

# EU LGBTIQ survey III

## LGBTIQ Equality at a Crossroads: Progress and Challenges



### Country Data - Sweden

EU LGBTIQ SURVEY

- 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 .
- Respondents' quotes from Sweden 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**

*"I am very likely to receive stares and comments when holding my partners hand and show affection in public. [...] It disappoints me and make me reserved and cautious of being affectionate in public."*  
Sweden, lesbian woman, 37

↓ 32% avoid often or always holding hands with their same-sex partner in Sweden. For the EU-27 it is 53%.

↓ 15% in Sweden avoid often or always certain locations for fear of being assaulted. For the EU-27 it is 29%.

↑ 64% are now fairly or very open about being LGBTIQ in Sweden. For the EU-27 it is 51%.

- **Discrimination**

*"Most of the discrimination I'm familiar with has been 'soft' discrimination. [...] This can be like misgendering by medical health professionals who have been familiar with me for a long time, or being suddenly refused help."* Sweden, lesbian trans woman, 28

↓ 10% felt discriminated against at work or looking for work in the year before the survey in Sweden. 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 Sweden 21% 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**

↓ 7% in Sweden had been attacked in the 5 years before the survey. The EU-27 is 13%.

→ 2% in Sweden had been attacked in the year before the survey. The EU-27 is 5%.

↓ 40% in Sweden say they were harassed in the year before the survey. The EU-27 is 54%.

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

*“My trust in the police and authorities is extremely low on these issues, not least because I have seen the police use violence against young queers, but also because that violence is never taken seriously.”*  
Sweden, Pansexual man, 32

→ 14% went to the police in Sweden to report physical or sexual attacks. It is 11% across the EU-27.

→ 10% reported their discrimination experiences to an equality body or another organisation in Sweden. For the EU-27 it is 11%.

- **Bullying and conversion abuse or humiliation**

*“No one treats us seriously, especially not healthcare providers, they want to ‘fix’ us.”* Sweden, asexual genderqueer, 29

↓ In Sweden 58% 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%).

→ 21% of respondents in Sweden experienced a so-called ‘conversion’ practice in order to make them change your sexual orientation and/or gender identity. For the EU-27 it is 24%

- **Intolerance and prejudice**

↓ 40% in Sweden say that violence against LGBTIQ people has increased. This is 59% for the EU-27.

→ 51% in Sweden say that LGBTIQ prejudice and intolerance has risen in their country in the last five years. It is 53% across the EU-27.

↑ 36% in Sweden believe their national government effectively combats prejudice and intolerance against LGBTIQ people. For the EU-27 it is 26%.

- **Health**

↑ 23% of LGBTIQ respondents in Sweden felt discriminated against in healthcare in the year before the survey. For the EU this is 14%

→ 13% of LGBTIQ respondents in Sweden thought often or always of committing suicide in year before the survey. For the EU this is 12%

- **Schooling**

*“When I was younger, in grade school, my teachers would tell us Sweden made top lists all over the world for our inclusiveness, gender equality and good schools, but lately I know we’ve been slipping.”*  
Sweden, asexual intersex woman, 23

↓ 33% of LGBTIQ students in Sweden were hiding being LGBTIQ at school. This was 49% in the EU-27.

↑ 42% of LGBTIQ students in Sweden 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.

↓ 33% of LGBTIQ respondents in Sweden say their school education never addressed LGBTIQ issues. In the EU-27 this was 62%.