



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 2002, Fall 2003, Fall 2004, Fall 2005, Fall 2006, and Fall 2007 for the fall-to-spring retention rates and the freshman classes of Fall 2001, Fall 2002, Fall 2003, Fall 2004, Fall 2005, and Fall 2006 for the one-year retention rates. 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 General Health Studies. 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 | 89.5% |
| Agricultural and Human Sciences | 90.3% |
| Arts and Sciences | 89.0% |
| Business | 91.1% |
| Education | 91.1% |
| Engineering | 92.4% |
| Interdisciplinary Studies | 50.0% * |
| General Curriculum (GECU) | 85.2% |
| General Health Studies (GHS) | 87.8% ** |

* 2002 & 2006 Cohorts, n=2

** 2005, 2006, & 2007 Cohorts

One-Year Retention Rate for First-Time Freshmen

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

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| University | 72.1% |
| Agricultural and Human Sciences | 76.7% |
| Arts and Sciences | 71.0% |
| Business | 72.6% |
| Education | 77.9% |
| Engineering | 78.1% |
| Interdisciplinary Studies | 50.0% * |
| General Curriculum (GECU) | 63.5% |
| General Health Studies (GHS) | 64.5% ** |

* 2002 & 2006 Cohorts, n=2

** 2005, 2006, & 2007 Cohorts

Notes

1. Information about retention by department for the Fall 2007 cohort is included in the Appendix.
2. The previous iteration of this report was [IR Series, Vol. 07-08, No. 13](#), October 3, 2007.
3. In this report, "Independent Programs" is not included as a single unit. Instead, freshmen classified with a major of "General Curriculum (GECU)" or "General Health Studies (GHS)" are included, but "Pre-Law" freshmen are excluded. However, "Pre-Law (GPL)" is available in the appendix.
4. In Table 7, there were no first-time, full-time freshmen in Interdisciplinary Studies in Fall 2003, Fall 2004, Fall 2005, or Fall 2007.

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 | 1,377 | 1,228 89.18% | 992 72.04% | 907 65.87% | 816 59.26% | 771 55.99% |
| 2003 | 1374 | 1207 87.85% | 975 70.96% | 920 66.96% | 841 61.21% | 830 60.41% |
| 2004 | 1477 | 1331 90.12% | 1074 72.71% | 999 67.64% | 919 62.22% | 878 59.44% |
| 2005 | 1410 | 1257 89.15% | 1040 73.76% | 970 68.79% | 871 61.77% | 844 59.86% |
| 2006 | 1518 | 1382 91.04% | 1107 72.92% | 1027 67.65% | | |
| 2007 | 1649 | 1478 89.63% | | | | |
| Weighted Average: | | 89.53% | 72.14% | 66.97% | 60.81% | 58.22% |

Table 2: Agricultural and Human Sciences

| Entering Fall Class | First Fall Term | First Spring Term | Second Fall Term | Second Spring Term | Third Fall Term | Third Spring Term |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1996 | 98 | 88 89.80% | 75 76.53% | 66 67.35% | 63 64.29% | 58 59.18% |
| 1997 | 100 | 88 88.00% | 72 72.00% | 69 69.00% | 55 55.00% | 57 57.00% |
| 1998 | 81 | 69 85.19% | 59 72.84% | 55 67.90% | 45 55.56% | 45 55.56% |
| 1999 | 115 | 104 90.43% | 84 73.04% | 75 65.22% | 66 57.39% | 61 53.04% |
| 2000 | 109 | 100 91.74% | 76 69.72% | 75 68.81% | 64 58.72% | 61 55.96% |
| 2001 | 105 | 91 86.67% | 75 71.43% | 72 68.57% | 62 59.05% | 60 57.14% |
| 2002 | 151 | 133 88.08% | 117 77.48% | 107 70.86% | 95 62.91% | 88 58.28% |
| 2003 | 138 | 125 90.58% | 103 74.64% | 93 67.39% | 78 56.52% | 75 54.35% |
| 2004 | 194 | 177 91.24% | 148 76.29% | 132 68.04% | 113 58.25% | 93 47.94% |
| 2005 | 152 | 140 92.11% | 123 80.92% | 115 75.66% | 107 70.39% | 103 67.76% |
| 2006 | 144 | 132 91.67% | 112 77.78% | 103 71.53% | | |
| 2007 | 195 | 173 88.72% | | | | |
| Weighted Average: | | 90.35% | 76.70% | 70.36% | 61.13% | 56.54% |

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% | 187 64.71% |
| 2004 | 316 | 279 88.29% | 207 65.51% | 193 61.08% | 175 55.38% | 170 53.80% |
| 2005 | 289 | 248 85.81% | 205 70.93% | 187 64.71% | 167 57.79% | 157 54.33% |
| 2006 | 322 | 295 91.61% | 232 72.05% | 221 68.63% | | |
| 2007 | 319 | 287 89.97% | | | | |
| Weighted Average: | | 88.95% | 71.00% | 66.32% | 60.37% | 58.36% |

Table 4: Business

| 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 | 166 | 156 93.98% | 129 77.71% | 124 74.70% | 112 67.47% | 104 62.65% |
| 2003 | 172 | 151 87.79% | 122 70.93% | 113 65.70% | 105 61.05% | 104 60.47% |
| 2004 | 206 | 185 89.81% | 143 69.42% | 138 66.99% | 129 62.62% | 126 61.17% |
| 2005 | 173 | 154 89.02% | 125 72.25% | 119 68.79% | 100 57.80% | 103 59.54% |
| 2006 | 171 | 158 92.40% | 127 74.27% | 117 68.42% | | |
| 2007 | 198 | 185 93.43% | 0.00% | | | |
| Weighted Average: | | 91.07% | 72.56% | 68.42% | 62.10% | 59.31% |

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% | 96 66.21% |
| 2004 | 164 | 157 95.73% | 141 85.98% | 131 79.88% | 118 71.95% | 115 70.12% |
| 2005 | 189 | 171 90.48% | 150 79.37% | 140 74.07% | 130 68.78% | 128 67.72% |
| 2006 | 190 | 171 90.00% | 149 78.42% | 143 75.26% | | |
| 2007 | 180 | 161 89.44% | 0.00% | | | |
| Weighted Average: | | 91.07% | 77.91% | 73.05% | 67.66% | 64.79% |

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% | 241 72.81% |
| 2004 | 340 | 306 90.00% | 258 75.88% | 245 72.06% | 236 69.41% | 229 67.35% |
| 2005 | 307 | 287 93.49% | 237 77.20% | 223 72.64% | 204 66.45% | 200 65.15% |
| 2006 | 350 | 329 94.00% | 275 78.57% | 256 73.14% | | |
| 2007 | 395 | 368 93.16% | 0.00% | | | |
| Weighted Average: | | 92.35% | 78.06% | 73.46% | 69.81% | 68.56% |

Table 7: Interdisciplinary Studies

| Entering Fall Class | First Fall Term | First Spring Term | Second Fall Term | Second Spring Term | Third Fall Term | Third Spring Term |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 2002 | 1 | 1 100.00% | 1 100.00% | 1 100.00% | 0 0.00% | 0 0.00% |
| 2006 | 1 | 0 0.00% | 0 0.00% | 0 0.00% | | |
| Weighted Average: | | 50.00% | 50.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |

Table 8: 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% | 110 44.72% |
| 2004 | 244 | 215 88.11% | 169 69.26% | 151 61.89% | 141 57.79% | 138 56.56% |
| 2005 | 223 | 187 83.86% | 144 64.57% | 136 60.99% | 122 54.71% | 114 51.12% |
| 2006 | 253 | 224 88.54% | 164 64.82% | 145 57.31% | | |
| 2007 | 247 | 206 83.40% | 0.00% | | | |
| Weighted Average: | | 85.24% | 63.49% | 57.60% | 50.85% | 48.43% |

Table 9: General Health Studies (Major = 'GHS')

| Entering Fall Class | First Fall Term | First Spring Term | Second Fall Term | Second Spring Term | Third Fall Term | Third Spring Term |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 2005 | 72 | 67 93.06% | 55 76.39% | 50 69.44% | 40 55.56% | 38 52.78% |
| 2006 | 80 | 67 83.75% | 43 53.75% | 38 47.50% | | |
| 2007 | 102 | 89 87.25% | | | | |
| Weighted Average: | | 87.80% | 64.47% | 57.89% | 55.56% | 52.78% |

Appendix

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

Fall 2007 Cohort

| UNIT | DEPT | FIRST FALL TERM | FIRST SPRING TERM | PERCENT |
|------|------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| AN | AGRI | 62 | 55 | . 88.71 |
| | HEC | 24 | 19 | . 79.17 |
| | NURS | 109 | 99 | . 90.83 |
| AN | | 195 | 173 | . 88.72 |
| AS | BIOL | 47 | 44 | . 93.62 |
| | CAS | 6 | 5 | . 83.33 |
| | CHEM | 84 | 79 | . 94.05 |
| | CSC | 46 | 41 | . 89.13 |
| | EASC | 7 | 5 | . 71.43 |
| | ENG | 23 | 21 | . 91.30 |
| | FL | 8 | 5 | . 62.50 |
| | HIST | 12 | 11 | . 91.67 |
| | MATH | 3 | 3 | . 100.00 |
| | PHYS | 3 | 3 | . 100.00 |
| | PSY | 42 | 38 | . 90.48 |
| SOCP | 38 | 32 | . 84.21 | |
| AS | | 319 | 287 | . 89.97 |
| BA | BBUS | 195 | 182 | . 93.33 |
| | EFM | 3 | 3 | . 100.00 |
| BA | | 198 | 185 | . 93.43 |
| ED | CI | 113 | 100 | . 88.50 |
| | EXPW | 25 | 22 | . 88.00 |
| | MUSA | 42 | 39 | . 92.86 |
| ED | | 180 | 161 | . 89.44 |
| EN | BE | 74 | 67 | . 90.54 |
| | CEE | 57 | 53 | . 92.98 |
| | CHE | 44 | 44 | . 100.00 |
| | ECE | 83 | 76 | . 91.57 |
| | ISE | 2 | 2 | . 100.00 |
| | ME | 129 | 120 | . 93.02 |
| | MIT | 6 | 6 | . 100.00 |
| EN | | 395 | 368 | . 93.16 |

| UNIT | DEPT | FIRST FALL TERM | FIRST SPRING TERM | | PERCENT |
|------------|------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|---------|
| IP | GECU | 247 | 206 | . | 83.40 |
| | GEPL | 13 | 9 | . | 69.23 |
| | GHS | 102 | 89 | . | 87.25 |
| IP | | 362 | 304 | . | 83.98 |
| UNIVERSITY | | 1649 | 1478 | . | 89.63 |