

glaad  **celebrating 25 years**

nri

2011 network responsibility index



nri

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The GLAAD Network Responsibility Index (NRI) is an evaluation of the quantity and quality of images of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people on television. It is intended to serve as a road map toward increasing fair, accurate and inclusive LGBT media representations.

GLAAD has seen time and again how images of multi-dimensional gay and transgender people on television have the power to change public perceptions. The Pulse of Equality Survey, commissioned by GLAAD and conducted by Harris Interactive, confirmed a growing trend toward greater acceptance among the American public. Of the 19% who reported that their feelings toward gay and lesbian people have become more favorable over the past 5 years, 34% cited "seeing gay or lesbian characters on television" as a contributing factor.

As diverse LGBT images in the media become more prevalent, the general public becomes exposed to the truth of the LGBT community: lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans are parents and teachers, law enforcement officers and soldiers, high school students and loving elderly couples. It is as important for LGBT Americans to see our lives reflected on screen as it is for others to be exposed to the rich tapestry of the LGBT community.

We also know that programming to LGBT viewers is good business. According to an analysis by Witeck-Combs Communications and Packaged Facts, the buying power of gay men and lesbians was projected to exceed \$835 billion by 2011.

And yet, though many television executives are aware of both the social and economic benefits of including LGBT representations in their programming, quite a few networks still have a lot of work to do before they accurately portray our communities and reflect the world in which we live.

Methodology

For this fifth annual report, GLAAD divided its analysis into two sections: broadcast networks and cable networks.

For broadcast, GLAAD researched primetime programming on ABC, CBS, The CW, Fox and NBC from June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2011. Total primetime programming hours researched: 4574.5 hours. Primetime begins at 8:00 p.m. Eastern and Pacific (7:00 Central and Mountain) and ends at 11:00

p.m. Eastern and Pacific (10:00 Central and Mountain), Monday through Saturday. On Sunday, primetime begins at 7:00 p.m. Eastern and Pacific (6:00 Central and Mountain). Fox and The CW do not air network programming during the last hour of primetime, nor does The CW air programming on weekends. GLAAD does not track primetime broadcast hours programmed by local affiliate stations; only hours of national broadcast.

The 10 cable networks examined for the 2010-2011 report include ABC Family, A&E, AMC, FX, HBO, Showtime, Syfy, TBS, TNT and USA. Networks were chosen based on a combination of Nielsen Media Research ranking, cultural and media recognition factor, and the diversity and breadth of original programming. For the purposes of this study, news, sports and children's networks are not counted. The original primetime programs on these 10 networks were examined from June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2011. Total original programming hours tracked: 1382.5 hours. Because of the re-airing and re-purposing of cable programming, only first-run broadcasts of original programs were counted when evaluating cable programming. Acquired (syndicated) series and films, as well as live sporting events, were not counted for any cable network, keeping the focus exclusively on network-generated original programming.

All programming content, on both broadcast and cable networks, was divided into four categories: drama series, comedy series, unscripted programming (i.e. reality and game shows), and newsmagazines/special event programming. In instances when a sports program aired during primetime on a broadcast network, those hours were considered "special event programming" and counted as part of our analysis. The categorization of programming hours was implemented so that analysts could understand where a network's strengths and weaknesses lay when it came to portraying LGBT people.

Each program was reviewed for on-screen inclusion of LGBT representations. GLAAD analysts noted whether the LGBT depictions were minor or major, as well as the orientation/gender identity and the race/ethnicity of those depicted. Any significant discussion of issues pertaining to LGBT lives, whether in a scripted or newsmagazine setting, was also counted, though no race/ethnicity could be assigned.

For the purpose of this report, each representation of an LGBT person, or significant discussion of an LGBT issue, during the course of an hour counts as one 'impression.' If one LGBT character appeared on 12 episodes, for example, this character made 12 impressions. If a single episode addressed marriage equality, for example, in a secondary storyline, it was counted as one minor 'impression.'

Based on the overall quantity, quality and diversity of LGBT representations, a grade was assigned to each network: Excellent, Good, Adequate, or Failing.

Ranking of the Broadcast Networks, 2010-2011

Listed by percentage of LGBT-inclusive hours of primetime programming

1. The CW	33%
2. Fox	29%
3. ABC	23%
4. NBC	15%
5. CBS	10%

Ranking of the Broadcast Networks, 2009-2010

1. The CW	35%
2. Fox	30%
3. ABC	26%
4. NBC	13%
5. CBS	7%

Overview of Broadcast Network Findings

- Compared to last year's NRI, GLAAD has found that the five major broadcast networks have all remained relatively steady in the percentage of LGBT-inclusive hours found in their primetime programming. There has been no change in their rankings relative to one another based on these figures, though The CW, Fox, and ABC all experienced slight declines, while NBC and CBS both experienced slight increases. ABC saw the greatest decline at -3%, while CBS saw the greatest increase at +3%.

- For the second year in a row, The CW is the top broadcast network in this report with 171 (33%) LGBT-inclusive hours out of 522 total hours of original programming. Last year, The CW reached 35% LGBT-inclusive hours, which remains the highest percentage ever recorded for a broadcast network since this report's inception. The CW's programming also reflected the second greatest racial/ethnic diversity among its LGBT impressions of all the broadcast networks.

- Fox remained in second place with 214 (29%) LGBT-inclusive hours out of 727.5 total hours of original programming. Thanks to programs like *Glee*, *American Dad*, and *Running Wilde*, Fox had the highest



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percentage and number of LGBT-inclusive comedy programming hours of all the broadcast networks.

- Once again, ABC had to settle for third place behind The CW and Fox in terms of the percentage of its LGBT-inclusive primetime hours. However, ABC led all the broadcast networks in total hours of LGBT inclusion. Of the 1108 total tracked hours of primetime programming, 253 (23%) included LGBT impressions. Despite the fact that their shows featured more regular LGBT characters than any other broadcast network, most of their inclusive hours came from reality programming such as *Dancing With The Stars* and *Skating With the Stars*.
- NBC continues to hold fourth place with 167.25 (15%) LGBT-inclusive hours out of 1108 total hours of original programming. It has now held fourth place in the NRI rankings every year that GLAAD has issued the report. A bright side to its performance this year would be that the LGBT impressions put forth by NBC were certainly the most racially diverse of all the broadcast networks.
- For the third year in a row, CBS remains in last place among the broadcast networks. Since GLAAD began the NRI five years ago, CBS has demonstrated the least overall improvement. This year however, it posted the largest gain of any network with a modest 3% increase; 114 (10%) LGBT-inclusive hours of programming out of 1110 hours total.

Broadcast Networks: Quality & Diversity

In assigning grades for this report, GLAAD examines not only the quantity of LGBT-inclusive programming, but also the quality, with diversity being a key factor in the evaluations.

- NBC led the broadcast networks in overall racial diversity of its LGBT impressions. While a total of 65% of the 1584 total LGBT impressions on the broadcast networks were white characters, only 38% of the 227 impressions on NBC were white. Conversely, 36% of NBC's impressions were from Latino characters thanks largely to Oscar Nunez on *The Office*, and 23% were Asian-Pacific Islander (API) because of Dr. George Huang

on *Law & Order: SVU*. However, only 3% of impressions on NBC were black/African American.

- Despite having the greatest overall number of LGBT-inclusive programming hours, ABC featured the least racial diversity among those impressions: 85% of ABC's 479 LGBT impressions were white characters. With the exception of Dr. Callie Torres on *Grey's Anatomy* and Alejo Salazar on *The Whole Truth* (before it was cancelled), all the other non-white characters or impressions were in minor, non-recurring roles.

- Fox (71%), CBS (59%), and The CW (50%) also had predominantly white LGBT representations, though these figures were an improvement over last year in all three cases.

- Black/African American LGBT characters were the most underrepresented group across the broadcast networks; comprising only 9% of all LGBT impressions. These impressions were most prevalent on The CW (29%) thanks to *America's Next Top Model*, which featured regular appearances by runway mentor Miss J and fashion editor Andre Leon Talley. CBS had the second greatest amount (9%) due to lesbian *Amazing Race* winner Kisha. There were no regular or recurring black LGBT characters on scripted broadcast programming.

- Latino/a LGBT impressions were most prevalent on NBC, accounting for 36% of the network's total impressions. The broadcast-wide average for Latino/a LGBT representation was 13%.

- The Asian/Pacific Islander LGBT community was somewhat better represented this past season compared to last thanks largely to the identification of Kalinda Sharma on *The Good Wife* as bisexual. Kalinda received a number of major storylines and gave CBS the highest percentage of API representation (30%) on the broadcast networks. On the other hand, despite being upgraded to regular character status, Dr. Huang remained a relatively minor character who didn't appear in every episode of *Law & Order: SVU*, and Angela's bisexuality was underplayed yet again this past season on *Bones*. API characters made up 11% of the LGBT impressions on the broadcast networks.

- As they have every year that the NRI has

been conducted, gay males made up the bulk of the LGBT impressions on broadcast television. On average, three out of four (73%) LGBT inclusive hours contained gay male impressions. The highest percentage was on NBC (88%), and the lowest on CBS (53%).

- Lesbians, on the other hand, were featured in only 17% of the LGBT-inclusive hours on broadcast television. The highest percentage was found on CBS (21%), which included Kisha on *The Amazing Race* and a recurring lesbian character on *Rules of Engagement*. The lowest percentage was on Fox (11%), though that figure will hopefully increase next year now that Santana on *Glee* has come out as a lesbian.

- Most of the female LGBT impressions on broadcast television were bisexual, and made up 30% of the total LGBT-inclusive hours counted. CBS featured the highest overall percentage with 49%; again due to Kalinda on *The Good Wife*. The lowest percentage was on NBC (11%).

- Despite the obvious dearth in representations of lesbians and bisexuals, the

Ranking of Cable Networks

1. ABC Family	55%
2. Showtime	37%
3. TNT	33%
4. HBO	31%
5. AMC	29%
6. Syfy	22%
7. FX	19%
8. USA	18%
9. A&E	5%
10. TBS	5%

Listed by percentage of LGBT-inclusive hours of original programming

most glaringly underrepresented LGBT population on network TV (and TV in general) are transgender people, who were included in 1% of the LGBT-inclusive hours tracked this year, which works out to just 0.002% of the total hours of broadcast primetime programming. While there were several primetime broadcast series that featured transgender storylines in single episodes, each one contained at least some degree of problematic content. This is certainly an area where the broadcast networks should strive to improve.

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Highlights of Cable Network Findings

- Of the 10 cable networks evaluated, ABC Family posted the largest increase (+18%) and ranked highest for LGBT-inclusive original content. Out of 103 total hours of original primetime programming, 56.5 (55%) hours included LGBT impressions. This year, ABC Family becomes the second network, cable or broadcast, to receive an “Excellent” rating in this report due to the quality and diversity of its many LGBT impressions.
- Showtime also made a stronger showing this year with 35.5 (37%) LGBT-inclusive hours out of 96.5 total. Though it didn’t feature the most racially diverse range of impressions (85% white), it did include a strong showing for both lesbians (54%) and bisexuals (48%) in its LGBT-inclusive hours.
- The other premium cable station tracked in this report, HBO (31%), improved as well, moving from 7th to 4th place and demonstrating a 5% increase in LGBT-inclusive hours after last year’s 16% decline.
- Another network that showed improvement was USA, which increased from 4% LGBT-inclusive hours to 18% thanks to the upgrading of Diana Berrigan on *White Collar* to regular status. Because of Diana, USA also posted the highest percentage of black (73%) and lesbian (81%) impressions of any network. This improvement moves USA from a score of “Failing” to “Adequate.”
- A&E and TBS continue to reside at the bottom of our rankings and earned “Failing” grades with only 5% LGBT-inclusive programming hours each. Those numbers are a slight improvement over the 2% and 1% they respectively posted in last year’s NRI.
- In addition to posting the highest percentage of LGBT-inclusive hours (55%) since the NRI began, ABC Family was also the most racially diverse this year, with 35% white impressions, 25% black, 13% Latino/a, and 28% multiracial. No API LGBT impressions were counted on the network, due to the fact that GLAAD counts *Pretty Little Liars’* Emily Fields as multiracial. However, she is also of Asian-Pacific Islander ancestry.
- Syfy also made a strong showing in terms of racial diversity, with 10% Latino and 24% API due to the LGBT characters on *Caprica* and *Stargate Universe*. Other standout figures were the 29% Latino/a impressions on TNT, and 10%

Latino/a on Showtime.

- The lowest racial diversity was on AMC, which featured exclusively white LGBT impressions. The numbers were also poor on FX (98% white), A&E (93% white), and TBS (83% white).
- ABC Family also included a broad cross section of the LGBT community with 43% of the LGBT hours including lesbian representation and 25% including bisexual representation. Unfortunately, it included no transgender representation.
- As noted before, the highest percentage of lesbian representation was found on USA (81% of their LGBT-inclusive hours) because of Diana Berrigan on *White Collar*. It was Showtime that posted the most hours total (19), however, due to *The Real L Word* and *Shameless*. Those same shows resulted in 48% of Showtime’s LGBT-inclusive hours also containing bisexual impressions. FX and A&E also posted high levels of bisexual content - 81% and 79%, respectively – but neither network posted a very high number of LGBT-inclusive hours to begin with.
- Transgender representation was only slightly better amongst the ten cable networks tracked than it was on the five broadcast networks. The highest percentage was definitely on FX, where 2 of the 15.5 LGBT-inclusive hours counted contained transgender impressions. Comprising those hours were two appearances by Carmen on *It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia* and one episode of *Terriers* focusing on the murder of a trans sex worker. On the whole, only 2% of the 310.5 LGBT-inclusive hours counted across the ten cable networks included transgender impressions.

Observations and Recommendations

With a few exceptions, the 2010-2011 season seemed to be categorized by stability. Nearly all the best performing networks from last year generally saw their numbers decrease, while the poorest performers all saw slight improvements. The exceptions are notable, however.

ABC Family set the high water mark for LGBT-inclusive hours this year, with 55% of its original primetime programming hours including some type of LGBT impression. It also contained the most racial diversity among its LGBT impressions of all networks, and it was more balanced than most between its lesbian, gay, and bisexual impressions. Following MTV

last year, ABC Family is also the second network to ever receive an “Excellent” score in the NRI. Like MTV, it is a network targeted to a younger audience, including the advertiser-coveted 18-34 demographic. Polls have repeatedly shown that young people are more supportive of the LGBT community, and the ratings success of ABC Family should further demonstrate the correlation between attracting this demographic and creating inclusive programming.

The one sticking point that remains an issue for ABC Family and every other network tracked this year by GLAAD for the NRI is a continuing lack of transgender representation. It’s telling that the best transgender character on TV – Adam on *TeenNick’s Degrassi* – is located on a show imported from Canada, rather than one produced here. We hope that this dearth of representation – not to mention storytelling potential – is something that all the networks will recognize and address.

This is also the first time since the 2007-2008 NRI that CBS did not receive a “Failing” grade. GLAAD found that 10% of its primetime programming hours tracked as LGBT-inclusive, which marks the highest percentage CBS has ever achieved in the NRI and makes it the “most improved” among the broadcast networks compared to last year. However, with a number of problems still present regarding CBS’ LGBT representations, another “Adequate” score is far from assured next year.

The following pages both analyze the broadcast and cable content of the 2010-2011 season and offer suggestions for the improvement of LGBT visibility. Consistently, the most common area needing improvement among broadcast and cable is diversity. It is clear from our findings that among LGBT characters, gay white men still dominate the television landscape on the broadcast networks. Cable networks are slowly improving in this area with shows like *True Blood* and *Pretty Little Liars*, but more improvement is needed before overall LGBT representation reflects the various cultural backgrounds and experiences of the LGBT community. Until that happens, broadcast and cable networks are leaving many LGBT viewers struggling to find images that reflect their lives and communities.

ABC



1,108 Total Hours of Primetime Programming
253 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (23%)

Previous Scores:

2009-10 Score: 26%

2008-09 Score: 24%

2007-08 Score: 24%

2006-07 Score: 15%**

**Openly gay cast members in some Unscripted/Reality programming were not counted in the first NRI, hence a much lower percentage.

Disney-owned ABC has a long and distinguished history of including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) stories in its programming, offering up a number of television "firsts."

Although ABC's LGBT history begins with Jody Dallas on *Soap* back in 1977, perhaps the most notable moment came in the spring of 1997 when Ellen DeGeneres came out both off-screen and on-screen on her sitcom *Ellen*. In recent years, ABC has probably shown the most commitment of the five major broadcast networks to including LGBT characters and storylines on its scripted

series, on programs such as *Ugly Betty*, *Brothers & Sisters*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Desperate Housewives*, *Modern Family*, and *Dirty, Sexy Money*.

Following last year's high of 26%, ABC has dropped back to 23%, but it still maintains an admirable percentage of inclusive primetime hours among the broadcast networks. Though both the CW and Fox have higher percentages of LGBT-inclusive hours, ABC features far more LGBT characters that would be considered "leads" than any other network. It's arguable that the impressions put forth by ABC were much more substantive compared to most on network television. Together with its youth-focused sister network ABC Family (which receives an "excellent" rating in this year's NRI), it remains an exemplary model of programming inclusivity.

The 2010-2011 Season

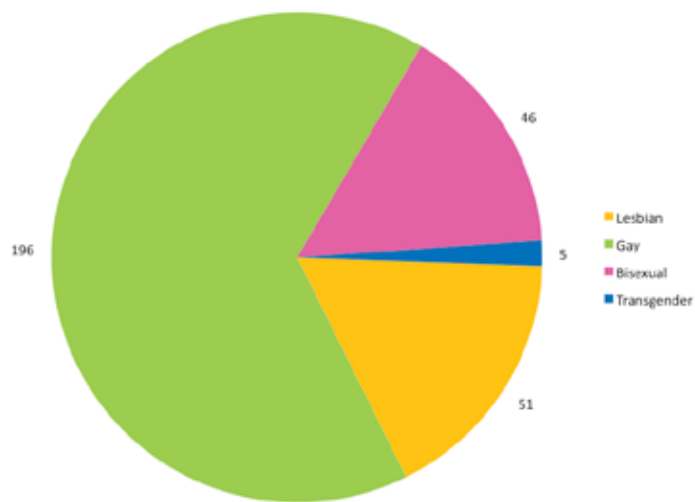
- The second season of the hit sitcom *Modern Family* continued exploring the joys and absurdities of family life with gay couple Mitchell and Cameron and their adopted daughter Lily. Now that Cameron has told Mitchell he wants to adopt another child, there should be much to look forward to next season as well.
- *Grey's Anatomy* greatly advanced the storyline of doctor couple Callie and Arizona with its typical dramatic flare this season. Callie became pregnant during a brief breakup period, but she and Arizona reconciled and decided to raise the baby together. During the season's much hyped "musical episode," the two became engaged. Their wedding near the season's end also addressed the difficulties some LGBT people experience trying to reconcile their orientation with family members and their faith.
- The Walker clan's fifth season was also their last on the family drama *Brothers & Sisters*. Still, it used its final year to good effect in regard to the show's gay characters. Kevin and Scotty weathered a near breakup and added to their family with both a newly adopted daughter and a baby from a surrogate. Meanwhile, the HIV-positive Saul had an active dating life before ultimately settling down with an old flame named Jonathan.
- One of ABC's late season replacements was the sitcom *Happy Endings*, about a diverse group of twenty-something friends. One of those friends is a scruffy gay slacker named Max who experienced his fair share of romantic misadventures in the show's short first season. The show is expected to return next fall.
- The gay men of Wysteria Lane made their presence known this season on *Desperate Housewives*, though maybe not as greatly as had initially been expected. Following last fall's announcement that the actors who portray Bob and Lee would be upgraded to series regulars, it was anticipated that they would appear in nearly every episode. As it played out, Bob made it onto about half, while Lee was in a handful more than that. Bree's gay son Andrew made several short appearances as well.

- Fall drama premiere *The Whole Truth* only aired a handful of episodes before getting cancelled, but it did bring some added diversity to the network’s LGBT roster with gay Latino attorney Alejo Salazar. With Alejo gone, Callie Torres on *Grey’s Anatomy* remains the only non-white LGBT regular on the network.
- Medical drama *Private Practice* was probably ABC’s most inclusive scripted series that doesn’t feature regular LGBT characters. It featured not only the return, marriage, and death of Addison’s lesbian mother and her partner, but also a transgender woman trying to jump through medical hurdles, a closeted man cheating on his wife with a lover, and a main character learning her ex-husband is gay. There were also a few lesbian vampires on *The Gates*, a transgender sex worker on *Rookie Blue*, an injured paragliding lesbian couple on *Off The Map*, and several drag queens on *Detroit 1-8-7*.
- Thanks to judge Bruno Tonioli and dancer Louis Van Amstell, ABC’s smash hit *Dancing With The Stars* was the network’s most inclusive reality series. Bisexual comedienne and competitor Margaret Cho memorably used her appearance on the show to celebrate gay pride in the show’s fall season. Additionally, *Skating with the Stars* featured out judge Johnny Weir, and *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* featured a few appearances by out designer Eduardo Xol.
- One program where ABC demonstrated consistent inclusivity and attention to LGBT issues was *Primetime: What Would You Do?* in which hidden cameras catch onlookers’ reactions to staged situations. These situations included people witnessing harassment of gay teens, gay and lesbian parents, and openly gay service members.

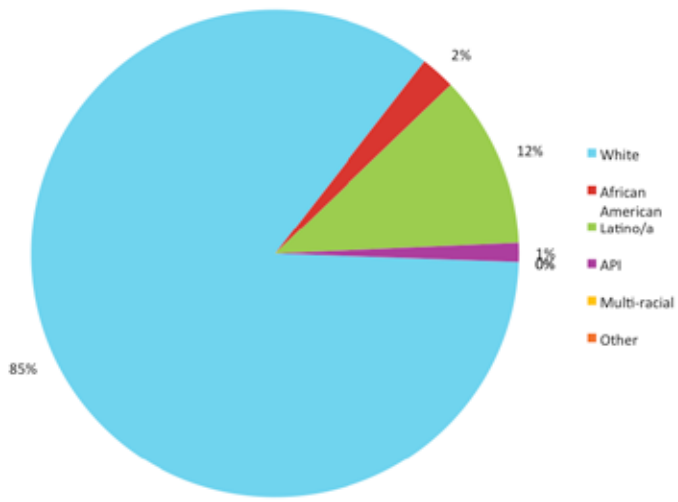
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- White gay men comprise the bulk of ABC’s LGBT impressions. The new gay characters set to be introduced on the midseason series *Good Christian Belles* are a pair of white gay men as well. Callie Torres remains a strong presence on the network, but ABC would do well to keep racial and gender diversity in mind when considering future LGBT characters and storylines. And as one of the few networks to have ever featured regular or recurring transgender characters, it would be great to see them reestablish their good track record in that area as well.

ABC: LGBT Inclusive Hours



ABC: Race of LGBT Characters





CBS

1110 Total Hours of Primetime Programming
114 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (10%)

Previous Scores:

2009-10 Score: 7%

2008-09 Score: 5%

2007-08 Score: 9%

2006-07 Score: 9%

adequate

CBS premiered Norman Lear's classic *All in the Family* in 1971 and almost immediately the show tackled sexual orientation with the episode "Judging Books by Covers." Classic episodes of *Maude* and *M*A*S*H* also dealt with orientation. Unfortunately, outside of those few socially conscious shows 40 years ago, LGBT scripted impressions on the network have been rare. For several years, CBS President Nina Tassler has publicly promised greater LGBT-inclusion in scripted programming, but the network has been slow to improve in this regard.

Since GLAAD released the first Network Responsibility Index in 2007, the bulk of CBS' LGBT-inclusive programming has typically been found in its reality programming, particularly *The Amazing Race* and *Big Brother*. However, thanks to confirmation that the character Kalinda Sharma on *The Good Wife* is bisexual, the LGBT-inclusive hours of dramatic programming have edged out those of CBS' reality shows in the past year. This isn't enough to raise CBS out of last place amongst the broadcast networks for the third year in a row, but it did show the most improvement out of all of them. Because of this, CBS' score has risen from "Failing" to "Adequate."

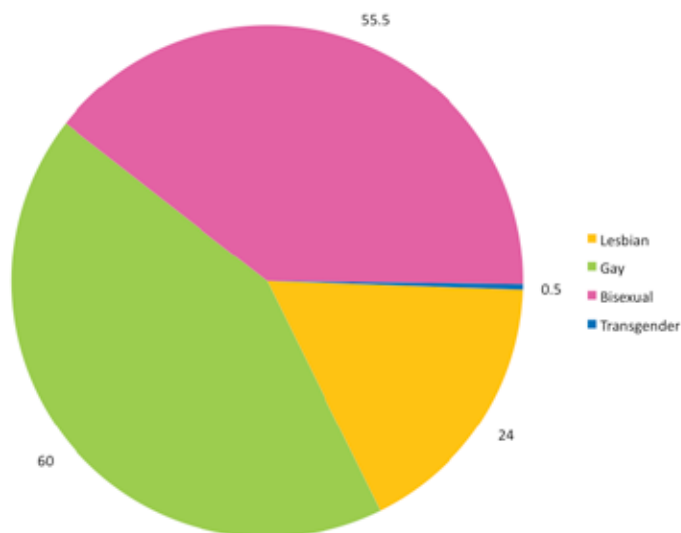
The 2010-2011 Season

- More than CBS' preeminent critical darling, *The Good Wife* is also the only scripted series on the network to include a regular LGBT character. The show's first season made a guessing game out of investigator Kalinda Sharma's orientation, but she has since been confirmed to actively pursue romantic relationships with both men and women. She has proven to be a hit with audiences and critics as well; actress Archie Panjabi won an Emmy Award for her portrayal of Kalinda last year. This past season also introduced central character Alicia's gay brother Owen in a recurring role. Owen's character moved to the same city as Alicia later in the season, suggesting he may soon have an enhanced role on the show.
- Two CBS dramas included single-episode LGBT storylines last season. The hugely popular *NCIS* follows a team of military criminal investigators, who earlier this year took on the case of a murdered and closeted soldier in an episode that addressed the subject of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." There was also an episode of *The Mentalist* that involved the case of a murdered gay doctor.
- There were no regular LGBT characters on any CBS comedies this year, though there were several recurring and one-off characters and storylines. The now cancelled *\$#*! My Dad Says* included a recurring gay assistant, and *Rules of Engagement* featured a recurring lesbian surrogate mother who is expected to return next season. Among the one-offs were a transgender sex worker who appeared in one scene of *How I Met Your Mother*, a gay ex-boyfriend of Molly's on *Mike & Molly*, and Charlie's bisexual girlfriend in one episode of *Two and a Half Men*.
- Once again, CBS included multiple LGBT participants in their reality programming. Last summer, *Big Brother* included openly gay housemate Ragan. The fall season of *The Amazing Race* didn't include any LGBT contestants, but the spring series *The Amazing Race: Unfinished Business* was another matter entirely. In addition to the Reverend Mel White and his son Mike (gay and bisexual respectively), there was also lesbian Kisha and the gay (and deaf) Luke. Kisha and her sister ended up winning the season.

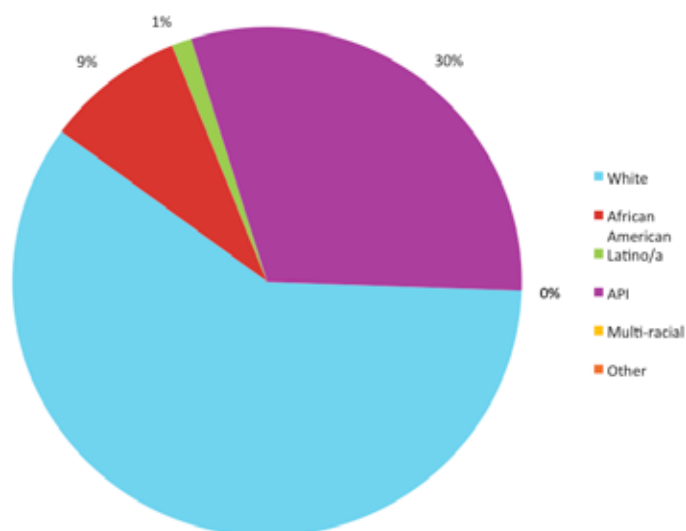
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- CBS' comedies featured a number of LGBT characters this year, but unfortunately much of the content was outwardly or borderline offensive. They would do well to recognize how many ABC and NBC comedies incorporate LGBT-related humor and characters into their scripts without resorting to stereotypes or making someone's sexual orientation or gender identity the punch line.
- Many of CBS' procedural series, such as *CSI* and *NCIS: Los Angeles*, have a track record of portraying LGBT people as only victims or pathological killers. This year, only two crime dramas included gay victims, but it still highlights the limited role LGBT characters play on some of CBS' most popular shows.
- Adding another regular LGBT character to one of their new or existing programs next season would certainly help improve CBS' overall score. Among the new sitcoms coming in the fall is the urban set *Two Broke Girls* from *Sex and the City* executive producer Michael Patrick King. Given the show's creator, its New York City setting, and young cast, this show would be the most likely candidate for this.
- CBS's score improvement to "Adequate" in this year's NRI is based on the prominence of the lesbian, gay, and bisexual characters on *The Good Wife* and *The Amazing Race*, as well as the overall improvement CBS showed in LGBT-inclusive hours. Though this score can be seen as an acknowledgement of CBS' efforts to feature more LGBT characters, the network will need to address the problems outlined above to not fall back to "Failing" next year.

CBS: LGBT Inclusive Hours



CBS: Race of LGBT Characters





The CW

521 Total Hours of Primetime Programming
171 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (33%)

Previous Scores:
2009-10 Score: 35%
2008-09 Score: 20%
2007-08 Score: 21%
2006-07 Score: 12%



Launched at the start of the 2006-2007 TV season, The CW was created after a merger between The WB and UPN, two networks that held respectable track records in offering LGBT content. In its freshman year, The CW failed to incorporate LGBT characters into its scripted shows, but it was ultimately awarded a "Fair" rating in the inaugural Network Responsibility Index because 51 of The CW's 55 hours of LGBT content came from the very LGBT-inclusive reality series *America's Next Top Model*. Since then, The CW has made significant improvements in its scripted programming as well.

Last year, the CW hit a benchmark score for a broadcast network with 35% of its programming being LGBT-inclusive. This year that number barely dipped and helped the CW secure the highest percentage of LGBT-inclusive hours out of the five broadcast networks once again.

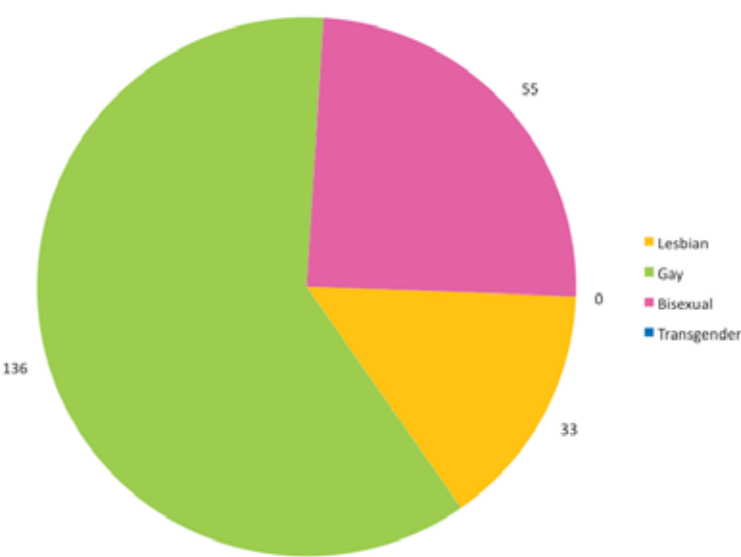
The 2010-2011 Season

- Since the character of Adrianna dated a woman in the 2009-2010 season and the character of Teddy was made a series regular and came out of the closet, *90210* is easily the most inclusive scripted program on the CW. Though Adrianna only dated men this past season, Teddy's storyline was heavily hyped in the LGBT press, and he went through several male love interests. Unfortunately, his storyline also received far less screen time than many fans of the show had hoped, and it was recently announced that he would be leaving the series after a handful of episodes next season.
- *America's Next Top Model* continued to prominently feature catwalk expert "Miss" J. Alexander, photo shoot director Jay Manuel, and fashion editor André Leon Talley as both coaches and on the judge's panel. The fall season of the show also featured a lesbian contestant named Kayla Ferrel who made it all the way to the final three. Next season will bring us *Top Model All Stars*, and it's been announced that both Kayla and transgender model Isis King will be returning to compete once more.
- Eric Van der Woodsen, Serena's openly gay younger brother on *Gossip Girl*, made a few appearances this season, though he remained a relatively minor character. The new series *Hellcats* had originally planned to include a lesbian cheerleader named Patty, but she only made it a few episodes before being dropped from the show. Eventually it was revealed that Darwin, one of the male cheerleaders, was gay, but after a brief storyline role he faded into the background once again. The show will not return next year.

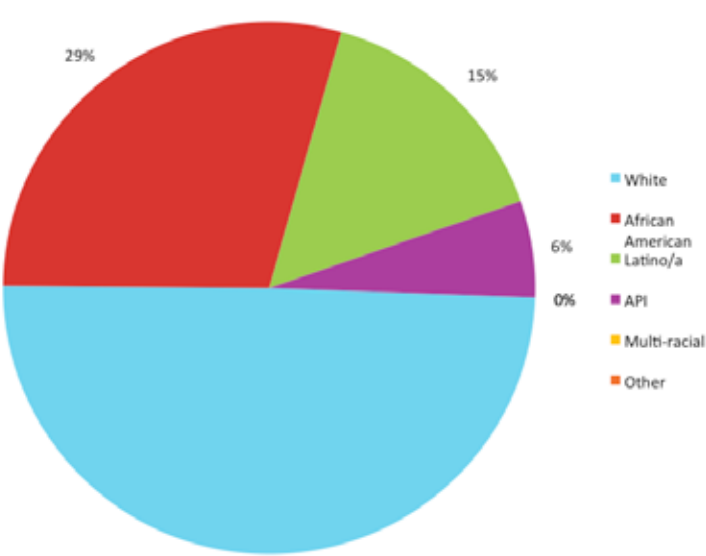
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- Though it's held onto a solid score this year, The CW will likely see a reduction in the number of LGBT-inclusive hours next season on its scripted shows. Not only will the character of Teddy leave *90210*, but also *Hellcats* has been cancelled and the actor who portrays Eric Van Der Woodsen on *Gossip Girl* has been cast on a different show. This would be the perfect time for out *Vampire Diaries* creator Kevin Williamson to follow through on his stated intention to add a gay character. With his new series *The Secret Circle* set to premiere in the fall as well, that's two shows in which he could make good on his word.

CW: LGBT Inclusive Hours



CW: Race of LGBT Characters



FOX

727.5 Total Hours of Primetime Programming

214 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (29%)

Previous Scores:

2009-10 Score: 30%

2008-09 Score: 11%

2007-08 Score: 4%

2006-07 Score: 6%



Founded in 1986, Fox's sensitivity to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) issues has frequently been called into question. *Melrose Place* may be considered a pioneer in early representations of gay men, but in 1994, GLAAD took Fox to task for censoring a kiss between two gay characters on the show. Since then, GLAAD has taken issue with Fox on a number of occasions, and the network received a "Failing" grade in the first NRI for its mere 6% of LGBT-inclusive content. Questioned about that grade, Fox Entertainment President Kevin Reilly told AfterElton.com it was "disheartening" and that the network "absolutely" has a responsibility to represent LGBT people.

Between the 2009 and 2010 report, Fox's percentage of LGBT-inclusive programming hours jumped a dramatic 19 points to 30% of their total primetime programming; a number that they more or less held onto this year. There also seems to be markedly fewer problematic representations to report this year than last, so all in all, Fox is making significant strides in the right direction.

The 2010-2011 Season

- *Glee* is, without a doubt, one of the most inclusive shows on Fox and on television in general, not to mention one of the most popular. This past year saw *Glee*'s LGBT cast grow exponentially as well, starting with gay teen Kurt getting a highly publicized new boyfriend named Blaine. What's more, Santana came to realize her true feelings for best friend (and previous makeout partner) Brittany and began to privately identify as a lesbian. It was also revealed that Kurt's longtime tormentor Karofsky was concealing the fact that he is gay, meaning *Glee* now features a total of five regular and recurring LGBT characters, more than any other show on the broadcast networks.
- On Fox's scripted dramas, their previously strong representations of bisexual women were reduced this year with *House*'s Thirteen not making any appearances on the show until she returned very late in the season. The bisexual character Angela Montenegro on *Bones* has been in a committed relationship with a male character for a while now, and her sexual orientation is rarely even acknowledged. *The Chicago Code* also aired an episode about a murdered gay real estate developer.
- The short lived series *Running Wilde* featured a regular gay character, though during the show's brief run he appeared as little more than a toadying stereotype. The show also featured a better storyline about a neighbor developing a crush on the male central character.
- Fox's greatest problems with LGBT representation have typically been during their Sunday animation block, which last year saw terribly transphobic jokes being made on both *Family Guy* and *The Cleveland Show*. Perhaps luckily, *Family Guy* didn't tackle any gay characters or stories this season, while *The Cleveland Show* actually outed one of its main characters and depicted him marrying another man. *The Simpsons* continued to include Waylan Smithers and Patty Bouvier in recurring roles and featured an episode this season about Moe marketing Moe's Tavern as a gay bar. There was also a trio of transgender sex workers who appeared in an episode of *Bob's Burgers*. They were handled with more respect than the aforementioned trans stories from last year, but Fox still has a long way to go in this department.
- Out of all of Fox's animated programs, *American Dad* remained the most inclusive thanks to its omnisexual alien Roger, gay neighbor couple Greg and Terry, and a bizarre appearance by a cartoon version of bisexual actor Andy Dick.

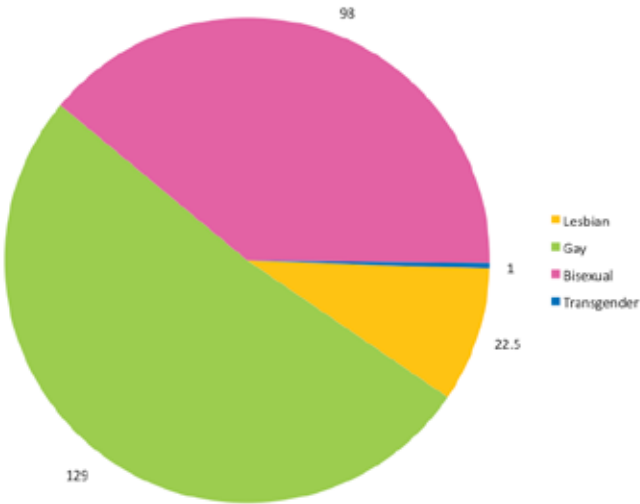
The series continued to demonstrate how button pushing and even juvenile humor could be done intelligently and without resorting to cheap shots aimed at the LGBT community. There are similarly high hopes for the gay couple that will be depicted on the upcoming animated series *Allen Gregory*.

- After Ellen DeGeneres left *American Idol*, Fox’s inclusive hours in reality programming dropped off quite a bit in this report. Happily, Adam Shankman remained a full-time judge on *So You Think You Can Dance* last season.

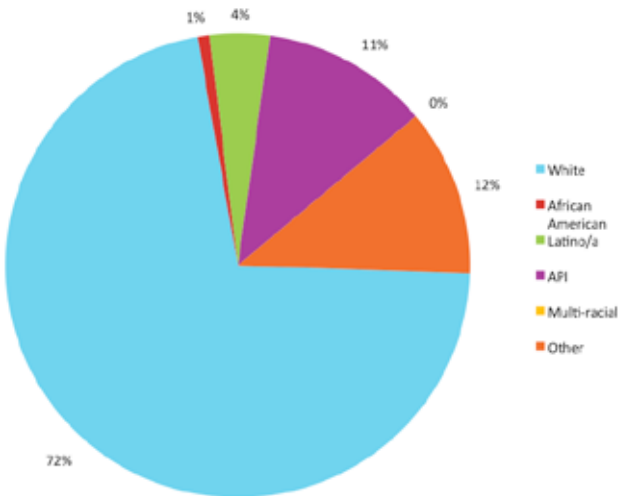
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- Angela on *Bones* has decided to marry her boyfriend, but it is important that the show does not erase her bisexual identity. Angela is also a significant LGBT character for Fox because as an Asian-Pacific Islander woman, she counts strongly for the network’s diversity. We’d also like to see the character of Thirteen back in full force on *House*, with due attention given to her personal life.
- Given their track record, there might be some trepidation about how Fox would handle another transgender storyline. However, one done smartly and respectfully might go a long way to improving Fox’s image in that regard.
- Particularly following the success of LGBT contestants on NBC’s *The Voice*, it seems especially notable that *American Idol* has yet to feature an openly gay contestant on the show. It’s high time the show addressed this.

Fox: LGBT Inclusive Hours



Fox: Race of LGBT Characters



NBC

1108 Total Hours of Primetime Programming
 167.25 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (15%)
 Previous Scores:
 2009-10 Score: 13%
 2008-09 Score: 8%
 2007-08 Score: 6%
 2006-07 Score: 7%

adequate



NBC's history of including LGBT characters as primetime series regulars or recurring characters dates back to the 1994 debut of *Friends*, which featured the characters Carol and Susan, a lesbian couple who ultimately married on the show. Months after ABC cancelled *Ellen*, NBC made the bold decision to premiere *Will & Grace*, a sitcom featuring Will and Jack, two gay male lead characters. Despite initial criticism from conservative groups, *Will & Grace* went on to become one of TV's most successful series with LGBT lead characters, winning 16 Emmys and running for eight seasons as a staple of NBC's "Must-See-TV" Thursday night lineup.

After *Will & Grace* went off the air in 2006, LGBT impressions on NBC declined considerably. In last year's Network Responsibility Index, NBC managed to climb from a failing to an adequate grade thanks to shows like *Mercy* and *Trauma*. Unfortunately, both of those shows have since been cancelled, but several new shows and storylines helped NBC improve their percentage of LGBT-inclusive hours and maintain the same grade this year.

The 2010-2011 Season

Most of NBC's inclusive hours in the past season were located in their drama programming, and nearly all of those were on *Law & Order: SVU*. Dr. George Huang was promoted to series regular this season and appeared in over half the episodes. NBC's frequent repeating of the show certainly helped the tally, and there were also two episodes that featured lesbian couples in major roles. It has recently been announced that the actor who plays Dr. Huang will not be returning to the show next season, which will certainly leave a sizable dent in NBC's inclusive hours.

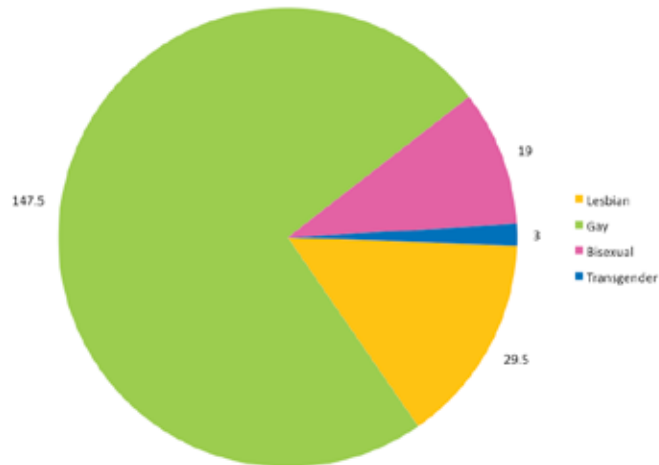
- Freshman series *Outlaw* and *Undercovers* each brought a new LGBT character with them when they premiered last year. *Outlaw* featured a bisexual investigator named Lucinda, while *Undercovers* featured gay chef Lance in a recurring role. However, neither series survived into the new year.
- Two dramas that will be returning, however, are *Parenthood* and *Harry's Law*. *Parenthood* featured a rather brief and sweet scene of the family patriarch dancing with one half of a gay couple during a partner switch in a dance class that was played without any gay panic humor. On the other hand, *Harry's Law* featured a more prominent storyline about a transgender woman suing for wrongful termination. The show's heart may have been in the right place in trying to depict her story with sensitivity when she was on screen, but the episode contained problematic language, humor and a confused sense of what constitutes transgender identity.
- Gay accountant Oscar saw increased screen time on the previous season of *The Office* and found a potential new love interest in Matt, the new gay character who works in shipping. Unfortunately, the show didn't follow through with that plotline, and Oscar was reduced once again to averaging just a few lines per episode this season. There has been no further sign of Matt either.
- In addition to *The Office*, all of NBC's Thursday night comedy line-up included gay characters or stories at one point or another throughout the year. The GLAAD Media Award-winning *Parks and Recreation* made a few more trips back to Pawnee's only gay bar this season, and a straight couple competed for the attention of their gay friends on *Perfect Couples*. Abed flirted with an unassuming gay nerd, and Britta thought she'd struck progressive gold with a lesbian friend on *Community*. A two-part series finale featured a not unproblematic, but certainly unprecedented, appearance by an Indian hijra (transgender woman) on *Outsourced*. And this year it was *30 Rock* who took home the GLAAD Media Award for Outstanding Individual Episode with a storyline of Liz taking in her runaway gay cousin. The show also featured a variety of less prominent gay characters and storylines during the season, including a return appearance by Devon Banks.

• NBC’s reality programming included several openly gay contestants across several shows in the past year, including the opera singing (and openly gay) Prince Poppycock on last summer’s *America’s Got Talent*, who made it all the way to the finale. Richard Hatch was eliminated much sooner than that when he participated in a new season of *The Celebrity Apprentice*. The most noteworthy reality show on NBC was undoubtedly *The Voice*, which premiered to fantastic ratings and introduced audiences to four openly gay and lesbian singers within the first two episodes. Not only did three of those contestants nearly make it into the winner’s circle, but it threw *American Idol*’s ten year lack of an openly gay contestant into the spotlight.

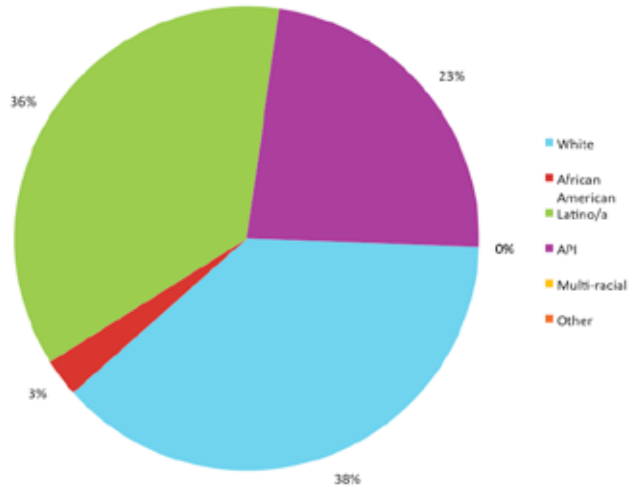
Suggested Areas of Improvement

• With so many cancelled shows and Dr. Huang leaving *Law & Order: SVU*, there may be a significant dearth of LGBT character representations in the fall with a few exceptions. NBC has said that *The Playboy Club* will feature several gay and lesbian characters, as well as provide a depiction of the pioneering gay advocacy organization, the Mattachine Society. The highly anticipated mid-season show *Smash* is expected to feature a few new gay characters as well. These two shows may not be able to make up the difference though. NBC should look for other places to expand the diversity of their characters, which includes racial diversity now that one of TV’s few gay Asian characters (Dr. Huang) will not return.

NBC: LGBT Inclusive Hours



NBC: Race of LGBT Characters



ABC Family / *Pretty Little Liars*

ABC Family

103 Total Hours of Primetime Programming

56.5 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (55%)

Previous Scores:

2009-10 Score: 37%

excellent

Robertson's Christian Broadcast Network was founded in 1977, but after changing hands and names a number of times, it underwent radical transformation after being sold to Disney in 2001 and becoming ABC Family. The network initially struggled to find its footing, but following a strategic revamp in 2006, it began to offer programs for teens and young adults that were broadly appealing, and that soon became increasingly LGBT inclusive. Bringing the network into the limelight was the success of programs such as GLAAD Media Award nominees *Kyle XY* and *GREEK*, the latter of which was the network's first series to feature a regular gay character of color; frat brother Calvin. ABC Family telecasts Robertson's *The 700 Club* pursuant to an agreement preexisting Disney's acquisition, but the telecast includes the disclaimer:

"The following/preceding CBN telecast does not reflect the views of ABC Family."

In the past few years, ABC Family has seen its format revamp pay off in spades. It now routinely ranks among the top cable networks in the ratings thanks to the young, loyal viewership of its successful slate of original primetime series. This year it also has the distinction of scoring the highest percentage of LGBT-inclusive hours of any network GLAAD has ever tracked in the NRI with 55%; a substantial increase from the already impressive 37% it scored last year. Thanks to those numbers and the particularly high level of diversity amongst its LGBT characters and impressions, ABC Family earns an "Excellent" rating in this year's Network Responsibility Index.

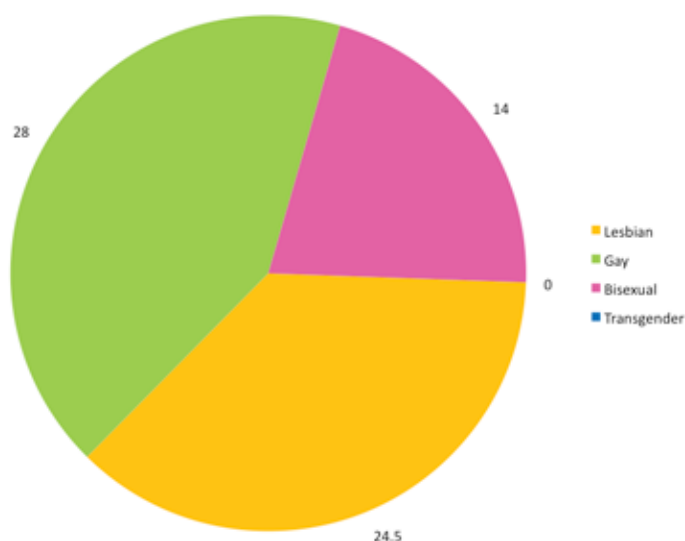
The 2010-2011 Season

- *Pretty Little Liars* is one of the network's breakout hits and centers around four teenage girls caught in the center of a mystery. One of those teens is the multiracial and athletically-gifted Emily Fields, who came out to her family as a lesbian last fall. Not only did Emily have to deal with tensions this caused within her family and their expectations of her, but she's also dealt with several romantic relationships. For its sensitive portrayal of lesbian and bisexual youth, the show was nominated for a GLAAD Media Award last year.
- After four seasons, the college set comedy series *GREEK* came to a close this spring. Out frat brother Calvin broke up with boyfriend Grant, but was eventually reunited with his first love, Heath. The show was nominated for a GLAAD Media Award again this year; its fourth nomination.
- The high school drama series *The Secret Life of the American Teenager* featured several recurring gay and lesbian characters in the past year. Among them was confident gay teen Griffin, his closeted love interest Peter, and Nora, the mother of a teen character who came out to her son as a lesbian.
- Among the nuanced characterizations of overweight teenagers *Huge* focused on was Alistair, who preferred not to label his sexual orientation and seemed to be questioning his gender identity by the series' end. Though it only ran for one season, the summer camp drama developed a loyal following.
- Following a group of competitive female gymnasts, *Make It or Break It* had no LGBT characters for most of its first two seasons until recurring character Max came out as bisexual just before the season finale. Hopefully, both Max and the show will return.

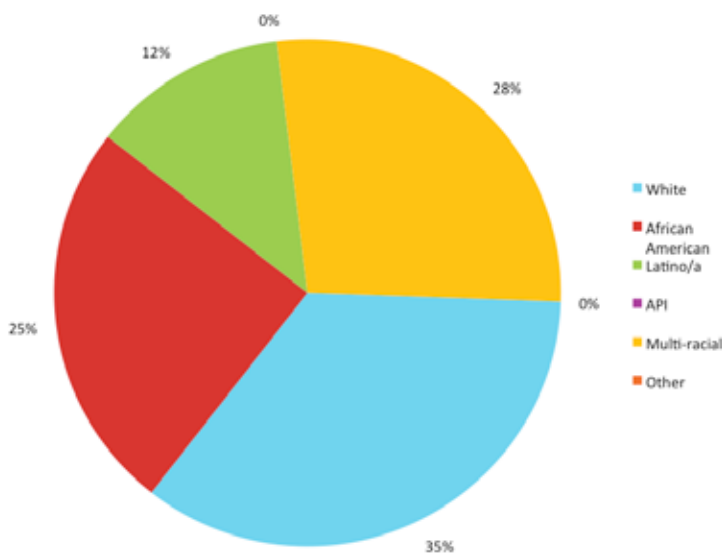
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- ABC Family's "Excellent" score this year is well deserved thanks to its high level of LGBT-inclusive hours, strong racial diversity, and strong showing of lesbian, gay, and bisexual identities. The one notable exception being that this past year didn't include any transgender character storylines, though the character of Alistair on *Huge* seemed to be questioning his gender identity. We hope that as old series come to a close and new series premiere, they maintain their exemplary record of including a diversity of stories about LGBT young people in the shows they produce, and take the next step by introducing a regular transgender character to one of their programs.

ABC Family: LGBT Inclusive Hours



ABC Family: Race of LGBT Characters





A&E

290 - Total Hours of Primetime Programming

14.5 - LGBT-Inclusive Hours (5%)

Previous Scores:

2009-10 Score: 3%

2008-09 Score: 1%

2007-08 Score: 4%

failing

Created in 1981, A&E was originally a primetime and late-night programming block on Nickelodeon called ARTS until it merged with The Entertainment Network in 1984, part of a joint venture between NBC Universal, Disney-ABC Television Group, and Hearst Corp. It consistently produces one of the largest slates of original primetime series of any cable network, which consists mainly of reality programming.

Starting in the 2007-08 season, 5.5 of 123.5 hours were inclusive (4%). That percentage dropped to 1% in 2008-09, but went up to 3% in 2009-10 thanks to the reality series *Kirstie Alley's Big Life*. A&E has never received higher than a failing grade in the NRI. This year, A&E tied TBS for last place among all broadcast and cable, but it also reached the highest percentage of LGBT-inclusive hours ever counted for the network since being tracked by GLAAD for the NRI.

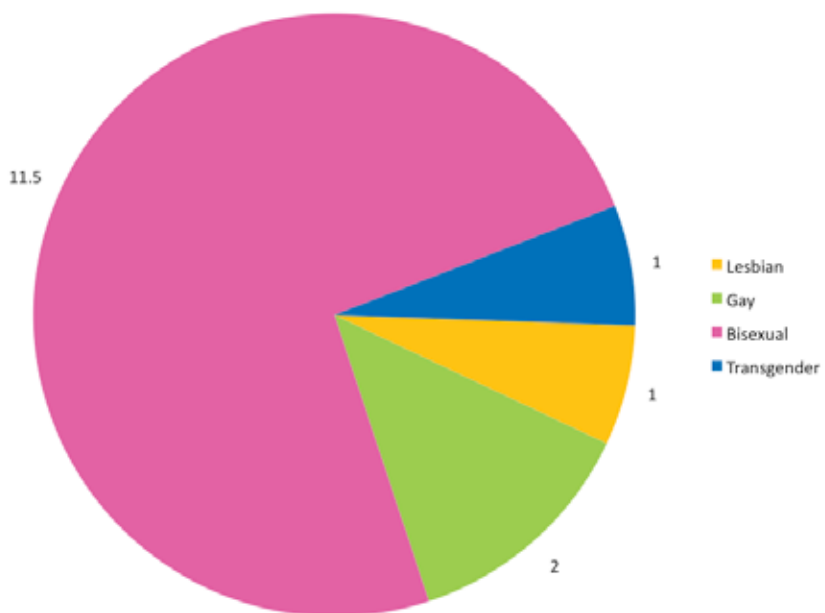
The 2010-2011 Season

- At least 75% of the LGBT-inclusive hours counted on A&E this year can be attributed to *Paranormal State's* host Ryan Buell coming out last fall. Besides being one of the network's most prominent faces, Buell also has the distinction of being one of the only openly bisexual male TV personalities.
- As it has in the past, the reality series *Intervention* featured several LGBT people, both as subjects coping with addiction and as supportive loved ones trying to get them help.
- Additionally, the scripted series *Breakout Kings* featured a return appearance by a bisexual inmate named T-Bag who originated on the Fox series *Prison Break*, and the network showed the broadcast premiere of fashion documentary *The September Issue*; which A&E produced and includes appearances by Andre Leon Talley.

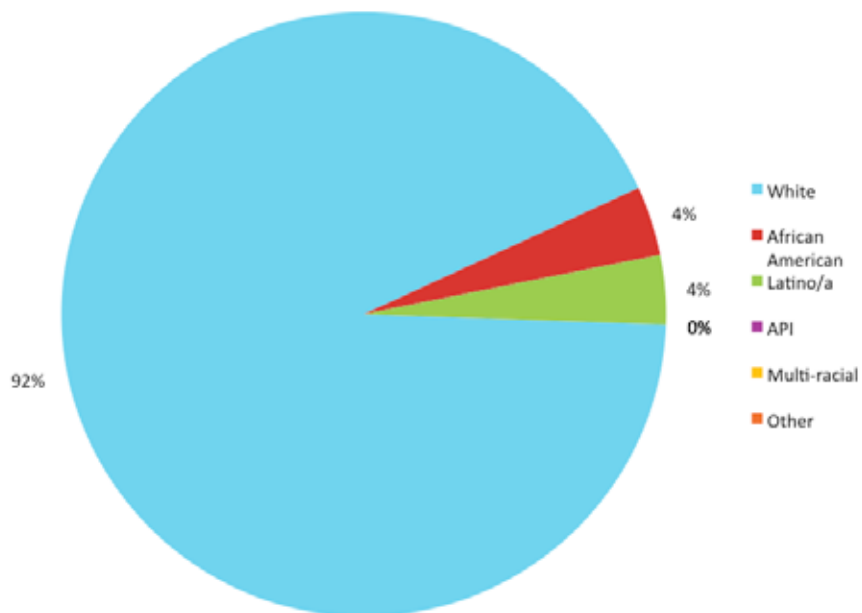
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- Though the 14.5 inclusive hours out of 290 original primetime programming hours marks a high point for the network, nearly all of those are on a show that doesn't address the personal lives of its cast, so saying there's room for improvement on A&E would be an understatement. With so many different programs, and new ones being premiered on a regular basis, the network needs to make a concerted effort to be more inclusive, starting at the earliest stages of development. This will be particularly important as *Paranormal State's* Ryan Buell announced on his blog earlier this year that the show's recently completed fifth season would be the last for himself and his team.

A&E: LGBT Inclusive Hours



A&E: Race of LGBT Characters





AMC

44.5 Total Hours of Primetime Programming
13 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (29%)



Started in 1984 as a premium channel that aired classic movies, AMC (American Movie Classics) has remained a haven for cinephiles over the years despite some format evolutions. It was originally ad-free during the films and classic television it ran, most of which came from the pre-color days of the 40s and 50s. Since then, the network has also started featuring more contemporary fare and greatly upped its slate of scripted original series, which now include award-winning and critical hits like *Mad Men* to ratings smashes like *The Walking Dead*. Due to the network's substantial gains in both of those areas, we are including it in this year's NRI.

Nearly a third of the programming hours produced by AMC this year included some sort of LGBT impression, earning it a "Good" rating. Given its rising profile, we hope it will warrant continued tracking in the future and keep up the good work.

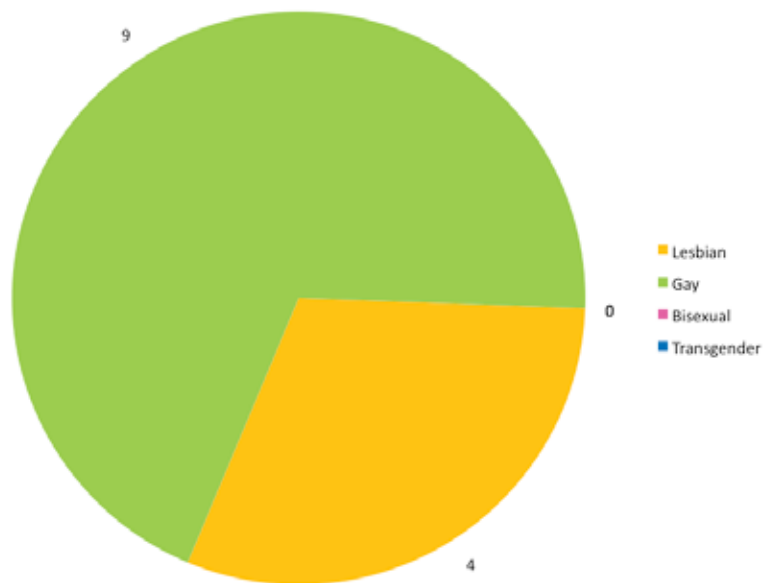
The 2010-2011 Season

- By far the most inclusive show on AMC this year was the spy series *Rubicon*, which featured the enigmatic gay character Kale Ingram in a central role. As a director at an intelligence agency, Kale often found himself straddling a line between following orders and secretly assisting the suspicious analyst under his supervision. Several times the show depicted Kale's home life with his partner Walter and also showed him meeting up with an ex-lover and colleague named Donald Bloom. Though it only ran for one season, the show garnered heavy critical acclaim and should be appreciated for organically weaving such original gay characters into its main story arc.
- In the eyes of most audiences and critics (not to mention Emmy voters), AMC's crowning jewel is undoubtedly the period drama *Mad Men*, which follows advertising executives in 1960s New York. The show formerly featured a closeted art director named Sal Romano, but he left the agency not long after being outted. However, this past season featured a blossoming friendship between the talented copywriter Peggy Olson and lesbian photo editor Joyce Ramsay. Hopefully Joyce will return when the show does in 2012.

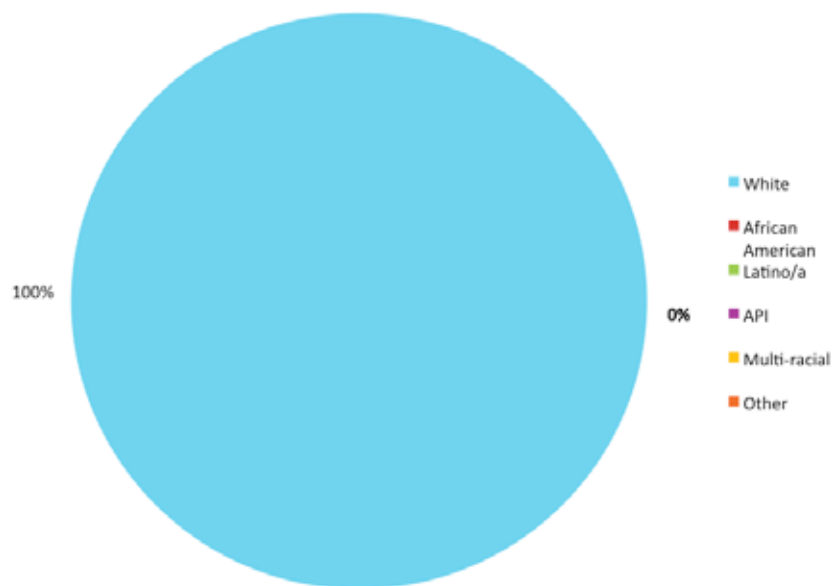
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- AMC's biggest ratings success thus far has been the horror series *The Walking Dead*, which is also the network's first wholly owned production. Since it's based on a series of comic books, it's known that future seasons of the show will feature LGBT characters if it stays true to its source material. Given that *Rubicon* has been cancelled, we hope that *The Walking Dead* can help pick up the slack in terms of inclusive programming.
- Thanks to the success of its recent series, AMC has a full plate ahead of it with some highly anticipated series on the way including *Hell on Wheels*, *Inside the DHS*, and *The Pitch*. We hope the writers will find ways to incorporate LGBT stories and characters in these shows as effectively as they have done in others.

AMC: LGBT Inclusive Hours



AMC: Race of LGBT Characters





FX

82.5 Total Hours of Primetime Programming
15.5 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (19%)
Previous Scores:
2009-10 Score: 27%
2008-09 Score: 13%
2007-08 Score: 45%

adequate

Launched in 1994 by News Corporation's Fox Entertainment Group, FX was the first television network to feature programming distributed online. Despite a loyal following on the web, in 1997 executives scaled back and re-launched the network as "FX: Fox Gone Cable." It later dropped the "Fox Gone Cable" tagline and joined forces with NASCAR to serve as their cable provider. In 2002, FX premiered *The Shield*, and in 2003 premiered its smash-hit plastic surgery drama *Nip/Tuck*, which aired for six seasons. Today it's best known for hits like *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, *Sons of Anarchy*, and *Rescue Me*.

In the 2007-2008 season, of 62.5 original primetime programming hours, 28 (45%) were LGBT-inclusive. In the 2008-2009 season, of 70 original primetime programming hours, 10 (13%) were LGBT-inclusive, marking a 32% decrease of LGBT visibility, due to the loss of shows like *The Riches* and *Dirt*. Although FX rose to 27% LGBT-inclusive hours of programming last season, much of what aired was problematic, earning FX an "Adequate" grade as opposed to the "Good" grade it might otherwise have received. This year, the LGBT content was somewhat better in quality, but the overall percentage of inclusive hours dropped back to 19%.

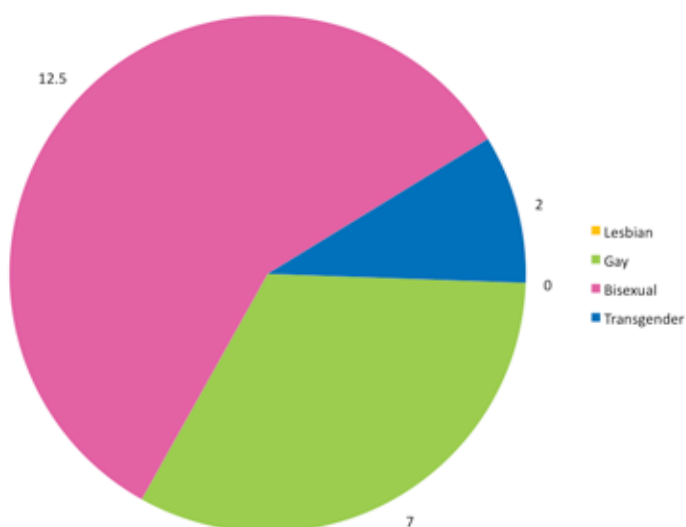
The 2010-2011 Season

- The animated FX series *Archer* featured the most LGBT-inclusive hours this year, with two regular gay and bisexual characters. A satirical take on spy stories, the show includes bisexual HR director Pam and gay secret agent Ray. Though the show loves to push boundaries, it prefers comedy that subverts stereotypes rather than resorting to them for a cheap laugh.
- Halfway through this season of *Sons of Anarchy*, it was revealed that ATF agent June Stahl was a lesbian, and in a relationship with a woman named Amy. Despite her law-upholding job, she had been set up as an antagonist and villain since the series began. It was a role she further demonstrated this year when she attempted to double cross main character Jax and even murdered her own girlfriend to cover up her corrupt activities. Though her orientation was not tied to her penchant for evil-doing, she was ultimately a rather one-note character that was killed off in the season finale.
- Comedy series *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia* featured several inclusive episodes last year, including two that addressed the issue of marriage for gay and lesbian couples. The season premiere and finale also saw the return of Mac's transgender ex-girlfriend, whose storyline wasn't handled perfectly, but far better than it had been in her first appearance a few years ago. The now-cancelled series *Terriers* also featured a transgender storyline, which was somewhat stereotypical in its depiction of trans women as sex workers, but illuminated the very real issue of trans women facing both violence and unsympathetic law enforcement.
- Though it aired too late in the evening to be counted for FX's primetime hours, the comedy series *Louie* is worth noting for several inclusive episodes, including one in which star and comedian Louis CK discusses "the f-word" with a gay comedian who schools him on its history and meaning for gay and bisexual men.

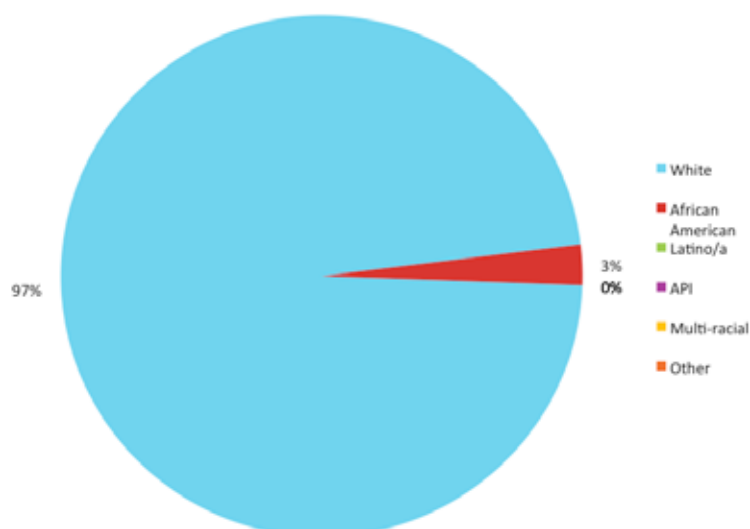
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- With *Terriers* and *Lights Out* both having been cancelled, FX will have some holes to fill in its schedule. It would be good to see them introduce a flesh and blood LGBT regular character to one of their existing series or any new ones in development, provided it's with more care than many LGBT depictions have received in the past. Shows like *Nip/Tuck* and *Rescue Me* have often included problematic LGBT storylines.

FX: LGBT Inclusive Hours



FX: Race of LGBT Characters





HBO

180.5 Total Hours of Primetime Programming

55.5 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (31%)

Previous Scores:

2009-10 Score: 26%

2008-09 Score: 42%

2007-08 Score: 26%



In 1972, the Home Box Office (HBO) was created in New York to broadcast feature films and sports coverage to audiences across America. In 1983, HBO premiered its first original series, *Fraggle Rock*. That same year, HBO aired the first television movie ever made on a cable network, about Canadian amputee and athlete Terry Fox. Original films, specials, and scripted series followed with the network always featuring LGBT-inclusive content. The 1989 documentary *Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt* and the 1993 film *And the Band Played On* both highlighted LGBT experiences. Later, the LGBT-inclusive series *Sex and the City* earned a GLAAD Media Award, as did *Six Feet Under* and *True Blood*.

In the 2007-2008 season, of HBO's 177.5 hours of total programming, 46 were LGBT inclusive (26%). In the 2008-2009 season, of 140 total hours of programming, 58.5 were LGBT-inclusive (42%). The 16% increase was largely due to the success of HBO's vampire series *True Blood* (2008) and the introduction of *The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency*. Although HBO declined in overall LGBT hours in the 2009-2010 season down to 26%, that number edged up slightly to 31% this year, and HBO's programming contained enough quality representations to warrant another "good" rating.

The 2010-2011 Season

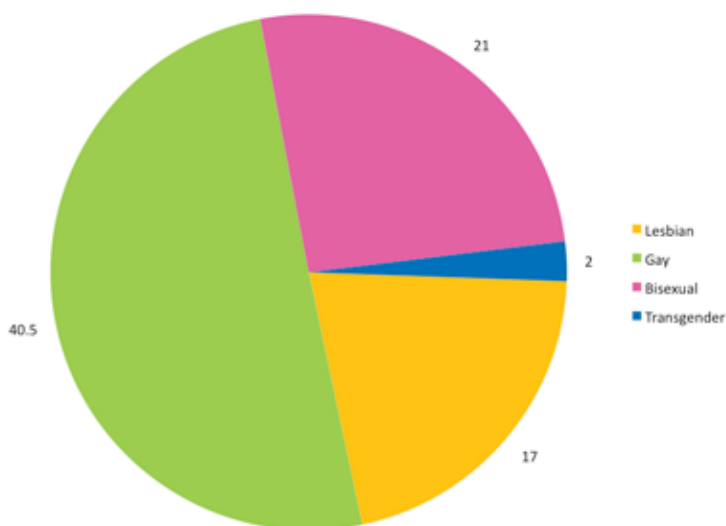
- Not only did GLAAD find *True Blood* to be the most inclusive show on television in last year's Where We Are on TV report, the representations were so diverse and well-rounded that the show earned a GLAAD Media Award for Outstanding Drama Series. The 2010 cast included gay line-cook Lafayette, his brujo boyfriend Jesus, gay vampire king Russell, and Russell's partner Talbot. On the women's side are lesbian and vampire club manager Pam, lesbian vampire queen Sophie Anne, and the queen's consort Hadley. The show's newest season, which will be counted as part of next year's report, reveals that main character Tara has spent the past year in a relationship with a woman, so it's likely to take the title of "most inclusive scripted TV show" once again.
- The final season of polygamist drama *Big Love* once again featured Alby, now the closeted leader of a cult-like religious community known as the United Effort Brotherhood. Last season, he had his first same-sex relationship with conflicted traveling businessman Dale, which tragically ended with Dale's death by suicide. This year Alby fell more squarely into the villain role when he coerced a man into both a sexual relationship and attempted murder. Luckily, the show also featured a more positive character; a lesbian religious scholar named Renee who helped "first wife" Barb discover her own desire to take up the priesthood.
- *Entourage* continued to feature out agent Lloyd, but in a much diminished capacity as the character struck out on his own as Johnny Drama's agent rather than Ari Gold's assistant. The comedic detective series *Bored to Death* featured one episode with a young transgender woman that was strong enough to warrant a GLAAD Media Award nomination. On *Hung*, teenage Damon remained on the show, though his bisexuality wasn't brought up.
- On the drama front, *Boardwalk Empire* revealed that major character Angela was having an affair with a married woman named Mary who disappeared at the season's end. Angela is expected to return this year. The hugely hyped new series *Game of Thrones* expanded on its literary source material by revealing outright that the king's brother was gay and having an affair with a champion knight. And one of the four major patients on the drama series *In Treatment* was a combative gay teen named Jesse who was searching for his birth parents.

- The long running series *Real Sports with Bryant Gumble* featured a profile of out rugby player Gareth Thomas last year, while Bill Maher welcomed a variety of gay and lesbian guests on his talk show *Real Time*, including Andrew Sullivan, Rachel Maddow, and John Waters. HBO also ran the Fran Liebowitz documentary *Public Speaking*, the Lady Gaga concert *Monster's Ball Tour*, and the film *Cinema Verite*, which dramatized the making of the PBS series *American Family* and included early gay TV personality Lance Loud.

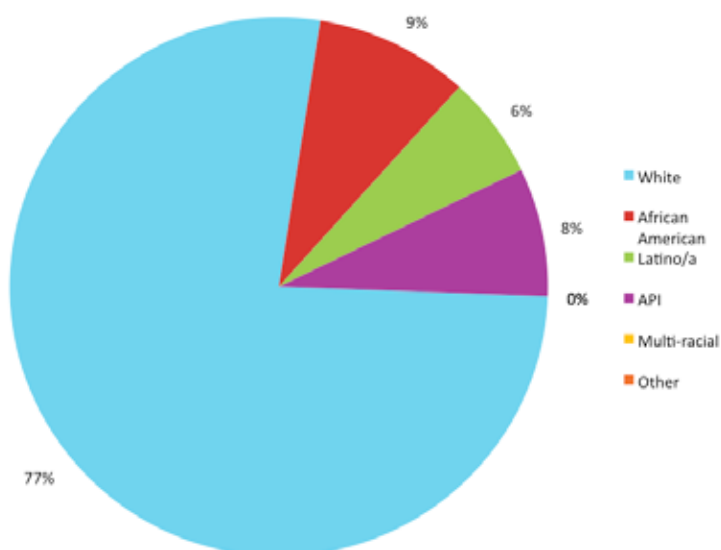
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- HBO's programming continues to feature a racially and ethnically diverse mix of gay, lesbian, and bisexual impressions, but could expand and diversify by including more transgender characters in its current and upcoming series. Initial reports that *Hung* will include a potentially ongoing transgender character in its upcoming season shows the network is already moving in the right direction.

HBO: LGBT Inclusive Hours



HBO: Race of LGBT Characters





Showtime

96.5 Total Hours of Primetime Programming
 35.5 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (37%)
 Previous Scores:
 2009-10 Score: 32%
 2008-09 Score: 26%
 2007-08 Score: 32%



Media giant Viacom expanded its service in 1976 when it debuted the premium subscription network Showtime. Showtime has played an important role in increasing LGBT visibility by showcasing original films such as *Losing Chase* (1996), *Armistead Maupin's More Tales of the City* (1998), and *Soldier's Girl* (2003). Showtime has also committed itself to LGBT-inclusive programming through groundbreaking original series like *Queer as Folk* (2000) and *The L Word* (2004), both of which never shied away from physical intimacy, while also addressing multiple facets of the community, like parenting, marriage, and HIV/AIDS.

In the 2007-2008 season, of 71 original primetime programming hours, 23 (32%) were LGBT-inclusive. In the 2008-2009 season, of 77.5 hours of original primetime programming hours, 20.5 (26%) were LGBT-inclusive. Since then, those numbers have steadily increased, by 6% in the 2009-2010 season back to 32% and another 5% this year to 37%. This is thanks largely to *The Real L Word* and *Shameless*.

The 2010-2011 Season

- In terms of overall number of LGBT impressions, no program on Showtime (or possibly television) can come close to touching reality series *The Real L Word*, which follows a large group of lesbians (and some bisexual women) living in Los Angeles. Executive Producer Ilene Chaiken was also the creator of the successful lesbian-focused scripted series *The L Word*, a landmark series for lesbian visibility.
- The show with the most LGBT-inclusive hours on Showtime was the scripted drama *Shameless*, based on the long-running UK series of the same name. *Shameless* follows a lower class Chicago family of children struggling to get by with an addict father and an absent mother. One of the main characters is the semi-closeted gay teen Ian, who carries on affairs with both his married boss and a local criminal. In addition to several appearances by lesbian bartender Jess, the kids' mother returned near the season's end and revealed she was now in a relationship with a woman. Focusing on a socioeconomic class that rarely gets the scripted drama treatment, it also presented gay, lesbian, and bisexual characters unlike any others on television.
- The third season of *The United States of Tara* was unfortunately also its last, but it provided Tara's gay son Marshall with some solid storylines. Though he began the season dating his classmate Lionel, Marshall soon experienced a growing attraction to his friend Noah, who was working on a filmmaking project with the pair. Marshall eventually broke up with Lionel because of it. After Lionel died in a car accident and Marshall's mother was taken over by a dangerous new alternate personality, Marshall found himself struggling to connect to anyone before seemingly coming to terms with his lot in life by the series' conclusion. This season also featured several appearances by the family's gay neighbor Ted and saw Charmaine hire a transgender party planner for her baby shower in a brief scene.
- Nurse Jackie's third season continued to feature the bisexual Dr. Eleanor O'Hara and gay nurse Thor, though it gave almost no attention to their respective personal lives. O'Hara mainly dealt with the fallout of discovering Jackie's addiction, and Thor's storylines all involved his exploits at work. None of the patients featured this season were identified as LGBT either, though Dr. Cooper's lesbian mothers did make a one-episode guest appearance to tell him they were getting divorced.

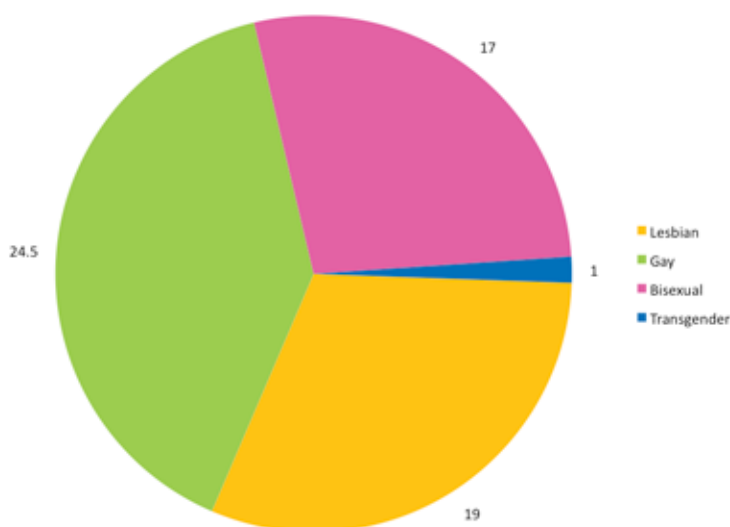
- Lesbian teen Isabelle wasn't a part of the fourth season of *Weeds*, but there were a few brief appearances by a pot-dealing lesbian couple. The premiere season of *The Big C* featured three episodes with one-off gay and lesbian characters, and *Episodes* included a plotline about TV writers arguing with their star over whether or not to make a character a lesbian. The final season of *Secret Diaries of a Call Girl* also featured a one episode storyline in which an openly gay man hired Belle to "confirm" his sexual orientation.

- Included in Showtime's unscripted programming is the talk show *The Green Room*, which featured appearances by out comedians like Sandra Bernhard, Andy Dick, and Eddie Izzard. Last year Showtime also ran a special called *Pride: The Gay & Lesbian Comedy Slam*.

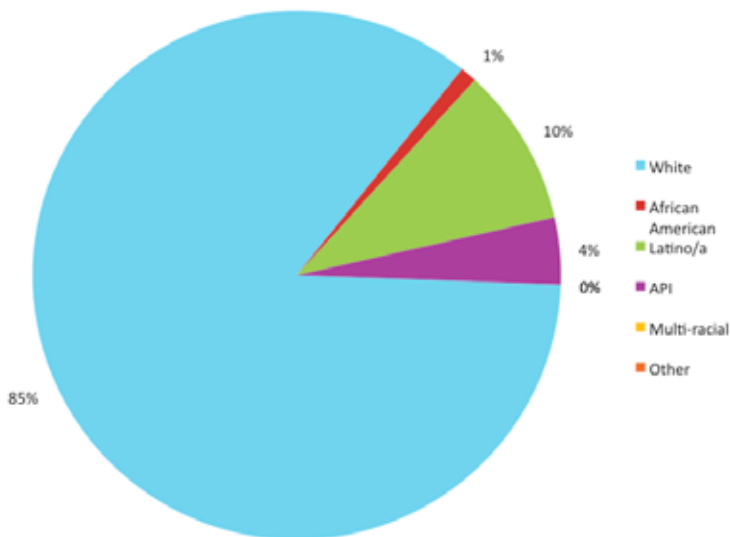
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- There's no doubt that most of the LGBT impressions on Showtime in the past year have been by white characters, so the network should make racial diversity a higher priority in the future. The new season of *The Real L Word* has already added several new non-white cast members, so there has been some positive change already in this regard. Some more substantial storylines for transgender characters would also help diversify the network's strong showing of LGBT impressions.

Showtime: LGBT Inclusive Hours



Showtime: Race of LGBT Characters





Syfy

291.5 Total Hours of Primetime Programming
64 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (22%)
Previous Scores:
2008-09 Score: 8%



The Syfy channel has been the destination for science fiction, fantasy, horror and paranormal programming since its inception in 1992. Created as a joint venture between Paramount Pictures and Universal Studios, the channel first aired classic films and television shows from the studios' vaults. Its programming has since expanded greatly to include original movies, miniseries and series, gaining national recognition in 2003 with the airing of *Steven Spielberg Presents: Taken*, which won the Emmy for best miniseries later that year. Syfy has aired a number of successful original series including *Battlestar Galactica*, *Ghost Hunters*, *Eureka*, *Haven*, and *Warehouse 13*.

Syfy received a "Failing" grade in its first and only other inclusion in the NRI back in 2009 when only 8% of its programming was inclusive, and even that LGBT content was highly marginalized. Due to declining ratings, it was not included in last year's NRI. It has seen its ratings improve since then, however, and made some great improvements in terms of LGBT inclusivity that warrant recognition.

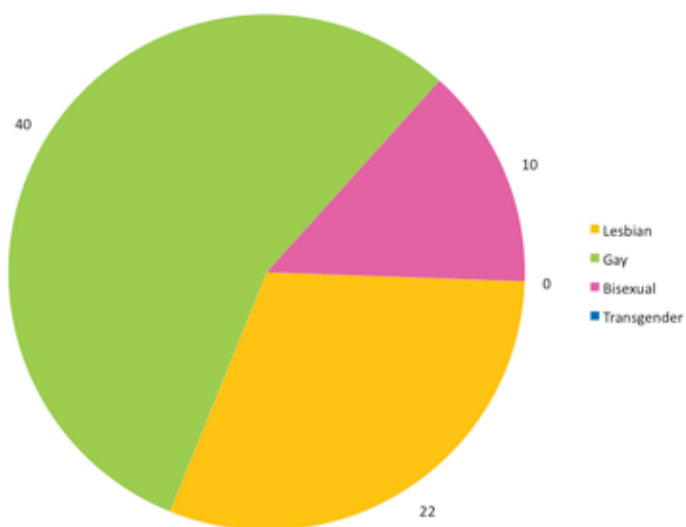
The 2010-2011 Season

- The critically acclaimed series *Battlestar Galactica*, which ran for four seasons, helped put the Syfy channel back on the map when it premiered in 2004. Though one of the recurring characters came out in a short, supplementary online-only episode, the tv show itself never acknowledged that the character identified as gay. The show's creators helped rectify that in their prequel spin-off *Caprica*, however. Set in a grounded city rather than a ship, the show featured two regular gay and bisexual characters: a gay mafia enforcer named Sam Adama (with a recurring husband named Larry) and a bisexual religious leader named Clarice Willow who had multiple husbands and wives. Unfortunately, the series ran its final episodes earlier this year.
- Another series that was recently cancelled was *Stargate Universe*, which followed a ship full of lost travelers trying to get back to Earth. Among them was a lesbian HR rep named Camille Ray, who had a partner named Sharon waiting for her back at home. Camille rarely had major plotlines, but remained a consistent presence on the show, and was one of the few Asian/Pacific Islander LGBT characters on television.
- The new series *Being Human* was adapted from a UK show about three supernatural roommates that includes a werewolf named Josh. His lesbian sister Emily appeared in a handful of episodes, and the well-performing show is expected to return for another season. Additionally, the openly gay Vincent is still a regular presence on *Eureka*, but unfortunately his presence is still largely that of a background player. Finally on *Warehouse 13*, it was revealed that the recurring character HG Wells had dated both men and women in her past. Though, he didn't make it into this year's report, the series has also recently added a new regular gay character named Steve Jinks.
- One of Syfy's most successful reality franchises is *Ghost Hunters*, which was spun off into *Ghost Hunters International* and *Ghost Hunters Academy*, among other shows. The openly gay Adam Berry won the second half of the first season of *Academy* and was rewarded with a regular role on the original *Ghost Hunters* series. Thanks to Adam, *Ghost Hunters* now accounts for the majority of Syfy's LGBT-inclusive hours.
- The special effects artist competition show *Face Off* also featured two openly gay contestants in its premiere season, including Gage, who made it all the way to the final three. Hopefully, the show will include additional LGBT contestants when it returns for the second season that was announced this spring.

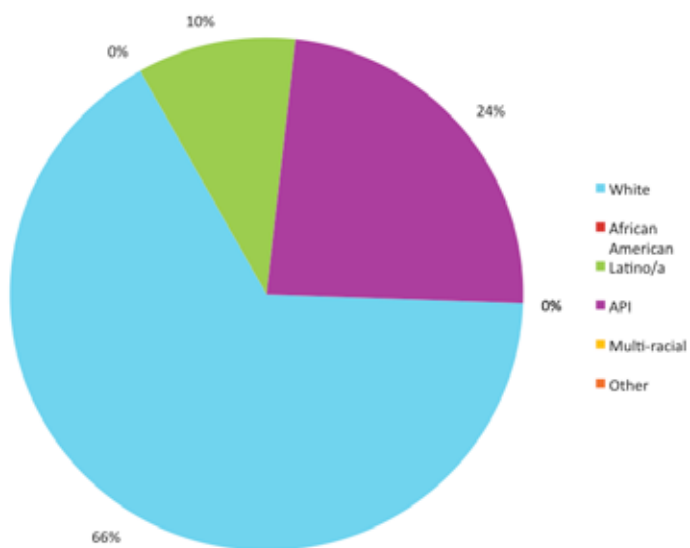
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- There was a fear that the cancellations of both *Caprica* and *Stargate Universe* would have left Syfy with no significant LGBT characters in its scripted series, and will certainly reduce the number of non-white ones on TV. Luckily the network has continued to demonstrate a commitment to diversity by featuring new gay and lesbian characters on both *Being Human* and *Warehouse 13*. Hopefully they will be enough for the network to retain its “Good” score if Syfy is included in next year’s NRI. In the meantime, we’d love to see the network include some significant LGBT characters in some of their numerous and popular made-for-TV movies.

Syfy: LGBT Inclusive Hours



Syfy: Race of LGBT Characters





TBS

86 Total Hours of Primetime Programming
4 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (5%)
Previous Scores:
2009-10 Score: 2%
2008-09 Score: 1%
2007-08 Score: 7%

failing

Another network under the Turner umbrella, TBS focuses on more lighthearted comic fare, re-airing popular sitcoms such as *Seinfeld*, *Family Guy*, and *The Office*, unlike the drama-focused TNT. In addition to its acquired sitcoms, TBS now also features a number of original comedies including Tyler Perry's *House of Payne*, *Are We There Yet?*, and *Meet the Browns*.

Over the past four years, TBS' inclusion of LGBT characters and storylines has significantly deteriorated from its 2007-2008 LGBT statistic of 7% of all original programming. In the 2008-2009 season, TBS dropped to 1% and increased only to 2% in 2009-2010. This year that score increased to 5%, but half of its inclusive hours can be attributed to its airing of the *Screen Actors Guild Awards*, which featured appearances by several gay, lesbian, and bisexual actors.

The 2010-2011 Season

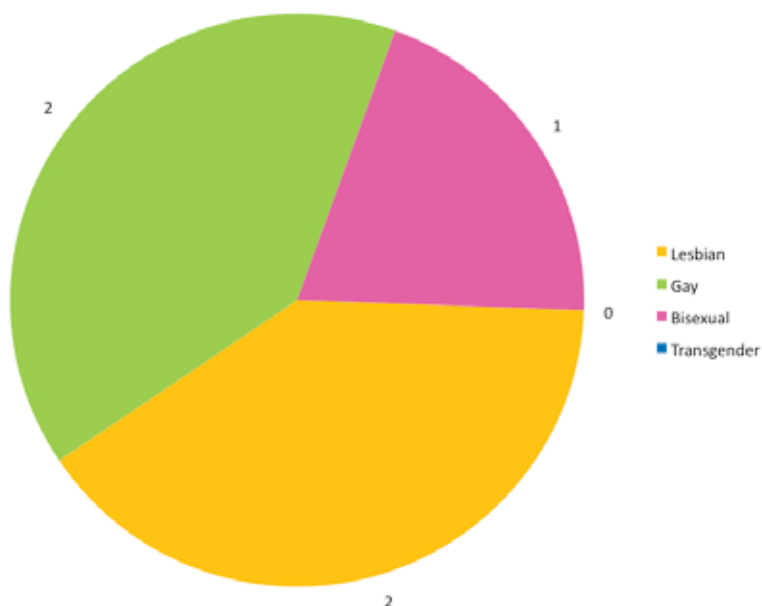
- *Are We There Yet?* is one of several sitcoms on TBS that feature a predominantly black cast and are marketed to a black audience. It was also the only original series on the whole of TBS's primetime slate to feature an appearance by a gay character. Cedric was a black, gay teen who the family's daughter developed a crush on until he came out to her. While it's a great development for a show portraying a black family to include a gay storyline, Cedric unfortunately only appeared in a single episode.

- *Ellen's Somewhat Special Special* was another hour-long one-off special for the network hosted by the openly lesbian comedian and talk show host, as she did in 2009.

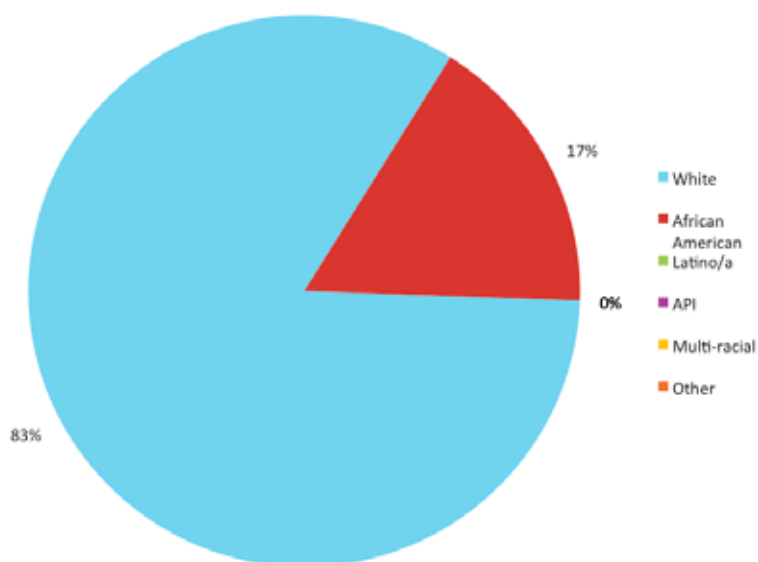
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- With the series *Glory Daze* and *My Boys* recently coming to an end, TBS finds itself with several holes to fill in its slate of original programming. This would be the perfect time to finally introduce a regular (or even recurring) lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender character to one of its shows and start digging its way out of the "Failing" score it's received for the past four years.

TBS: LGBT Inclusive Hours



TBS: Race of LGBT Characters





TNT

94 Total Hours of Primetime Programming
31 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (33%)

Previous Scores:

2009-10 Score: 34%

2008-09 Score: 19%

2007-08 Score: 1%



Launched in 1988 by media mogul Ted Turner, Turner Network Television (TNT) was originally the destination for live sporting events like NASCAR races and NBA and NFL games. When launched as a cable service, the network also aired movies and reruns of television shows. In 2001, TNT re-branded itself with the tagline “We Know Drama” to emphasize its acquisition of syndicated series like *Law and Order* and *Cold Case*. It ran eight original drama series in the past year.

Coming a long way since the 2007-2008 season when only 1% of its 91.5 total hours was LGBT-inclusive, TNT has shown consistent improvement in incorporating LGBT characters and storylines into its original programming. This year it was nearly level as with its all-time high score from last year.

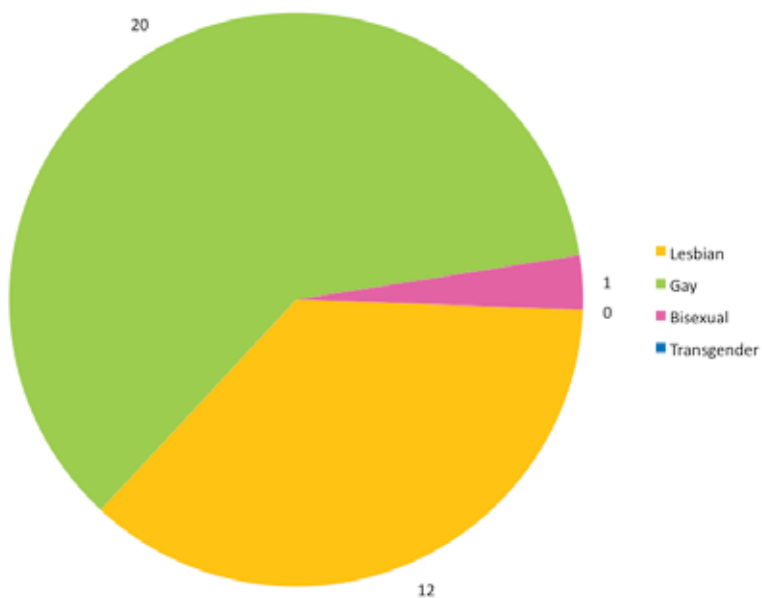
The 2010-2011 Season

- As was the case last year, the bulk of the 31 hours of LGBT-inclusive programming on TNT came from the series *Southland*, which features a regular gay character in LAPD officer John Cooper. *Southland* originally premiered on NBC but was picked up by TNT after being cancelled. The show rarely delved into Cooper’s romantic life, though he was shown waking up in bed with another man for the first time this season. *Southland* is also highly notable for being one of the only crime procedurals on TV to ever feature an openly LGBT lead character.
- Though the revelation didn’t come until the second half of the season, one of the central nurses on the medical drama *Hawthorne* was revealed to be a lesbian when she counseled a teen who was struggling with her own sexuality. It’s expected that nurse Kelly will make a substantive contribution to TNT’s LGBT-inclusive hours in next year’s report.
- The rest of TNT’s LGBT content was due to recurring appearances by gay deputy medical examiner Dr. Morales and lesbian detective Mikki Mendoza on *The Closer* and Maria on *Men of a Certain Age*. There was also a lesbian detective in one episode of *Memphis Beat* and an undercover trip to a lesbian bar on *Rizzoli and Isles*.

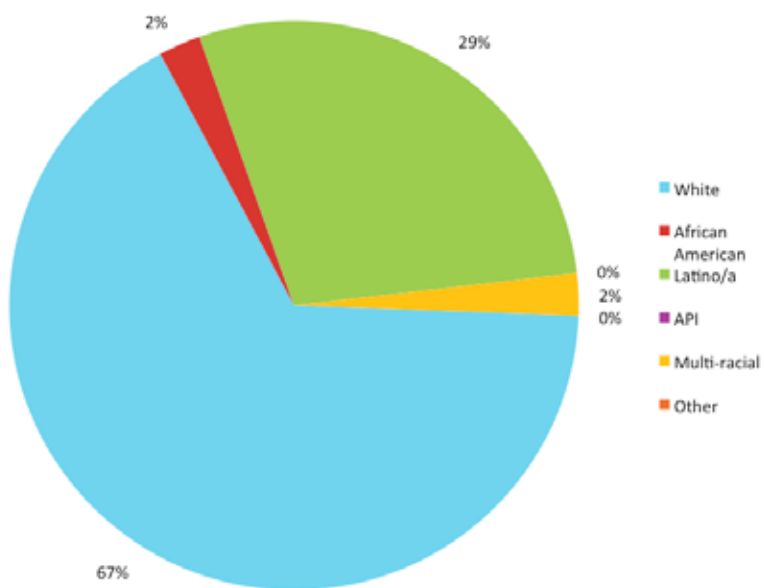
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- While TNT has infused its programming with LGBT characters, the network needs to be more conscious of making these characters racially diverse and including more bisexual and transgender characters. With *The Closer* currently finishing its final season and the recent cancellation of *Men of a Certain Age*, the only remaining regular or recurring gay and lesbian characters on TNT will be white. We hope they’ll find a way to compensate with new characters and storylines on their other shows.

TNT: LGBT Inclusive Hours



TNT: Race of LGBT Characters





USA

114 Total Hours of Primetime Programming
 21 LGBT-Inclusive Hours (18%)
 Previous Scores:
 2009-10 Score: 4%
 2008-09 Score: 12%
 2007-08 Score: 4%

adequate

USA Network started in 1977, when a New York City-based outlet was launched as the Madison Square Garden Network. Three years later, the channel was renamed USA Network to reflect its national reach. Among basic cable networks, USA boasts an enormous potential audience, since it is available in roughly 94 million homes as of 2008. USA plays host to a plethora of original programs, including hits *Burn Notice*, *In Plain Sight*, *White Collar* and *Psych*. The network also airs a number of syndicated hits like *House*, *Law & Order: SVU* and *NCIS*. With the slogan "Characters Welcome," USA is committed to a slate that focuses on strong personalities, but it has also recently shown an admirable commitment to partnering with progressive social causes with its "Characters United" campaign.

For several years, the only regular gay character on USA was on the short-lived miniseries-turned-series, *The Starter Wife*, which starred Debra Messing as a divorced woman and featured her gay interior decorator friend, Rodney. It wasn't until they made lesbian Agent Diana Berrigan a regular on last year's season of *White Collar* that they made significant progress again. The percentage of LGBT-inclusive hours jumped from 4% to 18% in this year's report thanks to that change.

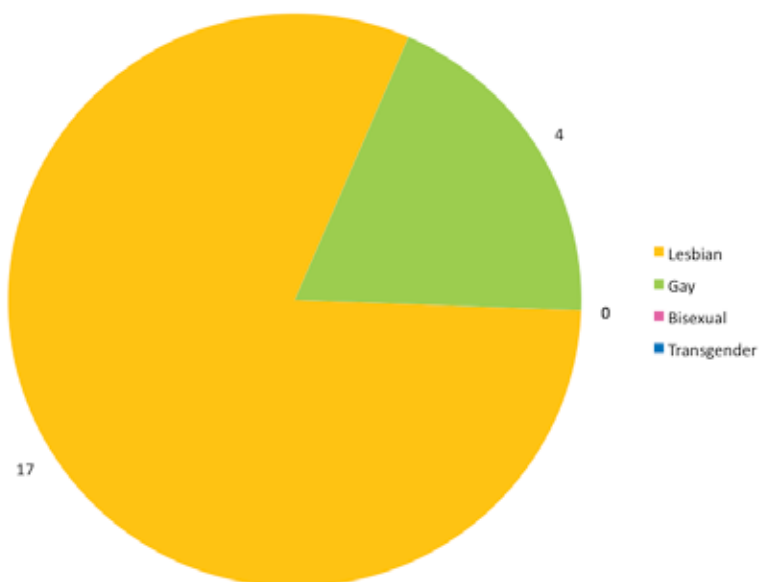
The 2010-2011 Season

- As said before, the most significant LGBT impressions on USA came from *White Collar*'s lesbian FBI agent, Diana Berrigan, who was upgraded to a series regular last year. She has largely remained a supporting character on the show, though viewers were finally introduced to her girlfriend this season. Diana also has the distinction of being one of the only black lesbian characters on television.
- The freshman drama *Fairly Legal* featured a gay recurring character named Spencer Reed who is the brother of the central character, Kate. The fact that Spencer is gay was revealed in the press in advance of the show, but the show itself never really addressed it onscreen.
- The law enforcement show *In Plain Sight* follows a Deputy Marshall working in witness protection and featured a gay couple in hiding in one of this past season's episodes. Last year, there was also a lesbian murder suspect in a minor role on an episode of *Psych*.

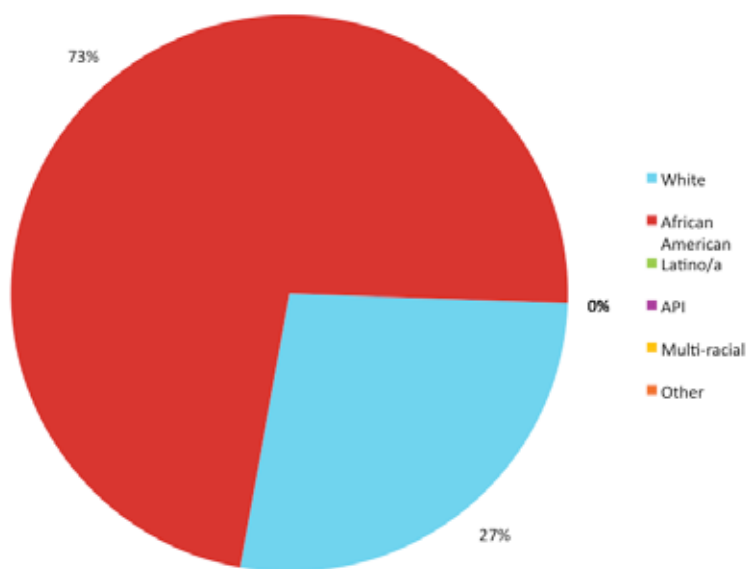
Suggested Areas of Improvement

- The upgrading of Diana Berrigan to a series regular character was certainly a great step in the right direction for the network, and it was the reason the network didn't receive another "Failing" score this year. With the second season of *Fairly Legal* on the way, USA would also do well to improve Spencer's role on the show and explore his family life, so that casual viewers would actually know that he is in fact a gay character.

USA: LGBT Inclusive Hours



USA: Race of LGBT Characters



BBC America:

Part of BBC Worldwide's media network, BBC America brings some of the UK broadcaster's best programming to the states. The BBC has a history of crafting inclusive programming, including *Tipping the Velvet*, *Torchwood*, and the original version of *Queer as Folk*. In the past year, their American arm has featured new episodes of the hit UK series *Doctor Who*, which included several gay and lesbian characters in its most recent season. They also ran new episodes of *The Graham Norton Show*, a ribald late night talk show hosted by openly gay comedian Graham Norton.

Bravo:

A division of NBC Universal, Bravo has a well-known history of producing highly inclusive reality programming, including *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* and *Project Runway*. In fact, for the sheer volume of original programming they produce each year, they probably feature more reality series with gay and lesbian leads than even the Logo network. Among the shows that ran in the past year are *Flipping Out*, *Million Dollar Listing*, *Tabatha's Salon Takeover*, *Thintervention With Jackie Warner*, *Million Dollar Decorators*, *The Rachel Zoe Project*, and *Watch What Happens Live*. Most of their competition shows also feature LGBT contestants, including recent seasons of *Work of Art*, *Platinum Hit*, *The Fashion Show*, and *Top Chef*.

Comedy Central:

A division of MTV, Comedy Central is probably best known as the home of *South Park*, *The Daily Show with John Stewart*, and *The Colbert Report*. All of those shows regularly include LGBT content, with the latter two routinely attacking mistreatment of LGBT people and issues by politicians and the media with their trademark wit.

HGTV:

Issues of home buying, home renovation, and home design dominate the programming lineup of HGTV, which also features several programs with openly gay hosts and judges, including *Color Splash*, *Curb Appeal: The Block*, and *Design Star*, which typically includes several LGBT contestants per season as well. Though the personal lives of hosts, judges or contestants are rarely touched upon, the network sometimes features same-sex couples looking for home-related assistance.

History:

Launched in 1995, The History Channel (now known simply as History) initially specialized in airing documentaries, series, and specials pertaining to historical events or speculation. They've seen their ratings grow dramatically in recent years after they began producing a number of (non-history related) original series including *Ice Road Truckers*, *Ax Men*, *Swamp People*, *Pawn Stars*, and an American version of the British hit *Top Gear*. As yet, none of these shows feature openly LGBT cast-members.

Lifetime:

Lifetime Television is owned by A&E Networks and has remained, since its establishment in 1982, a channel dedicated to programming for a female audience. It's probably best known for its series of Lifetime Movies, which tend to be melodramas with a female protagonist, some of which have also included LGBT themes and characters. In the past year, their most inclusive program was easily *Project Runway*, which won the GLAAD Media Award for Outstanding Reality Program. An episode of the scripted series *Drop Dead Diva* that included a transgender character was also nominated for Outstanding Individual Episode.

Logo:

The only network on basic cable dedicated to programming for an LGBT audience, Logo is part of the Viacom's MTV Networks. It predominantly features second run television series (not all with an LGBT focus) and acquired films and documentaries, but has also produced a number of original series as well, typically in the reality genre. Drag icon RuPaul hosts two of the network's most popular programs, *RuPaul's Drag Race* and *RuPaul's Drag Up*; both of which are competition programs based on drag queen culture. Other programs run in the past year include *The Arrangement*, *The A-List*, *Setup Squad*, and *Pretty Hurts*.

MTV:

After it received the first ever “Excellent” score last year, MTV was not included in this year’s NRI due to its standing in the cable ratings. MTV started out as a music focused network that appealed to a young demographic and grew to become a cultural touchstone for several generations. As its slate of original programming increased, MTV routinely included LGBT people and issues in shows such as *The Real World*, which put a face on the HIV/AIDS epidemic when it introduced the nation to advocate Pedro Zamora in 1994. Since last year’s report, GLAAD has tracked a notable decline in MTV’s inclusive hours, and it broadcast highly problematic episodes of *The Jersey Shore* and *True Life*. On a more positive note, the network also launched a major anti-bullying initiative and included numerous LGBT characters and stories on shows like *If You Really Knew Me*, *Made*, *Skins*, and *The Real World: New Orleans*. Despite setbacks, GLAAD is confident that in the future MTV will continue its well-established track record of including fair and balanced representations of the LGBT community.

Starz:

The Starz network is a premium channel created in 1994 as a sister network to Encore. Unlike other premium channels like Showtime and HBO, Starz didn’t begin a serious expansion of its original scripted programming until about 2005. Earlier this year, it ran the original gladiator drama *Spartacus: Gods of the Arena*, which featured a warrior named Barca and his lover Auctus. It also recently premiered a new season of *Torchwood* – coproduced with the BBC – which features Captain Jack Harkness, TV’s only male, bisexual lead character and action hero.

Sundance:

The Sundance Channel was created in 1996 as an extension of the Robert Redford founded Sundance Institute, and as a means to broadcast the sort of independent films celebrated every year at the world renowned Sundance Film Festival. Just as the independent film scene has been extremely welcoming to LGBT artists and stories, the network has produced a great deal of LGBT-inclusive original programming, such as the groundbreaking series *TransGeneration*. More recently they have produced shows such as *Indie Sex*, *Joe Zee’s All on the Line*, and *Girls Who Like Boys Who Like Boys*, which follows several friendships between straight women and gay men.

TLC:

Formerly known as The Learning Channel, TLC is owned by Discovery Communications, which also owns Animal Planet, the Discovery Channel, and other networks that placed an emphasis on science and learning. Since its launch however, TLC has become better known for its slate of popular reality programming, much of which focuses on interesting families, such as *Sister Wives* and *John & Kate Plus 8*. TLC also produces several programs with LGBT cast members, including *What Not to Wear*, *N.Y. Ink*, *Police Women of Memphis*, and *Say Yes to the Dress*.

Teen Nick:

A sister channel to the immensely popular Nickelodeon network, TeenNick is an MTV Network oriented to a teenage audience. One of its most popular shows is the Canadian teen soap *Degrassi*, which has included a number of LGBT characters over the years, such as football playing couple Riley and Zane. More recently the show has also featured the storyline of transgender teen Adam, which won *Degrassi* a Peabody Award and a GLAAD Media Award Nomination. Additionally, the TeenNick show *Gigantic* included a storyline about a closeted gay father.

GLAAD's Entertainment Media Team not only works with entertainment-related media platforms to encourage fair, accurate and inclusive representation of LGBT people, but also to combat problematic content and instances of defamation in these industries. This process may involve reading scripts, viewing rough cuts, pitching story ideas, consulting with writers and producers, working with talent to better inform them about portraying LGBT characters, and arranging entertainment-related events and panels. GLAAD also promotes LGBT-inclusive projects through the entertainment section of glaadBLOG.org and the weekly LGBT TV listings, *TV Gayed*. Contact us at entertainment@glaad.org.

Herndon Graddick

Senior Director of Media Programs – Graddick@glaad.org

In his role as Senior Director of Programs, Graddick leads GLAAD's programmatic, communications, and digital initiatives and oversees the organization's Entertainment; National News; Religion, Faith & Values; Community & Field Media; Advertising; Messaging; and Spanish-Language Media programs. Graddick previously served as GLAAD's Deputy Director of Media Programs. Before joining GLAAD, Graddick served as the Executive Producer of the Global Observatory, a media and communications effort aiming to raise public awareness around the climate change crisis. Prior to that he was a supervising producer at E! Networks, a day-of-air news division director at CURRENT TV, and a producer at CNN for programs such as *Paula Zahn Now*, *Anderson Cooper 360*, and *Live From the Headlines*.

Matt Kane

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Matt Kane is a GLAAD liaison to the entertainment industry, advocating for the inclusion of diverse LGBT stories in films, scripted television and reality programming and collaborating with film festivals like Sundance to launch new LGBT voices. He helps shape GLAAD's response to acts of anti-LGBT defamation in entertainment media, is the principal writer of the Network Responsibility Index, and oversees the publication of the NRI and *Where We Are on TV*. Prior to joining GLAAD, he worked for several television shows and film festivals and worked for GLAAD as a freelance programmer for the Queer Lounge at Sundance. He holds an M.F.A. in film studies from Boston University.

Max Gouttebroze

Entertainment Media Strategist – Gouttebroze@glaad.org

Max Gouttebroze serves as an active member of the GLAAD Programs Team by identifying and monitoring LGBT representations, trends and developments in television and film. He is the lead writer of GLAAD's "Where We Are on TV" report and conducts long-term research and data collection for the "Network Responsibility Index (NRI)" report. Max also serves on the GLAAD Media Awards Communications Team and is a frequent contributor to glaadBLOG.org. A graduate of the College of Charleston's Communications Program, Max joined GLAAD in September 2010 as the Communications Intern. In December of that year, he became a part of GLAAD's Digital Initiatives Team and moved into his current role in June 2011.

Nicole Pirshafiey

Entertainment Media Fellow

Nicole Pirshafiey served as Entertainment Media Strategist at GLAAD for the first half of 2011, where she researched and monitored LGBT-inclusive content on television and in film in collaboration with the Entertainment Media Strategist. She was the principle author of *TV Gayed*, GLAAD's weekly guide to LGBT-inclusive television programming, which can be found on GLAADblog.org. Nicole was also a contributing researcher for GLAAD's Network Responsibility Index. Before coming to GLAAD, Nicole graduated from Arizona State University with degrees in literature and political science. She is now writing for Paula Deen's *Real Women of Philadelphia* and studying television writing through the Writers' Program at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Elaine Cheung

Entertainment Media Intern

Elaine Cheung joined GLAAD's Entertainment Media Team over the summer, assisting with research and graphing for the Network Responsibility Index. Additionally, Elaine has assisted GLAAD with editing event video and compiling media. Elaine is currently pursuing a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Computing and the Arts & Theater at the University of California, San Diego, where she also does graphics and web design for her school's LGBT Resource Center.



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