

Rowan University

## Rowan Digital Works

---

Stratford Campus Research Day

23rd Annual Research Day

---

May 2nd, 12:00 AM

### Physician Comfort and Competence in Treating the LGBTQ Population

Deborah White D.O.

Emma White D.O.

Follow this and additional works at: [https://rdw.rowan.edu/stratford\\_research\\_day](https://rdw.rowan.edu/stratford_research_day)



Part of the [Medicine and Health Sciences Commons](#)

Let us know how access to this document benefits you - share your thoughts on our [feedback form](#).

---

White, Deborah D.O. and White, Emma D.O., "Physician Comfort and Competence in Treating the LGBTQ Population" (2019). *Stratford Campus Research Day*. 54.

[https://rdw.rowan.edu/stratford\\_research\\_day/2019/may2/54](https://rdw.rowan.edu/stratford_research_day/2019/may2/54)

This Poster is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences, Events, and Symposia at Rowan Digital Works. It has been accepted for inclusion in Stratford Campus Research Day by an authorized administrator of Rowan Digital Works. For more information, please contact [brush@rowan.edu](mailto:brush@rowan.edu).



# Physician Comfort and Competence in Treating the LGBTQ Population

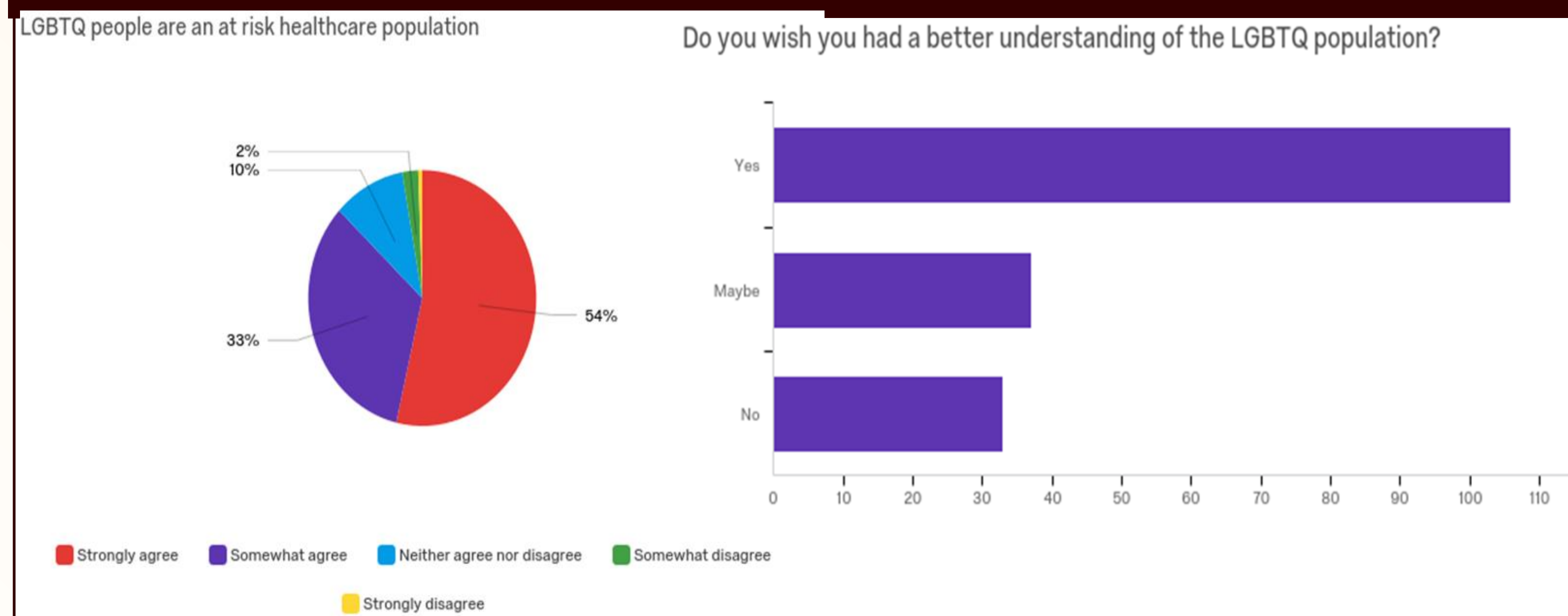


Principal Investigator: Deborah White, DO, MPH  
 Study Coordinator: Emma White, DO  
 Research Assistants: Shivani Patel, Joel Frank, Tara Beck

## Abstract

Numerous studies have shown that the LGBTQ community is an evolving minority population with special healthcare considerations. Our study was based on the underlying hypothesis that OBGYN physicians feel as though they would benefit from more training, and in turn, provide improved healthcare to the LGBTQ population. To gain more information, we sent a survey to obstetrician/gynecologists asking questions about their own patient population, amount of training, and desire for further education regarding the LGBTQ community. We found that a majority of OBGYN physicians would use more information on the LGBTQ population if it were available to them. This information could be used in planning future continuing medical education topics to including more LGBTQ focused topics in conferences or specialized training courses.

## Results



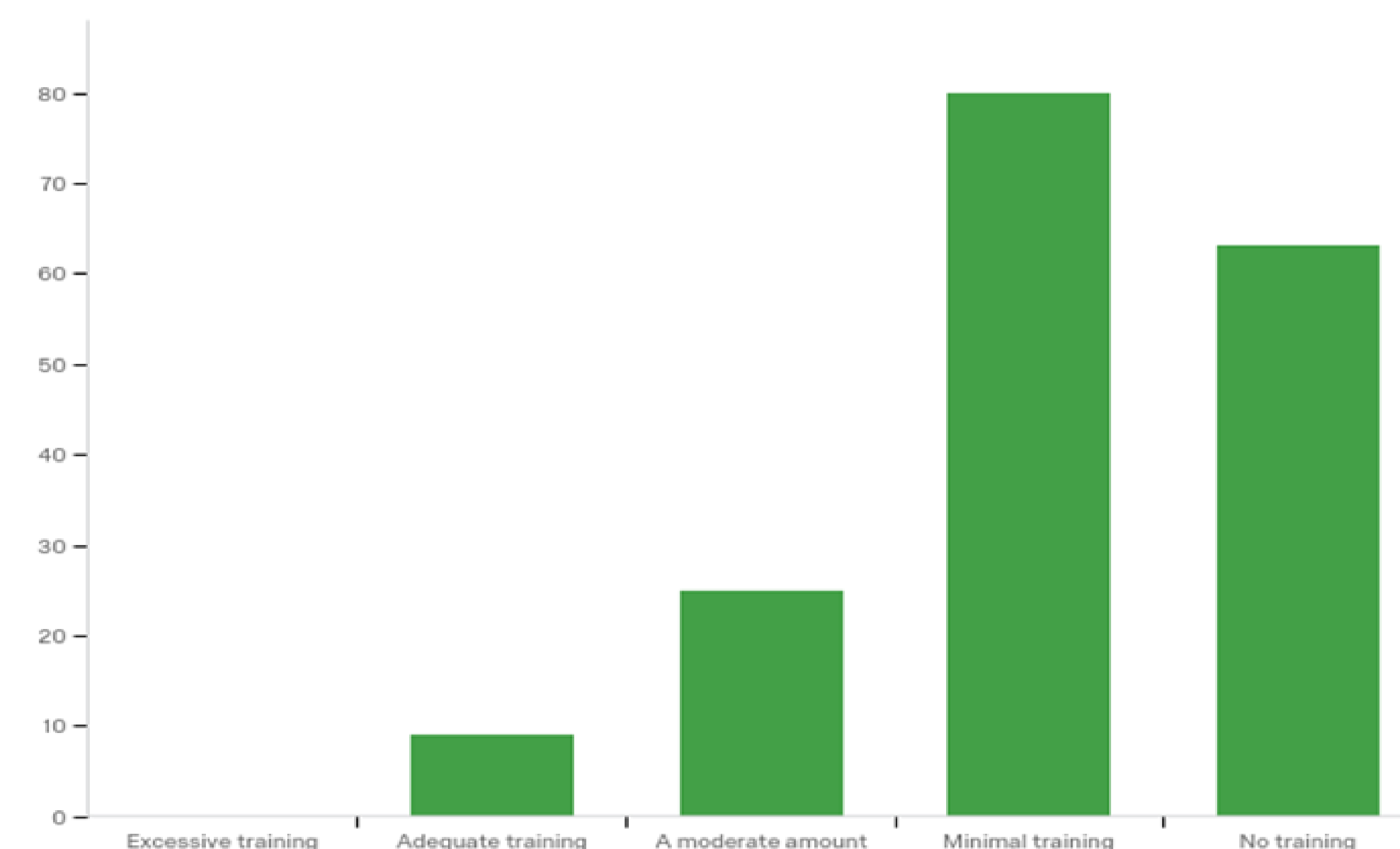
## Background

Previous studies have demonstrated that the LGBTQ Community is historically

- an at-risk population
- Experienced health care disparities, including lower rates of cervical cancer screening among lesbians
- More likely to engage in health-risk behaviors than other students
- the majority of physicians did not believe that they had all the skills they needed to address issues of sexual orientation with adolescents

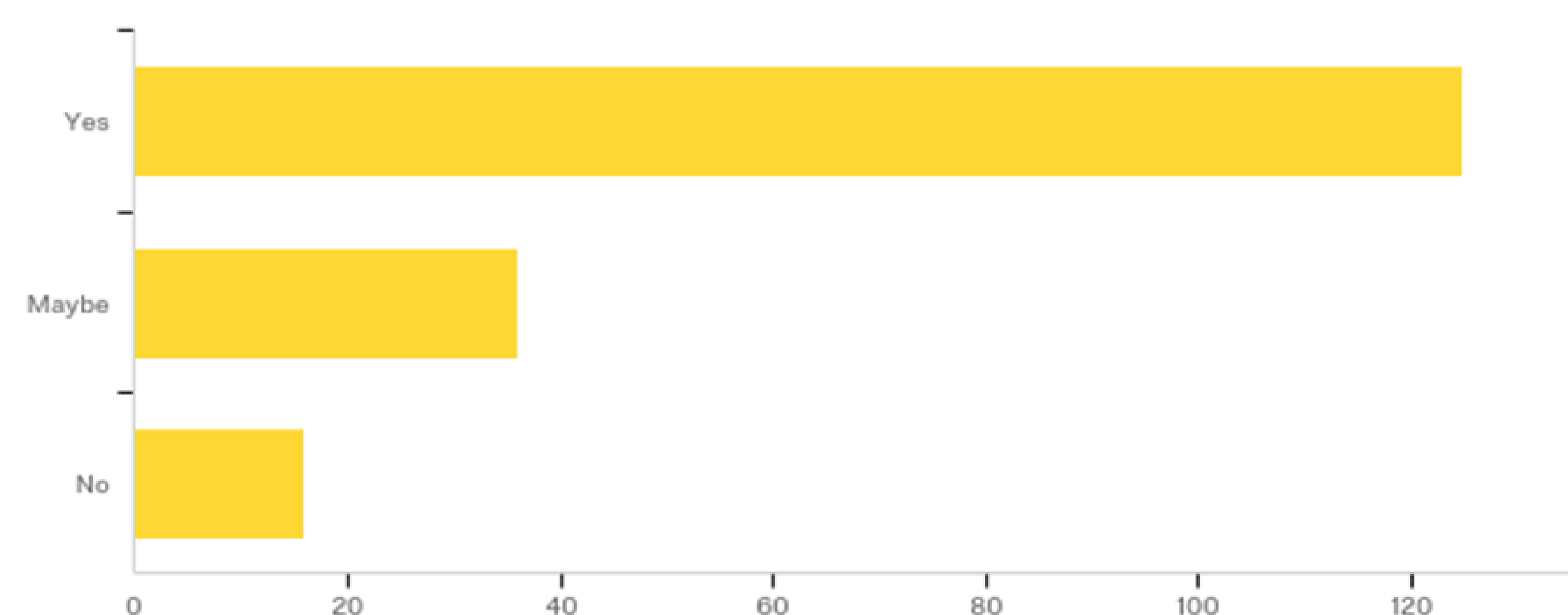
## Conclusion

How much LGBTQ training did you receive in medical school and residency?



The United States has become increasingly more positive and safer environment for people who identify as LGBTQ. There are still many hurdles and obstacles to the equality of this minority population, including regards to healthcare. This survey shows that OBGYN physicians have a recognition of the LGBTQ population as at risk and withstanding systemic bias. The results of this survey display a need for more education in medical schools, residency training, and continuing medical education for OBGYN physicians regarding the LGBTQ patient population. More objective studies on the medical education of OBGYN physicians would be helpful in determining the changes to curriculum that could most benefit the LGBTQ population.

Would you use more information on LGBTQ healthcare if it were available to you?

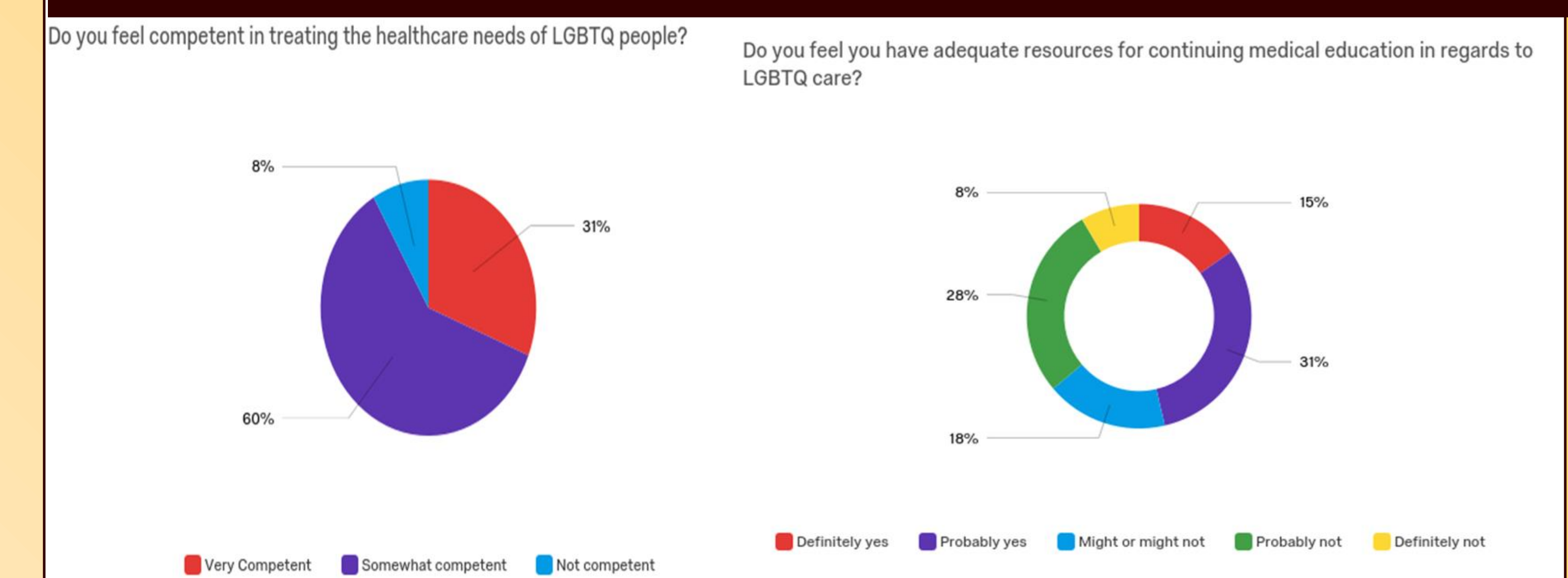


## Methods

A survey of obstetrician/gynecologists was chosen to gather firsthand information directly from the healthcare provider.

- 10 questions in the survey
- Distributed through email using Qualtrics statistical software..
- Sent to 2,000 OBGYN physicians, whose emails were randomly selected from the ACOG member directory.
- 178 Surveys were completed and returned

## Results



## References

Kitts RL. Barriers to optimal care between physicians and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning adolescent patients. *Journal of homosexuality*. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20582799>. Published 2010

Temple M, Werd E. Consideration of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) Report on the Health of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Individuals. [https://report.nih.gov/UploadDocs/LGBT Health Report\\_FINAL\\_2013-01-03-508 compliant.pdf](https://report.nih.gov/UploadDocs/LGBT%20Health%20Report_FINAL_2013-01-03-508%20compliant.pdf). Published 2011.

Rafferty J. Ensuring Comprehensive Care and Support for Transgender and Gender-Diverse Children and Adolescents. *Pediatrics*. <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2018/09/13/peds.2018-2162.info>. Published September 17, 2018

Kann L. Sexual Identity, Sex of Sexual Contacts, and Health-Related Behaviors Among Students in Grades 9–12 – United States and Selected Sites. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/ss/pdfs/ss6509.pdf>. Published August 12, 2016.

"In U.S., Estimate of LGBT Population Rises to 4.5%". *Gallup.com*. Retrieved 14 September 2018. <https://news.gallup.com/poll/234863/estimate-lgbt-population-rises.aspx>