



Monterey College of Law Campus Pulse Survey 2025



162 Responses

59% Response Rate



Respondents

55% Online Students
45% On-site Students



36

Average Age
of Respondents

Introduction

The **Campus Pulse Survey** was developed by the Campus Pulse Committee, a cross-disciplinary group established in 2023. Following its implementation in Fall 2024, the committee continued refining the survey in 2025 to ensure consistent measurement of key indicators of student experience and campus climate.

The Fall 2025 survey was conducted digitally over a 30-day period during September and October 2025.

A total of 162 students participated, representing 59% of the Fall 2025 student body, comparable to Fall 2024 (163 respondents; 61%). This consistency supports reliable year-over-year comparisons.

All enrolled students received the survey via multiple channels, including email and the law school's learning management system. Students could complete the survey online at their convenience. Faculty also supported participation by providing time during class for survey completion.

Overall, the Fall 2025 administration maintained strong participation and continuity, providing a solid foundation for assessing trends and informing institutional improvements.

Survey Instrument

Emphasizing core measures of campus climate:

The Campus Pulse Survey focused on key measures of campus climate, services, and programs to explore students' overall perceptions of their campus experience. Survey questions addressed topics such as goal achievement, sense of connection to the law school, and alignment with expectations.

Summary of Findings

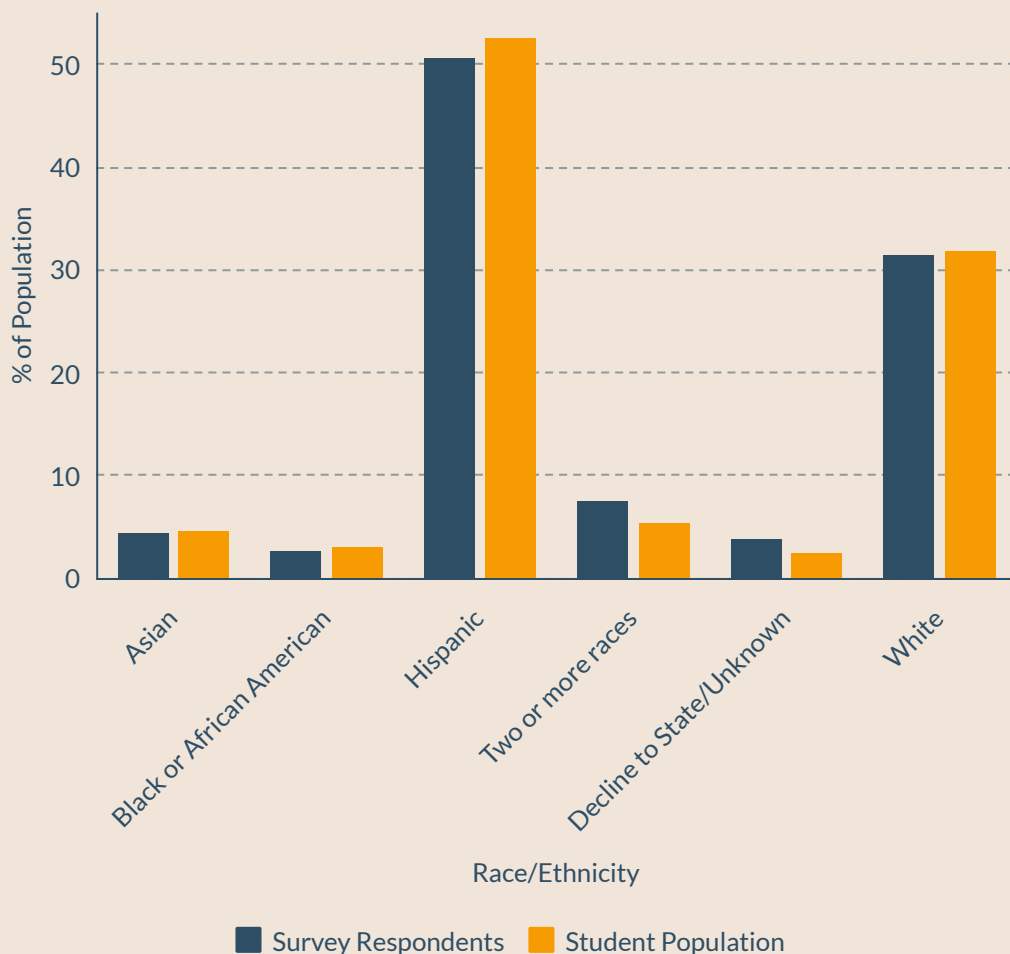
Overall, students continue to report positive perceptions of the law school, with modest improvements from Fall 2024. Notably, 96.9% of respondents reported progress toward achieving their academic goals (up from 94%), alongside increases in connection and willingness to recommend the institution.

At the same time, opportunities for improvement remain. Among the 31 respondents who identified areas for improvement, academic advising remains a concern, while course offerings and professional development emerged as more prominent priorities in 2025.



2025 Pulse Survey Demographics

Demographics of Survey Respondents Compared to the Fall 2025 Student Population—Race/Ethnicity

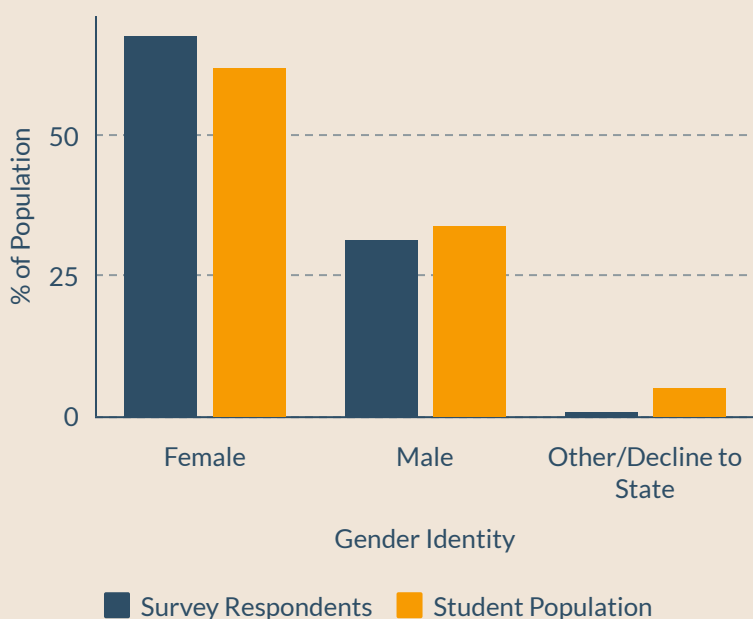


To assess potential nonresponse bias, Fall 2025 respondent demographics were compared to the overall student population.

The racial and ethnic composition closely mirrored the student body, with differences generally within a few percentage points, indicating a broadly representative sample.

Approximately 62% of respondents identified as persons of color, compared to 60% of the student population, reflecting a slight increase from Fall 2024 (59.5%), when respondents closely aligned with the broader student body.

Demographics of Survey Respondents Compared to the Fall 2025 Student Population—Gender



The gender composition of respondents closely resembled the Fall 2025 student population, with differences generally within a few percentage points.

Women were somewhat overrepresented among respondents, consistent with their proportion in the overall student body. This pattern is similar to Fall 2024, when women were also slightly overrepresented relative to the broader student population.

Goal Achievement

How do you feel about your progress toward achieving the goals you had when you began your program?



Goal Achievement

A majority of respondents (96.9%, 157 of 162) reported they were on track to achieving their goals or had already achieved them, an increase from 94% (153 of 163) in Fall 2024. Meanwhile, 3.1% (5 of 162) expressed concern about not achieving their goals, reflecting a slight decrease from the prior year.

Expectations

All things considered, has your course of study met your expectations?

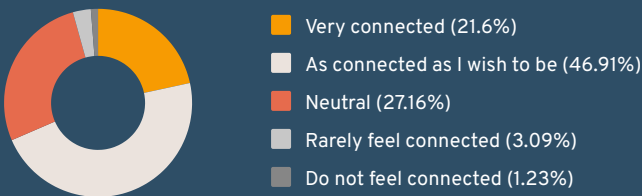


Expectations

A majority of respondents (82.7%, 134 of 162) reported that their course of study met their expectations, consistent with 82.21% (134 of 163) in Fall 2024. Meanwhile, 17.3% (28 of 162) indicated that their expectations had not been met, reflecting no meaningful change from the prior year.

Connection

How connected do you feel to the law school?

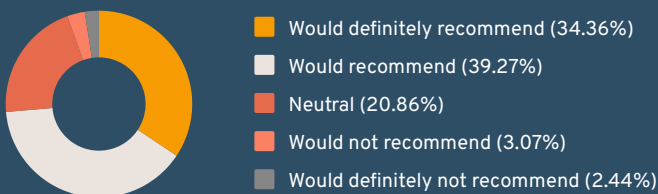


Connection

Among respondents, 68.5% (111 of 162) reported feeling very connected or as connected as they desired to the law school, an increase from 64% (104 of 163) in Fall 2024. Meanwhile, 6.8% (11 of 162) indicated rarely or not feeling connected, a decrease from 11.66% in the prior year, and 24.7% (40 of 162) reported feeling neutral, consistent with Fall 2024.

Recommendation

On a scale from 1 to 5, how likely are you to recommend Monterey College of Law to a friend or colleague?

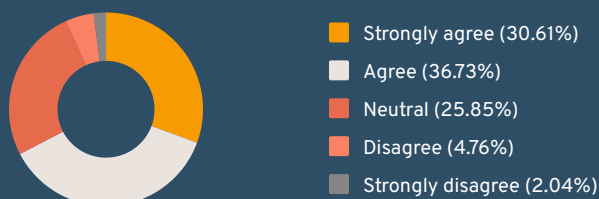


Recommendation

A majority of respondents (74.1%, 120 of 162) indicated they would or definitely would recommend the law school to a friend or colleague, an increase from 72% (117 of 163) in Fall 2024. Conversely, 4.9% (8 of 162) stated they would not or definitely would not recommend the school, a decrease from 6.74% in the prior year, while 21.0% (34 of 162) felt neutral, consistent with Fall 2024.

Belonging

Do you feel the law school fosters a sense of belonging for students from diverse backgrounds?



Belonging

A majority of respondents (61.1%, 99 of 162) agreed or strongly agreed that the law school fosters a sense of belonging for students from diverse backgrounds, a slight decrease from 65% (106 of 163) in Fall 2024. In contrast, 8.3% (13 of 162) disagreed or strongly disagreed, an increase from 5.55% in the prior year, while 30.7% (50 of 162) remained neutral, consistent with Fall 2024.



Positive Experiences and Areas for Improvement

Among the 135 respondents who identified positive aspects of their experience (with the option to select multiple responses), the most frequently cited areas were interactions with faculty (83.0%), interactions with administrators and staff (58.5%), overall responsiveness of the school (51.9%), and availability of academic and bar support resources (48.9%). Faculty interactions remained the most frequently cited strength, consistent with Fall 2024.

Areas Where Your Experiences Have Been Positive. Select all that apply.	% of responses
Interactions with faculty members	82.96%
Interactions with academic advisors	46.67%
Interactions with program deans (e.g., Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Associate Dean of Clinical Education, Associate Dean of Legal Writing, etc.)	45.93%
Interactions with campus deans	43.7%
Interactions with administrators and staff (e.g., receiving assistance on administrative tasks, support on issues related to your course of study at the law school, access to telehealth, etc.)	58.52%
Course offerings (e.g., electives, clinics, etc.)	47.41%
Availability of academic and bar support resources	48.89%
Opportunities for professional development, resume building, and networking	31.85%
Overall responsiveness of the school	51.85%
Other interactions with the school not listed here	17.04%
Total	135 Respondents

Among the 31 respondents who identified areas for improvement, the most frequently cited were course offerings (45.2%) and interactions with academic advisors (45.2%). Compared to Fall 2024, concerns related to academic and bar support decreased, while course offerings and professional development emerged as more prominent priorities.

Select the areas we can improve on. Select all that apply.	% of responses
Interactions with faculty members	32.26%
Interactions with academic advisors	45.16%
Interactions with program deans (e.g., Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Associate Dean of Clinical Education, Associate Dean of Legal Writing, etc.)	29.03%
Interactions with campus deans	19.35%
Interactions with administrators and staff (e.g., receiving assistance on administrative tasks, support on issues related to your course of study at the law school, access to telehealth, etc.)	35.48%
Course offerings (e.g., electives, clinics, etc.)	45.16%
Availability of academic and bar support resources	35.48%
Opportunities for professional development, resume building, and networking	38.71%
Overall responsiveness of the school	38.71%
Total	31 Respondents



Positive Experiences and Areas for Improvement

Among the 8 respondents who reported not feeling connected to the law school, 4 said their work and family schedules limited their availability, while 4 reported that other factors prevented them from feeling connected. No respondents indicated that they were not interested in feeling more connected.

This represents a shift from Fall 2024, when a larger share of respondents (70%) cited other factors as barriers, and 10% indicated they were not interested in feeling more connected.

What factors prevent you from feeling more connected to the law school?	Number of respondents
My work/family schedule limits my availability.	4
I am not interested in feeling more connected.	0
Other factors prevent me from feeling connected.	4
Total	8 Respondents



Executive Summary of 2025 Pulse Survey Results

The Fall 2025 Campus Pulse Survey received a 59% response rate (162 students), comparable to Fall 2024 (61%, 163 students). As in prior years, respondent demographics were compared to the overall student population to assess potential nonresponse bias. Respondents remained broadly representative of the Fall 2025 student body across race/ethnicity and gender, with differences generally within a few percentage points. Approximately 62% of respondents identified as persons of color, slightly exceeding the overall student population and representing a modest increase from Fall 2024 (59.5%). This includes strong representation from historically underrepresented demographic groups in the legal profession.

The respondent pool included both online (55%) and on-site students (45%), reflecting the overall distribution of students across modalities. Participation also included students from all campus locations. This consistency in participation and representativeness supports reliable year-over-year comparisons and provides a strong foundation for analyzing trends across student experience, including differences by demographic group, campus, and program modality.

Most Students Are on Track to Achieve Their Academic Goals

Overall, 96.9% of respondents (157 of 162) indicated they were in the process of achieving their goals or had already achieved them, an increase from 94% (153 of 163) in Fall 2024. Concerns about not achieving goals were reported by 3.1% (5 of 162) of respondents, reflecting a slight decrease from the prior year.

By modality, online students (approximately 95%) reported high levels of progress toward achieving their goals, while on-site students (approximately 98%) reported slightly higher rates, consistent with Fall 2024 patterns. On-site students also continued to report higher rates of achieving their goals independently, while online students were more likely to report achieving their goals with the support of the law school.

Differences by gender remained consistent with prior findings. Male respondents were more likely to report achieving their goals with the school's support, while female respondents were more likely to report achieving their goals independently. These patterns suggest continued variation in how students engage with and utilize institutional resources.

The Majority of Students Report Their Program Meets Their Expectations

A majority of respondents (82.7%, 134 of 162) reported that their course of study met their expectations, consistent with 82.21% (134 of 163) in Fall 2024.

By modality, online students reported slightly higher levels of satisfaction compared to on-site students, continuing a pattern observed in the prior year. Differences by gender also remained consistent, with male respondents more likely to report that their expectations were met, while female respondents reported lower, but still majority, levels of satisfaction.

By race and ethnicity, satisfaction levels were comparable across groups, with only minor variation between respondents identifying as persons of color and those identifying as white. Overall, these findings suggest that student expectations remain stable across demographic groups, with modest differences by modality and gender.

Most Students Feel Connected to the Law School

Among respondents, 68.5% (111 of 162) reported feeling very connected or as connected as they desired to the law school, an increase from 64% (104 of 163) in Fall 2024 (+4.5 percentage points).

When comparing modes of study, on-site students continued to report higher levels of connection than online students, though both groups showed measurable improvement from the prior year. Connection among online students increased from approximately 61% to 65%, while on-site students increased from approximately 67% to 71%. These gains suggest that recent efforts to strengthen student engagement and connection may be having a positive impact across modalities.

Differences by gender also remained consistent, with male respondents more likely to report feeling connected, while female respondents were more likely to report neutral levels of connection.

Among the 8 respondents who reported not feeling connected to the law school, 50% said their work and family schedules limited their availability, while 50% reported that other factors prevented them from feeling connected. No respondents indicated that they were not interested in feeling more connected, representing a shift from Fall 2024.



Executive Summary of 2025 Pulse Survey Results

Most Students Would Recommend the Law School to a Friend or Colleague

A majority of respondents (74.1%, 120 of 162) indicated they would or definitely would recommend the law school to a friend or colleague, an increase from 72% (117 of 163) in Fall 2024.

By modality, online students continued to report higher recommendation rates than on-site students, though both groups improved from the prior year. Recommendation rates increased from 78.89% to 80.2% among online students and from 64.38% to 68.0% among on-site students, with on-site students showing a larger gain.

Differences by gender also remained consistent, with male respondents more likely to recommend the law school compared to female respondents. Across racial and ethnic groups, recommendation rates were generally consistent, with only minor variation between respondents identifying as persons of color and those identifying as white.

Overall, these findings indicate continued high levels of student satisfaction, with modest gains from the prior year and improvement across both modalities.

Positive Experiences and Areas for Improvement

Among the 31 respondents who identified areas for improvement, the most frequently cited were course offerings (45.2%, 14 respondents), interactions with academic advisors (45.2%, 14 respondents), and opportunities for professional development and networking (38.7%, 12 respondents).

Compared to Fall 2024, concerns about academic and bar support decreased, suggesting that recent efforts to improve communication and awareness of available resources are having a positive impact on student perceptions.

In contrast, course offerings and professional development emerged as more prominent priorities. Interactions with academic advisors remained a consistent area of concern, with the same number of respondents identifying this issue in both Fall 2024 and Fall 2025. This suggests that, unlike other areas where improvements are evident, advising continues to present challenges, potentially reflecting variation in student experiences rather than a lack of available support.

Course offerings also emerged as a more prominent area for improvement (45.2%, 14 respondents), increasing notably from Fall 2024. This shift suggests growing student interest in expanded course availability, scheduling flexibility, and access to a broader range of academic opportunities. Opportunities for professional development and networking emerged as a more prominent area for improvement (38.7%, 12 respondents), more than doubling from Fall 2024. This shift suggests increasing student interest in career preparation and practical application of their legal education.

Closing Summary

Overall, the Fall 2025 Campus Pulse Survey reflects continued strength in student experience, with high levels of goal achievement, stable satisfaction, and increased connection to the law school compared to Fall 2024. Improvements in areas such as administrative support, responsiveness, and awareness of academic resources suggest that targeted institutional efforts are having a measurable impact on student perceptions.

At the same time, the findings highlight persistent and emerging areas of focus. Academic advising remains a consistent concern, with no change in the number of students identifying it as an area for improvement. In addition, course offerings and opportunities for professional development and networking have become more prominent priorities, reflecting a shift in student expectations toward greater flexibility and stronger career preparation.

Taken together, these results suggest that while students feel supported in achieving their academic goals, there is increasing demand for improvements to course availability and career preparation. Addressing these areas presents an opportunity to build on existing strengths while positioning institutional priorities to better meet evolving student needs.