



A process for peer audits and internal reviews of the support service response to disclosures of sexual assault and sexual harassment

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Agenda

- ❑ background and context
- ❑ audit process
- ❑ learnings



At a glance...



30,000+ students responded to the national survey



39 Australian universities represented

Prevalence and location of sexual assault and sexual harassment at university.

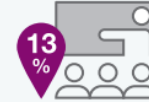


One in five (21%) students were **sexually harassed** in a university setting, excluding travel to and from university, in 2016.

Recent incidents most commonly occurred:



14%
On university grounds



13%
In university teaching spaces



8%
University social spaces

1.6% of students were **sexually assaulted** in a university setting, including travel to and from university, on at least one occasion in 2015 or 2016.

Recent incidents most commonly occurred:



21%
At a social event at university or residence social event



15%
On public transport on the way to or from university



10%
On university grounds



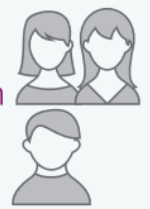
10%
At a university residence or college

Who experiences sexual assault and sexual harassment at university?

Women were **three times** as likely as men to have been **sexually assaulted** in a university setting in 2015 or 2016.



Women were **almost twice** as likely as men to have been **sexually harassed** in a university setting in 2016.



Who perpetrates sexual assault and sexual harassment at university?

51% of students who were **sexually assaulted** and 45% of students who were **sexually harassed**



...knew some or all of the perpetrators.

Complaints or reports of sexual assault and sexual harassment at university



94% of students who were **sexually harassed** and

87% of students who were **sexually assaulted**

...did **not** make a formal report or complaint to their university.



Background



Recommendation 7

Within six months of this report, but as soon as possible, universities should conduct an audit of university counselling services to assess:

- the capacity of university counselling services to respond to students' requests for counselling in an appropriately timely manner, and
- how many university counselling staff have received training in working with sexual assault survivors.

As part of this audit, universities should collect data on:

- the average length of time students are required to wait to see a university counsellor, and
- the number of urgent/crisis requests for counselling received.

This data should be assessed to determine whether additional counselling services are required to meet the urgent needs of students who have experienced sexual assault or sexual harassment.

If additional counselling services are required, universities should ensure that these additional resources are in place as soon as practicable.

“Conducting this survey at regular three year intervals will help universities assess the progress they have made addressing these issues as a sector”

“It will also hold universities accountable to each other and may incentivise collaboration between institutions.”

“Ok, but how..?”



RUTGERS
School of Social Work

Understanding and Responding
to Campus Sexual Assault:
A Guide to Climate Assessment
for Colleges and Universities



Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey

Scope of the Audit

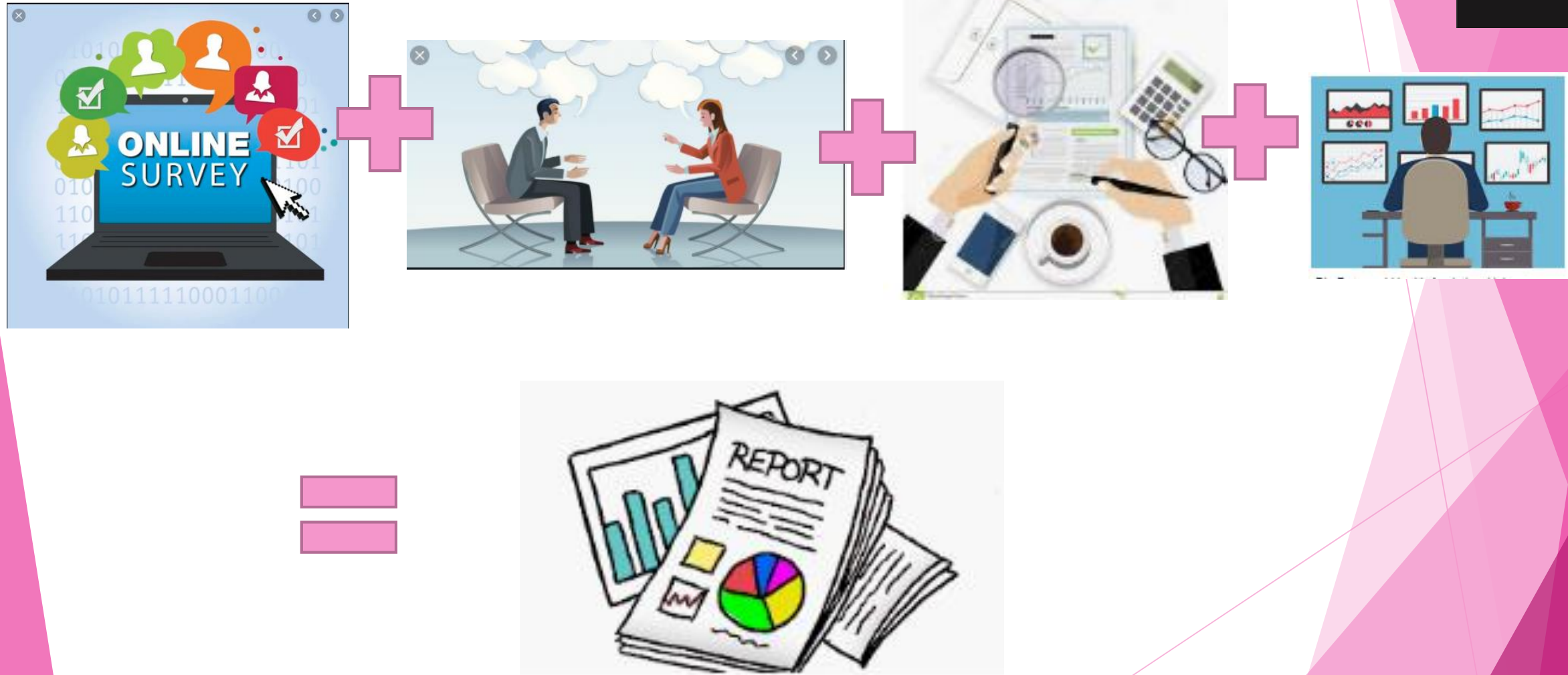
- ▶ The capacity in providing timely access to support services for students who report incidents of SA/SH
- ▶ The capacity to provide access to trauma-informed support and treatment services for students who report SA/SH
- ▶ The level of provision support accessible to students in a twenty-four hour residential setting
- ▶ The provision and adequacy of training required to equip staff in supporting students who report incidents of SA/SH
- ▶ The effectiveness of current student and staff marketing, to increase awareness of activities in promoting and increasing incident reporting, and support services, focused on SA/SH
- ▶ The appropriateness and accessibility of referral pathways to specialised community services

Out of Scope

The effectiveness of current sexual assault and sexual harassment prevention activities

The effectiveness of current university policy and procedures relating to the investigation of for investigations of incidents of SA/SH

Method





Survey



21. Do you believe training on these topics should be mandatory for all current staff to complete?

11. Does the University provide free counselling to students who experience sexual assault and/or sexual harassment?

9. Can students inform the University of sexual assault and/or sexual harassment without having to then undergo a formal investigation?

5. To whom should you report a student's disclosure of sexual assault and/or sexual harassment? (please tick as many as you think apply)

12. Are the Support Services on campus able to provide students who disclose sexual assault and /or sexual harassment access to Counselling and Support in a timely manner?

4. Have you ever had a student or staff member disclose an incident of sexual assault and/or sexual harassment to you?
If yes, how many disclosures of sexual assault and/or sexual harassment have you received?

6. Are University staff members mandated to report all disclosures of sexual assault by staff or students to the NSW Police?

20. Have you completed training on how to support students disclosure sexual assault and/or sexual harassment (please tick as many as you think apply)?

16. Are you aware of local community services to refer students who have experienced sexual assault and/or sexual harassment?

Interviews

Challenges and gaps:

Are you aware how the University responds and supports victims/survivors of sexual assault and sexual harassment?
What do you think the university could do to encourage students to disclose?

Resources and capacity to respond:

Do you feel the university can support staff and students who may be affected by sexual assault and sexual harassment?

Training

What training is available to staff to support student who disclose sexual assault and/or sexual harassment
What other training do you think would be appropriate for staff and/or students to complete?

Strategic Planning

How is the University responding to the National Report on Sexual Assault and Australian Harassment at Australian Universities (2017) produced by Human Rights Commissions



Desktop & Coms Audit and Data Collection



Resource	Brief description of Resource	Resource's Target Population	Service/Unit Responsible for Resource	Where can you find info about resource? (if info can be found online provide link)									
Counselling Services													
24 Hour and after Hours Services				<input type="checkbox"/> Internet (link: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Print <input type="checkbox"/> Verbal <input type="checkbox"/> N/A									
Crisis Intervention Triage assessment				<input type="checkbox"/> Internet (link: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Print <input type="checkbox"/> Verbal <input type="checkbox"/> N/A									
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Analysis and Report Writing





Learnings and Future Plans



<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Limitations and Suggestions</u>
Collaborations and learning from each other	Staff perspective
Feedback about the service	Amount of additional work
Comprehensive	Response bias and demand characteristics
Recommendations	Time of year - December
Face to face or online	Appreciation



Thank You!

Questions?

Comments?

Suggestions?

