

# Campus Safety Survey Overview

December 19, 2024

Prepared for UASU Executive Committee by  
Department of Research and Advocacy



## Data Source

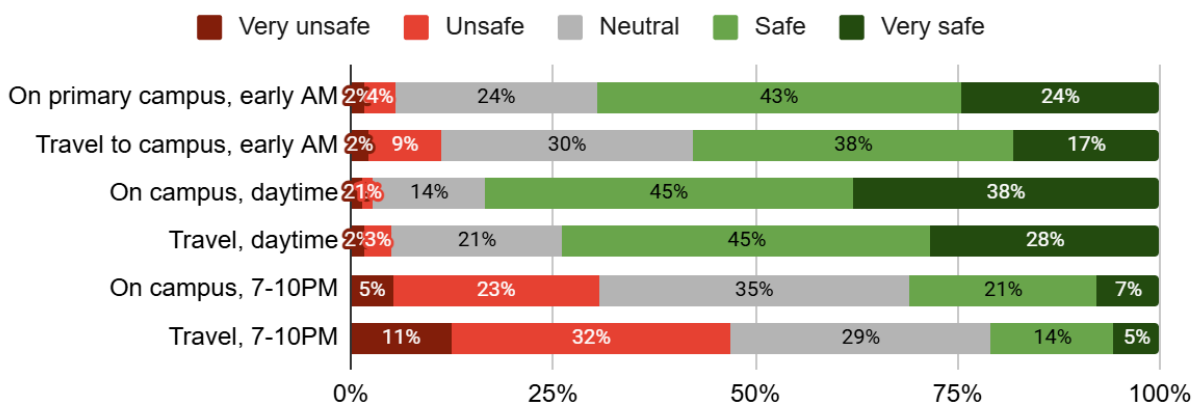
This survey ran on the UASU Perks platform November 8th through 18th, 2024, and reached 1,253 respondents.

The survey was quite broad, including several questions about Safewalk and University operations, but this overview focuses on the questions about the current state of campus safety. The data report on the full survey can be found [here](#) or at our [Public Research page](#). It was provided to Safewalk management to inform discussions with University operations about student needs and priorities. This overview provides an opportunity to focus on the campus safety questions in a more digestible format.

The results indicate serious safety concerns, particularly in the evening, both on campus and while traveling. Many of these concerns are specific to locations, and many students routinely avoid buildings or routes, or leave locations that should be safe (like libraries, study spaces, and cafeterias). Students emphasized the value of campus safety communications and alerts, and showed strong interest in seminars and similar resources to improve their own day-to-day safety.

## Findings

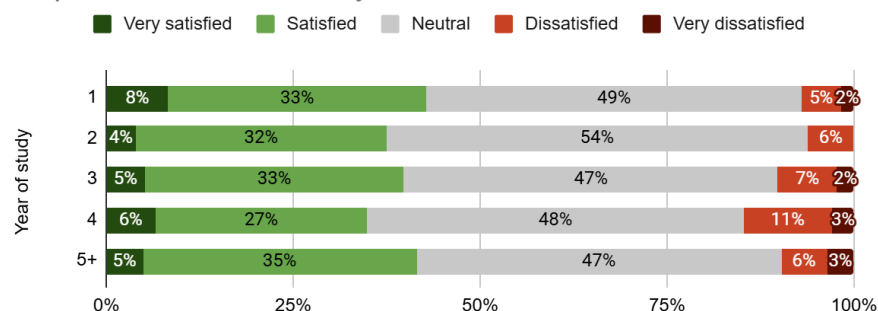
- Feeling unsafe on campus is very common (28% unsafe/very unsafe versus 28% safe/very safe) between 7PM and 10PM. This is a modest improvement over the 2023 Annual Survey but is far higher than other times of day.



- At any given time of day, respondents are somewhat more likely to feel unsafe when traveling to/from campus than on campus.

- 49% of respondents had purposefully avoided a building or route on campus because they felt it was unsafe.
  - This rose to 57% for fourth-year students: that is, by the time they graduate, *most* students will have done so.
  - 14% of all respondents had done so frequently, rising to 15-17% after first year.
- 27% of respondents had left a study space, cafeteria, or library on campus because they felt unsafe.
  - This rose to 32-34% for third-year students and above.
  - 6% of all respondents had done so frequently, rising to 10% after second year.
- 31% of respondents, when presented with a list of University security functions (e.g. general patrol, incident response, alarm response, community liaison, victim support), stated that none of the above contributed significantly to their sense of safety.
- The University security function most commonly cited as contributing to a sense of safety was campus security communication (emails/alerts), at 47%.
  - This would be consistent with student feedback about frustration when major safety-related incidents unfold without communication, as has happened multiple times in 2024.
  - The rate of respondents who felt that safety emails/alerts helped them feel safe rose by year of study, from 46% in first year to 50%+ in fourth year and above.
- 37% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the available resources for student safety; 8% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.
  - Net satisfaction fell consistently by year of study, from +35 to +19 (other than the relatively small number of respondents in year 5+)

"How satisfied are you with the available resources dedicated to help ensure student safety?"



- All listed workshops/seminar options found interest from hundreds of respondents:
  - 46% were interested in self-defense
  - 31% were interested in situational awareness
  - 26% were interested in conflict de-escalation
  - 23% were interested in crisis management
  - 22% were interested in bystander intervention
  - 64% were interested in at least one of the above
  - Interest in all items stayed relatively flat by year of study.
  - We take the opportunity to note that a competently designed self-defense course would include content from many of these items.
- 71% of respondents never report safety incidents/concerns on campus, for a variety of reasons. Common fears include:
  - Not knowing how to report (64%)
  - Feeling like nothing will be done about it (52%)
  - Not being taken seriously (39%)
  - Getting attacked themselves (33%)
  - Embarrassment (30%)