In spring 2017, from March 27 until April 14, students and employees at Hudson Valley Community College were administered a SUNY Sexual Violence Campus Climate Survey.

Of the 8,025 students surveyed who were enrolled during the aforementioned time period, 232 (2.89%) responded to the student survey. All surveyed students were 18 years of age or older. Of the 1,283 employees (faculty and staff) surveyed, 174 (13.56%) responded to the employee survey. The survey was conducted online with use of Campus Labs as a 3rd party platform. All responses were anonymous.

By State University of New York policy, these uniform surveys ascertain faculty and staff awareness of policies and resources, and student experience with and knowledge of reporting and college adjudicatory processes for sexual harassment, including sexual violence and other related crimes.

A majority of students (66.50%) responded that they were aware the campus has policies addressing sexual assault and were aware of the definition of affirmative consent (73.76%). Furthermore, student respondents realized that someone who is incapacitated cannot provide consent (84.88%).

Of the student respondents, 52.73% indicated they were aware of the difference between the college disciplinary process and the criminal justice system while 28.66% responded that they did not know to whom a victim/survivor or witness should formally disclose a sexual assault on campus.

A large majority of students (81.56%) were aware of the availability of Public Safety as an on-campus resource for Sexual and Interpersonal Violence, followed by Campus Health Services (60.99%) and the Center for Counseling (55.32%). Local Police/Sheriff (58.16%) and Local Health Service (including hospitals) (56.03%) were cited as the most aware of community resources.

Employees (87.50%) responded “yes” to “My campus has policies and procedures specifically addressing sexual assault.” Additionally, (71.43%) of employees thought the college would take a report of a student complaint of sexual violence on the campus seriously.

A majority of employees, 76.43% either strongly agreed or agreed that “If a student were sexually assaulted, I know how to advise them on where to get help on campus.” Also, 58.86% were aware of the difference between confidentiality and privacy before reading the survey definition. A small percentage of employees (9.4%) responded they did not know to whom a victim/survivor or witness should disclose a sexual assault on campus.

Employee responses revealed that 82.35% were aware of the definition of affirmative consent and 92.86% responded that an incapacitated individual cannot provide consent. Of employee respondents, 80.54% were aware of the difference between the college disciplinary process and the criminal justice system.

Most employees (93.96%) were aware of the availability of Public Safety as an on-campus resource for Sexual and Interpersonal Violence, followed by Campus Health Services (87.25%) and the Center for Counseling (77.18%). Local Health Services (including hospitals) (71.81%) and Police/Sheriff (71.14%) were cited as the most aware of community resources.
Although 56.69% of employee respondents were aware that a victim/survivor or witness could formally disclose a sexual assault on campus to the Title IX Coordinator, 33.54% of student respondents were aware of this. While 46.31% of responding employees indicated they did not know how to find the Title IX Coordinator, 70.83% of student respondents indicated they did not know how to do so.

Results have been shared with the college’s Senior Staff and posted on the college website. Hudson Valley Community College will use the survey results to continue to improve education, prevention, support and adjudication as part of the college community’s ongoing efforts to achieve a campus environment free of sexual assault and misconduct.

Any questions regarding the survey should be directed to the Office of Planning and Research at (518) 629-7353.