

San Diego Miramar College Graduation Survey

Summary of 4-year Comparison (2018-2021)

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, Spring 2020 and Spring 2021. The 2019 and 2020 and 2021 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 2021 said their experience at SDMC contributed to their growth in 12 of 15 areas than in 2020.
- ↔ **Impact:** Students in 2021 reported their SDMC experience had about the same impact on their growth as 2020 students in 10 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 2021 agreed to satisfaction statements 1 and 2 at about the same rates as students in 2020. (2018 had a slightly greater scores of satisfaction then 2019-2021.)
- ↓ **Satisfaction:** All satisfaction statements, 3-6, decreased in scores in 2021 compared to 2020 satisfaction ratings.

Services

- ↓ **Services Utilized:** All services in 2021 saw a decrease in use compared to 2020, with the exception of the San Diego Promise, which saw an increase use of 8%.
- ↓ **Utilization Rates:** The percentage of students who used each service all went down in 2021.
- ↓ **Usage Frequency:** For the services they did use, on average 2021 students reported using services less than 2020, but around the same as 2019.
- ⇅ **Impact:** Students in 2021, on average, said 10 of 18 services had a more positive impact on their ability to reach their goals compared to 2020, while 7 of 18 decreased from 2020, and 1 service remained the same.

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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 increased from 2020 to 2021.)
- ↔ **Facing Barriers:** 40% of students said they faced barriers to goal completion.
- ↓ **Overcoming Barriers:** 15% less students said Miramar College did well in helping them overcome barriers in 2021 than in 2020.
- ↔ **Barriers Faced:** Students continue to face monetary barriers, issues with class difficulty or pacing, and the challenges of working as students, as well as issues concerning the Covid-19 pandemic.

Future Plans

- ↔ **Current Unemployment:** 2021 data only differentiated from 2020 data by 1%. The average amount of students employed and unemployed stayed almost the same.
- ↕ **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 from 2019-2021. The 2021 rate increased 4% in 2021 compared to 2020.
 - ↓ **Seek Promotion with current organization:** 5% fewer students in 2021 reported seeking a promotion within their current organization compared to 2020.
 - ↑ **Seek part/full-time job outside current employer:** 2021 data saw an increase by 3% compared to 2020 data. An increase of 1% for full time job seekers and an increase of 2% in part time job seekers.
- ↕ **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:** 1% more students said they planned to seek part-time employment in 2021 than in 2020.
 - ↓ **Full-Time Work:** 4% fewer students said they planned to seek full-time employment in 2021 than in 2020.
 - ↑ **Continue Education:** 5% more students said they planned to not work in order to continue their education in 2021 than in 2020.
 - ↓ **Not Work:** 2% fewer students said they planned to not work for other reasons in 2021 than in 2020.