

Findings of the

NATIONAL TRANSGENDER DISCRIMINATION SURVEY

by the National Center for Transgender Equality and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force



Missouri Results

There were 128 respondents from Missouri.

Workplace Discrimination

Rates of discrimination were alarming in Missouri, indicating widespread discrimination based on gender identity/expression:

89% reported experiencing harassment or mistreatment on the job

28% lost a job

23% were denied a promotion

51% were not hired

55% experienced an adverse job action, such as being fired, not hired, or denied a promotion

Harassment and Discrimination at School

Those who expressed a transgender identity or gender non-conformity while in grades K-12 reported alarming rates of harassment (65%), physical assault (48%) and sexual violence (16%)

Harassment was so severe that it led 7% to leave a school in K-12 settings or leave higher education

Economic Insecurity

Likely due to employment discrimination and discrimination in school, survey respondents experienced poverty and unemployment at higher rates than the general population:

18% of respondents had a household income of \$10,000 or less, compared to 4% of the general population¹

12% were unemployed compared to 7% in the nation at the time of the survey²

Housing Discrimination and Instability

Survey respondents experienced blatant housing discrimination, as well as housing instability, much of which appears to stem from the challenges they face in employment.

12% were evicted

17% were denied a home/apartment

17% had become homeless because of their gender identity/expression

24% had to find temporary space to stay/sleep

31% had to move back in with family or friends

28% reported owning their home compared to 67% of the general population³

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, "Current Population Survey," Annual Social and Economic Supplement (Washington, DC: GPO, 2008).

² Seven percent (7%) is the rounded weighted average unemployment rate for the general population during the six months the survey was in the field, based on which month questionnaires were completed. For monthly rates, see National Conference of State Legislatures. See U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "National Unemployment Summary: Unemployment Increases to 9.8% for November," (Washington, DC: GPO, 2010): <http://www.ncsl.org/?tabid=13307>.

Harassment and Discrimination in Accommodations and Services

- 45% were verbally harassed or disrespected in a place of public accommodation or service, including hotels, restaurants, buses, airports and government agencies.
- 22% were denied equal treatment by a government agency or official
- 16% were denied equal treatment or harassed by judges or court officials.
- 24% of those who have interacted with police reported harassment by officers
- 39% reported being uncomfortable seeking police assistance

Health Care Discrimination and Health Outcomes

- 18% were refused medical care due to their gender identity/expression
- 5.47% were HIV positive, compared to the general population rate of 0.6%⁴
- 28% postponed needed medical care, when they were sick or injured, due to discrimination
- Only 42% of the respondents had employer-based health insurance, compared to 59% of the general population at the time of the survey.⁵
- 50% reported attempting suicide at some point in their life, over 30 times the rate of the general population of 1.6%⁶

Note: In the full report of the National Transgender Discrimination Survey, we found that discrimination was pervasive throughout the entire sample, yet the combination of anti-transgender bias and persistent, structural racism was especially devastating. One of our most important findings was that people of color in general fared worse than white participants across the board, with African American transgender respondents faring far worse than all others in nearly every area examined. Due to the sample size of respondents from this state, we were unable to break these state results down by race/ethnicity without creating small sample size problems. However, we expect that people of color in this state would exhibit the same national pattern.



³ U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, "U.S. Housing Market Conditions, 2nd Quarter, 2009" (Washington, DC: GPO, 2009): http://www.huduser.org/portal/periodicals/ushmc/summer09/nat_data.pdf.

⁴ United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and World Health Organization (WHO), "2007 AIDS Epidemic Update" (2007): http://data.unaids.org/pub/EPISlides/2007/2007_epiupdate_en.pdf.

⁵ DeNavas-Walt, Carmen, Bernadette D. Proctor, and Jessica C. Smith, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, P60-236, *Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2008*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC (2009): <http://www.census.gov/prod/2009pubs/p60-236.pdf>.

⁶ "U.S.A. Suicide: 2002 Official Final Data," prepared for the American Association of Suicidology by John L. McIntosh, Ph.D. Official data source: Kochanek, K.D., Murphy, S.L., Anderson, R.N., & Scott, C. (2004). Deaths: Final data for 2002. National Vital Statistics Reports, 53 (5). Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 2005-1120. Population figures source: table I, p.108. of the National Center for Health Statistics (Kochanek et al., 2004), see http://www.sprc.org/library/event_kit/2002datapg1.pdf