

# The Health of the Staten Island LGBT Community

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

## HIGHLIGHTS

- LGBT people in Staten Island experienced high rates of food insecurity.
- Nearly half of respondents from Staten Island had no health home, while almost one quarter lacked a primary care provider.

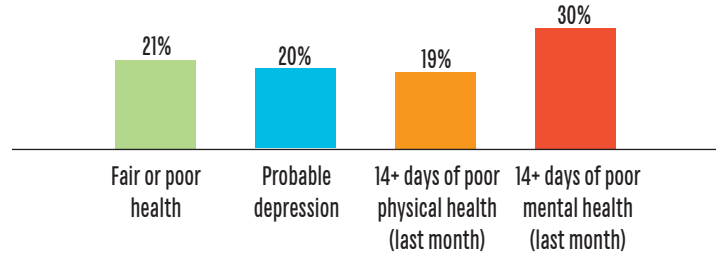
## Background

Staten Island has a population of nearly 471,000.<sup>1</sup> There is one member of the LGBT Health & Human Services (HHS) Network and AIDS Institute LGBT HHS Initiative grantee based there, the Pride Center of Staten Island, Inc., Staten Island's LGBT Community Center. One hundred and ten people responded to the New York State LGBT needs assessment in Staten Island. Fully 86% of respondents had been to an LGBT Center once in the past year, while just under half (44%) visited at least once a month.

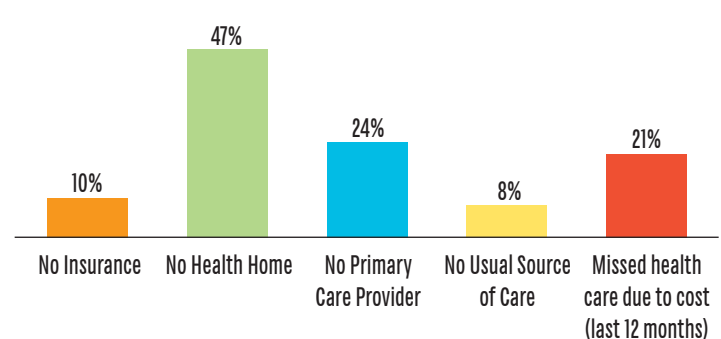
## Current Health Status, Access, and Barriers to Care

Just over one in five (22%) respondents from Staten Island had "fair" or "poor" health, while three in ten (30%) had frequent mental distress (14+ days of poor mental health in the past month). While just one in ten (10%) had no health insurance, 21% could not access needed health care in the last 12 months because of cost. Nearly half (47%) of the respondents from Staten Island said they had no health home and almost one in four (24%) 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 (36%), not enough psychological support groups (33%), community fear or dislike of LGBT people (28%), inadequate insurance (24%), long distances to LGBT-sensitive medical facilities (21%) and not enough health professionals who are trained and competent to work with the LGBT community (21%).

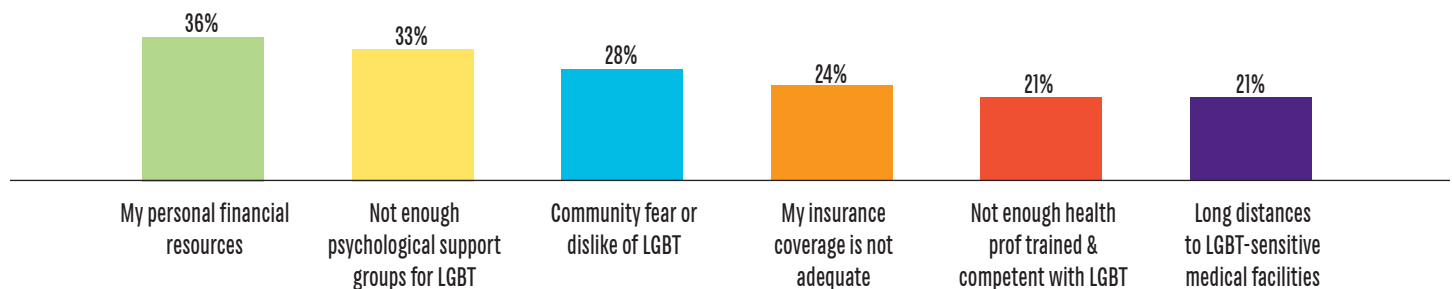
### Health Status



### Health Access

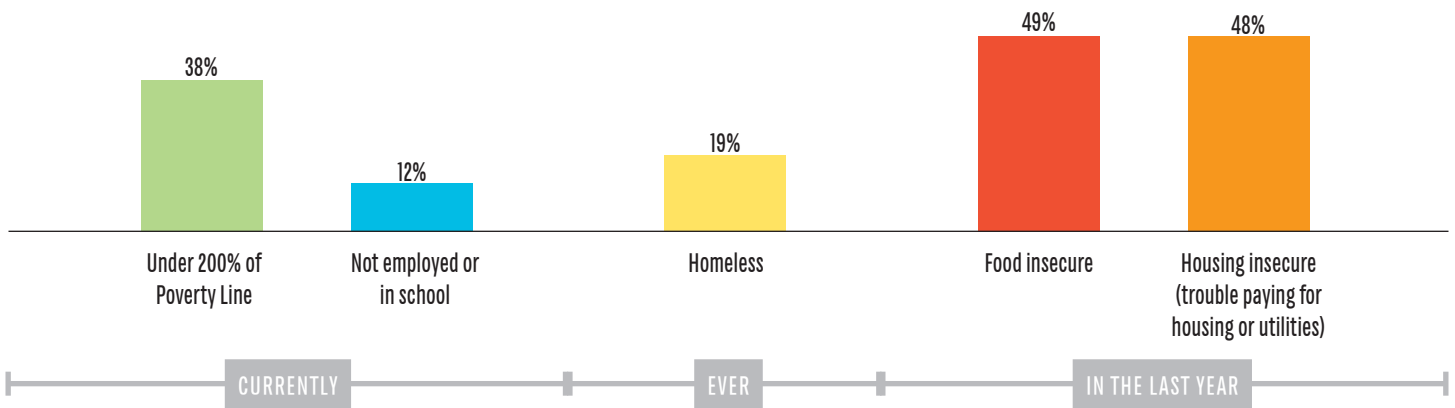


### Barriers to Care



**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](http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/chac/general/g96.htm). Accessed October 12, 2015.

## Economic Vulnerabilities



### Economic Status and Vulnerabilities

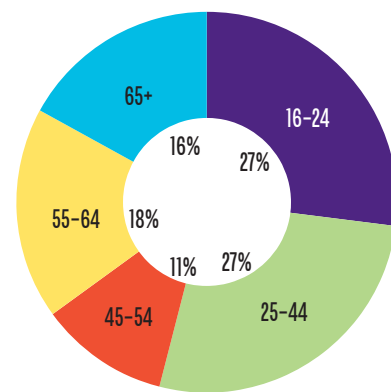
Thirty-eight percent of survey respondents reported annual incomes under 200% of the poverty line. Fifty seven percent were employed full or part time, just over one quarter (27%) were students and 12% were neither employed nor in school (and not retired). Nearly one in five (19%) had been homeless at some point in their lives. Nearly half (49%) were food insecure and a similar number (48%) were housing insecure. Nearly one third (31%) had accessed public benefits in the last year.

### Demographics

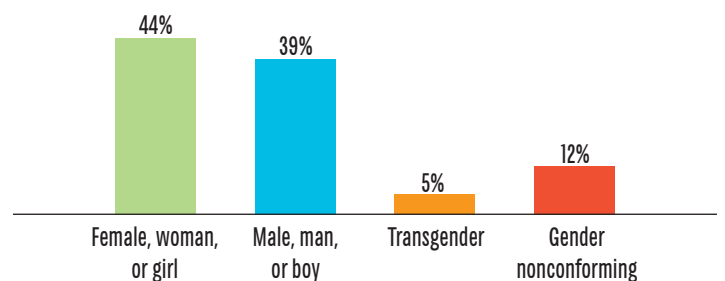
Sixteen percent of those who took the survey identified as transgender or gender nonconforming (respondents could identify as more than one gender). Just over one third (34%) identified as gay and an identical percentage identified as lesbian. Nearly one in five (18%) identified as bisexual. Nearly one in five (18%) reported having a disability.

Just over one quarter (28%) identified as people of color, while nearly three-quarters (74%) of survey respondents identified as white. Thirteen percent identified as Hispanic or Latino/a and seven percent as Black or African American. Other racial and ethnic categories were too small to analyze. Nearly half (49%) had a college degree or higher.

### 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 [www.prideagenda.org/lgbtdata](http://www.prideagenda.org/lgbtdata).