EU LGBTIQ survey III
LGBTIQ Equality at a Crossroads:
Progress and Challenges

Country Data - Cyprus

- 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 FRA’s social media channels.
- Respondents’ quotes from Cyprus 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

↑ 71% avoid often or always holding hands with their same-sex partner in Cyprus. For the EU-27 it is 53%.
↑ 39% in Cyprus 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 Cyprus. For the EU-27 it is 51%.

- Discrimination

“In Cyprus, the younger generations are more open about their LGBTIQ+ identities and more supportive of others who are,” Cyprus, Lesbian woman, 22.

↑ 37% felt discriminated against at work or looking for work in the year before the survey in Cyprus. 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 Cyprus in 2023 50% 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

“I’m afraid of abandonment and being condemned for something that is out of my control,” Cyprus, Lesbian girl, 16.

➔ 14% of all respondents in Cyprus had been attacked in the 5 years before the survey. The EU-27 is 13%.

➔ 7% of respondents in Cyprus had been attacked in the 12 months before the survey. The EU-27 is 5%.

➔ 52% in Cyprus say they were harassed the year before the survey. The EU-27 is 54%.

• Reporting of hate-motivated violence and discrimination

➔ 19% went to the police in Cyprus to report physical or sexual attacks. It is 11% across the EU-27.

➔ 12% reported their discrimination experiences to an equality body or another organisation in Cyprus. For the EU-27 it is 11%.

• Bullying and conversion abuse or humiliation

“I received threats and psychological blackmail from people in the very close family circle in order to change my sexual identity,” Cyprus, Pansexual woman, 26.

➔ In Cyprus 73% 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%).

➔ 37% of respondents in Cyprus 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

➔ 43% in Cyprus say that violence against LGBTIQ people has increased. This is 59% for the EU-27.

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

➔ 19% in Cyprus believe their national government effectively combats prejudice and intolerance against LGBTIQ people. For the EU-27 it is 26%.

• Health

“While being queer in Cyprus is slowly becoming more socially accepted, to be Out is equal to social suicide. I wish I could leave,” Cyprus, Bisexual woman, 27.

➔ 6% of LGBTIQ respondents in Cyprus felt discriminated against in healthcare in the year before the survey. For the EU this is 14%.

➔ 15% of LGBTIQ respondents in Cyprus thought often or always of committing suicide in year before the survey. For the EU this is 12%.
**Schooling**

“I can't live freely and openly in my house because I believe [my parents] will throw me out,” Cyprus, Lesbian woman, 18.

↑ 65% of LGBTIQ students in Cyprus say they were hiding their LGBTIQ identity at school. This was 49% in the EU-27.

➔ 27% of LGBTIQ students in Cyprus 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.

➔ 61% of LGBTIQ respondents in Cyprus say their school education never addressed LGBTIQ issues. In the EU-27 this was 62%.