

EU LGBTI survey II

A long way to go for LGBTI equality

Country data – Austria



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 Austria 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 Austria 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

"As soon as we behave as a couple (holding hands, hugging or kissing) we can assume that a man or often groups of men will start making lewd remarks / gestures or approach us to stand near us and openly to stare." (Austria, Lesbian woman, 27)

- ↓ 39% avoid often or always holding hands with their same-sex partner in Austria. For the EU-28, it is 61%.
- ↓ 19% in Austria avoid often or always certain locations for fear of being assaulted. For the EU-28, it is 33%
- ↑ 55% are now often or always open about being LGBT in Austria. For the EU-28, it is 47%.

Discrimination

"As a trans woman, it is difficult to get competent medical care, which is on the current state of research. As transgender it is difficult to keep one's own history for fear of discrimination, because there is no legal protection against forced outing due to old certificates, diplomas and certificates and companies are not forced to change personal data, to keep secret or to respect." (Austria, Trans woman, 25)

"I experience discrimination primarily in everyday life, not on a legal basis. People who say "this is just a phase" or "that's modern now". Another very big problem is the invisibility: if you show up with same-sex partners, you are considered homosexual, if you show up with other-gender partners, you are considered heterosexual." (Austria, Bisexual woman, 23)

- ➔ 20% felt discriminated against at work in the year before the survey in Austria. 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 Austria in 2019 40% 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 Austria 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.
- ➔ 11% in Austria had been attacked in the 5 years before the survey. For the EU-28, it is 11%.

Reporting of hate-motivated violence and discrimination

- ↓ 8% went to the police in Austria to report physical or sexual attacks. It is 14% across the EU-28.
- ➔ 10% reported their discrimination experiences to an equality body or another organisation in Austria. For the EU-28 it is 11%.

Intolerance and prejudice

"When I came out with my father, he reacted very negative. He dismissed it as a phase, followed by a heated argument that lasted almost the whole summer holidays. Today we

get on relatively well, but our relationship has never been the same again.” (Austria, Gay man, 25)

“I am currently pregnant, we will marry next year and I am very happy that both are now possible and legally secured” (Austria, Lesbian woman, 41)

“The worst thing I find is that others have determined my life in a way that I have to live with all the consequences of my life. It also needs a lot more education in schools about what intersex sexuality is and that it is not a disorder. I do not want future generations to have to go through hell through which I went.” (Austria, Intersex woman, 22)

- ↑ 54% in Austria say that LGBTI prejudice and intolerance has dropped in their country in the last five years. It is 40% across the EU-28.
- ↓ 17% in Austria say that prejudice and intolerance have risen. This is 36% for the EU-28.
- ↑ 38% in Austria believe their national government effectively combats prejudice and intolerance against LGBTI people. For the EU-28 it is 33%.

Schooling

- 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 Austria say were hiding being LGBTI at school. This was 30% in the EU-28.
- ↓ 38% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Austria 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.
- ↓ 47% of LGBTI teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Austria say their peers or teachers have often or always supported LGBTI people. In the EU-28 this was 60%.
- ↑ 38% of LGBTI of teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Austria say their school education at some point addressed LGBTI issues positively or in a balanced way. In the EU-28 this was 33%.