UNIVERSITY OF Cincinnati

Enhancing Public Safety:

**University of Cincinnati Student,
Faculty, and Staff Survey Report
Spring 2014**

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ICS | Institute of CRIME SCIENCE

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 2014, all University of Cincinnati (UC) students, faculty, and staff on the Uptown Campuses (East and West) were invited to participate in an online survey regarding their perceptions of safety on and around campus. This survey was designed and analyzed by UC researchers from the Institute of Crime Science, and administered by UC researchers from the Institute for Policy Research. This report documents the findings from that survey, and provides comparisons to actual crime reports on and around campus. The survey items measured various aspects of: 1) perceptions of safety, 2) fear of crime, 3) actual victimization experiences both on the UC Uptown campuses and in the nearby area, 4) factors influencing fear of crime, and 5) respondents' familiarity with various UC crime reduction initiatives.

Of the 28,090 surveys distributed to UC Uptown campus students, 3,047 students responded (10.8%). Likewise, of the 8,561 surveys distributed to faculty and staff, 1,994 completed the survey (23.0%). Each survey was sent via email and respondents were provided a unique password to log their entries. Respondents were given nine days to complete the survey after their initial invitation on April 9, 2014. The survey contained 28 close-ended questions on attitudes and experiences related to public safety, social behaviors, and demographic information. Statistical analyses were conducted to examine the data across multiple topics.

The following summary documents the main findings contained within this report.

1. **Perceptions of Crime and Safety**
   - Significant percentages of surveyed students, faculty/staff incorrectly perceived serious crime to have increased on campus (14.9% of students, 29% of faculty/staff) and nearby campus (49.7% of students, 70% of faculty/staff) over the past three years.
   - Official crime reports, however, have been decreasing over the last three years, both on and nearby campus. Data from UCPD and CPD indicate that the number of victimizations during the year prior to the survey (between April 1, 2013 and March 31, 2014) are below the previous three-year average. This demonstrates that crime has *not* been increasing over the past three years.
   - Some of the variation in respondents' reported perceptions of crime and safety are correlated with demographic characteristics. In particular, larger percentages of female students agreed that serious crime had increased on campus (17.3%) and nearby campus (54.1%) compared to male students (12.0% and 44.5%, respectively). Similar gender differences are reported for faculty/staff.
   - A larger percentage of international students (19.4%) perceived an increase in crime on campus compared to American students (14.3%).

- Generally, with each additional year spent at UC, regardless of undergraduate/graduate status, a greater percentage of respondents indicated they believed crime was increasing on campus and nearby campus.
- As faculty and staff increase in age (e.g. from 41-50 years to 51-60 years) they were more likely to perceive an increase in crime both on and nearby campus.
- Generally, respondents reported that they felt safer on campus than in the areas nearby. An alarmingly low percentage of students (4.9%), faculty/staff (4.7%) agreed or strongly agreed that they felt safe in the areas near campus at night.

2. **Victimization Experiences**
   - The survey asked about criminal victimizations during the six-month period prior to the survey's administration. Student respondents reported nearly the same number of victimizations on campus (23.0% of students; 701 victimizations) as nearby campus (23.3% of students; 709 victimizations). The faculty/staff respondents reported more victimization on campus (17.2% of faculty/staff; 343 victimizations) than in the areas surrounding UC (8.7% of faculty/staff; 173 victimizations).
   - On campus, respondents most commonly reported being victims of vandalism (5.9% of students, 5.3% of faculty/staff). The most prevalent crimes nearby campus were vandalism (5.5% of students, 3.0% of faculty/staff) and theft from auto (5.1% of students, 2.8% of faculty/staff).
   - Most survey respondents did not report their victimization to police. For example, only 33.2% of student respondents who reported being victimized on campus, and 43.4% of students who reported being victimized nearby campus, indicated that they had reported that victimization to police. Additionally, 50.1% of all faculty/staff respondents who reported being victimized on campus, and 41.6% of faculty/staff who reported being victimized nearby campus, indicated that they had reported that victimization to police. The percentage of students and faculty/staff who indicated that they reported their victimizations to police varied across crime types, with burglary victimizations the most likely to be reported, and sexual assault victimizations the least likely.
   - The raw number of survey respondents who indicated they reported their victimizations to police greatly exceed the actual number of reported crimes from CPD and UCPD for most crime categories for the same time period. For example, 43 students indicated that they reported a robbery to police that occurred on campus. However, official police statistics indicate only one robbery was reported during that same six-month time period. This calls into question the validity of some of the victimization responses.

3. **Fear of Crime**
   - The high level of fear of crime reported by respondents does not accurately reflect their actual likelihood of victimization. This is consistent with the literature on fear

of crime on college campuses, where students' reported fear of crime is much higher than their actual risk (Sloan, Fisher & Wilkins, 1996).

- Students were more fearful of crime nearby campus than on campus, and the levels of fear reported varied by crime type. 18% of students were moderately fearful and 34% of students were very fearful of crime on campus, whereas 44% and 78% of students were moderately to very fearful, respectfully, of crime nearby campus.
- Likewise, faculty/staff were more fearful of crime nearby campus than on campus. 13.6% of faculty/staff were moderately fearful and 33.0% of faculty/staff were very fearful of crime on campus, whereas 33.6% and 64.6% of faculty/staff were moderately to very fearful, respectfully, of crime nearby campus.
- On campus and the areas nearby, students and faculty/staff were the most fearful of robbery. In general, respondents were the least fearful of assault and sexual assault.
- On campus, 29.0% of students and 27.6% of faculty/staff were moderately to very fearful of at least 3 or more different types of crimes.
- Nearby campus, the majority of students (72.3%) and faculty/staff (61.9%) were moderately to very fearful of at least 3 or more different crimes.

4. **Potential Sources of Fear**
- Of the potential sources of fear of crime identified in the survey, the UC Crime Alert emails had the greatest proportion of respondents who agreed that this source specifically increased their fear of crime, regardless of setting (on and nearby campus).
  - 32.8% of students and 36.3% of faculty/staff moderately to very much agreed that the UC Crime Alert emails increased their fear of crime on campus.
  - 47.1% of students and 47.2% of faculty/staff moderately to very much agreed that the UC Crime Alert emails increased their fear of crime nearby campus.
- Other potential sources of fear included media reports, information from family and friends, and personal experiences.
- More importantly, 41% and 31% of students moderately to very much agreed that the UC safety initiatives *decreased* their fear of crime on campus and nearby, respectively.
- Likewise for faculty/staff, 34.2% and 28.3% moderately to very much agreed that the UC safety initiatives *decreased* their fear of crime on campus and nearby, respectively.
- The vast majority of the sample reported that they pay attention to UC Crime Alert emails, and of those a large percentage also indicated making changes to their behavior as a result of these emails.
  - 88.0% of student respondents indicated that they pay attention to the crime alert emails and 86.5% of those students noted that they made some changes to their behavior as a result of these emails.

- 90.6% of faculty/staff indicated they pay attention to the crime alert emails, and 81.3% of those faculty/staff reported making changes to their behavior as a result.
- The most common behavioral changes included avoiding walking at night in areas where reported crimes occur (89.4% students, 80.4% faculty/staff) and avoiding walking alone on campus at night (75.2% students, 72.0% faculty/staff).
- Students and faculty/staff also indicated they come to campus less often (19.6% students, 16.6% faculty/staff) or change the time they leave campus (43.6% students, 39.2% faculty/staff) as a result of the emails, which may negatively impact the development of a thriving campus community.

5. **Familiarity with UC Safety Initiatives**
- Of the safety initiatives undertaken, student respondents were *most* aware of Night Ride (93.2% of students reporting awareness) and the additional uniformed police officers near campus (76.8% reporting awareness).
- Students reported being *least* aware of Case Watch (12.5%) and the installation of cameras in the neighborhoods near campus (27.7%).
- Likewise, faculty/staff reported the most awareness for Night Ride (88.6%) and the additional uniformed police officers near campus (79.8%), and the least awareness of Case Watch (11.6%) and student trainings taught by UCPD and CPD (30.3%).

6. **Explaining Fear of Crime, Perceptions of Crime, and Violent Victimization**
- Several multivariate statistical models were estimated to better understand what specific variables influenced fear of crime, perceptions of increases in crime and violent victimization on campus and in the nearby areas, while simultaneously controlling for other factors. While nuances arose, there were some factors, which consistently explained fear of crime, perceptions of increased crime, and reported violent victimization.
- For both the student and faculty/staff samples, those who were a victim of any crime on campus, female, or unfamiliar with UC safety initiatives were significantly more likely to be fearful of crime and to have perceive a crime increase on and nearby campus.
- The UC Crime Alert emails significantly increased the likelihood that a person (student or faculty/staff) was fearful of crime or perceived an increase in crime on or nearby campus.
- As sampled students and faculty/staff increase in age, they were significantly more likely to have perceived an increase in crime both on and nearby campus.
- International students were significantly more likely to be fearful of crime on and nearby campus. Results also indicated that international students were three-times as likely as American students to have been violently victimized on campus in this sample.
- Results indicated that students who engaged in behaviors that increase the risk of victimization significantly increased the likelihood a student reported a violent

victimization on campus and nearby. Specific to nearby campus analyses, students who were male, in their fourth year, had lower self-control scores, or indicated they changed their behavior as a result of the UC Crime Alert emails were significantly more likely have had a violent victimization in the areas surrounding UC.

7. **Policy Implications**

- Additional efforts should be made to encourage members of the UC community to report criminal victimization (and to do so quickly), as survey responses suggest that a large percentage of crime on and nearby campus goes unreported. The percentage of crime not reported to police is similar to the national average. While estimates based on national level victimization surveys estimate 58% of all victimizations are not reported to the police (Langton et al., 2012) there are many reasons to believe that we can do better than the national averages for our college community. Reporting crimes to police when they occur increases the opportunity for apprehension of offenders and provides information for more strategic crime reduction efforts to ultimately make the area safer.

- Knowledge of the UC safety initiatives was found to consistently reduce fear of crime and inaccurate perceptions that crime is increasing on and nearby campus. Results from this report indicate that prioritizing education to certain groups would likely have a larger impact on reducing fear and increasing accurate perceptions of crime. Targeted educational efforts for first and second year students at UC (regardless of undergraduate/graduate status), female students, and international students would likely reduce fear and promote accurate information about crime trends. In addition, new initiatives such as Case Watch or the installation of cameras in the neighborhoods near campus should be better promoted to increase the UC community's collective awareness of safety initiatives.

- Other types of individuals would benefit from learning targeted crime prevention techniques to reduce the likelihood of victimization. For this sample, international students reported rates of victimizations on campus that were *three times higher* than American students. This suggests crime reduction efforts should target this group specifically. Crime prevention tips should continue to be reinforced to international student groups throughout the year.

- Fear of crime and inaccurate perceptions that crime is increasing on and nearby campus are significantly driven by the UC Crime Alerts, media reports (influenced by the emails) and information from friends and family (also likely influenced by the emails). It will be important to balance educating the UC community about specific crimes in the Uptown area—to reduce their potential victimization—with the negative impacts of oversaturation that increases fear and negative perceptions, but does not reduce victimization.

- The results of this study suggest that while respondents indicate changing behavior in response to the email alerts, some of the changes in behavior may have unintended

consequences that inhibit lively campus community life. Further, there was no indication that attention to these emails or reported changes in behavior as a result of the emails significantly reduced reported victimizations. In contrast, students who indicated they changed their behavior as a result of the emails were significantly more likely to report violent victimization off campus compared to those who indicated they did not change their behavior – note however, that temporal ordering could not be established with this survey. In sum, the crime alert emails increased fear of crime and inaccurate perceptions about the frequency of crime on and nearby campus, but have not been shown to reduce victimization.

- Previously some crimes reported in these email alerts were unrelated to specific crime "patterns" or criminal activity directly relevant to the UC community. Based on the unintended consequences of these emails, it is recommended that the frequency and method of distribution, along with the content of these emails be further reviewed. The approach adopted should ensure that students and faculty/staff are provided with information that could prevent similar crimes from occurring, and to inform the UC community about ongoing patterns of criminal activities on and nearby campus, yet avoid creating unintended consequences and unnecessary behavioral and avoidance adaptations that perpetuate fear of crime.

- This survey provides valuable information about students and faculty/staff: 1) perceptions of safety, 2) fear of crime, 3) actual victimization experiences both on the UC Uptown campuses and in the nearby surrounding area, 4) factors influencing fear of crime, and 5) respondents' familiarity with various UC crime reduction initiatives. This information should be used as a baseline measure to compare changes in these factors over time. A second survey was administered in October 2014 (results currently being analyzed). It is recommended that UC students and faculty/staff continue to be surveyed annually to assess progress in key areas related to enhancing public safety for the entire UC community.

I. INTRODUCTION

Personal safety on college campuses is of great concern to students, parents, faculty/staff, law enforcement officials, university administrators, and the general public. This concern has increased along with several high-profile shootings at colleges and universities that run the risk of portraying such institutions as dangerous places. Yet as federal initiatives have made data on campus crime publicly available, we see that crime on college campuses (especially violent and serious crime) is generally rare, with property crimes being far more common than violent crimes (U.S. Department of Education, 2013).

Nevertheless, fear of crime among students, faculty, and staff remains high. The sources of fear are complex—including personal experiences and vicarious experiences with victimization (Drakulich, 2014)—yet research consistently shows that one's level of fear of crime is virtually unrelated to their objective level of risk (Pratt, 2009). Fear of crime can itself carry additional negative consequences in the form of psychological and emotional distress (Ngo and Paternoster, 2013), and those who are fearful may disengage from public activities, which may in turn weaken the collective efficacy of the community at large (Gau and Pratt, 2008).

As part of an effort to understand and improve campus public safety, executives from the University of Cincinnati (UC) commissioned a large-scale online survey of students, faculty, and staff concerning several dimensions of crime and public safety. This report summarizes the results of the initial survey, and will serve as a baseline for comparison for future surveys to examine changes in perceptions and victimization over time.

Report Overview

This report details the results of the survey data gathered from UC students, faculty, and staff. The report is organized into five sections: (1) a description of the methodology used to conduct the survey; (2) an overview of the official crime data for both on and nearby campus; (3) student survey results for five substantive areas (perceptions of crime and safety, victimization experiences, fear of crime, the factors influencing fear of crime, and familiarity with crime reduction initiatives); (4) faculty and staff survey results for the same five substantive areas, and (5) a discussion of ongoing activities and recommendations for future steps.

II. METHODOLOGY

Sources of Data

As part of the efforts by the UC Crime Reduction Committee to understand and ultimately reduce crime in and around the UC Uptown (East and West) campuses, researchers and

consultants from the UC Institute of Crime Science were tasked to conduct the first of what is intended to be a regularly administered survey of UC students, faculty, and staff concerning public safety. The survey instrument was developed and administered in partnership with researchers from the UC Institute for Policy Research.

The online survey was administered from April 9 – April 18, 2014. This web-based survey was offered to registered, full-time undergraduate and graduate students, as well as full and part-time faculty and staff through their UC email accounts. An email was sent on behalf of President Santa Ono asking students, faculty, and staff at UC to help enhance public safety efforts by giving information on their experiences with crime on and near campus. This email also contained a unique identifier and password for each invitee, to ensure anonymity and that the survey could only be completed once. A flyer promoting survey participation was distributed during the Criminal Justice Career Day on the UC West campus. Two reminder emails were sent to eligible participants after the initial invitation. No incentive was offered to participants. This process resulted in 3,047 completed surveys by students and 1,994 completed surveys from faculty and staff. This represents 10.8% response rate from students and a 23.0% response rate from faculty and staff.

All statistics in this report represent estimates of the population. Due to the nature of a research sample, it is possible that the responses gathered do not accurately reflect the UC Uptown population. There is no way to determine if those who chose to respond to the survey are more or less likely to be concerned about crime, to have experienced victimization, or to be fearful on or near campus. While bias due to non-response from invited participants cannot be ruled out, the large number of survey responses and the representativeness of the sample on key demographics limits this likelihood (see page 12).

In addition to the survey results, this report also summarizes crimes reported to the Cincinnati Police Department (CPD) and the University of Cincinnati Police Department (UCPD) between January 1, 2010 and April 1, 2014. These crime incidents are classified following the standards of the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program of the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), whereby offenses are classified as Part I and Part II crimes. Part I crimes include serious offenses and are further divided into violent crimes (i.e., homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and property crimes (i.e., burglary, larceny/theft, theft from auto). Part II crimes included in this report are vandalism and simple assault, as they were crimes of interest in the survey. Though the focus of this report is on survey responses, including reported offenses allows us to compare official statistics to all victimizations (both reported and unreported) and to compare actual reported crime trends to perceptions of crime trends.

Scope of Analysis

The survey asked respondents to answer questions about their perceptions of crime, fear of crime, and victimization both on campus and in the areas "nearby" campus. On campus was defined as the UC Uptown West and East (Medical) campuses. Areas nearby campus were defined for respondents as the residential and commercial areas within a half-mile of campus. No map was provided to respondents; rather they were asked to estimate the areas roughly within a half-mile of campus. The half-mile buffer surrounding the UC campuses is represented in Figure 35 in the Appendix. This area was identified for survey respondents as a general estimation of the geographic boundaries within the "Clery Timely Warning Area" as identified by the UCPD. The Clery Timely Warning Area is a geographic zone identified by the UCPD where 80% of students whose local addresses are registered in the 45219 and 45220 zip codes, the two zip codes closest to the Uptown campus. The Clery Timely Warning area (see Figure 36 in the Appendix) serves as the boundary for the reported crime data analyses used to compare to the survey data results. However, one limitation to this survey is that respondents may interpret the areas near campus differently per the directions in the survey compared to the area used to the Clery Timely Warning Area boundary. These two areas are different, in that some parts of the Clery Timely Warning Area extend farther than a half-mile from campus, and other parts of the boundary are less than one half-mile from campus.

Descriptive statistics will be estimated separately for the student data and faculty and staff data. Information will be provided on the responses from the questions asked within each of the five substantive areas that were included with both of the surveys. The core areas include: (1) Perceptions of Crime and Safety; (2) Victimization Experiences; (3) Fear of Crime; (4) Factors influencing Fear of Crime; (5) Familiarity with UC Safety Initiatives. Crimes included in the analysis are assault, burglary, robbery, theft from vehicles, other theft, vandalism, and sexual assault[1]. When applicable, substantive comparisons between responses concerning safety on the UC campus versus in the nearby surrounding areas will be discussed.

III. STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

Out of 28,090 invitations sent, 3,047 student surveys were completed, representing a 10.8% response rate. The average age of student respondents was 23.5 years, with approximately 54.6% female and 45.4% male respondents. The majority of the respondents were Caucasian (80.0%), followed by 11.2% Asian, 4.1% African-American, 1.8% Hispanic and 2.9% other racial and ethnic origin. This sample slightly underrepresents African-Americans who make up 8.3% of the UC undergraduate population. This student sample is made up of 11.5% international

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[1] In addition to these crimes, respondents were also asked about "other crimes". However these were left largely unanswered by respondents and were removed from the analysis.

respondents and 88.5% American respondents. Thus, this sample slightly over represents the International population at UC. Approximately 69.0% of respondents were undergraduates at the time of the survey, while 31.0% were graduate students. The sample was relatively evenly spread in terms of the class year of students. Regardless of undergraduate or graduate status, about 29.0% of respondents were in their first year, 25.9% were in their second year, 17.9% were in their third year, and 27.2% were in their fourth or higher year at UC. Half of the sample lived nearby campus (50.5%), whereas 17.5% lived on campus and 32.0% commuted to the university. Table 1 below shows comparisons on demographic factors for the 2013 UC Uptown campus population and the survey sample.

Table 1. Demographics of Full-Time Students at the UC Uptown Campus

|	Uptown Population (N=25,873)	Sample (N=3,047)
Female	48.5%	54.6%
Male	51.5%	45.4%
Undergraduate Status	78.6%	69.0%
Freshman/1 Year	20.9%	29.0%
Sophomore/2 Year	19.3%	25.9%
Junior/3 Year	17.1%	17.9%
Senior/4 + Years	21.1%	27.2%
Graduate/Professional	21.4%	31.0%
Average Age*	22.0 years	23.5 years
Race*		
Asian	3.0%	11.2%
African American	8.3%	4.1%
Hispanic	2.5%	1.8%
Caucasian	71.2%	80.0%
Other	2.3%	3.0%
Unknown	5.7%	--
International	6.9%	11.5%
Live on Campus	21.0%	17.5%
Live Nearby Campus	--	50.5%
Commute to Campus	--	32.0%

*Uptown-specific statistics for Age and Race unavailable

1. Perceptions of Crime and Safety

Surveyed students were asked about their perceptions of serious crime and safety for the University and its surrounding areas. Specifically students were asked, "In the last three years has serious crime [i.e., murder, robbery, aggravated assault, rape, burglary, theft, and automobile theft] decreased, increased, or stayed about the same on campus?" The same question was asked of students for the areas near campus. As stated earlier, students were asked to define the areas

near campus as the residential and commercial areas within a half-mile or so of campus. Figure 1 below reports those who agreed crime had increased. Only 14.9% of students perceived crime to be increasing on campus. However, nearly half of the students (49.7%) perceived serious crime to be increasing in the areas near campus in recent years.

**Figure 1. Students Who Agreed Serious Crime Increased in the Past Three Years (N=3,047)**
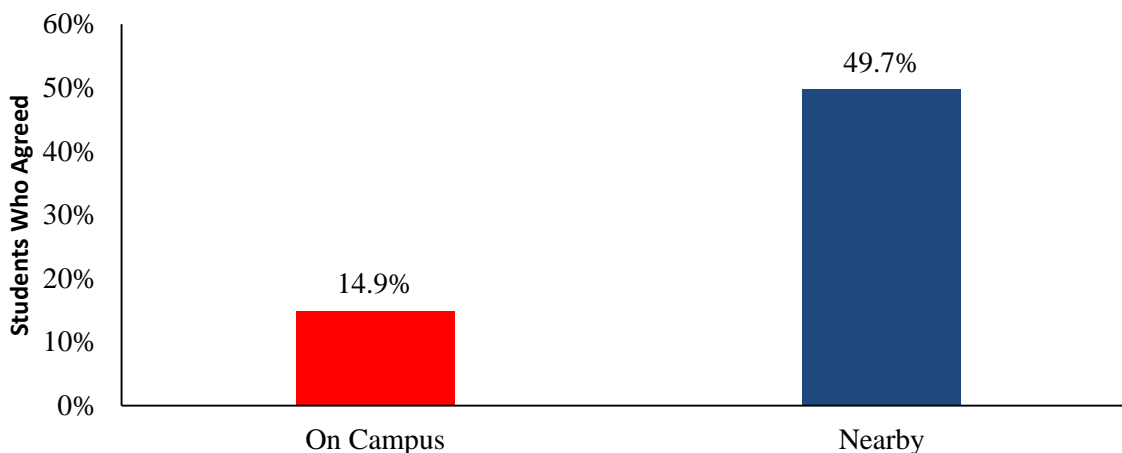
Figures 2 and 3 below show officially reported crime to the UCPD and the CPD, to demonstrate the actual changes in serious crime over the years. Figure 2 below displays monthly Part I victimizations for crimes that have occurred on campus during the 12 months prior to the survey's administration. These numbers include both violent and property offenses. Because the spring survey was administered in April, the 12-month period includes information from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014. The solid blue line shows the 12 months prior to the survey being administered. The red dashed line represents the average number of Part I victimizations per month for the last three years (2010 to 2013) of crime data. Figure 2 demonstrates that, for the most part, Part I crimes in the year before the survey were below the number of crimes in the three-year period captured in the red-dashed line. This figure clearly demonstrates that crime has not been increasing on campus.

Figure 2. University of Cincinnati Part I Offenses, Apr. 1- Mar. 31
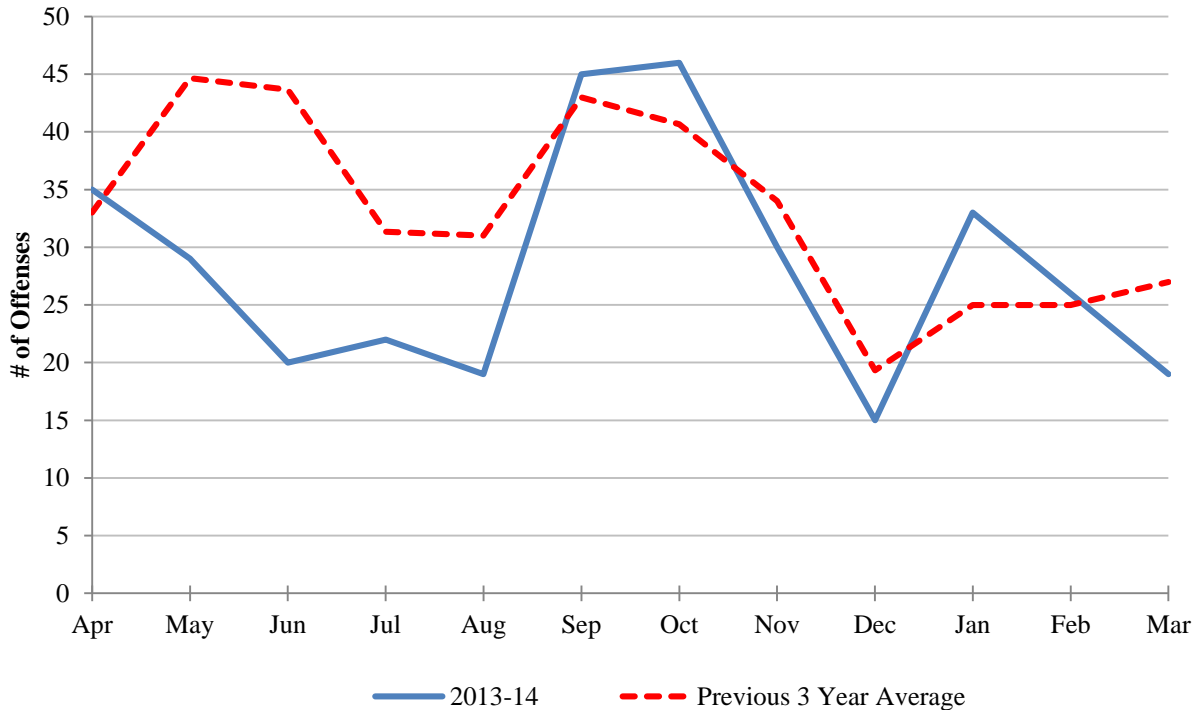
Similar to Figure 2, Figure 3 shows the monthly Part I victimization counts for a 12-month period. Data for Figure 3 is derived from official incident reports taken by the CPD. Included are incidents that have occurred in the UC Clery Timely Warning area, a geographic area surrounding the UC campus where a vast majority of UC students reside. This area was described in the Methodology section of this report (page 10). These numbers include both violent and property offenses. The solid blue line shows the 12 months prior to the survey being administered. The red dashed line represents the average number of Part I victimizations per month for the last three years (2010 to 2013) of crime data. For nearly every month, the blue line is below the red-dashed line, indicating the number of victimizations for that year was below the average of the previous three years. The highest number of victimizations occurred in August and September for the 12 months before the survey, though these are still below the three-year average. This figure demonstrates that crime has not been increasing. On the contrary, it has been below the three-year estimates at each month, for the year prior to the survey's administration.

Figure 3. Nearby Campus Part I Offenses, Apr. 1 - Mar. 31
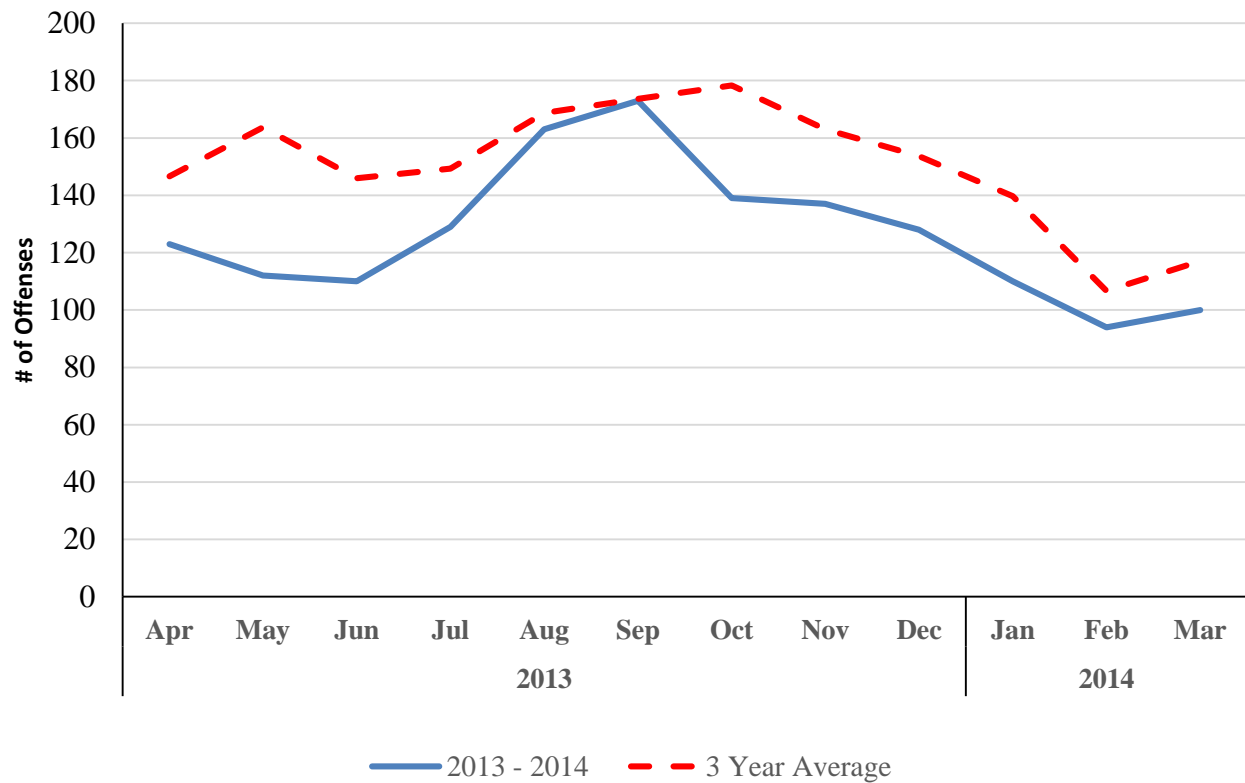
However, when the student segment is disaggregated by demographics, specific differences arise. Using the same response questions as before, Figure 4 displays perceptions of serious crime increases by gender and by area of reference. Recall that serious crimes include murder, robbery, aggravated assault, rape, burglary, theft, and automobile theft. When separated by gender, it becomes clear that a greater percentage of females believed serious crime had increased than did males, both on and nearby campus, as shown in Figure 4 below. Specifically, 17.3% of females agreed serious crime increased on campus compared to only 12.0% of males. Nearby campus 54.1% of females agreed serious crime increased on campus compared to 44.5% of males.

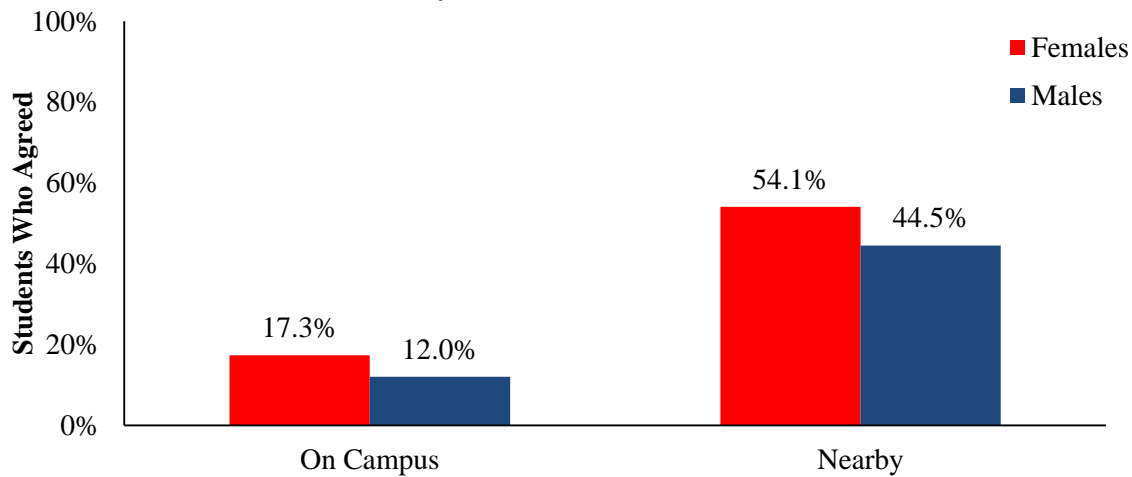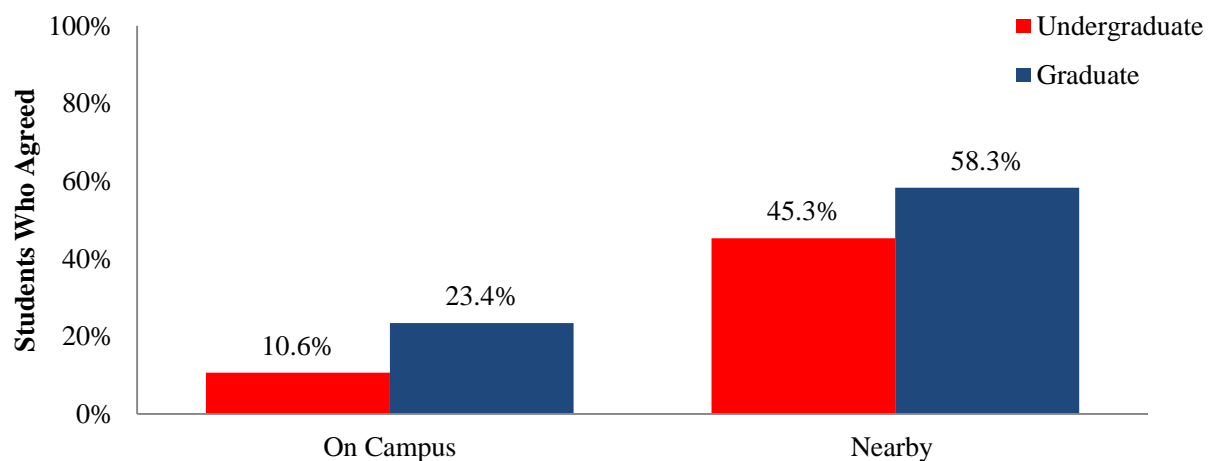**Figure 4. Students Who Agreed Serious Crime Increased in the Past Three Years, by Gender (N=3,047)**

Figure 5 below displays perceptions of serious crime increases by academic status (undergraduate or graduate). Serious crimes include murder, robbery, aggravated assault, rape, burglary, theft, and automobile theft. Specifically, 10.6% of all surveyed undergraduate students agreed serious crime increased on campus compared to 23.4% of graduate students. In reference to the area nearby campus, 45.3% of undergraduate students agreed serious crime increased compared to 58.3% of graduate students. Figure 5 demonstrates that a greater percentage of graduate students agreed that serious crime has increased in the past three years, on and nearby campus, compared to undergraduate students.

Figure 5. Students Who Agreed Serious Crime Increased in the Past Three Years, by Academic Status (N=3,047)

The charts in Figure 6 below show student perceptions of changes in serious crime for both on campus and off campus disaggregated by demographics. The percentages represent those students who agreed serious crime had increased. Students were collapsed into categories according to their number of years at UC, regardless of undergraduate or graduate status. Generally, as students spend more time at UC, a greater percentage of respondents indicate they believe crime is increasing on campus. Only 36.5% of 1st year students believe crime is increasing nearby, whereas greater percentages were found for students who have been at UC for more years.

Figure 6. Students Who Agreed Serious Crime Increased in the Past Three Years, by Years of Attendance (N=3,047)
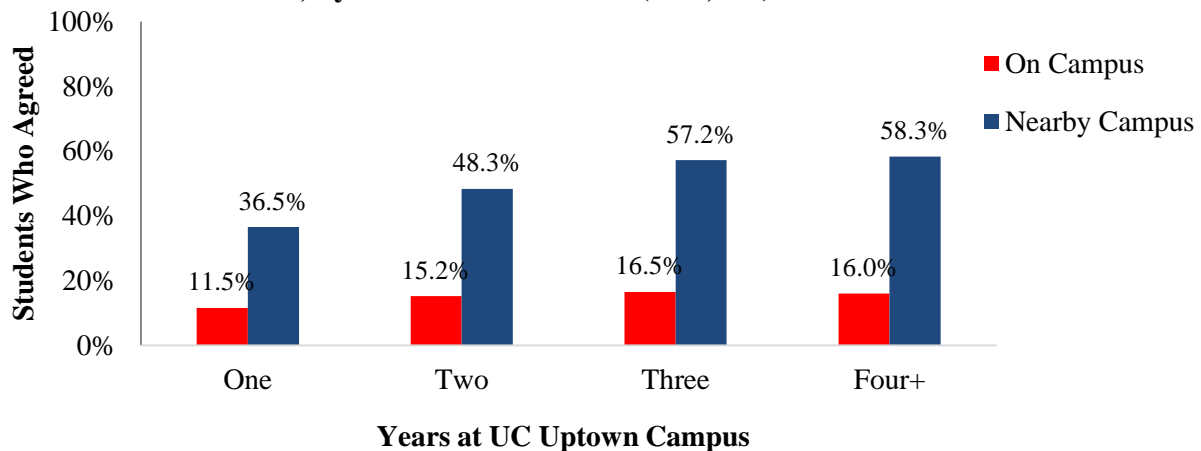

Figure 7 below demonstrates student perceptions of changes in serious crime by race. In terms of racial group, 55.3% of Hispanics, 55.2% of African American, 51.2% of Asian, and 48.3% of Caucasian students perceived crime to be increasing nearby campus. For both on campus and nearby, Hispanics represented the ethnic group with the highest percentage of individuals who perceived crime to be increasing over the past three years.

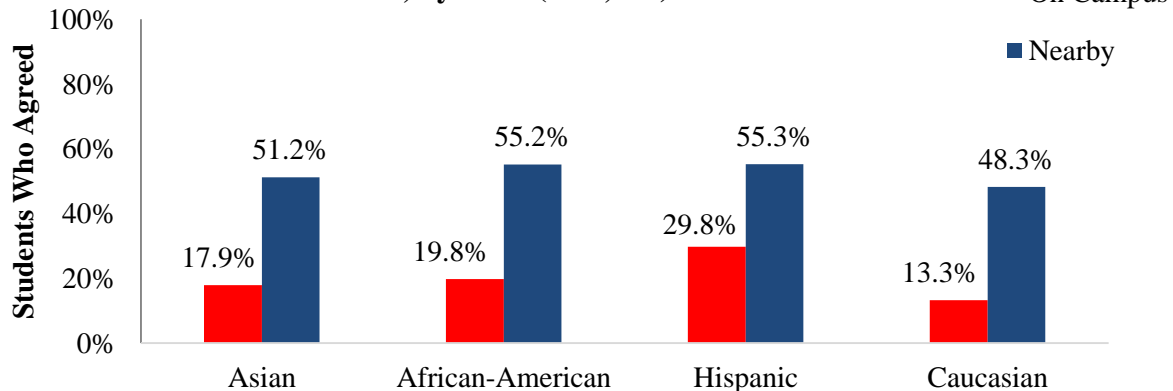**Figure 7. Students Who Agreed Serious Crime Increased in the Past Three Years, by Race (N=3,047)**

Figure 8 displays students who agreed serious crime increased by citizenship status (American or International). On campus there is a small difference between American and International students in perceptions of crime. Specifically, 19.4% of International students perceived an increase in crime on campus, whereas as only 14.3% of American students perceived an increase. In the areas nearby campus, a slightly higher percentage of American respondents (49.9%) perceived crime to be increasing compared to 47.9% of International respondents.

Figure 8. Students Who Agreed Serious Crime Increased in the Past Three Years, by Citizenship Status (N=3,047)
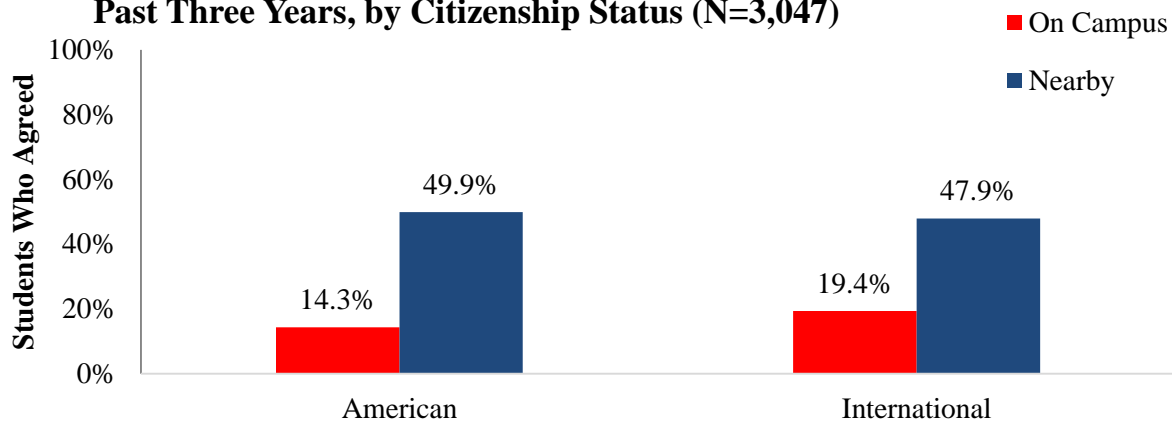
It is important to take time of day into consideration when examining perceptions of safety. To do this, the survey asked, "to what extent would you agree with the following statement: 'The University of Cincinnati Uptown campus is a safe place during the day." This question was varied to ask about perceptions at night, and perceptions for the nearby area during the day and night. Students could answer with a score of 1 to 5, indicating they strongly disagree to strongly agree. Figure 9 below displays those who answered with a score of 4 or 5, indicating they agreed or strongly agreed. As seen in Figure 7 below, 88.3% of students agreed the uptown campus is a safe place during the day and nearly 40% of students thought that the uptown campus was safe at night. By comparison, only 53% of students thought the nearby areas were safe during the day, and only 5% of students thought those areas were safe at night.

**Figure 9. Student Perceptions of Safety on Campus and Nearby during
the Day and Night (N=3,047)**
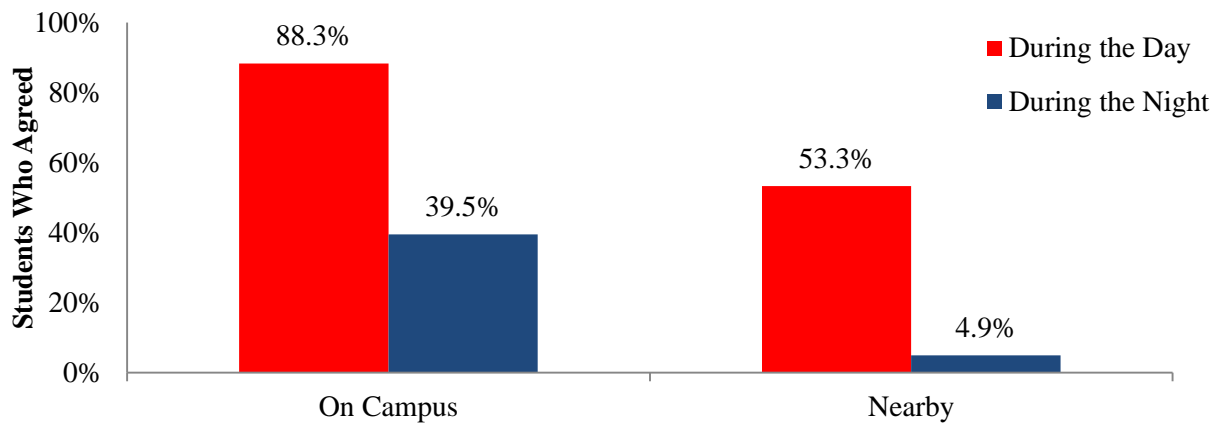
Based on these sets of analyses, we are led to the broad conclusion that students perceive the uptown campus to be substantially safer than the nearby areas. Students also perceive areas to be safer during the day than during the night. Only 5% of respondents feel that the areas near campus are safe during the night hours. This is important as a majority of students reside in the areas near campus, and spend time in these areas during the evenings. Second, individual perceptions of crime changes do not match the reality of recent changes in crime. Official crime data reflects reductions in serious crime over the past few years, yet a substantial percentage of students believe the opposite is true. Nearly 15% of students incorrectly believed crime had increased on campus and 50% of students incorrectly believed crime had increased in the areas near campus.

2. Victimization Experiences

This section examines student respondents' reported criminal victimization experiences and reporting to the police. Being victimized can be a traumatic, stressful, negative life event (Turanovic and Pratt, 2013). Indeed, not only can victimization lead to a wide array of immediate harms (e.g., physical injury, loss of property), but it has also been linked to several forms of long-term adverse consequences in the form of behavioral, psychological, emotional, and health problems (MacMillan, 2001). Understanding its prevalence is therefore a necessary precursor for taking steps—through both policy and practice—to minimize rates of victimization.

Reporting crimes to the police is of fundamental importance to public safety in that it is a primary way to initiate the criminal justice process (Baumer and Lauritsen, 2010). Research shows that in general, police are more likely to be notified for robbery and aggravated assault

incidents. For property crimes, higher rates of reporting are found for motor vehicle theft and lowest for theft (Baumer and Lauritsen, 2010). At the national level, victimization surveys estimated 58% of all crime is not reported to police (Langton et al., 2012). Research shows 52% of violent victimizations and 60% of property victimizations go unreported to police (Langton et al., 2012). In addition, for the victims of crime reporting their experience to the police can represent the first step toward being directed to the appropriate victims' services so that they may cope with their victimization in healthy (as opposed to destructive) ways (Parsons and Bergin, 2010).

The survey required students to respond with a "yes" or "no" to determine if they were a victim of crime during the past six months, on campus or nearby campus. The surveyed crimes include assault, burglary, robbery, theft from auto (TFA), theft, vandalism, and sexual assault. The specific definition for each crime type was given to respondents on the survey and is included in the Appendix. As a component of each victimization question, students were asked to respond "yes" or "no" as to whether they reported this crime to the police. As shown in Table 2 below, there was substantial variation in crime victims' willingness to report their victimization to the police. Table 2 demonstrates that students are more likely to report crimes that occur nearby campus than on campus. In total, respondents indicated that they only reported 33.2% of all crime victimizations that occurred on campus, whereas they reported 43.4% of all crime victimizations occurring nearby campus to the police. These figures range substantially by crime type for both areas. Between 7.5% and 64.8% of victims contacted the police when victimized on the UC campus, and between 15.6% and 69.7% contacted the police when victimized in the nearby areas. For students, robbery and burglary are the most likely crimes to be reported to the police. An extremely low percentage of victims reported their sexual assault to police, regardless of setting.

Table 2. Student victimizations reported to police by crime type in the last 6 months

	On Campus (N=701)	Nearby (N=709)
Assault	35.8%	40.3%
Burglary	64.8%	69.7%
Robbery	45.7%	60.8%
Theft from Auto	38.2%	44.5%
Theft	29.4%	33.0%
Vandalism	14.3%	26.8%
Sexual Assault	7.5%	15.6%
Total	33.2%	43.4%

The analyses of the student survey indicated that reported victimizations by student survey respondents on the UC campus were much higher than official crime statistics. Specifically, Figure 10 graphically displays these differences. The red bars represent the number of victimizations that occurred in the past six months reported by survey respondents. The blue

bars represent the number of victimizations that respondents indicated they reported to the police. The gray bars indicate the number of official police reports taken during the six-month period (Oct. 1, 2013 to Mar. 31, 2014) by the UPCD. It should be expected that the gray bars are the highest of all three types, given that the number of reported crimes for the population of the UC Uptown campus should exceed those in a sample of 3,047 students. However, by comparing the blue bar to the gray bar, it is evident that there was an alarmingly large gap in what survey respondents indicated was reported to police and what the official reports reflected for all crimes but sexual assault. For example, students indicated that 43 on-campus robberies were reported to police in the last six months (shown in blue). However, official statistics indicate only 1 robbery was reported in that same six-month period (shown in gray).
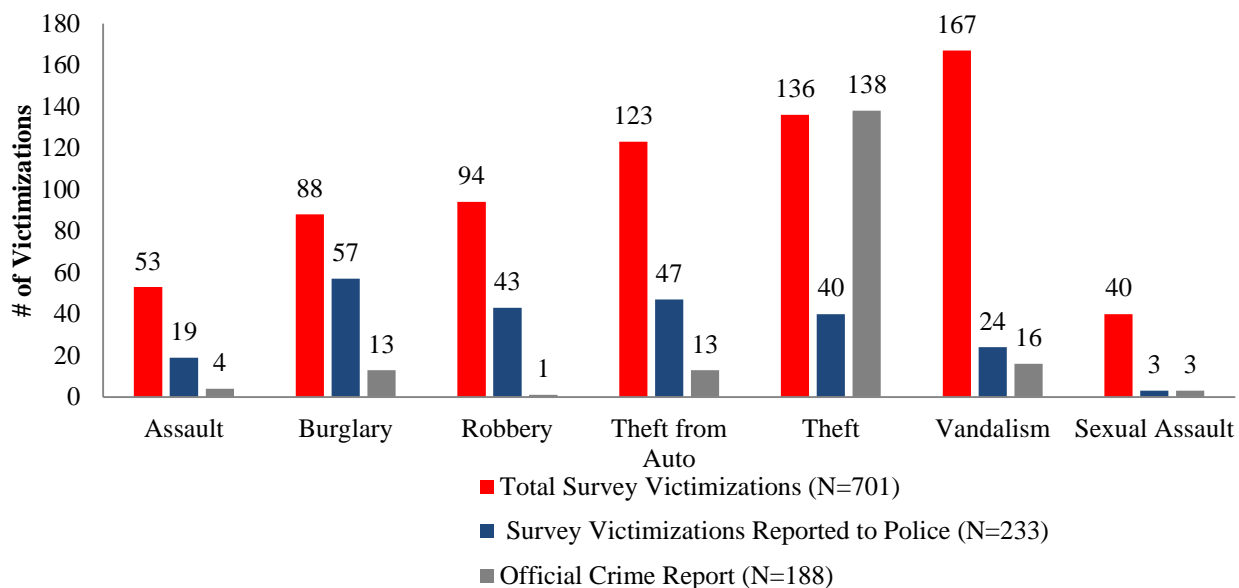
Figure 10. On Campus Victimizaion Counts

Figure 11 below displays the same information as Figure 8 for the areas near campus. Shown in red, the count of each form of victimization surveyed is displayed. Of increasing importance is the wide gap between the number of victimizations reported by respondents, and the number reported to the police. Like the results found on campus, this gap was demonstrated for nearly all crimes in the areas nearby campus. Figure 11 shows official crime reports taken by the CPD that involved student victims (in blue) from October 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014, compared to the number of victimizations survey respondents indicated they reported to police (in gray) during the last six months[2]. Similar to Figure 10, there is much discrepancy between the two data sources. It is important to note that there may be some bias to this comparison, because students

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[2] Crimes of Vandalism and sexual assault (other than rape) were not included as they are not Part I offenses and thus not geo-coded for use by ICS researchers.

were asked to approximate the areas that are one-half mile from campus, which may not match the larger UC Timely Warning Area used by the UCPD. Nonetheless, with the exception of burglary and theft, Figure 11 demonstrates that the incidents indicated by survey respondents that they reported to police exceeded the number of official reports taken during the same time period. Possible reasons for these discrepancies are discussed in the following paragraph.

Figure 11. Nearby UC Victimization Counts
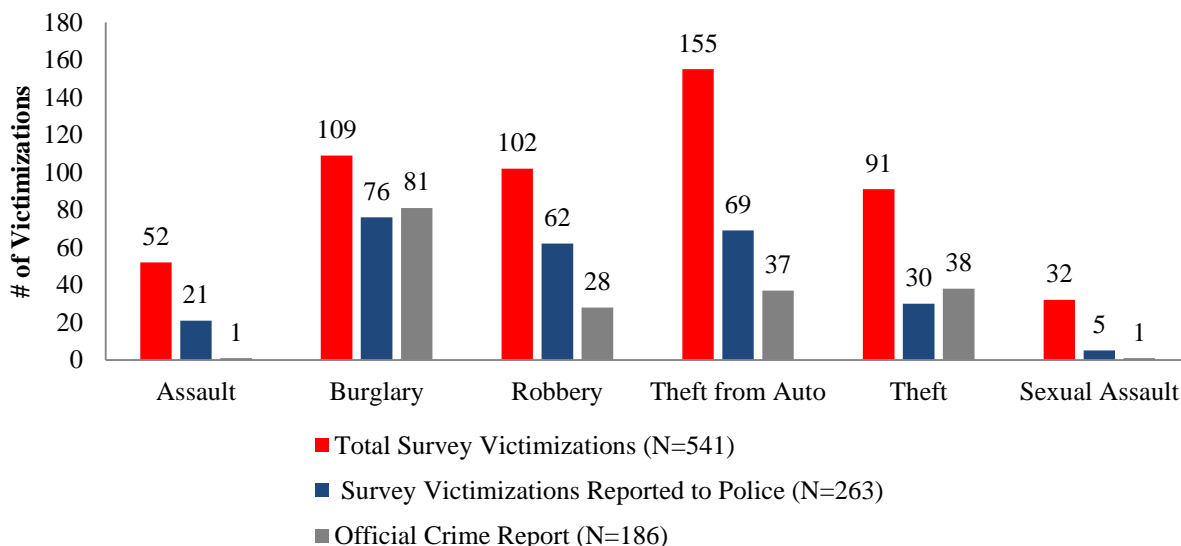
In conclusion, with the exceptions of robbery and burglary, most students who reported being a victim of crime also indicated they did not report that victimization to the police—though reporting was higher for victimizations occurring in areas nearby UC rather than on campus. Secondly, the actual number of crimes that survey respondents indicated they did report to the police does not match the actual number of official reports taken by UCPD and CPD during the specified time period. It is possible that survey respondents reported crimes on the survey that occurred outside the six-month time frame the questions reference (telescoping). It is also possible that survey respondents misunderstood the crime classifications as described, and are reporting about incidents that do not reach the level of seriousness that would include them in the reported crime categories. Finally, it is possible that survey respondents were simply untruthful about their victimization experiences and their reporting of these experiences to the police.

Table 3. Student victimizations by percent of total sample (N=3,047)

	Victimized on Campus	Victimized Near Campus	2013 National Population Prevalence
Assault	1.9%	1.7%	1.0%
Burglary	3.1%	3.6%	1.9%
Robbery	3.3%	3.3%	0.1%
Theft from Auto	4.3%	5.1%	--
Theft	4.8%	3.0%	7.1%
Vandalism	5.9%	5.5%	--
Sexual Assault	1.4%	1.1%	0.1%

Of final concern is the rate of victimization that was reported on this survey. While Figures 8-9 above report the raw number of incidents reported to police, Table 3 above demonstrates the rate of victimization of all survey respondents. These rates are particularly high, as most victimization surveys report the prevalence of criminal victimization from 0.1 (robbery) to 7.1 (theft) during one year (Truman, & Langton, 2014). As noted above, there are several possibilities for these high rates of reported victimization, including telescoping, misclassification of crimes, and untruthfulness. It is also possible that students responding to the survey were more likely to have been victimized (selection bias), therefore inflating the percentages reporting victimization.

3. Fear of Crime

Fear of crime has long been an important factor to consider when planning intervention efforts to enhance public safety (Jackson and Gray, 2010). Fear of crime may result in avoidance of certain areas, avoidance of certain activities, physical changes such as increased heart rate and perspiration, or defensive behaviors such as carrying weapons. People who fear crime and are unable to limit themselves to safe areas can become prisoners in their own home. These have adverse effects on any community. Thus, understanding its various dimensions and sources is critically important.

Accordingly, our analyses reveal that while levels of fear of crime among students were generally high, the key difference is the level of fear on campus versus in the nearby areas. Students were asked to, "indicate how fearful are you of being victimized in the following ways by choosing one response for each form of victimization." Students were asked about each of the seven crimes under analysis in this survey, using a reference area of the Uptown campus or the areas near campus. Responses options included 1 (not at all fearful), 2 (a little fearful), 3 (moderately fearful), and 4 (very fearful). The figures below display those who scored a 3 or 4 on each question.

Shown in Figure 12 below, between 18.0% and 33.6% of students reported being moderately to very fearful of crime on the UC campus. In the surrounding areas, however, these percentages ranged between 44.3% and 78.1% for students. The percentage of students indicating they were fearful varied by crime type. Robbery had the highest amount of fearful students for both on campus (33.6%) and nearby campus (78.1%). Overall, students were the least fearful of assault on campus (18.0%) and least fearful of sexual assault nearby campus (44.3%). Also important to note is that students reported similar levels of fear for both violent crime (robbery and assaults) as they did for property crimes (theft from auto, theft, and to a slightly lesser extent burglary and vandalism). This suggests that initiatives designed to reduce students' fear of crime need to be equally concerned with violent and property crime.

Figure 12. Students who are Moderately to Very Fearful of Crime, by Crime Type (N=3,047)
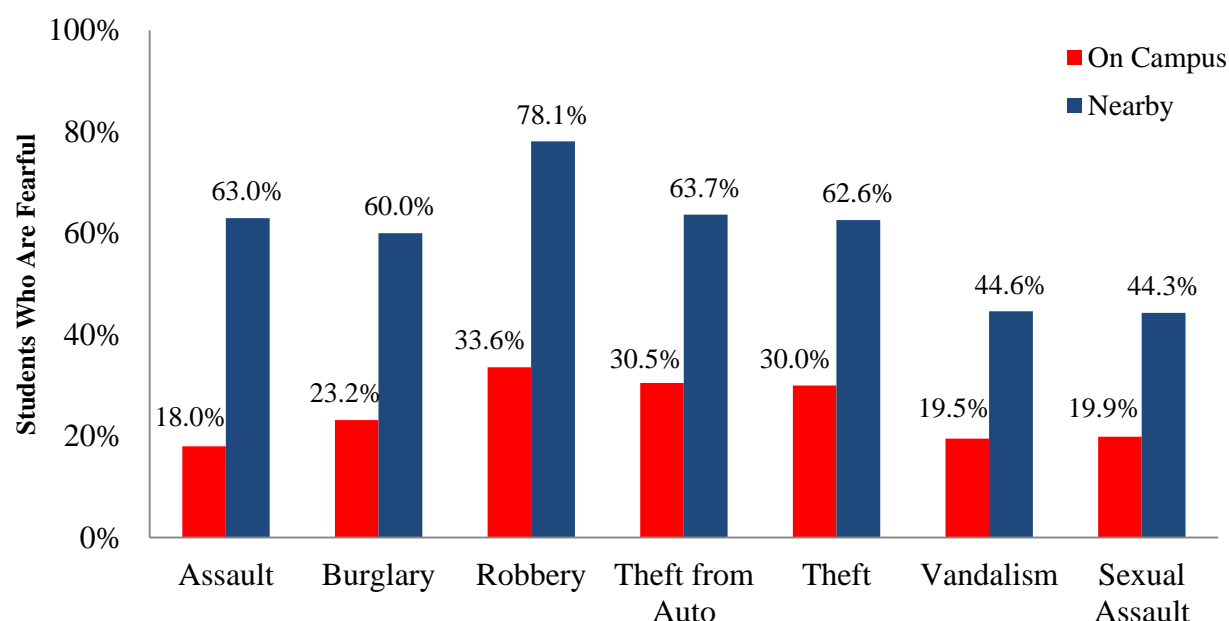
Research clearly demonstrates that fear is strongly influenced by demographic indicators (Sloan, Fisher, & Wilkins, 1996). Figures 13-17 display percentages of students who reported being "generally fearful," defined as those who were moderately to very fearful of three or more different crimes, at each location of interest. Although collapsing fear of crime removes the differences in fear between crime types, it allows for a clearer picture about fearfulness in the student population. While it is true that fear in the areas nearby campus is greater than fear on campus generally, it is clear that fear of crime also shows trends by demographics, as demonstrated in Figure 13-17. Consistent with literature, females reported being more fearful of crime (Fisher and May, 2009). Approximately 34% of female student respondents were considered "generally fearful" on campus, while 79% of female respondents were considered "generally fearful" in the areas nearby campus. Also of note, however, is that over half (64.5%) of male student respondents were also classified as "generally fearful" in the areas nearby

campus. Therefore, although there are differences in reported fearfulness by gender, the majority of students – regardless of gender – were classified as generally fearful of the areas nearby campus.

Figure 13. Student Respondents who are "Generally Fearful" of Crime, by Gender (N=3,047)
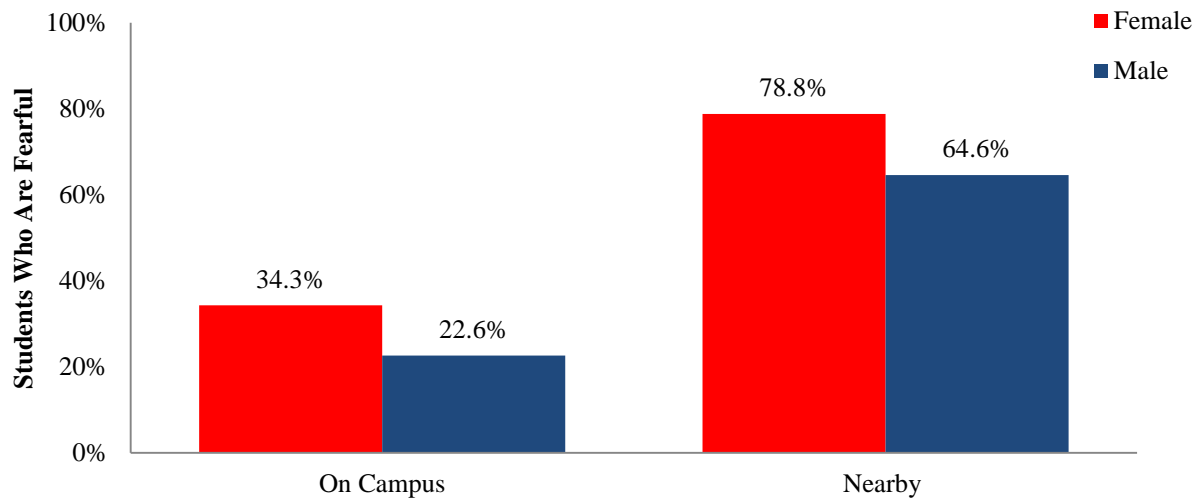

Figure 14 below displays those who were generally fearful of crime by academic status (undergraduate or graduate). Figure 14 shows 24.7% of all surveyed undergraduate students were considered "generally fearful" on campus, compared to 37.5% of graduate students. In the areas nearby campus, 71.9% of undergraduate students and 73.3% of graduate students were generally fearful of crime. Therefore, although there are differences in reported fearfulness by academic status, the majority of students are classified as generally fearful of the areas nearby campus.

Figure 14. Student Respondents who are "Generally Fearful" of Crime, by Academic Status (N=3,047)
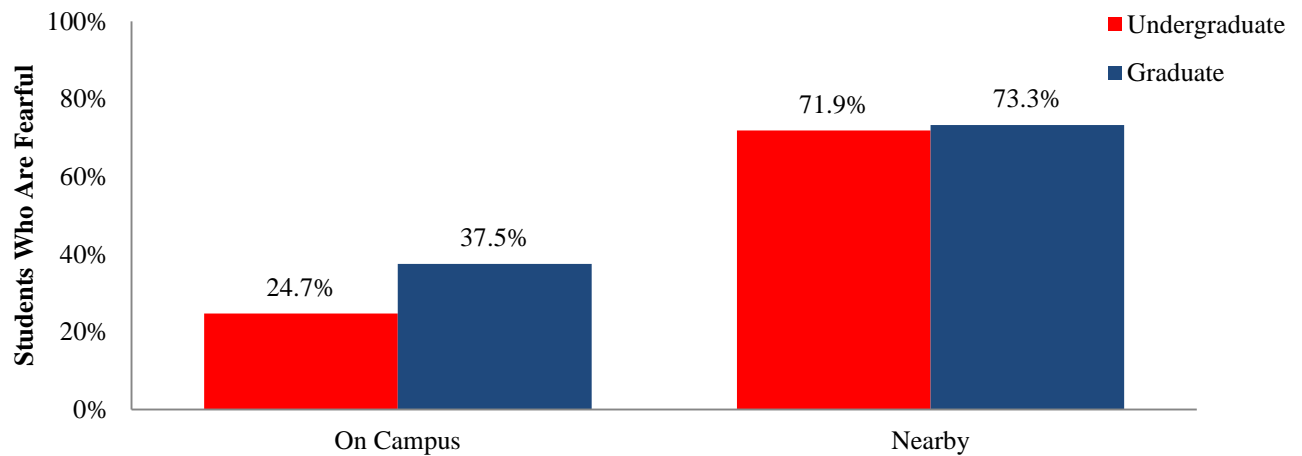

Figure 15 below includes additional demographic differences. Students were collapsed into categories according to the number of years at UC, regardless of undergraduate or graduate status. Comparisons across class years indicate that students were less fearful while in their first year at UC—fear of crime generally increased as students spent more years at UC. Both age and number of years at UC are examined explicitly in the next section through logistic regression analyses. When taking class year into account, the age of the student was not a significant predictor of fear on campus. For fear of crime nearby campus, age of the student was a significant predictor of fear, even after controlling for class year. According to findings, older students were slightly less likely to be fearful of crime compared to younger students. Overall, this suggests that fear of crime may be influenced by class year—students new to the area and unfamiliar are less likely to be fearful of crime.

Figure 15. Students Who Are "Genrally Fearful" of Crime, by Years of Attendance
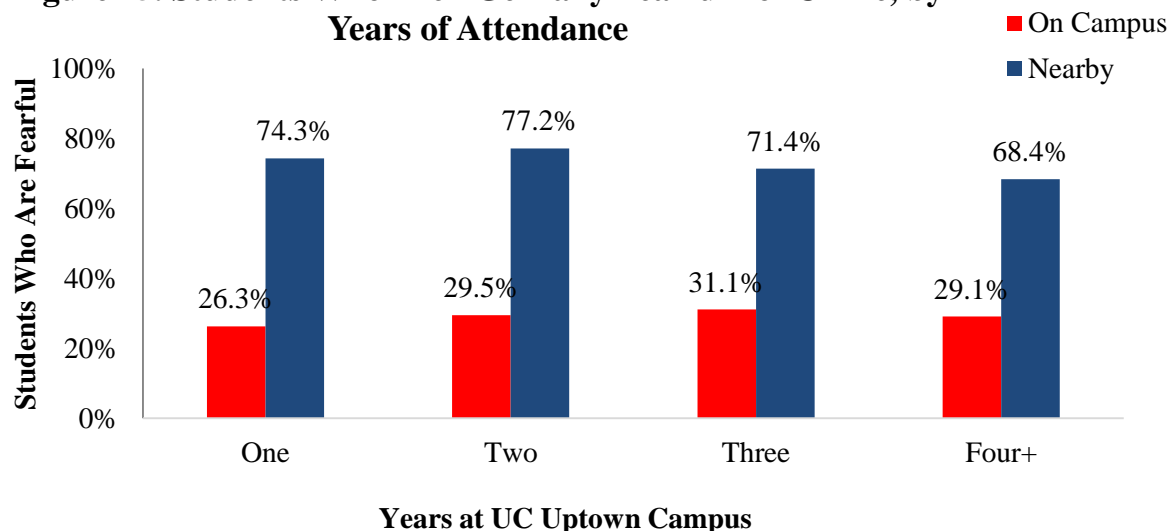
Figure 16 below demonstrates percentages of students who are generally fearful of crime, disaggregated by racial group. Asian students reported being the most fearful, followed by Hispanics, Caucasians, and then African American students. Specifically, 51.4% of Asian students were categorized as "generally fearful" on campus compared to 22.4% of African American students, 34.0% of Hispanic students, and 25.2% of Caucasian students.

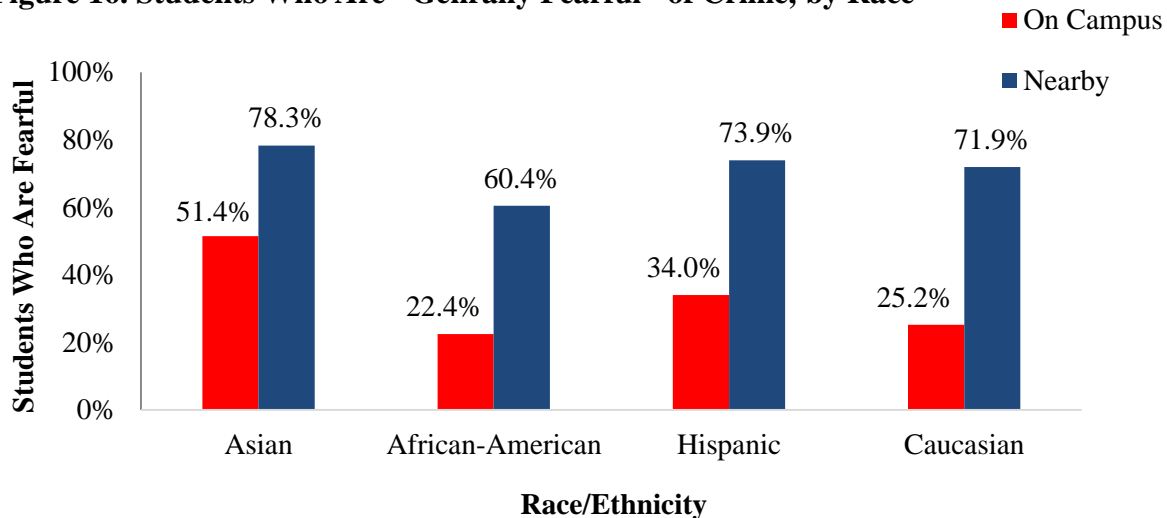**Figure 16. Students Who Are "Genrally Fearful" of Crime, by Race**

Figure 17 below displays the percentages of students who are generally fearful of crime, by citizenship status. More international students were fearful compared to American students—especially on campus. Half (49.7%) of the international student respondents reported levels of general fearfulness on campus, compared to only 26.4% of American student respondents. Nearby campus, a majority of students are generally fearful. Specifically, 71.6% of American and 78.1% of International students were categorized as "generally fearful" of crime nearby campus.

Figure 17. Students Who Are "Genrally Fearful" of Crime, by Citizenship

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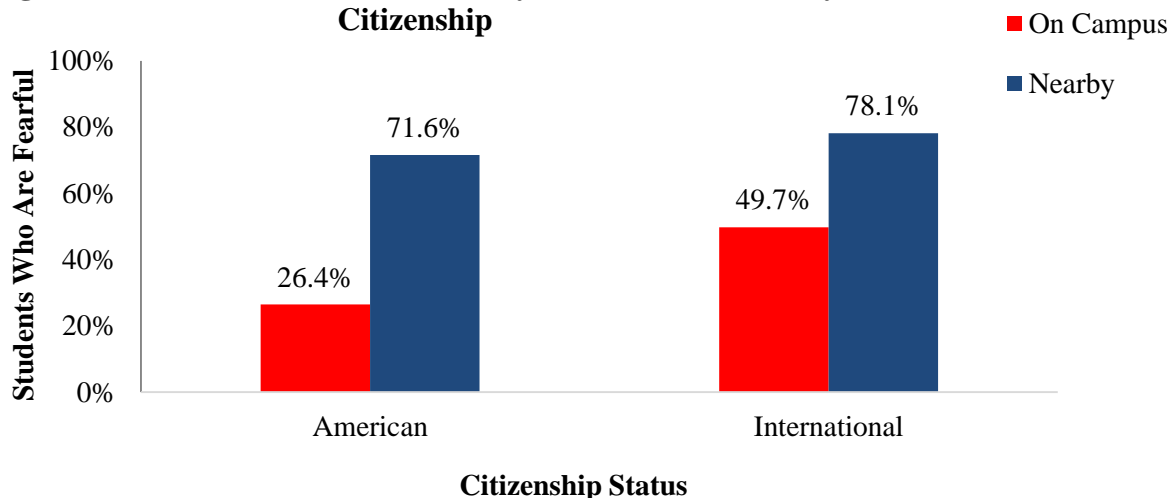
Thus, these analyses collectively lead to the conclusion that while levels of fear of crime remain high, students were less fearful on campus than in the nearby areas. Although it is also important for those providing crime prevention efforts to know there were some key differences in fear of crime based on demographics. Key fearful groups included females, Asians and international students. The majority of students – regardless of gender, race, number of years at UC, or citizenship status – were classified as generally fearful of the areas nearby campus. Ultimately, students were very fearful of crime.

4. Potential Sources of Fear

Citizens' levels of fear of crime are often contingent upon factors that have little or nothing to do with the reality of crime or one's objective probability of being victimized (Eschholz, Chiricos, and Gertz, 2003). Indeed, people become fearful for a variety of reasons that lay outside of their own personal experiences—something that we wanted to take into account in our surveys of both students and faculty/staff.

To examine the various potential sources of fear of crime, both on campus and in the nearby areas, respondents were asked the degree to which multiple sources increased or decreased their fear of crime. These sources are listed on the far left column of Table 4 below. Responses ranged from 1 (not at all) to 10 (very much). Responses were recoded to reflect those who moderately to very much agree that each factor increased or decreased their fear of crime (scores of 7, 8, 9 or 10). These responses are included in the percentages listed in Table 4. These results show that on campus, UC Crime Alert emails influenced the greatest percentage of respondents compared to media reports, personal experiences and information from friends and family. Nearby campus, the UC Crime Alert email was also the factor that increased fear of the respondents for a greater number of students compared to the other categories. In addition, 41.4% of respondents indicated the safety initiatives do, in fact, decrease fear of crime among students on campus, but only 31.1% agreed it decreased their fear nearby campus. These patterns generally held for faculty and staff as well, which will be discussed in the next section of the report.

Table 4. **Factors influencing fear of crime for student respondents (N=3,047)***

	UC	Nearby
Media reports increase fear?	28.1%	42.6%
UC Crime Alert emails increase fear?	32.8%	47.1%
Information from family/friends increase fear?	23.7%	34.9%
Personal experiences increase fear?	29.0%	38.2%
UC safety initiatives **decrease** fear?	41.4%	31.1%

*Percentages were calculated from those students who answered the survey questions.

A vast majority of student respondents (88.0%) indicated that they pay attention to the UC Crime Alert emails and 86.5% of those students noted that they made some changes to their behavior as a result of these emails. Table 5 indicates the most common changes included avoiding walking at night in the area where the crime occurred, and avoiding walking alone on campus at night.

Table 5. Students who reported making various changes to their behavior as a result of the UC Crime Alert emails (N=2,092)*

	Changed Behavior
Avoid walking where the crime took place at night	89.4%
Avoid walking alone on campus at night	75.2%
Carry personal safety item	43.9%
Change the time when you leave campus at night	43.6%
Avoid walking where the crime took place during the day	34.5%
Come to campus less often	19.6%
Avoid walking alone on campus during the day	11.4%

*Based on those who agreed they make changes to their behavior as a result of the UC Crime Alerts

The conclusion from these analyses is that the UC Crime Alerts significantly increased students' reported fear of crime, but also influenced their behavior. These behavioral changes may reduce their risk of victimization (avoid walking in certain areas), however they can also negatively impact routine activities that are important for a vibrant campus life and community (e.g., avoid coming to campus, changing times when leaving campus).

5. Familiarity with Crime Reduction Initiatives

In 2013, UC Administrators created the Campus Crime Reduction Committee. This committee is a working group that includes executives, experts and academics from the UC Office of Administration and Finance, UCPD, CPD, and UC Institute of Crime Science (ICS). While a detailed report of this Committee's activities can be found in Engel et al. (2014), one of the Committee's key tasks was to set forth a number of crime reduction initiatives. The survey was used to assess the level of familiarity students, faculty, and staff have with each of these crime reduction initiatives.

Specifically, respondents were asked to "indicate how familiar you are with each initiative by choosing one number for each." Response categories ranged from 1 (not at all familiar), 2 (somewhat familiar) and 3 (very familiar). Responses displayed in Table 6 represent the percentage of respondents who answered with a score of 2 or 3 for each of the initiatives listed on the left-hand column. The results from the respondents compiled in Table 6 below show student awareness of crime reduction initiatives varied dramatically across types. The most awareness was reported for Night Ride (93.2% of students reporting awareness) and the additional uniformed police officers near campus (76.8% reporting awareness). Students reported being the least aware of Case Watch and the installation of cameras in the

neighborhoods near UC. These two initiatives are both relatively new and have not yet been well-advertised to students. However, other initiatives with approximately a third of students reporting awareness (burglary tips on residence doors and theft from automobiles report cards) have been used for several years.

Table 6. Percent of students who reported being somewhat to very familiar with various crime reduction initiatives (N=3,047)

	Aware of Initiative
Night Ride	93.2%
Additional uniformed patrol officers near campus	76.8%
Increased lighting in neighborhoods near campus	56.4%
UC Ambassadors	50.1%
Be Smart Be Safe	48.2%
Burglary tips on residence doors	42.8%
Theft from automobile report cards left on windshields	38.1%
Student trainings taught by UCPD and CPD	30.9%
The installation of cameras in neighborhoods near UC	27.7%
Case Watch	12.5%

6. Explaining Fear of Crime, Perceptions of Increases in Crime and Violent Victimization

This section of the report contains binary logistic regression models to estimate what influenced fear of crime, perceptions of crime increases, and violent victimization for survey respondents. Logistic regression models estimate the probability of an event occurring compared to the event not occurring. It is used to estimate phenomena that are dichotomous in nature, such as whether a person is fearful or not. Logistic regressions are useful because they can determine how much a single factor influences the event under analysis, while holding all other factors/variables constant. In other words, it can explain what factors (in the survey) are best to explain fear of crime, perceptions of crime increases, and violent victimization. The tables containing original regression estimates, model fit indexes and their errors are in the appendix of this report for each of the six models described below.

1. Explaining Fear of Crime
Up to this point, this report has described different nuances in fear of crime. A relevant question, when taking everything together, is what influences fear of crime the most. In the model shown in Figure 18, the probability of an individual indicating they are "Fearful on Campus" is being estimated. This index was created to include all individuals who responded that they are moderately or very fearful of three or more crime types on campus—thus, these individuals were generally fearful. Those who were only fearful of two or fewer crime types on campus were

coded as not generally fearful. Odds ratio statistics are also reported. This is a comparative measure of two odds—in this model it is the odds of being fearful on campus compared to not being fearful on campus.

The bar charts below graph odds ratios for each of the factors estimated to influence fear of crime. Bars in red are factors that significantly increase the fear of crime. Bars in green are those that significantly decrease the fear of crime. Bars in gray are not significantly related to fear of crime. The dashed blue-line shows the odds ratio value of 1.00, used as a guideline/threshold value. An odds ratio value of 1.00 means the odds for being fearful on campus are equal as the odds for not being fearful. Values above 1.00 can be interpreted as a percent increase—a value of 1.34 can be read as a 34% increase in odds. A value below 1.00 is a percent decrease—a value of 0.58 is a 42% decrease in odds as the independent variable increases by one unit.

Figure 18. Results for the Factors for Fear of Crime On UC for Students
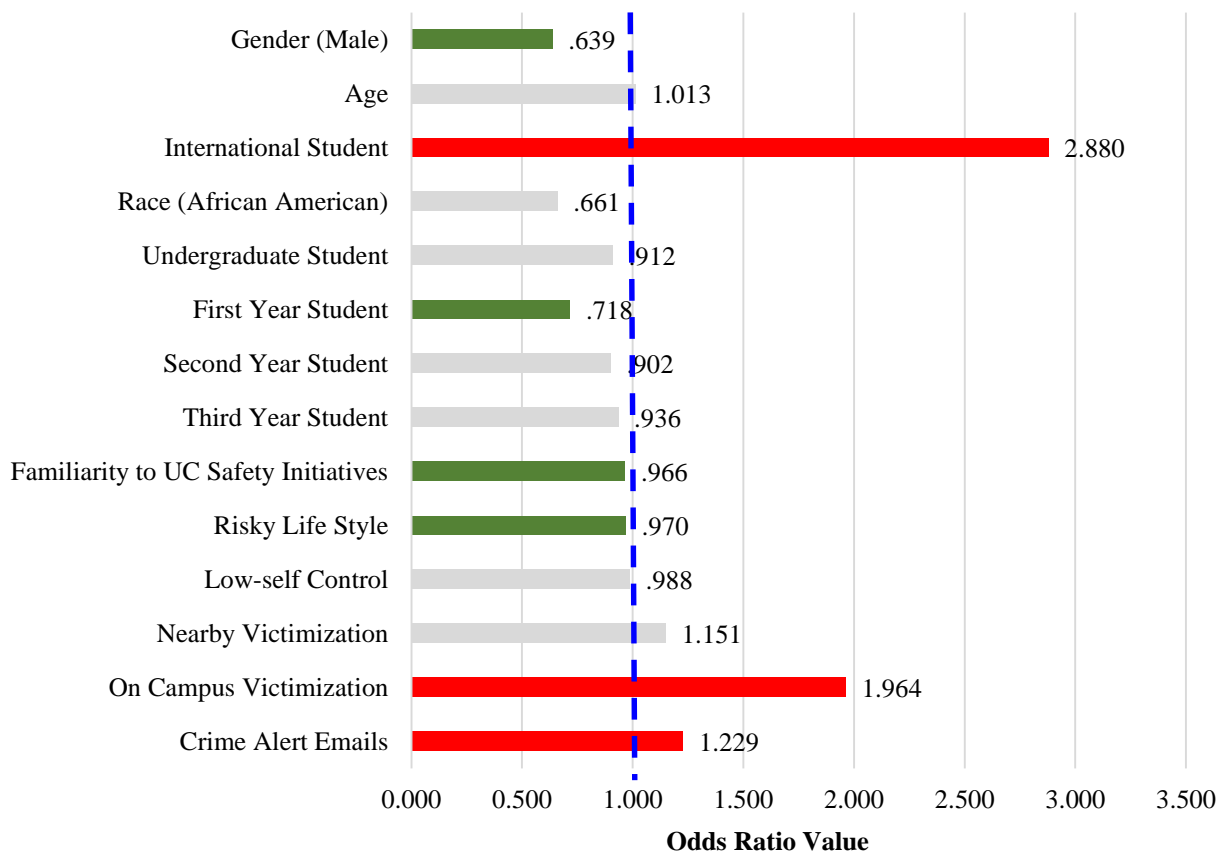
Based on these analyses, some important information on the sources of fear of crime are highlighted in Figure 18. There are four significant factors which **decrease** the likelihood that a student is fearful on campus: (1) being Male; (1) being a First year student; (3) familiarity with UC Crime Reduction Efforts; (4) engaging in a "Risky Lifestyle". There are three significant factors which **increase** the likelihood that a student is fearful on campus: (1) being an international student; (2) on campus victimization; (3) crime alert emails.

The odds of fear of crime for males are 36.1% less than for females—females were more likely to be fearful of crime on campus. In addition, as students become more familiar with UC Crime Reduction Efforts, their likelihood of fear of crime decreased. First year students were less likely to be fearful of crime on campus. Specifically, the odds that a first year student was fearful of crime on campus were 28% less than the odds that a fourth year student was fearful of crime on campus. The risky life style index was based on seven questions to gauge a student's participation in social behaviors which may increase their likelihood of victimization. Higher scores indicated a respondent was more often in proximity to potential offenders (hang around people who frequently break the law), unlikely to have suitable guardianship (walk home alone at night from a bar or party) or was a vulnerable target for crime (spend time intoxicated in public places). Students who engaged in risky lifestyles were less likely to be fearful on campus than those who had lower scores on a risky lifestyle index.

The logistic regression estimates indicate that international students were nearly three-times (odds ratio=2.88) as likely to be fearful on campus compared to American students. Second, the crime alert emails variable increased fear of crime. This variable ranged from a score of 1 to 10, indicating that the UC Crime Alert emails specifically increased student fear of crime a little to very much. The UC Crime Alert emails significantly increased the likelihood that a student was fearful of crime on campus. Finally, students who were previously victimized on campus are two times more likely to be fearful of crime on campus than students who were not previously victimized on campus (odds ratio=1.96).

Figure 19 shows the logistic regression results to estimate the likelihood that an individual was fearful nearby campus. This variable was created to include all respondents who indicated they are moderately to very fearful of three or more crime types in the areas nearby campus—thus, they are generally fearful of crime nearby campus. In contrast, those who did not meet this criterion were recoded as not generally fearful of crime in the areas nearby campus.

Figure 19. Results for the Factors for Fear of Crime Nearby UC for Students
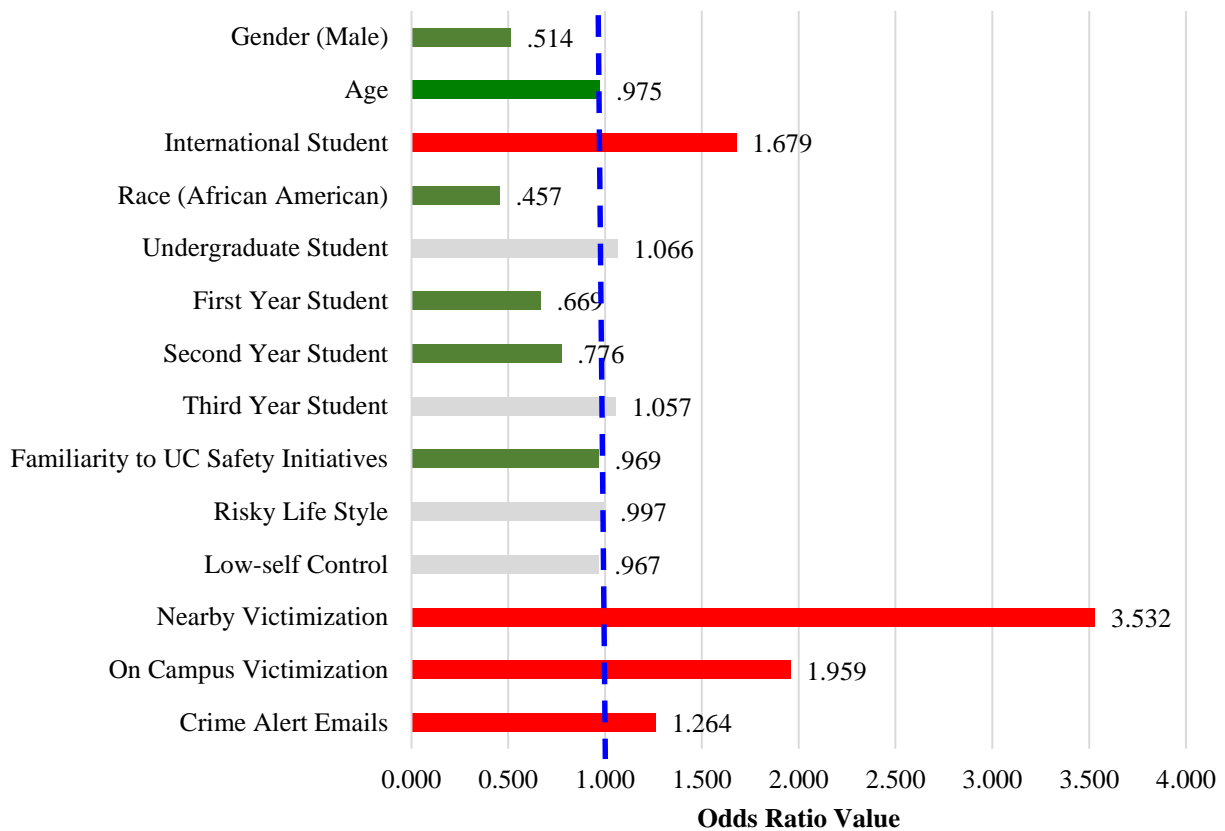
Important results from this figure show that there were six factors that significantly **decreased** the likelihood a student was fearful of crime nearby campus: (1) being a first year student (2) being a second year student; (3) being Male; (4) Being African American; (5) Age; (6) Familiarity with UC Crime Reduction Efforts. These are shown in the green bars above. There were four factors that significantly **increased** the likelihood that a student was fearful of crime nearby campus: (1) on campus victimization; (2) nearby victimization; (3) crime alerts emails; (4) International Citizenship. These are shown in the red bars above. Bars shown in gray were not significantly related to fear of crime in the areas nearby campus.

Students in their first year were 33.1% less likely to be fearful compared to fourth year students. Similarly, second year students were 22.4% less likely to be fearful compared to fourth year students. This indicates that students who had been at UC for less time were less fearful than those who had attended the university longer. Male students were 48.6% less likely to be fearful of crime nearby campus compared to female students. African American students were 54.3% less likely to be fearful of crime nearby campus than Caucasian students. As opposed to on campus fear of crime, age was negatively related to the likelihood of fear of crime. As students

increase in age, they were less likely to be fearful of crime nearby campus. An increase in one year of age (i.e., from 20 to 21) reduced the likelihood of fear of crime nearby by approximately 2.5%. Finally, students who were generally familiar with the UC Crime Reduction Efforts were less likely to be fearful nearby campus than those who were unaware of the UC Crime Reduction efforts.

The results also provide evidence that students who reported being a victim of any crime on campus or the surrounding area were significantly more likely to be generally fearful nearby campus. Victims of crimes that occurred nearby were 3.53 times more likely to be fearful, and victims of on-campus crimes were 1.96 times more fearful than those who were not victims of crime. Second, the crime alert emails variable significantly increased the likelihood that a student is fearful of crime nearby UC. Finally, students who were of international citizenship were 68% more likely to be generally fearful of crime nearby campus compared to American students.

There are some interesting similarities and differences between the sources of fear for on campus and nearby. Being female increased the odds of fear of crime regardless of setting, which is consistent with research on gender differences in the fear of crime (Fisher & May, 2009). Increases in age were found to slightly increase fear of crime on campus, but decreased fear of crime nearby campus. However, first year students were significantly less likely to be fearful of crime at both locations. Important to the work of the UC Crime Reduction Committee, knowledge of the safety initiatives undertaken by UC was related to a decreased likelihood of fear for both locations of interest.

2. Explaining Perceptions of Crime

As discussed earlier, 14.9% of students agreed that crime increased on campus in the past three years. As for the areas near UC, nearly half (49.7%) of the surveyed students thought that crime increased over the last three years. This section of the study will focus on what factors drive student perceptions of crime.

Similar to explaining fear of crime, logistic regression analyses were conducted to identify the specific factors that explain perceptions of increased fear of crime on campus and nearby. Again, odds ratios are plotted in Figure 20, below. Green bars show factors that reduced the likelihood that a respondent agreed that crime had increased on campus in the past three years. Red bars represent factors that increased the likelihood that a respondent agreed that crime had increased on campus in the past three years. Bars shown in gray highlight factors that were not significantly related to this concept.

Figure 20. Results for the Factors for Perception of Crime Increases on UC for Students
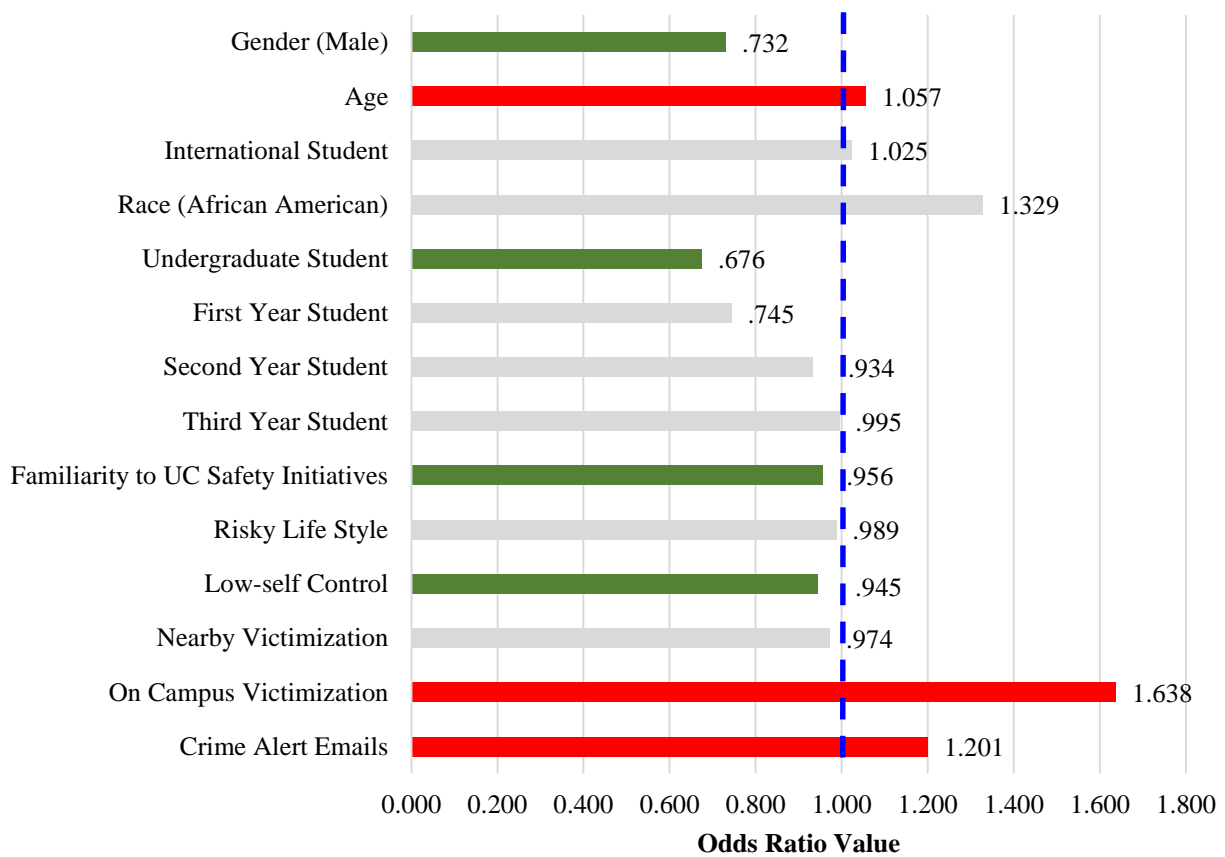

Figure 20 suggests four factors **decrease** the likelihood of a perception of a crime increase on campus: (1) being a male student; (2) undergraduate status; (3) familiarity with UC safety initiatives; (4) low self-control. Three factors significantly **increase** the likelihood of a perception of a crime increase on campus: (1) age; (2) on campus victimization; (3) crime alerts.

Male students were 26.8% less likely to have perceived crime increases on campus compared to female students. Likewise, undergraduate students were 32.4% less likely to have perceived a crime increase compared to graduate students. Students who were more familiar with the safety initiatives of UC were less likely to perceive that crime increased on campus. The "Low Self-Control" variable is an index of behavioral questions, where a low score indicates the person had little self-control and a higher score indicates the person had higher self-control. Students who scored higher on this scale were significantly less likely to have perceived an increase in crime on campus over the past three years.

In terms of age, older students were more likely perceive a crime increase on campus in the past three years, compared to their younger counterparts. Those who reported being a victim of a crime on campus in the past six months were 63.8% more likely to indicate they believed crime

has been increasing on campus in the past three years. Finally, as students' scores on fear of crime from crime alert emails increased, they were significantly more likely to perceive an increase in crime on campus during the past three years (odds ratio= 1.201).

Figure 21 provides the odds ratio statistics for estimating the likelihood that a respondent perceived crime to be increasing in the areas nearby campus. Recall that nearly half of the sample believed this to be the case. Bars shown in red indicate factors that significantly increase the likelihood, while bars shown in green indicate factors that significantly decrease the likelihood. Bars shown in gray are not significantly related to the odds that an individual perceives crime to be increasing the areas nearby campus.

Figure 21. Results for the Factors for Perception of Crime Increases Nearby UC for Students
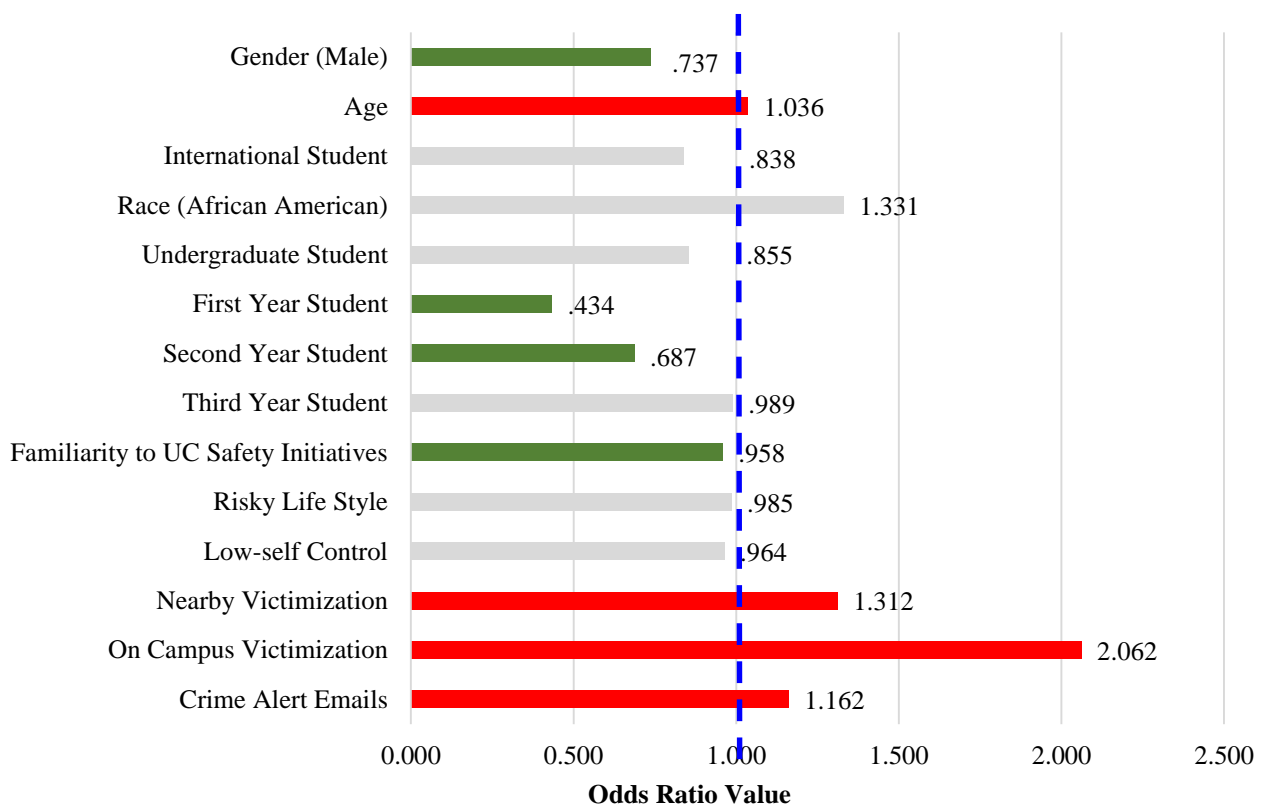
As Figure 21 above suggests, there are four factors that significantly **decrease** the likelihood that an individual perceives crime to have increased in the areas nearby campus in the past three years: (1) being a male student; (2) being a first year student; (3) being a second year student; (4) familiarity with UC safety initiatives. In turn, there are four variables that **increase** the likelihood a student agreed that crime has increased in the past three years: (1) age; (2) being a

victim of any crime on campus; (3) being a victim of any crime nearby campus; (4) crime alert emails.

Results from Figure 21 indicate that if students were in their first or second year, the likelihood they have perceived an increase in serious crime was reduced by 56.6% and 31.3%, respectively. Similar to the results of the previous regressions, male students were significantly less likely to have perceived an increase in crime in the areas surrounding UC. In addition, as students had greater familiarity with the UC safety initiatives, the likelihood they perceived an increase in serious crime was reduced by 4%.

In contrast, previous victimization on campus and nearby, in the past six months, substantially increased perceptions of crime in the surrounding area. In fact, those who were victimized on campus in the previous six months were twice as likely to have agreed that serious crime increased nearby campus in the past three years (odds ratio=2.062). Those who were victimized nearby were 31% more likely to have agreed to an increase in serious crime, compared to those who were not victimized near campus during the previous six months. Similar to the regression results explaining perceptions of crime increases on campus, older students were more likely perceive crime increase in the nearby area, compared to younger students. Finally, the crime alert variable significantly increased perceptions of crime increases nearby campus. This indicates that as a person responded that the UC Crime Alert emails increased their fear of crime, they were also significantly more likely to have believed that crime increased in the areas nearby campus.

3. Explaining Violent Crime Victimization

Up to this point, the possible sources of fear of crime and perceptions of crime increases have been discussed. The UC Crime Alerts, gender, familiarity to UC safety initiatives, and age seem to be consistent predictors of fear of crime and perceptions of crime increases. However, the ultimate goal of the Crime Reduction Committee is to prevent student victimization on and around the campus. Given this goal, understanding the variables that predict student victimization will provide important policy implications. The following two regressions are used to predict violent victimization. Specifically this includes assault, robbery, and sexual assault crimes. These violent offenses were selected for analysis as they often result in the dissemination of UC Crime Alert emails, a major topic of discussion in this report.

Figure 22 below suggests that only risky life style and international citizenship significantly **increase** the likelihood of violent crime. An increase in the risky life style (i.e., stay out drinking after 10 pm, hanging out with people who frequently break the law) corresponds to a statistically significant increase in the likelihood of on-campus violent crime victimization. Interestingly, international students were almost 3 times more likely to be victimized than American students.

No factors were found to significantly decrease the likelihood of violent victimization on campus in this sample. Contradictory to the UC Crime Alert scale's consistency as a significant

predictor thus far, this factor did not significantly affect the chance of violent crime victimization. Moreover, according to descriptive statistics above, more than 80% of students declared that they changed their behavioral patterns (i.e., avoid walking alone during the night) as a result of UC Crime Alert emails. However, those who changed their behavior were not significantly less likely to be violently victimized (demonstrated by the gray bar for "Behavioral Change"). In other words, while the UC Crime Alert emails substantially increased fear of crime and perceptions of crime, it did not reduce the likelihood of violent victimization on campus.

Figure 22. Results for the Factors for Violent Crime Victimization On UC for Students
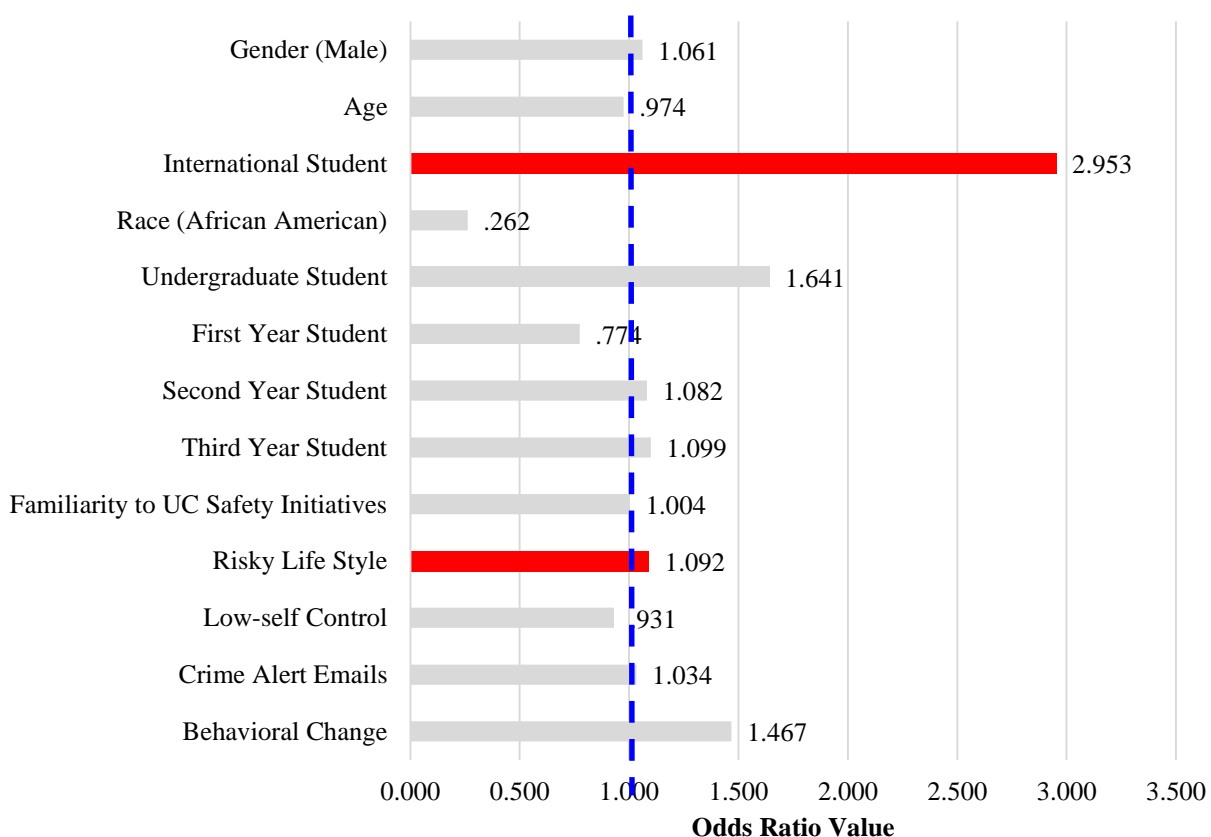

Figure 23 below shows the logistic regression results for predicting the likelihood of violent victimization off-campus. Only two variables significantly **decrease** the chance of violent crime victimization: (1) being a first year student and (2) low self-control. Figure 23 suggests three factors **increase** the likelihood that an individual is violent victimized nearby campus: (1) being male; (2) behavior change as a result of the UC Crime Alerts; (3) risky lifestyle.

The Low Self-Control variable is an index of behavioral questions, where a low score indicated the person had little self-control and a higher score indicated the person had higher self-control. Low self-control is often linked to high rates of delinquency as well as victimization in criminology literature. Figure 23 shows that an increase on the low self-control scale (i.e.,

greater self-control) decreased the likelihood that a student was violently victimized nearby campus. Second, first year students were 68% less likely to be violently victimized nearby campus compared to fourth year students. Reasons for this inverse relationship include the young age of a first year student is not generally conducive to a "risky life style" (i.e., 1st year students cannot stay out drinking after 10 pm since they are under the age of 21) and they live on campus.

Results indicate male students experienced violent crime victimization at a rate 1.5 times higher than female students nearby UC. Similar to the on campus estimates, those who had a higher score on the Risky Lifestyle scale were substantially more likely to have a violent victimization nearby UC. Figure 23 also shows that those who responded that they changed their behavior as a result of the UC Crime Alert emails were 75% more likely to be violently victimized nearby campus than those who do not make changes to their behavior as a result of the UC Crime Alert emails. This is the reverse of its expected direction. In particular, the Behavioral Change variable would indicate that a person would purposively partake in behaviors to reduce their victimization. The finding below might suggest that the changes taken by individuals as a result of the crime alert emails are not effective in reducing victimization nearby campus.

Figure 23. Results for the Factors for Violent Crime Victimization Nearby UC for Students
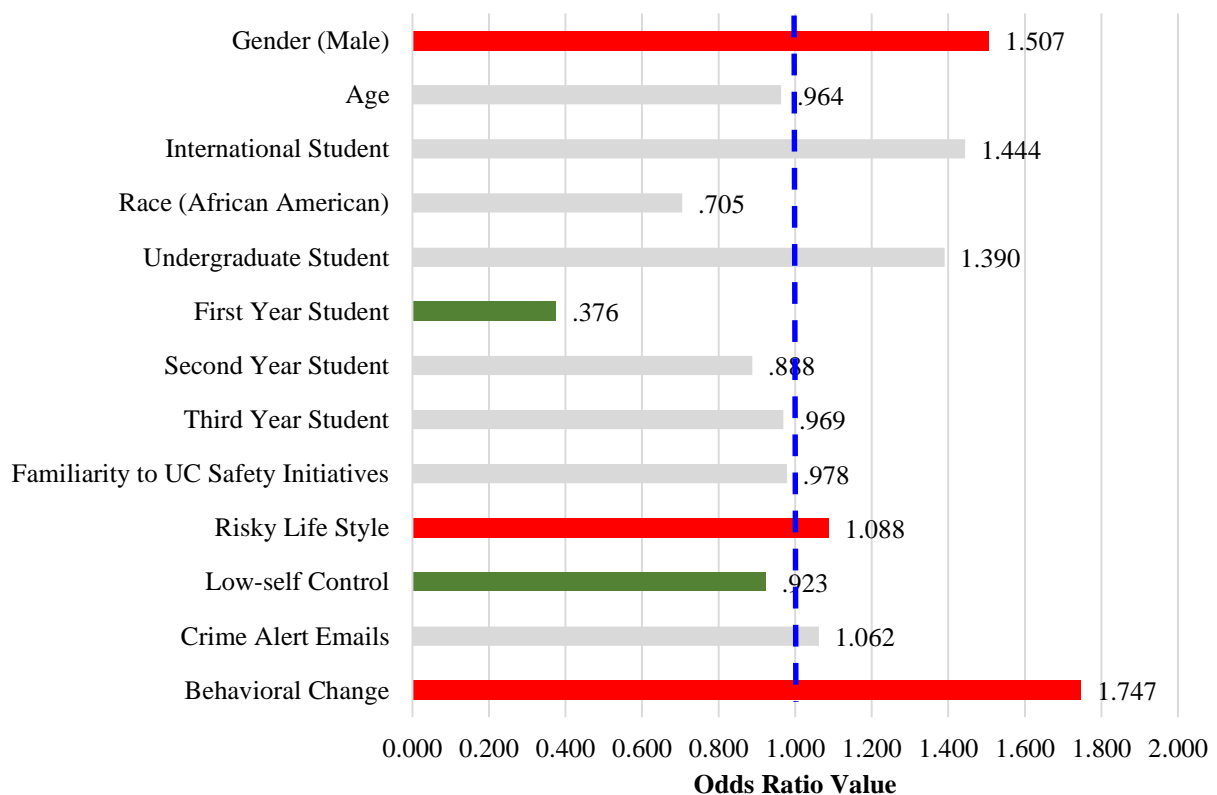
Logistic regressions for faculty and staff respondents were conducted to determine what factors are driving fear of crime and perceptions of crime increases on campus and in the areas nearby. In general, the same significant predictors were found for both faculty and staff and for students. Each regression and its results are located in the appendix of this report. The regression results were largely the same for students, faculty, and staff. Thus, the takeaway point is the same too — the influence from crime alert emails, as well as being a victim of crime on campus substantially increased the likelihood that an individual was fearful or perceived an increase in crime, regardless of setting. In general, age, gender, and familiarity with UC safety initiatives were significant predictors for fear of crime and perceptions of crime increase.

In order to determine differences in the impacts of factors on students and faculty and staff, ICS researchers conducted slope difference tests for fear of crime (on and near campus) and perceptions of crime increases (on and near campus). These results are also shown in Tables 24 through 27 in the Appendix. There were no significant differences in the predictive factors between students and faculty/staff for fear of crime on campus. The test found that age had a different effect on fear of crime nearby UC for students than for faculty and staff. Specifically, age was not a significant predictor of fear of crime nearby campus for faculty/staff but it was found to significantly decrease fear of crime nearby campus for students. The slope difference tests found differing affects for age and the UC Crime Alert emails on perceptions of crime increases on campus for students as compared to faculty and staff. First, age had a stronger effect on students than for faculty and staff, meaning that there was a significantly higher influence in the odds ratio associated with age for students than for faculty and staff. Second, the UC Crime Alert emails had a stronger impact on fear of crime on campus for students than for faculty and staff. Finally, the slope difference tests found that gender had a stronger impact on perceptions of increases in crime in the areas nearby UC for students than it had for faculty and staff. Ultimately, there are numerous similarities between sampled students and faculty/staff in attitudes and experiences related to public safety at and around UC. Results from the faculty and staff respondents are discussed next, followed by policy implications.

IV. RESULTS FOR FACULTY AND STAFF

In total, 1,994 faculty and staff surveys were completed out of 8,642 invitations sent to UC emails, resulting in a 23.0% response rate. The average age of this group was 47.9 years, with approximately 57% female and 43% male respondents. The majority of the respondents were Caucasian (83.1%), followed by African-American (7.3%), Asian (5.4%), Hispanic (2.1%) and 2.0% were of another racial or ethnic origin. The majority of the respondents (56.5%) had worked at UC for ten or more years. Approximately 63.8% were classified as staff while 36.2%

were classified as faculty. The majority of these faculty and staff (90.8%) commuted to work and only 9.2% lived nearby UC.

1. Perceptions of Crime and Safety

Faculty and staff were asked about their perceptions of changes in serious crime and the safety of the university and its surrounding areas. Specifically, faculty and staff were asked, "In the last three years, has serious crime (i.e. murder, robbery, aggravated assault, rape, burglary, theft, and automobile theft) decreased, increased, or stayed about the same on campus?" The same question was asked of faculty and staff for the areas nearby campus. As stated earlier, respondents were told to define the areas near campus as the residential and commercial areas within approximately a half-mile radius of campus. Figure 24 shows the percentage of faculty and staff who agreed that serious crime has increased on and nearby campus in the past three years. Approximately 28.5% of faculty and staff perceived crime to be increasing on campus, and 69.5% perceived crime to have increased nearby in the last three years. Compared to the student respondents, a greater percentage of faculty and staff perceived an increase in crime on campus and an increase in crime near campus. It is evident that a significant percentage of faculty and staff have misconceptions of changes in serious crime on campus and nearby. As shown in the official (reported) crime section of this report, serious crime on campus and in the areas nearby has been stable or decreasing during the past three years.

Figure 24. Faculty/Staff who Agreed Serious Crime Increased in the Past Three Years (N=1,994)
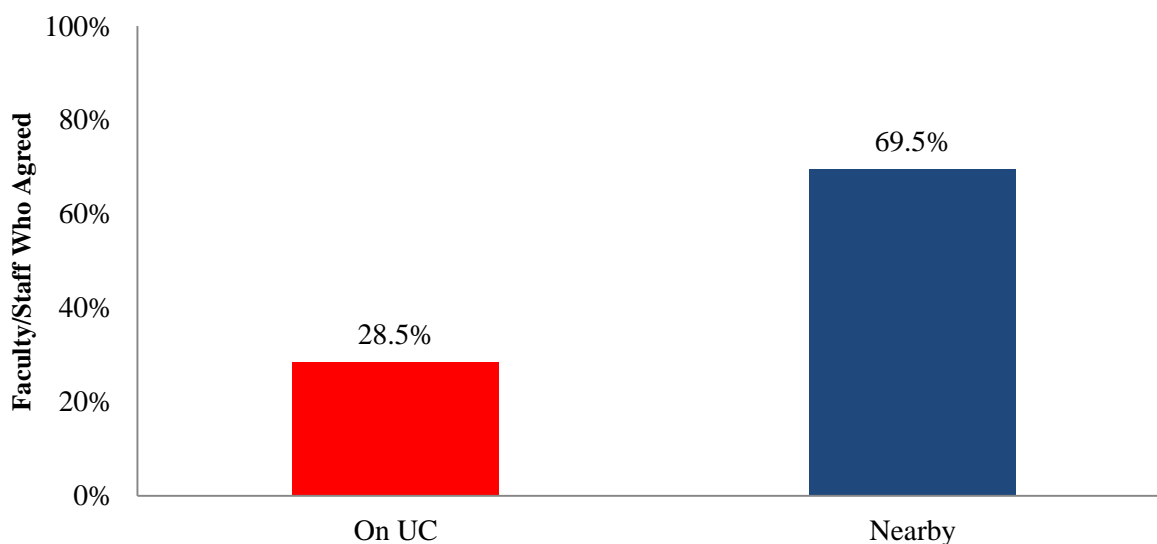
Figures 25-27 below shows the perceptions of changes in serious crime (i.e. murder, robbery, aggravated assault, rape, burglary, theft, and automobile theft) disaggregated by age, race, and gender demographics. The percentages represent faculty and staff that agreed that serious crime had increased. On campus, 31.5% of female respondents perceived that serious crime had increased on campus, compared to only 22.5% of their male counterparts. Nearby UC, 74.2% of

female respondents perceived that serious crime had increased in the past three years compared to only 63.0% of male respondents.

Figure 25. Faculty/Staff Who Agreed Serious Crime Increased in the Past Three Years, by Gender
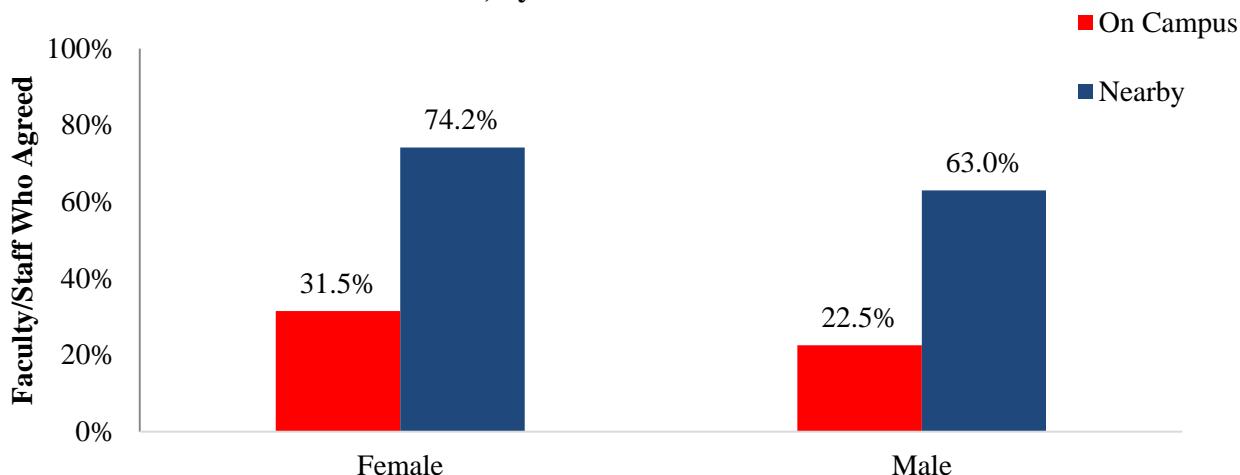

Figure 26 below displays Faculty and Staff who agreed serious crime had increased in the past three years, disaggregated by age in years. It appears that older faculty and staff are generally more likely to perceive that crime has increased both on UC and nearby. For example, 32.1% of Faculty/Staff over the age of 60 agreed crime had increased on campus, compared to only 16.9% of Faculty/Staff aged 22 to 30 years old.

Figure 26. Faculty/Staff Who Agreed Serious Crime Increased in the Past Three Years, by Age
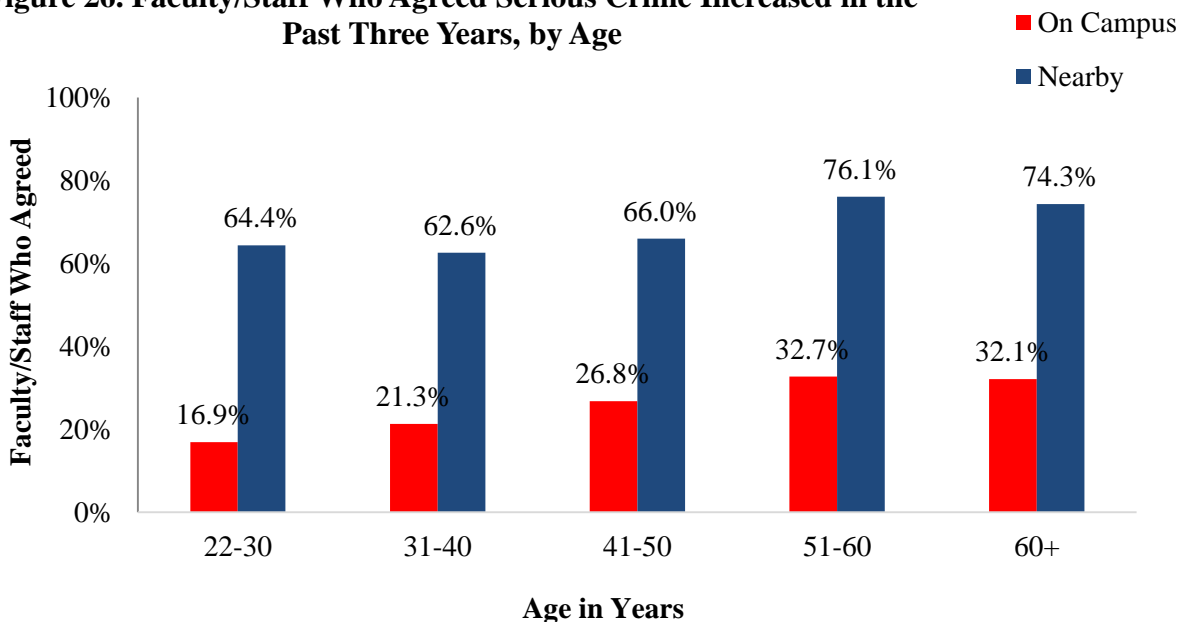
Figure 17 displays Faculty and Staff respondents who agreed that serious crime had increased during the past three years, disaggregated by racial group. In terms of racial differences on perceptions of crime on campus, 43.6% percent of Hispanic respondents believed crime had increased, compared to 32.7% of Asian respondents, 36.4% of African American respondents and 25.6% of Caucasian respondents. In the areas nearby UC, Caucasian respondents had the greatest percentage to perceive that crime had increased (70.2%), and Asian respondents had the lowest percentage (56.7%) of the racial/ethnic group comparisons.

Figure 27. Faculty/Staff Who Agreed Serious Crime Increased in the Past Three Years, by Race
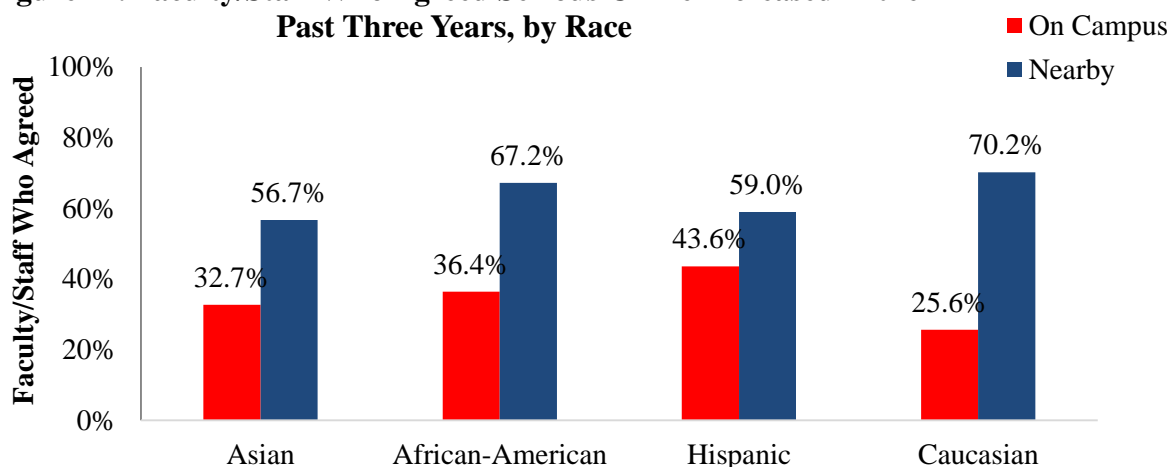
As for perceptions of safety, there are major differences between the day and night. The survey asked, "To what extent would you agree with the following statement: "The University of Cincinnati Uptown campus is a safe place during the day." This question was varied to ask about perceptions of the campus at night, and perceptions for the nearby area during the day and the night. Faculty and staff could answer with a score of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). Figure 28 displays those who answered with a score of 4 or 5, indicating they agreed or strongly agreed. Figure 28 demonstrates that in general, faculty and staff felt safer during the day than at night. Nearly 80% of respondents felt safe on campus during the day and 44.4% felt safe nearby campus during the day. In contrast, only 25.7% felt safe on campus at night, and 4.6% felt safe nearby campus at night. It is important to highlight that less than 5% of both students and faculty/staff respondents agreed that they felt safe in the areas nearby campus at night.

Figure 28. Faculty/Staff Perceptions of Safety on Campus and Nearby during the Day and Night (N=1,994)
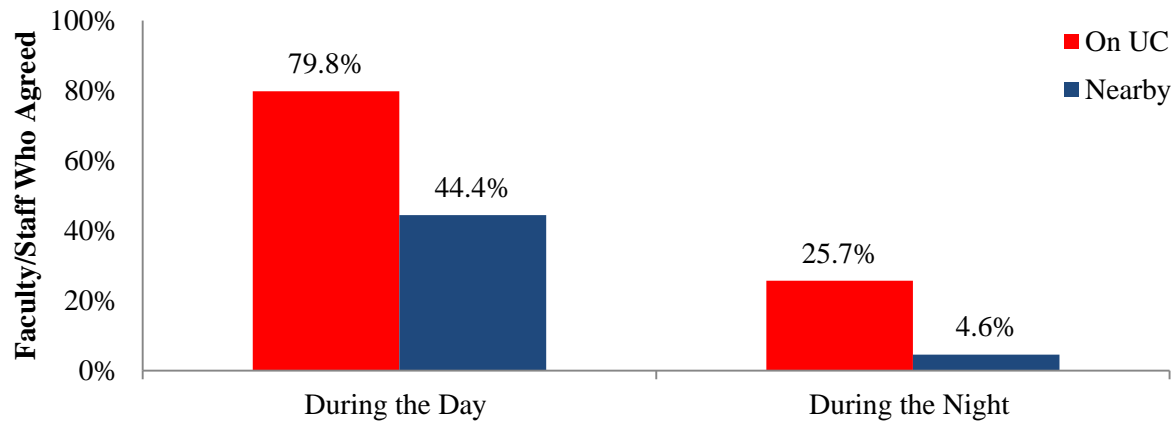
2. Victimization Experiences

Like the student population, faculty and staff can experience criminal victimizations both on and nearby campus. Faculty and staff were asked to respond "yes" or "no" if they were a victim of any one of a series of crimes during the past six months, on campus or nearby campus. The surveyed crimes included assault, burglary, robbery, theft from auto (TFA), theft, vandalism, and sexual assault. The specific definition for each crime time was given to respondents on the survey and is included in the Appendix.

As discussed earlier, 58% of all criminal victimizations are not reported to the police (Langton et al., 2012). Table 7 shows the percentages of surveyed faculty and staff that were victimized, and reported that victimization to police. These percentages vary by crime type. Of the 353 faculty and staff victimizations that occurred on campus, 177 (50.1%) were reported to police. Of the 173 faculty and staff victimizations that occurred nearby campus, 72 (41.6%) were reported to police. Faculty and staff were less likely to report victimizations occurring nearby campus than victimizations occurring on campus. Burglary was the crime most likely to be reported, accounting for nearly 80% of reported cases on campus and 73% of cases nearby. No sexual assaults involving faculty and staff victims were reported to the police for either area of interest, even though the survey found that 12 victimizations occurred during the six-month reference period.

Table 7. Percentage of faculty and staff victimizations reported to the police by crime type

|	On Campus (N=343)	Nearby (N=173)
Assault	60.0%	50.0%
Burglary	79.4%	73.7%
Robbery	60.0%	27.3%
Theft from Auto	45.0%	39.3%
Theft	60.0%	42.1%
Vandalism	29.1%	35.6%
Sexual Assault	0.0%	0.0%
Total	50.1%	41.6%

The results of the analyses conducted on faculty and staff surveys indicate that the number of reported victimizations by survey respondents on the UC campus were much higher than actual reported crime. Figures 29 and 30 graphically display these differences. The red bars represent the number of victimizations reported by survey respondents occurring in the past six months on campus. The gray bars represent the number of victimizations that respondents indicated they reported to the police. On campus, faculty and staff were most commonly victims of vandalism (103 victimizations) and least commonly victims of sexual assault (12 victimizations). The blue bars in Figure 23 display the number of crimes reported by the UCPD for the approximate six-month period referenced in the survey. Recall that this information was included in the discussion of student victimization experiences. Crimes reported by the UCPD may involve student or faculty/ staff victims. As discussed earlier, the number of official reports for the population of UC (as captured by official data in blue) should exceed those in a sample (shown in gray). However, an important fact highlighted by Figure 29 is that the number of crimes respondents indicated that they reported to police in the last six months was much higher than the official crime counts. As evidenced in Figure 29, most blue bars are higher than their gray counterparts. For example, faculty and staff indicated that they reported 54 burglaries occurring on campus to the police. Reported crimes based on UCPD statistics indicate that only 13 burglaries occurred during the same reference period. Like the student sample, this gap between reported crimes based on survey data and reported crimes based on official police data was found for most of the crime types.

Figure 29. On Campus Victimizations of Faculty and Staff
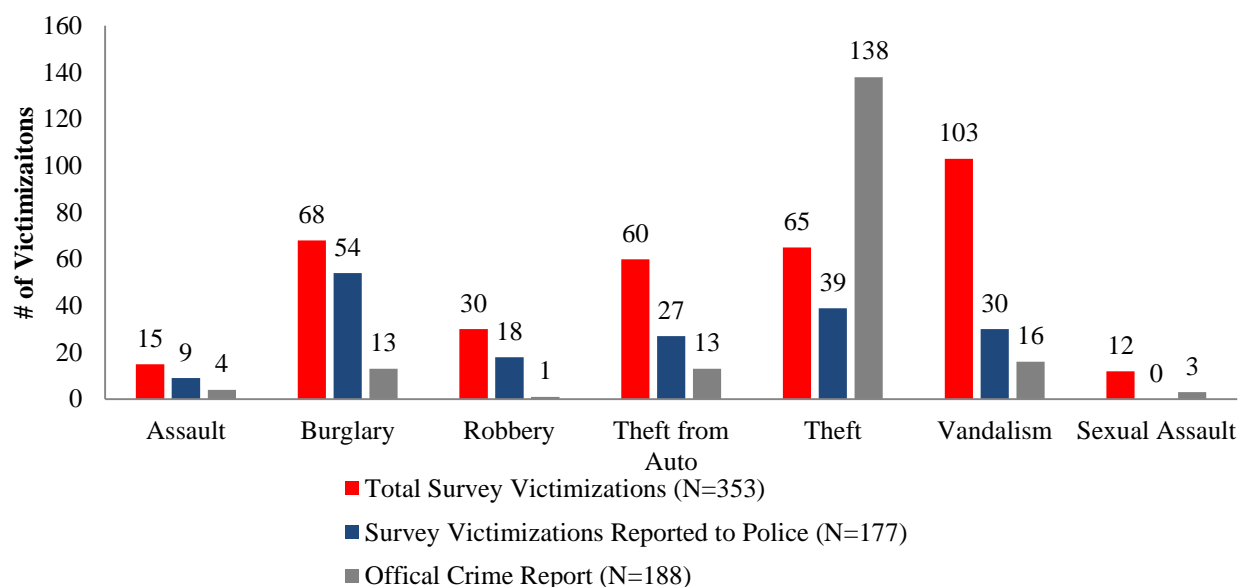
Nearby campus, faculty and staff were most commonly victims of vandalism (59 victimizations), followed closely by theft from automobiles (56 victimizations), shown in Figure 30. Faculty and staff respondents experienced only one sexual assault nearby campus in the last six months. Because crimes off-campus involving specific UC faculty and staff victims are unavailable through official records, a direct comparison for the gap between faculty/staff victimizations reported to police and official CPD data is unavailable. Ultimately, the survey demonstrates that faculty and staff were more likely to experience victimization on campus than nearby.

Figure 30. Nearby Campus Victimizations of Faculty and Staff
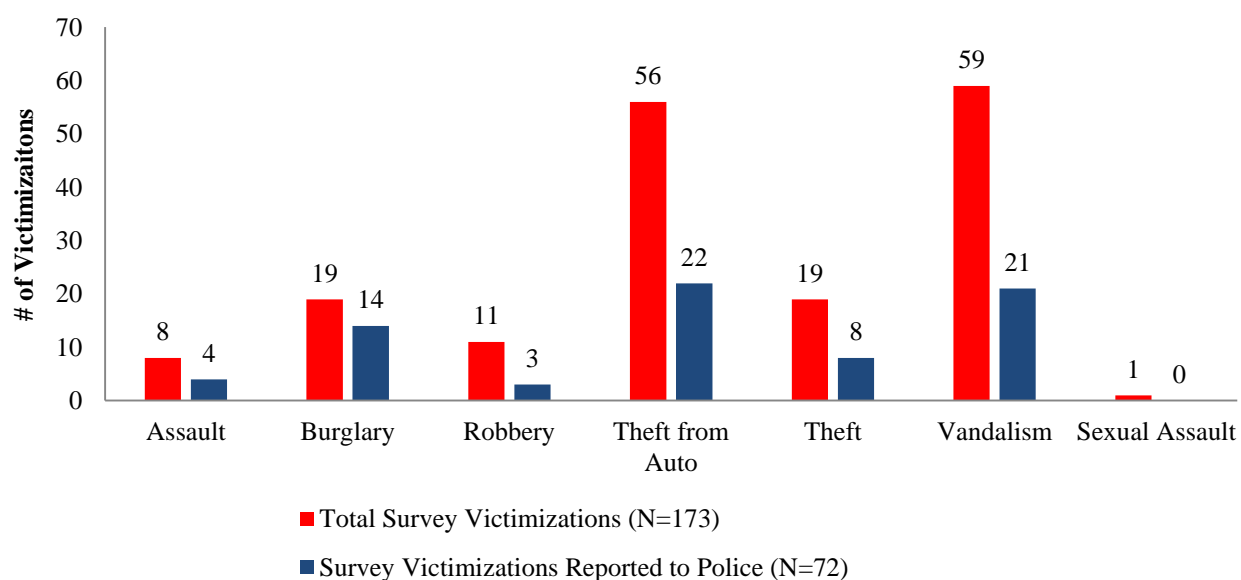
A final concern is the rate of victimization that was reported on this survey. While Figures 29 and 30 show the raw number of incidents reported, Table 8 below shows the rate of victimization of all survey respondents. Like the student population, some of these figures are rather high. For example, 1.5% of faculty and staff reported they were robbed on campus during the last six months compared to the 0.1% national prevalence of robbery victimizations. Reasons for this may include a misinterpretation of the crime, telescoping, or untruthfulness.

Table 8. Faculty and Staff victimizations by percent of total sample (N=1,994).

|	Victimized On Campus	Victimized Near Campus	2013 National Population Prevalence
Assault	0.7%	0.4%	1.0%
Burglary	3.4%	0.9%	1.9%
Robbery	1.5%	0.6%	0.1%
Theft from Auto	3.0%	2.8%	--
Theft	3.3%	1.0%	7.1%
Vandalism	5.3%	3.0%	--
Sexual Assault	0.6%	0.0%	0.1%

One additional noteworthy issue concerns the different pattern of results between the student and faculty/staff surveys. In particular, for students, while the absolute levels of victimization were low, they were generally higher in the nearby surrounding areas than they were on the UC campus. Alternatively, for faculty and staff the opposite was true, as their rates of victimization were higher on campus. Second, faculty and staff were more likely to report incidents occurring on campus whereas students were more likely to report incidents occurring nearby campus. Ultimately, these differences may stem from different behavioral patterns adopted by both groups. These behavioral patterns are likely tied to differences in age, where younger people (e.g., students) are more likely to have certain "routine activities" that place them in closer proximity to potential offenders than the older respondents (e.g., faculty and staff, see Reisig and Holtfreter, 2013).

3. Fear of Crime

Understanding the various dimensions of the fear of crime and its sources for faculty and staff is important for creating a safe and comfortable working environment. Specifically, faculty and staff were asked to, "Indicate how fearful you are of being victimized in the following ways by choosing one response for each form of victimization." Faculty and staff were asked about each of the seven crimes under analysis in this survey, using a reference area of the Uptown campus or the areas near campus. Responses options included 1 (not at all fearful), 2 (a little fearful), 3 (moderately fearful), and 4 (very fearful). Figures 31- below display those who scored a 3 or 4 on each question. Figure 31 shows the percentage of faculty and staff who were moderately to very fearful of each crime type. As shown, between 13.6% and 33.0% of surveyed respondents indicated they were fearful of crime on the UC campus. In the surrounding areas, however, these

percentages ranged between 33.6% and 64.6%. Respondents were least fearful of sexual assault and most fearful of robbery in both areas of interest.

Figure 31. Percent of Faculty and Staff who were Moderately to Very Fearful of Crime, by Crime Type (N=1,994)
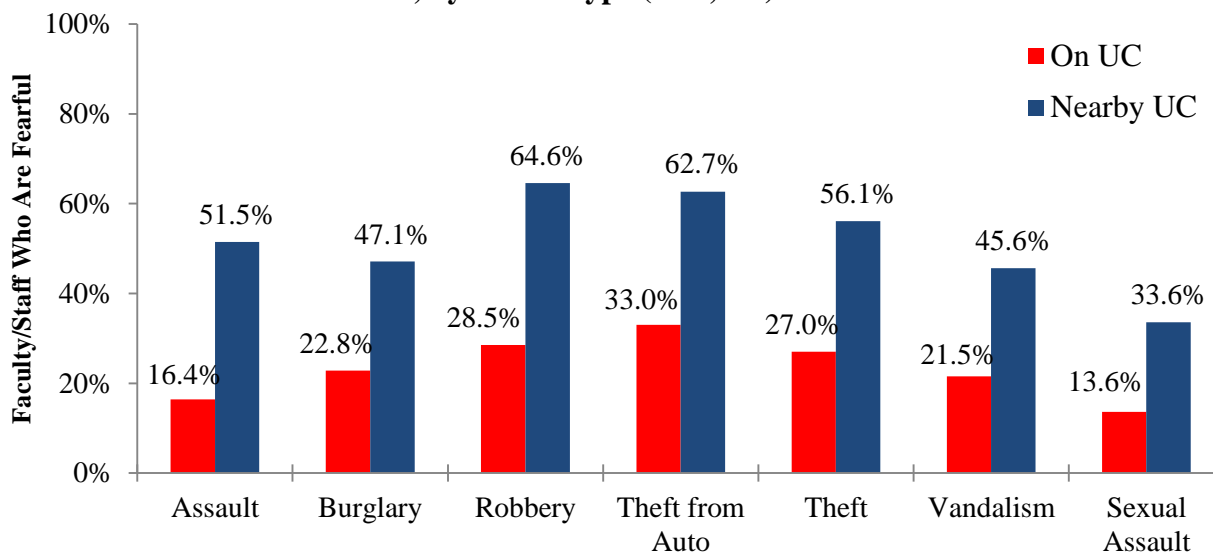
Although fear of crime was rather prevalent, particularly in the areas nearby campus, certain differences based on demographics arise in the faculty and staff sample. Figures 32-34 show the percentages of those faculty and staff who were "generally fearful," meaning those who were moderately to very fearful of three or more different types of crime in each area of interest. Recall that this variable was also used to describe student differences in fear based on demographics earlier in the report. Results indicate that more female faculty and staff were fearful of crime in both areas, but this difference was more pronounced for the areas nearby campus. Shown in Figure 32, 65% of female respondents were fearful of nearby campus whereas only 57% of males were fearful. This is consistent with literature that finds that females are generally more fearful of crime than males (Fisher and May, 2009).

Figure 32. Faculty/Staff Who Are "Generally Fearful" of Crime, by Gender
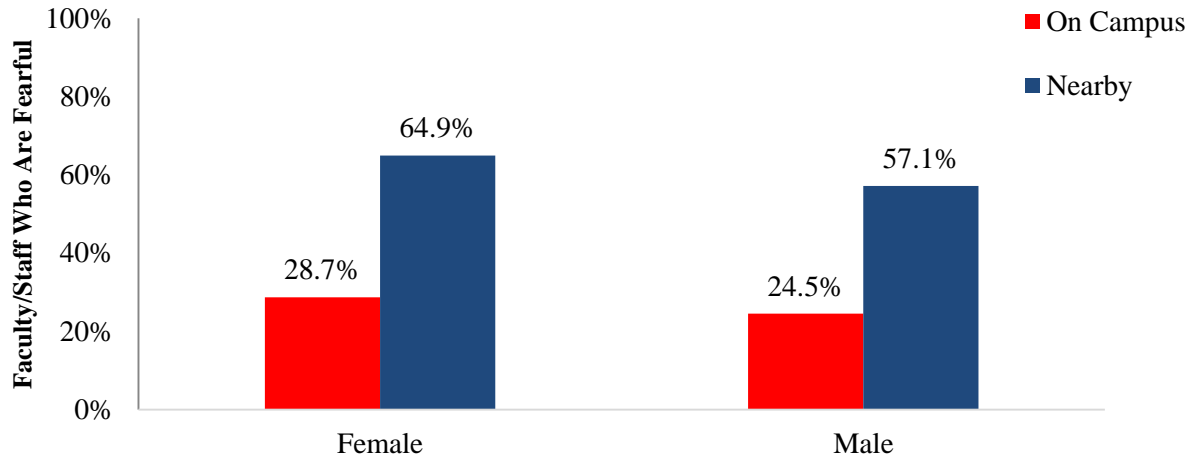
Figure 33 displays the percentages of faculty and staff who are generally fearful of crime, disaggregated by racial group. Similar to the racial differences for students, Asians had the highest percentage of respondents who were fearful of crime. Results indicate this difference is more pronounced on campus, where 44.1% of Asians are generally fearful, compared to only 21.4% of African-Americans, 22.2% of Hispanics, and 25.8% of Caucasians. Nearby campus, 68.1% of Asian respondents were fearful of crime, compared to 45.2% of African Americans, 59.5% of Hispanics, and 62.1% of Caucasians.

Figure 33. Faculty/Staff Who Are "Generally Fearful" of Crime, by Race

Figure 34 displays faculty and staff who are generally fearful of crime, disaggregated by age. Interestingly, younger faculty and staff were more fearful in the areas nearby campus, compared to their older counterparts. This pattern is the opposite for fear of crime on campus, where older respondents had greater percentages of fearful members compared to younger respondents. It is important to highlight that despite the demographic patterns, the majority of respondents are generally fearful in the areas nearby campus.

Figure 34. Faculty/Staff Who Are "Generally Fearful" of Crime, by Age

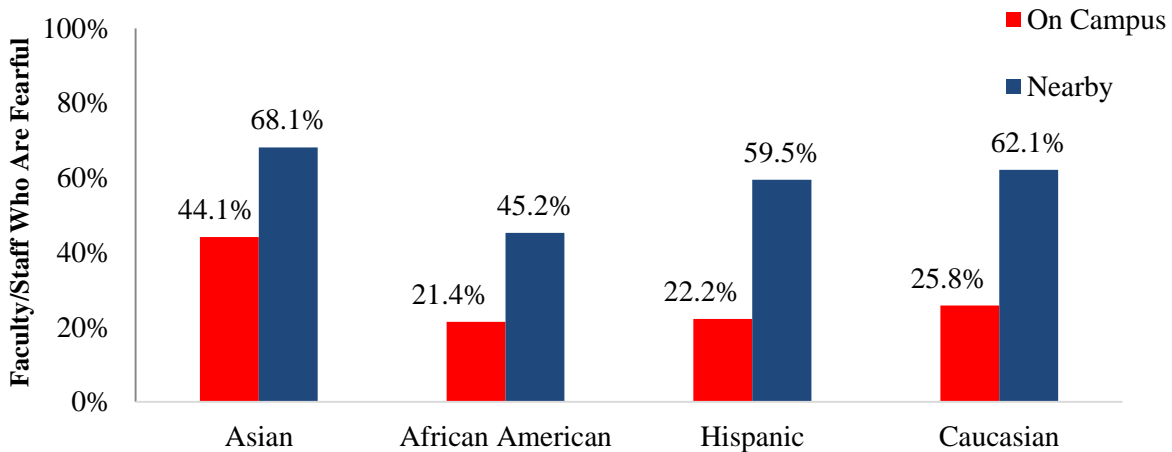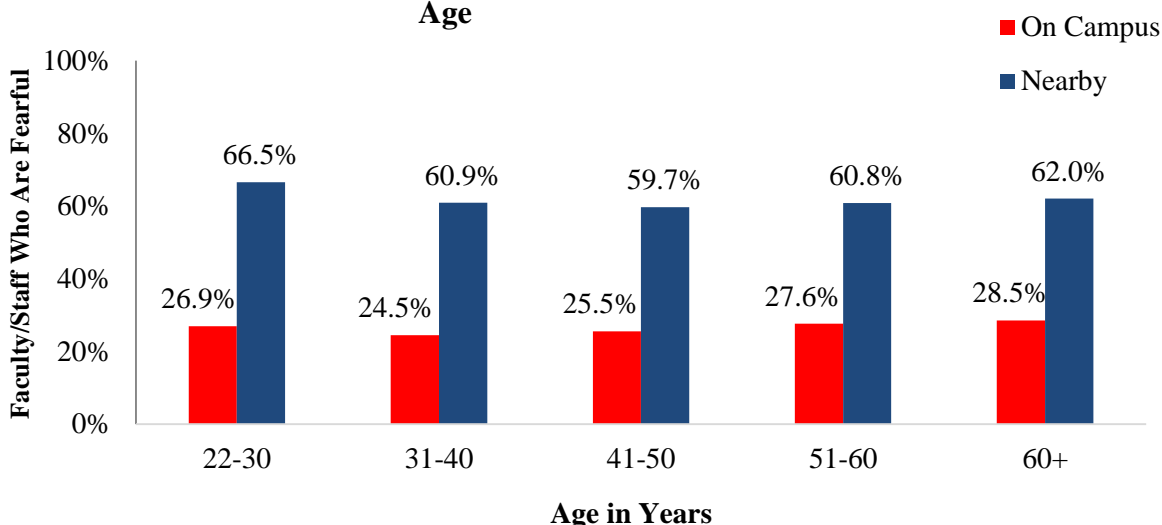Collectively, these analyses reveal that faculty and staff were more fearful of crime in the areas surrounding campus than on campus. However, important differences arise based on demographics in fear of crime. These differences identify the groups who would benefit most from more knowledge about strategies UC has undertaken to increase public safety. Importantly, the majority of faculty and staff are generally fearful in the areas nearby campus.

4. Potential Factors for Fear of Crime

To examine the various potential factors that influence fear of crime both on campus and in the nearby areas, faculty and staff respondents were asked the degree to which multiple sources increased or decreased their fear of crime. These sources are listed on the far left column of Table 9 below. Responses ranged from 1 (not at all) to 10 (very much). Responses were recoded to reflect those who moderately to very much agree each factor increased or decreased their fear of crime (i.e., scores of 7, 8, 9 or 10). These responses are included in the percentages listed in Table 9. Results indicate that on campus, about 36% of faculty and staff both agreed that media reports and the UC Crime Alert emails increased their fear of crime. Nearly half (49.0%) of faculty and staff agreed that media reports increased their fear of crime nearby campus. For both

crime on campus and nearby, information from family and friends increased fear of crime for a relatively small percentage of respondents. Finally, UC safety initiatives decreased the respondent's fear of crime in only 34% and 28% of the sample for crime on campus and nearby, respectively. This differs from the student respondents in that the UC safety initiatives decreased fear of crime on campus for 41% of that sample. .

Table 9. **Factors influencing fear of crime for faculty and staff respondents (N=1,994)**

	UC	Nearby
Media reports increase fear?	35.8%	49.0%
UC Crime Alert emails increase fear?	36.3%	47.2%
Information from family/friends increase fear?	19.3%	26.1%
Personal experiences increase fear?	24.2%	27.5%
UC safety initiatives decrease fear?	34.2%	28.3%

The survey indicates that faculty and staff pay attention to the UC Crime Alert emails. Survey respondents were asked, "Do you pay attention to the safety tips when they are included in the UC Crime Alert emails?" 90.6% of faculty and staff indicated that they do pay attention to them. Additionally, 81.3% of those faculty and staff noted that they make changes to their behavior as a result of these emails to reduce their potential risk of victimization. The percentages of faculty and staff that made certain changes to their behaviors are listed in Table 10. The most common changes included avoiding walking at night in the area where the crime occurred, and avoiding walking alone on campus at night.

Table 10. Faculty and staff who reported making various changes to their behavior as a result of the UC Crime Alert emails (N=1,400)*

	Changed Behavior
Avoid walking where the crime took place at night	80.4%
Avoid walking alone on campus at night	72.0%
Avoid walking where the crime took place during the day	40.1%
Change the time when you leave campus at night	39.2%
Carry Personal Safety	22.4%
Come to campus less often	16.6%
Avoid walking alone on campus during the day	13.4%

*Based on those who agreed they make changes to their behavior as a result of the UC Crime Alerts

The conclusion from these analyses is that the UC Crime Alerts substantially increased faculty and staff reported fear of crime, but also impacted their behavior. UC Crime Alerts are useful in that they encourage faculty and staff to take preventive measures to avoid potential victimization. However, like the student sample, some behavioral changes due to the UC Crime Alert emails (such as coming to campus less often) may have a negative impact on maintaining a prosperous campus community.

5. Familiarity with UC Safety Initiatives

As stated previously, the Campus Crime Reduction Committee has undertaken a number of initiatives to increase public safety in and around campus during the past year. This section of the report contains information on faculty and staff awareness of recent safety initiatives. Specifically, respondents were asked to "indicate how familiar you are with each initiative by choosing one number for each." Response categories ranged from 1 (not at all familiar), 2 (somewhat familiar) and 3 (very familiar). Responses displayed in Table 11 represent the percentage of respondents who answered with a score of 2 or 3 for each of the initiatives listed in the far left column. The results presented in Table 11 show that faculty and staff were generally unaware of most crime reduction initiatives undertaken at UC. The exception to this trend is for additional police officers near campus, UC Ambassadors, and the Night Ride program. The most awareness was reported for Night Ride (88.6%) and the additional uniformed police officers near campus (79.8%). Faculty and staff reported being the least aware of Case Watch (11.6%) and the student trainings taught by UCPD and CPD (30.3%). Less than half of the surveyed faculty and staff were aware of seven of the ten safety initiatives provided.

Table 11. **Percentage of faculty and staff who reported being somewhat to very familiar with various crime reduction initiatives (N=1,994).**

	Aware of Initiative
Night Ride	88.6%
Additional uniformed patrol officers near campus	79.8%
UC Ambassadors	60.2%
Be Smart Be Safe	47.6%
Increased lighting in neighborhoods near campus	44.4%
The installation of cameras in neighborhoods near UC	39.6%
Burglary tips on residence doors	35.3%
Theft from automobile report cards left on windshields	33.0%
Student trainings taught by UCPD and CPD	30.3%
Case Watch	11.6%

V. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Significant percentages of students, faculty, and staff incorrectly perceived that crime has increased on and around campus. In reality, reported crime in the areas surrounding campus have been decreasing and reported crimes on campus have been relatively stable across the previous five years. In general, students, faculty, and staff report feeling safer on campus than in the areas nearby. However, there are some clear demographic differences related to feelings of safety. In general, a smaller percentage of females reported feeling safe compared to males, and a smaller percentage of international students reported feeling safe on campus compared to American students. Specifically, Asian students are the racial/ethnic group reporting the lowest feelings of safety. This is a population that may benefit most from positive interactions with public safety representatives and education to promote accurate perceptions of crime.

Results from this survey also demonstrate that many students, faculty, and staff do not report their victimizations to the police. For students, 66.8% of all victimizations that occurred on campus and 56.6% of victimizations that occurred nearby campus were not reported to police. For faculty and staff, 49.9% of victimizations that they reported as occurring on campus and 58.4% of victimizations reported as occurring near campus were not reported to police. These percentages generally reflect the national average for reporting victimizations to police; national victimization surveys estimate 58% of all victimizations are not reported to the police (Langton et al., 2012). However, there are many reasons to believe that we can do better than the national averages for our college community. Additional efforts should be made to encourage members of the UC community to report criminal victimizations to the police. These efforts should emphasize that reporting needs to occur immediately after the crime to increase the likelihood of apprehending the offenders. Finally, it is crucial to emphasize that crimes reported to police provide information for more strategic crime reduction efforts that can ultimately make the areas safer.

Student, faculty, and staff knowledge of the UC safety initiatives was found to consistently reduce fear of crime and perceptions of crime increases on and around the campus. However, the analyses also suggest that many students and faculty/staff are unaware of certain safety initiatives and thus efforts aimed towards increasing knowledge UC safety initiatives may reduce fear of crime on campus and nearby as well as inform the UC community perceptions of crime. In particular, educational efforts directed at first and second year students at UC (regardless of undergraduate/graduate status), female students, and international students would likely reduce fear and promote accurate perceptions about crime trends among these populations. In addition, new initiatives such as Case Watch or the installation of cameras in the neighborhoods near campus should be better promoted to increase the UC community's collective awareness of safety initiatives.

Results indicate that certain groups might benefit from learning targeted crime prevention techniques to reduce victimization. According to this sample, international students reported rates of victimization on campus *three times higher* than American students. This suggests that crime reduction efforts should target this group specifically. Crime prevention tips should continue to be reinforced to international student groups throughout the year.

It is vital to understand what is driving fear and perceptions of crime at UC. Fear of crime and inaccurate perceptions that crime is increasing on and around campus are significantly driven by the UC Crime Alert emails, media reports (influenced by the emails), and information from friends and family (also likely influenced by the emails). The UC Crime Alert emails frequently result in media reports about crime, which may alarm friends and family related to UC students and employees. It is important to balance the importance of educating the UC community about specific crimes in the Uptown area – to reduce their potential victimization – with the possible negative impact of oversaturation that increases fear and negative perceptions, but does not actually reduce victimization.

This study also suggests that while respondents indicated changing their behavior in response to the email alerts, some of the changes in behavior may have unintended consequences that inhibit lively community life. Further, there was no indication that attention to these emails or reported changes in behavior as a result of the emails significantly reduced victimizations. In contrast, students who indicated that they changed their behavior as a result of the emails were significantly more likely to report violent victimization off campus compared to those who indicated they did not change their behavior – note however, that temporal ordering could not be established with this survey. Since the survey is cross-sectional, it cannot be determined that behavioral changes due to emails preceded violent victimization, or vice versa. In sum, the crime alert emails are related to increases in fear of crime and inaccurate perceptions amount the frequency of crime on and nearby campus, but have not been shown to reduce victimization. Sometimes the crimes reported in these email alerts are unrelated to specific crime patterns (where the UC community could take additional preventative measures) or criminal activity that is not directly relevant to the UC community. For these reasons, it is recommended that UC officials explore alternative approaches to ensure that students, faculty, and staff are provided with information that could prevent similar crimes from occurring, and to inform the UC community about ongoing criminal activities on and nearby campus, yet do not create unintended consequences and unnecessary behavioral and avoidance adaptations that perpetuate fear of crime.

VI. ONGOING ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE STEPS

In sum, this survey provides valuable information about student, faculty and staff 1) perceptions of safety, 2) fear of crime, 3) victimization experiences, both on the UC Uptown (East and West)

campuses and in the surrounding area, 4) factors influencing fear of crime, and 5) respondents' familiarity with various UC crime reduction initiatives. This information should be used as a baseline measure to compare changes in these topics over time. It should also be used to design and implement specific strategic activities to continue to promote safety on and around campus.

A second survey was administered in October 2014 and the results are currently being analyzed. It is recommended that UC students, faculty, and staff continue to be surveyed annually to assess progress in key areas related to enhancing public safety for the entire community. In addition, as new crime reduction initiatives are implemented, and as events unfold that may influence the way people respond to questions about public safety (e.g., high profile national events on college/university campuses where safety is compromised), potential changes in perceptions of safety could be assessed and tracked.

VII.   APPENDIX

Figure 35. University of Cincinnati Uptown Campuses with Half-mile Buffer Area
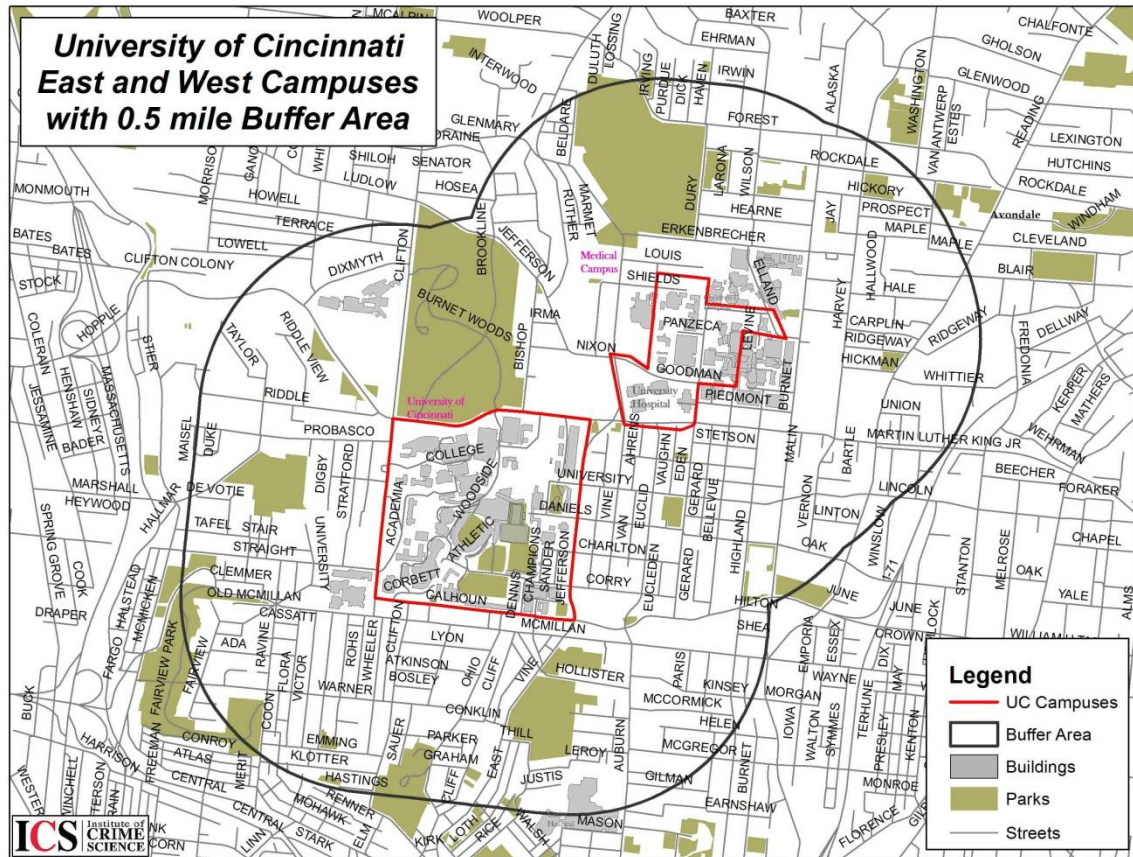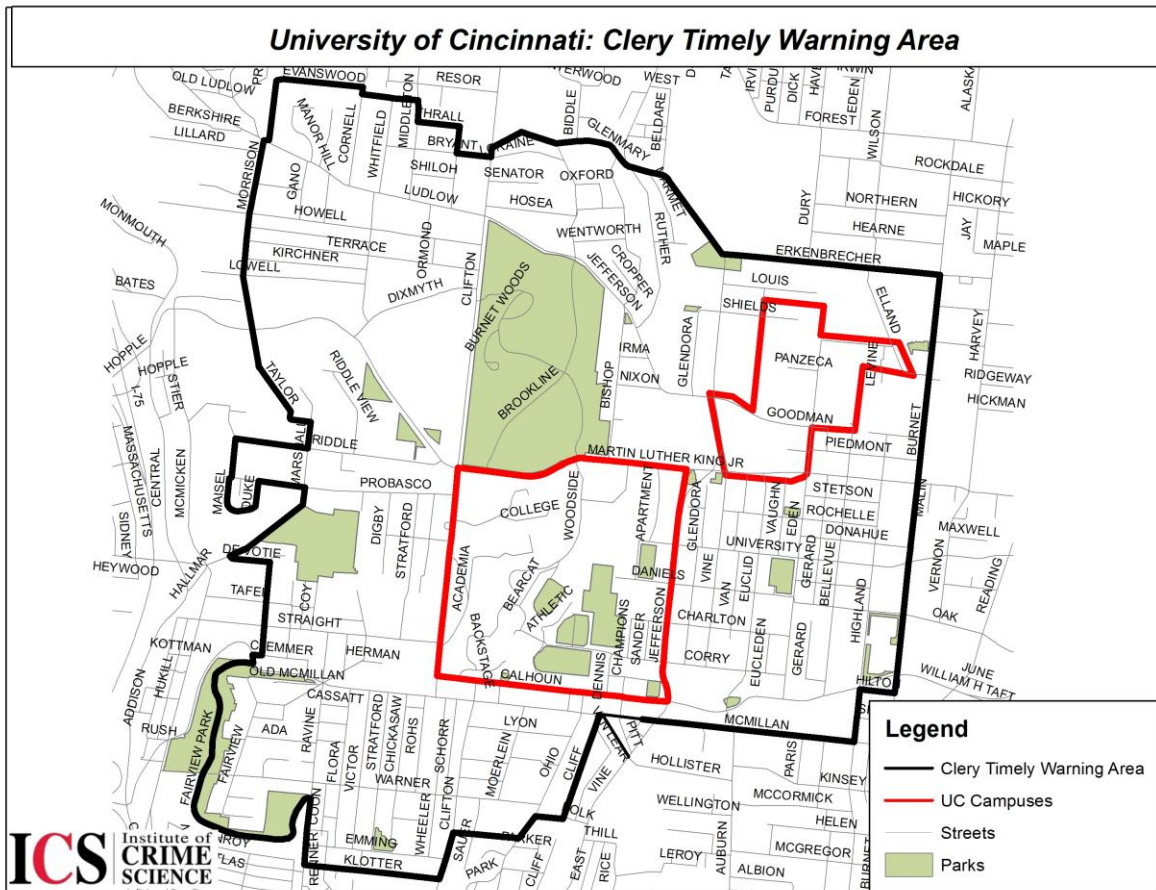
Figure 36. University of Cincinnati Clery Timely Warning Area

Surveyed crimes and their definitions:

1) Assault: an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting injury

2) Burglary: the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a crime

3) Robbery: taking or attempting to take another's property through force or threat of force

4) Theft from an Automobile: the unlawful taking of property from another's automobile

5) Other Theft: the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession of another

6) Vandalism: the destruction, disfigurement, or defacement of property without the consent of the owner

7) Sexual assault: threatening, coercing, or forcing someone to engage in a sexual act against their will

Official Reported Crime from the University of Cincinnati Police Department

Table 12. Part I and II Crimes Reported on the UC Uptown Campus, Oct. 1, 2013— Mar. 31, 2014

Crime	Number of Crimes
Assault	4
Burglary	13
Robbery	1
Theft from Auto	13
Theft	138
Vandalism	16
Sexual Assault[3]	3
Total	188

Official Reported Crime from the Cincinnati Police Department

Table 13. Part I Crime Reported in the UC Clery Timely Warning Area, Oct. 1, 2013 – Mar. 31, 2014[4]

	Number of Non-Student Victims	Number of Student Victims	Total Number of Victims
Assault	3	1	4
Burglary	128	81	209
Robbery	44	28	72
Theft from Auto	104	37	141
Theft	235	38	278
Sexual Assault	8	1	9
Total	522	186	708

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[3] "Sexual Assault" here includes forcible completed and attempted rapes and Part II sexual imposition incidents.

[4] Crimes of Vandalism and sexual assault (other than rape) were not included as they are not Part I offenses and thus are not geo-coded for use by ICS researchers

Logistic Regressions of Students

Table 14. Logistic Regression Results: Sources of On-Campus Fear of Crime for Students

	B	S.E.	p-value	Odds Ratio
Gender (Male)	-.448	.103	.000	.639*
Age	.013	.008	.114	1.013
International Student	1.058	.157	.000	2.880*
Race (African American)	-.413	.262	.115	.661
Undergraduate Student	-.092	.123	.451	.912
First Year Student	-.332	.140	.018	.718*
Second Year Student	-.103	.135	.445	.902
Third Year Student	-.066	.147	.652	.936
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-.034	.013	.009	.966*
Risky Life Style	-.030	.016	.055	.970
Low-self Control	-.012	.021	.573	.988
Nearby Victimization	.141	.150	.348	1.151
On Campus Victimization	.675	.145	.000	1.964*
Crime Alert Emails	.206	.019	.000	1.229*

Nagelkerke R Square =.178

Table 15. Logistic Regression Results: Sources of Nearby Fear of Crime for Students

	B	S.E.	p-value	Odds Ratio
Age	-.025	.009	.006	.975*
Gender (Male)	-.666	.101	.000	.514*
International Student	0.518	.186	.005	1.679*
Race (African American)	-.782	.238	.001	.457*
Undergraduate Student	.064	.129	.623	1.066
First Year Student	-.401	.138	.004	.669*
Second Year Student	-.253	.139	.069	.776
Third Year Student	.056	.157	.722	1.057
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-.032	.013	.013	.969
Risky Life Style	-.003	.015	.854	.997
Low-self Control	-.034	.021	.104	.967
Nearby Victimization	1.262	.199	.000	3.532*
On Campus Victimization	.672	.182	.000	1.959*
Crime Alert Emails	.234	.019	.000	1.264*

Nagelkerke R Square =.195

Table 16. Logistic Regression Results: Sources of On-Campus Perception of Crime Increases for Students

	B	S.E.	p-value	Odds Ratio
Age	.055	.009	.000	1.057*
Gender (Male)	-.312	.134	.020	.732*
International Student	0.025	.201	.902	1.025
Race (African American)	.284	.286	.321	1.329
Undergraduate Student	-.391	.145	.007	.676*
First Year Student	-.294	.179	.101	.745
Second Year Student	-.068	.168	.686	.934
Third Year Student	-.005	.182	.978	.995
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-.045	.017	.008	.956*
Risky Life Style	-.012	.021	.586	.989
Low-self Control	-.057	.028	.043	.945*
Nearby Victimization	-.027	.194	.890	0.974
On Campus Victimization	.494	.181	.007	1.638*
Crime Alert Emails	.183	.024	.000	1.201*

Nagelkerke R Square =.165

Table 17. Logistic Regression Results: Sources of Nearby Perception of Crime Increases for Students

	B	S.E.	p-value	Odds Ratio
Age	.036	.009	.000	1.036*
Gender (Male)	-.305	.090	.001	.737*
International Student	-0.177	.154	.250	0.838
Race (African American)	.286	.234	.221	1.331
Undergraduate Student	-.157	.115	.174	.855
First Year Student	-.835	.126	.000	.434*
Second Year Student	-.375	.121	.002	.687*
Third Year Student	-.011	.131	.935	.989
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-.043	.012	.000	.958*
Risky Life Style	-.015	.013	.261	.985
Low-self Control	-.037	.019	.052	.964
Nearby Victimization	.272	.136	.045	1.312*
On Campus Victimization	.724	.139	.000	2.062*
Crime Alert Emails	.150	.017	.000	1.162*

Nagelkerke R Square =.161

Table 18. Logistic Regression Results: Sources of On-Campus Violent Crime Victimization for Students

	B	S.E.	p-value	Odds Ratio
Age	-.026	.027	.343	.974
Gender (Male)	.059	.208	.775	1.061
International Student	1.083	.306	.000	2.953*
Race (African American)	-1.339	1.014	.187	.262
Undergraduate Student	.495	.303	.102	1.641
First Year Student	-.257	.301	.393	.774
Second Year Student	.079	.277	.777	1.082
Third Year Student	.095	.295	.749	1.099
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	.004	.026	.866	1.004
Risky Life Style	.088	.028	.001	1.092*
Low-self Control	-.071	.044	.103	.931
Crime Alert Emails	.033	.038	.384	1.034
Behavioral Change	.383	.265	.149	1.467

Nagelkerke R Square =.045

Table 19. Logistic Regression Results: Sources of Nearby Violent Crime Victimization for Students

	B	S.E.	p-value	Odds Ratio
Age	-.037	.026	.156	.964
Gender (Male)	.410	.187	.028	1.507*
International Student	0.368	.333	.270	1.444
Race (African American)	-0.349	0.602	.562	.705
Undergraduate Student	.329	.272	.227	1.390
First Year Student	-.978	.295	.001	.376*
Second Year Student	-.118	.238	.619	0.888
Third Year Student	-.032	.252	.900	0.969
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-.022	.025	.380	0.978
Risky Life Style	.084	.025	.001	1.088*
Low-self Control	-.080	.041	.050	.923*
Crime Alert Emails	.060	.036	.094	1.062
Behavioral Change	.558	.248	.024	1.747*

Nagelkerke R Square =.059

Logistic Regressions for Faculty and Staff

Table 20. Logistic Regression Results:Sources of On-Campus Fear of Crime for Faculty/Staff

	B	S.E.	p-value	Odds Ratio
Age	.006	.005	.274	1.006
Gender (Male)	-.202	.129	.118	.817
Race (African American)	-.206	.243	.397	.814
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-.028	.015	.062	.973
Risky Life Style	-.043	.039	.278	.958
Low-self Control	-.057	.030	.060	.945
Nearby Victimization	-.081	.256	.753	.923
On-Campus Victimization	.958	.186	.000	2.607*
Crime Alert Emails	.201	.024	.000	1.223*

Nagelkerke R Square =.116

Table 21. Logistic Regression Results: Sources of Nearby Fear of Crime for Faculty/Staff

	B	S.E.	p-value	Odds Ratio
Age	.001	.005	.914	1.001
Gender (Male)	-.358	.116	.002	.699*
Race (African American)	-.856	.217	.000	.425*
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-.018	.013	.162	.982
Risky Life Style	-.003	.033	.917	.997
Low-self Control	-.072	.027	.008	.931*
Nearby Victimization	.651	.256	.011	1.917*
On-Campus Victimization	.786	.206	.000	2.194*
Crime Alert Emails	.195	.021	.000	1.216*

Nagelkerke R Square =.128

Table 22. Logistic Regression Results: Sources of On Campus Perception of Crime Increases for Faculty/Staff

	B	S.E.	p-value	Odds Ratio
Age	.025	.005	.000	1.025*
Gender (Male)	-.419	.127	.001	.658*
Race (African American)	.600	.215	.005	1.822*
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-.051	.015	.001	.950*
Risky Life Style	-.076	.040	.060	.927
Low-self Control	.012	.029	.668	1.012
Nearby Victimization	.240	.240	.319	1.271
On-Campus Victimization	.643	.186	.001	1.902*
Crime Alert Emails	.110	.022	.000	1.116*

Nagelkerke R Square =.097

Table 23. Logistic Regression Results: Sources of Nearby Perception of Crime Increases for Faculty/Staff

	B	S.E.	p-value	Odds Ratio
Age	.025	.005	.000	1.025*
Gender (Male)	-.600	.120	.000	.549*
Race (African American)	-.107	.227	.637	.899
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-.023	.013	.090	.977
Risky Life Style	-.009	.033	.779	.991
Low-self Control	-.005	.028	.843	.995
Nearby Victimization	.295	.252	.243	1.343
On-Campus Victimization	.640	.214	.003	1.896*
Crime Alert Emails	.166	.022	.000	1.180*

Nagelkerke R Square =.109

Table 24. Slope Difference Test between Students and Faculty/Staff on the Sources of On-Campus Fear of Crime

	Students			Faculty/Staff			z-test
	B	S.E.	Odds Ratio	B	S.E.	Odds Ratio	b_1-b_2
Gender (Male)	-0.448	0.103	0.639	-0.202	0.129	0.817	-1.490
Age	0.013	0.008	1.013	0.006	0.005	1.006	0.742
International Student	1.058	0.157	2.88	--	--	--	--
Race (African American)	-0.413	0.262	0.661	-0.206	0.243	0.814	-0.579
Undergraduate Student	-0.092	0.123	0.912	--	--	--	--
First Year Student	-0.332	0.14	0.718	--	--	--	--
Second Year Student	-0.103	0.135	0.902	--	--	--	--
Third Year Student	-0.066	0.147	0.936	--	--	--	--
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-0.034	0.013	0.966	-0.028	0.015	0.973	-0.302
Risky Life Style	-0.03	0.016	0.97	-0.043	0.039	0.958	0.308
Low-self Control	-0.012	0.021	0.988	-0.057	0.03	0.945	1.229
Nearby Victimization	0.141	0.15	1.151	-0.081	0.256	0.923	0.748
On Campus Victimization	0.675	0.145	1.964	0.958	0.186	2.607	-1.200
Crime Alert Emails	0.206	0.019	1.229	0.201	0.024	1.223	0.163

Table 25. Slope Difference Test between Students and Faculty/Staff on the Sources of Nearby Fear of Crime

	Students			Faculty/Staff			z-test
	B	S.E.	Odds Ratio	B	S.E.	Odds Ratio	b_1-b_2
Gender (Male)	-0.666	0.101	0.514	-0.202	-0.358	0.116	-1.247
Age	-0.025	0.009	0.975	0.006	0.001	0.005	-3.423*
International Student	0.518	0.186	1.679	--	--	--	--
Race (African American)	-0.782	0.238	0.457	-0.856	0.217	0.425	0.230
Undergraduate Student	0.064	0.129	1.066	--	--	--	--
First Year Student	-0.401	0.138	0.669	--	--	--	--
Second Year Student	-0.253	0.139	0.776	--	--	--	--
Third Year Student	0.056	0.157	1.057	--	--	--	--
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-0.032	0.013	0.969	-0.018	0.013	0.982	-0.761
Risky Life Style	-0.003	0.015	0.997	-0.003	0.033	0.997	0.000
Low-self Control	-0.034	0.021	0.967	-0.072	0.027	0.931	1.111
Nearby Victimization	1.262	0.199	3.532	0.651	0.256	1.917	1.884
On Campus Victimization	0.672	0.182	1.959	0.786	0.206	2.194	-0.415
Crime Alert Emails	0.234	0.019	1.264	0.195	0.021	1.216	1.377

Table 26. Slope Difference Test between Students and Faculty/Staff on the Sources of On-Campus Perception of Crime

	Students			Faculty/Staff			z-test
	B	**S.E.**	**Odds Ratio**	**B**	**S.E.**	**Odds Ratio**	b_1-b_2
Gender (Male)	-0.312	0.134	0.732	-0.419	0.127	0.658	0.580
Age	0.055	0.009	1.057	0.025	0.005	1.025	2.914*
International Student	0.025	0.201	1.025	--	--	--	--
Race (African American)	0.284	0.286	1.329	0.6	0.215	1.822	-0.883
Undergraduate Student	-0.391	0.145	0.676	--	--	--	--
First Year Student	-0.294	0.179	0.745	--	--	--	--
Second Year Student	-0.068	0.168	0.934	--	--	--	--
Third Year Student	-0.005	0.182	0.995	--	--	--	--
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-0.045	0.017	0.956	-0.051	0.015	0.95	0.265
Risky Life Style	-0.012	0.021	0.989	-0.076	0.04	0.927	1.417
Low-self Control	-0.057	0.028	0.945	0.012	0.029	1.012	-1.712
Nearby Victimization	-0.027	0.194	0.974	0.24	0.24	1.271	-0.865
On Campus Victimization	0.494	0.181	1.638	0.643	0.186	1.902	-0.574
Crime Alert Emails	0.183	0.024	1.201	0.11	0.022	1.116	2.242*

Table 27. Slope Difference Test between Students and Faculty/Staff on the Sources of Nearby Perception of Crime

	Students			Faculty/Staff			z-test
	B	**S.E.**	**Odds Ratio**	**B**	**S.E.**	**Odds Ratio**	b_1-b_2
Gender (Male)	-0.305	0.09	0.737	-0.6	0.12	0.549	1.967*
Age	0.036	0.009	1.036	0.025	0.005	1.025	1.068
International Student	-0.177	0.154	0.838	--	--	--	--
Race (African American)	0.286	0.234	1.331	-0.107	0.227	0.899	1.205
Undergraduate Student	-0.157	0.115	0.855	--	--	--	--
First Year Student	-0.835	0.126	0.434	--	--	--	--
Second Year Student	-0.375	0.121	0.687	--	--	--	--
Third Year Student	-0.011	0.131	0.989	--	--	--	--
Familiarity to UC Safety Initiatives	-0.043	0.012	0.958	-0.023	0.013	0.977	-1.130
Risky Life Style	-0.015	0.013	0.985	-0.009	0.033	0.991	-0.169
Low-self Control	-0.037	0.019	0.964	-0.005	0.028	0.995	-0.946
Nearby Victimization	0.272	0.136	1.312	0.295	0.252	1.343	-0.080
On Campus Victimization	0.724	0.139	2.062	0.64	0.214	1.896	0.329
Crime Alert Emails	0.15	0.017	1.162	0.166	0.022	1.18	-0.575

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