West Virginia

The impact of stigma and discrimination against LGBT people

The state is home to 57,800 LGBT adults

LGBT 81%
Non-LGBT 91%

30% are raising children

22% 35% 16% 16% 11%

18-24 25-34 35-49 50-64 65+

64% of West Virginia residents favor policies that protect LGBT people from discrimination.

82% of LGBT students in West Virginia surveyed said they had experienced verbal harassment based on their sexual orientation at school.

2017 GLSEN National School Climate Survey

Discrimination creates hardships for LGBT adults in the state.

Food insecurity
Household income < $24K
Currently smoking
Depressed disorder

LGBT adults 33% 39% 43% 40%
Non-LGBT adults 20% 26% 25% 23%

Reducing the disparity in depression by 25% would benefit West Virginia's economy by $23 million annually.

West Virginia's 10,300 LGBT youth also experience negative outcomes.

Bullying at school

Experiences of transgender youth at school

40% 22%
LGB students non-LGB students

42%
unable to use bathroom aligning with gender identity

29%
prevented from using chosen name or pronouns

2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey GLSEN, School Climate in West Virginia