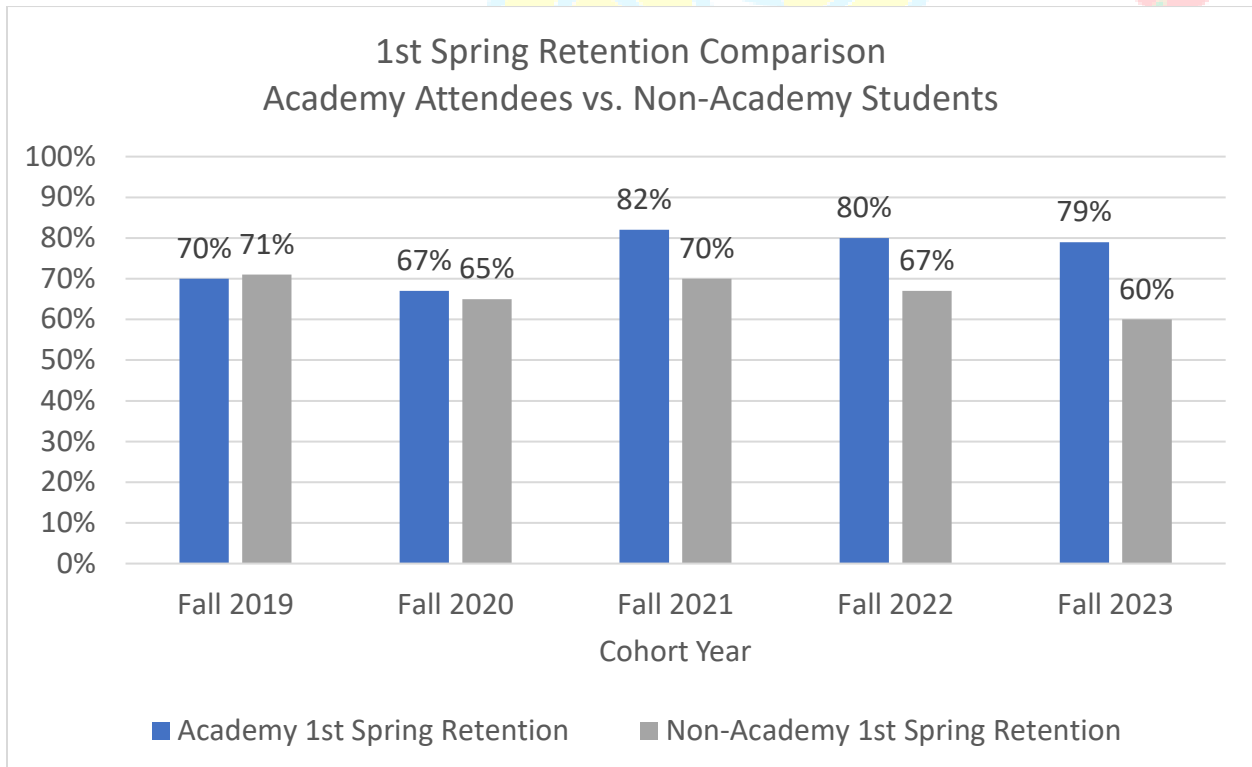
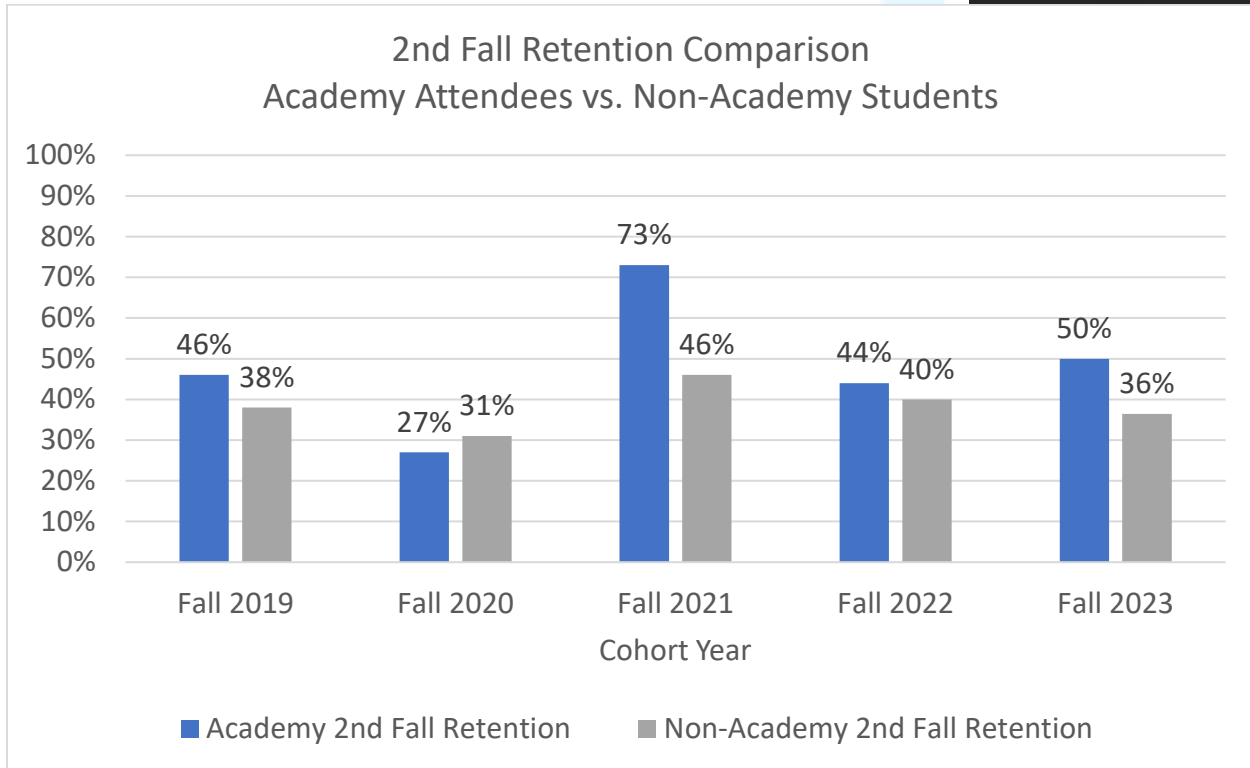




Retention Rate Comparison for Academy Attendees vs. Non-Academy Students
 Dorm Student Nandagikendan (Seek to Learn) Academy



The blue bar represents the retention rate percentage for new undergraduate students that attended the Academy while the grey bar represents the retention rate percentage for new undergraduate students who did not attend the Academy. Each paired blue and grey bar set represents a new student cohort for the listed year. For example, the students in the Fall 2019 cohort are not the same students in the Fall 2020 cohort. Figure 1 shows the retention of students from fall to spring (two semesters). The Fall 2019 cohort above are the same cohort of students as the Fall 2019 cohort in the next figure. Students who attended the Academy in Fall 2019 were retained at a similar rate to Non-Academy students. However, students who attended the Academy in Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, and Fall 2023 were more likely to be retained than their peers who did not attend the Academy.



Like the previous figure, the blue bar represents the new undergraduate students that attended the Academy while the grey bar represents the new undergraduate students who did not attend the Academy. Each paired blue and grey bar set represents a new student cohort for the listed year. The retention rate is examining retention from fall to fall. For example, the Fall 2019 cohort would have started as new students in Fall 2019 and in Figure 2, above, they would be entering Fall 2020 semester as returning students. Figure 2 highlights the importance of the Academy in retention of students, as students who attended the Academy were more likely to be retained going into their second year than those students who did not attend the Academy, except for the Fall 2020 cohort of Academy participants. One reason for the discrepancy is that Fall 2020 Academy cohort began their college experience during a pandemic when the campus was primarily virtual to protect the wellbeing of students, staff, and faculty. Despite the impacts of the pandemic, the Academy students rebounded quicker than their Non-Academy peers for Fall 2021. Retention of Academy students was comparable yet still higher than their peers for Fall 2022. The retention rates for Fall 2023 of Academy versus Non-Academy students varied more, with Academy students being retained at 50% while Non-Academy students were retained at 36%, showing a decreasing retention rate for three years for Non-Academy students while Academy students increased from the previous year.