

Campus Climate Survey for Students Executive Summary 2018 Administration

The 2018 administration of the Campus Climate Survey for Students was carried out in the spring term. Most survey questions are consistent with the 2016 instrument except for some minor revisions.

This survey serves four purposes: 1) to get a sense of the overall climate at The University of Toledo, 2) to determine ways to improve the culture of the UT community, 3) to provide a comparative assessment with 2014 and 2016, and 4) to provide data for a four-year National Science Foundation grant.

An invitation to participate in the survey was emailed to 18,696 students that were actively enrolled at UT in spring 2018. The first invitation was sent on April 19, 2018 with four follow-up reminders through May 11, 2018. Upon closure of the survey, 1,119 responses had been recorded yielding approximately a 6% response rate. This is 4.7% lower than 2016 (10.7%). Highlights from the survey are as follows:

Overall Campus Climate:

As in the 2016, 2014 and 2012 administrations, a group of survey items focused on the overall climate of the UT community. The results of the 2018 survey suggest that the areas of strength uncovered previously remained stable.

Comparison of Strengths

% Agreed or Strongly Agreed						
	2018	2016	2014	2018 vs. 2016	2016 vs. 2014	
Overall, I feel UT is a friendly environment for people with diverse backgrounds	87.3	89.8	91.4	-2.5	-1.6	
In general UT's campus climate is conducive to learning	88.8	89.1	87.6	-0.3	1.5	
I feel welcome at UT	86.8	89.5	88.7	-2.7	0.8	
Staff at UT demonstrate a commitment to diversity	85.6	87.2	87.9	-1.6	-0.7	

Administrators at UT demonstrate a commitment to diversity	83.9	87.8	84.4	-3.9	3.4
Faculty at UT demonstrate a commitment to diversity	84.7	86.9	87.3	-2.2	-0.4
Regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race/ethnicity, or ability, every student has an equal opportunity to succeed at UT	81.3	84.5	85.5	-3.2	-1.0

Areas designated as "improvement opportunities" also showed consistency across time. Against the overall downward trend, "I feel safe on the UT campus" improved by 10% in 2016, and improved another four percent in 2018.

Comparison of Areas for Improvement

% Disagreed or Strongly Disagreed						
	2018	2016	2014	2018 vs. 2016	2016 vs. 2014	
I feel my uniqueness is embraced at UT	26.1	20.7	22.7	5.4	-2.0	
I feel safe on the UT campus	13.2	17.2	27.2	-4.0	-10.0	
I feel comfortable discussing diversity issues in my classes	30.2	24.2	21.0	6.0	3.2	
Other students seem to feel comfortable discussing diversity issues in my classes	30.2	24.1	20.0	6.1	4.1	
Faculty encourage discussion about diversity issues in my classes	33.5	30.5	28.7	3.0	1.8	

Acceptance:

Most areas of acceptance and other personal experiences observed previously continue to be strengths, despite an overall downturn.

Comparison on Acceptance

		% Occasionally or Frequently			
	2018	2016	2014	2018 vs. 2016	2016 vs. 2014
Accepted	91.6	93.8	94.4	-2.2	-0.6
Intellectually stimulated	91.3	91.7	91.5	-0.4	0.2
Supported	84.0	88.2	<i>85.3</i>	-4.2	2.9
Valued	84.3	87.9	84.1	-3.6	3.8

Most of the areas for improvement held steady with minor changes. However, being "concerned about financial issues" jumped a considerable 14%.

Comparison of Areas for Improvement

		% Occasionally or Frequently			
	2018	2016	2014	2018 vs. 2016	2016 vs. 2014
Concerned about	91.6	77.4	80.9	14.2	-3.5
Financial Issues					
Disconnected from Other	<i>52.1</i>	51.7	50.3	0.4	1.4
Students					
Left Out	40.2	39.9	39.0	0.3	0.9
Physically Threatened	7.9	7.8	9.0	0.1	-1.2

Diversity Related Services, Courses, Programs and/or Organizations:

A series of questions were presented to respondents regarding their participation in various activities and courses. All areas that were observed as strengths in the 2014 administration showed a slight decrease in 2016. This trend continued in 2018, with those participating in volunteer/service work decreasing the most, by 36%.

Comparison of Strengths

		% Responding in the Affirmative			
	2018	2016	2014	2018 vs. 2016	2016 vs. 2014
Volunteer/service	18.0	54.0	<i>57.0</i>	-36.0	-3.0
learning work in the					
community					
A diversity course	13.0	34.0	39.0	-21.0	-5.0
An ethnic studies course	9.0	18.0	23.0	-9.0	-5.0
A disability studies	4.0	8.0	11.0	-4.0	-3.0
course					

As highlighted below, this year' data showed an increase in the percentage of students that felt that "UT offers enough diversity-related services, courses, programs and/or organizations".

Comparison of Areas for Improvement

		% Responding Yes			
	2018	2016	2014	2018 vs. 2016	2016 vs. 2014
Do you feel UT offers	59.0	57.0	65.0	2.0	-8.0
enough diversity-related					
services, courses,					
programs and/or					
organizations?					

Discrimination and Harassment:

In each year of the survey, respondents were asked to comment on how often they heard someone make negative remarks about a person or group of people based on that person or groups social group. Improvements were observed in 2014, 2016 and 2018.

Comparison on Negative Comments

% Occasionally or Frequently						
	2018	2016	2014	2018 vs. 2016	2016 vs. 2014	
Race/ethnicity	34.3	39.5	51.6	-5.2	-12.1	
Sexual Orientation	25.0	29.7	39.0	-4.7	-9.3	

In the same line of questioning, respondents were asked to indicate the source of the negative comments. Although still the top sources, the percentages decreased overall and were spread amongst the other categories ("other", "not sure", etc.).

Sources of Comments

	2018	2016	2014	2018 vs. 2016	2016 vs. 2014
Other Students	53.0	84.0	88.0	-31.0	4.0
Community Members	14.0	24.0	22.0	-10.0	2.0
Faculty	11.0	16.0	17.0	-5.0	-1.0

When asked about how they responded to the remarks, survey respondents indicated the following:

Comparison of Responses

Answer						
	2018	2016	2014	2018 vs. 2016	2016 vs. 2014	
I ignored it	43.0	69.0	N/A	-26.0	N/A	
I consulted with a friend	21.0	28.0		-7.0		
or other individual about						
the situation						
I confronted the person	17.0	24.0		-7.0		
who made the remarks						
I reported the situation	3.0	4.0		-1.0		
but it was not taken						
seriously						
I reported the situation	2.0	2.0		0.0		
and it was handled well						
I wanted to report the	9.0	12.0		-3.0		
situation, but I did not						
know how						
I wanted to report the	6.0	7.0		-1.0		
situation, but I was						
afraid of the						
consequences						

Awareness:

Modes of reporting discrimination or harassment were opportunities for improvement observed in the 2012, 2014, and 2016 surveys. Improvement is noted in 2018.

Awareness of Reporting Options

		% Already	
	2018	Knew 2016	2018 vs. 2016
Complaint at Office of Institutional Diversity	24.9	26.8	-1.9
Anonymous call to Compliance	45	40.9	4.1
Rocket Rapid Response or Dean of Students	33.9	27.7	6.2
Confidential through Sexual Assault Education and Prevention Program in the Counseling Center	23.9	20.8	3.1