

FACT SHEET:

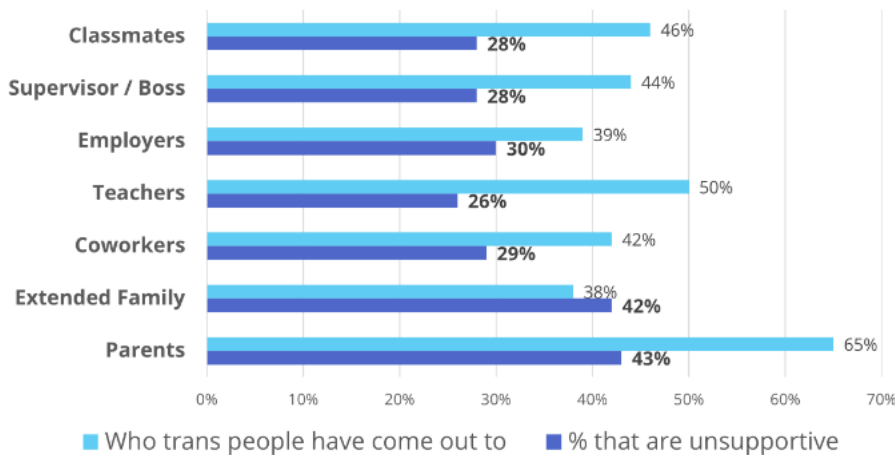
Lack of community support and violence experienced by LGBTQ2+ people

With research from Black Lives Matter Waterloo Region, the Waterloo Region OutLook Study, Statistics Canada, and the Ontario Human Rights Commission



UNSUPPORTIVE FAMILIES

Less than half (43%) of trans people in Waterloo Region have come out to people outside of their immediate family. Nearly a third of those who have (31%) say that people they came out to are unsupportive (Charlie Davis, 2020)



Trans people are often not supported by their families. Parents and extended family were the most likely to be unsupportive. Trans people were the most likely to be out to their parents, and the least likely to be out to extended family.

In one Waterloo Region study, **42% of trans respondents reported having to move away from family or friends** because of their gender identity.

Of the 40,000 homeless youth in Canada, between 25% and 40% identify as LGBTQ2+. Family conflict relating to sexual orientation or gender identity is the main reason LGBTQIA2 youth become homeless.

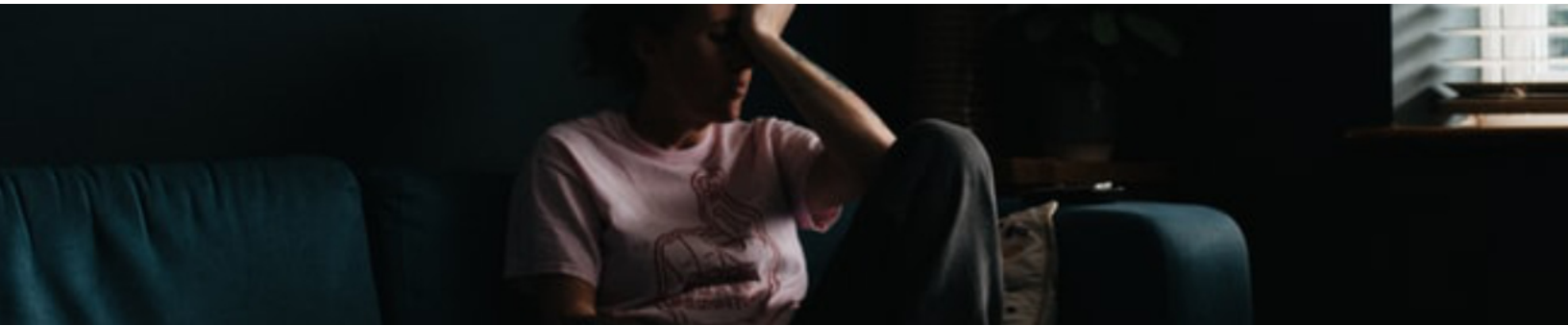
90% of LGBTQ2+ high school students **have pretended not to be LGBTQ2+.**

90% of LGBTQ2+ respondents in Waterloo Region said that when they were growing up, they heard that LGBTQ2+ people were abnormal.

74% of trans high school students in Waterloo Region reported **avoiding public washrooms out of fear of harassment, outing, or violence**, as compared to 57% of adult trans people.

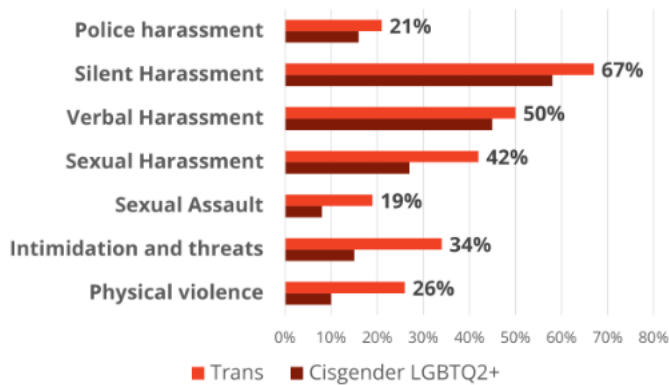
63% of LGBTQ2+ high school students **report having been made fun of or called names** as compared to 83% of trans students.





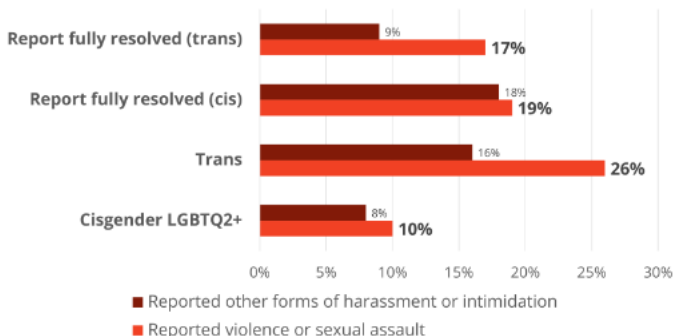
LGBTQ+ Canadians are more likely to experience physical or sexual assault, and are more likely to suffer injuries as a result of that assault.

According to the WRRRC Outlook study, significant numbers of people reported experiencing violence because of their sexual orientation or gender identity:



24% of TransPULSE survey respondents said they had been harassed by police. Police violence against queer, trans, and 2-Spirit BIPOC people is widespread, but hard to quantify because it goes underreported

Despite experiencing violence more frequently, LGBTQ2+ people report violence and harassment at lower rates than non-LGBTQ2+ Canadians. Further, even though more trans people filed reports, their reports were less likely to be fully resolved



Trans people in Waterloo Region experience high rates of gender-based harassment and emotional violence from health care workers:

- 23% of trans people reported hospital staff using harmful or insulting language about trans identity and experiences
- 15% reported that hospital staff belittled them or ridiculed them for being trans
- 12% had hospital staff tell them that they are not really trans

Black Lives Matter Waterloo Region. (2020). *BLM WATERLOO REGION HAS LAUNCHED A KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION CAMPAIGN AS PART OF OUR SERIES OF ACTIONS TO #ENDGENDEREDPOLICEVIOLENCE IN THE WATERLOO REGION!* Retrieved from <https://www.blmwr.ca/end-gendered-police-violence>

C Davis, T Coleman, C Wilson, E McLaren, W Silk, E Schmid, R Travers, K Luu, A Mullholland, J Bell, S Ashtianti, and the Outlook Study Team. (2020). *Experiences of Trans People in Waterloo Region.* Wilfrid Laurier University. Retrieved from <https://yourwrrc.ca/rcc/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Trans-Infosheet-v.06-SMALL.pdf>

Jaffray, B. (2018, September 9). *Experiences of violent victimization and unwanted sexual behaviours among gay, lesbian, bisexual and other sexual minority people, and the transgender population, in Canada, 2018.* Retrieved from Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2020001/article/00009-eng.htm>

Ontario Human Rights Commission. (2014). *Policy on preventing discrimination because of Gender Identity and Gender Expression.* Retrieved from <http://www.ohrc.on.ca/sites/default/files/Policy%20on%20preventing%20discrimination%20because%20of%20gender%20identity%20and%20gender%20expression.pdf>