

NMT 2024 Student Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Misconduct & Sex-based Discrimination

Executive Summary

**Division of Student Life
Health and Well-being Cluster**

2024 NMT Student Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Misconduct & Sex-based Discrimination

Background

New Mexico Tech (NMT) is committed to a healthy and safe learning, living, and working environment that promotes responsibility, dignity, and respect for all persons. New Mexico Tech prohibits and does not tolerate any forms of discrimination, including discrimination based on sex, sex stereotyping, gender expression, and gender identity. Sex-based harassment is a form of sex discrimination and includes sexual violence/assault, intimate partner violence, stalking, hostile environment, and quid pro quo. New Mexico Tech collectively refers to all of these forms of prohibited behaviors as Sexual Misconduct.

As an institution of higher education, NMT is interested in determining the campus culture for students and employees with regard to Sexual Misconduct. The NMT Student Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Misconduct & Sex-based Discrimination Survey (i.e. Student Sexual Misconduct Survey) is one method to assess our campus culture, attitudes, behavior, and the effectiveness of our awareness and prevention programs. This biennial tool will help us gather related data from Tech's on-campus student body. The institution conducts a similar survey for employees, however this survey and Executive Summary focuses on student input. These results will help us make informed decisions related to future programming, notification and response processes, safety protocol, support resources, and our overall communication plan.

This 2024 Student Sexual Misconduct Survey and its intentions were initially introduced to the on-campus student body in an email sent on April 1, 2024. The official invitation to complete the survey and the associated URL to gain secured access to the survey was sent through campus email on April 2, 2024. The survey was open from April 2, 2024 to April 23, 2024, with email reminders sent out on April 15 and April 22. An additional reminder was sent to all on-campus students on April 5 in an email communications regarding, April- Sexual Assault Awareness Month Information.

Participation in this survey was voluntary and responses were anonymous with no Personal Identifiable Data (PID) collected. This survey took participants approximately 8-12 minutes to complete based on their answers and the associated skip/display logic embedded in the questions.

Tech's IRB approved the survey (#2024-03-005) on March 14, 2024. A PlayStation 5 Slim, \$50 NMT Bookstore Gift Card, and a \$50 NMT Food Service Gift Card were offered as incentives to encourage our student to participate in this survey. Two hundred eleven (211) students completed the survey and chose to be directed to the secured remote site to be entered into the drawing. Three (3) winners were drawn utilizing an electronic [random number generator](#). Winners were notified by text and then called if they did not claim their prize.

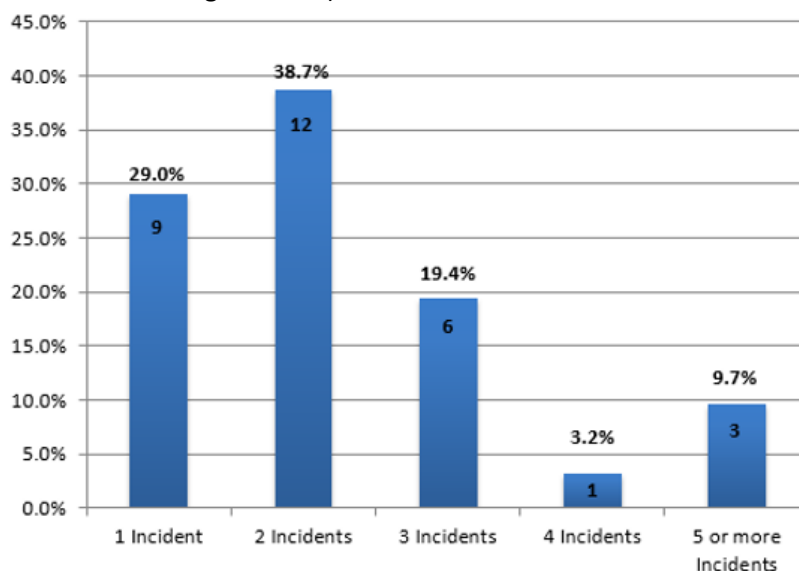
Of the initial 384 NMT students who started the survey, 369 completed the instrument. Due to the sensitive nature of the questions, only the initial demographic questions were required to be completed.

Findings of Interest

1. When asked, since first enrolling at Tech, has anyone done the following to you either in person or by phone, text message, e-mail, or social media? Please include things regardless of where they happened, our students responded:
 - 1.6% (4) Watched or took photos/videos of you when you were nude or having sex, without your consent
 - 6.3% (16) Showed or sent sexual photos/videos of you or spread sexual rumors about you that you didn't want shared
 - 4.7% (12) Showed or sent you sexual pictures, photos, or videos that you didn't want to see
 - 5.1% (13) Flashed or exposed themselves to you without your consent
 - 27.7% (71) Made sexual advances, gestures, comments, or jokes that were unwelcome to you

Please note this set of questions was not site-specific, it just asked had they been subject to these incidents since first enrolling at Tech.

2. When asked (Q8), since first enrolling at Tech, has anyone sexually assaulted you (i.e. non-consensual or unwanted sex or sexual contact)?
 - 11.4% (29) responded "Yes"
 - Below are the responses to a follow-up question to those who responded yes to question #2 above ("How many separate incidents of unwanted sexual contact or sexual assault have you experienced since coming to Tech?):



- In a final follow-up question to this group, ("In any of the cases you reported above, had the person who had sexually assaulted you or had unwanted sexual contact with you been drinking alcohol or using drugs?") 16 of the initial 29 (58.1%) students indicated alcohol or drugs were involved in the reported incident.
 - Once again, these follow-up questions and the associated follow-up logic questions were not site specific.
3. When asked, "Do you believe Tech Administration would respond to reported instances of sexual misconduct?", we grouped the students who responded Definitely, Very Probably, and Probably and came up with:

- 66.1% believe the institution would take the report seriously
 - 56.5% believe the institution would take action to address factors that may have led to the sexual misconduct
 - 68.1% believe the institution would handle the report fairly
4. When asked, “How safe do you feel **on campus** from various forms of sexual misconduct listed below?”, the students group (Slightly Agree, Agree, Strongly Agree) responded:
 - 79.3% feel safe from sexual harassment
 - 83.0% feel safe from dating violence
 - 82.2% feel safe from sexual violence
 - 69.7% feel safe from stalking, therefore 30.3% do not feel safe from stalkers
 5. When asked, “How safe do you feel in the local Socorro community from various forms of sexual misconduct listed below?”, when grouped (Slightly Agree, Agree, Strongly Agree), the students responded:
 - 66.9% feel safe from sexual harassment
 - 71.5% feel safe from dating violence
 - 69.0% feel safe from sexual violence
 - 60.3% feel safe from stalking
 6. When asked, “How safe do you feel at **off-campus parties** hosted by other Tech students or local community members from various forms of sexual misconduct listed below?”, when grouped (Slightly Agree, Agree, Strongly Agree), the students responded:
 - 59.1% feel safe from sexual harassment
 - 67.2% feel safe from dating violence
 - 63.4% feel safe from sexual violence
 - 57.3% feel safe from stalking
 7. When asked about their perception or attitudes regarding sexual misconduct on campus:
 - 82.6% of students agree (Slightly Agree, Agree, Strongly Agree) with the statement “Tech appears safer than campuses my friends attend”.
 - 49.4% of students agree (Slightly Agree, Agree, Strongly Agree) with the statement “There isn’t much need for me to think about sexual misconduct while at Tech”
 8. When asked “Are you aware or know where to obtain various resources and information available in connection with issues of sexual misconduct?”, the students responded (Yes or I know the majority):
 - 92.4% Definitions of types of sexual misconduct
 - 75.5% How to report an incident of sexual misconduct
 - 78.1% Where to go to get help if someone you know experiences sexual misconduct
 9. 97.0% of students agree (Slightly Agree, Agree, Strongly Agree) consent must be given at each step in a sexual encounter
 10. In the **Resource and Reporting Section** of this survey, 20.6% of our students indicated they did not know to report an incident of sexual misconduct and 18.9% did not know where to go to get help if someone they know experience sexual misconduct.

11. Your experience with offensive behaviors or harassment by other students while at Tech.

	Yes
Treated you "differently" because of your gender or gender identity	39.2%
Displayed, used, or distributed sexist or suggestive materials	15.5%
Made offensive sexist remarks	34.9%
Put you down or was condescending to you because of your gender identity	33.3%
Repeatedly told sexual stories or jokes that were offensive to you	18.5%
Made unwelcome attempts to draw you into a discussion of sexual matters	15.1%
Made offensive remarks about your appearance, body, or sexual activities	26.8%
Made gestures or used body language of a sexual nature which embarrassed or offended you	12.1%
Made unwanted attempts to establish a romantic sexual relationship with you despite your efforts to discourage it	19.0%
Sent or posted unwelcome sexual comments, jokes or pictures by text, email, Facebook or electronic means (e.g. Social Media)	4.3%
Spread unwelcome sexual rumors about you by text, email, Facebook or other electronic means (e.g. Social Media)	4.3%
Called you gay or lesbian in a negative way by text, email, Facebook or other electronic means (e.g. Social Media)	7.3%
Has at least one Tech student disclosed to you that they were subjected to a gender-based discrimination here at Tech by another student	42.2%

12. Your experience with offensive behaviors or harassment by faculty/staff while at Tech.

	Yes
Treated you "differently" because of your gender or gender identity	19.9%
Displayed, used, or distributed sexist or suggestive materials	2.6%
Made offensive sexist remarks	12.2%
Put you down or was condescending to you because of your gender identity	14.4%
Repeatedly told sexual stories or jokes that were offensive to you	5.2%
Made unwelcome attempts to draw you into a discussion of sexual matters	4.8%
Made offensive remarks about your appearance, body, or sexual activities	5.2%
Made gestures or used body language of a sexual nature which embarrassed or offended you	5.2%
Made unwanted attempts to establish a romantic sexual relationship with you despite your efforts to discourage it	1.8%
Continued to ask you for dates, drinks, dinner, etc., even though you said "No"	2.6%
Touched you in a way that made you feel uncomfortable?	1.7%
Made unwanted attempts to stroke, fondle, or kiss you	1.3%
Made you feel like you were being bribed with a reward to engage in sexual behavior	0.9%
Made you feel threatened with some sort of retaliation for not being sexually cooperative	1.3%
Treated you badly for refusing to have sex	1.3%
Implied better treatment if you were sexually cooperative	1.3%
Has at least one Tech student disclosed to you that they were subjected to a gender-based discrimination here at Tech by an employee	19.6%

Survey Questions

A copy of the survey and the questions can be found on the [NMT Title IX Office \(2024 NMT Student Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Misconduct & Sex-based Discrimination\)](#)

Results

A copy of the complete break-down of the survey data can be obtained by contacting Tech's Title IX Coordinator at titleixcoordinator@nmt.edu or at 575-835-5953. This Executive Summary will also be archive on the [NMT Title IX Office](#) website.