

UW Board of Trustees Committee on Academic and Student Affairs  
**Agenda-FINAL 3.11.2025**

**Closed Session:** If necessary, a separate agenda and materials for the Closed Session.

Agenda #	Description	Page #
1.	Information and Discussion: Provost Update	2
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	<b><u>If time permits, the following items will be discussed.</u></b>	

**Academic and Student Affairs**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING MATERIALS**

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** Provost Update

- ☒ OPEN SESSION  
☐ CLOSED SESSION

**PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BY COMMITTEE:**

- ☐ Yes  
☒ No

**FOR FULL BOARD CONSIDERATION:**

- ☐ Yes *[Note: If yes, materials will also be included in the full UW Board of Trustee report.]*  
☒ No  
☐ Attachments/materials are provided in advance of the meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

In this update, Interim Provost Turpen will provide updates on the activity and efforts taken since November 2024 to address university processes and mechanisms impacting enrollment. Administration previously identified several “bottom of the funnel” processes and mechanisms that are negatively impacting student enrollment. This report will provide updates on many of the actions taken to correct those issues. Actions that will be discussed:

- Reduction of steps required of students to enroll:
  - Auto acceptance of UW Foundation Scholarships
  - Moved academic prep requirements to NSD (HonorLock, ALEKS PPL, Navigate)
  - Shifted campus access and community steps to NSD and SaddleUp (WyoOne, MMR, Parking permits, StartRight+)
- Enhancements to “bottom of the funnel” processes
  - Housing is reaching out to incomplete and non-completers’ of the housing application, assisting them in submitting the application (increase of more than 60 more apps over same time last year).
  - SFA is reaching out to assist confirmed with understanding their bill and completing the FASFA.
  - Inviting all admitted students to virtual one-on-one meetings to discuss aid awards and packaging.
  - SFA implementing Microsoft Bookings to ease the scheduling of appointments.
  - Individual colleges can use the enrollment reports (UBER) for better outreach efforts once a potential student declares interest in a particular major.
- New Student Days’ enhancements:
  - Offering one-on-one advising
  - Registering students for 15 hours
  - Cowboy Coaches providing peer mentoring as part of the registration process.

- Guaranteeing a summer advising appointment follow-up.
- Partnering with UW Libraries to leverage cross-campus advisor engagement to create a unified, consistent, and elevated registration experience
- Advising:
  - Create consistent positive messaging during higher volume advising times that enable students with expectations for a response and alternative source for urgent needs. The expectation students will have a response within one business day.
  - Streamlining updates and communication to advising managers/advisors about roles cowboy coaches fulfill in various scenarios.
  - Reinstitution of advising council to make policy level decisions.

**PRIOR RELATED COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS:**

In November 2024, administration presented to the Board of Trustees about recruiting, strategic enrollment and marketing strategies that include: (1) identifying and improving institutional mechanisms to move students through the recruitment funnel, (2) registration and advising. Administration provided a follow up on that presentation at the January Board of Trustees.

**WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE:**

Administration would like to give an update of progress to date, and actions taken since the January presentation.

**ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS COMMITTEE MEETING:**

N/A

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

N/A

## ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING MATERIALS

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** Update – Test Optional Admissions, Turpen/Moore

☒ OPEN SESSION

☐ CLOSED SESSION

PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BY COMMITTEE:

☒ Yes

☐ No

FOR FULL BOARD CONSIDERATION:

☐ Yes *[Note: If yes, materials will also be included in the full UW Board of Trustee report.]*

☒ No

☐ Attachments/materials are provided in advance of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Beginning in the fall of 2020, the University began admitting students on a test-optional basis based on a BOT approved 5-year pilot period. This pilot period was specified to assess the impacts and effectiveness of test optional admissions on recruitment and retention. Over the past five years, UW has observed the following trends:

Increased Application Volume

- From 2020 to 2025, the total number of undergraduate applications increased by 12%, with significant growth among first-generation and rural students.
- Applications from non-resident students grew by 18%, contributing to 45% of UW's incoming class.

Retention and Academic Performance

- Retention of students admitted under the test-optional policy has increased from 76.5-78% since 2020
- High school GPA alone proved to be a stronger predictor of first-year retention and success, being 98.5% as predictive as GPA combined with standardized test scores.

No action is currently being requested. However, UW has observed institutions within the region, nationally and amongst UW's peer group have permanently adopted test optional admissions policies, creating a competitive necessity for the university to consider the same. Over the pilot period, the university has achieved increased recruitment and retention success and will review and consider a regulation change later in 2025.

NOTE: The State of Wyoming's Hathaway scholarship continues to require an ACT score for a student to be awarded. Over the past five years, UW's Office of Admissions and Scholarship and Financial Aid Offices have incorporated several communications to ensure every Wyoming High School student is aware of this requirement. These communications occur prior to a student's admission to UW and after, and include phone calls, emails, text messages and inclusion in print material provided to each Wyoming high school student, informing them of the need for an ACT



to receive Hathaway funds. These communications also are designed to encourage students to complete the exam (provided free of charge for every Wyoming High School student during their junior year) and submit their scores. These efforts would continue and include any adjustments necessary to further promote the use of Hathaway awards.

**PRIOR RELATED COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS:**

In Spring of 2020 the BOT supported a pilot (5yr length) test optional admissions policy to begin for students entering Fall 2021. In response to the national shift in universities adopting test optional admissions, the University of Wyoming had a need to stay competitive in the recruitment of non-resident students. Extending the current test optional admissions process, allowed for the recruitment of students and opportunity for assessment of student outcomes before recommending a permanent change to UW regulation 2-201. The pilot timeframe for test optional admissions policy also paralleled the University's test optional awarding option for scholarships.

**WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE:**

Provide the AA/SA Committee a report on the effectiveness of test-optional admission on recruitment and retention during the 5 year pilot period.

**ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS COMMITTEE MEETING:**

N/A

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

N/A

**ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING MATERIALS**

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** Annual Retention Data, Courtney, Turpen

☒ PUBLIC SESSION

☐ EXECUTIVE SESSION

PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BY COMMITTEE:

☒ Yes

☐ No

FOR FULL BOARD CONSIDERATION:

☐ Yes

*[Note: If yes, materials will also be included in the full UW Board of Trustee report.]*

☒ No

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Board will examine the materials provided, encompassing a detailed and thorough analysis of retention data for both First-Time and Full-Time students, alongside a comprehensive overview of trends. Additionally, Transfer Students will also be reviewed. Kindly refer to the attached PowerPoint presentation for further details.

We will use the data presented to then have a conversation about what data we are tracking on and ways we can make continuous improvements around retention. These strategies have the potential to significantly enhance our student retention and academic performance.

WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE:

Annual topic for the Academic and Student Affairs Committee

ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS COMMITTEE MEETING:

PROPOSED MOTION:



A photograph of three students in a classroom setting. A young man with blonde hair, wearing a black t-shirt and a black baseball cap, is leaning over a table, working on a small white robot. He is holding a white component, possibly a sensor or camera, and attaching it to the robot. Another student, a young man with dark hair and glasses, is standing behind him, looking on. A third student, a young man with dark hair, is sitting at the table, looking at the robot. The robot is a small, white, rectangular device with two large black wheels and a smaller front wheel. It has a black battery pack attached to the back. The background is a bright, modern classroom with large windows and other students in the background.

**Spring 2025**

# Student Retention Data



UNIVERSITY  
OF WYOMING

Student Success  
and Graduation



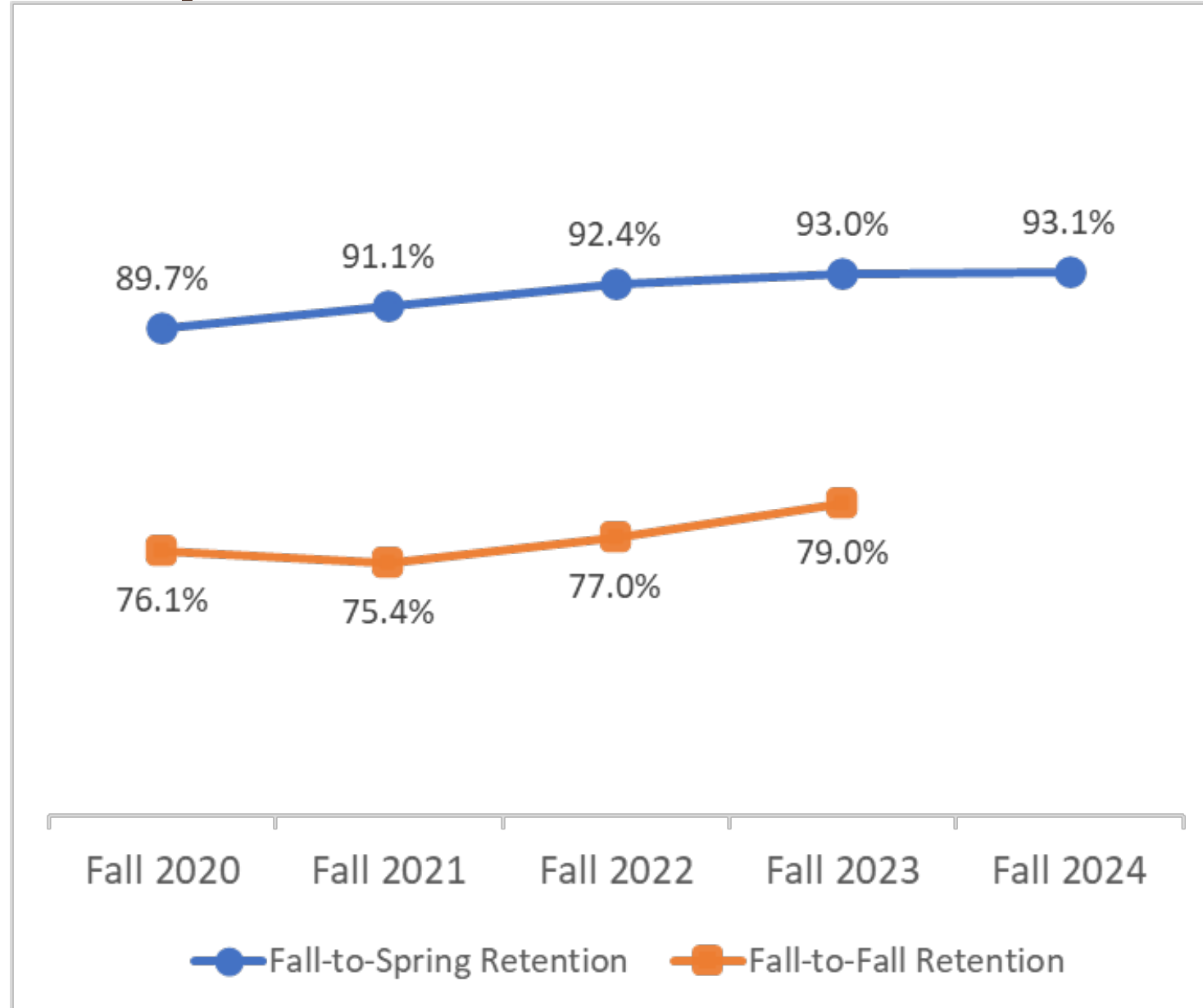
# 「Outline」

## Topic Overview

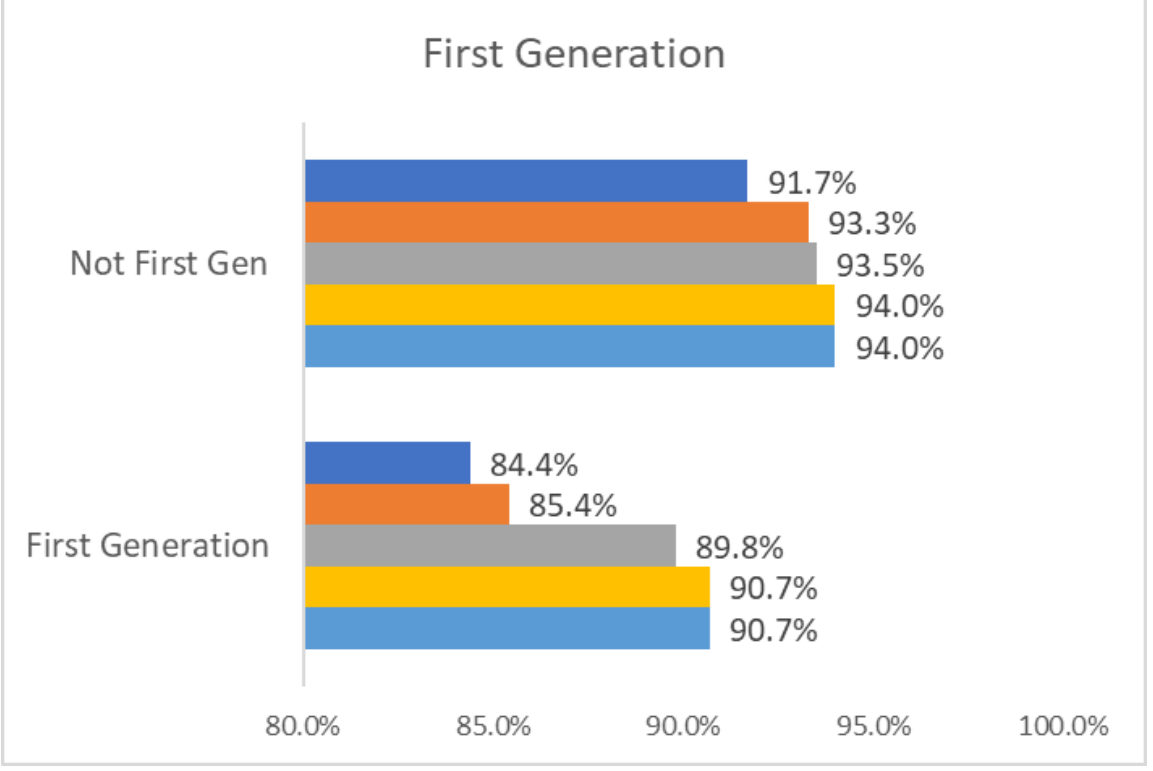
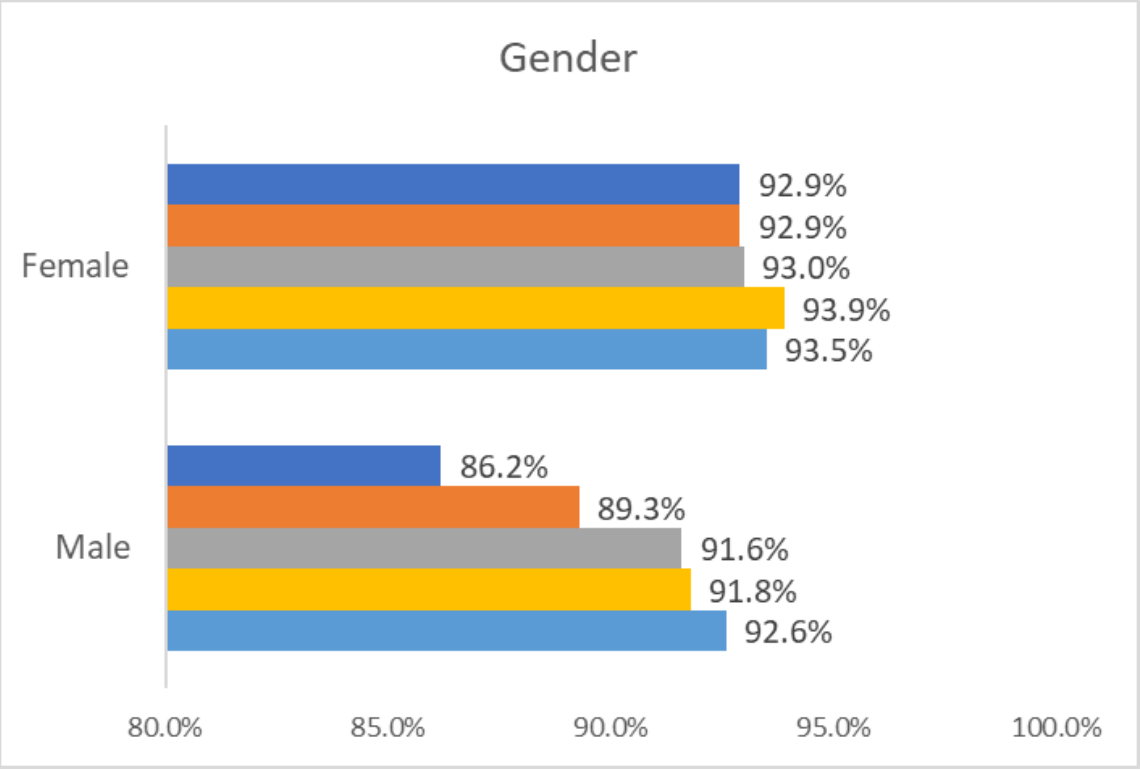
- **First-time, Full-time Fall-to-Spring and Fall-to-Fall Student Retention**
- **Transfer First-time, Full-time, Fall-to-Spring and Fall-to-Fall Student Retention**
- **Saddle-Up Retention**
- **Cowboy Coaching Retention**
- **Looking Forward**



## First-time, Full-time Student Retention:



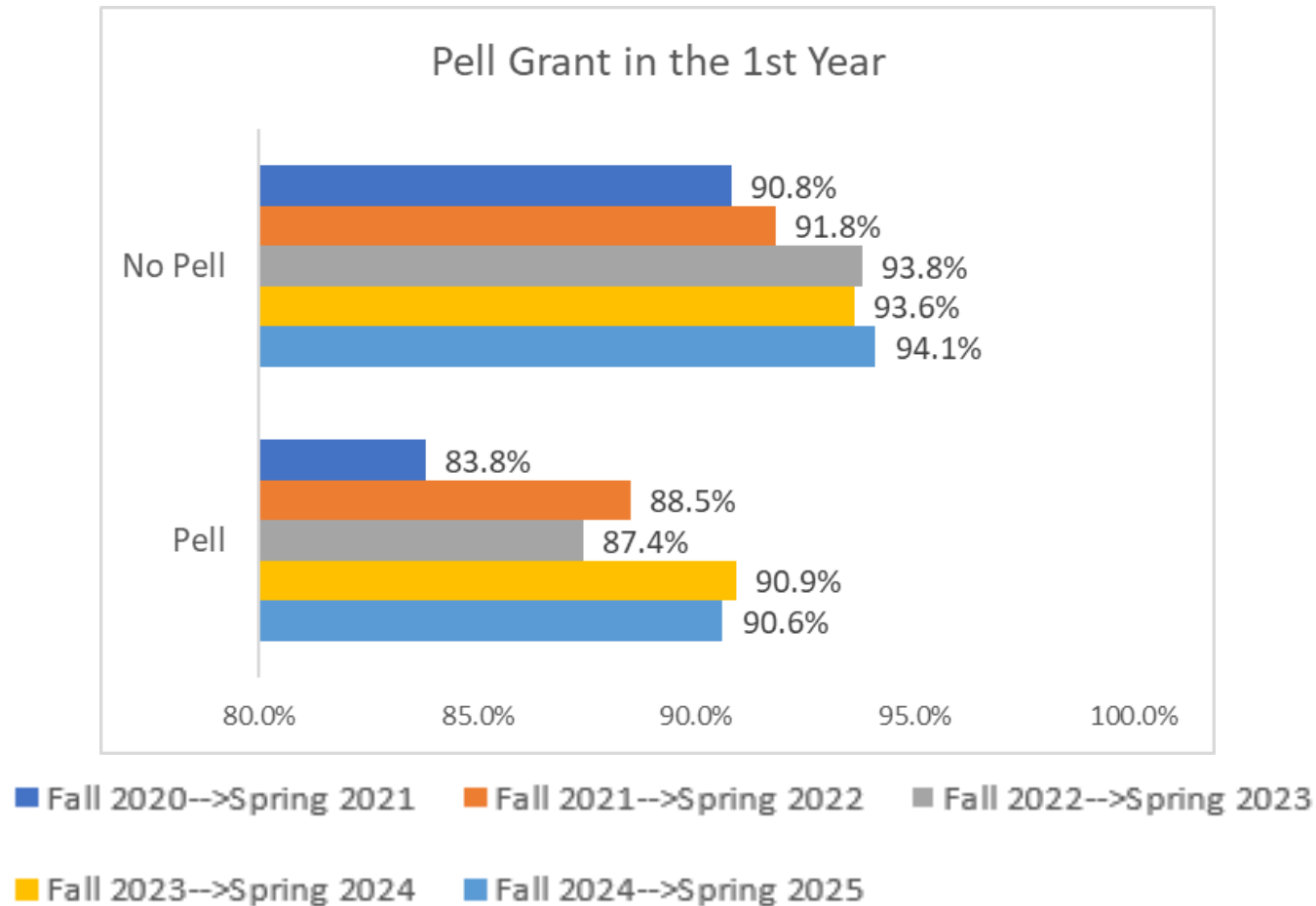
# First-time, Full-time Fall-to-Spring Retention



Fall 2020-->Spring 2021    Fall 2021-->Spring 2022    Fall 2022-->Spring 2023  
Fall 2023-->Spring 2024    Fall 2024-->Spring 2025

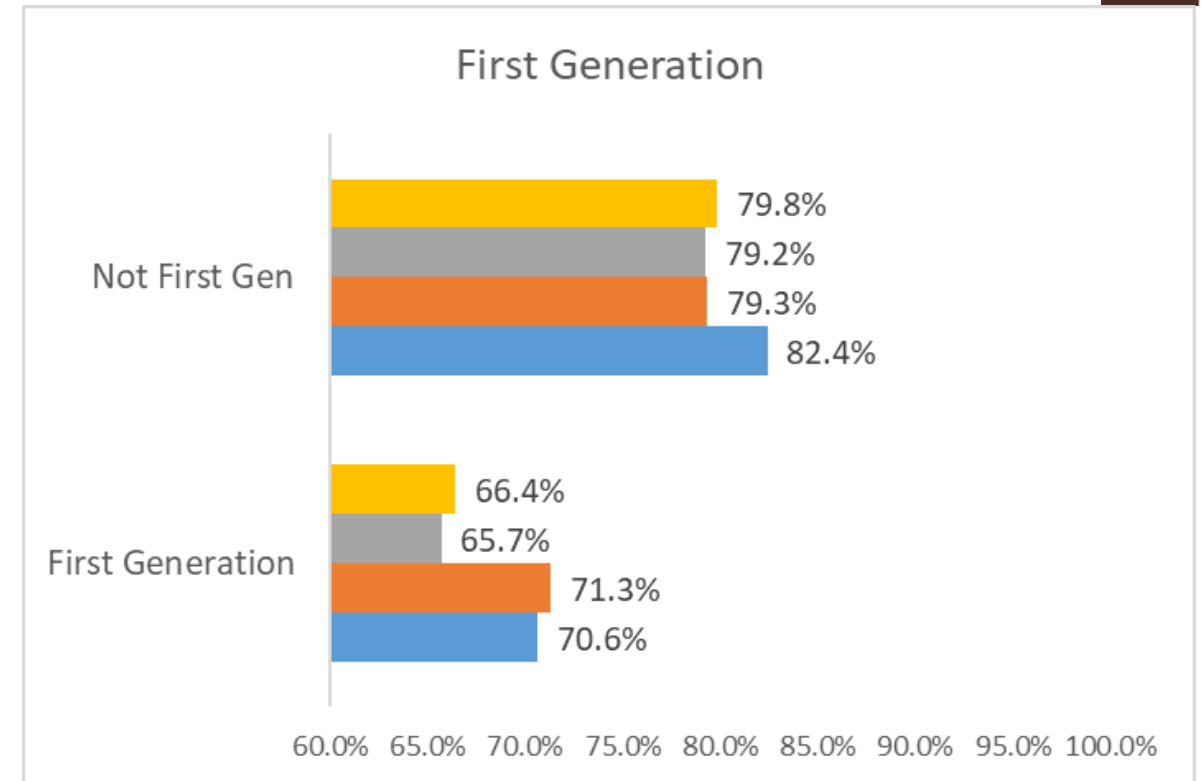
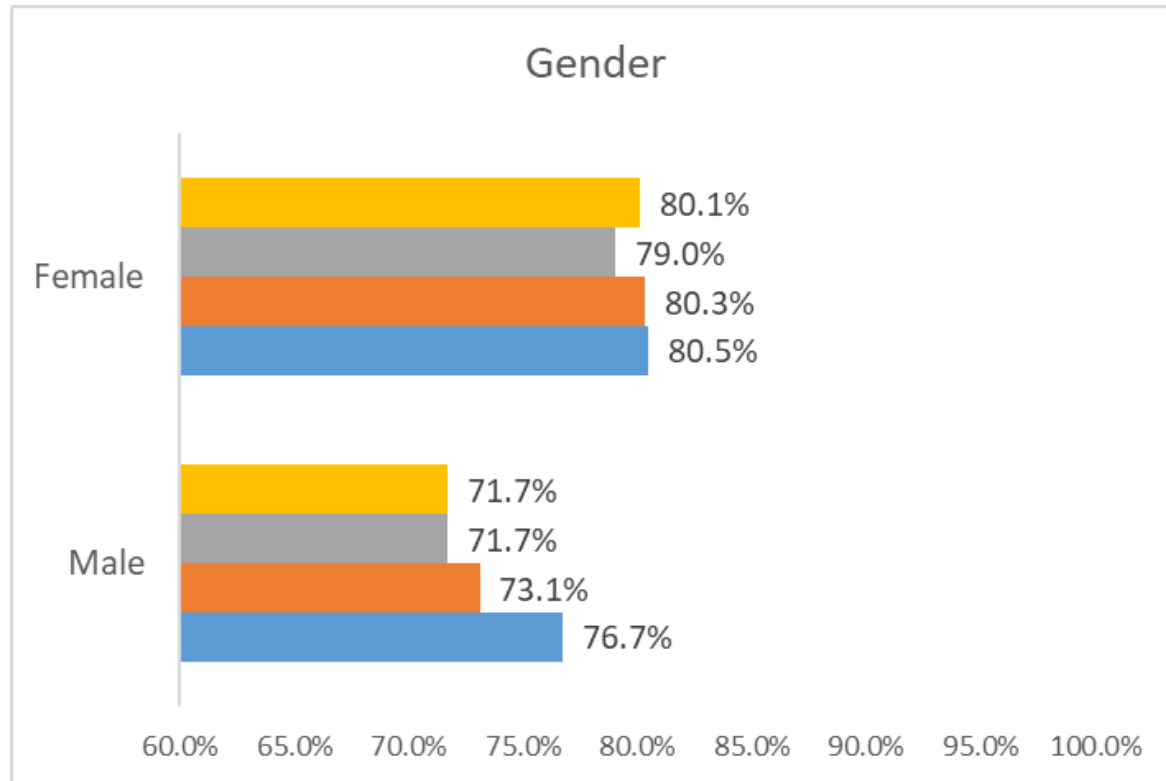
THE WORLD NEEDS MORE  
INSPIRED CREATIVITY.

# First-time, Full-time Fall-to-Spring Retention



THE WORLD NEEDS MORE  
INSPIRED CREATIVITY.

# First-time, Full-time Fall-to-Fall Retention

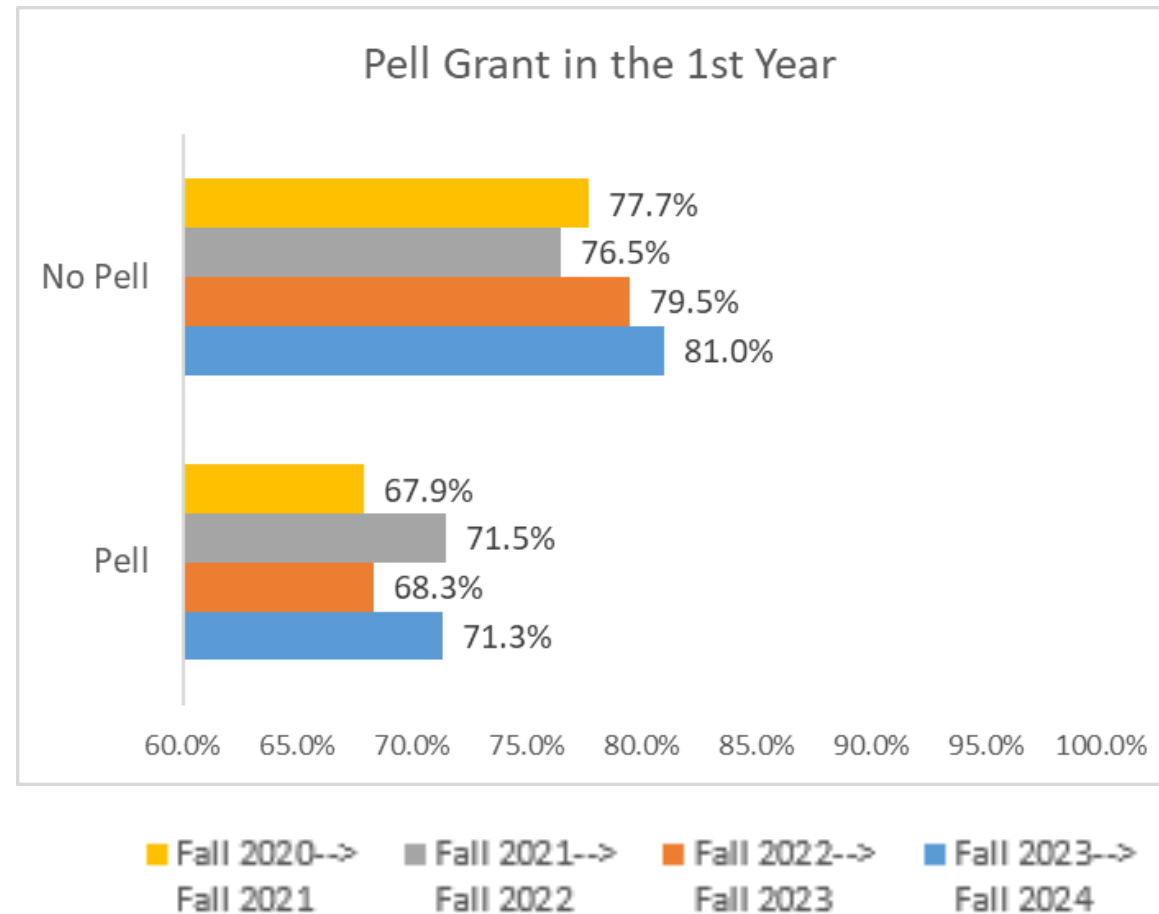


Fall 2020--> Fall 2021    Fall 2021--> Fall 2022    Fall 2022--> Fall 2023    Fall 2023--> Fall 2024

*THE WORLD NEEDS MORE  
INSPIRED CREATIVITY.*



# First-time, Full-time Fall-to-Fall Retention

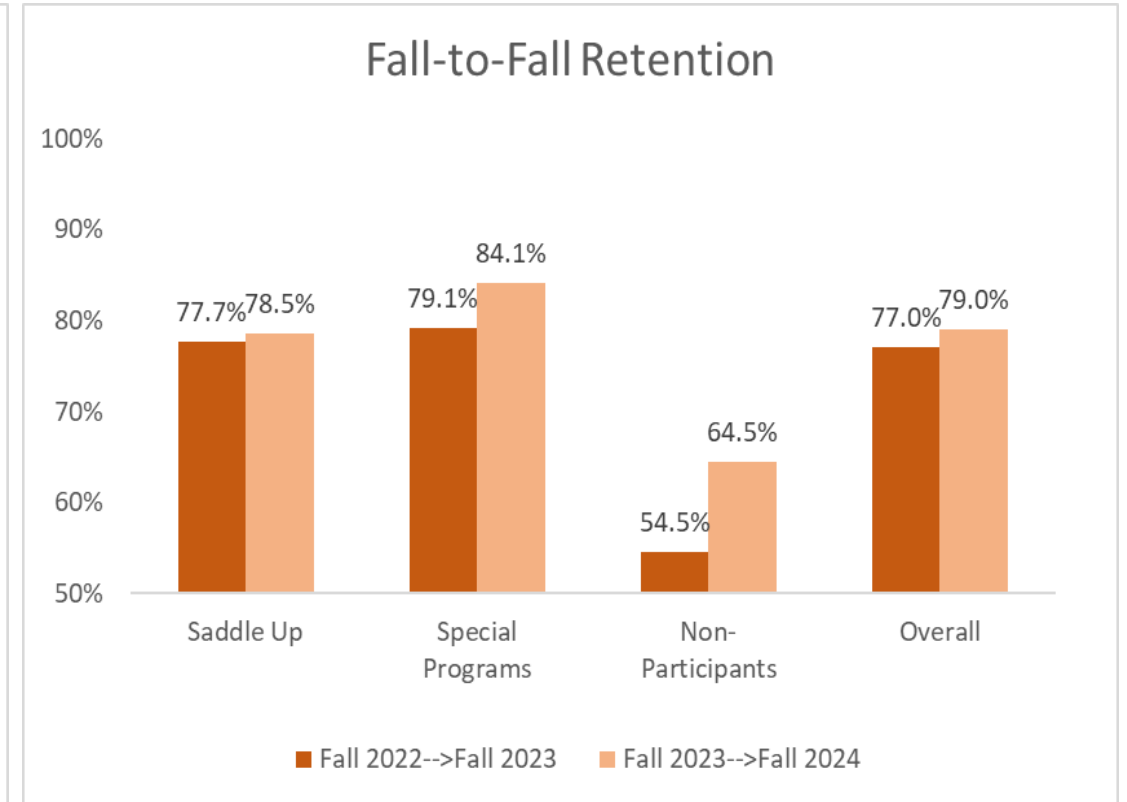
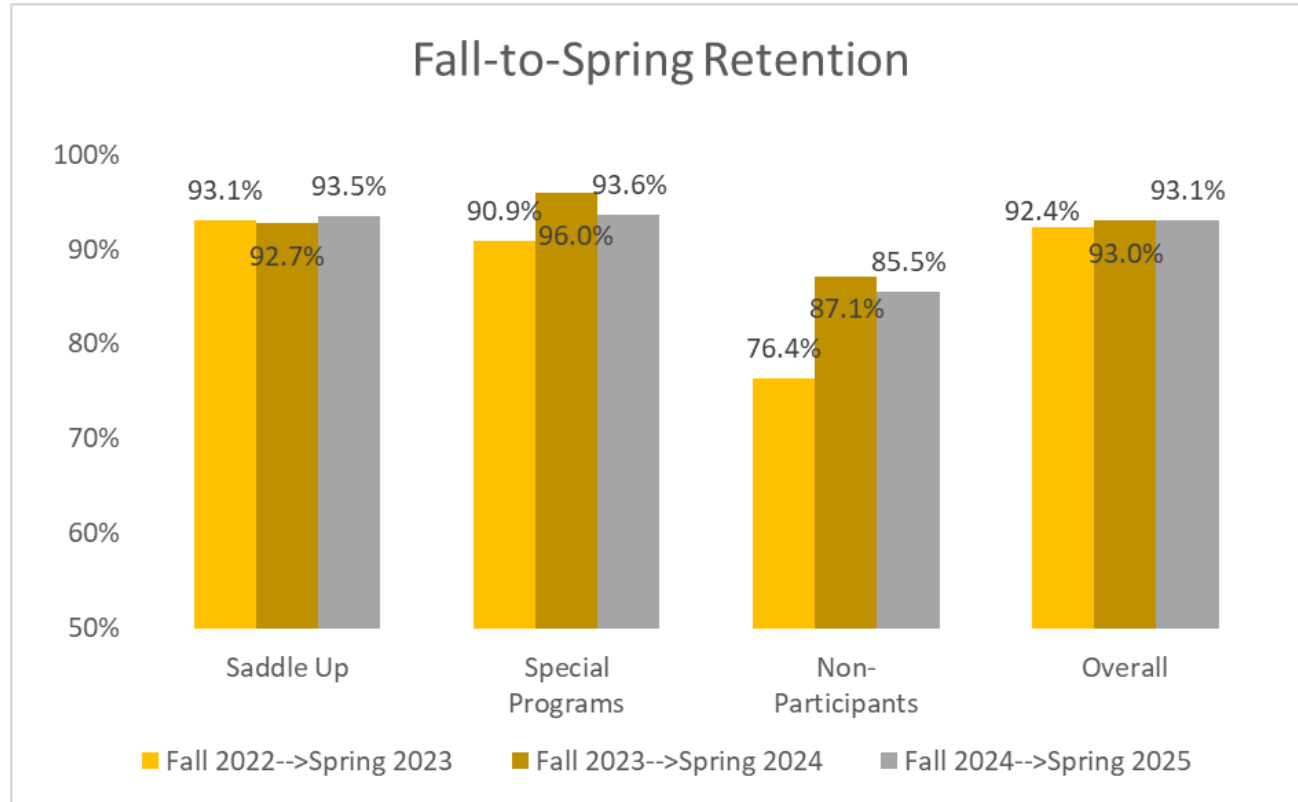


*THE WORLD NEEDS MORE  
INSPIRED CREATIVITY.*

# First-time, Full-time Student Retention

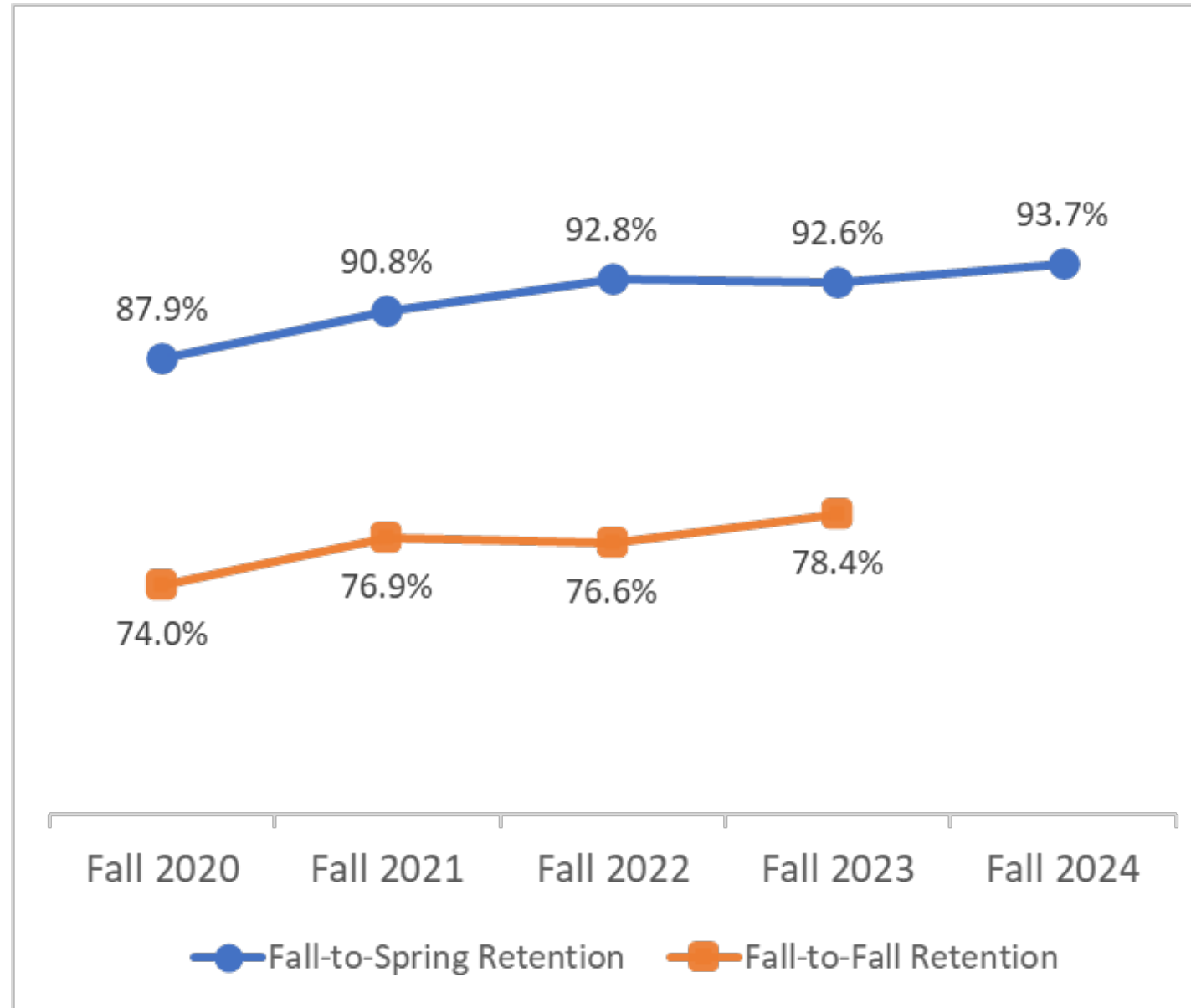
	Saddle Up		Special Programs		Non-Participants		Overall	
	# entering	% retained	# entering	% retained	# entering	% retained	# entering	% retained
Fall 2022-->Spring 2023	1,423	93.1%	110	90.9%	55	76.4%	1,588	92.4%
Fall 2023-->Spring 2024	1,202	92.7%	201	96.0%	31	87.1%	1,434	93.0%
Fall 2024-->Spring 2025	1,166	93.5%	187	93.6%	62	85.5%	1,415	93.1%
Fall 2022-->Fall 2023	1,423	77.7%	110	79.1%	55	54.5%	1,588	77.0%
Fall 2023-->Fall 2024	1,202	78.5%	201	84.1%	31	64.5%	1,434	79.0%

# First-time, Full-time Student Retention

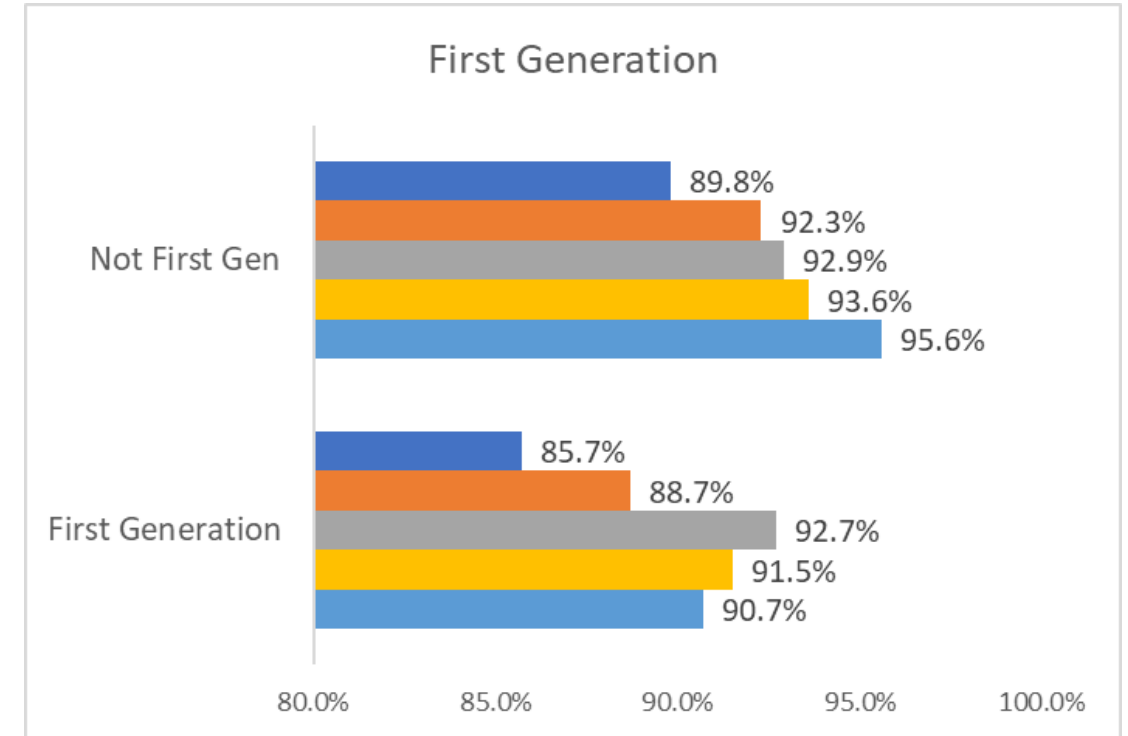
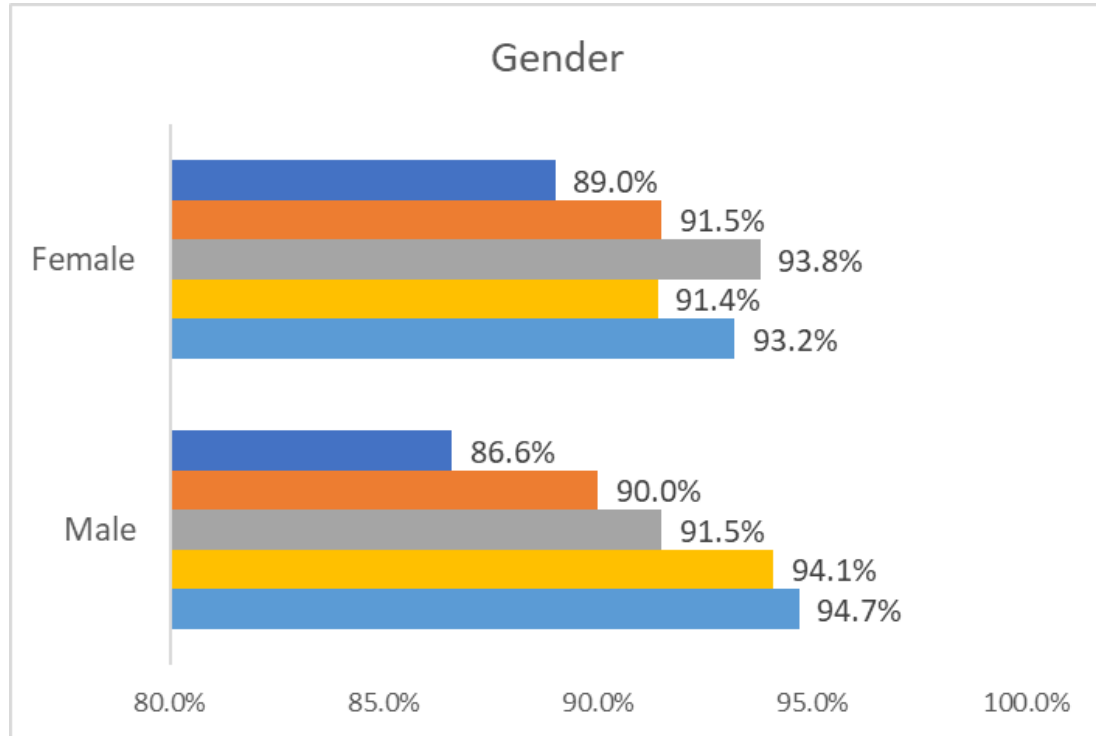


*THE WORLD NEEDS MORE  
INSPIRED CREATIVITY.*

## New Full-time, Transfer Retention



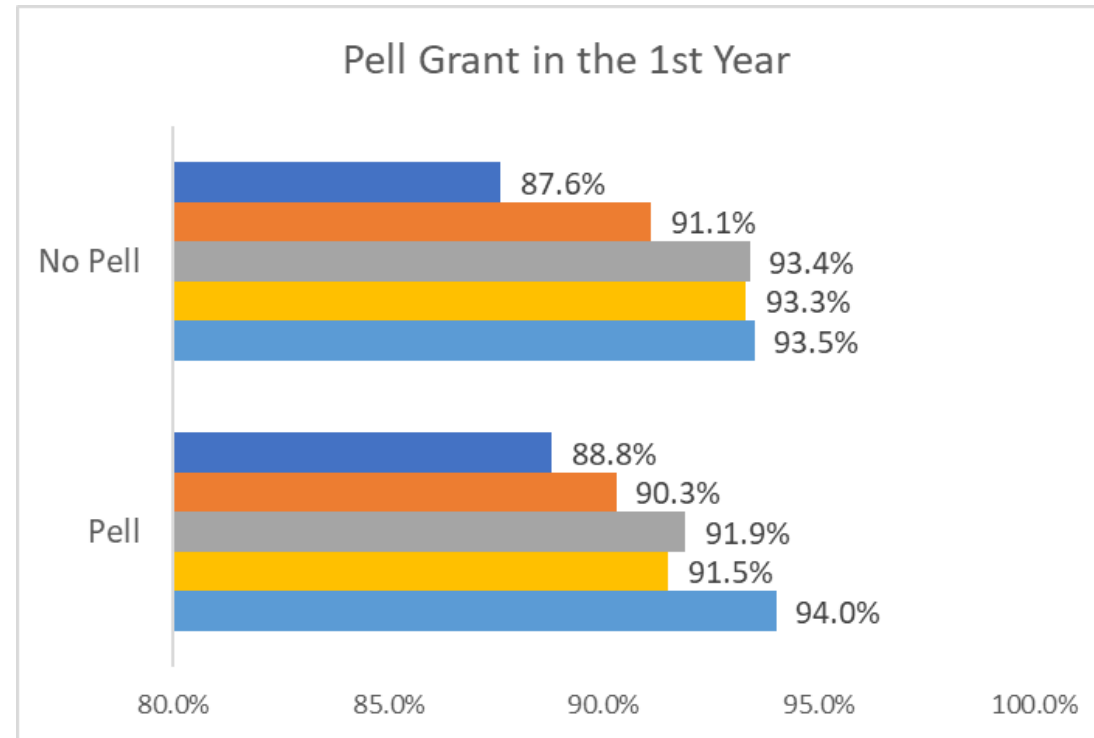
# Full-time, Transfer Fall-to-Spring Retention



■ Fall 2020-->Spring 2021   ■ Fall 2021-->Spring 2022   ■ Fall 2022-->Spring 2023  
■ Fall 2023-->Spring 2024   ■ Fall 2024-->Spring 2025

*THE WORLD NEEDS MORE  
INSPIRED CREATIVITY.*

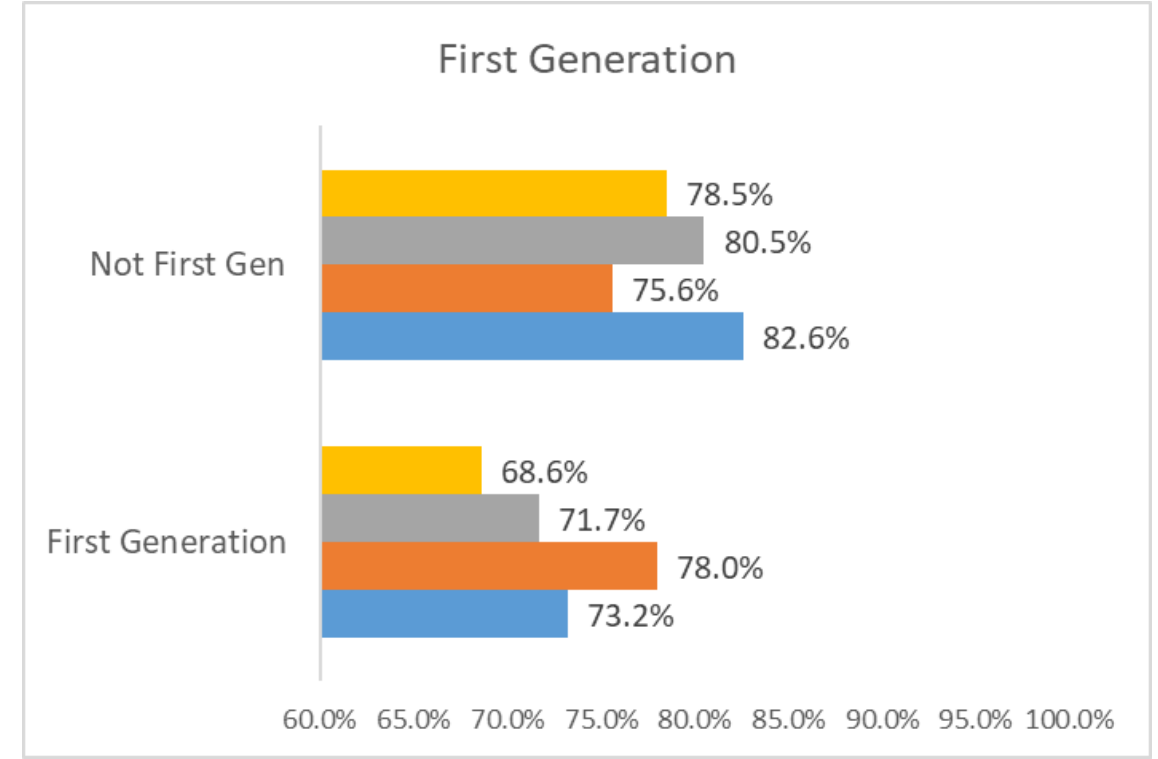
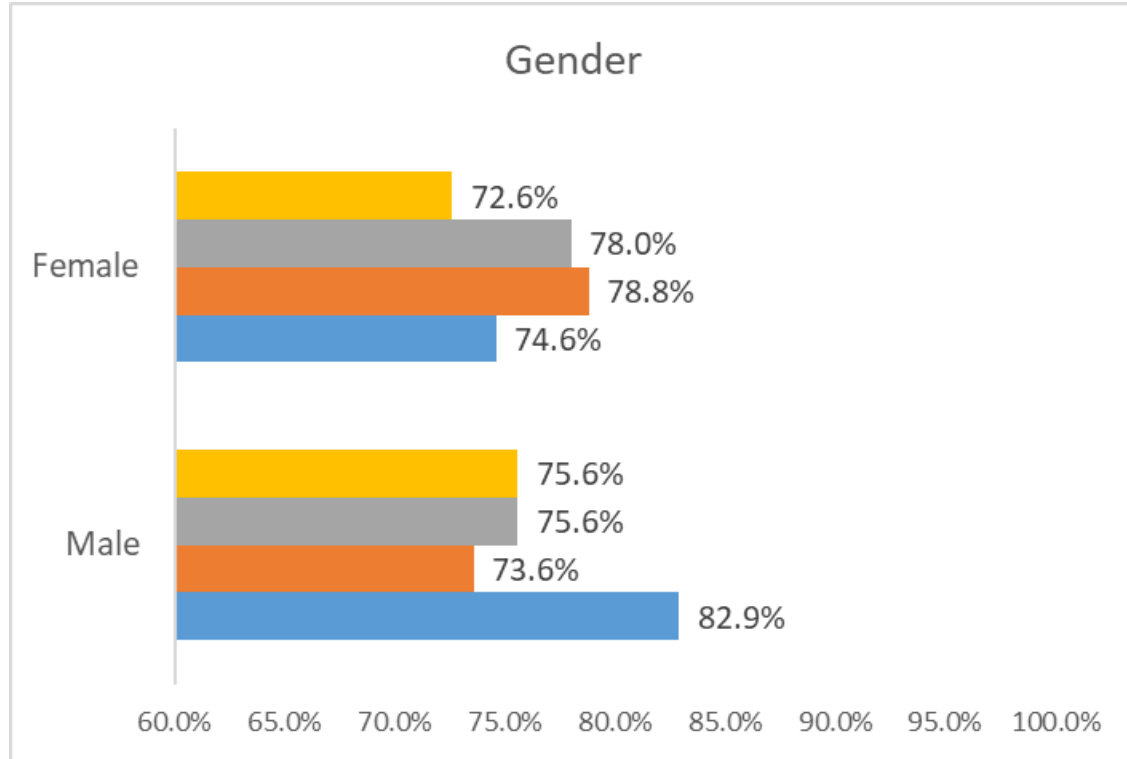
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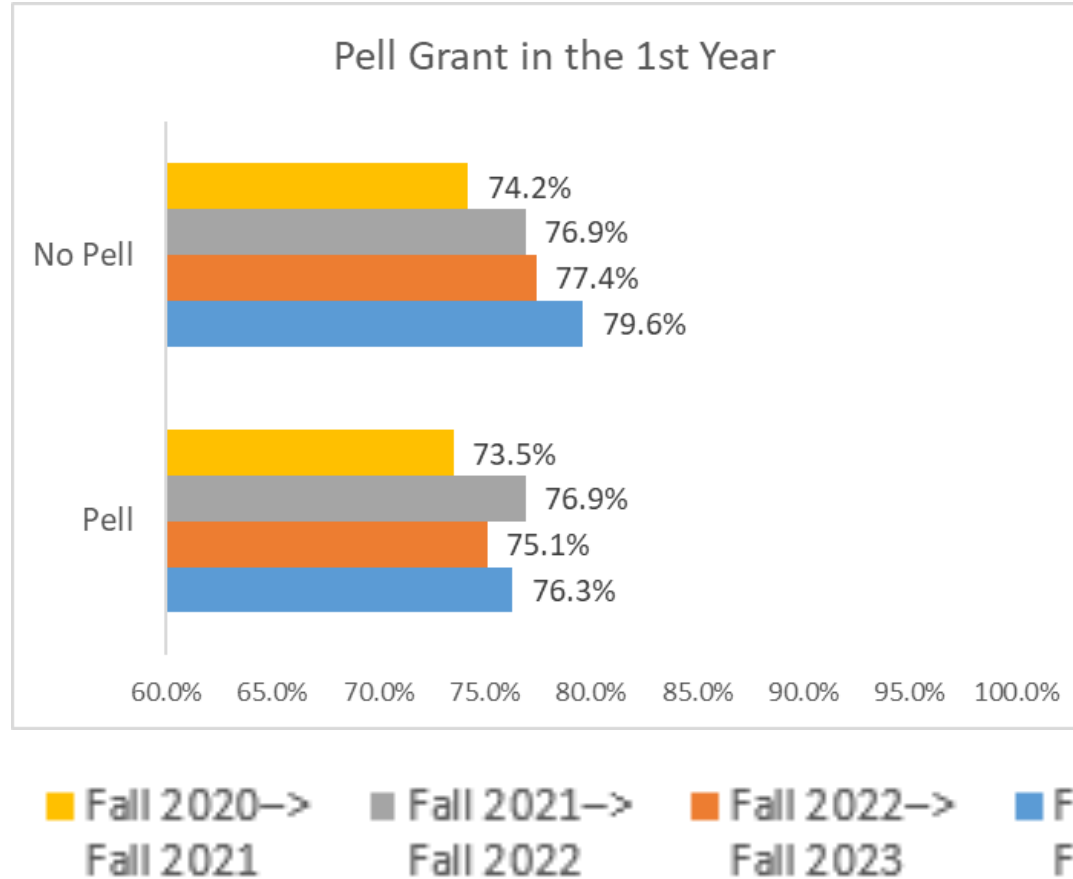
# Full-time, Transfer Fall-to-Fall Retention



■ Fall 2020→ Fall 2021   ■ Fall 2021→ Fall 2022   ■ Fall 2022→ Fall 2023   ■ Fall 2023→ Fall 2024

*THE WORLD NEEDS MORE  
INSPIRED CREATIVITY.*

# Full-time, Transfer Fall-to-Fall Retention



*THE WORLD NEEDS MORE  
INSPIRED CREATIVITY.*



1,082

- Fall 2024 Cowboy Coaching appointments. Coaches met with 878 distinct students.

273

- Average hours of Cowboy Coaching outreach events per month.



## Peer Mentorship Program

87.1%

- Fall 2023-Fall 2024 retention rate for students who met with a Cowboy Coach at least twice.



# Looking Forward

## Probation:

Explore the timeline in which students get notified and put on probation or suspension. We are also working on how we help students recover from a semester that is detrimental to their overall GPA.

## Call Campaigns:

Continue to call students who are not registered for the following semester as well as continue to call all incoming freshmen students.

## Transfer:

Continue to host monthly transfer gatherings to help transfer students meet others and build community. Continue to build out programs like Winter Welcome and Transfer Saddle Up.

## Readiness Rallies :

Continue to implement end-of-semester experiences to promote full student registration before the end of the semester. Bring key offices to campus in a student-centered, one-stop shop.

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING



2nd Semester Academic Standing of New First-Time Students Who Were Placed on Academic Probation in Their First Semester

2nd Semester Status ● Academic Probation ● Academic Suspension ● Good Standing ● Not Enrolled

