

Sexual Misconduct Data

Vanderbilt University is committed to providing all members of its community with a safe and welcoming environment, which includes protecting members of the University community from sexual misconduct and intimate partner violence. Therefore, the University is publishing data to enhance transparency and inform the campus community of reports and investigations of sexual misconduct and intimate partner violence. The data reflect all reports of sexual misconduct and intimate partner violence made or referred to the Title IX Office¹ involving students as either complainants or respondents under the [Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) (“Policy”) and the [Formal Grievance Protocol](#) (“Protocol”). A single report may include allegations of multiple policy violations.

Vanderbilt offers [several resources](#) to students impacted by sexual misconduct and intimate partner violence, including the [Project Safe Center](#).

Table 1. Incidents reported and investigated

2020-21 (JULY 1-JUNE 30)	
Incidents Reported	300
Investigations Opened ²	21

The data include reports of all forms of sexual misconduct and intimate partner violence, including:

- Sexual Assault – Intercourse
- Sexual Assault – Contact
- Sexual Harassment
- Sexual Exploitation
- Stalking
- Dating Violence
- Domestic Violence
- Attempts to commit sexual misconduct
- Facilitating, aiding, encouraging, concealing, and/or otherwise assisting a violation of the policy
- Retaliation

The data include reports in which the student complainant or student respondent (or both) were unidentified. These reports may have resulted from an incomplete or anonymous disclosure to a mandatory reporter or from an incomplete, anonymous, or confidential disclosure to the Project Safe Center, which is a limited confidential resource.

The data do not include reports made to confidential resources, such as the University Counseling Center (UCC), the Student Health Center, or clergy.

The data include reports of both on-campus and off-campus incidents, as well as incidents alleged to have occurred through telephonic or electronic means.

¹ In August 2020, the Title IX Office was established to address all matters involving sexual misconduct at the University.

² Investigations arising from a report in one year may be conducted, in whole or in part, in the subsequent year.

The data include reports of pre-matriculation incidents, such as incidents occurring in high school or occurring at another institution of higher education.

The data do not include reports where an employee who is also a student has reported sexual misconduct or intimate partner violence strictly in their capacity as an employee.

Investigations may span more than one academic year for several reasons, including the timing of a report in relation to the end of an academic year, the timing of a report in relation to a request for investigation, and the complexity of an investigation.

Reports of sexual misconduct and intimate partner violence do not always result in an investigation. A Complainant must submit a Formal Complaint in order to initiate an investigation. Additionally, reports may provide insufficient information to pursue an investigation, such as lacking the name(s) of one or more of the persons involved. The Title IX Coordinator may determine, following assessment, that the information provided in the report and through subsequent inquiry does not constitute an allegation of violation of the Sexual Misconduct Policy and/or Formal Grievance Protocol.

Vanderbilt uses the preponderance of the evidence standard of proof to determine responsibility for violations of the Sexual Misconduct Policy and/or Formal Grievance Protocol. Proof meets the preponderance standard if the decision-maker determines it is "more likely than not" that the policy was violated.

For more information, please refer to the [Title IX Office website](#) or contact the Title IX Office by [email](#).