3.2. First-year retention rates for new freshman cohorts have hovered around 80%. This compares to the national average of 77% for all public 4-year colleges (Source: NCHEMS Information Center; Retention: First-Time College Freshmen Returning Their Second Year; Four-Year Public Colleges; Fall 2007 Cohort.) The projected 4-year graduation rate for the inaugural Class of 2009 is estimated at about 48%-50%, compared to the national average of 29% for public 4-year colleges (Source: U.S. Department of Education, NCES, IPEDS, Spring 2008, Graduation Rates component; cohort year 2001).

As of Fall 2008, almost 66% of the inaugural class of transfer students had graduated and another 7% were still enrolled.

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Table 3.2 - Cohort Graduation and Retention Rates									
First-Time Freshmen	**Cohort Size**	**1st Year Retention (Fall to Fall)**		**2-Year Graduation Rate**		**3-Year Graduation Rate**		**Still Enrolled at UCM as of Fall 2008**	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Fall 2005	706	581	82.3%	N/A	N/A	9	1.3%	448	63.5%
Fall 2006	397	316	79.6%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	273	68.8%
Fall 2007	669	529	79.1%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Transfer Students									
Fall 2005	132	106	80.3%	65	49.2%	87	65.9%	9	6.8%
Fall 2006	102	84	82.4%	30	29.4%	N/A	N/A	44	43.1%
Fall 2007	116	95	81.9%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		

Retention rates do not include students who left to serve in the military, go on religious missions or are deceased

Source: IPA Enrollment Table

Prepared by Institutional Planning & Analysis