

COLGATE UNIVERSITY

Office of Institutional Analysis

Colgate University students were invited to participate in the HEDS Sexual Assault Campus Climate survey from October 15 to November 18, 2025. To increase participation, the survey was reopened from January 6 to February 1, 2026. A total of 267 respondents were recorded in this administration, yielding a 9% response rate. Administered by the Office of Institutional Analysis, this survey covered topics relating to personal experiences of sexual violence as well as awareness, prevention, and survivor support. Participation was entirely voluntary, and students had the opportunity to skip any questions they chose. Some of the content of this survey is required by the New York State Enough is Enough Law.

This report includes information that may be difficult for survivors of sexual violence or for those close to them.

Colgate faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to contact Neil Albert, Associate Provost for Institutional Analysis and University Registrar with any requests for additional information from this survey (315-228-6345, nalbert@colgate.edu). All other inquiries should be directed to the Office of Communications (315-228-6535, mcwalden@colgate.edu).

There are several confidential resources available to students. A counselor is available for walk-ins Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. in Conant House. After office hours, an on-call counselor is available nights and weekends and can be reached through calling the Counseling Center at (315-228-7385) and selecting prompt #2 from the voicemail. Haven - Colgate's Sexual Violence Response Center located at the Garden Level of Curtis Hall, provides confidential care, support, advocacy, and trauma-informed clinical services for survivors of sexual assault, intimate partner violence, child/family abuse, stalking, and/or harassment, Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Student Health Services can be reached at 315-228-7750. University chaplains are available at the Office of the Chaplains in the garden level of the Memorial Chapel or by calling 315-228-7682. Off-campus resources provided by Help Restore Hope are available at 855-966-9723.

To report an incident of sexual violence, contact Amy Gordon, Title IX coordinator (argordon@colgate.edu; 315-228-7014), Campus Safety (315-228-7333), or any member of the Prohibited Conduct Response Group (PCRG). You may also contact the Title IX office to request supportive measures.

Section One: General Climate

1. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.		Frequency	Percent
1.1. Faculty, staff, and administrators at Colgate University are genuinely concerned about students' welfare.	Strongly disagree	0	0.0%
	Disagree	4	1.5%
	Neither agree nor disagree	12	4.5%
	Agree	128	48.5%
	Strongly agree	120	45.5%
	Total	264	
1.2. Students at Colgate University are genuinely concerned about the welfare of other students.	Strongly disagree	0	0.0%
	Disagree	14	5.3%
	Neither agree nor disagree	41	15.6%
	Agree	156	59.3%
	Strongly agree	52	19.8%
	Total	263	
1.3. I believe that the number of sexual assaults that occur on campus, off campus at an event or program connected with Colgate University, or at a social activity or party near campus is low.	Strongly disagree	13	5.0%
	Disagree	49	18.7%
	Neither agree nor disagree	82	31.3%
	Agree	90	34.4%
	Strongly agree	28	10.7%
	Total	262	
1.4. I do not believe that I or one of my friends is at risk for being sexually assaulted on campus, off campus at an event or program connected with Colgate University, or at a social activity or party near campus.	Strongly disagree	18	6.9%
	Disagree	80	30.5%
	Neither agree nor disagree	51	19.5%
	Agree	81	30.9%
	Strongly agree	32	12.2%
	Total	262	
1.5. I believe that students at Colgate University would intervene if they witnessed a sexual assault.	Strongly disagree	3	1.1%
	Disagree	17	6.5%
	Neither agree nor disagree	63	24.0%
	Agree	143	54.4%
	Strongly agree	37	14.1%
	Total	263	
1.6. I feel safe on this campus.	Strongly disagree	2	0.8%
	Disagree	5	1.9%
	Neither agree nor disagree	16	6.1%
	Agree	135	51.5%
	Strongly agree	104	39.7%
	Total	262	

2. Below are statements about what might happen if someone were to report a sexual assault to an official at Colgate University. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each.			Frequency	Percent
2.1. Campus officials would take the report seriously.	Strongly disagree		1	0.4%
	Disagree		5	1.9%
	Neither agree nor disagree		14	5.3%
	Agree		118	44.7%
	Strongly agree		126	47.7%
	Total		264	
2.2. Campus officials would support and protect the person making the report.	Strongly disagree		1	0.4%
	Disagree		5	1.9%
	Neither agree nor disagree		24	9.1%
	Agree		110	41.8%
	Strongly agree		123	46.8%
	Total		263	
2.3. Campus officials would treat the accused person(s) fairly.	Strongly disagree		2	0.8%
	Disagree		11	4.2%
	Neither agree nor disagree		37	14.1%
	Agree		127	48.3%
	Strongly agree		86	32.7%
	Total		263	
2.4. Campus officials would conduct a careful investigation in order to determine what happened.	Strongly disagree		1	0.4%
	Disagree		12	4.6%
	Neither agree nor disagree		48	18.3%
	Agree		120	45.6%
	Strongly agree		82	31.2%
	Total		263	
2.5. Campus officials would take action against the offender(s).	Strongly disagree		5	1.9%
	Disagree		24	9.1%
	Neither agree nor disagree		60	22.8%
	Agree		110	41.8%
	Strongly agree		64	24.3%
	Total		263	
2.6. Students would support the person making the report.	Strongly disagree		1	0.4%
	Disagree		19	7.3%
	Neither agree nor disagree		61	23.3%
	Agree		107	40.8%
	Strongly agree		74	28.2%
	Total		262	
3. Have you received information or education from Colgate University about:			Frequency	Percent
3.1. What sexual assault is and how to recognize it?	Yes		248	94.3%
	No		3	1.1%
	Unsure		12	4.6%
	Total		263	
3.2. How to report an incident of sexual assault?	Yes		234	89.3%
	No		9	3.4%
	Unsure		19	7.3%
	Total		262	
3.3. Colgate University's confidential resources for sexual assault and how to locate them on campus?	Yes		250	95.4%
	No		6	2.3%
	Unsure		6	2.3%
	Total		262	
3.4. The procedures for investigating a sexual assault?	Yes		164	62.8%
	No		49	18.8%
	Unsure		48	18.4%
	Total		261	
3.5. The actions you can take to help prevent sexual assault, such as bystander intervention, clear communication with a potential partner, or some other action?	Yes		250	96.5%
	No		6	2.3%
	Unsure		3	1.2%
	Total		259	
<i>Q4 only appears to students who selected "Yes" to one or more of the statements in Q3.</i>			Frequency	Percent
4. Overall, how helpful was the information or education from Colgate University about sexual assault?	Very helpful		58	22.4%
	Helpful		138	53.3%
	Slightly helpful		54	20.8%
	Not at all helpful		1	0.4%
	Remember little to none		8	3.1%
	Total		259	

Section Two: Assessing Intimate Partner Violence, Stalking, Unwanted Sexual Contact, and Sexual Assault

5. Since starting at Colgate University, has a partner ever:		Frequency	Percent
5.1. Physically hurt you?	Yes	4	1.5%
	No	255	97.0%
	Unsure	4	1.5%
	Total	263	
5.2. Threatened, demeaned, or screamed at you?	Yes	15	5.7%
	No	246	93.5%
	Unsure	2	0.8%
	Total	263	
5.3. Followed you or kept track of your activities in a way that felt dangerous?	Yes	8	3.0%
	No	252	95.8%
	Unsure	3	1.1%
	Total	263	
5.4. Prevented you from seeing family or friends?	Yes	4	1.5%
	No	259	98.5%
	Unsure	0	0.0%
	Total	263	
6. In your day-to-day life at Colgate University, how often have the following things happened to you?		Frequency	Percent
6.1. People have sent me unwanted messages asking me to sext.	Never	233	88.6%
	Rarely	16	6.1%
	Sometimes	10	3.8%
	Often	4	1.5%
	Very often	0	0.0%
	Total	263	
6.2. People have continued to have sexual discussions with me online even after I told them to stop.	Never	246	93.2%
	Rarely	12	4.5%
	Sometimes	4	1.5%
	Often	2	0.8%
	Very often	0	0.0%
	Total	264	
6.3. People have spread rumors about my sexual behavior online.	Never	239	90.9%
	Rarely	15	5.7%
	Sometimes	6	2.3%
	Often	3	1.1%
	Very often	0	0.0%
	Total	263	
6.4. People have shown me unwanted sexual images online.	Never	230	87.5%
	Rarely	23	8.7%
	Sometimes	7	2.7%
	Often	3	1.1%
	Very often	0	0.0%
	Total	263	
7. Since starting at Colgate University, how often have you experienced the following forms of unwanted sexual contact while you were: (a) on campus; (b) off campus at an event or program connected with Colgate University, including study abroad and internships; or (c) at a social activity or party near campus such as at an apartment, restaurant, or bar?		Frequency	Percent
7.1. Unwanted verbal behaviors	Never	165	62.7%
	Rarely	48	18.3%
	Sometimes	40	15.2%
	Often	6	2.3%
	Very often	4	1.5%
	Total	263	
7.2. Unwanted nonverbal behaviors	Never	222	85.1%
	Rarely	25	9.6%
	Sometimes	9	3.4%
	Often	4	1.5%
	Very often	1	0.4%
	Total	261	
7.3. Unwanted brief physical contact	Never	187	71.4%
	Rarely	43	16.4%
	Sometimes	24	9.2%
	Often	7	2.7%
	Very often	1	0.4%
	Total	262	

Q8 only appears to students who selected an option other than "Never" for at least one statement in Q7.

8. Who was responsible for the this behavior? (Select all that apply)	Frequency	Percent
Student(s) from Colgate	104	92.0%
Student(s) from another institution	8	7.1%
Faculty member(s), staff member(s) or administrator(s) from Colgate	3	2.7%
Faculty member(s), staff member(s) or administrator(s) from another institution	0	0.0%
Employer(s)/supervisor(s) at Colgate	2	1.8%
Person or people from the local community	12	10.6%
Other	2	1.8%
Number of Respondents	113	

9. In this question, we ask about sexual assault, which includes five types of sexual contact which you did not want or for which you did not give consent. Since starting at Colgate University, how many times have you experienced any of the following: (a) on campus; (b) off campus at an event or program connected with Colgate University, including study abroad and internships; or (c) at a social activity or party near campus such as at an apartment, restaurant, or bar?

		Frequency	Percent
9.1. Touching of a sexual nature	Never	221	84.7%
	One time	17	6.5%
	Two times	12	4.6%
	Three times	7	2.7%
	Four times	1	0.4%
	More than four times	3	1.1%
	Total	261	
9.2. Oral sex	Never	250	96.5%
	One time	6	2.3%
	Two times	1	0.4%
	Three times	1	0.4%
	Four times	1	0.4%
	More than four times	0	0.0%
	Total	259	
9.3. Vaginal sex	Never	248	95.8%
	One time	8	3.1%
	Two times	1	0.4%
	Three times	2	0.8%
	Four times	0	0.0%
	More than four times	0	0.0%
	Total	259	
9.4. Anal sex	Never	258	100.0%
	One time	0	0.0%
	Two times	0	0.0%
	Three times	0	0.0%
	Four times	0	0.0%
	More than four times	0	0.0%
	Total	258	
9.4. Anal or vaginal penetration with a body part other than a penis or a tongue, or by an object	Never	254	98.4%
	One time	3	1.2%
	Two times	0	0.0%
	Three times	0	0.0%
	Four times	0	0.0%
	More than four times	1	0.4%
	Total	258	

Section Three only appears to students who selected "One or more times" to any statement in Q9. Students who select "Never" to all statements in Q9 will skip to Section Four: Bystander Behaviors.

Section Three: Assessing Intimate Partner Violence, Stalking, Unwanted Sexual Contact, and Sexual Assault

10. How many people sexually assaulted you?	Frequency	Percent
One person	24	61.5%
More than one person	12	30.8%
I am not sure	3	7.7%
Total	39	

11. Did this incident of sexual assault involve:		Frequency	Percent
11.1. The other person/people threatening to use physical force against you, or using coercion or intimidation?	Yes	13	32.5%
	No	27	67.5%
	Unsure	0	0.0%
	Total	40	
11.2. The other person/people using physical force against you?	Yes	11	28.2%
	No	25	64.1%
	Unsure	3	7.7%
	Total	39	

11.3. The other person/people drinking alcohol?	Yes	32	80.0%
	No	7	17.5%
	Unsure	1	2.5%
	Total	40	
11.4. The other person/people using drugs?	Yes	11	27.5%
	No	18	45.0%
	Unsure	11	27.5%
	Total	40	
11.5. Your drinking alcohol?	Yes	30	76.9%
	No	9	23.1%
	Unsure	0	0.0%
	Total	39	
11.6. Your voluntarily taking or using any drugs other than alcohol?	Yes	3	7.7%
	No	35	89.7%
	Unsure	1	2.6%
	Total	39	
11.7. Your being given a drug without your knowledge or consent?	Yes	2	5.1%
	No	35	89.7%
	Unsure	2	5.1%
	Total	39	

12. Were you incapacitated in some way (e.g., passed out, drugged, drunk, asleep) and unable to provide consent or stop what was happening?			
		Frequency	Percent
	Yes	17	43.6%
	No	16	41.0%
	Unsure	6	15.4%
	Total	39	

13. When in your academic career did the sexual assault occur?			
		Frequency	Percent
	During the summer before I officially enrolled (summer bridge program, pre-orientation, etc.)	1	2.6%
	In my first year	22	57.9%
	In my second year	8	21.1%
	In my third year	6	15.8%
	In my fourth year	0	0.0%
	Other	1	2.6%
	Total	38	

14. Was the person/people who sexually assaulted you affiliated with Colgate University or another college or university? (Select all that apply)			
		Frequency	Percent
	Yes, they were a student at Colgate University	34	87.2%
	Yes, they were a student at another institution	1	2.6%
	Yes, they were a faculty member, staff member or administrator from Colgate University	0	0.0%
	Yes, they were a faculty member, staff member or administrator from another institution	0	0.0%
	They were not affiliated with Colgate University or another institution	3	7.7%
	I do not know	1	2.6%
	Number of Respondents	39	

15. Which of the following describes your relationship with the person/people who sexually assaulted you at the time of the assault? (Select all that apply)			
		Frequency	Percent
	Nonromantic friend or acquaintance	18	45.0%
	Casual date or hookup	12	30.0%
	Current romantic partner	2	5.0%
	Ex-romantic partner	6	15.0%
	Coworker	2	5.0%
	Employer/supervisor	0	0.0%
	College professor/instructor	0	0.0%
	College staff member	0	0.0%
	College administrator	0	0.0%
	Family member	0	0.0%
	Stranger	15	37.5%
	Other	1	2.5%
	Number of Respondents	40	

16. What was the gender of the person/people who sexually assaulted you?			
		Frequency	Percent
	Man/Men	37	92.5%
	Woman/Women	2	5.0%
	Nonbinary	0	0.0%
	Multiple genders	1	2.5%
	I do not know	0	0.0%
	Total	40	

17. Where did the sexual assault occur?	Frequency	Percent
On the Colgate University campus, in a dormitory or other campus housing (not a fraternity or	18	47.4%
On the Colgate University campus, in a nonresidential building or some other location on campus	3	7.9%
In a fraternity or sorority house, on or off campus, including college-owned housing	11	28.9%
Off campus, at another college or university (not study abroad)	0	0.0%
Study abroad, study away, or other off-campus study program	2	5.3%
Off-campus internship	1	2.6%
Off campus, at an apartment, restaurant, bar, or another location nearby	3	7.9%
Total	38	

18. Were there any bystanders when you were sexually assaulted?	Frequency	Percent
Yes, and they intervened to try to help me	7	17.9%
Yes, but they did not intervene	7	17.9%
No bystanders were present	18	46.2%
I am not sure	7	17.9%
Total	39	

Q19 only appears to students who selected "Yes, and they intervened to try to help me" in Q18

19. How did they intervene? (Select all that apply)	Frequency	Percent
They stepped in and tried to separate us	5	71.4%
They asked me if I needed help	7	100.0%
They confronted the person/people who were assaulting me	0	0.0%
They tried to create a distraction	4	57.1%
They asked others to step in with them and try to defuse the situation	1	14.3%
They told someone in a position of authority about the situation	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
Number of Respondents	7	

20. Did you talk with someone in Title IX about this incident?	Frequency	Percent
Yes	6	15.4%
No	33	84.6%
Total	39	

Q21 only appears to students who selected "No" in Q20.

21. Why didn't you talk with someone in Title IX about the sexual assault? (Select all that apply)	Frequency	Percent
I did not think I would be believed or taken seriously	3	9.1%
I thought I would be blamed for what happened	5	15.2%
I wanted to deal with it on my own	16	48.5%
I was ashamed/embarrassed.	9	27.3%
I was concerned others would find out	7	21.2%
I did not recognize it as sexual assault at the time	17	51.5%
I did not want the people who did it to get in trouble	7	21.2%
I was afraid of retaliation	2	6.1%
I thought they would try to tell me what to do	0	0.0%
It would feel like I was admitting failure	1	3.0%
I did not have time to deal with it due to academics, work, etc.	8	24.2%
I did not understand the complaint process	1	3.0%
I feared I would be punished for other infractions or violations (e.g., underage drinking)	2	6.1%
I did not think they could help	7	21.2%
I wanted to forget it happened	12	36.4%
Other	3	9.1%
Number of Respondents	33	

22. Outside of Title IX, did you tell anyone about the sexual assault? (Select all that apply)	Frequency	Percent
No one	1	2.6%
Friend or roommate	34	89.5%
Romantic partner	7	18.4%
Family member or guardian	10	26.3%
Resident advisor/assistant or other peer advisor	1	2.6%
Counselor or therapist	12	31.6%
Faculty, staff, or administrator from Colgate University	1	2.6%
Other	0	0.0%
Number of Respondents	38	

Section Four: Bystander behaviors

Appears only to students who selected "Never" to all items in Q9 or who skipped Q9.

23. Since starting at Colgate University, have you observed a situation that you believe was sexual assault?	Frequency	Percent
Yes	11	4.9%
No	190	84.8%
Suspected, but unsure	23	10.3%
Total	224	

Q24 only appears to students who selected "Yes" in Q23.

24. Did you intervene?	Frequency	Percent
Yes	7	63.6%
I considered intervening but did not feel safe doing so	1	9.1%
I considered intervening but did not feel comfortable doing so	1	9.1%
I considered intervening but did not know how to do so	1	9.1%
I did not intervene	1	9.1%
Total	11	

Q25 only appears to students who selected "Yes" in Q24.

25. How did you intervene? (Select all that apply)	*Item redacted due to low completer count*
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Section Five: Demographics

26. What is your current academic classification?	Frequency	Percent
Freshman/First Year	121	45.7%
Sophomore	58	21.9%
Junior	34	12.8%
Senior	48	18.1%
Prefer not to respond	4	1.5%
Total	265	

Q27 only applies to two-year institutions.

28. What is your gender?	Frequency	Percent
Man	92	35.0%
Woman	166	63.1%
Nonbinary	0	0.0%
Prefer not to respond	5	1.9%
Total	263	

29. Are you transgender?	*Item redacted to preserve anonymity*
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30. Which term best describes your sexual orientation?	Frequency	Percent
Straight (Heterosexual)	174	66.7%
Not Heterosexual	77	29.5%
Prefer not to respond	10	3.8%
Total	261	

Section 5: NY State Module

NY1. Since starting at Colgate University, have you experienced any of the following while you were (a) on campus; (b) off campus at an event or program connected with Colgate, including study abroad and internships; or (c) at a social activity or party near campus such as at an apartment, restaurant, or bar:

	Frequency	Percent
Domestic violence		
Yes	6	2.3%
No	251	97.3%
Suspected, but unsure	1	0.4%
Total	258	
Dating Violence		
Yes	10	3.9%
No	245	95.0%
Suspected, but unsure	3	1.2%
Total	258	
Stalking		
Yes	8	3.1%
No	245	95.0%
Suspected, but unsure	5	1.9%
Total	258	

NY2. Are you aware that Colgate's Title IX Coordinator leads Colgate University's response to reports of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and other forms of gender-based misconduct?		Frequency	Percent
	Yes	235	91.1%
	No	23	8.9%
	Total	258	
NY3. Are you aware that Colgate University's standards for student conduct require all parties to obtain "affirmative consent" prior to engaging in sexual activity?		Frequency	Percent
	Yes	257	98.8%
	No	3	1.2%
	Total	260	
NY4. Do you know how to access resources on and off campus if you've experienced domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault (e.g. counseling, health, and academic assistance)?		Frequency	Percent
	Yes	256	98.5%
	No	4	1.5%
	Total	260	
NY5. Do you know how to report domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault to Colgate University and to law enforcement?		Frequency	Percent
	Yes	228	88.0%
	No	31	12.0%
	Total	259	
NY6. Are you aware that Colgate University uses a "preponderance of evidence" standard to adjudicate gender-based misconduct cases, and that this evidentiary standard is different than that used in the criminal justice system?		Frequency	Percent
	Yes	132	51.0%
	No	127	49.0%
	Total	259	
NY7. Are you aware that a student who reports an incident of sexual misconduct or is accused of sexual misconduct has the right to be accompanied by an advisor of their choice who may assist and advise them throughout the judicial or conduct process, including all meetings and hearings?		Frequency	Percent
	Yes	171	65.8%
	No	89	34.2%
	Total	260	
NY8. Are you aware that you have the right to a prompt response to any complaint of sexual misconduct and to have the complaint investigated and adjudicated in an impartial, timely, and thorough manner by people who receive annual training on conducting investigations, effects of trauma, impartiality, and rights of the parties involved?		Frequency	Percent
	Yes	203	78.7%
	No	55	21.3%
	Total	258	
NY9. If you reported an incident of sexual misconduct to Colgate, how satisfied were you with the process?		Frequency	Percent
	Very satisfied	7	19.4%
	Satisfied	16	44.4%
	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	8	22.2%
	Dissatisfied	2	5.6%
	Very dissatisfied	3	8.3%
	Total	36	