



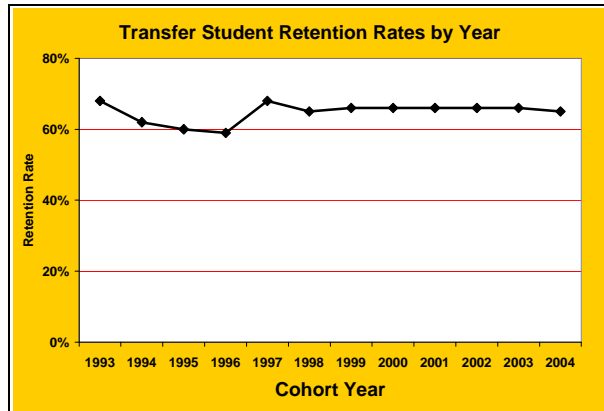
University of Colorado at Colorado Springs

2005 Retention of Fall 2004 Transfer Students

Research Brief No. 21

Overview

In the Summer and Fall of 2004, 703 undergraduate students transferred to the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. Sixty-five percent of these transfer students enrolled in the Fall semester of 2005. Transfer student retention rates dropped one percentage point since last year and have changed minimally since 1998.



Most of the new transfer students gained college experience at Pikes Peak Community College prior to enrolling at UCCS, and these students appear to be doing well with relatively high retention and high GPAs compared to other transfers.

Previous College	GPA at Previous College	Fall '04 GPA at UCCS	Count	% of transfers retained
Pikes Peak CC	3.22	2.97	215	75%
U Northern CO	3.14	2.82	38	68%
CSU	3.12	3.04	18	61%
Western State	2.90	2.04	17	65%
Pueblo CC	3.35	2.51	11	45%
U of Maryland	3.67	3.19	11	64%
CSU Pueblo	2.86	2.43	8	75%
All Others	3.23	2.95	385	60%
TOTAL	3.22	2.92	703	65%

The majority of students in the "All Others" category (71%) transferred from private or public 4-year institutions in Colorado, Texas, California, Michigan, or Utah.

Institutional Characteristics

Transfer student retention rates differ across colleges. Retention is highest in the College of Business and Nursing and Health Sciences. The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences showed the most improvement compared to last year with a 6 percentage point increase in the retention of new transfers.

College	% retained	2003- 2004 Change
Business	71%	- 4
Nursing & Health Sciences	71%	+ 1
Engineering & Applied Sciences	67%	+ 6
Letters, Arts, & Sciences	63%	- 1

Among transfers' top ten most popular majors, retention is above the cohort average in six majors. It is below average in English, Pre-Professional Programs, and Biology. Transfer students without a clear career direction are less likely to matriculate as indicated by the very low retention rate students with an undetermined major in Letters, Arts & Sciences.

Major	Cohort Size	Rank by Size	Retention Rate
Business	92	1	71%
Nursing	52	5	71%
Sociology	24	10	71%
Psychology	71	3	70%
History	52	6	67%
Communication	35	9	66%
English	41	8	63%
Pre-Professional	77	2	62%
Biology	48	7	60%
LAS Undetermined	58	4	45%

Students of color, women students, full-time students, and in-state students have higher retention rates than their respective counterparts as illustrated in the bar graph below.

