

keywords

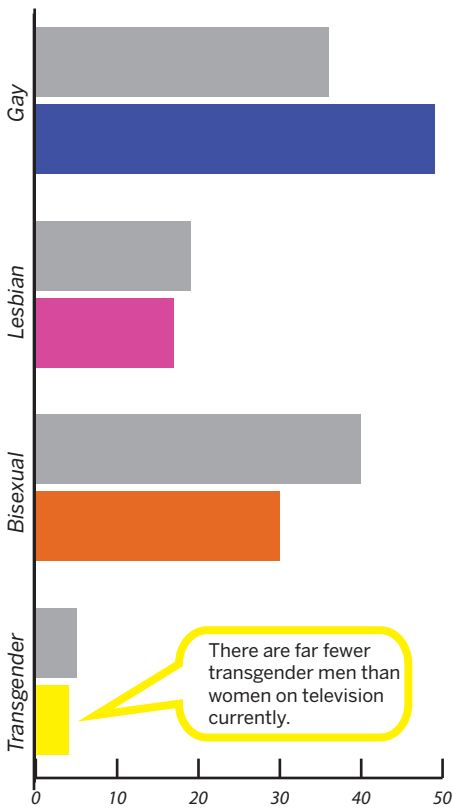
LGBTQIA: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual

Cisgender: a word describing someone who identifies with their gender assigned at birth

Queer: A word that was once pejorative for gay that has been reclaimed by the LGBT community as an umbrella term

The representation of LGBT people on television closely mimics actual representation in the population, though gay men remain overrepresented.

LGBT REPRESENTATION ON TELEVISION VS. US POPULATION



key: ■ US population ■ ■ ■ Broadcast TV

Source: GLAAD, Pew Social Trends

LGBT Television Representation Growing Closer to Representing Reality

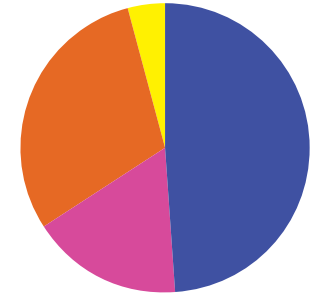
Media representation, and specifically television representation, is incredibly important to forwarding a movement and normalizing groups of people. It is an indicator of the public's general opinion of LGBT people and their general level of acceptance. Also, normalizing LGBT life on television shows young LGBT people that they have nothing to be ashamed of, and cisgender heterosexual people that they have nothing to fear. We can also see from how that representation breaks down how people see LGBT individuals within specific identities. For example, in general, gay men are overrepresented in the media while other sexual and gender minorities are underrepresented.

% LGBT CHARACTERS ON BROADCAST TELEVISION FROM 2005-2016

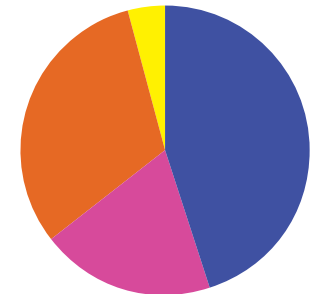


The rising popularity of streaming content is changing how the LGBT community is represented by specific demographic.

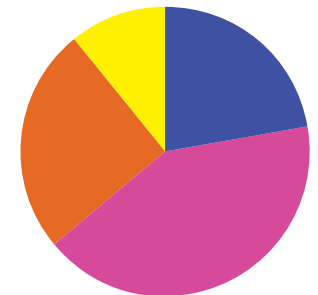
LGBT REPRESENTATION ON CABLE TELEVISION BY IDENTITY



LGBT REPRESENTATION ON BROADCAST TELEVISION BY IDENTITY



LGBT REPRESENTATION IN STREAMING CONTENT BY IDENTITY



key: ■ gay ■ lesbian ■ bisexual ■ transgender

Note: Bisexual men and women have been combined into one category, but it should be noted that bisexual women are grossly overrepresented over bisexual men on television.