

DATA POINT

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Reports of Bullying and Other Unfavorable Conditions at School

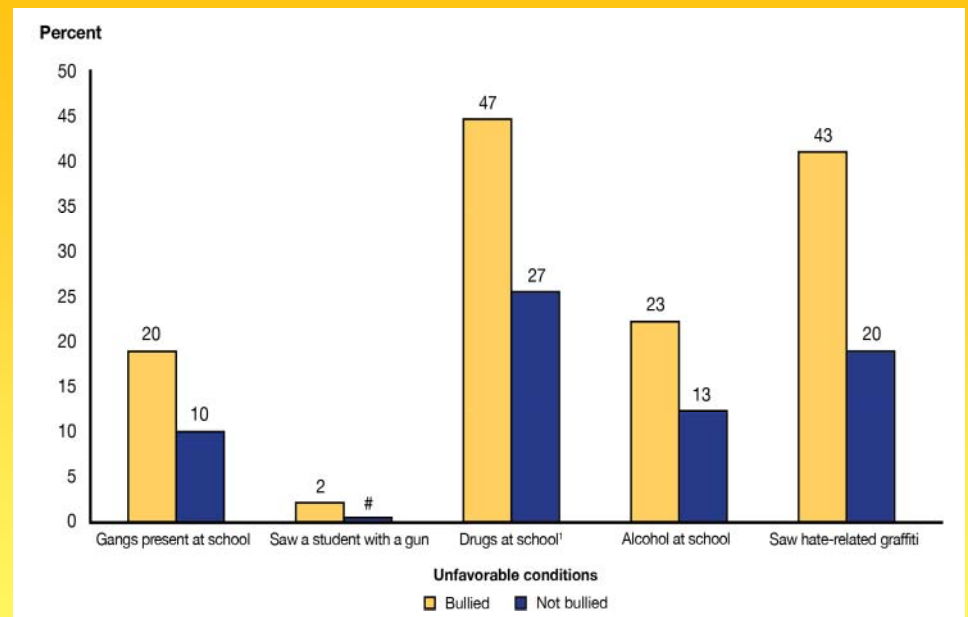
Data from the School Crime Supplement (SCS) to the National Crime Victimization Survey (2013), a nationally representative sample survey of students ages 12 through 18, were used to evaluate co-occurring reports of bullying and other unfavorable conditions at school. Analysis is restricted to those respondents who were enrolled in grades 6 through 12, and did not receive any part of their education through homeschooling during the school year. The study included information reported on unfavorable conditions by students who reported being bullied in the school building, on school property, on the school bus, or going to or from school. Unfavorable conditions included presence of gangs, knowing another student brought a gun to school, availability of drugs, availability of alcohol, and seeing hate-related graffiti on school property. Availability of drugs is a composite variable indicating it was possible for students to get any of the following at school: marijuana, crack or other forms of cocaine, uppers, downers, LSD, PCP, heroin, prescription drugs illegally obtained without a prescription, or other illegal drugs.

Graffiti includes hate-related words or symbols written in school classrooms, school hallways, or outside of the school building. Bullying includes students being made fun of, called names, or insulted; being the subject of rumors; being threatened with harm; being pushed, shoved, tripped, or spit on; being pressured into doing things they did not want to do; being excluded from activities on purpose; and having property destroyed on purpose.

Readers should be aware that all incidents of bullying and unfavorable conditions are based on student reports. Further, due to the cross-sectional, nonexperimental design of the SCS, conclusions cannot be made about causality between unfavorable school conditions or student characteristics and bullying victimization.

Students ages 12 through 18 who reported being bullied at school also reported other unfavorable school conditions at higher rates than students who did not report being bullied.

FIGURE 1. Percentage of students ages 12 through 18 reporting various unfavorable school conditions, by reports of bullying at school: School year 2012–13



Rounds to zero.

¹Includes students who reported that marijuana, crack or other forms of cocaine, uppers, downers, LSD, PCP, heroin, prescription drugs illegally obtained without a prescription, or other illegal drugs were available at school.

NOTE: "Bullied" includes students who reported being made fun of, called names, or insulted; being the subject of rumors; being threatened with harm; being pushed, shoved, tripped, or spit on; being pressured into doing things they did not want to do; being excluded from activities on purpose; and having property destroyed on purpose. "At school" includes the school building, school property, school bus, or going to and from school. Tabular data for percentages and their standard errors are available in tables 4.1 and S4.1 at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2015/2015056.pdf>.

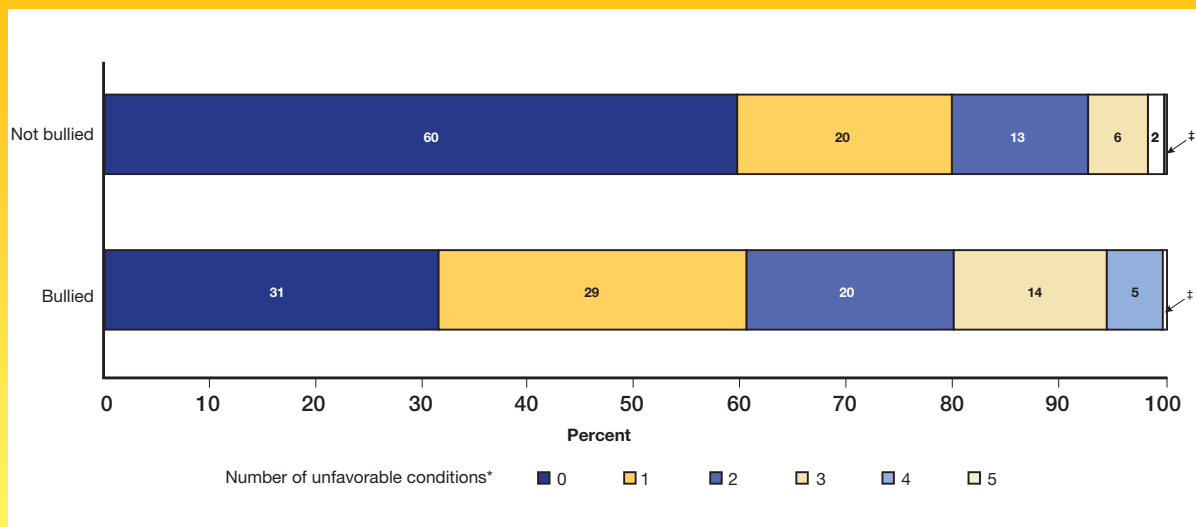
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, 2013.

Data in this report are from the School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, a nationally representative sample survey of students ages 12 through 18. To learn more about the survey, visit: <http://nces.ed.gov/programs/crime>. For questions about content or to view this report online, go to: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2016169>.

Reports of Bullying and Other Unfavorable Conditions at School

- A higher percentage of students who reported being bullied also reported gang presence (20 percent) and seeing another student with a gun (2 percent) at school than students who did not report being bullied (10 percent and 0 percent, respectively).
- A higher percentage of students who reported being bullied also reported that illegal or prescription drugs without a prescription (47 percent) and alcohol (23 percent) were available at school than students who did not report being bullied (27 percent and 13 percent, respectively).
- Students who reported being bullied at school also more often reported the presence of hate-related graffiti at school (43 percent) than those who did not report being bullied (20 percent).

FIGURE 2. Percentages of students ages 12 through 18 reporting numbers of unfavorable school conditions, by reports of bullying at school: School year 2012–13



* Unfavorable conditions include presence of gangs, knowing another student brought a gun to school, availability of drugs, availability of alcohol, and seeing hate-related graffiti on school property.

† Reporting standards not met. The standard error for this estimate is equal to 50 percent or more of the estimate's value.

NOTE: "Bullied" includes students who reported being made fun of, called names, or insulted; being the subject of rumors; being threatened with harm; being pushed, shoved, tripped, or spit on; being pressured into doing things they did not want to do; being excluded from activities on purpose; and having property destroyed on purpose. "At school" includes the school building, school property, school bus, or going to and from school. Tabular data for percentages and their standard errors are available at http://nces.ed.gov/programs/crime/crime_tables.asp.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, 2013.

Students ages 12 through 18 who reported being bullied at school also reported multiple kinds of unfavorable school conditions more often than students who did not report being bullied.

- Sixty-nine percent of students who reported being bullied at school also reported the presence of one or more of the listed unfavorable school conditions, while only 40 percent of students who did not report being bullied reported one or more of the unfavorable conditions.
- Twice as many students who reported being bullied (40 percent) as those who did not report being bullied (20 percent) reported two or more unfavorable conditions at their school.

This NCES Data Point presents information on education topics of current interest. It was authored by Melissa Cidade and Deborah Lessne of Synergy Enterprises, Inc. All estimates shown are based on samples and are subject to sampling variability. All differences discussed in this report are statistically significant at the .05 level.

In the design, conduct, and data processing of National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) surveys, efforts are made to minimize the effects of nonsampling errors, such as item nonresponse, measurement error, data processing error, or other systematic error.