

Office of Student Accountability Annual Report June 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021

The Office of Student Accountability resolves non-academic misconduct reports made against University of Iowa students. Allegations of academic misconduct, including accusations of plagiarism and cheating, are resolved by the Dean of the respective college. The subsequent annual report only pertains to reports of non-academic misconduct, including accusations of theft, assault, harassment, classroom disruption, and alcohol and other drug violations made between June 1, 2020 and May 31, 2021.

When it has been determined that one or more University policies have been violated, one or more final sanctions may be imposed. Below is a list of sanctions that may be imposed. A more thorough list and explanation of sanctions can be found in the [Accountability Procedure](#) portion of the Dean of Students website in section 14.

Status Sanctions	Limited Exclusion	Educational Sanctions
Disciplinary Reprimand	No Contact Order	Critical MASS
Disciplinary Probation	Building Prohibition	
Suspension	Restriction from Class	Student Wellness
Expulsion		

The Code of Student Life presents expectations that helps students learn and grow to become the best version of themselves, so they are better equipped to embody the IOWA Challenge, positively contributing to the Hawkeye community and beyond. A detailed description of the Code of Student Life (CSL), including definitions of terms, scope, and a detailed list of prohibited conduct can be found [here](#).

NOTE: The following pages contain summary information about student disciplinary complaints resolved by the Office of Student Accountability. Because disciplinary reports are educational record information protected by federal law, personally identifiable information contained in non-academic student disciplinary files is not released to the public as a general practice. Individual students are not identified in this report, and information is presented in such a manner as to ensure confidentiality of the parties.

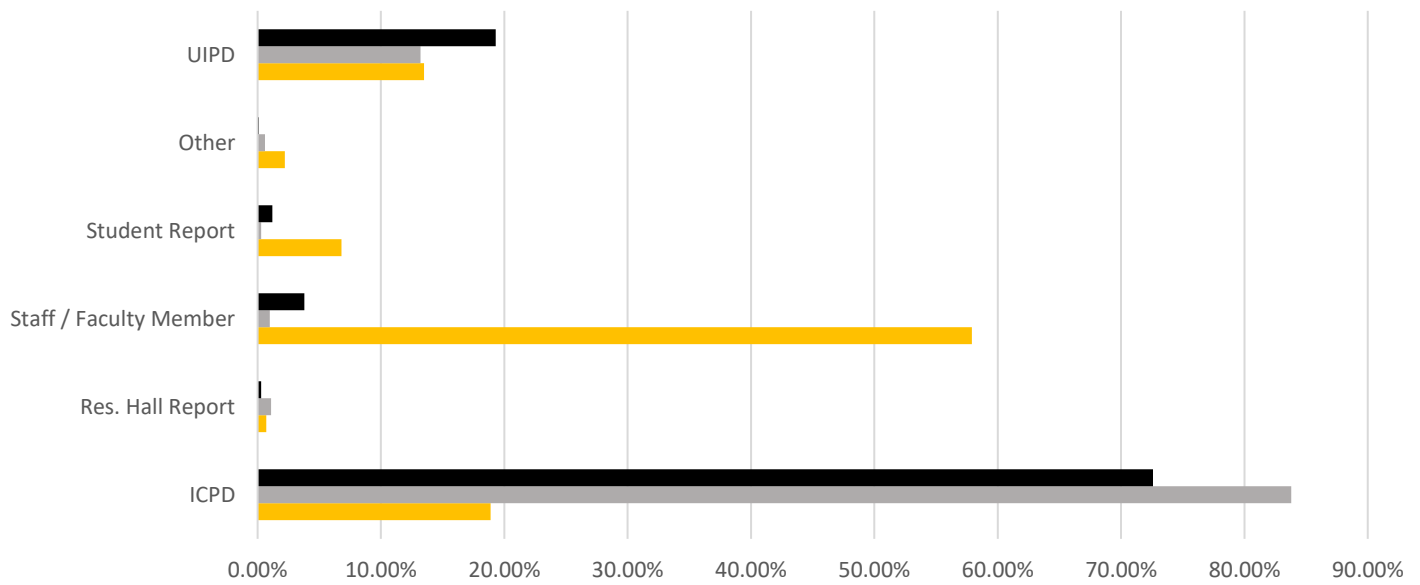
Summary and Analysis of Non-Academic Misconduct Reports Received by the Office of Student Accountability

Between June 1, 2020 and May 31, 2021, the Office of Student Accountability (OSA) received 570 reports alleging that a student may have engaged in non-academic misconduct. The 570 figure includes cases with sanctions, cases dismissed, and cases not investigated. This figure does not include cases investigated by University Housing & Dining, Title IX investigations, or Student Organization investigations. The group of non-investigated cases included situations where the individual accused of misconduct was not currently enrolled (21), and cases where an OSA staff member sent a Policy Reminder Letter (338) to the student without meeting with them. Some students named in a report between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020 were involved in more than one infraction. As in previous years, the vast majority of reports (97%) came from local law enforcement agencies.

A. Source of Reports

Not every police report filed between June 1, 2020 and May 31, 2021 was investigated. This academic year saw a drastic increase in incidents reported by students, faculty, and staff. This is likely due to the policies in place to limit the spread of COVID-19. OSA was the primary office responsible for following up with students who the Johnson County Department of Public Health indicated was either a close contact to an individual who tested positive for COVID-19, or students who had themselves tested positive for COVID-19. Students were expected to submit a self-report to update their status, and individuals who failed to do so were reminded of the policy by OSA. OSA worked to ensure compliance with this expectation to limit the spread of COVID-19, and incidents of individuals who failed to report were rarely found responsible for violating policy.

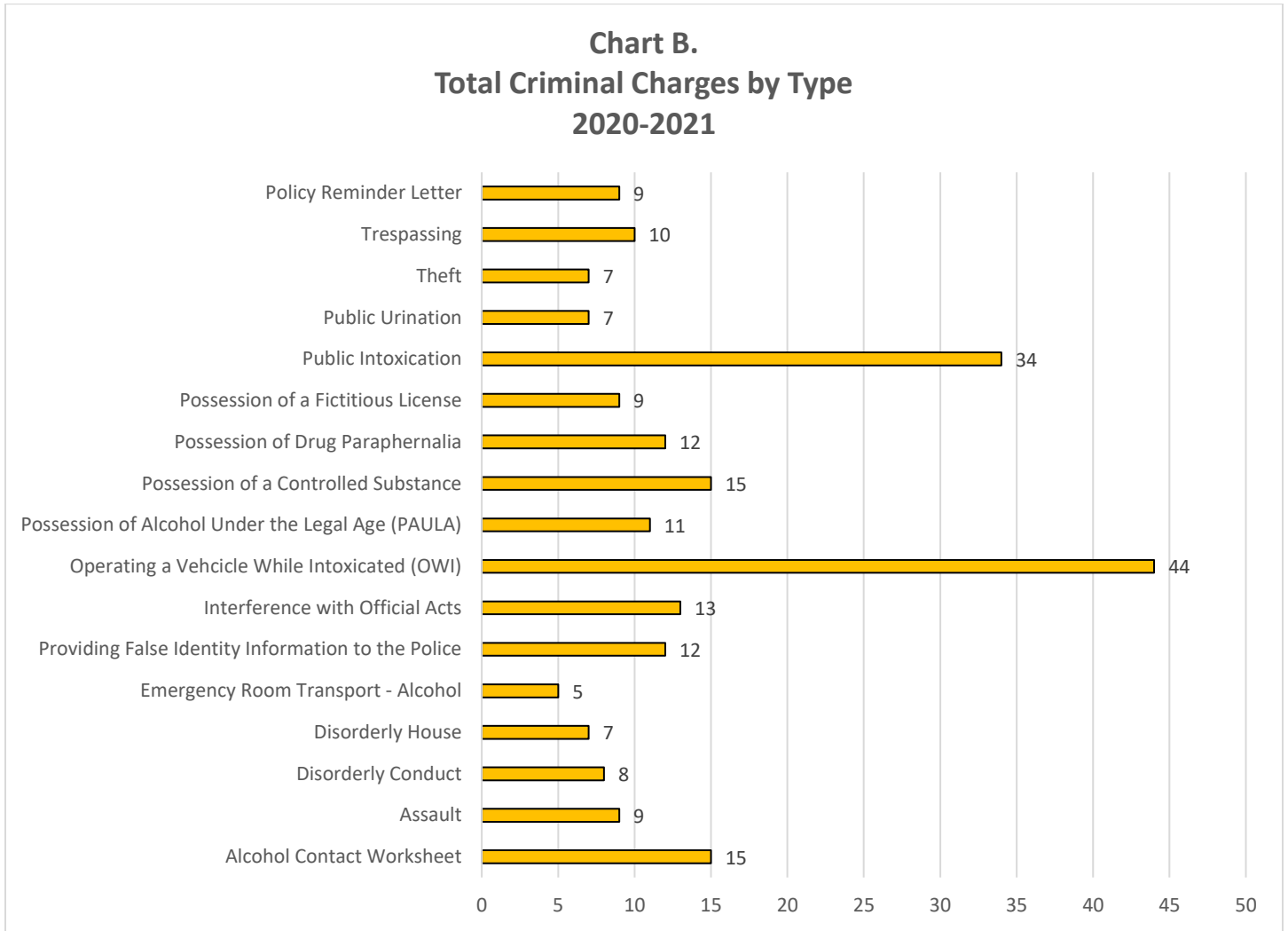
Chart A.
Source of Reports Investigated by OSA Staff
2020-2021



	ICPD	Res. Hall Report	Staff / Faculty Member	Student Report	Other	UIPD
■ 2018-2019	72.60%	0.30%	3.80%	1.20%	0.10%	19.30%
■ 2019-2020	83.80%	1.10%	1%	0.30%	0.60%	13.20%
■ 2020-2021	18.90%	0.70%	57.90%	6.80%	2.20%	13.50%

■ 2018-2019 ■ 2019-2020 ■ 2020-2021

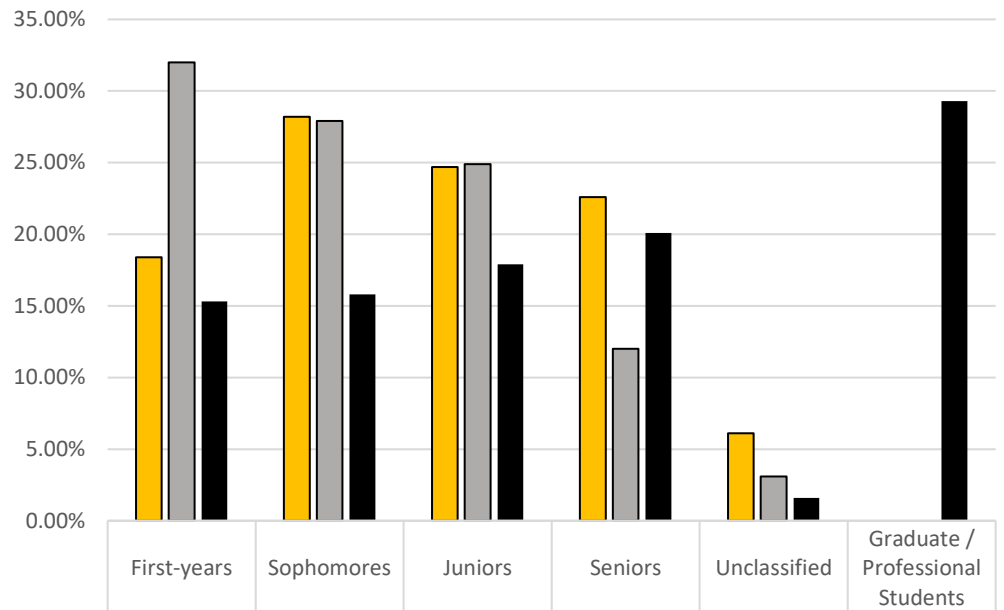
B. Overview of Alleged Misconduct



C. Academic Status of Respondents

Analyzing the caseload by academic status shows 570 cases investigated by the Office of Student Accountability are split nearly evenly between undergraduate students between June 1, 2020 and May 31, 2021 (Chart C). As in previous years, undergraduate students make up all of the students accused of misconduct during the 2020-2021 academic year. During the AY 2020-2021, 2.7% of the 21,230 UI undergraduates were named in a report received by the Office of Student Accountability.

**Chart C.
Academic Status of Responding Students
2020-2021**

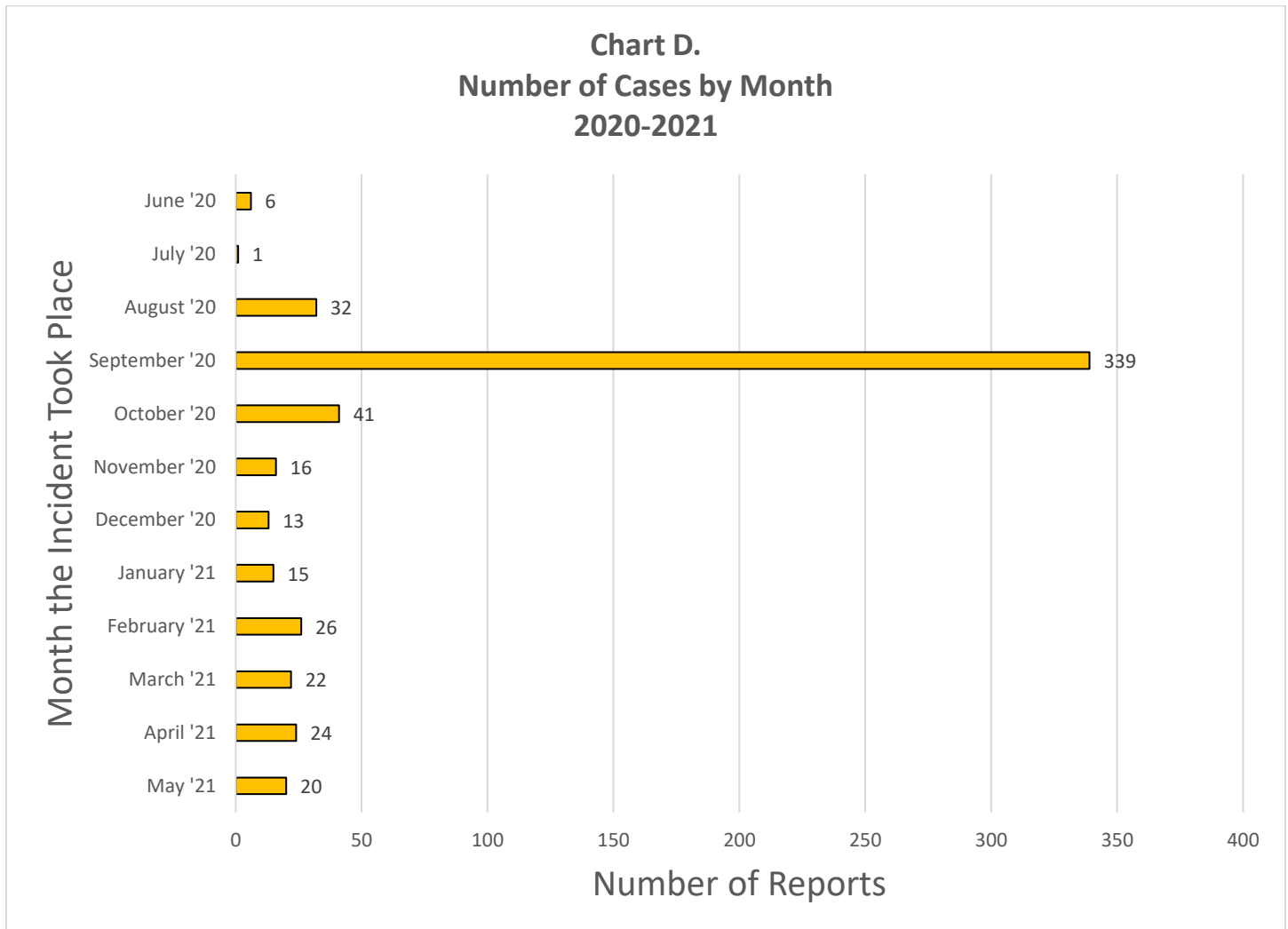


	First-years	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors	Unclassified	Graduate / Professional Students
Percent of Disciplinary Cases (2020-2021)	18.40%	28.20%	24.70%	22.60%	6%	0%
Percent of Disciplinary Cases (2019-2020)	32%	27.90%	24.90%	12%	3.10%	0%
Academic Profile of U of IA Student Body, Fall 2020	15.30%	15.80%	17.90%	20.10%	1.60%	29.30%

- Percent of Disciplinary Cases (2020-2021)
- Percent of Disciplinary Cases (2019-2020)
- Academic Profile of U of IA Student Body, Fall 2020

D. Number of Cases by Month

As in previous years, the majority of disciplinary reports investigated between June 1, 2020 and May 31, 2021 arose during the fall semester. The Office of Student Accountability received an average of 47 cases each month, although the actual number varied considerably, including a low of 1 and a high of 339. All case numbers were impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This reduced the number of citations / arrests that occurred over the course of the year, and also included an increase in referrals to OSA involving the university's COVID-19 related policies.

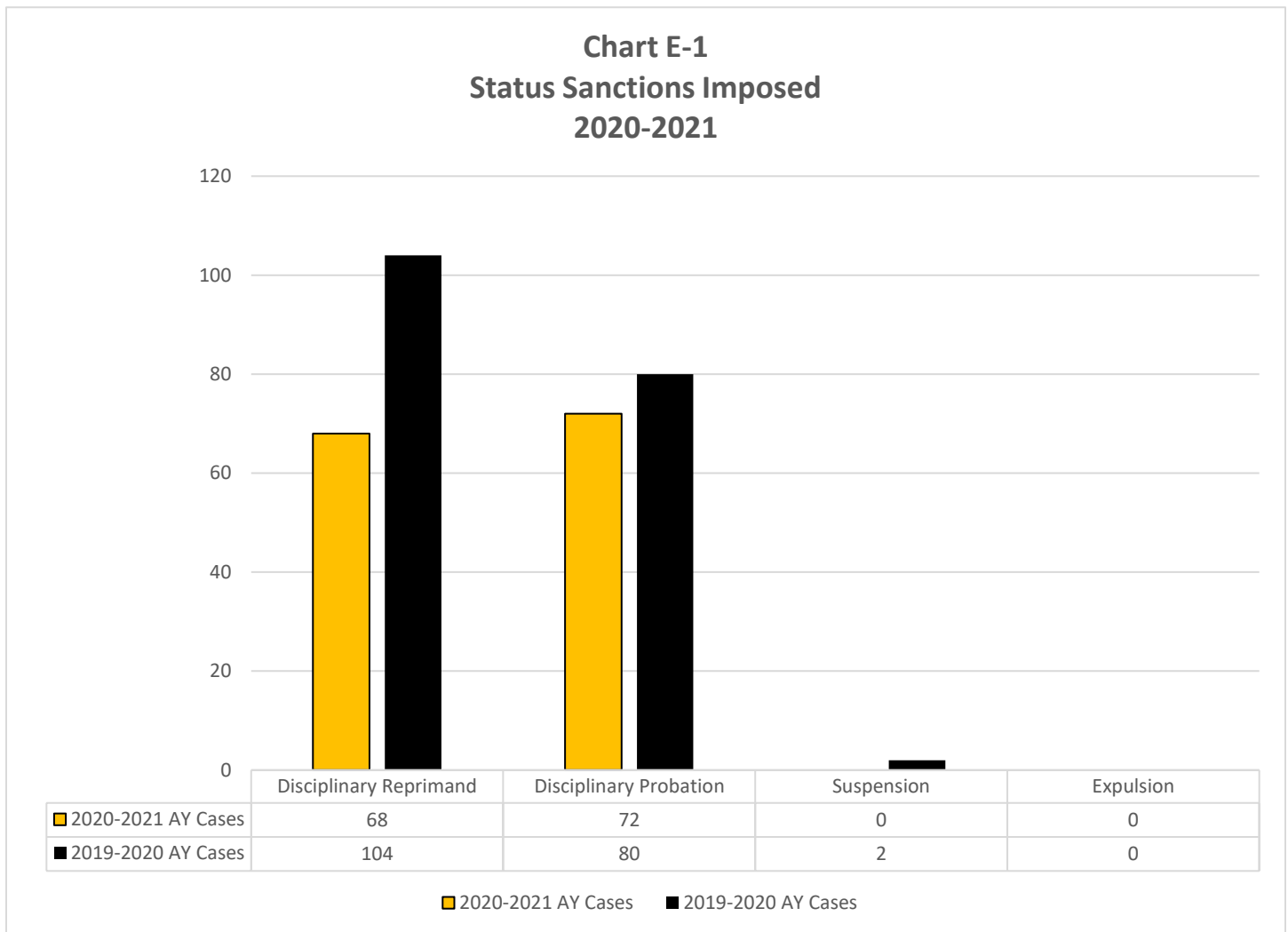


E. Sanctions

Status sanctions recommended by the Office of Student Accountability staff range from disciplinary reprimands to suspension from the University. In determining an appropriate sanction in AY 2020-2021, the investigator assigned to the case took into account the nature of the misconduct and the offender's disciplinary history. If cases involved alcohol or controlled substances, the investigator followed the sanction policy spelled out in the Student Misconduct Procedure.

Of the 570 reports received between June 1, 2020 and May 31, 2021, an investigation was undertaken in 377 cases. In the 193 cases not investigated, a Policy Reminder letter was issued or staff worked with students to ensure their compliance with campus expectations that they self-report their COVID-19 status as communicated by the Johnson County Department of Public Health. Of the 377 cases investigated, a status sanction was imposed in 37.4% (141) of the time. The remaining 62.6% of cases were either dismissed with no sanctions imposed, the case was unresolved because the student was not enrolled in classes at the university, or the case was not resolved by the time this report was compiled.

Of all the status sanctions imposed, disciplinary probation was the most common (Chart E-1). For students placed on disciplinary probation, the probation period typically lasts 2-3 semesters. Students placed on probation return to good standing at the conclusion of the probationary period as long as they did not commit a subsequent violation of university policies.

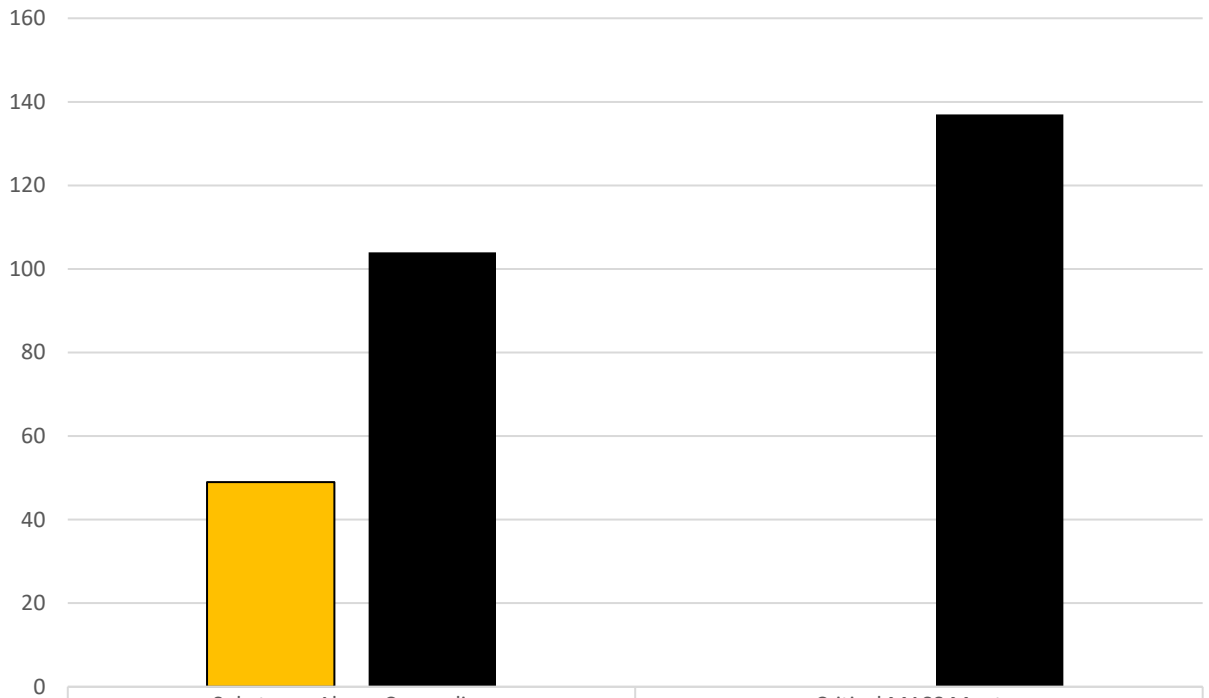


In many cases resolved during the year, an educational sanction was recommended in addition to a status sanction (e.g., probation). Substance abuse education was the primary educational sanction assigned between June 1, 2020 and May 31, 2021. As a result of the substantial number of alcohol-related and drug-related complaints investigated, many students were referred to a substance use program at Student Wellness. Students charged with an OWI, possession of a controlled substance, and other serious alcohol and other drug related offenses are often required to complete substance abuse counseling as mandated through the court system, and do not receive an additional referral from the Office of Student Accountability.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic impacted the Critical MASS (Mentoring and Student Support) Program. The in-person nature of the program drastically impacted the numbers of students assigned to the program. The Critical MASS program was created to support students found responsible for lower-level violations of the Code of Student Life to help them learn about campus resources to lessen the possibility of additional policy violations in the future. Critical MASS mentors are UI faculty, staff and graduate students with at least one year of experience at the University. The Critical MASS program pairs faculty, staff, and graduate students with undergraduate students assigned to complete the program. Mentors will meet with their mentees at least four times during the course of a semester.

Meetings are typically held in-person, last about sixty minutes, and monitor how a student is doing, progress towards their substance use goals, and provide them with information and additional resources from campus. We expect that the Critical MASS program will experience a resurgence during the 2021-2022 Academic Year.

**Chart E-2.
Educational Sanctions Imposed
2020-2021**



■ 2020-2021 AY Cases
■ 2019-2020 AY Cases

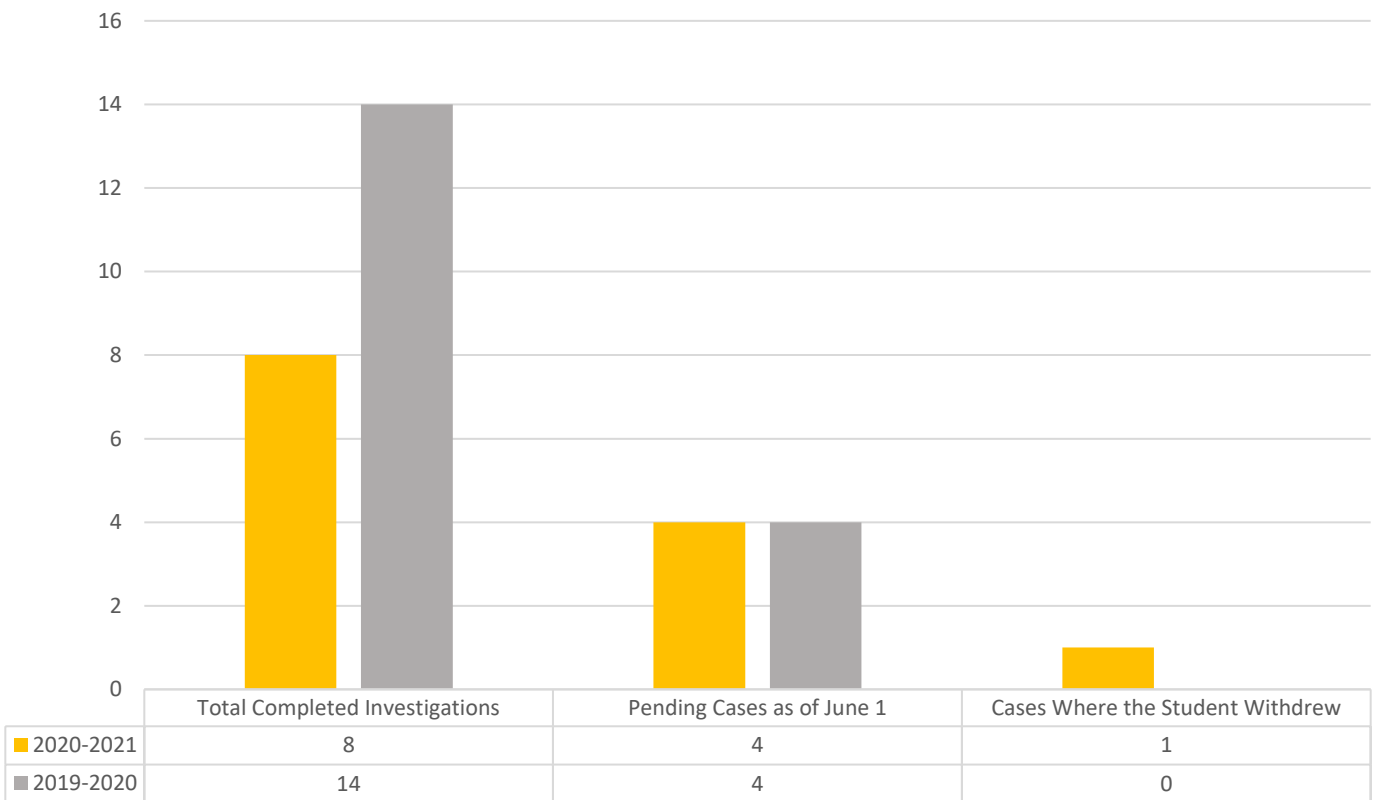
■ 2020-2021 AY Cases ■ 2019-2020 AY Cases

F. Sexual Misconduct Investigations

On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education published the finalized Title IX Regulations outlining requirements for colleges and universities. The University of Iowa published its updated policy, the Interim Policy on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct, on August 14, 2020. Although the policy was live on August 14, 2020, the University continued to resolve pending investigations under the policies in place at the time of the alleged incident, and the procedures in place at the start of the investigation. For this reason, the data below represents a mix of the old and new processes.

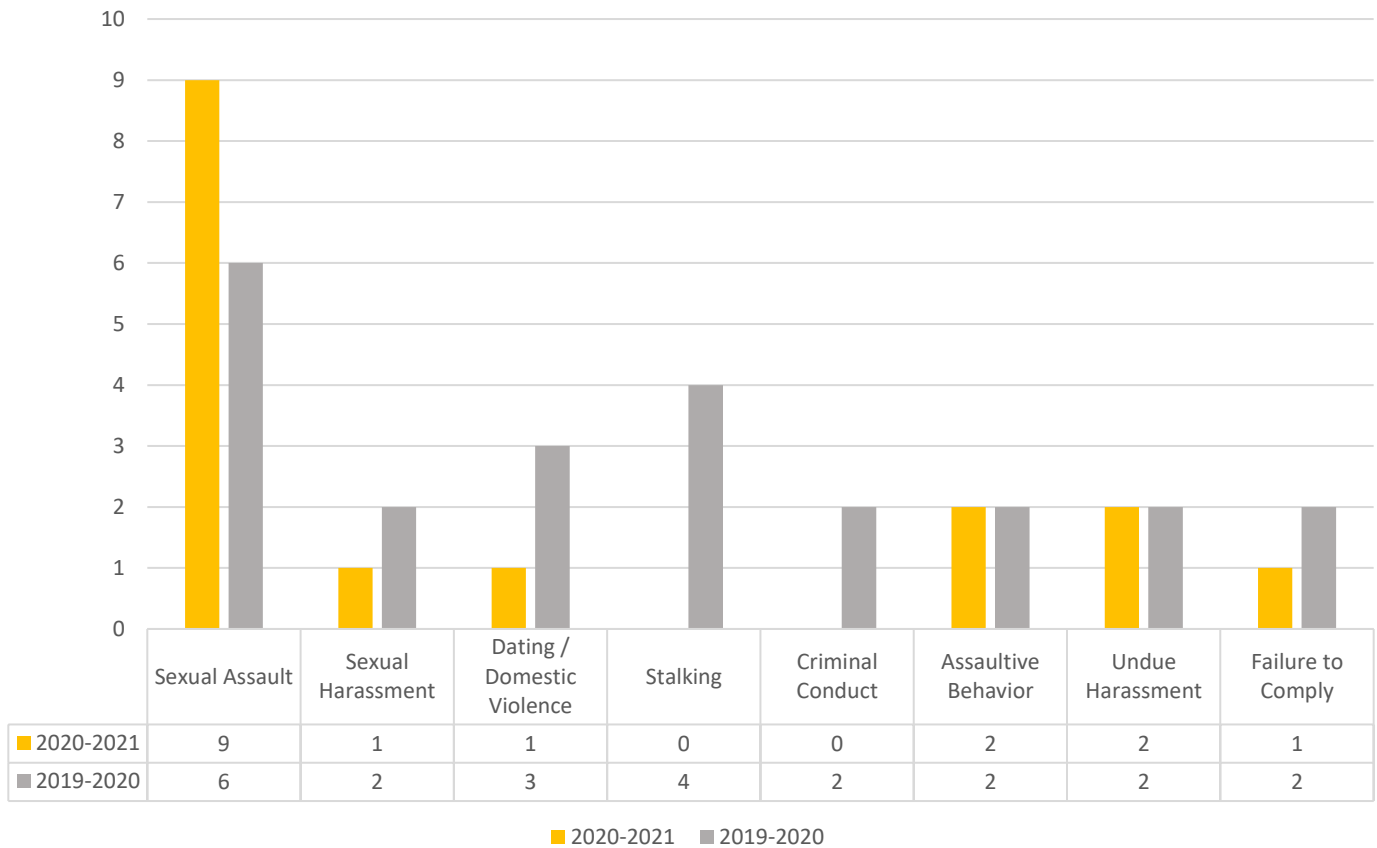
The Office of Student Accountability issued formal notices for nine incidents during the period between June 1, 2020 and May 31, 2021 which alleged sexual misconduct. Additionally, the Office of Student Accountability resolved four cases that were pending at the time the previous annual report was completed. In each case investigated by the Office of Student Accountability, the Office of the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator (OSMRC) reached out to the reporting party and the responding party to offer assistance. In each case, the reporting party was advised of their opportunity to file a police report and a Code of Student Life report. Under the new policy, parties were also provided options beyond the formal investigation, including an adaptable resolution process.

**Chart F-1.
Status of Sexual Misconduct Investigations
2020-2021**



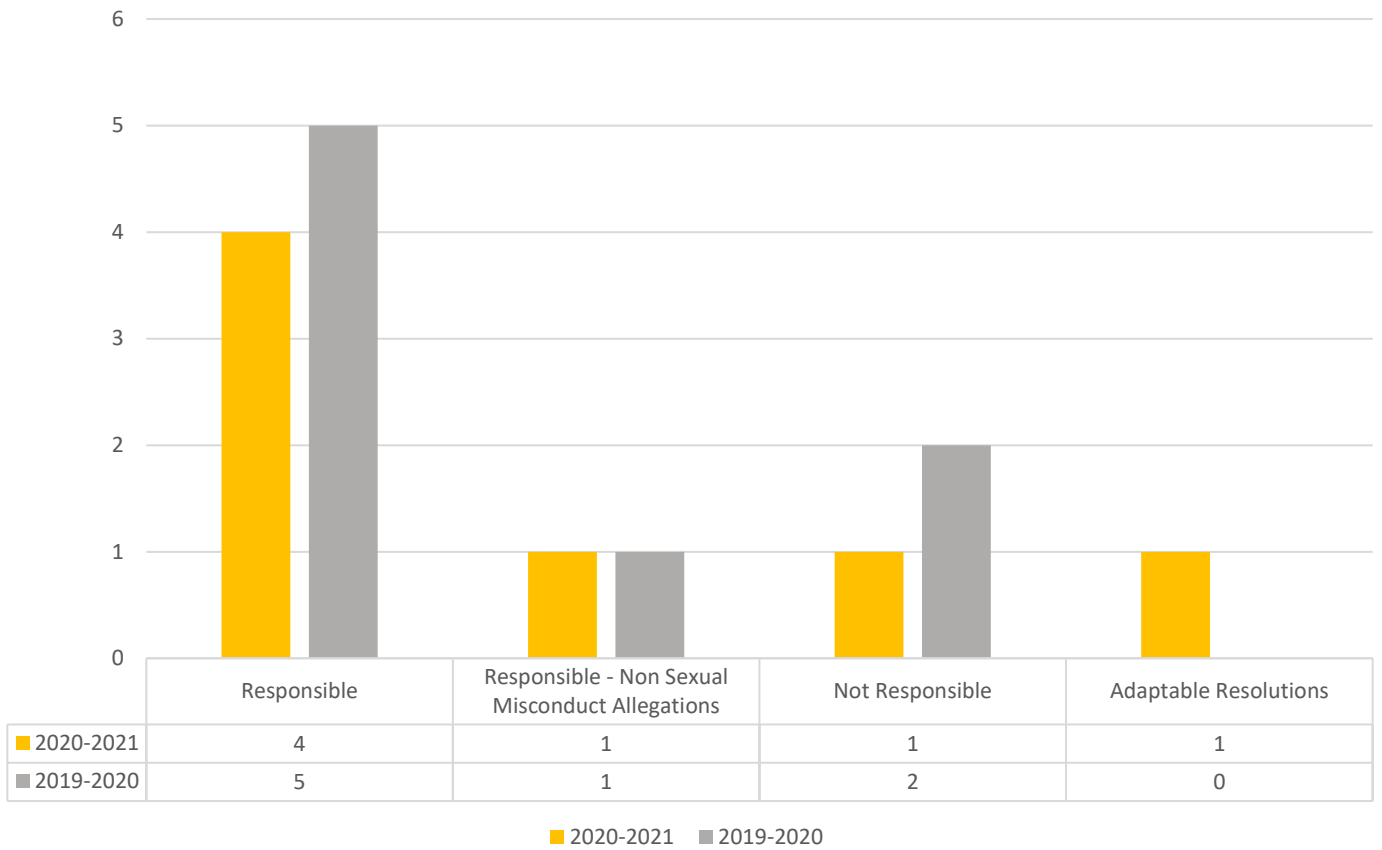
■ 2020-2021 ■ 2019-2020

**Chart F-2.
Summary of Alleged Policy Violations
2020-2021**



Of the thirteen investigations initiated during the 2020-2021 academic year, each investigation typically included allegations of multiple sexual misconduct violations as well as other violations of the Code of Student Life.

**Chart F-3.
Investigation Outcomes
2020-2021**



**Chart F-4.
Status Sanctions Assigned
2020-2021**

