

# Southern Survey Fact Sheet: LGBTQ Southerners in Alabama



Eric R. Wright, Ryan M. Roemerman, Joshua Simpkins and Madison Higbee

This fact sheet provides key findings from responses provided by 879 LGBTQ<sup>1</sup> adults who completed the LGBTQ Institute Southern Survey living in *Alabama*. Overall study design and methodology is available in the full study protocol.<sup>2</sup>

### **HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

- Over half of Alabama respondents reported Good (53.3%) or Excellent (16.8%) subjective general health, while almost a quarter reported Fair (24.7%) subjective general health, and a small minority reported Poor (4.5%) subjective general health. No significant differences were found in subjective general health status between respondents from Alabama compared to respondents from the other 13 southern states.
- Most Alabama respondents (69.3%) were covered by health insurance or a health coverage plan through a current or former employer or union. Significantly fewer respondents in Alabama (5.8%) reported being covered by Medicare compared to respondents from the other 13 southern states (8.1%). No other significant differences in health insurance or health coverage plans were found.
- The clear majority of Alabama respondents (89.5%) reported having gone to see a doctor, been to a hospital, or visited a clinic for medical care in the past 12 months. This is not significantly different from the rates in the other 13 southern states. Of these respondents, the majority (81.8%) had gone to a private doctor's office to receive healthcare. The percentage of Alabama respondents who went to a health maintenance organization (HMO) to receive healthcare in the last 12 months (0.2%) was significantly lower than the percentage of respondents from the other 13 southern states (2.3%).

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY AND DISCRIMINATION**

• In the last 12 months, compared to respondents from the other 13 southern states, LGB respondents from Alabama reported higher rates of being subject to slurs or jokes (24.7% vs 31.5%), higher rates of receiving poor service in restaurants, hotels, and other places of business (12.6% vs 16.5%), higher rates of being made to feel unwelcome in a place of worship or a religious organization (13.3% vs 19.3%), and higher rates of being rejected by a friend or family member (16.3% vs 24.2%). Alabama LGB respondents reported lower lifetime rates of being denied care or treated unfairly by a healthcare provider (10.9%) compared to respondents from the other 13 southern states (16.2%). Alabama transgender respondents did not report significantly different rates of discrimination across the nine types examined.

#### LGBTQ COMMUNITY LIFE AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

- Alabama respondents reported highest rates of affiliation with the Democratic party (53.4%), followed by Independents (19.5%). Alabama respondents reported political affiliations which differed significantly from those reported by respondents in the other 13 southern states. Fewer Alabama respondents reported affiliating with the Democratic party compared to respondents in the other 13 southern states (53.4% vs 59.7%), while more reported affiliating with the Libertarian party (6.3% vs 2.7%). In line with this, fewer Alabama respondents reported voting for Hillary Clinton (D) in the 2016 election compared to respondents in the other 13 southern states (82.6% vs 90.1%), while more reported voting for Gary Johnson (L) (6.7% vs 2.6%).
- Most Alabama respondents reported that the internet and social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) was the most useful source of information about the LGBT community in their state (83.6%), followed by LGBT organizations (53.7%), and friends and partners (49.9%). Compared to respondents from the other 13 southern states, significantly fewer respondents from Alabama reported that LGBT magazines, newspapers, or periodicals (14.0% vs 3.3%) was the most useful source of information about the LGBT community in their state.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> LGBTQ means lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning. During the survey period LGBT was used, so this fact sheet reflects this.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Wright, Eric R. and Ryan Roemerman. 2018. LGBTQ Institute Southern Survey: Study Design and Methodological Overview; will be available at: www.lgbtqsouthernsurvey.org. Wright, Eric R. 2017. Community Partner Information Packet, will be available at: www.lgbtqsouthernsurvey.org.

## **1 HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

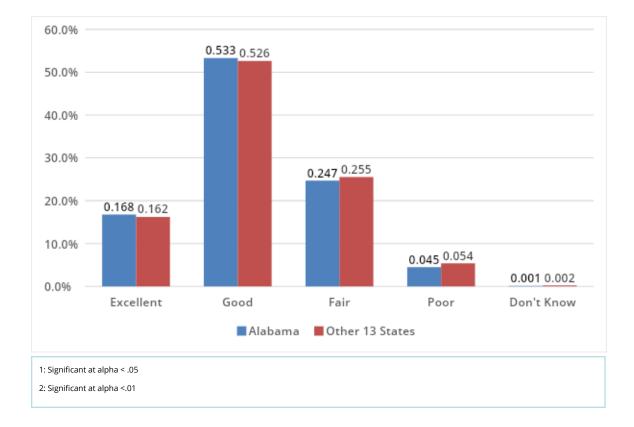


Figure 1.1: Subjective general health status, Alabama vs other 13 states, LGBTQ Institute Southern Survey (n=4,777)

Table 1.1: Type of current health insurance coverage, Alabama vs other 13 states, LGBTQ Institute Southern Survey (n=4,762)

Type of Health Insurance Coverage	State	Percent
Employer or Union	Alabama	69.3%
	Other 13 States	66.7%
Individual Market	Alabama	15.3%
Individual Market	Other 13 States	13.7%
Madicara	Alabama	5.8%
Medicare <sup>1</sup>	Other 13 States	8.1%
Medicaid	Alabama	3.7%
	Other 13 States	5.2%
TRUCARE	Alabama	2.0%
TRICARE	Other 13 States	2.1%
	Alabama	1.1%
VA	Other 13 States	2.3%
Indian Health Service	Alabama	0.2%
	Other 13 States	0.3%
Other	Alabama	3.1%
	Other 13 States	4.1%
1: Significant at alpha < .05 2: Significant at alpha <.01		

# Table 1.2: Accessed healthcare in the past 12 months, Alabama vs other 13 states, LGBTQ Institute Southern Survey (n=4,741)

	State	Percent
Vac Visited Dester Hespital or Clinic	Alabama	89.5%
Yes, Visited Doctor, Hospital, or Clinic	Other 13 States	90.1%
No	Alabama	10.5%
No	Other 13 States	9.9%
1: Significant at alpha < .05 2: Significant at alpha <.01		

Table 1.3: Type of healthcare providers accessed in the past 12 months, Alabama vs other 13 states, LGBTQ Institute Southern Survey (n=4,741)

Type of Health Insurance Coverage	State	Percent
Private Doctor's Office	Alabama	81.8%
	Other 13 States	79.1%
Community Hardthe Constant on Olivia	Alabama	17.3%
Community Health Center or Clinic	Other 13 States	19.5%
Lespital Daged Clinic	Alabama	17.9%
Hospital-Based Clinic	Other 13 States	18.6%
	Alabama	4.6%
Clinic at Work	Other 13 States	4.2%
Cabaal or College Clinic	Alabama	10.3%
School or College Clinic	Other 13 States	11.9%
Militare Haserital on Clinic	Alabama	1.2%
Military Hospital or Clinic	Other 13 States	1.8%
	Alabama	17.5%
Hospital Emergency Room	Other 13 States	16.6%

Lealth Maintenance Organization (UNO) <sup>2</sup>	Alabama	0.2%
Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) <sup>2</sup>	Other 13 States	2.3%
Some Other Location	Alabama	4.2%
Some Other Location	Other 13 States	6.2%
Never Got Sick or Needed Healthcare	Alabama	0.6%
	Other 13 States	0.4%
No Usual Place <sup>2</sup>	Alabama	4.2%
No Osual Place	Other 13 States	2.2%
1: Significant at alpha < .05		
2: Significant at alpha <.01		

Table 2.1: Summary of past year and lifetime prevalence of different types of discrimination based on sexual orientation, Alabama vs other 13 states, LGBTQ Institute Southern Survey

Type of Discrimination	State	Last 12 Months	Lifetime (Ever)
Been threatened or physically attacked	Alabama	4.9%	35.6%
	Other 13 States	4.3%	39.1%
Been subject to slurs or jokes <sup>2</sup>	Alabama	31.5%	77.3%
	Other 13 States	24.7%	77.3%
Received poor service in restaurants, hotels, or other places of business <sup>2</sup>	Alabama	16.5%	40.3%
	Other 13 States	12.6%	42.3%
Been made to feel unwelcome at a place of worship or religious organization <sup>2</sup>	Alabama	19.3%	61.2%
	Other 13 States	13.3%	55.3%
Been treated unfairly by an employer in hiring, pay, or promotion	Alabama	6.0%	25.2%
	Other 13 States	5.3%	26.4%
Been rejected by a friend or family member <sup>2</sup>	Alabama	24.2%	66.6%
	Other 13 States	16.3%	63.2%
Been unfairly stopped, searched, questioned, physically threatened or abused by the police	Alabama	1.8%	10.0%
	Other 13 States	1.6%	9.8%
Been prevented from moving into a neighborhood because landlord/realtor refused to sell or rent a house or apartment	Alabama	0.9%	4.7%
	Other 13 States	0.8%	5.7%
Been denied care or treated	Alabama	3.1%	10.9%
unfairly by a healthcare provider <sup>2</sup>	Other 13 States	3.3%	16.2%

1: Significant at alpha < .05

2: Significant at alpha <.01

Table 2.2: Summary of past year and lifetime prevalence of different types of discrimination based on being transgender, Alabama vs other 13 states, LGBTQ Institute Southern Survey

Type of Discrimination	State	Last 12 Months	Lifetime (Ever)
Been threatened or physically attacked	Alabama	18.1%	37.4%
	Other 13 States	16.4%	38.4%
Been subject to slurs or jokes	Alabama	49.4%	69.9%
	Other 13 States	46.4%	74.9%
Received poor service in restaurants, hotels, or other places of business	Alabama	30.1%	40.9%
	Other 13 States	23.9%	45.1%
Been made to feel unwelcome at a place of worship or religious organization	Alabama	28.0%	54.8%
	Other 13 States	19.5%	47.0%
Been treated unfairly by an employer in hiring, pay, or promotion	Alabama	14.8%	27.1%
	Other 13 States	14.4%	30.9%
Been rejected by a friend or family member	Alabama	41.0%	65.1%
	Other 13 States	35.1%	66.3%
Been unfairly stopped, searched, questioned, physically threatened or abused by the police	Alabama	2.4%	10.8%
	Other 13 States	4.9%	13.7%
Been prevented from moving into a neighborhood because landlord/realtor refused to sell or rent a house or apartment	Alabama	3.6%	6.0%
	Other 13 States	2.7%	8.7%
Been denied care or treated	Alabama	17.1%	37.9%
unfairly by a healthcare provider	Other 13 States	17.7%	35.7%

2: Significant at alpha <.01

Figure 3.1: Political affiliation, Alabama vs other 13 states, LGBTQ Institute Southern Survey (N=4,585)<sup>2</sup>

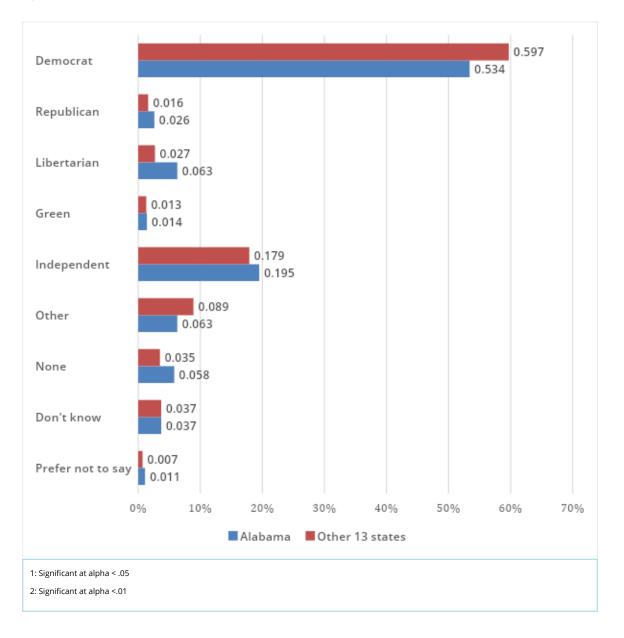


Figure 3.2: Voter registration in state of residence, Alabama vs other 13 states, LGBTQ Institute Southern Survey (N=4,581)

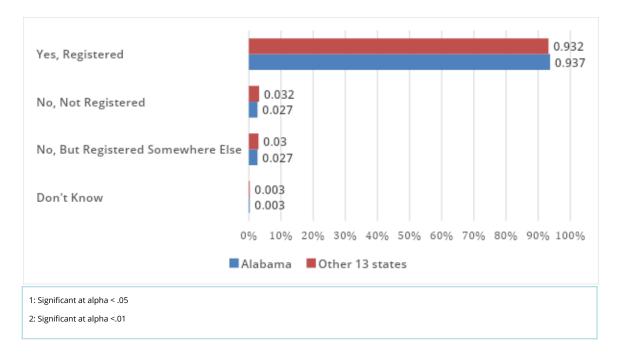


Figure 3.3: Presidential candidate choice, Alabama vs other 13 states, LGBTQ Institute Southern Survey (N=4,147)<sup>2</sup>

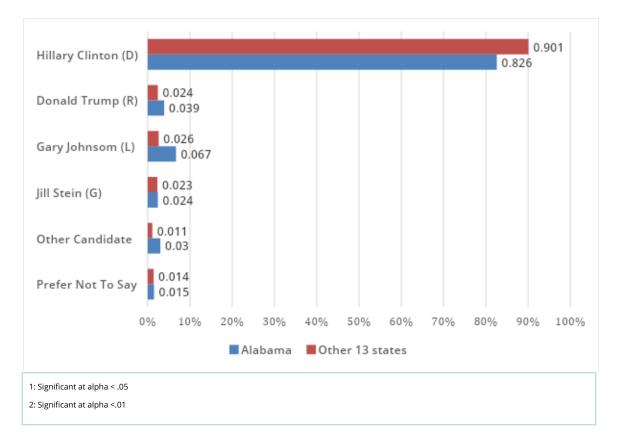


Figure 3.4: Sources of community information, Alabama vs other 13 states, LGBTQ Institute Southern Survey (N=4,467)

