

TRANSGENDER ISSUES: A FACT SHEET

Numbers

An estimated 2 to 5% of the population are 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 MTFs and FTMs transsexuals is closing.¹

Hate Violence

A nationwide survey of bias-motivated violence against GLBT 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: 13 + D.C. (California, Colorado, D.C., Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington)

Cities & Counties: 91

Number of people protected: 104,118,084 (about 37% of U.S. 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: 18-67 years)	36 (range: 19-61 years)
Race	27% 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 and 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% were without insurance	41% were without insurance
Housing	20% did not have stable housing or were homeless	15% did not have stable housing or were 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 Source: Van Kesteren et al., *An epidemiological and demographic study of transsexuals in the Netherlands*, 25(6) Archives of Sexual Behavior 589 (1996).

² Source: Anti-Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Violence in 1998, A Report of the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (1999).

³ Source: Transgender Law & Policy Institute (www.transgenderlaw.org) (last updated 9/2007)

⁴ Source: The Transgender Community Health Project (San Francisco Department of Public Health 1999)