Transgender young people in Aotearoa New Zealand

The results show that transgender young people face discrimination and stigma challenges in their environments, including higher rates of bullying and violence and barriers to seeking healthcare. These challenges are linked to health problems and risk-taking behaviour. To change these statistics we need to create safe environments for sexuality and gender diverse young people.

In Youth 2012 all students were asked if they were transgender, if they were a girl who feels like she should have been a boy, or a boy who feels like he should have been a girl (e.g., Trans, Queer, Pan/afrosex, Whakawahiwhi, Tangata ira Tangi, Genderqueer)?*

**Positives**

- 74% report that school is OK or better
- 47% report that their friends care about them a lot
- 48% of trans young people are volunteers
- Almost half of trans young people are volunteers
- 3 out of 4 transgender young people report that their parents care about them a lot

**Challenges**

- More than HALF of trans young people are afraid that someone at school would hurt or bully them
- Transgender young people are 4.5x more likely to be hurt or bullied at school at least weekly
- Trans young people are more than TWICE as likely to be unable to access healthcare
- 50% report being hit or harmed by another person
- 39% trans
- 18% non-trans

**Impacts**

- 41% of trans young people report experiencing significant depressive symptoms
- Trans students are 5x more likely to have attempted suicide in the last 12 months
- 35% of trans students have told someone in their life they are trans
- 18% report to have drunk alcohol at least weekly in the past month, compared to 8% of their non-trans peers
- 46% of trans students are more likely to have self harmed in the last 12 months

References
