

Student Achievement

In accordance with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) **Core Requirement 8.1**, which states that “The institution identifies, evaluates, and publishes goals and outcomes for student achievement appropriate to the institution’s mission, the nature of the students it serves, and the kinds of programs offered. The institution uses multiple measures to document student success (Student Achievement)”, Jarvis Christian College has identified student achievement criteria, provided appropriate data, established thresholds and targets of acceptability, and explained how each criterion is related to the mission.

The mission of the College is to "prepare a diverse population of lifelong learners intellectually, socially, spiritually, and personally, through providing interactive services and using varied modalities of instructional delivery." Assessment is essential to meeting Jarvis' guiding principles of scholarship and life learning, service, integrity, respect, responsibility, Christian ethics, and innovation. As a historically Black institution, the nature of the students Jarvis serves consists of a student population comprised of mainly first-generation college students from low socioeconomic families with 96% of our students receiving some form of financial aid. To this end, Jarvis evaluates success with respect to student achievement using a variety of methods, including enrollment, retention rates, graduation rates, degrees conferred, licensure pass rates, graduate school placement and job placement. Some of these student achievement measures are identified as key metrics in the Jarvis Christian College Strategic Plan 2018-2023; tracked annually and shared with the Jarvis Board of Trustees each spring; as well as published on the College's Student Achievement web page accessible to the public. Jarvis engages in ongoing assessment of its students and programs.

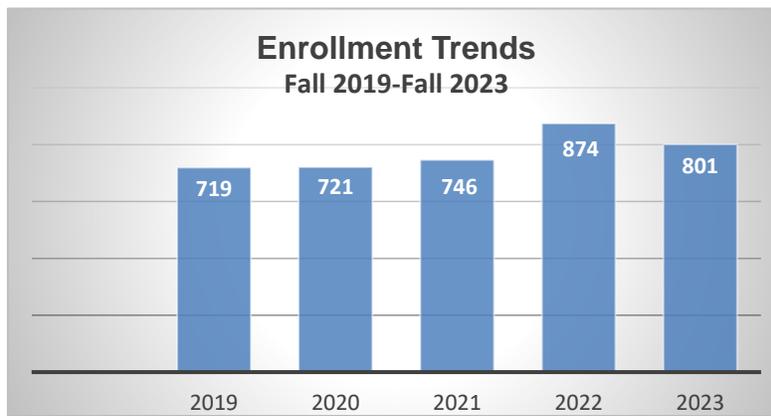
Table 8.1-I below reflects JCU's metrics for student achievement. The University uses the measures of enrollment trends, graduation rate, fall-to-fall retention rate, degrees conferred, IPEDS Outcomes Measures, and job and graduate or professional school placement to document student success.

Table 8.1-I	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Enrollment	867	719	721	746	874
Graduation Rate	21%	18%	11%	16%	15%
Retention Rate	47%	53%	37%	37%	41%
Graduate Outcomes					
Degrees Conferred	84	92	70	90	94
Award Rate (6-Year)	24%	21%	18%	11%	16%

Enrollment Trends

Jarvis is located in Hawkins, Wood County in the Northeast region of Texas. The College services mostly the population of Wood, Upshur, Smith, and Gregg counties but also a greater proportion of its students come from Dallas and Harris counties. The institution is an open admissions college whose student body is predominantly African American with more than 70% of the population coming from this demographic, and Hispanics and Whites who constitute about 18% and 2% of the student population respectively. As such, providing a transformative education that expands college access for students, particularly those historically underrepresented in higher education is consistent with Jarvis' vision. Enrollment data have been major topics in the College's strategic planning process. The Office of Enrollment Management tracks enrollment data and utilizes this data to formulate enrollment management strategies consistent with our educational pipeline. Goal 10 of the Jarvis Christian College Strategic Plan 2018-2023 emphasized the implementation of an aggressive campaign strategy to increase enrollment with a set target of 4% increase of students by 2019; the College exceeded this benchmark and enrollment has steadily increased as depicted in **Figure 1** below. In the five-year period from 2016-2021, the College experienced a fluctuation in the enrollment, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic years. During this time, the University experienced a 17% decline and, consequently, did not reach its target. However, enrollment has begun to rise again post-pandemic, with a 21% increase from the year 2020-2021.

Figure 1



In addition, according to The Council on Independent Colleges (CIC) *Key Indicators Tool (KIT)* Jarvis outperformed its peer institutions that fall within the 25th percentile (**Table 8.1-II**) from 2017-2021. During 2020-2021, the institution experienced a decrease due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although this decrease reflected a -24% change, yet after the pandemic, the institution experienced a +21% change in total enrollment from 2021 to 2022 and as such exceeded an annual target increase of 4% established in the 2018-2023 Strategic Plan (Goal 10, Objective 1). Jarvis continues to support its mission of “preparing a diverse population of lifelong learners” as it continues to strategize enrollment goals attainment.

Table 8.1-II: Independent College’s FTE Enrollment Comparisons 2017-2021

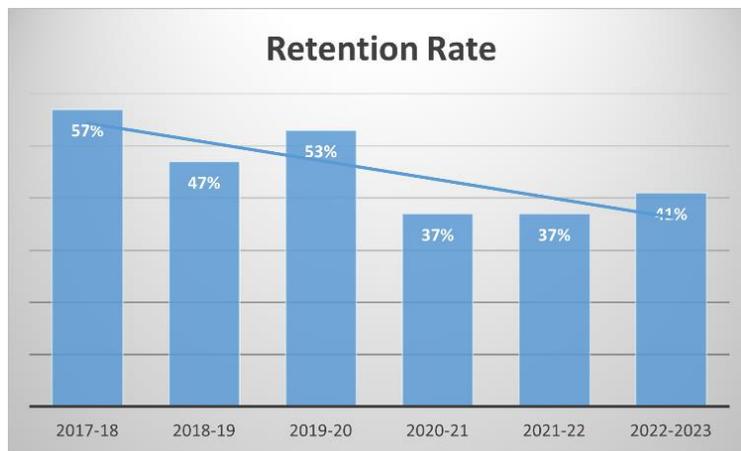
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Fall 2017 to Fall 2021 % Change
25th Percentile	783	782	744	717	722	-7.9
National Median	1,666	1,677	1,638	1,580	1,551	-6.9%
Jarvis Christian University	864	939	846	570	657	-24%

Source: CIC Key Indicators Tool

Retention Rates

Given the University’s liberal arts program offerings and the University’s mission, Jarvis uses the fall-to-fall retention rate of first-time freshmen. In the context of the student population served, the number of students who return the next year is an indicator of student achievement. Figure II below depicts trend data for retention rates.

Figure II



The University has set a target of achieving a 4% annual increase in full-time, first-time student retention rate, reflected as Objective 5 under Goal 10 of the 2018-2023 Strategic Plan. The COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 contributed to the vast decrease from 2020-2022. However, the rates are trending back up as in the academic year of 2022-2023 as reflected in the table.

Comparatively, Jarvis views itself competitive with its peers (like institutions) as reflected in the comparison Table III below:

Table III

IPED ID	Institution Name	FT-FT Retention Rate 2021-2022	FT-FT Retention Rate 2020-2021	FT-FT Retention Rate 2019-2020	FT-FT Retention Rate 2018-2019	% Change (Fall 2018-Fall 2021)
225575	Huston-Tillotson University	54	54	56	64	-15.6
2258851	Jarvis Christian University	37	37	53	47	-21.3
228884	Texas College	31	41	46	64	-51.6
229887	Wiley College	34	70	51	39	-12.8
	Overall Average	39	55	50	56	-30.1

In support of student achievement and efforts to improve retention rates, Jarvis strengthened or implemented a myriad of programs and services, such as the First Year Experience Program that engages freshmen where they focus on life and study skills needed to perform well as immerse in their career fields to foster early connections. In recent years, Jarvis strengthened its existing writing lab and peer tutoring program and added supplemental instruction and in the most challenging gateway courses. Peer mentors are assigned to a cohort of freshmen throughout their first year to assist students in the University transition. Additionally, the University has implemented an early warning system using the Educational Advisory Board’s Student Success Collaborative software with the primary focus of increasing retention, persistence, and graduation rates, with the ultimate goals of improving first year student success.

Additionally, Jarvis tracts the retention of students from semester to semester as seen below.

Table IV

Fall-to-Spring Retention, 5-Year Trend					
Fall 2017-Spring 2018	Fall 2018-Spring 2019	Fall 2019-Spring 2020	Fall 2020-Spring 2021	Fall 2021-Spring 2022	5-Year Average
83%	82%	83%	75%	80%	81%

Graduation rates are another metric to measure student achievement. The table below delineates Jarvis’s performance. As shown, graduation rates began to decline (18%) as the institution went through COVID-19 and maintained the decrease through 2021.

Figure III

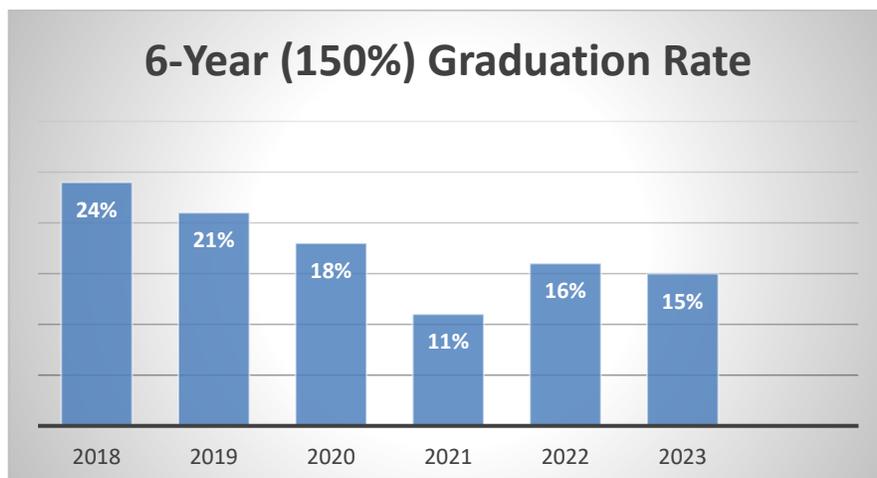


Table V: Disaggregated Graduation Rate by Demographics (2023)

Men	9%
Women	22%
Black or African American	15%
Hispanic or Latino	21%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	100%
White	29%
Two or More Races	0%
American Indian or Alaskan	0%
Asian	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	13%
Non-Resident Alien	25%

Graduate Outcomes

Degrees Conferred, Job and Graduate/Professional School Placement

The mission of the college is clear; one of the institution's primary objectives of the educational experience of its students is to *prepare a diverse population of lifelong learners intellectually, socially, spiritually, and personally*. In 2015, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) launched a state-wide initiative called 60x30TX. The goal of this initiative is that by the year 2030, 60% of Texans between the ages of 25 and 34 will have a post-secondary credential. As such, Jarvis identifies and evaluates the number of conferred degrees as a key measure of student achievement. Based on historical trend data and to support 60x30TX, in 2018 Jarvis established a target of a 3% increase in 2020, 3% increase in 2025, and 9% increase in 2030. Jarvis' degrees conferred are delineated below in Table VI (5-year trend).

Table VI: Degrees Conferred

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
84	92	70	90	94

The University also seeks to increase the number of students graduating with a bachelor's degree after six years or an associate degree after three years. Based on the IPEDs comparison group median, in 2022 the University established a target of 18% for its six-year award rate. Jarvis did not achieve this target for the 2022 reporting period with a six-year award rate of 11% and 8-year award rate of 11% due to the COVID-19 pandemic but experienced a rise in the following year of 2023. See the table below:

Table VII: Six- and Eight-Year Award Rates

Institution Name	2023		2022		2021	
	6-Year Award Rate	8-Year Award Rate	6-Year Award Rate	8-Year Award Rate	6-Year Award Rate	8-Year Award Rate
Huston-Tillotson University	31%	31%	28%	31%	23%	25%
Jarvis Christian University	16%	17%	11%	11%	18%	20%
Texas College	14%	15%	12%	14%	10%	10%
Wiley University	28%	28%	29%	29%	26%	27%
Average Award Rates	22.3%	22.8%	20%	21.4%	19.3%	20.5%

Graduate Outcome: Job and Graduate/Professional School Placement:

Jarvis supports its mission in “preparing a diverse population of lifelong learners intellectually, socially, spiritually, and personally” as reflected in its graduates’ post-Jarvis activity. In May 2022, JCU’s Seniors & Grads Exit Survey revealed that 54% of its graduates enrolled in graduate/professional schools and 46% were employed. Employment categories included the following: U.S. Air Force, teaching, coaching, hotel planning, entrepreneurship, cybersecurity, banking, security technology, sales, retail management, postal service, and property management. Many students continued their education in several professional programs, such as medical school, nursing, and other healthcare-related professions.