

DataHaven

Classroom Materials

Title of Material: LGBTQ+ Healthcare

Topics Discussed: Healthcare inequalities, LGBTQ+

Skills Utilized: Reading skills, data analysis, graph creation, problem solving, reflective questions

Format: Individual or in pairs

In Person or Online: Either

Procedure/Instruction Suggestions:

Similar readings: Asthma rates, COVID-19 impact on Connecticut

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LGBTQ+ Healthcare

Directions: Read the information below about healthcare inequalities for LGBTQ+ individuals in Connecticut. Then, create a graphic (a visual of the data presented, a graph, or other expression of the information that goes beyond just text) below and answer the thought questions.

Background: LGBTQ+ individuals, as a group, have a higher risk for a variety of conditions, including sexually-transmitted diseases, poor mental health, homelessness, harassment, violence, and social isolation. They also face stigmas, lack of cultural competency in healthcare providers, and exclusionary insurance policies. Transgender people in particular often have difficulty simply accessing care: statewide, only 57 percent of self-identifying transgender participants in the DataHaven Community Wellbeing Survey reported that their primary care provider can provide them with trans-inclusive services, and 44 percent said they had forgone medical care in the past year for fear of harassment or mistreatment. These findings match research done nationally by organizations seeking to understand the concrete ways discrimination and lack of access to resources impair the health of LGBTQ people.

Graphic:

Thought Questions:

1. In what ways do LGBTQ+ individuals experience discrimination in healthcare?
2. How can this discrimination be harmful?
3. What can we do, as a society and on the individual level, to confront this inequality?