



# IR Abstract

*Insights and Outcomes from Institutional Research at DePaul University*  
From the Division of Enrollment Management and Marketing

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## Graduation Rates of Graduate Students on the Rise

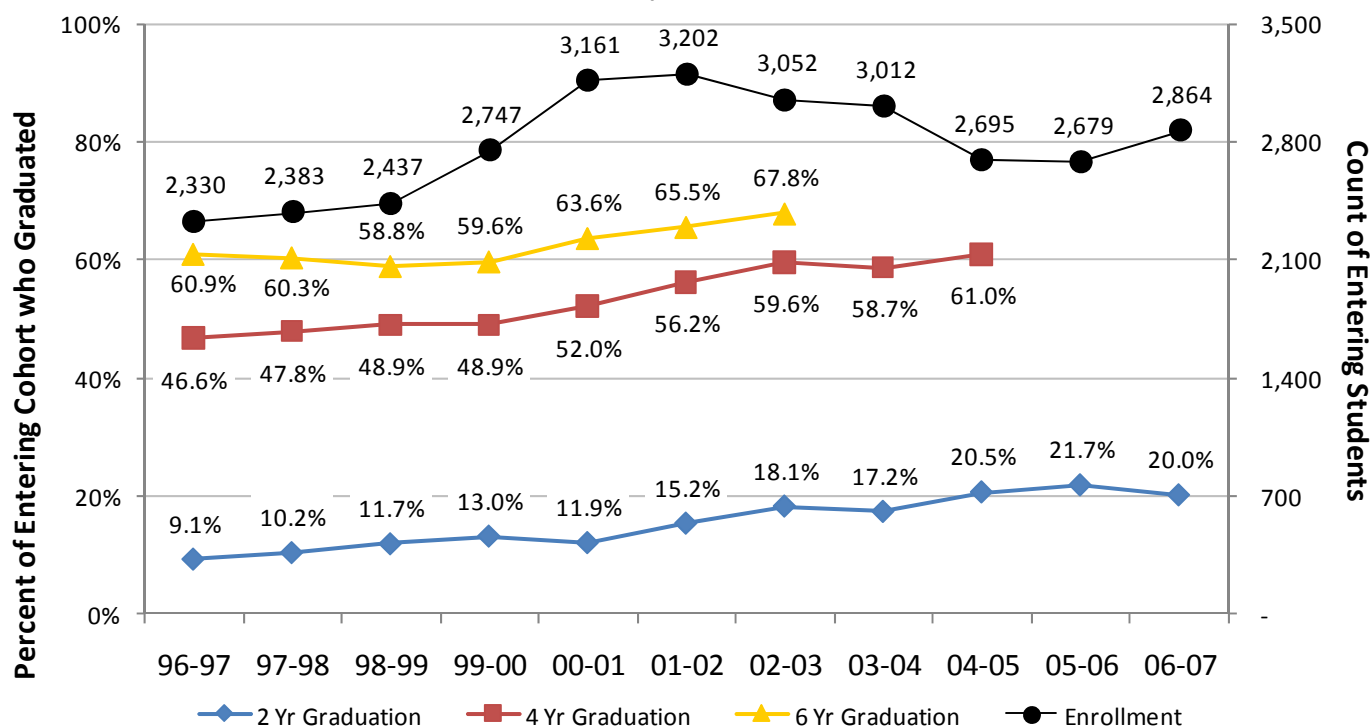
Each year, more than 2,500 new students enroll as graduate students at DePaul—choosing from more than 120 different graduate-level programs. Last year alone, DePaul awarded more than 2,400 degrees at the graduate level, a figure that has been steadily increasing over the years.

As displayed in the chart below, graduation rates have been consistently increasing over the last several years. Since there are no accepted standards in higher education for considering the graduation rates for masters students, DePaul looked at the percentage of students who graduated within two, four and six years. Here, the cohort

refers to all students who entered in the given academic year.

Two-year rates have increased by nearly 11 percentage points over the last ten years, reaching their highest level ever recorded with the 2005-06 cohort (21.7%). Four-year graduation rates climbed over 15 percentage points in eight years, reaching its highest level with the 2004-05 cohort at 61%. Finally, six-year rates rose nearly 7 percentage points, to a high of 67.8% for the 2002-03 cohort (the most recent cohort for which we have data for six-year graduation rates).

**Enrollment and Graduation Rates of Entering Masters Students by Cohort, Over Time**



Source: OIPR Graduate Student Retention Database