

Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Assault and Misconduct Frequently Asked Questions

Why am I being asked to complete this survey?

Iowa State University has asked all students to answer a climate survey on sexual assault and sexual misconduct. The results will be used to guide school policies to encourage a healthy, safe, and nondiscriminatory environment on campus. This survey is an important tool for ISU to assess current programs and to shape future policies. This practice is aligned with the university's [strategic plan](#), subgoal 4.1: "Develop and implement a comprehensive campus climate assessment system to regularly evaluate the climate at Iowa State University as experienced by all. Regularly evaluate, disseminate, and publicly report this data." Our goal is to develop programs and services that minimize sexual assault and misconduct, as well as better respond to these events when they do occur.

Who is eligible to participate in the survey?

Iowa State University determined who would be participating in this survey, and nearly all students are eligible to participate. In order for someone to participate, they must have received an e-mail invitation to complete the survey, and must click on the unique link included in the e-mail invitation to access the survey.

I've never experienced sexual assault or sexual misconduct, so why should I take part?

If only victims of sexual assault and sexual misconduct participate in the survey, we will have a very lopsided view of our campus. To get a complete picture of Iowa State University, we need to hear from as many students as possible.

Isn't this survey only for women?

No, this survey is for everyone, regardless of gender identity or experiences. The survey will be used to shape policies that affect everyone on campus, so it is very important that you provide your experiences and viewpoint.

Who is Westat?

Iowa State University collaborated with Westat to administer this survey. Westat is a private research organization. If you received an e-mail to complete this survey, it is because ISU provided Westat with student e-mail addresses so that we could send these e-mails to you. Westat will not use your e-mail address for any other purposes, release your email address to any others, or keep your email address after the survey period closes. Your e-mail address will not be connected to your responses.

What kinds of questions are in the survey?

This survey includes sections that ask about your knowledge and beliefs about social situations, perceptions related to sexual misconduct at ISU, and your knowledge of resources available at Iowa State University. The survey also asks about your personal experience with sexual misconduct, such as harassment, sexual assault, and other forms of violence. This survey includes some open-ended questions that allow you to write a unique response. Open-ended questions will not be reviewed by the data collector. They will be sent "as is" to Iowa State University's research team for review in July 2019.

What will Iowa State University do with the results?

The results will be used to better understand the climate at Iowa State University, the extent of sexual assault and misconduct among students, and the use of programs and services currently being offered. This information will be used to make recommendations for changes to policies and procedures related

to preventing and handling sexual assault and misconduct at Iowa State University. A similar survey was [conducted in 2015](#), which led to the following outcomes:

- Increased and more robust education about Title IX compliance and mandatory reporting for the entire campus community
- Substantial enhancements were made to the Sexual Misconduct Policy
- Implementation of the campus wide program for Sexual Assault Prevention
- Increased resources toward response to campus community allegations of sexual assaults

Didn't we just do a Campus Climate survey?

In 2017, Iowa State University conducted a [Campus Climate](#) survey which measured both student and staff perception of campus environment related to interpersonal, academic, and professional interaction. As you can see, the 2017 survey covered different topics than the survey we are asking you to complete at this time. This survey is specifically for students about sexual assault and sexual misconduct.

Where can I see the results of this study?

Iowa State University will receive a report of the results in September 2019. At that time we will determine the most effective way to make results available to students and the community.

What will happen if I don't participate?

There are no consequences if you choose not to participate in the survey. However, if you choose not to participate, your perspective and experiences might not be reflected in the survey results. Information on who completed the survey (and who did not) will not be provided to Iowa State University or any others.