Disparities in access to medical care over time by sexual orientation

Gay, lesbian, and bisexual respondents were consistently less likely to receive needed medical care than heterosexual or straight respondents.

Disparities in access to care by sexual orientation and type of care

Gay, lesbian, and bisexual respondents (n=451) were consistently less likely to receive needed medical care and behavioral health care in 2016 compared to heterosexual or straight respondents (n=5,384). In addition, respondents were less likely to receive necessary behavioral health care compared to medical care.

Reported reason for not getting necessary care differed by sexual orientation and type of care

In 2016, gay, lesbian, and bisexual respondents reported somewhat different reasons for not getting needed medical care and behavioral health care compared to heterosexual or straight respondents. The reported reasons also differed for behavioral health care compared to medical care.

* For behavioral health care, “Other” includes “Concerned that my neighbors or community might have negative opinion” and “Concerned that it might have a negative effect on my job.”