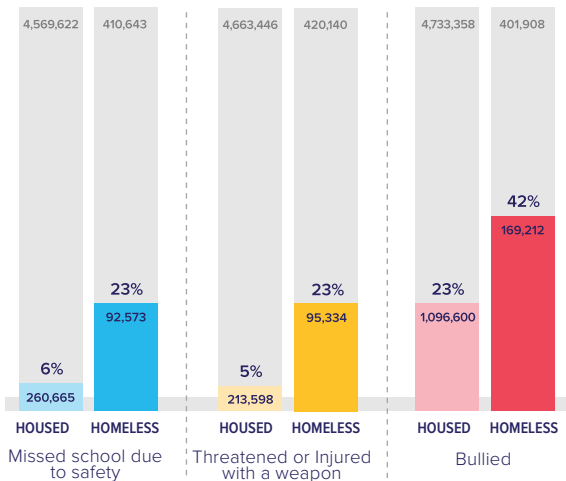


# Are Homeless High Schoolers Safe At School?

Homeless high schoolers were more likely to report being bullied or threatened with a weapon or to skip school altogether out of fear for their safety. **These rates are even higher for homeless students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning (LGBTQ).**

Data from 2016–17 YRBS\*

High Schoolers Who Reported Experiencing a Safety Issue



Compared to their housed peers, homeless high schoolers were:

**4x**

as likely to report missing school in the month prior to the survey because they felt unsafe.

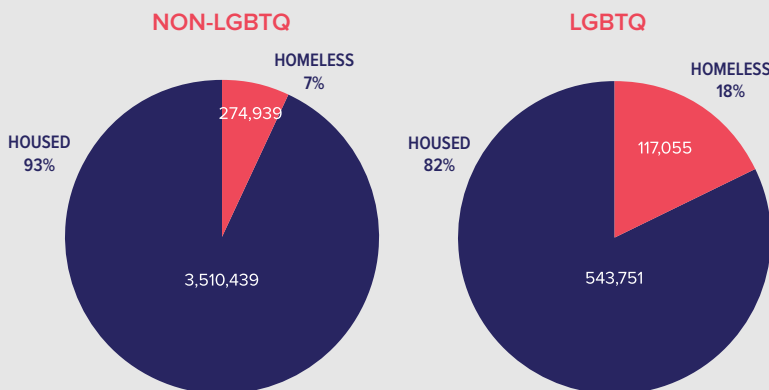
**4x**

as likely to report being threatened or injured with a weapon at school in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Nearly **2x**

as likely to report being the victim of bullying in the 12 months prior to the survey.

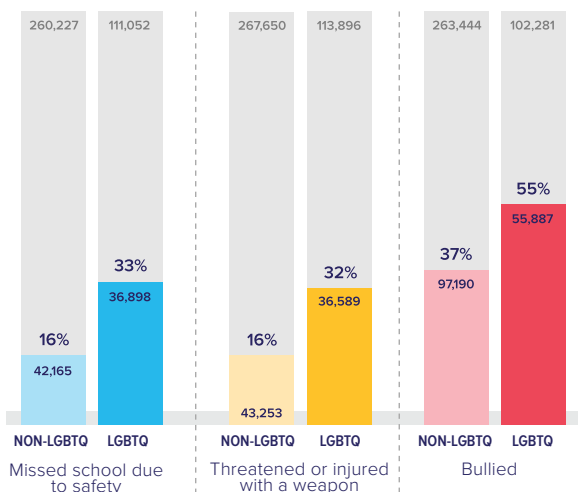
High Schoolers Who Reported Experiencing Homelessness



Nearly 1 in 5 LGBTQ high schoolers reported experiencing homelessness.

LGBTQ students were more than twice as likely to report experiencing homelessness than non-LGBTQ students.

LGBTQ Homeless High Schoolers Who Reported Experiencing a Safety Issue



Among homeless high schoolers, those who identified as LGBTQ were:

**2x**

as likely to report missing school in the month prior to the survey because they felt unsafe.

**2x**

as likely to report being threatened or injured with a weapon at school in the 12 months prior to the survey.

**1.5x**

as likely to report being the victim of bullying in the 12 months prior to the survey.

All students have a right to a safe education. When homeless students miss school because they feel unsafe, their ability to graduate high school is compromised. For students already dealing with issues of housing instability and social acceptance of their identity, a positive learning environment can be the difference between the opportunity for success or falling behind.

\*Note: The data above were self-reported and collected as part of the 2016–2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, administered every two years by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in partnership with state and local agencies. Data are weighted counts and are representative of high school students in the included states and cities. The data above include responses from AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, HI, IL, KY, ME, MA, NH, NC, PA, VT, WI, as well as Chicago, Los Angeles, Oakland, New York City, and Palm Beach, FL. Not all areas asked questions regarding transgender identity, so data are shown where available. "LGBTQ" refers to students who identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or "Not sure" in response to survey questions on sexual orientation, or who responded "Yes" or "Not sure if I am transgender" in response to questions on being transgender.