

Office of Student Accountability Annual Report June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020

The Office of Student Accountability resolves non-academic 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, 2019 and May 31, 2020.

When it has been determined after investigation or hearing 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 [Student Misconduct 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 standards of student behavior that seek to create a campus environment where ideas can be freely exchanged, University property and processes are secured, and conflict is peacefully resolved. 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.

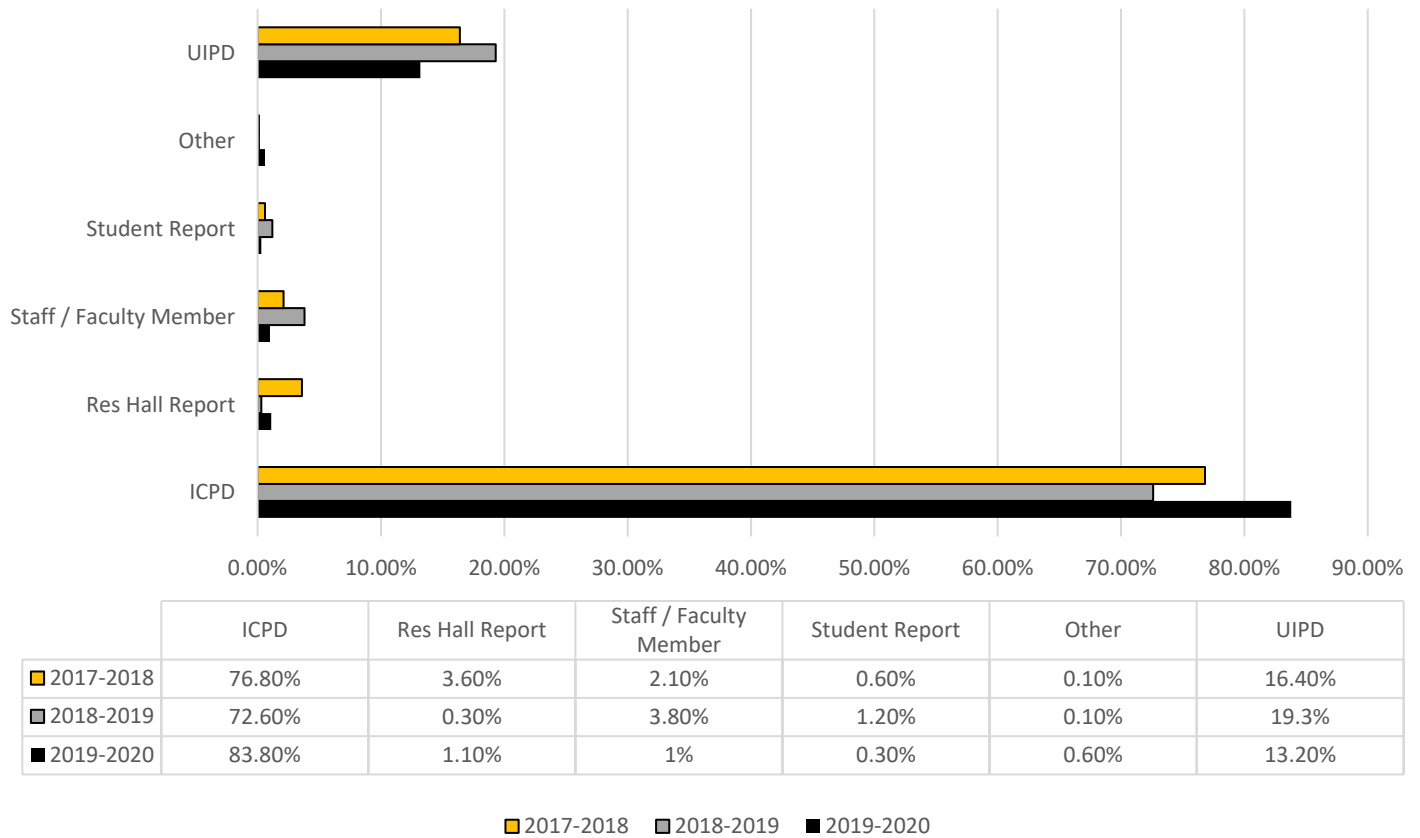
Summary and Analysis of Non-Academic Misconduct Reports Received by the Office of Student Accountability

Between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020, the Office of Student Accountability (OSA) received 699 reports alleging that a student may have engaged in non-academic misconduct. The 699 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.

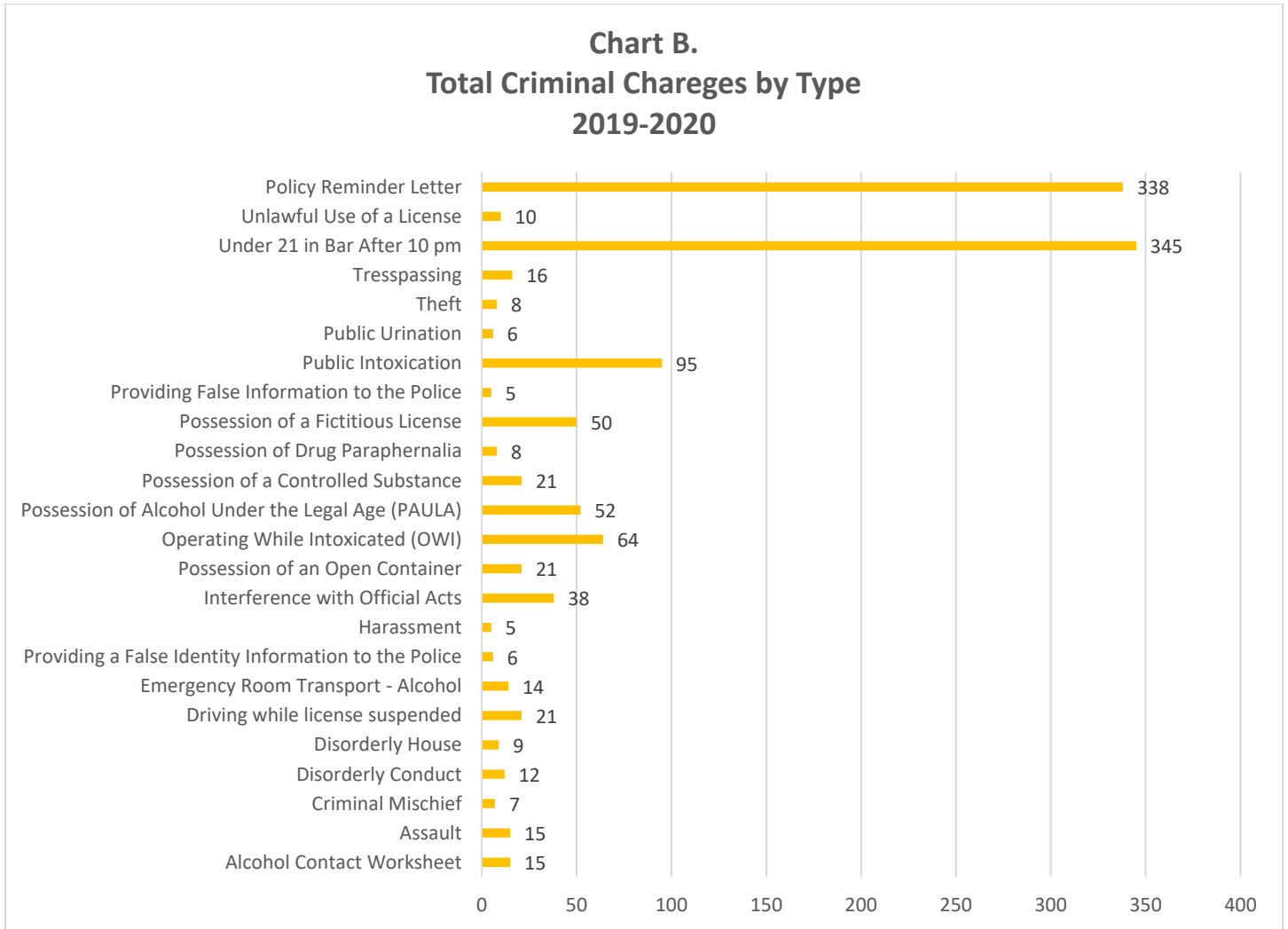
A. Source of Reports

Not every police report filed between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020 was investigated. Consistent with previous practices, OSA staff investigated Public Intoxication and Possession of Alcohol Under Legal Age (PAULA) reports filed by police in Iowa City in addition to other types of reports. For Disorderly House charges, all of which involved off-campus noise violations, OSA staff followed a two-step practice. For the first offense of Disorderly House, a Policy Reminder letter was issued. A second Disorderly House charge resulted in a Code of Student Life investigation of both incidents.

Chart A.
Source of Reports Investigated by OSA Staff
2019-2020



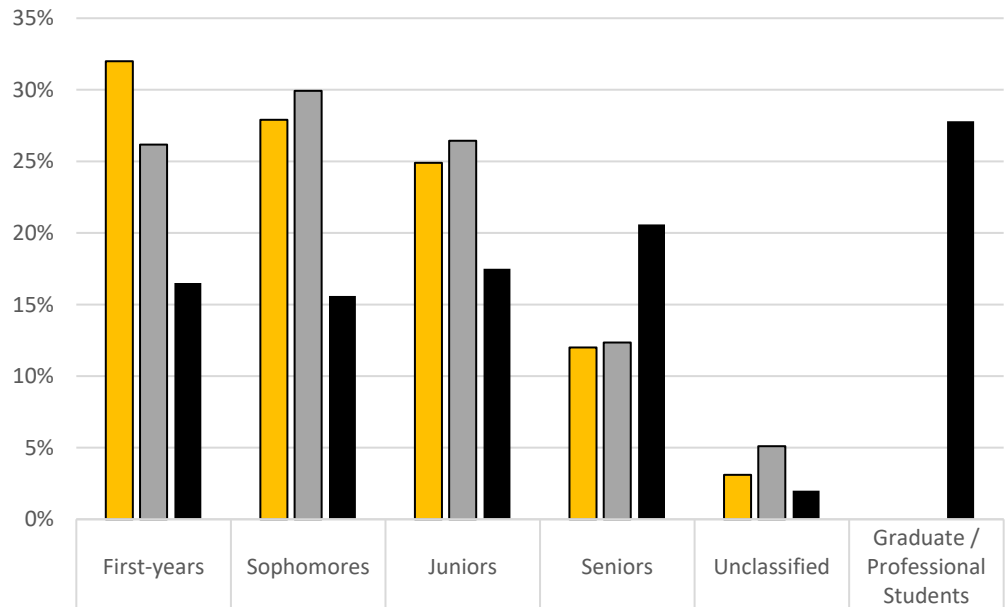
B. Overview of Alleged Misconduct



C. Academic Status of Respondents

Analyzing the caseload by academic status shows that nearly one third of the 699 cases investigated by the Office of Student Accountability between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020 involved first-year students (Chart C). As in previous years, undergraduate students make up all of the students accused of misconduct during the 2019-2020 academic year. During the AY 2019-2020, 2.8% of the 23,482 UI undergraduates were named in a report received by the Office of Student Accountability. For the cohort of first-year students, 4.2% were named in Office of Student Accountability reports.

**Chart C.
Academic Status of Responding Students
2019-2020**

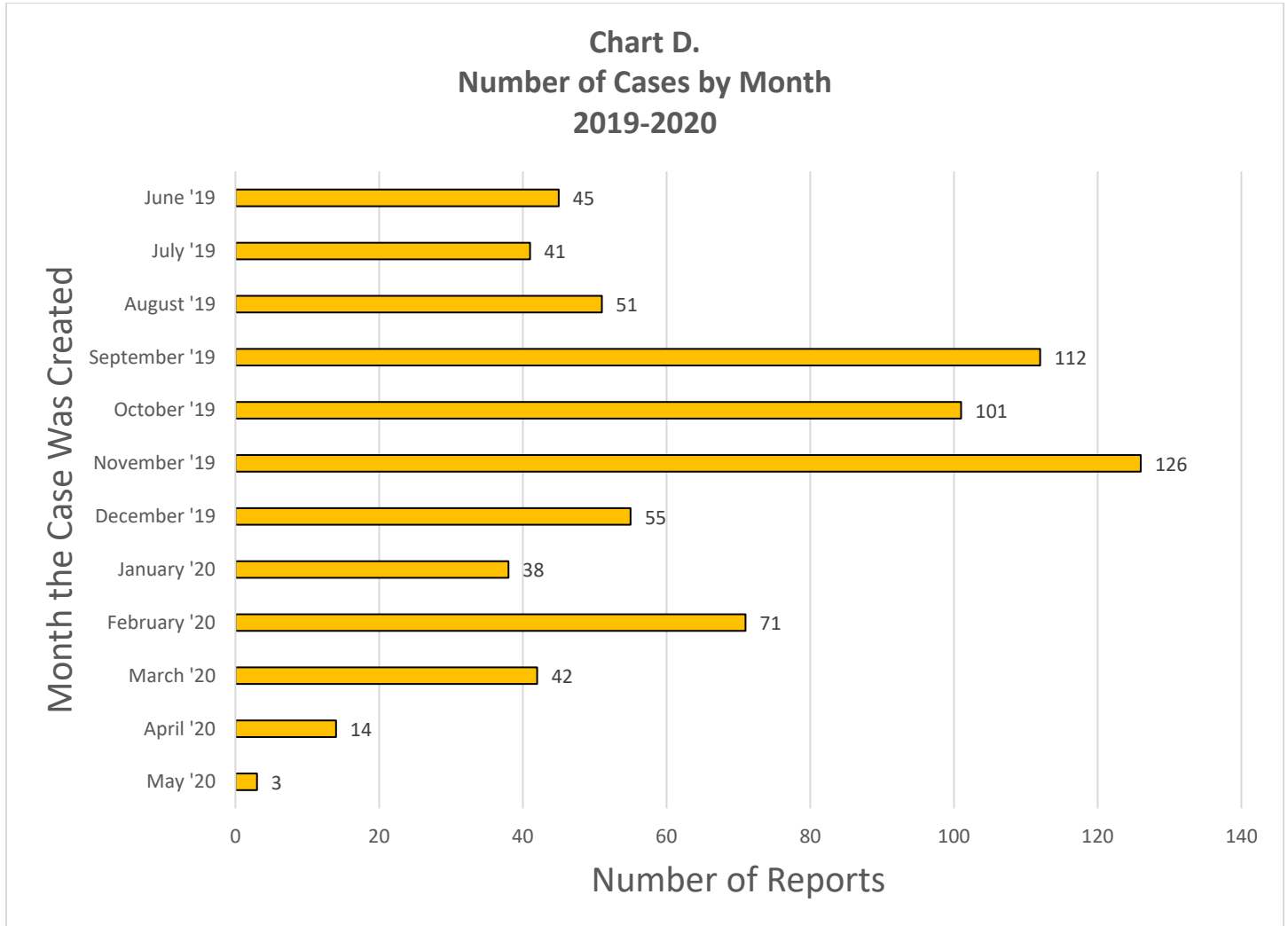


	First-years	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors	Unclassified	Graduate / Professional Students
■ Percent of Disciplinary Cases (2019-2020)	32%	27.90%	24.90%	12%	3.10%	0%
■ Percent of Disciplinary Cases (2018-2019)	26.17%	29.93%	26.44%	12.35%	5.10%	0.00%
■ Academic Profile of U of IA Student Body (Fall, 2020)	16.50%	15.60%	17.50%	20.60%	2.00%	27.80%

■ Percent of Disciplinary Cases (2019-2020)
 ■ Percent of Disciplinary Cases (2018-2019)
■ 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, 2019 and May 31, 2020 arose during the fall semester. The Office of Student Accountability received an average of 58 cases each month, although the actual number varied considerably, including a low of 3 and a high of 126. Between March and May, case numbers were impacted by classes shifting to a virtual format and the vast majority of students leaving the Iowa City area due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The total number of reports received before the quarantine period starting on March 13, 2020, was outpacing the number of reports OSA receives in a typical year.



E. Sanctions

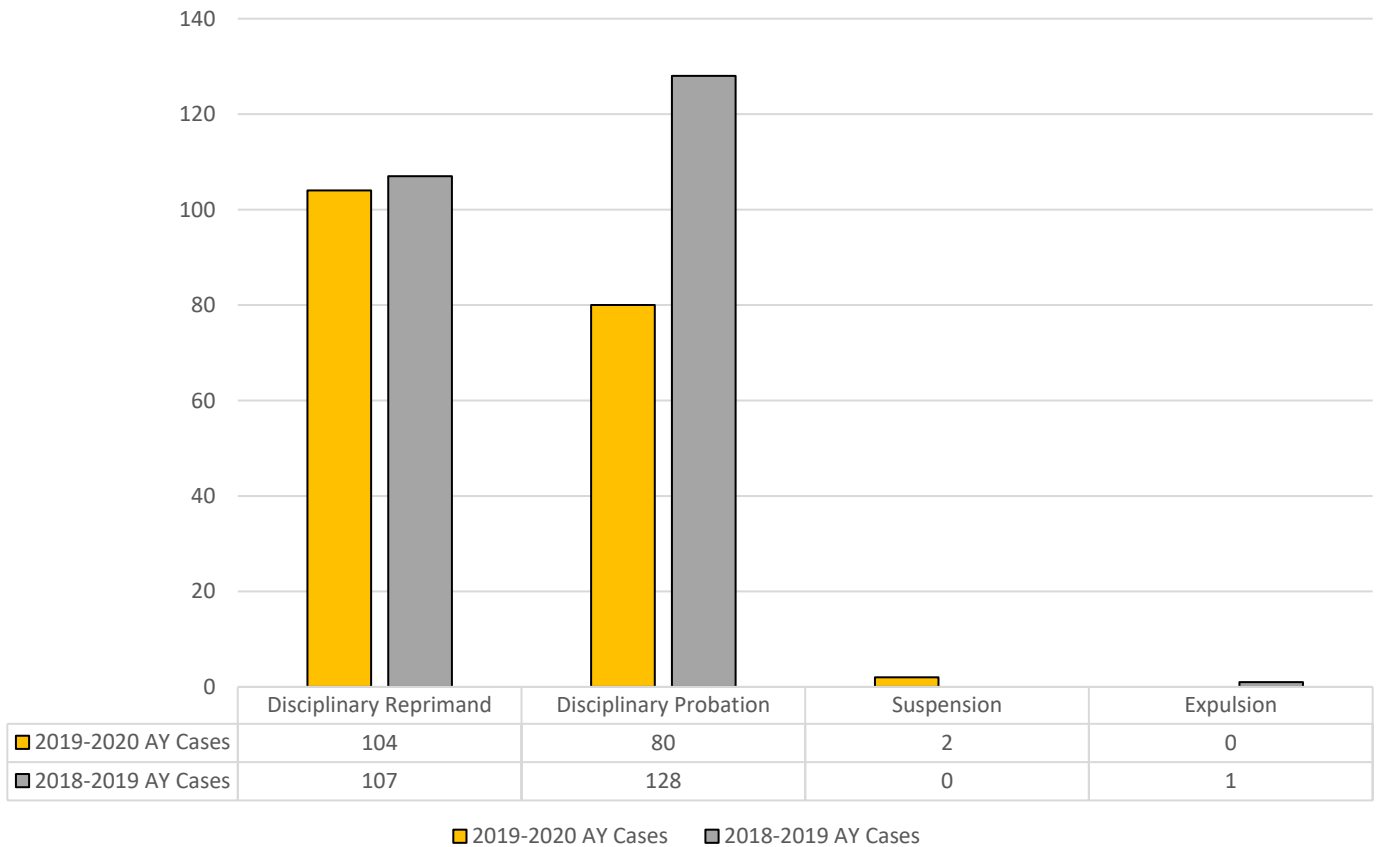
Status sanctions recommended by the Office of Student Accountability staff ranged from disciplinary reprimands to suspension from the University. In determining an appropriate sanction in AY 2019-2020, the investigator assigned to the case took into account the nature of the misconduct and the offender's disciplinary history. If cases involved alcohol or controlled substances, the investigator followed the sanction policy spelled out in the Student Misconduct Procedure.

Of the 699 reports received between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020, an investigation was undertaken in 361 cases. In the 338 cases not investigated, a Policy Reminder letter was issued. Of the 361 cases investigated, a status sanction was imposed in 51.5% (186) of the time. The remaining 48.5% 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 reprimand 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.

**Chart E-1.
Status Sanctions Imposed
2019-2020**

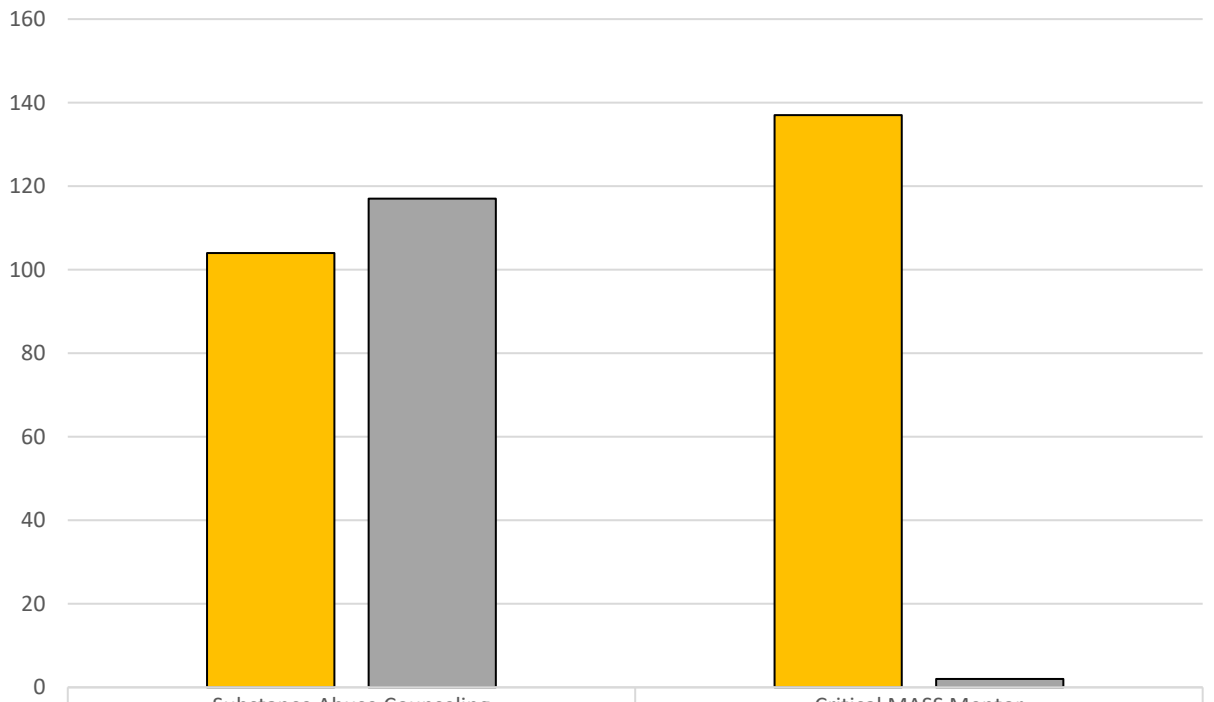


In many cases resolved during the year, an educational sanction was recommended in addition to a status sanction (e.g., probation). Substance abuse education was the primary educational sanction assigned between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020. As a result of the substantial number of alcohol-related and 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.

Critical MASS (Mentoring and Student Support) was also used as an educational sanction between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020 through a partnership with the Office of Student Accountability and University Housing & Dining. 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.

**Chart E-2.
Educational Sanctions Imposed
2019-2020**



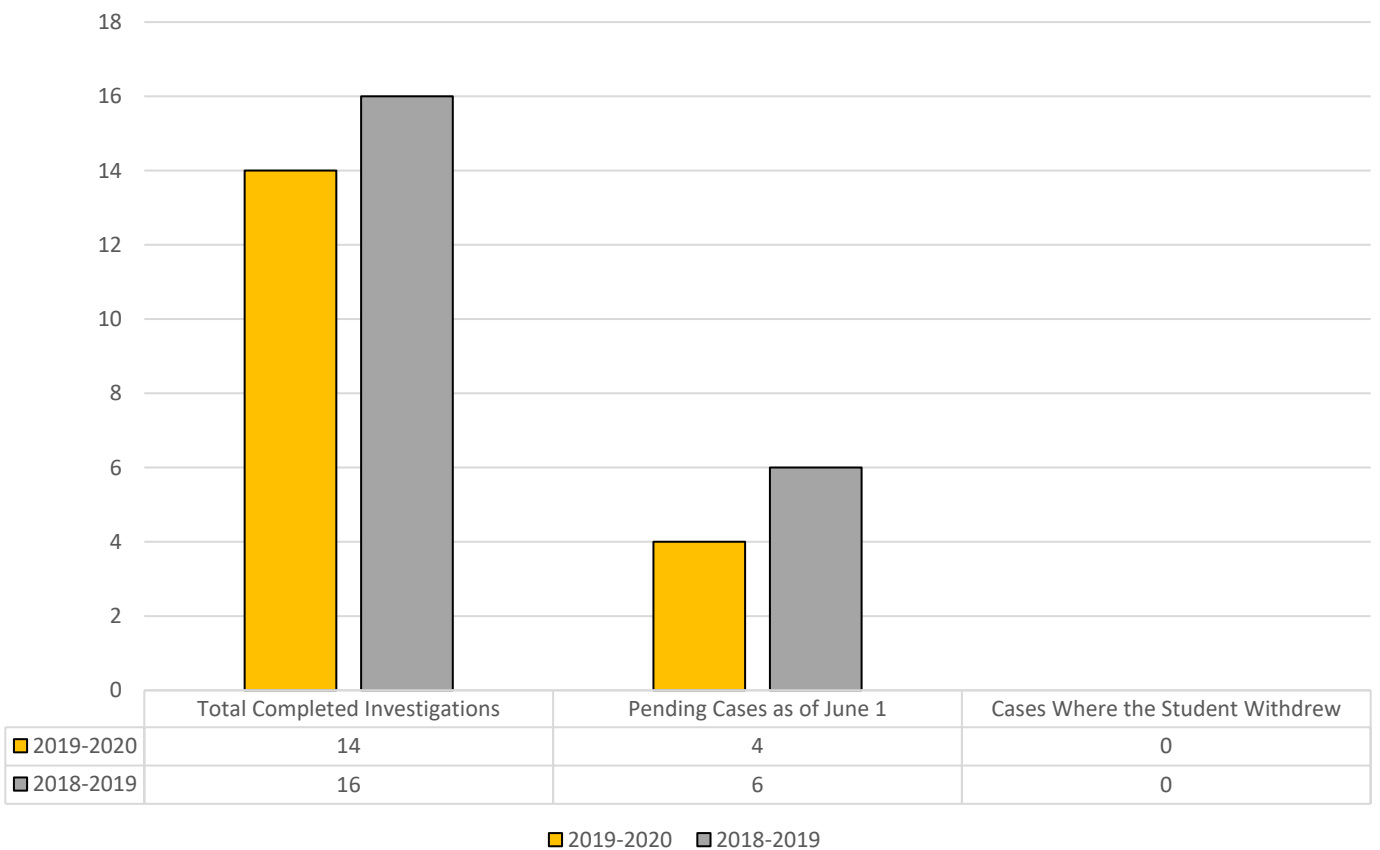
	Substance Abuse Counseling	Critical MASS Mentor
2019-2020 AY Cases	104	137
2018-2019 AY Cases	117	2

■ 2019-2020 AY Cases
 ■ 2018-2019 AY Cases

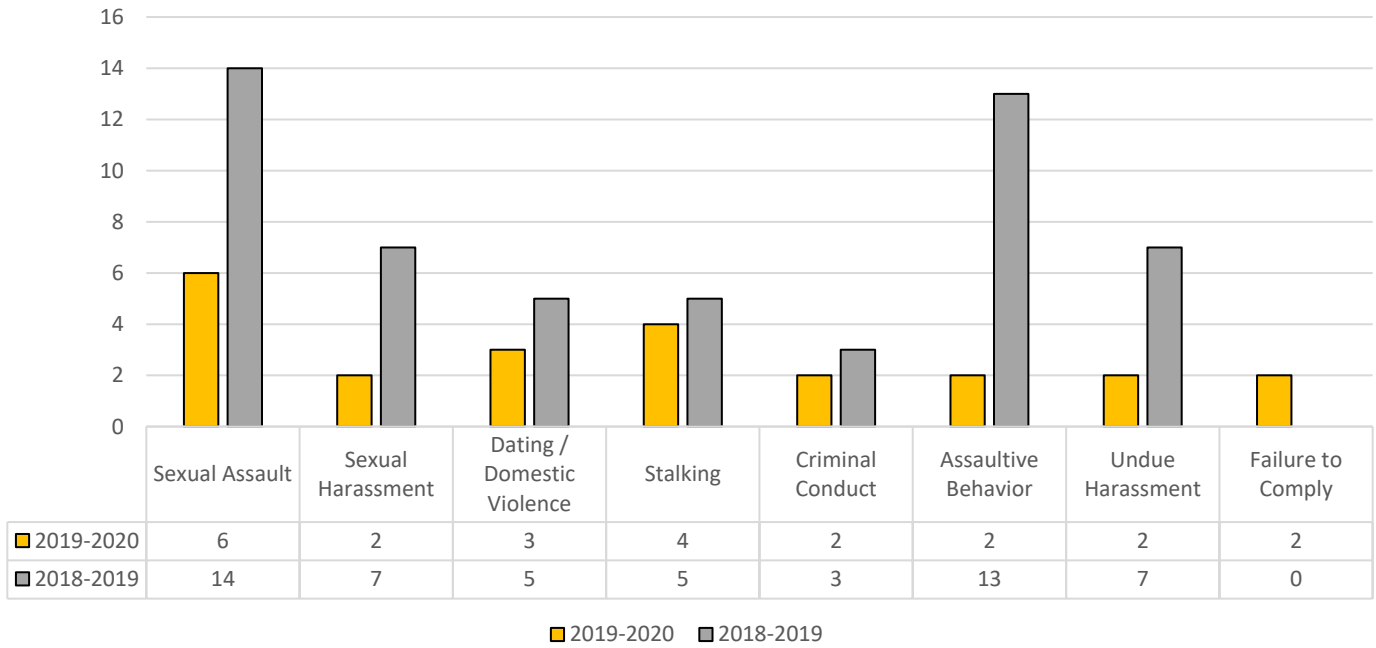
F. Sexual Misconduct Investigations

The Office of Student Accountability investigated thirteen incidents during the period between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020 which alleged sexual misconduct. Additionally, the Office of Student Accountability resolved a number of 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.

**Chart F-1.
Status of Sexual Misconduct Investigations
2019-2020**

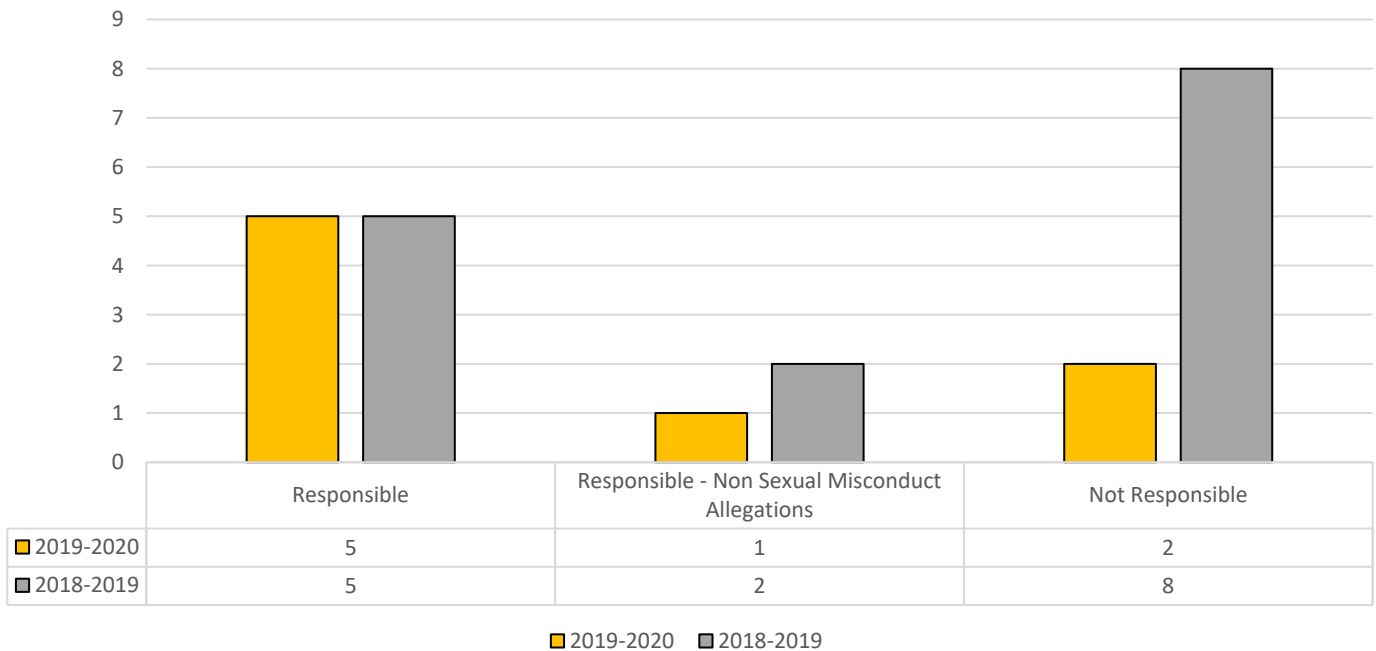


**Chart F-2.
Summary of Alleged Policy Violations
2019-2020**

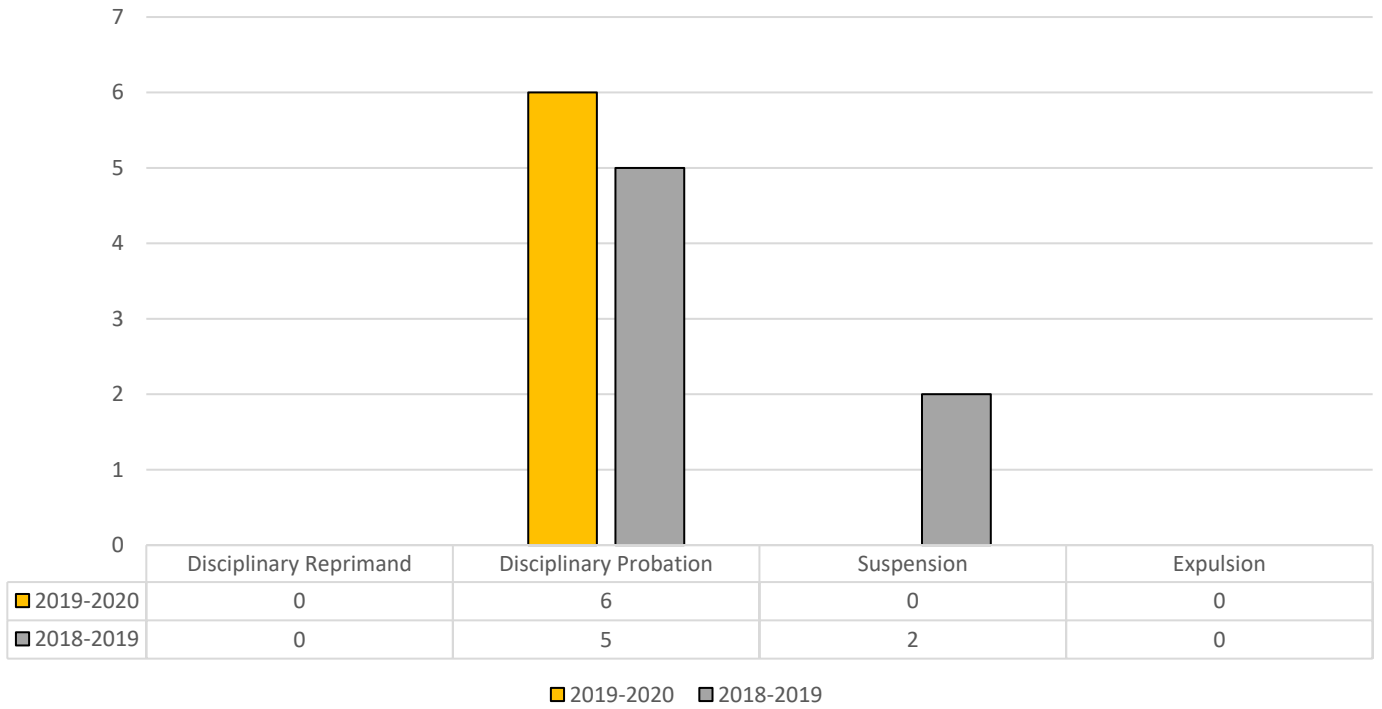


Of the thirteen investigations initiated during the 2019-2020 academic year, each investigation typically included allegations of multiple sexual misconduct violations as well as other violations of the Code of Student Life. In two cases, criminal charges were filed against the responding student.

**Chart F-3.
Investigation Outcomes
2019-2020**



**Chart F-4.
Status Sanctions Assigned
2019-2020**



**Chart F-5.
Other Sanctions Imposed
2019-2020**

