1. Retention rate is the percentage of new students from a given Fall entering cohort who are still enrolled at UCI in the Fall Quarter of each succeeding year. For example, 92.3% of new freshmen who entered UCI in Fall 2001 were still enrolled in Fall 2002 (the Fall Quarter of their second year).

2. Students who have graduated are no longer included in the numerator (students enrolled in the subsequent Fall Quarter) but are still included in the denominator (students in the entering cohort). Retention rates therefore decline as graduation rates increase.

3. Entering cohorts include new full-time students who paid fees and registered for at least one course by the end of the 3rd week of classes.

4. Full-time status is defined as 12 units or more attempted in the initial quarter of enrollment.