



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