

Sexual Misconduct Report from the DLE Survey

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The Diverse Learning Environment (DLE) survey was completed in the Spring of 2016. A section of the survey gathers experiences with unwanted sexual contact and sexual assault. This document reports on this section of the survey only. See the report of the Center for the Study of Diversity DLE report for the full analysis.

The DLE survey was distributed to all 17,575 registered undergraduate students on the Newark campus in spring 2016. Respondents to the DLE are mostly full-time (95.2%) and are representative of all levels of college standing: 1st year (25.1%), 2nd year (24.3%), 3rd year (21.8%), 4th year (25.0%), and 5th year/beyond (3.9%). Most participants are traditional college aged (95.9%) and are continuing generation university students (82.8%). The sample of respondents in the DLE survey (N = 3,696, 21.2% of total population) is slightly more diverse, and includes a higher percentage of females than the overall UD student population (68.1% v. 57.7%). Not all respondents indicated their sex. Those identifying are 1019 males (31.9%) and 2179 females (68.1%) with 498 not indicating their sex. Additionally, the survey asked; What is your sexual orientation? The table below represents those who indicated both their sex and sexual orientation.

		What is your sexual orientation?						
		Heterosexual/Straight	Gay	Lesbian	Bisexual	Queer	Other	Total
Your sex:	Male	563	29	0	18	3	11	624
	Female	1193	1	17	76	20	45	1352
Total		1756	30	17	94	23	56	1976

The sexual contact and assault portions of the survey first asked if the respondent had experienced either unwanted sexual contact or sexual assault. Respondents who indicate yes to these items are then asked a series of related questions. Thus, the responses are limited by the number who report these experiences and are detailed in this report.

Unwanted sexual contact:

The survey first defined unwanted sexual contact as follows:

- **Non-verbal behavior:** unwanted exposure to pornography, unwanted filming or taking photographs of a sexual nature, sending unwanted videos/photos of a sexual nature, sexual gestures made at you, unwelcome sexual advances
- **Verbal behavior:** making sexual comments, spreading sexual rumors, threatening to commit sexual acts, threatening to use physical force
- **Physical contact:** brief intentional touching, grabbing of a sexual nature, brief physically intimidating behavior

Survey respondents were asked, “Since you entered this college, have you experienced any unwanted sexual contact?” (Response Categories are Yes, No) followed by multiple response categories to indicate experience of each of the sexual contact types defined.

Of the 3696 submitted surveys, 2415 answered this item, with 474 (20% of those answering and 13% of the total surveys submitted) saying yes to at least one of the types of unwanted sexual contact.

Question	Valid Responses						
	YES	% Yes	M	% Male	F	% Female	
Since you entered this college, have you experienced any unwanted sexual contact?	474	20%	59	12%	410	86%	
				M%=n/59		F%=n/410	
• Non-verbal behavior of a sexual nature	317	67%	28	47%	286	70%	
• Verbal behavior of a sexual nature	358	76%	29	49%	326	80%	
• Physical contact of a sexual nature	328	69%	36	61%	288	70%	

Far more women than men report unwanted sexual contact, and women report multiple forms of unwanted sexual contact, while men report fewer forms of unwanted sexual contact. Unwanted verbal behavior was most cited among women and contact of a physical nature was most cited among men.

Approximately 82% of those indicating that they have experienced unwanted sexual contact are heterosexual. About 18% of incidents are experienced by persons who do not identify as heterosexual.

		What is your sexual orientation?						
		Heterosexual/ Straight	Gay	Lesbian	Bisexual	Queer	Other	Total
Since you entered this college, have you experienced any unwanted sexual contact?	No	1450	24	15	67	19	34	1609
		90.1%	1.5%	0.9%	4.2%	1.2%	2.1%	100.0%
	Yes	318	6	2	32	4	23	385
		82.6%	1.6%	0.5%	8.3%	1.0%	6.0%	100.0%
Non-verbal behavior of a sexual nature		211	4	1	23	4	16	259
		81.5%	1.5%	0.4%	8.9%	1.5%	6.2%	100.0%
Verbal behavior of a sexual nature		238	4	2	23	3	21	291
		81.8%	1.4%	0.7%	7.9%	1.0%	7.2%	100.0%
Physical contact of a sexual nature		216	5	1	24	4	13	263
		82.1%	1.9%	0.4%	9.1%	1.5%	4.9%	100.0%

Those students who indicated that they had experienced unwanted sexual contact (N=474) were then asked how long ago was the most recent incidence. There were 469 responses to this item, detailed in the table below. Also in this table are the responses to questions about the threat or use of physical force and is the perpetrator was affiliated with the university.

<i>When was the most recent occurrence of unwanted sexual contact?</i>	<i>Male N=59</i>		<i>Female N=410</i>	
<i>Past month</i>	10	17%	101	25%
<i>6 months ago</i>	14	24%	127	31%
<i>1 year ago</i>	14	24%	91	22%
<i>2 years ago</i>	4	7%	55	13%
<i>3 or more years ago</i>	5	8%	16	4%
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<i>Did this person threaten to use physical force? Yes</i>	0	0%	27	7%
<i>Does this person have an affiliation with this institution? Yes</i>	14	24%	132	32%

Among both men and women, the majority reported that an incidence of unwanted sexual contact occurred 1 year ago or less. None of the men and 27 (7%) of the women reported a threat or use of physical force. Perpetrators were affiliated with the university in 24% of incidents of male victims and 32% of female victims.

Survey respondents were also asked to indicate who they had talked with about the incident. Most common for both men and women was to tell a friend. However, 25% of men and 16% women reported telling no one.

<i>Who did you tell about the unwanted sexual contact?</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
<i>No one</i>	82	15	67
<i>Professor</i>	14	2	12
<i>Campus administrator (e.g., Dean of Students)</i>	12	0	12
<i>Residence hall staff</i>	17	3	14
<i>Campus police</i>	6	0	6
<i>Local law enforcement</i>	4	0	4
<i>Counselor or therapist</i>	33	1	32
<i>Medical professional</i>	11	0	11
<i>Friend</i>	351	30	321
<i>Parent or guardian</i>	54	3	51
<i>Other family member</i>	46	3	43

The 474 persons reporting that they had experienced unwanted sexual contact were asked if they had filed a formal report or complaint with the institution. Fifteen respondents indicated that they had made a formal complaint. Only 3% of both women and men filed a formal report. Seven of the reporters identified as heterosexual, three identified as bisexual and one identified as queer.

<i>Did you file a formal report or complaint?</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Hetero</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>Lesbian</i>	<i>Bisexual</i>	<i>Queer</i>	<i>Other</i>
	2	13	7	0	0	3	1	0

Students who indicated that they did file a report were asked how satisfied they were with the institution's response. Nine of the 15 students reported being either satisfied or very satisfied (60%). The distribution of responses by sex and sexual orientation are shown in the table below.

How satisfied are you with the response?	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Total
TOTAL	2	2	2	6	3	15
Male			1		1	2
Female	2	2	1	6	2	13
Heterosexual	1		1	4	1	7
Bisexual			1	1	1	3
Queer		1				1

Sexual assault:

The survey defined sexual assault as; Committed or attempted acts of a sexual nature or sexual intercourse occurring without the victim freely giving consent or against someone who is unable to consent or refuse. The acts can include (but are not limited to):

- Forced touching (kissing, groping, fondling) or being forced to touch the perpetrator or someone else
- Sexual intercourse or attempted sexual intercourse – vaginal, anal, or oral penetration or attempted penetration of the victim or victim being forced to penetrate the perpetrator or someone else

Students were asked if they had experienced sexual assault since entering the University of Delaware. Students were then asked if the assault occurred when they were unable to give consent, or under threat. The table below shows the distribution of affirmative responses.

Question	Valid Responses							
	YES	% Yes	M	% Male	F	% Female		
Since you entered this college, has someone sexually assaulted or attempted to sexually assault you?	2414	175	7%	23	1%	150	6%	
				M%=n/23		F%=n/150		
Did the sexual assault occur at a time when you were unable to provide consent because you were passed out, drugged, drunk, or otherwise incapacitated? Yes, No	172	94	55%	11	48%	81	54%	
Did this person use or threaten to use physical force? Yes, No	171	41	24%	3	13%	37	25%	

Approximately half of both males and females indicated that the assault occurred when they were unable to consent. Threat or use of physical force was twice as common among female victims as among male victims.

The 175 students who indicated that they had experienced sexual assault were asked when the assault occurred. Over half of male and female respondents indicated it occurred a year ago or more recently.

<i>When was the most recent occurrence of sexual assault?</i>		<i>Male N=23</i>		<i>Female N=150</i>	
<i>Past month</i>		3	13%	18	12%
<i>6 months ago</i>		7	30%	38	25%
<i>1 year ago</i>		8	35%	43	29%
<i>2 years ago</i>		1	4%	27	18%
<i>3 or more years ago</i>		4	17%	19	13%

Survey respondents were also asked to indicate who they had talked with about the incident. Most common for both men and women was to tell a friend. However, 13% of men and 15% women reported telling no one.

<i>Who did you tell about the sexual assault?</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
<i>No one</i>	26	3	23
<i>Professor</i>	7	1	6
<i>Campus administrator (e.g., Dean of Students)</i>	10	0	10
<i>Residence hall staff</i>	9	0	9
<i>Campus police</i>	3	0	3
<i>Local law enforcement</i>	2	0	2
<i>Counselor or therapist</i>	30	2	28
<i>Medical professional</i>	12	1	11
<i>Friend</i>	133	19	112
<i>Parent or guardian</i>	32	1	30
<i>Other family member</i>	27	3	23

The 175 persons reporting that they had experienced sexual assault were asked if they had filed a formal report or complaint with the institution. Nine respondents indicated that they had made a formal complaint. Five percent of women and 4% of men filed a formal report. Eight of the reporters identified as heterosexual and one identified as queer. These nine people were asked their level of satisfaction with the institution's response to their complaint. The distribution by sex and sexual orientation are reported below.

<i>Did you file a formal report or complaint?</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Hetero</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>Lesbian</i>	<i>Bisexual</i>	<i>Queer</i>	<i>Other</i>
	1	8	8	0	0	0	1	0

<i>How satisfied are you with the response?</i>	<i>Very Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Very Satisfied</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>		1	2	4	2	9
<i>Male</i>					1	1
<i>Female</i>		1	2	4	1	8
<i>Queer</i>		1				1