Overview of the EAB Campus Climate Survey

Purpose of the Survey

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

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

Survey Design

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

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

Survey Development

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

Testing the Survey

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of students invited to take the survey</td>
<td>8425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of respondents</td>
<td>1218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of survey completers</td>
<td>857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of partial survey completers</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of disqualified respondents</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total response rate</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abnormal Response Patterns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of identified straight-line respondents</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analytic sample size</td>
<td>1209</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Survey Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Survey launch date</td>
<td>3/21/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey close date</td>
<td>4/11/2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Frequently Asked Questions

If the survey response rate is low, how representative are the survey results of our student population?

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

How does my institution's survey response rate compare with other spring 2016 cohort institutions?

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

What questions were asked on the survey?

The full survey can be found in your institution's EAB Box folder.

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

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

Were any survey questions required?

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

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

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

- The majority of respondents were heterosexual and female. Half of respondents were white.
- Most respondents were undergraduate students. Forty-three percent of respondents were graduate or professional students.
- Nearly all respondents either live off campus or at home with family.

Demographic Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic Snapshot</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heterosexual</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White/Caucasian</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino*</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Avg. n= 1086
*n= 1097

Class Standing

- First year student
- Second year student
- Third year student
- Fourth year student
- Fifth year (or higher) student
- Graduate or professional student

n= 1164

Residence

- Off-campus apartment/house
- At home with family
- On-campus apartment/house

n= 1164

Participation in Student Groups

- Cultural/religious/spiritual group: 12%
- Student government: 6%
- Club sports team: 5%
- Fraternity or sorority: 4%
- Other: 13%

n= 1156
Quick Takes

- Most respondents have a positive perception of the campus climate.
- Seventeen percent of respondents had someone make sexist remarks or jokes in their presence.
- More than one third of respondents indicated that a person making a report would experience retaliation.
- Nearly one third of respondents indicated that the educational achievement or career of the person making the report would suffer.

Has anyone done the following to you since the beginning of the school year?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behavior</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Made sexist remarks or jokes in your presence</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Said crude, sexual things to you</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emailed, texted, or used social media to send offensive content</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seemed to be bribing you if you agreed to engage in a romantic or sexual relationship</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Avg. n= 917

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

- I feel safe at this school. 96%
- I think faculty are genuinely concerned about my welfare. 90%
- I think administrators are genuinely concerned about my welfare. 85%
- I feel close to people at this school. 67%

Avg. n= 1073

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

- The school would take the report seriously. 90%
- The school would take steps to protect the person making the report from retaliation. 86%
- The accused or their friends would retaliate against the person making the report. 38%
- The educational achievement/career of the person making the report would suffer. 31%

Avg. n= 1016
### Sexual Violence Prevention Training and Student Knowledge

#### Quick Takes

- More than three quarters of first year respondents received prevention training. The number of respondents receiving training in subsequent years declined.
- Most respondents who received training thought it was useful in increasing their knowledge.
- More than thirty percent of respondents do not understand what the school would do to address a sexual violence complaint.

#### Respondents who reported that training was very useful/useful in increasing their knowledge of...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The definition of sexual violence</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting an incident of sexual violence</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual violence prevention strategies (e.g., asking for consent, responsible alcohol use)</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The school's procedures for investigating an incident of sexual violence</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bystander intervention</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Avg. n = 542

#### Where did you receive prevention training?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New student orientation</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus-wide events</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n = 545

#### Interpreting This Chart

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am confident my school would administer the formal procedures to fairly address reports of sexual violence.</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If a friend or I experienced sexual violence, I would know where to go to get help.</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I know what confidential resources (e.g., victim advocacy, counseling) are available to me to report an incident of sexual violence.</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I understand my school’s formal procedures to address complaints of sexual violence.</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Avg. n = 916
Quick Takes

- Eighteen respondents (or 2%) experienced at least one incident of sexual misconduct at least one time since the beginning of the school year.
- Respondents most commonly experienced someone fondling, kissing, or rubbing against the private areas of their body or removing some of their clothes.
- More than one fifth of female respondents experienced unwanted sexual contact prior to college.

Survey respondents who experienced at least one instance of sexual misconduct

18

Number of survey respondents who experienced the following one or more times...

- Someone fondled, kissed, or rubbed up against the private areas of my body or removed some of my clothes
- Someone TRIED to sexually penetrate me
- Someone TRIED to perform oral sex on me or make me give them oral sex
- Someone sexually penetrated me
- Someone performed oral sex on me or made me give them oral sex

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

- Yes: 16%
- No: 82%
- Unsure: 2%

Notes

- Respondents were not asked details about the unwanted contact prior to college.
- Ensure that your institution’s training and resources address this population of students who come to campus having already experienced sexual violence.
Perpetrator Behavior, Relationship, and Location of the Incident

Quick Takes
- The majority of respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact were caught off guard by the perpetrator or the perpetrator ignored the respondent’s non-verbal cues or looks.
- The unwanted behavior was most commonly perpetrated by someone the respondent had no prior relationship with.
- Common locations of incidents of unwanted sexual contact were off-campus residences and other off-campus locations.

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

Catching you off guard or ignoring non-verbal cues or looks? 
- Avg. n= 22
- 65%

Showing displeasure, criticizing your sexuality or attractiveness, or getting angry?
- 45%

Taking advantage when you were incapacitated (e.g., too drunk, high, asleep, or out of it)?
- 35%

Telling lies, threatening to end a relationship or to spread rumors about you...
- 27%

Using force or having a weapon?
- 18%

Threatening you with being outed?
- 18%

Threatening to physically harm you or someone close to you?
- 18%

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

- Respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact most commonly told a roommate, friend, or classmate. More than one third of respondents told no one about the incident.
- Almost one third of respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact were told to not talk about the incident.
- Common concerns respondents had about sharing their experience include not thinking the incident was serious enough to report and wanting to forget it happened.
- No respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact reported the incident to the school.

### Reporting an Incident of Unwanted Sexual Contact

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Roommate/friend/classmate</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1</td>
<td>Roommate/friend/classmate</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2</td>
<td>No one</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>Family member</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Response</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1</td>
<td>Responded in a way that made you feel supported</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2</td>
<td>Listened sympathetically without criticizing or blaming you</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>Told you to not talk about it, to move on, or to focus on other things</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- Yes [100%]
- No

n = 22

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

- Didn’t think it was serious enough to report [50%]
- Wanted to forget it happened [45%]
- Felt ashamed or embarrassed, didn’t want anyone to know what happened [36%]
- Feared others would harass me or react negatively toward me [36%]
- Other [41%]

n = 22

### Interpreting This Chart

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

Quick Takes

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

Bystander Behavior

3%

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

n=860

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 3 most common bystander behaviors</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1 I asked the person who appeared to be at risk if they needed help.</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 I created a distraction to cause one or more of the people to disengage from the situation.</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3 I asked others to step in as a group and diffuse the situation.</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Quick Takes

- A greater percentage of male respondents agreed/strongly agreed with most of the statements compared to female respondents.
- Nearly half of respondents believe that rape and sexual violence can happen unintentionally, especially if alcohol is involved.
- Forty percent of respondents believe that a woman who hooks up with a lot of men will eventually get into trouble.
- One third of respondents believe that sexual assault and rape happen because men get carried away in sexual situations.
- Twelve percent of respondents indicated that sexual misconduct was somewhat or definitely a problem.

### Notes

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

### Community Attitudes

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Percent Agreed/Strongly Agreed</th>
<th>Percent Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rape and sexual violence can happen unintentionally, especially if alcohol is involved.</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If a woman hooks up with a lot of men, eventually she is going to get into trouble.</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual violence and rape happen because men can get carried away in sexual situations once they've started.</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A person who is sexually assaulted or raped while she or he is drunk is at least somewhat responsible for putting themselves in that position.</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An incident can only be sexual assault or rape if the person says &quot;no.&quot;</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A lot of times, women who say they were raped agreed to have sex and then regretted it afterward.</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual violence and rape happen because people put themselves in bad situations.</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When someone is raped or sexually assaulted, its often because the way they said no was unclear or there was some miscommunication.</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is not necessary to get consent before sexual activity if you are in a relationship with that person.</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It shouldn’t be considered rape if a man is drunk and didn’t realize what he was doing.</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- It’s definitely a problem: 8%
- It’s somewhat of a problem: 4%
- It’s not really a problem: 34%
- I don’t know: 54%