3.3. Based on the first three freshman cohorts, first-generation students (whose parents did not graduate from a 4-year college) have somewhat lower first-year retention rates (by 2.7-3.3 percentage points) but, at least for the first cohort in Fall 2005, their third year retention rate actually was higher (by 2.1 percentage points) than their counterparts with at least one parent who graduated from a 4-year college.

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Table 3.3a - First-Time Freshman Retention & Graduation Rates of First Generation College Students					
	Enrollment	**Year 1 Retention %**	**Year 2 Retention %**	**Year 3 Retention %**	**3 Year Graduation %**
Fall 2005 Cohort	318	80.8%	69.2%	64.5%	1.9%
Fall 2006 Cohort	195	77.9%	67.7%		
Fall 2007 Cohort	349	77.7%			
Fall 2008 Cohort	488				

How to interpret retention tables:

- 80.8% of the Fall 2005 cohort where neither parent attended college were still enrolled after one year (fall 2006)
- 64.5% were still enrolled after three years (fall 2008)
- 1.9% graduated within 3 years of enrolling

Table 3.3b - First-Time Freshman Retention & Graduation Rates of Non-First Generation College Students					
	Enrollment	**Year 1 Retention %**	**Year 2 Retention %**	**Year 3 Retention %**	**3 Year Graduation %**
Fall 2005 Cohort	388	83.5%	67.5%	62.4%	0.8%
Fall 2006 Cohort	202	81.2%	69.8%		
Fall 2007 Cohort	320	80.6%			
Fall 2008 Cohort	436				

Note: First generation college defined as neither parent has graduated from a 4-year college
Note: Retention rates do not include students who left to serve in the military, go on religious missions or are deceased
Source: IPA Enrollment Table and Applicant Table. SPSS datasets in Retention folder: Fall 2005 FTF & Fall 2006 FTF
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