



Economic Challenges for Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence During Covid-19

A closer look at...

LGBTQ+ Communities

In a national survey on the economic challenges facing survivors due to Covid-19, LGBTQ+ communities were among some of the hardest hit during the onset and shut-down period (March-May 2020). The survey was completed by 608 domestic and sexual violence service providers and advocates, 85 of whom work in organizations that specifically serve LGBTQ+ communities. **Here are the challenges these 85 respondents said LGBTQ+ survivors faced:**



Child-Related Challenges

81% said survivors had trouble with having the knowledge, time and/or skills to **assist kids with schoolwork**

73% said survivors had challenges **sharing custody/visitation** exchanges with an abusive partner

73% said survivors had trouble **finding childcare** so that they can go to work, remotely or outside the home



Health and Safety

82% said survivors were **risking their safety** by sheltering in place with an abusive partner, household member, or caregiver

79% said survivors were **risking their health** due to employment that could not be done remotely

74% said survivors had limited ability to **practice social distancing** (staying 6 feet from others)



Top Challenge: Money and Resources*

“ We are a dual rape crisis center and LGBT+ services organization. As the LGBT+ advocate, I have been dealing with both LGBT+ youth, and adults, with increased mental health issues related to social distancing, loneliness, and lack of funds due to not being able to go to work or school. We have a few clients that are higher risk due to disabilities. We have made essential deliveries and increased mental health checks for them. ”

* Data on opposite page.



Legal and Systems

80% said survivors had **difficulty finding an attorney**

79% said survivors had **trouble accessing court for financial relief**, such as spousal support, asset and debt distribution, economic relief in protection orders, and debt/credit relief

77% said survivors had **trouble accessing court for safety reasons**, including divorce, protection orders, custody/visitation, housing, immigration



Financial Relief

84% said survivors were concerned about **getting a stimulus check** or the correct amount of money

81% said survivors had difficulty applying for or **getting unemployment benefits**

62% said survivors had **landlords or creditors** who didn't allow missed, late, or reduced payments

Money & Resource Challenges for LGBTQ+ Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence During Covid-19



A closer look at... Who Took the Survey

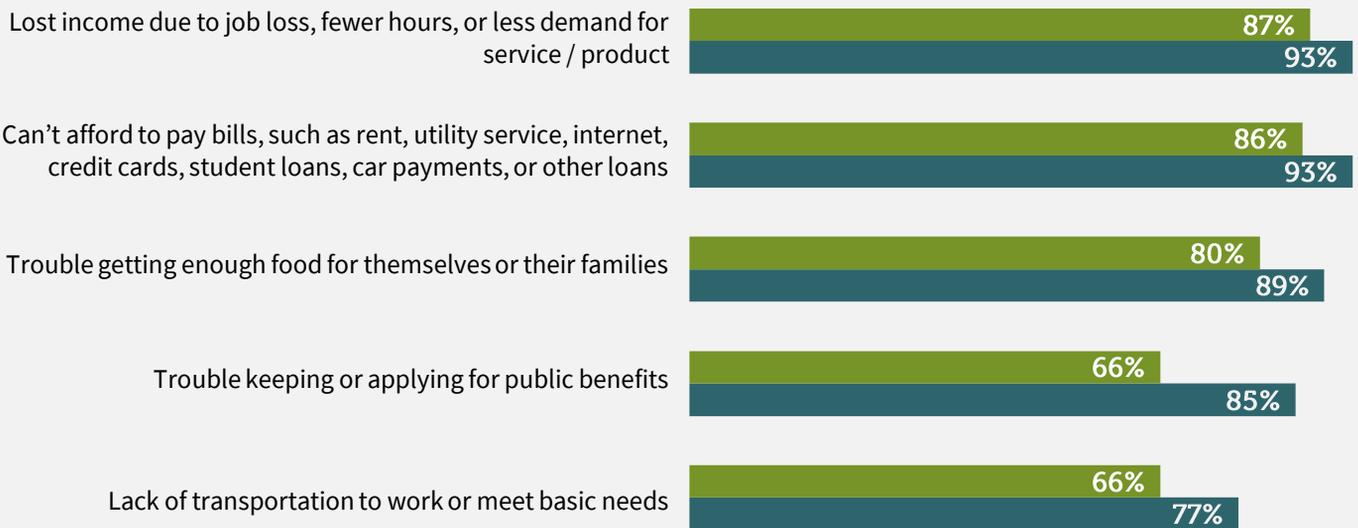
Of the 85 respondents who said they worked at organizations that served LGBTQ+ communities, most said they worked with **both** lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) survivors **and** transgender, gender nonconforming, or queer (TGnCQ) survivors. Over **66% of respondents** who said they worked with LGBTQ+ communities also mentioned working with immigrant and/or survivors of color. Respondents came from **16 states**, and mostly identified as advocates, program managers/directors, or counselors.

The **85 respondents** from organizations that specifically serve LGBTQ+ communities reported that **survivors had more Money & Resource – related challenges** than other types of challenges (such as, Health & Safety, Legal, or Child-Related challenges).

Money & Resource Challenges Survivors Face by Community Served (% respondents who reported the following challenges)

Respondents working at organizations who say they serve:

- General Population
- LGBTQ+ Communities



What providers are saying...

“ There are many challenges that are being faced by survivors during this pandemic. Survivors calling the hotline was actually low because people are housed with their abusive partner and cannot use their safe space to do so, such as at work or school. many calls have been made late at night whispering or stepping outside to the backyard. ”