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# **2010 Service Academy Gender Relations Survey**

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# **2010 SERVICE ACADEMY GENDER RELATIONS SURVEY**

**Paul J. Cook**  
**SRA International, Inc.**

**Rachel N. Lipari**  
**Defense Manpower Data Center**

**Defense Manpower Data Center**  
**Human Resources Strategic Assessment Program (HRSAP)**  
**1600 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 400, Arlington, VA 22209-2593**

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DMDC's Program Evaluation Branch, under the guidance of Kristin Williams, Branch Chief, is responsible for the development of questionnaires in the survey program. The lead survey design analysts were Rachel Lipari, Senior Scientist, and Paul Cook, SRA International, Inc. They also designed the unique presentation of complex items used in this report. They were assisted by Andrew Hale, Consortium Research Fellow.

DMDC's Survey Technology Branch, under the guidance of Fred Licari, Branch Chief, is responsible for monitoring the survey operations contractor and ensuring that survey data collected by DMDC meet all regulatory requirements and have all necessary approvals, including the requirements of the common rules for the use of human subjects in research. Mary Padilla, SRA International, Inc., developed custom graphics and templates for the report.

DMDC's Personnel Survey Branch, under the guidance of David McGrath, Branch Chief, and Laverne Wright, Chief of Survey Operations, is responsible for developing the sampling and weighting methods used in the survey program and survey database construction and archiving. The lead operations analyst on this survey was Lisa Davis, DMDC, supported by John Freimuth, Consortium Research Fellow. Michael Paraloglou, SRA International, Inc., used a customized sampling tool to allocate the sample. Owen Hung, SRA International, Inc., created the weights. Fawzi Al Nassir, SRA International, Inc., provided supervision and consultation on the sampling and weighting methods, as well as overall process control. Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) performed data processing and editing.

A team consisting of Rachel Lipari, Paul Cook, Michael DiNicolantonio, SRA International, Inc., and Chastity McFarlan, Consortium Research Fellow, completed quality control for this report.

# 2010 SERVICE ACADEMY GENDER RELATIONS SURVEY

## Executive Summary

### *Background*

This report provides results of the *2010 Service Academy Gender Relations Survey (2010 SAGR)* conducted by the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC). This survey is the sixth of a series of surveys mandated by U.S. Code 10, as amended by Section 532 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007. It assesses the incidence of sexual assault and sexual harassment and related issues at the U.S. Military Academy (USMA), the U.S. Naval Academy (USNA), the U.S. Air Force Academy (USAFA), and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy (USCGA). The survey results include incident rates of sexual assault, sexual harassment and sexist behavior, and stalking-related behaviors; a discussion of students' perceptions of Academy culture with respect to sexual assault and sexual harassment; the availability and effectiveness of sexual assault and sexual harassment training; and perceptions of program effectiveness in reducing or preventing sexual assault and sexual harassment.

In March and April 2010, a DMDC research team administered the *2010 SAGR* survey instrument to students at USMA, USNA, USAFA, and USCGA. The final sample consisted of 7,580 female and male students. The overall weighted response rate was 80%.

This report includes a description of the *2010 SAGR* survey; background on why this research was conducted; a summary of recent Department of Defense (DoD) policies and programs associated with gender-relations issues; a discussion of the measurement constructs; a description of the survey methodology; and detailed results of the findings. This report provides, by gender, results for USMA, USNA, USAFA, and USCGA. Within the summary for each Academy, the results are also provided by class year. When *2010 SAGR* questions are comparable to questions in the previous 2005, 2006, and 2008 surveys, an analysis of trends is presented.

### *Measurement of Constructs*

The ability to calculate annual incident rates is a distinguishing feature of this survey. Results are included in this report for rates for unwanted sexual contact, unwanted gender-related behaviors, and stalking-related behaviors.

**Measurement of Unwanted Sexual Contact.** The *2010 SAGR* survey includes a measure of unwanted sexual contact (i.e., sexual assault). Although this term does not appear in the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), it is used to refer to a range of activities that the UCMJ prohibits, including uninvited and unwelcome completed or attempted sexual intercourse, sodomy (oral or anal sex), penetration by an object, and the unwanted touching of genitalia and other sexually related areas of the body. Students were asked questions related to personal experiences of unwanted sexual contact between June 2009 and the time they took the survey. Students who indicated they experienced unwanted sexual contact were then asked to provide details on their experience. The measure of unwanted sexual contact was developed for the 2006

survey. Trend data on unwanted sexual contact is available for comparison of the 2010 results to 2006 and 2008 results.

**Measurement of Unwanted Gender-Related Behaviors.** The survey measurements of unwanted gender-related behaviors (i.e., sexual harassment and sexist behavior) in *2010 SAGR* are consistent with the methodology used in 2005, 2006, and 2008. To determine the extent of unwanted gender-related behaviors, students were provided a list of 12 sexual harassment behaviors and four sexist behaviors, and were asked to indicate how often they had experienced the behaviors since June 2009. Three components of sexual harassment include crude/offensive behavior (e.g., repeatedly told sexual stories or jokes that are offensive); unwanted sexual attention (e.g., unwanted attempts to establish a romantic sexual relationship despite efforts to discourage it); and sexual coercion (e.g., treated badly for refusing to have sex). In order to determine how to “count” the frequency of sexual harassment behaviors, a counting algorithm was used. To be included in the calculation of the sexual harassment rate, students must have experienced at least one behavior defined as sexual harassment and indicated they considered some or all of the behaviors were sexual harassment. Incident rates of unwanted gender-related behavior in 2010 are compared to results from 2005, 2006, and 2008.

**Measurement of Stalking-Related Behaviors.** The 2010 survey included a measure of stalking that is designed to conform to the UCMJ definition of stalking as “a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear death or bodily harm, including sexual assault.” The measure of stalking was developed for the 2006 survey. Trend data on unwanted sexual contact is available for comparison of the 2010 results to 2006 and 2008 results.

### ***U.S. Military Academy***

**Unwanted Sexual Contact.** The survey found that 9.1% of women and 1.2% of men at USMA indicated they experienced unwanted sexual contact in 2010. The percentage of women was lower in 2010 than in 2006.<sup>1</sup> Of the 9.1% of women who indicated experiencing unwanted sexual contact, 25% indicated they experienced unwanted sexual touching only. Thirty-nine percent indicated the incident included attempted sex (with or without sexual touching) and 34% indicated they experienced completed sex (with or without sexual touching and/or attempted sex).<sup>2</sup>

<b>Unwanted Sexual Contact</b>		
<b>2006</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2010</b>
Women: 10.5%	Women: 8.6%	Women: 9.1%
Men: 1.0%	Men: 0.6%	Men: 1.2%

**Unwanted Sexual Contact Details.** Of the 9.1% of USMA women who indicated experiencing unwanted sexual contact, nearly all (98%) identified the offender as male, and most (94%) indicated the offender was a fellow cadet. Fifty-one percent indicated alcohol and/or

<sup>1</sup>Only statistically significant differences at the .05 level of significance are noted. Estimates are statistically significant when their confidence intervals do not overlap. Because the results of comparisons are based on a weighted, representative sample, the reader can infer that results generalize to the population.

<sup>2</sup>Details of unwanted sexual contact for men are not reportable due to the small number of men who experienced unwanted sexual contact.

drugs were involved and 49% indicated physical force was used. Fourteen percent indicated they reported the incident to any military authority or organization. The main reasons women did not report the incident were they took care of the situation themselves (76%), did not want people gossiping about them (71%), or felt uncomfortable reporting (70%).

**Unwanted Gender-Related Behaviors.** Fifty-one percent of women and 9% of men indicated experiencing sexual harassment in 2010. The percentage of women who indicated experiencing sexual harassment was lower in 2010 than in 2006 (60%) and 2005 (62%). The percentage of men who indicated experiencing sexual harassment was lower in 2010 than in 2005 (12%). Eighty-four percent of women and 45% of men indicated experiencing crude/offensive behavior, 57% of women and 12% of men indicated experiencing unwanted sexual attention, and 20% of women and 3% of men indicated experiencing sexual coercion. Ninety-four percent of women and 35% of men indicated experiencing sexist behavior.

**Unwanted Gender-Related Behavior Details.** Of the 51% of women and 9% of men at USMA who indicated experiencing unwanted gender-related behaviors in 2010, the majority of women (94%) and men (79%) identified the offender as an Academy student. Ten percent of women and 2% of men discussed the situation with any military authority or organization.

**Stalking.** Few women (5.6%) or men (0.4%) indicated that they experienced stalking-related behaviors and the incident caused them fear of physical harm or sexual assault (the requirement to meet the legal definition of stalking).

### ***U.S. Naval Academy***

**Unwanted Sexual Contact.** Overall, 16.5% of women and 3.4% of men at USNA indicated they experienced unwanted sexual contact in 2010. The percentage of women was higher in 2010 than in 2008 and 2006. Of the 16.5% of women who indicated experiencing unwanted sexual contact, 39% indicated they experienced unwanted sexual touching only. Twenty-six percent indicated the incident included attempted sex (with or without sexual touching) and 30% indicated they experienced completed sex (with or without sexual touching and/or attempted sex).<sup>3</sup>

<b>Unwanted Sexual Contact</b>		
<b>2006</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2010</b>
Women: 8.2%	Women: 8.3%	Women: 16.5%
Men: 1.4%	Men: 2.4%	Men: 3.4%

**Unwanted Sexual Contact Details.** Of the 16.5% of USNA women who indicated experiencing unwanted sexual contact, nearly all (99%) identified the offender as male, and most (90%) indicated the offender was a fellow midshipman. Sixty-five percent indicated alcohol and/or drugs were involved and 36% indicated physical force was used. Eight percent indicated they reported the incident to any military authority or organization. The main reasons women did not report the incident were they did not want people gossiping about them (71%), took care of the situation themselves (67%), or thought it was not important enough to report (64%).

<sup>3</sup>Details of unwanted sexual contact for men are not reportable due to the small number of men who experienced unwanted sexual contact.

**Unwanted Gender-Related Behaviors.** Sixty-three percent of women and 17% of men indicated experiencing sexual harassment in 2010. The percentage of women who indicated experiencing sexual harassment was higher in 2010 than in 2008 (56%), 2006 (52%), and 2005 (59%). The percentage of men who indicated experiencing sexual harassment was higher in 2010 than in 2008 (14%), 2006 (12%), and 2005 (14%). Ninety-one percent of women and 54% of men indicated experiencing crude/ offensive behavior, 62% of women and 22% of men indicated experiencing unwanted sexual attention, and 21% of women and 6% of men indicated experiencing sexual coercion. Ninety-six percent of women and 49% of men indicated experiencing sexist behavior.

**Unwanted Gender-Related Behavior Details.** Of the 63% of women and 17% of men at USNA who indicated experiencing unwanted gender-related behaviors in 2010, the majority of women (96%) and men (78%) identified the offender as an Academy student. Nine percent of women and 3% of men discussed the situation with any military authority or organization.

**Stalking.** Few women (5.4%) or men (0.7%) indicated that they experienced stalking-related behaviors and the incident caused them fear of physical harm or sexual assault (the requirement to meet the legal definition of stalking).

### **U.S. Air Force Academy**

**Unwanted Sexual Contact.** Overall, 11.9% of women and 1.1% of men at USAFA indicated they experienced unwanted sexual contact in 2010. The percentage of women was higher in 2010 than in 2008 and 2006. Of the 11.9% of women who indicated experiencing unwanted sexual contact, 24% indicated they experienced unwanted sexual touching only. Thirty-three percent indicated the incident included attempted sex (with or without sexual touching) and 39% indicated they experienced completed sex (with or without sexual touching and/or attempted sex).<sup>4</sup>

<b>Unwanted Sexual Contact</b>		
<b>2006</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2010</b>
Women: 9.5%	Women: 9.7%	Women: 11.9%
Men: 1.2%	Men: 1.4%	Men: 1.1%

**Unwanted Sexual Contact Details.** Of the 11.9% of USAFA women who indicated experiencing unwanted sexual contact, all (100%) identified the offender as male, and most (91%) indicated the offender was a fellow cadet. Forty-eight percent indicated alcohol and/or drugs were involved and 49% indicated physical force was used. Sixteen percent indicated they reported the incident to any military authority or organization. The main reasons women did not report the incident were they took care of the situation themselves (69%), thought it was not important enough to report (67%), or did not want people gossiping about them (67%).

**Unwanted Gender-Related Behaviors.** Fifty-three percent of women and 10% of men indicated experiencing sexual harassment in 2010. The percentage of women who indicated experiencing sexual harassment was higher in 2010 than in 2008 (48%) and 2005 (49%). The percentage of men who indicated experiencing sexual harassment was lower in 2010 than in

<sup>4</sup>Details of unwanted sexual contact for men are not reportable due to the small number of men who experienced unwanted sexual contact.

2005 (16%). Eighty-four percent of women and 47% of men indicated experiencing crude/offensive behavior, 57% of women and 13% of men indicated experiencing unwanted sexual attention, and 20% of women and 3% of men indicated experiencing sexual coercion. Eighty-nine percent of women and 39% of men indicated experiencing sexist behavior.

**Unwanted Gender-Related Behavior Details.** Of the 53% of women and 10% of men at USAFA who indicated experiencing unwanted gender-related behaviors in 2010, the majority of women (93%) and men (74%) identified the offender as an Academy student. Six percent of women and 1% of men discussed the situation with any military authority or organization.

**Stalking.** Few women (5.5%) or men (0.4%) indicated that they experienced stalking-related behaviors and the incident caused them fear of physical harm or sexual assault (the requirement to meet the legal definition of stalking).

### ***U.S. Coast Guard Academy***

**Unwanted Sexual Contact.** Overall, 7.8% of women and 2.9% of men at USCGA indicated they experienced unwanted sexual contact in 2010. The percentage of women was higher in 2010 than in 2008. Of the 7.8% of women who indicated experiencing unwanted sexual contact, 35% indicated they experienced unwanted sexual touching only. Seventeen percent indicated the incident included attempted sex (with or without sexual touching) and 41% indicated they experienced completed sex (with or without sexual touching and/or attempted sex).<sup>5</sup>

<b>Unwanted Sexual Contact</b>	
<b>2008</b>	<b>2010</b>
Women: 5.6%	Women: 7.8%
Men: 2.4%	Men: 2.9%

**Unwanted Sexual Contact Details.** Of the 7.8% of USCGA women who indicated experiencing unwanted sexual contact, most (93%) identified the offender as male, and most (76%) indicated the offender was a fellow cadet. Fifty percent indicated alcohol and/or drugs were involved and 62% indicated physical force was used. Nineteen percent indicated they reported the incident to any military authority or organization. The main reasons women did not report the incident were they felt uncomfortable reporting (85%), did not want people gossiping about them (78%), or thought it would hurt their reputation and standing (71%).

**Unwanted Gender-Related Behaviors.** Thirty-nine percent of women and 17% of men indicated experiencing sexual harassment in 2010. The percentage of women who indicated experiencing sexual harassment was lower in 2010 than in 2008 (44%). The percentage of men who indicated experiencing sexual harassment was higher in 2010 than in 2008 (14%). Seventy-eight percent of women and 59% of men indicated experiencing crude/offensive behavior, 36% of women and 20% of men indicated experiencing unwanted sexual attention, and 10% of women and 6% of men indicated experiencing sexual coercion. Eighty percent of women and 49% of men indicated experiencing sexist behavior.

**Unwanted Gender-Related Behavior Details.** Of the 39% of women and 17% of men at USCGA who indicated experiencing unwanted gender-related behaviors in 2010, the majority

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<sup>5</sup>Details of unwanted sexual contact for men are not reportable due to the small number of men who experienced unwanted sexual contact.

of women (91%) and men (74%) identified the offender as an Academy student. Four percent of women and 3% of men discussed the situation with any military authority or organization.

**Stalking.** Few women (2.9%) or men (0.8%) indicated that they experienced stalking-related behaviors and the incident caused them fear of physical harm or sexual assault (the requirement to meet the legal definition of stalking).