

## Slight Gains Made in Student Retention

### Research Brief No. 3

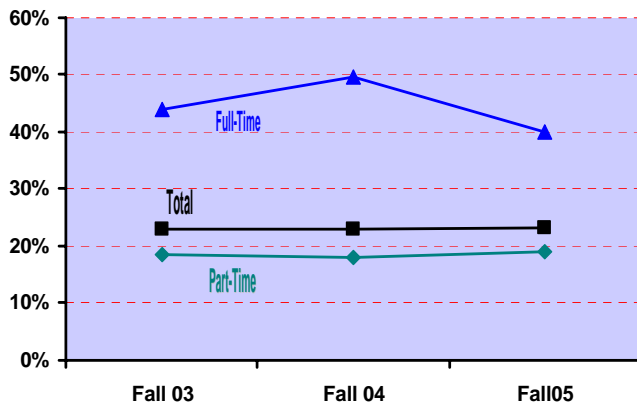
#### Overview

The proportion of new degree-seeking CCC students persisting to the second year of study is on the rise primarily due to more part-time student re-enrolling. Three out of every four new CCC students starts off with part-time course loads.

#### Similarities in Retention Rates

Nationwide, retention is influenced significantly by the ethnicity of students with minority students persisting at lower rates than white students and with Native American students experiencing the lowest retention of any ethnic group. The national pattern does not hold true at CCC. Little variance in retention is seen between ethnic groups except for full-time Native Americans who have the highest retention rate among ethnic groups.

Percentage of New Student Cohort Retained to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year  
Fall 2005 to Fall 2006



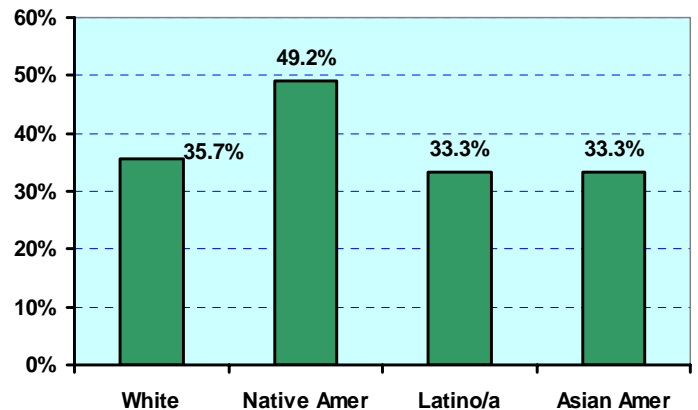
	Fall 03	Fall 04	Fall 05
PT	18.5%	18.0%	19.1%
FT	44.0%	49.6%*	40.0%
Total	22.9%	23.0%	23.1%

\* 51% is the national 2<sup>nd</sup> year retention rate for full-time students enrolled at public 2-year institutions (ACT institutional data file, 2005)

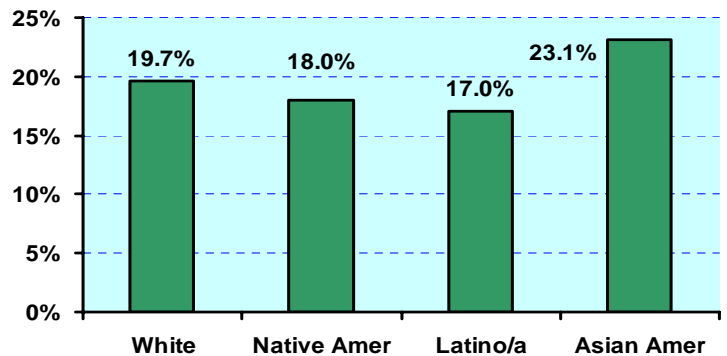
#### Variations in Retention Rates

Course load and gender are the characteristics that distinguish students who persist compared to those who do not re-enroll without interruption. Full-time students are retained at twice the rate of part-time students. Women tend to stay in college at CCC at much higher rates than men.

Full-time Student Retention Rates, Fall 2005 to Fall 2006



Part-time Student Retention Rates, Fall 2005 to Fall 2006



\* There were too few African American new students in the 2005 cohort to calculate an accurate retention rate

