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 Affairs Forum

EAB Campus Climate Survey Methods

University of Houston System
Spring 2016 Administration

Student Sample and Response Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of students invited to take the survey</td>
<td>65,723</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of respondents</td>
<td>5,032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of survey completers</td>
<td>3,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of partial survey completers</td>
<td>1,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of disqualified respondents</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total response rate (Range of response rates at UH System institutions was 3% to 14%)</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abnormal Response Patterns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of identified straight-line respondents (respondents who answered the same option for multiple survey questions)</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analytic sample size (total respondents - disqualified respondents - straight-line respondents)</td>
<td>4,985</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Survey Timeline

University of Houston System campuses launched surveys between March 21, 2016 and April 11, 2016. Three surveys were open for three weeks and one survey was open for four weeks (due to extreme weather). Surveys closed between April 11, 2016 and May 6, 2016. An administrator on each campus invited students to take the survey and sent reminder emails.

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 system’s survey response rate compare with other institutions in the spring 2016 cohort?

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 each 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 system’s specific questions.
### Survey Respondent Demographics

#### Demographic Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heterosexual</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White/Caucasian</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino*</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Avg. n= 4532**  
**n= 4563**

#### Quick Takes

- Sixty-two percent of respondents attend UH, 24% attend UH Clear Lake, and 7% attend UH Downtown and UH Victoria, respectively.
- The majority of respondents were heterosexual, female, and white.
- Three fourths respondents were in their first five years of school. One fourth of respondents were graduate or professional students.
- Most respondents either live off campus or at home with family.

#### Institution

- UH: 62%
- UH Clear Lake: 7%
- UH Downtown: 7%
- UH Victoria: 24%

n= 4985

#### Class Standing

- First year student: 13%
- Second year student: 26%
- Third year student: 22%
- Fourth year student: 16%
- Fifth year (or higher) student: 8%
- Graduate or professional student: 5%

n= 4755

#### Residence

- Off-campus apartment/house: 43%
- At home with family: 11%
- Residence hall: 5%
- On-campus apartment/house: 5%
- At home with family: 41%

n= 4752

#### Participation in Student Groups

- Cultural/religious/spiritual: 10%
- Fraternity or sorority: 5%
- Intramural sports team: 5%
- Student government: 4%
- Club sports team: 4%
- Performing arts group: 3%
- Intercollegiate sports team: 2%
- Other: 20%

n= 4682
### Quick Takes

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I think faculty are genuinely concerned about my welfare.</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I feel safe at this school.</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I think administrators are genuinely concerned about my welfare.</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I feel close to people at this school.</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Avg. n = 4440**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The school would take the report seriously.</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The school would take steps to protect the person making the report from retaliation.</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The accused or their friends would retaliate against the person making the report.</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The educational achievement/career of the person making the report would suffer.</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Avg. n = 4148**

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### Campus Climate and Harassment

**Survey Methods**

**Demographics**

**Campus Climate and Harassment**

**Prevention Training and Student Knowledge**

**Sexual Violence Experiences**

**Perpetrator Behavior, Relationship, Location of the Incident**

**Reporting an Incident**

**Community Behaviors**

**Community Attitudes**
Sexual Violence Prevention Training and Student Knowledge

Quick Takes

- Eighty-seven percent 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.
- Two thirds of respondents received prevention training at new student orientation.
- Just over half of respondents 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>Activity</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reporting an incident of sexual violence</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The definition of sexual violence</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual violence prevention strategies (e.g., asking for consent, responsible alcohol use)</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The school's procedures for investigating an incident of sexual violence</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bystander intervention</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Avg. n = 2007

Where did you receive prevention training?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New student orientation</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus-wide events</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n = 2015

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

Have you received sexual violence prevention information or training?

- Yes: 57%
- No: 26%
- I do not recall: 17%

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

- I am confident my school would administer the formal procedures to fairly address reports of sexual violence: 84%
- If a friend or I experienced sexual violence, I would know where to go to get help: 72%
- I know what confidential resources (e.g., victim advocacy, counseling) are available to me to report an incident of sexual violence: 68%
- I understand my school’s formal procedures to address complaints of sexual violence: 55%
Quick Takes

- Four percent of respondents 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.
- One quarter of female respondents and 10 percent of male respondents experienced unwanted sexual contact prior to college.

Percentage of survey respondents who experienced sexual misconduct and 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: 75%
- Someone TRIED to sexually penetrate me: 61%
- Someone TRIED to perform oral sex on me or make me give them oral sex: 54%
- Someone sexually penetrated me: 52%
- Someone performed oral sex on me or made me give them oral sex: 49%

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.
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 an acquaintance or peer.
- Common locations of incidents of unwanted sexual contact were on- and off-campus residences.

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

- Catching you off guard or ignoring non-verbal cues or looks? 69%
- Showing displeasure, criticizing your sexuality or attractiveness, or getting angry? 36%
- Taking advantage when you were incapacitated (e.g., too drunk, high, asleep, or out of it)? 33%
- Telling lies, threatening to end a relationship or to spread rumors about you,... 28%
- Using force or having a weapon? 15%
- Threatening to physically harm you or someone close to you? 14%
- Threatening you with being outed? 14%

Avg. n = 137

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relationship to the perpetrator</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1 Acquaintance or peer</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 Friend</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3 No prior relationship</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location of the incident</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1 On-campus residence</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 Off-campus residence</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3 Bar, night club, dance club</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
Reporting an Incident of Unwanted Sexual Contact

Quick Takes

- Respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact most commonly told a roommate, friend, or classmate about the incident.
- Most respondents received a positive response from the individuals they told.
- The most common concern respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact had about sharing their experience was not thinking the incident was serious enough to report.
- Ninety percent of respondents did not report the incident to the school.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Roommate/friend/classmate</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>65%</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2</td>
<td>No one</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>Listened sympathetically without criticizing or blaming you</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>Validated and believed your experience</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. 1</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

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

- Yes: 10%
- No: 90%

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

- Didn’t want to get the offender in trouble (e.g., disciplinary action, arrest): 33%
- Felt ashamed or embarrassed, didn’t want anyone to know what happened: 33%
- Wanted to forget it happened: 42%
- Didn’t think it was serious enough to report: 67%
- Wasn’t clear that the offender intended harm: 42%
- Lack of proof that the incident happened: 34%
- Didn’t want to get the offender in trouble (e.g., disciplinary action, arrest): 33%
Community Behaviors

Quick Takes
- Three institutions (UH Clear Lake, UH Downtown, and UH Victoria) administered this optional survey module.
- Respondents view themselves as more likely than their peers to engage in bystander behaviors.
- Five 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
5%

Percent of respondents who observed a situation that they believed was, or could have led to, a sexual assault. n=1330

Top 3 most common bystander behaviors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Behavior</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>I asked the person who appeared to be at risk if they needed help.</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>I stepped in and separated the people involved in the situation.</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>I created a distraction to cause one or more of the people to disengage from the situation.</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percent of respondents that rated themselves and their peers as likely/very likely to engage in the following behaviors...

- Decide not to have sex with someone if they are drunk
  - Self: 91%
  - Peers: 79%

- Ask someone who looks very upset at a party if they are ok or need help
  - Self: 87%
  - Peers: 81%

- Confront a friend who says that they had sex with someone who was passed out or didn’t give consent
  - Self: 86%
  - Peers: 79%

- Express discomfort if someone says that sexual assault victims are to blame for being assaulted
  - Self: 88%
  - Peers: 83%

n= 1309
Quick Takes
- Three institutions (UH, UH Clear Lake, and UH Victoria) administered this optional survey module.
- A greater percentage of male respondents agreed or 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.
- Over one third of respondents believe that if a woman hooks up with a lot of men, eventually she is going to get into trouble.
- Nearly one third of respondents believe that sexual assault and rape happen because men get carried away in sexual situations.
- Seventeen 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 Agreeing</th>
<th>Percent Strongly Agreeing</th>
<th>Percent Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rape and sexual violence can happen unintentionally, especially if alcohol is involved.</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If a woman hooks up with a lot of men, eventually she is going to get into trouble.</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual violence and rape happen because men can get carried away in sexual situations once they've started.</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>13%</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>6%</td>
<td>15%</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>21%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual violence and rape happen because people put themselves in bad situations.</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An incident can only be sexual assault or rape if the person says “no.”</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>11%</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>13%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</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>9%</td>
<td>5%</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>6%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- It's definitely a problem: 6%
- It's somewhat of a problem: 11%
- It's not really a problem: 24%
- I don't know: 59%

n = 3141