

CAMPUS CLIMATE REPORT

I

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND PERCEIVED CAMPUS RESPONSE SURVEY

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In spring 2019, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign administered the third iteration of the Sexual Misconduct and Perceived Campus Response Survey. Previous survey reports from 2015 and 2017 can be found [here](#). This survey measures students' experiences of interpersonal violence since entering the university and students' perspectives on the university's response to different forms of interpersonal violence. The report uses the umbrella term "sexual misconduct" to refer to various forms of interpersonal violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, cyberharassment, stalking and dating violence. Two thousand and seventy-six graduate and undergraduate students completed at least a portion of the survey (women constituted 60.7% of the sample).¹ Below is a brief summary of the full report that can be found [here](#).

PART ONE: EXPERIENCES OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Sexual Assault

The survey assessed incidents related to sexual assault, ranging from fondling to completed rape by force. The majority of students (87.4% of men, 67.6% of women) did not report experiencing an assault during their time at the university. Still, 18.5% of women (about one in five) and 4.2% of men (about one in 24) reported an experience of completed oral, anal or vaginal sexual assault. A higher percentage of undergraduate students, students involved in Greek life and women with disabilities reported unwanted sexual experiences compared with their counterparts (i.e., graduate students, students not involved in Greek life and women not living with disabilities, respectively; see p. 9).

Sexual Harassment: Sexist and Sexual Hostility

The survey assessed experiences of sexist or sexual hostility, including offensive sexist remarks and treating people differently because of their sex. Students reported experiences of sexist or sexual hostility, including 26.7% of women (about one in four) and 11.2% of men (about one in nine). For students reporting such an experience, the majority of these students indicated it happened "once or twice." Participants primarily reported professors (60.9% of students) and graduate students (20.0% of students) perpetrated these acts of sexual harassment. Compared with domestic students, international students were less likely to report experiences of sexist or sexual hostility. A larger percentage of undergraduates, people with disabilities and members of the LGBTQ+ community reported these experiences relative to their counterparts (i.e., graduate students, women not living with disabilities and non-LGBTQ+ students, respectively; see p. 13 – 15).

Sexual Harassment: Unwanted Sexual Attention and Sexual Coercion

Additional forms of sexual harassment, including experiences of unwanted sexual attention (i.e., unwanted attempts to establish a sexual relationship by others) and sexual coercion (i.e., someone using their position of authority to coerce someone into sexual contact/access) also were assessed. Unwanted sexual attention and sexual coercion were reported infrequently. Women (4.7%) were more likely than men (1.9%) to report an experience of unwanted sexual attention. Approximately 0.7% of men and 1.9% of women reported an experience of sexual coercion since entering the university. There were no differences in experiences of unwanted sexual attention and sexual coercion when examined by students' disability status, international status or membership in the LGBTQ+ community; see p. 16 – 17.

Cyberharassment

Cyberharassment (i.e., electronic-based harassment) experiences, including items such as receiving unwanted emails, instant messages or messages through social media apps, and having someone checking up on their internet/phone activity without their knowledge, were assessed. Twenty-nine point five percent of women (about three in 10) and 13.3% of men (about one in eight) reported at least one experience with cyberharassment. A higher percentage of graduate students, LGBTQ+ students and women living with a disability experienced victimization when compared with their counterparts (i.e., undergraduate students, straight students and women not living with disabilities, respectively; see p. 18 – 21).

Stalking

Experiences with stalking, including items such as being watched or followed from a distance, or being spied upon, were included in the survey. About 35.8% of women (about one in three) and 13.5% of men (about one in seven) reported at least one experience associated with stalking. For students experiencing stalking, 40.8% had one or two experiences; being "watched or followed" was the most frequently reported experience for both men and women. A higher percentage of women who were undergraduates, Greek-affiliated or living with a disability reported experiencing stalking when compared with their counterparts (i.e., graduate students, students not involved in Greek life and women not living with disabilities, respectively; see p. 19 – 21).

¹As participants completed the lengthy survey, it was not uncommon for them to exit the online application and not complete all questions. Attrition often occurred when the survey began to assess victimization experiences. Throughout the full report, sample sizes are noted in each section and valid percentages are reported. The valid percentage is the proportion of students who gave a particular response to an item or items divided by the total number of students who responded to an item at all (hence, the denominators, representing the total sample, shift throughout this report).

Dating Violence

Dating violence or experiences of violence within the context of an intimate relationship was assessed. Eighteen point seven percent of women (about one in five) and 10.4% of men (about one in 10) reported an experience with dating violence. Rates were similar for both graduate and undergraduate students. Greek-affiliated women and women living with a disability reported higher rates of dating violence relative to their counterparts (i.e., students not involved in Greek life and women not living with disabilities, respectively). Most of these incidents happened off campus (76.5%), and the majority of perpetrators identified by participants who experienced victimization (51.4%) were unaffiliated with Illinois; see p. 21 – 24.

PART TWO:

CAMPUS CLIMATE, PERCEPTIONS OF INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT AND STUDENT OUTCOMES

Perceived Institutional Response/Campus Climate

Students had generally positive beliefs regarding how Illinois responds to sexual misconduct. The vast majority of participants (87.2%) thought it was likely or very likely that Illinois would take seriously a report of sexual violence, and even more believed it likely that the university would maintain the privacy of the person making the report (92.9%). Only 2.8% thought it was very likely that Illinois would punish the person who made the report. Students' awareness of information regarding sexual misconduct was particularly high. Nearly all students (89.1%) reported seeing some form of information about sexual misconduct from the university, and three out of five students had received formal training about sexual misconduct from Illinois. Still, there was a gap in knowledge regarding reporting, as 30.7% of students (about one in three) reported not knowing where to go if they needed to report sexual misconduct; see p. 25 – 26.

Disclosures and Peer Responses

Among students who had experienced sexual misconduct, about 57.1% had not told anyone about their experience prior to completing the survey. Of those who had disclosed their experience(s) to somebody, most students told their friends (91.4%) and found their disclosure to be helpful (94.9%). Out of all respondents, 34.7% of women and 18.1% of men reported having a friend disclose a sexual assault to them.

Although 42.9% of students (less than half) who experienced sexual misconduct told anyone at Illinois about their experience, most of the students who did tell someone at Illinois (72.6%) were satisfied with the support they received. Students who did not report to the university did so primarily out of a desire for privacy (50.3%) rather than fear of punishment (3.7%); see p. 27.

Possible Outcomes

Psychological distress, including symptoms of anxiety and depression, was elevated among students who reported experiencing sexual misconduct. In particular, students who experienced sexual misconduct reported lower rates of academic engagement and higher rates of psychological distress compared with students who did not experience sexual misconduct. Experiences of different forms of sexual misconduct were associated with distinct patterns of substance use; see p. 27.

Consent and Bystander Behaviors

The majority of students (85.9%) said they would likely check in on a friend who was intoxicated and with someone else at a party. Roughly the same percentage of students (84.5%) said they would likely intervene if they saw a friend taking a drunk person back to a room at a party.

In regard to consent, most students reported always asking for consent verbally before initiating a sexual encounter (77.1%). Nearly all students recognized an individual's right to withdraw consent (91.4%). Finally, 20.0% of students (about one in five) reported difficulty interpreting nonverbal signals when it comes to consent, and the majority of students (75.1%) claimed to communicate sexual consent to their partner by using nonverbal signals and body language; see p. 31.

FULL REPORT

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

In 2015, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign began assessing students' experiences with sexual misconduct ("sexual misconduct" refers to various forms of interpersonal violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, cyberharassment, stalking and dating violence), as well as students' perspectives of the university's response to different forms of violence. Since then, reports summarizing the results of these surveys in 2015 and 2017 have informed the practices and policies of Illinois' response to and prevention of violence. This is the third iteration of the survey, and it has been tailored to provide data specific to the Illinois community.

Of the 12,500 students invited to complete the survey, 2,076 completed at least a portion of the survey.² Some students did not report on all aspects of the survey, including victimization experiences, as all survey questions are voluntary. Given the survey length and the nature of the topic, attrition from the survey was unsurprisingly high (i.e., stopping the survey or not completing items). Participants included undergraduate students (61.0%, n = 1,252) and graduate students (39.0%, n = 802). Although they make up a smaller portion of the final sample, graduate students who started the survey proportionally completed the survey at a higher rate than undergraduate students (graduate student completion rate = 32.2%, undergraduate completion rate = 12.6%).

A plurality (45.3%) of the sample consisted of white students; Asian/Asian American students constituted the second-largest group (23.4%).

This report serves to summarize participants' experiences with different forms of sexual misconduct and their perceptions of the university's attempts to reduce and respond to incidents of violence. Findings should be interpreted with caution, given that only a small portion of students on campus responded (and not all who began the survey chose to complete the survey) and this report may not reflect an adequately representative sample. That is, survey findings highlight the experiences of a portion of students on campus but do not necessarily represent the experience of all students.

²In order to be maximally inclusive of students' perspectives and experiences, we have not eliminated participants if they have minimal missing data. All survey questions were voluntary. The sample sizes from table to table will shift slightly because not every question was answered by every participant (including demographic items). Throughout the report, for all information presented we have used the valid percentage. This means that we are reporting based on the total number of people who have responded to a given item or scale.



DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Age	% of students (number of students)
18	10.2% (212)
19	17.5% (364)
20	13.8% (286)
21	12.5% (260)
22	6.5% (135)
23	5.5% (114)
24	4.5% (94)
25+	29.4% (611)

Note: n = 2,076

Gender Identification	% of students (number of students)
Women	60.7% (1,258)
Men	37.8% (782)
Nonbinary/third gender	0.7% (15)
Prefer not to say	0.4% (9)
Prefer to self-describe	0.3% (7)

Note: n = 2,071; 5 students did not report their gender.

Race	% of students (number of students)
White	45.3% (940)
Asian/Asian American	23.4% (486)
Latinx	10.3% (214)
Black/African American	10.2% (212)
Multiracial	9.5% (198)
Unreported	1.1% (23)
Native American	0.1% (2)
Pacific Islander	0.05% (1)

Note: n = 2,076

Sexual Orientation	% of students (number of students)
Straight	84.1% (1,733)
Bisexual	8.7% (180)
Gay	2.0% (42)
Queer	1.5% (31)
Not Listed	1.5% (31)
Asexual	1.2% (24)
Lesbian	0.9% (19)

Note: n = 2,060; 16 students did not answer this item.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Transgender Identification	% of students (number of students)
Yes	2.1% (43)
No	96.8% (1,997)
Prefer not to say	1.1% (23)

Note: n = 2,063; 13 students did not complete this item.

International Student	% of students (number of students)
Yes	15.1% (314)
No	84.9% (1,761)

Note: n = 2,075; One student did not complete this item.

Student Type	% of students (number of students)
Undergraduate	61.0% (1,252)
Graduate/Professional	39.0% (802)

Note: n = 2,054; 22 students did not complete this item.

Disability Status	% of students (number of students)
No Disability	79.2% (1,594)
Living with a disability	20.8% (418)

Note: n = 2,012; 64 students did not complete this item.

A Note About Gender

A complicated and dynamic hypothetical construct, gender is an exceptionally difficult phenomenon to tackle within the confines of this report. Still, the gendered nature of the forms of violence explored here requires precision when attending to the phenomenon of gender. Within these data and analyses, transgender people are included within the gender they identify. Individuals who identified outside the gender binary were not included in these analyses due to the desire to not engage in erasure and the statistical limitations of the small subgroup size. Whenever possible and appropriate, information about those who identify outside of the gender binary is included. This need to be inclusive for those operating beyond the binary was balanced with the ethical requirement for data to be shared in an unidentifiable manner. In tables in which the valid percentage is itemized by gender, individuals are included with the gender by which they identify. Individuals who did not report their gender or who do not identify within the gender binary are not included in those analyses but are included in analyses in which gender-based comparisons are not made.

SECTION ONE

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Sexual misconduct is an umbrella term that covers a wide range of experiences and behaviors. Participants were given the following definition to help them understand the focus of the survey:

“Sexual misconduct refers to physical contact or other nonphysical conduct of a sexual nature in the absence of clear, knowing, and voluntary consent. Examples include sexual violence, sexual or gender based-harassment, stalking, dating violence, and intimate partner violence.”

At its core, sexual misconduct relates to misuse of power in a sexual or sexist manner. Misconduct can occur across settings and within a wide range of relationships. Misconduct is not limited to physical forms of violence. Victimization experiences are not limited to any one group; sexual misconduct occurs across genders, races, abilities and ages. Forms of sexual misconduct examined in this survey include sexual assault (p. 8), dating violence (p. 21), experiences related to stalking and cyberharassment (p. 18-19) and sexual harassment (p. 12-17).



Assessing Sexual Misconduct

The measures used to assess sexual misconduct were created independent of any federal, state or university statutes. The incidents reported here may not necessarily meet a legal threshold for criminal behavior. Instead, the university focused on a broad range of behaviors that give a more complete picture of sexual misconduct experiences.

It is important to note that we have more attrition from the survey (i.e., stopping the survey or not completing items) on the measures assessing sexual misconduct as compared with other items. Estimates should be viewed cautiously, given that we cannot account for the experiences of students who chose not to respond to these items. This limitation may result in underestimates or overestimates of victimization experiences.

We examined whether students who completed any of the sexual misconduct sections of the survey were different from the sample of students who did not complete any of these based on key demographic characteristics. In general, these groups were similar with no differences among the percent of women, LGBTQ+ students or students living with a disability represented in each subsample. However, there was a smaller percentage of international students among participants who completed any victimization items (13.3% who completed any items, 20.5% who completed none). Similarly, a smaller percentage of undergraduates completed any victimization items (57.2% who completed any, 69.0% who completed none). Finally, a smaller percentage of students involved in Greek life were included in the group that completed the victimization items (18.8% who completed any, 25.4% who completed none).



SEXUAL ASSAULT

Incidents of sexual violence were measured using the Sexual Experiences Survey (SES; Koss, et al., 2007). This instrument asks student participants to identify their experiences without asking them to label those experiences as sexual assault. The structure of the instrument asks participants to indicate the physical nature of the experience, the tactic used by the perpetrator and the number of times the incident occurred.

The flexibility of the SES allows for a breakdown by the type of tactic(s) used by the perpetrator: namely, physical force and coercion. Assaults that involve the use or threat of physical assault and/or the use of alcohol and other drugs to incapacitate the victim are within the physical force category. Coercive sexual violence involves intimidating tactics, including social pressure and lies. While these distinctions are important from a research perspective to categorize incidents for more specific examination, these differences do not communicate different levels of severity.

The SES asks about a variety of physical experiences including fondling, oral, anal and vaginal penetration, as well as attempted sexual assault. Combining physical experiences with tactics allows for assessment of the following five categories of sexual assault:

1. Sexual Contact: Completed fondling of genitals, buttocks or breasts by using any tactic (i.e., physical force or coercion tactics)
2. Attempted Coercion: Attempted oral, anal or vaginal sexual assault using coercive tactics
3. Coercion: Completed oral, anal or vaginal sexual assault using coercive tactics
4. Attempted Rape: Attempted oral, anal or vaginal sexual assault using physical force tactics
5. Rape: Completed oral, anal or vaginal sexual assault using physical force tactics

Koss and her colleagues who created the measure use the order above as a severity continuum to create mutually exclusive groups in which individuals are counted only in the most “severe” category of assault. It is important to note, however, that experiencing more than one form of assault is relatively common. While all forms of sexual misconduct can be physically and psychologically distressing, using this continuum allows us to characterize how often different forms of assault were experienced in this sample.



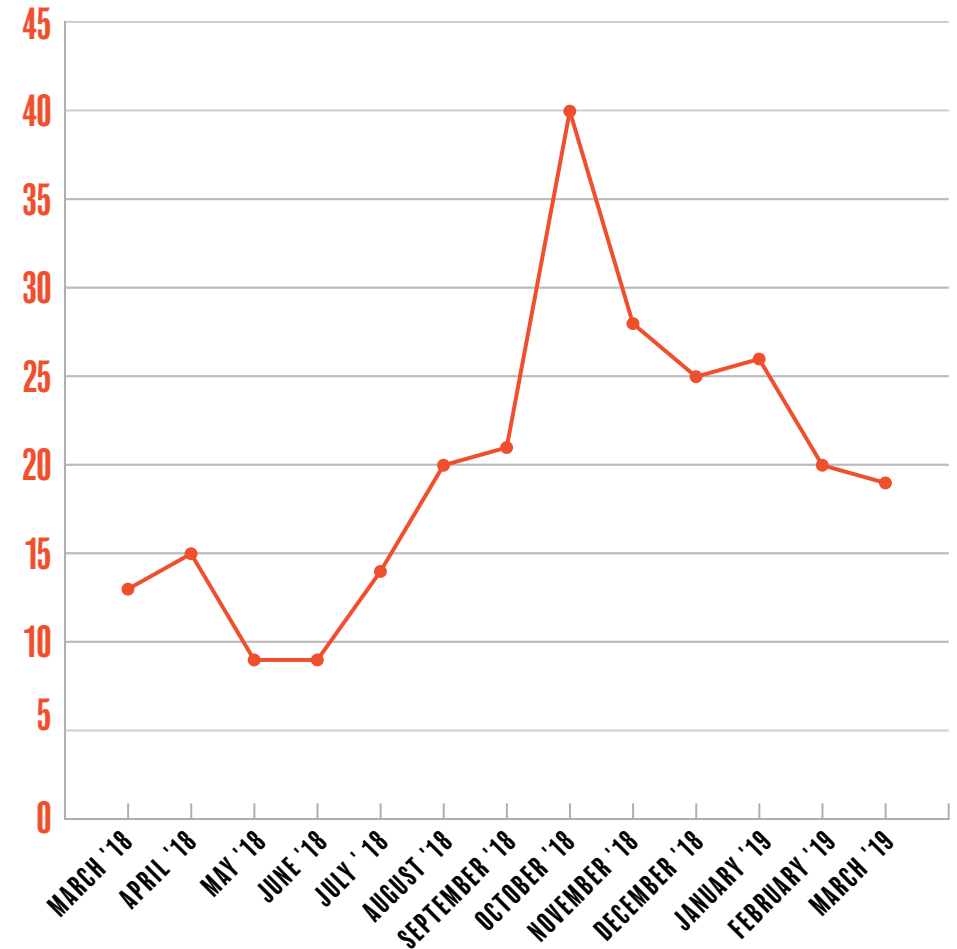
Results:

In total, 1,530 people (representing 73.7% of the 2,076 students who began the survey) completed at least some portion of the measure on sexual assaults. This attrition from the survey (i.e., skipping items or not completing the survey) is not surprising given the intensity of completing assessments on sensitive topics. The valid percentages provided here reflect the portion of students endorsing a given experience out of those who provided data on a given item or set of items, not the full sample of participants (because their data is missing in these items). Attrition (as well as other representativeness concerns) may result in overestimates or underestimates of the rates of sexual assault and other victimization experiences on the campus.

Of those who provided data on sexual assault, the majority of students did not report experiencing an assault during their time at the university (87.4% of men and 67.6% of women). However, some students reported a variety of unwanted sexual experience. Almost 18.5% of women and 4.2% of men reported an experience of completed oral, anal or vaginal sexual assault. More commonly, students reported experiencing unwanted sexual contact through fondling (32.5% of women, 9.8% of men).

Students were asked about assaults they have experienced since they entered the university and to indicate whether any of these experiences occurred in the past calendar year. Approximately 43.0% of students who experienced a sexual assault since they entered the university indicated the incident occurred in the past year. The number of assaults appears to peak in October.

Number of Reported Assaults Each Month in the Past Year



Sexual Assault Experiences (Table A)

Fondling	Women	Men
Graduate	17.9%	6.7%
Undergraduate	35.5%	12.8%
Completed Coercive Sexual Assault	Women	Men
Graduate	7.2%	2.2%
Undergraduate	11.1%	6.4%
Completed Rape	Women	Men
Graduate	10.7%	2.2%
Undergraduate	18.0%	5.8%
Attempted Sexual Assault/Attempted Rape	Women	Men
Graduate	8.1%	2.3%
Undergraduate	22.3%	7.2%

Note: n = 1,494; 268 graduate men, 375 graduate women, 311 undergraduate men, 540 undergraduate women responded to these items; nonbinary students are not represented in this table (see note on page 5 for how gender is handled in this report).

Table A summarizes experiences of sexual assault (from fondling to completed rape) sorted by graduate or undergraduate student status and gender.

Reporting of sexual assault victimization experiences was not equal across groups. Among undergraduate women, 40.0% indicated at least one unwanted sexual experience, ranging from unwanted groping to rape, which was significantly higher than the number of women in graduate school who indicated that they had experienced unwanted sexual experience (21.3%).³ Undergraduate men (16.7%) also reported higher rates of victimization compared with their graduate counterparts (7.8%)⁴. Women who are international students are less likely to report an unwanted sexual experience (19.6%) than those who are domestic students (33.8%)⁵; men who are international students (9.6%) reported similar rates to men who are domestic students (13.4%), with no statistically significant differences found.⁶

Members of the LGBTQ+ community also reported higher rates of victimization (35.4%, 22.3%) compared with non-LGBTQ+ community members.⁷ Women living with a disability reported higher rates of victimization compared with women without a disability (living with a disability: 45.8%, no disability: 28.0%),⁸ but there was not a significant difference for men by disability status (living with disability: 12.1%, no disability: 16.5%).⁹ Both men and women who were affiliated with the Greek system reported higher rates of victimization. Women involved in Greek life reported nearly double the rate of sexual assault (unaffiliated women: 27.8%, affiliated women: 49.7%),¹⁰ and men in Greek life were two and a half times more likely to report an unwanted sexual experience than men unaffiliated in Greek life (unaffiliated men: 10.3%, affiliated men: 25.8%).¹¹

³Undergraduate women: M = .400, SD = 0.49, graduate women: M = 0.213, SD = 0.41, t = 6.27, p < .001

⁴Undergraduate men: M = 0.167, SD 0.37; graduate men: M = 0.078, SD = 0.27; t = 3.30 p < .001

⁵Domestic women: M = 0.338, SD = 0.47; international women: M = 0.196, SD = 0.40; t = 3.25, p < .001

⁶Domestic men: M = 0.134, SD = 0.34; international men: M = 0.096, SD = 0.30; t = 1.15, p = .251

⁷Non-members, M = 0.223; SD = 0.42; members: M = 0.354, SD 0.48 t = -4.10, p < .001

⁸Women without a disability: M = 0.280, SD = 0.45; women living with a disability: M = 0.458, SD = 0.327; t = 4.773, p < .001

⁹Men without a disability: M = 0.165, SD = 0.373; men living with disability: M = 0.121, SD = 0.327; t = -1.010, p = .315

¹⁰Unaffiliated women: M = 0.278, SD = 0.45; Greek-affiliated women: M = 0.497, SD = 0.50; t = -5.47, p < .001

¹¹Unaffiliated men: M = 0.103, SD = 0.31; Greek-affiliated men: M = 0.258, SD = 0.44; t = -3.27, p < .001

Details of the Assault

Students who reported experiencing sexual assault were asked follow-up questions regarding the specific details of their victimization. Of the students who experienced a sexual assault, the majority (66.2%) reported that an experience occurred off campus, with a smaller proportion of these students reporting an experience in an Illinois residence hall (31.2%). Students could type into the survey on-campus locations where their assaults happened (e.g., if they happened outside of a classroom, office or Illinois residence hall); the most frequently reported locations in this option were bars and fraternity houses.

Because it is not uncommon for people to experience more than one sexual assault, students were asked to consider their most impactful experience as defined by themselves. Specific questions were asked about this singular, self-identified assault. When asked about their most severe experience, students were asked if the perpetrator was a friend (25.9%), acquaintance (24.1%) or stranger (23.3%). The majority of participants (59.2%) said their most severe experience was perpetrated by another student at Illinois.

Of the women who shared that they had experienced a sexual assault, 97.8% reported that their perpetrator(s) was a man; the majority of men survivors reported that their perpetrator(s) was a woman (71.2%). Of the students who experienced sexual assault, most indicated that Illinois undergraduate students were the perpetrators of their assault (54.8%), and 10.1% reported that their assault was perpetrated by a graduate student. A minority (29.3%) of these students reported that their assaults were perpetrated by individuals unaffiliated with the university. Few students reported an Illinois employee (1.1%), professor (0.8%), adviser (0.0%) or supervisor (0.5%) was involved in their assault.

Similarly, students also were asked a series of questions about the experience that had the most impact on their life. In these situations, the majority of survivors reported having used alcohol or other drugs prior to the assault (60.5%). Of those who indicated that they knew, the majority of survivors (74.0%) said their attacker was also under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Few assaults involved a weapon (0.6%), and 9.7% of survivors reported being physically injured as a consequence of the assault.



SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual Harassment Typically Takes Three Forms:

1. Gender Harassment (sexist or sexual hostility) includes verbal and nonverbal behaviors that convey hostility, objectification, exclusion or second-class status about members of one gender.
2. Unwanted Sexual Attention includes verbal or physical unwelcome sexual advances, which can include assault.
3. Sexual Coercion includes when favorable professional or educational treatment is conditioned on sexual activity or when access to resources, opportunities or inclusion is conditioned on sexual activity.

These forms of harassment were assessed using Department of Defense Sexual Experiences Questionnaire (SEQ-DoD; Fitzgerald et al., 1998; 1995). Below, we report on experiences of sexual harassment in two parts. First, we report on the experiences of gender harassment (i.e., sexist or sexual hostility); second, we report students' experiences of unwanted sexual attention and sexual coercion.



GENDER HARASSMENT (SEXIST OR SEXUAL HOSTILITY)

Methods

This survey asked a series of questions regarding students' experiences of sexual harassment behaviors from faculty members and staff. In addition to nonstudent staff members, staff also included students who were in positions of authority, such as graduate students, resident advisers and teaching assistants. The Department of Defense Sexual Experiences Questionnaire (SEQ-DoD) was used to measure sexual harassment and has four subscales that examine distinct forms of sexual harassment (Fitzgerald et al., 1998; 1995), described below.

Sexist Hostility/Sexist Gender Harassment

This subscale assesses experiences of a sexist environment, including offensive sexist remarks and treating people differently because of their sex.

Sample Item: Since you enrolled at Illinois, have you been in a situation in which a faculty member, instructor or staff member put you down or was condescending to you because of your sex?

Sexual Hostility/Crude Gender Harassment

The subscale assesses experiences of inappropriate and unwelcome remarks or behaviors regarding sexual activity, including telling offensive sexual jokes and making comments about sexual activities.

Sample Item: Since you enrolled at Illinois, have you been in a situation in which a faculty member, instructor or staff member repeatedly told sexual stories or jokes that were offensive to you?

Students were asked to focus on experiences involving people who had some form of authority over them at the university. The instructions were:

“In the next section you will be asked about experiences with faculty members, instructors, and staff members. Staff members include students who are in student staff roles, including, but not limited to, graduate students, resident advisers, and teaching assistants.”

Results:

A total of 1,399 students completed at least some sexual harassment items. Again, attrition is not surprising given the sensitive nature of the data. The valid percentages provided here reflect the portion of students endorsing a given experience out of those who provided data on a given item or set of items, not the full sample of participants (because their data is missing in these items). Attrition (as well as other representativeness concerns) may result in overestimates or underestimates of the rates of sexual harassment and other victimization experiences on our campus.

About 26.7% of women reported experiences with gender harassment (i.e., sexist or sexual hostility); fewer men reported such experiences (11.2%). Sexual hostility/crude gender harassment experiences were less frequently reported, and the breakdowns for each type of gender harassment by gender and status at the university can be seen below.

Of those reporting any incident with sexist or sexual harassment, the most frequently reported experience was being treated “differently because of [their] sex.” The majority of students reporting this experience indicated it happened “once or twice.”

Tables C and D summarize student experiences of sexist hostility and sexual hostility itemized by gender and undergraduate and graduate student status.

Sexist and Sexual Hostility (Table B)

Sexist Hostility	Women (n = 834)	Men (n=536)
Treated you “differently” because of your sex?	21.1%	6.3%
Displayed, used, or distributed sexist or suggestive materials?	5.3%	1.7%
Made offensive sexist remarks?	14.8%	5.8%
Put you down or was condescending to you because of your sex?	12.5%	3.5%
Repeatedly told sexual stories or jokes that were offensive to you?	4.9%	2.6%
Made unwelcome attempts to draw you into a discussion of sexual matters?	2.8%	1.7%
Made offensive remarks about your appearance, body, or sexual activities?	3.7%	1.7%
Made gestures or used body language of a sexual nature which embarrassed or offended you?	2.3%	0.9%

Note: n = 1,370 students; nonbinary students are not represented in this table (see note on page 5 for how gender is handled in this report).

Percentage of Students Reporting Any Experience With Sexist Hostility Since Entering the University (SEQ-1) (Table C)

Student	Victimization	No Victimization	Total
Undergraduate Women	26.0% (126)	74.0% (358)	100% (484)
Undergraduate Men	9.6% (27)	90.4% (253)	100% (280)
Graduate Women	25.9% (91)	74.1% (260)	100% (351)
Graduate Men	10.2% (26)	89.8% (230)	100% (256)

Note: n = 1,371; nonbinary students are not represented in this table (see note on page 5 for how gender is handled in this report).



Percentage of Students Reporting Any Experience With Sexual Hostility Since Entering the University (SEQ-2) (Table D)

Student	Victimization	No Victimization	Total
Undergraduate Women	9.3% (45)	90.7% (439)	100% (484)
Undergraduate Men	4.3% (12)	95.7% (268)	100% (280)
Graduate Women	5.4% (19)	94.6% (331)	100% (350)
Graduate Men	4.3% (11)	95.7% (246)	100% (257)

Note: n = 1,371; nonbinary students are not represented in this table (see note on page 5 for how gender is handled in this report).

The overwhelming majority of students reporting gender harassment (i.e., the experience of sexual and/or sexist hostility) said those experiences occurred on campus, with the majority of incidents occurring in the classroom (70.9%). Students were asked to identify the role of the person involved in the experiences they reported. Students primarily reported professors (60.9%) and graduate students (20.0%) as being involved in their incident(s). For both men (59.5%) and women (95.4%), the person perpetrating the harassment was typically a man.

Although women reported much higher rates of gender harassment than men, the rates of gender harassment were similar for both graduate and undergraduate students; this was true when itemized by men (undergraduate: 11.1%, graduate: 11.3%)¹² and women (undergraduate: 26.9%, graduate: 26.6%).¹³ International students were less likely to report experiences of gender harassment. Domestic students, both women (28.4%) and men (12.6%), were more likely to report harassment than their international counterparts, including international women (12.6%) and international men (4.3%).^{14,15}

Members of the LGBTQ+ community were more likely to experience gender harassment (35.2% LGBTQ+ students) compared with non-LGBTQ+ students (17.9%).¹⁶

Rates of gender harassment by gender of the survivor do not appear to be different for members of Greek organizations. Women involved in Greek life are just as likely to experience this harassment (27.9%) as their unaffiliated counterparts (26.5%).¹⁷ This pattern was echoed for men (unaffiliated: 7.5%, affiliated: 11.8%).¹⁸

Both men (20.9%) and women (35.7%) living with a disability reported significantly higher rates of gender harassment when compared with men (9.5%) and women (23.8%) who did not report having a disability.^{19,20}

¹²Undergraduate men: M = 0.111, SD = 0.32; graduate men: M = .113, SD = 0.32; t = -0.06, p = .950

¹³Undergraduate women: M = 0.269, SD = 0.44; graduate women: M = .266, SD = 0.44; t = 0.09, p = 0.926

¹⁴Domestic women: M = 0.284, SD = 0.451; international women: M = 0.126, SD = 0.334; t = 3.988, p < .001

¹⁵Domestic men: M = 0.126, SD = 0.33, International men: M = 0.043, SD = 0.20; t = 3.20, p < .001

¹⁶Members: M = 0.352, SD = 0.38; non-members: M = 0.179, SD = 0.38; t = -5.22, p < .001

¹⁷Affiliated women: M = 0.279, SD = 0.45; unaffiliated women: M = 0.265, SD = 0.44; t = -0.37, p = .712

¹⁸Affiliated men: M = 0.118, SD = 0.32; unaffiliated men: M = 0.075, SD = 0.27; t = 1.13, p = .259

¹⁹Men with a disability: M = 0.209, SD = 0.41; men without a disability: M = 0.095, SD = 0.29; t = -3.19, p = .002;

²⁰Women with a disability: M = 0.357, SD = 0.48; women without a disability: M = 0.238, SD = 0.43, t = -2.43, p < .017 for women

Unwanted Sexual Attention and Sexual Coercion

The survey also asked about additional unwanted sexual attention and sexual coercion that involved students and people in positions of authority. These questions also came from the Department of Defense Sexual Experiences Questionnaire (SEQ-DoD; Fitzgerald et al., 1998; 1995), and focus on unwanted verbal and physical harassment used to sexually engage with the student.

Unwanted Sexual Attention

This subscale assesses unwanted attempts to establish a sexual relationship by others. This includes both verbal harassment (e.g., repeated requests for dates) and physical harassment (e.g., unwanted touching).

Sample Item: Since you enrolled at Illinois, have you been in a situation in which a faculty member, instructor or staff member made unwanted attempts to establish a romantic sexual relationship with you, despite your efforts to discourage it?

Sexual Coercion

This subscale assesses experiences in which someone used their position of authority to coerce someone into sexual contact/access. These items involved bribery, threats and rewards contingent on sexual contact.

Sample Item: Since you enrolled at Illinois, have you been in a situation in which a faculty member, instructor or staff member made you feel like you were being bribed with a reward to engage in sexual behavior?

Similar to the previous sexual harassment questions, students were asked to focus on experiences that involved people in a position of power over them at the university. Students then were asked, “Since you enrolled at Illinois, have you ever been in a situation where a faculty member, instructor or staff member:” followed by a series of scenarios. Students were asked to indicate if the situation happened to them never, once or twice, sometimes, often or many times.

Results:

In total, 1,398 individuals completed items in this section. While unwanted sexual attention and sexual coercion were reported relatively rarely, women (4.7%) were more likely than men (1.9%) to report an experience with unwanted sexual attention. An estimated 0.7% of men and 1.9% of women reported an experience of sexual coercion since entering the university.



Unwanted Sexual Attention (Table E)

Unwanted Sexual Attention	Women (n = 824)	Men (n = 527)
Made unwanted attempts to establish a romantic sexual relationship with you despite your efforts to discourage it?	2.6%	0.7%
Continued to ask you for dates, drinks, dinner, etc., even though you said “No”?	2.2%	0.7%
Touched you in a way that made you feel uncomfortable?	3.5%	1.3%
Made unwanted attempts to stroke, fondle, or kiss you?	1.4%	0.6%
Sexual Coercion	Women (n = 824)	Men (n = 527)
Made you feel like you were being bribed with a reward to engage in sexual behavior?	0.7%	0.2%
Made you feel threatened with some sort of retaliation for not being sexually cooperative?	0.6%	0.4%
Treated you badly for refusing to have sex?	1.3%	0.7%
Implied better treatment if you were sexually cooperative?	1.0%	0.6%

Note: n = 1,351; nonbinary students are not represented in this table (see note on page 5 for how gender is handled in this report).

Rates of unwanted sexual attention/sexual coercion were similar among graduate and undergraduate students when sorted by men (graduate men: 2.0%, undergraduate men: 1.8%)²¹ and women (graduate women: 5.4%, undergraduate women: 4.4%).²²

There also was no statistical difference between members of the LGBTQ+ community and nonmembers (members: 5.1%, nonmembers: 3.4%).²³

This lack of difference was consistent for both men and women, regardless of Greek affiliation (unaffiliated men: 1.7%, affiliated men: 2.5%; unaffiliated women: 4.8%, affiliated women: 4.9%);^{24,25} international status (domestic men: 2.0%, international men: 1.1%; domestic women: 4.6%, international women: 6.8%);^{26,27} and disability status (men with a disability: 2.0%, men without a disability: 1.2%; women with a disability: 7.2%, women without a disability: 4.0%).^{28,29}

These harassment experiences mostly occurred on campus. A third of both men and women said they experienced harassment off campus during an Illinois-affiliated activity. A plurality of students (29.4%) indicated that the perpetrator of the incident was a graduate student. Undergraduate students were also frequently identified as being perpetrators (25.5%). Teaching assistants (5.9%), research assistants (3.9%), professors (15.7%), advisers (3.9%) and supervisors (0.0%) were less frequently identified. Other Illinois staff/employees were also identified (17.6%). All women (100%) reported that a man was the perpetrator, whereas 40.0% of men reported that men were perpetrators.

²¹Graduate men: M = 0.0195, SD = 0.14; undergraduate men: M = 0.018, SD = 0.133; t = -0.14, p = .886

²²Graduate women: M = 0.054, SD = 0.23; undergraduate women: M = 0.044, SD = 0.20; t = -0.14, p = .886

²³Members: M = 0.051, SD = 0.22; non-members: M = 0.034, SD = 0.18; t = -1.16, p = .249

²⁴Unaffiliated men: M = 0.018, SD = 0.31; affiliated men: M = 0.025, SD = 0.16; t = -0.44, p = .662

²⁵Unaffiliated women: M = 0.048, SD = 0.21; affiliated women: M = 0.049, SD = 0.22; t = -0.04, p = .972

²⁶Domestic men: M = 0.020, SD = 0.14; international men: M = 0.011, SD = 0.10; t = 0.62, p = .538

²⁷Domestic women: M = 0.046, SD = 0.21; international women: M = 0.068, SD = 0.25, t = -0.94, p = .349

²⁸Men with a disability: M = 0.020, SD = 0.29; men without a disability: M = 0.012, SD = 0.11; t = 0.46, p = .595

²⁹Women with a disability: M = 0.072, SD = 0.26; women without a disability: M = 0.040, SD = 0.20; t = -1.63, p = .104

STALKING AND CYBERHARASSMENT

Stalking is generally understood to involve a person surveilling, following or otherwise interfering with an individual’s life, resulting in the survivor feeling distressed and fearful for their safety. Criminal statutes on stalking vary greatly across jurisdictions, which makes assessing incidents of criminal stalking very difficult. In addition, the university’s policies differ from the criminal statutes and from those of the state of Illinois. As a result, this survey cannot determine whether experiences reported by students constitute legal stalking or stalking as defined by university policy.

Cyberharassment (i.e., electronic-based harassment) experiences, including receiving unwanted emails, instant messages or messages through social media apps, and having someone checking up on their internet/phone activity without their knowledge, were assessed.

Methods

To assess for stalking and cyberharassment experiences, the survey used a measure that originated from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Questions about stalking also were adapted from The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey.

Students were asked to identify the number of times each incident happened to them since enrolling at the university. Their options were “None,” “1-2,” “3-5,” “6-8” and “More than 8.” Those who reported incidents of stalking or cyberharassment were asked follow-up questions to better understand these experiences.

Stalking Experiences

Stalking is typically understood to be a series of actions perpetrated by the same individual or group of individuals. The measure used in this survey cannot establish a pattern of stalking behavior perpetrated by a single person, but it can identify the frequency at which students are experiencing these events. Interpretation of the results should be done carefully and with this limitation in mind. Despite this restriction, the items shed light on students’ negative or unwanted attention experiences.

Cyberharassment Experiences

Seven questions focused on electronic-based harassment, and they are written broadly to encapsulate the wide range of digital interactions students have (e.g., “Made rude or mean comments to you online”). Responses to the cyberharassment questions are presented separate from stalking items, marking the distinction between these experiences.

Results: Cyberharassment

One thousand four hundred and forty-five individuals completed questions on cyberharassment. Again, this attrition is not surprising given the sensitive nature of the data. The valid percentages provided in this section reflect the portion of students reporting a given experience out of those who provided data on a given item or set of items, not the full sample of participants (because their data is missing in these items). Attrition (as well as other representativeness concerns) may result in overestimates or underestimates of the rates of cyberharassment or stalking and other victimization experiences on the campus.

An estimated 29.5% of women reported at least one experience with cyberharassment. Fewer men reported experiences with cyberharassment (13.3%).

Table F summarizes the percentage of students’ experiencing cyberharassment sorted by gender and undergraduate and graduate student status.

Undergraduate women experienced more cyberharassment than graduate women (undergraduate women: 33.9%, graduate women: 23.5%),³⁰ and this pattern was true for undergraduate and graduate men as well (undergraduate men: 16.5%, graduate men: 9.7%).³¹ LGBTQ+ students were more likely to report experiencing cyberharassment compared with non-LGBTQ+ students (LGBTQ+ students: 31.6%, non-LGBTQ+ students: 16.5%).³²

Percentage of Students Experiencing Any Amount of Cyberharassment (Table F)

Student	Victimization	No Victimization	Total
Undergraduate Women	33.9% (171)	66.1% (334)	100% (505)
Undergraduate Men	16.5% (48)	83.5% (243)	100% (291)
Graduate Women	23.5% (85)	76.5% (277)	100% (362)
Graduate Men	9.7% (25)	90.3% (233)	100% (258)

Note: n = 1,416; nonbinary students are not represented in this table (see note on page 5 for how gender is handled in this report).

³⁰Undergraduate women: M = 0.339, SD = 0.47; graduate women: M = 0.235, SD = 0.42; t = 3.38, p < .001

³¹Undergraduate men: M = 0.166, SD = 0.32, graduate men: 0.097, SD = 0.32; t = 2.40, p = .017

³²Members: M = 0.316, SD = 0.47; Non members: M = 0.216, SD = 0.41; t = -3.11, p = .002

Rates of cyberharassment were not significantly different based on Greek affiliation for men (12.7% unaffiliated, 16.9% affiliated)³³ or women (27.9% unaffiliated, 35.8% affiliated).³⁴

Although there were no differences for men (13.3% international, 13.4% domestic),³⁵ women who are international students were less likely to report cyberharassment than their domestic counterparts (14.3% international, 31.3% domestic).³⁶ Men living with a disability (14.6%) and men living without a disability (13.1%) did not report significantly different levels of cyberharassment. However, women living with a disability were more likely to experience cyberharassment, compared with women who did not report having a disability (living with disability: 47.7%, not living with disability: 31.9%).³⁷

Stalking

Similar to the response rate for items assessing cyberharassment, 1,448 participants completed at least some stalking items. About 35.8% of women and 13.5% of men reported at least one experience associated with stalking. Of the students who experienced some form of stalking, 40.8% indicated one or two instances. Additionally, students who reported stalking indicated that these incidents primarily took place off campus (51.4%) or in a residence hall (21.0%).

Table G summarizes the percentage of students experiencing stalking sorted by gender and undergraduate and graduate student status.

Rates of stalking experiences varied among subgroups. Undergraduates, both men and women, were more likely to report stalking incidents than graduate students (undergraduate men: 16.8%, graduate men: 9.7%; undergraduate women: 40.0%, graduate women: 23.5%).^{38,39} Those in the LGBTQ+ community were more likely to report victimization (38.1%) compared with those who were not in the LGBTQ+ community (24.9%).⁴⁰

Although there was no difference between affiliated and unaffiliated men (15.7% and 13.1%, respectively),⁴¹ Greek-affiliated women were more likely to report stalking experiences than their unaffiliated peers (47.2% and 32.9%, respectively).⁴² Men who are international students had similar rates as men who are noninternational students (14.4% and 13.3%, respectively),⁴³ but women who are international students were significantly less likely to report stalking experiences than women who are domestic students (14.3% and 37.4%, respectively).⁴⁴

Women living with a disability were more likely to report experiences of stalking (29.3%) compared with women who did not report having a disability (15.2%).⁴⁵ This difference was not significant for men with a disability (17.5%) compared with men without a disability (9.1%).⁴⁶

Percentage of Students Experiencing Any Amount of Stalking (Table G)

Student	Victimization	No Victimization	Total
Undergraduate Women	40.0% (203)	60.0% (304)	100% (507)
Undergraduate Men	16.8% (49)	83.2% (243)	100% (292)
Graduate Women	29.8% (108)	70.2% (254)	100% (362)
Graduate Men	9.7% (25)	90.3% (233)	100% (258)

Note: n = 1,419; nonbinary students are not represented in this table (see note on page 5 for how gender is handled in this report).

³³Affiliated men: 0.169, SD = 0.38, unaffiliated men: M = 0.127, SD = 0.33; t = -0.95, p = .343

³⁴Affiliated women: 0.358, SD = 0.48, unaffiliated women: M = 0.279, SD = 0.45; t = -1.96, p = .051

³⁵International men: M = 0.134, SD = 0.34, Domestic men: M = 0.133, SD = 0.34; t = -0.03, p = .973

³⁶International women: M = 0.143, SD = 0.35, Domestic women: M = 0.313, SD = ; t = 4.21, p < .001 ³⁷Women with a disability: M = 0.477, SD = 0.50 ; Women without a disability: M = 0.319, SD = 0.47; t = -3.88, p < .001

³⁸Undergraduate men: M = 0.168, SD =0.38, graduate men: 0.097, SD = 0.30; t = 2.49, p = .013;

³⁹Undergraduate women: M = 0.400, SD = 0.49; graduate women: 0.235, SD = 0.46; t = 3.38, p = .001

⁴⁰Members: M = 0.381, SD = 0.49; Non-members: M = 0.249, SD = 43; t = -3.93, p < .001

⁴¹Affiliated men: M = 0.157, SD = 0.37; Unaffiliated men: M = 0.131, SD = 0.34; t = -0.04, p = .523

⁴²Affiliated women: M = 0.472, SD = 0.50; Unaffiliated women: M = 0.329, SD = 0.47; t = -3.42, p < .001

⁴³International men: M =0.144, SD = 0.35; domestic men: M = 0.133, SD = 0.34; t = -0.31, p = .756

⁴⁴International women: M = 0.143, SD = 0.42, domestic women: M = 0.37, SD = 0.48; t = 3.28, p < .001

⁴⁵Women with a disability: M = 0.293, SD = 0.46; women without a disability: M = 0.152, SD = 0.36; t = 4.10, p < .001

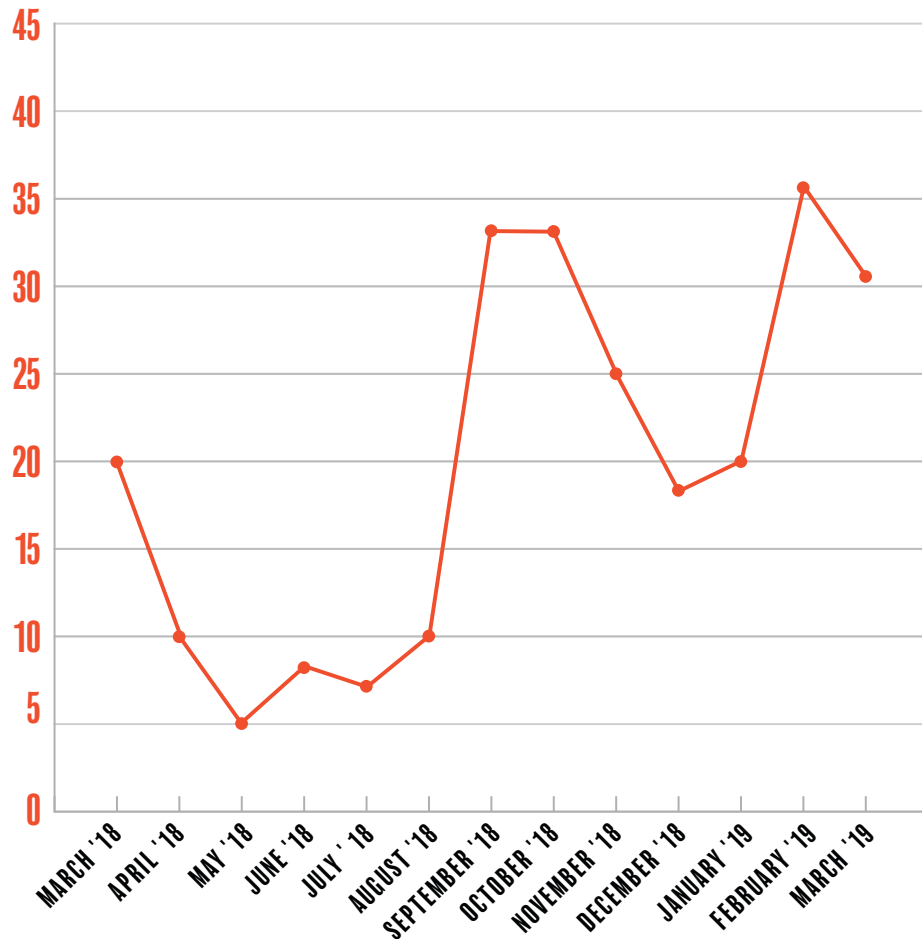
⁴⁶Men with a disability: M = 0.175, SD = 0.38, men without a disability: M = 0.091, SD = 0.29; t = 1.24, p = .214

Overall: Stalking and Cyberharassment (Table H)

Cyberharassment	Women (n = 864)	Men (n = 547)
Sent you unwanted emails, instant messages, or sent messages through social media apps?	16.8%	3.8%
Made rude or mean comments to you online?	8.5%	5.0%
Spread rumors about you online, whether they were true or not?	4.9%	4.6%
Someone checked up on my Internet/phone activity without my knowledge.	4.6%	4.0%
Someone got my phone passcode or online password to find out more information about me.	2.1%	2.2%
Someone tried to friend me on social media even after I initially rejected them.	15.1%	4.4%
Someone continued to send me text messages or messages online after I told them to stop.	12.8%	3.9%
Stalking	Women (n = 864)	Men (n = 547)
Left you cards, letters, flowers, or presents when they knew you didn't want them to?	3.5%	1.5%
Watched or followed you from a distance?	25.1%	6.2%
Spied on you with a listening device, camera, or GPS?	2.1%	2.2%
Approached you or showed up in places, such as your home, workplace, or school when you didn't want them to be there?	11.9%	3.8%
Left strange or potentially threatening items for you to find?	2.1%	1.8%
Sneaked into your home or car and did things to scare you by letting you know they had been there?	0.6%	1.3%
Left you unwanted messages (including text or voice messages)?	18.1%	6.6%
Made unwanted phone calls to you (including hang up calls)?	10.2%	4.0%

Note: n = 1,411; nonbinary students are not represented in this table (see note on page 5 for how we gender is handled in this report).

Number of Reported Incidents Each Month in the Past Year



Among those who reported a cyberharassment and/or a stalking experience, most (58.4%) reported having at least one of those experiences during the past 12 months. Similar to experiences of sexual assault, incidents of cyberharassment and/or stalking appear to peak during the fall semester.

When asked who was involved in these incidents, a plurality of participants indicated Illinois undergraduate students were the reported perpetrator (42.0%). Non-Illinois individuals (35.6%) were the next frequently reported perpetrator, with a large number of people reporting “other” (21.2%) due to the anonymous nature of some forms of cyberharassment. Participants less frequently indicated that the perpetration was by Illinois professors (0.2%), advisers (0.0%), supervisors (0.0%) or other Illinois staff/employees (1.0%).

Cyberharassment Incidents (Table I)

Victim	Man Perpetrator	Woman Perpetrator	Unsure of Perpetrator's Gender
Woman Victim	87.4% (299)	6.7% (23)	5.8% (20)
Man Victim	36.4% (36)	51.5% (51)	12.1% (12)

Note: n = 441; these items are asked as a follow-up only for those who reported victimization experiences; nonbinary students are not represented in this table (see note on page 5 for how gender is handled in this report).

DATING VIOLENCE

Students were asked to report experiences of violence within the context of an intimate or dating relationship. Given the complexity of relationships among college-age students, the survey prompted students to think about “any hookup, boyfriend, girlfriend, husband or wife you have had, including exes.” To avoid students reporting experiences that were playful and not abusive, the questions emphasize the nature of the behavior by including “not including horseplay or joking around.” The scale included seven items, and response options included “never,” “once or twice,” “sometimes,” “often,” “many times.”

Results:

For these items, 1,405 students completed at least some of the dating violence items. Again, this attrition is not surprising given the sensitive nature of the data. The valid percentages provided here reflect the portion of students endorsing a given experience out of those who provided data on a given item or set of items, not the full sample of participants (because their data is missing in these items). Attrition (as well as other representativeness concerns) may result in overestimates or underestimates of the rates of dating violence and other victimization experiences on the campus.

Among all individuals who answered the dating violence questions, about one in five women (18.7%) and one in 10 men (10.4%) reported an experience of dating violence victimization. These rates were similar among graduate and undergraduate men (9.2% and 11.5%, respectively)⁴⁷ and graduate and undergraduate women (19.1% and 18.1%, respectively).⁴⁸

Table J summarizes the percent of students experiencing dating violence itemized by gender and undergraduate and graduate student status.

Percentage of Students Experiencing Any Amount of Dating Violence (Table J)

Student	Victimization	No Victimization	Total
Undergraduate Women	19.1% (94)	80.9% (399)	100% (493)
Undergraduate Men	11.5% (32)	88.5% (247)	100% (279)
Graduate Women	18.1% (64)	81.9% (290)	100% (354)
Graduate Men	9.2% (23)	90.8% (228)	100% (251)

Note: n = 1,377; these items are asked as a follow-up only for those who reported victimization experiences; nonbinary students are not represented in this table (see note on page 5 for how gender is handled in this report).

International students reported rates of dating violence similar to their domestic counterparts, and this was true for both men (international men: 9.9%, domestic men: 12.8%)⁴⁹ and women (international women: 14.6%, domestic women: 19.1%).⁵⁰ LGBTQ+ students were more likely to report an experience with dating violence (23.4%) compared with non-LGBTQ+ students (14.1%).⁵¹

Greek-affiliated women were more likely to report dating violence (24.4%) than nonaffiliated women (17.2%);⁵² this pattern was not found among Greek-affiliated and unaffiliated men (8.0% compared with 10.8%, respectively).⁵³

Women living with a disability were nearly twice as likely to report an experience of dating violence (29.3%) compared with women who did not report a disability (15.2%).⁵⁴ This difference was significant for men with a disability (17.5%) compared with men without a disability (9.1%).⁵⁵

The majority (55.9%) of those who had experienced dating violence since entering the university said their experience happened more than a year ago. Those who experienced dating violence in the past year were asked about the month(s) the incidents occurred. Given the nature of dating violence, participants could indicate multiple months in which incidents occurred. Incidents reported in the survey occurred relatively evenly throughout the year.

⁴⁷Undergraduate men: M = 0.115, SD = 0.32, graduate men: 0.092, SD = 0.29; $t = 0.47, p = .378$;

⁴⁸Undergraduate women: M = 0.191, SD = 0.39; graduate women: 0.181, SD = 0.39; $t = 0.18, p = .716$

⁴⁹International men: M = 0.099, SD = 0.34; domestic men: M = 0.128, SD = 0.30; $t = 0.84, p = .403$

⁵⁰International women: M = 0.146, SD = 0.36; domestic women: M = 0.191, SD = 0.39; $t = -1.12, p = .264$

⁵¹Members: M = 0.234, SD = 0.43; non-members: M = 0.141, SD = 0.43; $t = -3.20, p = .002$

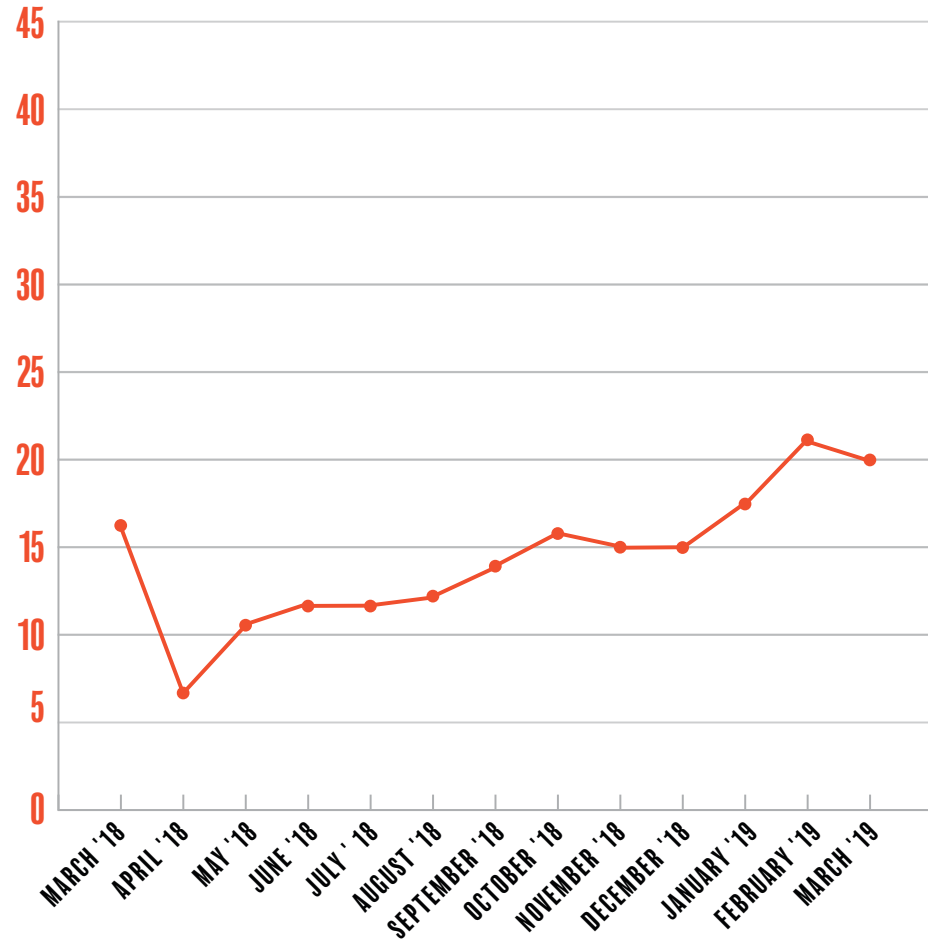
⁵²Affiliated women: M = 0.244, SD = 0.43; unaffiliated women: M = 0.172, SD = 0.38; $t = 2.01, p = .045$

⁵³Affiliated men: M = 0.080, SD = 0.27; unaffiliated men: M = 0.108, SD = 0.31; $t = -0.73, p = .467$

⁵⁴Women with a disability: M = 0.293, SD = 0.46; women without a disability: M = 0.152, SD = 0.35; $t = 4.08, p = .001$

⁵⁵Men with a disability: M = 0.175, SD = 0.28; men without a disability: M = 0.091, SD = 0.29; $t = 1.87, p = .065$

Number of Reported Dating Violence Incidents Each Month in Past Year



Most participants indicated that their experiences occurred off-campus in spaces that were not affiliated with Illinois.



Dating Violence Victimization (Table K)

Experiences	Women (n = 844)	Men (n = 528)
Someone made me watch or create pornography (includes taking or sending nude/partially nude photos).	8.8%	5.9%
Not including horseplay or joking around, the person threatened to hurt me and I thought I might really get hurt.	4.9%	1.1%
Not including horseplay or joking around, the person pushed, grabbed, or shook me.	8.8%	2.9%
Not including horseplay or joking around, the person hit me.	3.6%	3.4%
Not including horseplay or joking around, the person beat me up.	1.3%	0.9%
Not including horseplay or joking around, the person stole or destroyed my property.	3.4%	2.5%
Not including horseplay or joking around, the person can scare me without laying a hand on me.	10.9%	3.4%

Note: n = 1,372

While most students (76.5%) reported that these experiences happened off campus, a smaller portion (16.9%) said the experiences of dating violence happened in the Illinois residence halls. The majority of perpetrators were non-Illinois-affiliated individuals (51.4%). About a third (36.4%) identified an Illinois undergraduate student as their perpetrator, and a small number indicated the perpetrator was an Illinois graduate student (10.9%).

Gender of Perpetrator (Table L)

Victim	Woman Perpetrator	Man Perpetrator
Woman Victim	2.7% (4)	97.3% (146)
Man Victim	72.3% (34)	27.7% (13)

Note: n = 197; these items are asked as a follow-up only for those who reported victimization experiences; nonbinary students are not represented in this table (see note on page 5 for how gender is handled in this report).

SECTION TWO

CAMPUS CLIMATE, PERCEPTIONS OF INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT AND STUDENT OUTCOMES

One of the strengths of this survey is its ability to identify the perceived institutional response and gauge the campus climate with regard to sexual misconduct. This was accomplished by assessing students' knowledge of resources, their experiences and expectations of the school and peers, and their behaviors associated with sexual misconduct (e.g., drinking, intervening in high-risk situations, engaging in effective consent behaviors). Gaining information about students' behaviors highlights the strengths of our community and where the university's attention can be focused for continued improvement.

Perceived Institutional Response/Campus Climate

Overall, students are fairly engaged with regard to understanding and responding to sexual misconduct. Of individuals who experienced sexual misconduct, 66.1% of women had discussed this experience with friends, and half of men had done the same (50.9%). Fewer students talked with their families about sexual misconduct (21.9% of men and 34.3% of women).

Approximately 32.5% of women and 25.5% of men reported that they had attended a program about how to engage in bystander interventions. Similarly, 23.0% of men and 27.5% of women had completed the ICARE⁵⁶ training; 44.% of men and 56.7% of women completed the FYCARE⁵⁷ training. Overall, 56.8% of men and 61.8% of women had received some formal, in-person training about sexual misconduct from the university since entering. Nearly all students (89.1%) reported seeing some form of information about sexual misconduct from the university.

Students were asked questions related to how Illinois might respond to a person reporting an incident (a four-point scale, from very unlikely to very likely). Nearly all participants (87.2%) thought it was likely that Illinois would take a report of sexual violence seriously, and 92.9% of students believed it was likely that the university would maintain the privacy of the person making the report. Students also thought it was likely that Illinois would support (86.2%) and protect the safety (87.6%) of a person making a report.

Most students thought it was likely that the university would provide accommodations (71.2%) for the person making the report. Relatively few students thought it was unlikely that the university would not handle the report fairly (14.7%). Twenty-one point four percent of students thought it was likely that the university would label the person making the report a "troublemaker," but only 2.8% thought it was very likely that Illinois would punish the person who made the report. The majority of students rejected the idea that Illinois tolerates a culture of sexual misconduct (80.0%). Forty-one point three percent of students believed the university tolerated a culture of substance use.

Thirty point seven percent of students indicated that they did not know where to go to make a report of sexual misconduct, and 35.7% reported that they did not know what happens when a student reports a claim of sexual misconduct.

Additional questions were asked specifically for people who had experienced some form of sexual misconduct. The majority of survivors (62.6%) reported feeling supported by the university with either formal or informal resources, but 30.4% of survivors reported not feeling believed by the university. The majority of survivors (77.3%) disagreed that the university made it difficult for them to report their experience, and a small portion of survivors reported feeling that the university covered up their experience (11.1%). Nearly all survivors (92.7%) disagreed that they felt punished for reporting their incident, and 81.8% of those who requested disciplinary action felt their case was handled appropriately by the university.

All students were asked how safe they felt on campus with regard to various forms of crime. Overall, participants find Illinois to be safe, yet men were far more likely to report feeling safe on campus than women.

⁵⁶ICARE is a bystander intervention program offered by the university.

⁵⁷FYCARE is a rape prevention education offered by the university during students' first year.

Campus Safety (Table M)

On or around this campus, I feel safe from		Agree/Strongly Agree	Neutral	Disagree/Strongly Disagree
Sexual harassment	Men (514)	80.7%	16.0%	3.3%
	Women (774)	63.6%	16.0%	20.4%
Dating violence	Men (514)	80.7%	16.1%	3.1%
	Women (774)	62.4%	27.0%	10.6%
Sexual violence	Men (513)	82.1%	15.6%	2.3%
	Women (773)	54.0%	27.9%	18.1%
Stalking	Men (512)	74.8%	21.1%	4.1%
	Women (769)	52.3%	31.2%	16.5%
Other violent crimes (e.g., battery)	Men (514)	69.7%	23.2%	7.2%
	Women (774)	57.8%	26.4%	15.9%
Other crimes (e.g., theft)	Men (513)	58.9%	29.0%	12.1%
	Women (773)	38.6%	29.9%	31.5%

Note: sample sizes vary slightly from item to item due to missing data (all questions were voluntary); nonbinary students are not represented in this table (see note on p. 5 for how gender is handled in this report).

DISCLOSURES AND PEER RESPONSES

Twenty-eight point two percent of students had a peer disclose a sexual assault to them, and a small portion of participants were unsure whether they had received a disclosure (6.3%). More women reported that they received a disclosure from a peer than men (34.7% and 18.1%, respectively). The majority of students (62.3%) who had received a disclosure from a peer about a sexual assault had received more than one disclosure. These disclosures typically took place in well-established relationships, as only 10.7% of students reported knowing the victim “only slightly” or “not at all.”

Most women and men reported feeling closer to the victim after the disclosure (84.2% and 64.9%, respectively), but most men were surprised to receive the disclosure (54.0% compared with 41.4% of women). Very few men and women reported feeling uncomfortable spending time with the survivor (8.0% and 5.6%, respectively). Interestingly, most men (86.0%) and women (83.3%) felt ready to help the survivor, but women were more likely to report that they knew how to help the survivor (70.8%) than men (61.4%).

Many students (57.1%) who reported experiencing an incident of sexual misconduct did not disclose it to anyone before the survey – only 29.5% of men and 47.7% of women had disclosed prior.

Friends (91.4%) were the people most likely to receive a disclosure from the students who chose to disclose to someone. Participants who reported victimization overwhelming found friends to be supportive following the disclosure (94.9%). Eighty-four point seven percent indicated that their disclosure did not have an impact on their enrollment, but 54.6% indicated these disclosures did help improve their overall health and wellness. Romantic partners (uninvolved in the incidents) also were frequent avenues for students to disclose experiences to (38.9%). Students reported romantic partners as being very supportive (96.5%) with positive effects on their health and wellness (54.4%). Family members were the third most likely group to receive a disclosure (28.6%), and they also were perceived as supportive (92.9%) and helpful to their wellness and health (48.8%).

Reporting to the University

Students were far less likely to report an incident to someone at the university. For women, 12.0% told someone at Illinois, and only 1.6% of men disclosed to someone at the university. Those who disclosed to the university were mostly satisfied with the support they received (72.6%). Still, only 46.9% of students reported that the university made things somewhat or much better after the disclosure; a plurality reported no difference from disclosing to the university (37.5%).

Students who did not disclose to Illinois were asked whether common barriers contributed to this lack of reporting. Participants could choose multiple reasons, and 50.3% said they believed it was a private matter that they wished to deal with on their own. Many students said they did not believe what happened was serious enough to talk about (48.2%), but fewer thought that others would think it was not serious enough (21.8%). A third (34.6%) said they wanted to “move on” and not be “seen as a victim.” A small portion of students worried they would not be believed (12.4%) or would even be blamed for what happened (15.8%). Few feared harassment (4.4%) or punishment (3.7%) from disclosing to the university, and 4% reported not knowing how to report was a barrier in telling the university.

Possible Outcomes

This survey uses several measures to assess students’ well-being and engagement with their academic work. These measures were at the beginning of the survey and have the largest number of responses.

Barriers to Reporting (Table N)

Most Frequently Reported Barriers

It is a private matter; I wanted to deal with it on my own.	50.3%
Didn't think what happened was serious enough to talk about.	48.2%
Wanted to move on with my life, didn't want to be seen as a victim.	34.6%
Wanted to forget it happened.	23.2%
Had other things I needed to focus on and was concerned about.	22.1%

Least Frequently Reported Barriers

Feared I or another would be punished for infractions or violations.	3.7%
Didn't know reporting procedure on campus.	4.0%
I feared others would harass me or react negatively toward me.	4.4%
It would feel like an admission of failure.	5.0%
Thought people would try to tell me what to do.	6.7%

Note: n = 716; students could report multiple barriers.

Academic Satisfaction and Disengagement

Two measures are used to assess participants' general satisfaction with the university and the amount of disengagement behaviors they perform. The first is a two-item measure that asks about satisfaction and if they would recommend the university; these items come from the Scale of Academic Satisfaction (Lent, Singley, Sheu, Schmidt, and Schmidt, 2007). The other measure asks about eight behaviors related to academic disengagement (Hanisch and Hulin, 1990; Ramos, 2000). Students were asked to respond on a five-point scale from "almost never" to "almost always," with five unlabeled options in between. These questions asked about behaviors such as sleeping during class, attending class under the influence of drugs and thinking about dropping out of school.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS AND GENERAL WELL-BEING

In order to gauge students' current anxiety and depression symptoms, the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale (K10) was used (Kessler and Mroczek, 1992). Scores ranged from 10-50, with higher scores indicating more distress. In addition, a single item on general health was used from the California School Climate and Safety Survey (CSCSS; Furlong, 1996).

Results:

Means and standard deviations for scores on the K10 are provided in footnotes for each comparison made. Different from other sections, a percentage is not provided because this is a continuous scale, not a binary score like those for victimization provided in previous sections. Overall, women's reported levels of psychological distress were significantly higher than their men counterparts.⁵⁸ Graduate students reported lower levels of psychological distress when compared with undergraduates,⁵⁹ and LGBTQ+ students reported higher rates of psychological distress compared with non-LGBTQ+ students.⁶⁰ Women international students were less likely to report psychological distress compared with women who were domestic students,⁶¹ but this difference between international and domestic student status was not significant for men.⁶² Men and women involved in Greek life did not report significantly different rates of distress relative to their unaffiliated peers.^{63,64}

Both men and women with living with disabilities reported higher rates of psychological distress compared with men and women without disabilities.^{65,66}

Levels of disengagement were similar for men and women,⁶⁷ but was significantly higher for undergraduates than graduate students.⁶⁸ Members of the LGBTQ+ community faced more academic disengagement than nonmembers.⁶⁹ Women who were international students were less likely to report academic disengagement than women who were domestic students,⁷⁰ but this difference was not found for men by student status.⁷¹

Both men and women involved in Greek life reported significantly higher rates of academic disengagement than their unaffiliated peers.^{72,73} Students living with a disability reported higher rates of academic disengagement compared with students without.^{74,75}

With regard to victimization experiences, women who reported any sexual misconduct experience reported significantly higher rates of psychological distress and academic disengagement⁷⁷ compared with women who did not experience any sexual misconduct. Men who reported any sexual misconduct experience reported similar patterns of elevated disengagement⁷⁸ and psychological distress⁷⁹ compared with nonvictimized men. The one exception was men survivors of dating violence who reported rates of disengagement and psychological distress that were similar to men who did not have those experiences. An exception was men survivors of dating violence who reported rates of disengagement and psychological distress that were similar to men who did not have those experiences.⁸⁰

⁵⁸Women: M = 22.79, SD = 8.33; men: M = 20.30, SD = 7.90; t = 6.52, p < .001

⁵⁹Graduate students: M = 20.17, SD = 7.89; undergraduate students: M = 23.10, SD = 8.36; t = 7.79, p < .001

⁶⁰Members: M = 25.67, SD = 8.92; non-members: M = 21.18, SD = 7.96; t = -8.48, p < .001

⁶¹International women: M = 21.21, SD = 7.72; domestic women: M = 23.00, SD = 8.38; t = 2.40, p = .016

⁶²International men: M = 20.14, SD = 8.10; domestic men: M = 20.34, SD = 7.86; t = 0.27, p = .790

⁶³Unaffiliated women: M = 22.73, SD = 8.33; affiliated women: M = 22.98, SD = 0.86; t = -0.55, p = .583

⁶⁴Unaffiliated men: M = 20.23, SD = 7.82; affiliated men: M = 20.65, SD = 8.31; t = -0.44, p = .663

⁶⁵Men with a disability: M = 24.80, SD = 8.76; men without a disability: M = 19.55, SD = 7.49; t = 5.65, p < .001

⁶⁶Women with a disability: M = 27.03, SD = 9.06; women without a disability: M = 21.41, SD = 7.61; women: t = 9.48, p < .001

⁶⁷Men: M = 0.92, SD = 0.84; women: M = 0.98, SD = 0.86; t = 1.45, p = .148

⁶⁸Undergraduates: M = 1.19, SD = 0.86; graduate students: M = 0.62, SD = 0.73; t = 15.97, p < .001

⁶⁹Members: M = 1.13, SD = 0.67; non-members: M = 0.93, SD = 0.85; t = -3.74, p < .001

⁷⁰International women: M = 0.82, SD = 0.73; domestic women: M = 1.00, SD = 0.87; t = 2.67, p = .008

⁷¹International men: M = 0.88, SD = 0.95; domestic men: M = 0.93, SD = 0.81; t = 0.76, p = .447

⁷²Affiliated men: M = 1.20, SD = 0.88, unaffiliated men: M = 0.86, SD = 0.82; t = -4.20, p < .001

⁷³Affiliated women: M = 1.17, SD = 0.85; unaffiliated women: M = 0.93, SD = 0.86; t = -4.08, p < .001

⁷⁴Men with a disability: M = 1.09, SD = 0.78, men without a disability: M = 0.90, SD = 0.85; t = 2.09, p = .037

⁷⁵Women with a disability: M = 1.21, SD = 0.90; women without a disability: M = 0.91, SD = 0.83; t = 5.04, p < .001

⁷⁶Women with sexual assault victimization: M = 25.70, SD = 8.87, women without sexual assault victimization: M = 21.34, SD = 7.70; t = -7.25, p < .001; women with sexual harassment victimization: M = 23.78, SD = 7.90, women without sexual harassment victimization: M = 22.18, SD = 8.37; t = -2.53, p = .012; women with stalking and cyberharassment victimization: M = 25.01, SD = 8.66, women without stalking and cyberharassment victimization: M = 20.85, SD = 7.57; t = -7.31, p < .001; women with dating violence victimization: M = 26.34, SD = 8.27, women without dating violence victimization: M = 21.76, SD = 8.07; t = -6.39, p < .001

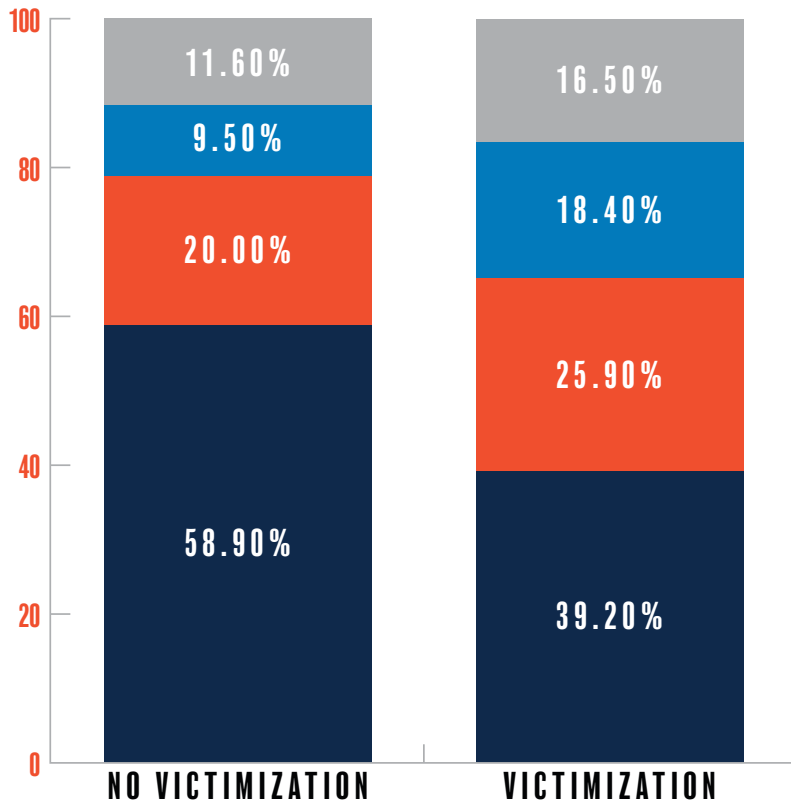
⁷⁷Women with sexual assault victimization: M = 1.22, SD = 0.91, women without sexual assault victimization: M = 0.83, SD = 0.82; t = -6.31, p < .001; women with sexual harassment victimization: M = 1.08, SD = 0.88, women without sexual harassment victimization: M = 0.90, SD = 0.85; t = -2.73, p = .006; women with stalking and cyberharassment victimization: M = 1.13, SD = 0.92, women without stalking and cyberharassment victimization: M = 0.81, SD = 0.80; t = -5.33, p < .001; women with dating violence victimization: M = 1.28, SD = 0.95, women without dating violence victimization: M = 0.88, SD = 0.83; t = -4.98, p < .001

⁷⁸Men with sexual assault victimization: M = 1.41, SD = 0.95, men without sexual assault victimization: M = 0.80, SD = 0.76; t = -5.29, p < .001; men with sexual harassment victimization: M = 1.05, SD = 0.80, men without sexual harassment victimization: M = 0.84, SD = 0.81; t = -1.98, p = .048; men with stalking and cyberharassment victimization: M = 1.15, SD = 0.74, men without stalking and cyberharassment victimization: M = 0.80, SD = 0.79; t = -4.13, p < .001

⁷⁹Men with sexual assault victimization: M = 25.70, SD = 8.87, men without sexual assault victimization: M = 21.34, SD = 7.70; t = -4.71, p < .001; men with sexual harassment victimization: M = 23.28, SD = 7.79, men without sexual harassment victimization: M = 19.84, SD = 7.60; t = -3.40, p < .001; men with stalking and cyberharassment victimization: M = 22.52, SD = 7.40, men without stalking and cyberharassment victimization: M = 19.78, SD = 7.67; t = -3.34, p < .001

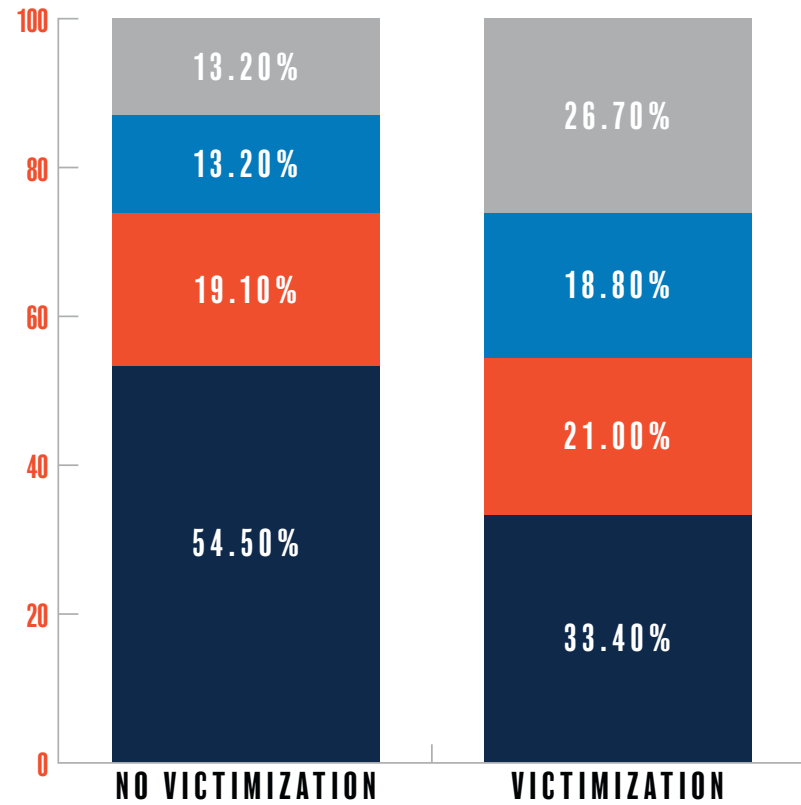
⁸⁰Psychological distress: men with dating violence victimization: M = 20.07, SD = 7.74, men without dating violence victimization: M = 22.00, SD = 7.36; t = -1.76, p = .080; academic disengagement: men with dating violence victimization: M = 0.97, SD = 0.64, men without dating violence victimization: M = 0.84, SD = 0.80; t = -1.18, p = .238

Men's Kessler 10 Categories by Victimization Status



Note: n = 719.

Women's Kessler 10 Categories by Victimization Status



Note: n = 1,186.

- Likely to have a severe mental disorder
- Likely to have a moderate mental disorder
- Likely to have a mild mental disorder
- Likely to be well

⁸⁰Psychological distress: men with dating violence victimization: M = 20.07, SD = 7.74, men without dating violence victimization: M = 22.00, SD = 7.36; t = -1.76, p = .080; academic disengagement: men with dating violence victimization: M = 0.97, SD = 0.64, men without dating violence victimization: M = 0.84, SD = 0.80; t = -1.18, p = .238

SUBSTANCE USE

The survey uses five questions to understand participants' relationship with substance use. These items are recommendations from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Task Force. Students were asked how often they drink, how much alcohol they typically consume when they drink, how often they binge drink. Students were asked to identify how many days in the past two weeks they had engaged in binge drinking. A single item was used to measure marijuana use since entering the university.

Results:

One thousand eight hundred six students completed items on substance use. For women, 17.1% typically drank twice a week, though 55.6% of women drank once a week or less often. Fourteen point two percent of women had not engaged in drinking during their time at Illinois. Only a portion of women (13.2%) reported drinking three or more times a week. During a typical drinking session, most women reported having three or fewer drinks, and a quarter of respondents said they usually only had one drink. Twenty-two point one percent of women reported binge drinking at least once a week; 30.8% of women had not engaged in binge drinking during the past year, and another third binge drank once a month or less during the past year (30.3%). The majority of women (63.4%) denied using marijuana during their time at the university, but a portion (13.0%) reported using marijuana once a week or more.

Women who experienced sexual assault reported higher rates of days spent drinking⁸¹ and days spent of binge drinking compared with women who had not experienced sexual assault.⁸² This pattern also was found for women who experienced dating violence⁸³ and stalking/cyberharassment.⁸⁴ Women who had experienced sexual harassment had drinking behaviors similar to those who had not.⁸⁵

Men's engagement with substances use was similar to women's engagement. A majority of men (69.0%) drank once a week or less often, with a portion of that majority not drinking during their time at Illinois (18.1%). Thirty-one percent of men drank more than once a week. During these drinking sessions, most men (55.5%) had three or fewer drinks, and 26.5% of men typically drank six or more drinks during a drinking session. Thirty-one point eight percent of men denied binge drinking; another 31.8% of men engaged in binge drinking once a month or less during the past year. Sixty-six point eight percent of men denied marijuana use since entering the university, with 19.6% of men using marijuana once a month or more often.

Like women, men who had experienced sexual assault reported more days spent drinking and more frequent binge drinking than their peers who had not experienced a sexual assault.⁸⁶ Men who reported stalking/cyberharassment reported higher rates of binge drinking,⁸⁷ but their overall days spent drinking was similar to their unaffected peers.⁸⁸ Other forms of sexual misconduct did not result in significantly different patterns of days spent drinking or binge drinking.⁸⁹

⁸¹Women with sexual assault victimization: M = 83.46, SD = 80.75; women without sexual assault victimization: M = 46.34, SD = 63.03; $t = -6.97$, $p < .001$

⁸²Women with sexual assault victimization: M = 40.35, SD = 55.02; women without sexual assault victimization: M = 17.93, SD = 36.42; $t = -6.16$, $p < .001$

⁸³Days spent drinking: women with dating violence victimization: M = 77.05, SD = 78.59; women without dating violence victimization: M = 53.23, SD = 67.06; $t = -3.53$, $p < .001$; days spent binge drinking: women with dating violence victimization: M = 34.46, SD = 50.42; women without dating violence victimization: M = 22.62, SD = 41.24; $t = -2.67$, $p = .008$

⁸⁴Days spent drinking: women with stalking/cyberharassment victimization: M = 67.20, SD = 72.74; women without stalking/cyberharassment victimization: M = 52.52, SD = 68.25; $t = -3.19$, $p < .001$; Days spent binge drinking: women with stalking/cyberharassment victimization: M = 33.44, SD = 48.71; women without stalking/cyberharassment victimization: M = 18.90, SD = 38.47; $t = -4.42$, $p < .001$

⁸⁵days spent drinking: women with sexual harassment victimization: M = 60.97, SD = 69.27; women without sexual harassment victimization: M = 56.02, SD = 70.09; $t = -0.93$, $p = .356$; days spent binge drinking: women with sexual harassment victimization: M = 24.85, SD = 42.06; women without sexual harassment victimization: M = 25.19, SD = 44.40;

⁸⁶Days spent drinking: men with sexual assault victimization: M = 101.08, SD = 92.70; men without sexual assault victimization: M = 56.04, SD = 78.54; $t = -4.50$, $p < .001$; Days spent binge drinking: men with sexual assault victimization: M = 46.99, SD = 71.66; men without sexual assault victimization: M = 25.22, SD = 50.61; $t = -2.49$, $p = .015$

⁸⁷Days spent binge drinking: men with stalking/cyberharassment victimization: M = 37.45, SD = 59.83; men without stalking/cyberharassment victimization: M = 24.51, SD = 53.42; $t = -2.07$, $p = .039$

⁸⁸Days spent drinking: men with stalking/cyberharassment victimization: M = 70.89, SD = 83.96; men without stalking/cyberharassment victimization: M = 56.15, SD = 79.38; $t = 1.32$, $p = .190$

⁸⁹Days spent drinking: men with dating violence victimization: M = 69.23, SD = 83.24; men without dating violence victimization: M = 58.30, SD = 78.88; $t = -0.97$, $p = .334$; Days spent binge drinking: men with dating violence victimization: M = 26.82, SD = 43.08; men without dating violence victimization: M = 26.77, SD = 54.38; $t = -0.01$, $p = .996$; Days spent drinking: men with sexual harassment victimization: M = 73.29, SD = 90.85; men without sexual harassment victimization: M = 57.53, SD = 78.77; $t = -1.32$, $p = .190$; Days spent binge drinking: men with sexual harassment victimization: M = 33.42, SD = 61.82; men without sexual harassment victimization: M = 24.73, SD = 49.78; $t = 0.10$, $p = .925$; $t = -1.03$, $p = .306$

CONSENT AND BYSTANDER BEHAVIORS

Methods

Positive sexual experiences require partners to have a strong conceptualization of consent and the way it is successfully communicated. The survey uses seven items from the Sexual Consent Attitudes Scale to understand students' knowledge of effective consent. Students are asked to indicate how strongly they agree or disagree with statements about consent and its use. Effective consent strategies are active strategies that seek affirmative consent.

To understand students' attitudes toward engaging in bystander intervention behaviors, the survey used the short version of the Bystander Attitude Scale, Revised (BAS-R). The measure describes strategies students could engage in to disrupt sexual violence. In addition, it includes behaviors that would interrupt climate-related issues within a community (e.g., using derogatory language to describe women). Students report the likelihood they would intervene in such a scenario, from "not likely at all" to "very likely." Higher scores indicate a more positive attitude toward being willing to intervene.

Results:

For the consent questions, 1,359 students responded, and 1,328 completed the bystander questions. The majority of students (85.9%) said they would likely check in on a friend who was intoxicated and with someone else at a party. Roughly the same said they would likely intervene if they saw a friend taking a drunk person back to a room at a party (84.5%). Students were more hesitant to challenge a friend who made a sexist joke, with 61.1% saying they would likely say something. Only 8.4% would be unlikely to intervene if a friend was planning to give someone alcohol to get them to have sex. Most (90.6%) would likely confront a friend who was rumored to have sexually assaulted someone, and many claim they would report a friend who committed a rape (77.3%).

With regard to consent, most students reported always asking for consent verbally before initiating a sexual encounter (77.1%). Nearly all recognized an individual's right to withdraw consent (91.4%). One in five students (20.0%) reported difficulty interpreting nonverbal signals when it comes to consent, and the majority of students (75.1%) claimed to communicate sexual consent to their partner by using nonverbal signals and body language.

