
IR&P Research Brief

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Hartnell College

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2005 Accreditation Community Survey Results

In fall 2005, the Hartnell College Accreditation Steering Committee surveyed a sample of Hartnell Community College District residents. The purpose of this survey was to assess the residents' perceptions of the degree to which the college is fulfilling the accreditation standards of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). The results are intended to support the Accreditation Self-Study, as well as provide information that can be used for assessing

and improving Hartnell College's programs and services.

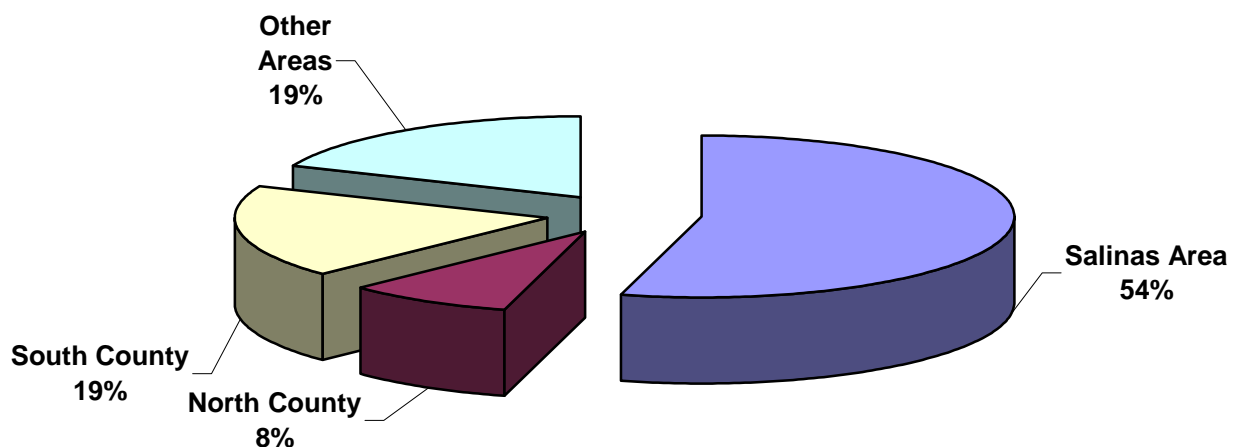
Who completed the surveys?

Questionnaires were returned by 66 residents (approximately 17% of those receiving surveys). The majority of survey respondents were: women (58%), White (67%), 50 years old or older (63%), and living in the Salinas area (54%) (see Graph 1). In addition, 74% of the respondents are or have been Hartnell College students.

What do the overall survey results show?

Typical (average) responses ranged from "slightly disagree" to "mostly agree". The majority of respondents were very satisfied with how most aspects of the college are functioning. Additionally, there were no significant differences between how community members viewed Hartnell College in 1999 compared to 2005.

Graph 1
Respondents by Area of Residence

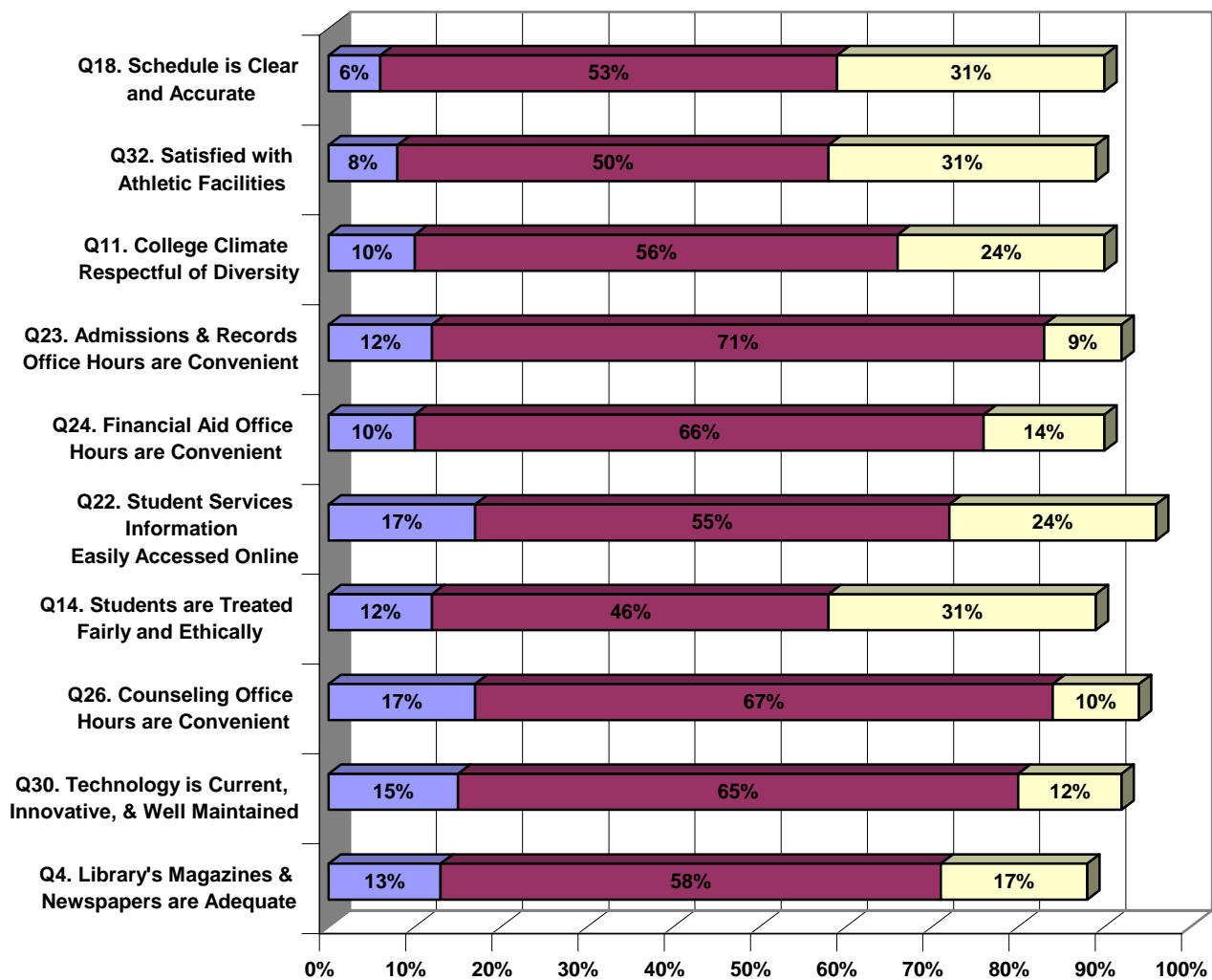


What are Hartnell College’s strengths?

There were 11 statements on the survey to which 75% or more of the respondents “mostly agreed” or “strongly agreed,” as shown in Graph 2. Along with other survey data, they show the following areas in which Hartnell is doing well:

1. There is a positive campus climate that is respectfully of the diverse community served by the college.
2. College personnel are responsive to community needs, offering a wide variety of courses and programs.
3. Operating hours are convenient for many student services offices, including Admissions and Records, Financial Aid, and Counseling.

Graph 2. Statements Having Greatest Agreement¹



■ Slightly Agree ■ Mostly Agree ■ Strongly Agree

¹ Seventy-five percent or more of respondents “mostly agreed” or “strongly agreed”.

Where does Hartnell College most need to improve?

Areas identified as needing improvement include:

1. Provide additional opportunities for the community to be involved in the college planning process.
2. Offer course sections at more time periods and at more locations.

Recommendations

Based upon survey results, the following recommendations are offered for consideration:

1. Use these survey results as one source of evidence in assessing the degree to which the college is fulfilling the accreditation standards. However, the results should be corroborated with other sources of evidence when making final judgments.

2. Celebrate areas identified as being strengths.
3. For areas showing a need for improvement, determine how community needs can be better met.

Research Brief is a publication of the Institutional Research and Planning Office. More detailed information may be found in the **2005 Accreditation Community Survey Final Report**, which is available upon request. The report is also available on the web at: <http://www.hartnell.edu/irp/reports.html>

