

RSA 188-H Sexual Misconduct Climate Survey Task Force

July 2024

Update from the Task Force:

RAW DATA SUBMISSION DEADLINE

All campuses must upload their summary data report on their institution’s website by **July 31, 2024** (*conflicting information had been distributed previously regarding the deadline for reporting, with July 29 noted as the required submission deadline*). Additionally, all campuses must submit their raw anonymized data, summary data reports, and survey with any campus-specific adaptations to the NH Department of Education (NHED).

The Task Force sent out an email to institutions in April with instructions on uploading data to the NHED FTP site. If you have not already identified an individual who will be uploading your data, please contact Nicholas.W.Marks@doe.nh.gov as soon as possible. The FTP upload requires that individual users from IHEs have accounts set up in order to access the system.

When you upload your IHE’s information via FTP, please keep in mind that the raw data should include quantitative response information. Freeform comments sections and other qualitative data do not need to be included in your upload of data.

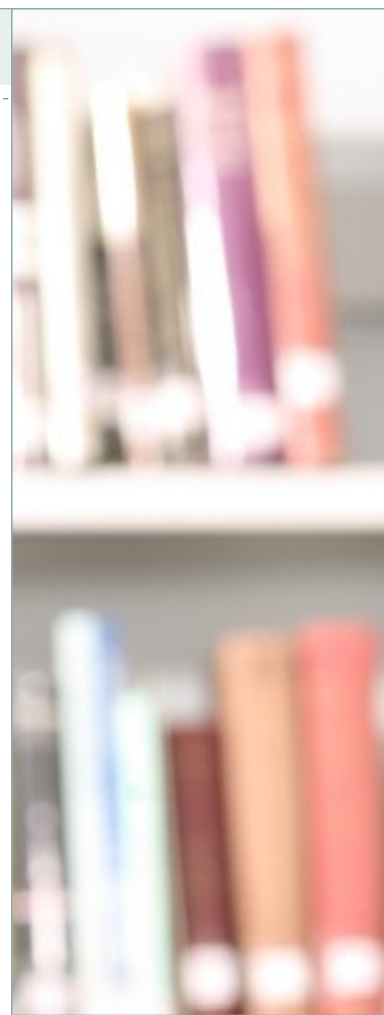
PUBLISHING SURVEY DATA — REMINDER

IHEs are required to publish the summary reports on their websites. When your report has been posted to your respective IHE’s website, please provide the link to the data and it will be added to the IHE survey list on the RSA 188 web page.

WEB UPDATES

The New Hampshire Department of Education maintains a web page containing information on the RSA 188-H Task Force, including links to the Implementation Guide and previous newsletters. The web page will be updated with additional information as it becomes available.

[Sexual Misconduct at Higher Education Institutions | Department of Education \(nh.gov\)](https://doe.nh.gov)



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FAQ REGARDING DATA STORAGE

The Task Force has received several inquiries about how NHED will store and share this raw data. Listed below are details regarding data storage and sharing:

- **Where will it be stored?** The data will be stored on a State of New Hampshire server within the State IT network.
- **How long will it be kept before being destroyed?** As there is no provision in RSA / Rule stating otherwise, the data will be retained for up to 7 years.
- **What specific personnel will have access to the data at NHED?** Access to the data will be limited to the Director, the Administrator for Higher Education and DOE legal counsel (on an as needed basis only).
- **For what purposes is the data being kept by NHED?** The data is being retained per statutory requirement.
- **Would the raw data ever be made available to the public or to researchers?** Under no circumstances would NHED release the data to the public or researchers. While NHED cannot speak for legal orders that may seek release, NHED will view this data in the same manner as other confidential data within the division and strictly limit its availability.

REVISIONS TO THE WEBSITE—COMING SOON

Later in 2024 the RSA 188 website will be revised to reflect a number of updates including:

- An FAQ section that will be dynamic in nature and will continue to be revised as we receive questions regarding the survey tool, data, and any other general RSA 188 information of use to IHES
- RSA 188 data reporting forms and enhanced instructions on the submission process
- Resources provided in previous emails for social media presence and social media links

Our community requires a climate where survivors are supported and valued and where each member can feel safe and respected. We all have a role in supporting a college experience that is safe, inclusive, where each student feels an authentic sense of belonging - a campus that is vigilant in both preventing and addressing sexual misconduct, one that better protects survivors and one that is inclusive of all people. We hope the revisions to the website serve to advance these goals.

RSA 188-H:12 DATA REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

As a reminder of the upcoming reporting deadline:

Annually, not later than October 1, an institution of higher education shall prepare and submit to the director, the commissioner of the department of health and human services, the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, and the chairpersons of the senate and house committees with jurisdiction over education a report that includes:

I. The total number of allegations of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking reported to the institution's Title IX coordinator by a student or employee of the institution against another student or employee of the institution.

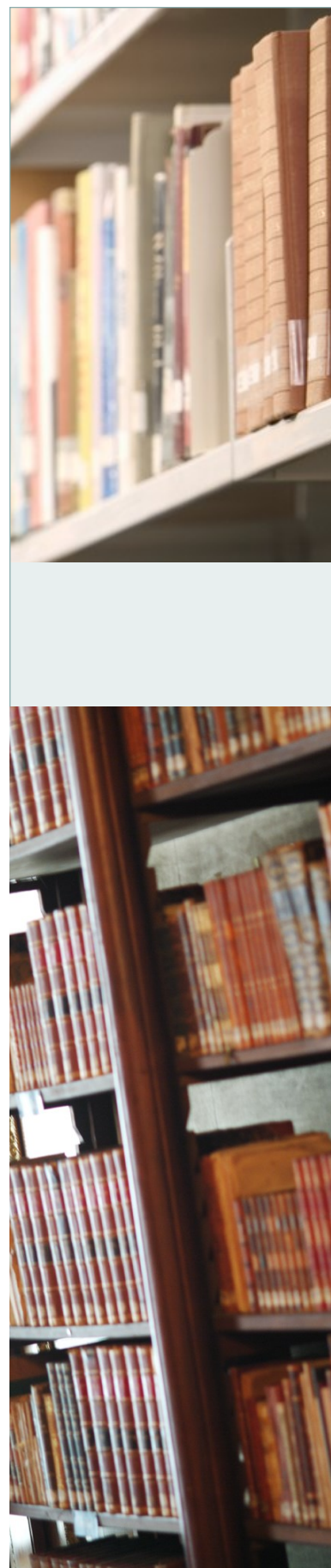
II. The number of law enforcement investigations initiated in response to complaints of sexual misconduct brought forward by students or employees of the institution against another student or employee of the institution, if known.

III. The number of students found responsible for violating an institution's policies prohibiting sexual misconduct.

IV. The number of students found not responsible for violating an institution's policies prohibiting sexual misconduct.

V. The number of disciplinary actions imposed by the institution as a result of a finding of responsibility for violating an institution's policies prohibiting sexual misconduct. The report shall provide information in an anonymous manner that complies with state and federal privacy laws.

The data reporting form will be available on the RSA 188 web page and will also be emailed to institutions later this summer.



ABOUT RSA 188:H

On July 20th, near the end of the 2019-2020 legislative session, a bill written by students, advocated for by survivor advocates, and supported by New Hampshire colleges and universities in that state was signed into law; marking the first bill in New Hampshire state history aimed at curbing campus sexual violence. This law, [RSA 188:H relative to sexual misconduct at institutions of higher education](#), carries components that mandate Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) in the state to adopt comprehensive policies on sexual misconduct, offer support for students experiencing issues relative to campus sexual violence, and implement various preventative measures.

PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER

The Task Force would also like to ask campus representatives to help circulate these newsletters widely among campus stakeholders. Certain members of the Task Force have been designated to share these newsletters with their constituencies, but there are many additional campus professionals involved in the successful implementation of RSA 188-H. Depending on the focus of each newsletter, appropriate departments or colleagues might include, but not be limited to: presidents and provosts, Title IX coordinators, departments or offices that focus on sexual misconduct, student conduct or equity, personnel within institutional research departments, legal counsel, campus law enforcement or campus safety personnel, confidential resource advisors under RSA 188-H:7, and staff at campus counseling or wellness centers. Campuses may also want to share newsletters with their local crisis center as part of efforts to enhance collaboration.

Questions, Comments, Concerns?

Please contact the Task Force at: RSA188TaskForce@doe.nh.gov

[Sexual Misconduct at Higher Education Institutions | Department of Education \(nh.gov\)](#)

Institutions of Higher Education are encouraged to review RSA 188-H in its entirety and the law can be accessed here:

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XV/188-H/188-H-mrg.htm>