2017 Title IX Survey Summary

The Administrator Research Campus Climate Consortium Survey (ARC3) was created in 2015 as a response to increased national focus on campus sexual violence, and other organizations’ creation of expensive and inadequate climate survey templates.

The Baylor University Social Climate Survey is an adapted version of the ARC3 Survey comprised of 13 modules. The development of the Baylor University Social Climate Survey dates back to March 2015, when the Title IX Coordinator began to hold meetings with campus partners to discuss and plan for a survey at Baylor. Individuals from the Title IX Office, Institutional Research and Testing (IRT), Student Life, Baylor Counseling Center, Marketing & Communications, and Student Government were most heavily involved in the process and creation.

The survey was distributed to all Baylor students (excluding minors) for voluntary and confidential completion. The survey was launched on January 31, 2017, and closed on March 13, 2017. The Baylor Social Climate Survey was distributed to 15,754 Baylor undergraduate and graduate students. A total of 4,523 respondents were included in the final report for a response rate of 28.7%. When reading this report, however, an important concept to take into consideration is non-response survey bias.

Compared to other institutions’ climate survey reports, Baylor University’s response rate is above the national average. Nonetheless, over 70% of Baylor University’s students did not complete the survey; thus, the reader must consider how the individuals who did not complete the survey might bias the survey results—positively or negatively—due to their lack of participation.

Purpose of the Study

The Baylor University Social Climate Survey was designed to gather information to help understand the complexities of interpersonal violence. The study did not primarily focus on the prevalence or number of occurrences but rather on details about incidents of sexual assault, dating violence and sexual harassment to understand the behavior and situations that surround assault. The study responses will aid in the development and implementation of intervention, prevention and education programs.

Understanding the Study’s Findings

The study data is organized by categories in which initial questions about sexual harassment, stalking, sexual violence and dating violence are asked. For categories where respondents indicated these types of incidents occurred, additional questions were posed to respondents to gather information about their specific experiences. For instance, for those who experienced sexual harassment, follow-up questions probed the types of harassment such as crude language, sexist remarks and unwanted romantic gestures. These subsequent responses and the resulting statistical data are derived from a subset of the total sample population who experienced the type of behavior outlined in the initial questions. Additionally, a survey respondent could have experienced multiple
acts of violence or harassment in a single incident or over a duration time with numerous tactics employed by the perpetrator(s), which could be reflected multiple times in a single question. The survey design sought information related to the behavior and tactics employed by the perpetrator(s) and the experiences of victims.

The following categories were included on the survey: Peer Norms and Perceptions of Campus Climate, Sexual Harassment, Stalking, Dating Violence, Sexual Violence, Institutional Responses and Formal Reporting, Bystander Intervention and Campus Safety.

All of the survey responses are included and no additional commentary or analysis have been added to maintain the integrity of the survey.