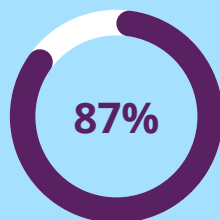


Barriers to reporting anti-LGBT+ hate crime



While everyone has the right to report to the police after experiencing a hate crime, certain communities face extra barriers to accessing that type of support. It's important to be aware of these hurdles, so you can make reporting truly accessible.



87% of LGBT+ people surveyed did not report the latest hate crime they experienced



LGBT+ victims of hate crime face specific barriers that either discourage or prevent them from having their experiences acknowledged, recorded, and investigated:

- Trivialisation of abuse
- Belief that nothing will come out of it
- Concerns about consequences and escalation of violence
- Inaccessibility of services
- Identity is often inaccurately recorded, especially for trans, non-binary, ace and bi people
- Risk of criminalisation, especially for LGBT+ people with insecure immigration status
- Poor previous experience of reporting
- Concerns about being outed by authorities

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✉ hatecrime@galop.org.uk

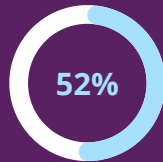
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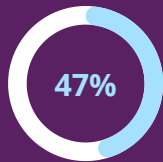
Barriers to reporting anti-LGBT+ hate crime



Among LGBT+ people who were satisfied with the police response to their report :



were treated with respect



were taken seriously

Here are some first steps you can implement to make your service more inclusive, and improve how LGBT+ people are treated when they come to you:



Do not assume that everyone is cisgender or heterosexual

Introduce yourself with your pronouns and allow people to tell you theirs if they wish

Take care not to 'out' anyone, deliberately or otherwise

Consider if domestic abuse or a sexual assault may have been motivated by anti-LGBT+ hate

Ask open questions about potential hate motivation

Be clear that a targeted person is never responsible for the violence they receive

Use active listening and reflect back the language used by the person you are talking to

Continue to build knowledge on LGBT+ experiences through trainings, and community engagement

Develop referral pathways with specialist services

Remember that official documents do not always reflect the true gender identity of a person

Remember to give victims regular updates, so they know that they haven't been forgotten