

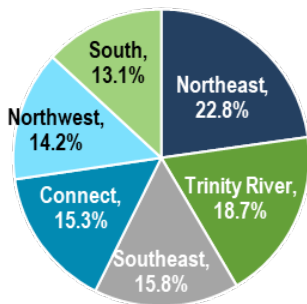
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: 2023SP STUDENTS' PREFERENCES ON THE SCHEDULE

In the continuous effort towards a student-centered schedule, TCC administered its standard operational survey to all 2023SP students to gain further insights about students' preferences regarding the schedule. Results from that survey are presented in this report.

Out of the approximately 42,300 students who received the survey, about 1,200 (~2.8%) responded.* This is the lowest response rate of all iterations of this survey.

Respondent Demographics

- **38%** First Time in College (FTIC) (N=1,139)
- **54%** part-time (N=1,140)
 - About 1 in 3 part-time respondents would attend full-time if an 8-week schedule were available. These rates are very similar to previous SFU survey results. (N=618)
- About **15%** of respondents selected TCC Connect Campus as their primary campus; however, Connect Campus was the majority campus for about **25%** of 2023SP TCC students.¹ (N=1,142)



- **60%** did not have dependents (N=1,103)
- **26%** worked 40+ hours per week
 - **29%** were solely students who did not work outside of school. (N=1,117)



- About **18%** did not work outside of school and did not care for any dependents. (N=1,102)

Length & Modality

- About **39%** of respondents preferred a combination of 16-week and 8-week classes. (N=1,144)
- About **66%** of respondents preferring only 8-week courses were part-time. (N=177)
 - Of the part-time respondents who stated they would attend full-time if an 8-week

schedule were available, about **32%** preferred only 8-week classes. (N=212)

- About **37%** of respondents preferred all face-to-face classes, followed up by about **32%** who preferred a combination of face-to-face, online, and hybrid classes. (N=1,118)
- About **40%** of FTIC respondents preferred all face-to-face classes. (N=427)
- About **36%** of respondents working 40+ hours a week preferred all-online classes. (N=292)
- About **64%** of respondents stated their choice of modality was related to the course subject. (N=1,114)

One College

About **79%** of respondents indicated taking courses at only one campus. Similarly, about **77%** of 2023SP students took courses at only one campus.¹ (N=1,120)

- Of those respondents who were solely students, about **79%** were enrolled at only one campus. (N=321)
- Of those who enrolled at multiple campuses, about **34%** selected needing a section with a different time or day, and about **29%** stated their course was only offered at one campus. (N=235)

Of the 23 comments for “Other” reasons for enrolling at multiple campuses, about **1 in 6** indicated taking classes at another institution outside of TCC. About **1 in 6** comments related to campus-specific courses and programs. About **1 in 6** comments related to proximity to home or work. About **1 in 10** comments suggested confusion during the registration and enrollment process.

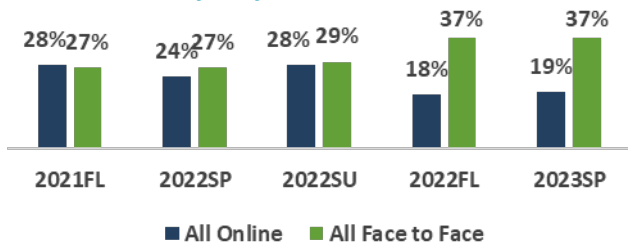
Preference on Modality

About **37%** of respondents preferred all face-to-face, about **19%** preferred all-online, and about **32%** preferred a combination of modalities. (N=1,118)

* **Note:** Not all respondents answered every question; the analysis of each question is based on the total number of respondents who answered that question.

¹ 2023SP Statistical Handbook File

Modality Preference 2021FL-2023SP

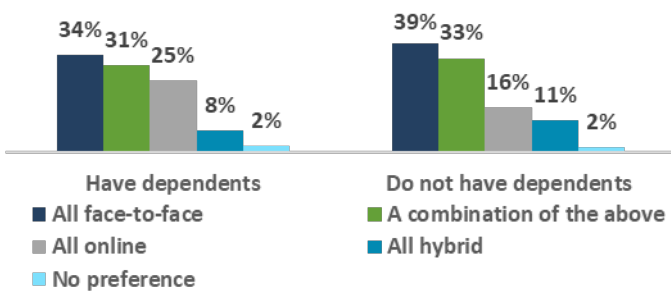


Since 2021FL’s survey administration, the preference for all-online course delivery has decreased from about **28%** of respondents to **19%** in 2023SP. Conversely, the preference for all face-to-face course delivery increased from **27%** in 2021FL to **37%** in 2022FL and 2023SP.

MODALITY BY DEPENDENCY STATUS

Modality preference among respondents varied slightly by dependency status, with about **39%** of respondents without dependents preferring all face-to-face compared to about **34%** of respondents with dependents. Additionally, about **1 in 4** respondents with dependents preferred all-online courses compared to about **16%** of respondents without dependents. (N=1,099)

Modality preference by dependents/no dependents



Comparatively in the 2022FL survey, the variation between these two groups for face-to-face modality was about **17-percentage points** (25% with dependents, 42% no dependents), and the variation for all-online courses was about **14-percentage points** (28% with dependents, 14% no dependents).

Choosing Face-to-Face Only

When asked why they chose face-to-face modality as their preferred course delivery mode, about **69%** of respondents selected “I learn better being in a classroom with the teacher” as their top reason. The choices “Home environment is not conducive to online learning” and “I like social interaction” were ranked very similarly, with each of the options being ranked in the top three for about **4 in 5** respondents. (N=389)

Why would you choose all face-to-face courses?

Reason for Choosing Face to Face Only	Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3
I learn better being in a classroom with the teacher	69%	20%	11%
Home environment is not conducive to online learning (stressful, distractions, etc.)	14%	35%	33%
I like social interaction	13%	33%	32%
My classes can't be taught online	4%	8%	17%
I don't have resources for online courses	1%	5%	6%

These results are consistent with previous survey results showing that among those who prefer only face-to-face courses, the majority of them prefer face-to-face because they learn better in face-to-face classes.

Choosing Only Online

When asked why they chose online modality as their preferred course delivery mode, about **95%** of respondents who fully ranked their choices selected “I like the time flexibility (works around time obligations such as work)” as one of their top 3 reasons. (N=212)

Why would you choose all-online courses?

Reason for Choosing Online Only	Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3
I like the time flexibility	53%	31%	11%
I can be at home with/take care of family members	19%	17%	17%
I learn better at home	14%	18%	24%
I like not commuting to school/distance from home/work to school makes online better for me	10%	25%	35%
I am not comfortable being around people	4%	8%	13%

Across all iterations of the SFU survey containing this question, over **90%** of respondents consistently ranked enjoyment of time flexibility as the top reason for choosing online only classes.

Day of Week & Time of Day Selection

DAY OF WEEK

Respondents ranked their preferred day of week to attend face-to-face or hybrid classes. About **60%** of Rank 1 choices were “Monday and Wednesday.”(N=385)

Rank the day(s) of the week you would prefer to attend classes.

	Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3	Rank 4	Rank 5	Rank 6	Rank 7
Monday and Wednesday	59%	31%	4%	2%	1%	1%	3%
Tuesday and Thursday	35%	57%	2%	1%	0%	2%	2%
Friday only	1%	5%	55%	14%	16%	5%	4%
Saturday only	1%	3%	6%	19%	40%	24%	7%
Friday and Saturday	2%	2%	26%	39%	13%	13%	5%
Saturday and Sunday	2%	2%	5%	17%	14%	26%	35%
Sunday only	0%	1%	2%	9%	15%	29%	43%

Day of week preference has remained very consistent over each iteration of this survey, with about **50%-60%** of respondents selecting Monday and Wednesday as their Rank 1 each term.

By Demographic Groups:

- *Caring for dependents:* about **56%** of Rank 1 choices were for “Monday and Wednesday” compared to about **62%** of respondents without dependents. (N=139 & N=239)
- *Working 40 or more hours:* about **88%** of Rank 1 choices were either “Monday and Wednesday” or “Tuesday and Thursday.” (N=52)
 - The percentage of Rank 1 increased from the 2022SP and 2022FL results, with **62%** and **69%**, respectively.
- *Solely a student:* about **96%** of choices for “Monday and Wednesday” or “Tuesday and Thursday” were Rank 1. (N=130)

TIME OF DAY

Most respondents ranked mornings higher than any other time of the day for classes; however, very early morning classes were ranked quite low. (N=384)

Rank the time(s) of day you would prefer to attend classes.

	Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3	Rank 4	Rank 5
Early mornings (6:30 AM - 7:59 AM)	7%	13%	18%	12%	48%
Mornings (8:00 AM - 11:59 AM)	60%	20%	3%	15%	1%
Afternoons (12:00 PM - 4:59 PM)	22%	47%	24%	3%	4%
Early evenings (5:00 PM - 5:59 PM)	3%	14%	41%	38%	5%
Evenings (6:00 PM - 8:59 PM)	9%	7%	13%	32%	41%

Time of day preference for 8:00AM - 11:59AM class time has increased from about **39%** of respondents selecting it as first choice in 2021FL to about **60%** selecting it as first choice in 2023SP.

By Demographic Groups:

- *Caring for dependents:* about **17%** of Rank 1 choices were for “Afternoons (12:00PM - 4:59PM)” compared to about **25%** of respondents without dependents. (N=135 & N=242)
- *Working 40 or more hours:* about **60%** of Rank 1 choices were for times after 12:00PM compared to **53%** in the 2022SP survey and **65%** for the 2022FL survey. (N=52)
- *Solely a student:* about **64%** of choices for Rank 1 were for “Mornings (8:00AM - 11:59AM)”. This percentage has increased from about **48%** in the 2022SP SFU survey. (N=133)

ABILITY TO CHOOSE DAY & TIME

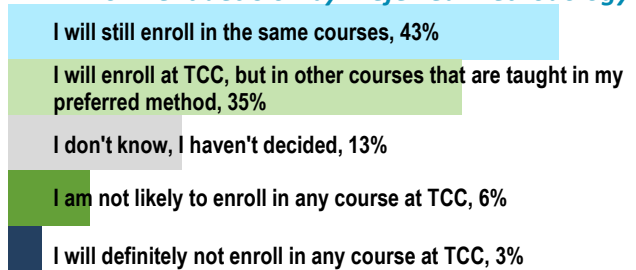
- About **81%** of respondents were able to select their preferred class time. (N=389)
 - For respondents who were unable to select their preferred time, just over half (**54%**) selected not having the time offered, and about **46%** indicated their preferred time was full. (N=70)
- About **88%** of respondents were able to select their preferred day of the week. (N=391)

Conclusion Questions

IF YOUR PREFERRED METHOD OF TEACHING IS NOT AN OPTION

When asked how they would proceed with a course if their preferred method was not available, about **43%** of respondents would still enroll in the same course. (N=1,073)

Enrollment decision by Preferred Methodology



Enrollment Decision by Demographic Groups:

- *All-online*: about **39%** of respondents who selected online-only as their preferred modality indicated that they would still enroll at TCC but in other courses taught in their preferred method. (N=212)
- *All face-to-face*: similar to online-only, about **39%** of respondents who selected all face-to-face as their preferred modality said they would enroll at TCC in other face-to-face courses. (N=381)
- *All hybrid*: about **58%** of respondents who selected all hybrid as their preferred modality were likely to enroll in the same courses despite them being of a different modality. (N=106)
 - This is similar to the 2022SP results (about **57%**) but differs from the 2022FL results (about **32%**).

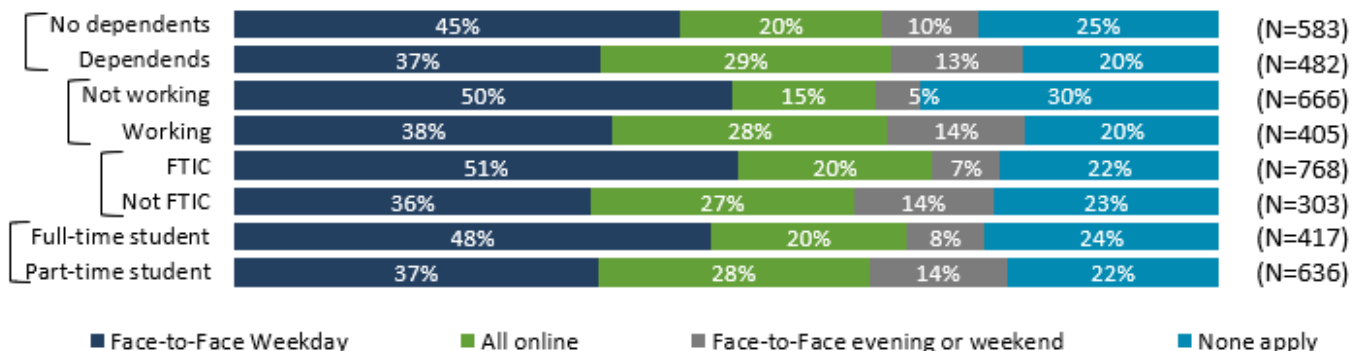
CHOOSE THE STATEMENT THAT BEST SUMMARIZES YOUR SCHEDULING NEEDS

When asked to select a statement that best described their scheduling needs due to preferences and/or other obligations such as work and children, just under half (about **42%**) of respondents selected “I need a course schedule that is face-to-face Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday and between 8:00AM - 5:00PM,” and about **1 in 4** respondents selected “I need a course schedule that is all-online.” (N=1,071)

Scheduling Needs



Scheduling Needs by Demographic Groups



Scheduling Needs by Demographic Groups:

- *All-online*: about **83%** of respondents who preferred all-online coursework needed a course schedule that was all-online. (N=212)
 - Compared to the 2022SP (about **89%**) and 2022FL (about **93%**) survey results, the preference for all-online by all-online students lowered in 2023SP.
- *All face-to-face*: about **71%** of respondents who preferred all face-to-face coursework needed a course schedule that was Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday and between 8:00AM - 5:00PM. (N =380)
- *Solely a student*: about **50%** of respondents who were solely students needed a course schedule that was face-to-face Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday and between 8:00AM - 5:00PM. (N=303)
- *Working*: about **28%** of respondents who worked needed a course schedule that was all-online, and **14%** needed a schedule that was face-to-face in the evenings or weekends. (N=763)
 - This percentage mirrors the results from the 2022FL survey results (about **27%**) but was lower than the results from 2022SP (about **35%**).
- *Dependents*: about **29%** of respondents who cared for dependents needed a course schedule that was all-online. (N=417)
 - This percentage has decreased from **40%** in the 2022SP results and **38%** in the 2022FL results.

Conclusion

In continuity with previous versions of the scheduling preferences survey issued in 2021FL, 2022SP, 2022SU, and 2022FL, the respondents to the 2023SP survey continued to express the need for a flexible schedule comprised of multiple modalities.

Respondents continued to be about 70% working for pay outside of the classroom and just under 50% with dependents; nonacademic obligations could possibly be driving the need for diverse day of week, time of day, and modality options. Just over 1 in 3 respondents preferred face-to-face options, an increase from prior surveys (27% in 2021FL and 2022SP, 29% in 2022SU, and 37% in 2022FL). Similarly, the preference for all-online enrollments continued to decrease from earlier versions of the survey, lowering from 24-28% in 2021FL-2022SU to 18% and 19% in 2022FL and 2023SP respectively.

Learning better in-person with a teacher remained a top reason for selecting face-to-face modality, and flexibility remained a top reason for selecting online modality, as in prior surveys.

Lastly, a very similar percentage of students would still enroll in the same courses at TCC if their preferred method of teaching was not available (about 43% in 2021FL, about 43% in 2022SP, about 45% in 2022SU, about 41% in 2022FL, and about 43% in 2023SP).

CONSIDERATIONS

Explore Course Delivery in Multiple Modalities

Similar to prior terms, respondents indicated the importance of every delivery method. By offering each course via the various modalities, faculty would be able to extend the classroom experience beyond the physical walls of TCC while allowing students to maximize upon work/life balance.

Continue Investigating Scheduling Needs/Preference Trends for Working Students

Scheduling needs and preferences expressed by working students differed from previous surveys, especially for those who work 40+ hours per week. Continuing to monitor these results in the future will help determine if there is a shift in scheduling needs for working students.

Monitor Preference for Face-to-Face versus Online

The 2022FL and 2023SP survey results showed a slight shift between online course delivery and face-to-face delivery preferences, with about 10-percentage point changes experienced within each group from 2021FL to 2023SP. However, enrollment trends in 2022FL and 2023SP indicated strong online-only enrollment.