

Consistent with New York State Education Law 129-B and policies of The State University of New York, Herkimer County Community College participated in the 2021 University-wide Biennial SUNY Uniform Campus Climate Survey. The Survey gathered information about student and employee experience with sexual and interpersonal violence and knowledge of policies and resources.

Two-hundred and ninety six students and eighty-two employees completed the survey, for response rates of 22.3% and 34.2% respectively.

In the survey, students were asked a series of questions relating to sexual harassment that they had experienced within the past year. The responses were as follows:

- 81% of the students responding (201 out of 249) stated they had not experience unwanted sexual comments, sexual slurs or demeaning jokes.
- 94% of the students responding (232 out of 247) stated they were not aware of anyone viewing their sexual activity or nakedness without consent, or taking explicit pictures or recordings without consent.
- 85% of the student responding (209 out of 246) stated they did not receive unwanted sexually suggestive digital communications, either words or images or both, including emails, texts, social media communications, or in letters or other written communications.

In the survey, students were asked a series of questions relating to sexual assault that they had experienced during the past year. The responses were as follows:

- 84% of the students responding (207 out of 245) stated no one fondled, kissed, or rubbed up against their private areas of their body without consent.
- 90% of the students responding (222 out of 247) did not have anyone remove any of their clothes without consent.
- 91% of the students responding (223 out of 244) did not have anyone perform oral sex on them and was not forced to perform oral sex without consent.
- 91% of the students responding (224 out of 246) did not have anyone sexually penetrate them (that is, someone put a penis or inserted fingers or objects into your vagina or anus) and was not made to penetrate without consent.

Seventy-five percent of the student responding (214 out of 287) know the college has policies and procedures specifically addressing sexual assault and thirty percent (86 out of 288) know how to contact the the Title IX Coordinator.

Seventy-nine percent of the students responding (219 out of 278) know the definition of Affirmative Consent and eighty-two percent know that someone who is incapacitated cannot provide consent.

Herkimer County Community College, working with SUNY and community colleagues (including students, faculty, and staff), will use these data to improve response to violence, develop prevention programs, and will continue to study the issue. The next Climate Survey will be administered in the Spring Semester of 2023. More information about the Survey is available at <https://www.suny.edu/climatesurvey/>.