



**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII**

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PLANNING AND POLICY

November 9, 2001

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Deane Neubauer  
Interim Chancellor

**FROM:** Colleen O. Sathre  
Vice President for Planning and Policy

**SUBJECT: YOUR REQUEST TO COMPARE VARIOUS UHM INDICATORS WITH NATIONAL, CALIFORNIA, AND OTHER AVERAGES**

**COMPARISONS WITH PEERS, BENCHMARKS, UC, AND CSU**

Enclosed is the table you requested comparing UHM retention and graduation rates, time to completion, and SAT scores with national, peers, benchmarks, UC, and CSU averages. Director Sharyn Nakamoto's cover memo summarizes the findings and provides appropriate caveats.

**STUDENT EMPLOYMENT BEHAVIOR**

In response to your question about undergraduates working, surveys of UHM graduating seniors finds as follows. If we can get data on this topic from other institutions, we will forward it.

	1988	1990	1993	1996	1999
Employed while attending UHM	90.3%	93.7%	93.0%	89.0%	89.7%

This information is from a 7/01 study of UHM student employment behavior. We gathered data from three different UHM survey instruments. Each has been administered multiple times. The complete report is enclosed for your information and our findings were as follows:

Fewer UH Manoa undergraduate students appear to be working today than they were almost a decade ago. Those who do work appear to be working fewer hours. "Work," "Change of Major," and "Course Availability" continue to be the most common reasons for taking more than four years to graduate. Work is not the most popular reason but is one of several cited by students. A large portion of UH Manoa students appear to be financially supported by their family/guardians, precluding their need to work to stay in school. However, some students still feel a need to work to meet their educational expenses. Having a job impacts schoolwork to some extent. The cost of tuition appears to have had a split effect on students, resulting in some taking heavier credit loads than preferred while not impacting others at all.

If you have questions, let me know.

Enclosures

c: Karl Kim

Denise Konan

OVPPP managers

# University of Hawai'i

## Institutional Research Office

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### MEMORANDUM

November 5, 2001

To: Colleen O. Sathre  
Vice President for Planning and Policy

From: Sharyn Nakamoto, Director

Subject: Graduation & Retention rates, SAT scores, Average Time-to-Degree Comparisons

UH Manoa was compared with its peer and benchmark groups, the University of California system, the California State University system, and nationally. The comparison indicators were:

Retention rates (1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> year)  
Graduation rates (4-yr, 5-yr, 6-yr)  
Time to completion (average years to graduate, average time-to-degree)  
SAT scores of entering students

Attached is a table summarizing these comparisons. This table is highly footnoted. In some cases, exact data were not available, so the best available data are shown, e.g., national retention rates and graduation rates include only institutions who responded to the ACT Institutional Data Questionnaire, and were adjusted to include only public 4-year institutions. In other cases, it is not known if the data are strictly comparable, e.g., it is not known if the University of California average years to graduate is based on a 6-year period. Data sources are also attached.

Along all indicators, UH Manoa ranked below the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. It is most competitive in the retention rates and SAT scores of its students, least competitive in the 4-year graduation rates. Manoa ranked 4<sup>th</sup> out of 6 in 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> yr retention rates (79%) and average combined SAT scores (1095). It ranked 4<sup>th</sup> out of 5 in 6-yr graduation rates (54%) average years to graduate (5.1years)

A caveat needs to be added when comparing graduation rates. (see attached chart for reference). The average 6-year graduation rate for UH Manoa is 54%. However, at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> year, Manoa still has 11% of its cohort still enrolled, compared with the peer and benchmark groups' 4% and 3% still enrolled. Most of the 11% still enrolled eventually DO graduate because at the end of 10 years, Manoa's graduation rate is 65%, with 2% still enrolled. These 10-year figures are more in line with the peer and benchmark 6-year figures. Thus, Manoa's students graduate at rates comparable to its peer and (to a lesser degree) benchmark institutions; they just take longer to do so. Or, putting the onus on the institution: in terms of graduation rates, Manoa takes 10 years to do what its peer and benchmark institutions do in 6 years.

Attachments

GRADUATION AND RETENTION RATES, ENTERING SAT SCORES, AND AVERAGE TIME TO DEGREE COMPARISONS  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MANOA

INDICATORS	GROUPS						UH MANOA RANK
	U of California	Benchmark	Peer	National	UH Manoa	California State U	
<b>Retention Rates</b>							
1st to 2nd-year retention rate (1st time Freshmen entering Fall 1998)	92.2%	88.2%	85.4%	71.9% <sup>1</sup>	78.9%	77.8%	4th out of 6
<b>Graduation Rates</b>							
4-year graduation rate (Fall 1993 entering cohort)	35.4% <sup>2</sup>	36.9%	34.9%	not available	9.1%	not available	4th out of 4
5-year graduation rate (Fall 1993 entering cohort)	67.5% <sup>2</sup>	62.4%	59.2%	42.1% <sup>3</sup>	39.7%	25.9% <sup>4</sup>	5th out of 6
6-year graduation rate (Fall 1993 entering cohort)	75.9% <sup>2</sup>	68.1%	65.3%	not available	54.0%	37.7%	4th out of 5
<b>Time to Completion</b>							
Average years to graduate <sup>5</sup> (Fall 1992 entering cohort)	4.2 years <sup>6</sup>	4.6 years	4.6 years	not available	5.1 years	5.5 years <sup>7</sup>	4th out of 5
Average time to degree <sup>5</sup> (Spring 2001 graduating class)	not available	not available	not available	not available	4.7 years	not available	N/A
<b>Entering SAT (Fall 1999)</b>							
Average SAT (combined)	1223 <sup>8</sup>	1190 <sup>8</sup>	1198 <sup>8</sup>	1016 <sup>9</sup>	1095	988 <sup>8</sup>	4th out of 6
Average SAT (verbal)	not available	not available	not available	505	525	not available	
Average SAT (math)	not available	not available	not available	511	570	not available	
25th - 75th percentile (combined)	1083-1311 <sup>10</sup>	1072-1293 <sup>10</sup>	1096-1308 <sup>10</sup>	860-1170 <sup>11</sup>	1010-1180	853-1115 <sup>10</sup>	

## GRADUATION AND RETENTION RATES, ENTERING SAT SCORES, AND AVERAGE TIME TO DEGREE COMPARISONS UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MANOA

### Footnotes

- <sup>1</sup> Percent has been adjusted to include only public 4-year institutions who responded to the ACT Institutional Data Questionnaire. If private 4-year institutions were also included, the percent would increase to 74.1%.
- <sup>2</sup> Rate is for all first-time Freshmen, including intercampus transfers.
- <sup>3</sup> Percent has been adjusted to include only public 4-year institutions who responded to the ACT Institutional Data Questionnaire. If private 4-year institutions were also included, the percent would increase to 51.5%.
- <sup>4</sup> Rate is based on campus of origin.
- <sup>5</sup> Explanatory note on "time to degree" and "average years to graduate": "Time to degree" is the average years it took a graduating class to receive their degree(s). The analysis tracks the graduates backward from the time they graduated to the time they first enrolled at the campus, calculates individual time to degree from each graduate, then computes the average time to degree. The population under analysis is the graduating class (in this case, baccalaureate degree recipients). "Average years to graduate" is the average number of years, within a 6-year period, it takes an entering cohort to graduate (in this case, the Fall 1992 entering cohort). In most cases, this is estimated by computing the weighted average of students graduating in 4, 5, and 6 years. Students taking longer than 6 years to graduate are not included in this average. The population under analysis is the entering undergraduate cohort.
- <sup>6</sup> Data source does not indicate if average years to graduate is based on those graduating within a six-year period.
- <sup>7</sup> Based on Fall 1987 cohort (most recent data available) tracked over a 12-year period.
- <sup>8</sup> Average combined score was determined by taking a simple average (sum of SAT combined scores / # of campuses reporting scores).
- <sup>9</sup> Average combined score was determined by adding the average math and verbal scores.
- <sup>10</sup> Average combined 25th - 75th percentile was determined by taking a simple average (sum of 25th - 75th percentiles / # of campuses reporting percentiles).
- <sup>11</sup> Average combined 25th - 75th percentile taken by adding the average 25th - 75th percentiles for math and verbal categories.

# GRADUATION AND RETENTION RATES, ENTERING SAT SCORES, AND AVERAGE TIME TO DEGREE COMPARISONS UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MANOA

## Sources

### 1st to 2nd-year retention rate:

- National: ACT Institutional Data Files, [www.postsecondary.org/archives/Reports/Spreadsheets/](http://www.postsecondary.org/archives/Reports/Spreadsheets/)
- Peer: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.
- Benchmark: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.
- California State U: Web site, <http://www.calstate.edu/AS/>
- U of California: University of California Office of the President web site, <http://www.ucop.edu/sas/infodigest>
- Manoa: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.

### 4-year graduation rate:

- Peer: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.
- Benchmark: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.
- U of California: University of California Office of the President web site, <http://www.ucop.edu/sas/infodigest>
- Manoa: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.

### 5-year graduation rate:

- National: ACT Institutional Data Files, [www.postsecondary.org/archives/Reports/Spreadsheets/](http://www.postsecondary.org/archives/Reports/Spreadsheets/)
- Peer: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.
- Benchmark: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.
- California State U: Web site, <http://www.calstate.edu/AS/>
- U of California: University of California Office of the President web site, <http://www.ucop.edu/sas/infodigest>
- Manoa: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.

### 6-year graduation rate:

- Peer: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.
- Benchmark: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.
- California State U: IPEDS Peer Analysis System, <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/pas>
- U of California: University of California Office of the President web site, <http://www.ucop.edu/sas/infodigest>
- Manoa: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.

### Entering SAT:

- National: College Board *1999 Profile of College Bound Seniors* National Report, <http://www.collegeboard.org/>
- Peer: 2000-01 CSRDE Retention Report (average combined score), US News & World Report *America's Best Colleges, 2001 Edition* (25-75 percentile)

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- Benchmark: 2000-01 CSRDE Retention Report (average combined score), US News & World Report *America's Best Colleges, 2001 Edition* (25-75 percentile)
- California State U: 2000-01 CSRDE Retention Report (average combined score), US News & World Report *America's Best Colleges, 2001 Edition* (25-75 percentile)
- U of California: 2000-01 CSRDE Retention Report (average combined score), US News & World Report *America's Best Colleges, 2001 Edition* (25-75 percentile)
- Manoa: CAPIS Report 033C, Fall 1999 (average combined score, 25-75 percentile), *Scholastic Assessment Test I (SAT-I) Scores, UHM, Fall 1999* MAPS report (average verbal and math scores).

Average years to graduate:

- Peer: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.
- Benchmark: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report.
- California State U: Web site, <http://www.calstate.edu/AS/>
- U of California: University of California Office of the President web site, <http://www.ucop.edu/sas/infodigest>
- Manoa: *Graduation & Retention Rates, Peer & Benchmark Group Comparisons, UHM, Fall 1990 to Fall 1998 as of 1999* MAPS report. Manoa tracking reports.

Average time to degree:

- Manoa: Student Information Management System (SIMS)

Institutional Research Office, University of Hawai'i, 10/29/01