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2020 LGBTQ+ Specific Substance Use Services Survey: A Study on the Availability and Perceived Helpfulness of Treatment Programs

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The State of LGBTQ+ Specific Substance Use Services in 2020

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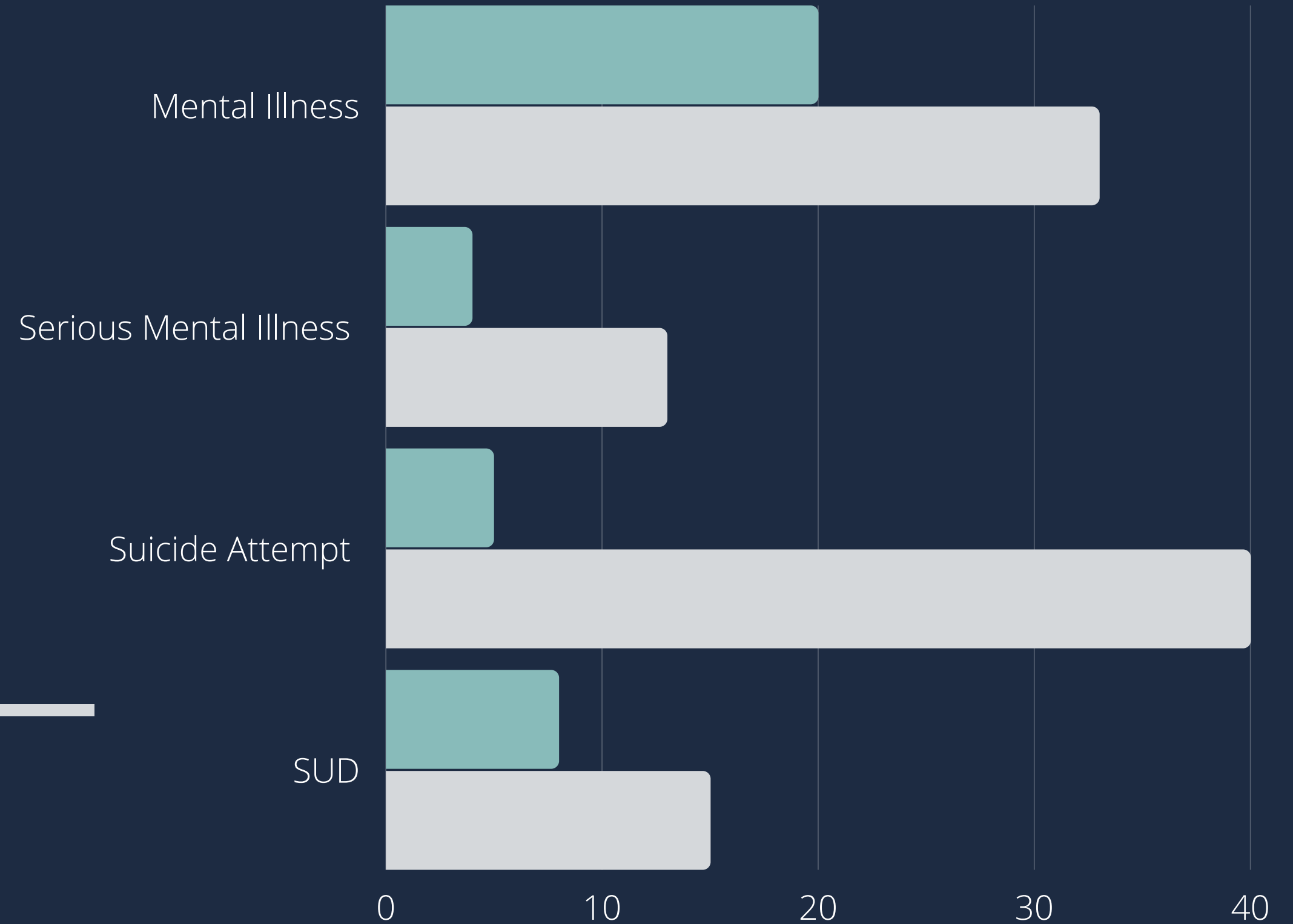
Department of Psychology





Huge Health Disparity

Contrast between GSM and non-GSM population





31 Offered specific groups for gay/lesbians/both

13 Exclusively served members of the LGBT community.

12 Had a counselor trained specifically in LGBT issues

7 Had both groups for gay or lesbian individuals and individual counseling with specifically trained staff

2007 Study Results

Cochran, Peavy, Robohm, 2007

Out of 854 agencies, 7.3% (N=62)
had specific service for LGBTQ+
community



What has changed in the last 15 years regarding specialized treatment for the GSM community?

A comparison between 2007 and 2020 data

Identify

2,353 Substance Treatment Agencies were identified via SAMHSA treatment locator tool in March, 2020

01

Train

A team of 7 RAs was trained to collect data using scripted phone interview

02

Call

RAs contacted all 2,353 agencies as treatment seeking clients from June, 2020 to January, 2021.

03

Rate

After each call, RAs conducted objective and subjective evaluations of their initial-contact experience with the agency

04

STUDY DESIGN



2020 Study Results



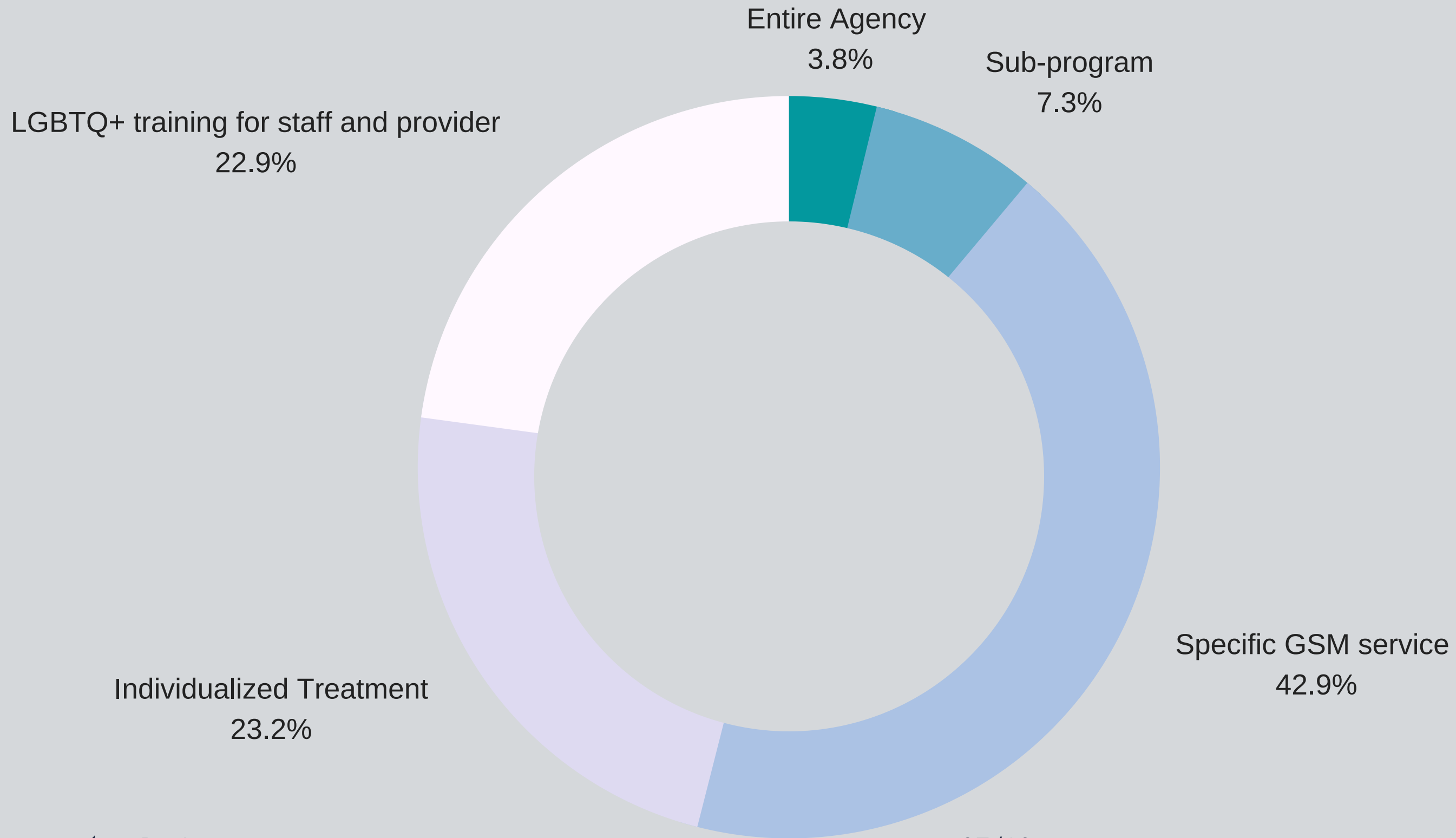
How Many GSM Services Reported to SAMSHA?

911 (11.8%) in 2007
vs.
2,353 (16.7%) in 2020



How Many GSM Services Actually Provided?

62 (7.3%) in 2007
vs.
315 (17.4%) in 2020



LGBTQ+ SPECIFIC SERVICE (N=315)



Offered In The Past or Plan To In The Future

6 agencies (1.3%) indicated that they have offered LGBTQ+ specific service in the past, or is planning to offer in the near future.



Do Not Discriminate

80 agencies (17.2%) responded to our inquiry that they do not discriminate against LGBTQ+ community.



Have/Had LGBTQ+ Clients

64 agencies (13.8%) shared that their providers have/had LGBTQ+ clients currently or in the past.



Takeaways

Increase in Availability

GSM-specific substance treatment programs are offered by more treatment agencies in 2020, than they were in 2007.

More Variety and More Tailored

Compare to 2007, there are more various services tailored for GSM populations. Notably, a new category of specific service emerged: individualized treatment plan.

Still Huge Gap between Report and Reality

The majority (74.3%) of agency correspondent were either unable to describe any LGBTQ+ specific service, or indicated that they do not have such services.





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Thank you!