

D. Student bullying data

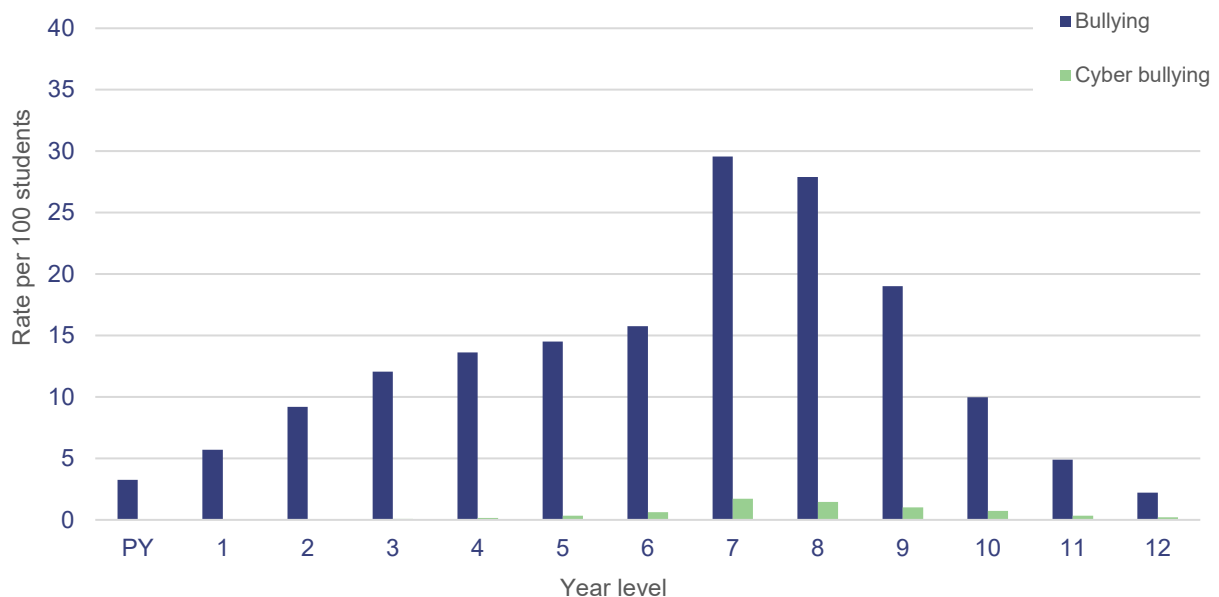
This appendix presents data on the extent and nature of bullying in Queensland, as identified in the Department of Education's (the department's) 2023 OneSchool student bullying data. We analysed the data to identify patterns in student bullying.

Bullying data from 2023

The prevalence of reported bullying and cyber bullying incidents by year level in 2023 is shown in Figure D1. Bullying peaks in Year 7 (12,675 incidents), with 29.5 students out of 100 displaying bullying behaviour and 1.7 students out of 100 displaying cyber bullying behaviour. This makes up 16.6 per cent of all reported bullying incidents. The department's OneSchool system does not have a specific category for cyber bullying incidents (see [Appendix E](#) for a listing of the behaviour categories).

To identify incidents with a high likelihood of involving cyber bullying, we scanned the free-text field staff complete when recording an incident.

Figure D1
Recorded bullying and estimated cyber bullying incident rate, by year level – 2023



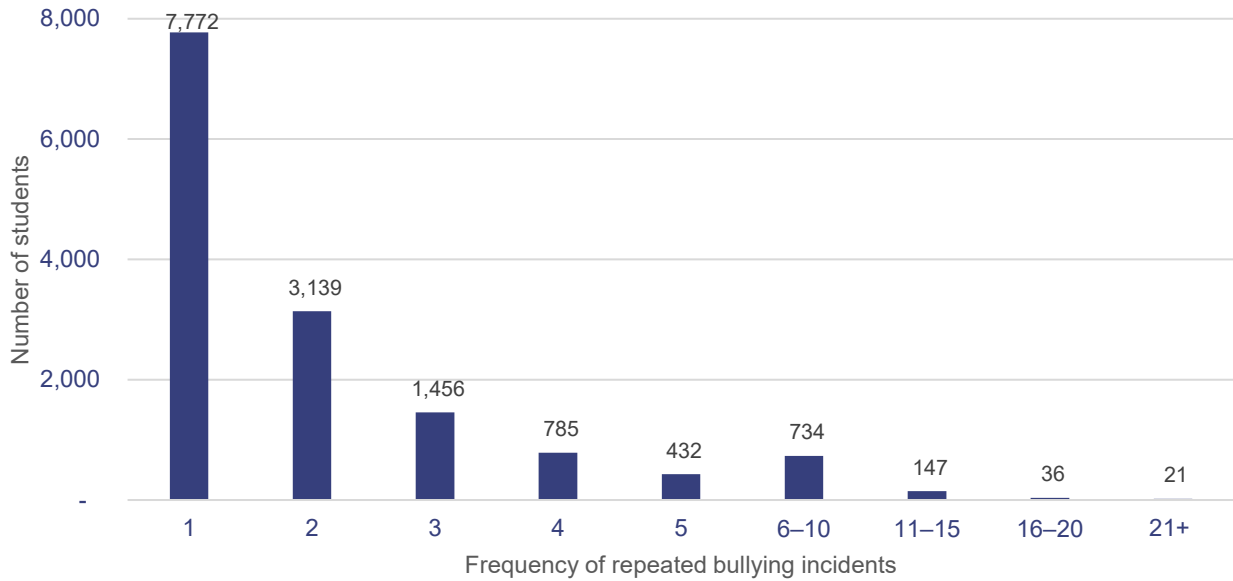
Notes: Numbers are counts of incidents – not students. Students are counted more than once if they are involved in multiple incidents. PY stands for Preparatory Year.

Source: Queensland Audit Office from Department of Education data.

Figure D2 shows the number of students who had repeated bullying behaviour incidents recorded against them in 2023. While 53.5 per cent only had one repeated incident, 17 students had over 21 incidents, with one having 79. Data is not available on students subject to bullying, so this analysis has not been included.



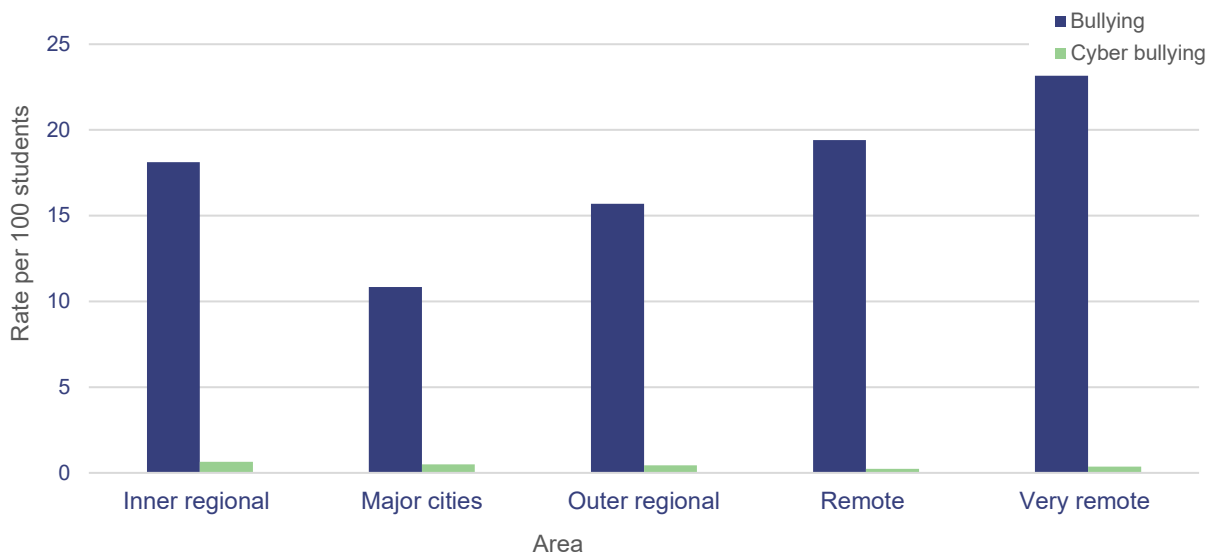
Figure D2
Recorded repeated bullying behaviour – 2023



Source: Queensland Audit Office from Department of Education data.

The rates of bullying and cyber bullying incidents across different geographical areas are shown in Figure D3. We categorised areas into the 5 classes of remoteness in accordance with the Australian Statistical Geography Standard Remoteness Structure. Major cities account for 52 per cent of bullying incidents and 63 per cent of cyber bullying incidents. Very remote areas only make up 2 per cent of bullying incidents and one per cent of cyber bullying incidents. However, as a rate per 100 students, very remote regions have the highest bullying rate, at 23 per 100 students. Inner regional areas have the highest cyber bullying rate, at 0.6 per 100 students. As cyber bullying is not a separate code, the rate needs to be treated with caution as it is based on an analysis of the text describing the bullying incidents.

Figure D3
Recorded bullying and cyber bullying incident rate, by area – 2023

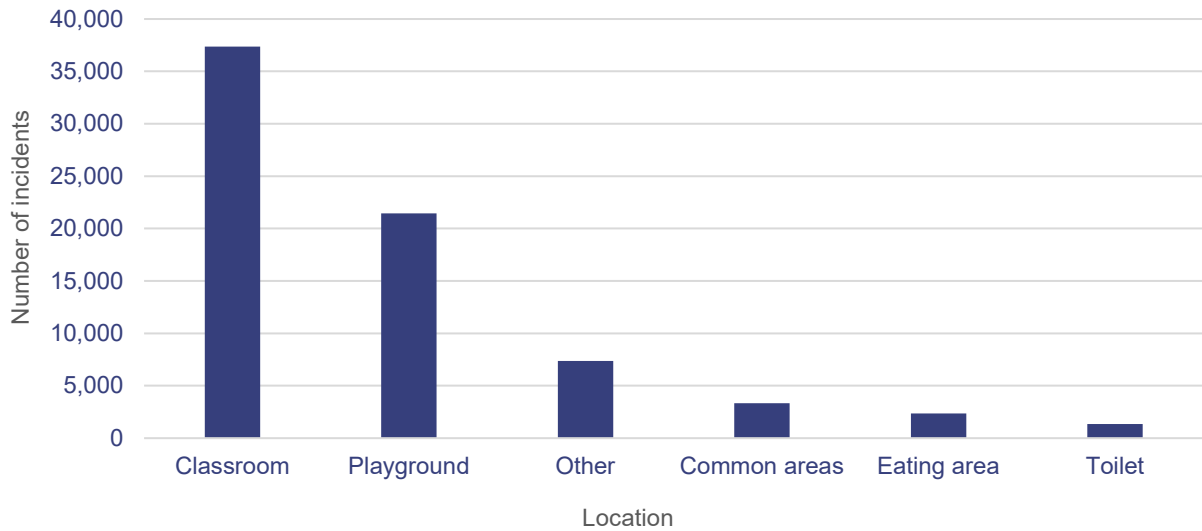


Notes: Numbers are counts of incidents – not students. Students are counted more than once if they are involved in multiple incidents. Inner regional includes centres such as Bundaberg, Gladstone, Rockhampton, and Toowoomba. Major cities includes Brisbane, Gold Coast, Ipswich, and Maroochydore. Outer regional includes centres such as Emerald, Townsville, Mackay, Roma, and Cairns. Remote includes centres such as Cooktown, Mount Isa, St George, and Palm Island. Very remote includes centres such as Birdsville, Burketown, Charleville, Croydon, Winton, and Thargomindah.

Source: Queensland Audit Office from Department of Education data.

A breakdown of recorded bullying incidents by location in 2023 is in Figure D4. The data highlights that classrooms (49 per cent) and playgrounds (28 per cent) are the most frequent locations of reported bullying incidents. This is likely because classrooms are where students spend most of their time and have the most teacher supervision.

Figure D4
Recorded bullying incident, by location – 2023

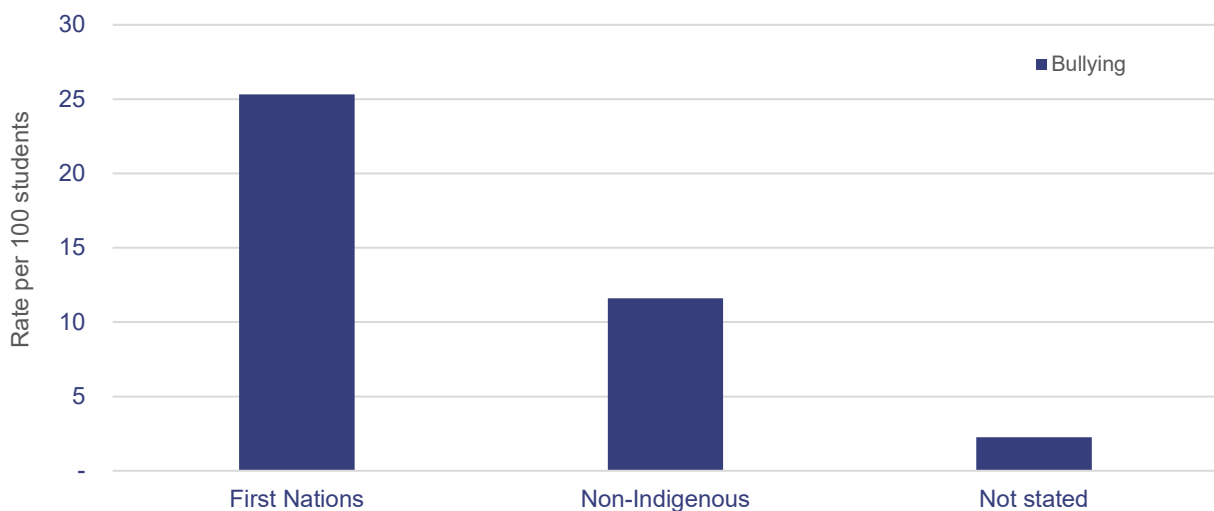


Notes: Numbers are counts of incidents – not students. Students are counted more than once if they are involved in multiple incidents. Location data is based on freeform text entered by school user. Locations have been grouped based on word search and may be subject to interpretation. 'Other' includes out-of-school activities, transportation (to and from school), sports-related, excursions, after school, car park, before school, and bike racks categories.

Source: Queensland Audit Office from Department of Education data.

The recorded bullying incident rate among First Nations students is shown in Figure D5. The data indicates that First Nations students are twice as likely to be involved in bullying incidents per 100 students compared to their non-Indigenous peers.

Figure D5
Reported incidents of bullying, by First Nations status – 2023



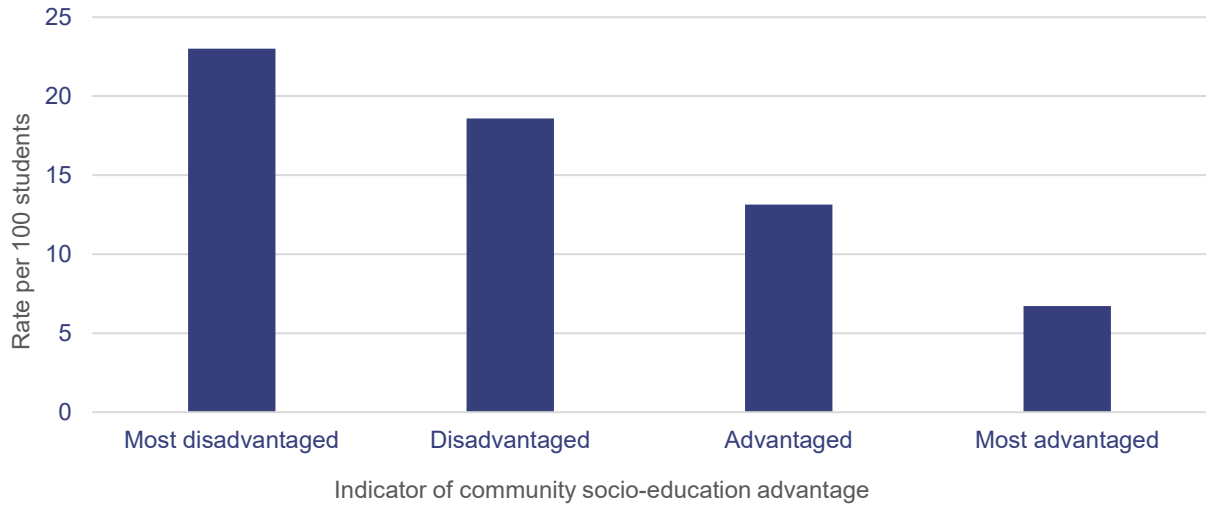
Note: Numbers are counts of incidents – not students. Students are counted more than once if they are involved in multiple incidents.

Source: Queensland Audit Office from Department of Education data.



In Figure D6, the bullying incident rate by Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) is shown. ICSEA is a scale developed by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority that shows the level of educational advantage students have in a school, and schools use it as a comparison tool. We analysed the bullying incident rates of schools based on their index from most disadvantaged to most advantaged. The data shows students from schools with disadvantaged backgrounds are 3 times more likely to be involved in bullying incidents, with a higher rate per 100 students compared to their advantaged peers.

Figure D6
Recorded bullying incident rate, by schools' Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage – 2023



Note: Numbers are counts of incidents – not students. Students are counted more than once if they are involved in multiple incidents.

Source: Queensland Audit Office from Department of Education data.

