

Health and Safety of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Youth (LGB) in Santa Barbara County Public Schools with California Comparisons

<i>Data are drawn from responses from students in 7th, 9th, and 11th grades taking the California Health Kids Survey (CHKS)</i>	2013-2015 Santa Barbara County		2015-2017 Santa Barbara County		2017-2019 Santa Barbara County		2019-2021 Santa Barbara County	
	LGB	Non-LGB	LGB	Non-LGB	LGB	Non-LGB	LGB	Non-LGB
	6.7%	93.3%	7.5%	92.5%	7.2%	92.8%	9.1%	90.9%
Attendance								
How many times did you skip school or cut class in the past 12 months? (more than once a week)	8.9%	2.9%	11.7%	3.6%	6.1%	3.0%	4.6%	2.1%
Missed school because you felt very, sad, hopeless, anxious, stressed, angry? (past 30 days)	37.2%	10.8%	31.3%	9.3%	22.4%	6.5%	7.1%	3.0%
Missed school because you didn't feel safe at school? (past 30 days)	9.7%	2.5%	9.3%	2.0%	3.4%	1.4%	1.5%	0.6%
Safety								
How safe do you feel when you are at school? (unsafe or very unsafe)	12.0%	4.7%	16.6%	5.5%	11.6%	7.1%	12.5%	6.4%
Have you been in a physical fight? (past 12 months)	15.9%	7.1%	21.3%	9.4%	13.8%	10.3%	15.5%	9.3%
Have you carried a gun at school? (past 12 months)	4.5%	0.8%	11.2%	1.8%	3.8%	1.7%	3.8%	1.8%
Did you ever seriously consider attempting suicide? (past 12 months)	41.6%	10.5%	44.4%	11.4%	43.5%	12.5%	39.7%	10.4%
Did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost everyday for two weeks or more that you stopped doing some usual activities? (past 12 months)	58.8%	21.8%	58.3%	22.8%	61.4%	27.2%	66.7%	31.0%
Bullying and harassment								
In the past 12 months on school property have you...								
• Been pushed, shoved, slapped, hit, kicked by someone 1 or more times	26.9%	15.9%	31.9%	18.0%	25.0%	17.9%	23.2%	16.1%
• Been afraid of being beaten up?	25.2%	10.3%	29.6%	11.8%	27.9%	12.9%	24.8%	14.5%
• Had rumors/lies spread about you?	46.1%	26.0%	49.5%	27.8%	44.3%	27.4%	39.5%	24.7%
• Had sexual jokes, comments, or gestures made to you?	52.1%	22.6%	52.4%	22.2%	44.2%	20.7%	40.7%	17.8%
• Been made fun of because of your looks or way you talked?	42.5%	21.6%	48.4%	23.2%	41.8%	23.7%	38.6%	21.9%
• Been threatened with harm or injury?	16.4%	5.8%	20.8%	6.4%	13.4%	6.3%	13.3%	6.1%
• Been made fun of, insulted, or called names?	50.7%	26.4%	51.1%	26.1%	42.6%	24.6%	39.8%	22.3%

• Were harassed or bullied for your race, ethnicity, or national origin?	19.1%	10.2%	24.4%	11.2%	18.6%	10.9%	15.0%	9.0%
• Were harassed or bullied for your religion?	10.7%	5.6%	15.4%	5.7%	9.6%	5.0%	8.4%	4.5%
• Were harassed or bullied for your gender?	26.5%	6.9%	26.8%	6.2%	19.4%	5.2%	18.4%	4.4%
• Were harassed or bullied because you are gay or lesbian or somebody thought you were?	39.4%	3.8%	41.5%	4.4%	38.0%	5.0%	34.3%	4.6%
• Were harassed or bullied because physical or mental disability?	16.0%	2.3%	17.8%	3.1%	12.1%	3.4%	11.6%	3.2%
• Were harassed or bullied for any other reason?	30.4%	12.5%	34.6%	13.5%	29.8%	14.3%	27.2%	11.9%

	2013-2015 Santa Barbara County		2015-2017 Santa Barbara County		2017-2019 Santa Barbara County		2019-2021 Santa Barbara County	
	LGB	Non- LGB	LGB	Non- LGB	LGB	Non- LGB	LGB	Non- LGB
Protective Factors								
% responding “disagree” or “strongly disagree”								
I feel close to people in this school.	18.0%	10.2%	22.2%	11.1%	21.0%	12.4%	22.4%	12.8%
I am happy to be at this school.	21.5%	9.7%	23.4%	10.7%	21.3%	12.3%	21.7%	12.3%
I feel like I am part of this school.	23.5%	11.7%	27.1%	12.2%	24.3%	14.1%	24.1%	14.0%
Teachers at this school treat students fairly.	21.2%	10.3%	22.5%	11.8%	17.8%	12.7%	14.2%	11.9%
I feel safe at my school.	17.7%	7.3%	20.1%	8.6%	17.7%	10.9%	14.3%	10.2%
I do interesting activities at my school.	21.2%	14.3%	25.7%	15.7%	22.9%	18.3%	22.3%	16.7%
.								
I do things that make a difference at school.	35.8%	25.3%	39.2%	27.1%	39.9%	30.6%	37.6%	29.3%
Caring relationship								
% responding “not at all true” to:								
At my school there is a teacher or some other adult								
...who really cares about me.	11.3%	8.6%	17.0%	9.8%	13.1%	10.1%	12.6%	11.4%
...who tells me when I do a good job.	10.7%	5.7%	15.5%	6.8%	12.4%	7.7%	9.3%	7.1%
...who notices when I am not there.	15.6%	10.3%	19.9%	11.6%	19.2%	12.4%	18.0%	12.5%
...who always wants me to do my best.	7.2%	3.7%	11.6%	4.6%	8.7%	5.0%	6.1%	4.5%
...who listens when I have something to say.	11.9%	5.6%	16.8%	7.5%	13.2%	8.3%	11.6%	7.9%
...who believes that I will be a success.	11.5%	5.4%	15.9%	6.6%	12.8%	7.6%	10.7%	7.7%

Santa Barbara County Participant Demographics 2019-2021

N = 22,142

M = 49.1%

F = 49.4%

Non-Binary* = .9%

Something else* = .6%

7th grade = 42.6%

9th grade = 29.2%

11th grade = 25.8%

Asian	3.7%
American Indian	2.5%
Black	2.6%
White	40.1%
Multiracial	50.4%
Hispanic/Latino	61.4%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.7%

Administration of the 2019-2021 CHKS took place during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. The impact of this on survey responses has yet to be determined.

* These designations were derived from 12,298 surveys in the 2020-2021 administration.

Methods: The data presented in this fact sheet were collected as part of the California Healthy Kids Survey in the 2013-2015, 2015-2017, 2017-2019 and 2019-2021 academic years at middle and high schools throughout California. The data were collected using a paper and pencil survey, or online survey, administered by school sites and reported to and compiled by WestEd. The data were analyzed running Chi-Square tests using SPSS statistical software.

Acknowledgements: The California Healthy Kids Survey was developed by WestEd under contract to the California Department of Education. This fact sheet was procured and prepared by John Elfers, PhD from Sofia University and Katherine Soule, PhD from University of California, Cooperative Extension (UCCE). These data were acquired through funds provided by the Central Coast Coalition for Inclusive Schools. This project is a partnership among the following agencies: The GALA Pride and Diversity Center, The Central Coast Coalition for Inclusive Schools, and Tranz Central Coast.

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