

# FACT SHEET: Student experiences of anti-LGBTQ2+ discrimination in education



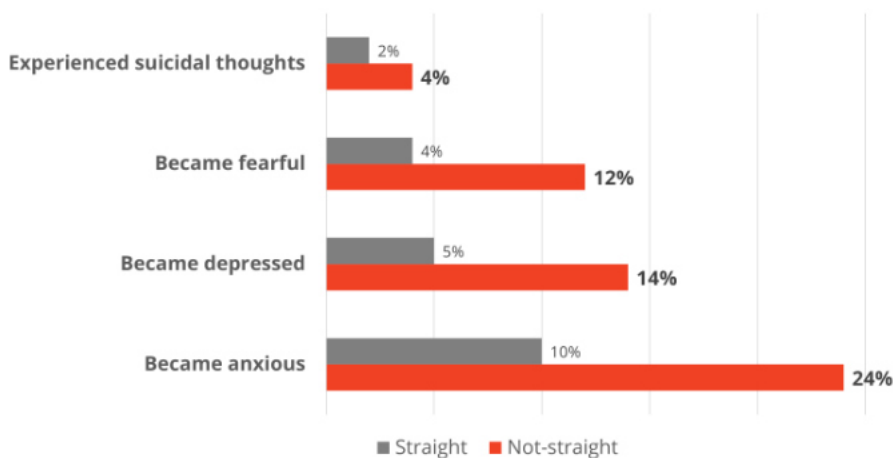
A summary of research from StatisticsCanada and the Rainbow Community Council.

LGBTQ2+ students are more likely to experience discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation: Between 31-34% of post-secondary students who were not straight experienced discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation, as compared to 15% of straight post-secondary students.

When LGBTQ2+ students experience this kind of discrimination, they also experience greater harms: Non-straight post-secondary students who experienced discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation were 2 to 3 times more likely than straight students to have experienced the following outcomes as a result:

- Became anxious (24% versus 10%)
- Became depressed (14% versus 5%)
- Became fearful (12% versus 4%)
- Experienced suicidal thoughts (4% versus 2%).

**Outcomes of experiences of gender or sexuality-based discrimination for post-secondary students**



## STUDENTS WHO ARE OUT AS LGBTQ2+ DO NOT FEEL SAFE

90% of LGBTQ2+ students in Waterloo Region have pretended not to be queer.

Only 50% of trans students in Waterloo Region have come out to their teachers.

63% of LGBTQ2+ students and 83% of trans students in Waterloo Region have been made fun of or called names.

45% of LGBTQ2+ students and 70% of trans students in Waterloo Region reported having low self-esteem.

74% of LGBTQ2+ students in Waterloo Region have avoided public washrooms.

Results from the 2019 OutLook Study of LGBTQ2+ people in Waterloo Region



# DISCRIMINATION AGAINST TRANSGENDER STUDENTS IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

## FEELING UNSAFE ON CAMPUS

81% of cisgender students agreed that they safe and not fearful of who they were or were perceived to be, as compared to only 33% of trans students.

Trans students were less also less likely to:

- feel safe on their school's campus (68%, compared to 89% of cisgender students)
- feel safe using public transit (45%, versus 59% of cisgender students)
- feel safe walking alone after dark on campus (57%, compared to 71% of cisgender students)
- agree that their school tried hard to ensure student safety (62%, versus 83% of cisgender students)

## GREATER PREVALENCE OF GENDER-BASED DISCRIMINATION

40% of trans post-secondary students said they had experienced discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation in the last 12 months, as compared to 17% of straight students.

27% of transgender post-secondary students said that they had experienced suggestions that they did not act like someone of their gender is supposed to act.

22% of transgender students reported having been insulted, mistreated, ignored or excluded because of their gender in a post-secondary setting, as compared to 6% of their cisgender counterparts.



*Burczycka, M. (2020, September 15). Students' experiences of discrimination based on gender, gender identity or sexual orientation at postsecondary schools in the Canadian provinces, 2019. Retrieved from StatisticsCanada: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-005-x/2020001/article/00001-eng.htm>*

*R Goldfarb, C Davis, S Coulombe, E Armstrong, J Calabria-Yaworkski, M Ishak, E Kocovska, L Martineau, E Navaz, M Woodford, R Travers, and the OutLook Study Research Team. Experiences of LGBTQ2S High School Students In Waterloo Region. Wilfrid Laurier University. Retrieved from <https://yourwrrc.ca/rcc/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/OutLook-Experiences-of-High-School-Students.pdf>*