

LGBTQ2 Action Plan Survey Results **Safety and Justice**

LGBTQ2 Action Plan Survey Results

Safety and Justice



On this page

LGBTQ2 communities continue to face long-standing barriers to full freedom and equity in Canadian society. That is why the Government of Canada is committed to developing the first-ever [Federal LGBTQ2 Action Plan](#), which will strive to improve the lives of Canada's diverse LGBTQ2 communities. The **LGBTQ2 Action Plan Survey** was the first engagement activity supporting the development of this plan.¹

This visual product displays the survey results for questions related to **safety and justice** in a disaggregated manner, by showing results for related questions broken down by the respondent's gender, age, sexual orientation, population group, and Indigenous identity, disability status, province of residence and more.

To see other data releases related to the LGBTQ2 Action Plan survey, please [visit our website](#).

SURVEY APPROACH



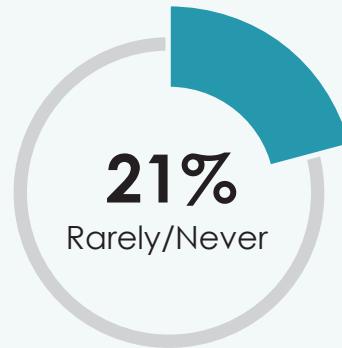
The **LGBTQ2 Action Plan Survey** was conducted by the Government of Canada's LGBTQ2 Secretariat between November 27, 2020 and February 28, 2021. Survey participants for this crowdsourced initiative were recruited with the assistance of partner organizations through social networks, advertising, and word of mouth. A total of **25,636 LGBTQ2 people living in Canada responded to the survey**.² Respondents were given the choice to answer questions concerning sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression. **Results are representative of those who responded to the survey and cannot be used to make generalizations about the entire population of LGBTQ2 people living in Canada.**

PUBLIC SAFETY



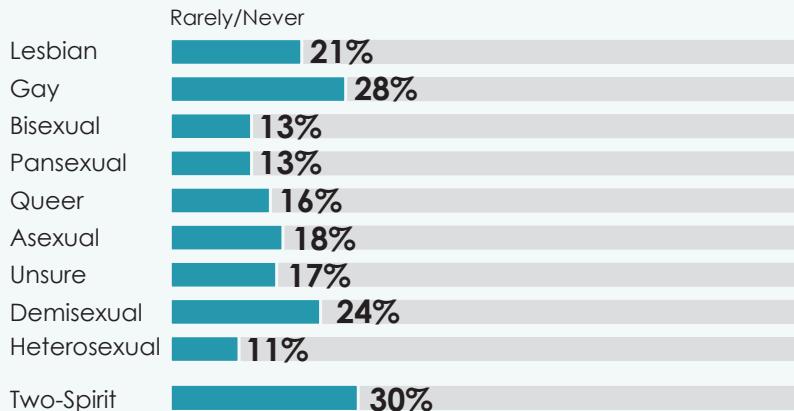
I feel safe being affectionate with my partner(s) in public...

SURVEY RESPONDENTS OVERALL



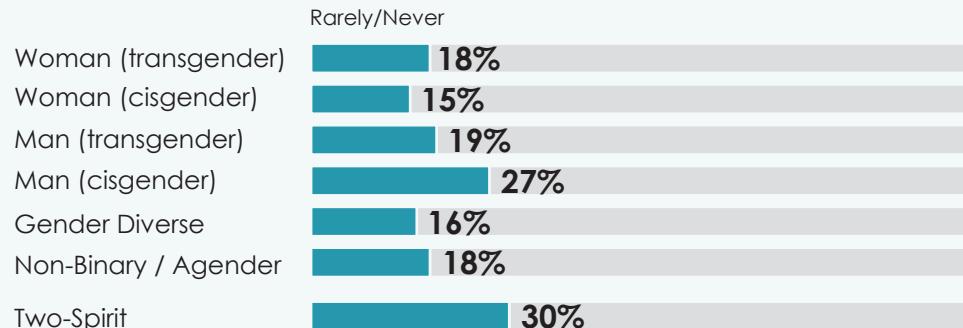
RESPONSE BY SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Gay (28%), **demisexual** (24%), and **lesbian** (21%) respondents felt the least safe with public affection when compared to other respondents.



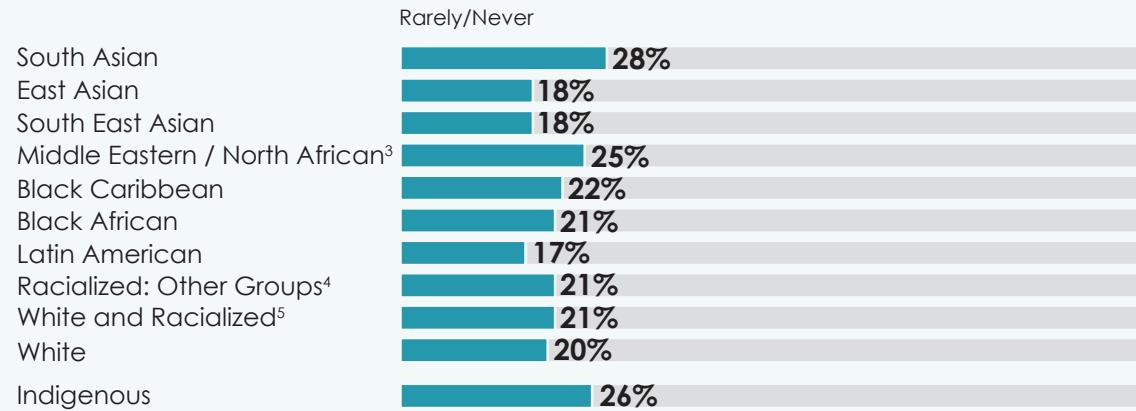
RESPONSE BY GENDER IDENTITY

Two-Spirit respondents (30%) and **cisgender men** respondents (27%) **felt less safe being affectionate** with partner(s) in public when compared to other respondents.



RESPONSE BY POPULATION GROUP AND INDIGENOUS IDENTITY

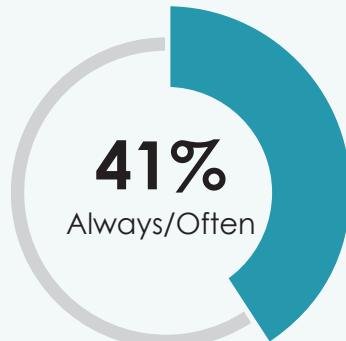
South Asian (28%), **Indigenous** (26%) and **Middle Eastern / North African** (25%) respondents felt less safe, when asked about being affectionate in public when compared to other respondents.





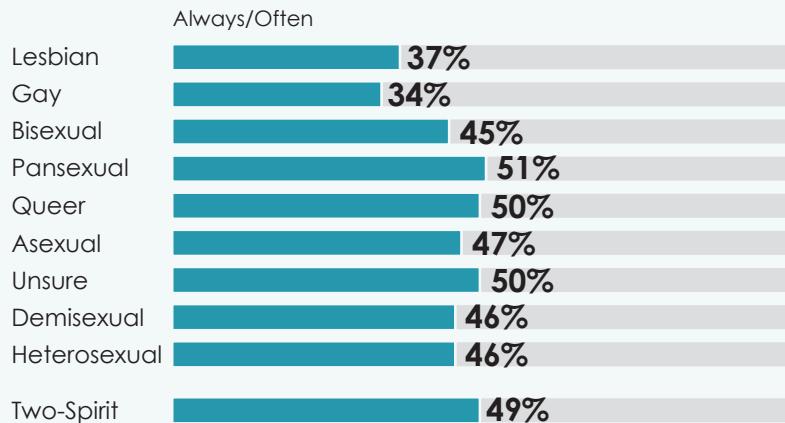
I consider personal safety risks when deciding how to dress or appear in public...

SURVEY RESPONDENTS OVERALL



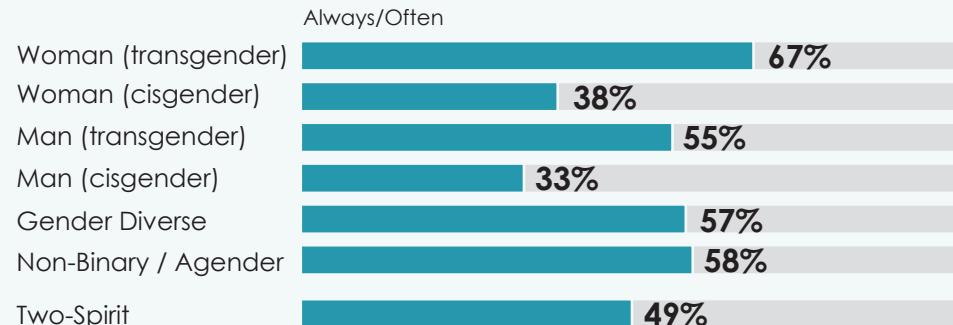
RESPONSE BY SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Lesbian and gay respondents **considered their personal safety risks the least** when deciding how to dress or appear in public.



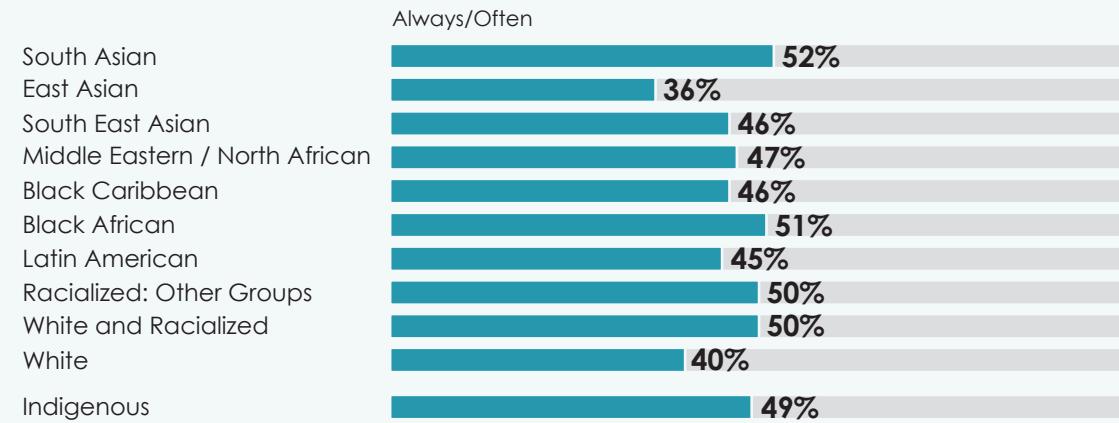
RESPONSE BY GENDER IDENTITY

Transgender women respondents **considered personal safety risks the most** when deciding how to dress or appear in public.



RESPONSE BY POPULATION GROUP AND INDIGENOUS IDENTITY

South Asian (52%) and Black African (51%) respondents reported **more than other respondents** that they **considered personal safety risks when deciding how to dress or appear in public**.

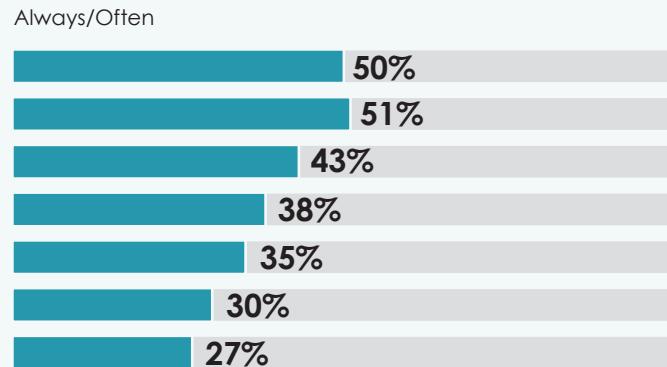




I consider personal safety risks when deciding how to dress or appear in public...

RESPONSE BY AGE GROUP

Younger respondents also considered personal safety risks **more often than** respondents from older demographic groups when deciding how to dress or appear in public.



RESPONSE BY DISABILITY STATUS

Over half of respondents **with a disability** (53%) said that they considered personal safety risks when deciding how to dress or appear in public.

Disability



No Disability

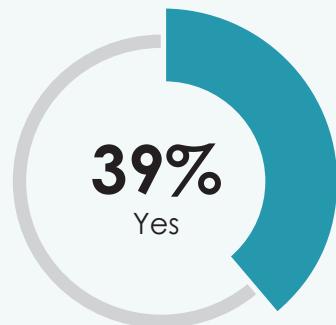


VIOLENCE AND DISCRIMINATION

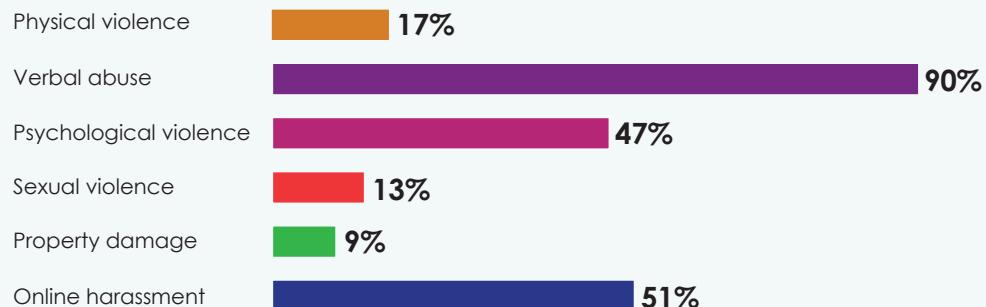


Over the past five years have you experienced any form of violence due to homophobia, transphobia, biphobia or other forms of discrimination directed at your sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression?

SURVEY RESPONDENTS OVERALL



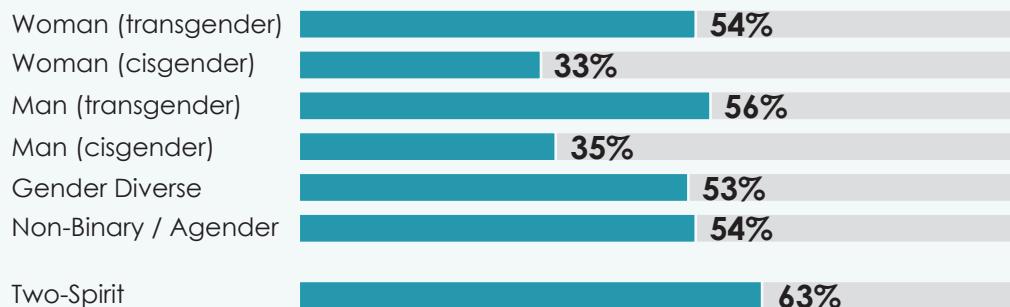
The most common forms of violence and discrimination reported by those who experienced them were:



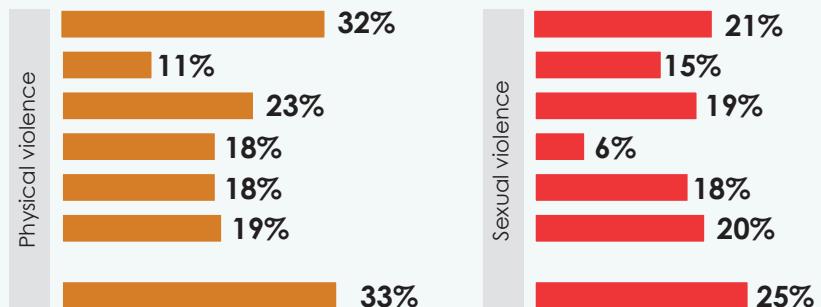
RESPONSE BY GENDER IDENTITY

Two-Spirit respondents and transgender women respondents experienced **more physical and sexual violence** than other respondents. Cisgender men (35%) and cisgender women (33%) respondents were least likely to experience violence and discrimination.

Yes



Select forms of experience



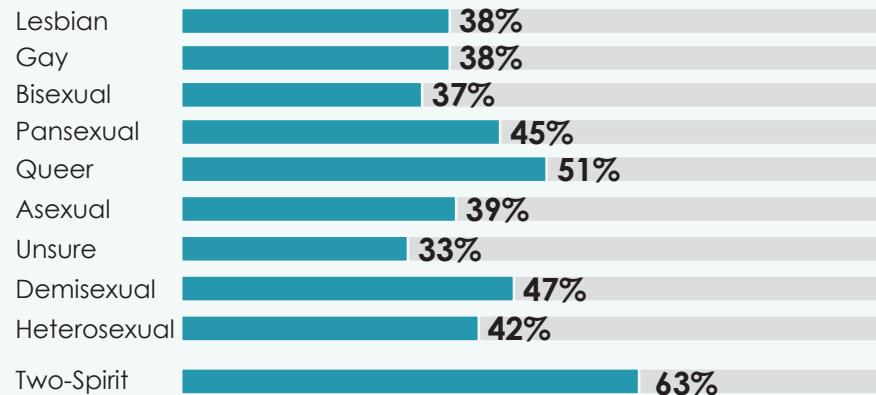


Over the past five years have you experienced any form of violence due to homophobia, transphobia, biphobia or other forms of discrimination directed at your sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression?

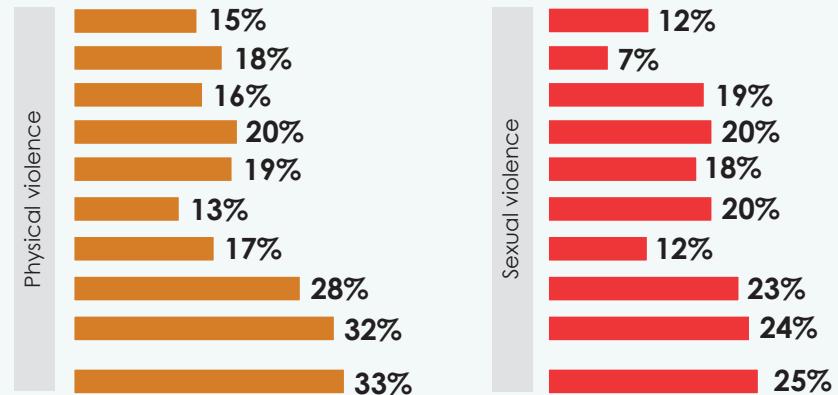
RESPONSE BY SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Queer (51%) and **demisexual** (47%) respondents experienced a higher rate of violence and discrimination, while **heterosexual** and **demisexual** respondents experienced more physical and sexual violence.

Yes



Select forms of experience



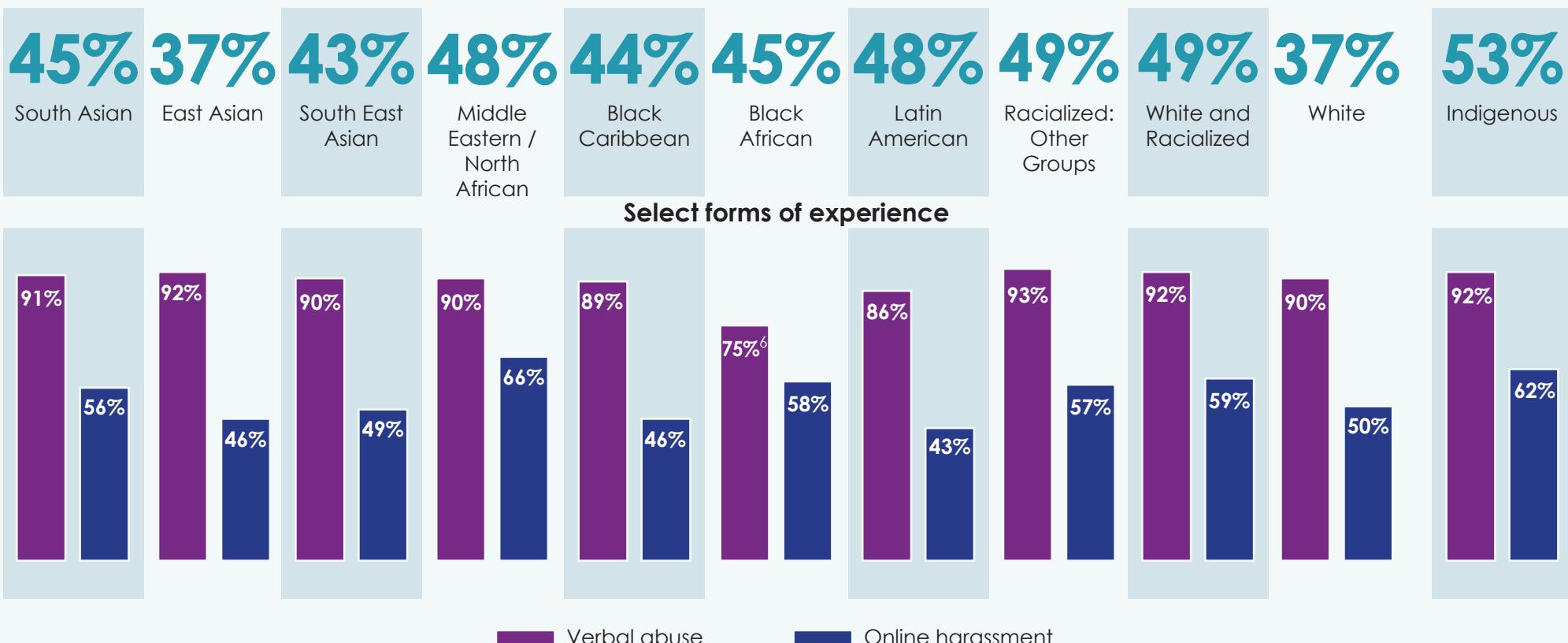


Over the past five years have you experienced any form of violence due to homophobia, transphobia, biphobia or other forms of discrimination directed at your sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression?

RESPONSE BY POPULATION GROUP AND INDIGENOUS IDENTITY

Indigenous respondents reported that they experienced more violence and discrimination (53%) than population group respondents. Middle Eastern / North African respondents reported higher rates (66%) of online harassment than other population group respondents.

Percentage of Respondents who said Yes



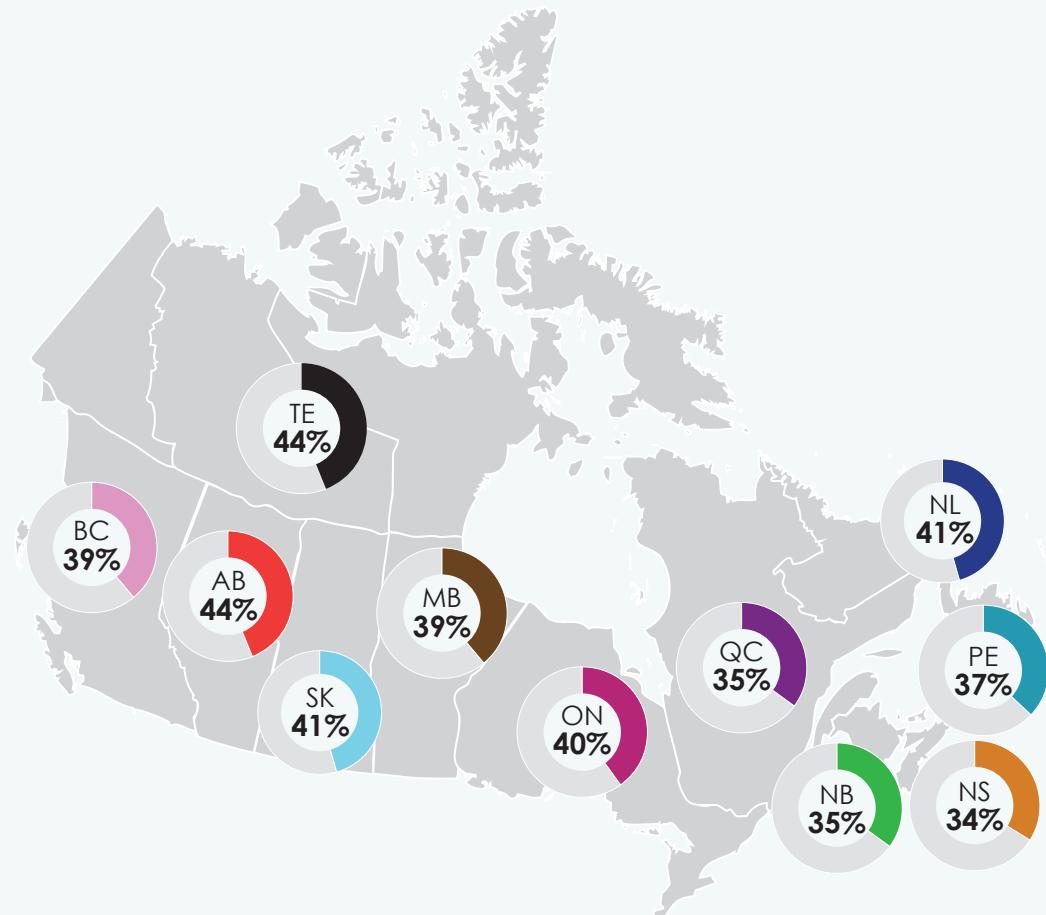
⁶ Interpret with caution. Fewer than 80 respondents.



Over the past five years have you experienced any form of violence due to homophobia, transphobia, biphobia or other forms of discrimination directed at your sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression?

RESPONSE BY PROVINCE OR TERRITORY OF RESIDENCE

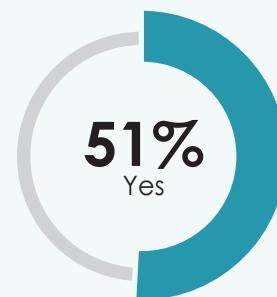
Respondents reported varied levels of violence and discrimination across the country.



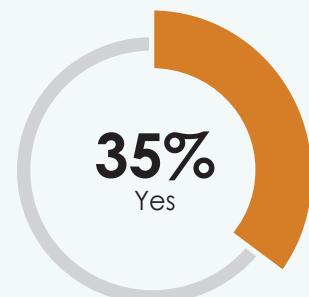
RESPONSE BY DISABILITY STATUS

Those **with a disability** (51%) were more likely to say they experienced violence and discrimination than those **without a disability** (35%). They were also much more likely to experience high levels of all forms of violence and abuse, especially online harassment and psychological abuse.

Disability



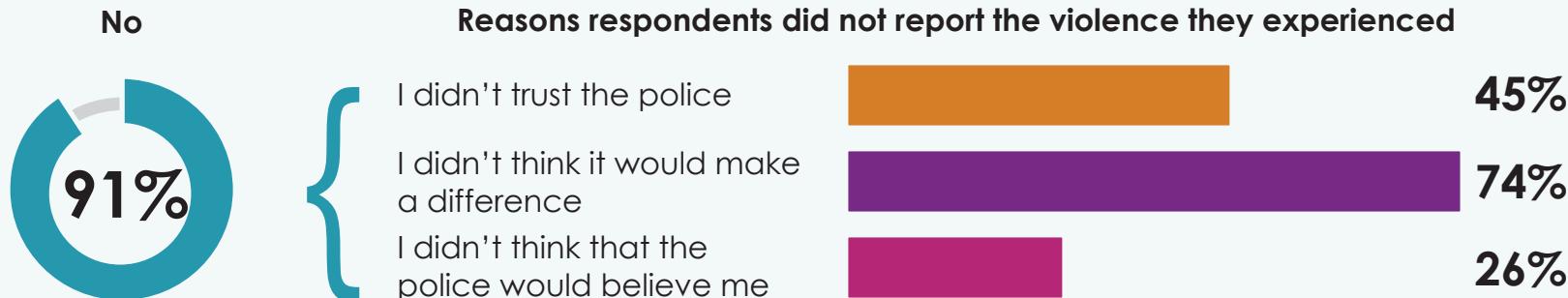
No Disability





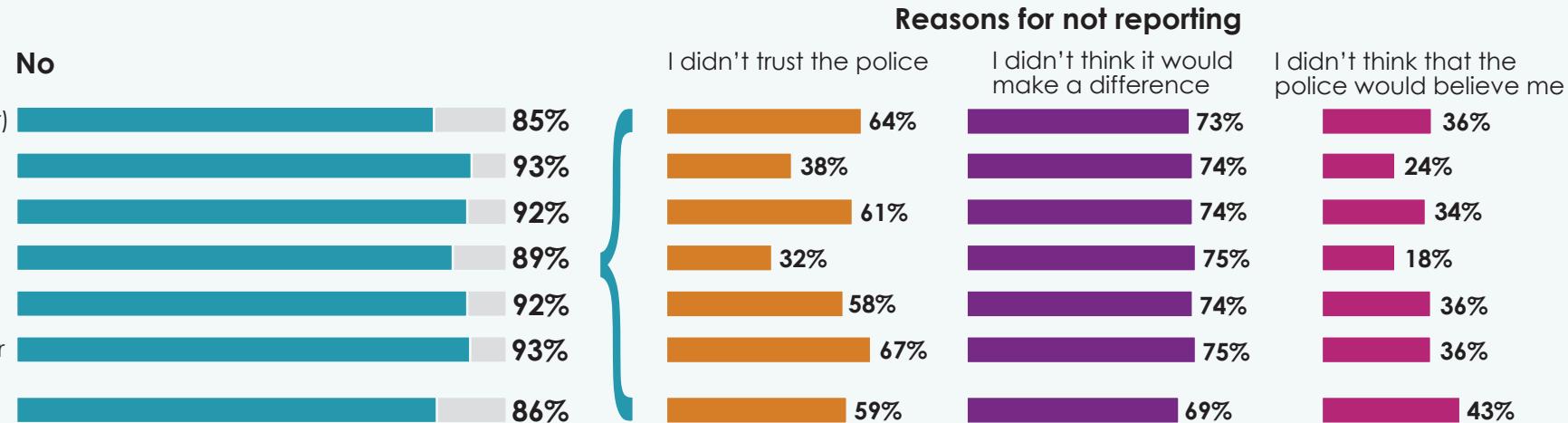
Thinking only of the violence directed at you based on your sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression over the last five years, did you report any of the incidents to the police?

SURVEY RESPONDENTS OVERALL



RESPONSE BY GENDER IDENTITY

Mistrust of the police was higher among non-binary/agender and transgender respondents.

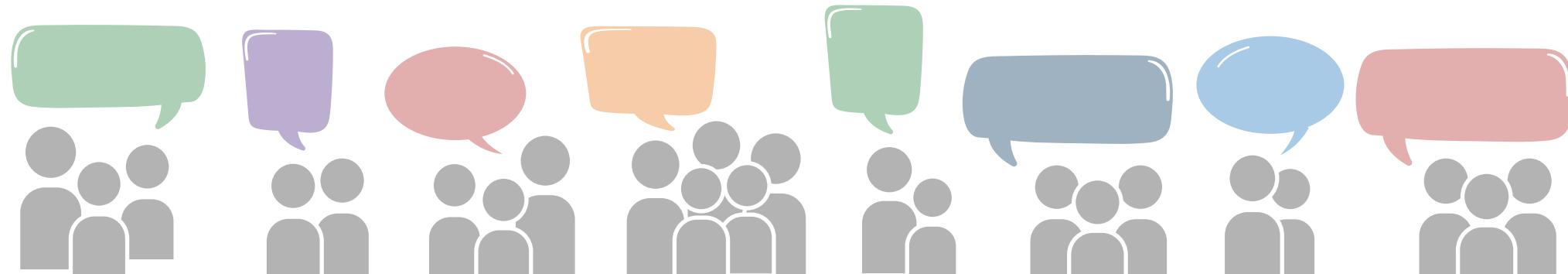
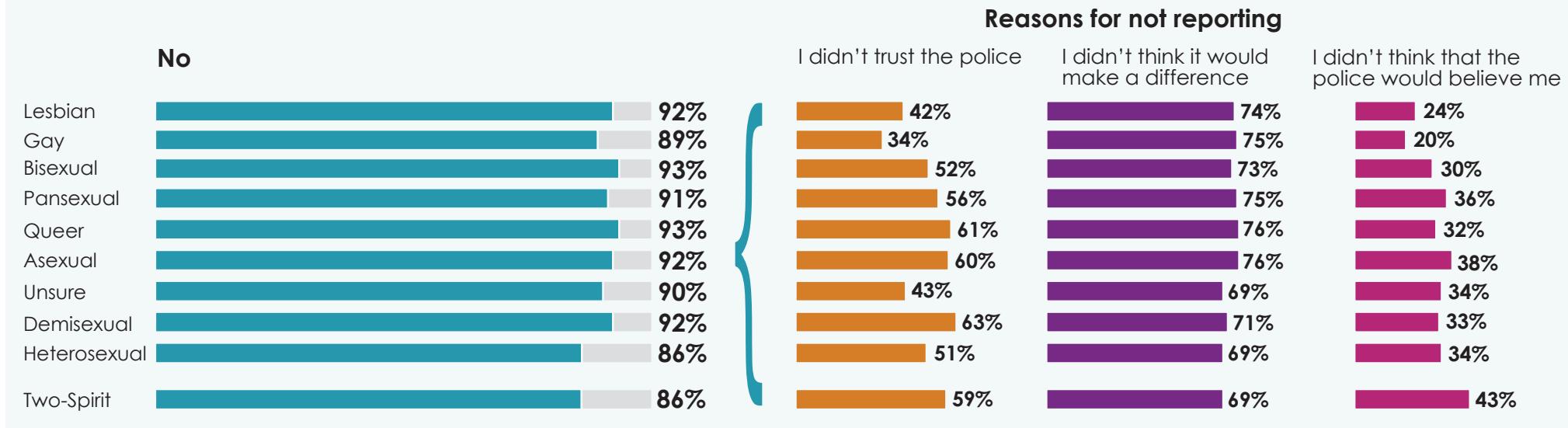




Thinking only of the violence directed at you based on your sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression over the last five years, did you report any of the incidents to the police?

RESPONSE BY SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Demisexual (63%), queer (61%) and asexual (60%) respondents were more likely to respond 'not trusting the police' as a reason for not reporting violent incidents.



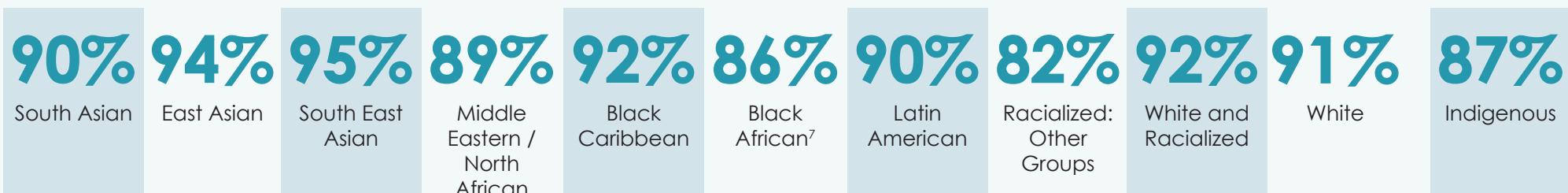
Thinking only of the violence directed at you based on your sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression over the last five years, did you report any of the incidents to the police?



RESPONSE BY POPULATION GROUP AND INDIGENOUS IDENTITY

The main reason that **respondents gave for not reporting violent incidents to the police** was that **they didn't think it would make a difference**.

Percentage of Respondents who said No



Reasons for not reporting



I didn't trust the police

I didn't think it would make a difference

I didn't think that the police would believe me

⁷ Interpret with caution. Fewer than 80 respondents.



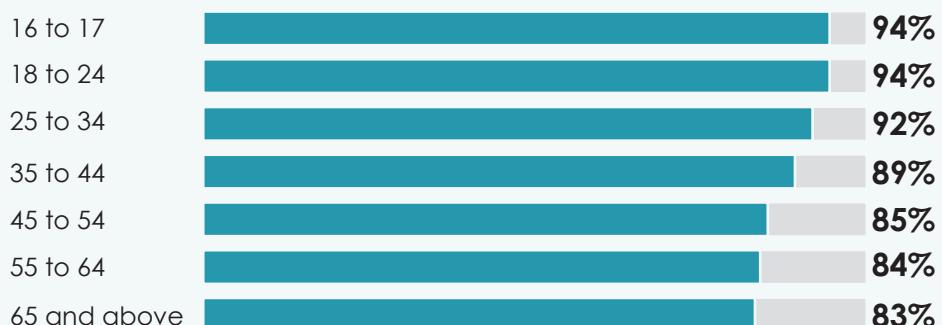
Thinking only of the violence directed at you based on your sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression over the last five years, did you report any of the incidents to the police?

RESPONSE BY AGE GROUP

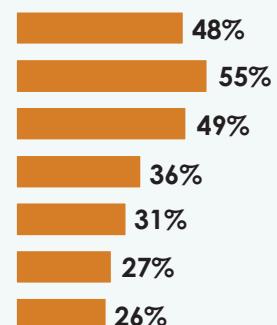
Older respondents were more likely to report violent incidents to the police compared to younger respondents.

Reasons for not reporting

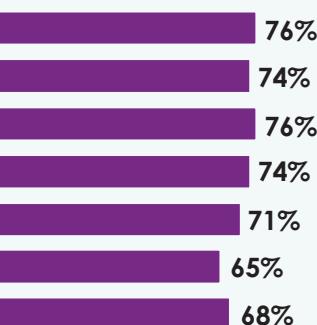
No



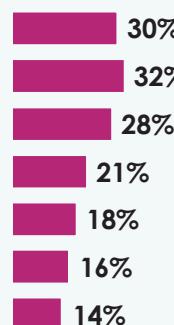
I didn't trust the police



I didn't think it would make a difference



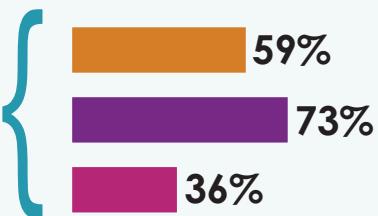
I didn't think that the police would believe me



RESPONSE BY DISABILITY STATUS

59% of respondents **with a disability** who reported experiencing violence did not report it to the police because they didn't trust the police, while only 37% of those **with no disability** felt this way.

Disability



Reasons for not reporting

I didn't trust the police

37%

I didn't think it would make a difference

75%

I didn't think that the police would believe me

No Disability





Thinking only of the violence directed at you based on your sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression over the last five years, did you report any of the incidents to the police?

RESPONSE BY FIRST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

English



Reasons for Not Reporting

I didn't trust the police

35%

I didn't think it would make a difference

67%

I didn't think that the police would believe me

20%

French



Thinking only of the violence directed at you based on your sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression over the last five years, who committed the act(s) against you?

SURVEY RESPONDENTS WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE

82%

A stranger

28%

Family

27%

Co-worker

26%

Friend or
Acquaintance

25%

Online friend or
Acquaintance

ENDNOTES



¹ Visit the [LGBTQ2 terminology – Glossary and common acronyms](#) for the full list of key terms.

² Intersex respondents are included in the aggregate data represented in this document. Intersex respondents will be analyzed in upcoming data releases of this survey.

³ The Middle Eastern and North African category is an aggregate of two separate population group categories that were included in the survey. While we acknowledge differences in cultures and lived experiences within this grouping, this was done to ensure adequate sample sizes for reporting. The categories include 'Middle Eastern, West and Central Asian (e.g., Iranian, Lebanese, Afghan, etc.)' and 'North African (e.g. Egyptian, Moroccan, Algerian, etc.)'.

⁴ The Racialized: Other Groups category is an aggregate of three separate population group categories that were included in the survey. This was done to ensure adequate sample sizes for reporting. These categories include 'Asian, other', 'Black, other', and 'Racialized person, other'.

⁵ Respondents who have one racialized parent and other parent who is not.