

STOPPING Sexual Harassment at Work

Of Americans believe a zero-tolerance policy is necessary to help end sexual harassment¹

72%

Of women who have been sexually harassed, were harassed by someone more senior in their careers⁶ Of men who have been sexually harassed, were harassed by other men⁶

What is sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment is illegal sexual or sex-based conduct in the workplace. It is a form of sexual discrimination under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. It includes "unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, physical, or visual conduct of a sexual nature or hostile conduct based on sex. The conduct does not need to be sexual in nature. It can be hostile conduct based on sex that is non-sexual in nature.

States and local municipalities have expanded protections that may also include offensive comments or conduct regarding, or based on, someone's sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, transgender status, pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions.

Types of Sexual Harassment

Hostile Work Environment

- A pattern of unwelcome sexual or gender-based conduct
- So pervasive or severe that employee has difficulty working
- A "reasonable person" would find the environment hostile, abusive or intimidating

Other Forms of Hostile Work Environment Third-Party

Non-employees, like customers, vendors, delivery drivers, or contractors can create an intimidating, hostile, and offensive work environment for an employee.

Quid Pro Quo

- Someone in authority requests sex, sexual favors, or relationship
- Acceptance or rejection of request can impact job (may result in Tangible Employment Action)
- Can be direct or implied "this for that"

When an Employee is NOT the Direct Target

Hostile work environment sexual harassment can occur when someone is negatively impacted by sexual conduct that is not happening directly to them. For example, an employee experiences an offensive, hostile work environment based on sexual conduct directed toward co-workers.

Sexual harassment complaints filed with EEOC² in:



Women: 83.2%

2019 complaints² by:





sexual harassment from:5 common at their workplace:5 40% Transgender 30% Women **Customers Co-workers** Management 22% Men 78% 80% 66%

White collar industries with highest number of sexual harassment incidents:







3. Consulting and Management

White collar industries with lowest number of sexual harassment incidents:⁶





Corporate

employees reporting sexual harassment:



4. Healthcare and

Social Assistance



#1	Reason	victims	don't	take	action	

They worry they'll lose their job, their income/tips.



Employees who witnessed sexual harassment of a colleague

Spoke up in the moment

Reported the incident to HR

Women:	31%

Men: 27%

Women: 23%

Men: 30%

How employees take action:

- Steer clear of inappropriate behaviors
- Filter what you say and do at work
- Speak up
- Be an upstander
- Practice zero tolerance

How managers take action:

- Lead by example
- Steer clear of inappropriate behaviors
- Filter what you say and do at work
- Empower your people to speak up
- Encourage your employees to be upstanders
- Know the signs

- Practice zero tolerance
- Stop inappropriate conduct before it becomes illegal harassment
- Don't retaliate (also against the law)
- Build a culture of respect
- Raise awareness with mandatory employee training
- Take all reports seriously



- 1. NPR and Ipsos poll, December 2017, www.npr.org/2017/12/14/570601136/poll-sexual-harassment-ipsos
- 2. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), www.eeoc.gov/eeoc/statistics/enforcement/sexual_harassment_new.cfm
- 3. Select Task Force on the Study of Harassment in the Workplace, June 2016 Report, www.eeoc.gov/eeoc/task_force/harassment
- 4. Jocelyn Frye, Center for American Progress, https://www.americanprogress.org/press/release/2017/11/21/443133/release-new-data-obtained-cap-show-higher-rates-sexual-harassment-charges-industries-large-numbers-low-wage-jobs/
- 5. The Glass Floor: Sexual Harassment in the Restaurant Industry, October 2014 https://chapters.rocunited.org/wp-content/up-loads/2014/10/REPORT_The-Glass-Floor-Sexual-Harassment-in-the-Restaurant-Industry2.pdf

6. "Media Industry Has Highest incidence of Sexual Harassment Among White Collar Workers, Survey Finds," Variety, July 25, 2018 b. media industry in a rights information of explain a radiastinet whong while conditional rook https://variety.com/2018/biz/news/media-industry-sexual-harassment-survey-120284052/ 7. "What #MeToo Means for Corporate America," Study by the Center for Talent Innovation https://www.talentinnovation.org/_private/assets/WhatMeTooMeans_KeyFindings-CTI.pdf

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