In 2022, HRC and the University of Connecticut surveyed nearly 13,000 LGBTQ+ youth (age 13-18) from across the United States on their health, well-being, school and home experiences, and more. Full results from this survey are presented in the 2023 LGBTQ+ Youth Report. Below, we present key findings every teacher, educator, and school administrator should know, along with action steps you can take to support the LGBTQ+ youth in your classroom, school, and community.

Key findings you should know:

**School Safety:** Many LGBTQ+ youth report feeling unsafe when at school
- Almost half (46.1%) of LGBTQ+ youth, including over half (53.9%) of transgender and gender expansive youth, reported feeling unsafe in at least one school setting

**Bullying, Violence, and Harassment:** And many report experiencing violence and harassment from their fellow peers
- More than half (51.6%) of LGBTQ+ youth reported they were victimized at school at least once in the past year because of their LGBTQ+ identity
- Only 1 in 5 (22.4%) LGBTQ+ youth ever told a teacher or staff member about bullying they experienced in school
- Of those who did report it, 1 in 4 (23.3%) said the adult “didn’t help me at all.”

**Access to Inclusive Spaces:**
- Less than 1 in 6 (15.6%) transgender and gender expansive youth are always referred to by the correct pronoun at school.
- Less than half (45.9%) of transgender and gender-expansive youth are ever able to use a school bathroom that aligns with their gender identity
- Only 1 in 5 (19.6%) LGBTQ+ youth have access to LGBTQ+ inclusive sex education.
- Less than 1 in 7 (13.8%) are taught LGBTQ+ history in schools.
- Only 22% of LGBTQ+ youth—and 19% of transgender and gender-expansive youth—are currently playing a sport, compared to 49% of all high-school aged youth in the United States, surveyed on the 2021 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey (YRBS)
- Note, also, that this now directs to a different URL than is currently in the pdf. The correct URL it should direct to is https://yrbs-explorer.services.cdc.gov/#/graphs?questionCode=H80&topicCode=C06&location=XX&year=2021
What Can You Do to Support LGBTQ+ Youth

…In Your Classroom

☐ Where possible, post positive and LGBTQ+ affirming symbols, such as pride flags and safe space stickers, in your classroom and your school.

☐ Where possible, provide age-appropriate books that teach about LGBTQ+ people, histories and identities.

☐ Check out Welcoming Schools Booklists for ideas - https://welcomingschools.org/resources/books.

☐ Intentionally check-in on LGBTQ+ students about their experiences with harassment and violence in school and report incidents to administration.

☐ Consistently use the correct name and pronoun for all students and provide this information to substitutes and other educators in your school.

☐ For more classroom inclusion ideas, check out Welcoming Schools’ “Checklist for Creating an LGBTQ+ Inclusive School”

…In Your School

☐ Advocate for LGBTQ+ inclusive practices in your school and professional development training on bias-based bullying for you and your fellow educators.

☐ Check out Welcoming Schools Training Program - https://welcomingschools.org/resources/training.

☐ Ensure your school has a process to address bias-based harassment and violence that explicitly protects LGBTQ+ students.

☐ Where possible, include LGBTQ+ people and events in history curriculum and provide LGBTQ+ inclusive sexual health education.

☐ Create or support a Gender & Sexuality Alliance (GSA) in your middle school and/or high school to provide support for LGBTQ+ students and allies.

…In Your District

☐ Provide LGBTQ+ affirming local resources including affirming mental health resources to support LGBTQ+ students and families.

☐ Check out the database of local LGBTQ+ community centers with our partners at CenterLink - https://www.lgbtqcenters.org/LGBTCenters.

☐ Where possible, advocate for trans-inclusive participation in school sports and physical education.

☐ Where possible, advocate for LGBTQ+ inclusion at your local school board.

To read the full 2023 Youth Survey Report, visit: hrc.im/YouthReport2023