Retention Definitions

Interactive Retention Reporting Tool Definitions Page

The user will begin by selecting University, College, Department, or Major totals:

A student’s college, department and major are based on the student's first college and major (e.g., Computer Science majors are in the Department of Computer Science in the College of Arts and Sciences). The system will begin tracking majors when freshmen change from General Studies to a specific major and will look only at the first declared major beyond general studies and the ending major. The system will avoid specializations and track students according to CIP codes.

The user will then be presented with a screen of summary information of entering students by Entering Year and Student Type at the time of admission:

Summary of Entering Students:

This table shows the number of students entering UWF by Student Type and Entering Year for the group of students specified under the Current Selections area. Percentages across student types will sum to 100% within an entering year.

Current Selections:
Displays the group of students that you are currently viewing. You may click any of the "Change" links to select a different group of students.

Student Type:
The Florida Board of Education classification of a student at the time of admission:

- **Beginner-First Time in College (FTIC):** A student with less than 12 hours of college transfer credit since high school at the time of first enrollment to UWF, this includes Early Admits.

- **AA Transfer from A Florida Public Community College:** A student whose highest degree held is an Associates degree and whose last institution is a Florida public community college.

- **Florida Public Community College Transfer- No AS Degree:** A student with 12 or more hours of college transfer credit from a Florida public community college, whose highest degree held does not equal Associates or higher.

- **Other Undergraduate Transfer (Other):** A student who earned 12 or more hours of college transfer credit, with the majority of these hours earned at an institution other than a Florida public community college. Some "Other Undergraduate Transfers" also have attended a Florida public community college.

Entering Year:
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The year assigned to a student entering UWF for the first time in summer through spring of the following calendar year. Example: Entering year 1999 includes students who entered in the summer 1999 and continued in fall 1999, or entered in fall 1999, or Spring 2000. Full or Part Time status is based on the numbers of hours for fall.

The user will then click “View Characteristics” to see a Summary of Demographics and Entering Credentials for a student type or click "View Outcomes" for Summary of Outcomes by year for a particular student type.

Student Characteristics and Entering Credentials:

This table shows the demographic characteristics (e.g., gender, age), entering credentials (e.g., GPA, test scores) and enrollment characteristics (e.g., primary campus) for the group of students specified under the Current Selections area.

Student Characteristics and Entering Credentials includes:

Gender: Student gender.

Ethnicity/Race: Self-reported ethnicity/race.

Age and Age Group: Student age as of August 1st of the entering year.

High School GPA and HS GPA Group: Student high school GPA. This variable is available only for first-time-in-college students.

SAT Total, SAT Verbal, SAT Quantitative: SAT scores are reported prior to 1996. SAT 1 re-centered test scores are presented for 1996 and later. SAT Total is the sum of Verbal and Quantitative scores.

ACT Score: mean American College Testing Score.

Test Score Group: Classification of students based on standardized test scores (SAT Total or SAT1 Total or ACT) as follows:

- Low Test Score: SAT <= 880 or SAT1 <= 990 or ACT <= 20
- High Test Score: SAT 890-1600 or SAT1 1000-1600 or ACT 21-35

Most Recent Prior Institution: SUS Institutions attended before entering UWF, among students in the currently selected group. For Beginner-FTIC student’s prior institution is the high school last attended. For transfer students, prior institution is the college or university last attended. Institutions will be ordered based on frequency across all entering years.

Primary Campus: the primary campus as indicated on the UWF student system for the student.
Course Load: students are classified as full time or part time based on the number of hours they attempted during their first term enrolled.

- **Full Time:** 12 or more credit hours attempted in first term for students entering in fall, or 9 or more credit hours attempted for students entering in summer.

- **Part Time:** less than 12 credit hours attempted in first term for students entering in fall, or less than 9 credit hours attempted for students entering in summer.

Summary of Outcomes:

This table shows the cumulative outcomes following each year after entry for the group of students specified under the Current Selections. Cumulative outcomes through the current year are shown for students in each entering year at the bottom of the table.

Summary of Outcomes will track students in the following categories each year after entering UWF:

- **Graduate:** a student who received a first bachelor's degree at UWF by the end of the summer of the specified year after entry or earlier. For instance, among students who entered in 1994, those who graduated by summer 1995 graduated within 1 year, those who graduated by summer 1996 graduated within 2 years, those who graduated by summer 1997 graduated within 3 years, and so on.

- **Persist:** a student who was enrolled for credit during the following fall semester of the specified year after entry and who did not previously graduate. For example, a student who entered in 1994 was counted as a persisting at year 2 if he/she was enrolled during fall 1995, spring 1996, or summer 1996.

- **Transfer to other SUS:** a student who was not a graduate or persister, whose next enrollment after UWF was at one of the other nine Florida State University System schools and whose transfer occurred during the specified year after entry or earlier.

- **Leave:** A student who did not graduate, persist or transfer to another SUS school through the specified year after entry. A leaver may have enrolled at a community college, private or out-of-state school after leaving UWF. Leavers in some cases may be "stopouts" who will return to UWF in the future.

Within each outcome category, the user will be able to drill down for the following:

- **Analysis of Persisters:** This table shows the class level (i.e., Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior) of persisters at each year after entry.

- **Analysis of Graduates:** This table shows how students' major at graduation compares to their first declared major.
  - **Same Major:** the student graduated in the same major as his/her first major.
  - **Same Department, Different Major:** the student graduated in the same department, but not in the same major as his/her first major.
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- **Same College, Different Department**: the student graduated in the same college, but not in the same department or major as his/her first major.

- **Different College**: the student graduated in a different college, department and major than his/her first major.

**Analysis of Dropouts**: This table shows the final cumulative UWF GPA of students who were dropouts at each year after entry.

**Analysis of SUS Transfers**: This table shows the top five State University System schools to which students at each year after entry transferred. The number of students who transferred to each school will be shown in parentheses.