
Results from Completers/Leavers Survey

1. Roughly 43% of survey respondents had earned an associate's or higher degree prior to enrolling at Santa Monica College. This implies that a certificate, degree, or transfer goal may not apply to all students.
2. A larger proportion of leavers (32.7%) reported that the primary reason for attending Santa Monica College was to obtain or update job-related skills or for personal enjoyment or self-improvement.
3. The majority (84.4%) of leavers reported that they were satisfied with the education that they received at Santa Monica College.
4. A large majority of respondents reported that the courses at Santa Monica College helped them obtain their current job (74.6%), advance in their current job (69.6%), improve their job performance (78.5%), and or improve their overall employability (79.3%).
5. Disproportionately fewer leavers reported that Santa Monica College helped them on all four points (mentioned in step four above) when compared with completers; however, the percentages of leavers who indicated that the College did help them was still high (64% to 76%).
6. On average, students reported a gain of \$5.41 in hourly wage when comparing their wages before and after attending Santa Monica College. Furthermore, with the exception of dental insurance coverage, respondents reported a gain in benefits, including medical, vision, retirement, vacation, and paid sick leave.
7. Overall, leavers reported a 20% gain in opportunities for pay increases and 27% gain in opportunities for promotion after leaving Santa Monica College.
8. A large majority of respondents reported using general work (100%), computer/technology (82.5%), interpersonal (95.2%), reading and writing (83.7%), and math skills (64.7%) in their current jobs on a regular basis.
9. Among the options listed for the primary reason leavers left Santa Monica College without earning a certificate or degree, the highest proportions of students (15% each) reported that they did not have enough time for classes or transferred to another college. Fourteen percent (14%) of the respondents indicated that they reached their goal and earned a departmental certificate.