

Mt. San Antonio College
Retention and Success – General Education Courses
Summer 2000 through Spring 2009

The graduation requirements for Mt. SAC's Associate in Arts and Associate in Sciences degrees involve successful general education course completion. Three of these courses, which may be completed include: Freshman composition (ENGL1A), Public Speaking (SPCH1A), and Intermediate Algebra (MATH71). Honors and MATH71B classes are excluded from this report.

How do we define Retention? Retention is the percentage of students who stay registered in the course beyond the withdrawal date. Higher retention rates reflect greater number of students finishing the course.

How do we define Success? Success is the percentage of students who received a passing grade ('A', 'B', 'C', or 'CR') in the course. The higher the success rate, the better students are doing in the course. In conjunction with success, Mt. SAC also reviews retention. Mt. SAC desires both a high retention and a high success rate.

The table below indicates the retention and success rates of students in a few general education courses over multiple years and semesters. On average, Speech1A has the highest retention and success rate of the three courses, while Math 71 has the lowest success rate and English1A has the lowest retention rate. Interestingly success rates in English 1A have increased over time—especially when assessing multi-year data across the spring academic terms. As can be seen from these tables, and typical of overall data for Mt. SAC, during the summer semesters retention and success rates are higher than in the other semesters.

		English 1a		Speech 1A		Math 71	
		Retention	Success	Retention	Success	Retention	Success
		%	%	%	%	%	%
Summer	2000	84.4	71.5	92.1	86.4	85.7	62.8
Summer	2001	88.7	72.2	93.5	87.4	85.7	60.7
Summer	2002	85.6	68.8	93.9	88.1	87.1	64.5
Summer	2003	83.4	65.3	91.3	84.8	89.7	69.7
Summer	2004	88.1	76.0	96.1	92.5	93.5	80.1
Summer	2005	91.0	76.4	92.1	86.9	87.5	68.1
Summer	2006	84.5	64.2	94.0	89.5	89.2	69.2
Summer	2007	87.3	69.5	91.3	86.2	80.5	54.9
Summer	2008	86.0	68.8	92.3	87.6	89.3	70.2
Fall	2000	80.9	62.1	89.0	74.1	80.4	51.1
Fall	2001	79.6	59.7	87.9	74.4	80.8	54.3
Fall	2002	80.8	61.9	83.7	65.8	83.4	51.9
Fall	2003	83.9	65.4	87.6	76.1	84.2	51.2
Fall	2004	82.0	64.7	87.7	75.4	83.2	49.2
Fall	2005	81.0	62.0	87.7	75.0	86.4	55.8
Fall	2006	82.6	65.3	89.4	74.2	83.8	52.7
Fall	2007	84.6	64.7	88.6	75.5	85.5	52.8
Fall	2008	81.9	61.1	87.6	70.0	83.7	52.7
Spring	2000	80.0	59.1	87.2	70.5	76.2	39.7
Spring	2001	79.4	59.3	89.4	73.8	80.3	50.7
Spring	2002	81.2	57.5	90.0	77.1	84.5	51.7
Spring	2003	82.5	62.8	87.9	69.3	82.0	53.8
Spring	2004	82.1	63.2	87.0	76.9	84.0	53.2
Spring	2005	81.8	64.2	89.6	78.3	85.9	57.2
Spring	2006	82.1	62.1	89.5	77.8	83.9	51.4
Spring	2007	82.6	67.0	86.4	74.0	79.1	49.3
Spring	2008	83.0	65.3	87.7	76.6	80.0	49.2
Spring	2009	86.0	65.5	87.0	68.6	83.0	51.0
AVERAGE		83.4	65.2	89.5	78.3	84.2	56.4