



2026 Executive Summary

University Campus Climate Survey



St. Bonaventure University Campus Climate Survey 2026 Executive Summary

Survey Administration

Consistent with New York State Education Law 129-B, during the 2026 spring semester St. Bonaventure University administered its fifth, confidential on-line sexual assault and misconduct climate survey to students. A survey link made available to all full-time and part-time graduate and undergraduate students. The survey allows St. Bonaventure University to gather information to help better understand attitudes about the campus climate regarding sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and talking, knowledge of internal and external resources available to students, and perceptions and experiences related to sexual and relationship violence. Responses provide the University with critical insights to help protect and support members of the St. Bonaventure University community. Data is used to improve responses to sexual and relationship violence and develop on-going prevention programs.

A total of 323 students responded to the 2026 survey, nearly 100 more than the 2024 responses. A breakdown of those responding is below.

Demographic Summary

The survey respondents represented a broad cross-section of the student population. Approximately 30% of respondents were first-year students, 21% were sophomores, 27% were juniors, 17% were seniors, and 5% were graduate students. Most respondents (83%) lived on campus, while 13% lived off campus and 4% identified as commuters or another residential status.

Respondents predominantly identified as female (68%), with 31% identifying as male and 1% identifying with another gender identity.

Several student affinity groups were represented in the survey. Forty percent (40%) of respondents participated in club sports, 27% were NCAA student-athletes, 27% identified as first-generation college students, and 22% reported having a disability or chronic health condition. Because students could identify with more than one affinity group, these percentages are not mutually exclusive.

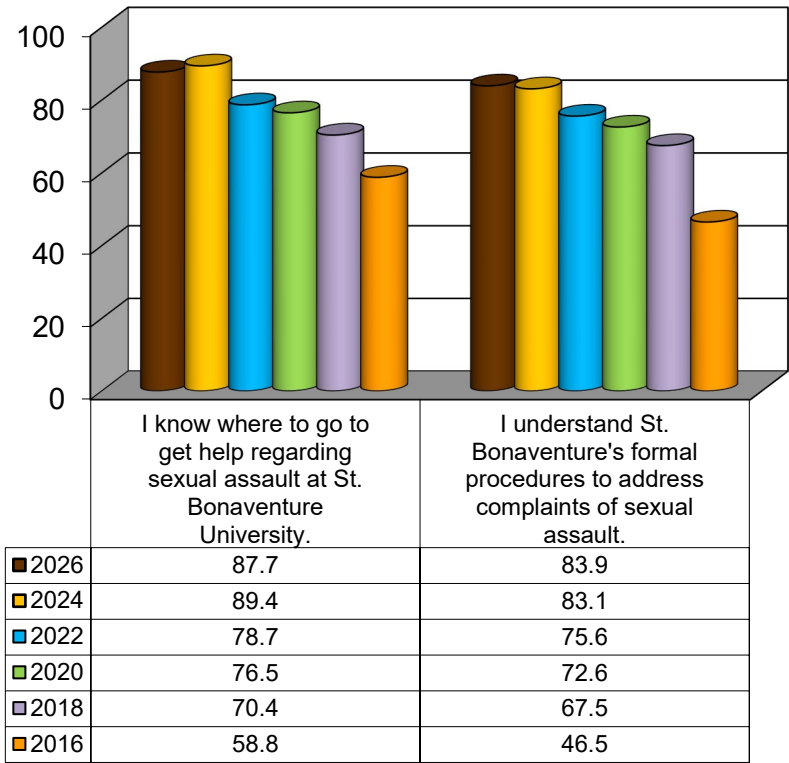
The racial and ethnic composition of respondents was primarily White/Caucasian (76%), followed by Hispanic/Latinx (8%), Black or African American (6%), Other (6%), Asian (3%), and Native American Indian or Alaska Native (1%). No respondents identified as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

Regarding sexual orientation, 78% of respondents identified as heterosexual or straight. Ten percent (10%) identified as bisexual, 3% as lesbian, 1% as gay, 1% as asexual, 1% as pansexual, and 6% selected another sexual orientation.

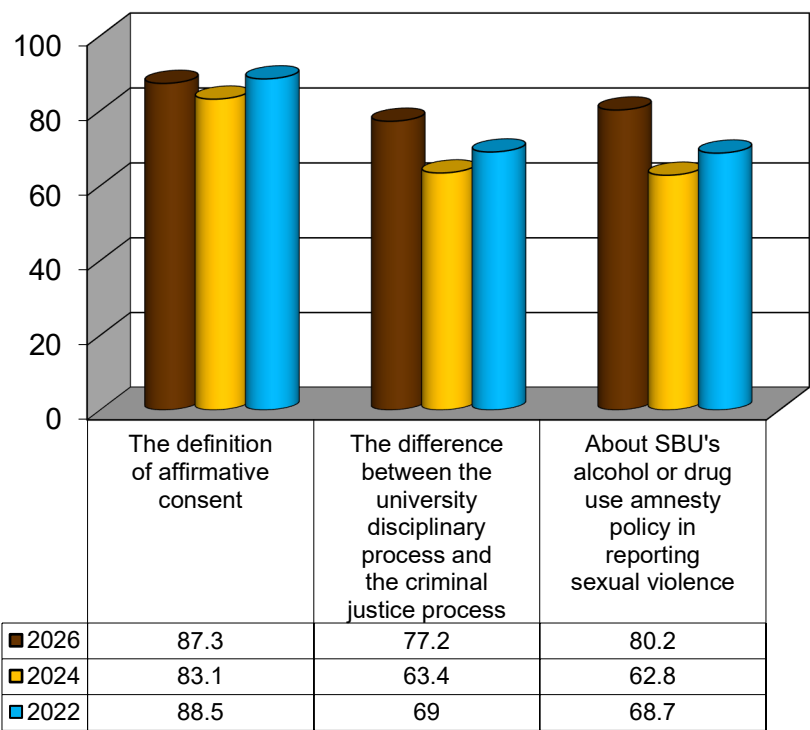
Comparison Data (2016, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024,2026)

Knowledge of Policies & Resources

Percentage of students who Strongly Agree or Agree that ...

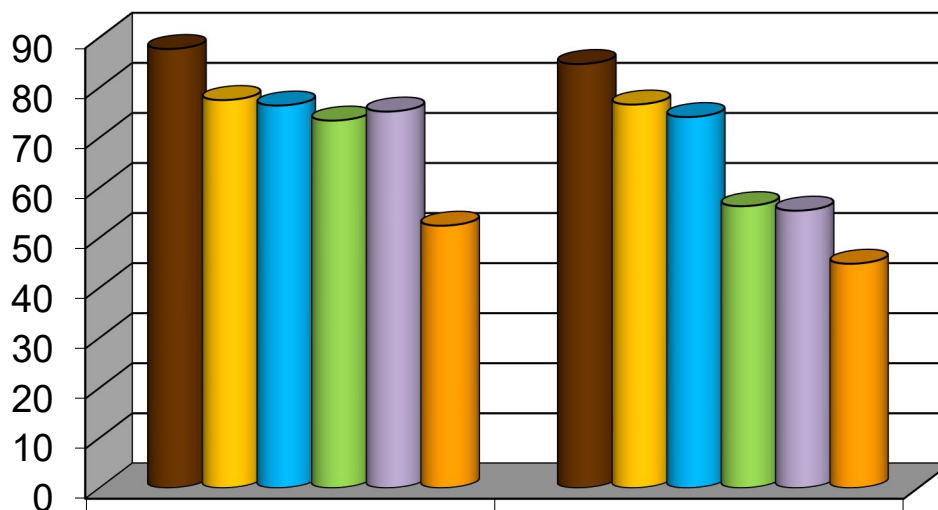


Percentage of students who indicate that they know.....



Students' Perspectives

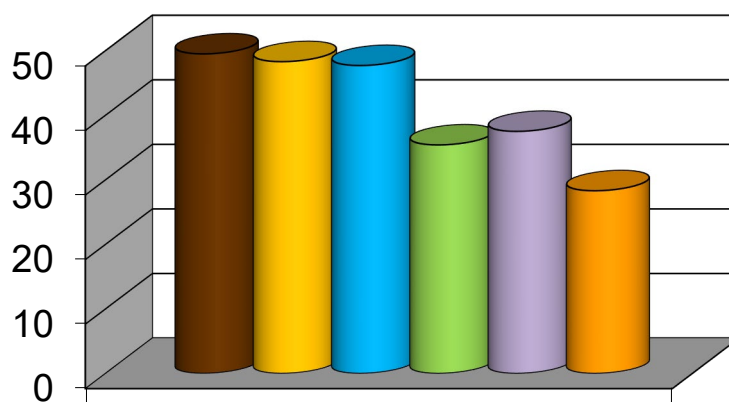
Percentage of students who Strongly Agree or Agree that ...



	I have confidence that administrators will follow the procedures necessary to address complaints of sexual assault fairly.	There is a good support system for students going through difficult times.
■ 2026	87.7	84.7
■ 2024	77.5	76.6
■ 2022	76.4	74.1
■ 2020	73.4	56.3
■ 2018	75.2	55.4
■ 2016	52.4	44.8

Bystander Behaviors/Readiness to Help

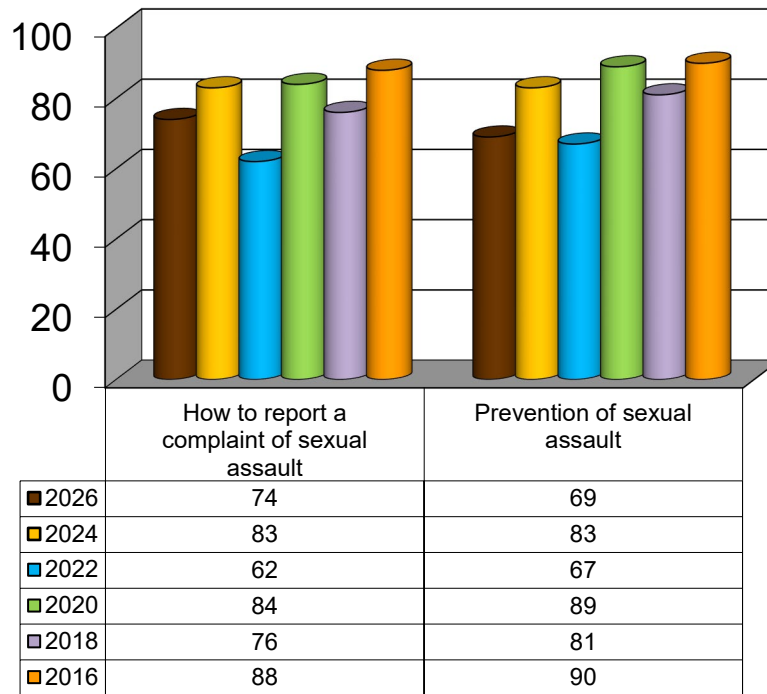
Percentage of students who indicated they were very likely..



	To confront other students who make inappropriate or negative sexual comments and gestures about a person who is in their presence.
■ 2026	49.5
■ 2024	48.3
■ 2022	47.7
■ 2020	35.4
■ 2018	37.5
■ 2016	28.3

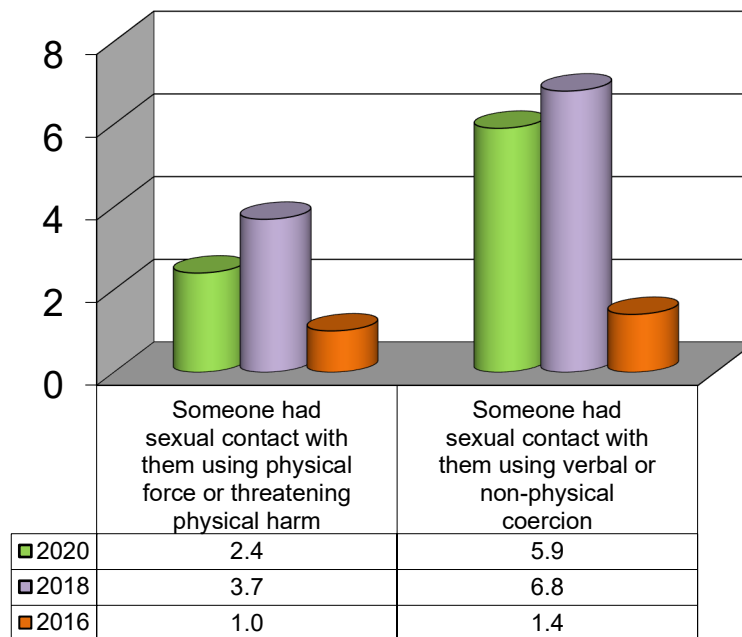
Training/Education

Percentage of students who responded yes to receiving training on...

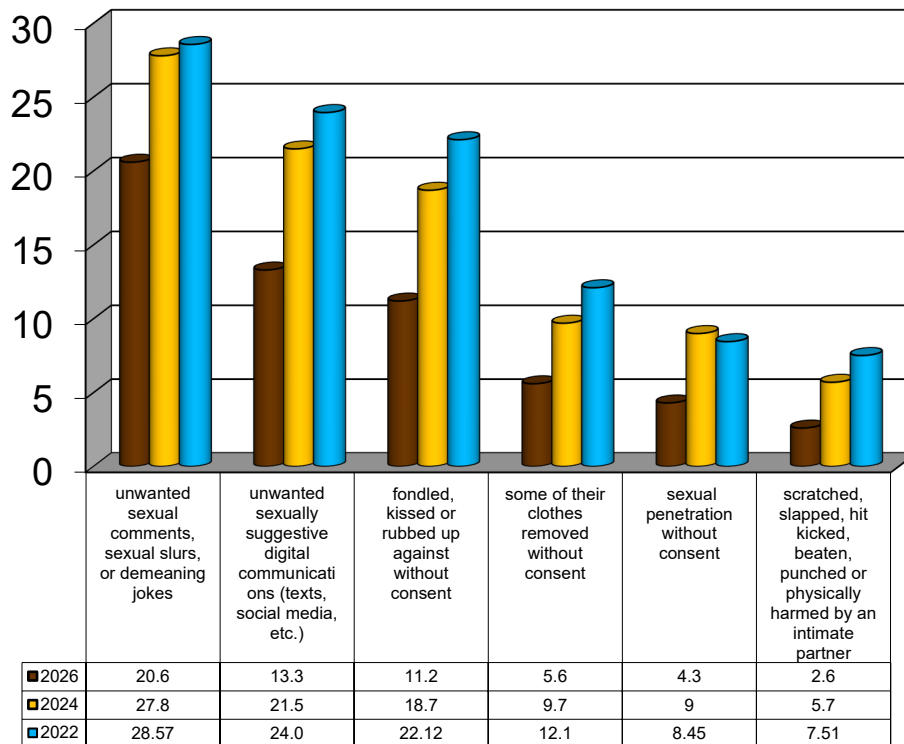


Personal Experiences

Percentage of students who indicated that since becoming a student at SBU...



Percentage of students who indicated that during the last year, they experienced the following....



Findings Summary

Key Trends Overview

The 2026 Campus Climate Survey reflects continued, measurable progress in student awareness, confidence, and bystander readiness related to sexual and relationship violence. With 323 respondents, nearly 100 more than in 2024, the dataset provides a stronger representation of student perceptions. Students report some of the highest levels to date of knowing where to seek help and understanding university procedures. As the data shows, from 2016 to 2026 a 29% positive increase is seen with respect to knowledge on where students can go to get help regarding sexual assault, demonstrating the long-term impact of expanded Title IX staffing, prevention education, and advocacy services.

Knowledge of Policies & Resources

Knowledge of key policy elements increased significantly from 2024 to 2026. Understanding of affirmative consent (87.3%), the difference between disciplinary and criminal processes (77.2%), and the alcohol/drug amnesty policy (80.2%) all rose sharply, reversing earlier declines attributed to pandemic-era training disruptions. These gains align with the university's strategic investment in prevention education, including the Department of Justice Campus Sexual Assault Prevention Grant, which has supported a full-time Prevention Educator and part-time confidential Advocate. Peer education and advocacy continue to strengthen, contributing to a 40% positive response increase in perceptions of support systems since 2016.

Across the 2016–2026 period, student-reported training on *how to report a complaint of sexual assault* and *sexual assault prevention* shows notable fluctuation, with both measures peaking in 2016 and 2020 before declining again in 2026. The most recent data indicates a drop to 74% for reporting procedures and 69% for prevention training, down from 83%/83% in 2024. Data support continued funding for prevention education, bystander training, and advocacy services.

Student Confidence & Support Systems

Students' confidence in institutional fairness and support reached its highest levels in 2026. 87.7% of students agreed that administrators would address complaints fairly, and 84.7% agreed there is a good support system for students experiencing difficult times, substantial increases from 2024 and dramatic improvements over 2016. Bystander readiness also continues its upward trajectory: 49.4% of students reported they were very likely to confront inappropriate sexual comments or gestures, rising significantly from the 2016 rate of 28.3%. This growth corresponds with the implementation of Bringing in the Bystander training beginning in 2020–2021, which has resulted in a 14.1% increase in student's readiness to help.

Personal Experiences & Areas for Continued Focus

While several forms of sexual misconduct decreased between 2024 and 2026, including unwanted sexual comments (27.8% → 20.6%) and non-consensual sexual contact (18.7% → 11.2%), the prevalence of these experiences remains significant. Expanded personal experience questions added in 2022 provide a more nuanced understanding of campus climate and continue to guide prevention, outreach, and risk-reduction strategies.

The Title IX Office and Coordinated Community Response Team will continue to monitor trends in affirmative consent understanding and amnesty policy awareness, both of which remain priority areas for ongoing education. Continued attention to policy education and sustained monitoring of personal experience data will be essential to maintaining momentum and ensuring a safe, supportive environment for all students.

Strategic Implications

- **Sustained Investment Works:** Gains reflect the impact of expanded Title IX staffing, the DOJ Campus Sexual Assault Prevention Grant, and strengthened peer education and advocacy.
- **Prevention Infrastructure Should Be Maintained:** Data support continued funding for prevention education, bystander training, and advocacy services.
- **Monitoring Must Continue:** Longitudinal data remain essential for risk management, compliance, and student well-being.
- **Communication Strategy Matters:** Clear, repeated messaging on consent and amnesty policies is critical to further progress.

Overall Summary

The 2026 results demonstrate sustained progress in student knowledge, confidence, and bystander engagement, supported by strategic investments in prevention education, advocacy, and institutional infrastructure. Continued focus on policy education, specifically around affirmative consent and amnesty, and ongoing monitoring of personal experience data will remain essential to strengthening campus safety and support.

Suggestions about how St. Bonaventure University can reduce the incidence of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking and/or enhance the educational training and support the University offers, please contact the Title IX Coordinator, Katie O'Brien at 716.375.2011 (kobrien@sbu.edu) or the Director of Sexual Violence Prevention and Education, Tara Kent at 716-375-2216 (tkent@sbu.edu).