

Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity Data Collection

Department of Children, Youth and Their Families

Board of Supervisors - Government Audit and Oversight Committee
October 21, 2021



Overview of SOGI Data Collection

- DCYF functions primarily as a funding agency and not as a direct service provider
- DCYF does not collect data directly from children, youth or their families
- DCYF establishes reporting requirements and data entry expectations for its *grantees*, which report client-level data, including participant names, demographics, and attendance in funded activities, into a secure, online database known as the DCYF Contract Management System (CMS)



FY2020-21 SOGI Data

The current funding cycle began in FY2018-19.

DCYF requires programs serving disconnected Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) to collect and report SOGI data. Programs that aim to serve disconnected TAY are no longer confined to a distinct funding model; they are found in most of DCYF’s investment areas.

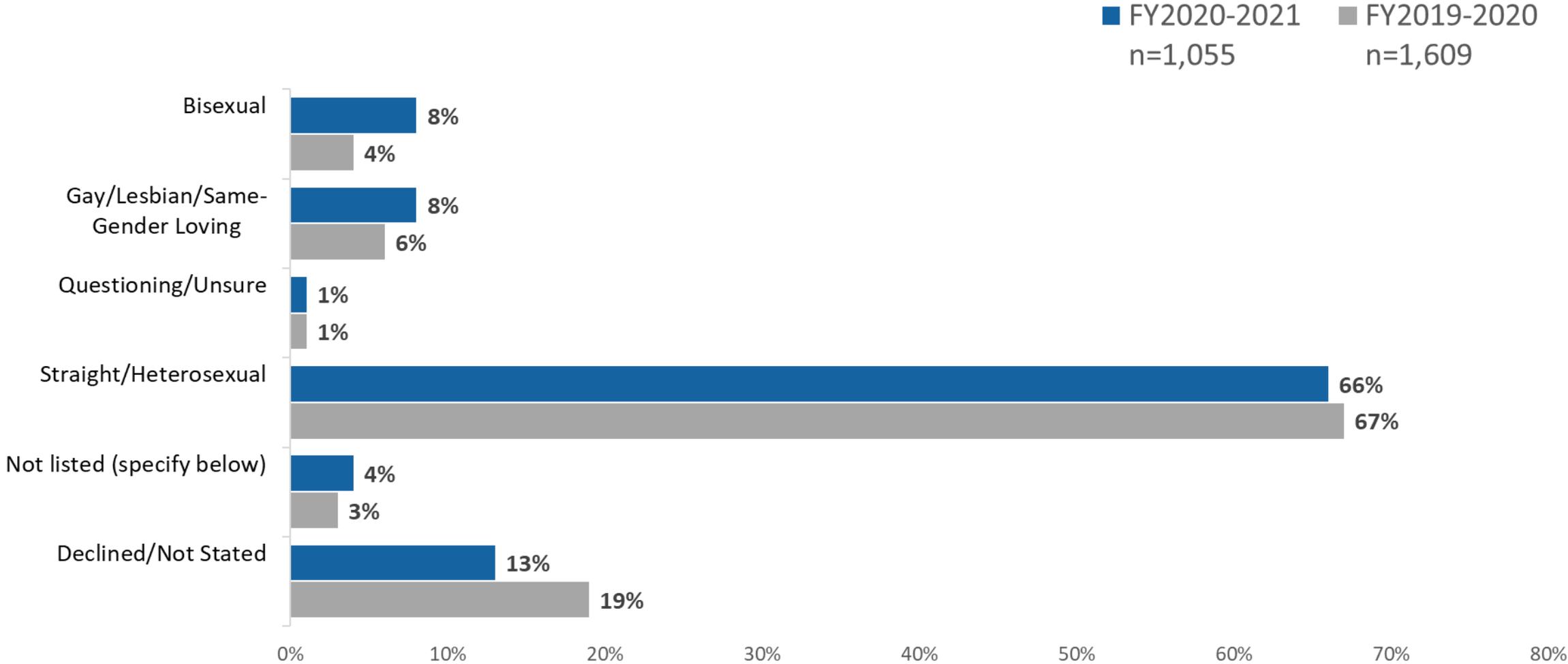
According to data reported into CMS, **3,240** TAY participated in DCYF-funded services in FY2019-20 and **1,520** TAY participated in DCYF-funded services in FY2020-21.

Service Area	Count of TAY Serving Programs
Educational Supports Supports a range of educational opportunities that help children and youth who are struggling academically get back on track with their education and achieve individualized educational goals.	12
Enrichment, Leadership and Skill Building Supports opportunities for children, youth and disconnected TAY to learn specialized skills, build positive personal identities, and improve their leadership abilities through project and curriculum-based programming.	13
Family Empowerment Programs that provide coordinated, culturally competent services like case management, job training, family support, cultural identity support, mental health, and substance abuse counseling for high needs African American and Latino/a/x youth and/or their families involved in multiple systems, like justice and social welfare systems.	2
Justice Services Supports a continuum of services for justice system-involved youth and disconnected TAY.	28
Mentorship Supports opportunities for middle school girls, children of incarcerated parents and disconnected TAY to connect with caring adult mentors.	2
Youth Workforce Development Supports a continuum of tiered career exposure and work-based learning opportunities that are developmentally appropriate and meet youth needs.	22
Total	79

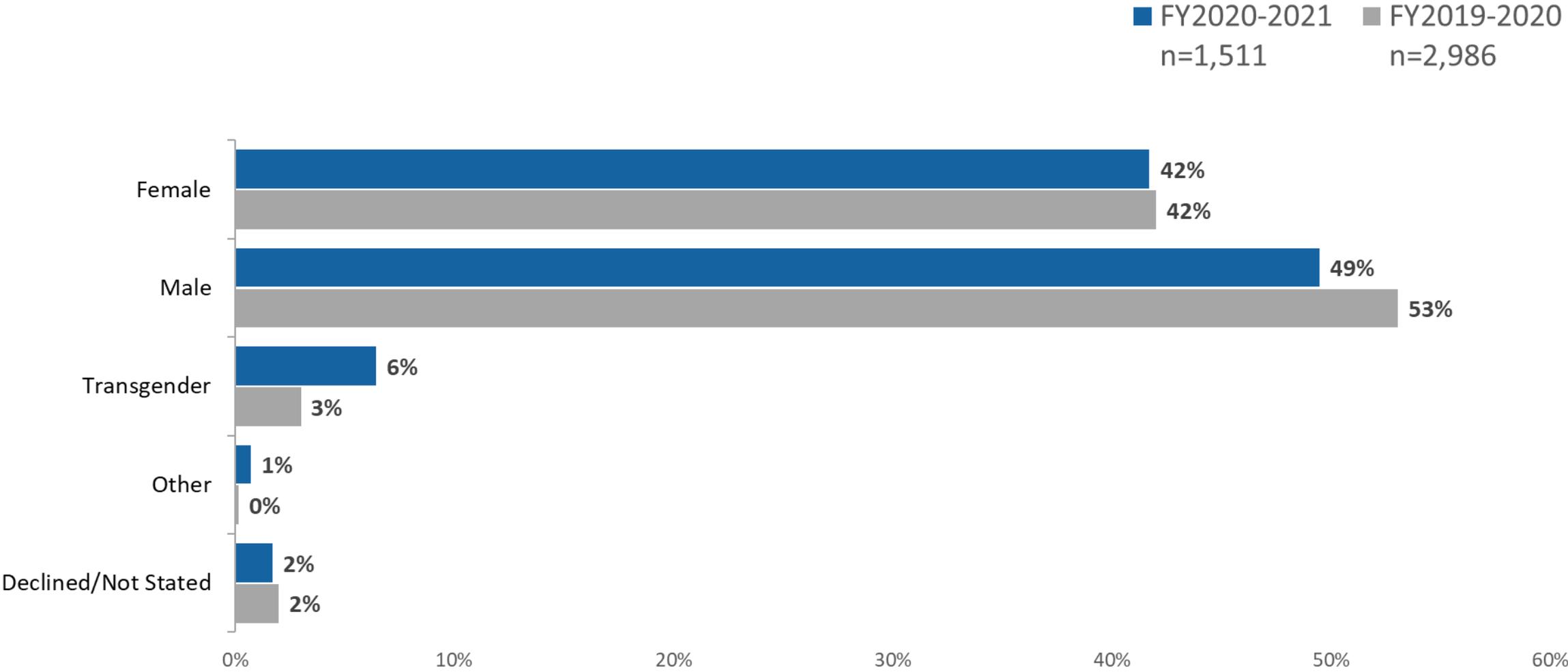
COVID-19 Implications on Data Collection

- **In-person programming largely shifted to virtual/remote settings.** Outside of grantees operating Community Hubs, few offered in-person programming, and most shifted services to virtual/remote settings.
- **DCYF eased reporting requirements to relieve administrative burden from grantees rapidly shifting to provide new programming responsive to community needs.** We permitted reporting of summary-level data in place of client-level data. Additionally, we made administration of the DCYF Youth Experience Survey optional rather than required.
- **Grantees reported challenges collecting data and consents.** As a result, we observed underreporting and lower rates of participation in services related to shifts in programming and service models.

Sexual Orientation of TAY Program Participants

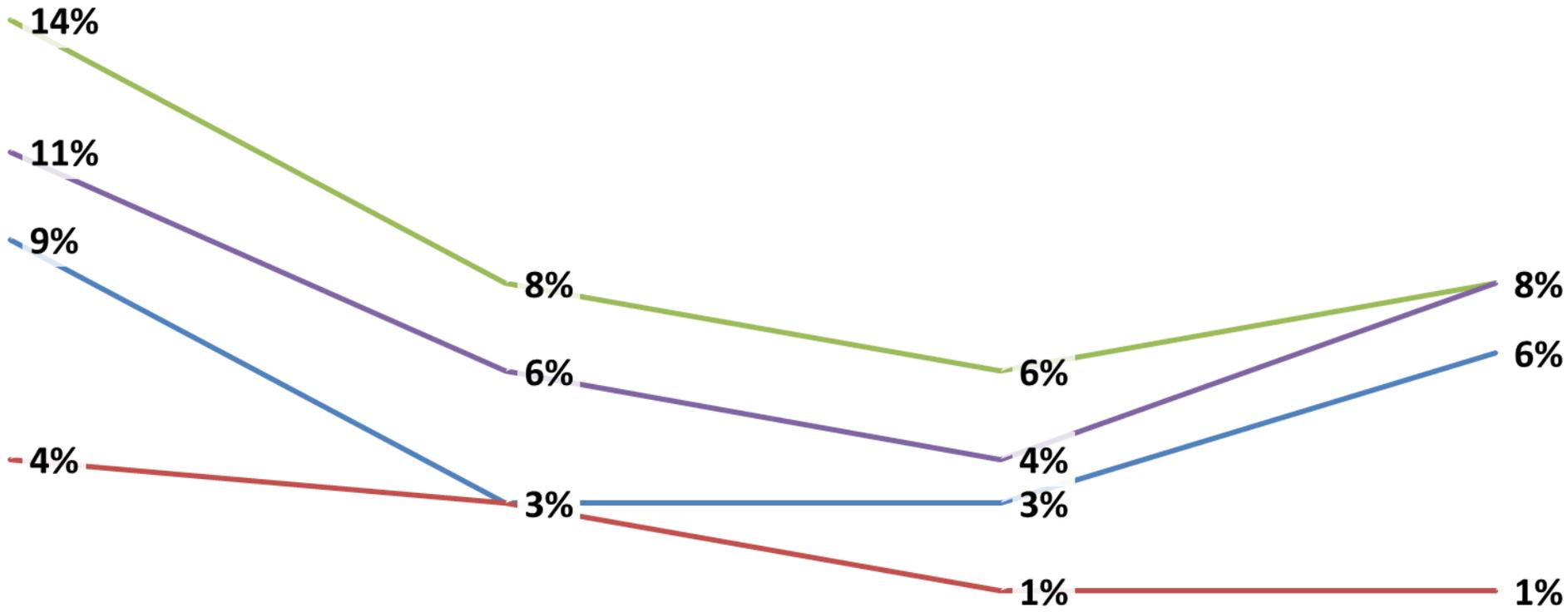


Gender Identity of TAY Program Participants



FY2017-FY2021 LGBTQ Participants

— Gay/Lesbian/Same-Gender Loving — Bisexual — Transgender — Questioning/Unsure



FY17-18

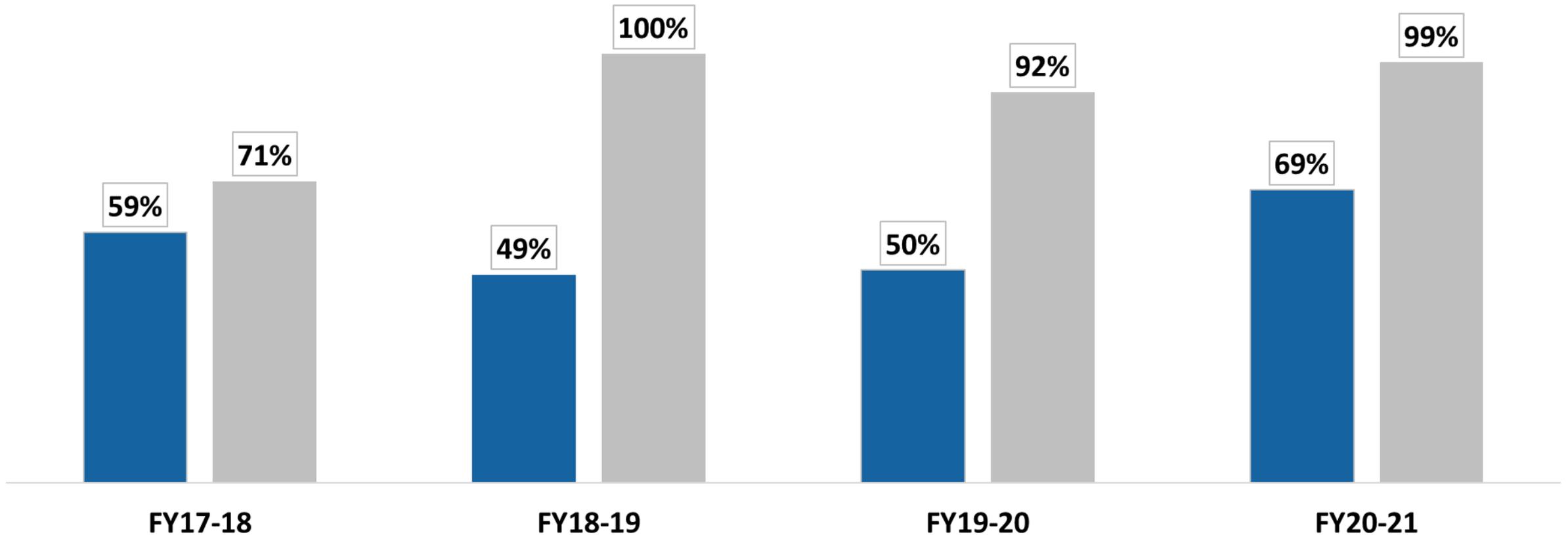
FY18-19

FY19-20

FY20-21

FY2017-FY2021 SOGI Response Rates

■ Sexual Orientation ■ Gender Identity



Sample of LGBTQ+ Focused Programming

Agency Name	FY2020-21 Activity Description
Chinese Progressive Association	2x/month 1-hour sessions covering political education topics including LGBTQ Hxstory, Gender & Sexuality 101, Trans Justice.
	As part of the alternative spring break retreat, we culminate with an intergenerational community dinner that brings together adult allies who support LGBTQ youth, elders, and youth to discuss topics of gender and sexuality and be in community with one another.
Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC)	The Community Leadership Program (CLP) provides access to a network of social, economic, health and educational resources, leadership development tools , and projects that produce concrete community impact, specifically designed for disconnected low-income LGBTQQ youth.
	Sessions include art-centered activities that provide leadership skills and work experience for LGBTQQ TAY.
	Each cohort of 3-7 students (average of 5 students per Q Group) attends 17 weekly 45-min. sessions about LGBTQQ identity, healthy relationships, and mental/physical health.
	LGBTQQ youth leaders engage in structured skill-building group activities for the purpose of developing core competencies needed to (re)connect with education and employment opportunities.
LGBTQQ youth leaders engage in a work-based learning opportunity , building their knowledge, skills, abilities and experiences to prepare them for the world of work.	
Oasis For Girls	Specific RISE workshop topics include intersectionality & exploring different identities... LGBTQ experiences & allyship
Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project	The development of the online workshop will include the expansion of QWOCMAP Online University, a custom online learning management system, includes representation of LGBTQ POC, that is already used by Film & Freedom Academy participants.

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Efforts

DCYF has engaged technical assistance providers to offer trainings to grantees on SOGI data collection and serving LGBT youth

**LGBTQ Youth Allyship
Workshops (for Adults)**
Spark Decks
Spring 2020

**Gender and Sexuality – What
should you know when working
with youth**
Spark Decks
Fall 2021

Gaps in SOGI Data Collection

- **Grantees shifted to provide new essential services in response to the pandemic** resulting in challenges to data collection in FY2019-20 and FY2020-21.
- **Lack of SOGI data for youth under 18.** The pandemic disrupted grantee administration of the DCYF Youth Experience Survey in FY2019-20 and FY2020-21.
- **Grantee staff turnover.** Increased need for training and communications about reporting requirements and DCYF Privacy Policy.

Addressing SOGI Data Gaps

- **Improve SOGI data collection efforts** through training, capacity building, and increased communications about DCYF Privacy Policy.
- **Reinstate requirement that grantees administer DCYF Youth Experience Surveys** to better understand youth characteristics and experiences.
- **Improve tracking of grantee target populations in annual workplans** to facilitate identification of grantees focused on serving LGBTQ youth.
- **Analyze available SOGI population-level data** to understand LGBTQ participation trends across DCYF-funded programs.
- **Continue to direct funding toward LGBT communities**, as data on TAY program participants suggest that LGBT individuals are more likely to participate in programs and services dedicated to meeting their needs.