



Spring 2021 Student Impact Survey

Metropolitan State University of Denver

Updated October 6, 2021

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Introduction

This report provides data to better understand the current student experience, well-being and balance, the learning environment, and current and future enrollment.

Data Details

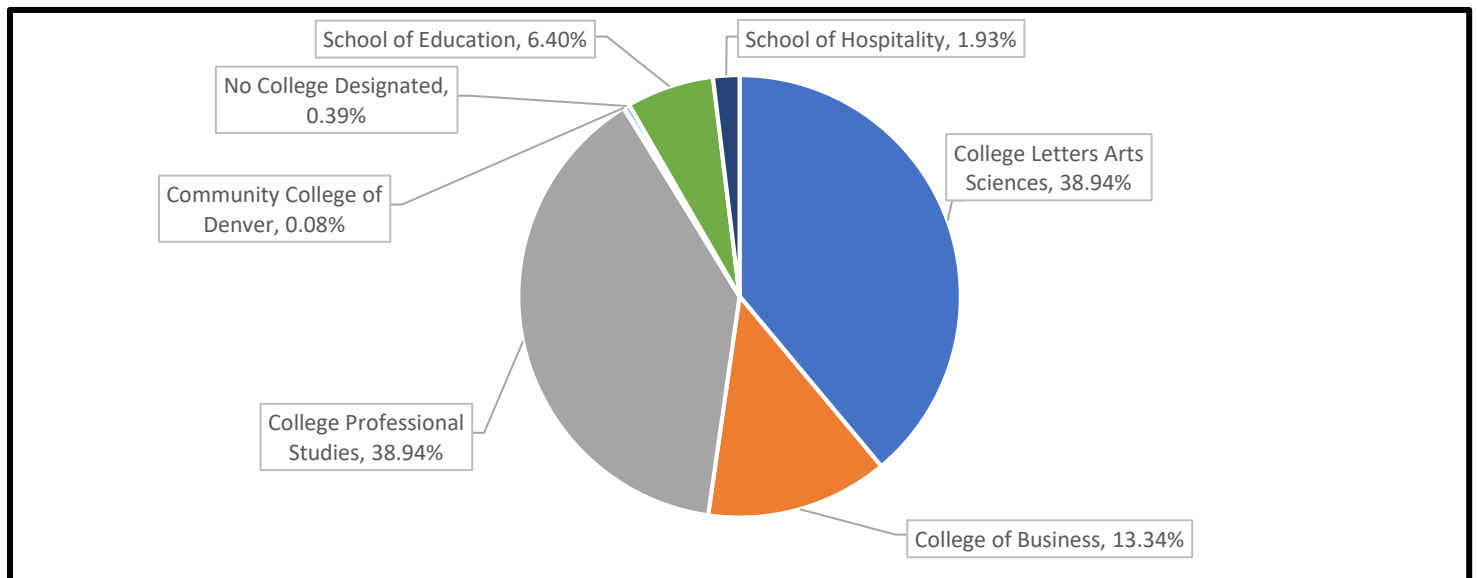
The survey was open for 14 days from April 19th to May 3rd and collected 1,329 responses. Twenty \$20 gift cards were used as incentives. Responses were solicited through The Runner (the student newsletter), the Weekly Blorg (newsletter to student organization members), via an announcement on Canvas, and a reminder text was sent out via the AdmitHub software.

The survey was anonymous but did collect 900# and other identifying information as part of the incentive.

Total responses analyzed: **1,329 (7.8% response rate)**

Gender	% of Respondents	Student Level	% of Respondents
Female	71%	Undergraduate	94%
Male	29%	Graduate	6%

Race	% of Respondents	Race	% of Respondents
African American	4%	Missing/Unknown	1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0%	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0%
Asian	4%	Two or more Races	5%
Hispanic	31%	White	53%
International	1%		





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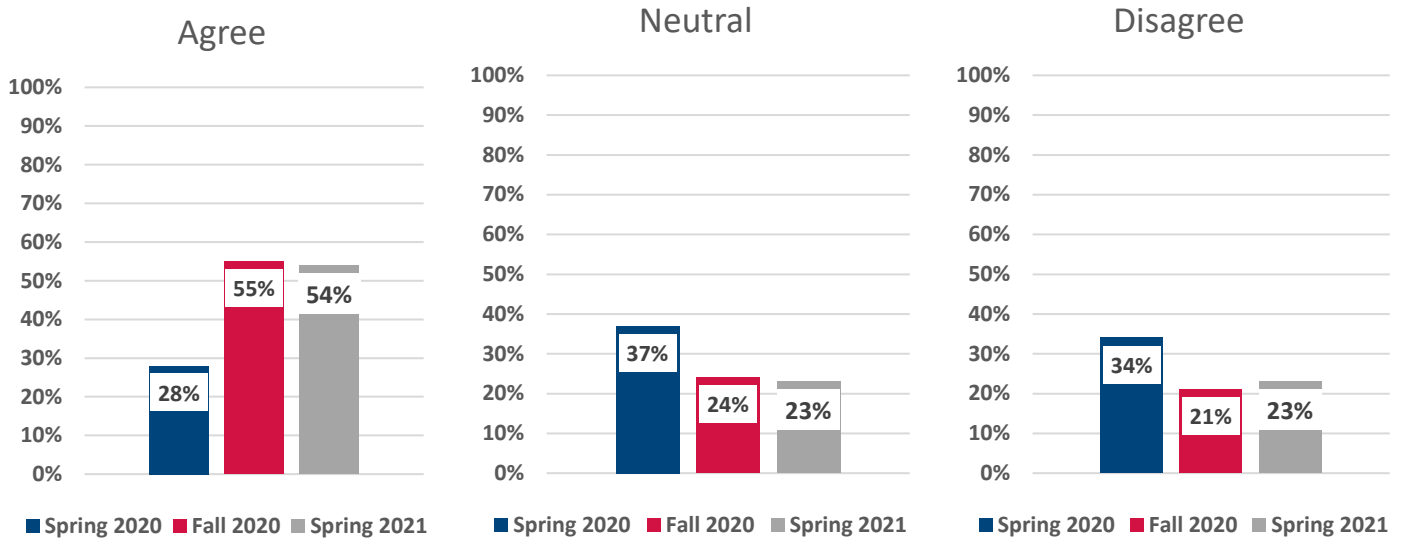
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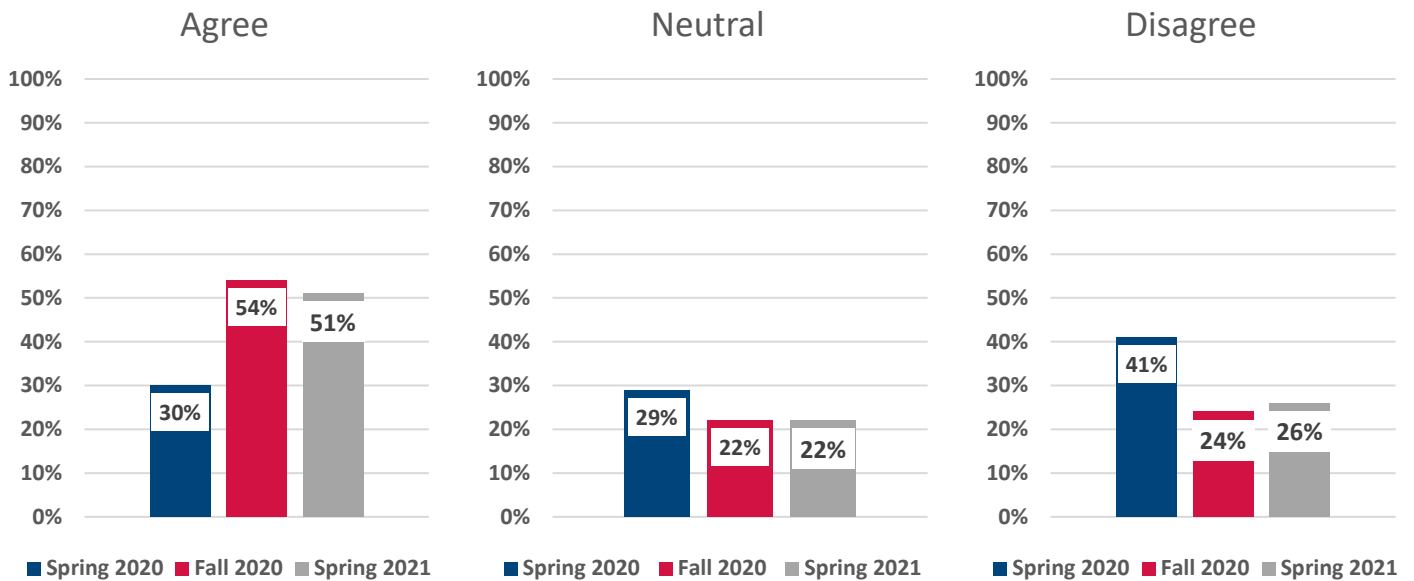
SECTION A: BALANCE, ENVIRONMENT, AND WELL-BEING

Q1: How much do you agree with each of the following statements? (Agree, Neutral, Disagree)

I am able to juggle my time so that I can fit everything in that needs to be done.



I have been able to create study space for myself that is to my liking.



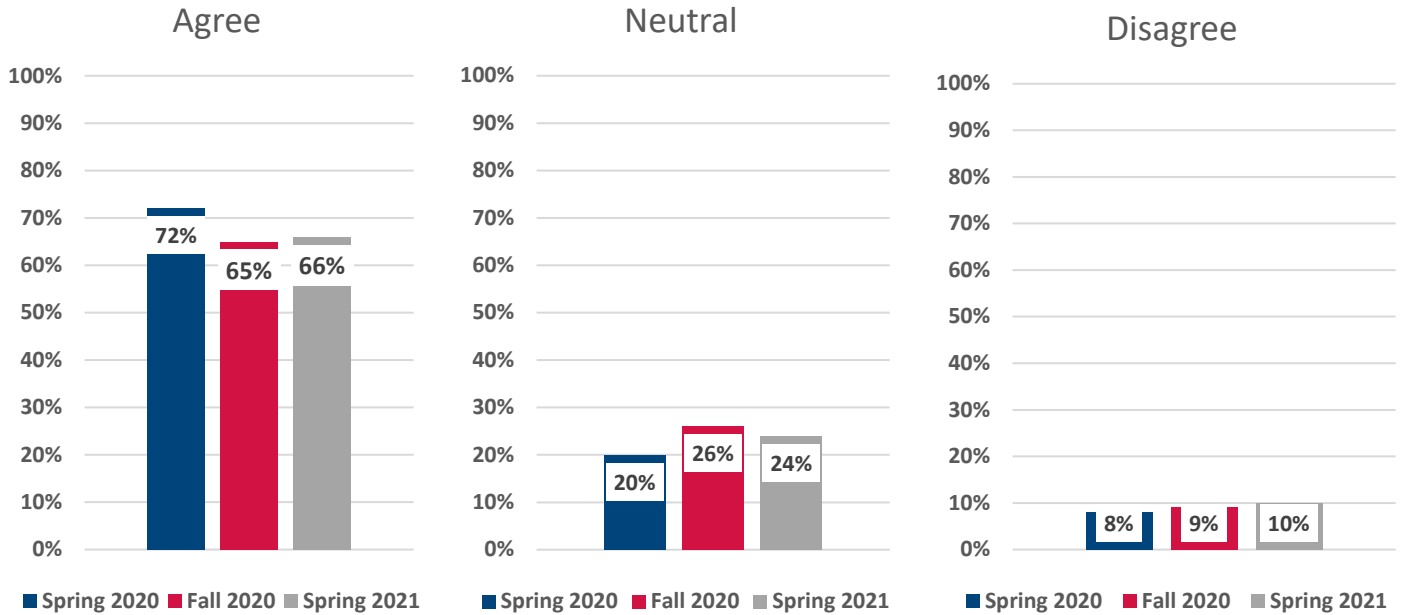


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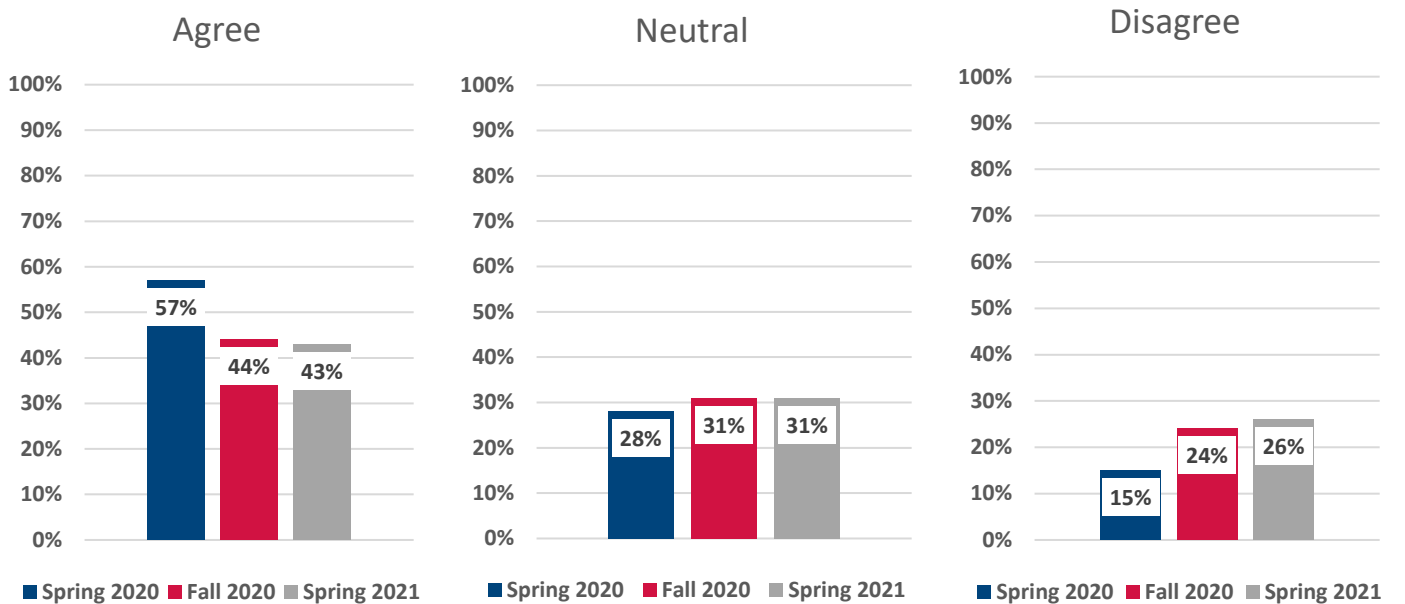
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I often feel overwhelmed by my responsibilities.



I have difficulty arranging my life in a way that is satisfying to me.



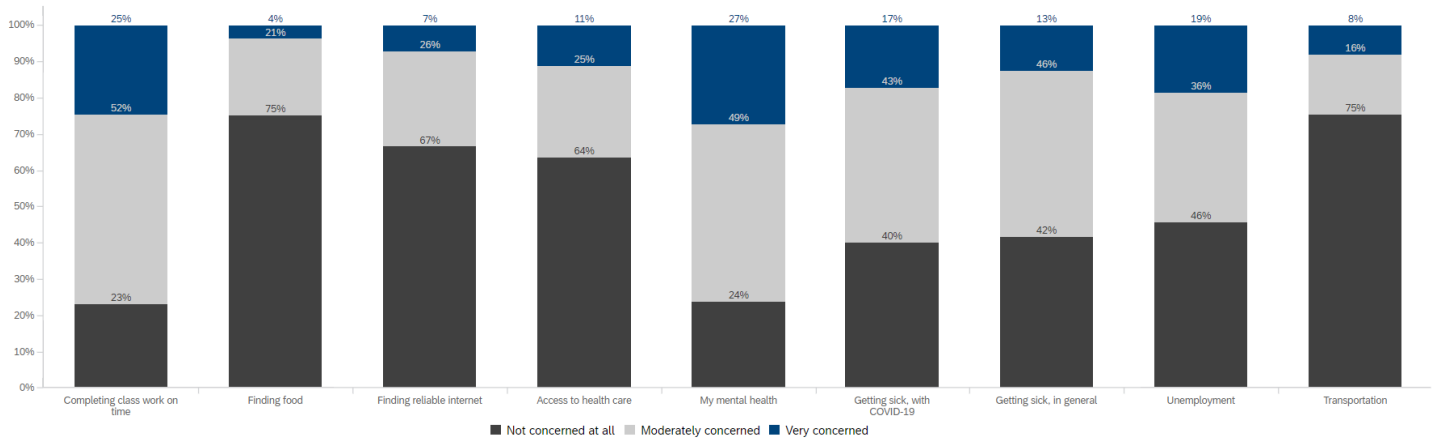


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Q2: To what extent, if any, are you concerned about the following: (Not concerned at all, Moderately concerned, Very concerned)



Top 3 concerns for respondents (moderately and very concerned):

- 77% – completing class work on time
 - 76% - mental health
- 60% - getting sick, with Covid-19

As **Transportation** continues to be a concern for some students the following open-ended question was asked of the 25% (327 respondents) of survey-takers who were moderately to very concerned with transportation.

Why are you concerned with transportation?

Issues with personal vehicle (no car or unreliable car).

- “My car is not in the greatest shape and if it were to have issues I would not be able to afford to repair it.”*
- “Crappy vehicle and public transportation is not that affordable.”*
- “My car is on the brink of failure and I don't have enough money to replace it.”*

Concerns with safety (physical and Covid-19) on RTD.

- “I am concerned with transportation in the lead-up to in-person classes as RTDs recent cuts due to COVID have made access to campus from my house significantly more difficult.”*
- “Public transportation is scary with COVID and schedules are fewer and farther between.”*
- “To get to campus, I have to take multiple public buses. I worry about Covid-19 in the confined space, about general safety (it feels as though there has been more violence lately due to the political/social climate)”*

Concerns with RTD scheduling.

- “I do not drive, and Denver's lack of adequate public transportation makes it extremely difficult for me to commute.”*

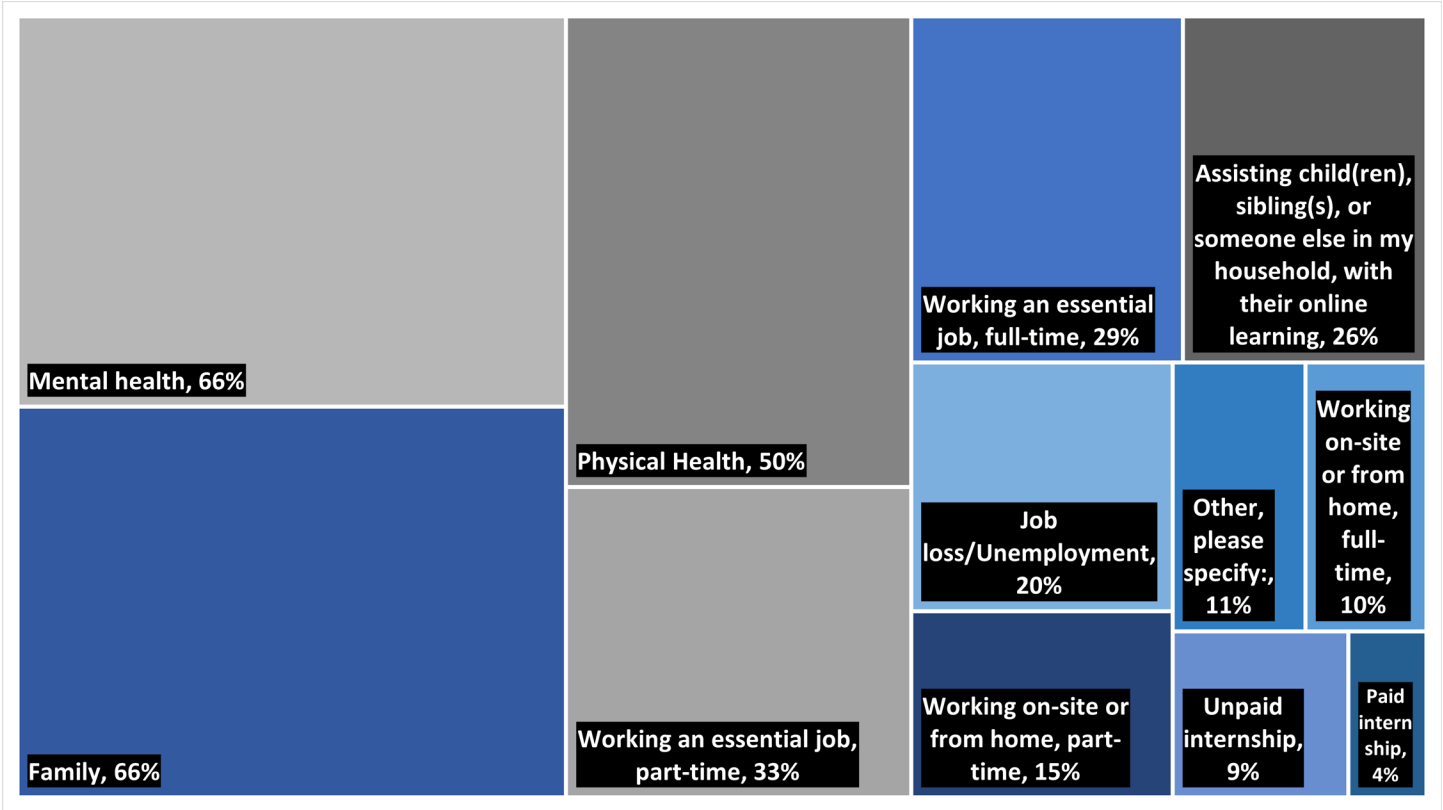
Additional costs of owning a vehicle: gas, parking, maintenance.

- “I can't afford gas all to much so online had help, but with classes opening back on campus and not offering online it's going to be a struggle to pay for gas a chose where and how I'm going to use my gas.”*



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Q3: In addition to schoolwork, what else are you balancing during this pandemic? (Select all that apply)



Of note: Mental health increased by 12% from fall 2020.

The following provides a breakdown of the Other, 11% (n=149):

Care of others: Students are either the primary caregiver or providing care or assistance to someone else.

“Assisting sick grandmother with dementia at home. In addition to being a full-time student, I am one of two of her main caregivers.”

“I caregive part time for 2 disabled brother in Loveland”

“My mother has a chronic illness and has been hospitalized twice just this semester.”

Life events:

“moving” (6), “Divorce” (5) “Planning my July wedding”, “Bought a house”, “Transitioning from military to civilian(student)”

Athletics and extra-curricular activities:

“Athletics” (8), “Volunteer work” (3), “Religious activities”, “MET Media program”

Death and Loss:

“3 of my family members died as a result of this pandemic.”

“2 family members in hospice, and one other likely to die in the next year.”

“Grieving “



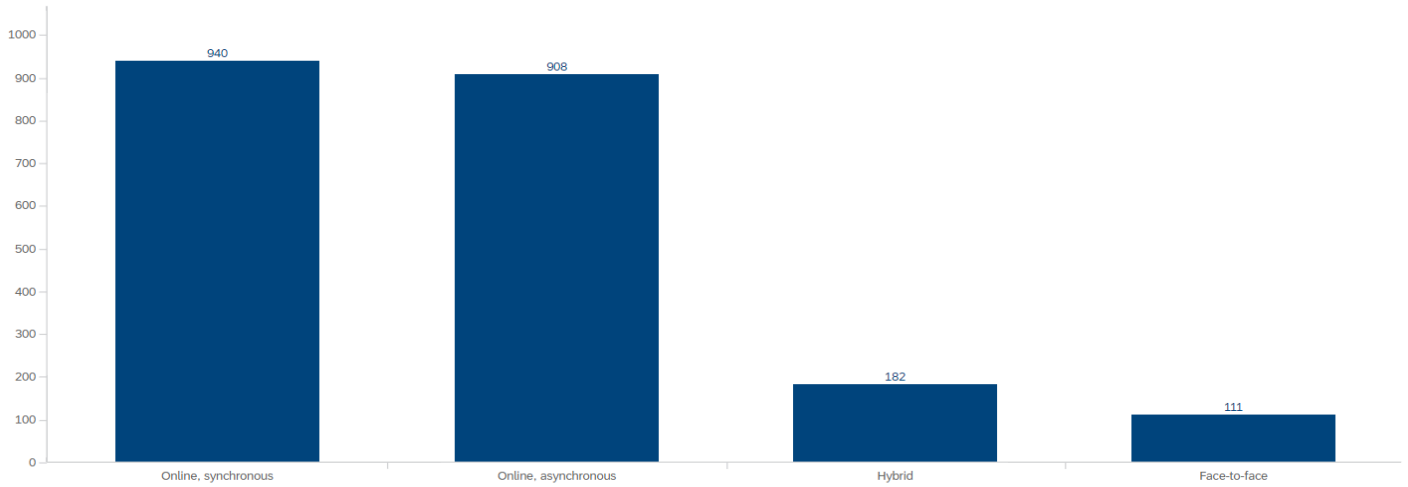
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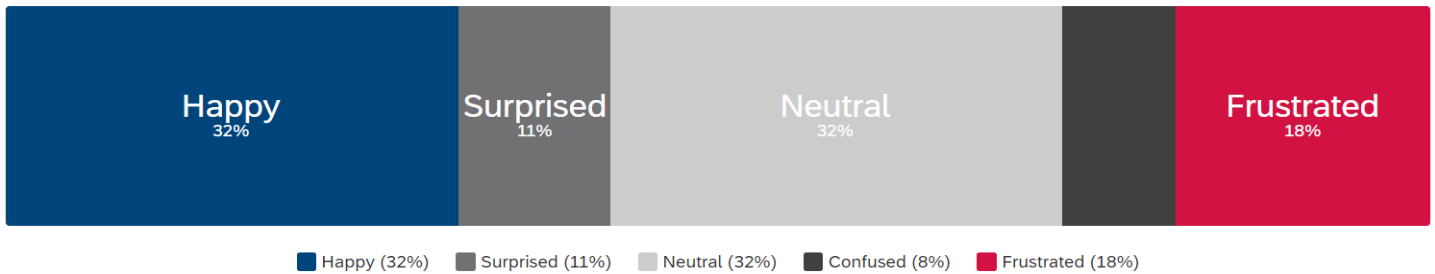
SECTION B: LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Q4: What types of courses are you currently enrolled in? (Select all that apply)



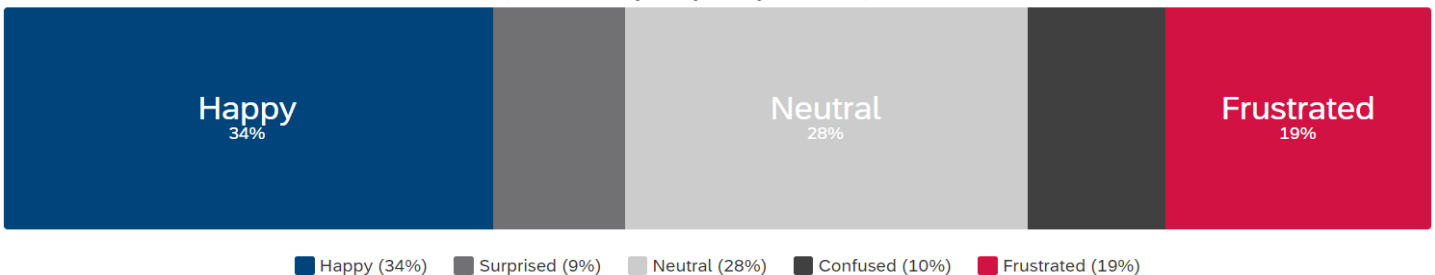
If online synchronous was selected, Q4a: How do you feel about completing online, synchronous courses? (Select all that apply)

- 42% - Happy and/or surprised (*increase of 10% from fall 2020*)
- 26% - Confused and/or frustrated (*Decrease of 9% from fall 2020*)



If online asynchronous was selected, Q4b: How do you feel about completing online, asynchronous courses? (Select all that apply)

- 43% - Happy and/or surprised (*increase of 9% from fall 2020*)
- 29% - Confused and/or frustrated (*decrease of 6% from fall 2020*)





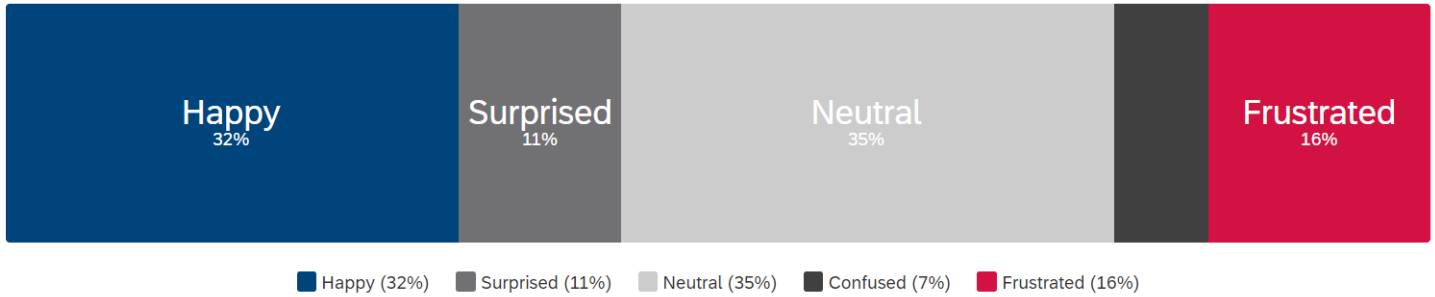
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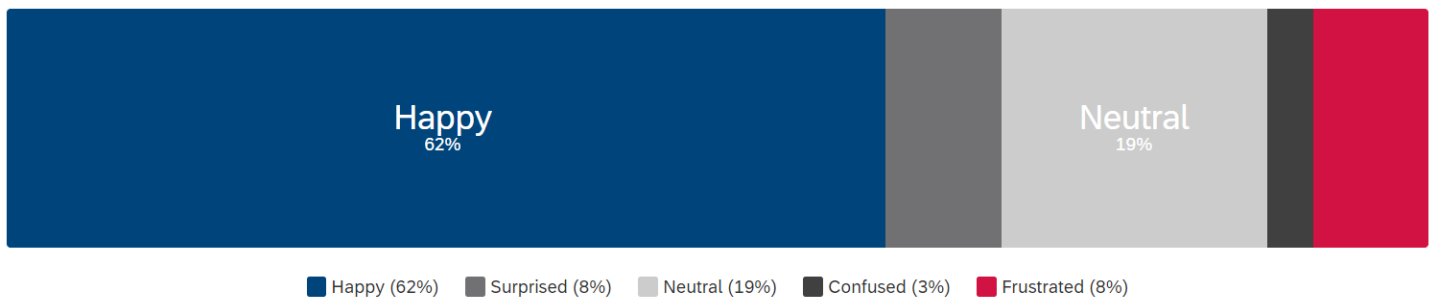
If hybrid was selected, Q4c: How do you feel about completing hybrid courses? (Select all that apply)

- 43% - Happy and/or surprised (increase of 11% from fall 2020)
- 24% - Confused and/or frustrated (decrease of 7% from fall 2020)



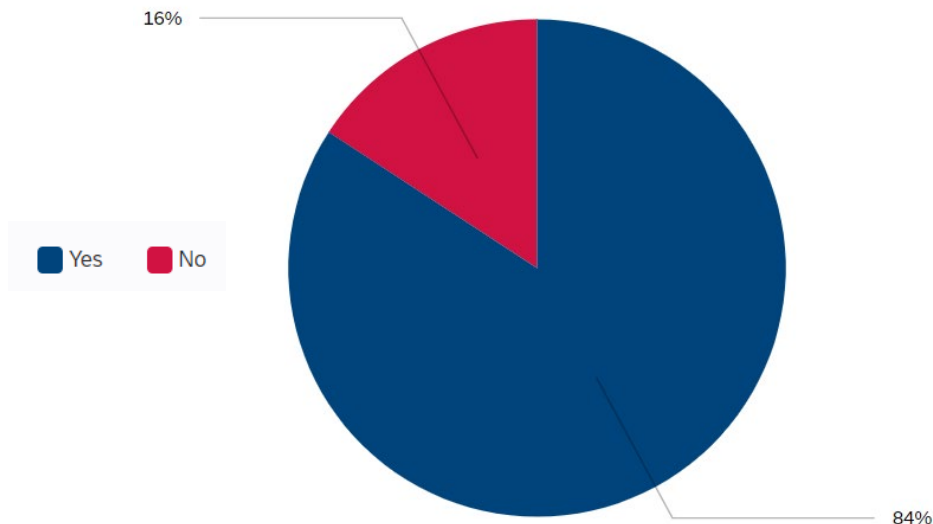
If face-to-face was selected, Q4d: How do you feel about completing face-to-face courses? (Select all that apply)

- 71% - Happy and/or surprised (increase of 8% from fall 2020)
- 9% - Confused and/or frustrated (decrease of 7% from fall 2020)



Only asked of students that selected hybrid or face-to-face in the previous question:

- Do you feel safe attending courses face-to-face?





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If no, please share why you do not feel safe attending courses face-to-face:

Concerns with Covid-19 and the vaccine.

"So many people are refusing the vaccine, I do not believe that it is safe to return even if I am fully vaccinated"

"There are people on campus that don't seem to respect covid guidelines"

"I'm against the vaccine"

"Because, I am weary about lax safety protocols, and summer gatherings that will be take place, since people are getting vaccinated and letting their guards down. I am worried about the virus variants that might send us into another surge, come the Fall. I am worried about this because I am one of the primary caregivers in my household, of an elderly family member who has dementia."

Safety on campus.

"i feel safe to some extent about the pandemic. Im more nervous with how many shootings are happening."

"I do not feel safe on campus"

"I still attend face-to-face classes, but I do feel unsafe at times due to the frequent dangers and crimes that I learn about which are happening near campus. It reassures me that we have Auraria Campus Police who keep the campus as safe as possible, which I greatly appreciate."

"Obviously the pandemic and I honestly hate coming to in-person classes because of the crime that happens somewhat regularly on campus and being in-person gives me anxiety. I'd rather do everything synchronous."



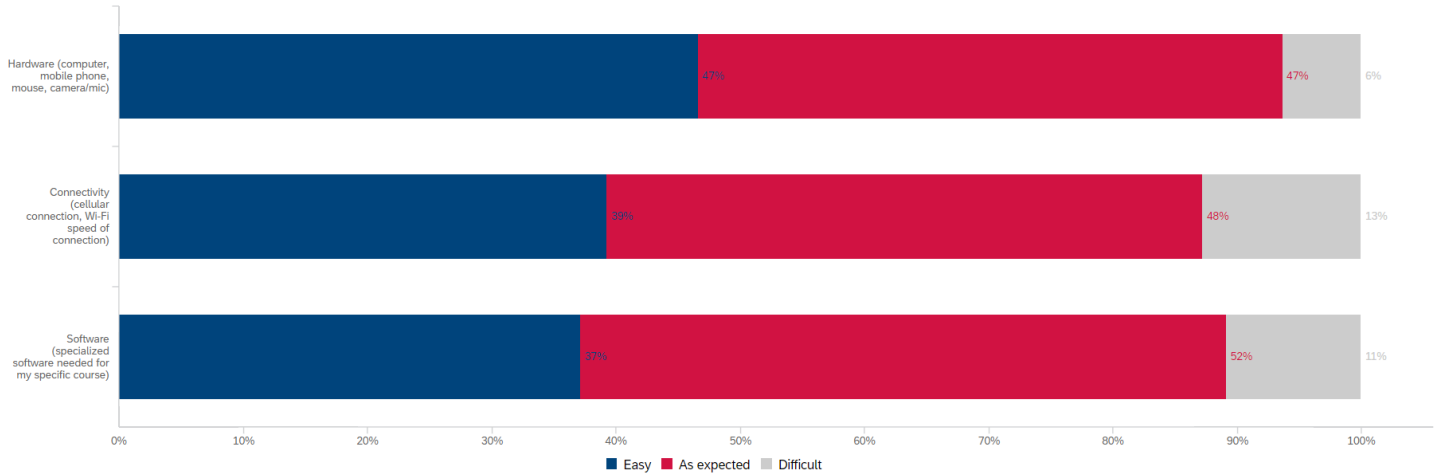
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SECTION C: TECHNOLOGY

Q5: Of the following, please select whether it has been easy, as expected, or difficult, using these to complete your coursework online. *Little to no change from fall 2020.*





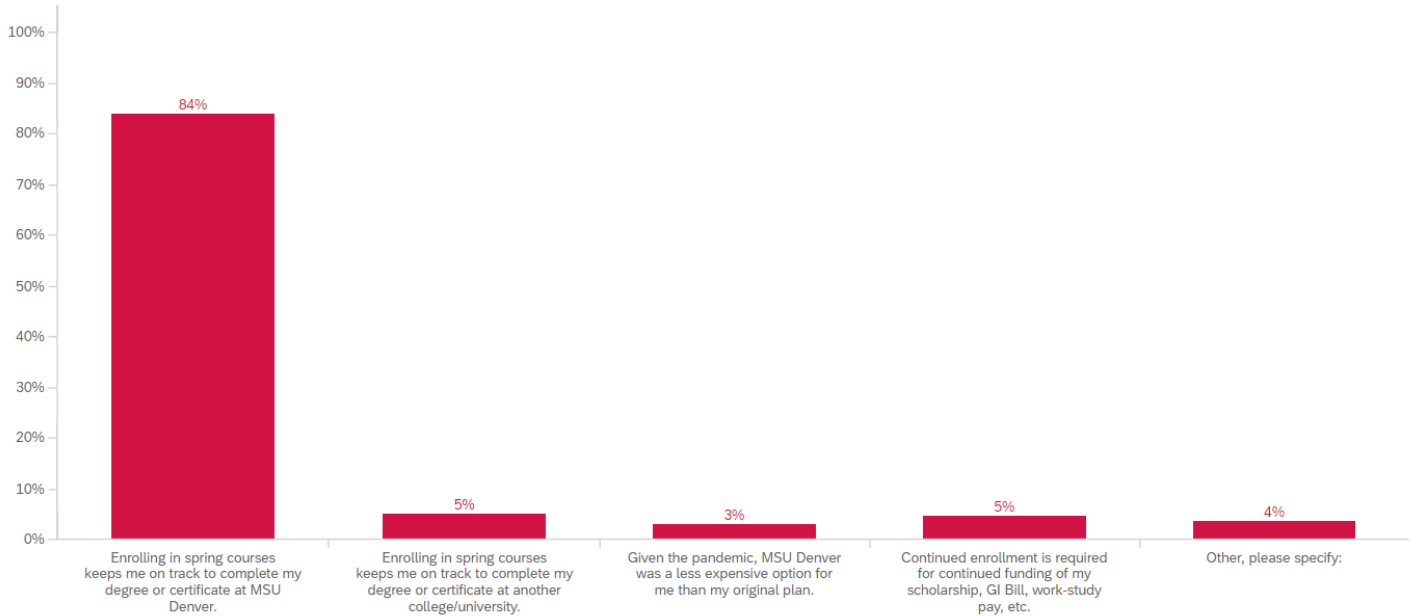
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SECTION D: CURRENT ENROLLMENT

Q6: What was your primary motivation to enroll in courses at MSU Denver this semester (spring 2021)?



“Other” reasons for enrolling (n=27):

Returning after stopping out:

- “I decided it was time to go back to school.”*
- “I had taken time off of school 20 years ago and decided to go back since I do NOT have to go to campus. If I had to go to campus, I probably would not continue school”*
- “I took a break fall semester to regroup myself and do better in this spring semester”*
- “Just recently re-enrolled in college and was ready for classes by the spring and not the fall due to the application process being done late.”*
- “I did not enroll in Fall 2020 due to COVID. I'm both pursuing an additional BS and prepping for professional school apps”*

Flexibility:

- “Had online classes to accommodate my full time work”*
- “As a first time full-time disabled student I'm pursuing my degree and an online option of synchronous classes has made attending college courses accessible regardless of the pandemic.”*
- “Certificate in nonprofit studies - appreciated the online option”*
- “Without a commute, I had extra time in my schedule to devote to learning”*

Reputation and Connection:

- “I have heard fantastic things about MSU Denver and how they treat the Veterans that choose to attend school there. I have also visited campus and it looks absolutely beautiful. I'm excited to be able to attend some in person classes soon”*
- “I want to see people and socialize again”*
- “MSU Denver aligned with my morals and was both readily accessible and covered by the GI Bill.”*



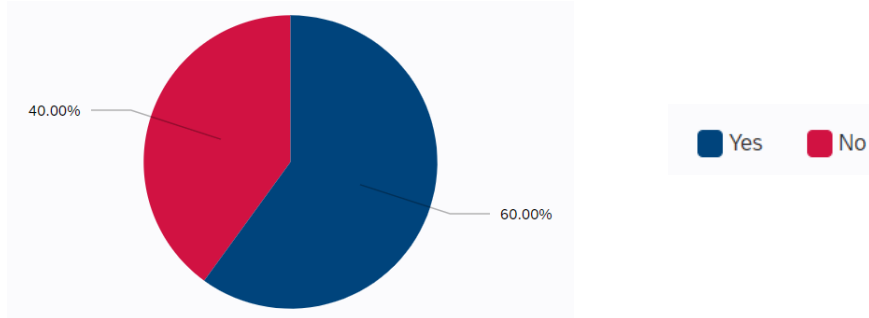
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SECTION E: FUTURE ENROLLMENT

Q7: Have you registered for fall 2021 courses?



If a respondent chose “no”, they were asked this follow-up question (n=519):

Q7a: Please select the statement below that best describes why you have not registered for fall 2021 courses?

		%	Count
1	I am planning on registering but I just have not gotten to it yet.	38.34%	199
2	I am graduating at the end of Spring 2021 or Summer 2021.	31.02%	161
3	I am unsure of which course(s) to take.	7.90%	41
4	I do not have the money to pay for next semester.	7.32%	38
5	Other, please specify:	6.55%	34
6	I am planning on or considering transferring to another college or university for the next semester or term.	4.43%	23
7	I am not happy with the current learning environment.	2.31%	12
8	I am concerned about the safety of returning to campus.	1.93%	10
9	I am not planning on taking courses at this or any other college or university in the next semester or term.	0.19%	1
	Total	100%	519

If a respondent selected “1” or “3” they were asked the following: “Would you like to meet with an academic advisor?” 99 respondents said yes and provided their contact information which was shared with student success advisors.

If a student selected “4” they were asked the following: “Are your financial concerns caused by the coronavirus pandemic?”

Yes: 67% (n=24)	No: 33% (n=12)
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If yes (n=24), contact information was shared with financial aid and funding opportunities were presented.

Other reasons collected for not enrolling in the upcoming semester or term (n=34):

- Waiting on course scheduling/availability (nursing, internship, completion of summer courses, major change)
- Lack of course offerings (online/remote availability, not wanting to commit to in-person courses)
- Confusion or lack of comfort re: vaccine requirements

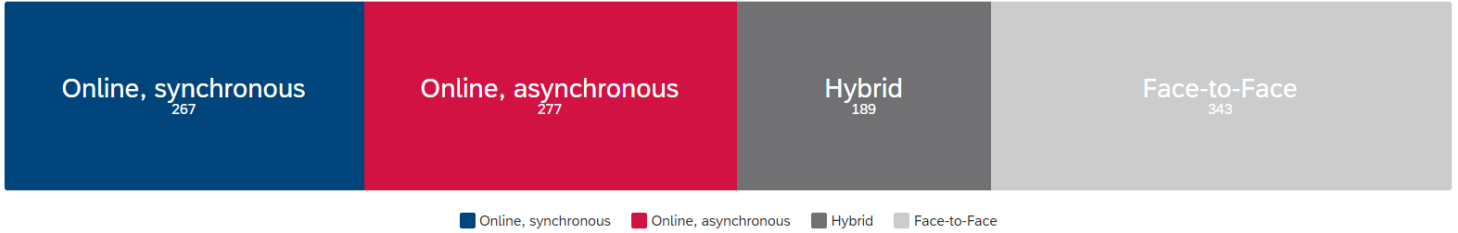


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Q8: Thinking about future course offerings, which of the following course instruction types would you enroll in? (Select all that apply)



Q9: Would you be interested in taking courses on _____ if they were face-to-face/hybrid?

