

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory/ School of Biological Sciences 2025 Campus Climate Survey Results

The CSHL Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Violence and Prevention was administered from May to June 2025. The survey was sent to 123 students, including School of Biological Sciences (SBS) students, Students-in- Residence, and Visiting Students. Of the 123 students, 35 responded resulting in a 28% response rate. Following is a summary of the survey results:

1. 35 of 123 students agreed to participate in the survey. (28% response)
2. 25.7% of participating students agreed that SBS/Laboratory official should do more to protect students from harm, and 51.4% neither agreed or disagreed.

54.3% of participating students agreed if a crisis happened on campus, the Laboratory would handle it well, and 25.7% neither agreed or disagreed.

20% of participating students agreed the Laboratory responds too slowly in difficult situations, and 48.6% neither agreed or disagreed.

40% of participating students agreed that Laboratory officials handle incidents in a fair and responsible manner, and 42.9% neither agreed or disagreed.

57.1% of participating students agreed that the Laboratory does enough to protect the safety of students, and 34.3% neither agreed or disagreed.

68.6% of participating students agreed there is a good support system on campus for students going through difficult times, and 22.9% neither agreed or disagreed.
3. 85.7% of participating students stated that the campus climate has not impaired their ability to fully participate in the academic/campus experience.
4. 80% of participating students believe that their report of an incident to someone of authority at CSHL would be taken seriously, and 20% are unsure. 57.1 % believe that a fair investigation would be conducted, and 40% are unsure. 74.3% believe they would be provided with the necessary support during an investigation, and 17.1% are unsure. 60% believe the Laboratory would take steps to protect them from further harm by the person(s) who committed the act, and 25.7% are unsure. 42.9% believe appropriate action would be taken against the person(s) who committed the act, and 45.7% are unsure.
5. Participating students stating they have received written brochures, emails, flyers or verbal information from the Laboratory concerning:
The definition of sexual assault – 77.1%
How to report a sexual assault – 82.9%
Where to go to get help if you or someone you know is sexually assaulted -68.6%
Who you can go to talk to confidentially about a sexual assault – 80%
Title IX protections against sexual assault – 85.2%

6. 91.4% of participating students stated that they have received training in the prevention of sexual assault.
7. Participating students responded that they know how to report an incident of sexual assault to the Laboratory as follows:
 - 74.3% know how to report an incident of sexual assault.
 - 74.3% know how to report an incident of sexual harassment.
 - 57.1% know how to report an incident of domestic violence.
 - 60% know how to report an incident of dating violence.
 - 65.7% know how to report an incident of stalking.
8. 80% of participating students understand where to get help on campus if they, or a friend, were sexually assaulted. 54.3% understand what happens when a student reports a claim of sexual assault on campus.
9. 91.4% of participating students understand the definition of “affirmative consent.”
10. 94.1% of participating students understand that someone who is incapacitated cannot provide consent.
11. While a student at the Laboratory, 97.1% of participating students indicated they have never been a victim of sexual assault, dating violence, or domestic violence, and 1 person (2.9%) indicated that they were the victim of domestic violence. 91.4 % of participating students at the Laboratory indicated that they have never been a victim of stalking, with two participants (5.7%) indicating that they are not sure, and one individual (2.9%) indicating that they were.
- 12-14. 1 incident of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence or stalking was reported to their faculty member, campus security, and the Title IX Coordinator. Of those who responded that they reported victimization, most felt they were treated with respect.
15. 6.7% responded that if they were a victim of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking who did not report the incident to anyone at the Laboratory the reason would be because they were afraid, embarrassed, and they would not want to get the other person in trouble. 73.3% selected Other.
16. 55.9% of participating students know the difference between pursuing a criminal complaint and a complaint through Laboratory procedures.
17. 8.6% of participating students understand that victims of campus sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking are not required to report the incident to the police.
18. 82.9% of participating students have never witnessed an incident of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking while at the Laboratory, and 8.6% are not sure if they witnessed such an incident.
19. Regarding the question of why people sometimes fail to intervene to help someone in danger of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking, 88.2% believe it is due to fear of getting involved; 55.9% believe it would be fear of getting hurt; 70.6% believe it would be not knowing what to do, 64.7% believe it is due to not understanding the situation; and 8.8% selected Other.