

# Bisexual Research Portfolio

## A Snapshot of the NIH FY 2018 SGM Portfolio Analysis



National Institutes of Health  
Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office

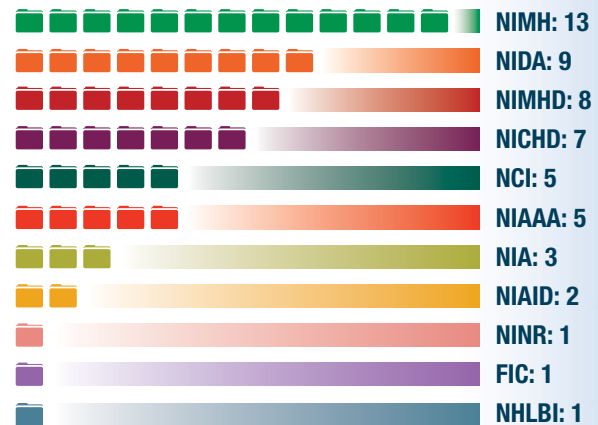
### Introduction

The term bisexual<sup>1</sup> refers to a person's sexual identity and indicates that attraction is not limited to a single sex or gender. The full portfolio of 384 projects for fiscal year (FY) 2018 was identified using the sexual and gender minority (SGM) category, which includes a set of key terms specific to SGM populations. The full SGM portfolio was then manually reviewed to determine which of the projects in the SGM portfolio were related to bisexual people. An analysis of those 55 projects is presented below. Bisexual-related projects comprised 14.3%, or nearly one in six projects, of the SGM portfolio for FY 2018. Of the total 55 bisexual health-related projects, a subset of 7 projects, or 12.7% of the bisexual-related projects (1.8% of the entire SGM portfolio), are bisexual-specific, meaning that the project includes bisexual individuals as a distinct subpopulation under analyses. Two of the seven projects deal solely with bisexual health.

<sup>1</sup> Bisexual (bi): A label used by those with the potential to be attracted, romantically and/or sexually, to people of more than one sex/gender, not necessarily at the same time, not necessarily in the same way, and not necessarily to the same degree.

### Projects by Institute or Center

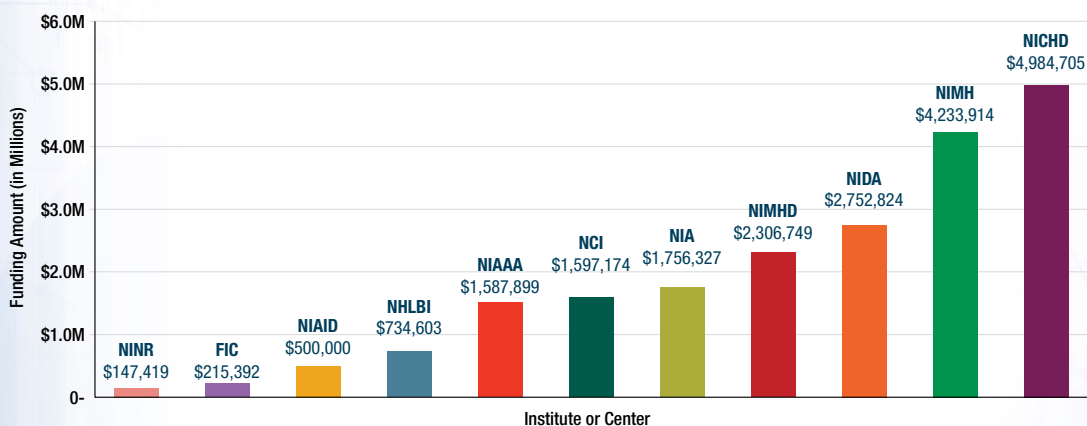
The projects that pertained to bisexual health were funded by a number of Institutes and Centers (ICs), with no single IC housing the bulk of the research. The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) funded the greatest number of studies, but that number was less than a quarter (23.6%) of bisexual health-related projects. The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), and The *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) followed NIMH in number of projects, funding 16.4%, 14.6%, and 12.7% of bisexual health-related projects, respectively. The remaining seven ICs each supported one to five projects (ranging from 1.8% to 9.1% of all bisexual-related projects).



**N = 55**

### Funding Amount by Institute or Center

NICHD was the single largest funder of bisexual health-related research, accounting for almost \$5 million, or 23.9%, of all bisexual health-related funding. NIMH funded \$4.2 million, NIDA funded nearly \$2.8 million, and NIMHD funded \$2.3 million in bisexual health-related research.

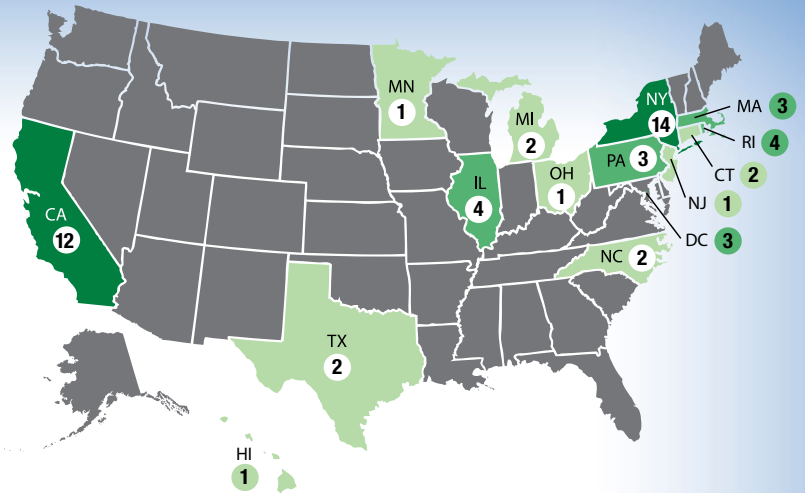


**Key:** FIC = Fogarty International Center; NCI = National Cancer Institute; NHLBI = National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; NIA = National Institute on Aging; NIAAA = National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism; NIAID = National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; NICHD = The *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; NIDA = National Institute on Drug Abuse; NIMH = National Institute of Mental Health; NIMHD = National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities; NINR = National Institute of Nursing Research

## Projects by State

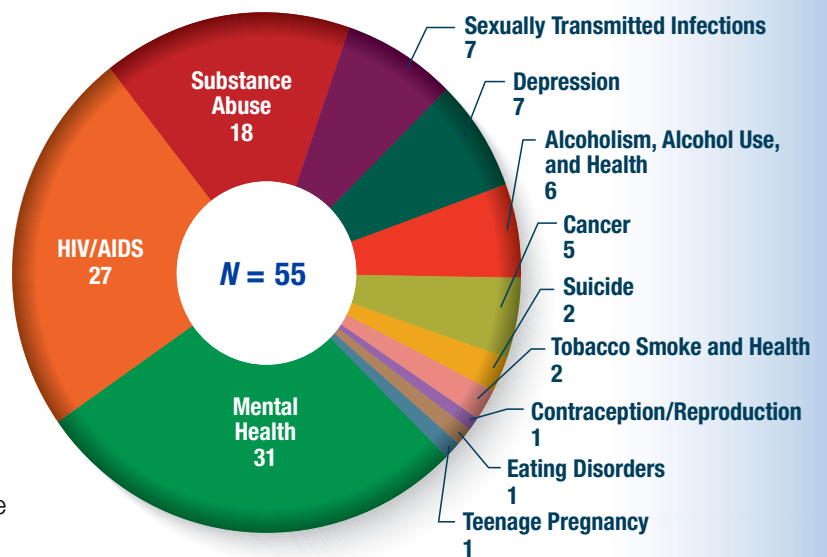
Roughly half of all projects related to bisexual health (47.3%), or 26 projects, were administered by organizations located in either New York or California. Four projects were funded in Rhode Island and four in Illinois. Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, and Massachusetts each had three projects. Twelve remaining projects were administered by organizations in eight additional states.

*The map indicates the location of the funded institution and not necessarily where activity on a project took place.*



## Projects by Disease Area/Health Condition

Approximately half of all bisexual health-related projects pertained to mental health (56.4%) and HIV/AIDS (49.1%). Nearly one in three (32.7%) bisexual health-related projects examined substance abuse. Additional projects pertained to a range of other disease areas and health conditions, including sexually transmitted infections; depression; alcoholism, alcohol use, and health; cancer; suicide; tobacco smoke; contraception/reproduction; eating disorders; and teenage pregnancy.<sup>2</sup> Please note that the total number across conditions is greater than 55 because projects may be counted in more than one category.



<sup>2</sup> Names of disease areas and health conditions correspond with the Spending Categories in NIH RePORTER.

## Projects by Grant Type (Activity Code)

More than one in three (38.2%) bisexual health-related projects were funded through the R01 Research Project Grants. Nearly one in six (16.4%) were R21 Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Awards. The remaining 25 projects were supported by a variety of 13 different funding mechanisms.

