

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 University 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 University 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 University Strategic Plan 2023-2026; tracked annually and shared with the Jarvis Board of Trustees each spring; as well as published on the University’s Student Achievement web page accessible to the public. Jarvis engages in ongoing assessment of its students and programs.

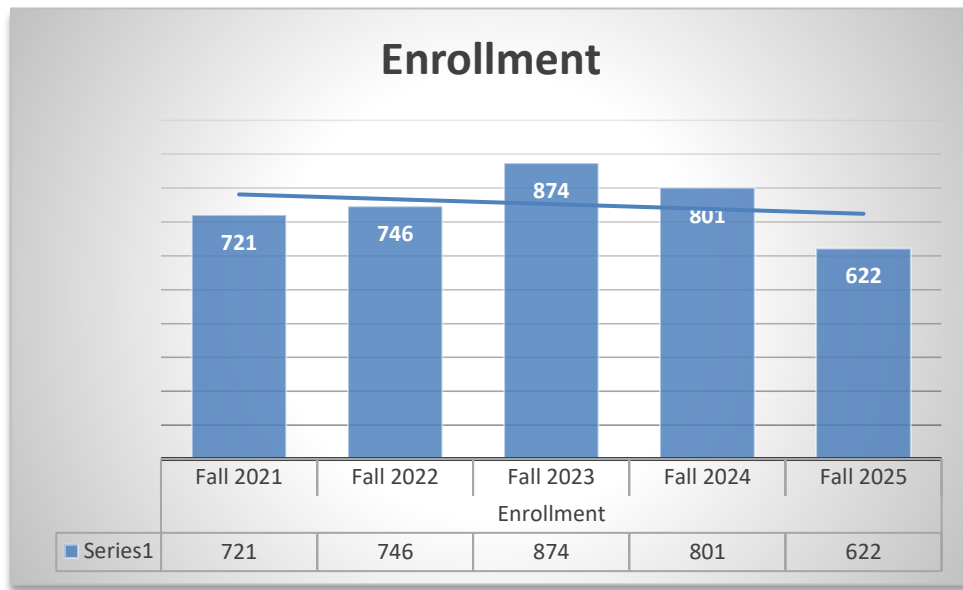
Table 8.1-I below reflects JCU’s metrics for student achievement. The University uses the measures of enrollment trends, graduation rate, fall-to-fall retention rate, degrees conferred, IPEDS Outcomes Measures, and job and graduate or professional school placement to document student success.

Table 8.1-1	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
Enrollment	721	746	874	801	622	613
Graduation Rate	11%	16%	15%	15%	16%	15%
Retention Rate	37%	37%	41%	41%	49%	50%
Graduate Outcomes						
Degrees Conferred	70	90	94	132	159	162

Enrollment Trends

Jarvis is located in Hawkins, Wood County in the Northeast region of Texas. The University 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 University'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. **Figure 1** below highlights the University’s enrollment trends. The University experienced a fluctuation in the enrollment.

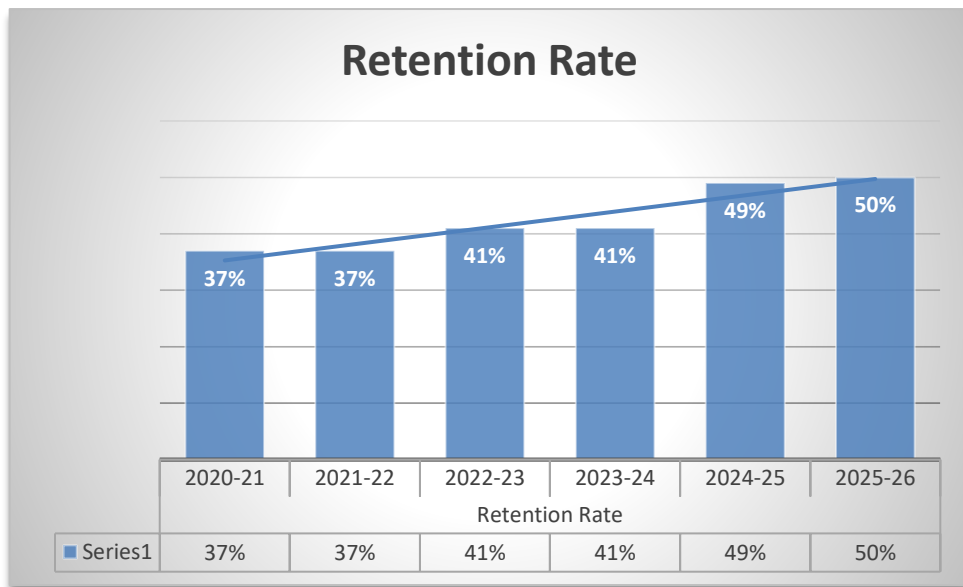
Figure 1



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 10% annual increase in full-time, first-time student retention rate, reflected 2023-2026 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 2025-2026 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 2021-22	FT-FT Retention Rate 2022-2023	FT-FT Retention Rate 2023-2024
225575	Huston-Tillotson University	54	69	51
2258851	Jarvis Christian University	37	41	49
228884	Texas College	31	30	60
229887	Wiley College	34	54	32

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.

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

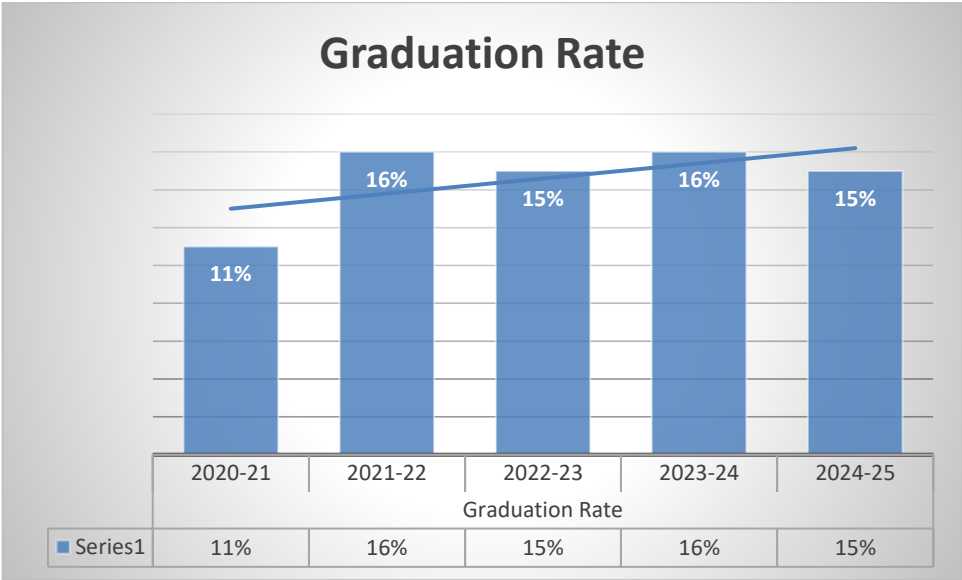


Table V: Disaggregated Graduation Rate by Demographics

Men	47%
Women	31%
Black or African American	42%
Hispanic or Latino	20%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	50%
White	26%
2 or More Races	0%
American Indian or Alaskan	0%
Asian	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	67%
Non-Resident Alien	0%

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

Graduate Outcomes	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Degrees Conferred	70	90	94	132	159	162

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 in the 2020 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. However, the current award rates (2024-2025) are as follows: 6-year award rate: 16%; 8-year award rate: 16%

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 2025, 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.