

2022

U.S. TRANS SURVEY

EARLY INSIGHTS

Early Insights: A Report of the 2022 U.S. Transgender Survey

by:

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INTRODUCTION

THIS report provides a first look at the results of the 2022 U.S. Transgender Survey (USTS), a study conducted by the National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE) in partnership with the Black Trans Advocacy Coalition, National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance, and TransLatin@ Coalition. The 2022 USTS is the follow up to the 2015 USTS, which has been an essential source of data on the experiences of transgender people for advocates, educators, researchers, policymakers, and the general public since the publication of its report in 2016.¹ Building upon the success of the prior study, the 2022 USTS is now the largest survey ever conducted to examine the experiences of binary and nonbinary transgender people in the United States, with an unprecedented 92,329 respondents. The 2022 USTS provides updated information to help the public better understand the lives and experiences of transgender people in the United States and the challenges that many transgender people face. As such, it is an invaluable resource for identifying and addressing issues that are of vital importance to binary and nonbinary transgender people in the United States.

In the years since the 2015 USTS was conducted, the United States has experienced substantial social, political, legal, and other changes that have impacted the lives of binary and nonbinary transgender people. The 2022 USTS was designed to offer updated and expanded perspectives on the experiences of transgender people, including in the areas of education, employment, family life, health care, housing, life satisfaction, and public accommodations. By expanding the scope of the survey and filling the significant gaps in understanding about the lives and challenges faced by transgender people, the USTS will continue to serve as a crucial tool for research, education, advocacy, and policymaking.

This report presents preliminary findings that provide an overview of the experiences of binary and nonbinary transgender people. The findings and information presented are high-level statistics and should be interpreted and contextualized accordingly. For example, although the survey was open to transgender people aged 16 and older, findings in this report are limited to respondents aged 18 and over unless otherwise noted. This report presents select findings from a range of survey topics, but it does not include findings from every issue area covered in the survey. This report also does not present differences in outcomes based on demographic and other characteristics or provide comparisons to the U.S. general population or the 2015 USTS. This report does, however, provide important information and updated perspectives

¹ James, S. E., Herman, J. L., Rankin, S., Keisling, M., Mottet, L., & Anafi, M. (2016). *The Report of the 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey*. Washington, DC: National Center for Transgender Equality.

on some of the most substantial issues and experiences impacting transgender people in the United States. With these early insights from the 2022 USTS, readers can better understand some of the challenges that binary and nonbinary transgender adults face in the United States. The forthcoming full report of the 2022 U.S. Transgender Survey will present comprehensive findings of the survey and paint a more complete picture of the diversity, resilience, and strength of the transgender community.

METHODOLOGY

Overview

The U.S. Transgender Survey (USTS) was administered online in English and Spanish and open to binary and nonbinary transgender people aged 16 and older residing in the United States, a U.S. territory, or on a U.S. military base overseas. The survey instrument included questions covering a wide range of experiences and issues, such as those related to health care, employment, education, housing, and public accommodations. The survey was hosted by Qualtrics and could be accessed exclusively through the USTS website (USTransSurvey.org). Data were collected over a 48-day period, from October 19 through December 5, 2022. The sample included 92,329 respondents, including 84,170 adults (18 and older), from all fifty states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and U.S. military bases overseas. The following sections provide an overview of the survey methodology. While these sections provide general information about the USTS's methodology, they do not include a detailed discussion of all aspects of the methodology. A detailed description of the methodology will be included in the full report of the 2022 U.S. Transgender Survey.

History of the U.S. Transgender Survey

The 2022 USTS is the successor to the 2015 USTS, which was conducted by the National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE) and was previously the largest and most comprehensive survey about the experiences of transgender people in the United States, with 27,715 respondents. The 2015 USTS was developed as the follow-up to the National Transgender Discrimination Survey (NTDS), which was conducted by NCTE and the National LGBTQ Task Force from late 2008 to early 2009. The NTDS was conducted to address the significant lack of data about transgender people in the United States, particularly from federal surveys. The NTDS became the first large, national survey to broadly examine the experiences of transgender people in the United States and the NTDS report, published in 2011, provided groundbreaking findings.²

Throughout the long history of developing, conducting, and reporting on the largest, most comprehensive surveys about the experiences and life outcomes of transgender people in the U.S., USTS and NTDS researchers and authors acknowledged the need to evolve and collect data to identify and address both current and emerging needs of transgender people. This included improving upon survey question design and expanding substantive content to fill remaining knowledge gaps, examine new and underexplored issues, investigate potential changes in experiences and outcomes over time, and improve comparisons between the experiences of transgender people and the U.S. general population. The 2022 USTS was developed with those considerations, and feedback received from researchers, practitioners, and advocates was continuously assessed while constructing and finalizing the questionnaire.

² Grant, J. M., Mottet, L. A., Tanis, J., Harrison, J., Herman, J. L., & Keisling, M. (2011). *Injustice at Every Turn: A Report of the National Transgender Discrimination Survey*. DC: National Center for Transgender Equality and National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

USTS Respondents

The USTS documents the experiences of transgender people, which the project defines as anyone who identifies with a different gender than they were assigned at birth. As such, the study was inclusive of those with binary and nonbinary transgender identities and other identities on the transgender identity spectrum, regardless of the terminology used by the respondent. The term “transgender” or “trans” was defined broadly for the purposes of this study to include a wide range of identities, but some individuals for whom the study was intended may have assumed that the term did not include them. Accordingly, promotional materials worked to affirm that the survey was inclusive of a range of gender-expansive identities and was open to transgender people at any stage of their lives, journey, or transition.

The study included individuals aged 16 and older at the time of survey completion. This differed from the 2015 USTS sample, which was limited to respondents 18 and older. As with all survey research, it is important to consider the context in which the study is being conducted, and the research team evaluated the context of being transgender in the U.S. at the time of the study when deciding to expand the sample to 16- and 17-year-olds. Since the USTS was last conducted, there have been numerous social, political, and legal developments that impact the experiences of transgender people of all ages in the United States, including those that have had a profound impact on transgender youth. There have also been advancements in research that have improved our understanding of the experiences of transgender youth. These cultural and research-related changes underscored the importance of collecting data about the experiences of transgender youth. Therefore, in consultation with the USTS Scientific Advisory Committee, the research team determined that it was appropriate to include 16- and 17-year-olds in the USTS sample and developed the survey instrument accordingly. As previously noted, however, findings presented in this preliminary report only include respondents aged 18 and over unless otherwise noted.

The study population was limited to individuals currently residing in a U.S. state or territory, or on a U.S. military base overseas, to capture the experiences of transgender people who were subject to laws, policies, and social and cultural environments in the U.S. at the time they completed the survey.

Developing the Survey Instrument

The 2022 USTS research team worked for more than a year to develop the survey instrument under the advisement of a Scientific Advisory Committee and in collaboration with dozens of individuals with lived experience, advocacy and research experience, and subject matter expertise. Using the 2015 USTS survey instrument as the foundation, it was important to focus on the general goals of collecting updated data on a wide range of topics and to address data collection gaps. It was also critical to develop a survey instrument that expanded the range of topics presented, responded to changing social, environmental, and political landscapes, and responded to feedback about the 2015 iteration. For example, given the unparalleled impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the research team had to consider how the pandemic might affect respondents’

experiences with respect to USTS-specific measures. Accordingly, the research focused on collecting data that would be comparable to the 2015 USTS while expanding or adding topics and questions for context (e.g., COVID-19), to respond to issues in law and policy (e.g., health care, sports), and to yield new or improved information (e.g., physical health, transition-related health care, education, life satisfaction).

To further refine the survey, nearly 100 people participated in a pilot study to evaluate the questionnaire and were offered a \$25 gift card for their participation. Pilot study participants included individuals who were eligible for the survey and who represented a wide range of characteristics and experiences that reflected the diversity of the intended study sample. The pilot study was administered through an online test site using the same platform and format in which the final survey later appeared, and its purpose was to evaluate the substantive content and technical aspects of the survey. Pilot study participants were asked to provide general feedback on individual questions and the entire questionnaire and to address specific questions from the research team as part of their evaluation. Pilot study feedback was compiled, discussed, and used to inform final revisions to the survey instrument.

The final survey questionnaire contained a total of 605 possible questions presented in thirty-eight sections addressing topics across a range of life experiences. This was a significant expansion over the 324 possible questions in the 2015 USTS and reflects efforts to substantially increase knowledge in many issue areas. The additional questions often sought a more nuanced understanding of an issue that only affected some respondents rather than resulting in more questions for all respondents. No respondent received all possible questions, and the online survey platform allowed respondents to move efficiently through the questionnaire using skip logic to ensure that respondents only received questions that were appropriate based on their previous answers. As a result, despite having nearly twice the number of possible questions as in the 2015 USTS, the 2022 USTS maintained an average completion time of 60 minutes, as verified by the pilot study. As with both the 2015 USTS and the NTDS, evaluations of the USTS questionnaire confirmed that the length was appropriate for such a comprehensive survey, and the need for data about the experiences of transgender people outweighed concerns about the survey length.

Outreach

The primary outreach objective was to raise awareness of the survey and provide opportunities to complete the survey for as many transgender people as possible across the U.S. and its territories. Outreach efforts also focused on connecting with people who are often underrepresented in survey research and those with limited access and opportunity to complete an online survey. This included, but was not limited to, people of color, seniors, people residing in rural areas, and low-income individuals.

The outreach team substantially improved on the 2015 USTS outreach model by expanding efforts on multiple fronts and applying lessons learned, such as the benefits of a longer outreach period and diverse approaches to community engagement. The outreach period began approximately one year before the survey launch, and the outreach team used various strategies to connect with transgender people through multiple

points of access, such as through transgender- or LGBTQ-specific organizations, support groups, health centers, and online communities. The outreach team expanded on the eleven-person 2015 USTS Advisory Committee to assemble a USTS Outreach Council comprised of twenty-two organizations and individuals who advised on and participated in outreach to transgender people in communities across the U.S. and in U.S. territories throughout the outreach period. Working with the Outreach Council significantly increased outreach engagement and served as the bedrock for outreach efforts. The outreach team also contacted nearly 1,900 organizations and individuals to request their support by sharing information about the survey with their members and contacts. The team directly corresponded with more than 250 organizations during the outreach period and while the survey was in the field, and countless other organizations promoted the survey to their communities. The team worked to connect with potential respondents through a variety of methods, including making thousands of phone calls and sending tens of thousands of text messages.

Throughout the outreach period, the team conducted a survey pledge campaign, which was among the most important methods for engaging and communicating with potential respondents. The campaign invited potential participants and allies to pledge to take the survey and/or spread the word about the survey. The survey pledge was designed to raise awareness about the survey and engage potential respondents for a sustained period leading up to the survey launch. Individuals who completed pledge information received email and text communications throughout the outreach period. The pledge was an important component of the outreach and communications strategy in the 2015 USTS, and the large number of pledgers in 2015 (~14,000) was thought to correspond to the eventual large number of respondents (27,715). The 2022 USTS outreach team improved upon the survey pledge campaign to substantially increase connections and engagement, resulting in 34,576 people who pledged to take the survey before it launched, 12,015 of whom also pledged to share the survey with other transgender people in their life.

As an incentive to complete the survey, participants were offered the opportunity to enter into a random drawing for one of three cash prizes upon completion of the survey, including one \$500 cash prize and two \$250 cash prizes. After completing and submitting their anonymous survey responses, USTS respondents were re-directed away from the survey hosting site to a web page on the NCTE-hosted USTS website to sign up for the random drawing.

The outreach team worked with organizations to reduce barriers to accessing the survey and increase opportunities to take the survey for people who may otherwise not have had access. One such method was by working with organizations to organize “survey-taking events.” These were events during which organizations provided a location and resources for attendees to take the survey, such as computers or tablets. These events were intended to provide access to individuals with limited or no computer or internet access, those who may have needed assistance when completing the survey, or those who needed a safe place to take the survey. The team also ran a tablet-loan program to provide another avenue through which organizations could offer survey access.

Communications

The communications strategy was implemented in coordination with outreach efforts with a goal of reaching a wide range of transgender people, including those in populations that are traditionally underrepresented in surveys. The communications team employed a range of methods to share information about the survey, including email, social media, and print media, and created engaging materials to spread the word about the survey. The USTS website was redesigned to improve functionality and better share information with potential respondents and organizations and individuals interested in promoting the survey. The website included a description of the survey, information about the team working on the survey, frequently asked questions, and an interactive map with information about organizations that supported the survey.

The communications team created promotional materials and messaging to share through email, social media, and other methods. They maintained communication with thousands of individuals and organizations, including people who pledged to take or spread the word about the survey, organizations that committed to support the survey through outreach efforts, and people who had signed up to be in communication with NCTE about the organization's work and projects more generally. They also developed a "partner toolkit" with materials for organizations to download and use, including key messaging, promotional graphics, video scripts, social media posts, event materials, and language for emails. The team provided information through many channels, resulting in the survey being promoted by influencers, organizations, and content creators through social media platforms, such as Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, TikTok, and Tumblr. The team also commissioned videos from key influencers to promote the survey prior to the survey launch and during the data-collection period, including "progress videos" that were embedded in the survey to thank respondents and encourage them to continue completing the survey. In addition to providing materials about the survey, the USTS team held dozens of events to raise awareness about the survey, such as Instagram and Facebook Live events to discuss the survey with influencers and organizations.

Institutional Review Board and Confidentiality

The USTS was approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB), which is an entity intended to protect the rights and welfare and ensure confidentiality of individuals participating in a research study. The study underwent an extensive full-board review by the University of California, Los Angeles, North General IRB, which included review and approval of the study design, questionnaire, and all recruitment materials leading up to the launch of the survey and throughout the fielding period in English and Spanish. As required by the IRB, the survey began with a study information sheet describing aspects of the study and participants' rights in the study. Participants were required to consent to taking the survey at the end of the information sheet and before beginning the questionnaire.

The survey was anonymous, and maintaining privacy and confidentiality in the collection and maintenance of survey data was an important component of preserving participants' anonymity. The IRB required the research team

to ensure that confidentiality protections were in place for the study and demonstrate sufficiency of data security protocols. The research team also obtained a Certificate of Confidentiality from the National Institutes of Health, which could be used to legally refuse to disclose information that may identify respondents in any federal, state, or local civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, or other proceedings, such as if there is a court subpoena.

Survey Hosting, Data Collection, and Cleaning

The survey was programmed and hosted by Qualtrics, and data collection was managed by Qualtrics throughout the 48-day fielding period. Following the end of the survey data-collection period, the database was securely transferred to the USTS research team for cleaning and analysis. The data then underwent cleaning using standard practices and additional cleaning for eligibility to remove responses that did not belong in the sample (e.g., duplicate responses, incomplete responses, illogical responses) and improve the quality of the final sample. The data were then recoded as needed, including recoding of write-in responses for questions with a “not listed above” answer choice. Write-in responses were recoded into existing answer choices when possible, and in some cases, new answer categories were created for frequently repeated write-in responses.

Several survey weights were developed for use in our analyses to reduce sampling biases and be more representative of the U.S. transgender population with regard to age, race/ethnicity, education, and geographical region. Findings in this report for these demographic characteristics reflect the weighted percentages. Separate weights were developed for the full sample (ages 16+) and for the adult sample (ages 18+). The weights were based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), which is one of the few sources of representative data for the U.S. trans population.

As previously noted, the forthcoming full report of the 2022 U.S. Transgender Survey will contain a detailed description of survey methodology, including more information about the cleaning and weighting processes.

Presentation of Findings

Findings in this early insights report of the 2022 USTS represent the overall findings for each topic examined, presented as weighted percentages of the entire adult sample or of specified subgroups. Results are only reported for respondents aged 18 and older, except as noted for findings that also include 16- and 17-year-olds. This report does not include additional analyses to examine differences in outcomes based on demographic and other characteristics. Comprehensive results, including those for 16- and 17-year-olds and broken down by a variety of characteristics, will be reported in the full report of the 2022 U.S. Transgender Survey.

Percentages are rounded to whole numbers, and results were rounded according to the following convention: findings with 0.50 and above were rounded up, and findings with 0.49 and below were rounded down (e.g., 1.50% rounded to 2% and 1.49% rounded to 1%). Findings of 0.49% or less were labeled “less than 1%” or “<1%.” Findings presented in figures and tables may not always add up to 100% due to rounding.

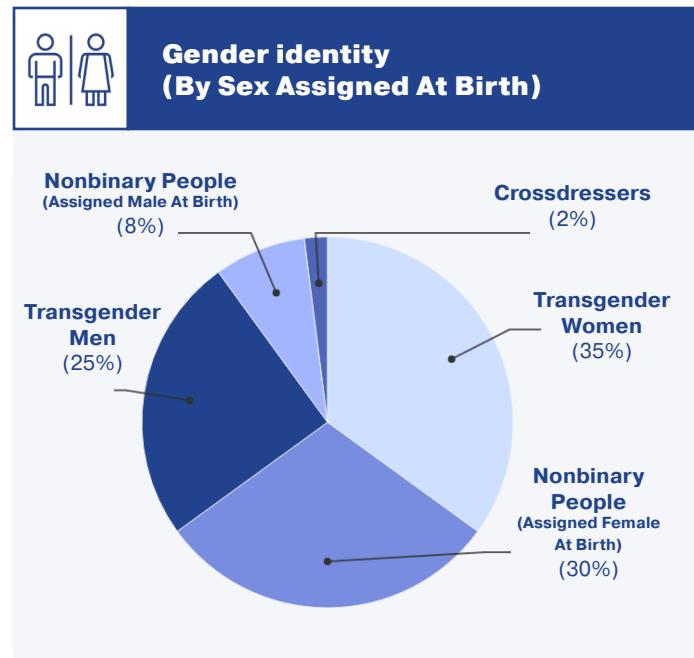
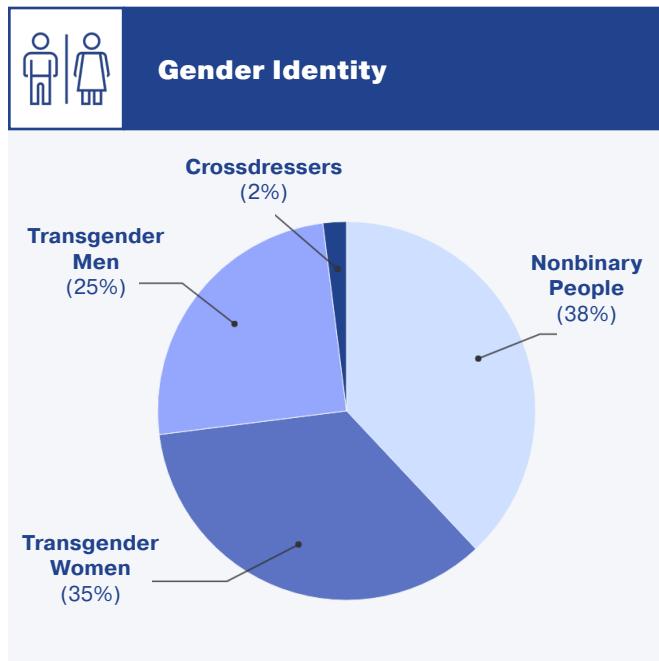
Throughout the survey, respondents answered questions about experiences that occurred within a certain time period prior taking the survey, such as “in the last 12 months” or “in the last 30 days.” When time periods are noted in this report, they relate to when the respondent took the survey. For example, “in the last 12 months” in this report means that the respondent had the experience in the 12 months prior to taking the survey.

When interpreting the preliminary findings presented in this report, it is important to note that although the team sought to recruit a sample that was as representative as possible of transgender people in the U.S. and analytic weights reduce sample biases, study respondents were not drawn from a random sample. Therefore, while this sample is a large one, the findings may not be representative of all transgender people.

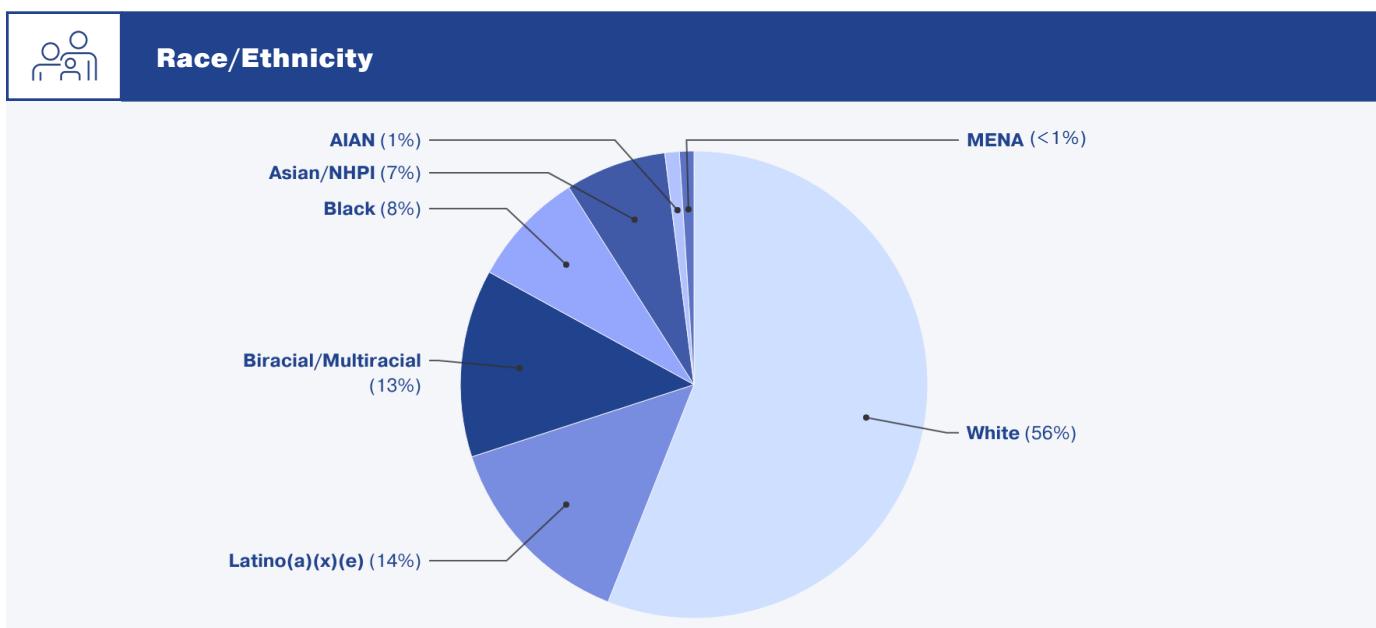
RESULTS

Characteristics of USTS Respondents

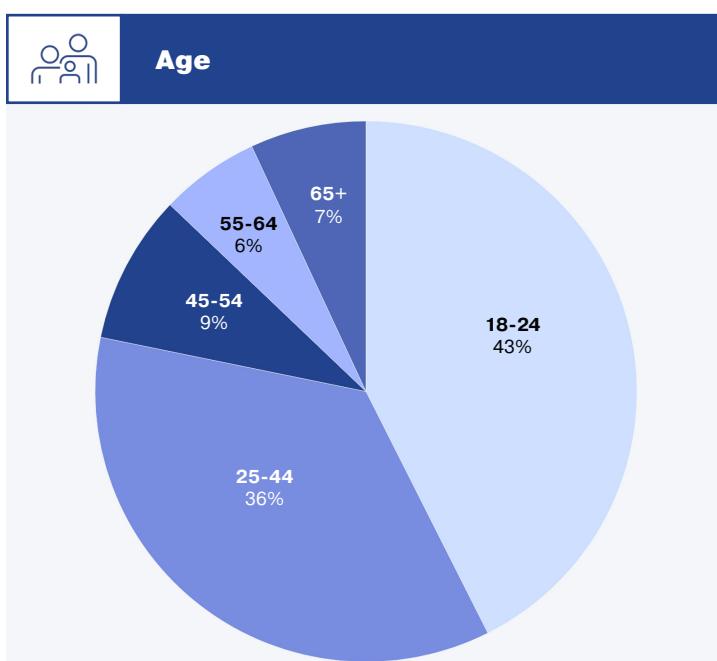
- **Gender:** Thirty-eight percent (38%) of respondents identified as nonbinary, 35% identified as a transgender woman, 25% identified as a transgender man, and 2% identified as a crossdresser.
- When considering sex assigned at birth, 35% of respondents identified as a transgender woman, 30% identified as nonbinary (assigned female at birth), 25% identified as a transgender man, 8% identified as nonbinary (assigned male at birth), and 2% identified as a crossdresser.



- **Intersex Status.** Five percent (5%) of respondents reported they were born with a variation in physical sex characteristics or had an intersex variation or Difference of Sex Development, 72% reported they were not, and 23% reported that they did not know.

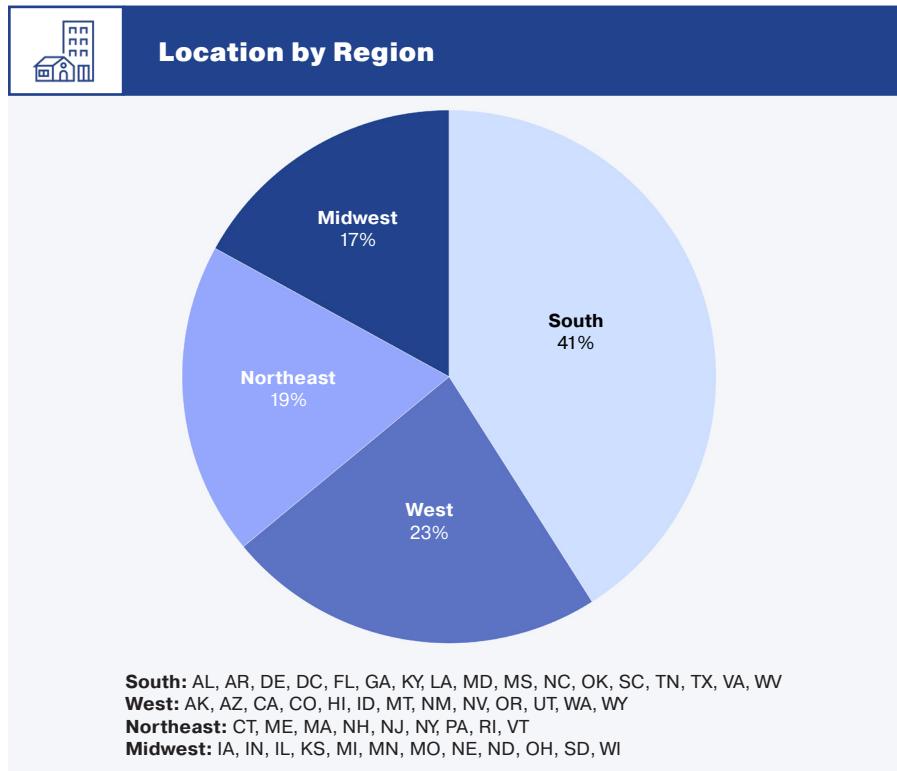


- Race:** One percent (1%) of respondents identified as American Indian or Alaska Native (“AIAN”), 7% identified as Asian/Asian American or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (“Asian/NHPI”), 8% identified as Black/African American (“Black”), 14% identified as Latino(a)(x)(e)/Hispanic (“Latino(a)(x)(e)”), less than 1% identified as Middle Eastern/North African (“MENA”), 56% identified as White/European American (“White”), and 13% identified as two or more races (“Biracial/Multiracial”). Additionally, less than 1% identified as “a racial or ethnic identity not listed above.”



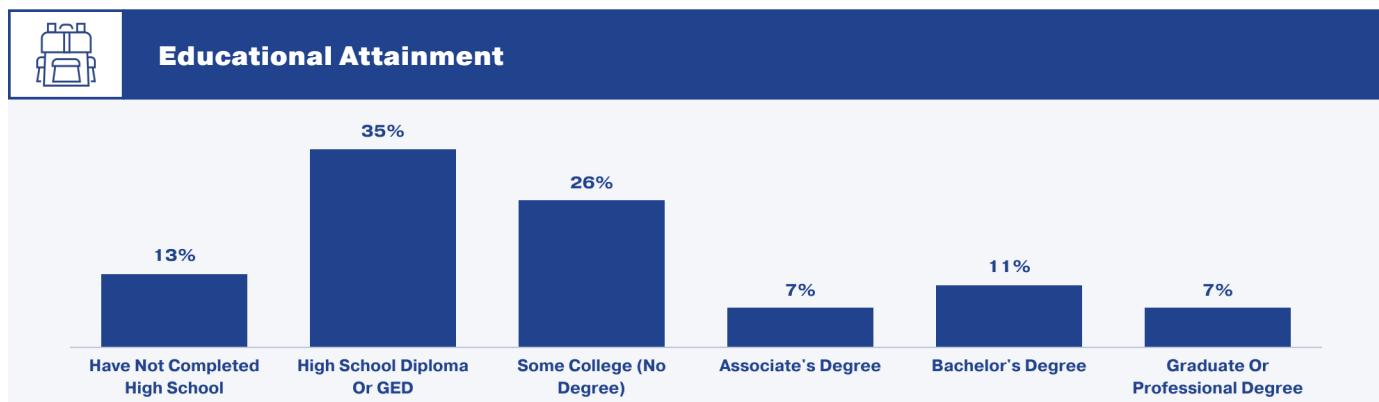
- Age:** Forty-three percent (43%) of respondents were age 18 to 24, 36% were age 25 to 44, 9% were age 45 to 54, 6% were age 55 to 64, and 7% were over the age of 65.
- Parental Status:** Seventeen percent (17%) of respondents reported that they were parents and 3% were parents of a transgender or nonbinary child (including adult children).

- **Geographic location:** USTS respondents were living in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and U.S. military bases overseas. Based on Census regions, 41% were living in the South, 23% lived in the West, 19% lived in the Northeast, and 17% lived in the Midwest. Census regional categories do not include U.S. territories or U.S. military bases overseas.



- **Citizenship Status:** Nearly all respondents were U.S. citizens either by birth (95%) or through naturalization (3%), and 1% were Permanent Residents. One percent (1%) of respondents held another immigration status, such as visa holder (including T, U, HB-1, or other visa), undocumented, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipient, refugee, or asylee.

- **Educational Attainment:** Thirty-five (35%) percent of respondents had completed high school or obtained a GED, 26% had completed some college, 13% had not completed high school, 11% had a bachelor's degree, 7% had an associate's degree, and 7% had a master's degree or higher.



HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE

Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Respondents were asked questions about their experiences with the COVID-19 pandemic to determine how it impacted the ways in which they move through the world and interact with others.

- Most respondents reported that, in the last 12 months, they went out in public places (such as a grocery store, restaurant, or shopping mall) less than they did before the COVID-19 pandemic, including 27% who went out “somewhat less” than before, 33% who went out “a lot less” than before, and 1% that did not go out at all. Twenty-seven percent (27%) of respondents went out “about the same amount” as before the pandemic, 7% went out “somewhat more” than before, and 5% went out “a lot more” than before.
- Most respondents wore a mask at least some of the time when out in public in the last 12 months, including 28% who wore a mask “all of the time,” 33% who wore one “most of the time,” and 24% who wore one “some of the time.” Twelve percent (12%) wore a mask “a little of the time,” and 4% wore a mask “none of the time.”

General Health and Experiences with Health Care Providers

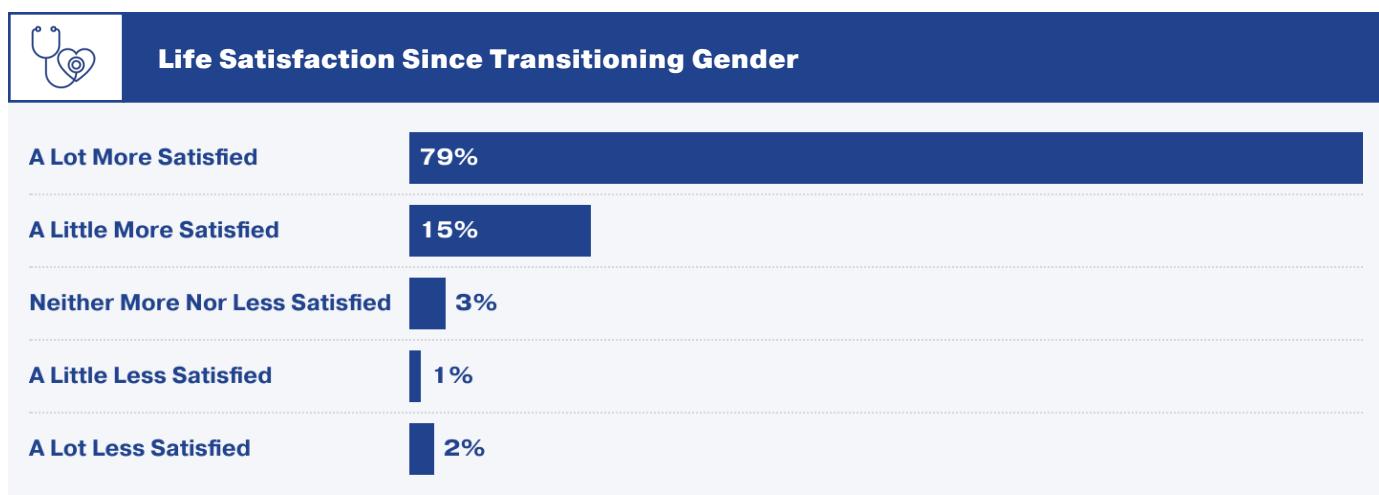
- Approximately two-thirds of respondents reported that their health status was “good” (36%), “very good” (24%), or “excellent” (6%). One-quarter (25%) rated their health status as “fair,” and 9% said it was “poor.”
- More than one-quarter of respondents (28%) did not see a doctor when they needed to in the last 12 months due to cost.
- Nearly one-quarter of respondents (24%) did not see a doctor when they needed to in the last 12 months due to fear of mistreatment.
- Forty-four percent (44%) of respondents experienced serious psychological distress in the last 30 days (based on the Kessler 6 Psychological Distress Scale).
- Seventy-nine percent (79%) of respondents saw a doctor or health care provider within the last 12 months, and 9% saw a provider between 1 and 2 years ago.
- Of those who saw a health care provider within the last 12 months, nearly one-half (48%) reported having at least one negative experience because they were transgender, such as being refused health care, being misgendered, having a provider use harsh or abusive language when treating them, or having a provider be physically rough or abusive when treating them.

Health Insurance

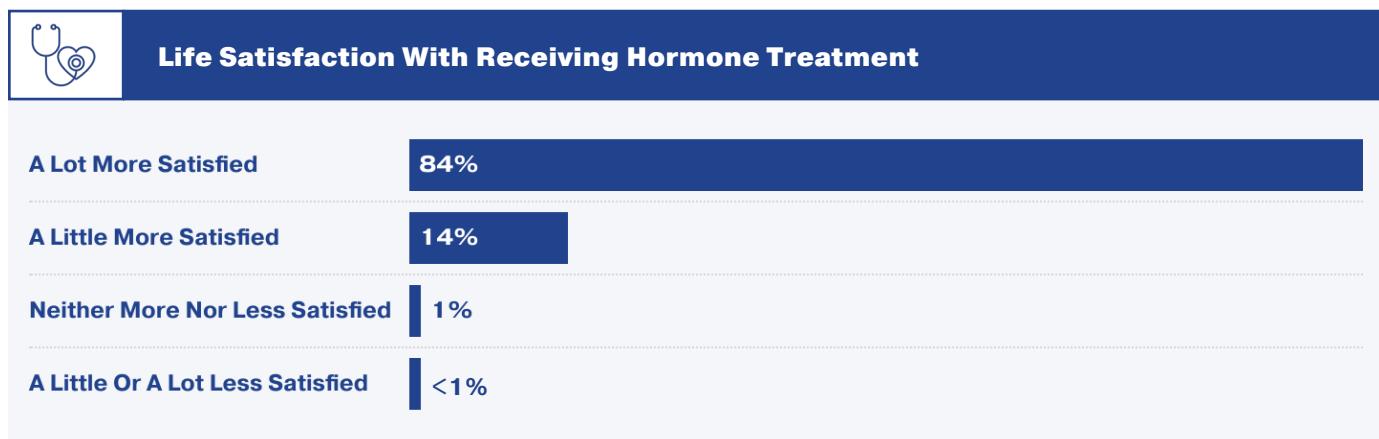
- Eighty-seven (87%) percent of respondents had health insurance coverage.
- Approximately 1 in 4 respondents (26%) had at least one issue with their insurance company in the last 12 months, such as being denied coverage for hormone therapy, surgery, or another type of health care related to their gender identity/transition; gender-specific health care because they were transgender; or routine health care because they were transgender.

Gender Identity and Transition

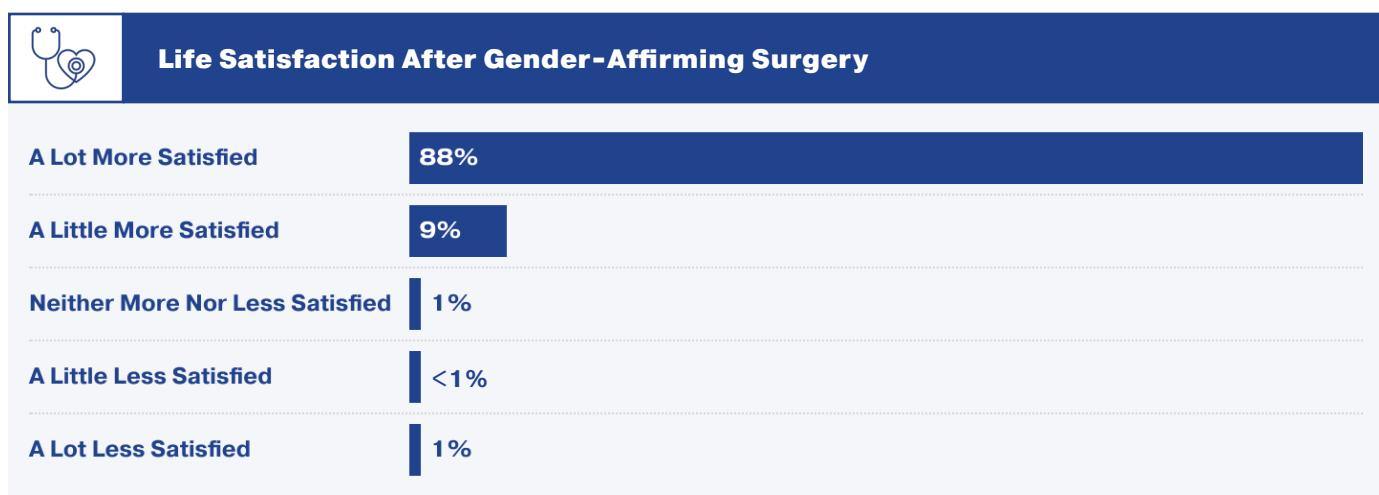
- Nearly all respondents (94%) who lived at least some of the time in a different gender than the one they were assigned at birth (“gender transition”) reported that they were either “a lot more satisfied” (79%) or “a little more satisfied” (15%) with their life. Three percent (3%) reported that transitioning gender made them “neither more nor less satisfied” with their life, 1% were “a little less satisfied,” and 2% were “a lot less satisfied” with their life.



- Nearly all respondents (98%) who were currently receiving hormone treatment reported that receiving hormones for their gender identity/transition made them either “a lot more satisfied” (84%) or “a little more satisfied” (14%) with their life. One percent (1%) reported that hormones made them “neither more nor less satisfied” with their life, and less than 1% said that they were “a little less satisfied” or “a lot less satisfied” with their lives after receiving hormones.



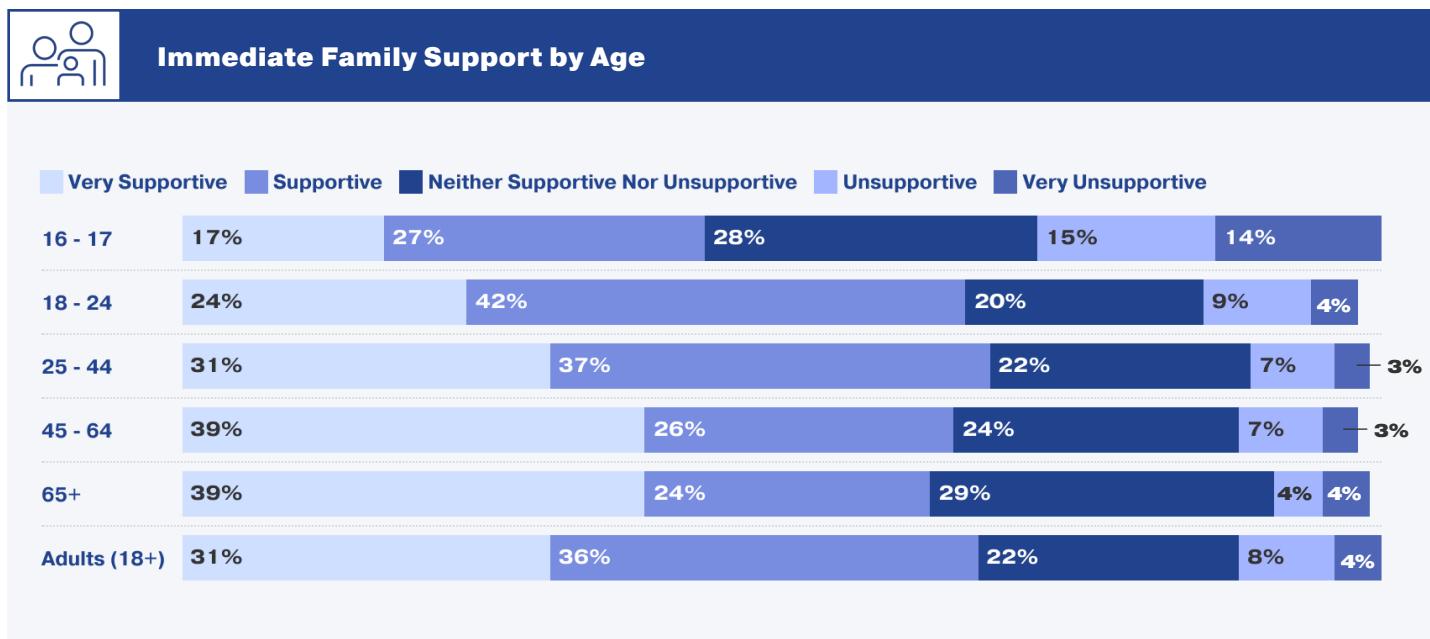
- Nearly all respondents (97%) who had at least one form of surgery for their gender identity/ transition reported that they were either “a lot more satisfied” (88%) or “a little more satisfied” (9%) with their life. One percent (1%) reported that surgery made them “neither more nor less satisfied” with their life, less than 1% were “a little less satisfied,” and 1% were “a lot less satisfied” with their life.



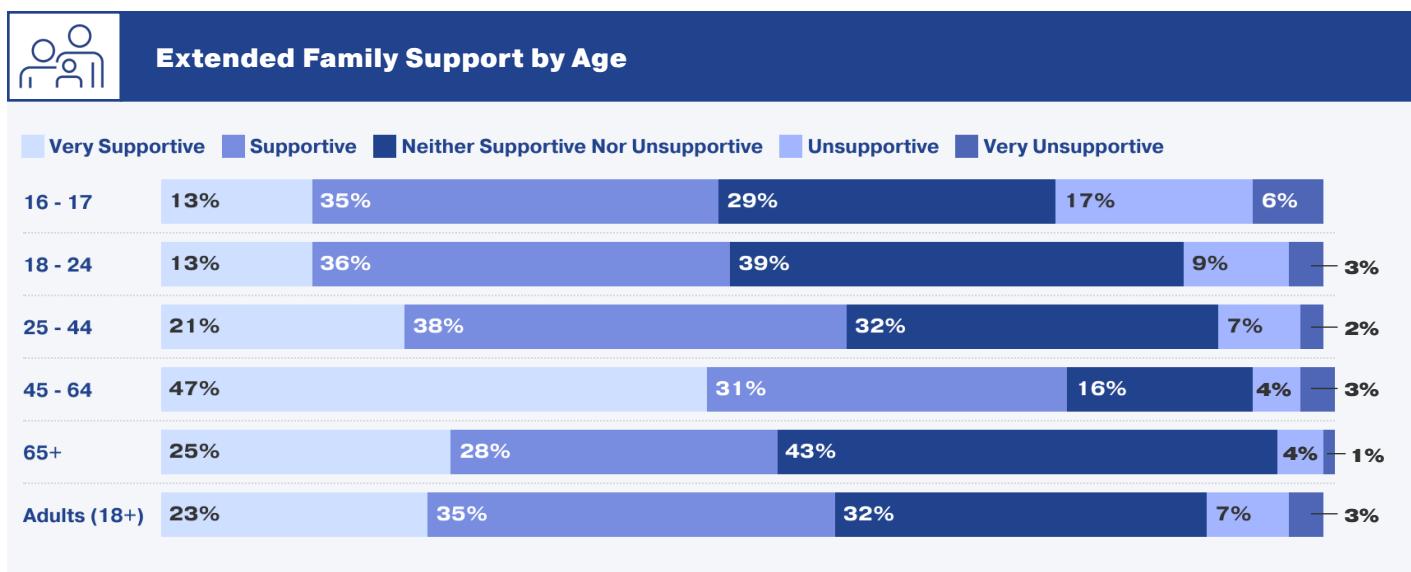
FAMILY LIFE

This section includes some data for 16- and 17-year-old respondents.

- Thirty-six percent (36%) of adult respondents who said that some or all of their immediate family knew that they were transgender said their family members were “supportive” of them being transgender, and 31% said they were “very supportive.” Eight percent (8%) said their immediate family was “unsupportive” of them being transgender, 4% had “very unsupportive” immediate families, and 22% reported that they were “neither supportive nor unsupportive.”
- Among 16- and 17-year-old respondents who said that some or all of their immediate family knew that they were transgender, 27% said their family members were “supportive” of them being transgender, and 17% said they were “very supportive.” Fifteen percent (15%) said their immediate family was “unsupportive” of them being transgender, 14% had “very unsupportive” immediate families, and 28% reported that they were “neither supportive nor unsupportive.”



- Thirty-five percent (35%) of adult respondents who said that some or all of their extended family members (such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins) knew that they were transgender said their family members were “supportive” of them being transgender, and 23% said they were “very supportive.” Seven percent (7%) said their extended family was “unsupportive” of them being transgender, 3% had “very unsupportive” extended families, and 32% reported that they were “neither supportive nor unsupportive.”
- Among 16- and 17-year-old respondents who said that some or all of their extended family members (such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins) knew that they were transgender, 35% said their family members were “supportive” of them being transgender, 13% said they were “very supportive.” Seventeen percent (17%) said their extended family was “unsupportive” of them being transgender, 6% had “very unsupportive” extended families, and 29% reported that they were “neither supportive nor unsupportive.”



- More than one in ten (11%) adult respondents who grew up in the same household with family, guardians, or foster parents said that a family member was violent towards them because they were transgender, and 8% were kicked out of the house because they were transgender.
- Five percent (5%) of 16- and 17-year-old respondents who grew up in the same household with family, guardians, or foster parents said that a family member was violent towards them because they were transgender, and 1% were kicked out of the house because they were transgender.

Income, Employment, Workplace Experiences, and Housing Stability

- More than one-third (34%) of respondents were experiencing poverty.
- The unemployment rate among USTS respondents was 18%.
- More than one in ten (11%) respondents who had ever held a job said they had been fired, forced to resign, lost the job, or been laid off because of their gender identity or expression.
- Nearly one-third (30%) of respondents had experienced homelessness in their lifetime.

Experiences In Restrooms

- Four percent (4%) of respondents were denied access to a restroom in a public place, at work, or at school in the last 12 months.
- In the last 12 months, 6% of respondents had been verbally harassed, physically attacked, or experienced unwanted sexual contact when accessing or using a restroom.

Harassment and Violence

- Nearly one in ten (9%) respondents reported that they were denied equal treatment or service in the last 12 months because of their gender identity or expression.
- Nearly one-third (30%) of respondents reported that they were verbally harassed in the last 12 months because of their gender identity or expression.
- More than one-third (39%) of respondents reported that they were harassed online in the last 12 months because of their gender identity or expression.
- Three percent (3%) of respondents reported that they were physically attacked in the last 12 months because of their gender identity or expression.

Comfort with Law Enforcement

- Nearly half (47%) of respondents reported that they would feel “very uncomfortable” asking the police for help if they needed it, and 26% reported feeling “somewhat uncomfortable.” Ten percent (10%) of respondents reported feeling “somewhat comfortable,” 8% felt “very comfortable,” and 10% felt “neutral” about asking the police for help when they needed it.
- Sixty-two percent (62%) of respondents reported that they were “very uncomfortable” or “somewhat uncomfortable” asking for help from the police when needed because of their gender identity or expression.

Identity Documents

- Nearly half (48%) of respondents who had at least one form of identity document (such a birth certificate, passport, or driver’s license) said that none of their IDs listed the name they wanted. Twenty percent (20%) had the name they wanted on some of their IDs, and 33% had the name they wanted on all their IDs.
- Fifty-nine percent (59%) of respondents who had at least one ID said that none of their IDs listed the gender they wanted, 23% said some of their IDs listed the gender they wanted, and 19% said that all their IDs listed the gender they wanted.
- Twenty-two percent (22%) of all respondents reported being verbally harassed, assaulted, asked to leave a location, or denied services when they have shown someone an ID with a name or gender that did not match their presentation.

Experiences at School

This section includes some data for 16- and 17-year-old respondents.

- More than three-quarters of adult respondents (80%) and nearly two-thirds of 16- and 17-year-old respondents (60%) who were out or perceived as transgender in K-12 experienced one or more form of mistreatment or negative experience, including verbal harassment, physical attacks, online bullying, being denied the ability to dress according to their gender identity/expression, teachers or staff refusing to use chosen name or pronouns, or being denied the use of restrooms or locker rooms matching their gender identity.

Impact of Unequal Treatment

- Forty percent (40%) of respondents had thought about moving to another area because they experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they were living, and 10% of respondents had actually moved to another area because of discrimination.
- Nearly half (47%) of respondents had thought about moving to another state because their state government considered or passed laws that target transgender people for unequal treatment (such as banning access to bathrooms, health care, or sports), and 5% of respondents had actually moved out of state because of such state action.
- The top 10 states from which respondents moved because of state laws targeting transgender people for unequal treatment were (in alphabetical order): Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.



Top 10 States USTS Respondents Reported Leaving

(Presented in alphabetical order)

Alabama

Arizona

Florida

Georgia

Missouri

North Carolina

Ohio

Tennessee

Texas

Virginia