De Anza College Office of Institutional Research and Planning

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Subject: MESA Student Demographics & Course Success, Cohorts 2023-24 and 2024-25

Overview:

Mathematics, Engineering, and Science Achievement (MESA) is a new cohort for STEM-major students. The program began in 2023-24 and is preparing for programmatic improvements and compliance-related reporting. The program reached out to Institutional Research, Planning and Accreditation (IRPA) for demographic and course success data on its 2023-24 and 2024-25 cohorts.

Methodology:

The MESA program enters students' cwids into Banner and assign them to a starting MESA term. IRPA used the SGRCHRT data set and cohort code "MESADA" (MESA Program De Anza) to retrieve 129 cwids from summer 2023 through winter 2025. Each student was tracked to their first enrollment term after they joined MESA, and their demographic and course success were examined. Of the 129 cwids, 2 did not enroll at all at the college and were omitted from the analysis. A total of 67 students were assigned to the 2023-24 cohort and so far 60 students are part of the 2024-25 cohort.

Results:

- Table 1 provides the student type status of the MESA students in the first term they enrolled in once they joined MESA. More than half of the 2023-24 MESA cohort were continuing students (52%), whereas the recent 2024-25 cohort are first-time college students (53%).

Table 1:

Student Type

	Mesa Starting Cohort Year					
	2023-24		2024-25		Total	
	HC	Percent	HC	Percent	HC	Percent
First-time student	26	39%	32	53%	58	46%
First-time transfer	2	3%	2	3%	4	3%
Continuing	35	52%	23	38%	58	46%
Returning	4	6%	3	5%	7	6%
Total	67	100%	60	100%	127	100%

- Most students were age 19 or under when they joined MESA, 54% for the 2023-24 cohort and 67% for the 2024-25 cohort.
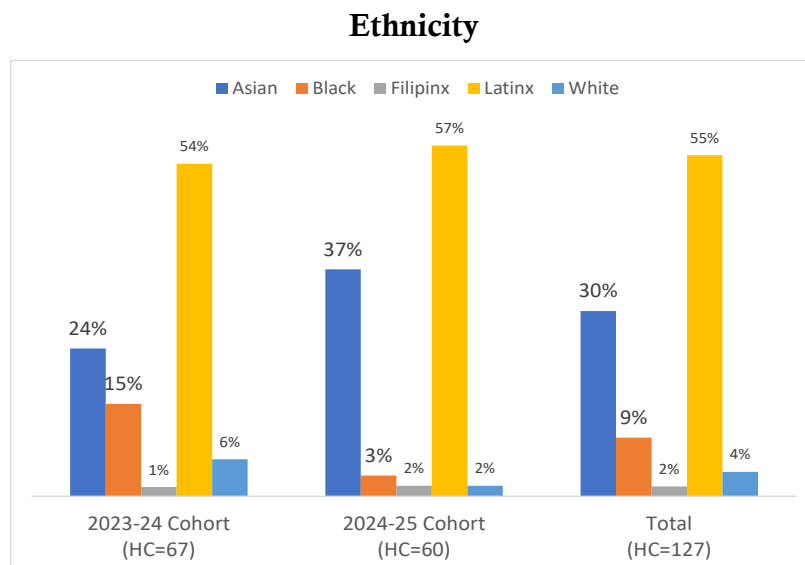
Table 2:

Age

| | Mesa Starting Cohort Year | | | | | |
| | 2023-24 | | 2024-25 | | Total | |
	HC	Percent	HC	Percent	HC	Percent
19 or under	36	54%	40	67%	76	60%
20 to 24	18	27%	13	22%	31	24%
25 to 29	8	12%	5	8%	13	10%
30 to 34	2	3%	1	2%	3	2%
35 to 39	2	3%	0	0%	2	2%
40 to 49	0	0%	1	2%	1	1%
50 to 59	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%
Total	67	100%	60	100%	127	100%

- Over half of the MESA student cohort are male (57%).

Table 3:

Gender

| | Mesa Starting Cohort Year | | | | | |
| | 2023-24 | | 2024-25 | | Total | |
	HC	Percent	HC	Percent	HC	Percent
Female	26	39%	24	40%	50	39%
Male	38	57%	34	57%	72	57%
Non-binary	3	4%	2	3%	5	4%
Total	67	100%	60	100%	127	100%

- For both MESA cohorts, most students identified as Latinx or Asian. When examined by gender, most MESA Latinx, Asian and White students are males, whereas MESA Black students are likely to be female. Refer to Table 4.
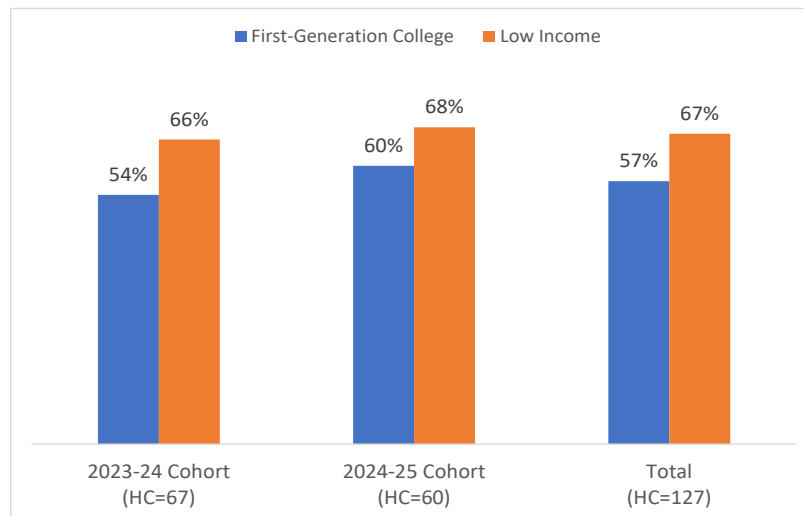
Chart 1:

Ethnicity

Table 4:

Ethnicity by Gender

| | Mesa Starting Cohort Year | | | | | |
| | 2023-24 | | 2024-25 | | Total | |
	HC	Percent	HC	Percent	HC	Percent
Asian						
Female	7	44%	10	45%	17	45%
Male	9	56%	12	55%	21	55%
Non-binary	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	16	100%	22	100%	38	100%
Black						
Female	5	50%	1	50%	6	50%
Male	4	40%	0	0%	4	33%
Non-binary	1	10%	1	50%	2	17%
Total	10	100%	2	100%	12	100%
Filipinx						
Female	1	100%	0	0%	1	50%
Male	0	0%	1	100%	1	50%
Non-binary	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	1	100%	1	100%	2	100%
Latinx						
Female	12	33%	13	38%	25	36%
Male	22	61%	20	59%	42	60%
Non-binary	2	6%	1	3%	3	4%
Total	36	100%	34	100%	70	100%
White						
Female	1	25%	0	0%	1	20%
Male	3	75%	1	100%	4	80%
Non-binary	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	4	100%	1	100%	5	100%

- More than half of MESA students self-reported they are first-generation college.[1] students (57%) and from low-income households[2] (67%). Both proportions are higher than compared to the college[3], 27% and 35%, respectively.

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[1] First-generation college: students whose parents/legal guardians' highest educational attainment is high school or less.
[2] Low-income: students whose annual household is $50,000 or less.
[3] College average rate reflect students enrolled in 2023-24 and 2024-25 credit courses.

Chart 2:

First-Generation College and Low-Income Statuses

- The top 5 majors of MESA students are in Computer Science, Biology, Mathematics, Transfer Studies (IGETC/UC) and Liberal Arts (Science, Math and Engineering emphasis) [4].

Table 5:

Primary Major

Major Code	Major Description	Mesa Starting Cohort Year					
		2023-24		2024-25		Total	
		HC	Percent	HC	Percent	HC	Percent
2CST	Computer Science for Transfer	19	28%	17	28%	36	28%
2BIT	Biology for Transfer	12	18%	8	13%	20	16%
2MTH	Mathematics for Transfer	10	15%	9	15%	19	15%
2ITU	Transfer Studies - IGETC/UC	6	9%	9	15%	15	12%
2SME	Lib Arts-Sci,Math&Engineering	6	9%	8	13%	14	11%
2BIO	Biological Sciences	2	3%	1	2%	3	2%
2EMS	Energy Manag & Buildng Science	2	3%	1	2%	3	2%
1BIO	Biological Sciences	2	3%	0	0%	2	2%
1PSY	Psychology	1	1%	1	2%	2	2%
2CGE	Transfer Studies - CSUGE	1	1%	1	2%	2	2%
1EGN	Engineering	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%
2AJT	Admin of Justice for Transfer	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%
2BA2	Business Adm for Transfer 2.0	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%
2BUS	Business Administration	0	0%	1	2%	1	1%
2EGT	English for Transfer	0	0%	1	2%	1	1%
2FSB	Facility&Sustainable Bldg Mgt	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%
2ITC	Transfer Studies - IGETC/CSU	0	0%	1	2%	1	1%
2NUR	Registered Nurse	0	0%	1	2%	1	1%
2NWA	Network Administration	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%
2SAT	Studio Arts for Transfer	0	0%	1	2%	1	1%
2SCT	Sociology for Transfer	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%
Total		67	100%	60	100%	127	100%

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[4] Current major reflects the primary major as of April 24, 2025. Primary major codes beginning with "1" indicate the major is associated with Foothill, whereas "2" is associated with De Anza College.

- MESA 2023-24 students' course success rate was 80% in year #1 of the program and was 81% in year #2. The 2024-25 cohort course success rate thus far is 82%. Compared to the college's rate (79%), MESA's course success rate is higher.
- EWRT 1A, EWRT 2 and MATH 1A were the top 3 most enrolled courses among MESA students in their first year of the program.

Chart 3:

Course Success Rate

Legend: ■ Success Rate ■ Non-Success Rate ■ Withdrew Rate

	2023-24 Cohort: Year #1 (Enrl=710)	2023-24 Cohort: Year #2 (Enrl=438)	2024-25 Cohort: Year #1 (Enrl=425)
Success Rate	80%	83%	82%
Non-Success Rate	12%	9%	10%
Withdrew Rate	8%	8%	8%