

EU LGBTI survey II

A long way to go for LGBTI equality

Country data – Croatia



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 Croatia 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 Croatia 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 regret that even though I live relatively happily, I still cannot be completely open everywhere, because through my life experiences I am somehow "naturally conditioned" to be in the shadow, fear and constant caution of "how someone will react" to my orientation.

I'm still ashamed of myself even though I'm aware it doesn't make sense." (Croatia, Gay man, 36)

- ↑ 84% avoid often or always holding hands with their same-sex partner in Croatia. For the EU-28, it is 61%.
- ↑ 43% in Croatia avoid often or always certain locations for fear of being assaulted. For the EU-28, it is 33%.
- ↓ 27% are now often or always open about being LGBT in Croatia. For the EU-28, it is 47%.

Discrimination

- ↓ 17 felt discriminated against at work in the year before the survey in Croatia. 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 Croatia in 2019 43% 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

"I was once assaulted on the road by a teenager while walking with my partner even though we did not hold hands or "provoke" in any way. He turned to us and started yelling "stinking lesbians!" to which I asked him to repeat it, and he physically walked toward me, continuing to insult and threaten physical violence. My partner and I turned and quickly left the street. We did not report the case since we did not think then that the police would have done anything more serious except take the report and mistreat us with a bunch of questions. I would like to believe that my child will grow up in a normal environment that will not marginalize him for having two moms ... we know we will certainly love him for protection." (Croatia, Lesbian woman, 28)

- 38% in Croatia say they were harassed the year before the survey. The EU-28 is 38%.
- 13% in Croatia had been attacked in the 5 years before the survey. The EU-28 is 11%.

Reporting of hate-motivated violence and discrimination

- ↑ 19% went to the police in Croatia to report physical or sexual attacks. It is 14% across the EU-28.
- ↓ 6% reported their discrimination experiences to an equality body or another organisation in Croatia. For the EU-28, it is 11%.

Intolerance and prejudice

- ↑ 45% in Croatia say that LGBTI prejudice and intolerance has dropped in their country in the last five years. It is 40% across the EU-28.
- ↓ 25% in Croatia say that prejudice and intolerance have risen. This is 36% for the EU-28.
- ↓ 11% in Croatia 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%.
- ↑ 51% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Croatia say were hiding being LGBTI at school. This was 30% in the EU-28.
- ↓ 33% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Croatia 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.
- ↓ 38% of LGBTI teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Croatia say their peers or teachers have often or always supported LGBTI people. In the EU-28 this was 60%.
- ↓ 13% of LGBTI of teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Croatia 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

"In Croatia, only the legal frameworks for protecting the LGBTIQ population in the EU are met, there is no integration of the community into society through the education system, etc. Also, leading politicians ignore the LGBTIQ community, do not support it and play false neutrality. The courts, because of the personal views of the judges themselves, are also reluctant, as is the case with other state and private institutions." (Croatia, Lesbian woman, 29)

"I cannot find a psychologist and I believe that while I am in Croatia, I will not be able to start sex change therapy." (Croatia, Trans man, bisexual man, 15)