

**2023 Nevada Middle School
Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)
Sexual and Gender Minority Special
Report**



School of Public Health

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10/15/2024

Acknowledgements

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Additional Resources

Nevada YRBS Statewide and Special Reports

<https://www.unr.edu/public-health/research-activities/nevada-youth-risk-behavior-survey>

YRBS Adolescent and School Health

<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>

Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

<http://dpbh.nv.gov/>

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INTRODUCTION

Priority health risk behaviors (i.e. preventable behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of morbidity and mortality) are often established during childhood and adolescence and extend into adulthood. Ongoing surveillance of youth risk behaviors is critical for the design, implementation, and evaluation of public health interventions to improve adolescent health. The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is a national surveillance system that was established in 1991 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor the prevalence of health risk behaviors among youth. The Nevada Middle School YRBS is biennial, anonymous and voluntary survey of students in 6th through 8th grade in regular public, charter, and alternative schools.

This special report summarized differences in behavioral health outcomes by sexual and gender identity using the 2023 Nevada Middle School YRBS.

METHODS

Sampling, Weighting, and Analysis

The 2023 Nevada YRBS sampling plan was designed to ensure that every eligible student had an equal chance of selection. For the 2023 Middle School YRBS, a random sample of 6,915 students from 121 schools completed the survey. Please see the 2023 Nevada Middle School Youth Risk Behavior Survey Report for detailed information on the random cluster sampling design used.

The 2023 Nevada YRBS data in this report were weighted based on the sex, race/ethnicity, and grade level of students in each region. The weighting process ensured that the estimates accurately represent the entire student population in each region and the state as a whole. Non-response or poor sampling procedures can result in a sample that is not a representative subset of the population; therefore, un-weighted results from these samples may not accurately reflect student behaviors and could be misleading. This report only displays weighted results.

The standard YRBS sexual identity question was added to the 2023 middle school survey. Students were asked which of the following terms best describes them: “heterosexual (straight),” “gay or lesbian,” “bisexual,” “I describe my sexual identity in some other way,” “I am not sure about my sexual identity (questioning),” and “I don’t know what this question is asking.” For this report, we compare students who identified as heterosexual (n=4,696, 75.9%) and students who identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, questioning, or another non-heterosexual identity (LGBQ+) (n=1,403, 24.1%); students who did not answer the question or did not know what the question was asking were counted as missing (n=816). Differences in the prevalence of risk behaviors and other health outcomes between heterosexual and LGBQ+ students were assessed with weighted chi-square tests.

The standard YRBS gender identity question was added to the 2023 middle school survey: “Some people describe themselves as transgender when their sex at birth does not match the way they think or feel about their gender. Are you transgender?”

Response choices included, “No, I am not transgender,” “Yes, I am transgender,” “I am not sure if I am transgender,” and “I don’t know what this question is asking.” For this report, students who reported that they were not transgender are referred to as “cisgender.” Those who reported they were not sure if they were transgender (n=218) were grouped with transgender students because the weighted prevalence of risk behaviors and other health outcomes closely resembled those of transgender students for the majority of measures. Cisgender students (n=5,846, 93.5%) were compared to Transgender and Questioning (TQ) students (n=388, 6.5%); students who did not know what the question was asking and those who did not answer the question were counted as missing (n=681). Differences in the prevalence of risk behaviors and other health outcomes between cisgender and TQ students were assessed with weighted chi-square tests.

Weighted prevalence estimates are displayed in bar charts for each outcome. Indicators for which any prevalence estimates exceed 25% are displayed on charts with a vertical axis ranging from 0 to 100%; indicators for which no prevalence estimates exceed 25% are displayed on charts with a vertical axis ranging from 0 to 50%. Lines on the bars represent 95% confidence intervals. Corresponding p-values are also included for every comparison.

RESULTS

Participant Characteristics

Table 1: Demographic characteristics of participating students, by sexual identity—Nevada YRBS 2023

		Heterosexual		LGBQ+		P-Value
		N ^a	% ^b	N ^a	% ^b	
Total	Total N =	4696	75.9%	1403	24.1%	
Sex	Female	2008	40.7%	1036	78.0%	<0.001
	Male	2672	59.3%	327	22.0%	
Age	11 years old or younger	594	13.3%	211	14.5%	0.470
	12 years old	1573	33.6%	436	30.4%	
	13 years old	1515	32.6%	452	33.6%	
	14 years old or older	1002	20.5%	303	21.6%	
Grade	6th grade	1452	30.5%	448	30.3%	0.705
	7th grade	1577	34.4%	450	32.6%	
	8th grade	1609	35.1%	478	37.1%	
Race/ Ethnicity	American Indian/Alaska Native^c	133	0.8%	35	0.7%	<0.001
	Asian^c	153	5.0%	62	6.0%	
	Black^c	282	11.9%	104	14.0%	
	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander^c	62	1.6%	19	1.2%	
	White^c	1531	27.2%	455	26.8%	
	Hispanic/Latino	2144	47.2%	544	40.6%	
	Other/Multiple^c	217	6.3%	107	10.8%	
Region	Urban^d	3302	90.5%	1040	92.3%	0.014
	Rural/Frontier	1394	9.5%	363	7.7%	
Free or Reduced Lunch	Yes	2194	47.8%	655	48.4%	0.768
	No	2409	52.2%	722	51.6%	
Military Family	Yes	330	7.3%	131	9.7%	0.028
	No	4260	92.7%	1232	90.3%	

^a The sample size in the total and subgroups may differ due to missing data

^b Weighted column percent

^c Non-Hispanic

^d Includes Carson City, Washoe County, and Clark County

**Table 2: Demographic characteristics of participating students, by gender identity—
Nevada YRBS 2023**

		Cisgender		Transgender and Questioning (TQ)		P-Value
		N ^a	% ^b	N ^a	% ^b	
Total	Total N =	5846	93.5%	388	6.5%	
Sex	Female	2872	48.6%	227	66.7%	<0.001
	Male	2950	51.4%	136	33.3%	
Age	11 years old or younger	767	13.7%	72	14.5%	0.916
	12 years old	1928	32.8%	116	31.6%	
	13 years old	1889	32.7%	115	34.1%	
	14 years old or older	1250	20.8%	83	19.8%	
Grade	6th grade	1830	30.5%	130	29.8%	0.401
	7th grade	1932	33.8%	127	37.9%	
	8th grade	2015	35.7%	117	32.3%	
Race/ Ethnicity	American Indian/Alaska Native^c	166	0.8%	8	0.5%	0.003
	Asian^c	200	5.2%	14	4.6%	
	Black^c	349	11.6%	33	14.3%	
	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander^c	74	1.3%	7	2.9%	
	White^c	1935	27.8%	142	31.6%	
	Hispanic/Latino	2592	46.2%	125	34.9%	
	Other/Multiple^c	302	7.1%	27	11.2%	
Region	Urban^d	4116	90.5%	292	92.4%	0.094
	Rural/Frontier	1730	9.5%	96	7.6%	
Free or Reduced Lunch	Yes	2753	48.5%	155	41.8%	0.068
	No	2987	51.5%	220	58.2%	
Military Family	Yes	433	7.6%	33	7.1%	0.740
	No	5288	92.4%	340	92.9%	

^a The sample size in the total and subgroups may differ due to missing data

^b Weighted column percent

^c Non-Hispanic

^d Includes Carson City, Washoe County, and Clark County

Select Behavioral Health Outcomes by Sexual and Gender Identity

Violence and Victimization

Figure 1: Percentage of middle school students who were bullied on school property during the 12 months before the survey, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

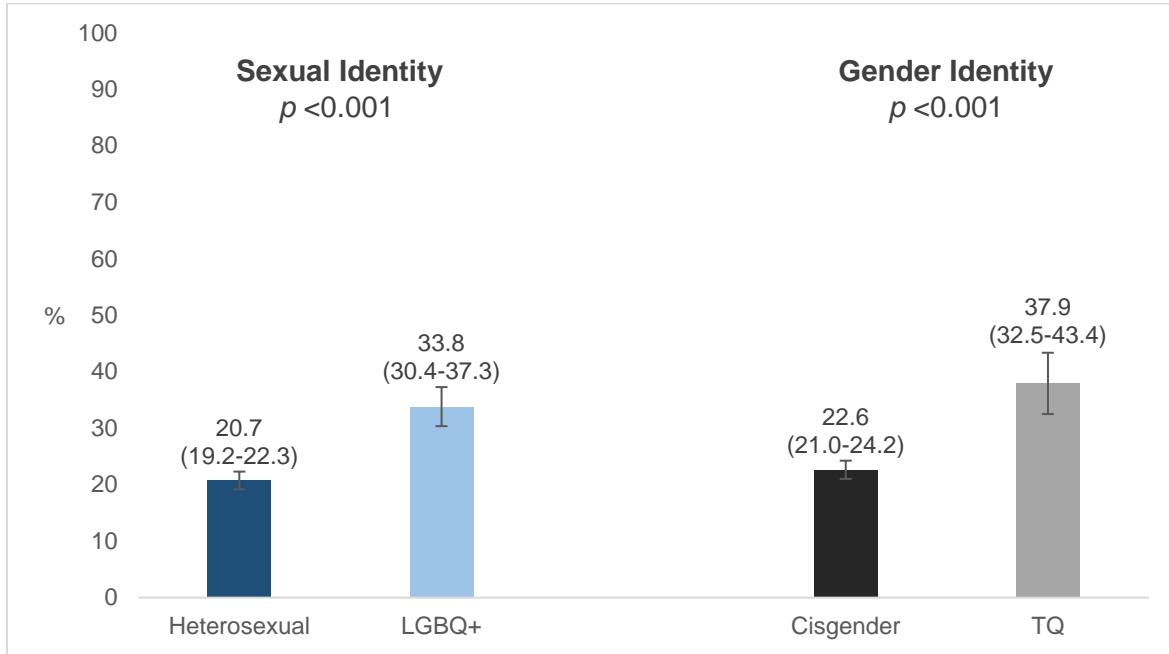
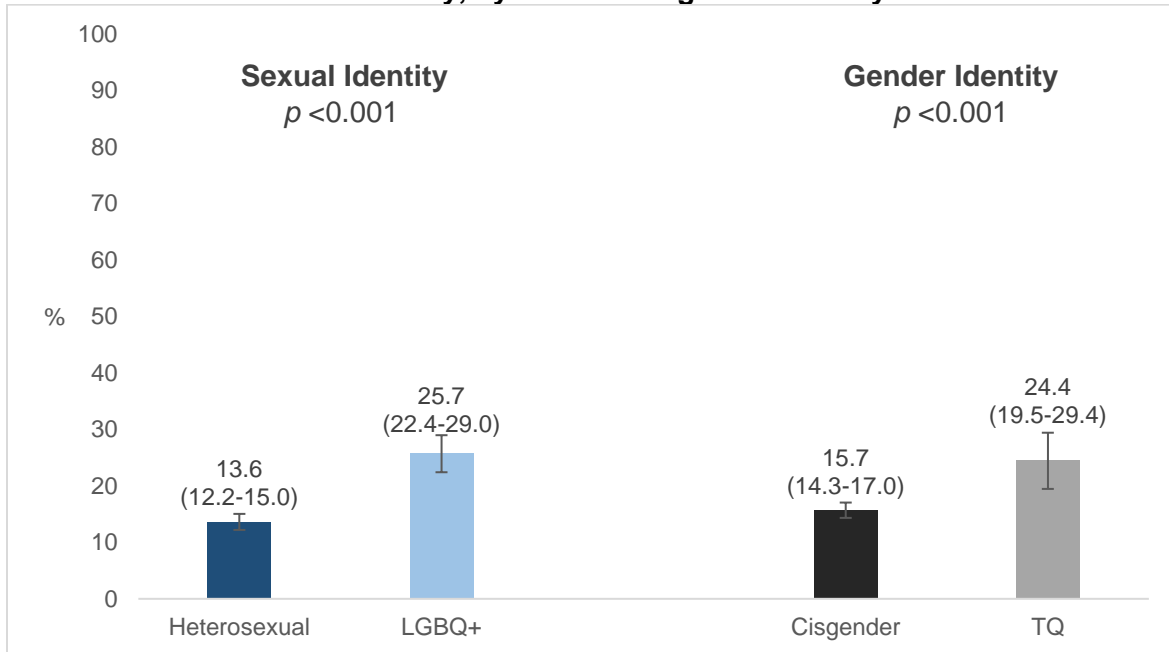
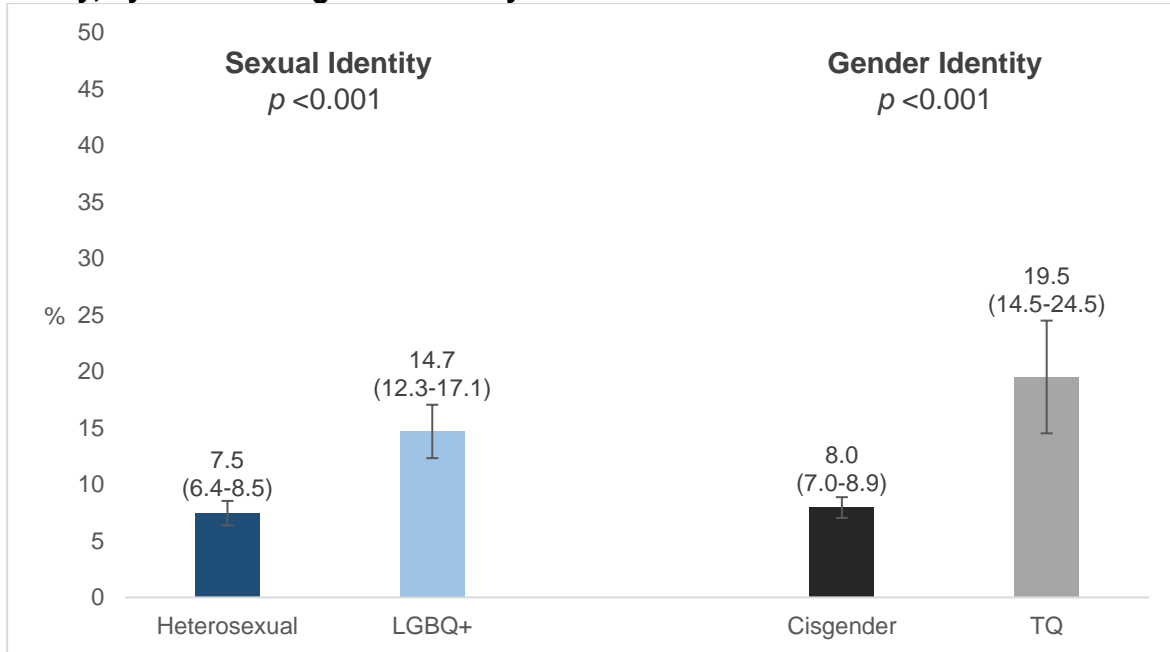


Figure 2: Percentage of middle school students who were electronically bullied during the 12 months before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^a— Nevada YRBS 2023



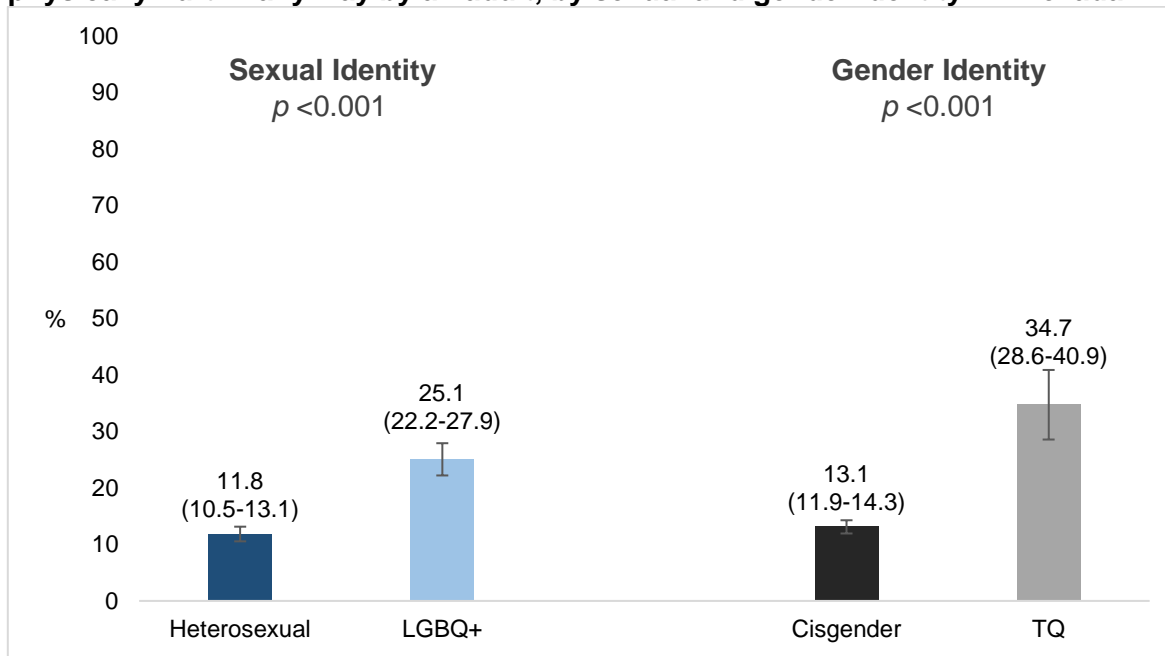
^a Including being bullied through texting, Instagram, Facebook, or other social media

Figure 3: Percentage of middle school students who did not go to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school during the 30 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity— Nevada YRBS 2023



Adverse Childhood Experiences

Figure 4: Percentage of middle school students who have ever been hit, beaten, kicked, or physically hurt in any way by an adult, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a Not including spanking for bad behavior

Figure 5: Percentage of middle school students who were ever physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

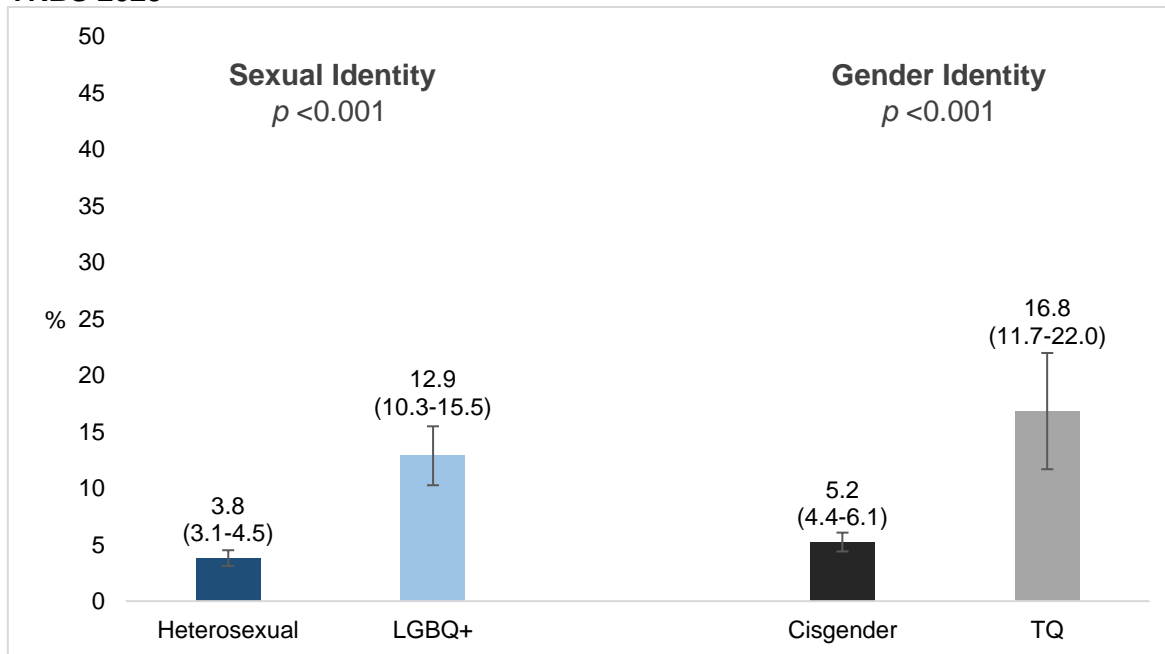


Figure 6: Percentage of middle school students who have ever been sworn at, insulted by, or put down by an adult in their home, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

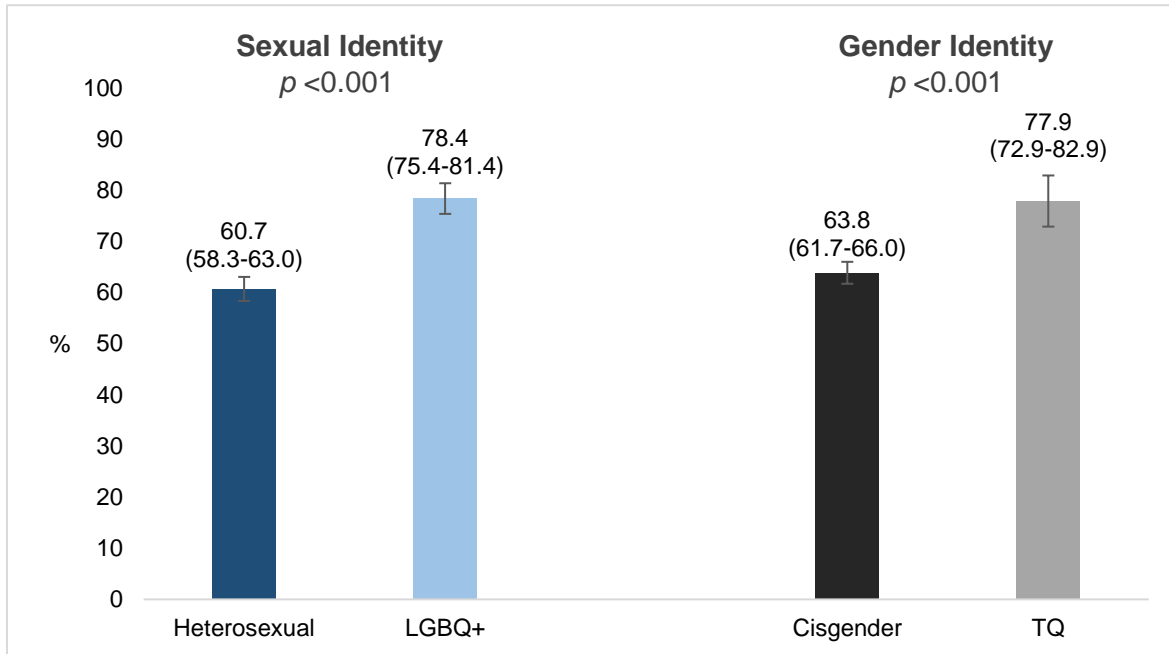


Figure 7: Percentage of middle school students who have ever seen or heard adults in their home slap, hit, kick, punch, or beat each other up, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

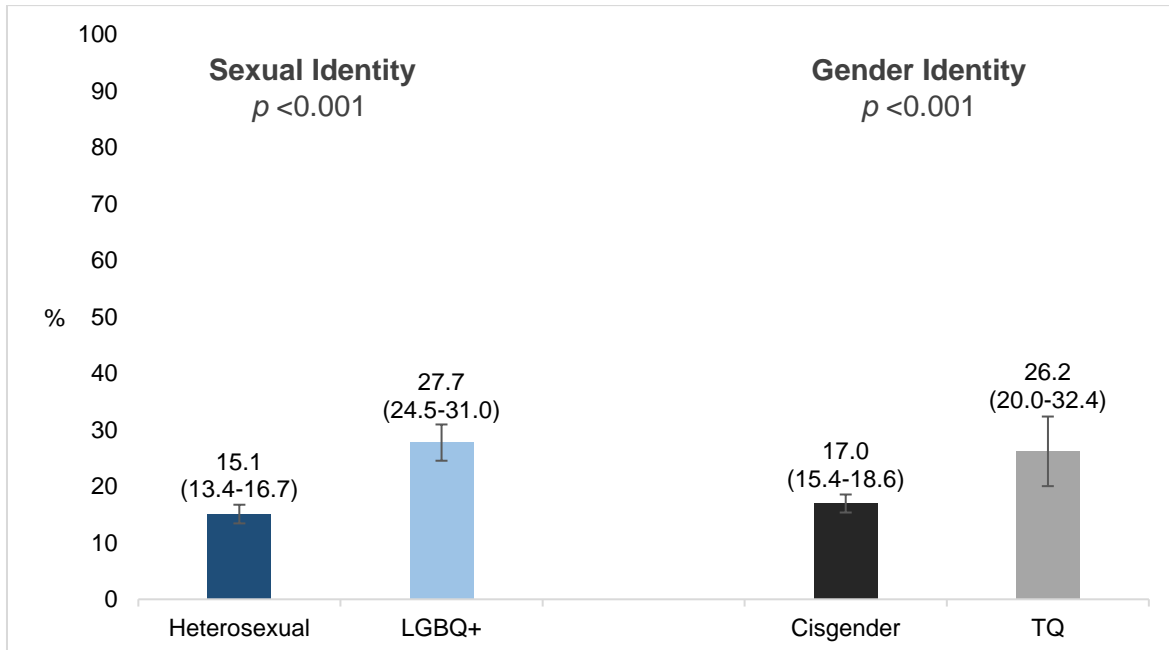


Figure 8: Percentage of middle school students who have ever lived with someone who was depressed, mentally ill, or suicidal, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023*

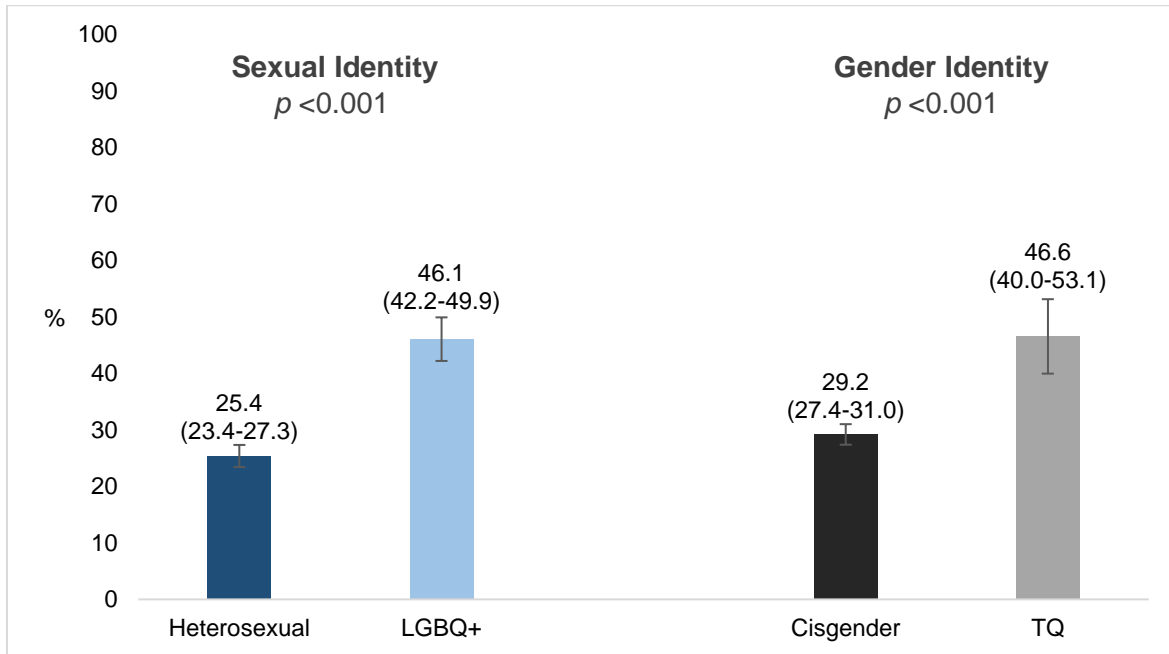


Figure 9: Percentage of middle school students who have ever lived with someone who was a problem drinker, alcoholic, or abused street or prescription drugs, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

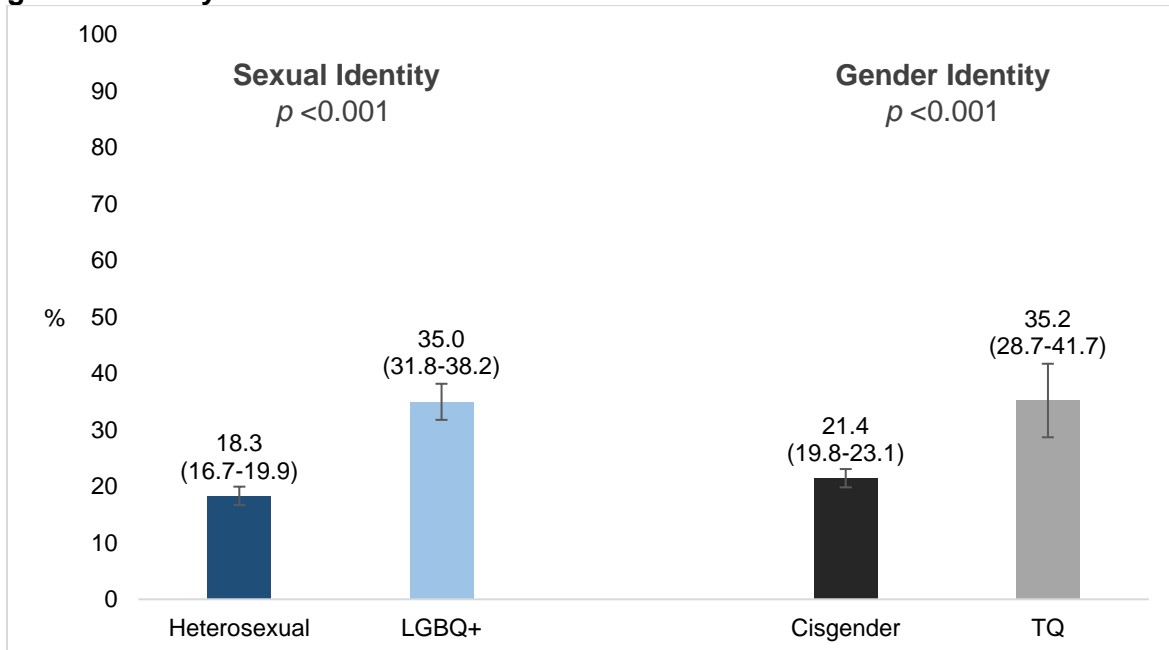
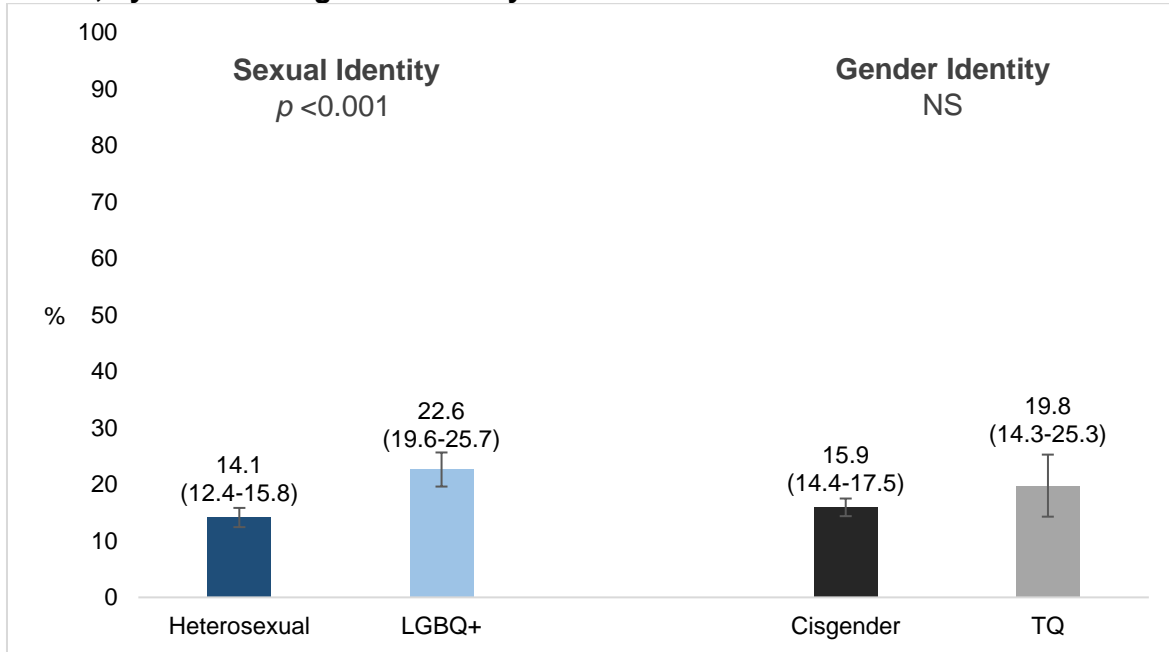
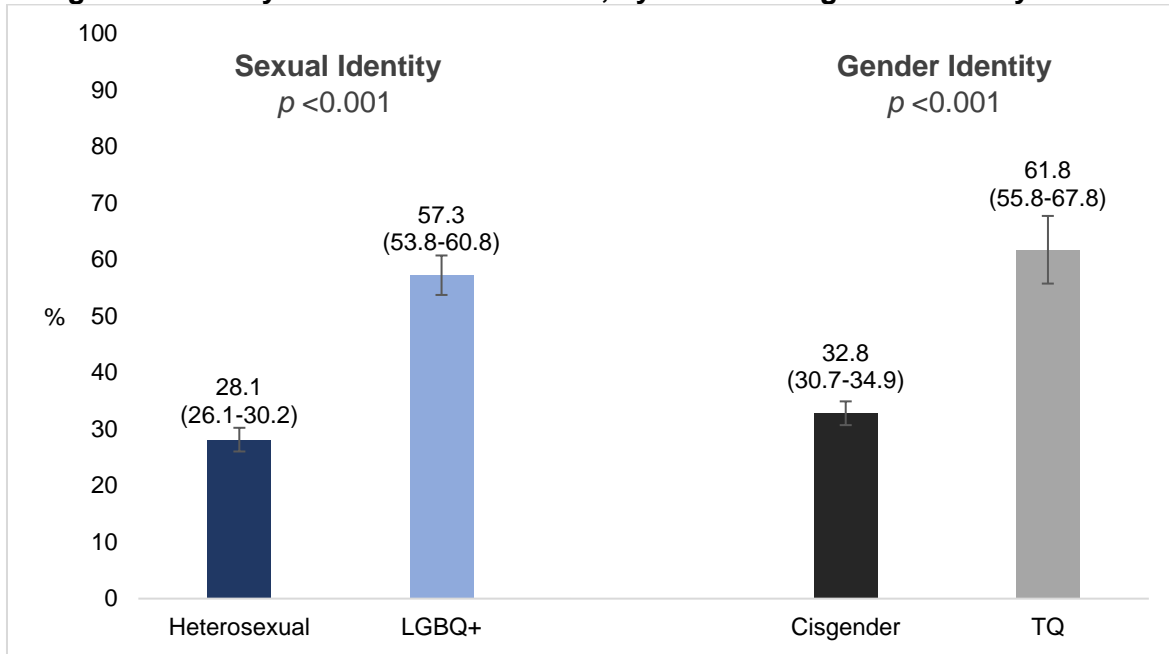


Figure 10: Percentage of middle school students who have ever been separated from a parent or guardian because their parent/guardian went to jail, prison, or a detention center, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023



Emotional Health

Figure 11: Percentage of middle school students who felt sad or hopeless almost every day for two or more weeks in a row during the 12 months before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023, by sexual and gender identity



^a So that they stopped doing some usual activities

Figure 12: Percentage of middle school students who seriously considered killing themselves during the 12 months before the survey, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

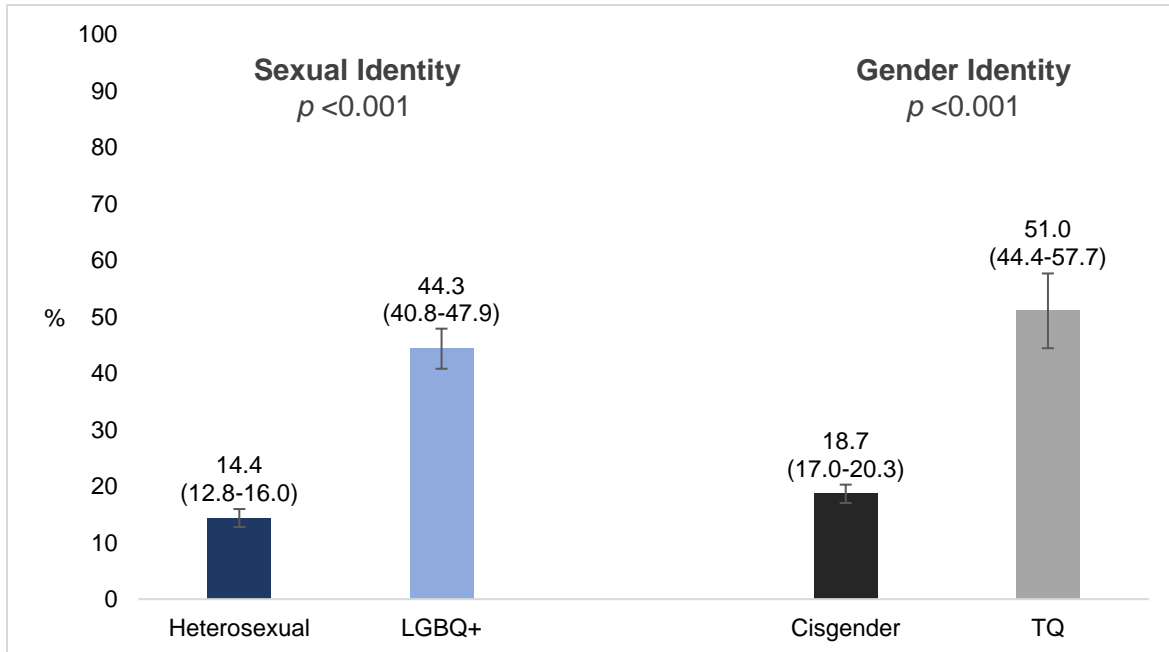


Figure 13: Percentage of middle school students who made a plan about how they would kill themselves during the 12 months before the survey, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

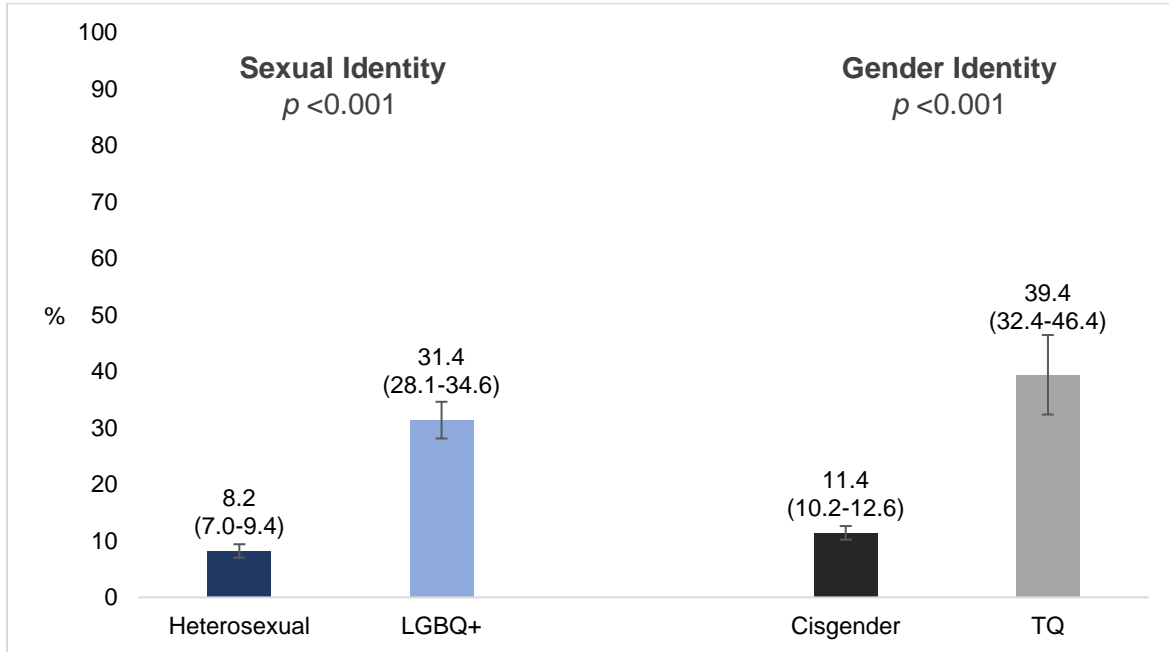
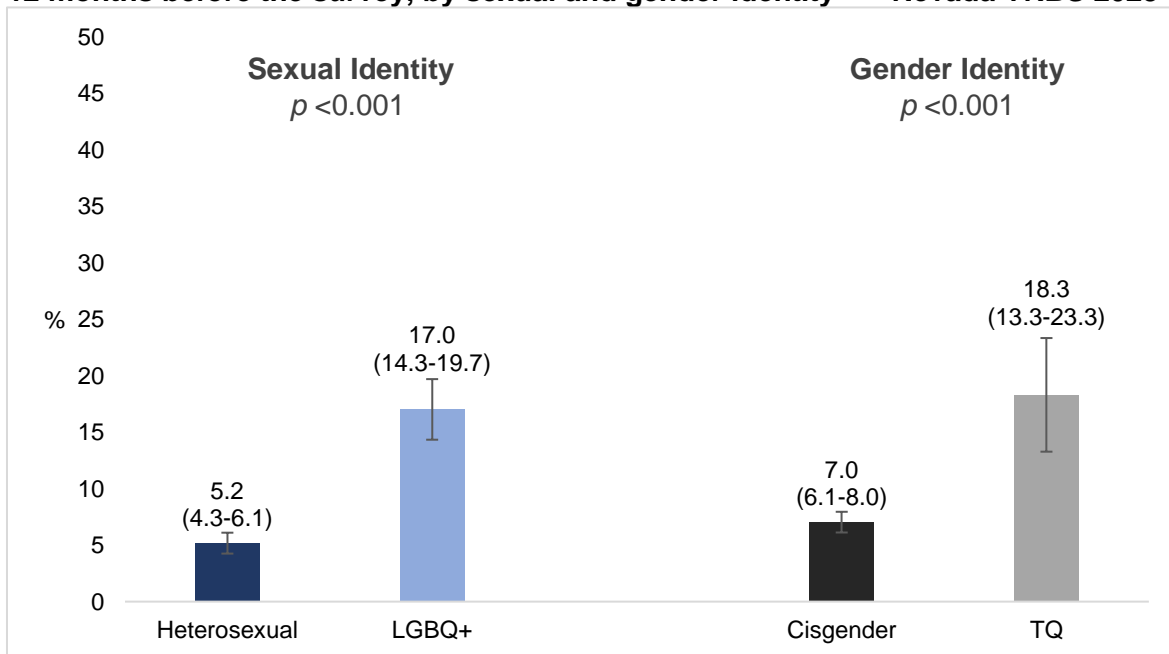


Figure 14: Percentage of middle school students who tried to kill themselves during the 12 months before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a One or more times during the 12 months before the survey

Figure 15: Percentage of middle school students who did something to purposely hurt themselves without wanting to die, such as cutting or burning themselves on purpose during the 12 months before the survey, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

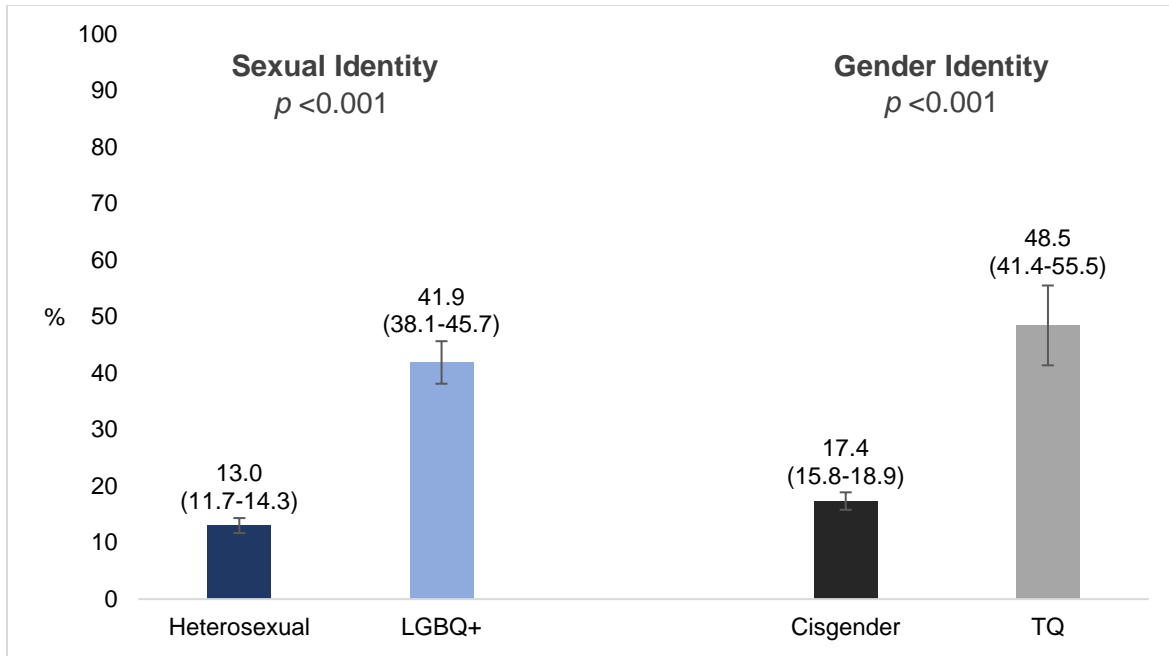
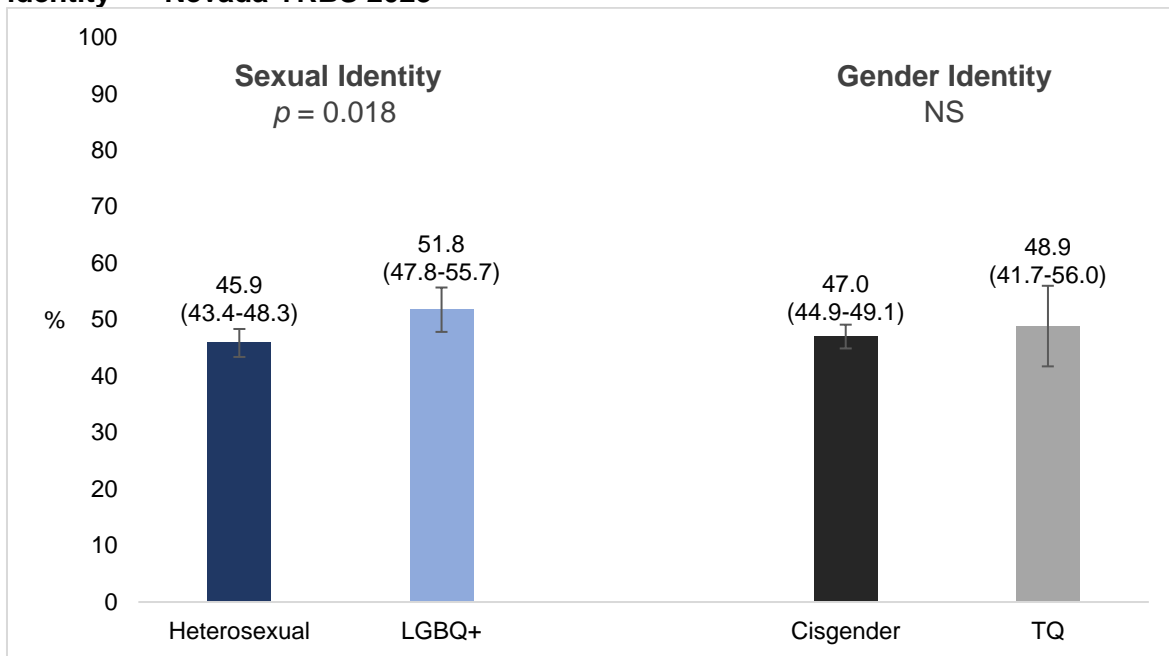


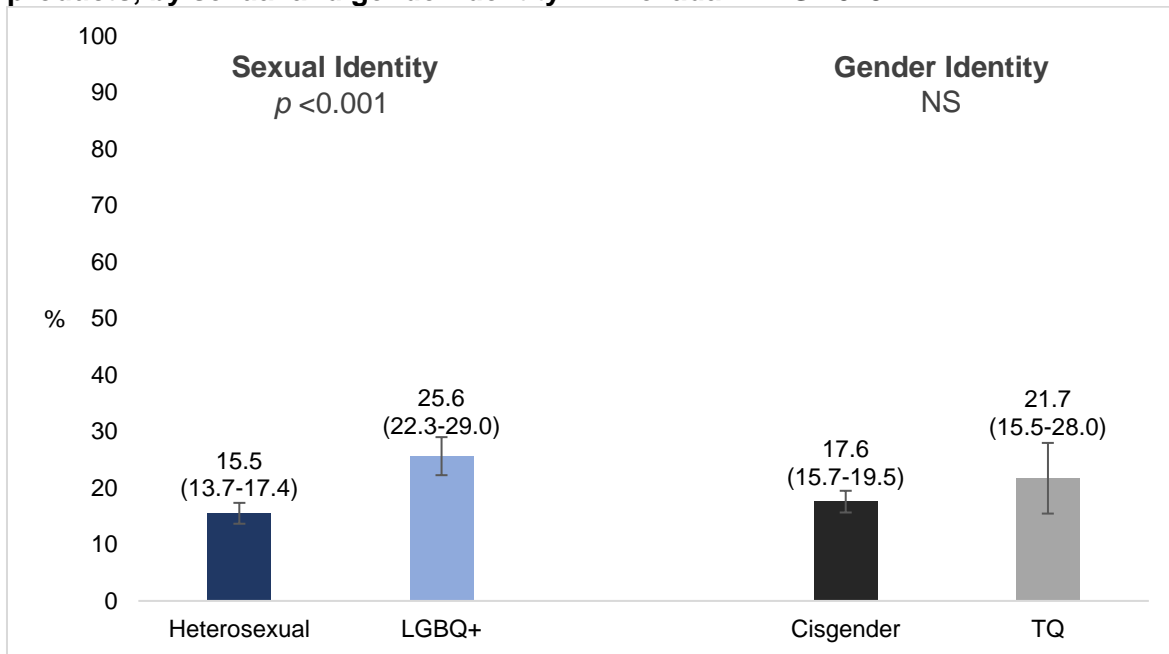
Figure 16: Percentage of middle school students who never or rarely got the kind of help they need when they felt sad, empty, hopeless, angry, or anxious, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a Among those who felt sad, empty, hopeless, angry, or anxious

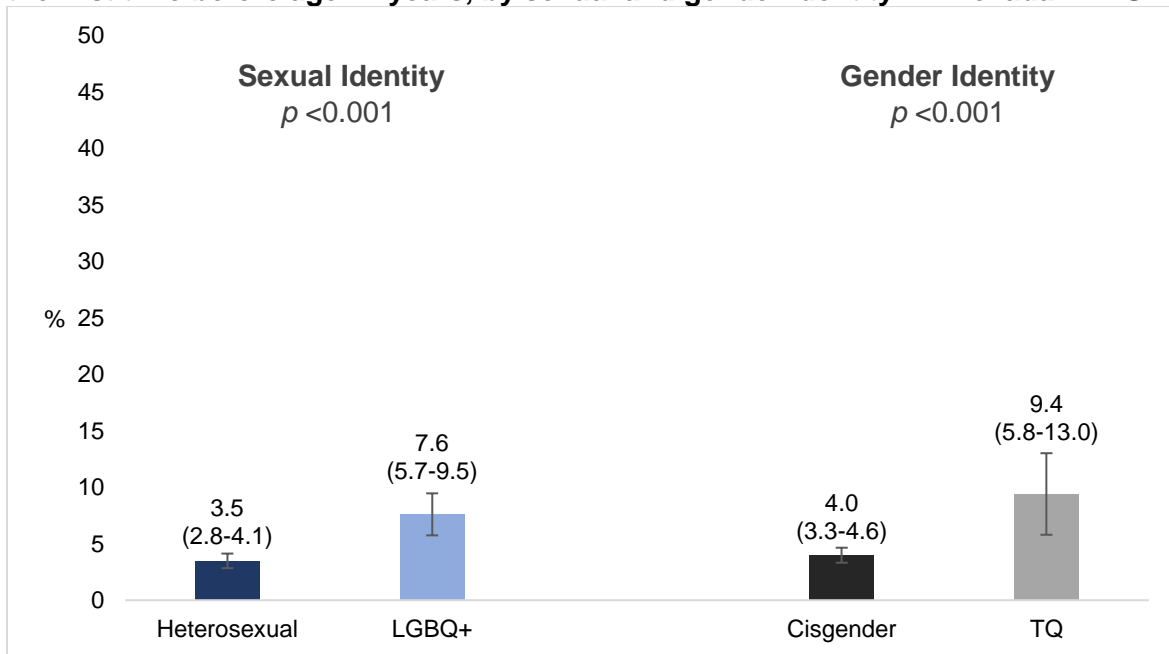
Electronic Vapor Product Use

Figure 17: Percentage of middle school students who ever used electronic vapor products, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



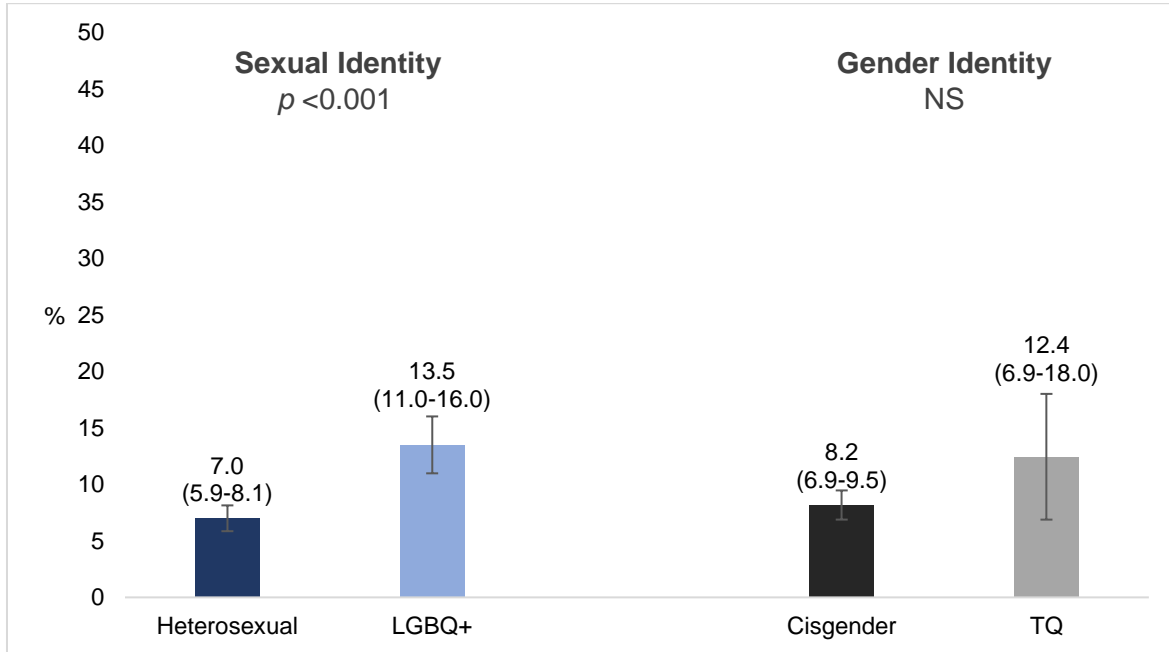
^a Including e-cigarettes, vapes, mods, e-cigs, e-hookahs, and vape pens such as “JUUL”, “Vuse”, “NJOY”, “Puff Bar”, “blu”, and “Bidi Stick”

Figure 18: Percentage of middle school students who tried electronic vapor products for the first time before age 11 years, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a Including e-cigarettes, vapes, mods, e-cigs, e-hookahs, and vape pens such as “JUUL”, “Vuse”, “NJOY”, “Puff Bar”, “blu”, and “Bidi Stick”

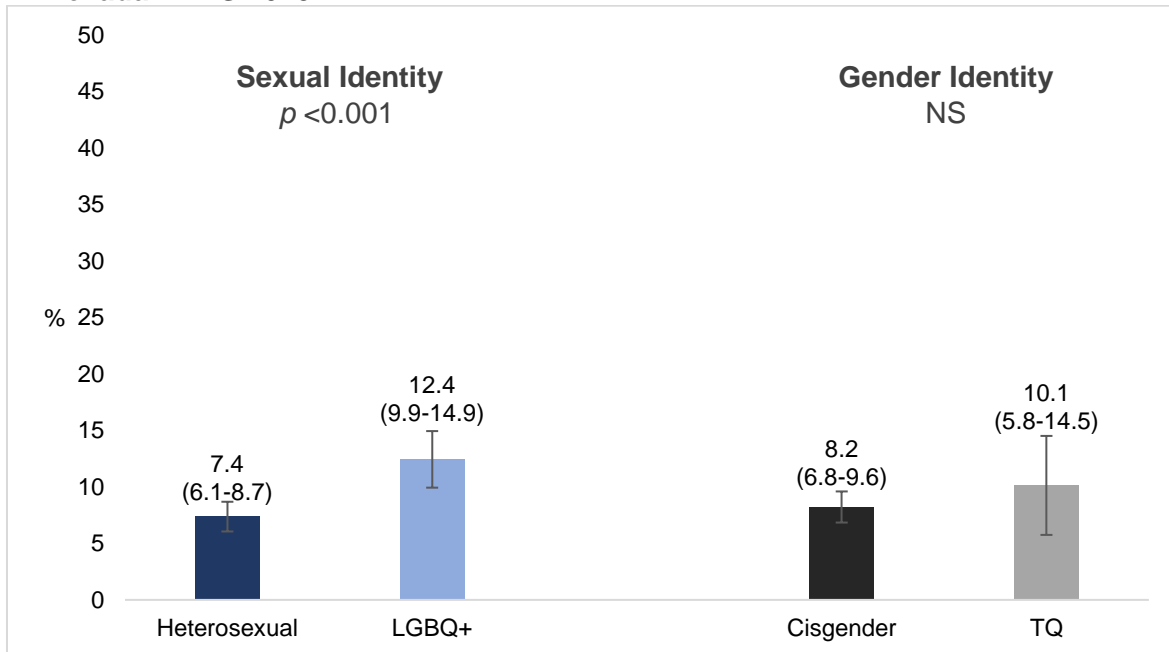
Figure 19: Percentage of middle school students who used electronic vapor products during the 30 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^{a,b} — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a Including e-cigarettes, vapes, mods, e-cigs, e-hookahs, and vape pens such as “JUUL”, “Vuse”, “NJOY”, “Puff Bar”, “blu”, and “Bidi Stick”

^b One or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 20: Percentage of middle school students who used an electronic vapor product to vape marijuana during the 30 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^{a,b,c} — Nevada YRBS 2023

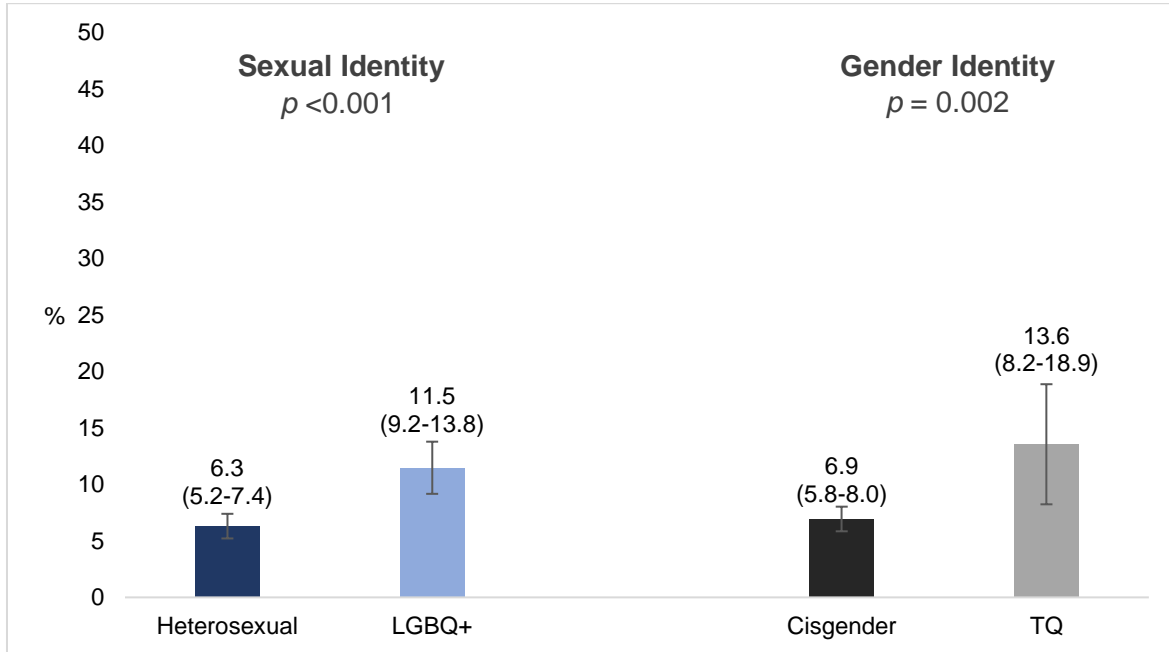


^a Including e-cigarettes, vapes, mods, e-cigs, e-hookahs, and vape pens such as “JUUL”, “Vuse”, “NJOY”, “Puff Bar”, “blu”, and “Bidi Stick”

^b Used marijuana (also called “pot” or “weed”), including THC, THC concentrates, hash oils, or waxes

^c One or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 21: Percentage of middle school students who used an electronic vapor product to vape nicotine during the 30 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^{a,b} — Nevada YRBS 2023

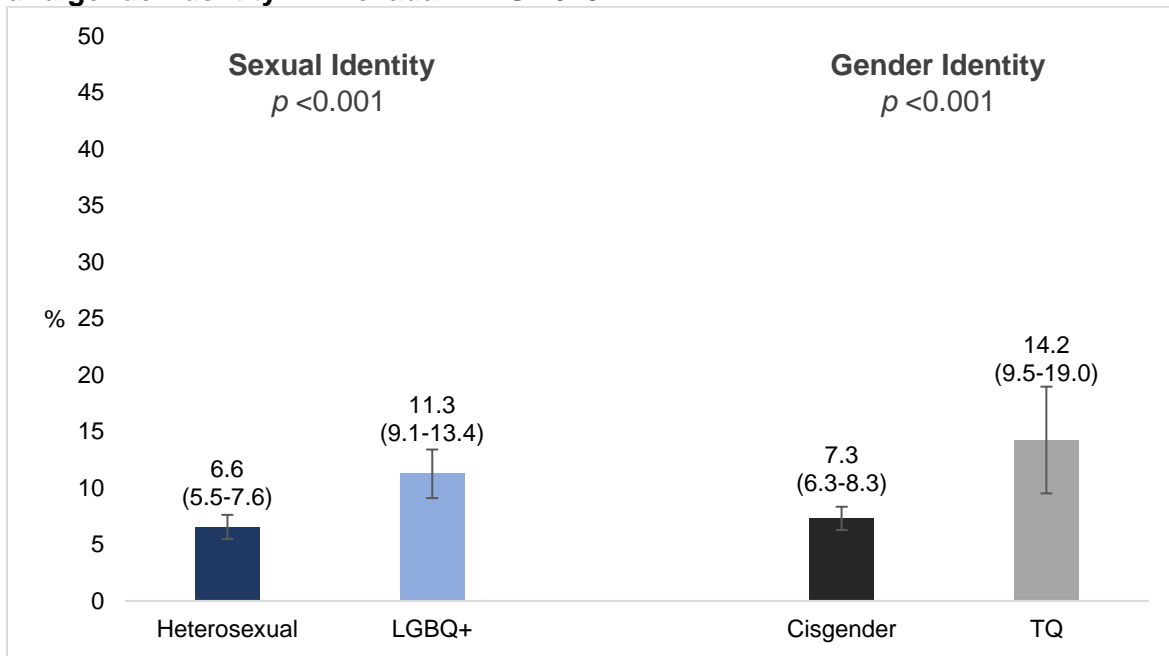


^a Including e-cigarettes, vapes, mods, e-cigs, e-hookahs, and vape pens such as “JUUL”, “Vuse”, “NJOY”, “Puff Bar”, “blu”, and “Bidi Stick”

^b One or more days during the 30 days before the survey

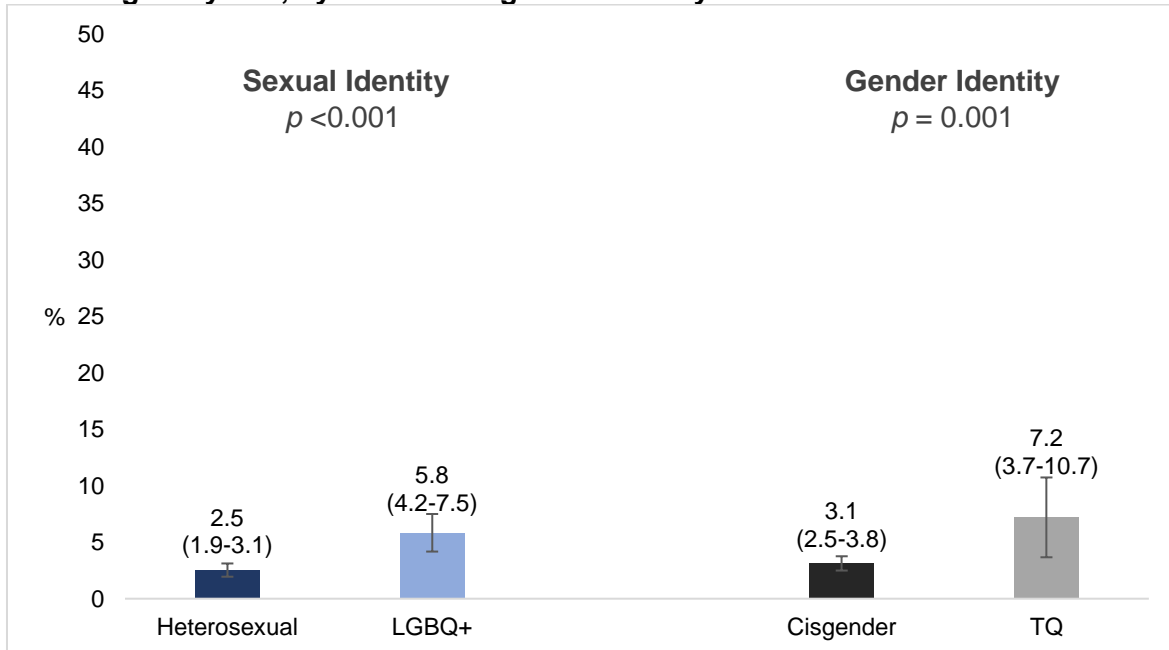
Tobacco Use

Figure 22: Percentage of middle school students who ever smoked cigarettes, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



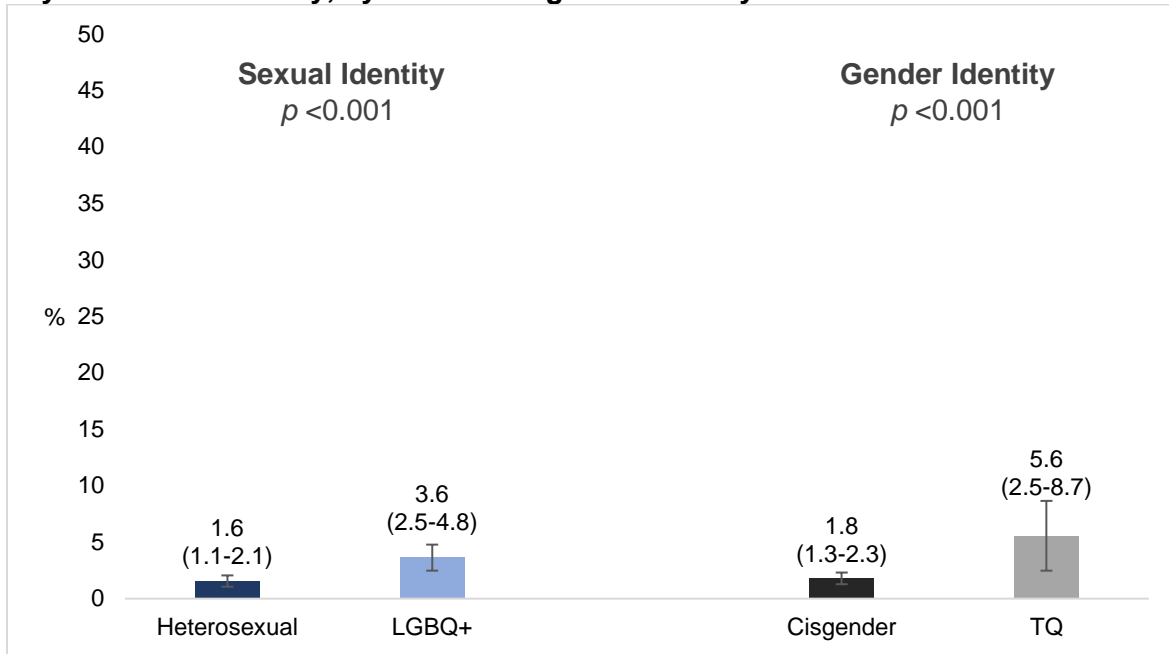
^a Even one or two puffs

Figure 23: Percentage of middle school students who smoked cigarettes for the first time before age 11 years, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



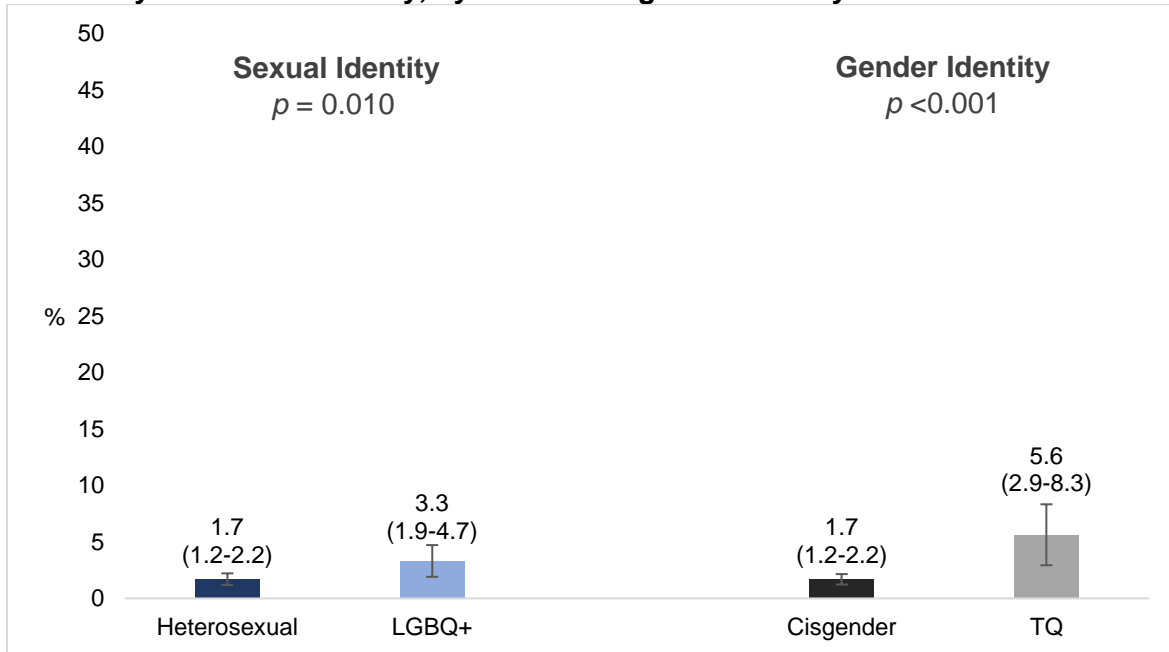
^a Even one or two puffs

Figure 24: Percentage of middle school students who smoked cigarettes during the 30 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a One or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 25: Percentage of middle school students who used smokeless tobacco during the 30 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^{a,b} — Nevada YRBS 2023

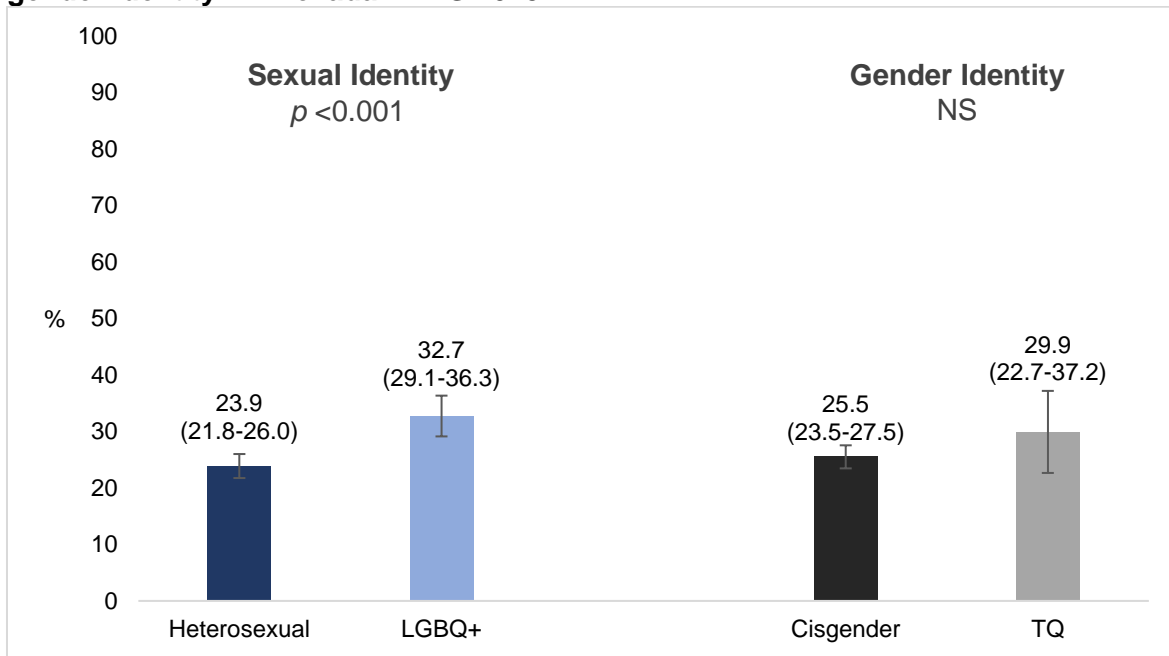


^a Chewing tobacco, snuff, dip, snus, or dissolvable tobacco products such as: 'Copenhagen', 'Grizzly', 'Skoal', 'Camel Snus', or 'Velo Nicotine Lozenges'

^b One or more days during the 30 days before the survey

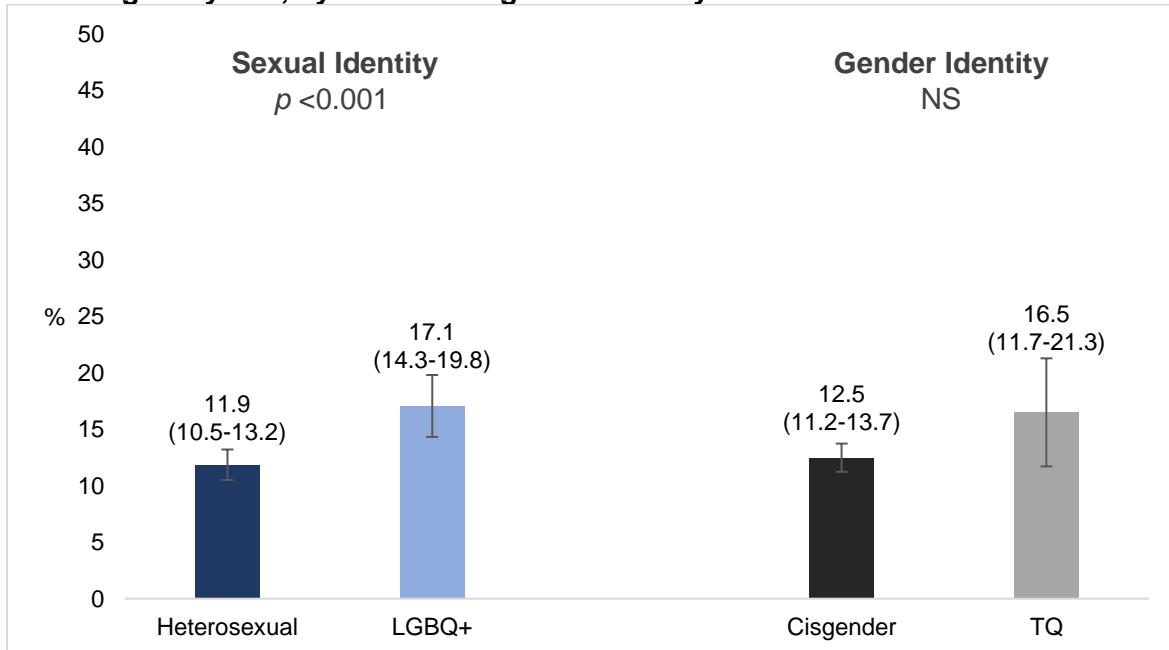
Alcohol Use

Figure 26: Percentage of middle school students who ever drank alcohol, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023*



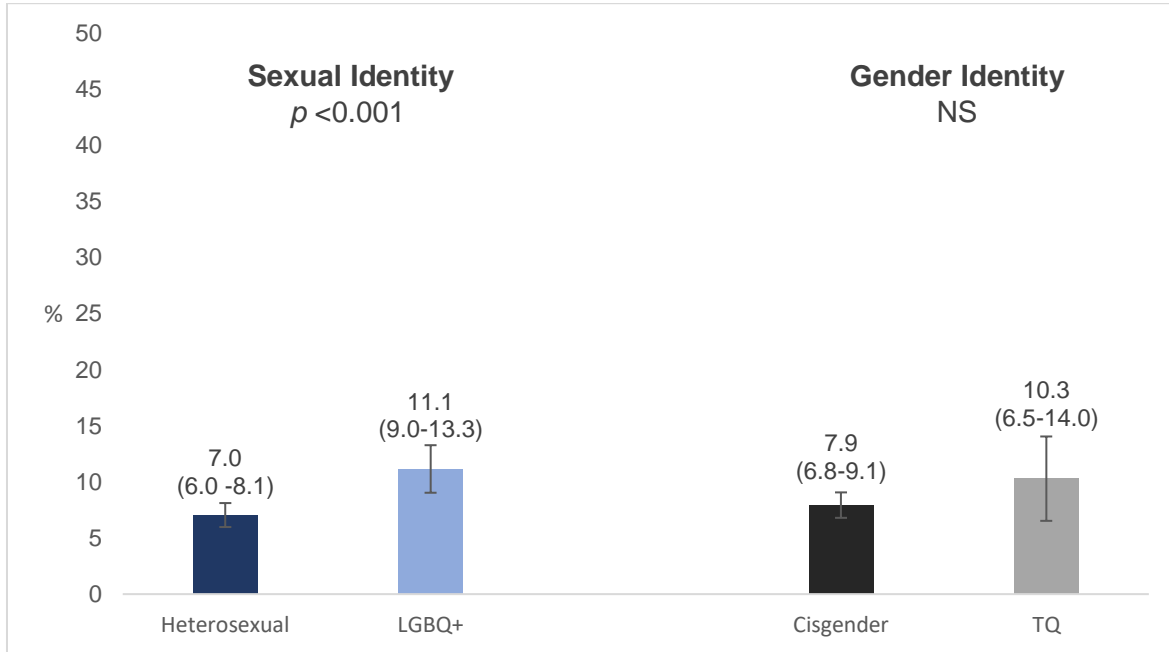
^a Other than a few sips

Figure 27: Percentage of middle school students who drank alcohol for the first time before age 11 years, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



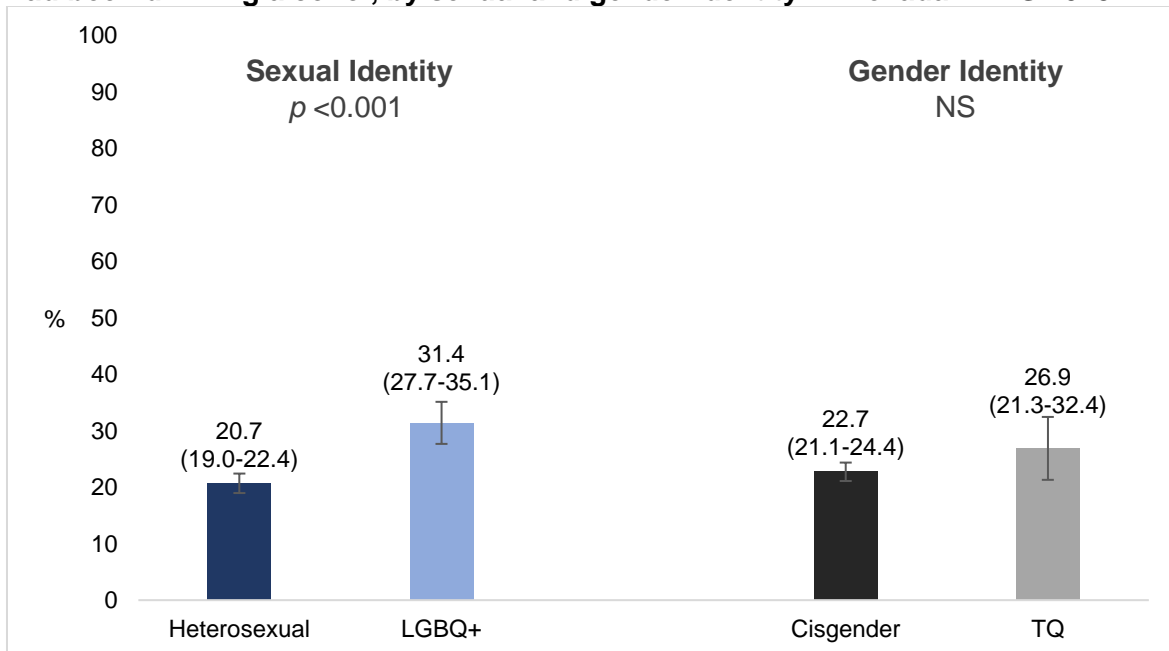
^a Other than a few sips

Figure 28: Percentage of middle school students who had at least one drink of alcohol during the 30 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



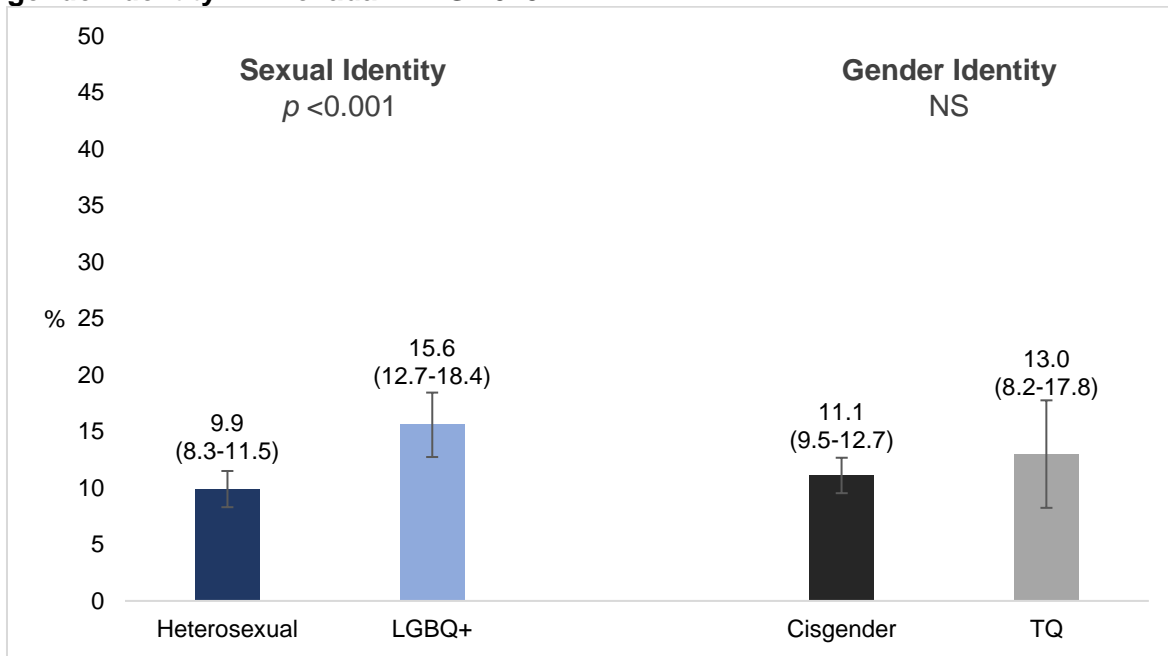
^a One or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 29: Percentage of middle school students who have ever rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023



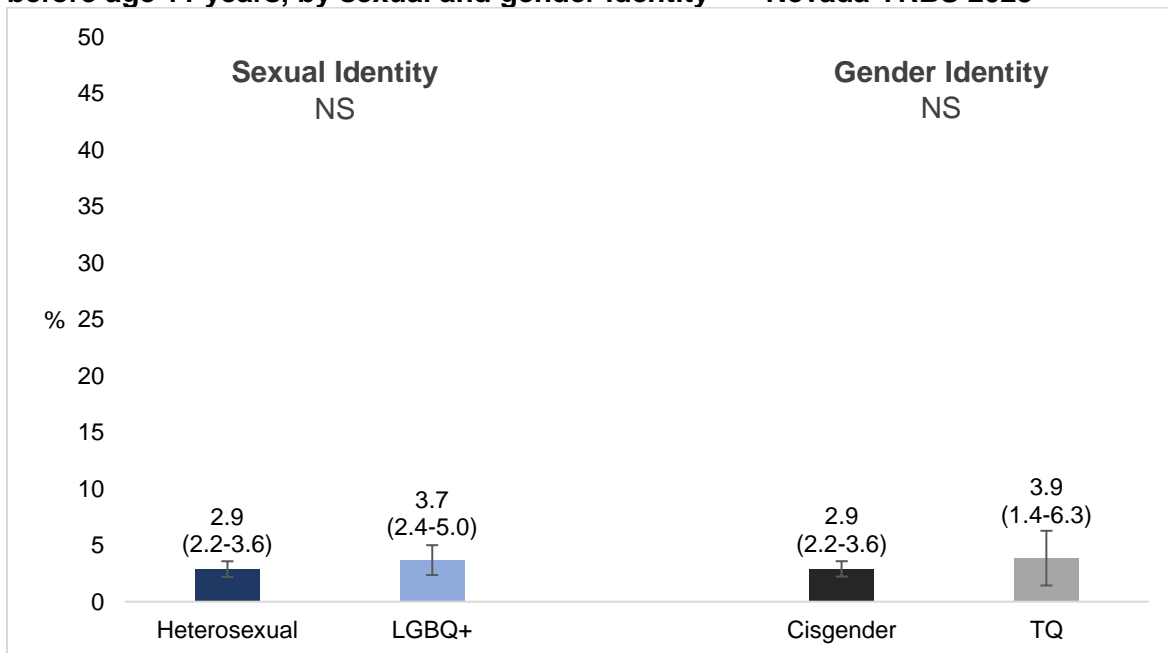
Marijuana Use

Figure 30: Percentage of middle school students who ever used marijuana, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



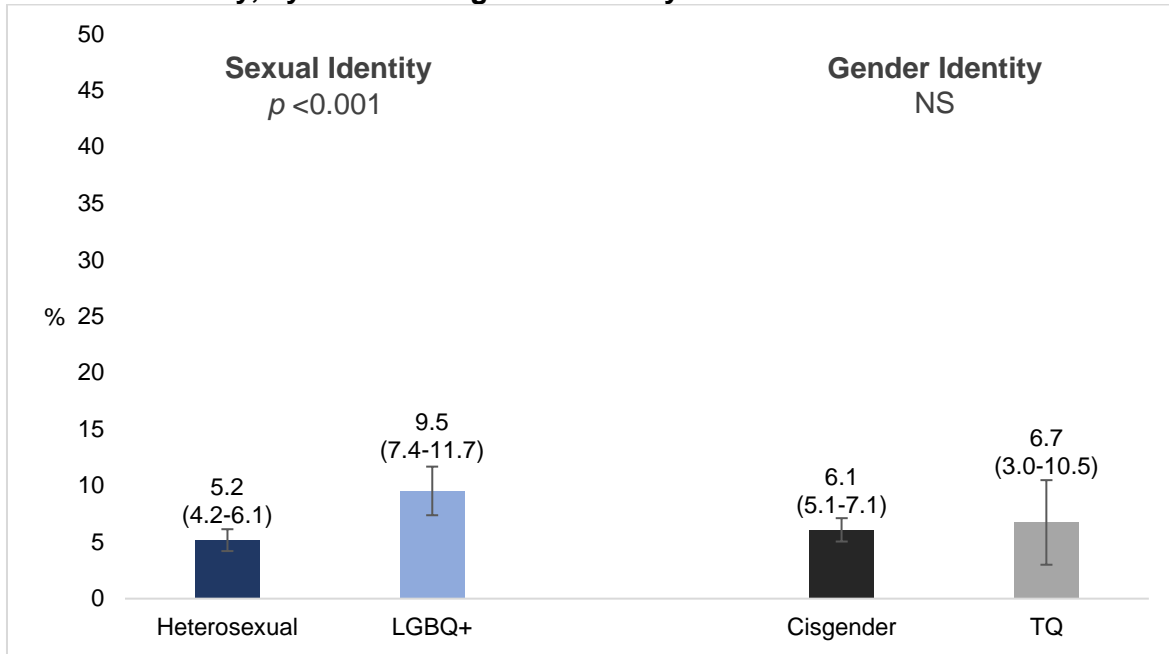
^a Used marijuana (also called “pot” or “weed”), not including CBD-only or hemp products

Figure 31: Percentage of middle school students who tried marijuana for the first time before age 11 years, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a Used marijuana (also called “pot” or “weed”), not including CBD-only or hemp products

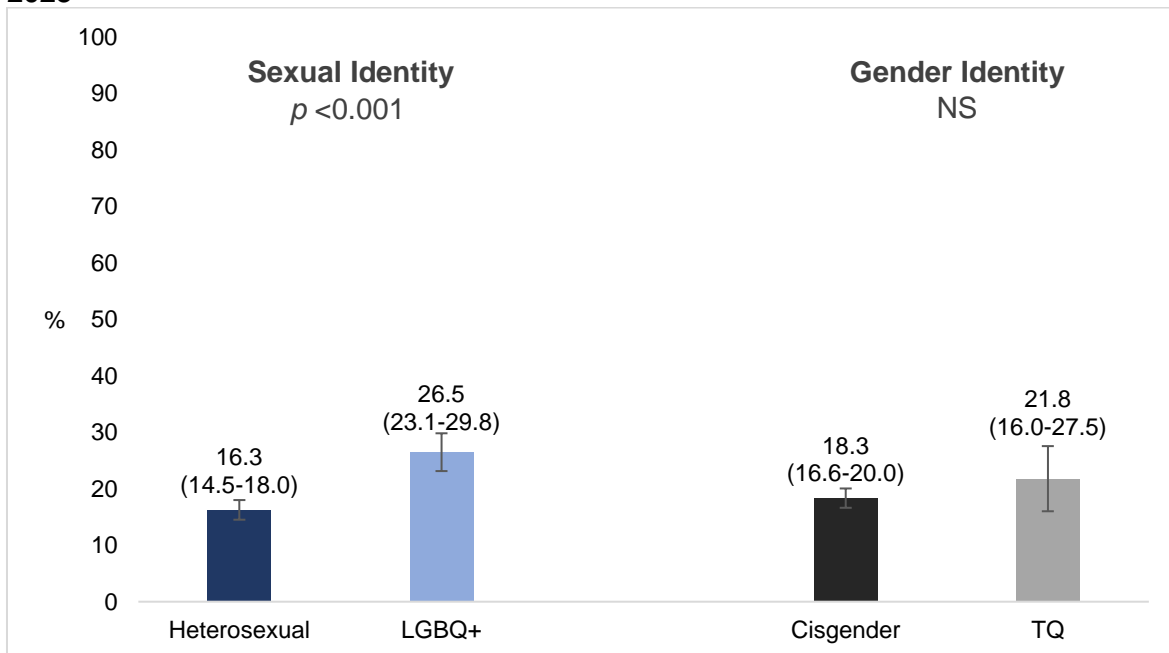
Figure 32: Percentage of middle school students who used marijuana during the 30 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^{a,b} — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a Used marijuana (also called “pot” or “weed”), not including CBD-only or hemp products

^b One or more times during the 30 days before the survey

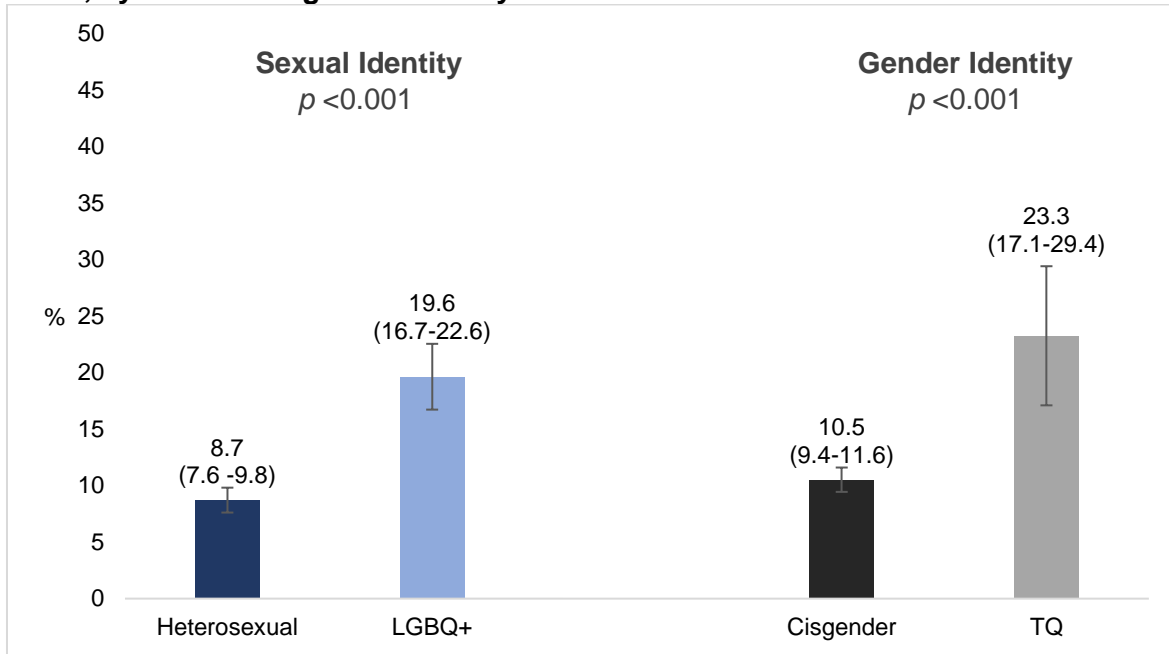
Figure 33: Percentage of students who rode with a driver who had been using marijuana during the 30 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^{a,b} — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a Used marijuana (also called “pot” or “weed”)

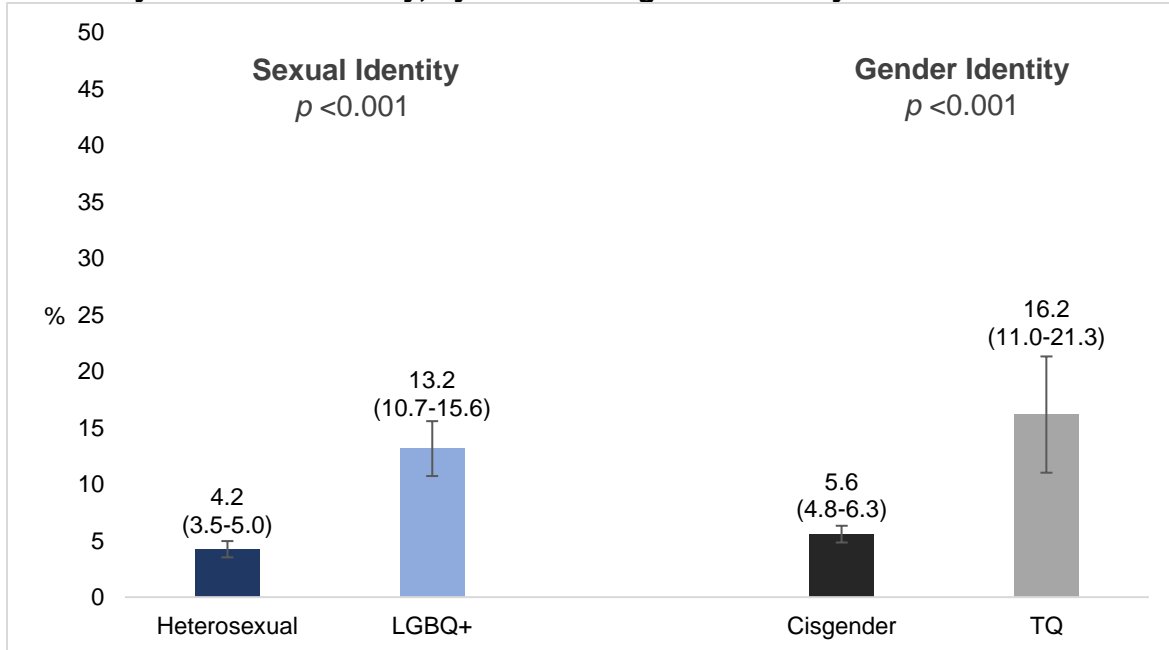
Non-Medical Prescription Pain Medicine Use

Figure 34: Percentage of middle school students who ever took prescription pain medicine without a doctor’s prescription or differently than how a doctor told them to use it, by sexual and gender identity^{a,b} — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a Took prescription pain medicine (e.g., codeine, 'Vicodin', 'OxyContin', 'Hydrocodone', and 'Percocet')

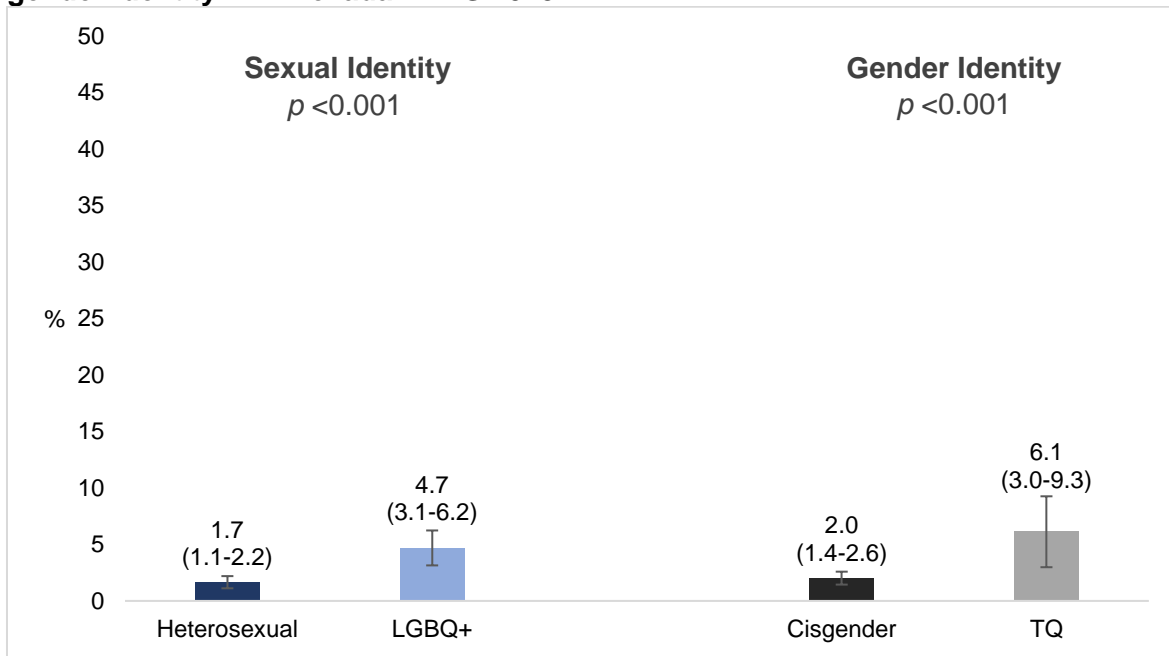
Figure 35: Percentage of middle school students who took prescription pain medicine without a doctor’s prescription or differently than how a doctor told them to use it during the 30 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^a— Nevada YRBS 2023



^a Took prescription pain medicine (e.g., codeine, 'Vicodin', 'OxyContin', 'Hydrocodone', and 'Percocet')

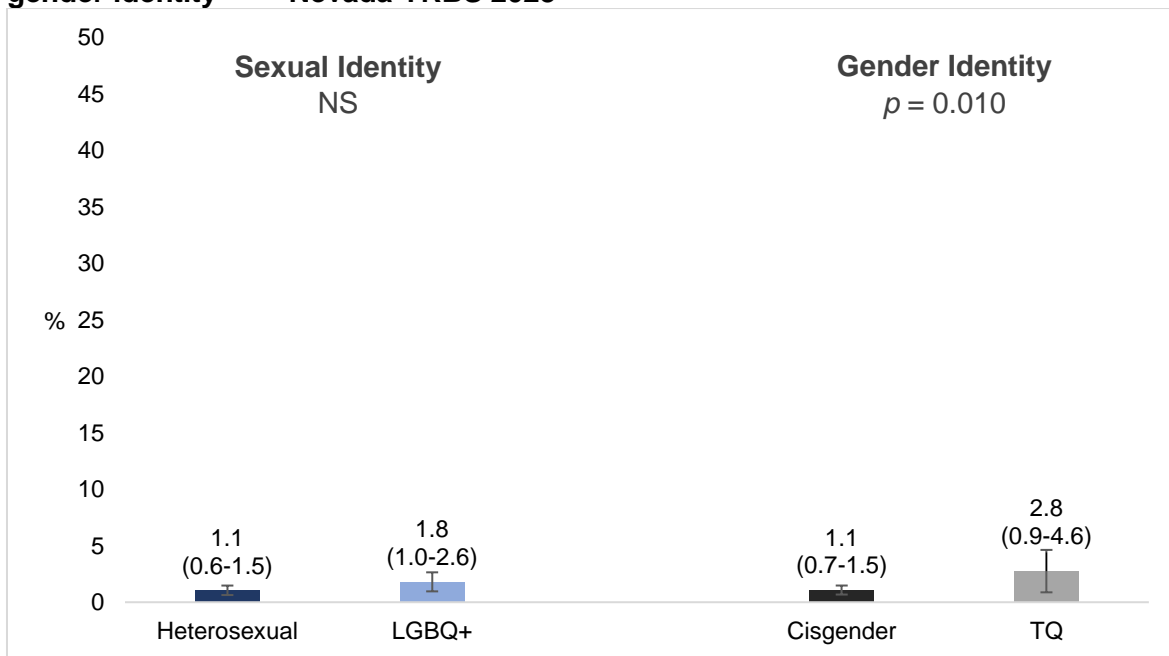
Other Drug Use

Figure 36: Percentage of middle school students who ever used cocaine, by sexual and gender identity^{a,b} — Nevada YRBS 2023



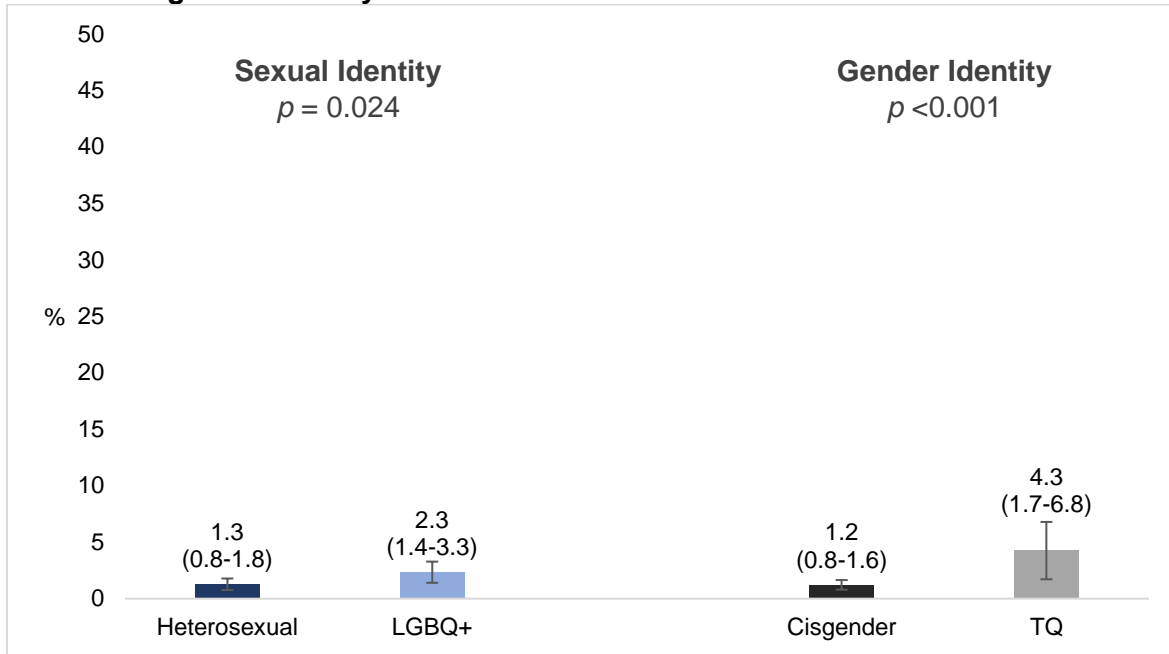
^a Used any form of cocaine including powder, crack, or freebase

Figure 37: Percentage of middle school students who ever used heroin, by sexual and gender identity^{a,b} — Nevada YRBS 2023



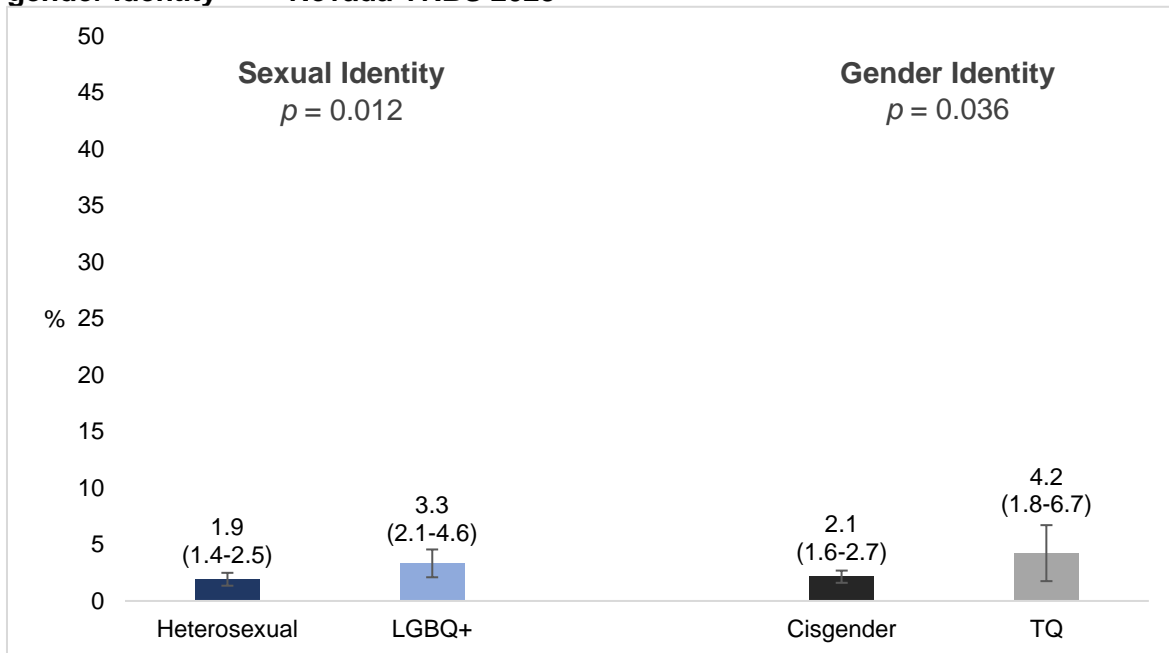
^a Used heroin (also called “smack”, “junk”, or “China White”)

Figure 38: Percentage of middle school students who ever used methamphetamines, by sexual and gender identity^{a,b} — Nevada YRBS 2023



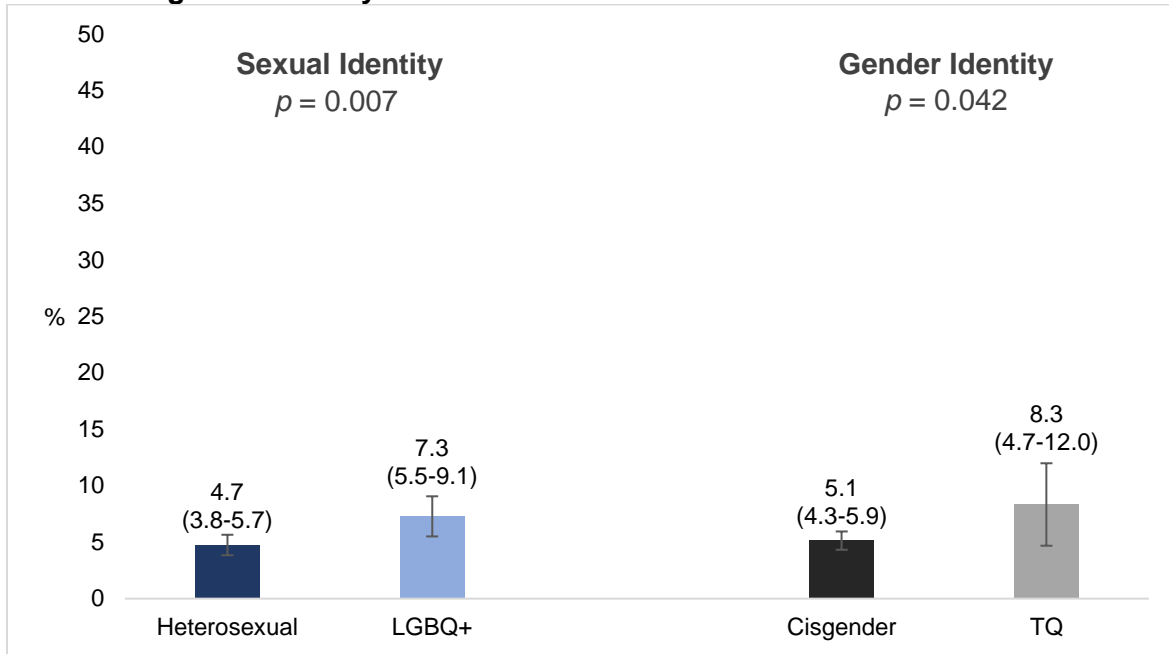
^a Used methamphetamines (also called “speed”, “crystal meth”, “crank”, “ice”, or “meth”)

Figure 39: Percentage of middle school students who ever used ecstasy, by sexual and gender identity^{a,b} — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a Used ecstasy (also called “MDMA” or “Molly”)

Figure 40: Percentage of middle school students who ever used synthetic marijuana, by sexual and gender identity^{a,b} — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a Used synthetic marijuana (also called “Spice”, “fake weed”, “K2”, or “Black Mamba”)

Substance Use – Perception of Risk

Figure 41: Percentage of middle school students who reported that they think people are at no/slight risk of harming themselves physically or in other ways when they have five or more drinks of an alcoholic beverage once or twice a week, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

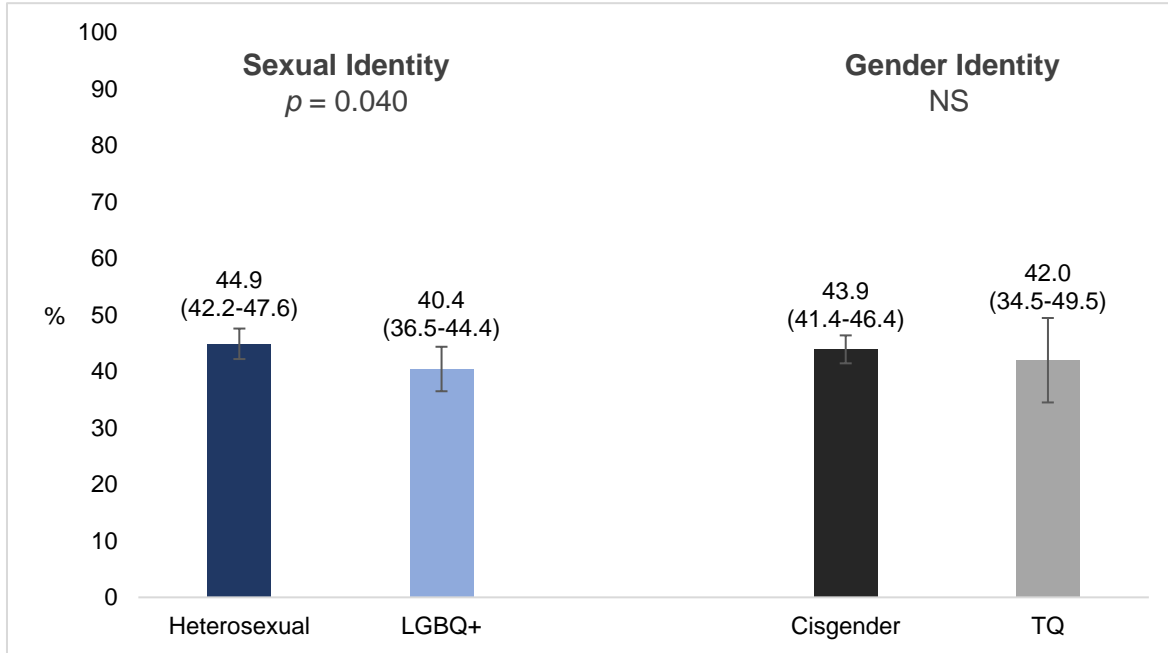


Figure 42: Percentage of middle school students who reported that they think people are at no/slight risk of harming themselves physically or in other ways if they smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

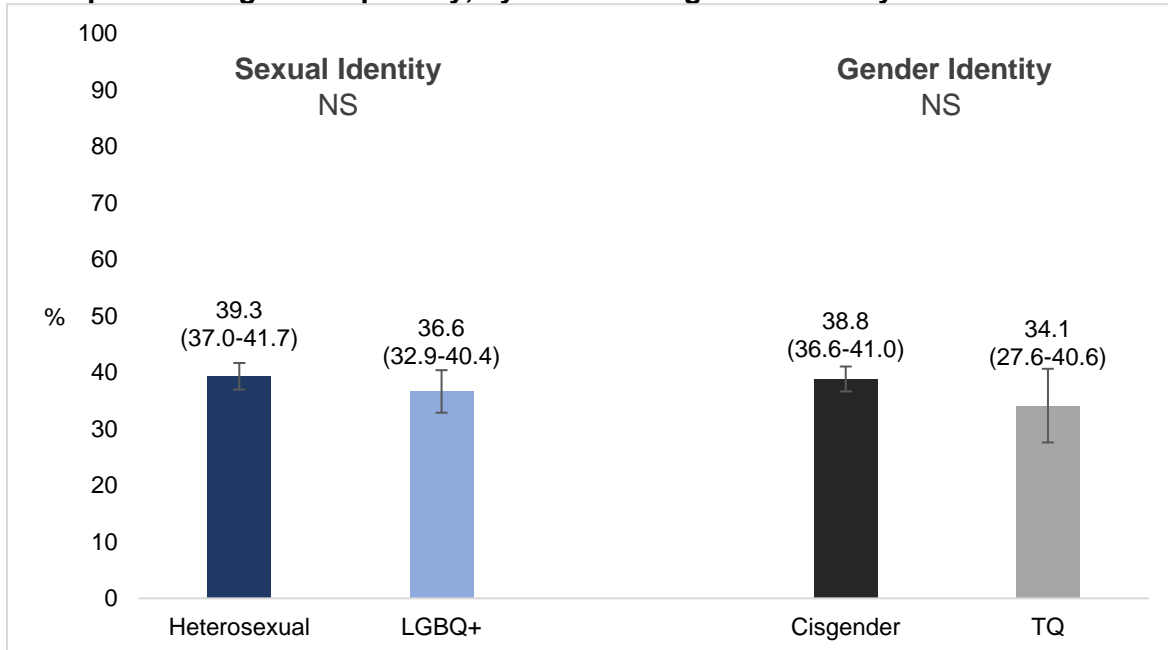


Figure 43: Percentage of middle school students who reported that they think people are at no/slight risk of harming themselves physically or in other ways if they smoke marijuana once or twice a week, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

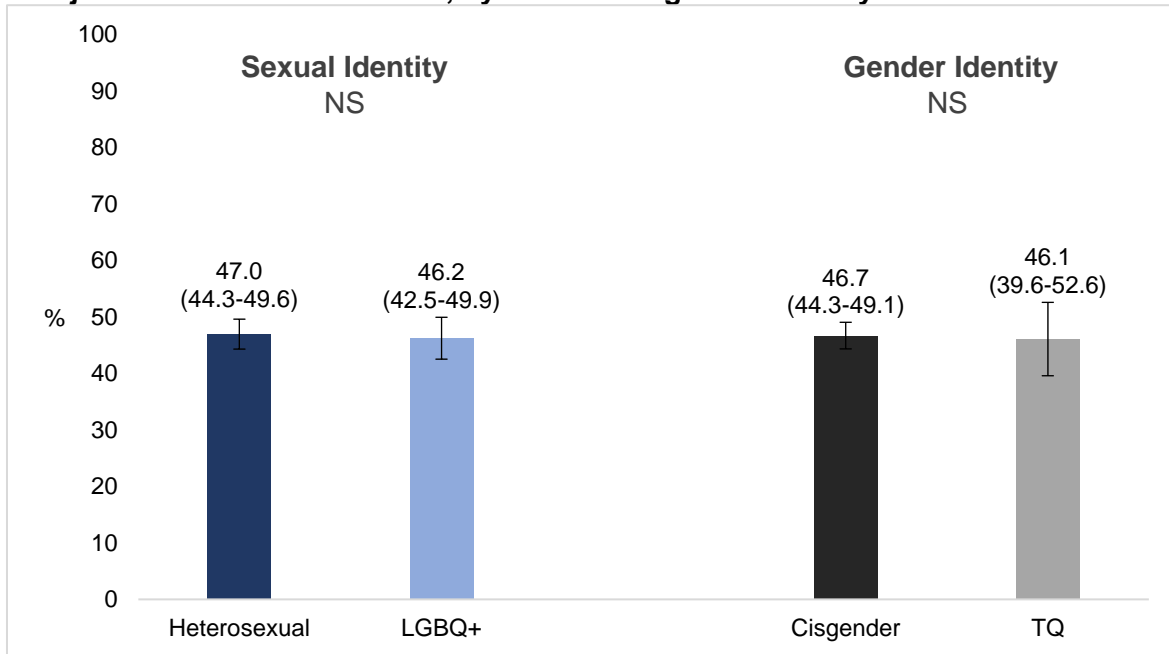
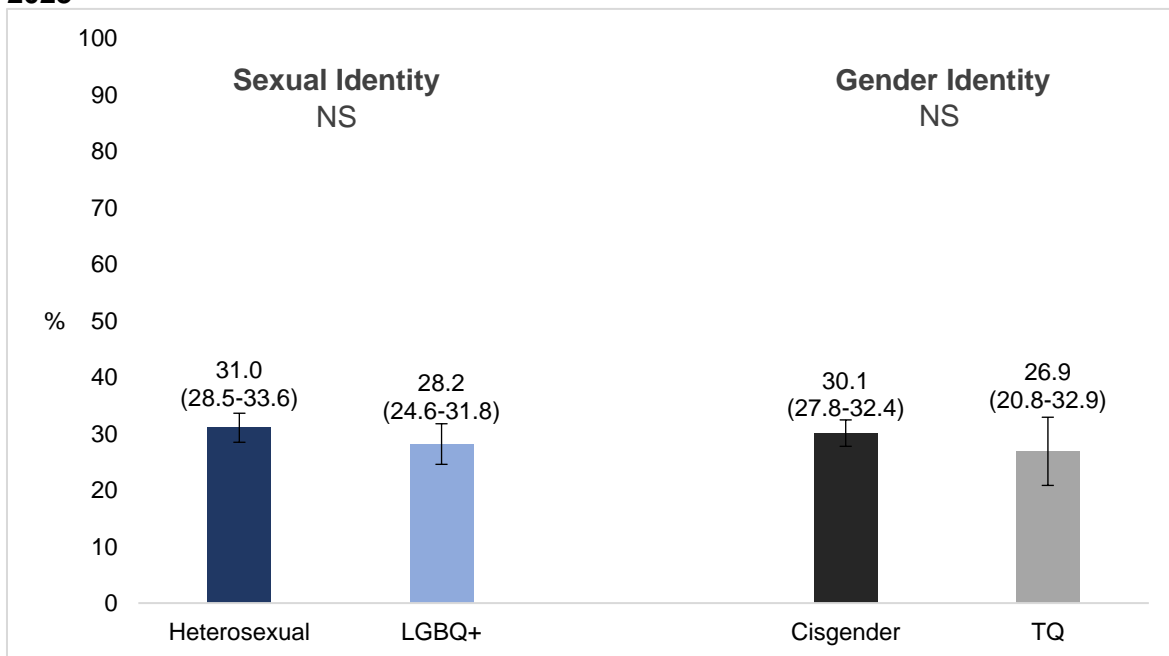


Figure 44: Percentage of middle school students who reported that think people are at no/slight risk of harming themselves physically or in other ways if they use prescription drugs that are not prescribed to them, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023



Substance Use – Perception of Parent Disapproval

Figure 45: Percentage of middle school students who reported that their parents feel it would be not at all/a little bit wrong for them to have one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

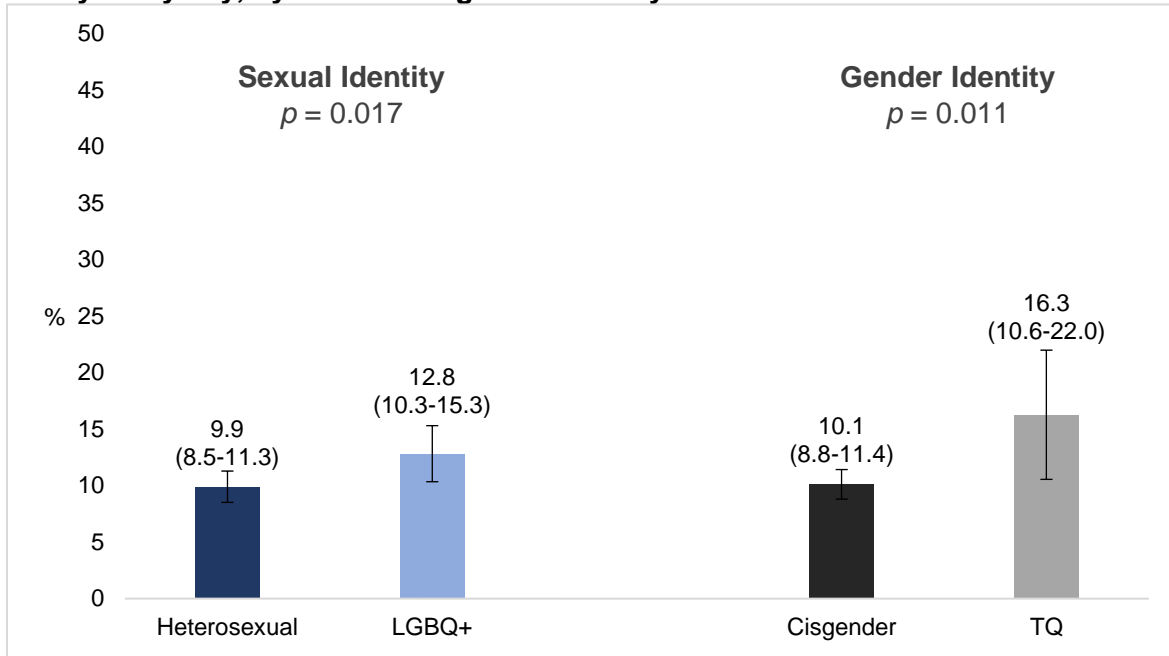


Figure 46: Percentage of middle school students who reported that their parents feel it would be not at all/a little bit wrong for them to smoke tobacco, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

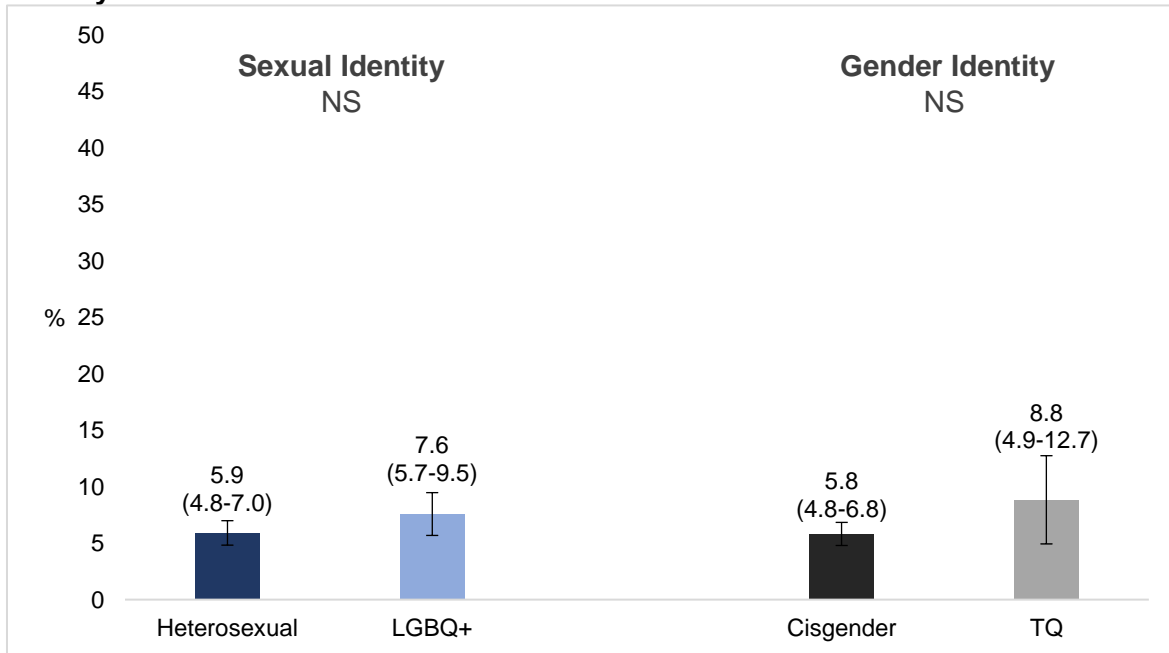


Figure 47: Percentage of middle school students who reported that their parents feel it would be not at all/a little bit wrong for them to smoke marijuana, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

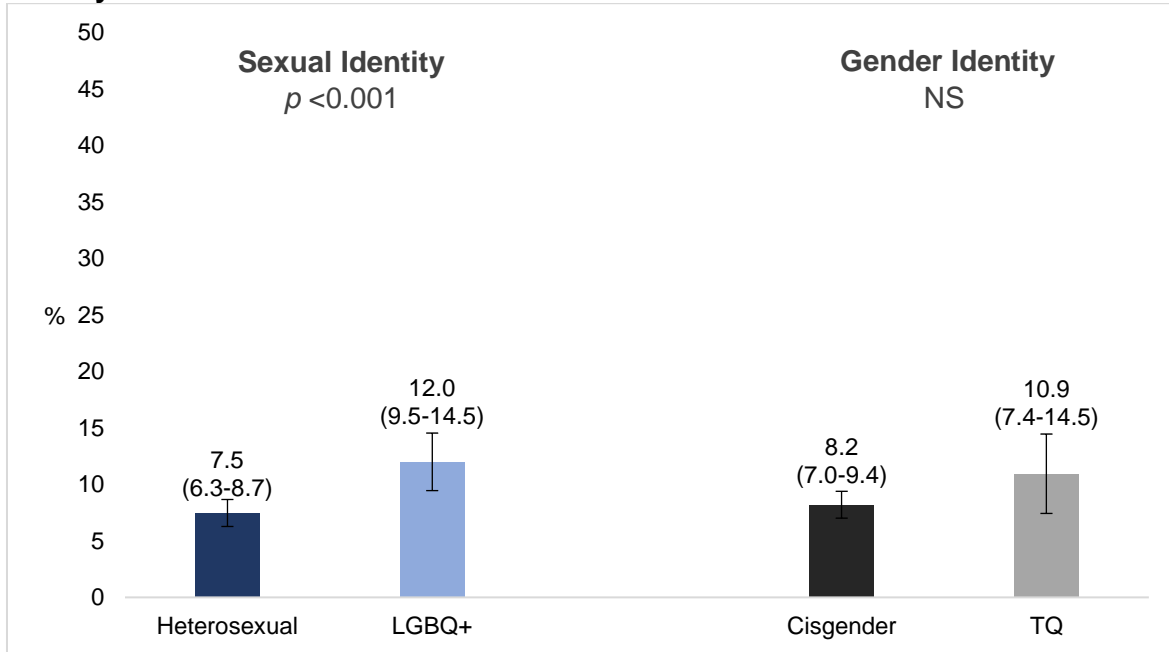
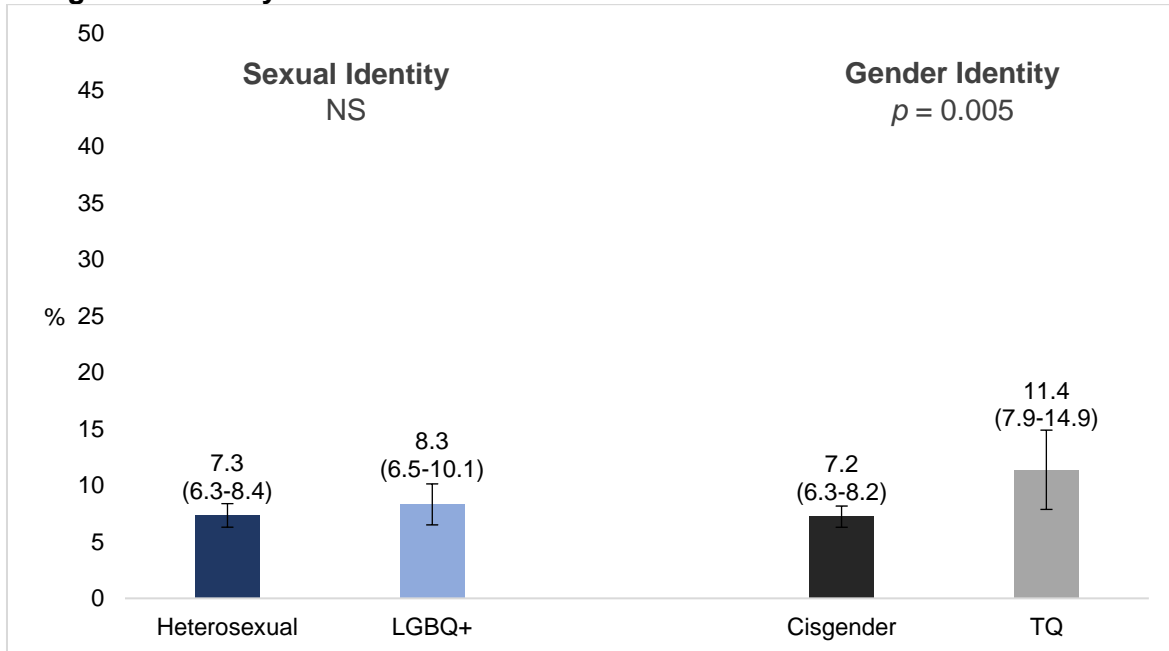


Figure 48: Percentage of middle school students who reported that their parents feel it would be not at all/a little bit wrong for them to use prescription drugs not prescribed to them, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023



Substance Use – Perception of Peer Disapproval

Figure 49: Percentage of middle school students who reported that their friends feel it would be not at all/a little bit wrong for them to have one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

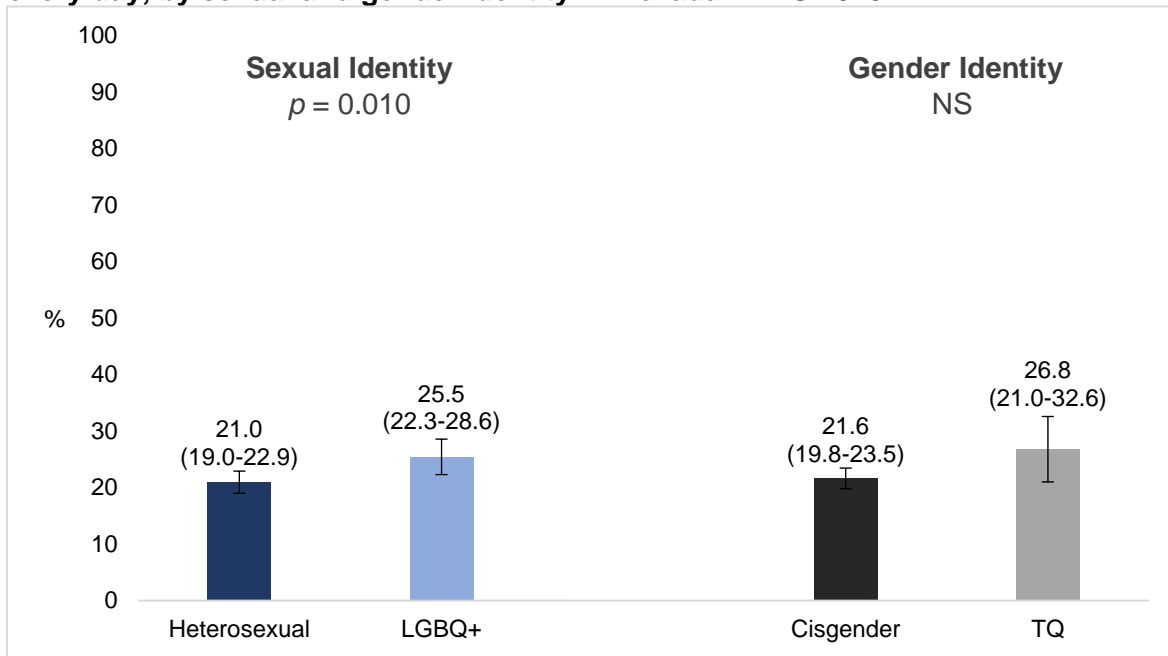


Figure 50: Percentage of middle school students who reported that their friends feel it would be not at all/a little bit wrong for them to smoke tobacco, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

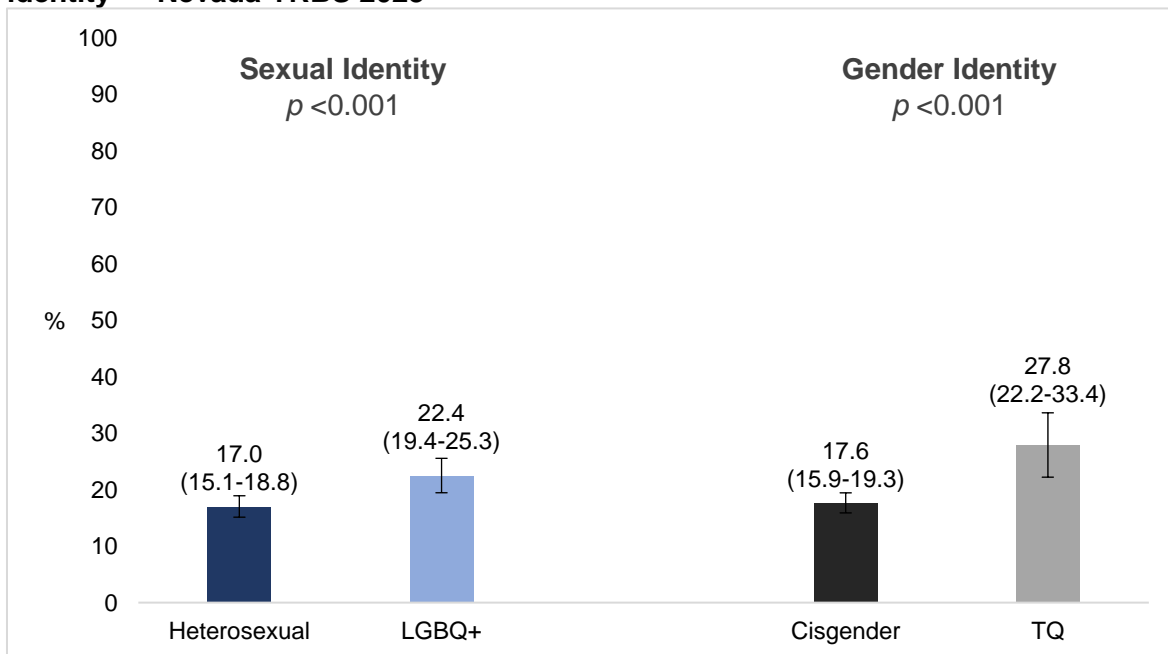


Figure 51: Percentage of middle school students who reported that their friends feel it would be not at all/a little bit wrong for them to smoke marijuana, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

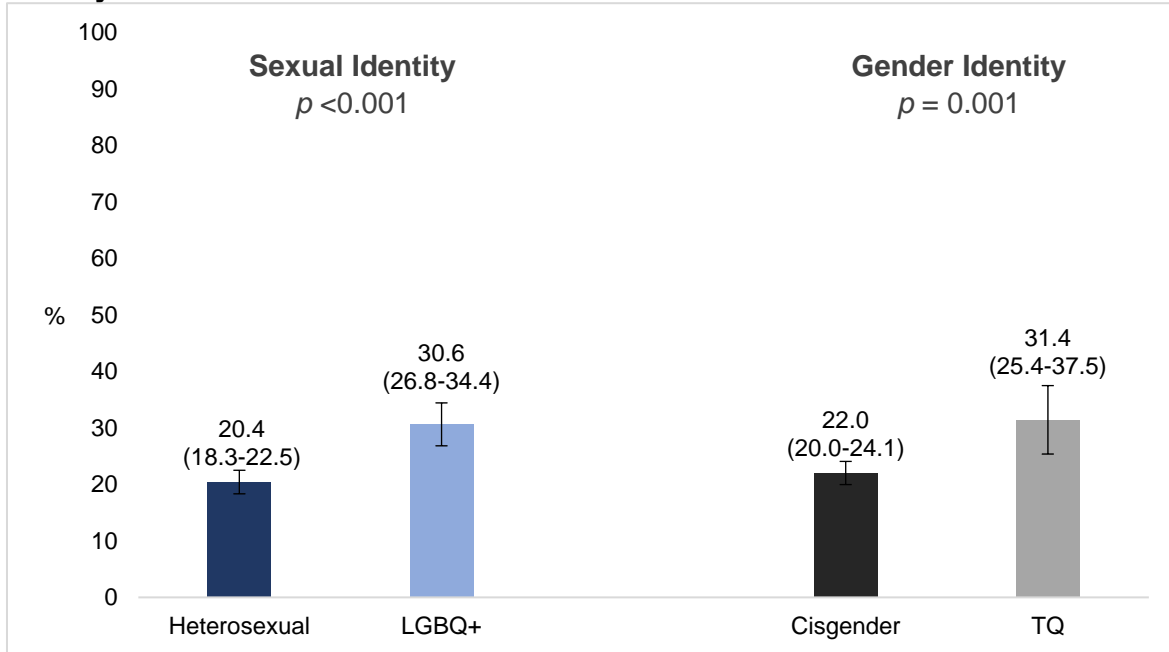
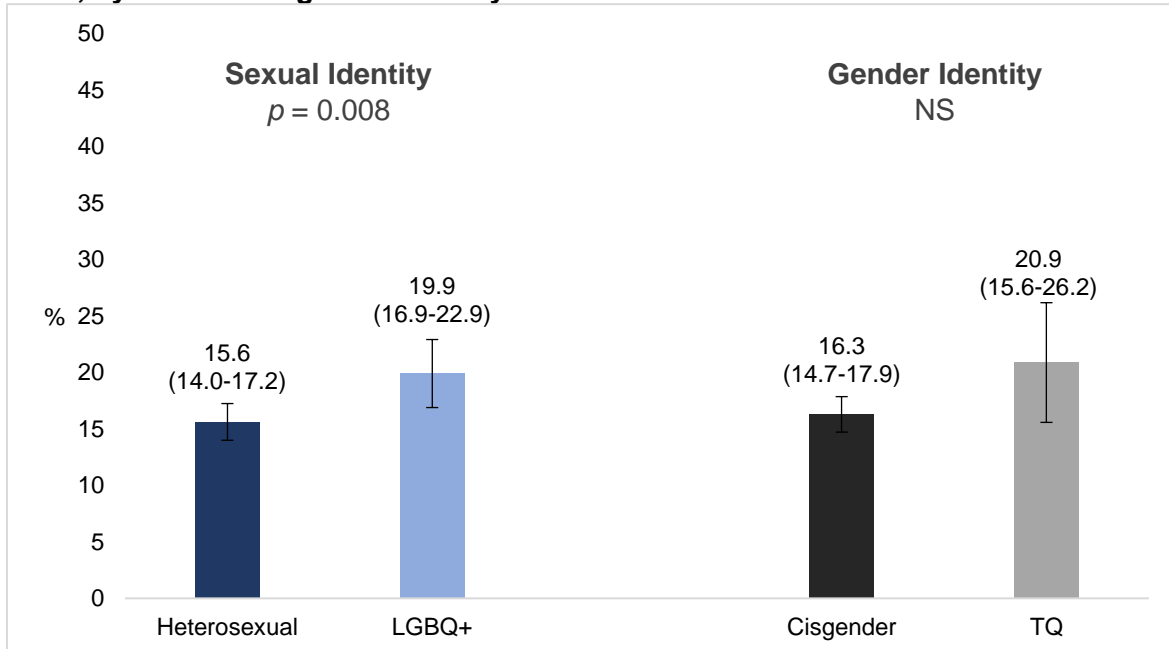
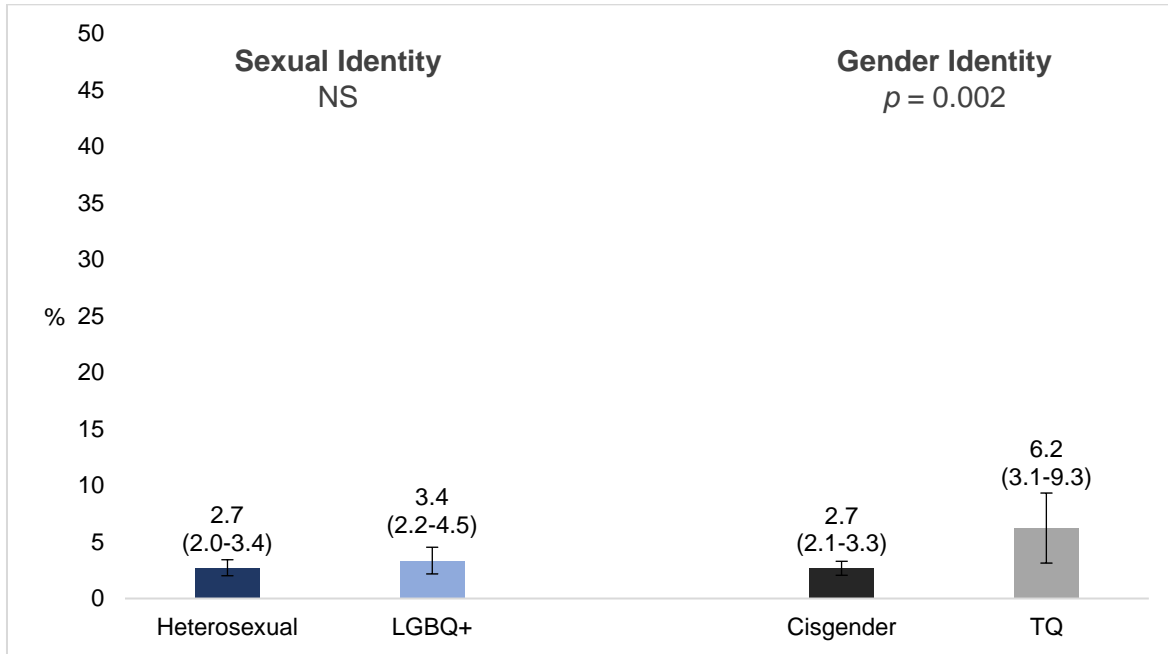


Figure 52: Percentage of middle school students who reported that their friends feel it would be not at all/a little bit wrong for them to use prescription drugs not prescribed to them, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023



Other Health Indicators

Figure 53: Percentage of middle school students who experienced housing insecurity during the 30 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^a— Nevada YRBS 2023



^a In the home of other people, a shelter or emergency housing, a motel or hotel, a public place, or no usual place

Figure 54: Percentage of middle school students who went hungry most of the time/always because there was not enough food in their home during the 30 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

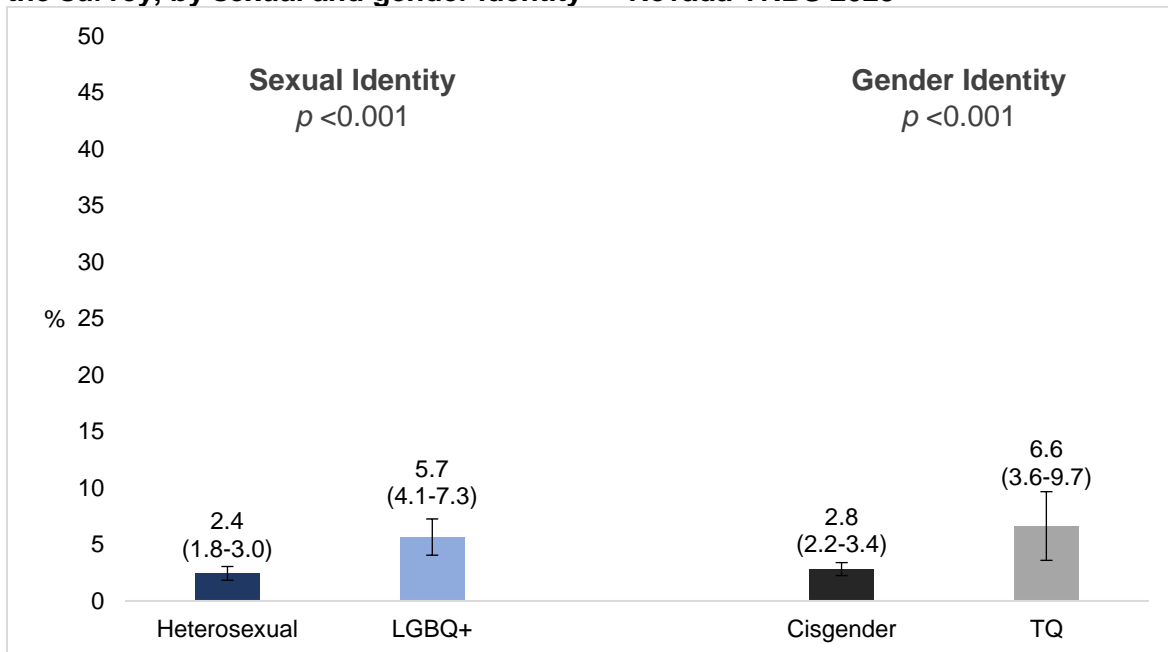
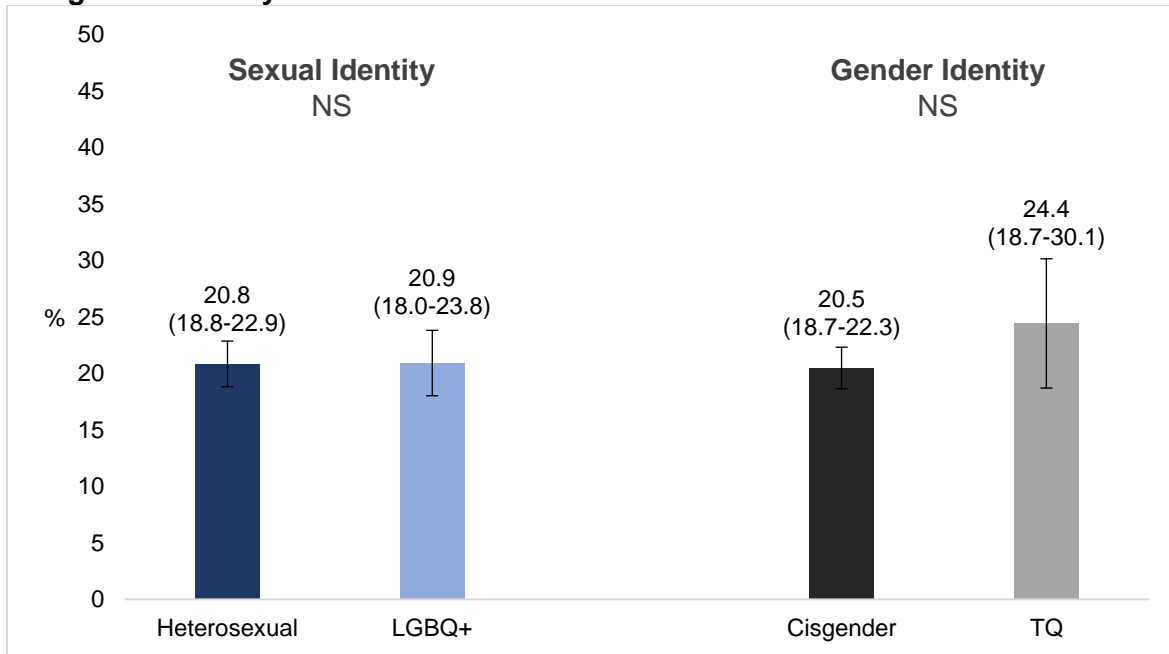


Figure 55: Percentage of middle school students who did not participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on any day during the 7 days before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a No participation in any kind of physical activity that increased their heart rate and made them breathe hard some of the time

Figure 56: Percentage of middle school students who did not attend physical education (PE) classes on one or more days in an average school week, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

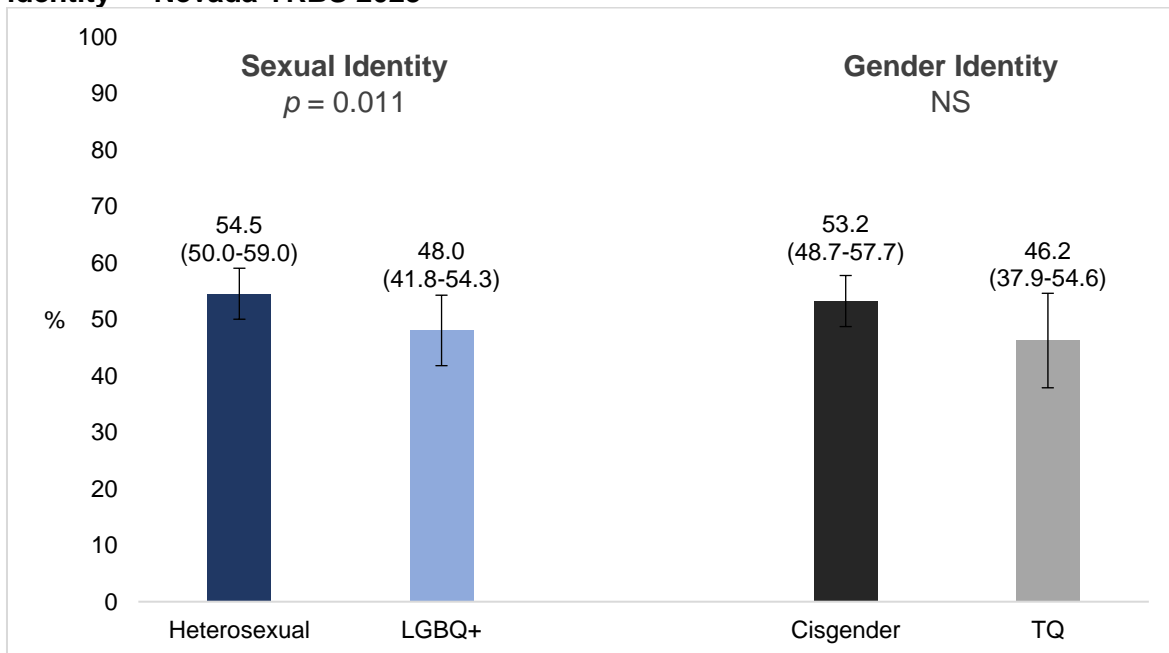


Figure 57: Percentage of middle school students who had less than 9 hours of sleep on an average school night, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

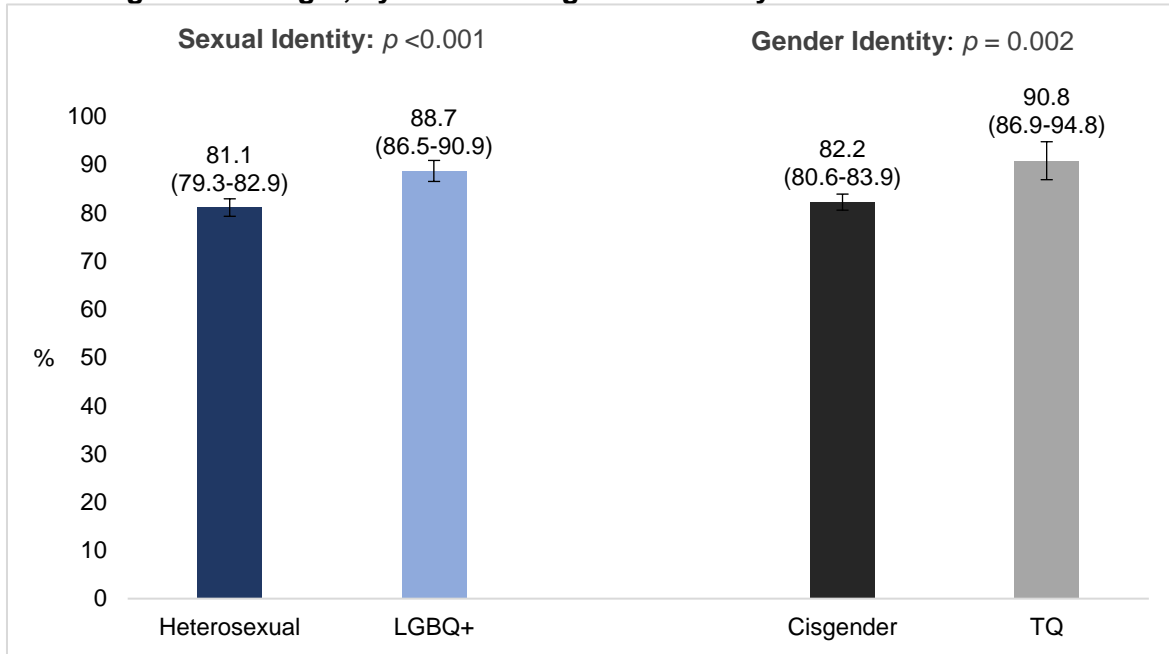
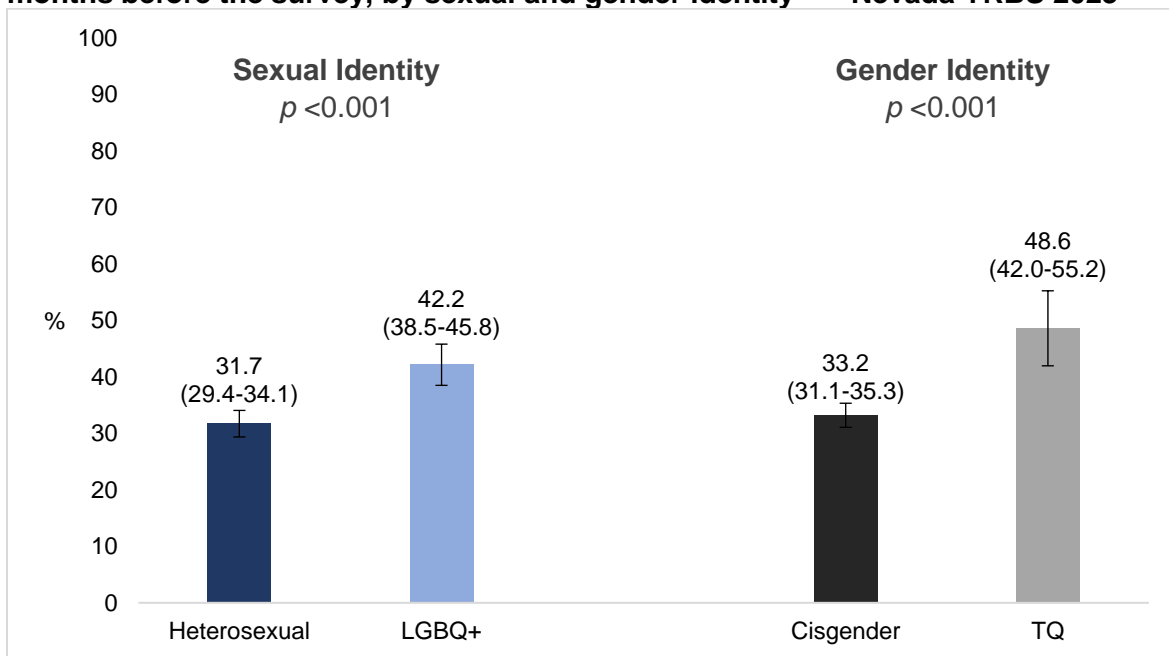


Figure 58: Percentage of middle school students who did not visit a dentist during the 12 months before the survey, by sexual and gender identity^a — Nevada YRBS 2023



^a Saw a dentist for a check-up, exam, teeth cleaning, or other dental work

Positive Childhood Experiences

Figure 59: Percentage of middle school students who most of the time/always talked to their parents or other adults in their home about their problems, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

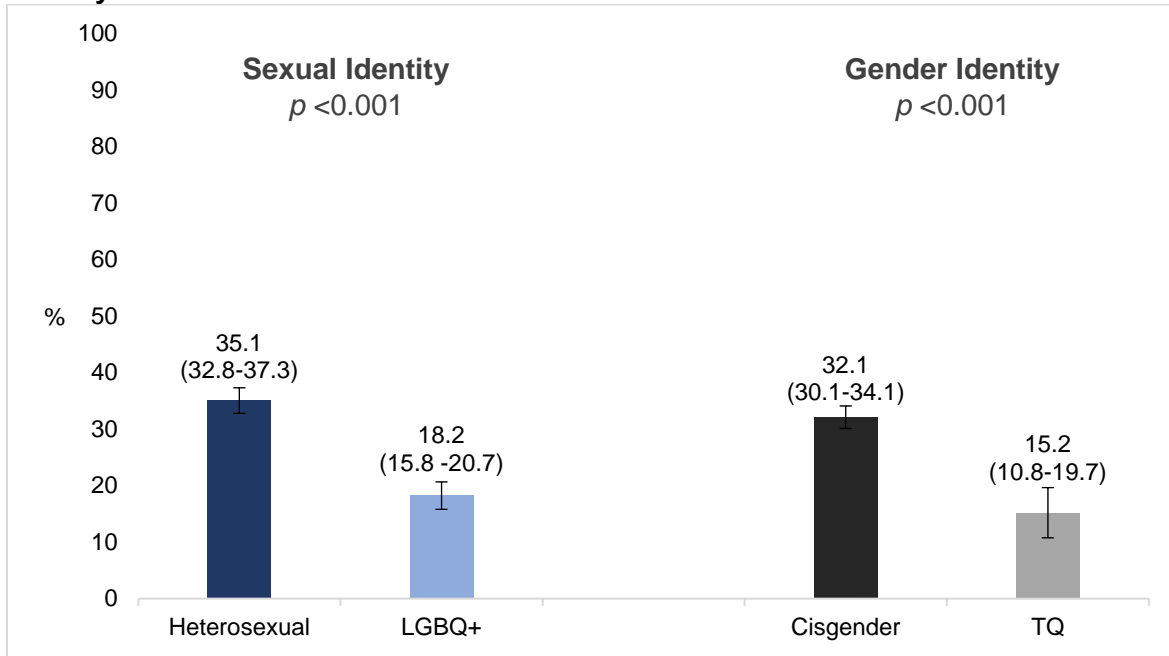


Figure 60: Percentage of middle school students who most of the time/always talked to their parents about what is right and wrong, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

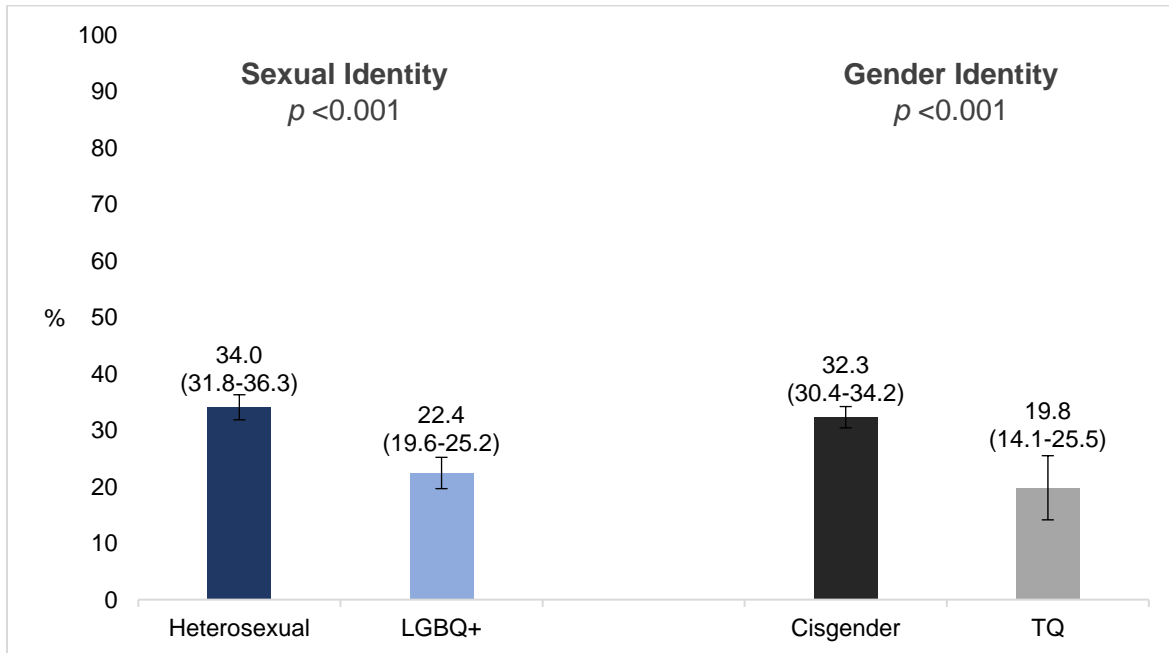


Figure 61: Percentage of middle school students who most of the time/always felt comfortable talking to their parents about personal matters, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

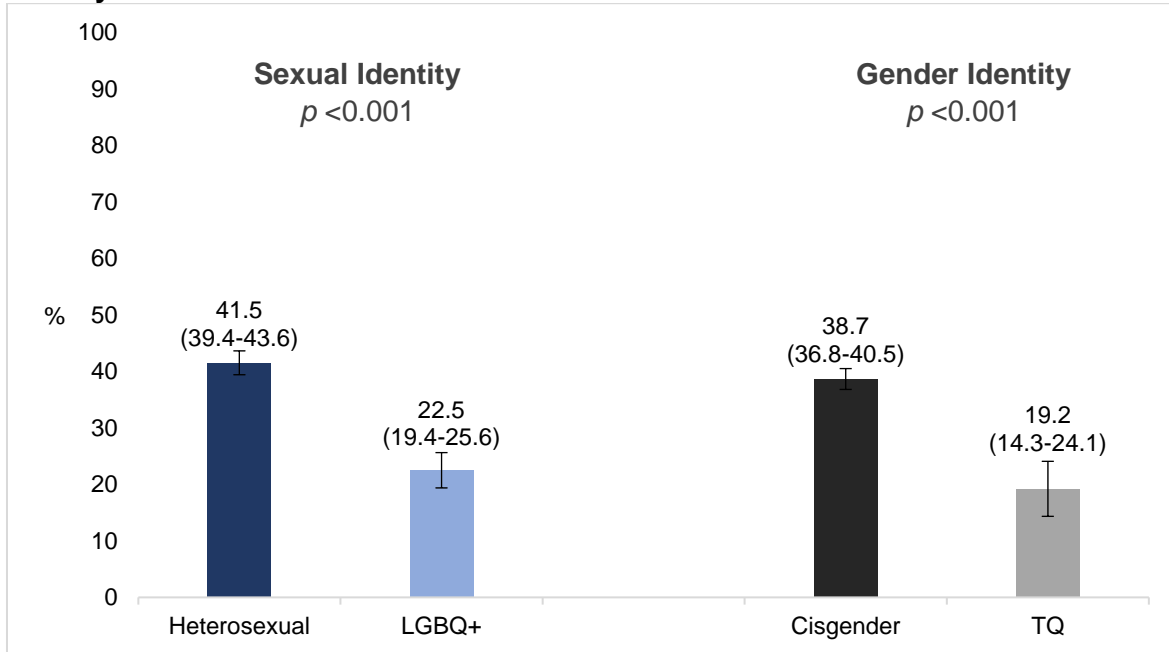


Figure 62: Percentage of middle school students who most of the time/always felt close to people at their school, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

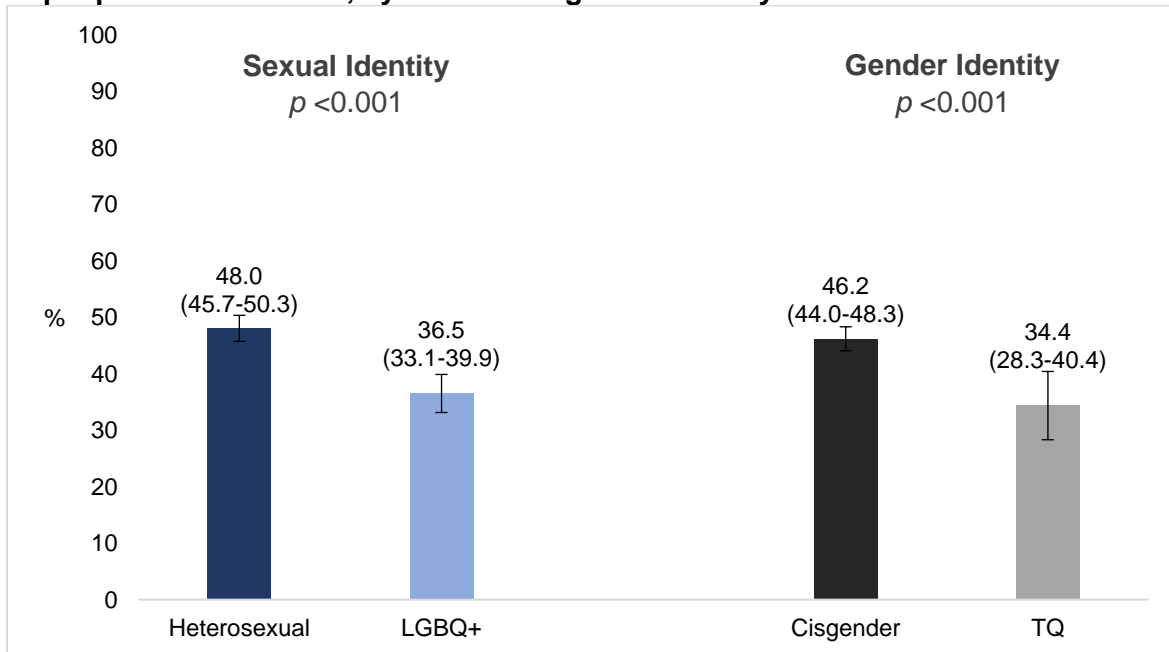


Figure 63: Percentage of middle school students who most of the time/always were happy to be at their school, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

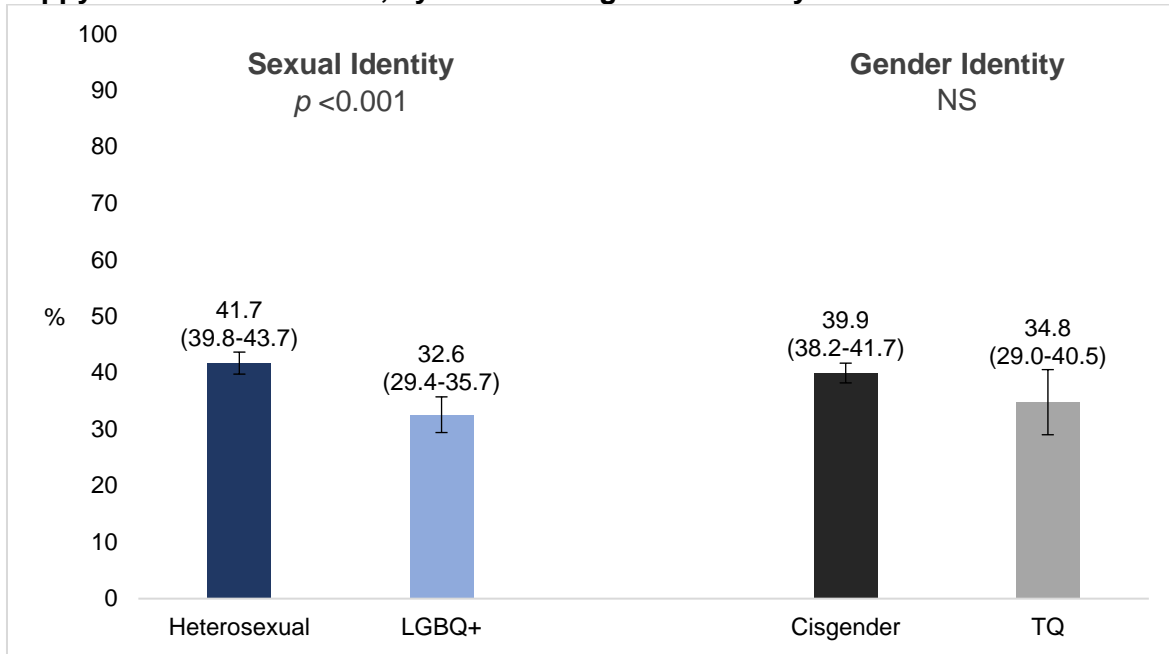


Figure 64: Percentage of middle school students who most of the time/always felt like their teachers really care about them and give them a lot of encouragement, by sexual and gender identity — Nevada YRBS 2023

