

## LGBT Numbers – A Baseline Issue

While the actual percentage of Americans identifying as LGBT does not settle the NDO argument, it is an underlying, baseline issue. Progressives regularly use exaggerated numbers as a tactic to persuade an uninformed electorate to accept their agenda. Let's take a bullet point look at some sound Social Science numbers, the attachments (or LINKS) are available for your perusal if you wish.

During the recent City campaign, Progressive candidates used an exaggerated figure arguing that 20% of Millennials now identify as LGBT. In a presentation to the council, Brent Cromley also used this figure. They site an [Accelerated Acceptance](#) poll done by Harris. Cromley neglected to mention that this small poll was paid for by GLADD (Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation).

While conceding that only 4-5% of the population identify as LGBT, he argued that the percentage of younger people were much higher because "*society is now more accepting and they feel free to express their identities.*" If true, then he is stuck arguing that 20% of the population *has always* been Gay, they are just now admitting it. That's 1 in 5 instead of 4 in a hundred! **Remember, we are talking about people with authentic same-sex attractions!**

Using information from three attachments (or LINKS included), I would like to summarize what the social science community has to say about numbers in this community. While this is only one issue, it plays to a larger false message about the need for this NDO. The documents are from US NEWS, a Reuters report, and Social Scientists at Focus on the Family who point to a broad data base.

### Summary of Key Points in the Data – Bullet Points:

**Background:** [One of the difficulties](#) in thinking and writing about homosexuality is that the term is very hard to define, especially since there has been such a shift in language. Some view homosexuality as an activity, others as a type of person, others as feelings and desires, and yet others as a sexual orientation. But what is a "sexual orientation"? (See more at the [LINK](#))

1. [Most population studies](#) show a shift downward in LGBT identification as people age. As they mature, people identify as heterosexual at higher percentages.

2. Many population studies show a general movement away from homosexuality back to opposite-sex relationships over time.
3. An estimated 4.5 percent of U.S. adults identify as LGBT and they tend to be younger and poorer than the population at large (Gallopp Poll)
4. Gallup 2012 showed 8% of Millennials and 12% of Gen Z now ID as LGBT.
5. Why the shift? The promotion of homosexuality and a variety of “gender identities” in our children’s education. (See p 3)
6. The celebration of homosexuality in our entertainment and media, along with the growing number of LGBT-identified celebrities.
7. Percentages vary by region: Washington, D.C., had the highest percentage of LGBT people at 9.8 percent and North Dakota had the lowest at 2.7%.
8. LGBT population skew younger - only 23% are age 50 or older, 56% are under age 35.
9. LGBT people come from all ethnic groups - people of color represent a slightly higher percentage than they do in the general population.
10. Modern surveys estimate the LGBT population well below a common, but unattributed figure of 10 percent.

A thoughtful, honest contemplation of these facts would make one wonder about how much recruiting has occurred by activists and churches and where reality lies? What percentage of Gen Z and Millennials are sympathizers and what percentage are truly same-sex attracted?

While these data do not address other issues in this debate, it is important to have a firmer grip on numbers. We want to treat same-sex attracted people well. We also need to realize that their activists have an agenda and will do almost anything to achieve it.

Respectfully,

Dick Pence, Billings (see more at [bigskyworldview.org](http://bigskyworldview.org) Resources/Library/LGBT Data)