

APPENDIX C: DATA SUMMARY, RELEVANT TRENDS, AND THE TECHNOLOGY PLAN SURVEY

Data Summary

For the preparation of this plan, data were analyzed in categories related to the service community, the college, its students, and its employees. Such analysis includes the disaggregation of data by race and ethnicity, age, gender, disability, and socioeconomic status, among others, and identification of populations who are disproportionately impacted with respect to a particular metric. Below are some highlights of that data review that may impact, or be impacted by, the instructional programming of MiraCosta College.

Community (Service Area)

- MiraCosta's service area is getting older.
- MiraCosta's service area is becoming more diverse.
- Geographically, there are age, race/ethnicity and educational attainment variations within the service area.

Student Demographics

The demographic information below includes data up to and through Fall 2019. Therefore, the data do not include the declines that were observed during the semesters affected by COVID-19. The long-term impact of the pandemic will remain to be seen as the college returns to on-site classes and makes other instructional adjustments.

- Credit enrollment peaked in 2015-16 and has declined in recent years.
- Non-credit enrollment has fluctuated slightly. Overall noncredit enrollment has seen minor fluctuations and increased slightly between fall 2011 and fall 2019 (from 11,259 to 11,706).
- The gap between the percentage of White and Latinx students has closed over the past seven years.
- The percentage of students by admit type has remained stable over the past seven years (2012 to 2018).
- The enrollment of part-time students decreased, and full-time students increased from fall 2013 to fall 2019.

Student Success

- Overall course retention rates for first-time in college (FTIC) students have remained consistent over time but equity gaps exist.
- Equity gaps exist for FTIC students in course success rates.
- As with course retention and success, fall-to-fall persistence rates remain fairly consistent over time, but equity gaps exist.
- The overall number of awards granted has increased since 2013-14.

- The percentage of students earning degrees and certificates has also increased over time.
- MiraCosta Allied Health students are highly successful in passing their certification exams.
- Transfers have increased slightly amongst first time-in-college (FTIC) student cohorts.
- After the publication of the Educational Master Plan Update the statistics below were presented to the Board of Trustees:
 - There has been a 12% increase in students completing transfer-level English and a 17% increase in student completing transfer-level Math.
 - English students that completed a transfer-level course in one term (fall 2019) = 70% (statewide average = 61%)
 - First-time math students completed a transfer-level course in one term (fall 2019) = 56% (statewide average = 40%).
 - Equity gaps for completion of Math and English are closing for both LatanX and African American students but more work needs to be done particularly with students over 25 years of age.

Employee Demographics

- The number of full-time faculty has increased over the past five years, and they are slightly more diverse.
- The majority of associate faculty are older and female. In the EEO Plan, it is noted that associate faculty appear to be less diverse.
- More than half of classified staff employees are female, white and over the age of 44.
- The majority of administrators are over the age of 45 and identify as female.

Labor Market and Program Alignment

- Healthcare-related occupations are projected to grow faster than other occupations in San Diego County.
- STEM-related occupations have modest projections of growth of 5% in San Diego County.
- A diverse array of College CE programs have employment rates that exceed regional and state rates.
- MiraCosta's top 20 career education programs prepare students for living wage jobs.
- Enrollment and completion demographics for the top 20 career education programs mirror overall college demographics.
- According to the Center of Excellence, there are increased labor market needs in life science and biotech positions, computer science, information technology and cybersecurity.

Enrollment Projections

At a national level, National Clearinghouse data shows that pre-Covid enrollments in two-year public colleges decreased each year between fall 2015 and spring 2019. In *Demographics and the Demand for Higher Education* (2018), Nathan Grawe reported that a dearth of 2008-09 recession-era births is expected to take a toll on two-year college enrollments with expected declines of 4.3% between 2019 and 2021 and 16% between 2025 and 2029.

Locally, enrollment projections based on San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) population forecasts and MiraCosta average participation rates show a decrease in student headcount from 2020 to 2025 and flat growth from 2025 to 2030.

Other Relevant Trends in Higher Education

In developing any planning document, it is important to be aware of the trends that can have an impact on higher education in general, and community colleges specifically. Those trends can occur in a variety of topic areas including education, the economy, the environment, political and legal issues, technology and society and demographics. Below are a few such trends that may have an impact on MiraCosta College and its future planning for educational programming.

- Higher education institutions will need to find new funding avenues as budget cuts for public colleges deepen with declining enrollments.
- The costs of higher education will become a more visible barrier with transparent pricing available at other institutions.
- Online learning will constitute a larger part of the higher education pie but will continue to experience growing pains and perpetuate inequities related to such things as device availability and broadband access.
- The need for student crisis support will continue to escalate. Mental health challenges for students have only escalated during the pandemic and include increased consideration of suicide, increased substance abuse and other mental health stressors such as food and housing insecurity and unemployment.
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives are becoming a priority in organizations. These initiatives will influence recruiting and hiring practices, individual and organizational behaviors, and communication.
- Learners will no longer follow a single fixed path for learning. Educational institutions will need to provide flexible options that are timely and meet the needs of the working learner.
- Greater emphasis will be placed on closing the skills gap. One solution, competency-based education, is anticipated to continue slow and steady growth as technology changes the ways and rates in which people learn.
- Baby boomers aren't retiring, but instead are choosing semi-retirement. This means that job turnover from one generation to the next may be delayed.
- The "Great Quit" during 2020-21 points toward better working conditions and more flexible job schedules in order to retain quality employees.

- There will be increased competition across higher education to meet student expectations, including: availability of, and access to, online courses amongst community colleges and other higher education institutions; universities encroaching in more traditional community college spaces (i.e., offering associate degrees and workforce skill building); transitions of for-profit institutions to non-profit; increases in online education service providers; and new forms of credentials from non-educational entities (e.g., Google and IBM).
- Greater emphasis will be placed on retraining and lifelong learning as the U.S. workforce tries to stay competitive in the global marketplace and respond to technological changes. Students need to be entrepreneurial and resilient, with the ability to reinvent themselves and their careers multiple times in their lives.
- There will be an increased demand for technology and data science skills. Education will be impacted by technology trends such as: access to high-speed networks, predictive analytics, virtual 3-D simulations, game theory, augmented reality, blockchain, artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and continued movement toward online educational resources.
- There will be continued pressure on sustainable practices and reducing environmental impacts.
- Demand for Information Technology workers is increasing in all sectors leading to higher salaries and demand for alternative working which makes it difficult for technology departments to attract quality staff.

Technology Plan Survey Brief Highlights

The Technology Plan survey informed the development of the plan. The survey was conducted in fall of 2020. Below are some brief highlights:

- There has been an increase in online learning offerings, including the pilot of HyFlex courses.
- 11.1% of students surveyed indicated they didn't have access to reliable internet.
- 13% of students who had trouble with internet reliability didn't complete their schoolwork.
- Students are using a combination of devices.
- Responses suggest students, possibly depending on the course they're taking and other factors, would like to see more online classes offered overall.
- Versatility for classroom setting desired.
- 4.5% of employees don't have regular internet access.

[Note: To view the entire report double-click below and the PDF will open.](#)

Report for Technology Plan Survey

Response Counts

