



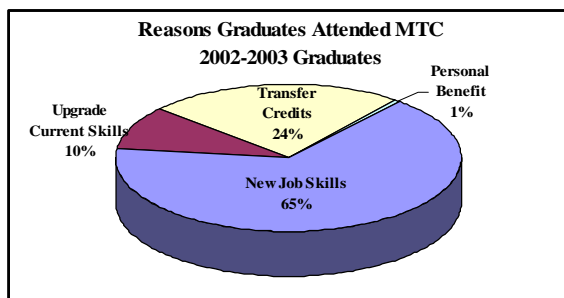
Graduate Follow-up Survey 2002 – 2003 Graduates Survey Summary

INTRODUCTION

The Graduate Follow-Up Survey 2003 is a foundational survey designed and administered to consolidate data collection efforts for all programs concerning their graduates and to develop a picture of graduate opinions campus-wide at regular intervals. Graduates were asked to assess their satisfaction levels with their academic experiences, college services, available resources, job and life skills for use by MTC in ongoing planning and goal setting activities.

GOALS OF GRADUATES

The majority of MTC graduates responding (65%) attended the college to learn skills that would help them obtain a new job. Others were interested in completing courses that would transfer to a four year college (24%) or upgrading skills for a current job (10%).



GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Eighty-one percent (81%) of graduates responding reported they were employed, of which 64% held full-time positions and 17% worked part-time. Only 6.4% were actively seeking employment, of which 31% were still enrolled in college.

Seventy-one percent (71%) of the employed graduates were working in jobs related to their field of study. Of these, 85% or 243 were in full-time positions and 15% or 44 were in part-time positions. Approximately 29% of the employed graduates indicated they were working in a job not related to their coursework.

Employed In Jobs Related to Coursework 2002-2003 Graduates						
	Full-Time		Part-Time		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Somewhat	48	15%	16	18%	64	16%
Yes	195	62%	28	33%	223	55%
No	74	23%	42	49%	116	29%
	317	100%	86	100%	403	100%

Source: 2003 Graduate Follow-Up Survey and the Office of Job Placement survey.

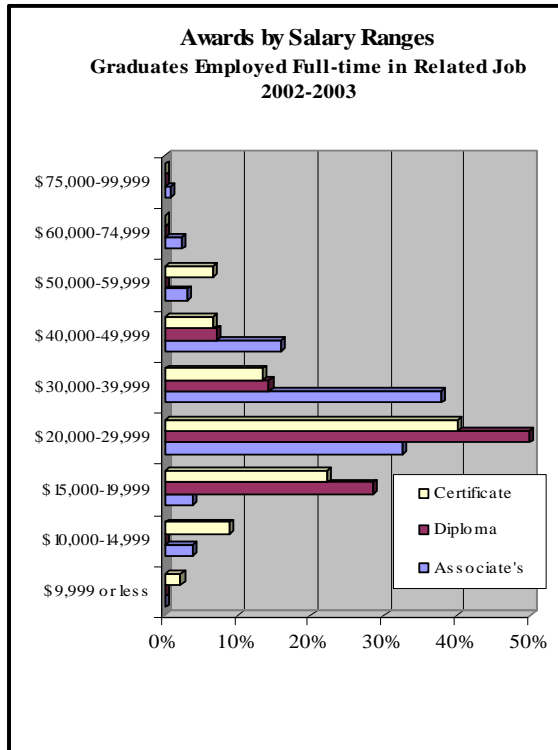
Although more women (76%) than men (24%) responded to the survey, more of the males were employed, 83%, compared to 80% of females. More males were also seeking employment (7%) compared to females (5%).

Nearly half, 49%, of the employed graduates with jobs related to their coursework started working after completing their program with another 31% obtaining jobs in their field while attending MTC. Almost all of the diploma graduates (95%) started their program related jobs during or immediately after MTC, compared to 80% for both associate's degree and certificate graduates, where more graduates indicated they had their jobs before MTC and were most likely enhancing their education.

Graduates completing an associate's degree earned considerably higher salaries than graduates completing diplomas or certificates. Sixty percent (60%) of responding graduates completing an

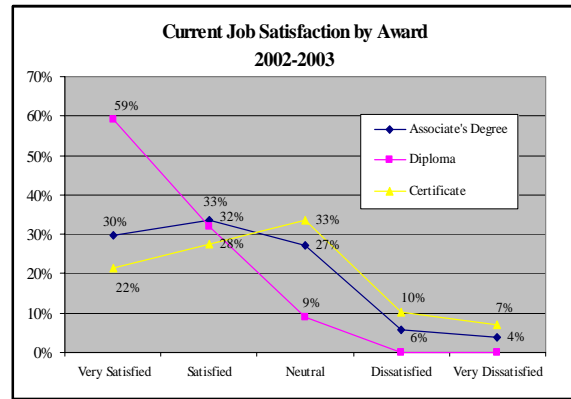
associate's degree earned \$30,000 and above annually compared to 21% of diploma recipients and 27% of those receiving certificates.

Examination of salaries reported by graduates in coursework related, full-time jobs revealed that an equal percentage of females and males, 49%, made \$30,000 or more per year.



Richland (56%) and Lexington (28%) counties are the primary employment centers for MTC graduates who obtained jobs in a field related to their program.

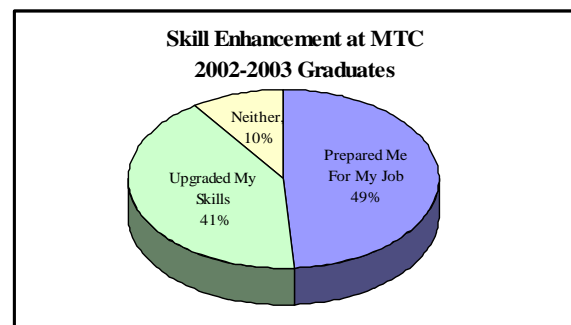
Current job satisfaction levels varied greatly among graduates by award received with 91% of diploma recipients satisfied or very satisfied compared to 63% of those receiving associate's degrees and 49% of certificate recipients. Seventeen percent (17%) of certificate and 10% of associate's degree recipients were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with their current job.



GRADUATE PREPARATION SATISFACTION

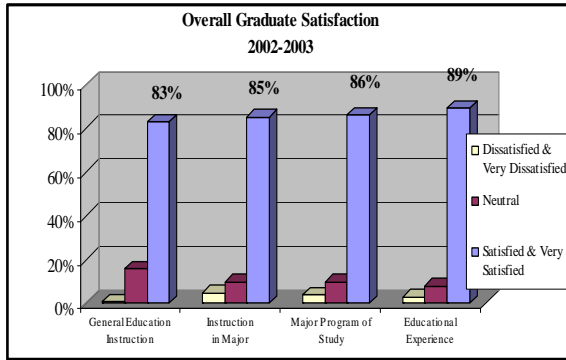
Ninety percent (90%) of responding graduates reported that MTC had helped enhance their skills for their jobs. Of these, 49% indicated that MTC helped prepare them for their new job while 41% felt MTC helped upgrade their skills for their current job. Only 10% (25 out of 255) believed that their program did neither.

A higher percentage of females (52%) compared to males (37%) reported that their educational experience at MTC had helped prepare them for their jobs. In contrast, more males (48%) felt their MTC experience upgraded their skills than females (39%).

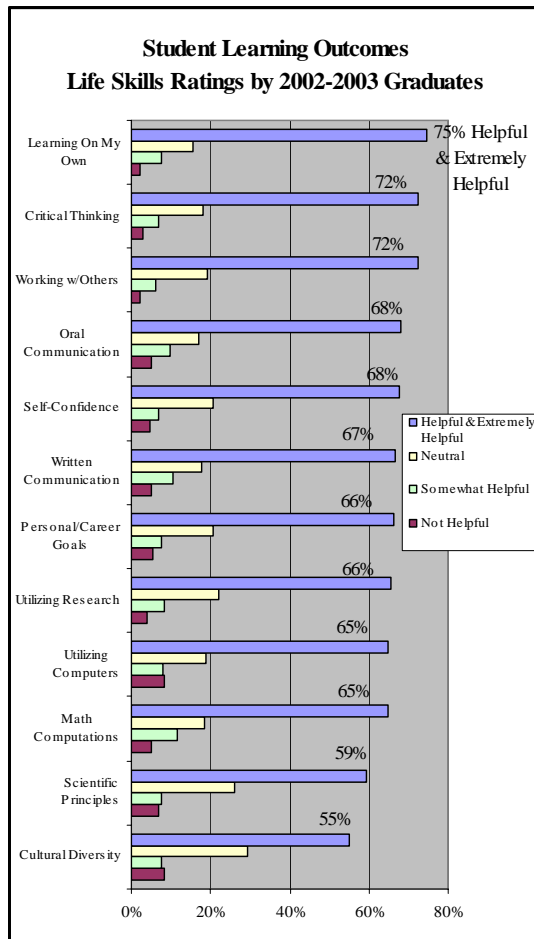


Graduate satisfaction levels ranged from 83% to 89% in overall educational experience, major program of study, instruction in general education and instruction in major. When examined by award type, associate's degree graduates rated their satisfaction in all four areas

higher than certificate and diploma recipients.



Graduates' ratings of MTC helpfulness on 12 life skills or student learning outcomes ranged from 55% to 75%. The top three learning outcomes with 70% or more of graduates reporting MTC was helpful to extremely helpful were *Learning On Their Own*, *Critical Thinking* and *Working With Others*.



COLLEGE SERVICES AND RESOURCES

Graduates reported **satisfaction** levels at 80% or higher for *Admissions*, *Computer Resources* and *Library Resources*. In contrast, they reported **satisfaction** levels below fifty percent in five areas: *Job Placement* (28%), *Financial Aid* (34%), *Veterans Services* (42%), *Student Life* (44%) and *Career Counseling* (46%).

Service/Resource Satisfaction Ratings of Satisfied & Very Satisfied Above 50%

Computer Resources	83%
Library Resources	83%
Admissions	80%
Laboratories	79%
Classrooms	79%
Bookstore	74%
Advisement	74%
Assessment	72%
Registration	70%
Cashier	65%
Tutorial Services	60%
Student Orientation	56%
Parking	56%

Forty-two percent (42%) of responding graduates were **dissatisfied** to **very dissatisfied** with *Financial Aid* services, followed by *Parking* (22%), *Job Placement* (17%), *Registration* (12%) and *Cashier* services (11%). The remaining services and resources had less than 10% of graduates reporting dissatisfaction.

Graduates were **neutral**, neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, on several services. Neutral responses were primarily reported for *Job Placement* (55%), *Veteran Services* (55%), *Student Life* (51%), *Career Counseling* (45%), *Orientation* (39%) and *Tutorial Services* (35%).

Additionally, a significant number of graduates felt that services offered by *Student Life* (55%), *Job Placement* (52%),

Career Counseling (48%) and *Tutorial Services* (40%) did not apply to them. These “**Not Applicable**” responses were removed before the service/resource satisfaction levels were calculated.

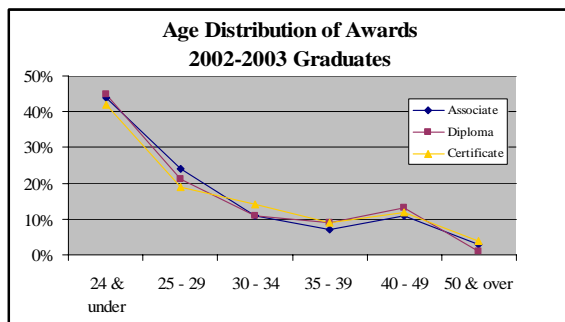
When analyzed by campus, satisfaction levels were below 50% for graduates at both the Airport and Beltline Campus’ in the areas of *Financial Aid*, *Career Counseling*, *Student Life*, and *Job Placement* services.

GRADUATE DEMOGRAPHICS

2002-2003 Entire Graduate Population

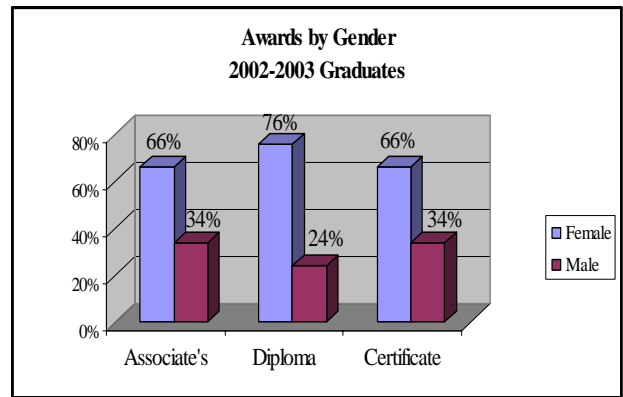
The average age for the 2002-2003 graduates was 28.7 years. The age distribution was similar across the award categories with certificate recipients being slightly older at 29 years.

Graduates 24 years of age and under represented 43% of the 2002-2003 alumni; 25 to 29 year olds comprised 22%; 30 to 34 year olds were 13%; 40 to 49 year olds represented 11%; 35 to 39 year olds were 8% and the 50 plus group equaled 3%.

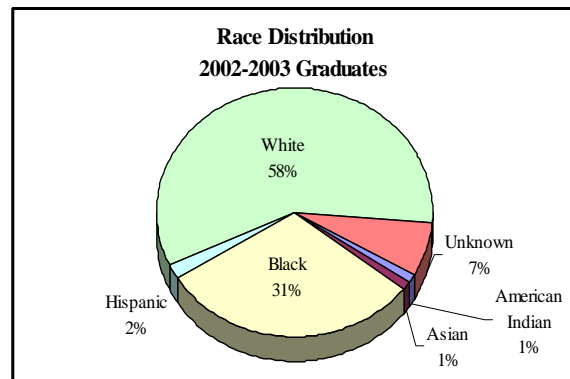


Source: 2003 Graduate Follow up Survey and internal student database.

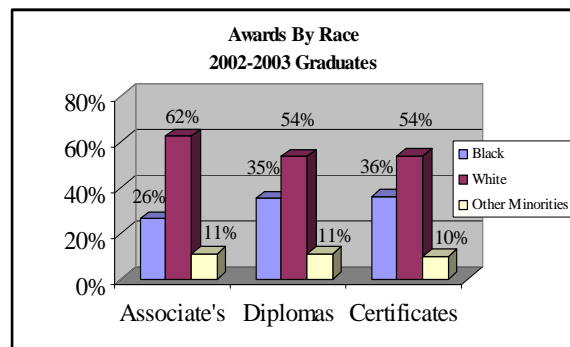
Females dominated the 2002-2003 graduating class, accounting for 67% of the group. Females also dominated each award category representing 76% of diploma recipients, and 66% of both certificate and associate’s degree graduates.



When graduates were analyzed by ethnic origin, whites represented 58% of all graduates. Black graduates accounted for 31%, Hispanics 2%, American Indians 1%, and Asians 1%, with 7% were unknown.




The majority of graduates in each award category were white. Graduates receiving associate’s degrees consisted of 62% white, 26% black and 11% other minorities. Blacks represented a larger percentage of diploma (35%) and certificate (36%) graduates.



2002-2003 Responding Graduates Only

Although similar to the entire group of 2002-2003 graduates in racial mix and average age, graduates responding to the survey included a slightly higher percentage of females at 76% versus 67% in the entire population. The distribution of awards for respondents was also slightly different with a higher percentage of associate's degree recipients responding, 60% versus 54% of all awardees and a smaller share of certificate recipients responding, 34% versus 39% of all awardees. Overall, the responding graduates were representative of all graduates of 2002-2003.

The majority of the responding graduates attended classes on a part-time basis, during the day, and at The Airport Campus of MTC.

 Graduate Profile Survey Respondents Only 2002-2003		
GENDER		
	Percentage	Number
Females	76%	384
Males	24%	118
AVERAGE AGE	29.8 years	
RACE		
White	61%	305
Black	27%	136
Hispanic American	3%	14
Indian	1%	7
Asian/Pacific Islander	1%	4
Unknown	7%	36
Total	100%	502
AWARDS		
Associate's	60%	301
Diploma	6%	29
Certificate	34%	172
Total	100%	502

The typical profile of a 2002-2003 MTC graduate, is a white female who received an associate's degree, attended classes on a part-time basis, usually during the day, at the Airport Campus. She would be employed full-time making at least \$30,000 per year.

GRADUATE COMMENTS

Strengths of MTC Programs

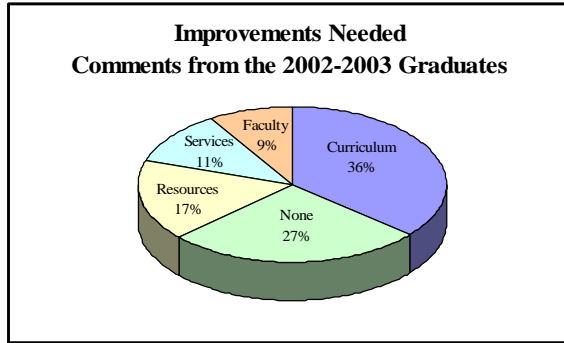
Thirty-seven percent (37%) of graduates reported that the strength of their program revolved primarily around the faculty and the learning environment they created. The curriculum was noted as being right on target and current in 13% of the comments. Job skills developed were noted as a strength in 11% of comments followed by life skills by 9% and hands-on training by 8%.

Comments On Strengths of MTC Programs 2002-2003 Graduates		
Category	N	%
Instructors	129	37%
Current Curriculum	47	13%
Job Skills	40	11%
Student Learning/Life Skills	30	9%
Clinicals/Hands-on Training	29	8%
Class Size/Scheduling	19	5%
Total Comments	353	100%

Source: 2003 Graduate Follow Up Survey. Categories with less than 5% are not displayed.

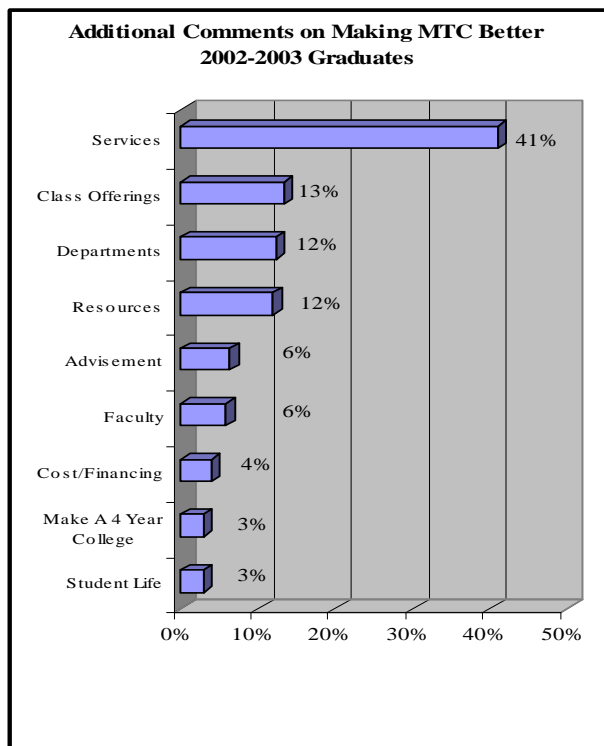
Improvements Needed

Graduates responding to the 2003 Graduate Follow-up Survey were given the opportunity to comment on what could be done to improve the MTC program they completed. Twenty-seven percent (27%) of the 283 graduates responding believed improvements were not needed and added positive comments. The remaining comments on improvements fell into four categories: curriculum (36%), resources (17%), services (11%) and faculty (9%).



Making MTC A Better College

The majority of graduate comments in this category focused on MTC services. Over half of these recommendations focused on *Financial Aid* services. Additionally, graduates recommended more class offerings, internet or satellite based, so they could complete programs faster. More evening classes, including clinicals, and more hands-on training/internships were suggested along with increasing resources, primarily parking.



METHODOLOGY

The 2003 Graduate Follow-Up Survey was mailed during October 2003 to each of the 1,439 students graduating during the 2002-2003 academic year. A postcard reminder was sent to graduates who had not responded by early November 2003 followed by a third mailing at the end of that month. An abbreviated telephone survey was also conducted during November 2003. A total of 525 responses were obtained from the original 1,439 graduates for a response rate of 36%. Graduates responding to the survey did not answer all of the questions so the total number responding has been indicated on tables and in the full report.

Information submitted by graduates has been augmented with employment data gathered by Job Placement Services and award/demographic data from MTC's internal student databases.

This Survey Summary is provided as a brief synopsis on the wealth of information provided by MTC's 2002-2003 graduates. Details, including data by departments, are available in the full report. For a copy of the full report, *Graduate Follow-up Survey 2002-2003 Graduates*, contact:

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