

# San Diego Miramar College Graduation Survey

## Summary of 5-year Comparison (2018-2022)

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 from 2018 to 2022. The 2019, 2020, and 2021 survey instruments were nearly identical, while the spring 2018 survey varied in some questions. The 2022 survey included more questions related to COVID-19.

### 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 1/5 of students said their goal changed over time, down from about 1/3.

### Employment

- ↔ **Percentage:** Most students were employed (full-time or part-time) during their time at SDMC.
- ↑ **Type:** Previously, more students worked part-time than full-time, but now the proportions are equal.
- ↔ **Relevance:** Work experience was usually not directly related to students' field of study.

### Growth

- ↑ **Contribution:** 11 of the 15 areas of growth showed improvement since 2019, with developing clearer career goals and independent learning increasing the most.
- ↑ **Impact:** Between 2021 and 2022, all growth areas improved.

### 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 2022 agreed to satisfaction statements 1 and 2 at a slightly higher rate than students in 2021. Overall, the rates have been consistently high across all years.
- ↑ **Satisfaction:** Most satisfaction statements (3-6) increased in rating from 2021 to 2022, following a general upward trend.

### Services

- ↓ **Services Utilized:** The most commonly used services are the bookstore, counseling office, registration office, financial aid office, and library. Each service has seen declining utilization over the years.
- ⇅ **Utilization Rates:** Most services in 2022 saw a decrease in use compared to 2021. The services that saw the largest changes are the library (-21%) and the Student Affairs Office (8%).
- ⇅ **Usage Frequency:** Between 2018 and 2022, 14 of 19 services were used more frequently and 4 were used less frequently.
- ⇅ **Impact:** Comparing 2021 and 2022 graduates, 2022 students reported a more positive impact on their ability to reach their goals for 10 of 19 services.

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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 and courses, but at different rates.
- ↕ **Opportunities for Improvement:** When asked what Miramar College could have done better in supporting them, students continued to mention counseling quality/access and more guidance, also at different rates.
- ↔ **Facing Barriers:** Nearly 40% of students said they faced barriers to goal completion.
- ↔ **Overcoming Barriers:** About the same proportion of students reported that Miramar College helped overcome barriers in 2019, 2021, and 2022 at just above 50%.
- ↕ **Barriers Faced:** Students continue to face monetary barriers as well as issues concerning the Covid-19 pandemic. Class difficulty and work issues were reported less frequently in 2022.

### Future Plans

- ↔ **Current Unemployment:** The amount of employed graduates decreased from 2018 to 2019, but has since increased year after year.
- ↕ **Six-Month Plans (Currently Employed Graduates):** Currently employed graduates 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 across 2019 through 2022. The rate increased from 42% to 53%.
  - ↕ **Seek Promotion with current organization:** The proportion of students who reported seeking a promotion within their current organization is 12%, which is within the range of previous years.
  - ↕ **Seek full-time job outside current employer:** The proportion of students seeking full-time work outside their current employment decreased after 2019 and then rose steadily.
  - ↓ **Seek part-time job outside current employer:** The proportion of students seeking part-time work outside their current employment decreased from 18% in 2019 to 8% in 2022.
- ↕ **Six-Month Plans (Currently Unemployed Graduates):** Currently-unemployed graduates were asked if they planned to seek full- or part-time employment, not work to continue their education, or not work for other reasons.
  - ↔ **Full-Time Work:** About the same proportion of students sought full-time employment between 2019 and 2022, 15%-19%.
  - ↑ **Part-Time Work:** 21% more students said they planned to seek part-time employment in 2022 than in 2019.
  - ↓ **Continue Education:** 15% fewer students said they planned to not work in order to continue their education in 2022 than in 2019.
  - ↓ **Not Work:** The proportion of students who planned to not work for other reasons decreased from 13% in 2019 to 6% in 2021.