



# INTERSECTIONS

DIVING INTO THE  
FRA LGBTI II  
SURVEY DATA

PERSONS WITH  
DISABILITIES  
BRIEFING

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*Intersectional analysis from findings of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) 2nd LGBTI survey on LGBTI people in the EU and North Macedonia and Serbia (2019)*

# Introduction

A significant number of EU citizens continue to experience discrimination, inequalities and violence based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or sex characteristics (SOGIESC). These problems undermine fundamental EU values and show how some Member States continue to fail to effectively protect the rights of all citizens and that more needs to be done both regarding legal protection as well as full implementation of existing laws protecting LGBTI people's human rights.

In 2019, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) conducted the second round of the LGBTI Survey which shows how LGBTI people experience their human and fundamental rights in daily life across Europe.[1]

This briefing, and other briefings in the Intersections[2] series, seeks to elaborate on the existing analysis of the FRA LGBTI Survey II, and summarises the most relevant data about the experiences of LGBTI persons with disabilities in Europe. To understand the challenges faced by LGBTI persons with disabilities, we created sub-populations of respondents with disabilities, and compared them with all respondents to the survey.

The methodology and background information on the survey are available in Annex 1.

## Key Findings

LGBTI people with disabilities face unique challenges and experiences compared to the all respondents. Demographically, a higher percentage of people with disabilities identified as trans, women, and non-binary compared to all respondents. They also had a higher rate of people identifying as bisexual and belonging to an ethnic minority. Socioeconomically, respondents with disabilities encountered greater difficulty in making ends meet, particularly trans women with disabilities who faced significant financial hardships. Moreover, people with intersecting identities, such as trans respondents with disabilities who identified as ethnic minorities or intersex respondents with disabilities, had a greater likelihood of experiencing homelessness.

In terms of healthcare, LGBTI persons with disabilities encountered barriers in accessing healthcare services, with trans women, intersex and non-binary individuals facing the highest levels of difficulty. They also reported higher rates of inappropriate curiosity or comments from healthcare providers. Discrimination was another major issue, with LGBTI people with disabilities experiencing higher levels of discrimination in various areas of life, including the workplace, healthcare or social services, and public establishments. Trans individuals, ethnic minorities, and trans women with disabilities faced the highest levels of discrimination, both overall and in specific contexts. Discrimination persisted regardless of individuals' openness about their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics.

LGBTI people with disabilities face higher levels of harassment and violence compared to all respondents. Intersex people, trans women and non-binary people with disabilities experience particularly high rates of harassment, including offensive comments in person and online. They are also more likely to be exposed to physical and sexual attacks, with almost half of the attacks involving a sexual component. Perpetrators of violence vary depending on the group, with family members, acquaintances, neighbours, and public servants being reported as common perpetrators.

## Recommendations

**Based on this analysis, ILGA-Europe and EDF recommend that States and institutions:**

- Systematically collect disaggregated equality data that includes sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics in relation to disability, socio-economic status, discrimination and violence
- Increase the visibility of LGBTI persons with disabilities and address the policy gaps they face, including in the implementation of the EU LGBTIQ Equality Strategy and the EU Strategy on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as in the implementation of national equality strategies
- Work closely with LGBTI persons with disabilities and organisations representing them in the development of laws and policies that concern them

## Results and Discussion

Respondents to the FRA LGBTI II Survey were asked questions about their identities and demographic information, socioeconomic status, parenthood, experiences with discrimination, violence, and harassment, and life satisfaction. In this briefing, we highlight key findings from the cross tabulation regarding the lived experiences of LGBTI persons with disabilities.

The disaggregated data from the FRA LGBTI II Survey reveals that LGBTI persons with disabilities are at higher risks of exclusion, discrimination, and violence, with trans persons with disabilities (especially trans women), intersex persons with disabilities and persons with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including of a migrant background) being the most marginalised.

This analysis confirms the importance to analyse and address the intersectional forms of discrimination, violence and abuses faced by LGBTI people, including the need to better include the disability perspective in the measures developed to guarantee the rights of LGBTI people and persons with disabilities.

The [full disaggregated data analysis](#) is available in table form

## Demographic Information

The total number of respondents of the FRA LGBTI II Survey was 139,799. From those responses, **7,019 (5.02%) were from people with disabilities.**

The survey asked respondents if they were a trans person, and stated that “the term trans is used in this survey as a broad umbrella term that includes all those who are transgender, non-binary, gender variant, polygender, agender, gender-fluid, cross dressers, transsexual, or men and women with a transsexual past, and other terms”<sup>[3]</sup>. 60.26% of people with disabilities identified with the gender they were assigned at birth (cisgender), while 39.74 % identified with a different gender (trans men, trans women, non-binary, genderqueer, gender-fluid, agender, polygender, or other). Compared to 14.51% of all responders, there are more people with disabilities identifying as trans. There were also more respondents with disabilities that were women and non-binary compared to all respondents of the survey (Table 1).

**Table 1. Answers to the question “How would you describe yourself today? [4]**

	All respondents	People with disabilities
Woman/girl	37,81%	39,48%
Man/boy	51,36%	33,33%
Trans woman/girl	1,84%	3,73%
Trans man/boy	1,90%	4,16%
Non-binary, etc.	6,22%	17,60%
Do not identify with any of these	0,86%	1,71%

When asked about their sexual orientation, respondents could describe it as “gay”, “lesbian”, “bisexual”, “heterosexual/straight”, “other”, or “unknown”. While 38.9% of the overall responses say they are bisexual, this number is much higher for persons with disabilities (46.36%). And 9.21% of persons with disabilities selected the “other” category, which is somewhat higher compared to overall respondents (Table 2).

<sup>[3]</sup> <https://www.ilga-europe.org/about-us/who-we-are/glossary/>

<sup>[4]</sup> Note that not all trans women and girls or men and boys selected “trans woman or girl” or “trans man or boy” for their identities; the majority selected “woman or girl” or “man or boy”, respectively, from the options available on this question.

**Table 2. Answers to the question “In terms of sexual orientation, we can only use a limited number of categories for our analysis. So, we would like to ask you which group best matches your sexual orientation. Select the answer that best matches your sexual orientation.”**

	All respondents	People with disabilities
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>0,06%</b>	<b>0,24%</b>
<b>Lesbian</b>	<b>19,86%</b>	<b>19,54%</b>
<b>Gay</b>	<b>36,96%</b>	<b>22,10%</b>
<b>Bisexual</b>	<b>38,90%</b>	<b>46,36%</b>
<b>Heterosexual/straight</b>	<b>1,59%</b>	<b>2,55%</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>2,63%</b>	<b>9,21%</b>

Out of all respondents with disabilities, 12.29% said they considered themselves as being part of an ethnic minority (including of a migrant background), compared to 7.71% of all LGBTI respondents. Also 6.51% of respondents with disabilities indicated that they are intersex, compared to 2.45% of all LGBTI respondents to the survey - a visibly higher percentage.

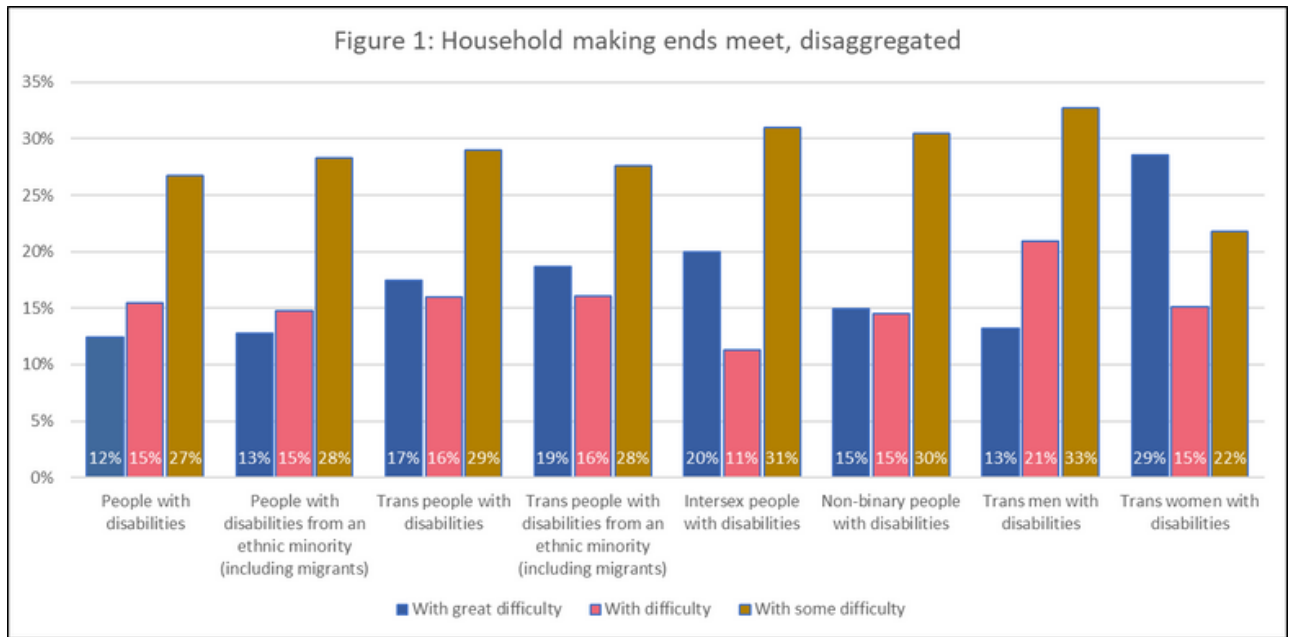
## Socioeconomic Status

### Poverty

In aggregate, persons with disabilities have more difficulty making ends meet than all respondents. When asked if their household total income met their needs, more than double the amount of LGBTI respondents with disabilities said they had greater difficulty in making ends meet than all respondents (12.42% and 5.15%, respectively).

The rates go up even higher for trans (17.44%) and intersex (19.94%) identified people with disabilities. Among trans identified respondents more than 1 in 4 (or 28.55%) trans women with disabilities have great difficulty in making ends meet, which is around five times higher than the rate amongst all respondents to the survey (5.15%).

Trans people with disabilities belonging to ethnic minorities (18.69%) say they face greater difficulty in making ends meet, compared to 12.42% of all respondents with disabilities.



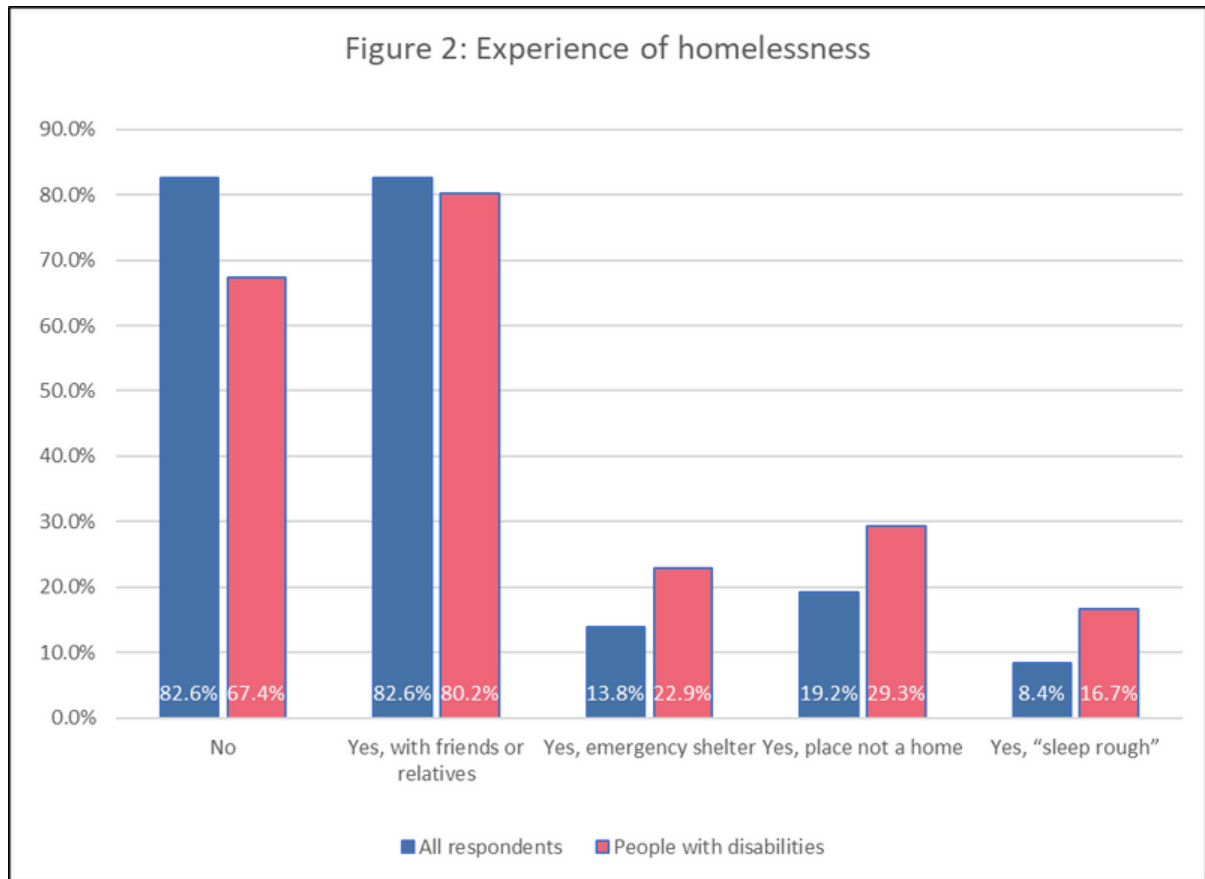
Alt text: Clustered column bar chart titled 'Figure 1. Household making ends meet: disaggregated.' The chart provides a breakdown of households based on their ability to make ends meet. The x-axis represents different respondent groups (trans women with disabilities, trans men with disabilities, genderqueer/non-binary persons with disabilities; intersex persons with disabilities, trans people with disabilities from an ethnic minority, all respondents with disabilities and all respondents), while the y-axis represents the percentage of households. The chart shows variations in the following categories: with great difficulty, with difficulty, and with some difficulty. The graph shows that people with disabilities have more difficulty in general, especially trans women with disabilities, intersex people with disabilities and trans people with disabilities from an ethnic minority.

**Table 2. Answers to the question “In terms of sexual orientation, we can only use a limited number of categories for our analysis. So, we would like to ask you which group best matches your sexual orientation. Select the answer that best matches your sexual orientation.”**

	All respondents	People with disabilities	People with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants)	Trans people with disabilities	Trans people with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants)	Intersex people with disabilities	Non-binary people with disabilities	Trans men with disabilities	Trans women with disabilities
With great difficulty	5%	12%	13%	17%	19%	20%	15%	13%	29%
With difficulty	9%	15%	15%	16%	16%	11%	15%	21%	15%
With some difficulty	23%	27%	28%	29%	28%	31%	30%	33%	22%

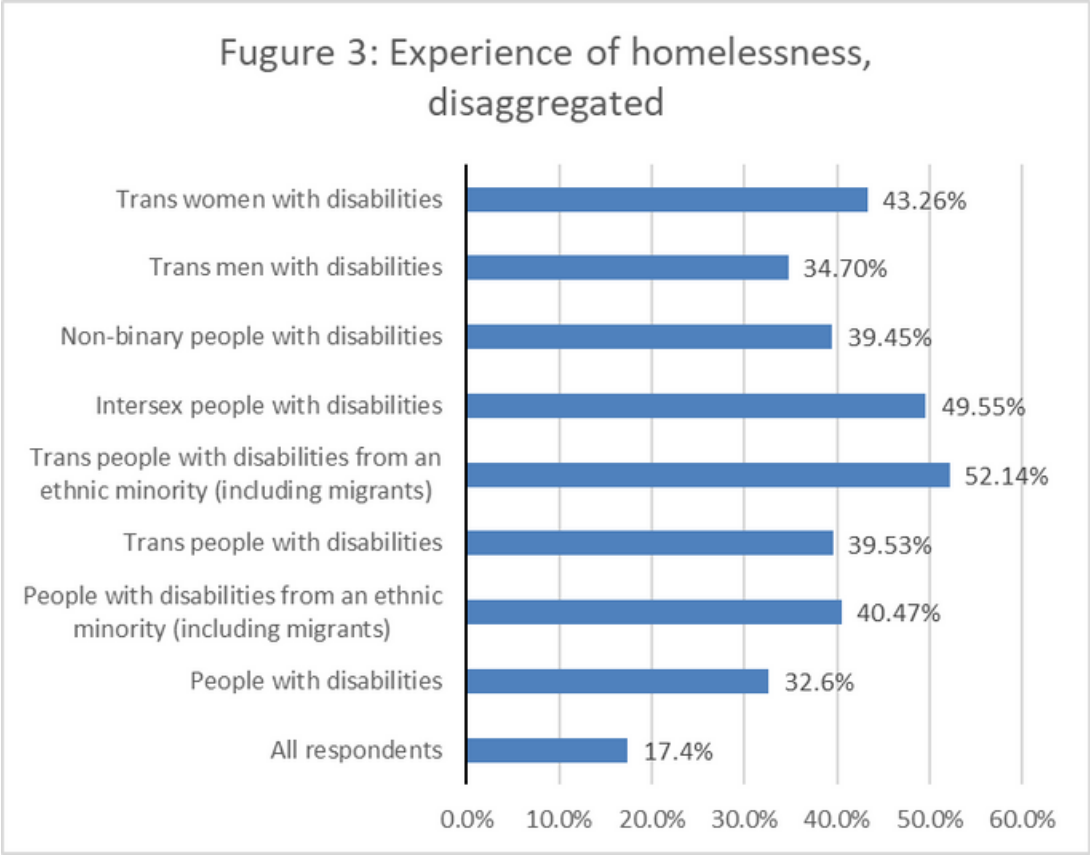
## Homelessness

Overall, persons with disabilities were nearly twice as likely to have experienced some type of homelessness in their lifetime compared to the average of all respondents' (32.64% as opposed to 17.39%). Twice as many respondents with disabilities had experienced "rough sleeping" (16.65% compared to 8.41% of all respondents), whereas the difference between rates of respondents saying they stayed with family and friends only varied slightly (80.19% and 82.61%, respectively).



Alt text: A clustered column bar chart representing the experience of homelessness. The chart displays the percentage of respondents in two categories: all respondents and people with disabilities. The x-axis represents different experiences of homelessness, including "No," "Yes, with friends or relatives," "Yes, emergency shelter," "Yes, place not a home," and "Yes, 'sleep rough'." The y-axis represents the percentage range from 0% to 100%. The chart indicates that among all respondents, 82.61% answered "No" to experiencing homelessness, while 67.36% of people with disabilities answered the same. Additionally, 82.61% of all respondents and 80.19% of people with disabilities reported experiencing homelessness with friends or relatives. The percentage of all respondents who experienced homelessness in an emergency shelter was 13.81%, compared to 22.86% of people with disabilities. Similarly, 19.19% of all respondents and 29.27% of people with disabilities reported experiencing homelessness in a place that was not a home. Finally, 8.41% of all respondents and 16.65% of people with disabilities reported experiencing homelessness by "sleeping rough."

When compared to all respondents and all respondents with disabilities, people with intersecting identities experienced a greater level of some type of homelessness in their lifetime (Figure 3). Among them, a striking higher experience rate of homelessness can be found amongst trans respondents with disabilities identifying as ethnic minority (52.14%) and intersex respondents with disabilities (49.55%) compared to all respondents (17.39%).

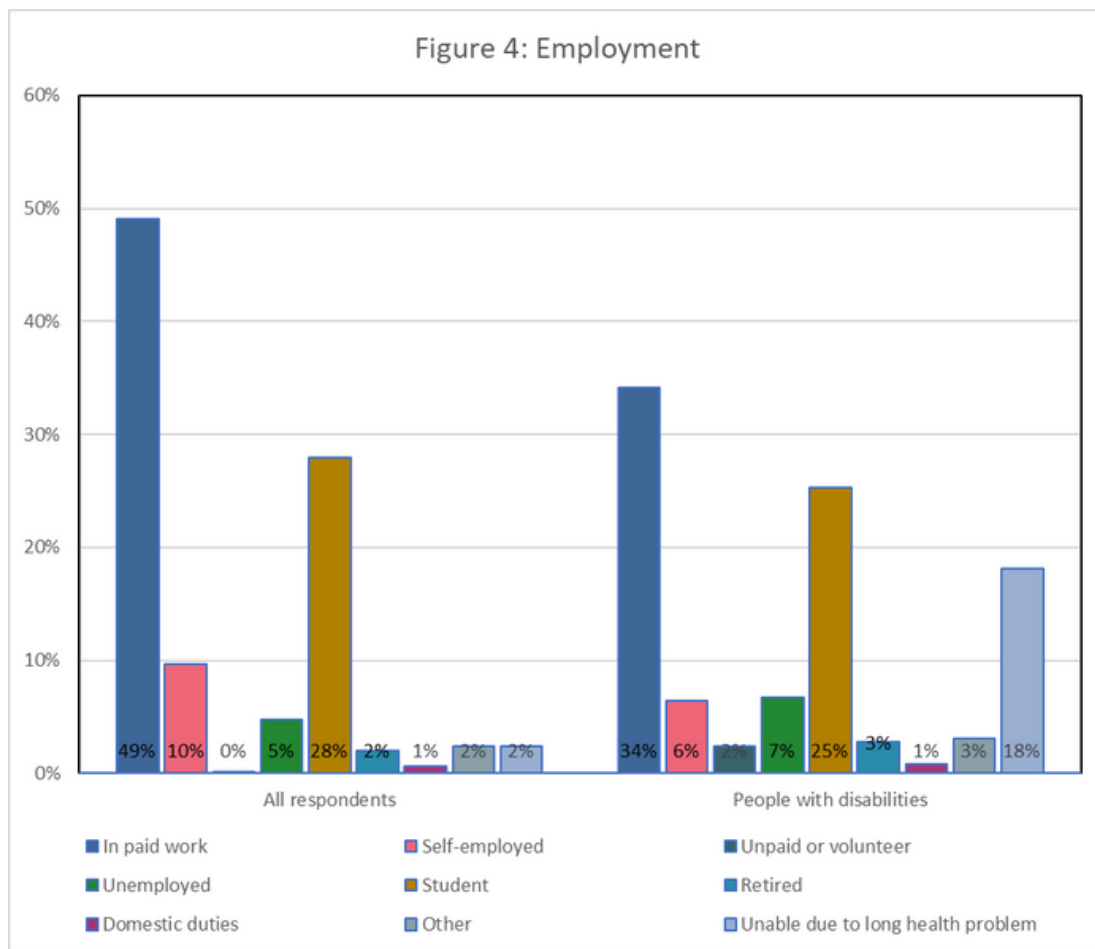


Alt text: A clustered bar chart representing the experience of homelessness disaggregated by different demographic groups. The chart displays the percentage of respondents in various categories, including all respondents, people with disabilities, people with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants), trans people with disabilities, trans people with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants), intersex people with disabilities, non-binary people with disabilities, trans men with disabilities, and trans women with disabilities. The x-axis represents the different demographic groups, and the y-axis represents the percentage range from 0% to 100%. The chart indicates that 17.39% of all respondents answered "Yes" to experiencing homelessness. Among people with disabilities, 32.64% reported experiencing homelessness, while among people with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants), the percentage was higher at 40.47%. For trans people with disabilities, the percentage experiencing homelessness was 39.53%, and for trans people with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants), it was even higher at 52.14%. Among intersex people with disabilities, the percentage was 49.55%, and among non-binary people with disabilities, it was 39.45%. Additionally, 34.70% of trans men with disabilities and 43.26% of trans women with disabilities reported experiencing homelessness.



## Employment

Respondents were asked about their type of employment. People with disabilities were less likely to be in paid work than the total respondent population (34.15% and 49.06%, respectively), but instead they were more likely to be engaged in unpaid or voluntary work (2.37%, compared to an overall average of 0.09%) not able to work due to long term health problems (18.10% compared to 2.35% overall). Further disaggregated data on employment shows a more complicated picture in terms of access to the labour market, with trans persons with disabilities, and persons with disabilities who are both trans and of an ethnic minority (including of a migrant background) being even more less likely to be in paid work and more likely to be unable to work due to a long-term health problem. Notably, trans women with disabilities are about four times more likely to be unemployed (16.76%) and be engaged in domestic duties (4.14%) compared to all respondents (4.78% and 0.60%, respectively).



Alt text: A clustered column chart representing the employment status of respondents. The chart displays the percentage of respondents in two categories: all respondents and people with disabilities. The x-axis represents different employment categories, including "In paid work," "Self-employed," "Unpaid or volunteer," "Unemployed," "Student," "Retired," "Unable due to long health problem," "Domestic duties," and "Other." The y-axis represents the percentage range from 0% to 100%. The chart indicates that among all respondents, 49.06% are in paid work, while 34.15% of people with disabilities are employed in the same category. (Continued on next page.)

*Alt text continued: The percentage of self-employed individuals is 9.67% among all respondents and 6.46% among people with disabilities. Additionally, 0.09% of all respondents and 2.37% of people with disabilities report being in unpaid or volunteer positions. The percentage of unemployed individuals is 4.78% among all respondents and slightly higher at 6.75% among people with disabilities. Among the respondents, 27.92% are students, while 25.31% of people with disabilities are in the same category. Furthermore, 1.98% of all respondents and 2.80% of people with disabilities are retired. The percentage of individuals unable to work due to a long health problem is 2.35% among all respondents and significantly higher at 18.10% among people with disabilities. Domestic duties account for 0.60% of all respondents and 0.81% of people with disabilities. Finally, other employment categories make up 2.42% of all respondents and 3.09% of people with disabilities.*

## **Access to healthcare services**

The survey asked respondents if they experienced difficulties when using or trying to access healthcare services.

Overall, LGBTI persons with disabilities faced higher levels of various types of difficulties in accessing healthcare services. Trans women and intersex people with disabilities face the highest level of difficulties of gaining access to healthcare services, changing providers, being pressured to undergo treatment or their specific needs being ignored by healthcare service providers.

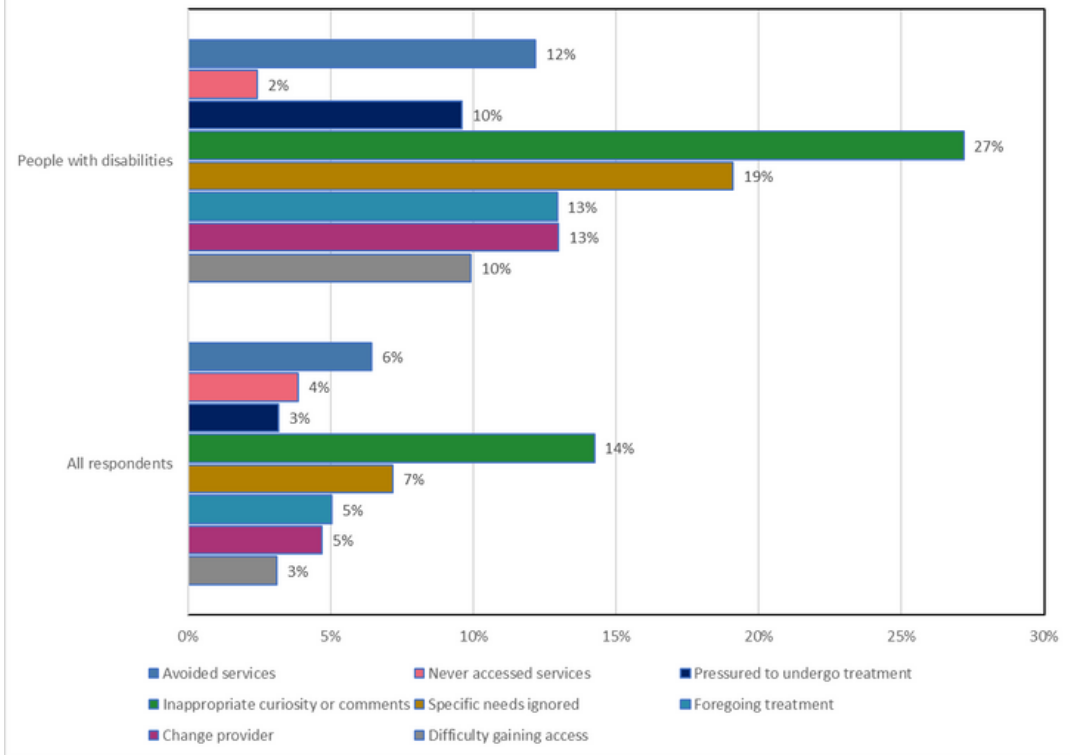
Trans and intersex people with disabilities face higher levels of inappropriate curiosity or comments; strikingly, almost half of trans men (46.90%) and trans women with disabilities (41.64%) experience inappropriate curiosity or comments from healthcare providers. For intersex people with disabilities the rate is 39.42%.

Compared to other respondents with disabilities, a slightly bigger number of intersex people with disabilities have never accessed health care services (4.70% compared to 2.42%).

Responds with disabilities also reported increased pressure to undergo treatment (9.30% comparing to 3.18 of the average of all respondents), with highest rates of trans women with disabilities (30.78%), intersex persons with disabilities (25.85%) and trans men with disabilities (22.47%) reporting such pressure.

Respondents were asked if they felt discriminated against because of their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or sex characteristics in several areas of life. The share of LGBTI persons with disabilities that felt discriminated against by healthcare or social services personnel is 33.25% compared to 15.73% of all respondents. This share is much higher for trans and ethnic minority people with disabilities (66.40%), trans women with disabilities (61.44%), trans men with disabilities (53.04%) and intersex people with disabilities (51.95%).

Figure 5: Difficulties, when using or trying to access healthcare services



Alt text: A clustered bar chart representing the difficulties encountered when using or trying to access healthcare services. The chart displays the percentage of respondents in two categories: all respondents and people with disabilities. The x-axis represents different difficulties, including "Difficulty gaining access," "Change provider," "Foregoing treatment," "Specific needs ignored," "Inappropriate curiosity or comments," "Pressured to undergo treatment," "Never accessed services," and "Avoided services." The y-axis represents the percentage range from 0% to 100%. The chart indicates that among all respondents, 3.12% reported difficulty gaining access to healthcare services, while 9.92% of people with disabilities encountered the same issue. The percentage of respondents who had to change providers is 4.71% among all respondents and 12.99% among people with disabilities. Additionally, 5.05% of all respondents and 12.94% of people with disabilities reported foregoing treatment. Among respondents, 7.18% stated that their specific needs were ignored, whereas among people with disabilities, the percentage was higher at 19.09%. Furthermore, 14.24% of all respondents and 27.18% of people with disabilities experienced inappropriate curiosity or comments. The percentage of respondents feeling pressured to undergo treatment was 3.18% among all respondents and 9.60% among people with disabilities. Moreover, 3.86% of all respondents and 2.42% of people with disabilities reported never accessing healthcare services. Lastly, 6.44% of all respondents and 12.17% of people with disabilities stated that they had avoided healthcare services.

## Experiences of discrimination

The survey asked respondents if they felt discriminated against for being LGBTI in several areas of life, during the last 12 months. Overall, LGBTI people with disabilities experienced higher levels of discrimination in all areas of life compared to all respondents. Over a third of LGBTI people with disabilities felt discriminated against at work (33.48%) and by healthcare or social services personnel (33.25%), and almost one third felt discriminated against at cafes, bars and restaurants (29.47%) compared to all respondents (20.83%, 15.73% and 22.47%, respectively).

Within the group of respondents with disabilities, all trans people<sup>[5]</sup> and ethnic minorities and trans women face the highest level of discrimination in all areas of life. Discrimination against trans men and trans and ethnic minority people with disabilities is highest when looking for work (over 50% compared to 10.17% of all respondents), while trans women face higher levels of discrimination when at work (49.9% compared to 20.83% of all respondents), preceded by none-cis and ethnic minority people with disabilities (53.95%).

As shown in Table 3, people with disabilities face higher levels of discrimination regardless of their openness about their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics, when compared to all respondents.

**Table 4. Answers to the question “During the last 12 months, have you personally felt discriminated against because of being [RESPONDENT CATEGORY] in any of the following situations.”**

	All respondents	People with disabilities	Never	Rarely	Fairly	Very
Looking for work	10,17%	22,82%	20,04%	22,90%	25,21%	22,79%
At work	20,83%	33,48%	36,86%	31,54%	35,13%	29,18%
Looking for housing	10,95%	19,01%	17,43%	16,87%	23,61%	18,11%
Healthcare or social services	15,73%	33,25%	32,02%	33,04%	35,79%	31,92%
School	19,51%	30,05%	35,17%	30,79%	29,78%	21,95%
Cafe, restaurant, bar	22,47%	29,47%	27,13%	32,15%	29,96%	28,90%
Shop	13,08%	22,06%	21,06%	20,60%	23,39%	23,34%
Showing ID	4,66%	14,74%	16,46%	14,94%	14,77%	12,47%

## Disability analysis lens on socio-economic status and discrimination

When looking at the socio-economic situation of LGBTI persons with disabilities, it is important to keep in mind that people with different types of disability are likely to experience different rates of exclusion and discrimination. Inaccessibility and failure to provide reasonable accommodation violate the rights of persons with disabilities, such as the right to equality and non-discrimination, right to work and right to the highest standard of health. In addition, it keeps people already discriminated against in an even worse situation when they seek to access support services - for example a wheelchair user experiencing homelessness who cannot access a shelter because it has multiple staircases or a deafblind person who will be systematic excluded from society without the support of a deafblind sign interpreter.

In relation to work, it is important to note that the Fundamental Rights Agency survey did not include information on the type of work undertaken by the respondents, including part time work, unpaid work and work in sheltered workshops.[6] According to EU level data, persons with disabilities are more likely to be in part time work and in work poverty than those without disabilities, particularly women with disabilities. Statistics from a study by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) point to the fact that, in the EU, a mere 29% of men with disabilities and 20% of women with disabilities are working full time[7]. In addition, persons with disabilities might also find themselves working in sheltered workshops with pay below the minimum wage, and sometimes with almost no pay at all nor the protection usually afforded to workers in their respective countries. 10.7% of persons with disabilities in the EU who do in fact manage to find work, experience in-work poverty in the EU[8]. In many cases, this is worsened by the fact that disability allowance, intended to cover the extra cost of living that often comes with having a disability, is either cut or significantly reduced when a person starts working, and a salary alone is rarely enough to make ends meet. This is particularly the case given that persons with disabilities, and particularly women with disabilities, consistently earn lower wages than persons without disabilities[4].[9]

[6] Sheltered workshop refers to an organisation or environment that employs persons with disabilities separately from others, usually with exemptions from labour standards, including but not limited to the absence of minimum wage requirements.

[7] This data is from the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) Gender Equality Index 2021. The Full-Time Equivalent Employment Rate unit is obtained by comparing each worker's average number of hours worked with the average number of hours worked by a full-time worker. The original source of EIGE's calculated data is the EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU SILC) microdata 2019.

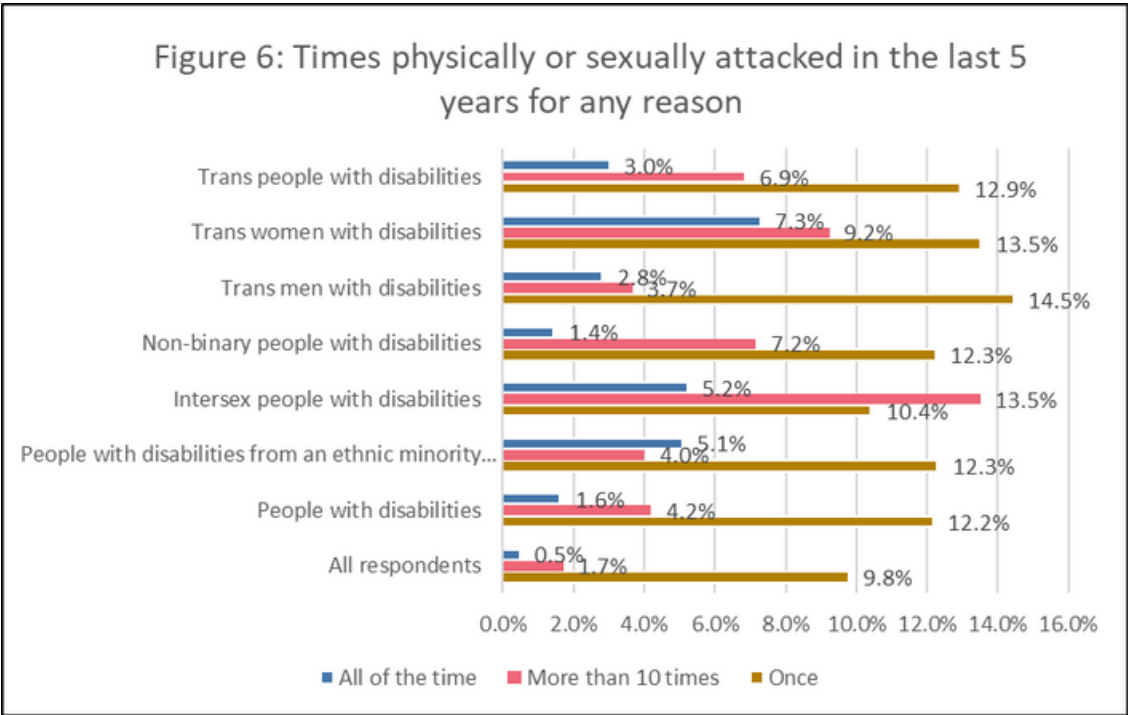
[8] [Disability statistics - poverty and income inequalities - Statistics Explained \(europa.eu\)](#)

[9] This data was taken from the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) Gender Equality Index 2021. The mean equivalised net income is an indicator of financial resources that includes pensions, investments, benefits, and other sources in addition to paid work. The indicator is expressed in the purchasing power standard (PPS), an artificial currency that accounts for price differences between member states. The original source of EIGE's calculated data is from the EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU SILC) microdata 2019. <https://www.edf-feph.org/content/uploads/2022/09/EDF-recommendations-on-employment-of-women-with-disabilities-September-2022-final.pdf>

# Experiences of hate-motivated violence and harassment

## Experiences of violence

The survey asked respondents whether they had been physically or sexually attacked in the last five years. Over a third of respondents with disabilities indicate that they have been physically or sexually attacked (38.66% compared to 24.34% of all LGBTI respondents). Intersex people with disabilities and trans women with disabilities were 10 times more likely to be exposed to an attack than all LGBTI respondents. Noteworthy that trans women with disabilities stated that they experience physical and sexual attacks all the time (Figure 6).



Alt text: A clustered bar chart illustrating the frequency of physical or sexual attacks experienced by respondents in the last 5 years for any reason. The chart presents data for different groups: all respondents, people with disabilities, people with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants), intersex people with disabilities, non-binary people with disabilities, trans men with disabilities, trans women with disabilities, and trans people with disabilities. The x-axis represents the frequency categories, including "Once," "More than 10 times," and "All of the time." The y-axis represents the percentage range from 0% to 100%. The chart shows that among all respondents, 9.78% experienced such attacks once, while the percentages were higher for people with disabilities (12.18%), people with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants) (12.30%), intersex people with disabilities (10.42%), non-binary people with disabilities (12.25%), trans men with disabilities (14.45%), trans women with disabilities (13.53%), and trans people with disabilities (12.94%). Furthermore, 1.71% of all respondents experienced such attacks more than 10 times, with higher percentages for people with disabilities (4.19%), people with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants) (4.01%), intersex people with disabilities (13.50%), non-binary people with disabilities (7.16%), trans men with disabilities (3.67%), trans women with disabilities (9.24%), and trans people with disabilities (6.86%). Additionally, 0.48% of all respondents reported experiencing such attacks all of the time, with higher percentages for people with disabilities (1.62%), people with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants) (5.09%), intersex people with disabilities (5.23%), non-binary people with disabilities (1.44%), trans men with disabilities (2.82%), trans women with disabilities (7.28%), and trans people with disabilities (3.01%).

Almost 1 in 2 attacks experienced by people with disabilities involved a sexual component (either being a “sexual attack” or a “physical and sexual attack”) (45.87%<sup>[10]</sup>), compared to 28.42% of all LGBTI respondents, meaning that the exposure to sexual violence is considerably higher for people with disabilities than for the overall LGBTI populations. This is further exacerbated for trans men with disabilities (60.18%), intersex people with disabilities (56.05%) and trans women with disabilities (52.43%).

When asked who attacked them, many respondents with disabilities reported higher exposure to attacks from someone close to them or someone they know, from public servants and/or members of extremist/racist groups than compared to all other respondents (Table 4).

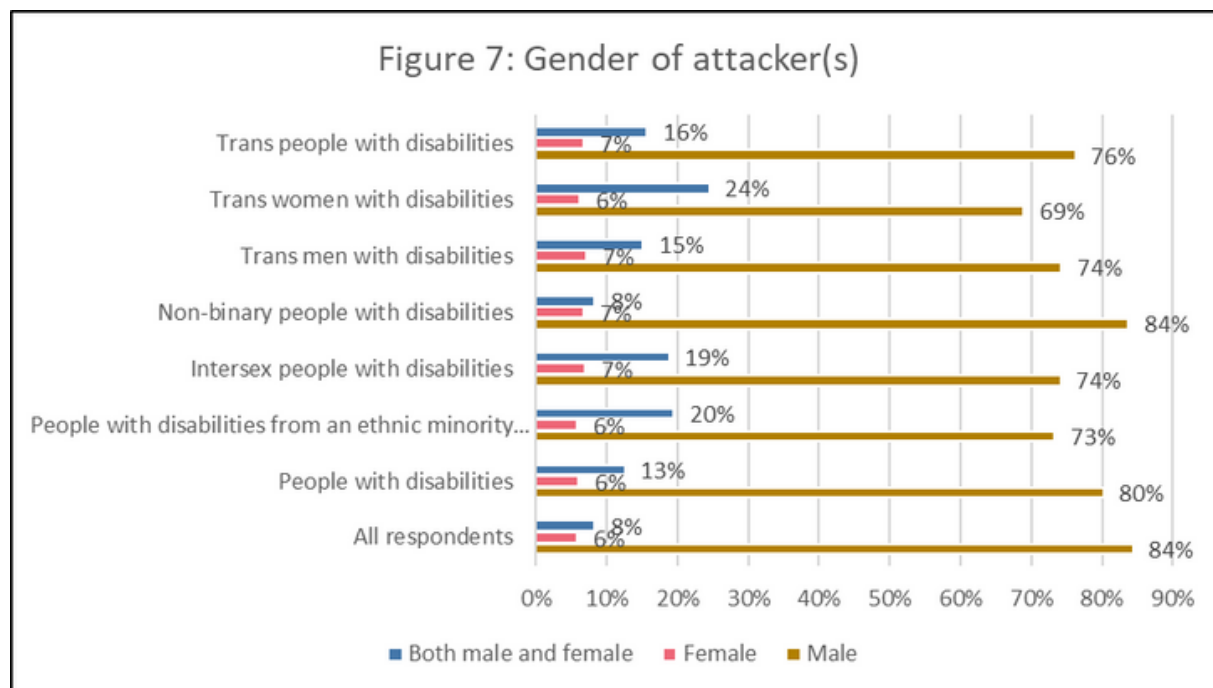
Further disaggregation of data on perpetrators of violence against LGBTI people with disabilities shows that the rates of violence and the identity of the perpetrator vary depending on the group at stake.

- Trans men and intersex people reported the highest rates of violence at the hands of family members (14.21% and 13.01%, respectively) compared to all respondents (6.31%).
- Trans men and all trans people reported the highest rates of attacks by acquaintances and friends (25.63% and 12.06% respectively) compared to overall respondents (7.54%).
- Trans women with disabilities experienced the highest levels of attacks by neighbours (10.83%), police officers or border guards (13.22%) or other public servants (11.66%).
- Persons with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including from migrant background) are highly likely to experience attack by members of extremist/racist groups or someone they know (other than family member, neighbour or acquaintance or friend).

**Table 5. Answers to the question “Who did this to you?”**

	All respondents	People with disabilities	People with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants)	Intersex people with disabilities	Non-binary people with disabilities	Trans men with disabilities	Trans women with disabilities	Trans people with disabilities
Family member	6,31%	7,50%	8,04%	13,01%	9,12%	14,21%	3,84%	7,71%
Neighbour	2,97%	5,76%	7,92%	5,38%	5,39%	3,72%	10,83%	7,25%
Acquaintance or friend	7,54%	10,80%	9,48%	10,12%	11,50%	25,63%	7,69%	12,06%
Member of extremist/racist group	6,94%	8,64%	10,10%	6,88%	10,45%	9,25%	9,99%	10,10%
Police officer or border guard	2,49%	5,18%	6,21%	12,63%	4,26%	3,29%	13,22%	7,64%
Other public servant	1,51%	3,26%	4,65%	0,84%	1,23%	3,36%	11,66%	5,70%
Someone else known	6,24%	8,64%	12,66%	4,30%	8,66%	10,42%	13,13%	10,63%
Someone else unknown	50,01%	46,67%	36,14%	39,88%	53,93%	31,72%	47,93%	47,67%

When it comes to the place where the attack happened, LGBTI people with disabilities are slightly more likely to experience violence at their home (13.73%) compared to overall respondents (9.14%) and three times more likely to experience violence in healthcare settings (2.67%) compared to overall respondents (0.64%). When asked the gender of the attacker(s), a wide majority of respondents with disabilities reported that attacker(s) as male (80.24%). However, a slightly higher number of respondents with disabilities reported both female and male (12.55%) compared to all LGBTI respondents (8.35%). Almost one in four (24.49%) trans women reported that perpetrators were both female and male.



*Alt text: A clustered bar chart depicting the gender distribution of attacker(s) as reported by different groups. The chart showcases the percentages for each gender category among all respondents and specific subgroups, including people with disabilities, people with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants), intersex people with disabilities, non-binary people with disabilities, trans men with disabilities, trans women with disabilities, and trans people with disabilities.*

*The chart reveals that among all respondents, the majority (84.40%) reported that their attackers were male. This trend was consistent across most groups, with percentages ranging from 73.28% to 83.76%. Females were identified as attackers by a smaller percentage overall, ranging from 5.88% to 7.11%.*

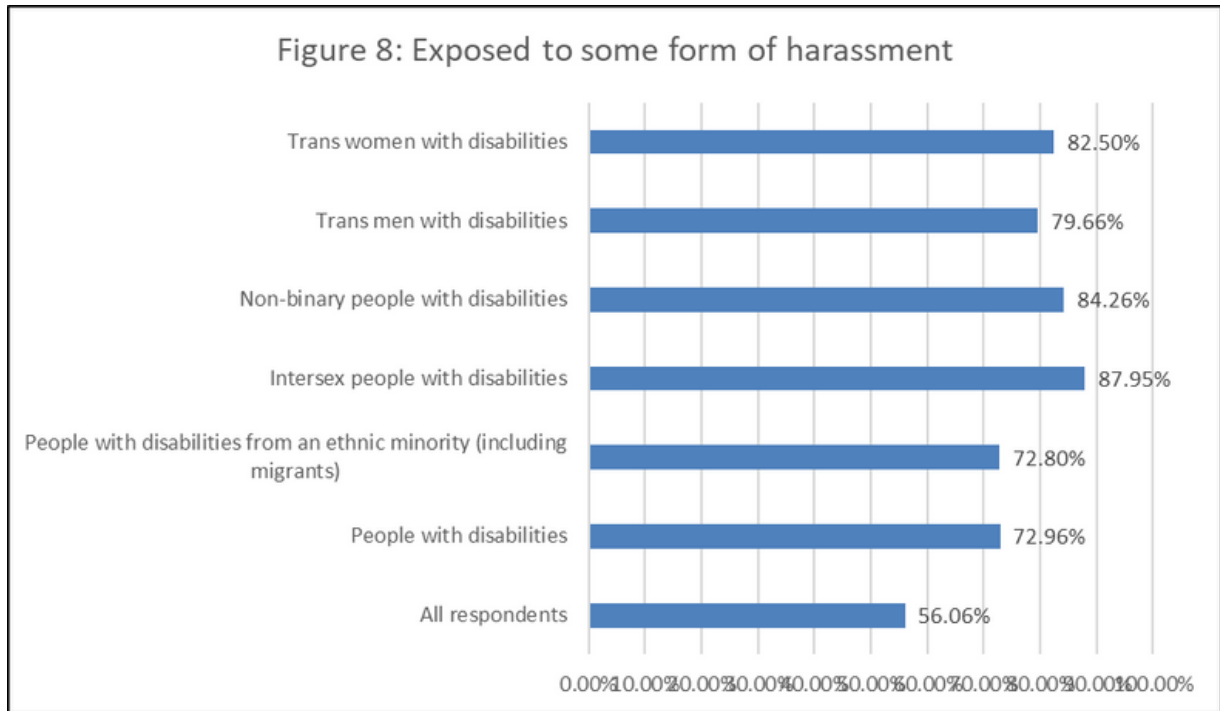
*Furthermore, a noteworthy finding emerged among certain subgroups. People with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants) reported a higher percentage (19.50%) of attacks perpetrated by both male and female individuals. Similar patterns were observed among intersex people with disabilities (18.88%) and trans women with disabilities (24.49%). Trans people with disabilities, as a whole, reported higher percentages of attacks by both male and female individuals compared to other groups.*

When asked if they had reported the attack, the reporting rate of LGBTI people with disabilities (27.86%) is slightly higher than for all respondents (20.75%). Notably, intersex people, trans women and ethnic minority people report attacks more than others and the police is where most respondents with disabilities go to report an attack, followed by LGBTI organisations and hospitals.



## Experiences of harassment

When it comes to harassment, LGBTI people with disabilities experiencing intersectional marginalisation were more likely to have experienced harassment than LGBTI people with disabilities in general or the total population (Figure 8). Respondents reported harassment from offensive comments or threats in person, as well as online violence via text or online comments.



Alt text: A clustered bar chart illustrating the percentages of individuals exposed to some form of harassment. The chart represents different groups, including all respondents, people with disabilities, people with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants), intersex people with disabilities, non-binary people with disabilities, trans men with disabilities, and trans women with disabilities.

The chart displays the extent of exposure to harassment among these groups. Among all respondents, 56.06% reported experiencing some form of harassment. People with disabilities had a higher percentage, with 72.96% indicating exposure to harassment. People with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants) reported a similar percentage of 72.80%. Intersex people with disabilities had the highest percentage of exposure to harassment, at 87.95%. Non-binary people with disabilities reported a substantial percentage of 84.26%, while trans men with disabilities reported 79.66%. Trans women with disabilities also had a notable percentage of exposure to harassment, at 82.50%.

Intersex people with disabilities and trans women with disabilities are subject to more harassment than any other group across the board. The difference among different groups of people with disabilities was particularly stark when it comes to offensive comments in person and online; while 58.38% of all LGBTI people with disabilities experienced harassment in the form of threatening comments in person and 22.12% online, this jumped to 71.20% and 41.25% for intersex people with disabilities and 70.49% and 31.52% for trans women with disabilities.

**Table 6. What kind of harassment in the last 5 years for any reason?**

	All respondents	People with disabilities	People with disabilities from an ethnic minority (including migrants)	Intersex people with disabilities	Non-binary people with disabilities	Trans men with disabilities	Trans women with disabilities
Offensive comments in person	41,86%	58,38%	57,88%	71,20%	68,53%	65,88%	70,49%
Threatened violence in person	12,98%	24,23%	32,93%	45,82%	31,24%	24,82%	37,37%
Inappropriate gestures in person	34,23%	48,76%	53,60%	63,53%	65,35%	49,08%	63,84%
Loitered, waited or followed you	10,57%	20,67%	26,29%	39,98%	30,30%	21,68%	32,89%
Sent emails or texts	9,96%	19,02%	23,01%	27,90%	23,01%	21,92%	27,05%
Posted threatening comments online	10,07%	22,12%	26,13%	41,25%	30,25%	27,57%	31,52%
None of these	43,94%	27,04%	27,20%	12,05%	15,74%	20,34%	17,50%

Intersex people with disabilities were also two times more likely to be harassed by a family member than overall respondents (13.09% and 6.30%, respectively) and trans women with disabilities were almost twice as likely to be harassed by a neighbour than all LGBTI people with disabilities (7.98% and 3.62% respectively).

People with disabilities report harassment slightly more often compared to all respondents (13,55% and 9,27%, respectively). Trans women with disabilities (21,65%) and intersex people with disabilities (18,74%) were the most likely to report being harassed; somewhat higher compared to 13,55% of people with disabilities in general, who reported harassment, including 17,24% ethnic minority people with disabilities (including of a migrant background), 14,49% of all trans people with disabilities.

## Disability analysis lens on violence and harassment

In addition to the forms of violence covered by the survey, persons with disabilities, including LGBTI persons with disabilities are also at risk of disability specific violence. Disability specific violence may include restraint, sexual abuse during daily hygiene routines, removal or control of communication aids, violence in the course of treatment, overmedication or withholding medication. Perpetrators often take advantage of the barriers and discrimination faced by persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities, deafblind persons, and persons with high support needs. Persons identifying as women with disabilities often face a higher rate of disability-specific violence.[1]

Such forms of violence are highly likely to take place in closed-settings, including institutions and residential care for persons with disabilities and older persons, as well as in psychiatric institutions. Unfortunately, very little research and data are available on violence in institutions and other closed-settings.[1] The FRA survey did not collect information about LGBTI persons with disabilities in institutions.

It is particularly concerning that some forms of violence are supported by States' laws and policies such as forced treatment and placement in psychiatry,[1] and the violation of the sexual and reproductive health and rights of persons with disabilities, including forced contraception, forced sterilisation and forced abortion. At least 13 EU Member States still authorise the forced sterilisation of persons with disabilities, especially those with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities.[1]

Finally, persons with disabilities continue to face many barriers to report violence and access justice, especially because of lack of awareness about their rights, inaccessibility, lack of reasonable and procedural accommodations, double-victimisation and stereotypes based on their disability. Reporting mechanisms, police offices, and court buildings are often not accessible to persons with disabilities. For instance, a police station may not be accessible for someone using a wheelchair, or emergency number not accessible for Deaf and deafblind persons. Persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities, in particular those placed under guardianship and other regimes depriving them of their legal capacity, and deafblind persons are particularly at risk of facing difficulties to identify and report violence.

## Annex 1: Methodology and survey background information

### Background: FRA LGBTI II Survey 2019

The statistics used to write this brief come from the 2019 EU LGBTI II Survey conducted by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. The survey was open to individuals who were 15 years of age or older who self-identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and/or intersex. The survey was conducted online in 27 EU Member States, the UK, Serbia and North Macedonia between May and July of 2019. The respondents were asked a series of questions about their lived experiences, including information about their experiences of discrimination, harassment, violence, openness about their sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex characteristics, experiences in education and at work, their relationships and parenting, health, housing difficulties, living conditions and socio-economic status.

### Representativeness of the results used in the report

The survey was available to LGBTI people who had access to the internet. As such, the survey did not provide a random sampling of LGBTI people, which would have made it representative of the LGBTI community in Europe. However, the weighting scheme developed by FRA (2019), which adjusts the response numbers to better represent the LGBTI population as a whole across participating member states, was applied to the data in this analysis so the results presented in the report are as representative of the population as possible.

### Sample

This briefing provides information on LGBTI people with disabilities, which was a subset from the entire sample of respondents resulting in a sample size of 7,019 (5.02% of the total respondent population of 139,799 respondents). The subsetting process followed a procedure of selecting respondents, who identified themselves having a disability.

### Statistical methods

The report is based on descriptive statistics extracted from the survey. The primary method used is cross tabulations, which is used to quantitatively analyse the relationship between multiple variables.