



Executive Summary of the 2021 Greenburgh Pride Needs Assessment Survey

Overview of Greenburgh, NY

Greenburgh is a suburban town within Westchester County, NY. Based on latest US Census Data, Greenburgh's population is 94,014. Within Greenburgh, 22.4% are under the age of 18 years and 64.9% identify as White (US Census Bureau, 2022). Currently, the town of Greenburgh, NY has no formal funds allocated to services or policies to support the LGBTQ community in the region (Feiner, 2022). The closest dedicated LGBTQ Community Center in Westchester County is located in White Plains, NY, and is not within walking distance of Greenburgh (The LOFT LGBTQ+ Community Center, 2018).

LGBTQ Sociodemographical Statistics from Westchester County, NY

Although more recent data is not available, The LOFT LGBTQ Community Center in White Plains, NY performed a formal needs assessment in 2018 of 654 LGBTQ community members aged 16 years and older residing in Westchester County (The LOFT LGBTQ Community Center, 2018). The main findings of the LOFT's 2018 Needs Assessment were:

- About two-thirds of respondents (65.0%) had experienced at least one microaggression “occasionally” or more often. This included being harassed about gender expression (13.5%) or sexual orientation (12.4%). Almost one in ten (8.4%) had been mistaken for a sex worker at least once.
- About one in six (15.5%) participants reported having a mental health disability.
- More than one in five (22.5%) participants lived under 200% of the federal poverty line.
- Participants indicated that lack of LGBTQ-friendly options was a top barrier for receiving services such as support groups, individual counseling, and benefits navigation services.
- Participants prioritized the greatest needs for the community as: additional LGBTQ social spaces (29.5%), sensitivity training for police (19.7%) and government, businesses, and agencies (17.6%).

As compared to 2018 when the LOFT's survey was published, we expect the LGBTQ community's needs to be even greater today due to:

- The increasing number of people visibly identifying as LGBTQ community members (Jones, 2022).
- Rising reports of hate incidents in the United States (Villarreal, 2020).
- The differential impact of COVID-19 pandemic on LGBTQ communities, particularly for those LGBTQ people of racial or ethnical minoritized identities (Sears et al., 2021)
- Recent trends for city-dwellers to move out of large cities into smaller cities and the surrounding suburban areas (Cagnassola, 2021).



Summary Results of the 2021 Greenburgh Pride Pilot Needs Assessment Survey

In response to increasing reports of hate incidents and lacking resources for LGBTQ community members within Greenburgh, NY, the town of Greenburgh's Human Rights Advisory Committee organized a Greenburgh Pride Rally in June 2021 (Lerario & Kogan, 2021). The Greenburgh Human Rights Advisory Committee is unfunded and its members are all volunteers. Through request of the Greenburgh Human Rights Advisory Committee, a website for resources for the LGBTQ community was created and hosted at www.greenburghpride.org, along with corresponding social media channels.

For quality improvement purposes, the Greenburgh Pride team performed a pilot survey to assess the LGBTQ community's needs in the region. Sponsored by Fordham University and the Town of Greenburgh, this survey was conducted between June 26, 2021 and December 31, 2021. The survey was offered in English and Spanish over Google Forms. There were 38 respondents. The unpublished qualitative and quantitative results are reported below in Tables 2-10 and Table 11, respectively. Major findings of the pilot study included:

- 15/37 (40.5%) of respondents reported not feeling safe holding hands with a partner in public.
- 18/37 (48.6%) reported not feeling supported by the police.
- 6/38 (15.8%) reported not easily being able to find safe places to socialize.
- 20/35 (57.1%) reported not being easily able to find LGBTQ community events.
- 13/31 (41.9%) reported not being able to find a LGBTQ affirming healthcare provider.
- 14/33 (42.4%) reported their healthcare provider did not include information on sexual orientation or gender identity in their health records and clinical forms.
- 30/34 (88.2%) reported not being asked their pronouns by their healthcare provider, and 9/33 (27.3%) reported being misgendered by their healthcare provider.
- 6/34 (17.6%) reported being publicly bullied or harassed.
- 5/21 (23.8%) reported school or work harassment was not being adequately addressed.
- 13/34 (38.2%) reported feeling depressed and 6/34 (17.6%) reported feeling hopeless in the last year.
- The three highest priorities to incorporate into the Greenburgh budget were identified as creating a physical space for LGBTQ residents (11/34 [32.4%] of respondents), education and awareness efforts (8/34 [23.5%] of respondents), and more LGBTQ youth services (8/34 [23.5%] of respondents).



Table 1
Sociodemographic Statistics for Sample (N=38)

Sociodemographic	Total	
	%	N
Age		
Age <36 years old	47.4	18
Age ≥36 years old	52.6	20
Gender Congruence		
		N=36
TGNC	25.0	9
Cisgender	75.0	27
Nonbinary or Gender Nonconforming		
		N=36
No	75.0	27
Yes	25.0	9
Race/Ethnicity		
Identify Non-White	26.3	10
White	73.7	28
Asian	5.3	2
Black or African American	10.5	4
Hispanic or Latino	10.5	4
Sexual Orientation		
Sexual Minority	78.9	30
Straight	21.1	8
Gay or Lesbian	36.8	14
Bisexual or Pansexual	15.8	6
Queer	23.7	9
Questioning	2.6	1



Table 2
Education and Employment (N=38)

Variable	Total	
	%	N
Current School Status		N=35
Grades 9-12	5.7	2
Undergraduate	11.4	4
Graduate	5.7	2
Not in School	77.1	27
Highest Attained Degree		N=35
No High School Diploma	2.9	1
High School	17.1	6
Some College	8.6	3
Bachelors	45.7	16
Masters	5.7	2
Doctoral	20.0	7
Employment Status		
Not Employed	2.6	1
Student	10.5	4
Part Time	28.9	11
Full Time	44.7	17
Retired	5.3	2
Self-Employed	7.9	3



Table 3
Health (N=38)

Variable	Total	
	%	N
Health Insurance Type		
Dependent	23.7	9
Medicaid	2.6	1
Medicare	7.9	3
ACA	5.3	2
Private or Commercial	60.5	23
Mental Health Disability in the Last Year		
Yes	5.3	2
No	94.7	36
Living with...		
Alone	10.8	4
Partner	45.9	17
Other Family	40.5	15
Roommate(s)	2.7	1



Table 4 <i>Community Feelings (N=38)</i>			
Experiences in Community	Percentage of Agreement with Community Experience		
	N	No (Disagree)	Yes (Neutral or Agree)
Feel Safe Walking Alone in Neighborhood	37	8.1 (n=3)	91.9 (n=34)
Misgendered in Local Businesses	37	89.2 (n=33)	10.8 (n=4)
Feel Safe Using Public Bathrooms	38	10.5 (n=4)	89.5 (n=34)
Feel Safe Holding Hands with Partner in Public	37	40.5 (n=15)	59.5 (n=22)
Feel Supported by Police	36	48.6 (n=18)	51.4 (n=18)
Have Trouble Finding Affordable Housing	31	93.5 (n=29)	6.5 (n=2)
Feel Respected at Home	37	10.8 (n=4)	89.2 (n=33)
People I Live with Use Correct Name and Pronouns	37	10.8 (n=4)	89.2 (n=33)
Meeting LGBT Friends is Important to Me	38	7.9 (n=3)	92.1 (n=35)
I Find it Easy to Meet LGBT Affirming Friends	38	13.2 (n=5)	86.8 (n=33)
I Can Find Safe Places to Socialize	38	15.8 (n=6)	84.2 (n=32)



Table 5 *Quality of Environment (N=38)*

Experiences in Community	N	Percentage of Agreement w/ Community Experience		
		No (Disagree)	Yes (Neutral or Agree)	Not Applicable
Find it Easy to Find Someone to Date	34	17.6 (n=6)	20.6 (n=7)	61.8 (n=21)
It is Easy to Find LGBT Community Events	37	54.1 (n=20)	40.5 (n=15)	5.4 (n=2)
Find a LGBT Affirming Healthcare Provider	37	35.1 (n=13)	48.6 (n=18)	16.2 (n=6)
My Healthcare Provider's EHR Include SOGI Data	37	37.8 (n=14)	51.4 (n=19)	10.8 (n=4)
My Healthcare Provider Allows Chosen Name if Not Legal Name	37	8.1 (n=3)	56.8 (n=21)	35.1 (n=13)
My Healthcare Provider is LGBT Competent	37	5.4 (n=2)	75.7 (n=28)	18.9 (n=7)
Classmates and Coworkers Misgender Me	35	71.4 (n=25)	11.4 (n=4)	17.1 (n=6)
School/Work Harassment is Appropriately Addressed when I Report It	33	15.2 (n=5)	48.5 (n=16)	36.4 (n=12)
There is an Adult I Trust at Work/School	33	12.1 (n=4)	60.6 (n=20)	27.3 (n=9)
I Feel Safe at Work/School	33	9.1 (n=3)	84.8 (n=28)	6.1 (n=2)
Available Resources at Work/School are Supportive	32	12.5 (n=4)	68.6 (n=22)	18.8 (n=6)



Table 6
Victimization (N=38)

Experience in Last Year	Total	
	%	N
Publicly Bullied/Harassed		N=34
No	82.4	28
Yes	5.9	2
Yes, More Than Once	5.9	2
Yes, Every Day	5.9	2
Intentionally Misgendered in Public		N=32
No	87.5	28
Yes	12.5	4
Laughed At or Mocked in Public		N=33
No	93.9	31
Yes	6.1	2
Physically Assaulted		N=34
No	88.2	30
Yes	11.8	4
Mistaken for a Sex Worker		N=34
No	94.1	32
Yes	5.9	2



Table 7
Other Healthcare Experiences (N=38)

Experience	Total	
	%	N
Healthcare Provider Asks for Pronouns		N=34
No	88.2	30
Yes	11.8	4
Healthcare Provider Misgendered Me		N=33
No	72.7	24
Yes	27.3	9
I Feel Depressed		N=34
No	61.8	21
Yes	38.2	13
I Feel Hopeless		N=34
No	82.4	28
Yes	17.6	6
I Have Thoughts of Hurting or Killing Myself		N=34
No	85.3	29
Yes	14.7	5



Table 8
Priorities for Greenburgh Budget (N=38)

Priorities	Total	
	%	N
What do you believe should be the highest priority for the Greenburgh budget?		N=34
Education and Awareness Efforts	23.5	8
Create a Physical Safe Space for LGBTQ Residents	32.4	11
More LGBTQ Youth Services	23.5	8
More LGBTQ Affirming Healthcare Services	8.8	3
More Legal Services for LGBTQ Issues	2.9	1
Increase Affordable Housing	5.9	2
More Workplace Discrimination Protections	2.9	1