



DANE COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION

Health & Human Needs Committee Presentation – July 14, 2022

WHO WE ARE

The Commission was created in 1980 by the Dane County Board to work on behalf of the interests of young people in Dane County

Consists of eleven members appointed by the County Executive:

Two Board Supervisors

One MMSD representative

One representative from a school district outside of Madison

One representative of a youth serving organization

Six citizen members including two youth under age 25

WHAT WE DO

Encourage & promote youth participation in decision-making which affects them

Conduct youth needs assessments & surveys

Work with agencies & community groups in establishing priorities for youth services

Work with planning & funding agencies on development & allocation of funding for youth services

Work with agencies to evaluate the efficiency & effectiveness of youth programs

Submit reports & recommendations to the County Board & County Executive

HOW WE DO IT



**Youth Governance
Program (YGP)**



**By Youth For Youth
(BYFY) Grants**



**Dane County Youth
Assessment**



**Advocacy for
Programs &
Services**

YGP & BYFY PROGRAMS

Both programs provide opportunities for high school youth to learn, lead, gain new experiences, and connect with other youth and supportive adults



YGP recruits and pairs young people with a Board Supervisor to learn more about local government and policy-making



BYFY recruits and trains young people to make decisions about a grant program benefiting other youth

YGP & BYFY PROGRAMS (CONT.)

By Youth For Youth (BYFY) is currently recruiting youth participants in grades 9-12 for the upcoming 2022-23 program year:

<https://www.unitedwaydanecounty.org/byfy/>

Youth Governance Program (YGP) recently wrapped up recruitment for the 2022-23 program, and new program participants will be selected and announced later this summer:

<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/youthgovernanceprogram/>

DANE COUNTY YOUTH ASSESSMENT (DCYA)

Conducted regularly since 1980 – currently every three years since 2009

Funding partners include Dane County Human Services, City of Madison, United Way of Dane County, Public Health Madison Dane County, and local school districts

Data includes demographics, individual health behaviors and outcomes, peer and social influences, school environment, family and community characteristics, and more

Primarily used locally to inform services, programs, and funding, and data analyses have also been published in academic research journals

Possible future Voices of Our Youth Summit

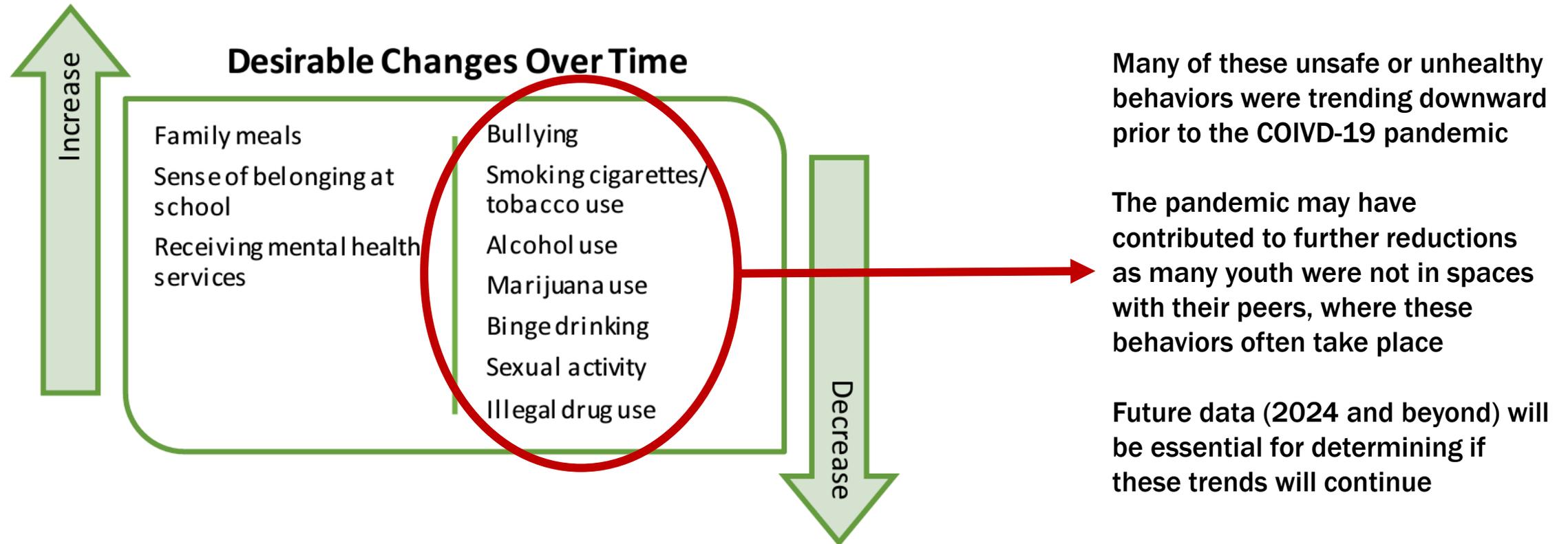
DCYA 2021 UPDATE

In close consultation with the schools, administration of the 2021 survey occurred in January-May 2021, in part to help understand and respond to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on youth

- New sections included the COVID-19 pandemic, civic engagement, racial equity, immigration, and additional mental health questions
- A total of 17,794 student were surveyed with data weighted based on school census and demographic data, representing a population of 26,933 youth

Overview Report released last summer with further demographic reports released earlier this year: <https://www.dcdhs.com/About-Us/Commissions-Boards-and-Committees/Youth-Commission/Youth-Assessment>

DCYA 2021 KEY FINDINGS – TRENDS OVER TIME

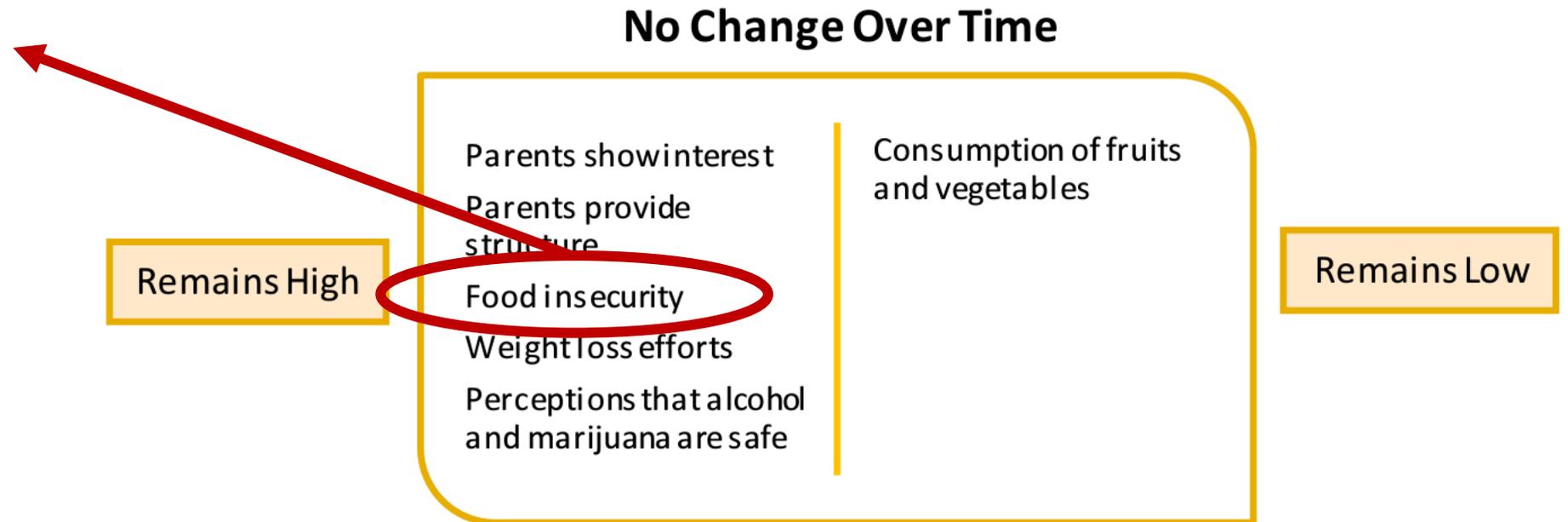


DCYA 2021 KEY FINDINGS – TRENDS OVER TIME

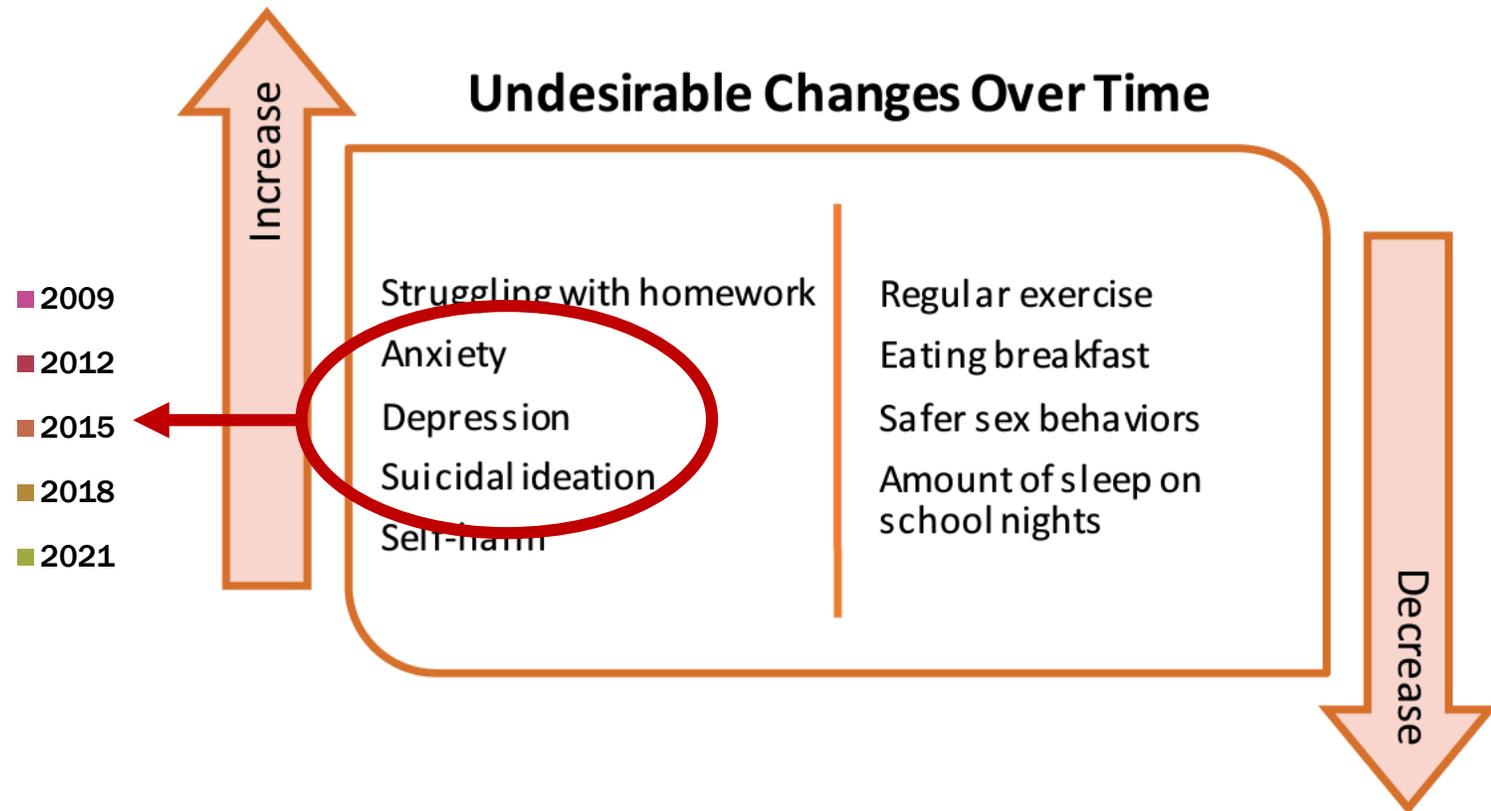
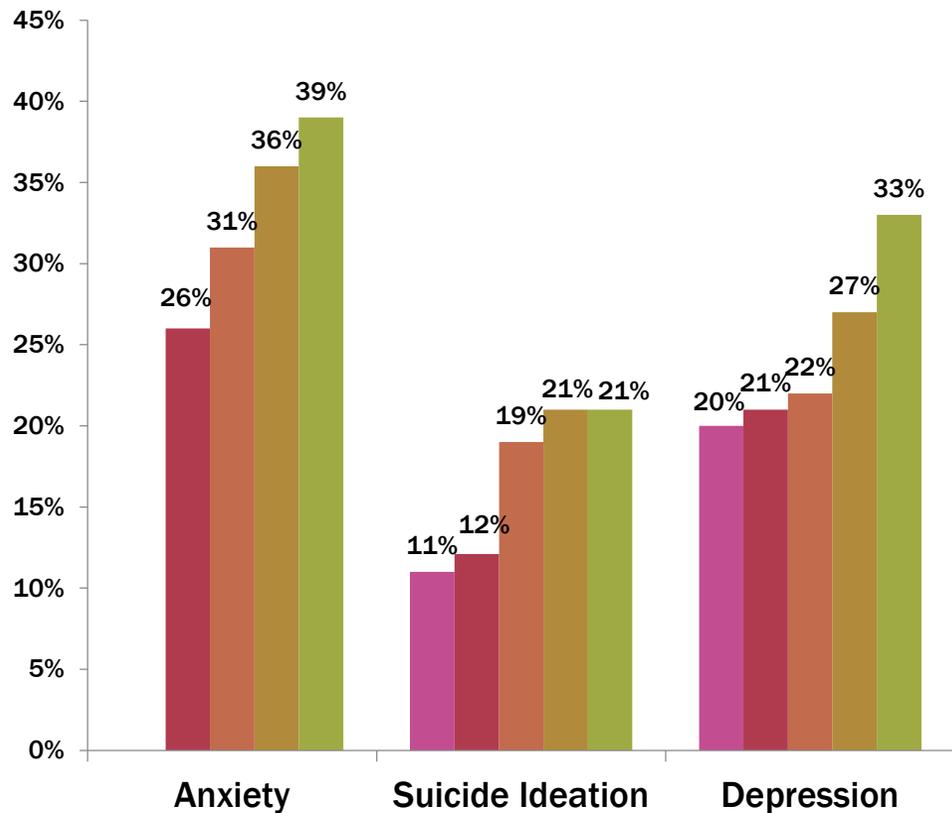
While food insecurity remains high, it did not increase during the COVID-19 pandemic, as predicted

This indicates that schools & communities adequately met the needs of many students, who rely on school meals

However, there was already a need PRIOR to the pandemic that was not being met



DCYA 2021 KEY FINDINGS – TRENDS OVER TIME



DCYA 2021 – MENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES & CORRELATES

53% of female students say they are often or always anxious

64% LGBTQ+ say they are often or always anxious

50% of students from lower income families are often or always anxious

51% who struggle with homework are often or always anxious

Students who are often or always anxious are more likely to use alcohol (31%) and marijuana (20%)

58% with more than 3 items on the CRAFFT addiction scale are often or always anxious

DCYA 2021 – GAPS IN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IDENTIFIED

22% of students were receiving mental health services in 2021 – compared to 17% in 2018 and 12% in 2015

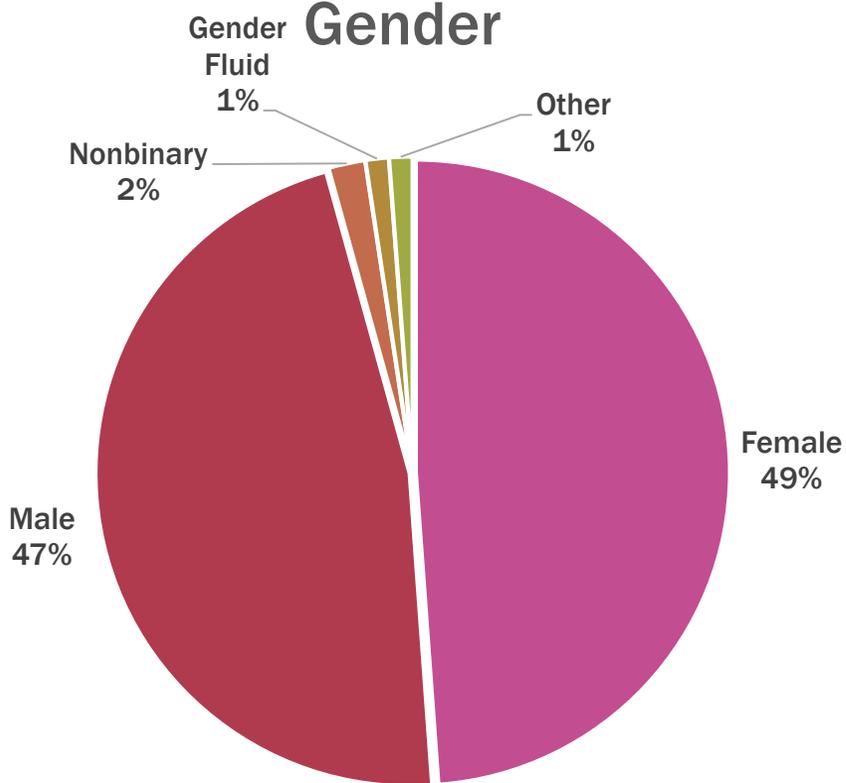
58% of students who report long-term, emotional or mental health issue are NOT getting services

54% of students who describe frequent suicide ideation are NOT getting mental services

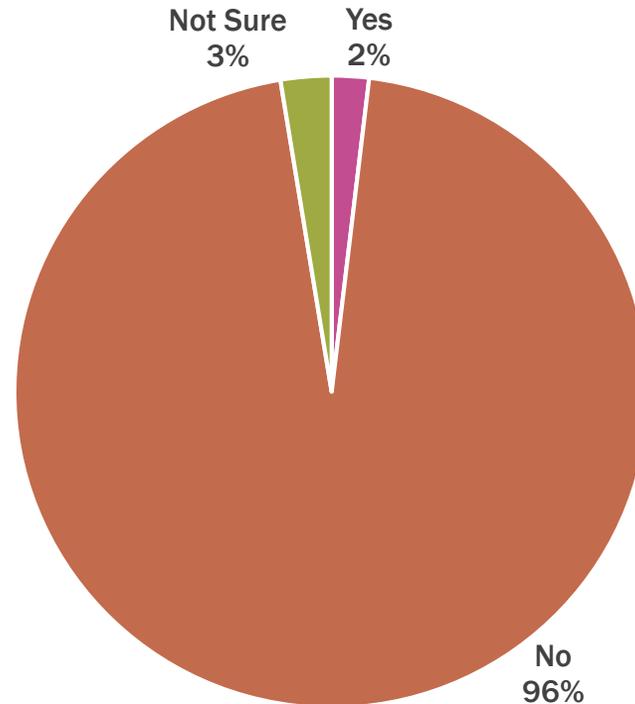
Among higher anxiety students, LGBTQ+ students are less likely to be getting mental health services than straight students and white students are more likely to be getting mental health services than students of color

2021 DCYA – MORE THAN 1 IN 3 YOUTH IDENTIFY AS LGBTQ+

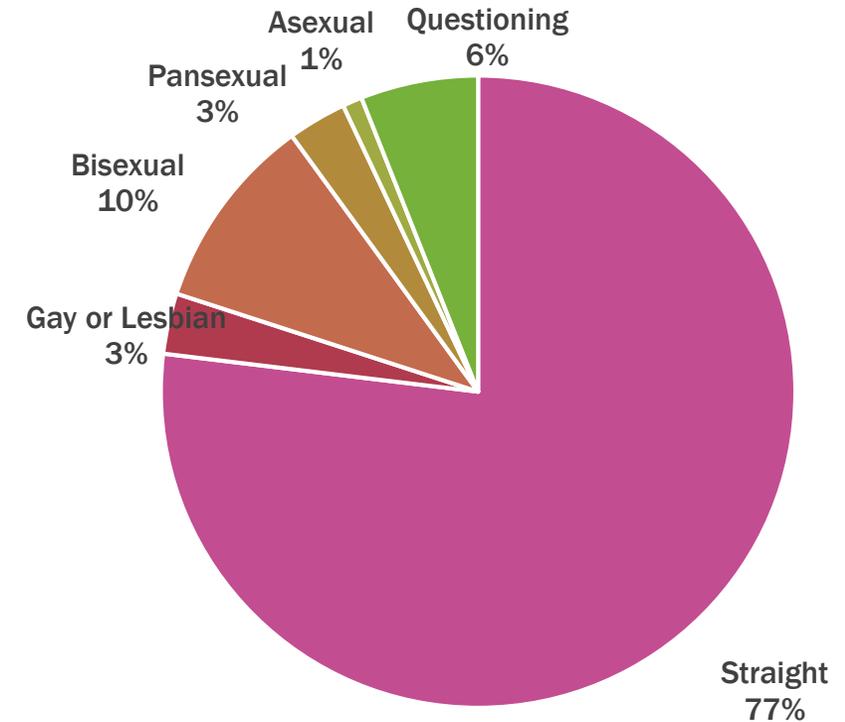
Gender



Transgender

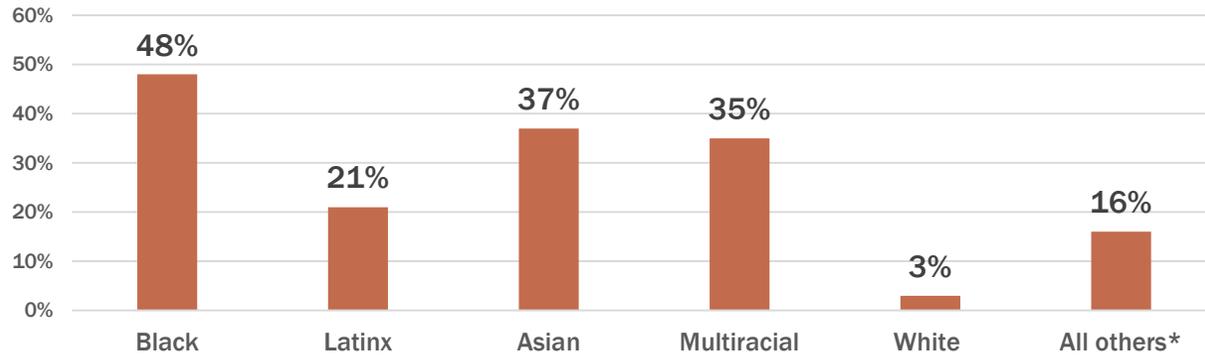


Sexual Orientation

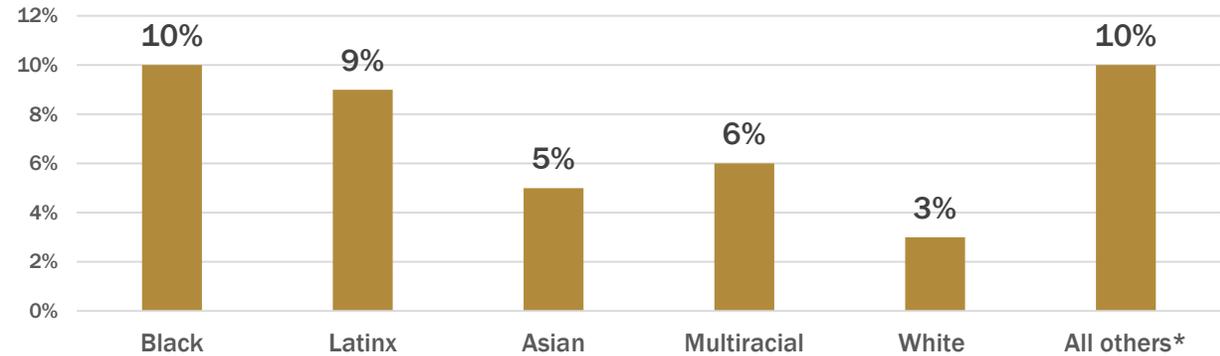


DCYA 2021 KEY FINDINGS – RACIAL DISPARITIES ARE COMMON

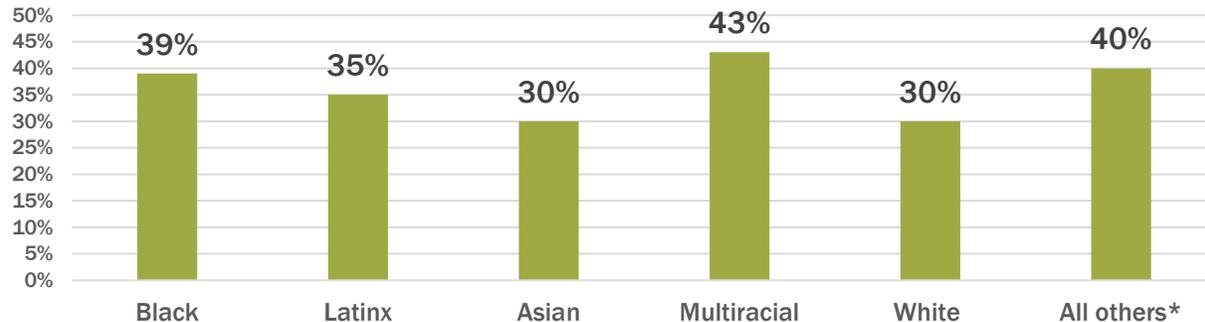
I have been discriminated against or treated unfairly because of my race.



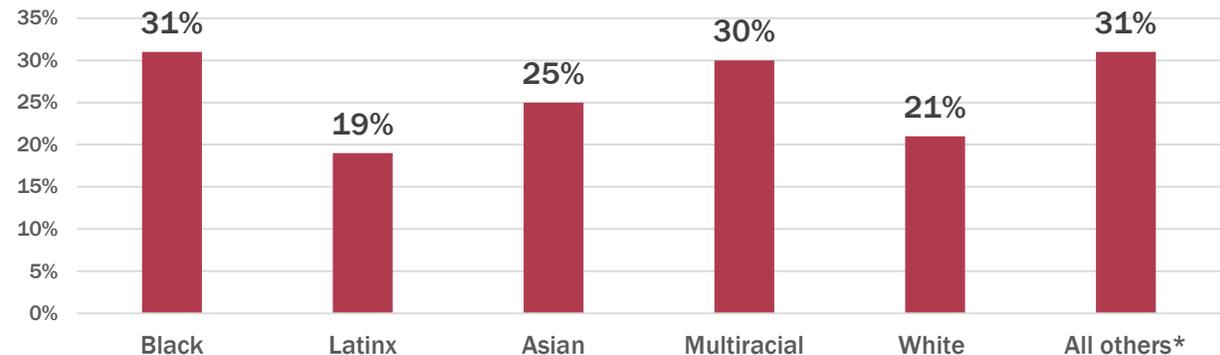
During COVID, I was afraid my family might lose their housing.



Screening for Depression: I felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for at least two weeks in a row that I stopped doing usual activities.



Disagree or Strongly Disagree: I feel like I belong at this school.



*Other racial categories were combined due to small numbers of respondents. We acknowledge that the identities and experiences of these students are much more diverse than can be represented by one combined data point.

**WHAT QUESTIONS DO
YOU HAVE?**