



Albany Law School Student Experience Survey

2023 Report



ALBANY LAW SCHOOL



GRAND RIVER
SOLUTIONS

PREPARED FOR

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PREPARED BY

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Executive Summary

School connectedness

Overall, most students indicated that they feel a sense of belonging, well-being, and equity at the school. However, students with a disability reported a lower sense of school connectedness across all three categories compared to students without a disability.

Knowledge of essential information

While most participants understood the definition of affirmative consent and the difference between the criminal justice system and the school's disciplinary process, knowledge of policies, resources, and procedures was lower. Fewer than half knew the school's policy addressing sexual assault or what happens when a student reports misconduct.

Campus climate and confidence in reporting

On average, most participants felt that it is uncommon for people at the school to make sexist comments or jokes, and that Albany Law School is doing a good job of trying to prevent and respond to sexual and interpersonal violence. However, LGB+ students and students with a disability felt that the school could be doing more. In general, confidence in the reporting process was high among students who have not experienced sexual or interpersonal violence.

Sexual and interpersonal violence

About two in five participants (41%) said that they had experienced sexual harassment, intimate partner violence, stalking, sexual assault, and/or rape in the past year. There were no meaningful differences in experience observed across demographic groups and/or the sample size of those who indicated having these experiences was too small to report these differences.

Reporting

The majority of participants who experienced sexual or interpersonal violence did not report the incident to the school. The most common reasons why students chose not to report the incident were that they were worried they would not get the outcome they were hoping for, and they did not trust that the report would be taken seriously.

Bystander intervention

On average, about half of the participants who witnessed an incident of sexual or interpersonal violence in the past year intervened. Common reasons why students who witnessed an incident did not intervene were that they did not want to upset a friend, did not know what to do, and felt it was not their business to get involved.