

University of Colorado Boulder
Student Respondent Statistical Report
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

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Overview

The Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) addresses all protected-class discrimination and harassment, sexual misconduct, and related retaliation complaints against University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) students pursuant to university policy. The Protected Class Nondiscrimination Policy prohibits protected-class discrimination, harassment, and/or related retaliation. The Sexual Misconduct, Intimate Partner Violence, and Stalking Policy prohibits sexual misconduct and/or related retaliation including sexual assault (rape), sexual assault (fondling), sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, as well as intimate partner abuse (including dating and domestic violence), and stalking.

The OIEC is a neutral, fact-finding office responsible for addressing and investigating alleged misconduct pursuant to specific Resolution Procedures that are updated on an annual basis. The OIEC objectively reviews the facts of each case to resolve issues and to determine whether a violation of university or campus policy occurred based on a *preponderance of the evidence* standard.

This report presents data on sexual misconduct, protected-class discrimination and harassment, and related retaliation complaints received by the OIEC between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026, and contains data involving complaints that identified a CU Boulder student respondent,¹ even if the individual was not identified by name. Any complaint identifying a CU Boulder employee, contractor, volunteer, visitor, or student employee acting in their *employment role* as the alleged offender is outlined in the OIEC's Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Statistical Report for Employee and Affiliated Respondents. Cases involving non-affiliated respondents (identified and unidentified) are summarized in the OIEC's Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Statistical Report for Unidentified and Unaffiliated Respondents.

During the 2025-2026 fiscal year, there were 471 cases reported to the OIEC involving allegations against 521 student respondents. 108 student respondents were not identified by name.

- 187 student respondents were alleged to have engaged in misconduct under the Protected Class Nondiscrimination Policy.
- 234 student respondents were alleged to have engaged in misconduct under the Sexual Misconduct, Intimate Partner Violence, and Stalking Policy.
 - 10 cases involved charges under both policies.
- 100 allegations did not fall under either policy, and these complaints were referred to other campus offices.

¹ "Respondent" means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of misconduct.

Protected Class Nondiscrimination Policy Complaints²

Types of Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Resolutions³

The 169 cases under the Protected Class Nondiscrimination Policy, involving allegations against 187 student respondents, were addressed as follows (see Table 1):

- Allegations against 3 respondents were addressed through a formal grievance in which the OIEC objectively reviews the facts of each case to resolve issues and to determine whether a violation of the university policy occurred based on a preponderance of the evidence standard.
- Allegations against 8 respondents were addressed through remedies-based resolutions that allow the university to tailor the response to the unique facts and circumstances of an incident and educate community members on the impacts of their actions, particularly in cases where there is not a broader threat to individual or campus safety. Often this includes conduct alleged that, even if true, would not rise to the level of a policy violation.
- Allegations against 4 respondents were addressed by an individual in a position of authority (for instance, a supervisor, faculty member, or conduct coordinator) jointly or in consultation with the OIEC.
- Allegations against 30 respondents resulted in a conclusion of no basis to proceed because the complaint did not share the name(s) of the student respondent(s), or the OIEC did not have the authority to address the complaint because the case did not fall under OIEC policies.
- Allegations against 1 respondent was closed after preliminary inquiry when it was determined that there was no basis for a formal grievance.
- In allegations against 86 respondents, the complainant did not respond to the OIEC's outreach.
- Allegations against 29 respondents were referred to another office, as the concerns reported did not fall under the jurisdiction of the Protected Class Nondiscrimination Policy.
- In allegations against 21 respondents, the complainant declined an OIEC resolution or requested their concerns be documented only at that time.

Table 1. Discrimination and Harassment Case Resolutions	# of Student Respondents
Formal grievance	3
Remedies-based resolution	8
Concerns addressed by a supervisor, faculty member, or conduct coordinator in consultation with OIEC	4
No basis to proceed	30
Preliminary inquiry	1
Information about the policy and investigative process only	0
Outreach and connection with support services	86
Referred to another office	29
Declined resolution process/Documentation only	21
Cases pending a resolution process determination	5
Total number of student respondents	187

² Alleged violations of Title VI, which encompass discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, and national origin (including shared ancestry) are included in aggregate form in this section.

³ All complainants are provided information about options for assistance and campus support and were referred to Office of Victim Assistance (OVA) or other confidential support services.

Types of Discrimination and Harassment Allegations⁴

Among the 169 discrimination and harassment cases involving allegations against 187 student respondents, the most commonly reported allegations involved race (60), followed by sexual orientation (43), national origin (21), gender (18), and religion (17), see Table 2.

Table 2. Types of Discrimination and Harassment Allegations	# Allegations	# Allegations Addressed by Remedies-Based or Other Resolutions⁵	# Allegations Addressed by Formal Grievance
Race	60	60	0
Sexual Orientation	43	43	0
National Origin	21	20	1
Gender	18	18	0
Religion	17	17	0
Political Philosophy	13	11	2
Gender Identity	11	11	0
Color	9	9	0
Disability	4	4	0
Veteran Status	4	4	0
Age	4	4	0
Unknown Class / Provision	3	3	0
Gender Expression	1	1	0
Political Affiliation	1	1	0
Pregnancy	1	1	0
Discrimination/Harassment Retaliation	0	0	0
False or Misleading Information	0	0	0
Total	210	207	3

Protected Class Nondiscrimination Policy Formal Grievance Findings and Sanctions

There was one formal grievance against three student respondents involving allegations of protected-class harassment including cross-charges against each other. The formal grievance process had not concluded and no appeals were received at the time of this report.

⁴ Many cases involved allegations of a violation of more than one policy provision and/or related to multiple protected classes.

⁵ 7 cases were still pending a determination of the resolution process at the time of this report.

Sexual Misconduct, Intimate Partner Violence, and Stalking Policy Complaints

Types of Sexual Misconduct Complaint Resolutions⁶

The 221 cases involving complaints against 234 student respondents under the Sexual Misconduct, Intimate Partner Violence, and Stalking Policy were addressed as follows (see Table 3):

- Allegations of sexual misconduct against 27⁷ respondents were addressed through the formal grievance process. In a formal grievance, the OIEC objectively reviews the facts of each case to resolve issues and to determine whether a violation of the university policy occurred based on a preponderance of the evidence standard.
- Allegations against 26 respondents were addressed through remedies-based resolutions that allow the university to tailor the response to the unique facts and circumstances of an incident and educate community members on the impacts of their actions, particularly in cases where there is not a broader threat to individual or campus safety. Often this includes conduct alleged that, even if true, would not rise to the level of a policy violation.
- Allegations against 5 respondents were addressed by someone in a position of authority in a different campus office (for instance a supervisor, faculty member, or conduct coordinator) in consultation with the OIEC.
- Allegations against 35 respondents resulted in a conclusion of no basis to proceed because the complaint did not share the name(s) of the respondent(s), or the OIEC did not have the authority to address the complaint because the case did not fall under OIEC policies.
- In allegations against 96 respondents, the complainant did not respond to the OIEC's outreach.
- Allegations against 6 respondents were referred to another office, as the concerns reported did not fall under the jurisdiction of the Sexual Misconduct, Intimate Partner Violence, and Stalking Policy.
- In allegations against 29 respondents, the complainant declined an OIEC resolution or requested their concerns only be documented at that time.

Table 3. Sexual Misconduct Complaint Resolution	# of Student Respondents
Formal grievances*	27 ⁸
Remedies-based resolutions, including Policy Compliance Resolutions	26
Concerns addressed by a supervisor, faculty member, or conduct coordinator in consultation with OIEC	5
No basis to proceed	35
Information about the policy and investigative process only	0
Outreach and connection with support services	96
Referred to another office	6
Declined Resolution Process/Documentation Only	29
Cases pending a resolution process determination	12
Total number of student respondents	236

⁶ All complainants are provided information about options for assistance and campus support and were referred to Office of Victim Assistance (OVA) or other confidential support services.

⁷ Two formal grievances against two respondents were reported in the OIEC's Fiscal Year 2024-2025, but the OIEC's formal grievance process was initiated in the OIEC's Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and are included in this report.

⁸ Two formal grievances against two respondents were reported in the OIEC's Fiscal Year 2024-2025, but the OIEC's formal grievance process was initiated in the OIEC's Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and are included in this report.

*The OIEC recognizes that complainants may not want a formal grievance process to resolve their concerns, and whenever possible, the OIEC respects how a complainant would like a case resolved.

Types of Sexual Misconduct Allegations

Among the 268 sexual misconduct allegations against 234 student respondents, the most reported allegations included hostile environment sexual harassment (83), followed by sexual assault (rape) (63), stalking (46), dating or domestic violence (30), and sexual assault (fondling) (26), see Table 4:

Table 4. Types of Sexual Misconduct Allegations	# Allegations	# Allegations Addressed by Remedies-Based or Other Resolutions⁹	# Allegations Addressed by Formal Grievance
Hostile Environment ¹⁰	83	81	2
Sexual Assault (rape)	63	55	8
Stalking ¹¹	46	38	8
Dating or Domestic Violence	30	22	8
Sexual Assault (fondling)	26	20	6
Sexual Exploitation	12	9	3
Failure to Comply with Directives, Orders or Sanctions	3	0	3
Interference with Reporting	2	2	0
Providing False or Misleading Information	2	2	0
Unknown Provision / No Details	1	1	0
Sexual Misconduct Retaliation	0	0	0
Quid Pro Quo	0	0	0
Total	268	229	39

⁹ 10 cases were pending a determination of resolution process at the time of this report.

¹⁰ Hostile Environment and/or Title IX Hostile Environment allegations.

¹¹ Stalking and/or Title IX Stalking allegations.

Sexual Misconduct, Intimate Partner Violence and Stalking Policy Formal Grievance Findings and Sanctions

Of the 26¹² cases involving formal grievance processes (including 27 total respondents), 23 cases continue to be in progress at the time of this report.

Findings and sanctions for the 26 formal cases against students are presented in Table 5:

Table 5. Formal Grievance Findings and Sanctions	# of Student Respondents
Pending	23
Case dismissed	0
No policy violation	1
Found responsible for a policy violation	2
<i>Action Taken</i>	
Expulsion	0
Suspension ¹³	2
Probation ¹⁴	0
Exclusion from all or specific areas of campus	2
Behavioral assessment and Completion of Recommendations ¹⁵	2
No-Contact Order	1

Appeals of Sexual Misconduct Cases

Appeals of decisions in sexual misconduct cases are reviewed at the CU System level in coordination with trained appellate officers from the other CU campuses. There was one post-decision appeal brought by a respondent. In that case, the policy violation decision and sanctions were upheld in their entirety.

¹² Two formal grievances against two respondents were reported in the OIEC's Fiscal Year 2024-2025, but the OIEC's formal grievance process was initiated in the OIEC's Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and are included in this report.

¹³ Suspensions often include additional sanctions such as exclusion from campus during the relevant time period, removal from the residence hall, mandatory behavioral assessments, educational sanctions, and meeting prior to re-admission with the Title IX Coordinator or designee.

¹⁴ Probation often includes educational sanctions.

¹⁵ Behavioral assessments can include alcohol and drug evaluations, sex offender evaluations, or other violence risk assessments, along with associated compliance requirements.