

## Education Week Facts & Citations

### Why Young People Seek Crisis Services

- By far, the most common presenting problem was family dynamics (77%), including conflict with rules, problems with parents or siblings, blended family, divorce or custody issues, death of a family member, or teen parenting.
  - o National Runaway Safeline. (2023). *2022 Crisis Services & Prevention Report*  
link to report
- 28% of National Runaway Safeline crisis contacts reported emotional abuse and 25% reported mental health needs.
  - o National Runaway Safeline. (2023). *2022 Crisis Services & Prevention Report*  
link to report
- Economics was reported as an issue for 9% of National Runaway Safeline crisis contacts in 2019 and 23% of crisis contacts in 2022, an increase of 155%.
  - o National Runaway Safeline. (2023). *2022 Crisis Services & Prevention Report*  
link to report
- In 2022, the National Runaway Safeline made 1,448 referrals to Home Free, resulting in 232 bus tickets issued to return youth home or to a safe alternative living arrangement
  - o National Runaway Safeline. (2023). *2022 Crisis Services & Prevention Report*  
link to report

### Identity & Orientation

- According to The Trevor Project's 2023 U.S. National Survey on the Mental Health of LGBTQ Young People, fewer than 40% of LGBTQ young people found their home to be LGBTQ-affirming.
  - o The Trevor Project. (2023). *2023 U.S. National Survey on the Mental Health of LGBTQ Young People*  
<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/survey-2023/>
- The Trevor Project reports that in 2022 roughly half of transgender and nonbinary young people found their school to be gender-affirming, and those who did reported lower rates of attempting suicide.
  - o The Trevor Project. (2023). *2023 U.S. National Survey on the Mental Health of LGBTQ Young People*  
<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/survey-2023/>
- 56% of LGBTQ young people who wanted mental health care in the past year were not able to get it, including nearly 3 in 5 transgender and nonbinary young people.
  - o The Trevor Project. (2023). *2023 U.S. National Survey on the Mental Health of LGBTQ Young People*  
<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/survey-2023/>

- 60% of LGBTQ young people reported that they have felt discriminated against in the past year due to their sexual orientation or gender identity.
  - o The Trevor Project. (2023). *2023 U.S. National Survey on the Mental Health of LGBTQ Young People*  
<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/survey-2023/>

## **Mental Health**

- 1 in 10 youth with private insurance do not have coverage for mental or emotional difficulties – over 1.2 million youth. Among youth with severe depression who received some treatment, only 27% receive consistent care.
  - o Mental Health America. (2022). *The State of Mental Health in America*  
<https://mhanational.org/sites/default/files/2023-State-of-Mental-Health-in-America-Report.pdf>
- 16% of youth report suffering from at least one major depressive episode in the past year. More than 2.7 million youth are experiencing severe major depression.
  - o Mental Health America. (2022). *The State of Mental Health in America*  
<https://mhanational.org/sites/default/files/2023-State-of-Mental-Health-in-America-Report.pdf>
- 41% of LGBTQ young people seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year
  - o The Trevor Project. (2023). *2023 U.S. National Survey on the Mental Health of LGBTQ Young People*  
<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/survey-2023/>
- 47% of LGBTQ young people who wanted mental health care but were unable to get it said they were afraid to talk about their mental health concerns with another person.
  - o The Trevor Project. (2023). *2023 U.S. National Survey on the Mental Health of LGBTQ Young People*  
<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/survey-2023/>
- 25% of young people or concerned adults cited mental health as a reason for reaching out to National Runaway Safeline for support
  - o National Runaway Safeline. (2023). *2022 Crisis Services & Prevention Report*  
link to report

## **Dating Violence**

- One in three adolescents in the U.S. will be the victim of physical, sexual, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner. This figure is much higher than any other type of youth violence.
  - o love is respect. *Dating Fundamentals for Healthy Relationships*. [loveisrespect.org](https://www.loveisrespect.org/dating-basics-for-healthy-relationships/)  
<https://www.loveisrespect.org/dating-basics-for-healthy-relationships/>
- Nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide experience physical abuse from a dating partner in a single year.
  - o love is respect. *Dating Fundamentals for Healthy Relationships*. [loveisrespect.org](https://www.loveisrespect.org/dating-basics-for-healthy-relationships/)  
<https://www.loveisrespect.org/dating-basics-for-healthy-relationships/>

- Only 33% of teens who were in an abusive relationship ever told anyone about the abuse.
  - o love is respect. *Dating Fundamentals for Healthy Relationships*. loveisrespect.org <https://www.loveisrespect.org/dating-basics-for-healthy-relationships/>
- Girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence, almost triple the national average
  - o love is respect. *Dating Fundamentals for Healthy Relationships*. loveisrespect.org <https://www.loveisrespect.org/dating-basics-for-healthy-relationships/>

## Human Trafficking

- Trafficking victims are generally recruited by someone they know, such as a family member or caregiver (33%), an intimate partner (28%), or an employer (22%)
  - o Polaris. (2021). *Polaris Analysis of 2021 Data from the National Human Trafficking Hotline* <https://polarisproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Polaris-Analysis-of-2021-Data-from-the-National-Human-Trafficking-Hotline.pdf>
- In 2021 there were 10,359 trafficking situations reported to the National Human Trafficking Hotline. In those situations, a total of 16,554 likely victims of trafficking were identified.
  - o Polaris. (2021). *Polaris Analysis of 2021 Data from the National Human Trafficking Hotline* <https://polarisproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Polaris-Analysis-of-2021-Data-from-the-National-Human-Trafficking-Hotline.pdf>
- Emotional abuse (28%), economic abuse (26%), and threats (23%) remained the most frequently reported methods of force, fraud, and coercion experienced by likely victims.
  - o Polaris. (2021). *Polaris Analysis of 2021 Data from the National Human Trafficking Hotline* <https://polarisproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Polaris-Analysis-of-2021-Data-from-the-National-Human-Trafficking-Hotline.pdf>
- The #1 recruiting location for human trafficking is online (66%), with 13% coming from dating sites, 10% from Facebook and 7% from Instagram.
  - o Polaris. (2021). *Polaris Analysis of 2021 Data from the National Human Trafficking Hotline* <https://polarisproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Polaris-Analysis-of-2021-Data-from-the-National-Human-Trafficking-Hotline.pdf>