

2019 AAU CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY FAQ

1. What was the UMTC response rate?
 - 12,833 students completed this year's survey (29.1 percent); the total student population was 44,110.
 - That represents a significant increase over the 8,033 respondents in the 2015 survey (16.6 percent).

2. What did the survey show in terms of incidence?
 - Among undergraduate women, the rate of non-consensual sexual contact (by physical force or inability to consent) since the student enrolled at the school was 25.6 percent.
 - The national average across participating institutions (AAU aggregate) was 25.9 percent among undergraduate women.

3. Was this an increase from 2015?
 - The rate of non-consensual sexual contact (by physical force or inability to consent) increased by 2.1 percent for undergraduate women.
 - For all other categories—graduate and professional women, transgender, genderqueer, and non-binary (TGQN) students, and men—the change was not statistically significant.

4. Did the survey show any other changes from 2015?
 - Consistent with changes in the national average across participating institutions, UMTC showed significant jumps in the percentage of students who participated in training related to sexual assault or other misconduct:
 - 87.7 percent of the incoming students indicated that they completed at least one training (a 47.6% increase from 2015); and
 - 79.0 percent of the returning students reported that they completed at least one training since arriving at the school.
 - The survey found a significant decrease (9.6 percent) in the rate of sexual harassment since enrolling at UMTC; however, more than one-third of students (38.3 percent) report experiencing some form of sexual harassment.
 - The survey also found significant increases from 2015 to 2019 in student reports of their knowledge about school definitions and procedures related to sexual assault and other sexual misconduct.
 - The largest change was for knowledge about how the University defines sexual assault and sexual misconduct, where there were increases of 24.7 percent for graduate and professional women, and 5.2 percent for undergraduate women.

5. Are any groups particularly vulnerable?

- Overall, the rates for women and TGQN students were significantly higher than men.
 - The rate of nonconsensual sexual contact (by physical force or inability to consent) among heterosexual students since enrolling was 11.2 percent.
 - Transgender, genderqueer and non-binary (TGQN) students had a prevalence rate double that of their heterosexual peers, of 22.3 percent.
6. Are students using campus resources when they have been victims of sexual assault or misconduct?
- Overall, for 26.3 percent of incidents involving women and 14.3 percent involving men, victims made contact with a program or resource as a result of nonconsensual penetration.
 - For incidents involving sexual touching by physical force or inability to consent, 10.3 percent of women and 4.0 percent of men contacted a program or resource.
 - Students reported contacting Boynton Health (87.7% of the time) and campus police (80.0%) most often after being victimized.
7. What are students' expectations about the University's response from the school if they were to report a sexual assault or misconduct?
- Close to two-thirds of students (63.7 percent) believe a report is very or extremely likely to be taken seriously campus officials.
 - Overall, 49.2 percent of students indicated that it is very or extremely likely that campus officials would conduct a fair investigation in response to a report.
8. What is the University doing to fight sexual assault and misconduct on campus?
- The University participated in the 2015 and 2019 surveys to better understand key issues related to sexual assault and sexual misconduct and institute policies and procedures to address them.
 - In spring 2017, the University launched the President's Initiative to Prevent Sexual Misconduct (PIPSM), with the goal of long-term culture change toward building a University community free from all forms of sexual misconduct.
 - PIPSM relies on the University community for active involvement in assessment, prevention, evaluation, and accountability, so that every community member may experience a healthy, safe, and supportive culture.
9. Why were various gender identities and student affiliations (undergraduate and graduate/professional) combined in this report?
- A very small percentage of the student population (approximately 1.8 percent) identifies as TGQN and because of this, the number of students completing the survey is small.
 - This is an inadequate number of respondents to generate reliable estimates if the data is separated by the undergraduate and graduate/professional student categories.

10. What did the survey reveal about LGBTQ students?
 - More than half (54.0 percent) of those who identify as TGQN students indicated that sexual assault or other misconduct is very or extremely problematic on campus.
 - Nearly half of those who identify as TGQN students report experiencing some form of sexual harassment since enrolling.
 - In terms of nonconsensual sexual contact, students who identify as TGQN report the second-highest prevalence rate (22.3 percent), after undergraduate women (25.6 percent)

11. What did the survey reveal about graduate and professional students?
 - Among all who report nonconsensual sexual contact, graduate and professional students report the highest rates of faculty members as the offender (26.1 percent of women; 17.3 percent of men).

12. What did the survey reveal about bystander behavior?
 - Among students who reported witnessing a situation they believed could lead to sexual assault, more than three-fourths (75.5 percent) took some type of action (intervening or expressing concern).
 - Among those who indicated they witnessed a situation making someone feel uncomfortable or offended, 65.2 percent took some type of action.

13. How much did the survey cost the University of Minnesota Twin Cities?
 - The cost to participate was just shy of \$80,000.

14. Why didn't all five campuses participate in the survey?
 - Within the University of Minnesota System, UMTC is the lone member of the Association of American Universities (AAU).
 - UMTC participated in the 2019 Campus Climate Survey as part of a consortium of 33 colleges and universities organized by AAU.

15. Will the survey be conducted again in 2023?
 - AAU is considering this, in consultation with its member schools.