

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Partners in Prevention (PIP) is Missouri's higher education substance abuse consortium focused on promoting healthy behaviors on college campuses. In order to gain an understanding of the current health experiences of college students, PIP implements the Missouri College Health Behavior Survey (MCHBS) each spring. The information gained from the MCHBS allows PIP to learn more about the experiences of Missouri college students. Recent updates and clarification of Title IX, Clery, and the Campus SaVE Acts require that campuses properly address gender violence on our campuses. In an effort to assist campuses, PIP surveys the prevalence of non-consensual sexual contact reported by our students.

DISCUSSION

Sexual Violence Differences by Gender

The 2014 MCHBS data reveals data similar to national numbers, with 20% of females reporting non-consensual sexual contact and males reporting 7% at any point in his or her life. National numbers reflect rates of 18% for women and 3% for men, according to the Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network. Of those numbers of Missouri college students, 21% of those who experienced non-consensual sexual contact experienced it in the last year, and 31% of males experienced it within the last year.

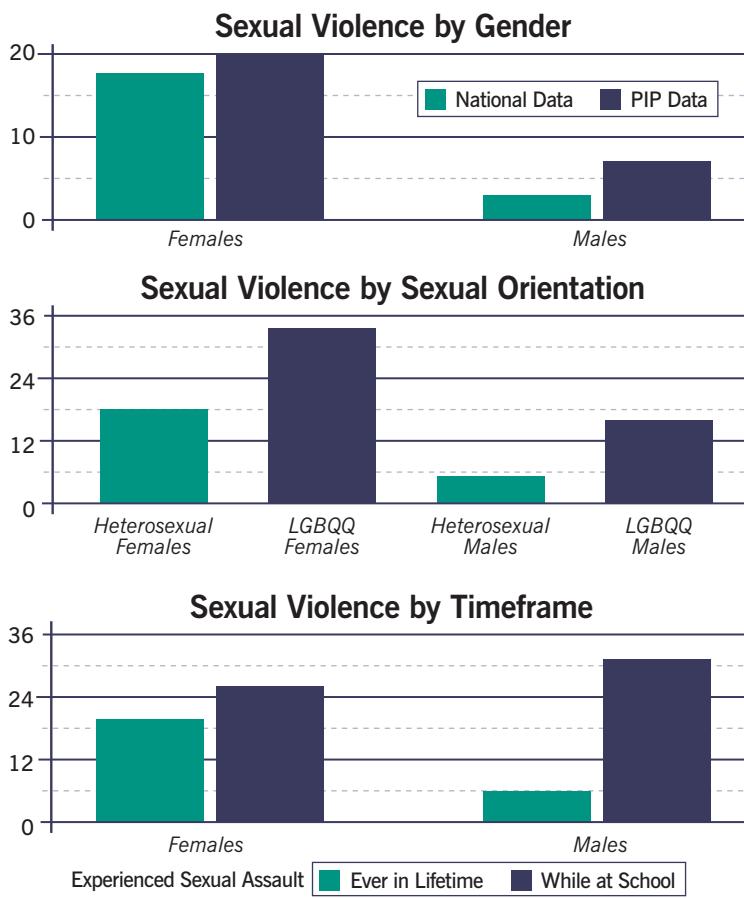
Sexual Violence & Sexual Orientation

When comparing the data between students who identify as heterosexual males and females and those that identify as LGBQQ* males and females, differences emerged. Heterosexual females reported experiencing non-consensual sexual contact at rates of 18% in their lifetimes. LGBQQ females reported rates of non-consensual sexual contact at 33% within their lifetimes. Of these LGBQQ females, 23% of them reported to have experienced the sexual contact while at school. When observing the data for males, 5% of heterosexual men report experiencing non-consensual sexual contact in their lifetimes, compared to 15% of LGBQQ males. Of these LGBQQ men, 33% of them reported to have experienced the unwanted sexual contact while they were at school.

SUMMARY

This data illustrates that a fair percentage of students are at risk of experiencing non-consensual sexual contact while attending college. It is important to note that this survey does not inquire about the gender or sexual orientation of the alleged perpetrators. Although sexual violence affects everyone, these findings indicate LGBQQ individuals may

be at greater risk for experiencing sexual violence. Partners in Prevention considers Title IX compliance vital to the health and safety of all students. In an effort to help all campuses understand what is required, PIP has collected resources, guides and tools that you can access at http://pip.missouri.edu/title_ix.html. These resources can be used by campuses as guidance towards full understanding of Title IX, the Clery Act, the Campus SaVE Act and VAWA.



*Note: LGBQQ: Students who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer, or Questioning.

Contact Partners in Prevention at (573) 884-7551.

Report prepared by Christine Flores and Partners in Prevention Research & Evaluation Staff

Funded by the Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Behavioral Health