

# EU LGBTI survey II

## A long way to go for LGBTI equality

### Country data – Spain



#### 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 Spain 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 Spain 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

- ↓ 48% avoid often or always holding hands with their same-sex partner in Spain. For the EU-28, it is 61%.
- 32% in Spain avoid often or always certain locations for fear of being assaulted. For the EU-28, it is 33%.
- ↑ 53% are now fairly or very open about being LGBTI in Spain. For the EU-28, it is 47%.

## Discrimination

*"I left Spain after being fired for being transgender." (Spain, Trans woman, 41)*

- ➔ 21% felt discriminated against at work in the year before the survey in Spain. 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 Spain in 2019 42% 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

- ➔ 41% in Spain 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.
- ➔ 8% in Spain had been attacked in the 5 years before the survey. The EU-28 is 11%.

## Reporting of hate-motivated violence and discrimination

- ➔ 11% went to the police in Spain 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 Spain. For the EU-28, it is 11%.

## Intolerance and prejudice

*"It is very difficult to be honest with the owner of the apartment in which I live with my partner, since it creates insecurity by not knowing if we would continue renting the apartment to know it, so we always say that we are friends." (Spain, Lesbian woman, 21)*

- ➔ 43% in Spain say that LGBTI prejudice and intolerance has dropped in their country in the last five years. It is 40% across the EU-28.
- ➔ 36% in Spain say that prejudice and intolerance have risen. This is 36% for the EU-28.
- ↑ 43% in Spain believe their national government effectively combats prejudice and intolerance against LGBTI people. For the EU-28, it is 33%.

## Schooling

*"In my first Secondary School I suffered bullying and harassment by some of my classmates for being gay, at that time when I was realizing my tastes and my way of being. Nor did they ever educate us about it, they didn't teach us that sexual diversity exists." (Spain, Gay man, 24)*

*"I consider that in the schools or at least when I was going, there was no sexual education, nor anyone who explained to us that they were the acronym lgtbqi, so in the absence of information for many years I felt misunderstood." (Spain, Gay man, 28)*

*"I think there is a lack of education in schools, for children, about homophobia, diversity, human rights." (Spain, Gay man, 53)*

- Among young people (18-24), less people (41%) hide being LGBT at school. In 2012, it was 47%.
- ➔ 26% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Spain say were hiding being LGBTI at school. This was 30% in the EU-28.
- ↑ 66% of LGBTI students (15-17 years old) in Spain 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.
- ↑ 74% of LGBTI teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Spain say their peers or teachers have often or always supported LGBTI people. In the EU-28, this was 60%.
- ↑ 42% of LGBTI of teenager respondents (15-17 years old) in Spain 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**

*"My family does not know that I am bisexual. They believe they are "lgbti-friendly" but they are not. They also make inappropriate comments about lgtbi people on TV and then say they are only their opinion. But they don't know that their opinion hurts a lot because I am part of those people to whom they comment." (Spain, Bisexual woman, 18)*