For the last six years, 15.6% of enrolled LaGuardia degree students with cumulative GPAs greater than or equal to 3.00 did not return the next semester and never graduated.

Those who did not return the next semester, but graduated later, were counted as returned. Nevertheless, stop-outs for the next semester, who never graduated, were counted as not returned. Also, those who may have transferred were counted as not returned.

In previous studies we showed that students in a cohort who earned 45 or more credits tended to drop out at a rate also around 15% each semester. We believe this is evidence of a “background-non-academic rate” of leaving the college of around 15%. Pressures in student lives outside of LaGuardia lead about 15% of all students to leave, even those with no apparent academic difficulties.