

Northwestern State Campus Climate Survey Related to Sexual Misconduct Results – Spring 2016

In March 2016, Northwestern State's Office of the Dean of Students administered the Louisiana Board of Regents mandated Everfi Campus Climate Survey to 3750 students who attend the Natchitoches campus. The purpose of this survey was to gain insight about the campus atmosphere regarding sexual and relationship violence. According to national statistics, approximately 20% of college women will experience sexual assault during their time on campus. These crimes are vastly underreported. Northwestern State, its students, faculty, and staff are working to change the culture around sexual misconduct and reporting.

Eleven percent of the student population on the Natchitoches campus voluntarily responded to the survey resulting in a valid sample—thank you to students who participated in this important survey. Summary information indicated that NSU students experience sexual contact without consent at approximately 22%, which mirrors national averages. Only approximately 4-14% of these incidents were reported to University personnel. However, around 70% percent of these students told a close friend. Over 75% of the NSU students surveyed said they would not be bystanders to sexual misconduct, meaning they would take action to intervene.

Nearly 70% of the respondents indicated that administrators at NSU would likely take the report seriously and support those reporting an incident. Students also indicated that about 60% trust that administrators would take corrective action to address sexual misconduct. Around 60% of the respondents indicated that recent prevention trainings and awareness campaigns were useful.

The 2016 survey will serve as a baseline of data to help create prevention, awareness, and assistance programs and measure future incidents and attitudes at NSU. In the academic year of 2015-16, the University hosted 32 events related to sexual misconduct prevention and awareness. Programs scheduled for the future semesters include bystander intervention trainings, men-to-men mentoring programs, freshman orientation presentations, risk management trainings related to alcohol use, survivor support groups, It's On Us Weeks of action scheduled each semester, and promotion and support of the student group Demons Support Demons—all actions that will affect positive change toward eliminating sexual misconduct in our community.

For more information please see: <https://www.nsula.edu/blog/2015/07/16/notalone/> or <http://studentaffairs.nsula.edu/>