

Carleton College Sexual Assault Data Reported to the State of Minnesota in Fall 2018

For the period January 1 – December 31, 2017

This report concerns incidents of sexual assault involving Carleton students or employees reported to the college during the 2017 calendar year. Carleton provided the data in this report to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education for its [2018 State of Minnesota Sexual Assault Data Report](#), released in December 2018.

Note that these statistics capture *reports* of sexual assault that Carleton received in 2017. *Reports* of sexual assault and actual *incidence* of sexual assault are two different things. Research suggests that sexual assaults on college campuses are under-reported; this includes Carleton's campus. In any given year, the number of incidents of sexual assault that occurred at Carleton or on a Carleton-sponsored program is undoubtedly larger than the number of reports received. Also, a sexual assault incident reported to Carleton in 2017 may have occurred during a previous academic or calendar year; it can take months, or even years, for a person to be ready to report their experience to the college.

Further, some reports of sexual assault received by the college concern incidents with no connection to Carleton apart from the fact that the reporting party is a Carleton student or employee. A reported incident may involve a non-Carleton respondent and may have occurred away from campus. Nevertheless, such reports are encouraged by the college, so the college can offer support and assistance to the affected individual, and are included in the numbers below.

In sum, this report describes reports the college received in 2017 about sexual assault experienced *at some point* by some member of the Carleton community. It also describes how the college responded to those reports.

The following information may also help readers interpret the report.

- **Behaviors that constitute sexual assault:** These statistics include reports about three types of sexual assault, defined as follows by federal law:
 - *Rape* - The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim
 - *Fondling* - The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity
 - *Statutory Rape* - Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent
- **Incidents that are counted in this report:** Consistent with state law, an incident is included in this report if it has *any* of the following characteristics:
 - Either the reporting party (survivor/potential complainant) or responding party (alleged perpetrator/potential respondent) was a Carleton student or employee at the time of the incident; **or**
 - The incident occurred on the Carleton campus or other property owned by Carleton, whether or not the parties involved were Carleton students or employees; **or**
 - The incident occurred at an event sponsored by Carleton (including study abroad

programs), again whether or not the parties involved were Carleton students or employees.

- **How cases are classified and defined:** The Carleton data uses the categories and definitions prescribed by the Minnesota Office of Higher Education to facilitate comparisons between Carleton and the [statewide data](#). The Carleton data also includes categories where no cases were reported during the reporting period.
- **Completeness of data:** MnOHE's policy is not to report precise statistics where there are fewer than 10 cases in a category, using instead the designation "<10." But this report provides complete information, including statistics not included in the MnOHE report. The college will provide precise statistics in future reports as well, unless doing so would jeopardize the privacy of any of the individuals involved.

As always, the college strongly encourages anyone who has experienced sexual assault or other forms of prohibited conduct to report to the college by contacting any member of the Title IX Lead Team or by completing a Community Concern Form, which may be completed anonymously.

Reports of Sexual Assault Received by Carleton College – Calendar Year 2017

<i>Reports, investigations, and outcomes</i>	<i>Number of cases</i>	<i>Additional information</i>
<i>Reported to Carleton</i>	24	<p>This category includes any reported incident where a Carleton student or employee was a reporting party or a responding party, even if the other party was not a Carleton student or employee and/or the reported incident was not connected to any college property or program. Some reported incidents occurred prior to 2016.</p>
<i>Investigated</i>	15	<p>Carleton investigates all reports of sexual misconduct it receives, when we receive enough information to make an investigation possible. An investigation may range from follow-up with affected parties to obtain additional information and inquire about a potential complainant's wishes, to a complete, formal investigation by the college investigator if the complainant chooses that option. Support and accommodation are available to a reporter/potential complainant even if that individual chooses not to pursue a formal investigation and adjudication.</p> <p>The number of investigated incidents will generally be less than the number of reported incidents for a variety of reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some reporting parties prefer not to respond to a follow up inquiry after a report has been made. The college follows the wishes of the reporting party unless an alleged incident appears to pose an ongoing safety risk to the individual or to the Carleton community (which rarely happens). • Some incidents are reported by a third party (e.g. a faculty member, staff member, or another student) rather than by the person who experienced the alleged misconduct. The college always contacts the affected individual to offer support, assistance, and the option of a formal investigation, but in some cases the affected individual does not respond. • Some incidents cannot be investigated because there is insufficient information to permit further follow up (e.g., the reporting party does not know, or chooses not to disclose, the identity of the responding party). • Some incidents cannot be investigated because the college has no authority to investigate (e.g., the other party has no connection to the college and the incident did not occur on Carleton property or in a Carleton program).

<i>Referred for disciplinary process</i>	5	At Carleton, cases are referred for full investigation and adjudication within the formal disciplinary process when the potential complainant chooses this option or the alleged incident appears to pose an ongoing safety risk to the individual or to the Carleton community. Consequently, the number of incidents referred for full investigation and adjudication within the disciplinary process is less than the number investigated.
<i>Reported to law enforcement</i>	2	The college encourages reporting to law enforcement and provides assistance in doing so. However, the college is not always notified when a reporting party has chosen to report to law enforcement, particularly if the reported incident occurred somewhere other than at Carleton. Therefore, there may be more reports to law enforcement than reflected in this statistic.
<i>Disciplinary process pending</i>	0	This refers to reported incidents from 2016 that were still under investigation at the time the college submitted its statistics to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education in 2017.
<i>Responding Party found responsible</i>	3	This refers to cases where, through the formal investigation process, there was sufficient evidence to find the person accused of sexual assault responsible for violating college policy. Note that the alternative outcome is not “not responsible,” but rather “insufficient evidence to find the responding party responsible” for a policy violation.
<i>Action greater than a warning</i>	6	This refers to the number of investigated incidents in which Carleton took any disciplinary action beyond issuing a warning to the responding party. This includes cases in which a respondent was found responsible for a policy violation and sanctions were imposed and cases in which other actions were taken, including issuance of a no contact order to a potential respondent.
<i>Closed without resolution (CWR)</i>	0	This refers to the number of formally investigated incidents that were closed without a decision indicating whether there was sufficient evidence to find the responding party responsible for violating college policy.
<i>--CWR because responding party withdrew</i>	0	This refers to the number of cases that were closed without resolution because the responding party withdrew from Carleton. Carleton proceeds with a resolution process even if the responding party withdraws.
<i>--CWR because reporting party did not participate</i>	0	This refers to the number of cases that were closed without resolution because the reporting party chose not to participate in the formal investigation process.
<i>Complainant chose not to participate in process before disciplinary process began</i>	0	This refers to any cases in which staff reached out to a potential complainant and the individual either did not respond or indicated they did not want to participate in any process.

<i>Non-anonymous reports made through online reporting system</i>	22	New state law required Carleton to launch an online reporting system by August 1, 2016. Carleton has had an online reporting system in place since 2010. Carleton added an anonymous reporting option in 2016.
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Please contact Laura Riehle-Merrill, Title IX Coordinator, or Mary Dunnewold, Title IX Deputy, with any questions about the information in this report.