

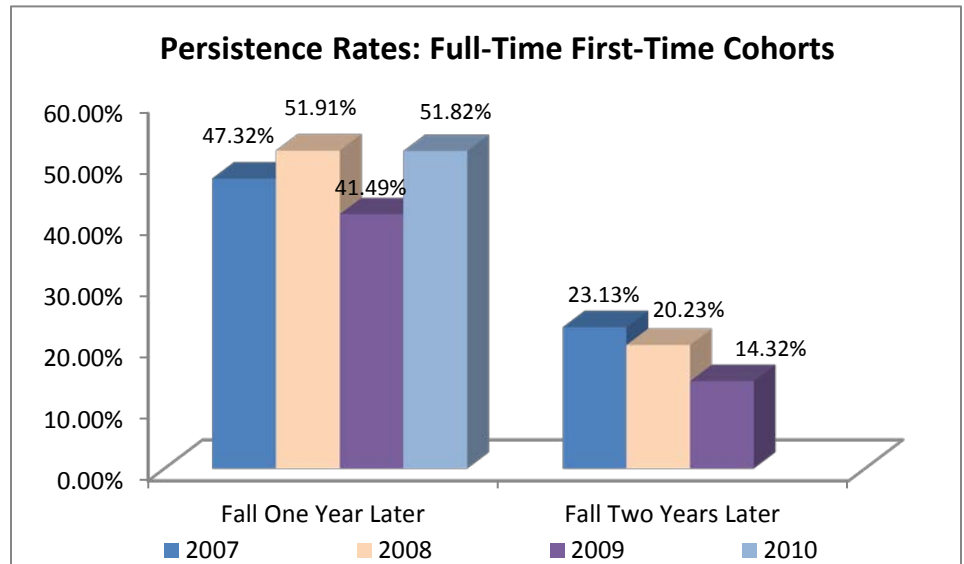


Year-to-Year Persistence Brief



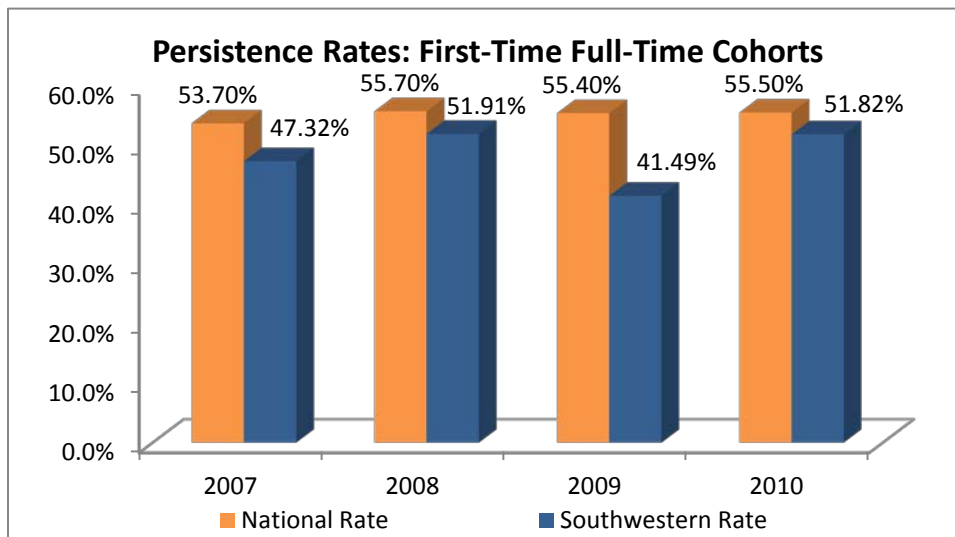
STUDENT SUCCESS

Students who entered Southwestern as first-time full-time enrollees in the fall of 2007 had a persistence rate of 47.32% as measured one year later and 23.13% two years later. Persistence rates for students in the 2008 cohort were 51.91% and 20.23% for one and two years later respectively. In the 2009 cohort persistence rates were 41.49% and 14.32% for one and two years later. Out of all the first-time full-time enrollees in 2010 in the fall of 2010 51.82% of them enrolled in the fall of 2011. The two year persistence rates for the 2010 cohort are not known.



SUCCESS GAPS

With the exception of the 2009 cohort, approximately one out every two students enrolled in classes in the fall of that year at Southwestern did not return the next fall. In 2009, this number went down to almost 3 out every 5 students. Students, who left Southwestern by the end of their first year, either dropped out of college or transferred to another college and/or university.



Nationally, students persist to their second year at a rate of approximately 55.5%.¹ The persistence rate at Southwestern is consistently lower than the national rate by 3% to 4% with the exception of 2009 when the rate was nearly 14% lower.

ABOUT THE DATA: Cohorts are identified as first-time full-time freshman that enter in the fall of each year. Persistence rate is tracked based on the number of returning students one and two years later, respectively. Cohort numbers ranged from 341 to 487. There were two students who graduated in 2009 after one year.

DATA SOURCE: Southwestern - First-time full-time freshman cohort (defined as all first-time full-time freshman that entered Southwestern during the fall term) in fall 2007, 2008, and in fall 2010 enrollees were tracked for attendance each term within the Colleague/Datatel system.