

# UC Berkeley's MyVoice Survey Results

## Executive Summary

In 2018, UC Berkeley's entire campus community was invited to share their experiences, beliefs, norms and knowledge regarding sexual violence and sexual harassment (SVSH) through the MyVoice Survey.

The four main goals of the MyVoice Survey were to inform campus prevention and response efforts; tailor programs and services to campus needs; learn Berkeley's protective and risk factors for SVSH; and acquire a prevalence rates baseline.

The survey was innovative in several ways: it included the entire campus community, not just students; and it covered a wide range of experiences of harm. The survey instrument was developed by the UC

Total invited population and response rates

Undergraduates	Graduates	Faculty	Staff
18%	32%	37%	40%

Berkeley MyVoice Working Group in partnership with NORC, an independent research group. For statistical validity, NORC weighted results on the basis of a demographically balanced sample. Almost 15,000 people took the survey.

The MyVoice Survey did not use general terms such as "sexual harassment" or "sexual assault," which participants might interpret inconsistently. Rather, it asked participants specific behavioral questions about experiences in the last 5 years (or since coming to UC Berkeley). In reporting results, NORC aggregated these questions into four overarching categories- sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, and stalking.

### Key findings

#### *Informing campus prevention efforts*

Many survey questions focused on social norms. Overall, the campus community demonstrated pro-social norms: for example, most support survivors; reject victim-blaming stereotypes; and doubt that SVSH is a result of miscommunication, drugs, or alcohol. However, the survey also showed that individuals tended to underestimate the degree to which others hold those same, healthy views.

#### *Tailoring programs and services to campus needs*

The survey revealed a variety of reasons for why survivors did not report harm to campus authorities. As indicated in Figure 1, regarding experiences of sexual assault behaviors, a top reason for not reporting was concern about whether the incident was sufficiently serious. Survey participants also indicated concern about being blamed or treated poorly if they came forward. There is clearly work to be done to translate the positive social norms revealed in the survey into trust by survivors in their community.

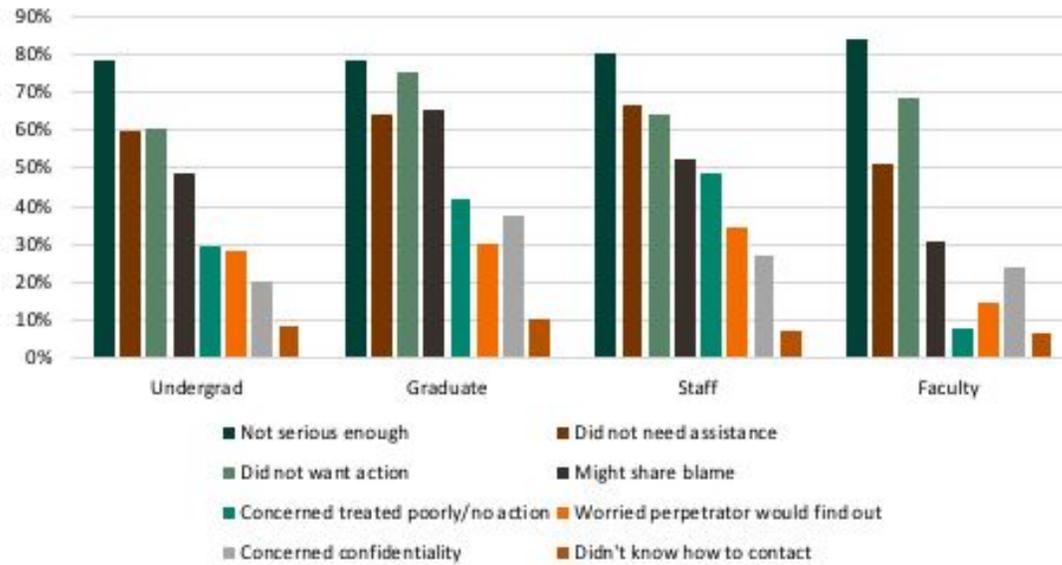


Figure 1: Reasons participants did not tell anyone about sexual assault behaviors

The survey also revealed that for those who did disclose their experience, the majority first told a friend. This emphasizes the importance of preparing the community with the tools and skills they need to be supportive.

*Protective and risk factors*

A clear finding of the survey was that experiences of SVSH vary by sexual orientation, gender identity, and ethnic identity. People with identities that experience marginalization reported the highest rates of SVSH experiences, while those with more privileged identities reported the lowest rates. For example, 40% of survey takers identifying as underrepresented racial minorities of non-binary gender reported experiencing behaviors classified as sexual violence or sexual harassment, compared with an overall rate of 12% of survey takers. This result, familiar from other surveys, indicates the importance of tailoring response efforts to marginalized communities and differing cultural contexts.

*Prevalence rates*

The survey revealed that undergraduate students experience more harm, overall, than do graduate students, staff and faculty. For example, Figure 2 shows that 30% of undergraduates experienced behaviors classified as sexual harassment in the time frame covered by the survey.

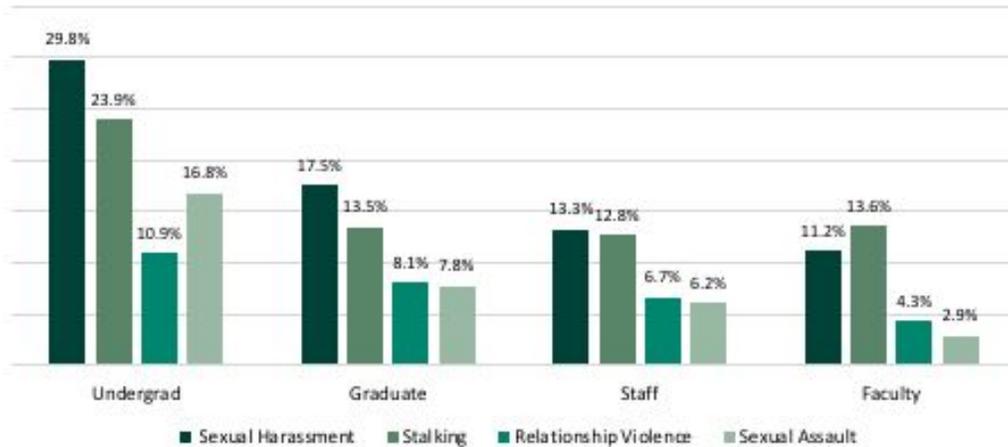


Figure 2: Experiences of Different Forms of Harm

The survey revealed that experiences of harm are most likely to take place within the same affiliate group. As seen in Figure 3, undergraduates were more likely to experience sexual assault behaviors from fellow undergraduates than from the other groups; graduate students were most likely to experience these behaviors from fellow graduate students, etc. For staff, supervisors constituted a disturbingly large percentage (21%) of perpetrators of harassment. These findings offer opportunities to tailor campus prevention efforts.

Perpetrator of Sexual Assault	Undergrad	Grad	Staff	Faculty
Perpetrator was a UCB undergraduate student	66%	12%	8%	
Perpetrator was a UCB graduate student	3%	36%	2.9%	
Perpetrator was a UCB staff member	0.9%	2%	6%	
Perpetrator was a UCB faculty member	0.1%	1%	2.5%	11%
Perpetrator was an individual not associated with UCB	31%	41%	65%	63%

Figure 3: Characteristics of Perpetrators of Sexual Assault

In general, the survey findings regarding experiences of harm in the UC Berkeley community are comparable with results from other campus surveys. However, any sexual violence or harassment in a learning institution is unacceptable. UC Berkeley will use the information gained in the MyVoice Survey to shape the next generation of change on campus, by designing and implementing a series of action steps in 2018-2020 to respond to key findings from the survey.