

A brief note on the data regarding growth in LGBT Youth

Prepared by Dr. Jennifer Roback Morse

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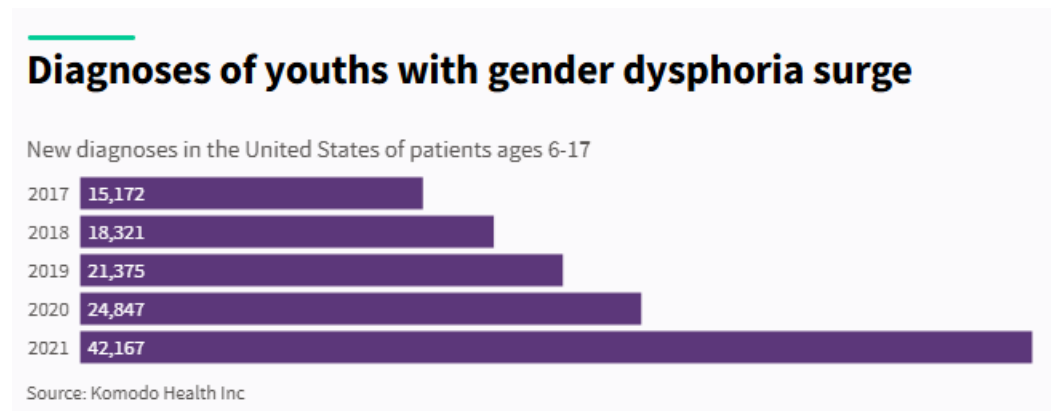
In the Ruth Institute’s combined educational and fundraising campaign, we state:

“The number of youth identifying as transgender nearly tripled between 2017 and 2021.”

We base this statement, first, on this article from [Reuters](#), which says:

“In 2021, about 42,000 children and teens across the United States received a diagnosis of gender dysphoria, nearly triple the number in 2017, according to data Komodo compiled for Reuters.”

This is based on their chart:



An exact tripling of the 2017 number would be 45,516.

Next, we consulted the statistics prepared by the Williams Institute, an LGBT-friendly think tank housed at UCLA. They periodically prepare a report entitled, “How Many Adults and Youth Identify as Transgender in the US.” Their [report for 2022](#) shows 300,100 youth between the ages of 13 and 17 identifying as transgender. (Table 1.)

Their [report for 2025 shows](#) 723,700 youth aged 13-17 identifying as transgender. (Table 1).

Their data comes from the CDC’s Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS).

The Williams Institute emphasizes that their 2025 statistics are based on new information, making comparisons over time tricky:

“Our current data source for our new national youth estimate (2023 YRBS) represents the best data we have ever utilized to estimate the number of youth (aged 13 to 17) who identify as transgender nationally (just over 724,000). The data sources and analytic methods for our youth estimates have changed over time. Comparisons over time should not be made given these changes.” (pg. 3)

In the last table of their appendix, A12, they do make some comparisons over time, including their estimated confidence intervals. This chart reports the most long-term comparisons the Ruth Institute has seen.

In 2016-17, they estimate that .73% of youth 13-17 identified as trans.

In 2025, they estimate that 3.28% of youth 13-17 identified as trans.

Table A12. Percent and 95% confidence intervals for current and prior Williams Institute estimates of percent identifying as transgender by age group (aged 13+)

AGE GROUP	2016/17		2022		2025	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
		LB, UB		LB, UB		LB, UB
13-17	0.73%	0.54%, 1.00%	1.43%	0.61%, 4.02%	3.28%	2.88%, 3.74%
18-24	0.66%	0.39%, 1.13%	1.31%	0.43%, 2.43%	2.72%	1.44%, 4.05%
25-64	0.58%	0.34%, 1.00%	0.45%	0.23%, 0.74%	-	-
25-34	-	-	-	-	1.37%	0.76%, 2.62%
35-64	-	-	-	-	0.42%	0.24%, 0.86%
65+	0.50%	0.31%, 0.84%	0.32%	0.12%, 0.57%	0.26%	0.15%, 0.58%
All Adults 18+	0.58%	0.36%, 0.95%	0.52%	0.32%, 0.77%	0.81%	0.73%, 1.64%

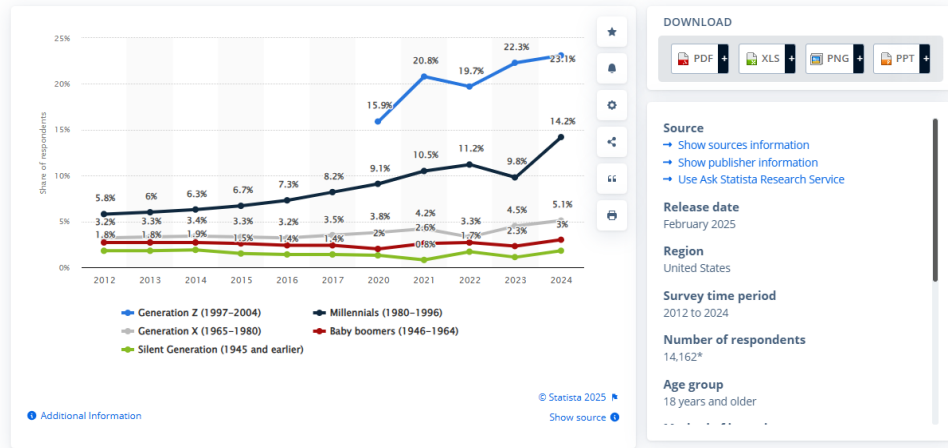
All things considered, our statement that trans youth “nearly tripled” between 2017 and 2021 gives a clear enough picture. Too many young people have chosen this path, especially considering that not a single one of them will successfully change the sex of his or her body.

We next state:

“By 2024, 23% of Gen Z (people born between 1997 and 2004) identified themselves as LGBT.”

The source for this statement is this report from [Statistica](#):

Share of respondents who identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or something other than heterosexual in the United States from 2012 to 2024, by generation



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Release date

February 2025

Region

United States

Survey time period

2012 to 2024

Number of respondents

14,162*

Age group

18 years and older