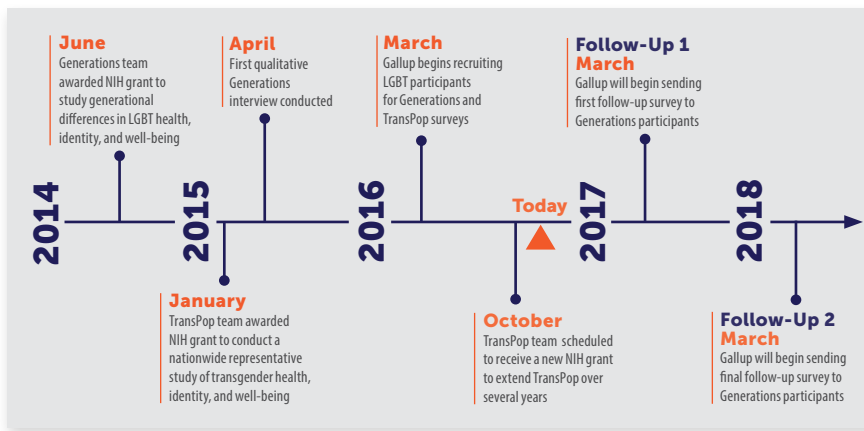


generations

A Study of the Life and Health of LGB People in a Changing Society

Where is Generations?



The Generations team has completed 192 extensive interviews with participants from the San Francisco Bay Area, CA; Tucson, AZ; Austin, TX; and New York City, NY. We are now actively analyzing the data collected, and are in the process of writing several academic papers.

Three of those papers examine:

1. the availability and use of LGBT health services across the United States
2. the use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) as prevention for HIV across the United States
3. a study on emerging adulthood among young LGBs

Our results show that younger generations are coming out earlier than ever before, but are experiencing more bullying than their older counterparts.

For those of you participating in the Gallup survey, we have made great progress on that portion of the study as well. We initially set out to enroll at least 676 participants from across the country. To date, 1,789 have signed up to participate and 858 have returned their first completed questionnaires!

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Hello to all Generations participants! We want to thank you again for your participation, dedication, and interest in this unique and groundbreaking study. We have exciting news and updates to share about the progress we've made. This newsletter will update you on what we've done so far, let you know what's coming up, and share some interesting findings we've made using the data you generously provided. Please contact us with your ideas, feedback, or any questions at generations@ucla.edu.

Ilan H. Meyer, PhD
Study Principal Investigator
Distinguished Senior Scholar
of Public Policy
The Williams Institute
UCLA School of Law



If you haven't already done so, please complete and return the survey you received. Each person's voice matters! Because each person who received a survey was selected in a random fashion in our nationally representative sample, each individual represents the many voices of people who were not asked to participate. Similar to election surveys and predictions, here too, a limited number of participants can portray the picture of the entire country. In this way, our participants are representing thousands of LGBT people in the U.S.

As you know, each participant will receive a series of three surveys, each one year apart. This past summer, the Generations team developed the first follow-up survey, which will be sent to each participant one year after completing the first survey.

What are some of our findings?

The Generations survey is fully underway, and we are continuing to receive great information from you, our respondents. We have already learned so much, and are excited to share some of preliminary findings with you here.

► COMING OUT

One of the major inspirations for the Generations study was to understand how the lives of LGBT Americans have changed over the years by comparing three generations of LGBT people. Our results show that younger generations are coming out earlier than ever before.

► BULLYING

However, younger respondents report being bullied "often" before the age of 18 more frequently than older respondents. These findings suggest that there is still a long way to go in the fight for LGBT equality.

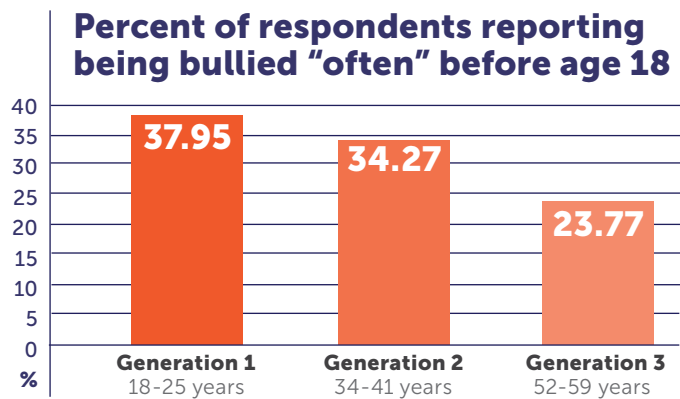
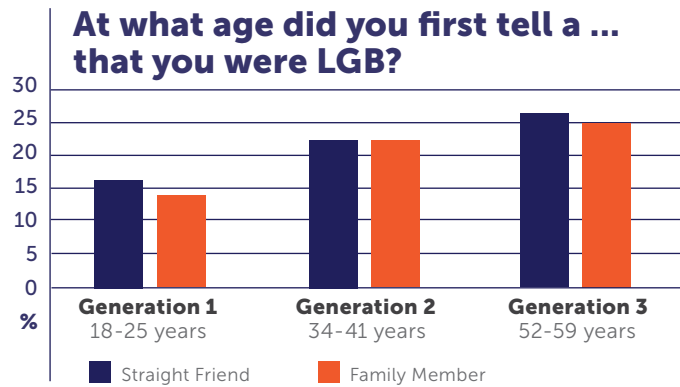


Photo: Wikimedia LGBT / Equality Michigan

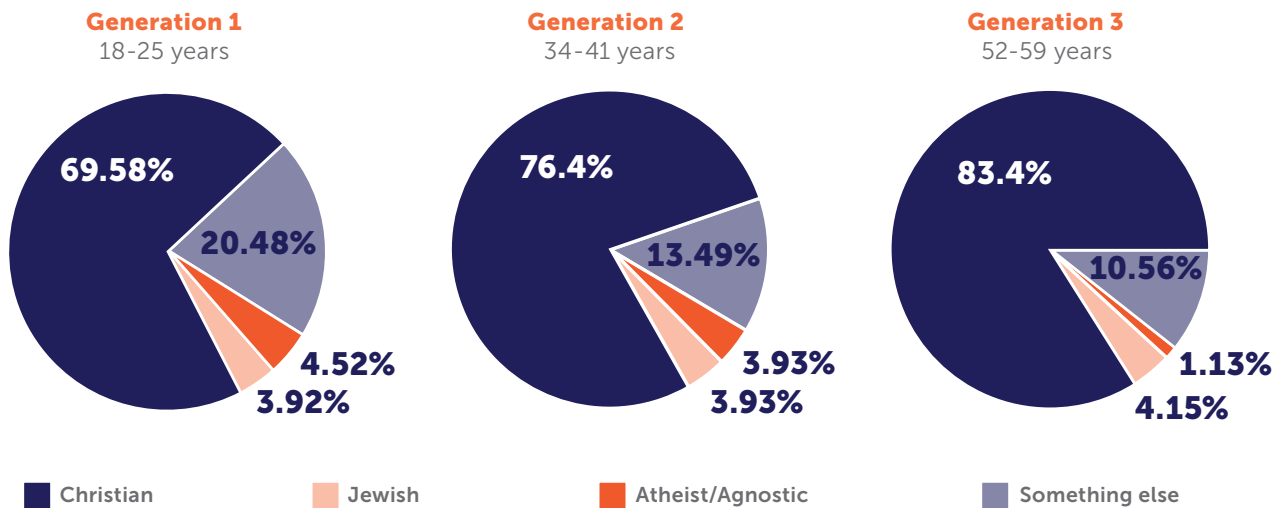
►RELIGION

Although religion has been, and remains an important part of to many peoples' lives, religious affiliations are changing in America. For example, more young people are religiously unaffiliated than ever before. Check out this interesting NPR story for more information:

<http://www.npr.org/2013/01/15/169342349/more-young-people-are-moving-away-from-religion-but-why>

In Generations, we're seeing a similar trend, with the 4.52% of the youngest generation reporting that they were raised in an atheist or agnostic household, compared to only 1.13% of the oldest generation.

Thinking about when you were a child, in what religion were you raised, if any?



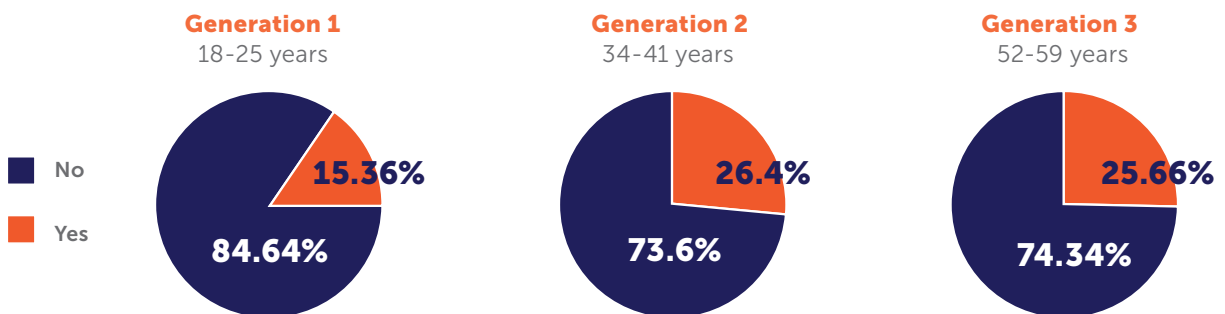
►SLEEP DISORDERS

Sleep quality is a concern for everyone these days, and our results show that this has been true for you as well. Sleep disorders are some of the leading health problems faced by participants in the Generations study, with over 21% of reporting having ever received a diagnosis of a sleep disorder (e.g., insomnia or sleep apnea).

Arianna Huffington, of the Huffington Post, had some interesting advice regarding sleep in her Ted talk:

https://www.ted.com/talks/arianna_huffington_how_to_succeed_get_more_sleep?language=en

Ever been diagnosed with a sleep disorder?



generations

COMING UP

The Generations investigators are working hard on several research papers using Generations data. Once written, we'll share the papers and alert the public and you, our participants, through news releases and other publications at the Williams Institute. And we hope to have more exciting results to share with you in the next issue of this newsletter.

Thank you again for your continued participation. All the knowledge and information learned is a direct result of your honesty and willingness to share—and will help to affect future funding, education, and policies.

The Generations Study Team



Some of the Generations team at the 2014 annual investigator meeting in Los Angeles, CA. From left to right: Ilan Meyer, Evan Krueger, Janae Hubbard, Bianca Wilson, Erin Toolis, James Thing, Stephen Russell, David Frost, Phillip Hammack

For more information...

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