

**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Community Survey 2022**  
**Community Program Planning Process (CPPP)**  
**FY 22-23 MHSA Annual Update**

**LGBTQ+**

An analysis of survey data from respondents who identified as LGBTQ+ was conducted to understand this population's specific needs when it comes to mental health services and supports. A total of 10 respondents identified as LGBTQ+.

Of those who identified as being LGBTQ+:

- 67% are community members (*aligns with overall survey responses*)
- 44% are consumers of behavioral health services (*aligns with overall survey responses*)
- 33% are medical or health care provider/organization staff (*differs from overall survey responses—medical/health care provider or organization staff ranked #8 in overall responses*)
- 22% are County Government Agency staff (*differs from overall responses—county government agency staff ranked #7 in overall responses*)
- 11% are family members of consumers of behavioral health services (*differs from overall responses—family members of consumers of behavioral health services ranked #3 in overall responses*)

Age groups identified in this population's responses include:

- 11% were young adults (18-24)
- 78% were adults
- 11% were seniors (60+)

*Differs greatly from overall survey responses. Young adults only represented 2% of overall survey responses—young adults are highly represented in the LGBTQ+ responses. Adults only represented 45% of overall survey responses—LGBTQ+ adults represent 78% of responses. Seniors (60+) are under-represented among the LGBTQ+ responses with the overall survey respondents stating 53% were seniors.*

English was the only preferred language identified among this group.

33% of respondents stated they were a victim of domestic violence and/or sexual assault.

11% of respondents stated they were Veterans.

11% of respondents stated they were Single Parents.

*Differs greatly from overall survey responses—with victims of domestic violence and/or sexual assault ranking #5, Veterans ranking #7 and Single Parents ranking #8. LGBTQ+ responses represent descriptions that are not otherwise visible when looking at the overall responses on their own.*

33% live in Sutter Creek (*aligns with overall survey responses*)

22% live in Jackson (*aligns with overall survey responses*)

LGBTQ+ respondents also live throughout Plymouth, Camanche, Pioneer and Pine Grove. *Regarding Pine Grove and Pioneer—the locations align with overall survey responses. However, responses differ with the Camanche and Plymouth locations.*

44% felt MHS-funded programs were doing good or excellent in serving the LGBTQ+ community and 22% felt MHS-funded programs were doing fair or poor.

*This differs from the overall responses where 17% felt MHS was doing good or excellent and 12% felt MHS was doing fair or poor.*

When asked about barriers to mental health services and supports, LGBTQ+ respondents identified:

- 78% stated they weren't sure where to go for help
- 78% stated insurance eligibility
- 67% stated stigma
- 67% stated lack of providers
- 56% stated services are not available at a date/time they could access them.

*These responses align with the overall survey results.*

Of those who responded to this question, 38% have Medi-Cal and 63% have private/commercial insurance. **Given the majority of respondents had private/commercial insurance, the fact that lack of providers is a barrier is no surprise due to the provider shortage for private, community based mental health providers. Especially those who are trained or knowledgeable in the LGBTQ+ experience. Additionally, the majority of LGBTQ+ people who responded to this survey have private/commercial insurance, which means they are most likely employed, which would explain the response that services cannot be accessed at a date or time when they could easily access them.**

When asked if the COVID-19 pandemic was still impacting LGBTQ+ individuals, the responses were 56% stating no, and 44% stating yes, they are still impacted by the pandemic. Those who responded yes, stated several reasons why, including but not limited to stress, social life, and the realization that nothing will ever be the same.

*This aligns, to some degree, with the overall survey responses.*

Unique needs/exceptions exist for the LGBTQ+ community and this data is insightful and will be used for programing and service delivery purposes.