

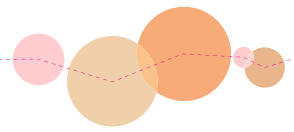


FUNDERS FOR
LGBTQ
ISSUES

2023 RESOURCE TRACKING REPORT: LGBTQ Grantmaking by U.S. Foundations

JUNE 2025

FOREWORD



As I write this foreword for our 2023 Resource Tracking Report, we are on the cusp of the 56th anniversary of the Stonewall Resistance. March 2025 honored the 38th anniversary of ACT-UP's founding, and this past May marked the fifth anniversary of George Floyd's murder and the ensuing protests against police brutality that swept the nation. This summer also commemorates nine years since the Pulse Nightclub Massacre where we lost 49 members of our community.

These historical moments of resistance continue to shift and inform our movements – shaping how we understand what it means to not just name freedom, but honor our dead by protecting the living. I would be remiss to omit the reality that a number of these tragedies and murders were also followed by significant increases in philanthropic funding for impacted communities and causes. Our prior Resource Tracking Reports have found that the Pulse Nightclub Massacre, the murder of George Floyd, and the COVID-19 pandemic triggered a scale of philanthropic investment previously unseen in our research. **However, while we anticipated a similar increase in funding for LGBTQ communities and causes in 2023, given the unprecedented coordinated campaign against bodily autonomy and the right of trans people to exist, no correlated increase in giving was seen.**

It feels especially pertinent that this report – examining the scale and scope of LGBTQ philanthropy across the U.S. in 2023 – is being released in a time of escalating attacks on civil society and democratic infrastructures to devastating effect both in the U.S. and around the world. **While we will not have data on 2025 LGBTQ institutional giving for two more years, the trends identified in 2023 illustrate a portrait of progressive philanthropic investment in decline.**

The key findings of this report become tremendously concerning as we consider the realities of when these LGBTQ grants were awarded. The Biden Administration was one of the most LGBTQ affirming presidencies to date. Despite the launch of intense and continued anti-trans attacks waged in state legislatures across the country, a number of federal policies were enacted to protect queer and trans communities and the administration actively pursued opportunities to partner with philanthropic institutions to invest in our movements. However, despite the forward progress on the national front, LGBTQ movement groups were organizing state and

local campaigns to combat politically motivated investigations, as well as legislation targeting critical race theory, gender affirming health care, drag queens, as well as the safety, security and self determination of trans people. Organizations and activists were embattled by intensifying needs for physical and digital security, growing demands for strengthened infrastructure, and increasingly leery corporate partners retreating from our communities in the face of emboldened hate groups.

Given the growing precarity of our political landscape, you'll notice a few changes in this iteration of the Resource Tracking Report, namely the absence of lists naming the top funders of LGBTQ issues and the top grantee organizations. We made this decision based on feedback from stakeholders and anonymization requests from key grantmakers. We are committed to ensuring that our reporting practices protect the emergent needs of our sector and movement groups while also reflecting the state of LGBTQ philanthropy as accurately as possible. I'm also proud to share that we have implemented enhanced data security measures to protect our data. This research is critical to our sector, and we are committed to holding this responsibility with great care so our partners continue to be confident in us as a resource and thought partner.

The power and impact of this report lies in our partnership with you and our network of over a hundred members who share their data with us each year. I thank each of our contributing partners for their support and confidence in our work, and ask everyone to invest in the long-term sustainability of this project by continuing to share your LGBTQ grant data with us. By doing so, we can continue to tell the story of LGBTQ philanthropy, and understand our collective impact within LGBTQ movements and communities across the nation. **This report can also support LGBTQ-serving organizations mobilize and raise funds to sustain organizing on the frontlines, provide healthcare, youth work, and myriad other beautiful and necessary labor in service of our communities.**

We know we have everything we need to build the future we deserve. **The question this report seeks to answer is: Are we doing everything we can as a sector to manifest that future where all queer, trans, and gender non-conforming people are liberated, loved, valued, respected, and thriving?**

As we move into a new political landscape with marked hostility towards progressive philanthropy, this report offers a path forward. As Funders for LGBTQ Issues noted in its message to members after the November 2024 elections, we call on institutions to recognize the great power they hold, and use it in service of resourcing our movements, rather than backing away. **The latest trends beg the following questions: If not now, when? If not us, who?** Let this report be a moment to reflect on these questions, individually and collectively.

And please know, we are here to answer these questions with you. To organize, to strategize, and honor the legacy of all those who came before us. **Let us do this work holding on to this truth: we will be free.**

In solidarity,

Saida Agostini Bostic
President
Funders for LGBTQ Issues



Are we doing everything we can as a sector to manifest that future where all queer, trans, and gender non-conforming people are liberated, loved, valued, respected, and thriving?

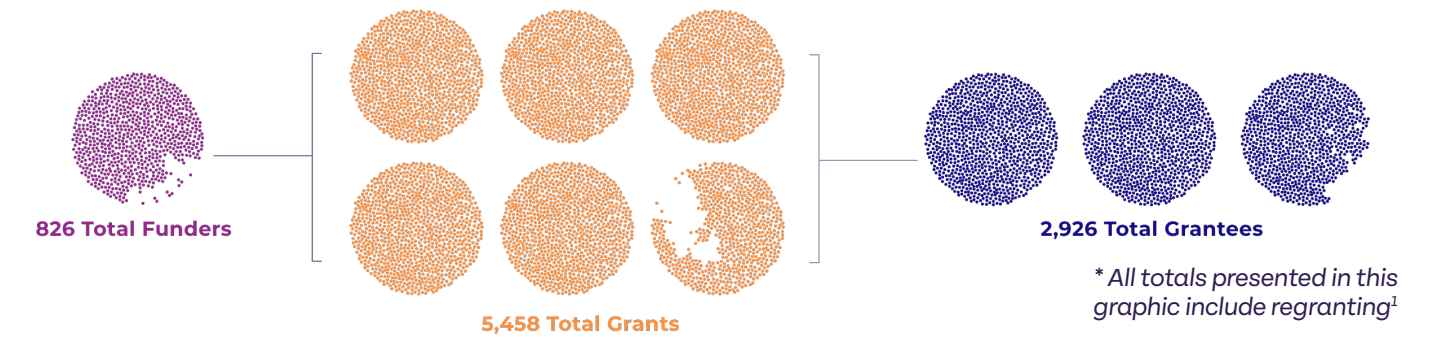
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**If not now, when?
If not us, who?**

Let this report be a moment to reflect on these questions, individually and collectively.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2023 Grantmaking for LGBTQ Communities and Causes in the United States



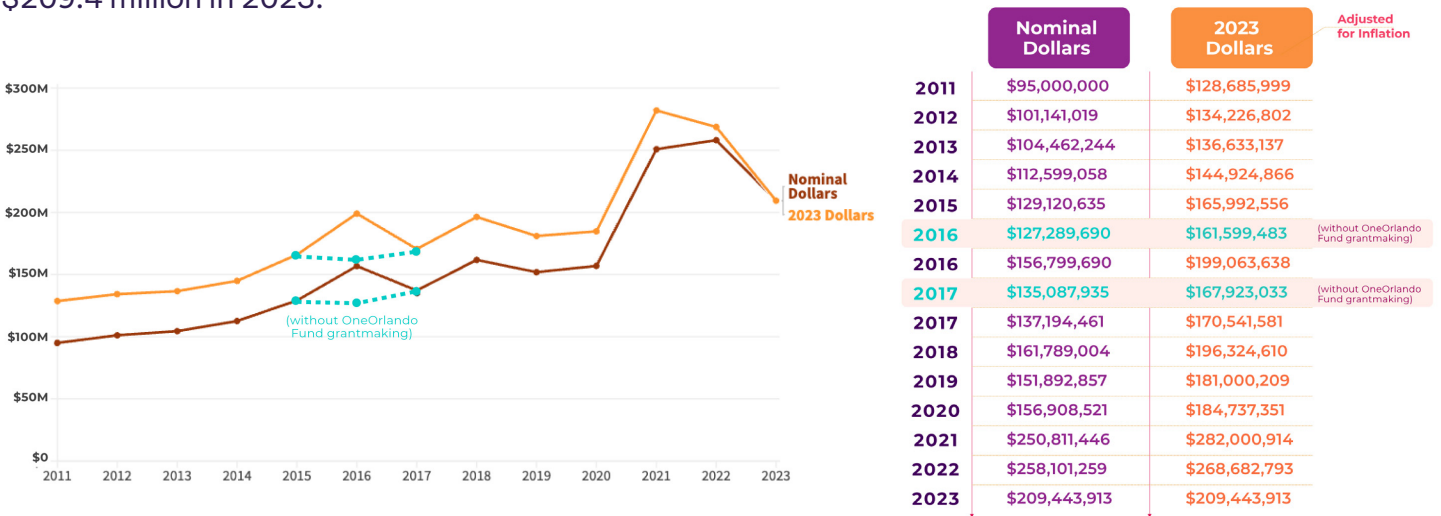
Philanthropic funding for LGBTQ* communities and causes from foundations based in the United States totaled \$209.4 million in 2023. This is a decrease of approximately \$48.7 million or 19 percent from the total funding awarded for LGBTQ communities and causes in 2022.² **When adjusted for inflation, funding fell 22 percent from 2022 to 2023.**

This stark decrease in funding from 2022 to 2023 is particularly troubling given the inadequate levels of funding awarded in 2022 to combat the impact of inflation, as well as the persistent legislative attacks and regressive social policies impacting LGBTQ people and their families across the country that continued through 2023 until the time of this report’s publication. This decrease of almost 20 percent in funding awarded to support LGBTQ communities and causes impacted almost every subsector of LGBTQ philanthropy in 2023 and likely hindered the ability of grantees to work toward their missions and hampered their efforts to advance queer liberation.

* Throughout this report, the acronym “LGBTQ” is inclusive of LGBTQ communities and individuals in all our diversity, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning, intersex, asexual, agender, two-spirit, non-binary, gender non-conforming, and all persons who identify as LGBTQ+.

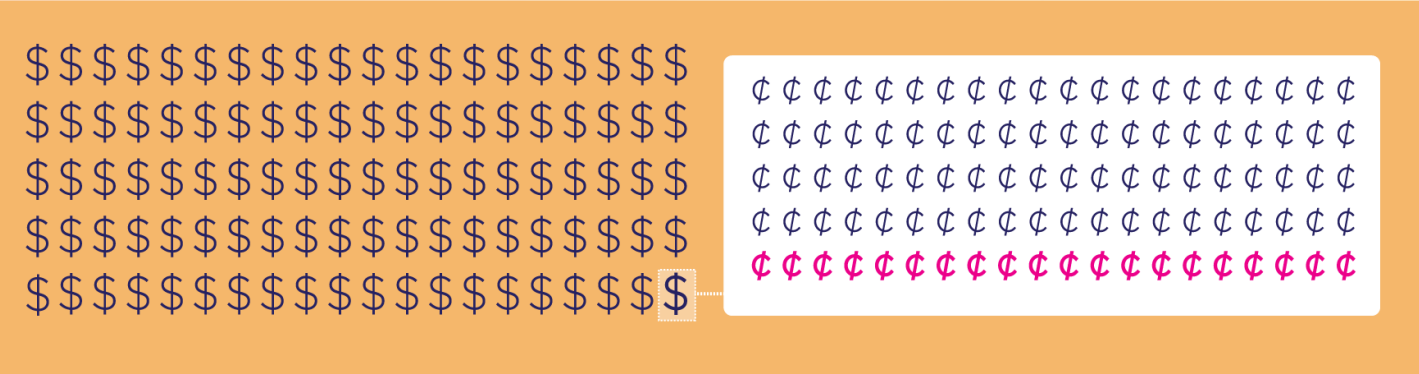
Annual U.S. LGBTQ Grant Dollars Awarded, 2011-2023

Philanthropic funding for LGBTQ communities and causes from U.S.-based foundations totaled \$209.4 million in 2023.



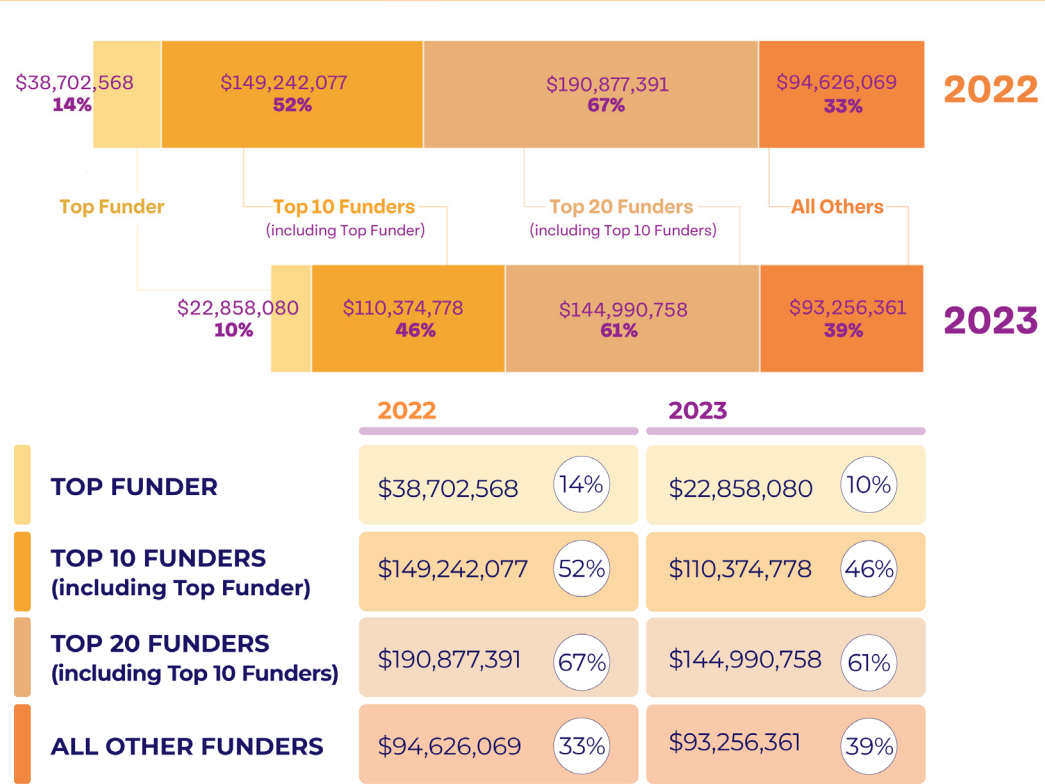
*The totals presented in this graph **exclude** funds awarded for the purpose of regranting and do not include funds awarded by U.S. foundations for grants outside of the United States. Past versions of this chart included global LGBTQ grant funding.³ Nominal dollars are not adjusted for inflation; 2023 dollars are adjusted according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index. Funding to [OneOrlando Fund](#), a community fund established after the 2016 Pulse Nightclub Massacre, was separated from other foundation funding in 2016 and 2017 to show the scale of this funding. Since 2018, any funding to OneOrlando has been re-included in the main funding totals.

For every \$100 awarded by U.S. foundations in 2023, only 20 cents specifically supported LGBTQ communities and issues in the United States.⁴ This is a decrease from 25 cents for every \$100 awarded in 2022.



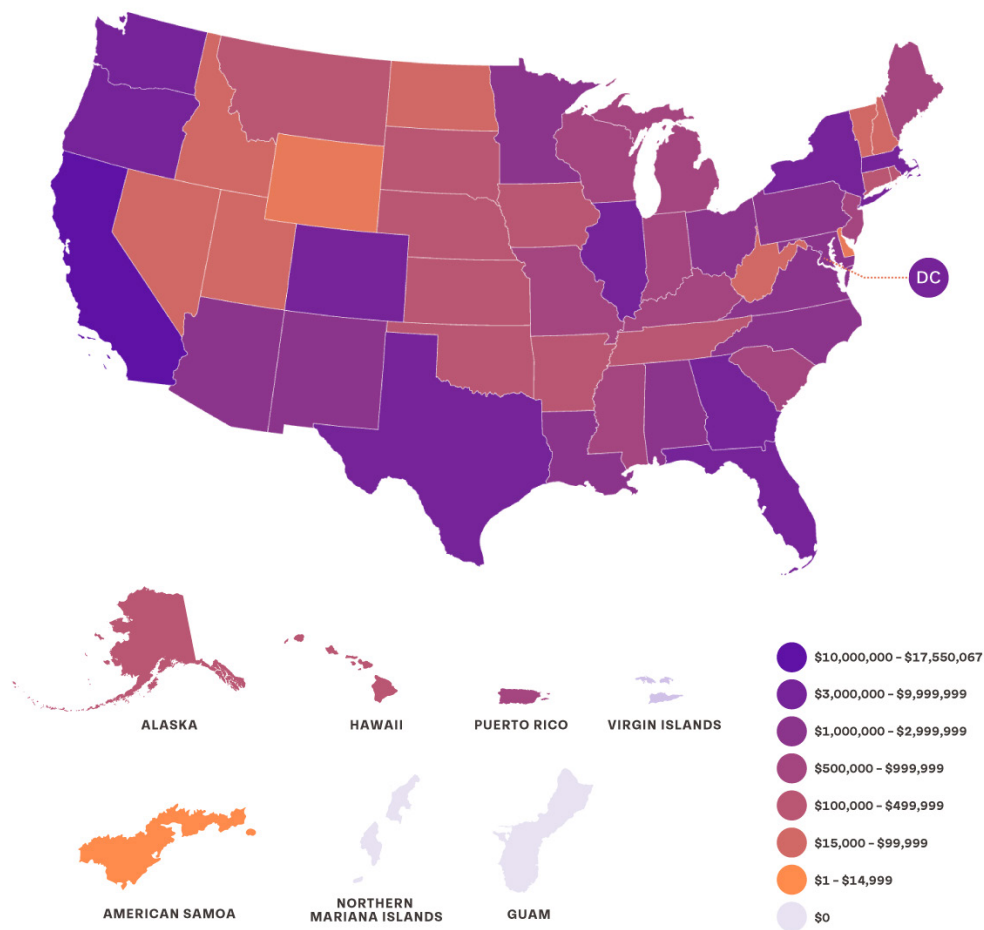
One of the reasons for the 19 percent decrease of total funding awarded from 2022 to 2023 is that the top ten funders awarded \$38.9 million less total funding (a 26 percent decrease) in 2023 than in the prior year. In 2022, the top ten funders of domestic LGBTQ communities and causes awarded \$149.2 million, whereas the top ten funders only awarded \$110.4 million in 2023. **Foundation funding for LGBTQ communities and causes remained top-heavy in 2023, though the top 20 funders in 2023 awarded 24 percent less funding than the top 20 funders in 2022.** Additional analyses of the LGBTQ funding landscape are presented in later sections of this report.

Comparison of Top Funders by Relative Percentage of Total U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding, Including Regranting, 2022 to 2023



*This table **includes** funds awarded for the purpose of regranting in order to account for the total funding that each foundation awarded for LGBTQ communities and causes in 2022 and 2023.

Local and State Funding of LGBTQ Communities and Causes, by State, 2023



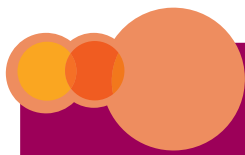
Alaska	\$ 185,327	Iowa	\$ 169,127	Mississippi	\$ 806,860	Puerto Rico	\$ 911,297
Alabama	\$ 1,119,127	Idaho	\$ 21,000	Montana	\$ 300,255	Rhode Island	\$ 110,000
Arkansas	\$ 131,334	Illinois	\$ 4,835,476	North Carolina	\$ 2,651,763	South Carolina	\$ 783,382
American Sa-moa	\$ 6,127	Indiana	\$ 936,016	North Dakota	\$ 73,000	South Dakota	\$ 164,000
Arizona	\$ 1,331,896	Kansas	\$ 180,500	Nebraska	\$ 228,500	Tennessee	\$ 111,830
California	\$ 17,550,067	Kentucky	\$ 515,000	New Hampshire	\$ 29,000	Texas	\$ 3,965,662
Colorado	\$ 3,765,185	Louisiana	\$ 1,119,382	New Jersey	\$ 677,127	Utah	\$ 76,310
Connecticut	\$ 253,500	Massachusetts	\$ 3,382,942	New Mexico	\$ 2,441,130	Virginia	\$ 1,371,625
District of Co-lumbia	\$ 3,686,063	Maryland	\$ 2,011,510	Nevada	\$ 60,255	U.S. Virgin Islands	\$ 0
Delaware	\$ 7,500	Maine	\$ 527,255	New York	\$ 8,159,490	Vermont	\$ 56,000
Florida	\$ 3,989,521	Michigan	\$ 866,152	Ohio	\$ 1,793,434	Washington	\$ 3,788,400
Georgia	\$ 5,769,761	Minnesota	\$ 1,570,063	Oklahoma	\$ 117,382	Wisconsin	\$ 662,027
Guam	\$ 0	Missouri	\$ 724,632	Oregon	\$ 3,356,594	West Virginia	\$ 20,000
Hawaii	\$ 180,082	Northern Mariana Islands	\$ 0	Pennsylvania	\$ 2,966,573	Wyoming	\$ 11,127

*This graphic **excludes** funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.
**An interactive version of this graphic can be found in the [Resource Tracking Data Explorer](#).

(1) Aswell, S. (2025, May 21). [The Complete Guide to Regranting](#). Submittable.
(2) Lawther, A., Frazer, S., Howe, E., & Luffy, S. (2024). [2022 Resource Tracking Report](#). Funders for LGBTQ Issues.
(3) 2021-2022 Global Resources Report: Government & Philanthropic Support for LGBTI Communities. (2024). Global Resources Report. [Global Philanthropy Project](#).
(4) Giving USA: U.S. charitable giving totaled \$557.16 billion in 2023. (2024, June 25). Giving USA; [Giving USA Foundation](#).

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Introduction

Funders for LGBTQ Issues is proud to present the *2023 Resource Tracking Report: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Grantmaking by U.S. Foundations*. This is the 21st edition of the annual resource tracking report and continues our work to document trends in LGBTQ* philanthropy over more than two decades. **The purpose of this report is to analyze the latest LGBTQ grant data, identify gaps in funding, and present recommendations for U.S.-based foundations to effectively and sustainably support our movements through strategic grantmaking that is in alignment with the realities of LGBTQ communities across the country.** Given the increasingly perilous social and political climate at the time of publication, it is important to note that the funding trends presented in this report reflect grantmaking decisions made in calendar year 2023 under the Biden-Harris Administration, arguably one of the most pro-LGBTQ administrations in history.⁵

Based on input from key stakeholders, as well as from the staff and Board of Funders for LGBTQ Issues, the content of this report has been adapted due to some grantmakers' concerns about increased visibility in a politically hostile environment when progressive causes are being attacked at the federal level. Even though some significant funders in the top 20 still wanted to remain named in this report, we received increased requests for anonymity from other top funders and therefore decided to remove the top funder lists from this report. The top grantee lists are also not included in this report in order to protect the vital work they continue to do for our communities. Instead, this report presents aggregate totals and key trends in the latest data to support a robust understanding of the state of LGBTQ philanthropy.

*** Throughout this report, the acronym "LGBTQ" is inclusive of LGBTQ communities and individuals in all our diversity, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning, intersex, asexual, agender, two-spirit, non-binary, gender non-conforming, and all persons who identify as LGBTQ+.**

To develop this report, we analyzed 5,458 grants that 826 foundations awarded to 2,926 grantees to address LGBTQ communities and causes across the United States in 2023, for a total of \$209.4 million, excluding funding awarded for the purpose of regranteeing. This is a decrease of approximately \$48.7 million or 19 percent from the total funding awarded

for LGBTQ communities and causes in 2022. **When adjusted for inflation, funding fell 22 percent from 2022 to 2023.**

The primary reason for this decrease in overall grants for LGBTQ communities and causes was a decrease in giving from the top 20 foundations. The top 20 funders awarded 24 percent less in 2023 than the top 20 in the year before. Unfortunately, the rest of the funders did not increase their funding to overcome this decrease, as all other funders awarded \$94.6 million in 2022 and \$93.3 million in 2023.

Importantly, the 2023 dataset was slightly smaller than the 2022 dataset in terms of total foundations, grants, and grantees represented. For example, the 2023 dataset includes data from 826 foundations and 5,458 grants whereas the 2022 dataset included data from 903 foundations and 6,110 total grants. Funders for LGBTQ Issues believes that the 2023 dataset is smaller because of the timing of the data submission request, which was in the months immediately preceding the November 2024 U.S. elections. Additionally, the request for 2022 LGBTQ grant data was in alignment with the data collection process for the Global Resources Report, so it is possible that outreach was greater for 2022 data than 2023 data. However, Funders for LGBTQ Issues received 2023 LGBTQ grants data from the same top 20 funders in both 2022 and 2023, which indicates that the majority of top foundations are included in this report given the top-heaviness of the funding landscape from year to year.

New to this iteration of this report is an analysis of multi-year grantmaking within the LGBTQ philanthropic sector. **When we analyzed the 2022 and 2023 datasets to determine average grant duration, we found that nearly half of grants were one year long with the average duration being 1.2 years in 2022 and 1.1 years in 2023, based on available data.** In 2023, 42 foundations awarded at least one multi-year grant, which was only 5 percent of the 826 foundations that awarded LGBTQ grants in that year. Additionally, general operating support decreased from 51 percent of grantmaking in 2022 to 47 percent in 2023, which indicates a decreased commitment to unrestricted funding for grantees to support their operations as they see fit. **According to the data, unrestricted multi-year grantmaking has been underutilized across the sector, though it has long been recognized as a philanthropic best practice.**⁶

The following trends from 2023 data may offer additional insights into the far-reaching impacts of the overall decrease in LGBTQ philanthropy that are reverberating to the present day:

- Consistent with prior analyses, **funding from private foundations accounted for the largest percentage of domestic LGBTQ grantmaking in 2023, with 42 percent.** Though private foundations awarded the most funding in 2023, their total grantmaking decreased by 27 percent from 2022. Similarly, community foundation grantmaking decreased by 39 percent from 2022 to 2023, likely due to community foundation's reliance on funding from private foundations.
- LGBTQ grant funding specifically focused on the needs of transgender, gender nonconforming, and nonbinary (TGN CNBi) communities decreased from **\$48.2 million in 2022 to \$36.4 million in 2023—a decrease of \$11.7 million, or 24 percent, from the previous year.**
- **For the first time since 2018, the Southeast region was awarded the highest amount of funding with \$36 million, or 17 percent of the total funding awarded in 2023.** This represented a \$7.6 million, or 27 percent, increase from the funding awarded to the Southeast region in 2022. Given that more LGBT adults live in the Southeast region than any other, this increase in funding specifically for LGBTQ communities and causes in the region is encouraging.
- **Funding for Black LGBTQ communities and causes decreased by \$14.5 million from 2022 to 2023, which was a 41 percent decrease from the all-time high amount recorded in 2022.** The decrease in specific funding for Black LGBTQ communities and causes coincided with a decrease in funding for LGBTQ communities of color generally in 2023.
- New to this report is an analysis of rapid response grantmaking for LGBTQ communities and causes in 2023. According to our analysis, **36 foundations awarded a total of \$6.7 million (excluding regrants) to 278 grantees through 325 rapid response grants that year.** As anti-LGBTQ bills and rhetoric continue to escalate, rapid response funding will remain an important source of support for LGBTQ movement organizations.

As the bedrock of our organization's research portfolio, the Resource Tracking Project will continue to evolve to more accurately describe the state of LGBTQ philanthropy and identify opportunities for strategic grantmaking that advances queer liberation. The data used to create this report often inform our engagement with institutional members and guide the implementation of our programs. **As Funders for LGBTQ Issues monitors the political and cultural landscape, we will adapt this project in alignment with our organization's mission and values, as well as the needs of the sector. By doing so, we aim to drive innovative and sustainable opportunities for LGBTQ grantmaking to directly benefit our communities across the country, particularly at this time of crisis and uncertainty.** We welcome input and feedback from our members and the larger philanthropic community to guide our programs and research in a way that advances our collective liberation.

Onward,

Alyssa Lawther, Senior Research Office
& **Sammy Luffy**, Director of Research
Funders for LGBTQ Issues



(5) Ring, T. (2025, January 20). Here are President Joe Biden's 15 queerest accomplishments. <https://www.advocate.com/politics/biden-15-queerest-accomplishments>
(6) Multi-Year, Unrestricted Funding. (2019, September 25). Trust-Based Philanthropy Project. <https://www.trustbasedphilanthropy.org/multi-year-unrestricted-funding>

2023 RESOURCE TRACKING REPORT FINDINGS

Sources of LGBTQ Grant Funding in 2023

Consistent with prior analyses, funding from private foundations accounted for the largest percentage of domestic LGBTQ grantmaking in 2023, with 42 percent. Though private foundations awarded the most funding in 2023, their total grantmaking decreased by 27 percent from 2022. Similarly, community foundation grantmaking decreased by 39 percent from 2022 to 2023. Corporate and public foundation funding remained relatively consistent from 2022 to 2023 in terms of total funding awarded in both years, so the decreases in grantmaking by private and community foundations help explain the decrease in overall funding for LGBTQ communities and causes in 2023 compared to the prior year.

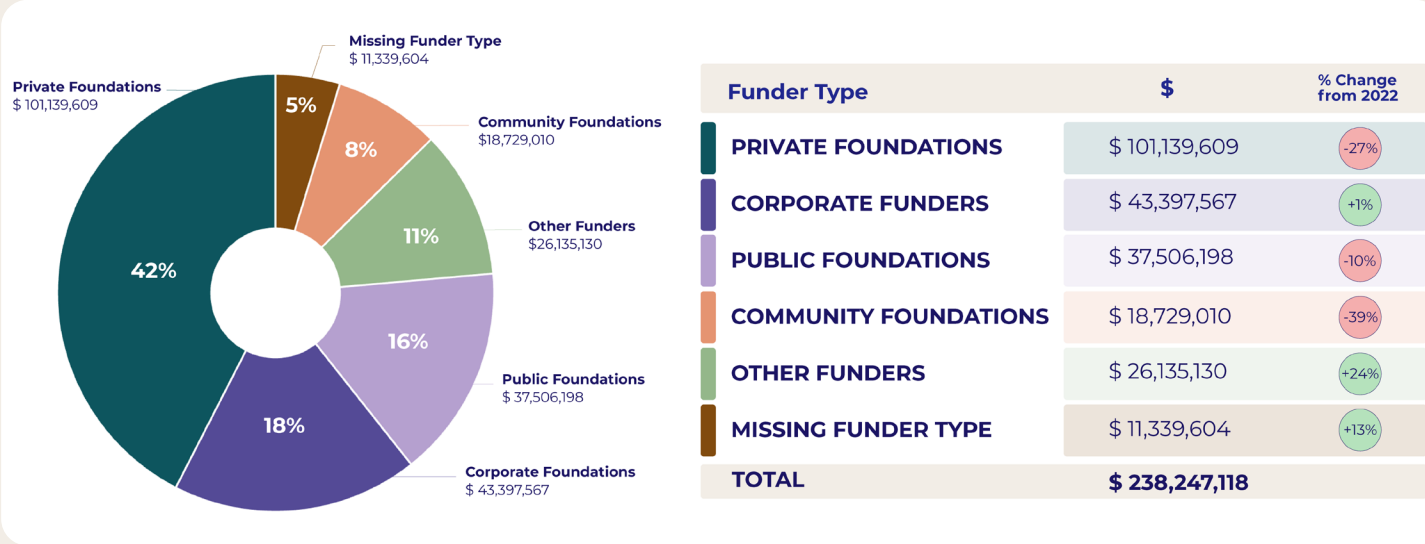
Community foundations rely largely on donations from private foundations for their grantmaking, so the former are particularly vulnerable to shifts in leadership and funding priorities at private foundations. Additionally, the presidential

administration at the time also could have contributed to a sense that the federal government was protecting progressive causes, so foundations may have backed away from LGBTQ and other social justice grantmaking.

Funding from corporate foundations did not increase much in 2023; corporate foundations awarded \$42.8 million in 2022 and \$43.4 million in 2023. Unfortunately, LGBTQ grantmaking from public foundations decreased from \$41.7 million in 2022 to \$37.5 million in 2023.

A total of 30 funders identified as “Other” when submitting their 2023 LGBTQ grant data, which accounted for 11 percent of the total funding awarded that year.⁷ For context, this was the same number of funders who selected this foundation type when submitting their LGBTQ grants data for 2022.

Sources of U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding, by Funder Type, 2023



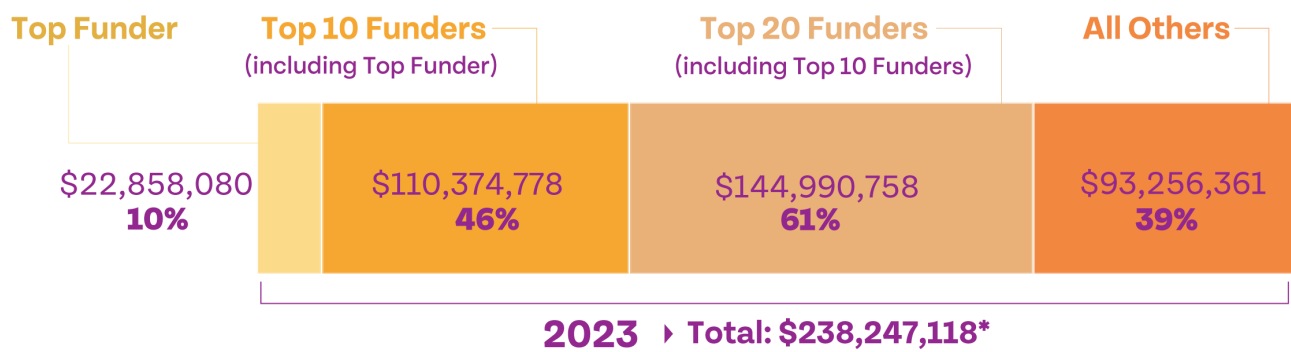
This table **includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting, so the total presented here is higher than the total excluding regranting, \$209.4 million.*

(7) Some examples of foundations that chose to identify themselves as “Other Funders” included grantmaking programs housed inside other organizations where grantmaking was not their primary focus, and grantmaking projects fiscally sponsored by other organizations.

Top-Heaviness

Similar to reporting from prior years, LGBTQ grantmaking has largely been driven by a small group of leading funders and the funding landscape has remained top-heavy according to the latest data. In 2023, the top ten funders awarded 46 percent and the top 20 funders awarded 61 percent of the total funding in that year. The remaining 806 funders for which we have data only awarded 39 percent of the total funding in 2023.

Top Funding Amounts by Relative Percentage of Total U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding, 2023



**This analysis includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting in order to account for the total funding that each foundation awarded for LGBTQ communities and causes in 2023, so the total is higher than the \$209.4 million total that excludes regranting throughout much of this report.*

Importantly, the top funders in 2023 awarded less funding than the top funders in the prior year by both nominal dollars and relative percent of total funding. For example, the top funder in 2022 awarded 14 percent of the total funding that year, whereas the top funder in 2023 awarded 10 percent of the total funding that year. Put another way, the top funder in 2023 awarded 41 percent less than the top funder in the prior year, which continued a trend of decreased funding from the top funder each year since 2021.⁸

Similarly, the top ten funders in 2023 awarded 26 percent less than the top ten funders in 2022. The top 20 funders awarded 24 percent less in 2023 than the top 20 in the year before. The rest of the funders in both years awarded roughly the same amount, \$94.6 million in 2022 and \$93.3 million in 2023, which also indicates how much less funding was awarded by the top 20 grantmakers in 2023.

In addition, some of the top ten funders of domestic LGBTQ communities and causes for 2022 were no longer in the top funders list in 2023 because their total funding decreased so significantly according to the latest data. To elaborate, the top ten funders in 2022 awarded \$149.2 million for LGBTQ communities and causes, but these same funders only awarded

\$76.2 million in 2023. Additionally, less than one-third of grants awarded by the top ten funders in 2022 were longer than one year, so this decrease was not due to a high number of multi-year grants being awarded in 2022, which would offer an explanation as to why their grantmaking was lower in 2023.

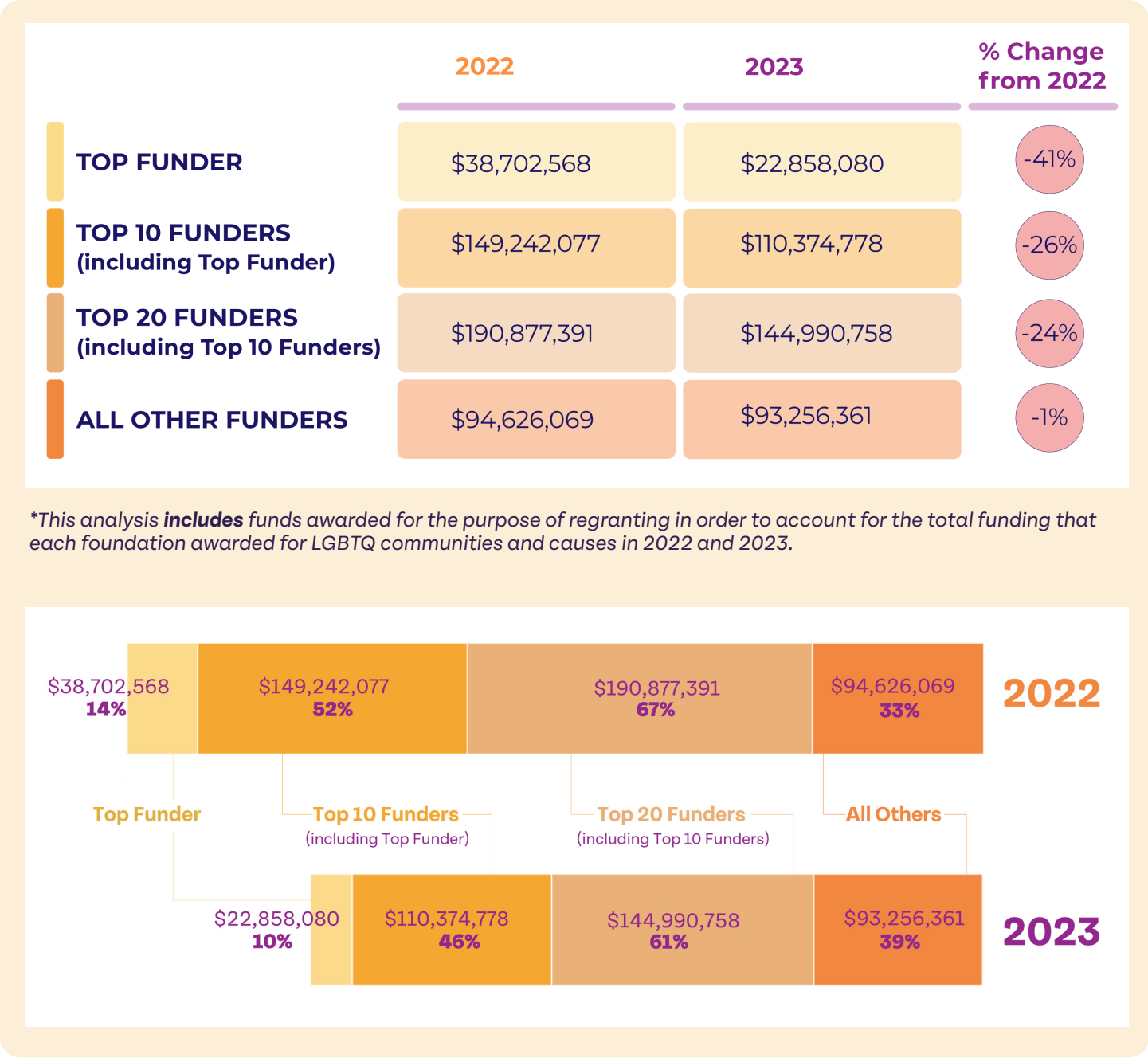
Some top ten funders from 2022 experienced staffing and leadership changes in 2023 that could have reduced their overall grantmaking or shifted their focus away from LGBTQ communities and causes in the reporting year, which could explain the decrease in overall funding from top grantmakers in 2023. Due to intentional outreach by Funders for LGBTQ Issues during the data submission period, foundations also better understood the methodology of this project in 2023. This helped foundations submit more accurate LGBTQ grant data for inclusion in this report.⁹

As indicated in prior reports, any variation in funding from top funders—whether from leadership changes, strategic realignment, or other shifts—contributes to high volatility of the entire funding landscape that can have far-reaching impacts. Ideally, the funding landscape should be less top-heavy so that such shifts among the top funders have less of an impact on the landscape overall.

While the funding landscape was somewhat less top-heavy in 2023 than in prior years, the marked decrease in overall funding by 19 percent from the prior year is deeply concerning. Since there was significantly less funding awarded in 2023 in total, the sector was particularly sensitive to any decreases

in grantmaking, especially from foundations in the top 20. **The funding landscape in 2023 is the result of multiple top funders decreasing their total giving within the same calendar year, which was not countered by increases in LGBTQ grantmaking from other foundations.**

Comparison of Top Funders by Relative Percentage of Total U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding, 2022-2023



(8) Lawther, A., & Lee, A. L. (2023). 2021 Resource Tracking Report. Funders for LGBTQ Issues. <https://lgbtfunders.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2021-Resource-Tracking-Report.pdf>

(9) Better understanding this report's methodology is especially important for foundations that do not have a specific LGBTQ portfolio because they must analyze grants across multiple other portfolios to identify those that are eligible for inclusion in this report. The Research Team at Funders for LGBTQ Issues regularly meets with foundations to discuss their unique grantmaking strategy, as well as grants that may be fit for inclusion in this report.

Multi-Year Grants Data

Funders for LGBTQ Issues has consistently advocated for grantmakers to prioritize multi-year grantmaking as a strategy to sustainably support LGBTQ organizations, communities, and causes across the country. When we analyzed the 2022 and 2023 datasets to determine average grant duration, we found that nearly half of grants were one year long with the average duration being 1.2 years in 2022 and 1.1 years in 2023. Approximately 5.1 percent of grants awarded in 2022 and 4.3 percent of grants awarded in 2023 were 13 to 24 months long. Only 3.2 percent of grants awarded in 2022 and 1.8 percent of grants awarded in 2023 were for grants lasting longer than 24 months.

According to the LGBTQ grant duration data available from 2022 and 2023, multi-year grantmaking has been underutilized across the sector. In 2023, 42 foundations awarded at least one multi-year grant, which was only five percent of the 826 foundations that awarded LGBTQ grants in that year. Additionally, 100 percent of LGBTQ grants awarded by only four foundations were longer than a year in 2023. The average length of multi-year grants awarded in 2023

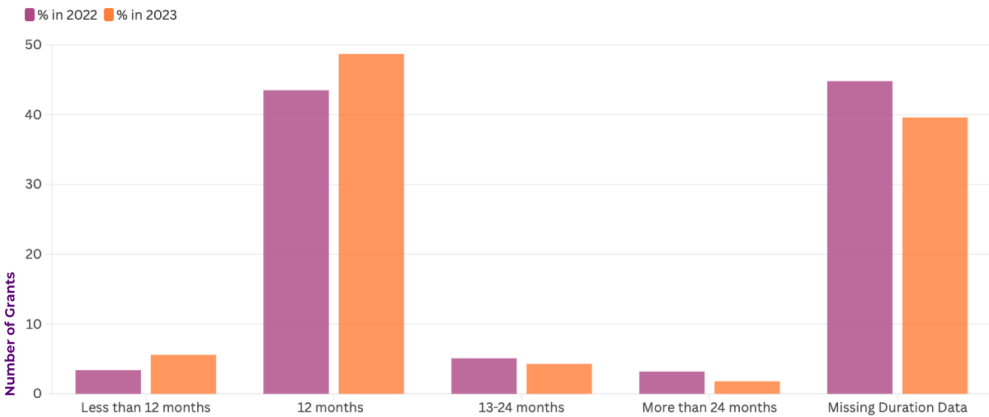
was 2.3 years and the longest grant was awarded for seven years, though the grantmaker confirmed that this particular grant was outside of the norm for their foundation’s practices.

More foundations could consider multi-year grantmaking to decrease grantees’ overhead expenses and demand on their staff capacity, thereby more effectively supporting their grantees to achieve the long term social change they seek to make.

For both years, approximately 40 percent of grants were missing duration data. Importantly, the LGBTQ grant data submission form states that the grant duration is assumed to be 12 months unless otherwise stated based on our understanding of historical grantmaking trends in LGBTQ philanthropy. Even if this assumption is correct for grants missing duration data in 2022 and 2023, all grants without duration data were excluded for the purpose of this analysis to focus on the duration data that are available. It is our hope that future submissions will include more data about the length of LGBTQ grants to support a deeper understanding of the funding landscape.

LGBTQ Grant Duration, 2022-2023

This analysis **includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting in order to account for the total funding that each foundation awarded for LGBTQ communities and causes in 2023. This analysis does not include 990 data.*



GRANT DURATION	# of Grants in 2022		# of Grants in 2023	
	% of Grants in 2022		% of Grants in 2023	
LESS THAN 12 MONTHS	206	3.4%	308	5.6%
12 MONTHS	2,655	43.5%	2,658	48.7%
13-24 MONTHS	311	5.1%	237	4.3%
MORE THAN 24 MONTHS	198	3.2%	96	1.8%
MISSING DURATION DATA	2,740	44.8%	2,159	39.6%
AVERAGE GRANT DURATION	1.2 YEARS		1.1 YEARS	

LGBTQ Populations of Focus in 2023

Distribution of Grant Funding by Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression, and Sex Characteristics (SOGIESC)

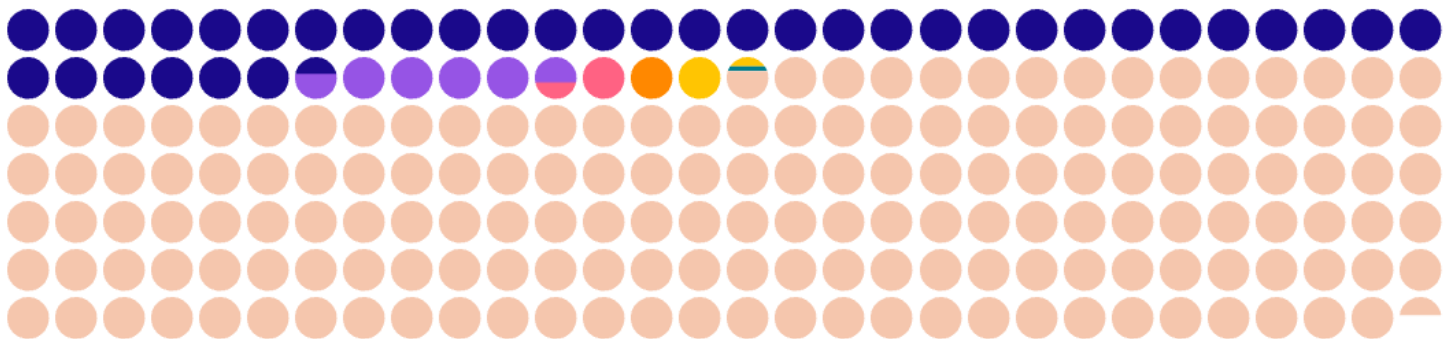
In 2023, \$164.1 million, or 78 percent, of all U.S.-based foundation support for LGBTQ communities and causes was allocated to the general LGBTQ community, continuing a historical trend observed since 2021. For example, 79 percent of LGBTQ grants awarded in 2022 were allocated for the general LGBTQ community. To better understand the allocation of funding to specific LGBTQ populations, the LGBTQ grants data presented in this section reflect the diversity of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) within our communities.

The proportion of funding for specific SOGIESC groups remained relatively consistent with prior years, with 17 percent of LGBTQ grant funding being allocated for transgender, gender nonconforming, and nonbinary (TGNCNBi) communities and causes in

2023 and a very low percentage of funding for other LGBTQ populations. Grant funding for gay and queer men and men who have sex with men (MSM) remained low at two percent, with funding for intersex and two-spirit people at just one percent each of funding in 2023.

Lesbians, queer women, and bisexual people were awarded less than one percent of funding and no grants were specifically focused on the needs of asexual people in 2023, which is consistent with trends observed in 2022. The lack of substantial dedicated funding for asexual people, bisexual people, and queer women contributes to the erasure of the specific needs of these communities, which is a trend that has persisted in recent resource tracking data.

Distribution of U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding by SOGIESC, 2023



○ = \$1,000,000

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

**Percent change from 2022 was not calculated for 1% or less of total funding in 2023.

	Total \$ Awarded	% of 2023 Funding	% Change from 2022
● TGNCNBi	\$ 36,420,404	17%	-24%
● GAY MEN/QUEER MEN/MSM	\$ 5,181,267	2%	+4%
● INTERSEX PEOPLE	\$ 1,396,064	1%	**
● TWO-SPIRIT PEOPLE	\$ 1,283,450	1%	**
● LESBIANS/QUEER WOMEN	\$ 982,500	<1%	**
● BISEXUAL PEOPLE	\$ 96,500	<1%	**
● ASEXUAL PEOPLE	\$0	0%	N/A
● GENERAL LGBTQ	\$ 164,083,728	78%	-19%

Funding for TGNCNBi Communities and Causes

LGBTQ grant funding specifically focused on the needs of transgender, gender nonconforming, and nonbinary (TGNCNBi) communities decreased from \$48.2 million in 2022 to \$36.4 million in 2023. This was a decrease of \$11.7 million, or 24 percent, from the previous year.

As reported in the last iteration of this report, part of the \$12 million increase in total funding awarded for TGNCNBi communities and causes observed in 2022 was due to the philanthropic organizing of the [Trans Futures Funding Campaign \(TFFC\)](#).¹⁰ Through coordination by TFFC, foundations awarded \$6 million in new funding for TGNCNBi communities by December 2022, which was reflected in the all-time high in funding awarded to these communities that year. However, not all of this increase was due to TFFC; philanthropic entities such as the Kataly Foundation and Southern Power Fund were also leaning into funding queer and trans-led and -run organizations between 2019 and 2022.

With regard to TFFC, the 2022 spike in new TGNCNBi funding was a response to direct advocacy with various philanthropic institutions to resource TGNCNBi groups in their work to combat the rising tide of state legislative attacks in that year. At that time, these foundations did not commit to awarding more funding for TGNCNBi communities beyond 2022, which helps explain the decrease observed in 2023 funding levels. Meanwhile, many TGNCNBi organizers and their funders were putting everything they had into defending our communities against these legislative attacks in 2023, thus community-driven philanthropic advocacy for more funding could not be sustained at the same level as in the past. This decrease in funding for TGNCNBi communities speaks to the reality that trans organizations and philanthropic organizers that were forced to spend more of their limited time protecting their own communities, rather than advocating within philanthropy for increased funds. **Advocacy for increasing funding for trans communities during times of crisis should not fall on the shoulders of members of that community; foundations have a responsibility to remain informed on these issues and**

continue to support LGBTQ communities even when not being directly asked for support.

Philanthropic support for TGNCNBi communities and causes also varies widely by state and territory across the United States in 2023, despite the 615 anti-trans bills introduced in 49 states that year, 87 of which passed.¹¹

California was the state with the greatest amount of funding awarded for TGNCNBi communities in 2023, with \$4.9 million. Other states with over \$1 million awarded for TGNCNBi communities in 2023 included: Florida, Illinois, Maryland, and New York. Unfortunately, five states were not awarded any funding for these specific communities in 2023: Kansas, North Dakota, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and West Virginia.¹² Similarly, no grants were awarded for TGNCNBi communities living in the territories of Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands, continuing the trend of underinvestment in these communities.

A record number of anti-LGBTQ bills, particularly those targeting transgender youth, have been introduced and advanced through state legislatures in recent years, so specific funding for our communities is required to withstand and fight back against such actions.¹³

Philanthropic support for all LGBTQ communities, particularly TGNCNBi communities, is far too low given the anti-trans legislation, discrimination, and violence that occurred in 2023 and continues to escalate as of the date of this report's publication.¹⁵

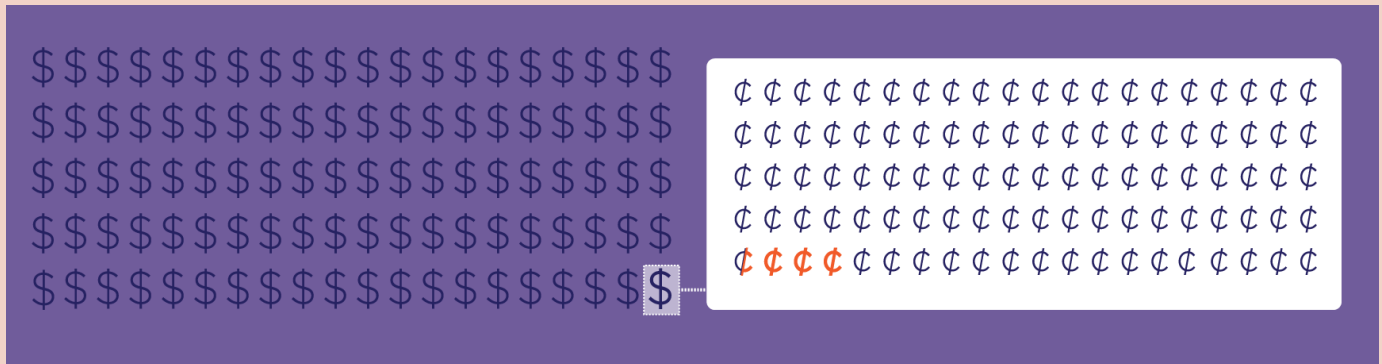
The decrease observed in 2023 is also concerning because this drop took place during the Biden-Harris Administration, when the federal government implemented many pro-LGBTQ policies and protections for queer people and their loved ones.¹⁶ The current administration has not only reversed pro-LGBTQ policies from the Biden era, but is vehemently anti-trans; using transgender people as a scapegoat for the introduction of sweeping executive actions that not only infringe on the rights of all LGBTQ people, but criminalize gender-affirming care and erase the very existence of intersex people.¹⁷

(10) Lawther, A., Frazer, S., Howe, E., & Luffy, S. (2024). *2022 Resource Tracking Report*, p. 15. Funders for LGBTQ Issues.

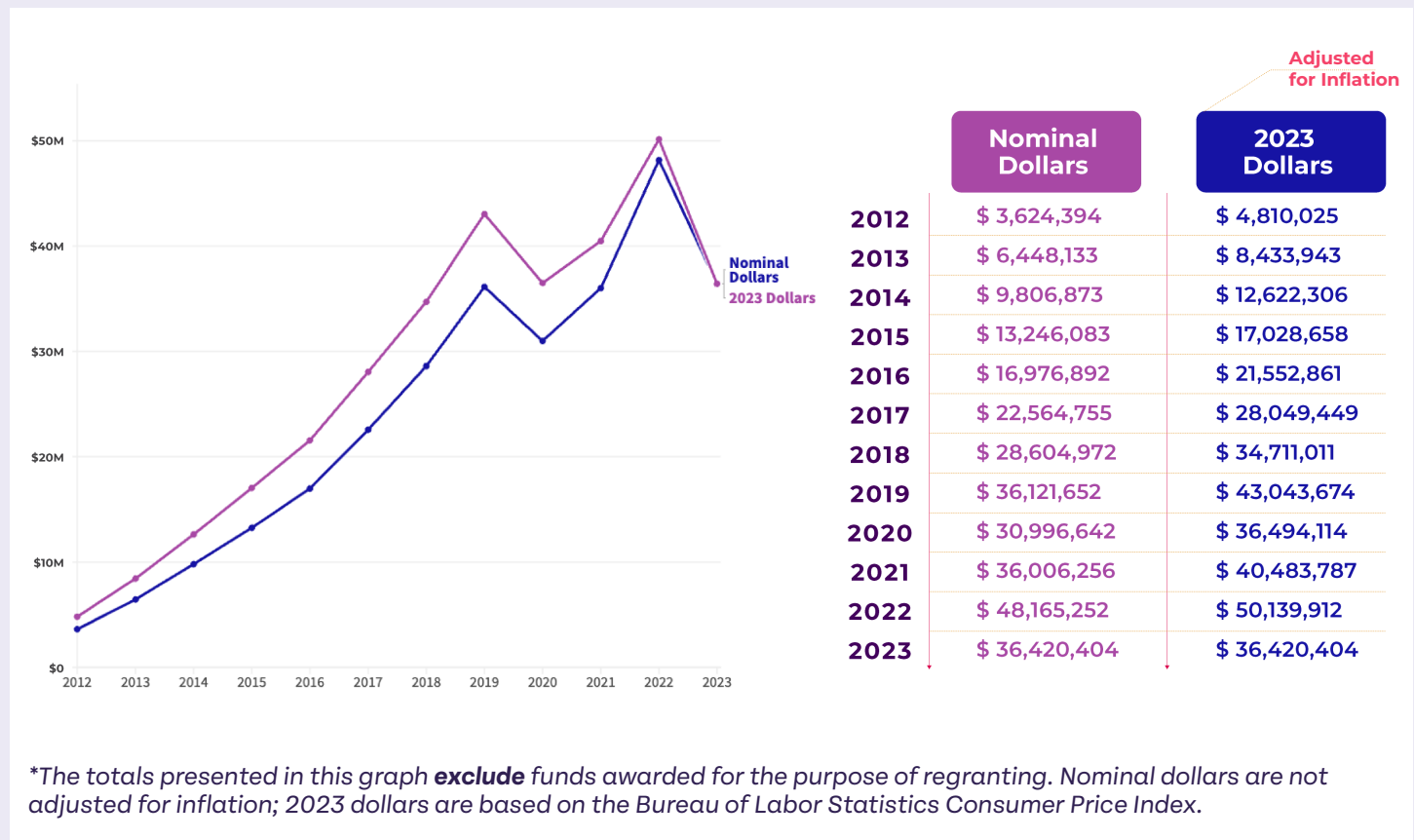
(11) 2023 Anti-trans Legislation. (2023). Trans Legislation Tracker. <https://translegislation.com/bills/2023>

(12) According to the [Trans Legislation Tracker](#), 18 anti-trans bills were introduced in Kansas, of which 5 were passed, and 17 were introduced in North Dakota, of which 11 passed. Though fewer anti-trans bills were introduced or passed in New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and West Virginia, specific grant funding to respond to these state-level attacks could have supported a more robust defense from LGBTQ movement organizations.

For every \$100 awarded by U.S. foundations in 2023, only **3.5 cents** supported TGNCNBi communities, which was a decrease from **4.6 cents** per \$100 awarded in 2022.¹⁴



U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding for TGNCNBi Communities and Causes Over Time, 2012-2023



(13) Mapping Attacks on LGBTQ Rights in U.S. State Legislatures in 2023. (2023, December 21). [ACLU; American Civil Liberties Union.](#)

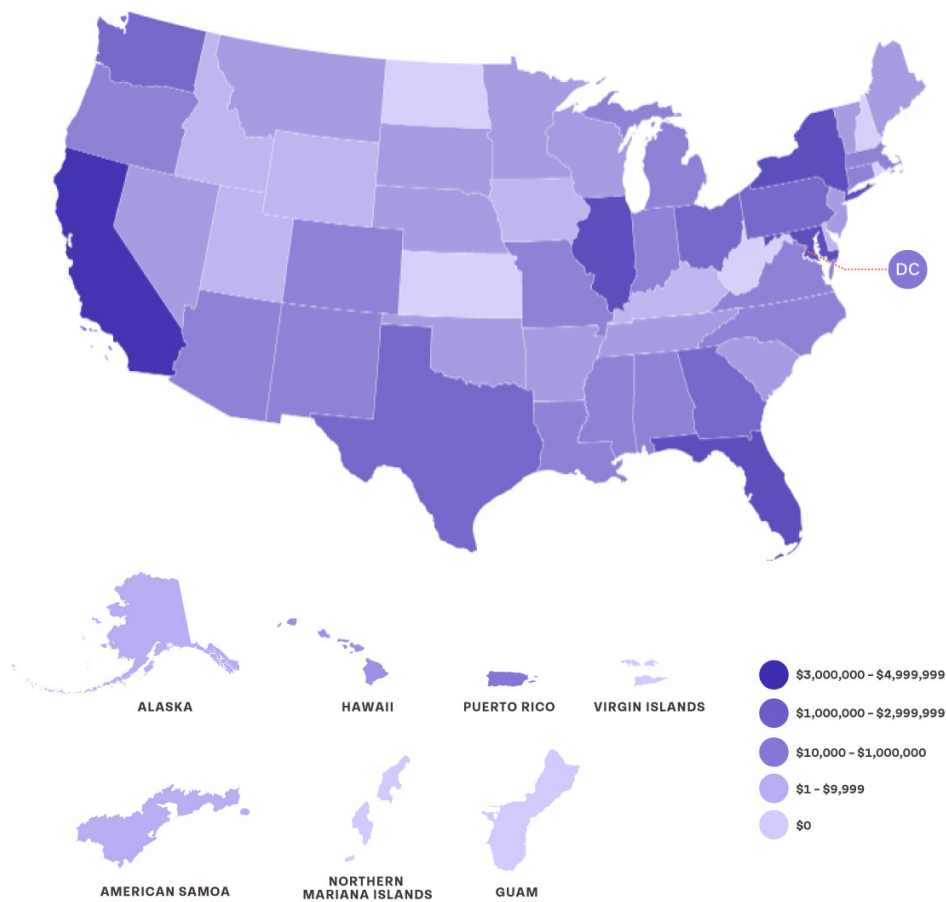
(14) Giving USA: U.S. charitable giving totaled \$557.16 billion in 2023. (2024, June 25). [Giving USA; Giving USA Foundation.](#)

(15) Observatory on the Universality of Rights. (2021). [Rights at Risk: Time for Action - Observatory on the Universality of Rights Report 2021](#), p. 102. Association for Women's Rights in Development.

(16) Biden Accountability Tracker. (2021, February 21). GLAAD. <https://glaad.org/biden-harris>

(17) Trump Accountability Tracker. (2025, May 7). GLAAD. <https://glaad.org/trump-accountability-tracker/>

Density Map of U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding for TGNCNBi Communities and Causes, by State or Territory, 2023



Alaska	\$ 6,127
Alabama	\$ 293,627
Arkansas	\$ 20,000
American Samoa	\$ 6,127
Arizona	\$105,882
California	\$ 4,923,459
Colorado	\$ 182,500
Connecticut	\$ 212,500
District of Columbia	\$ 628,290
Delaware	\$ 7,500
Florida	\$ 1,116,886
Georgia	\$ 679,809
Guam	\$ 0
Hawaii	\$ 48,382
Iowa	\$ 6,127
Idaho	\$ 10,000
Illinois	\$ 1,082,127
Indiana	\$ 278,382

Kansas	\$ 0
Kentucky	\$ 7,500
Louisiana	\$ 158,382
Massachusetts	\$ 197,382
Maryland	\$ 1,267,510
Maine	\$ 15,755
Michigan	\$ 199,902
Minnesota	\$ 29,755
Missouri	\$ 330,637
Northern Mariana Islands	\$ 0
Mississippi	\$ 258,860
Montana	\$ 22,255
North Carolina	\$ 186,510
North Dakota	\$ 0
Nebraska	\$ 50,000
New Hampshire	\$ 0
New Jersey	\$ 18,627
New Mexico	\$ 344,755
Nevada	\$ 22,255

New York	\$ 1,469,944
Ohio	\$ 567,374
Oklahoma	\$ 18,382
Oregon	\$ 307,255
Pennsylvania	\$ 784,887
Puerto Rico	\$ 213,817
Rhode Island	\$ 0
South Carolina	\$ 88,382
South Dakota	\$ 17,500
Tennessee	\$ 60,755
Texas	\$ 977,192
Utah	\$ 12,500
Virginia	\$ 421,775
U.S. Virgin Islands	\$ 0
Vermont	\$ 15,000
Washington	\$ 909,922
Wisconsin	\$ 36,127
West Virginia	\$ 0
Wyoming	\$ 11,127

*This graphic **excludes** funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

Distribution of Grant Funding for LGBTQ Communities of Color

Consistent with historical trends, the majority of LGBTQ grant funding for communities of color was not awarded to a specific racial or ethnic group, but for LGBTQ communities of color generally. A total of \$77.5 million was awarded for LGBTQ communities of color overall, which was a 22 percent decrease from the \$98.8 million awarded in 2022. In 2023, \$41.8 million focused on LGBTQ communities of color generally, while the remaining \$35.7 million was awarded to address the needs of specific populations of color.

Funding for Black LGBTQ communities and causes also decreased by 41 percent from 2022 to 2023. Black LGBTQ communities were awarded \$20.6 million in 2023, which was \$14.5 million less than the record high of \$35 million that was awarded in 2022. The increase in grant funding awarded for Black LGBTQ communities and causes in 2022 aligned with the surge in racial justice activism following the murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor by law enforcement in 2020.¹⁸ As predicted in the 2022 Resource Tracking Report, this noteworthy amount awarded for Black LGBTQ communities in 2022 was temporary.¹⁹ **The decrease in specific funding for Black LGBTQ communities and causes in 2023 coincided with the decrease in funding for LGBTQ communities of color generally that year; a concerning trend given the murders of Black trans women across the country and the persistent anti-Blackness and white supremacy ingrained in our society.**

Grant funding for Asian-American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities decreased by 28 percent from 2022 to 2023, though funding for this community only represented one percent of total funding awarded in both years.

Latinx LGBTQ communities were awarded \$6.7 million in 2022 and \$11.9 million in 2023, representing a 78 percent increase. Despite this significant increase from 2022, Latinx-specific grantmaking only accounted for six percent of LGBTQ grants awarded in 2023.

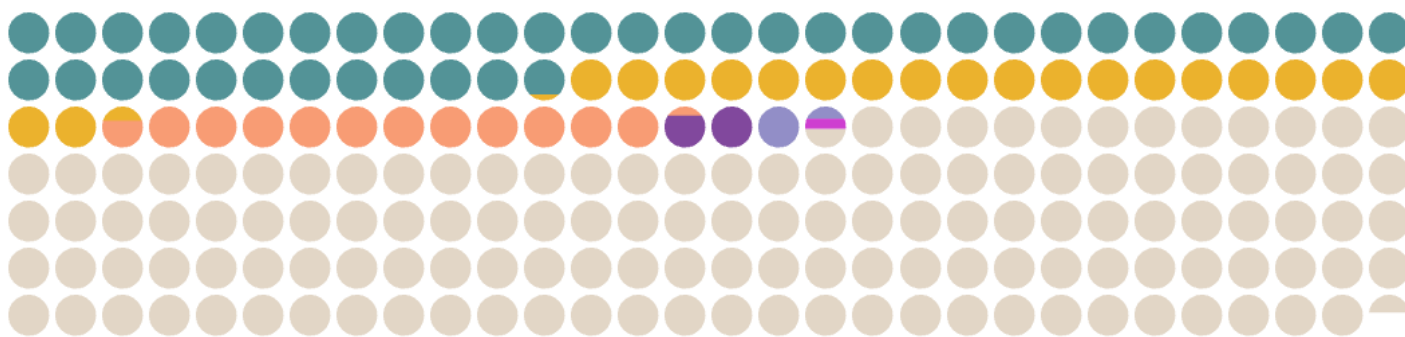
Funding specifically for Indigenous LGBTQ communities increased by only \$100,000 from 2022 to 2023 and funding for Middle Eastern LGBTQ communities increased from \$50,000 in 2022 to \$217,500 in 2023, but funding for both populations was still less than one percent of total funding awarded in either year.

Finally, 63 percent of LGBTQ grants awarded in 2023 did not specify if they focused on LGBTQ communities of color based on a review of their grant descriptions and the mission statements of the grantee organizations.

(18) Devich Cyril, M., Kan, L., Maulbeck, B., & Villarosa, L. (2021, September). *Mismatched – Philanthropy’s Response to the call for Racial Justice*. Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity.

(19) Lawther, A., Frazer, S., Howe, E., & Luffy, S. (2024). *2022 Resource Tracking Report*, p. 18. Funders for LGBTQ Issues.

Distribution of U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding for Communities of Color, 2023



○ = \$1,000,000

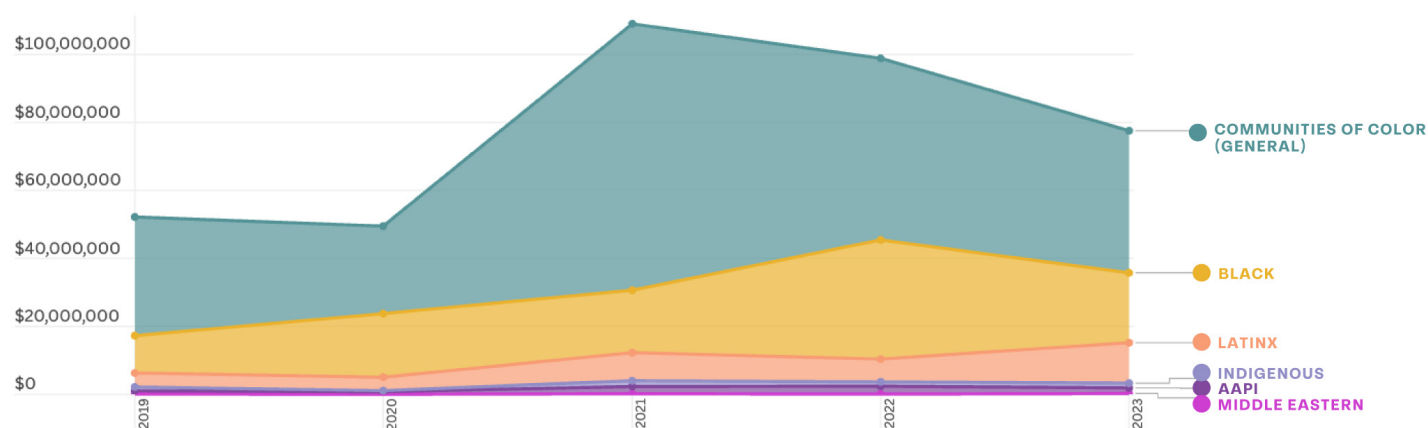
*This table **excludes** funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

**Percent change from 2022 was not calculated for 1% or less of total funding in 2023.

	Total \$ Awarded	% of 2023 Funding	% Change from 2022
COMMUNITIES OF COLOR (GENERAL)	\$ 41,810,856	20%	-22%
BLACK	\$ 20,558,068	10%	-41%
LATINX	\$ 11,890,457	6%	+78%
AAPI	\$ 1,673,803	1%	**
INDIGENOUS	\$ 1,395,250	1%	**
MIDDLE EASTERN	\$ 217,500	<1%	**
UNSPECIFIED	\$ 131,897,979	63%	-17%

The graph below shows LGBTQ grant funding for communities of color since 2019. In addition to highlighting funding for LGBTQ communities of color generally, total funding awarded for different racial and ethnic groups is included, as well.

U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding for Communities of Color Over Time, 2019-2023



	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
COMMUNITIES OF COLOR (GENERAL)	\$ 34,922,264	\$ 25,743,590	\$ 78,356,616	\$ 53,433,792	\$ 41,810,856
BLACK	\$ 10,963,303	\$ 18,712,616	\$ 18,360,080	\$ 35,041,188	\$ 20,558,068
LATINX	\$ 4,136,840	\$ 3,929,947	\$ 8,262,384	\$ 6,698,674	\$ 11,890,457
AAPI	\$ 953,368	\$ 732,549	\$ 2,145,735	\$ 2,328,927	\$ 1,673,803
INDIGENOUS	\$ 1,135,912	\$ 357,770	\$ 1,694,837	\$ 1,290,926	\$ 1,395,250
MIDDLE EASTERN	\$ 56,174	\$ 1,000	\$ 155,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 217,500

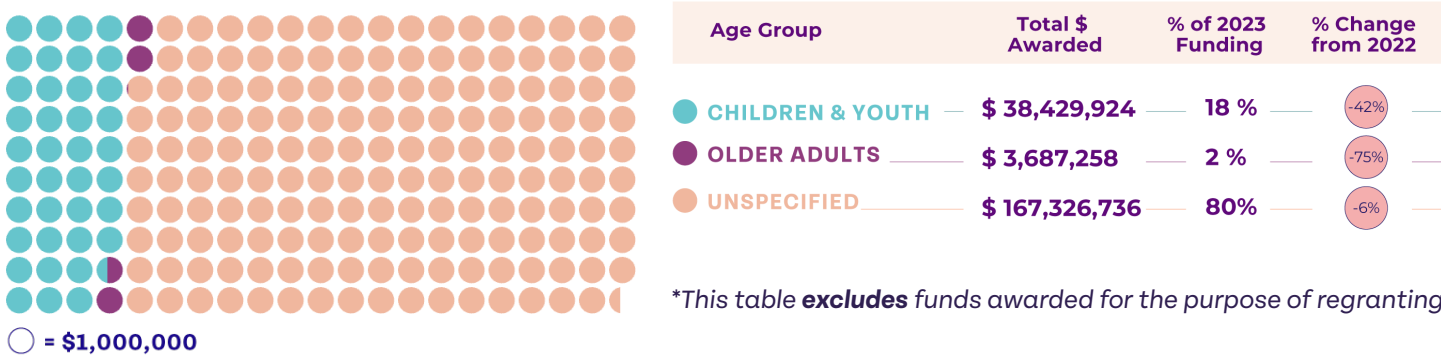
*This table **excludes** funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

Distribution of Grant Funding by Age Group and Other LGBTQ Populations

Historically, LGBTQ children and youth have been highly funded when compared to other LGBTQ communities, with \$63.4 million awarded in 2021 and \$66.1 million awarded in 2022. **Unfortunately, grant funding awarded for the specific needs of LGBTQ children and youth decreased in 2023, with only \$38.4 million, or 18 percent of the total funding**

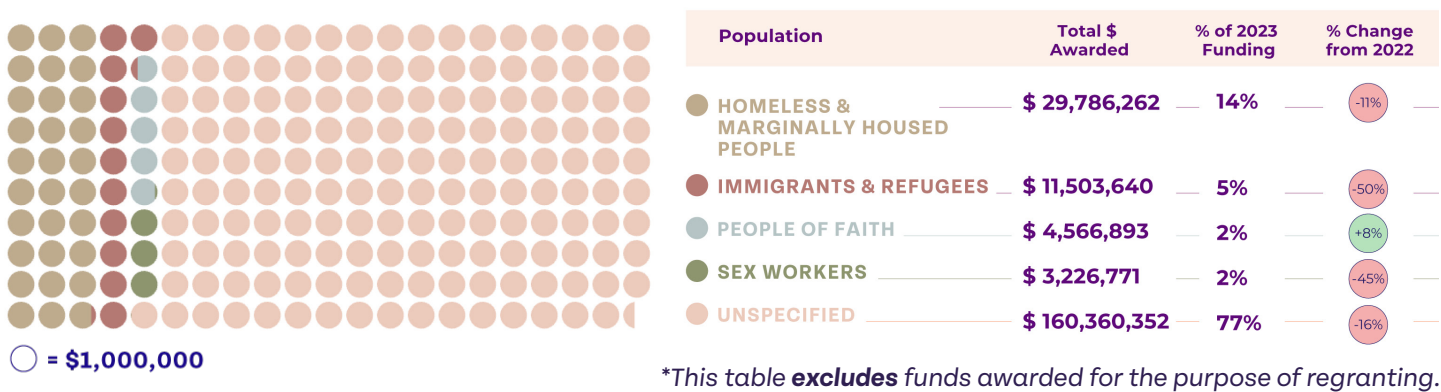
awarded that year. This represented a decrease of \$27.7 million, or 42 percent from the prior year. Given the rise in attacks to the health and wellbeing of queer youth, including bans on gender-affirming care and sports restrictions for trans youth, this over 40 percent decrease in dedicated grants for LGBTQ youth is deeply concerning.

Distribution of U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding Among Age Groups, 2023



Generally, LGBTQ grants for homeless and marginally housed people, immigrants and refugees, and sex workers decreased from 2022 to 2023. For example, the total awarded for LGBTQ immigrants and refugees decreased from \$23 million in 2022 to \$11.5 million in 2023. The only LGBTQ population whose funding increased even slightly, from 2022 was LGBTQ people of faith which increased by approximately \$326,000, though this increase was almost completely washed out due to inflation in 2023.

Distribution of U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding Among Other Populations, 2023



Local, State, and Regional Funding for LGBTQ Communities and Causes in 2023

Geographic Levels of LGBTQ Grant Funding

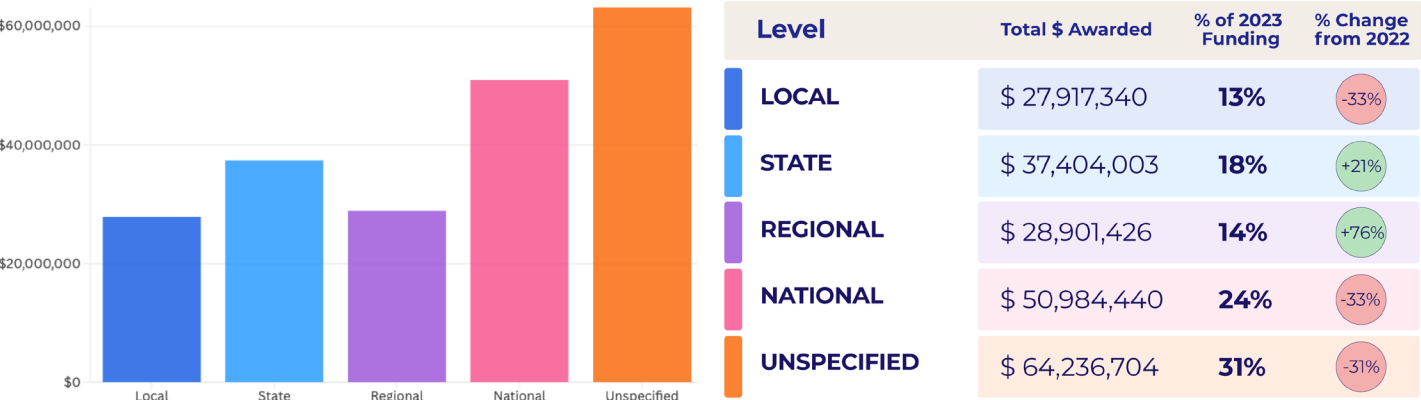
In 2023, funding for both national and local LGBTQ causes decreased by approximately 33 percent from the totals awarded in 2022. National-level funding decreased from \$76.1 million to \$51 million from 2022 to 2023. National funding accounted for 24 percent of LGBTQ grant funding awarded in 2023. Similarly, local funding for LGBTQ communities and causes decreased from \$41.6 million in 2022 to \$27.9 million in 2023. This was a decrease of \$13.7 million, or just under 33 percent, from 2022 to 2023. Grants were only coded as local if the grantmaker specified as such in the LGBTQ grant data submission template.

In contrast, \$28.9 million, or 14 percent of funding, was awarded for activities at the regional level in 2023, which was a \$12.4 million increase from the \$16.5 million awarded for regional activities in 2022. State-specific LGBTQ grant funding also increased from \$30.9 million in 2022 to \$37.4 million

in 2023, which accounted for 18 percent of total funds awarded that year. One of the reasons for this increase is an increased focus on battleground states in advance of the 2024 elections.

Importantly, the geographic level presented in this section reflects the funded activities, not necessarily the level of the grantee organizations. For example, a national group and a local group both doing work at the local level would be counted as “local” in this section. Also, the percentage of grant funding with an unspecified geographic focus decreased from 2022 to 2023. In 2022, 36 percent of grants in the dataset lacked a geographic focus, whereas 31 percent of grants in 2023 lacked a geographic focus. This indicates that the 2023 dataset had more complete geographic data than the prior year’s dataset, which helps us better understand the funding landscape.

Distribution of U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding, by Geographic Level, 2023



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

Local, State, and Regional Focus of LGBTQ Grant Funding

For the first time since 2018, the Southeast region received the highest amount of funding with \$36 million, or 17 percent of the total funding awarded in 2023. This represented a \$7.6 million, or 27 percent, increase from the funding awarded to the Southeast region in 2022. One of the reasons for this increase was grantmaking through the Out in the South Fund in 2023, which awarded \$877,500 in grants to Southern intermediaries that work with LGBTQ communities across the region.²⁰

Given that more LGBT adults live in the Southeast region than any other, this increase in funding specifically for LGBTQ communities and causes in the region is encouraging.²¹ Similar to funding trends observed in 2022, the majority of funding in the region was focused on the following seven states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia—with the remaining seven states in the region receiving less than \$1 million in funding in 2023.

Though more overall funding awarded to grantees operating in the Southeast region is encouraging, the distribution of funding was unequal across states. For a more detailed understanding of the LGBTQ funding landscape across the South, refer to the [LGBTQ Philanthropic Landscape in the U.S. South: Reflecting on Ten Years of the Out in the South Program](#).

The Pacific region, which has historically been the highest funded region in the country, was awarded \$28 million, or 13 percent of the total funding awarded in 2023. This represents a \$10.1 million, or 26 percent, decrease from 2022. **Specifically, LGBTQ grant funding awarded to California decreased by 43 percent from \$30.6 million in 2022 to \$17.6 million in 2023, which was one of the major factors for the decrease in funding for the Pacific region.**²²

LGBTQ grant funding awarded to the Northeast region increased from \$13.8 million in 2022 to \$23.8 million in 2023, which accounted for 11 percent of the total funding awarded in that year. New York, which tends

to be the state with the second highest total awarded, received \$8.2 million in 2023, which was a slight increase from \$6.5 million in 2022. Funding across most of the other states in this region increased from 2022 to 2023, which accounted for the increase observed over time, including three states where no funding was awarded in 2022 (Connecticut, Delaware, and New Hampshire).

The Midwest and Mountain regions were awarded a relatively low percentage of funding in 2023, which continues the trend observed in recent years. The under funding of these regions, however, does not acknowledge the reality that 2.9 million and 1.1 million adults identify as LGBT live in the Midwest and Mountain regions, respectively.²³

The U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and American Samoa were also awarded less than one percent of total funding in 2023 and other territories, including Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands were awarded \$0 in specific funding that year. **Unfortunately, it is common for the territories to fall through the cracks of regional or even local funding portfolios due to uncertainty about where they should be included or a lack of awareness of their funding needs.**

Interestingly, there was a significant increase in multi-region or cross-region grants in 2023, with \$6.1 million being awarded for activities in states spanning multiple regions. Additionally, LGBTQ grant funding was awarded in every state in 2023, which was a welcome development. In 2022, six states—Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Kansas, New Hampshire, and Wyoming—were not awarded any targeted LGBTQ funding. Additional financial support is necessary to support LGBTQ communities and causes in these areas, including the territories that have consistently been under resourced.

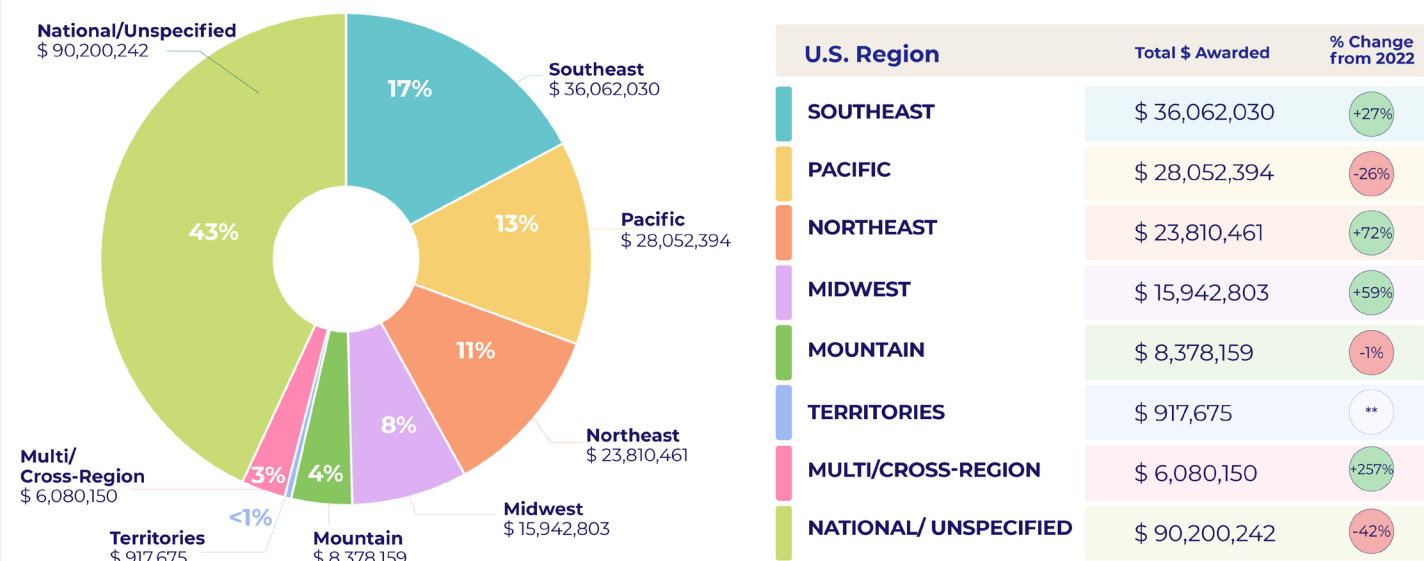
(20) Approximately \$250,000 of these funds were pass-through grants from the Ford Foundation in partnership with the Trans Futures Funding Campaign (TFFC). Learn more about Out in the South here: <https://lgbtfunders.org/programs/ots/>.

(21) The CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey from 2020-2021 used the acronym "LGBT" which is why that acronym is being used here. Flores, A.R. and Conron, K.J. (2023, December). Adult LGBT Population in the United States. Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law. <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/publications/adult-lgbt-pop-us/>.

(22) Funders for LGBTQ Issues will further analyze the decrease in LGBTQ grants awarded to California in 2023 and will update the sector when we have more information.

(23) The CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey from 2020-2021 used the acronym "LGBT" which is why that acronym is being used here. Flores, A.R. and Conron, K.J. (2023, December). Adult LGBT Population in the United States. Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law. <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/publications/adult-lgbt-pop-us/>.

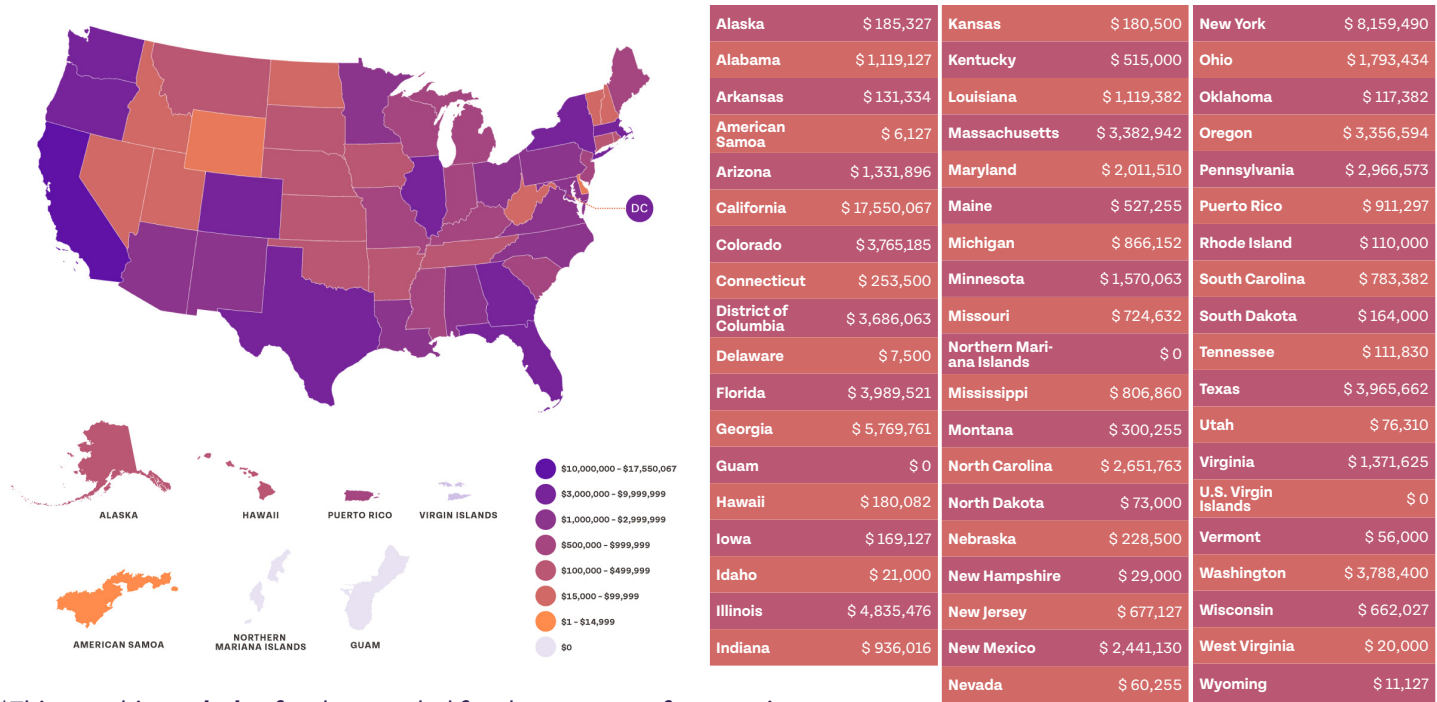
Local, State, and Regional LGBTQ Funding, by U.S. Region, 2023



*The totals presented here are a combined total of local, state, and regional funding according to the pre-defined regions used in the Resource Tracking Project.²⁴ This table **excludes** funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

**Percent change from 2022 was not calculated for 1% or less of total funding in 2023.

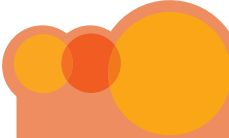
Density Map of Local- and State-Level LGBTQ Grant Funding, by State and Territory, 2023



*This graphic **excludes** funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

**An interactive version of this graphic can be found in the [Resource Tracking Data Explorer](#).

(24) The local, state, and regional grants are added together to calculate the regional totals presented in this section. The states included in each region for the purpose of this analysis are as follows: Southeast: AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV; Pacific: AK, CA, HI, OR, WA; Northeast: CT, DE, DC, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT; Midwest: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, WI; Mountain: AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT, WY; and Territories: AS, GU, MP, PR, VI.



Funding for LGBTQ Communities and Causes by Type of Support in 2023

In 2022, for the first time, LGBTQ grants providing general operating support to grantees made up 51 percent of funding awarded that year, which was in line with a long-time recommendation by Funders for LGBTQ Issues for foundations to prioritize this type of support. Unfortunately, this trend did not continue in 2023 when 48 percent of funding was awarded for program support and 47 percent was awarded for general operating support.

Though the total funding awarded for general operating support decreased by 28 percent from 2022 to 2023, more grantmakers reported that 100 percent of their grantmaking was through general operating support grants in 2023 than the prior year. In 2022, 146 foundations reported that all of the grants they awarded that year were for general operating support. **A total of 171 funders, 21 percent, reported that all of their grantmaking in 2023 was through general operating grants.** Approximately half (53 percent) of these funders only awarded \$10 thousand or less in 2023. The remaining 655 foundations in the dataset reported a combination of types of support in that year.

While financial support for a specific program or project is helpful, general operating support has long been recognized as a tool that nonprofits can use “as they see fit to address urgent and emerging issues, boost salaries and benefits, invest in technology and other infrastructure, strengthen communications and fundraising efforts and meet other operational needs.”²⁵ During the COVID-19 pandemic, many grantmakers increased their proportion of general operating support or ‘unrestricted’ grants to allow grantees more flexibility when responding to the crisis, which was reflected in the 2022 LGBTQ

grants data. However, nonprofit leaders have voiced concern that this increase would not continue beyond the pandemic period and have reported that organizations led by Black people, Indigenous people, and other people of color—especially women of color—are less likely to receive general operating support grants from large donors.²⁶ **The 2023 data presented here reinforce the concern that the increase in unrestricted funding as documented in 2022 was short-lived.** We will continue to monitor this trend moving forward given the importance of general operating support to the sustainability and longevity of progressive grantee organizations across the country.²⁷

By contrast, specific funding for scholarships, fellowships, and awards to individuals essentially tripled from \$1.4 million in 2022 to \$4.3 million in 2023. The vast majority of these grants were to support academic scholarships, as well as fellowships and other professional development activities, such as conference participation. Additionally, funding awarded for membership or sponsorship increased from \$3 million in 2022 to \$4.4 million in 2023. Still, both types of support only accounted for approximately two percent of total funding awarded in 2023, so they were not a substantial proportion of the grants awarded that year.

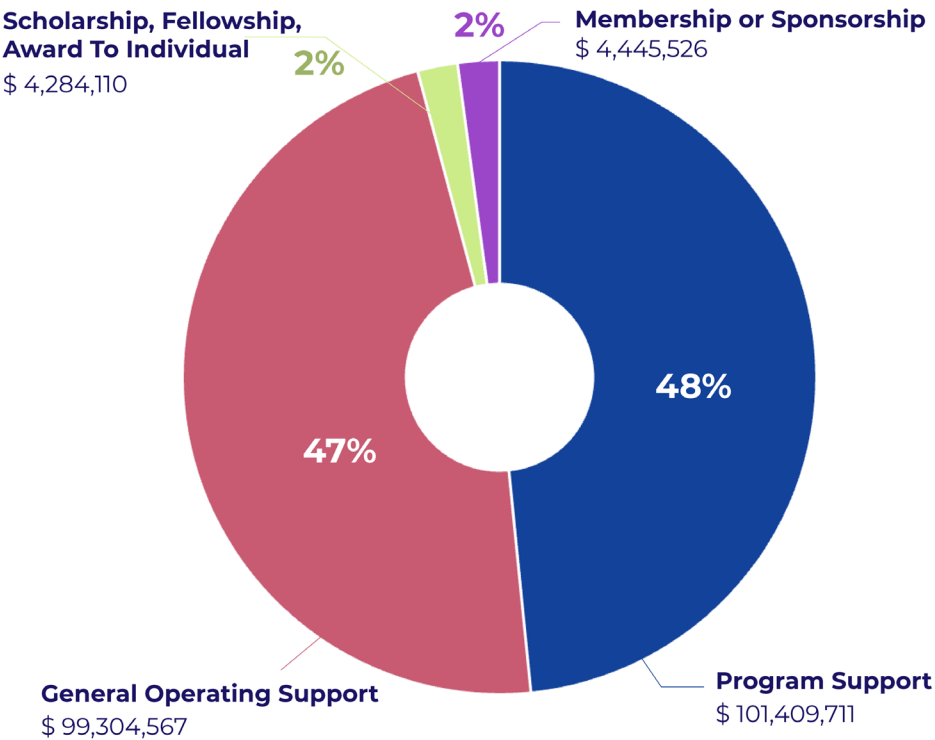
In prior Resource Tracking Reports, capacity building was included both as a type of support and a strategy. From now on, capacity building will no longer be counted as a type of support and will only be included as a strategy to allow for more streamlined analysis.

(25) What is General Operating Support and Why is it Important? (2024, August 27). GEO Funders; Grantmakers for Effective Organizations. <https://www.geofunders.org/resource/what-is-general-operating-support-and-why-is-it-important/>

(26) Parks, D. (2022, April 12). General Operating Support Is Vital to Advancing Equity, Strengthening Nonprofits, Say Leaders. *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*. <https://www.philanthropy.com/article/general-operating-support-is-vital-to-advancing-equity-strengthening-nonprofits-say-leaders>

(27) Multi-Year, Unrestricted Funding. (2019, September 25). Trust-Based Philanthropy Project. <https://www.trustbasedphilanthropy.org/multi-year-unrestricted-funding>

Distribution of U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding, by Type of Support, 2023



Type of Support	Total \$ Awarded	% Change from 2022
PROGRAM SUPPORT	\$ 101,409,711	-16%
GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT	\$ 99,304,567	-24%
SCHOLARSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, AWARD TO INDIVIDUAL	\$ 4,284,110	+200%
MEMBERSHIP OR SPONSORSHIP	\$ 4,445,526	+48%

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

Funding for LGBTQ Communities and Causes by Issue Area in 2023

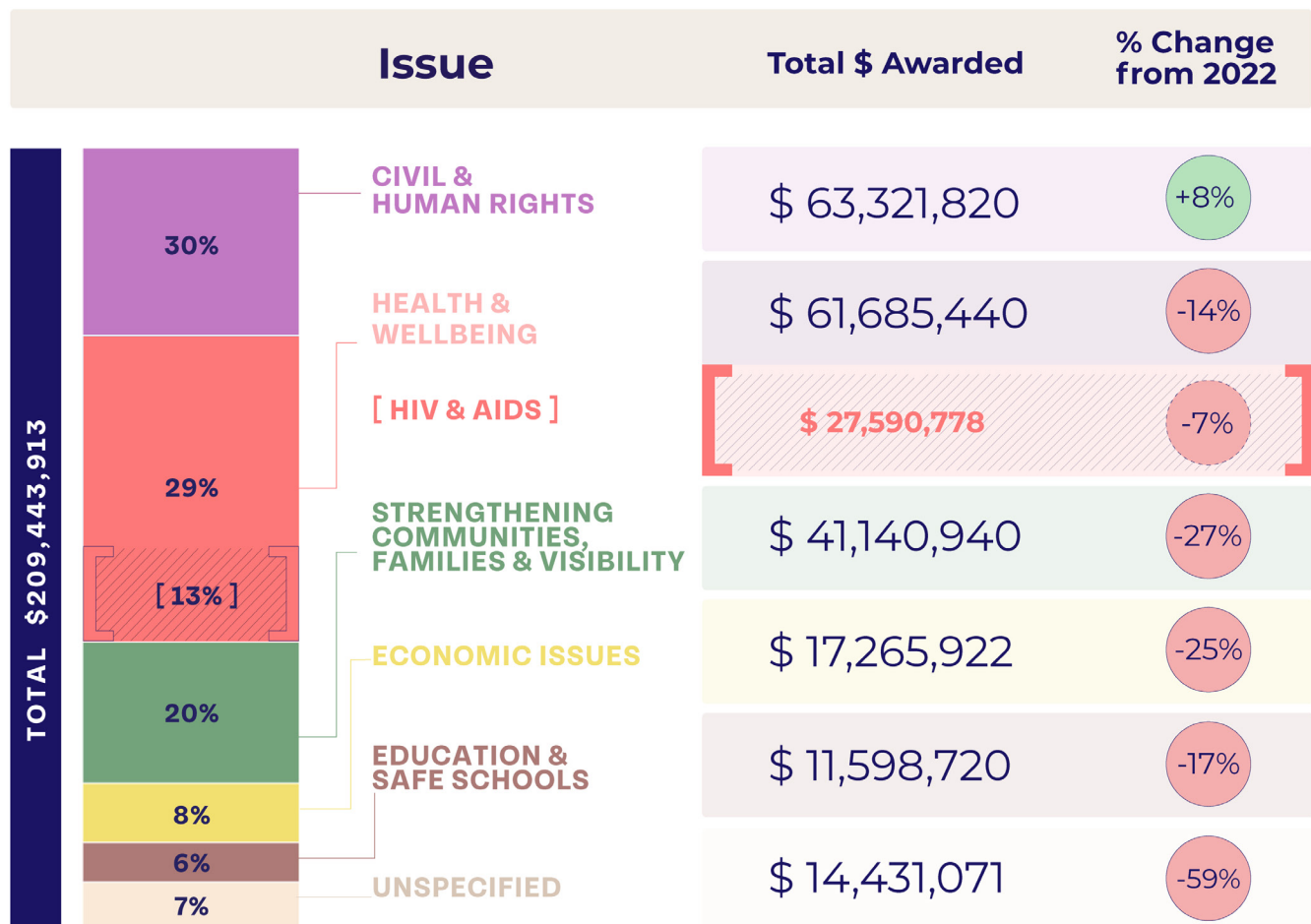
Consistent with 2020 and 2021 data, the most funding was awarded for civil and human rights grants related to LGBTQ communities and causes in 2023. Slightly more funding was awarded for LGBTQ grants related to civil and human rights than health and wellbeing in 2023; 30 percent of funding was awarded for civil and human rights work and 29 percent was awarded for health and wellbeing activities. Again, this coincided with the high rates of anti-LGBTQ legislative bills introduced at all levels of government in that year, including those that attempted to limit queer people's access to appropriate and gender-affirming health care—specifically transgender youth.²⁸

LGBTQ grant funding for all other issue areas remained consistent with prior years, but the amount of funding with an unspecified issue decreased from

2022 to 2023. In 2022, approximately 13 percent of the total funding awarded that year focused on an unspecified issue, while only seven percent of the funding awarded in 2023 did not specify an issue.²⁹ This decrease is due to more complete and accurate data submissions in 2023.

Though the relative percentages for each issue remained steady from 2022 to 2023, it is important to remember that the total funding envelope decreased by almost 20 percent in 2023, so the actual total of funding for every issue except civil and human rights was lower than the prior year. For example, just under \$72 million was awarded to address the health and wellbeing of LGBTQ people in 2022, but \$61.7 million was awarded in 2023—which represented a 14 percent decrease. Similarly, all other issue areas decreased by between 17 to 27 percent, as indicated in the table.

Distribution of U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding, by Issue Area,³⁰ 2023

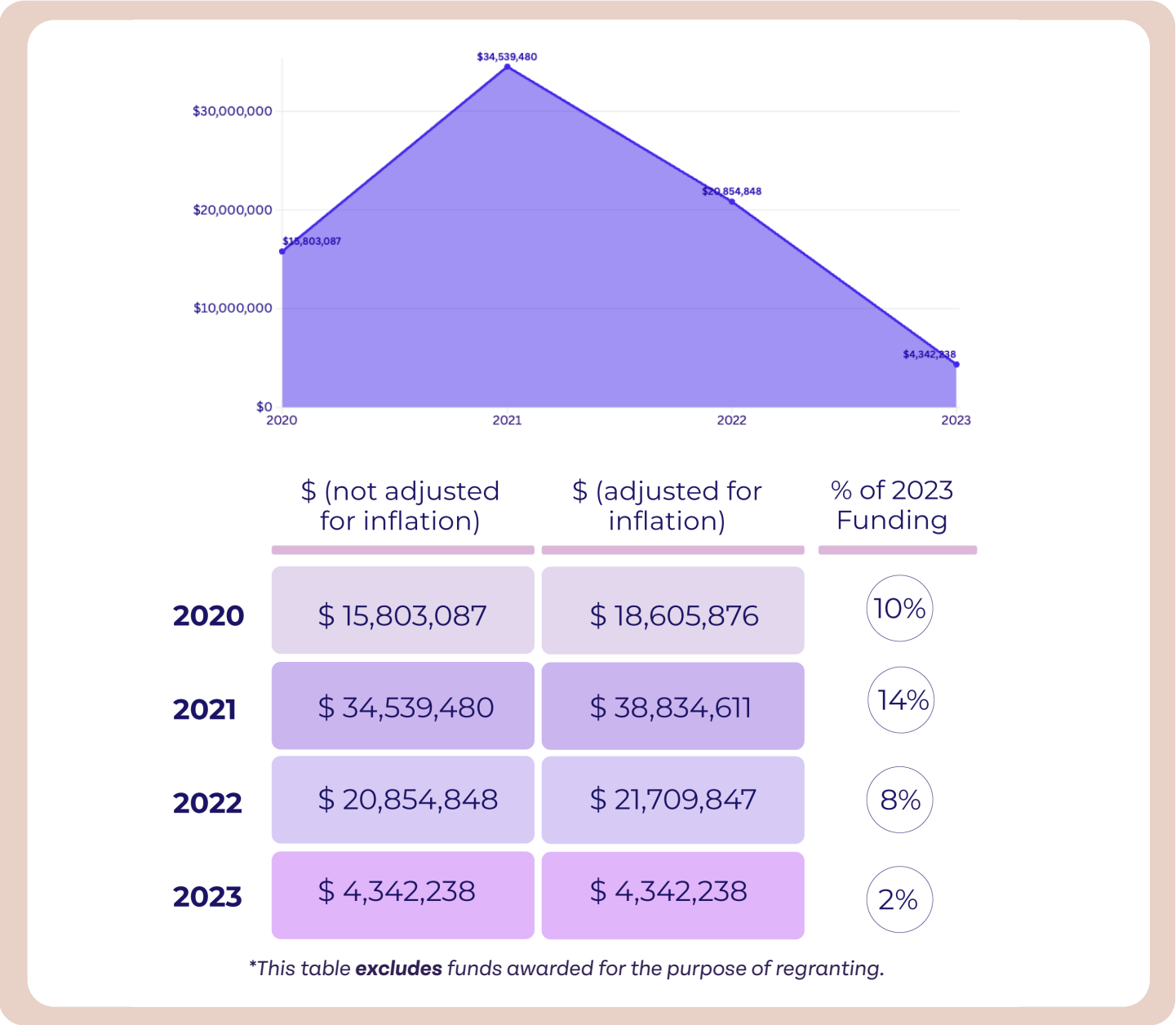


This table **excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

COVID-19 Funding from 2020 to 2023

Consistent with a trend observed in 2022, grant funding to address the unique impacts of COVID-19 on LGBTQ communities continued to decrease in 2023. Beginning in 2020, 10 percent of LGBTQ grant funding was related to the COVID-19 pandemic. This total increased to represent 14 percent of total funding awarded in 2021 before decreasing to eight percent of total funding awarded in 2022. As reported here, this funding dropped even more significantly between 2022 and 2023, accounting for only two percent of total LGBTQ grant funding awarded in 2023.

U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding for COVID-19 Over Time, 2020-2023



(28) Mapping Attacks on LGBTQ Rights in U.S. State Legislatures in 2023. (2023, December 21). ACLU; American Civil Liberties Union. <https://www.aclu.org/legislative-attacks-on-lgbtq-rights-2023>

(29) We were not able to identify an issue area through automated coding or manual review of grant descriptions for seven percent of funding awarded through LGBTQ grants in 2023. Grants coded to multiple issues were weighted with the inverse of the number of issues to which they were coded; for example, if a grant was coded to economic issues and to education and safe schools (2 issues), each category included ½ (50%) of the funding for that grant. COVID-19 funding is not included in this weighting; for example, if a grant was coded to economic issues, education and safe schools, and COVID-19, then economic issues and education and safe schools would each include ⅓ (33%) of the funding for that grant and COVID-19 would receive 100% of funding for that grant.

(30) Please reference the working definitions [Funders for LGBTQ Issues uses to categorize grants that support particular issues](#).

Funding for LGBTQ Communities and Causes by Strategy in 2023

Consistent with resource tracking data since 2020, advocacy continued to be the most funded strategy in 2023, with \$65.4 million, or 31 percent of total funding awarded that year. Similarly, advocacy funding accounted for 35 percent of total funding awarded in 2022. **When comparing the total dollar amounts awarded in 2022 and 2023, however, the decrease is stark: advocacy funding decreased by 28 percent from 2022 to 2023. Funding levels in 2023 were not sufficient to support the level of advocacy that was required to respond to the needs of LGBTQ-serving organizations that year.**

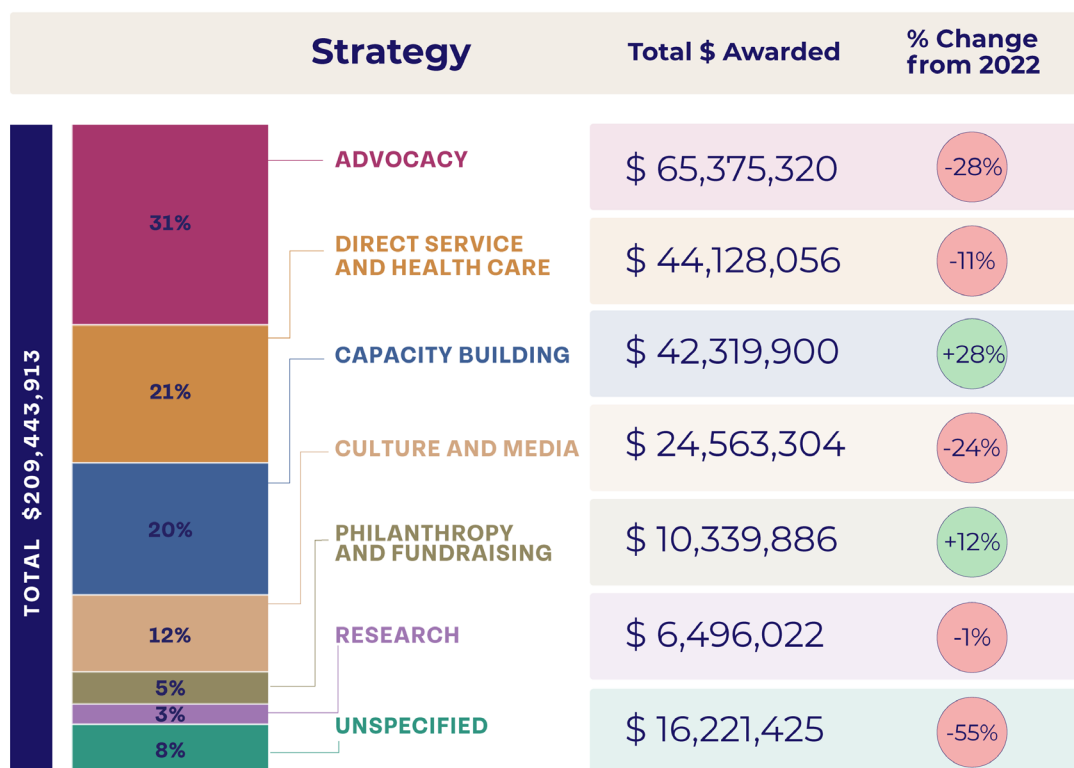
Funding awarded for direct services and health care for LGBTQ communities decreased by 11 percent, or from \$49.7 million in 2022 to \$44.1 in 2023. Culture and media funding decreased by 24 percent from \$32.5 million in 2022 to \$24.6 million in 2023. Funding for research remained relatively consistent in terms of total dollars awarded in those two years.

Funds awarded to support philanthropy and fundraising also remained steady between 2022 and 2023.

Capacity building as a strategy increased by 28 percent from 2022 to 2023. In total funds awarded, capacity building funding increased by almost \$10 million, from \$33 million in 2022 to \$42 million in 2023. Capacity building is a vital component of responsive and sustainable philanthropy, particularly for foundations that fund social justice work; we hope that this trend will continue in the future.³¹

Similar to the analysis of issues addressed by LGBTQ grants, the percent of grants with an unspecified strategy decreased from 14 percent in 2022 to eight percent in 2023. This signals that the 2023 dataset was more complete, which allows us to better understand the LGBTQ funding landscape in that particular year.

Distribution of U.S. LGBTQ Grant Funding, by Strategy, 2023



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

(31) *Reimagining Capacity Building: Navigating Culture, Systems & Power. (2021).* Grantmakers for Effective Organizations.

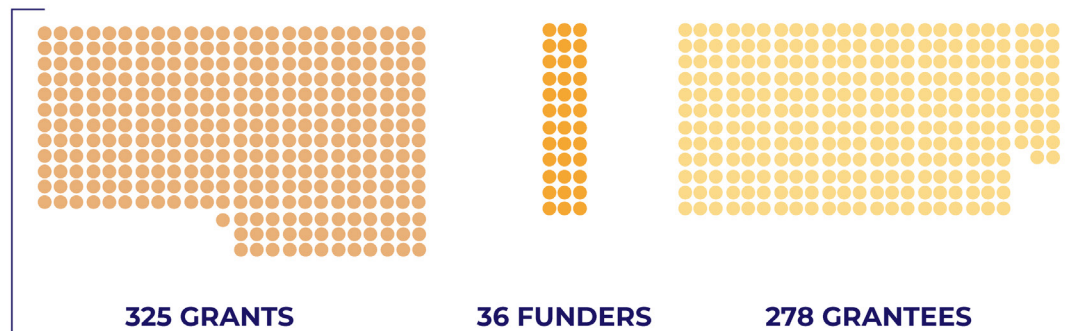
Rapid Response Funding for LGBTQ Communities and Causes in 2023

Rapid Response LGBTQ Grants Awarded in 2023

Total Rapid Response Funding Awarded:

\$6,678,821

(excluding regranting)

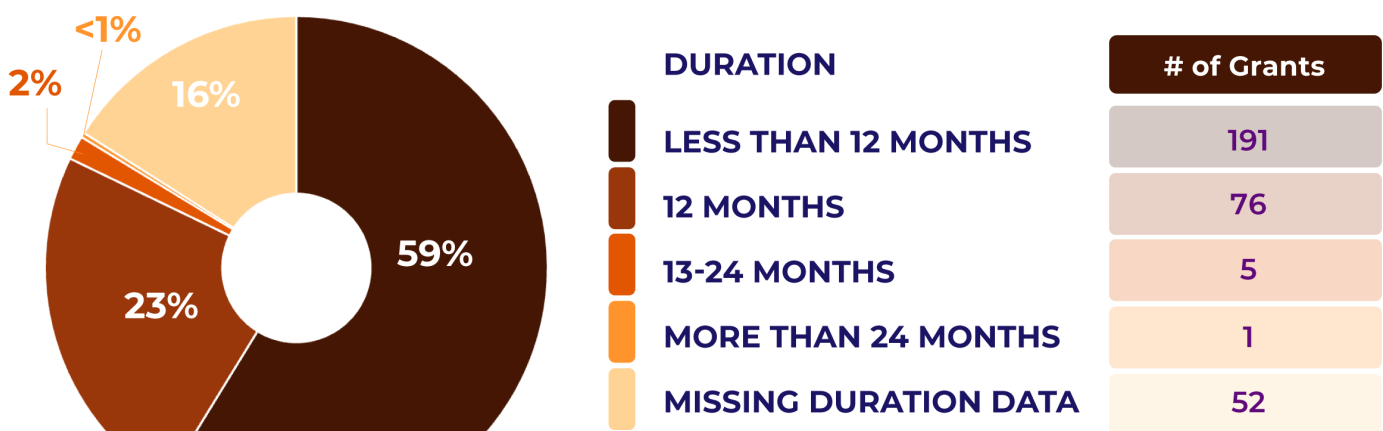


New to this report is an analysis of rapid response grantmaking for LGBTQ communities and causes. Foundations were asked to report whether their LGBTQ grants awarded in 2023 were in response to a particular emergent issue or crisis. **According to our analysis, 36 foundations awarded a total of \$6.7 million (excluding regranting) to 278 grantees through 325 rapid response grants in 2023.**

Duration

Almost 60 percent of rapid response grants awarded in 2023 were for less than 12 months and the average length of a rapid response LGBTQ grant was just under eight months. Less than one fourth of these grants were awarded for 12 months and less than three percent were awarded for longer than one year. Duration data was missing for 16 percent of rapid response grants.

Duration of Rapid Response Grants for LGBTQ Communities and Causes, 2023



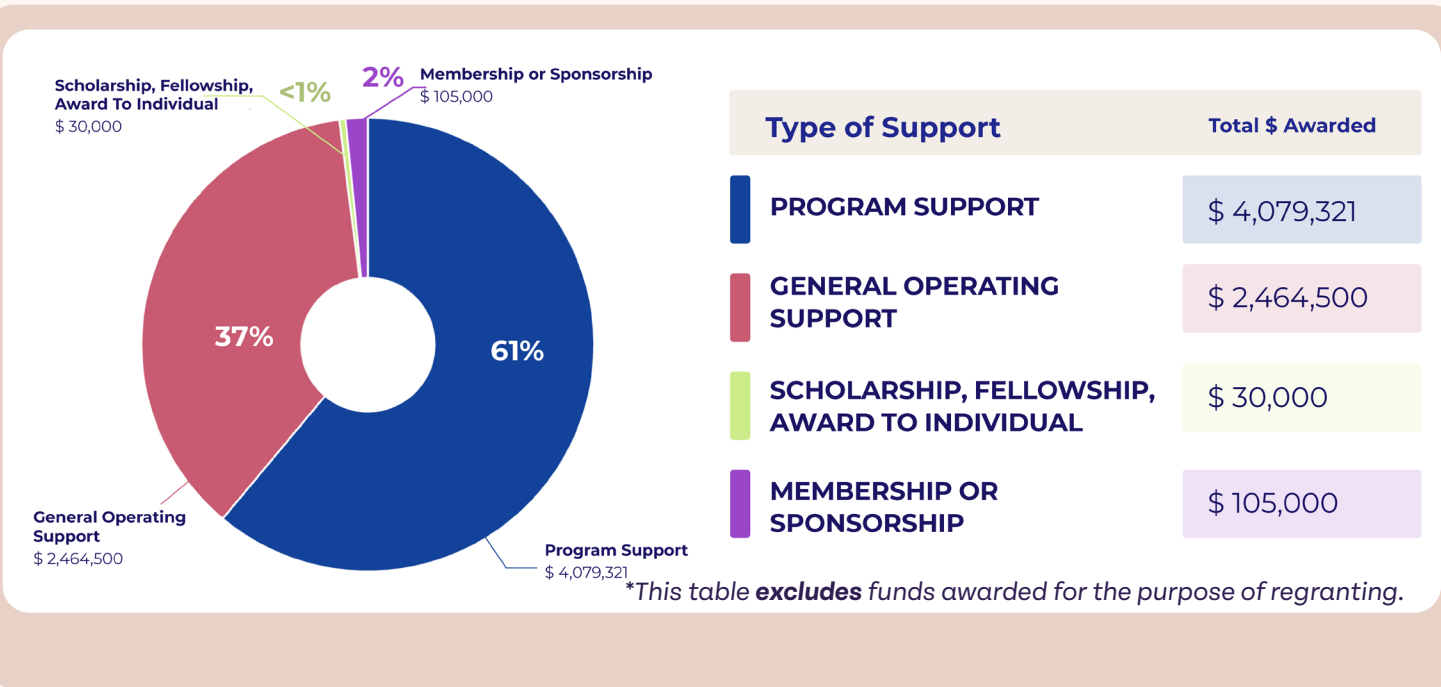
This table **excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

Type of Support

Similar to the overall LGBTQ grants awarded in 2023, the majority (61 percent) of rapid response LGBTQ grants provided specific program or project support in that year for a total of \$4.1 million. In contrast, 37 percent of rapid response funding were for general operating support, though unrestricted funding is often most necessary during a crisis like COVID-19.³² Sometimes referred to as ‘core support,’ this funding often ensures that organizations are better positioned to adapt quickly in response to the needs of their community during an emergency.³³

In light of these best practices, it is discouraging to see that so much of the rapid response funding in 2023 was not awarded for general operating support. **We encourage grantmakers to consider the need for more unrestricted funding in times of emergent crisis for our communities.**

Rapid Response Grants for LGBTQ Communities and Causes, by Type of Support, 2023



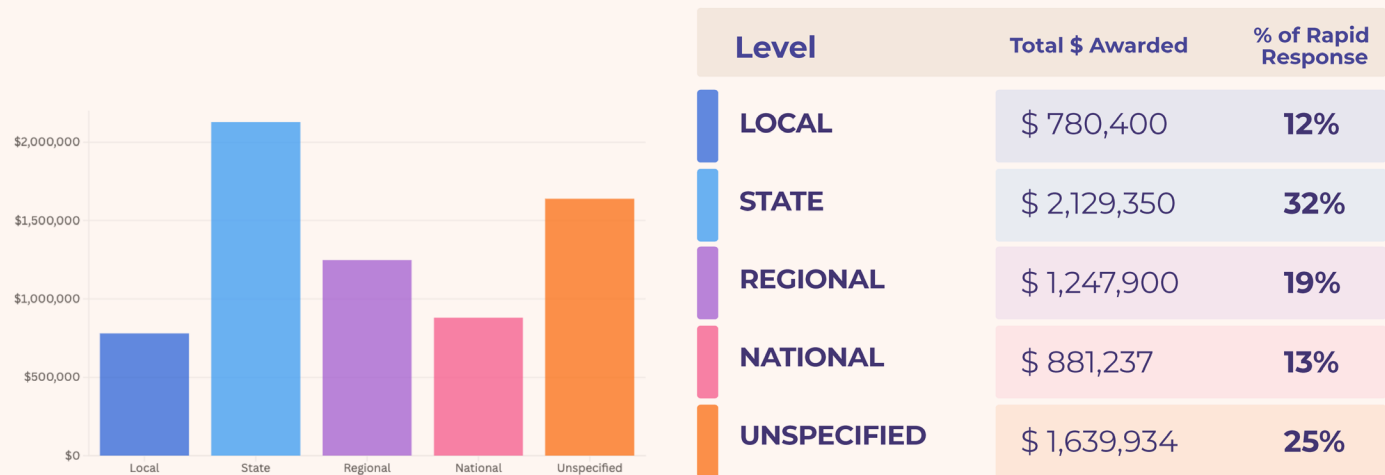
Geographic Distribution

Approximately one-third (32 percent) of rapid response funding awarded in 2023 supported LGBTQ-related activities at the state level. Nineteen percent of rapid response LGBTQ funding in 2023 was specifically for the regional level, while 13 and 12 percent were awarded at the national and local levels, respectively. **Given the high number of legislative attacks against LGBTQ communities at the state level, it is encouraging to see the highest percent of rapid response LGBTQ grants addressing state-level needs.**

When comparing rapid response LGBTQ grantmaking across regions, the Southeast region was awarded the highest amount, with just over \$2 million awarded in 2023, which was 31 percent of all rapid response funding awarded in that year. When considering the scale of state-level anti-LGBTQ legislative attacks in Southern states, as well as multiple hurricanes affecting the region in 2023, it is encouraging to see a concentration of rapid response funding focused specifically on this region.

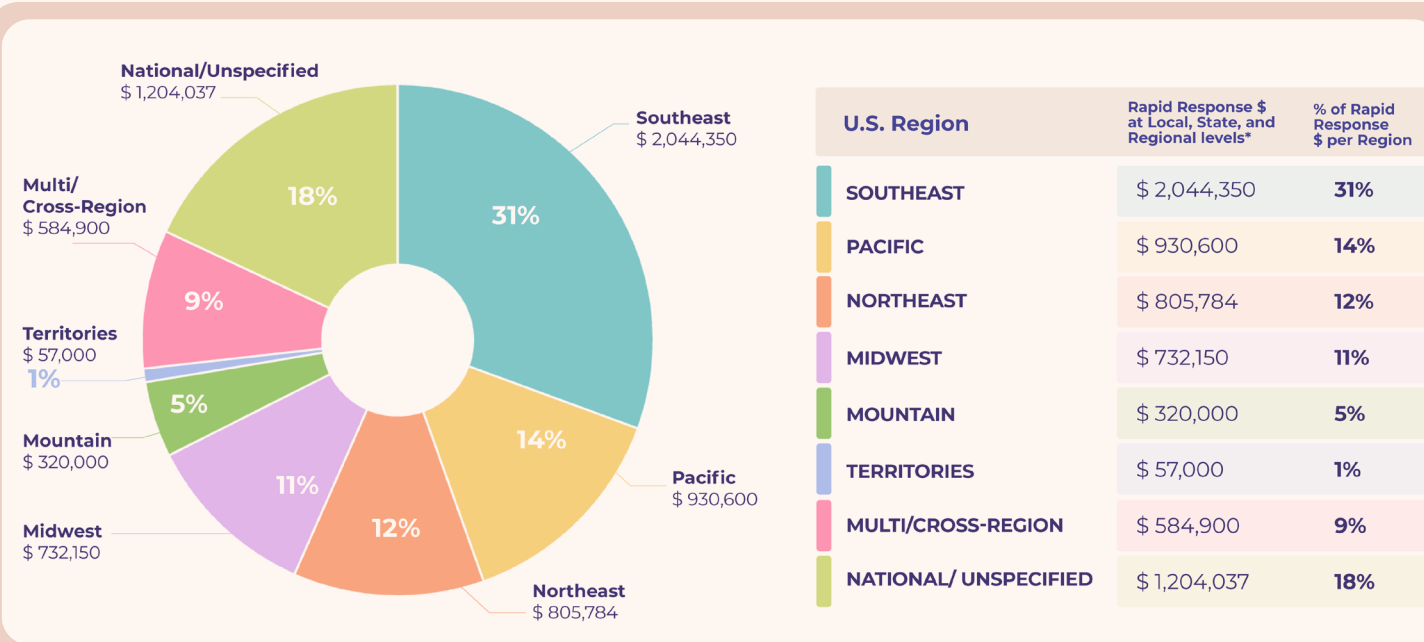
Only 14 percent of rapid response funding was awarded for grants in the Pacific region, 12 percent in the Northeast region, and 11 percent in the Midwest. National or grants with an unspecified geographic focus accounted for 18 percent of rapid response funding awarded in 2023. These regional breakdowns help us better understand where rapid response funding was focused in that year.

Rapid Response Grants for LGBTQ Communities and Causes, by Geographic Level, 2023



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

Rapid Response Grants for LGBTQ Communities and Causes, by Geographic Region, 2023



*The totals presented here are a combined total of local, state, and regional funding according to the pre-defined regions used in the Resource Tracking Project. The totals presented in this table exclude funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

(32) Follow Grantmaking Best Practices. (2016). Funders Together to End Homelessness. https://www.funderstogether.org/follow_grantmaking_best_practices
(33) Hamilton, S. (2023, August 16). Funders Discuss Best Practices for Emergency & Rapid Response Grantmaking. Funders Concerned About AIDS. <https://www.fcaids.org/2023/08/16/funders-discuss-best-practices-for-emergency-response-grantmaking/>



Methodology

This report describes the amount and type of giving by U.S.-based foundations for domestic LGBTQ communities and causes, including subsets of these communities (e.g., transgender women, LGBTQ youth, queer communities of color). The report does not include grants to organizations or projects that are generally inclusive of LGBTQ people. Major individual donors (i.e., MacKenzie Scott) were also not included in our reporting, as we focus on institutional foundation funding for LGBTQ communities and causes.

The Research Team collected data for this report in two ways: we invited U.S.-based foundations to submit LGBTQ grant-level information using an Excel template we provided, and we also downloaded IRS Form 990 data³⁴ directly from the IRS website on November 18th, 2024.³⁵ The resulting dataset was deduplicated by funder name to remove any redundant grant data and prevent double-counting. For example, if a funder submitted grant data directly to the research team using the submission template, their grant data from the 990 form were not included in the final dataset.

In order to be considered for inclusion in the dataset, grants had to include the following minimum information: grantee name, funder name, amount of funding, and support type (e.g., general operating, program). Grants were included if there was sufficient evidence that 50 percent or more of the activities supported by the grant focused specifically on LGBTQ communities and causes. **Any one or more of the following was considered sufficient evidence that the grant was for LGBTQ communities and causes: if the submitting foundation indicated that all their grantmaking was LGBTQ-specific, or if the individual grant entry indicated that it was awarded for the specific purpose of supporting LGBTQ communities (as documented in the grant description or the selection of LGBTQ population categories in the direct submission template).** A grant that lacked specificity in the grant description could also be included in the dataset if it was awarded to an organization whose mission was solely focused on LGBTQ communities and causes based on the mission statement.

We manually reviewed grants that were more than \$100 thousand, meaning that a member of the research team reviewed grant data to ensure that the grant was wholly or partially intended to address LGBTQ communities and causes. At this stage, if the grant was only partially aimed at LGBTQ communities and causes, the research team could decide to prorate the grant total for inclusion in the final dataset.

Grants were assigned to specific LGBTQ populations (e.g., TGNCNB, asexual, lesbian/queer women), other populations (e.g., youth, Latinx) as well as LGBTQ issues and strategies using keyword searches of grant descriptions and grantee missions. Where keywords indicated that a particular grant focused on multiple LGBTQ populations, other populations, issues, or strategies, the total grant amount was weighted by the inverse of the number of populations (or issues or strategies) the grant addressed. For details on how population, issue, and strategy weights were created, please contact the authors of the report.

Multi-year grants were counted in-full in the year they were awarded. This method best reflects a foundation's priorities in the year of reporting, though may contribute to fluctuations in individual foundation grantmaking totals (and therefore their ranking) from year to year.

Estimating change over time in philanthropic funding for LGBTQ communities and causes is an important goal of this report; however, there are important limitations in comparability of data across years. Funder willingness and capacity to provide complete and accurate grantmaking data and the identification of new funding organizations through the analysis of publicly available 990 data on the date of download impact the data available for inclusion in our reporting. The research team continued to implement updates to the methodology that had been made with the 2022 report, which supported robust outreach and data collection compared to the 2019-2020 and 2021 reports, which were affected by a number of factors that limited these processes, such as COVID-19-related delays in data collection and submission (in the form of IRS data and direct submission to Funders to LGBTQ Issues), institutional capacity, and foundations' staff capacity to share funding data with us. Any adjustments to the methodology have been noted in footnotes in relevant sections throughout the report to ensure that data quality and comparability issues are clearly stated for transparency and accountability.

This iteration of the Resource Tracking Report does not include any funder names or top funder lists due to concerns from some grantmakers about their visibility during the time of political volatility at the time of publication. Similarly, no grantee names or top grantee lists are included in the report to protect the organizations that are continuing to do the vitally important work of serving LGBTQ communities across the country.

(34) The final dataset includes IRS data from tax years 2022-2023 and 2023, but none from 2024.

(35) Internal Revenue Service. (2025). Form 990 Series Downloads. U.S. Department of the Treasury. <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/form-990-series-downloads>



Acknowledgments

This project would not be possible without the participation of our members and other philanthropic entities who generously shared grantmaking data and other insights for this report. Our work has been strengthened through continued collaboration with the research team at Global Philanthropy Project (GPP). Ezra Nepon and Jay Postic have contributed invaluable support and feedback that has strengthened our shared mission to increase philanthropic support for LGBTQ communities around the globe. We are especially grateful to our colleagues at Funders Concerned About AIDS (FCAA)—in particular, Caterina Girona and Arantxa Bonifaz—for sharing LGBTQ-specific HIV/AIDS grantmaking data and for consistently being outstanding collaborative partners in our research efforts. We are also very grateful to Somjen Frazer at Strength in Numbers Consulting Group, whose expertise was vital to this project.

About Funders for LGBTQ Issues

Mission

Funders for LGBTQ Issues educates and organizes funders and supports power-building to create an abundance of resources for the justice and liberation of all queer communities.

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Additional Thanks

Many thanks to the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation for supporting the research portfolio at Funders for LGBTQ Issues.

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