

Knox Council are connecting with the local LGBTIQ+ community to better understand their needs and strengths.

## Why is this project important?

Knox is committed to our community being healthy, happy and well, that we are inclusive, have a sense of belonging and value our identity.

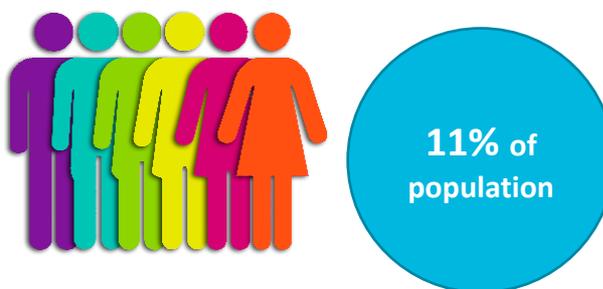
The LGBTIQ+ community have poorer health and wellbeing outcomes than non-LGBTIQ+ community members.

We also know that LGBTIQ+ people feel less supported within their local communities.

This project will identify opportunities for Council to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for Knox LGBTIQ+ community members and share learnings and insights.

## KNOX LGBTIQ+ COMMUNITY

While there is limited local data, available research and ABS census data on Victorian population figures indicate it is likely the Knox LGBTIQ+ community is:



**around 18,000** residents  
350 same sex couples  
50 same sex parents

We know there is a lack of LGBTIQ+ specific services and social groups in the Knox area and there is poor contact with the over 25 LGBTIQ+ community.



## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

LGBTIQ+ people are at increased risk of physical and mental health problems due to the experience of abuse and discrimination, the fear of discrimination, and internalized stigma and victimisation. \*

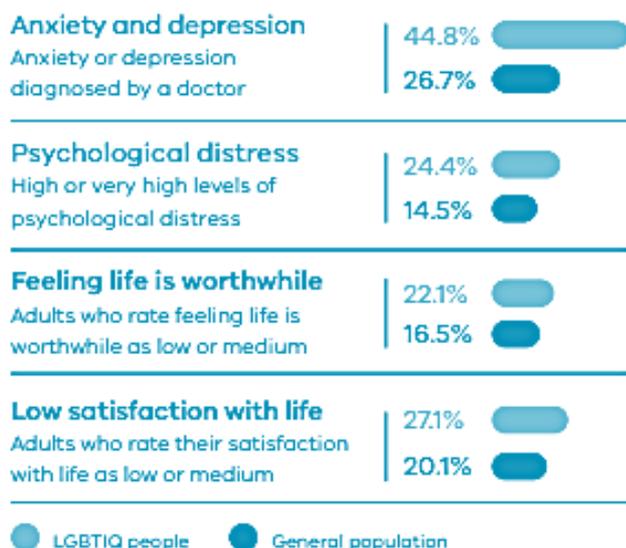


## PERSONAL SAFETY AND VIOLENCE

As LGBTIQ visibility has increased, so too have threats to personal safety and violence. \*

\* Department of Premier and Cabinet (2020). Infographics for the Victorian LGBTIQ strategy.

## Mental health



### Suicide and self-harm

- ▶ 60% of people with an intersex variation thought about suicide; 19% had attempted suicide
- ▶ Rejection by family is associated with higher rates of self-harm and suicide
- ▶ Trans men and women have the highest rates of psychological distress and reduced resilience



Compared with the broader population, a significantly higher proportion of LGBTIQ adults have never, or not often, felt valued by society.

## Physical health and wellbeing



### Homelessness

Structural inequalities and trauma contribute to LGBTIQ people being at least **twice** as likely to have ever experienced homelessness.

### Higher rates of



## Factors that influence health and wellbeing



Employment

+



Financial security

+



Sport

### Socioeconomic status

- ▶ **INCOME:** A higher proportion of LGBTIQ adults have a total annual income of **less than \$40,000**.
- ▶ **EMPLOYMENT:** Less than **48%** of LGBTIQ people are employed full time.

### Sport

- ▶ Sport can build confidence and social connections and improve health and wellbeing.
- ▶ However, participation may be hindered by sporting clubs that do not understand LGBTIQ inclusivity.

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## Hiding

Extent to which LGBTIQ people feel the need to hide their sexual orientation or gender identity



## Police

**60%** of police had not had any training on LGBTIQ people

**79%** of police had never consulted a Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officer

### LGBTIQ young people

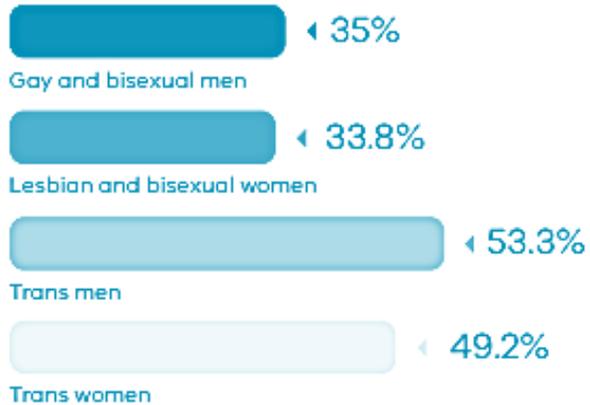
**58%** felt Victoria Police didn't understand their issues

**43%** reported that police treat LGBTIQ people worse than other young people

**51%** are unlikely to report prejudice-motivated crime in the future

## Discrimination and abuse

### Rates of abuse and discrimination



### Types of abuse



Harassment and abuse also occurs within LGBTIQ communities. This is known as **lateral violence**.

## Family violence

**13.4%** of LGBTIQ Victorians have experienced family violence compared with **5.1%** of the broader population.



**26** family violence organisations funded to undertake Rainbow Tick accreditation

\* Department of Premier and Cabinet (2020). Infographics for the Victorian LGBTIQ strategy.



**Knox PRIDE Pathway**

## WHAT LGBTIQ+ VICTORIANS HAVE SAID THEY WANT



Protection of rights and access to justice



High quality and inclusive services



Representation and voice



Mainstream community visibility and inclusion



Greater connection



Improved data, research and evidence



Greater accountability for improved outcomes

## WHAT LGBTIQ+ VICTORIANS HAVE SAID WILL HELP

Programs in communities

Working in equal partnership

Safe venues and spaces

Engaging influencers and decision makers

Connecting with mainstream communities

Developing basic LGBTIQ+ inclusion training

*Acknowledgement: Icons sourced from The Noun Project*