

CSU Fort Collins: Enrollment, Retention, and Graduation Rates September 2023

Executive Summary

RI (State Funded) Enrollment and FTE (data taken from Census 2023-09-09).

- There is slight decrease in RI enrollment and an increase in non-RI enrollment
- SCH and FTE are relatively stable for FA23 compared to FA22

The new entering class is 5,299 including the summer starts. Demographics are as follows:

- 29% identify as Racially Minoritized (RM)
- 25% are First Generation (FG)
- 60% are Colorado residents
- 9% are rural Colorado residents
- Median high school GPA is 3.72

Retention to second fall is up by 1.4 points to 84.9%. This is one of the largest single year increases on record for CSU. The increase for the RM cohort was 2.5 points up to 82.1% narrowing the equity gap for this cohort. The increase for the FG cohort was 1.1 points up to 79.3%. Increases were also present for STEM and non-STEM cohorts as well as male and female cohorts.

The 4-year graduation rate increased overall and for RM, FG, and Pell cohorts. The 6-year graduation rate increased very slightly overall but decreased for our subpopulations of RM, Pell, and FG students. This was not unexpected given previous tracking results for the FA17 cohort.

SCH, FTE, and Enrollment Headcounts

Table 1 shows SCH and FTE totals by fall term, among RI students only.

Table 1: SCH and FTE, Among RI Students

	FA18	FA19	FA20	FA21	FA22	FA23	One year change	Percent change
Student SCH	382,032	382,786	358,681	362,867	366,942	367,099	157	0.0%
Student FTE	13,092	13,114	12,300	12,437	12,577	12,590	13	0.1%

Table 2 shows enrollment headcounts by RI status. Among Non-RI students, headcounts are broken out by student status. Among RI students, headcounts are broken out by student level and class level (based on earned credits).

Table 2: Enrollment Headcounts by RI Status, Student Level, and Class

Enrollment	FA19	FA20	FA21	FA22	FA23	One year change	Percent change
Non-RI Student	5,302	4,930	4,954	5,499	5,815	316	5.7%
CSU Online	3,810	4,034	4,032	4,044	4,270	226	5.6%
Employee	564	516	498	544	574	30	5.5%
Guest	2	8	11	6	10	4	66.7%
Other	370	370	369	310	342	32	10.3%
Semester at Sea	415	0	0	448	495	47	10.5%
Study Abroad	141	2	44	147	124	-23	-15.6%
RI Student	28,864	27,835	27,954	27,956	27,833	-123	-0.4%
Undergraduate	24,600	23,590	23,690	23,794	23,653	-141	-0.6%
Freshman (<30 SCH)	6,291	5,540	6,305	6,880	6,468	-412	-6.0%
Sophomore (30-60 SCH)	5,710	5,552	5,131	5,209	5,612	403	7.7%
Junior (60-90 SCH)	5,525	5,532	5,450	5,159	5,210	51	1.0%
Senior and Post Bachelors (90+ SCH)	7,074	6,966	6,804	6,546	6,363	-183	-2.8%
Graduate	3,676	3,648	3,658	3,557	3,580	23	0.6%
Graduate I and NDS	2,225	2,162	2,124	1,948	1,905	-43	-2.2%
Graduate II	1,451	1,486	1,534	1,609	1,675	66	4.1%
Professional	588	597	606	605	600	-5	-0.8%
New Entering Class (SM and FA starts; FT and PT)	5,217	4,578	5,195	5,568	5,299	-269	-4.8%
Transfer Entering Class (FA starts; FT and PT)	1,585	1,351	1,550	1,518	1,421	-97	-6.4%

Notes: New and Transfer Entering Cohorts include RI and Non-RI students.

Student Demographics

Table 3 shows enrollment headcounts by student demographic information. Some characteristics, such as Pell status and First Generation status are only available for Undergraduates. Pell status is a year in arrears and so is not available for the most recent fall cohort at Census. Rural designations reflect Colorado Department of Education (CDE) definitions and so are only available for Undergraduate Colorado residents with non-missing high school information.

Table 3: Fall Term Demographic Profile, Among RI Students

Demographics	FA19	FA20	FA21	FA22	FA23	One year change	Percent change
Female	15,136	14,910	15,181	15,332	15,278	-54	-0.4%
Male	13,728	12,925	12,773	12,624	12,555	-69	-0.5%
Rural	1,104	1,091	1,091	1,095	1,123	28	2.6%
Small Rural	336	283	247	228	230	2	0.9%
Metro	14,136	14,150	14,164	14,183	14,107	-76	-0.5%
Rural Status Not Available	13,288	12,311	12,452	12,450	12,373	-77	-0.6%
Non-Resident, Non-WUE	8,070	7,505	7,571	7,549	7,380	-169	-2.2%
Non-Resident, WUE	1,150	1,356	1,960	2,207	2,371	164	7.4%
Resident	19,644	18,974	18,423	18,200	18,082	-118	-0.6%
First Generation	6,050	5,646	5,430	5,552	5,539	-13	-0.2%
Non-First Generation	18,550	17,944	18,260	18,242	18,114	-128	-0.7%
FG Status Not Available	4,264	4,245	4,264	4,162	4,180	18	0.4%
Pell Recipient	5,342	4,749	4,673	4,634	4,056	Preliminary for FA23; One year change not available	
Non-Pell Recipient	19,258	18,841	19,017	19,160	19,597		
Pell Status Not Available	4,264	4,245	4,264	4,162	4,180		
Non-Racially Minoritized	22,046	21,027	21,042	20,940	20,789	-151	-0.7%
International	1,862	1,516	1,369	1,334	1,491	157	11.8%
No Response	330	252	265	261	255	-6	-2.3%
White	19,854	19,259	19,408	19,345	19,043	-302	-1.6%
Racially Minoritized	6,818	6,808	6,912	7,016	7,044	28	0.4%
Asian	775	765	794	817	812	-5	-0.6%
Black	598	552	570	565	617	52	9.2%
Hawaiian/Pac. Islander	39	35	38	34	38	4	11.8%
Hispanic/Latino	3,974	4,008	4,014	4,121	4,073	-48	-1.2%
Multi-Racial	1,310	1,302	1,354	1,343	1,370	27	2.0%
Native American	122	146	142	136	134	-2	-1.5%

Notes: Data reflect RI-funded students as of the Census date of each fall term. First Generation status, Pell Recipient status, and Rural status are 'Not Available' for graduate or professional students. Pell Recipient status is a year in arrears and is preliminary for the most recent fall term. Rural status reflects Colorado Department of Education's definitions and can only be determined for resident undergraduates with a non-missing high school.

Primary Major College Enrollment

Table 4 shows enrollment headcounts by student’s primary college overall and separate by student level.

Table 4: Primary Major College Enrollment Headcounts by Student Level, Among RI

College		FA19	FA20	FA21	FA22	FA23	One year change	Percent change
Agricultural Sciences	Overall	1,698	1,603	1,608	1,657	1,702	45	2.7%
	Undergraduate	1,493	1,387	1,383	1,422	1,461	39	2.7%
	Graduate	205	216	225	235	241	6	2.6%
Business	Overall	2,535	2,503	2,719	2,976	3,213	237	8.0%
	Undergraduate	2,310	2,278	2,510	2,796	2,976	180	6.4%
	Graduate	225	225	209	180	237	57	31.7%
Health and Human Sciences	Overall	4,900	4,690	4,438	4,326	4,126	-200	-4.6%
	Undergraduate	4,392	4,192	3,957	3,842	3,664	-178	-4.6%
	Graduate	508	498	481	484	462	-22	-4.5%
Intra-University	Overall	2,657	2,304	2,265	2,199	2,130	-69	-3.1%
	Undergraduate	2,428	2,064	2,029	1,983	1,912	-71	-3.6%
	Graduate	229	240	236	216	218	2	0.9%
Liberal Arts	Overall	4,725	4,665	4,606	4,582	4,467	-115	-2.5%
	Undergraduate	4,198	4,125	4,030	4,034	3,995	-39	-1.0%
	Graduate	527	540	576	548	472	-76	-13.9%
Natural Sciences	Overall	5,309	5,248	5,464	5,477	5,467	-10	-0.2%
	Undergraduate	4,543	4,515	4,775	4,744	4,702	-42	-0.9%
	Graduate	766	733	689	733	765	32	4.4%
Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sci	Overall	1,820	1,839	1,847	1,873	1,894	21	1.1%
	Undergraduate	914	922	928	969	957	-12	-1.2%
	Graduate	318	320	313	299	337	38	12.7%
	Professional	588	597	606	605	600	-5	-0.8%
Walter Scott Jr College of Engr	Overall	3,260	3,074	3,055	2,967	2,985	18	0.6%
	Undergraduate	2,602	2,453	2,426	2,387	2,376	-11	-0.5%
	Graduate	658	621	629	580	609	29	5.0%
Warner College of Natural Resources	Overall	1,960	1,909	1,952	1,899	1,849	-50	-2.6%
	Undergraduate	1,720	1,654	1,652	1,617	1,610	-7	-0.4%
	Graduate	240	255	300	282	239	-43	-15.2%

Cohort Data: Retention and Graduation Rates

Table 5 displays the second fall retention and four-, five-, and six-year graduation rates for the two most recent first-time, full-time cohorts by student characteristic.

Table 5: First-Time, Full-Time Success Rates by Student Characteristic (RI and non-RI)

FT Cohorts	Retention		4-yr. Grad		5-yr. Grad		6-yr. Grad	
	FA21	FA22	FA18	FA19	FA17	FA18	FA16	FA17
Overall	83.5%	84.9%	45.6%	47.5%	62.0%	62.1%	65.5%	65.6%
Non-Resident	81.7%	83.4%	43.9%	47.0%	59.6%	60.3%	62.5%	62.6%
Resident	84.7%	85.9%	46.6%	47.8%	63.2%	63.2%	66.9%	67.2%
Racially Minoritized	79.6%	82.1%	41.1%	42.1%	53.2%	55.6%	60.9%	57.7%
Non-Racially Minoritized	84.9%	85.9%	47.3%	49.7%	65.4%	64.6%	67.1%	68.7%
Female	84.9%	85.7%	52.4%	53.0%	65.9%	66.8%	68.1%	69.0%
Male	81.5%	83.9%	37.6%	40.2%	57.4%	56.6%	62.2%	61.8%
Pell Recipient	79.1%	78.6%	35.2%	37.9%	51.9%	49.6%	57.8%	55.9%
Non-Pell Recipient	84.5%	86.4%	48.4%	50.1%	64.8%	65.5%	67.5%	68.4%
First Generation	78.2%	79.3%	37.2%	39.1%	51.0%	51.4%	57.8%	55.4%
Non-First Generation	84.9%	86.8%	48.0%	50.1%	65.2%	65.2%	67.8%	68.7%
Rural	86.5%	84.8%	40.7%	46.9%	63.3%	58.3%	60.3%	66.2%
Not Rural	84.5%	86.0%	47.1%	47.8%	63.2%	63.6%	67.7%	67.3%
Non-STEM Major	82.3%	83.9%	45.8%	47.9%	61.5%	60.4%	64.7%	64.9%
STEM Major	85.2%	86.4%	45.2%	47.0%	62.7%	64.5%	66.7%	66.8%

Note that data do not match previously published reports due to a change in methodology starting in summer of 2023. All data have been back populated with the new methodology to support longitudinal comparisons. These changes were made to align more closely with state and federal definitions of an entering cohort.

Differences between the old and new methodology are as follows:

- Entering cohorts now include both RI and non-RI degree-seeking students who attempted any credit hours. Previously only RI degree seeking students who completed their first semester were included.

Students are considered to be retained if they attempt any credit hours (RI or non-RI at any point in the semester, previously only students enrolled in RI credits at the start of the semester were considered retained.

Table 6 displays the most recent cohort size, retention rate, four-year graduation rate, six-year graduation rate, and percentage point change from the previous cohort’s rate by student characteristic.

Table 6: First-Time, Full-Time Cohorts by Student Characteristic (RI and non-RI)

FT Cohorts	Retention to 2nd Fall (FA22 Cohort)			4-yr. Graduation (FA19 Cohort)			6-yr. Graduation (FA17 Cohort)		
	Cohort size	Rate	Percentage Point Change	Cohort size	Rate	Percentage Point Change	Cohort size	Rate	Percentage Point Change
Overall	5,493	84.9%	1.4	5,185	47.5%	1.9	5,074	65.6%	0.2
Non-Resident	2,194	83.4%	1.7	1,850	47.0%	3.1	1,691	62.6%	0.1
Resident	3,299	85.9%	1.2	3,335	47.8%	1.2	3,383	67.2%	0.3
Non-Resident, Non-WUE	1,421	81.4%	1.6	1,381	41.9%	0.1	1,354	61.4%	1.1
Non-Resident, WUE	773	87.1%	2.5	469	61.8%	8.9	337	67.4%	-6.3
Racially Minoritized	1,515	82.1%	2.5	1,502	42.1%	1.0	1,409	57.7%	-3.2
Non-Racially Minoritized	3,978	85.9%	1.0	3,683	49.7%	2.4	3,665	68.7%	1.6
Asian	171	86.0%	3.1	142	52.1%	-2.5	147	59.2%	-8.1
Black	144	81.9%	6.0	116	30.2%	0.7	114	57.9%	-1.4
Hawaiian/Pac. Islander	6	83.3%	23.3	5	20.0%	-22.9	13	69.2%	40.7
Hispanic/Latino	894	81.1%	1.6	892	41.8%	2.8	871	57.5%	-3.2
International	73	82.2%	6.8	71	23.9%	-22.4	89	59.6%	-11.1
Multi-Racial	277	83.0%	2.5	302	45.7%	-0.3	240	57.1%	-4.9
Native American	23	82.6%	-0.7	45	24.4%	-10.6	25	52.0%	24.7
No Response	35	88.6%	2.5	35	60.0%	16.5	26	61.5%	-5.6
White	3,870	86.0%	0.9	3,577	50.1%	2.7	3,549	69.0%	2.0
Non-Racially Minoritized Non-Resident	1,706	83.8%	0.3	1,442	49.0%	3.4	1,330	64.9%	0.3
Non-Racially Minoritized Resident	2,272	87.5%	1.5	2,241	50.1%	1.6	2,335	70.9%	2.5
Racially Minoritized Non-Resident	488	82.0%	6.9	408	39.7%	2.3	361	54.0%	-0.2
Racially Minoritized Resident	1,027	82.2%	0.4	1,094	43.0%	0.5	1,048	59.0%	-4.2
Non-Racially Minoritized Female	2,178	86.5%	0.2	2,060	56.5%	1.8	1,930	72.3%	2.4

FT Cohorts	Retention to 2nd Fall (FA22 Cohort)			4-yr. Graduation (FA19 Cohort)			6-yr. Graduation (FA17 Cohort)		
	Cohort size	Rate	Percentage Point Change	Cohort size	Rate	Percentage Point Change	Cohort size	Rate	Percentage Point Change
Non-Racially Minoritized Male	1,800	85.3%	2.2	1,623	41.1%	2.0	1,735	64.7%	1.1
Racially Minoritized Female	915	83.8%	2.4	891	45.0%	-2.0	792	60.9%	-2.3
Racially Minoritized Male	600	79.5%	2.6	611	37.8%	4.3	617	53.6%	-3.8
Female	3,093	85.7%	0.8	2,951	53.0%	0.6	2,722	69.0%	0.9
Male	2,400	83.9%	2.3	2,234	40.2%	2.6	2,352	61.8%	-0.4
Pell Recipient	1,037	78.6%	-0.6	1,107	37.9%	2.8	1,116	55.9%	-1.9
Non-Pell Recipient	4,456	86.4%	1.9	4,078	50.1%	1.7	3,958	68.4%	0.9
First Generation	1,375	79.3%	1.1	1,224	39.1%	1.9	1,162	55.4%	-2.3
Non-First Generation	4,118	86.8%	1.9	3,961	50.1%	2.0	3,912	68.7%	0.9
Rural	302	84.8%	-1.7	337	46.9%	6.2	346	66.2%	5.9
Not Rural	2,997	86.0%	1.5	2,997	47.8%	0.7	3,037	67.3%	-0.4
Non-STEM Major	3,239	83.9%	1.6	2,975	47.9%	2.0	3,033	64.9%	0.1
STEM Major	2,254	86.4%	1.2	2,210	47.0%	1.8	2,041	66.8%	0.1

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Differences between the old and new methodology are as follows:

- Entering cohorts now include both RI and non-RI degree-seeking students who attempted any credit hours. Previously only RI degree seeking students who completed their first semester were included.
- Students are considered to be retained if they attempt any credit hours (RI or non-RI at any point in the semester, previously only students enrolled in RI credits at the start of the semester were considered retained.

Table 7 displays the demographic representation of First-Time, Full-Time Cohorts by demographic identity.

Table 7: First-Time, Full-Time Cohorts Headcounts by Demographic (RI and non-RI)

Demographics	FA19	FA20	FA21	FA22	FA23
Female	2,951	2,604	2,937	3,093	2,937
Male	2,234	1,882	2,166	2,400	2,286
Rural	337	244	288	302	287
Metro	2,997	2,695	2,743	2,997	2,848
Rural Status Not Available	1,851	1,547	2,072	2,194	2,088
Non-Resident	1,850	1,546	2,072	2,194	2,088
Resident	3,335	2,940	3,031	3,299	3,135
First Generation	1,224	967	1,095	1,375	1,304
Non-First Generation	3,961	3,519	4,008	4,118	3,919
Pell Recipient	1,107	874	988	1,037	978
Non-Pell Recipient	4,078	3,612	4,115	4,456	4,245
STEM	2,210	1,826	2,088	2,254	2,159
Non-STEM	2,975	2,660	3,015	3,239	3,064
Non-Racially Minoritized	3,683	3,183	3,678	3,978	3,692
International	71	59	57	73	104
No Response	35	16	36	35	31
White	3,577	3,108	3,585	3,870	3,557
Racially Minoritized	1,502	1,303	1,425	1,515	1,531
Asian	142	152	152	171	142
Black	116	107	133	144	177
Hawaiian/Pac. Islander	5	4	10	6	11
Hispanic/Latino	892	761	829	894	895
Multi-Racial	302	252	277	277	285
Native American	45	27	24	23	21

Pell Recipient status is a year in arrears and is preliminary for the most recent fall term. Rural status reflects Colorado Department of Education's definitions and can only be determined for resident undergraduates with a non-missing high school.