

EU LGBTI survey II

A long way to go for LGBTI equality

Country data – Serbia



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 Serbia 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 Serbia 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

"(...) have to be careful and still care who knows about my sexuality, as I am afraid it could influence my career opportunities." (Serbia, Lesbian woman, 33)

- ↑ 87% avoid often or always holding hands with their same-sex partner in Serbia. For the EU-28, it is 61%.

- ↑ 50% in Serbia avoid often or always certain locations for fear of being assaulted. For the EU-28, it is 33%.
- ↓ 20% are now fairly or very open about being LGBTI in Serbia. For the EU-28, it is 47%.

Discrimination

- 24% felt discriminated against at work in the year before the survey in Serbia. 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 Serbia in 2019 45% 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

(...) when I was 19, I had a rainbow umbrella on me. While walking through a dark alley next to a very large bus stop in Belgrade, a man behind me started aggressively shouting at me "Hey you! LGBT! With the umbrella!". This was the first time I actually ran for my life." (Serbia, Bisexual woman, 21)

- 41% in Serbia 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.
- ↑ 17% in Serbia had been attacked in the 5 years before the survey. The EU-28 is 11%.

Reporting of hate-motivated violence and discrimination

"When my father beat me up for having a girlfriend, I informed the police. Officers (2 men) interviewed us and asked him if he thought I needed psychiatric treatment. They supported him completely, they did not even write down the application. I was an adult." (Serbia, Bisexual woman, 26)

- 14% went to the police in Serbia 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 Serbia. For the EU-28, it is 11%.

Intolerance and prejudice

- ↑ 51% in Serbia say that LGBTI prejudice and intolerance has dropped in their country in the last five years. It is 40% across the EU-28.
- ↓ 18% in Serbia say that prejudice and intolerance have risen. This is 36% for the EU-28.
- ↓ 20% in Serbia believe their national government effectively combats prejudice and intolerance against LGBTI people. For the EU-28, it is 33%.

Schooling

"I used to experience bullying almost every day in elementary school. People made fun of me and called me names for my appearance and sexual orientation, and there were even a few physical encounters." (Serbia, Gay man, 17)

- Among young people (18-24), less people (41%) hide being LGBT at school. In 2012, it was 47%.
- ↑ 42% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Serbia say were hiding being LGBTI at school. This was 30% in the EU-28.
- ↓ 34% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Serbia 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.
- 60% of LGBTI teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Serbia say their peers or teachers have often or always supported LGBTI people. In the EU-28, this was 60%.
- ↓ 18% of LGBTI of teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Serbia say their school education at some point addressed LGBTI issues positively or in a balanced way. In the EU-28, this was 33%.