

the
OUTLOOK
study



WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY

LAURIER

Inspiring Lives.



THE ONTARIO HIV
TREATMENT NETWORK



Region of Waterloo

PUBLIC HEALTH AND
EMERGENCY SERVICES



Equity
Sexual Health
& **HIV** RESEARCH
GROUP



RCC

RAINBOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL



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Research Team

Community

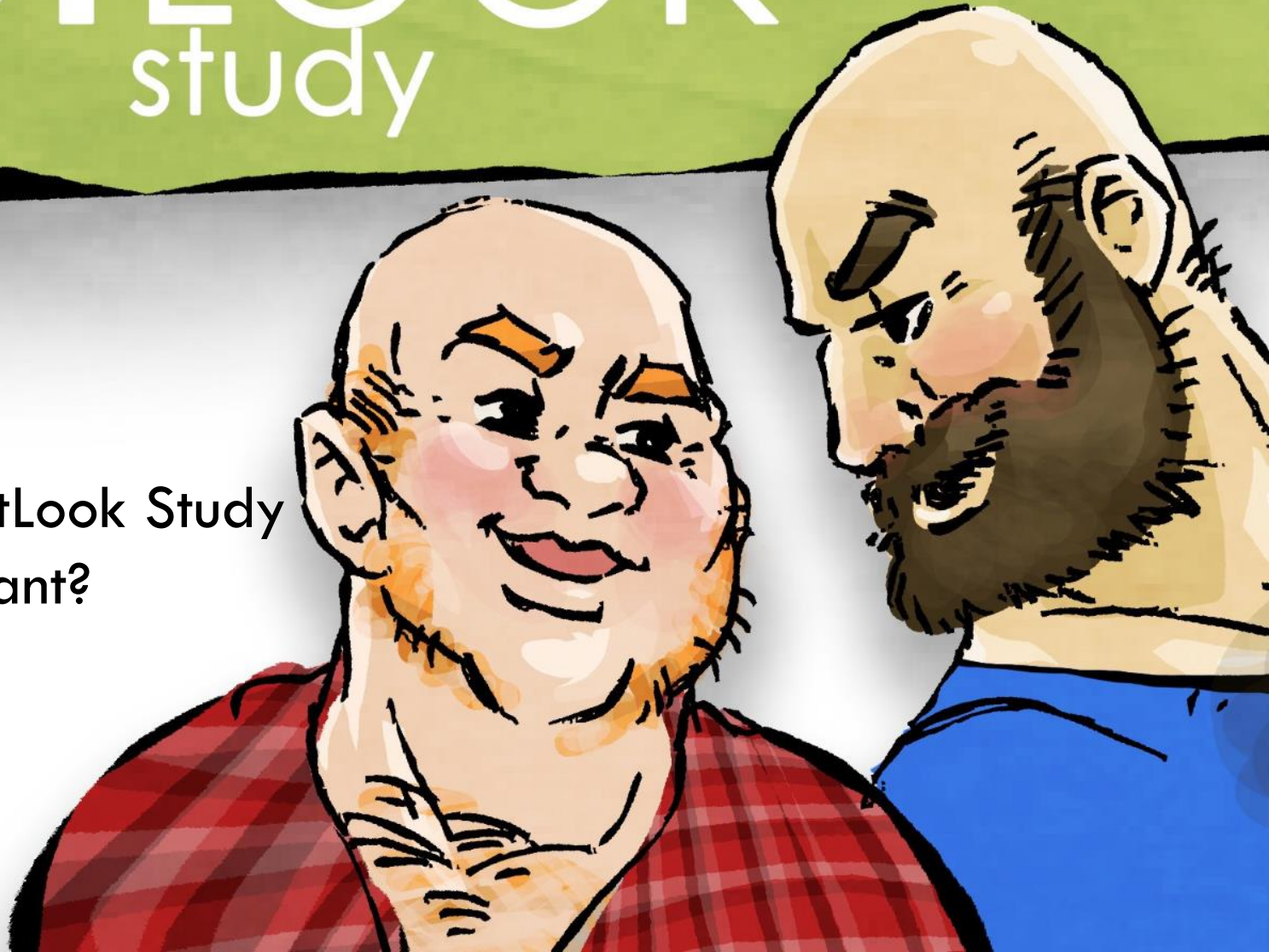
- **Ruth Cameron**
AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo & Area
- **Colin Boucher**
AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo & Area
- **Victor LeFort**
AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo & Area
- **Grace Bermingham**
Region of Waterloo Public Health
- **Jeremy Steffler**
Rainbow Community Council
- **Charlie Davis**
Rainbow Community Council

Wifrid Laurier University

- **Robb Travers, PhD**
Department of Health Sciences
- **Todd Coleman, PhD**
Department of Psychology
- **Simon Coulombe, PhD** Department of Psychology
- **Ciann Wilson, PhD**
Department of Psychology
- **Michael Woodford, PhD**
Faculty of Social Work
- **Sue Weare**, Centre for Community Research, Learning and Action
- **Elin Moorlag Silk**, Data analyst
- **Ellis Furman**, Data analyst

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Why is the OutLook Study
Important?



Why?

Canada is arguably one of the most advanced countries in terms of human rights, yet...

→ Discrimination persists

❖ *Explicit (ATG), implicit (Bill C-16)*

→ Create community change

❖ *Assess, and address needs*

❖ *Develop community services*



ATG (Attitude Towards Gays)
“If you are gay, don’t [**approach**] me,
I’ll kill you”

What is the OutLook Study?

OutLook assesses:

- levels of harassment, discrimination and victimization;
 - outness, safety, isolation, inclusion;
 - health and mental health care experiences
 - predictors of mental health and health care utilization
-
- Largest study of its kind in Canada



DID YOU
HEAR?

DID YOU
KNOW?

DID YOU
HEAR?

the **OUTLOOK** study

**Study Design
& Methods**



Methods

- ❖ community, public health, and academic stakeholders
- ❖ Online survey measuring:
 - ❖ social inclusion
 - ❖ community involvement
 - ❖ victimization & discrimination
 - ❖ social isolation
 - ❖ coming out challenges
 - ❖ safety issues
 - ❖ mental health and health care access



DID YOU
HEAR?

Recruitment

- ❖ Extensive community-based and online recruitment to diverse groups of LGBTQ individuals in Waterloo Region
- ❖ 16 years old +
- ❖ Self-identification

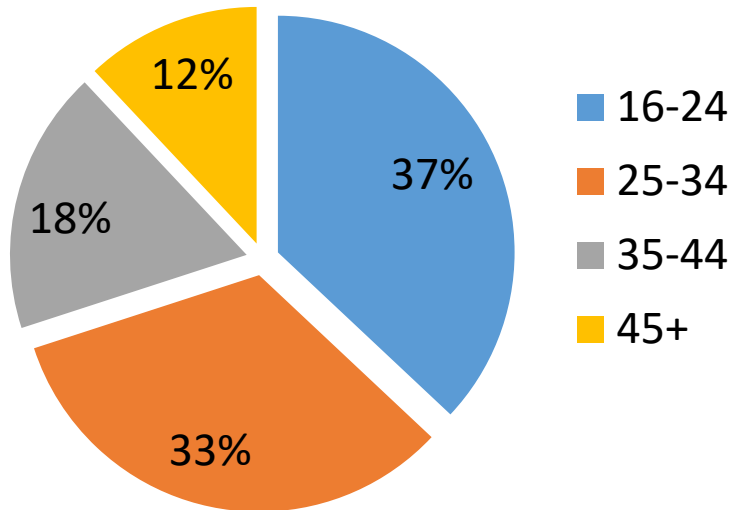
Total N = 526



DID YOU
HEAR?

Total Survey Response: **526** participants

AGE of PARTICIPANTS (average = 31)



326 (62%) Reported to be students

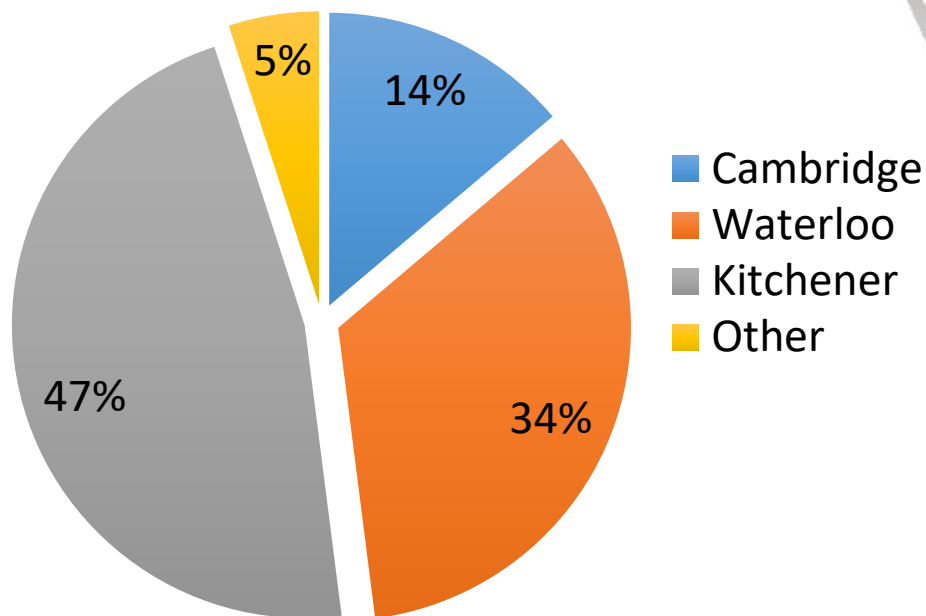
14%: LESBIAN
19%: BISEXUAL
41%: GAY

112 (21%)
TRANSGENDER

51%
MEN WHO
HAVE SEX
WITH MEN

Population breakdown

City of Residence



14% of Respondents reported to have been born in a country other than Canada

16% Identified as Racialized (incl. mixed race & Indigenous)

30% Married or Common Law

Victimization and Community Safety among LGBTQ People in Waterloo Region



For this fact sheet, OutLook worked in collaboration with Breaking the Silence, a Rainbow Community Council (RCC) working group concerned with hate crimes, violence and feelings of safety experienced by Waterloo Region's LGBTQ community members. We hope that our fact sheets are helpful in your work to create change.

VICTIMIZATION

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Over 90%
said growing up
they heard that
people who are
lesbian, gay,
bisexual or trans
were abnormal.

73%

were made fun of,
or called names,
because of
gender identity

26%

were hit or
beaten up
because of their
gender identity

71%

were made fun of,
or called names,
because of
sexual orientation

10%

were hit or
beaten up
because of their
sexual orientation

42%

had to move away from
their family or friends
because of their
GENDER IDENTITY

86%

of trans respondents
have tried to pass
as non-trans

30%

had to move away from
their family or friends
because of their
SEXUAL ORIENTATION

92%

of respondents
have pretended
to be heterosexual

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PLACES PEOPLE AVOID

Trans people fear harassment in **malls/clothing stores (38%)** and **at the gym (38%)**



Cisgender people fear harassment in **clubs or social clubs (18%)** and **at the gym (15%)**



25%
cisgender
people avoid
**places
of worship**



57%
transgender
people avoid
**public
washrooms**

PLACES WHERE PEOPLE FEEL SAFE

64% cisgender **57%** transgender
feel safe in
LIBRARIES



Trans people feel safe on
social media/online spaces (40%)
and in **public spaces (37%)**

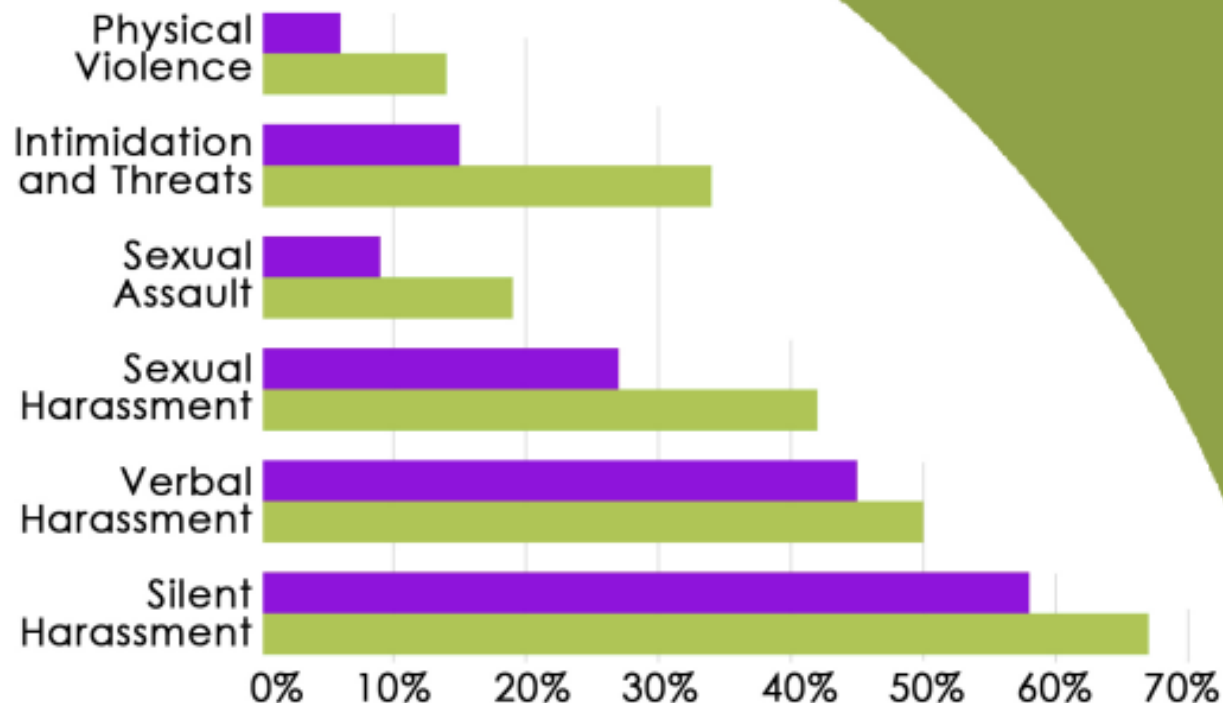


Cisgender people feel safe in
grocery stores/pharmacies (59%)
and in **malls/clothing stores (59%)**

TRANS PEOPLE FACE GREATER CHALLENGES



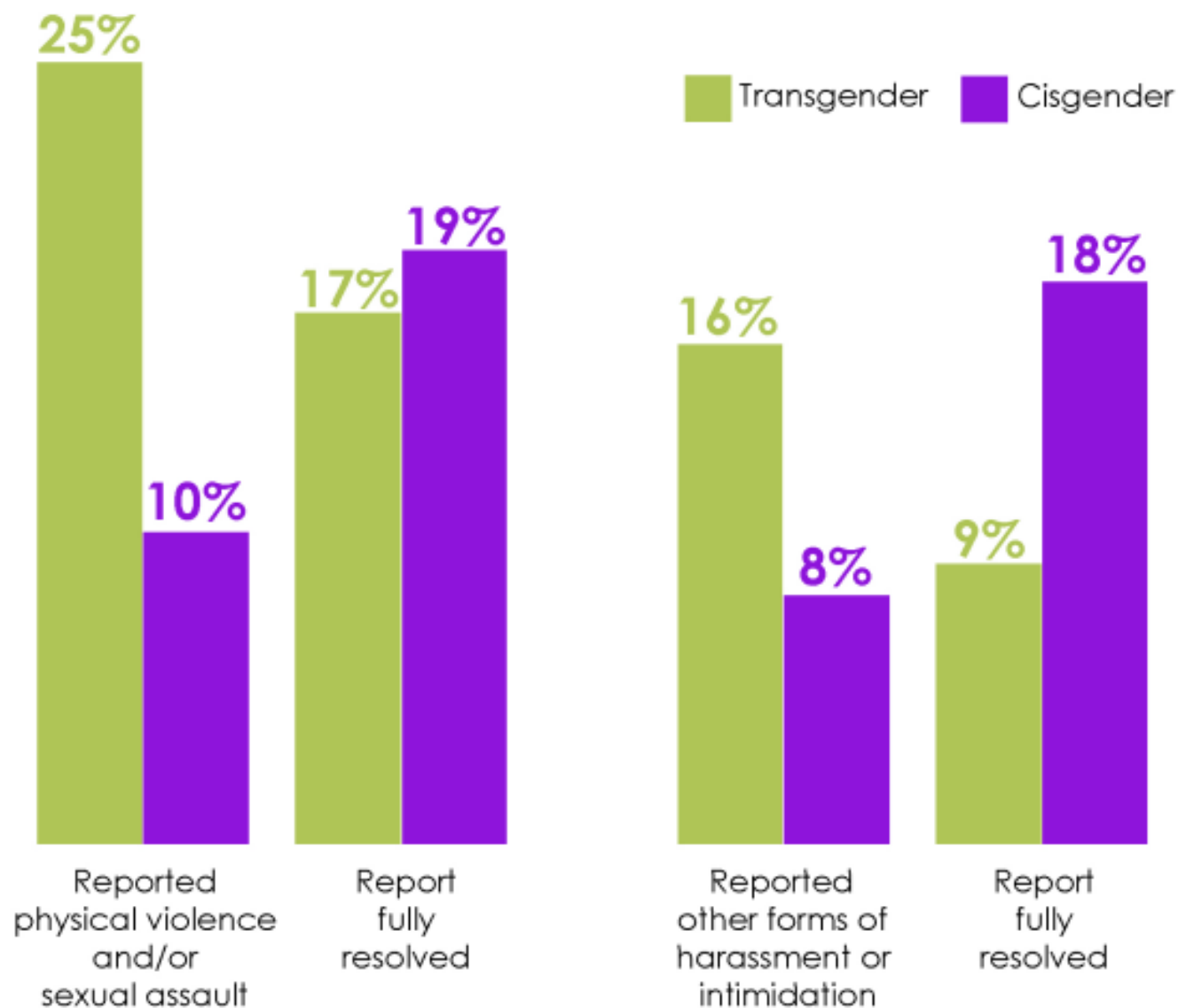
EXPERIENCES



65% have been objectified or fetishized

59% worry about growing old alone

73% fear they will die young



21%
experienced
some form of
**police
harassment**
because of their
gender identity

16%
experienced
some form of
**police
harassment**
because of their
**sexual
orientation**

COMMUNITY

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61% cisgender
77% transgender
feel it is important to be a
member of an LGBTQ
organization

Over 90%
say there is a need
for LGBTQ friendly
spaces to socialize
in Waterloo Region

42% cisgender
31% transgender
report strong sense of
community
belongingness

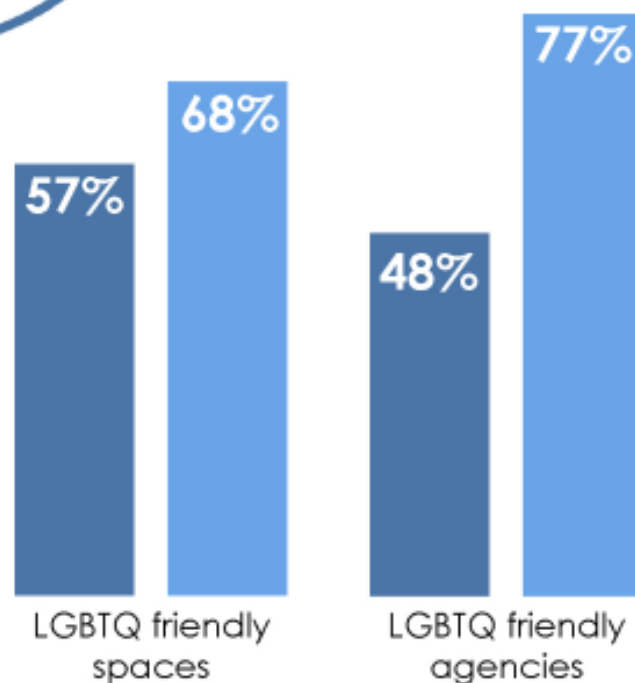
Likely to attend LGBTQ support group



Likely to attend LGBTQ-safe community centre



Likely to attend Pride events



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HOW LGBTQ PEOPLE CONNECT



62% cisgender
72% transgender



28% cisgender
47% transgender



35% cisgender
25% transgender



26% cisgender
26% transgender



20% cisgender
35% transgender



31% cisgender
15% transgender



20% cisgender
23% transgender

FACE TO FACE

73% 79%
cisgender transgender

Questions?

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