

2022 VOL VOICES RESEARCH SURVEY

STUDENT KEY FINDINGS SUMMARY

As a part of the University of Tennessee’s comprehensive efforts to prevent and address sexual misconduct, the Office of Title IX partnered with the University of Tennessee College of Social Work Office of Research and Public Service to conduct the Vol Voices research survey.

This anonymous, confidential, and voluntary research survey assessed campus perceptions and experiences of our own students and employees. The survey is based on an instrument created by the Administrator Researcher Campus Climate Collaborative—ARC3. The ARC3 is the survey recommended by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine Action Collaborative, of which the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, is a founding member. The information gathered will help to **inform policy, shape prevention, and assist with targeted interventions.**

The Vol Voices survey was administered in 2022 to all undergraduate and graduate/professional students at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. In total, 30,804 students were invited to participate in the survey. The survey was open from April 4 through May 10, 2022, and participants were asked about their experiences in the past year.¹

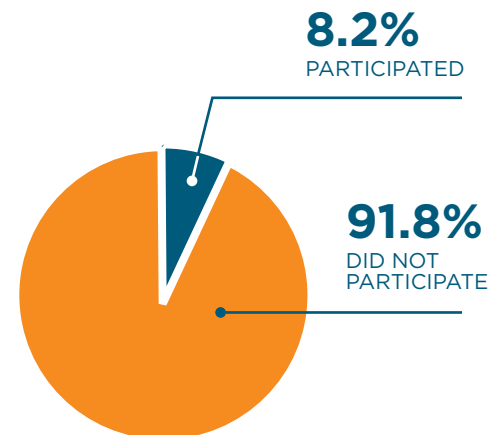
Student Status and Response Rate

- ▶ 8.2% of undergraduate and graduate/professional students participated in the survey.
 - ▷ 7.9% of undergraduate students participated.
 - ▷ 9.1% of graduate/professional students participated.

Knowledge of Campus Sexual Misconduct Resources

- ▶ 87.2% of student survey participants reported being aware that UT has policies and procedures to address sexual misconduct.
- ▶ 50.9% of student survey participants reported knowing where to access the university’s sexual harassment policy.
- ▶ 44.6% of student survey participants reported knowing where to go to make a report.
- ▶ 32.6% of student survey participants reported knowing what happens when someone reports a claim of sexual misconduct.
 - ▷ 29.6% of those students were undergraduate students and 42.0% were graduate/professional students.

STUDENT BODY SURVEY PARTICIPATION



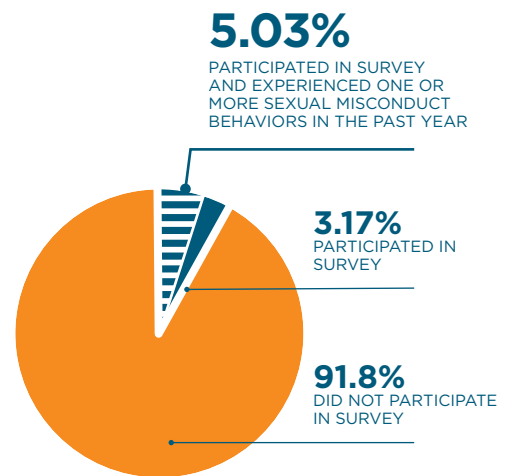
Institutional Responses

- ▶ 38.6% of student survey participants stated they had not experienced sexual misconduct in the past year.¹ Those students were asked how they believed UT would respond to someone reporting sexual misconduct. Of those students:
 - ▷ 94.5% felt that UT would support someone making a report of sexual misconduct by providing formal and informal resources.
 - ▷ 91.3% felt that UT would support someone making a report of sexual misconduct by making it easy to report sexual misconduct.
 - ▷ 91.3% felt that UT would support someone making a report of sexual misconduct by creating an environment where sexual misconduct is recognized as a problem.

Reporting Experiences

- ▶ 61.4% of student survey participants indicated that they had experienced one or more sexual misconduct behaviors in the past year.¹ Of those students:
 - ▷ 63.7% stated that they had never told anyone about the incident before this survey.
 - ▷ 50.8% stated that they had not reported the incident as they felt it was not serious enough to report.
 - ▷ 11.1% felt people would label someone making a report of sexual misconduct a troublemaker.

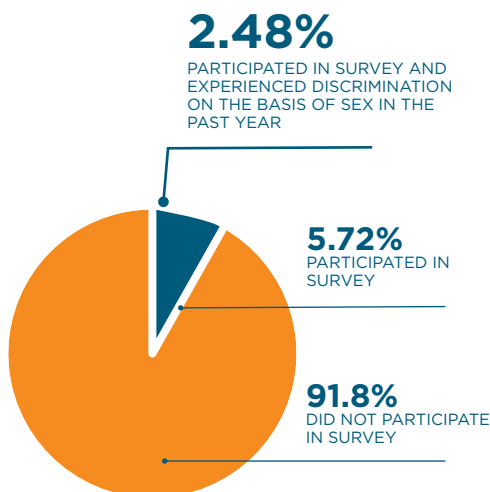
REPORTING EXPERIENCES: SEXUAL MISCONDUCT



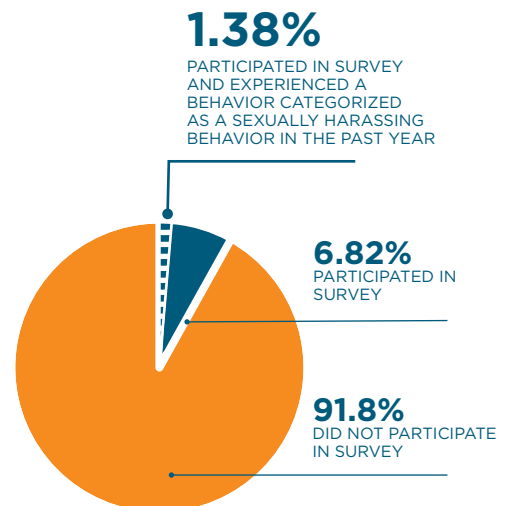
Discrimination on the Basis of Sex and Sexually Harassing Behaviors²

- ▶ 30.3% of student survey participants reported experiencing discrimination on the basis of sex in the past year.¹
- ▶ 16.8% of student survey participants reported experiencing a behavior categorized as a sexually harassing behavior in the past year.¹
- ▶ 4.2% of student survey participants report experiencing an incident of sexually harassing behaviors that involved touching or requests for relationships in the past year.¹

REPORTING EXPERIENCES: DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX



REPORTING EXPERIENCES: SEXUAL HARASSMENT



Stalking²

- ▶ 26.6% of student survey participants reported experiencing a behavior categorized as stalking in the past year.¹
- ▶ The most prevalent behavior reported under the category of stalking was being left unwanted messages, including text or voice messages (14.3%).

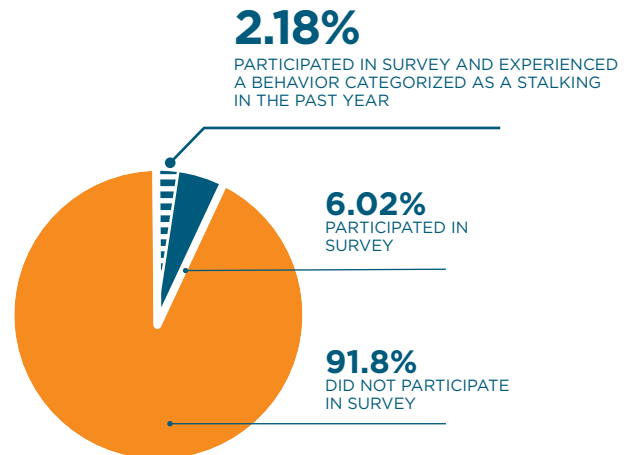
Dating and Domestic Violence²

- ▶ 14.7% of student survey participants reported experiencing a behavior categorized as dating or domestic violence in the past year.¹
- ▶ The most prevalent behavior reported under the category of dating and domestic violence was being scared without the person laying a hand on them (11.8%).

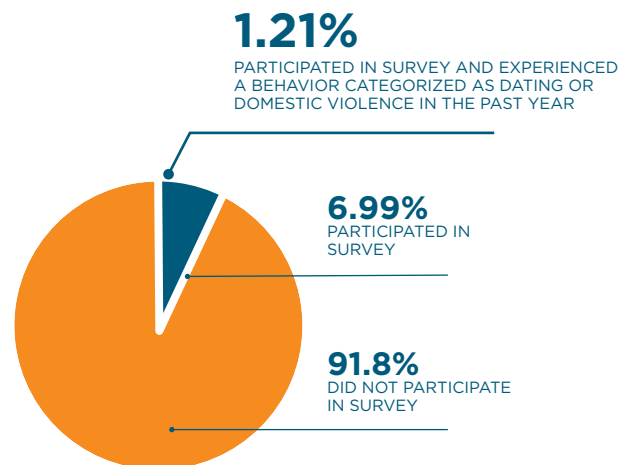
Sexual Violence²

- ▶ Overall, 21.1% of student survey participants reported experiencing a behavior categorized as sexual violence in the past year.¹
 - ▷ Fondling/Touching
 - The most prevalent behavior reported under the category of fondling/touching was being taken advantage of when they were too drunk or “out of it” to stop what was happening (13.1%).
 - ▷ Nonconsensual Sex
 - The most prevalent behavior reported under the category of nonconsensual sex was the perpetrator ignoring nonverbal cues (7.6%).

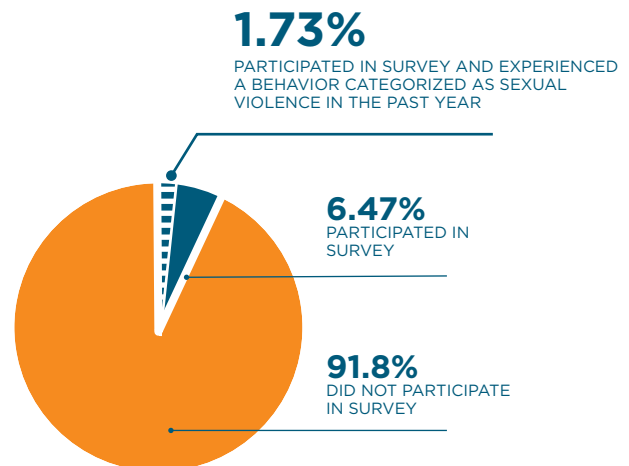
REPORTING EXPERIENCES: STALKING



REPORTING EXPERIENCES: DATING AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



REPORTING EXPERIENCES: SEXUAL VIOLENCE



Bystander Intervention

- ▶ 93.8% of student survey participants reported that they were willing to be an active bystander.
- ▶ 83.8% of student survey participants reported that they felt they have the skills to be an active bystander.
- ▶ 58.6% of student survey participants reported that they were aware of active bystander trainings.
- ▶ 27.2% of student survey participants reported knowing how to sign up for active bystander trainings, with graduate/professional student participants being more likely to state they knew how to sign up for training than undergraduate student participants.

¹The survey defined "past year" as "since the beginning of the current academic year (August 2021)."

²For the definitions of terms used in the Vol Voices survey, see: <https://titleix.utk.edu/vol-voices-research-survey>.