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.

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.

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.

EAB Support and Resources

Using the Survey Data to Make an Impact

At eab.com, you can find guidance on how to best share findings with the campus community and how to use survey results to better target prevention and response strategies on campus.

Ongoing Research

The climate survey is just one component of EAB’s ongoing work addressing campus sexual violence. Recent work from the Student Affairs Forum includes topics like prevention programming, building an effective university infrastructure, and campus reporting. You can access full white papers, studies, implementation toolkits, and archived webconferences about these topics at eab.com.

Additional Resources

The Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Resource Hub is an online repository of guidance documents, tools, and resources from EAB and others that provide promising practices to effectively address sexual violence on campus. You can access the hub on eab.com.
Student Sample and Response Rate

- Number of students invited to take the survey: 10456
- Total number of respondents: 1616
- Number of survey completers (reached the Thank You page): 1294
- Number of partial survey completers (answered at least one question, but did not reach the Thank You page): 317
- Number of disqualified respondents (did not consent to take the survey): 5
- Total response rate: 15%

Abnormal Response Patterns

- Number of identified straight-line respondents: 1

Survey Timeline

- Survey launch date: 2/8/16
- Survey close date: 2/29/16

Frequently Asked Questions

If the survey response rate is low, 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.

How does my institution’s survey response rate compare with other 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?

The full 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=.”

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 class standing and gender (female and male only)? I want to see sexual violence, harassment, and intimate partner violence broken out by demographic characteristics like race, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

In this high-level analysis, the climate survey team selectively broke out survey results that could best guide sexual violence prevention and response strategy. We did not break out results by demographic characteristics when response counts for a given demographic category were so low (15 or less) that student privacy would be jeopardized. This is most notable in the sexual violence, harassment, and intimate partner violence sections. We recommend you work with a research expert to further explore the data to answer all your institution’s questions.
Quick Takes

- The majority of respondents were white, heterosexual, and female.
- Most respondents were in their first four years of school.
- Most respondents either live off campus or in a residence hall.

Demographic Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic Snapshots</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heterosexual</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White/Caucasian</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Avg. n= 1529

Class Standing

- First year student: 20%
- Second year student: 17%
- Third year student: 24%
- Fourth year student: 22%
- Fifth year (or higher) student: 7%
- Graduate or professional student: 10%

n= 1549

Residence

- Off-campus apartment/house: 1%
- Residence hall: 44%
- At home with family: 27%
- On-campus apartment/house: 17%
- Greek living: 5%

n= 1550

Participation in Student Groups

- Fraternity or sorority: 21%
- Cultural/religious/spiritual group: 22%
- Intramural sports team: 17%
- Club sports team: 8%
- Student government: 5%
- Intercollegiate sports team: 5%
- Performing arts group: 3%
- Other: 18%
- I do not participate in a student group: 35%

n= 1537
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.
- Nearly half of respondents indicated that a student making a report would experience retaliation.
- More than one third of respondents believe that the educational achievement or career of a person making a report of sexual violence would suffer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Has anyone done the following to you since the beginning of the school year?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Made sexist remarks or jokes in your presence</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Said crude, sexual things to you</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emailed, texted, or used social media to send offensive content</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seemed to be bribing you if you agreed to engage in a romantic or sexual relationship</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n= 1351

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

- I feel safe at this school: 90%
- I think faculty are genuinely concerned about my welfare: 84%
- I feel close to people at this school: 75%
- I think administrators are genuinely concerned about my welfare: 74%

Avg. n= 1515

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: 82%
- The school would take steps to protect the person making the report from retaliation: 77%
- The accused or their friends would retaliate against the person making the report: 41%
- The educational achievement/career of the person making the report would suffer: 36%

Avg. n= 1479
Respondents who reported that training was very useful/useful in increasing their knowledge of...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reporting an incident of sexual violence</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The definition of sexual violence</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual violence prevention strategies (e.g., asking for consent, responsible alcohol use)</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bystander intervention</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The school's procedures for investigating an incident of sexual violence</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Avg. n= 843

Quick Takes

- Over three quarters of first year respondents received prevention training. The number of respondents receiving training in subsequent years declined.
- Most respondents who received training thought it was useful in increasing their knowledge.
- Forty percent of respondents don't know what the school would do to address a sexual violence complaint.

Have you received sexual violence prevention information or training?

- Yes: 64%
- No: 22%
- I do not recall: 14%

Interpreting This Chart

- 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

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. 78%
- I know what confidential resources (e.g., victim advocacy, counseling) are available to me to report an incident of sexual violence. 77%
- I understand my school’s formal procedures to address complaints of sexual violence. 60%

Avg. n= 1347
Quick Takes

- One hundred respondents (or 8%) experienced at least one incident of sexual misconduct at least once since the beginning of the school year.
- Over one quarter of female respondents experienced unwanted sexual contact prior to college.
- Respondents most commonly experienced someone fondling, kissing, or rubbing against the private areas of their body or removing some of their clothes.

Survey respondents who experienced at least one instance of sexual misconduct

100

Number of respondents that experienced at least one incident of sexual misconduct at least once since the beginning of the school year. n=1292

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

- Yes: 19%
- No: 79%
- Unsure: 2%

Notes

- Respondents were not asked details about the unwanted contact prior to college.
- Ensure that your institution’s training and resources address this population of students who come to campus having already experienced sexual violence.
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.
- Almost half of respondents who experience unwanted sexual contact were taken advantage of when they were drunk, asleep, or otherwise incapacitated.
- The unwanted behavior was most commonly perpetrated by an acquaintance, peer, or friend.
- Common locations of incidents of unwanted sexual contact were off and on-campus residences.

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

- Catching you off guard or ignoring non-verbal cues or looks? 59%
- Taking advantage when you were incapacitated (e.g., too drunk, high, asleep, or out of it)? 46%
- Showing displeasure, criticizing your sexuality or attractiveness, or getting angry? 32%
- Telling lies, threatening to end a relationship or to spread rumors about you... 17%
- Using force or having a weapon? 14%
- Threatening to physically harm you or someone close to you? 8%
- Threatening you with being outed? 7%

Average n = 110

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relationship to the perpetrator</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1 Acquaintance or peer</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 Friend</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3 No prior relationship</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n = 107

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location of the incident</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1 Off-campus residence</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 On-campus residence</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3 Bar, night club, dance club</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n = 97

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.
### Quick Takes

- Respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact most commonly told a roommate, friend, or classmate. More than one third of respondents did not tell anyone about the incident.
- Most respondents received a positive response from the individuals they told.
- Common concerns respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact had about sharing their experience include not thinking it was serious enough to report and wanting to forget it happened.
- Most respondents did not report the incident to the school.

### Top 3 people respondents told about an incident of unwanted sexual contact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Person Told About Incident</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Roommate/friend/classmate</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>No one</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Romantic partner</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(n=104\)

### Top 3 responses the respondent got when they told someone about the incident

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Response</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Responded in a way that made you feel supported</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Listened sympathetically without criticizing or blaming you</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Validated and believed your experience</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(n=63\)

### Did you use the school’s formal procedures to report the incident(s)?

- Yes: 99%
- No: 11%

\(n=106\)

### Did any of the following thoughts and concerns cross your mind when deciding whether to report an incident?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thought or Concern</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Didn't think it was serious enough to report</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wanted to forget it happened</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wasn't clear that the offender intended harm</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felt ashamed or embarrassed, didn't want anyone to know what happened</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of proof that the incident happened</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(n=102\)
Quick Takes

- Twenty-one percent of respondents experienced some form of stalking or harassment. The most common form of harassment experienced was receiving unwanted phone calls or messages.
- One third of respondents reported that the perpetrator was an acquaintance or peer.
- Nearly two thirds of respondents who experienced stalking or harassment told a roommate, friend, or classmate.

Reporting Harassment

11

Number of respondents used the school’s formal procedures to report the harassment.

n = 196

Top 3 most common relationships to the perpetrator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1</td>
<td>Acquaintance or peer</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2</td>
<td>Friend</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>Ex-romantic partner or spouse</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n = 198

Top 3 people who respondents told about the incident

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1</td>
<td>Roommate/classmate</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2</td>
<td>Romantic partner</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>Family member</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n = 192

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: 8%
- Sending unwanted e-mails or other forms of written correspondence or communication: 6%
- Showing up at places where you were even though he or she had no business being there: 5%
- Exposing personal information or spreading rumors about you on the Internet, in a public place, or by word of mouth: 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%

n = 1022

Reporting Harassment

Number of respondents used the school’s formal procedures to report the harassment.

n = 196

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- Threatening in an online environment to physically harm you: 1%

n = 1022

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- Sharing personal photos of you without your permission: 2%
- Threatening in an online environment to physically harm you: 1%

n = 1022
Quick Takes

- Fifty respondents indicated experiencing some form of intimate partner violence.
- Seven of the respondents who experienced intimate partner violence sought services or contacted a hotline.
- Of the four respondents who reported being physically injured in the incident, none sought medical attention.

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 or suffocating you
- Beaten you
- Burned you on purpose
- Used a knife, gun, or other weapon on you

What happened after the incident?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sought services or contacted a hotline</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physically injured</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sought medical attention*</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Avg. n= 50
*n= 4
Your institution did not administer this survey module.
Community Attitudes

Your institution did not administer this survey module.
 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.

**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.