

SUNY Ulster
Sexual Violence Prevalence (SVP) Campus
Climate Survey Summary -
Spring 2025

Executive Summary

During the spring of 2025, SUNY Ulster administered the Sexual Violence Prevalence (SVP) Campus Climate Survey online. This survey was administered to students and employees and addressed student and employee knowledge about:

- campus policies and procedures addressing sexual assault;
- how and where to report sexual violence as a victim/survivor or witness;
- the Title IX Coordinator's role;
- the availability of resources on and off campus, such as counseling, health, academic assistance;
- the general awareness of the definition of affirmative consent; and
- the general awareness of the difference, if any, between their institution's policies and the penal law.

Further, the survey asks respondents about their experiences with:

- the prevalence of victimization and perpetration of sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking on and off campus during a set time period;
- bystander attitudes and behavior; and
- whether reporting individuals disclosed to the college/university and/or police, and reasons why they did or did not report.

In reviewing the results, it appears that students are somewhat aware of how to report sexual assault to the College, however, a majority of students do not know how to contact the Title IX Coordinator. Based on these results, more outreach is needed to ensure that the student population is aware of how to contact the Title IX Coordinator and the process to report Title IX offenses. The survey results indicate that virtually all employees are aware of how to report sexual harassment or sexual assault to the College.

- 42.6% of Ulster students do not know how to contact the Title IX Coordinator to report sexual discrimination, sexual assault and sexual misconduct. Although 61.1% of students are aware the Title IX Coordinator receives reports of those allegations, and 51% are aware the Title IX Coordinator receives reports regarding sex discrimination, sexual assault, and sexual misconduct.
- 63.2% of students are aware SUNY Ulster has policies and procedures specifically addresses sexual assault.
- 54.1% of students and 88.2% of employees know the difference between the college disciplinary process and the criminal justice system.
- 83.5% of employees know the difference between confidentiality and privacy when it comes to who is responsible for reporting Title IX offenses and who may keep that information confidential.
- 87.4% of employees know how to advise a student and where to get help if a student were sexually assaulted

Survey results are being reviewed by the Title IX Office to inform additional training sessions and develop a Title IX Fact Sheet for distribution to students.

If you have any questions about the survey or the results included in this report, please contact the Title IX Coordinator, Megan Carlson at titleix@sunyulster.edu.

Background

In accordance with SUNY Board of Trustees policy and NYS Education Law 129-B, the SVP survey is administered every other year by all SUNY campuses, who work closely with SUNY System Administration to coordinate the survey administration itself. An effort is made to keep the questions from one administration to the next as consistent as possible to allow for reliable and meaningful longitudinal data. The survey and protocol undergo system-wide review by an Institutional Review Board (IRB).

The SUNY Ulster administration of the student and employee surveys ran from March 24 to April 3, 2025. Individuals under 18 years of age, all incarcerated individuals regardless of age, and all students concurrently enrolled in high school regardless of age were excluded from the survey population.

- The Deputy Title IX Coordinator informed all employees and students about the upcoming survey and advised them to look for a survey link from SUNY.
- All eligible survey participants received an invitation from SUNY to take the survey.
- SUNY Ulster did not offer any incentives to take the survey.

Results

- The survey was completed by 68 students and 89 employees, for response rates of 5.5% and 30.3%, respectively.
- 41.9% of students indicated that they knew how to report a sexual assault to the College, and 23.5% indicated they knew how to contact the Title IX Coordinator.
- 16.7% of students reported that they were subject to sexual harassment in the prior year. This included experiencing unwanted sexual comments, slurs, or demeaning jokes (six students, or 14%), unwanted sexually suggestive digital communications (four students, or 8.9%), and/or someone viewing or recording one's sexual activity or nakedness without consent (Three students, or 6.8%).
- Two students reported that they were subject to attempted or completed sexual assault in the prior year.
- 18.8% of employees do not know how to contact the Title IX Coordinator or are unsure, though 98.7% are aware of the role of the Coordinator on campus.
- 59% of students reported they have not received written and/or verbal information about the definition or reporting of sexual assault, where to go for help if they or someone they know is sexually assaulted, to whom they can speak confidentially about a sexual assault, and/or policies prohibiting sexual assault. 85.9% of employees reported they have received such information.
- 53.2% of students indicated they do not know how to report sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic/dating violence, and/or stalking to the College.

- 95.3% of employees indicated they know how to report one or more of those types of incidents.
- 66.7% of students know the definition of Affirmative Consent, and 86.7% know that someone who is incapacitated is unable to provide consent. 85.9% of employees report knowing the definition of Affirmative Consent, and 92.9% know that someone who is incapacitated is unable to provide consent.
- Employees were asked how they thought the College would handle a complaint of sexual violence made by them on behalf of a student. Most Ulster employees reported they agreed or strongly agreed that the College would take their report seriously (96.2%), would provide the student with necessary support (88.5%), and would conduct a fair investigation (87.3%).

Discussion and Next Steps

Response rates were very low so results should be interpreted with caution as they may not represent the broader population. Compared to the 2023 survey administration, there was a lower response rate for students (5.5% vs 10.1%) and employees (30.3% vs 50.3%). This indicates that the College must do additional outreach to encourage both student and employee participation.

The survey data indicates a lower percentage of students were subject to sexual harassment in the prior year, when compared to previous survey results (16.7% vs 37.1%). In addition, the percentage of students who reported that they were subjected to an attempted or completed sexual assault decreased as well (4.1% vs 19.1%).

The College will use the data collected through the survey to develop targeted training materials aimed at addressing identified gaps in student/employees understanding of Title IX, partner with community stakeholders to offer sexual assault prevention programs, and develop additional campus support services for victims of sexual assault.

Enhanced training materials will focus on the following main areas of concern:

- Contacting the Title IX Coordinator;
- Definitions of, and the process for, reporting sexual misconduct; and,
- Supportive measures available on and off campus

The College will use existing resources, supplemented with community partnerships to raise awareness about sexual harassment and assault on the Stone Ridge and Kingston Center campuses. In addition, the Title IX Coordinator and the Deputy Title IX Coordinators will implement training and resources through Brightspace regarding sexual harassment, sexual assault, and the role of the Title IX Coordinator.