WHERE WE ARE ON TV
2012 - 2013 SEASON

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Following a slight decrease last season, the analysis of characters for the 2012-2013 television schedule found that 4.4% of series regulars will be lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender characters. This is up from 2.9% in 2011, 3.9% in 2010, 3% in 2009, 2.6% in 2008 and 1.1% in 2007. LGBT characters on scripted cable television also rose this year with an additional six regular characters from last year’s count, making the total 35 for the 2012-2013 season.

Fox has the highest inclusive show on broadcast television, *Glee*, which features six LGBT regular or recurring characters. *True Blood* (HBO) is the most inclusive show on cable television with six gay, lesbian or bisexual characters.

Among the 701 series regulars counted this year across 97 primetime scripted television programs on the five broadcast networks (ABC, CBS, The CW, Fox and NBC), 31 are LGBT, which is an increase from last year’s 19.

This marks the 17th year GLAAD has tracked the number of LGBT characters expected to appear in the new fall television season on both broadcast and cable networks. GLAAD measures the presence of LGBT characters and the visibility of the community they portray on television in upcoming scripted primetime programs; both new and returning shows. The creation of the Where We Are on TV report in 2005 has allowed GLAAD to track trends and compile statistics for series regular characters on broadcast television with regard to sexual orientation, gender identity and race/ethnicity for the upcoming season. Information is shared with networks and used in meetings that GLAAD holds with programming and diversity departments throughout the year. At the time of printing, the information found in this report is accurate, but it remains subject to change based on programming adjustments over the course of the television season. This year, the Where We Are on TV report counts characters on scripted series that started after May 31, 2012, and looks at anticipated casts for the upcoming 2012-2013 season. At the end of the 2012-2013 season, GLAAD will compile an in-depth analysis of the images presented on television in its seventh annual Network Responsibility Index (NRI), which rates broadcast and cable networks on the quantity and quality of their LGBT content.

“This year’s increase of LGBT characters on television reflects a cultural change in the way gay and lesbian people are seen in our
“Where We Are On TV Overview”

society,” said GLAAD President Herndon Graddick. “More and more Americans have come to accept their LGBT family members, friends, coworkers, and peers, and as audiences tune into their favorite programs, they expect to see the same diversity of people they encounter in their daily lives.”

Four out of the five broadcast networks have a higher percentage of regular LGBT characters among their primetime scripted series than they did last year. Last year ABC did not have the most LGBT inclusive character lineup (for the first time in six years) but this season the network is back at the top with 5.2% (10 out of 194) of their regular characters identifying as LGBT. After claiming the top spot last year, Fox is in second place, dropping from 6.8% to 5.1% (6 out of 118 characters). At the beginning of the 2011-2012 season, The CW had announced only one regular LGBT character, but this year it has four out of 81 (4.9%). Following a big increase from last year, NBC is in fourth place with seven out of 166 characters (4.2%). And CBS also improved significantly this season and will feature four LGBT characters out of 142 for a percentage of 2.8%, compared to just 0.8% last year. Though the large increases among the majority of broadcast networks means CBS is again in last place, this improvement demonstrates an authentic and conscious effort by CBS to improve its diversity. Of the six Network Responsibility Index reports GLAAD has released, CBS has received a ‘Failing’ score three times but the addition of an LGBT lead this season shows CBS’ willingness to make positive changes when it comes to LGBT inclusiveness.

The overall diversity of regular characters on primetime broadcast television has improved in both terms of gender and sexual orientation. Ethnic diversity has largely remained steady while for people with disabilities (PWD), the percentage of characters decreased this year. Overall, representation on primetime broadcast television still doesn’t accurately reflect the American population.
RACE/ETHNICITY
Ethnic diversity on primetime also remains unbalanced, as once again 78% of regular broadcast characters are White, while 12% are Black (compared to 10% last year), 4% are Latino (compared to 6% last year), 5% are Asian-Pacific Islander (compared to 4% last year), and 1% are counted as multi-racial or “other” (compared to 2% last year). According to the survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2010, in reality 72% of the population is White. The largest discrepancy is in regards to the Latino community, who the Census says makes up 16% of the US population.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION
In regards to sexual orientation, of the 701 series regulars on primetime broadcast television, 670 are straight (95.6%). While there have been no definitive counts of the LGBT community among the U.S. population, the 4.4% of characters identified as lesbian, gay bisexual and transgender are likely closer to U.S. population estimates than the 2.9% that were expected at the beginning of the 2011-2012 season. This is an increase of more than 50%.

GENDER IDENTITY
This year the broadcast networks have continued to make improvements in regards to the gender divide. Still, women account for only 45% of primetime series regulars while making up more than half of the U.S. population.

There’s been a big improvement this year in regards to the ethnic diversity of LGBT characters on prime-time broadcast scripted series. Last year only five LGBT characters were counted as people of color (POC) while this year there are 14 (28%). Of those, 14% (7) are Black, 8% (4) are Latino/a, and 6% (3) are Asian-Pacific Islander.

2012-2013 DIVERSITY OF 701 BROADCAST SERIES REGULAR CHARACTERS

GENDER IDENTITY
When it comes to portraying diversity amongst LGBT characters, broadcast networks are continuing to take steps in the right direction but still need some improvement. Last year, women accounted for just 33% of the number counted, but there has been a slight uptick to 34% this year. In addition, while there weren’t any regular or recurring transgender characters on broadcast television last year, Fox has announced one in a recurring capacity this season.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION
Gay men make up 61% of the LGBT characters counted on broadcast this year, a figure similar to last year. The percentage of lesbian characters has increased from 15% last year to 20% this year, while bisexual representation dropped from 24% to 18% (14% are bisexual women and 4% are bisexual men).

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2012-2013 DIVERSITY OF 50 BROADCAST SERIES LGBT CHARACTERS
**DIVERSITY OF 61 LGBT CHARACTERS ON CABLE**

**RACE/ETHNICITY**

In terms of racial and ethnic diversity, the LGBT characters on scripted cable series are actually less diverse than on broadcast; 79% are White (compared to 70% on broadcast), 15% are Black, 2% are Latino/a, 3% are Asian-Pacific Islander and 2% are considered “other.”

**GENDER IDENTITY**

The number of regular LGBT characters counted on cable networks also increased from 29 last year to 35 this year. The number of recurring characters counted also increased from 25 last year to 26 this season. The gender divide among LGBT characters on cable is more accurately representative than on broadcast networks; 56% of characters are male (as opposed to 64%) and 41% are women. Additionally, 4% identify as transgender.

**SEXUAL ORIENTATION**

Of 59 lesbian, gay, bisexual characters

When it comes to sexual orientation, the diversity of LGBT regular and recurring scripted characters is more diverse on cable television than on broadcast. Gay men have a smaller share but still represent the majority of LGBT characters on cable at 49%. Lesbian women still make up a considerable percentage of LGBT characters at 27%. Bisexual women represent 15% of LGBT characters on cable while bisexual men only represent 8%.
After a drop last year in the number of dramatic series featuring LGBT characters on broadcast television, three new series will premiere in the 2012-2013 season with regular and/or recurring LGBT characters.

The popular ABC drama Grey's Anatomy will return for a ninth season as Callie and Arizona continue to raise their baby together. A traumatic plane crash in the spring finale left fans wondering about Arizona’s fate but hopefully the couple will remain safe this coming year. Another inclusive Shonda Rhimes drama made its debut late last season and is set to return; Scandal features out White House Chief of Staff Cyrus Beene, though the network has not confirmed whether or not his husband will return as a recurring character. The other ABC program with an out character returning this season is the popular drama Revenge, which features bisexual Nolan. ABC hasn’t announced any new dramas with regular LGBT characters but Mistresses, a remake of the hit British drama, will feature recurring lesbian characters Alex and Sally when it debuts midseason.

On CBS, bisexual investigator Kalinda Sharma will return in a supporting role on The Good Wife while Alicia’s gay brother Owen and lesbian FBI Agent Lana Delaney are scheduled to appear in a recurring capacity.

While it’s unlikely that Adrianna Tate-Duncan will be dating any more women on 90210, she will continue to be a part of the series when it returns on The CW, as will gay athlete Teddy Montgomery, who will return as a recurring character. The network will also count four more LGBT characters than they did at the beginning of last season and all four of them are Black. None of the LGBT regular or recurring characters on primetime broadcast scripted series counted last fall were black. Rapper Kaldrick King was introduced late last season in the summer drama The L.A. Complex, which also features recurring characters Tariq and Christopher. This fall, The CW will also premiere the new drama Emily Owens, M.D. which features a lesbian medical professional named Tyra Dupre.

Though Fox has a high percentage of LGBT characters among its scripted primetime programs, that’s almost exclusively attributable to its comedy lineup. Once again, Bones will be the only Fox drama to feature an out regular or recurring character. Bisexual forensics expert Angela Montenegro continues to be a part of the series as it enters its 8th season. She is married to one of the show’s male supporting characters.

Though NBC introduced two inclusive dramas last season, only one of those is returning for a second season. Smash will be making a midseason return. So far, the network has confirmed the return of out composer Tom Levitt, Broadway performer Sam Strickland, and recurring dancer Bobby. NBC also announced the premiere of another inclusive drama, Chicago Fire, which features Leslie Shay, an out lesbian Emergency Medical Technician. The show will also introduce Clarice, her bisexual ex-girlfriend who will be seen in a recurring capacity.
This year, seventeen programs will make up the slate of LGBT-inclusive comedy programs on primetime broadcast television. During the 2011-2012 season, characters on three comedies have come out, have been revealed to be gay by show runners or were announced after the Where We Are on TV report was released last fall. In addition, five new inclusive primetime comedies will premiere during the 2012-2013 season.

ABC will have the highest number of LGBT inclusive comedies on its primetime schedule this season. Parents Mitchell and Cameron returned to the critically acclaimed Modern Family. Also returning is Happy Ending's Max along with school counselor Mr. Wolfe on Suburgatory, who came out as gay half-way through the show's first season. Celebrity assistant Luther was upgraded to series regular on the New York-set comedy Don't Trust the B— in Apt 23 while show runners for The Middle revealed the recurring Brad is gay during the Television Critics Association winter press tour. New to this year's lineup on the network is the sitcom Malibu Country, about a country singer trying to revive her career, which will feature Geoffrey, a gay label record assistant.

Since the beginning of the 2006-2007 season, CBS hasn't introduced any comedies with LGBT leading or supporting characters, so it's exciting to report that this year they actually have two. Premiering this season is Partners, a comedy about two childhood friends and business partners, one of whom is gay and in a relationship. Evelyn is returning to Two and Half Men after she started dating a woman last season, making her one of the few older-generation LGBT characters currently on television. Also returning this season, albeit in a recurring capacity, is surrogate mother Brenda on Rules of Engagement.

This year, the show with the largest number of regular and recurring LGBT characters on television is Glee. The Fox program will feature six LGBT regular or recurring characters in its fourth season. While there weren't any regular or recurring transgender characters on a scripted broadcast series last season, Glee has set the stage for Unique to come out as transgender in the future. Also scheduled to return this season are lesbian/bisexual couple Santana and Brittany, recent New York transplant Kurt, his boyfriend Blaine, and likely recurring character Sebastian.

Glee's Naya Rivera 'Santana Lopez,' Fox

The only other Fox comedy with a regular LGBT character is the animated American Dad!, which includes "omnisexual" alien Roger and recurring gay dads Greg and Terry. Fox also features three additional recurring LGBT characters in its animated comedy lineup; gay personal assistant Waylon Smithers and Marge's lesbian sister Patty on The Simpsons, and Cleveland's friend Terry on The Cleveland Show.

This season, The CW will premiere the highly-anticipated Sex and the City prequel The Carrie Diaries during mid-season. If the series is true to the books, Carrie's friend Walt will eventually come out as gay.

While NBC only had one inclusive comedy on its primetime schedule at the beginning of last season, there are three this year. The Office is returning for one last season and will continue to feature openly gay accountant Oscar Martinez. Premiering on the network this fall are The New Normal and Go On. The highly anticipated Ryan Murphy comedy The New Normal revolves around a surrogate mother having a baby for same-sex couple Bryan and David, who are attempting to start a family. Go On follows a recently widowed sportscaster who is forced to join a grief counseling group. Among the group members is lesbian attorney Anne who recently lost her wife.
SCRIPTED PROGRAMMING ON CABLE

After the number of LGBT series regulars on mainstream cable took a dip last year, the number of out characters has risen to 35 this year compared to 29 last year. GLAAD also counted 26 recurring characters. Due to the lack of defined seasons for cable television, GLAAD includes programs that have started or will start between June 1, 2012 and May 31, 2013 and for which casting has been confirmed by networks.

Showtime currently has the highest number of LGBT representations on mainstream cable with 12 regular or recurring characters. The network has a long history of airing highly inclusive shows with series such as Queer as Folk and The L Word, and still features quite a few. Shameless, a comedy based on the similarly-titled British series, follows a group of siblings forced to raise themselves due to negligent parents. The series is scheduled to return next January with at least four regular and recurring LGBT characters, including gay teen Ian. Other inclusive Showtime series include Nurse Jackie, The Borgias, Californication, Episodes, House of Lies and Web Therapy.

In the lead last year, HBO still features a high number (9) of regular or recurring LGBT characters on its series. Most of them can be found among the vampires and witches of True Blood, though HBO also includes LGBT characters on Enlightened, Girls and Game of Thrones. Not far behind with eight characters is FX, which recently premiered the sitcom Anger Management featuring three regular or recurring gay characters. Ray and Pam continue to be employees of the International Secret Intelligence Service on Archer, while Wendy Teller is expected to return to Sons of Anarchy. And Ryan Murphy’s horror series American Horror Story is returning this season on FX in a new setting with a new cast of characters, including a lesbian couple.

Adult Swim, ABC Family, Teennick, MTV and Syfy all continue to feature several LGBT regular or recurring characters. Adult Swim has five characters; two on The Venture Bros. and three on Superjail! ABC Family continues to feature lesbian high school student Emily on the popular drama Pretty Little Liars while her girlfriend Paige still appears in a recurring manner. Also on ABC Family is The Secret Life of the American Teenager which features lesbian moms Anne Juergens and Nora Underwood in a supporting capacity. All the LGBT regular and recurring characters on Teennick come from the Canadian drama Degrassi. Currently in its 12th season, Degrassi has historically included many LGBT
characters including Adam Torres, who was the only transgender regular or recurring character on scripted television last year and who continues to be a part of the show. The majority (3) of LGBT characters on MTV are on Awkward, but the network also features out jock Danny on Teen Wolf. Syfy recently started airing the Canadian drama Lost Girl which follows a bisexual “succubus” named Bo as well as two lesbian characters. Also on Syfy is Warehouse 13, featuring gay agent Steve Jinks.

Following the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”, the popular Lifetime drama Army Wives added a lesbian couple this past season. While not a new addition, coroner Dr. Morales has transferred from The Closer to its spin-off series Major Crimes.

Though not technically cable, PBS will be airing the inclusive British dramas Downton Abbey and Upstairs Downstairs. PBS is not tracked by GLAAD due to programming inconsistencies between regional PBS markets, but nevertheless, the duplicitous gay butler Thomas Barrow of Downton Abbey and lesbian archaeologist Dr. Blanche Mottershead of Upstairs Downstairs are worthy of mentioning.

Just prior to the release of the Where We Are on TV report, Logo announced DTLA, a new LGBT inclusive drama which will be part of its fall schedule. While DTLA will apparently feature a large and ethnically diverse LGBT cast, Logo could not confirm any character details before the report’s release, and therefore was not counted this year.

Footnote: due to some programs’ air dates, some LGBT characters (such as Russell Edgington on True Blood) may have been included in this count regardless of whether or not they will return. In addition, some characters may not have been counted (such as Emily on Being Human) as the networks may not consider them to be recurring or do not yet know whether they will return. Characters which the networks do not consider identifiably LGBT (such as Ian Todd on Boss) are also not counted.

DIVERSITY OF 61 LGBT CHARACTERS ON CABLE FOR 2012-2013: GENDER IDENTITY

DIVERSITY OF 61 LGBT CHARACTERS ON CABLE FOR 2012-2013: RACE/ETHNICITY

DIVERSITY OF 59 LGB CHARACTERS ON CABLE FOR 2012-2013: SEXUAL ORIENTATION
SEX AND GENDER

This year broadcast networks have slightly improved when it comes to reflecting our country’s gender ratio. While women make up over half of the population, this season 45% of series regulars on scripted primetime shows are female, a slight improvement from the 43% last year and 41% two years ago. Last year ABC was the only broadcast network with a higher percentage of female characters than male characters, unfortunately this year none of the five are in that situation. ABC is still leading with 47% of female characters, followed closely by The CW, CBS is last at 39%, which is an improvement from last year’s 36%.

Director Jennifer Siebel Newsom has used her acclaimed film Miss Representation to launch a campaign specifically targeting gender inequality in the media, and raising awareness about the importance of showing images of women in leadership positions (misrepresentation.org). Said Newsom regarding the state of female characters:

“The representation of women on network television shows continues to outpace studio films by a significant margin - where women were only 11% of protagonists in the top 100 films last year- but it still has a ways to go when it comes to truly reflecting the real world. Yes, we should celebrate TV’s successes, but we must also continue to pressure all media creators to not only include more women in their stories, but to make sure that women and girls are central to the storyline and that the characters they are writing are three dimensional human beings, not just stereotypes created solely for the male gaze.”

There was minimal improvement in gender diversity when it comes to LGBT characters. Lesbian and bisexual female characters make up 34% of LGBT representations on primetime broadcast scripted series; a figure similar to last year’s findings despite the addition of six female LGBT characters. Of the 50 LGBT regular or recurring characters counted on scripted broadcast primetime television, ten (20%) are lesbians, seven (14%) are bisexual women and one (2%) is a transgender woman. The rest are composed of 30 (61%) gay men and 2 (4%) bisexual men.

One the most welcomed additions this year when it comes to diversity is the upgrading of Unique on Glee (Fox) to a recurring role. None of the networks have had a regular or recurring transgender character since the 2008-2009 season, when ABC had two.

When it comes to regular lesbian representations on primetime broadcast scripted series, Dr. Arizona Robbins on Grey’s Anatomy (ABC) and Santana Lopez on Glee (Fox) are joined by Leslie Shay of Chicago Fire (NBC), Anne of Go On (NBC) and Tyra Dupre of Emily Owens, M.D. (The CW). The regular bisexual female characters consist of Callie Torres on Grey’s Anatomy (ABC), Kalinda Sharma on The Good Wife (CBS), Evelyn Harper on Two and a Half Men (CBS), Brittany S. Pierce on Glee (Fox), Angela Montenegro on Bones (Fox), and Adrianna Tate-Duncan on 90210 (The CW).
In regards to cable television, the LGBT gender divide is slightly better than last season but still remains unbalanced. Of the 61 regular and recurring LGBT characters found on mainstream cable, 25 (42%) are lesbians or bisexual women, which is an increase from last year's 32%. There are 16 lesbian characters on cable (which is much higher than on broadcast networks) and nine bisexual women. One of the most significant additions is bisexual lead character Bo Dennis on supernatural series *Lost Girl* (Syfy), which also features two lesbian characters. One of the most recognizable lesbian characters on cable television continues to be Emily Fields on *Pretty Little Liars* (ABC Family) who is currently dating fellow swim team member Paige McCullers. ABC Family also features several other lesbian characters on *The Secret Life of the American Teenager*. Lifetime added a post “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” lesbian couple to its *Army Wives* series this past season. Other prominent lesbian and bisexual characters on cable television include Tara Thornton and Pam De Beaufort on *True Blood* (HBO), Dr. Eleanor O’Hara on *Nurse Jackie* (Showtime), and Diana Barrigan on *White Collar* (USA).

As for male characters, gay men make up the majority of LGBT characters on cable again this year. Of the 61 regular or recurring LGBT characters on scripted cable television, 29 (49%) are gay men, while five (8%) are bisexual males.

Cable television brings us the only regular transgender characters in teenager Adam Torres from *Degrassi* who came out as a transgender male and Alice from *Superjail!* who is a transgender woman.
This year, overall racial and ethnic diversity on primetime broadcast scripted series remains the same as last year with 22% of 701 series regulars being people of color (POC). This is a similar figure to the 2011-2012 season. NBC is back in first place when it comes to racial diversity, as 28% of primetime series regulars are POC this season, which is an increase from last year’s 25% but not as good as the 2010-2011 season when 32% of their regular characters were POC. ABC is now in second place and remains at 23% for the second year in a row. Fox showed a somewhat alarming drop in racial diversity, losing 6 percentage points to 20%, which lands them in third place. The CW improved from 10% to 17%, while CBS dropped from 19% to 17%, putting the two networks in last place.

Compared to the estimated percentage they make up of the U.S. population, the Latino/Hispanic community remains one of the most underrepresented ethnic populations in American media. In fact their numbers have actually shrunk on the broadcast networks recently, dropping to 4% of all regular characters on broadcast this year, compared to 5.6% in 2011. The National Hispanic Media Coalition sees the inclusion of dynamic Latino characters as another area in which the broadcasts still need to improve. Said NHMC President Alex Nogales:

“GLAAD’s Where We Are on TV report confirms NHMC’s own diversity report card findings. Specifically, the incremental progress that we had seen for Latino regulars at ABC, NBC, CBS, and FOX is now regressing. On the other hand, cable networks are producing excellent hit shows such as Dexter, Suits and Dallas with multi-dimensional characters and featuring diverse actors. This is the future and the new formula for success that ABC, CBS, NBC, FOX and CW need to emulate.”

The Asian-Pacific Islander (API) community is similarly represented at 5% this year, which is up slightly from 4.5% last year. Much like the NHMC, the Asian Pacific American Media Coalition sees the API community facing similar challenges when it comes to how they are represented on television; numbers that are too low, and too few lead characters. Said APAMC co-chair Guy Aoki:

“Although there are more Asian Pacific Islanders cast as regulars since we began annual meetings with the networks in 1999/2000, white regulars are still disproportionally represented, almost up to 80%. While we’re included in ensemble shows, we’re rarely the main star—the first name in the credits. That’s why last Fall, the APAMC issued a challenge to the networks to air programs starring Asian Pacific Islanders within three years. Thankfully, Fox just debuted The Mindy Project starring Indian American Mindy Kaling.”

DIVERSITY OF 701 BROADCAST SERIES REGULARS FOR 2012-2013: RACE/ETHNICITY

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In regards to LGBT people of color, racial diversity has greatly improved. While last season only 15% of primetime scripted regular or recurring LGBT characters were people of color, that figure has increased to 30%. Of the 50 LGBT regular or recurring characters counted on primetime broadcast scripted series, four are Latino/a, three are API, and seven are Black. Considering that there were no regular or recurring black LGBT characters scheduled to appear at the beginning of the previous TV season, the inclusion of seven this season is a hugely positive development. Callie Torres will remain on *Grey’s Anatomy* (ABC) this season, as will *The Good Wife’s* (CBS) Kalinda Sharma, *The Office’s* (NBC) Oscar Martinez, *Bones’* (Fox) Angela Montenegro and *Glee’s* (Fox) Santana Lopez. Several LGBT characters of color made their debut or came out late in the last season, including Mr. Wolfe on *Suburgatory* (ABC), Luther on *Don’t Trust the B---- in Apt 23* (ABC), and Unique on *Glee* (Fox), as well as Kaldrick, Christopher, and Tariq on *The L.A. Complex* (The CW). In November ABC will premiere *Malibu Country*, which includes gay, Latino assistant Geoffrey, while black, lesbian medical professional Tyra Dupre will make her debut on *The CW’s* *Emily Owens, M.D.* in October.

The large increase in racial and ethnic diversity among LGBT characters on broadcast networks was unfortunately not repeated on cable television where LGBT people of color make only 21% (13) of all scripted regular or recurring LGBT characters, which is a drop from last year’s 28%. Of the 13 LGBT characters of color counted, nine (15%) are Black, one (2%) is Latino, two (3%) are API, and one (2%) is multiracial. This year saw the introduction of Cleo and Donovan on *Anger Management* who are both Black and gay. Charlie, one half of *Army Wives’* (Lifetime) lesbian couple is Black. On Showtime's *House of Lies*, Roscoe Kahn is also Black. There are no new LGBT regular or recurring characters on cable television who are Latino/a, API or multiracial. The only Latino LGBT regular or recurring character on cable television is coroner Dr. Morales on *Major Crimes* (TNT). Danny on *Teen Wolf* (MTV) and Judy Harvey on *Enlightened* (HBO) are cable’s two gay and lesbian (respectively) API characters. Emily Fields on *Pretty Little Liars* (ABC Family) is the only multiracial regular or recurring character on a scripted cable series.
For the third year in a row, GLAAD also conducted a count of series regular characters that are depicted as people with disabilities (PWD). The U.S. Census Bureau’s 2011 American Community Survey’s 1-year estimates—that provide detailed social, economic, demographic and housing data for areas with populations of 65,000 or more—reports that 12% (37.2 million people) of U.S. non-institutionalized citizens report living with an apparent disability. In its count GLAAD included characters covered under the American Disabilities Act (ADA) which includes people living with non-apparent disabilities such as cancer or HIV/AIDS. Inclusion of those disabilities would greatly increase the figures found by the U.S. Census Bureau. Yet, scripted primetime broadcast television has, once again, failed to reflect those demographic realities.

This year, the number of broadcast series regulars with a disability is lower than in recent seasons by dropping to four characters, compared to five in 2011 and six in 2010—making PWD only 0.6% of all regular primetime scripted characters this upcoming season. ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox each have one character with a disability while The CW has none. Following the season premiere of ABC’s *Grey’s Anatomy*, Dr. Arizona Robbins is now an amputee. CBS has a character on *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation* who uses prosthetic legs, NBC features a character with Asperger syndrome, an autism spectrum disorder, on *Parenthood* and a character on Fox’s *Glee* uses a wheelchair.

SAG-AFTRA has been working to increase the presence of people with disabilities in scripted programming. Adam Moore, National EEO & Diversity Director for SAG-AFTRA said of the number of primetime broadcast scripted series regulars with disabilities:

“In terms of who is showing up and what stories are being told on our scripted television shows, I think the numbers speak for themselves: it is an embarrassing and completely inaccurate representation of the world around us. Certainly there are a few bright spots in network television and, in particular, in cable series but, overall, there is still a lot of work left to do. We are confident that the powerful combination of audiences demanding a greater level of inclusion, the ever growing pool of highly qualified talent and the industry’s commitment to our shared responsibility to create content that reflects the American Scene, will yield positive results in the seasons ahead. But to achieve real and lasting change, we must focus not only on hiring performers with disabilities for roles written with a specific disability but also on ensuring that these performers have a fair shot to play any character, regardless of disability.”

Thor Lundgren of *Nurse Jackie* who is diabetic and uses a prosthetic eye was the only LGBT character with a disability last season. This year he is joined by Arizona on *Grey’s Anatomy*.

Footnote: This research was done in conjunction with the SAG-AFTRA National Performers With Disabilities Committee and the SAG-AFTRA EEO & Diversity department.
Oftentimes, the casts of reality programs are not announced early enough to include in the Where We Are on TV report. The format, however, frequently features some of the most diverse representations of the LGBT community found on television.

On CBS, an openly lesbian contestant is competing on Survivor: Philippines while The Amazing Race features Josh Kilmer-Purcell and his partner Brent Ridge as well as gay dancer Jaymes Vaughan. Once again NBC’s The Voice will feature an out contestant with singer De’Borah Garner. Many programs have featured out contestants this past summer, including The Glass House (ABC), Fox’s Hell’s Kitchen and Master Chef, as well as Big Brother on CBS. Programs known for casting LGBT contestants will hopefully continue to do so in their spring seasons, including America’s Next Top Model (The CW), Dancing with the Stars (ABC), and Celebrity Apprentice (NBC).

Cable television features many LGBT representations on a variety of reality programs. Bravo often includes LGBT cast members or guests on its shows, including The Shahs of Sunset, The Real Housewives of New Jersey, the Top Chef franchise, Million Dollar Listing, Flipping Out, and Tabatha Takes Over. Other notable inclusive reality programs include HGTV’s Design Star; AMC’s Small Town Security; Oxygen’s The Glee Project and All the Right Moves; Showtime’s The Real L Word; Lifetime’s Project Runway; OWN’s 10 Kids, 2 Dads and the Sundance Channel’s Push Girls.

Earlier this year, the cable network Logo announced it was developing projects featuring straight leads to reflect an increasingly mainstream audience. While this format change might reduce the number of reality programs with gay and lesbian leads on the network, it may also show an encouraging trend of straight audiences tuning into a network traditionally aimed at the LGBT community. When straight audiences see the stories of LGBT people on shows such as Drag Race; Drag U; In The Big House; or 1 Girl, 5 Gays, they may be more likely to become allies on the road towards equality.
There have recently been a few additions to LGBT characters on daytime dramas; all of whom will hopefully remain on their shows in the coming TV season. The character of Will Horton came out as gay on Days of Our Lives (NBC), joining Sonny Kiriakis and Neil Hultgrin as the other openly gay Salem residents. While we unfortunately haven’t seen Rafe Torres or Phillip Chancellor III of The Young and the Restless (CBS) since 2011, The Bold and the Beautiful (CBS) recently premiered a lesbian storyline between Karen Spencer and her partner Danielle.

When it comes to daytime talk shows, the only newcomer this year is actually a returning program with a newly out host, as Anderson Cooper made his return to daytime with his talk show and a new title, Anderson Live (syndicated). Several other out personalities are hosting talk shows as well, including actress Sara Gilbert who continues as a producer and co-host of The Talk (CBS). Ellen DeGeneres returned as strong as ever to The Ellen DeGeneres Show (syndicated), and Clinton Kelly is set to co-host a second season of the ABC food-related talk show The Chew. Sadly Rosie O’Donnell and Nate Berkus, two long-time friends of daytime TV, both saw their shows cancelled this past year.

For the second year in a row, GLAAD has incorporated a Spanish-language media chapter into the Where We Are on TV report. With more frequent changes in programming lineups among Spanish-language networks, it can be challenging to make an accurate character count for the fall season. However, these networks have and continue to feature a variety of inclusive storylines in their telenovelas and daytime talk shows that bring additional visibility to the Latino/a LGBT community found on broadcast and cable television.

This past season, Telemundo aired Relaciones Peligrosas, a U.S.-based adaptation of the Spanish novela Física o Química. Set in a Miami high school, the show featured two gay students, Diego and Alejandro. Though the two kissed in the original version, Telemundo unfortunately decided not to include this in their version. Telemundo also recently finished airing Una Maid in Manhattan (based on the 2002 film Maid in Manhattan) which included a character named Tadeo “Tito” Falcón who struggled to come out as gay.

Mun2 is currently airing the Colombian novela Ojo por Ojo about two rival drug cartels. Among the large drug families are two gay men; Marcos and the closeted Tin. Also currently on the air is Los Exitosos Pérez (Mundo Fox), a Mexican adaptation to an Argentine novela about an actor paid to impersonate an coma-bound anchorman, who is in a secret relationship with the network owner’s son.

Footnote: This research was done in conjunction with GLAAD’s Spanish-Language Media team, Monica Trasandes, Director of Spanish-Language Media and Brian Pacheco, Spanish-Language Media Strategist.
FIVE YEAR TRENDS

WHERE WE ARE ON TV 2012-2013

BROADCAST NETWORKS SCRIPTED SERIES REGULARS

ABC SCRIPTED SERIES REGULARS

CBS SCRIPTED SERIES REGULARS

THE CW SCRIPTED SERIES REGULARS

FOX SCRIPTED SERIES REGULARS

NBC SCRIPTED SERIES REGULARS

LGBT
PEOPLE OF COLOR
WHITES
TOTAL SERIES REGULARS
WHERE WE ARE ON TV 2012-2013

FIVE YEAR TRENDS CONT.

NUMBER OF REGULAR AND RECURRING LGBT CHARACTERS ON BROADCAST NETWORKS*
*FIGURES REPRESENT COUNTS MADE AT EACH SEASON'S LAUNCH

NUMBER OF REGULAR AND RECURRING LGBT CHARACTERS ON CABLE NETWORKS*
*FIGURES REPRESENT COUNTS MADE AT EACH SEASON'S LAUNCH

*GAY
*LESBIAN
*BISEXUAL
*TRANSGENDER
glaad’s ENTERTAINMENT MEDIA TEAM

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 GLAAD’s social media and the daily LGBT TV listings, “What to Watch on TV.”

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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.

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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 annually released Network Responsibility Index. Max also serves on the GLAAD Media Awards Communications Team and is a frequent contributor to GLAAD’s blog. A graduate of the College of Charleston’s Communication 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.

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Megan Townsend joined GLAAD in January 2012 as the Entertainment Media Fellow where she researches and monitors LGBT-inclusive content on television and film in collaboration with the larger Entertainment team. She is the principal author of “What to Watch on TV,” GLAAD’s daily guide to LGBT-inclusive television programming, which can be found on GLAAD’s blog. Megan is also a contributing researcher for GLAAD’s Network Responsibility Index and Where We Are on TV. Before coming to GLAAD, Megan graduated from Central Michigan University where she earned a degree in public relations and advertising and worked with a variety of nonprofit organizations.

RICKY CARTER
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