

The LGBTQ Community in Central Alabama has a lot in common with our neighbors. **We are family oriented, we care about others, and we serve our country.**

Many of these statistics come from "Living LGBTQ in Central Alabama", the LGBTQ Funds survey of the LGBTQ population in Jefferson, Shelby, Walker, Blount, and St.Clair counties. Read the full survey at [www.cfbham.org/lgbtqfund](http://www.cfbham.org/lgbtqfund).



LGBTQ couples in middle American are more likely to be raising children. (williams institute)



LGBTQ individuals serve our country.



we are **3.8%** of the general population



Percentage of income given to charity

LGBTQ community gives



general population



**36%** attend a place of worship  
An additional **20%** would like to



But the LGBTQ community faces many challenges due to discrimination, a lack of family support, and a lack of preparedness in schools and other institutions to work with LGBTQ individuals and issues.

Individuals living on less than \$24,000 per year in the south



**33%**



**27%**

Individuals report not having enough money for food



**29%**



**20%**

**75.9%**

of education professionals feel that they have limited training and resources on LGBTQ issues. These professionals report encountering students facing violence and rejection in disturbing numbers.



Lack of family support  
**70.7%**



Violence at home  
**19%**



Forced to leave home  
**27.6%**

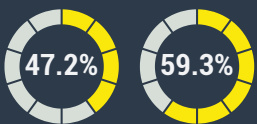


Isolated or rejected by peers  
**48.3%**

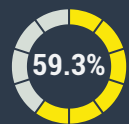
LGBTQ individuals have a wide variety of family experiences. Too many are not safe and supported in their own homes. LGBTQ individuals report the following experiences.



Teased or yelled because I'm LGBTQ



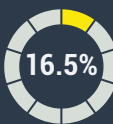
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual



Trans/gender-non conforming



Physically hurt because I'm LGBTQ



Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual



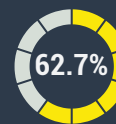
Trans/gender-non conforming



Someone stopped talking to me because I'm LGBTQ



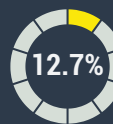
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual



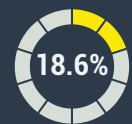
Trans/gender-non conforming



Kicked out of my house because I'm LGBTQ



Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual



Trans/gender-non conforming

# HEALTHCARE AND THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY

Access to *high-quality, compassionate healthcare* is one of the greatest challenges facing the LGBTQ community.

**39% of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual respondents have delayed getting healthcare. 67% of Transgender individuals have delayed getting healthcare. Here are some common concerns expressed by those delaying care.**

- ◆ I didn't know any place where I felt comfortable.  
**59% LGB, 77% Trans/gender-non conforming**
- ◆ I didn't think that the doctors knew how to help me:  
**32% LGB, 66% Trans/gender-non conforming**
- ◆ I could not afford to pay for care:  
**74% LGB, 80% Trans/gender-non conforming**
- ◆ I don't trust doctors:  
**25% LGB, 49% Trans/gender-non conforming**

## LGBTQ individuals face serious mental health concerns

- ◆ Feeling really sad or depressed for a long period of time **58% LGB and 78% Trans/gender-non conforming**
- ◆ Feeling anxious or panicked for a long time **56% LGB and 74% Trans/gender-non conforming**
- ◆ Had thoughts you didn't like but could not stop **48% LGB and 74% Trans/gender-non conforming**
- ◆ Feeling like you wished you were dead **30% LGB and 62% Trans/gender-non conforming**
- ◆ Thought about killing yourself **24% LGB and 52% Trans/gender-non conforming**
- ◆ Used drugs or alcohol to block out bad feelings **38% LGB and 53% Trans/gender-non conforming**
- ◆ Feeling like your gender is not right for you **10% LGB and 67% Trans/gender-non conforming**
- ◆ Feeling confused about sexual orientation **16% LGB and 43% Trans/gender-non conforming**
- ◆ I have experienced one or more of these concerns **72% LGB and 94% Trans/gender-non conforming**
- ◆ I have experienced any of these AND sought care **52% LGB and 56% Trans/gender-non conforming**



## Limited resources prevent individuals from getting the care that they need.

Report significant financial constraints on healthcare in the South



**28%**

LGBTQ Population



**20%**

General Population

Lack Insurance in the south



**24%**

LGBTQ Population



**16%**

General Population

Even though this data is a great cause for concern, we know that the statistics are understated because many individuals fear identifying as LGBTQ and do not respond openly to surveys.

*Health care and social service professionals want to do a better job serving the LGBTQ population. Our survey indicated a desire for more information on the following topics*

- ◆ What does it mean to be LGBTQ: **64%**
- ◆ What does it mean to be gender non-conforming or transgender: **84%**
- ◆ How can we separate our personal beliefs about LGBTQ issues from our actions as professionals: **72%**
- ◆ How can we establish rapport and communicate support to LGBTQ people: **80%**
- ◆ How can we help family members accept LGBTQ individuals: **87%**
- ◆ How can we intervene when LGBTQ people experience bullying and violence: **84%**
- ◆ How can we meet the healthcare needs of LGBTQ individuals: **92%**
- ◆ How can we meet the healthcare needs of transitioning transgender individuals: **88%**
- ◆ How can we recognize and intervene in mental health crises: **84%**