



# Sexualization of Black Transgender Women

This report was presented to Dalhousie's President's Advisory Council on Sexualized Violence in February 2021, by Crystal Ragush.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

### ***Executive Summary.***

This report is only the second annual Sexualized Violence Policy Report created by Dalhousie's Human Rights & Equity Services; created as a requirement under our new Policy. We discuss transitions of our Sexualized Violence Advisor and the institutional changes brought about by Covid-19.

Unless otherwise stated, data pertains to the 2019-2020 academic year and includes details on the Disclosures and Reports received (Table 1) and displays a 5-year trend of case totals per term (Fig. 1). We delve into the demographics of complainants and respondents, including affiliation to the institution (Fig. 2), self-identified gender (Fig. 3), and self-identified underrepresented population (Table 2). Location of incidents (Fig. 4), actions undertaken by survivor/victims (Table 3) and disposition of a case at time of closure (Table 4) are also characterised for discussion. Among the increase in data analysis this year, was a suggestion to review the duration (Table 5) a case is open. On average, cases are open for about 2.5 months; although any of our 3 (h)0.6 95 -1.548 (o)4.lc1.51-0.9 (m65 (n)-4.4 (t)1.6 (h)-16.6(io)9.4p6 (a)1.3 (k)1 )7.5 ( is)7.5 (o)

***Data represents September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020.***

Cases are recorded based on the academic year in which the incident was initially reported and logged into Human Rights & Equity Services' secure and confidential database, which is separate from academic and employee records.

It should be noted that the data compiled in this report is limited to incidences of sexualized violence reported to HRES and sexual assaults disclosed to Residence Life and Security Services. Within this understanding, the information presented in this document is limited in its analysis and scope and may not accurately reflect the breadth of sexualized violence one might experience at Dalhousie. NCHA, iMPACTS, and StatsCan surveys collect large population data, which could be analyzed for Dalhousie and Canadian trends; recommendations for further data analysis is

*Sexualized Violence Policy Data*







*Figure 7 Complainant and Respondent Gender - 2020*

As displayed in the data in Figure 3, female identified Complainants account for 89%. Although too small to label, the remaining Complainants were 4% non-binary, 5% did not self-identify, and 2% were Male identified. Upon comparison to the previous academic year (2018-19), Male-identified Complainants saw a significant decrease in representation, from 11% to 2%, however Female Complainants



violence. Likewise, we cannot assume that the low percentage of people who identify as Black/African Ancestry, African Nova Scotia, and Mi'kmaq being represented in our data, in our opinion, is an accurate measure of sexualized violence within these communities but just what is reported to HRES.

Table 7 Complainant Demographics - 2016-2020

Resp	Sex	Age	Partner	Violence Type	Off-Campus	On-Campus	Residence	Other	Total
(1)	1%	(1)	0%	(0) Intimate Partner Viol.	19	14%	14%	(2)	0%
(2)	3%	(3)	2%	(2) Sexual Assault	150	62%	130%	(24)	9%
(3)	2%	(4)	1%	(3) Sexual Harassment	174	78%	130%	(17)	10%
(4)	21%	(55)	3%	(8) Grand Total	330	79%	15%	(40)	9%
(5)	3%	(8)	2%	(5)	(7)				(55)

**Legend**

F	Female
RV	Residence

**Location**



Figure 8 Incident Location - 2020

Figure 4 illustrates that slightly more than half (56%) of the cases reported to HRES take place off-campus, with slightly less (44%) taking place on-campus. Of the on-campus incidents, 23% have taken place within a Dalhousie Residence building. As with previous academic years, the location of incidents reported to HRES is usually approximately a 50/50 split, with slightly more incidents commonly reported on-campus. This slight change in reported location is likely due to the majority of the academic year being remote learning, with students living off-campus. Residence specific data hasn't previously been reported; for comparison, during the 2018-19 academic year, 21% of incidences reportedly took place in Residence.

Location data is displayed based on case totals and has not been further broken down by Disclosures, Reports, etc due to the comparatively small, potentially identifying, data produced.



assumed that in the majority of cases where the Respondent is identified, a conversation does take place. Follow Up Communication (Respondent) was initially identified as an action in which multiple discussions needed to take place with a Respondent.

*Table 9 Disposition - 2020*

Table 4 displays, in total number, the Disposition at the time a case is closed; only 1 disposition can be selected, and this serves to act as an indication of a cases' conclusion, as determined by the Advisor. Dispositions also serve to illustrate cases where the resolutions were undertaken by stakeholder units, such as Human Resources, Security Services or Student Affairs. All closed cases can be reopened in the future, should a Complainant request further resolutions or

65 cases have Dispositions listed; the remaining case is active at the time of writing this.

*Table 10 Duration of Cases Reported in 2020 (days)*

Table 5 displays the average, median and maximum number of days a case is open. Duration is defined by the date an incident is reported to HRES (not the date an incident took place), until the case file is closed by the assigned Advisor. In cases which have become inactive, the case closure date is that date of last contact. On average a case of sexualized violence is open for 74 days, with the maximum duration being 468 days. As discussed above with Figure 9 – Dispositions, all closed cases can be reopened, should a Complainant request further resolutions or support. As such, Figure 10 is a snapshot of duration captured at the time of writing this report and adjustments to these numbers are possible, should a case reported in the 2019-20 academic year be reopened.

The Sexualized Violence Advisor is aware of 15 Complainants that have self-reported their experience of sexualized violence to the applicable police oversight in their incident's jurisdiction (i.e. Halifax Regional Police, RCMPdviso -0.004 [(j)3iw 15.495.5 (a)-4.7 -0.004 3CCoeld a,licl Prtis(e)-





