

Up, Down, and Around: How the COVID-19 Pandemic Impacted Social Work Student Learning Outcomes

Jieru Bai
Sofya Bagdasaryan
Ga-Young Choi
James Simon

Council of Social Work Education (CSWE) Nine Competencies

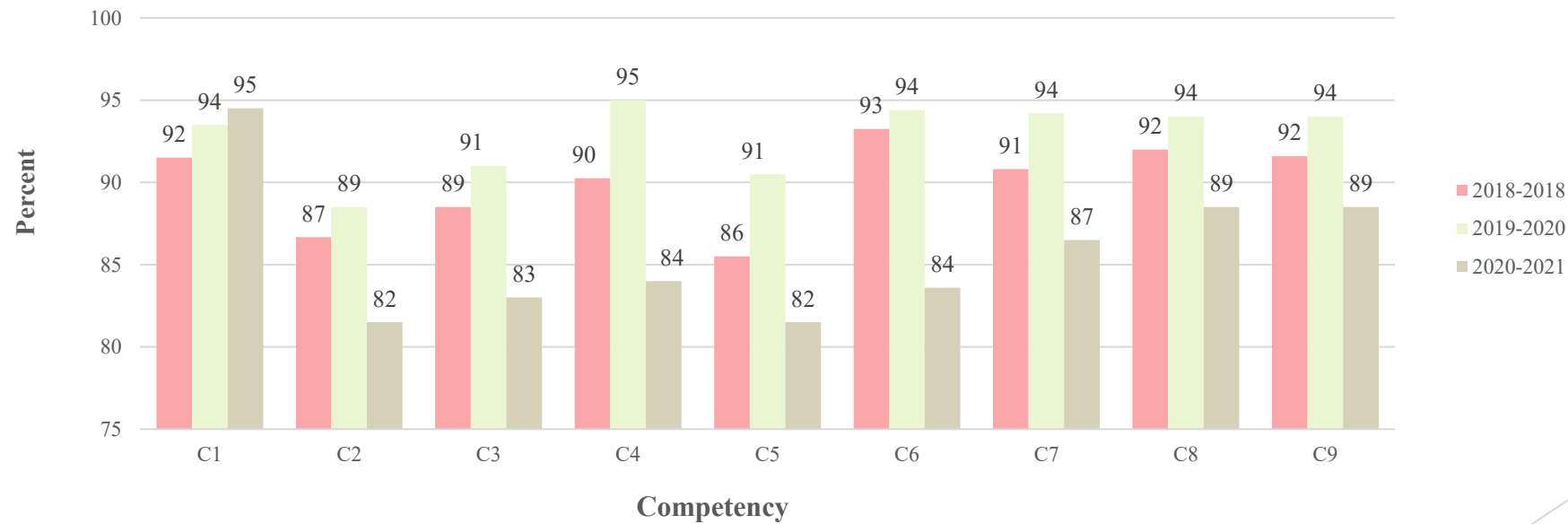
- ▶ Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
- ▶ Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice
 - ▶ apply and communicate understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences in practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels;
 - ▶ present themselves as learners and engage clients and constituencies as experts of their own experiences; and
 - ▶ apply self-awareness and self-regulation to manage the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse clients and constituencies.
- ▶ Competency 3: Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice
- ▶ Competency 4: Engage In Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice
- ▶ Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice
- ▶ Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
- ▶ Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
- ▶ Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Two Measurements for Each Competency: Signature Assignments + Field Ratings

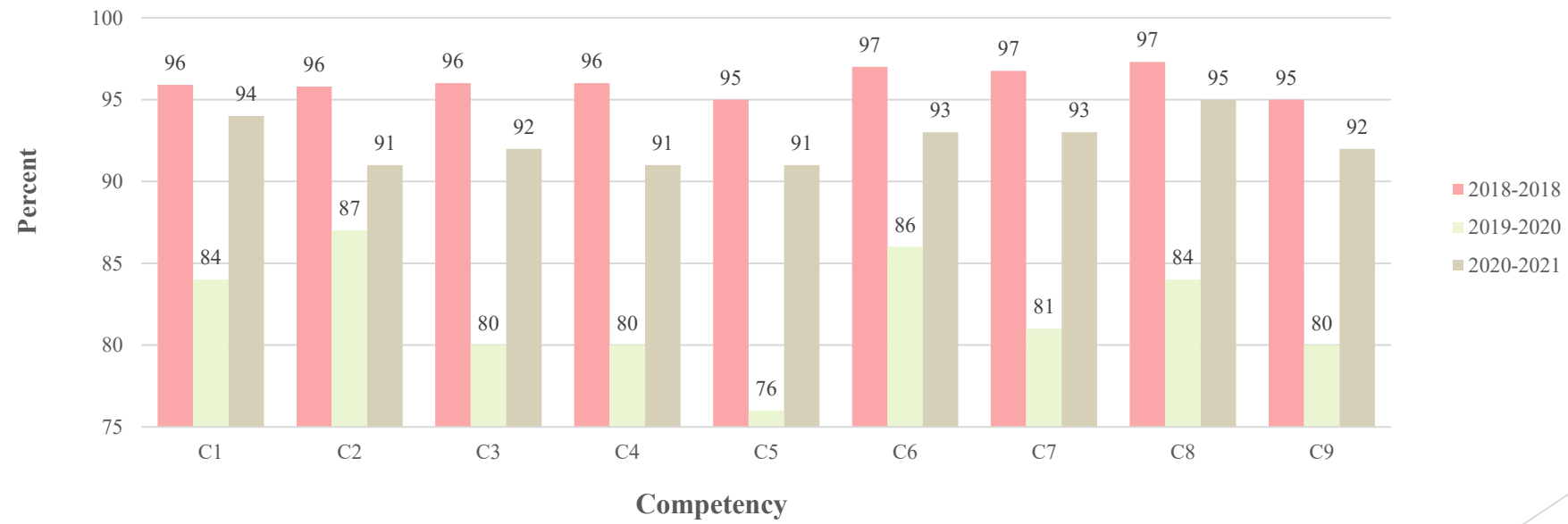
- ▶ Competency 2 as an example:
- ▶ For signature assignments, we expect that 85% of students will receive 80 out of 100 points or higher on the assignments.
 - ▶ 3710 Culturally Competent SW Practice: Ethnographic interview
 - ▶ 4630 Diversity Issues in SW: Reflection paper
 - ▶ 4740 SW Practice with Individuals & Families: Practice model paper
 - ▶ 4780 SW Policy & Services: Policy and social issues paper
- ▶ For field ratings, we expect that 85% of students will attain 3 or higher.

Comparison of Assessment Reports from CY2018, AY2019-2020, AY2020-2021

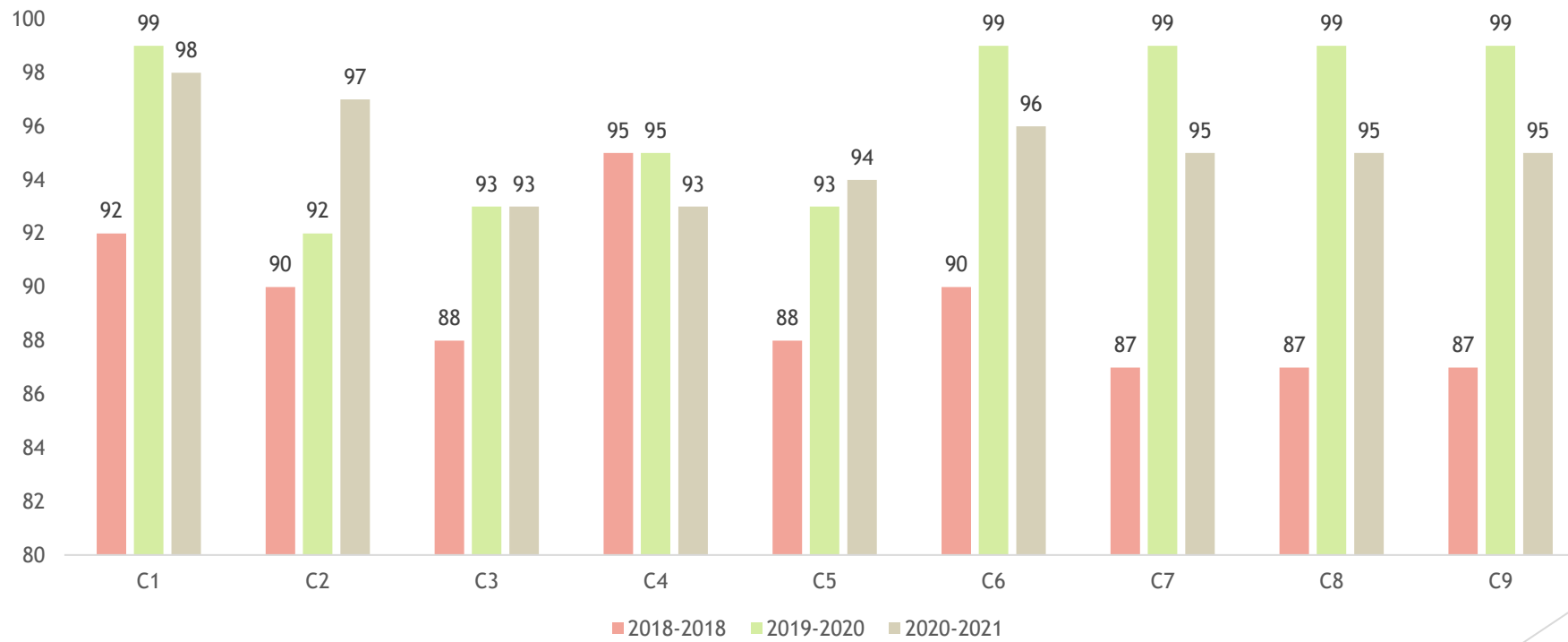
BASW Signature Assignments Comparison



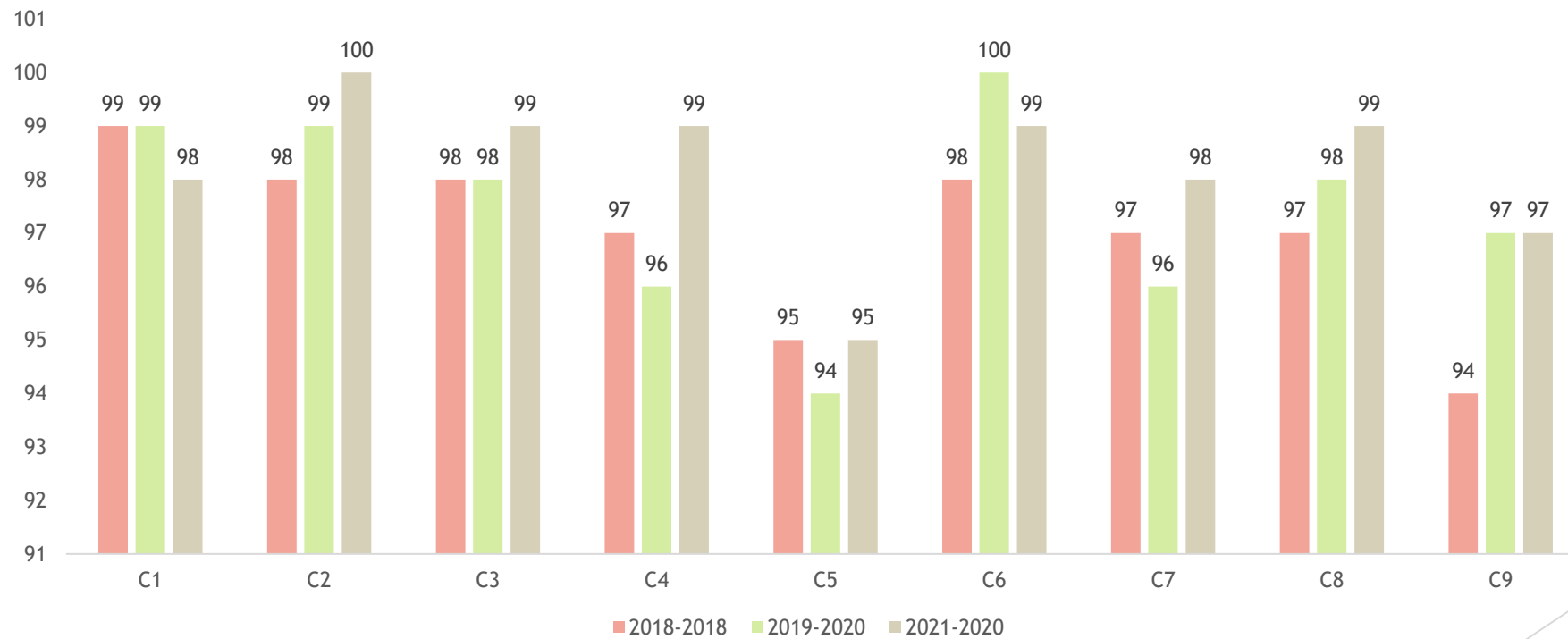
BASW Field Comparison



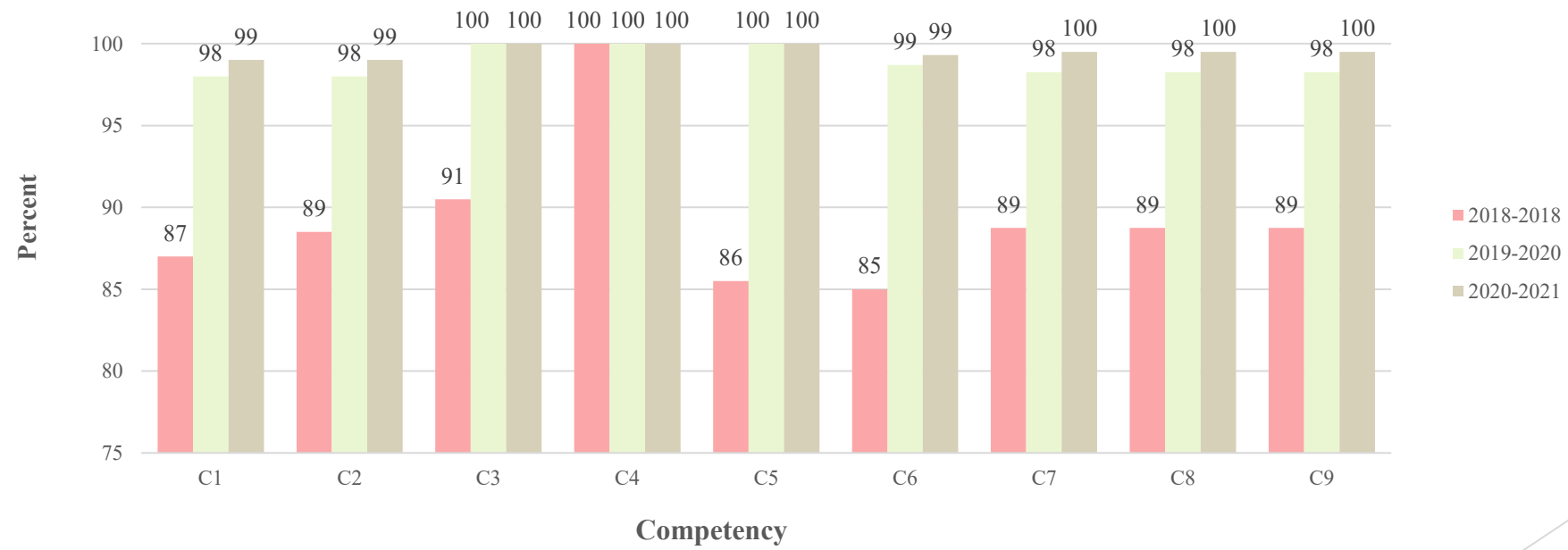
MSW 2 and 3 Year Program Signature Assignment Comparison



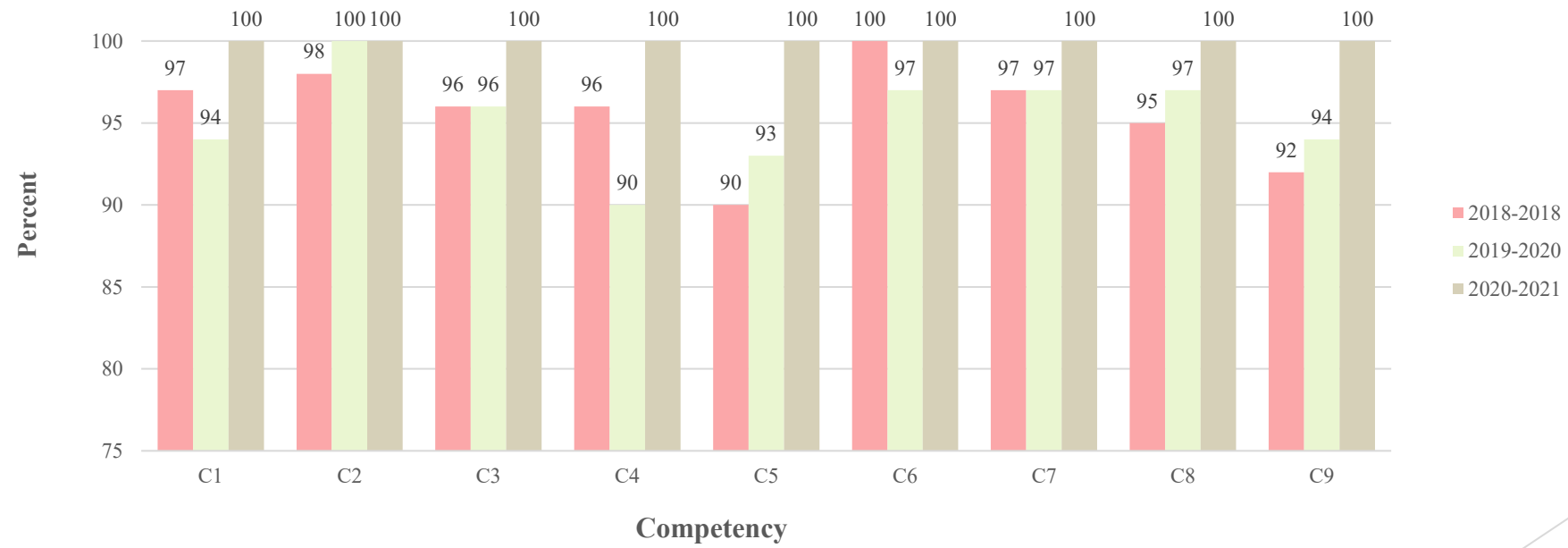
MSW 2 and 3 Year Program Field Comparison



MSW ASP Signature Assignments Comparison



MSW ASP Field Rating Comparison



BASW students were more negatively impacted.

- ▶ More than one-third of our BASW students in the class survey reported not having reliable Wi-Fi and more than half of the students did not have appropriate space for online learning.
- ▶ They also reported limited communication with academic support networks such as professors, peers, and campus services.
- ▶ Many students had family responsibilities, such as helping their own children with online learning, while their work hours and income decreased.
- ▶ Larger household size and greater family responsibilities

Field was more negatively impacted than academic courses.

- ▶ The field placement was considerably disturbed by the sudden shutdown during the Spring 2020.
- ▶ Faced with the sudden public health crisis, field agencies and field education office were also forced to modify their learning activities within a short time period.

MSW students seemed to be less negatively impacted by the pandemic.

- ▶ It may be because graduate students compared to undergraduate students are likely to be more skilled at time management, motivated in earning their degrees, and have developed self-study skills.
- ▶ Graduate students had better living arrangements where they were more likely to have private space for online learning.
- ▶ Another factor that needed to be considered was the shift in grading whereby faculty became more lenient and flexible to support students during the extraordinary times.
 - ▶ reduced the required page limits of papers, broke down big exams to weekly quizzes, changed close-book exams/quizzes to allow some notes during exams/quizzes etc.

Questions? Comments?
Thanks!