

ACT Alumni Survey, 2002 Summary Report

Executive Summary

- ❖ Alumni satisfaction is low across the board at LaGuardia compared to other community colleges. In particular, items reflecting services, personal attention, and convenience rank well below national norms.
- ❖ For fifty-nine percent of respondents, being *employed* constituted their primary current activity. One-third found *major* obstacles in finding "a job they wanted," "a job they were trained for," and "a job that paid enough."
- ❖ A large number of LaGuardia graduates say they are *underemployed*, 43 percent compared to 35 percent nationally.
- ❖ In areas of their current job such as *challenge, career potential, salary and benefits, and advancement potential*, LaGuardia graduates say they feel more *neutral* than *satisfied* and rate them lower than their peers do.
- ❖ LaGuardia alumni perceive their greatest personal growth to be in the areas of *effective writing and understanding written information*. Growth scores average greater than *somewhat* but less than *very much*. On these items LaGuardia ratings exceed national norms.
- ❖ Compared to others, a much larger percent of LaGuardia alumni have most recently attended a four-year college, 69 percent vs. 53 percent nationally. But LaGuardia graduates say they feel less prepared for their continuing studies compared to other community college alumni; 49 percent compared to 63 percent, respectively, say they are *more than adequately or exceptionally well* prepared.
- ❖ The majority of LaGuardia alumni say they are *adequately* prepared for their jobs, and a significant portion say they are *very well* prepared, particularly among those working in their field of study.

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Background

The ACT Alumni Survey for Two-Year Colleges has four parts: Background, Continuing Education, Employment History, and Educational Experiences. It is designed to obtain the perspectives of graduates on items such as their current circumstances (at one and two years after graduation), the benefits and difficulties they have experienced in post-community college activities, their experiences with services and other aspects of the college during their tenure here, and the amount of growth and development obtained as a result of their education. Supplementing this were questions of particular interest to LaGuardia, which were developed locally. The questionnaire was sent in Spring 2002 to all graduates from the two most recent academic years, 1999-00 and 2000-01. Two mailings resulted in a response rate of 20.7 percent.

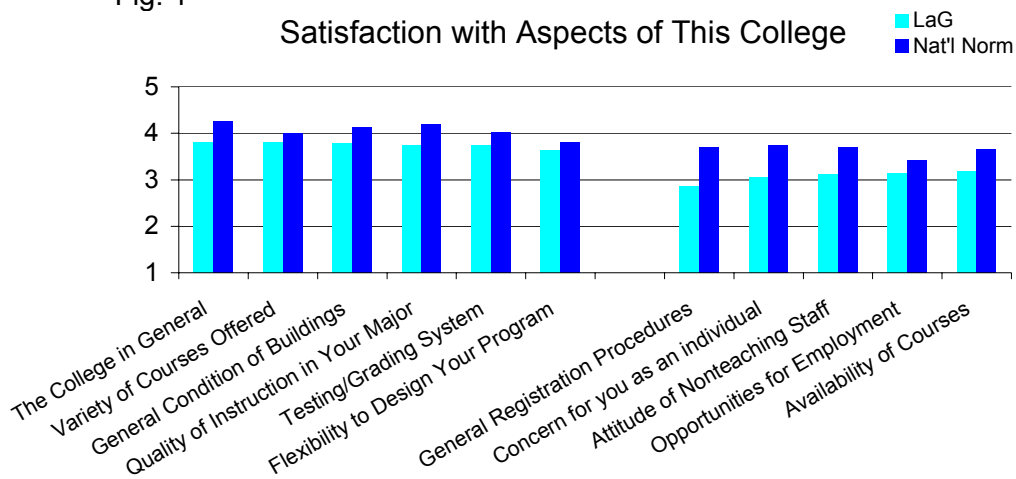
Summary

Survey results on specific questions are provided in the attached tables, which are color-coded to show a positive or negative comparison to results from the previous administration of the survey at LaGuardia, in Spring 2000, and with a subset of national norms for public two-year colleges. **Blue** signifies a positive difference; **pink** signifies a negative difference.

Educational Experiences

In rating college services and other selected aspects of the college, the opinions expressed by recent LaGuardia alumni are decidedly unenthusiastic. From academic support services, such as *advising and career planning*, to *parking and food services*, average alumni ratings range from just above *poor* to somewhere between *fair* and *good*. When compared to the average student ratings at public community colleges around the country, LaGuardia's scores fall short on virtually every item. As shown in Figure 1, the lowest rated items at LaGuardia occur in five areas: *general registration procedures*; *concern for you as an individual*; the *attitude of non-teaching staff*; *opportunities for employment*; and the *availability of courses at times you can take them*.

Fig. 1



5=excellent; 4=good; 3=fair; 2=poor; 1=very poor

Personal Growth

Graduates' perceptions of the amount of personal growth they experienced at the college, however, are quite similar to those indicated by students from other colleges, and exceed them in the areas of *writing* and *understanding written information*. Overall, the average rating on all personal growth items combined is 1.92 at LaGuardia, or just under *somewhat*, compared to a national average of 2.10.

Employment

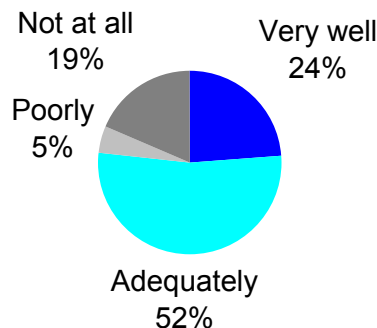
For fifty-nine percent of respondents, being *employed* constituted their primary current activity. While this is lower than the national average, it may be explained by the fact that more LaGuardia graduates, compared to national norms, said their primary activity was *continuing their education*. Nevertheless, a greater portion of LaGuardia alumni indicated they were *unemployed*. Of those graduates who said they were mainly working, a significant percent apparently found jobs using college-related resources. The Cooperative Education program is undoubtedly responsible to a large extent for these results. Nationally, nearly all jobs were found by word of mouth or through newspaper ads, but 6 percent were found through professional meetings, a resource that resulted in only 2 percent of jobs for LaGuardia graduates.

On average, alumni report only *minor* difficulties in obtaining work after college, and none of the potential obstacles surveyed emerge as being *major* for a majority of students. However, at least one-third of respondents found *major* obstacles in finding "a job they wanted," "a job they were trained for," and "a job that paid enough." This is consistent with satisfaction ratings on aspects of their present job. In four out of six items – challenge; career potential; salary and benefits; and advancement potential – LaGuardia graduates said they felt more *neutral* than *satisfied*, and rated these four areas lower than their peers did.

The majority of alumni say they are *adequately* or *very well* prepared for their jobs, while nearly one-quarter indicate they are *poorly* or *not at all* prepared.

Fig. 2

How well did this college prepare you for your current job?



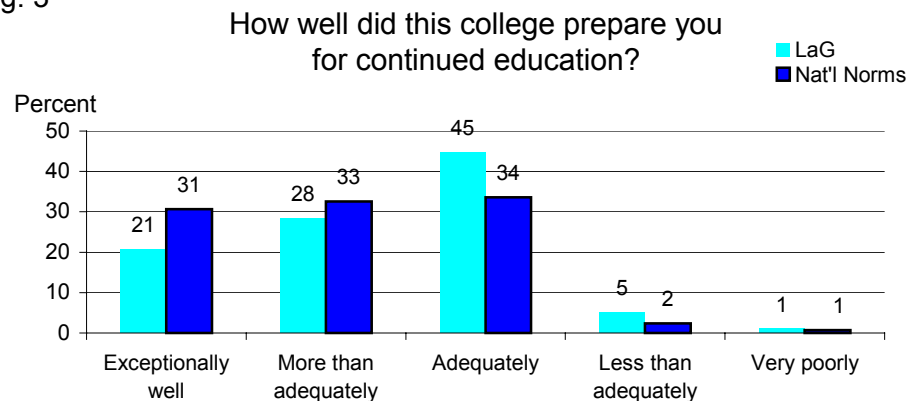
Among those whose current jobs are *highly* or *moderately* related to their college major, however, estimations of being less-than-adequately prepared drop to only 3 percent. A significant number of LaGuardia graduates say they are *underemployed*, 43% compared to 35% nationally. While this is apparently a significant problem for community college graduates

across the country, it is evidently worse for LaGuardia alumni. Overall, these findings suggest that LaGuardia graduates are generally satisfied with the knowledge and skills they obtained from their education but have not obtained many of the benefits they expected it to provide, at least not within one to two years of graduation.

Continued Education

Compared to national norms, a larger percent of LaGuardia graduates describe their primary occupation as continuing their education, 29% vs. 24%, respectively, and a much larger percent attended four-year colleges, 69% vs. 53%, respectively. Among respondents who describe their current occupation primarily as *continuing my education*, fully 94% report having attended a four-year college. But LaGuardia graduates say they feel less prepared for their continuing studies compared to other community college alumni, as shown in Figure 3.

Fig. 3



As consistently found in other LaGuardia surveys, the educational aspirations of graduates are exceptionally high: 58% aspire to post-baccalaureate degrees, compared to 45% nationally, which increases to 66% at LaGuardia among graduates who describe their current primary occupation as *continuing my education*.

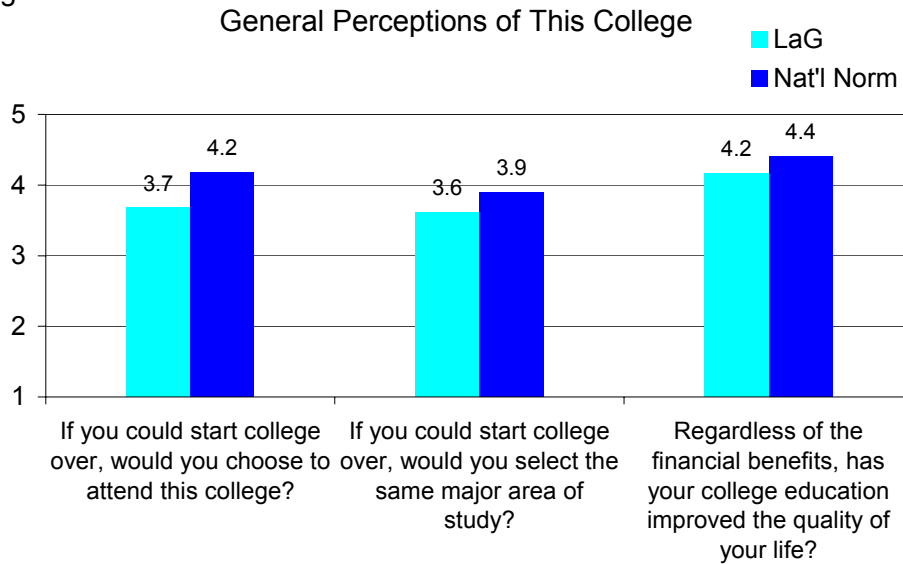
Eleven percent of LaGuardia graduates indicate that they currently hold Bachelor's degrees, compared to a similar number nationally. Graduates who have continued their education compare the quality of education provided at LaGuardia as *about the same* as that of other colleges.

Conclusions

The findings of this survey provide ample evidence that alumni, arguably our most successful students, have rather halfhearted opinions about most of what they experienced here and what they have obtained since graduation. Perceptions of college operations, the extent of growth and development experienced, overall satisfaction with choices made... all only rarely reach a *good* or *satisfied* rating on average, reflecting the fact that relatively few graduates were able to say they found these areas to be *excellent* or *very satisfactory*, or that they experienced *very much* growth in the nine growth areas they were asked to comment upon. Opinions of post-graduation outcomes run in the same direction. Satisfaction ratings of current employment reach only *neutral* levels on the rating scale, while alumni who have continued their education say in large part that, if they had it to do over again, they would *probably* or *definitely* not attend

this college. Average ratings on three broad perceptual questions serve to summarize the findings of this survey, shown below in Figure 4.

Fig. 4



Scale: 1=definitely no; 2=probably no; 3=uncertain; 4=probably yes; 5=definitely yes

None of these ratings is especially negative, but none is particularly positive, either.

Recommendations

Unfavorable comparisons with the results of 2000 and with national norms of similar community colleges elsewhere signal the beginning of a disturbing but unambiguous trend. While only a small number of LaGuardia graduates appear to be overtly *dissatisfied*, from which we may take some comfort, the majority are quite plainly, and consistently, subdued in their opinions of what they experienced here, and the benefits gained from having attended. These findings suggest that a substantial gap exists between expectations and results.

Improving services, for example in **enrollment processes**, **academic advising**, **career planning**, and **course availability**, and **personalizing human interactions** across the college, would reduce one part of that gap, and thereby improve student satisfaction, immediately. But the gap between expectations and perceived growth, and expectations and post-graduation results, in terms of job opportunities or further education, is more complex, partly because such results depend also on student factors and factors that occur beyond college walls. To further define the problem in these areas, an **in-depth investigation** of the extent and nature of the disparities between student expectations and results in **personal and intellectual growth** and **post-graduation outcomes** is recommended.

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Educational Experiences

Scale: 1=very poor; 2=poor; 3=fair; 4=good;
5=excellent

1. College Services

Library Services
Advising and career planning services
Financial Aid Services
Job Placement services
Cafeteria/Food Services
Parking Services and Facilities

LaGuardia Year-to-Year			LaG to National Norms	
LaG 2002	LaG 2000	'02 - '00	National	LaG - Norms
<u>Avg</u>	<u>Avg</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Norms</u>	<u>Difference</u>
3.62	3.69	-0.07	3.93	-0.31
3.44	3.68	-0.23	3.66	-0.22
3.43	3.62	-0.18	3.63	-0.20
2.96	3.09	-0.13	3.13	-0.17
2.76	2.83	-0.07	3.46	-0.70
2.19	2.18	0.02	3.38	-1.19

Scale: 1=very dissatisfied; 2=dissatisfied; 3=neutral;
4=satisfied; 5=very satisfied

2. Satisfaction with Aspects of This College

Top Six (3.5+):

This College in General
Variety of Courses Offered at This 2-Year College
General Condition of Buildings and Grounds
Quality of Instruction in Your Major Area of Study
Testing/Grading System
Flexibility to Design Your Own Program of Study

3.80	3.87	-0.07	4.25	-0.45
3.80	3.76	0.05	4.01	-0.21
3.79	3.89	-0.10	4.14	-0.35
3.75	3.78	-0.03	4.19	-0.44
3.73	3.60	0.13	4.02	-0.29
3.64	3.60	0.04	3.80	-0.16

Bottom Five:

General registration procedures
Concern for you as an individual
Attitude of College Nonteaching staff toward students
Opportunities for Student Employment
Availability of Courses at Times You Can Take Them

2.86	2.99	-0.12	3.70	-0.84
3.06	3.26	-0.20	3.73	-0.67
3.12	3.21	-0.09	3.70	-0.58
3.14	3.23	-0.08	3.43	-0.29
3.18	3.16	0.02	3.66	-0.48

Personal Growth

Scale: 1=very little; 2=somewhat; 3=very much

Writing Effectively
Understanding written information
Learning on your own
Following Directions
Working independently
Working cooperatively in group
Managing personal/family finances
Understanding consumer issues
Caring for your own physical and mental health

LaG 2002	LaG 2000	'02 - '00	National	LaG - Norms
<u>Avg</u>	<u>Avg</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Norms</u>	<u>Difference</u>
2.44	2.46	-0.02	2.22	0.22
2.35	2.38	-0.03	2.15	0.20
2.29	2.27	0.02	2.31	-0.02
2.24	2.25	-0.01	2.17	0.07
2.23	2.32	-0.09	2.23	0.00
2.23	2.28	-0.05	2.21	0.02
1.96	1.94	0.02	1.85	0.11
1.93	1.91	0.02	1.82	0.11
1.91	1.98	-0.07	1.95	-0.04

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Current Primary Occupation

	LaGuardia Year-to-Year			LaG to National Norms	
	LaG 2002 Percent	LaG 2000 Percent	'02 - '00 Difference	National Norms	LaG - Norms Difference
Employed	59.08	60.11	-1.03	67.80	-8.72
Continuing My Education	29.02	27.98	1.04	23.70	5.32
Unemployed	9.60	7.04	2.56	3.90	5.70
Caring for a Home/Family	1.25	2.89	-1.64	2.60	-1.35
Other	1.00	2.00	-1.00	1.90	-0.90

Employment History

1. Source of First Job after College

Top Five:

Another student/friend	17.78	15.05	2.72	11.90	5.88
Newspaper/Trade publication	16.30	11.18	5.11	16.80	-0.50
College Counselor/Advisor	15.19	9.89	5.29	3.40	11.79
College Placement Office	14.44	8.82	5.63	4.90	9.54
Employment Agency	11.06	7.53	3.53	4.60	6.46

Bottom Three:

Professional Meeting	2.22	0.86	1.36	5.60	-3.38
Faculty at the College	7.04	4.09	2.95	1.60	5.44
Parent or Relative	7.78	8.82	-1.04	7.70	0.08

Of Subset: *Primarily Employed*

Top Five:

Another student/friend	18.75	14.49	4.26		
Newspaper/Trade publication	16.35	11.93	4.41		
College Counselor/Advisor	14.90	9.38	5.53		
College Placement Office	13.94	9.29	4.65		
Employment Agency	7.94	8.52	-0.59		

Bottom Three:

Professional Meeting	1.92	1.14	0.79		
Parent or Relative	6.35	8.24	-1.89		
Faculty at the College	6.25	4.26	1.99		

Scale: 1=not a problem; 2=minor problem; 3=major problem

2. Job Obstacles

Top Three:

	LaG 2002 Avg	LaG 2000 Avg	'02 - '00 Difference	National Norms	LaG - Norms Difference
Finding a Job that paid enough	2.16	2.05	0.11	1.85	0.31
Finding the kind of job I wanted	1.99	1.91	0.08	1.73	0.26
Finding a job for which I was trained	1.92	1.87	0.05	1.62	0.30

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Employment History (continued)

		LaGuardia Year-to-Year			LaG to National Norms	
		LaG 2002	LaG 2000	'02 - '00	National	LaG - Norms
		<u>Avg</u>	<u>Avg</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Norms</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<i>Scale: 1=not a problem; 2=minor problem; 3=major problem</i>						
2. Job Obstacles (continued)						
Bottom Three:						
	Completing job applications	1.18	1.19	-0.01	1.09	0.09
	Race/Sex Discrimination	1.23	1.25	-0.01	1.11	0.12
	Scheduling Interviews	1.39	1.39	0.00	1.23	0.16
Of Subset: <i>Primarily Employed</i>						
Top Three:						
	Finding a Job that paid enough	2.16	2.00	0.16		
	Finding the kind of job I wanted	1.99	1.90	0.09		
	Finding a job for which I was trained	1.92	1.88	0.04		
Bottom Three:						
	Completing job applications	1.20	1.21	-0.01		
	Race/Sex Discrimination	1.21	1.21	0.00		
	Scheduling Interviews	1.39	1.38	0.02		
3. Annual Income in First Job After College						
		<u>LaG 2002</u>	<u>LaG 2000</u>	<u>'02 - '00</u>	<u>National</u>	<u>LaG - Norms</u>
		<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Norms</u>	<u>Difference</u>
	up to 20,000	41.16	16.51	24.65	63.10	-21.94
	20,000 to 29,999	33.98	20.99	12.99	23.70	10.28
	30,000 to 39,999	17.68	28.54	-10.86	10.30	7.38
	40,000 to 49,999	4.70	30.66	-25.96	2.20	2.50
	50,000 or more	2.49	3.30	-0.82	0.90	1.59
Of Subset: <i>Primarily Employed</i>						
	up to 20,000	37.28	46.70	-9.42		
	20,000 to 29,999	36.56	31.20	5.36		
	30,000 to 39,999	18.64	15.48	3.16		
	40,000 to 49,999	4.66	4.76	-0.10		
	50,000 or more	2.87	1.80	1.07		
4. Prepared for Occupation						
	Very well	23.92	23.82	0.10	36.10	-12.18
	Adequately	52.69	49.89	2.80	44.90	7.79
	Poorly	4.84	6.29	-1.45	2.80	2.04
	Not at all	18.55	20.00	-1.45	16.20	2.35

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Employment History (continued)

		LaGuardia Year-to-Year			LaG to National Norms	
		LaG 2002 Percent	LaG 2000 Percent	'02 - '00 Difference	National Norms	LaG - Norms Difference
Of Subset: <i>Primarily Employed</i>						
	Very well	23.4	21.8	1.59		
	Adequately	52.9	42.4	10.48		
	Poorly	5.4	5.5	-0.08		
	Not at all	18.3	16.0	2.31		
5. Relation of Occupation to College Major						
	Highly related	36.3	35.53	0.76	50.00	-13.71
	Moderately Related	21.5	22.37	-0.86	18.40	3.11
	Slightly related	18.3	14.47	3.81	11.30	6.98
	Not related	23.9	27.63	-3.71	20.30	3.62
Of Subset: <i>Primarily Employed</i>						
	Highly related	38.78	38.79	-0.02		
	Moderately Related	21.77	23.28	-1.51		
	Slightly related	18.37	13.79	4.57		
	Not related	21.09	24.14	-3.05		
6. Perceptions of Underemployment						
	No	56.73	62.75	-6.02	65.40	-8.67
	Yes	43.27	37.25	6.02	34.60	8.67
Of Subset: <i>Primarily Employed</i>						
	No	58.30	63.80	-5.50		
	Yes	41.70	36.20	5.50		
<i>Scale: 5=very satisfied; 4=satisfied; 3=neutral; 2=dissatisfied; 1=very dissatisfied</i>						
		LaG 2002 Avg	LaG 2000 Avg	'02 - '00 Difference	National Norms	LaG - Norms Difference
7. Satisfaction with Aspects of Present Job						
	Location	3.87	3.95	-0.08	4.15	-0.28
	Working conditions	3.61	3.68	-0.06	3.84	-0.23
	Challenge	3.47	3.64	-0.17	3.89	-0.42
	Career potential	3.12	3.31	-0.20	3.45	-0.33
	Salary and Benefits	3.03	3.15	-0.12	3.44	-0.41
	Advancement potential	2.93	3.18	-0.25	3.24	-0.31

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Employment History (continued)

Scale: 5=very satisfied; 4=satisfied; 3=neutral;
2=dissatisfied; 1=very dissatisfied

Of Subset: *Primarily Employed*

	LaGuardia Year-to-Year			LaG to National Norms	
	LaG 2002 Percent	LaG 2000 Percent	'02 - '00 Difference	National Norms	LaG - Norms Difference
Location	3.88	3.95	-0.07		
Working conditions	3.63	3.66	-0.03		
Challenge	3.57	3.68	-0.11		
Career potential	3.19	3.40	-0.21		
Salary and Benefits	3.12	3.22	-0.10		
Advancement potential	3.00	3.20	-0.20		

Continued Education

1. Major Reason for Continuing Education

	LaG 2002 Percent	LaG 2000 Percent	'02 - '00 Difference	National Norms	LaG - Norms Difference
For general self-improvement	31.61	29.12	2.49	15.20	16.41
To satisfy job/career requirements	24.09	25.51	-1.41	25.30	-1.21
To increase earning power	22.28	23.25	-0.97	21.10	1.18
To learn a new occupation	13.21	12.87	0.35	23.00	-9.79
To obtain or maintain a license	5.18	6.32	-1.14	11.00	-5.82
Other	3.63	2.93	0.69	4.40	-0.77

Of Subset: *Primarily Continuing My Education*

For general self-improvement	28.79	25.33	3.45
To satisfy job/career requirements	27.27	35.33	-8.06
To increase earning power	21.97	21.33	0.64
To learn a new occupation	12.88	9.33	3.55
To obtain or maintain a license	4.55	6.67	-2.12
Other	4.55	2.00	2.55

2. Type of Institution Most Recently Attended

4-Year College or University	69.03	70.23	-1.20	53.00	16.03
2-Year College	24.67	22.27	2.40	38.00	-13.33
Trade School or Business School	1.57	3.64	-2.06	4.70	-3.13
Other	4.72	3.86	0.86	3.90	0.82

Of Subset: *Primarily Continuing My Education*

4-Year College or University	93.94	93.42	0.52
2-Year College	3.79	3.29	0.50
Trade School or Business School	1.52	1.32	0.20
Other	0.76	1.97	-1.22

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Continued Education (continued)

	LaGuardia Year-to-Year			LaG to National Norms	
	LaG 2002 Percent	LaG 2000 Percent	'02 - '00 Difference	National Norms	LaG - Norms Difference
3. Highest Degree Earned to Date					
Professional degree	0.40	0.17	0.23	0.00	0.00
Doctor's degree	0.73	0.52	0.21	1.19	-0.46
Master's degree	10.95	9.01	1.94	11.70	-0.75
Bachelor's degree	88.32	89.43	-1.11	72.30	16.02
Associate degree	0.20	0.35	-0.15	11.80	-11.60
Technical degree or certificate					
<i>Of Subset: Primarily Continuing My Education</i>					
Professional degree	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	-0.03
Doctor's degree	0.00	0.65	-0.65	0.20	-0.20
Master's degree	0.73	0.00	0.73	1.19	-0.46
Bachelor's degree	10.95	9.15	1.80	11.70	-0.75
Associate degree	88.32	90.20	-1.87	72.30	16.02
Technical program certificate or diploma	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.80	-11.80
Do not plan to obtain another degree or certificate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4. Highest Degree Planned					
Professional degree	4.72	3.21	1.51	2.7	2.02
Doctor's degree	8.14	12.39	-4.25	7.3	0.84
Master's degree	45.41	42.66	2.75	34.5	10.91
Bachelor's degree	34.12	33.26	0.86	35.8	-1.68
Associate degree	1.84	1.15	0.69	4.6	-2.76
Technical program certificate or diploma	1.31	2.98	-1.67	2.1	-0.79
Do not plan to obtain another degree or certificate	3.15	3.90	-0.75	11.0	-7.85
Other	1.31	0.46	0.85	2.0	-0.69
<i>Of Subset: Primarily Continuing My Education</i>					
Professional degree	6.77	3.31	3.46		
Doctor's degree	9.02	17.88	-8.86		
Master's degree	51.88	47.02	4.86		
Bachelor's degree	29.32	29.14	0.18		
Associate degree	0.75	0.66	0.09		
Technical program certificate or diploma	0.75	1.32	-0.57		
Do not plan to obtain another degree or certificate	0.75	0.00	0.75		
Other	0.75	0.66	0.09		
5. Prepared for Continued Education					
Exceptionally well	20.74	22.40	-1.66	30.7	-9.96
More than adequately	28.46	24.02	4.44	32.6	-4.14
Adequately	44.68	47.81	-3.13	33.6	11.08
Less than adequately	5.05	4.39	0.67	2.4	2.65
Very poorly	1.06	1.39	-0.32	0.7	0.36

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Continuing Education (continued)

		LaGuardia Year-to-Year			LaG to National Norms	
		LaG 2002 Percent	LaG 2000 Percent	'02 - '00 Difference	National Norms	LaG - Norms Difference
Of Subset: <i>Primarily Continuing My Education</i>						
	Exceptionally well	20.00	20.00	0.00		
	More than adequately	26.15	28.00	-1.85		
	Adequately	48.46	45.33	3.13		
	Less than adequately	4.62	6.00	-1.38		
	Very poorly	0.77	0.67	0.10		
		LaG 2002 Avg	LaG 2000 Avg	'02 - '00 Difference	National Norms	LaG - Norms Difference
How would you compare the quality of education provided at this college with that of other colleges?		2.08	2.14	-0.06	2.40	-0.32
Of Subset: <i>Primarily Continuing My Education</i>						
		2.07	2.07	0.00		

Scale: 1=worse; 2=about the same; 3=better

Reasons for Attending LaGuardia

		LaG 2002 Percent	LaG 2000 Percent	'02 - '00 Difference	National Norms	LaG - Norms Difference
Top Five:						
	Offered the courses I wanted	28.16	27.53	0.64	25.10	3.06
	Convenient location	23.67	25.26	-1.59	25.80	-2.13
	Other	10.41	12.02	-1.61	5.60	4.81
	Low cost of attending	8.98	6.79	2.19	14.50	-5.52
	Good Academic Reputation	5.51	6.27	-0.76	7.50	-1.99
Bottom Three:						
	Wanted to be with friends	0.41	1.22	-0.81	0.50	-0.09
	Liked social atmosphere	1.02	1.74	-0.72	0.40	0.62
	Availability of financial aid	1.43	2.26	-0.84	4.30	-2.87

Plan to return to this college in future?

Yes	11.71	12.76	-1.05	21.50	-9.79
No	65.87	68.10	-2.23	43.80	22.07
Undecided	22.42	19.14	3.28	34.60	-12.18

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Overall Perceptions of This College

Scale: 1=First; 2=Second; 3=Third; 4=Fourth

1. This college's rating at entry

Scale: 1=definitely no; 2=probably no; 3=uncertain; 4=probably yes; 5=definitely yes

2. If you could start college over, would you choose to attend this college?

3. If you could start college over, would you select the same major area of study?

4. Regardless of the financial benefits, has your college education improved the quality of your life?

	LaGuardia Year-to-Year			LaG to National Norms	
	LaG 2002 Avg	LaG 2000 Avg	'02 - '00 Difference	National Norms	LaG - Norms Difference
1. This college's rating at entry	1.5	1.5	0.0	1.2	0.30
2. If you could start college over, would you choose to attend this college?	3.68	3.63	0.05	4.18	-0.50
3. If you could start college over, would you select the same major area of study?	3.61	3.63	-0.02	3.90	-0.29
4. Regardless of the financial benefits, has your college education improved the quality of your life?	4.17	4.32	-0.15	4.40	-0.23
Locally-Defined Questions	LaG 2002 Percent				
1. If currently working, did you obtain your job:					
prior to entering LaGuardia	23.32				
while attending LaGuardia	33.68				
after graduating from LaGuardia	43.01				
2. At the time you entered LaGuardia, which of the following was true:					
did not expect to graduate	3.09				
expected to transf before graduating	7.41				
expected to graduate, stop studying, and work	25.10				
expected to graduate and continue at senior college	64.40				
3. Who has had the greatest influence on your decisions about your future:					
family member	62.30				
teacher/counselor from school	3.39				
college professor	10.84				
college counselor	1.81				
co-op advisor	2.93				
friend	18.74				

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Locally-Defined Questions (continued)

	LaGuardia Year-to-Year			LaG to National Norms	
	LaG 2002 Percent	LaG 2000 Percent	'02 - '00 Difference	National Norms	LaG - Norms Difference
<i>Scale: 1=poorly; 2=moderately; 3=very</i>					
4. How accessible is the college by public transportation from where you live?					
very	67.68				
moderately	28.63				
poorly	3.69				
	LaG 2002 Avg				
<i>Scale: 1=none; 2=little; 3=some; 4=moderately; 5=greatly</i>					
5. To what extent did Co-Op education increase your understanding of the world of work?	3.70				
6. To what extent have your aspirations in life increased since attending LaGuardia?	4.13				
7. To what extent has your computer literacy improved since attending LaGuardia?	3.86				
8. What degree of effort would you say you put into your college education, overall?	4.24				
<i>Scale: 0=none; 1=a little; 2=some; 3=very much</i>					
9. To what extent could you have obtained more if you had applied more effort?	2.01				
10. To what extent could you have obtained more if something at the college had been different?	2.11				

Background

		LaG 2002 Percent				
1. Sex						
	Female	73.70	77.80	-4.10	67.20	6.50
	Male	26.30	22.20	4.10	32.80	-6.50
2. Race or Ethnic Group						
	African American or Black	18.28	19.12	-0.84	5.20	13.08
	Asian	15.05	12.10	2.95	2.10	12.95
	Caucasian or White	18.06	17.83	0.23	85.00	-66.94
	Latino	35.91	44.30	-8.39	4.90	31.01
	Other	12.69	6.60	6.09	2.70	9.99

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Background (continued)

		LaGuardia Year-to-Year			LaG to National Norms	
		<u>LaG 2002</u>	<u>LaG 2000</u>	<u>'02 - '00</u>	<u>National</u>	<u>LaG - Norms</u>
		<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Norms</u>	<u>Difference</u>
3. Age	0-19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60	-0.60
	20-21	5.22	4.32	0.90	14.20	-8.98
	22-23	16.87	16.41	0.46	15.10	1.77
	24-25	14.46	12.95	1.50	10.40	4.06
	26-29	20.08	20.55	-0.47	12.60	7.48
	30-39	26.31	25.91	0.40	24.10	2.21
	40 and up	17.05	19.82	5.37	23.00	-5.95
4. Married while in College	No	73.30	71.10	2.20	61.60	11.70
	Yes	26.70	28.90	-2.20	38.40	-11.70