



Kyra Gillies, Chris Lam, and Luca Elder

Via: fyi.org.nz

29 August 2017

Dear Kyra Gillies, Chris Lam and Luca Elder,

Official information request for the number of sexual violence reports made to the University.

Thank you for your question about this important topic.

The University of Waikato does not tolerate sexual violence. It endeavours always to provide a safe environment for staff, students, and visitors, and has a number of practical initiatives and support services in place with this in mind. Some general information about how students may access help and support is available at: www.waikato.ac.nz/student-life/student-safety/.

Turning now to the statistics you have requested, these are as follows:

1. **Breakdown by year;** 2008 (0), 2009 (0), 2010 (1), 2011 (2), 2012 (1), 2013 (2), 2014 (5), 2015 (5), 2016 (4), 2017 (1).
2. **Source of the report;** student (13), staff (5), friend (1), other (2).
3. **Type of sexual violence;** Online or in-person sexual harassment in the form of comments, persistent harassment for 'sex', stalking and/or rape threats (11); sexual assault and/or unwanted groping (6*); other types of sexual violence listed in the request (0); other inappropriate sexual behaviour which may fall within the scope of the request (4).
*Includes allegations of attempted sexual assault.
4. **Outcomes;** Six complaints are recorded as having resulted in expulsion, trespass order or reparation.

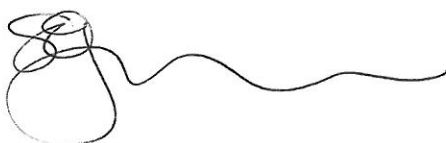
Please note the following contextual information and explanatory notes.

1. We have interpreted your request as follows:
 - a. Your request did not appear to be specific to incidents where the victim was a student, so we assumed you are asking for statistics about reports of all such incidents.
 - b. You have asked for "reports" made to the University. We have interpreted this as meaning reports in the formal sense (i.e. notifying the University's security services or making a formal complaint) and not discussions held under patient-client confidentiality with doctors, nurses, or counsellors employed by the University or any of the myriad of other contexts in which sexual violence may be

disclosed, such as research projects, police checks, requests for special consideration, helping staff or students access support services, etc.

- c. We have interpreted 'reparation' as being any type of remedial, restorative or disciplinary action.
2. The University acknowledges that these statistics will not match the total number of sexual violence incidents that may unfortunately occur in staff and student lives. There are a number of reasons for this. Many incidents, including many of those that you list, may happen off campus and entirely within the context of a person's private life, and may be perpetrated by persons over whom the University has no jurisdiction. Similarly, where criminal activity is alleged, the most appropriate organisation to investigate that complaint is the Police. The University provides pastoral support and disciplinary action where it can, including (where appropriate) supporting victims with making a Police complaint (should they wish to do so) and offering counselling and medical services. However, many incidents may not be reported to the University, for a variety of reasons.
3. Finally, please note that the data for 2008 and 2009 may be incomplete for sexual harassment because the raw data about the six harassment complaints received during this two-year period is not readily accessible and we are unable to determine whether any of them relate to sexual harassment without undertaking an extensive search. This information is therefore not provided, pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act, and you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long, wavy tail extending to the right.

Shona Foster

In-House Counsel