

# WEIGHT BIAS AND CHILDHOOD BULLYING

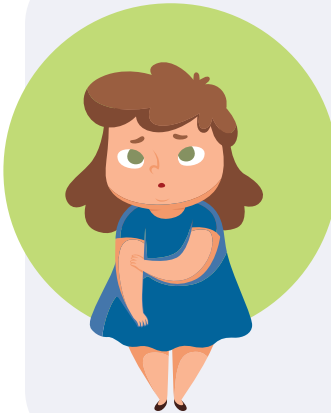


Obesity Care Week  
February 27<sup>th</sup> - March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## Fast facts about weight-based bullying

- 1 92% of children report that they witness their peers affected by obesity and excess weight being teased at school.<sup>1</sup>
- 2 Childhood obesity is the most common chronic disease of childhood, affecting more than 30% of children in the U.S.
- 3 58% of boys and 63% of girls in high school experience daily teasing, bullying or rejection because of their size.<sup>2</sup>
- 4 Negative attitudes toward children with obesity begin as early as preschool<sup>3</sup>



## Impacts of weight-based bullying on children

- Weight bias begins as early as pre-school, and may get worse as children age leading to increased incidences of bullying in our schools.
- Children and teens who are victims of bullying may have thoughts of suicide and some may actually commit suicide.<sup>4</sup>
- Children affected by obesity miss more days of school than their peers.<sup>5</sup>
- Students affected by obesity are viewed as self-indulgent, lazy and are excluded from social activities by their peers.<sup>3</sup>



Sign-up for OCV Alerts to learn how you can get involved!  
[ObesityCareWeek.org/ocw-alerts](https://ObesityCareWeek.org/ocw-alerts)

## SOURCES

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