LGBTQ SHARE OF THE POPULATION IN THE U.S. SOUTH

- 3% of the general population is LGBTQ

The South is home to more LGBTQ adults than any other region in the country, with more than 1 in 3 LGBTQ adults calling the region home. However, LGBTQ Southerners lack proper legal protections and are under attack.

IN THE U.S. SOUTH

- LGBTQ share of the population: 3%
- Disproportionately poor: 68%
- HIV/AIDS: 3%
- Mental health: 30%
- Remaining: 67%

LGBTQ Southerners lack proper legal protections and are under attack.

Over the last five years, funding for LGBTQ issues in the U.S. South has increased dramatically, with the most recent surge attributable to the national response to the Pulse Nightclub Massacre in Orlando, Florida.

NO SOUTHERN STATE HAS STATEWIDE DISCRIMINATION PROTECTIONS

71% of anti-LGBTQ laws introduced across the country in 2017 were introduced in the South.

FUNDING SUPPORT FOR LGBTQ SOUTHERNERS OF COLOR (2015–16)

- Over $29.5 million in funding
- Top 10 funders
  - Strengthen Orlando - OneOrlando Fund
  - Equality Florida Institute
  - Gill Foundation
  - STRENGTHEN ORLANDO - ONEORLANDO FUND
  - FORD FOUNDATION
  - Astrea Lesbian Foundation for Justice
  - STRENGTHEN ORLANDO - ONEORLANDO FUND
  - Community Foundation for Northeast Florida
  - Our Fund
  - Gilead Sciences

Excluding the OneOrlando Fund grandmaking, only 30% of funding supported LGBTQ Southerners of color.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Build the capacity of Southern LGBTQ organizations as individual leaders
- Build authentic relationships with Southern LGBTQ funders, including LGBTQ funds
- Incorporate intersectional programming and messaging in Southern LGBTQ communications
- Increase LGBTQ-inclusive programming at Southern cultural organizations
- Build authentic relationships with Southern LGBTQ funders, including LGBTQ funds
- Strengthen LGBTQ policy, advocacy, and service provision in Southern LGBTQ communities
- Strengthen Southern organizing that is locally-rooted and community-led
- Support efforts to change the narrative about LGBTQ Southerners of color
- Increase visibility through Southern LGBTQ media, public education, and cultural works

REFERENCES

3. 2017 State Equality Index • www.lgbtfunders.org/research
5. 2017 Equality Index: LGBT Share of the Population in the U.S. South • http://www.lgbtfunders.org/content/2017-equality-index-lgbt-share-population-u-s-south
6. All statistics on LGBTQ funding draw on the Funders for LGBTQ Issues database of foundation grants for LGBTQ issues, which is used to generate the organization’s annual tracking reports and funding guides for LGBTQ issues in the U.S. South, as of March 2018.