

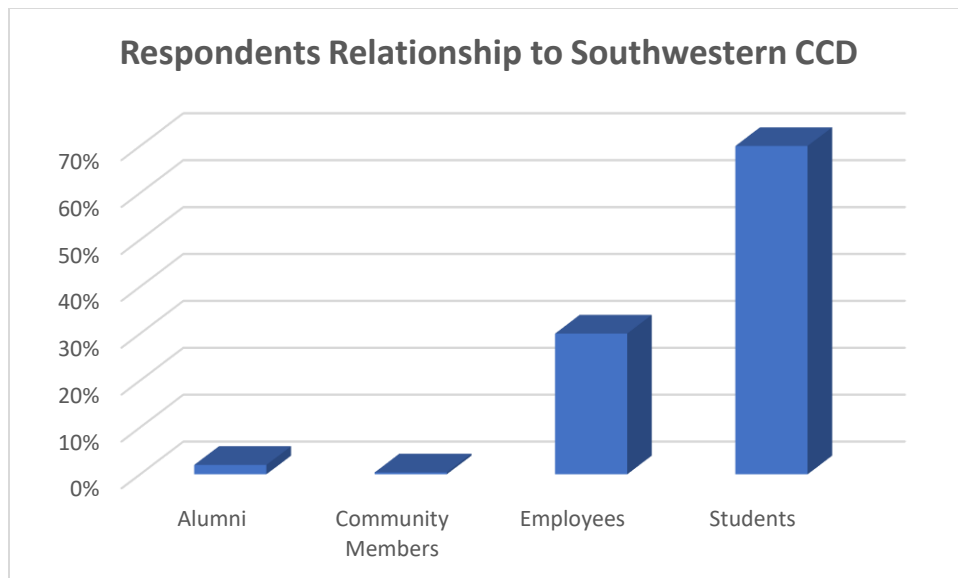
Tell Us About Your Community Survey



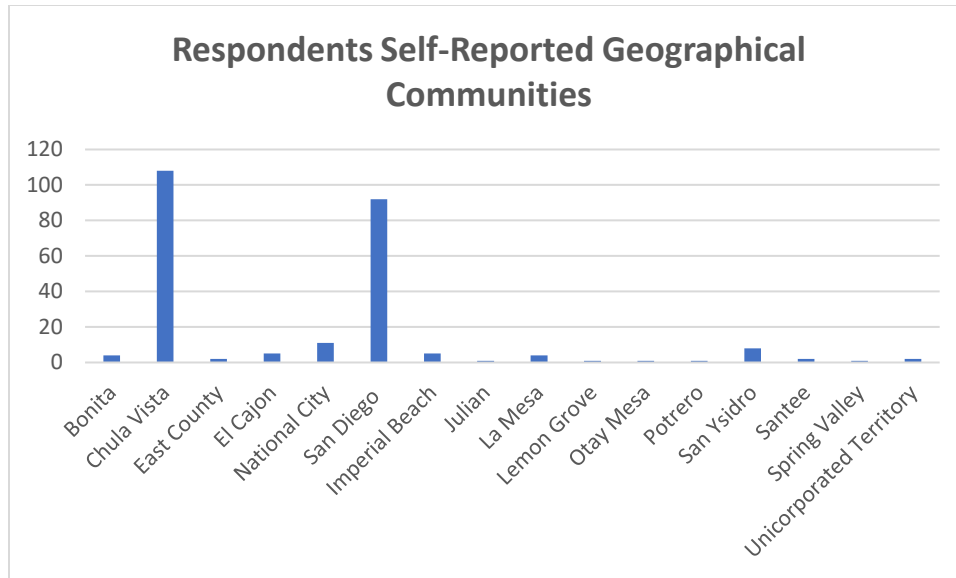
Executive Summary

This survey had a strong response rate at 249 responses. While many responses were not germane to the districting process, there was invaluable insight into the feeling that the college is an integral part of the community and important both to the residents and to the economy. While community can mean many different things to different people, it was clear in the survey responses that respondents feel a part of the communities both in which they live and as a part of the Southwestern College community.

For districting purposes, it is important for maps to be drawn adhering to traditional principles, which includes communities of interest. The survey provides us with direction in keeping communities and cities whole when possible, and to also consider where communities may be that are not as easily identified. Some of the more common policy issues that responders identified included transportation, safety and inclusion.



Note: Most respondents had a relationship with Southwestern College. An employee/student relationship can also be considered a community relationship. The next chart will show that most respondents reside in the college's service area and can also be considered community members.



Note: The survey did not collect zip code data. San Diego respondents most likely reside in zip codes 92154 (Otay, Nestor, South San Diego) and 92173 (San Ysidro).

How do you define your community, based on the categories above, or other categories, based on bonds that connect you to it?

Community for the Southwestern College District is defined broadly in the survey. Overall, there is a strong sense of identifying as part of the college, and many mentioned other factors in their community. Language, whether Spanish or Tagalog, came up several times, and were an important part of people’s culture and education. While not surprising given the audience, the sense of community around

“My community is a blend of my cultural origins and the exposure to other beliefs and cultures.”

education and career advancement was also strong. Many identified as their communities being supportive, having a strong LGBTQ+ community and being in communities that were welcoming.

Do you feel your community is affected by policy decisions made by Southwestern College's governing board? If so, how?

This question had an even split between those who felt the impact of policy decisions from the board of trustees, and those who saw no impact from them on their community. Many noted that decisions at the college often impact entire communities outside of employees or students. COVID 19 precautions were one example of a governing board decision that impacted the community, and programming decisions also impacted community members who were interested in accessing the college and its resources such as the library and evening classes.

Transportation and the location of facilities was also mentioned, as was the need for data disaggregation and additional services for the Filipino and LGBTQ populations on campus. There is a strong sense among respondents that the residents of the district see the college as a part of their community and as a pathway for growth both for individuals as well as for the economy.