

Mt. San Antonio College CIRP Survey Results: A Five Year Comparison (2001-2005)

Executive Summary

Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) Freshman Survey is the oldest large scale longitudinal national survey of entering college freshman administered by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) at UCLA's School of Education. The survey results provide a detailed profile of each participating college or university's entering freshmen of their demographic characteristics, educational objectives, expectations, goals, high school activities, self-ratings of competency, and views on social and political issues. Mt. San Antonio Community College has participated periodically 22 times out of the total 39 years of CIRP survey history, and has taken part for the past nine years continuously. In 2005, over 377,000 students from 592 colleges and universities participated nationwide. There are 921 new students from Mt. SAC completed the 2005 CIRP survey. This summary report reviews selective Mt. SAC CIRP survey responses of the 2005 survey from the perspectives of All Mt. SAC survey participants and of Bridge Program, and compares survey results of these two groups of the past five years (2001-2005). Bridge Program is a special assistance program for students with academic and financial needs. A brief review of the 2005 survey result highlights and some marked differences of the five year comparison are summarized below.

Highlights of 2005 CIRP Survey

For 2005, both Mt. SAC All CIRP respondents and Bridge students were similar in these areas:

- About 70% named Mt. SAC as first choice of college, 60% said it was the only college to which they had applied.
- About 64% had earned an average High School grade in the A and B ranges.
- At least two thirds had attended religious services, studied with other students, used internet for research, performed volunteer work, or even came to class late in the past year.
- More than 70% intended to obtain either Bachelor's or Master's degree in the future.
- Close to 80% named getting a better job and making more money as important reasons to attend college.
- About half of surveyed students said this college has good academic reputation and low cost, which were the reasons they chose to attend Mt. SAC.
- About 84% believed that the government should do more to control the sales of handguns.
- More than 70% considered being financially well off and helping others in need were important future objectives.
- In their last year of High School, these students had spent more time socializing with friends, doing homework and watching TV than participating in student clubs, performing volunteer work, reading for pleasure, or working for pay.

- Over half of surveyed students said, while attending Mt. SAC, chances were good that they would get a job to help pay college fees, make at least B average grade, and socialize with someone of another race.

These two groups were different in these areas:

- Bridge Program surveyed students were more likely to be female, Hispanic, lived less than 10 Miles from college, lower family income, non-English native language speaker.
- Bridge Program students were less confident in academic related abilities.
- More Bridge students had parents with no High School diploma.
- Bridge students had more parental influence in their decisions to attend college.
- Higher percentage of the All Respondents group had socialized with someone of another race, and used a personal computer in the past year than the Bridge group.
- More students from the All Respondents group believed wealthy people should pay more taxes than from the Bridge group while more Bridge students thought there was too much concern in courts for the rights of criminals.

Differences in Five Year Comparison

In general, when examining the CIRP survey responses over the last five years, Mt. SAC new students have not changed much. However, there are a number of areas in which changes are noted. Areas where the percentage of All Respondents responses reached **the highest in 2005** for the past five years are:

- ✓ Self-reported average high school grade in the A and B ranges (66%),
- ✓ Lived less than 10 miles from college (62%) and planned to live with family or relatives in the Fall semester (93%),
- ✓ Self rating of computer skills above peer of same age (35%),
- ✓ Aspiration for Master's degree (41%),
- ✓ Some concern about financing college education (51%),
- ✓ Attending college because parents wanted them to go (68%),
- ✓ Attending Mt. SAC because of good academic reputation (49%) and low cost (49%),
- ✓ Of activities in the past year, studied with other students (80%), used a personal computer (65%), used internet for research/homework (65%), performed volunteer work (68%),
- ✓ Strongly agreed that wealthy people should pay more taxes (60%),
- ✓ Of important life objectives, being very well off financially (86%), helping others in difficulty (71%), improving understanding of other cultures/countries (49%),
- ✓ During typical week in the last year of High School, had not spending time reading for pleasure (30%) or had not working for pay (47%),

- ✓ In foreseeing their college experience, chances were good that they would be satisfied with Mt. SAC (43%), would make at least B average grades (49%), and would socialize with someone of another race (62%).

Areas where the percentage of All Respondents responses dropped to **the lowest in 2005** for the past five years are:

- ✓ Parental income below \$25,000 (32%),
- ✓ Mt. SAC as first choice of college (69%) and the only college they had applied (60%),
- ✓ Had consumed beer frequently in the past year (27%),
- ✓ Liberal political view (24%),
- ✓ Believed that federal military spending should be increased (31%)
- ✓ Would work full time while attending college (12%).

Some noticeable differences over the past five years for the Bridge program group are:

- ✓ After a boost in 2004 (36.2% in self rating as top 10% among peer), Bridge students were much less confident in academic abilities again in 2005 (27.2%), especially in math (15.6%) and writing (15.6%).
- ✓ Although remaining high, the percentage of Bridge students chose Mt. SAC as first choice has been declining gradually for most of the past five years (from 76.5% in 2001 to 70.7% in 2005).
- ✓ Increasingly, higher percentage of Bridge students had used personal computer and internet for research/homework, and performed volunteer work during the year prior to attending Mt. SAC,
- ✓ Increasingly, more Bridge students declared intention to obtain a Bachelor's degree since 2002,
- ✓ Political views have turned slightly less as liberal and more as conservative,
- ✓ Increasing, more Bridge students believed too much concern were given in courts to the rights of criminals,
- ✓ Increasingly, more Bridge students believed improving the understanding of other countries/cultures as an essential objective (from 37.1% in 2002 to 54.5% in 2005).
- ✓ Increasingly, more Bridge students thought that they would very possibly get a job to help pay college cost and be satisfied with the college, and make at least B average grades while attending Mt. SAC.

More detailed discussion on these results is provided in the main report.

Mt. San Antonio College CIRP Survey Results: A Five Year Comparison (2001-2005)

Introduction

The Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) Freshman Survey is the largest longitudinal national survey of entering college freshman conducted by the Cooperative Institutional Research Program since 1966. It is administered by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) at UCLA's School of Education. Every year hundreds of higher education institutions are participating in this grand scale survey. Colleges and Universities nationwide have found the survey findings beneficial and providing tremendous useful information about educational trends and the general characteristics of their entering freshman to help them plan and make program decisions.

Since 1966, Mt. San Antonio Community College has participated periodically 22 times out of the total 39 years of CIRP survey history, and has taken part for the past nine years continuously. The survey results provide a detailed profile on our surveyed students of their demographic characteristics, educational objectives, expectation, life goals, high school activities, self-ratings of competency, and views on social and political issues. Although comparative data from similar institutions (two-year public or private colleges) are also included in the College Profile report to Mt. SAC, the limited size and representation of this comparison group make any comparison with Mt. SAC difficult or of little value. Therefore, this CIRP survey report will focus on our own students only.

The main purpose of this summary report is to present some highlights of the 2005 Mt. SAC CIRP survey results and a five year comparison (2001-2005) on selective CIRP survey items from the perspectives of the total Mt. SAC respondents and one of the main subgroup, Bridge Program. Bridge Program is a special assistance program for students who have academic and financial needs. It is a learning community designed to increase students' academic and personal success through the structuring of the learning environment.

Methods

The CIRP survey was administered at Mt. SAC during some New Student Orientation sessions on campus. Over the five year period, about 1,000 surveys (1,500 in 2005) were given out each year to students who attended orientation on campus (see next figure).

Mt. SAC CIRP Institutional Group Category

Year \ Group	All	FTFT	Part-time	Transfer
2001	863	459	163	241
2002	852	524	149	179
2003	889	522	179	188
2004	800	440	155	205
2005	921	724	147	50

	Bridge	Regular	Athletes
2001	136	323	N/A
2002	106	418	N/A
2003	141	381	N/A
2004	133	307	N/A
2005	158	394	172

Participant Count of Mt. SAC CIRP Survey Comparison Groups	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Mt. SAC All Respondents	863	852	889	800	921
Bridge Program	136	106	141	133	158

Findings

This report shows trends of Mt. SAC CIRP survey responses of the All Respondents and the Bridge Program groups over a five year period (2001-2005). Key findings of the 2005 survey results and response changes within these five years are discussed in detail. Sections of highlights include surveyed students' demographics, family background, self ratings of strength and competency, high school experiences, concerns, and their values and beliefs. Please be informed that not all entering Mt. SAC new students participated in the CIRP survey each year; therefore, results discussed in this report represent responses and opinions of the survey participants only, not of the overall Mt. SAC new student population. Numbers in the following tables are percentages of participating student responded to the survey questions.

Student Demographics

Female students continue to outnumbered males in the Bridge Program while the All Respondents group was more evenly distributed in gender.

Gender	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
	N=136	N=106	N=141	N=133	N=158	N=863	N=852	N=889	N=800	N=921
Male	39.0	29.2	31.2	37.6	33.5	45.0	44.7	44.4	51.1	48.6
Female	61.0	70.8	68.8	62.4	66.5	55.0	55.3	55.6	48.9	51.4

Hispanic is the dominant group in both the Bridge and All Respondents groups. However, the Bridge group has at least 20% more Hispanic students than the All Respondents group. Please be noted that the ethnic composites of both groups do not represent the regular ethnic composite of Mt. SAC enrolling student, which is about 40% Hispanic, 20% of Whites, 20% of Asian, and 20% of Others.

Ethnicity*	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
	N=136	N=106	N=141	N=133	N=158	N=863	N=852	N=889	N=800	N=921
White	9.8	7.6	2.9	8.5	5.8	22.4	18.7	18.9	22.2	21.2
Hispanic/ Latino	87.9	84.8	85.4	83.7	83.7	49.8	62.1	59.0	55.9	60.7
African American	6.1	4.8	5.8	4.7	7.1	5.9	6.5	6.5	12.3	9.2
Asian	1.5	4.8	3.6	4.7	4.5	18.2	11.4	13.1	9.2	11.1
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0.0	1.9	2.9	1.6	0.0	3.8	2.5	2.9	4.1	4.3
Native American	0.8	1.0	0.0	1.6	0.6	0.8	2.1	1.7	2.8	2.0
Other	5.3	2.9	5.8	3.9	7.1	7.8	5.7	6.0	5.8	4.9

*Percentage may add up more than 100% when students made multiple selections in these categories.

Compared to the All Respondents group, more Bridge Program students were younger and non-Citizens, lived closer to campus, lived with family/relatives, had lower family income, and were non-native English speakers. Ninety-three percent of 2005 All Respondents group planned to live with family/relatives in their first semester, the highest in five years.

Demographics	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
U.S. Citizen	89.1	84.8	72.9	78.3	76.7	85.5	82.5	78.8	87.7	85.9
Average Grade In HS – A and B ranges	61.8	57.7	64.8	65.8	63.9	62.9	57.0	61.9	58.3	65.7
College Distance from Home: 10 Miles Or Less	55.2	56.4	64.4	55.4	70.6	52.7	52.8	57.3	52.1	61.8
Plan To Live With Family Or Relative in Fall Term	94.9	95.3	92.1	92.5	91.7	83.7	85.2	83.4	83.2	92.8
Age 18 or less by end of Fall Term	80.0	76.4	79.2	78.6	79.4	51.8	50.3	53.1	52.4	75.3
English Is My Native Language	50.0	51.4	38.1	37.1	44.2	66.0	60.2	58.5	68.5	68.2

Parents' Background

Parental education background is an area that truly differentiates the two groups. Bridge students tend to have parents with lower education level than the All Respondents group. Close to half of Bridge students' parents do not have high school diplomas comparing to that of about 30% of the All Respondent group.

Parents' Educational Level	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Father's Education – College Degree Or Above	10.5	11.4	8.5	11.6	11.3	27.9	20.9	21.9	22.8	23.2
Father's Education – No High School Degree	55.3	51.4	55.4	57.0	52.5	31.1	40.2	36.6	32.7	32.3
Mother's Education – College Degree Or Above	7.9	9.5	9.5	11.2	11.9	21.8	19.6	20.9	21.3	24.0
Mother's Education – No High School Degree	52.7	50.4	52.9	57.2	48.7	31.8	38.9	35.4	31.5	30.3

Bridge Program students tend to have lower family income than the All Respondents group with more students' family income under \$25,000 and less above \$60,000. The All Respondents group's family incomes have increased for the past four years. Overall, at least two thirds of the All Respondents group and great majority of the Bridge group had family income falling below the California State's median family income, an

estimate of \$68,310 in 2004 with a family size of four (U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2004).

Parents' Total Income Last Year	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Less Than \$25,000	40.6	38.1	56.9	43.0	50.0	37.4	39.3	37.9	36.6	32.2
\$25,000 to \$59,999	44.9	46.0	33.0	47.4	39.1	37.1	38.3	33.5	34.7	35.6
\$60,000 to \$99,999	11.0	10.8	8.5	6.2	10.1	15.4	14.7	15.8	15.7	18.6
\$100,000 and more	3.3	4.9	1.6	3.5	0.7	10.0	7.6	10.9	13.3	13.7

Self Ratings of Strength and Competency

Overall, less Bridge Program Students had confidence in their academic related abilities than the All Respondents group, especially with writing and math abilities.

Self Rating as Top 10% or above average among same age people in:	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Academic Ability	29.7	31.4	27.2	36.2	27.2	36.4	31.4	35.0	39.4	38.8
Computer Skills	24.4	26.4	30.1	20.9	33.5	30.8	26.1	31.7	31.5	35.1
Math Ability	21.2	10.4	13.9	21.5	15.6	24.8	18.8	23.0	25.0	24.2
Public Speaking Ability	33.6	22.6	29.4	19.2	23.7	30.8	27.9	29.7	29.9	29.7
Popularity	30.2	17.9	18.2	---	---	29.5	27.1	26.7	---	---
Religiousness	21.7	15.1	25.0	22.3	28.1	26.8	25.3	22.6	27.1	23.8
Writing Ability	24.4	16.0	24.1	21.5	15.6	30.5	25.4	28.2	27.7	28.6

---This survey item was not included in this particular year.

With only data available from 2001 to 2003, much higher percentage of Bridge students felt the need of remedial work in basic skills than the All Respondents group. The three year trend indicates an increasing number of students feeling such needs.

Remedial Work Needed in	Mt. SAC Bridge Program			Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Math	61.8	66.0	70.2	39.9	46.9	49.2
Writing	41.9	34.9	48.2	22.4	25.6	27.8
English	36.8	27.4	47.5	22.1	25.5	29.8

College Choice, Reasons to Attend, Study Plan

Great majority of students from both groups stated that Mt. SAC was their first choice of college and the only college they had applied to for admission. Of concern is the downward trend in these percentages from 2001 to 2005 for the All Respondents group.

College Choice	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
This college is my First Choice	76.5	74.3	76.8	72.5	70.7	70.0	74.7	72.3	71.1	68.7
Mt. SAC –Only College Apply For Admission	74.8	70.9	60.1	65.1	60.0	73.7	73.4	71.8	68.4	62.4

Two most important reasons in deciding to go to college, as named by the All Respondents group, were to get a better job and to be able to make more money. More Bridge Program students named other reasons such as to learn things that interest them, to prepare for graduate/professional school, and to get training for career for their decision to go to college. Parental influence has seen an increasing trend, especially in 2005.

Reason “very Important” in deciding to go to college	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Get a Better job	84.8	85.8	79.4	79.5	83.1	82.1	82.0	83.1	79.5	78.4
Parents wanted me to go	63.6	59.4	70.1	70.0	73.5	48.3	55.8	51.7	58.4	67.6
Be able to make more money	87.7	87.3	87.1	91.3	80.1	79.2	82.3	80.0	83.2	82.0
Learn more about things that interest me	90.9	84.0	83.7	90.0	85.8	78.2	79.2	79.8	77.1	77.1
Prepare for Grad/Prof School	80.3	83.8	80.9	79.2	83.1	71.1	77.4	73.1	66.4	74.8
Get training for a special career	84.6	86.8	76.5	86.2	74.3	75.3	78.3	77.8	76.1	72.9

Good academic reputation and low tuition were the top two reasons for students of both groups to choose to attend Mt. SAC. More Bridge group students also believed that graduates of Mt. SAC get good jobs. To take notice, several item responses under this

survey question showed inconsistent patterns over years suggesting the content variation and item options changes might somehow affected the response distribution.

Why Attending This Particular College	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
College Has Good Academic Reputation	56.7	49.5	53.0	38.7	52.0	40.0	46.8	46.3	44.2	48.9
Low Tuition	39.2	55.2	47.0	65.5	52.3	38.1	42.0	38.7	44.3	48.6
Graduate admit to good college	48.8	---	---	35.7	37.9	32.0	---	---	33.9	39.0
Graduates get good jobs	56.0	---	---	42.2	46.9	36.3	---	---	41.0	41.6
Want to live near home	34.7	28.8	35.1	44.1	29.6	26.9	30.9	27.4	28.9	29.9
Size of College	11.4	8.6	8.3	21.6	11.7	9.5	10.5	8.8	11.7	11.0
Offer Special Programs	47.2	45.3	49.2	---	---	31.0	37.6	35.5	---	---

At least one fourth of students from both groups chose a Professional field as their possible major at Mt. SAC. Bridge students were also interested in Social Science, Arts & Humanities, and Education while All Respondents group students took more interest in Business.

Probable Major Field of Study	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Arts & Humanities	7.5	8.2	9.1	5.0	10.3	9.9	12.3	12.1	9.6	9.4
Biological sciences	0.8	0.0	0.8	3.0	3.2	3.1	1.2	13.9	2.6	3.2
Business	8.3	11.3	15.1	11.9	8.7	15.1	14.2	15.0	16.6	14.1
Education	15.1	20.6	11.4	7.9	10.2	10.6	12.0	9.9	8.3	8.2
Engineering	1.6	0.0	5.3	6.0	2.4	4.4	5.6	6.8	6.4	3.9
Physical Sciences	1.6	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.8	1.4	0.4	1.0	0.9	0.9
Professional	21.9	17.4	21.2	31.4	30.3	15.8	19.0	17.6	20.8	25.6
Social Sciences	10.1	12.3	7.7	12.8	10.9	9.3	9.2	8.2	7.7	9.3
Technical	4.1	6.2	2.3	5.0	1.6	5.2	3.5	3.9	4.0	2.8
Other Fields	15.2	12.4	12.9	6.8	12.5	13.5	11.1	11.5	13.0	13.1
Undecided	12.7	11.3	13.6	8.8	10.1	11.4	11.6	7.3	10.5	9.0

Activities Noted in the Past Year

Highly participated activities

More 2005 surveyed students from both groups had used a personal computer, used the internet for research/homework, and performed volunteer work, compared to previous years. Much less students from the 2005 survey had consumed beer compared to a year ago.

Activity Noted In Past Year	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Socialized W/ Other Race[1]	62.9	71.4	67.6	67.2	58.2	71.7	64.3	67.8	70.0	71.4
Came Late To Class	66.4	61.4	74.1	67.5	66.7	58.7	57.7	56.9	60.3	66.4
Attending religious services	72.9	68.9	65.4	74.0	72.8	71.3	66.4	64.2	74.8	70.0
Studied with other students	76.9	76.2	86.8	77.3	75.2	74.2	71.6	72.2	72.1	79.5
Used a personal computer[1]	50.4	51.9	54.8	52.4	55.0	58.6	52.3	58.2	59.4	65.2
Used the internet for research or homework[1]	55.6	61.3	62.5	61.7	67.5	51.8	49.6	58.7	55.5	65.0
Drank beer	36.1	28.3	19.9	33.1	23.7	36.6	32.1	34.8	39.9	26.6
Performed volunteer work	66.4	62.3	66.9	59.7	72.4	57.2	54.8	59.9	58.8	68.3

[1]As reported by CIRP, Percentage in this category represent "frequently" only. Other categories represent "frequently" and "occasionally".

High School Activities

This survey item asks for average time spent on a list of activities in a typical week during student's last year in High School. The following table shows the percentage of students who had spent at least three hours per week in some activities versus the percentage that spent less than three hours per week. Responses of this survey item from the Bridge Program students and the All Respondents group students are very similar. Most students typically spent more time per week studying, watching TV, and socializing with friends than participating in student clubs, doing volunteer work, or reading for pleasure. The Bridge students had spent less time working for pay in an average week than the All Respondents group.

Time spent on these activities in a typical week during last year of High school	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Working for pay										
Less than 3 hours	47.7	57.6	63.9	62.5	59.7	43.8	46.9	50.8	49.9	53.4
3 hours or more	52.3	42.2	36.1	37.5	40.3	56.2	53.1	49.2	50.1	46.6

Time spent on these activities in a typical week during last year of High school	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Volunteer work										
Less than 3 hours	82.7	82.7	82.8	71.6	78.2	83.9	85.9	80.9	80.1	78.2
3 hours or more	17.3	17.3	17.2	28.4	21.8	16.1	14.1	19.1	19.9	21.8
Student Club										
Less than 3 hours	80.9	84.0	80.0	77.6	86.3	81.8	85.1	81.7	84.5	84.8
3 hours or more	19.1	16.0	20.0	22.4	13.7	18.2	14.9	18.3	15.5	15.2
Reading for Pleasure										
Less than 3 hours	79.0	84.9	79.7	74.0	84.3	77.1	79.0	78.0	77.8	82.1
3 hours or more	21.0	15.1	20.3	26.0	15.7	22.9	21.0	22.0	22.2	17.9
Watching TV										
Less than 3 hours	40.9	42.8	47.8	45.5	52.6	42.2	49.7	47.4	45.7	45.2
3 hours or more	59.1	57.2	52.2	54.5	47.4	57.8	50.3	52.6	54.3	54.8
Studying/Homework										
Less than 3 hours	47.4	47.2	43.4	34.7	52.9	41.0	47.8	49.0	42.8	51.7
3 hours or more	52.6	52.8	56.6	65.3	47.1	59.0	52.2	51.0	57.2	48.3
Socializing with friends										
Less than 3 hours	10.2	18.1	17.8	18.9	23.2	15.5	21.1	19.9	15.0	15.6
3 hours or more	89.8	81.9	82.2	81.1	76.8	84.5	78.9	80.1	85.0	84.4

Degree Aspiration

Majority of students from both groups intended to obtain Bachelor's or higher degree. More students from the Bridge Program surveyed in 2001 to 2003 aimed at Master's degree than those from the All Respondents group, but the percentage with such attainment decreased dramatically in 2004 and then recovered some in 2005.

Highest Academic Degree Intend To Obtain any where	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Associate	3.5	3.5	4.8	9.6	5.8	7.6	8.0	8.4	9.7	7.1
Bachelor's	24.8	17.4	22.6	31.2	33.3	29.4	27.5	29.5	29.1	30.4
Master's	44.2	54.7	50.8	29.6	38.3	34.6	33.3	32.5	36.6	40.7

Finance Concern

Bridge students showed greater concern for financing their college education than the All Respondent group in all five years.

Degree of Concern about Financing College Education	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Major Concern	35.4	30.5	41.9	33.1	26.0	26.6	27.8	27.7	26.3	23.1
Some Concern	44.9	52.4	50.0	57.6	56.7	45.9	46.4	45.0	44.1	51.2
No Concern	19.7	17.1	8.1	9.3	17.3	27.5	25.8	27.3	29.6	25.7

Political Views and Beliefs

More students from the All Respondents group declared Middle-Of-The-Road political view than the Bridge Program group while more Bridge students acknowledged Liberal side. Although still low comparing to the other views, Conservative view has marked the highest in five years from both groups.

Political views	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Middle-Of-The-Road	47.1	48.5	39.7	47.6	45.0	52.2	50.0	47.0	48.5	51.1
Liberal	36.1	35.6	29.8	34.9	27.9	28.1	25.7	29.0	25.9	24.4
Conservative	10.9	12.9	17.4	11.1	20.0	14.9	17.9	16.7	17.3	18.7

More students in the All Respondents group “felt Wealthy people should pay more taxes” than the Bridge students; on the other hand, more Bridge students believed “there too much concern for the rights of criminals in court.” Changes over the years show fewer students from the All Respondents group agreed that federal military spending should be increased.

Issue Agree Strongly/ Somewhat	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Federal should control better in sales of handguns	88.1	86.4	85.7	86.1	84.7	84.0	77.9	76.2	81.3	83.3
Wealthy People pay more taxes	57.3	52.9	51.5	54.8	52.0	50.9	48.4	54.8	51.3	60.0
Too much concern for rights of criminals	64.8	60.6	65.6	67.2	70.5	66.4	65.9	65.6	64.5	64.2
College should prohibit racist/sexist speech on campus	57.1	57.7	60.3	47.6	55.4	59.9	59.4	58.5	56.0	58.5
Federal military spending should be increased	---	48.5	32.6	26.7	29.0	---	41.7	37.9	32.6	31.2
Affirm. Act In Adm Should Be Abolished	31.1	27.7	38.7	30.8	39.3	38.5	36.7	38.2	39.5	39.6

Mt. SAC students are more agreeable in objectives such as raising a family, being well off financially, and helping others in difficulty. Also, increasingly more students consider improving understanding of other countries and cultures as a very important objective. Sixty-seven percent of the 2005 Bridge students considered raising a family as an essential or very important objective, a large decline from a year ago.

Objectives consider essential or very important	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Raising A Family	78.6	71.2	72.8	79.5	66.7	68.2	65.6	68.8	74.2	73.6
Being Very Well Off Financially	81.0	88.6	83.0	85.5	82.9	80.8	81.5	78.8	82.3	85.7
Helping Others Who Are In Difficulty	70.6	67.0	68.9	80.7	74.3	59.6	63.8	65.4	64.9	70.8
Become Authority in own field	56.8	52.8	60.7	64.5	---	59.2	55.3	61.4	59.3	---
Improve Understanding Of Other Countries And Cultures	---	37.1	50.7	50.5	54.5	---	37.5	41.1	43.6	48.6

Mt. SAC entering students think it is very likely they would socialize with someone of another race, get a job to help pay college expenses, and make at least B average grades while attending Mt. SAC. About one third also expected that they probably would transfer to another community college before graduating.

Chances are Good that She/He will	Mt. SAC Bridge Program					Mt. SAC All Survey Respondents				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Get Job To Help Pay Cost	49.2	49.0	48.5	47.7	52.3	47.4	51.8	43.5	45.9	51.1
Work Full Time While Attending	11.8	9.7	12.8	14.5	10.3	22.0	22.2	21.4	23.6	12.3
Be Satisfied with your College	45.3	36.9	41.8	41.9	46.9	36.5	36.8	42.9	40.4	43.3
Get a Bachelor's Degree	62.1	58.0	65.4	---	---	53.4	50.2	53.6	---	---
Make At Least B Average	37.1	40.8	43.3	51.4	52.0	42.9	42.6	46.5	46.2	48.9
Transfer To Other College	32.8	40.8	37.6	35.6	35.6	28.7	35.2	37.0	32.5	33.2
Communicate Regularly With Professors	35.3	22.3	39.4	32.0	26.2	27.3	26.2	24.6	21.8	24.0
Socialize With Someone Of Another Race	68.7	61.2	61.5	56.6	58.6	55.8	53.5	53.8	54.4	61.5
Participate In Student Clubs	23.9	12.6	22.9	28.8	24.3	17.1	13.4	18.4	15.8	18.1

Conclusion

In general, the five year comparison of the Mt. SAC CIRP survey results shows no major changes on the responses of our surveyed students from 2001 to 2005. Some visible differences of the 2005 survey results show that our surveyed new students were:

- ✓ Younger, lived closer to Mt. SAC with family/relatives,
- ✓ Overrepresented by Hispanic students,
- ✓ Attended college partly because parents wanted them to,
- ✓ Had used more personal computers, internet for research/homework and more confident on their computer skills,
- ✓ Attended Mt. SAC for this college's academic reputation and low cost, and
- ✓ Believed that wealthy people should pay more taxes, and felt that the federal government should not increase military spending.

Other noticeable differences over five year period were:

- More students plan to major in a professional field,
- Slightly more students had an increase in family income but more had voiced some concern for financing college education,
- More students had performed volunteer work, fewer had consumed beer or had read for pleasure in the past year prior to attending Mt. SAC,
- More students intended to obtain Master's degree, and
- More students considered helping other people in difficulty and improving understanding of other cultures/countries as essential/important objectives.

There are more similarity than differences between Bridge Program students and overall Mt. SAC survey respondents on most survey items. Bridge students tend to come with more disadvantaged background and concerns, less prepared academically, and rely more on college resources to overcome obstacles of their college education.