22% of Latinx Millennials (25-40 year-olds) identify as LGBTQ+, and findings show that Gen Z (24 and younger) are identifying at higher rates.1

LATINX LGBTQ+ STUDENTS
57% feel unsafe in school due to their gender expression.1

35% are more likely to miss school due to feeling unsafe.4

LATINX LGBTQ+ STUDENTS TEND TO HAVE LOWER GPAs due to lack of attendance, support, and feelings of belonging.7

35% LATINX LGBTQ+ STUDENTS EXPERIENCE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE (detention, suspension, expulsion).9

Latinx LGBTQ+ youth who experience school discipline HAVE LOWER GPAS AND ARE LESS LIKELY TO PURSUE POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.10

ANTI-LGBTQ+ HARASSMENT IN SCHOOLS BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>National</th>
<th>AZ</th>
<th>CA</th>
<th>FL</th>
<th>TX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Verbal Harassment</td>
<td>68.7%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Harassment</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Assault</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Arizona, California, Florida, and Texas are UnidosUS priority states.

Harassment due to sexual orientation and race/ethnicity can contribute to:
• Higher absenteeism
• Lower likelihood of obtaining a 4-year degree
• Greater levels of depression5

2.8% of Latinx LGBTQ+ youth do not plan on completing high school.6

AVAILABILITY OF LGBTQ+ RESOURCES IN SCHOOL8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>National</th>
<th>AZ</th>
<th>CA</th>
<th>FL</th>
<th>TX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Anti-Bullying Policy</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusive Curriculum</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay Straight Alliance Club (GSA)</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THREE OUT OF FOUR OF OUR FOCUS STATES ARE BELOW THE NATIONAL AVERAGE in implementing comprehensive anti-bullying policies.*

LATINX LGBTQ+ STUDENTS ATTENDING SCHOOLS:10

• With supportive staff had higher levels of self-esteem and lower levels of depression.
• With GSA clubs are less likely to miss school and report feeling a greater sense of belonging.
• With ethnic clubs feel greater sense of belonging and engage in activism.
• With inclusive curricula feel safer and more connected to their school community.
• That are predominantly white are more likely to have access to a GSA.

* Comprehensive anti-bullying policies mention disciplinary action against any harassment specifically related to both sexual orientation and gender identity/expression.
LATINX LGBTQ+ STUDENTS & THEIR EXPERIENCES

LATINX LGBTQ+ YOUTH:

- **70%** experience symptoms of generalized anxiety disorder.13
- **64%** experience major depressive disorder.15
- **43%** considered suicide.14
- **40%** experience assault/harassment due to race and sexual orientation.16
- **18%** have attempted suicide.16

More than 15% experience the following:

- Being prevented from wearing LGBTQ+ supportive clothes or clothes they feel best express their gender identity.
- Being prevented from participating in GSA or similar clubs.
- Being prevented from writing about LGBTQ+ topics.
- Being prevented from attending school dances with their partner.
- Being required to use a restroom/locker room of legal sex.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **Encourage schools and districts to fund GSA, ethnic clubs, and other similar programs.** These programs help with a positive school climate, greater sense of belonging, and greater participation in activism.
- **Urge schools and districts to fund professional development for staff to incorporate inclusive school policies.** Positive relationships with school personnel and implementation of inclusive school policies show positive outcomes in school participation and GPAs.
- **Urge the Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights to enforce existing Title IX and Sex Discrimination laws and include sexual orientation and gender identity.**
- **Urge the Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights to disaggregate data to reflect the multiple identities of students related to race, ethnicity, and gender identity when conducting surveys related to LGBTQ+ students.**

About UnidosUS

UnidosUS, previously known as NCLR (National Council of La Raza), is the nation’s largest Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization. Through its unique combination of expert research, advocacy, programs, and an Affiliate Network of nearly 300 community-based organizations across the United States and Puerto Rico, UnidosUS simultaneously challenges the social, economic, and political barriers that affect Latinos at the national and local levels.

For more than 50 years, UnidosUS has united communities and different groups seeking common round through collaboration, and that share a desire to make our country stronger. For more information on UnidosUS, visit [www.unidosus.org](http://www.unidosus.org), or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Endnotes

2 Kosciw et al., The 2019 National School Climate Survey.
3 Joseph G. Kosciw et al., The 2019 National School Climate Survey: The Experiences of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Youth in Our Nation’s Schools (New York: GLSEN, 2019).
5 Zongrone, et al., Erasure and Resilience.
8 Kosciw et al., The 2019 National School Climate Survey.
9 Ibid.
10 Zongrone, et al., Erasure and Resilience.
11 Ibid.
13 Ibid.
14 Ibid.
15 Ibid.
16 Ibid.
17 Kosciw et al., The 2019 National School Climate Survey.