

EU LGBTIQ survey III

LGBTIQ Equality at a Crossroads: Progress and Challenges



EU LGBTIQ SURVEY

Country Data - Serbia

- 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 Serbia 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**

“While I am able to live a normal life, having to constantly hide takes its toll on my mental health, especially with rampant homophobia going around. I know that if people found out about it, I would experience discrimination, so I keep my sexuality hidden at all times.” Serbia, pansexual man, 26

↑80% in Serbia avoid often or always holding hands with their same-sex partner. For the EU-27 it is 53%.

↑43% in Serbia avoid often or always certain locations for fear of being assaulted. For the EU-27 it is 29%.

↓29% are now fairly or very open about being LGBTIQ in Serbia. For the EU-27 it is 51%.

- **Discrimination**

↑24% felt discriminated against at work or looking for work in the year before the survey in Serbia. 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 Serbia 45% 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**

“Why is it so hard for people to accept that we are human, and we can love? We want to live a normal life without judgment, without worrying that someone will find out, that someone will hit us, attack us.” Serbia, bisexual man, 19

→ 17% in Serbia had been attacked in the 5 years before the survey. The EU-27 is 13%.

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

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

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

→ 9% went to the police in Serbia to report physical or sexual attacks. It is 11% across the EU-27.

→ 7% reported their discrimination experiences to an equality body or another organisation in Serbia. For the EU-27 it is 11%.

- **Bullying and conversion abuse or humiliation**

→ In Serbia 67% 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% in a steep increase compared to 2019 (43%).

↑ 32% of respondents in Serbia 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**

“It’s difficult, being raised in a society that constantly uses homosexuality as an insult and views us as mentally ill. You cannot tell anyone and sooner or later you’ll find yourself struggling with fear of being discriminated against.” Serbia, pansexual trans woman, 16

↓ 45% in Serbia say that violence against LGBTIQ people has increased. This is 59% for the EU-27.

↓ 40% in Serbia say that LGBTIQ prejudice and intolerance has risen in their country in the last five years. It is 53% across the EU-27.

↓ 6% in Serbia believe their national government effectively combats prejudice and intolerance against LGBTIQ people. For the EU-27 it is 26%.

- **Health**

“The lack of information about the LGBTIQ+ community is dangerous for members, especially young people who are just trying to understand themselves, it is mentally exhausting and leads to deterioration of mental health and suicidal thoughts.” Serbia, genderfluid, 18

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

↑ 20% of LGBTIQ respondents in Serbia thought often or always of committing suicide in year before the survey. For the EU this is 12%.

- **Schooling**

“I was personally bullied by other students from the school, it was comments, nicknames, destruction of personal property, stealing or hiding things and I saw things written about me on the toilet walls more than once. Even after showing the objects that were destroyed by the bullies, the employees of the school refused to do anything.” Serbia, asexual woman, 16

↑ 61% of LGBTIQ students in Serbia say were hiding being LGBTIQ at school. This was 49% in the EU-27.

↓ 23% of LGBTIQ students in Serbia 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.

↓ 37% of LGBTIQ respondents in Serbia say their school education never addressed LGBTIQ issues. In the EU-27 this was 62%.