

Student Success Outcomes: Fall 2023 First-time, Full-time Baccalaureate Degree-Seeking Cohort

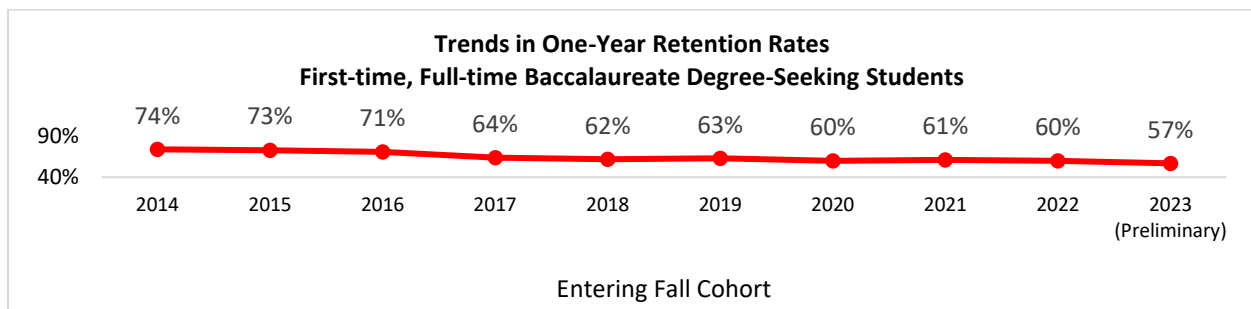
The purpose of this brief is to better understand the performance of CUNY York College’s fall 2023 cohort first-time, full-time baccalaureate degree-seeking first-year student population as it pertains to retention. This research is intended to assist in the assessment of the College’s strategic plan, *One York*, specifically Goal 1, Student Success. Students who left York after one year are compared with those who were retained. The analysis details data by gender, ethnicity, geographic origin, first-generation, school of major, Pell status, and academic preparation (high school average), and academic performance (cumulative York GPA and credits earned). In addition, in an effort to determine if students from the fall 2023 cohort transferred elsewhere (beyond CUNY), York’s Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning (OIESP) used the student tracker services provided by the National Student Clearinghouse. This brief summarizes those findings as well.

Summary

York’s most recent first-time, full-time degree-seeking first-year students one-year retention rate (57%) declined slightly from previous years¹. Asian students were retained at the highest rate, while Hispanic and Black students had lower rates of retention. Students from Queens had the highest retention rate (the majority of students were missing County of residence). Students with high school averages below 78 were less likely to return after one-year. Students who pass Gateway English and Math were more likely to return than students who did not take a Gateway course, failed, or did not receive a grade. Students with cumulative York GPAs of less than 1.5 left at a higher rate than those who remained, while 91 students who left did have a GPA of 2.0 or better (representing 32% of students who left). ACE students were more likely to return than SEEK students, but SEEK students were less likely to return overall. Nine percent of students transferred-out (the majority to CUNY) and 34% of students stopped-out.

Trends in One-Year Retention Rates

The one-year retention rate for York’s first-time, full-time baccalaureate degree-seeking first-year students who entered in fall 2023 is three percentage points (pp) lower than that of the fall 2022 cohort (percentages are rounded).



¹ Fall 2023 data outcomes data are considered preliminary as CUNY does not officially close the fall files until late spring. Historical data demonstrate very little change in data between this point in time and final.

Status One Year Later (Trends)

Over the past five years, the proportion of students who did not enroll at York and did not enroll elsewhere (i.e., classified as stopped-out) has increased. For the fall 2023 cohort, 34% of all entering full-time, first-time degree-seeking students stopped-out, which is 6 percentage points (pp) higher than the fall 2020 cohort.

	Fall 2019 Cohort		Fall 2020 Cohort		Fall 2021 Cohort		Fall 2022 Cohort		Fall 2023 Cohort (Preliminary)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Status One-Year Later										
Still Enrolled for Degree Pursued (or higher) at Same College	692	63%	501	60%	514	61%	443	60%	382	57%
Still Enrolled for Degree Pursued (or higher) at Other CUNY College	47	4%	35	4%	25	3%	25	3%	22	3%
Still Enrolled for Lower Degree at Other CUNY College	18	2%	35	4%	33	4%	25	3%	24	4%
Enrolled Outside of CUNY	23	2%	27	3%	19	2%	16	2%	12	2%
Not enrolled elsewhere (i.e., stopped-out)	320	29%	232	28%	250	30%	235	32%	225	34%
Total	1100	100%	830	100%	841	100%	744	100%	665	100%

Status One Year Later (Fall 2023 Cohort as of Fall 2024)²

Demographics

- Retention rates were higher for women than for men.
- Among racial/ethnic groups with at least 20 students in the cohort, Asian students had the highest retention rate (65%), Black students were retained at a lower rate (55%), and Hispanic had the lowest rate (53%).
- Students from Queens had the highest retention rate (67%), followed by Brooklyn (62%).³
- First-generation students had a slightly lower retention rate (56%) compared to non-first-generation (61%).

Demographics	Total Cohort in Fall 2023	Status in Fall 2024 (Preliminary)			
		Retained		Not retained	
Total	665	382	57%	283	43%
Gender					
Men	285	154	54%	131	46%
Women	364	218	60%	146	40%
Other	7	4	57%	3	43%
Unknown	9	6	67%	3	33%
Race/Ethnicity (IPEDS)					
American Indian or Alaskan Native	13	7	54%	6	46%
Asian	138	90	65%	48	35%
Black or African American	249	136	55%	113	45%
Hispanic/Latino	197	104	53%	93	47%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	1	1	100%	0	0%
Non-resident Alien	36	23	64%	13	36%
Two or more races	14	8	57%	6	43%
White	17	13	76%	4	24%

² Groups with small numbers are included in the tables but excluded from descriptive analysis. Percentages are rounded.

³ County of residence was missing for 62% of students; this issue is not specific to York.

Demographics	Total Cohort in Fall 2023	Status in Fall 2024 (Preliminary)			
		Retained		Not retained	
County					
Bronx	16	9	56%	7	44%
Brooklyn	61	38	62%	23	38%
Long Island	15	8	53%	7	47%
Manhattan	7	5	71%	2	29%
Queens	152	102	67%	50	33%
Richmond	3	1	33%	2	67%
Other NYS	0	0	-	0	-
Outside NYS	0	0	-	0	-
Missing	411	219	53%	192	47%
First Generation Status: Neither Parent Graduated College (CUNY methodology) [excludes missing]					
Total	511	297	58%	214	42%
First-Generation	273	153	56%	120	44%
Not First-Generation College Students	238	144	61%	94	39%

An analysis of retention by race/ethnicity by gender revealed the following differences⁴:

- Black or African American men have a much lower retention rate than Black or African American women.
- Men of two or more races and White men have a lower retention rate than women in their respective racial/ethnic group, but the overall Ns are small for both groups.

Ethnicity (IPEDS)	Gender	Total Cohort in Fall 2023	Status in Fall 2024 Preliminary			
			Retained		Not Retained	
			N	%	N	%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	Men	6	3	50%	3	50%
	Women	7	4	57%	3	43%
	Total	13	7	54%	6	46%
Asian	Men	66	44	67%	22	33%
	Women	67	43	64%	24	36%
	Total	138	90	65%	48	35%
Black or African American	Men	104	47	45%	57	55%
	Women	140	87	62%	53	38%
	Total	249	136	55%	113	45%
Hispanic/Latino	Men	81	43	53%	38	47%
	Women	114	60	53%	54	47%
	Total	197	104	53%	93	47%
Nonresident alien	Men	14	9	64%	5	36%
	Women	21	13	62%	8	38%
	Total	36	23	64%	13	36%
Two or more races	Men	5	2	40%	3	60%
	Women	8	5	63%	3	38%
	Total	14	8	57%	6	43%
White	Men	9	6	67%	3	33%
	Women	6	5	83%	1	17%
	Total	17	13	77%	4	24%

⁴ Excludes race/gender categories less than 10; excludes gender categories of missing and other due to small N.

Academic Preparation

- The mean high school averages were similar (82 for those who remained vs 80 for those that left).
- Of those with a high school average in the system, students below 78 were less likely to return after one-year (50% compared to 61% for those with a 78 or higher).

Academic Preparation	Total Cohort in Fall 2023	Status in Fall 2024 (Preliminary)			
		Retained		Not retained	
Total	665	382	57%	283	43%
High School Average	81	82		80	
HS Average Bands					
Below 70	16	8	50%	8	50%
70 – 72	36	18	50%	18	50%
73 – 75	59	28	47%	31	53%
76 - 77	74	38	51%	36	49%
78 and over	467	283	61%	184	39%
GPA missing	13	7	54%	6	46%

Academic Characteristics

In fall 2023, 9% of first-year, full-time students enrolled in the ACE program. The majority (72%) were retained after one year. SEEK students constituted 15% of the first-year, full-time students, but nearly half (47%) left after one year.

Cohort Program	Total Cohort in Fall 2023	Status in Fall 2024 (Preliminary)			
		Retained		Not retained	
ACE	60	43	72%	17	28%
SEEK	98	52	53%	46	47%
None	507	287	57%	220	43%
Total	665	382	57%	283	43%

- At the end of Fall 2023 (i.e., their first semester), the mean cumulative credits earned was 14 for those who remained and 8 for those who left. The mean GPA for those who left (1.50) was much lower than for those who remained (2.55).
- As expected, students with GPAs in the lower ranges (less than 1.5) left at higher rates than those who remained. However, 91 students left the College with a GPA of 2.0 or better; this represents 32% of the students who left.
- Students who pass Gateway English and Math are more likely to remain than students who fail (F; FIN; WU; Z) or did not receive a grade (e.g., INC; W; or WN).
- Six percent of students in the fall 2023 first-time, full-time cohort did not take an English Gateway course in their first semester at York and 53 percent did not take a Math Gateway course.

	Total Cohort in Fall 2023	Status in Fall 2024 (Preliminary)			
		Retained		Not retained	
Total	665	382	57%	283	43%
Mean Cumulative GPA after Fall 2023		2.55		1.50	
Mean Cumulative Total Credits after Fall 2023		14		8	
Cumulative GPA at the end of Fall 2023					
0.0 - .99	111	21	19%	90	81%
1.0 - 1.49	70	24	34%	46	66%

	Total Cohort in Fall 2023	Status in Fall 2024 (Preliminary)			
		Retained		Not retained	
1.5 - 1.99	82	49	60%	33	40%
2.0 - 2.49	94	64	68%	30	32%
2.5 - 2.99	107	80	75%	27	25%
3.0 - 3.49	111	89	80%	22	20%
3.5 - 4.0	61	49	80%	12	20%
No GPA	29	6	21%	23	79%
Pass/Fail for English Gateway in Fall 2023					
Pass (A to D)	404	289	72%	115	29%
Fail (F, FIN, WU, Z)	174	50	29%	124	71%
Not Applicable (AUD, NC, W, WA, WD, WN)	44	18	41%	26	59%
Did not take gateway course(s)	43	25	58%	18	42%
<i>English Gateway Courses: ENG125, ENG126</i>					
Pass/Fail for Math Gateway in Fall 2023					
Pass (A to D)	203	152	75%	51	25%
Fail (F, FIN, WU, Z)	66	28	42%	38	58%
Not Applicable (AUD, NC, W, WA, WD, WN)	42	17	41%	25	60%
Did not take gateway course(s)	354	185	52%	169	48%
<i>Math Gateway Courses: MATH111, MATH115, MATH120, MATH121, MATH150, MATH190</i>					

Finances

The federal government provides Pell grants to low income students and this metric is often used as a proxy for socioeconomic status.

- Seven out of ten first-time, full-time first-year students were awarded Pell.
- The retention rates were similar for both Pell and non-Pell recipients.

Finances	Total Cohort in Fall 2023	Status in Fall 2024 (Preliminary)			
		Retained		Not retained	
Pell Award	665	382	57%	283	43%
No	192	106	55%	86	45%
Yes	473	276	58%	197	42%

Gateway Courses

The table that follows details Gateway course performance by academic preparation⁵ for the fall 2023 first-time, full-time cohort (i.e., all students in the cohort, regardless of students' one-year retention outcomes).

- Students who passed English and Math Gateway courses had a slightly higher mean high school average than those who did not pass.

Pass/Fail Gateway Courses Fall 2023	English Gateway		Math Gateway	
	N	Mean HS Average	N	Mean HS Average
Pass (A to D)	396	82	201	83
Fail (F, FIN, WU, Z)	172	79	66	80
Not Applicable (AUD, NC, W, WA, WD, WN)	44	80	42	79
Did not take gateway course(s)	40	78	343	80
Total	652	81	652	81

⁵ Excludes students with missing HS average

Transferred-Out: Results from the National Student Clearinghouse Student Tracker System

- Nine percent (n=58) of students from the fall 2023 cohort transferred-out.
- Of those found, 88% (n=51) were found at a public institution (including CUNY), while 12% (n=7) were at a private institution.
- Sixty-two percent (n=36) were found at a 4-year institution 38% (n=22) were at a 2-year.
- Of the 51 at a public institution, 90% (n=46) were found at another CUNY and 10% (n=5) were at SUNY.

Other CUNY (Public) in Fall 2024 Preliminary	2-Year	4-Year	Total
CUNY Queens College	0	8	8
CUNY Queensborough Community College	6	0	6
CUNY Borough of Manhattan Community College	5	0	5
CUNY LaGuardia Community College	5	0	5
CUNY New York City College of Technology	0	5	5
CUNY Baruch College	0	4	4
CUNY Kingsborough Community College	3	0	3
CUNY City College	0	2	2
CUNY College of Staten Island	0	2	2
CUNY Hostos Community College	2	0	2
CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice	0	2	2
CUNY Brooklyn College	0	1	1
CUNY Medgar Evers College	0	1	1
CUNY Bronx Community College	0	0	0
CUNY Hunter College	0	0	0
CUNY Lehman College	0	0	0
Total	21	25	46

Of the five students who transferred to a public institution outside of CUNY, five went to various SUNY institutions.

Outside CUNY (Public) in Fall 2024 Preliminary	2-Year	4-Year	Total
SUNY New Paltz	0	1	1
SUNY Farmingdale	0	1	1
SUNY Stony Brook University	0	1	1
SUNY Suffolk County CC - Brentwood	1	0	1
SUNY University at Buffalo	0	1	1
Total	1	4	5

Seven students transferred to a private institution.

Outside CUNY (Private) in Fall 2024 Preliminary	2-Year	4-Year	Total
Touro University	0	2	2
Vaughn College Of Aeronautics And Technology	0	2	2
Long Island University	0	1	1
Monroe University - New Rochelle	0	1	1
Saint John's University	0	1	1
Total	0	7	7

In order to compare those who went elsewhere by type of institution chosen (CUNY v non-CUNY; Private v Public; and 2-year v 4-year), academic preparation and first-year academic performance data were analyzed. In general, the results were not notably different between the groups.

- Students who enrolled at a non-CUNY had a slightly higher mean high school average.

- Students who chose a public institution had a slightly higher mean York GPA.
- Students who went to 4-year institutions had higher mean York GPAs and higher cumulative credits after one semester at York (equal to one semester of full-time study).

	CUNY	Non-CUNY	Private	Public	2-Year	4-Year
Mean HS Average	80	82	82	81	80	81
Mean York GPA after Fall 2023	2.12	2.17	1.97	2.16	1.39	2.57
Mean York cumulative credits after Fall 2023	10.11	11.09	9.57	10.40	7.29	12.06