

Committee on Discipline

Jay Scheib, chair

Tessa McLain, executive officer

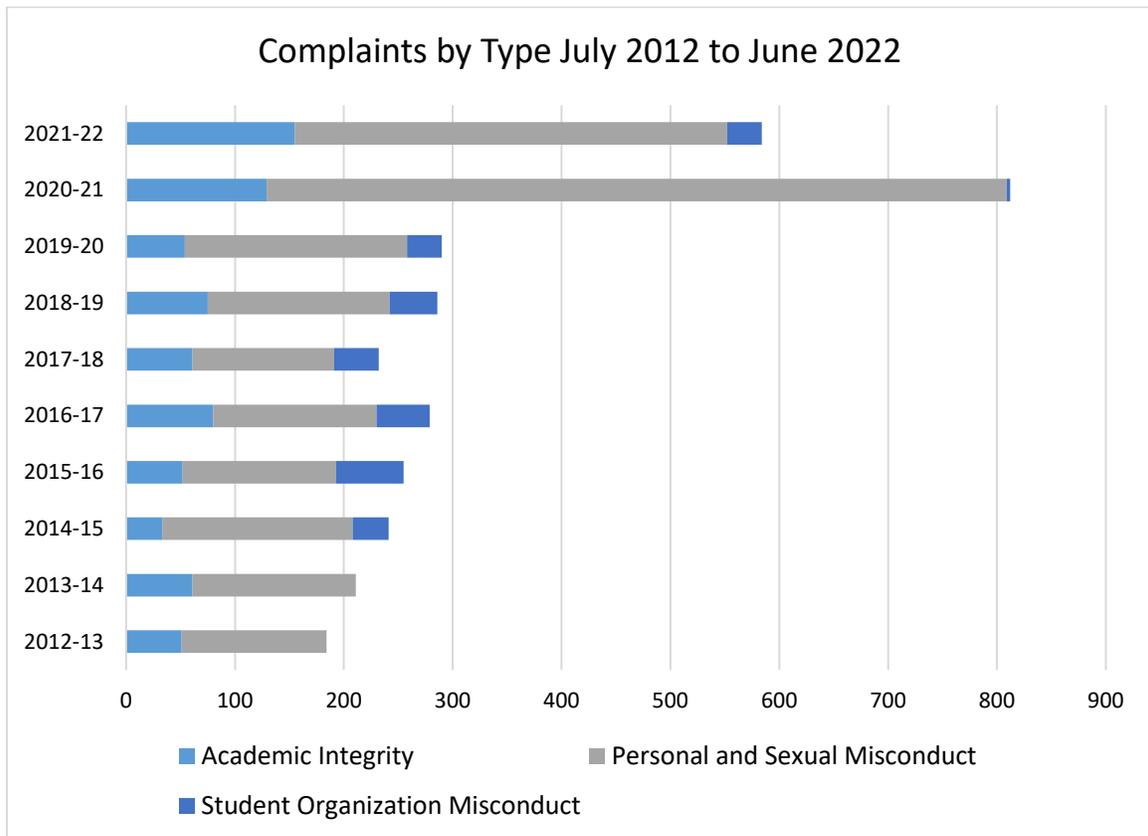
James Reed, staff

Reported Cases

There were 584 total complaints brought to the Committee on Discipline's attention in academic year 2021-2022. The Committee on Discipline (COD), chaired by Professor Jay Scheib, resolved complaints by adjudicating cases of alleged misconduct. Of those 584 complaints, 552 (95%) were complaints alleging individual student misconduct and 32 (5%) were complaints alleging student organization misconduct.

Case Trend

The case numbers for this past year continued to reflect the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, altered campus access, and Covid-19 policies. 48% (281) of the cases pertained to violations of Covid-19 policies. Reports of academic misconduct increased by 20%. Personal misconduct (excluding Covid-19 policies) increased by 170% from the prior year.



The above stacked bar chart, entitled “Complaints by Type July 2012 to June 2022,” shows that the number of cases reported to the COD over a ten-year period. The chart shows the number of cases reported to the COD in each academic year: 241 cases in 2014-2015, 255 cases in 2015-2016, 279 cases in 2016-2017, 232 cases in 2017-2018, 286 cases in 2018-2019, 290 cases in 2019-2020, 812 cases in 2020-2021, and finally, 584 cases in 2021-2022 as noted above.

The tables below summarize alleged policy violations from 2021-2022 compared to previous years. There is often more than one alleged policy violation per complaint, so there are more alleged policy violations than total complaints.

Table 1 shows the types of alleged policy violations for individual student misconduct:

Alleged Policy Violations	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Covid-19 Policies	-	-	-	929	326
Academic Misconduct	61	87	54	129	160
Alcohol	55	79	98	43	49
Other drugs	6	22	11	0	13
Assault, Reckless Endangerment	-	-	-	-	2
Threats/Intimidation	-	-	-	-	3
Assault, Reckless Endangerment, Threats/Intimidation	14	25	19	5	-
Harassment	4	4	5	5	6
Property damage	9	11	25	0	15
Disorderly conduct	17	5	7	30	5
Theft	5	1	2	0	21
Unauthorized access/improper use MIT property	17	23	42	37	17
Fire Safety, Arson	17	2	4	1	1
Weapons	2	1	0	1	0
Residential and Housing policies	14	15	25	15	86
Institute Expectations of Behavior/Integrity	25	33	28	6	19
Other	11	10	6	2	13
Community well-being	8	8	10	2	2
Sexual harassment, sexual exploitation	0	5	4	4	2
Stalking	1	2	1	2	2
Nonconsensual sexual contact or penetration	1	4	5	6	4
Intimate Partner Violence	0	3	4	0	0

TOTAL ALLEGED POLICY VIOLATIONS	264	340	359	1217	746
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Table 2 shows the types of alleged policy violations for student organization misconduct:

Alleged Policy Violations	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Covid-19 Policies	-	-	-	4	20
Alcohol	20	38	36	0	14
Other Drugs	0	3	0	0	0
Exceeding Occupancy	8	11	9	0	1
Fire Safety	1	2	0	0	2
Hazing	2	0	0	0	1
Harassment	1	0	1	0	0
Disorderly Conduct	5	2	2	0	2
Noise Complaints	7	15	8	1	4
Recruitment violations	0	3	3	1	2
Social Event Policy violations	38	49	21	1	11
Other	4	8	1	0	4
Total Alleged Policy Violations	86	131	81	8	61

Case Resolutions

The COD utilizes resolution methods as described in the [Rules of the Committee on Discipline](#).

Given the unique risk factors associated with students returning to campus and the need to take immediate action to address noncompliance with MIT’s Covid-19 policies, the COD delegated authority to the Office of Student Conduct & Community Standards (“OSCCS”) to address violations of MIT’s Covid-19 student and Institute-wide policies on an [expedited basis](#).

Table 3 shows the COD’s resolution methods in 2021-2022 compared to previous academic years:

Resolution Type	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Covid-19 Expedited Process	-	-	-	517	246
Covid-19 Amnesty Application	-	-	-	12	0
Covid-19 Case Dismissal	-	-	-	77	16
COD Administrative Resolution	119	121	152	41	108

COD Hearing	2	4	2	0	1
COD Sanctioning Panel	2	7	2	3	2
COD Sexual Misconduct Hearing	0	2	2	3	0
COD Sexual Misconduct Sanctioning Panel	1	0	0	0	0
Faculty Letters to File	47	62	46	109	129
Complainant Withdrew Case or Dismissal*	9	19	13	16	18
GSAP: referred to AODS	7	7	4	0	1
Non-adjudicative resolution: restorative justice, mediation, referral to other office	4	20	36	28	21
Delegated to student-run judicial mechanism	27	30	22	1	32
Cases pending (as of June 30)	14	14	11	5	10
TOTAL	232	286	290	812	584

* Dismissal is not the same as a finding of not responsible. It means that the situation did not rise to the level of a possible policy violation, but still may have involved educational follow up.

Case Outcomes

COD strives to meet its educational philosophy of student accountability through intentional educational sanctions (e.g., substance use education, mentoring programs, projects, reflections, workshops, etc.). Through these structured sanctions, students learn about various interpersonal skills and are able to reflect on their own personal development. A small number of cases (0.5% in 2021-2022) require a student to be separated from the Institute, either temporarily or permanently. 99.5% of cases are resolved without suspension or expulsion.

Table 4 shows sanctions assigned during the 2021-2022 academic year, compared with the two previous years:

Sanction Type	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Degree Revocation	0	0	1	0	0	0
Expulsion	2	1	3	1	0	0
Suspension	8	4	3	2	3	3
Probation	34	29	25	46	17	13
Removal from Institute housing	2	0	0	1	2	0
Housing relocation	2	1	0	2	1	2
COD Warning	59	79	74	117	17	64
Covid-19 Probation	-	-	-	-	146	14
Covid-19 FYI Warning	-	-	-	-	127	161
Covid-19 Warning	-	-	-	-	217	69
Faculty letter to file	63	47	61	48	109	136
Substance use education/treatment	53	58	55	88	25	20

Decision-making workshop	-	29	15	51	90	18
Building Healthy Relationships through Empathy Workshop	-	-	-	-	-	5
Academic integrity seminar/workshop	5	3	6	2	4	9
Mentoring & Personal Development Plan Program	-	-	-	-	-	5
Other educational sanctions & referrals	181	148	138	136	126	62
No contact order, directive to stay away from certain buildings	9	4	4	7	5	2
Restitution	1	0	0	2	1	2

Note: It is common for the COD to assign more than one sanction in a case, so there are more sanctions than cases. Sanctions exclude all cases in which the respondent was found not responsible, the case was dismissed or the case is still pending.