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The Washington Post



**Topline & Methodology**

***The Washington Post/Kaiser Family Foundation  
Survey Of Current And Recent College Students On  
Sexual Assault***

**June 2015**

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This Washington Post/Kaiser Family Foundation poll was conducted by telephone January 15 - March 29, 2015, among a random national sample of 1,053 adults age 17 to 26 who are current or recent undergraduate students at a four-year U.S. college since 2011 and lived on or near campus. Surveys were conducted on both conventional and cellular phones. The results from the full survey have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. Sampling, data collection and tabulation by Social Science Research Solutions (SSRS) of Media, Pa. See Methodology appendix on page 23 for full details.

\*= less than 0.5 percent

**NOTE: Current students were asked the questions in the present tense, indicated where applicable in the first part of the pararenthetical text within the question. Former students were asked the questions in the past tense and read the language in the second half of the parentheses.**

SCREENER

S0a. What is your age?

S0b. Could you please tell me if you are under age 17, 17 to 26 years old, or older than 26?

	----- 17-20 -----					----- 21-26 -----							No opin.
	NET	17	18	19	20	NET	21	22	23	24	25	26	
All	32	*	8	13	11	68	11	16	13	11	11	5	-
Men	33	*	7	14	12	67	10	14	10	12	14	7	-
Women	32	*	8	13	11	68	11	18	17	11	8	4	-

S1. (Ask if age 17-26) Are you currently a FULL TIME student at a 4-year college or university in the U.S., at a community college, at a vocational or technical school, or are you currently not a student? [ONLY FULL TIME 4-YEAR STUDENTS QUALIFY.]

S2. (Ask current full-time students) During the school year, do you live on campus, near campus in an area where other students live, or farther away from campus? [ONLY STUDENTS LIVING ON OR NEAR CAMPUS QUALIFY.]

	On Campus	Near campus in an area where other students live	Further away from campus	No opinion
All	55	45	-	-
Men	54	46	-	-
Women	55	45	-	-

S3. (Ask current full-time students who lives near campus in an area where other students live) Is that in an apartment or house you rent, in a fraternity or sorority house, with your parents, or somewhere else?

	An apartment or house you rent	Fraternity or sorority house	With parents	Somewhere else	No opin.
All	95	1	-	2	-
Men	94	2	-	1	-
Women	96	*	-	3	-

S1/S2/S3. Combo Table based on current students

	All	Men	Women
Currently attend full-time 4 year college/university	100	100	100
Live on campus	55	54	55
Live near campus where other students live	45	46	45
In an apartment/house that you rent	43	44	43
In a fraternity/sorority house	1	1	*
Staying with family/friends	1	1	*
Somewhere else	1	1	1

S11. Since 2011, did you attend full-time a 4-year college or university, a community college in the U.S., or a vocational or technical school? [ONLY FULL TIME 4-YEAR STUDENTS QUALIFY.]

S12. (Ask recent students) When you attended a 4-year college or university full time, did you live on campus, near campus in an area where other students live, or farther away from campus?

	On campus	Near campus in an area where other students live	Further away from campus	No opinion
All	64	45	3	-
Men	64	44	3	-
Women	64	46	3	-

Note: Percentages will add to more than 100 due to multiple responses.

S13. (Ask recent students who lived near campus in an area where other students live) When you lived near campus in an area with other students, was that in an apartment or house you rented, in a fraternity or sorority house, with your parents, or somewhere else?

	An apartment or house you rent	Fraternity or sorority house	With parents	Somewhere else	No opin.
All	95	3	-	1	-
Men	95	3	-	-	-
Women	95	3	-	1	-

S11/S12/S13. Combo Table based on recent students

	All	Men	Women
Recently attended full-time 4 year college/university			
Lived on campus	64	64	64
Lived near campus where other students live	45	44	46
In an apartment/house that you rent	43	42	44
In a fraternity/sorority house	2	2	2
Staying with family/friends	*	1	-
Somewhere else	*	-	1

Note: Percentages will add to more than 100 due to multiple responses.

S1/S2/S3/S11/S12/S13. Combo Table

	All	Men	Women
Currently attend full-time 4 year college/university	52	54	49
Live on campus	28	29	27
Live near campus where other students live	24	25	22
In an apartment/house that you rent	22	24	21
In a fraternity/sorority house	*	1	*
Staying with family/friends	*	1	*
Somewhere else	*	*	1
Recently attended full-time 4 year college/university	48	46	51
Lived on campus	31	29	32
Lived near campus where other students live	22	20	23
In an apartment/house that you rent	21	19	22
In a fraternity/sorority house	1	1	1
Staying with family/friends	*	*	-
Somewhere else	*	-	*

Student Status Table

	Current student	Recent student
All	52	48
Men	54	46
Women	49	51

Gender

	Male	Female
All	49	51

MAIN SURVEY

IF CURRENT STUDENT READ: For the following questions, please answer about the 4-year college or University you currently attend full-time, even if you have attended others in the past.

IF RECENT GRAD READ: For the following questions, please answer about the 4-year college or University you most recently attended full-time while living on or near a campus.

1. I'm going to read you a list of things that may or may not (be/have been) a problem at your college or university. How big of a problem, if at all, do you think (INSERT 1st ITEM) (is/was) at your school? (Is/Was) this a big problem, somewhat of a problem, a small problem, or not much of a problem? What about (INSERT NEXT ITEM)?

	NET	----- Problem ----- Big	Somewhat	- Less of a problem - - NET	Small	Not much	No opin.
a. Sexual assault							
All	37	12	25	62	22	40	1
Men	33	9	24	66	22	44	1
Women	41	15	26	59	23	36	*

Compare to: Kaiser Family Foundation national poll of U.S. adults, 3/15/15  
How big of a problem, if at all, do you think sexual assault is on college campuses today? Is this a big problem, somewhat of a problem, a small problem, or not much of a problem?

Adults	88	57	31	9	6	3	3
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b. Alcohol and drug use							
All	56	18	38	43	22	21	1
Men	54	17	37	45	23	23	1
Women	58	19	40	41	22	19	*

c. Cheating in academics							
All	26	5	21	72	30	41	2
Men	26	5	21	73	32	41	2
Women	26	5	21	71	29	42	3

d. Sexism							
All	26	7	19	73	22	51	1
Men	21	6	15	78	26	52	1
Women	32	9	23	68	18	49	*

e. Property crime, such as theft, burglary, or vandalism							
All	29	7	22	70	27	44	*
Men	26	6	20	73	30	43	*
Women	32	8	24	68	23	44	*

2. Which of the following best describes you (while you were in college)? [OPTIONS ROTATED] I (spend/spent) most of my time studying, I (study/studied) a lot but (have/had) time for other things, I (study/studied) just enough to get by?

	Spend most of time studying	Study a lot but time for other things	Study just enough to get by	Didn't really study (vol.)	No opin.
All	14	66	20	*	-
Men	13	63	23	*	-
Women	15	68	17	-	-

NO Q.3

4. How much of a role, if any, (do/did) college sports play in the social life of students at your campus - a major role, a minor role, or (do/did) they not play a role?

	Major role	Minor role	Not a role	School didn't have sports (vol.)	No opin.
All	43	47	9	*	1
Men	44	45	11	*	1
Women	43	48	8	-	1

5. (Does/Did) your school have fraternities, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	78	21	1
Men	82	17	1
Women	74	25	1

6. (Does/Did) your school have sororities, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	77	22	1
Men	79	19	2
Women	75	24	1

7. (Ask if school has fraternities or sororities) How much of a role, if any, (do/did) (fraternities and sororities) play in the social life of students at your campus - a major role, a minor role, or (do/did) they not play a role?

	Major role	Minor role	Not a role	No opinion
All	49	46	4	1
Men	46	48	5	1
Women	52	45	3	*

5/6/7. Combo Table

	All	Men	Women
School has fraternities/sororities	79	83	75
Play a major role in the social life students	39	38	39
Play a minor role in the social life of students	37	40	34
Do not play a role in the social life of students	3	4	3
Don't know/refused	1	1	*
School does not have fraternities/sororities	21	17	25

8. (Ask if schools have fraternities) (Do/Did) the fraternities have houses where they throw/threw parties, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	81	16	4
Men	82	15	3
Women	79	17	5

5/8. Combo Table

	----- School has fraternities -----			School does not have fraternities
	NET	Houses for parties	No houses for parties	Don't know/refused
All	78	63	12	3
Men	82	67	12	2
Women	74	59	12	3

9. (Ask if school has fraternities or sororities) How often (do/did) you personally attend parties organized by (fraternities or sororities)? Often, sometimes, rarely or never?

	--- Often/Sometimes ---			--- Rarely/Never ---			No opinion
	NET	Often	Sometimes	NET	Rarely	Never	
All	29	12	17	71	27	44	*
Men	27	12	15	72	26	46	*
Women	30	12	18	70	28	42	-

5/6/9. Combo Table

	All	Men	Women
School has fraternities/sororities	79	83	75
Often attended parties organized by them	9	10	9
Sometimes attended parties organized by them	13	13	14
Rarely attended parties organized by them	22	22	21
Never attended parties organized by them	35	38	31
Don't know/refused	*	*	-
School does not have fraternities/sororities	21	17	25

10. Would you describe your college as a party school, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	37	62	1
Men	37	62	*
Women	36	62	2

READ TO EVERYONE: Some of the next questions use explicit language, about sexual situations and sexual assault, and may be upsetting. If you would like to talk to someone immediately about any of these issues, let me know at any time and I will give you some information.

11. How often, if at all, would you say the subject of sexual assault comes up in discussions with your friends? Often, sometimes, rarely or never?

	--- Often/Sometimes ---			--- Rarely/Never ---			No opinion
	NET	Often	Sometimes	NET	Rarely	Never	
All	26	7	20	74	41	32	-
Men	20	4	16	80	43	37	-
Women	33	9	23	67	40	28	-



12. I'm going to read you a list of groups that may or may not have a role in sexual assault prevention. For each, (thinking about when you were a student) please tell me if you think they (are/were) doing enough or not doing enough to prevent sexual assault at your college or university. First/Next (is/are/was/were) (INSERT) doing enough, or not doing enough to prevent sexual assaults at your school?

	Yes, doing enough	No, not enough	Do not have a role (vol.)	Attend all male/female school (vol.)	No op.
a. The university administration					
All	71	25	*	-	3
Men	77	19	*	-	3
Women	65	32	-	-	3
b. Female students					
All	74	21	1	*	4
Men	77	17	*	*	5
Women	71	24	1	-	4
c. Male students					
All	48	47	*	*	5
Men	54	42	-	-	4
Women	41	51	1	1	6
d. (Ask if school has fraternities) Fraternities					
All	33	54	1	-	11
Men	38	49	1	-	11
Women	28	60	1	-	11
e. (Ask if school has sororities) Sororities					
All	52	36	1	-	11
Men	58	29	1	-	12
Women	45	43	2	-	10

13. (Does/Did) your school have any type of sexual assault prevention program, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	72	15	14
Men	73	13	13
Women	70	16	14

14. (Ask if school has any type of sexual prevention program) How seriously, if at all, do you think students take your school's sexual assault prevention programs? Very seriously, somewhat seriously, not too seriously, or not at all seriously?

	----- Serious -----			----- Not serious -----			No opin.
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	73	20	53	25	21	4	1
Men	78	23	55	21	18	3	1
Women	68	17	52	30	25	5	2

13/14. Combo Table

	All	Men	Women
School has any type of sexual assault prevention program	72	73	70
Seriously (NET)	52	57	48
Students take it very seriously	14	17	12
Students take it somewhat seriously	38	40	36
Not seriously (NET)	18	15	21
Students take it not too seriously	15	13	17
Students take it not at all seriously	3	3	4
Don't know/refused	1	1	1
School does not have any type of sexual assault prevention program	15	13	16
No opinion	14	13	14

15. (Have/Did) you (received/receive) training in your school's policies and procedures regarding incidents of sexual assault, or not? (If needed, "For example, what is defined as sexual assault, how to report an incident, confidential resources, procedures for investigating)

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	53	45	2
Men	52	47	2
Women	54	43	3

16. (Ask if received training in school's policies/procedures regarding incidents of sexual assault) How useful, if at all, did you think the training was? Very useful, somewhat useful, not too useful or not at all useful?

	----- Useful -----			----- Not useful -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	opin.
All	80	25	55	20	16	4	*
Men	78	22	56	21	17	4	1
Women	82	27	55	18	14	4	-

15/16. Combo Table

	All	Men	Women
Received training in school's policies/procedures regarding incidents of sexual assault	53	52	54
Useful (NET)	42	40	44
Very useful	13	11	15
Somewhat useful	29	29	30
Not useful (NET)	10	11	10
Not too useful	8	9	8
Not at all useful	2	2	2
Don't know/refused	*	1	-
Did not receive training in school's policies/procedures regarding incidents of sexual assault	45	47	43
No opinion	2	2	3

17. (Have/Did) you (received/receive) training in what to do if you see a situation that might lead to sexual assault, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	49	50	2
Men	51	48	1
Women	47	51	2

18. (Ask if received training in what to do if see a situation that might lead to sexual assault) How useful, if at all, did you think the training was? Very useful, somewhat useful, not too useful or not at all useful?

	----- Useful -----			----- Not useful -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	opin.
All	87	41	46	13	10	3	*
Men	86	38	48	14	11	3	*
Women	88	44	44	12	9	3	1

17/18. Combo Table

	All	Men	Women
Received training in what to do if see a situation that might lead to sexual assault	49	51	47
Useful (NET)	42	43	41
Very useful	20	19	20
Somewhat useful	22	24	21
Not useful (NET)	6	7	6
Not too useful	5	6	4
Not at all useful	1	2	1
Don't know/refused	*	*	*
Did not receive training in what to do if see a Situation that might lead to sexual assault	50	48	51
No opinion	2	1	2

19. Thinking about what your college can do to prevent sexual assault, how effective, if at all, would each of the following be on (your campus/the campus where you attended college)? Would (INSERT 1ST ITEM) be very effective, somewhat effective, not too effective, or not at all effective in preventing sexual assault on your campus. What about (INSERT NEXT ITEM)?

\*Compare to: Kaiser Family Foundation national poll of U.S. adults, 3/15/15  
Thinking about what colleges can do to prevent sexual assault, how effective, if at all, would each of the following be?

a. Requiring all students to participate in sexual assault prevention programs

	----- Effective -----			----- Not effective -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	79	29	50	20	16	5	*
Men	73	23	50	26	20	7	1
Women	85	35	51	14	12	3	*
Adults*	78	37	41	22	14	8	1

b. Harsher punishments for those found guilty of sexual assault

	----- Effective -----			----- Not effective -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	85	52	33	14	11	4	1
Men	81	46	36	17	11	6	1
Women	88	58	30	11	10	1	1
Adults*	89	60	29	8	5	3	2

c. Stronger enforcement of alcohol restrictions on campus

	----- Effective -----			----- Not effective -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	47	15	32	52	31	21	1
Men	48	15	33	50	29	21	2
Women	46	15	31	53	32	21	1
Adults*	76	44	32	23	14	9	1

d. (Ask if school has fraternities/sororities) Eliminating social fraternities and sororities entirely

	----- Effective -----			----- Not effective -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	26	6	20	73	32	41	1
Men	28	7	21	71	30	42	1
Women	24	6	18	75	35	41	1
Adults*	45	19	26	53	25	28	3

e. Training students on how to physically defend themselves

	----- Effective -----			----- Not effective -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	86	46	40	13	10	4	*
Men	84	41	43	16	12	5	-
Women	89	52	37	11	7	3	*
Adults*	90	52	38	9	6	3	1

f. Training students in how to identify and intervene in potentially harmful situations

	----- Effective -----			----- Not effective -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	91	48	42	9	7	2	*
Men	88	42	46	11	9	3	*
Women	93	54	39	7	6	1	-
Adults*	87	48	39	11	7	4	2

20. Thinking about what students can do to prevent sexual assault, how effective, if at all, would each of the following be on (your campus/the campus where you attended college)? Would (INSERT 1ST ITEM) be very effective, somewhat effective, not too effective, or not at all effective in preventing sexual assault on your campus. What about (INSERT NEXT ITEM)?

\*Compare to: Kaiser Family Foundation national poll of U.S. adults, 3/15/15  
Thinking about what college students can do to prevent sexual assault, how effective, if at all, would each of the following be?

a. Avoiding casual hookups

	----- Effective -----			----- Not effective -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	64	24	39	35	22	13	1
Men	60	21	39	38	26	12	2
Women	67	27	39	32	18	15	1
Adults*	74	40	34	23	13	10	3

b. Men respecting women more

	----- Effective -----			----- Not effective -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	93	68	25	6	4	2	1
Men	90	64	26	7	5	2	2
Women	95	71	24	5	4	1	*
Adults*	92	70	22	6	4	2	2

c. Women wearing more modest clothing when they go out socially

	----- Effective -----			----- Not effective -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	39	13	26	61	27	34	*
Men	43	14	29	56	27	29	1
Women	35	12	23	65	27	39	-
Adults*	61	33	28	38	17	21	1

d. Drinking less alcohol

	----- Effective -----			----- Not effective -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	78	33	44	22	14	8	1
Men	79	34	45	19	13	6	1
Women	76	33	43	24	15	9	*
Adults*	90	58	32	10	7	3	1

21. In general, when you hear that a man is accused of sexually assaulting a woman on campus, do you generally think the (woman) is more to blame, the (man) is more to blame or do both share the blame?

	Man more to blame	Woman more to blame	Both share the blame	Neither are to blame (vol.)	No opinion
All	65	1	28	1	5
Men	60	1	33	1	6
Women	70	1	24	*	5

22. I'm going to read you several statements about sex and sexual assault. How common would you say this attitude among students (is/was) on your campus? First/Next, (INSERT)? (Is/Was) that attitude...?

a. If a woman is sexually assaulted while she is drunk, she is at least somewhat responsible for what happened

	----- Common -----			----- Not common -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	53	16	37	45	28	17	1
Men	46	12	35	52	32	20	2
Women	60	20	40	39	24	15	1

b. When women go to parties wearing revealing clothes, they are asking for trouble

	----- Common -----			----- Not common -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	51	17	35	48	30	18	1
Men	43	13	30	56	37	19	1
Women	59	20	39	40	23	17	1

c. Sexual assault accusations are often used by women as a way of getting back at men

	----- Common -----			----- Not common -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	34	7	28	64	39	25	1
Men	34	5	29	65	42	23	1
Women	35	8	27	64	37	27	1

d. If both people are drunk, it can't be sexual assault

	----- Common -----			----- Not common -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	48	14	33	50	29	21	2
Men	44	14	30	53	30	23	3
Women	51	15	36	47	28	19	2

23a. (Since starting college have you/When you were in college did you) ever (Stepped/Step) in and (separated/separate) people involved in a situation you thought could have led to a sexual assault, or not?

	Yes	No	Never in that	No
			situation (vol.)	opinion
All	28	66	6	1
Men	24	69	6	1
Women	31	62	6	*

23b. (Since starting college have you/When you were in college did you) ever (asked/ask) someone you thought was sexually assaulted if they needed help or support, or not?

	Yes	No	Never in that situation (vol.)	No opinion
All	30	60	10	*
Men	26	64	10	*
Women	34	56	10	*

24. Do you think the share of women that have been sexually assaulted at your school is (more) than 1 in 5, (less) than 1 in 5 or about 1 in 5? IF UNSURE: Just your best guess is fine.

	More than 1 in 5	Less than 1 in 5	About 1 in 5	No opinion
All	12	49	38	1
Men	11	58	31	1
Women	14	41	44	1

25. How often, if at all, do you think sexual assaults involving students are reported to authorities? Often, sometimes, rarely or almost never?

	-- Often/Sometimes --			----- Rarely/Never -----				No op.
	NET	Often	Sometimes	NET	Rarely	Almost never	Never (vol)	
All	33	7	26	67	49	18	*	*
Men	39	10	29	61	45	15	*	1
Women	27	5	22	73	52	21	*	-

26. How often, if at all, do you think students claim sexual assault when it didn't actually occur? Often, sometimes, rarely or almost never?

	-- Often/Sometimes --			----- Rarely/Never -----				No op.
	NET	Often	Sometimes	NET	Rarely	Almost never	Never (vol)	
All	26	4	22	73	42	31	1	1
Men	31	5	26	68	43	25	*	1
Women	20	3	17	78	41	36	1	2

27. When a woman (reports/reported) a sexual assault at your school, how likely (is/was) it that she (will/would) be criticized by other students? Very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not at all likely?

	----- Likely -----			----- Not likely -----			No opin.
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	36	11	24	63	37	26	2
Men	29	7	22	69	39	30	2
Women	42	15	27	57	35	21	1

28. When a woman (is/was) sexually assaulted at your school, how likely (is/was) it that the person who committed the assault (will/would) be punished by the school or police? Very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not at all likely?

	----- Likely -----			----- Not likely -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	opin.
All	78	50	28	19	14	6	3
Men	83	59	24	13	8	5	3
Women	73	42	31	26	19	6	2

29. For each of the following, please tell me if you think the situation IS sexual assault, IS NOT sexual assault or is it unclear. First/Next (INSERT). Do you think this IS sexual assault or IS NOT sexual assault or is it unclear?

a. Sexual activity when one person is incapacitated or passed out

	Yes	No	Unclear	No opinion
All	96	1	3	*
Men	95	1	4	*
Women	97	*	2	-

b. Sexual activity when both people are under the influence of alcohol or drugs

	Yes	No	Unclear	No opinion
All	21	19	59	*
Men	18	25	56	1
Women	24	14	63	-

c. Sexual activity when both people have not given clear agreement

	Yes	No	Unclear	No opinion
All	47	6	46	*
Men	42	7	50	1
Women	52	6	42	-

30. What letter grade would you give your college or university based on the way they deal with sexual assault complaints? A, B, C, D or F?

	A	B	C	D	F	No opinion
All	29	40	19	6	2	4
Men	33	42	14	5	1	3
Women	24	38	23	8	3	4

31. How confident are you in your school administration's ability to address complaints of sexual assault fairly? Very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident or not at all confident?

	----- Confident -----			----- Not confident -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	opin.
All	84	40	44	15	12	3	*
Men	90	44	45	10	7	2	*
Women	79	35	43	21	17	4	*



32. Which of the following do you think is MORE unfair: (An innocent person getting kicked out of college after being accused of sexual assault) or (A person who commits sexual assault getting away with it)?

	An innocent person getting kicked out	A person who commits sexual assault getting away with it	Both (vol.)	No opinion
All	42	49	6	3
Men	49	42	7	3
Women	36	56	6	1

Compare to: Kaiser Family Foundation national poll of U.S. adults, 3/15/15  
 Adults 44 47 6 3

33. Which of the following comes closer to your view: (As a serious crime, sexual assault complaints should only be investigated by police) or (As an issue regarding student conduct it is appropriate for colleges to investigate sexual assault cases)?

	Only investigate by police	Appropriate for colleges to investigate	Depends (vol.)	No opinion
All	48	47	3	2
Men	53	42	3	2
Women	43	52	3	2

Compare to: Kaiser Family Foundation national poll of U.S. adults, 3/15/15  
 Adults 60 30 5 4

34. If a victim of sexual assault chooses NOT to take the complaint to police but wants the incident to be investigated, do you think schools should be required to investigate, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	83	16	*
Men	80	19	*
Women	86	13	1

READ TO EVERYONE: On another subject...

35. Do you think if a person (INSERT 1ST ITEM) this establishes consent for MORE sexual activity, or not? What about if someone (INSERT NEXT ITEM)?

a. takes off their own clothes

	Yes	No	Depends (vol.)	No opinion
All	47	49	3	1
Men	50	45	3	2
Women	44	52	3	1

b. gets a condom

	Yes	No	Depends (vol.)	No opinion
All	40	54	4	1
Men	43	51	4	2
Women	38	58	4	1

c. nods in agreement

	Yes	No	Depends (vol.)	No opinion
All	54	40	3	3
Men	58	36	3	3
Women	51	44	3	3

d. engages in foreplay such as kissing or touching

	Yes	No	Depends (vol.)	No opinion
All	22	74	3	*
Men	30	66	3	*
Women	15	82	3	*

e. does not say 'no'

	Yes	No	Depends (vol.)	No opinion
All	18	77	3	1
Men	20	75	4	1
Women	16	80	2	1

36. Are you familiar with the Yes Means Yes standard of consent, meaning that both parties must clearly agree before engaging in sexual activity, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	83	16	*
Men	83	16	1
Women	83	17	*

37. In practice, how realistic is the Yes Means Yes Standard when individuals are initiating and engaging in any sexual activity? (IF NEEDED: Yes Means Yes standard means both parties must clearly agree before engaging in sexual activity)

	----- Realistic -----			----- Not realistic -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
All	69	20	49	30	22	8	1
Men	65	17	48	34	24	10	1
Women	72	22	50	26	20	6	2

38. Which of the following do you think is the better standard to use when determining whether sexual activity is consensual or not? (A Yes Means Yes standard, where both parties must clearly agree before engaging in sexual activity), (A No Means No standard, where sexual activity must stop if one person objects), or, in practice, is there not much difference?

	Yes means Yes standard	No means No standard	Not much difference	No opinion
All	34	42	23	2
Men	33	40	26	1
Women	34	43	21	2

READ: On a different topic ...

39. What best describes your dating status during most of your time in college: In a relationship, hooking up from time to time, not in a relationship and not hooking up with anyone?

	In a relationship	Hooking up from time to time	Not in a relationship and not hooking up	Married (vol.)	No opin.
All	46	23	30	1	*
Men	41	29	29	1	*
Women	51	16	32	1	*

40. (While you were in college) Which of the following better describes the types of relationships among your friends and people you know: (they mostly [get/got] together in casual hookups) or (they mostly [go/went] out on dates)?

	Mostly casual hookups	Mostly dates	No opinion
All	44	53	2
Men	44	53	3
Women	45	53	2

41. While at school, (do you/did you) attend parties more than once a week, about once a week, once or twice a month, or less often than that?

	More than once a week	About once a week	Once or twice a month	Less often	Not attend parties (vol)	No opin.
All	12	24	26	35	2	*
Men	14	24	28	31	2	1
Women	10	24	24	40	2	-

42. When you (drink/drank) alcohol socially (while in college), how often would you say you (drink/drank) more than you should? Often, sometimes, rarely or never?

	--- Often/Sometimes ---			----- Rarely/Never -----			No Not drink (vol)	opin.
	NET	Often	Sometimes	NET	Rarely	Never		
All	38	16	22	58	30	27	4	*
Men	41	19	23	56	29	27	3	*
Women	35	14	21	60	32	28	5	-

43. (Ask if a woman) (When you go to parties/When you went to parties in college), how worried, if at all, (are/were) you that you might be sexually assaulted or have sex with someone when you were unable to give consent? Very worried, somewhat worried, not too worried or not at all worried?

	----- Worried -----			----- Not worried -----			Not attend parties (vol)	No op
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all		
Women	13	4	9	84	32	51	3	*

READ: Next, I have just a few questions we will use to describe the people who took part in our survey...

44. Would you say your views in most matters are liberal, moderate or conservative?

	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Other (vol.)	No opinion
All	41	37	20	1	1
Men	36	40	22	*	1
Women	45	34	18	1	2

45. Are you, yourself, of Hispanic or Latino background, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Spanish background?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	13	87	*
Men	12	88	*
Women	14	86	*

46. What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian or some other race?

	White	Black	Asian	Hispanic	Other/mixed race	No opinion
All	72	15	6	2	5	1
Men	77	13	5	1	4	1
Women	67	16	7	4	6	1

Race Summary Table:

	White non-Hisp	Black non-Hisp	Hispanic	Asian	Other	No opinion
All	64	14	13	6	3	1
Men	67	12	12	5	3	1
Women	60	16	14	7	3	*

45/46a. Combo Table

	----- Hispanic -----				Not Hispanic
	NET	Born in U.S.	Born in Puerto Rico	Born in another country	
All	13	10	*	3	87
Men	12	9	*	3	88
Women	14	11	*	2	86

47. (Are/Were) you a member of a social (fraternity/sorority), or not?

	--- Fraternity/Sorority ---				
	NET	Fraternity	Sorority	No	No opinion
All	17	9	8	82	*
Men	17	17	1	82	*
Women	17	2	16	82	*

48. Aside from weddings and funerals how often do you attend religious services... more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

	More than once a week	Once a week	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	Seldom	Never	No op
All	8	16	16	19	17	24	*
Men	10	11	16	17	17	28	*
Women	6	20	15	22	17	20	-

49. If you were asked to use one of the following five names for the social class, you grew up in, which would you say you belong in? (ROTATE) Upper class, upper-middle class, middle class, lower-middle class or lower class?

	--- Upper Class ---				--- Lower Class ---			No opinion
	NET	Upper	Upper- Middle	Middle Class	NET	Lower- Middle	Lower	
All	32	3	29	44	24	20	4	*
Men	34	4	30	46	19	17	3	1
Women	30	3	27	42	29	23	6	-

READ TO EVERYONE: I have just a few more questions. Let me remind you that this is a completely confidential interview and your personal information will not be shared with others...

Now I'm going to ask some questions about FIVE types of unwanted sexual contact or sexual assault:

Forced touching of a sexual nature (READ IF NEEDED: forced kissing, touching of private parts, grabbing, fondling, rubbing up against you in a sexual way, even if it is over your clothes)

Oral sex (READ IF NEEDED: someone's mouth or tongue making contact with your genitals or your mouth or tongue making contact with someone else's genitals) Sexual intercourse (READ IF NEEDED: IF FEMALE: someone's penis being put in your vagina. IF MALE: someone made you put your penis in their vagina)

Anal sex (READ IF NEEDED: ALL: someone's penis being put in your anus. IF MALE: Or someone made you put your penis in their anus)

And, Sexual penetration with a finger or object (READ IF NEEDED: someone putting their finger or an object in (IF FEMALE: your vagina or anus/IF MALE: your anus).

50. (Since starting college, have you had/While you were in college, did) a friend or acquaintance tell you that they were the victim of a sexual assault? Yes or no?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	30	69	*
Men	23	76	*
Women	37	63	*

50a. (Ask if have friend/acquaintance tell them they were a victim of sexual assault) How many women told you this?

	None	1	2	3	4+	No opinion
All	2	37	29	11	21	*
Men	5	42	31	12	10	-
Women	-	33	29	10	27	1

50b. (Ask if have friend/acquaintance tell them they were a victim of sexual assault)  
How many men told you this?

	None	1	2	3	4+	No opinion
All	70	16	9	1	3	*
Men	68	23	5	1	3	1
Women	72	12	12	1	3	-

51. Do you personally know any men on campus who have been accused of sexual assault?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	21	79	*
Men	18	82	*
Women	24	76	*

51a. (Ask if personally know any men on campus who have been accused of sexual assault) How many men?

	1	2	3	4+	No opinion
All	63	21	7	7	1
Men	68	18	8	6	1
Women	60	24	7	8	-

#### COMPLETED OR ATTEMPTED SEXUAL ASSAULT BY FORCE OR THREAT OF FORCE

READ TO EVERYONE: Now I'm going to ask about unwanted sexual contact you may have experienced. This could have been with a stranger or someone you know, such as a family member or someone you were dating.

READ TO EVERYONE: The next two questions ask about unwanted sexual contact that involved force or threats of force against you. Force could include someone holding you down with his or her body weight, pinning your arms, hitting or kicking you, or using or threatening to use a weapon against you.

52. (Since starting college/While you were in college) (has/did) anyone (had/have) sexual contact with you by using physical force or threatening to physically harm you? Yes or no?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	5	95	*
Men	1	99	*
Women	9	91	*

53. (Since starting college/While you were in college) (has/did) anyone (attempted/attempt) but not succeeded in having sexual contact with you by using or threatening to use physical force against you? Yes or no?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	7	93	*
Men	2	98	*
Women	11	89	*

INCAPACITATED SEXUAL ASSAULT

READ TO EVERYONE: The next two questions ask about your experiences with unwanted sexual contact while you were unable to provide consent or stop what was happening because you were passed out, drugged, or drunk, incapacitated, or asleep. These situations might include times that you voluntarily consumed alcohol or drugs and times that you were given drugs without your knowledge or consent.

54. (Since starting college/While you were in college), (has/did) someone (had/have) sexual contact with you when you were unable to provide consent or stop what was happening because you were incapacitated? This question asks about incidents that you are certain happened. Yes or no?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	9	91	*
Men	4	96	*
Women	14	86	*

55. (Since starting college/While you were in college), (have/did) you (suspected/suspect) that someone (has had/had) sexual contact with you when you were unable to provide consent or stop what was happening because you were incapacitated? This question asks about events that you think, but are not certain, happened. Yes or no?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	6	94	*
Men	3	97	*
Women	8	92	*

COERCION

56. (Since starting college/While you were in college), (has/did) anyone (had/have) sexual contact with you either by making threats of nonphysical punishment, such as being fired from a job or damaging your reputation, or by making promises of rewards, such as raising a grade or inviting you to a party? Yes or no?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	3	97	*
Men	1	98	*
Women	4	96	*

52/54. Combo Table

	All	Men	Women
NET, either incident occurred	12	5	20
Forcible, completed (Q52)	5	1	9
Incapacitated, certain (Q54)	9	4	14

52/53/54/55/56. Combo Table

	All	Men	Women
NET, any incident occurred	17	7	25
Forcible, completed (Q52)	5	1	9
Forcible, attempted (Q53)	7	2	11
Incapacitated, certain (Q54)	9	4	14
Incapacitated, suspected (Q55)	6	3	8
Coercion (Q56)	3	1	4
No incident	83	93	75

INCIDENT DETAILS

Earlier you indicated that (since starting college/while you were in college), someone has had unwanted sexual contact with you. If you have had more than one unwanted sexual experience (since starting college/while in college), please answer the next questions about the MOST SERIOUS INCIDENT (SINCE STARTING COLLEGE/WHILE IN COLLEGE)

57. (Ask if say any incident occurred) Did you know that person very well, fairly well, not too well, or not well at all?

	----- Well -----			----- Not well -----			No
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Not too	Not at all	opinion
All	48	21	27	50	20	30	2
Women	47	22	25	51	23	28	2

58. (Ask if say any incident occurred) What year were you in school when this happened? Was it during your first year, second year, third year, fourth year or later than that?

	First year	Second year	Third year	Fourth year	Later	No opin.
All	37	30	17	12	4	1
Women	35	31	17	13	2	1

59. (Ask if say any incident occurred) Just prior to the incident, had you been drinking alcohol? Keep in mind that you are in no way responsible for the assault that occurred, even if you had been drinking.

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	67	32	1
Women	62	36	1

60. (Ask if say any incident occurred) Just prior to the incident, had you voluntarily been taking or using any drugs other than alcohol? Keep in mind that you are in no way responsible for the assault that occurred, even if you had been taking or using drugs.

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	15	85	1
Women	10	88	1

61. (Asked if say any incident occurred) Just prior to the incident, do you think you had been given a drug without your knowledge or consent?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	9	86	6
Women	9	84	7

62. (Ask if say any incident occurred) Did you tell anyone about the incident, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	75	25	1
Women	71	27	1



63. (Ask if say any incident occurred and they told someone about it) Did you tell police or university authorities about the incident, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	15	85	-

62/63. Combo Table based on those reporting an incident

	All	Women
Told someone about it	75	71
Told police/university authorities	11	12
Did not tell police/university authorities	63	59
Dk/ref	-	-
Did not tell anyone about it	25	27
No opinion	1	1

64. (Ask if say any incident occurred) Was anyone held responsible or punished for the incident, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
All	10	89	1
Women	10	89	1

#### Demographics

READ: Finally just a few more questions to describe the people who took part in the survey.

65. (Ask if currently a student) What year are you in school?

	First year or freshman	Second year or sophomore	Third year or junior	Fourth year/ senior	More than that	No opin.
All	25	25	22	24	4	*
Men	24	26	22	25	3	*
Women	26	24	21	24	6	*

66. (Ask if recent student) In what year did you graduate?

	2010*	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Did not graduate	No opinion
All	2	8	19	24	28	3	13	3
Men	1	12	18	23	22	*	17	6
Women	2	4	19	25	33	5	10	2

\*Eight respondents reported graduating in 2010, appearing to conflict with their report in screening questions about attending at a four-year college or University since 2011. This could have been caused by an errant answer to the screener, to the graduation year question, interviewer typing error or some other complication. Given the lack of clarity, these respondents are included in the final data.

67. How close (is/was) your college or university to where your parent or guardian (lives/lived at the time)?

	Less than 2 hours by car	2 to 5 hours	6 or more hours	No opinion
All	39	31	29	*
Men	38	32	29	1
Women	41	31	28	*

68. What is the name of your college or university? IF NEEDED: Which school were you thinking about when answering these questions?

69. What is your current zip code?

#### REGION

	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
All	21	23	36	20
Men	22	22	37	18
Women	20	23	35	21

#### METRO STATUS

	Urban	Suburban	Rural
All	36	45	14
Men	34	46	14
Women	37	45	13

#### METHODOLOGICAL DETAILS

The *Washington Post*/Kaiser Family Foundation Survey Project is a partnership combining survey research and reporting to better inform the public. The *Survey of Current and Recent College Students on Sexual Assault*, the 28<sup>th</sup> in this series, was conducted by telephone January 15-March 29, 2015, among a representative random national sample of 1,053 adults age 17 to 26 who are current or recent undergraduate students at a four-year U.S. college since 2011. Only students who indicated they lived on or near campus were surveyed. Interviews were administered in English, combining random samples of both landline (n=37) and cellular telephones (n=1,016).

Sampling, data collection, weighting and tabulation were managed by Social Science Research Solutions (SSRS) in close collaboration with *Washington Post* and Kaiser Family Foundation researchers.

Current and recent 4-year U.S. college students ages 17 to 26 living on or near campus make up about 3% of the national adult population. Because the study targeted this low-incidence population, the sample was designed to increase efficiency in reaching this group by using the following four different sample sources:

- 1) **Interviews on the SSRS Omnibus Survey (n=214)**: Weekly, random sample landline and cellular phone surveys of the general public were used to identify eligible respondents. After completing the omnibus survey, qualified individuals were then routed to complete the current survey. More detail on the SSRS omnibus methodology can be found at <http://wapo.st/ssrsomnibus>.
- 2) **Respondents Previously Completing Interviews on the SSRS Omnibus Survey (n=680)**: Individuals who had previously indicated on a recent national,

random sample SSRS omnibus survey that they may fit the eligibility criteria for this study were contacted. Women in this group were oversampled in order to complete as many interviews with women as possible due to the fact that women more often experience sexual assault than men.

- 3) **Fresh Cell Phone Random Digit Dialing (RDD) (n=50)**: Random sample of cell phone numbers generated by Marketing Systems Group (MSG).
- 4) **Cell Phone RDD Sample of Individuals Previously Identified as Under 18 (n=109)**: These cases were originally identified during an earlier random sample survey. At the time, the respondent indicated they were under the age of 18. These contacts were made two or more years before the current study. Since about two years had passed since the previous attempt, they were likely to be within the eligible age range and possibly meet other survey eligibility criteria.

Regardless of the sample source, all respondents were screened to verify that they were 1) 17 to 26 years old, 2) a current student or had been a student since 2011, 3) attended a 4-year college or university in the U.S. (community and technical college students were excluded), and 4) while at college lived on or near campus where other students lived and not with parents. The screening questions are identified at the beginning of this document as S0a through S3 and S11 through S13.

A multi-stage weighting design was applied to ensure an accurate representation of the population of current and recent 4-year college students age 26 and younger who live on or near campus. The first stage of weighting involved corrections for sample design, including accounting for the female oversample used in the prescreened sample, and non-response for the re-contact sample. In the second weighting stage, demographic adjustments were applied to account for systematic non-response along known population parameters. No reliable administrative data were available for creating demographic weighting parameters for this group, since information on residence in proximity to campus or the type of institution for current students are not available in sources such as the Current Population Survey (CPS) or the American Community Survey (ACS). Therefore, demographic benchmarks were derived by compiling a sample of all respondents ages 18-26 interviewed on the SSRS Omnibus survey between September 2014 and March 2015 (N=4,598) and weighting this sample to match the national 18-26 year-old population based on the 2013 U.S. Census Current Population Survey March Supplement parameters for age, gender, education, race/ethnicity, region, and population density. This sample was then filtered to include respondents qualifying for the current survey, and the weighted demographics of this group were used as post-stratification weighting parameters for the total sample (including gender, age, current or recent student, race/ethnicity, region, and population density).

Selected Demographics of Current and Recent College Students Living On or Near Campus ages 17-26			
	Unweighted TOTAL	TOTAL Unweighted %	TOTAL Weighted %
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,053</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	539	51	49%
Female	514	49	51
<b>Age</b>			
17-18	85	8%	8%
19-20	271	26	25
21-22	266	25	27
23-26	431	41	41
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White, not Hispanic	677	64%	64%
African American, not Hispanic	117	11	14
Hispanic	110	10	13
Asian	88	8	6
Other	61	6	4
<b>Region</b>			
Northeast	240	23	21
Midwest	264	25	23
South	340	32	36
West	209	20	20

All sampling error margins have been adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, which is 1.3 for this survey. The design effect is a factor representing the survey's deviation from a simple random sample, and takes into account decreases in precision due to sample design and weighting procedures. Sample sizes and margin of sampling errors for key groups are shown below; other subgroups are available by request. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

Group	N (unweighted)	Margin of sampling error (percentage points)
Total	1,053	±3.5
Men	539	±5
Women	514	±5

This questionnaire was administered with the exact questions in the exact order as appears in this document. If a question was asked of a reduced base of the sample, a parenthetical preceding the question identifies the group asked. Current students were asked the questions in the present tense, indicated where applicable in the first part of the parenthetical text within the question. Former students were asked the questions in the past tense and read the language in the second half of the parentheses.

Since some of the questions could be sensitive and due to the nature of the survey content, efforts were made to match the gender of the interviewer and the gender of the respondent. In addition, interviewers were given specific

instructions on how to cope with respondents who seemed agitated or distressed by the questions, including offering resources to which respondents could turn for support.

The *Washington Post* and the Kaiser Family Foundation each contributed financing for the survey, and representatives of each organization worked together to develop the survey questionnaire and analyze the results. Each organization bears the sole responsibility for the work that appears under its name. The project team from the Kaiser Family Foundation included: Mollyann Brodie, Ph.D., Bianca DiJulio, and Mira Norton. The project team from *The Washington Post* included: Peyton M. Craighill and Scott Clement. Both the *The Washington Post* and the Kaiser Family Foundation public opinion and survey research are charter members of the [Transparency Initiative](#) of the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

Please note: (1) Table percentages may not add to 100 percent due to rounding. (2) Values less than 0.5 percent are indicated by an asterisk (\*). (3) "vol." indicates that a response was volunteered by respondent and not an explicitly offered choice.

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