

LGBTQ+ YOUTH SCHOOL DISCIPLINE EXPERIENCES AND THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE



Last updated: 8/11/23

APPENDIX 1. METHODOLOGY

STUDY VARIABLES

Variable definitions and coding schemes are listed below. For all measures, respondents who answered "don't know" or did not answer the question were marked as 'missing' and not included in analyses of that variable.

Variable	Survey question	Coding scheme	
Ever suspended	Have you ever received an out- of-school suspension?	Yes/ No	
Ever expelled	Have you ever been expelled Yes/ No from school?		
Ever suspended or expelled	Have you ever received an out-of-school suspension? AND Have you ever been expelled from school?	Yes = ever suspended and/or expelled No = neither occurred	
Ever suspended for being LGBTQ+	If ever suspended = yes, "Was this out-of-school suspension related to your sexual orientation or gender identity?"	Yes/ No	
Ever expelled for being LGBTQ+	If ever expelled = yes, "Was this expulsion related to your sexual orientation or gender identity?"	Yes/ No	
Ever suspended or expelled for being LGBTQ+	Combination of the two questions above	Yes = suspended and/or expelled for being LGBTQ+ No = neither occurred	
Discriminatory Discipline	How much would you say you are disciplined at school (such as detention, ISS or OSS) compared to other students? - A lot more - Somewhat more - About the same - Somewhat less - A lot less	Yes = Somewhat more/ a lot more No = About the same/ Somewhat less /a lot less	



Arrested	Have you ever been arrested or taken into custody by the police?	Yes/ No
School has an SRO	Does your school have a School Resource Officer (also known as Security Officer or School Police Officer)?	Yes/ No
Student does not trust SRO	How much do you trust your School Resource Officer to help you when someone harasses, teases or bullies you at school for being LGBTQ? - Not at all - A little - Somewhat - A lot	Yes = Not at all No = Trust a little / somewhat / a lot
Anxiety	GAD-2 screening tool	Respondents screened positive for anxiety if scored above a specified cut-point
Depression	PHQ-2 screening tool	Respondents screened positive for depression if scored above a specified cut-point
Teachers/staff do not care about me	Do you agree or disagree that your teachers and/or staff at school really care about you? - Strongly disagree - Disagree - Agree - Strongly disagree	Yes = Strongly disagree / Disagree No = Strongly agree / Agree
Unsafe in any school setting	While at school, how often do you feel safe - Never - Rarely - Sometimes - Usually - Always Q1)in your classroom Q2)in the bathroom Q3)in the locker room Q4)in the hallways and stairwells Q5)in the library Q6)in the cafeteria Q7)outside on school grounds Q8)getting to/from school Q9)on the school bus	Felt unsafe in a given setting: Yes = Never / Rarely feel safe No = Usually / Always feel safe Felt unsafe in any 1+ setting: Categorized as feeling unsafe in at least one setting (Q1-9)



LGBTQ+ identity will negatively impact my experiences at college	My LGBTQ identity will negatively affect my future college and higher education opportunities. - Strongly disagree - Disagree - Neither disagree or agree - Agree - Strongly agree	Yes = Strongly / somewhat agree No = all other levels	
Prior 30-day bullying	In the last 30 days, how often did the following happen to you IN PERSON at school? - Never - 1-2 times - 3-4 times - 5-6 times - 7+ times O1)Other students called me names O2)Other students made fun of me O3)Other students picked on me O4)I got hit and pushed by other students.	Yes =Any one item (Q1-Q4) occurred at least 1 or 2 times or more frequently No = answered "Never" for all 4 items	
Ever bullied at school for SOGI	IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how often have you been teased, bullied, or treated badly by other students at your school because of your - Never - Rarely - Sometimes - Often - Very Often O1)Sexual identity O2)Gender O3)How masculine or feminine I am	Yes = Any one item (Q1-Q3) occurred Sometimes /Often / Very Often No = All three items occurred Never/ Rarely	
Ever informed teacher about bullying	Have you ever talked to a teacher and/or staff at school about being bullied, teased, threatened or harassed for being LGBTQ?	Yes/ No	
Not considering attending college	Are you considering attending college?	Yes/ No	
Get mostly As and Bs (academic performance)	Which of the following best describes your grades? - Mostly As and Bs - Mostly Cs - Mostly Ds - Mostly Fs	Yes = Mostly As and Mostly Bs No = All others	



ANALYSIS

Unadjusted percentages: All percentages presented in tables and figures are unadjusted, and come from crosstabs (aka the percentage of LGBTQ+ youth who met screening criteria for anxiety who had, vs. Had not, been suspended and expelled).

Race/ethnicity adjusted odds ratios: Odds ratios come from logistic regression models predicting association between each outcome variable, and lifetime school discipline (ever suspended and/or expelled, Table 3a) or biased school discipline (ever suspended and/or expelled due to being LGBTQ+, Table 3b) controlling for race/ethnicity (referent category = White, Non-Hispanic/Latinx).

School-to-prison pipeline: A series of race/ethnicity-adjusted logistic regression models were run to estimate each potential step in the school-to-prison pipeline (Table 4)

- Model 1 assessed the association between lack of trust for SROs, and the outcome
 of ever being expelled or suspended (impact of school discipline policies /practices
 on school discipline experiences)
- ◆ Model 2a assessed the association between lack of trust for SROs, and the
 outcome of lifetime arrest history (impact of school discipline policies/practices on
 arrest history)
- ◆ Model 2a assessed the association between ever being suspended/expelled, and the outcome of lifetime arrest history (impact of school discipline on arrest history)
- ◆ Model 3 assessed the joint association of lack of trust for SROs and lifetime school discipline history, and lifetime arrest history (full school-to-prison pipeline)

APPENDIX 2: TABLES

Table 1. Study variables, by LGBTQ+ identity

Variable	All LGBTQ+ % (N)	LGBQ+ % (N)	Transgender and gender-expansive % (N)				
SCHOOL DISCIPLINE	SCHOOL DISCIPLINE						
Ever suspended	9.7% (1,196)	9.7% (1,179)	10.0% (855)				
Suspended due to LGBTQ+ identity (among ever suspended)	13.0% 145	12.7% 139	13.5% 106				



Ever expelled	1.7%	1.6%	1.7%
	206	202	148
Ever expelled due to LGBTQ+ (among ever expelled)	22.9%	22.3%	20.2%
	43	41	27
Discriminatory discipline	9.9%	9.8%	9.9%
	1,214	1,196	849
SCHOOL RESOURCE	OFFICE (SRO) EXPERIE	NCES AND LIFETIME ARE	REST HISTORY
School has SRO	83.5%	83.6%	83.4%
	8,333	8,234	5,712
Does not trust SRO	41.5%	41.7%	46.7%
	3,426	3,397	2,646
Ever arrested	3.0%	3.0%	3.1%
	374	368	271
MENTAL HEALTH			
Anxiety	63.5%	63.7%	68.2%
	6,751	6,701	5,163
Depression	55.1%	55.1%	60.0%
	5,853	5,798	4,542
SCHOOL EXPERIENC	ES		
Teachers/staff do not care about me	29.4%	29.4%	33.5%
	2,969	2,935	2,306
Unsafe in any school setting	46.1%	46.0%	53.9%
	5,628	5,555	4,561
LGBTQ+ identity will negatively impact my experiences at college	29.2%	29.2%	33.9%
	3,286	3,247	2,698
Prior 30-day bullying	57.0%	57.0%	59.5%
	7,100	7,022	5,162
Prior-year bullying at school due to LGBTQ+ identity	51.6% 6,471	51.7% 6,399	55.6% 4,845
Ever informed teacher about bullying	22.4%	22.4%	25.7%
	2,790	2,759	2,231



Not considering attending college	7.1%	7.1%	7.8%
	797	792	622
Get mostly As and	86.2%	86.2%	84.5%
Bs	10,418	10,293	7,055

Table 2a. School discipline, arrest, and school resource officer (SRO) experiences, by race/ethnicity and LGBTQ+ identity

	Black	Hispanic	AANHPI	AIAN	White	Other		
ALL LGBTQ+								
Ever suspended or expelled	18.1% 202	10.8% 241	8.2% 94	17.8% 110	9.2% 938	10.2% 95		
Ever suspended or expelled due to LGBTQ+ identity	3.1% 35	1.6% 36	1.1% 13	2.8% 17	1.1% 111	1.6% 15		
Discriminatory discipline	16.5% 178	11.6% 250	12.7% 141	14.3% 85	8.6% 858	13.3% 118		
Arrested	4.6% 50	3.2% 69	2.3% 26	6.1% 36	2.8% 285	3.4% 31		
School has SRO	84.1% 748	84.8% 1,440	81.1% 662	81.0% 393	83.8% 6,860	80.6% 548		
Does not trust SRO	34.7% 253	35.5% 504	36.1% 238	47.0% 183	43.4% 2,954	34.6% 187		
LGBQ+ YOUTH								
Ever suspended or expelled	18.2% 201	10.7% 235	8.1% 92	17.5% 106	9.2% 924	10.3% 94		
Ever suspended or expelled due to LGBTQ+ identity	3.1% 34	1.5% 32	1.1% 12	2.6% 16	1.1% 108	1.5% 14		
Discriminatory discipline	16.4% 174	11.4% 241	12.7% 139	14.0% 82	8.6% 847	13.1% 115		



		1				
Arrested	4.5%	3.2%	2.2%	5.8%	2.8%	3.5%
	49	69	25	34	282	31
School has	84.2%	85.3%	81.2%	80.7%	83.8%	81.1%
SRO	738	1,420	656	385	6,782	541
Does not trust	35.1%	35.7%	36.2%	47.5%	43.5%	34.6%
SRO	252	500	237	181	2,929	185
TRANSGENDER	AND GENDE	R-EXPANSI	VE YOUTH			
Ever suspended or expelled	17.1% 125	10.8% 160	8.5% 64	17.2% 84	9.9% 711	10.2% 64
Ever suspended or expelled due to LGBTQ+ identity	3.0% 22	1.5% 22	1.2%	2.5% 12	1.3% 90	1.8% 11
Discriminatory discipline	14.8%	11.1%	12.2%	14.5%	9.1%	11.9%
	105	161	90	69	641	72
Arrested	4.2%	2.8%	2.4%	5.3%	3.1%	3.9%
	30	41	18	25	220	24
School has	82.7%	84.5%	80.1%	80.2%	83.7%	80.9%
SRO	479	942	415	308	4,797	369
Does not trust	39.6%	41%	43.8%	50.3%	48.3%	40.1%
SRO	185	380	181	153	2,302	146

AANHPI = Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander; AIAN = American Indian, Alaska Native

Respondents were allowed to select multiple racial/ethnic categories, and may thus appear in multiple columns if they selected more than one race/ethnicity

Table 2b. Mental health and school experiences, by race/ethnicity and LGBTQ+identity

	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ NHPI	AIAN	White	Other	
ALL LGBTQ+ YOU	ALL LGBTQ+ YOUTH						
Anxiety	58.6%	60.9%	59.7%	67.5%	64.3%	63.3%	
	506	1,086	552	317	5,635	457	
Depression	53.3%	55.4%	55.7%	60.1%	55.1%	58.2%	
	465	987	515	283	4,828	419	



Teachers/staff do not care about me	27.6% 236	30.0% 510	26.0% 230	41.9% 197	29.7% 2,443	30.4% 210
Unsafe in any school setting	42.7%	46.4%	39.5%	58.2%	46.9%	46.1%
	460	1,014	443	342	4,613	421
LGBTQ+ identity will negatively impact my experiences at college	28.6%	28.6%	29.4%	34.1%	29.2%	28.8%
	262	538	289	174	2,707	220
Prior 30-day	55.9%	54.4%	47.6%	68.1%	58.0%	54.3%
bullying	613	1,199	539	410	5,845	496
Prior-year bullying at school due to LGBTQ+ identity	49.7%	50.1%	43.1%	62.9%	52.5%	51.4%
	550	1,111	490	382	5,316	474
Ever informed teacher about bullying	19.4%	20.7%	17.5%	31.8%	23.4%	18.4%
	212	454	197	191	2,356	167
Not considering attending college	6.7% 66	7.1% 139	6.0% 58	9.6% 54	7.2% 653	7.4% 62
Get mostly As and Bs	84.7%	82.7%	91.7%	77.9%	86.3%	82.1%
	897	1,753	1,010	447	8,445	725
LGBQ+ YOUTH						
Anxiety	58.9%	61.3%	59.6%	67.8%	64.5%	63.7%
	502	1,073	546	314	5,595	454
Depression	53.5%	55.6%	55.6%	60.6%	55.1%	58.8%
	460	972	510	281	4,779	418
Teachers/staff do not care about me	27.6% 233	29.8% 499	26.1% 228	41.9% 193	29.7% 2,418	30.3% 206
Unsafe in any school setting	41.9%	46.1%	39.3%	58.2%	46.9%	46.3%
	445	990	436	336	4,562	416



LGBTQ+ identity will negatively impact my experiences at college	28.3%	28.3%	29.4%	34.1%	29.2%	28.8%
	256	524	286	171	2,678	217
Prior 30-day	56.0%	54.4%	47.3%	67.9%	58.1%	54.6%
bullying	605	1,177	529	401	5,785	491
Prior-year bullying at school due to LGBTQ+ identity	49.8% 543	49.9% 1,087	42.9% 482	63.4% 378	52.6% 5,261	51.5% 467
Ever informed teacher about bullying	19.3%	20.5%	17.4%	31.9%	23.4%	18.4%
	208	441	194	188	2,330	165
Not considering attending college	6.8% 66	7.2% 139	6.0% 57	9.6% 53	7.2% 649	7.6% 62
Get mostly As and Bs	84.7%	82.8%	91.8%	77.8%	86.3%	82.2%
	885	1,725	999	439	8,348	714
TRANSGENDER	AND GEND	ER-EXPANSI	IVE YOUTH			
Anxiety	63.8%	66.4%	66.5%	71.5%	68.6%	67.7%
	374	813	411	276	4,353	343
Depression	57.0%	61.9%	62.1%	62.9%	59.7%	64.8%
	337	758	384	244	3,788	328
Teachers/ staff do not care about me	31.9% 174	33.6% 368	31.6% 182	44.8% 165	33.5% 1,918	35.1% 161
Unsafe in any school setting	48.8%	53.6%	50.0%	63.5%	54.6%	54.2%
	343	781	370	298	3,787	336
LGBTQ+ identity will negatively impact my experiences at college	32.7%	32.6%	35.0%	37.6%	33.9%	31.6%
	201	420	229	156	2,261	168
Prior 30-day	58.8%	57.3%	52.1%	69.3%	60.5%	58.2%
bullying	424	842	389	332	4,310	363



Prior-year bullying at school due to LGBTQ+ identity	52.3% 380	52.5% 776	49.2% 369	64.8% 313	56.5% 4,050	54.8% 342
Ever informed teacher about bullying	20.3%	22.3%	21.3%	34.6%	27.0%	20.8%
	146	328	159	166	1,925	129
Not considering attending college	7.2% 48	7.1% 96	6.7% 44	9.8% 44	8.0% 523	6.9% 41
Get mostly As and Bs	83.8%	81.7%	89.4%	75.8%	84.6%	82.1%
	580	1,150	641	348	5,822	487

AANHPI = Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander; AIAN = American Indian, Alaska Native

Respondents were allowed to select multiple racial/ethnic categories, and may thus appear in multiple columns if they selected more than one race/ethnicity

Table 3. Unadjusted (percentage) and race/ethnicity adjusted (odds ratio) associationsbetween school discipline, and mental health, school experiences, and arrest history, all LGBTQ+ youth

	Never suspended or expelled	Ever suspended or expelled	Race adjusted odds ratio (95% confi- dence interval)
Anxiety	63.2%	66.3%	1.2
	6,092	659	(1.0 - 1.3)
Depression	54.6%	59.9%	1.2
	5,257	596	(1.1 - 1.4)
Teachers/staff do not care about me	28.0%	42.6%	1.9
	2,543	426	(1.7 - 2.2)
Unsafe in any school setting	44.8%	57.4%	1.7
	4,937	691	(1.5 - 1.9)
LGBTQ+ identity will negatively affect my experiences at college	28.9%	32.3%	1.2
	2,941	345	(1.0-1.3)
Prior 30-day	55.9%	66.9%	1.6
bullying	6,279	821	(1.4 - 1.8)



Prior-year bullying at school due to LGBTQ+ identity	50.0%	66.1%	2.0
	5,651	820	(1.7 - 2.2)
Ever informed teacher about bullying	21.0%	35.4%	2.1
	2,356	434	(1.9 - 2.4)
Not considering attending college	6.1%	15.7%	2.9
	618	179	(2.4 - 3.4)
Get mostly As and	87.9%	69.6%	0.3
Bs	9,605	813	(0.3 - 0.4)
Ever been arrested	1.6%	15.8%	11.1
	183	191	(8.9 - 13.7)
School has an SRO	83.4%	84.7%	1.1
	7,471	862	(0.9 - 1.3)

Odds ratios are from logistic regression models adjusting for race/ethnicity (referent category = White, Non-Hispanic/Latinx) for the association between lifetime school discipline experience (ever suspended and/or expelled = index category) and each variable (as the outcome in the model). Bolded OR indicate statistically significant association at p<0.05. Percentages and N's are unadjusted.

Table 3b. Unadjusted (percentage) and race/ethnicity adjusted (odds ratio) associations between biased school discipline, and mental health, school experiences, and arrest history

	Never suspended or expelled for being LGBTQ+	Ever suspended or expelled for being LGBTQ+	Race adjusted odds ratio (95% confi- dence interval)
Anxiety	63.4%	75.8%	1.8
	6,657	94	(1.2 - 2.8)
Depression	55.0%	63.2%	1.4
	5,774	79	(0.97 - 2.0)
Teachers/staff do not care about me	29.0%	61.4%	3.8
	2,883	86	(2.7 - 5.4)
Unsafe in any school setting	school 45.7% 71.6% 5,512 116		3.0 (2.1 - 4.2)
LGBTQ+ identity will impact my experiences at college	29.0%	49.7%	2.4
	3,216	70	(1.7 - 3.3)



	I		
Prior 30 day bullying	56.6%	83.5%	3.9
	6,963	137	(2.5 - 5.9)
Prior-year bullying at school due to LGBTQ+ identity	51.1%	89.8%	8.4
	6,322	149	(5.1 - 13.9)
Ever informed teacher about bullying	21.9%	64.2%	6.6
	2,688	102	(4.7 - 9.1)
Not considering attending college	7.0%	17.2%	2.7
	770	27	(1.8 - 4.1)
Get mostly As and Bs	86.4%	65.4%	0.3
	10,316	102	(0.2 - 0.4)
Ever been arrested	2.7%	26.1%	11.6
	333	41	(8.0 - 17.0)
School has an SRO	83.6%	81.3%	0.9
	8,216	117	(0.6 - 1.3)
Does not trust SRO	41.5%	46.2%	1.3
	3,372	54	(0.9 - 1.9)

Odds ratios are from logistic regression models adjusting for race/ethnicity (referent category = White, Non-Hispanic/Latinx) for the association between lifetime biased school discipline experience and each variable (as the outcome in the model). Bolded OR indicate statistically significant association at p < 0.05. Percentages and N's are unadjusted.

Table 4. School to Prison Pipeline

	Model 1: Ever expelled or suspended	Model 2a = Ever arrested	Model 2b = Ever arrested	Model 3 = Ever arrested
Student does not trust SRO	1.3 (1.1 - 1.5)	1.3 (1.0 - 1.6)		1.2 (0.9 - 1.5)
Expelled or suspended			11.1 (8.9 - 13.7)	10.3 (8.0 - 13.3)

Odds ratios are from logistic regression models adjusting for race/ethnicity (referent category = White, Non-Hispanic/Latinx) for the association between predictor variable listed in the first cell of each row ("student does not trust"; "expelled or suspended"), and the outcome variable listed in each column header. Bolded OR indicate statistically significant association at p<0.05.

[&]quot;--" indicates the predictor variable was not included in the model. For full description and interpretation of analytic model, see above.