

The Staggering Impact of Homelessness and Bullying

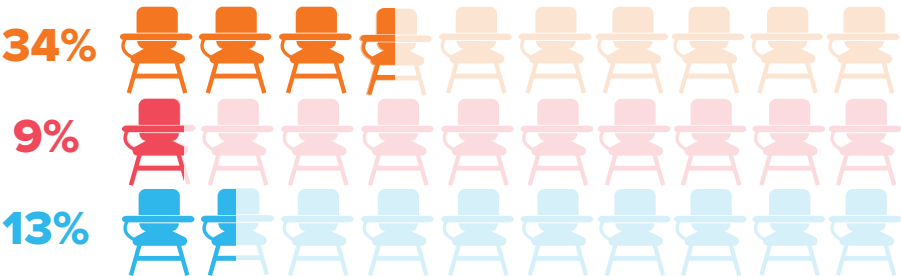
42% of homeless high school students report being bullied. This is almost 2X the rate of their housed peers (23%).



Effects of Bullying

For homeless high school students, not having a safe and stable place to call home often leads to constant stress, academic interruptions, and sleep deprivation. When the trauma of homelessness is compounded by bullying, these students are at heightened risk of missing school, experiencing depression, and even attempting suicide.

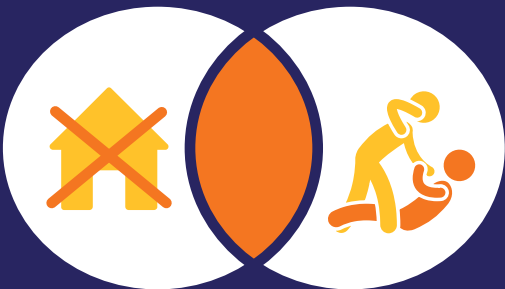
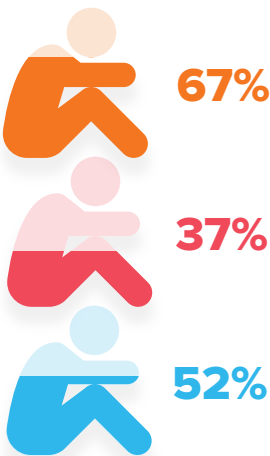
Missing School



Among homeless students who are bullied, one third reported missing school due to safety concerns in the past month. This figure is 4X the rate of their homeless peers who were not bullied and more than 2X the rate of housed students who were bullied.

Mental Health

Two in three homeless students who were bullied reported feeling depressed in the past year, compared with one in three homeless students who were not bullied and half of housed students who were bullied.



The combined impact of housing instability and bullying on homeless students is staggering. Schools are on the front lines of supporting homeless students and preventing bullying. When students feel safe and supported at school, they are more likely to cultivate trusting relationships with teachers and peers. Positive school climates can prevent bullying and benefit homeless students' academics, mental health, and overall well-being.

Homeless students who reported being bullied were more than 2X as likely to attempt suicide as their homeless peers who were not victims of bullying and nearly 3X as likely as housed students who were bullied.

