USC Well-being Collective Student Wellbeing Key Performance Indicators Update

July 2020

The USC Well-being Collective harnesses the power of Collective Impact for a variety of distinct campus departments and units to come together and work with the student community toward our common agenda: strengthening a culture driven by student wellbeing.

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Background of the Development of Key Performance Indicators

Eight Student Wellbeing Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) were developed in partnership with USC Student Affairs, USC Student Health, and other campus units from the USC Well-being Collective and input from members of the student community. These KPIs are used to measure progress towards achieving the common agenda of strengthening a culture driven by student well-being.

Data Sources

KPIs in this document were analyzed from datasets in the Healthy Minds Study in the spring 2018 (N = 4,543) and fall 2018 (N = 3,133), the AlcoholEdu for College Surveys (N = 6,248 for 2018/2019; N = 5,588 for 2019/2020), and the USC Student Well-being Index Survey in Spring 2020 (N = 6,831). Datasets with random sampling surveys were subsequently weighted by sex, race, location of study, and enrolled academic programs to accurately reflect the census student population.

Changes in USC Student Wellbeing Key Performance Indicators

Key Performance Indicator	Description	2018-19 Baseline	Spring 2020 Result	% Change
Positive Sense of Belonging**	% of students who report positive sense of belonging	43.2%	46.3%	+3.2%
Fairness and Equity in Classroom	% of all students who feel they are treated fairly and equitably in classroom and classroom settings	84.2%	84.9%	+0.7%
Fairness and Equity out of Classroom**	% of all students who feel they are treated fairly and equitably in out-of-classroom university spaces	79.6%	82.2%	+2.6%
Positive Mental Health***	% of all students who report positive mental health	45.3%	51.0%	+5.7%
At-Risk Drinking among all students***	% of all students who engage in at-risk drinking	38.6%	22.8%	-15.8%
At-Risk Drinking among all incoming undergraduate students***	% of incoming undergraduate students who are at-risk drinkers after 6 weeks on campus	21.4%	20.0%	-1.4%
Sexual Assault***	% of all students who have experienced sexual assault in the past 12 months	7.4%	4.9%	-2.5%

% change between baseline and 2020 is statistically significant at *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001. Data on positive sense of belonging, fairness & equity in and out of classroom, and upstanding behaviors were analyzed from on-campus survey participants only. For more details about data sources, survey methodology and measures, visit uscwellbeingcollective.usc.edu.

Summary of KPI findings

- Overall, all of the student wellbeing KPIs trend in the favorable direction from the 2018/2019 baseline to 2020
- In particular, four KPIs (positive sense of belonging, fairness and equity out of classroom, positive mental health, and upstanding behaviors) were found to have significant positive increase from the baseline in 2018/2019 to Spring 2020.
- Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, 56% of USC students who were enrolled at UPC or HSC continued to live on or near campus in Los Angeles and another 22% remained in California. While students moved to online classes and practiced physical distancing, data demonstrate that students had more positive sense of belonging (+3.2%) and mental health (+5.7%) when compared to data from two years prior.
- The rates of at-risk drinking and sexual assault among USC students have decreased significantly by 15.8% and 2.5% respectively. These changes could be attributed to the stay-at-home order in Los Angeles during the data collection in 2020. The order required the closure of campuses, clubs, bars, restaurants and other gathering places to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These environmental and policy changes likely limited students from having access to locations where alcohol over consumption and sexual assault were more likely to occur.
- Upstanding behaviors among students also increased by almost 10% from 34.6% to 44.3%. More students have stepped up to intervene when they witnessed someone engaged in discriminatory behaviors toward other students, drank too much alcohol, at risk of being in a situation where they could encounter sexual assault or physical assault, or were displaying suicidal and self-harm thoughts and behaviors.

July 2020

Equity in Student Wellbeing

POSITIVE SENSE OF BELONGING

Racial/ethnic groups with the least sense of belonging:



Mixed-race (40.8%)
Black/African American (41.6%)
International Asian (43.1%)
Asian American (44.6%)

LGBTQ+ students were

1.3 times less likely

than cis-heterosexual students to have positive sense of belonging.

Mixed-race and Black/African
American students were

1.3 times less likely

than White students to have positive sense of belonging.

FAIRNESS AND EQUITY IN AND OUT OF CLASSROOM



Only 67%

Indigenous and Black/African American students

reported to be treated fairly and equitably in the classroom compared to 80% or more of students from other races and ethnicities. Approximately...



1 in 3



1 in 5

Black/ African American

Latinx/Hispanic International Non-Asian

LGBTQ+

felt they
were NOT
treated fairly
and equitably
out of the
classroom

POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH



Racial/ethnic groups with the lowest rates of positive mental health:

Asian American (45.3%)
International Asian (46.5%)
International Non-Asian (50.2%)
Mixed-Race (50.2%)
LGBTQ+ (40.9%)

Students with one or more disabilities were 1.5 times less likely than students without a disability to have positive mental health.



AT-RISK DRINKING

During the COVID-19 pandemic in spring 2020, the prevalence of at-risk drinking among USC students decreased significantly across all demographics, when compared to spring 2018:

50.3% to 31.3% (-19.0%) among White

45.2% to 26.3% (-18.9%) among Mixed-race

41.0% to 22.5% (-18.5%) among Cis-heterosexual male

35.6% to 21.7% (-13.9%) among Cis-heterosexual female

42.1% to 25.9% (-16.2%) among LGBTQ+

45.4% to 25.3% (-20.1%) among undergraduates

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Undergraduate student populations with the highest rates of sexual assault in the past 12 months:

22.2% Middle Eastern/Arab American LGBTQ+

20.4% International Non-Asian Cis-Heterosexual Women

17.8% Mixed-race LGBTQ+

17.7% Mixed-race Cis-Heterosexual Women

8% of undergraduate students and 2.6% of graduate students across all gender identity & sexual orientations experienced unwanted sexual contact in the past 12 months.

UPSTANDING BEHAVIORS

More than half of...

Mixed-race White Black/African American Middle Eastern/Arab American

students have intervened to support someone at USC who drank too much, were at risk of being sexually or physically assaulted, were being verbally harassed, or under emotional distress.

Percent of students with upstanding behaviors by gender identity, sexual orientation and degree level

49.0% LGBTQ+

45.8% cis-heterosexual female 40.3% cis-heterosexual male

63.0% Undergraduate students 30.0% Graduate students