

The New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts Campus Climate Assessment

New York State's Enough is Enough legislation requires that all colleges and universities in New York complete campus climate surveys. The survey is meant to generate school-specific data on the nature and extent of sexual assault as it exists on a campus, as well as data on the attitudes and perceptions about sexual assault among students. The goal is to improve institutional responses, including targeting prevention, intervention, support for victims, and accountability for offenders.

Information about the New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts (NYCDA) Campus Climate Assessment was initially communicated to students on May 17th, 2021. The survey took an average of 6 minutes and 13 seconds to complete. The Campus Climate Assessment was closed on May 28th, 2021, the last day of the term.

NYCDA issued the survey to its entire student body (270 students), and received 61 responses. The response rate of the assessment was approximately 22.5%.

The anonymous survey asked questions about:

- i. The Title IX Coordinator's role;
- ii. Campus policies and procedures addressing sexual assault;
- iii. How and where to report sexual violence as a victim/survivor or witness;
- iv. The prevalence of victimization and perpetration of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking on and off campus during the two years of their attendance at the school;
- v. Whether victims/survivors reported to NYCDA and/or police, and reasons why they did or did not report;
- vi. The general awareness of the definition of affirmative consent.

Findings:

- i. 98.3% of students had knowledge of Title IX as an educational amendment referring to discrimination based on sex. 88.5% of students were aware of who served as the Title IX Coordinator at NYCDA.
- ii. Among participants, 93.4% of students were familiar with NYCDA's Sexual Violence Prevention and Response policy. Approximately 93.4% of students knew that they could

access the policy on NYCDA's website, Portal or in a brochure that can be found at the Student Services Office.

- iii. A majority of students (98.3%) knew to report incidents of sexual misconduct directly to the Title IX Coordinator or at least understood that it is preferable to so. 1.7% said they would report it to a resident advisor.
- iv. While attending NYCDA, 9.8% of students have been a victim or bystander of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking on or off campus. 6.5% of students selected "I do not wish to answer."
- v. Less than 1.6% of students reported to NYCDA or local police. 9.8% noted that they did not report to NYCDA or the local police. Students were asked why they did not report (students were able to list many reasons):
 - a. They Thought Too Much Time Had Passed (2 people)
 - b. They didn't think anyone would believe them (2 people)
 - c. They didn't want to go through the process (1 person)
- vi. Students at NYCDA showed a strong understanding of the definition of affirmative consent, with 91.6% noting that affirmative consent is the "knowing, voluntary, and mutual decision among all participants to engage in sexual activity."
 - a. Students showed similar comprehension of affirmative consent when given a hypothetical scenario illustrating a situation where consent could not be given because one individual was incapacitated. 95% of students showed an understanding of consent in this scenario.

In general, the majority of students feel safe on campus and in the surrounding areas. Campus includes academic buildings, rehearsal spaces and residence halls. Off campus refers to the surrounding neighborhoods of the academic buildings and residence halls.

On campus, 93.4% of students marked “true” when asked if they felt safe and secure. At our 92Y Residential location 89.2% of students marked “true” when asked if they felt safe and secure. At our Found Study location, 90.3% of students marked “true” when asked if they felt safe and secure.

The New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts is dedicated to creating a learning environment where students feel safe and secure. The institution is committed to enforcing school policies that prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex. Moving forward, NYCDA will focus on further educating students in the following areas:

- Knowledge of formal reporting procedures
- Further educating students on the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Policy
- Informing students about off-campus resources
- Additional training about affirmative consent in real-life scenarios and situations