



# FACT SHEET #6: SOME PEOPLE ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE TARGETED



While all young people are potential targets of bullying, some groups can experience higher rates.

### Homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying

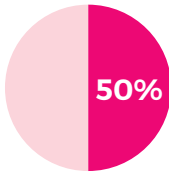
These terms refer to bullying based on a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity. Young people who identify as LGBTQIA+, or are perceived to be part of the rainbow community, experience higher rates of bullying than students who do not. However, it is important to note that not all of these students will experience homophobic, biphobic or transphobic bullying.

LGBTI young people are resilient, have higher rates of volunteering and community engagement and are an important part of our community. Despite this, LGBTI young people are particularly vulnerable to experiencing homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying [Clark, 2013].

- The Youth’12 national health and wellbeing survey of New Zealand secondary school students found:



Nearly one in five students who are same/both sex attracted, or are transgender or unsure of their gender identity, reported being bullied weekly at school, compared to 6% of their peers ([Lucassen, 2014](#)) and ([Clark, 2014](#)).



50% of transgender students had been hit or physically harmed on purpose in the last 12 months ([Clark, 2014](#)).



Four out of ten same/both-sex attracted students had been hit or physically harmed on purpose in the last 12 months ([Lucassen, 2014](#)).



Discrimination and social exclusion on the basis of sexuality or gender identity has been directly linked to an increased risk of depression, anxiety and suicidal thoughts for LGBTQIA+ young people ([Adams, 2012](#)).



The effects of homophobic and biphobic bullying at school can be lifelong, and can include lower educational attainment, lower income and lower wellbeing ([Henrickson, 2008](#)).