



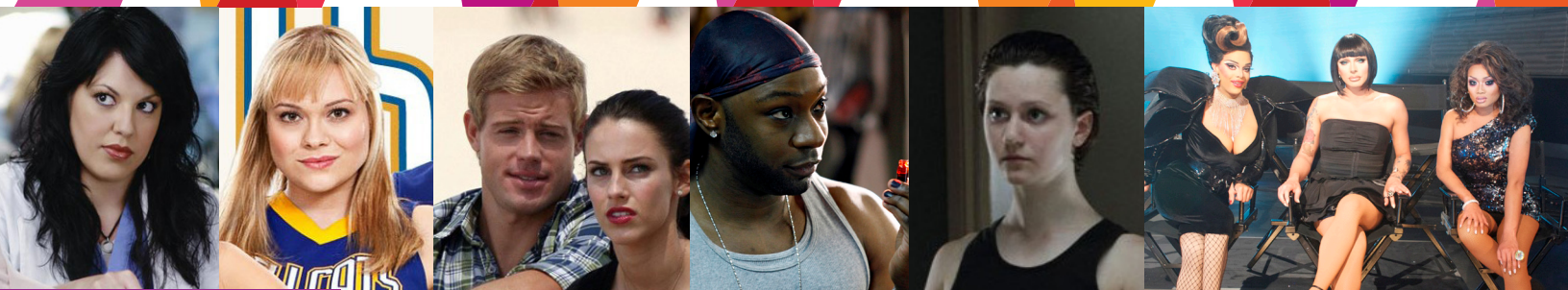
words & images matter

# 2010 - 2011

## where we are on tv



[www.glaad.org](http://www.glaad.org)



# table of contents

**3-5**

**overview**

**6**

**drama series on broadcast networks**

**7**

**comedy series on broadcast networks**

**8**

**sex and gender**

**9-10**

**race and ethnicity**

**11-12**

**scripted programming on cable**

**13**

**reality programming**

**14**

**daytime television**

**15-16**

**five year trends**

**17**

**bios**

# where we are on tv: overview

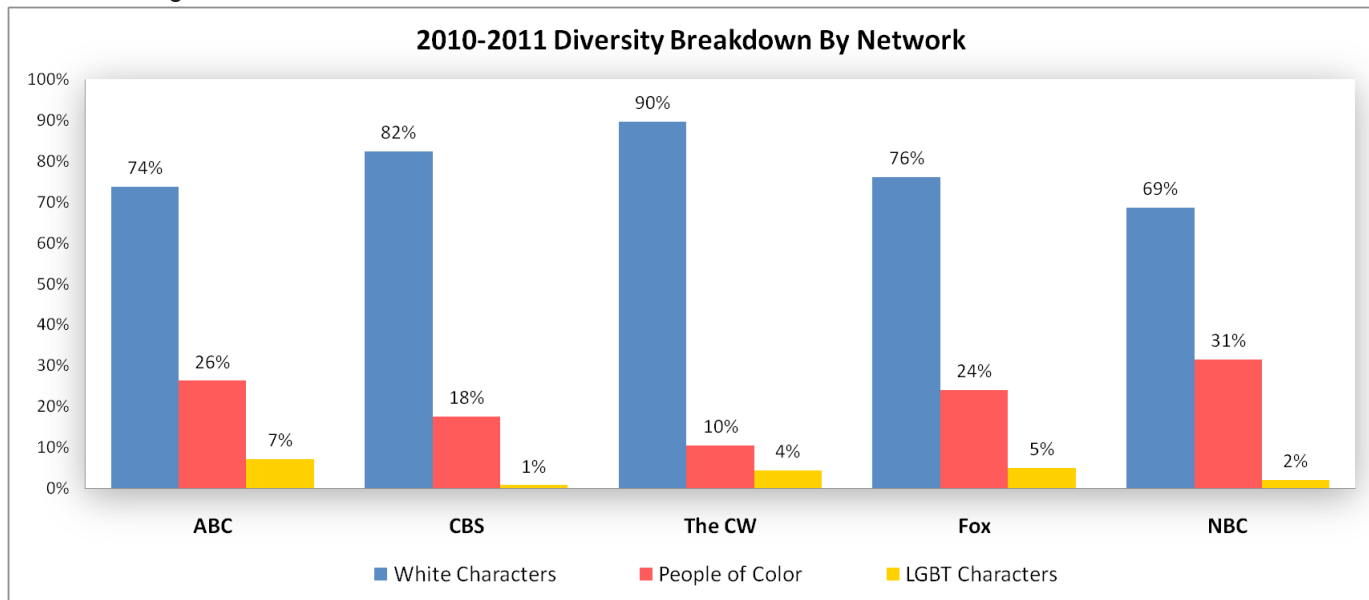


Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) representations have increased for the third year in a row to a record percentage according to an analysis of the 2010-2011 scripted primetime broadcast television season conducted by the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD). The *Where We Are on TV* report forecasts the expected presence of LGBT characters in the upcoming 2010-2011 television schedule.

The study shows that LGBT representations will account for 3.9% of all scripted series regular characters in the 2010-2011 broadcast television schedule, up from 3% in 2009, 2.6% in 2008, and 1.1% in 2007. The number of regular LGBT characters on cable has also increased following a two year decline, up to 35 from a count of 25 last year.

For 15 years, GLAAD has tracked the visibility of the LGBT community on television by counting the number of LGBT characters. Since the creation of *Where We Are on TV* in 2005, GLAAD also began to compile statistics on the sexual orientation, gender identity and race/ethnicity for all scripted characters expected to appear on broadcast television in the coming season. The information compiled in this report is accurate at printing but is subject to changes in programming that may occur during the course of the TV season. At the conclusion of the 2010-2011 season, an in-depth analysis of the LGBT images that aired will be provided by GLAAD in its fifth annual *Network Responsibility Index* (NRI).

Of the 587 series regular characters counted across 84 programs on the five broadcast networks (ABC, CBS, The CW, Fox and NBC), 23 are LGBT, an increase of five from 18 LGBT characters counted in the previous year. This modest rise stands out considering that the total number of series characters has actually decreased. With 11 LGBT series regular characters out of 152 total, ABC has the highest percentage of LGBT characters for any network (7.2%) and continues to lead all other broadcast networks for the fifth straight year. CBS will show the most improvement this year, thanks to *The Good Wife's* Kalinda Sharma being revealed as bisexual and the addition of four other LGBT recurring characters. Unfortunately, this is up from just one recurring LGBT character in the 2009-2010 season, so CBS remains last (at 0.8%) in overall rankings.



“The increase in lesbian, gay, and bisexual characters on primetime television not only reflects the shift in American culture towards greater awareness and understanding of our community, but also a new industry standard that a growing number of creators and networks are adopting,” said GLAAD President Jarrett Barrios.

“The recent critical and commercial success of shows like *Modern Family* and *Glee* clearly indicate that

mainstream audiences embrace gay characters and want to see well-crafted stories about our lives.”

In fact, the only network that saw a decline in LGBT roles was NBC, which was predominantly due to the cancellation of shows like *Trauma*, *Southland*, and *Mercy*. Just as the total number of regular LGBT characters has grown, the number of recurring characters on broadcast primetime has also experienced an upswing. The 14 counted this year is a slight improvement over last year’s total of 12, though not quite as high as the 19 counted in 2008.

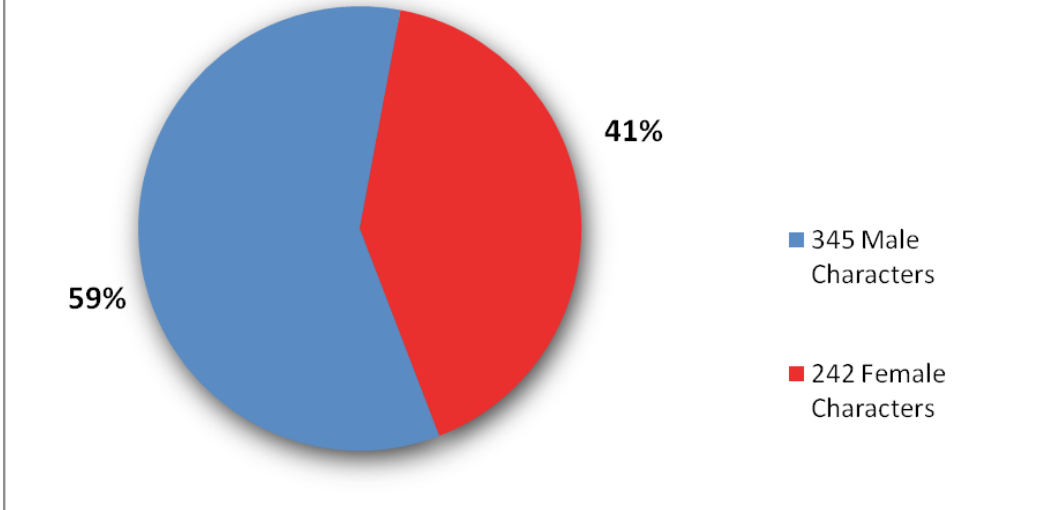
Diversifying images of LGBT people to represent women, people of color and the

transgender community remains a struggle for the broadcast networks, but there have been some improvements. Dr. Arizona Robbins on *Grey’s Anatomy* (ABC) will no longer be the only regular lesbian character on broadcast primetime as the new CW series *Hellcats* will introduce cheerleader Patty “The Wedge” Wedgerman this season. The six remaining female series regulars are all bisexual: Dr. Callie Torres on *Grey’s Anatomy*, Dr. Remy “Thirteen” Hadley on *House* (Fox), Angela Montenegro on *Bones* (Fox), Kalinda Sharma on *The Good Wife*, Adrianna Tate-Duncan on *90210* (The CW), and new character Lucinda Pearl on *Outlaw* (NBC). Despite this increase, women still make up less than 30% of the LGBT characters on scripted primetime broadcast television.

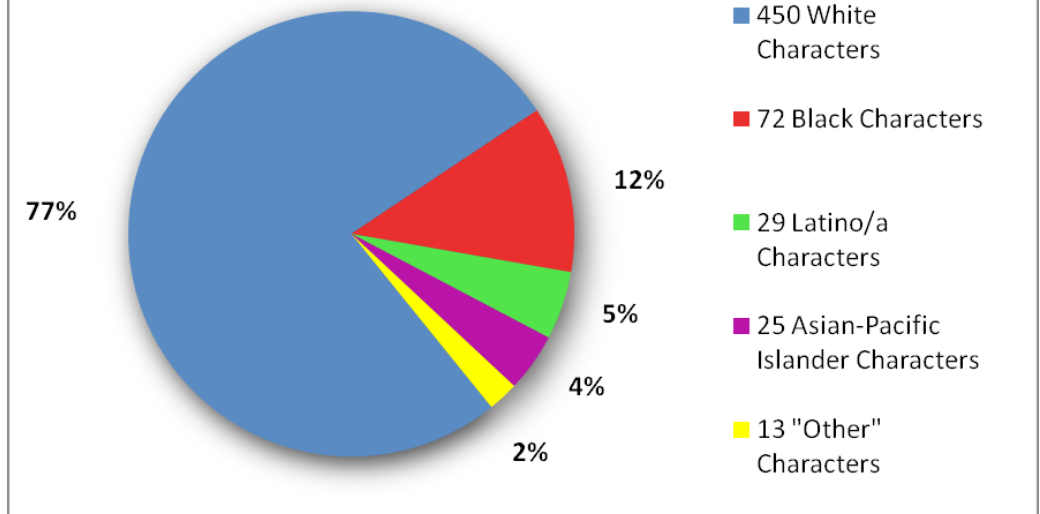
There are a total of six LGBT people of color in the upcoming season—all of them regular characters—which is a record high for the broadcast network count. In addition to Callie on *Grey’s Anatomy*, Oscar Martinez on *The Office* (NBC) and Alejo Salazar on *The Whole Truth* (ABC) are all Latino. Kalinda on *The Good Wife*, Dr. George Huang on *Law & Order: SVU* (NBC) and Angela on *Bones* are each Asian-Pacific Islander. Despite this progress, people of color will make up just 19% of the LGBT characters on scripted broadcast television, and none of them will be black. Nor will any of the regular or recurring characters in the new season be transgender, as has been the case for several years.

“Unfortunately, while the number of characters is increasing,

**Diversity of 587 Series Regular Characters Announced for 2010-2011: GENDER IDENTITY**

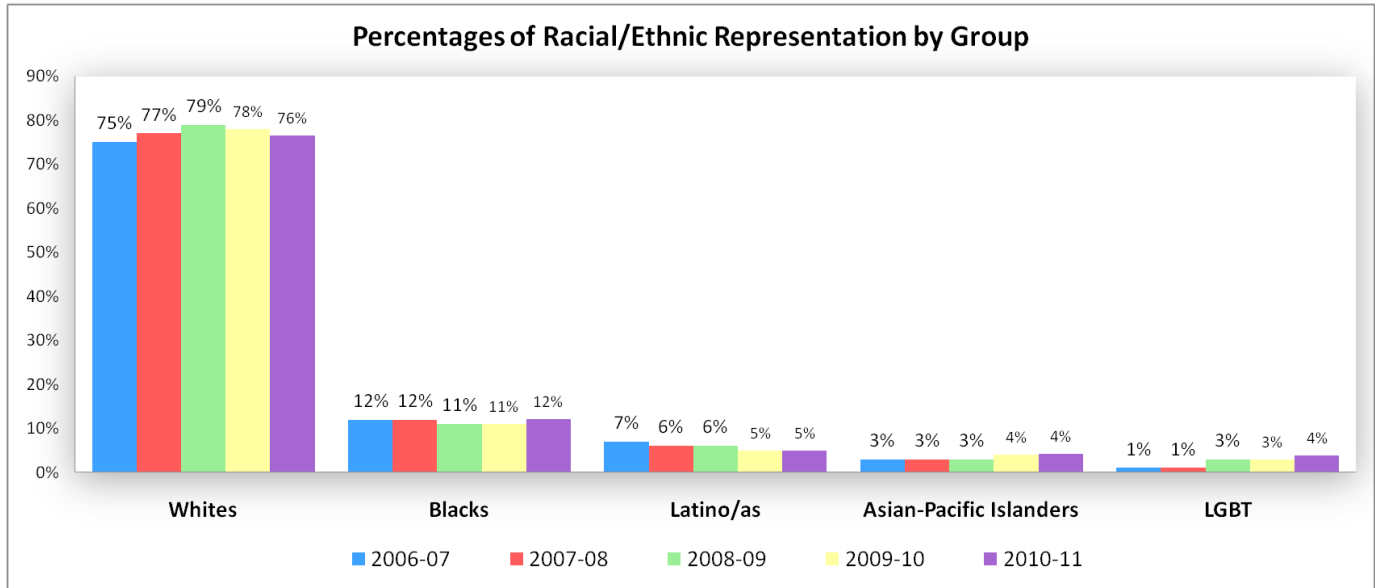


**Diversity of 587 Series Regular Characters Announced for 2010-2011: RACE/ETHNICITY**

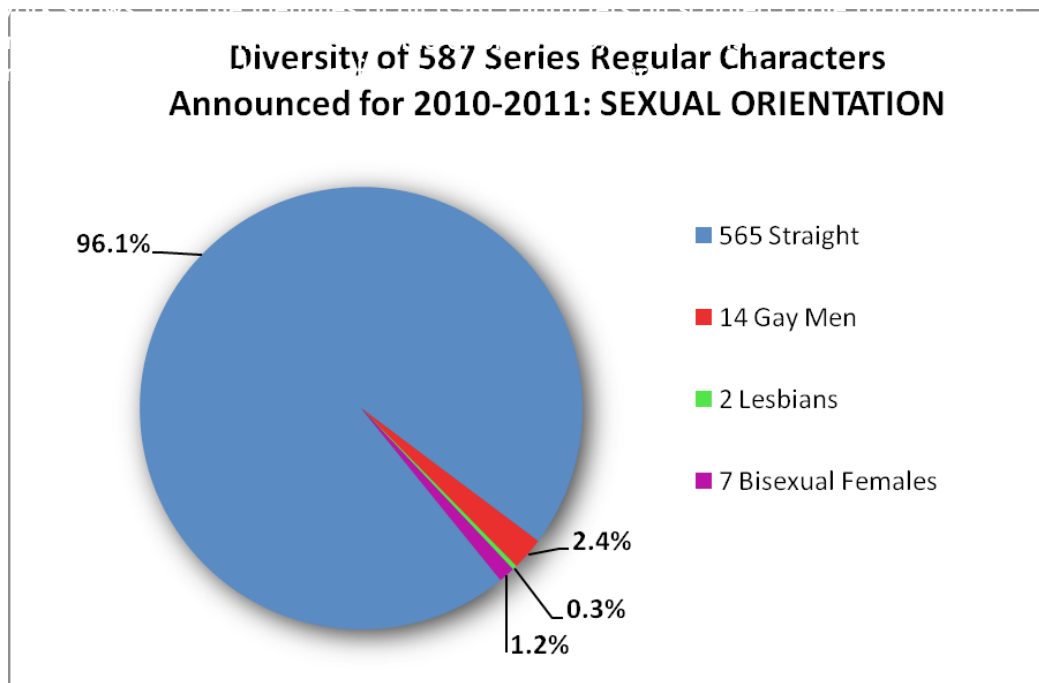


many members of our community still do not see stories reflecting their lives," continued Barrios. "It is troubling that the broadcast networks will not feature even one black LGBT character or one transgender character in the upcoming primetime lineup. Because what people see in the media has a huge impact on how they understand others and perceive themselves, the media has a responsibility to tell stories that include the diversity of our community."

After falling from 32 to 25 last year, the number of regular LGBT characters on cable has made a healthy rebound



to 35. After adding an additional 18 recurring characters, there are a total of 53 LGBT characters on scripted cable programming. The increase is due in part to a number of cable programs expanding their casts to feature multiple LGBT roles, including Showtime's *United States of Tara* and *Nurse Jackie*, ABC Family's *The Secret Life of the American Teenager* and *GREEK*, and HBO's *True Blood*.



# where we are on tv: drama series on broadcast networks

90210's Trevor Donovan, The CW



The Good Wife's Archie Panjabi, CBS



## Dramatic Series with Leading and/or Supporting LGBT Characters on Broadcast TV:

- 90210, The CW
- Bones, Fox
- Brothers & Sisters, ABC
- The Good Wife, CBS
- Grey's Anatomy, ABC
- House, Fox
- Law and Order: SVU, NBC
- Outlaw, NBC
- The Whole Truth, ABC

## Dramatic Series with Recurring LGBT Characters on Broadcast TV:

- Gossip Girl, The CW
- Undercovers, NBC

The 2010-2011 season won't see any change in the number of dramatic series featuring regular LGBT characters, but it will see a shake up in the list of shows featuring those characters. Of the nine series with leading or supporting LGBT characters, five are new to the list, and two of those are brand new shows entirely. ABC will feature three dramas with an LGBT series regular, while FOX and NBC will both have two, and the CW and CBS have one each. This also marks the first time that CBS has included a regular LGBT character in its lineup since 2006.

That CBS character (Kalinda Sharma) is also significant for the fact that she appears on one of last year's most successful new shows (*The Good Wife*) and is an LGBT person of color. Over the course of the first season, Kalinda's interest in both men and women was slowly revealed, climaxing in a kiss between her and her recurring potential love interest, FBI agent Lana Delaney. Look for agent Delaney to return in the sophomore season alongside "the soon-to-be-introduced" gay brother of the show's main character, (Alicia Florrick) who will also be featured in a recurring role.

On ABC, all the LGBT series regulars will return in new seasons of *Grey's Anatomy* and *Brothers and Sisters*, while freshman drama *The Whole Truth* will feature openly gay attorney Alejo Salazar. Not only is Alejo a welcome addition as an LGBT person of color, but he is also said to have a partner on the series, which could lead to yet another new recurring character being introduced this season.

The popular NBC series *Law & Order: SVU* seems to have upgraded recurring character Dr. George Huang to regular status this season, hopefully giving the show more of a chance to explore his personal life. The network will also introduce recurring gay character Lance on the highly anticipated new show *Undercovers*, from creator J.J. Abrams. NBC saw the greatest decline in LGBT characters on dramatic series following the cancellations of *Mercy*, *Heroes*, and *Trauma* and the moving of *Friday Night Lights* and *Southland* to other networks.

On the CW, one of the fall's most buzzed about new storylines is the coming out of 90210's Teddy Montgomery, who will join the bisexual Adrianna Tate-Duncan as a series regular, and get a recurring love interest named Ian. On *Gossip Girl*, young Eric van der Woodsen will return as a recurring character.

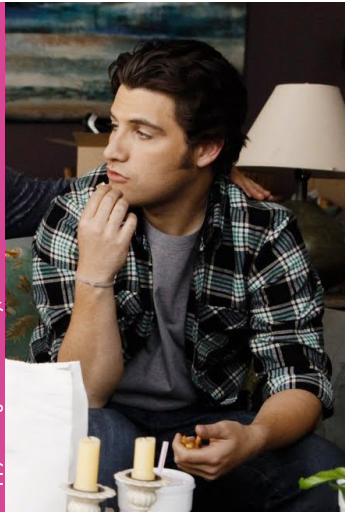
Finally, bisexual characters Angela Montenegro and Dr. Remy "Thirteen" Hadley will return to the Fox series *Bones* and *House* respectively. Angela will begin the season married to a man, and hopefully Thirteen's personal life will be explored in greater detail.

# where we are on tv: **comedy series** on broadcast networks

Modern Family's Jesse Tyler Ferguson and Eric Stonestreet, ABC



Happy Endings' Adam Pally, ABC



## Comedic Series with Leading and/or Supporting LGBT Characters on Broadcast TV:

- American Dad, FOX
- Desperate Housewives, ABC
- Happy Endings, ABC
- Glee, FOX
- Modern Family, ABC
- Hellcats, The CW
- The Office, NBC
- Running Wilde, FOX

## Comedic Series with Recurring LGBT Characters on Broadcast TV:

- The Rules of Engagement, CBS
- \$#\*! My Dad Says, CBS
- The Simpsons, FOX

Unlike the number of dramas, the number of comedic series with regular or recurring LGBT characters has actually increased this year. In the 2010-2011 season, 11 comedy series will feature LGBT characters, up from eight series in 2009. The only series not to return to the list from last year is *Ugly Betty* (ABC), which is sorely missed for its consistent contributions to LGBT representation and diversity.

Despite *Ugly Betty*'s cancellation, ABC still makes a strong showing of LGBT representations in comedic programming. *Modern Family* has proven to be a breakthrough hit, and features a central gay couple, Mitchell and Cameron. Though they were somewhat regulated to the background before, look for Bob and Lee to become series regulars this season on *Desperate Housewives*, which also features the recurring character of Andrew Van de Kamp. And the new comedy *Happy Endings* features openly gay Max in a lead role as a member of a group of close-knit 20-something friends.

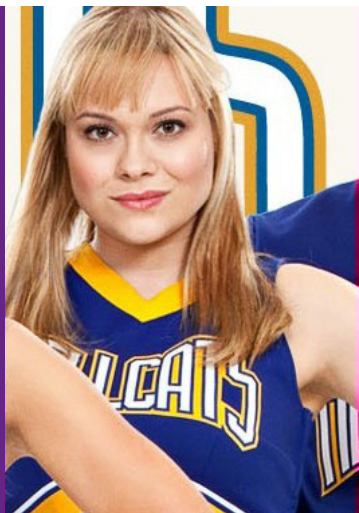
Fox's *Glee* has become a huge success for the network since last year's report, and the musically gifted Kurt Hummel will return in the upcoming season. One of the season's new characters will reportedly be a love interest for Kurt, though it's unclear whether it will be recurring gay character Blaine, or someone else entirely. On the new comedy *Running Wilde*, the spoiled man-child main character will be closely protected by his gay secretary and former nanny Mr. Lunt. The remaining LGBT characters on Fox comedies are all animated and include Waylon Smithers and Patty Bouvier on *The Simpsons*, which is about to enter its 22nd season. *American Dad* continues to feature "omni-sexual" alien Roger as well as gay anchor team (and couple) Terry and Greg.

Showing some improvement over last year, CBS is set to introduce a recurring lesbian character to *Rules of Engagement* and a recurring gay character to new series *\$#\*! My Dad Says*. On NBC's *The Office*, regular character Oscar Martinez will hopefully do more than a little furtive flirting with recurring warehouse worker Matt this season. And on the CW's new (and only) comedic series *Hellcats*, cheerleader Patty Wedgerman will become one of just two regular lesbian characters on broadcast television.

# where we are on tv: sex and gender



Hellcats' Elena Esquivel, The CW



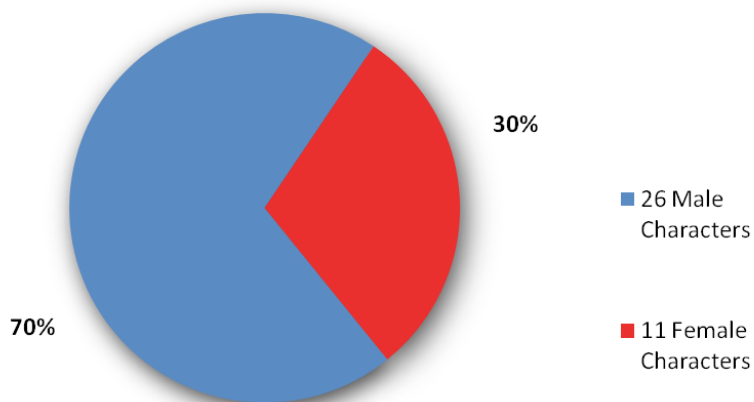
Degrassi: The Boiling Point's Jordan Todosey, TeenNick



Women make up more than half of the population, but the broadcast networks have never been particularly successful in reflecting this fact. This year only 41% of regular characters on scripted primetime shows are female. ABC and the CW come the closest to current US census figures with 46% female characters each, while CBS features the lowest ratio of females with 36%.

Lesbian and bisexual women are even more weakly represented with female characters making up less than 30% of all LGBT representations. Only five (14%) of LGBT characters on scripted broadcast primetime are lesbians, while an additional six (17%) are bisexual women. By comparison, 68% (25) of all LGBT characters on broadcast are gay men, and there are zero bisexual men, though "omnisexual" alien Roger on *American Dad* (Fox) is considered male.

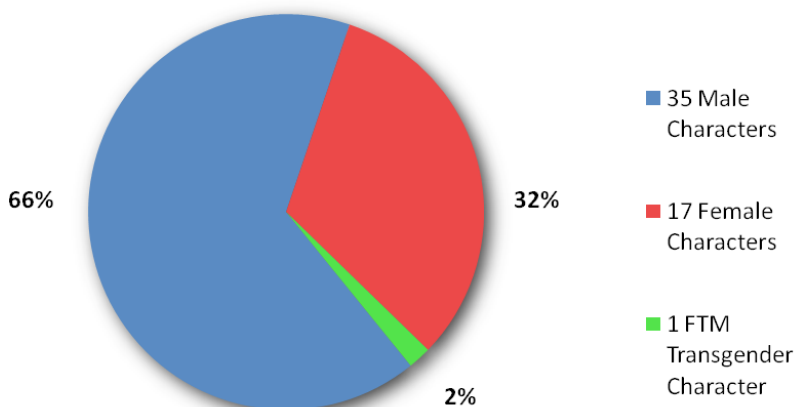
Diversity of 37 LGBT Characters on Broadcast for 2010-2011: GENDER IDENTITY



Only two of the 23 LGBT series regulars counted this season are lesbians: Dr. Arizona Robbins on *Grey's Anatomy* (ABC) and cheerleader Patty Wedgerman on the new show *Hellcats* (The CW.) The other five female LGBT series regulars are bisexual, and include the newly counted Kalinda Sharma on *The Good Wife* (CBS), Adrianna Tate-Duncan on *90210* (The CW), and new character Lucinda Pearl on *Outlaw* (NBC.)

On cable, the gender divide is slightly better but still disappointing, as only 17 (32%) of the 53 LGBT characters counted are female. However, in contrast to the broadcast networks, 14 of those characters are lesbian identified while only three are bisexual. Among the standouts, lesbian vampire Pam was promoted to series regular on the hit show *True Blood* (HBO) this past season, while Dr. Eleanor O'Hara came out as bisexual on *Nurse Jackie* (Showtime.) The popular ABC Family series *Pretty Little Liars* features a budding romance between Emily Fields and Maya St. Germain. MTV hopes to attract the same target audience with its highly anticipated remake of the UK series *Skins*, which will include a new lesbian character named Tea.

Diversity of LGBT Characters on Cable for 2010-11: GENDER IDENTITY



While there are no transgender characters on broadcast TV, there is one on cable. The TeenNick series *Degrassi: The Boiling Point* includes series regular Adam, a transgender teenage boy. However the season finale of ABC Family's *Huge* suggested that camper Alistair might be embarking his own exploration of gender identity next season.

# where we are on tv: race and ethnicity



Grey's Anatomy's Sarah Ramirez, ABC

True Blood's Nelsan Ellis, HBO

## Scripted Series with LGBT People of Color, Broadcast:

- Bones, Fox
- The Good Wife, CBS
- Grey's Anatomy, ABC
- Law & Order: SVU
- The Office, NBC
- The Whole Truth, ABC

## Scripted Series with LGBT People of Color, Cable:

- The Closer, TNT\*
- Deglass: The Boiling Point, TeenNick
- Entourage, HBO\*
- GREEK, ABC Family
- Pretty Little Liars, ABC Family
- Skins, MTV
- Stargate Universe, Syfy
- True Blood, HBO
- White Collar, USA

\* Denotes a recurring character

According to this year's count, the leader in overall ethnic and racial diversity among the broadcast networks is NBC, with 32% of its series regular characters being people of color. ABC comes in second with 26%, followed by Fox (23%), CBS (18%), and the CW (10%).

Of the combined 587 series regulars characters counted on broadcast TV in the 2010-2011 season, 23% are people of color, but the figure is slightly lower for LGBT characters. Six of the 23 counted LGBT series regulars are people of color, and none of the 14 recurring characters are, making them just 19% of the overall count.

Three of these characters are new to this season's list. Alejo Salazar on *The Whole Truth* (ABC) is Latino, while Dr. George Huang on *Law & Order: SVU* (NBC) and Kalinda Sharma on *The Good Wife* (CBS) are both Asian-Pacific Islander. There are no black LGBT characters yet announced to appear on scripted broadcast primetime programming in the upcoming season.

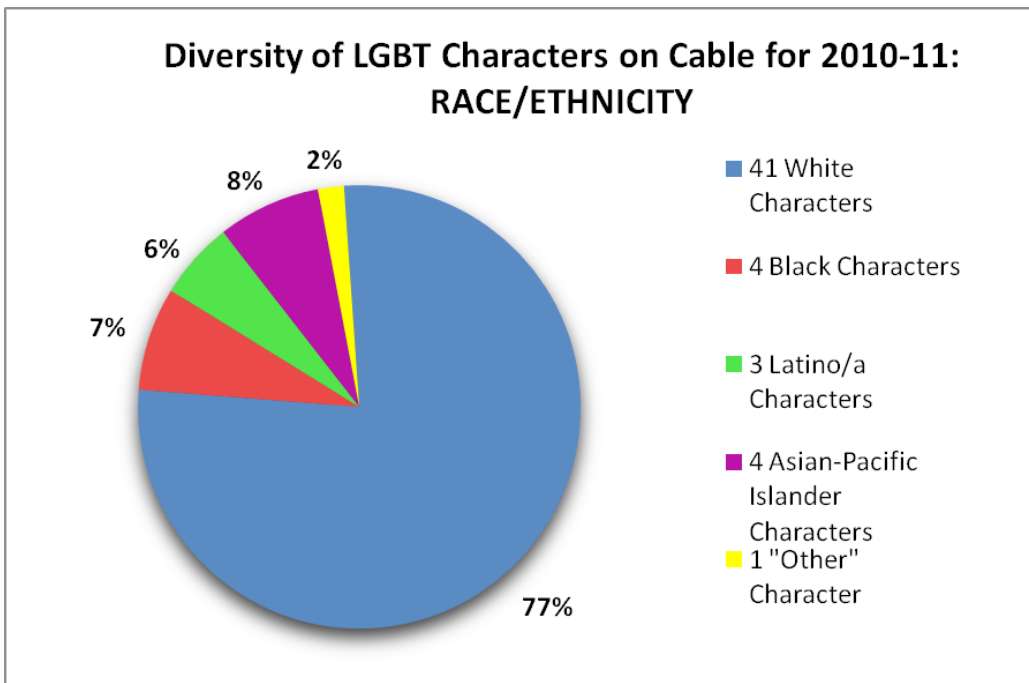
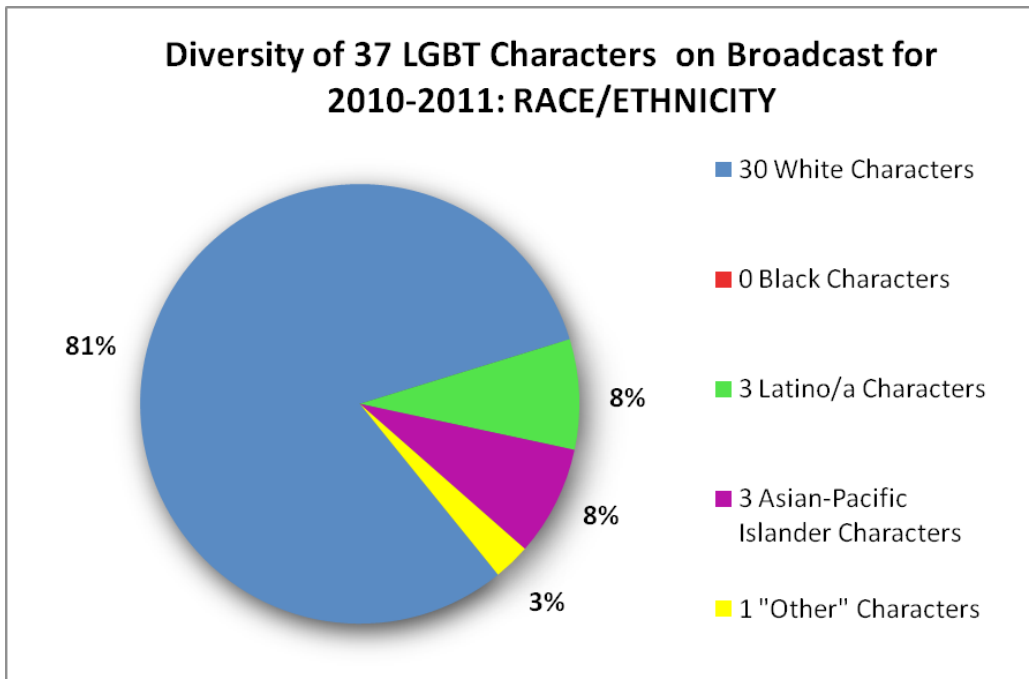
The picture is a little brighter on cable, where 12 (23%) of the 53 characters counted are people of color. Some of the most notable include FBI Agent Diana Barrigan on *White Collar* (USA) and frat boy Calvin Owens on *GREEK* (ABC Family), both of whom are black. Lafayette Reynolds (also black) is prominently featured on HBO's *True Blood* (HBO) and met a new love interest named Jesus (who is Latino) this past season. And Camille Wray (who is Asian-Pacific Islander) will continue searching for a way back to Earth and her partner Sharon on *Stargate Universe* (Syfy).

## PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

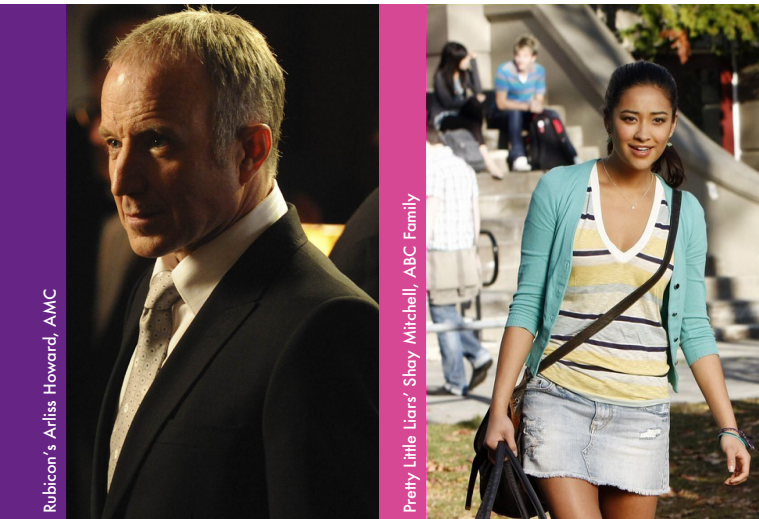
The release of the Where We Are on TV report for 2010-2011 also marks the first year GLAAD has included people with disabilities (PWD) in the annual count of series regular characters. According to the US Census Bureau's 2008 American Community Survey, the percentage of U.S. citizens reporting an apparent disability is slightly more than 12% (or 36.2 million people). The inclusion of people with non-apparent, ADA-covered disabilities, such as cancer or HIV, would greatly increase this census number. Yet, even that original figure is nowhere nearly reflected by the broadcast networks. As of this count, only six series regular characters on the broadcast networks, or 1%, are scheduled to appear in the upcoming season are people with disabilities. All six of the characters are white and five are males.

Fox makes the strongest showing in this regard as three of their series regulars are PWD, including the title character on *House* (who uses a cane) and a regular character on *Glee*, who uses a wheelchair. Also on *House* is the bisexual Dr. Remy "Thirteen" Hadley who has Huntington's disease, while Saul on *Brothers & Sisters* (ABC) appeared to have discovered in last season's finale that he is HIV positive. Interestingly, this means 8.6% of the LGBT regular characters are also PWD; a significantly higher percentage than the 1% of all series regulars characters on broadcast who are PWD. On cable, the Showtime series *Nurse Jackie* features openly gay nurse Thor, who is diabetic and visually impaired.

**Footnote: This research was done in conjunction with the Tri-Union I AM PWD (Inclusion in the Arts & Media of People With Disabilities) campaign of Actors' Equity Association, AFTRA and SAG (IAMPWD.org).**



# where we are on tv: scripted programming on cable



Rubicon's Arliss Howard, AMC

Pretty Little Liars' Shay Mitchell, ABC Family

After two consecutive years of decline, the number of series regular LGBT characters on mainstream cable channel has begun to rebound. In 2007, 40 regular LGBT characters were counted, but that number fell to 32 in 2008 and 25 in 2009 for a total drop of 38%. This year, the count has increased by 40% to 35 series regulars with an additional 18 recurring characters for a grand total of 53.

HBO features the greatest number of LGBT characters on cable with 10, but ABC Family has an edge in the number of regular characters it features with seven to HBO's six. Also making a significant contribution to the count are Showtime (with seven characters), Syfy (with four), TNT, FX, Starz, and Teen Nick (with three each.)

Thanks to its large cast (and often sexually ambiguous vampires), HBO's *True Blood* is the most inclusive program currently on television, featuring six regular and recurring LGBT characters. HBO also demonstrates a commitment to inclusivity in their programming breakdown as they include LGBT characters on five of their original series, while ABC Family features them on four different shows. Showtime has long demonstrated the same sort of commitment as it was the home of groundbreaking television series such as *Queer As Folk* and *The L Word*. They continue that tradition today with multiple LGBT characters on three different original series as well as the reality series *The Real L Word*.

Other significant character additions to cable include AMC's new political espionage series *Rubicon*, which revealed lead character Kale Ingram to be gay and to have shared a romantic past with a fellow agent. The FX series *Archer* is another espionage show, but one of the satirical, animated variety. Its producers recently outed regular character Pam as a lesbian and said dashing gay spy Ray Gillette would return as a recurring character in the new season.

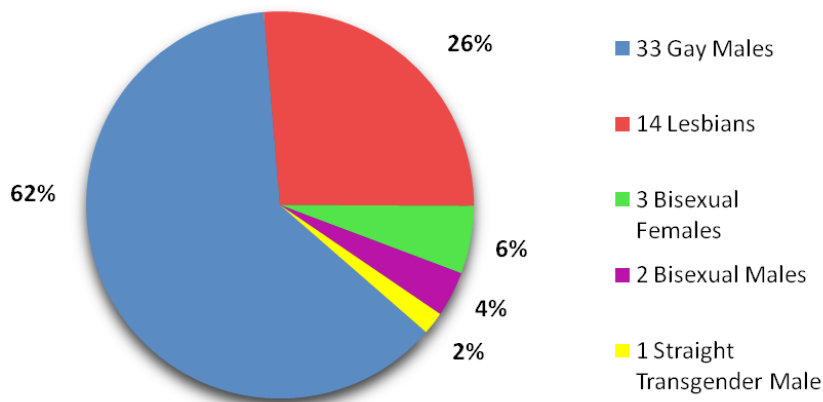
## Series with Leading and/or Supporting LGBT Characters on Cable:

- Archer, FX
- Big Love, HBO
- Caprica, Syfy
- Death Comes to Town, IFC
- Degrassi: The Boiling Point, TeenNick
- GREEK, ABC Family
- HawthoRNe, TNT
- Huge, ABC Family
- Hung, HBO
- In Treatment, HBO
- Nurse Jackie, Showtime
- Pretty Little Liars, ABC Family
- Rubicon, AMC
- Shameless, Sundance
- Skins, BBC America
- Skins, MTV
- Southland, TNT
- Spartacus: Gods of the Arena, Starz
- Stargate Universe, Syfy
- The Secret Life of the American Teenager, ABC Family
- Torchwood, Starz
- True Blood, HBO
- United States of Tara, Showtime
- White Collar, USA

## Series with Recurring LGBT Characters on Cable TV:

- Entourage, HBO
- Facing Kate, USA
- Sons of Anarchy, FX
- South Park, Comedy Central
- The Closer, TNT
- Weeds, Showtime

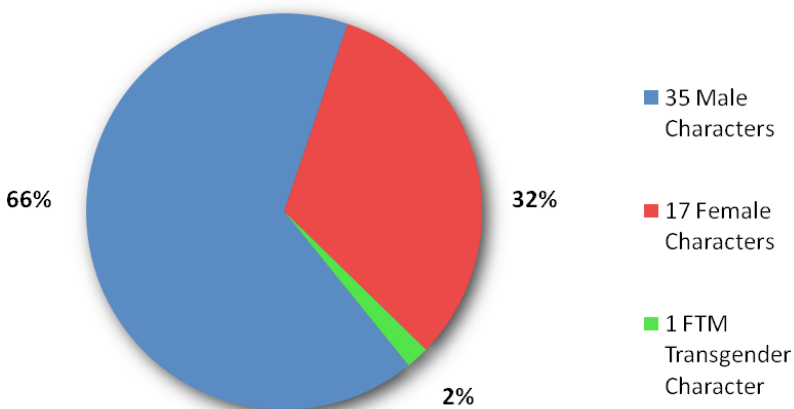
**Diversity of LGBT Characters on Cable for 2010-11:  
SEXUAL ORIENTATION**



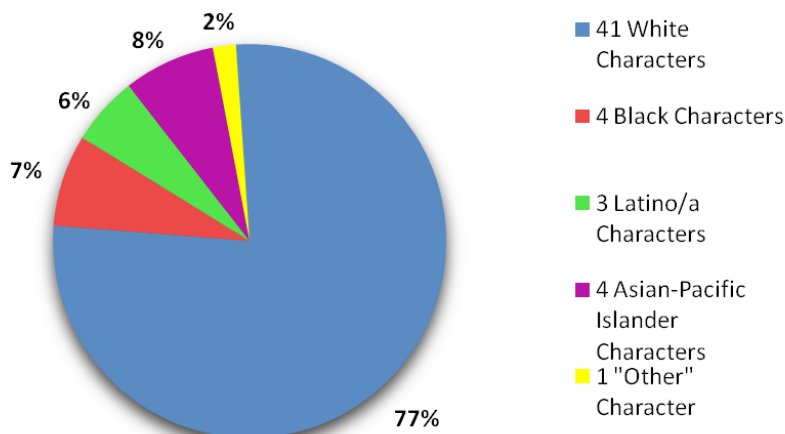
The USA network has added LGBT characters to two programs, the successful *White Collar* and the upcoming *Facing Kate*. BBC America runs new episodes of the UK smash hit series *Skins* featuring couple Naomi and Emily, while MTV will attempt a remake of the show featuring lesbian character Tea. And finally, everyone's favorite time-traveling bisexual captain (Jack Harkness) will return in new episodes of *Torchwood* next year, which is set to run on the Starz network.

In the years since their launches, the LGBT networks Logo and here! have produced a great deal of original scripted programming and substantially increased the number of LGBT characters and stories on cable. Since their production slates for the upcoming year focus predominantly on unscripted and alternative content, they are not part of this year's character count. Their continued contribution to LGBT representation, however, should be acknowledged.

**Diversity of LGBT Characters on Cable for 2010-11:  
GENDER IDENTITY**



**Diversity of LGBT Characters on Cable for 2010-11:  
RACE/ETHNICITY**



# where we are on tv: **reality programming**

RuPaul's Drag Race's Tyra Sanchez, Raven, and Jujubee; Logo



Casting information for reality programming is generally not made public far enough in advance for it to be included in a character count for the upcoming season of broadcast television, but it often includes some of the most diverse representations to be found on the air.

In particular, CBS' reality lineup is often highly inclusive thanks to show structures that favor large casts of people from varied backgrounds, but unfortunately neither *Survivor* nor *The Amazing Race* is expected to feature LGBT contestants this fall. Hopefully next year will see them reestablish their track records of often groundbreaking diversity. The ABC hit series *Dancing With the Stars* includes openly gay ballroom dancer Louis van Amstel, who will partner with bisexual comedienne Margaret Cho in its upcoming season, and the Fox series *So You Think You Can Dance* features gay director and choreographer Adam Shankman as a permanent judge. Lesbian waitress Kayla is also one of the contestants vying to become *America's Next Top Model* on the CW.

By far the leader in inclusive reality programming, cable's Bravo network continues to feature a wide range of LGBT representations on shows like *Kathy Griffin: My Life on the D-List*, *Flipping Out*, *Work of Art*, *The Rachel Zoe Project*, *Thintervention with Jackie Warner*, *Million Dollar Listing*, and the *Top Chef* franchise. Other notable mainstream cable programs include Showtime's *The Real L Word*, Lifetime's *Project Runway*, MTV's *The Real World*, PBS' *Circus*, Planet Green's *The Fabulous Beekman Boys*, Sundance's *Girls Who Like Boys Who Like Boys*, and VH1's *TRANSform Me*.

Following the recent success of RuPaul's competition programs *Drag Race* and *Drag U*, the Logo network is premiering a number of new reality and alternative programs this year. In a take on the hugely successful *Real Housewives* formula, *The A List* will follow a group of gay men in New York, while *The Arrangement* will feature floral designers competing for a title. Also on deck are two new primetime panel discussion shows - the Alec Mapa co-hosted *Gossip Queens* and Canadian import *1 Girl, 5 Gays* - as well as a new season of *Drag Race*.

# where we are on tv: daytime television

The Talk's Sara Gilbert, CBS



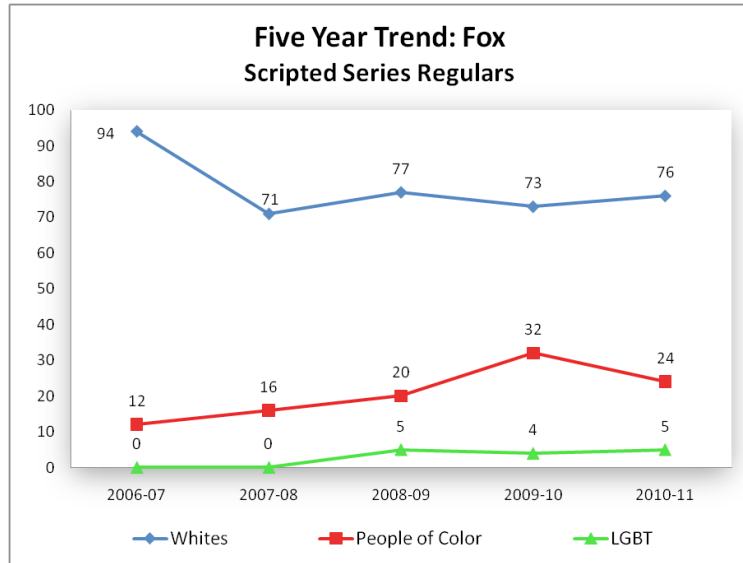
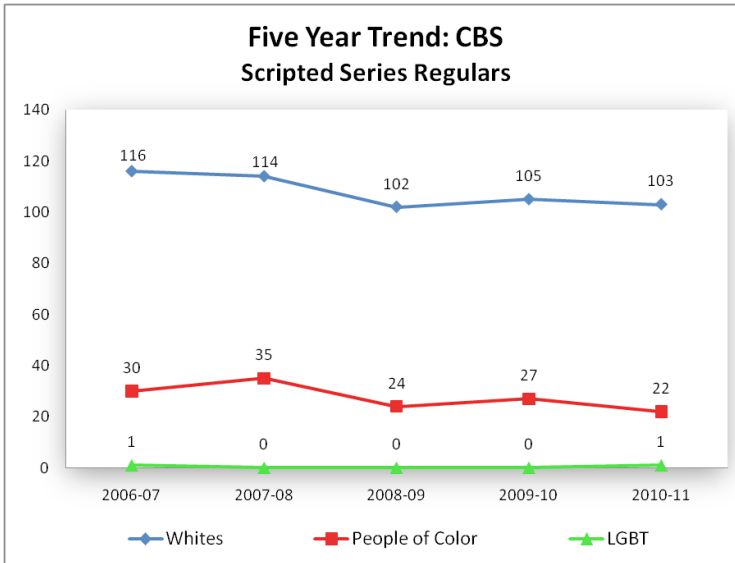
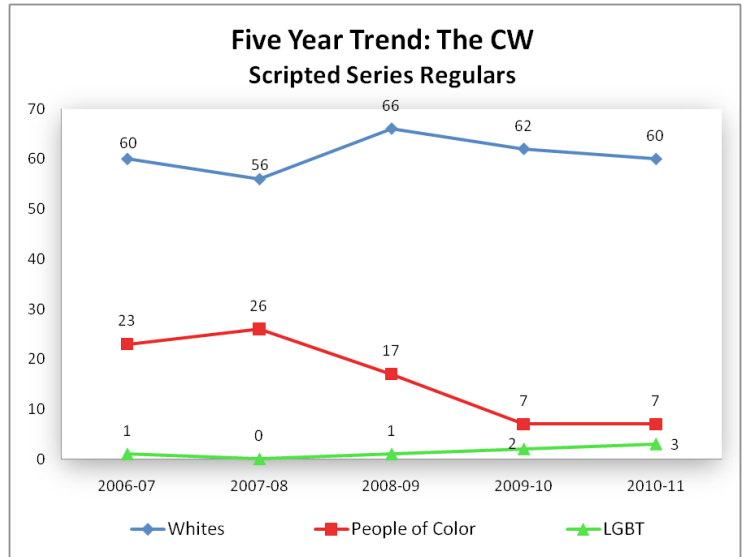
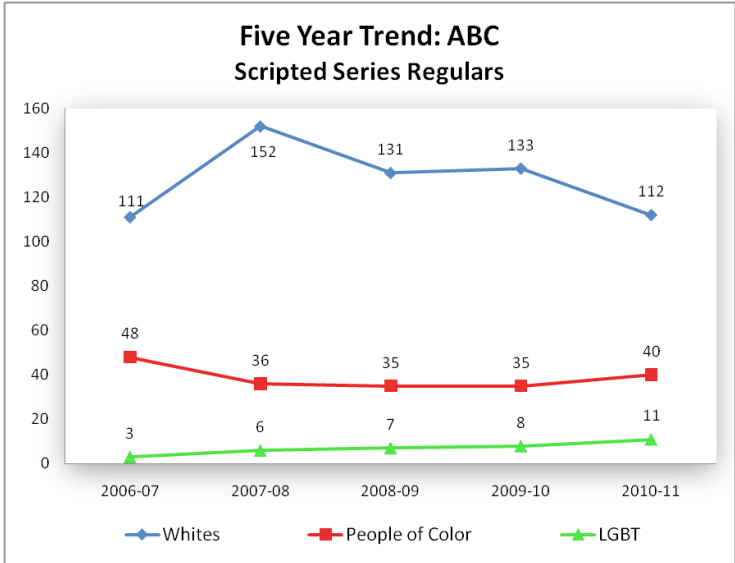
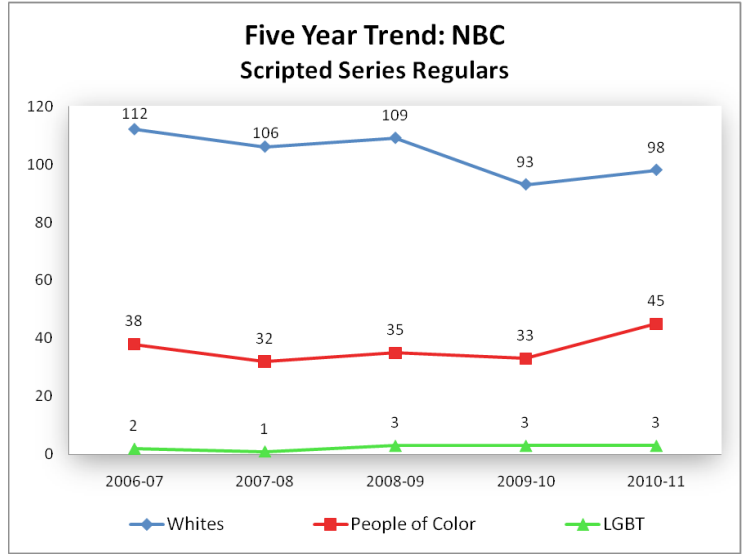
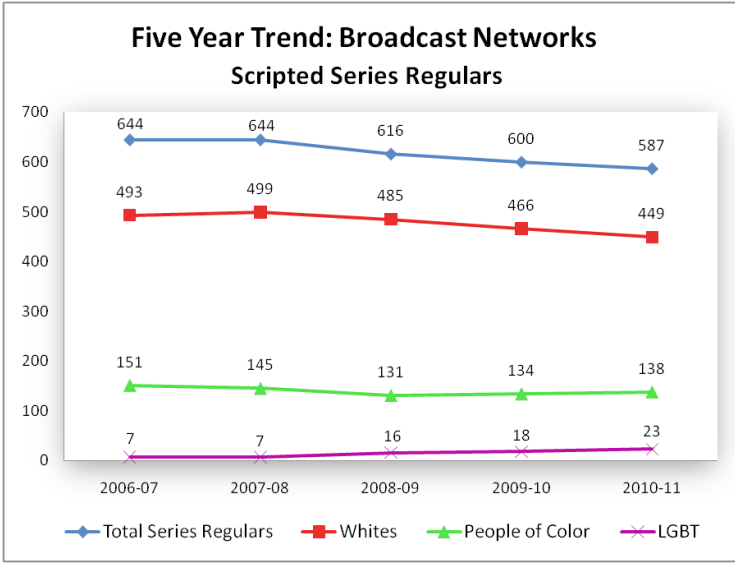
Nate's Nate Berkus, NBC



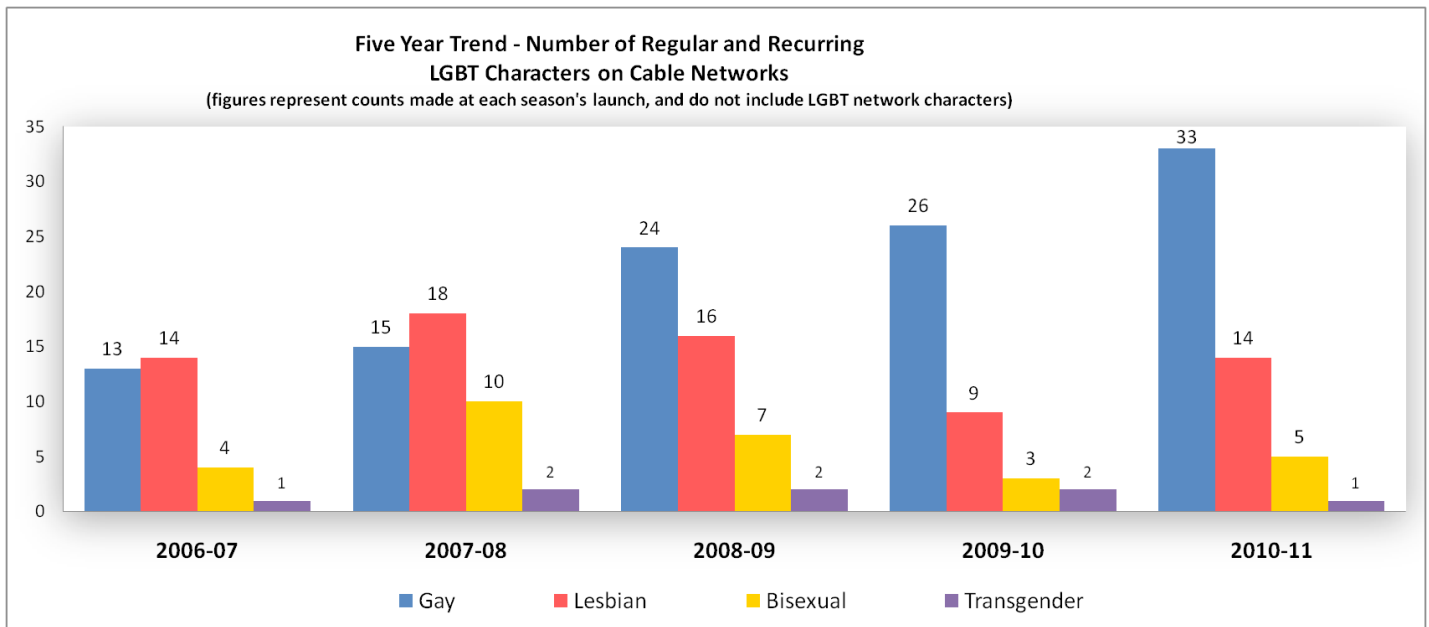
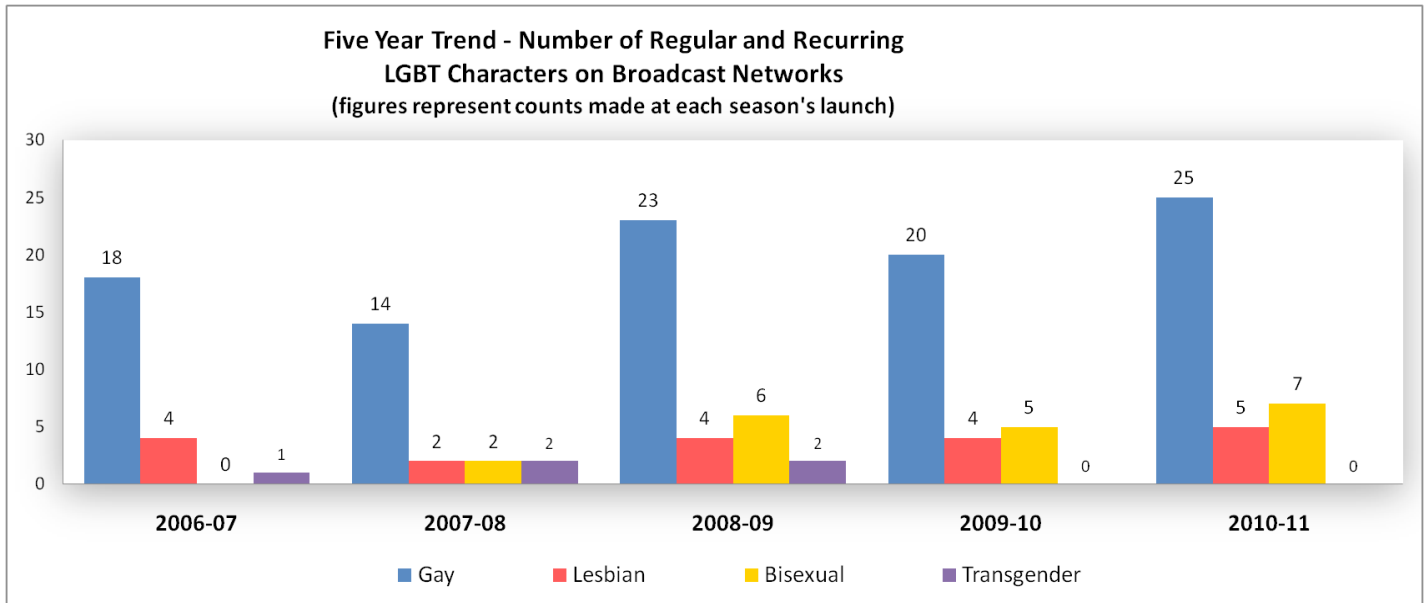
Daytime dramas, while not counted in this report, have made great strides towards LGBT inclusiveness in recent years and deserve acknowledgement. Though with the cancellation of the groundbreaking *As the World Turns* and the recent elimination of the storyline between two gay men on *One Life to Live*, there are only a few LGBT characters currently on soap operas. Long-running series *The Young and the Restless* (CBS) features gay attorney Rafe and the recently back-from-the-dead Phillip, while Bianca has recently returned to *All My Children* (ABC). Hopefully the coming year will see other LGBT storylines emerge.

In daytime talk shows, the Emmy Award-winning *Ellen DeGeneres Show* continues to reliably address LGBT issues with wit and genuine emotion. This season will also see the premiere of two talk shows with openly gay hosts. Out actress Sara Gilbert will both produce and join the panel of *The Talk* (CBS), a *View*-style program in which a group of women discuss topics important to daily lives. Given Gilbert's prominent role both on-screen and behind the camera, it's probably a safe bet that the issues Gilbert faces as a lesbian and a mother will be part of the conversation. On NBC, openly gay designer Nate Berkus will become the latest Oprah Winfrey-championed professional to host his own show, though Nate will likely focus more on decorating tips than Berkus' personal life.

# where we are on tv: five year trends



# where we are on tv: five year trends



# where we are on tv: bios

## GLAAD's Media Programs Team

The Media Programs Team at the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) works with media professionals and community leaders to ensure that coverage of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community is fair, accurate and inclusive. Every day, GLAAD staff members work with media professionals by pitching story ideas, identifying potential spokespeople and providing background information and terminology suggestions. In addition, GLAAD staff travel throughout the country to conduct spokesperson trainings with community members while supporting national, statewide and local organizations on the ground to develop messages, create media plans and support day-to-day media communications. We work to ensure that the images of the LGBT community that appear on the evening news, on the front page of the newspaper and in the local movie theater reflect the diversity of our community. From our work in local communities to our initiatives around media coverage of young adults, sports and faith issues, GLAAD's Media Programs Team seeks to change hearts and minds by amplifying the voices of our community in the media.

## GLAAD's Entertainment Media Team

GLAAD's Entertainment Media Team not only works with television and film as a resource to encourage fair, accurate and inclusive representation of LGBT people, but also combats problematic content and instances of defamation in these industries. This process is unique to each individual project, but may involve reading scripts, viewing rough cuts, pitching story ideas, consulting with writers and producers, or working with talent to better inform them about portraying LGBT characters. GLAAD also creates two signature reports – *Where We Are on TV* and the *Network Responsibility Index* – and promotes LGBT-inclusive projects through the entertainment section of [glaadblog.org](http://glaadblog.org) and the weekly LGBT TV listings, *TV Gayed*. Contact us at [entertainment@glaad.org](mailto:entertainment@glaad.org).

### Taj Paxton

#### Director of Entertainment Media

Taj Paxton is GLAAD's 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. She directs the Entertainment Program's response to acts of anti-LGBT defamation. She oversees the publication of the *Network Responsibility Index* and *Where We Are on TV*. Taj is an award-winning producer and screenwriter. Prior to joining GLAAD, she was a television writer, produced two films and was head of production for Forest Whitaker's company. She is a graduate of Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business.

### Matthew Kane

#### Entertainment Media Manager

Matthew Kane monitors and evaluates LGBT images in television and film, tracking the development of characters and storylines to serve as a resource to journalists and the entertainment industry. He is the lead researcher and writer on the annual GLAAD *Network Responsibility Index* and *Where We Are on TV* reports. He is also a contributor to [glaadblog.org](http://glaadblog.org) and works with the Media Awards Communications Manager on matters related to the GLAAD Media Awards. Matt holds a master's degree in Film Studies from Boston University, has worked on television productions and film festivals, and is a former Entertainment and Media Awards Fellow.

### Lauren Mattia

#### Entertainment Media Fellow

Lauren Mattia researches and monitors LGBT-inclusive content on television and in film in collaboration with the Entertainment Media Director and Manager. She is the principle author of *TV Gayed*, GLAAD's weekly guide to LGBT-inclusive television programming, which can be found on [glaadblog.org](http://glaadblog.org). Lauren also was a contributing researcher and writer for GLAAD's *Network Responsibility Index* and *Where We Are on TV*. Lauren began at GLAAD in September 2009 as the Entertainment Media Intern and began her fellowship in January 2010. She graduated with an honors degree in the Writing Seminars from Johns Hopkins University.

### Rob Avruch

#### Entertainment Media Intern

Rob Avruch joined GLAAD's Entertainment Media Team over the summer, assisting with writing and research for GLAAD's *Network Responsibility Index* and preliminary research on the *Where We Are On TV* report. While working on other varied tasks four days a week, Rob researched and monitored LGBT content and images in television programming. Rob is currently pursuing a B.A. in History modified with Theatrical and Gender Studies at Dartmouth College, where he returned this fall to finish his senior year.



**words & images matter**

**[www.glaad.org](http://www.glaad.org)**