

How Does Substance Abuse Impact the LGBTQ+ Community?

According to Healthline, **18.7 million people** (ages 18 or older) **have a substance use disorder in the U.S.** Compared to individuals who identify as heterosexual, members of the LGBTQ+ community were more likely to misuse substances.

20 to 30%

of the LGBTQ+ community abuses substances, compared to about 9% of the general population.

- Individuals who identify as **gay or lesbian** are more than **2x as likely** to have severe alcohol or tobacco use disorders.
- Individuals who identify as **bisexual** are **3x as likely** to have a substance use disorder.
- Individuals who identify as **transgender** were **2.5x more likely** to use drugs like methamphetamines and cocaine.

Additional Statistics

1 in 5

LGBTQ young adults (ages 21 or older) reported regular alcohol use.



1 in 5

LGBTQ young adults (ages 21 or older) reported regular marijuana use.



1 in 5

LGBTQ young adults smoke cigarettes.



1 in 10

LGBTQ young adults reported using a prescription drug that wasn't prescribed to them.

