Sexual Misconduct Reports & Disclosures

March 2022

The Australian National University

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This report contains information about disclosures and reports of sexual assault and sexual harassment, which may be distressing for some members of our community.

If you need support, please contact one of the following ANU or external services:

For students:

- Health, safety & wellbeing ANU
- Urgent student support services

For staff:

• Employee Assistance Program and urgent staff support services

Introduction

The Australian National University (ANU) is committed to providing a safe, respectful and inclusive study and work environment for our community. We put the health, safety and wellbeing of those impacted by sexual assault and sexual harassment at the centre of our response and processes.

The University has taken progressive steps to meet the recommendations found within the Australian and the

 $(\mbox{SVPS})^4,$ but we must continue to improve our approach to sexual violence prevention and response.

In September 2021 the Senior Management Group endorsed a three-phased operational plan to rebuild our internal capacity, begin reporting meaningful data on sexual violence and commence rolling actions based on an independent assessment of the SVPS. Importantly, the three-phase operational plan has incorporated recommendations from previous reports, independent advice and the Broken Promises Report.

As one of our commitments endorsed under the three-phase plan and the SVPS, this report provides information on reports and disclosures of sexual misconduct lodged with the University between 2019 and 2021. The release of this report is a significant step towards improving institutional transparency and accountability at ANU.

Responding safely and effectively to violence requires a survivor-centred approach that prioritises the safety and wellbeing of students and staff providing data. Every experience of violence is different, so each individual case requires a response tailored to the needs, experiences and choices of the victim/survivor.

We acknowledge that disclosing and reporting sexual harassment or sexual assault can be a difficult decision, and that a person must feel safe and confident that any disclosure and report will be treated appropriately. Our commitment is to continue to improve our support and processes, be victim/survivor-centred and improve the data we report on.

The data found in this report is not representative of any sample group, nor can the data be extrapolated to form generalisations or patterns. ANU welcomes the release of the second National Student Safety Survey (NSSS), which will provide a comprehensive report regarding the landscape of disclosures and help-seeking behaviours at the University.

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Part 2: Disclosures of s

Location of the incident

The majority of incidents disclosed happened on campus in residential halls/colleges and off-campus, usually in a nightclub, bar or private residence (see Table 8).

This data provides important information to enable the University to improve safe-making, education and training around sexual assault and sexual harassment and consent for students who live on campus. In addition, the data may help the University identify gaps in awareness of the disclosure form for other groups in the ANU community who are not living in residential colleges or halls.

Table 8 Where did the incident occur?	Oct 2019	Sept 2020	Oct 2020	Sept 2021
Online	1	5.3%	2	4.1%
On campus (Acton)	2	10.5%	4	8.2%
On campus (Residential Hall or College)	9	47.4%	25	51%
Off campus	7	36.8%	18	36.7%
Total responses	19		49	

Disclosed behaviour

The responses regarding disclosed behaviour were detailed and specific. In order not to identify particular incidents or distress readers, the data presented in Table 9 have been clustered into broader categories of behaviour. In each reporting period, sexual harassment and sexual assault accounted for the majority of disclosed behaviours. As this question uses multi-choice responses, the data might not represent the complexity of the behaviours experienced.

Table 9 Disclosed behaviour	Oct 2019	Sept 2020	Oct 2020	Sept 2021
Sexual harassment	50	42.4%	89	55.3%
Sexual assault	53	44.9%	70	43.5%
Domestic and family violence	11	9.3%	2	1.2%
Bullying and harassment	4	3.4%	0	0%
Total responses	118		118 161	

Alleged perpetrator's relationship to ANU

Across both reporting periods, the

undergraduate student (56 per cent of disclosures in 2019 20;74 per cent in 2020 21), as summarised in Table 10.

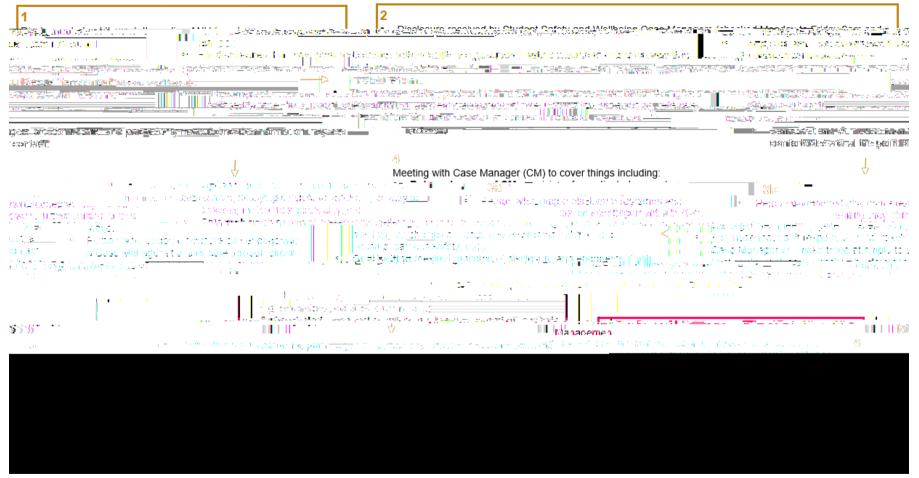
	Oct 2019	Sept 2020	Oct 2020	Sept 2021
Undergraduate	25	56.8%	63	74.1%
Postgraduate	3	6.8%	11	12.9%
Staff	0	0.0%	2	2.4%
Unknown	8	18.2%	5	5.9%

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Appendix 2 - Case management support available at ANU following a sexual assault/sexual harassment disclosure

Source: ANU Student Safety and Wellbeing



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Appendix 3 - Guide to ANU Sexual Misconduct Disclosure Form Questions

Source: Privacy Impact Assessment of the ANU Sexual Misconduct Disclosure Form¹⁰

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