

CWS Factsheet Series on Population Served: Psychologists Providing Services to Lesbian Populations

Key Findings

- **Female psychologists, gay, lesbian, or bisexual psychologists**, those **ages 45-54**, and those **with Psy.D. degrees** were more likely to provide services to lesbian populations at higher frequencies.
- Psychologists working in **other settings**, i.e., business, government settings, universities, those **working more hours** per week, and those **self-employed** or under **salaried employment** were also more likely to provide services to lesbian populations at higher frequencies.

Background

This factsheet presents an analysis of the characteristics of psychologists providing services to **lesbian populations** based on responses from approximately 3,700 **doctoral-level licensed psychologists** in the **2015 APA Survey of Psychology Health Service Providers**.¹ In a typical week,

- **23%** of psychologists **frequently or very frequently** provided services to the lesbian population, and
- **89%** of psychologists **never, rarely, or occasionally** provided services to the lesbian population.

Findings

Psychologists with the following characteristics were more likely to provide services to lesbian populations:

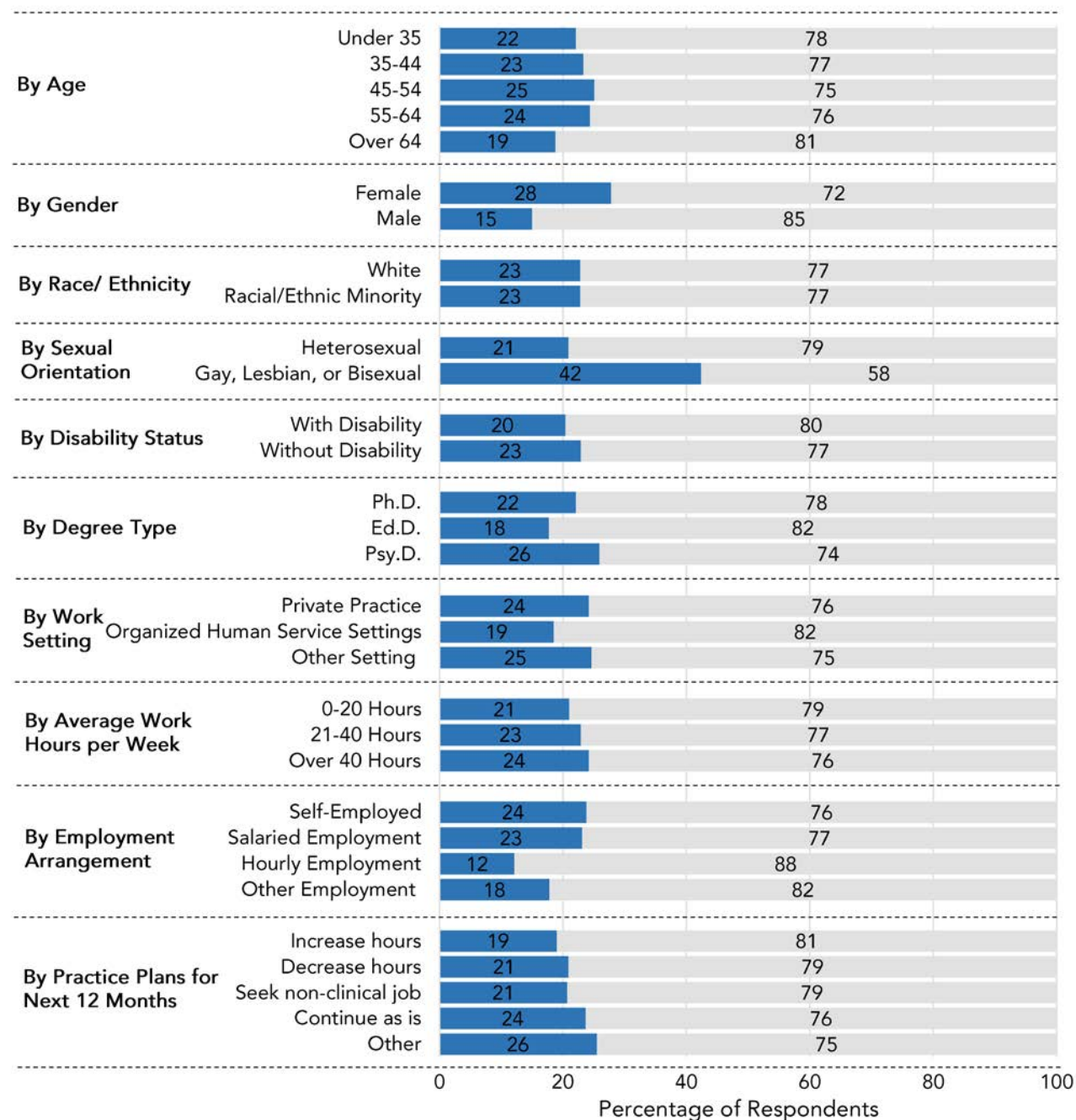
- **Ages 45-54** - **25%** of psychologists ages 44-54 reported frequently or very frequently providing services to the lesbian population, more than those ages under 35 (22%), 35-44 (23%), , 55-64 (24%), or over 64 (19%)
- **Female** – **28%** of female psychologists reported frequently or very frequently providing services to the lesbian population, whereas only 15% male psychologists reported the same.
- **Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual** – **42%** of gay, lesbian, or bisexual psychologists reported providing services to the lesbian population frequently or very frequently, whereas 21% of heterosexual psychologists reported the same.
- **With PsyD degrees** – **26%** of psychologists with Psy.D. degrees reported frequently or very frequently providing services to the lesbian population, more than those with Ph.D. (22%) or Ed.D. degrees (18%).
- **Working in other settings**, i.e., business, government settings – **25%** of psychologists working in other settings reported frequently or very frequently providing services to the lesbian population, more than those in private practice (24%) or organized human service settings, i.e., hospitals, community mental health centers (19%).
- **Working more hours per week** – **24%** of psychologists working over 40 hours per week reported frequently or very frequently providing services to the lesbian population, more than those working 0-20 hours (21%) or 21-40 hours (23%) per week.
- **Self-employed or under Salaried employment** – **24%** of self-employed psychologists and **23%** of psychologists under salaried employment reported frequently or very frequently providing services to the lesbian population, more than those under hourly employment (12%) or other employment arrangements (18%).

1. All statements in this factsheet are based on χ^2 test results. For more information about χ^2 test results, please refer to the documentation file for this factsheet series. For more information about other findings of the survey or the survey methodology, please refer to the report: American Psychological Association. (2016). 2015 survey of psychology health service providers. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/workforce/publications/15-health-service-providers/index.aspx>

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Characteristics of Psychologists Providing Services to Lesbian Populations

Characteristics of Psychologists



Frequency of Providing Services to Lesbian Population:

■ Frequently, Very Frequently
■ Never, Rarely, Occasionally

Note: Missing values were excluded prior to analysis.
Source: 2015 APA Survey of Psychology Health Service Providers.