

Overview

In June 2020, a survey was sent to all students who graduated Fall 2019 or Spring 2020, or who were scheduled to graduate in Summer 2020. The survey sought feedback on students' experiences and post-graduation plans. A total of 256 individuals responded to the survey, 174 undergraduates and 82 graduates. The undergraduates in education also graduated with a content co-major. The distribution of respondents across Colleges is below:

Respondents by College, 2020

	Undergraduate	Graduate
Arts and Sciences	102	7
Business	34	11
Professional Studies	38	12
Education	7	52
Total (Unduplicated)	174	82

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NJCU was remote for instruction and services during the end of Spring and the beginning of Summer. The response rate this year was far below that of previous years (see below). Consequently, for context, 2020 results are presented with reference to results from 2017 – 2019 where appropriate.

Response Rates, 2017 through 2020

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Undergraduate				
Respondents	723	680	542	174
Response Rate	51%	51%	42%	12%
Graduate				
Respondents	212	218	159	82
Response Rate	48%	46%	35%	18%

2020 Graduating Student Survey



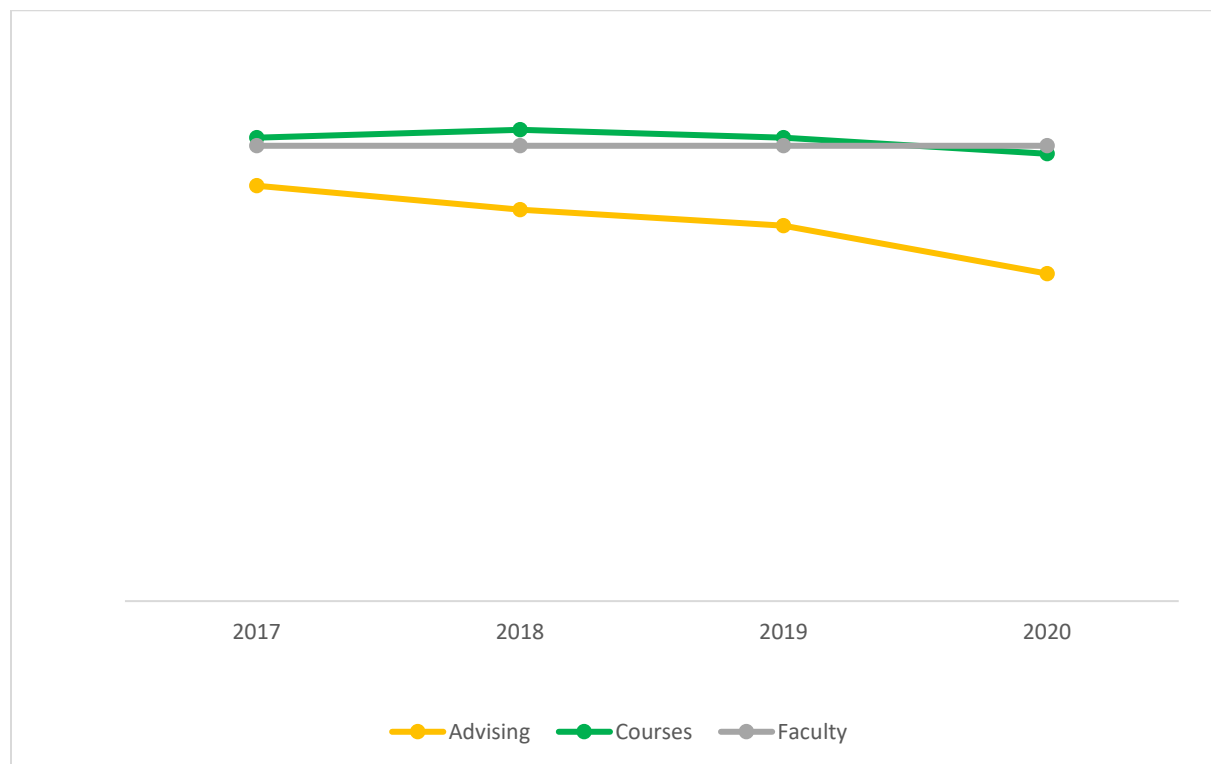
Results for Undergraduate Graduating Students

Expectations

Graduating undergraduates were asked the extent to which their experiences with faculty, courses, and advising met their expectations.

Expectations Met or Exceeded, 2017 - 2020

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Faculty	97%	97%	97%	97%
Courses	98%	99%	98%	96%
Advising	92%	89%	87%	81%



2020 Graduating Student Survey

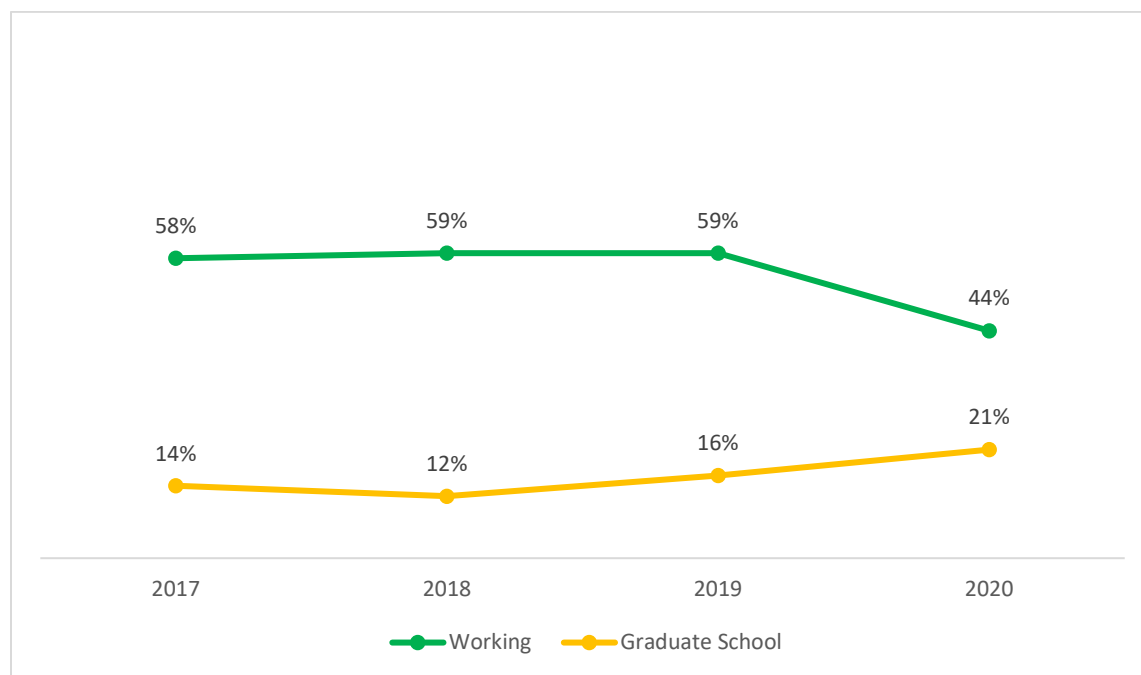


Post-Graduation Plans

Graduating undergraduates described their post-graduation plans.

Post-Graduation Plans, 2017 - 2020

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Working / Accepted a Position	58%	59%	59%	44%
Applying to Graduate School	14%	12%	16%	21%



Reasons for Choosing NJCU

Graduating students were asked an open-ended question about why they chose to come to NJCU. Many students indicated more than one reason. The top three responses were: location, cost, and academic program:

- **LOCATION:** 34% of graduates chose NJCU because of its location, often including descriptions such as “close to home,” “local,” or “easy commute”
- **COST:** 28% of graduates chose NJCU because it was affordable. Of these 49 students, 37% cited receiving full or partial scholarships as a factor.
- **ACADEMIC PROGRAM:** 13% of graduates chose NJCU because of the program of study. Of these, four cited national security studies, four business programs, and three the honors program.

Other reasons, cited by fewer individuals, included the diversity of the campus, ease of transferring, “fit,” and recommendations by friends or family.

Most Memorable Moment

Graduating students were asked an open-ended question about their most memorable moment at NJCU. Responses included academic and social memories:

- **ACADEMIC:** 31% of graduates cited academic experiences among their most memorable moments. Individuals mentioned their faculty, program/department, and their accomplishments. Areas with multiple references include: domestic/international trips (6 references), research projects and presentations (4 mentions), participating in NJCU musical groups (3), OSP (3), TLC (2), and the Teacher Intern Program (2).
- **SOCIAL:** 17% of graduates cited the social aspects of NJCU as their most memorable. These included developing friendships. Specific areas with multiple references include: Athletics (5 references), clubs/fraternities (5), and the formals (3).

Suggestions for Improvements

Graduating students were asked an open-ended question about suggestions for ways NJCU could improve. Many students indicated more than one reason. The top categories of responses included academic, advising, career planning, and student life:

- **ACADEMICS:** 10% of graduates suggested improvements in academics, often focused on specific programs or departments.
- **ADVISING:** 6% of graduates suggested improvement in advising, including customer service and the accuracy of information provided.
- **CAREER PLANNING:** 6% of graduates suggested improvements in career planning, including expanding the quantity and quality of internship opportunities and providing more robust job placement services.
- **STUDENT LIFE:** 6% of graduates suggested improvement in student life, including offering more diverse types of events, expanding clubs, and sports.

Other suggestions, cited by fewer individuals, focused on increasing communication, improving customer service, reducing the price of parking, increasing parking availability, and diversifying class scheduling.

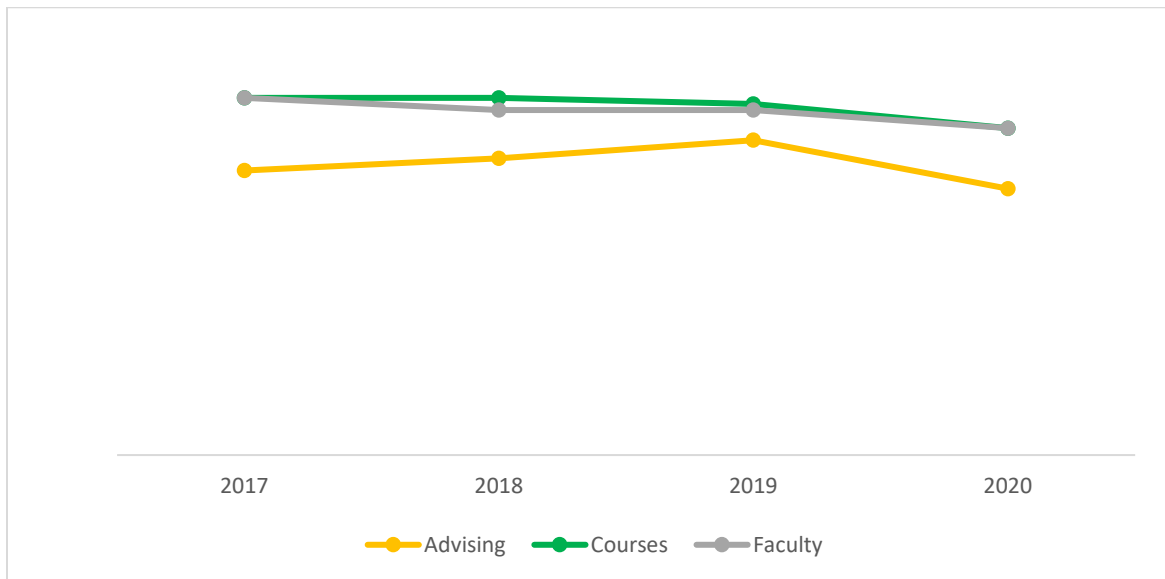
Results for Graduate Graduating Students

Expectations

Graduating graduate students were asked the extent to which their experiences with faculty, courses, and advising met their expectations.

Expectations Met or Exceeded, 2017 - 2020

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Faculty	99%	97%	97%	94%
Courses	99%	99%	98%	94%
Advising	87%	89%	92%	84%



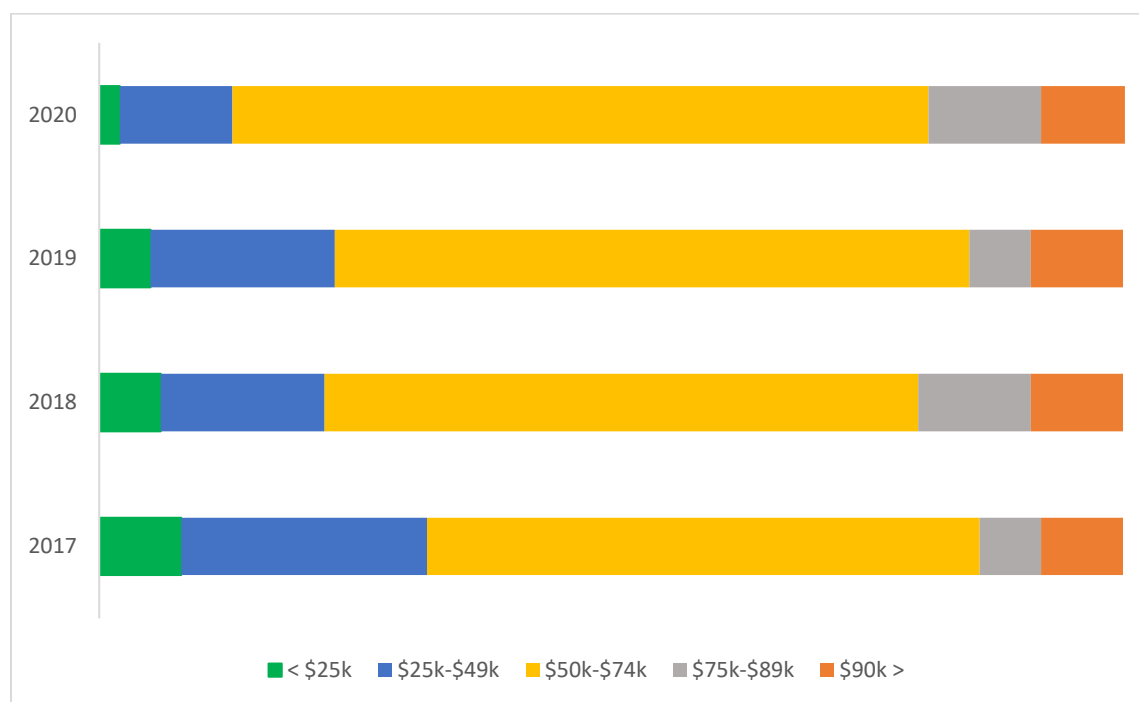
2020 Graduating Student Survey



Post-Graduation Plans

Graduating graduate students described their post-graduation plans.

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Working / Accepted a Position	76%	80%	78%	78%
<u>Salary of those working</u>				
less than \$25,000	8%	6%	5%	2%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	24%	16%	18%	11%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	54%	58%	62%	68%
\$75,000 - \$89,000	6%	11%	6%	11%
\$90,000 or more	8%	9%	9%	9%



Reasons for Choosing NJCU

Graduating students were asked an open-ended question about why they chose to come to NJCU. Many students indicated more than one reason. The top three responses were: location, cost, and academic program:

- **LOCATION:** 24% of graduates chose NJCU because of its location, often including descriptions such as 'close to home' or 'close to work.'
- **COST:** 17% of graduates chose NJCU because it was affordable.
- **ACADEMIC PROGRAM:** 13% of graduates chose NJCU because of the program of study.

Other reasons mentioned by fewer individuals included availability of online courses and recommendations from friends or family.

2020 Graduating Student Survey



Most Memorable Moment

Graduating students were asked an open-ended question about their most memorable moment at NJCU. Responses included academic and social:

- **ACADEMIC:** 20% of graduates mentioned academic experiences among their most memorable moments. Individuals mentioned their faculty, program/department, and their accomplishments. The summer doctoral institute was the only topic mentioned by multiple individuals, four in total.
- **SOCIAL:** 21% of graduates indicated making friends and working with faculty and student colleagues as memorable events.

Suggestions for Improvements

Graduating students were asked an open-ended question about suggestions for ways NJCU could improve. Many students indicated more than one reason. The top categories of responses included academics and advising

- **ACADEMICS:** 12% of graduates suggested improvements in academics, often focused on specific programs or departments.
- **ADVISING:** 7% of graduates suggested improvement in advising, including customer service, communication, and the accuracy of information provided.

Other suggestions mentioned by fewer individuals included improving communication and customer services, updating Blackboard, and providing shuttle buses to and from the School of Business.