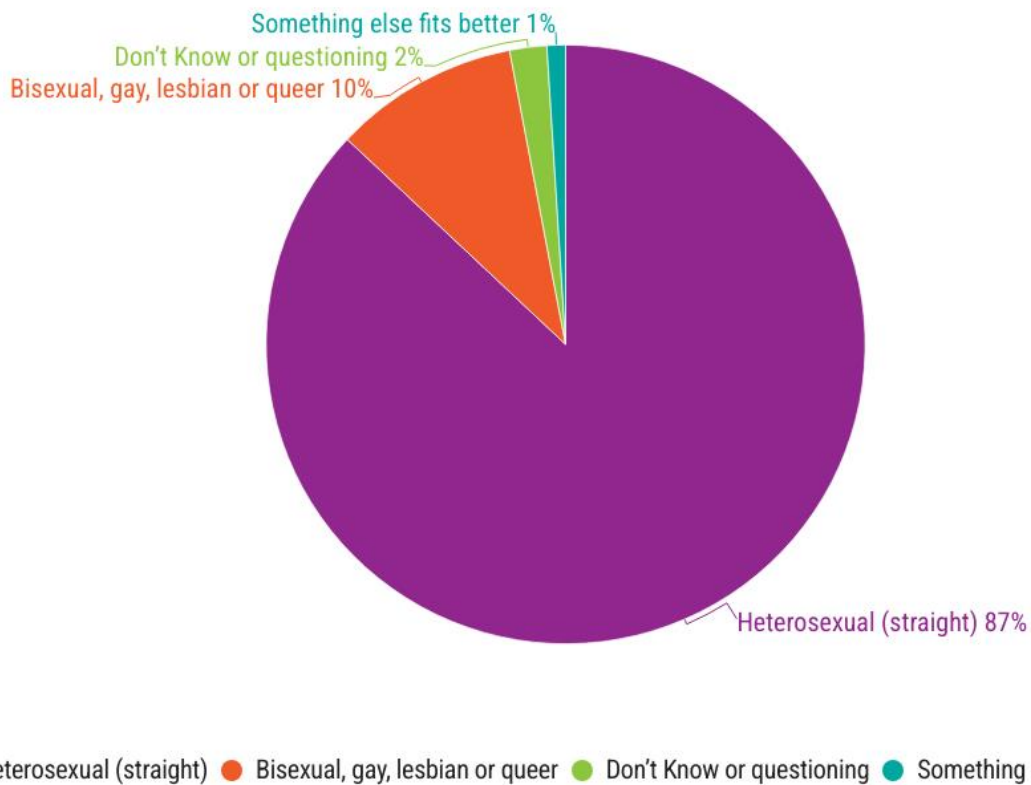


Survey offers new findings on sexual orientation and demographics in the region

Last year, PSRC conducted the first large-scale travel survey in the nation that asked about sexual orientation. In celebration of Pride Month, PSRC is sharing related findings from its 2023 Household Travel Survey.

About 13% of adult respondents in the survey identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, questioning, or something else. That’s around 420,000 people out of central Puget Sound’s total adult population of 3.4 million.

Percent of Adults by Sexual Orientation in the Central Puget Sound Region



Source: PSRC, 2023 Household Travel Survey, for King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish counties

Almost half of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and queer respondents identify as a person of color, with 47% identifying as person of color and 53% as non-Hispanic white. Among the heterosexual adults surveyed, 34% identify as person of color and 62% as white.

They are more likely to be female or non-binary. Among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and queer respondents, 52% identify as female, 42% as male and 6% as non-binary or another gender. For heterosexual adults, 49% of respondents identify as female, 50% as male and 1% as non-binary. For privacy purposes, the survey did not ask about gender assigned at birth, only current gender identity.

This demographic tends to be younger, with 46% of lesbian, gay, bisexual and queer respondents reporting their ages between 18 and 34 years old, compared to 24% of heterosexuals.

Many have lower incomes. Their household incomes skew lower, with 12% reporting incomes under \$25,000 and 20% under \$50,000. This may be related to this demographic being younger on average. Among heterosexual adults, 6% report incomes under \$25,000 and 15% under \$50,000.

Adults who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and queer are almost as likely as heterosexuals to have children in their households. There is at least one child in the households of 27% of lesbian, gay, bisexual and queer adults, while 33% of heterosexual respondents have at least one child.

This was the sexuality question on the 2023 Household Travel Survey:

Which of the following best describes your sexuality?

- *Bisexual, gay, lesbian or queer*
- *Heterosexual (straight)*
- *Something else fits better*
- *Don't know or questioning*
- *Prefer not to answer*

Out of all adult survey participants, 84% answered this question. Data reported in this Trende excludes people who chose "Prefer not to answer."

The [Household Travel Survey](#) gathers vital information from households around the region about how we travel, where we go and where we choose to live. Data from the 2023 survey can help us understand the transportation and housing needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and queer adults and the disparities they experience so our agency can more effectively address the unique barriers they face.