

Summary of The Rockefeller University's 2021 Student Climate Survey Results

From May 19, 2021, to June 1, 2021, The Rockefeller University (“Rockefeller”) administered a student climate survey designed to assess students’ knowledge of Rockefeller’s policies and procedures addressing sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual violence; student’s knowledge of services and resources offered by Rockefeller and others; and students’ personal experiences with sexual misconduct, including observing and reporting incidents of sexual misconduct.

- 276 students were invited to participate in the survey. The students were Rockefeller Ph.D. students, M.D./Ph.D. students doing their thesis work at Rockefeller, visiting students, and Clinical Scholars in Rockefeller’s Master’s Degree Program.
- 118 students (“participants”) participated in the survey, reflecting a 43% response rate.

We appreciate the participation in this survey as it allows us to capture the experiences and views of our student body. The students responded anonymously and were not required to answer all questions in order to complete the survey.

Below is a summary of the survey results, including demographic information, with response rates rounded to the nearest whole percentage.

Demographic Information of Participants

- 84% of participants indicated that they reside in Rockefeller University housing with on campus (41%) and (43%) off campus. 19% of participants reported living in private housing or other (10%).
- 47% of participants describes themselves as male and 53% describe themselves as female.
- With respect to gender identification, 47% of participants identify as a man, 53% identify as a woman, 3% identify as non-binary, 1% identify as transgender, and 1% identify as genderqueer/gender-fluid.
- With respect to sexual orientation, 77% of participants identify as heterosexual, 7% identify as gay, 1% identify as lesbian, 10% identify as bisexual, 2% identify as asexual, 3% identify as pansexual, 5% identify as queer, 3% identify as questioning/unsure, 2% identify as other.¹
- 9% of participants consider themselves to be an individual with a disability/chronic health condition.

¹ Participants were asked to check all that apply. Totals may not equal 100%

Student Knowledge of Rockefeller's Policies & Procedures, Resources and Services

- 96% of participants indicated they were aware that the University has policies and procedures to specifically address sexual harassment and assault.
- 99% of participants indicated they are very (24%) or somewhat (75%) informed about how sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual violence are defined in Rockefeller's policies.
- 100% of participants indicated they are very (57%) or somewhat (43%) informed about where to get help if they or someone they know at Rockefeller experienced sex discrimination, sexual harassment, or sexual violence.
- 90% reported receiving information regarding the definition of sexual assault. 88% reported receiving information about how to report a sexual assault. 93% reported knowing where to go to get help if they or someone they knew were sexually assaulted. 93% reported receiving information about who to speak to confidentially regarding an assault. 91% reported receiving materials relating to the university's policies prohibiting sexual assault and harassment.
- Rockefeller personnel to whom a participant indicated that they would make a report of sex discrimination, sexual harassment, or sexual violence include: Title IX Coordinator (57%), Department Heads of Deans office, OGC, and Housing (23%) Assistant Dean, Director of Career and Professional Development (17%), Director of Graduation Program Finances and Student Affairs (12%), Graduate Admissions Administrator and Registrar (11%), Directors of: Security, Employment, and HR Compliance, (26%), All of the above (46%).
- 84% of participants reported knowing who Rockefeller's Title IX Coordinator is.
- 93% of participants identified five of the Title IX Coordinator's responsibilities.
- 98% of participants indicated they were informed of the University's process when an incident of sexual misconduct against a student is reported at Rockefeller.
- 98% of participants indicated an understanding of the definition of the term, "Affirmative Consent."
- Participants indicated they were aware of the following services: Occupational Health Services (100%), Rockefeller's on-site psychiatrist and LCSW (90%), New York Presbyterian Hospital-Weill Cornell Medical Center Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) Program (50%), Campus Security (94%), NYPD (73%), Human Resources (94%), Deans Office (94%) and the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) (37%).

Students' Personal Experiences

In the past two years as a Rockefeller student, participants reported experiencing the following:

- Unwelcome sexual remarks, jokes, or stories that were insulting or offensive to the participant made by a Rockefeller student or employee or third party (25%).
- Someone viewing their sexual actively or seen them without clothing or taken explicit photos or recordings without the participant's consent (1%)
- Unwanted sexually suggestive digital communications, either words or images, or both, including emails, texts, social media communications, or in written format (13%).
- Inappropriate or offensive comments by a Rockefeller student, employee or third party about the participant's or someone else's body, appearance, or sexual activities, or someone talked to the participant about sexual matters when the participant did not want to (21%).
- Repeated overtures by a Rockefeller student, employee, or third party, after the participant said "No", to ask the participant to go out, get dinner, have drinks, or have sex (8%).
- The use of physical force or threats of physical force by a Rockefeller student, employee or third party to engage the participant in sexual activity (0%).
- Felt forced to engage in sexual activity with a Rockefeller student, employee, or third party (8%).
- A Rockefeller student, employee, or third party having sexual contact with the participant without the participant's knowing, voluntary and mutual agreement. For example, someone initiated sexual activity despite the participant's refusal, cues to stop or slow down, gone ahead without checking in while the participant was still deciding, or otherwise failed to obtain the participant's consent (7%).
- Received unwanted phone calls, emails, voice messages, text messages or instant messages or pictures of videos on social networking sites that made the participant afraid for their personal safety (9%).
- Someone showed up or waited for the participant when the participant did not want the person to do so in a way that made the participant afraid for their personal safety (4%).
- A spouse or romantic partner controlled or tried to control the participant. For example, kept the participant from going to classes or pursuing the participant's educational goals, not

allowed the participant to see or talk with friends or family, or made decisions for the participant such as where to go or what to wear (6%).

- A spouse or romantic partner used any kind of physical force against the participant. (e.g., choked, slapped, punched, kicked, hit with something other than a fist, attacked with a weapon, or otherwise physically hurt or injured the participant) (2%).

With respect to participants who reported having personal experiences:

- Participants who contacted one of more of the following Rockefeller University Personnel: Title IX Coordinator (38%), Head of Lab (38%), Department head (0%), Deans Office (13%), Campus Security (0%), Housing personnel (25%).
- 90% indicated that the Rockefeller personnel were very (30%) or somewhat (60%) helpful.
- In addition to Rockefeller personnel, participants reported contacting one or more of the following: Law Enforcement (3%), Office of Civil Rights (0%), Health Care Provider (17%), Friend (83%), Family Member (48%), didn't tell anyone (10%).
- Participants who did not contact Rockefeller personnel selected one or more of the following reasons for not doing so: did not know where to go (3%), felt embarrassed or ashamed (10%), felt it would be too emotionally difficult (10%), did not think anyone would believe them (0%), did not think it was serious enough to report (48%), did not want the person to get in trouble (21%), had concerns about the consequences (17%), did not think anything would be done about it (31%), feared it would not be kept confidential (14%), the incident was not on campus or associated with Rockefeller (7%), incident did not occur while attending Rockefeller (14%), Other (14%).

Bystander Intervention

- 12% of participants reported knowing a friend who had been sexually assaulted.
- After learning that a friend had been sexually assaulted, participants reported responding in the following ways: did nothing (0%), spoke to their friend about it (92%), spoke to someone else to seek help (15%), found resources for their friend (31%), took action another way (23%), notified a university official (0%).
- 7% of participants reported having seen a person who was intoxicated or under the influence of drugs or alcohol being led to what looked like a potential sexual encounter.
- After seeing a person who was intoxicated or under the influence of drugs or alcohol being led to what looked like a potential sexual encounter: 100% of participants spoke to their friend

directly, 14% spoke to someone else to seek help, 14% took action in another way, and 0% notified a university official

- 14% of participants have seen or heard someone acting in a sexually violent or harassing way.
- After seeing or hearing someone acting in a sexually violent or harassing way, 45% of participants reported they did nothing about it, 36% spoke to their friend, 27% took action in another way, and 9% notified a university official.

** * * We thank all students who participated in this survey. The survey results inform the Rockefeller administration about students' knowledge of Rockefeller's policies and procedures addressing sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual violence; students' knowledge of Rockefeller's and external resources and services; and students' experiences with sexual misconduct, including their personal experiences and as a bystander. The survey results will be very helpful to consider in our ongoing efforts to provide outreach, education, and resources for our Rockefeller community.*