

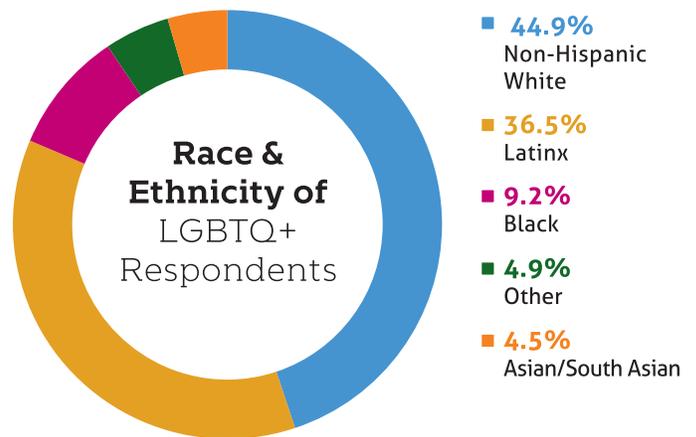
# STATE OF OUR COMMUNITY

## SAN ANTONIO LGBTQ+ 2020 SURVEY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

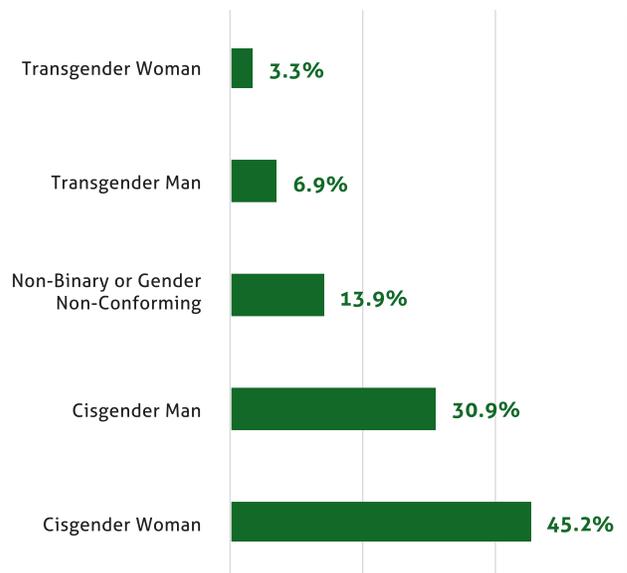
Between June & November of 2019, the Strengthening Colors of Pride research team collected **1819 online surveys** from lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer & other sexual minorities (LGBTQ+) in the San Antonio metro area. The **San Antonio metro area** includes Bexar County & the seven counties that surround San Antonio—Kendall, B&era, Medina, Atascosa, Wilson, Guadalupe, Comal. In this survey, we collected 1545 surveys from Bexar County residents & 274 surveys from the surrounding counties. Residents of all counties were represented in the survey.

### Who is in the San Antonio LGBTQ+ Community?

- LGBTQ+ people from 16 to 81 years old took this survey. The average age of LGBTQ+ adults in the San Antonio metro area is 32 years old.
- The most common answers to questions about sexual orientation were bisexual or pansexual (36.1%), gay (30.9%), or lesbian (19.4%).
- The San Antonio metro LGBTQ+ community is racially diverse. Only 44.9% of survey respondents identified as non-Hispanic White. This survey may also underestimate the number of Latinx LGBTQ+ people in the San Antonio metro area.
- Almost twenty percent of survey respondents speak a language other than English at home. Although most of these respondents speak Spanish at home, at least 18 other languages are spoken in the homes of LGBTQ+ people in the San Antonio metro area, including Urdu, Tagalog, Japanese, French, & American Sign Language.
- The San Antonio metro LGBTQ+ community is gender diverse. Almost one quarter (23.8%) of respondents identified as transgender, agender, non-binary,

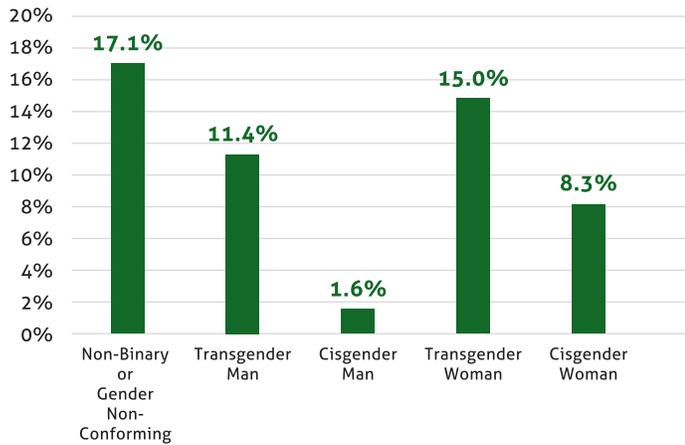


### Gender Identity



- genderqueer or otherwise gender non-conforming.
- LGBTQ+ youth are the most likely to have diverse gender identities. One third of LGBTQ+ youth (ages 16 to 24 years old) identify as transgender, non-binary or gender non-conforming.

### Unemployment by Gender Identity



### The Economics of LGBTQ+ Life in San Antonio

- LGBTQ+ survey respondents report high rates of completing a college or advanced degree. Among LGBTQ+ adults who are 25 years or older, 83.5% have attended college or other education beyond a high school diploma.
- The median personal income of LGBTQ+ adults (18+) in San Antonio metro area is around \$30,000 dollars, much lower than the citywide average. Transgender & Latinx LGBTQ+ respondents made some of the lowest incomes; 31.2% of transgender respondents & 23.2% of Latinx respondents made less than \$10,000 a year.
- There are high rates of unemployment in the LGBTQ+ community. Both Latinx & transgender respondents experience unemployment rates more than four times that of the general San Antonio population. 19.2% of LGBTQ+ youth are unemployed.
- Home ownership rates in the San Antonio LGBTQ+ community are low, & only 16.5% of Black LGBTQ+ adults own their own home, apartment, or condo.
- Almost one in five of LGBTQ+ San Antonio residents have experienced homelessness either now or in the past. 64% percent of LGBTQ+ respondents who have experienced homelessness as a child or teenager were kicked out of their home because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. One in four (27.5%) transgender youth

experienced homelessness before their 25th birthday.

- High rates of discrimination in employment & housing contribute to these economic differences. At least one in four LGBTQ+ people in San Antonio reported being fired or asked to resign from a job because of their gender identity or sexual orientation at some point. 33.3% of respondents reported not receiving a job or promotion because of their gender identity & 14% because of their sexual orientation.
- Housing discrimination impacts transgender people in San Antonio significantly. 44.6% of transgender men & 31.8% of transgender women report having been denied housing at some point in their lives based on their gender identity.

### Health & Support Systems

- LGBTQ+ people are more likely to avoid seeing a healthcare professional when needed, less likely to have health insurance, & have problems finding LGBTQ+ competent healthcare in the San Antonio metro area. Approximately half of LGBTQ+ individuals do not know where to find a provider that is knowledgeable about LGBTQ+ concerns.

46%

Have avoided seeing a healthcare professional this year.

15.2%

Do not have insurance.

40.5%

Have problems finding LGBTQ+ competent healthcare.

30.8%

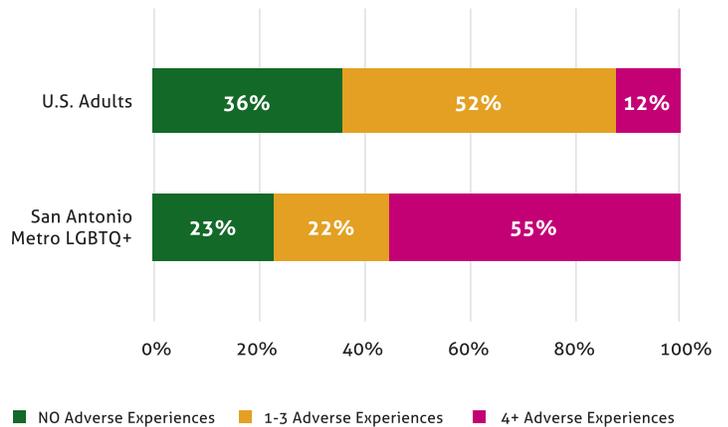
Have been refused treatment by healthcare provider.

19.8%

Have been assaulted in a healthcare setting.

- *LGBTQ+ people in San Antonio report high rates of refusal of treatment & poor treatment by healthcare providers, including reports of abusive treatment & violence. More than 30% of LGBTQ+ individuals are regularly refused treatment by a healthcare provider, & around 40% have been asked to seek treatment elsewhere as the provider did not feel appropriately trained to treat LGBTQ+ concerns.*
- *High rates of family trauma & adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) impact the health of LGBTQ+ people in San Antonio. LGBTQ+ residents of the San Antonio metro area have three times the national average of ACEs scores than the general population, which may significantly impact adult physical & mental health.*

**ACEs** for LGBTQ+ San Antonio vs. U.S. Adults



**Support & Resources**

- *LGBTQ+ respondents reported high rates of resilience & supportive social networks. Around 80% of respondents agree that they have a special friend who cares about their feelings & they can share their joys & sorrows, being around when they are in need, & be a real source of comfort to them.*
- *There is an unmet need in the LGBTQ+ community for mental health services, community gathering places, sober spaces, job training, support groups, & legal assistance.*

**Top Policy Recommendations**



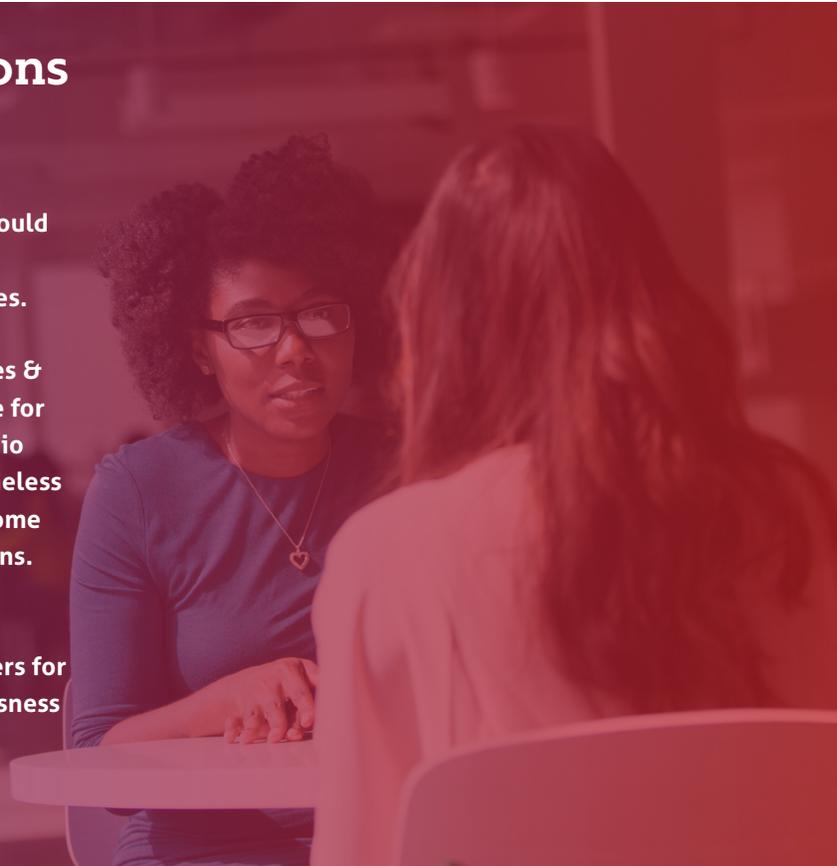
The comprehensive nondiscrimination protections statewide & expansion of employment protections in San Antonio would provide LGBTQ+ with assurances against discrimination & protection in public spaces.



LGBTQ+ competency training for employees & analysis of accessibility for LGBTQ+ people for the following institutions in the San Antonio metro area: healthcare organizations, homeless shelters, organizations that serve low-income communities, & youth-serving organizations.



The development of more emergency, transitional, & affordable housing & shelters for LGBTQ+ individuals experiencing homelessness or housing instability.





The Center - Pride Center San Antonio's mission is to serve the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and HIV communities by connecting them and their families to community resources and organizations related to health, wellness, support, education, activities, and advocacy. Established in 2011, as an all-volunteer led organization with limited programming and events has transformed into a community hub and referral network to other LGBTQ+ serving organizations, while providing direct services and support from our walk-in resource center. Some of the services include, community events, peer-to-peer support groups, access to technology in our cyber center, as well as training and educational initiatives aimed to build allies and improve the overall quality of life of LGBTQ+ people. Through our work on the "Strengthening Colors of Pride" project, The Center now offers case management and counseling services as part of our programs. The Center remains committed to "Empowering San Antonio's LGBTQ+ Community" and providing a safe space where all community members, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity can be their authentic self.



## About Our Team



### **Amy L. Stone (they/them)**

is a Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at Trinity University and the co-principal investigator of Strengthening Colors of Pride.

### **Robert Salcido, Jr. (he/him)**

is the Executive Director at The Center - Pride Center San Antonio and the co-principal investigator of Strengthening Colors of Pride. He also has a dual role in the community as the Community Outreach & Engagement Manager at Equality Texas.



### **Charlotte Georgiou (she/her)**

works as the Research Program Coordinator for Strengthening Colors of Pride. She has over a decade of work experience in the public and private sectors in the UK, spending many of these years managing large scale teams and major events. Her research interests center around women's health, the health outcomes of women experiencing violence, and community health impacts of poor oral and physical health.



### **Ryann Williams (she/her)**

is a recent graduate from Trinity University majoring in Sociology and Political Science. Ryann has worked on Strengthening Colors of Pride as a research assistant since Summer 2019 and has continued to work on the team recruiting participants, managing social media, and analyzing research data.

