



Executive Summary of 2018 Survey on Campus Perceptions of Unwanted Sexual Experiences

Participation

- ❖ 1,901 students participated in the survey with 1727 completing all questions for a 91% completion rate. This represents a 62% increase in the rate of participation from the 2017 survey, with an 20% increase in the rate of completion.
 - Participation among graduate and professional students was high, with 15.9% of the graduate student body participating in the survey (9.9% increase).
 - 14% of students involved in Fraternity and Sorority life participated in the survey.
 - International student participation was at an all-time high with over 12% of the international student body participating.

Perceptions

- ❖ 39% of respondents believe that “sexual harassment is a problem at DU,” while 31% believe that “sexual violence is a problem at DU.”
 - This represents a three-year downward trend in the survey results from the survey results from 2016, in which 64% percent of respondents indicated that sexual harassment and sexual violence is a problem at DU.

Experience

- ❖ **Sexual Harassment:** While slightly lower (1-2% decrease on average) than rates reported in last year’s results, many of our students still report experiencing some form of sexual harassment during their time at DU.
 - 48% report that someone has made unwanted commentary about their body; 38% report that they have been exposed to environments where there were offensive jokes about their gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation; 47% have experienced non-verbal harassment.
 - Consistent with last year’s results, undergraduate students report experiencing more sexual harassment than our graduate students.
 - DU undergraduate students reported that the vast majority of the people responsible for the harassment was other DU undergraduate students (92%). Similarly, DU graduate students reported that the majority of the people responsible for the harassment were other DU graduate students (51%).
 - Among those graduate students who experienced harassing behavior, a faculty/staff member was responsible for the behavior 23% of the time, which represents an upward trend from 11% in 2016.
- ❖ **Gender-based Violence:** While lower than rates reported in 2016, many of our students still report that they have experienced some form of gender-based violence since coming to DU.
 - 28% reported that someone has made unwanted physical contact with them, compared to 33% in 2017; and 7% reported that someone has sexually penetrated them against their will, compared to 6.5% in 2017.
 - Both undergraduate and graduate students largely identified other students as the responsible party, with 49% of students reported that they knew the person responsible.



Utilization of Procedures and Resources

- ❖ This year's responses represent a decrease in understanding of DU's policies, procedures, and resources relating to sexual harassment and gender-based violence.
 - 56% report they understand DU's formal procedures to address complaints of sexual assault, compared to 62% in 2017; 67% report if a friend or they were sexually assaulted, they know where to get help, compared to 77% in 2017; and 54% report believing that DU takes reports of sexual assault seriously, compared to 65% in 2017.
- ❖ This year's responses also indicate that DU undergraduate students have a much greater understanding of DU's policies, procedures, and resources than graduate students.
- ❖ Among those who experienced sexual assault, domestic violence, or stalking, DU's Center for Advocacy, Prevention, and Empowerment (CAPE) was the most frequently utilized resource on campus.

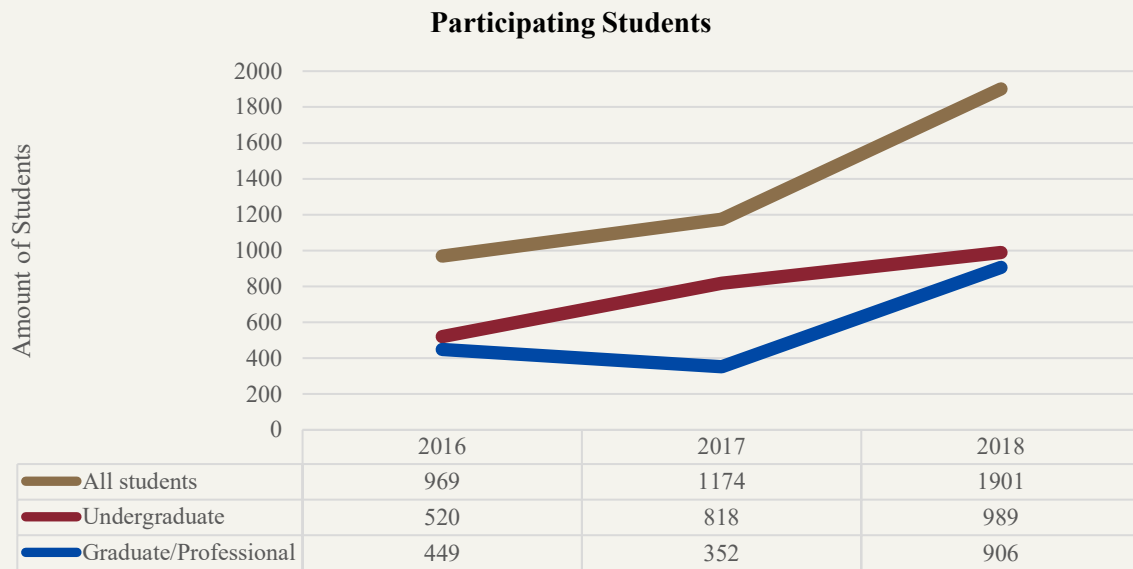
Resulting Action Items

- ❖ The data regarding perceptions of sexually harassing behaviors by faculty and staff directed towards students is of concern to the Office of Equal Opportunity & Title IX. These perceptions increased from 11%-23% amongst the graduate student body from 2016 to 2018. The Office will seek to increase sexual harassment awareness and education among faculty, staff, and graduate students. The Office of Equal Opportunity & Title IX also proposes the formulation of a committee to explore revisions to the University's consensual relationship policy governing romantic relationships between students and employees.
- ❖ A majority of respondents indicated that they did not attend campus programs or events designed to educate on gender-based violence and healthy relationships. Among the reasons for not attending, many students indicated that they did not know about them (71%). The demand for more programming is present based off the commentary in the survey responses. The University of Denver campus partners will collaborate with the Division of Marketing and Communications to seek out a comprehensive marketing campaign to make students aware of these events.
- ❖ In the commentary provided by students at the end of the survey, many students expressed that they feel that the University lacks an accessible forum for feedback, suggestions, and policy changes. The Office of Equal Opportunity & Title IX will strive to increase transparency and opportunities for feedback and opinion from members of the University community, including the creation of an advisory body within student government, and the creation of an online comment form.
- ❖ Both the quantitative data throughout the survey and the commentary shared by students suggests that many of those responsible for unwanted behaviors were guests, visitors, or otherwise unaffiliated, especially related to incidents that occurred on or near the campus boundaries. The Office of Equal Opportunity & Title IX will work with campus partners to establish a policy related to No Trespass Orders so that our campus remains a safe environment for our students.
- ❖ Both the quantitative and qualitative data on the use of campus resources following an incident suggests that the University needs to invest in elevating the visibility and accessibility of these resources. Furthermore, it appears that students are utilizing CAPE at an increasing rate (increased by 5% from 2017). The Office of Equal Opportunity & Title IX recommends that the University invest in growing the capacity, capabilities, and visibility of these resources.

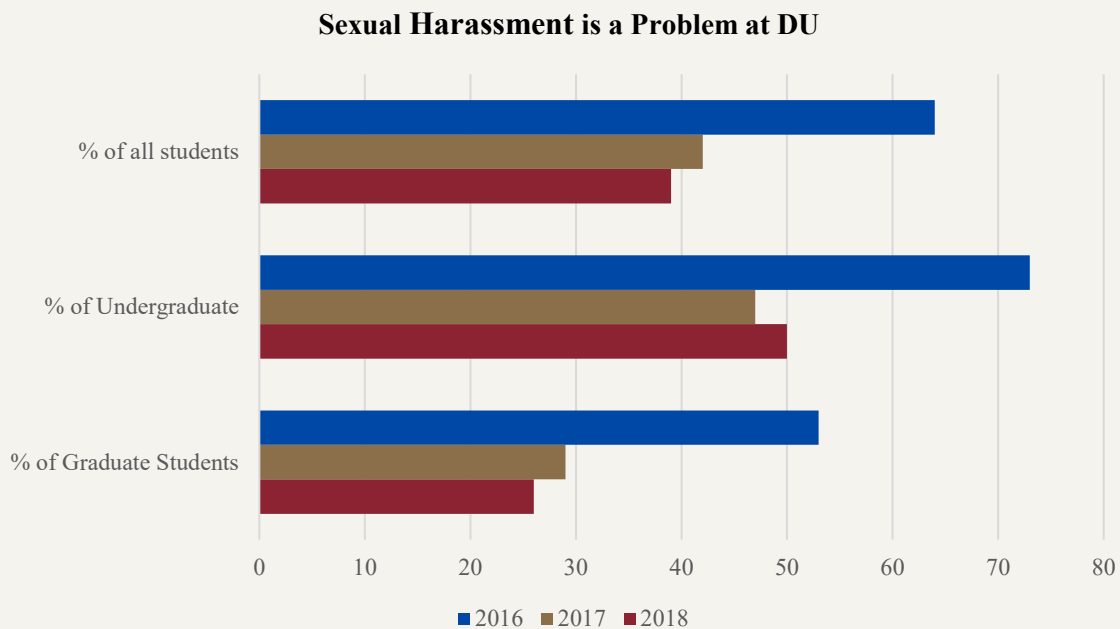


Three-Year Trend (2016-2018)

❖ Participation

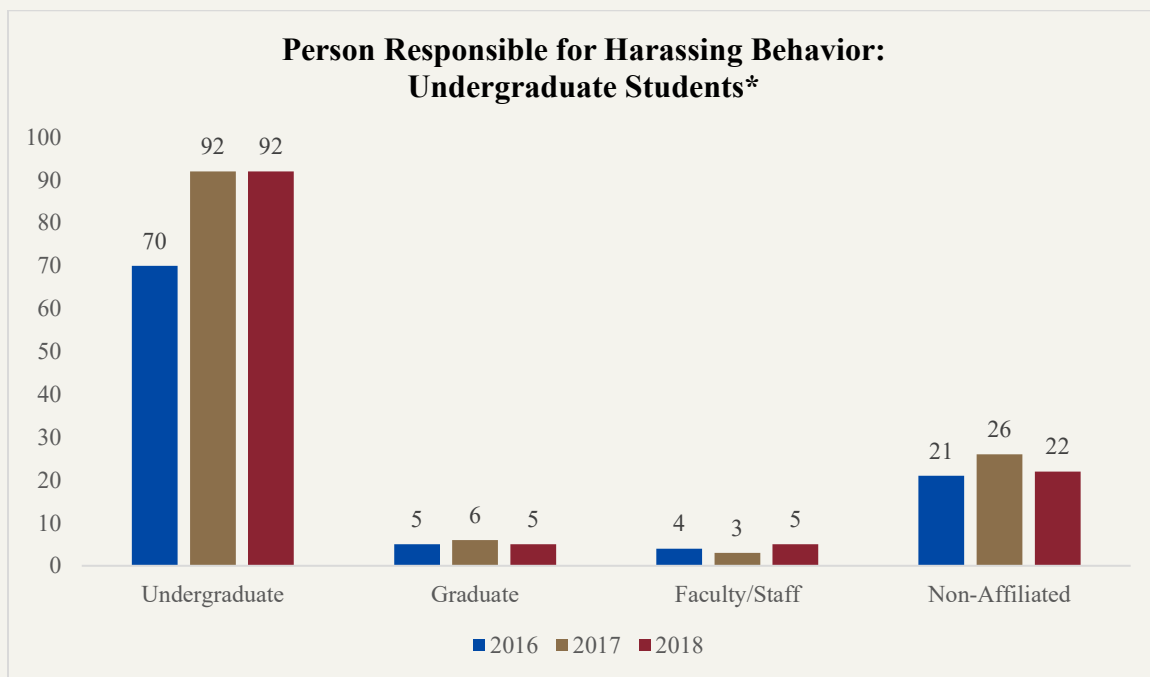
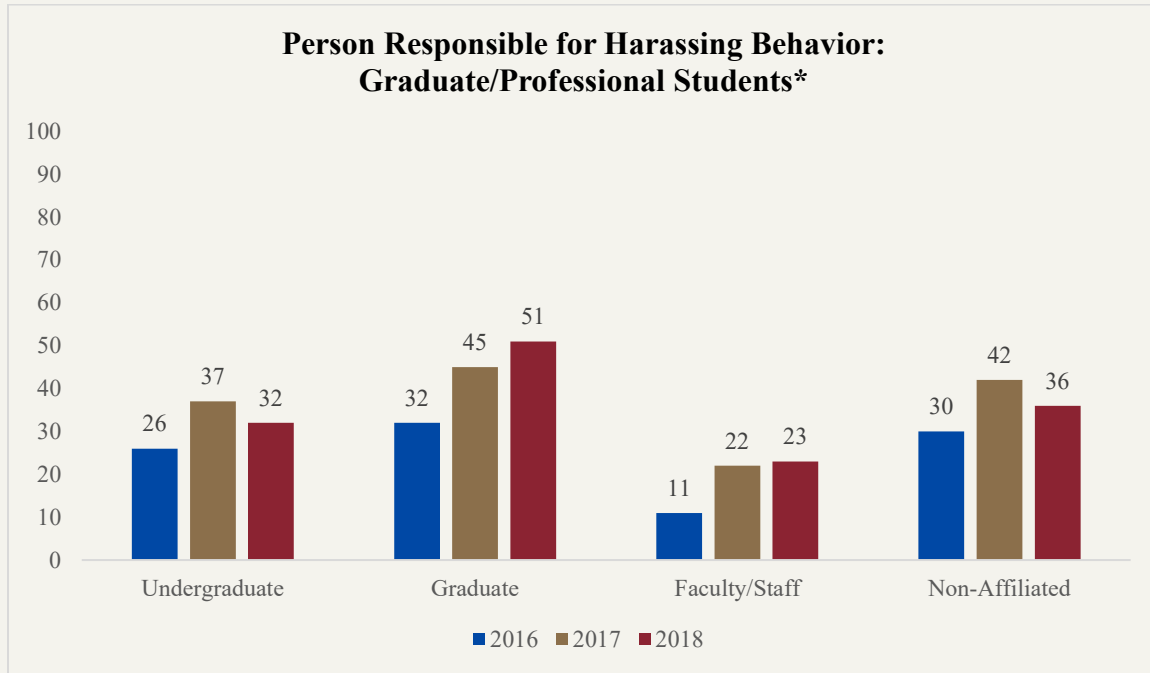


❖ Perceptions





❖ Experiences of Unwanted Behavior

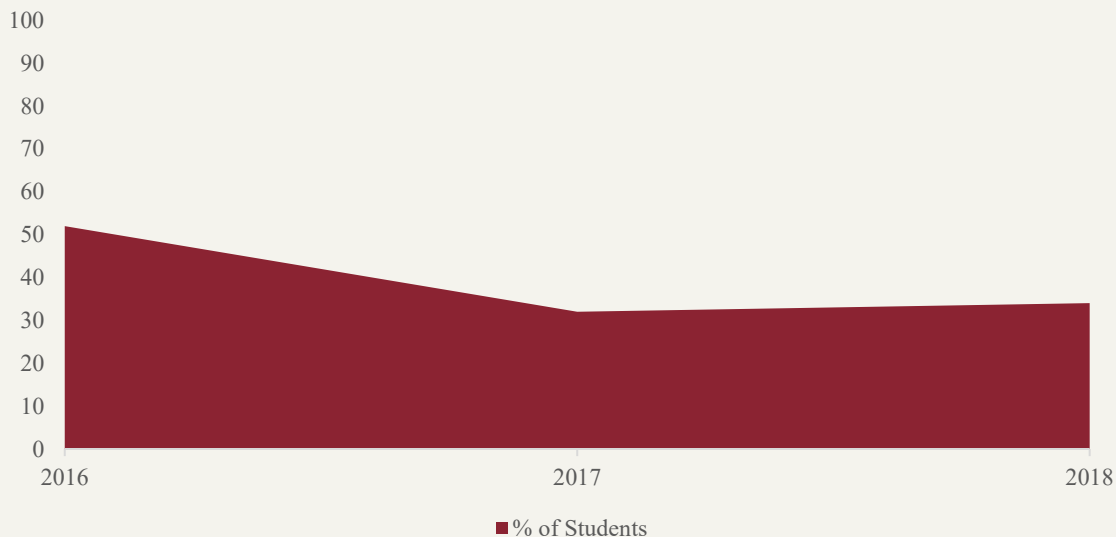


*Students could select more than one category



❖ Experiences of Retaliation, Assault, or Violence

Experienced or Knew Someone who Experienced Gender-Based Violence



❖ Understanding of DU Policies, Procedures, and Resources

Perceptions on Safety

