

“What’s the size of this year’s freshman class?”

The short answer is, “It depends.”

- Do you want to know how many of the students the College admitted for the Fall semester accepted our offer and said they would be coming?
- Do you want to know the number of students expected to graduate in May, 2010?
- Or do you want to know the size of our cohort?

Depending on what you want to use this number for, you’d choose one of the following three options:

- If you want the number we report each Fall to the federal government, and the one we use to compare ourselves to other institutions, you’re looking for our cohort (the first-time, full-time, matriculated students as of our census date). This is also the number that we use to calculate our retention and graduation rates.
 - The Fall 2006 cohort has 568 members.
- If you want to know how many new first-year students we expected to be here on the first day of classes in August, you’re looking for the figure that the Office of Admission provides of how many of the students who were accepted to the College have accepted the offer and have paid their deposit.
 - For Fall 2006, that number is 575.
- If you want to know the number of students who are expected to graduate in May, 2010, you’re looking for the number of students in the 2010 year-of-grad (or YOG). This number includes not only our first-time, full-time, degree-seeking students (cohort), but also students who transfer into the College, students who are taking a part-time course load, as well as students who take longer than expected to complete their required coursework and advance to their sophomore year of study.
 - As of the Fall Census Date, the 2010 YOG has 575 members.

Feel free to contact the Office of Institutional Research at x4203 if you have any questions about which of these numbers is the best suited for your purposes.