

EU LGBTI survey II

A long way to go for LGBTI equality

Country data – Greece



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 Greece 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 Greece 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

"Love is the strongest emotion. I feel it every time I hold my girlfriend's hand, every time I touch her and every time I kiss her. When I am experiencing it in all its magnitude, I don't care one bit about 'what people will say'." (Greece, Bisexual woman, 19)

"I can't hold her hand while strolling around, I can't give her a kiss, not even on the cheek as a "normal" couple would. I can't even look her in the eyes in fear of being revealed. But love is like a cough, you can't hide it." (Greece, Lesbian woman, 25)

- ↑ 74% avoid often or always holding hands with their same-sex partner in Greece. For the EU-28, it is 61%.
- ↑ 39% in Greece avoid often or always certain locations for fear of being assaulted. For the EU-28, it is 33%
- ↓ 27% are now fairly or very open about being LGBTI in Greece. For the EU-28, it is 47%.

Discrimination

"A hotelier refused to give us (a gay couple) a room in his hotel because, as he explained, there were families staying there." (Greece, Gay man, 30)

- ↑ 32% felt discriminated against at work in the year before the survey in Greece. 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 Greece in 2019 51% 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

- ↓ 33% in Greece 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.
- ➔ 9% in Greece had been attacked in the 5 years before the survey. The EU-28 is 11%.

Reporting of hate-motivated violence and discrimination

"I and my then boyfriend were victims of a homophobic incident in a busy part of Athens. The police never showed up. My calls had not been recorded, and my cell phone operator showed me that we had spoken twice. It has been a very bad feeling for me ever since and I no longer feel safe and comfortable when I move around." (Greece, Gay man, 26)

- ➔ 10% went to the police in Greece to report physical or sexual attacks. It is 14% across the EU-28.
- ➔ 11% reported their discrimination experiences to an equality body or another organisation in Greece. For the EU-28, it is 11%.

Intolerance and prejudice

"In a country like Greece, hiding my sexuality is the safest option." (Greece, Bisexual woman, 19)

"I am a teacher and I am scared to speak freely about my sexual orientation, both due to the negative impact that this could have on me and the potential defamation of the school -

arguing that "this teacher will make our children gay". I wish my sexual orientation wasn't an issue in my workplace." (Greece, Gay man, 36)

- ↑ 57% in Greece say that LGBTI prejudice and intolerance has dropped in their country in the last five years. It is 40% across the EU-28.
- ↓ 18% in Greece say that prejudice and intolerance have risen. This is 36% for the EU-28.
- ↑ 39% in Greece believe their national government effectively combats prejudice and intolerance against LGBTI people. For the EU-28 it is 33%.

Schooling

"In high school I experienced many problems with my classmates. To them I was a pervert and they would laugh at me. I reached a point where I didn't dare to go outside of the classroom during the break out of fear of being humiliated. I don't even want to think of this period of my life. I only have physical violence to remember." (Greece, Gay man, 51)

- Among young people (18-24), less people (41%) hide being LGBT at school. In 2012, it was 47%.
- ↑ 43% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Greece say were hiding being LGBTI at school. This was 30% in the EU-28.
- 51% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Greece 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.
- 64% of LGBTI teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Greece say their peers or teachers have often or always supported LGBTI people. In the EU-28 this was 60%.
- ↓ 26% of LGBTI of teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Greece 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

"I dream of having a family and children, building a house and finding a job; a daily life that is easy and not made up of fear, silence and oppression. There is one love... One set of rights..." (Greece, Lesbian woman, 21)