

EU LGBTIQ survey III

LGBTIQ Equality at a Crossroads: Progress and Challenges



Country Data - Poland

EU LGBTIQ SURVEY

- The online survey draws on 100,577 responses from across 30 countries – the 27 EU Member States, Albania, North Macedonia and Serbia.
- 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 #LGBTIQSurvey across social media channels.
- Respondents' quotes from Poland are also included.

Symbols

- ↑ Shows that the result in the country is above the EU-27 average
- ↓ Shows that the result in the country is below the EU-27 average
- Shows that the result in the country is the same or at similar levels with the EU-27 average

- **Openness about being LGBTIQ**

"I cannot kiss my girlfriend or hold her hand in certain neighbourhoods in the city, where we live. These are not dangerous neighbourhoods; it is just that we know that we will be harassed if we do." Poland, lesbian woman, 32

↑ 72% avoid often or always holding hands with their same-sex partner in Poland. For the EU-27 it is 53%.

↑ 40% in Poland avoid often or always certain locations for fear of being assaulted. For the EU-27 it is 29%.

↓ 34% are now fairly or very open about being LGBTIQ in Poland. For the EU-27 it is 51%.

- **Discrimination**

"Actions that discriminate against LGBTQ+ people are not prevented by law enforcement and sometimes even encouraged on national TV." Poland, pansexual non-binary, 21

↑ 24% felt discriminated against at work or looking for work in the year before the survey in Poland. For the EU-27 it is 19%.

↑ Discrimination affects many areas of life, such as going to a café, restaurant, hospital or to a shop. Overall, in Poland 44% felt discriminated against in at least one area of life in the year before the survey. For the EU-27 it was 37%.

- **Violence and harassment**

→ 16% in Poland had been attacked in the 5 years before the survey. The EU-27 is 13%.

→ 6% in Poland had been attacked in the year before the survey. The EU-27 is 5%.

→ 58% in Poland say they were harassed in the year before the survey. The EU-27 is 54%.

- **Reporting of hate-motivated violence and discrimination**

"Cops are likely to dismiss you or your issues if you're LGBTQ+ and you usually get the victim blaming excuses of "shouldn't've cross-dressed" etc, so it's not worth bothering." Poland, pansexual non-binary, 26

→ 8% went to the police in Poland to report physical or sexual attacks. It is 11% across the EU-27.

↓ 5% reported their discrimination experiences to an equality body or another organisation in Poland. For the EU-27 it is 11%.

- **Bullying and conversion abuse or humiliation**

↓ In Poland 60% of all respondents say that during their time in school they suffered bullying, ridicule, teasing, insults or threats because they are LGBTIQ. For the EU-27 it is 67%, a steep increase compared to 2019 (43%).

↑ 29% of respondents in Poland experienced a so-called 'conversion' practice in order to make them change their sexual orientation and/or gender identity. For the EU-27 it is 24%.

- **Intolerance and prejudice**

"Rejection, hatred, aggression often result from the lack of familiarity and knowledge. Then the feeling of being threatened by something that is unknown to them wins." Poland, lesbian woman, 29

→ 61% in Poland say that violence against LGBTIQ people has increased. This is 59% for the EU-27.

↑ 62% in Poland say that LGBTIQ prejudice and intolerance has risen in their country in the last five years. It is 53% across the EU-27.

↓ 4% in Poland believe their national government effectively combats prejudice and intolerance against LGBTIQ people. For the EU-27 it is 26%.

- **Health**

→ 11% of LGBTIQ respondents in Poland felt discriminated against in healthcare in the year before the survey. For the EU this is 14%.

→ 14% of LGBTIQ respondents in Poland thought often or always of committing suicide in year before the survey. For the EU this is 12%.

- **Schooling**

“In school I was bullied, harassed and called gay slurs before I even knew I was queer. They saw that I was different and attacked me for it.” Poland, pansexual non-binary, 26

↑ 57% of LGBTIQ students in Poland were hiding being LGBTIQ at school. This was 49% in the EU-27.

↓ 20% of LGBTIQ students in Poland say that in school someone often or always supported, defended or protected their rights as an LGBTIQ person. This was 32% in the EU-27.

↓ 56% of LGBTIQ respondents in Poland say their school education never addressed LGBTIQ issues. In the EU-27 this was 62%