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Retention Rates for First-Time Freshmen By Unit

This report contains current information about Fall-to-Spring and Fall-to-Fall retention rates for first-time freshmen at Tennessee Tech, by unit. Each freshman cohort consists of all first-time, full-time freshmen who entered the University in the Fall semester or the immediately preceding Summer.

Below is a summary of retention rates by unit. These rates were calculated as weighted averages for the entering freshman classes of Fall 1999, Fall 2000, Fall 2001, Fall 2002, Fall 2003, and Fall 2004. In subsequent sections, Table 1 provides detailed information for the overall cohorts, and Tables 2 through 9 provide corresponding information for the units and for those students classified in General Curriculum and Developmental Studies Program / Regulated Admission. Tables 2 through 9 are mutually exclusive, and students are grouped according to their *college and major in their first Fall term*. Retention information is about *retention at the University* and not necessarily retention within the original unit. Some freshmen migrate from the original unit (e.g., Engineering) to another unit (e.g., Arts and Sciences).

Fall-to-Spring Retention Rate for First-Time Freshmen

What percentage of first-time freshmen in Fall semester return for their Spring semester at Tennessee Tech?

University	88.8%
Agriculture and Human Ecology	87.2%
Arts and Sciences	88.9%
Business Administration	89.6%
Education	89.4%
Engineering	91.8%
Interdisciplinary Studies & Ext Educ	100.0% *
Nursing	92.3%
General Curriculum	85.6%
Regulated Admission	78.0%

* n = 1

One-Year Retention Rate for First-Time Freshmen

What percentage of first-time freshmen return for their second year at Tennessee Tech?

University	71.5%
Agriculture and Human Ecology	70.6%
Arts and Sciences	70.7%
Business Administration	74.4%
Education	76.5%
Engineering	78.7%
Interdisciplinary Studies & Ext Educ	100.0% *
Nursing	77.6%
General Curriculum	63.5%
Regulated Admission	45.6%

* n = 1

Notes

1. Information about retention by department for the Fall 2004 cohort is included in the Appendix.
2. The previous iteration of this report was *IR Series*, Vol. 04-05, [No. 21](#), March 11, 2005.
3. Throughout this report, the average fall-to-fall retention rate (from first Fall term to second Fall term) was calculated from six cohorts: the entering freshmen of Fall 1999, Fall 2000, Fall 2001, Fall 2002, Fall 2003, and Fall 2004.
4. In this report, "Independent Programs" is not included as a single unit. Instead, freshmen classified with a major of "General Curriculum" or "Regulated Admission" are included, but "Pre-Law" freshmen are excluded.
5. In Table 7, there were no first-time, full-time freshmen in Interdisciplinary Studies and Extended Education (ISEE) in Fall 2003 or in Fall 2004.
6. In Table 10, there were no first-time, full-time freshmen in Regulated Admission in Fall 2004.

Table 1: University

Entering Fall Class	First Fall Term	First Spring Term	Second Fall Term	Second Spring Term	Third Fall Term	Third Spring Term
1996	1,130	1,016 89.91%	831 73.54%	774 68.50%	713 63.10%	695 61.50%
1997	1,091	936 85.79%	753 69.02%	688 63.06%	623 57.10%	557 51.05%
1998	1,045	906 86.70%	740 70.81%	681 65.17%	597 57.13%	578 55.31%
1999	1,177	1,054 89.55%	844 71.71%	762 64.74%	702 59.64%	657 55.82%
2000	1,307	1,164 89.06%	933 71.38%	882 67.48%	805 61.59%	766 58.61%
2001	1,289	1,119 86.81%	904 70.13%	833 64.62%	755 58.57%	705 54.69%
2002	1,378	1,229 89.19%	993 72.06%	908 65.89%	817 59.29%	772 56.02%
2003	1374	1207 87.85%	975 70.96%	920 66.96%	841 61.21%	
2004	1478	1332 90.12%	1075 72.73%			
Weighted Average:		88.78%	71.52%	65.87%	59.67%	55.37%

Table 2: Agriculture and Human Ecology

Entering Fall Class	First Fall Term	First Spring Term	Second Fall Term	Second Spring Term	Third Fall Term	Third Spring Term
1996	57	53 92.98%	45 78.95%	42 73.68%	39 68.42%	35 61.40%
1997	53	47 88.68%	35 66.04%	35 66.04%	30 56.60%	31 58.49%
1998	41	34 82.93%	30 73.17%	29 70.73%	24 58.54%	23 56.10%
1999	60	56 93.33%	46 76.67%	42 70.00%	36 60.00%	34 56.67%
2000	65	59 90.77%	42 64.62%	42 64.62%	36 55.38%	36 55.38%
2001	67	57 85.07%	48 71.64%	48 71.64%	45 67.16%	44 65.67%
2002	62	53 85.48%	46 74.19%	45 72.58%	42 67.74%	39 62.90%
2003	65	53 81.54%	42 64.62%	40 61.54%	32 49.23%	
2004	65	57 87.69%	47 72.31%			
Weighted Average:		87.24%	70.57%	68.33%	59.72%	59.48%

Table 3: Arts and Sciences

Entering Fall Class	First Fall Term	First Spring Term	Second Fall Term	Second Spring Term	Third Fall Term	Third Spring Term
1996	221	195 88.24%	162 73.30%	144 65.16%	133 60.18%	136 61.54%
1997	204	173 84.80%	125 61.27%	119 58.33%	111 54.41%	101 49.51%
1998	196	172 87.76%	138 70.41%	129 65.82%	119 60.71%	115 58.67%
1999	188	174 92.55%	131 69.68%	121 64.36%	105 55.85%	103 54.79%
2000	268	238 88.81%	191 71.27%	178 66.42%	173 64.55%	166 61.94%
2001	261	228 87.36%	183 70.11%	170 65.13%	154 59.00%	153 58.62%
2002	275	246 89.45%	199 72.36%	182 66.18%	162 58.91%	158 57.45%
2003	289	255 88.24%	218 75.43%	209 72.32%	194 67.13%	
2004	316	279 88.29%	207 65.51%			
Weighted Average:		88.92%	70.70%	66.96%	61.41%	57.18%

Table 4: Business Administration

Entering Fall Class	First Fall Term	First Spring Term	Second Fall Term	Second Spring Term	Third Fall Term	Third Spring Term
1996	151	140 92.72%	115 76.16%	109 72.19%	100 66.23%	99 65.56%
1997	148	122 82.43%	109 73.65%	97 65.54%	85 57.43%	79 53.38%
1998	140	119 85.00%	101 72.14%	97 69.29%	87 62.14%	84 60.00%
1999	144	129 89.58%	117 81.25%	103 71.53%	97 67.36%	89 61.81%
2000	181	162 89.50%	140 77.35%	128 70.72%	116 64.09%	108 59.67%
2001	176	153 86.93%	126 71.59%	117 66.48%	105 59.66%	92 52.27%
2002	167	157 94.01%	130 77.84%	125 74.85%	113 67.66%	105 62.87%
2003	172	151 87.79%	122 70.93%	113 65.70%	105 61.05%	
2004	206	185 89.81%	143 69.42%			
Weighted Average:		89.58%	74.38%	69.69%	63.57%	58.26%

Table 5: Education

Entering Fall Class	First Fall Term	First Spring Term	Second Fall Term	Second Spring Term	Third Fall Term	Third Spring Term
1996	129	109 84.50%	82 63.57%	80 62.02%	72 55.81%	69 53.49%
1997	148	132 89.19%	114 77.03%	105 70.95%	103 69.59%	97 65.54%
1998	127	112 88.19%	95 74.80%	92 72.44%	78 61.42%	77 60.63%
1999	172	154 89.53%	128 74.42%	116 67.44%	107 62.21%	97 56.40%
2000	146	124 84.93%	110 75.34%	104 71.23%	100 68.49%	94 64.38%
2001	148	125 84.46%	106 71.62%	96 64.86%	90 60.81%	79 53.38%
2002	151	140 92.72%	114 75.50%	106 70.20%	102 67.55%	99 65.56%
2003	145	128 88.28%	109 75.17%	105 72.41%	98 67.59%	
2004	164	157 95.73%	141 85.98%			
Weighted Average:		89.42%	76.46%	69.63%	64.68%	60.87%

Table 6: Engineering

Entering Fall Class	First Fall Term	First Spring Term	Second Fall Term	Second Spring Term	Third Fall Term	Third Spring Term
1996	281	266 94.66%	224 79.72%	217 77.22%	207 73.67%	201 71.53%
1997	227	206 90.75%	174 76.65%	163 71.81%	157 69.16%	122 53.74%
1998	237	223 94.09%	193 81.43%	170 71.73%	148 62.45%	144 60.76%
1999	263	239 90.87%	206 78.33%	188 71.48%	183 69.58%	176 66.92%
2000	281	263 93.59%	229 81.49%	218 77.58%	202 71.89%	201 71.53%
2001	295	276 93.56%	237 80.34%	222 75.25%	213 72.20%	206 69.83%
2002	291	266 91.41%	226 77.66%	213 73.20%	195 67.01%	188 64.60%
2003	331	304 91.84%	261 78.85%	247 74.62%	238 71.90%	
2004	341	307 90.03%	259 75.95%			
Weighted Average:		91.84%	78.69%	74.09%	69.43%	65.06%

Table 7: Interdisciplinary Studies & Extended Education

Entering Fall Class	First Fall Term	First Spring Term	Second Fall Term	Second Spring Term	Third Fall Term	Third Spring Term
2002	1	1	1	1	0	0
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Table 8: Nursing

Entering Fall Class	First Fall Term	First Spring Term	Second Fall Term	Second Spring Term	Third Fall Term	Third Spring Term
1996	41	35	30	24	24	23
		85.37%	73.17%	58.54%	58.54%	56.10%
1997	47	41	37	34	25	26
		87.23%	78.72%	72.34%	53.19%	55.32%
1998	40	35	29	26	21	22
		87.50%	72.50%	65.00%	52.50%	55.00%
1999	55	48	38	33	30	27
		87.27%	69.09%	60.00%	54.55%	49.09%
2000	44	41	34	33	28	25
		93.18%	77.27%	75.00%	63.64%	56.82%
2001	38	34	27	24	17	16
		89.47%	71.05%	63.16%	44.74%	42.11%
2002	89	80	71	62	53	49
		89.89%	79.78%	69.66%	59.55%	55.06%
2003	73	72	61	53	46	
		98.63%	83.56%	72.60%	63.01%	
2004	129	120	101			
		93.02%	78.29%			
Weighted Average:		92.29%	77.57%	68.14%	57.52%	52.72%

Table 9: General Curriculum (Major = 'GECU')

Entering Fall Class	First Fall Term	First Spring Term	Second Fall Term	Second Spring Term	Third Fall Term	Third Spring Term
1996	186	164 88.17%	135 72.58%	125 67.20%	114 61.29%	109 58.60%
1997	158	132 83.54%	104 65.82%	87 55.06%	75 47.47%	72 45.57%
1998	200	165 82.50%	126 63.00%	108 54.00%	96 48.00%	96 48.00%
1999	198	174 87.88%	132 66.67%	120 60.61%	110 55.56%	102 51.52%
2000	230	200 86.96%	145 63.04%	135 58.70%	120 52.17%	113 49.13%
2001	211	177 83.89%	134 63.51%	125 59.24%	105 49.76%	100 47.39%
2002	250	214 85.60%	157 62.80%	135 54.00%	117 46.80%	105 42.00%
2003	246	201 81.71%	138 56.10%	130 52.85%	109 44.31%	
2004	244	215 88.11%	169 69.26%			
Weighted Average:		85.64%	63.45%	56.40%	49.21%	47.15%

Table 10: Regulated Admission (Major = 'RADM')

Entering Fall Class	First Fall Term	First Spring Term	Second Fall Term	Second Spring Term	Third Fall Term	Third Spring Term
1996	56	49 87.50%	34 60.71%	28 50.00%	20 35.71%	20 35.71%
1997	94	73 77.66%	47 50.00%	40 42.55%	31 32.98%	23 24.47%
1998	60	43 71.67%	26 43.33%	29 48.33%	22 36.67%	16 26.67%
1999	91	74 81.32%	41 45.05%	34 37.36%	28 30.77%	23 25.27%
2000	75	62 82.67%	34 45.33%	36 48.00%	22 29.33%	16 21.33%
2001	84	62 73.81%	38 45.24%	28 33.33%	23 27.38%	12 14.29%
2002	78	61 78.21%	40 51.28%	30 38.46%	24 30.77%	22 28.21%
2003	44	35 79.55%	18 40.91%	17 38.64%	13 29.55%	
Weighted Average:		78.01%	45.60%	40.87%	31.12%	23.91%

Appendix

Fall-to-Fall Retention Rates for First-Time Freshmen, By Department

Fall 2004 Cohort

UNIT	DEPT	FIRST FALL TERM (n)	FIRST SPRING TERM (n)	SECOND FALL TERM (n)	FALL-TO- SPRING RETENTION (%)	FALL-TO- FALL RETENTION (%)
AH	AGRI	48	40	32	83.33	66.67
	HEC	17	17	15	100.00	88.24
AH		65	57	47	87.69	72.31
AS	BIOL	40	33	25	82.50	62.50
	CAS	7	6	5	85.71	71.43
	CHEM	112	100	75	89.29	66.96
	CSC	45	43	30	95.56	66.67
	EASC	3	3	3	100.00	100.00
	ENG	22	20	15	90.91	68.18
	FL	6	5	5	83.33	83.33
	HIST	10	9	4	90.00	40.00
	IEP	3	3	2	100.00	66.67
	MATH	6	5	5	83.33	83.33
	PHYS	9	7	7	77.78	77.78
	POLS	6	5	3	83.33	50.00
	PSY	24	20	16	83.33	66.67
	SOC	23	20	12	86.96	52.17
AS		316	279	207	88.29	65.51
BA	BBUS	206	185	143	89.81	69.42
BA		206	185	143	89.81	69.42
ED	CI	97	93	87	95.88	89.69
	HPED	6	6	5	100.00	83.33
	MUSA	61	58	49	95.08	80.33
ED		164	157	141	95.73	85.98

UNIT	DEPT	FIRST FALL TERM (n)	FIRST SPRING TERM (n)	SECOND FALL TERM (n)	FALL-TO- SPRING RETENTION (%)	FALL-TO- FALL RETENTION (%)
EN	BE	169	153	131	90.53	77.51
	CEE	47	41	37	87.23	78.72
	CHE	28	28	25	100.00	89.29
	ECE	83	75	58	90.36	69.88
	ISE	5	3	4	60.00	80.00
	ME	2	2	2	100.00	100.00
	MIT	7	5	2	71.43	28.57
EN		341	307	259	90.03	75.95
IP	GECU	244	215	169	88.11	69.26
	GEPL	13	12	8	92.31	61.54
IP		257	227	177	88.33	68.87
NU	NURS	129	120	101	93.02	78.29
NU		129	120	101	93.02	78.29
UNIVERSITY		1478	1332	1075	90.12	72.73

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