

## Sexual Misconduct and Perceived Campus Response Survey: What did we learn and what are we doing?

Sexual misconduct refers broadly to sexual assault, stalking/cyber harassment, sexual harassment, and dating violence. Sexual misconduct is not unique to college campuses. Data indicate that students on college campuses may be at less risk for sexual assault victimization when compared to non-students. Highlights from a Bureau of Justice Statistics report, "Rape and Sexual Assault among College-Age Females, 1995-2013" show that the rate of rape and sexual assault was 1.2 times higher for nonstudents (7.6 per 1,000) than for students (6.1 per 1,000). However, campus climate reports on the prevalence of sexual assault clearly show that it is a serious problem on college campuses.

In the fall of 2015, all Illinois students were asked to respond to a Sexual Misconduct and Perceived Campus Response Survey. At the time the survey was conducted, there were 44,087 students on campus. Over 5000 began the survey (11%), and 2,431 (6%) completed it in its entirety. While respondents reflect the demographic diversity of the campus, given that only a small portion of students responded, findings should be interpreted with caution. Our campus utilized the survey to better understand students' sexual misconduct experiences, perceptions of the campus response to sexual misconduct, reporting behaviors, and knowledge of campus resources.

[READ THE REPORT HERE](#)

### What Did Survey Participants Tell Us?

- ➔ **Both women and men report experiences of sexual misconduct on campus including sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking/cyber harassment, and dating violence**
  - In total, 1 in 7 female (15%) and 1 in 42 male (2%) respondents indicated experiencing nonconsensual penetration through physical force (i.e., rape)
- ➔ **A significant number of students who are victims of some kind of sexual misconduct do not tell anyone**
  - Of those who experienced sexual assault, just over half of women (58%) and about half of men (47%) told someone
  - Of those who experienced sexual harassment, about one in three women (38%) and one in five men (20%) told someone
- ➔ **Students who do tell someone most often confide in friends, family or others first**
  - An overwhelming number of women who disclosed their sexual assault told a friend or roommate (99%) but were also likely to tell a romantic partner (42%) or a family member (25%)
  - Men who disclosed their sexual assault most commonly told a friend (88%) while a smaller proportion told their romantic partner (23%) or a family member (20%)
- ➔ **Students trust university officials to treat reports seriously and confidentially**
  - 72% believed the university would take a report of sexual misconduct seriously
  - 81% believed the university would maintain the privacy of someone making a report
  - 67% believed the university would support the person making the report
  - Only 5% believed the university would punish the person making a report
- ➔ **Many are not aware of the campus resources for help and support**
  - Only about half of students (54%) report knowing where to get help following an incident of sexual misconduct
  - One in three (30%) report understanding the process that occurs following a report of misconduct

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Read more about our next steps  
and about campus support resources



## What Actions Are We Taking in Response to What We Learned?

- Expand our educational and training programs that empower students to help and support peers who are victims of sexual misconduct.
- Continue and improve efforts to educate students, faculty and staff about the resources – both confidential and non-confidential – the campus offers to support victims of misconduct.
- Create more effective and accessible avenues for our students to report sexual misconduct.
- The University of Illinois Police Department (UIPD) will continue to strengthen training for officers who respond to reports of sexual assault, including its recently-formed Special Victims Unit, whose members receive advanced training in how to investigate sexual violence while remaining sensitive to the needs of survivors.
- UIPD will bolster its response to sexual assault through compliance with new legislation like the Sexual Assault Incident Procedure Act, which establishes best practices for law enforcement agencies in Illinois and ensures appropriate criminal justice measures are taken.
- Students will be surveyed again in 2017 about their experiences with sexual misconduct to obtain more data about where we can improve our programs and how we create a safer environment on the campus

## Where Can I Go for Help or Support?

### **WECARE.ILLINOIS.EDU**

This is a central web site with information about all of the programs and services we offer to help our community report incidents of sexual misconduct, to help victims find support.

#### **Some Key Confidential Resources:**

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| • Counseling Center  | (217) 333-3704 |
| • McKinley Health Center                                     | (217) 333-2700 |
| • McKinley Mental Health                                     | (217) 333-2705 |
| • Women's Resources Center (Confidential Advisors)           | (217) 333-3137 |
| • Rape Advocacy Counseling & Education Services (R.A.C.E.S.) | (217) 384-4444 |
| • Courage Connection (Domestic Violence)                     | 217-384-4390   |

#### **Some Key Non-Confidential Resources**

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| • Champaign, Urbana, or University Police Departments - 911 (Emergency) | (217) 333-8911 (Non-Emergency) |
| • Office of Diversity, Equity & Access (Title IX Office)                | (217) 333-0885                 |
| • Student Assistance Center<br>(Office of the Dean of Students)         | (217) 333-0050                 |
| • Office for Student Conflict Resolution                                | (217) 333-3680                 |

For more information, go online

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