

Healthcare Experiences of LGBTQ+ Individuals: Community PRIDE 2022 Event survey

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INTRODUCTION

- Around 16% of LGBTQ+ adults in the US reported having experienced discrimination in healthcare setting
- As a result, some patients delay or avoid seeking healthcare services for fear of being stigmatized.

AIMS

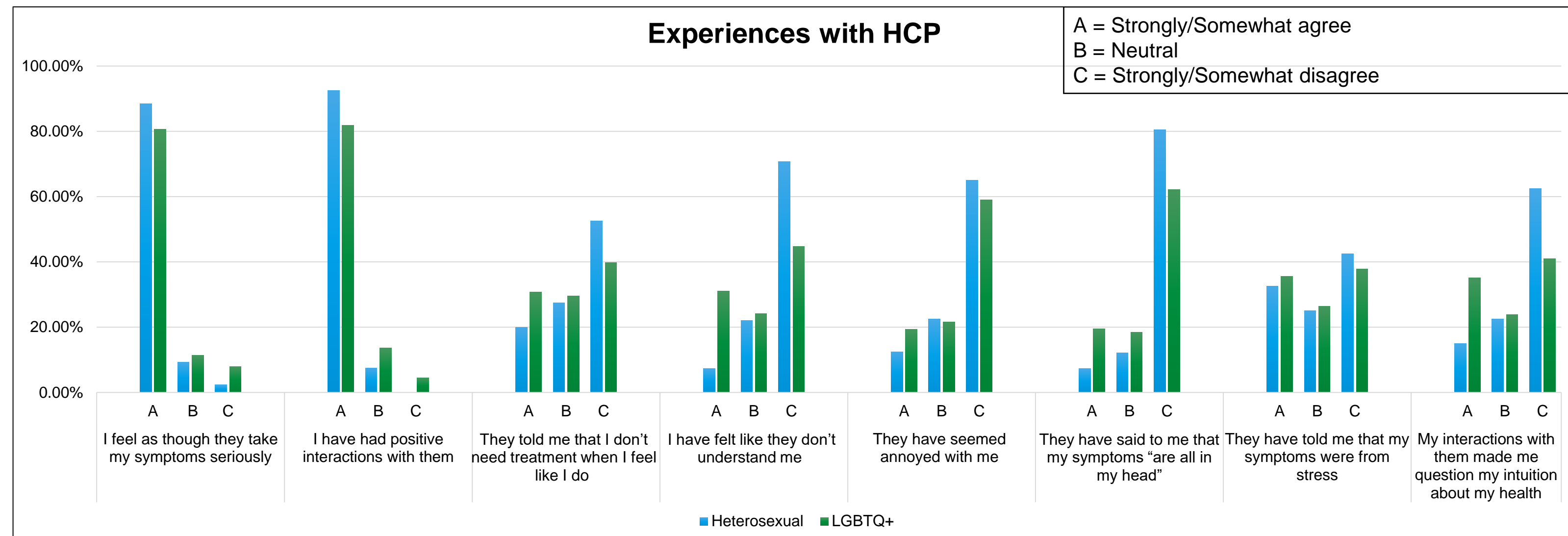
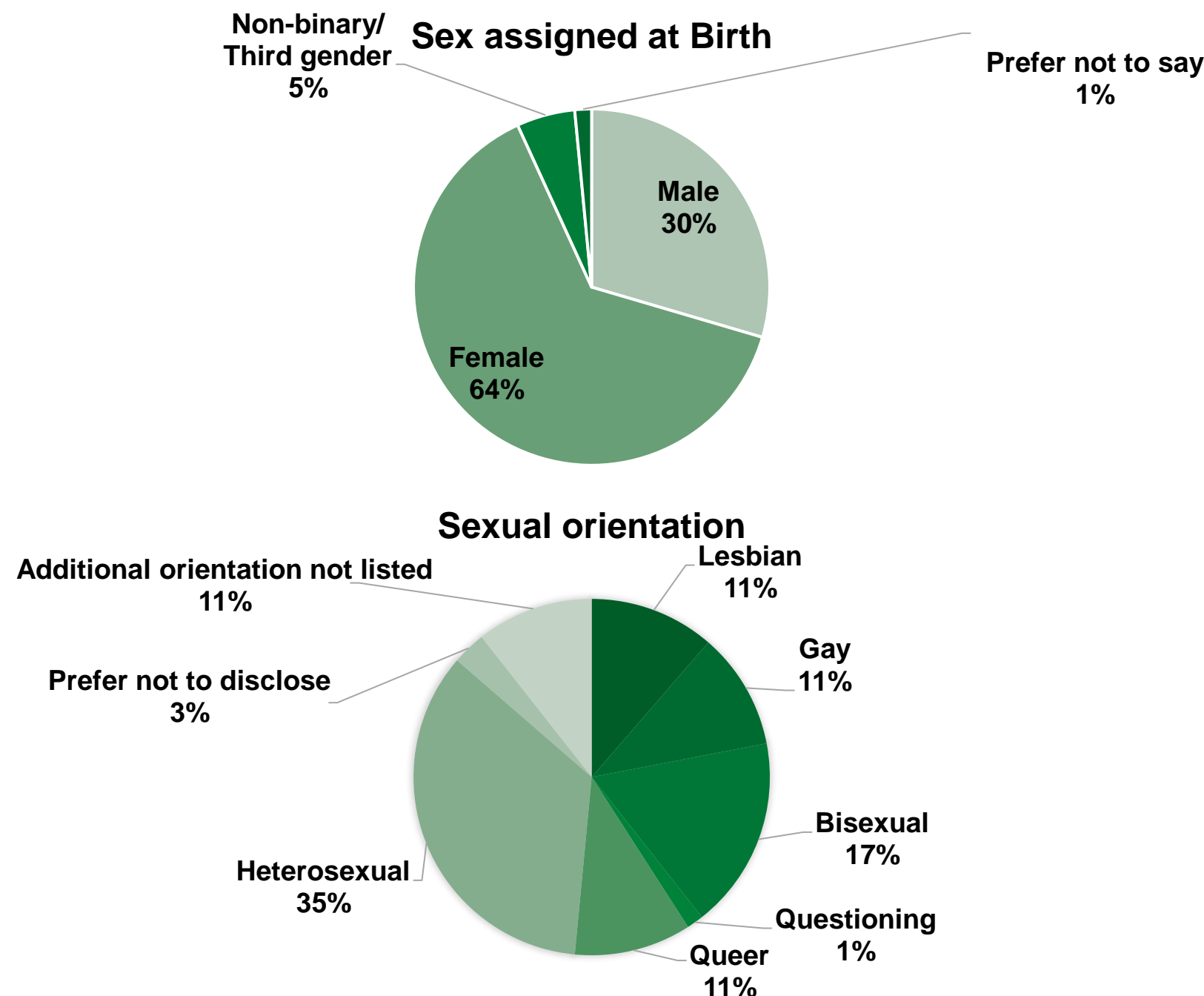
- We surveyed Rochester (RST) Pride attendees regarding their healthcare experiences

METHODS

- 132 RST Pride 2022 attendees completed an anonymous online/paper survey to compare healthcare experiences among LGBTQ+ vs straight individuals and among gender diverse subgroups of the LGBTQ+ community (Cis vs. Trans or queer or plus (TQ+))
- Characteristics of straight and LGBTQ+ individuals were compared using logistic regression for dichotomized outcomes and general linearized models for categorical outcomes after adjusting for age
- Outcomes were considered significant when the p-value < 0.05

	Heterosexual (N=43)	LGBTQ+ (N=89)
Age		
18-25	4 (9.3%)	37 (41.6%)
26-35	12 (27.9%)	28 (31.5%)
36-45	8 (18.6%)	10 (11.2%)
46-55	8 (18.6%)	6 (6.7%)
56-55	6 (14.0%)	5 (5.6%)
66-75	4 (9.3%)	1 (1.1%)
76+	1 (2.3%)	1 (1.1%)
Race		
White	37 (86.0%)	79 (88.8%)
Black / African American	2 (4.7%)	0 (0.0%)
Asian	3 (7.0%)	4 (4.5%)
Other	0 (0.0%)	6 (6.7%)
Education Level		
Less than high school	0 (0.0%)	8 (9.0%)
High school graduate	1 (2.3%)	8 (9.0%)
Some college	5 (11.6%)	28 (31.5%)
2-year degree	5 (11.6%)	6 (6.7%)
4-year degree	8 (18.6%)	20 (22.5%)
Professional degree	14 (32.6%)	11 (12.4%)
Doctorate	8 (18.6%)	8 (9.0%)
Prefer not to answer	1 (2.3%)	0 (0.0%)
Relationship Status		
Single, never married	11 (25.6%)	49 (55.1%)
Marriage/partnered in a marriage-like relationship	25 (58.1%)	25 (28.1%)
Separated	1 (2.3%)	1 (1.1%)
Divorced	4 (9.3%)	3 (3.4%)
Other	0 (0.0%)	6 (6.7%)
Prefer not to answer	0 (0.0%)	3 (3.4%)
Insurance type		
Public	8 (18.6%)	28 (31.8%)
Private	36 (83.7%)	56 (63.6%)
None	1 (2.3%)	2 (2.3%)
Prefer not to say	0 (0.0%)	5 (5.7%)

RESULTS



	Heterosexual (N=43)	LGBTQ+ (N=89)	p value
How would you describe your access to health care?			
Very/Somewhat difficult	3 (7.0%)	20 (22.7%)	0.2152
Not difficult	7 (16.3%)	11 (12.5%)	
Very/Somewhat easy	33 (76.7%)	57 (64.8%)	
Where do you usually seek care?			
Outpatient clinic	41 (97.6%)	79 (88.8%)	0.0842
Hospital	4 (9.5%)	5 (5.6%)	0.6802
Urgent care / Emergency	3 (7.0%)	20 (22.5%)	0.0555
Subspecialty clinic	1 (2.4%)	7 (7.9%)	0.1949
Did your HCP ask about your sexual orientation / gender identity?			
Yes	13 (30.2%)	38 (42.7%)	0.5511
No	24 (55.8%)	42 (47.2%)	
Not sure/do not remember	6 (14.0%)	9 (10.1%)	
Did you disclose your sexual orientation / gender identity to your HCP?			
Yes	25 (58.1%)	56 (62.9%)	0.1593
No / Prefer not to	18 (41.9%)	33 (37.1%)	
How often do you fear negative reaction from you HCPs because your sexual orientation / gender identity?			
Always / Often	1 (2.4%)	18 (20.5%)	0.0006
Sometimes	4 (9.5%)	31 (35.2%)	
Rarely / Never	37 (88.1%)	39 (44.3%)	
Responses to universal signs of acceptance.			
Fell more trust toward the setting	36 (83.7%)	68 (76.4%)	0.2346
Feel it safer to disclose	14 (32.6%)	55 (61.8%)	0.0066
Does not make a difference	7 (16.3%)	10 (11.2%)	0.8818
I am suspicious of the setting	0 (0.0%)	1 (1.1%)	0.9026
Did not notice	0 (0.0%)	4 (4.5%)	0.9390
Have never seen these signs	0 (0.0%)	6 (6.7%)	0.9415
When you see gender neutral language, how does it impact your perception of the institution?			
Viewed as inclusive	35 (83.3%)	66 (75.0%)	0.0008
Has not impact	6 (14.3%)	17 (19.3%)	
Other	1 (2.4%)	5 (5.7%)	

CONCLUSIONS

- Compared to their heterosexual counterparts, LGBTQ+ identifying individuals describe access to healthcare as being difficult. They have less positive healthcare experiences, and most of them feel misunderstood by their HCP
- Fear of negative reaction limits LGBTQ+ individuals from disclosing their SOGI
- Trans and non-binary individuals face worse discrimination and high-cost barrier when seeking health care compared with their cis LGB peers