EAB

Student Affairs Forum

Introduction to the EAB Campus Climate Survey Spring 2016 Cross-Institution Report

Overview of the EAB Campus Climate Survey

Purpose of the Survey

The EAB Sexual Violence Campus Climate Survey was developed by EAB, a best-practice research firm located in Washington, DC. EAB provides research for student affairs executives on innovative practices for improving student engagement and enhancing the student experience.

The purpose of the climate survey is to understand the scope and nature of sexual violence on college and university campuses across the United States and Canada.

Survey Design

The EAB Campus Climate Survey is an anonymous online instrument that assesses students' perceptions, behaviors, attitudes, and experiences with regards to sexual violence on campus. The survey consists of a core section and three optional modules (Community Behaviors, Community Attitudes, and Relationship Dynamics).

Survey questions about prevention training received, bystander actions, and experiences with sexual violence, harassment, and intimate partner violence are restricted to students' experiences since the beginning of the fall 2015 semester.

Survey Development

To design the EAB Campus Climate Survey, the research team conducted an exhaustive literature review on sexual violence that included empirical research studies, relevant legislation, existing surveys, and White House task force and Department of Education guidance about current issues of sexual violence across higher education institutions.

Testing the Survey

Individuals at colleges and universities in the U.S. and Canada reviewed and provided feedback on the EAB Campus Climate Survey. The individuals who reviewed the survey at these institutions filled the following roles: assessment expert, counselor, faculty, prevention specialist, sexual assault expert, Title IX Coordinator, and Vice President of Student Affairs. The survey was also cognitively tested with recent college graduates to ensure that the language and content of the survey was relevant to their experience.

Structure of the EAB Campus Climate Survey

Core Survey
(12 to 15 minutes)

- Student demographics
- Perceptions of campus climate
- Reach of sexual violence prevention training
- Sexual violence experiences

Optional Modules
(3 to 5 minutes per module)

Community Behaviors	Community Attitudes	Relationship Dynamics
Measures likelihood of student intervention in high-risk situations	Captures students' attitudes toward gender and sexual violence	Identifies the scope of relationship violence and in-person and online harassment

Navigating the EAB Campus Climate Survey Report

Use the links in the left-hand column of this Excel workbook to access high-level findings from each of the report sections, as well as the raw survey data. Survey findings that are **highlighted in orange** throughout the report represent areas for additional research and/or opportunities for improvement.

In some of the report sections, you can break down some survey results by institution or respondent characteristics. A **blue button** at the top of a chart indicates this option. Not all results are segmented by institution or respondent demographic categories.

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EAB Campus Climate Survey Methods

Spring 2016 Cohort
January 2016 - May 2016 Administration

Student Sample and Response Rate	
Number of students invited to take the survey	274781
Total number of respondents	36383
Number/percent of survey completers (reached the Thank You page)	26473
Number/percent of partial survey completers (answered at least one question, but did not reach the Thank You	9741
Number/percent of disqualified respondents (did not consent to take the survey)	169
Average response rate	**17%**
Aggregate response rate	**13%**

Abnormal Response Patterns	
Number/percent of identified straight-line respondents (respondents who answered the same option for multiple survey questions)	130
Analytic sample size (total respondents - disqualified respondents - straight-line respondents)	**36084**

Survey Timeline

Institutions participating in the spring 2016 cohort launched surveys between late January, 2016 and late April, 2016. All surveys were open for three weeks.* Surveys closed between mid February, 2016 and mid May, 2016. An administrator at each institution invited students to take the survey and sent reminder emails throughout the survey administration window.

*One survey was open for four weeks due to extreme circumstances.

Frequently Asked Questions

How representative are the survey results of our student population?

EAB is not able to determine to what extent the survey respondents reflect the makeup of your student population. Survey results may not be generalizable to the entire student body. You can work with a research expert on your campus to determine how representative the survey results are.

What was the range of response rates among spring 2016 cohort institutions?

The average survey response rate across the 34 participating institutions was 17%. The highest institutional response rate was 52% and the lowest was 1%.

What questions were asked on the survey?

Your institution's custom survey can be found in your institution's EAB Box folder.

A number of students only partially completed the survey. How do I know how many students answered each question?

Included next to each data chart or table is "n=." "N" is the number of students who responded to the question. The average number of responses is given in charts and tables that combine multiple questions. This is reported as "avg. n=."

How do I know how many institutions participated in each module?

Included next to each module's data chart or table is "Inst. n=." "Inst. n" is the number of institutions that participated in the optional module.

Were any survey questions required?

Survey respondents were required to consent to take the survey in order to proceed to the survey questions. No other survey elements were required.

Why can I break out survey results only by some institution and respondent characteristics?

In this high-level analysis, the climate survey team selectively broke out survey results that could best guide sexual violence prevention and response strategy on campuses across the U.S. and Canada.

Institution Demographics

Quick Takes

- Thirty-four institutions participated in the spring 2016 cohort.
- Large institutions represent the largest portion of the aggregate sample at 38%.
- Sixteen institutions are private and 18 are public.
- Thirty-three institutions are in the U.S. and one institution is in Canada.

	Number of Institutions	Number of Respondents	Percent of Aggregate Sample
Small (1,000-4,999)	11	6,763	19%
Mid-Sized (5,000-9,999)	11	7,951	22%
Large (10,000-19,999)	9	13,666	38%
Very Large (20,000+)	3	7,704	21%
Private	16	15,464	43%
Public	18	20,620	57%
U.S.	33	32,962	91%
Canada	1	3,122	9%
TOTAL	**34**	**36,084**	**100%**

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Survey Respondent Demographics

Quick Takes

- The majority of respondents were heterosexual, white, and female.
- Most respondents were in their first four years of school. Sixteen percent of respondents were graduate or professional students.
- Most respondents either live off campus, in a residence hall, or at home with family.

Demographic Snapshot	%
Heterosexual	85%
Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual	9%
White/Caucasian	73%
Hispanic or Latino*	14%
Asian	11%
Black or African American	11%
Female	65%
Mental Disability	21%
Physical Disability	9%

Avg. n= 32533
***n= 30654**

Class Standing

- First year student — 22%
- Second year student — 19%
- Third year student — 20%
- Fourth year student — 17%
- Fifth year (or higher) student — 6%
- Graduate or professional student — 16%

n= 34307

Residence

- Off-campus apartment/house — 42%
- Residence hall — 29%
- At home with family — 20%
- On-campus apartment/house — 8%
- Greek living — 1%
- Other — 1%

n= 34318

Participation in Student Groups

Cultural/religious/spiritual group	13%
Intramural sports team	13%
Fraternity or sorority	12%
Performing arts group	6%
Club sports team	6%
Intercollegiate sports team	5%
Student government	5%
Other	23%
I do not participate in a student group	44%

n= 34036

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Campus Climate and Harassment

Quick Takes

- Most respondents have a positive perception of the campus climate.
- Nearly half of survey respondents had someone make sexist remarks or jokes in their presence.
- Twenty percent of survey respondents had someone say crude, sexual things to them.
- Forty percent of respondents indicated that a person making a report would experience retaliation.
- Just over one third of respondents indicated that the educational achievement or career of the person making the report would suffer.

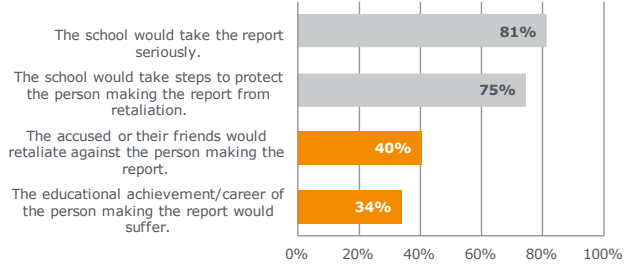| Has anyone done the following to you since the beginning of the school year?	Yes
Made sexist remarks or jokes in your presence	47%
Said crude, sexual things to you	20%
Emailed, texted, or used social media to send offensive content	14%
Seemed to be bribing you if you agreed to engage in a romantic or sexual relationship	8%

n= 28452

Percent of respondents who agreed/strongly agreed with the following statements...

- I feel safe at this school. — 89%
- I think faculty are genuinely concerned about my welfare. — 87%
- I think administrators are genuinely concerned about my welfare. — 75%
- I feel close to people at this school. — 74%
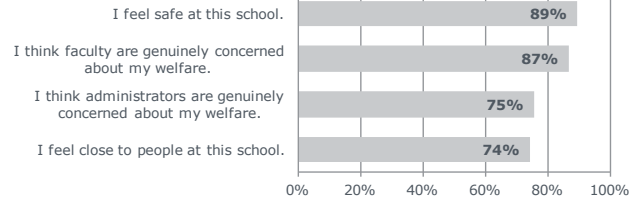
Avg. n= 32929

Percent of respondents who agreed/strongly agreed that if someone were to report an incident of sexual violence...

- The school would take the report seriously. — 81%
- The school would take steps to protect the person making the report from retaliation. — 75%
- The accused or their friends would retaliate against the person making the report. — 40%
- The educational achievement/career of the person making the report would suffer. — 34%

Avg. n= 31419

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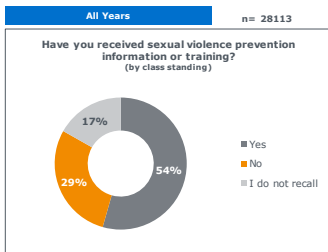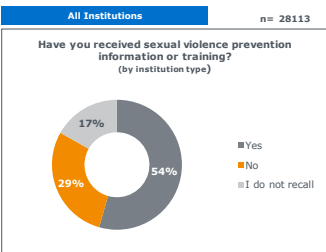
EAB

Quick Takes

- At private institutions, 61% of respondents received prevention information or training, compared to 50% at public institutions.
- Seventy-seven percent of first year respondents received prevention training. The number of respondents receiving training in subsequent years declined.
- Over half of respondents received prevention information or training at new student orientation.
- Most respondents who received training thought it was useful in increasing their knowledge.
- Thirty percent of all respondents don't know what confidential resources are available.
- Less than half of all respondents understand what their school would do to address a sexual violence complaint.

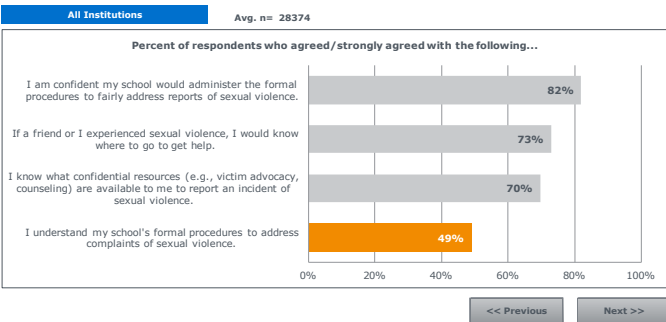| Where did you receive prevention training?	%
New student orientation	55%
Campus-wide events	25%
Residence life programs	21%

n= 15207

Respondents who reported that training was very useful/useful in increasing their knowledge of...	%
The definition of sexual violence	86%
Sexual violence prevention strategies (e.g., asking for consent, responsible alcohol use)	85%
Reporting an incident of sexual violence	82%
Bystander intervention	79%
The school's procedures for investigating an incident of sexual violence	68%

Avg. n= 15169

All Institutions   n= 28113

Have you received sexual violence prevention information or training?
(by institution type)

- Yes
- No
- I do not recall

54% / 29% / 17%

All Years   n= 28113

Have you received sexual violence prevention information or training?
(by class standing)

- Yes
- No
- I do not recall

54% / 29% / 17%

Interpreting These Charts

- Students were asked if they received information and training in any of the following areas:
- Understanding the definition of sexual violence
- Reporting an incident
- The school's procedures for investigation
- Accessing resources
- Sexual violence prevention strategies
- Bystander intervention

All Institutions   Avg. n= 28374

Percent of respondents who agreed/strongly agreed with the following...

I am confident my school would administer the formal procedures to fairly address reports of sexual violence. — 82%

If a friend or I experienced sexual violence, I would know where to go to get help. — 73%

I know what confidential resources (e.g., victim advocacy, counseling) are available to me to report an incident of sexual violence. — 70%

I understand my school's formal procedures to address complaints of sexual violence. — 49%

0%   20%   40%   60%   80%   100%

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Sexual Violence Experiences Since the Beginning of the School Year (Fall 2015)
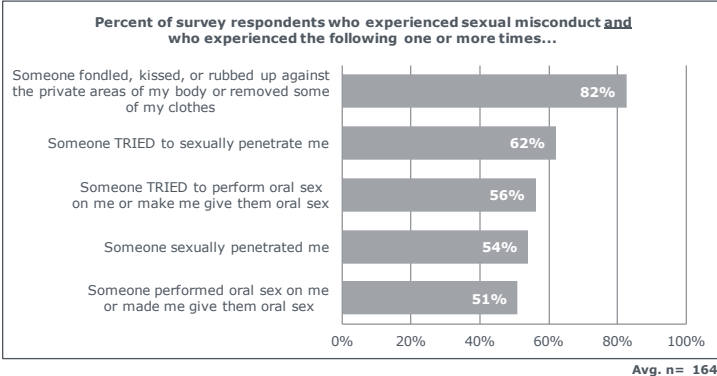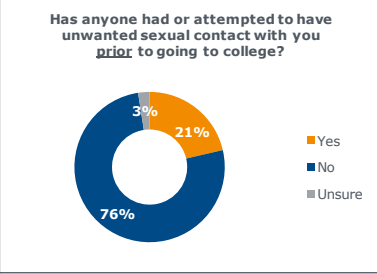
Quick Takes

- Eight percent of all respondents experienced at least one incident of sexual misconduct at least one time since the beginning of the school year.
- Twenty-one percent of all respondents experienced unwanted sexual contact prior to college.
- Thirteen percent of respondents with a mental disability experienced at least one incident of sexual misconduct at least one time since the beginning of the school year.
- Respondents most commonly experienced someone fondling, kissing, or rubbing against the private areas of their body or removing some of their clothes.

All Students   n= 27583

Percent of respondents who experienced at least one incident of sexual misconduct at least one time...

- Yes: 8%
- No: 90%
- Unsure: 2%

All Students   n= 27677

Has anyone had or attempted to have unwanted sexual contact with you prior to going to college?

- Yes: 21%
- No: 76%
- Unsure: 3%

Percent of survey respondents who experienced sexual misconduct and who experienced the following one or more times...

Experience	Percent
Someone fondled, kissed, or rubbed up against the private areas of my body or removed some of my clothes	82%
Someone TRIED to sexually penetrate me	62%
Someone TRIED to perform oral sex on me or make me give them oral sex	56%
Someone sexually penetrated me	54%
Someone performed oral sex on me or made me give them oral sex	51%

Avg. n= 1644

Note

Respondents were not asked details about the unwanted contact prior to college.

Higher Risk for Respondents with a Mental Disability

13%

Percent of respondents with a mental disability that experienced at least one incident of sexual misconduct at least one time since the beginning of the school year.

n=5814

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Perpetrator Behavior, Relationship, and Location of the Incident

Quick Takes

- The majority of respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact were caught off guard by the perpetrator or the perpetrator ignored the respondent's non-verbal cues or looks.
- The unwanted behavior was most commonly perpetrated by an acquaintance, peer, or friend. About one third of respondents had no prior relationship to the perpetrator.
- Common locations of incidents of unwanted sexual contact were on and off campus residences and bar, night clubs, and dance clubs.
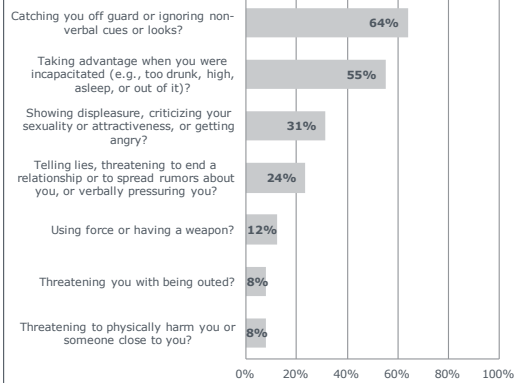
Relationship to the perpetrator		%	Count
No. 1	Acquaintance or peer	39%	924
No. 2	Friend	33%	781
No. 3	No prior relationship	31%	724

n= 2355

Location of the incident		%	Count
No. 1	On-campus residence	38%	839
No. 2	Off-campus residence	36%	798
No. 3	Bar, night club, dance club	21%	463

n= 2229

Interpreting These Charts

- Respondents who didn't experience unwanted sexual contact were not asked follow up questions about the incident.
- The same respondent could have selected multiple responses to any question in this section. For example, a respondent could have selected that the perpetrator caught them off guard **and** threatened to spread rumors.

Did the person(s) who did one or more of the unwanted behaviors do them by...

Behavior	%
Catching you off guard or ignoring non-verbal cues or looks?	64%
Taking advantage when you were incapacitated (e.g., too drunk, high, asleep, or out of it)?	55%
Showing displeasure, criticizing your sexuality or attractiveness, or getting angry?	31%
Telling lies, threatening to end a relationship or to spread rumors about you, or verbally pressuring you?	24%
Using force or having a weapon?	12%
Threatening you with being outed?	8%
Threatening to physically harm you or someone close to you?	8%

Avg. n= 2318

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Reporting an Incident of Unwanted Sexual Contact

Quick Takes

- Most respondents did not report the incident to their school.
- Respondents' most common concern about reporting an incident was not thinking the incident was serious enough to report.
- Respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact most commonly told a roommate, friend, or classmate about the incident. Nearly one third of respondents told no one about the incident.
- Most respondents received a positive response from the individuals they told.

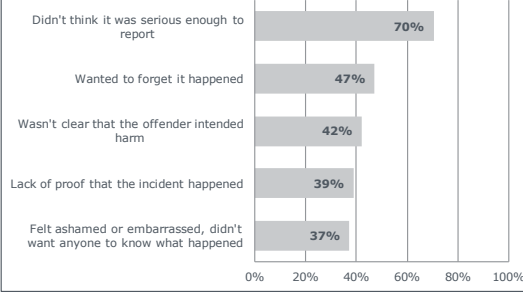**Did you use the school's formal procedures to report the incident(s)?**

7% Yes
93% No
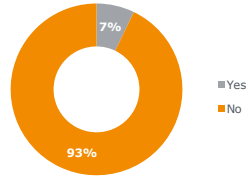
n=2303

Respondents' most common thoughts and concerns when deciding to report an incident

Didn't think it was serious enough to report	70%
Wanted to forget it happened	47%
Wasn't clear that the offender intended harm	42%
Lack of proof that the incident happened	39%
Felt ashamed or embarrassed, didn't want anyone to know what happened	37%

0%   20%   40%   60%   80%   100%

n= 2248

Interpreting This Chart

The same respondent could have selected multiple thoughts and concerns. For example, a respondent could have selected they felt ashamed **and** wanted to forget the incident happened.

Top 3 people respondents told about an incident of unwanted sexual contact		%	Count
No. 1	Roommate/friend/classmate	59%	1373
No. 2	No one	31%	727
No. 3	Romantic partner	16%	372

n= 2329

Top 3 responses the respondent got when they told someone about the incident		%	Count
No. 1	Responded in a way that made you feel supported	71%	1091
No. 2	Listened sympathetically without criticizing or blaming you	56%	851
No. 3	Validated and believed your experience	47%	724

n= 1533

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Stalking and Harassment Experiences Since the Beginning of the School Year (Fall 2015)

Quick Takes

- Twenty-two percent of respondents experienced at least one form of stalking or harassment since the beginning of the school year. The most common form of harassment respondents experienced was receiving unwanted phone calls or messages.
- Only five percent of respondents used their school's formal procedures to report the incident.
- Thirty-eight percent of respondents reported that the perpetrator of the unwanted behavior was an acquaintance or peer.
- Nearly two thirds of respondents told a roommate, friend, or classmate about the incident.

Experiencing Harassment

22%

Percent of respondents that experienced at least one form of stalking or harassment since the beginning of the school year.

Inst. n=17
n=13996

Reporting Harassment

5%

Percent of respondents that used their school's formal procedures to report the stalking or harassment.
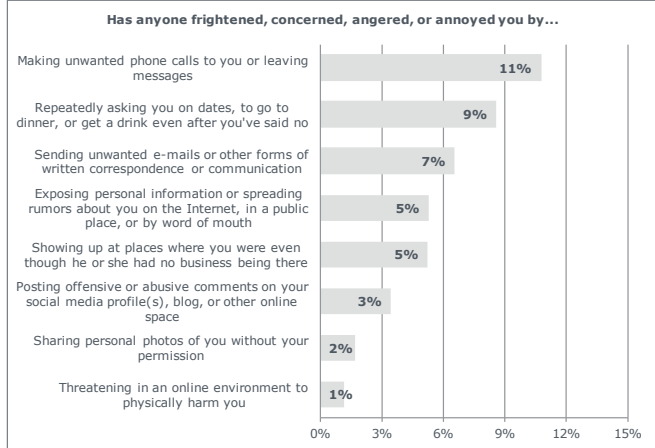
Inst. n=17
n=2833

Top 3 most common relationships to the perpetrator		%	Count
No. 1	Acquaintance or peer	38%	1084
No. 2	Ex-romantic partner or spouse	26%	755
No. 3	Friend	23%	663

Inst. n= 17
n= 2869

Top 3 people who respondents told about the incident		%	Count
No. 1	Roommate/friend/classmate	66%	1877
No. 2	Romantic partner	25%	718
No. 3	Family member	25%	708

Inst. n= 17
n= 2840

Has anyone frightened, concerned, angered, or annoyed you by...

Making unwanted phone calls to you or leaving messages	11%
Repeatedly asking you on dates, to go to dinner, or get a drink even after you've said no	9%
Sending unwanted e-mails or other forms of written correspondence or communication	7%
Exposing personal information or spreading rumors about you on the Internet, in a public place, or by word of mouth	5%
Showing up at places where you were even though he or she had no business being there	5%
Posting offensive or abusive comments on your social media profile(s), blog, or other online space	3%
Sharing personal photos of you without your permission	2%
Threatening in an online environment to physically harm you	1%

Inst. n= 17
n= 13996

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Intimate Partner Violence Since the Beginning of the School Year (Fall 2015)

Quick Takes

- Six percent of respondents had a partner and indicated experiencing some form of intimate partner violence.
- Eleven percent of respondents who experienced intimate partner violence sought services or contacted a hotline.
- Of the 23% of respondents who were physically injured, 22% sought medical attention.

What happened after the incident?	%	Count
Sought services or contacted a hotline	11%	69
Physically injured	23%	145
Sought medical attention*	22%	32

Inst. n= 17
Avg. n= 625
***n= 145**

Percent of respondents who had a partner and experienced intimate partner violence

6%

94%

■ Yes
■ No
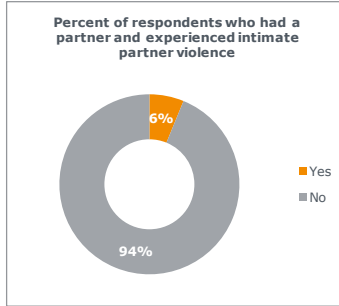
Inst. n= 17
n= 9968

Interpret This Chart

Respondents were asked if their casual, steady, or serious dating or intimate partner had done any of the following:

- Slapped you
- Pushed or shoved you
- Hit you with a fist or something hard
- Kicked you
- Hurt you by pulling your hair
- Slammed you against something
- Tried to hurt you by choking of suffocating you
- Beaten you
- Burned you on purpose
- Used a knife, gun, or other weapon on you

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Community Behaviors

Quick Takes

- Thirteen percent of respondents said they observed a situation that could have led to a sexual assault.
- In response to the observed situation, the most commonly reported bystander behavior was asking the person who appeared to be at risk if they needed help.
- Respondents view themselves as more likely than their peers to engage in bystander behaviors.
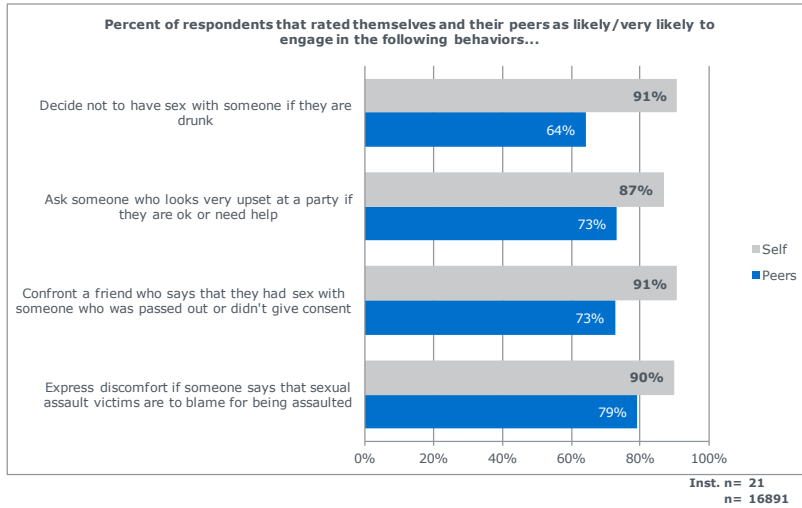
Bystander Behavior

13%

Percent of respondents who observed a situation that they believed was, or could have led to, a sexual assault.

Inst. n=21
n=17004

Top 3 most common bystander behaviors (in response to the observed situation)		%	Count
No. 1	I asked the person who appeared to be at risk if they needed help.	59%	1241
No. 2	I stepped in and separated the people involved in the situation.	31%	665
No. 3	I created a distraction to cause one or more of the people to disengage from the situation.	28%	595

Inst. n= 21
n= 2116

Percent of respondents that rated themselves and their peers as likely/very likely to engage in the following behaviors...

Decide not to have sex with someone if they are drunk
- Self: 91%
- Peers: 64%

Ask someone who looks very upset at a party if they are ok or need help
- Self: 87%
- Peers: 73%

Confront a friend who says that they had sex with someone who was passed out or didn't give consent
- Self: 91%
- Peers: 73%

Express discomfort if someone says that sexual assault victims are to blame for being assaulted
- Self: 90%
- Peers: 79%

■ Self
■ Peers

Inst. n= 21
n= 16891

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Quick Takes

- A greater percentage of male respondents agreed or strongly agreed with most of the statements compared to female respondents.
- Half of respondents believe that rape and sexual violence can happen unintentionally, especially if alcohol is involved.
- Nearly one third of respondents believe that sexual assault and rape happen because men get carried away in sexual situations.
- Nearly one third of respondents believe that if a woman hooks up with a lot of men, eventually she is going to get into trouble.
- Thirty-seven percent of female respondents indicated that sexual misconduct was somewhat or definitely a problem compared to 24% of male respondents.
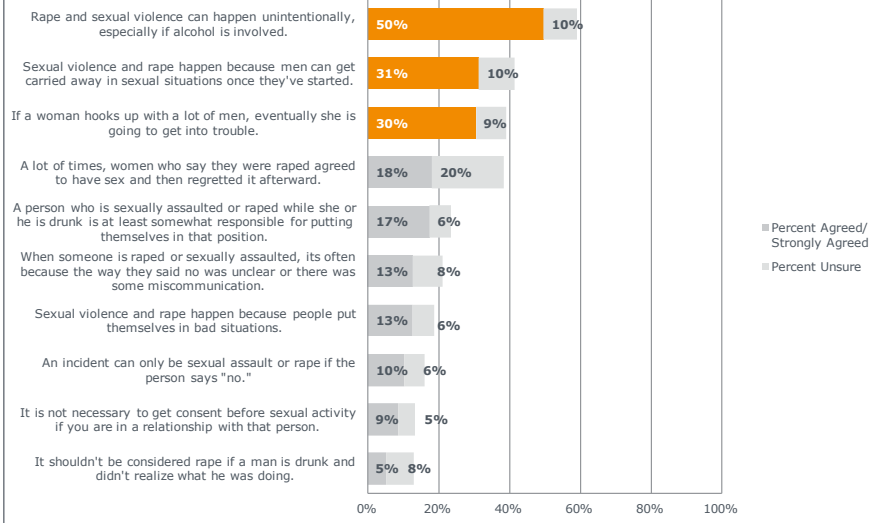
Notes

- These statements are adapted from the Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance Scale.
- The statements are intentionally heteronormative.

All Students   Avg. n= 15585   Inst. n= 20

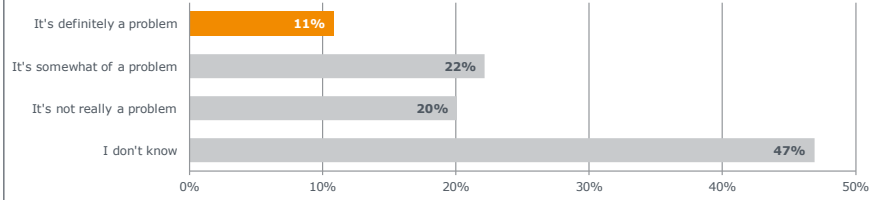**Percent of respondents who agreed/strongly agreed with the following statements**

Statement	Percent Agreed/Strongly Agreed	Percent Unsure
Rape and sexual violence can happen unintentionally, especially if alcohol is involved.	50%	10%
Sexual violence and rape happen because men can get carried away in sexual situations once they've started.	31%	10%
If a woman hooks up with a lot of men, eventually she is going to get into trouble.	30%	9%
A lot of times, women who say they were raped agreed to have sex and then regretted it afterward.	18%	20%
A person who is sexually assaulted or raped while she or he is drunk is at least somewhat responsible for putting themselves in that position.	17%	6%
When someone is raped or sexually assaulted, its often because the way they said no was unclear or there was some miscommunication.	13%	8%
Sexual violence and rape happen because people put themselves in bad situations.	13%	6%
An incident can only be sexual assault or rape if the person says "no."	10%	6%
It is not necessary to get consent before sexual activity if you are in a relationship with that person.	9%	5%
It shouldn't be considered rape if a man is drunk and didn't realize what he was doing.	5%	8%

All Students   n= 15699   Inst. n= 20

How much of a problem is sexual misconduct at your school?

Response	Percent
It's definitely a problem	11%
It's somewhat of a problem	22%
It's not really a problem	20%
I don't know	47%

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EAB Resources - Available Through Your Student Affairs Forum Membership

Sexual Misconduct Reporting: Critical Areas for Colleges and Universities to Address

Study, Toolkit, and On-Demand Webconferences

Instances of sexual misconduct are vastly underreported on college and university campuses. This study discusses how to recalibrate education and outreach for the campus community, redesign reporting options for students, and streamline institutional report intake and management processes. This study also explores how institutions are using campus climate and reporting data to drive decision-making on campus.

Building an Effective University Infrastructure: Addressing Sexual Violence on Campus

Study, Toolkit, and On-Demand Webconference

This study discusses how to establish an effective sexual violence task force, implement comprehensive prevention programming, and evaluate institutional efforts. The study also explores innovative strategies to build campus-wide awareness among students, faculty, and staff.

Beyond Orientation: New Approaches to Sexual Violence Prevention Programming

Online White Paper and On-Demand Webconference

This white paper discusses the current state of sexual violence prevention on campus and shares innovative strategies and practices that provide students with high-quality learning opportunities to expand their knowledge and build their prevention skills throughout their time on campus.

EAB Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Resource Hub

The hub is a repository of carefully vetted guidance documents, tools, and resources that provide best practices to effectively address sexual violence on campus. This is a growing space that will continue to expand as new guidance emerges in this topic area.

The hub is organized into six critical categories.

Federal Legislation and Guidance

Resources to help institutions determine if they are compliant with recent federal legislation and guidance from the Department of Education regarding Title IX and the Clery Act.

Prevention and Response

Recommendations for creating strong sexual violence prevention programs and response structures, including a dedicated task force, on campus.

Policies, Procedures, and Community Partnerships

Guidance in developing sexual misconduct policies and procedures and building effective community partnerships.

Reporting, Investigations, and Adjudications

Strategies for improving reporting structures on campus, resolving sexual harassment claims, adjudicating sexual misconduct cases, and imposing student sanctions.

Public Relations

Strategies for working with local and national media so that issues of on-campus sexual violence are accurately contextualized and reported.

Websites

Online centers that provide research, resources, training, and tools on sexual violence prevention, response, policy, and legislative requirements.

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