



**Mesa College Title IX
Intercollegiate Sports Survey
*Fall 2018***

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Office of Institutional Research and Planning
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Background

The San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) Title IX Intercollegiate Sports Survey was conducted in accordance with the Title IX Equal Opportunity in Education Act to determine students' level of interest in intercollegiate athletics and whether the colleges are fulfilling the expressed demand of their students for opportunities to participate in sports. The survey was administered during the Fall 2018 semester through an online survey platform to all full-time students (enrolled in a minimum of 12 units) at Mesa College.

The survey targeted full-time students who meet the athletic eligibility criteria, according to the Commission on Athletics/California Community College Athletic Association Constitution and Bylaws:

1.3 ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

1.3.1 In order to be eligible for non-conference, conference, and post conference competition, a student athlete must be continuously and actively enrolled and attending class in a minimum of 12 units at his/her California community college during the season of sport. Students dropping below 12 units are not eligible for competition until they are once again actively enrolled and attending class in at least 12 units.

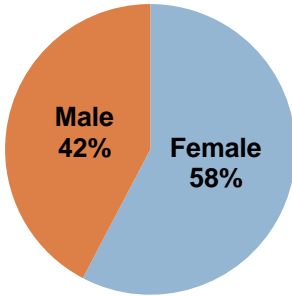
The survey was open for two weeks, from October 3, 2018 through October 18, 2018. Of the 6,453 Mesa College full-time students invited, 872 completed the survey, or a 14% response rate.

Mesa College Response Rate	
Responses	872
Invitations	6,453
Response Rate	14%

The survey instrument contained 7 questions (6 multiple choice, 1 open-ended question) and a request for contact information. Most respondents spent about one minute to complete it. Students were instructed to access the survey directly from a URL link in a survey invitation. In an effort to maximize student response, two reminder emails were sent prior to the end of data collection.

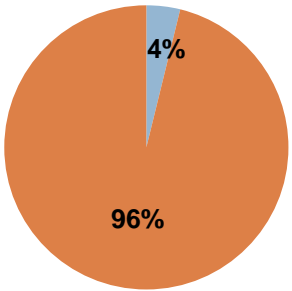
Respondent Demographics (n=872)

Gender



Survey respondents were 58% female (n=503) and 42% male (n=369). Compared to the Mesa College student population, female survey respondents were over-represented (the Mesa College student population is 52% female and 48% male¹).

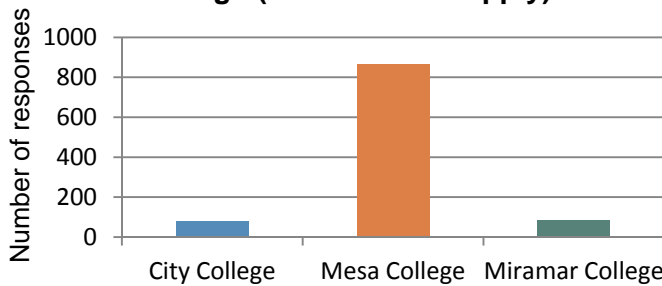
Enrollment Status



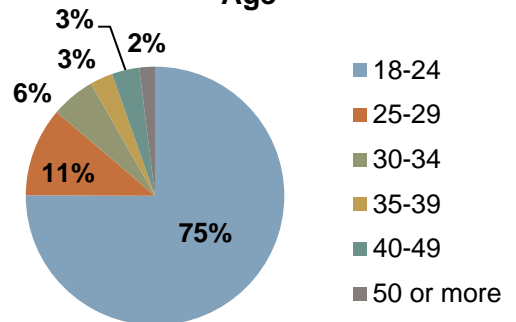
Although only full-time students were emailed invitations to participate in the survey, 4% of respondents (n=33) classified themselves as part-time, which may reflect that students withdrew from classes after the survey distribution list was created. It is also possible that some students indicated they were part-time because, even though they are taking 12 units or more this semester at SDCCD, they do not take more than 12 units at one campus.

■ Part-time ■ Full-time

"Which college(s) are you currently attending? (Check all that apply)"



Age



¹ SDCCD Information System

Intercollegiate Sports Participation

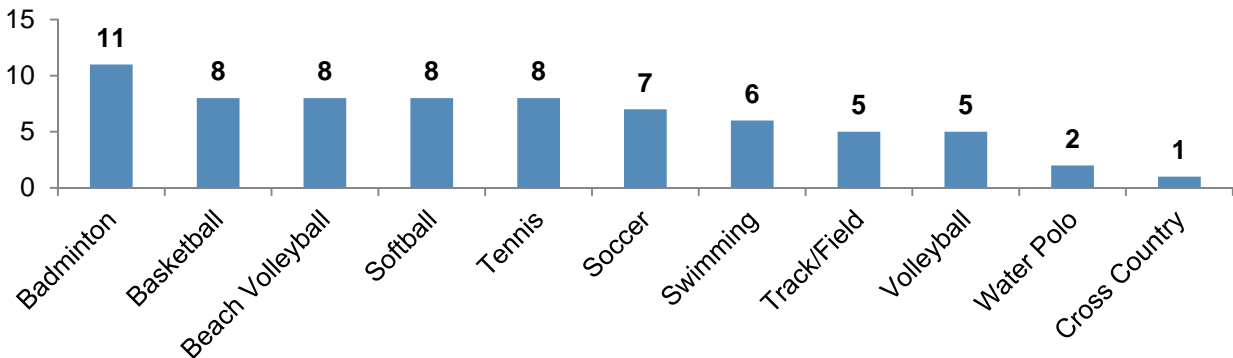
To assess the athletic participation rates within this sample, respondents were asked to indicate all of the intercollegiate sports that they currently participate in, or had previously participated in, at any of the colleges in the San Diego Community College District. Respondents were directed to separate lists of sports that corresponded to their gender (Table 1).

Table 1. Athletic Programs by Gender

<u>Female Sports</u>			<u>Male Sports</u>		
Badminton	Soccer	Track/Field	Baseball	Soccer	Volleyball
Basketball	Softball	Volleyball	Basketball	Swimming	Water Polo
Beach Volleyball	Swimming	Water Polo	Cross Country	Tennis	
Cross Country	Tennis		Football	Track/Field	

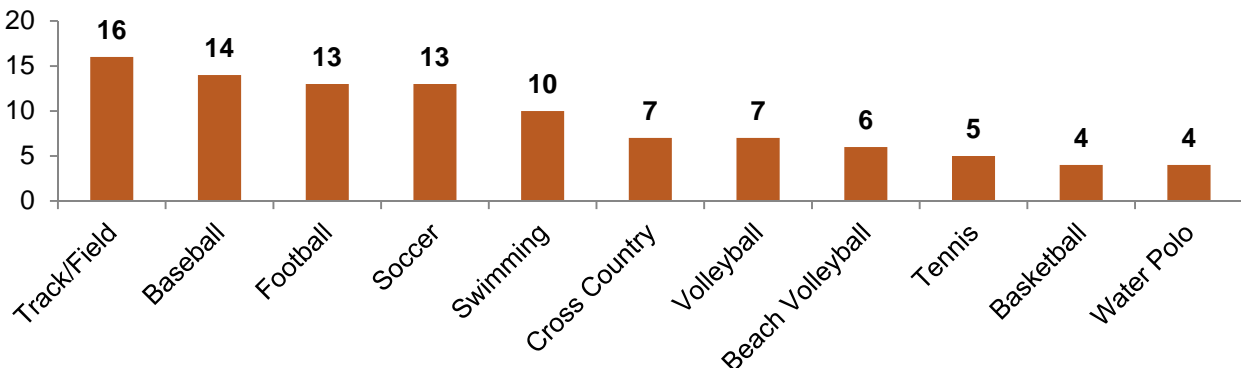
Female Respondents' Athletic Participation

When female students were asked which sports they already participate in at the colleges, if any, the most common responses were badminton (n=11), basketball, beach volleyball, softball, and tennis (all n=8).



Male Respondents' Athletic Participation

When male students were asked which sports they already participate in at the colleges, if any, the most common responses were track and field (n=16), baseball (n=14), football (n=13), and soccer (n=13).



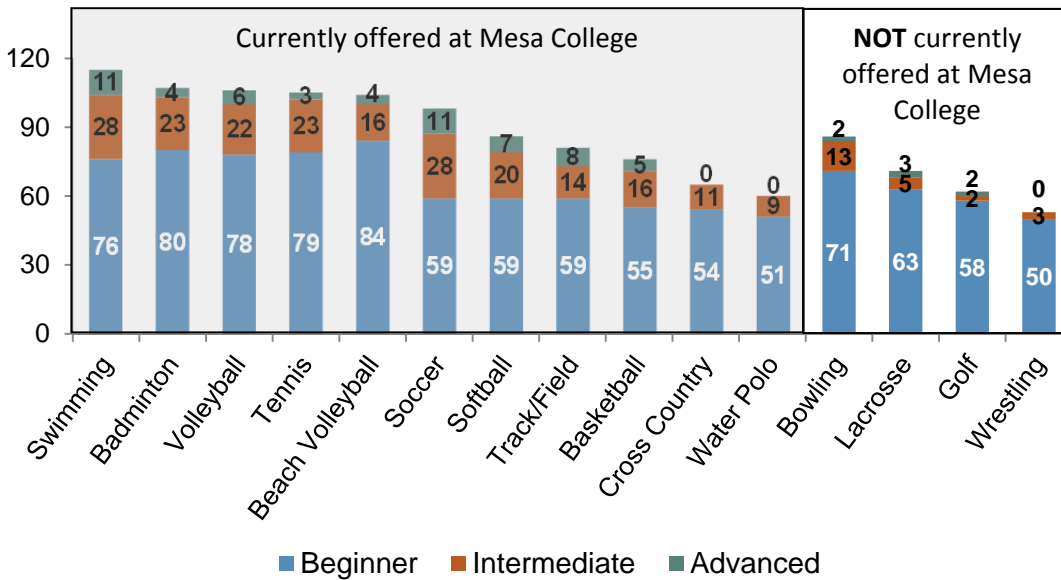
Respondents' Interest in Intercollegiate Athletics

Female Students' Responses

When female students indicated that they would be interested in competing in a sport, they most commonly expressed interest in swimming (n=115). The sports not currently offered at Mesa College for which the most respondents expressed interest were bowling (n=86) and lacrosse (n=71).

Respondents were also asked to estimate their level of skill in the sport for which they expressed interest; respondents most often indicated they were beginners. For bowling, there were 15 respondents who indicated they were of intermediate or advanced skill level, which was the largest group of non-beginners for any sport not already offered at Mesa College.

Female Respondents' Expressed Interest in Intercollegiate Sports

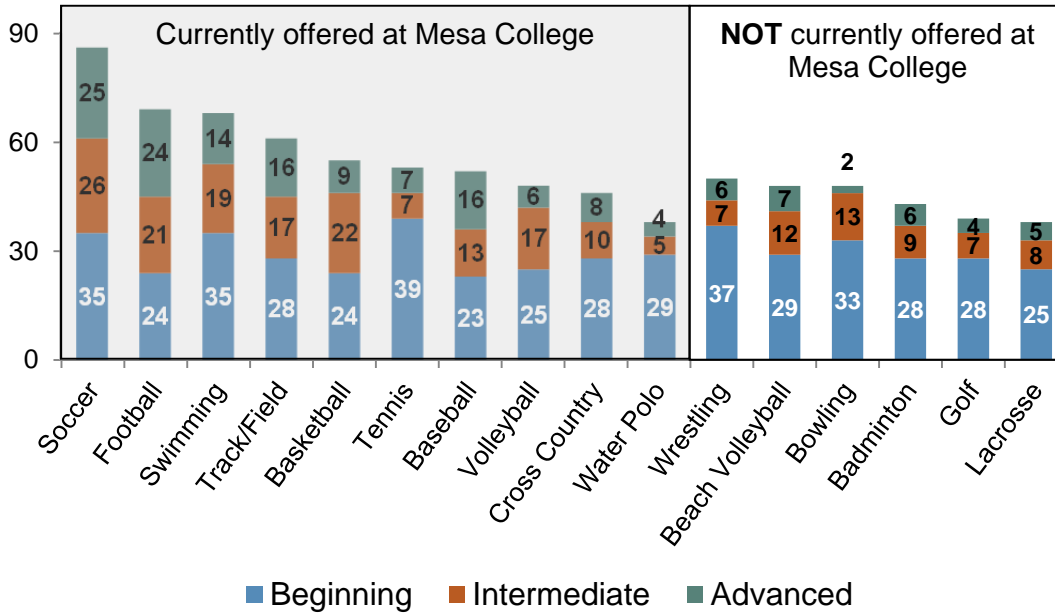


Male Students' Responses

When male students indicated that they would be interested in competing in a sport, they most commonly expressed interest in soccer (n=86), football (n=69), and swimming (n=68). The sports not currently offered at Mesa College for which the most respondents expressed interest were wrestling (n=50), beach volleyball (n=48), and bowling (n=48).

Respondents were also asked to estimate their level of skill in the sport for which they expressed interest; for sports not already offered at Mesa, respondents most often indicated they were beginners. There were 15 or more respondents who indicated they were of intermediate or advanced skill levels in beach volleyball, bowling, and badminton (19, 15, and 15 students, respectively).

Male Respondents' Expressed Interest in Intercollegiate Sports



Reasons Students Don't Participate in Intercollegiate Sports

Survey recipients were asked to respond to the following question:

"If at any time while at the college you were interested in competing in an intercollegiate sport but did not, please explain why you did not participate."

The responses were coded by a researcher. The self-identified gender of and other information about recipients were hidden from the researcher to avoid biased interpretations. Each response could be assigned more than one code, but in practice, most responses were assigned a single code.

Women's Responses

The top reason that women gave for not participating in an intercollegiate sport, despite an interest in doing so, was time constraints (n=47). Interestingly, the second top reason women cited was that they were unsure that they have the skill level required to participate in sports (n=19). For example, one woman shared, "I wanted to play both volleyball and beach volleyball but I didn't because I felt that wasn't going to be my strong suit." Finally, women shared that they lacked information about the sports available and how to participate in them (n=10). Another woman shared, "I've been wanting to join a sports team but I don't know who to ask so I can join a sport."

Figure 1. Categories of reasons women provided for not participating in intercollegiate sports

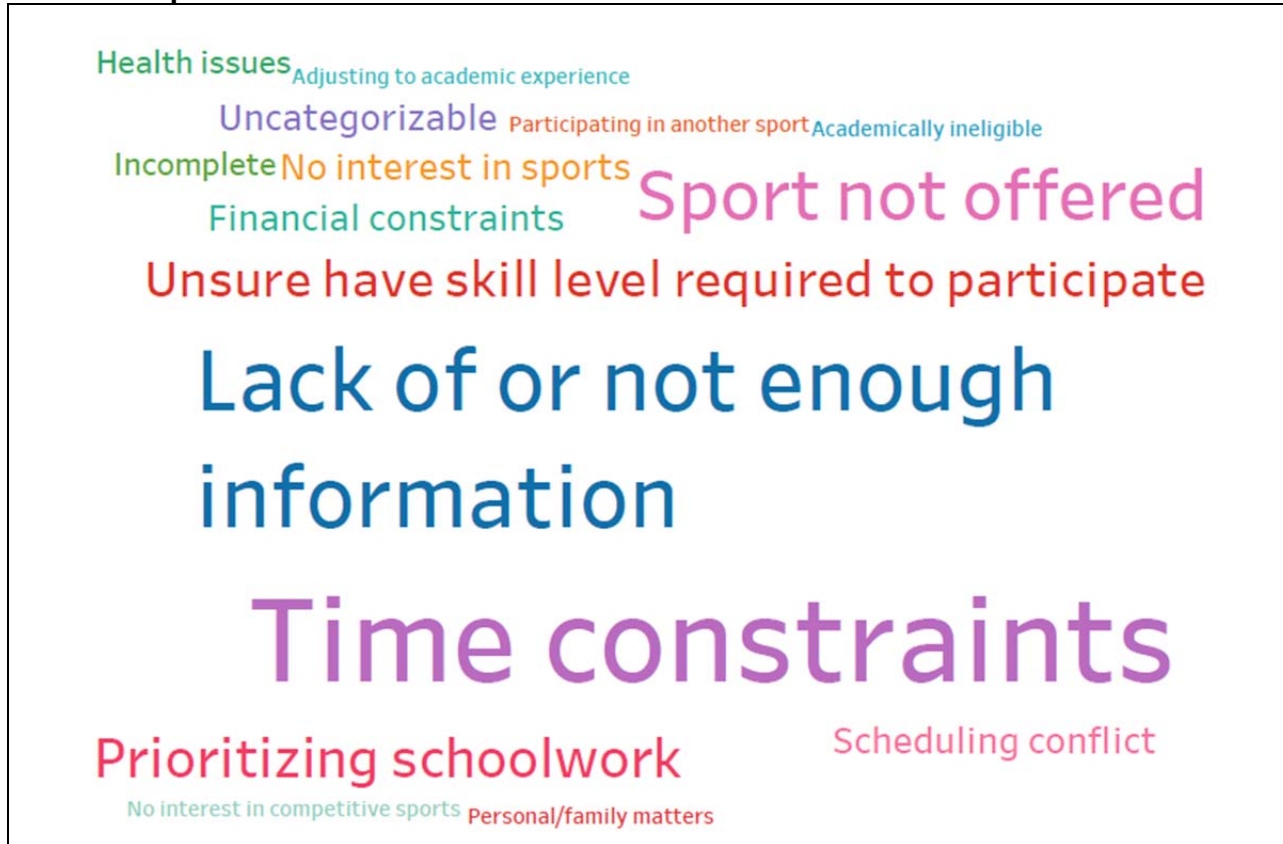


Note: Higher frequency of category is indicated by larger text size.

Men's Responses

Men gave very similar responses to women. Time constraints (n=34) and lack of information about the sports available and how to participate in them (n=18) were the top two cited reasons, followed by the fact that the sports they were interested in playing were not available to them (n=12).

Figure 2. Categories of reasons men provided for not participating in intercollegiate sports



Note: Higher frequency of category is indicated by larger text size.

Recommendations Based on Qualitative Data

The responses to this survey item provide support for three recommendations for Mesa College:

1. Increase outreach regarding the sports available on campus.
2. Help students understand the steps needed to become involved in sports.
3. Provide more opportunities and encouragement for students of all skill levels and levels of familiarity to get involved with sports on campus.