

DARTMOUTH SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

JANUARY 2018

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

NOTE: Portions of the survey use explicit language, including anatomical names of body parts and specific behaviors involving forms of sexual violence which may be upsetting. The topics in this summary may remind you of experiences you, a friend, or a family member have gone through.

If you would like to talk to someone about questions or concerns relating to sexual assault or misconduct, please [see our list of resources](#) or contact Dartmouth's Title IX Coordinator, Allison O'Connell (603) 646-0922.

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

Dartmouth continues its commitment to the safety, health, and well-being of all of its students, staff, and faculty. To fulfill this commitment, Dartmouth seeks to eliminate incidents and associated harm of sexual assault and sexual misconduct, and to strengthen our response when those incidents do occur.

The [2017 Dartmouth Sexual Misconduct Survey](#) (2017 Survey) is a follow-up to the 2015 Association of American Universities (AAU) Survey on Sexual Assault and Sexual Misconduct (2015 AAU Survey). The survey is an integral part of our ongoing effort, highlighted by the Moving Dartmouth Forward plan launched by President Philip Hanlon in January 2015, to understand the extent and effects of sexual violence among our student populations and use the data to inform our policies, prevention, and response.

This summary is a snapshot of findings from the broader survey and provides comparisons, where applicable, to the 2015 results. In addition to this summary, user-friendly dashboards were constructed for a more comprehensive look at the data (see [2017 results](#)).

The summary is organized into the following sections:

- I. Survey Design, Administration, and Response Rates
- II. Key Results
 - ❖ Campus Climate, Information, & Resources
 - ❖ Nonconsensual Sexual Contact (Sexual Assault)
 - ❖ Harassment, Stalking, & Dating and Domestic Violence
 - ❖ Bystander Behavior & Your Behavior
- III. Conclusions

Survey Design, Administration, and Response Rates

DESIGN

In 2014, the Association of American Universities (AAU) developed a survey to examine the attitudes and experiences of undergraduate and graduate/professional students with respect to sexual assault and sexual misconduct. In 2015, Dartmouth conducted this survey on campus. For details on the 2015 AAU Survey and its development, [please see the 2015 FAQs](#).

The 2017 Survey used the 2015 AAU Survey as its base with modifications based on lessons learned and campus-specific needs for further information. Where possible, question wording was kept consistent with the 2015 survey in order to expedite comparisons, especially with respect to prevalence rates. During spring 2017, a small working group reviewed and revised the 2015 AAU instrument. The most notable revision was Attachment 2 – Detailed Incident Forms. Rather than collect this information on each incident as the 2015 AAU survey did, the 2017 version instead asked about the incident that affected a student the

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

most. Minor revisions were made to sexual misconduct sections of the survey, e.g. turning a list of questions into a matrix or changing the Likert scale options. Finally, questions from other institution's campus surveys were incorporated to gather additional data.¹

ADMINISTRATION & RESPONSE RATES

The survey was open for three weeks in spring of 2017 (May 4 – May 25). Invitations and reminders were sent by the Office of Institutional Research to all undergraduate and graduate/professional students. The survey was incentivized with a \$10 Amazon e-gift certificate for those submitting the survey.

A total of 3,147 Dartmouth students took the survey, including 2,039 undergraduates and 1,108 graduate/professional students. The overall response rate for Dartmouth was 47 percent, up from 42 percent in 2015.

Since not all students responded to the survey and to ensure valid comparisons could be drawn between 2015 & 2017, the same weighting technique used in the 2015 survey (raking procedure) was utilized to address non-response.² The [2017 results](#), provide both unweighted and weighted data. Even the unweighted survey data are broadly representative of the population, and basic demographics do little to explain non-response to the survey.

¹ McMahon (2014) #iSPEAK survey instrument, Rutgers University (<https://socialwork.rutgers.edu/centers/center-violence-against-women-and-children/research-and-evaluation/campus-climate-project/campus-climate-survey-tool>). Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (2014). DEOMI Organizational Climate Survey. Retrieved from https://deocs.net/docdownloads/sampledocs_2014Jan.pdf. Stanford University 2015 Campus Climate Survey (<https://stanford.app.box.com/v/2015-campus-climate-appendix-b>). Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) 2014 Community Attitudes on Sexual Assault (<https://chancellor.mit.edu/sites/default/files/pdf/MITCommunityAttitudesonSexualAssault-Survey.pdf>). Cornell University 2017 Survey of Sexual Assault and Related Misconduct (<https://blogs.cornell.edu/sexualmisconduct/files/2017/10/2017-Survey-Instrument-16it0s8.pdf>). Princeton University (2016). We speak attitudes on sexual misconduct at Princeton (2016 Survey Questionnaire, <https://sexualmisconduct.princeton.edu/sites/sexualmisconduct/files/wespeak2016.pdf>) Banyard, V.L., Moynihan, M.M., Cares, A.C., & Warner, R. (2014). How do we know it works? Measuring outcomes in bystander-focused abuse prevention on campus. *Psychology of Violence*, 4, 1, 101-115. Bystander Attitudes Scale-Revised (adapted from Bystander Scale (Banyard, et al., 2005)); Scale development information: McMahon, S., Postmus, J., & Koenick, R.A. (2011). Engaging Bystanders: A primary prevention approach to sexual violence on campus. *Journal of College Student Development*, 15 (1), 115 – 130.

² Specifically, the initial step was to create a base-weight for each respondent. A census was conducted at Dartmouth and a base weight of one was assigned to each respondent. The base weight was adjusted to reflect non-response. This adjustment consisted of a raking procedure that adjusted the base weight to the demographic data available on the frame (Deming and Stephen, 1940; Deville, Särndal, and Sautory, 1993; Cervantes and Brick, 2008). The variables used in the raking procedure included: 1) Gender (Male/Female); 2) Age Group (18-20, 21-23, 24-26, and 27+); 3) Year in School (Undergraduate freshman, Undergraduate sophomore, Undergraduate junior, Undergraduate senior, and Graduate/Professional year); and 4) Race/Ethnicity (Hispanic, White, Black, Other race, Nonresident alien).

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Key Results

All results presented in this summary are weighted estimates. Please visit the [2017 results storyboard](#) for additional data including unweighted values.

OVERALL

- **Female undergraduates and Transgender, GenderQueer, Gender Non-Conforming, Questioning, or not listed (TGQN) undergraduates report the highest rates of sexual assault and sexual misconduct.** The same patterns existed in 2015. For female undergraduates, the largest increases were reported for sexual touching by physical force (TGQN 2017 percentages were suppressed for confidentiality reasons).
 - Female undergraduates are roughly 4x more likely than male undergraduates to experience acts involving unwanted penetration and 5x more likely to experience forced touching.
 - Bisexual and questioning female undergraduates are at 2x more risk than heterosexual female undergraduates to experience forcible penetration though they are at the same risk as heterosexual female undergraduates for experiencing forced touching.
 - About 76% of female undergraduates experiencing unwanted penetration **did not report** the incident to any of the 14 resources/agencies listed on the survey (see Table 4). The most commonly reported reasons why female undergraduates did not contact any resources were they didn't think it was serious enough or didn't want the person/people who did it to get into trouble (67%) followed by had other things I needed to focus on and was concerned about [classes, work] (41%; see Table 6).
- **The percent of female and male graduate/professional respondents reporting sexual harassment decreased between 2015 and 2017 but remain high, especially among females (Female=55% vs 49%; Male=36% vs 29%).**
- **Similar to 2015 patterns, a large portion of students who experience sexual misconduct incidents – harassment, stalking, and dating and domestic violence – do not report the experience to campus officials or departments.**
 - Peers are reported as offering the most support when such incidents occur.
- **Perceptions of campus officials continue to be unfavorable among undergraduates.**
- **Overall, respondents were most aware of the services of Health Services (Dick's House), Dartmouth Counseling, Department of Safety and Security, and Local Police. Among undergraduates, they were also aware of Residential Life Staff as a possible resource.** Awareness of these services is consistent with 2015 results.

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **Students don't know enough about how Dartmouth responds to sexual assault and misconduct, but they agree doing something about sexual violence isn't solely the job of the staff and administration on campus.**

CAMPUS CLIMATE, INFORMATION, & RESOURCES

Perceptions

- **Relative to male undergraduates, female and TGQN undergraduates report less favorable perceptions on how the College might handle a reported incident of sexual assault or misconduct. Among female and TGQN undergraduate respondents, approximately a third or fewer stated it was "likely" or "very likely" that the following would occur:**
 - Dartmouth would support the person making the report (35% and 24%)
 - Dartmouth would take action to address factors that may have led to the sexual assault or sexual misconduct (33% and 15%)
 - Dartmouth would handle the report fairly (32% and 25%)
 - Dartmouth would conduct a fair investigation (34% and 25%)
 - Dartmouth would take action to hold the offender(s) accountable (28% and 25%)
 - **2015 vs. 2017:** Comparable items include: 1) Campus officials/Dartmouth would take a report seriously; 2) Campus officials/Dartmouth would protect the safety of the person making the report; 3) Campus officials/Dartmouth would conduct a fair investigation; 4) Campus officials/Dartmouth would take action against the offender(s); and 5) Campus officials/Dartmouth would take action to address the factors that may have led to the sexual assault or misconduct.
 - Favorable percentages ("extremely/very" in 2015 and "very likely/likely" in 2017) among male undergraduates held steady.
 - Female undergraduate perceptions improved for taking the report seriously (+3%), protecting the safety of the person making the report (+3%), and taking action to address the factors (+4%). Meanwhile, decreases included conducting a fair investigation (-2%) and taking action against the offender(s) (-3%).
 - Among TGQN undergraduate respondents, improvements include taking the report seriously (+13%), taking action against the offender(s) (+9%), and conducting a fair investigation (+6%). However, there was a decrease for protecting the safety of the person making the report (-10%).
- **Graduate/professional respondents had more positive perceptions compared to undergraduates although the same female/male patterns were seen; males held higher favorable percentages than females in how the College might handle a reported incident of sexual assault or misconduct. Due to a small number of TGQN graduate/professional respondents, their results are often suppressed ('s') for confidentiality reasons.**

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- There were improvements on all comparable items, in certain cases quite large increases between 2015 and 2017 for both female and male graduate/professional students.
- **More favorable perceptions were reported by undergraduate and graduate/professional students with respect to how others – students, faculty & staff – would react to reporting an incident. One exception is the belief that the alleged offender(s) or their friends would try to get back (retaliate) at the person making the report; female and TGQN undergraduates reported a higher likelihood this would occur.**
 - Female and TGQN respondents are more likely than male students to believe that the academic achievement of the person making the report would suffer.
- **Students know where to go to get help but they are less clear on how to make a report and what happens if a student reports an incident of sexual assault and/or misconduct at Dartmouth.**
- **Overall, respondents were most aware of the services of Health Services (Dick’s House), Dartmouth Counseling, Department of Safety and Security, and Local Police. Among undergraduates, there was also more awareness of services provided by Residential Life Staff.**
 - Over half of TGQN undergraduates were “not at all aware” of resources offered by the Tucker Center and Office of Judicial Affairs while a third of male undergraduates were also “not at all aware” of the Tucker Center resources or WISE of the Upper Valley. A third of female undergraduates were “not at all aware” of the Tucker Center or Title IX Coordinator resources.
 - Comparisons with 2015 are challenging because in the AAU survey, respondents merely marked whether they were aware or not whereas in the 2017 Survey, respondents indicated levels of awareness (not at all aware-a little aware-somewhat aware-very aware-extremely aware). Nonetheless, similar resources were acknowledged across the two survey administrations – Dick’s House, Residential Life staff, Dartmouth Counseling, and Safety and Security.

Information about Campus Sexual Assault/Sexual Misconduct and Resources

Before coming to Dartmouth, between 70% and 76% of undergraduates and 78% and 100% of graduate/professional students reported receiving information or education about sexual assault or misconduct.

Among all students, the majority recalled an orientation session or training at Dartmouth about sexual assault or sexual misconduct and reported it as “a little” and “somewhat” useful.

During the current school year, over 80% of undergraduates reported receiving written or verbal information from Dartmouth about how to intervene as a bystander. Among graduate/professional students, the percentages were considerably lower (38% - 51%). A majority of undergraduates also reported getting information on how to help prevent sexual assault or other forms of sexual misconduct (60% - 66%), the definition of sexual assault (59% - 69%), and where to go to get help if someone you know is sexually assaulted (51% - 54%). Among undergraduates, 37% of females, 50% of males and 47% of TGQN respondents reported receiving information on how to report a sexual assault. Also among

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

undergraduates, 28% of females, 37% of males, and 53% of TGQN respondents reported receiving information on Title IX protections against sexual assault or other forms of sexual misconduct. In general, graduate/professional students reported receiving information on these topics at lower rates than undergraduates apart from knowledge of Title IX protections against sexual assault or other forms of sexual misconduct.

Knowledge of Dartmouth Policies & Resources

Knowledge of policies and resources isn't particularly strong among students – on no item did more than approximately a quarter of respondents indicate they were “extremely” or “very” knowledgeable. The limited knowledge of Dartmouth policies and resources was found in 2015 as well. Among undergraduates (female and TGQN), there were multiple policies/resources where over a third reported they were “not at all” knowledgeable. These include: how to make an anonymous report of sexual assault or related misconduct at Dartmouth, the process that occurs after a student has filed a formal complaint of sexual assault or related misconduct at Dartmouth, how to file a formal complaint about sexual assault or related misconduct to initiate a disciplinary procedure at Dartmouth, the role of the Title IX Coordinator, and what behaviors are included in the College's definition of stalking.

NONCONSENSUAL SEXUAL CONTACT (SEXUAL ASSAULT)

The methodology employed by AAU in 2015 was utilized for the 2017 Survey and results for this portion of the survey are presented as comparisons between the two survey administrations.

To assess the overall risk of nonconsensual sexual contact, prevalence measures combine two behaviors constituting sexual contact (penetration and sexual touching) and four tactics (physical or threat of physical force; incapacitation; coercion; or absence of affirmative consent) (see [Definitions documentation](#)). The estimates include completed as well as attempted sexual contact. Certain tables report percentages for rates for the two tactics of physical force and incapacitation separate from percentages for the four tactics all together. Please refer to the [Prevalence Rates: Deduplication Hierarchy Rules](#) for further explanation of the methodology used to calculate the rates.

Incidents that included both nonconsensual sexual penetration and sexual touching were categorized and counted solely as a penetration offense, which conforms to the counting rules established by the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting and the Clery Act.

Prevalence is estimated by counting the number of individuals who have been a victim at least once over the selected time period.

- **In both 2015 and 2017, female prevalence rates for nonconsensual sexual contact involving physical force or incapacitation are high. Female undergraduates have the highest rates compared to both TGQN and male undergraduates, and female and male graduate/professional students** (TGQN graduate professional figures are suppressed for confidentiality reasons). Between 2015 and 2017 prevalence rates among undergraduates, most notably females increased. **The largest increases in 2017 were found with sexual touching by physical force.**

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- In 2015, 28% of female undergraduates reported nonconsensual penetration or sexual touching involving physical force or incapacitation since entering college and in 2017, the rate was 34%.
 - Nonconsensual penetration or sexual touching involving physical force or incapacitation rates among TGQN undergraduates, since entering college, were comparable between 2015 and 2017 at 26%.
 - In 2015, 22% of female undergraduates reported nonconsensual sexual touching since entering college while in 2017, the rate increased to 27%.
- **Most assailants of male or female undergraduates are other Dartmouth students.**
- Depending on the incident, roughly 91-95% of assailants are another Dartmouth student (See Table 1).
 - For assaults of undergraduate women, the relationship to the assailant is frequently described as someone they met at a party (34%), a friend (27%) or classmate (24%). These categories are overlapping (non-exclusive) since a single assailant could be more than one of these designations (See Table 2).
- **Over three quarters of nonconsensual sexual contact is not reported to campus offices or other resources (see Table 4).**
- For female undergraduates, the most common resources accessed to report nonconsensual penetration were Dartmouth Counseling (15.7% of all incidents), the Title IX Coordinator (8.3%) and the Undergraduate Deans Office (7.7%; see Table 4).
 - For their most recent contact, the female undergraduates reported the services as “very” or “extremely” useful at the following rates: Dartmouth Counseling (40%); Title IX Coordinator (28%); and Undergraduate Deans Office (49%; see Table 5).
 - When asked how much their life has been affected because of, since, or related to the incident, 21% of female undergraduates reported (“quite a bit” + “extremely”) they lost interest in intimacy, relationships, or sex, 19% reported difficulty concentrating on studies, assignments or exams, 18% reported feeling numb or detached, and another 18% lost interest in daily activities, or experienced feelings of helplessness, or hopelessness (see Table 3).
 - Overall, the most commonly reported reason why students did not contact any resources was they didn't think it was serious enough or didn't want the person/people who did it to get into trouble (64%), and had other things I needed to focus on and was concerned about (classes, work) (39%; see Table 6). Please note, respondents were able to “mark all that apply” for this item; therefore, percentages will not total 100%.

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **Risk factors.** Multivariate logistic regression was used to estimate the odds of female undergraduates being sexually assaulted based on certain demographic variables for 2017³. Tables 7-9 detail results for completed penetration by physical force, incapacitated penetration, and sexual touching by physical force for female undergraduates.
 - In 2017, non-heterosexual students (excluding lesbians – see Table 7 footnote) and those with disabilities had roughly twice the risk for a completed penetration offense by physical force as compared to heterosexual students and students without a disability.
 - While still experiencing nonconsensual penetration offenses, Asian female students had an 86% lower risk for experiencing incapacitated penetration relative to white students. Differences for Black, Hispanic and Two or More Race students were not statistically significant.
 - First-year female students had twice the risk for experiencing forced touching as compared with seniors.

Table 1 Nonconsensual Sexual Contact: How was the person or were the persons who behaved this way affiliated with Dartmouth? (Mark all that apply).

	Female Undergraduates		Male Undergraduates	
	Penetration*	Sexual touching*	Penetration*	Sexual touching*
Student	92.5%	90.7%	92.1%	94.8%
Faculty or instructor				
Staff or administrator				2.6%
Alumnus/Alumna	1.4%	2.4%		
Other person affiliated with a Dartmouth program (e.g., internship, study abroad)	0.5%	1.0%	4.0%	
The person was not affiliated with Dartmouth	7.5%	6.4%	3.9%	5.2%
Don't know if they were affiliated with Dartmouth		2.2%	3.9%	

The categorizations are based on question GA3 from the survey. Penetration includes Penis, fingers or objects in your vagina or anus [GA3a] and Mouth or tongue makes contact with your genitals [GA3b]. Sexual Touching includes Kissed, touched your breast/chest, crotch/groin or buttocks [GA3c] and Grabbed, groped or rubbed in a sexual way [GA3d].

TGQN percentages are omitted for confidentiality reasons.

³ Female undergraduates were the focus of these additional analyses given their much higher prevalence rates. TGQN undergraduates were not also further analyzed, even though their prevalence rates are also high, because the number reporting such incidents was too small for the logistic modeling.

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Table 2 Nonconsensual Sexual Contact: At the time of this behavior, what was the person's or persons' relationship to you? (Mark all that apply).

	Female Undergraduates	All Respondents
At the time, it was someone I was involved or intimate with	15.8%	16.4%
An ex-partner or someone I had been involved or was intimate with	7.7%	7.5%
Friend	26.5%	25.8%
Classmate or other student	24.1%	24.8%
Someone I just met at a party, social event, or gathering	34.1%	31.7%
Professor or instructor		0.7%
Advisor or Principal Investigator		0.2%
Coach or Trainer		
Residence Hall staff (e.g., UGA, AD)		0.2%
Other staff or administrator		0.4%
Co-worker		0.2%
Employer or supervisor		0.5%
Stranger	16.1%	15.7%
Other	1.6%	2.9%

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Table 3 Nonconsensual Sexual Contact: Please indicate how much the following have affected your life because of, since, or related to the incident? (1=Did not experience, 5=Extremely)

	Female Undergraduates					
	Overall average	Did not experience	A little bit	Moderately	Quite a bit	Extremely
Difficulty concentrating on studies, assignments or exams	2.05	51.1%	20.0%	9.7%	10.9%	8.3%
Had to drop or NRO a class	1.27	90.1%	1.7%	2.4%	2.4%	3.4%
Grades dropped	1.63	71.9%	9.9%	6.5%	6.7%	5.0%
Changed residence, program of study, or D Plan	1.22	92.8%	1.1%	1.0%	1.4%	3.7%
Dropped out of an organization, group, or sports team	1.30	87.3%	4.4%	2.7%	2.8%	2.8%
Fearfulness or being concerned about safety	2.07	53.7%	15.3%	10.8%	11.3%	9.0%
Loss of interest in daily activities, or feelings of helplessness, or hopelessness	1.91	61.9%	13.8%	6.4%	7.4%	10.4%
Lost interest in intimacy, relationships, or sex	2.13	50.8%	17.7%	10.9%	8.5%	12.1%
Nightmares or trouble sleeping	1.80	68.0%	8.5%	7.2%	7.6%	8.7%
Feeling numb or detached	2.00	57.3%	14.9%	9.6%	6.7%	11.6%
Headaches or stomach aches	1.51	77.1%	8.7%	4.3%	5.5%	4.4%
Increased or decreased eating or other eating problems	1.72	70.0%	9.7%	6.2%	6.1%	8.0%
Started to smoke, drink alcohol, use/misuse drugs, engage in high-risk sexual activity, or other self-harm behaviors when you never have before	1.40	83.4%	5.0%	3.9%	3.3%	4.4%
Increased drug or alcohol use, high-risk sexual activity, or other self harm behaviors	1.46	80.2%	7.7%	2.5%	5.1%	4.4%
Attempted suicide	1.09	95.4%	2.3%	1.3%	0.3%	0.7%
Took a leave of absence	1.07	97.5%	0.5%	0.2%	0.9%	0.9%
Other, please specify	1.13	96.1%	0.5%	.	1.6%	1.9%

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Table 4 Nonconsensual Sexual Contact: Please indicate which resource(s) you contacted about this incident. Mark all that apply.

	Female Undergraduates		All Respondents	
	Penetration*	Sexual touching*	Penetration*	Sexual touching*
Dartmouth Counseling	15.7%	8.2%	14.5%	7.1%
Dartmouth Department of Safety and Security	1.0%	2.4%	1.3%	2.1%
Dartmouth Dick's House – Health Services	6.1%	2.4%	5.9%	1.7%
Graduate and Professional School Deans of Student Affairs			0.4%	
Local Police Department	1.0%	0.5%	1.3%	0.8%
Office of Judicial Affairs	2.7%	0.5%	2.2%	0.8%
Office of Pluralism and Leadership (OPAL)				
Residential Life Staff (e.g., Assistant Directors, UGAs)	3.1%	3.3%	2.5%	2.3%
Student Accessibility Services (SAS)	2.1%	0.5%	2.3%	0.3%
Title IX Coordinator	8.3%	2.4%	6.9%	2.9%
Tucker Center (Ordained Priests, Rabbis, Clergy)				
Undergraduate Deans	7.7%	2.3%	6.4%	2.0%
WISE Campus Advocate	4.1%	2.1%	3.3%	1.5%
WISE of the Upper Valley (or local rape crisis center)	2.0%	0.5%	1.9%	0.3%
None of the above	76.1%	86.9%	77.0%	87.2%

* The categorizations are based on question GA3 from the survey. Penetration includes Penis, fingers or objects in your vagina or anus [GA3a] and Mouth or tongue makes contact with your genitals [GA3b]. Sexual Touching includes Kissed, touched your breast/chest, crotch/groin or buttocks [GA3c] and Grabbed, groped or rubbed in a sexual way [GA3d].

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Table 5 Nonconsensual Sexual Contact: Thinking about the most recent time you contacted them, how useful was [Program] in helping you work through (this experience/these experiences)?

	Overall average	Female Undergraduates				
		Not at all	A little	Somewhat	Very	Extremely
Dartmouth Counseling	3.0	17.4%	19.4%	23.3%	23.6%	16.3%
Dartmouth Department of Safety and Security	2.8	27.7%		42.0%	30.3%	
Dartmouth Dick's House - Health Services	2.9	29.9%	7.0%	27.1%	17.8%	18.2%
Local Police Department	1.9	68.7%			31.3%	
Office of Judicial Affairs	3.1	20.0%	14.5%	34.6%		30.8%
Residential Life Staff (e.g., Assistant Directors, UGAs)	3.5	14.0%		21.4%	51.3%	13.3%
Student Accessibility Services (SAS)	2.9	23.0%	38.8%			38.2%
Title IX Coordinator	2.8	28.9%	12.9%	30.2%	9.5%	18.4%
Undergraduate Deans	3.5	4.7%	14.8%	31.3%	22.8%	26.5%
WISE Campus Advocate	3.6	17.2%	11.3%	15.0%	7.5%	49.1%
WISE of the Upper Valley (or local rape crisis center)	3.4		42.3%	18.5%		39.2%

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Table 6 Nonconsensual Sexual Contact: Were any of the following reasons why you did not contact any college resources about this experience/any of these experiences? (Mark all that apply).

	Female Undergraduates	All Respondents
Did not know where to go, who to tell, or how to report	14.5%	13.9%
Felt embarrassed, ashamed, just wanted to forget about it, or that it would be too emotionally difficult	30.8%	29.5%
Concerned it wouldn't be kept confidential or others would find out	12.0%	12.0%
Didn't think it was serious enough or didn't want the person/people who did it to get into trouble	66.6%	64.3%
Feared the person who did it or their friends would try to get back at me	9.4%	8.4%
Didn't think anyone would believe me or thought I would be blamed for what happened	15.3%	14.5%
My assailant is well-liked and respected	12.4%	10.2%
Feared negative social consequences (e.g., affect my friendships/social life, stigmatize my community)	17.2%	17.2%
Feared it would negatively impact my work relationships or be damaging to my career	3.9%	4.6%
Feared others would find out about my sexual orientation or gender identity	0.7%	1.1%
Had other things I needed to focus on and was concerned about (classes, work)	40.8%	38.6%
Didn't think Dartmouth would do anything about my report	16.5%	15.3%
Feared I or another would be punished for infractions or violations (such as underage drinking, drug	8.4%	6.7%
Worried that if I told someone, the Dartmouth administration would take action without my permission	7.7%	8.7%
Other (please specify)	12.2%	15.3%

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Table 7: 2017 Estimated Odds Ratios for Completed Penetration by Physical Force for Female Undergraduates

	Odds ratio	95% C.I. for Odds ratio		Wald χ^2	Sig.
		Lower	Upper		
Hispanic	0.808	0.225	2.906	0.1065	0.7442
Black	1.467	0.47	4.578	0.4356	0.5092
Asian	0.143	0.019	1.095	3.5077	0.0611
Other, two or more races Compared to Whites	0.49	0.063	3.801	0.4658	0.4949
Other sexual orientation⁴ Compared to Heterosexual/ Straight	2.562	1.041	6.303	4.1948	0.0405
Students with disabilities	2.643	1.133	6.167	5.0535	0.0246
Participated in recreational organization Compared to Non-recreational organization students	0.99	0.413	2.371	0.0005	0.9813
Participated in varsity athletics Compared to Non-varsity athletes	0.953	0.366	2.484	0.0097	0.9214
Lived in residence hall Compared to Off-campus students	3.507	0.964	12.767	3.6244	0.0569
Lived in Greek Housing Compared to Off-campus and College Apartment students	2.48	0.479	12.843	1.1713	0.2791
First-years	0.928	0.24	3.597	0.0116	0.9144
Sophomores	1.022	0.278	3.759	0.0011	0.9737
Juniors Compared to Seniors	1.441	0.429	4.842	0.3489	0.5548

N=1,162; -2LL=241.409; Model $\chi^2 = 21.5$; Model sig.; 0.0639; d.f.= 13

Bolded odds ratios are significant at the .05 level

⁴ There were no reported cases of completed penetration by physical force for Lesbians; therefore this group was omitted from the model.

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Table 8: 2017 Estimated Odds Ratios for Incapacitated Penetration for Female Undergraduates

	Odds ratio	95% C.I. for Odds ratio		Wald χ^2	Sig.
		Lower	Upper		
Hispanic	0.556	0.162	1.904	0.8743	0.3498
Black	0.941	0.314	2.822	0.0116	0.9143
Asian	0.143	0.033	0.612	6.8805	0.0087
Other, two or more races Compared to Whites	1.548	0.512	4.677	0.5994	0.4388
Other sexual orientation ⁵ Compared to Heterosexual/ Straight	1.842	0.832	4.08	2.2671	0.1321
Students with disabilities	1.353	0.635	2.882	0.6145	0.4331
Participated in recreational organization Compared to Non-recreational organization students	0.923	0.448	1.903	0.0469	0.8286
Participated in varsity athletics Compared to Non-varsity athletes	0.665	0.282	1.57	0.8661	0.3521
Lived in residence hall Compared to Off-campus students	2.05	0.791	5.312	2.1835	0.1395
Lived in Greek Housing Compared to Off-campus and College Apartment students	1.449	0.346	6.061	0.2579	0.6116
First-years	1.77	0.584	5.362	1.0202	0.3125
Sophomores	1.605	0.541	4.756	0.7275	0.3937
Juniors Compared to Seniors	1.016	0.321	3.216	0.0007	0.9785

N=1,162; -2LL=327.886; Model $\chi^2 = 18.2404$; Model sig.; 0.1486; d.f.= 13

Bolded odds ratios are significant at the .05 level

⁵ There were no reported cases of incapacitated penetration by physical force for Lesbians; therefore this group was omitted from the model.

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Table 9: 2017 Estimated Odds Ratios for Sexual Touching by Physical Force for Female Undergraduates

	Odds ratio	95% C.I. for Odds ratio		Wald χ^2	Sig.
		Lower	Upper		
Hispanic	0.843	0.426	1.668	0.2405	0.6239
Black	1.525	0.825	2.818	1.812	0.1783
Asian	0.888	0.553	1.427	0.24	0.6242
Other, two or more races Compared to Whites	1.322	0.648	2.696	0.5875	0.4434
Lesbian	1.148	0.241	5.467	0.0302	0.862
Other sexual orientation Compared to Heterosexual/ Straight	1.038	0.615	1.75	0.0192	0.8898
Students with disabilities	1.394	0.879	2.209	1.9932	0.158
Participated in recreational organization Compared to Non-recreational organization students	1.103	0.725	1.679	0.2112	0.6458
Participated in varsity athletics Compared to Non-varsity athletes	1.17	0.74	1.85	0.451	0.5018
Lived in residence hall Compared to Off-campus students	0.888	0.556	1.419	0.246	0.6199
Lived in Greek Housing Compared to Off-campus and College Apartment students	1.642	0.839	3.21	2.0986	0.1474
First-years	2.359	1.315	4.233	8.2763	0.004
Sophomores	1.167	0.638	2.135	0.2524	0.6154
Juniors Compared to Seniors	0.831	0.449	1.537	0.3484	0.555

N=1,162; -2LL=776.369; Model $\chi^2 = 22.2283$; Model sig.; 0.074; d.f.= 14

Bolded odds ratios are significant at the .05 level

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Harassment⁶

Overall, 58% of students reported experiencing some form of harassment and was highest among TGQN and female undergraduates (89% and 78%), followed by male undergraduates (55%), female graduate/professional students (49%), and male graduate/professional students (29%) (see Table 10). The most common types of harassment reported were making inappropriate comments regarding body appearance, or sexual activity (50%) and making sexual remarks, or insulting/offensive jokes or stories (40%).

Table 10: Percent of Students Experiencing Harassment in 2017

Total	Female		Male		TGQN	
	Undergraduate (N=1,162)	Graduate or Professional (N=588)	Undergraduate (N=858)	Graduate or Professional (N=514)	Undergraduate (N=19)	Graduate or Professional (N=6)
57.5%	77.9%	48.8%	55.2%	29.0%	89.3%	s

Estimates are for victimizations reported since entering college. An 's' indicates percentages were suppressed for confidentiality reasons.

Many students responded having experienced harassment multiple times since they have been students at Dartmouth and that the harassing behavior was conducted by multiple people: 1) among female and TGQN undergraduates - three to five times (40%) and by 3 or more persons (50%-62%); and 2) among female graduate/professional students, between 2 and five times (52%) and by 2 or more persons (58%).

With regards to how the persons who behaved this way were associated with Dartmouth, for undergraduates, over 90% of the persons were students and for graduate/professional students the majority were also students but others were faculty or an instructor (female=24%; male=19%; TGQN=38%). Over three quarters of respondents didn't contact anyone at Dartmouth about the experiences, most often because they didn't think it was serious enough or didn't want the person/people to get into trouble. Although the majority of all respondents didn't officially report the incidents, large percentages did tell a friend while approximately 50% of male undergraduate and graduate/professional students didn't tell anyone.

Between 2015 and 2017, the percentage of graduate/professional students reporting harassment decreased while increases were seen among undergraduates.

Stalking⁷

Higher percentages of stalking behaviors were reported by TGQN undergraduates (9%-20%), double the rates of female undergraduates (3%-8%) who reported the next highest percentages among all groups. In

⁶ See [Definitions documentation](#).

⁷ Ibid.

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2015, females were victims of stalking at higher rates (1%-3%) than male students (.2%-.3%) while TGQN rates were too small to share and suppressed for confidentiality reasons (see AAU Dartmouth Report, Table 5.3a). Note that the significant prevalence rate increase for stalking was due to the definition change (see [Definitions documentation](#) for detail).

The stalking behaviors occurred most often in the current year with a small percentage occurring before the respondents were students at Dartmouth, similar to the 2015 results. As with harassment, the behaviors occurred multiple times, by multiple people, the person(s) was most often a student, and most incident(s) went officially unreported to College or local authorities. Unlike the harassment findings, the reasoning was more varied even though the same reason was reported by the majority of TGQN and female undergraduates (didn't think it was serious enough). Additional reasons included – had other things I needed to focus on and was concerned about (classes, work), didn't think Dartmouth would do anything about my report, felt embarrassed/ashamed/just wanted to forget about it or that it would be too emotionally difficult, feared negative social consequence, and didn't think anyone would believe me or thought I would be blamed for what happened. For TGQN undergraduates, while nearly half did tell a friend, a large percentage also told a spouse or romantic partner (40%). Among female undergraduates, 80% told a friend and nearly a third (31%) told a roommate.

Dating and Domestic Partner Violence⁸

Among both undergraduates and graduate/professional respondents, the majority had been on a date and/or hooked up with someone since they came to Dartmouth. As with stalking, TGQN (6%-30%) and female (5%-9%) undergraduates reported the highest percentages of dating and domestic partner violence which occurred most often in the current year. In 2015, intimate partner violence was reported most frequently by female undergraduates followed by male undergraduates also during the current year (see AAU Dartmouth Report, Table 5.2a). Rates held steady or increased slightly (1-2%) across genders and levels between 2015 and 2017 for the three types of violence surveyed.

For undergraduates, this behavior occurred multiple times but most often only by one person (student) with whom the victim had been involved or intimate with. TGQN and female undergraduates did report physical injuries (15% - 49%) and the need to seek medical attention (16%) for the violence. Similar patterns of the behavior occurring multiple times by one person were also reported in 2015.

While for female and TGQN undergraduates most incidents (51%-71%) went officially unreported to College or local authorities, students did access Dartmouth Counseling (18%-21%), Residential Life Staff (4%-21%), and Undergraduate Deans (4%-21%). Reasons cited for not reporting included: didn't think it was serious enough, didn't think Dartmouth would do anything about my report, felt embarrassed, ashamed and just wanted to forget about it, and had other things I needed to focus on and was concerned about (classes, work).

⁸ See [Definitions documentation](#).

2017 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SURVEY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BYSTANDER BEHAVIOR & YOUR BEHAVIOR

Respondents, most often TGQN and female respondents, perceive sexual assault or misconduct as a problem at Dartmouth which matches the 2015 pattern. While only 10% of respondents think doing something about sexual violence is solely the job of the staff and administration of the campus, between 6% and 48% across genders and levels have been or were currently involved in efforts to end sexual assault and sexual misconduct at Dartmouth and between 8% and 38% recently attended a program about sexual assault and misconduct.

More undergraduates reported suspecting a student has experienced sexual assault or misconduct while at Dartmouth (41% - 62%), seen a situation where a person was heading off for a sexual encounter and was concerned because they were under the influence of alcohol or other drugs (35%- 46%), and seen or heard someone acting in a sexually violent or harassing way (25% - 32%) compared to graduate/professional students. Nearly two-thirds to three-quarters of all undergraduates “did something” in all those situations, most often where a person was heading off for a sexual encounter and may have been under the influence. This “did something” behavior is a marked improvement from 2015 where lower percentages reported taking some type of action in these types of situations.

Among undergraduates, between half and two-thirds have been told by another student, most often a woman, they were a victim of an unwanted sexual experience with TGQN and female undergraduates reporting the highest percentages. Across all respondents, approximately a third to over half know someone who has been forced or coerced by another person to do something sexually they did not want to do.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, over 90% of respondents indicated they never verbally pressured someone, got someone clearly intoxicated, or physically forced anyone into having sexual contact with them when they knew the other person did not want to do so.

Conclusions

These 2017 results confirm widely known patterns of sexual violence from other studies, including our own 2015 findings. Most importantly, the rates of sexual assault and misconduct continue to be unacceptable and gravely impact the overall wellbeing of those who are harmed. Dartmouth must use this information to reexamine and continue its efforts in prevention, response, and accountability, especially among undergraduates.

These results illustrate the continued need for increased prevention and education including dissemination of information among undergraduates. It is important to address the reported lack of knowledge of resources and services, confidence in those resources, along with orientation sessions on sexual assault or misconduct which are not rated as particularly useful and need to be addressed.

Review of efforts and education among graduate/professional students might prove helpful given the improvements between 2015 and 2017 in knowledge, perceptions, and certain victimization rates but more work needs to be done.

Dartmouth continues its commitment to addressing sexual violence and will use these findings along with the 2015 AAU to inform the [College's Action Plan](#) to combat sexual assault and misconduct at Dartmouth.