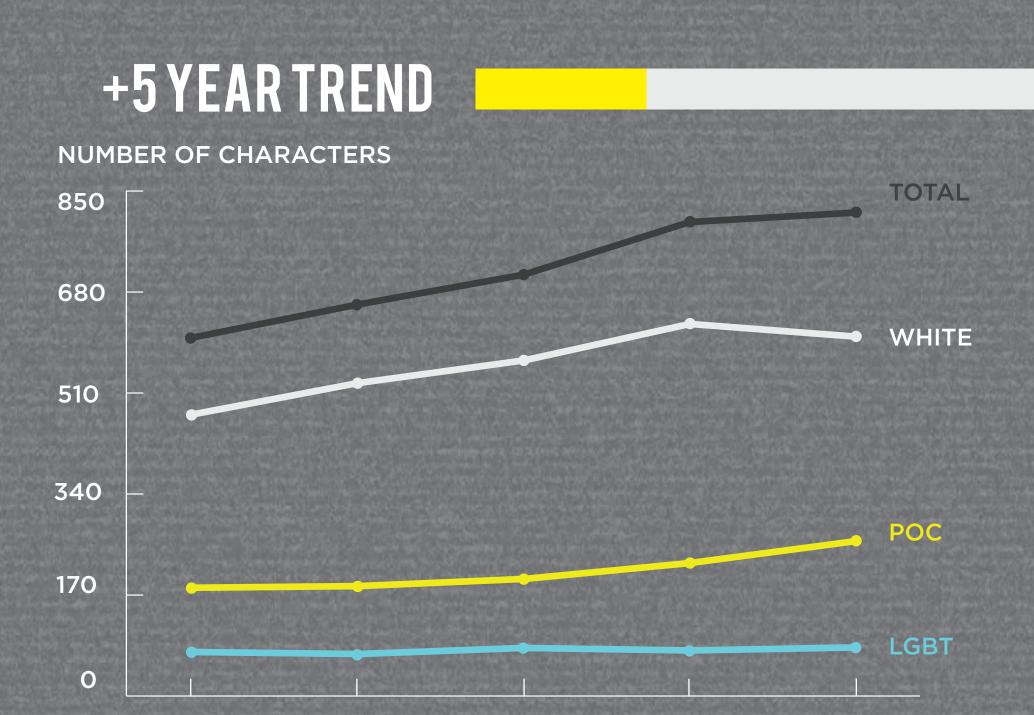
# BLRRD BRDCST

# THE UNDER-REPRESENTATION OF DIVERSE LGBT CHARACTERS ON TV IN 2015

Of the 881 regular characters on primetime scripted television, only **4% are LGBT**  Though the Gay Community has become more socially accepted through the years as shown through legislation regarding same-sex marriages and Gay Characters on television, there is a large portion of the LGBTQ community that has yet to receive the proper acceptance and representation. While the Trans community has gained visibility in the public eye as they seek equal rights, there is a lack of acceptance from society. This issue is apparent in the mis/ underrepresentation of LGBTQ Characters on television. While we are seeing a growth in the presence of LGBTQ Characters on television, a sense of diversity is missing when examining character demographics such as sexual orientation, gender identity, and race/ethnicity. The GLAAD Where are We on TV 2015 Annual Report brings awareness to this issue as they shift the focus onto underrepresentation of diverse LGBTQ stories.



2011 2012 2013 2014

2015

When looking at a 5 year trend of Broadcast Networks Scripted Series Regulars, it is evident that the LGBT community is under-represented among other types of characters Source: GLAAD Where are We on TV 2014

## +REPRESENTATION BY PLATFORM

32

year

BISEXUAL(F)

Bisexual women account for

23% of LGBT characters on

cable compared to 20% last

### CABLE

The number of regular LGBT characters counted on cable increased from 64 to 84, while recurring characters increased from 41 to 58.

#### BROADCAST

Of the 881 regular characters expected to appear on broadcast primetime programming in the coming year, 35 (4%) were identified as gay, lesbian, or bisexual. There were an additional 35 recurring LGB characters.

#### STREAMING

For the first time, GLAAD counted LGBT characters on original series that premiered on Amazon, Hulu, and Netflix. GLAAD found 43 series regulars and 16 recurring LGBT characters across 23 series.

#### 58 GAY (CHARACTERS)

Gay men still represent the majority of LGBT regular and recurring cable characters at 41% (down from 45% last year). 33

23

Lesbian representation

#### Gay men still make up the majority of 70 regular and recurring LGBT characters at 47% (33), a decrease of seven percentage points from last year.

23

Across 23 series, GLAAD found 43 regular lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender characters. We counted an additional 16 recurring LGBT characters.

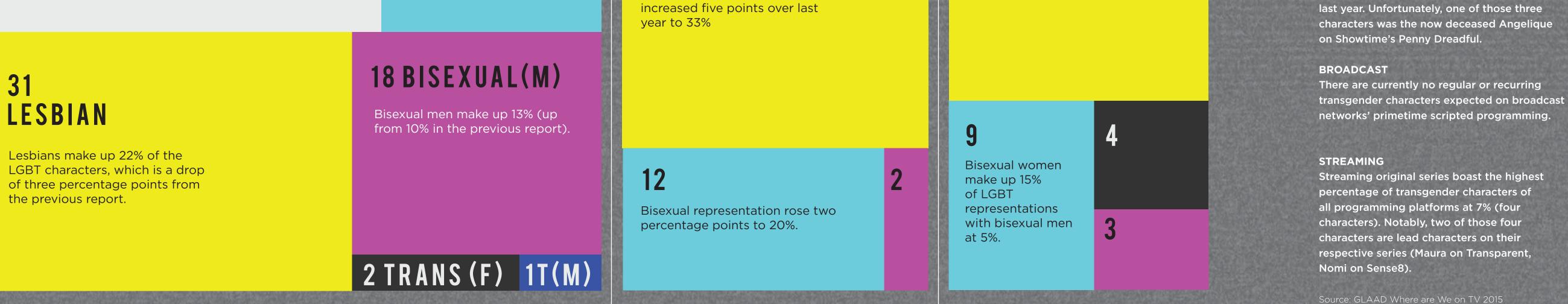
Gay men make up 39% of those 59 characters.

#### 21

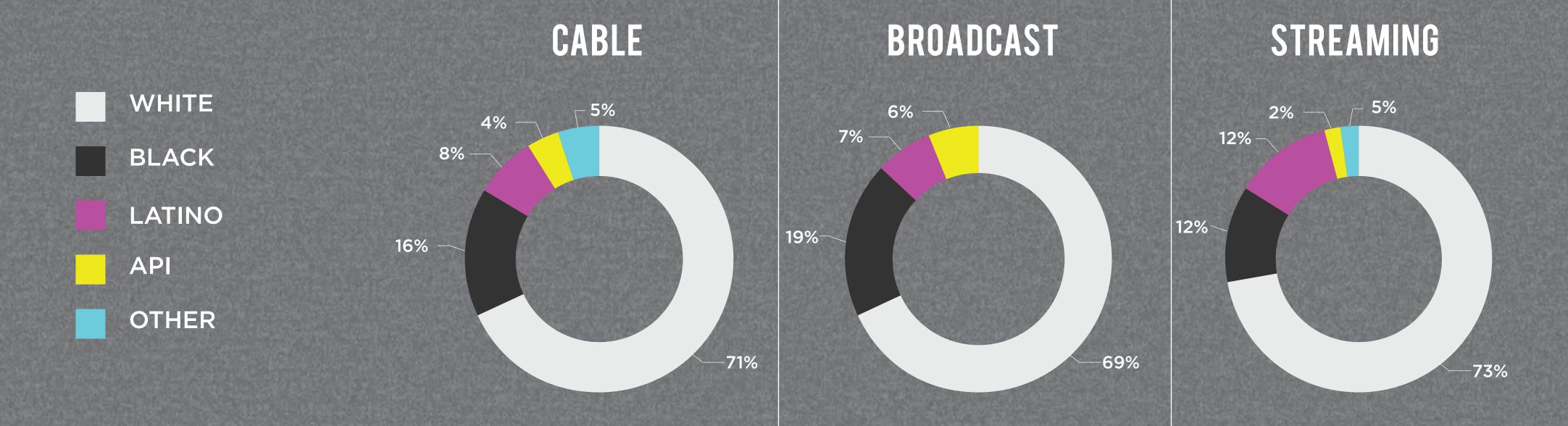
Lesbians account for 36% of LGBT representations in streaming series, which is a higher percentage than is found on either broadcast or cable. GAY LESBIAN BISEXUAL (F) BISEXUAL (M) TRANS (F) TRANS (M)

TRANS-SPOTLIGHT

**CABLE:** Three of the 142 characters (2%) are transgender, compared to just one character







All three programming platforms need to include more racially diverse LGBT characters. Overall racial diversity is moving in the right direction with 33% (287) of 881 regular characters counted on broadcast programming being people of color, which is a six-point increase from last year.

The racial diversity of the 70 LGBT regular and recurring characters on primetime scripted broadcast series has also increased, going from 26% to 31% being POC.

However, racial diversity is down this year among LGBT characters on cable programming. Only 28% of the 142 LGBT characters counted are POC; a drop of six

#### percentage points. Of the 59 LGBT characters on original streaming series, 27% (16) are

characters of color

Source: GLAAD Where are We on TV 2014

DURCE: ALL DATA IS FROM THE GLAAD WHERE ARE WE ON TV 2015 REPOR

OGRAPHIC BY RICARDO BALTAZAR | DAI 523 DATA VISUALIZATION | PINO TROGU | FALL 2015