

Roughly 14 million people living in the U.S. identify as LGBT.¹ This population is more **likely to experience various forms of violence and victimization**, such as bullying, harassment, physical or sexual assault, and hate crimes.² Despite the perception that society has become more accepting of the LGBTQ community, crime rates have not improved since they were first measured in the 1990s. LGBTQ people experience victimization in disproportionate numbers throughout childhood, adolescence, and adulthood; **trends in LGBTQ youth victimization appear to be worsening.**²

Victimization Trends

Some evidence suggests LGB victimization has increased over time. GB males face higher rates of certain types of victimization than LGB females, such as weapon assault and robbery, but overall, gender differences are small.*³

* There is not enough data available to report on transgender victimization trends.

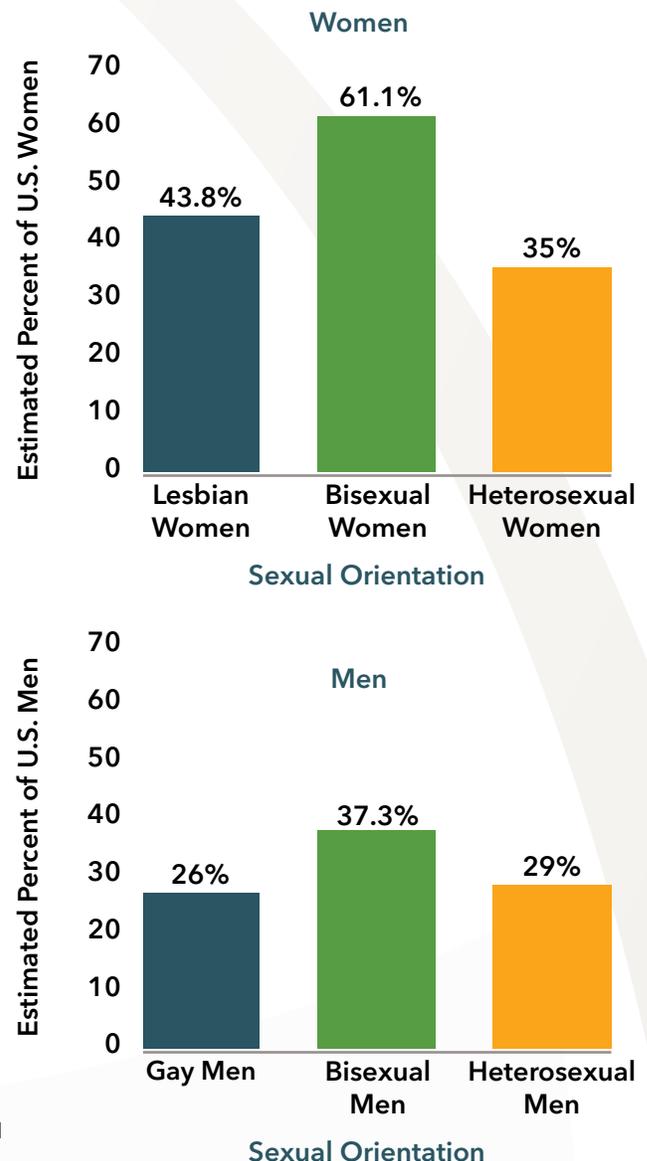
Dating and Sexual Violence

LGBTQ individuals experience dating and sexual violence at disproportionate rates compared to non-LGBTQ individuals. Lifetime prevalence of intimate partner violence (IPV) among LGBTQ individuals is as high or higher than the general population. Bisexual men and women experience the highest rates of IPV when compared to other sexual orientations.⁴ It is estimated that roughly **half of transgender individuals experience IPV and sexual assault in their lifetimes.**⁵

Terms

LGBTQ is a broad acronym that refers to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer individuals. Often, researchers do not study this entire group together. Therefore, the acronym that best describes which sexual orientation or gender identities were studied will be used.

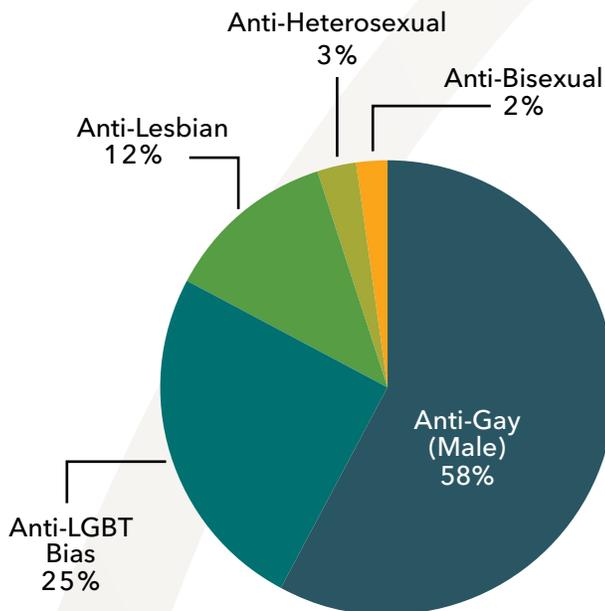
Lifetime Rates of Intimate Partner Violence
 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey 2010



Hate Crimes, Bias, and Discrimination

From 2011-2015, **1 in 5 hate crime victims reported sexual orientation as the motive.** During the same period, the most frequently reported LGBT hate crimes were assault and intimidation.⁶ In 2015, nearly half of transgender individuals reported verbal harassment, physical assault, and being denied equal treatment because of their transgender identity.⁵

Sexual Orientation Bias Crimes
Percent of 1,303 Reported Crimes
Uniform Crime Report 2017



Youth Victimization

Sexual minority youth are more likely than heterosexual youth to be victims of bullying and bias-related crimes. Studies estimate 30 to 40% of sexual minority populations experience childhood sexual abuse compared to an estimated **5 to 20%** of the general population.*⁷

*Both figures are likely underestimated.

80%  **LGBTQ students were assaulted or harassed in the past year.**

20%  **LGBTQ students reported physical assault in the past year due to gender or sexual orientation.**

84%  **Transgender students were bullied or harassed because of their gender identity.**

70%  **Gender nonconforming students were bullied or harassed because of their gender identity.⁷**

SOURCES

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Did You Know?

- **Transgender individuals reported acts of control by an intimate partner** such as being told they are not a "real" man or woman, being "outed," and being prevented from taking their hormones.⁵
- **Mistrust of police and fears of police bias and violence** among the LGBTQ community may contribute to an underreporting of crime.²