

An institutional environment that is proactive in creating spaces where students feel safe and free to pursue their education is imperative. More than ever college campuses in the United States are grappling with how to best do this in the midst of protests, civil discourse, and deep political divide. Balancing the needs of a wide spectrum of students is increasingly more complex. Understanding students' perceptions and experiences can begin to explain how to unpack this paradox.

A little over half of students felt satisfied with their campus' ability to provide an atmosphere for difference.



51%



59% Religious Differences



59% Sexual Orientation

Students felt that faculty played an important role in the dialogue...



70%

indicated that most of their professors turned controversial topics into meaningful discussions.

indicated that most of their professors encouraged students to contribute different perspectives in class.

indicated that most of their professors taught students tolerance and respect for different beliefs.

...and they were likely to discuss and be open to having their opinions challenged.



50%

believed that tolerance for others with different beliefs is one of their major strengths

agreed that openness to having their own views challenged is a major strength

Although students are generally comfortable on campus, some have also reported feeling unsafe for a variety of reasons.



experienced verbal forms of bias/ harassment/discrimination



experienced written forms of bias/harassment/discrimination via email, text, or social media



experienced being excluded from gatherings and events as a form of bias/harassment/ discrimination



experienced bias/harassment/ discrimination in the form of offensive visual images

Students are somewhat satisfied with administrators' response to incidents on campus.



are satisfied with administrators' response to incidents of discrimination



41% administrators' response to incidents of sexual assaults



are satisfied with administrators' response to campus emergencies

Understanding the connections between institutions, faculty, staff, and students provides the information needed to promote change. With insight from the Diverse Learning Environments Survey you'll be one step closer to creating the campus climate necessary for student success.







