



## 2020-21 Student Engagement Survey Results Institutional Research and Analysis

### Introduction

The Institutional Research and Analysis (IR&A) unit at the Saskatchewan Polytechnic (Sask Polytech) annually surveys its current students in certificate, diploma, and degree programs to understand their experience and levels of engagement at Sask Polytech. Students are asked to evaluate their learning experience, admission and orientation processes, student support and services, campus facilities, and quality of interactions with other students, faculty, and administration staff.

In the 2020-21 academic year, questions related to the COVID-19 pandemic were added to the survey questionnaire to examine potential negative impact of the pandemic and students' satisfaction with the services and support provided by Sask Polytech to help them cope with challenges during the pandemic. A question about students' sense of belonging at Sask Polytech was also added as part of the overall assessment of student experience.

In 2020-21, 6,205 students were invited to participate in the survey between February and May 2021. In total, 3,576 responded to the questionnaire. The response rate was 58%.

The margin of error at the institution level is +/- 1.07 percent at a 95% confidence level. Results at program levels may not be statistically reliable due to small sample sizes. Caution is needed when interpreting those results.

### About the Report

This report presents the full results from the 2020-21 survey. Three years' trended results (2018-19 to 2020-21) are provided in the last three dashboards where questions remain unchanged to allow comparing the results year over year.

The numbers in this report have been rounded to zero decimal place. As a result, the sums of percentages may not equal to 100% in some charts.

Questions where multiple responses were allowed have been noted on individual dashboards. The sums of percentages for these questions may be more than 100%.

To view the findings of the survey for a specific program or subcategory, select school, program, credential, campus, and other desired categories from the filters on the "Report Filters" tab. Click the reset button to remove all filters and show overall institution results. On each result page of the report, click the home icon on the top right corner to go back to the report filter page to make changes to the filters.



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## 2020-21 Student Engagement Survey Results Institutional Research and Analysis

### Institutional Highlights

- In 2020-21, the **average age** of students surveyed was 25.75. The proportions of **female** students, **international** students, **indigenous** students, students with **disability** were 51%, 24%, 11% and 7% respectively. Nine in ten (91%) lived in Saskatchewan at the time of the survey.
- A strong majority (88%) remained satisfied with their program overall, down slightly from previous two years' results (90%). Most students (82%) felt like they belong at Sask Polytech.
- Nine in ten programs (91%) incorporated **online components**, up significantly from previous two years (77% in 2018-19 and 84% in 2019-20).
- Perceptions on **program contribution** remained very positive. Nine in ten (87%) students were satisfied with the **quality of instruction** received at Sask Polytech, down slightly from previous two years (90%). Commonly cited reasons for dissatisfaction with quality of instruction were questionable quality of instructor, lack of support and communication, and online learning difficulties.
- **Admission and orientation** were most effective in making students aware of their roles and responsibilities (97% agree or strongly agree) and setting up admission requirement at the right levels so that students admitted were prepared to succeed (92%). They were less effective in orienting students through their program and introducing them to services and support available on campus.
- **Instructors** were very capable to use examples or illustrations to explain course materials (94% agree or strongly agree) and to explain learning outcomes, requirements and how students would be evaluated (92%). Perceptions on instructors were less positive in terms of providing prompt feedback on tests, assignments, or work in progress.
- Overall satisfaction with **campus facilities** remained strong and a strong majority (93%) continued to feel safe and secure on campus. However, perceptions on the appropriateness of specific types of facilities dropped consistently from 2019-20, particularly regarding computer lab spaces, common spaces, study spaces, library resources, and web-based services.
- Perceptions on **student support** varied. A large majority believed there was support for students to succeed academically (88%) or there was support for students' overall well-being (81%). Fewer believed there was support for helping manage non-academic responsibilities (65%) or opportunities to be involved socially with fellow students (67%). Perceptions on student support became less positive compared to 2019-20.
- Two in ten had left (5%) or seriously considered leaving (14%) Sask Polytech for at least one term or for an extended period. Being unsatisfied with program quality, weak academic performance and financial difficulties were most common reasons for the **interruption**. When asked what Sask Polytech could have done to better support their stay, one third (33%) of students who had experienced interruption mentioned better quality teachers and/or instruction.
- Students were asked to evaluate the negative impact of **COVID-19** on their academic learning, well-being, finance, and employment. Seven in ten (71%) believed the pandemic at least to some extent negatively impacted their ability to succeed as a student. Perceived negative impact of COVID-19 on classroom-based learning such as lectures and seminars were more prevalent than that on labs, shops, or work-integrated learning.
- Roughly two thirds (67%) indicated the pandemic at least to some extent negatively impacted their personal health and well-being and just under six in ten (57%) indicated negative impact of COVID-19 on their financial situation. One third (32%) were not sure about the impact on their future employment.
- Most students believed they were receiving adequate information (80%) from Sask Polytech about how COVID-19 may impact them as students and were satisfied (77%) with the services and support provided to help them cope with challenges during the pandemic.

# Respondent Profile

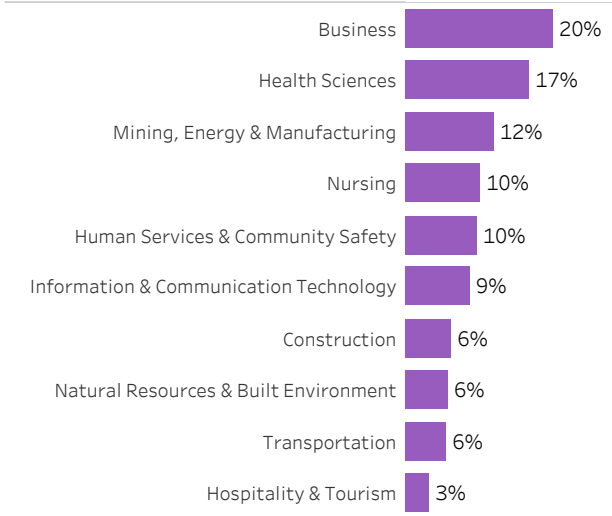
Number of Respondents  
**3,576**

School: **All** | Program: **All**  
 Credential: **All** | Admin Campus: **All** | Base/CE: **All**  
 Indigenous: **All** | International: **All**

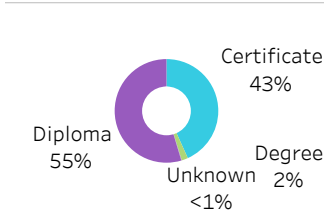


[Click to go to filters](#)

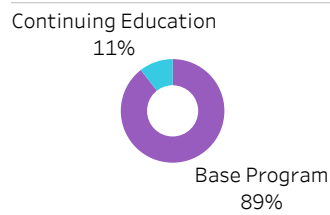
## School



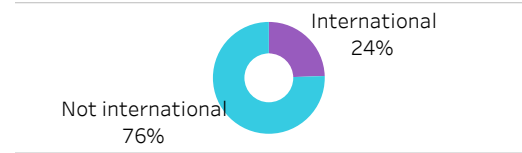
## Credential



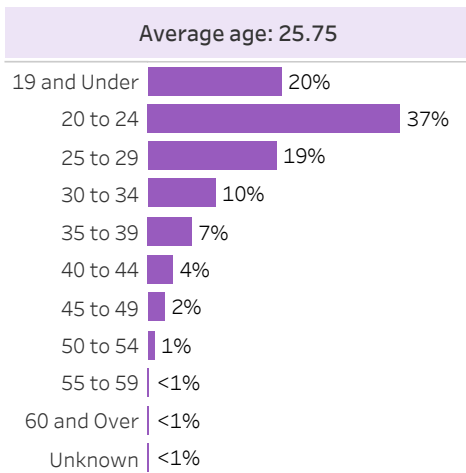
## Base/CE



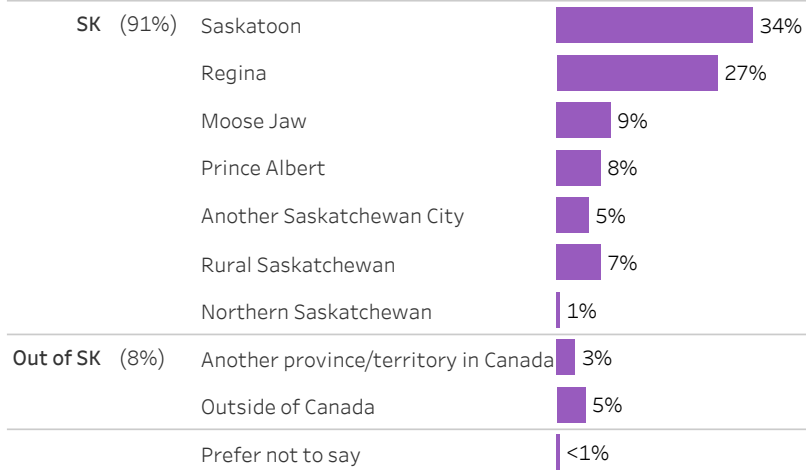
## International



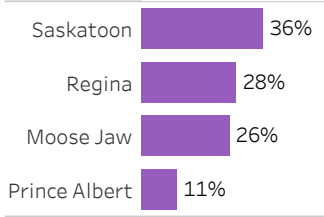
## Age Group



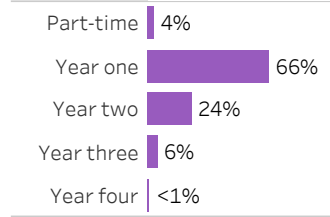
## Current Location



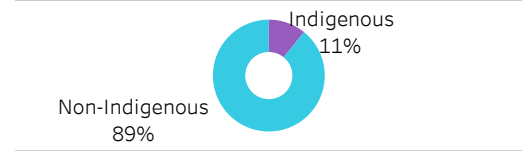
## Admin Campus



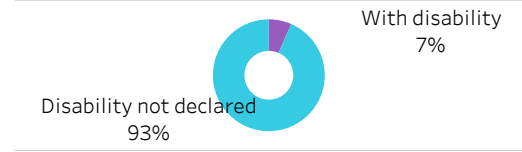
## Year of Study



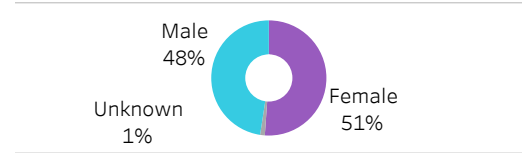
## Indigenous Status



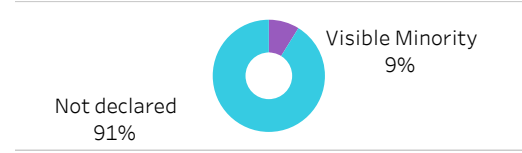
## Disability



## Gender



## Visible Minority



# Overall Assessment

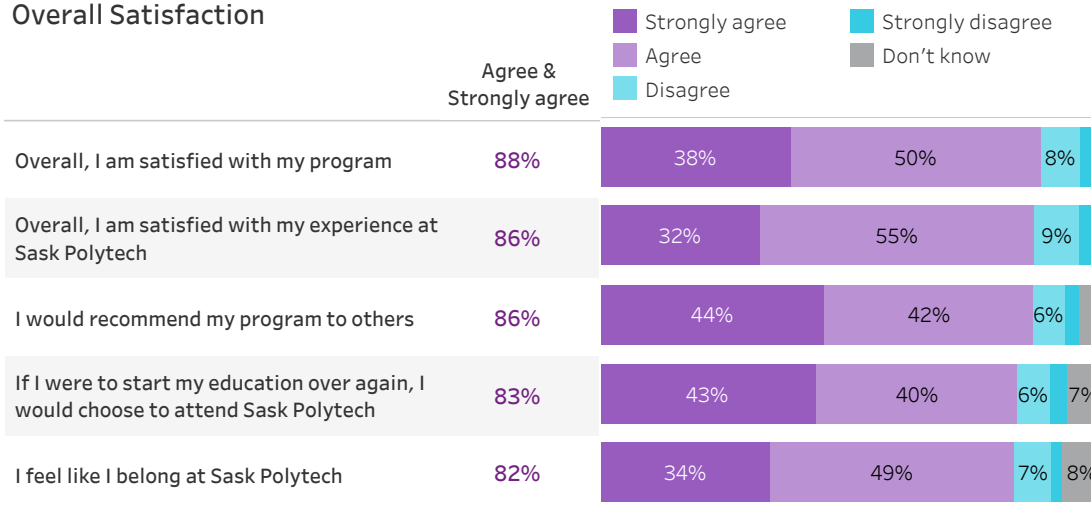
Number of Respondents  
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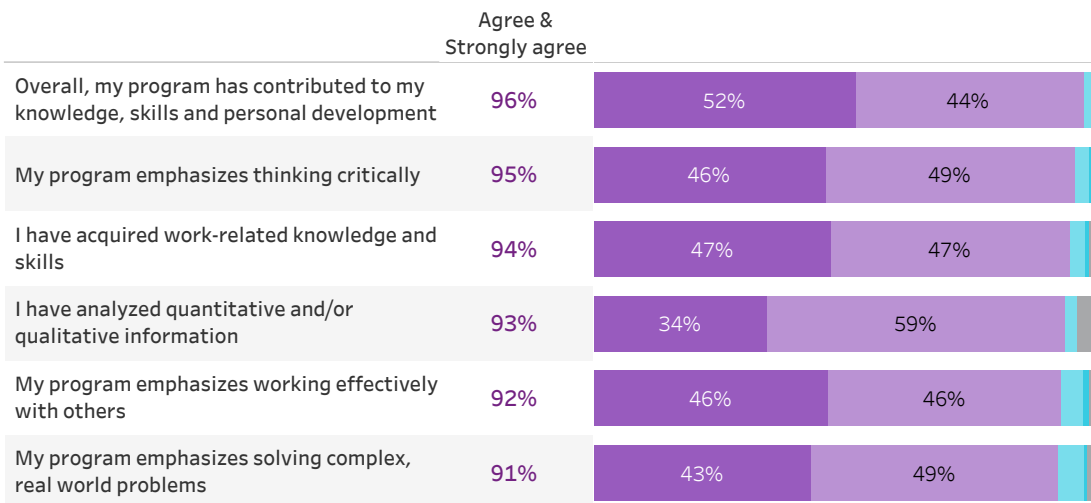


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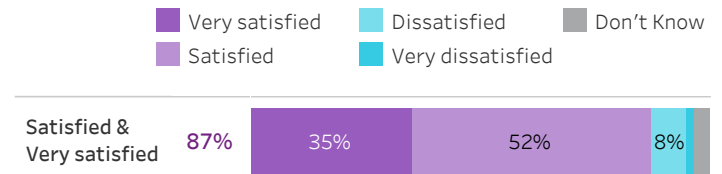
## Overall Satisfaction



## Program Benefit

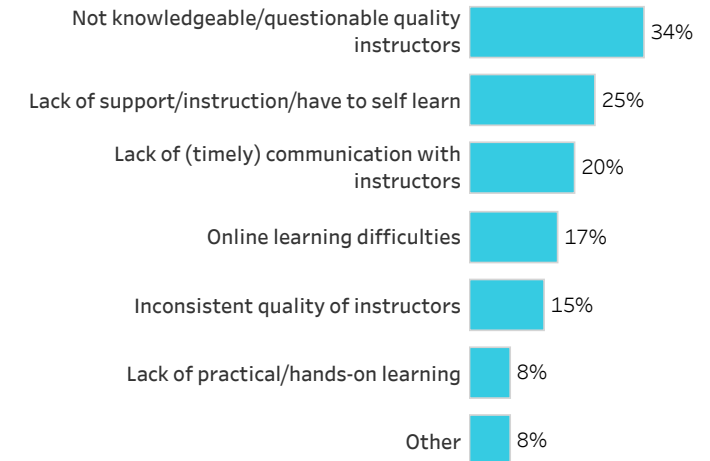


## Satisfaction with Quality of Instruction

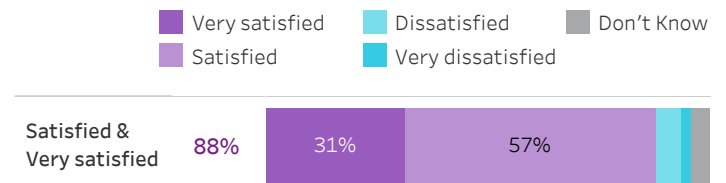


## Reason for Dissatisfaction with Instruction

(Coded themes from verbatim comments, responses could be associated with multiple themes)



## Overall Satisfaction with Facilities



# Admission and Orientation

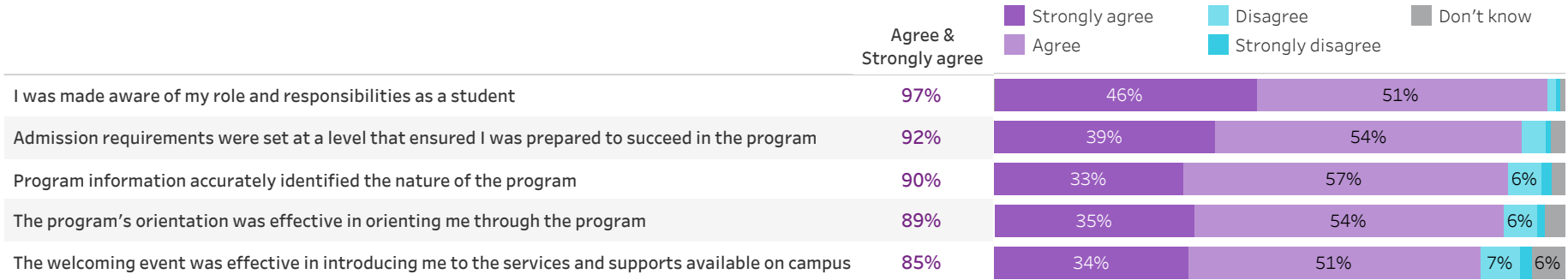
Number of Respondents  
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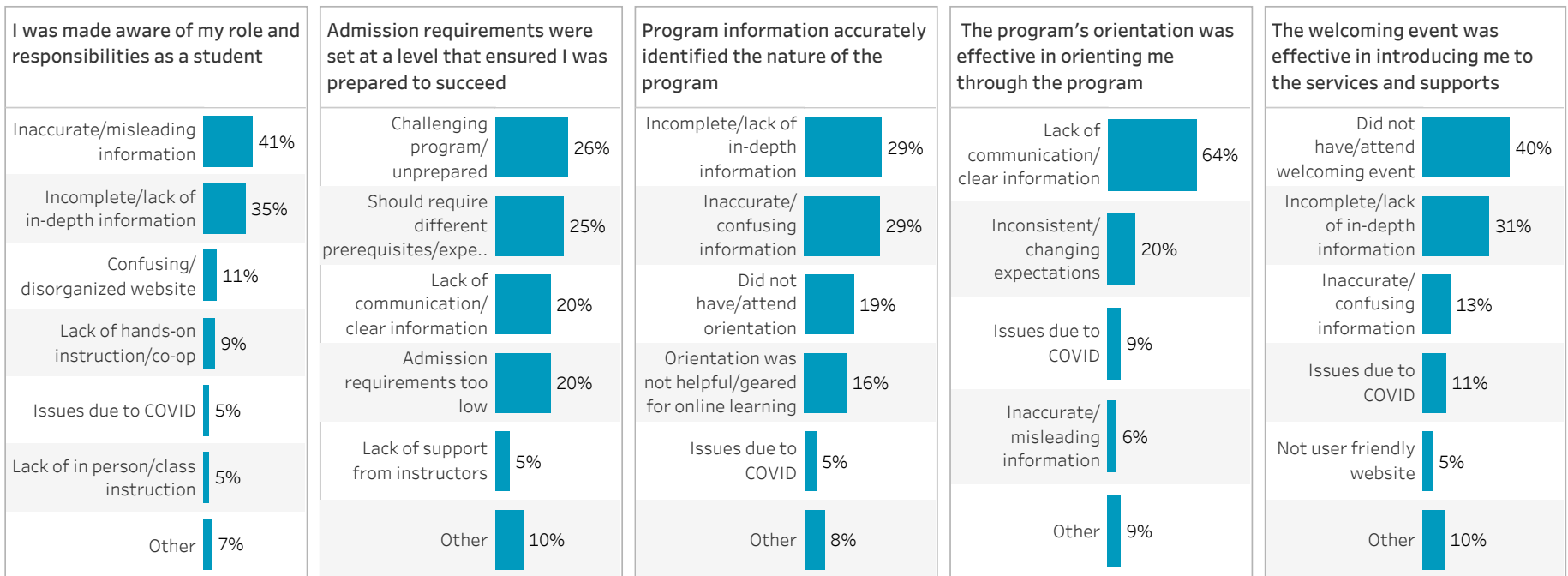
[Click to go to filters](#)

## Assessment of Admission and Orientation



## Reason for Disagreement with Statement

(Coded themes from verbatim comments, responses could be associated with multiple themes)



# Course Work and Instructor

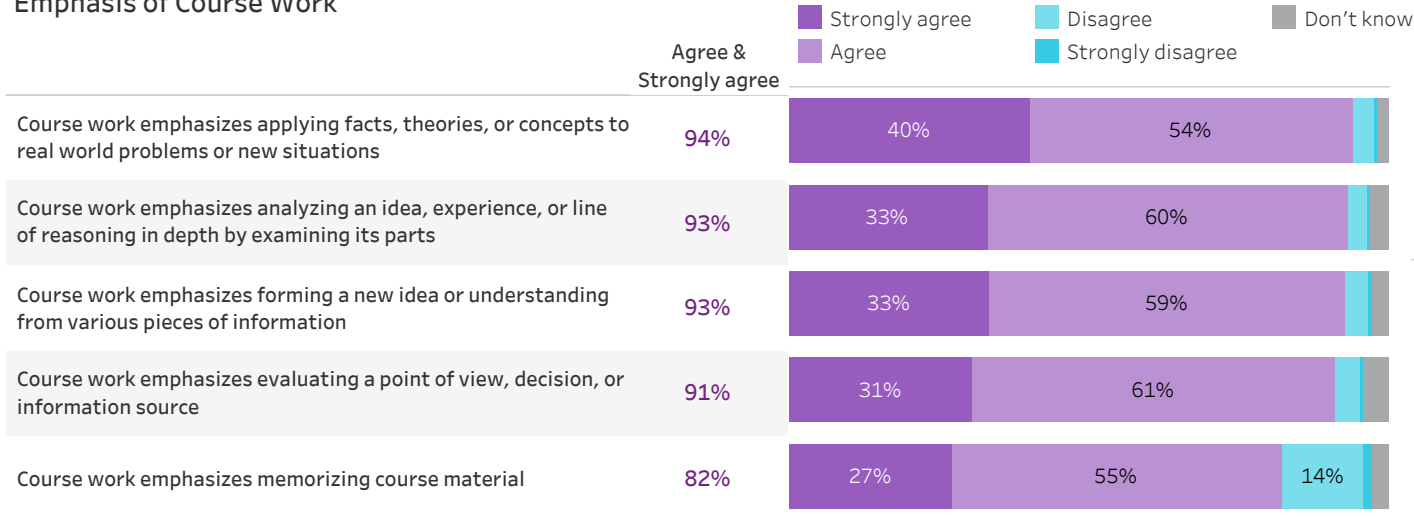
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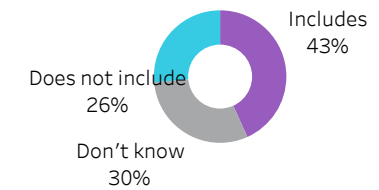
[Click to go to filters](#)

## Emphasis of Course Work

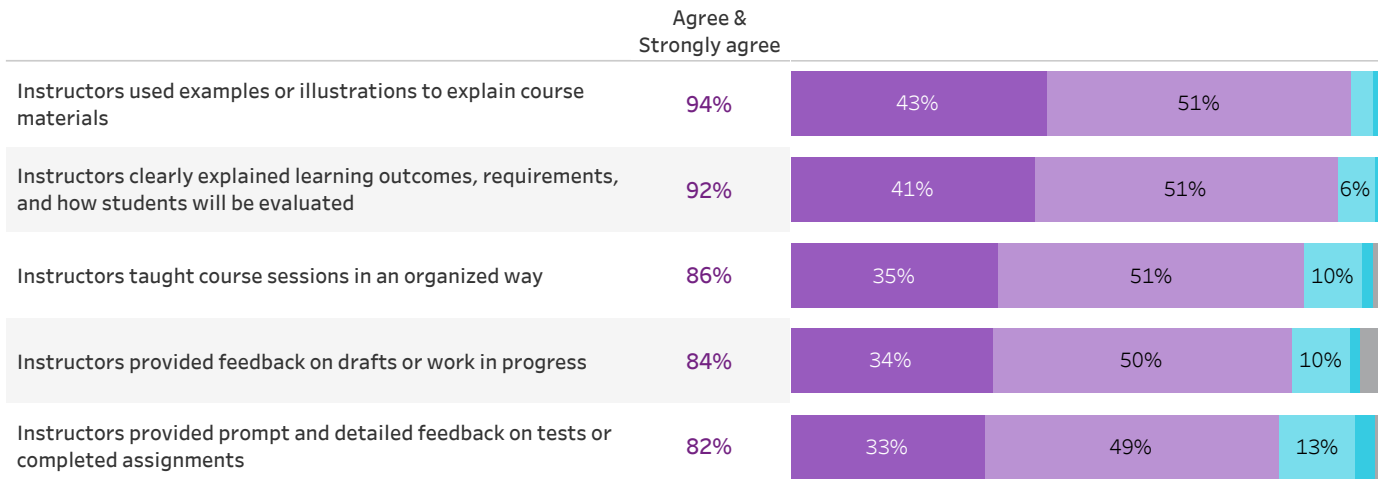


## Indigenous/Intercultural Component

(Does your program includes an indigenous or intercultural component?)

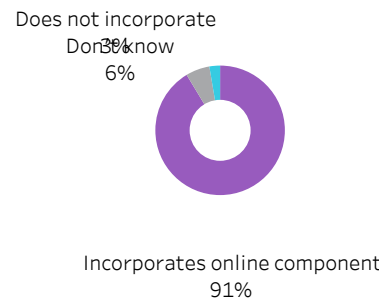


## Course Instructor



## Online Component

(Does your program incorporate an online component?)



# Learning Experience and Program Interruption

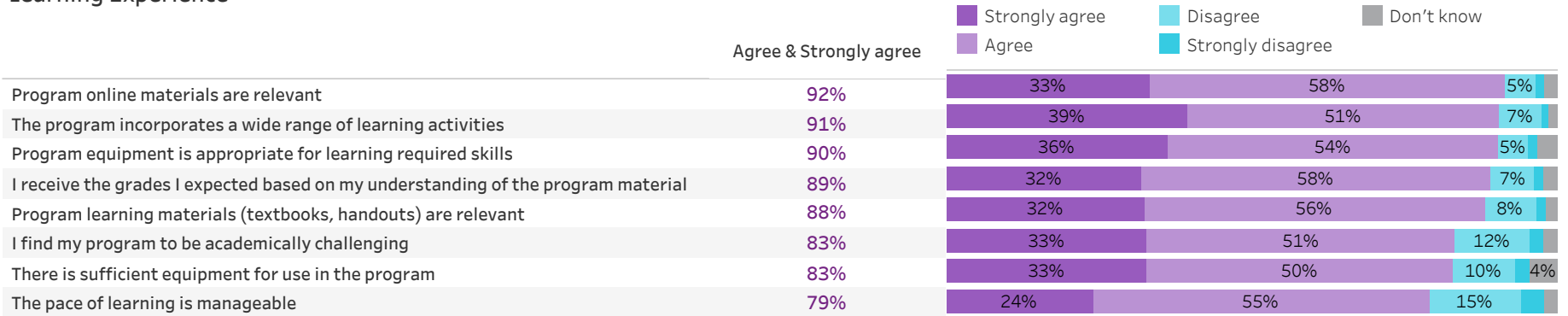
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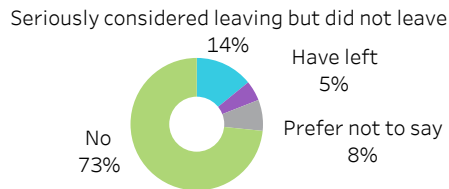
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## Learning Experience



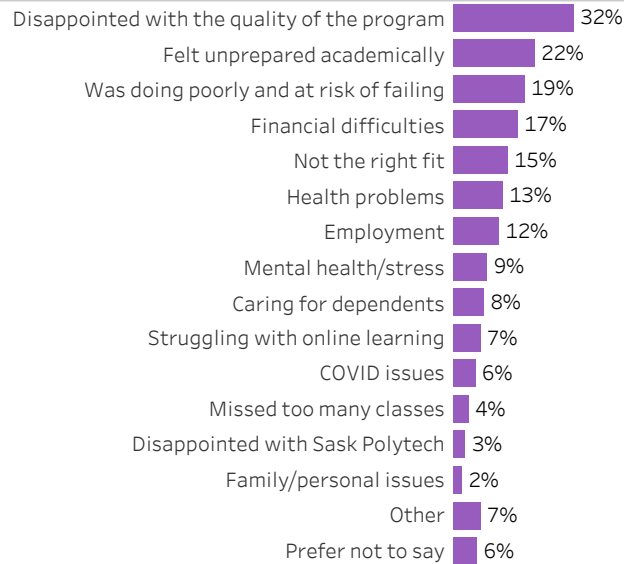
## Program Interruption

(In the past, have you ever left or seriously considered leaving Sask Polytech for at least one term or for an extended period?)

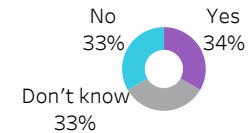


## Reason for Leaving/Considering Leaving

(Multiple responses allowed)

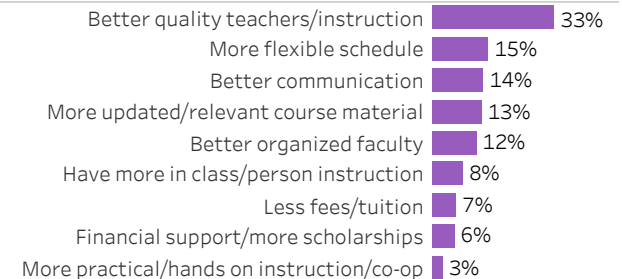


## Sask Polytech Can Do Better to Support Your Stay



## What Sask Polytech Can Do to Support Your Stay

(Coded themes from verbatim comments, responses could be associated with multiple themes)





# Facility and Interaction

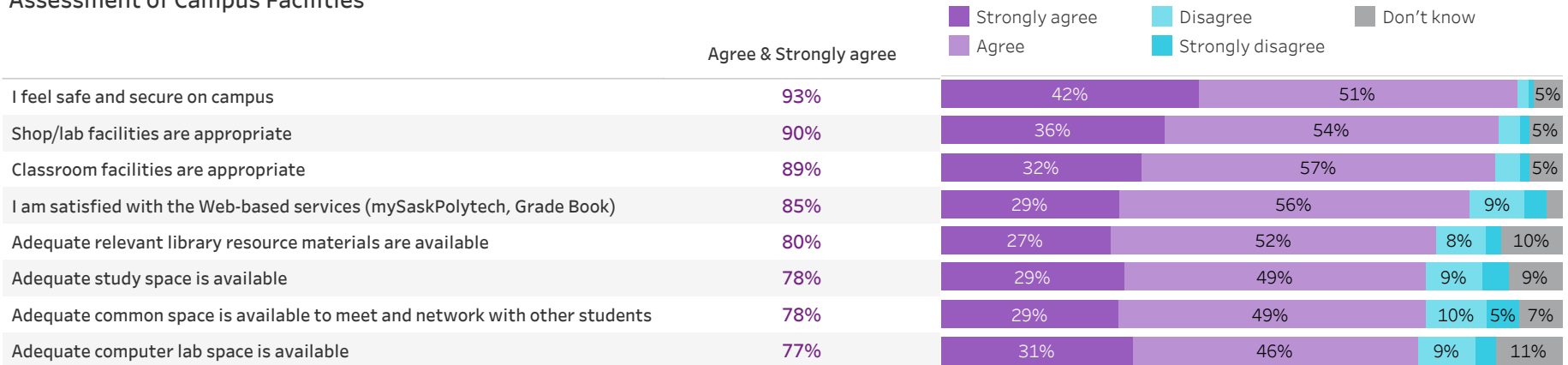
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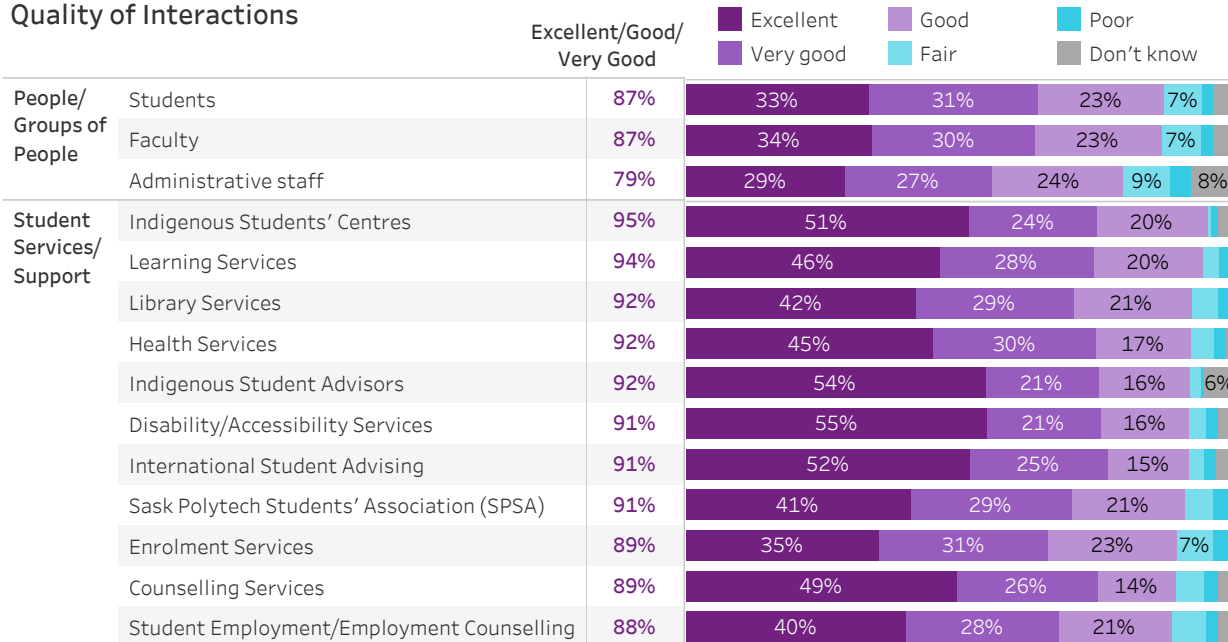


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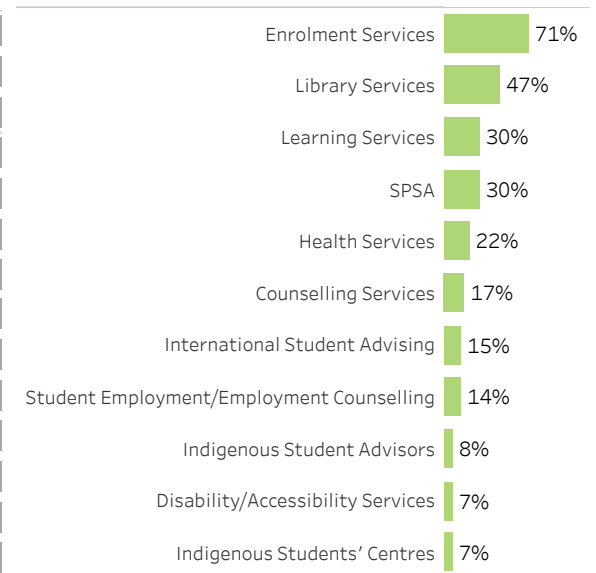
## Assessment of Campus Facilities



## Quality of Interactions



## Interaction with Student Support (Multiple responses allowed)



# Student Support

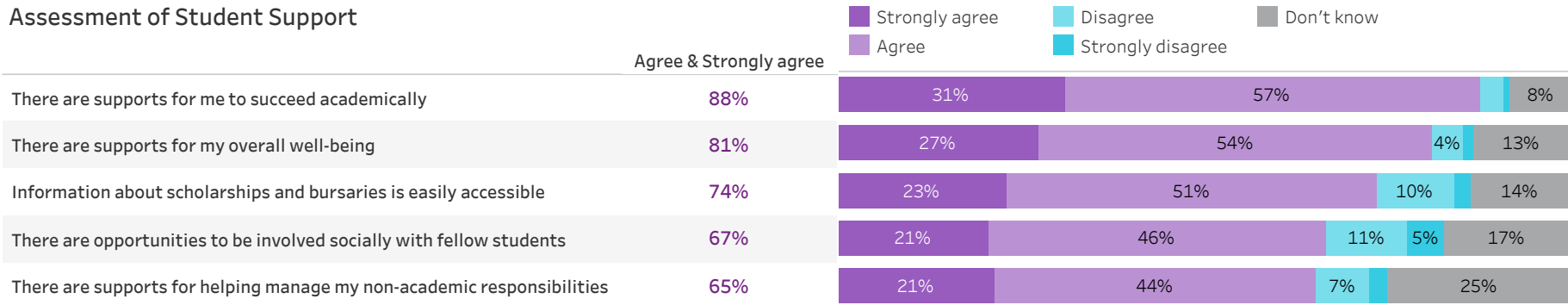
Number of Respondents  
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 Credential: **All** | Admin Campus: **All** | Base/CE: **All**  
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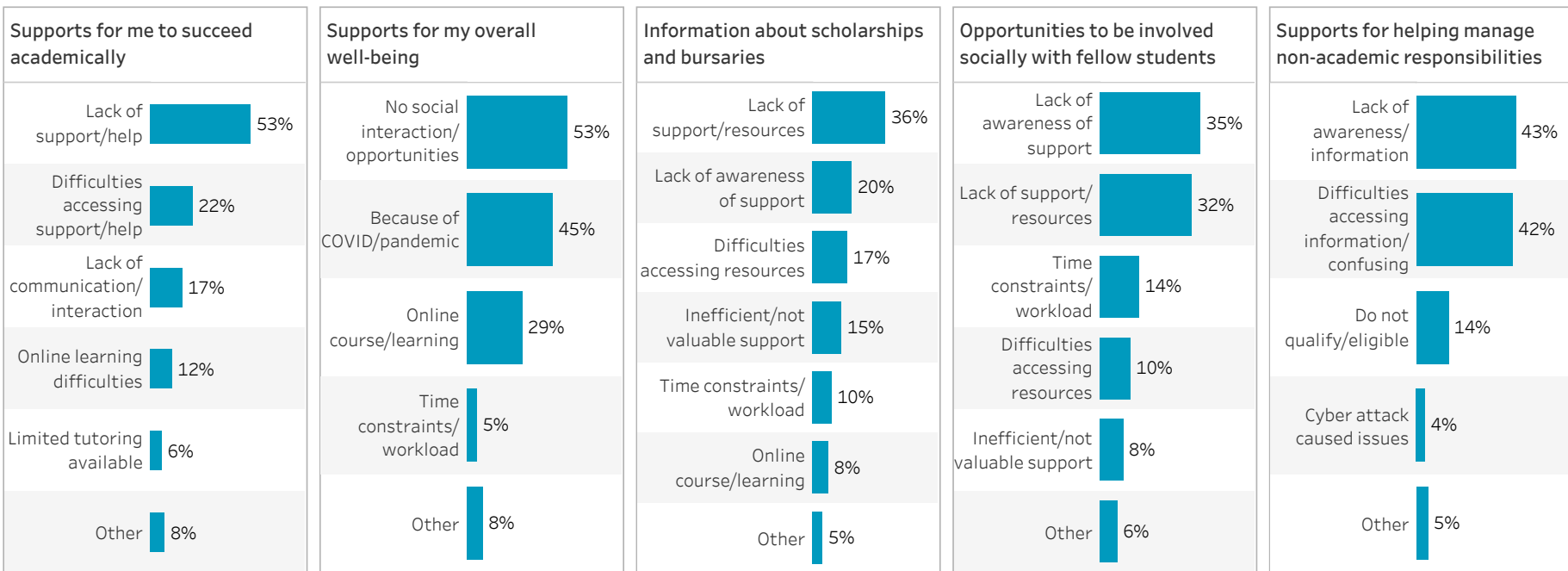
[Click to go to filters](#)

## Assessment of Student Support



## Reason for Disagreement with Statement

(Coded themes from verbatim comments, responses could be associated with multiple themes)



# COVID-19 Related Questions

Number of Respondents  
**3,576**

School: **All** | Program: **All**  
 Credential: **All** | Admin Campus: **All** | Base/CE: **All**  
 Indigenous: **All** | International: **All**

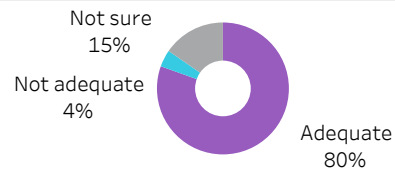


[Click to go to filters](#)

## Impact of COVID-19

			Very much, Quite a bit & Some	Very much	Quite a bit	Some	Very little	Not at all	Not sure
Academic learning	Your ability to succeed as a student	71%	21%	23%	27%	15%	12%		
	Classroom-based learning including lectures and seminars	78%	40%	22%	16%	7%	10%		
	Labs, shops and other learning experiences that require you to visit a campus	71%	38%	19%	14%	8%	12%	9%	
	Work-integrated learning (practicums, clinical etc.)	62%	30%	17%	15%	9%	13%	16%	
Well-being	Your personal health and well-being	67%	25%	20%	21%	12%	19%		
Finance	Your ability to pay for tuition and/or living expenses	57%	22%	16%	19%	13%	27%		
Employment	Your ability to find a job after graduation	45%	19%	13%	12%	7%	16%	32%	

## Adequacy of Information Received



## Reason for Inadequacy of Information

(Coded themes from verbatim comments, responses could be associated with multiple themes)

	% of Total	Number of Respondents
Lack of communication/no information	42%	42
Not specific/just general information provided	30%	30
Not timely information/last minute	18%	18
Other	10%	10
Grand Total	100%	99

## Satisfaction with Services/Support Provided

Very satisfied, Satisfied, Dissatisfied, Very dissatisfied, Don't Know

Satisfied & Very satisfied	77%	25%	51%	18%
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## Reason for Dissatisfaction with Services/Support

(Coded themes from verbatim comments, responses could be associated with multiple themes)

	% of Total	Number of Respondents
Lack of support/help	31%	40
Lack of communication/information	21%	27
Difficulties accessing support/services	19%	25
Reduce tuition/fees for learning online/no ac..	16%	21
Lack of awareness of services/support	13%	17
Online learning difficulties	5%	7
Other	7%	9
Grand Total	100%	129



# Trended Results - Overall Assessment

## Number of Respondents

2018-19: 2,782  
 2019-20: 3,150  
 2020-21: 3,576

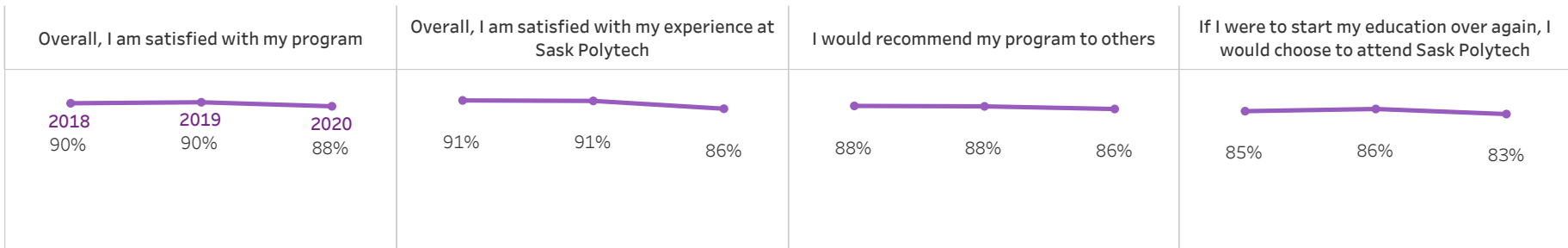
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 Credential: **All** | Admin Campus: **All** | Base/CE: **All**  
 Indigenous: **All** | International: **All**



[Click to go to filters](#)

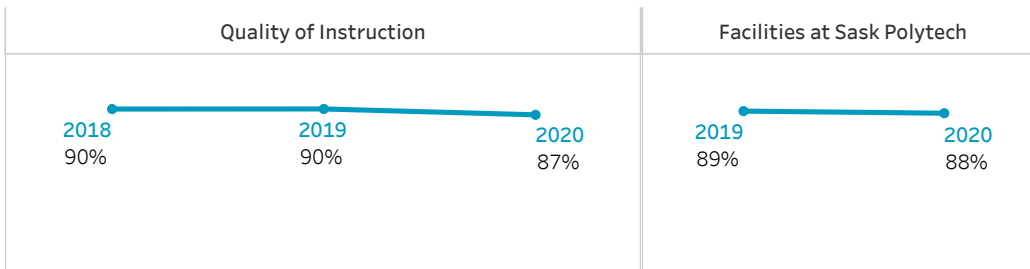
## Overall Assessment

% Agree & Strongly agree ●

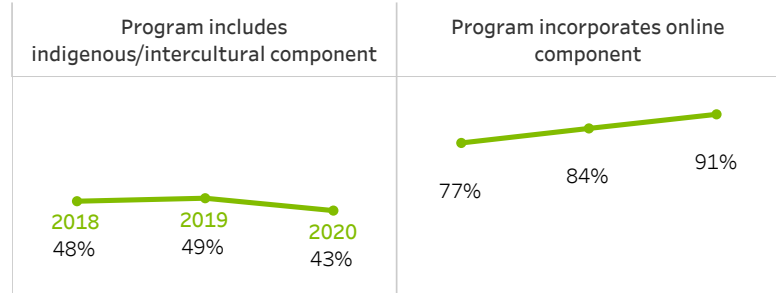


## Satisfaction with Quality of Instruction and Facilities

% Satisfied & Very satisfied ●

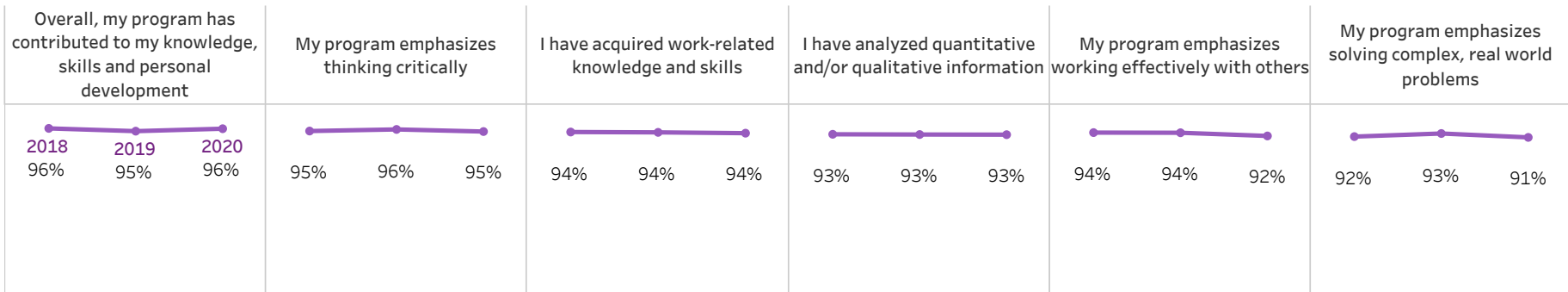


## Program Component



## Program Contribution

% Agree & Strongly agree ●



# Trended Results - Admission, Orientation, Learning Experience and Student Support

## Number of Respondents

2018-19: 2,782  
 2019-20: 3,150  
 2020-21: 3,576

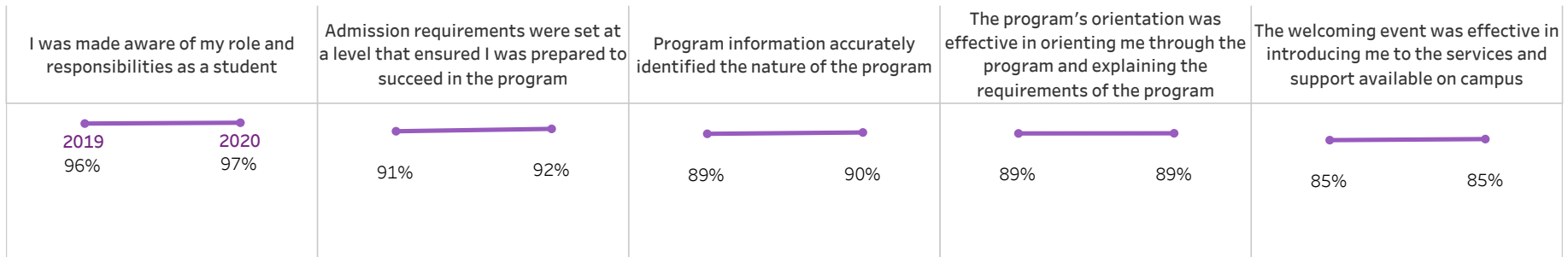
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 Indigenous: **All** | International: **All**



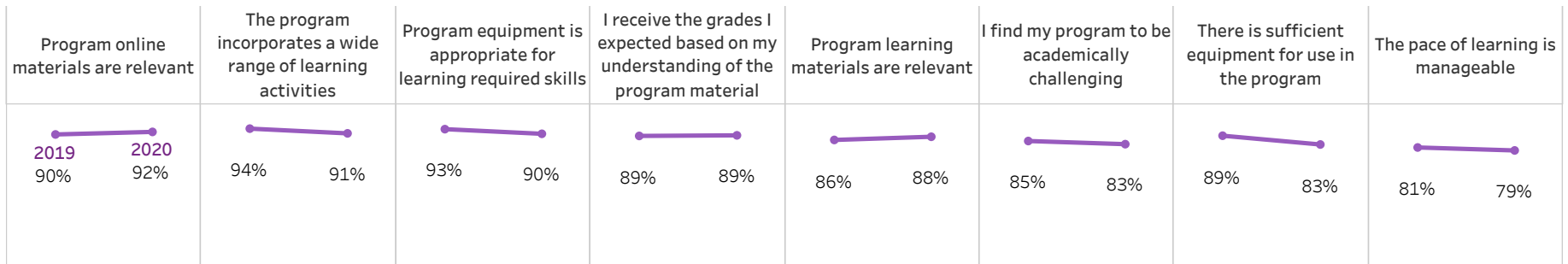
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## Admission and Orientation

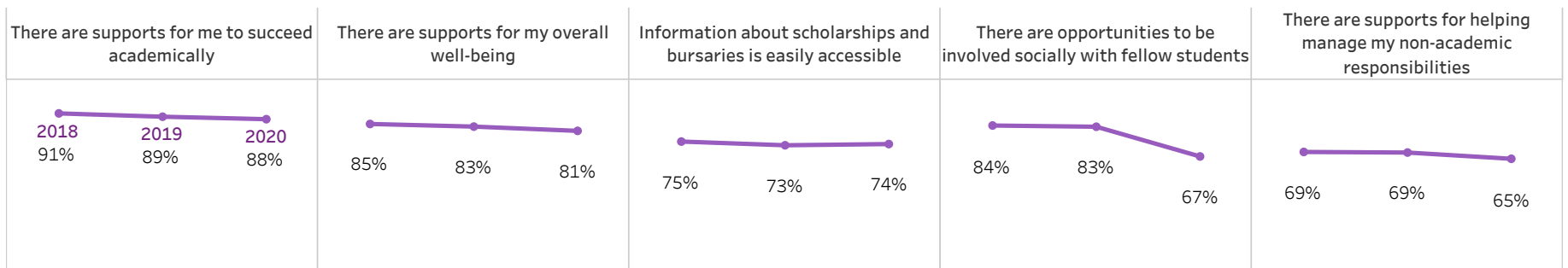
% Agree & Strongly agree ●



## Learning Experience



## Student Support and Services



# Trended Results - Course Work, Instructor and Campus Facility

## Number of Respondents

2018-19: 2,782  
 2019-20: 3,150  
 2020-21: 3,576

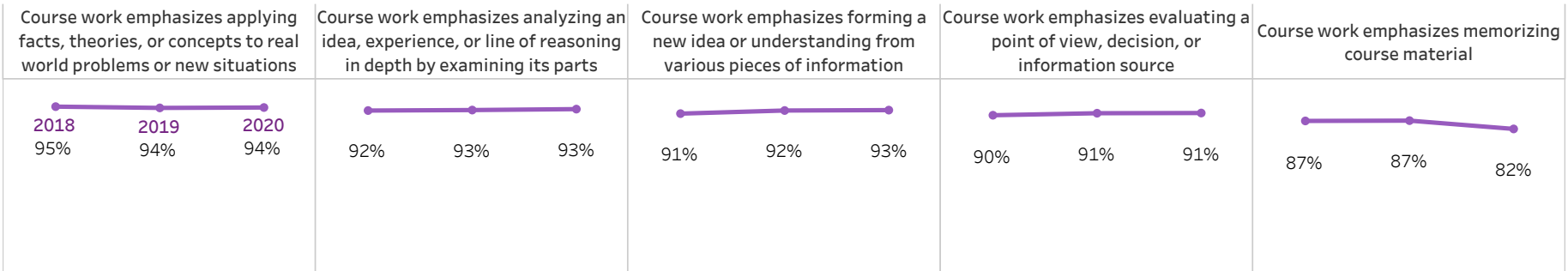
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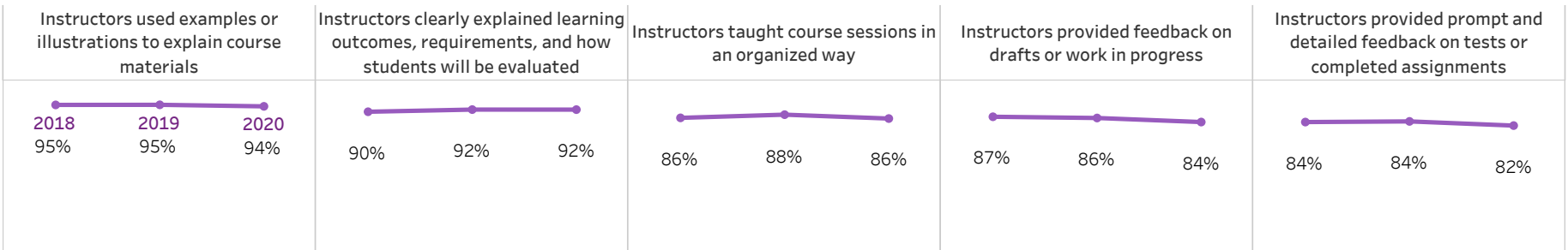
[Click to go to filters](#)

## Emphasis of Course Work

% Agree & Strongly agree ●



## Instructor



## Campus Facility

