

# TRANSGENDER YOUTH IN SCHOOLS

an infographic presented by



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## MANY TRANSGENDER STUDENTS EXPERIENCE DISCRIMINATION AND FEEL UNSAFE IN SCHOOLS

**85%** of transgender students were harassed or assaulted at school because of their gender

**25%** of transgender students had been prevented from wearing clothes because they were considered inappropriate based on legal sex

**51%** of transgender students were unable to use the name or pronoun that matched their gender

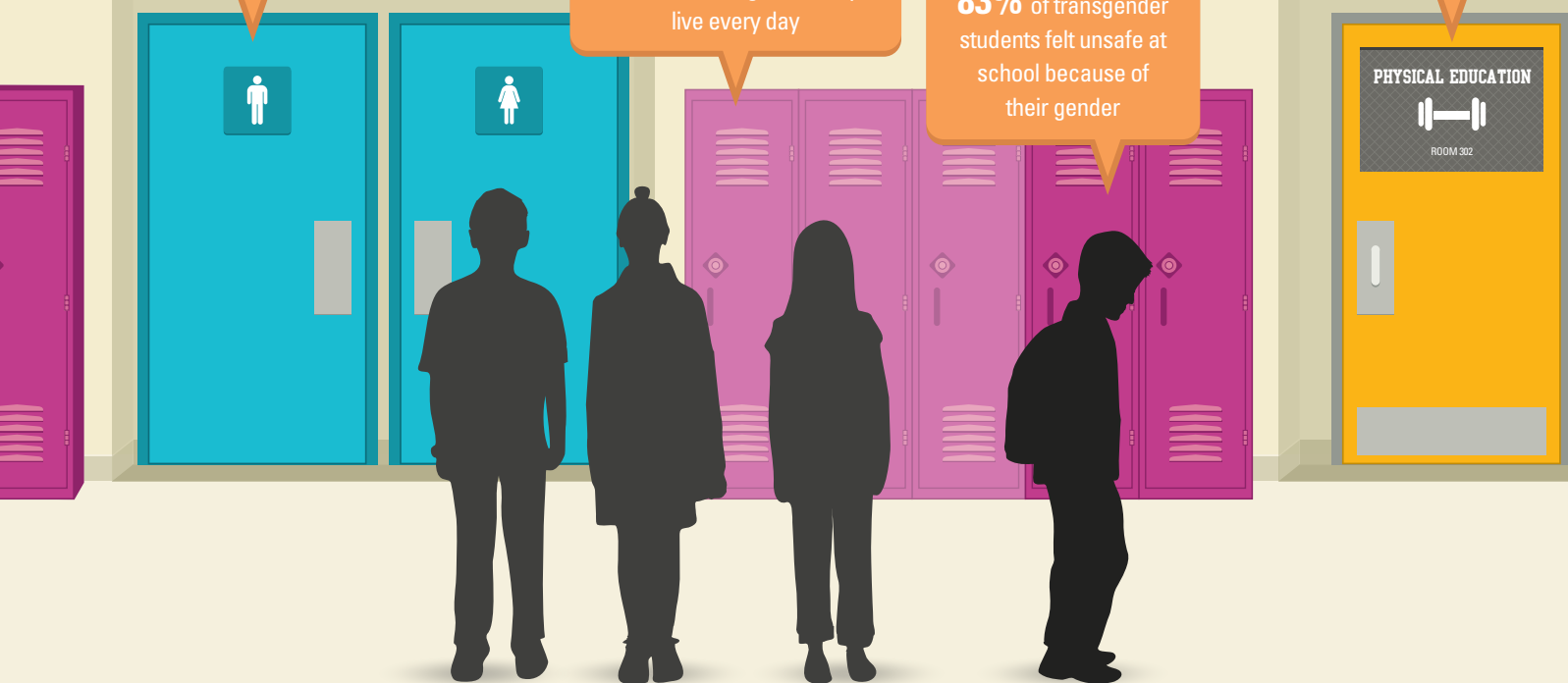


**80%** of transgender students said they'd avoided bathrooms because they felt unsafe or uncomfortable

**59%** of transgender students had been required to use a bathroom that did not match the gender they live every day

**83%** of transgender students felt unsafe at school because of their gender

**64%** of transgender students avoided gym class because they felt unsafe or uncomfortable



Source: Joseph G. Kosciw, Emily A. Greytak, Adrian D. Zongrone, Caitlin M. Clark, and Nhan L. Truong. "The 2017 National School Climate Survey: The experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer youth in our nation's schools." 2018. GLSEN.

## Inclusive Policies Make a Difference for Transgender Students

Transgender students in schools with supportive policies were less likely to miss school because they felt unsafe and felt greater belonging to their school communities. Yet only 12% of transgender and gender nonconforming students reported that their school or district had official policies or guidelines supporting transgender or gender nonconforming students.



Source: Kosciw, et al. "The 2017 National School Climate Survey: The experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer youth in our nation's schools." 2018. GLSEN.

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## LAWS & POLICIES ARE NEEDED TO ENSURE TRANSGENDER STUDENTS CAN FULLY PARTICIPATE IN SCHOOL

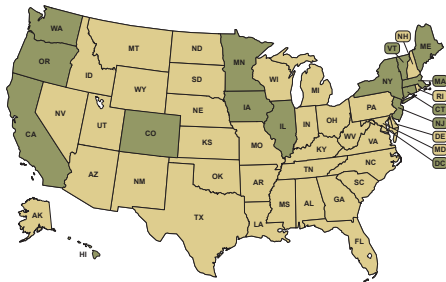
Transgender students are part of our school communities, and like other students, they're there to learn, graduate and prepare for their future. That means they need to be able to attend school and be safe, respected, and use the school facilities, such as restrooms, that match the gender they live every day without being singled out for discrimination and harassment.

### FEDERALLY

Federal law prohibits discrimination based on sex in education through Title IX. Currently, five federal courts of appeals—and many lower courts—have ruled that federal sex nondiscrimination laws like Title IX's prohibit discrimination based on gender identity, protecting transgender students living in those circuits. Despite rescinding guidance clarifying schools' obligations to protect transgender students by the Trump Administration, Title IX continues to protect all students in schools. While courts have continued to rule in favor of transgender students even after the rescission, this action by the administration means that transgender students' complaints may not be fully investigated by the Department of Education.

### IN THE STATES

14 states and D.C. have education nondiscrimination laws explicitly prohibiting discrimination based on gender identity and expression.<sup>1</sup> These laws are critical to ensure that transgender students can attend school, learn, graduate, and prepare for their future.



"Policies excluding transgender youth from facilities consistent with their gender identity have detrimental effects on their physical and mental health, safety and well-being. No child deserves to feel this way, especially within the walls of their own school."

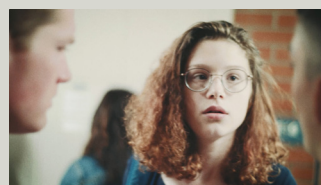
— American Academy of Pediatrics<sup>2</sup>

### CHILD HEALTH AND EDUCATION EXPERTS AGREE

Major medical organizations and child health and education experts, along with teachers and school administrators around the country, recognize that policies protecting transgender students from discrimination help all children learn in a safer, healthier environment.<sup>1</sup>

## START THE CONVERSATION

Watch "Hallway," the new video ad from MAP and GLSEN, which depicts the discrimination and harassment often faced by transgender youth in schools, and shows how students, teachers, and administrators can support transgender students. Then take action to ensure that all students, including those who are transgender, can learn and thrive in a safe school environment.



<sup>1</sup> Movement Advancement Project, LGBT Equality Maps, as of November 2018.

<sup>2</sup> American Academy of Pediatrics, "AAP Statement on Protecting Transgender Youth," February 23, 2017.