

Spring 2026 Graduation Survey

SAN DIEGO MIRAMAR COLLEGE

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Purpose of the Study

1. Learn about the graduating class of 2026 and their experiences at San Diego Miramar College (SDMC) to inform institutional planning and effectiveness.
2. Learn more about the students' post-graduation plans.

Research Method

➤ Online Survey

Individualized links were distributed to all students who applied to graduate between Fall 2025 and Summer 2026.

An email reminder was sent every week after the initial email invitation, and the survey was online for 27 days before closing.

A total of 88 students answered the survey for a response rate of 7%.

Respondents

There was a total of 1,262 students contacted for this survey. There were slightly more female graduates than male graduates. The age range of 18-24 was the most prevalent.

Ethnicity	%	Age	%	Gender	%
Asian	26	<18	6	Female	47
Black/African American	4	18 - 24	63	Male	51
Filipino/a	12	25 - 29	13	Non-Binary	1
Latinx	32	30 – 39	11	Unknown	1
Multiple Ethnicities	8	40 - 49	5		
American Indian/Alaska Native	<1	50+	3		
Pacific Islander	1				
White	28				
Unknown	1				

Q1 For the majority of your time at Miramar College, were you employed in your field of study?

Total Respondents: n = 88

56 of the 88 (64%) respondents were not employed throughout a majority of their time at Miramar College.

32 of the 88 (36%) respondents were employed throughout a majority of their time at Miramar College, where

19 of the 88 (22%) were employed part-time.

12 of the 88 (14%) were employed full-time.

1 of the 88 (1%) were employed full-time and part-time roughly equal amounts of time.

Q2 Was your work experience directly related to your field of study?

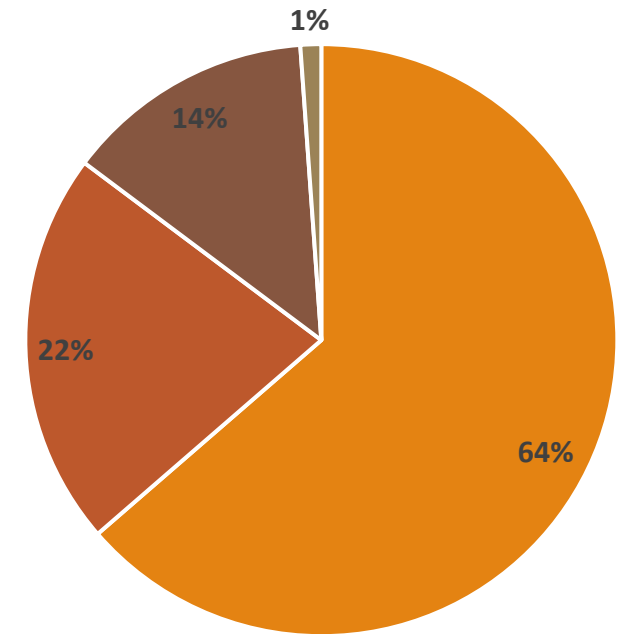
56 of the survey respondents did not answer this question.

Among the remaining n = 32 who did,

12 of 32 (38%) had work experience directly related to their field of study.

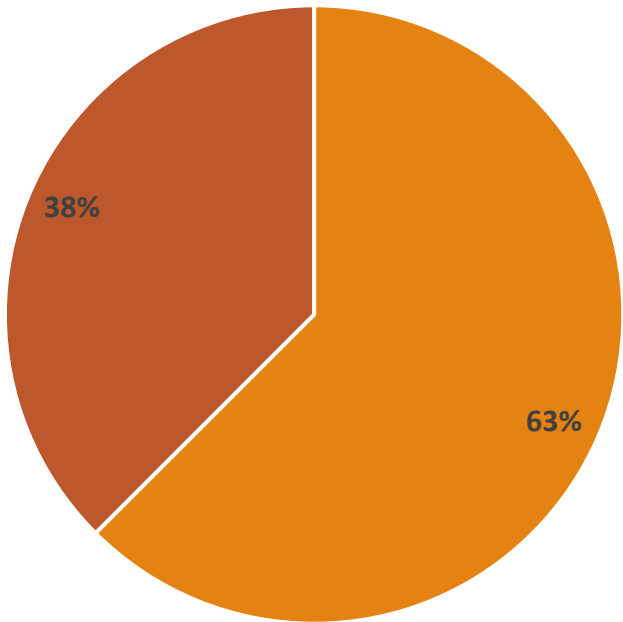
20 of 32 (63%) did not have any work experience directly related to their field of study.

Q1 Employed In Field Of Study



- No
- Yes, part-time (less than 35 hours/week)
- Yes, full-time (35 or more hours/week)
- Yes, I spent roughly equal time as a full-time and part-time employee

Q2 Work Experience Directly Related To Field Of Study



- No
- Yes

Q3 What was the name of your employer?

Total Respondents: n = 32

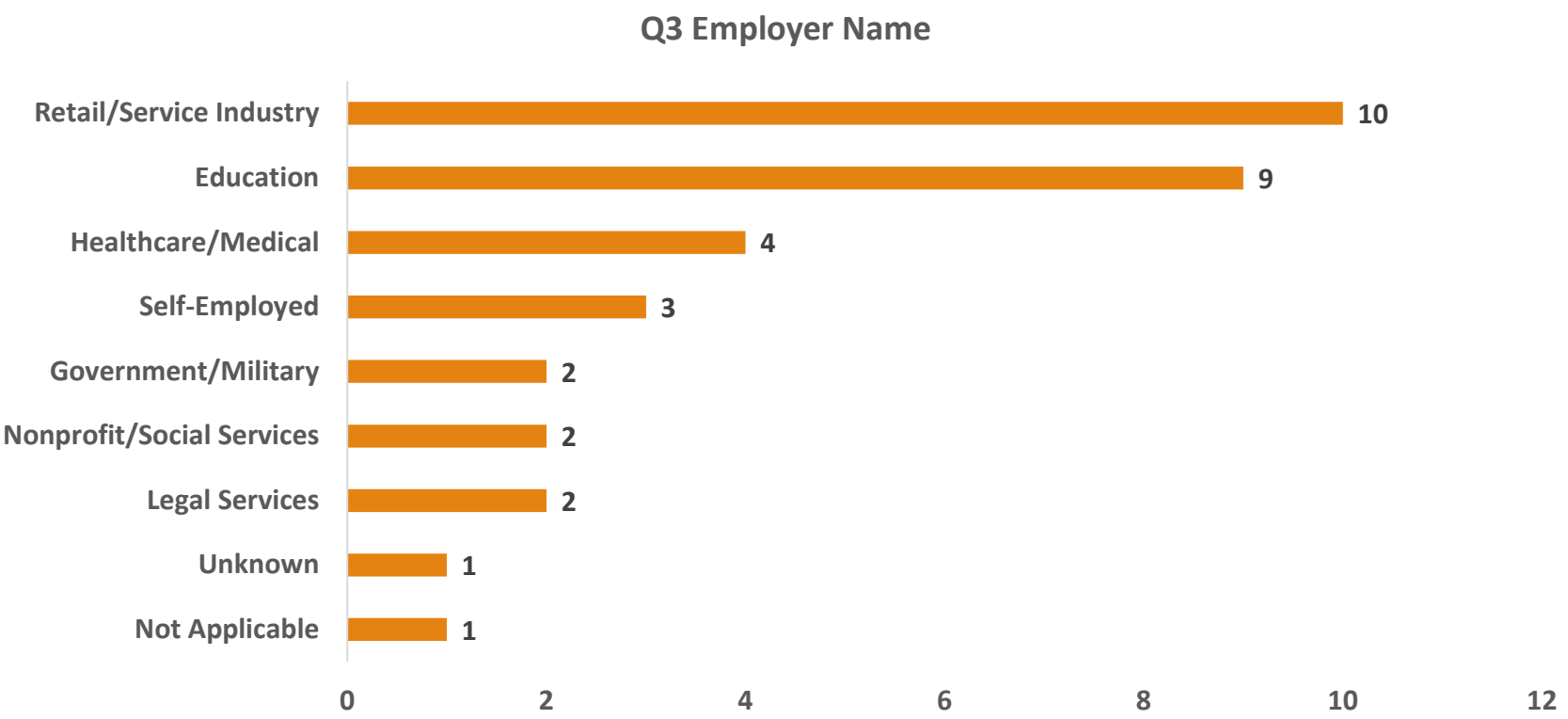
56 of the 88 (64%) respondents were not employed throughout a majority of their time at Miramar College.

32 of the 88 (36%) respondents were employed throughout a majority of their time at Miramar College.

Note: The bottom table organized the employer names by common/similar names as opposed to the chart above it that shows where the employer names would fit in a specific type of industry.

** Other employers include:

A family with kids, Amazon, California Department of Transportation, Clinic Tri Nguyen, MD, Dunkin, Private Nanny, Milagro, Easterseals Southern California, Francine McCorkell, Islands Restaurant, La Jolla Post Acute, Laboratory Corporation of America, Law office, Linda Woods, NA, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Ramona Head Start, Rosner Barry & Babbitt LLP, Scripps Health, Self, Sprouts Farmer Market, Starbucks, Summit Gasoline, Theres several, United Legwear LLC, Vons, YMCA.



Frequent Employers	Count	%
San Diego Community College District	2	6%
School District (Power, San Diego, etc.)	3	9%
Self-employed	3	9%
US Military	2	3%
Other**	22	67%
Not Applicable	1	3%
Total*	32	100%

Q4 What was your job title?

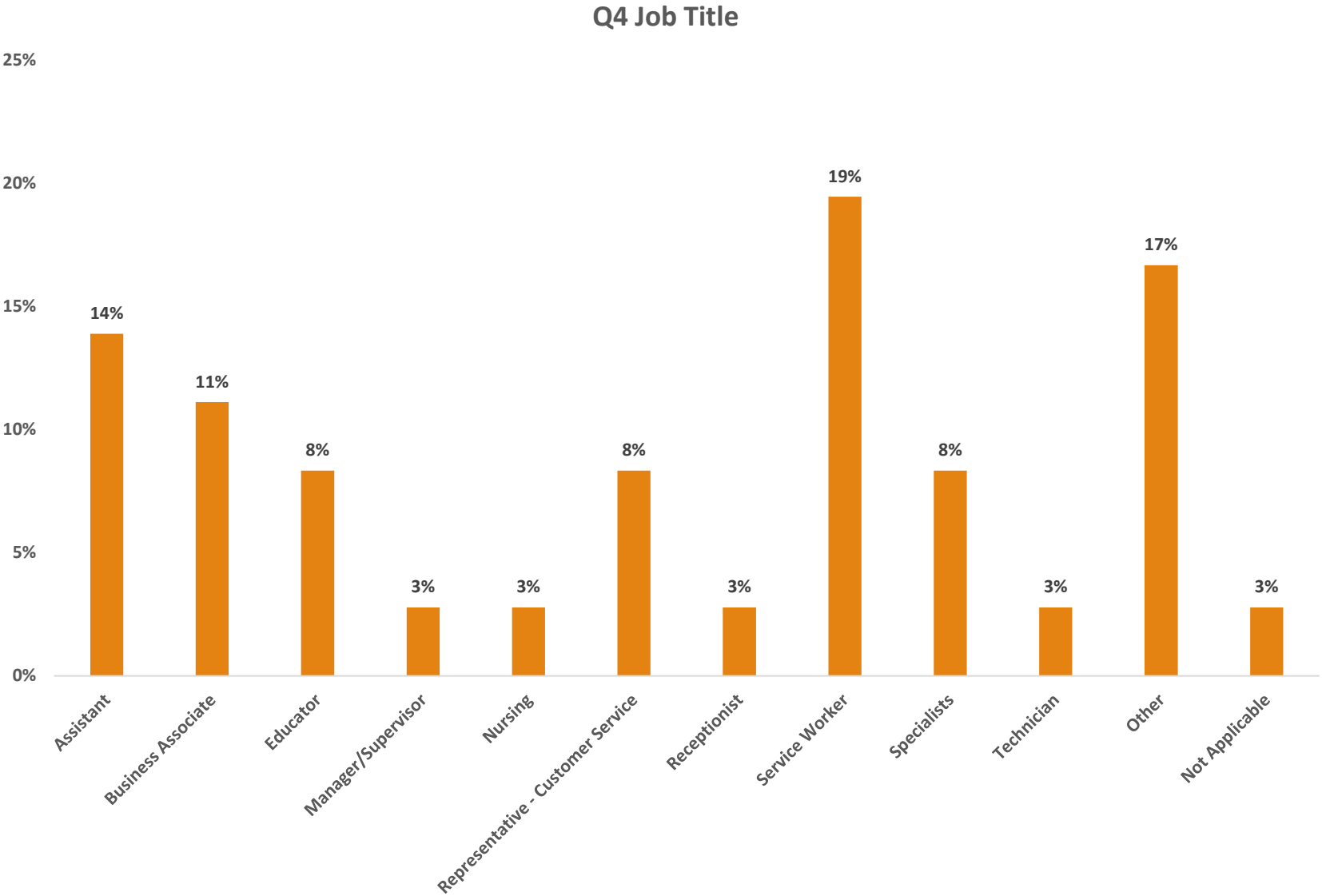
56 of the survey respondents did not answer this question.

Among the remaining n = 32 who did, their various job titles can be seen in the table on the right.

* *Note.* This question was shown only to respondents who said they were employed for the majority of their career at SDMC in a previous question. The question was open-ended; responses were analyzed and sorted into categories.

* Some respondents reported more than one title resulting in a different total compared to number of respondents.

* The % reflects the number of each job over the total number of job titles provided, not over the number of respondents.



Q4 What was your job title?

This slide breaks down each major category into its subparts. Meaning that each job category is broken down to specific job titles.

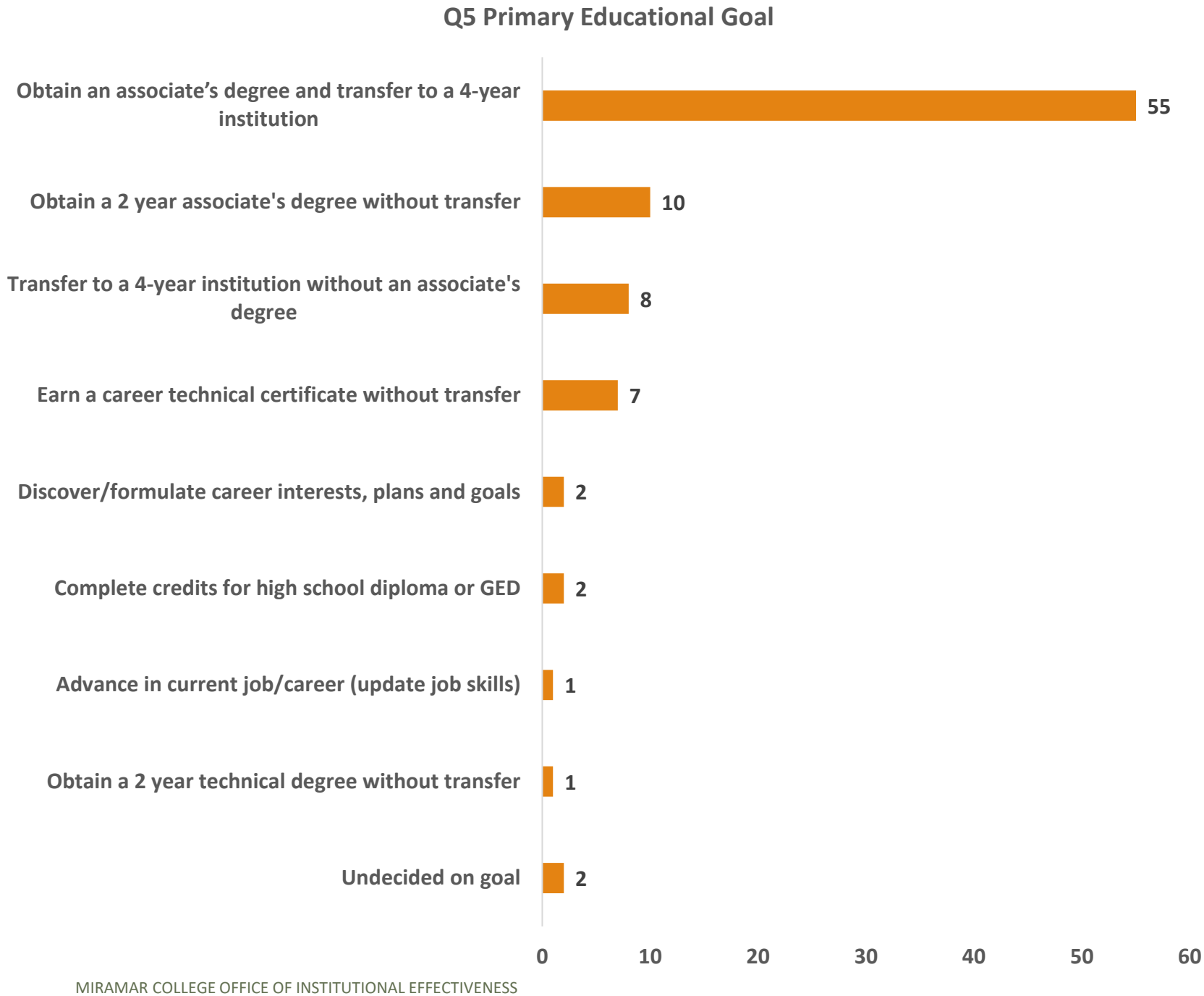
Answer category	Count	%**
Assistant	5	14%
Assistant - Administrative	1	
Assistant – Front Desk	1	
Assistant – Legal/Paralegal	2	
Assistant - Student	1	
Business Associate	4	11%
Cashier	2	
Delivery	1	
Representative – Patient Services	1	
Educator	3	8%
After School Leader	1	
Tutor	1	
Teacher	1	
Manager/Supervisor	1	3%
Car Wash Manager	1	
Nursing	1	
Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)	1	
Representative - Customer Service	3	3%
Representative – Client Services	1	
Representative – Guest Service	1	
Representative – Patient Service	1	
Receptionist	1	3%
Receptionist – Medical	1	
Service Worker	7	19%
Baby Sitter	1	
Barista	2	
Bartender	1	
Busser/Host	1	
Deli	1	
Service Partner	1	
Specialists	3	8%
Student Success Specialist – MESA	1	
Student Success Specialist – Unspecified	1	
Signal Support Systems Specialist	1	
Technician	1	3%
Technician - Behavior	1	
Other	6	17%
Credit Collections	1	
Gymnastics Coach	1	
Private Investigator	1	
Program Aide	1	
Several Occupations	1	
Sped IA	1	
Not Applicable	1	3%
Total*	36	100%

Q5 What was your primary education goal when you began taking courses at Miramar College?

Total Respondents: n = 88

55 of the 88 (63%) respondents indicated that their primary education goal was to obtain an associate’s degree and then transfer to a 4-year institution while 8 of the 88 (9%) would transfer without an associate’s degree.

The remaining 25 of the 88 (28%) respondents were pursuing either an associate’s without transfer, a certificate, technical degree, high school diploma credits, or were undecided in their educational goal.

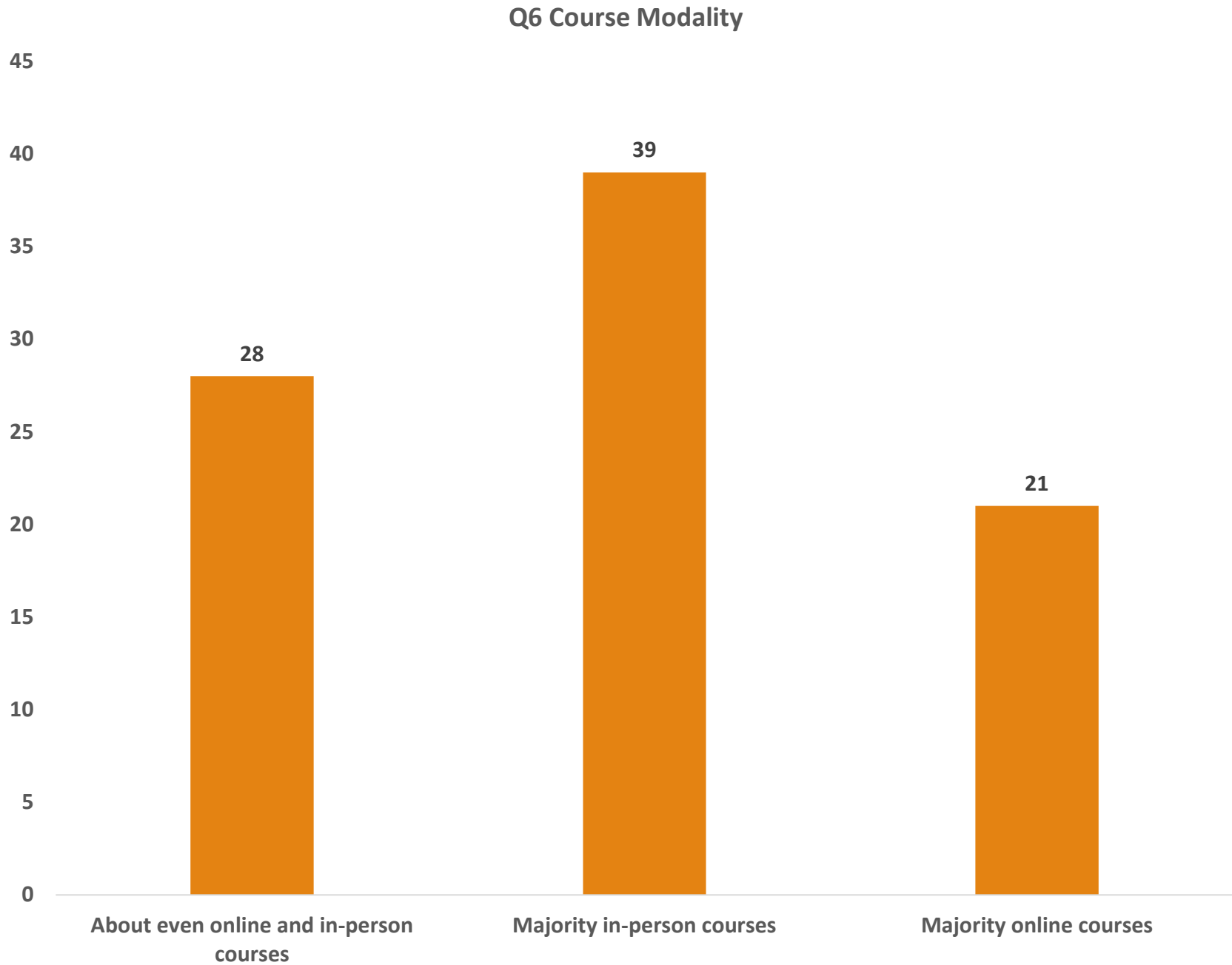


Q6 Describe your course modality in the past year.

Total respondents: n = 88

A majority of students, 67 of 88 (76%) as part of their course modality were in-person. Where 39 of the 67 were majority in-person and 28 of the 67 saw roughly even online vs. in-person courses.

21 of the 88 (24%) respondents' primary course modality was online.



Q7 Did your education goal at Miramar College change over time? If yes, please explain how.

n = 88 respondents, where 24 of the 88 stated that their goal did change.

For those who experienced a goal change, the reasons and their frequency for that were:

12 of 24 (50%) indicated that they were uncertain about the major they were pursuing. Inevitably they switched majors to something they found more appealing.

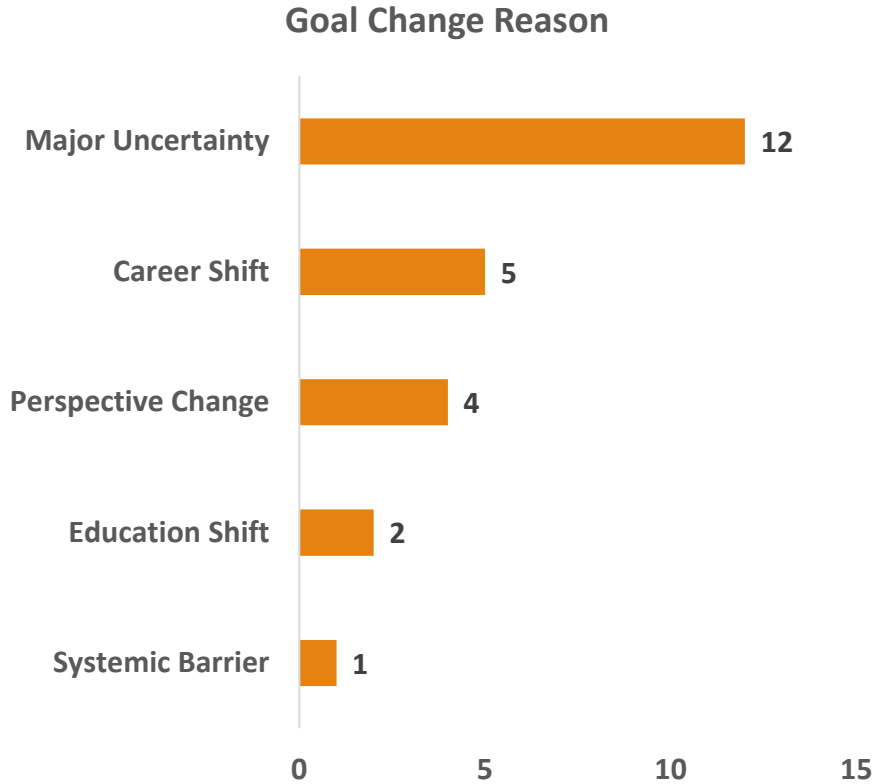
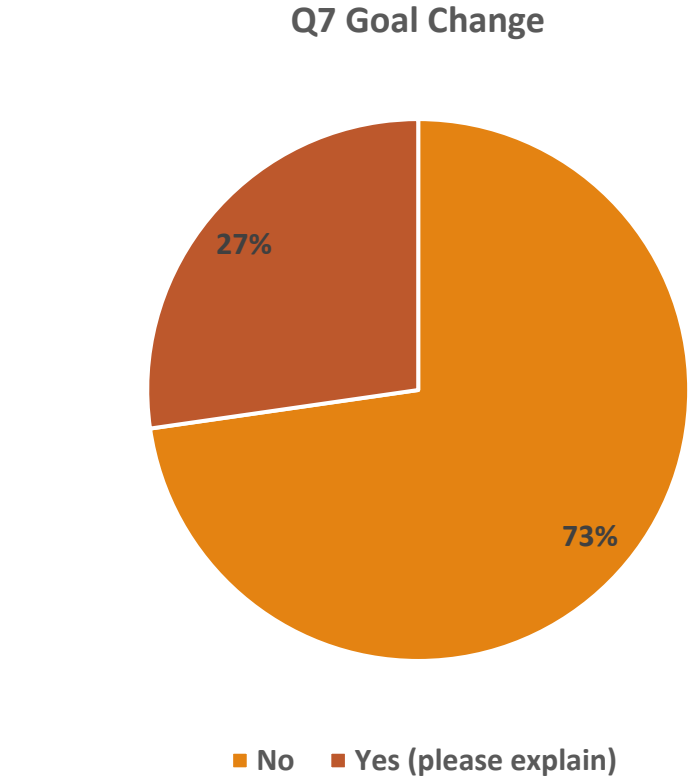
5 of 24 (21%) indicated that a change in career goals influenced their decision to change their educational goal.

4 of 24 (17%) indicated that their perspective while in college was changed. Many noted inspiration or perspective shift that came from programs like EOPS or staff/faculty mentorship.

2 of 24 (8%) indicated that their goals shifted to pursue research or some specific educational goal that influenced the courses and degree(s) they would pursue at Miramar.

1 of 24 (4%) indicated that there was some type of systemic barrier* that caused them to change their educational goal.

* Note, this was a student’s inability to get into a class they needed, delaying it to the following semester. The respondent did not give further detail about how they were precisely effected.



Notable Responses

- ❖ **Perspective Shift:** “As a part of the EOPS program, I had access and was required to meet with a counselor multiple times per semester. This allowed me to check in with my goals constantly. The first change was when I realized I was capable of at least a associates, now I am transferring to SDSU.”
- ❖ **Career Shift:** “Went from general biology to microbiology because I found that i wanted to find a specialty within the field.”
- ❖ **Systemic Barrier:** “I needed a class but it wasn't until the next semester”

Definitions

- Major uncertainty** – When a student shifts majors due to uncertainty with what they want.
- Career Shift** – When a students career goal influences their educational goal.
- Perspective Change** – A change in the students perspective influences their educational goal.
- Education Shift** – The students educational goal changed.
- Systemic Barrier** – Something within the process/system influenced or caused the students goal/plan to change.

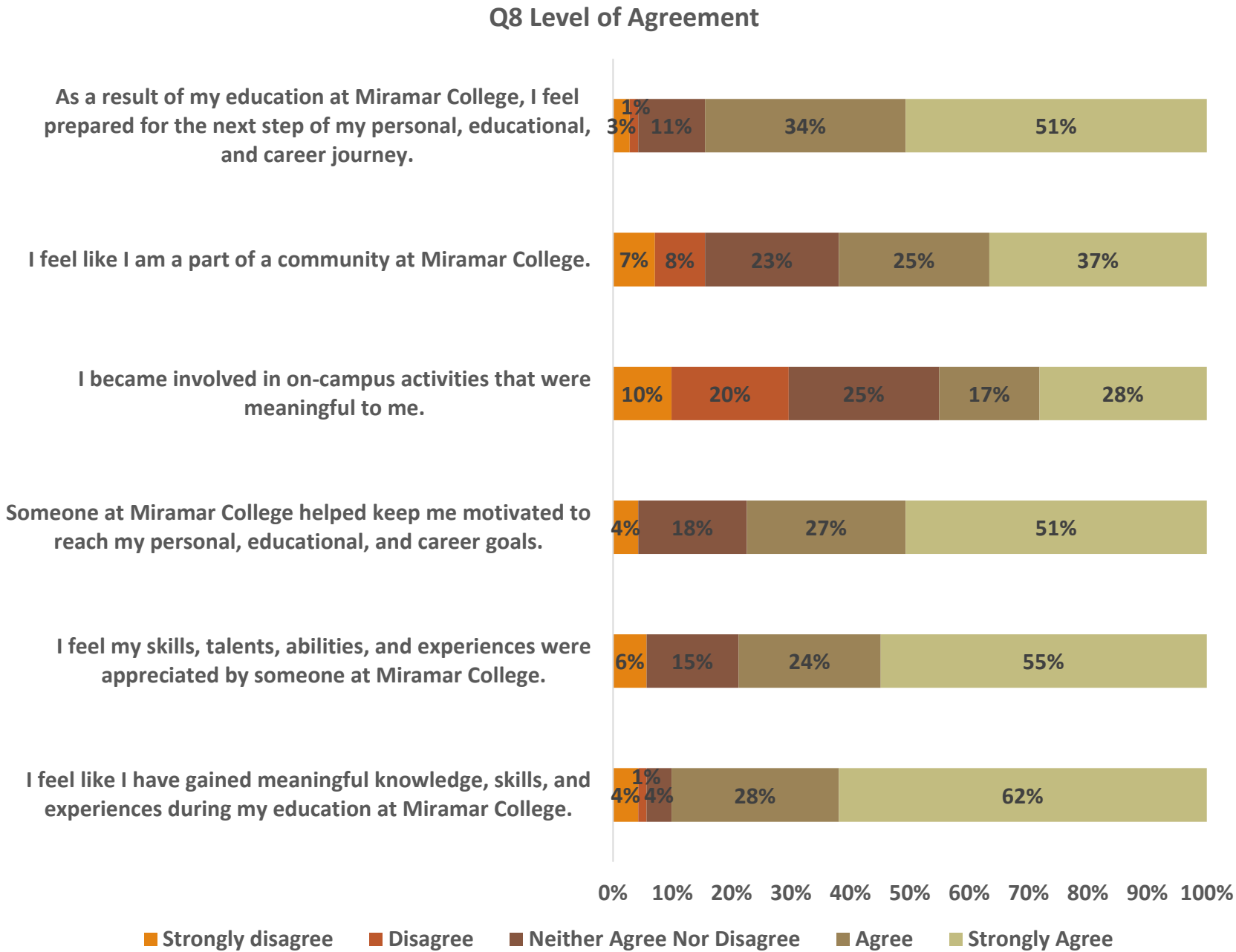
Q8 Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding your experience at Miramar College.

Total respondents: n = 71

For nearly all of the statements regarding a student’s experience at Miramar College, the students agreed or strongly agreed > 50% except for “I became involved in on-campus activities that were meaningful to me”. In that statement, only 45% of students agreed or strongly agreed.

The average of students Agree/Strongly Agreement between all the statements, except for the one below 50% agreement, was 79%.

The average of students Agree/Strongly Agreement between all statements was 73%.



Q8 cont. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding your experience at Miramar College. (Optional Comments)

- ❖ Positive Experiences
 - ❖ “I have been very supported at Miramar, allowing me to build understanding of my major and even myself. Professor Aleya Lanteinge has acted as a professional and educational mentor who has fostered my artistic growth and set me up for success as a transfer and in my goals. The art department has a fantastic studio tech, Katie Pack, who helped me find solutions and techniques for many learning obstacles when working with physical material. On campus I have taken advantage of the clubs, aid programs and event, career events, and counseling offices, which has made me feel a part of the community. I have gained many friends and truly excelled at this school. ”
 - ❖ “You get out of life what you put in. As a now 41 y/o, I put myself wholly in and I am so much better for doing so. I have mentors and friends from administration, staff, and faculty that I look forward to maintaining moving forward.”
 - ❖ “All the counselors, and the departments were very kind and friendly and knowledgeable and helped me along the way. THANK YOU!”
- ❖ Negative Experiences
 - ❖ “I was an advocate for the dreamers resource center and I was punished for it. I faced discrimination and when I spoke about it I was told to keep quiet.”
 - ❖ “Graduation RSVP was never sent to me but they system said it was sent; outcome i did not have the opportunity to graduate on stage which is a disappointment. When the Dean approved me to walk on stage the day before graduation, it was too late, family members changed their plans.”

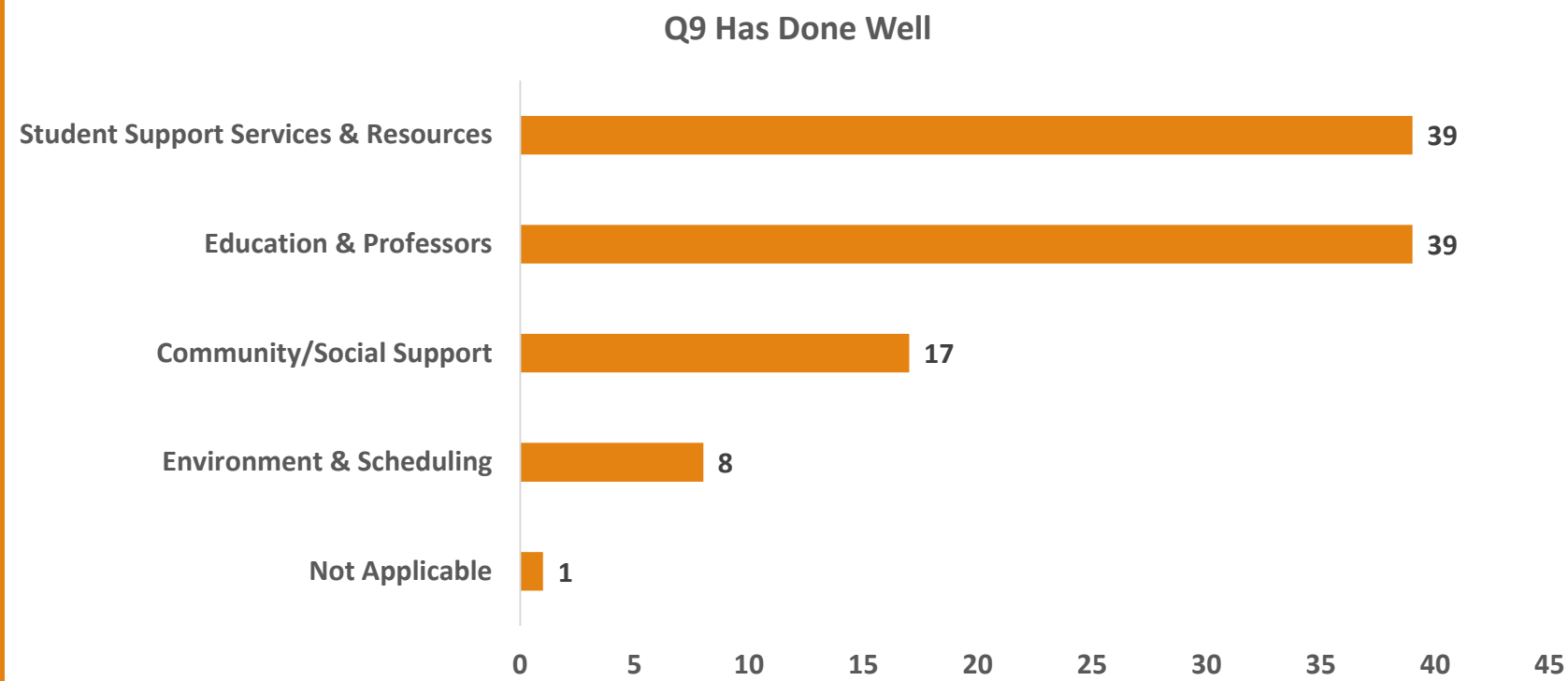
Q9 Please describe what Miramar College has done well in supporting your career, educational, and personal goals.

Total respondents: n = 71

The corresponding values in the chart indicate the frequency of responses per category.

One respondent could include multiple categories in a single response.

The total of the values in each category does not equal the total number of respondents.



Definitions

Student Support Services & Resources – Any response that included/mentioned services provided by programs like EOPs, Rising Scholars, VRC, DSPS, Promise, Student Government, PTK/Honors, and more.

Education & Professors – Any response that included/mentioned professors, mentorships, and any other thing that helped the students educational growth.

Community/Social Support – Any response that included/mentioned peer to peer support or other support services that came from beyond officially offered support services. E.g. Job fairs.

Environment & Scheduling – Any response that included/mentioned flexible class schedules or great places to study, focus, or recharge.

Not Applicable– Any response that included/mentioned that the student found no issues for Miramar College supported or that Miramar College did not effect their career, educational, or personal goals.

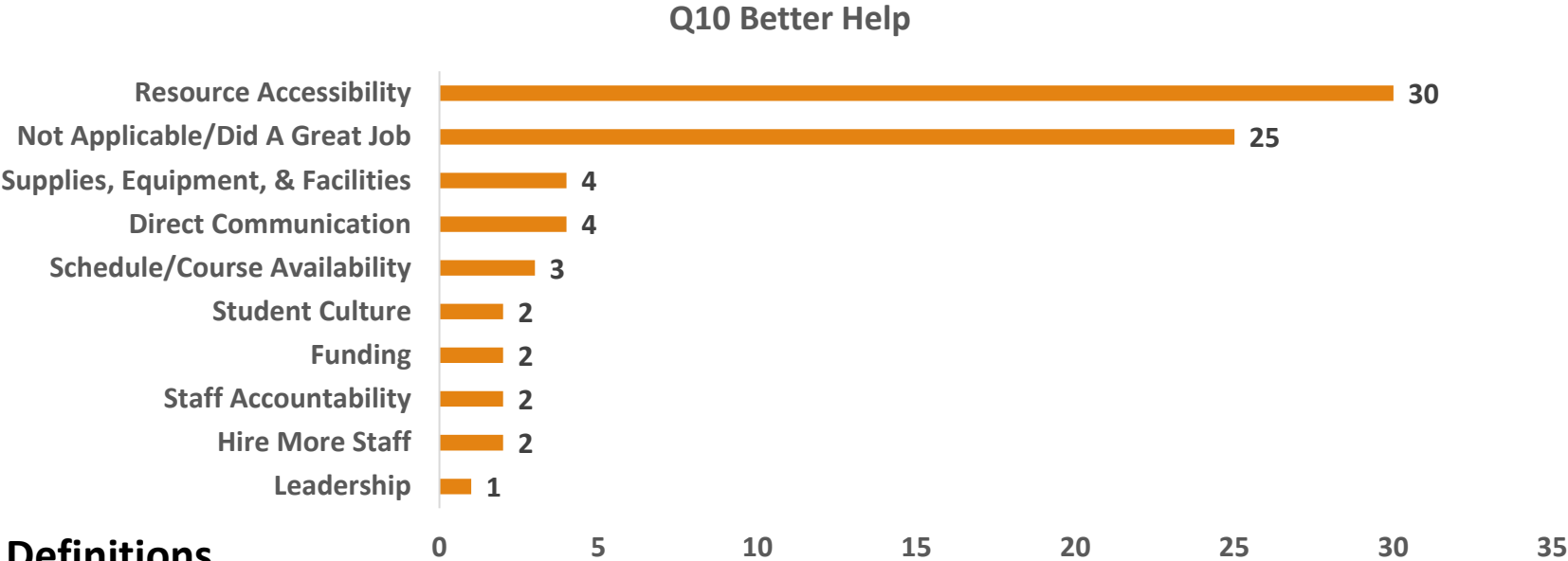
Q10 Please describe what Miramar College could have done better in supporting you in reaching your career, educational, and personal goals.

Total respondents: n = 71

The corresponding values in the chart indicate the frequency of responses per category.

One respondent could include multiple categories in a single response.

The total of the values in each category does not equal the total number of respondents.



Definitions

- Resource Accessibility** – Any response that included/mentioned the need for improvement on accessibility for various resources the college offers. E.g. Making resources more aware/available for students, better organized career paths, or fair access to resources and class/course materials.
- Not Applicable/Did A Great Job** – Any response that included/mentioned that the student found no issues, believed Miramar College did a good/great job in supporting, or indicated that the question was not applicable.
- Supplies, Equipment, & Facilities** – Any response that included/mentioned the need for improvements in the college. i.e. Improvements in supplies, equipment, or facilities.
- Direct Communication** – Any response that included/mentioned the need for staff, faculty, professors, or other employees of the college to communicate more directly for better student outcomes.
- Schedule/Course Availability** – Any response that included/mentioned that classes and course schedules should be made more available for students with online courses, more classes available throughout the day, or other options that make classes more accessible for students.
- Student Culture** – Any response that included/mentioned that there should be improvements in the culture of the college that students can engage in.
- Funding** – Any response that included/mentioned a need for better funding.
- Staff Accountability** – Any response that included/mentioned the need for staff/faculty needing to be held accountable for issues/problems they contribute to.
- Hire More Staff** – Any response that included/mentioned the need to hire more staff.
- Leadership** – Any response that included/mentioned that there needs to be improvements in leadership.

Findings – Supporting Goals

TOP 3 THINGS SDMC DID WELL

- Student Services
- Education & Professors
- Community & Social Support

TOP 3 THINGS SDMC COULD DO BETTER

- Resource Accessibility/Access
- Supplies, Equipment, and Facilities
- Communication From Faculty & Staff

Q11 Did you face any barriers which impacted you completing your degree/certification program?

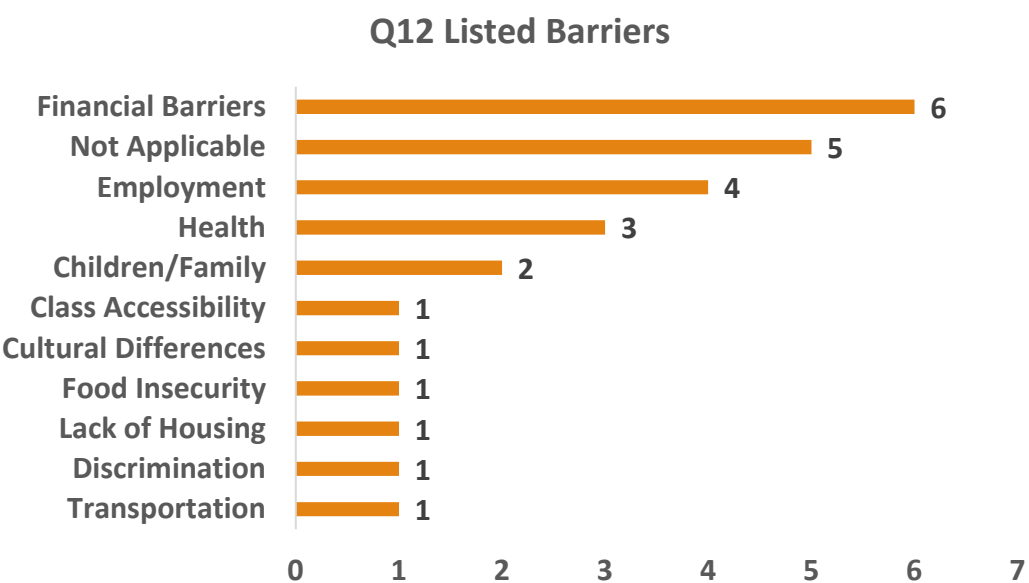
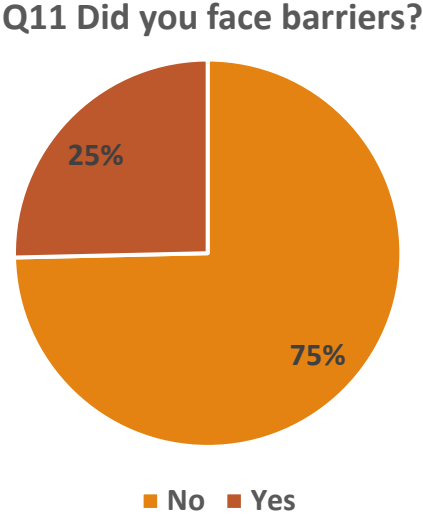
n = 71

Q12 Please list the barriers that impacted you completing your degree/certificate program.

n = 18

For question 11, 71 respondents answered the question. 53 of them (75%) stated that they did not face any barriers. The remaining 18 faced a barrier that impacted completing their degree/certification program and clarified the barrier they faced in question 12.

The three most frequent barriers that students faced were financial barriers, employment, and health.



Definitions

- Financial Barriers** – Any response that included/mentioned finances as a barrier to accomplishing their degree/certification program.
- Not Applicable** – Any response that included/mentioned no barriers impacted the students completion of their degree/certification program.
- Employment** – Any response that included/mentioned employment status as a barrier to the completion of their degree/certification program.
- Health** – Any response that included/mentioned health status as a barrier to the completion of their degree/certification program.
- Children/Family** – Any response that included/mentioned family as a barrier to the completion of their degree/certification program.
- Class Accessibility**– Any response that included/mentioned class accessibility as a barrier to the completion of their degree/certification program.
- Food insecurity** – Any response that included/mentioned food insecurity as a barrier to the completion of their degree/certification program.
- Lack of Housing** – Any response that included/mentioned housing as a barrier to the completion of their degree/certification program.
- Discrimination** – Any response that included/mentioned discrimination as a barrier to the completion of their degree/certification program.
- Transportation** – Any response that included/mentioned transportation as a barrier to the completion of their degree/certification program.

Q13 Did Miramar College do well in helping you overcome these barriers? If so, please explain.

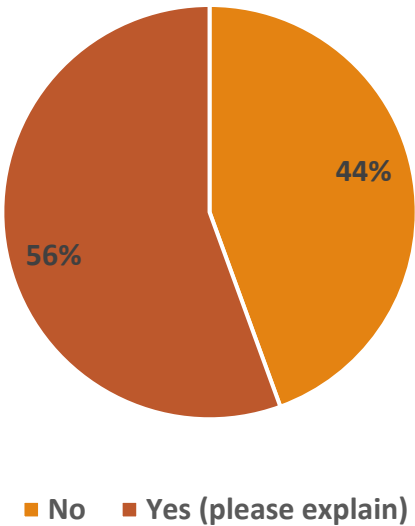
n = 18

18 respondents noted that Miramar College did well in helping the student overcome their barriers.

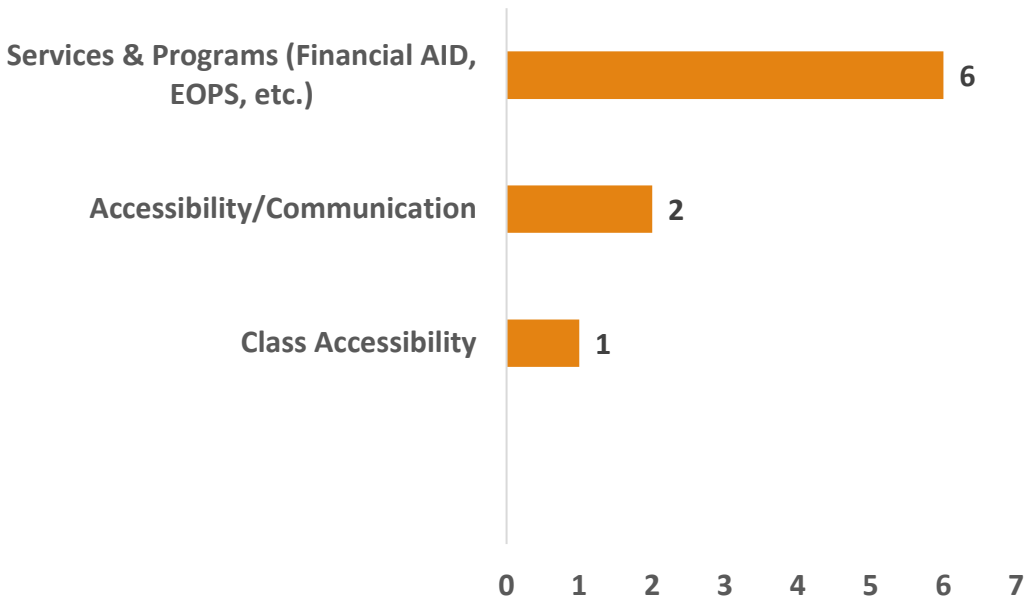
10 of the 18 respondents explained the specific ways Miramar College was able to help them overcome any barriers they faced.

Note that the 18 respondents to Q13 may not necessarily be the same 18 respondents who answered Q12.

Q13a Did Miramar Help



Q13b Miramar Aid Explanations



Definitions

- (Financial Aid, DSPS, EOPS, Jet Fuel, Cal Fresh, etc.)** – Any response that included/mentioned financial aid, DSPS, or any other department that provides some form of service for students.
- Accessibility/Communication**– Any response that included/mentioned the college offering some sort of support that aided a students ability to access needed spaces.
- Class Accessibility**– Any response that included/mentioned that the college aided them in accessing their needed classes.
- Not Applicable** – Any response that included/mentioned no barriers impacted the students completion of their degree/certification program and consequently no need for support from Miramar.

Findings - Barriers

25% of respondents (n=18) said they faced barriers that impacted earning their degree/certificate

Answer category	%	Count
Financial Barriers	33%	6
Employment	22%	4
Children/Family	11%	2
Health (including mental health)	16%	3
Class Accessibility	5%	1
Cultural Differences	5%	1
Food Insecurity	5%	1
Housing	5%	1
Discrimination	5%	1
Transportation	5%	1

6 of the 18 respondents reported that SDMC was able to help overcome barriers.

Answer choice	Count	%
Yes	10*	56%
Services & Programs (Financial AID, EOPS, etc.)	6	60%
Accessibility / Communication	2	20%
Class Accessibility / Flexibility	1	10%
No	8	44%

* The total for the yes answer choice does not accurately reflect the sum of the subcategories. One of the people who answered yes to this question said “I had no barriers”, which mismatches the answer choice they chose.

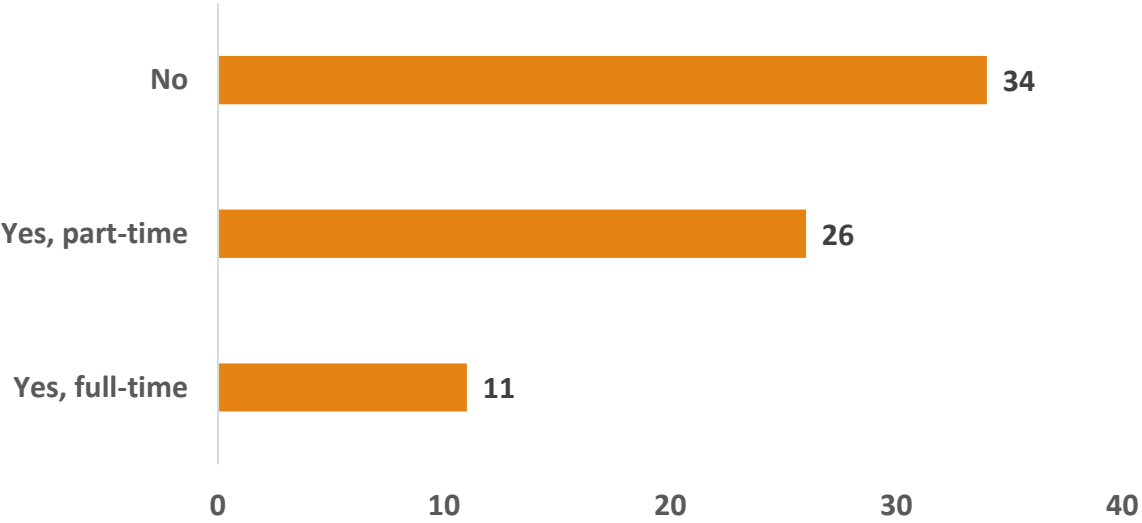
Q14 Are you currently employed?

Total respondents: 71

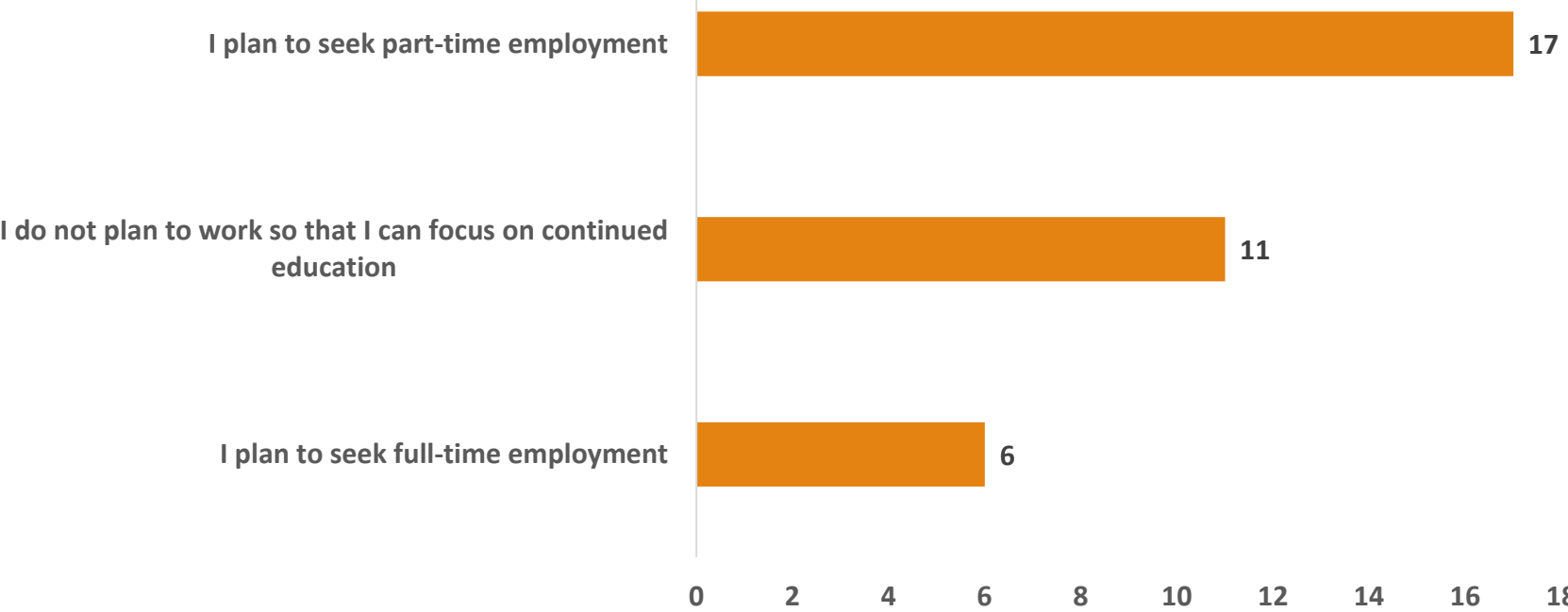
Q15 What are your employment plans for the next six months? (not currently employed)

Total respondents: 34

Q14 Current Employment



Q15 Employment Plans



Q16 What are your employment plans for the next six months? (currently employed)

n = 37

The one student who answered ‘Other’ specified that their employment plans have been delayed due to layoffs but is seeking work within a month of answering the survey.

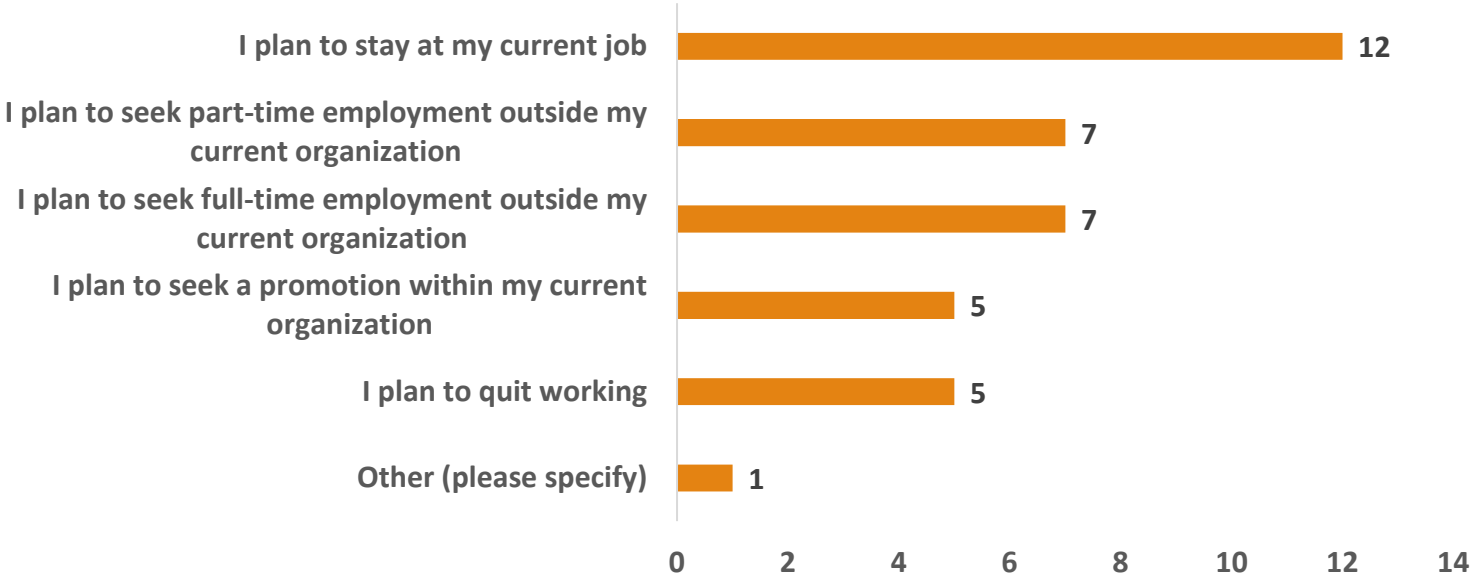
Q17 What are your education plans for the next six months?

n = 71

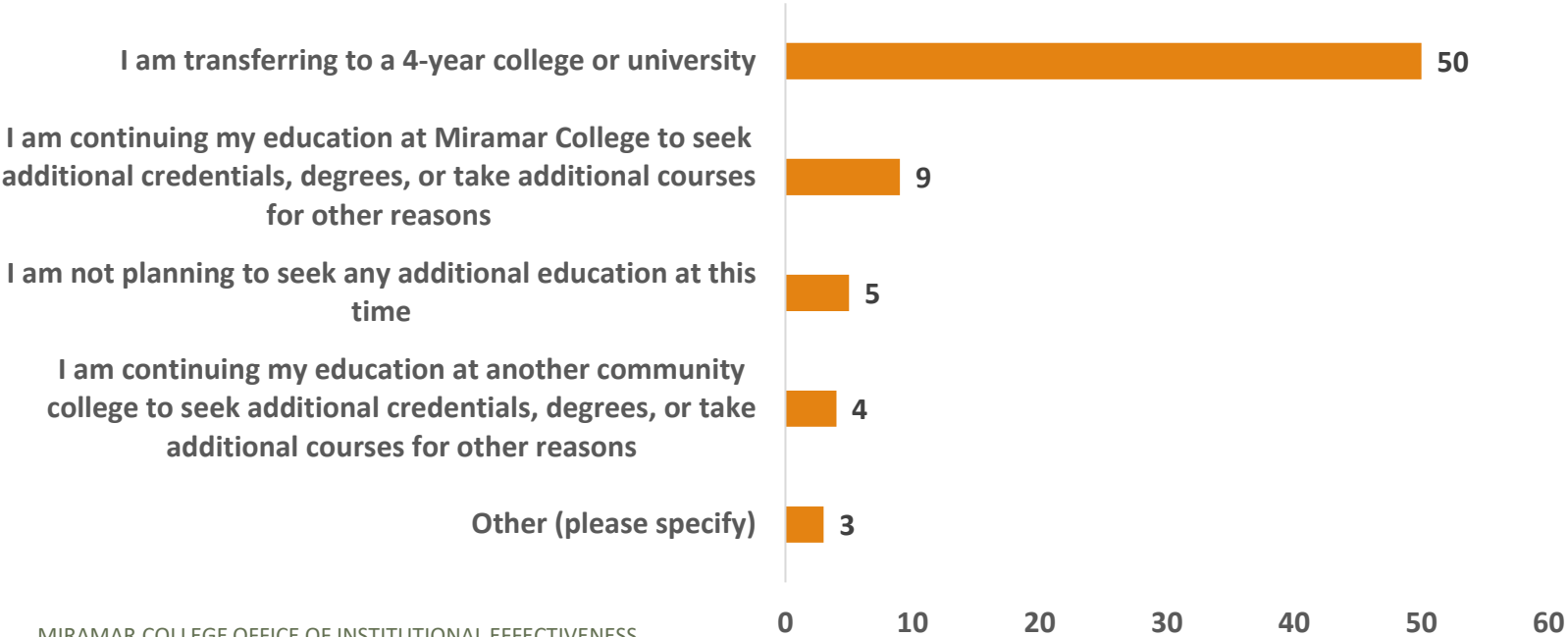
Among the 3 ‘Other’ answers,

- 1) Stated they were only graduating
- 2) One aims to take the MLT exam to bridge to CLS
- 3) Considering book keeper certification.

Q16 Employment Plans



Q17 Education Plans

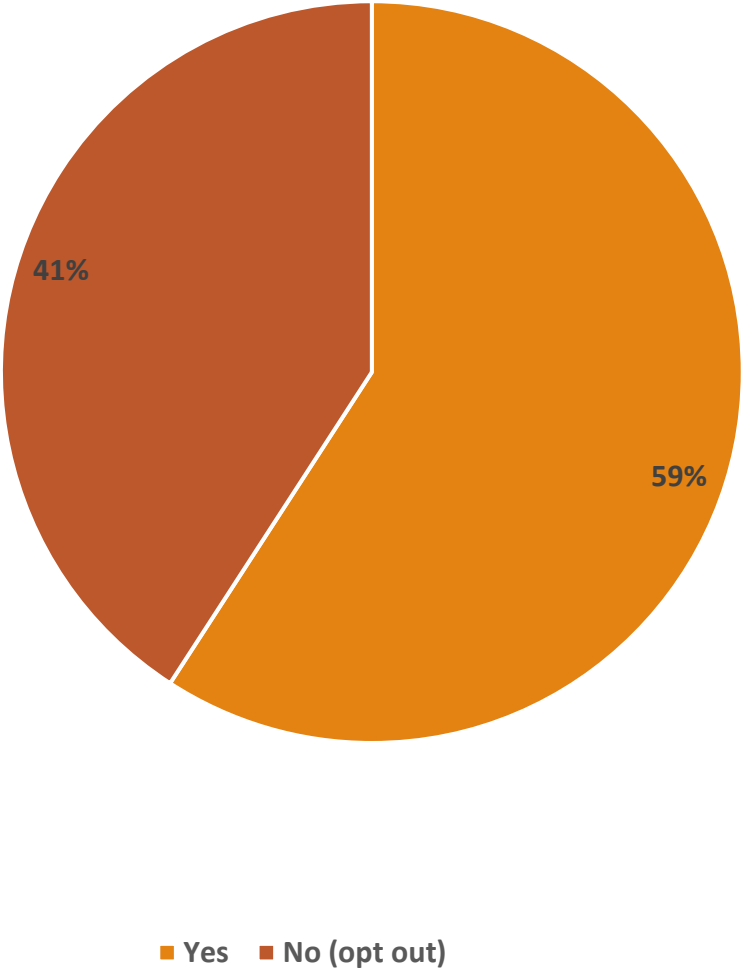


Q18 Do you wish to receive communications from Miramar College?

n= 71

42 of 71 respondents (59%) indicated that they did want to receive communications from Miramar College.

Q18 Do You Want Communications

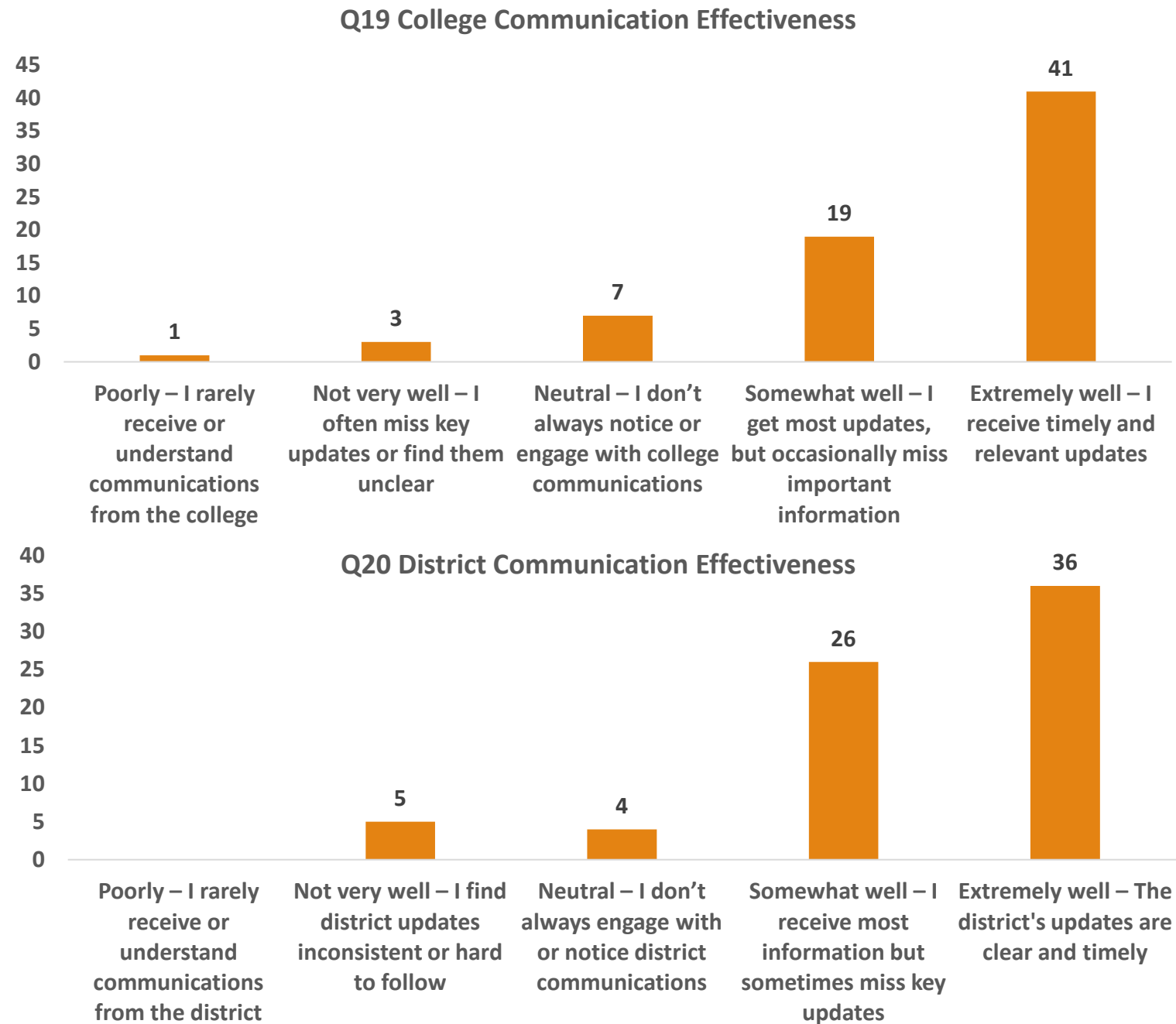


Q19 How effectively do you receive communication from San Diego Miramar College? Please select the option that best reflects your experience.

n = 71

Q20 How effectively do you receive communication from the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD)?

n = 71

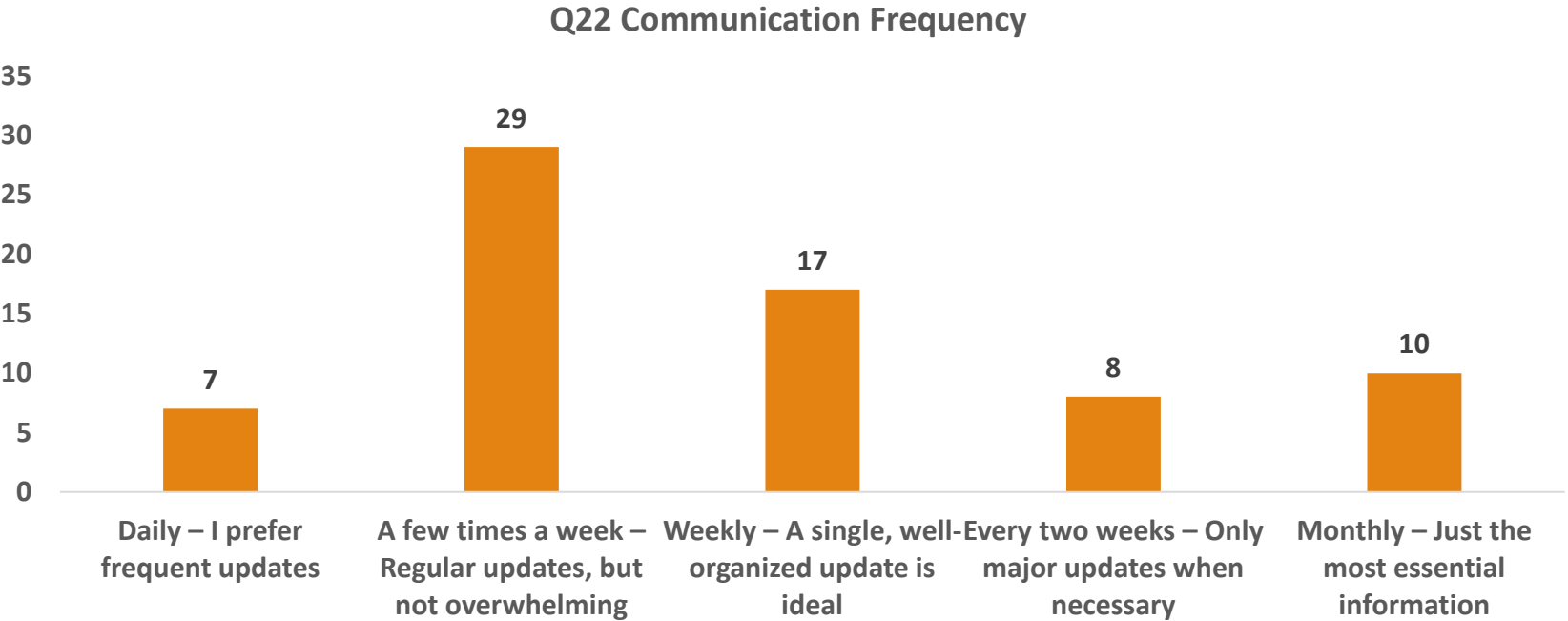
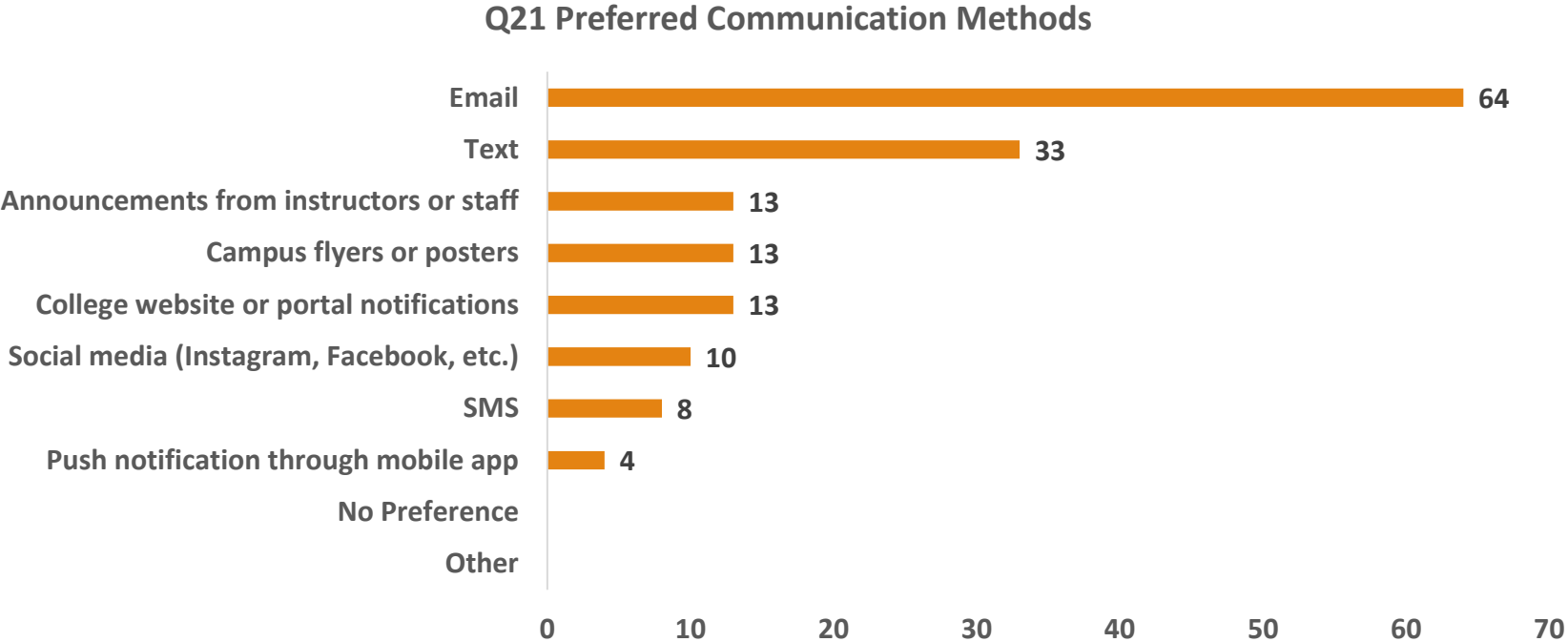


Q21 What are your preferred methods for receiving important communication from Miramar college?

n = 71

Q22 How often would you like the college to send important communications?

n = 71

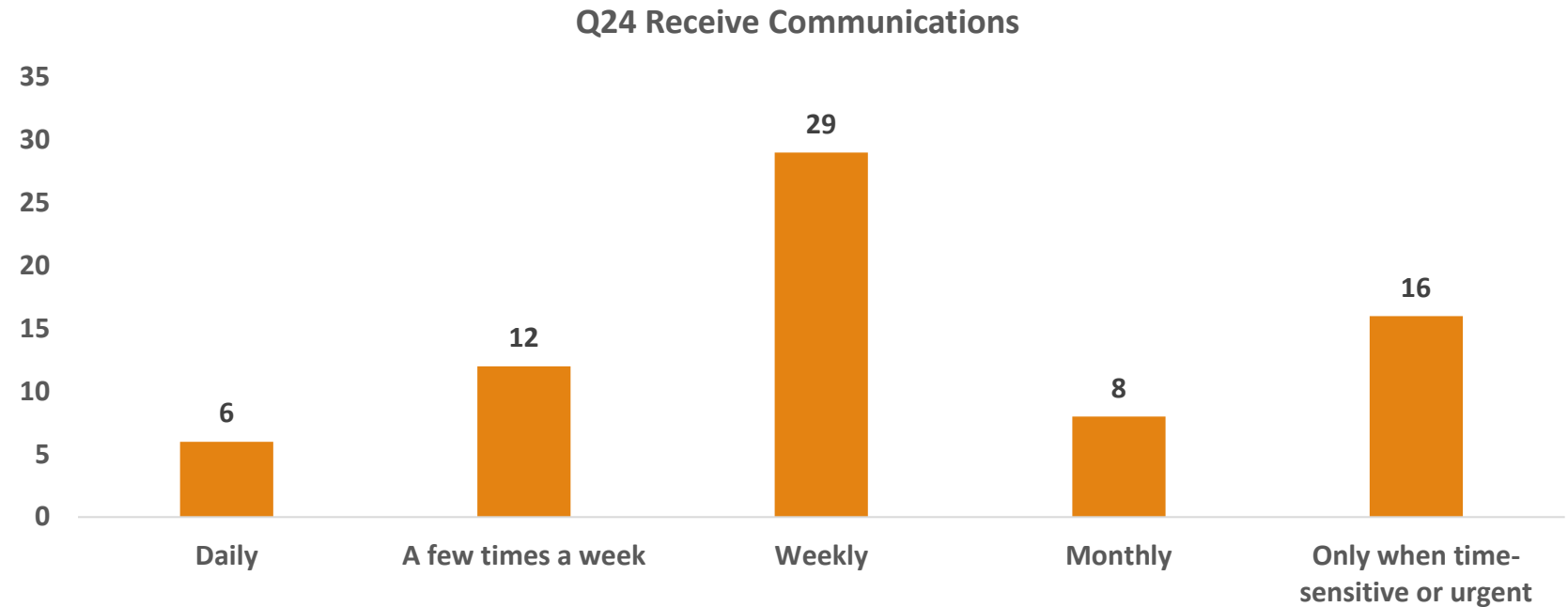
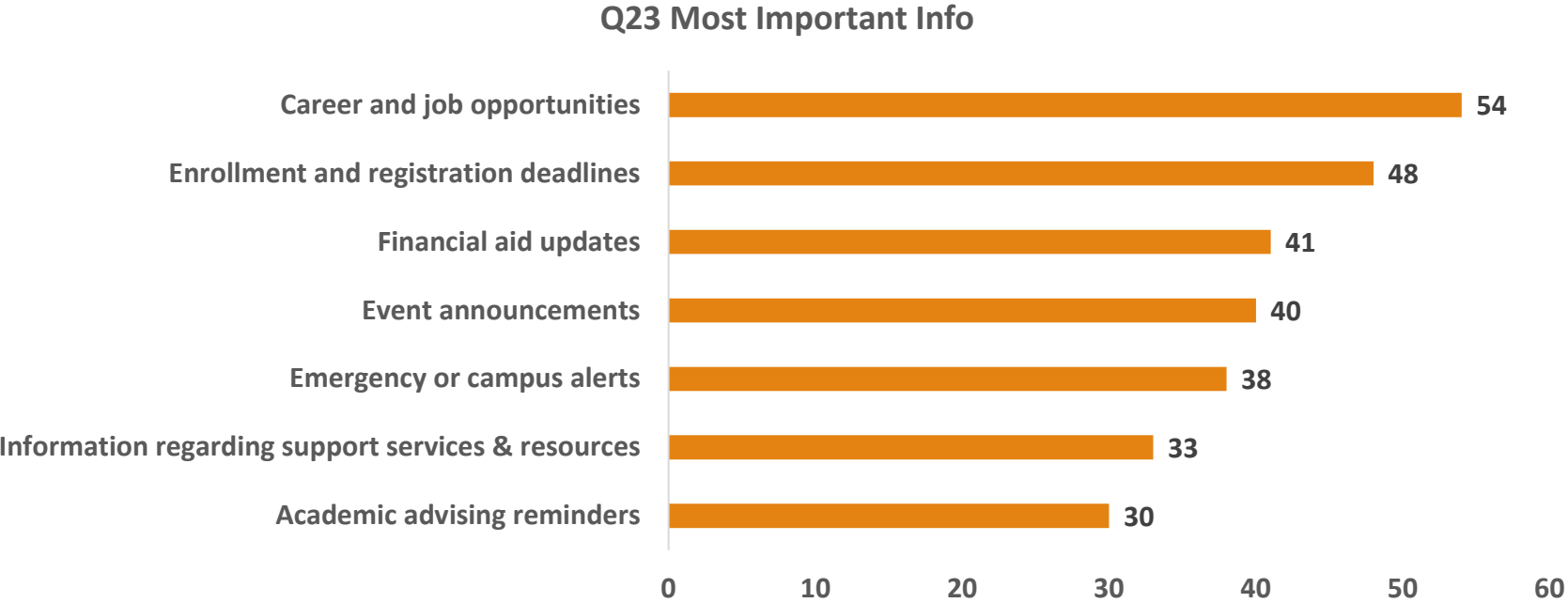


Q23 What types of information are most important for you to receive from Miramar College

n = 71 respondents answered this question.
Discrepancies in category counts is due to a respondents ability to choose more than one option.

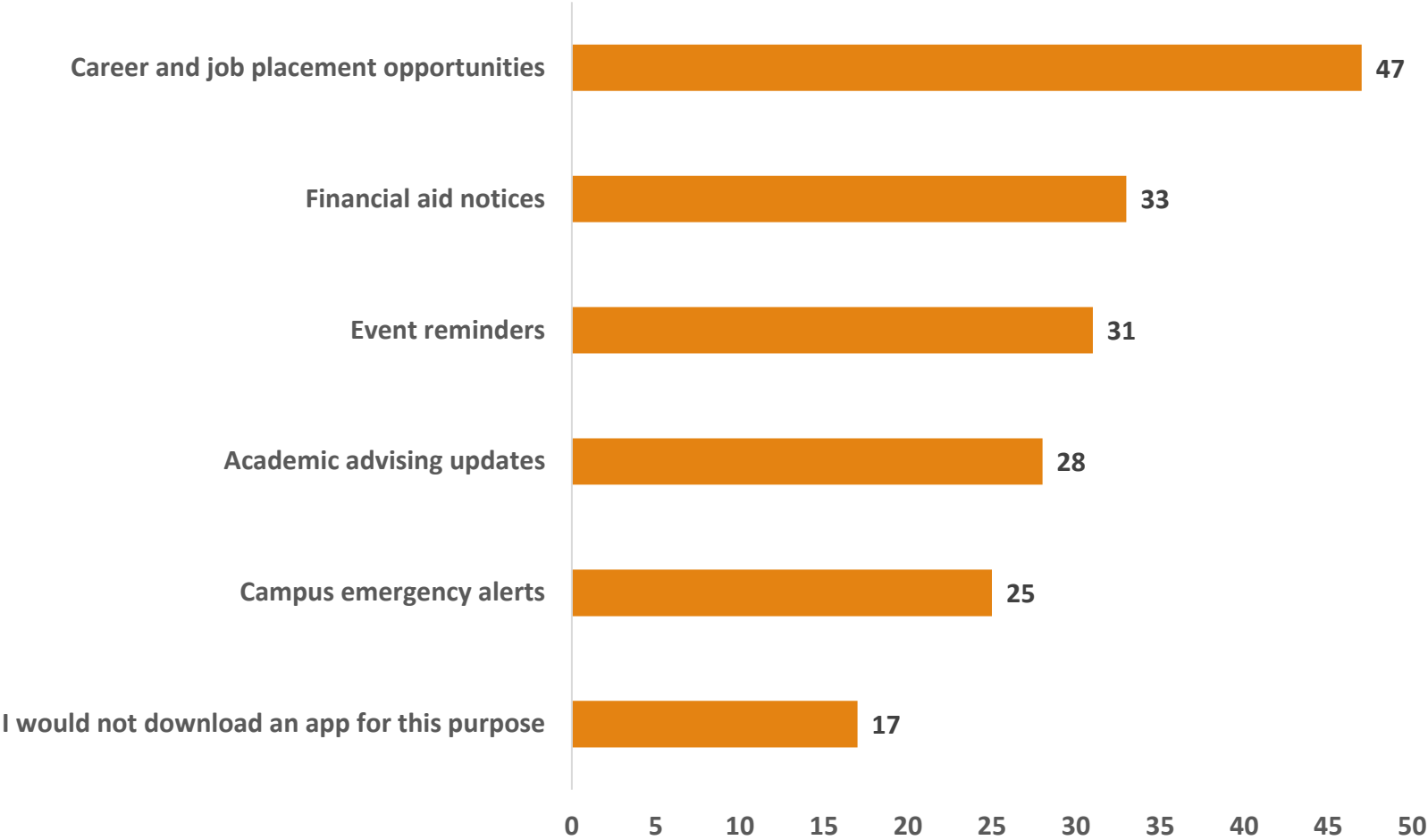
Q24 How often would you like to receive non-urgent communications from Miramar College?

n= 71



Q25 For which types of messages would you be willing to download and use a Miramar College mobile app to receive push notifications?

n = 71 respondents answered this question. Discrepancies in category counts is due to a respondents ability to choose more than one option.

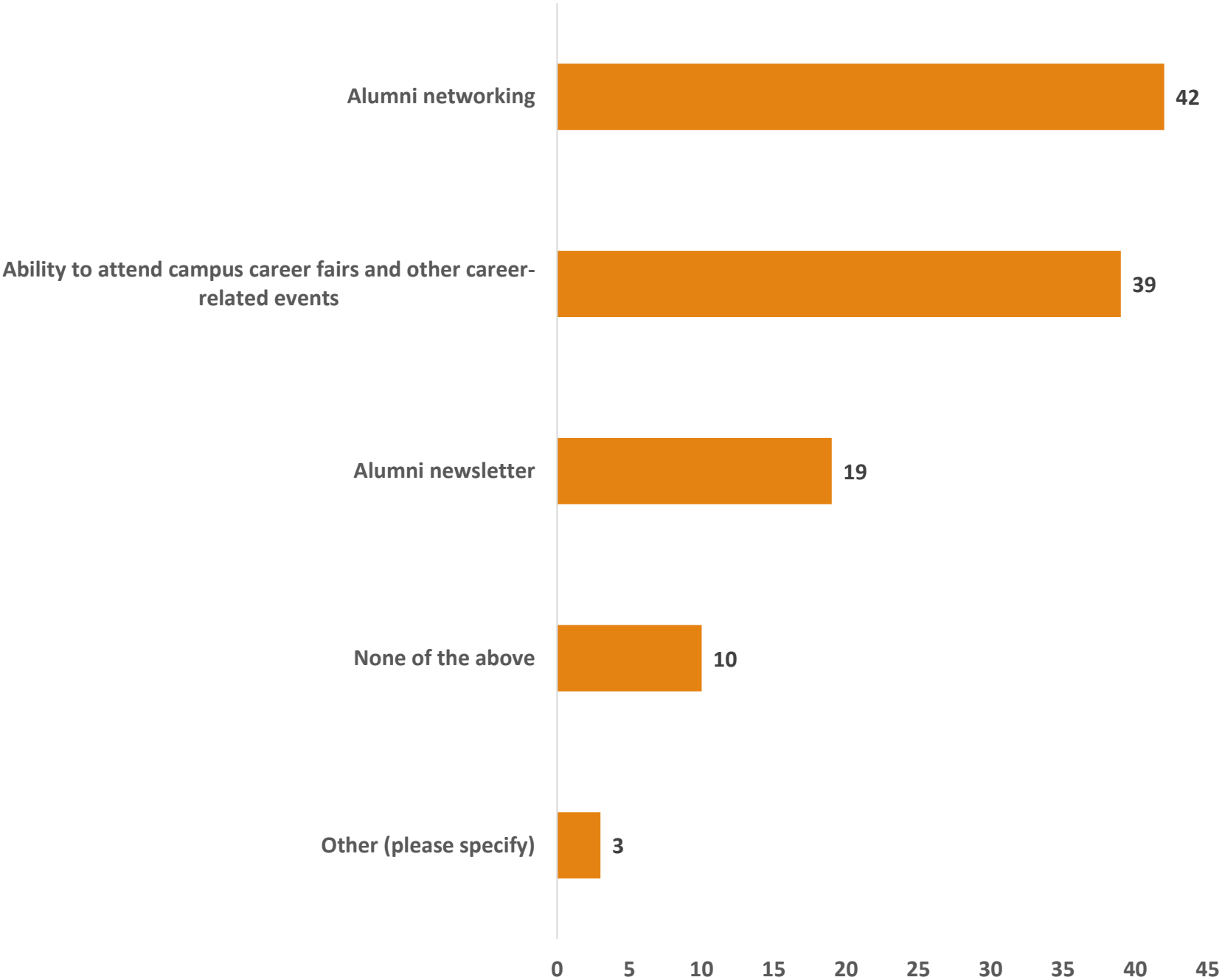


Q26 Which of the following supports and services would be helpful to you as a graduate of Miramar College?

n = 68 respondents answered this question. Discrepancies in category counts is due to a respondents ability to choose more than one option.

42 of the 68 respondents (62%) said they would find alumni networking opportunities helpful, 39 respondents (57%) are interested to come back to campus to attend career fairs and other career-related events, and 19 respondents (28%) would be interested in an alumni newsletter.

*Note that “Other” here includes: “Campus events that are fun and not carrer-related”, and “Math Lab”
Another thing to notice about the other section is that the raw data and the number reported on Alchemer say that there were 3 “Other” responses here, but only two are actually specified/shown.



Q27 What types of alumni events would you be most likely to attend?

n = 68 respondents answered this question. Discrepancies in category counts is due to a respondents ability to choose more than one option.

51 of the respondents (75%) said that they were interested in career fairs and other career-related activities, 44 of the respondents (65%) said they would like to attend skill development or certification courses , 39 respondents (57%) would like to attend network events, and 32 respondents (47%) are interested in professional development workshops.

*Note that “Other” here includes: “be able to pickup my associates”, and “none”
Another thing to notice about the other section is that the raw data and the number reported on Alchemer say that there were 4 “Other” responses here, but only two are actually specified.



Q28 What alumni perks or benefits would encourage you to stay engaged?

n = 68 respondents answered this question.
Discrepancies in category counts is due to a respondents ability to choose more than one option.

Among respondents, the perks or benefits that generated the most interest were Job Placement Assistance with 43 of the respondents (63%), Access to the Library with 39 respondents (57%), and Career Counseling with 36 respondents (53%).

Note that the “Other” category had only one clarification: “N/A”
The other response for “Other” is not shown.

