Hellenic College
Statement on Educational Effectiveness

This report includes three indicators that are frequently used to assess students’ success: 1) retention rate, 2) graduation rate, and 3) student default rate. The first two indicators (retention rate and graduation rate) provide information about how the institution’s students complete the full programs of study offered. The third one (default rate) provides information about the students’ ability to pay their credit loans after they conclude their studies. Hellenic College is currently working on a survey to understand the graduates’ employment rate, as a measure to understand how fast alumni are getting their first job after graduation and how these jobs relate to the program’s objectives and the school’s mission.

In this report you will find a brief definition of each indicator, based on those provided by the Federal Department of Education (DoE), and a comparison of Hellenic College with the national average. You may also find additional information for each indicator.

1) Retention rate
Retention Rate is defined as the percentage of first-time students who are seeking bachelor's degrees who return to the institution to continue their studies the following fall. As illustrated below, Hellenic College’s retention rate for year 2016 was 93%. The national average was 61.1%.

Figure 1. Retention Rate 2016. (HCHC v. National Average)

2) Graduation rate

The National Center for Statistics tracks First-Time Full-Time (FTFT) students’ graduation rate, which it defines as:

“The percentage of a school’s first-time, first-year undergraduate students who complete their program within 150% of the published time for the program. For example, for a four-year degree program, entering students who complete within six years are counted as graduates”

These numbers do not reflect all students in a cohort (only FTFT). For this specific year (students who began their studies in 2010), 42% of the total students from Hellenic College were included.

Hellenic College’s graduation rate for Academic Year (AY) 2016 was 69%, a figure slightly better than the average for private non-profit institutions (66%), and much better than the national average of 59%.

The graduation rate, combined with the Transfer-out Rate, defined as “the percentage of a school’s first-time, first-year undergraduate students who transfer to another college within 150% of the published time for the program,” gives a good idea of our FTFT students’ progress through their studies. For AY 2016, while 69% graduated at Hellenic College; the remaining 31% transferred-out to a different institution. That is, our drop-out rate was 0%, as illustrated in the graph below.
Student Loan Default Rate

According to U.S. Department of Education’s Federal Student Aid office:

A cohort default rate is the percentage of a school’s borrowers who enter repayment on certain Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program or William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program loans during a particular federal fiscal year (FY), October 1 to September 30, and default or meet other specified conditions prior to the end of the second following fiscal year (emphasis added).

HCHC’s Student’s Loan Default Rate has been consistently low, and in two years (2012 and 2015) it was zero. The National rate for FY2015 has not been released by the date of publication of this report (April 2018).