

- **The European Union LGBTIQ Survey 2023**

- **30 countries – 32 languages**

*Milica Pavlov, LGBTIQ Survey project manager*

- **The themes**
  - **The methodology**
  - **The data: (past) results and trends**

# •EU LGBTIQ Survey 2023

[www.lgbtiqsurvey.eu](http://www.lgbtiqsurvey.eu)



TIME FOR CHANGE



# EU LGBTIQ SURVEY III 2023

June-July 2023

Online at [www.lgbtiqsurvey.eu](http://www.lgbtiqsurvey.eu)

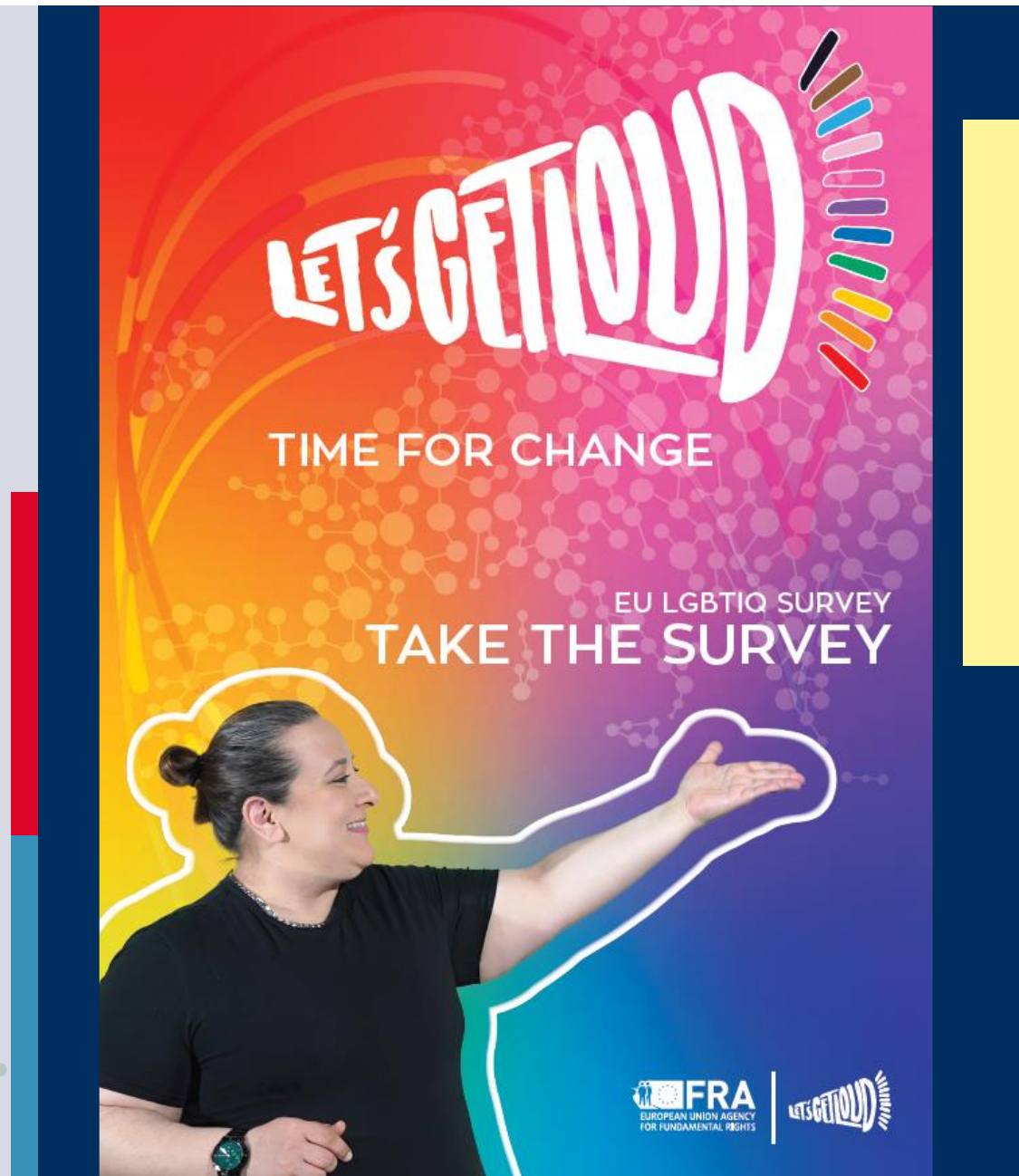
Results: first half of 2024

## Surveying

- lesbian women
- gay men
- bisexual women & men
- Trans & gender diverse people
- Intersex & queer

above 15 years old in 30 countries

- the 27 EU Member States, plus, Albania, North Macedonia and Serbia
- in 31 languages
  - Albanian, Bulgarian, Catalan, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Luxembourgish, Macedonian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian (in both Latin and Cyrillic alphabet), Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish (Castilian), Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian



## The EU LGBTIQ Survey:

- Is the largest survey of its kind – in 2019 it surveyed 140.000 respondents in 30 countries.
- Collects the views and life experiences of discrimination, victimisation, health, and living conditions of LGBTIQ persons
- Provides trends and valuable data to assess the situation on the ground and what needs to be done.
- Informs and supports the European Union & Member States policies
  - The EU LGBTIQ Strategy 2020-2025
  - Th Member States policies and Action Plans



[www.lgbtiqsurvey.eu](http://www.lgbtiqsurvey.eu)

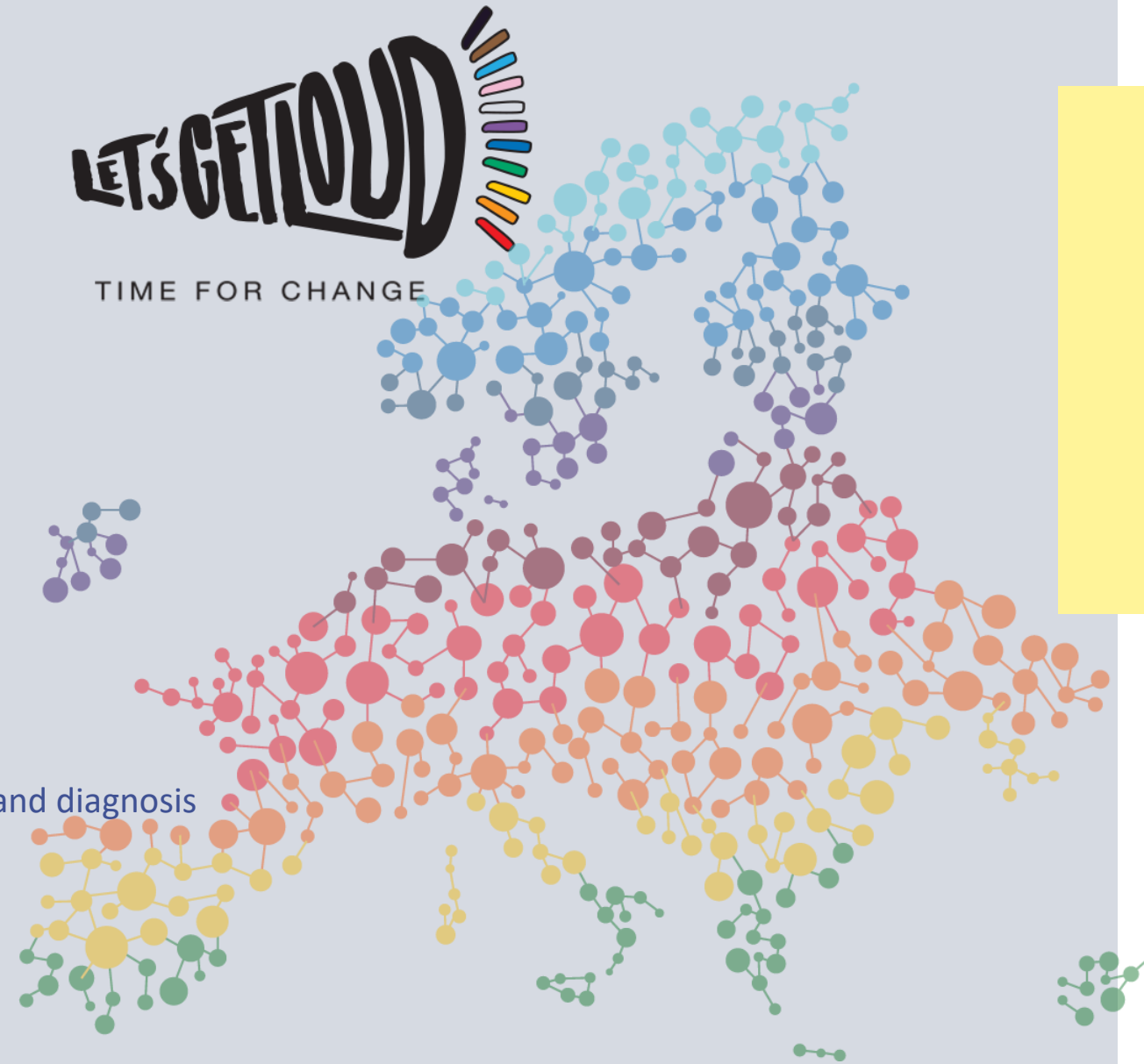




# The EU LGBTIQ Survey 2023

Asks questions about life experiences of LGBTIQ people:

- Discrimination
- Violence and harassment
- Victim support and reporting
- Safety and societal participation
- Healthcare, mental health and well-being
- Workplace and education experiences
- Homelessness
- Freedom of movement
- Self-perceived health, mental health and life satisfaction
- conversion practices
- online hatred
- cancer diagnosis, treatment and prevention, HIV prevention and diagnosis
- mental health and suicide statistics
- rainbow families and parenthood
- police complaint handling and victim support
- intersectional identities and experiences
- Trends and government responses to intolerance and violence



# The FRA EU LGBTIQ Online survey - methodology

- Self-selected sample In 30 countries and 32 languages
- Completely anonymous ( no data stored)
- Facilitates spontaneous and unobstructed survey completion (random access, extensive campaigns, mainstream, local storage and accessible
- Key: large survey promotion plans and campaigns targeting wider audiences, 'virality', mainstream impact and more random access by respondents. Data protection challenges
- Sample design based on past research and most recent census (UK, MT) + US data
- Weighting approach balancing for over- and under-represented LGBTIQ and age groups in different European countries – key element of weighting affiliation propensity, ensuring that activist respondents are not overrepresented reaching out to a wider respondent spectrum
- Reaching out to very large numbers (2019: 140.000) allowing for weighting and achieving a reliable survey dataset very close to representative surveys.
- Tackling problems and biases of face-to-face or 'panel'-like online surveys for LGBTIQ people
- Subject to attacks and falsification attempts (from troll factories, foreign actors, hate groups, intragroup tensions) Requires highly security



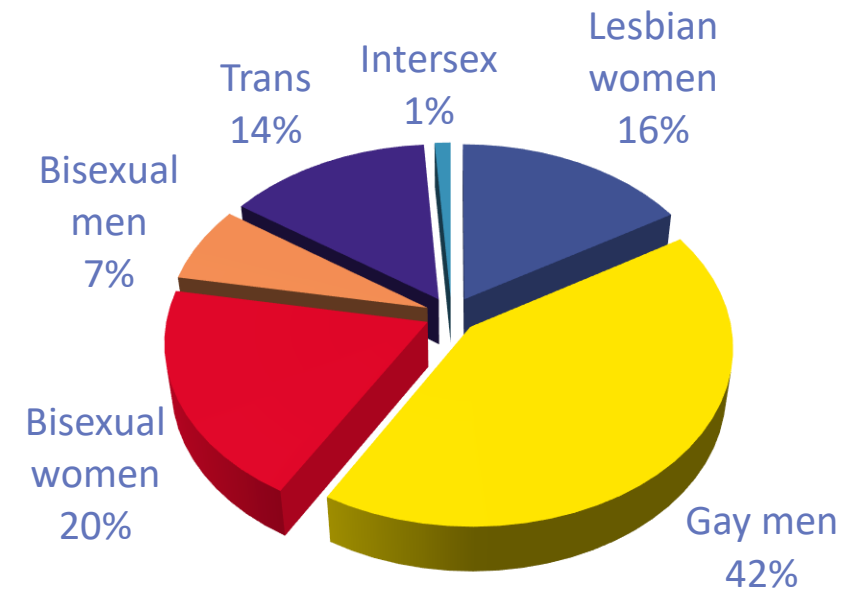
# The EU LGBTI Survey 2019

- Has provided key insights and valuable data about the challenges on the long way towards full LGBTI equality
- Has provided the evidence basis for the EU LGBTIQ Strategy 2020-2025



## EU-LGBTI II

~140.000 LGBTI respondents  
15+ years old  
In EU-28 + RS, MK



A long way to go  
for LGBTI equality





"In recent years there have been so many positive changes including the law that allows civil unions, but there is still so much social intolerance."



"I hope we'll get to keep the rights we've fought for all these years, but I'm worried."



"When my boss found out that I was gay, she didn't fire me but she just started to do everything so I would quit."



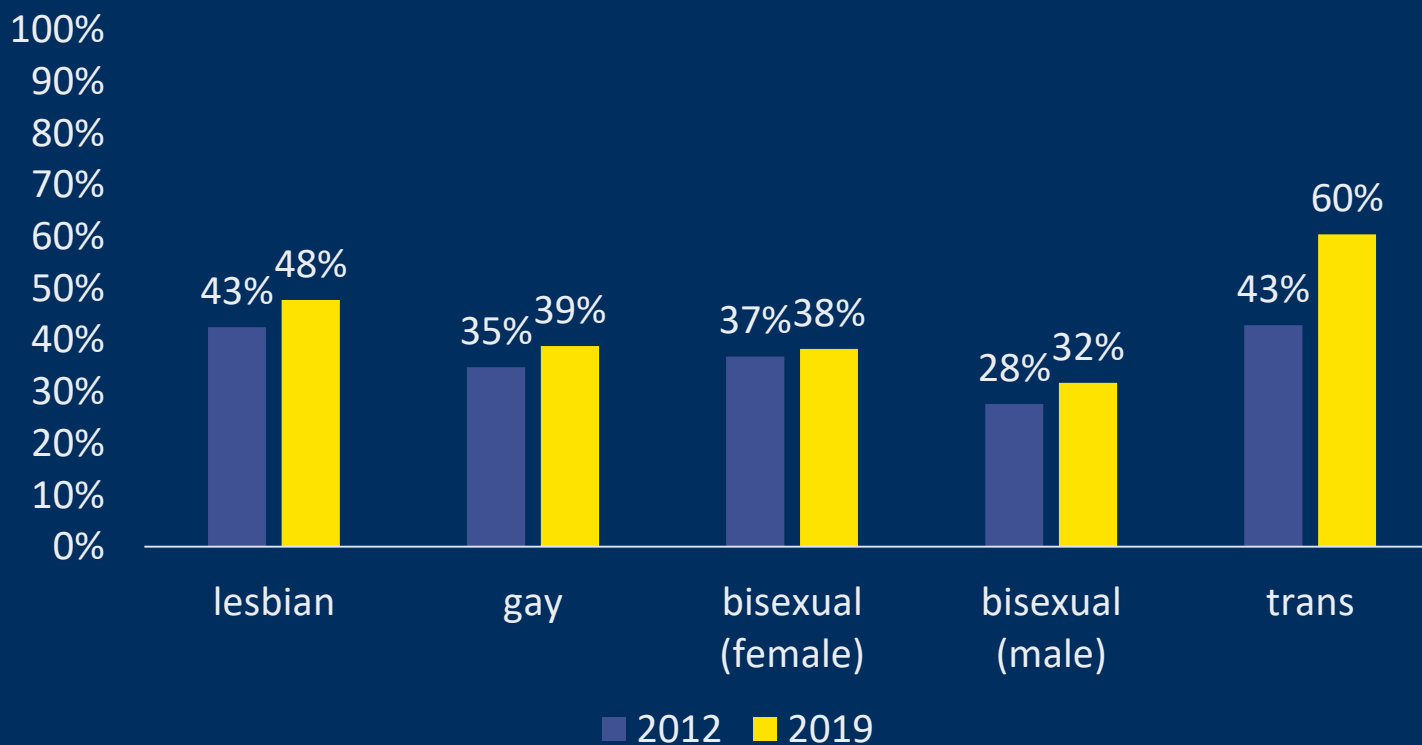
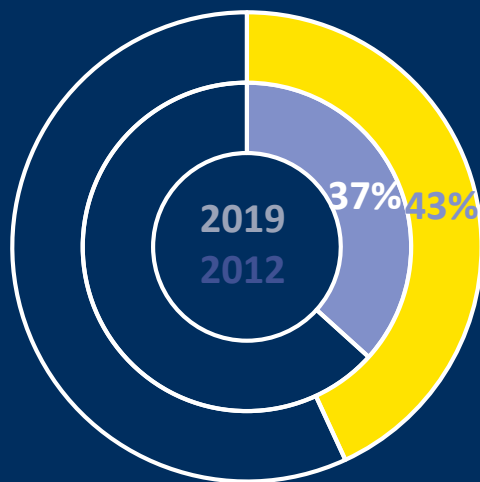
"I want to be able to hold my partner's hand without being afraid" (Survey respondent, 2019)



"Almost all trans women of my generation are dead...We die due to poverty, homelessness, violence and exclusion."

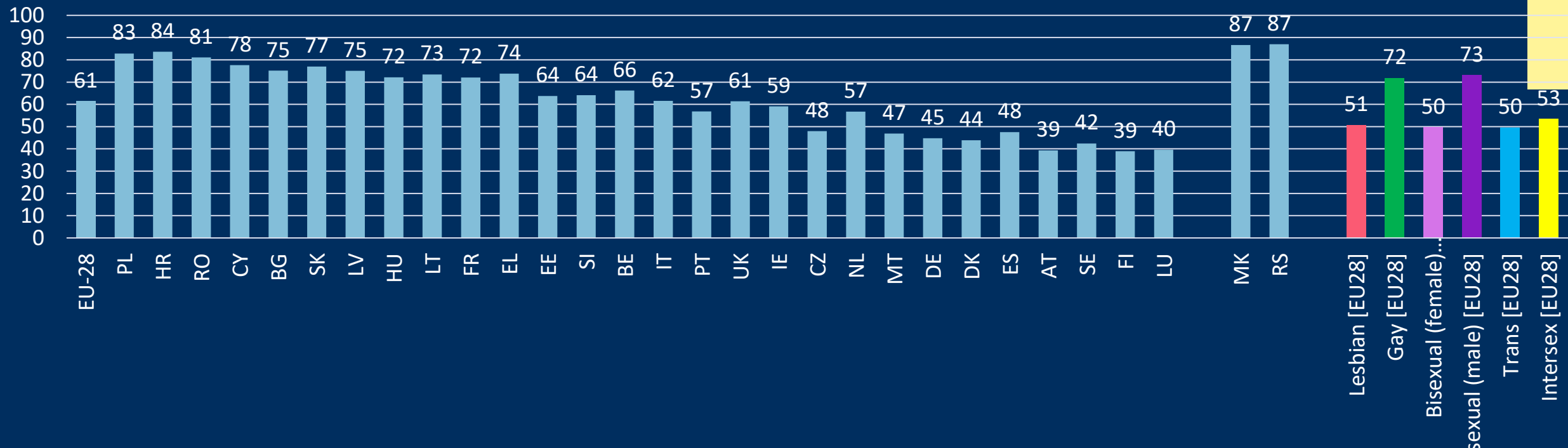
# KEY INDICATORS' LGBT COMPARISONS 2012 → 2019

- *LGBT Respondents 18+ who felt discriminated against in at least one area of life (employment, healthcare, social services, housing, education, daily life) in the last 12 months because of being LGBT – 2012 → 2019*
- **1 in 5 feel discriminated against at work and over 1 in 3 feel discriminated against when going out to eat, drink or being social**

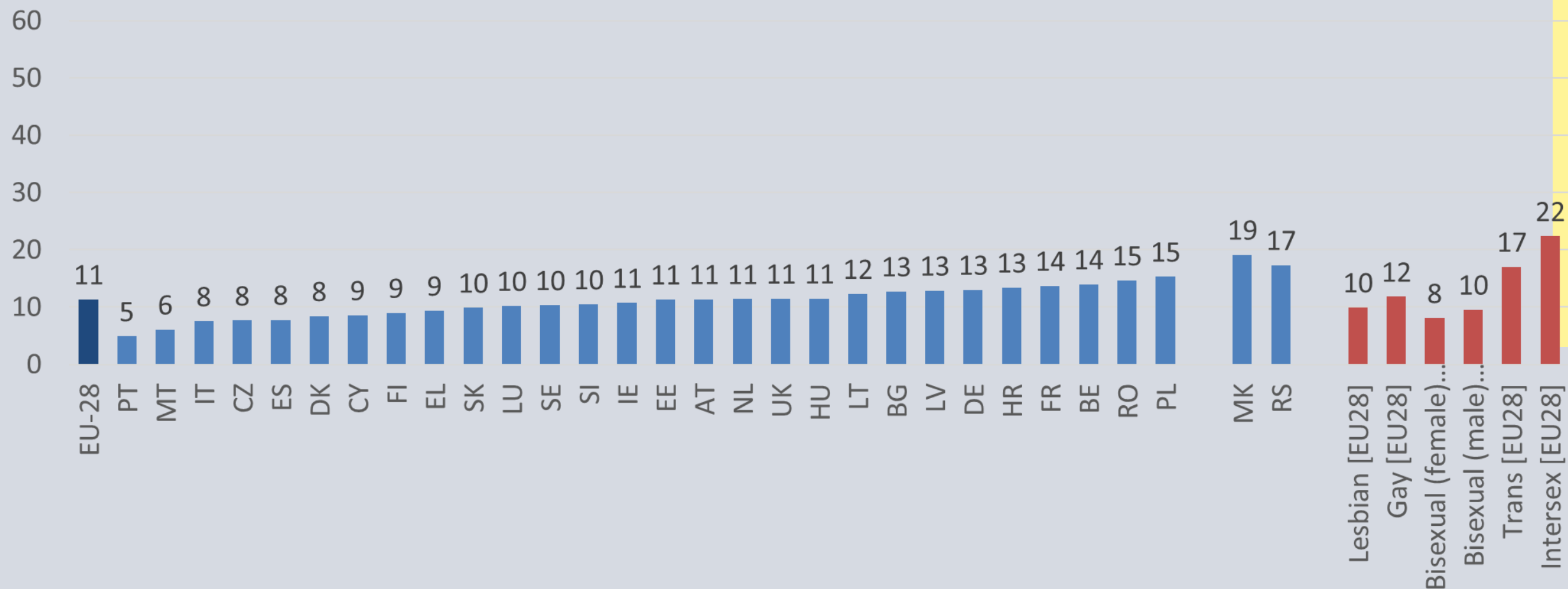


- **SAFETY** – Respondents who avoid ‘often’ or ‘always’ holding hands in public with a same-sex partner for fear of being assaulted, threatened or harassed for being LGBTI (%) - by country and LGBTI group

→ 6 in 10 avoid holding hands in public with their partners



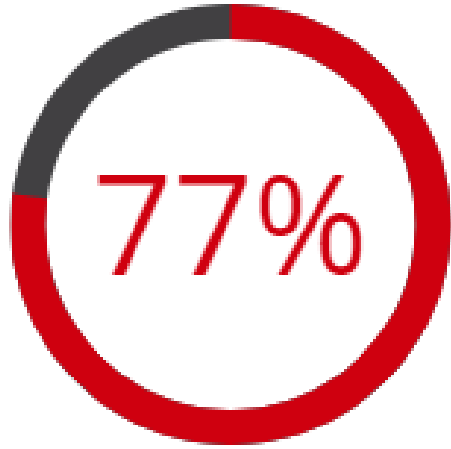
# Experiencing **physical or sexual attack** for being LGBTI (5 years before the survey)



*Respondents who were physically or sexually attacked at home or elsewhere (street, on public transport, at workplace, etc.) because being LGBTI in the 5 years before the survey, 2019*



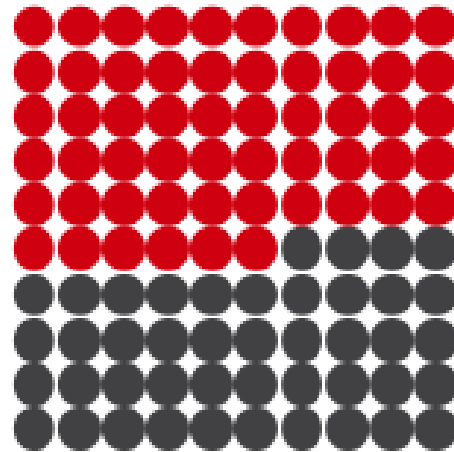
## The last incident of physical or sexual attack



only **male** perpetrator(s)

56% one perpetrator

44% more perpetrators



**51%** on street, park or other public place

**12%** in cafe, restaurant, pub, club

**10%** in public transport

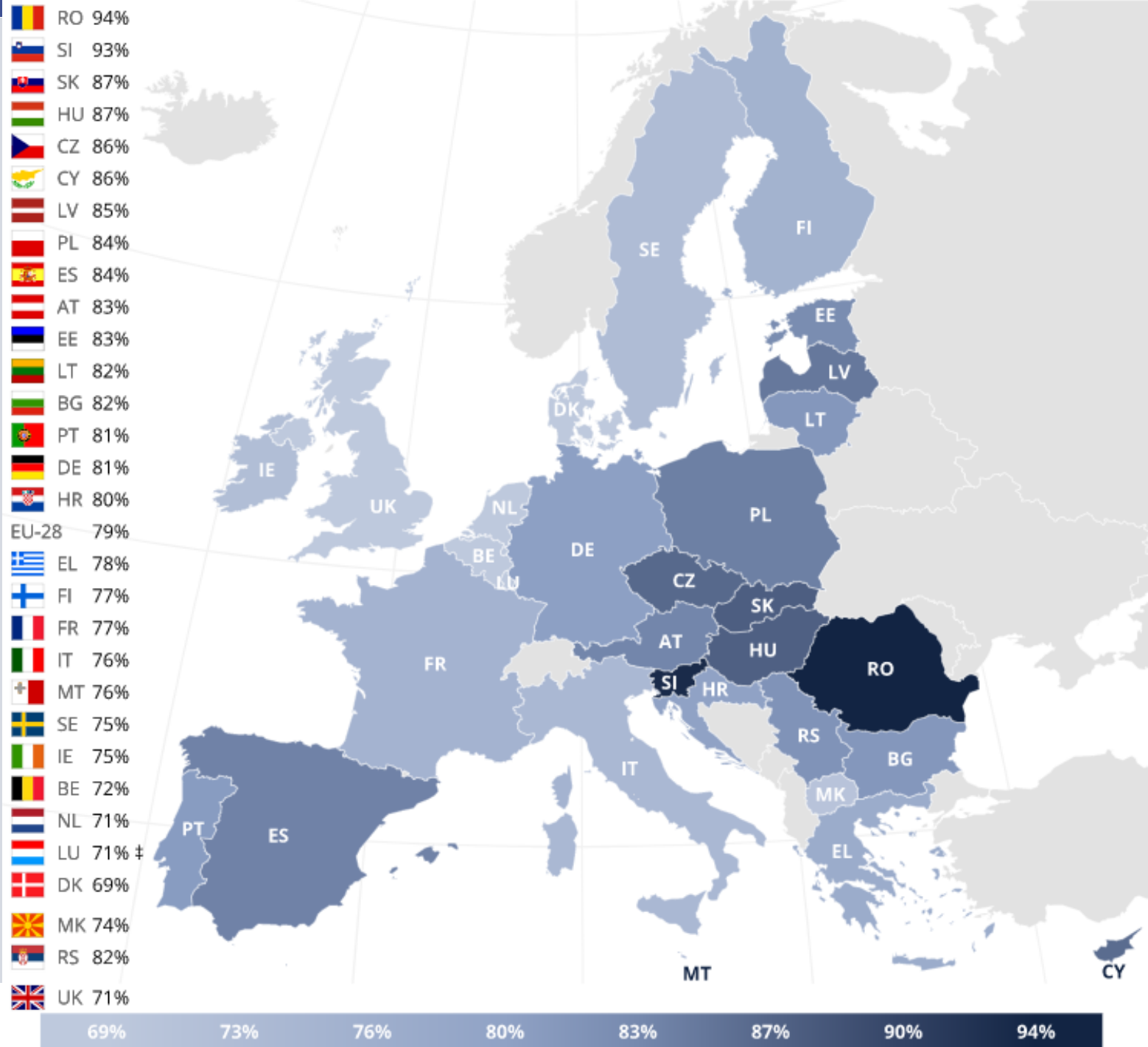
**9%** at home

*Out of respondents who were physically or sexually attacked because being LGBTI in the 5 years before the survey, EU 28*

**Not reporting** the hate-motivated physical or sexual attack to the police, or any organisation or institution

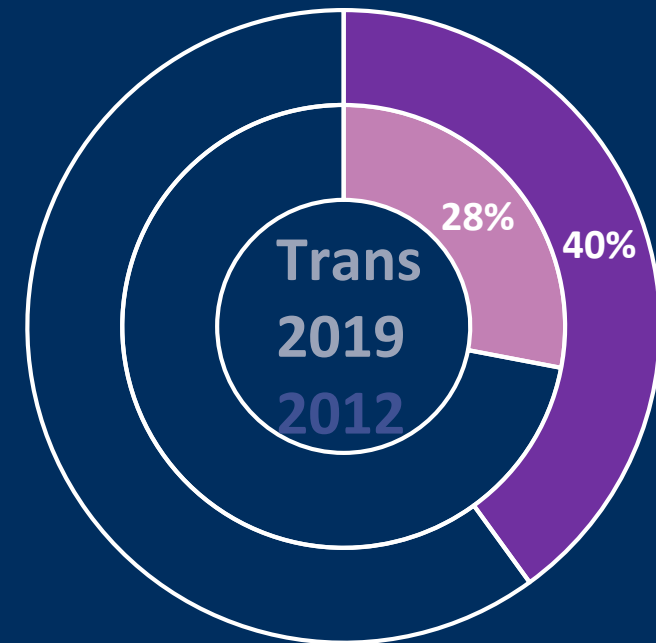
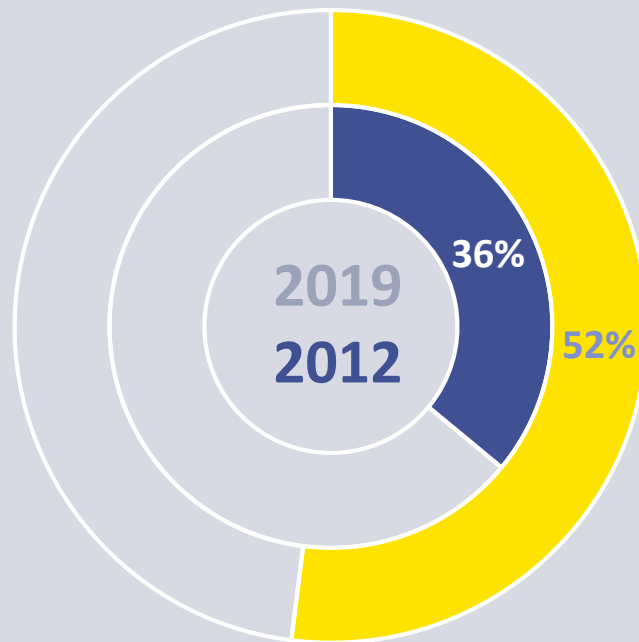
**79%**  
attacks remain  
**unreported**

*Share of respondents who did not report the most recent incident of hate-motivated harassment for being LGBTI in the past 5 years, %*



# KEY INDICATORS' LGBT COMPARISONS 2012 → 2019

- *Share of LGBT (and Trans only) respondents 18+ years old who are often or always open about being LGBT – 2012 → 2019*



# EU LGBTI Survey 2019 key findings

- Overall, only little or no progress has been achieved between 2012-2019
- Fear, violence and discrimination are still a daily reality for many LGBTI people across Europe.
- Intersex and trans people suffer the most of victimisation and discrimination experiences In the 5 years before the survey, 1 in 5 trans and intersex people were physically or sexually attacked, double that of other LGBTI groups.
- **1 in 4 violence victims do not report incidents out of fear** of homophobic or transphobic reaction by the police. One in three (32 %) trans respondents did not report such incidents for fear of transphobic reactions from the police.
- In the year before the survey, two in five LGBTI respondents (38 %) experienced **harassment for being LGBTI**. Rates are even higher (47 %) for respondents aged 15 to 17, and trans and intersex. Only one in 10 (10 %) report it anywhere. Just 4 % to the police.
- *Signs of progress and claim of equality and participation:*
  - 1 in 2 were open about being LGBT in 2019. Up from 1 in 3, in 2012 . Plus at school, less young people hide being LGBT.
  - Overall, in 2019 33% of survey respondents said they avoid certain places for fear of being assaulted, threatened or harassed because being LGBT, while 47% said so in 2012.





# LGBTI Survey – *What works and what not?*

## ➤ *What works?*

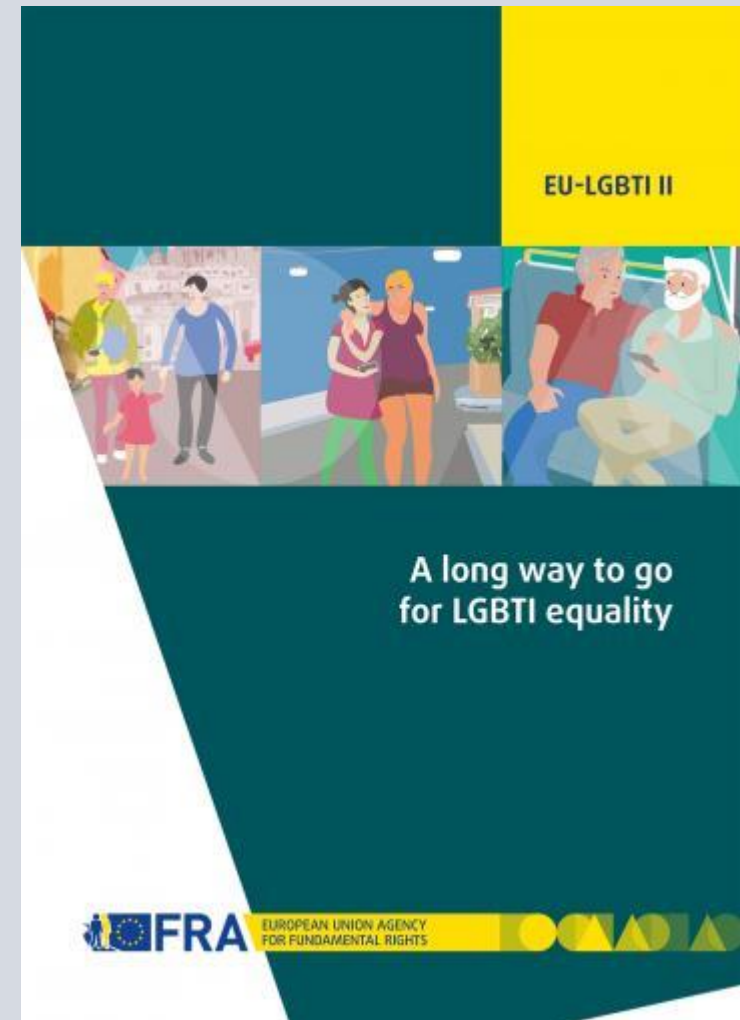
- **New laws promoting LGBTI rights and support from public figures help people feel safer and allow them to be more open about who they are. This in turn encourages them to participate in public life and contributes to creating more inclusive communities**

## ➤ *What does not work and has negative impact?*

- **Where there is a negative public discourse, lack of law enforcement and lack of support from civil society, the situation of LGBTI people quickly deteriorates**
- The LGBTI Survey has indicated that while victimisation varies considerably among Member States, as the societies are more or less welcoming diversity and show increased or decreased acceptance, LGBTI people all EU MS report similar intensity problems with the police: reduced trust and even the fear of homophobia or transphobia by police officers.

# FRA Opinions – proposed actions

- *Equal Protection from discrimination – Horizontal Directive*
- *Support change - Action Plans and Strategies*
- *Strengthen Equality Bodies*
- *consider including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics as aggravating bias motivations that qualify a crime as a hate crime.*
- *Encourage reporting and protect victims*
- *Train law enforcement to recognise hate crime and speech*
- *Encouraging educational settings with revised curricula and materials, peer learning and protection from bullying*
- *Acknowledge and address multiple and intersectional discrimination in policies, legislation and interventions*
- *Protect intersex people and LGBTI persons from harmful medical intervention, in particular for children*



# Thank you!

FRA – EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

Schwarzenbergplatz 11 – 1040 Vienna – Austria

T +43 158030-0 – F +43 158030-699

 [facebook.com/fundamentalrights](https://facebook.com/fundamentalrights)

 [twitter.com/EURightsAgency](https://twitter.com/EURightsAgency)

 [linkedin.com/company/eu-fundamental-rights-agency](https://linkedin.com/company/eu-fundamental-rights-agency)

[fra.europa.eu](https://fra.europa.eu)