

FACT SHEET: TOPLINE RESULTS FROM THE SERVICE ACADEMY GENDER RELATIONS SURVEY

DECEMBER 12, 2024

Overview

Future success on the battlefield hinges on our ability to develop leaders of character who ensure our teams can take on the dynamic, complex, and uncertain threat environments of a changing world. In 2023, Secretary Austin directed transformative changes at the Military Service Academies to overhaul their approach to leadership development, with an intense focus on trust, respect, and accountability. The military service academies produce leaders of character who will advance the U.S. military into the future. They must exemplify the highest standards of military training, and build healthy campus climates to keep our future force ready and formidable.

This year, the Department is seeing the impact of the transformative changes Secretary Austin directed. The preliminary results of the most recent Service Academy Gender Relations Survey indicate that the estimated prevalence of sexual assault and harassment is decreasing at each of the Service academies. While more work remains to be done, the Department is reaffirming its commitment to holding its leaders to the highest standards of character, dignity, and respect.

SAGR Survey Results

- Prevalence rates of unwanted sexual contact and sexual harassment are measured every other year. So, this year's findings (APY 23-24) are compared to the previous measures from APY 21-22.
- Reporting figures are measured every year, so this year's reporting figures (APY 23-24) are compared to the previous year (APY 22-23).
- **Unwanted Sexual Contact:**
 - Preliminary data from the SAGR administered during APY 23-24 indicates that the estimated prevalence rate of unwanted sexual contact decreased for both academy women and men.
 - In APY 23-24, an estimated 13.3 percent of academy women experienced unwanted sexual contact in the year prior to being surveyed – down from 21.4 percent in APY 21-22.
 - In APY 23-24, an estimated 3.6 percent of academy men experienced unwanted sexual contact – down from 4.4 percent in APY 21-22.
 - Based on the results of the SAGR, the Department estimates that 783 academy women and men may have experienced some form of unwanted sexual contact during APY 23-24, compared to 1,136 in APY 21-22.
- **Sexual Harassment:**
 - Preliminary data from the SAGR administered during APY 23-24 indicates that the estimated prevalence rate of sexual harassment decreased for both academy women and men.
 - In APY 23-24, an estimated 51 percent of women experienced an incident of sexual harassment in the year prior to being surveyed – down from 63 percent in APY 21-22.
 - An estimated 17 percent of men experienced an incident of sexual harassment in the year to being surveyed – down from 20 percent in APY 21-22.

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office

- The academies received a total of 126 reports of sexual assault, a decrease from the 166 received in APY 22-23.
- The Department encourages greater reporting of sexual assault allegations to connect survivors with needed care and to hold alleged offenders appropriately accountable.
- Cadets and midshipmen made 17 complaints of sexual harassment, a decrease from the 28 complaints from the previous APY.

Way Forward

- The Military Service Academies(MSA) Climate Transformation Task Force has been integral to guiding the Military Departments and MSAs in transforming command climate and leadership development, creating an environment of dignity and respect, and enhancing integrated prevention efforts so that cadets and midshipmen are better prepared to lead our Nation.
- The Department must continue to prioritize prevention efforts, support for survivors, and accountability measures to ensure long-term, meaningful change.

Preliminary results are available online at <https://sapr.mil/reports>.