

Achieving Health Equity for Asexual & Aromantic Patients

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March 20, 2024

Our Roots

Fenway Health

- Independent 501(c)(3) FQHC
- Founded 1971
- Mission: To enhance the wellbeing of the LGBTQIA+ community as well as people in our neighborhoods and beyond through access to the highest quality health care, education, research, and advocacy
- Integrated primary care model, including HIV and transgender health services

The Fenway Institute

- Research, Education, Policy



The National LGBTQIA+ Health Education Center

- Training and Technical Assistance
- Grand Rounds
- Online Learning
 - CE and HEI Credit
- Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) Programs
- Publications and Resources



Learning Module



Publication



Toolkit



Video



Webinar

www.lgbtqiahealtheducation.org



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Overview

- Defining asexuality
- Demographics of Asexual Populations
- Intersections of bi, ace, trans, and nonbinary identities
- Defining and measuring acephobia
- The health and healthcare of asexual populations
- Asexual community resources

Learning Objectives

- Participants will be able to define asexuality and incorporate this definition into a larger understanding of sexual orientation and sexuality
- Participants will be able to name at least 3 health disparities impacting asexuality populations
- Participants will be able to name 3 best practices to provide culturally responsive healthcare to asexual patients



Jenni Holtz (they/them)

Defining Asexuality

Defining Asexuality

“An asexual person is someone who does not experience sexual attraction”

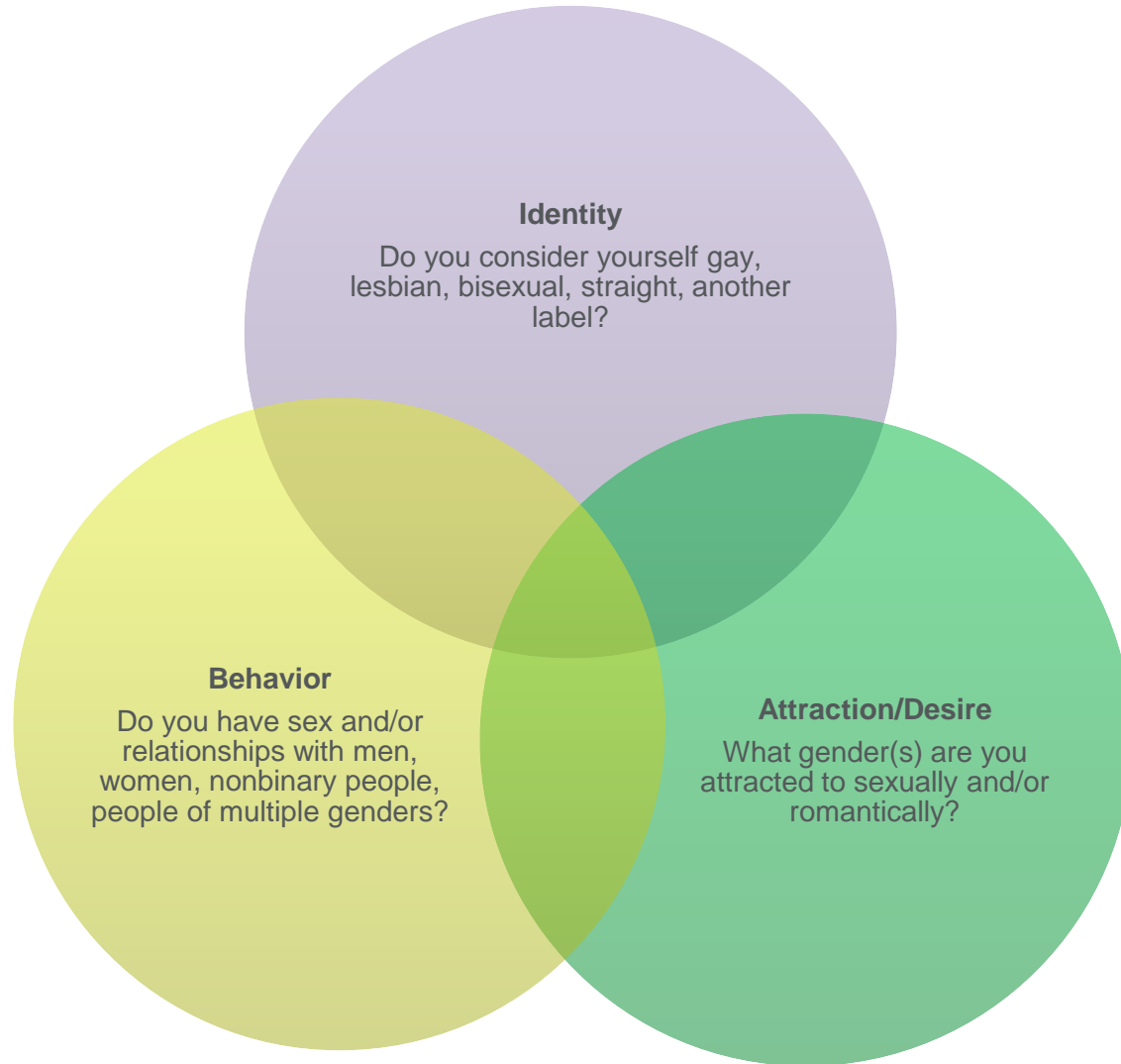


Defining Aromanticism

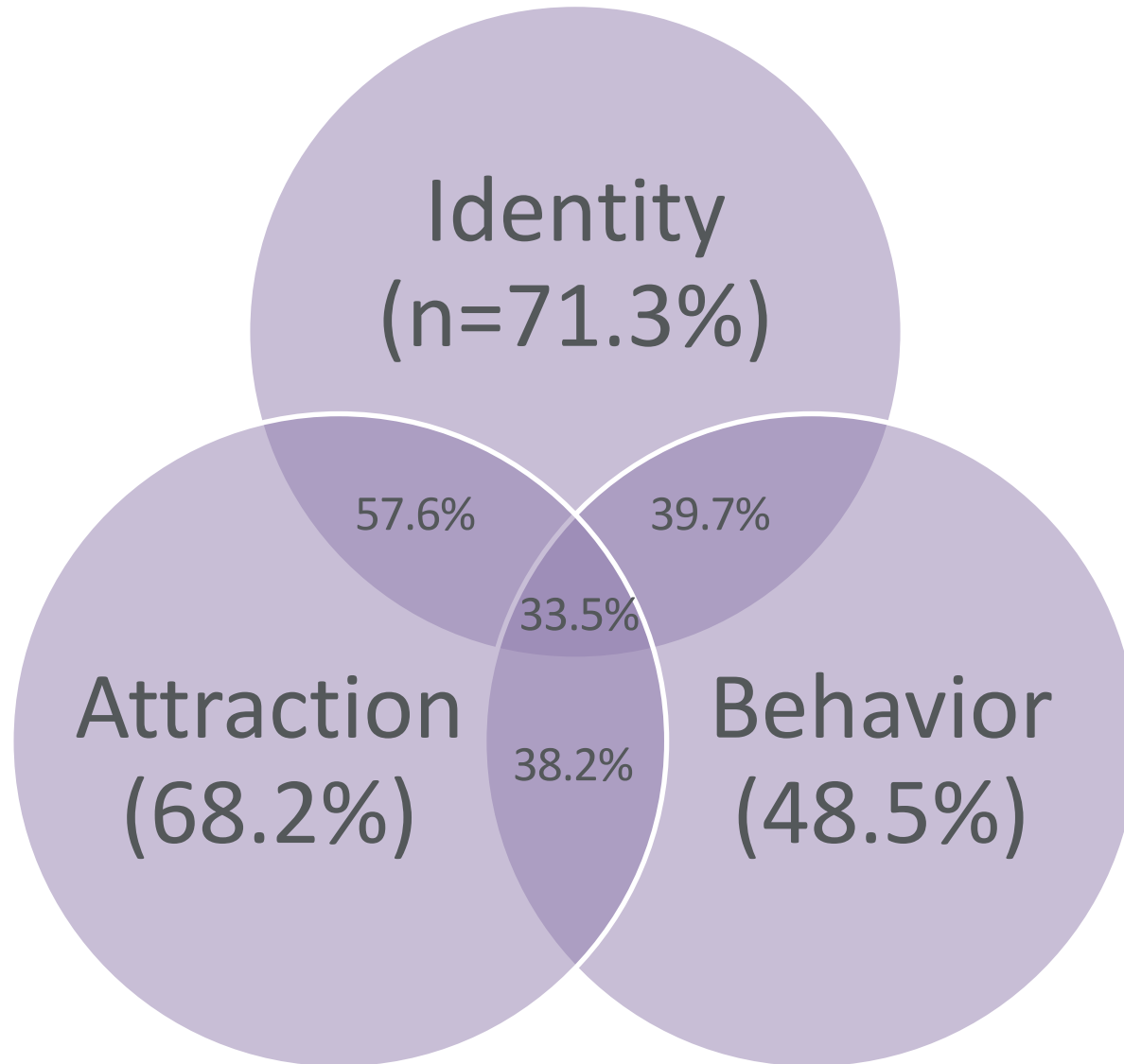
An aromantic person is someone who does not experience romantic attraction



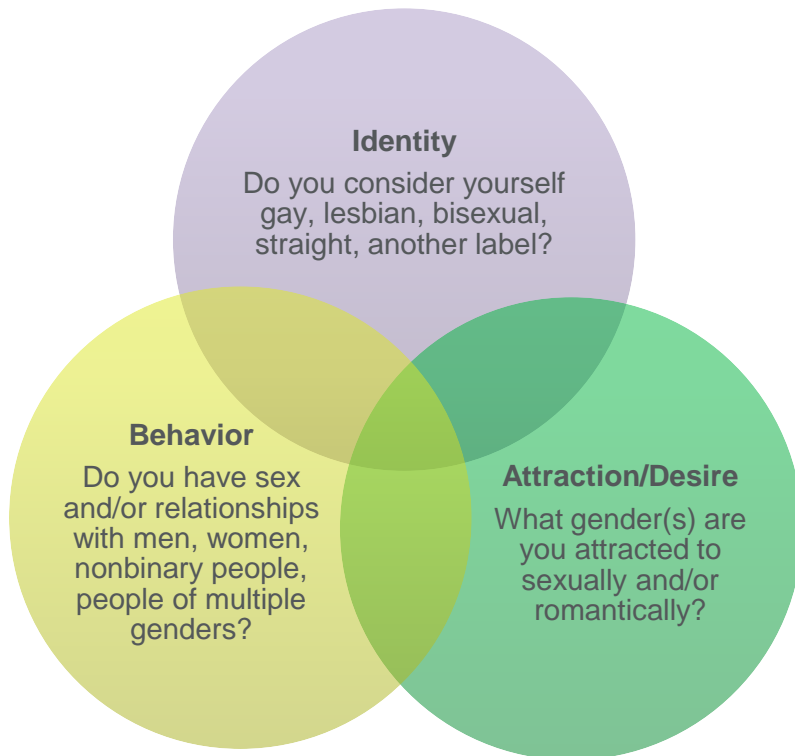
Dimensions of “Traditional” Sexual Orientation: Required Comparison - Gender of Self vs. Partner Gender(s)



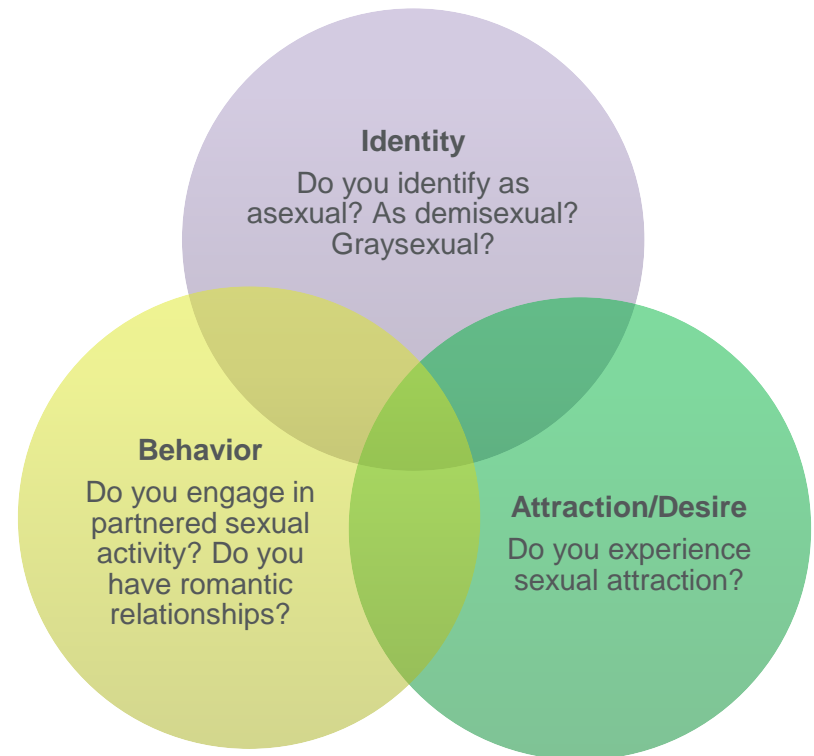
Asexuality: Own gender, gender of others not required to define asexuality as a sexual orientation



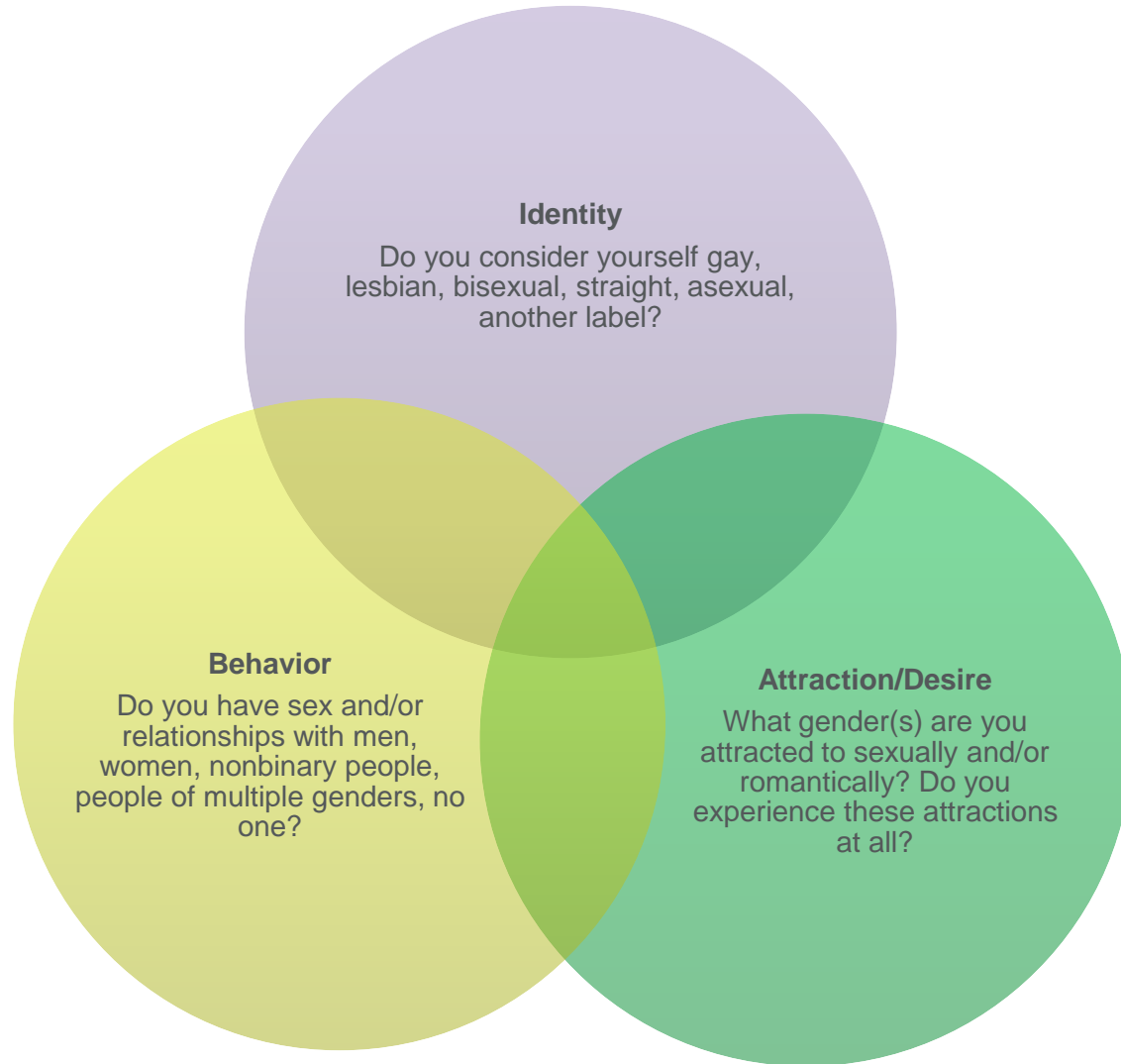
“Traditional” Sexual Orientation Schema



Asexual Sexual Orientation Schema



Dimensions of Sexual Orientation – Including Asexuality



Sexual Attraction and Gender

- If you do not experience sexual attraction to other people, one way that this can be conceptualized/framed is that gender is not a factor in defining attraction, since there **is no** attraction
- Many bi and pan people report that gender is not a defining factor in their attraction to other people (though this is not true for all)

Overlap between (a)sexual identity, sexual behavior, romantic and sexual attraction

- It is possible to be any gender and identify with **both** a bi/gay/lesbian/hetero identity AND an asexual/acespectrum identity
 - “I am a bisexual ace nonbinary transgender person”
 - **Example:** Matt (a multiracial nonbinary transgender person) does not experience sexual attraction to other people, but does experience romantic attraction to people of multiple genders. They also experience sexual desire for other people; gender is not a defining factor in this desire. They typically have sex with their romantic relationship partners (their partners have been men, women, and nonbinary). Because Matt experiences multigender romantic attraction (e.g., SO dimension: attraction) and desires/has sex with their romantic partners (e.g., SO dimension: behavior), they also identify as asexual and bisexual (SO dimension: identity). The nonbinary, transgender, bisexual, and asexual (or bi and ace, etc.) identities are **not** “in conflict.”

Asexuality is an identity, not a pathology

DEEP DIVE

Different, not broken: Asexual people still reckon with erasure from their doctors

Asexuality was historically seen as a disorder to be cured. The community is still fighting for recognition

By **ELIZABETH HLAVINKA**

PUBLISHED MARCH 16, 2024 5:30AM (EDT)

By the Numbers: Who are asexual people?

Prevalence of Asexuality (as defined by lack of sexual attraction to others)

- 1.05% of people in a national probability sample of British residents reported no sexual attraction.

Table 1. Comparisons of Asexual and Sexual People on Predictor Variables

Variable	Asexuals (<i>n</i> = 195)		Sexuals (<i>n</i> = 18,426)		<i>t</i> or χ^2	<i>p</i>
	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>		
Sexual activity						
Age first sex	16.78	3.36	14.82	2.99	6.64	< .001
Total partners	0.94	1.20	2.65	1.61	19.27	< .001
Sex frequency	0.20	0.71	1.16	1.59	18.19	< .001
Demographics						
Age	38.36	14.29	36.31	11.71	1.99	= .015
Gender (% men)	29.23	—	43.17		15.30	< .001
Marital status (% non-single)	32.82	—	63.65		118.1	< .001
Education	2.03	1.31	2.94	1.32	9.56	< .001
Race/ethnicity (% White)	86.01	—	95.51	—	39.31	< .001
SES	3.27	1.71	4.51	1.69	10.28	< .001
Religiosity						
Affiliation (%)	60.00	—	56.99	—	0.71	= .398
Attendance	2.24	2.92	1.65	2.47	2.80	= .006

Prevalence of Asexuality: Self Identity

National College Health Association Survey Fall 2023

N3Q68 What term best describes your sexual orientation?

- Straight/Heterosexual (9)
- Asexual (1)
- Bisexual (2)
- Gay (3)
- Lesbian (4)
- Pansexual (5)
- Queer (6)
- Questioning (7)
- My identity is not listed above (please specify) (10)_____

Notes on recoding for N3Q68:

- Asexual was added in as a permanent option in fall 2023 instead of recoding write-ins.
- Students selecting "my identity is not listed above" (10) and specifying "straight" in N3Q68TEXT are recoded Straight/Heterosexual (9) for N3Q68.
- Students who indicate more than one sexual orientation in N3Q68TEXT are NOT recoded.

Prevalence of Asexuality: Self Identity

National College Health Association Survey Fall 2023

■ Students describe themselves as

Straight/Heterosexual:	72.7 %
Asexual:	2.4 %
Bisexual:	12.1 %
Gay:	1.9 %
Lesbian:	2.4 %
Pansexual:	2.7 %
Queer:	2.7 %
Questioning:	2.4 %
Identity not listed above:	0.7 %

Prevalence of Asexuality: Self Identity

National College Health Association Survey Spring 2023

■ Students describe themselves as

Straight/Heterosexual:	71.0 %
Asexual:	1.3 %
Bisexual:	13.3 %
Gay:	2.2 %
Lesbian:	2.5 %
Pansexual:	2.8 %
Queer:	3.7 %
Questioning:	2.6 %
Identity not listed above:	0.6 %

Prevalence of Asexuality

1.7% of sexual minority adults identify as asexual

Findings from the first representative sample of U.S. sexual minority adults estimating the prevalence of asexual identity.

An estimated 1.7% of sexual minority adults identify as asexual, according to a recent study by the Williams Institute. The study also found that asexuals are more likely to be women or gender non-binary, assigned female at birth, and younger, compared to non-asexual lesbians, gay men, and bisexual (LGB) adults.

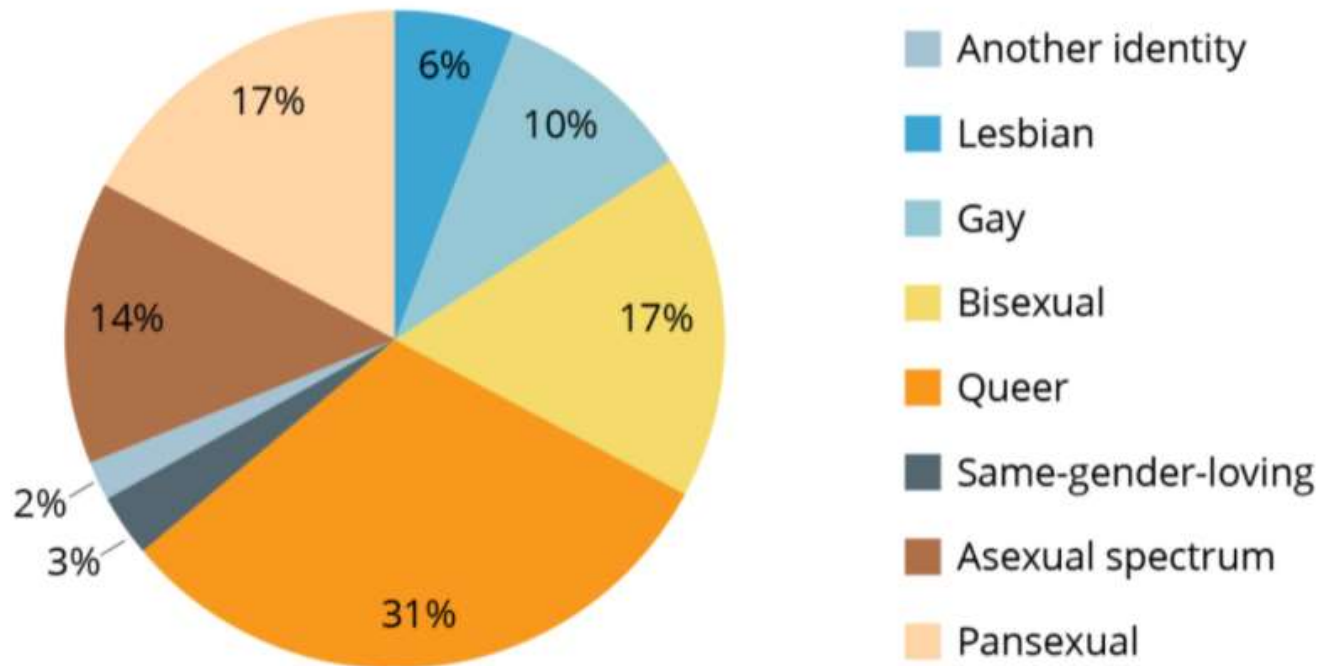
- The sexual identity question did not include “asexual” as a structured response option
- The sexual identity question only allowed 1 choice for sexual identity
- Only 16 respondents total identified as asexual in the survey

Results

In our sample of over 40,000 LGBTQ youth, 10% identified as asexual or ace spectrum. When given additional options to describe their sexual orientation, asexual youth further selected demisexual (15%), polyamorous (9%), and greysexual (9%). And consistent with previous research, many asexual youth also selected romantic attraction labels such as panromantic (20%), biromantic (17%), and aromantic (13%).

The Williams Institute: 14% of non-binary adults identify their sexual orientation as asexual spectrum

Figure 3. Sexual orientation among nonbinary LGBTQ adults

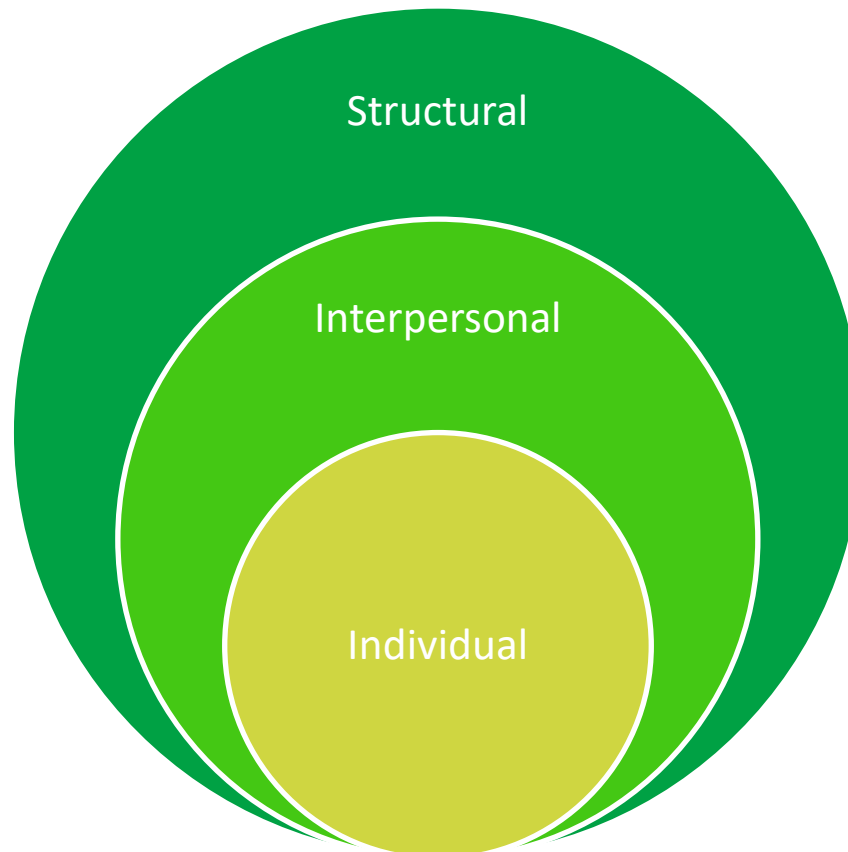


Defining and Measuring Acephobia

What is Acephobia?

Acephobia (sometimes called “aphobia”) is dislike or prejudice against asexual people and people on the asexual spectrum.

- Levels of Acephobia:



Examples of acephobia

- Asexual people...

Are celibate

Are all sex negative

(All) have no libido

Are “unnatural”

Are not queer

“Just haven’t met
the right person”

Are also aromantic

Are in “fake”
relationships

(All) do not want to
be in sexual or
romantic
relationship

(All) do not have
sex

(All) do not
masturbate

Examples of acephobia (continued)

- Asexual people...

Are not really asexual,
just “sick”/have a
disease or disorder

Must have been through
sexual trauma/sexual
trauma is the root cause
of their asexuality

Are “frigid”

Are “prudes”

Do not desire other
forms of intimacy/touch

Cannot be polyamorous

Are all heterosexual

Have heterosexual
privilege

Are “begging for
attention”

Can’t find anyone to
have sex with them

Are “wasting” their
attractiveness

Asexual Erasure

And last but not least, despite all of this ‘knowledge’ about asexual people listed in the last two slides, **another key stereotype is that asexual people don’t actually exist at all.**

There isn’t really a term for this in the popular lexicon yet, but I think it is fair to call it **“asexual erasure”**

There is not much empirical work about acephobia or the mental/physical health and wellbeing of asexual people

Measures of Acephobia: Asexual Microaggressions Scale

Items

I have been asked to provide examples of how I know I am asexual. (7)

I have been told that no one will want me as a relationship partner unless I "put out" because I am asexual. (24)

I have been told that I am asexual because I haven't met the right person. (38)

Others have assumed that I choose to be asexual. (40)

I have been told that asexuality "isn't real." (1)

I have been made to feel inferior by others because I am asexual. (5)

Others have told me there is no such thing as asexual discrimination or prejudice. (9)

I have been told that being asexual is against human nature. (27)

I have been harassed because I am asexual. (14)

I have been propositioned for sex or sex-related activities because I am asexual (e.g. "Let me show you what you are missing."). (15)

I have been threatened with harm because I am asexual. (16)

I have been called derogatory names (e.g., "prude" or "freak") in relation to my asexuality. (20)

I have been told that asexuality is a form of sexual dysfunction, not a valid way to identify. (29)

I have been told that I am "not healthy" because I am asexual. (30)

I have heard non-aseexual people speculate about the 'cause' of my asexuality. (33)

People have asked me if sexual trauma is the reason I am asexual (39)

Examples of acephobia: The funding gap

Distribution of Domestic Grant Dollars by Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Sex Characteristics (2021)



TGNCNBI⁸	\$36,006,256	14%
Gay Men/Queer Men/MSM	\$7,607,786	3%
Lesbians/Queer Women	\$1,586,739	1%
Intersex People	\$1,541,650	1%
Bisexual People	\$1,199,183	<1%
Asexual People	\$0	0%

**This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranteeing.*

Asexuality and Health

Prevalence of Asexuality and Key findings

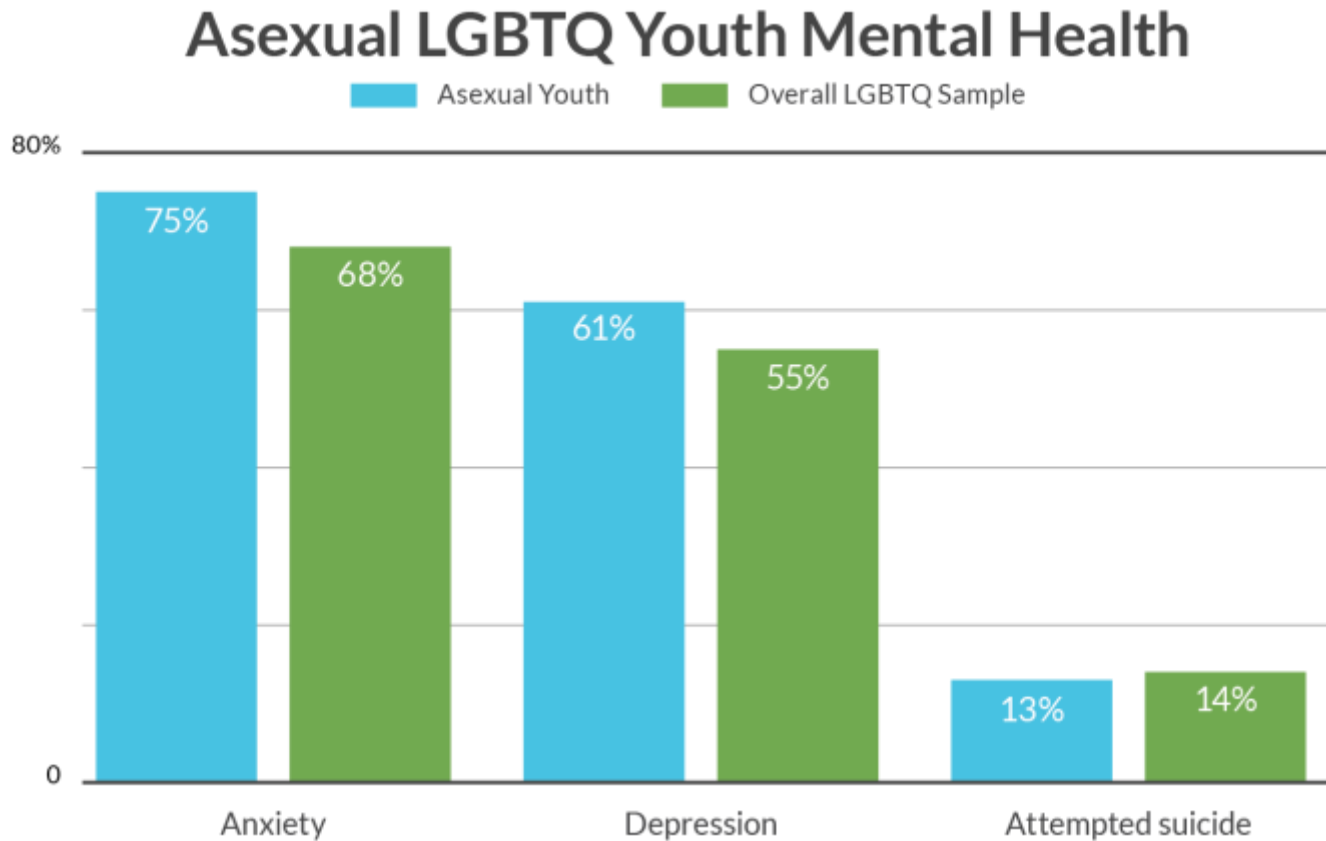
Compared to non-asexual SGM adults, asexual people are more likely to...

- Identify as women (27%) or non-binary/genderqueer (72%)
- Have been assigned female at birth (AFAB) (86%)
- Report less sexual activity
- Fall into the age group of 18-27 of 18-27 (91%)
- Report everyday discrimination and stigma

Compared to non-asexual SGM adults, asexual people are just as likely to...

- Report being in an intimate relationship
- Feel social support
- Report well-being and life satisfaction
- Feel connected with the LGBT+ community

Trevor Project Report: Health Outcomes for Ace Youth

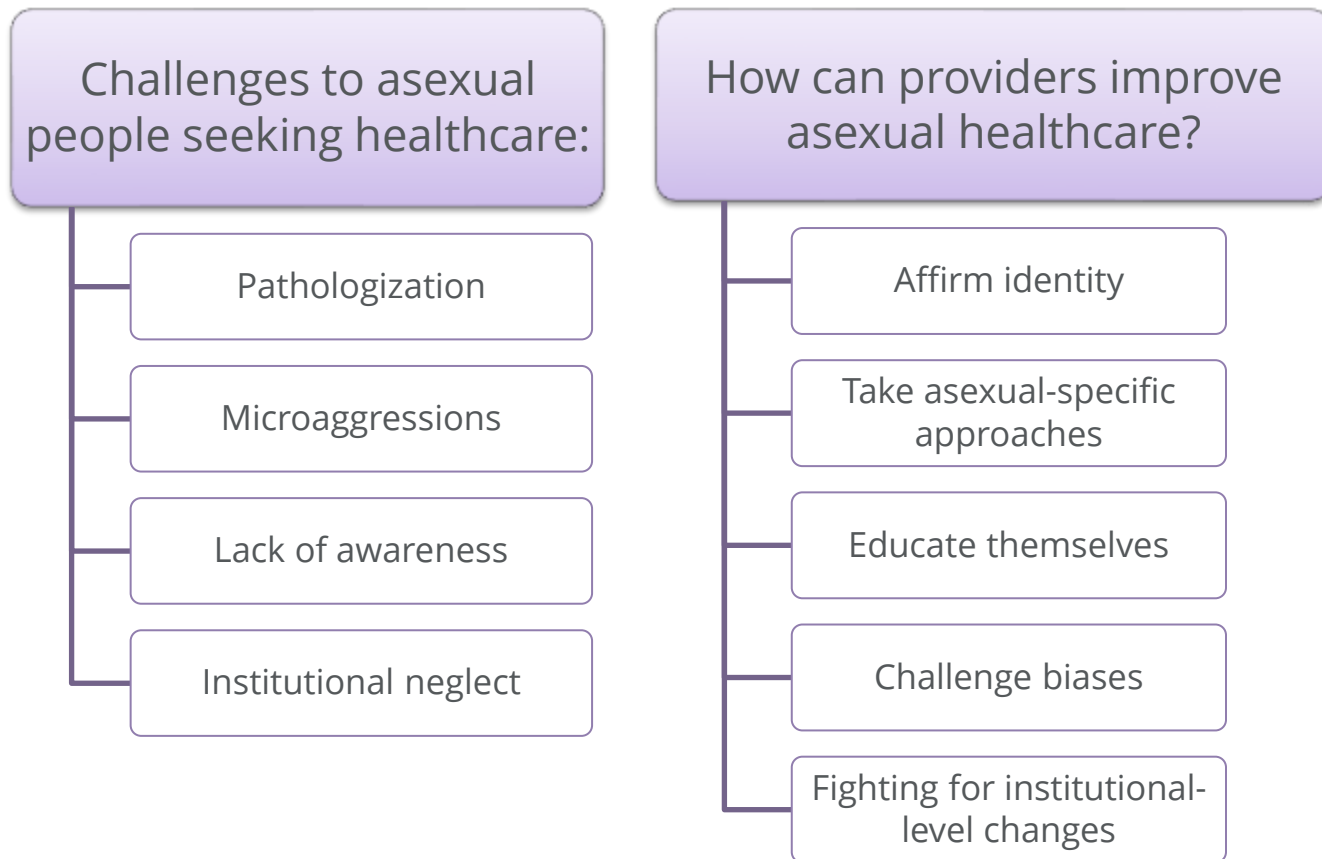


- Asexual youth have **higher rates of depression and anxiety** compared to overall LGBTQ youth in Trevor Project’s 2020 National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Mental Health (n=40,000)

Asexuality and Health

- Asexual college students **more likely to report a history of PTSD and sexual trauma than non-asexual individuals** in the 2015-2016 Healthy Minds Study
- **6.6% of asexual** and 1.9% of non-asexual (e.g., “allosexual”) individuals reported PTSD diagnosis
- **3.5% of asexual** and 2.4% of allosexual individuals reported sexual trauma in the past 12 months
- **The interaction between asexual identification and sex for these outcomes was not significant.**

Asexual Competent Practices in Healthcare: A Narrative Review



Asexuality and Health: Lifetime Tobacco Use among Asexual Female Emerging Adults –Table 2

TABLE 2. LIFETIME TOBACCO USE AND SEXUAL ATTRACTION AMONG U.S. ADULT WOMEN BY AGE: POPULATION ASSESSMENT OF TOBACCO AND HEALTH STUDY WAVE 1 (2013–2014), N=15,489

	<i>Same sex</i>				<i>Both sexes</i>				<i>Asexual</i>				<i>Opposite sex</i>	
	%	SE	AOR	95% CI	%	SE	AOR	95% CI	%	SE	AOR	95% CI	%	SE
Age 18–24 years														
Any tobacco														
Never (REF)	26.02	4.67	1.00	1.00	15.50	2.98	1.00	1.00	83.95	4.96	1.00	1.00	38.26	1.25
Experimental	28.50	4.09	1.21	0.67–2.19	27.31	2.73	1.96	1.18–3.23	6.67 ^b	3.53	0.10	0.03–0.35	35.88	0.95
Regular	45.47	4.26	2.56	1.50–4.34	57.18	3.40	4.82	3.00–7.76	9.38 ^b	3.55	0.19	0.08–0.45	25.86	0.89
Cigarette														
Never (REF)	38.20	4.61	1.00	1.00	26.95	3.10	1.00	1.00	88.47	3.86	1.00	1.00	52.53	1.10
Experimental	30.03	4.03	1.44	0.90–2.31	30.06	2.58	1.97	1.38–2.80	3.32 ^b	1.98	0.07	0.02–0.33	28.44	0.87
Regular ^d	31.77	3.81	2.36	1.45–3.81	42.99	3.11	3.80	2.66–5.44	8.21	3.24	0.29	0.12–0.73	19.03	0.76
E-cigarette ^d														
Never (REF)	59.85	4.44	1.00	1.00	50.90	3.17	1.00	1.00	92.39	3.22	1.00	1.00	75.31	0.82
Experimental or regular	40.15	4.44	2.08^a	1.32–3.12	49.10	3.17	2.68^a	2.01–3.58	7.61 ^b	3.22	0.26^a	0.10–0.67	24.69	0.82
Cigars														
Never (REF)	45.99	4.46	1.00	1.00	42.41	3.41	1.00	1.00	91.55	3.45	1.00	1.00	66.79	1.01
Experimental	33.52	4.12	1.73^c	1.12–2.68	37.15	3.03	2.10^c	1.53–2.9	4.39 ^b	2.29	0.14^c	0.04–0.51	27.38	0.92
Regular	20.49	3.47	4.51^c	2.74–7.43	20.44	2.49	5.12^c	3.54–7.41	4.06 ^b	2.59	0.53^c	0.12–2.41	5.83	0.39
Regular pipe ^d														
Never (REF)	86.91	3.33	1.00	1.00	85.99	1.74	1.00	1.00	97.58	1.23	1.00	1.00	94.80	0.37
Experimental or regular	13.09	3.33	2.87	1.51–5.46	14.01	1.74	2.57	1.87–3.53	2.42 ^b	1.23	0.61	0.19–1.99	5.20	0.37
Hookah ^d														
Never (REF)	44.98	4.29	1.00	1.00	44.68	3.37	1.00	1.00	89.56	3.65	1.00	1.00	58.72	1.25
Experimental or regular	55.02	4.29	1.88	1.28–2.76	55.32	3.37	2.02	1.52–2.67	10.44 ^b	3.65	0.19	0.09–0.43	41.28	1.25
Smokeless ^d														
Never (REF)	85.53	2.85	1.00	1.00	89.65	1.90	1.00	1.00	95.06	2.71	1.00	1.00	93.66	0.45
Experimental or regular	14.47	2.85	2.94	1.79–4.83	10.35	1.90	1.59	1.03–2.46	4.94 ^b	2.71	1.14	0.30–4.38	6.34	0.45

Wheldon, C. W., et al. (2018). "Tobacco Use Among Adults by Sexual Orientation: Findings from the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health Study." *Lgbt Health* 5(1): 33-44.

Asexuality and Health: Lifetime Tobacco Use among Asexual Female Emerging Adults – Table 2 Ace Section

	<i>Asexual</i>			
	<i>%</i>	<i>SE</i>	<i>AOR</i>	<i>95% CI</i>
Age 18–24 years				
Any tobacco				
Never (REF)	83.95	4.96	1.00	1.00
Experimental	6.67 ^b	3.53	0.10	0.03–0.35
Regular	9.38 ^b	3.55	0.19	0.08–0.45
Cigarette				
Never (REF)	88.47	3.86	1.00	1.00
Experimental	3.32 ^b	1.98	0.07	0.02–0.33
Regular	8.21	3.24	0.29	0.12–0.73
E-cigarette ^d				
Never (REF)	92.39	3.22	1.00	1.00
Experimental or regular	7.61 ^b	3.22	0.26^a	0.10–0.67
Cigars				
Never (REF)	91.55	3.45	1.00	1.00
Experimental	4.39 ^b	2.29	0.14^c	0.04–0.51
Regular	4.06 ^b	2.59	0.53 ^c	0.12–2.41
Regular pipe ^d				
Never (REF)	97.58	1.23	1.00	1.00
Experimental or regular	2.42 ^b	1.23	0.61	0.19–1.99
Hookah ^d				
Never (REF)	89.56	3.65	1.00	1.00
Experimental or regular	10.44 ^b	3.65	0.19	0.09–0.43
Smokeless ^d				
Never (REF)	95.06	2.71	1.00	1.00
Experimental or regular	4.94 ^b	2.71	1.14	0.30–4.38

Wheldon, C. W., et al. (2018). "Tobacco Use Among Adults by Sexual Orientation: Findings from the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health Study." *Lgbt Health* 5(1): 33-44.

Asexuality and Health: Lifetime Tobacco Use among Asexual Male Emerging Adults – Table 4

TABLE 4. LIFETIME TOBACCO USE AND SEXUAL ATTRACTION AMONG U.S. ADULT MEN BY AGE: POPULATION ASSESSMENT OF TOBACCO AND HEALTH STUDY WAVE 1 (2013–2014), N = 15,963

	<i>Same sex</i>				<i>Both sexes</i>				<i>Asexual</i>				<i>Opposite sex</i>	
	%	SE	AOR	95% CI	%	SE	AOR	95% CI	%	SE	AOR	95% CI	%	SE
Age 18–24 years														
Any tobacco														
Never (REF)	25.92	5.60	1.00	1.00	39.28	9.10	1.00	1.00	64.23	6.98	1.00	1.00	28.69	1.36
Experimental	33.58	4.51	1.33	0.68–2.61	29.22	6.67	1.03	0.47–2.58	19.71	5.18	0.32	0.16–0.66	28.71	0.79
Regular	40.50	4.98	1.18	0.60–2.30	31.50	6.53	0.66	0.33–1.29	16.07	4.39	0.16	0.08–0.33	42.59	1.05
Cigarette														
Never (REF)	34.39	5.48	1.00	1.00	50.38	8.33	1.00	1.00	70.23	6.53	1.00	1.00	41.90	1.22
Experimental	33.82	4.55	1.39	0.79–2.46	25.21	6.61	0.83	0.36–1.94	21.53	5.59	0.43	0.21–0.87	30.00	0.87
Regular	31.79	4.40	1.58	0.89–2.79	24.41	5.52	0.77	0.41–1.46	8.23 ^a	3.21	0.16	0.06–0.41	28.10	0.88
E-cigarette														
Never (REF)	58.93	5.22	1.00	1.00	69.06	6.46	1.00	1.00	87.20	3.83	1.00	1.00	61.77	1.09
Experimental	31.92	4.24	1.17	0.77–1.79	24.87	5.73	1.77	0.44–1.35	7.75 ^a	2.90	0.18	0.07–0.44	30.99	0.96
Regular	9.15	2.53	1.50	0.73–3.06	6.07 ^a	2.85	0.74	0.24–2.25	5.05 ^a	2.33	0.51	0.17–1.54	7.25	0.40
Cigars														
Never (REF)	63.54	4.80	1.00	1.00	60.91	7.71	1.00	1.00	83.49	4.32	1.00	1.00	45.43	1.33
Experimental	26.39	4.22	0.49	0.31–0.77	27.00	6.25	0.62	0.33–1.17	9.96 ^a	3.47	0.16	0.07–0.38	40.54	1.15
Regular	10.07	2.32	0.55	0.31–0.98	12.09 ^a	3.89	0.80	0.33–1.95	6.55 ^a	2.73	0.25	0.10–0.64	14.04	0.52
Regular pipe ^b														
Never (REF)	87.11	2.42	1.00	1.00	72.78	6.48	1.00	1.00	92.35	3.12	1.00	1.00	79.02	0.86
Experimental	12.89	2.42	0.59	0.38–0.94	27.22	6.48	1.58	0.82–3.01	7.65 ^a	3.12	0.37	0.14–0.99	20.98	0.86
or regular														
Hookah														
Never (REF)	48.02	5.46	1.00	1.00	62.80	6.88	1.00	1.00	80.50	5.50	1.00	1.00	52.70	1.32
Experimental	39.00	4.68	1.18	0.73–1.89	29.71	5.88	0.91	0.55–1.50	15.10 ^a	5.03	0.33	0.14–0.77	36.10	1.03
Regular	12.97	2.43	1.24	0.67–2.31	7.49 ^a	3.24	0.66	0.24–1.80	4.40 ^a	2.16	0.30	0.10–0.90	11.19	0.53
Smokeless ^b														
Never (REF)	86.01	2.74	1.00	1.00	80.56	4.99	1.00	1.00	92.29	2.89	1.00	1.00	71.66	0.99
Experimental	13.99	2.74	0.47	0.30–0.75	19.44 ^a	4.99	0.59	0.30–1.16	7.71 ^a	2.89	0.22	0.08–0.60	28.34	0.99
or regular														

Wheldon, C. W., et al. (2018). "Tobacco Use Among Adults by Sexual Orientation: Findings from the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health Study." *Lgbt Health* 5(1): 33-44.

Asexuality and Health: Lifetime Tobacco Use among Asexual Male Emerging Adults – Table 4 Ace Section

	<i>Asexual</i>			
	<i>%</i>	<i>SE</i>	<i>AOR</i>	<i>95% CI</i>
Age 18–24 years				
Any tobacco				
Never (REF)	64.23	6.98	1.00	1.00
Experimental	19.71	5.18	0.32	0.16–0.66
Regular	16.07	4.39	0.16	0.08–0.33
Cigarette				
Never (REF)	70.23	6.53	1.00	1.00
Experimental	21.53	5.59	0.43	0.21–0.87
Regular	8.23 ^a	3.21	0.16	0.06–0.41
E-cigarette				
Never (REF)	87.20	3.83	1.00	1.00
Experimental	7.75 ^a	2.90	0.18	0.07–0.44
Regular	5.05 ^a	2.33	0.51	0.17–1.54
Cigars				
Never (REF)	83.49	4.32	1.00	1.00
Experimental	9.96 ^a	3.47	0.16	0.07–0.38
Regular	6.55 ^a	2.73	0.25	0.10–0.64
Regular pipe ^b				
Never (REF)	92.35	3.12	1.00	1.00
Experimental or regular	7.65 ^a	3.12	0.37	0.14–0.99
Hookah				
Never (REF)	80.50	5.50	1.00	1.00
Experimental	15.10 ^a	5.03	0.33	0.14–0.77
Regular	4.40 ^a	2.16	0.30	0.10–0.90
Smokeless ^b				
Never (REF)	92.29	2.89	1.00	1.00
Experimental or regular	7.71 ^a	2.89	0.22	0.08–0.60

Prevalence of Mental Health Outcomes by Ace, Non-Ace, and Gender Identity among Ace Survey Participants, 2017

	Diagnosed Depression		Suicidal Ideation		Suicide Plan		Suicide Attempt	
	% Yes	% No	% Yes	% No	% Yes	% No	% Yes	% No
Ace Sample	(n = 5745)		(n = 5611)		(n = 5611)		(n = 5611)	
Overall	41.9	58.1	63.1	36.9	33.2	66.8	16.5	83.5
NonAce Identity	(n = 5706)		(n = 5572)		(n = 5572)		(n = 5572)	
Straight	32.5	67.5	49.7	50.3	20.2	79.8	10.2	89.8
Ace Only	36.7	63.3	58.6	41.4	29.3	70.7	13.6	86.4
Gay	55.1	44.9	70.3	29.7	44.3	55.7	26.8	73.2
Lesbian	52.5	47.5	74.0	26.0	41.1	58.9	22.3	77.7
Bisexual	47.3	52.7	71.0	29.0	35.6	64.4	17.3	82.7
Pansexual	52.1	47.9	75.7	24.3	48.6	51.4	24.8	75.2
Other	60.7	39.3	69.5	30.5	46.3	53.7	23.2	76.8
Questioning	33.9	66.1	58.5	41.5	28.9	71.1	13.0	87.0
Gender Identity	(n = 5724)		(n = 5590)		(n = 5590)		(n = 5590)	
Cisgender man	28.5	71.5	58.4	41.6	28.2	71.8	15.8	84.2
Cisgender woman	37.8	62.2	55.5	44.5	25.2	74.8	12.0	88.0
Transgender man	57.5	42.5	85.3	14.7	59.2	40.8	36.2	63.8
Transgender woman	47.8	52.2	76.5	23.5	46.5	53.5	19.5	80.5
Non-binary transgender	54.2	45.8	76.6	23.4	47.9	52.1	23.9	76.1
Non-binary not transgender	41.4	58.6	70.2	29.8	37.5	62.5	17.4	82.6

Note: 1.37% and 3.7% of respondents have missing data for the depression and suicide variables, respectively

Adjusted Odds of Mental Health Outcomes among Ace Community Survey Participants by Additional Intersecting Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, 2017

	Diagnosed Depression		Suicidal Ideation		Suicide Plan		Suicide Attempt	
	AOR	95% CI	AOR	95% CI	AOR	95% CI	AOR	95% CI
Sexual Identity								
Ace Only	REF	--	REF	--	REF	--	REF	--
Straight	0.73*	0.61, 0.86	0.7*	0.59, 0.83	0.63*	0.52, 0.76	0.68*	0.52, 0.88
Gay	2.09*	1.59, 2.75	1.66*	1.24, 2.22	1.93*	1.46, 2.54	2.30*	1.67, 3.18
Lesbian	1.93*	1.54, 2.43	1.99*	1.55, 2.57	1.67*	1.32, 2.11	1.81*	1.36, 2.41
Bisexual	1.52*	1.28, 1.81	1.73*	1.44, 2.08	1.34*	1.12, 1.62	1.31*	1.03, 1.66
Pansexual	1.89*	1.59, 2.25	2.19*	1.80, 2.65	2.26*	1.89, 2.70	2.10*	1.68, 2.61
Other	2.50*	1.80, 3.47	1.64*	1.16, 2.33	2.13*	1.53, 2.95	1.91*	1.29, 2.84
Questioning	0.91	0.75, 1.10	0.99	0.82, 1.20	0.98	0.80, 1.21	0.99	0.75, 1.30
Table 3b								
Gender Identity								
Cisgender woman	REF	--	REF	--	REF	--	REF	--
Cisgender man	0.58*	0.46, 0.72	1.12	0.91, 1.37	1.16	0.92, 1.46	1.26	0.95, 1.69
Trans man	2.43*	1.88, 3.14	4.53*	3.20, 6.42	4.20*	3.23, 5.46	4.34*	3.28, 5.74
Trans woman	1.48*	1.12, 1.95	2.61*	1.90, 3.58	2.58*	1.96, 3.40	1.72*	1.21, 2.45
Non-binary trans	2.11*	1.83, 2.42	2.58*	2.21, 3.02	2.70*	2.34, 3.12	2.35*	1.97, 2.81
Non-binary not trans	1.19	0.95, 1.50	1.89*	1.47, 2.41	1.78*	1.40, 2.25	1.55*	1.14, 2.10

^aAdjusted for age and race

*indicates significance at the p<0.05 level

Note: 1.37% and 3.7% of respondents have missing data for the depression and suicide variables, respectively

Comparing asexual and non-asexual sexual minority adolescents and young adults: stressors, suicidality and mental and behavioral health risk outcomes

- Study overview
 - Subgroup analysis of self-identified SGM youth (n = 5,314)
 - Asexual participants (n = 669) compared to non-asexual participants (n = 4,645)
 - Two developmental phases compared as well:
 1. Adolescence (age 14-19)
 2. Young adulthood (age 20-25)
- Key findings when Ace youth compared to Non-Ace youth:
 - Asexual youth had **significantly higher internalized LGBTQ-phobia**
 - Asexual youth tended to have **poorer mental health** (e.g., higher rates of depression)
 - Asexual youth experienced **less interpersonal discrimination/prejudice**
 - Asexual Youth engaged in **fewer health risk behaviors** (e.g., substance use)

Asexual Community Organizations and Initiatives

Asexual Community Organizations & Events

- The Asexual Visibility & Education Network: AVEN
 - (asexuality.org)



- Ace Week: October 23-October 29, 2022
 - <https://www.aceweek.org/>



Learning Objectives

- Participants will be able to define asexuality and incorporate this definition into a larger understanding of sexual orientation and sexuality
- Participants will be able to name at least 3 health disparities impacting asexuality populations
- Participants will be able to name 3 best practices to provide culturally responsive healthcare to asexual patients



Questions?