

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Office of Planning & Budgets**  
**Graduation Rate Survey**  
**March, 2009**

The Student Right to Know Act (SRTK) of 1990 requires the disclosure of the graduation rate calculated in the Graduation Rate Survey (GRS) section of the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). The GRS collects data on completion or graduation rates of full-time, first-time certificate or degree-seeking undergraduate students. Full-time is defined as a student who enrolled for 12 or more credits during his/her initial semester. First-time is defined as a student attending any institution for the first time at the undergraduate level, including students enrolled in a fall semester who attended a postsecondary institution for the first time as undergraduates during the immediately preceding summer semester. Certificate or degree seeking is defined as students enrolled in courses for credit that are recognized by the institution as seeking a degree or formal award. A member of the entering cohort of students who received their degree or certificate within 150% of normal program time is defined as a graduate according to the GRS. Students who do not receive their degree or certificate within this period of time are not considered to have graduated.

For example, a student who enrolled at Michigan State University in Fall, 2002 after having graduated from high school in the spring of 2002, and who took 12 or more credits, and enrolled in a four year bachelor degree granting major will be considered in the entering cohort of 2002. If this student graduated with a bachelor degree before September 1, 2008 (within six years or 150% of the normal four-year length of this program), this person will be considered to be a graduate according to the 2008 GRS calculation.

The following table shows the IPEDS graduation rates for the years 1997 through 2008, respectively. These correspond to the entering undergraduate cohorts of Fall, 1991 through Fall, 2002.

<u>YEAR OF ENTRY</u>		<u>GRADUATION RATE</u>
2002	Graduation Rate for 2008	75%
2001	Graduation Rate for 2007	74%
2000	Graduation Rate for 2006	74%
1999	Graduation Rate for 2005	74%
1998	Graduation Rate for 2004	71%
1997	Graduation Rate for 2003	70%
1996	Graduation Rate for 2002	69%
1995	Graduation Rate for 2001	69%
1994	Graduation Rate for 2000	66%
1993	Graduation Rate for 1999	64%
1992	Graduation Rate for 1998	66%
1991	Graduation Rate for 1997	66%