

Retention Rates

The actual retention rate is calculated by taking the roll of students for an initial year and deducting all students who are not on the roll for a later year. For example, this would identify the number of students who were enrolled in year 7 who have continued to year 9 at the same school.

The apparent retention rate is calculated by a simple comparison of total enrolments in each year level in one year.

For example, the school compares years 7 and 9 at the same census date. In 2002 (first year of high school) there were 37 students in year 7 and in 2004 there were 26 students in year 9. The apparent retention rate is 70%. Of the 37 students from 2002 year 7, only 21 students are on the year 9 roll. The actual retention rate is 57%.

Years Compared	Year 7 total enrolment on census date	Year 9 total enrolment on census date	Year 7 enrolment at census date remaining in year 9 on census date	Apparent Retention Rate	Actual Retention Rate
2002/2004	37	26	21	70%	57%

Comment:

Because the high school commenced in 2002 there is insufficient data to compare the same class for different years. For example, 2000 to 2002, 2001 to 2003, etc. The high school commenced in 2002 with year 7 only and adding new class each year. Therefore we only have year 9 in 2004. The actual retention rate is less than apparent retention rate as majority of students left school because of family circumstances or going overseas while few left as they wanted a change of environment.