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**Distance Learning Experience and the  
Pandemic Impact on Education:  
CUNY Student Experience Survey  
Comparing CUNY and LaGuardia Results**

*Office of Institutional Research and Assessment (OIRA)*

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## Distance Learning Experience and the Pandemic Impact on Education

In Fall 2020, CUNY students were surveyed about their experience with distance learning, including courses, instructions, personal difficulties and technology. They were also surveyed about their experiences with the support services and various financial, emotional and other needs. A random sample of degree-seeking undergraduates - constituting roughly 50% of the population - was taken for this survey. The response rate at LaGuardia is 10% (6,462 invited, 647 responded), which is comparable with the overall response rate at CUNY (9.7%), and at the other community colleges (BMCC 8.5%, BCC 11.4%, Guttman 14.2%, Hostos 7.7%, KCC 6.9%, QCC 9.6%).

### Distance Learning Experience – Course Instruction (Table 1)

- 86% of LaGuardia student are experiencing online learning for the first time in response to COVID – a higher percentage compared to all community colleges (82%) and all senior colleges (78%).
- Similar to respondents from other colleges, the majority of LaGuardia students preferred in-person or blended (in-person and distance learning) courses (64%) rather than fully online courses. However, while the preference for blended courses at LaGuardia was comparable to that of the other groups, fewer LaGuardia students preferred solely in-person courses (33%, compared to 36% at all community colleges and 40% at all senior colleges). Additionally, higher proportions at LaGuardia preferred the online synchronous teaching modality (21% compared to 18% for community colleges and 14% for senior colleges).

I Prefer	LaGuardia	Community colleges	Senior Colleges	Total CUNY
in-person classes	33%	36%	40%	38%
a combination of in-person and distance learning	31%	30%	30%	30%
distance learning where my instructor, classmates, and I are all online together at the same time	21%	18%	14%	15%
distance learning I can do on my own time	15%	15%	17%	16%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

### Experiences in Courses

- 35% of LaGuardia and 37% of all community college respondents reported learning LESS in distance learning compared to in person classes, compared to 45% of senior college respondents. About a quarter of LaGuardia (24%) and all community college respondents (23%) reported learning MORE in distance learning compared to in-person classes more than senior college (19%) respondents.

Compared to in-person classes, with distance learning	LaGuardia	Community colleges	Senior Colleges	Total CUNY
I learn MORE than in-person.	24%	23%	19%	20%
I learn ABOUT THE SAME as in-person	42%	40%	36%	37%
I learn LESS than in-person.	35%	37%	45%	43%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

- Close to a half of LaGuardia’s respondents reported knowing what and when they are supposed to be doing, and what it takes to get good grades in all classes (45% vs. 41% CC and 32% SC), and 70% in all or most classes (70% vs. 69% CC and 63% SC).

**I Know what I'm supposed to be doing, when I'm supposed to be doing it, and what it takes to get a good grade.**

Most accurately reflect your experience?	LaGuardia	Community colleges	Senior Colleges	Total CUNY
In ALL of my classes I know what I am supposed to be doing	45%	41%	32%	35%
In MOST of my classes I know what I am supposed to be doing	25%	28%	31%	30%
In SOME of my classes. In OTHERS I am confused	23%	24%	29%	27%
In MOST of my classes, I DO NOT know what I'm supposed be doing	5%	5%	7%	6%
In ALL of my classes, I have NO IDEA what I'm supposed to be doing	2%	2%	2%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

- The distance education experience of LaGuardia students is generally more positive compared to the other groups, especially senior colleges, on a number of course-related experiences:
  - Agreeing that they have clear understanding of professors’ expectations (72% vs. 68% CC and 64% SC).
  - Agreeing that that they get clear instructions on how to complete course assignments (73% vs. 69% CC and 63% SC).
  - Getting clear and helpful feedback on exams and assignments (68% vs. 63% CC and 52% SC).
  - Getting sufficient help from their professors (63% vs. 59% CC and 51% SC).
  - More LaGuardia and all community college respondents than at the senior colleges indicate they are getting adequate access to exams and time to complete them (67% and 65% CC vs. 57% SC).
  - More LaGuardia and all community college respondents indicate they are notified when doing poorly (47% LAGCC and 48% CC vs. 34% SC) compared to senior colleges respondents.
  - More LaGuardia and all community colleges respondents indicated they are challenged to do their best in their courses (72% LAGCC and 73% CC vs. 64% SC).
- The most effective instructional methods which were selected by the majority of all respondents are:
  - Live lectures during class time using Blackboard Collaborate or Zoom (65% LAGCC, 61% CC, 60% SC)
  - Recorded lectures or class sessions they can watch later (58% LAGCC, 55% CC, 59% SC).

Expecting to graduate

- Respondent were asked about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their expected graduation date. Over 40% of all respondents expect to graduate on time or early (44% at LaGuardia and 43% at the other groups), while close to 30% expected to graduate later than expected (27% LAGCC, 28% CC, 30% SC). However, close to 30% did not know how the pandemic will impact their graduation.

## Transitioning to Distance Learning (Table 2)

Respondents were asked about challenges they experiences in transitioning to distance education in the Fall 2020 semester.

### Personal Challenges

- *Difficulty focusing or paying attention to remote instruction and not feeling motivated* were the biggest challenges overall, although these were noticeably more challenging for senior college respondents.
  - *Difficulty focusing or paying attention* (very challenging: 23% LAGCC, 26% CC, 38% SC; very or somewhat challenging: 61% LAGCC, 62% CC, 72% SC).
  - *Not feeling motivated to complete coursework* (very challenging: 24% LAGCC, 25% CC, 38% SC; very or somewhat challenging: 62% LAGCC, 63% CC, 71% SC).
- *Access to a quite space* was challenging for all groups, with 25% of the LaGuardia and all community college and 30% of senior college respondents finding it very challenging, and around 60% finding it very or somewhat challenging (60% LAGCC, 58% CC, 63% SC).

### Course and instruction related challenges

- The proportion of LaGuardia respondents reporting Instructor *discomfort with the required technologies or applications* was lower than the other groups (very challenging: 11% LAGCC, 17% CC, 16% SC; very or somewhat challenging: 57% LAGCC, 62% CC, 64% SC). Responses across the groups were very similar when reporting on their own *discomfort with required technologies or applications* (10% very challenging for all groups; very or somewhat challenging 45% compared to 48% the CC and SC groups).

### **This semester: Discomfort or lack of familiarity with required technologies or applications**

	LaGuardia	Community colleges	Senior Colleges	Total CUNY
<b>Instructor</b>				
Not at all challenging	43%	38%	36%	37%
Somewhat Challenging	46%	46%	47%	47%
Very challenging	11%	16%	17%	17%
<b>Student</b>				
Not at all challenging	52%	52%	55%	54%
Somewhat Challenging	38%	38%	35%	36%
Very challenging	10%	10%	10%	10%

- Another challenge reported by a large number of respondents is that *course lessons or activities haven't translated well to a remote environment* (very challenging: 19% LAGCC, 21% CC, 29% SC; very or somewhat challenging: 58% LAGCC, 60% CC, 67% SC).
- Over half of all respondents reported that *the expectations around each technologies or applications are clear* (51% LAGCC, 54% CC and 53% SC) while about 10% reported that it is very challenging. However, greater proportions reported unclear expectations around course assignment or requirements (very or somewhat challenging: 55% LAGCC, 56% CC, 63% SC).
- In addition, nearly 60% of respondents say they are challenged by *a lack of access to library resources* (very or somewhat challenging: 57% LAGCC, 56% CC, 59% SC), although only about 20% of respondents in all groups found it very challenging.
- *Finding time to participate in synchronous online classes* was very or somewhat challenging for 53% of the LaGuardia and all community college and for 56% of the senior college respondents, although it was very challenging for 20% or less (15% LAGCC, 18% CC, 20% SC). Similarly, *competing class meetings and*

*schedules* was very or somewhat challenging for close to a half of the respondents (42% LAGCC, 46% CC, 50% SC), but very challenging to 11% to 15%.

Adequate technological resources

- Most students report they have access to a computer.
- However, close to half report challenges with reliable internet service.
- About half also indicated that they find the access to specialized software very or somewhat challenging.

**This semester: The extent that the following issues have been challenging**

	LaGuardia	Community colleges	Senior Colleges	Total CUNY
<b>Access to a computer</b>				
Not at all challenging	74%	75%	79%	78%
Somewhat Challenging	19%	18%	17%	17%
Very challenging	7%	7%	5%	5%
<b>Access to reliable internet service</b>				
Not at all challenging	53%	55%	52%	53%
Somewhat Challenging	35%	32%	35%	34%
Very challenging	12%	13%	13%	13%
<b>Access to specialized software</b>				
Not at all challenging	50%	52%	49%	50%
Somewhat Challenging	36%	34%	35%	34%
Very challenging	14%	14%	16%	16%

Biggest concerns the with transition to distance learning

- The top concern of distance learning for all respondents by far is its *impact on grades and performing well in class* (60% LAGCC, 73% CC, 78% CC)
- The top concerns that followed are *possible delays in graduation, not being able to communicate with instructors, and missing out on extracurricular and on-campus activities*. However, these were selected by a third of LaGuardia respondents and approximately 40% of all community college and senior college respondents

Biggest Concerns (all that apply)	LaGuardia	Community colleges	Senior Colleges	Total CUNY
Grades/performing well in class	60%	73%	78%	76%
Possible delays in graduating	33%	39%	40%	40%
Not being able to communicate with instructors	33%	42%	47%	45%
Completing internship or practicum requirements	18%	20%	26%	24%
Not being able to see classmates	25%	31%	34%	33%
Missing out on extracurricular/on-campus activities	32%	37%	40%	39%
Online security protection of personal data	19%	19%	24%	22%
Personal privacy during online instruction	18%	19%	28%	25%

### The Impact of Pandemic and Transition to Distance Learning on Transfer Plans (Tables 3)

Because of the difference in transfer objectives and experiences in community colleges and senior colleges, only community colleges are compared with LaGuardia respondents in this section

- About 40% of LaGuardia and all community colleges respondents were planning on transferring before the pandemic. However, 37% of the LaGuardia and 40% of all community college respondents indicated that the pandemic and/or the move to distance learning affected their transfer decision.
- The responses of the LaGuardia and all community college respondents for those who indicated that their transfer plans were affected by the pandemic and the move to distance learning were similar for most of the questions:
  - Respondents selected most frequently *delayed plans to transfer because of uncertainty in their personal life* (44% LAGCC, 41% CC).
  - Another top reason for adjusting altering transfer plans were *not wanting to make big change during the pandemic* (37% LAGCC, 35% CC).
  - The largest gap between LaGuardia and all community college respondents was *delaying plans to transfer due to uncertainty in employment and/or job opportunities* which was selected by 32% of the LaGuardia respondents in comparison to 25% of all community college respondents.

#### How has the pandemic and/or move to distance learning affected transfer plans (all that apply)

	LaGuardia	Community colleges
Did not want to make big change during the pandemic	37%	35%
Delayed plans to transfer because of uncertainty in personal life	44%	41%
delayed plans to transfer because of uncertainty in employment and/or job opportunity	32%	25%
Planned to transfer because of location, which is less important because of distance education	8%	13%
Planned to transfer because of the majors offered, now unsure about job opportunities & career plans	20%	20%
Plan to wait until can attend courses there in person	27%	30%

- Only a small number of LaGuardia (11%) community college (14%) respondents indicated the pandemic or the move to distance learning discouraged them from thinking about transferring.
- Of those indicating they were discouraged from transferring:
  - Close to a third of the respondents indicated that they no longer had to worry about the location of the campus (32% LAGCC, 30% CC).
  - Close to a third of LaGuardia respondents (30%) and 37% of all community college respondents indicated that they are considering changing their major and career goals.
  - A considerably higher proportion of LaGuardia respondents indicated that they have more time to devote to their studies and can take more challenging course work (25% LAGCC vs. 17% CC), and a smaller proportion indicated that they have less time for their students (11% LAGCC vs. 23% CC).
- In addition, similar proportions of LaGuardia respondents report using transfer services prior to distance learning (19%) after the move to distance learning (18%). These proportions are similar to all community colleges.

## Comparison to LaGuardia Administered Surveys

### Survey of Instructors preferred teaching Modality

In December 2020, instructors were surveyed by their department Chairs about their interest in *continuing to teach online when we are able to return to campus* (some departments surveyed only full-time faculty while others included adjuncts and/or other instructional staff). Instructors were provided with five teaching modality options: *in-person, hybrid/blended, fully online asynchronous, fully online synchronous, and a mix of online asynchronous & synchronous*. Respondents were asked to provide a list of the courses they teach and their preferred modality for each of the courses. The response rate to the survey was 31%.

Students and faculty preferred teaching modalities are presented in the table below. Both the CUNY survey of students and the LaGuardia instructors’ survey were conducted in Fall 2020. Since faculty preferences were courses-related contingent on the type of the courses they are teaching, the faculty preference in the table below is course based.

- About a third of students and instructors prefer in-person teaching.
- Smaller proportions of faculty prefer hybrid teaching compared to the students (13 percentage points difference).
- Smaller proportions of faculty prefer synchronous teaching compared to the students (8 percentage points difference).
- Faculty prefer teaching close to half of their courses fully online (47%) while 36% of the students preferred fully online teaching (either asynchronous or synchronous).

Modality Preference	LaGuardia Faculty results for courses	LaGuardia Students CUNY’s survey
in-person classes	31%	33%
Hybrid (a combination of in-person and distance learning)	18%	31%
Synchronous (distance learning where instructor and students are all online together at the same time)	13%	21%
Asynchronous (do not require students to log in to their virtual classroom at a specified time)	5%	15%
Mix of Asynchronous/Synchronous	29%	
Mix of all modalities	2%	
Total	100%	100%

## Student Survey of their Distance Learning Experience (May 2020)

In May 2020, LaGuardia surveyed students about their distance education experiences. The number of students responding to the survey was 1,001, representing a 7% response rate

### Discomfort with the required technology

- While responses categories were different, students in both surveys indicated that they are more familiar and comfortable with the required technologies or applications than their instructors.

### **Familiarity or discomfort with required technology or applications**

Challenges/issues	LaGuardia Spring 2020 survey	CUNY Fall 2020 survey
	Identified as a challenge	Very or somewhat challenging
Instructors	45%	57% (11% very challenging)
Students	33%	48% (10% very challenging)

### Adequate technology resources

- *Access to a computer* appear to be a challenge for a small proportion of students both in Spring 2020 and Fall 2020.
- *Access to a reliable internet service* was an issue to a quarter of the respondents in Spring 2020 and is at least somewhat of a challenge for half of the Fall 2020 respondents.
- Since more of the Fall 2020 respondents selected *access to specialized software* as more of a challenge than *access to reliable internet service* compared to the Spring 2020 respondents, it might be an increasingly important issue for the students.

### **Technological resources**

Challenges/issues	LaGuardia Spring 2020 survey	CUNY Fall 2020 survey
	Identified as a challenge	Very or somewhat challenging
Access to a computer	15%	26% (7% very challenging)
Access to specialized software	17%	50% (14% very challenging)
Access to reliable internet service	25%	47% (12% very challenging)

### Students' biggest concerns

- Students' top concerns were very similar in the both surveys – with *grades* being the overwhelmingly top concern, although it decreased from 82% in Spring 2020 to 60% in Fall 2020.
- The concerns that follow were expressed by about a third of the respondents in both surveys. Although *not being able to graduate* moved from the second to the third place, and *not being able to communicate with instructors* moved from the third to the second place.
- *Missing out on curricular or on-campus activities* was the fourth concern in both surveys.

Biggest Concerns (all that apply)	LaGuardia Spring 2020 survey	CUNY Fall 2020 survey
Grades/performing well in class	82%	60%
Possible delays in graduating	39%	33%
Not being able to communicate with instructors	33%	38%
Missing out on extracurricular/on-campus activities	31%	32%



## Conclusion

Overall, the experiences of LaGuardia's respondents with distance learning were similar or slightly more favorable compared to all community colleges and mostly more favorable compared to senior colleges.

- 86% of LaGuardia's students experienced online learning for the first time in response to COVID – a higher percentage compared to all community colleges (82%) and all senior colleges (78%).
- Similar to faculty responses at the same semester, a third of the LaGuardia students preferred in-person teaching. However, considerably more respondents preferred hybrid and online synchronous teaching while more faculty preferred online asynchronous or a mix of asynchronous and synchronous fully online teaching modalities.
- Similar to all community colleges, about a third of LaGuardia respondents indicate that they learned less with distance learning compared to in-person, while a quarter indicate that they learned more. However, responses for senior colleges are considerably more favorable to in-person teaching.
- About 70% of the respondents at LaGuardia and all community colleges indicated that they know what they are supposed to do get good grades in most or all of their classes, higher proportions compared to senior colleges.
- The biggest challenges for respondents were *paying attention and feeling motivated*, and *finding quite spaces* (about 60% LaGuardia and all community college respondents).
- The largest challenges with instructions are that *courses lessons or activities did not translate well to remote environment*, *unclear expectations around course assignments and requirements* and *library resources*.
- In both the current Fall 2020 CUNY survey and the LaGuardia administered Spring 2020 survey respondents indicated that they are more familiar with the required technologies or applications than their instructors.
- In both the current Fall 2020 CUNY survey and the LaGuardia administered Spring 2020 survey, LaGuardia respondents' top concern was *grades and performing well in class* (82% in Spring 2020 and 60% in Fall 2020). The concerns that followed were *possible delays in graduating*, *not being able to communicate with instructors*, and *missing out on extracurricular activities*, and were selected by approximately a third of the students in both surveys.
- While 40% of the LaGuardia and all community college respondents were planning on transferring before the pandemic, close to 40% indicated the pandemic affected their transfer plans. The top reason for changing the plans were *uncertainty in personal life*, followed by *not wanting to make big changes during the pandemic*, and *uncertainty about job opportunities*.

## Detailed Tables - LaGuardia, Community Colleges, Senior Colleges and Total

**Table 1. Distance Learning Experience – Course Instruction**

		SENIOR/COMMUNITY			
		Senior Colleges	Community Colleges	LaGuardia	Total
		Column N %	Column N %	Column N %	Column N %
How much experience did you have with distance learning before the start of the fall 2020 semester?	This semester (fall) is the first time I am taking online courses.	23	35	33	27
	This past spring was the first time I took online courses.	55	47	52	52
	I have taken online courses prior to the COVID-19 move to distance learning.	22	18	14	21
	Total	100	100	100	100
I prefer:	in-person classes	40	36	33	38
	distance learning where my instructor, classmates, and I are all online together at the same time	14	18	21	15
	distance learning I can do on my own time	17	15	15	16
	a combination of in-person and distance learning	30	30	31	30
	Total	100	100	100	100
Compared to in-person classes, with distance learning:	I learn MORE than in-person.	19	23	24	20
	I learn ABOUT THE SAME as in-person.	36	40	42	37
	I learn LESS than in-person.	45	37	35	43
	Total	100	100	100	100
Which of the following statements most accurately reflect your experience?	In ALL of my classes, I know what I'm supposed to be doing, when I'm supposed to be doing it, and what it takes to get a good grade.	32	41	45	35
	In MOST of my classes, I know what I'm supposed to be doing, when I'm supposed to be doing it, and what it takes to get a good grade.	31	28	25	30
	In SOME of my classes, I know what I'm supposed to be doing, when I'm supposed to be doing it, and what it takes to get a good grade. In OTHERS, though, I am confused about one or more of these things.	29	24	23	27
	In MOST of my classes, I DO NOT know what I'm supposed to be doing, when I'm supposed to be doing it, or what it takes to get a good grade.	7	5	5	6
	In ALL of my classes, I have NO IDEA what I'm supposed to be doing, when I'm supposed to be doing it, or what it takes to get a good grade.	2	2	2	2
	Total	100	100	100	100

Based on your experiences THIS SEMESTER, indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:		SENIOR/COMMUNITY			
		SENIOR COLLEGES	COMMUNITY COLLEGES	LaGuardia	Total
		Column N %	Column N %	Column N %	Column N %
I have a clear understanding of my professors' expectations for doing well in my courses.	Strongly Disagree	8	7	6	8
	Disagree	11	7	7	10
	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	16	18	16	17
	Agree	43	41	42	43
	Strongly Agree	21	27	30	23
	Total	100	100	100	100
I get clear instructions from my professors about how to complete course assignments.	Strongly Disagree	7	6	5	7
	Disagree	13	10	7	12
	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	17	16	15	16
	Agree	43	43	45	43
	Strongly Agree	20	26	28	22
	Total	100	100	100	100
I get clear instructions from my professors about how to submit my assignments digitally.	Strongly Disagree	5	5	4	5
	Disagree	6	5	5	6
	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	11	11	10	11
	Agree	49	47	46	48
	Strongly Agree	28	32	36	29
	Total	100	100	100	100
I get clear and helpful feedback on assignments and exams.	Strongly Disagree	11	8	7	10
	Disagree	15	10	9	14
	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	21	18	17	20
	Agree	36	40	42	37
	Strongly Agree	16	24	26	19
	Total	100	100	100	100
I get sufficient help from my professors for my courses.	Strongly Disagree	11	9	7	10
	Disagree	15	10	9	13
	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	24	22	21	23
	Agree	36	38	39	36
	Strongly Agree	15	22	24	17
	Total	100	100	100	100
I am notified if I am doing poorly in my courses.	Strongly Disagree	18	12	11	16
	Disagree	19	15	16	18
	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	29	25	26	28
	Agree	23	31	30	26
	Strongly Agree	11	17	17	13
	Total	100	100	100	100
I have adequate access to exams and adequate time to complete them.	Strongly Disagree	11	9	8	10
	Disagree	14	9	10	13
	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	18	17	15	17
	Agree	40	43	45	41
	Strongly Agree	17	23	23	19
	Total	100	100	100	100
I know who to go to for academic help with my courses.	Strongly Disagree	15	9	7	13
	Disagree	18	11	12	16
	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	19	18	18	19
	Agree	34	40	40	36
	Strongly Agree	14	22	22	17
	Total	100	100	100	100

I know who to go to for technical help with my courses.	Strongly Disagree	16	9	9	14
	Disagree	21	14	16	19
	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	22	20	20	21
	Agree	30	38	37	32
	Strongly Agree	12	19	18	14
	Total	100	100	100	100
I am challenged to do my best in my courses.	Strongly Disagree	7	5	5	6
	Disagree	7	5	6	7
	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	21	17	18	20
	Agree	41	43	42	42
	Strongly Agree	23	30	30	26
	Total	100	100	100	100

		SENIOR/COMMUNITY			
		Senior Colleges	Community Colleges	LaGuardia	Total
		Column N %	Column N %	Column N %	Column N %
Thinking about all of your classes this semester, which were the most effective online instructional methods? (Select all that apply.) - Selected Choice Blogs	Blogs	5	6	6	5
	Other. Please specify:	6	5	4	5
	Group chats on the phone or mobile device	27	25	26	26
	Homework assignments	43	49	48	45
	Lessons in written form (Word, PowerPoint, PDF)	43	41	41	42
	Live lectures during class time using Blackboard Collaborate or Zoom	60	61	65	60
	Online discussion boards	34	39	31	36
	Online chats in Blackboard	14	21	25	16
	Recorded lectures or class sessions I can watch later	59	55	58	58
	Group projects or other interactive work with my classmates	17	15	16	17

**Table 2. Transitioning to Distance Learning**

THIS SEMESTER, to what extent have the following issues been a challenge for you?		SENIOR/COMMUNITY			
		Senior Colleges	Community Colleges	LaGuardia	Total
		Column N %	Column N %	Column N %	Column N %
Instructor discomfort or lack of familiarity with required technologies or applications	Not at all challenging	36	38	43	37
	Somewhat challenging	47	46	46	47
	Very challenging	17	16	11	17
	Total	100	100	100	100
My own discomfort or lack of familiarity with required technologies or applications	Not at all challenging	55	52	52	54
	Somewhat challenging	35	38	38	36
	Very challenging	10	10	10	10
	Total	100	100	100	100
Unclear expectations around which technologies and applications I am required to use	Not at all challenging	53	54	51	53
	Somewhat challenging	35	36	39	35
	Very challenging	11	11	10	11
	Total	100	100	100	100
My access to reliable internet service	Not at all challenging	52	55	53	53
	Somewhat challenging	35	32	35	34
	Very challenging	13	13	12	13
	Total	100	100	100	100
My access to a computer	Not at all challenging	79	75	74	78
	Somewhat challenging	17	18	19	17
	Very challenging	5	7	7	5
	Total	100	100	100	100
My access to specialized software (e.g., Adobe products, statistical packages)	Not at all challenging	49	52	50	50
	Somewhat challenging	35	34	36	34
	Very challenging	16	14	14	16
	Total	100	100	100	100
My access to quiet space to complete coursework	Not at all challenging	37	42	40	39
	Somewhat challenging	33	33	35	33
	Very challenging	30	25	25	28
	Total	100	100	100	100
My access to library resources	Not at all challenging	41	44	43	42
	Somewhat challenging	35	36	37	36
	Very challenging	24	21	20	23
	Total	100	100	100	100
Finding time to participate in synchronous online classes (e.g., live-streaming lectures or video-conferencing at a set time)	Not at all challenging	44	47	47	45
	Somewhat challenging	36	35	38	36
	Very challenging	20	18	15	20
	Total	100	100	100	100
Unclear expectations around course/assignment requirements	Not at all challenging	37	44	45	39
	Somewhat challenging	43	42	43	43
	Very challenging	19	14	12	18
	Total	100	100	100	100
Competing class meetings and schedules	Not at all challenging	50	54	58	51
	Somewhat challenging	35	33	30	34
	Very challenging	15	13	11	15
	Total	100	100	100	100
Course lessons or activities that haven't translated well to a remote environment	Not at all challenging	33	40	42	35
	Somewhat challenging	38	39	39	38
	Very challenging	29	21	19	26
	Total	100	100	100	100

Difficulty focusing or paying attention to remote instruction or activities	Not at all challenging	28	38	39	31
	Somewhat challenging	34	37	38	35
	Very challenging	38	26	23	34
	Total	100	100	100	100
Instructor availability/responsiveness	Not at all challenging	42	49	49	44
	Somewhat challenging	41	37	38	39
	Very challenging	17	14	13	16
	Total	100	100	100	100
Personal motivation/desire to complete coursework	Not at all challenging	29	37	38	31
	Somewhat challenging	33	37	38	34
	Very challenging	38	25	24	34
	Total	100	100	100	100
Other. Please specify:	Not at all challenging	48	53	53	50
	Somewhat challenging	20	24	25	21
	Very challenging	32	23	22	28
	Total	100	100	100	100

		SENIOR/COMMUNITY			
		Senior Colleges	Community Colleges	LaGuardia	Total
		Column N %	Column N %	Column N %	Column N %
What are your biggest concerns with the transition to distance learning in general? (Select all that apply.)	Grades/performing well in class	78	73	60	76
	Possible delays in graduating/completing my program	40	39	33	40
	Not being able to communicate with instructors	47	42	33	45
	Completing my internship or practicum requirements	26	20	18	24
	Not being able to see classmates	34	31	25	33
	Missing out on extracurricular/on-campus activities	40	37	32	39
	Online security protection of my personal data	24	19	19	22
	Personal privacy during online instruction	28	19	18	25
	Other. Please specify:	10	9	7	9

		SENIOR/COMMUNITY			
		Senior Colleges	Community Colleges	LaGuardia	Total
		Column N %	Column N %	Column N %	Column N %
Do you think you will graduate later than expected, earlier than expected or at the same time as expected due to the COVID-19 pandemic?	Don't know	27	29	29	28
	Later than expected	30	28	27	29
	Earlier than expected	3	4	4	4
	At the same time as expected	39	39	40	39
	Total	100	100	100	100

**Table 3. Transfer Plans**

		SENIOR/COMMUNITY			
		Senior Colleges	Community Colleges	LaGuardia	Total
		Column N %	Column N %	Column N %	Column N %
Prior to the pandemic, were you planning to transfer from your current college to another college?	Yes	11	39	40	20
	No	89	61	60	80
	Total	100	100	100	100

		SENIOR/COMMUNITY			
		Senior Colleges	Community Colleges	LaGuardia	Total
		Column N %	Column N %	Column N %	Column N %
Has the pandemic and/or move to distance learning affected your plans to transfer?	Yes	50	40	37	44
	No	50	60	63	56
	Total	100	100	100	100
How has the pandemic and/or move to distance learning affected your plans to transfer? (Select all that apply.)	I do not want to make a big change like transferring colleges during the pandemic.	47	35	37	40
	I have delayed plans to transfer because of uncertainty in my personal life.	38	41	44	40
	I have delayed plans to transfer because of uncertainty in employment and/or job opportunities.	21	25	32	24
	I had planned to transfer to another campus because of its location, but transferring campuses is less important to me since the change to distance education.	22	13	8	17
	I planned to transfer to another campus because of the majors offered there, but I am now unsure of my job opportunities and career plans.	25	20	20	22
	I had planned to transfer to another campus, but now plan to wait until I can attend courses there in person.	25	30	27	28
	Other. Please specify:	8	11	9	9

		SENIOR/COMMUNITY			
		Senior Colleges	Community Colleges	LaGuardia	Total
		Column N %	Column N %	Column N %	Column N %
Has the pandemic and/or move to distance learning encouraged you to think about transferring to another college?	Yes	13	14	11	13
	No	87	86	89	87
	Total	100	100	100	100
How has the pandemic and/or move to distance learning affected your plans to transfer? (Select all that apply.)	With distance learning, I do not have to worry about the location of campus and I am considering transferring to a college whose campus is further from my home or work.	21	30	32	23
	I am considering changing my major and career goals.	29	37	30	31
	I would like to go somewhere with courses that are easier to get into.	27	24	25	26
	I have more time to devote to my studies and can take on more challenging course work.	8	17	25	10
	I have less time for my studies and need to decrease my course work load.	27	23	11	26
	Other. Please specify:	28	11	7	23