

LGBTQI+ Data Rundown

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is committed to the success of all students. Students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, asexual, intersex, nonbinary, or who identify their sexual orientation or gender identity in other ways (LGBTQI+) are at higher risk for negative schooling outcomes than students who do not identify with this group. Before schools can begin to address the impact of systemic and social barriers to success, they must first be able to identify and describe those barriers. This guidance document seeks to provide data from trusted sources regarding this population of students.

LGBTQI+ Youth and Schooling

- 61% of transgender and nonbinary youth reported being prevented or discouraged from using a bathroom that corresponds with their gender identity (The Trevor Project, 2019).
- 34% of LGB youth were bullied on school property and 28% were bullied electronically (CDC, 2015).
- 59.1% of LGBTQ students felt unsafe at school because of their sexual orientation (GLSEN, 2019).
- LGBTQ students are roughly three times more likely to miss school (GLSEN, 2019).

LGBTQI+ Youth and Mental Health

- 40% of LGBTQ respondents seriously considered attempting suicide in the past twelve months (The Trevor Project, 2019).
- 68% of LGBTQ youth reported symptoms of generalized anxiety disorder in the past two weeks (The Trevor Project, 2019).
- 46% of LGBTQ youth report they wanted psychological or emotional counseling from a mental health professional but were unable to receive it in the past 12 months (The Trevor Project, 2019).
- LGB youth are 190% more likely to use drugs and alcohol than their non-LGB counterparts (Lambda Legal, 2012).

LGBTQI+ Youth and Personal Safety

- 29% of LGBTQ youth have experienced homelessness, been kicked out, or runaway (The Trevor Project, 2019).
- 1 in 3 LGBTQ youth reported that they had been physically threatened or harmed in their lifetime due to their LGBTQ identity (The Trevor Project, 2019).
- 19% of all transgender people have been homeless at some point in their lives. 55% of those who tried to access a shelter were harassed by staff or residents and 29% were turned away altogether (Lambda Legal, 2012).
- 18% of LGB students had experienced physical dating violence (CDC, 2015).
- 18% of LGB students have been forced to have sexual intercourse at some point in their lives (CDC, 2015).

LGBTQI+ Youth and Society

- 86% of LGBTQ youth said that recent politics have negatively impacted their well-being (The Trevor Project, 2019).
- 20-40% of all homeless youth identify as LGBT (Lambda Legal, 2012).
- 45% of LGBT homeless youth reported involvement with the juvenile justice system (Lambda Legal, 2012).