1. Race/Ethnicity data. The Fact Book uses the Definitions for New Race and Ethnicity Categories required by the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). Race/Ethnicity data for domestic persons (based on IPEDS, including U.S. citizens, resident aliens, and other eligible non-citizens) were collected using a 2-question format required by IPEDS. The first question asks about ethnicity (is the individual Hispanic or Latino, yes or no) and the second question asks about race (the individual is asked to select one or more race categories with which he or she identifies: American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian; Black or African American; Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander; White); individuals who answer Yes to the first question are reported as Hispanic/Latino (regardless of race); those who do not answer either question are reported as "Race and Ethnicity Unknown". Gettysburg College Fact Book uses the term "International" to refer to persons who are Nonresident Aliens (IPEDS term prior to 2022-23) or U.S. Nonresidents (IPEDS term in its 2022-23 data collection cycle) as defined by IPEDS; in accordance with IPEDS guidelines, in the Fact Book, International persons are reported as a separate group (rather than in any of the racial/ethnic categories described above). IPEDS definition of a Nonresident Alien/ U.S. Nonresident: "A person who is not a citizen or national of the United States and who is in this country on a visa or temporary basis and does not have the right to remain indefinitely".

The Fact Book uses the following standard race/ethnicity categories consistent with IPEDS reporting:

- International
- Hispanic/Latino
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- Two or More Races
- Race and Ethnicity Unknown

In the Fact Book, Domestic Students of Color (DSOC) refer to students in the following categories: Hispanic/Latino; American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian; Black or African American; Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander; Two or More Races.

For more information on IPEDS race/ethnicity categories, please visit the following websites:

- The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System
- IPEDS Data Collection System

2. Enrollment Data are based on the official census enrollment reports provided by the Office of the Registrar.

3. Cohort. The Fact Book uses the standard/IPEDS definition of "cohort": first-time, full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate students (thus transfers are excluded). For Gettysburg, it refers to the Fall Entering First-Year Class. For example, Fall 2022 Cohort refers to students who entered Gettysburg as first-time, full-time, degree-seeking students in Fall 2022.

4. Retention Rates are based on cohort data as of Gettysburg’s Fall Census Date. The calculation methods for the Graduation Rates are consistent with those used by IPEDS:

- Four-Year Graduation Rate: Percent of the initial cohort who graduated within 4 years; for example, the 4-year graduation rate of the Fall 2018 Cohort refers to the percent of the initial cohort who completed as of August 31, 2022.
Six-Year Graduation Rate: Percent of the initial cohort who graduated within 6 years; for example, the 6-year graduation rate of the Fall 2016 Cohort refers to the percent of the initial cohort who completed as of August 31, 2022.

5. Full-time faculty count (pp. 19-23): included the vice provost and the associate provosts (deans).

6. First-Generation Data: During early Fall 2022, notable discrepancies were found between two sources: data provided by Admissions based on student self-reports on the Common Application, and data provided by Information Technology (IT) based on the First-Year Dashboard. Given these significant discrepancies, the following statistics were temporarily removed from the current (and previous) editions of the Fact Book:
   - Highest Parent Educational Attainment/First-Generation Students in the First-Year Cohort
   - First-Year Retention and Six-Year Graduation Rates of First-Generation Students

   These statistics will be restored to the Fact Book once these data discrepancies are resolved by relevant offices.

7. In Fall 2022, IT revised Race coding for about 60 students (They are part of the Fall 2020—Fall 2022 entering cohorts), mostly changing the coding from "Asian" or "Black or African American" to "Two or More Races". These revisions have been reflected in the 2022-23 edition of the Fact Book (p. 46: Race/Ethnicity of the Undergraduate Student Body). The 2020-21 edition and the 2021-22 edition of the Fact Book were also retroactively revised in early December 2022 to reflect the revisions made by IT.

   These revisions did not affect the numbers of “Domestic Students of Color” as a combined group; nor did they affect counts of International Students or Hispanic/Latino Students.