



Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Trans people accessing routine healthcare

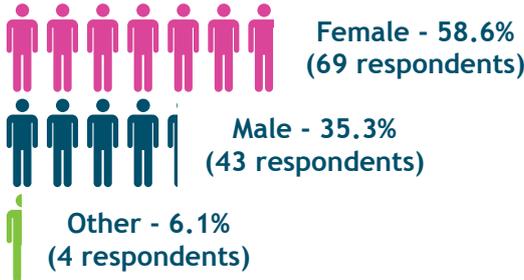
February - April 2015



Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Trans people accessing routine healthcare

1. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender men & women

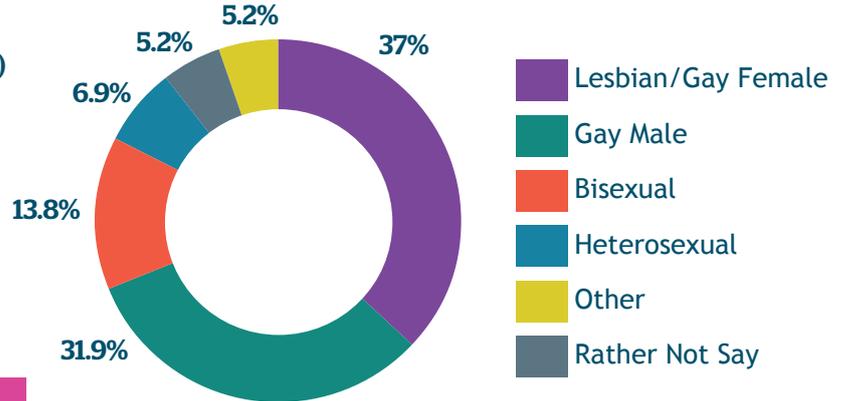
Gender



Gender the same as the one on original birth certificate

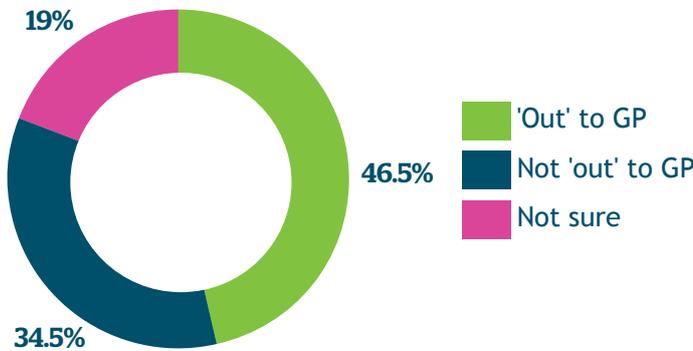


Sexual Orientation



Disclosure

We asked LGB and/or T people if they had disclosed their sexual orientation to their GP...



I have not disclosed my sexuality [to my GP] as it has not come up or been asked about. I would prefer if it was asked about.

Lesbian female, 25-34

16% of LGB&T people have been asked about their sexual orientation on a monitoring form at their GP surgery

79% of LGB&T people *would* disclose their sexual orientation if they were asked by their GP

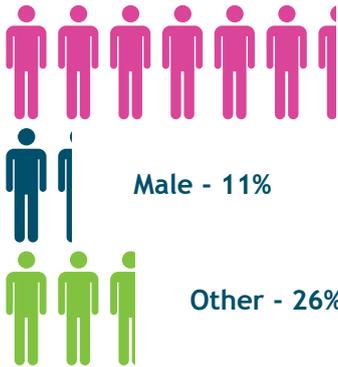
25% of LGB&T people think that being lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or trans affects the way that healthcare professionals treat them



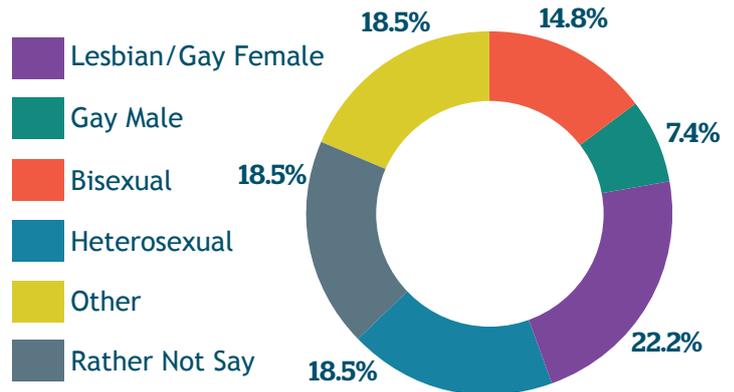
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2. Trans & Gender Variant People

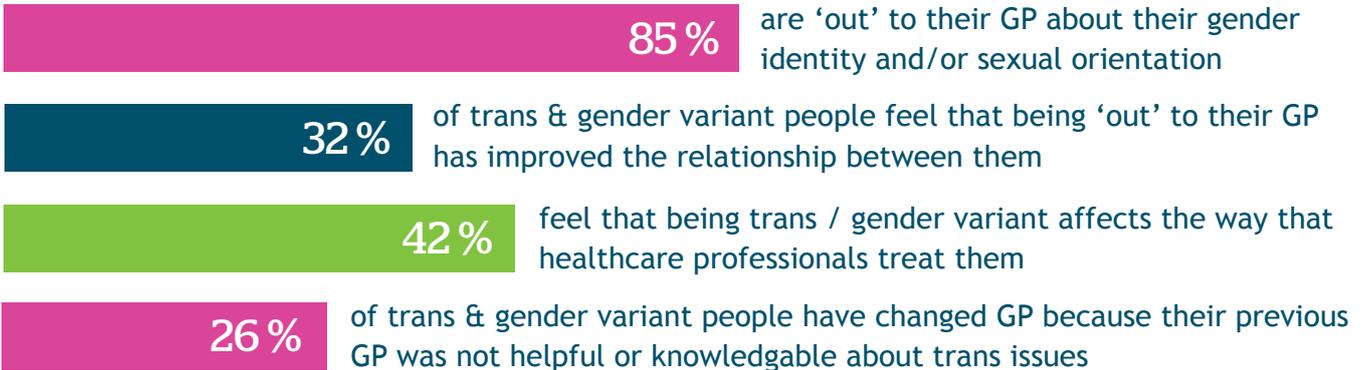
Gender



Sexual Orientation



Disclosure



61% of trans & gender variant people felt their healthcare professionals had a lack of knowledge about their needs

Gynaecologist refused to inspect post-op wound and infection saying it was an abuse of the service

Trans female in West Lancashire, 50+

GP tried to conduct an inappropriate internal examination

Trans female in Wyre, 45-54

Refusal to treat resulting in journeys to Brighton for post-op complications that could have been sorted locally

Trans female in West Lancashire, 45-54

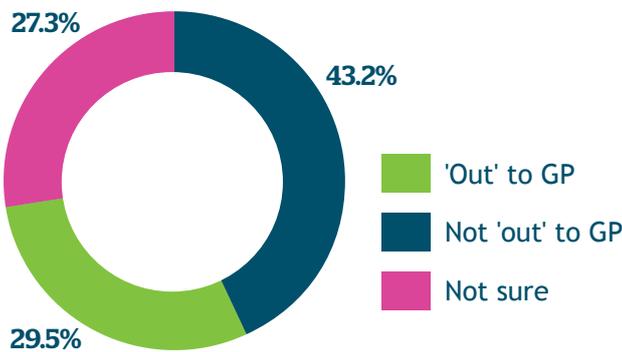


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3. Lesbian & Bisexual women

Disclosure

Only 29.5% of Lesbian & Bisexual women are 'out' to their GP. However, 85.4% said they *would* disclose their sexual orientation if asked by their GP.



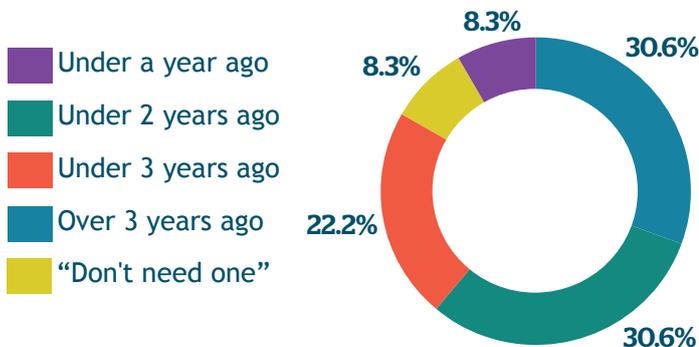
Sexual Health

77.3% of Lesbian & Bisexual women told us that they had never had a sexual health screening



Smear Tests

30.6% of Lesbian & Bisexual women over the age of 25 last had a smear test over 3 years ago



- 19% were told that they do not need, or no longer need smear tests
- 14% have not had a recent smear test because they "don't like them"
- 6% have not had a recent smear test due to a bad experience in the past

Fertility

8% of Lesbian & Bisexual women have approached their GP about fertility treatment. All respondents that said they had accessed fertility treatment said they received "terrible" service

The constant assumption that you are straight gets annoying. They don't get Lesbians and their needs. I go through hell with each smear and it never gets any better.

Lesbian female, 55-64

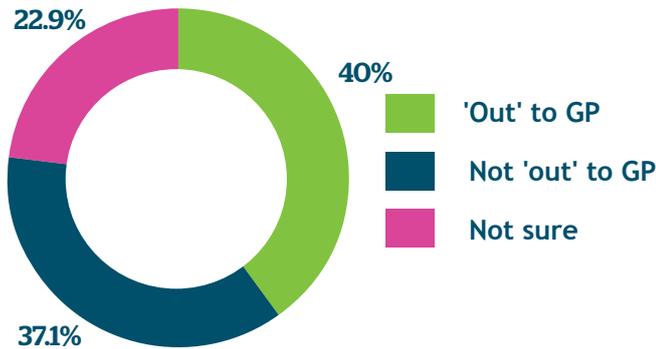


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4. Gay & Bisexual men

Disclosure

Only 40% of Gay & Bisexual men in Lancashire are 'out' to their GP. However, 82.9% would disclose their sexual orientation if asked.



27% of Gay & Bisexual men are not sure if their GP is "OK" with LGBT people

You mention being gay when you are at your GP, or even at the hospital, and they look at you, roll their eyes, then the next line is "Have you had your blood tested for HIV?"

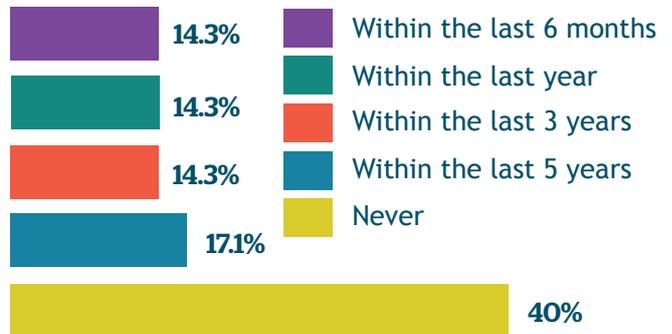
Gay male, 35-44

Sexual Health

40% of Gay & Bisexual men in Lancashire told us they have *never* had a sexual health screening

The [GUM] clinic disclosed my information to my GP. I have never given them authorisation to do this. This has affected my trust and I have not been back since.

Gay male, 25-34



31% of Gay & Bisexual men in Lancashire told us that they have *never* been tested for HIV

34% of Gay & Bisexual men in Lancashire told us that they do not know what PEP (Post-Exposure Prophylaxis) is

51% of Gay & Bisexual men told us that they do not know how to access PEP (Post-Exposure Prophylaxis)