



Campus Perceptions of Unwanted Sexual Experiences Survey

2016

Presented by

OFFICE OF TITLE IX
C.A.P.E.
INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH & ANALYSIS

Survey Results

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Survey Results

The University of Denver is committed to improving its services and operations through evidence-based decision making. This report summarizes the results of the 2016 Campus Perceptions of Unwanted Sexual Experiences Survey, which the University will use to understand students' perceptions of sexual harassment and rape culture, and how students react to situations where people are being harassed or harmed.

History and Methodology

In fall 2014, a team at the University came together and developed a plan for measuring student perceptions of rape culture and unwanted sexual experiences at DU. Institutional Research & Analysis (IRA) collaborated with the Title IX Office and the Center for Advocacy, Prevention, and Empowerment (within the Health & Counseling Center) for the original study. The University administered this survey to all students in May of 2015.

A follow up survey that focused on what students actually experience on campus, and perceive to be true about their community and their peer groups was administered to students in April of 2016. This report summarizes the results of that 2016 study.

Communication of results

The Office of Title IX and the University Health & Counseling Center are working with Marketing & Communications and Senior Leadership to plan for meaningful application of the survey results, communication of the results to the University of Denver community, and to identify future data collection needs. Institutional Research & Analysis will assist where needed.

Demographics

It should be noted that 894 students started the survey with 748 completing it for an 83.6% completion rate, which was a substantially higher completion rate than the 2015 survey. Of those students who completed the survey, the large majority identified as female (with 76% female identified, 22% male identified, 2% non-binary gender). For the undergraduate participants, 18% identified as a member of a Greek organization, 3% identified as athletes, and 4% identified as international students (demographic results are available beginning on page 31).

Survey Results

Perceptions of University of Denver

The majority of our students (64.31%) perceive that sexual harassment and sexual violence are a problem at DU, as they are at all higher education institutions. Recognizing the problem is the first step towards engaging a community around prevention.

All Students:

Question	Strongly Agree		Agree		Neither Agree nor Disagree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
Sexual harassment is a problem at DU.	17.73%	158	46.58%	415	22.78%	203	9.65%	86	3.25%	29	891
Sexual violence is a problem at DU.	18.58%	165	41.55%	369	26.69%	237	9.57%	85	3.60%	32	888

Graduate Students:

Question	Strongly Agree		Agree		Neither Agree nor Disagree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
Sexual harassment is a problem at DU.	12.01%	49	41.18%	168	31.62%	129	11.03%	45	4.17%	17	408
Sexual violence is a problem at DU.	14.25%	58	39.07%	159	31.94%	130	10.57%	43	4.18%	17	407

Undergraduate Students:

Question	Strongly Agree		Agree		Neither Agree nor Disagree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
Sexual harassment is a problem at DU.	22.45%	108	51.14%	246	15.38%	74	8.52%	41	2.49%	12	481
Sexual violence is a problem at DU.	21.92%	105	43.84%	210	22.34%	107	8.77%	42	3.13%	15	479

Survey Results

Experience of Unwanted Sexual Harassment Behaviors

As expected in a university environment, many of our students have experienced some form of unwanted sexual harassment since coming to DU, with:

- 59% of students reporting that someone has made unwanted commentary about their body;
- 48% reporting that someone has targeted me or exposed me to environments where there was offensive joking about my gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation;
- 44% reporting that someone has made me the target of rumors and/or gossip;
- 56% reporting that someone has nonverbally harassed me (i.e. stared at me, gestured to/at me, followed me, shunned me);
- 21% reporting that someone has sexually harassed me online (email, social media, blog postings).

Overall, our undergraduate students report experiencing more unwanted sexual harassment than our graduate students.

Student participants report the responsible party for the unwanted sexual harassment included the following:

- The large majority of undergraduate students reported that those responsible for sexual harassing behaviors were other undergraduate students (348 or 70%).
- For graduate students, the responsible parties were often identified as other graduate or undergraduate students (81 or 26% undergraduate students, 98 or 32% graduate students).
- Fifty-five student participants (7%) reported that the party responsible for unwanted sexual harassment was a faculty or staff member.
- One hundred eighty-nine students (24%) reported that the unwanted sexual harassment was by someone who was not a member of our community.

All Students:

Question	Very Often		Often		Occasionally		Rarely		Never		Total
Someone has made unwanted commentary about my body.	2.36%	21	8.54%	76	24.16%	215	23.71%	211	41.24%	367	890
Someone has targeted me or exposed me to environments where there was of...	2.81%	25	7.30%	65	16.97%	151	21.12%	188	51.80%	461	890
Someone has made me the	1.91%	17	5.51%	49	12.13%	108	24.72%	220	55.73%	496	890

Survey Results

target of rumors and/or gossip.												
Someone has nonverbally harassed me (i.e., stared at me, gestured to/at me,...	3.49%	31	11.26%	100	20.95%	186	19.82%	176	44.48%	395	888	
Someone has sexually harassed me online (email, social media, blog postings...	0.67%	6	1.46%	13	5.51%	49	13.60%	121	78.76%	701	890	

Graduate Students:

Question	Very Often		Often		Occasionally		Rarely		Never		Total
Someone has made unwanted commentary about my body.	0.49%	2	3.69%	15	17.69%	72	22.11%	90	56.02%	228	407
Someone has targeted me or exposed me to environments where there was of...	1.72%	7	3.93%	16	13.51%	55	17.20%	70	63.64%	259	407
Someone has made me the target of rumors and/or gossip.	0.98%	4	2.95%	12	6.88%	28	17.20%	70	71.99%	293	407
Someone has nonverbally harassed me (i.e., stared at me, gestured to/at me,...	1.48%	6	6.16%	25	17.00%	69	17.00%	69	58.37%	237	406
Someone has sexually harassed me online (email, social media, blog postings...	0.25%	1	0.98%	4	3.44%	14	6.63%	27	88.70%	361	407

Undergraduate Students:

Question	Very Often		Often		Occasionally		Rarely		Never		Total
Someone has made unwanted	3.95%	19	12.68%	61	29.52%	142	24.95%	120	28.90%	139	481

Survey Results

commentary about my body.											
Someone has targeted me or exposed me to environments where there was of...	3.74%	18	10.19%	49	19.75%	95	24.53%	118	41.79%	201	481
Someone has made me the target of rumors and/or gossip.	2.70%	13	7.69%	37	16.42%	79	31.19%	150	42.00%	202	481
Someone has nonverbally harassed me (i.e., stared at me, gestured to/at me,...	5.21%	25	15.42%	74	24.38%	117	22.29%	107	32.71%	157	480
Someone has sexually harassed me online (email, social media, blog postings...	1.04%	5	1.87%	9	7.07%	34	19.33%	93	70.69%	340	481

All Students:

Question	Experienced		Never Experienced		Total
Someone has made unwanted commentary about my body.	58.77%	523	41.24%	367	890
Someone has targeted me or exposed me to environments where there was offensive joking about my gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation.	48.20%	429	51.80%	461	890
Someone has made me the target of rumors and/or gossip.	44.27%	394	55.73%	496	890
Someone has non-verbally harassed me (i.e., stared at me, gestured to/at me, followed me, or shunned me.)	55.52%	493	44.48%	395	888
Someone has sexually harassed me online (email, social media, blog postings).	21.24%	189	78.76%	701	890

Undergraduate:

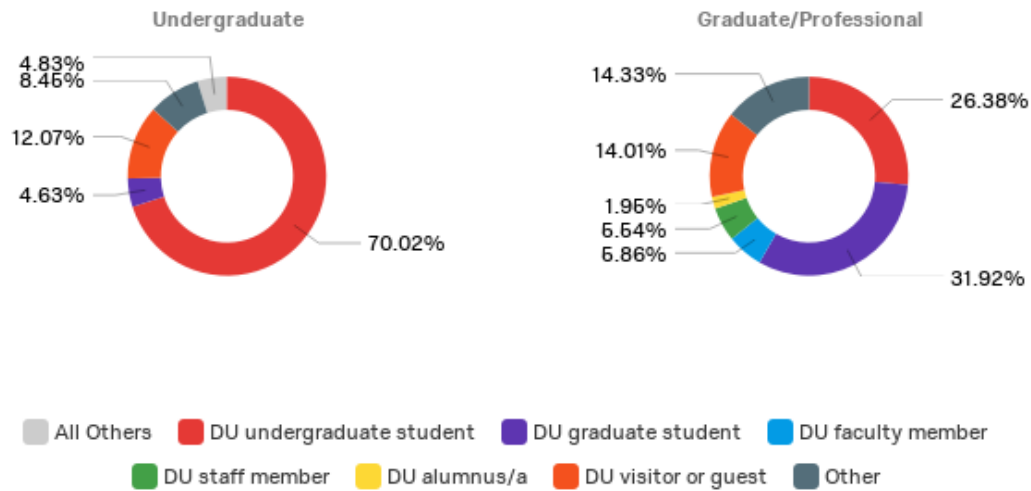
Survey Results

Question	Experienced		Never Experienced		Total
Someone has made unwanted commentary about my body.	71.10%	342	28.90%	139	481
Someone has targeted me or exposed me to environments where there was offensive joking about my gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation.	58.21%	280	41.79%	201	481
Someone has made me the target of rumors and/or gossip.	58.00%	279	42.00%	202	481
Someone has non-verbally harassed me (i.e., stared at me, gestured to/at me, followed me, or shunned me.)	67.30%	323	32.71%	157	480
Someone has sexually harassed me online (email, social media, blog postings).	29.31%	141	70.69%	340	481

Graduate:

Question	Experienced		Never Experienced		Total
Someone has made unwanted commentary about my body.	43.98%	179	56.02%	228	407
Someone has targeted me or exposed me to environments where there was offensive joking about my gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation.	36.36%	148	63.64%	259	407
Someone has made me the target of rumors and/or gossip.	28.01%	114	71.99%	293	407
Someone has non-verbally harassed me (i.e., stared at me, gestured to/at me, followed me, or shunned me.)	41.64%	169	58.37%	237	406
Someone has sexually harassed me online (email, social media, blog postings).	11.30%	46	88.70%	316	407

Survey Results



Parties Responsible For Unwanted Behaviors

Group	Undergraduate	497	Graduate/Professional	307
DU undergraduate student	70.02%	348	26.38%	81
DU graduate student	4.63%	23	31.92%	98
DU faculty member	1.81%	9	5.86%	18
DU staff member	2.21%	11	5.54%	17
DU alumnus/a	0.80%	4	1.95%	6
DU visitor or guest	12.07%	60	14.01%	43
Other	8.45%	42	14.33%	44
Total	100%	497	100%	397

Survey Results

Experience of Gender-Based Violence or Unwanted Sexual Behaviors

As expected in a university environment, many of our students report that they have experienced some form of gender-based violence or unwanted sexual behavior since coming to DU, with:

- 18% reporting that someone has sexually harassed me via phone calls and/or text messages;
- 8% reporting that a staff member, faculty member, or someone in an authoritative position over me has hit on or propositioned me;
- 46% reporting that someone has made unwanted physical contact with me (i.e. groping, grabbing, having someone brush up against me, or unwanted touch);
- 9% reporting that someone has sexually penetrated me when I did not want them to;
- 14% reporting that someone has spread rumors or gossip about me following an unwanted sexual experience;
- 5% reporting that someone has retaliated against me for seeking help for or reporting an unwanted sexual experience.

Overall, the large majority of participants reported that they knew the responsible party (68%).

Student participants report the responsible party for the gender-based violence included:

- The large majority of undergraduate students reported that those responsible for gender-based violence and unwanted sexual behaviors were other undergraduate students (246 or 73%).
- For graduate students, the responsible parties were often identified as other graduate or undergraduate students (23 or 27% were undergraduate students and 33 or 28% were graduate students).
- Twenty-seven graduate students (23%) reported that the responsible party was a faculty or staff member.
- Nine undergraduate students (3%) reported that the responsible party was a faculty or staff member.
- Ninety-nine students (22%) reported that the unwanted gender-based violence was by someone who was not a member of our community.
- A total of 47 students reported that they experienced retaliation following an incident of gender-based violence.
 - 57% of students who reported being sexually penetrated when they did not want to be also reported being retaliated against for seeking help or reporting.
 - 85% of students who reported having unwanted physical contact also reported being retaliated against for seeking help or reporting.

All Students:

Question	Very Often		Often		Occasionally		Rarely		Never		Total
Someone has sexually harassed me via phone calls and/or text messages.	0.35%	3	1.52%	13	3.85%	33	12.70%	109	81.59%	700	858
A staff member, faculty member, or	0.00%	0	0.12%	1	1.64%	14	6.32%	54	91.93%	786	855

Survey Results

someone in an authoritative position ove...											
Someone has made unwanted physical contact with me (i.e., groping, grabbing...	1.28%	11	4.55%	39	14.22%	122	15.62%	134	64.34%	552	858
Someone has sexually penetrated me when I did not want them to.	0.35%	3	1.29%	11	2.23%	19	5.51%	47	90.62%	773	853
Someone has spread rumors or gossip about me following and unwanted sexual...	0.93%	8	1.63%	14	3.03%	26	8.85%	76	85.56%	735	859
Someone has retaliated against me for seeking help for or reporting an unwa...	0.58%	5	1.52%	13	1.63%	14	1.75%	15	94.52%	811	858

Number of students who experienced unwanted gender bias who have also experienced retaliation:

Question	Very Often		Often		Occasionally		Rarely		Total
Someone has retaliated against me for seeking help for or reporting an unwa...	7.41%	2	25.93%	7	3.33%	9	3.33%	9	27

Number of students who have experienced retaliation who have also experienced unwanted physical contact:

Question	Very Often		Often		Occasionally		Rarely		Total
Someone has made unwanted physical contact with me (i.e., groping, grabbing...	15%	6	20%	8	40%	16	25%	10	40

Survey Results

Graduate Students:

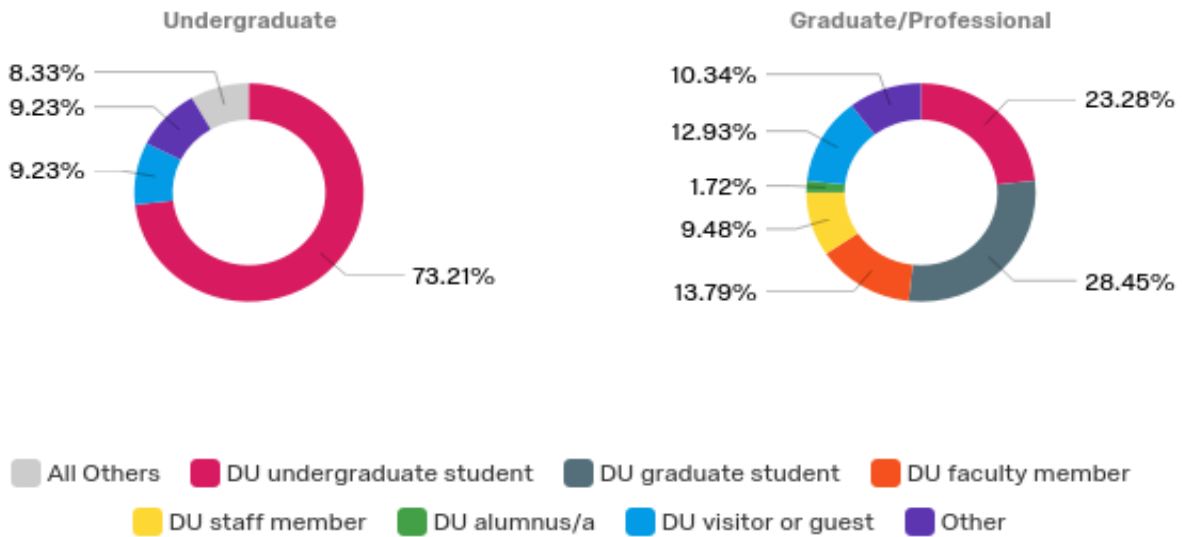
Question	Very Often		Often		Occasionally		Rarely		Never		Total
Someone has sexually harassed me via phone calls and/or text messages.	0.00%	0	0.51%	2	2.31%	9	5.38%	21	91.79%	358	390
A staff member, faculty member, or someone in an authoritative position ove...	0.00%	0	0.26%	1	2.05%	8	7.95%	31	89.74%	350	390
Someone has made unwanted physical contact with me (i.e., groping, grabbing...	0.51%	2	0.77%	3	4.09%	16	9.97%	39	84.65%	331	391
Someone has sexually penetrated me when I did not want them to.	0.00%	0	0.26%	1	0.78%	3	2.33%	9	96.64%	374	387
Someone has spread rumors or gossip about me following and unwanted sexual...	0.00%	0	0.77%	3	1.53%	6	3.32%	13	94.37%	369	391
Someone has retaliated against me for seeking help for or reporting an unwa...	0.26%	1	0.51%	2	0.51%	2	2.05%	8	96.68%	378	391

Undergraduate Students:

Question	Very Often		Often		Occasion-ally		Rarely		Never		Total
Someone has sexually harassed me via phone calls and/or text messages.	0.64%	3	2.36%	11	5.15%	24	18.67%	87	73.18%	341	466
A staff member, faculty member, or someone in an authoritative position ove...	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	1.30%	6	4.75%	22	93.95%	435	463
Someone has made unwanted physical contact with me (i.e., groping, grabbing...	1.94%	9	7.53%	35	22.80%	106	20.43%	95	47.31%	220	465
Someone has sexually penetrated me when I did not want them to.	0.65%	3	2.16%	10	3.45%	16	8.19%	38	85.56%	397	464

Survey Results

Someone has spread rumors or gossip about me following and unwanted sexual...	1.72%	8	2.15%	10	4.29%	20	13.52%	63	78.33%	365	466
Someone has retaliated against me for seeking help for or reporting an unwa...	0.65%	3	2.37%	11	2.58%	12	1.51%	7	92.90%	432	465



Who was responsible for the unwanted behaviors you experienced? (All Students)

Question	Undergraduate		Graduate/Professional	
DU undergraduate student	73.21%	246	23.28%	27
DU graduate student	3.87%	13	28.46%	33
DU faculty member	1.79%	6	13.79%	16
DU staff member	0.89%	3	9.48%	11
DU alumnus/a	1.79%	6	1.72%	2
DU visitor or guest	9.23%	31	12.93%	15
Other	9.23%	31	10.34%	12
Total	100%	336	100%	116

Survey Results

Concerns About Intervening

Consistent with research on the reasons individuals have difficulty intervening, our students reported several concerns about acting as a prosocial bystander:

- 47% of students express concern about being physically hurt if they intervene;
- 43% of students express concern that they could make the wrong decision and intervene when nothing was wrong and feel embarrassed;
- 38% of students express concern that they might experience retaliation if they intervene;
- 38% of students express concern that people might think they're too sensitive and are overreacting to the situation;
- 34% of students express concern that they could get in trouble by making the wrong decision about how to intervene;
- 12% of students express concern that intervening would make their friends angry with them; and
- 17% of students express concern that intervening might cost them friendships.

All Students:

Question	Very Concerned		Somewhat Concerned		Neither Concerned nor Unconcerned		Mostly Unconcerned		Completely Unconcerned		Total
Intervening would make my friends angry with me.	2.75%	22	9.26%	74	10.14%	81	29.91%	239	47.93%	383	799
Intervening might cost me friendships.	3.00%	24	13.77%	110	10.14%	81	27.53%	220	45.56%	364	799
I could get physically hurt by intervening.	11.51%	92	35.17%	281	12.64%	101	19.52%	156	21.15%	169	799
I could make the wrong decision and intervene when nothing was wrong and fe...	8.91%	71	34.50%	275	17.44%	139	20.33%	162	18.82%	150	797
People might think I'm too sensitive and am overreacting to the situation.	8.39%	67	30.16%	241	16.27%	130	20.28%	162	24.91%	199	799
I could get in trouble by making the wrong decision about how to intervene.	6.26%	50	27.41%	219	20.15%	161	21.65%	173	24.53%	196	799
I might experience retaliation if I intervene.	9.77%	78	28.20%	225	18.17%	145	20.18%	161	23.68%	189	798

Survey Results

Graduate Students:

Question	Very Concerned		Somewhat Concerned		Neither Concerned nor Unconcerned		Mostly Unconcerned		Completely Unconcerned		Total
Intervening would make my friends angry with me.	1.35%	5	8.11%	30	8.65%	32	27.30%	101	54.59%	202	370
Intervening might cost me friendships.	1.62%	6	11.35%	42	9.19%	34	25.95%	96	51.89%	192	370
I could get physically hurt by intervening.	11.62%	43	34.86%	129	12.16%	45	19.46%	72	21.89%	81	370
I could make the wrong decision and intervene when nothing was wrong and fe...	7.59%	28	31.17%	115	17.89%	66	23.85%	88	19.51%	72	369
People might think I'm too sensitive and am overreacting to the situation.	5.68%	21	30.00%	111	15.14%	56	23.24%	86	25.95%	96	370
I could get in trouble by making the wrong decision about how to intervene.	4.86%	18	25.14%	93	20.54%	76	22.16%	82	27.30%	101	370
I might experience retaliation if I intervene.	8.92%	33	27.57%	102	15.95%	59	20.54%	76	27.03%	100	370

Undergraduate Students:

Question	Very Concerned		Somewhat Concerned		Neither Concerned nor Unconcerned		Mostly Unconcerned		Completely Unconcerned		Total
Intervening would make my friends angry with me.	3.98%	17	10.07%	43	11.48%	49	32.32%	138	42.15%	180	427
Intervening might cost me friendships.	4.22%	18	15.69%	67	11.01%	47	29.04%	124	40.05%	171	427

Survey Results

I could get physically hurt by intervening.	11.48%	49	35.36%	151	12.88%	55	19.67%	84	20.61%	88	427
I could make the wrong decision and intervene when nothing was wrong and fe...	9.86%	42	37.56%	160	17.14%	73	17.37%	74	18.08%	77	426
People might think I'm too sensitive and am overreacting to the situation.	10.77%	46	30.21%	129	17.33%	74	17.80%	76	23.89%	102	427
I could get in trouble by making the wrong decision about how to intervene.	7.49%	32	29.27%	125	19.91%	85	21.31%	91	22.01%	94	427
I might experience retaliation if I intervene.	10.56%	45	28.64%	122	20.19%	86	19.95%	85	20.66%	88	426

Barriers to Intervening

Consistent with research on bystander intervention behavior, our students report common barriers to intervening, including:

- 47% report they didn't notice what was happening;
- 42% report they didn't realize how bad or risky the situation was;
- 26% report they didn't feel they had the skills or ability to intervene;
- 17% report they were afraid of what others might think of them;
- 12% report they didn't want to be responsible for intervening;
- 10% report they didn't intervene because they were drinking and didn't want to get in trouble.

All Students:

Question	Strongly Agree		Agree		Neither Agree nor Disagree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
I didn't notice what was happening.	8.23%	65	38.73%	306	27.85%	220	11.14%	88	14.05%	111	790
I didn't realize how bad or risky	6.23%	49	35.83%	282	28.34%	223	14.87%	117	14.74%	116	787

Survey Results

the situation was.											
I didn't want to be responsible for intervening.	1.78%	14	10.41%	82	28.30%	223	29.31%	231	30.20%	238	788
I didn't feel I had the skills or ability to intervene.	4.31%	34	21.67%	171	27.00%	213	21.67%	171	25.35%	200	789
I didn't intervene because I was afraid of what others might think.	2.92%	23	14.23%	112	26.18%	206	23.76%	187	32.91%	259	787
I didn't intervene because I was drinking and didn't want to get in trouble.	3.05%	24	7.50%	59	22.62%	178	21.22%	167	45.62%	359	787

Graduate Students:

Question	Strongly Agree		Agree		Neither Agree nor Disagree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
I didn't notice what was happening.	7.16%	26	33.88%	123	29.48%	107	12.12%	44	17.36%	63	363
I didn't realize how bad or risky the situation was.	4.13%	15	30.85%	112	30.30%	110	15.70%	57	19.01%	69	363
I didn't want to be responsible for intervening.	1.10%	4	9.92%	36	28.65%	104	27.27%	99	33.06%	120	363
I didn't feel I had the skills or ability to intervene.	3.31%	12	24.52%	89	25.90%	94	19.01%	69	27.27%	99	363
I didn't intervene because I was afraid of what	2.77%	10	12.19%	44	28.53%	103	20.22%	73	36.29%	131	361

Survey Results

others might think or how t...											
I didn't intervene because I was drinking and didn't want to get in trouble...	0.55%	2	3.04%	11	24.03%	87	19.61%	71	52.76%	191	362

Undergraduate Students:

Question	Strongly Agree		Agree		Neither Agree nor Disagree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
I didn't notice what was happening.	8.94%	38	43.06%	183	26.35%	112	10.35%	44	11.29%	48	425
I didn't realize how bad or risky the situation was.	8.06%	34	40.05%	169	26.54%	112	14.22%	60	11.14%	47	422
I didn't want to be responsible for intervening.	2.36%	10	10.64%	45	27.90%	118	31.21%	132	27.90%	118	423
I didn't feel I had the skills or ability to intervene.	5.19%	22	18.87%	80	28.07%	119	24.06%	102	23.82%	101	424
I didn't intervene because I was afraid of what others might think or how t...	3.07%	13	15.80%	67	24.06%	102	26.89%	114	30.19%	128	424
I didn't intervene because I was drinking and didn't want to get in trouble...	5.20%	22	11.11%	47	21.51%	91	22.70%	96	39.48%	167	423

Survey Results

Intervention Strategies Students Reported Using

Our students endorsed utilizing the following behaviors to intervene:

All Students:

Question	Yes		No		I've never been in this situation		Total
Expressed my discomfort if someone says that rape victims are to blame for being raped.	72.14%	554	3.91%	30	23.96%	184	768
Expressed disapproval about a joke about someone else's body.	71.61%	550	10.55%	81	17.84%	137	768
Talked to a friend who I suspect is in an unhealthy relationship.	70.07%	536	4.84%	37	25.10%	192	765
Expressed concern to a friend if I see their partner exhibiting very jealous or controlling behavior.	63.32%	485	4.70%	36	31.98%	245	766
Checked in with a friend who looks drunk when they go to a room with someone else at a party.	48.24%	369	4.05%	31	47.71%	365	765
Objected to activities where people's appearances are ranked.	44.40%	341	20.44%	157	35.16%	270	768
Decided not to have sex with a partner who is drunk.	36.39%	278	7.85%	60	55.76%	426	764
Took action when I saw a friend surrounded by a group of people who looks very uncomfortable.	32.28%	246	3.54%	27	64.17%	489	762
Taken action to help a very drunk person who is being brought to another room by a person or group of people.	30.28%	231	4.06%	31	65.66%	501	763
Stopped sexual activity when asked to, even if I was already sexually aroused.	29.24%	224	1.57%	12	69.19%	530	766
Said something to a friend if I saw her/him taking an intoxicated person back to her/his room.	27.38%	210	7.43%	57	65.19%	500	767
Stopped having sex with a partner when they said to stop, even if it started consensually.	25.79%	197	0.79%	6	73.43%	561	764
Got help and resources for a friend who tells me they have been a victim of sexual harassment or violence.	26.73%	205	6.13%	47	67.14%	515	767
Spoke up to someone who is making excuses for pressuring someone to have sex with them.	24.93%	191	3.26%	25	71.80%	550	766

Survey Results

Asked a person I don't know if they need help when s/he is being yelled at or shoved by her/his partner.	23.53%	180	6.93%	53	69.54%	532	765
Took action when I saw an individual surrounded by a group of people who looks very uncomfortable.	21.57%	165	8.10%	62	70.33%	538	765
Spoke up to someone who is making excuses for having sex with someone who is unable to give full consent.	20.37%	156	3.00%	23	76.63%	587	766
Provided whatever information I could during a sexual misconduct investigation, even if pressured by others to stay silent.	10.97%	84	2.87%	22	86.16%	660	766
Provided whatever information I could during a sexual misconduct investigation, even if I wanted to protect my friend.	8.75%	67	1.83%	14	89.43%	685	766
Called for help (i.e. call 911 or Campus Security) if I hear someone yelling "help."	6.65%	51	4.43%	34	88.92%	682	767

Undergraduates:

Question	Yes		No		I've never been in this situation		Total
Expressed my discomfort if someone says that rape victims are to blame for being raped.	73.66%	302	3.17%	13	23.17%	95	410
Expressed disapproval about a joke about someone else's body.	71.22%	292	9.76%	40	19.02%	78	410
Talked to a friend who I suspect is in an unhealthy relationship.	67.08%	273	4.42%	18	28.50%	116	407
Expressed concern to a friend if I see their partner exhibiting very jealous or controlling behavior.	60.29%	246	4.41%	18	35.29%	144	408
Checked in with a friend who looks drunk when they go to a room with someone else at a party.	54.79%	223	3.69%	15	41.52%	169	407
Objected to activities where people's appearances are ranked.	43.90%	180	21.71%	89	34.39%	141	410
Taken action to help a very drunk person who is being brought to another room by a person or group of people.	35.47%	144	3.45%	14	61.08%	248	406
Decided not to have sex with a partner who is drunk.	34.31%	140	7.11%	29	58.58%	239	408
Said something to a friend if I saw her/him taking an intoxicated person back to her/his room.	33.17%	136	7.80%	32	59.02%	242	410

Survey Results

Took action when I saw a friend surrounded by a group of people who looks very uncomfortable.	32.84%	133	4.20%	17	62.96%	255	405
Stopped sexual activity when asked to, even if I was already sexually aroused.	28.92%	118	1.23%	5	69.85%	285	408
Spoke up to someone who is making excuses for pressuring someone to have sex with them.	28.92%	118	2.70%	11	68.38%	279	408
Got help and resources for a friend who tells me they have been a victim of sexual harassment or violence.	25.18%	103	7.09%	29	67.73%	277	409
Spoke up to someone who is making excuses for having sex with someone who is unable to give full consent.	23.77%	97	2.45%	10	73.77%	301	408
Stopped having sex with a partner when they said to stop, even if it started consensually.	23.77%	97	0.49%	2	75.74%	309	408
Took action when I saw an individual surrounded by a group of people who looks very uncomfortable.	22.55%	92	8.09%	33	69.36%	283	408
Asked a person I don't know if they need help when s/he is being yelled at or shoved by her/his partner.	22.36%	91	5.41%	22	72.24%	294	407
Provided whatever information I could during a sexual misconduct investigation, even if pressured by others to stay silent.	11.22%	46	2.93%	12	85.85%	352	410
Provided whatever information I could during a sexual misconduct investigation, even if I wanted to protect my friend.	9.02%	37	1.71%	7	89.27%	366	410
Called for help (i.e. call 911 or Campus Security) if I hear someone yelling "help."	6.59%	27	3.41%	14	90.00%	369	410

Graduates:

Question	Yes		No		I've never been in this situation		Total
Talked to a friend who I suspect is in an unhealthy relationship.	73.31%	261	5.34%	19	21.35%	76	356
Expressed disapproval about a joke about someone else's body.	72.19%	257	11.52%	41	16.29%	58	356
Expressed my discomfort if someone says that rape victims are to blame for being raped.	70.51%	251	4.49%	16	25.00%	89	356
Expressed concern to a friend if I see their partner exhibiting very jealous or controlling behavior.	66.85%	238	4.78%	17	28.37%	101	356
Objected to activities where people's appearances are ranked.	44.94%	160	19.10%	68	35.96%	128	356

Survey Results

Checked in with a friend who looks drunk when they go to a room with someone else at a party.	40.73%	145	4.49%	16	54.78%	195	356
Decided not to have sex with a partner who is drunk.	38.70%	137	8.47%	30	52.82%	187	354
Took action when I saw a friend surrounded by a group of people who looks very uncomfortable.	31.55%	112	2.82%	10	65.63%	233	355
Stopped sexual activity when asked to, even if I was already sexually aroused.	29.49%	105	1.97%	7	68.54%	244	356
Got help and resources for a friend who tells me they have been a victim of sexual harassment or violence.	28.09%	100	5.06%	18	66.85%	238	356
Stopped having sex with a partner when they said to stop, even if it started consensually.	27.97%	99	1.13%	4	70.90%	251	354
Asked a person I don't know if they need help when s/he is being yelled at or shoved by her/his partner.	24.72%	88	8.71%	31	66.57%	237	356
Taken action to help a very drunk person who is being brought to another room by a person or group of people.	24.23%	86	4.79%	17	70.99%	252	355
Said something to a friend if I saw her/him taking an intoxicated person back to her/his room.	20.56%	73	7.04%	25	72.39%	257	355
Took action when I saw an individual surrounded by a group of people who looks very uncomfortable.	20.28%	72	8.17%	29	71.55%	254	355
Spoke up to someone who is making excuses for pressuring someone to have sex with them.	20.22%	72	3.93%	14	75.84%	270	356
Spoke up to someone who is making excuses for having sex with someone who is unable to give full consent.	16.57%	59	3.37%	12	80.06%	285	356
Provided whatever information I could during a sexual misconduct investigation, even if pressured by others to stay silent.	10.45%	37	2.82%	10	86.72%	307	354
Provided whatever information I could during a sexual misconduct investigation, even if I wanted to protect my friend.	8.19%	29	1.98%	7	89.83%	318	354
Called for help (i.e. call 911 or Campus Security) if I hear someone yelling "help."	6.48%	23	5.35%	19	88.17%	313	355

Survey Results

Campus Programs Attended

Majority of our students are not volunteering to participate in programming and events that focus on preventing gender violence.

All Students:

Question	Yes		No		Total
Have you recently attended a program about preventing sexual violence?	33.38%	256	66.62%	511	767
Have you recently taken part in activities or volunteered my time on projects focused on ending sexual violence on campus?	19.87%	153	80.13%	617	770

Graduate Students:

Question	Yes		No		Total
Have you recently attended a program about preventing sexual violence?	17.05%	60	82.95%	292	352
Have you recently taken part in activities or volunteered my time on projects focused on ending sexual violence on campus?	13.20%	47	86.80%	309	356

Undergraduate Students:

Question	Yes		No		Total
Have you recently attended a program about preventing sexual violence?	46.97%	194	53.03%	219	413
Have you recently taken part in activities or volunteered my time on projects focused on ending sexual violence on campus?	25.49%	105	74.51%	307	412

Survey Results

Understanding of DU Policies, Procedures, and Resources

Changing perceptions and understanding of policies, procedures, and resources takes time and will continue to require an investment by the University to address. Although we have seen improvements since last year’s pilot of the Campus Climate Survey, we need continued growth in this area.

- 49% report they understand DU’s formal procedures to address complaints of sexual assault.
- 73% report if a friend or they were sexually assaulted, they know where to get help;
- 44% report believing that DU takes reports of sexual assault seriously, with more graduate students (61%) than undergraduate students (48%) reporting that they hold this belief;
- 60% report believing that DU would protect the safety and privacy of those making reports of sexual assault.
- 37% report believing that the alleged offender(s) or their associates will retaliate against the person making the report.
- 46% report believing that DU would treat the person making the report fairly.
- 43% report believing that DU would treat the alleged offender fairly, with more graduate students (51%) than undergraduate students (36%) reporting that they hold this belief.
- 58% report believing that DU Alerts, and subsequent memos regarding DU Alerts, provide them with information they need to stay safe.

All Students:

Question	Strongly Agree		Agree		Neither Agree nor Disagree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
I understand DU's formal procedures to address complaints of sexual assault...	16.22%	122	32.98%	248	16.09%	121	24.87%	187	9.84%	74	752
If a friend or I were sexually assaulted, I know where to get help.	27.20%	204	45.73%	343	11.20%	84	12.13%	91	3.73%	28	750
DU takes reports of sexual assault seriously.	21.21%	158	32.89%	245	27.79%	207	11.28%	84	6.85%	51	745
DU would protect the safety and privacy of those making reports of sexual a...	19.36%	145	40.19%	301	26.44%	198	9.08%	68	4.94%	37	749
The alleged offender(s) or	10.71%	80	26.37%	197	45.78%	342	14.59%	109	2.54%	19	747

Survey Results

their associated will retaliate against the pers...											
DU would treat the person making the report fairly.	15.89%	119	40.19%	301	31.38%	235	9.35%	70	3.20%	24	749
DU would treat the alleged offender fairly.	10.55%	79	32.84%	246	36.98%	277	13.08%	98	6.54%	49	749
DU Alerts, and subsequent memos regarding DU Alerts, provide me with inform...	19.03%	142	39.28%	293	21.85%	163	11.66%	87	8.18%	61	746

Graduate Students:

Question	Strongly Agree		Agree		Neither Agree nor Disagree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
I understand DU's formal procedures to address complaints of sexual assault...	16.05%	56	32.95%	115	16.05%	56	24.64%	86	10.32%	36	349
If a friend or I were sexually assaulted, I know where to get help.	27.01%	94	43.97%	153	12.36%	43	12.07%	42	4.60%	16	348
DU takes reports of sexual assault seriously.	26.51%	92	34.58%	120	25.94%	90	7.78%	27	5.19%	18	347
DU would protect the safety and privacy of those making reports of sexual a...	20.98%	73	38.51%	134	29.89%	104	6.03%	21	4.60%	16	348
The alleged offender(s) or their associated will retaliate against the pers...	10.37%	36	28.24%	98	46.11%	160	12.68%	44	2.59%	9	347

Survey Results

DU would treat the person making the report fairly.	18.68%	65	39.37%	137	31.90%	111	6.61%	23	3.45%	12	348
DU would treat the alleged offender fairly.	13.79%	48	37.07%	129	36.49%	127	7.76%	27	4.89%	17	348
DU Alerts, and subsequent memos regarding DU Alerts, provide me with inform...	22.54%	78	38.44%	133	21.39%	74	11.85%	41	5.78%	20	346

Undergraduate Students:

Question	Strongly Agree		Agree		Neither Agree nor Disagree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
I understand DU's formal procedures to address complaints of sexual assault...	16.21%	65	33.17%	133	15.96%	64	25.19%	101	9.48%	38	401
If a friend or I were sexually assaulted, I know where to get help.	27.50%	110	47.00%	188	10.25%	41	12.25%	49	3.00%	12	400
DU takes reports of sexual assault seriously.	16.67%	66	31.57%	125	29.55%	117	13.89%	55	8.33%	33	396
DU would protect the safety and privacy of those making reports of sexual a...	18.05%	72	41.60%	166	23.31%	93	11.78%	47	5.26%	21	399
The alleged offender(s) or their associated will retaliate against the pers...	10.80%	43	24.87%	99	45.48%	181	16.33%	65	2.51%	10	398
DU would treat the person	13.53%	54	40.85%	163	30.83%	123	11.78%	47	3.01%	12	399

Survey Results

making the report fairly.											
DU would treat the alleged offender fairly.	7.52%	30	29.32%	117	37.34%	149	17.79%	71	8.02%	32	399
DU Alerts, and subsequent memos regarding DU Alerts, provide me with inform...	16.08%	64	39.95%	159	22.11%	88	11.56%	46	10.30%	41	398

Experiences of Retaliation, Assault, or Violence

Retaliation or fear of retaliation for receiving help is a significant barrier to the University being able to effectively address issues of gender-based violence and discrimination. This is an area that is a significant challenge to Universities across the US and is an area where DU has opportunity for continued improvement. Questions assessing the issue of retaliation found the following:

- 78% of undergraduate student participants and 22% of graduate/professional student participants reported that they or someone they know has experienced sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking since enrolling at DU;
- 36% of undergraduate students and 17% of graduate/professional students reported that they knew someone who had been retaliated against after making a report

Students who indicated that they or a friend had experienced retaliation for reporting sexual harassment or a sexual assault were asked to describe the retaliation experience. The following is a summary of those comments.

Undergraduate Students:

- ❖ Peer groups accusing the victim of lying about what really occurred and refuse to believe the assault really happened, or of having made a mistake while drunk and reporting out of regret
- ❖ Verbal abuse is often experienced from the alleged perpetrator, perpetrator's friends, and others in the peer group who take sides
- ❖ Many students are ostracized from peer groups
- ❖ Students report being blacklisted from fraternity/sorority events
- ❖ Students report being blacklisted within athletic communities
- ❖ Students perceive that students involved with Greek life and athletics are shielded from facing consequences of their actions; Greek/athletic environments described as "toxic"
- ❖ Multiple comments about dealing with rumors and gossip
- ❖ Receiving threats via email, phone message, and social media (Yik Yak specifically named)
- ❖ One comment described being stalked

Survey Results

- ❖ Dealing with feelings of being isolated and alone due to retaliation
- ❖ A number of students indicated they knew someone who ended up transferring because of retaliation experiences
- ❖ Victims are not the only ones who experience retaliation; anyone who supports the victim also faces harassment and isolation

Graduate Students:

- ❖ Most retaliation was verbal, in the form of threats and negative commentary
- ❖ Alleged perpetrators tend to tell their friends, who then harass the victim
- ❖ Victims felt that they were being blamed for the harassment or assault
- ❖ A minority of participants reported being followed by the alleged perpetrator’s friends around campus and in areas adjacent to campus

Have you or someone you known experienced sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking since enrolling at DU?

Question	Yes	No
Undergraduate	77.96%	36.28%
Graduate/Professional	22.04%	63.72%

Do you know someone who has been retaliated against after making a report?

Question	Undergraduate	Graduate/Professional	Total
Yes	51	23	74
No	91	111	202

Campus Resources Utilized

A majority of the students who experienced sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking since enrolling at DU reported that they utilized campus resources.

- DU’s Center for Advocacy, Prevention, and Empowerment (CAPE) was the most frequently utilized resource on campus (14% or 65 undergraduate students, 9% or 12 graduate/professional students);

Survey Results

- Other top resources utilized by impacted students included DU's Campus Safety (11% or 50 undergraduate students, 9% or 12 graduate/professional students), DU Health and Counseling Center (10% or 44 undergraduate students, 8% or 11 graduate/professional students) and DU's Office of Title IX (7% or 31 undergraduate students, 6% or 9 graduate/professional students);

Of the students who experienced or knew a friend who experienced sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking since enrolling at DU, 20% of undergraduate students (92 students) and 18% of graduate/professional students (24 students) reported that they did not seek help.

Students who indicated that they did not use campus resources for assistance following harassment or assault were asked why they did not use campus resources. The following is a summary of those comments.

Undergraduate Students:

- ❖ Embarrassment and shame
- ❖ Fear of retaliation
- ❖ Sought help from family or friends instead
- ❖ Not sure if the incident was really assault or not, particularly when alcohol is involved; confusion around if it's really assault if both parties were drunk
- ❖ Feeling that DU doesn't handle reports well; too invasive into victim's private life; tendency to favor Greek life and athletes so that they don't get punished
- ❖ Not sure what resources are available
- ❖ Several comments from people stating that they didn't fight back hard enough, or were drunk, or didn't realize what had happened was wrong, or thought it wasn't that big of a deal; some comments outwardly stating that the victim blamed themselves
- ❖ Male students fearing they wouldn't be taken seriously as victims
- ❖ Several students were assaulted off campus by a perpetrator not affiliated with DU, and therefore felt that DU would not want to help them
- ❖ Several students felt that there was no point in reporting a perpetrator who is a member of Greek life or athletics, due to the perception that there is a bias in favor of these groups that leads to them not being held accountable
- ❖ A number of students felt they didn't need any help
- ❖ A number of students indicated they preferred to seek help from off-campus resources, but didn't specify why
- ❖ A number of students indicated they just didn't want to seek help, but didn't specify why

Graduate Students:

- ❖ Fear of retaliation
- ❖ Was not aware of resources
- ❖ Did not want to report or take action
- ❖ Didn't feel harmed by the incident
- ❖ Sought help from family or friends instead

Students were asked if there was anything else they would like to share on the topic of sexual harassment or sexual assault on campus. Themes from students' comments included:

Survey Results

- ❖ Undergraduate commenters in all sections stressed that Greek life and athletes are a big issue; that they are the cause of most assaults; that DU protects them and does not hold them accountable
- ❖ Commenters on both the graduate and undergraduate levels suggested making education/training around sexual assault and assault prevention mandatory for all students
- ❖ There are contradictory perceptions of the Title IX office; some people feel that it is improving, but there is still a perception that the Title IX office is not helpful, and/or gives preferential treatment to athletes and fraternity members
- ❖ Students of color on both levels expressed concerns about being blamed for any crimes or incidents that occur because of their race; they were, however, vague on whom they feel blamed by
- ❖ There is a high level of confusion among undergraduates about whether something can be classified as assault if both parties were drinking

If you or a friend experienced sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking since enrolling at DU, where did you go for help? (Please check all that apply.)

Question	Undergraduate		Graduate/Professional	
Neither my friends nor I have experienced any of these acts of violence since enrolling at DU.	3.07%	14	2.19%	3
I (or a friend) have experienced one or more of these acts, but did NOT seek help at any of the resources listed.	20.18%	92	17.52%	24
DU Campus Safety	10.96%	50	8.76%	12
DU Center for Advocacy, Prevention, and Empowerment (CAPE)	14.25%	65	8.76%	12
DU CAPE Helpline	3.73%	17	5.84%	8
DU Health and Counseling Center Counselor-On-Call	3.73%	17	2.19%	3
DU Health and Counseling Center counseling department	9.65%	44	8.03%	11
DU Health and Counseling Center medical department	0.66%	3	2.19%	3
University Chaplain		0	0.73%	1
Faculty member	2.41%	11	8.03%	11
Coach		0		0
Academic Advisor	0.22%	1	2.92%	4
Fraternity/Sorority Advisor	4.17%	19	1.46%	2
RA (Resident Advisor)	6.58%	30	0.73%	1
DU Ombuds		0		0
DU Title IX Office (Office of Equal Opportunity)	6.80%	31	5.84%	8
DU Office of Student Conduct	3.29%	15	2.92%	4

Survey Results

DU Center for Multicultural Excellence	0.22%	1		0
Student Outreach and Support (Pioneers CARE)		0	0.73%	1
The Blue Bench	0.88%	4	1.46%	2
Survivors Organizing for Liberation		0		0
Denver Police Department	3.73%	17	10.95%	15
Denver Health SANE Program		0		0
Porter Hospital SANE Program	0.88%	4	1.46%	2
SafeHouse Denver		0	0.73%	1
Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center	0.22%	1		0
Other, please describe:	4.39%	20	6.57%	9
Total	100%		100%	

Recommendations

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:

- As expected in a university environment, many of our students report that they have experienced some form of gender-based violence or unwanted sexual behavior since coming to DU. The University of Denver will need to continue to invest in resources that support survivors, policy that holds offenders accountable, and prevention and education that helps build DU's immunity to the infection of gender-based violence.
- Majority of our students are not volunteering to participate in programming and events that focus on preventing gender violence. If we wish to create a campus culture that is resistant to gender-based violence, discrimination, and harassment, we need to invest in significant prevention and education training that is both required and repeated throughout the year. All levels of DU's system need to be educated, including undergraduate students, graduate students, but also faculty, staff, and administration. Together we can build a community that does not tolerate gender discrimination and violence and instead actively works to prevent it.
- Consistent with research on the reasons individuals have difficulty intervening, our students reported several concerns about acting as a prosocial bystander and endorsed the common barriers to intervening. Continued efforts that focus on teaching students, faculty, and staff about how to be prosocial bystanders will be critical for helping our community overcome these common difficulties and barriers. This finding further supports the recommendation above for on-going, repeated, face

Survey Results

to face, required prevention education at all levels of the University. Only with the development of skills, ability to make mistakes, practice and re-visiting to refine skill development, does real bystander intervention become widespread and effective.

- Changing perceptions and understanding of policies, procedures, and resources takes time and will continue to require an investment by the University to address. Although we have seen improvements since last year’s pilot of the Campus Climate Survey, we need continued growth in this area. Offering more consistent Title IX outreach and training for various constituencies across campus throughout the year will improve the visibility and understanding of changes the DU has made in this arena.
- Retaliation or fear of retaliation for receiving help is a significant barrier to the University’s ability to effectively address issues of gender-based violence and discrimination. The Title IX Program has initiated some alternative resolution programs for retaliation that will respond to educational interventions. The Office of Title IX, in consultation with campus partners, also strengthened its retaliation policy language for the 2016-17 academic year. However, there still exists a strong need for bystanders to intervene when retaliation is happening so survivors understand that the community will not tolerate retaliatory behavior. This is another example of the importance of ongoing effective bystander intervention training at every level.
- Data gathered through the open-ended comments suggest concerns with Fraternity and Sorority Life as well as Athletics. Contemporary research on sexual assault in higher education also supports that these two groups should be targeted for prevention education in order to effectively address gender violence issues on campus.¹ Stronger partnerships with Fraternity and Sorority Life and Athletics will be critical for DU addressing culture change around these issues. Without a commitment, partnership and leadership from these two groups of leaders on campus, DU will never be able to create the inclusive safe campus we envision.
 - This year USG has initiated a pilot program through CAPE to have Fraternity and Sorority Liaisons in several organizations. This program should expand to all programs in the coming year. Having student athletes and Fraternity and Sorority leaders participate in informational and educational campaigns about healthy sexuality and against gender-based violence would be helpful with the perception that these groups are treated differently on campus.
- Continued education around the intersection of alcohol and consent is needed so that students understand what consent is and how and when to intervene when their friends are unable to consent. This is another finding that supports the expansion of bystander education and Title IX training.

Demographics

What is your student level?

Answer	%	Count
Undergraduate	53.66%	520
Graduate/Professional	46.34%	449

¹ See, Murnen and Kohlman, “Athletic Participation, Fraternity Membership, and Sexual Aggression Among College Men: A Meta-Analytic Review.” *Sex Roles* (April 2007). See also, Keehan, Caputo, Pettegrew, and Bennett. “Confronting Campus Sexual Assault: An Examination of Higher Education Claims.” *EduRisk, by United Educators* (2015).

Survey Results

What year are you in school (undergraduate)?

Question	Undergraduate	
First year	29.07%	150
Second year	19.37%	100
Third year	25.97%	134
Fourth year	24.03%	124
Fifth year or more	1.55%	8
Total	100%	516

What is your current legal sex?

Question	Undergraduate		Graduate/Professional	
Male	22.22%	125	21.54%	95
Female	75.78%	391	78.46%	346
Total	100%	516	100%	441

How do you identify your gender?

Question	Undergraduate		Graduate/Professional	
Man	23.06%	119	20.91%	92
Woman	74.22%	383	77.50%	341
Identity not listed, please specify:	2.71%	14	1.59%	7
Total	100%	516	100%	440

Do you identify as trans, transgender, or transexual?

Question	Undergraduate		Graduate/Professional	
Yes	1.74%	9	1.13%	5
No	98.26%	507	98.86%	435

Survey Results

Total	100%	516	100%	440
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Are you an international student?

Question	Undergraduate		Graduate/Professional	
Yes	2.91%	15	6.36%	28
No	97.09%	501	93.64%	412
Total	100%	516	100%	440

Are you a member of a Greek organization?

Question	Undergraduate	
Yes	28.74%	148
No	71.26%	367
Total	100%	515

Are you a DU athlete (i.e. member of collegiate sports and/or recipient of athletic financial aid)

Question	Undergraduate		Graduate/Professional	
Yes	4.66%	24	.45%	2
No	95.34%	491	99.55%	439
Total	100%	515	100%	441