



HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN FOUNDATION



THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON LATINX LGBTQ PEOPLE

In partnership with [PSB Insights](#), the Human Rights Campaign Foundation (HRC) has been tracking the economic impact of COVID-19 on the LGBTQ community. While previous data spoke to the impact of COVID-19 on Black LGBTQ people, LGBTQ people of color, and transgender people, new data demonstrates the unique economic impact of COVID-19 specifically on Latinx LGBTQ communities.

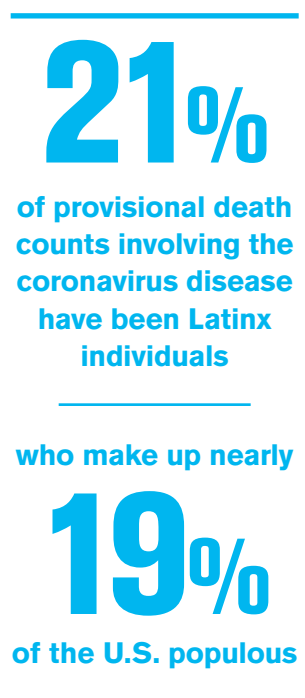
Latinx LGBTQ people are employed in some of the industries most highly affected by the pandemic. Many are frontline workers. Close to one-fifth of nursing assistants, slaughterers and meatpackers, industrial truck operators and correctional officers [are Latinx](#) and roughly **28%** of LGBTQ adults work in food service, restaurants, retail or hospitals. Latinx communities have also experienced significant losses since the onset of the virus. As of September 2, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control [reported](#) that nearly **21%** of provisional death counts involving the coronavirus disease have been Latinx¹ individuals, who [make up](#) nearly **19%** of the United States populous.

These findings build on previous research. In early March, HRC released a [research brief](#) that underscored how the lives and livelihoods of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) community are at risk due to the coronavirus pandemic. When compared to non-LGBTQ adults, LGBTQ people are more likely to work in highly affected industries such as restaurants or retail, they rarely have access to paid medical leave, they experience high rates of poverty and they are more likely to lack health insurance coverage. LGBTQ people are also at greater health risk due to higher prevalence of compromised respiratory systems.

A follow-up economic [report](#) in April confirmed that the pandemic was having adverse economic effects on LGBTQ people in the United States: they were more likely to have become unemployed, more likely to have their work hours cut, were more likely to feel that their personal finances were in worse shape and were more likely to be taking steps to actively prepare for the virus. Further reports focused on the economic impact of COVID-19 on [Black LGBTQ people](#), [LGBTQ people of color](#), and [transgender people](#), all of whom face disproportionately negative economic outcomes.

A September [report](#) detailed how LGBTQ people, particularly LGBTQ people of color, continue to face the brunt of the pandemic's economic fallout as some states attempt to initiate reopening policies that are frequently paused or reversed due to the ongoing threat of the virus.

Below are key findings from the latest polling about the economic impact of the pandemic on Latinx LGBTQ people.



[CDC](#)

¹ The term "Latinx" is used here to be inclusive of individuals who may be identified as "Hispanic or Latino" in the CDC's provisional death counts, but would not self-identify as "Hispanic or Latino." Data for the Latinx mortality rate presented here are not identified as weighted.



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KEY TAKEAWAYS

Latinx LGBTQ people are more likely to report having their work hours reduced and losing their jobs due to COVID-19. They are also more likely to have taken unpaid leave since the onset of the pandemic.

- + **40%** of Latinx LGBTQ respondents have had their work hours reduced due to COVID-19, compared to:
 - **32%** of the Latinx respondents
 - **27%** of the LGBTQ respondents
 - **21%** of the general sample population
- + **20%** of Latinx LGBTQ respondents have become unemployed due to COVID-19, compared to:
 - **16%** of the Latinx respondents
 - **15%** of the LGBTQ respondents
 - **11%** of the general sample population
- + **20%** of Latinx LGBTQ respondents have taken unpaid leave since the onset of the pandemic, compared to:
 - **9%** of the Latinx respondents
 - **12%** of the LGBTQ respondents
 - **6%** of the general sample population

Amidst economic fallout, Latinx LGBTQ people are more likely to make adjustments to their household budgets and take cash out of the bank. Latinx LGBTQ people are also more likely to check if their account has overdrafted or ask for delays in paying their rent.

- + **38%** of Latinx LGBTQ respondents made a change to their household budget, compared to:
 - **33%** of the Latinx respondents
 - **30%** of the LGBTQ respondents
 - **26%** of the general sample population
- + **22%** of Latinx LGBTQ respondents took more cash out of the bank, compared to:
 - **16%** of the Latinx respondents
 - **18%** of the LGBTQ respondents
 - **13%** of the general sample population



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- + **18%** of Latinx LGBTQ respondents have checked to see if their account has overdrafted, compared to:
 - **13%** of the Latinx respondents
 - **14%** of the LGBTQ respondents
 - **10%** of the general sample population
- + **13%** of Latinx LGBTQ respondents have asked for delays in paying their rent, compared to:
 - **9%** of the Latinx respondents
 - **11%** of the LGBTQ respondents
 - **7%** of the general sample population

METHODOLOGY

- PSB conducted a series of 14 online nonprobability polls (N = 14,000; for 1,000 per poll) between April 16 and September 3. Note some questions about household budget changes may have a sample size of N = 5,000.
- Data are weighted to U.S. Census demographic targets and HRC-advised targets for SOGI statistics to be nationally representative.
- Sample sizes for Latinx transgender and non-binary respondents were too small to produce reliable estimates, but their experiences should be taken into consideration when considering experiences of Latinx LGBTQ people broadly.