

TRANSGENDER ISSUES: A FACT SHEET

Numbers

An estimated 2 to 5% of the population is transgender (i.e., experience some degree of gender dysphoria). The number of people who identify as transsexual and undergo sex-reassignment is smaller. Recent statistics from the Netherlands indicate that about 1 in 12,000 natal males undergo sex-reassignment and about 1 in 34,000 natal females. Over time, the gap between the reported numbers of MTF and FTM transsexuals is closing.¹

Hate Violence

A nationwide survey of bias-motivated violence against LGBT people from 1985 to 1998 found that incidents targeting transgender people accounted for 20% of all murders and about 40% of all police-initiated violence.²

Jurisdictions with Transgender Explicit Non-Discrimination Laws

States: 16 + D.C. (California, Colorado, Connecticut, D.C., Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington)

Cities and Counties: 143

Numbers of people protected: 119,041,592 (about 44% of the population)³

San Francisco Dep. of Public Health Study – A Snapshot of Discrimination

In 1997, the SF Dept. of Public Health surveyed 392 MTF and 123 FTM transgender people. Here are some of the results:⁴

	MTF	FTM
Median Age	34 (range: 19-67 years)	36 (range: 19-61 years)
Race	25% African-American, 27% Latina, 27% White, 13% API, 6% Native American	67% White, 12% Latino, 10% African-American, 7% API, 3% Native American
Sexual Orientation	67% Heterosexual, 21% Bisexual	35% Heterosexual, 33% Bisexual, 18% Gay, 12% Lesbian
Median Monthly Income	\$744 (range: \$55-7,436)	\$1,100 (range: \$100-6,000)
HIV Status	35% tested HIV+	Less than 2% tested HIV+
Health Insurance	52% without insurance	41% without insurance
Housing	20% without stable housing or homeless	15% without stable housing or homeless
Abuse/Discrimination	83% reported verbal abuse because of their gender identity or gender presentation 37% reported physical abuse 46% reported employment discrimination 37% reported housing discrimination	85% reported verbal abuse because of their gender identity or gender presentation 30% reported physical abuse 57% reported employment discrimination 20% reported housing discrimination

¹ Van Kesteren, et al., *An epidemiological and demographic study of transsexuals in the Netherlands*, 25(6) Archives of Sexual Behavior 589 (1996).

² Anti-Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Violence in 1998. A report of the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (1999). Available online at <http://ncavp.org/publications/NationalPubs.aspx>.

³ Jurisdictions with Explicitly Transgender-Inclusive Nondiscrimination Laws, available online at <http://www.thetaskforce.org> (last updated 10/2011).

⁴ The Transgender Community Health Project (1999). Available at <http://hivinsite.ucsf.edu/InSite?page=cftg-02-02>.