



UNIVERSITY
COLLEGES

2025

Baseline data and analytics report for University Colleges

DATE RANGE:
2025 Statistics

Summary

RespectX has been implemented in nine University Colleges across NSW, Queensland, ACT and Victoria, with data collected from seven so far. *Across the seven colleges, 1305 students completed the onboard process, mostly first year students. 225 returning students have been onboarded so far, with most colleges still onboarding their returning students.*

Response rates for the colleges average over 60%. This is remarkable in the University setting, for example response rates for **the The National Student Safety Survey (2021) were 11.6%.** High response rates for our survey are the result of both high engagement by students, and strong leadership by the colleges.

Overall prevalence rates in the colleges are:

- Sexual harassment 10%
- Bullying 6%
- Discrimination 5%

Prevalence of sexual harassment in RespectX colleges is nearly half of that reported in the NSSS. The NSSS (2021) reported that 19% of students who lived in residential accommodation experienced sexual harassment in the last 12 months, more than double the overall prevalence rate of 8.1% for all university settings. There is no national data comparison for bullying or discrimination.

Across all incidents of sexual harassment, bullying and discrimination in RespectX colleges, **8% were reported. This is higher than the 3% reported by the NSSS.** A higher reported rate suggests that residents have trust in the response process, and our survey data supports this:

- 88% agree or strongly agree that it is safe to speak up
- 82% agree or strongly agree that their organisation would take appropriate actions
- 83% agree or strongly agree that they would be supported and protected if they made a report.

However, **the vast majority of incidents still go unreported.** The implementation of RespectX suggests that access to an easy, anonymous reporting channel can make a significant difference in reporting rates.

- **94% of residents feel confident using RespectX**
- **97% say they will report if they experience bad behaviour.**
- **98% of residents with access to RespectX agree their leaders are serious about creating a safe and respectful environment.**
- **92% believe that RespectX will make a positive impact on their culture.**

RespectX has resonated well with the University Residential College students, and has been a positive move by leaders to demonstrate commitment to a safe and respectful environment.

Prevalence

% of residents who have experienced bad behaviour in 12 months

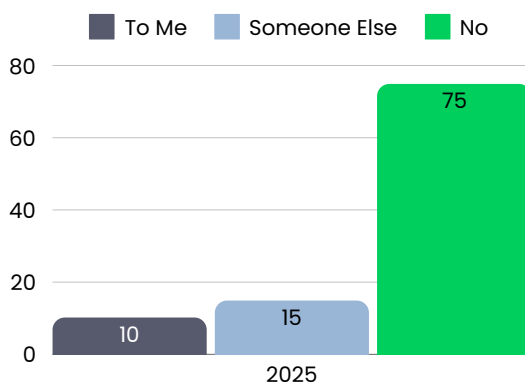
Industry comparison

Reliable prevalence statistics do not exist for bullying and discrimination in Australian Universities, and so this data is the first of its kind. The experience of bullying directly in the colleges is 6%, and discrimination 5%.

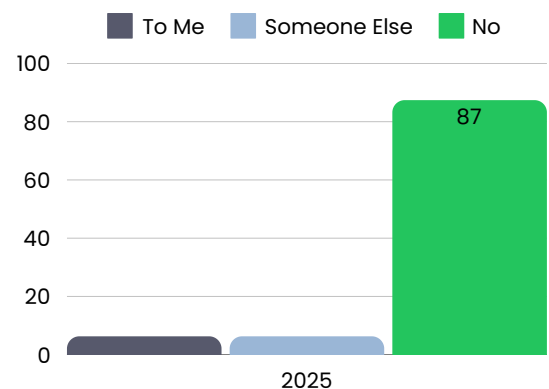
The NSSS found that across all University settings the prevalence of sexual harassment in the last 12 months was 8.1%. For students who live in residential accommodation that figure was much higher, at 19%.

In RespectX University Colleges the average prevalence for sexual harassment was 10%.

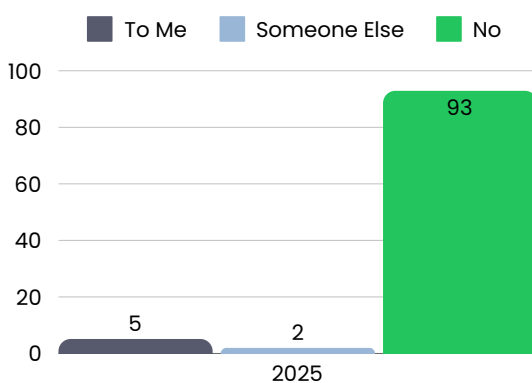
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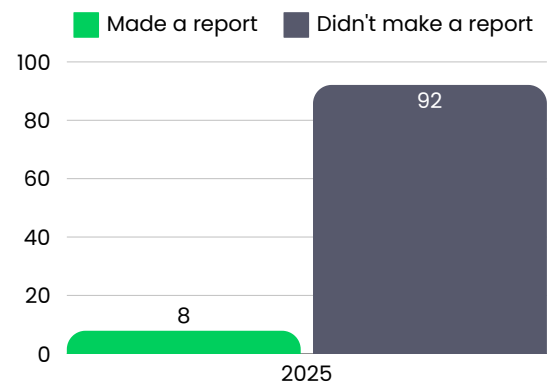
Experienced Sexual Harassment in the last 12 months



Experienced Bullying in the last 12 Months



Experienced Discrimination in the last 12 Months



Percentage of residents who made a report about the behaviour they experienced

Cultural Indicators

Do your people feel safe and supported?

Highlights

88%

Safe to speak up

Most residents believe it is safe to speak up and raise concerns

82%

Taking appropriate action

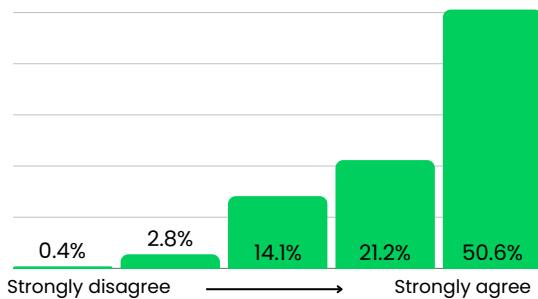
Most residents agree that appropriate action is taken in response to poor behaviour

82%

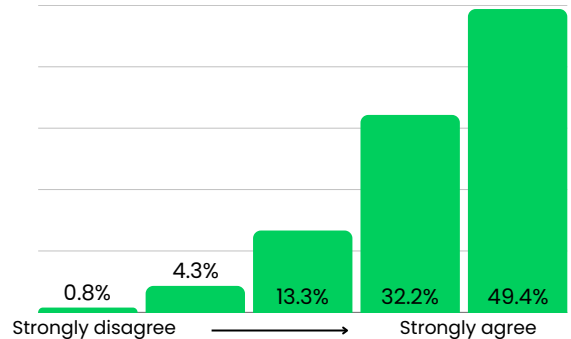
Victim-centric response

Most residents agree people who speak up are supported and protected

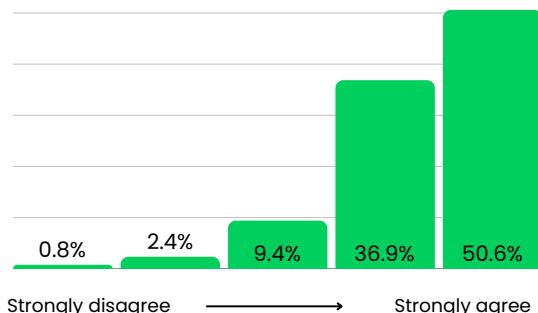
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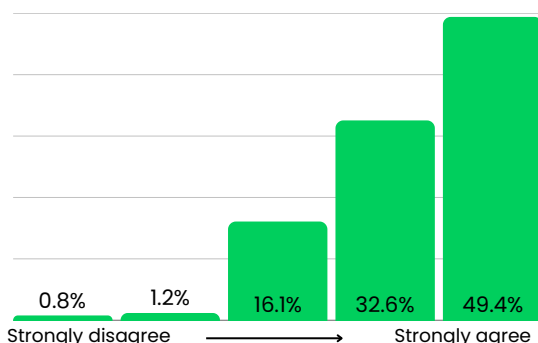
People in this organisation treat each other with respect



My organisation takes appropriate action in response to reports of sexual harassment, bullying and discrimination



It is safe to speak up and raise concerns in my college



Those who raise concerns are supported and protected

"Because it is so easy and the protocol seems great. I also like that it's anonymous and you won't get heaps of follow up questions. I also like that action is taken really quickly"

"Your report can actually be anonymous - this was not possible before"

"It sets expectations for how we treat each other"

"I want to live in a safe environment"

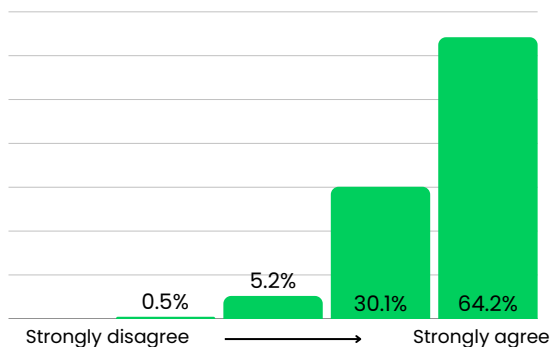
Feedback and impact

Will RespectX make a difference?

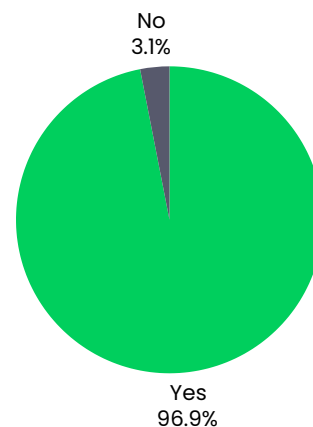
Highlights

- 98%** **Trust in leadership**
A large majority either agree or strongly agree that their leaders are serious about creating a safe environment
- 97%** **Willingness to report**
Nearly everyone would make a report if they experienced bad behaviour
- 94%** **Confidence in RespectX**
Almost all respondents are confident using RespectX to make a report
- 92%** **Impact on culture**
A large majority either agree or strongly agree that RespectX will have a positive impact on culture

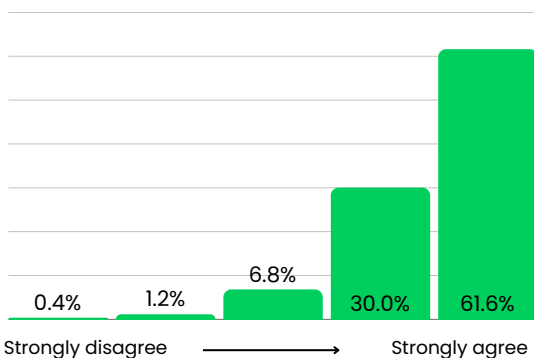
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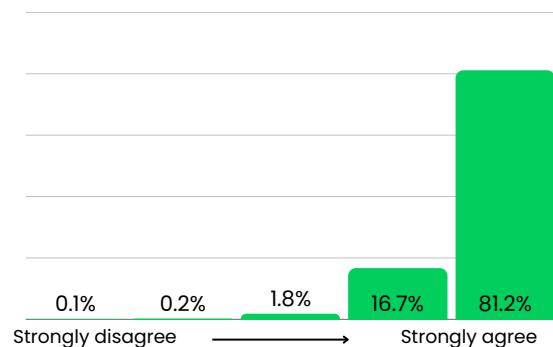
I feel confident using RespectX to report sexual harassment, bullying and discrimination



Would you make a report if you experienced bad behaviour?



Do you think the RespectX reporting platform will contribute to a more respectful culture?



Do you believe that your leadership is serious about building a safe, respectful college?