



University of Denver

**Campus Perceptions of Unwanted
Sexual Experiences Survey**

Administered: October-December 2018

Report Presented: April 2019

Presented by:

Human Resources & Inclusive Community
Office of Equal Opportunity & Title IX

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Introduction

The University of Denver is committed to improving its services and operations through evidence-based decision making. This report summarizes the results of the 2018 Campus Perceptions of Unwanted Sexual Experiences Survey, which the University will use to understand students' perceptions of sexual harassment, discrimination, and violence, and to understand how students react to situations where people

Participation among first-year undergraduate students fell from the previous year with 331 out of 1,796 first-year undergraduate students participating, representing 18% of this year's first-year class compared to 25% in 2017. Among all undergraduate students, 989 students participated in the survey, representing an increase to 17% this year from approximately 14% of the undergraduate student body last year. Graduate student participation in the survey was much higher than previous years, with 906 students participating compared to 352 from 2017. This represented 15.9% of the graduate student body compared to only approximately 6% in 2017. Only 5 non-degree-seeking students participated in the survey.²

Participation of other subgroups included:

DU student-athletes made up 2% of all survey participants.

Students who are members of social fraternities or sororities made up over 14% of the survey participants.

International students made up only 1% of survey participants, however, it represented over 12% of all international students.

Student with disabilities made up over 15% of the survey participants.

Almost 25% of the survey participants identified as asexual, bisexual, gay, lesbian, pansexual, or questioning.

Full demographic results are available beginning on page 26.

Communication of Results

The Office of Equal Opportunity & Title IX will work with Marketing & Communications and the Health & Counseling Center's Health Promotion team to plan for meaningful communication of the results to the University of Denver community during the month of April 2018 for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The Office of Equal Opportunity & Title IX will also work with Institutional Research & Analysis to make the survey publicly available on the Institutional Research & Analysis website alongside the 2016, and 2017 survey report, and to identify future data collection needs.

² As a result, data for each question is separated out for only those who identified as undergraduate and graduate students.

Perceptions of University of Denver

A minority of



Experience of Unwanted Sexual Harassment Behaviors





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Campus Programs Attended

Consistent with last year's data, a majority of our students are not



Understanding of DU Policies, Procedures, and Resources

This year's responses represent a decline after the three years of consecutive increases of understanding of DU's policies, procedures, and resources, with a significant increase in students who either "agree" or "strongly agree" with nearly every statement. The only question that saw no significant change in response was regarding the belief that an offender would retaliate against the person making the report.

56% report they understand DU's formal procedures to address complaints of sexual assault (responding that they either "strongly agree" or "agree").¹⁹

67% report if a friend or they were sexually assaulted, they know where to get help.²⁰

54% report believing that DU takes reports of sexual assault seriously.²¹

58% report believing that DU would protect the safety and privacy of those reporting sexual assault.²²

Only 36% report believing that the alleged offender(s) or their associates will retaliate against the person making the report.²³

57% report believing that DU would treat the person making the report fairly.²⁴

47% report believing that DU would treat the alleged offender fairly.²⁵

67%



Experience of Retaliation, Assault, or Violence

Retaliation--or fear of retaliation--

Demographics



Proposed Action Items

This Campus Perceptions Survey is a great step for helping the University of Denver gain a better understanding of what gender-based violence, harassment, and discrimination looks like on our campus and will help inform what steps we need to take in order to continue to make progress in the prevention and response to gender-based violence and harassment. Given a review of this data, we recommend the following for continuing to make important improvements in our campus climate and community environment:

A majority of respondents indicated that they did not attend campus programs or events designed to educate on gender-based violence and healthy relationships. Among the reasons for not