

## Background and Context

In the spring of 2018, the Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (HEDS) [Sexual Assault Campus Climate \(SACC\) survey](#) was sent to over 6,000 undergraduate students in the Claremont Colleges (5Cs), along with 515 students at Keck Graduate Institute (KGI). The SACC survey instrument covers the following topics: perceptions of campus climate around unwanted sexual contact and sexual assault, perceptions of how the institution addresses and responds to sexual assault, and the extent to which students have experienced unwanted sexual contact or sexual assault. The 5Cs and KGI added 20 supplemental questions to the survey (see appendices for question text) to address dating/domestic violence and stalking, since the topics are closely related.

While the survey findings are intended to provide insights that will improve the campus climate for all students, it is important to keep in mind that this information does not represent generalizations about the Claremont Colleges community. It is not possible to determine the impact self-selection may have had on results because the survey was voluntary because the topics of sexual assault, campus climate, dating/domestic violence and stalking have the potential to provoke strong opinions. The 5Cs and KGI have committed to highest level of transparency possible through the public dissemination of results, while maintaining the anonymity of survey respondents on a topic that is inherently sensitive and difficult.

Several actions were taken to prevent any potential identification of survey respondents. Prior to sending institutions their data files, HEDS removed some demographic variables and combined others to create larger response categories, particularly when the number of respondents in a category (e.g. respondents who did not select a gender identification) were small. As such, the categories listed in this report are not common but are included to acknowledge observed differences in campus climate and sexual assault for various survey respondent populations, using the categories provided in the survey data files. Additionally, categories with small numbers of survey respondents (less than ten) have been suppressed by the Claremont Colleges.

Although a similar version of the survey was administered in 2015, instrument revisions around reporting of sexual assaults, substantial variation in response rates and potential for overlap in survey response populations preclude a comparison of results across time. As a result, the 2015 and 2018 reports are presented as two disparate snapshots. Also of note, while KGI administered the survey in parallel with the five undergraduate colleges, due to differences in the student experience for graduate and undergraduate students, generally and specifically related to sexual assault, findings are independent.

Survey findings are provided in the following sections:

1. Survey respondent demographics – Page 2
2. Perceptions of campus climate and sexual assault – Page 2
3. Institutional information and education about sexual assault – Page 5
4. Unwanted sexual contact and sexual assault – Page 6
5. TCC supplemental stalking and dating violence questions – Page 13

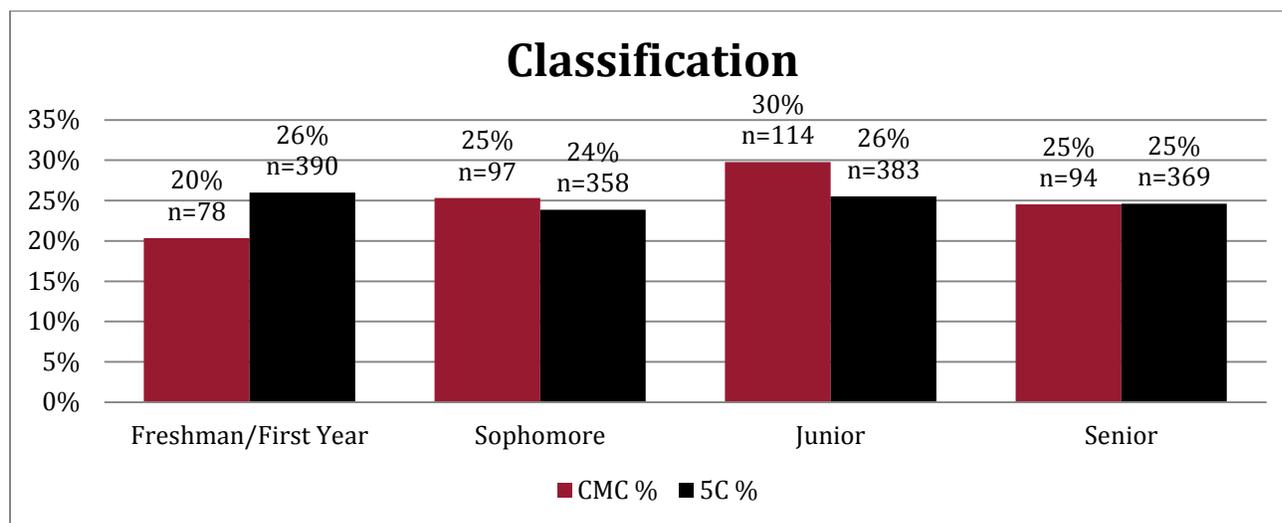
The report also includes several appendices: the 2018 survey instrument, the supplemental questions, an FAQ document, and a list of actions taken since the 2015 survey administration. Lastly, this work is only possible because students at the Claremont Colleges took the time to share their experiences. On behalf of everyone involved in this effort, we are deeply grateful.

## SECTION 1: PERCEPTIONS OF CAMPUS CLIMATE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

Surveys were submitted by 383 Claremont McKenna College (CMC) students, for a response rate of 29%; the overall response rate for the 5Cs, including CMC, was 25%.

| Survey Participant Demographics       | CMC Count | CMC % | 5C Count | 5C % |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------|----------|------|
| Women                                 | 225       | 59%   | 986      | 66%  |
| Men                                   | 156       | 41%   | 482      | 32%  |
| Nonbinary or no response <sup>1</sup> | 2         | 1%    | 35       | 2%   |
| Selected only white                   | 189       | 49%   | 745      | 50%  |
| Did not select only white             | 190       | 50%   | 734      | 49%  |
| Heterosexual                          | 307       | 80%   | 977      | 65%  |
| Sexual orientation not heterosexual   | 73        | 19%   | 504      | 34%  |

<sup>1</sup>Nonbinary or no response excluded from proceeding charts to protect the anonymity of the respondents.



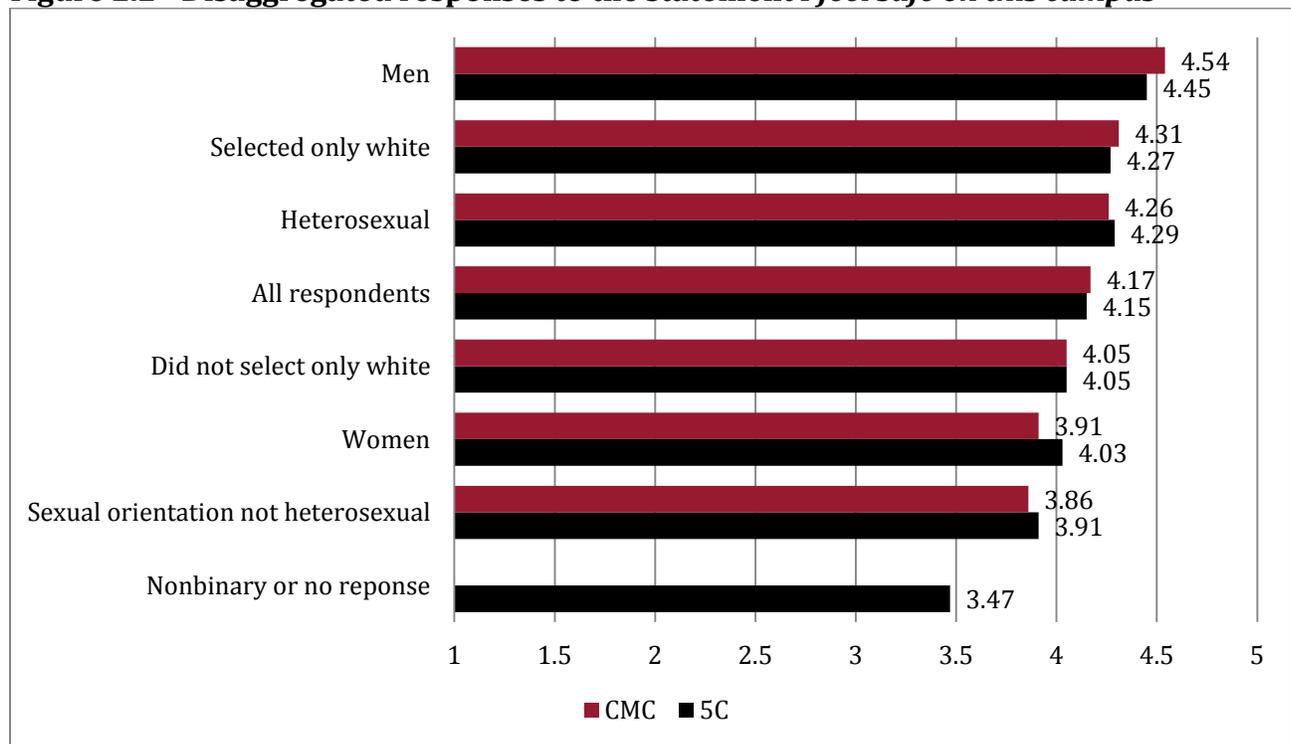
## SECTION 2: PERCEPTIONS OF CAMPUS CLIMATE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

The following questions are based on a 5-point scale, where 5 represents strongly agree, 4 is agree, 3 is neither agree nor disagree, 2 is disagree, and 1 is strongly disagree.

General survey respondent views about campus climate are very positive. Eighty-six percent of CMC survey respondents agree or strongly agree that they feel safe on their campus.

| <b>Figure 2.1 – Mean responses to general climate</b>            | <b>CMC Count</b> | <b>CMC Mean</b> | <b>5C Mean</b> |
|--|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Faculty, staff, and administrators concern for students' welfare | 382              | 4.23            | 4.08           |
| I feel safe on this campus                                       | 383              | 4.17            | 4.15           |
| I feel close to people on this campus                            | 383              | 4.08            | 4              |
| I feel valued in the classroom/learning environment              | 383              | 4.07            | 4.06           |
| Faculty, staff and administrators respect what students think    | 383              | 4.05            | 3.95           |
| I feel part of the community                                     | 383              | 3.93            | 3.8            |
| Students concern about welfare of other students                 | 382              | 3.9             | 4.08           |
| Faculty, staff, and administrators treat students fairly         | 383              | 3.81            | 3.77           |

**Figure 2.2 - Disaggregated responses to the statement *I feel safe on this campus***



Note: Data for Nonbinary or no response excluded from charts to protect respondent anonymity.

The following two tables show student perceptions of how various groups contribute to the general campus climate and the level of agreement with how officials handle difficult or dangerous situations.

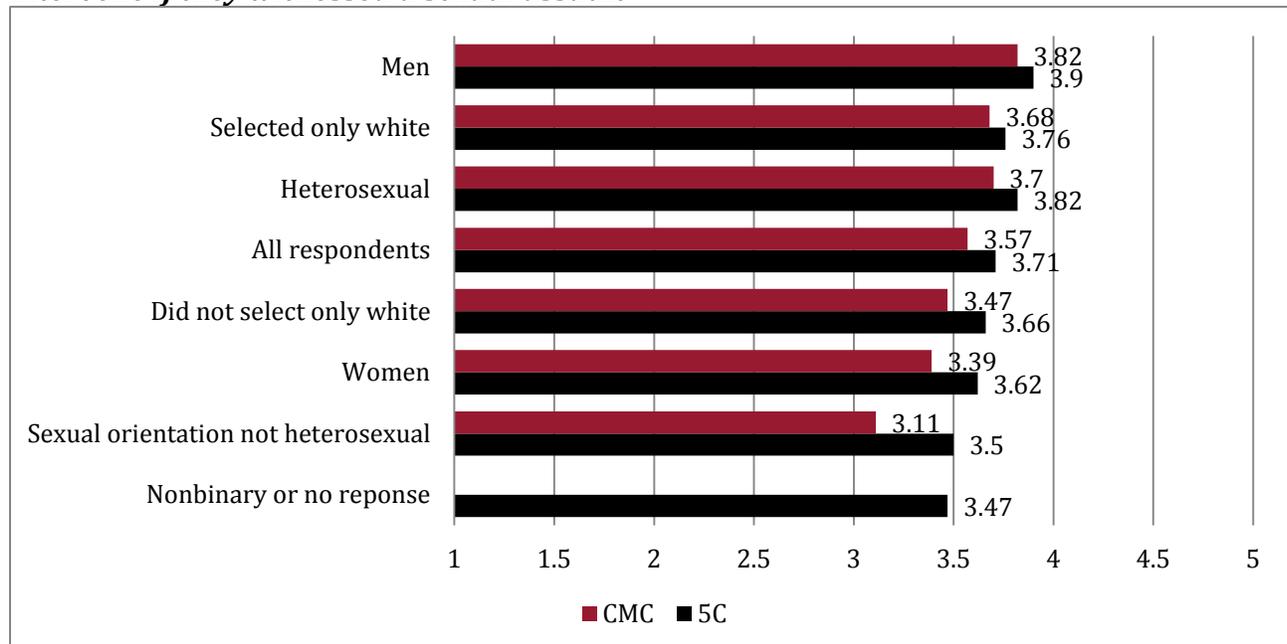
| <b>Figure 2.3 – Contribution of groups to general climate</b>          | <b>CMC Count</b> | <b>CMC Mean</b> | <b>5C Mean</b> |
|--|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Staff contributes to a positive and supportive campus climate          | 383              | 4.25            | 4.22           |
| Faculty contribute to a positive and supportive campus climate         | 383              | 4.13            | 4.16           |
| Students contribute to a positive and supportive campus climate        | 383              | 3.92            | 4.01           |
| Administration contributes to a positive and supportive campus climate | 383              | 3.77            | 3.43           |

| <b>Figure 2.4 – Mean responses to difficult or dangerous situations</b>   | <b>CMC Count</b> | <b>CMC Mean</b> | <b>5C Mean</b> |
|---|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Campus officials protect students from harm                               | 383              | 3.74            | 3.6            |
| Officials respond quickly in difficult situations                         | 380              | 3.64            | 3.51           |
| Officials handle incidents in fair and responsible manner                 | 383              | 3.55            | 3.39           |
| Officials would handle a crisis well                                      | 383              | 3.52            | 3.32           |
| There is a good support system for students going through difficult times | 381              | 3.41            | 3.21           |

Sixty-one percent of survey respondents from CMC agree or strongly agree that other students would intervene if they witnessed a sexual assault. Thirty-three percent perceive the number of sexual assaults that occur on campus or during off-campus events or programs sponsored by their institution to be low. Twenty-six percent believe that they or one of their friends is not at risk for being sexually assaulted on campus or during off-campus events or programs sponsored by the institution.

| <b>Figure 2.5 - Views on sexual assault on campus</b>             | <b>CMC Count</b> | <b>CMC Mean</b> | <b>5C Mean</b> |
|---|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Students would intervene if they witnessed a sexual assault       | 382              | 3.57            | 3.71           |
| Low number of sexual assaults on campus                           | 383              | 2.8             | 2.9            |
| Don't believe I or one of my friends is at risk of sexual assault | 383              | 2.47            | 2.49           |

**Figure 2.6 - Disaggregated responses to the statement *I believe that students would intervene if they witnessed a sexual assault***



Note: Data for Nonbinary or no response excluded from charts to protect respondent anonymity.

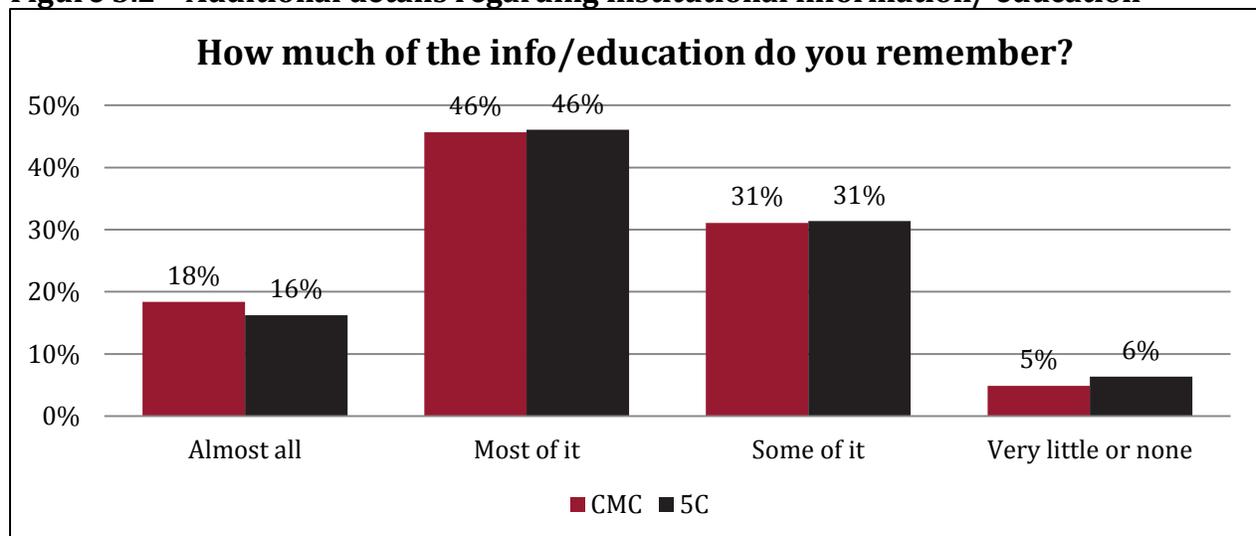
### SECTION 3: INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION & EDUCATION ABOUT SEXUAL ASSAULT

Over ninety percent of CMC survey respondents know what sexual assault is and actions they can take to help prevent it. Lower proportions of survey respondents know how to access confidential resources, report incidents, or the investigation procedures for sexual assault.

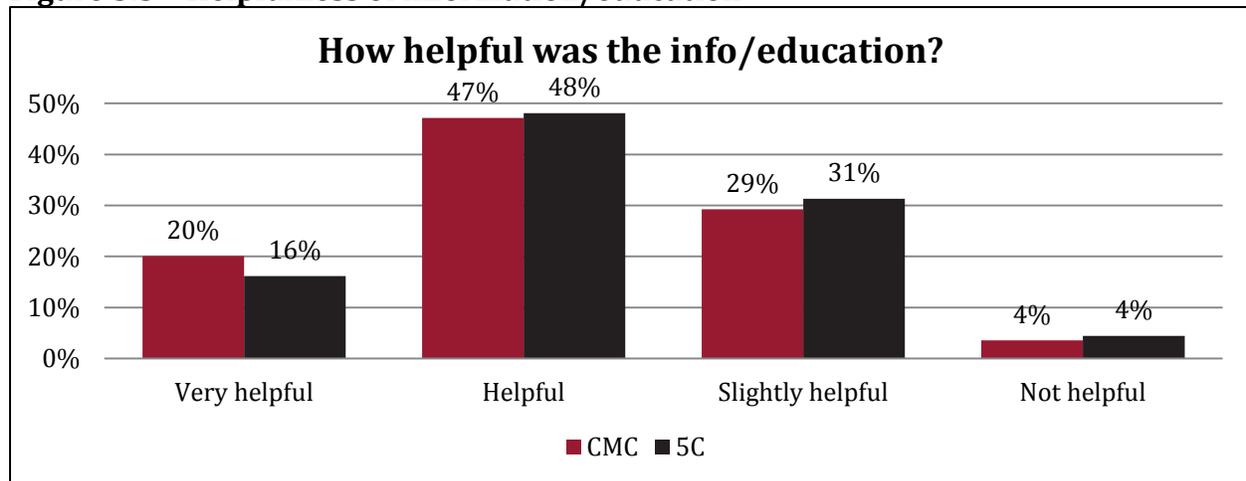
| <b>Figure 3.1 – CMC data on information or education about sexual assault</b> | <b>CMC Count</b> | <b>% Yes</b> | <b>% No</b> | <b>% Unsure</b> |
|---|------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| What sexual assault is and how to recognize it                                | 383              | 92%          | 4%          | 4%              |
| Action you can take to help prevent sexual assault                            | 380              | 91%          | 5%          | 4%              |
| Confidential resources for sexual assault and how to locate them              | 382              | 71%          | 15%         | 14%             |
| How to report an incident of sexual assault                                   | 382              | 69%          | 16%         | 14%             |
| Procedures for investigating a sexual assault                                 | 376              | 45%          | 35%         | 18%             |

| <b>5C data on information or education from institution about sexual assault</b> | <b>5C Count</b> | <b>% Yes</b> | <b>% No</b> | <b>% Unsure</b> |
|--|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| What sexual assault is and how to recognize it                                   | 1496            | 91%          | 4%          | 5%              |
| Action you can take to help prevent sexual assault                               | 1491            | 89%          | 6%          | 5%              |
| Confidential resources for sexual assault and how to locate them                 | 1494            | 79%          | 10%         | 11%             |
| How to report an incident of sexual assault                                      | 1496            | 74%          | 13%         | 13%             |
| Procedures for investigating a sexual assault                                    | 1486            | 46%          | 32%         | 22%             |

**Figure 3.2 – Additional details regarding institutional information/ education**



**Figure 3.3 – Helpfulness of information/education**

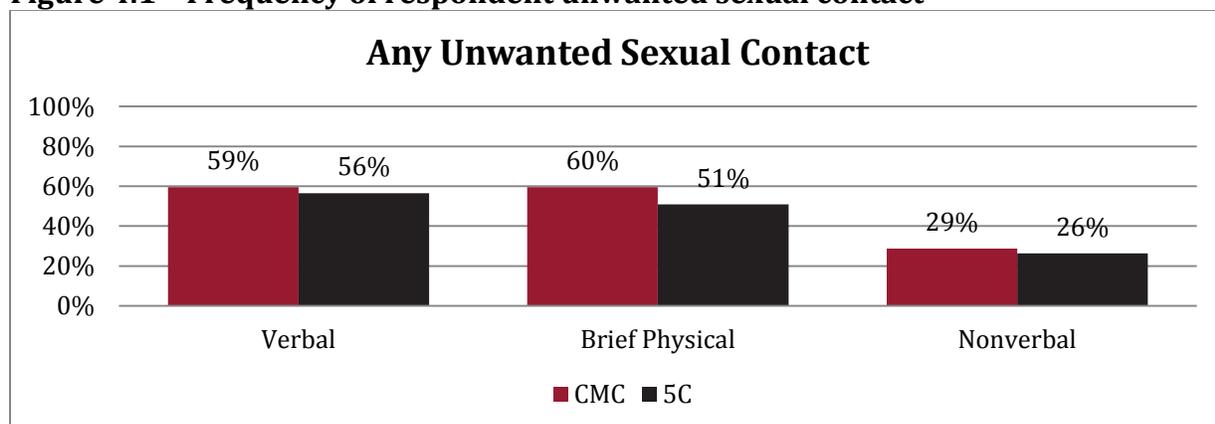


**SECTION 4: UNWANTED SEXUAL CONTACT AND SEXUAL ASSAULT**

Survey respondents indicated the frequency with which they had experienced the following forms of unwanted sexual contact using the following scale: never, rarely, sometimes, often, and very often. The chart below represents any reporting of unwanted contact (all responses beyond never).

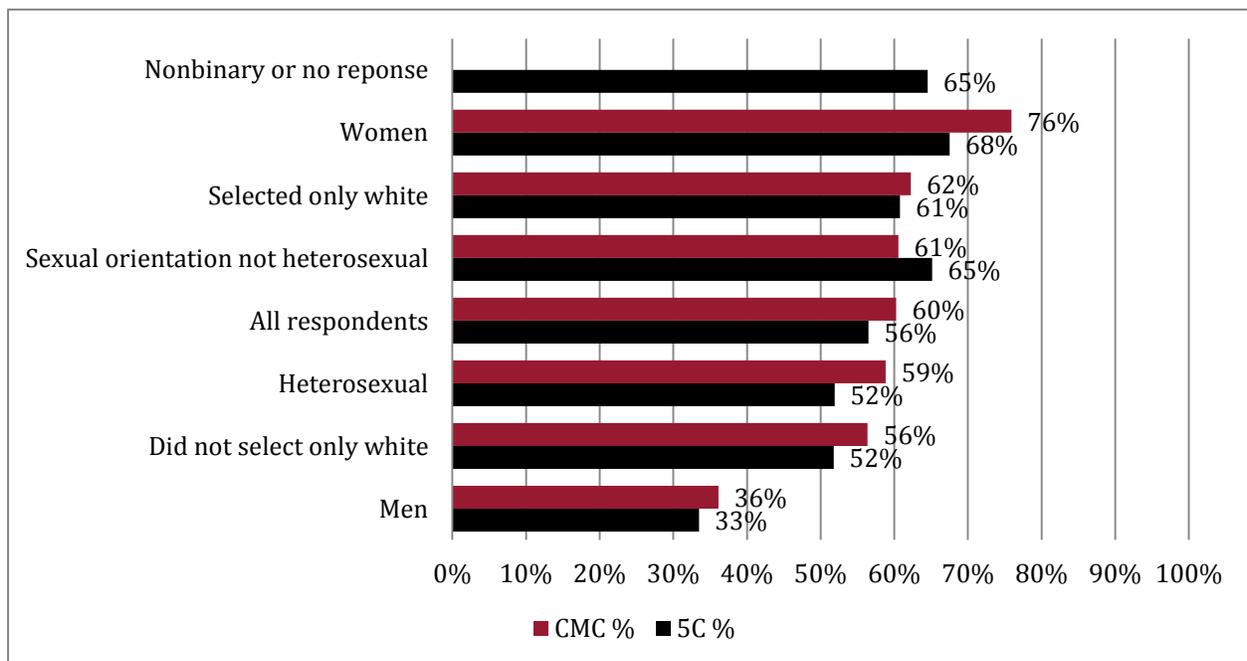
- Unwanted verbal behaviors – such as someone making sexual comments about your body; someone making unwelcome sexual advances, propositions, or suggestions to you; or someone telling you sexually offensive jokes or kidding about your sex or gender-specific traits
- Unwanted nonverbal behaviors – such as sending you sexual emails, texts, or pictures; posting sexual comments about you on blogs or social media; showing you sexually offensive pictures or objects; leering at you or making lewd gestures towards you; or touching oneself sexually in front of you
- Unwanted brief physical contact – such as someone briefly groping you, rubbing sexually against you, pinching you, or engaging in any other brief inappropriate or unwelcome touching of your body

**Figure 4.1 – Frequency of respondent unwanted sexual contact**



| Figure 4.2 - Who was responsible for this behavior? (Check all that apply)       | CMC % | 5C % |
|--|-------|------|
| Student(s) from this institution   | 88%   | 68%  |
| Student(s) from another institution  | 67%   | 71%  |
| Person or people from the local community  | 13%   | 18%  |
| Other  | 2%    | 3%   |
| Faculty member(s), staff member(s), or administrator(s) from this institution    | 2%    | 3%   |
| Faculty member(s), staff member(s), or administrator(s) from another institution | 1%    | 1%   |
| Employer(s)/supervisor(s) at this institution                                    | 0%    | 1%   |

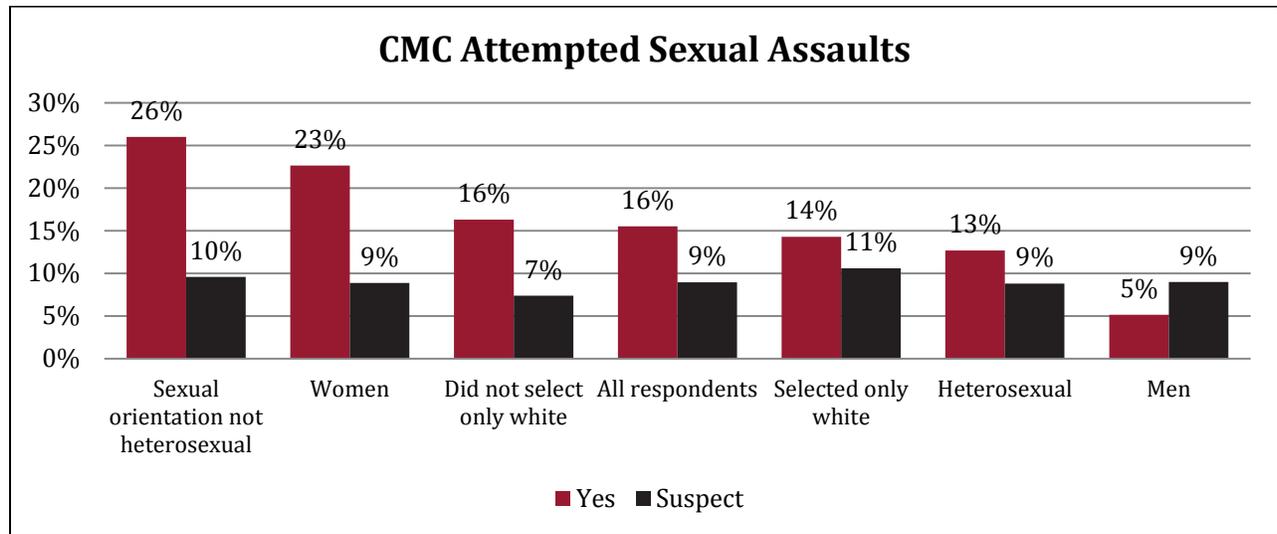
**Figure 4.3 - Disaggregated survey respondent percentages who experienced any unwanted verbal behaviors**



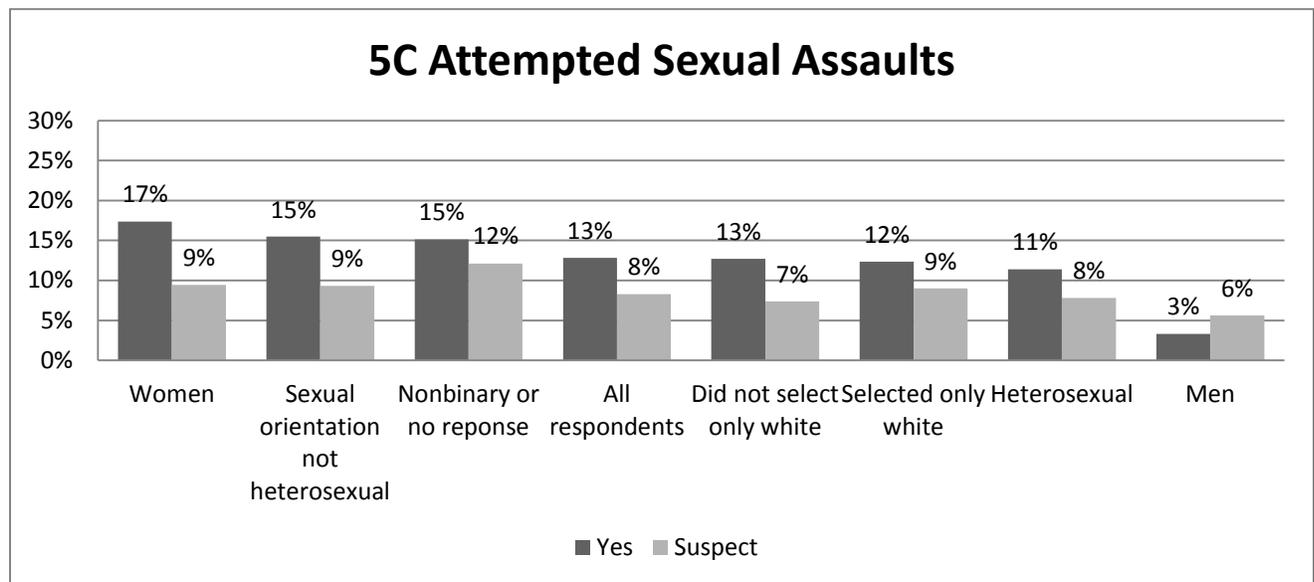
Note: Data for Nonbinary or no response excluded from charts to protect respondent anonymity.

In response to the question “Has anyone attempted, but not succeeded in, sexually assaulting you while you were on campus or while you were off campus during an event or program sponsored by your institution?” sixteen percent of CMC survey respondents answered yes and nine percent suspected that someone attempted to sexually assault them, but were not certain.

**Figure 4.4 – Attempted sexual assaults CMC & 5C**

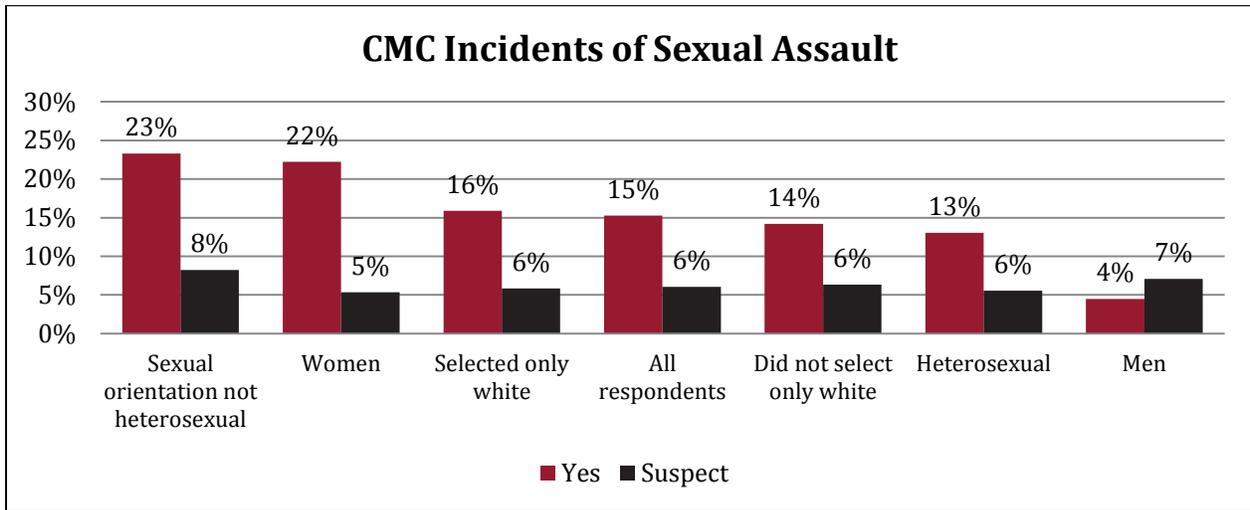


Note: Data for nonbinary or blank gender excluded from charts to protect respondent anonymity.

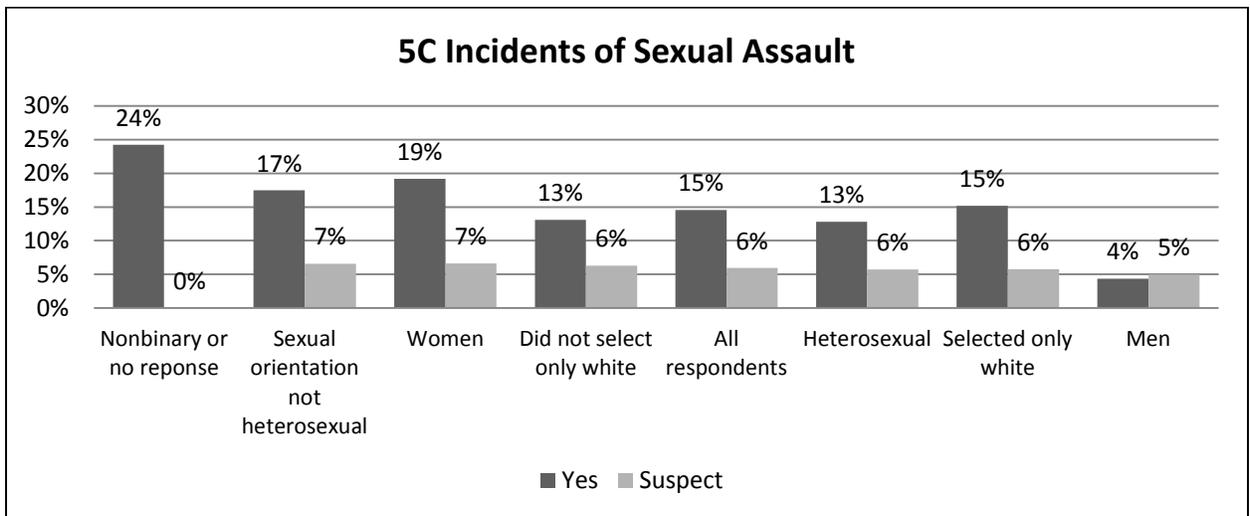


Fifteen percent of CMC survey respondents indicated that they had been sexually assaulted while they were on campus or while off campus at an event or program sponsored by their institution. An additional six percent suspect that someone sexually assaulted them, but were not certain.

**Figure 4.5 - Reported incidents of sexual assault**



Note: Data for Nonbinary or no response excluded from charts to protect respondent anonymity.



**Types of sexual contact during the sexual assault**

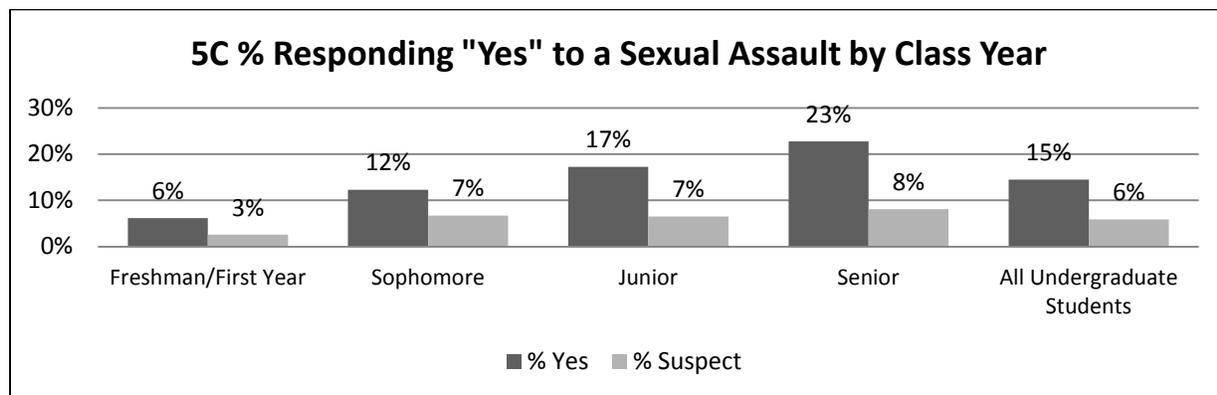
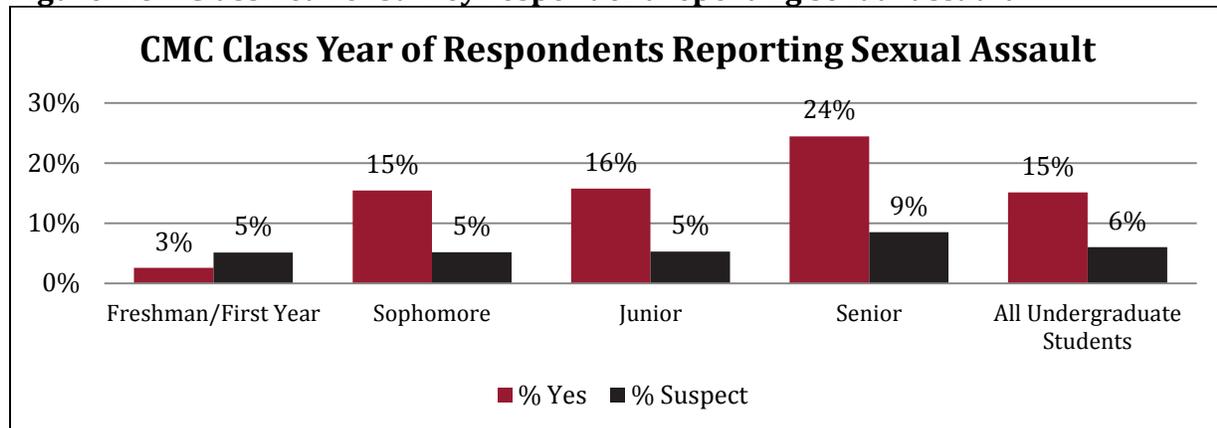
- Touching of a sexual nature - kissing you, touching of private parts, grabbing, fondling, rubbing up against you in a sexual way, even if it was over your clothes
- Oral sex - someone's mouth or tongue making contact with your genitals, or your mouth or tongue making contact with someone else's genitals
- Vaginal sex - someone's penis being put in your vagina, or your penis being put into someone else's vagina
- Anal sex - someone's penis being put in your anus, or your penis being put into someone else's anus
- Anal or vaginal penetration - with a body part other than a penis or tongue, or by an object, like a bottle or candle

| <b>Figure 4.6 - Which of the following happened (check all that apply)</b>  | <b>CMC %</b> | <b>5C %</b> |
|---|--------------|-------------|
| Touching of a sexual nature   | 90%          | 88%         |
| Vaginal sex   | 47%          | 42%         |
| Oral sex  | 31%          | 30%         |
| Anal sex  | 7%           | 6%          |
| Anal or vaginal penetration with a body part other than a penis or tongue, or by an object, like a bottle or candle | 3%           | 8%          |

| <b>Figure 4.7 - Number of sexual assault incidents experienced</b> | <b>CMC %</b> | <b>5C %</b> |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| 1  | 34%          | 41%         |
| 2  | 33%          | 29%         |
| 3  | 22%          | 14%         |
| 4  | 3%           | 5%          |
| more than 4  | 7%           | 11%         |

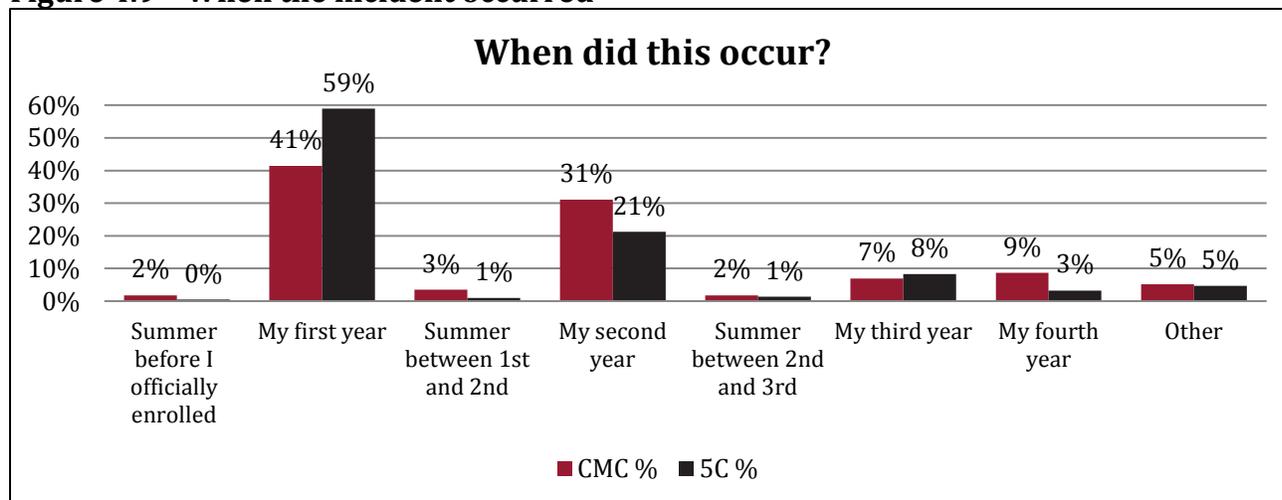
Sixteen percent of junior and twenty-four percent of senior survey respondents reported experiencing sexual assault.

**Figure 4.8 - Class Year of survey respondent reporting sexual assault**



The majority of the reported incidents occurred during the first and second year.

**Figure 4.9 - When the incident occurred**



Sixty-nine percent of CMC survey respondents indicated that the assailant was a student at their own institution, with variation by school within the 5Cs.

| <b>Figure 4.10 - The person who sexually assaulted you (check all that apply)</b> | <b>CMC %</b> | <b>5C %</b> |
|---|--------------|-------------|
| Student(s) from this institution  | 69%          | 50%         |
| Student(s) from another institution   | 22%          | 44%         |
| Not affiliated with CMC or another institution                                    | 9%           | 8%          |
| I do not know   | 5%           | 4%          |
| Faculty member(s), staff member(s), or administrator(s) from this institution     | 2%           | <1%         |
| Faculty member(s), staff member(s), or administrator(s) from another institution  | 0%           | <1%         |

The nature of the relationship between the survey respondent and the assailant was most frequently defined as nonromantic friends or acquaintances.

| <b>Figure 4.11 - Relationship to assaulter (check all that apply)</b> | <b>CMC %</b> | <b>5C %</b> |
|---|--------------|-------------|
| Nonromantic friend or acquaintance                                    | 52%          | 48%         |
| Stranger  | 33%          | 30%         |
| Casual date or hookup   | 26%          | 27%         |
| Other   | 7%           | 5%          |
| Ex-romantic partner   | 5%           | 8%          |
| Current romantic partner  | 3%           | 7%          |
| Co-worker   | 3%           | 1%          |
| College professor or instructor                                       | 2%           | 1%          |
| College staff member  | 0%           | <1%         |

|                       |    |    |
|-----------------------|----|----|
| College administrator | 0% | 0% |
| Employer/supervisor   | 0% | 0% |
| Family member         | 0% | 0% |

Seventy-six percent of survey respondents who reported assaults were drinking along with 78% of reported assailants. Forty percent of CMC respondents indicated that they were unable to provide consent or stop what was happening because they were incapacitated.

| <b>Figure 4.12 - Involvement of force, drugs, or alcohol (check all that apply)</b>          | <b>CMC %</b> | <b>5C %</b> |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| Other people drinking alcohol  | 78%          | 64%         |
| Your drinking alcohol  | 76%          | 63%         |
| Other people using physical force  | 55%          | 45%         |
| Were you unable to provide consent or stop what was happening because you were incapacitated | 40%          | 36%         |
| Other people threatening physical force, coercion, or intimidation                           | 28%          | 33%         |
| Other people using drugs   | 16%          | 22%         |
| Your voluntarily taking or using drugs   | 7%           | 13%         |
| Your being given a drug without knowledge or consent   | 3%           | 4%          |

While the vast majority of survey respondents indicated that the assailants were male, there are reported incidents of female assailants, as well as instances of males and females together.

| <b>Figure 4.13 - Sex of the Assaulter (check all that apply)</b> | <b>CMC %</b> | <b>5C%</b> |
|--|--------------|------------|
| Male   | 90%          | 92%        |
| Female   | 9%           | 6%         |
| Both males and females   | 2%           | 2%         |
| I do not know  | 0%           | 0%         |

The table below shows the locations of survey respondents who experienced a single assault, those who reported multiple assaults, indicated locations for each incident.

| <b>Figure 4. 14 Location of sexual assault (check all that apply)</b>    | <b>CMC %</b> | <b>5C %</b> |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| On campus, in a dormitory or other campus housing                        | 60%          | 52%         |
| On campus, in a nonresidential building or some other location on campus | 16%          | 9%          |
| Off campus, at another college or university (not study abroad)          | 14%          | 1%          |
| Study abroad, study away, or other off-campus study program              | 5%           | 28%         |
| Off campus, at an apartment, restaurant, bar, or another location nearby | 5%           | 6%          |
| Off-campus internship  | 0%           | 5%          |

Bystanders were not present in a majority of reported incidents.

| <b>Figure 4.15 - Were there bystanders when you were sexually assaulted (check all that apply)</b> | <b>CMC %</b> | <b>5C %</b> |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| No   | 59%          | 54%         |
| Yes  | 31%          | 33%         |
| I am not sure  | 10%          | 12%         |

Close to eighty percent of survey respondents who experienced sexual assaults tell a close friend.

| <b>Figure 4.16 - Whom did you tell (check all that apply)</b> | <b>CMC %</b> | <b>5C %</b> |
|---|--------------|-------------|
| Close friend  | 79%          | 86%         |
| Roommate  | 34%          | 31%         |
| Romantic partner  | 22%          | 28%         |
| Parent or guardian  | 17%          | 19%         |
| No one  | 16%          | 10%         |
| Campus title IX coordinator or deputy coordinator             | 16%          | 15%         |
| Faculty, staff, or administrator                              | 14%          | 14%         |
| Other family member   | 12%          | 10%         |
| Private counselor   | 12%          | 12%         |
| Resident advisor or peer advisor                              | 9%           | 9%          |
| Campus counselor  | 7%           | 9%          |
| Campus sexual assault advocate                                | 5%           | 8%          |
| Faculty, staff, or administrator at other school              | 2%           | 2%          |
| Campus security, safety, or campus police                     | 2%           | 3%          |
| Local police  | 2%           | 2%          |
| Local or national sexual assault hotline                      | 2%           | 2%          |
| Campus pastor, minister, rabbi, or other clergy               | 0%           | <1%         |
| Campus health services  | 0%           | 4%          |
| Other   | 0%           | 2%          |

## SECTION 5: TCCS SUPPLEMENTAL STALKING AND DATING VIOLENCE QUESTIONS

At the Claremont Colleges, the Title IX Coordinators, the EmPOWER Center, and student Advocates support students impacted by all forms of sex discrimination and violence addressed under Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act, and Cleary, including not only sexual assault, but also dating/domestic violence and stalking. These forms of abuse involve the exertion of power and control over a victim, which often overlap, and can cause severe trauma. The Claremont Colleges prevention and education programs address these forms of abuse simultaneously. Therefore, the Colleges felt it was critical to add the

proceeding questions to the HEDS survey in order to inform this ongoing work more holistically.

The following questions including the following response options: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, and more than 4. The percentages represents the number of survey respondents who selected any option greater than zero.

| <b>Figure 5.1 - Since starting at this institution, how many people have:</b>  | <b>CMC % &gt; 0</b> | <b>5C % &gt; 0</b> |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|
| Made unwanted phone calls to you or left you messages? This includes hang-ups, text or voice messages                    | 28%                 | 25%                |
| Sent you unwanted emails, instant messages, or contacted you through social media? (e.g., Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram) | 26%                 | 29%                |
| Watched, approached you or showed up in places such as your residence, work or class when you did not expect them?       | 17%                 | 16%                |
| Followed you from a distance, or used technology to spy on you?  | 8%                  | 8%                 |
| Gave you something unwanted or left something strange or threatening in a place where you would find it?                 | 4%                  | 4%                 |

| <b>Figure 5.2 - Since starting at this institution, how many of your romantic or sexual partners have ever:</b> | <b>CMC % &gt; 0</b> | <b>5C % &gt; 0</b> |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|
| Called you names, put you down, blamed you for things, or told you that no one else would want you?             | 19%                 | 17%                |
| Insulted, humiliated or made fun of you in front of others?   | 16%                 | 15%                |
| Acted angry towards you in a way that seemed dangerous?   | 12%                 | 13%                |

| <b>Figure 5.3 - Since starting at this institution how many of your romantic or sexual partners have ever:</b>                     | <b>CMC % &gt; 0</b> | <b>5C % &gt; 0</b> |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|
| Prevented you from leaving when you wanted to go?  | 10%                 | 10%                |
| Kept track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing?   | 9%                  | 8%                 |
| Pushed, shoved, or physically hurt you?  | 8%                  | 6%                 |
| Made decisions for you that should have been yours to make, such as the clothes you wear, things you eat, or the friends you have? | 7%                  | 7%                 |
| Threatened to hurt or kill themselves then they were upset with you?   | 7%                  | 6%                 |
| Tried to keep you from seeing or talking to your family or friends?  | 4%                  | 6%                 |
| Destroyed something that was important to you?   | 3%                  | 3%                 |
| Tried to choke or suffocate you?   | 3%                  | 2%                 |
| Made threats to physically harm you?   | 2%                  | 3%                 |
| Threatened to hurt or kill your friends, family or others you care about?  | 1%                  | 1%                 |
| Used or threatened to use a weapon to hurt you?  | 1%                  | 1%                 |

| <b>Figure 5.4 - Since starting at this institution how many of your romantic or sexual partners have ever:</b> | <b>CMC % &gt; 0</b> | <b>5C % &gt; 0</b> |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|
| Prevented you from using safer sex methods when you wanted to utilize them?                                    | 10%                 | 10%                |

## HEDS SACC Survey Supplemental Items

1/10/2018

1. Since starting at this institution, how many people have:  
*Response Scale: 0, 1,2,3,4, more than 4*
  - a. made unwanted phone calls to you or left you messages? This includes hang-ups, text or voice messages.
  - b. sent you unwanted emails, instant messages, or contacted you through social media? (e.g., Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram)
  - c. watched, approached you or showed up in places such as your residence, work or class when you did not expect them?
  - d. followed you from a distance, or used technology to spy on you?
  - e. gave you something unwanted or left something strange or threatening in a place where you would find it?
  
2. Since starting at this institution, how many of your romantic or sexual partners have ever:  
*Response Scale: 0, 1,2,3,4, more than 4*
  - a. acted angrily towards you in a way that seemed dangerous?
  - b. called you names, put you down, blamed you for things, or told you that no one else would want you?
  - c. insulted, humiliated or made fun of you in front of others?
  
3. Since starting at this institution how many of your romantic or sexual partners have ever:  
*Response Scale: 0, 1,2,3,4, more than 4*
  - a. tried to keep you from seeing or talking to your family or friends?
  - b. made decisions for you that should have been yours to make, such as the clothes you wear, things you eat, or the friends you have?
  - c. kept track of you by demanding to know where you were and what you were doing?
  - d. made threats to physically harm you?
  - e. threatened to hurt or kill themselves when they were upset with you?
  - f. threatened to hurt or kill your friends, family or others you care about?
  - g. prevented you from leaving when you wanted to go?
  - h. destroyed something that was important to you?
  - i. pushed, shoved, or physically hurt you?
  - j. used or threatened to use a weapon to hurt you?
  - k. tried to choke or suffocate you?
  
4. Since starting at this institution how many of your romantic or sexual partners have ever:  
*Response Scale: 0, 1,2,3,4, more than 4*
  - a. prevented you from using safer sex methods when you wanted to utilize them?

# THE CLAREMONT COLLEGES

## Claremont Colleges' Sexual Assault Campus Climate Survey FAQs

### SURVEY INSTRUMENT

**1. Why did you conduct a sexual assault and campus climate survey?**

The Council of The Claremont Colleges, consisting of the presidents from each of the seven colleges, decided to participate in the HEDS survey because the presidents felt that survey results would provide valuable insights that allow us to better work together to improve and expand efforts to address this critical issue. In April 2014, the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault made a recommendation that all universities and colleges voluntarily conduct such climate surveys. The Claremont Colleges have participated in the survey twice - in the spring of 2015 and in the spring of 2018.

**2. Why did you select the Higher Education Data Sharing (HEDS) instrument?**

Each of the schools within the consortium reviewed various survey options, including creating their own or using the template provided by the White House Task Force. Ultimately we all recognized the value in 1) using an instrument tailored primarily to residential liberal arts colleges, 2) the important context provided by access to results from similar institutions and 3) the usefulness of the survey administration and data files being handled by HEDS, a consortium of private colleges and universities that collaboratively share, analyze, and use data of all kinds. This also allowed for an additional layer of anonymity for potential student respondents.

**3. Why did The Claremont Colleges use the same instrument?**

Due to the unique nature of our consortium (where our students not only take classes and socialize with one another, but also eat, live, and study collectively), we are aware that climate and sexual assault issues exist not only at the institutional level, but also at the consortium level. Using the same survey instrument allows us to assess both areas and also to plan accordingly for the student population as a whole.

**4. How many other institutions participated in the survey and what was the response rate?**

Forty-five colleges, including the five Claremont Colleges and Keck Graduate Institute participated in the HEDS survey during the 2017-18 academic year. There were a total of 13,632 survey respondents and the overall survey response rate was 22 percent, ranging from 11 percent to 45 percent by institution.

**5. Why did The Claremont Colleges create supplemental questions about dating violence, stalking and domestic violence?**

Sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and stalking are all forms of sex discrimination/violence addressed under Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act, and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act ("Clery Act"). Each of these forms of abuse includes the exertion of power and control over a victim and can cause severe trauma. These forms of abuse also often overlap. For example, dating relationships often include abuse that is sexual, or stalking may have followed the end of an abusive dating relationship.

In addition to the well-known statistic that 20 percent of women experience some form of sexual assault while in college, research also shows that college-age women are at high

risk for dating violence and stalking. Students of all gender identities across the country experience these forms of violence. At The Claremont Colleges, the Title IX Coordinators, the EmPOWER Center, and student advocates support students impacted by these forms of abuse. Also, our prevention education programs across the consortium, including New Student Orientation sessions, often address these forms of abuse in the same session in recognition of how closely related they are. Hence, we felt it critical that the HEDS survey collected data on not only sexual assault, but also on dating/domestic violence and stalking in order to provide us with important data that can help inform our work holistically.

**6. Can I compare the findings from the 2015 administration of the HEDS Sexual Assault Campus Climate Survey to the 2018 version?**

No. There are several reasons why comparisons between the two administrations are not appropriate. First, the survey instrument underwent revision after its 2015 administration. While the changes were subtle, and are mostly confined to items regarding the characteristics of sexual assault, researchers at HEDS have advised us that data from the 2015 survey would not be sufficiently comparable to warrant a year-over-year comparison to data from 2016, 2017, or 2018. Additionally, because the survey was voluntary and because the topic of sexual assault and campus climate has the potential to provoke strong opinions, it is not possible to determine the impact self-selection may have had on the results. Therefore, it is important to keep in mind that this information does not represent generalizations about the Claremont Colleges community. Finally, because a version of the survey was administered in 2015, there is potential for overlap in the survey respondent populations. Hence, the reports should be treated as two distinct snapshots, from two different points in time, and not as longitudinal tracking the same population over time.

An example of the potential implications may help make it clear why comparing the two administrations is not appropriate. Imagine a survey on voting behavior that asks how people plan to vote on a ballot measure. The first time the survey is administered, 200 out of 1000 survey respondents (20%) indicated that they were going to vote “yes”. As the election draws closer, the same survey is administered again, and the same 200 people indicate they are still “yes” votes, but this time, there are only 500 survey respondents. The percentage of “yes” voters jumps to 40%, even though the number of actual “yes” voters remains unchanged. While it is useful to know the percentage of “yes” voters at the two points in time, the differences in sample size, time and self-selection make it potentially misleading to compare outcomes of the two surveys directly.

## **SURVEY METHODOLOGY**

**7. How and when was the survey administered?**

Email invitations to take the electronic survey were sent to all students at each of The participating Claremont College campuses on Feb. 21, 2018, followed by three reminders. The survey closed on March 21, 2018.

**8. Can I compare the 5C findings to those for my own campus?**

While the five undergraduate Claremont institutions (also known as the 5Cs) may provide useful context when reviewing data from individual campuses, there are both methodological and ethical reasons why comparisons are not appropriate. Because the 5C findings contain responses from the individual campuses, it is not possible to make a statistical comparison between an individual institution’s results and either comparison

group. Additionally, the results of the survey are meant to help improve the campus climate across all of the colleges. Inter-institutional comparisons undermine our collective commitment to shared improvement.

**9. Why wasn't the HEDS comparative data for other schools included in the findings? Is it possible to review that information?**

No. When each institution agreed to use the [HEDS instrument](#), they also agreed to the following HEDS rules regarding dissemination of survey results:

- We will not identify participating HEDS institutions by name to any person or organization outside of the consortium.
- In any public presentations or dissemination of data from the survey on or off campus, HEDS institutions must not identify other HEDS institutions that participated in the survey or display the data from any single HEDS institution, even if that institution is not identified. In these settings, HEDS institutions should only present pooled data from other HEDS institutions or other comparison groups that contain at least five institutions.
- In deciding how to share HEDS peer data from this survey on campus, the HEDS primary contact agrees to do two things. First, the primary contact will be responsible for working with the senior leaders at the institution to identify the people on campus who need to see HEDS peer institutional data in order to respond effectively to the survey findings. Second, the primary contact and senior leaders will ensure that everyone who has access to HEDS peer data recognizes and accepts their obligation to prevent any public disclosure of participating institutions' identities and data.
- Finally, unlike with other HEDS surveys, HEDS institutions participating in this survey will not receive individual-level data from other HEDS institutions. Instead, they will receive only their own student-level data, which we will deprecate to preserve the anonymity of individual students.

In accordance with these rules, each campus within the Claremont consortium has expressly agreed to share the provided findings publicly.

**10. Why are we sharing survey findings and not the full survey results?**

The report is designed to share important findings from the survey that are relevant to all the schools and to encourage conversations on campuses as well as across them. The variation in survey response rates by campus are worth noting, as well as differences in survey respondent demographics. Furthermore, because the survey was voluntary and the topics of sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and stalking have the potential to provoke strong opinions, it is not possible to determine the impact self-selection may have had on the results. Therefore, please keep in mind that this information does not represent generalizations about The Claremont Colleges community.

Also, maintaining the anonymity of survey respondents was a key consideration in preparing the findings report. In areas where the number of survey respondents was small ( $n < 10$ ) we will not make that information public. Individual institutions may decide to use that information internally in their planning and policy discussions.

**11. How was sexual assault defined on the HEDS instrument?**

Survey respondents were provided with the following statement before being asked questions related to sexual assault:

*In the next set of questions we ask about experiences you may have had with sexual assault on campus at [Institution Name] or during off-campus events or programs sponsored by [Institution Name]. When we ask about sexual assault, we are referring to five specific types of sexual contact, which you **did not want** or for which you **did not give consent**:*

- 1) *Touching of a sexual nature (kissing you, touching of private parts, grabbing, fondling, rubbing up against you in a sexual way, even if it was over your clothes)*
- 2) *Oral sex (someone's mouth or tongue making contact with your genitals, or your mouth or tongue making contact with someone else's genitals)*
- 3) *Vaginal sex (someone's penis being put in your vagina, or your penis being put into someone else's vagina)*
- 4) *Anal sex (someone's penis being put in your anus, or your penis being put into someone else's anus)*
- 5) *Anal or vaginal penetration with a body part other than a penis or tongue, or by an object, like a bottle or candle*

**12. Could students report more than one incident of sexual assault?**

Yes, students were asked whether they experienced multiple incidents of sexual assault. Following that question, the instrument directed survey respondents to provide information with respect to one assault.

**13. Is it possible to provide data for specific groups by race and ethnicity or other demographic classifications?**

No, the findings report includes disaggregated results for all the demographic information made available to institutions. Due to the sensitive nature of this survey and to protect the anonymity of individual students, HEDS provided each school with deprecated student-level data files.

**14. Why is there a category for Nonbinary or no response?**

The instrument contains three response options for the question about gender: man, woman and fill in. The category "Nonbinary or no response" was created for two reasons. For one, the data files from HEDS did not separate the students who filled in another gender from those who left the question blank (see information in question nine about individually identifiable information). Second, there were differences in how the "Nonbinary or no response" group responded to questions about campus climate and their reporting on unwanted sexual contact and incidents of sexual assault. Reporting findings for this group as a whole seemed valuable, particularly in relation to planning and the importance of having a joint response to this issue.

**15. Why do the percentages for some questions total to more than 100?**

Several of the survey questions related to unwanted sexual contact and sexual assault allowed the survey respondent to choose all of the responses that applied. For those questions, the response provided was divided by the number of students who said "yes" they had been sexually assaulted while on campus or while off campus during an event or program sponsored by their institution.

**16. What about the written comments? Why aren't those included in the analysis?**

To maintain the privacy of the survey respondents, The Claremont Colleges did not request these in the 5C file because many of them are individually identifiable, or at least

could be if the campus was known. Again, as much as possible, we have attempted to withhold sharing information that would allow identification of individuals in an effort to protect their individual privacy - a key factor in getting more students to respond to this survey.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

### **17. Where can I find data for individual campuses within The Claremont Colleges consortium?**

Individual schools results can be found on their Title IX pages. Links to those pages are provided on the [7C website](#).

### **18. How does this compare to national data?**

Many institutions have made their campus climate and sexual assault survey data publicly available. The Association of American Universities (AAU) has a [webpage with their 2015 results](#). However, it is important to note that in most instances, it is not possible to compare results across institutions unless the questions and response options are identical.

### **19. Where can I find additional campus and local resources for sexual assault?**

[The 7C Violence Prevention and Advocacy site](#).

## **Actions Taken Since 2015 HEDS Sexual Assault Campus Climate Survey Administration**

- The EmPOWER Center was established in November 2015 to provide 7C-wide educational programs and confidential support to students impacted by sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and stalking. To learn more about the Center's year-round programming, initiatives, support groups, and drop-in hours [visit its website](#).
- In February 2017, the EmPOWER Center launched a revamped, student-friendly website, 7CSupportandPrevention.com. The website provides extensive information about on- and off-campus resources, how to support a survivor, Title IX policies, and reporting options.
- In 2017, The Claremont Colleges applied for and received a \$750,000, three-year grant from the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women to address sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and stalking at the 7Cs. The grant is coordinated by the EmPOWER Center in collaboration with 7C Title IX Coordinators and aims to strengthen survivor services, expand prevention education, and build a Coordinated Community Response Team (CCRT). CCRT members include the EmPOWER Center, 7C Title IX Coordinators, Campus Safety, Monsour Counseling and Psychological Services, the Queer Resource Center, the Claremont Police Department, and Project Sister Family Services. They meet monthly to advance and review progress under the grant initiatives.
- All 5Cs and KGI now have on staff either a stand-alone Title IX Coordinator or a staff member dedicated to Title IX issues.
- In spring 2016, a 5C-wide online survey was implemented to assess the Teal Dot Bystander Engagement Training program. Feedback received was used to revise, strengthen, and expand the program across the 5Cs.
- The colleges have unified key training and prevention efforts, including first-year orientation workshops across the 5Cs and trainings for student leaders, staff, and faculty across the 7Cs.