

**Retention, Progression & Graduation (RPG) Rate
Highlights for KSU**

**Ed Rugg
9-10-09**

- **KSU's first-year retention rates for the last five years have not changed appreciably, having reached 76% for the Fall 2002 freshman cohort and hitting 76% again for the Fall 2007 cohort. (See Table 1.)**
- **However, once on-campus student housing first became available to undergraduates at KSU in Fall 2002, the first-year retention rates increased from their previous average of 71% for the 1998-2001 cohorts to an average of 75% for the 2002-2007 cohorts. (See Table 1.)**
- **KSU's six-year graduation rates did not change appreciably for the 1998-2001 freshman cohorts (before on-campus housing) and averaged 31% a year. For the first freshman cohort that had an on-campus housing option in 2002, the six-year graduation rate jumped up to 35%. The graduation rate impact of expanded on-campus housing and first-year program initiatives since 2002 has not yet materialized because the freshmen who have had those opportunities from Fall 2003 onward have not yet reached their 6th complete year of college since matriculating at KSU. (See Table 1.)**
- **Substantial improvements in KSU's six-year graduation rates over the next five years are expected because of the sharp increases in undergraduate progression rates that have already been realized since 2002 when on-campus housing and first-year retention programs began expanding. (See Table 2.) Prior to 2002, fewer than 20% of the FT/FT freshmen earned enough credit to become sophomores by the second year and that proportion has grown to 45% for the 2007 cohort. Similarly, fewer than 17% of the freshman cohorts became seniors by their fourth year prior to 2002 and that proportion grew to 29% for the 2005 cohort. These higher progression rates in recent years reflect faster degree completion progress "in the pipeline" and bode well for higher six-year graduation rates in the near term.**
- **Other signs that KSU's graduation rates are improving are beginning to be reflected in the four-year graduation rates which have grown from 7-8% prior to 2002 to 11% for the 2004 cohort. Improvement is also noted in the five-year graduation rates which were in the low 20s prior to 2002 and increased to 30% for the 2003 freshman cohort. (See Table 3.)**

Table 1

**KSU's First-Year Retention & Six-Year Graduation Rates
for First-Time/Full-Time Freshman Cohorts**

FT/FT Freshman Cohort	First-Year Retention Rate	Six-Year Graduation Rate
2008	NA	NA
2007	76%	NA
2006	76%	NA
2005	73%	NA
2004	74%	NA
2003	76%	NA
2002	76%	35%
2001	73%	33%
2000	67%	28%
1999	71%	32%
1998	74%	31%

Table 2

**KSU's Undergraduate Progression Rates
for First-Time Full-Time Freshman Cohorts**

FT/FT Freshman Cohort	Became Sophomores by 2nd Fall	Became Juniors by 3rd Fall	Became Seniors by 4th Fall
2008	NA	NA	NA
2007	45%	NA	NA
2006	42%	35%	NA
2005	35%	28%	29%
2004	33%	24%	24%
2003	27%	23%	22%
2002	25%	18%	18%
2001	18%	13%	15%
2000	21%	14%	16%
1999	17%	14%	16%
1998	18%	15%	16%

Retention Rates

Progression

Graduation Rates

Enrolled Students

Annual Graduates

Documentation

Refresh Data

 Data selected from: *Retention, Progression, and Graduation Information Map*

Table 3

This report shows First-time/Full-time Freshman only. Totals at the highest level in the report reflect multiple years. You must drill-down to a specific cohort for individual year totals.

Fall/Year	+|- Beginning Cohort 1st Fall	+|- Graduated within 4 Years	+|- Graduated within 5 Years	+|- Graduated within 6 Years	+|- Graduated within 7 Years	+|- Graduated within 8 Years
	<u>Percent Of Students</u>	<u>Percent Of Students</u>	<u>Percent Of Students</u>	<u>Percent Of Students</u>	<u>Percent Of Students</u>	<u>Percent Of Students</u>
<u>Fall Term</u>						
Fall Semester 2008	100%	.	.	.	.	.
Fall Semester 2007	100%	.	.	.	.	.
Fall Semester 2006	100%	.	.	.	.	.
Fall Semester 2005	100%	.	.	.	.	.
Fall Semester 2004	100%	11%	.	.	.	.
Fall Semester 2003	100%	10%	30%	.	.	.
Fall Semester 2002	100%	8%	26%	35%	.	.
Fall Semester 2001	100%	8%	24%	33%	38%	.
Fall Semester 2000	100%	7%	19%	28%	33%	36%
Fall Semester 1999	100%	8%	23%	32%	36%	39%
Fall Semester 1998	100%	7%	24%	31%	35%	38%