

# Sexual Violence Prevalence (SVP) Campus Climate Survey Report

Onondaga Community College

## Executive Summary

On April 3, 2023, our campus began an online administration of the Sexual Violence Prevalence (SVP) Campus Climate Survey. This survey was administered to students and employees and is required to address, at minimum, student and employee knowledge about:

- The Title IX Coordinator's role;
- Campus policies and procedures addressing sexual assault;
- How and where to report sexual violence as a victim/survivor or witness;
- The availability of resources on and off campus, such as counseling, health, academic assistance;
- The prevalence of victimization and perpetration of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking on and off campus during a set time period (for example, the last two years);
- Bystander attitudes and behavior;
- Whether victims/survivors reported to the College/University and/or police, and reasons why they did or did not report.
- The general awareness of the difference, if any, between the institution's policies and the penal law; and
- The general awareness of the definition of affirmative consent.

In reviewing the results, we highlight that the survey indicated students are generally aware of the relevant campus support services available to them. Sixty-seven percent of students had knowledge of the Counseling Center and 59% had knowledge of Campus Safety. However, only 20% knew of our local advocacy/crisis center.

Students also generally knew where a victim/survivor can formally disclose a sexual assault on campus, with 66% identifying the Title IX Coordinator, 79% Campus Safety, and 71% the Counseling Center.

Similarly, the survey indicated that employees are generally aware of the policies and laws and of the available resources. Of the 180 employees who responded, 91.8% knew of the Title IX Coordinator role on campus.

The Onondaga Community College Title IX Team continues to review the survey results and will make adjustments to our training for students and staff for the betterment of the campus community.

If you have any questions about the survey or the results included in this report, please contact:

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## Background

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. System-wide Institutional Review Board (IRB) review takes place for each survey administration.

Our campus administered the student survey between April 3, 2023 and April 24, 2023 and the employee survey also between April 3, 2023 and April 24, 2023. Excluded in the survey populations were individuals under 18 years of age, all incarcerated individuals regardless of age, and all students concurrently enrolled in high school regardless of age. A survey instrument and reminder email was sent to all eligible students, faculty, and staff. The College did not offer incentives for survey completion.

Breakdowns with fewer than six respondents are not shown throughout the report.

## Results

### Survey Response Rate

Onondaga Community College (OCC) sent 899 surveys to eligible faculty and staff. From this number, we received 180 responses for an employee response rate of 20%. 41.7% of respondents were faculty and 58.3% were staff or administrators.

OCC sent 2,985 surveys to eligible students. From this number, we received 211 responses for a student response rate of 7.1%.

### Awareness of Policies & Reporting Options

The results of the survey show additional communication and awareness for students is needed regarding the role of the Title IX Coordinator on-campus. Only 22.4% of students stated they knew how to contact the Title IX Coordinator, compared to 83.8% of faculty and staff who said they were aware.

Students generally knew where a victim/survivor can formally disclose a sexual assault on campus:

- 66% identifying the Title IX Coordinator
- 79% identifying Campus Safety
- 71% identifying the Counseling Center.

Faculty and staff knew at a higher rate where a victim/survivor can formally disclose a sexual assault on campus:

- 93.3% identified the Title IX Coordinator
- 98.2% identified Campus Safety
- 87% identified the Counseling Center

62.4% of students and 97.8% of faculty and staff are aware that the College has policies and procedures specifically addressing sexual violence.

52% of students reported they have not received written and/or verbal communication from OCC regarding definition of sexual assault, how to report sexual assault, where to get help, or the campus policies. Only 6.4% of faculty and staff reported not receiving similar information.

## Student Experiences

### Unwelcome Sexual Conduct

Students were asked about their experiences with unwelcome sexual conduct over the past year:

- 23% reported experiencing unwanted sexual comments, sexual slurs, or demeaning jokes;
- 14.3% reported receiving unwanted suggested digital communications, including emails, texts, social media communications, or written communications;
- 6.8% reported that someone fondled, kissed, or rubbed up against their private areas without consent;
- 3.7% stated that someone removed their clothing without consent;
- 3.7 stated that someone sexually penetrated them without consent.

Respondents were asked about who perpetrated the most recent incident. 30.2% reported that the perpetrator was affiliated with the OCC community, and 58.1% stated that the perpetrator was unaffiliated with OCC. They described the relationship with the perpetrator as follows:

- Non-romantic friend: 23.7%
- Stranger: 21.1%
- An acquaintance: 15.8%

Students were asked whether they told anyone about the most recent incident of sexual harassment or sexual assault. 29.7% stated “Yes” and 70.3% stated “No.” 81.8% stated that they did not file a formal complaint with the College.

When asked whom students told about the incident, 60% reported telling a friend.

Students who decided not to report or share their experience were asked the reasons why. They reported the following:

- I did not think it was important enough: 68.2%
- I just did not want to deal with it: 40.9%

### Relationship Violence

Students were asked about their experience with intimate partner violence over the past year.

- 11.5% reported that an intimate partner controlled or tried to control them.
- 7% stated that an intimate partner tried to hurt them, their family, or friends, or themselves to influence them.
- 7% stated that an intimate partner scratched, slapped, hit, kicked, beat, punched, or physically harmed them.

Students were asked whether they told anyone about the most recent incident of intimate partner violence. 46.7% percent stated yes and 53.3% stated no. 100% of students reported not filing a formal complaint with the College.

Student respondents were asked who they told and why they did not choose to report. There were too few responses to present results to these questions.

### Stalking

Students were asked whether, in the past year, anyone repeatedly followed them, watched them, or texted, called, wrote, emailed, or communicated with them in ways that seemed obsessive and made them afraid or concerned for their safety. 12.9% of respondents reported experiencing this conduct. 81.3% of people who experienced this reported telling someone about the incident. Of those 84.6% said they told a friend.

Student respondents who did not report or share their experience were also asked to share the reasons why they declined to report, however there were too few responses to present results to this question.

### Impact on Student Plans

Students who experienced sexual violence indicated that it impacted their plans as follows:

- 13.2% of students who experienced sexual violence changed their academic schedule or housing.

### Student Disclosures to Faculty and Staff

12.3% of faculty and staff respondents indicated during the past year, a student disclosed to them that they were a victim of an unwanted sexual experience, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking. Of those, 68.4% stated they reported the incident to the Title IX Coordinator or Campus Safety.

### Faculty and Staff Reports of Unwelcome Experiences

Faculty and staff were asked about their own experiences with unwelcome sexual comments, slurs, and demeaning jokes, as well as unwelcome digital communications:

- 5.7% of faculty and staff respondents reported experiencing unwanted sexual comments, sexual slurs, or demeaning jokes. 93% stated that they did not experience this, and 1.3% preferred not to respond;
- 95.5% of faculty and staff respondents reported that they did not receive unwanted sexually suggestive digital communications, either in words, images or both; these include emails, texts, social media communications, or in letters or other written communications. 4.5% preferred not to respond.

### Readiness to Help

Most faculty, staff, and students have confidence in Onondaga Community College's investigatory process and ability to provide supportive measures:

- 72.6% of students and 95% of faculty/staff agree or strongly agree that OCC would take a report of sexual violence seriously;
- 64.5% of students and 87.3% of faculty/staff agree or strongly agree that OCC would conduct a fair investigation;
- 66.5% of students and 89.8% agree or strongly agree that OCC would provide the student with necessary support during the process;

- 89.8% of faculty/staff agree or strongly agree that they know where to advise a student who experiences sexual violence to get help on campus.

Similarly, most students, faculty, and staff expressed confidence in the willingness of other students, faculty, and staff to assist them in the event of an incident:

- 55.2% of students agree or strongly agree that a fellow student would call for help if they heard someone yelling for help;
- 89.7% of faculty/staff agree or strongly agree that a fellow faculty or staff member would call for help if they heard someone yelling for help;
- 68.8% of faculty and staff said they were likely or very likely to talk to a student who they suspect was in an abusive relationship;
- 63.9% of students agree or strongly agree that a fellow student would get help and resources for a friend who tells them that they were assaulted;
- 45.1% of students and 81.9% of faculty/staff said they were likely or very likely to tell a campus authority about information they have that might help in a sexual assault case, even if pressured by their friends to stay silent.

## Next Steps

The SUNY Sexual Violence Prevalence Campus Climate Survey revealed that while most faculty and staff are aware of campus policies, resources, and reporting options, additional strides can be made in increasing the student awareness of sexual misconduct policies, resources, and reporting.

The College has already taken steps to improve awareness of campus policies, resources, and reporting options, through the creation of an online training module and hosting in-person training during new student orientation.