

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Fall 2004 to Fall 2005 Retention and Attrition Overview

The attrition and retention statistics in this document provide select data on Plattsburgh State University undergraduate matriculated students for the Fall 2004 to Fall 2005 semesters. The initial cohort refers to undergraduate matriculated students enrolled in the Fall 2004 semester.

**Attrition rate is defined as the ratio of the number of attritors over the number of eligible persistors (initial cohort minus graduates). The data were generated to conform to PSU processes on what constitutes an enrolled student (they registered for courses and have an accept charges = Y from the Bursar). Enrolled students are reported to SUNY and become the institution's official enrollment for a given term. Attrition is calculated by comparing official files from one term to another.**

**Table A**  
**Fall to Spring Comparative Retention and Attrition Data**  
**Matriculated Undergraduates**

Semester	Overall Retention	Overall Attrition	Full Time Retention	Full Time Attrition
Fall 04 to Fall 05	79.1	20.9	80.1	19.9
Fall 03 to Fall 04	78.6	21.4	80.0	20.0
Fall 02 to Fall 03	77.8	22.2	78.7	21.3
Fall 01 to Fall 02	77.6	22.4	78.8	21.2

- **Table 1-1** indicates **overall** attrition rate is 20.9%. The highest percent of attritors are seniors (31.2%) and sophomores (24.7%).
- **Table 1-2** indicates the **full-time** attrition rate is 19.9%. The highest percent of full-time attritors are seniors (30.1%) and freshmen (24.5%).
- **Table 1-3** indicates the **full-time new transfer** attrition rate is 23.4%. The highest percent of transfer attritors are lower division students (27.4%) while upper division full-time new transfer attrite at a lower rate (20.8%).
- **Table 2-1** indicates international (21.1%) and domestic out of state residents with (24.1%) attrition rates while New York State residents had a 20.8% attrition rate.
- **Table 2-2** indicates that **full-time New York State students** have the lowest attrition rate (19.7%) followed by international (20.4%) and domestic out of state (23.4%).
- **Table 2-3** indicates that **first-time full-time freshmen** New York State students (23.1%) have the highest attrition rate followed by international students (9.8%) and domestic out of state (26.9%).
- **Table 3-1** indicates that **all** males (21.4%) attrite at a higher rate than females (20.6%). The table contains additional data by ethnicity.
- **Table 3-2** indicates that all **full-time** males (20.6%) attrite at a higher rate than full-time females (19.4%). The table contains additional data by ethnicity.

- **Table 3-3** indicates that **first-time full-time** males (23.0%) attrite at a higher rate than first-time full-time females (22.5%). The table contains additional data by ethnicity.
- **Table 4-1 and 4-2** provide detailed attrition rates for **all students and full-time students** by **PSU class level by ethnicity**. These data should be viewed in context with the numbers of students in the initial cohort.
- **Table 5-1** provides detailed attrition rates for **all students** living in specific dormitories by PSU class levels.
- **Table 5-2** indicates **all freshmen living off-campus** have the highest attrition rate (36.4%), followed by all off-campus seniors (23.6%). Students living in PSU dormitories have an overall lower attrition rate (18.4%) than off-campus students (23.6%).
- **Table 5-3** indicates that **full-time** freshmen living off-campus have the highest attrition rate (35.8%) followed by seniors living off-campus (31.8%).
- **Table 5-4** provides detailed attrition rates for all **first-time full-time freshmen** students by PSU dormitory.
- **Table 6-1** provides attrition rates for all **New York State** students by County. The largest feeder counties have the following attrition rates: Albany (18.6%), Clinton (24.4%), Essex (23.8%), Franklin (22.2%), Monroe (11.1%), Orange (17.0%), St. Lawrence (23.2%), Saratoga (16.1%), Suffolk (19.4%), and Westchester (22.3%).
- **Table 6-2** provides attrition rates for **full-time New York State** students by County. The largest feeder counties have the following attrition rates: Albany (18.7%), Clinton (23.0%), Essex (20.3%), Franklin (20.9%), Monroe (11.1%), Orange (16.2%), St. Lawrence (23.3%), Saratoga (15.7%), Suffolk (18.9%), and Westchester (21.4%).
- **Table 6-3** provides attrition rates for **first-time full-time New York State** students by County.
- **Table 7-1** provides attrition rates for **all students** by PSU major.
- **Table 7-2** provides attrition rates for **full-time students** by PSU major.
- **Table 7-3** provides attrition rates for **first-time full-time freshmen** by PSU major.
- **Table 8-1** provides attrition rates for **all students by enrollment status**. Other special admit students have the lowest attrition rate (18.7%) followed by regular admits (20.9%) and EOP (24.4%).
- **Table 8-2** provides attrition rates for **all full-time students by enrollment status**. Other special admit students have the lowest attrition rate (18.3%) followed by regular admits (19.8%) and EOP (23.3%).
- **Table 8-3** provides attrition rates for **first-time full-time freshmen students by enrollment status**.
- **Table 8-4** provides attrition rates for **all EOP students by PSU class level**. EOP seniors have the highest attrition rate (35.5%) and EOP sophomores have the lowest attrition rate (22.7%).
- **Table 9** provides specific attrition rates **by PSU class level based on mean cumulative PSU credit hours/mean cumulative credit hours**.
- **Table 10** provides data on attrition for Fall 2003 selectivity groups.
- **Table 11-1** provides attrition and retention statistics **and level advancement for persisters** for full-time matriculated students.
- **Table 11-2** provides more detailed attrition/retention information by grouping full-time students by PSU level and ethnicity.

## ATTRITION STATISTICS CAVEATS

- Data in this report concentrate on data pertaining to students that were enrolled during the fall 2003 semester and did not return for the fall 2003 semester.
- These data are based on official PSU files that are frozen after the third week of a given semester. Thus enrolled students are defined as having registered for courses and received an Accept Charges = Y from the Bursar's Office.
- As with any attrition study, the information supplied can only capture data at a specific point in time. The accuracy of the data are predicated on coding that exists in appropriate files when the data are generated.
- Attrition rate is defined as the ratio of the number of attritors over the number of eligible persistors (initial cohort minus graduates).
- There is no guarantee the self-selected ethnic codes listed for students are 100% accurate. There are also large numbers of students that choose not to list their ethnic codes.
- Class level data are generated by the PSU catalogue definition.
- The withdrawal category equates to both "Voluntary Withdrawal" and "Leave of Absence." Any withdrawals that are student initiated belong to this category.