

EU LGBTI survey II

A long way to go for LGBTI equality

Country data – Cyprus



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 Cyprus 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 Cyprus 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

"I have actively decided not to be publicly bisexual in my life because of the prejudice and disbelief that comes along with the 'label'." (Cyprus, Bisexual woman, 25)

- ↑ 78% avoid often or always holding hands with their same-sex partner in Cyprus. For the EU-28, it is 61%.
- 33% in Cyprus avoid often or always certain locations for fear of being assaulted. For the EU-28, it is 33%.
- ↓ 25% are now fairly or very open about being LGBTI in Cyprus. For the EU-28, it is 47%.

Discrimination

- ↑ 28% felt discriminated against at work in the year before the survey in Cyprus. 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 Cyprus in 2019 49% 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

"Once, I was just laying down with my female friend on the grass in a park. A man kept watching us, until he finally approached us and threatened us to stop being intimate as it is a public space, and things like that are not accepted. He threatened us that if we didn't leave he would call the authorities. He was extremely aggressive." (Cyprus, Lesbian woman, 22)

- ↓ 29% in Cyprus 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 Cyprus had been attacked in the 5 years before the survey. The EU-28 is 11%.

Reporting of hate-motivated violence and discrimination

- (13) % went to the police in Cyprus to report physical or sexual attacks. It is 14% across the EU-28.
- 9% reported their discrimination experiences to an equality body or another organisation in Cyprus. For the EU-28, it is 11%.

Intolerance and prejudice

"My country currently does not have a law in place for allowing Trans people to legally change their name and gender on their birth certificates and ID cards." (Cyprus, Trans woman, 15)

- ↑ 59% in Cyprus say that LGBTI prejudice and intolerance has dropped in their country in the last five years. It is 40% across the EU-28.
- ↓ 16% in Cyprus say that prejudice and intolerance have risen. This is 36% for the EU-28.
- ↓ 28% in Cyprus believe their national government effectively combats prejudice and intolerance against LGBTI people. For the EU-28 it is 33%.

Schooling

"(...) In my opinion age appropriate sex and relationships education should be addressed in schools which would benefit LGBT students and decrease the levels of homophobia (...)"
(Cyprus, Lesbian woman, 18)

- Among young people (18-24), less people (41%) hide being LGBT at school. In 2012, it was 47%.
- ↑ 47% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Cyprus say were hiding being LGBTI at school. This was 30% in the EU-28
- 45% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Cyprus 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.
- 57% of LGBTI teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Cyprus 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 Cyprus 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

"Cyprus is a very closed minded society. I fear of coming out to my parents since I know that they would not accept me." (Cyprus, Lesbian woman, 22)