

# Student Perceptions of Crime on and Around Campus

Nick Spieker and Noah Caster

Advisor: Grant Neeley



## Research Question

How do students perceptions of crime differ from reality?

Do students at the University of Dayton know the frequency of crime on campus, and do they know where crime most frequently happens in the community?

## Abstract

Our research aims to understand what factors influence the accuracy of student perceptions of crime at the University of Dayton. A challenge for us was comparing student perceptions of crime to the reality. We found the biggest factors that influence accuracy were information sources, age, and residence location.

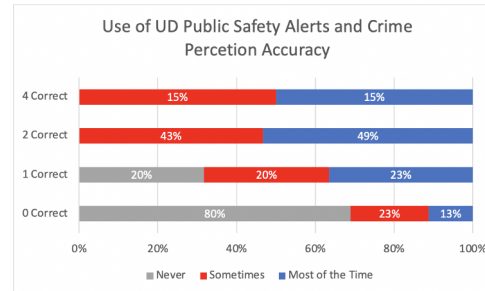
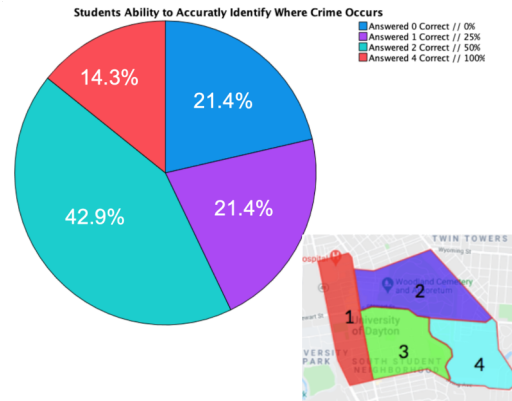
## Methodology

- Voluntary surveys were sent to undergraduate students to complete.
- 2019 Crime Data was collected from the Dayton Police Department and was analysed to determine amount of crime in areas surrounding UD.

## Objectives

- Survey a student population at UD asking for their perceptions of crime and police presence on campus.
- Explain how students perceive crime and police presence.
- Understand which factors correlate with accuracy of crime perception
  - Information sources
  - Demographic factors

## Findings



## Conclusions

- UD Public Safety Alerts are critical for accuracy of student perceptions of crime.
- Students who reported using the UD Public Safety Alerts had perceptions that were more accurate.
- Junior students were most accurate in their perceptions.

## Future Study

- Opportunity to survey students from other universities
- This could make the study be generalized to universities across the country

## Contact Information

Nick Spieker  
Spiekern1@udayton.edu

Noah Caster  
Castern1@udayton.edu