

Data Bite #4 – On Campus Housing and GPA



On Campus Housing and GPA

Recent data reveals a connection between student housing, academic performance, and retention rates, especially during the critical first semester of college. One of the most telling findings from this exploratory analysis is that students who live on campus their first semester are significantly more likely to stay enrolled and maintain a healthier GPA than those who live off campus.

Specifically, among students who were not retained to the following fall, 65.75% of those who lived off campus had a GPA below 2.0, compared to 51.16% of students who lived on campus. This difference highlights the potential academic and retention benefits of starting college in an on-campus living environment.

Living on campus supports student success by offering immediate access to campus resources, increased opportunities for academic engagement, and a stronger sense of community. It's more than just a place to live, it's a built-in support system that helps students transition into college life, stay connected, and ultimately thrive both in and out of the classroom. This data underscores the importance of encouraging first-year students to consider the many benefits of on-campus housing as they begin their academic journey.