

1st Fall to 3rd Fall Retention rate. A measure of the rate at which students persist in their educational program at an institution expressed as a percentage. For four-year institutions, this is the percentage of first-time bachelor's (or equivalent) degree seeking undergraduates students' retention to the 3rd Fall from the cohort established for the 1st Fall-to-2nd Fall Retention rate metric. **IPEDS Glossary**

Specifications. Northwestern establishes Freshman cohorts each Fall. These cohorts consist of students who are:

- attending college for the first time,
- enrolled for at least 12 semester hours, and
- pursuing a bachelor's degree.

The retention rate is calculated based on the number of these students who enroll in the third Fall in relation to the original cohort population. Fall 2020 Outcome results from Fall 2018 cohort's continued enrollment to Fall 2020.

$$\frac{\# \text{ Students from Fall}_{20xx} \text{ FTFT Bachelor-seeking Cohort who reenrolled in Fall}_{20xx+1}}{\# \text{ Students in Fall}_{20xx} \text{ FTFT Bachelor-seeking Cohort}}$$

[Fall to Fall Retention Rate Charts 1-4](#)

1. Fall to Fall Retention Rate by Gender
2. Fall to Fall Retention Rate by Ethnicity
3. Fall to Fall Retention Rate by Socioeconomic
4. Fall to Fall Retention Rate by Age

Goal. 63.0% - Retained from Fall 2022 to Fall 2023.

Outcome. 60.0% - Retained from Fall 2018 to Fall 2020.