

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

SPRING 2016 SEXUAL VIOLENCE CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY

The Campus Climate Survey, administered by the President's Coalition for Sexual Violence, Prevention and Education, is used to assess the general campus climate, attitudes and perceptions regarding rape myths, bystander intervention self-efficacy, and the prevalence of nonconsensual sexual experiences of students at the University of Miami. In the Spring of 2016, the Climate Survey was sent to all undergraduate, graduate, medical and law students. It was accessed by 1,387 UM students. A total of 1,360 students partially completed the survey, while 882 (5.2% of the student body) completed the survey in full. In sum, survey respondents were predominately undergraduate, female, heterosexual, white, living in off-campus housing, and had current or previous relationship experience.

OVERALL CAMPUS CLIMATE

Respondents reported the following as it relates to their exposure to actions considered to be supportive or rape culture, their level of rape myth acceptance, perceptions of other students, and their awareness of and participation in prevention and education programming.

Rape Culture

- Hearing sexist remarks or jokes (46.8%)
- Hearing unwelcome crude sexual comments (30.6%)
- Hearing inappropriate comments about the physical appearance of others (56.4%)
- Hearing jokes or comments about sexual assault or rape in online posts (59.0%)
- Hearing harassing or degrading comments about your or someone else's sexual orientation or gender expression (42.0%)
- Relative to their male counterparts, female respondents were more likely to report exposure to the majority of the behaviors that were assessed.

Rape Myths

- 13.4% of respondents agreed that a drunk person who is assaulted or raped is, at least somewhat, responsible for putting themselves in that situation
- 13.9% of respondents agreed that sexual assault and rape often occurs because the way the victim said 'no' was unclear or there was some miscommunication
- 15.4% respondents agreed that an incident can only be sexual assault or rape if the person says "no," whether through words or actions
- 31.5% of respondents agreed that sexual assault and rape happens because people get carried away
- Males reported higher acceptance of rape myths across all measures

Perceptions of other Students

- 89.3% of respondents believe that most University of Miami students would respect someone who did something to prevent a sexual assault
- 91.9% of respondents believe that friends would watch out for them at a party or social event

Prevention Programming

While all UM students receive sexual misconduct education upon entering the university and are provided with additional educational opportunities throughout their time on campus, respondents' recall of educational programming and its effectiveness varied.

- Nearly two-thirds (64.5%) of all respondents indicated that they had received information or training related to sexual violence – Freshmen were most likely to report receiving information
- The main sources of information or training were received from new student orientation (67.9%), Greek life participation (34.0%), campus-wide events (23.8%), and residential life programs (21.2%)
 - Respondents reported that training programs were most effective at providing sexual violence prevention strategies (63.4%), the definition of sexual violence (59.2%), and bystander intervention (54.0%)
 - Respondents reported that training programs were less effective at providing information about how to report an incident of sexual violence (46.7%) and their University's procedures for investigating an incident (31.4%)
- 209 (21.6%) of students reported actively volunteering for or taking part in activities focused on stopping sexual violence on campus.

PERCEPTION AND KNOWLEDGE OF ON CAMPUS SERVICES

- 72.5% of respondents believe the University of Miami is making a conscientious effort to educate students about sexual violence
- 61.8% of respondents reported knowing what confidential resources (e.g. victim advocacy, counseling) are available on campus
- 48.4% of respondents reported knowing where to make a report of sexual assault or misconduct, while 32.9% know what happens when a student reports an incident
 - 73.0% of respondents felt that the University of Miami would likely or very likely conduct a fair investigation
 - A majority of respondents believe the University would support (78.6%) and protect the safety of (77.6%) individuals making a report
 - When asked if they believe the University would “take action” against an offender, more males (81.3%) than females (59.3%) believed we would.

LIKELIHOOD OF ON-CAMPUS RESOURCE UTILIZATION

- **Respondents reported being most likely to seek help from:**
 - University of Miami Police Department (71.6%)
 - Counseling Center (70.0%)
 - Student Health Services (67.3%)
 - Sexual Assault Resource Team (61.4%)
 - Dean of Students Office (44.3%)

- **Respondents reported being unfamiliar with:**
 - Title IX Coordinator (49.5%)
 - Sexual Assault Resource Team (31.1%)

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION SELF EFFICACY, PERCEPTIONS, AND BEHAVIORS

Perceptions

- 62.8% of respondents believe most students would take action to prevent a sexual assault from occurring (female: 57.5%; male: 79.2%)
- 96.5% reported they agree they would speak up if friends say it's okay to have sex with someone who is passed out or intoxicated
- 94.7% indicated they agree they would talk to a friend in an abusive relationship
- 92.9% indicated they would get help and resources for a friend or go with them to talk to someone who had experienced sexual misconduct or relationship violence
- 75.1% reported they would tell a resident assistant or other campus authority about information they had that might help in a sexual assault case
- 24.3% would choose not to report a sexual assault out of concern that other students would be punished for underage drinking or use of other intoxicating substances

Self-Efficacy

- 80.5% of respondents would not have sex with someone if they are visibly intoxicated
- 70.0% of respondents believe taking action to prevent sexual assault could lead to them getting physically hurt
- 66.5% of respondents believe taking action to prevent sexual assault could lead to them being embarrassed if they intervene when nothing is wrong
- 52.6% of respondents believe taking action to prevent sexual assault could lead to them cost friendships
- 37.0% of respondents reported not knowing what to do to prevent a sexual assault or rape
- 16.0% of respondents believe it is none of their business or not their place to get involved

Previous Bystander Intervention Behaviors

- 275 (30.3%) of respondents observed a situation they believed was or could have led to a sexual assault during their time at the University of Miami.
 - Of these 275 respondents, 88.4% took action, including asking the at-risk individual if they needed help (60.7%), stepping in and separating involved parties (34.9%), or creating a distraction (27.2%)
 - 11.6% of these respondents did not know what to do or did not take action
- 361 (39.5%) of respondents reported that a friend had told them about their victimization while at UM
 - Of these 361 respondents, 33.2% did nothing in response to learning this information because they were unsure of what to do or for another undisclosed reason, while 66.8% took some form of action

THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

The lived experiences of our students were assessed in several ways, including:

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

- 16.9% of respondents reported one or more experiences of stalking or harassment
- 9.4% of respondents reported one or more experiences of an intimate partner controlling or trying to control them
- 5.5% of respondents reported one or more experiences of physical force by an intimate partner
- Females reported more experiences of stalking, harassment, and controlling behaviors
- **The alleged perpetrator was:**
 - Affiliated with the University of Miami (61.4%)
 - Male (81.6%)

Unwanted sexual experiences

- 259 (28.1%) of respondents reported experiencing 1 or more types of sexual violence while at the University of Miami. Among the 910 respondents,
 - 25.7% reported experiencing unwelcome fondling, kissing, rubbing of genitals, or removal of clothing on one or more occasions (31.3% women, 8.3% men)
 - 5.8% experienced *attempted* forced oral sex (6.6% women, 2.8% men)
 - 5.6% experienced *completed* forced oral sex (5.9% women, 4.2% men)
 - 9.9% experienced *attempted* sexual penetration (12.2% women, 2.8% men)
 - 7.6% experienced *completed* sexual penetration (9.0% women, 3.3% men)
- Of those 259 respondents reporting victimization,
 - 62.5% reported voluntary consumption of alcohol prior to the incident
 - 43% reported that their perpetrator had been drinking and was drunk
- **The alleged perpetrator was:**
 - Affiliated with the University of Miami (68.6%)
 - A friend, acquaintance, or peer (68.1%)
 - Male (93.6%)
- **The most common strategies employed by perpetrators were:** catching the victim off guard or ignoring non-verbal cues or looks (66.1%); taking advantage of the victim when they were incapacitated (61.0%); or showing displeasure, criticizing the victim's sexuality or attractiveness, or getting angry (27.5%)

Reporting Unwanted Sexual Experiences

- 71 (27.4%) of respondents reported they never spoke of the incident with anyone (25.2% of the females who responded and 56.3% of males)
- Of the 259 respondents who experienced sexual violence, those who shared their experience with someone were more likely to confide in a roommate, friend, or classmate (72.2%). *These incidents may have never been reported to the university.*
- Respondents who shared their experience were less likely to report an incident to a University representative:
 - **Confidential campus resources** (not reflected in Clery report):
 - Counseling Center – 7.0% (18 students reported to this source)
 - Student Health Services – 2.3% (6 students reported to this source)
 - Sexual Assault Resource Team – 0.8% (2 students reported to this source)
 - **Responsible employees** (reflected in Clery report):
 - Dean of Students Office – 1.6% (4 students)
 - UMPD – 1.6% (4 students)
 - Title IX Coordinator – 0.8% (2 students)
- Respondents who shared their experience were more likely to report positive responses to their reports, including being supported (77.2%), listened to (59.4%), validated (47.2%), and being provided with information (9.4%), although they also experienced being doubted (12.8%), told to move on (14.4%), or victim-blaming (10.0%).