

# San Diego Miramar College Graduation Survey

## Summary of 3-year Comparison (2018-2020)

Prepared by the *Office of Planning, Research, and Institutional Effectiveness*

This is a comparison of students' responses to the San Diego Miramar College (SDMC) Graduation Survey for Spring 2018, Spring 2019, and Spring 2020. The 2019 and 2020 survey instruments were nearly identical, while the Spring 2018 survey varied in some questions.

### Trends over time:

↔ = No change   ↓ = Downward trend   ↑ = Upward trend   ⇕ = Mixed changes

### Goals

- ↔ **Initial Goal:** Most students' initial goal was to get an associate's degree and transfer.
- ↔ **Goal Change:** About a 1/3 of students said their goal changed over time.

### Employment

- ↔ **Percentage:** Most students were employed (full-time or part-time) during their time at SDMC.
- ↔ **Type:** Most employment was part-time.
- ↔ **Relevance:** Work experience was usually not directly related to students' field of study.

### Growth

- ↑ **Contribution:** Higher percentages of students in 2020 said their experience at SDMC contributed to their growth in 13 of 15 areas than in 2019.
- ↔ **Impact:** Students in 2020 reported their SDMC experience had about the same impact on their growth as 2019 students in 11 of 15 areas.

### Satisfaction

Students were asked to rate their agreement with six statements indicating satisfaction with: 1) feeling prepared for the next step of their journey; 2) gaining knowledge and skills; 3) involvement in on-campus activities; 4) feeling like part of a community; 5) feeling appreciated; and 6) being motivated.

- ↔ **Preparedness:** Students in 2020 agreed to satisfaction statements 1 and 2 at about the same rates as students in 2019. (2019 and 2020 agreement to statement 1 was somewhat lower than in 2018.)
- ↑ **Satisfaction:** Higher percentages of 2020 students reported agreement to statements 3, 4, and 6 than 2019 students. (Agreement to statement 5 was about the same.)

### Services

- ↔ **Services Utilized:** The services students used the most (and least) stayed about the same from year to year.
- ⇕ **Utilization Rates:** The percentage of students who used each service went up or down depending on the service.
- ↑ **Usage Frequency:** For the services they did use, on average 2020 students reported using services more often than 2019 students.
- ↑ **Impact:** Students in 2020, on average, said services had a more positive impact on their ability to reach their goals for 17 of 18 services compared to students in 2019.

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### Supporting Students

- ↔ **Support Successes:** When asked what Miramar College did well in supporting them reaching their goals, students continued to mention teaching faculty, counseling faculty, and the Transfer Center.
- ↔ **Opportunities for Improvement:** When asked what Miramar College could have done better in supporting them reaching their goals, students continued to mention teaching faculty, counseling faculty, and the Transfer Center. (These percentages are smaller than the percentages of students who said they found faculty and the Transfer Center helpful.)
- ↔ **Facing Barriers:** 40% of students said they faced barriers to goal completion.
- ↑ **Overcoming Barriers:** 17% more students said Miramar College did well in helping them overcome barriers in 2020 than in 2019.
- ↔ **Barriers Faced:** Students continue to face monetary barriers, issues with class difficulty or pacing, and the challenges of working as students.

### Future Plans

- ↓ **Current Unemployment:** 11% more students said they were currently unemployed in 2020 than in 2019.
- ↕ **Six-Month Plans (Currently-Employed Students):** Currently-employed students were asked if they planned to stay at their current job, seek a promotion in their current organization, seek full- or part-time employment outside of their current organization, quit working, or if they had other plans.
  - ↑ **Stay at Current Job:** The largest group of students planned to stay at their current job in both 2019 and 2020. The 2020 rate increased 9% in 2020 compared to 2019.
  - ↓ **New Part-Time Job:** 8% fewer students said they planned to seek a part-time job outside of their current organization in 2020 than in 2019.
- ↕ **Six-Month Plans (Currently-Unemployed Students):** Currently-unemployed students were asked if they planned to seek full- or part-time employment, not work to continue their education, or not work for other reasons.
  - ↑ **Part-Time Work:** 16% more students said they planned to seek part-time employment in 2020 than in 2019.
  - ↓ **Continue Education:** 9% fewer students said they planned to not work in order to continue their education in 2020 than in 2019.
  - ↓ **Not Work:** 8% fewer students said they planned to not work for other reasons in 2020 than in 2019.