Student Life 2013 Survey

FINAL REPORT
Student Affairs and Campus Life

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Transforming students’ learning into Passion, Power, and Purpose
Methodology

- The Student Life 2013 Survey was fielded to a sample of undergraduate and graduate students during April 10-24, 2013.

- A random sample of 3,501 students received email invitations to participate in the survey. The sample was comprised of 700 students from 4 undergraduate classes (AcadLvlatTermStrt: FR, SO, JR, SR) and 701 graduate students (Masters), for a total sample of 3,501.

- Respondents were able to skip questions they did not want to answer.

- All surveys (both completed & partially completed) were used in the analysis.

- All group differences reported herein are statistically significant to p<.05, unless indicated otherwise.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>Undergraduate (UG)</th>
<th>Graduate (GR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Invitations</td>
<td>3,501</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents</td>
<td>742</td>
<td>581</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response rate</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
<td>20.75%</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
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</table>
## Self-Reported Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>UG</th>
<th>GR</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Valid %</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>First-year student</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
<td>95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
<td>122</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior (including 5\textsuperscript{th} year)</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
<td>131</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate (Masters)</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>21.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>60.6%</td>
<td>332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
<td>201</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transgendered</td>
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<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Another identity</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student of color (ALANA)</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>White student</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>68.4%</td>
<td>421</td>
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<tr>
<td>None/Other</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First gen</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veteran</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>.9%</td>
<td>3</td>
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## Self-Reported Demographics

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Primary language family speaks at home</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>581</td>
<td>85.07%</td>
<td>482</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>7.17%</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese (please specify)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>4.39%</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1.32%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.88%</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Haitian Creole or French</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.73%</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portuguese</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.44%</td>
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<th>GR</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>25.4%</td>
<td>128</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atheist</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
<td>52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protestant</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muslim</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>7</td>
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## Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>UG</th>
<th></th>
<th>GR</th>
<th></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer entry</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHC (Commonwealth Honors College)</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>29.9%</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>34.3%</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISOM</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBS</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HFA</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHHS</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other/Unaffiliated</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>28</td>
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## Students’ Campus Leadership Positions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students holding Leadership Positions</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Valid % (N=194)</th>
<th>Sample % (N=742)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching assistant</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>43.8%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate assistant</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSO E-board</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other peer advising</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student governance (SGA, RHA, GSO)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Assistant (RA)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer health educator</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total # Student Leaders</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Vast Majority of Respondents Have Developed Close, Supportive Friendships at UMass

Number of Close Friends at UMass Amherst Currently (N=741)

- 0 (n=45)
- 1-3
- 4-6
- 7+

Feelings of Support from UMass Amherst Close Friends
(n=681 Respondents with 1+ close friends)

- Very unsupported
- Somewhat unsupported
- Somewhat supported
- Very supported

13% of Transfer entry have no close friends at UMass Amherst, compared to 3% of Frosh entry students

Transfer entry (39% v Frosh entry 67%)
Graduate students (49% v Undergraduate 62%)
Non-English primary (50% v English primary 61%)
Males (52% v Females 64%)
are significantly less likely to feel very supported by their UMass Amherst close friends
Despite Their Friendships, 42% of Respondents Had Felt Lonely Occasionally or Frequently During 2012-13

% of Students who Felt Lonely at Any Time during 2012-13 Academic Year (N=742)

- No: 37%
- Yes - Rarely: 11%
- Yes - Occasionally: 30%
- Yes - Frequently: 18%
- Yes (no frequency indicated): 1%

CHC (75% v 60% Non-CHC)
Females (67% v 54% Males)
were significantly more likely to have felt lonely during the past academic year
Q: Have you and your close friends at UMass Amherst ever discussed any of the following issues, as they relate to UMass Amherst? (n=692 Respondents with 1+ friends)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>% &quot;Yes&quot; Respondents</th>
<th>CHC 65%</th>
<th>Undergraduate 57%</th>
<th>Female 56%</th>
<th>White 55%</th>
<th>English primary 54%</th>
<th>Sexual assault</th>
<th>Non-CHC 50%</th>
<th>Graduate 37%</th>
<th>Male 45%</th>
<th>ALANA 45%</th>
<th>Non-English primary 42%</th>
<th>Sexual harassment</th>
<th>Non-CHC 46%</th>
<th>Males 40%</th>
<th>Graduate 38%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Race or ethnicity</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sexual assault</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sexual harassment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual assault</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual harassment</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Respondents with 1+ UMass Amherst friends
The Majority of Respondents Define Diversity in Multiple Ways

- **Students’ diversity concepts vary mostly across gender, primary language and undergraduate/graduate groups:**
  - **Females** are more likely than males to include religion, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, disability, political affiliation & veteran status.
  - **English primary** students are more likely than non-English primary to include sexual orientation, socioeconomic status & political affiliation.
  - **Graduate students** are more likely than undergraduates to include age & disability.

---

**Characteristics Included in Students’ Concepts of "Diversity" (N=742)**

- % Respondents who include this characteristic in "diversity"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>25%</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>75%</th>
<th>100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Race/ethnicity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National origin/citizenship</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual orientation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socioeconomic status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographic location</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political affiliation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran/Active military status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Student Affairs & Campus Life**

SL 2013
Overall, a Majority of Students Find UMass Leaders to be Committed to Diversity, But Some Groups Hold Less Positive Views

Q: Based on the characteristics that you've just described, do you think UMass Amherst's administrative leadership is committed to diversity? (N=742)

- Yes, very much: 27%
- Yes, somewhat: 11%
- No, not much: 45%
- No, not at all: 3%

Non-English: -17% (No, not at all) -9% (No, not much)
English: -12% (No, not at all) -3% (No, not much)
ALANA: -17% (No, not at all) -7% (No, not much)
White: -11% (No, not at all) -2% (No, not much)
Male: -13% (No, not at all) -5% (No, not much)
Female: -12% (No, not at all) -2% (No, not much)
CHC: -21% (No, not at all) -2% (No, not much)
Non-CHC: -12% (No, not at all) -4% (No, not much)
One in Four Respondents Had Felt Uncomfortable for Diversity-Related Reasons

Respondents Who Have Ever Felt Uncomfortable at UMass Amherst for Diversity-Related Reasons (N=742)

Profile of "Yes" Respondents (n=193)

- Non-CHC: 84%
- English primary: 76%
- Undergraduate: 73%
- Non-FG: 66%
- Female: 64%
- Frosh entry: 64%
- White: 55%
Negative Diversity Experiences Were Significantly More Prevalent Among ALANA and Female Students, than White or Male Students

Frequency of Diversity-Related Experiences Across Student Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALANA</td>
<td>42% (n=65)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>21% (n=107)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>30% (n=124)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>18% (n=48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-English primary</td>
<td>32% (n=33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English primary</td>
<td>25% (n=146)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First gen</td>
<td>28% (n=53)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-FG</td>
<td>23% (n=127)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-CHC</td>
<td>34% (n=163)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHC</td>
<td>32% (n=30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frosh entry</td>
<td>26% (n=123)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer entry</td>
<td>24% (n=27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>25% (n=40)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>24% (n=140)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overall, Students Had Felt Uncomfortable Most Frequently Due to Their Gender or Their Race/Ethnicity

Types of Diversity-Related Reasons (n=193)

- Gender: 48%
- Race or ethnicity: 36%
- Religion or spiritual beliefs: 27%
- A disability: 21%
- Nationality/citizenship: 16%
- Veteran status: 4%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This reason:</th>
<th>is more likely among these students:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>White (61%) Female (55%) English primary (55%) Non-FG (54%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race or ethnicity</td>
<td>ALANA (74%) Non-English primary (64%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion or spiritual beliefs</td>
<td>English primary (29%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability</td>
<td>White (26%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationality or citizenship</td>
<td>Non-English primary (61%) Graduate (38%) ALANA (28%) First gen (23%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Frequency of Respondents Feeling Uncomfortable at UMass Amherst for Diversity-Related Reasons (n=193)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Almost daily</th>
<th>A few times per week</th>
<th>A few times per month</th>
<th>A few times per semester</th>
<th>It has happened only once or twice since I've been here</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Your gender (n=88)</strong></td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Your race or ethnicity (n=67)</strong></td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Your religion or spiritual beliefs (n=48)</strong></td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A disability (n=36)</strong></td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Your nationality/citizenship (n=22)</strong></td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Your veteran status (n=6)</strong></td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student Affairs and Campus Life

Safe Campus

Negative Experiences Occurred Most Frequently in the Form of Jokes, Teasing, or Verbal Harassment

Nature of the Diversity-Related Experiences that Bothered Students the Most (n=177)

- Jokes, teasing, or pranks: 50%
- Verbal harassment, catcalls or intimidation: 44%
- Written, drawn or posted graffiti on university or personal property: 12%
- Online social networks: 11%
- Flyers or pamphlets: 10%
- E-mails, text messages or instant messaging: 8%
- Vandalism or theft: 6%
- Websites: 6%
- Physical violence: 5%
- Phone calls: 4%

Students Who Were Acquainted with Anyone Who Contributed to their Uncomfortable Experience (n=188)

- Yes: 28%
- Maybe: 9%
- No: 51%
- I don't know: 13%

Nature of the Diversity-Related Experiences that Bothered Students the Most (n=177)

- Classroom-based
  - Class discussions
  - Faculty comments, behaviors towards men & women
  - Favoring men; dismissive toward women
- Multiple micro-aggressions & subtleties
  - Nonverbal (body language, looks)
  - Conversation (undertones, discriminatory)
  - Social settings
  - Word of mouth
- Environment
  - Outsider/Other
  - Sexual assault/rape culture
  - White privilege
Gender Experiences

42 students (45% of 93) offered descriptions of the ways they have felt uncomfortable at UMass because of their gender, including:

- **Experiences:** while socializing at night, in residence, in class, at work, at the gym, playing sports, walking alone on campus at night, being the only female in the room at campus job, at off-campus bars & parties

- **Being subject to:** party culture & objectification of women, faculty sexism/bias/off-putting remarks in class, sexist comments about women’s bodies, cliques, marginalization of men, bias toward women or men, actions & comments from drinking/drunk males, preferential treatment of men, sexual advances/comments/innuendos, jokes about women’s inferiority, derogatory remarks, dismissive treatment, aggressive behaviors, inappropriate comments

- **Feeling:** general discomfort, shunned, stared at, worried, scared, unsafe, disturbed “by campus’ history of sexual attacks on women,” vulnerable, disrespected, objectified, stress, intimidated, uneasy

As a woman, I feel that there's a lot of pressure to both be promiscuous and yet not be labeled a 'slut.' I feel like there's a lot of slut shaming that goes on from both men and women.

I work for UMass Transit and frequently have to walk a mile and a half home to my dorm after work at midnight. Being a tiny female, I always feel vulnerable to attack, and sometimes I think the few students I encounter are very much aware of this whether or not they would actually take advantage of me. While I am grateful for the constant discussion on rape culture, I think it very frequently just reminds people that such a thing is possible, including putting the idea in the mind of a would-be attacker.
22 students (31% of 70) offered descriptions of the ways they have felt uncomfortable at UMass because of their race/ethnicity, including:

- **Experiences**: in class, walking on campus, in residence halls, and in Amherst & Northampton
- **Being subject to**: stares, shouts, slurs, laughing, being followed, lack of discussion about race/ethnicity in class
- **Feeling**: weird, awkward, excluded, inadequate, disrespected

UMass Amherst is not a very diverse university. I often find myself in classrooms with 30 or more students in which I am the only person of color and it’s hard to feel connected in such situations. There have been occasions as well when I have had students make insensitive and derogatory comments about my race/ethnicity.

*Junior*
17 students (32% of 53) offered descriptions of the ways they have felt uncomfortable at UMass because of their religion, including:

- **Experiences**: in class, dining commons, extracurricular activity, with friends or peers who don’t share/practice their spiritual beliefs. Experiences include students self-identified as Christian, evangelical, Roman Catholic, or Jewish.

- **Being subject to**: difficulties creating a religious organization/chapter, classmate in Nazi uniform, religious beliefs accosted by liberal culture, accosted, jokes, too much swearing, blurbs/judgments/questions/mocking about spiritual beliefs and religious services, difficulty finding ways to grow spiritually, rude stares while saying quiet grace, accusations and gross generalizations, false facts, constantly combating people’s negative views of Christians, generalizations & accusations of bigotry & intolerance, casual prejudice, professor’s opinions & views pushed in class, ignorance, negative views

- **Feeling**: reverse discrimination, unable to talk about God/religion, empty, caught off guard, offended, tired, frustrated, unwelcomed, unvalidated & unsafe to participate in class, wishing for a bigger faith community, misunderstood, shunned

*The casual prejudice I and my Christian sisters and brothers encounter here, when we mind our own business as much as we can, is frustrating. I think it gives the university as a whole a reputation for being tolerant only as long as you agree with the majority opinion or have a minority opinion that is perceived as being oppressed. I do not feel oppressed, but due to my faith I do not feel welcomed either.*

*Masters*

*When I was a freshman a boy wore a Nazi uniform to class I felt uncomfortable being Jewish.*

*Sophomore*
Disability Experiences

Nature of Respondents' Disabilities (n=38)

- Psychological disorder (depression, etc.): 42%
- Learning disability (dyslexia, etc.): 34%
- Physical disability (speech, sight, mobility, hearing, etc.): 32%
- Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD): 26%
- Prefer not to say: 11%
20 students (50% of 40) offered descriptions of the ways they have felt uncomfortable at UMass because of their disability, including:

- **Experiences:** in class, with faculty, with students, with group coursework, with pace of life and level of interaction with others, during exams, moving around campus
- **Being subject to:** feelings of discomfort imposed upon themselves, trouble with public speaking, low understanding and/or not attuned to disabilities that are not obvious, difficulty keeping up with pace of some classes and/or pace of life, low understanding/empathy, overarching misconceptions and lack of education about disabilities/disorders, judgmental peers, misunderstanding, hassle to get accommodations, disability as a part of everyday life, inaccessible buildings/classes, irregularly placed bus stops, no practical way to get to the center of campus while disabled
- **Feeling:** awkward, humiliated, caring too much about what people think, making themselves feel uncomfortable, painful, frustrated

My professors are always extremely accommodating of my disabilities and circumstances. However, it is the students at UMass who can be very judgmental. Not all of them have a very comprehensive understanding of most mental disorders. I highly suggest making a psych class mandatory for everyone.

Senior
12 students (40% of 30) offered descriptions of the ways they have felt uncomfortable at UMass because of their nationality/citizenship, including:

- **Experiences**: in class, work group, in an international program
- **Being subject to**: alienation based upon appearance, classmates making fun of ESL instructors, different treatment than American students, limited support facilities, resentment based on political/historical issues, mild America ‘bashing’, classroom questions related to American culture raised
- **Feeling**: worried about finding a job, looked down upon, in need of the most help, embarrassed, uncomfortable regarding my country’s (US) domestic & foreign policies, unfamiliar with American culture, alienated because of their appearance

Once a recruiter at a UMass career fair told me 'you may not even be able to be hired easily here after becoming a citizen because you are Iranian and you are under sanction' and she was not nice in her tone of voice at all. I almost cried for 2 hours that day but a friend who is lawyer told me that the recruiter was not correct and that it was a result of personal resentment.

_Masters_
Active/Veteran Military Experiences

3 students (out of 7) offered descriptions of the ways they have felt uncomfortable at UMass because of their active/veteran military status, including:

- **Experiences:** as a dependent of a veteran, attending a liberal campus
- **Being subject to:** negative presumptions about competence &/or intelligence, emails that don’t pertain to me [i.e., military dependent]
- **Feeling:** unwelcomed in some places, frustrated, uncertain how to fit into veteran community

“I am regularly ‘othered’ due to my veteran status. Negative presumptions about my competence level and intelligence regularly frustrate me. Veterans are not welcome in some places on this campus”

**Doctoral**
Students' Responses to Their Most Uncomfortable Diversity-Related Experiences (n=184)

- Ignored it: 53%
- Told a UMass friend: 41%
- Avoided the person(s): 36%
- Left the situation immediately: 28%
- Confronted the person(s) at the time: 16%
- Talked to a university administrator/staff member: 10%
- Confronted the person(s) later, face to face: 8%
- Other: 8%
- Posted it on social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter): 7%
- Talked to a student staff member: 5%
- Confronted the person(s) later via e-mail or telephone: 4%
- Talked to a course instructor (e.g., faculty, teaching assistant): 3%
- None of the above: 2%

Q: Please describe your reaction(s) to the incident/experience that bothered you the most

If the person IS your instructor, who should you go talk to?? This person is in charge of your grade.
Students Responded to Diversity Incidents Differently Across Gender, Class and CHC Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This response:</th>
<th>is more likely among these students:</th>
<th>than these students:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Told a UMass friend”</td>
<td>Females 49%</td>
<td>Males 17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Left the situation immediately”</td>
<td>Undergraduates 32% CHC 47%</td>
<td>Graduate students 15% Non-CHC 25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Confronted the person at the time”</td>
<td>Undergraduates 19%</td>
<td>Graduate students 5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Confronted the person later, face to face”</td>
<td>CHC 20%</td>
<td>Non-CHC 6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Talked to a course instructor”</td>
<td>Males 6%</td>
<td>Females 1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Only 9% of Students Reported the Diversity Incident that Bothered Them Most to a Campus Official

Students who have ever had an uncomfortable diversity-related experience at UMass

Q: Did you report the incident or experience that bothered you the most to a campus employee or official?

193 Yes (26%)
18 “Yes” (9%)
162 “No” (84%)

Q: Do you feel your complaint was taken seriously?

12 “Yes”
5 “No”

Q: Do you believe that your complaint was resolved effectively?

5 “Yes”
7 “No”
Non-Reporters’ Barriers to Reporting Uncomfortable Diversity-Related Experiences (n=162)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Didn't think the incident was significant enough to report</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didn't think it would make a difference</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It's a hassle to do</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolved it myself</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didn't feel comfortable reporting it</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didn't know who to go</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didn't think it was my business</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was afraid of retaliation</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was afraid I'd get in trouble and/or be subject to disciplinary action</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didn't want my parents to know</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thought someone else would handle it</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Diversity Dynamics

Barrier Prominence Differs Across CHC, Primary Language, Entry Mode and Class Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This barrier:</th>
<th>is more likely among these students:</th>
<th>than these students:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“It’s a hassle to do”</td>
<td>CHC 50%</td>
<td>Non-CHC 25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Didn’t feel comfortable reporting it”</td>
<td>Non-English primary 35%</td>
<td>English primary 12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Didn’t know who to go to”</td>
<td>Non-English primary 29%</td>
<td>English primary 13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Other”</td>
<td>Transfer entry 33%</td>
<td>Frosh entry 12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Afraid of retaliation”</td>
<td>Graduate 20%</td>
<td>Undergraduate 3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Didn’t want my parents to know”</td>
<td>CHC 13%</td>
<td>Non-CHC 1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-English 10%</td>
<td>English primary 2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Students Offered Comments that Add Insights into Their Inaction (n=23)

• It wasn’t directly related to me; I heard about incidents via police announcement.
• It was late, and I was afraid. I don’t really remember what he looked like.
• The act of attempting to express these incidents is stressful to prepare for and pursue, with no guarantee that anything will improve, and some chance of greater stigmatization.

It wasn’t really a big deal

• It wasn’t reportable, just obnoxious.
• Not something I felt worried about.
• I probably imagined it anyway.
• I just let it slide.
• I got over it. It wasn’t a big deal to me.
• I felt that college students do stupid things all the time. And it didn’t really bother me.
• I know about the Ombudsman and other resources available to us, but you don’t report an isolated joke. We all know there are social rules that can be bent to degrees, but an isolated incident should never qualify as bullying.
The next set of questions will help us to understand the extent to which students experience **unwanted verbal or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature** at UMass Amherst or in the local Amherst community.

Examples of **unwanted verbal conduct** include:

- Repeated, unwanted sexual advances
- Unwanted email, telephone calls, texts, or voice-mail messages of a sexual nature
- Unwanted sexual teasing, telling sexual jokes
- Requests for sexual favors in return for other favors (including grades, letters of recommendation)
- Personal questions or sexual remarks or about a person’s clothing, body or sexual activities

Examples of **unwanted non-verbal conduct** include:

- Displaying sexually explicit images of women
- Making sexual gestures with hands, through body movements, or facial expressions (including winking, throwing kisses, or licking lips)
- Whistling at someone, kissing sounds, howling, cat calls
Student who Have Personally Experienced Sexual Harassment at UMass Amherst or Local Amherst Community (N=742)

- Yes, I have had one or more of these experiences
- No, none of these experiences has happened to me at UMass Amherst or in the local Amherst community
- I'd prefer not to say

Profile of "Yes" Respondents (n=182)

- English language: 90%
- Undergraduate: 87%
- Female: 82%
- Non-CHC: 80%
- Frosh entry: 77%
- White: 74%
- Non-FG: 74%
Roughly 1 in 3 CHC, Females and/or Frosh Entry Students Had Experienced Sexual Harassment

Frequency of Sexual Harassment Experiences Across Diverse Student Groups

- **36% (n=149)** for Females
- **8% (n=21)** for Males
- **41% (n=36)** for CHC
- **24% (n=146)** for Non-CHC
- **32% (n=141)** for Frosh entry
- **21% (n=21)** for Transfer entry
- **29% (n=158)** for Undergraduates
- **28% (n=163)** for Graduates
- **13% (n=18)** for English primary
- **12% (n=12)** for Non-English primary
- **27% (n=134)** for Non-FG
- **22% (n=42)** for First gen
- **27% (n=134)** for White
- **22% (n=34)** for ALANA
Respondents Had Been Sexually Harassed Primarily in Downtown Amherst or Residence Halls

Locations of the Sexual Harassment Experiences that Bothered Students the Most (n=175)

- Amherst downtown area: 43%
- Residence hall: 39%
- Inside or in the vicinity of a campus program, event or concert: 23%
- Other: 22%
- Recreation/Athletic facility, Mullins Center: 12%
- Online: 11%
- On-campus office or department: 9%
- Class room or academic building: 9%
- Student Union/Campus Center: 6%
- Library: 6%

ON CAMPUS
- Walking outside
- DC
- Bus stop

OFF-CAMPUS
- Party
- Fraternity
Students’ Most Prevalent Responses to the Incidents Were to Tell a UMass Friend or Do Nothing

Q: How did you respond to the incident/experience that bothered you the most?

**Students' Responses to the Sexual Harassment Experiences that Bothered Them the Most (n=174)**

- **Told a UMass friend:** 61%
- **Did nothing:** 46%
- **Told a family member:** 10%
- **Other:** 10% (n=18)

**ACTIVE**
- Confronted the person:
  - I yelled back.
  - I told that person off.
  - I talked to the person directly.

**PASSIVE**
- Cut off social media contact
- They were just kidding.
- Laughed it off. Don’t sweat the small stuff.
- I ignore the kids that say things and whistle through their window when I walk by every day.

**Talked to a student staff member** (e.g., Resident Assistant, peer health educator)
- 5%

**Posted it on social media** (e.g., Facebook, Twitter)
- 3%

**Talked to a university official, staff person and/or other campus resource** (e.g., Dean of Students, Resident Director)
- 3%

**Talked to an off-campus resource** (e.g., hotline, advocacy service)
- 2%

**Contacted a non-UMass law enforcement official**
- 1%

**Talked to a course instructor** (e.g., faculty, teaching assistant)
- 1%
Students’ Responses Also Differed Across Class, Entry Mode and Race/Ethnicity Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This response:</th>
<th>is more likely among these students:</th>
<th>than these students:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Told a UMass friend”</td>
<td>Undergraduate 70%</td>
<td>Graduate 25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Did nothing”</td>
<td>Transfer entry 76%</td>
<td>Frosh entry 42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Graduate 63%</td>
<td>*Undergraduate 46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Male 60%</td>
<td>*Females 46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*White 48%</td>
<td>*ALANA 38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Talked to student staff member”</td>
<td>ALANA 17%</td>
<td>White 2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Talked to university official, staff etc.”</td>
<td>ALANA 10%</td>
<td>White 2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First gen 8%</td>
<td>Non-FG 2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Talked to off-campus resource”</td>
<td>ALANA 7%</td>
<td>White 1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*noteworthy, but not statistically significant

Transfer entry, Graduate and Male students were far more likely to do nothing in response to their sexual harassment experiences.
The next set of questions will help us to understand the extent to which students experience *unwanted physical conduct of a sexual nature* at UMass Amherst.

Examples of *unwanted physical conduct* include:

- Actual or attempted rape
- Touching the person’s clothing, hair or body
- Hugging, kissing, patting, or stroking
- Touching or rubbing oneself sexually around another person
1 in 10 Respondents Had Been Sexually Assaulted While Attending UMass

Student who Have Personally Experienced Sexual Assault at UMass Amherst or Local Amherst Community (N=742)

- Yes, I have had one or more of these experiences
- No, none of these experiences has happened to me at UMass Amherst or in the local Amherst community
- I'd prefer not to say

Profile of "Yes" Respondents (n=68)

- English primary: 91%
- Undergraduate: 85%
- Frosh entry: 82%
- Non-CHC: 82%
- Female: 78%
- White: 74%
- Non-FG: 71%
Sexual Assault Experiences Are Significantly More Prevalent Among Female, Frosh Entry and English-Primary Students

Frequency of Sexual Assault Experiences Across Diverse Student Groups

- Female: 13% (n=53), Male: 4% (n=11)
- Frosh entry: 13% (n=56), Transfer entry: 4% (n=4)
- English: 11% (n=62), Non-English: 4% (n=4)
- CHC: 13% (n=12), Non-CHC: 9% (n=56)
- Undergraduate: 12% (n=41), Graduate: 8% (n=27)
- White: 11% (n=58), ALANA: 6% (n=8)
- Non-FG: 10% (n=50), First gen: 8% (n=13)
Sexual Assault

Locations of the Sexual Assault Experiences that Bothered Students the Most (n=68)

- **Residence hall**: 44%
- **Other**: 28% (n=19)
- **Amherst downtown area**: 21%
- **Inside or in the vicinity of a campus program, event or concert**: 13%
- **Student Union/Campus Center**: 4%
- **Library**: 4%
- **Recreation/Athletic facility, Mullins Center**: 3%
- **Classroom or academic building**: 1%
- **On-campus office or department**: 0%

**OFF CAMPUS**
- Party
- Fraternity
- Apartment
- Bar

**ON CAMPUS**
- Bus & bus stop
# Sexual Assault

## Victims Largely Responded by Telling a UMass Friend; 24% Did Nothing

### Students' Responses to the Sexual Assault Experiences that Bothered Them the Most (n=68)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response Description</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Told a UMass friend</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did nothing</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Told a family member</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talked to a student staff member (e.g., Resident Assistant, peer health educator)</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>10% (n=7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Q: How did you respond to the incident/experience that bothered you the most?**

- Told a UMass friend
- Did nothing
- Told a family member
- Talked to a student staff member (e.g., Resident Assistant, peer health educator)
- Other
- Talked to a university official, staff person and/or other campus resource (e.g., Dean of Students, Resident Director)
- Posted it on social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter)
- Contacted a non-UMass law enforcement official
- Talked to an off-campus resource (e.g., hotline, advocacy service)
- Talked to a course instructor (e.g., faculty, teaching assistant)

**ACTIVE**
- Confronted the person directly
- Firmly say no and walk away.
- Friend outside of campus.
13% of Students Had Reported Their Sexual Assault Experience to a Campus Official

Students who had ever personally experienced unwanted physical conduct of a sexual nature

Q: Did you report the incident or experience that bothered you the most to a campus employee or official?

Q: Do you feel your complaint was taken seriously?

Q: Do you believe that your complaint was resolved effectively?
Non-Reporters Mostly Thought Their Incident Wasn’t Significant Enough to Report, or Resolved It Themselves

**Non-Reporters’ Barriers to Reporting Sexual Assault Experiences (n=58)**

- Didn’t think the incident was significant enough to report: 60%
- Resolved it myself: 41%
- Didn’t think it would make a difference: 28%
- Didn’t feel comfortable reporting it: 24%
- It’s a hassle to do: 17%
- Other: 10%
- Didn’t know who to go to: 7%
- Was afraid of retaliation: 3%
- Thought someone else would handle it: 2%
- Didn’t want my parents to know: 2%
- Was afraid I’d get in trouble and/or be subject to disciplinary action: 2%

*I didn’t realize it was really wrong until a few days later, and there was nothing that I could have proven.*

*I did not realize how it was sexual assault until I learned more about consent months later.*

*I was embarrassed.*

*I do not believe that the university has any kind of policy or are willing to enforce that policy because if they do so it will make the school look bad so instead they leave women to be victimized.*
Barrier Prevalence Tended to Differ Across Class, Race/Ethnicity and CHC Groups

<table>
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<tr>
<th>This barrier:</th>
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<th>than these students:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Didn’t think it was significant enough”</td>
<td>Graduate 71%</td>
<td>Undergraduates 58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Resolved it myself”</td>
<td>ALANA 64%</td>
<td>White 37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Note: ALANA students who had</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>experienced sexual assault = 8)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Didn’t think it would make a difference”</td>
<td>CHC 42%</td>
<td>Non-CHC 24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Note: CHC students who had</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>experienced sexual assault = 12)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Roughly 1 in 3 Students Somewhat or Strongly Agree that UMass Has a Sexual Harassment and/or Sexual Assault Problem

I think unwelcomed verbal or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature is a problem at UMass Amherst. (N=742)

I think unwelcomed physical conduct of a sexual nature is a problem at UMass Amherst. (N=742)
1 in 4 CHC Students Strongly Agree that Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault Are Problems at UMass

**Q: I think unwelcomed verbal or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature is a problem at UMass Amherst. (N=742)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHC</strong></td>
<td>-26%</td>
<td>-31%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-CHC</strong></td>
<td>-9%</td>
<td>-33%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td>-13%</td>
<td>-41%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>-28%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>-12%</td>
<td>-39%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-English</strong></td>
<td>-13%</td>
<td>-21%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Undergraduate</strong></td>
<td>-12%</td>
<td>-37%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Graduate</strong></td>
<td>-9%</td>
<td>-32%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Q: I think unwelcomed physical conduct of a sexual nature is a problem at UMass Amherst. (N=742)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHC</strong></td>
<td>-25%</td>
<td>-28%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-CHC</strong></td>
<td>-9%</td>
<td>-25%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td>-13%</td>
<td>-32%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>-22%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>-12%</td>
<td>-29%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-English</strong></td>
<td>-13%</td>
<td>-22%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Undergraduate</strong></td>
<td>-13%</td>
<td>-29%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Graduate</strong></td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>-25%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q: I know where to go to get help if a friend or I experienced unwelcomed verbal, non-verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. (N=742)

- Strongly agree: 31%
- Somewhat agree: 13%
- Don't know: 12%
- Somewhat disagree: 12%
- Strongly disagree: 9%

Fortunately, the Majority of Students Know Where to Go for Help; But Roughly One-Third Are Unaware or Unsure.
Nearly 1 in 3 Respondents Had Felt Uncomfortable, Unsafe, or Threatened Due to Others’ Alcohol/Drug-Related Behavior

- I have felt uncomfortable, unsafe, and/or threatened on one or more occasions because of others' behavior while they were under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. (n=219) - 30%
- I have unintentionally or intentionally made one or more UMass Amherst students feel uncomfortable, unsafe, and/or threatened on at least one occasion while I was under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs (n=42) - 6%
- I have not had any of the above experiences at UMass Amherst (n=444) - 60%

**Q: How often?** (n=219)
- It has happened only once or twice since I've been here - 47%
- A few times per semester - 31%
- A few times per month - 14%
- A few times per week - 5%
- Almost daily - 1%

**Profile of Students Who Have Had a Negative Alcohol/Drug-Related Incident** (n=219)
- English primary - 86%
- Non-CHC - 86%
- Undergraduate - 84%
- Non-FG - 79%
- Frosh entry - 76%
- White - 73%
- Female - 65%
Frequency of Negative Alcohol/Drug-Related Incidents Across Diverse Student Groups

Negative Alcohol/Drug-Related Incidents Are Significantly More Prevalent Among Frosh Entry, Undergraduate and Non-First Generation Students

- Frosh entry: 36% (n=167)
- Transfer entry: 16% (n=18)
- Undergraduate: 32% (n=185)
- Graduate: 20% (n=33)
- Non-FG: 31% (n=172)
- First gen: 24% (n=46)
- Non-CHC: 39% (n=188)
- CHC: 33% (n=142)
- Female: 34% (n=72)
- Male: 28% (n=51)
- ALANA: 33% (n=160)
- White: 32% (n=29)
- English primary: 33% (n=189)
- Non-English primary: 28% (n=29)
Negative Alcohol/Drug-Related Incidents Occurred Most Commonly in Off-Campus or On-Campus Residences

**Locations of the Alcohol/Drug-Related Experiences that Bothered Students the Most (n=217)**

- **Off-campus residence/party** 45%
- **Residence hall** 43%
- **Amherst downtown area (e.g., bars)** 29%
- **Greek life or athlete house** 25%
- **Other** 14% (n=30)

37% of experiences among First Gen (n=46) had occurred at Greek life or athlete house (v 22% for non-FG)

29% of experiences among ALANA students (n=51) had occurred in “Other” locations (v 9% for White students)

22% of experiences among ALANA students (n=51) had occurred inside/vicinity of a campus program, event or concert (v 8% for White students)

Inside or in the vicinity of a campus program, event or concert

- On-campus office or department 2%
- Student Union/Campus Center 1%
- Recreation/Athletic facility 1%
- Library 0.5%
- Classroom 0.5%

22% of experiences among ALANA students (n=51) had occurred inside/vicinity of a campus program, event, concert (v 8% for White students)

**OTHER ON CAMPUS (n=28)**
- Busses & bus stop
- Walking outside
- Outside of a residence hall

SL 2013
Alcohol & Drugs

**113 Students (52% of 219)** Described the Incidents that Have Made Them Feel Uncomfortable, Unsafe and/or Threatened

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics of the Incidents</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th></th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Included a physical component</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>Sexual advances, fights, property damage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behaviors of one or more strangers</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Shouts, advances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behaviors directed at the respondent</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>Verbal threats, sexual advances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Random behaviors, not directed at respondent</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>Drunk pedestrians, fights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal behaviors</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Shouts, rape jokes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inside a residence hall</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>Shouts, intimidation toward non-participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behaviors of one or more friends</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>Drunk driving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At a party</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>Fights, sexual advances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behaviors that singled out the respondent for personal reasons</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Ex-boyfriend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involved other drugs</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Marijuana, molly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On a PVTA bus</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Groups of drunk passengers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A friend of mine made unwelcome sexual advances in a semi-public environment. I was not comfortable making a scene/refusing in that environment, so I went along with the sexual activity despite not being interested.

Masters

My roommate was attacked by somebody in the Amherst-area community, which was very poorly handled by the university. She received minimal counseling, was not sure where to turn to (or feared turning to somewhere and being bound to fees she could not afford), and remained silent on her experience until she withdrew from the university, due to the emotional trauma that she associated with the campus, the area, and her experience. I respect UMass tremendously for their advocacy in women's safety and mental health counseling, but wish that there was more help available for those coming out of shock/trauma.

Sophomore

A really drunk guy came and sat next to me on the bus and when I tried to stand up he followed me to where I decided to stand. He kept talking to me making comments about my looks, and then when I got off the bus he followed me for a good few minutes, until he couldn't find me.

Junior
Besides Telling a UMass Friend, Students Responded by Distancing Themselves from the Circumstances

Students' Responses to the Alcohol/Drug-Related Experiences that Bothered Them the Most (n=217)

- Told a UMass friend: 45%
- Left the situation immediately: 44%
- Ignored it: 39%
- Avoided the person(s): 35%
- Confronted the person(s) at the time: 24%
- Confronted the person(s) later, face to face: 14%
- Talked to a student staff member: 6%
- Other: 4% (n=9)

Q: Please describe your reaction(s) to the incident/experience that bothered you the most

- UMPD, APD
- Tried to escape the situation.
- I asked friends of the kids who were throwing up/couldn’t stand up on their own if they were okay.
- Confronted the person(s) later via email or telephone
- Posted it on social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter)
- None of the above
- Talked to a course instructor (e.g., faculty, teaching assistant)
Students’ Responses Differed Across Gender, Class and CHC Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This response:</th>
<th>Is more likely among these students:</th>
<th>than these students:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Told a UMass friend”</td>
<td>Females 53%</td>
<td>Males 28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Ignored it”</td>
<td>Graduate 59%</td>
<td>Undergraduates 36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-CHC 42%</td>
<td>CHC 19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Confronted the person at the time”</td>
<td>Undergraduate 26%</td>
<td>Graduates 9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Only 7% of Students Reported Their Worst Alcohol- or Drug-Related Incident to a Campus Official

Students who had ever felt uncomfortable, unsafe, threatened because of others' alcohol/drug behavior:

- 219 Yes (%)

Q: Did you report the incident or experience that bothered you the most to a campus employee or official?

- 15 “Yes” (7%)
- 203 “No” (%)

Q: Do you feel your complaint was taken seriously?

- 10 “Yes”
- 5 “No”

Q: Do you believe that your complaint was resolved effectively?

- 6 “Yes”
- 7 “No”
Again, the Most Common Reason for Non-Reporting Was the Belief that the Incident Wasn’t Significant Enough

Barriers to Reporting Alcohol/Drug-Related Experiences (n=202)

- Didn't think the incident was significant enough to report: 54%
- Didn't think it would make a difference: 36%
- Resolved it myself: 30%
- It's a hassle to do: 20%
- Didn't feel comfortable reporting it: 13%
- Didn't know who to go to: 9%
- Other: 9% (n=18)
- Thought someone else would handle it: 7%
- Was afraid I would get in trouble and/or be subject to disciplinary action: 5%
- Was afraid of retaliation: 3%
- Didn't want my parents to know: 1%
Students’ “Other” Comments Add Further Insight to Their Inaction (n=18)

**Incapable of taking action**
- Happened off campus; didn’t know who to report.
- It was impossible to pinpoint a specific individual responsible for the crime (car damage).
- I didn’t know the persons name or anything about them to correctly report them.
- Too many people.

**Unmotivated to take action**
- I assumed the kids’ friends would report it/take care of it. I also knew that the police were already notified.
- I’d rather not be patronized by the admin.
- It was in southwest. Complaining about drunk people in southwest is a waste of time.

**Don’t want to cause negative consequences for peer(s)**
- They were my friends.
- I don’t want him kicked out of school when the problem is solved so long as I avoid him.
- I didn’t want to be responsible for the guys to get a noise complaint from the police.
- I didn’t want them to get into trouble.

**It wasn’t really a big deal**
- Realized it wasn’t personal, he was just being confrontational because he was drunk and it wasn’t a big deal.
- Nothing happened I just felt threatened briefly.
- He woke up conscious after a few seconds and got up, walked away and said he was fine for the night.
Recommendations

- Addressing negative incidents must include **raising students’ awareness and understanding** of the types of incidents that are significant.
- These findings confirm that **friends** will be an important and valuable resource to tap for educational, programming and policy collaboration and outreach.
- **On-campus and off-campus residences**, as well as **Amherst town**, are important locations for targeting education and outreach.
- Goals for “UMatter @ UMass” that could be measured in the next administration of this instrument (2015-16) include:
  - **Lowering the frequency of passive responses** to negative incidents, along with raising the frequency of reporting to appropriate campus and community authorities
  - **Lowering the frequency of incidents** occurring in targeted on-campus locations