

YEAR 2 OVERVIEW

Guided by the University of Iowa’s Strategic Plan Action and Resource Committee (SPARC) and its work groups, we continue to advance toward the goals of our 2022-2027 Strategic Plan through a collaborative effort involving campus leadership, faculty, staff, and the broader UI community.

This year, we built upon our momentum to achieve significant milestones in student retention and graduation rates, research funding, health care access, and well-being on campus.

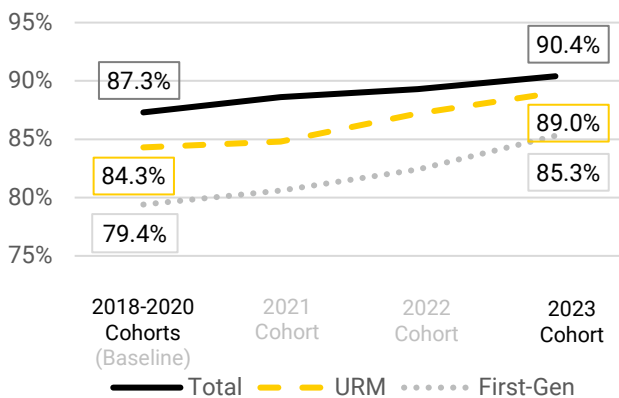
In alignment with the strategic plan of the Iowa Board of Regents, the university has set specific five-year targets for the following high-level indicators, and will report on progress toward meeting these targets annually. All baselines in this report are three-year averages unless otherwise noted.

Graduation and Retention

The university’s strategic efforts to support student success and ensure timely graduation have allowed us to continue making significant progress, with retention and graduation rates reaching all-time highs this year.

Fall-to-Fall Retention Rate

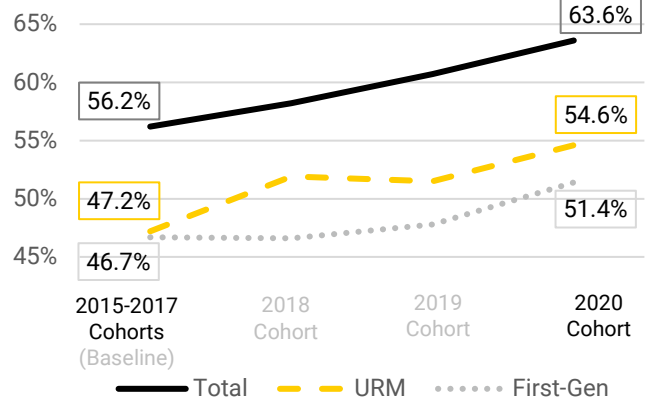
2027 overall target: 90%



Among students who entered in the 2023 cohort, 90.4% returned for fall 2024, setting another new record for first-year retention rate.

Four-year Graduation Rate

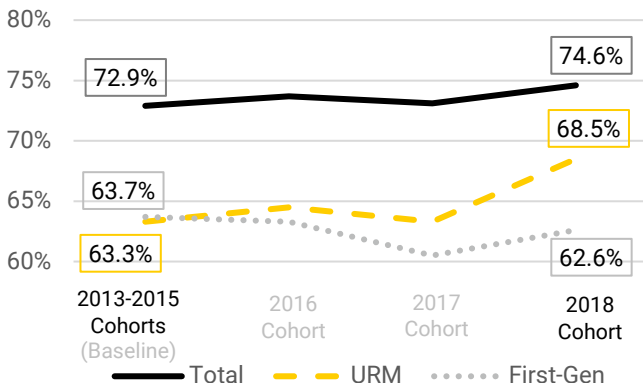
2027 overall target: 58%



Among students who entered in the 2020 cohort, 63.6% graduated within four years, a record high for the second consecutive year.

Six-year Graduation Rate

2027 overall target: 75%



Among students who entered in the 2018 cohort, 74.6% graduated within six years. The total six-year graduation rate is a record high.

Attainment Gaps ¹	Baseline	2024	2027 Target
Fall-to-fall retention of underrepresented minority ²	4%	2%	2%
Fall-to-fall retention of first generation ³	10%	6%	8%
Four-year graduation rate of underrepresented minority ²	11%	10%	9%
Four-year graduation rate of first-generation ³	13%	16%	11%
Six-year graduation rate of underrepresented minority ²	11%	7%	8%
Six-year graduation rate of first-generation ³	13%	15%	9%

The university has made significant progress closing attainment gaps, with first-year retention gains foreshadowing continued success in the coming years.

Need- and merit-based philanthropic scholarship support undergraduate, graduate, and professional students

Baseline	2024	2027 Target
\$27.4M (FY19-FY21)	\$34.2M (FY24)	\$32.4M

Success rate for online courses

Baseline	2024	2027 Target
95% (AY19-AY21)	96% (AY24)	Maintain at 95% or higher

UI Health Care patient capacity

Annual patient encounters across all UI Health Care settings⁴

Baseline	2024	2027 Target
2.18 million (FY19-FY21)	2.78 million (FY24)	Increase by 10%

Annual increase in research expenditures⁵

Baseline	2024	2027 Target
3.4% (FY18-FY20)	11.4% (FY23)	5.0%

ADDITIONAL PROGRESS INDICATORS

The following targeted indicators will be measured and reported on annually to track progress toward institutional goals.

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2024	2027 Target
UI Health Care Vizient Quality and Accountability Study ranking	71 (out of 101)	90 (out of 115)	Rank in top 50
Philanthropic support for faculty prizes/awards, fellowships, professorships, chairs, and deanships	\$18.3M (FY19-FY21)	\$33.1M (FY24)	\$21.6M
Percentage of students reporting participation in a high-impact, experiential learning opportunity in response to the Senior Exit Survey	87% (FY19-FY21)	84% (FY24)	90%
Undergraduate students completing a sustainability-focused course	24.0% (graduated AY23)	49.8% (graduated AY24)	75%

The university has established the following measures or standards that we aim to complete by 2027.

- Include employment outcomes of graduates in academic program review**
The university updated its Policy Manual in October 2023 to require employment outcomes as part of departmental and academic program reviews.
- 60% participation in the campus climate surveys**
A strategic initiative to boost engagement and streamline surveys across campus resulted in the integration of key campus climate questions into the Working at Iowa Survey. This restructured survey will be administered in fall 2024.
- Achieve a 47% campuswide reduction in greenhouse gas emissions**
Campus carbon emission data was collected using the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education STARS framework. Using this data, the university will customize the carbon accounting tool, SIMAP, which will provide carbon reduction numbers for future years of the plan.
- Maintain 79% or greater of a Net Asset Value⁶ index score of GEF facilities**
The UI will update its Net Asset Value index score following a building assessment in FY2025.
- 100% of new buildings and renovations meet or exceed LEED design certification thresholds**
UI Design Standards and Procedures ensure all new building and renovation projects are designed to meet or exceed LEED thresholds.

¹ The disparity between groups of students on a given academic performance goal.

² In the narrow context of monitoring gaps in retention and graduation rates between underrepresented students and other students, this plan defines underrepresented minority (URM) to include members of the following federally-defined race/ethnicity categories that have traditionally been underrepresented in higher education: Hispanic/Latinx, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and Two or More Races (where at least one race is included in the preceding list). URM counts include only U.S. citizens and permanent residents (international students are counted separately).

³ A student is considered to be of first-generation status if neither parent or guardian holds a four-year degree. This is self-reported information collected on the undergraduate admissions application.

⁴ Excludes COVID-19 clinic and telehealth activity during the pandemic.

⁵ As reported to the National Science Foundation Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) survey.

⁶ A measure of building stewardship and condition, calculated using a dollar value of facility needs and replacement value. The index score is updated every two to three years.