

UCLA

Other Recent Work

Title

Latinx LGBT Immigrants Without Green Cards in California

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9js0c3hk>

Authors

Guardado, Rubeen

Fuentes, Miguel

Conron, Kerith J.

Publication Date

2024-01-24

Data Availability

The data associated with this publication are not available for this reason: Licensing restrictions

RESEARCH THAT MATTERS

LATINX LGBT IMMIGRANTS WITHOUT GREEN CARDS in California

January 2024

Rubben Guardado
Miguel Fuentes Carreño
Kerith J. Conron

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	2
INTRODUCTION.....	5
FINDINGS	8
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS.....	8
REGION OF ORIGIN, TIME IN THE U.S., LANGUAGE USAGE, AND ENGLISH PROFICIENCY	10
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING	12
HEALTH STATUS AND HEALTHCARE ACCESS	15
DISCUSSION.....	19
FURTHER RESEARCH.....	20
AUTHORS	21
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	21
SUGGESTED CITATION	21
APPENDIX.....	22
METHODS	22
TABLES	24

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This study used data gathered between 2015 and 2021 on the annual California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) to examine the demographic, socioeconomic, and health characteristics of Latinx LGBT immigrants. We focus on non-citizens who do not have permanent resident status (“Green Cards”)¹ because they are a group at heightened vulnerability to low socioeconomic status and poor health. Although some non-citizens without Green Cards are legally authorized to be in the country, an estimated 85% are “undocumented.”² Further, 85.9% of all undocumented immigrants in California are Latinx. Accordingly, analysis of data about Latinx immigrants without Green Cards in California provides considerable insight into the undocumented immigrant population more broadly in the state.

We estimate that there are 211,000 Latinx LGBT immigrants in California.³ This includes an estimated 68,800 Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards. While similar in many ways to Latinx LGBT people with Green Cards, Latinx LGBT immigrants in California who did not have Green Cards were older, had less education and fewer economic resources, and were more likely to be renters, uninsured, and report no regular source of health care when compared to U.S.-born Latinx LGBT people.

Latinx LGBT immigrants who did not have Green Cards shared some similarities with Latinx non-LGBT immigrants who did not have Green Cards. However, they were less likely to be married or raising children and more likely to be experiencing psychological distress compared to their non-LGBT peers.

KEY FINDINGS

Latinx LGBT Immigrants Without Green Cards

- Half of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards, both cisgender and transgender, identified as bisexual (49.3%), 48.2% as gay/lesbian, and 2.5% identified as heterosexual and were also transgender.
- In total, 5.0% of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards were transgender.
- Like other Latinx people in the state, many Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards lived in Southern California, including 32.1% in Los Angeles and 34.4% outside of Los Angeles.
- Two-thirds (66.0%) of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards were born in Mexico, 24.3% were from Central America, and the remainder were from other parts of Latin America (8.5%) or elsewhere (1.2%).

¹ Among non-citizens who do have a Permanent Resident Card (“Green Card”) are people “authorized” to be in the country by the U.S. government because they have work or student visas or are seeking or who have received asylee or refugee status from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

² An estimated 85.0% of U.S. non-citizens without Green Cards are “unauthorized,” 10.5 million out of 12.3 million, while the remaining 1.8 million have documentation through work or student visas, are seeking or have received asylee or refugee status from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, have Temporary Protected Status, or are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients. Passel, J.S. & Krogstad, J.M. (2023, November 16). *What we know about unauthorized immigrants living in the U.S.* <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2023/11/16/what-we-know-about-unauthorized-immigrants-living-in-the-us/>

³ See Methods section in the Appendix for information about the calculation of Latinx LGBT immigrant estimates.

- Three-quarters (75.9%) of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards had lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, and 42.2% had spent over half of their lives in the U.S.
- Nearly a third (32.4%) of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards worked in service occupations. Almost one in five (18.9%) were self-employed, and 5.5% worked at family businesses or farms without pay.
- Although most (93.2%) Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards were in the workforce, nearly two-thirds (64.1%) were living at less than 200% of the federal poverty level.
- More than half (56.3%) of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards living at less than 200% of the federal poverty level were food insecure.

Latinx LGBT Immigrants Without Green Cards compared to U.S.-Born Latinx LGBT People

- Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards were older than their U.S.-born counterparts. About half (49.4%) of Latinx immigrants without Green Cards were under the age of 35 compared to three-quarters (75.5%) of U.S.-born Latinx LGBT people.
- More than twice as many Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards had a high school degree or less as their U.S.-born counterparts (72.7% v. 34.2%, respectively).
- Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards had fewer economic resources than their U.S.-born counterparts. Nearly two-thirds (64.1%) of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards were living at less than 200% of the federal poverty level compared to 42.7% of U.S.-born Latinx LGBT people.
- A majority (76.5%) of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards were renters (as opposed to homeowners). Renting was less common among U.S.-born Latinx LGBT people (54.3%) despite the younger age composition of this group.
- More than four out of 10 (43.5%) Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards had no health insurance, far more than observed among their U.S.-born LGBT peers (10.7%).
- More Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards had no usual source of health care (45.6%) compared to 21.2% of U.S.-born Latinx LGBT citizens.

Latinx LGBT Immigrants Without Green Cards Compared to Latinx Non-LGBT People Without Green Cards

- Fewer Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards were married or living with a partner than their non-LGBT counterparts without Green Cards (41.3% and 65.6%, respectively), and fewer were raising children (24.0% and 59.6%, respectively).
- Among Latinx immigrants without Green Cards, more LGBT than non-LGBT people indicated that they spoke English well or very well (49.7% vs. 33.3%, respectively). However, half reported that they do not speak English well or at all.
- Three times as many Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards were experiencing psychological distress as their non-LGBT peers without Green Cards (15.3% vs. 5.0%, respectively).
- Among Latinx immigrants without Green Cards, many LGBT and non-LGBT people reported no usual source of health care (45.6% and 38.4%, respectively).

These findings indicate a need to address the socioeconomic and health challenges faced by Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards, including poverty, food insecurity, barriers to health care, and higher rates of psychological distress. Policy and program interventions to explore include those facilitating access to higher education and English language classes and state efforts to extend Medi-Cal and food support programs to all residents, regardless of citizenship status. Programs that serve Latinx immigrants should consider that while some Latinx LGBT immigrants are married or partnered, some are not and may have less social support. Similarly, organizations that primarily serve U.S.-born LGBT people should ensure that programs and services meet the needs of Latinx LGBT immigrants who are older, have fewer economic resources, greater vulnerability to housing instability because they are more likely to rent (as opposed to own), greater barriers to accessing health care, and less fluency in English. Finally, research on topics not assessed on the California Health Interview Survey, including access to legal services, stress, and experiences of discrimination, is needed.

INTRODUCTION

California is home to nearly a quarter (23%)⁴ of all immigrants⁵ in the U.S. It is the state with the largest immigrant population (10.5 million), with 27% of the state population being foreign-born, almost double the percentage in the rest of the country (14%).⁶ Hispanic or Latino⁷ (henceforth labeled Latinx⁸ in this report) adults comprise the largest group of U.S. immigrants,⁹ as well as the largest group of immigrants in the state of California.¹⁰ Among them are an estimated 211,000 Latinx LGBT immigrants.¹¹

Research on Latinx immigrants indicates that many migrate to the U.S. from Mexico, Venezuela, and the Northern Triangle of Central America to seek better social and economic opportunities, better health care, and a safe place to raise children.¹² However, the ability to achieve these goals may vary based on access to employment. Access to employment is highly contingent on how migrants enter the U.S. For instance, those who migrate for jobs that sponsor work visas have immediate access to employment, and those who migrate seeking asylum may apply for work authorization documents several months after applying for asylum. People who enter the country without registering with U.S. officials (“illegally” or without documentation) face the most difficulty securing employment because they have not been “authorized” to be in the country by U.S. officials.¹³ They also face greater hazards

⁴ Perez, C.A., Mejia, M.C., & Johnson, H. (2023). *Immigrants in California* [Fact Sheet]. Public Policy Institute of California. [Immigrants in California - Public Policy Institute of California \(ppic.org\)](https://www.ppic.org/publication/immigrants-in-california/)

⁵ In this report, we use the term immigrant to describe people who live in the U.S. and were not U.S. citizens at birth. People born in Puerto Rico on or after January 13, 1941, are U.S. citizens by birth (Immigration and Nationality Act 303, 8 U.S.C. § 1402 (1952). <https://www.loc.gov/item/uscode1958-004019005/> <https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid:USC-prelim-title8-section1402&num=0&edition=prelim>).

⁶ Perez et al., 2023

⁷ “Hispanic” does not always capture the full diversity of the community as it only refers to folks that speak Spanish and is not representative of folks from the non-Spanish speaking countries of Latin America. Californians, specifically, identify as “Latino” because they are overwhelmingly of Latin American Heritage. (McGhee, E. (2022, October 5). California’s Hispanic Community. *Public Policy Institute of California*. <https://www.ppic.org/blog/californias-hispanic-community/>).

⁸ For this report we use the term “Latinx” as a gender-inclusive alternative to describe folks that are categorized as Hispanic and Latino/a (Morales, E. (2018). *Latinx: The new force in American politics and culture*. Verso). We acknowledge that LGBT and non-LGBT people whom we refer to as Latinx in this report may be unfamiliar with the term or may describe themselves of their communities using other terms (Noe-Bustamante L., Mora, L., & Lopez, M.H. (2020). *About one-in-four U.S. Hispanics have heard of Latinx, but just 3% use it*. Pew Research Center. <https://www.pewresearch.org/hispanic/2020/08/11/about-one-in-four-u-s-hispanics-have-heard-of-latinx-but-just-3-use-it/>).

⁹ Budiman, A. (2020). *Key findings about U.S. immigrants*. Pew Research Center. <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2020/08/20/key-findings-about-u-s-immigrants/>).

¹⁰ Perez et al., 2023; According to AskCHIS, Latinx adults made up largest group of Naturalized citizens (44.0%) and non-citizens (68.5%) in California for pooled years 2015-2021.

¹¹ See Methods section in the Appendix for information about the calculation of Latinx LGBT immigrant estimates.

¹² Lopez, M.H., & Moslimani, M. (2022). *Latinos see U.S. as better than place of family’s ancestry for opportunity, raising Kids, health care access*. Pew Research Center. <https://www.pewresearch.org/race-ethnicity/2022/01/20/latinos-see-u-s-as-better-than-place-of-familys-ancestry-for-opportunity-raising-kids-health-care-access/#:~:text=About%20three%2Dquarters%20of%20Latino,in%20their%20place%20of%20ancestry>.

¹³ Pereira, K.M., Crosnoe, R., Fortuny, K., Pedroza J.M., Ulvestad, K., Weiland, C., Yoshikawa, H., & Chaudry, A. (2012). *Barriers to immigrants access to health and human services programs*. ASPE. Office of the Assistant Secretary for

at work than those authorized to be in the country.¹⁴ In 2019, Latinx individuals were 75% of the “unauthorized” U.S. immigrant population.¹⁵

LGBT Latinx immigrants to the U.S. may experience barriers to employment associated with legal status, as well as added challenges related to LGBT stigma and racism. Stigma and discrimination based on LGBT status and ethnicity are associated with poor mental and physical health.¹⁶ Prior research conducted in Spanish and English with a large, nationally representative U.S. sample found that among Latinx adults, undifferentiated by nativity or citizenship, more Latinx LGBT adults (17%) reported feeling unsafe compared to Latinx non-LGBT adults (11%). Regarding health, Latinx LGBT people were more likely to have been diagnosed with depression (30%) compared to Latinx non-LGBT adults (16%). Further, Latinx LGBT adults had greater odds of being diagnosed with several serious chronic conditions, including diabetes, cancer, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol, than their non-LGBT Latinx counterparts.¹⁷

Because large representative surveys rarely include questions about sexual orientation, gender identity, and citizenship status, little is known about how the social, economic, and health needs of LGBT Latinx people may differ by citizenship status or in relation to those of non-LGBT people. As a result, policies and programs may fail to address the needs of a heterogeneous Latinx LGBT immigrant population—particularly those who are most vulnerable due to lack of documentation. This study aims to fill gaps in knowledge about LGBT Latinx immigrants by providing information about the socio-demographic and health characteristics of California’s LGBT Latinx immigrant population, separately by citizenship status, using data collected on the CHIS between 2015 and 2021.¹⁸

Planning and Evaluation. <https://aspe.hhs.gov/reports/barriers-immigrants-access-health-human-services-programs-0#administrative>; Broder, T., & Lessard, G. (2023). *Overview of immigrant eligibility for federal programs*. National Immigration Law Center. [Overview of Immigrant Eligibility for Federal Programs - National Immigration Law Center \(nilc.org\)](https://www.nilc.org/publications/Overview-of-Immigrant-Eligibility-for-Federal-Programs/)

¹⁴ Sudhunaraset, M., Nakphong, M.K., & De Trinidad Young, M.-E. (2022). *Latinx and Asian immigrants face high levels of job exclusion, workplace violations in California* [Fact sheet]. UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. <https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/publications/Documents/PDF/2022/Latinx-Asian-Immigrants-Workplace-Violations-factsheet-apr2022-ADA.pdf>

¹⁵ Ward, N., & Batalova, J. (2023). *Frequently requested statistics on immigrants and immigration in the United States*. Migration Policy Institute. <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/frequently-requested-statistics-immigrants-and-immigration-united-states>.

¹⁶ Meyer, I.H. (2003). Prejudice, social stress, and mental health in lesbian, gay, and bisexual populations: Conceptual issues and research evidence. *Psychological Bulletin*, 129(5), 674–697. doi:10.1037/0033-2909.129.5.674; Hendricks, M. L., & Testa, R. J. (2012). A conceptual framework for clinical work with transgender and gender nonconforming clients: An adaptation of the Minority Stress Model. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 43(5): 460–467. doi: [10.1037/a0029597](https://doi.org/10.1037/a0029597); Frost, D. M., Lehavot, K., & Meyer, I. H. (2015). Minority stress and physical health among sexual minority individuals. *Journal of behavioral medicine*, 38(1), 1–8. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10865-013-9523-8>; Díaz, R. M., Ayala, G., Bein, E., Henne, J., & Marin, B. V. (2001). The impact of homophobia, poverty, and racism on the mental health of gay and bisexual Latino men: findings from 3 US cities. *American journal of public health*, 91(6), 927–932. <https://doi.org/10.2105/ajph.91.6.927>

¹⁷ Wilson, B.D.M., Mallory, C., Bouton, L. & Choi, S.K. (2021). *Latinx LGBT Adults in the U.S.* The Williams Institute, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA. <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/publications/latinx-lgbt-adults-in-the-us/>

¹⁸ Center for Health Policy Research. (n.d.). *California Health Interview Survey*. UCLA, Los Angeles, CA. <https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/chis/Pages/default.aspx>

Our report describes the characteristics of Latinx non-citizens who do not have a Permanent Resident Card (“Green Card”)—the most socially marginalized group we can study with available data. Although some non-citizens without Green Cards are legally authorized to be in the country, an estimated 85% are “undocumented.”¹⁹ LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards comprise 9.0%²⁰ of California’s Latinx LGBT adult population and about one-third of Latinx LGBT immigrants in California.

Further, 85.9% of all undocumented immigrants in California are Latinx. Accordingly, analysis of data about Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards in California provides considerable insight into the undocumented immigrant population more broadly in the state. We estimate that there are approximately 68,800 Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards in California.²¹

In this report, we compare Latinx LGBT people without Green Cards to three other groups: non-LGBT immigrants without Green Cards, Latinx LGBT immigrants with Green Cards, and U.S.-born Latinx LGBT people. These are groups for whom programs and services are more common. Descriptive information about naturalized citizens is available in the Appendix.

¹⁹ An estimated 85% of U.S. non-citizens without Green Cards are “unauthorized,” 10.5 million out of 12.3 million, while the remaining 1.8 million have documentation through work or student visas or are seeking or who have received asylee or refugee status from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, have Temporary Protected Status or are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients. Passel, J.S. & Krogstad, J.M. (2023, November 16). *What we know about unauthorized immigrants living in the U.S.* <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2023/11/16/what-we-know-about-unauthorized-immigrants-living-in-the-us/>

²⁰ Analyses conducted by the Williams Institute using pooled California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) data collected from 2015 to 2021.

²¹ See Methods section in the Appendix for information about the calculation of Latinx LGBT immigrant estimates.

FINDINGS

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards were statistically similar to their U.S.-born LGBT peers on demographic characteristics such as age, sex assigned at birth, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, household type, and California region of residence. They were like their non-LGBT immigrant counterparts without Green Cards on age, sex assigned at birth, and California region of residence and similar to Latinx LGBT people who are Green Card holders on all demographic characteristics.

Age

Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards were older than their U.S.-born peers. About half (49.4%) of Latinx immigrants without Green Cards were under the age of 35 compared to three-quarters (75.5%) of U.S.-born Latinx LGBT people. Further, fewer Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards (14.5%) than U.S.-born Latinx LGBT citizens (44.1%) were between the ages of 18 and 24 (Table 1).

Figure 1a. Age among Latinx California adults who are non-citizens without Green Cards by LGBT status (n=3,348), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey

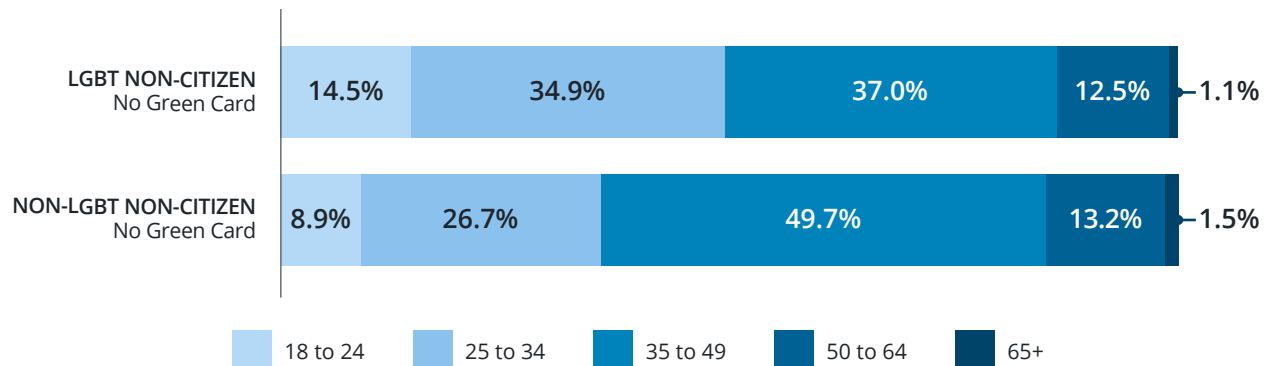
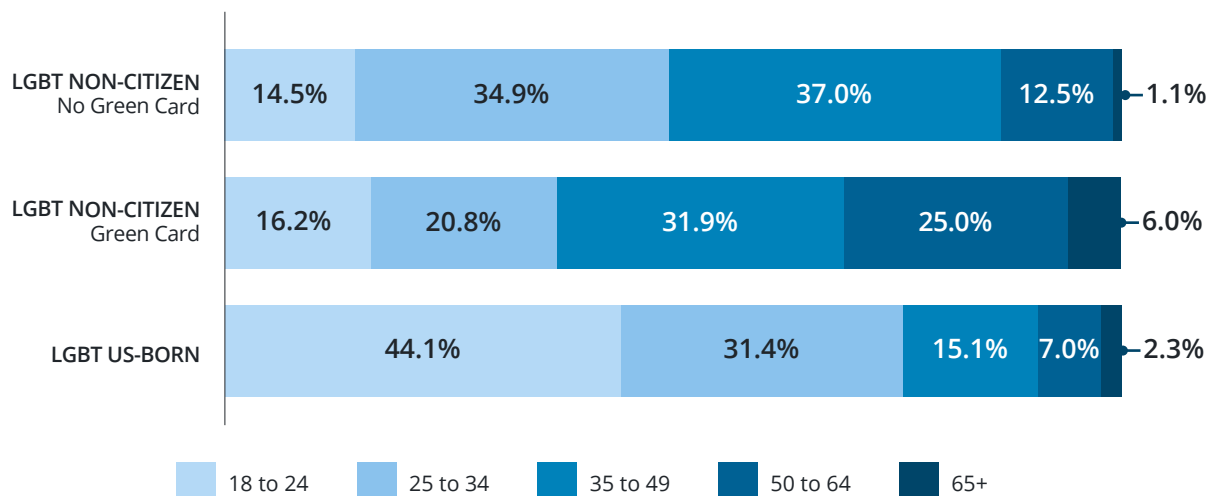


Figure 1b. Age among Latinx California adults who are LGBT by citizenship status (n=1,942), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey



Sex Assigned at Birth

A little over half (51.7%) of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards reported that their sex assigned at birth is male; 48.3% reported that it is female.

Gender

Slightly less than half (48.8%) of LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards were cisgender men, 46.2% were cisgender women, and 5.0% were transgender (all gender identities and both sexes assigned at birth).

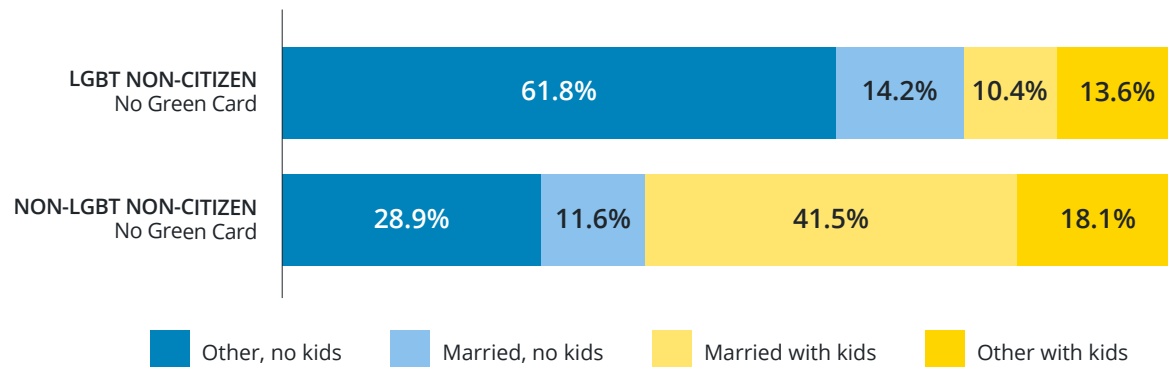
Sexual Orientation

Half of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards, cisgender and transgender, identified as bisexual (49.3%), 48.2% as gay/lesbian, and 2.5% identified as heterosexual and were also transgender.

Marital Status and Household Type

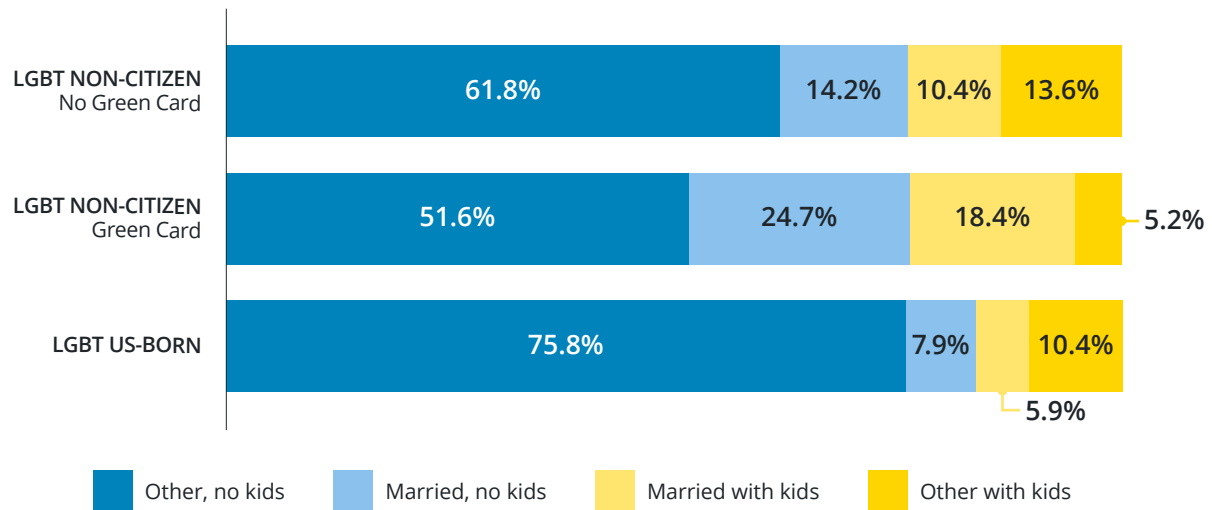
Almost half (48.3%) of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards reported having never been married. The rest were married (21.8%), living with their partner (19.5%), or widowed, separated, or divorced (10.3%) (Table 1). Fewer Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards were married or living with a partner than their non-LGBT counterparts without Green Cards (41.3% and 65.6%, respectively) and, as shown in Figure 2a, fewer were raising children (24.0% and 59.6%, respectively).

Figure 2a. Household type* among Latinx California adults who are non-citizens without Green Cards by LGBT status (n=3,348), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey



*Adults who are not living with a married spouse are classified as “other.” Therefore, percent married reported in household type will differ from percent married reported under marital status.

Figure 2b. Household type* among Latinx California adults who are LGBT by citizenship status (n=1,942), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey



*Adults who are not living with a married spouse are classified as “other.” Therefore, percent married reported in household type will differ from percent married reported under marital status.

Region of Residence

Two-thirds (66.5%) of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards reported that they live in Southern California, including 32.1% in Los Angeles and 34.4% outside of Los Angeles. The remaining 33.5% lived in the Greater Bay Area (13.3%), San Joaquin Valley (11.6%), Central Coast (5.5%), the Sacramento area (1.8%), or were from the North/Sierra counties (1.2%).

REGION OF ORIGIN, TIME IN THE US, LANGUAGE USAGE, AND ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Among Latinx non-citizens without Green Cards, LGBT people were like their non-LGBT counterparts regarding time in the U.S. and language(s) spoken at home. They were similar to Latinx LGBT people who are Green Card holders on all characteristics reported in this section. Information about language usage for U.S.-born LGBT people is provided in Table 2.

Region of Origin

The majority (66.0%) of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards were from Mexico, 24.3% were from Central America, and 8.5% were from other parts of Latin America. The remaining 1.2% were born elsewhere (Table 2). Among non-citizens without Green Cards, fewer LGBT people were born in Mexico compared to their non-LGBT counterparts (66.0% vs 80.7%, respectively).

Time in the US

Well over a third (42.2%) of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards had spent over half of their lives in the U.S. Three quarters (75.9%) of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards had lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years, 12.8% for five to 10 years, and 11.3% for less than five years.

Language Usage

Nearly half (47.2%) of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards reported only speaking Spanish at home, 40.1% spoke a combination of English and Spanish, and 3.5% spoke only English at home.

English Proficiency

Half (49.7%) of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards indicated that they spoke English well or very well, and half (50.3%) reported that they did not speak English well or at all. Among Latinx immigrants without Green Cards, more LGBT than non-LGBT people indicated that they spoke English well or very well (49.7% vs. 33.3%, respectively).

Figure 3a. Spoken English proficiency among Latinx California adults who are non-citizens without Green Cards by LGBT status (n=3,348), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey

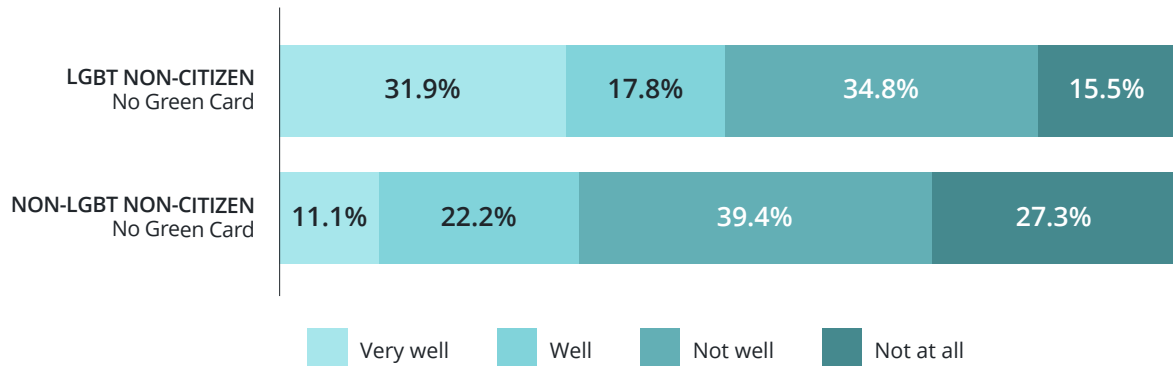
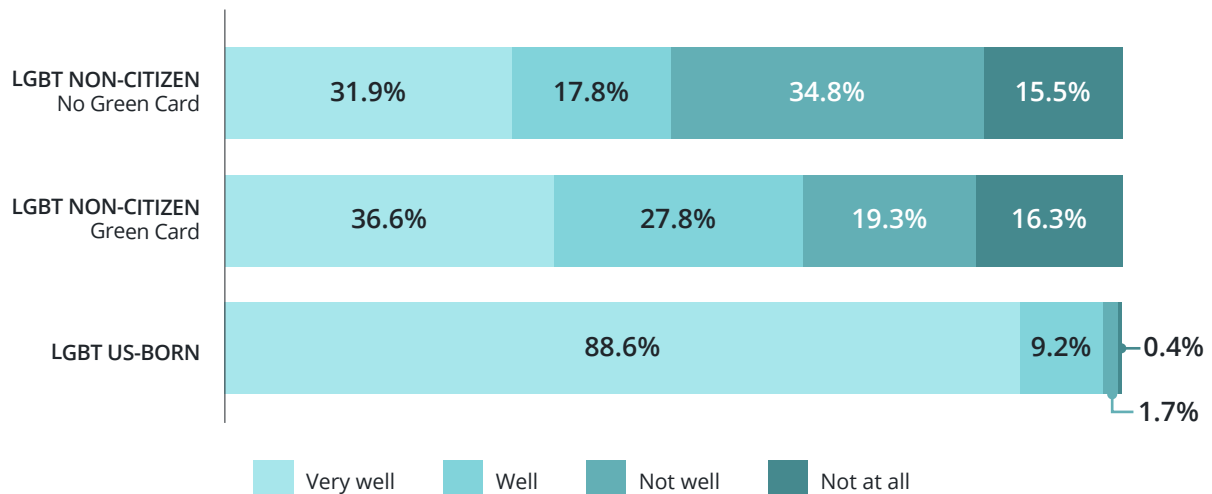


Figure 3b. Spoken English proficiency among Latinx California adults who are LGBT by citizenship status (n=1,942), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey



ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards were like their U.S.-born Latinx LGBT peers with regard to workforce participation, but they had less formal education, on average, and fewer economic resources (Table 3). Among those living at < 200% FPL, similar levels of food insecurity and participation in CalFresh were observed across both groups. Compared to LGBT non-citizens with Green Cards, LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards had the same socioeconomic profile but a higher level of workforce participation. LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards were like non-LGBT people without Green Cards on all economic characteristics.

Education

Among Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards, 72.7% had a high school degree or less formal education, 14.0% had achieved an associate degree or completed some college, and 13.3% had earned a bachelor's degree or more. More than twice as many Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards had a high school degree or less as their U.S.-born counterparts (72.7% v. 34.2%, respectively).

Figure 4a. Educational attainment among Latinx California Adults who are non-citizens without Green Cards by LGBT status (n=3,348), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey

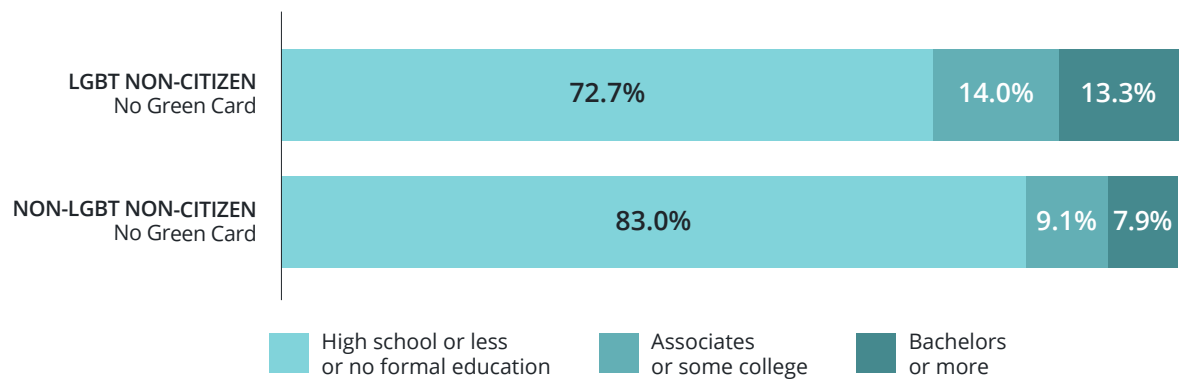
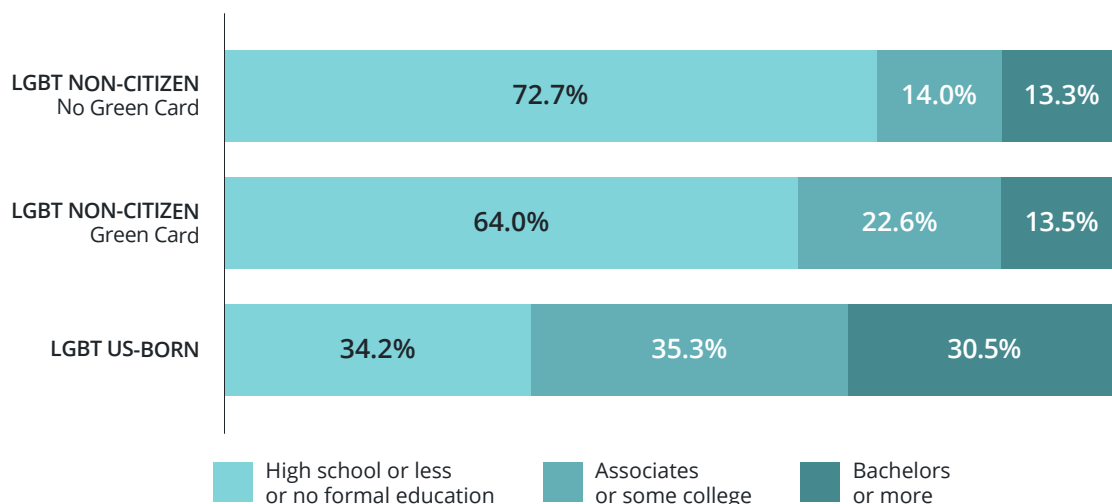


Figure 4b. Educational attainment among Latinx California Adults who are LGBT by citizenship status (n=1,942), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey



Workforce Participation

Most (93.2%) Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards were in the workforce. More Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards (93.2%) were in the workforce than their non-LGBT peers without Green Cards (78.6%) and their LGBT peers with Green Cards (71.6%). Nearly a third (32.4%) of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards worked in service occupations (not shown). Almost one in five (18.9%) were self-employed, and 5.5% worked at family businesses or farms without pay (not shown).

Figure 5a. Workforce participation among Latinx California adults who are non-citizens without Green Cards by LGBT status (n=3,348), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey

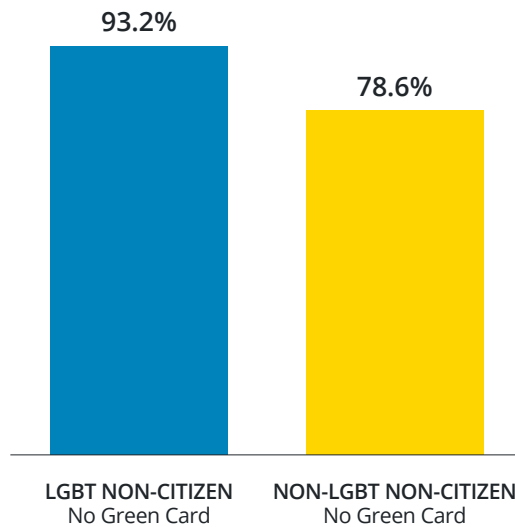
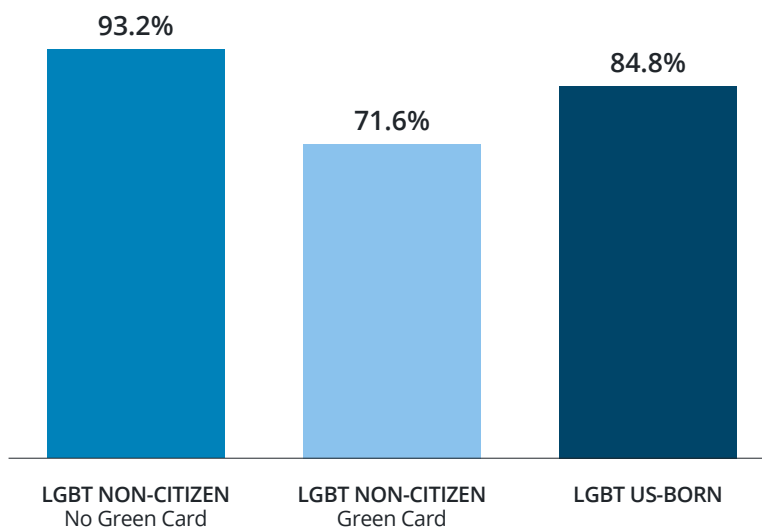


Figure 5b. Workforce participation among Latinx California adults who are LGBT by citizenship status (n=1,942), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey



Household Economic Status

Almost two-thirds (64.1%) of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards were living below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL) (earning less than \$26,128 for a one-person household in 2018),²² 12.1% were living at 200-299% of the FPL, and 23.8% were living at 300% of the FPL or more. Latinx LGBT immigrants without a Green Card had fewer economic resources than their U.S.-born counterparts. Nearly two-thirds (64.1%) of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards were living at less than 200% of the federal poverty level compared to 42.7% of U.S.-born LGBT people.

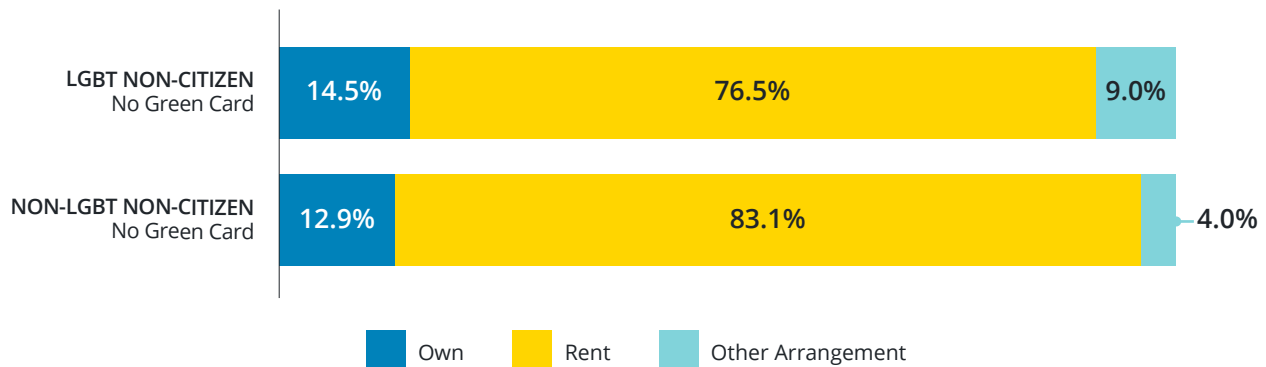
Food Insecurity and CalFresh Enrollment

Among Latinx non-citizens without Green Cards living below 200% FPL, 20.4% experienced food insecurity with hunger, 35.9% experienced food insecurity without hunger, and 43.8% were food secure.²³ One-fifth (20.5%) of those living below 200% FPL were enrolled in the CalFresh food stamp benefits program.

Housing

Slightly more than three-quarters (76.5%) of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards reported renting their home versus owning (14.5%), and 9.0% had some other housing arrangement. Fewer Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards reported owning a home than their U.S.-born peers (14.5% vs. 37.4%, respectively), and more were renting (76.5% vs. 54.3%, respectively), even though U.S.-born Latinx LGBT people, as a group, were younger.

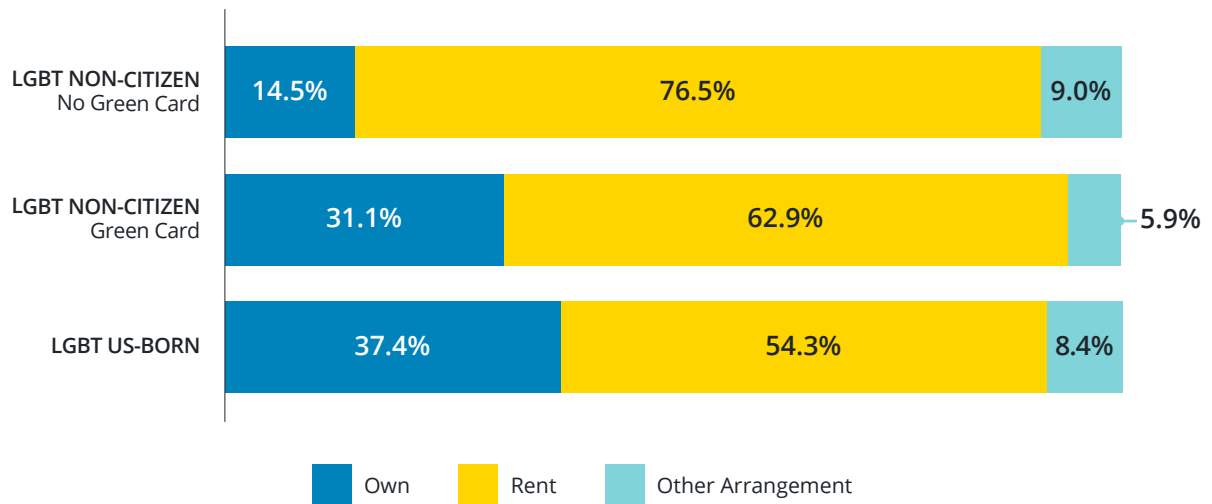
Figure 6a. Housing status among Latinx California adults who are non-citizens without Green Cards by LGBT status (n=3,348), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey



²² U.S. Census Bureau. (n.d.). *Poverty Thresholds*. <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-thresholds.html>

²³ Food insecurity was measured with the USDA's six-item Household Food Security Survey Module and scored by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research using criteria set by the USDA (Economic Research Service. (2012). *U.S. household food security survey module: three-stage design*. United States Department of Agriculture. <https://www.ers.usda.gov/media/8271/hh2012.pdf>).

Figure 6b. Housing status among Latinx California adults who are LGBT by citizenship status (n=1,942), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey



HEALTH STATUS AND HEALTHCARE ACCESS

Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards were similar to their U.S.-born Latinx LGBT peers on health status but reported less access to care (Table 4). They shared some similarities with non-LGBT non-citizen counterparts but were more likely to experience psychological distress. LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards were like Latinx LGBT people who are Green Card holders on all health characteristics.

Self-Rated Health

Almost a quarter (24.7%) of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards reported having poor/fair health.

Emotional Well-being

More Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards scored above the cutoff for psychological distress²⁴ in the past 30 days than their non-LGBT counterparts without Green Cards (15.3% vs. 5.0%, respectively).

Figure 7a. Psychological distress (30 days) among Latinx California adults who are non-citizens without Green Cards by LGBT status (n=3,348), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey

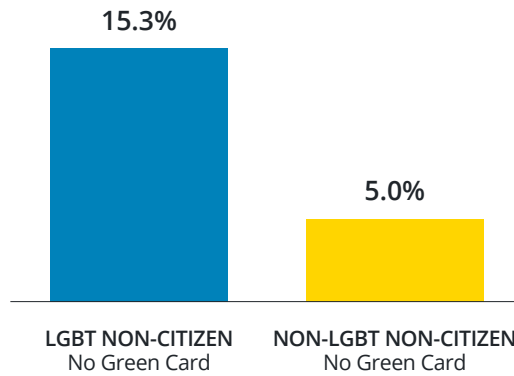
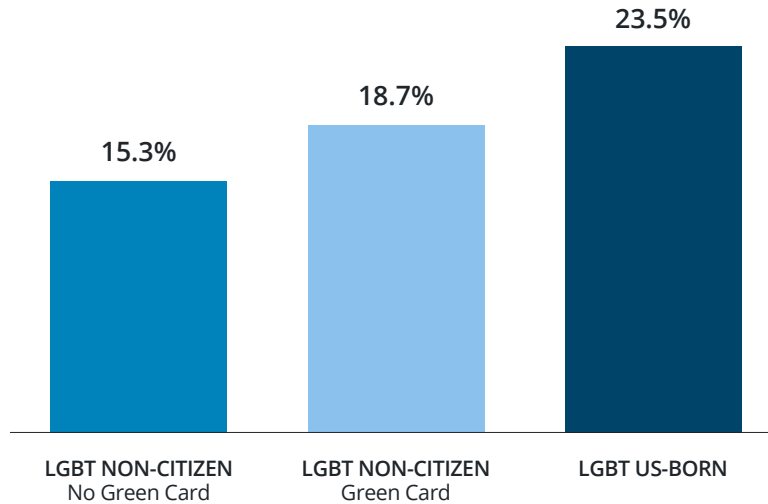


Figure 7b. Psychological distress (30 days) among Latinx California adults who are LGBT by citizenship status (n=1,942), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey



²⁴ Psychological distress was assessed with the Kessler-6 and dichotomized by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research using the recommended cut point of > 13. (Kessler, R. C., Barker, P. R., Colpe, L. J., Epstein, J. F., Gfroerer, J. C., Hiripi, E., Howes, M. J., Normand, S.L. T., Manderscheid, R. W., Walters, E. E., & Zaslavsky, A. M. (2003). Screening for serious mental illness in the general population. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 60(2), 184–189. <https://doi.org/10.1001/archpsyc.60.2.184>)

Health Insurance

No insurance coverage was reported by 43.5% of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards, 30.9% were enrolled in Medicaid, 17.7% had employment-based insurance, and 7.9% reported other sources of coverage. More Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards were uninsured (43.5% vs. 10.7%, respectively), and fewer had employment-based insurance (17.7% vs. 41.5%, respectively) than their U.S.-born LGBT peers.

Figure 8a. Health insurance coverage among Latinx California adults who are non-citizens without Green Cards by LGBT status (n=3,348), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey

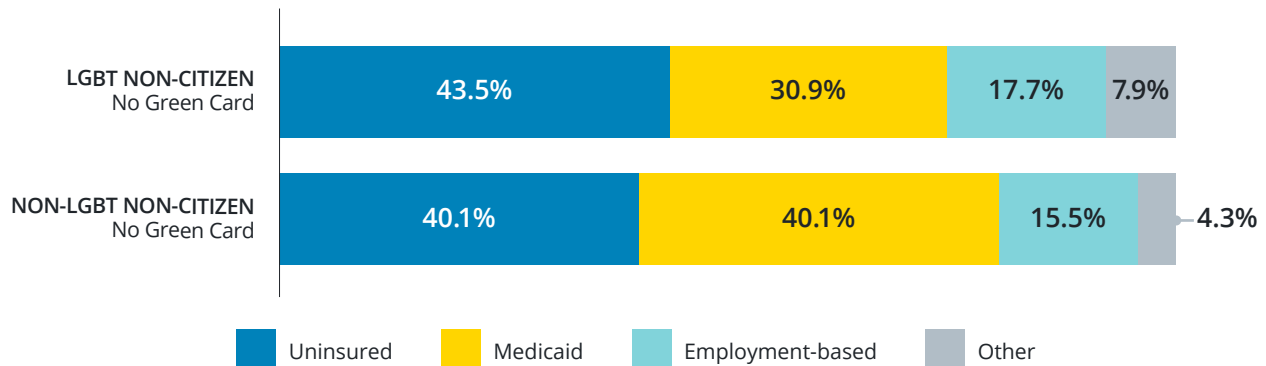
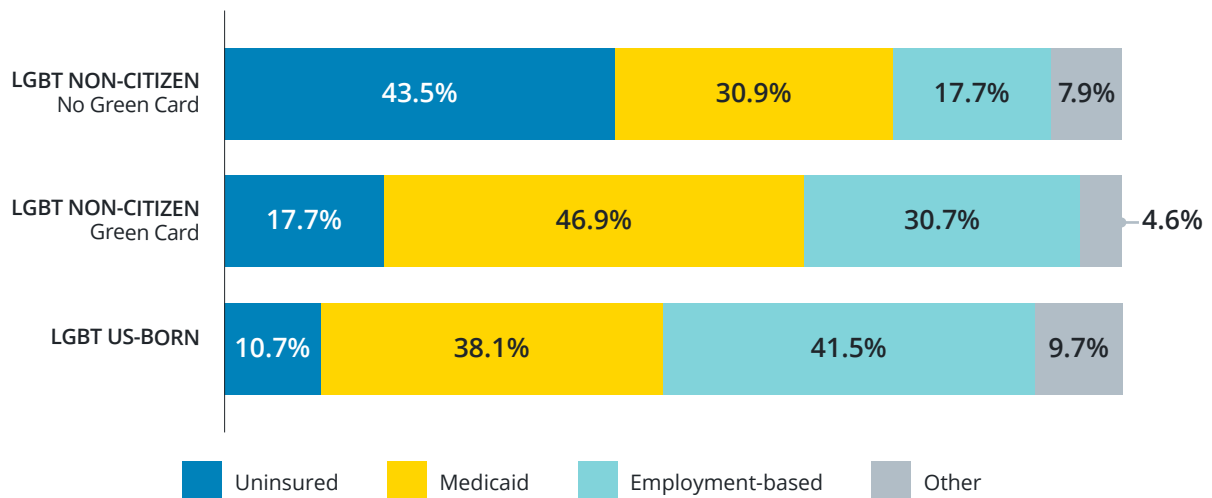


Figure 8b. Health insurance coverage among Latinx California adults who are LGBT by citizenship status (n=1,942), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey



Usual Source of Care

Nearly half (45.6%) of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards indicated having no usual source of health care. More Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards had no usual source of health care than U.S.-born LGBT citizens (21.2%).

Figure 9a. No usual source of health care among Latinx California adults who are non-citizens without Green Cards by LGBT status (n=3,348), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey

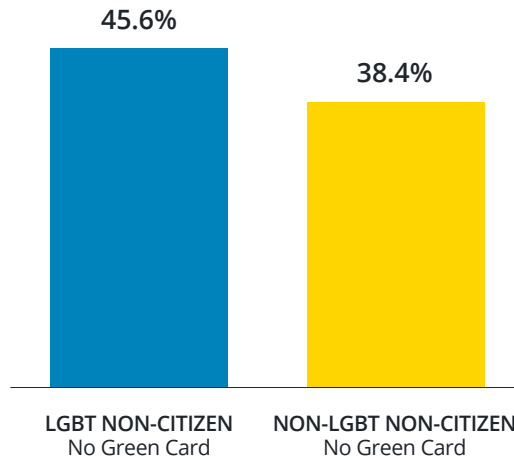
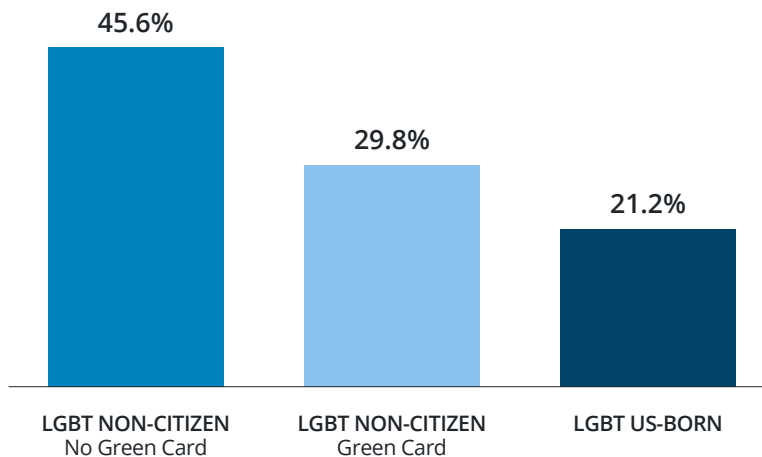


Figure 9b. No usual source of health care among Latinx California adults who are LGBT by citizenship status (n=1,942), 2015-2021 California Health Interview Survey



DISCUSSION

These findings suggest that policies and programs that address the needs of Latinx Americans should consider the ways that Latinx LGBT Americans without Green Cards, an estimated 85% of whom are unauthorized, differ from U.S.-born Latinx LGBT Americans and non-LGBT immigrants without Green Cards. For example, Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards were older than Latinx LGBT U.S.-born citizens. Still, they were more than twice as likely to have only a high school degree or less (72.7% v. 34.2%), were more likely to rent as opposed to owning a home (76.5% v. 54.3%), and to be living at less than 200% of the federal poverty level (64.1% v 42.7%). Nearly a third (32.4%) of Latinx LGBT non-citizens without Green Cards worked in service occupations.

These findings suggest that those serving Latinx and LGBT communities should make sure their programs address the needs of older adults, including adult education programs and programs for English language learners. Initiatives that increase access to higher education and work authorization documents are needed. Given the underrepresentation of Latinx people in California's healthcare workforce,²⁵ particularly in behavioral health, workforce development programs should prioritize filling these gaps. To address housing insecurity, organizations serving Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards should provide information about assistance with vouchers for rental assistance, loans for those seeking to purchase a home, and emergency and legal assistance in case of eviction or foreclosure. Fear and misinformation about the use of non-cash public benefits in relation to future access to a Green Card may inhibit the use of these resources.²⁶

While Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards are similar in many ways to their non-LGBT counterparts, there are some differences that should be taken into account to address the needs of this largely unauthorized population. For example, fewer Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards are married or raising children than their non-LGBT counterparts. This could indicate the need to make sure that single people have access to benefits, programs, and services and to provide more wrap-around support for older LGBT Latinx immigrants who may live alone or lack family support.

Finally, health care policies and providers must specifically address the needs of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards. In comparison to Latinx LGBT U.S.-born people, Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards are much more likely to be uninsured (43.5% v. 10.7%) and have no usual source of health care (45.6% v. 21.2%). For LGBT immigrants living with HIV, these barriers can lead to delays in care and unnecessary deteriorations in health.²⁷ Further, like their non-LGBT peers

²⁵ California Department of Health Care Access and Information. (2023). *Race & Ethnicity of California's Health Workforce*. <https://hcai.ca.gov/visualizations/race-ethnicity-of-californias-health-workforce/>

²⁶ Bernstein H, Gonzalez D, McTarnaghan S, Karpman M, Zuckerman S. One in six adults in California immigrant families reported avoiding public benefits in 2019 Urban Institute. Washington DC: Urban Institute. 2020. https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/102222/one-in-six-adults-in-california-immigrant-families-reported-avoiding-public-benefits-in-2019_0.pdf

²⁷ Dang, B. N., Giordano, T. P., & Kim, J. H. (2012). Sociocultural and structural barriers to care among undocumented Latino immigrants with HIV infection. *Journal of immigrant and minority health*, 14(1), 124–131. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10903-011-9542-x>; Poon, K. K., Dang, B. N., Davila, J. A., Hartman, C., & Giordano, T. P. (2013). Treatment outcomes in undocumented Hispanic immigrants with HIV infection. *PloS one*, 8(3), e60022. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0060022>

without Green Cards, many Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards reported no usual source of health care (45.6% and 38.4%, respectively) but were three times more likely to be experiencing psychological distress (15.3% vs. 5.0%, respectively). Expanded Medi-Cal access, medical-legal partnerships,²⁸ access to community health care clinics with linguistic and LGBT-competent staff, culturally competent health care navigators, and other programs that expand health care access and utilization are important to address the specific needs of Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards, as well as programs providing mental health care and services.

FURTHER RESEARCH

This study used a representative state sample to provide new information about Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards and their similarities and differences to comparators; however, more research is needed, including the following:

- Research that explores differences in quality of life and access to support among undocumented LGBT Latinx immigrants by gender identity.
- Research on challenges and successes related to community integration and the formation of support networks—particularly as Latinx LGBT immigrants without Green Cards age.
- Research on topics including discrimination, harassment, and violence 1) in countries of origin,²⁹ 2) during migration, and 3) within the U.S., and exposure to anti-immigrant policies and government activities (e.g., raids)—particularly given the effects of such exposures on mental health.³⁰
- Finally, research that entails partnerships with Latinx LGBT-led organizations and embraces a community-based participatory model is recommended to create and sustain long-term change.³¹

²⁸ League, A., Donato, K. M., Sheth, N., Selden, E., Patel, S., Cooper, L. B., & Mendenhall, E. (2021). A Systematic Review of Medical-Legal Partnerships Serving Immigrant Communities in the United States. *Journal of immigrant and minority health*, 23(1), 163–174. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10903-020-01088-1>

²⁹ Cheney, M. K., Gowin, M. J., Taylor, E. L., Frey, M., Dunnington, J., Alshuwaiyer, G., Huber, J. K., Garcia, M. C., & Wray, G. C. (2017). Living outside the gender box in Mexico: Testimony of transgender Mexican asylum seekers. *American Journal of Public Health*, 107(10), 1646–1652. <https://doi.org/10.2105/ajph.2017.303961>

³⁰ Espinoza-Kulick, M. A. V., & Cerdeña, J. P. (2022). “We Need Health for All”: Mental Health and Barriers to Care among Latinxs in California and Connecticut. *International journal of environmental research and public health*, 19(19), 12817. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph191912817>

³¹ Vaughn, L. M., Jacquez, F., Lindquist-Grantz, R., Parsons, A., & Melink, K. (2017). Immigrants as research partners: A review of immigrants in community-based participatory research (CBPR). *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, 19(6), 1457–1468. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10903-016-0474-3>

AUTHORS

Rubeen Guardado, M.P.H., is a Policy Analyst at the Williams Institute.

Miguel Fuentes Carreño, Ph.D., is a Research and Data Analyst at the Williams Institute.

Kerith J. Conron, Sc.D., M.P.H., is the Blachford-Cooper Distinguished Scholar and Research Director at the Williams Institute.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This project was supported by Arcus Foundation. The authors thank several members of the Williams Institute for their support, including Ari Shaw, Senior Fellow and Director of International Programs, and Elana Redfield, Federal Policy Director, for their valuable feedback. We also thank Brad Sears, Founding Executive Director, for his review.

We extend our gratitude to members of the Lives of LGBT Immigrants California Project Community Advisory Board for contributing expertise and input throughout this project, including Connie Choi, Policy Director (former), The California Immigrant Policy Center, Bridget Crawford, Director of Law and Policy, Immigration Equality, Tess Feldman, Staff Attorney & Immigration Law Project Manager, LA LGBT Center, Bruno Huizar, Detention and Deportation Policy Manager, The California Immigrant Policy Center, Talia Inlender, Deputy Director, UCLA Center for Immigration Law Policy, Carla Lopez, LGBTQ+ Program Manager, California Rural Legal Assistance, Jorge-Armando Diaz, Legislative Director, Equality California, Emem DuPuis Maurus, Staff Attorney, Border Butterflies, Transgender Law Center, Chris Zepeda Milan, UCLA Associate Professor of Public Policy & Chicana/o Studies, UCLA Latino Policy & Politics Institute, Bamby Salcedo, President/CEO, TransLatin@ Coalition, and Doreena Wong, Policy Director, Asian Resources, Inc.

SUGGESTED CITATION

Guardado, R., Fuentes Carreño, M., & Conron, K. (2024). Latinx LGBT Immigrants Without Green Cards in California. The Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles, California.

ABOUT THE WILLIAMS INSTITUTE

The Williams Institute is dedicated to conducting rigorous, independent research on sexual orientation and gender identity law and public policy. A think tank at UCLA Law, the Williams Institute produces high-quality research with real-world relevance and disseminates it to judges, legislators, policymakers, media, and the public. These studies can be accessed at the Williams Institute website.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law
williamsinstitute@law.ucla.edu
williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu

RESEARCH THAT MATTERS



APPENDIX

METHODS

This study analyzed data collected on the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.³² The CHIS survey is administered annually—collecting data from a representative sample of more than 20,000 adults ages 18 and up on a range of demographic and health topics. In 2019, the CHIS began utilizing a mixed-method approach (web and telephone) using a random sample of California addresses. Prior to 2019, CHIS was administered only via telephone using random digit dialing (RDD). The survey is offered in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, Vietnamese, and Tagalog. In 2015, questions needed to differentiate between transgender and cisgender respondents were added to the CHIS survey. Thus, we pooled data collected from 2015 to 2021 to examine the demographic, socioeconomic, and health characteristics of adults who were Hispanic (N=33,320) by LGBT and citizenship statuses. Pooling data over these years allowed us to produce more stable point estimates for small population groups.

Respondents were categorized as Latinx based on their response to the question, “Are you Latino or Hispanic?”. Those who answered “Yes” to the question were classified as Hispanic/Latino by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research according to standards established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.³³

Responses to questions about sex assigned at birth (“On your original birth certificate, was your sex assigned as male or female?”) and current gender identity (“Do you currently describe yourself as male, female, or transgender?”) were used to classify respondents as transgender or cisgender. Those who selected a gender identity (male or female) that differed from their sex assigned at birth or who selected “transgender” (regardless of their sex assigned at birth) were classified as transgender. Respondents who selected gender identity options (male or female) that were the same as their sex assigned at birth (male or female) were classified as cisgender. Those who selected “none of these” as their response to the gender identity question were not classified as transgender or cisgender.

Responses to questions about sexual orientation identity (“Do you think of yourself as straight or heterosexual, as gay/lesbian or homosexual, or bisexual?”) were used to classify respondents as lesbian, gay, or bisexual (LGB) or straight. Respondents who were transgender (regardless of their sexual orientation identity) and/or LGB were classified as LGBT, while respondents who were cisgender and straight were classified as non-LGBT. Respondents who could not be classified as either transgender or cisgender were excluded from analyses. Further, respondents who were cisgender and selected “Not sexual, celibate, or none of the above” or “Other” as their sexual orientation identity or were missing a response to sexual orientation identity were excluded from analyses.

³² Center for Health Policy Research. (n.d.). *CHIS Survey Design and Methods*. UCLA, Los Angeles, CA. <https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/our-work/california-health-interview-survey-chis/chis-design-and-methods>.

³³ Center for Health Policy Research. (n.d.). *CHIS Adults Data Dictionaries*. <https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/our-work/california-health-interview-survey-chis/chis-design-and-methods>; Office of Management and Budget (OMB). (n.d.). *Revisions to the standards for the classification of federal data on race and ethnicity*. 97-28653.pdf ([govinfo.gov](https://www.govinfo.gov))

Citizenship status was determined based on responses to a series of sequential questions regarding country of birth (In what country were you born?), citizenship (Are you a citizen of the United States?), and permanent residence (Are you a permanent resident with a Green Card?). Based on responses to these questions, respondents were classified into 1 of 4 categories (U.S.-born Citizen, Naturalized Citizen, Non-Citizen with Green Card, and Non-Citizen without Green Card). If respondents selected the United States or any of its territories as their country of birth, they were classified as U.S.-born Citizens. If respondents selected any country outside of the U.S., they were asked about U.S. citizenship (Yes or No). Those who selected “Yes” were classified as Naturalized Citizens. Those who selected “No” were then asked whether they are a permanent resident with a Green Card (Yes or No). If respondents selected “Yes” they were classified as Non-Citizens with Green Cards. Those who selected “No” were classified as Non-Citizens without Green Cards.

We performed descriptive analyses of the pooled CHIS data through the CHIS data access center (DAC), which is managed by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. We performed descriptive analyses using design-based F-tests (Rao-Scott Chi-square tests) of differences in proportions to assess whether socio-demographic and health characteristics varied across citizenship status groups in analyses stratified by LGBT status. Findings were deemed statistically different at an alpha of 0.05. Confidence intervals (95% CI) were included to communicate the degree of uncertainty around and estimate due to sampling error. Non-overlapping confidence intervals were indicative of statistical significance at an alpha of 0.05 for comparisons between any two groups. All analyses were performed on Stata v17.1 and were weighted using person-level weights provided by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. All sample sizes (n) are unweighted.

Approach to Population Estimation

To estimate the number of LGBT immigrants and LGBT Latinx immigrants, we relied upon estimates available through AskCHIS—an online data query platform maintained by the UCLA Center for Health Survey Research. We conducted our queries of citizenship status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and race-ethnicity in the CHIS pooled 2015 to 2021 data. First, we obtained counts of cisgender lesbian, gay, and bisexual immigrant adults (using sexual orientation-4 level) by citizenship status (3-level, naturalized and non-citizen groups collapsed) and restricted to cisgender adults (329,000). Next, we obtained counts of transgender (gender identity-2 level) immigrants (citizenship 3-level, naturalized and non-citizen groups collapsed) (of any sexual orientation) (41,000) and summed them to obtain an estimate of 370,000 LGBT immigrants.

To estimate Latinx LGBT immigrant adults (211,000), we obtained counts of immigrants (3-level, naturalized and non-citizen groups collapsed) who were Latino (race OMB/Department of Finance variable)—restricted first to LGB cisgender adults (193,000)—and then to transgender adults (of any sexual orientation) (18,000) and summed them up. To estimate the number of Latinx LGBT immigrant adults who do not have Green Cards (68,800), we multiplied this count estimate (211,000) by the percentage of LGBT Latinx adults who do not have Green Cards among LGBT Latinx immigrants (32.6%) obtained from our analysis of the pooled 2015 to 2021 CHIS data and rounded our estimate to the nearest 100.

	LGBT (N=2,229)									NON-LGBT (N=31,091)								
	CITIZENSHIP STATUS									CITIZENSHIP STATUS								
	NON-CITIZEN NO GREEN CARD (N=156)		NON-CITIZEN GREEN CARD (N=135)		NATURALIZED (N=287)		US-BORN (N=1,651)		F#	NON-CITIZEN NO GREEN CARD (N=3,192)		NON-CITIZEN GREEN CARD (N=3,468)		NATURALIZED (N=7,261)		US-BORN (N=17,170)		F
	%	95% CI*	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	P-VALUE	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	P-VALUE
Not sexual, celibate, none, "other"	0.0	0.0	S	S	1.8	0.3, 8.4	0.7	0.2, 2.1		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Marital status									<0.01									<0.01
Married	21.8	12.3, 35.7	41.3	28.5, 55.4	37.7	24.6, 52.7	14.4	12.0, 17.1		45.4	42.1, 48.7	63.5	60.7, 66.2	65.2	63.1, 67.2	36.0	34.7, 37.3	
Living with partner	19.5	10.5, 33.3	13.4	5.6, 28.8	9.0	5.3, 14.6	16.0	13.3, 19.2		20.2	18.0, 22.7	6.5	5.1, 8.2	5.2	4.3, 6.3	9.6	8.9, 10.5	
Widowed, separated, or divorced	10.3	4.3, 22.9	12.4	6.5, 22.3	19.9	13.0, 29.3	5.2	2.7, 9.6		12.9	11.0, 15.2	16.0	13.7, 18.6	18.6	16.9, 20.3	11.0	10.2, 11.8	
Never married	48.3	33.6, 63.3	32.9	22.6, 45.2	33.4	23.8, 44.7	64.5	60.6, 68.2		21.5	19.0, 24.2	14.0	12.2, 16.0	11.0	9.7, 12.4	43.4	42.1, 44.8	
Household type*									<0.01									<0.01
Other, no kids	61.8	48.8, 73.3	51.6	38.4, 64.6	56.7	42.8, 69.7	75.8	72.6, 78.8		28.9	26.3, 31.6	27.4	24.9, 30.1	26.8	24.8, 28.9	50.1	48.7, 51.4	
Married, no kids	14.2	6.3, 29.0	24.7	15.0, 38.1	27.2	19.1, 37.1	7.9	6.3, 10.0		11.6	9.8, 13.7	27.0	24.0, 30.2	37.9	35.9, 40.0	17.1	16.2, 18.0	
Married, with kids	10.4	4.6, 21.7	18.4	8.8, 34.6	9.6	1.9, 36.9	5.9	4.4, 7.8		41.5	38.4, 44.6	36.8	33.7, 40.0	27.2	25.0, 29.6	20.1	18.9, 21.3	
Other, with kids	13.6	8.1, 22.1	5.2	1.9, 13.3	6.5	3.5, 11.6	10.4	8.5, 12.5		18.1	15.8, 20.6	8.8	7.4, 10.5	8.1	6.9, 9.4	12.7	11.9, 13.5	
Region									0.49									<0.01
North/Sierra Counties	1.2	0.6, 2.7	1.1	0.3, 3.3	0.7	0.2, 2.4	2.2	1.5, 3.2		1.4	1.0, 1.8	1.6	1.2, 2.1	1.1	0.9, 1.4	1.9	1.7, 2.0	
Greater Bay Area	13.3	6.1, 26.3	12.1	6.0, 22.9	13.5	8.2, 21.5	12.3	8.6, 17.3		16.2	13.8, 18.9	11.9	9.9, 14.2	11.2	10.0, 12.6	12.1	11.4, 12.8	
Sacramento Area	1.8	0.4, 8.7	0.7	0.1, 5.1	7.3	3.0, 16.9	4.1	2.9, 5.7		2.4	1.7, 3.3	1.8	1.2, 2.5	2.4	1.8, 3.1	3.9	3.6, 4.3	
San Joaquin Valley	11.6	5.8, 21.9	11.4	6.5, 19.2	4.8	2.3, 9.7	12.6	10.3, 15.4		12.6	11.0, 14.3	17.5	15.0, 20.3	9.3	8.3, 10.4	14.4	13.7, 15.0	
Central Coast	5.5	2.4, 12.4	5.6	2.7, 11.2	5.9	2.5, 13.4	5.8	4.2, 7.9		7.0	5.9, 8.2	6.1	5.0, 7.4	6.3	5.5, 7.1	6.5	6.0, 7.0	
Los Angeles	32.1	19.2, 48.4	42.9	30.8, 55.9	33.4	22.2, 46.9	36.7	32.5, 41.0		36.7	33.3, 40.2	32.9	30.1, 35.9	39.2	37.6, 41.0	29.8	28.8, 30.7	
Other Southern California	34.4	22.9, 48.2	26.3	16.5, 39.2	34.3	25.1, 44.8	26.3	22.9, 29.9		23.9	21.7, 26.2	28.2	25.7, 30.8	30.4	28.9, 32.0	31.5	30.6, 32.4	

*CI: Confidence Interval. #F test for test of difference in proportions; F tests cannot be calculated when all rows are empty. *Adults who are not living with a married spouse are classified as "other." Therefore, percentages for married reported in household type will differ from those reported under marital status. Bold p-values are statistically significant.

Table 2. Country of origin, Latinx ancestry, time in US, language spoken at home, and English proficiency of Latinx adult participants (N=33,320) in the California Health Interview Survey, 2015-2021, by LGBT and citizenship statuses

	LGBT (N=2,229)									NON-LGBT (N=31,091)								
	CITIZENSHIP STATUS									CITIZENSHIP STATUS								
	NON-CITIZEN NO GREEN CARD (N=156)		NON-CITIZEN GREEN CARD (N=135)		NATURALIZED (N=287)		US-BORN (N=1,651)		F#	NON-CITIZEN NO GREEN CARD (N=3,192)		NON-CITIZEN GREEN CARD (N=3,468)		NATURALIZED (N=7,261)		US-BORN (N=17,170)		F
	%	95% CI ^y	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	P-VALUE	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	P-VALUE
Region or country of birth									<0.01									<0.01
United states	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	
Mexico	66.0	52.9, 77.1	72.4	60.4, 81.9	69.6	58.9, 78.6	0.0	0.0		80.7	78.2, 83.0	81.7	79.4, 83.8	74.2	72.3, 76.0	0.0	0.0	
Central America	24.3	14.9, 37.0	9.8	4.3, 20.9	14.4	8.8, 22.5	0.0	0.0		16.0	13.8, 18.5	13.4	11.6, 15.4	16.1	14.5, 17.9	0.0	0.0	
Other Latin America	8.5	4.5, 15.7	17.8	10.9, 27.7	12.1	7.2, 19.7	0.0	0.0		2.6	2.0, 3.5	3.9	3.0, 5.2	7.8	6.8, 8.8	0.0	0.0	
Asia & Pacific Islands	S ^z	S	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.9, 5.4	0.0	0.0		0.3	0.1, 0.7	0.6	0.3, 1.2	1.1	0.8, 1.6	0.0	0.0	
Europe	S	S	0.0	0.0	S	S	0.0	0.0		0.3	0.1, 1.2	0.3	0.2, 0.6	0.8	0.5, 1.2	0.0	0.0	
Other	S	S	0.0	0.0	S	S	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0, 0.3	0.1	0.0, 0.2	0.0	0.0	
Percent of life in U.S.									<0.01									<0.01
<= 25%	21.0	12.1, 34.1	12.1	6.4, 21.8	5.2	2.6, 10.0	0.0	0.0		17.2	15.2, 19.5	14.9	13.0, 17.1	3.3	2.6, 4.2	0.0	0.0	
26%-50%	36.8	21.8, 54.7	24.0	15.3, 35.6	15.6	9.4, 24.7	0.0	0.0		51.0	48.1, 53.9	30.1	27.1, 33.2	17.4	15.8, 19.0	0.0	0.0	
51%-75%	30.5	19.4, 44.4	39.0	27.0, 52.5	44.8	32.7, 57.5	0.0	0.0		25.7	23.2, 28.4	43.7	40.8, 46.6	53.7	51.6, 55.8	0.0	0.0	
76%-100%	11.7	5.3, 23.9	24.8	16.3, 35.9	34.5	24.7, 45.8	100.0	0.0		6.0	4.8, 7.6	11.3	9.7, 13.3	25.6	23.9, 27.4	100.0	0.0	
Years in U.S.									<0.05									<0.01
<5 Years	11.3	6.0, 20.2	7.5	3.3, 16.2	S	S	-	-		8.9	7.4, 10.7	6.2	5.0, 7.7	0.7	0.4, 1.1	-	-	
5-10 Years	12.8	6.4, 24.2	12.7	6.5, 23.1	S	S	-	-		13.6	11.6, 15.8	10.4	8.8, 12.3	3.1	2.2, 4.3	-	-	
>10 Years	75.9	63.0, 85.3	79.9	68.0, 88.1	92.8	85.4, 96.6	-	-		77.5	75.0, 79.8	83.4	81.2, 85.3	96.3	95.0, 97.2	-	-	
Language spoken at home									<0.01									<.01
English	3.5	1.3, 9.1	5.8	1.4, 20.4	15.0	9.3, 23.1	40.8	36.8, 44.8		S	S	2.2	1.4, 3.5	6.8	5.9, 7.8	40.6	39.2, 42.0	
Spanish	47.2	33.1, 61.7	30.9	19.8, 44.8	28.1	16.7, 43.4	3.0	1.8, 4.9		58.8	55.7, 61.8	52.0	48.9, 55.1	32.9	30.5, 35.3	4.0	3.5, 4.6	
English & Spanish	40.1	27.8, 53.7	59.7	44.7, 73.1	50.8	39.8, 61.6	51.7	47.8, 55.6		37.6	34.6, 40.6	43.8	40.8, 46.8	57.8	55.3, 60.2	52.5	51.0, 53.9	
English & Asian languages	S	S	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1, 2.1		S	S	S	S	0.1	0.0, 0.2	0.2	0.1, 0.3	
Other language(s)	S	S	3.6	0.8, 13.9	6.1	3.4, 10.7	4.1	2.7, 6.1		2.8	2.1, 3.8	S	S	2.5	2.0, 3.1	2.8	2.4, 3.2	

	LGBT (N=2,229)									NON-LGBT (N=31,091)								
	CITIZENSHIP STATUS									CITIZENSHIP STATUS								
	NON-CITIZEN NO GREEN CARD (N=156)		NON-CITIZEN GREEN CARD (N=135)		NATURALIZED (N=287)		US-BORN (N=1,651)		F#	NON-CITIZEN NO GREEN CARD (N=3,192)		NON-CITIZEN GREEN CARD (N=3,468)		NATURALIZED (N=7,261)		US-BORN (N=17,170)		F
	%	95% CI [¥]	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	P-VALUE	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	P-VALUE
Spoken English proficiency									<0.01									<.01
Very well	31.9	21.3, 44.8	36.6	25.3, 49.7	51.5	37.7, 65.1	88.6	84.1, 92.0		11.1	9.6, 12.9	13.5	11.8, 15.5	29.0	27.1, 31.0	79.4	77.9, 80.9	
Well	17.8	10.3, 28.9	27.8	18.2, 40.1	30.9	21.7, 41.8	9.2	6.7, 12.7		22.2	20.0, 24.5	22.2	19.5, 25.1	33.6	31.5, 35.9	17.5	16.1, 19.0	
Not well	34.8	23.3, 48.4	19.3	11.0, 31.6	14.3	4.1, 39.4	1.7	0.5, 6.4		39.4	36.3, 42.5	39.5	36.0, 43.2	28.5	26.5, 30.6	2.6	2.2, 3.1	
Not at all	15.5	8.0, 27.9	16.3	7.3, 32.2	3.3	1.0, 9.8	0.4	0.0, 4.0		27.3	24.3, 30.6	24.8	21.3, 28.6	8.9	7.4, 10.7	0.4	0.2, 0.7	

[¥]CI: Confidence Interval. [#]F test for test of difference in proportions. Bold p-values are statistically significant. ^{*}S represents suppressed data due to small cell sizes and deductive disclosure concerns.

Table 3. Economic well-being of Latinx adult participants (N=33,320) in the California Health Interview Survey, 2015-2021, by LGBT and citizenship statuses

	LGBT (N=2,229)										NON-LGBT (N=31,091)									
	CITIZENSHIP STATUS										CITIZENSHIP STATUS									
	NON-CITIZEN NO GREEN CARD (N=156)		NON-CITIZEN GREEN CARD (N=135)		NATURALIZED (N=287)		US-BORN (N=1,651)		F#		NON-CITIZEN NO GREEN CARD (N=3,192)		NON-CITIZEN GREEN CARD (N=3,468)		NATURALIZED (N=7,261)		US-BORN (N=17,170)		F	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	P-VALUE		%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	P-VALUE	
Education									<0.01										<0.01	
High school or less	72.7	62.2, 81.2	64.0	51.3, 74.9	41.5	29.7, 54.4	34.2	30.3, 38.3			83.0	80.9, 84.8	82.2	79.4, 84.6	67.1	65.2, 68.8	41.8	40.5, 43.0		
Associates or some college	14.0	8.2, 22.7	22.6	14.0, 34.3	28.0	19.7, 38.2	35.3	31.1, 39.8			9.1	7.8, 10.7	9.0	7.4, 10.9	15.6	14.3, 17.0	30.2	29.0, 31.4		
Bachelor's or more	13.3	8.1, 21.1	13.5	7.9, 22.1	30.5	21.9, 40.6	30.5	27.1, 34.1			7.9	6.5, 9.6	8.8	7.3, 10.6	17.3	16.0, 18.8	28.0	26.8, 29.3		
In the workforce									<0.01										<0.01	
No	6.8	2.7, 15.8	28.4	17.8, 42.1	23.0	15.8, 32.3	15.2	12.7, 18.2			21.4	19.0, 24.1	30.1	27.6, 32.7	33.1	30.8, 35.6	22.8	21.7, 24.0		
Yes	93.2	84.2, 97.3	71.6	57.9, 82.2	77.0	67.7, 84.2	84.8	81.8, 87.3			78.6	75.9, 81.0	69.9	67.3, 72.4	66.9	64.4, 69.2	77.2	76.0, 78.3		
Poverty									0.13										<0.01	
<100% federal poverty level (FPL)	35.3	23.2, 49.6	33.4	21.7, 47.6	25.8	16.9, 37.1	19.8	16.4, 23.6			43.5	40.4, 46.7	29.0	26.3, 31.9	21.3	19.5, 23.3	18.2	17.2, 19.3		
100%-199% FPL	28.8	18.9, 41.3	26.2	17.4, 37.5	17.7	7.2, 37.5	22.9	19.5, 26.7			33.4	30.9, 36.0	35.9	32.9, 38.9	28.6	26.7, 30.6	19.9	18.8, 21.0		
200%-299% FPL	12.1	4.4, 29.1	13.3	6.4, 25.7	17.5	10.9, 26.8	15.2	12.5, 18.3			11.0	9.2, 13.3	15.9	13.6, 18.4	17.9	16.2, 19.8	16.4	15.3, 17.5		
>= 300% FPL	23.8	14.2, 37.1	27.0	17.4, 39.4	39.0	29.3, 49.7	42.1	37.7, 46.7			12.1	10.2, 14.2	19.2	16.8, 21.9	32.2	30.4, 34.0	45.5	44.2, 46.8		
Food security (among those at <200% FPL)									0.87										<0.01	
Food secure	43.8	29.2, 59.5	48.3	31.9, 65.0	50.0	28.8, 71.1	49.3	42.5, 56.2			51.1	47.6, 54.6	61.8	58.4, 65.1	61.5	58.2, 64.7	60.4	58.2, 62.6		
Food insecurity without hunger	35.9	21.7, 53.0	32.4	18.3, 50.7	33.7	18.7, 53.0	27.7	22.2, 33.9			36.2	33.0, 39.5	29.5	26.4, 32.9	28.0	25.0, 31.2	26.6	24.6, 28.6		
Food insecurity with hunger	20.4	12.0, 32.5	19.3	9.0, 36.9	16.3	2.1, 63.6	23.0	17.9, 29.1			12.7	10.6, 15.2	8.7	7.0, 10.8	10.5	8.8, 12.3	13.0	11.6, 14.6		
Has CalFresh benefits (among those at <200% FPL)									0.23										<0.01	
	20.5	10.7, 35.7	10.9	3.7, 27.9	28.1	14.1, 48.3	27.5	21.6, 34.3			25.9	23.2, 28.9	17.7	15.1, 20.5	17.4	15.2, 19.8	25.3	23.4, 27.3		

	LGBT (N=2,229)									NON-LGBT (N=31,091)								
	CITIZENSHIP STATUS									CITIZENSHIP STATUS								
	NON-CITIZEN NO GREEN CARD (N=156)		NON-CITIZEN GREEN CARD (N=135)		NATURALIZED (N=287)		US-BORN (N=1,651)		F#	NON-CITIZEN NO GREEN CARD (N=3,192)		NON-CITIZEN GREEN CARD (N=3,468)		NATURALIZED (N=7,261)		US-BORN (N=17,170)		F
	%	95% CI*	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	P-VALUE	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	P-VALUE
Housing status									<0.01									<0.01
Own	14.5	6.0, 31.2	31.1	19.9, 45.2	49.5	37.3, 61.8	37.4	33.6, 41.2		12.9	11.0, 15.1	37.9	34.9, 41.0	59.9	57.9, 61.8	50.8	49.5, 52.0	
Rent	76.5	60.9, 87.2	62.9	49.3, 74.8	45.8	33.3, 58.8	54.3	50.5, 58.0		83.1	80.6, 85.3	57.6	54.3, 60.9	36.4	34.6, 38.3	43.7	42.3, 45.0	
Other arrangement	9.0	4.0, 19.0	5.9	1.7, 19.1	4.7	2.2, 9.7	8.4	6.4, 10.9		4.0	2.9, 5.5	4.5	3.1, 6.4	3.7	3.1, 4.4	5.5	4.9, 6.2	

*CI: Confidence Interval. #F test for test of difference in proportions. Bold p-values are statistically significant.

Table 4. Health status and health care access of Latinx adult participants (N=33,320) in the California Health Interview Survey, 2015-2021, by LGBT and citizenship statuses

	LGBT (N=2,229)										NON-LGBT (N=31,091)									
	CITIZENSHIP STATUS										CITIZENSHIP STATUS									
	NON-CITIZEN NO GREEN CARD (N=156)		NON-CITIZEN GREEN CARD (N=135)		NATURALIZED (N=287)		US-BORN (N=1,651)		F#		NON-CITIZEN NO GREEN CARD (N=3,192)		NON-CITIZEN GREEN CARD (N=3,468)		NATURALIZED (N=7,261)		US-BORN (N=17,170)		F	
	%	95% CI ^y	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	P-VALUE		%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	P-VALUE	
Self-reported health									0.86										<0.01	
Excellent	16.1	8.7, 27.6	12.0	6.4, 21.4	18.7	11.5, 28.9	13.7	11.2, 16.6			12.7	10.6, 15.1	12.4	10.6, 14.4	12.5	10.9, 14.2	17.8	16.5, 19.2		
Very good/good	59.2	45.6, 71.5	64.9	51.9, 76.0	60.3	47.1, 72.2	65.4	61.7, 69.0			55.9	53.0, 58.7	52.7	47.7, 57.6	58.5	55.9, 61.1	64.1	62.6, 65.6		
Poor/fair	24.7	13.5, 41.0	23.1	13.5, 36.6	21.0	10.5, 37.5	20.9	17.9, 24.3			31.4	28.4, 34.7	34.9	30.6, 39.4	29.0	27.1, 31.0	18.1	17.0, 19.3		
Psychological distress (30 days)									0.09										<0.01	
Yes	15.3	7.9, 27.3	18.7	11.1, 29.7	12.7	6.7, 22.7	23.5	20.2, 27.3			5.0	4.1, 6.0	3.8	2.9, 4.9	4.1	3.5, 4.9	6.9	6.3, 7.6		
No	84.7	72.7, 92.1	81.3	70.3, 88.9	87.3	77.3, 93.3	76.5	72.7, 79.8			95.0	94.0, 95.9	96.2	95.1, 97.1	95.9	95.1, 96.5	93.1	92.4, 93.7		
Health insurance type									<0.01										<0.01	
Uninsured	43.5	28.3, 60.0	17.7	9.3, 31.2	4.9	2.4, 9.8	10.7	8.4, 13.5			40.1	37.2, 43.0	17.1	15.0, 19.5	9.8	8.5, 11.4	9.8	8.9, 10.7		
Medicaid	30.9	20.2, 44.1	46.9	34.1, 60.2	41.1	29.0, 54.4	38.1	33.2, 43.3			40.1	37.1, 43.1	46.0	42.9, 49.1	32.7	30.9, 34.5	31.2	29.8, 32.6		
Employment-based	17.7	9.9, 29.6	30.7	20.6, 43.0	45.6	34.6, 56.9	41.5	37.2, 45.9			15.5	13.4, 17.9	27.9	24.9, 31.1	39.9	38.0, 41.8	46.0	44.7, 47.3		
Others	7.9	2.9, 20.2	4.6	1.9, 11.1	8.4	4.7, 14.7	9.7	7.7, 12.1			4.3	3.2, 5.7	9.0	6.9, 11.7	17.6	15.9, 19.4	13.0	12.1, 14.1		
Has usual source of health care									<0.01										<0.01	
No	45.6	33.3, 58.5	29.8	18.7, 43.9	23.0	15.5, 32.7	21.2	18.1, 24.6			38.4	35.6, 41.3	27.3	23.6, 31.5	15.0	13.4, 16.8	19.8	18.5, 21.0		
Yes	54.4	41.5, 66.7	70.2	56.1, 81.3	77.0	67.3, 84.5	78.8	75.4, 81.9			61.6	58.7, 64.4	72.7	68.5, 76.4	85.0	83.2, 86.6	80.2	79.0, 81.5		

*CI: Confidence Interval. #F test for test of difference in proportions. Bold p-values are statistically significant.