Options After High School Survey Results

2023-24 Academic Year

K14 Workgroup Meeting
May 21, 2024

COMMUNITY COLLEGES
SAN DIEGO & IMPERIAL COUNTIES
CAREER EDUCATION

Goals

- Summarize findings from the 2023-24 Options After High School Survey

- Highlight emerging trends

- Gather insights and questions to inform subsequent analyses or support using the Options after High School Survey Data for local / regional initiatives

As we move through the slides, jot down:

- What surprises you about the data
- What questions the data raise for you
- Ideas for how the data might inform local interventions or initiatives

Survey Background & Purpose

Learn more about students' plans for after high school in order to:

1. Better understand students' experiences in pathways and plans after high school

2. Gather students' perspectives on community college

3. Identify opportunities for targeted outreach

4. Identify potential access and outcome equity gaps

About the Options after High School Student Survey, cont.
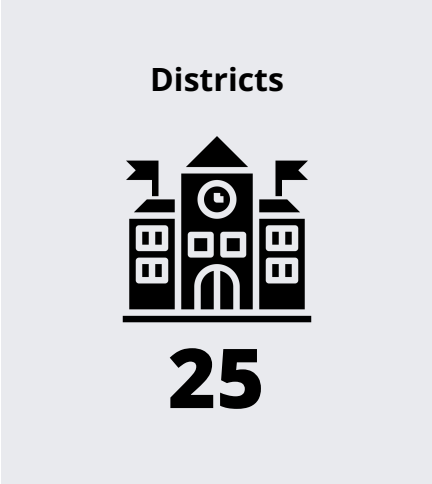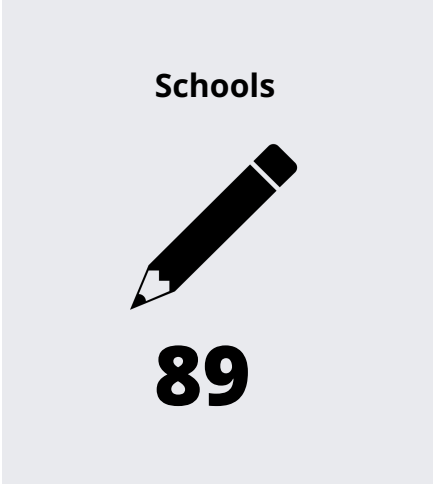
Focus areas of the survey:

- Pathway enrollment
- Experiences in pathways
- Preferences for how to learn about programs
- Factors influencing decisions about post-high school plans

Summary Statistics

Summary Statistics: Response Counts

Respondents

10,051

Schools

89

Districts

25

Summary Statistics: Respondent Characteristics

Gradespan

Pie chart:
- 9th Grade 24.4%
- 10th Grade 19.9%
- 11th Grade 28.2%
- 12th Grade 27.5%

Gender & Race

Gender
- Male 51.7%
- Female 43.4%
- Prefer not to respond 2.5%
- Non-binary 1.6%
- Other 0.8%

Race / Ethnicity
- White 43.2%
- Hispanic or Latinx 42.5%
- Asian 17%
- Black 6.7%
- Pacific Islander 3.7%
- No response 3.6%
- Middle Eastern 3.6%
- Other 3%
- Amer. Int. or Alaskan Native 2.4%
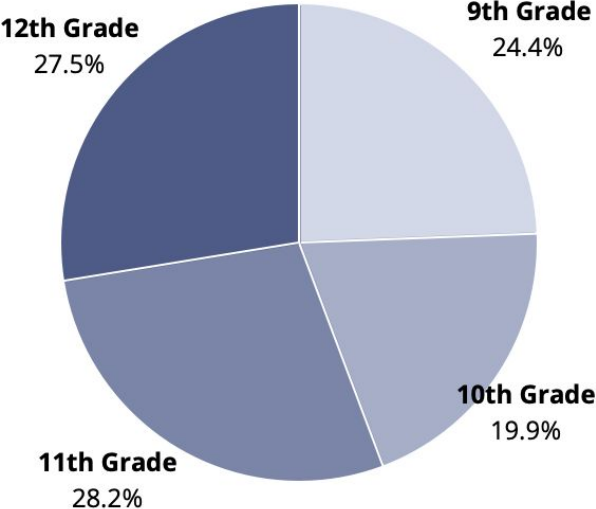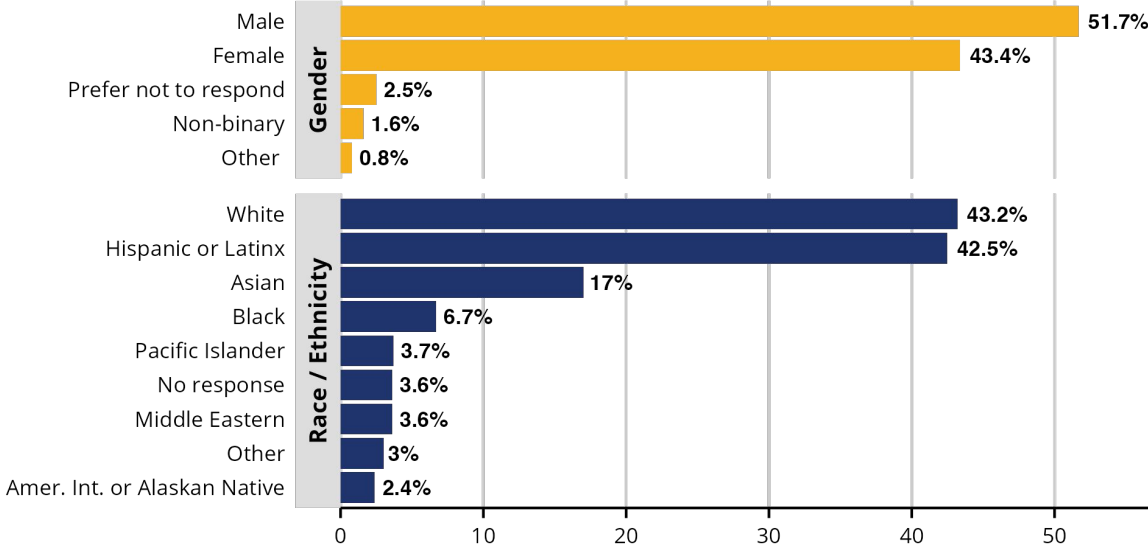
Summary Statistics: Pathway Participation

Pathway Participation

Are you in a career pathway at your school? Career pathways are a series of classes organized around specific careers.

2021-22

I don't know: 30%
No: 16%
Yes: 53%

2022-23

I don't know: 15%
No: 13%
Yes: 72%

2023-24

I don't know: 15%
No: 11%
Yes: 74%

Summary Statistics: Career Area Enrollment

Pathway Enrollment by Career Area

Select the career area that is most closely related to your career pathway(s) at school.
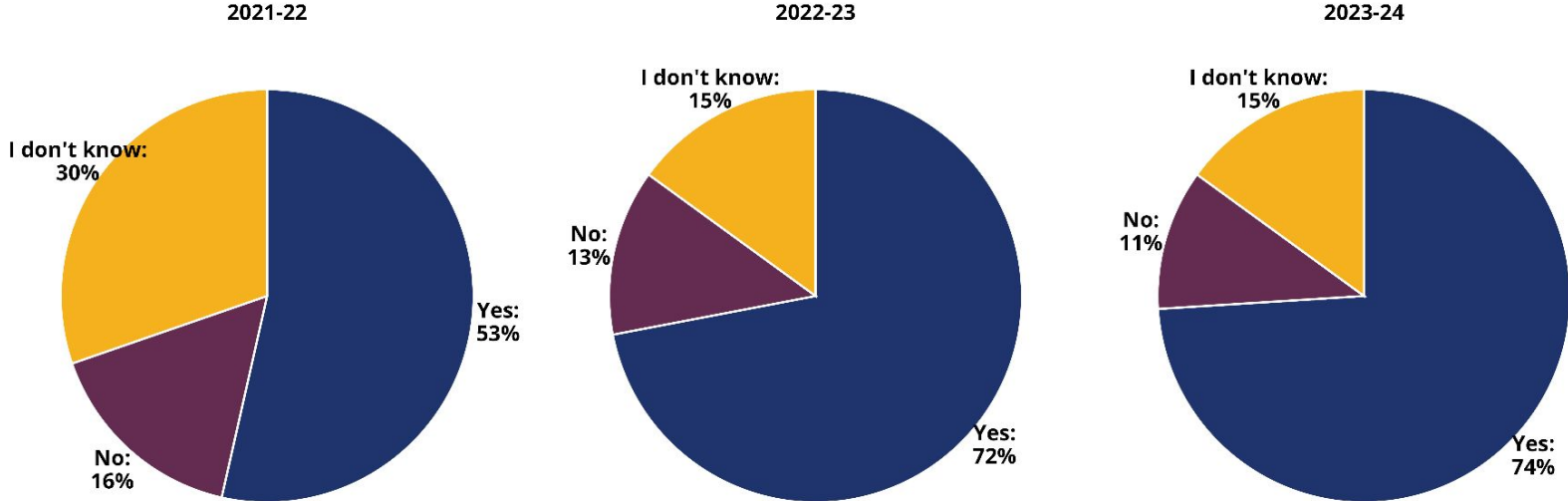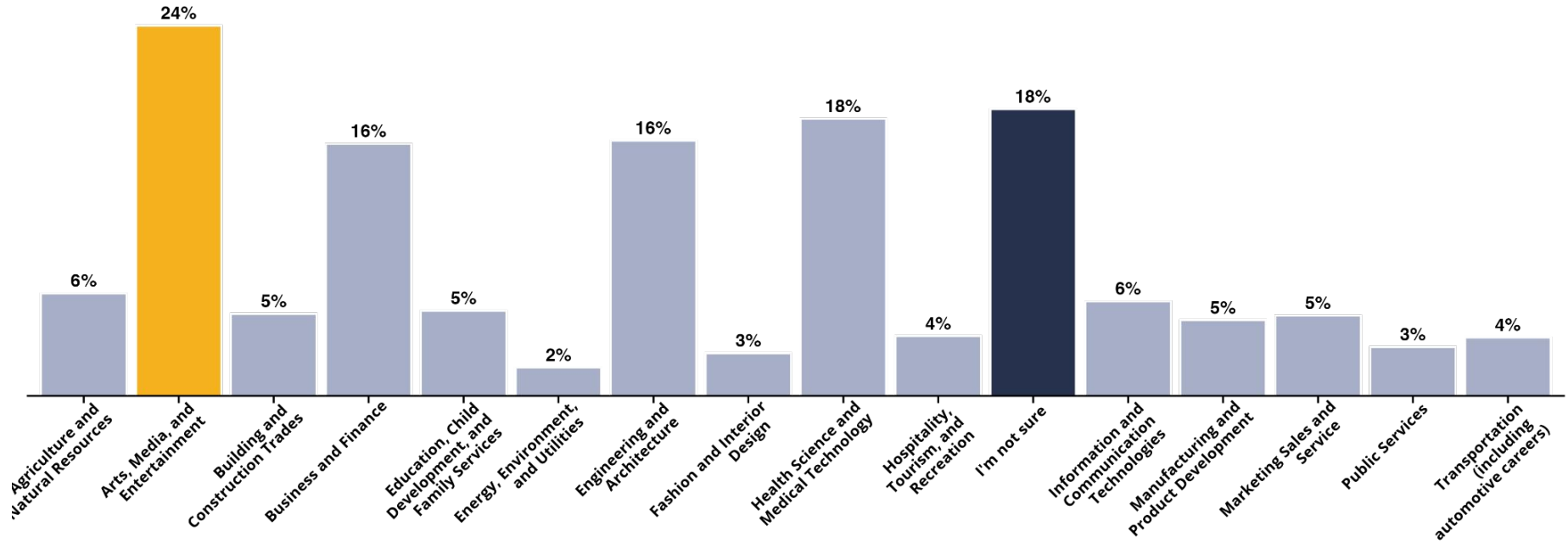

Career Area	Percentage
Agriculture and Natural Resources	6%
Arts, Media, and Entertainment	24%
Building and Construction Trades	5%
Business and Finance	16%
Education, Child Development, and Family Services	5%
Energy, Environment, and Utilities	2%
Engineering and Architecture	16%
Fashion and Interior Design	3%
Health Science and Medical Technology	18%
Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation	4%
I'm not sure	18%
Information and Communication Technologies	6%
Manufacturing and Product Development	5%
Marketing Sales and Service	5%
Public Services	3%
Transportation (including automotive careers)	4%

Student Knowledge & Experiences

Student Knowledge & Experiences: Career Exploration & Hands-On Learning
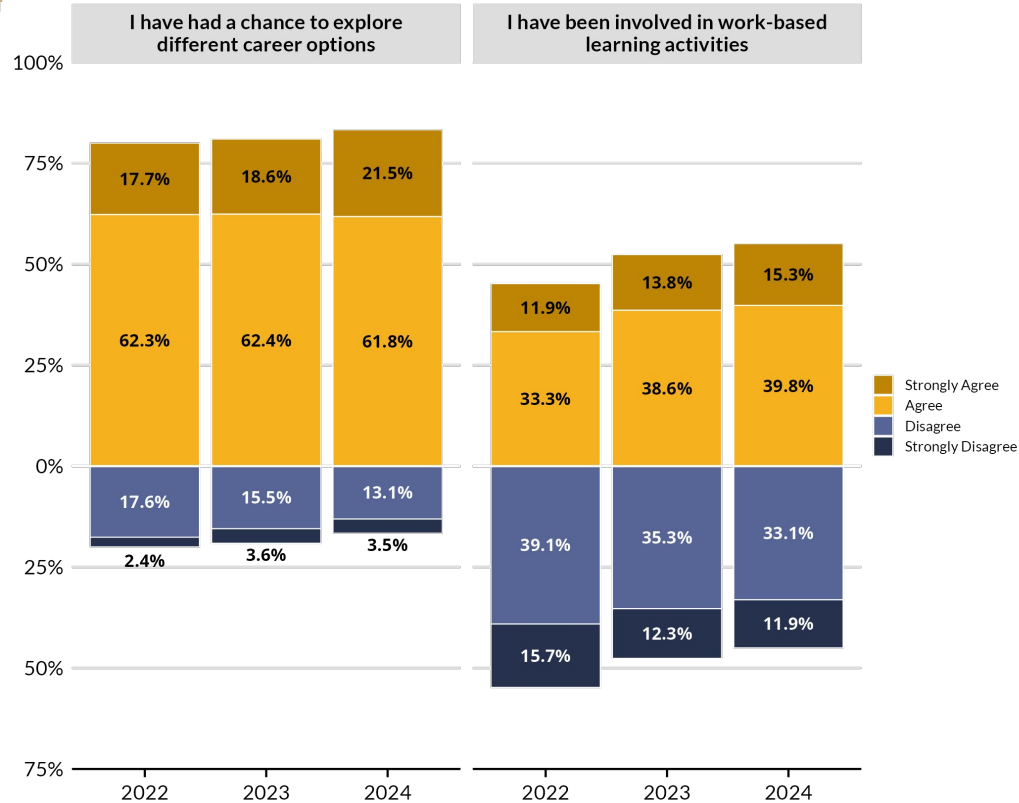
I have had a chance to explore different career options

	2022	2023	2024
Strongly Agree	17.7%	18.6%	21.5%
Agree	62.3%	62.4%	61.8%
Disagree	17.6%	15.5%	13.1%
Strongly Disagree	2.4%	3.6%	3.5%

I have been involved in work-based learning activities

	2022	2023	2024
Strongly Agree	11.9%	13.8%	15.3%
Agree	33.3%	38.6%	39.8%
Disagree	39.1%	35.3%	33.1%
Strongly Disagree	15.7%	12.3%	11.9%

Legend:
- Strongly Agree
- Agree
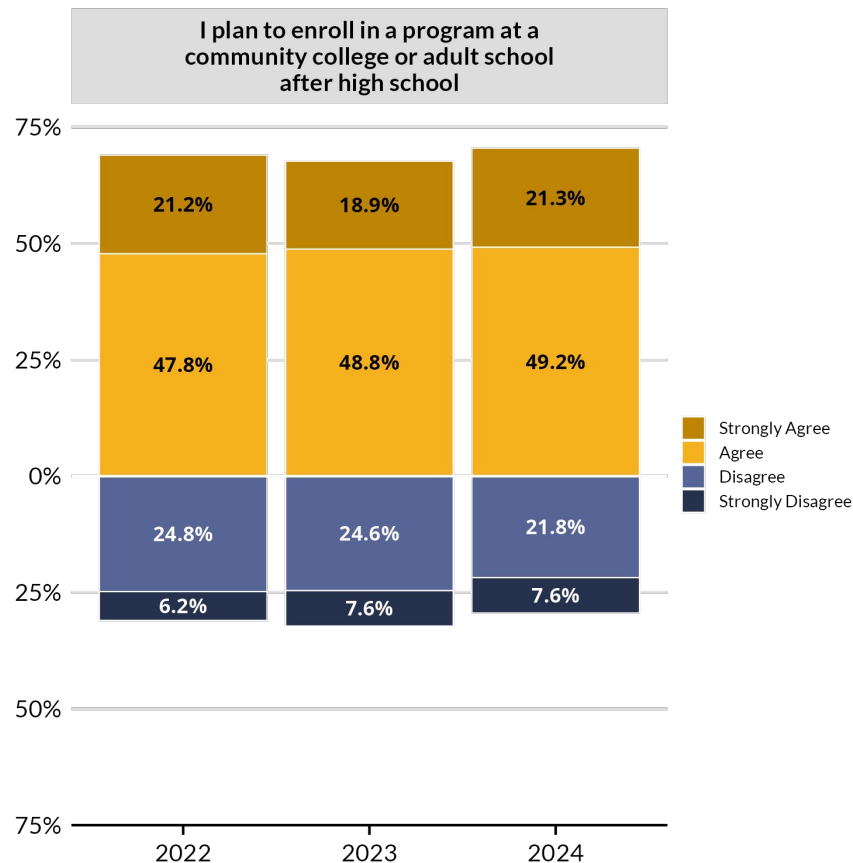- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Note: Year over year comparisons reflect matched schools only

Student Knowledge & Experiences: Awareness and Access to Post-Secondary Opportunities

I know how to find information about programs to help me reach my career goals after high school

	2022	2023	2024
Strongly Agree	15.9%	14.9%	15.9%
Agree	54.4%	57.8%	57.7%
Disagree	24.9%	22.6%	21.7%
Strongly Disagree	4.8%	4.7%	4.7%

I know about related programs at local adult schools

	2022	2023	2024
Strongly Agree	6.7%	5.9%	6.9%
Agree	26.6%	29.7%	31.8%
Disagree	52.8%	50.7%	48.6%
Strongly Disagree	13.9%	13.7%	12.8%

I know about related programs at local community colleges

	2022	2023	2024
Strongly Agree	11%	11.1%	12.6%
Agree	42%	49.4%	49.7%
Disagree	39.1%	32.5%	30.4%
Strongly Disagree	7.9%	6.9%	7.4%

I know how to enroll in a program that will help me reach my career goals after high school

	2022	2023	2024
Strongly Agree	12%	10.9%	11.7%
Agree	40.8%	46.2%	47.2%
Disagree	39.5%	35.8%	33.9%
Strongly Disagree	7.7%	7.2%	7.1%

Legend: Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree

Note: Year over year comparisons reflect matched schools only

Student Knowledge & Experiences:
Postsecondary Plans

I plan to enroll in a program at a community college or adult school after high school

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
2022	21.2%	47.8%	24.8%	6.2%
2023	18.9%	48.8%	24.6%	7.6%
2024	21.3%	49.2%	21.8%	7.6%

Legend:
- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Note: Year over year comparisons reflect matched schools only

Factors influencing decisions about post-high school plans
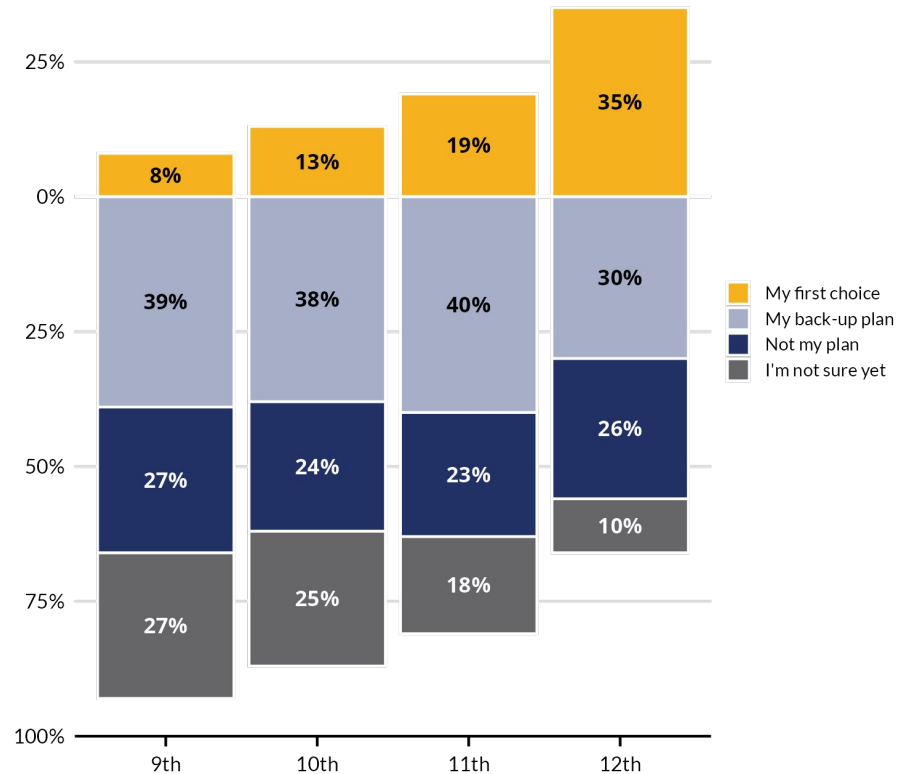
Perceptions of Community College as a Choice

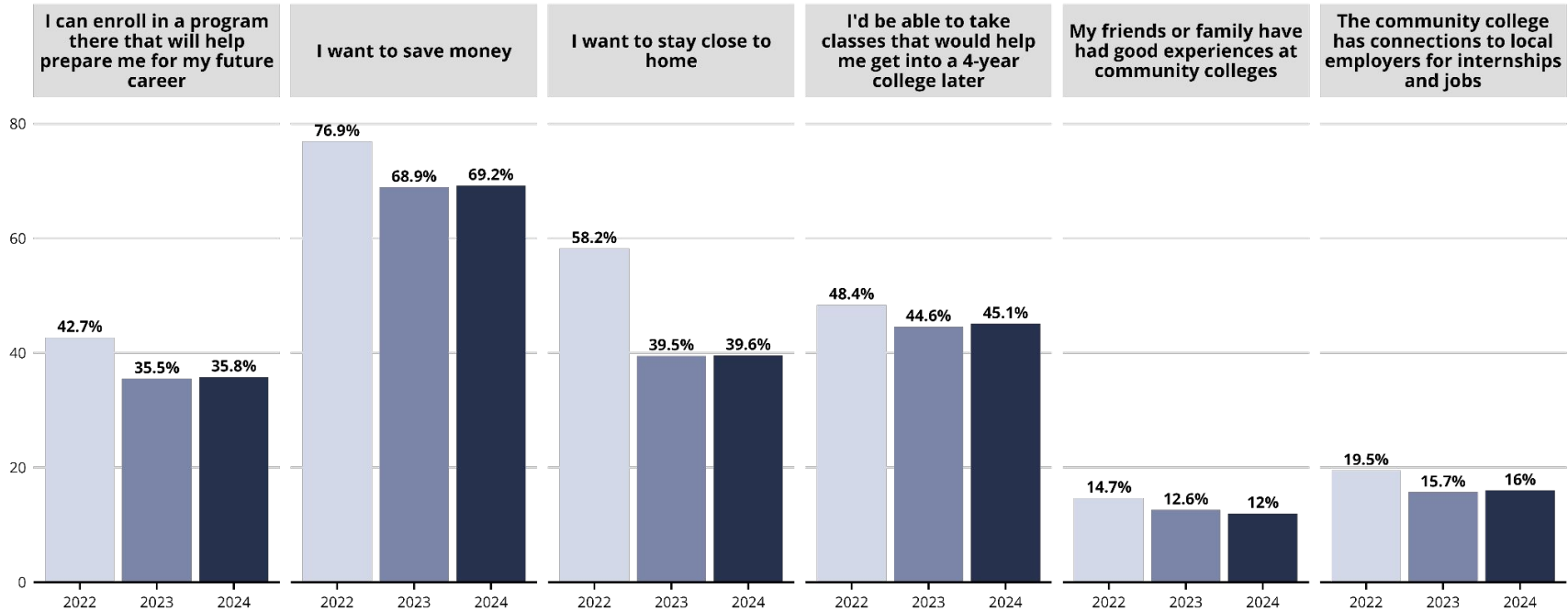Perception of Community College as a Choice Across Matched Schools

	2022	2023	2024
My first choice	20.8%	22.5%	23.3%
My back-up plan	38.2%	38%	38.9%
Not my plan	15.2%	18%	18.3%
I'm not sure yet	22.8%	21.5%	19.4%

Legend:
- My first choice
- My back-up plan
- Not my plan
- I'm not sure yet

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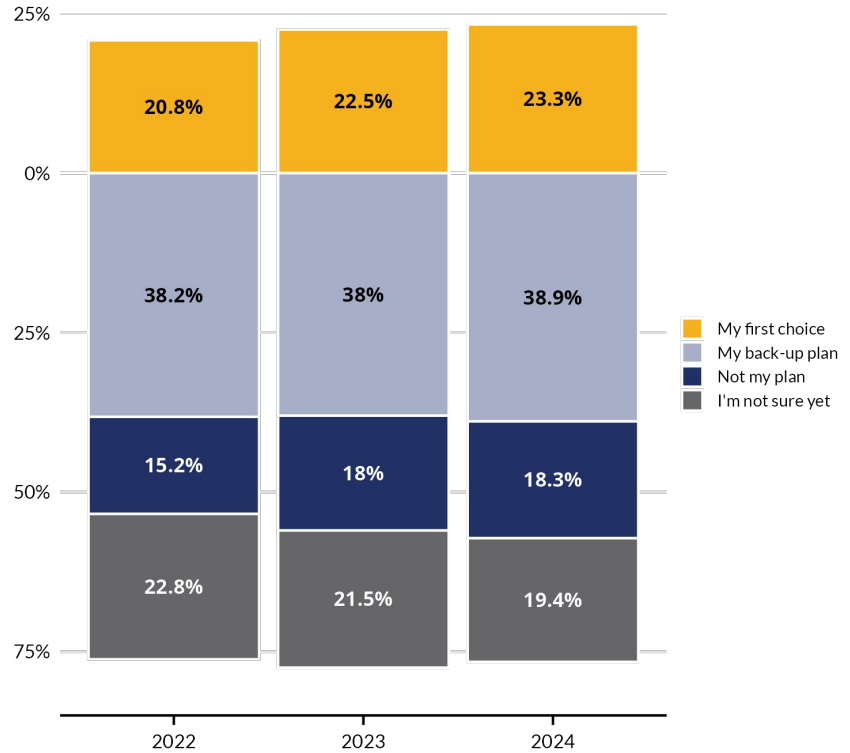
Perception of Community College as a Choice

Perception of Community College as a Choice by Grade for the 2023-24 Academic Year
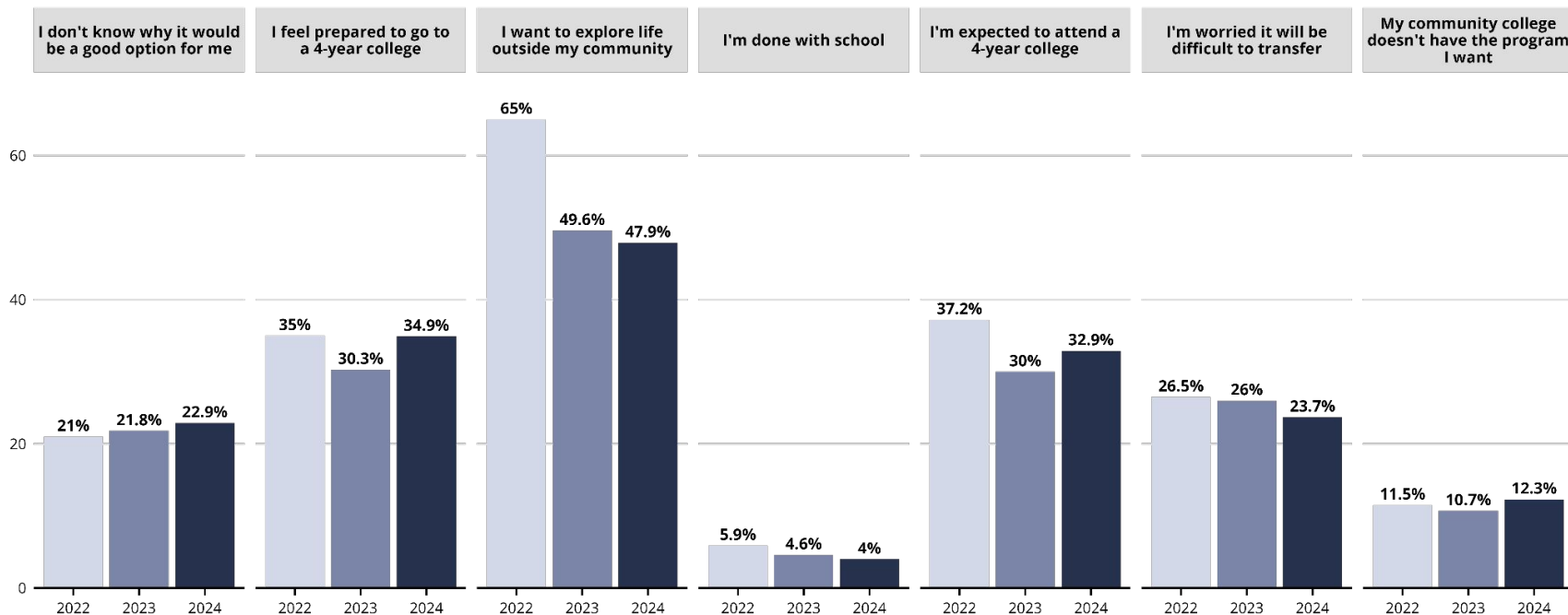
Perspectives on CC: Reasons to Attend

Reasons to Attend CC by Year across Matched Schools

| I can enroll in a program there that will help prepare me for my future career | I want to save money | I want to stay close to home | I'd be able to take classes that would help me get into a 4-year college later | My friends or family have had good experiences at community colleges | The community college has connections to local employers for internships and jobs |

- I can enroll in a program there that will help prepare me for my future career: 2022 = 42.7%, 2023 = 35.5%, 2024 = 35.8%
- I want to save money: 2022 = 76.9%, 2023 = 68.9%, 2024 = 69.2%
- I want to stay close to home: 2022 = 58.2%, 2023 = 39.5%, 2024 = 39.6%
- I'd be able to take classes that would help me get into a 4-year college later: 2022 = 48.4%, 2023 = 44.6%, 2024 = 45.1%
- My friends or family have had good experiences at community colleges: 2022 = 14.7%, 2023 = 12.6%, 2024 = 12%
- The community college has connections to local employers for internships and jobs: 2022 = 19.5%, 2023 = 15.7%, 2024 = 16%

Note: Year over year comparisons reflect matched schools only

Perspectives on CC: Reasons Not to Attend

Reasons Not to Attend CC by Year across Matched Schools

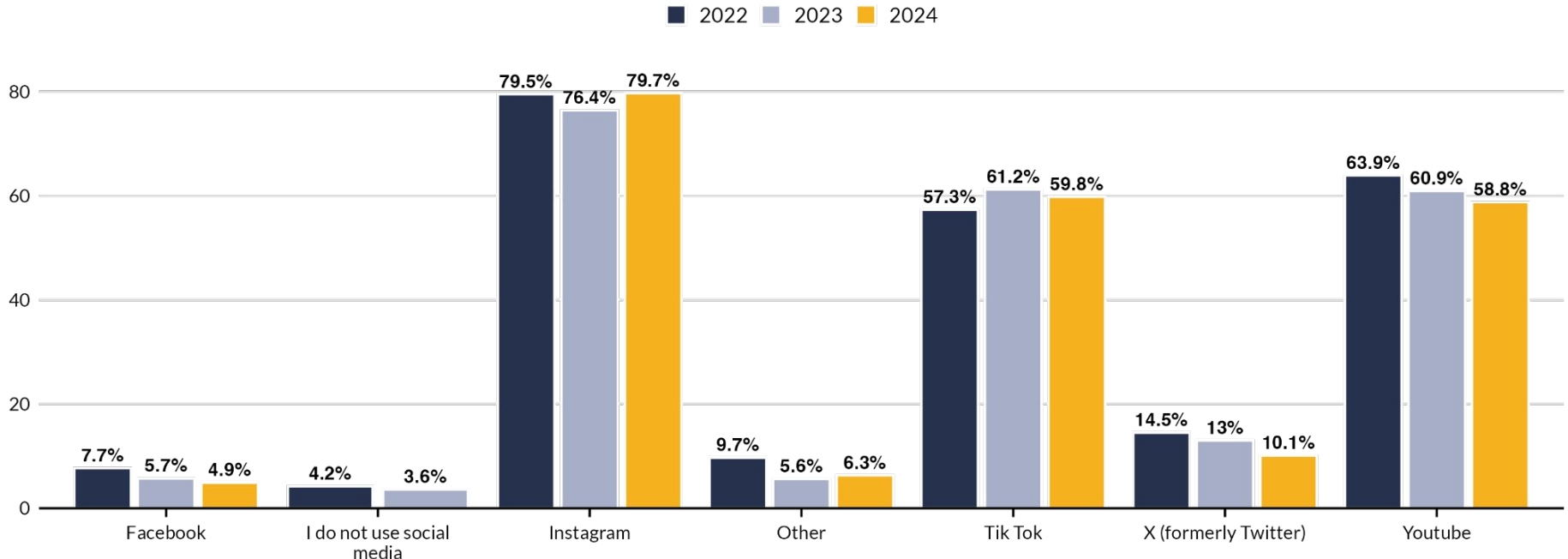| I don't know why it would be a good option for me | I feel prepared to go to a 4-year college | I want to explore life outside my community | I'm done with school | I'm expected to attend a 4-year college | I'm worried it will be difficult to transfer | My community college doesn't have the program I want |

Note: Year over year comparisons reflect matched schools only

Preferences for Learning about Careers

Preferences for Learning about Careers:
Resources & Activities I

Legend: 2023, 2024

Category	2023	2024
Conversations with college counselors	31.6%	31.9%
Conversations with college professors	32.4%	33.2%
Conversations with college students	43.7%	43.1%
Conversations with counselors or teachers	54.5%	56.6%
Conversations with working professionals	49.8%	50%
Other (please specify)	2.3%	2.2%
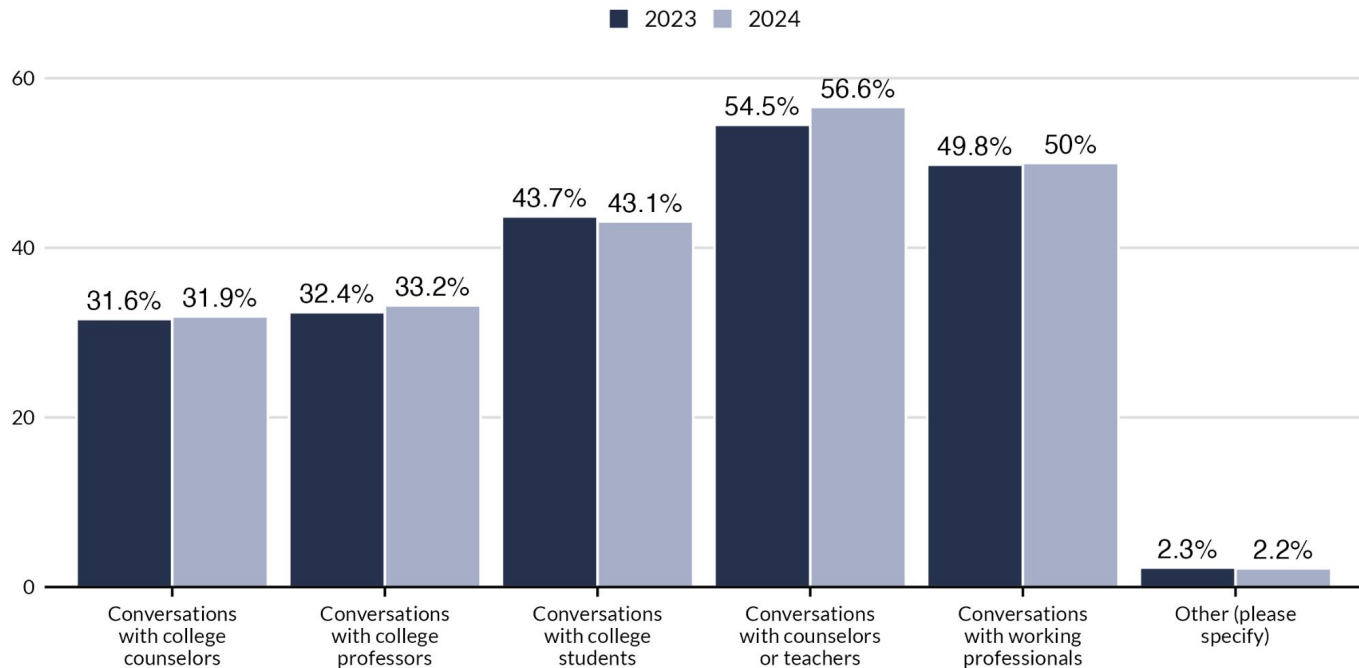
Note: Year over year comparisons reflect matched schools only

Preferences for Learning about Careers:
Resources & Activities II

What other resources or activities might help you learn about career and educational programs for after high school? (Select up to three.)
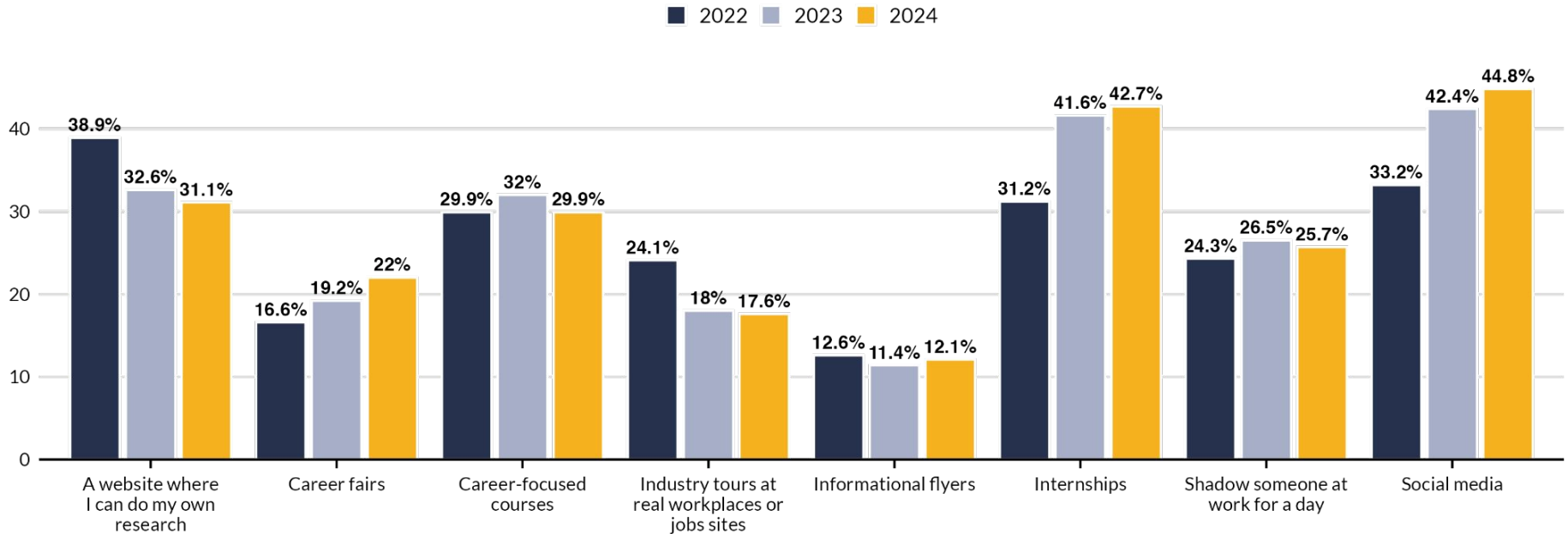
Legend: 2022 | 2023 | 2024

Resource/Activity	2022	2023	2024
A website where I can do my own research	38.9%	32.6%	31.1%
Career fairs	16.6%	19.2%	22%
Career-focused courses	29.9%	32%	29.9%
Industry tours at real workplaces or jobs sites	24.1%	18%	17.6%
Informational flyers	12.6%	11.4%	12.1%
Internships	31.2%	41.6%	42.7%
Shadow someone at work for a day	24.3%	26.5%	25.7%
Social media	33.2%	42.4%	44.8%

Note: Year over year comparisons reflect matched schools only

Preferences for Learning about Careers:
Social Media Preferences

Which social media platform(s) do you use most?

Legend: ■ 2022 ■ 2023 ■ 2024

Platform	2022	2023	2024
Facebook	7.7%	5.7%	4.9%
I do not use social media	4.2%	3.6%	
Instagram	79.5%	76.4%	79.7%
Other	9.7%	5.6%	6.3%
Tik Tok	57.3%	61.2%	59.8%
X (formerly Twitter)	14.5%	13%	10.1%
Youtube	63.9%	60.9%	58.8%

Note: Year over year comparisons reflect matched schools only

Building Goals around gender equity

Discuss gender equity data in your CTE teams of admin, counselors, and teachers!

- **Collect and analyze gender specific data _by pathway_**
- **Prioritize equity in pathways that lead to high wage, high growth careers**
- **Create goals to increase representation in non traditional fields**

Preferences Regarding Community College

Reasons to Attend Community College by Gender

Which of the reasons below would lead you to choose a community college after high school? (Select all that apply.)

	Female n=3,798	Male n=4,663
Cost Savings	71%	66.9%
Pathway to 4-Year College	48.7%	41.3%
Proximity to Home	36.1%	41.9%
Career Preparation Programs	36.1%	34.8%
Local Employer Connections	15.4%	15.6%
Positive Family/Friend Experiences	12.9%	12.1%
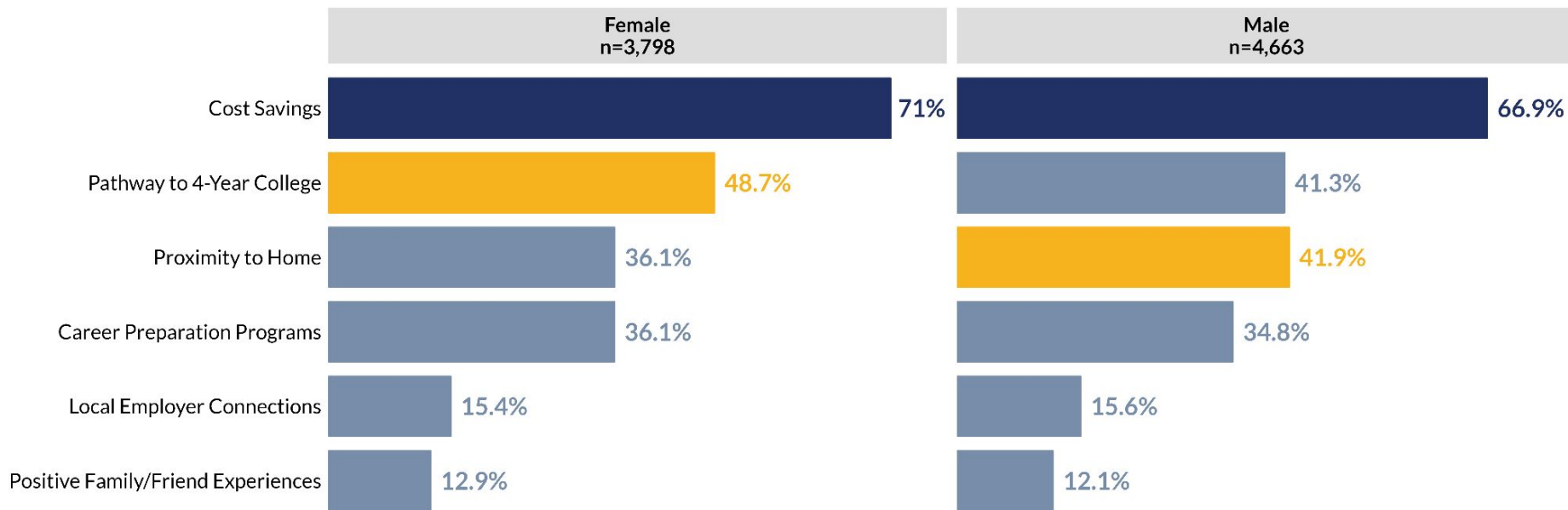
Preferences Regarding Community College, cont.

Reasons Not to Attend Community College by Gender

What reasons below would lead you not to choose a community college after high school? (Select all that apply.)

	Female n=3,929	Male n=4,887
Desire to Explore Beyond Community	56.9%	47.8%
Academically Ready for 4-Year College	40.5%	37.7%
Expectation to Attend 4-Year College	36%	34.6%
Concerns About 4-Year College Transfer	27.1%	21.5%
Uncertain About Community College Benefits	20.5%	23.3%
Lack of Desired Career Program	12%	12.2%
No Further Education Plans	2.1%	5.3%
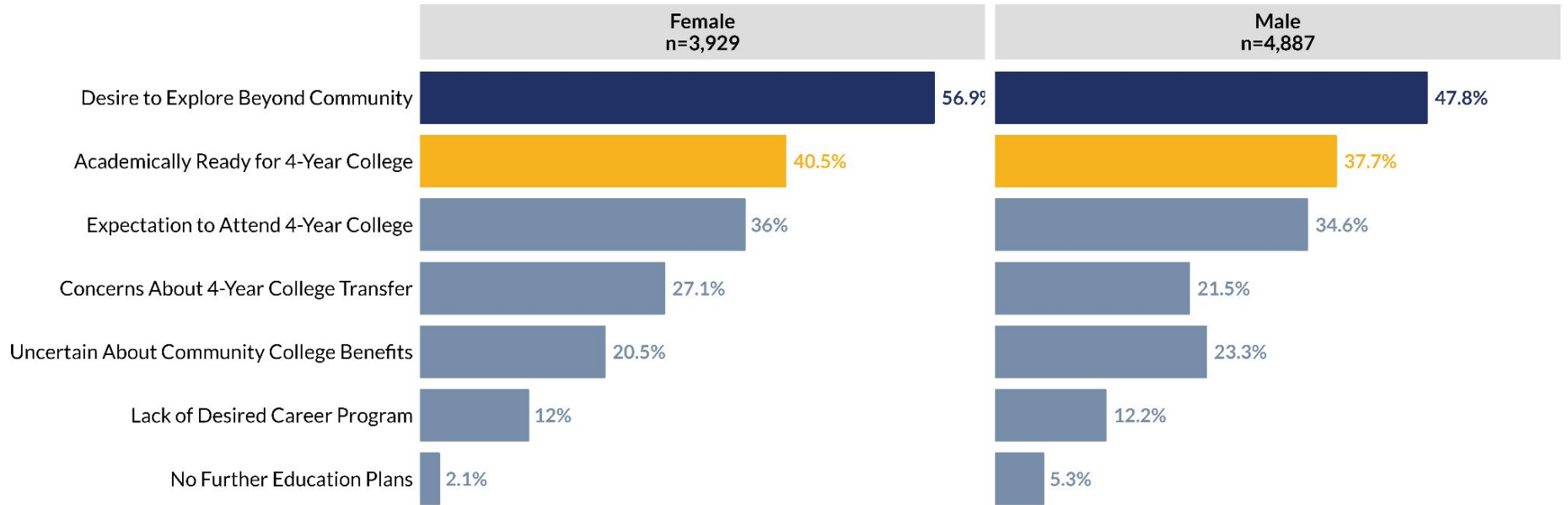
Strategies to promote gender equity in CTE

- Ensure students are exposed to role models of all genders
- Engage current students with feeder school students
- Prioritize or lock in scheduling of non-traditional students in CTE programs
- Employ recruitment and marketing targeting underrepresented demographics

Positive trends over the years

More students:

- are involved in work-based learning activities
- have had the chance to explore different career options
- know about programs related to their pathway at adult schools and community colleges
- know how to find information about and enroll in programs that will help them reach their career goals
- are considering community college as their first choice or back up plan

At the same time, slightly more students:

- don't know why community college would be a good option for them

- don't think the community college has the program they want

And

- There are still **~45%** of students who don't get work-based learning opportunities

- **Fewer students** know about community college connections to employers and jobs now than in earlier surveys

Taking Action: Look at your data in the Dashboard

San Diego Imperial County Options after High School
Career Technical Education (CTE) Student Survey Results | Jan 14–Feb 25, 2022

6,047 Students
12 Districts, 54 Schools

FILTER: All Districts

https://myworkforceconnection.org/educator-resources/options-after-high-school-student-survey-results/
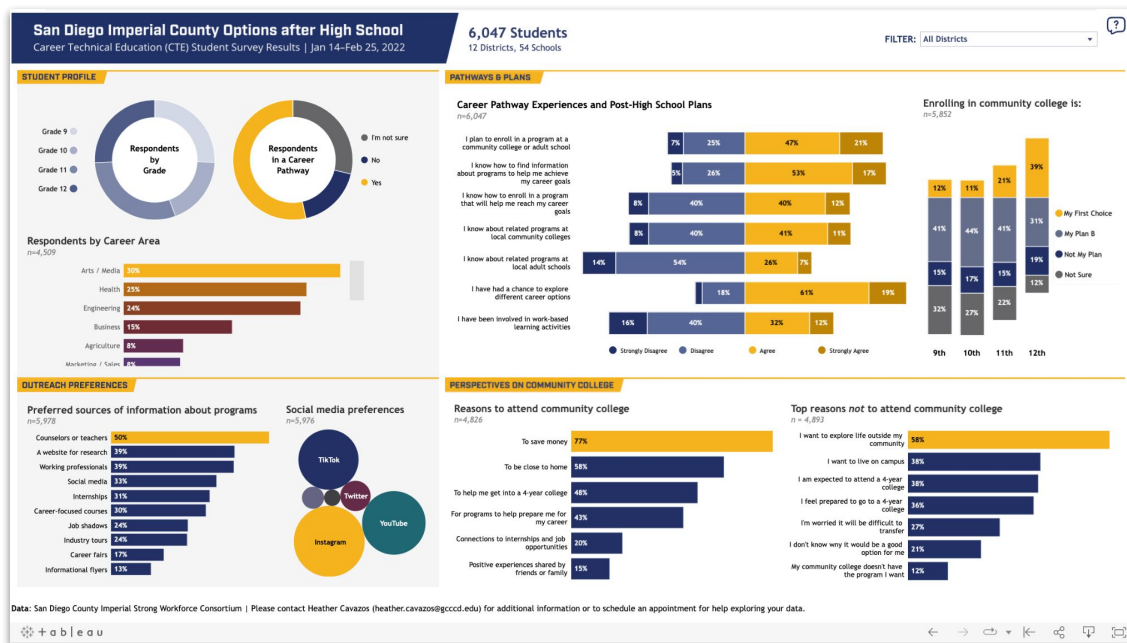
Taking Action: Strategic Planning / Recommendations

- Solicited recommendations from SWP Workgroup members

- Clustered recommendations by appropriate segment

- Classified by type of recommendation

- Revisions based on new findings to begin in May / June

https://myworkforceconnection.org/educator-resources/options-after-high-school-student-survey-results/
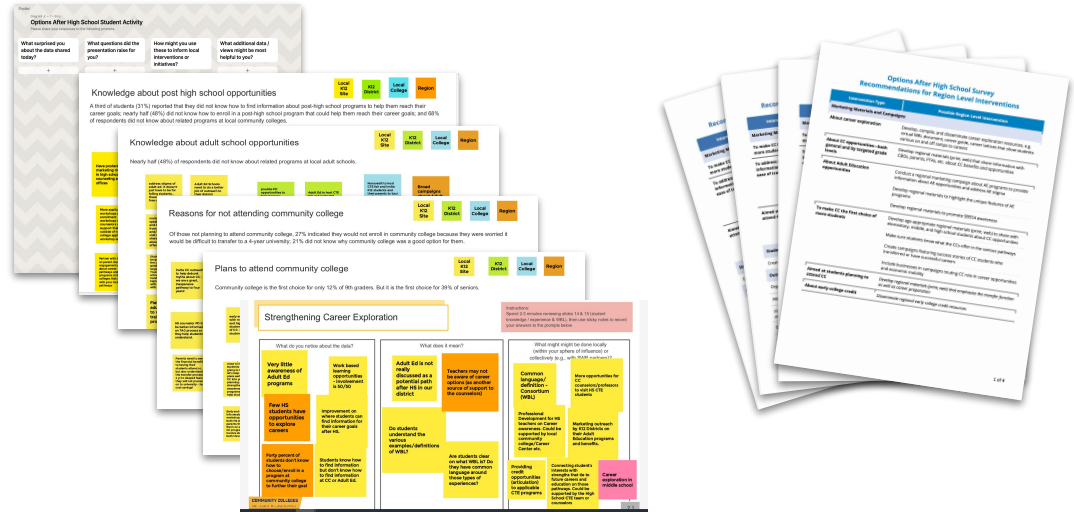
Next Steps

- **Dashboard updated with 2023-24 data (May ~ June)**
- **District data available by request (May ~ June)**
- **Revise / update recommendations**
- **CC / K12 School / District deep dives upon request (June ~ September)**

To schedule a consultation, please reach out to Greg Hill Jr. at ghill@wested.org

Questions?

Resources for Promoting Equity in Counseling Practices

Leveraging the student perspective to build robust, equitable career pathways - Slide Deck

Options after High School Student Survey Results

Books

- Holcomb-McCoy, Cheryl. School Counseling to Close Opportunity Gaps: A Social Justice and Antiracist Framework for Success. SAGE Publications.
- Atkins, Rebecca; Oglesby, Alicia. Interrupting Racism: Equity and Social Justice in School Counseling. Taylor and Francis.

Web Resources

- BRAVE DIALOGUES: A Guide to Discussing Racial Equity in Career Technical Education
- How to Promote Gender Equity in Career and Technical Education: A Primer for Schools (Career Ladders Project)
- Gender Equity in Career Technical Education (NAPE)
- Access and Equity (ACTE)
- Supporting English Learners' Equitable Access to Career and Technical Education

Local Resources & Data

- Middle school career development continuum
- High school career development continuum
- Options after High School Student Survey Results
- Are you Future Ready? PDF and Canva Template
- CCI Data Spreadsheet - San Diego and Imperial Counties (2022 Graduates)
- California School Dashboard and Additional Reports (New Release Dec 15)
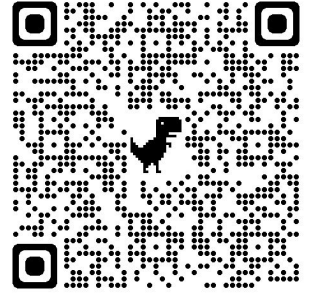
Leveraging the student perspective to build robust, equitable career pathways

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