

# AAU Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Assault and Misconduct Executive Summary

The University of Kansas (KU) participated in the AAU's 2019 AAU Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Assault and Harassment. A total of 33 institutions participated, which are included in *Appendix A: Survey Population*. AAU contracted with Westat to plan and implement the survey.

The survey was distributed via email to all enrolled students (N=25,732) in spring 2019. A stratified random sample (N=2,500) were selected for a \$10 Amazon gift card as an incentive for completing the survey. There was no response bias between the incentivized sample and non-incentivized sample.

The survey was designed to assess the incidence, prevalence, and characteristics of incidents of sexual assault and other forms of sexual misconduct. It also assessed the overall campus climate with respect to student perceptions of risk, knowledge of resources available to victims, and perceived reactions to an incident of sexual assault or misconduct. Summarized in this report is information pertaining to the following:

- How extensive is nonconsensual sexual contact?
- How extensive are sexual harassment, stalking, and intimate partner violence?
- What are students' experiences with campus programs and resources?
- What are students' perceptions and experiences related to sexual assault and other sexual misconduct?
- Prevalence, knowledge, and perception of risk
- Past surveys conducted at KU

### **Comparative Results**

KU had a slightly lower response rate than the AAU aggregate, 16.4 % compared to 21.9%. There was little difference between the KULC and KUMC campus (16.5% compared to 16.1%).

In general, KU’s results are equivalent to the AAU aggregate results. Results of this survey will help guide and inform initiatives already underway at KU.

### **How extensive is nonconsensual sexual contact?**

Twenty-six percent of undergraduate women at KU reported penetration or sexual touching involving physical force and/or inability to consent (since entering KU) compared to 25.9% of the AAU Aggregate findings. Graduate women had a much lower rate (10.5% KU and 9.6% AAU Aggregate) and undergraduate men and graduate men had the lowest rates (4.4% and 2.5% at KU and 6.8% and 2.5% of AAU Aggregate, respectively). TGQN (transgender, genderqueer, nonconforming) students reported rates similar to the rates of undergraduate women at 22.2% and 20.3%, for KU and AAU Aggregate, respectively. By campus breakdown:

<b>Respondent Sector</b>	<b>KULC</b>	<b>KUMC</b>
Undergraduate Women	26.3%	17.3%
Graduate Women	10.2%	11.4%
Undergraduate Men	4.4%	S*
Graduate Men	2.6%	2.1%

S=Small cell count; less than 5 respondents

### **How extensive are sexual harassment, stalking, and intimate partner violence?**

#### *Harassing behavior*

Just over seventeen percent (17.4%) of all KU students reported experiencing harassing behavior that interfered or limited their ability to participate, or created intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment. However, the rates vary widely:

<b>Student affiliation/gender</b>	<b>KU</b>	<b>KULC</b>	<b>KUMC</b>	<b>AAU Aggregate</b>
Undergraduate men	8.3%	8.3%	S*	10.1%
Graduate men	7.8%	9.6%	3.2%	7.6%
Undergraduate women	27.5%	28.3%	9.5%	31.3%
Graduate women	16.9%	18.5%	12.3%	19.9%
TGQN	47.4%	47.8%	S*	43.6%
Total	17.4%	18.4%	8%	18.9%

S=Small cell count; less than 5 respondents

#### *Stalking*

25.5% of undergraduate women and 24.3% of TGQN reported at least one of the following stalking behaviors since entering KU:



- Made unwanted phone calls, sent emails, voice, text, or instant messages to you, or posted unwanted messages, pictures, or videos on social media to or about you or elsewhere online
- Showed up somewhere uninvited or waited for you when you did not want that person to be there
- Spied on, watched, or followed you in person, or monitored your activities or tracked your location using devices or software on your phone or computer

This is roughly equivalent to the AAU Aggregate of 24.7% for undergraduate women and 24.9% for TGQN. Graduate women reported lower rates (11.6% KU, 12.9% AAU Aggregate) than undergraduate women, but undergraduate men reported higher rates (13.1% KU and AAU Aggregate) than graduate women with graduate men reporting the lowest rates (4.5% KU and 6.1% AAU Aggregate).

*Intimate Partner Violence*

Intimate partner violence, or IPV (controlled or trying to control, threat to harm, force or physical injury) was reported by 16.5% of undergraduate women at KU (14.1% AAU Aggregate), and 16.7% of TGQN at KU (18.4% AAU aggregate). 8.4% of KU undergraduate men (10.2% AAU Aggregate) and 6.2% graduate men (5.9% AAU Aggregate) reported IPV.

**What are students’ experiences with campus programs and resources?**

Students at KU reported fairly high rates of knowledge about training regarding sexual assault. Nearly 90% of KU students reported completed training modules (88.9%) compared to 79.4% of AAU Aggregate. (KULC reported 89.4% and KUMC 85.2%) Less than half, however, felt knowledgeable about how sexual assault and other sexual misconduct is defined at. Fewer still at KU are knowledgeable about where to get help and the rate is lower on where to make a report.

Questions	2019 KU	2019 KULC	2019 KUMC	2019 AAU Aggregate	2015 AAU Aggregate
How knowledgeable are you about how sexual assault and other sexual misconduct are defined at your university? (answered ‘very’ or ‘extremely’)	43.4%	43.8%	39.8%	37.0%	24.0%
How knowledgeable are you about where to get help at your university if you or a friend experience sexual assault or other sexual misconduct? (answered ‘very’ or ‘extremely’)	34.8%	35.2%	31.8%	37.1%	29.5%
How knowledgeable are you about where to make a report of sexual assault or other sexual misconduct at your University? (answered ‘very’ or ‘extremely’)	31.6%	32.1%	26.8%	31.5%	25.8%

Only 28% of students at KU (28.3% KULC vs. 25.4% KUMC) feel connected to the campus community as a whole (answering very or extremely) compared to the 29.6% AAU Aggregate. Just over a third (34.6%) at KU (33.3% KULC vs. 46.5% KUMC) feel comfortable seeking advice from faculty or staff compared to 28.2% AAU Aggregate and 31.6% at KU (29.9% KULC vs. 47.7% KUMC) report feeling that other students are very or extremely concerned about each other's well-being.

### **Prevalence, knowledge, and perception of risk**

Answering 'very' or 'extremely', 21% of students at KU (22.3% KULC vs. 7.5% KUMC) feel that sexual assault or other sexual misconduct is problematic, while 24.8% for the AAU Aggregate believe so. Rates are much higher for TGQN (35.5% KU and 43.1% AAU Aggregate) and lowest for graduate men (14.5% and 14.3%). When asked how likely you will experience sexual misconduct on campus, KU average response rate (8.1% KULC vs 2.1% KUMC) for 'very' or 'extremely' was 7.5%. Lowest rate was graduate men with less than 2% and highest rate was undergraduate women at 14.4%. Average rate for AAU Aggregate was 6.7% and a low of graduate men at 1.1% and the high was TGQN at 15.7%

### **Past surveys conducted at KU:**

Several surveys addressing the campus climate related to sexual assault and harassment at KU have been conducted over the last several years. Surveys seeking input from the undergraduate student population include:

- KU Sexual Misconduct & Sexual Assault Undergraduate Survey (Spring 2018)
- Heartland Survey on Sexual Assault and Violence (Spring 2017)
- KU Sexual Harassment Assessment (Spring 2016)
- KU Sexual Harassment Climate Survey (Spring 2015)
- KU Student Climate Survey (Spring 2013)
- KU Student Climate Survey (Spring 2012)

KUMC also surveys their students each year and includes in their annual survey questions pertaining to experiences of sexual assault and/or harassment. Data from these surveys informs the efforts of offices at KU working to provide education/information to prevent incidents of sexual assault and harassment at KU, as well as provide resources to those who have experienced an incident.