



iREP: A DIGITAL COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT TO REPRESENT, ENGAGE, AND EMPOWER SGM YOUNG PEOPLE IN FLORIDA: A Summary of Baseline Findings

BACKGROUND

- Sexual and gender minority youth (SGMY) experience unique health risks and face particular hardship regarding healthcare access.
- Structural and social barriers to healthcare services can lead to worsening health outcomes (e.g., increased viral load in HIV+ persons).
- As Florida is an epicenter of HIV, understanding the needs and experiences of LGBTQ+ population is key.

Primary Objective

To facilitate strategic planning for research and services to meet community needs of Florida SGM youth.

Study Design

- A community needs assessment of Florida SGM youth (ages 15-29) using quantitative and qualitative measures.
- Participants completed a variety of assessments at baseline, 3-month, and 6-month time points.

Take a Closer Look

Recruitment

Participants were recruited between Spring 2021 through Spring 2022 via social media platforms, and through community outreach and partnerships.

Sample Characteristics

- 458 participants completed the screener and baseline questionnaires.
- The average age was 22.91 years.
- Gender Identity: 72.05% Cisgender man, 16.59% Cisgender woman, 6.33% transgender man, 3.71% transgender woman, 1.31% other

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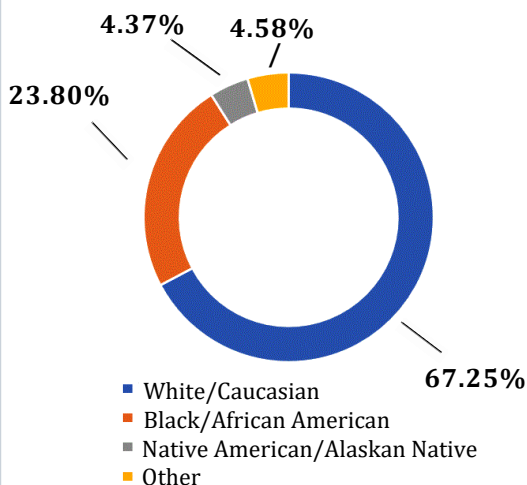
Sociodemographics and Clinical Features

Lifetime HIV Testing: 83.66% Yes, 16.34% No

- # w/HIV: 13.32%

Lifetime STD Testing: 44.10% Yes, 56.90% No

Race & Ethnicity



40.83% of participants identify as *Hispanic/Latinx*

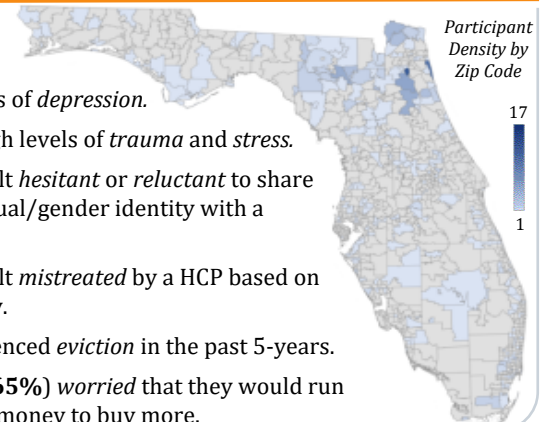
Regional Characteristics

North: 36.22%, Central: 36.67%, South: 27.11%

Urban: 76.22%, Rural: 23.78%

2 What We've Found:

- 35% of participants had high levels of *anxiety*, with 36% having high levels of *depression*.
- 77% of participants had high levels of *trauma and stress*.
- 78% of participants have felt *hesitant or reluctant* to share information about their sexual/gender identity with a healthcare provider (HCP).
- 67% of participants have felt *mistreated* by a HCP based on their sexual/gender identity.
- 43% of participants experienced *eviction* in the past 5-years.
- A majority of participants (65%) *worried* that they would run out of food before they had money to buy more.



3 Next Steps

Conduct focus groups to understand specific needs of the population



and

Analyze 3- and 6-month follow-up data.



In order to disseminate findings and plan future services