

EU LGBTI survey II

A long way to go for LGBTI equality

Country data – Germany



Survey in a nutshell

- The online survey draws on 140,000 responses from across 30 countries – the then 28 EU Member States (including the United Kingdom), Serbia and North Macedonia.
- The results from the survey present the largest international LGBTI survey of its kind.
- In-depth detailed results for Germany and other countries can be found in FRA's [online data visualisation tool](#).
- See our [methodology Q&A](#) for more about how FRA did the survey. Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.
- Follow #LGBTIsurvey across social media.
- Respondents' quotes from Germany also included.

Symbols

- ↑ Shows that the result in the country is **above** the EU-28 average
- ↓ Shows that the result in the country is **below** the EU-28 average
- Shows that the result in the country is **the same or at similar** levels (+/-5%) with the EU-28 average
- No Member State breakdown

Openness about being LGBTI

"Me and my partner avoid holding hands in public, kissing us, or being too intimate."
(Germany, Gay man, 36)

- ↓ 45% avoid often or always holding hands with their same-sex partner in Germany. For the EU-28, it is 61%.

- ↓ 24% in Germany avoid often or always certain locations for fear of being assaulted. For the EU-28, it is 33%.
- ↑ 57% are now fairly or very open about being LGBTI in Germany. For the EU-28, it is 47%.

Discrimination

"In the search for a rental apartment with my partner, the broker made us understand that the landlord will not rent to a gay couple." (Germany, Gay man, 33)

"During a hospital stay for depression I would be asked in the intake interview by my therapist if I might be depressed because I never had a relationship with a man. A gynaecologist advised me not to worry about it as long as I have no symptoms in response to the question regarding which diseases can be transmitted between women during sex." (Germany, Bisexual women, 28)

- 23% felt discriminated against at work in the year before the survey in Germany. For the EU-28, it is 21%.
- Discrimination affects many areas of life, such as going to a café, restaurant, hospital or to a shop. Overall, in Germany in 2019 44% felt discriminated against in at least one area of life in the year before the survey. For the EU-28, it was 42%.

Harassment & violence

"My former partner and I were mobbed on the way home from a party by several men and verbally abused because we held hands." (Germany, Bisexual woman, 24)

- 36% in Germany say they were harassed the year before the survey. The EU-28 is 38%.
- 1 in 5 trans and intersex people were physically or sexually attacked in the five years before the survey, double that of other LGBTI groups.
- 13% in Germany had been attacked in the 5 years before the survey. The EU-28 is 11%.

Reporting of hate-motivated violence and discrimination

"Even while processing the formal complaint, the police made homophobic statements. Despite inquiries in the aftermath, nothing happened. That's why I have avoided to file for legal proceedings in later cases" (Germany, Gay man, 30)

- 13% went to the police in Germany to report physical or sexual attacks. It is 14% across the EU-28.
- 8% reported their discrimination experiences to an equality body or another organisation in Germany. For the EU-28, it is 11%.

Intolerance and prejudice

"At the moment, I think that the situation for LGBT people in Germany is likely to worsen again due to the increase in right-wing conservative parties and the generally more aggressive sentiment against everything that is different." (Germany, Gay man, 54)

- ↑ 46% in Germany say that LGBTI prejudice and intolerance has dropped in their country in the last five years. It is 40% across the EU-28.
- ↓ 24% in Germany say that prejudice and intolerance have risen. This is 36% for the EU-28.
- ↑ 41% in Germany believe their national government effectively combats prejudice and intolerance against LGBTI people. For the EU-28 it is 33%.

Schooling

"I wish I had already learned at school that there are transgender people and how the path looks for these people. Something like that would have saved me a lot of suffering (...)." (Germany, Trans Man, 22)

"Especially in elementary school, I have often had problems because I did not behave according to stereotypes. (...) For sure, an educational project would have helped, but in class, for example, trans-identity was just mentioned but never treated. Knowing what's going on earlier would have spared me much doubt, frustration, anger, grief and confusion." (Germany, Trans Man, 30)

- Among young people (18-24), less people (41%) hide being LGBT at school. In 2012, it was 47%.
- 27% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Germany say were hiding being LGBTI at school. This was 30% in the EU-28
- 47% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Germany say that in school someone often or always supported, defended or protected their rights as an LGBTI person. This was 48% in the EU-28.
- ↓ 52% of LGBTI teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Germany say their peers or teachers have often or always supported LGBTI people. In the EU-28, this was 60%.
- 30% of LGBTI of teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Germany say their school education at some point addressed LGBTI issues positively or in a balanced way. In the EU-28, this was 33%.

Selected quotes from LGBTI Survey II respondents

"There is 3 of us who are raising our child and there is no legal basis in Germany. In addition, documents, adoption procedures, etc. are not designed for the parenting of same-sex couples or multiple parents." (Germany, Lesbian woman, 35)

"As a rainbow family, we are always experiencing scepticism, rejection, and unreasonably inquisitive questions. For example, we were questioned by the head of a nursery, about the biological origin of our son and she promptly gave us her extensive opinion. She did not agree with it. We often experience this as a parent and it is very unpleasant." (Germany, Lesbian woman, 37)