Six Spectrums

Biological Sex
(anatomy, chromosomes, hormones, secondary sex characteristics)

male  intersex  female

Gender Identity
(psychological/internal sense of self)

man  gender-queer  woman

Gender Expression
(communication of gender via mannerisms, hairstyle, clothing, etc)

masculine  androgynous  feminine

Representing the complexities, intricacies, and nuances of the broad and diverse range of human identities, behaviors, and experiences on a diagram on a piece of paper is an inherently difficult if not impossible task. These spectrums are therefore imperfect but are presented as one way to conceive of the differences and parallels between and among biological sex, gender identity, gender expression, and components of sexual orientation. It is not the only way. It’s worth noting that these spectrums represent early 21st century U.S.-centric understandings of these concepts, and these concepts look differently in different regions, time periods, and cultures. It’s also worth noting that there are some terms/identities that don’t fall on the spectrums (such as asexual) and numerous terms that may encompass a combination of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and biological sex. Examples include but are not limited to: two-spirit, butch, fem, stud, boi, and bear.
Sexual / Affectional Orientation: Attraction
(physical, romantic, emotional)

to different genders only

to diff., similar, and/or many genders, or asexual

to similar genders only

Sexual / Affectional Orientation: Identity

hetero- sexual or straight

queer, bi-/pan-sexual, asexual

homo- sexual or gay/lesbian

Behavior
(sexual behaviors, dating, relationships, etc)

with different gender(s) only

w/ diff., similar, no or many genders

with similar gender(s) only

Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Queer Resource Center, University of Colorado at Boulder: Adapted from "Diagram of Sex & Gender," Center for Gender Sanity, http://www.gendersanity.com/diagram.shtml, and from the University of California-Riverside