

SEXUAL CONDUCT AND CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2024-2025



INSTITUTIONAL EQUITY

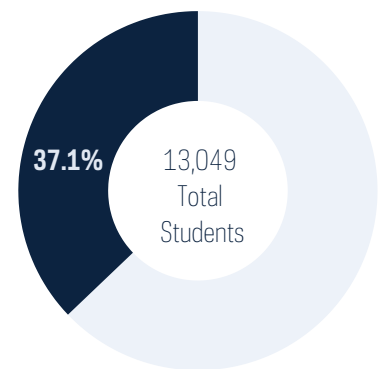
The University of Notre Dame administered its seventh Sexual Conduct and Campus Climate Survey in November 2024 to assess the knowledge, perceptions, and experiences of Notre Dame students in relation to sexual assault, other sex-based misconduct, dating or domestic violence, stalking, fondling, quid pro quo, and other conduct that creates a sexually hostile environment.

The survey instrument was developed by Notre Dame and administered by Institutional Research, Innovation, & Strategy (IRIS), and included several questions adapted from surveys used at peer institutions.

Individual student responses are kept strictly confidential.

The full report can be accessed at equity.nd.edu. Questions about the results should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator at equity@nd.edu.

Student Response Rate Undergraduate and Post-Baccalaureate Students



● Completed the Survey

Of all enrolled undergraduate and post-baccalaureate students, 4,844 completed the survey. The response rate was identical to the 2022-2023 survey.

The University acknowledges that these results may be difficult for some individuals to review and process. Members of the community are encouraged to visit equity.nd.edu for information on the variety of confidential and non-confidential services available to students, faculty, and staff who have been affected by power-based violence.

STUDENT KNOWLEDGE AND PERSPECTIVES

Most students continue to demonstrate strong understanding of harm, consent, and resources. Nearly all (99%) agreed it is important to know what constitutes sexual harm, and 91% correctly recognized that intoxication is not an excuse for failing to obtain consent. Awareness of support remained high, with 85% knowing about University resources and 79% knowing how to report.

There was a sharp rise in confidence as to the effectiveness of the University’s response. For sexual assault, 91% rated the response at least somewhat effective, with the share rating it mostly or very effective rising by 19 points since 2022. Gains were also seen in the belief the University’s response was mostly or very effective for other sex-based misconduct (+20%), dating or domestic violence (+16%), stalking (+13%), and hostile environment conduct (+17%).

PERCEPTION OF THE CAMPUS CLIMATE

Peer trust and bystander culture remain strong—94% said they trust friends to watch out for them, and the same percentage felt confident judging when someone was too intoxicated to give consent. Nine in ten students reported knowing how to intervene and feeling comfortable doing so if safe.

9 in 10 students know how to, and feel comfortable, intervening as an active bystander.

Respectful norms were also widely endorsed, with 92% agreeing students respect personal space and 93% saying peers would respect someone who intervened. Students also reported supporting their peers in increasingly helpful ways—86% provided empathy (+3%) and 43% referred peers to resources (+7%) after an incident.

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES AND SUPPORT

Self-reported experiences of sexual assault remained relatively consistent with prior years, at 3% overall (6% of women, 1% of men). Forty-two percent of incidents occurred in the twelve months preceding the survey, most often between the start of the fall semester and Thanksgiving Break (47%). Circumstances most frequently involved incapacitation (60%), with women identifying threats (34%) and force (34%) as the most common other factors involved, and men reporting force (28%) and pressure/forced alcohol use (32%).

The most common barriers to reporting incidents were wanting to forget (61%), self-blame (52%), believing reporting would not solve anything (50%), and discomfort with process or details (45%), with increases noted in self-blame and wanting to forget compared with 2022.

47% of sexual assaults occurred between the start of the fall semester and Thanksgiving break.

As to other offenses, fondling was experienced by 9% of women and 2% of men, with half of these incidents occurring in the year prior to the survey. Stalking rates decreased slightly, with 4% of women and 1% of men reporting experiences. Rates of dating or domestic violence remained at 1%.

CONCLUSION

Opportunities remain to further educate students on University policies and how Notre Dame responds to reports of sexual assault, sexual misconduct, dating or domestic violence, stalking, and other conduct that creates a sexually hostile environment. **Even a single instance of harm to a member of our community is unacceptable.** The University will continue to strengthen policies and implement programs aimed at reducing these incidents.