

Engaging LGBTQ+ Pennsylvanians in Biennial Statewide Needs Assessment



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Historically Left Out



- Inclusive SOGI questions left out of large data systems
- Little outreach by health and wellness partners
- Discussions cut short and restricted

Limiting widely shared information about LGBTQ populations' health and wellness needs...

Health Equity for All

“People who identify as LGBT come from all races, ethnicities, religions, and economic backgrounds...The need to provide culturally appropriate preventive care will increase over the decade.”

Overarching Goals of Healthy People 2030

- Eliminate health disparities, achieve health equity, and attain health literacy to improve the health and well-being of all.
- Engage leadership, key constituents, and the public across multiple sectors to take action and design policies that improve the health and well-being of all.

Health equity is the attainment of the highest quality of health for all people



Pennsylvania LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment



The PA LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment collects data on LGBTQ Pennsylvanians' experiences with healthcare providers, mental health, substance use, tobacco use, cancer, sexual health, financial security, and more.

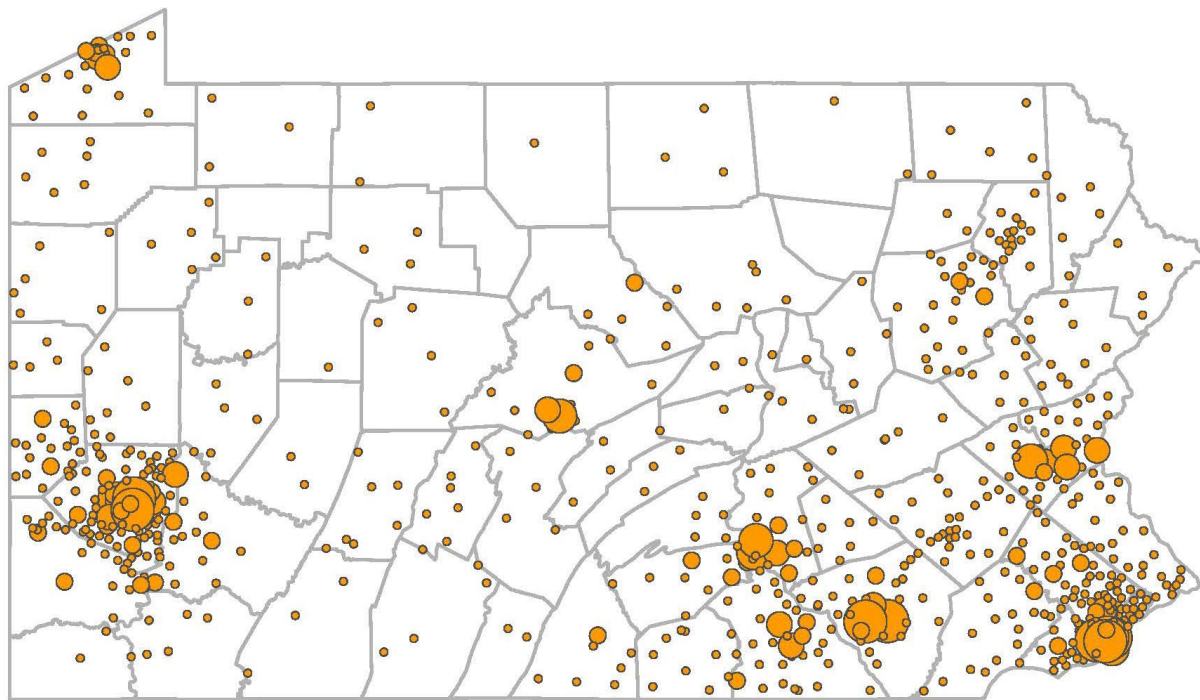
The health needs assessment was first piloted in 2015, with the PA Department of Health partnering with community -based organizations to collect regional data. Since then, **the assessment was conducted statewide in 2018 (N=4,679), 2020 (N=6,582) and 2022 (N=4,228).**

The resulting findings from the PA LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment are made available to researchers, healthcare providers, government agencies, and, perhaps most importantly, the LGBTQ community.

Data Collection, Media & Outreach Partners

- Alder Health
- Attic Youth Center
- Bebashi
- Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center
- CenterLink
- Central Outreach Wellness Center
- Centre LGBTQA Support Network
- The Colours Organization
- Compton's Table
- Eastern PA Trans Equity Project
- Erie Gay News
- FACT Lehigh Valley
- GALAEI
- The Gay Journal
- The Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Hanover Area Diversity Alliance
- Hugh Lane Wellness Foundation
- Human Rights Campaign of Pennsylvania
- Keystone Business Alliance
- Lancaster LGBTQ+ Coalition
- LGBT Center of Central PA
- LGBT Center of Greater Reading
- LGBT Elder Initiative
- LGBT Equality Alliance of Chester County
- Mazzoni Center
- Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley
- Montgomery County LGBT Business Council
- New Hope Celebrates
- NWPA Pride Alliance
- The Pennsylvania State University Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity
- Pennsylvania Youth Congress
- Philadelphia FIGHT Community Health Centers
- Philadelphia Gay News
- Proud Haven
- QBurgh
- Rainbow Alliance
- Rainbow Rose Center
- SAGECare
- SisTers PGH
- Trans Central PA
- TriVersity – The Pride Center
- Washington County Gay Straight Alliance
- William Way LGBT Community Center

Pennsylvania 2022 LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment




Number of Respondents
grouped by ZIP Code



It was not magic...



It was...

- Ongoing partnership
 - Commitment
 - MOUs and stipend payments
 - Follow up
 - Data sharing
 - Listening
 - Showing up
- 

Findings Snapshot



Welcoming means little when you don't **have medical expertise and understanding**, especially for trans people who may have medically transitioned.

Always take **what your patients tell you** seriously.

Be **respectful**.

A very tiny first step would be **asking for pronouns and using inclusive language**.

Be more willing to **administer STD tests when asked** and without judgment (especially oral tests).

Add pronouns and preferred names to your systems.

They could literally Google tons of ways to be more welcoming to the LGBTQIA and BIPOC if they cared about this at all.

Work with us, not on us. **We have lived experience**.

Be more educated on LGBTQ health, especially **PrEP**.

Become **trauma informed**.

Proactively **advertise that you are trans-affirming** so we don't have to wonder.

Flags, stickers, safe space signs.

Accept me and my conditions/symptoms **based on who I tell you I am**, rather than who you have decided I am.

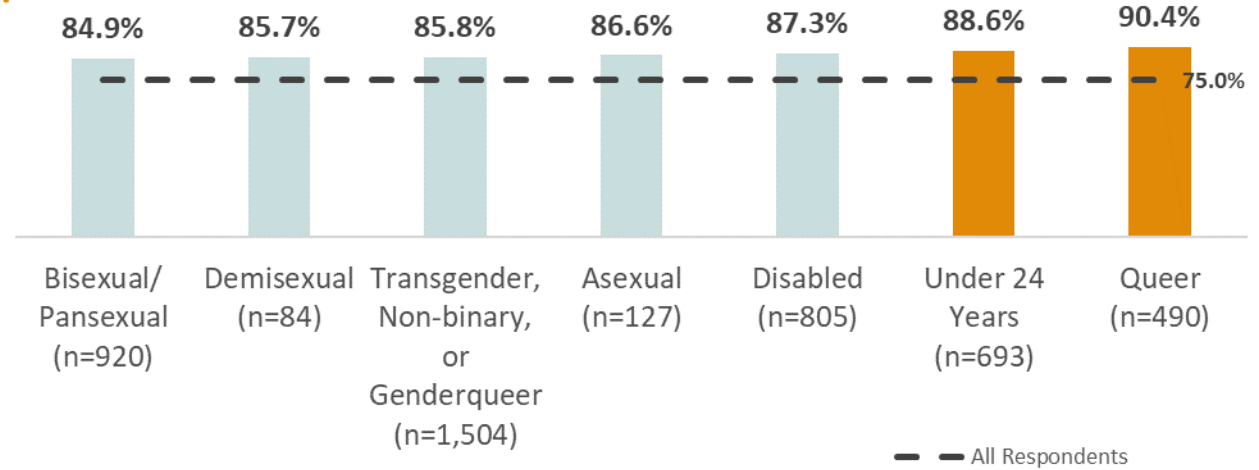
Seek training.

Be **proactive in offering resources** on care for marginalized groups, as a way to share knowledge rather than just diagnose or treat immediate medical issues that they are dealing with.



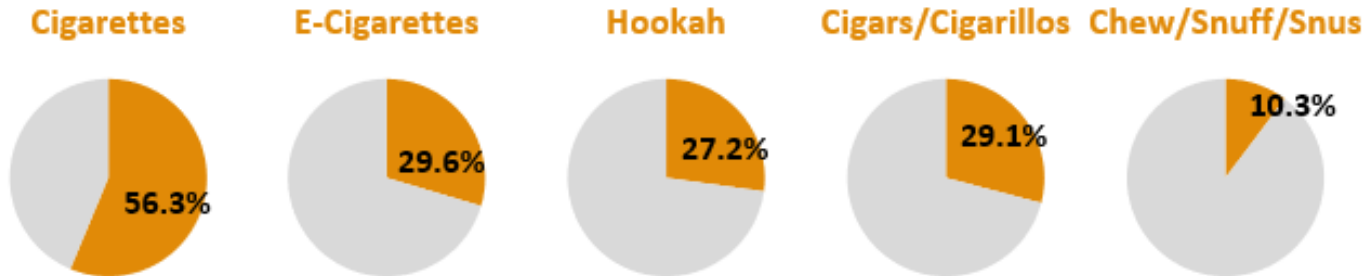
Findings Snapshot

Nearly 9 in 10 **queer** respondents and respondents **under 24 years old** have experienced a **mental health challenge in the past 12 months**.

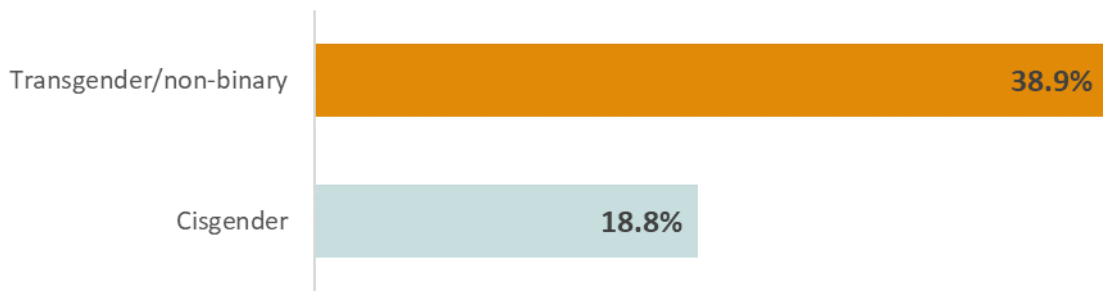


Findings Snapshot

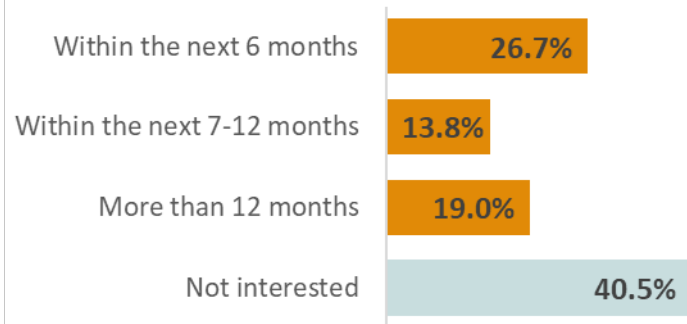
EVER USED



Transgender respondents have a smoking rate nearly twice that of cisgender respondents.



Most respondents who currently smoke cigarettes are **interested in quitting at some point in the future.**
(N=625)



2022 Community Summary LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment

We have health and wellness feedback from 4,228 LGBTQ+ Pennsylvanians! These data can be used to inform program planning, outreach efforts, policy change, and service proposals. We received information from 246 respondents who identify as Black or African American. Check out some data points specific to this subgroup and how they compare to all respondents.



Black and African American

RESILIENCE

96%

are interested in incorporating healthy living strategies* in their lives.



COMMUNITY PRIORITIES:

- 1) Depression
- 2) Violence/Homicide
- 3) Loneliness/Isolation and Alcohol or other drug addiction (tie⁴)

Call to action:

Support connections to LGBTQ-competent providers; support initiatives that address social determinants of health; identify community-wide mental health supports; support chronic disease prevention; promote tobacco cessation opportunities; encourage health screening discussions and health education; bolster community supports for black, indigenous, and people of color; prioritize the health needs of transgender, non-binary, genderqueer, and individuals born intersex; continue and enhance data collection; and partner with LGBT community-based organizations.

* Examples of healthy living strategies include healthy eating, active living, and tobacco cessation.

Note: Smoking rates based on those prompted to provide current cigarette use, among those who have used cigarettes at any point. The upper rate range is reported here. See the "Tobacco Use" section for more information.

Data source: 2022 Pennsylvania LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment



2022 Community Summary LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment

We have health and wellness feedback from 4,228 LGBTQ+ Pennsylvanians! These data can be used to inform program planning, outreach efforts, policy change, and service proposals. We received information from 909 respondents ages 24 or younger. Check out some data points specific to this subgroup and how they compare to all respondents.

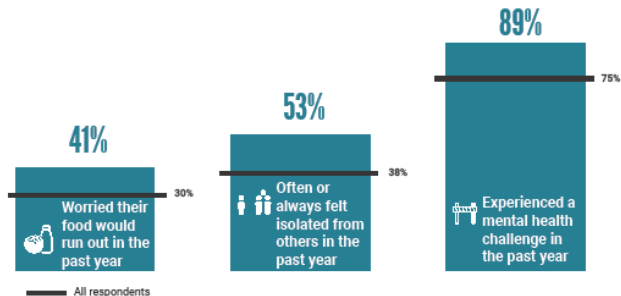


Young People (under 25 years)

RESILIENCE

95%

are interested in incorporating healthy living strategies* in their lives.



COMMUNITY PRIORITIES:

- 1) Depression
- 2) Suicide
- 3) Violence/Homicide

Call to action:

Support connections to LGBTQ-competent providers; support initiatives that address social determinants of health; identify community-wide mental health supports; support chronic disease prevention; promote tobacco cessation opportunities; encourage health screening discussions and health education; bolster community supports for black, indigenous, and people of color; prioritize the health needs of transgender, non-binary, genderqueer, and individuals born intersex; continue and enhance data collection; and partner with LGBT community-based organizations.

* Examples of healthy living strategies include healthy eating, active living, and tobacco cessation.

Data source: 2022 Pennsylvania LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment



2022 Report Recommendations



- ① **Support Connections to LGBTQ-competent Providers**
- ② **Support Initiatives that Address Social Determinants of Health**
- ③ **Identify Community-wide Mental Health Supports**
- ④ **Support and Fund Chronic Disease Prevention**
- ⑤ **Promote Tobacco Cessation Opportunities**
- ⑥ **Encourage Health Screening Discussions and Health Education**
- ⑦ **Bolster Community Supports for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color**
- ⑧ **Prioritize the Health Needs of Transgender, Non-binary, Genderqueer, and Intersex Individuals**
- ⑨ **Increase Discussion of Health Needs Among Individuals Living with a Disability and who are Neurodiverse**
- ⑩ **Continue to Enhance Data Collection**
- ⑪ **Partner with LGBTQ Community-Based Organizations**

Summary



- The health challenges impacting the LGBTQ community are both numerous and pervasive.
- Resiliency factors within the community are strong.
- More work is needed to achieve health equity.
- More data are needed among LGBTQ communities of color and LGBTQ older adults to understand unique needs.

**Regular LGBTQ community
feedback over time is needed.
More voices support steps
to dismantle barriers, enhance
community health, and further
expand resilience.**



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PA LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment

For more visit bit.ly/PALGBTQ



BRADBURY-SULLIVAN
LGBT COMMUNITY CENTER

*Serving the LGBT Community
of the Greater Lehigh Valley*

bradburysullivancenter.org



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

health.pa.gov/topics/programs/tobacco



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