Title IX and Sexual Misconduct Climate Survey Results

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Climate Survey Background

• Provides valuable feedback from the RIT community to better inform campus policy and programs
  o Queried students about personal experiences with victimization, perpetration, bystander behavior, knowledge of resources, training, and perceptions of the campus climate
  o Sent to 15,023 undergraduate and graduate students
  o Received 2,650 partial and complete responses (18%)

• Fulfills legal requirements of New York Education Law, Article 129
About the Spring 2018 Cohort

• Institutions in the U.S. and Canada participated in the spring 2018 cohort.
• Surveys were generally open for three weeks between January and May 2018.
• Average response rate across all cohort institutions ranged from 2% to 44%.
Survey Window: February 12 to March 4

Response Rate

- 2018: 18% (RIT), 17% (Cohort)
- 2016: 19% (RIT), 17% (Cohort)
Respondent Demographics

Class Standing-RIT

- 1st year: 18%
- 2nd Year: 24%
- 3rd Year: 20%
- 4th Year: 15%
- 5th Year (or higher): 10%
- Graduate: 12%

Class Standing-Cohort

- 1st year: 16%
- 2nd Year: 21%
- 3rd Year: 17%
- 4th Year: 6%
- 5th Year (or higher): 21%
- Graduate: 20%
Respondent Demographics

Gender Identity

**Cohort**
- Men 34%
- Women 65%
- Genderqueer/Gender Non conforming 1%
- Transgender <1%

RIT
- Men 52%
- Women 44%
- Genderqueer/Gender non conforming 2%
- Transgender 1%

Sexual Orientation

**Cohort**

- **Heterosexual**: 83%
- **LGBAQ**: 17%

**RIT**

- **Heterosexual**: 76%
- **LGBAQ**: 23%
Respondent Demographics

Place of Residence - RIT

- GREEK LIVING: 1%
- FAMILY HOME: 9%
- OTHER: 1%
- OFF CAMPUS APT/HOUSE: 35%
- ON-CAMPUS APT/HOUSE: 24%
- RESIDENCE HALL: 30%

Place of Residence - Cohort

- GREEK LIVING: 1%
- FAMILY HOME: 7%
- OTHER: 1%
- OFF CAMPUS APT/HOUSE: 38%
- ON-CAMPUS APT/HOUSE: 26%
- RESIDENCE HALL: 27%
General Campus Climate

RIT: I feel safe at this school - 97%
Cohort: I feel safe at this school - 93%
Perception of Climate - RIT

RIT Respondents

- I Feel Safe At this School: 96%
- I think faculty are genuinely concerned about my welfare: 89%
- I feel close to people at this school: 81%
- I think administrators are genuinely concerned about my welfare: 76%
Perception of Climate – Cohort

Cohort Respondents

- I Feel Safe at this School: 89%
- I think Faculty are genuinely concerned about my welfare: 87%
- I feel close to people at this school: 74%
- I think administrators are genuinely concerned about my welfare: 70%
Students who considered leaving school:

**RIT:**

19% of respondents seriously considered leaving RIT.

- Respondents most commonly considered leaving because they struggled with mental health challenges or didn't feel close to anyone at this school.

**Cohort:**

22% of respondents seriously considered leaving their school.

- Respondents most commonly considered leaving because they wanted to transfer.
Students were asked, “Is sexual misconduct a problem at your school?”
RIT Students who experienced Sexual Misconduct since Fall 2017

Sexual Misconduct means anything from unwanted kissing or touching to nonconsensual sexual acts

9% of respondents experienced at least one incident of sexual misconduct since the beginning of the school year
Cohort Students who experienced Sexual Misconduct since Fall 2017

Sexual Misconduct means anything from unwanted kissing or touching to nonconsensual sexual acts

7% of respondents experienced at least one incident of sexual misconduct since the beginning of the school year
Factors related to incidents of sexual misconduct

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relationship to perpetrator</th>
<th>RIT</th>
<th>Cohort</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acquaintance or Peer</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No prior relationship</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location of incident</th>
<th>RIT</th>
<th>Cohort</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On-campus residence</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-campus residence</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar, night club, dance club</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>15%</td>
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</table>
Of 155 respondents who indicate they experienced sexual violence, 11% used RIT’s formal procedures to report the incident.

Common reasons RIT respondents did not report include:
- Respondent did not think the behavior was serious enough to report.
- Respondent wanted to forget it happened.
Reporting of Incidents: Thoughts and concerns when deciding when to report

**RIT**
- Didn’t think it was serious enough to report: 73%
- Wanted to forget it happened: 43%
- Wasn’t clear that the offender intended to harm: 49%

**Cohort**
- Didn’t think it was serious enough to report: 65%
- Wanted to forget it happened: 44%
- Wasn’t clear that the offender intended to harm: 37%
**Sexual Harassment**

_Has anyone done the following to you since the beginning of the school year?_  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>RIT</th>
<th>Cohort</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Made sexist remarks or jokes in your presence</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Said crude, sexual things to you</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emailed, texted, or used social media to send offensive content</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seemed to be bribing you if you agreed to engage in a romantic or sexual relationship</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Intimate Partner Violence

Of 799 RIT Respondents who reported being in a relationship during the school year

4%
experienced intimate partner violence

4% was also reported by the Cohort

Of 799 RIT Respondents who reported being in a relationship during the school year

29%
experienced non-violent or harassing behavior from a partner

29% was reported by the Cohort
Stalking and Harassment

Students were asked if they felt frightened, concerned, angered, or annoyed by a variety of stalking and harassing behaviors.

- Respondents mostly received unwanted phone calls or messages
- The behavior was most often done by an acquaintance or peer
- Respondents most often told a roommate, friend, or classmate about the incident

22% of RIT respondents answered “YES”

18% of Cohort respondents answered “YES”
RIT students were asked if they received prevention training in the last year:

1st year students:
- Yes: 85%
- No: 8%
- I do not recall: 8%

2nd year students:
- Yes: 18%
- No: 24%
- I do not recall: 58%

3rd year students:
- Yes: 19%
- No: 38%
- I do not recall: 43%

4th year students:
- Yes: 45%
- No: 38%
- I do not recall: 17%
A comparison of 2016 and 2018-Student reports of receiving prevention training in the past year

- **1st year**
  - RIT 2016: 83%
  - RIT 2018: 85%

- **2nd year**
  - RIT 2016: 57%
  - RIT 2018: 58%

- **3rd year**
  - RIT 2016: 34%
  - RIT 2018: 43%

- **4th year**
  - RIT 2016: 39%
  - RIT 2018: 38%
Notable Findings

In the past two years, there was a dramatic increase in the percentage of Graduate Students who reported receiving prevention education the previous academic year.

- 27% (RIT 2016)
- 41% (RIT 2018)
RIT Specific Questions

• Some respondents admitted they engaged in sexual contact with someone without their consent.
  o 36 students or 1.8% admitted they used coercion to engage in sexual activity.
  o 29 students or 1.4% admitted they used criticism of the person’s sexuality or got angry to engage in sexual activity.
  o 30 students or 1.5% admitted they took advantage when someone was incapacitated by alcohol or other drugs so they could not stop what was happening.

• 254 students or 12.5% disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement, “I understand what affirmative consent means.”
RIT Specific Questions

Students who agreed or strongly agreed with the following statements:

• **780 students or 38.4%**: “I am aware of who the Title IX Coordinator is on campus.”

• **1880 students or 92.5%**: “I am aware of my right to contact law enforcement to assist if I report an incident of sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking to RIT Public Safety or the Title IX Office, and that there are differences between law enforcement and campus processes.”

• **1616 students or 79.6%**: “I have heard about the affirmative consent definition and policy on campus.”

• **1775 students or 87.5%**: “I understand what affirmative consent means.”
Title IX Proactive Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Wellness Team</th>
<th>Keynectup</th>
<th>Title IX Coordinator</th>
<th>Investigation Process</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Sexual violence and discrimination prevention</td>
<td>• Emergency contact cards</td>
<td>• Introduced at new student orientation events</td>
<td>• Demonstrates the process in sessions with students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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• Introduces resources and reporting options
Ongoing Action Items for TIX Office and Partners

✓ Increase awareness of programs targeting all students
✓ Create workshops and educational programming to address and involve relevant community members
✓ Tailor training to participants, acknowledging special needs and concerns of particular RIT communities
✓ Offer learning opportunities that are interactive with multiple points of contact reinforcing message of consent, risk mitigation, respect, and non-violence
✓ Promote active bystander campaign
✓ Increase Peer-to-peer programming

Main Goal: Increase awareness and training for students beyond the first year
What you can do to help:

• Encourage individuals to report sexual misconduct
• Report any sexual misconduct reported to you
• Incorporate reporting options and resources in syllabi
• Educate yourself on how to identify discriminatory or harassing behavior and intervene
• Continue to help build a culture of respect, consent, and non-violence