

# Health Insurance Status and Access to Care Among LGBT Populations in California



A new study by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research (CHPR) and Williams Institute examines the differences in **health insurance coverage** and **health care access among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) adults** in California. Although LGBT adults had similar or better rates of insurance coverage compared to heterosexual/straight and cisgender adults, they were **more likely to experience barriers in accessing health care**.

## Current Health Insurance Coverage

### By sexual orientation and gender\*

More than **1 in 2** **gay men** (57%) and **lesbian women** (54%) have **employer-sponsored insurance** compared to 48% of straight men and 44% of straight women

Nearly **1 in 3** (31%) **bisexual men and women** have **Medi-Cal** compared to 17% of straight men and 21% of straight women

### By gender identity

More than **1 in 3** (37%) **transgender adults** have **Medi-Cal** compared to 21% of cisgender adults

## Barriers in Access to Health Care

### Who was most likely to not have a usual source of care?

#### By sexual orientation and gender

More than **1 in 4** (27%) **bisexual men**

Nearly **1 in 4** (24%) **bisexual women**

**18%** straight men

**13%** gay men

**18%** lesbian women

**12%** straight women

### Who was most likely to delay or not get needed health care?

#### By sexual orientation and gender

Nearly **1 in 4** (22%) **bisexual men** compared to 12% of straight men

Nearly **1 in 3** (33%) **bisexual women** compared to 16% of straight women

Nearly **1 in 5** (18%) **gay men** compared to 12% of straight men

Nearly **1 in 4** (23%) **lesbian women** compared to 16% of straight women

#### By gender identity

**1 in 3** (33%) **transgender adults** compared to 14% of cisgender adults

### Who had trouble finding a specialist?

#### By gender identity

**Transgender adults** **29%**

**Cisgender adults** **11%**

More than **2.5x** more than cisgender adults



### Who experienced unfair treatment when getting medical care?

#### By sexual orientation and gender

Nearly **1 in 3** (32%) **gay men** compared to 23% of straight men

Nearly **1 in 2** (45%) **bisexual women** compared to 32% of straight women

More than **1 in 4** (28%) **bisexual men** compared to 23% of straight men

Nearly **1 in 2** (44%) **lesbian women** compared to 32% of straight women

\*For data by sexual orientation and gender, analysis does not include adults who did not report male or female as their current gender.