



Campus Climate Survey Validation Study (CCSVS)

Presented by BJS and RTI

Impetus for the Campus Climate Survey Validation Study (CCSVS)

- In response to increasing recognition of the role of campus climate surveys, in August 2014 the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) funded the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) to develop and test a pilot campus climate survey that could be implemented by schools or researchers, and addressed key goals of the White House Task Force to Protect Students From Sexual Assault, including issues related to the measurement of rape and sexual assault in self-report surveys.
- BJS contracted with RTI International to collaborate on the design and administration of the CCSVS.
- The CCSVS began with an in-depth review of the model survey included in the Not Alone Toolkit released by the White House Task Force to Protect Students From Sexual Assault (<https://www.notalone.gov/assets/ovw-climate-survey.pdf>).
- The research also fits within current BJS efforts to improve the collection of data on sexual victimization through the National Crime Victimization Survey.

CCSVS Purpose and Goals

- Purpose: Develop and test a survey instrument and methodology for collecting valid and reliable data on sexual harassment, sexual assault, and campus climate
- Research goals related to the:
 - Survey Instrument
 - Methodology
 - Sampling
 - Results

- Methodological Research Report = ~200 pages + appendices
- Comparative findings for each of the 9 schools included in the CCSVS
- Schools will not be identified publicly or to each other
 - Each school will be debriefed separately by RTI following public release of the report, and provided with a school-specific report
- Appendices provide survey instrument, supporting documents, and ~100 data tables

CCSVS Instrument – Cognitive Testing

- Important component of instrument development = cognitive testing
 - Process designed to assess a survey instrument in terms of general understanding, question and response wording, skip logic, and visual aids, and helps researchers understand the cognitive process participants use to conceptualize what a question is asking, to develop their answers, and to convey them via a response.
- The goal is to gain an understanding of how well the questions work when administered to a sample resembling the survey's target population
- The CCSVS used two types of cognitive testing:
 - Crowdsourcing (n = 240)
 - In-person (n = 36)

CCSVS Instrument – Topics Covered

Final CCSVS Instrument: “College Experiences Survey (CES)”

Section 1. Student demographics and general school climate questions (connectedness, safety, and leadership)

Section 2. Harassment and sexual coercion

Section 3. Sexual assault victimization

- Screener
- Incident follow-up form (up to 3 incidents)

Section 4. Intimate partner violence victimization

Section 5. Perpetration (sexual harassment and sexual assault)

Section 6. School climate related to sexual harassment and assault prevention

Section 7. Demographics

CCSVS Instrument – Key Features

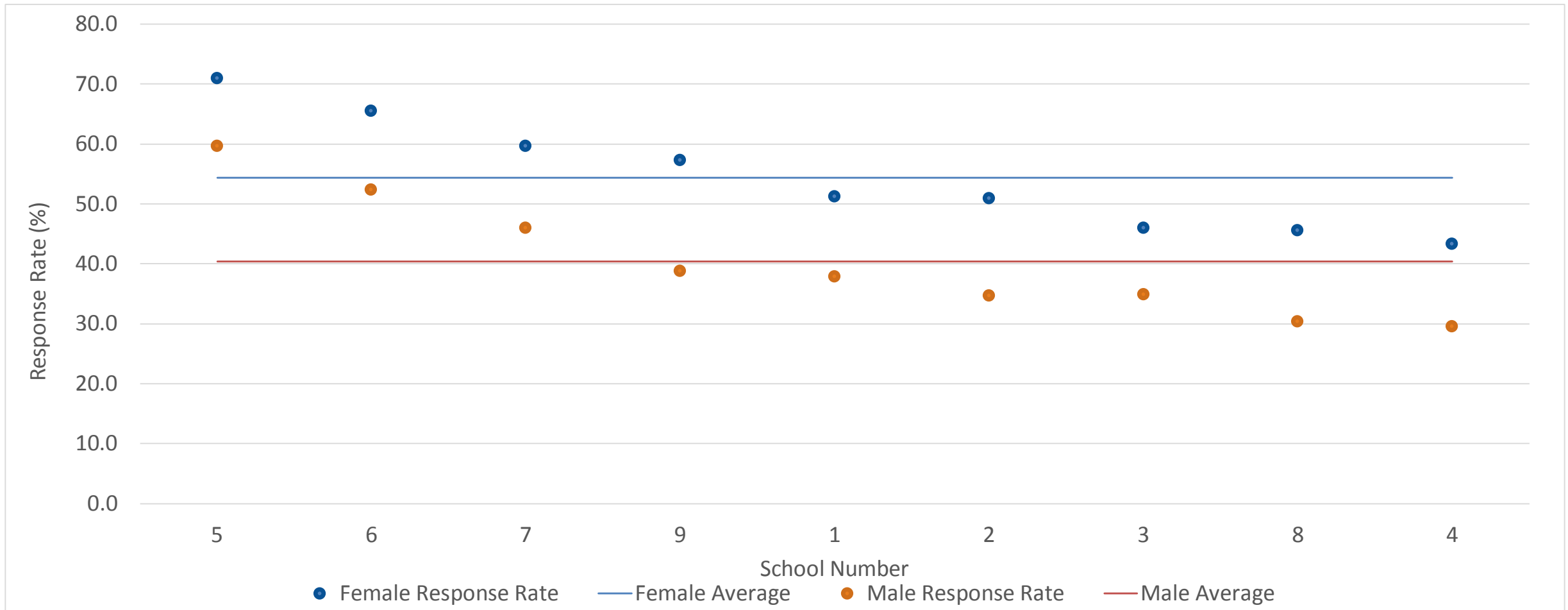
- Brief (~15 minutes), confidential, self-administered web survey
- Behaviorally-specific, 2-stage approach
- Multiple reference periods
 - “since the beginning of the current (2014-2015) academic year” (focus of most estimates)
 - “since entering college”
 - “lifetime”
- Incident-specific follow-up questions (up to 3 incidents)
- Broad array of campus climate measures
- Included items to enable validity checks and latent class analysis

CCSVS Sample Selection and Methodology

- 9 schools agreed to participate
- Variation in terms of size, public vs. private status, 2- vs. 4-year status, and geography
- Students were pre-notified about the study from their university leadership and then received a recruitment e-mail from the College Experiences Survey (CES)
- 15 minute (average), confidential, web-based survey
 - Designed to operate on a wide range of devices
- Incentive was \$10, \$25, or \$40 – gift card to 1 of 9 stores
- Field period lasted ~57 days
- Students were provided with a list of support resources customized to each school
 - ~15% checked out these resources

Response rates

- Response rates higher than anticipated (~23,000 male and female respondents)
- Nonresponse bias analysis suggested that nonresponders were not significantly different from those who responded



Sexual Assault, Rape, and Sexual Battery: Measurement

This section asks about times when you may have experienced unwanted sexual contact. In these questions, **unwanted sexual contact** is sexual contact that you did not consent to and that you did not want to happen. Remember that sexual contact includes touching of your sexual body parts, oral sex, anal sex, sexual intercourse, and penetration of your [IF D3 NE MALE, FILL “vagina or”] anus with a finger or object.

Please check off each point as you read through these descriptions. Unwanted sexual contact could happen when:

- ☐ someone touches or grabs your sexual body parts (e.g., butt, crotch, or breasts);
- ☐ someone uses force against you, such as holding you down with his or her body weight, pinning your arms, hitting or kicking you;
- ☐ someone threatens to hurt you or someone close to you; or
- ☐ you are unable to provide consent because you are incapacitated, passed out, unconscious, blacked out, or asleep. This could happen after you voluntarily used alcohol or drugs, or after you were given a drug without your knowledge or consent.

Please keep in mind that anyone – regardless of gender – can experience unwanted sexual contact. Also, the person who does this could be a stranger or someone you know, such as a friend, family member, or person you were dating or hanging out with.

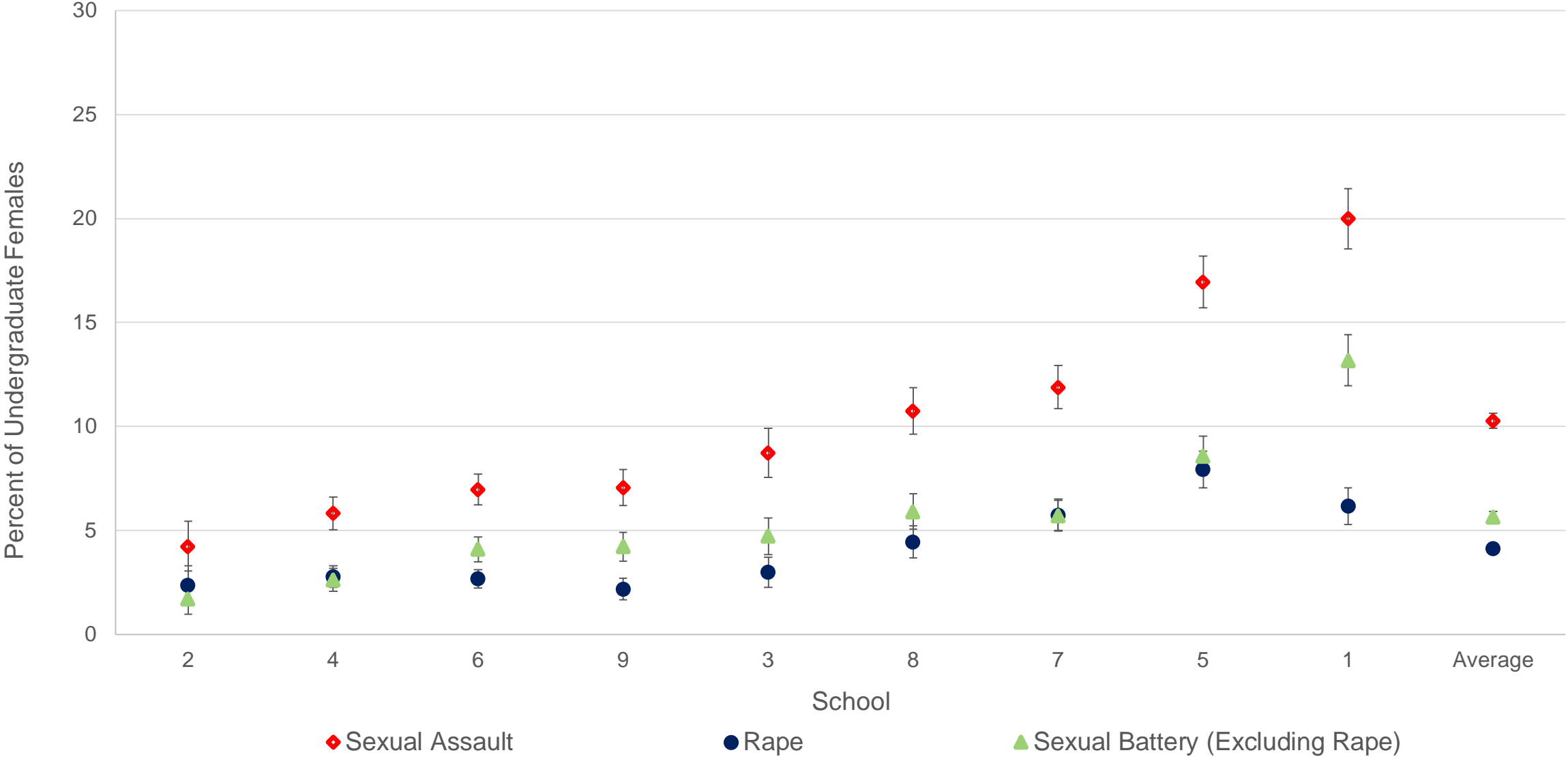
Sexual Victimization Estimates

P2. How many separate incidents of unwanted sexual contact have you experienced **since the beginning of the current academic year in [FILL: August/September], 2014?**

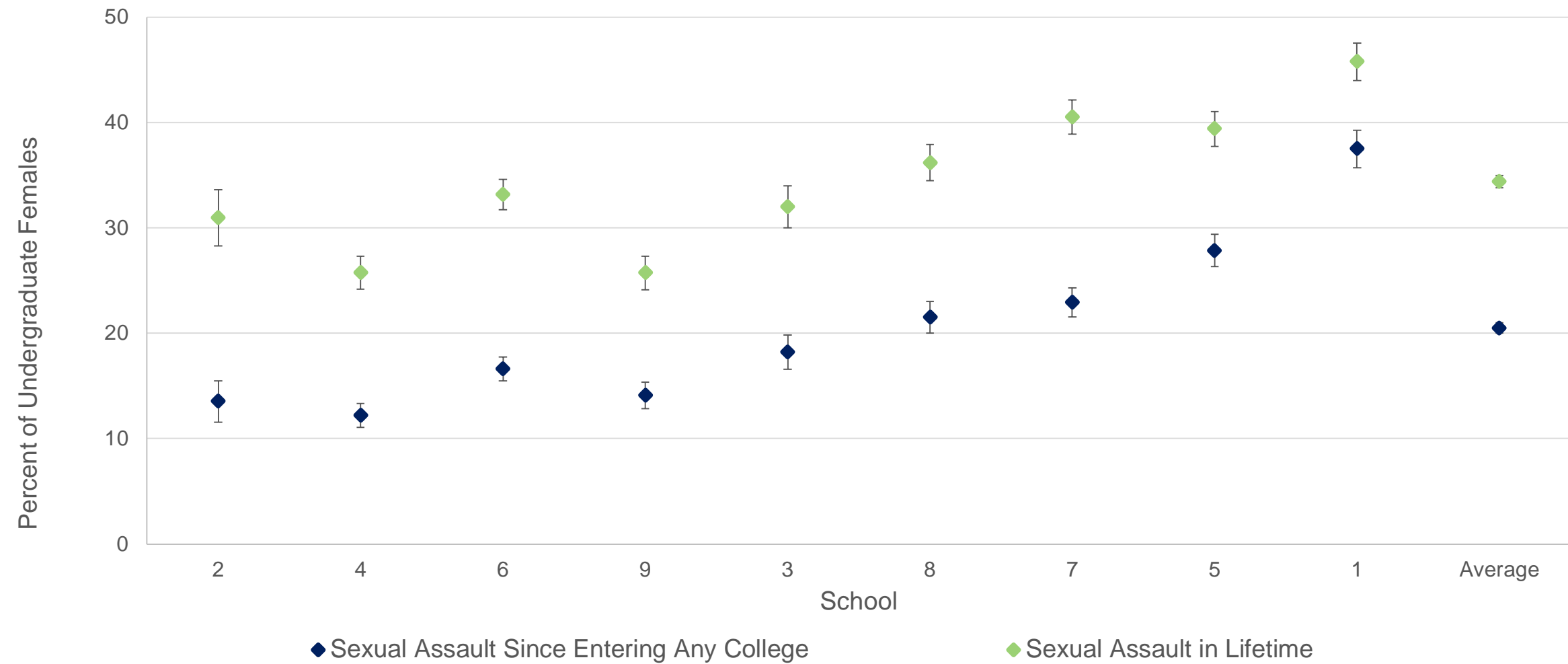
- 0 incidents [IF P2 = 0 INCIDENTS, SKIP TO LCA2]
- 1 incident
- 2 incidents
- 3 incidents
- 4 incidents
- 5 or more incidents

- Respondents who reported experiencing 1 or more incidents of unwanted sexual contact since the beginning of the 2014-2015 academic year are classified as victims of **completed sexual assault**
- For each incident, a follow-up question is used to determine the *type* of sexual contact
 - Incidents that included oral sex, anal sex, sexual intercourse (females only), or sexual penetration with a finger or object are classified as **completed incidents of rape**
 - Incidents that included forced touching, but did not include penetration, are classified as **completed incidents of sexual battery (excluding rape)**
- **Rape and sexual battery** are mutually exclusive categories

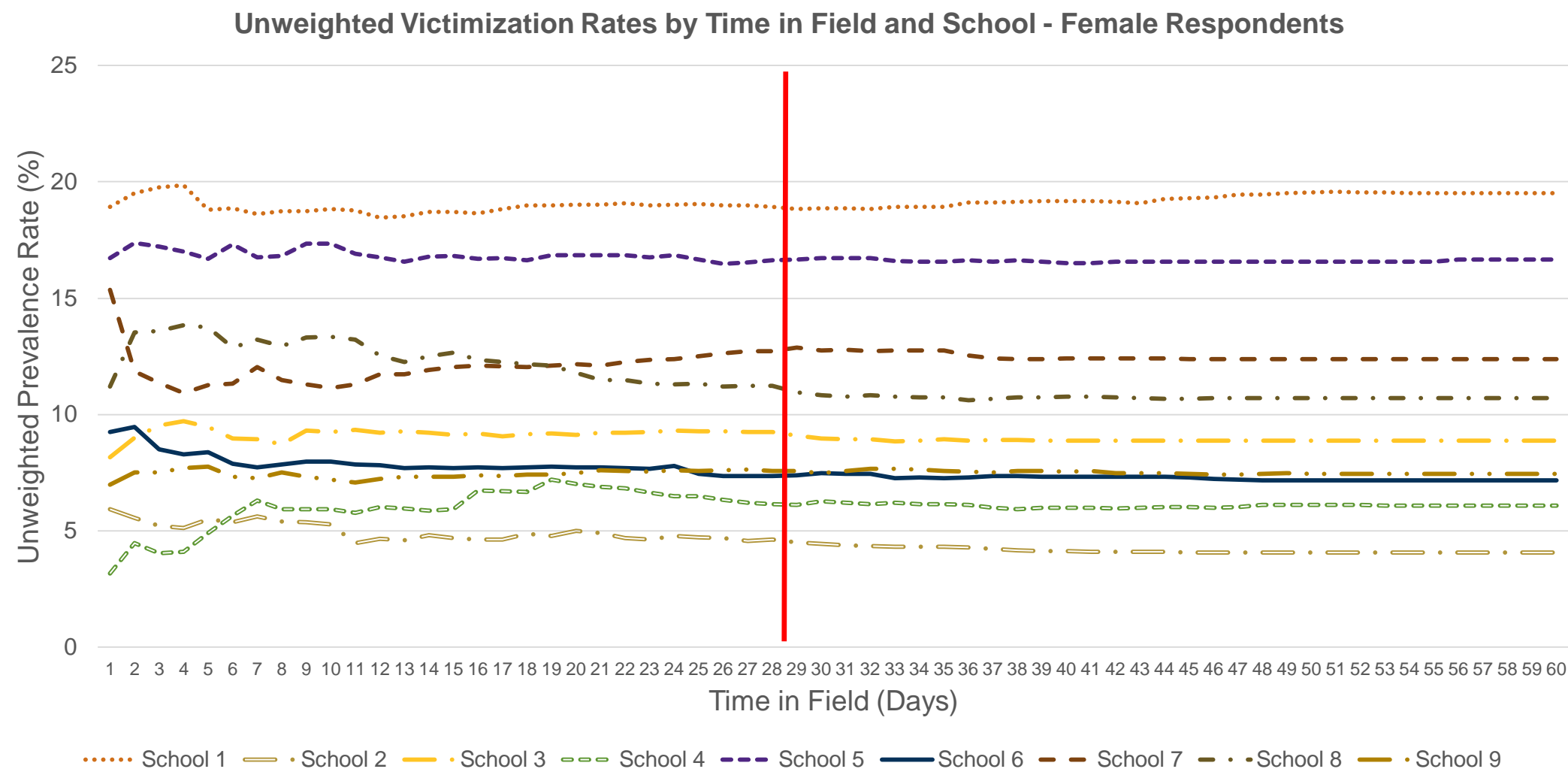
CCSVS Prevalence Rates for Females – Sexual Assault, Rape, and Sexual Battery During 2014-2015 Academic Year



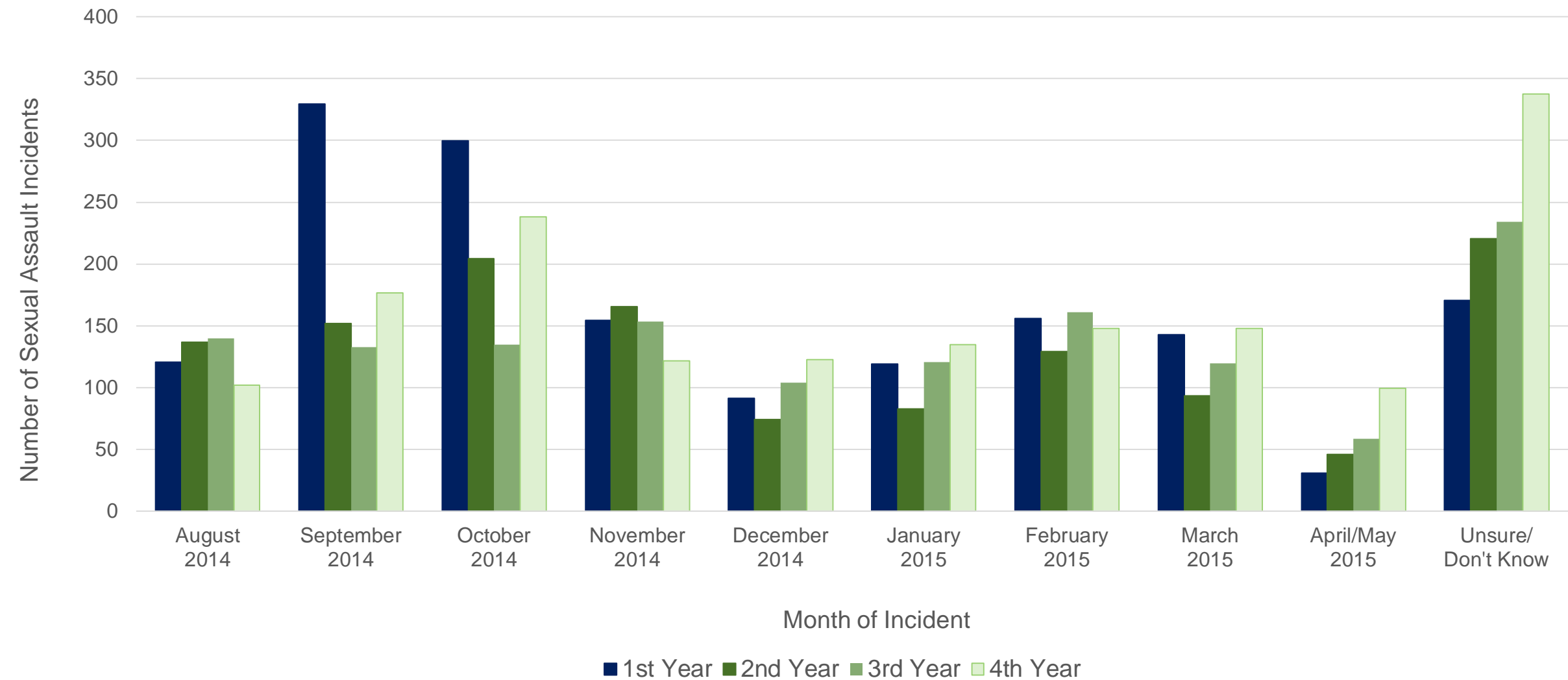
CCSVS Prevalence Rates for Females – Sexual Assault Since Entering College and in Lifetime



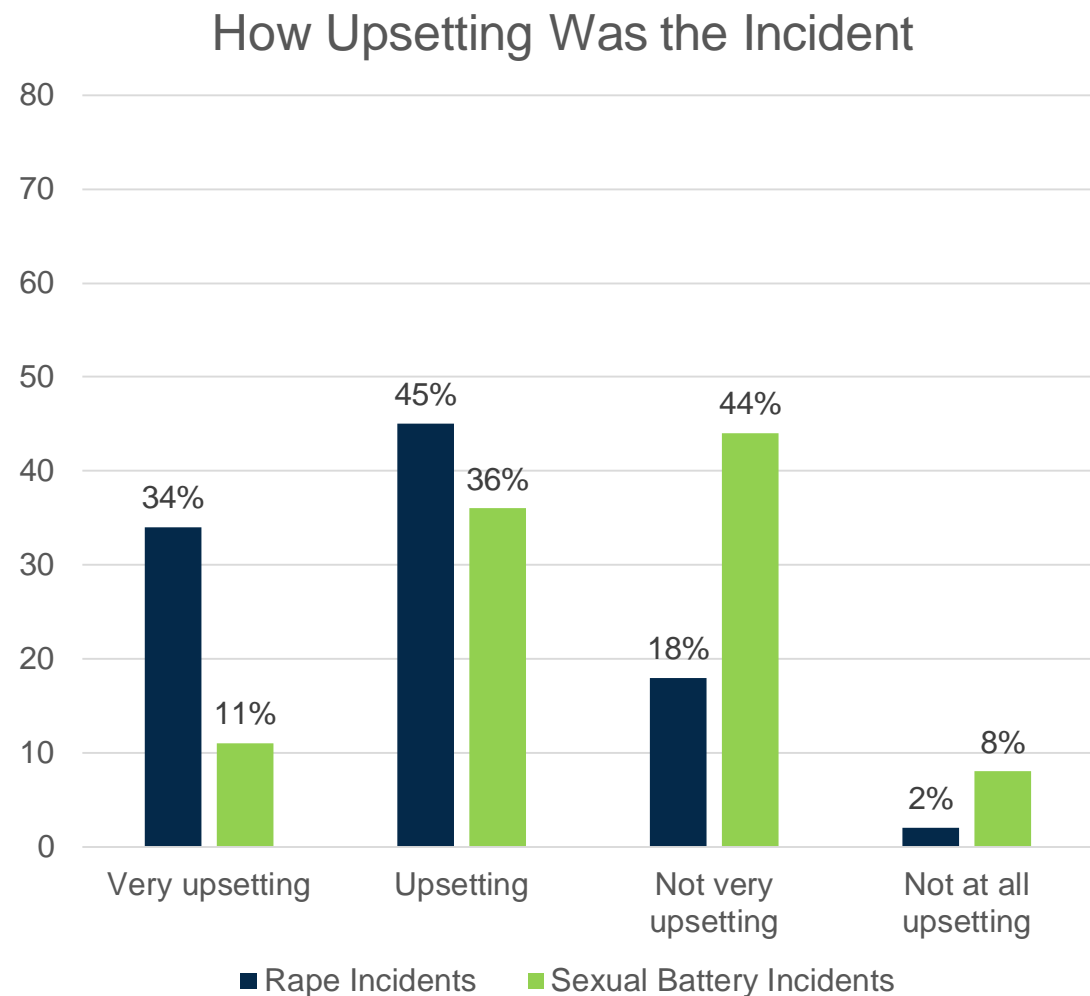
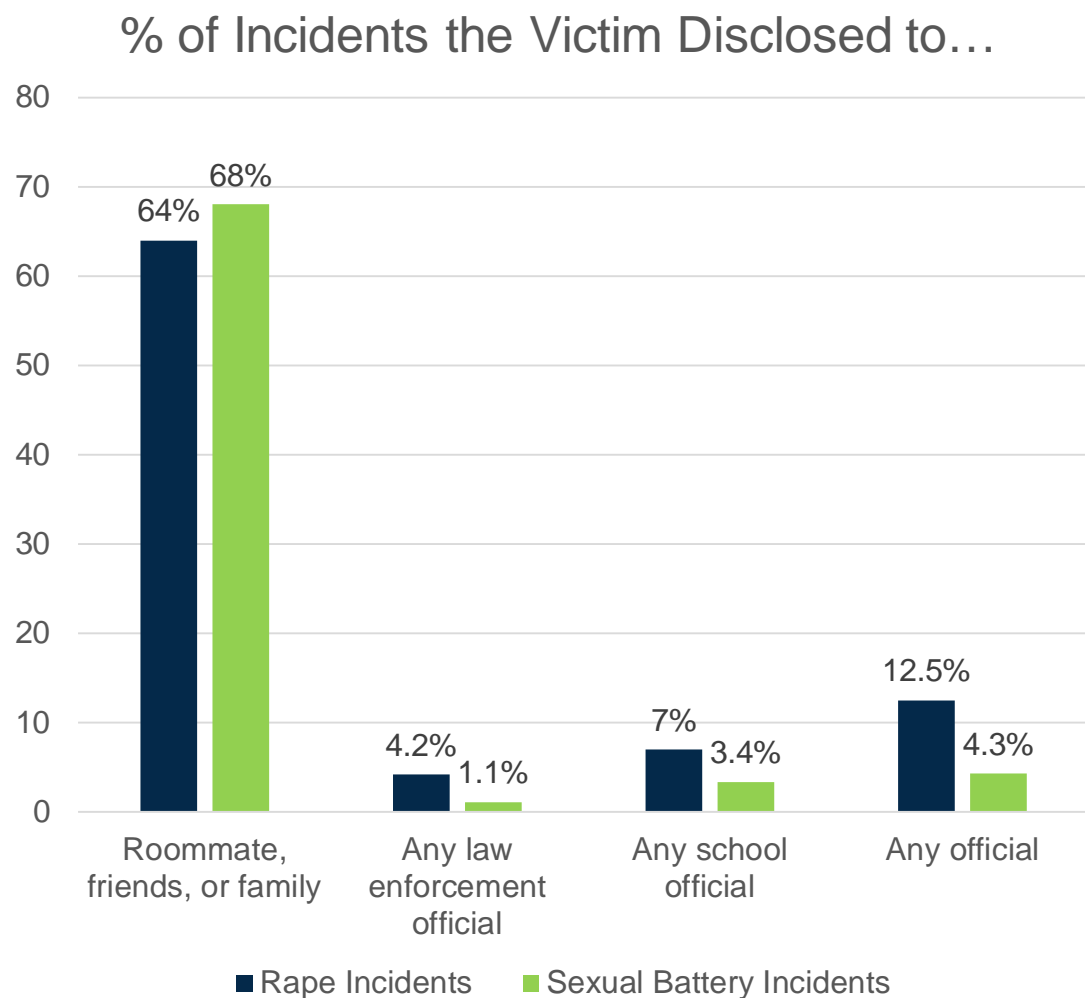
Victimization Rates Stabilized at around 29 Days



Month in Which Sexual Assault Incidents Occurred for Females

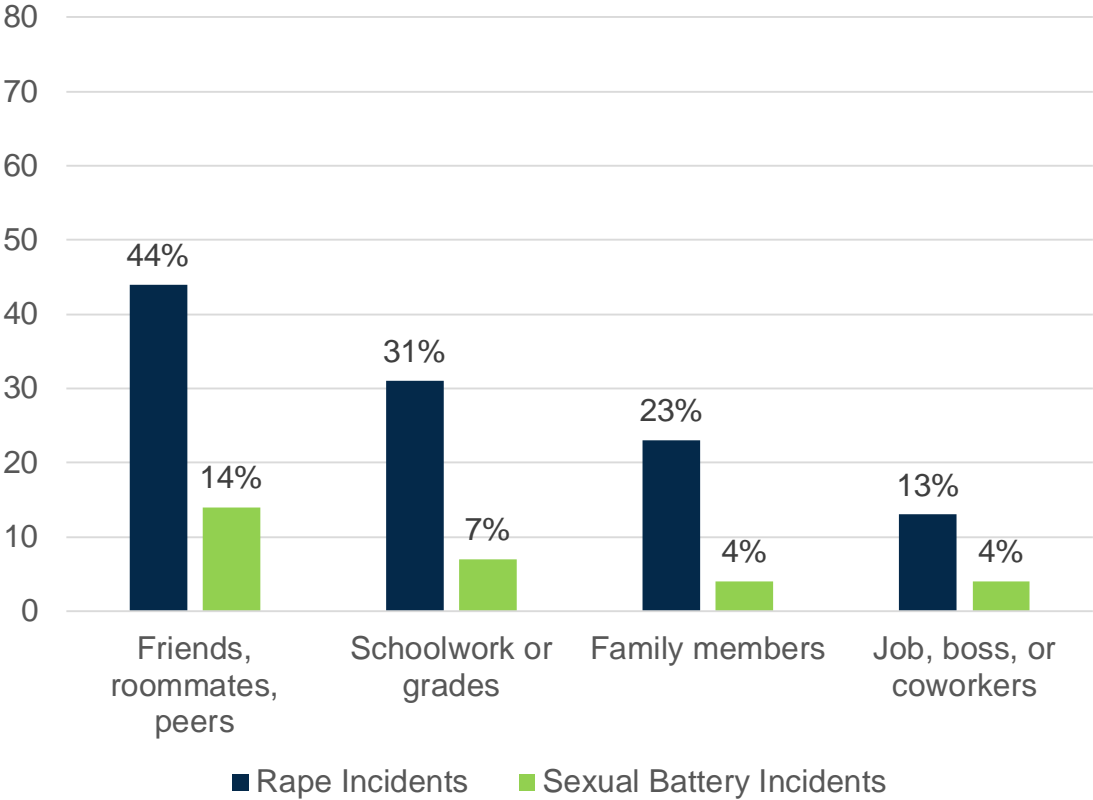


Victim Disclosure and Impact

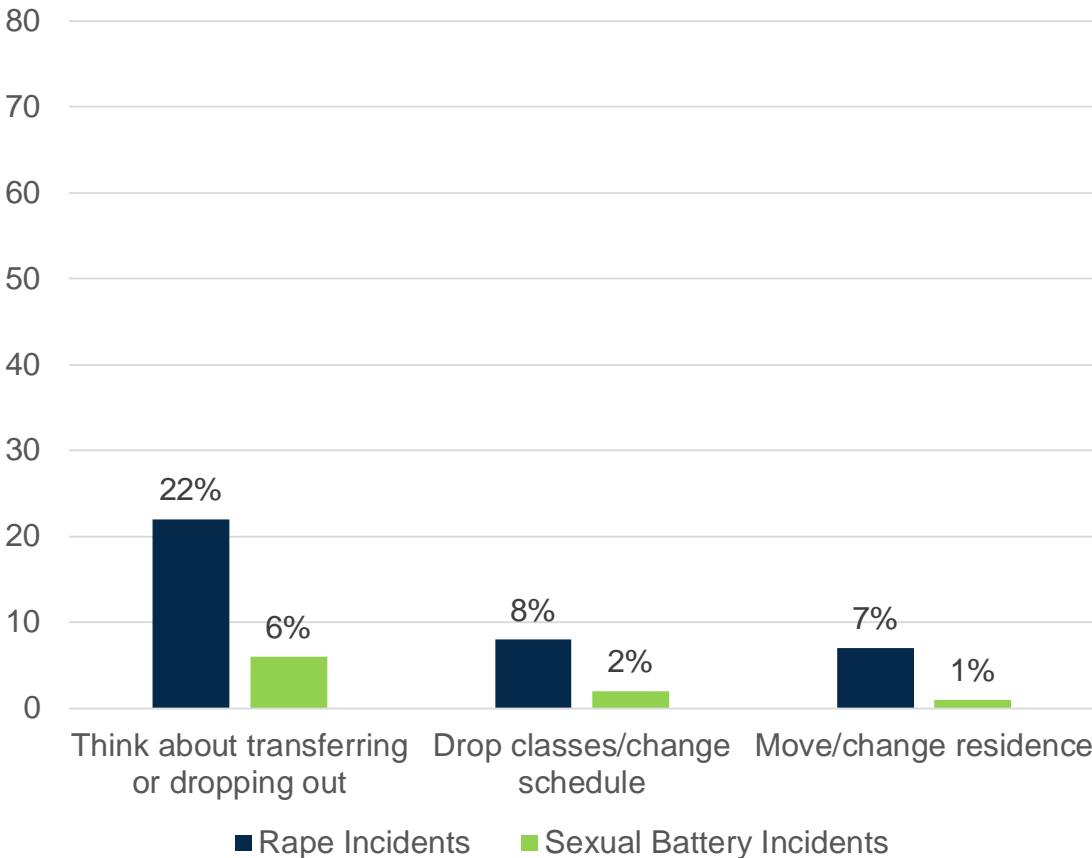


Victim Impact (continued)

Did the Incident Lead to Problems with...



As a result of the incident, did you...



Did the CCSVS Sexual Assault Data Demonstrate Validity?

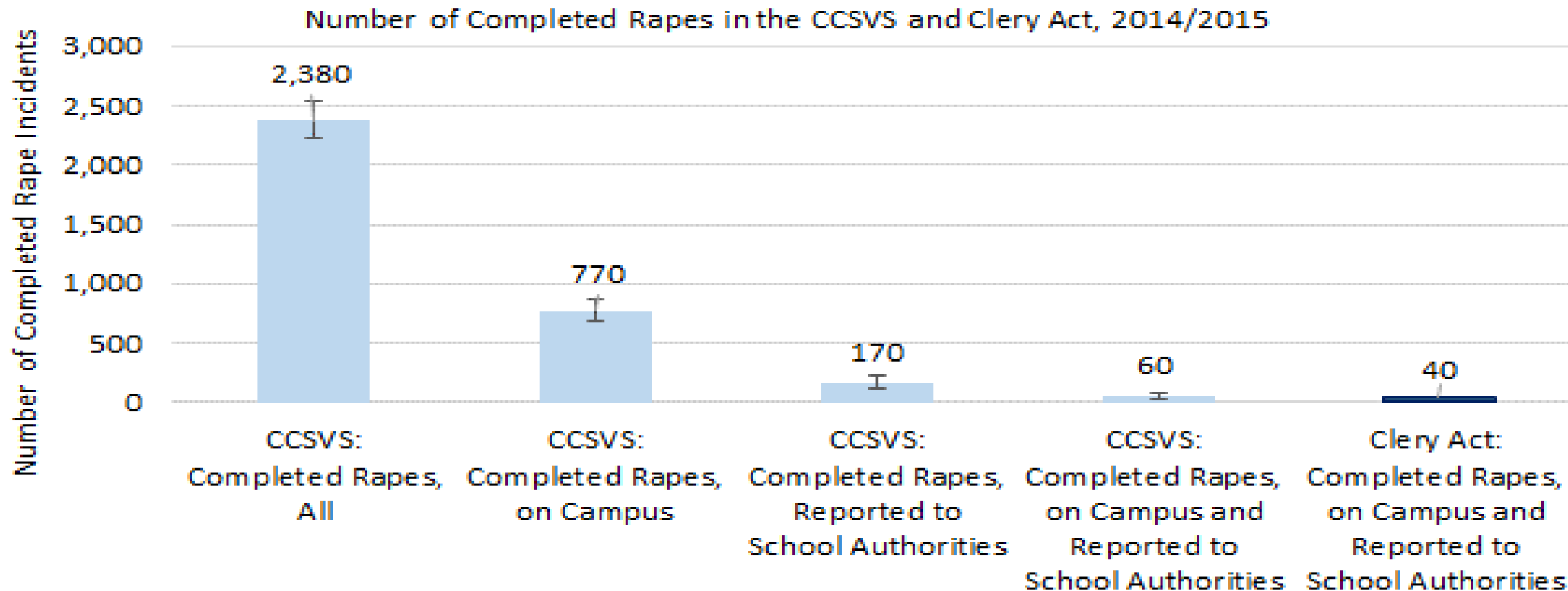
- Face Validity

- Identification of findings/associations that should logically be true for the CCSVS sample and data related to sexual assault experiences
- Most of the validity assessments of data related to sexual assault experiences are encouraging

- Latent Class Analysis

- Survey instrument included four items used to assess measurement error
- Findings are consistent with other studies on sensitive topics (e.g., National Inmate Survey – NIS)
 - Negligible false positive bias detected
 - Small false negative bias detected

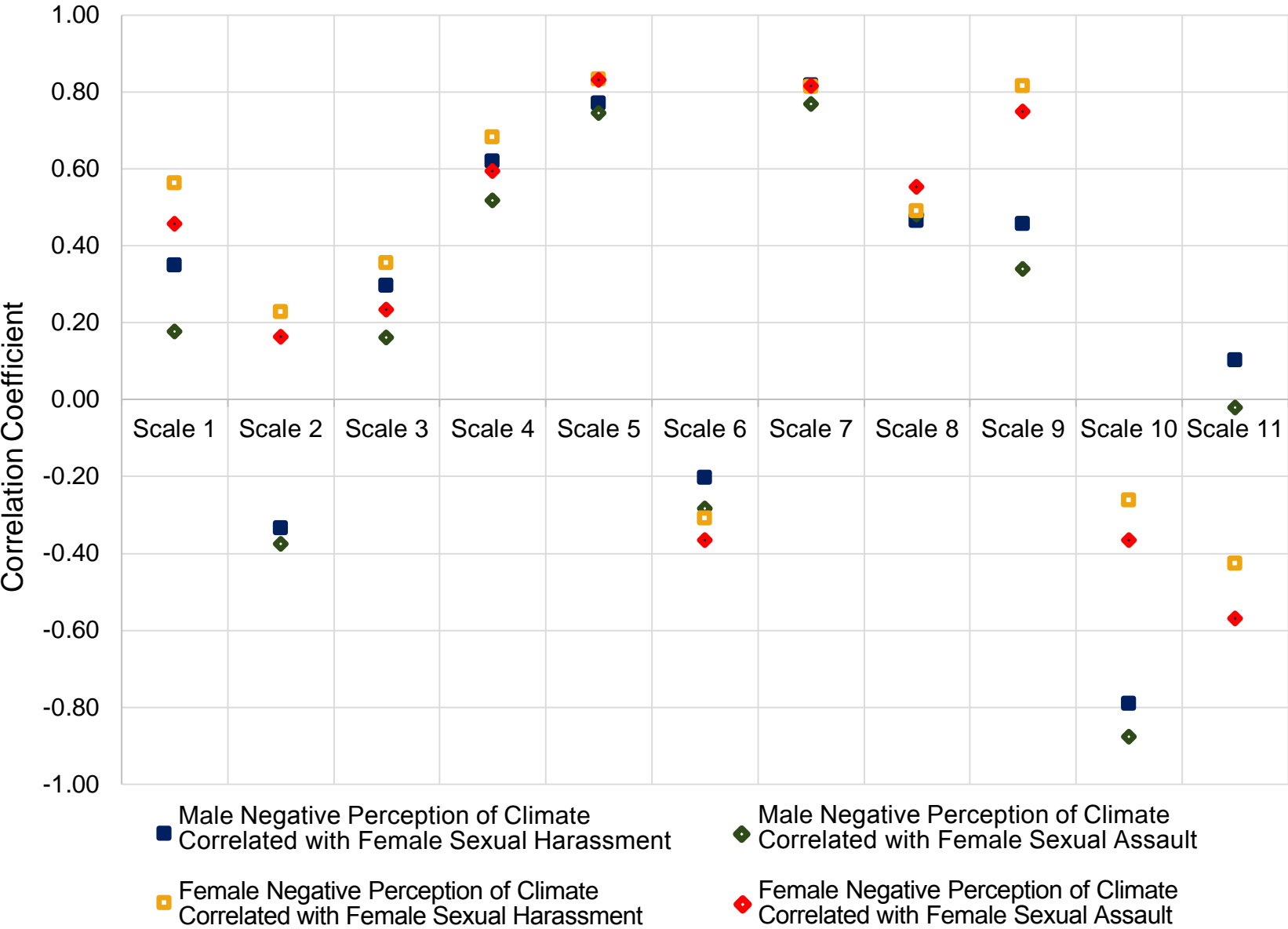
Comparison of CCSVS and Clery Data



Source: Campus Climate Survey Validation Study (CCSVS), 2015; U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, 2015.

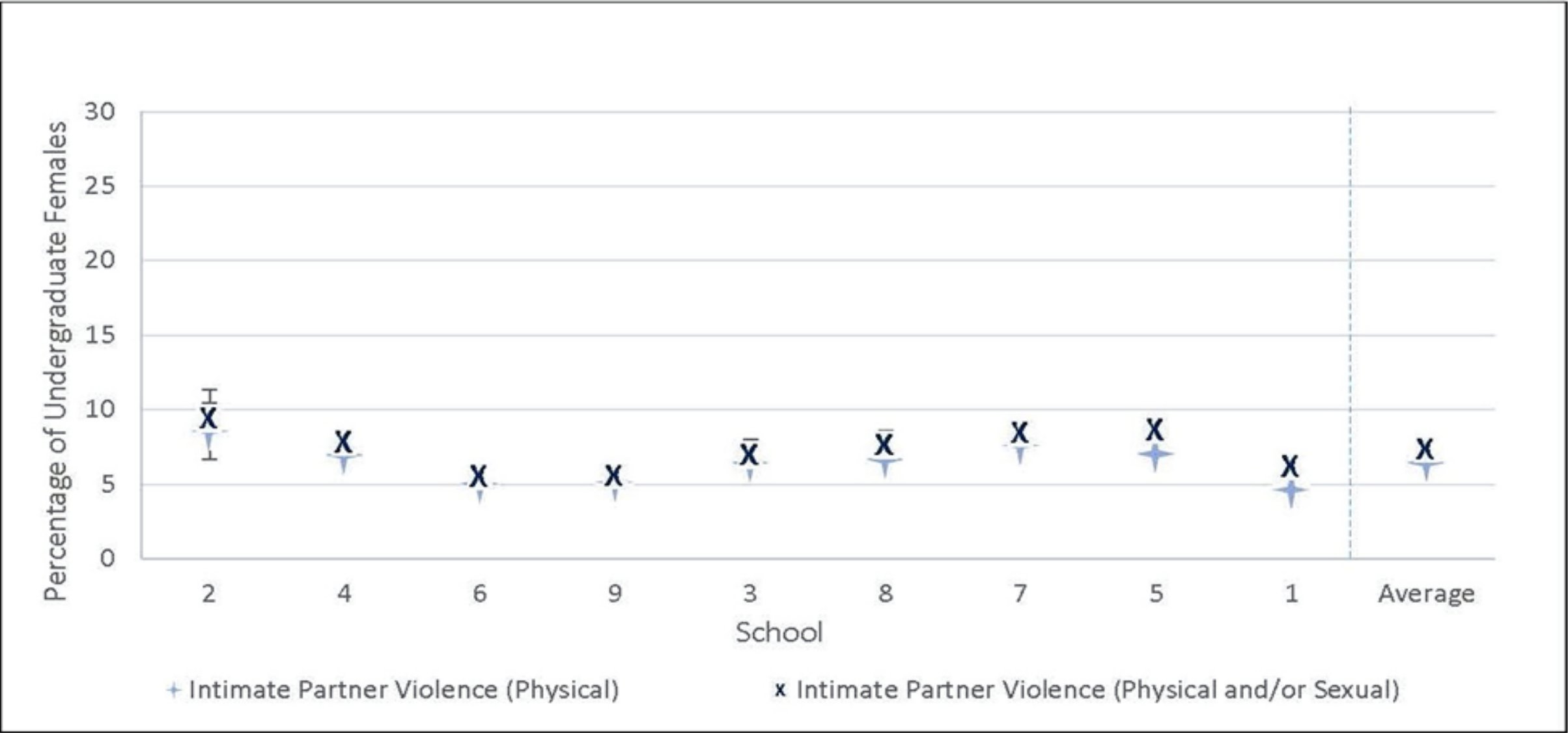
Note: Numbers are rounded. CCSVS estimates are based on the 2014-2015 academic year and Clery Act numbers are based on the 2014 calendar year. Error bars on the CCSVS estimates are based on 95% confidence levels. The standard errors are 80 for completed rapes, all; 46 for completed rapes, on campus; 26 for completed rapes, reported to school authorities; and 14 for completed rapes, on campus and reported to school authorities.

Campus Climate Measures and Association with Victimization



#	Label
1	General School Connectedness
2	General Perceptions of Campus Police
3	General Perceptions of Faculty
4	General Perceptions of Leadership Staff
5	Perceptions of School Leadership Climate for Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response
6	Awareness and Perceived Fairness of School Sexual Assault Policy and Resources
7	Perceptions of School Leadership Climate for Treatment of Sexual Assault Victims
8	Likelihood of Personal Bystander Behavior to Prevent Sexual Misconduct
9	Perceptions of Student Norms Related to Sexual Misconduct: Student Misconduct
10	Perceptions of Student Norms Related to Sexual Misconduct: Student Bystander Behavior and Involvement
11	Personal Acceptance of Sexual Misconduct

CCSVS Prevalence Rates for Females – Intimate Partner Violence During 2014-2015 Academic Year



For More Information about the CCSVS

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For the full report and additional resources:

<http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ccsvsftr.pdf>

<http://changingourcampus.org/resources/research>