

Summer 2020 Covid-19 Survey Results Summary

In summer 2020, VC participated in statewide surveys to assess the impact of Covid-19 on students and employees. Online surveys were sent via email to VC students and employees on May 27, 2020. Surveys were completed by 684 students and 235 VC employees between May 27 and June 21. This report is a summary of the results. The full results are available at the links below:

- [Summer 2020 Covid-19 Student Survey Results](#)
- [Summer 2020 Covid-19 Employee Survey Results](#)

Student and Employee Demographics

The ethnic demographics of employees who completed the survey are generally similar to the demographics of the campus. However, 41% of student survey respondents were White, which is a much higher percentage than in the VC student population. In addition, female students and employees were more likely to complete the survey than male students and employees.

Ethnicity	Students		Employees	
	Survey Respondents	VC Population	Survey Respondents	VC Population
Asian	6.6%	4.2%	6.0%	5.5%
Black	3.2%	1.8%	1.5%	2.6%
Hispanic	54.5%	63.5%	25.4%	26.4%
Native Amer	4.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.6%
Pac Island	2.0%	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%
White	41.1%	22.9%	54.8%	59.9%

Gender	Students		Employees	
	Survey Respondents	VC Population	Survey Respondents	VC Population
Female	69.0%	54.7%	59.1%	52.6%
Male	27.2%	43.9%	33.8%	47.4%
Unreported	1.8%	22.9%	7.1%	-

Transition to Online Instruction and Services

The surveys assessed the impact of the abrupt transition in March 2020 of classes and services to a fully online format. Prior to this change, students had more experience in online courses than faculty.

Student Experience with online courses prior to March 2020

	Count	%
No experience in an online class	186	27.3%
Completed at least one online class	314	46.0%
Regularly enrolled in online classes	182	26.7%

Faculty Experience with online courses prior to March 2020

	Count	%
No experience teaching an online class	71	56.3%
Taught at least one online class	22	17.5%
Regularly taught online classes	33	26.5%

Students and faculty were asked multiple questions about issues during this transition. With regard to technological issues, there were some interesting discrepancies between student and faculty responses. According to students, the biggest issue was their instructors' discomfort or unfamiliarity with technology and software. According to faculty, the biggest issue was their students' discomfort or unfamiliarity with technology and software.

Top 5 Technological Issues for Students

	Count	%
Instructor's discomfort or unfamiliarity with required technology or software, such as Canvas	230	42.4%
Inadequate digital alternatives for face-to-face collaboration tools	179	33.0%
My lack of access to library resources	164	30.2%
Unclear instructor required technology or software	127	23.4%
My lack of access to specialized software	123	22.7%

Top 5 Technological Issues for Faculty

	Count	%
Students' discomfort or unfamiliarity with required technology or software, such as Canvas	68	64.8%
Students' lack of access to reliable internet connection, devices, etc.	65	61.9%
My discomfort or unfamiliarity with required technology or software, such as Canvas	31	29.5%
My lack of access to specialized software	25	23.8%
Inadequate digital alternatives for face-to-face collaboration tools	22	21.0%

Additional question were asked about other issues in adapting to online instruction. In general, the results indicate that students were less engaged in post-Covid online classes, and that this was due to difficulties in learning in their home environment.

Top 5 Issues for Faculty in adapting course design and assignments to distance education

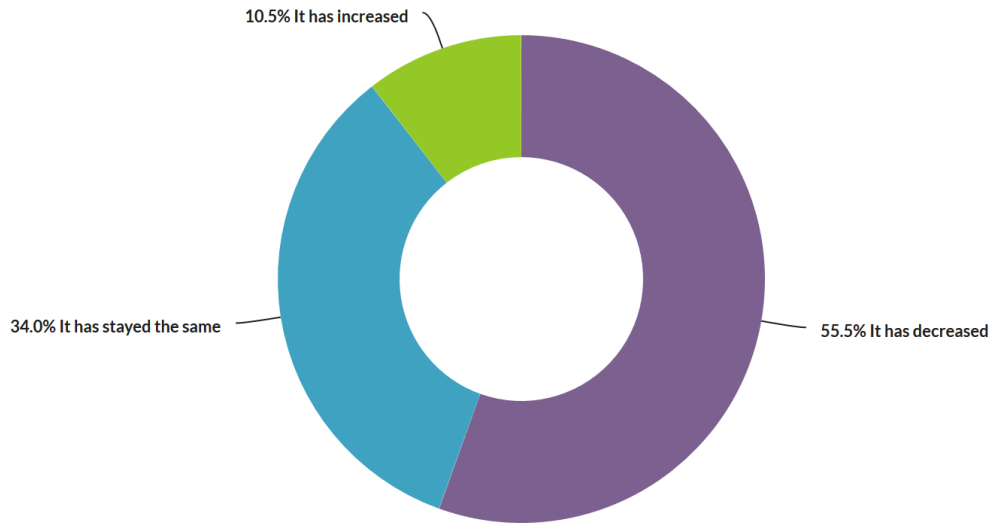
	Count	%
Students have not maintained previous levels of engagement.	57	56.4%
It has been difficult to maintain or create a sense of community with my students.	56	55.4%
My personal preference is for face-to-face learning.	50	49.5%
Course lessons or activities haven't translated well to an online environment.	40	39.6%
I have limited personal time or energy to effectively adapt.	38	37.6%

Top 5 Learning/Educational Issues for Students since the transition to distance education

	Count	%
Home environment harder to learn in (e.g. distractions or competition over technology).	383	65.6%
Difficulty focusing or paying attention to online instruction or activities.	357	61.1%
Personal preference for face-to-face learning	343	58.7%
Difficulty learning online	289	49.5%
Feeling isolated in an online learning environment.	278	47.6%

In addition, a large proportion of students are also dealing with reduced income and anxiety-related issues.

18. How has your income been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic?



Value	Percent	Responses
It has decreased	55.5%	292
It has stayed the same	34.0%	179
It has increased	10.5%	55
Totals:		526

26. In the last week, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems?

	Not at all	Several days	Over half of the days	Nearly every day	Responses
Feeling nervous, anxious, or on edge Count Row %	90 17.2%	191 36.5%	82 15.6%	161 30.7%	524
Not being able to stop or control worrying Count Row %	147 28.2%	174 33.4%	75 14.4%	125 24.0%	521
Worrying too much about different things Count Row %	110 21.1%	181 34.7%	82 15.7%	148 28.4%	521
Trouble relaxing Count Row %	113 21.6%	177 33.9%	103 19.7%	129 24.7%	522

These are areas in which VC can provide support and resources via financial aid, CARES grants, etc., as well as through counseling and mental health services. However, students have indicated that they have had difficulty accessing some services since they transitioned to an online format.

9. Which of the following student support services have been challenging to access since the transition to online learning? (Check all that apply.)

Value	Percent	Responses
Academic counseling	47.8%	213
Library	40.1%	179
Financial aid	30.0%	134
Tutoring or writing center	29.6%	132
Transfer center	16.8%	75
Student health services (including psychological/mental health services)	15.9%	71
<u>Other - Write In (click to view)</u>	11.7%	52
Career center (including job placement)	11.2%	50
Specific programs (e.g., EOPS/CARE, Veterans, Foster Youth, MESA, Learning Communities, Umoja, Puente)	8.7%	39
Disability Support Programs and Services (DSPS)	7.6%	34

College Compassion and Communication

In spite of the challenges that our community has faced during the Covid-19 pandemic, the majority of students and employees felt that VC cared about and supported them during this time.

Methodological note – the employee survey included a “neutral” option as a response to these questions, but the student survey did not. It is unclear why the state developed the surveys in this way.

Student Perceptions of VC Response to Covid-19 Pandemic

	Agree	Disagree
My college has shown that they care about me when making decisions.	86.5%	13.5%
My instructors have shown care and concern for me.	86.9%	13.1%
My college has supported me during this time.	81.5%	18.5%
My college has communicated information effectively to me.	87.6%	12.4%

Employee Perceptions of VC Response to Covid-19 Pandemic

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
My college/district has shown that they care about me when making decisions.	62.7%	14.6%	22.6%
My college/district has supported me during this time.	64.5%	17.5%	18.0%
My college/district has communicated information effectively to me.	69.8%	12.3%	17.9%