

The Facts Behind the #MeToo Movement: A National Study on Sexual Harassment and Assault

Methodology

Survey firm GfK (www.gfk.com) recruited and surveyed a total sample of N=2009 adults aged 18 and older who identified themselves as female (n=996) or male (n=1013). Half the sample was surveyed between January 12-14, 2018, and the second half between January 19-21, 2018.

The GfK KnowledgePanel is the only national, probability-based online panel in the marketplace, allowing study results to be projectable to the general population with sample weighting. The weighted sample yields n=1000 women and n=1000 men. The representativeness of the GfK panel sample, including hard-to-reach groups, has been documented in numerous academic papers.

Survey

All respondents

This survey is being conducted on behalf of Stop Street Harassment, a nonprofit organization dedicated to making public places safer, and Ralliance, a nonprofit organization working to end sexual violence in one generation. This work is also supported by University of California San Diego's Center on Gender Equity and Health (GEH).

This survey is focused on people's experiences with sexual harassment and abuse, which includes all forms of **unwanted** sexual, homophobic, transphobic and/or sexist experiences across all areas of their lives. These things can happen to anyone, and we want to understand better the different ways and places these types of experiences occur. This information has never been collected in this way on a national level, making your participation in this survey very important. Your answers to the questions will be strictly confidential. We are not collecting your name nor any identifying information.

If you have experienced sexual harassment and abuse, we appreciate and honor you for sharing your experiences in the survey. We know it can be upsetting and challenging. The information from the survey will help advocates, policymakers and educators better understand how to address these issues and make communities safer for everyone. Your help matters, and it will make a difference.

All respondents

Q1

[One statement was shown per screen in a random order]

Please check off each type of sexually harassing or abusive experience/s you have ever had and where they took place. Note that this is focused on interactions you did not willingly agree to or did not want to have.

Answers in column:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Your home or place of residence | 9. Your university or college or technical training school |
| 2. Someone else's home or place of residence | 10. Your workplace, including temporary jobs and internships |
| 3. A public space (like a street, park, beach, store, restaurant, mall, library, movie theater, museum, swimming pool, gym) | 11. A health care facility (doctor's or dentist's office, hospital, urgent care, counselor's office) |
| 4. Mass transportation (bus, subway, metro, train or airplane) | 12. A religious space or place of worship |
| 5. Your car or the car of a person you knew | 13. A location where you participate in a private hobby or club (such as a sports team or art class) |
| 6. Taxi or ride-sharing service driven by someone you didn't know | 14. Online (such as over e-mail or social media platforms) |
| 7. Nightlife venue (like a concert, bar or club) | 15. By phone (texting or calls) |
| 8. Your school (pre-school through 12 th grade) | 16. Another place that is not listed |
| | 17. This NEVER happened to me] |

The Facts Behind the #MeToo Movement:
A National Study on Sexual Harassment and Assault

Statements in row [randomize]:

1. Someone whistling, honking, making kissy noises, “Pssst” sounds, or leering/staring aggressively at you.
2. Someone saying things like, “Hey Baby,” “Mmmm Sexy,” “Yo Shorty,” “Mami/Mamacita,” “Give me a smile,” or similar comments in a way that is disrespectful and/or unwanted and/or made you feel unsafe.
3. Someone calling you a sexist slur, like “Bitch,” “Slut,” “Cunt,” “Ho” or “Thot.”
4. Someone misgendering you or calling you a homophobic or transphobic slur, like “Fag,” “Dyke,” or “Tranny.”
5. Someone talking about your body parts inappropriately or offensively (such as your legs, crotch, butt, or breasts), saying sexually explicit comments (“I want to do BLANK to you”) or asking inappropriate sexual questions.
6. Someone making threats to harm you, to harm someone you know, or to share personal information you don’t want shared (such as your sexual orientation)
7. Someone saying you must date them or do a sexual act for them in exchange for something (such as a good grade, a promotion, a job, drugs, food, or something similar) or instead of something (like paying rent or a citation, etc).
8. Someone repeatedly texting or calling you in a harassing way.
9. Someone repeatedly asking you for a date or your phone number when you’ve said no or ignored them.
10. Someone electronically sending you or showing you sexual content without your permission, such as over e-mail, snapchat or Facebook or on their phone or computer.
11. Someone taking and/or sharing sexual pictures or videos of you without your permission.
12. Someone flashing or exposing their genitals to you without your permission.
13. Someone physically following you without your permission.
14. Someone purposely touching you or brushing up against you in an unwelcome, sexual way.
15. Someone forcing you to do a sexual act without your permission or one that you don’t want to do (including while you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs).

If they are selected “NEVER Happened” for all items in Q1, they were done taking the survey.

Respondents who experienced sexual harassment and/or assault

Q2

How old were you the first time you experienced the sexually harassing or abusive situation/s you checked off in question 1?

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. 0 to 5 years old | 6. 23 to 30 years old |
| 2. 6 to 10 years old | 7. 31 to 40 years old |
| 3. 11 to 13 years old | 8. Older than 40 years |
| 4. 14 to 17 years old | 9. I can’t remember or don’t know |
| 5. 18 to 22 years old | |

Q3

Where did that first sexually harassing or abusive experience occur?

1. A private home or residence
2. Public space (like street, park, store, mall, movie theater, pool, restaurant, club, bar, gym)
3. Transportation (car, bus, train, subway, taxi, airplane)
4. Online
5. School (pre-school to 12th grade)
6. College/university/technical training school
7. Your workplace
8. A religious space or place of worship
9. Health care facility (doctor’s or dentist’s office, hospital, urgent care, counselor’s office)
10. Other, (please specify)

The Facts Behind the #MeToo Movement:
A National Study on Sexual Harassment and Assault

Q4

Where have you experienced the sexually harassing or abusive situation/s listed in question #1 the most often across your lifetime?

1. A private home or residence
2. Public space (like street, park, store, mall, movie theater, pool, restaurant, club, bar, gym)
3. Transportation (car, bus, train, subway, taxi, airplane)
4. Online
5. School (pre-school to 12th grade)
6. College/university/technical training school
7. Your workplace
8. A religious space or place of worship
9. Health care facility (doctor's or dentist's office, hospital, urgent care, counselor's office)
10. Other, (please specify)

Q5

When was the most recent time you had a sexually harassing or abusive experience/s?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Today | 6. Within the past year |
| 2. Yesterday | 7. Within the past two years |
| 3. Within the past 7 days | 8. Within the past five years |
| 4. Within the past 30 days | 9. I don't remember |
| 5. Within the past 6 months | |

Q6

Have any of the following persons been involved in causing the sexually harassing or abusive experience/s you listed in question 1?

1. Family member or relative
2. Someone living with you to whom you are not related, and you are not married or dating (such as someone your parent dated)
3. Date or casual romantic partner
4. Spouse or long-term romantic partner
5. Friend or neighbor you know well
6. Acquaintance you don't know that well
7. Stranger (who harassed you in person, such as on the street, a bus or a store)
8. Stranger (who harassed you online)
9. Teacher/other adult at elementary, middle or high school
10. Elementary, middle or high school classmate
11. College or university or technical school professor or instructor
12. College or university or technical school classmate
13. Boss or employer or someone else at work with authority over you
14. Coworker
15. Someone at work who is not a coworker or boss (like a client, delivery person, customer)
16. Coach
17. Teammate
18. Leader at place of worship (like a pastor, bishop, priest or imam)
19. Health care provider (like a doctor, nurse, dentist or counselor)
20. Other, (please specify)

Q7

In your most recent sexually harassing or abusive experience, who did the harassing or abusing?

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. One male | 5. A combination of males and females |
| 2. Two or more males | 6. Transgender or non-binary individual/s |
| 3. One female | 7. Unknown |
| 4. Two or more females | 8. Other, (please specify) |

The Facts Behind the #MeToo Movement:
A National Study on Sexual Harassment and Assault

Q8

Because of the sexually harassing or abusive experience/s you had, have you done any of the following?

1. Changed your route or regular routine
2. Stopped a hobby or activity or stopped participating in a community or religious group
3. Ended a relationship (such as a friendship or romantic relationship)
4. Changed schools and/or universities or dropped out of school or university, or dropped a course
5. Sought a new job assignment, changed jobs or quit a job
6. Moved from a dorm, apartment, house or other form of residence
7. Sought medical help, including mental health counseling
8. Filed an official complaint or report to an authority figure, including filing a police report
9. Felt anxiety or depression
10. Other, (please specify) [Anchor]

Closing

Thank you for sharing your experiences with us. The information you shared will make a difference!

If you have experienced sexual harassment and abuse, we appreciate and honor you for sharing your experiences in the survey. We know it can be upsetting and challenging.

If you need assistance, support or advice, the National Sexual Assault Hotline is free and confidential. Call 1-800-656-4673 or visit: <https://www.rainn.org/>. A specific resource tailored for men is also available with the organization 1 in 6: <https://1in6.org/>.