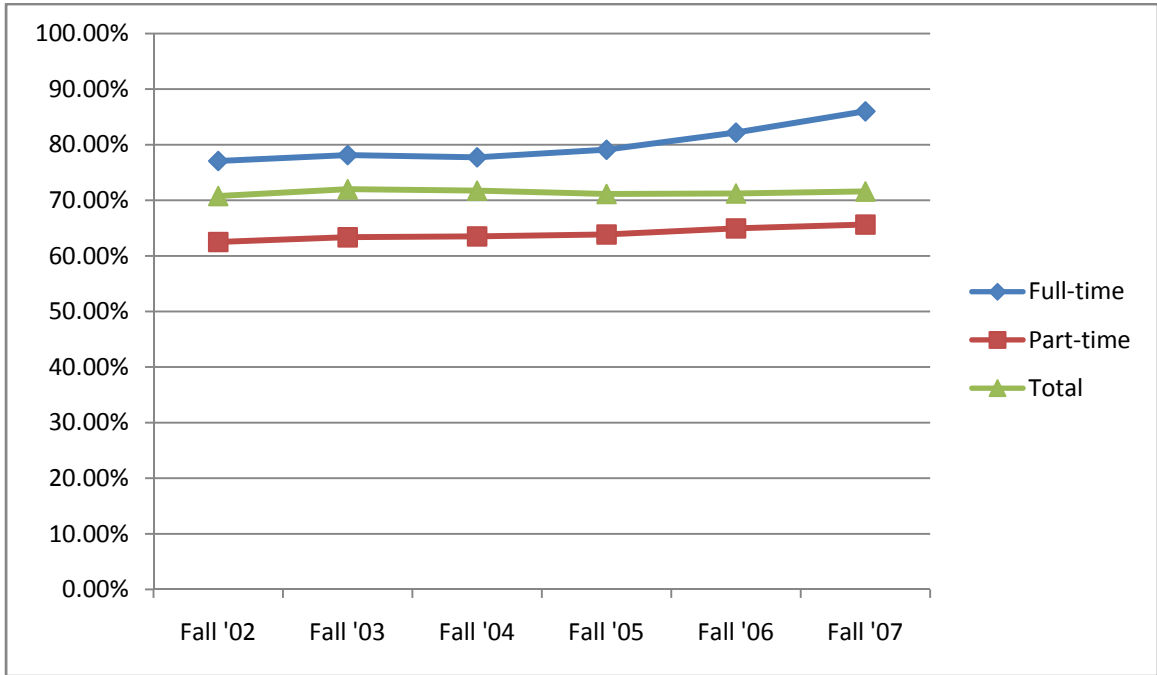
- Difference in within-year retention rates between White/Asian students and Black students persisted year after year. However, retention rates for other minorities such as Hispanic students steadily improved over the years.

- The difference in fall to spring retention rates between Asian and Black students ranged from a low of 5.01% in the fall '05 cohort to 9.67% in the fall '07 cohort.
- The difference between White and Black students ranged from a low of 3.64% in the fall '02 cohort to a high of 5.96% in the fall '07 cohort.

Within-Year Retention Rates by Race/Ethnicity – Fall to Spring

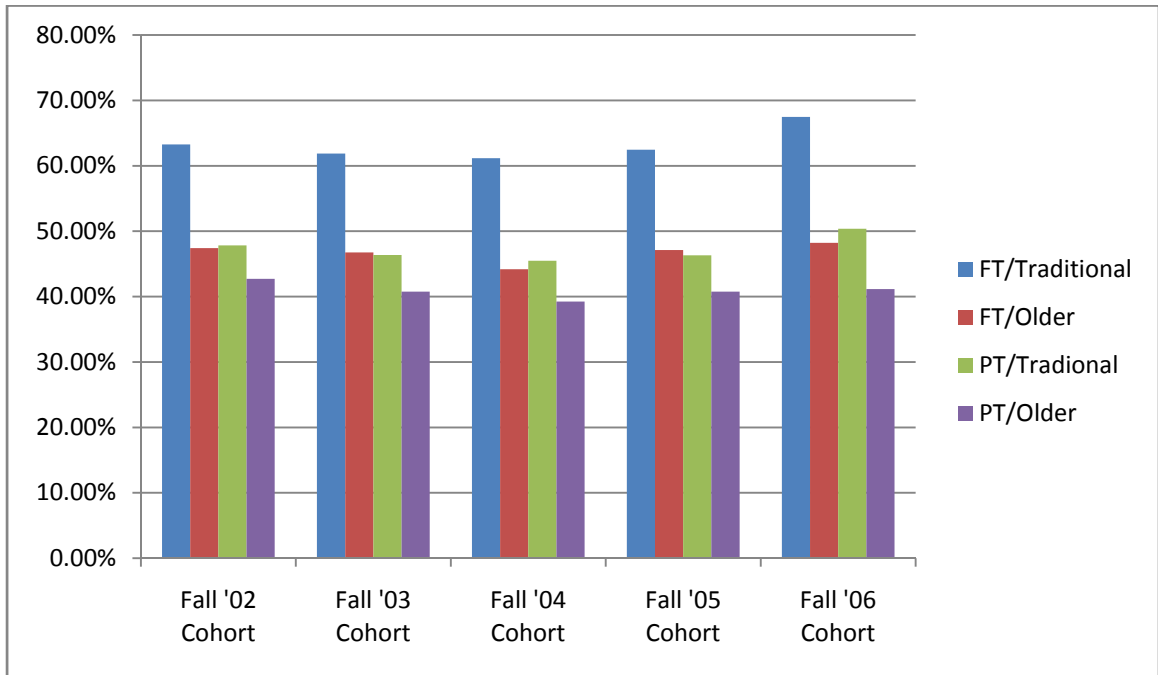


Six Year Trend Line for Retention Rates by Attendance Status – Fall to Spring



- Comparing by attendance status, fall to spring retention rates for both full-time and part-time students slightly increased over the years, although the trend for the full-time students was more evident than part-time students'.

2. Persisted Fall to Fall (One-Year Retention)



One-Year Retention Rates by Age Group and Attendance Status – Fall to Fall

	FT/Traditional	FT/Older	PT/Traditional	PT/Older	Total
Fall '02 Cohort (N=36,109)	8,113 (63.27%)*	3,650 (47.41%)*	3,023 (47.82%)*	3,958 (42.72%)*	18,744 (51.91%)*
Fall '03 Cohort (N=36,489)	8,322 (61.88%)*	3,690 (46.75%)*	2,954 (46.35%)*	3,576 (40.76%)*	18,542 (50.82%)*
Fall '04 Cohort (N=36,235)	8,382 (61.16%)*	3,231 (44.19%)*	3,038 (45.49%)*	3,351 (39.24%)*	18,002 (49.68%)*
Fall '05 Cohort (N=35,862)	6,845 (62.47%)*	2,911 (47.13%)*	4,143 (46.32%)*	3,988 (40.76%)*	17,887 (49.88%)*
Fall '06 Cohort (N=32,473)	5,097 (67.47%)*	2,054 (48.21%)*	5,520 (50.38%)*	3,991 (41.14%)*	16,662 (51.31%)*

*Percent of the students in the cell, who returned to the fall semester next year.

- From a low of 61.16% of the fall '04 to a high of 67.47% of the fall '06 full-time/traditional-age cohort were retained a year later. One-year retention rates for this group slightly decreased from 2003-04 to 2005-06, and then significantly increased for the fall '06 cohort.

- Same trend was observed for the part-time/traditional age group as in the full-time traditional age group, with a low of 45.49% for the fall '04 cohort and a high of 50.38% for the fall '06 cohort.
- Pattern of one-year retention rates for the older age groups was similar to the younger counterparts with significantly lower rates.
- Regardless of the attendance status and the age group, about a half of a cohort retained a year later.

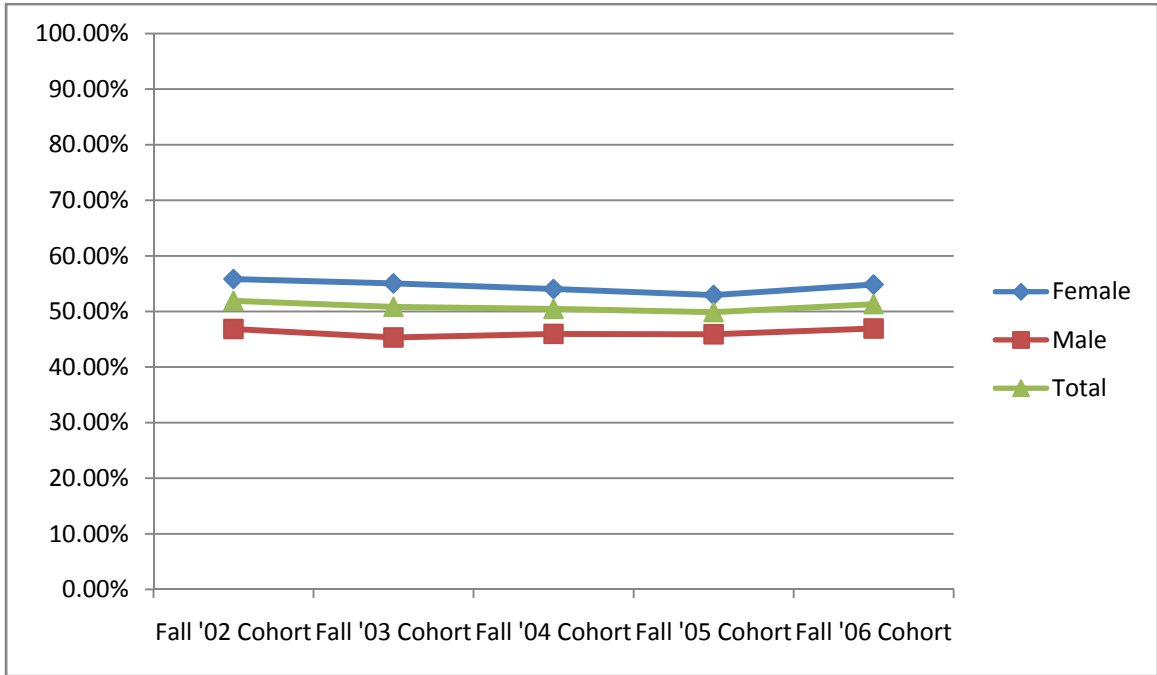
One-Year Retention Rates by Gender – Fall to Fall

Gender	Fall '02 Cohort	Fall '03 Cohort	Fall '04 Cohort	Fall '05 Cohort	Fall '06 Cohort
Female	11,364 (55.83%)*	11,352 (55.05%)*	10,915 (54.04%)*	10,721 (52.96%)*	9,850 (54.84%)*
Male	7,379 (46.84%)*	7,189 (45.31%)*	7,370 (45.96%)*	7,165 (45.88%)*	6,811 (46.93%)*
Total	18,743 (51.91%)*	18,541 (50.82%)*	18,285 (50.47%)*	17,886 (49.88%)*	16,661 (51.31%)*

*Percent of the students in the cell, who returned to the fall semester next year.

- Gender difference in the fall to fall one-year retention rates was similar to the pattern of spring to fall within-year retention rates. It ranged from a low of 7.08% in the fall '05 cohort to a high of 9.74% in the fall '03 cohort.
- One-year retention rates indicated there's a constant gap between female and male retention rates.

One-Year Retention Rates by Gender – Fall to Fall



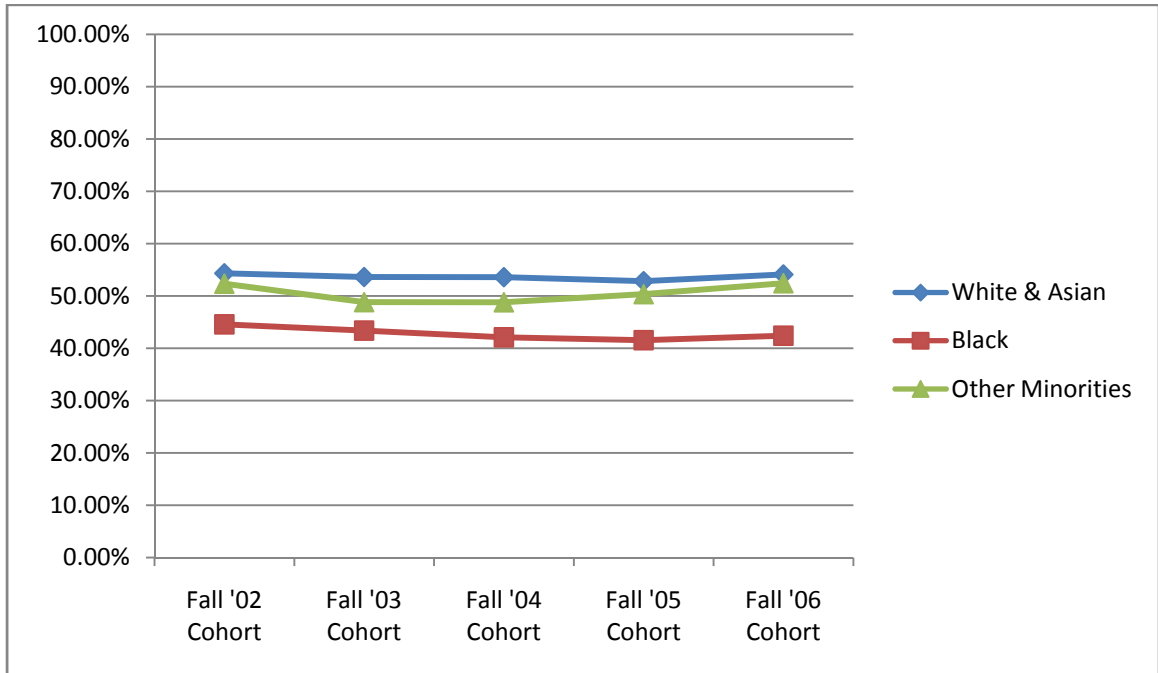
One-Year Retention Rates by Race/Ethnicity – Fall to Fall

Race/Ethnicity	Fall '02 Cohort	Fall '03 Cohort	Fall '04 Cohort	Fall '05 Cohort	Fall '06 Cohort
White	13,315 (54.14%)*	13,126 (53.57%)*	12,871 (53.49%)*	12,434 (52.66%)*	11,439 (53.88%)*
Black	3,769 (44.59%)*	3,796 (43.39%)*	3,648 (42.11%)*	3,598 (41.55%)*	3,060 (42.41%)*
Am. Indian	347 (53.06%)*	339 (49.78%)*	336 (49.78%)*	294 (48.76%)*	308 (51.76%)*
Hispanic	480 (51.23%)*	526 (48.26%)*	581 (49.20%)*	692 (53.11%)*	587 (50.91%)*
Asian	404 (60.75%)*	358 (54.99%)*	403 (56.44%)*	415 (57.56%)*	366 (61.00%)*
Other/Unknown	428 (53.04%)*	396 (48.71%)*	446 (47.50%)*	453 (47.14%)*	901 (53.66%)*

*Percent of the students in the cell, who returned to the fall semester next year.

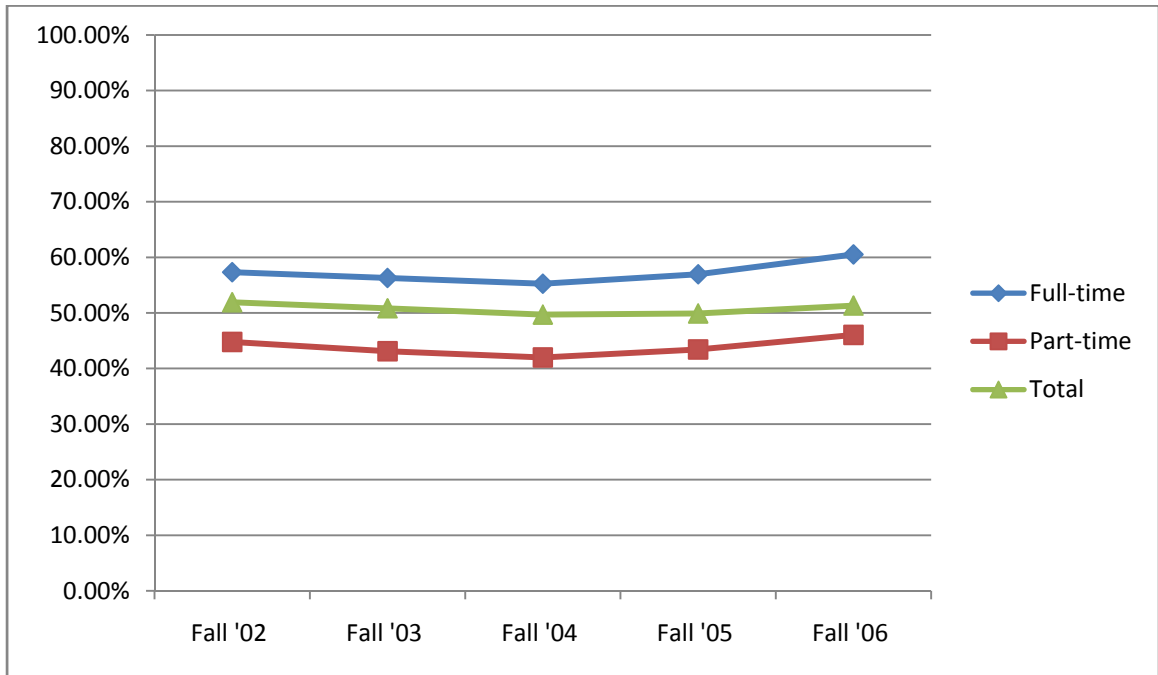
- Difference in one-year retention rates between Asian and Black students ranged from a low of 11.6% in the fall '03 cohort to a high of 18.59% in the fall '06 cohort.
- Although the magnitude of the differences between White and Black students was less than the ones for Asian and Black, there were significant differences between the two groups from a low of 9.55% in the fall '02 cohort to a high of 11.47% in the fall '06 cohort.

One-Year Retention Rates by Race/Ethnicity – Fall to Fall



- One-year retention rates of other minority groups improved after fall '05.
- One-year retention rates for Black students slightly decreased from fall '02 cohort to fall '04 cohort, and then they were rather static.

Five Year Trend Line for Retention Rates by Attendance Status – Fall to Fall



- For both full-time and part-time students, one-year retention rates slightly decreased for fall '03 and '04 cohort, and then they started to increase from the fall '05 cohort.

Appendix: Retention Rates by College

Fall to Spring Retention Rates (Within-Year Retention Rates) by College

College	Fall '02 Cohort	Fall '03 Cohort	Fall '04 Cohort	Fall '05 Cohort	Fall '06 Cohort	Fall '07 Cohort
Alamance CC	66.28%	71.31%	72.02%	67.51%	70.38%	72.84%
AB Tech CC	66.51%	69.01%	69.80%	68.92%	66.38%	69.08%
Beaufort CCC	76.81%	72.37%	74.33%	69.70%	73.17%	78.07%
Bladen CC	64.26%	69.65%	70.93%	68.73%	63.45%	69.09%
Blue Ridge CC	74%	70.95%	71.04%	73.84%	71.30%	73.17%
Brunswick CC	63.21%	69.07%	65.83%	63.95%	67.03%	69.76%
Caldwell CC & TI	63.88%	68.79%	68.14%	68.60%	69.81%	72.82%
Cape Fear CC	72.63%	71.11%	72.65%	70.46%	71.72%	74.46%
Carteret CC	70.82%	72.41%	68.67%	70.82%	75.68%	74.92%
Catawba Valley CC	76.15%	77.64%	77.59%	75.82%	72.90%	72.76%
Central Carolina CC	62.26%	66.63%	61.37%	67.26%	63.46%	67.87%
Central Piedmont CC	77.27%	76.04%	77.87%	76.86%	64.60%	70.27%
Cleveland CC	66.43%	76.61%	65.09%	65.98%	65.23%	70.87%
Coastal Carolina CC	63.56%	65.91%	65.41%	66.85%	68.18%	69.89%
COA	67.76%	67.17%	71.54%	66.67%	70.06%	72.33%
Craven CC	68.50%	63.46%	62.30%	64.35%	64.38%	64.04%
Davidson County CC	71.97%	73.50%	67.48%	71.30%	72.20%	66.91%
Durham TCC	72.19%	72.41%	69.90%	69.60%	72.48%	65.57%
Edgecombe CC	71.88%	73.49%	71.61%	68.95%	67.50%	76.12%
Fayetteville TCC	73.87%	78.76%	75.34%	75.49%	77.63%	75.14%
Forsyth TCC	73.65%	74.17%	73.83%	72.90%	72.96%	73.86%

Gaston College	68.77%	71.82%	70.43%	71.74%	71.31%	73.06%
Guilford TCC	69.15%	70.32%	74.02%	70.88%	75.30%	72.75%
Halifax CC	69.90%	65.18%	71.02%	74.16%	67.36%	75.47%
Haywood CC	72.81%	74.65%	70.19%	67.91%	72.78%	73.10%
Isothermal CC	67.67%	78.78%	81.40%	76.42%	73.28%	80.15%
James Sprunt CC	68.84%	73.26%	69.80%	73.97%	69.44%	64.74%
Johnston CC	50.84%	54.72%	52.87%	55.12%	65.03%	62.05%
Lenoir CC	78.56%	80.61%	78.45%	79.31%	80.89%	81.37%
Martin CC	77.90%	78.24%	72.57%	72.02%	64.43%	60.33%
Mayland CC	74.58%	63.00%	77.53%	66.42%	66.53%	66.09%
McDowell TCC	66.40%	68.58%	67.77%	69.92%	61.84%	66.04%
Mitchell CC	73.77%	69.46%	67.19%	67.39%	66.86%	70.69%
Montgomery CC	71.43%	71.35%	65.79%	69.46%	65.97%	66.96%
Nash CC	71.99%	71.40%	73.61%	72.41%	68.49%	70.80%
Pamlico CC	51.46%	58.33%	52.48%	52.94%	59.63%	48.84%
Piedmont CC	62.70%	57.39%	60.66%	59.54%	61.29%	56.35%
Pitt CC	74.43%	78.49%	73.33%	74.67%	76.90%	77.37%
Randolph CC	73.18%	80.50%	76.06%	76.03%	75.12%	80.10%
Richmond CC	77.22%	72.02%	69.89%	68.67%	75.09%	74.14%
Roanoke-Chowan CC	72.36%	73.53%	71.25%	69.52%	68.72%	59.43%
Robeson CC	57.97%	59.69%	62.57%	61.52%	64.57%	65.53%
Rockingham CC	78.59%	79.52%	75.85%	74.39%	76.20%	76.16%
Rowan-Cabarrus CC	69.90%	72.22%	72.58%	72.37%	69.45%	70.94%
Sampson CC	71.79%	78.00%	74.63%	71.17%	78.65%	65.05%

Sandhills CC	72.64%	77.14%	77.03%	75.06%	74.69%	76.21%
South Piedmont CC	63.23%	72.84%	67.67%	64.16%	66.33%	72.73%
Southeastern CC	69.10%	65.91%	69.57%	70.23%	71.60%	74.86%
Southwestern CC	73.13%	73.74%	73.37%	71.23%	69.86%	72.28%
Stanly CC	66.56%	67.56%	69.85%	61.21%	63.02%	57.89%
Surry CC	80.83%	77.82%	80.59%	77.35%	82.16%	77.29%
Tri-County CC	66.22%	69.53%	65.63%	70.38%	70.83%	70.49%
Vance-Granville CC	68.21%	72.81%	69.08%	68.55%	70.96%	68.91%
Wake TCC	73.96%	70.99%	72.63%	70.53%	71.96%	71.28%
Wayne CC	75.56%	75.62%	78.37%	74.53%	74.23%	76.92%
Western Piedmont CC	73.86%	75.26%	73.98%	74.39%	76.19%	77.54%
Wilkes CC	72.44%	71.48%	73.47%	71.26%	80.36%	74.07%
Wilson CC	75.00%	72.55%	81.27%	74.88%	73.96%	70.18%
System Total	70.77%	71.99%	71.74%	70.69%	71.22%	71.59%

Fall to Fall Retention Rates (One-Year Retention Rates) by College

College	Fall '02 Cohort	Fall '03 Cohort	Fall '04 Cohort	Fall '05 Cohort	Fall '06 Cohort
Alamance CC	50.79%	53.04%	52.55%	49.26%	48.24%
AB Tech CC	48.47%	49.25%	49.01%	53.83%	50.00%
Beaufort CCC	53.99%	53.51%	50.19%	48.03%	57.32%
Bladen CC	52.21%	49.81%	51.16%	49.03%	42.02%
Blue Ridge CC	47.20%	50.00%	49.26%	47.12%	45.10%
Brunswick CC	48.93%	45.02%	40.65%	46.98%	48.72%

Caldwell CC & TI	48.03%	50.46%	51.80%	47.43%	50.84%
Cape Fear CC	53.90%	50.92%	54.76%	51.26%	53.58%
Carteret CC	45.33%	47.09%	50.91%	50.00%	50.00%
Catawba Valley CC	55.13%	56.77%	53.08%	54.19%	54.45%
Central Carolina CC	45.84%	36.14%	42.58%	42.78%	44.96%
Central Piedmont CC	57.04%	56.26%	56.14%	54.66%	46.17%
Cleveland CC	45.13%	52.63%	41.82%	41.19%	36.78%
Coastal Carolina CC	45.09%	44.16%	43.24%	46.28%	44.58%
COA	47.43%	43.36%	48.87%	42.86%	44.07%
Craven CC	50.00%	45.71%	45.90%	49.92%	48.13%
Davidson County CC	53.89%	53.72%	47.22%	51.38%	55.12%
Durham TCC	55.47%	51.15%	49.71%	49.21%	49.69%
Edgecombe CC	46.31%	46.39%	46.06%	45.93%	45.42%
Fayetteville TCC	52.20%	49.85%	46.06%	52.90%	54.30%
Forsyth TCC	59.48%	52.05%	53.25%	53.50%	53.96%
Gaston College	48.24%	49.80%	50.43%	51.38%	51.38%
Guilford TCC	53.82%	52.43%	53.12%	51.20%	55.89%
Halifax CC	45.15%	41.07%	47.00%	47.37%	40.08%
Haywood CC	54.69%	57.29%	51.32%	50.85%	55.30%
Isothermal CC	47.67%	57.88%	56.49%	52.08%	48.99%
James Sprunt CC	46.01%	47.67%	48.51%	47.95%	41.11%
Johnston CC	37.86%	35.98%	37.79%	41.68%	46.17%
Lenoir CC	60.95%	66.01%	59.00%	55.56%	61.77%
Martin CC	58.01%	61.18%	55.43%	46.11%	40.94%

Mayland CC	40.86%	30.40%	33.33%	31.72%	35.54%
McDowell TCC	52.17%	41.59%	46.69%	48.51%	39.91%
Mitchell CC	55.01%	50.58%	48.13%	46.88%	48.94%
Montgomery CC	48.47%	34.83%	47.37%	48.50%	53.93%
Nash CC	53.17%	50.94%	47.92%	52.03%	54.11%
Pamlico CC	36.89%	43.75%	35.64%	34.00%	41.28%
Piedmont CC	41.62%	35.36%	37.24%	34.68%	39.68%
Pitt CC	55.41%	57.21%	55.16%	51.03%	55.71%
Randolph CC	53.64%	53.90%	55.72%	54.13%	56.59%
Richmond CC	59.23%	51.04%	47.73%	44.44%	51.28%
Roanoke-Chowan CC	46.73%	43.14%	40.63%	36.36%	45.37%
Robeson CC	42.73%	41.46%	43.39%	44.94%	44.88%
Rockingham CC	57.75%	62.89%	56.59%	53.41%	58.60%
Rowan-Cabarrus CC	50.17%	52.78%	50.73%	51.99%	53.28%
Sampson CC	52.35%	60.67%	52.99%	48.75%	55.06%
Sandhills CC	60.32%	58.61%	56.95%	56.37%	55.80%
South Piedmont CC	49.47%	54.32%	45.49%	44.11%	49.88%
Southeastern CC	46.18%	44.48%	43.08%	42.33%	46.50%
Southwestern CC	52.35%	49.87%	51.78%	44.35%	53.97%
Stanly CC	43.83%	50.24%	45.73%	45.66%	50.85%
Surry CC	61.53%	58.27%	61.87%	58.43%	66.86%
Tri-County CC	41.89%	48.44%	43.75%	42.65%	43.33%
Vance-Granville CC	50.09%	50.09%	50.25%	44.55%	48.19%
Wake TCC	52.70%	51.45%	52.83%	48.33%	52.85%

Wayne CC	56.86%	56.06%	54.21%	53.89%	56.26%
Western Piedmont CC	60.99%	57.73%	55.53%	59.71%	58.57%
Wilkes CC	54.13%	52.09%	51.58%	48.46%	58.04%
Wilson CC	52.11%	44.29%	47.23%	43.93%	48.26%
System Total	51.91%	50.81%	50.46%	49.88%	51.31%

For more information, please contact Dr. Soyoungh C. Yim at yims@nccommunitycolleges.edu or (919) 807-6981 at the North Carolina Community College System Office.