

RELAY / GSE

CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY RESULTS SPRING 2017

INTRODUCTION

In Spring 2017, Graduate students enrolled at Relay's New York City campus were invited to respond to the Relay Student Campus Climate Survey. The survey was designed to determine the prevalence of sexual and gender-based misconduct other related crimes among Relay's graduate student population. In addition, the survey was developed to assist Relay in ascertaining graduate students' experiences with and their knowledge of Relay's resources and reporting processes for these crimes.

Results from the survey are used to inform campus education and response. Sharing the results of this survey with the campus community is intended to raise awareness about graduate student experiences, campus resources, and to expand engagement opportunities related to these important issues.

THE CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY

The campus climate survey is a tool used to identify graduate student perceptions of campus experiences, resources, and support. The purpose of gathering and sharing this information is to better understand Relay's graduate students' perceptions and experiences and to gather a sense of campus climate, particularly related to sexual and gender-based misconduct. The results of this survey are used to further campus education, prevention, and support efforts.

Relay's campus climate survey was adapted from the U.S. Department of Justice's [Draft Instrument for Measuring Campus Climate Related to Sexual Assault](#). Faculty and campus administration had input in developing the final survey administered to Relay graduate students.

Topics covered in the survey included demographic characteristics, sexual harassment victimization and coerced sexual contact, sexual assault victimization, intimate partner violence victimization, and campus climate regarding sexual and gender-based misconduct. The survey asked graduate students to anonymously answer a series of multiple choice questions about their experience “since the beginning of the current academic year in 2016,” thus the results discussed in this document reflect graduate student experiences during the 2016-2017 academic year, though they could also include experiences from Summer 2016.

CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY ADMINISTRATION

The campus climate survey was available online to graduate students from June 9, 2017 to June 19, 2017. The survey population consisted of all graduate students enrolled in the New York City campus as of June 1, 2017. The final survey population included a total of 966 graduate students.

Graduate students received an invitation from the New York Dean’s Office to complete the survey on June 9, 2017. The email stated that the survey was not required but was highly encouraged. The email also notified graduate students that the results of the survey would remain anonymous and confidential and included a warning for graduate students who may have past experience with sexual harassment, sexual violence, or related crimes. Graduate students were able to stop the survey at any time and return to it if desired. Reminders to complete the survey were sent to graduate students from the New York Dean’s Office on June 14, 2017.

The response rate for this survey was 17.9% (173 out of 966 graduate students).

SURVEY RESULTS

Notable results from Relay’s campus climate survey include:

TOPIC		RESULTS
Sexual Harassment Victimization and Coerced Sexual Contact		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15% of women surveyed and 4% of men surveyed reported being the victims of sexual harassment since the beginning of the academic year in 2016
	Sexual Assault Victimization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3% of women responding and 0% of men responding reported being the victims of coerced sexual contact since enrolled at Relay
	Intimate Partner Violence Victimization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1% of women responding and 0% of men responding reported being the victims of intimate partner violence since the beginning of academic year in 2016
Campus Climate Regarding Sexual and Gender-Based Misconduct	Inclusive Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 87% of respondents feel valued at Relay 97% of respondents feel safe when they are at Relay class sessions
	Institutional Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 92% of respondents believe there is a clear sense of appropriate and inappropriate behavior among graduate students at Relay 95% of respondents believe that graduate students at Relay respect one another
	Attitudes of Faculty and Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 81% of respondents believe campus security authorities are genuinely concerned about their well-being 99% of respondents believe faculty members are doing all they can to protect graduate students from harm
	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of respondents believe sexual harassment is not tolerated at Relay 62% of respondents believe Relay is doing a good job of educating graduate students about sexual assault
	Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19% of respondents know how to contact Relay’s Title IX Coordinator
	Advocacy and Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 92% of respondents believe Relay would treat them with dignity and respect if they were sexually assaulted 58% of respondents would report their own sexual assault to administrators, faculty, or other officials or staff at Relay

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

Relay is a non-residential, part-time graduate program. Therefore, national statistics related to the prevalence of experiences with sexual and gender-based misconduct among college students are not completely representative of Relay graduate students. Nonetheless, Relay graduate students reported significantly fewer experiences with sexual and gender-based misconduct than [national averages](#) for college-aged students. However, while the reported rates of these experiences are low, graduate students within the Relay community are experiencing sexual harassment and sexual assault. It is important to note that these incidents are likely not occurring on Relay campus, as Relay has 0 reported incidents of sexual and gender-based misconduct in the 2016 academic year.

Graduate students feel that Relay has an inclusive culture. They feel supported by Relay faculty and staff, believe that Relay has their best interest at heart, and believe that there are high standards for conduct at Relay. Campus security authorities should work to improve their relationships with graduate students.

Relay needs to improve its efforts to educate graduate students about sexual and gender-based misconduct, resources, and reporting processes available to graduate students.

NEXT STEPS

Relay will continue to monitor its campus climate regarding sexual and gender-based misconduct and will alter its approach and initiatives in response to data collected. There will be a spring 2018 campus climate survey available for graduate student response, anticipated to be available in June 2018. All Relay graduate students are also encouraged to provide feedback to continue to inform education, prevention, and response efforts. Feedback can be shared directly with Relay's Title IX Coordinator, Kelly Morris, at kmorris@relay.edu. Relay's Title IX Coordinators can also support graduate students seeking support or resources related to sexual violence or intimate partner violence. Off-campus and confidential support and resources can also be found in the Student Handbook.

Questions about this summary, the climate survey, or campus resources related to sexual and gender-based misconduct should be directed to Relay's Title IX Coordinator.