

FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

FROM THE SURVIVORS + ALLIES' 2021 SURVEY OF THE UC COMMUNITY



In 2020, the student-led collective Survivors + Allies (S+A) began a research project surveying students across UC campuses to evaluate students' awareness, utilization, and evaluation of on- and off-campus resources for survivors of sexual violence and sexual harassment (SVSH), including Title IX, Campus Assault Resources & Education (CARE), Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), and UC Police Departments (UCPD).

The resulting sample consisted of:

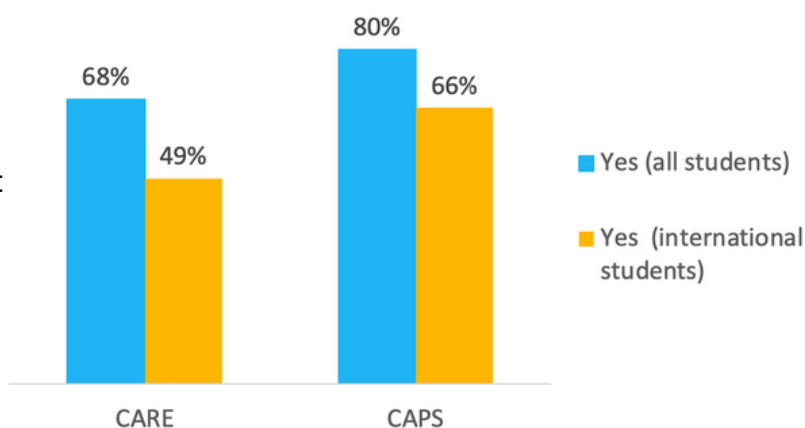
- 1,223 total students (52% undergraduate and 48% graduate)
- 62% cisgender women, 21% cisgender men, 2% transgender people, 18% nonbinary and people of other gender identities
- 42% of students identified as LGBTQA+
- 59% as students of color
- 17% as international students
- 41% identified as survivors of SVSH

KEY FINDING 1

STUDENTS' OVERALL AWARENESS OF RESOURCES IS LOW

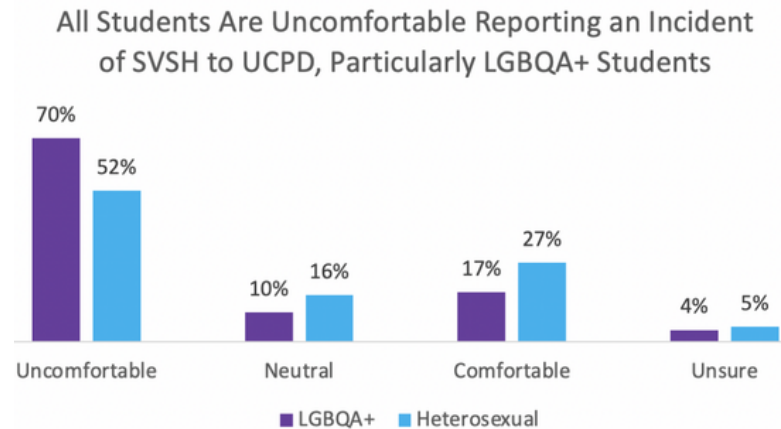
- Students lack awareness of the two key resources for survivor healing: CARE and CAPS. Only 68% had heard of CARE, 80% had heard of CAPS. These numbers are much lower for international students.
- A high percentage of students don't know that international (32% don't know) and undocumented students (38% don't know) are covered by Title IX.
- 36% of students believed that Title IX is confidential, although it is not; any appointment with a Title IX employee to discuss a student's situation could result in an investigation.
- Asian and Latinx students are 40% less likely to know what the Title IX office does when compared to White students.

Have you heard of the following resources?



KEY FINDING 2 STUDENTS ARE NOT COMFORTABLE REPORTING TO UCPD AND DISTRUST BOTH TITLE IX AND UCPD

- Based on both research and lived experience, we find that UCPD is an undesired frontline response for survivors and their experiences of harm.
- LGBTQA+ students are 40% less likely to report to UCPD than heterosexual students.
- Systemwide, LGBTQA+ students are less likely to trust the Title IX Office or UCPD.
- Overall, 12% of students wouldn't trust Title IX to support someone like them (with their identities and background).



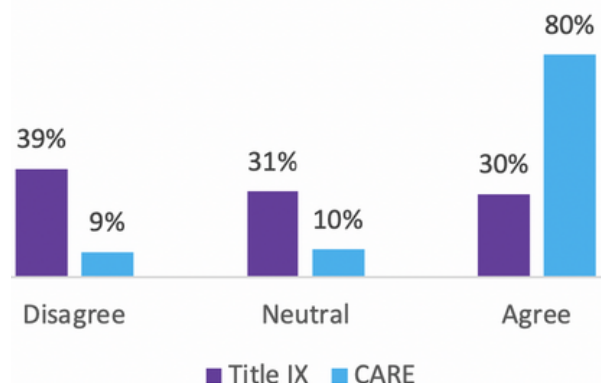
"UCPD was the first university related place I came to after the stalking incident, but they didn't do anything until several more girls were harassed by the same man, and then he was kicked off campus. I wish they had done it sooner. After the initial call, he stalked me two more times."

- UC Riverside undergraduate student

KEY FINDING 3 SURVIVORS REPORTED NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES WITH TITLE IX

- Survivors reported highly negative experiences when interacting with Title IX. The process was lengthy, confusing, and inequitable (many perpetrators hired outside lawyers).
- Moreover, Title IX staff were not trauma-informed and did not give survivors clear information. Whereas 83% of survivors reported receiving clear information from CARE, only 56% reported receiving the same from Title IX.
- Survivors do not feel safe interacting with Title IX staff. Compared to 80% of survivors who felt safe with CARE staff, only 30% felt safe with Title IX staff.

"I felt safe when interacting with Title IX/ CARE staff" (only survivor respondents)



Title IX, at the end of the day they still had my abuser living in the same dormitory as me. They really ended up doing nothing for my safety except for offering me a no contact order.”
- UC Santa Cruz undergraduate student

RECOMMENDATIONS

RESOURCES AND FUNDING


- Publish annual budgets for CARE and CAPS with information about how budgets are allocated across UC campuses.
- Increase CARE programming and the number of CARE Advocates.
- Hire more therapists: therapists of color, LGBTQIA+ therapists, first-generation/immigrant therapists, and therapists who specialize in working with victim-survivors.
- Hire a CARE Advocate or equivalent at each UC international center who shares identities with international students.
- Designate campus LGBTQIA+ centers as confidential resources.
- Increase awareness of on-campus and off-campus healing resources through improved communication, especially to marginalized student groups.
- Create more Black and Latinx survivor-centered resources and programming.
- Standardize information required on UC Campus Title IX websites and UCOP systemwide Title IX website.

DATA AND TRANSPARENCY

- Standardize data collection and reporting across the UC system, which is consistent with recommendations by UCOP’s own Title IX Student Advisory Board.
 - Currently, reporting varies widely by campus and is unstandardized.
- Make public any UC surveys about the efficacy of Title IX trainings and students’ experiences with SVSH.
- Develop systemwide requirements for pre- and post-test evaluations for trainings of Title IX staff and investigators.
- Develop post-investigation surveys for Title IX offices to solicit anonymous feedback from students.



Survivors + Allies

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