



2022 Campus Climate Survey of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking and Sexual Assault

In Spring 2022, members of the Molloy community were asked to complete a survey focusing on various aspects of campus climate related to safety, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and/or sexual assault.

Of the 4,748 students invited to participate, a total of 139 completed the survey for an overall response rate of 2.9%. Class distribution of survey respondents were as follows: 19% freshman, 13% sophomore, 21% junior, 22% senior, 19% graduate students, and 5% professional/continuing ed. More than half of respondents (56%) indicated Molloy was the first college they attended, while 12% transferred from a 2-year college, 10% transferred from a 4-year college, and 21% completed a degree at another college. Eighty-two percent of respondents indicated they lived off campus with family, 11% lived on campus in a residence hall, and 8% lived off campus by themselves. Eighty-two percent of respondents identified as women, 13% men, 4% non-binary, and 1% preferred not to disclose. Seventy-seven percent reported their sexual orientation as heterosexual, 10% as bisexual, 4% as queer, 2% as gay, 2% as lesbian, and 6% preferred not to disclose. Sixteen percent of respondents were Hispanic or Latinx. When asked which options best described their race, seventy percent selected White, 10% Asian, 8% Black or African American, 3% described their race as other, and 9% preferred not to disclose.

Following is a brief summary of the results of the survey.

Knowledge of Policies, Procedures and Resources

The overwhelming majority of respondents (98%) indicated they are aware that Molloy University has policies and procedures specifically addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking and harassment.

More than three-quarters (78%) of respondents indicated they knew that Title IX protects people from discrimination based on sex in all educational programs and activities prior to taking the Campus Climate survey. Respondents were asked to indicate specifically what they believe the Title IX Staff can do. The following are their responses in order of most often selected: receive reports of sexual misconduct (92%), coordinate campus resources to help victim/survivors (91%), provide training/education to the campus community (90%), provide reporting individuals with accommodations and services during an investigation (89%), investigate reports of sexual misconduct (81%), call the police to report a crime (69%), and punish someone who is accused of sexual misconduct (51%).

Reporting and Prevalence of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking or Sexual Assault

Ninety-nine percent of respondents practice affirmative consent in their relationships. Ninety-seven percent of respondents believe someone may be too drunk to properly consent.

Four-fifths of respondents (80%) indicated they understand they will not get in trouble for breaking campus regulations about drinking or using drugs, if they report witnessing domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault.

Eighty-four percent of respondents understand there is a difference between reporting sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking to the criminal justice system and reporting to Molloy University.

Resources

Prior to taking the survey, students indicated they were aware of many of the on and off campus resources offered. Most students (94%) were aware of Public Safety, followed by Student Health Services (92%), Student Personal Counseling Center (85%), Human Resources (70%), Title IX Coordinator (63%), Molloy Violence Prevention (MVP) Initiative (59%), The Safe Center – Counseling (52%), The Safe Center – Advocacy (39%), and SANE Center (21%).

Three-quarters of the respondents (75%) indicated they received oral information (e.g., presentations, training) and/or written (e.g., brochures, emails) from Molloy with the definitions of sexual and interpersonal violence (domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and harassment). Respondents also reported receiving information on the following topics: Where to go to get help if you or someone you know experiences sexual or interpersonal violence (71%), how to report sexual and interpersonal violence (68%), to whom you can speak confidentially about sexual and interpersonal violence (66%), policies prohibiting sexual and interpersonal violence (66%).

In terms of sexual and interpersonal violence, the overwhelming majority of students indicated they “strongly agree” or “agree” with the following in regards to Molloy’s response: sexual and interpersonal violence are not tolerated (99%), training in sexual and interpersonal violence prevention is taken seriously (99%), tries to prevent sexual and interpersonal violence (98%), provides needed services to victims of sexual and interpersonal violence (97%), investigates incidents of sexual and interpersonal violence (96%), and educates students about sexual and interpersonal violence (95%).

Perceptions of Risks

When asked about the following perceived risks at Molloy, the majority of students indicated they were “not at all” or “a little” problematic: sexual violence (92%), domestic violence and dating violence (93%), and stalking (89%).

Experiences

Students were asked to indicate whether they had encountered specific experiences while at Molloy. Fifteen percent of respondents experienced unwanted sexual comments, sexual slurs or demeaning jokes, 9% received unwanted sexually suggestive digital communications, and 3% were aware of someone viewing their sexual activity or nakedness without their consent or had taken explicit pictures or recordings without consent.

Since becoming a student, 4% of respondents experienced sexual contact without consent and another 3% were unsure. Respondents indicated that someone had sexual contact with them without their active, ongoing voluntary agreement by doing the following: initiating sexual activity despite their refusal (38%), ignoring cues to stop or slow down (25%), initiating sexual activity when they were

incapacitated due to drugs or alcohol (13%), went ahead without checking in or while they were still deciding (13%), and otherwise failed to obtain their consent (13%).

Ninety-seven percent of respondents indicated that, since becoming a student at Molloy University, they have not been in a romantic or intimate relationship that concerned them or a family member/friend.

Ninety-five percent of students responded they have not had anyone repeatedly follow them, watch them, text, call, write, e-mail or communicate with them in ways that seemed obsessive and made them afraid or concerned for their safety, since becoming a Molloy University student.

Ninety-four percent of respondents indicated they have not pressured or forced someone into sexual contact without the person's explicit consent.

Students were provided with a variety of hypothetical scenarios and were asked how likely or unlikely they were to say or do something to try to get them to stop.

- 94% are "likely" or "very likely" to intervene if their friends were sending sexual pictures, web pages, or messages to someone who didn't ask for them.
- 85% are "likely" or "very likely" to intervene if people they don't know very well were making unwanted sexual comments, jokes, or gestures.
- 96% are "likely" or "very likely" to intervene if they saw one of their friends leading someone who is obviously drunk away to have sex with them.
- 98% are "likely" or "very likely" to ask a friend if they suspect they might be in an abusive relationship.
- 94% are "likely" or "very likely" to report if someone told them that they had sex with someone who was passed out.
- 95% are "likely" or "very likely" to intervene if they saw someone they didn't know look uncomfortable while being touched, grabbed, or pinched in a sexual way.
- 90% are "likely" or "very likely" to come up with a plan for checking in with one another throughout the evening when they go out with their friends.

Additionally, respondents were asked to rate their agreement with several statements regarding Molloy University.

- 80% "strongly agree" or "agree" that at Molloy University when students make sexual comments, other students stand up for them.
- 89% "strongly agree" or "agree" that if students see someone trying to have unwanted sexual contact with someone, they will try to stop them.
- 78% "disagree" or "strongly disagree" that people get too offended by sexual comments, jokes, or gestures.
- 98% "strongly disagree" or "disagree" that it doesn't really hurt anyone to post sexual comments or photos of people without their consent through e-mail, text, or social media.
- 95% "strongly disagreed" or "disagreed" that if a person who is sexually assaulted while he/she is drunk is at least somewhat responsible for putting themselves in that position.
- 86% "strongly disagree" or "disagree" that accusations of sexual assault are often used by one person as a way to get back at the other.