

Police Services Evaluation for Returning Students

Summer 2005



MIAMI UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
4945 OXFORD TRENTON ROAD
OXFORD, OHIO 45056
(513) 529-2222
WWW.MUOHIO.EDU/POLICE/

July 17, 2005

Chief John M. McCandless
Miami University Police Department
4945 Oxford Trenton Road
Oxford, Ohio 45056

Chief McCandless:

The attached report marks the first time that the Miami University Police Department has conducted an evaluation of the community's overall feeling of safety on campus and attitudes toward the police department. From this first effort, much has been learned about our community's concerns, attitudes about campus safety and the police department, and streamlining future evaluation projects.

This report is a summary of the results from the Police Services Evaluation for Summer Students which was conducted from June 1 to July 5, 2005. Based on the responses that were submitted, I believe that a representative sample of the undergraduate population provided input in this project. As you read over the summary of the responses, you will find that most students who responded (95%) feel that Miami University is a safe campus and that most students (87%) rate their overall experience with the Miami University Police as "good," "very good," or "excellent." While these are encouraging statistics, they should be considered in the context of the many comments that respondents provided about campus safety issues and police services.

Hopefully the results of the evaluation and the comments that were submitted will serve as a reference point for future evaluations and offer insight into the needs of our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Sgt. Benjamin Spilman

Background

In an attempt to improve customer service as well as to gauge the community's overall feeling of safety on Miami's campus, the Miami University Police Department developed and sent out an evaluation instrument to returning students. It is anticipated that this evaluation will provide useful insight which will help guide our department as we make decisions regarding manpower allocations, crime prevention programs and other customer service issues.

Methods

The Police Services Evaluation for Returning Students was developed by the staff of the Miami University Police Department as an instrument for measuring perceptions of safety on campus as well as students' impressions of the Miami University Police Department. The evaluation (Appendix A) consists of seven questions, some with multiple components. Most of the evaluation consisted of closed-ended, multiple choice questions; however each question does allow an opportunity to provide comments or to clarify answers. The evaluation also provides an opportunity for the respondent to receive a call back from a representative of the police department if there are issues or questions that arise as a result of completing the evaluation. Finally, the evaluation asks that the respondent provide voluntary demographic information about themselves for purposes of determining whether or not a representative sample of returning students responded to the evaluation.

A directory was created in the police department's web site at [<www.muohio.edu/evaluation/>](http://www.muohio.edu/evaluation/) for participants to respond to the survey. The directory requires a unique user ID and password in order to limit participation in the evaluation to the intended sample group. The web page at that address (Appendix B) is the evaluation created by the department which collects the responses and e-mails them to [<policesurvey@muohio.edu>](mailto:policesurvey@muohio.edu), an e-mail address set up specifically to receive the responses from the evaluation. The web page also gives the user the option to print a copy of the evaluation and mail it to the department.

A random sample of one thousand returning students was obtained from the University Registrar's Office. Those thousand names, addresses and unique IDs were sent to the print shop at Gaskill Hall where they were printed on a postcard explaining the evaluation and providing the web address where the survey could be completed as well as a user ID and password to access the survey (Appendix C). Postcards were mailed to the sample group on June 1, 2005 and some responses were received through the police department's web site that same date.

As survey results were received, they were entered in a Microsoft Access database by staff in the Records and Information Office at the Miami University Police Department. By June 9, 2005 only 17 responses had been received. Denise Krallman, the Assistant Director for Institutional Research sent a mail-merged e-mail message to the same one thousand students in the original sample reminding them to complete the evaluation. The message was sent with Sgt. Ben Spilman's return e-mail address and was sent in such a manner that recipients would not see the unique IDs of others in the sample groups, nor would the police department see the unique IDs of the recipients unless the recipient replied to the message. The e-mail message was sent on Monday morning, June 13, 2005, forty nine responses were received on that date. Since that date, responses have continued to come in, e-mail responses continued until Tuesday, July 5,

2005. One response was mailed to the department. A total of 158 valid responses to the evaluation were received.

The largest response to the evaluation was received after the e-mail reminder was sent. The e-mail reminder was nearly identical to the mailed postcard, but the respondents could easily follow a link from the e-mail message directly to the web site where the evaluation responses were collected. There was no cost for sending an e-mail message to one thousand students, there were printing and postage costs associated with mailing postcards. Future evaluations may receive faster results and cost less by eliminating the postcard mailing and relying on e-mail notifications.

Results

The first question in the evaluation asks “Do you feel safe on campus?” The question is intentionally broad and seeks to get the students’ overall feeling of safety on campus. The term “on campus” is not defined, but it is assumed that students recognize the difference between being on the University’s grounds and being in the vicinity of the University (i.e., Uptown Oxford, fraternity houses, etc.) Ninety five percent of the respondents to the evaluation answered “Yes” indicating that overwhelmingly students feel safe on campus. Four percent of the evaluation respondents answered “No” and one percent of the evaluation respondents did not answer this question (Appendix D).

In addition, thirty nine comments relating to this question were recorded (Appendix E). Many of the comments were meant to modify their answer of “Yes” or “No” by saying they feel safe “for the most part” or “somewhat.” Some comments requested better lighting in dark areas of campus such as Bishop Woods, Western Campus and Slantwalk.

The second question asked “have you participated in any safety-related programs presented by Miami University police officers?” Sixteen percent of the respondents to the evaluation indicated that they had participated in a safety-related program, eighty three percent indicated that they had not participated in any programs, one percent of the evaluation respondents did not reply to this question (Appendix F).

Sixteen comments were offered along with the responses to question two (Appendix G). Some respondents were not aware that the police department offered safety-related programs, others attributed the Environmental Health and Safety Office’s “Great Escape” fire safety program to the police department. One respondent indicated “Officer Buckle gave my sorority an alcohol-awareness seminar,” this presumably is Det. Sgt. John Buchholtz of the Oxford Police Department as there is no Officer Buckle at the Miami University Police Department.

Question three asks “have you visited the police department’s web site at www.muohio.edu/police before today?” Seventy seven percent of the evaluation respondents answered “No,” twenty two percent answered “Yes,” and one percent of the evaluation respondents did not answer this question (Appendix H).

Four comments related to the police department’s web site were recorded, some complimenting the fact that crime alert information was available on the police department’s web site and the

MyMiami web site (Appendix I). The Miami University Police Department web site has been available online at <www.muohio.edu/police> since December 1998, it was redesigned and updated in December 2004. The department has posted Campus Crime Alerts and monthly activity reports on the web site since its inception. The site was created and is maintained by police department staff.

Question four is an open-ended question asking “What is the most important safety issue that the Miami University Police Department can address?” There were one hundred nineteen responses to the question which resulted in a variety of answers, some contained several suggestions (Appendix J). The responses could largely be categorized as concerning: rape and sexual assault, nighttime safety, lighting concerns, alcohol issues, physical assaults and other concerns. Many of the responses were one or two word answers, few respondents offered any suggestions about how the police department can address campus safety issues.

The most common answer to the question was rape or sexual assault, over 44% of the respondents indicated that rape or sexual concern was one of the most important safety issues that the Miami University Police Department can address. The next largest area of concern was nighttime safety issues such as the safety of students walking alone and visibility of officers at night. Campus lighting and alcohol issues each received just over 9% of the responses as the most important issue. Some respondents requested better lighting, others felt dark areas should be better patrolled. A few respondents differentiated physical assaults from sexual assaults as an area of concern. The other concerns varied from traffic and pedestrian enforcement to creating a “safe place” for seeking emergency assistance for problems created by underage consumption or over-consumption of alcohol without fear of penalties.

There were a wide variety of answers to this question, future evaluations may list a number of campus safety issues and ask respondents to rank those that are the greatest concern and possibly offer suggestions for how to address these issues.

The fifth question in the evaluation asks if the respondent has had an encounter with the Miami University Police since being a student. Only 12% of the respondents indicated that they have had an encounter with the Miami University Police (Appendix K). Those who had an encounter with the Miami University Police were asked what kind of contact they had with the police, whether it was an enforcement contact where they received a citation, were pulled over for a traffic violation or were arrested; a victim who made a police report or was the victim of a crime; a witness; or community relations contact from attending a program or event where the Miami University Police were present. The number of people reporting types contact with the Miami University Police was greater than the number who had answered “Yes” to the question about whether or not they had contact with the Miami University Police. The greatest number of responses about what type of contact people had with the police was a community relations contact, followed by witnesses, enforcement contacts and victims. The numbers of all four types of contact were very close in number, respondents could choose more than one type of contact in the event that they had multiple contacts with the police.

Respondents were asked to rate their overall experience with the Miami University Police Department on a scale of Excellent, Very Good, Good and Poor. A four item rating scale was

chosen to reduce any central tendency error where respondents are more likely to choose a middle-of-the-road rating like “average.” Eighty seven percent of the respondents rated their experience with the Miami University Police Department as “Good,” “Very Good,” or “Excellent.” Twenty eight percent rated their experience with the Miami University Police Department “Good,” thirty three percent rated their experience “Very Good,” and twenty six percent rated their experience “Excellent.” Thirteen percent rated their experience with the Miami University Police Department “Poor,” and it should be noted that several respondents indicated that they had been the subject of enforcement action by the police department. (Appendix L) Many respondents commented on their individual experiences with the Miami University Police, there were many positive comments and also criticisms about individual experiences and perceptions about alcohol enforcement (Appendix M).

Question six asks respondents to indicate which of the services that the Miami University Police provides that they would like to see more of. A list of seven items is given; foot patrol, bike patrol, vehicle patrol, community relations programs, traffic enforcement, alcohol enforcement, and drug enforcement. Respondents could also choose “other” and indicate what types of other services they would like the Miami University Police to provide. Respondents could choose multiple items. Foot patrol was chosen most frequently followed by bike patrol. Community relations, alcohol enforcement, drug enforcement vehicle patrol and traffic enforcement followed, in declining order (Appendix N). Several respondents marked “other” and listed other types of services they would like to see the Miami University Police provide. The most common response was “none,” without further explanation from the respondents it is impossible to know exactly what is meant by this. One respondent indicated “mounted patrol” and another “DUI enforcement.” One respondent’s answer was cut off because it was too long to fit in the comment box, the general gist of the comment had to do with being “left alone,” another who apparently did not take the evaluation very seriously recommended “zombie enforcement.” (Appendix O).

Thirty two respondents wrote general comments about the Miami University Police Department in response to question seven. There was no common theme to the responses, but many offered thanks for the service provided by the officers at the Miami University Police Department. Respondents offered constructive suggestions about where to patrol, and some commented on parking issues (Appendix P).

Respondents were given the option to be contacted by a representative from the Miami University Police Department to follow up on any questions or issues raised by the evaluation. Several respondents filled in their name and telephone number and were subsequently called about their evaluation response. Sgt. Spilman spoke with two people, both of whom indicated that they had no further comments and that they misread the question about being called back. In speaking with one respondent, Sgt. Spilman determined that the respondent’s entire perception of the Miami University Police Department was based on an experience with the Oxford Police Department; this response was not counted among the valid responses that this summary is based upon. Several other respondents who left names and telephone numbers by which to be contacted did not return calls and messages from police department representatives.

Respondents were asked to provide demographic information about themselves to help insure that a representative sample of students were included in the evaluation. Thirty five percent of the respondents were male, 61% female. Seventy seven percent reported being of majority race, 9% reported minority. The class standing of respondents in Fall 2005 was reported as: 1% First Year Students, 31% Sophomores, 29% Juniors, and 35% Seniors. Thirty three percent reported living on-campus, 56% live off campus, 3% were commuters (Appendix Q).

Conclusions

The results of this evaluation project will hopefully provide baseline information by which future evaluations can be measured. Many of the comments contributed by respondents will be useful in evaluating customer service and satisfaction as well as serving as a guide for improvement and recognition for the contributions that the Miami University Police make to the campus community.

According to the Office of Institutional Research at Miami University, the undergraduate population is approximately 45% male, 55% female. Approximately 8.6% of the undergraduates at Miami University are racial minorities and approximately 40% of the undergraduate students enrolled at Miami University live in on-campus housing. The demographic information reported by respondents to the evaluation appears to indicate that a representative sample of the University's undergraduate population participated in the evaluation.

Acknowledgements

A number of people contributed greatly to this project and deserve recognition for their efforts. This first Police Services Evaluation could not have been completed without the support and leadership of Chief John McCandless. Lt. Andrew Powers and Mrs. Kristy Webb of the Miami University Police Department were both instrumental in designing the evaluation. Michael Beck from the Help Desk at Information Technology Services provided much patience and assistance with the unique ID and password for the protected section of the police department web site where the evaluation responses were collected. Denise Krallman in the Office of Institutional Research provided expertise in the planning of the project, sent the one thousand e-mail messages to the sample group, and provided valuable information about the demographics of the undergraduate population of the University. Ms. Rebecca Garnett in the Records and Information Office checked the evaluation responses daily and ensured they were entered in the database for analysis. And finally, many thanks to the students who took the time to complete the evaluation and provide insight into the Miami University community.

Appendix A

Police Services Evaluation for Returning Students

In order to improve the quality of service that we provide, we would appreciate your responses to the following questions about the Miami University Police Department. All answers are anonymous. Thank you for your participation.

1. Do you feel safe on campus? Yes No
Comments:

2. Have you participated in any safety-related programs presented by Miami University police officers? Yes No
Which ones?

3. Have you visited the police department's web site at www.muohio.edu/police? Yes No
Comments:

4. What is the most important safety issue that the Miami University Police Department can address?

5. Since you have been a Miami University student, have you had an encounter with the Miami University Police? Yes No

What kind of contact did you have with the Miami University Police?
(Mark all that apply.)

- Enforcement (arrest, citation, traffic stop)
 Victim (made a report, victim of crime)
 Witness
 Community Relations (attended program, event)

←

←

Based on your experience with the Miami University Police Department, please rate your overall experience:

Excellent Very Good Good Poor

Comments:

6. Which of the services that the Miami University Police provides would you like to see more of? (Mark all that apply.)

- Foot patrol
- Bike patrol
- Vehicle patrol
- Community Relations programs
- Traffic enforcement
- Alcohol enforcement
- Drug enforcement
- Other: _____

Comments:

7. Feel free to include any general comments about the Miami University Police Department below:

Do you wish to have a representative from the Miami University Police Department contact you about this evaluation?

Yes No

Person to contact: _____ Telephone: _____

The questions below are optional. Your answers will help us ensure that our resources are being used efficiently and to ensure that a representative sample of students have provided input in this project.

Your gender:

- Female
- Male

Your race:

- Majority
- Minority

Your class standing in Fall 2005:

- First Year Student
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior
- Graduate Student


Where do you live when you attend classes?

- On Campus Housing
- Off Campus Housing
- Commuter

Appendix B



- 05 Home
- Search
- Contacts
- News
- Sports & Events

- Police Department
 - Campus Safety
 - General Information
 - Staff
 - Statistics & Reports
 - Community Policing
 - Campus Crime Alerts
 - Links
 - E-Mail
- 

Police Services Evaluation

Thank you for your interest in the Miami University Police Department. We would appreciate your responses to the following questions about campus safety, the services that the Miami University Police Department provides and your experiences with the Miami University Police Department. All answers are anonymous. Thank you for your participation.

If you would rather complete this evaluation on paper and mail it to the Miami University Police Department, a printable version can be found by following the link below:

[2005 Summer Evaluation](#)

The evaluation can be mailed to: 2005 Summer Evaluation
Miami University Police Department
4945 Oxford Trenton Road
Oxford, Ohio 45056

1. Do you feel safe on campus? Yes No

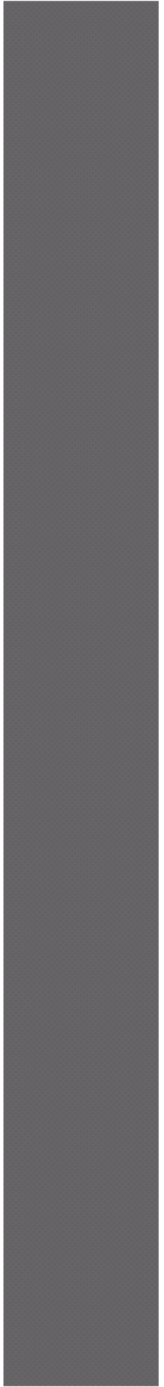
Comments:

2. Have you participated in any safety-related programs presented by Miami University police officers? Yes No

Which ones?

3. Have you visited the police department's web site at www.muohio.edu/police before today? Yes No

Comments:



4. What is the most important safety issue that the Miami University Police Department can address?

5. Since you have been a Miami University student, have you had an encounter with the Miami University Police? Yes No

What kind of contact did you have with the Miami University Police? (Mark all that apply.)

- Enforcement (arrest, citation, traffic stop)
- Victim (made a report, victim of crime)
- Witness
- Community Relations (attended program, event)

Based on your experience with the Miami University Police Department, please rate your overall experience:

- Excellent
- Very Good
- Good
- Poor

Comments:

6. Which of the services that the Miami University Police provides would you like to see more of? (Mark all that apply.)

- Foot patrol
- Bike patrol
- Vehicle patrol
- Community Relations programs
- Traffic enforcement
- Alcohol enforcement
- Drug enforcement
- Other

Comments:

7. Feel free to include any general comments about the Miami University Police Department below:

Do you wish to have a representative from the Miami University Police Department contact you about this evaluation? Yes No

Your name: Telephone:

The questions below are optional. Your answers will help us ensure that our resources are being used efficiently and to ensure that a representative sample of students have provided input in this project.

Your gender:

- Female
- Male
- Decline to answer

Your race:

- Majority
- Minority
- Decline to answer

Your class standing in Fall 2005:

- First Year Student
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior
- Graduate Student
- Decline to answer

Where do you live while attending classes?

- On Campus Housing
- Off Campus Housing
- Commuter
- Decline to answer

Thank you for taking time to help us to improve our service to you. Questions or comments about this evaluation can be directed to [Sgt. Ben Solomon](#).

Appendix C



**MIAMI
UNIVERSITY**
POLICE DEPARTMENT
4945 OXFORD TRENTON ROAD
OXFORD, OHIO 43056

On behalf of the Miami University Police Department, I hope that you are enjoying your summer. In an effort to evaluate the quality of police services that our police department provides on campus, we are asking you to visit our web site and complete a short evaluation of campus safety and police services.

Our department's goal is to provide the best possible service in an effective, courteous and professional manner. While we make every attempt to achieve our goal, we welcome input from our community on how well we are doing.

This evaluation is designed for students who will be returning to Miami University in Fall 2005. You can access it on the web at:

www.muohio.edu/police/evaluation/

In order to complete the evaluation, you will need to log in to the site with the following login information:

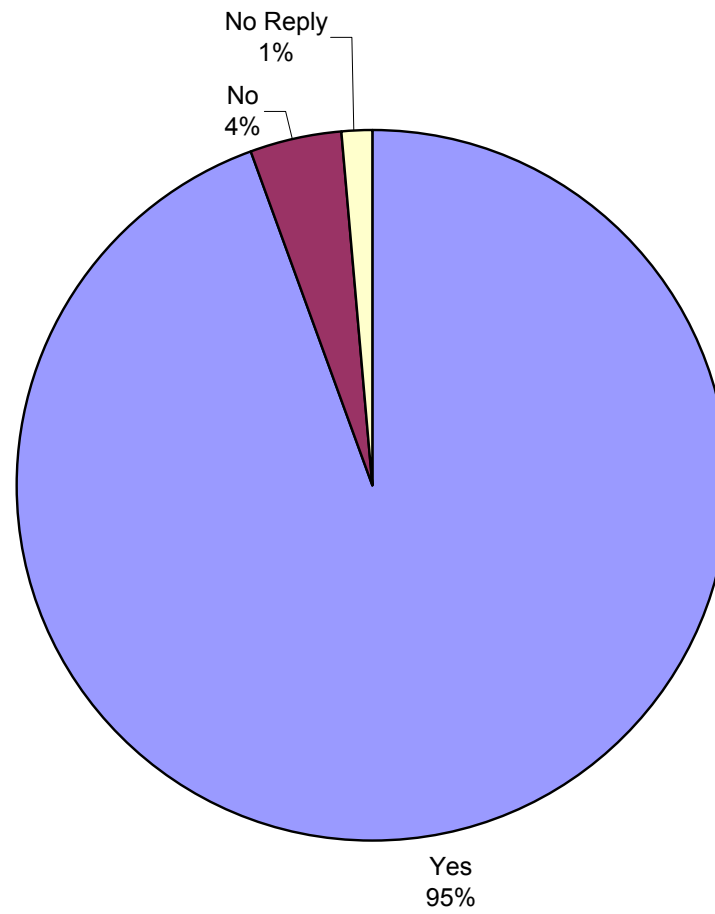
User ID:	policesurvey
Password:	student

It is my sincere hope that you will take a few minutes to visit our web site and complete the survey. Best wishes for the summer, we're looking forward to your return this fall.

John M. McCandless, Chief of Police

Appendix D

Do you feel safe on campus?



Appendix E

Do you feel safe on campus? Comments:

"The two things that that truly worried me about Miami's campus were the number of rapes, both reported and unreported, that I heard of this year and the huge alcohol culture. I suppose that's how college campuses are in general, though."

"I feel relatively safe on campus. Walking home late at night isn't one of my favorite activities but I very rarely walk home alone so that is always a help."

"More lights would be nice."

"And an increased police presence does not make me feel safer. In all actuality, I think that an increased police presence makes me feel unsafe. If I see several policemen in one area I assume that I am in a high crime area. We do not live in a high crime area as the most common crime the MUPD deals with is underage consumption. Give me a break...I believe that the university could spend their money in better ways."

"I wish there were more campus call boxes around like other campuses I know."

"I'd feel safer if the campus were better lit. Especially along slant walk"

"I locked the keys inside my car once, and an officer helped."

"The only time I get a little nervous is when I have to walk back from something late by myself."

for the most part

Most of the time

I feel extremely safe on campus and never worry about walking around alone.

"I wish there was more lighting on campus beyond slant walk. I have taken several night classes and feel some areas are not well lit. There should also be SEVERAL more emergency phones strategically placed on campus."

I do not feel safe at times walking home at night.

Not in the evenings

for the most part

somewhat

" most of the time. not after crime reports had been given about tallawanda during second semester and i lived in swing...but i was glad to be aware. im also nervous about fire codes a lot because the buildings are so old and people plug so many things"

"i feel very unsafe walking at night on campus especially coming back from the library and academic buildings"

" I feel safe on Miami's campus relative to a campus in a big city such as Ohio State. However I do not feel as safe as I used to. It seems that the amount of rape/violence has been increasing."

At night especially

"At night I get a little nervous when leaving a late class, but have never had a problem. I feel very safe during the day."

not on Western Campus

"I did except on western campus at night. Two of my friends were involved in either a rape or a robbing/fight."

Seeing cars drive around at night helps., Well lit areas.

yes, but i wish there were more lights on some sidewalks.

"The dorm rooms doors are extremely sturdy and if Zombies were to ever attack Miami's fair campus students need to go no further then the Zombie proof located in the residence hall basements."

Except for parking which is a ploy by the university to make millions per year off of horrible rules in place.

"Overall I feel safe...but if I walk by myself at night I call someone to talk to..it makes me feel a little bit safer"

and off campus

For the most part.

"I don't like the way they handle the parking tickets, booting of cars, towing, etc. I think the owner of the vehicle should be notified if there is a boot put on their car. Otherwise, they may not know that it has been booted and after three days when it is towed, they won't have any idea what happened to it."

More so when I park close to the building I'm going to be in at night. although I feel emergency phones are scare and far between..

"I usually feel safe... except walking at night through Bishop Woods or on any pathway to Western Campus."

"However, there are times when I near the fraternity houses and behave more cautiously and am more alert."

The police presence on campus is quite visible

"More emergency button stations would make it better with better lighting around campus also."

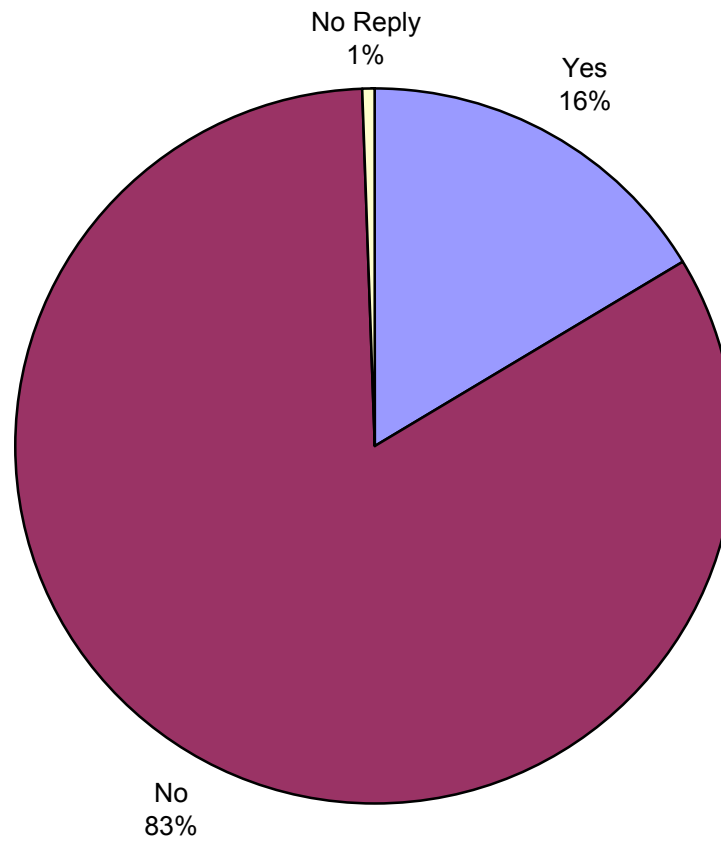
"I feel less safe at night, especially if I am by myself. My biggest concern is sexual assault, and I think that the police should be patrolling the darker and quieter areas to prevent attacks like this, as opposed to patrolling the main streets looking for underage drinkers."

" being gay and having few protective rights in the state of ohio, while living in a conservative climate forces me to question daily how safe i am"

I feel safe but try to avoid walking alone late at night, although I sometimes do just due to circumstance.

Appendix F

Have you participated in any safety-related programs presented by Miami University police officers?



Appendix G

Have you participated in any safety-related programs presented by Miami University Police Officers? Which ones?

There were none offered to my knowledge.

"I work at the Health Center and have presented programs before with MU police officers"

I have heard of any such programs

Visitations and presentations to ROTC students

"CAP VAN - But you can never get through to them. My friend and I were stuck with a crowd we did not want to be with. But we were drunk and couldn't walk home. We called the CAP VAN (DURING service hours) and no one answered! We tried repeatedly of 2 hours! Both phone numbers! "

"I'm not sure if this counts, but the Fire Chief came to my sorority to give a lesson on fire safety and how to protect our homes and ourselves."

just the required freshman ones.

Ghettofest 2004

"I do not know if this counts but the fire dept safety meeting where they simulate fires and give instructions on what to do if there is a fire."

But I would be interested in it.

The how to not die in a blazing fire program.

a fire safety program in my dorm freshman year

"Given that I'm a non-traditional student living off campus, and that I've dealt with extremely frightening circumstances in life thus far, I'm well aware of knowing how to take extra precautions and watch my own back. It's nice to know that the police are on your side in this college town. "

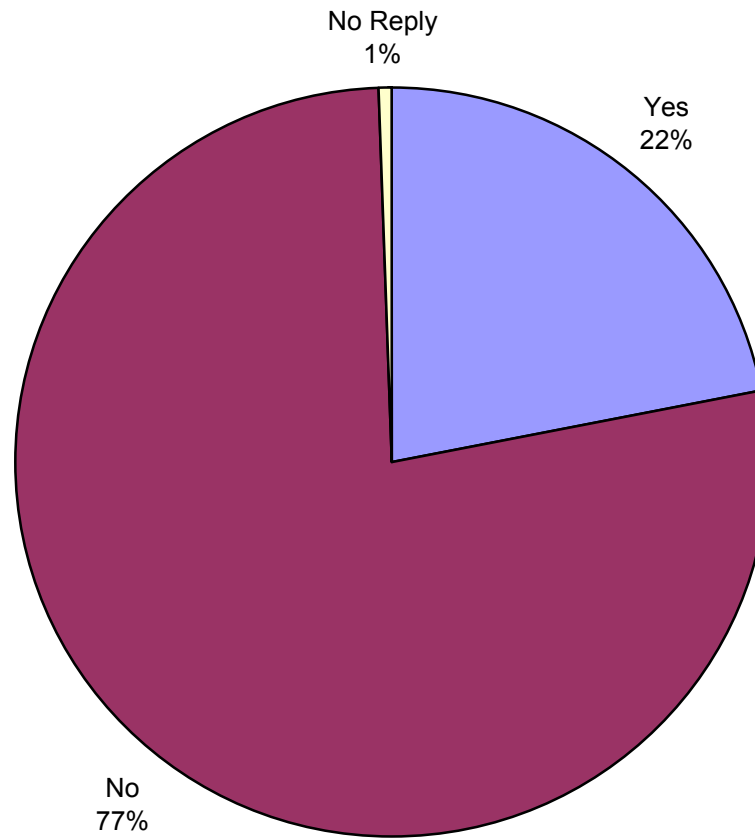
RA training/RA related programs we put on

" I have attended some Greek safety programs when MU police officer spoke."

Officer Buckle gave my sorority an alcohol-awareness seminar

Appendix H

Have you visited the police department's web site at www.muohio.edu/police before today?



Appendix I

Have you visited the police department's web site at www.muohio.edu/police before today?

Comments:

I don't have so much time that I find it necessary to scroll through the police web site. How many actual OFFICERS have ever visited it before?

"The campus crime alerts on the web site and postings on MyMiami are a good idea."

"Lots of Good information!! And extra services available to students!! It's too bad that more institutions don't have the financial resources available for such services to the students."

I have visited it to look at crime reports.

Appendix J

What is the most important safety issue that the Miami University Police Department can address?

"The safety at night: there aren't many very accessible emergency call boxes in heavily trafficked areas and a lot of lights don't seem to be on at night so there are many areas where it is very dark"

Alcohol Issues and rape

"Reaching out to students and explaining ways to be logically safe. Warn students of the dangers of being in compromising positions, especially when intoxicated."

Women walking home alone at night

lack of security telephones on campus

too much funding to the police force, too many officers, too

rape and dark campuses

Officers that hassle students

rape/attacks

rape and sexual assault

Rape, Robbery

safety for students in the evening and night. Also, pedestrian/vehicle traffic.

campus safety

The assault issues, especially on females.

Assaults on the way home from uptown.

Underage Drinking

"Possible ways to prevent rape...never walk alone at night, drink responsibly, etc."

"dark alleys....walking down them alone can be dangerous....I always see the police on the streets but once you get off the main street there is no one in sight"

"Keeping drunk drivers off the road and keeping dark alleys patrolled at night to reduce the number of sexual assaults."

Rape and assault.

on campus sexual assaults

"Last semester there were several sexual assault cases. I think that there should be more done to prevent that from occurring in the future."

rape prevention

"staying out of our way and stop thinking about \$\$\$ when you arrest a 20 year old 3 weeks before his 21st birthday for under age drinking when the person arresting him is only 22 and hits on him while arresting him, not to mention not know the constitution"

sexual assault

townies wandering around campus

I feel that not only should they drive around... they should walk around on campus. especially at night because that's when I feel as a female I am most vulnerable

having better lighting on streets other than uptown on High Street. Other than in that area, I find it very hard to see at times when I am heading home for the night.

Safety concerning rapes and assaults here on campus. Maybe making sure students do not walk anywhere alone and dark places are lit up at night.

rapes

student safety at night

The growing number of rapes on campus protecting my car in the commuter parking lots

rape

rape

"alcohol consumption in excess/underage, though most students believe drinking is a right in college"

The rapes that have occurred on campus

"Making sure students are not walking home alone. Make the students feel more comfortable with seeking help from police."

The many rapes on campus

rape

"Safety concerning rapes and assaults here on campus. Maybe making sure students do not walk anywhere alone and dark places are lit up at night"

"having better lighting on streets other than uptown on High Street. Other than in that area, I find it very hard to see at times when I am heading home for the night."

Sexual assault

"i feel that not only should they drive around... they should walk around on campus. especailly at night because thats when i feel as a female I am most vulnerable"

"Safety of students on campus who are walking in certain areas at night, that are not well lite. such as East Quad between Symmes and Reid."

All of the drinking of minors.

attacks at night/rape

How to keep yourself safe when walking late at night

"sexual assault--, making women and men (and the campus) understand it is not the victims' fault it happened is a huge mindset that needs to be addressed. The police force can lead this in order to highten campus awareness of the issue. , , and alcohol--Students need to realize how bad it is in huge amounts. I think the U police does a good job of arresting underage etc., , Noise violations--Parties can often get out of control and the police could do more to make that law known so students who wish to study in their rooms can do so (parties have been known to occur on monday nights that are ridiculously loud and makes students who wish to use their tuition wisely every night by doing homework angry or upset)."

"lighting on campus streets and on off campus streets. Focus more on safety concerns and perhaps less on catching underaged drinking- this is a problem that wont ever be solved anyway"

Bring down the amount of violence and rapes that have been occurring.

Sexual assult

Sexual assaults on females.

rape

"students' safety while walking home after dark - especially around north quad and western. There needs to be clear rules/suggestions about where is the best area to travel if walking back from one part of campus to another, and what to do if there isn't."

allowing women to be safe if/when they walk home when it's dark out

Safe spots on campus.

"robbers and other bad people who might roam on campus and especially Western Campus"

"The Rapings that have occurred and implementation of harsher penalties; How is it that a student can get expelled for drinking under age in his/her room three times, but is only suspended for raping a female and expelled upon his/her SECOND rape offense? That is just not right!"

this place reminds me of Pleasantville

rape and sexual assault of women.

Night safety for girls and guys.

Keeping students safe after school hours

theft, and large gatherings of meat heads

"Safety at night/on weekends. Drive around alleys and streets near Uptown"

Rapes

Rape

rape

The rapes that have been committed on campus.

Rape

sexual assault

"ensuring the safety of female students when walking home late at night on the weekends..."

Transit of students from location to location

Sexual assault of females

"I think approachability. It is hard to call the hospital when a friend is obviously binge drinking because you do not always know if he or she needs to go and plus you do not want to get your friend in trouble. I do not know how would address this issue."

"trying to make parties safer. parties will always happen, no matter how much the authorities try to stop it, but teaching students how to party safely may save some people from getting hurt/raped/robbed."

I think sexual assault is the biggest issue that should be addressed.

rape/robbery

drunks

"As a female student, I feel that it is most important to make sure that women on campus feel safe to walk around campus"

Rape and Sexual Harrassment

Crime,sexual assault,traffic safety

"Taking down underage drinking! Not only is it illegal for persons under the age of 21 to drink beverages containing alcohol but their arrests provide legal drinkers and non - drinkers with entertainment"

students walking alone at night around campus and back from uptown

rape/assault

"All I hear about are the crime alerts about students being raped...that is what worries me the most"

Safety of those walking home at night (specifically up town).

do not walk alone at night

sexual assault

"I dunno...making sure drunk students get back to their dorm safely without getting raped on the street."

sexual assaults

sexual assault

"I think all safety issues are important. For example, educating students and landlords (for off campus students) about fire safety and hazards; making sure the additional ""exits"" in the dorms are properly maintained; glad to see there's additional lighting around campus for after dark walkers; keeping the community informed of campus crimes . . . by the way, whatever happened to the "flashlight flasher"?; being consciencetious of vehicles, trailers, etc. that look like they may not belong . . . given the type of vehicles students typically drive; these are just to name a few."

rape

"Students who do not use crosswalks is becoming an increasing problem. I have spoken with students from other universities who have gotten tickets for not crossing the street at designated crosswalks. I have seen vehicles get very close to hitting students who have not used crosswalks."

"Sexual Assaults and physical assaults in general. There seems to be a mentality among males on campus (though I am also male) that not only is it ok to regard all women as objects of sexual gratification, but that to affirm one's maleness one must constantly assert that all women and other men are subservient."

Walking home late at night (alone, all girls, etc.)

"The most important has got to be the safety of the females on this campus. That is the only thing I worry about as far as a safety issue is concerned."

"I think the most important issue should be the Police Department establishing safety as priority over all else. By this, I mean that if a student is in danger (from too much drinking, his/her peers should have no reason not to provide that person with the proper help, be it at a hospital or whatever. Too often I feel that if someone looks like they're in bad shape, passing out, or other tell-tale signs, students around them are hesitant too seek medical attention, because they are afraid of getting in trouble with the Police themselves. This might be avoided by making the hospital some sort of "trouble-free" zone. Students should be able to help out someone in danger without any hesitation."

Breakins

"Building accessibility...I'm an architecture student and I find Alumni Hall to be far too easy for people to get into without having access privileges. Also, I would like to see a security guard around the building more often (and King Library as well), especially during peak usage times (ie: week before and during finals)"

acting responsible in terms of drinking, sexual intercourse, rape, etc

feeling safe on walk home at night.

Lighting issues on campus.

walking alone

rapes and attacks

"As a woman, I'm most concerned with the sexual assault problems. I realize that most (or all) of them are not on campus, though. If feasible, I'd like police officers to be more aware of women walking by themselves at night, and maybe ask them if everything is OK"

late night drunk drivers

"On and off campus rape concerns. Better relationships with Oxford PD to combat rape and sexual assault."

dorm security

"Sexual assault. It seems like the numbers have been rising dramatically recently and this is a huge concern for a lot of students, as well as one for me since I am female. I think the occurrence of these crimes could be decreased if officers patrolled darker areas at night specifically watching out for it. "

hate crimes, hate speech, tolerance

safety on weekend nights

"Lighting on campus, it seems dangerously dark if you have to walk home late at night"

"Emphasising to students the consequences of alcohol consumption to the point where their safety or the safety of others is in danger."

"too much time spent on underage drinking which no one can prevent, and not enough police around when people are being assaulted. i have personally been assaulted twice up-town during bar hours and no police around, but an underage drinker ran through my house while being chased by 4 cops and two cop cars all for having a beer at a bar"

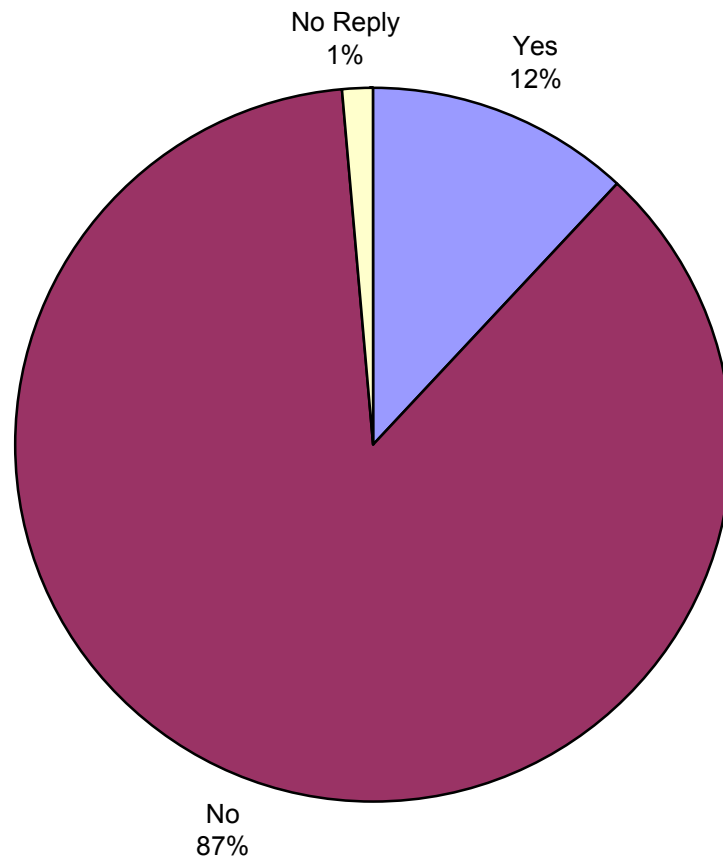
Safety of students at night

Issues pertaining to the female student body. Sexual crimes.

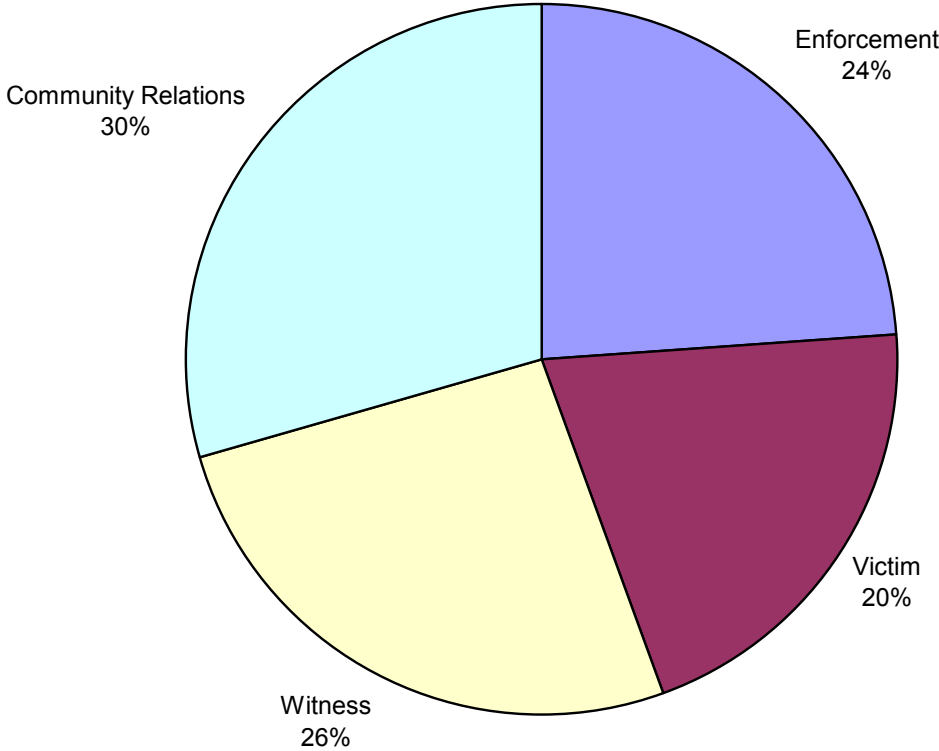
Women leaving the library/uptown area at night, the slant-walk from King Library that leads up to the Phi Delt Gates especially could be lit better.

Appendix K

Since you have been a Miami University student, have you had an encounter with the Miami University Police?

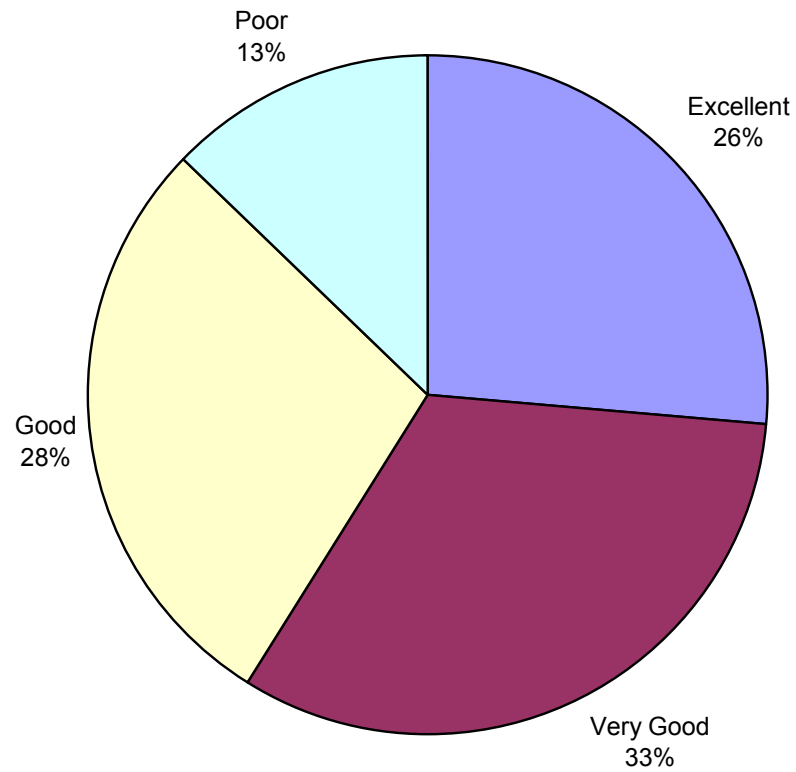


What kind of contact did you have with the Miami University Police? (Mark all that apply.)



Appendix L

Based on your experience with the Miami University Police Department, please rate your overall experience:



87% of Respondents rated their experience with the Miami University Police "Good," "Very Good," or "Excellent."

Appendix M

Comments on respondents' overall experience with the Miami University Police:

I think the officers are professional and nice, but overall it is not their fault--but are told to be too hard on college drinking--so much that it is egregious.

instead of looking for underage drinking to bust they should focus more on the crime and the sexual assault.

"It is my firm belief that several officers in the department are incompetent. Case and point: I once witnessed a situation where two officers entered a room. They charged into the room and immediately started shouting questions. They then took an individual in the room outside (both officers were outside the room at this point). The other occupants of the room promptly threw any incriminating evidence out the nearby window and the MUPD officers didn't suspect a thing. Incompetence? YOU DECIDE.

"I was approached by two officers on bike in the quad area in front of King Library as I was returning back to my residence. They abruptly asked me for identification and as I produced it to them they also searched my wallet for "another kind of I.D." that they "knew I had." After their search was fruitless they informed me that ever since 9/11 the punishment for fake identification is more serious, yet I had no fake identification. They "released" me on my way after the encounter but I since have had a jaded perception of MU police.

"I participated in a ride-along with Oxford police and I was amazed at how well the two departments worked together. You guys did a great job!"

"The officer that wrote the citation sort of got an attitude that wasn't needed."

"too young and no one actually knows the laws. Good work on being prepared"

The officers played cornhole with us on North Quad....very nice men

I have not come into direct contact with the police, and so this question doesn't apply to me.

"I understand what the police are here for, but giving out j-walking tickets just to fuck with students is bullshit"

"I am an RA on campus and I always see police officers walking around the building. I am really happy to see that they make their rounds through the residence halls. It makes me feel safe."

"I was an RA and dealt with the MUPD on a few occasions. I also spoke with an officer pertaining to an incident outside MU jurisdiction for advice. I have found all occasions to be helpful."

"I wish there was more lighting on campus beyond slant walk. I have taken several night classes and feel some areas are not well lit. There should also be SEVERAL more emergency phones strategically placed on campus."

"Many times I feel as if the police did not give a fair assessment, nor were they congenial to a first time offender in routine traffic stops."

"I have not come into direct contact with the police, and so this question doesn't apply to me."

"I am a journalism major, so the police have been very helpful supplying me with necessary information for articles I have written for class and The Miami Student"

"The officer was rude about going one way in a parking lot to my mother. She did not know it was one way, and immediately turned around when she saw the sign. It was after he watched her turn around did he stop her, and not kindly, but in poor manners"

very nice and helpful

I assume you are doing a great job, but have no experience to draw upon.

"one of the officers was very rude when he came to my dorm room to follow up on an intruder complaint. he was very condescending and made my roommate and i not want to interact with the police again unless we had to"

they asked me to pick up broken glass pieces while intoxicated

"Everyone was very nice and understanding. I had my wallet stolen and they seemed to really care even though it is not the biggest crime."

"it was a womens thing at the begining of the school year. On of the women officers talked about her job. it was great."

"price for a tow in town is outrageous, more than triple what i have paid in other places."

"traffic stop, the officer held me for 45 minutes for no reason without issuing any sort of citation although he claimed i ran a red light, he apparently thought i had a stolen car which he found out was untrue and let me go"

"Helpful when needed. Don't overly interfere with college parties."

"miami police are too up tight in the wrong areas. They concentrate most of their efforts looking for intoxicated students, that they many times over look crimes and the safety of the kids."

"Friends and I were locked out of a running car. The police officer who helped us was very polite and helpful."

I'm a RA...they are very helpful!

"The police officers were very helpful and made follow-up phone calls to show their determination to help me."

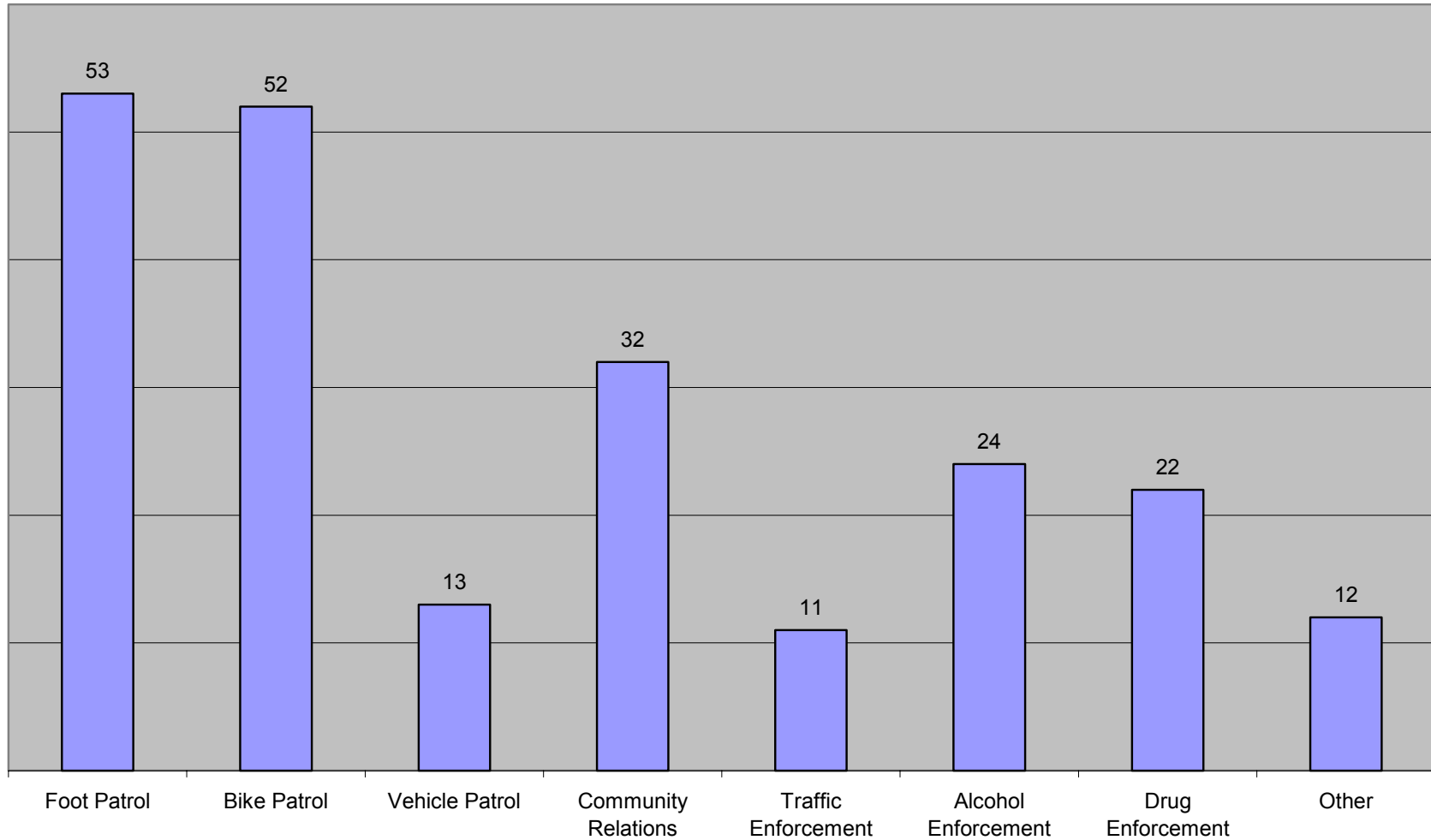
"The Patrol Office (ptl. [REDACTED]) handled the situation in an unprofessional, non police like fashion. And the resulting police report that followed didnt not comment on pertanant issues that occured, such as my verbal statement envoking certain rights to a personal search. I handled the situation in a professional and cooperative manner while the Ptl. officer did not"

"The police were prompt to respond and kept me updated on the situation as necessary. They made me feel like my decision to call them was a good one."

" I understand that underage drinking is against the law and obviously the law must be enforced, but I think it is more important to try and prevent things like sexual assault and muggings in the alleyways than to get a student in trouble for drinking."

Appendix N

Which of the services that the Miami University Police provides would you like to see more of? (Mark all that apply.)



Appendix O

Other types of service respondents want to see the Miami University Police provide:

less alcohol enforcement

none

none

stay out of our way we are here to learn not be an

rape enforcement/prevention

mounted police

none

Zombie enforcement

overall student protection

DUI enforcement

assault prevention

Appendix P

General comments about the Miami University Police Department:

"I had my car vandalized this year while it was parked at Ditmer, so I feel that there should be more patrol of the parking lot with cameras. The parking lot is right next to the police department so you'd think your property is safer there."

"In general, I was impressed with the amount patrolling and the extent of the police's presence."

Someone should figure out how to stop people from getting stabbed and robbed, before they have the audacity to stop someone who teeters while walking down the sidewalk on a Friday night.

nothing good to comment on.

"The MU Police should worry more about people being assaulted than giving out parking tickets. The priorities are way off."

Keep up the good work!

"I feel that the MUPD isn't doing their job as far as keeping students safe. I feel if there were more foot/bike patrols on campus then perhaps our campus crime alerts wouldn't be pushing the double digits. If MUPD focused on where the students really are (sidewalks) instead of where they usually aren't (cars) then perhaps it would be better. Issuing traffic violations isn't keeping sexual assault off campus. Focus less on the street and more on the sidewalks, where students actually are!"

"I haven't had any personal experiences with the police, but I haven't really heard anything negative from people that have."

"everything above again. please feel free to call though at (847) 989-9679 ask for David. and please remember that the 4th ammendment gives us the right to not be searched."

"I was working at a dorm when a friendly officer came through. He introduced himself as Thad. He made sure to let me know if I needed anything to call. This made me feel safe, because I am often working at the dorms until late at night. Thank You"

all the officers I met have been extremely kind and generous

"I feel that the police give WAY too many parking tickets...it is ridiculous. Miami takes enough of our money, we should be able to park in more areas!"

"I would like to accompany an officer during a vehicle patrol sometime in the fall so I can have a better impact with the organizations I am a leader in. A representative can e-mail me or refer me to someone I can talk to about the above."

"I think that you have a tough job being a police department in a college town. I live off-campus and always appreciate the house monitoring program you have when we leave for breaks. I do think sometimes that your police department and that of Miami's "

all the officers i met have been extremely kind and generous

Thank you for all you do for us in Oxford!

"The MUPD should focus more on trying to prevent sexual assaults and less on traffic tickets and drinking."

the ones I met are very nice to the students.

on campus parking ticket prices are extremely too high

"Be more responsive to people needing to get into closed academic/university buildings on weekends."

pretty good.m

" thank you guys for helping us and being there for us! the campus would not be the same without you."

"I would like to see more police on campus streets at night, so that if people are walking home from uptown they feel safe. Also, I seem to remember that some of the rapes happened on campus streets...so it would be nice for them to be patrolled more frequently."

the parking is horrible

Their house watch during breaks is appreciated.

"why does oxford need oxford township police, MUPD, oxford police, and sheriffs patrolling? it seems the intentions are to give tickets/citations and make revenue not to protect and serve."

"I'm glad the Miami Police work with the Oxford Police to keep our community safe. That certainly sets a positive example for those who have a common interest at heart. Thank you for taking the time to review my"

"Thanks for taking care of a difficult job. Please don't let the power and authority given to you go to your heads.

"MUPD's role versus Oxford Police Dept's is not expressed to students as far as whom to contact in which scenarios"

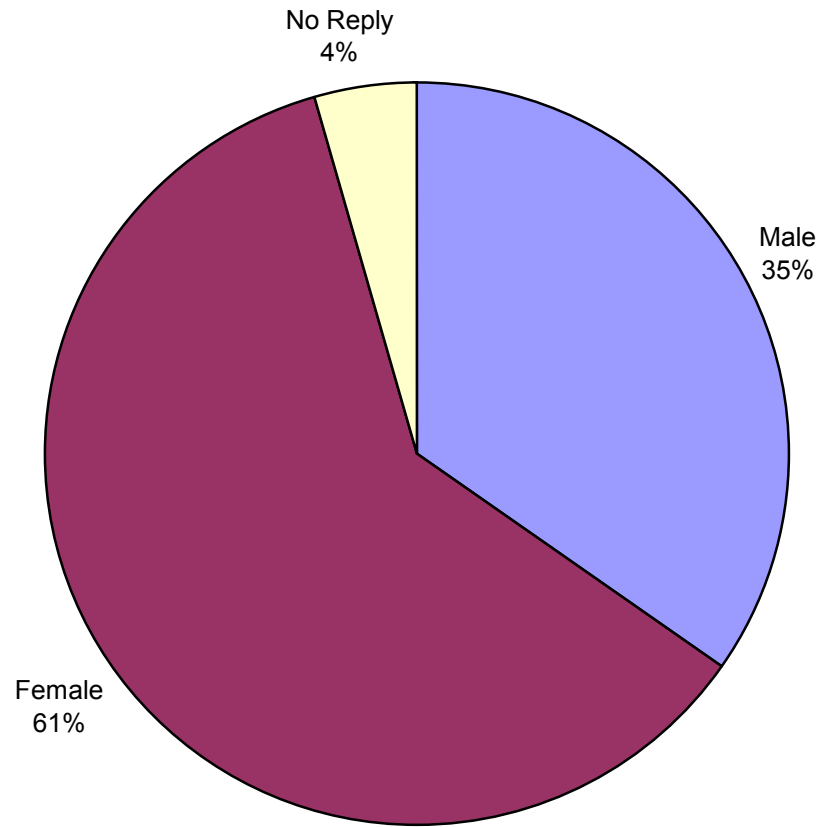
"I think students should be allowed to carry mase (in some way, with some stipulations) on campus. I realize it can be considered a weapon, but if I'm at a meeting or at the library until late, I have to walk by myself through campus, and then through Oxford to get home (which is off campus). I want to have some form of self-induced protection, if needed."

"The front desk staff at the station was very helpful and the officers were very willing to help when i had a question, such as being lost."

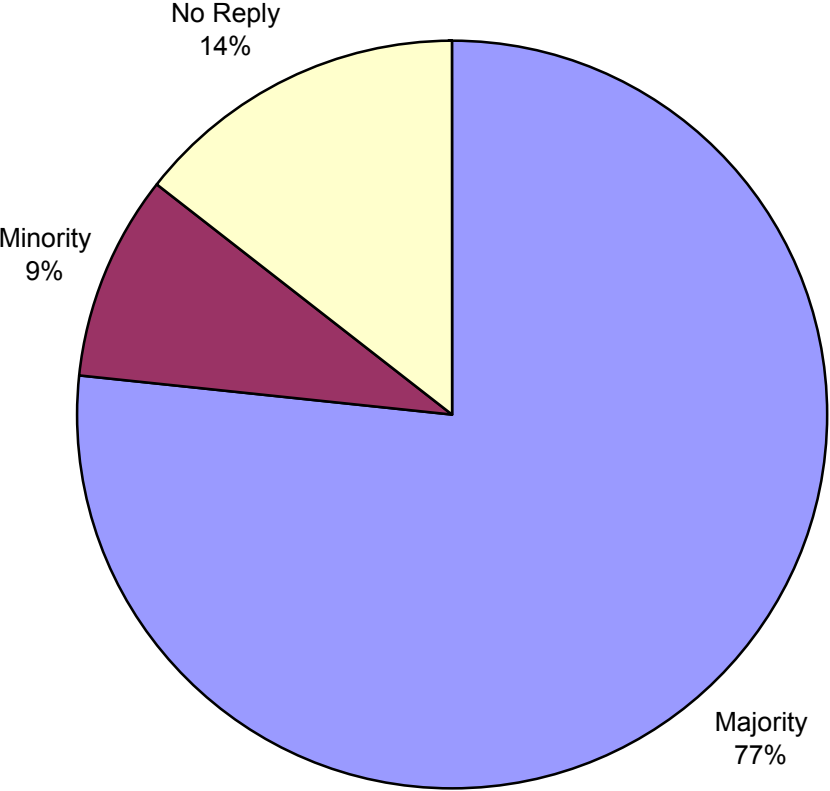
"Overall, I think they do a good job. However, the increasing number of sexual assaults does scare me, and as a female student I would like to see more done to prevent these things. These things have happened to some very close friends of mine, usually when they are walking through an alleyway at night - which shouldn't be done in the first place - but if officers were present it could prevent them from happening. I think a lof of students feel that the police are out to get them in trouble, and I think it would be easy to take steps to make students realize that you are here to protect us from harm and not having fun getting us in trouble for minor offenses."

Appendix Q

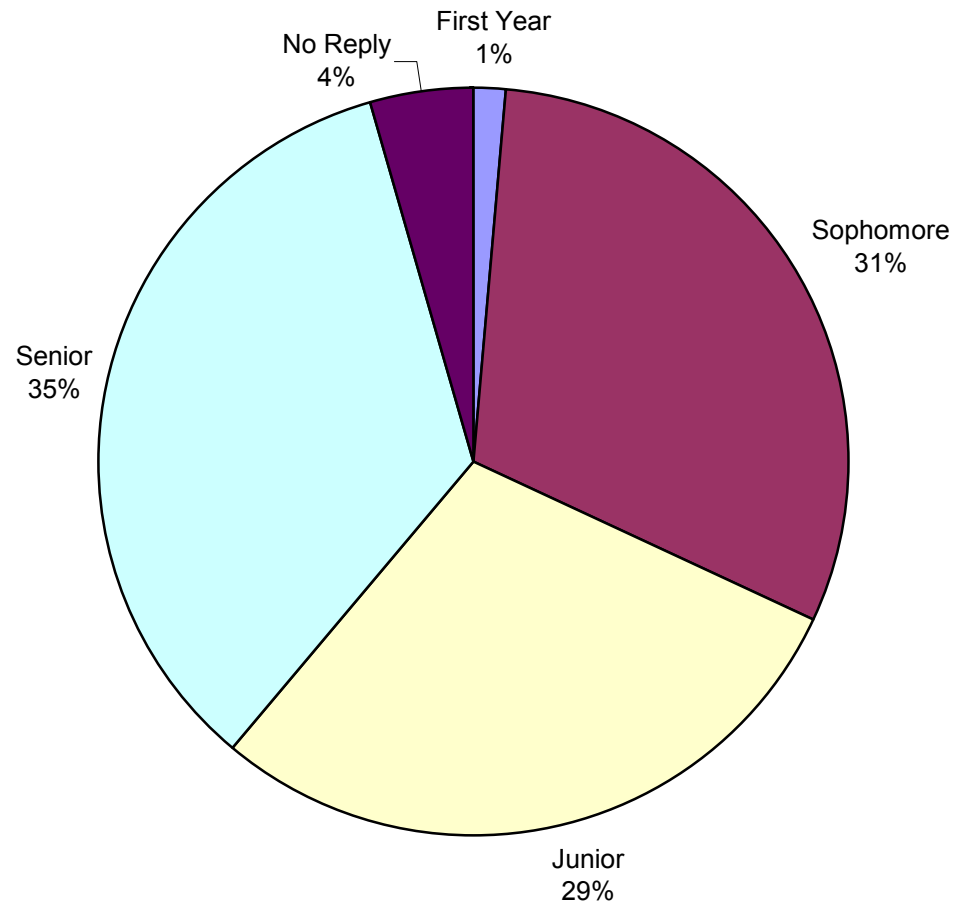
Reported Gender of Respondents



Reported Race of Respondents



Reported Class Standing of Respondents in Fall 2005



Reported Residence During School Year of Respondents

