

The Health of the Manhattan LGBT Community

2015 Report from the NY State LGBT Health and Human Services Needs Assessment

HIGHLIGHTS

- Manhattan has the greatest density of LGBT health and human services of all New York City boroughs.
- Nearly two thirds of survey respondents in Manhattan identified as gay, more than in any other borough.

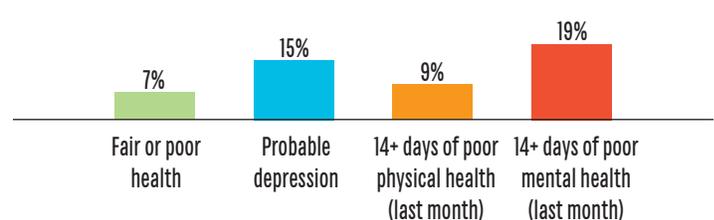
Current Health Status, Access, and Barriers to Care

Seven percent of respondents from Manhattan had “fair” or “poor” health, while about one in five (19%) had frequent mental distress (14+ days of poor mental health in the past month). While just five percent had no health insurance, three times as many (15%) could not access needed health care in the last 12 months because of cost. More than one third (36%) had no health home and about one in five (20%) had no primary care provider. Among the barriers to health care services measured in the survey, respondents most frequently selected the following as “somewhat” or “major” problems: personal financial resources (26%), not enough psychological support groups (24%), not enough health professionals who are trained and competent with the LGBT community (21%), inadequate insurance coverage (17%) and community fear or dislike of LGBT people (15%).

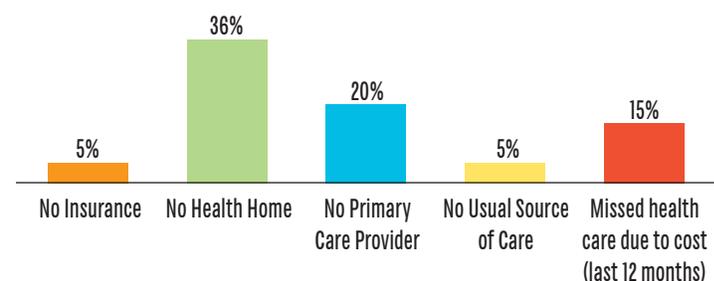
Background

Manhattan is the most densely populated of New York City’s boroughs with more than 1.6 million people living in just under twenty three square miles.¹ There are twenty-five members of the LGBT Health & Human Services Network and/or AIDS Institute LGBT HHS Initiative grantees based in Manhattan. Five hundred and fifteen people responded to the New York State LGBT needs assessment in Manhattan. Fully 85% of respondents had been to an LGBT Center at least once in the past year, while just under one third (30%) visited at least once a month.

Health Status



Health Access



Barriers to Care

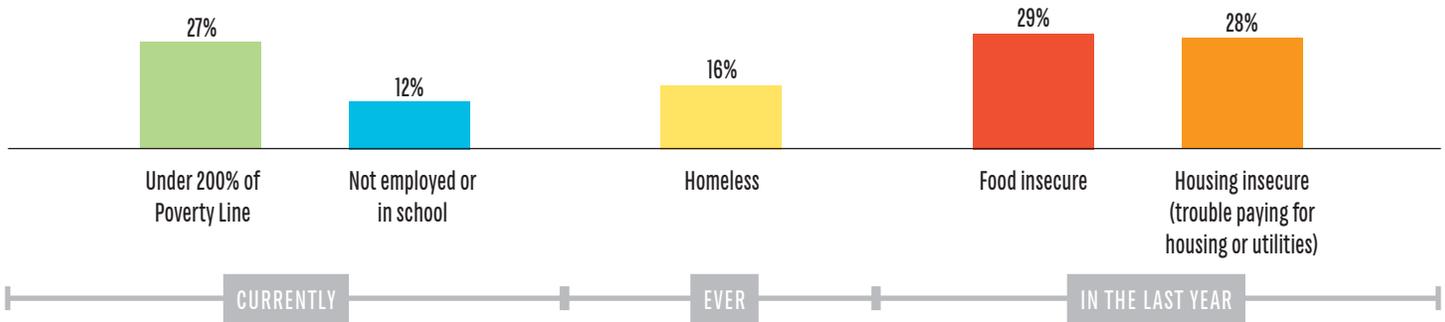


LGBT HHS Network Members and AIDS Institute LGBT HHS Initiative Members:

Ali Forney Center • Asian & Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS (APICHA), APICHA Community Health Center • Audre Lorde Project • Callen-Lorde Community Health Center • Gay Men’s Health Crisis, Inc. (GMHC) • Grand Street Settlement • Harm Reduction Coalition • Hetrick-Martin Institute • Institute for Human Identity (IH) Therapy Center • Latino Commission on AIDS • The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center • Metropolitan Community Church of New York (MCCNY) • The National LGBT Cancer Network • LGBTQ Law Project, New York Legal Assistance Group • New York City Anti-Violence Project (AVP) • Peter Cicchino Youth Project, Urban Justice Center • Project Reach-OUTRIGHT Consortium, Chinese American Planning Council • Safe Horizon, Inc. • SAGE USA- Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders • Sylvia Rivera Law Project • Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund (TLDEF) • The Trevor Project • Trinity Community Connection, Inc.

Works Cited 1. National Center for Health Statistics Population Data. Department of Health, Information for a Healthy New York. Total Population. 2012 data as of July, 2014. Available at www.health.ny.gov/statistics/chac/general/g96.htm. Accessed October 12, 2015.

Economic Vulnerabilities



Economic Status and Vulnerabilities

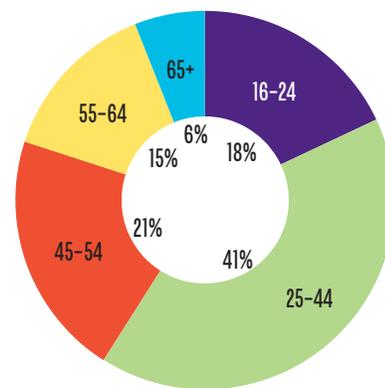
About one in four (27%) reported annual incomes under 200% of the poverty line. About three quarters (77%) were employed full or part time, nearly one in five (19%) were students and just over one in ten (12%) were neither employed nor in school (and not retired). Sixteen percent had been homeless at some point in their lives. Just under three in ten (29%) were food insecure and a similar number (28%) were housing insecure. Fifteen percent had accessed public benefits in the last year.

Demographics

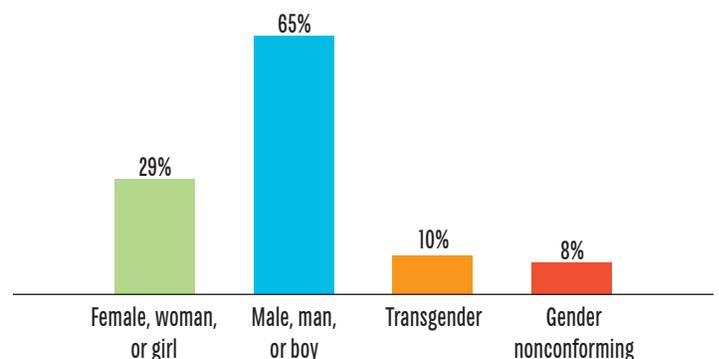
Fifteen percent of those who took the survey identified as transgender or gender nonconforming (respondents could identify as more than one gender). Nearly two thirds (62%) identified as gay, nearly one in five (18%) as queer and 17% as lesbian. Eight percent reported having a disability.

Just over one third (35%) of survey respondents were people of color, while 70% were white (respondents could select more than one race or ethnicity). Just under one in five (17%) identified as Hispanic or Latino/a, 10% as Black or African American, six percent as Asian/Pacific Islander and eight percent as multiracial. Other racial and ethnic categories were too small to analyze. Three quarters (75%) had a college degree or higher. Three percent had served in the military.

Age (in years)



Gender Identity



Methods This fact sheet is part of a larger project to assess the health and human service experiences and needs of LGBT people in New York State. Data sources include (1) 22 focus groups with over 150 people, conducted from November 2014 to April 2015 (2) an online convenience sample survey of 3,792 LGBT people who live, work or receive services in New York State, conducted June to August 2015 and (3) analyses of population based secondary data. The survey was available in English and Spanish. Qualtrics software was used for data collection. Data were analyzed using STATA, a statistical program commonly used by social scientists. In order to preserve confidentiality, data are not shown if there were five or fewer respondents in the numerator and/or 20 or fewer respondents in the denominator. For fact sheets on other topics, a full report on methodology and a final report from the data, please visit gaycenter.org/thenetwork#reports.