

Ashland University 2016 Campus Climate Survey Results Summary

The State of Ohio's Changing Campus Culture Initiative seeks to strengthen its ability to better respond to, and ultimately prevent, sexual assault on the state's college campuses. In the spring 2016, all Ohio campuses were encouraged to participate in recommendation #1 in the Changing Campus Culture report: use data to guide action. In addition to completing a comprehensive campus climate survey, Ohio campuses were also asked to disseminate 15 common benchmark questions. The purpose of the benchmark questions was to provide the Ohio Department of Higher Education with a common set of data to measure statewide progress in addressing prevention and response to sexual violence, and to track trends over time. While campuses were free to determine which climate survey best fit their campus community, the benchmark questions were the same to allow for comparison between one campus and others of similar type.

Methodology and Sample

Data collection began in the 2016 spring semester and ended by June 2016. Institutions collected data in various ways, including through paper surveys and electronically. All responses were anonymous. Each participating school was asked to gather data on the benchmark questions along with provided demographic questions. Response scales for the benchmark questions and demographic questions varied slightly for some institutions, and any questions with substantively different response scales were excluded from the aggregate analyses.

14 public university main campuses, 23 community/state/technical colleges, and 35 private institutions participated in the survey. The overall sample included 23,240 students across the sampled 71 higher education institutions. The largest response category for each of the benchmark demographics were: 66% female, 38% aged 18-21 years, 89% not Hispanic, 77% white, 78% heterosexual, 61% living off-campus.

588 students participated from Ashland University. The state wide sample description provided above can be used as a comparison point for Ashland University's student population. In this report, comparisons are made for the data from the 15 benchmark questions between Ashland University students and "all private colleges". The aggregated data across all private colleges that participated in the survey comprise the comparison group. Appendix A provides the average responses for each of the 15 benchmark questions for Ashland University and for all sampled private colleges. See Appendix B for a complete list of participating institutions.

Summary of Results

Perceptions of Campus Leadership, Policies, and Reporting

Five questions assessed how students believe Ashland University leadership would respond to a report of sexual assault based on behavior the students have observed or opinions they have heard. Averages for each question for the campus sample are provided below along with the sample wide averages across all surveyed private colleges.

1 = Not at all likely, 2 = Slightly likely, 3 = Moderately likely, 4 = Very likely

	Ashland University	All private colleges
The university would take the report seriously.	3.34	3.44
The university would take steps to protect the safety of the person making the report.	3.17	3.33
The university would support the person making the report.	3.14	3.32
The university would take corrective action against the offender.	3.13	3.20
The university would take steps to protect the person making the report from retaliation.	3.03	3.19

Additionally, Ashland University students were asked how confident they are that the campus will follow formal procedures to address complaints of sexual assault fairly (with responses ranging from 1=Strongly disagree to 4 =Strongly agree).

Ashland University average = 3.08
All private colleges' average = 3.18

Student Education, Efforts, and Knowledge

Students indicated whether or not they have participated in two types of trainings:

- 1) on policies and procedures regarding incidents of sexual assault (e.g., what is defined as sexual assault, how to report an incident, confidential resources, who is a mandated reporter on campus)

Ashland University = 21.43% of respondents participated
All private colleges = 40.58% of respondents participated

- 2) on prevention of sexual assault

Ashland University = 18.71% of respondents participated
All private colleges = 33.82% of respondents participated

Ashland University students also reported on their desire to learn more about sexual assault on campus and how active they are in projects and efforts to address sexual assault.

1 = Strongly disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neither agree or disagree, 4 = Agree, 5 = Strongly agree

	Ashland University	All private colleges
I am planning to learn more about the issue of sexual violence on campus.	2.69	2.64
I have recently attended a program about sexual violence.	1.78	1.96
I am actively involved in projects to address sexual violence on campus.	1.61	1.74
I have been or am currently involved in ongoing efforts to end sexual violence on campus.	1.64	1.78

Furthermore, If an incident of sexual assault occurred, students indicated how acquainted they were with resources to get help.

Where to go to get help if a friend or the student was sexually assaulted:

(1=Strongly disagree to 4 =Strongly agree):

Ashland University average = 2.98;

All private colleges' average = 3.17

The contact information to get support on-campus for sexual violence:

Ashland University = 18.88% know;

All private colleges = 34.58% know

The contact information to get support off-campus for sexual violence:

Ashland University = 26.02% know;

All private colleges = 35.35% know

Prevalence

Students at Ashland University evaluated how much they agreed with the statement "I do not think sexual violence is a problem on this campus." *(1=Strongly disagree to 5 = Strongly agree).*

Ashland University average = 2.74 compared to

All surveyed private colleges' average = 2.90

Moreover, Ashland University students indicated if they had observed a situation that they believe was, or could have led to, a sexual assault since the start of the academic year.

Ashland University = 6.12% of respondents observed such a situation

All private colleges = 11.06% of respondents observed such a situation

The sample of students also reported if they knew a friend or acquaintance that had been sexually assaulted since the start of the current academic year and if the victim was a woman or man who had been assaulted on-campus or off-campus.

	Ashland University	All private colleges
Percent reporting knowing a woman assaulted on-campus	8.33%	13.01%
Percent reporting knowing a woman assaulted off-campus	7.82%	9.85%
Percent reporting knowing a man assaulted on-campus	1.02%	2.92%
Percent reporting knowing a man assaulted off-campus	0.85%	2.88%

Appendix A
Average Responses to all Benchmark Questions
See notes below table for response scales.

Question	Ashland University	All private colleges
The university would take the report seriously. ¹	3.34	3.44
The university would take steps to protect the safety of the person making the report. ¹	3.17	3.33
The university would support the person making the report. ¹	3.14	3.32
The university would take corrective action against the offender. ¹	3.13	3.20
The university would take steps to protect the person making the report from retaliation. ¹	3.03	3.19
Percent of students who reported taking a training in policies & procedures regarding incidents of sexual assault (that is, what is defined as sexual assault, how to report an incident, confidential resources, procedures for investigating, who is a mandated reporter on campus)	21.43	40.58
If yes, how useful did you think the training was? (on incidents of sexual assault) ²	4.07	3.72
Percent of students who reported receiving training in prevention of sexual assault	18.71	33.82
If yes, how useful did you think the training was? (on prevention of sexual assault) ²	4.15	3.75
If a friend or I were sexually assaulted, I know where to go to get help. ³	2.98	3.17
I understand the university's/college's formal procedures to address complaints of sexual assault. ³	2.48	2.76
I have confidence that my university/college will follow the formal procedures to address complaints of sexual assault fairly. ³	3.08	3.18
I do not think sexual violence is a problem on this campus. ⁴	2.74	2.90
I do not think there is much I can do about sexual violence on campus. ⁴	2.53	2.45
There is not much need for me to think about sexual violence on campus. ⁴	2.35	2.48
Doing something about sexual violence is solely the job of the campus or local crisis center. ⁴	1.98	2.00
I am planning to learn more about the issue of sexual violence on campus. ⁴	2.69	2.64

I have recently attended a program about sexual violence. ⁴	1.78	1.96
I am actively involved in projects to address sexual violence on campus. ⁴	1.61	1.74
I have been or am currently involved in ongoing efforts to end sexual violence on campus. ⁴	1.64	1.78
Percent of students who reported, since the start of the current academic year, having a friend or acquaintance tell the student that they were sexually assaulted (raped, sexual harassed and/or stalked).	13.10	17.80
Percent of students who reported knowing a woman assaulted on-campus	8.33	13.01
Percent of students who reported knowing a woman assaulted off-campus	7.82	9.85
Percent of students who reported knowing a man assaulted on-campus	1.02	2.92
Percent of students who reported knowing a man assaulted off-campus	0.85	2.88
Percent of students who reported, since the start of the current academic year, observing a situation that they believe was, or could have led to, a sexual assault	6.12	11.06
Percent of students who reported knowing the contact information to get support on-campus for sexual violence – rape or sexual assault	18.88	34.58
Percent of students who reported knowing the contact information to get support off-campus for sexual violence – rape or sexual assault	26.02	35.35

Notes:

¹Response scale: 1 = Not at all likely, 2 = Slightly likely, 3 = Moderately likely, 4 = Very likely

²Response scale: 1 = Not useful, 2 = Slightly useful, 3 = Somewhat useful, 4 = Moderately useful, 5 = Very useful

³Response scale: 1 = Strongly disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Agree, 4 = Strongly agree

⁴Response scale: 1 = Strongly disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neither Agree or Disagree, 4 = Agree, 5 = Strongly agree

Appendix B
Institutions Participating in the 2016 Survey

University main campuses:

Bowling Green State University
Central State University
Cleveland State University
Kent State University
Miami University
Northeast Ohio Medical University
Ohio University
Shawnee State University
The Ohio State University
University of Akron
University of Cincinnati
University of Toledo
Wright State University
Youngstown State University

Community/state/technical colleges:

Belmont College
Central Ohio Technical College
Cincinnati State Technical & Community College
Clark State Community College
Columbus State Community College
Cuyahoga Community College
Eastern Gateway Community College
Edison State Community College¹
Hocking College
Lakeland Community College
Lorain County Community College
Marion Technical College
North Central State College
Northwest State Community College
Owens State Community College
Rhodes State College
Rio Grande Community College²
Sinclair Community College
Southern State Community College
Stark State College
Terra State Community College
Washington State Community College
Zane State College

Private colleges:

Antioch College
Ashland University
Baldwin Wallace University

Buffton University
Capital University
Case Western Reserve University
Christ College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Cleveland Institute of Art
College of Wooster
Columbus College of Art and Design
Defiance College
Good Samaritan College of Nursing & Health Science
Heidelberg University
Hiram College
John Carroll University
Kettering College
Lourdes University
Malone University
Mercy College of Ohio
Mount Carmel College of Nursing
Mount St. Joseph University
Mount Vernon Nazarene University
Ohio Dominican University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Otterbein University
Union Institute & University
University of Findlay
University of Mount Union
University of Northwestern Ohio
University of Rio Grande²
Urbana University
Walsh University
Wilmington College³
Wittenberg University
Xavier University

Notes:

¹Edison State Community College had no student responses for the benchmark questions.

²The University of Rio Grande and Rio Grande Community College represent a unique partnership between a private and public institution of higher education. Students attending these institutions share staff, faculty, and facilities across a single campus. Due to this unique campus arrangement, surveys were collected from students attending each respective institution, combined as a single summary under the University of Rio Grande & Rio Grande Community College, and aggregated with the private colleges surveyed.

³Wilmington College's data could not be disaggregated into individual responses and were therefore not included with the aggregated private college or statewide data.