

Economy, Housing, Mental Health and Substance Use: Perspectives of LGBT Coloradans

RESULTS FROM A 2018 SURVEY

IN THE FALL OF 2018, THE COLORADO HEALTH FOUNDATION PARTNERED WITH THE KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION TO CONDUCT A SURVEY OF MORE THAN 1,800 COLORADANS, EXAMINING THEIR PERSPECTIVES ON IMPORTANT ISSUES FACING OUR STATE AND IMPACTING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THOSE WHO CALL IT “HOME.”

The perspectives gathered in the survey, including those from Coloradans who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT), are instructive for a better understanding of the priorities and concerns of residents. The 2018 survey shows that the economy, housing, mental health and substance use challenges are top-of-mind concerns for LGBT people who live in the state (as compared to those who do not identify as LGBT).



The Colorado Health Foundation™

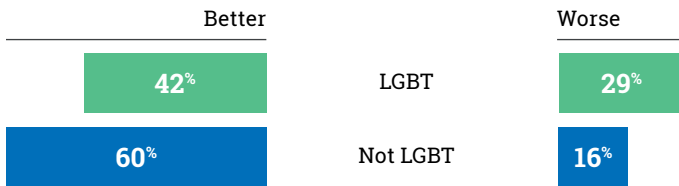
Economy

MORE RECENTLY, COLORADO'S ECONOMY HAS BEEN ONE OF THE STRONGEST IN THE NATION – WITH LOW EMPLOYMENT AND STEADY GROWTH SUPPORTING THE PROSPERITY OF SOME RESIDENTS. BUT NOT ALL ARE EXPERIENCING THE REWARDS OF A GROWING ECONOMY.

MORE THAN FOUR IN 10 LGBT COLORADANS SAY THEY ARE WORSE OFF FINANCIALLY THAN A YEAR AGO



A MAJORITY OF COLORADANS SAY THE ECONOMY AND JOB MARKET ARE GETTING BETTER – BUT LESS THAN HALF OF LGBT RESIDENTS AGREE



HALF OF LGBT COLORADANS SAY IT'S GOTTEN HARDER TO AFFORD FOOD



Housing

THE RISING COSTS OF HOUSING ARE IMPACTING ALL COLORADANS – INCLUDING LGBT PEOPLE WHO ARE MORE LIKELY TO REPORT THAT THEY'RE STRUGGLING TO AFFORD A PLACE TO LIVE.

SEVEN IN 10 LGBT COLORADANS SAY IT'S BECOME HARDER TO AFFORD THEIR RENT OR MORTGAGE



LGBT COLORADANS ARE TWICE AS LIKELY TO FEEL WORRIED THAT THEY MIGHT LOSE THEIR HOMES BECAUSE OF AN INABILITY TO AFFORD THE MONTHLY RENT OR MORTGAGE IN THE NEXT YEAR



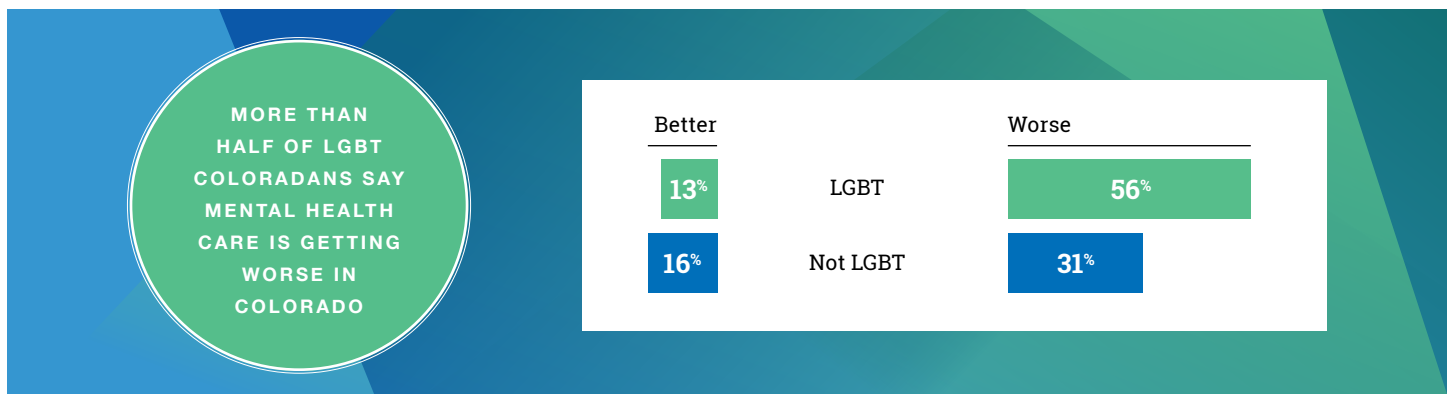
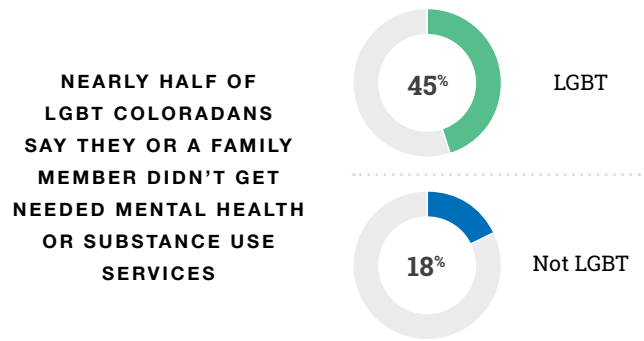
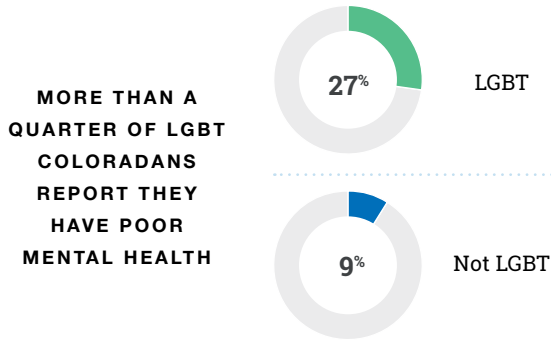
MORE THAN NINE IN 10 LGBT COLORADANS PRIORITIZE STATE GOVERNMENT ACTION ON PROGRAMS THAT MAKE HOUSING MORE AFFORDABLE



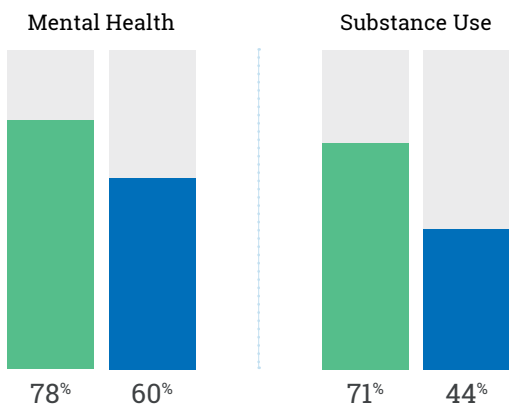
● LGBT ● Not LGBT

Mental Health & Substance Use

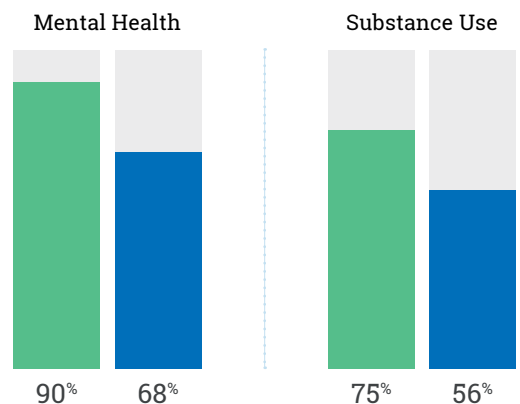
AS MORE NATIONAL AND LOCAL ATTENTION SHINES ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE CHALLENGES, LGBT COLORADANS ARE MORE LIKELY TO REPORT POOR MENTAL HEALTH AND DIFFICULTIES IN ACCESSING THE CARE AND RECOVERY SERVICES THEY NEED.



LGBT COLORADANS DON'T THINK MOST PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO GET THE MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES THEY NEED



LGBT COLORADANS PRIORITIZE STATE GOVERNMENT ACTION TO FUND MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT PROGRAMS



● LGBT ● Not LGBT

Our health and quality of life are shaped by many factors – the level of education we gain, the discrimination and bias we face, the money we earn, the neighborhood where we live and much more. These data highlight how LGBT Coloradans are facing unfair and avoidable barriers to health simply because of who they are – a poignant reminder that our state faces real challenges when it comes to advancing health and health equity.

To review the complete results of the survey, visit:

bit.ly/CHF-KFF-2018-poll

About the Colorado Health Foundation:

The Colorado Health Foundation is bringing health in reach for all Coloradans by engaging closely with communities across the state through investing, policy advocacy, learning and capacity building. For more information, please visit **www.coloradohealth.org**.



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