2019 Asexual Community Survey Summary Report

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About this Report:

This report offers an overview of some of the main questions that were asked in the 2019 Asexual Community Survey (also known as the Ace Community Survey). The full 2019 survey text can be found at https://asexualcensus.files.wordpress.com/2020/04/2019rawtext.pdf.

Blog posts, including additional analysis on specific topics, can be found on the Ace Community Survey Website located at https://asexualcensus.wordpress.com/.

Distribution of this document in whole or in part is encouraged so long as proper credit is given to the Ace Community Survey Team. Please use the recommended citation below when crediting the study:

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In text citation: (Weis et al., 2021) or Weis et al. (2021) reported...

About the Survey Team:

The Ace Community Survey Team is a 100% volunteer-run group who design, administer, analyze, and report on the annual Asexual Community Survey. Team members come from a variety of backgrounds and bring their skills and expertise related to: survey design, coding, data analysis, writing, data processing, and more. You can contact the survey team at asexualcensus@gmail.com.

For updates from the Survey Team, subscribe to the Ace Community Survey Blog at https://asexualcensus.wordpress.com/.

Content Warning:

This report contains material that may be sensitive or triggering for readers, including (but not limited to) discussions of: sexual violence, suicide, prejudice, discrimination, harassment, substance use, diet, and physical and mental wellbeing. Please see the table of contents for all subjects discussed in detail in the report.

Table of Contents

Methodology and Terminology	5
Survey Methodology	5
Research Limitations	6
Terminology	7
Section 1: General Survey Demographics	8
1.1 Sexual and Romantic Orientation	8
1.1.1 Asexual Spectrum Identity	8
1.1.2 Additional Sexual Identities	11
1.1.3 Romantic Orientation	13
1.2 Gender and Sex	16
1.2.1 Gender Identity Distributions	16
1.2.2 Non-binary Identity and Umbrella Groupings	19
1.2.3 Transgender Identity	22
1.2.4 Intersex Respondents	23
1.3 Age	24
1.4 Education	25
1.5 Employment	26
1.6 Country of Residence	28
1.7 Religion	29
1.8 Race and Ethnicity	30
1.8.1 Race and Ethnicity Categorizations	30
1.8.2 Racial Minority Identity	31
Section 2: Identity Discovery and Navigation	33
2.1 Learning about Asexuality	33
2.1.1 Discovering Asexuality	33
2.1.2 Sex Education	34
2.2 Previous Identities	36
2.3 Coming Out	38
2.4 Non-Sexual and Non-Romantic Attraction	41
Section 3: Significant Relationships	42
3.1 Relationship Status and History	42
3.2 Orientation of Partners	44
3.3 Polyamory	45

Section 4: Lifestyles	46
4.1 Life Events	46
4.2 Family Relationships	49
Section 5: Sexual Violence	52
5.1 Categorizations of Sexual Violence	52
5.2 Sexual Violence Experienced by Aces	55
5.3 Sexual Violence Experienced by LGBTQIA+ Orientation	56
5.4 Sexual Violence Experienced by Gender/Sex	57
5.5 Sexual Violence Experienced by Racial/Ethnic Minority Status	58
Section 6: Sexual Attitudes and Behaviors	59
6.1 Attitudes about Sex	59
6.2 Consensual Sexual Experiences	61
6.3 Sex Drive / Libido	66
Section 7: Health and Ability	67
7.1 Physical and Mental Health	67
7.2 Suicide	73
7.3 Substances	75
7.4 Diet and Food Security	76
Section 8: Negative Experiences	78
8.1 Negative Experiences Based on Sexual and Romantic Identity	78
8.2 Negative Experiences at the Intersection of Ace and Gender Identity	80
8.3 Impact of Discrimination or Prejudice Due to Sexual/Romantic Orientation	81
Section 9: Communities	82
9.1 Initial Participation in Ace Communities	82
9.2 Engagement with Ace and Aro Communities	83
9.3 LGBTQ Communities	87
9.4 LGBTQ Targeted Marketing	89
References	90
Appendix	93
I. Correlation of Gender Identities (Raw Numbers)	93
II. Family Income	94
III. Additional Country Data	96
IV. Racial Distribution Categories	99
V. Significant Relationships Percentage Reference	100
VI. Sexual Violence Detail	101
VII. Frequency of Consensual Sexual Activity Percentage Reference	114
VIII. Negative Experiences Due to Orientation or Gender Identity Percentage Reference	115

Methodology and Terminology

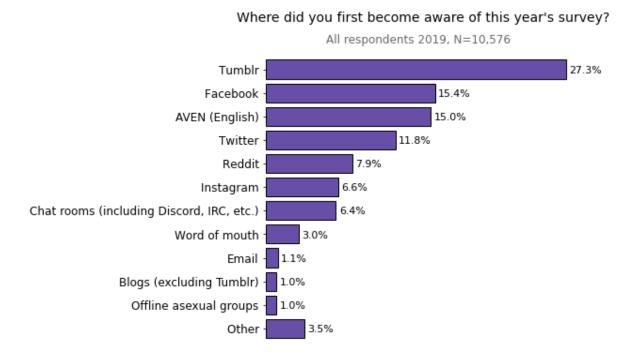
Survey Methodology

The Ace Community Survey is an annual online survey of major asexual communities, administered with the goal of tracking the makeup and well-being of those communities. This survey has been released annually since 2014. The survey consists of a core set of demographic questions (reviewed and revised annually as the team learns more about the community), as well as rotating sets of topical questions.

The 2019 survey was open between October 25 and December 8, 2019, and received a total of 10,648 responses (ace = 10,198, non-ace = 450). Responses to most questions were optional.

The surveys represent a convenience sample recruited via snowball sampling techniques. Announcements containing links to the surveys were posted on the Ace Community Survey website, several major asexual websites (AVEN, the Asexual Agenda, etc.), as well as in asexuality- and LGBTQ-themed groups on various popular social networking sites (Facebook, Tumblr, Twitter, Reddit, etc.). Respondents were encouraged to share the link with any other asexual communities or individuals they knew.

The chart below shows where respondents found the 2019 survey. Similarly to the 2016, 2017, and 2018 surveys, Tumblr was the most common source, however the proportion was markedly lower compared to previous years. Furthermore, a greater proportion of respondents found the survey from AVEN or Twitter compared to previous years. In general, the social media platforms where respondents find the Ace Community Survey stay consistent from year to year.



Many questions gave respondents the option to write in their own responses. These write-in answers were interpreted by hand and back-coded into existing response options where applicable. In some cases, new categories were created for common themes that were distinct from existing response options. These custom categories are sometimes integrated as response options in future releases of the survey.

Research Limitations

Because of the sampling method described in the previous section, the ace respondents to this survey cannot be considered representative of ace people in general, nor can the sample of non-ace people be considered representative of the general population of non-ace people. Both ace and non-ace people are far more likely to participate in the survey if they are in contact with one of the major online Anglophone asexual communities. Furthermore, some communities are more represented than others because of differences in recruiting effectiveness. Comparisons between ace and non-ace respondents are generally not indicative of the differences between ace and non-ace people.¹

It is also worth noting that the Ace Community Survey is an international survey with respondents often residing in 70+ different countries. The survey is administered in English with translation guides available for certain languages that vary year to year. A disproportionate amount of respondents reside in the US, Canada, Australia, or Western European countries. Throughout the report, there are attempts to compare Ace Community Survey data to data from outside sources, many of which are based on US, Canada, or UK populations. Although these sources target different populations than the Ace Community Survey, the comparisons are included since they may be directional or indicative of larger trends that merit additional research or analysis. It is an ongoing priority of the Ace Community Survey Team to continue to make the survey more representative and inclusive of international ace communities.

¹ The Ace Community Survey faces the same challenges and limitations that are generally associated with collecting data on sexuality and gender. See Pew Research Center's Survey of LGBT Americans for documentation of some of these challenges:

https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2013/06/13/chapter-1-demographic-portrait-and-research-challenges/.

Terminology

The following terms and abbreviations are used throughout this report. These terms may hold different definitions when used in other contexts; to learn more about asexual terminology, please see the AVEN website (https://www.asexuality.org/?q=overview.html) or visit an LGBTQIA+ glossary such as https://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/lgbtq/education/glossary/ or https://lgbtqia.ucdavis.edu/educated/glossary. These resources are not owned or overseen by the Ace Community Survey Team; we are providing them for educational purposes only and cannot vouch for their accuracy.

Ace Shorthand for "asexual." In this report, "ace" or "aces" refers to all respondents who identified anywhere on the asexual spectrum. This included respondents who answered "Yes" or "Unsure" to the question, "Do you consider yourself to be on the asexual spectrum?"

Aro Shorthand for "aromantic." In this report, "aro" refers to respondents who identified on the aromantic spectrum (i.e., those who answered "Yes" or "Questioning/Unsure" to the question, "Do you consider yourself to be on the aromantic spectrum?").

Asexual The subset of respondents who identified specifically as asexual. Thus, "asexual" as used in this report does not include other asexual spectrum identities, such as demisexual, gray-asexual, or questioning.

Binary group Respondents who indicated a gender identity that is exclusively "man or male" or exclusively "woman or female."

LGBTQIA+ Umbrella term used to refer to queer people and the queer community. Used interchangeably with LGBTQIA, LGBTQ, or LGBTQ+ throughout this report, unless otherwise specified.

Non-ace Respondents who did not identify on the asexual spectrum, and were not questioning if they were ace.

Non-binary umbrella Respondents who selected an option other than "man or male" or "woman or female" as their gender identity. It includes respondents who identified as "man or male" or "woman or female" in addition to another gender label. In most analysis in the report, "non-binary" is used descriptively and does not indicate that respondents specifically identified as non-binary. Some respondents did identify specifically as non-binary, as described in Section 1.2.

Questioning Ace respondents who marked "questioning" on where within the ace spectrum **group** they fell.

TGNC Transgender and/or gender non-conforming. In this report, TGNC is used as an umbrella term and includes those who said "Yes" or "Questioning or unsure" to "Do you identify as transgender?," as well as those who selected a gender within the non-binary umbrella (see definition above).

Section 1: General Survey Demographics

This section asked respondents about various demographic information, including orientations and identities.

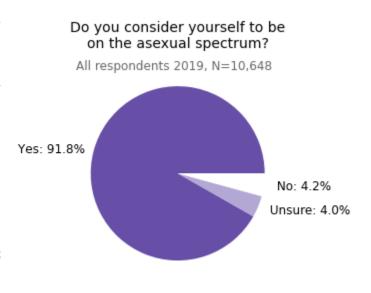
1.1 Sexual and Romantic Orientation

1.1.1 Asexual Spectrum Identity

Do you consider yourself to be on the asexual spectrum?

This question was first introduced in the 2018 Ace Community Survey to allow respondents to self-identify on the asexual spectrum. Responses to this question determined whether a participant was classified as ace or non-ace for this analysis.

Using the same classification as the 2018 data, respondents who answered "Yes" (91.8%) or "Unsure" (4.0%) were classified as ace in this report. Those who said "No" (4.2%) were classified as non-ace. These numbers correspond closely to the 2018 data, where 91.1% of respondents said "Yes," 4.2% said "Unsure," and 4.7% said "No" (Weis et al., 2020).



Which of the following sexual orientation labels do you most closely identify with?

To represent respondents' identities more precisely, ace participants were asked whether they most closely identified as asexual, gray-asexual, demisexual, or questioning. Respondents were also given the option to answer with "Other" and write in a label of their choosing. For this question respondents were asked to mark only one answer.

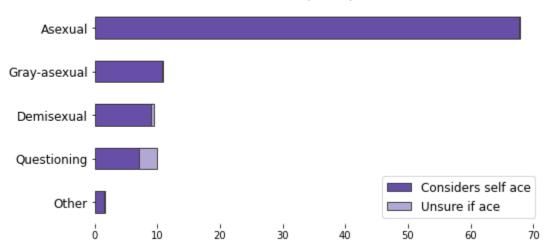
The charts on the following page show the overall distribution of ace identity labels, grouped by those who considered themselves to be ace and those who were unsure if ace in the previous question. When combining these two groups, approximately two-thirds of ace spectrum respondents (67.9%) identified specifically as asexual. Gray-asexual was the next most popular response, representing 10.9% of ace spectrum respondents, and was closely followed by those questioning their label within the ace spectrum (10.0%) and demisexual (9.5%). Those who were questioning had the largest proportion who were unsure if they were ace.

A small portion of respondents (1.6%) chose to write-in their own answer. The most popular write-in responses were categorized as aegosexual, ace-spec, and aceflux (0.6%, 0.5%, and 0.3% of the total, respectively). Altogether the distribution of these labels remained similar to the previous two years (Weis et al., 2020).

Ace spectrum identities 2019 (%) N=10,184	Considers self ace	Unsure if ace	Total
Asexual	67.7	0.2	67.9
Gray-asexual	10.7	0.2	10.9
Demisexual	9.0	0.5	9.5
Questioning	7.0	3.0	10.0
Other	1.4	0.2	1.6

Ace spectrum identities

Aces 2019, N=10,184



The pie chart to the right depicts the asexual spectrum identities of those who were unsure if they considered themselves to be ace. The most common response, "questioning," represented almost three-quarters those unsure if they were ace (72.1%). The next largest identified group demisexual (11.5%).The remaining respondents selected asexual, gray-asexual, or wrote their own answer.

Ace identities of respondents unsure if ace 2019, N=419

Other: 4.8%
Gray-asexual: 5.7%
Asexual: 6.0%
Demisexual: 11.5%

How strongly do you identify with the label you selected above?

Respondents were asked to rate how strongly they identified with their previously chosen ace spectrum label, on a scale of 0 (not strongly at all) to 4 (very strongly). More than two-thirds of respondents across all identities identified strongly (3 or 4) with their label. Asexual respondents expressed the strongest identification, with more than 95% selecting a 3 or 4 and about two-thirds (65.9%) identifying "very strongly" with the label. Questioning respondents felt the least strongly compared to other ace spectrum identities, although more than two-thirds (68.3%) still felt strongly about their label.

Strength of identification with ace spectrum label (Aces 2019)	4 - Very strongly	3	2	1	0 - Not strongly at all
Asexual (%) N=6,920	65.9	30.5	3.0	0.5	0.0
Gray-asexual (%) N=1,116	32.8	47.4	16.7	2.9	0.3
Demisexual (%) N=1,004	42.7	43.4	11.3	2.1	0.5
Questioning (%) N=965	27.4	40.9	23.5	6.4	1.8
Other (%) N=156	54.5	34.6	6.4	1.3	3.2

1.1.2 Additional Sexual Identities

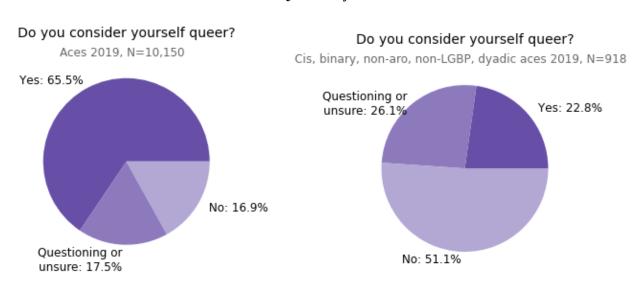
Do you consider yourself queer?

Inclusion of aces in LGBTQ and queer communities is historically a contentious topic. In an interview by Slate (Alam et al., 2020), Angela Chen, author of the book *Ace: What Asexuality Reveals About Desire, Society, and the Meaning of Sex*, summizes that "today, overall, asexuality is accepted as part of [...] the broader LGBTQ+ umbrella, but it feels conditional in many ways."

This sentiment is corroborated by what has been seen in past Ace Community Surveys: in the 2014 survey, only 11.5% of aces said they felt unconditionally welcome in the queer or LGBTQ community, with others feeling welcome only as an ally (10.5%) or because they had another LGBTQ identity (e.g., romantic orientation, gender identity) (17.9%) (Ginoza et al., 2014). As seen later in section 9.3, 21.3% of ace respondents in 2019 said they did not participate in LGBTQ communities because they were not inclusive of asexuality. Due to these tangible implications of the "conditional acceptance" of aces in the broader LGBTQ and queer communities, it is insightful to keep tabs on the various intersections of ace, LGBTQ, and queer identities.

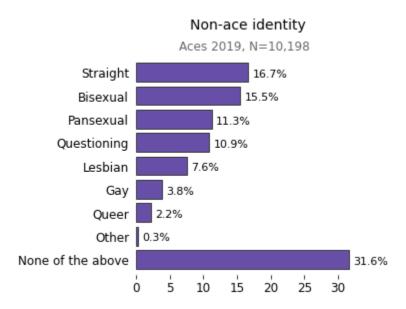
The pie chart on the left shows that about two-thirds of ace respondents in the 2019 survey considered themselves to be queer. The remaining third split almost equally into questioning or unsure and those who did not identify as queer.

When filtering the data to aces who were cisgender, binary, not on the aromantic spectrum, did not identify as lesbian, gay, or any polysexual/polyromantic orientation (e.g., bi-, pan-, poly-, etc.), and were also dyadic (not intersex), the remaining group provides an estimation of how many respondents identified as ace but not with another LGBTQ+ identity. Among those respondents, more than half did not consider themselves queer (51.1%). Less than a quarter did consider themselves queer (22.8%) and over a quarter were unsure (26.1%). It is also interesting to note that the number of respondents who remained after filtering out other LGBTQ+ identities represented fewer than 10% of overall ace respondents, implying that many respondents who identified as ace also claimed another LGBTQ+ identity.



Excluding asexual, gray-asexual, and demisexual, which of the following orientation labels do you most closely identify with (if any)? There is a later question for labels specific to romantic orientation.

The next question asked about identification with other sexual labels. orientation Respondents were asked to select the label they most identified with and could not select multiple answers. For this reason, responses to this question may not represent all labels that respondents identified with. Responses to this question were be distinct from intended to romantic orientation, which was asked in a subsequent question.



About one third of ace respondents selected "none of the above"

(31.6%), indicating that they did not identify with an orientation label outside of the asexual spectrum. The next most common identities were straight and bisexual (16.7% and 15.5% respectively), followed by pansexual (11.3%), and questioning (10.9%).

The table below examines these responses across ace identities. Asexual respondents had a considerably higher proportion who did not identify with a non-ace label (41.9%) compared to other ace identities. Respondents who were questioning their ace identity had the greatest proportion who were questioning their non-ace identity (18.4%). The most common non-ace identity among gray-asexual and demisexual respondents was bisexual (around 25%), followed by straight (around 23%) and pansexual (16.4–20.6%).

Distribution of non-ace identities within ace identities (2019)	Asexual (%) N=6,923	Gray-asexual (%) N=1,117	Demisexual (%) N=966	Questioning (%) N=1,019	Other (%) N=159
Straight	13.8	22.7	23.0	24.9	13.8
Bisexual	11.6	24.6	26.3	21.0	21.4
Pansexual	8.8	16.4	20.6	12.7	17.0
Questioning	10.7	7.7	8.7	18.4	8.8
Lesbian	7.5	8.0	7.1	8.7	8.2
Gay	3.5	5.8	2.6	4.8	3.1
Queer	2.1	2.3	1.8	2.2	7.5
Other	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.2	3.1
None of the above	41.9	11.8	9.5	7.2	17.0

1.1.3 Romantic Orientation

Do you consider yourself to be on the aromantic spectrum?

38.9% of all ace respondents consider themselves to be on the aromantic (aro) spectrum, with an additional 23.1% who were questioning or unsure.

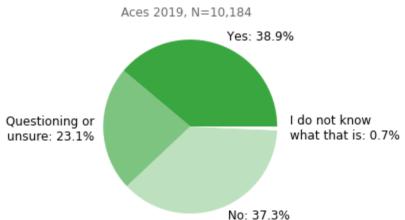
The distribution of aro spectrum identities varied based on identification with the ace spectrum, as shown by the bar chart to the side. Aces had

the greatest proportion of aro respondents (40.0%) compared to non-aces and those unsure if ace. Respondents who were unsure if ace had the greatest proportion who were questioning if they were aro (32.9%). Respondents who were not ace had the greatest proportion who were not aro (71.3%), although more than one in six non-ace respondents identified as aro (with an additional one in twelve who were questioning if aro).

The overall prevalence of ace and aro identity combinations is shown by the table below.

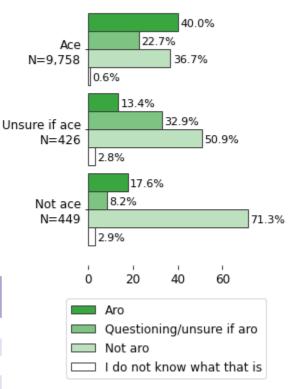
Prevalence of aro & ace identity combinations among all respondents 2019 (%) N=10,633	Ace	Unsure if ace	Not ace
Aro	36.7	0.5	0.7
Unsure if aro	20.8	1.3	0.3
Not aro	33.7	2.0	3.0
I do not know what [the aromantic spectrum] is	0.5	0.1	0.1

Do you consider yourself to be on the aromantic spectrum?



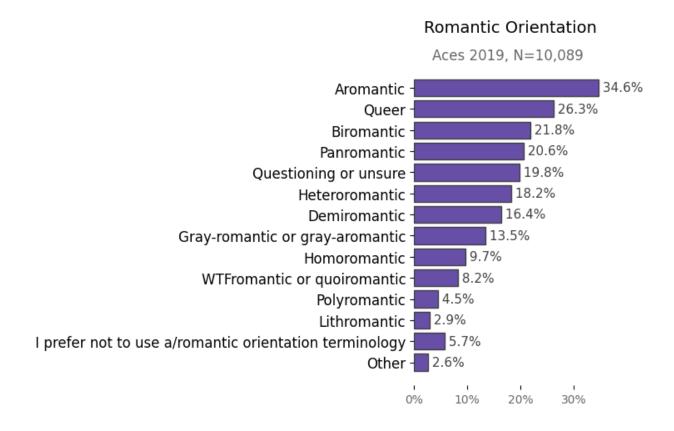
Distribution of aro spectrum identities within ace spectrum identities

All respondents 2019



Which (if any) of the following romantic orientation labels do you identify with? *Check all that apply.*

Approximately one third (34.6%) of ace respondents identified as aromantic. The following most prevalent romantic orientation was queer (26.3%). Attraction to multiple genders was also prominent, with biromantic and panromantic each representing about one in five respondents (21.8% and 20.6% respectively).



When looking at romantic orientation by ace identity, there was a trend of sexual orientation overlapping the most with their romantic linguistic counterpart. Asexual respondents were most likely to identify as aromantic (42.9%). Demisexual and questioning respondents followed the same pattern, with the highest percentage of demisexual respondents identifying as demiromantic (34.2%) and the highest percentage of questioning respondents also questioning or unsure of their romantic orientation (34.1%). Gray-asexual respondents were an exception to this pattern: 26.8% identified as gray-romantic or gray-aromantic, but a similar percentage of gray-asexual respondents selected queer (29.8%), biromantic (28.1%), panromantic (24.7%), and heteroromantic (23.7%).

Romantic Orientation by Ace Identity 2019	Asexual (%) N=6,857	Gray-asexual (%) N=1,099	Demisexual (%) N=937	Questioning (%) N=1,004
Aromantic	42.9	19.6	8.2	20.0
Gray-romantic	12.2	26.8	9.0	12.7
Demiromantic	14.5	15.5	34.2	14.7
Questioning or unsure	19.7	13.4	13.7	34.1
Queer	26.1	29.8	27.2	22.6
Biromantic	19.6	28.1	29.2	24.7
Panromantic	18.9	24.7	28.2	20.7
Polyromantic	3.5	8.5	6.4	5.6
Heteroromantic	15.7	23.7	24.7	24.8
Homoromantic	9.3	9.9	8.9	12.7
Lithromantic	2.9	3.0	1.4	4.4
WTF- or Quoiromantic	8.6	8.5	5.1	6.3
Prefer not to use a/romantic orientation terminology	5.1	6.4	6.3	7.9

1.2 Gender and Sex

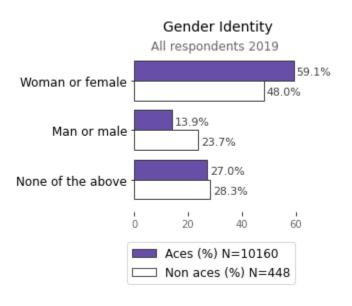
As seen throughout this section, the 2019 survey is consistent with previous Ace Community Surveys in that respondents consisted of more female identifying than male identifying individuals and that a large proportion of respondents were transgender or non-binary.

1.2.1 Gender Identity Distributions

Which of the following *BEST* describes your gender identity?

Respondents were asked to pick one option among "woman or female," "man or male," or "none of the above" to describe their gender identity. Respondents had the opportunity to select multiple, more specific gender identity labels in the subsequent question.

For this question, more than half (59.1%) of ace respondents selected "woman or female." More than a quarter chose "none of the above" (whom we describe as having non-binary genders, though these respondents may not necessarily have self-identified in that way, as explored more in the next question). The remaining



respondents (13.9%) described their gender identity as "man or male." Overall, the proportion of female respondents fell a few percent from the 61.7% reported in 2018, while the proportion of respondents with non-binary genders and men rose from 24.8% and 13.4% respectively (Weis et al., 2020).

In comparison to ace respondents, non-ace respondents had a lower proportion of women (48.0%) and a higher proportion of men (23.7%), with a similar proportion of those who had non-binary identities.

Which (if any) of the following words would you use to describe your gender identity? *Check all that apply.*

Respondents were asked to further describe their gender identity by selecting as many labels as they desired from a list consisting of thirteen gender identities (detailed in the bar chart below), as well as an option to write in an answer. A couple of these identities, woman/female and man/male, overlapped with the previous question. Information from both of these questions was used to look at gender identity from several angles, which is explored more in Section 1.2.2.

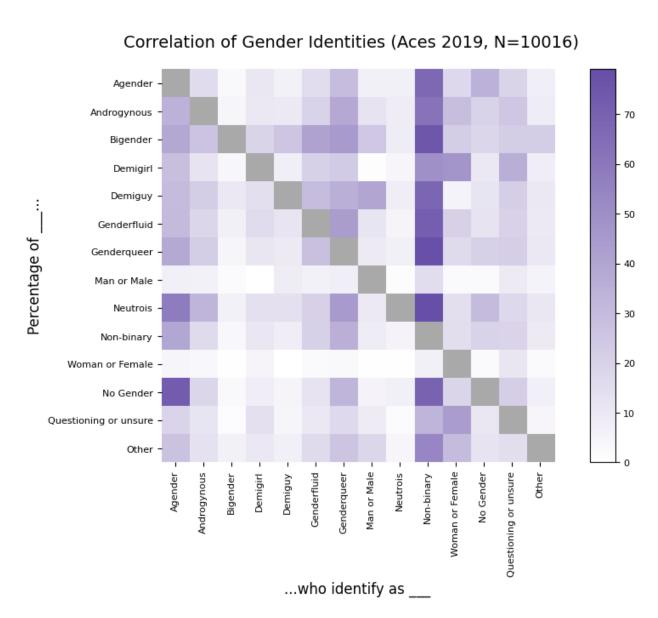
When looking at responses to just this question, woman or female was still the most common gender identity (56.3%), although it fell by a few percent compared to the previous question. Non-binary (25.3%), agender (14.9%), and questioning or unsure (14.6%) represented more respondents than those who identitied as man or male (13.9%). Notably, more than 4% of ace respondents identified with another gender identity not listed in this question.

Aces 2019, N=10,016 56.3% Woman or Female -25.3% Non-binary -14.9% Agender -14.6% Questioning or unsure -13.9% Man or Male -11.4% Genderqueer -7.2% Genderfluid -No Gender -7.1% 6.7% Androgynous -5.6% Demigirl -Demiguy -2.9% Neutrois - 1.7% Bigender - 1.2% 4.3% Other -30% 0% 20% 40% 10% 50%

Which (if any) of the following words would you use to describe your gender identity?

The following heatmap shows the percent correlation of different gender identities within this question. Respondents who identified with a binary gender identity (man or male; woman or female) had lower proportions of respondents who identified with another gender label. The darker band along the non-binary column indicates that many respondents across the umbrella of non-binary gender identities specifically identified with the non-binary label.

Another correlation heatmap showing the distribution of gender identities with raw numbers (as opposed to percent) can be found in Appendix I.

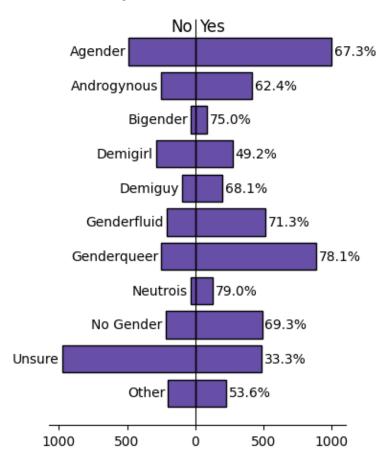


1.2.2 Non-binary Identity and Umbrella Groupings

The tornado chart on the right shows the prevalence of aces who identified specifically with the label "non-binary" across different gender identities. The width of the bar represents the total number of aces who identified with each gender identity, and the percentage label on the right shows the proportion of respondents within each gender identity who also identified as non-binary.

Respondents who identified neutrois, genderqueer, or bigender had the greatest proportion who also identified as non-binary (79.0%, 78.1%, and 75.0%, respectively). The proportion of those who identified as demiguy, agender, androgynous, genderfluid, or no gender also had a high co-occurence of respondents identifying non-binary as (62.4%–71.3%). The gender group the smallest amount respondents identifying as non-binary were those who were unsure of their gender identity (33.3%).

Non-binary Identification (Aces 2019)



While the previous analysis examined the proportion of those who specifically selected non-binary as an *identity*, the rest of the analysis in this section will focus on cross sections of the non-binary *umbrella*, i.e., respondents who selected any gender identity that is not part of the gender binary (man/male or woman/female), including those who were questioning. As demonstrated by the previous visualization, respondents who are included in this classification of the non-binary umbrella did not necessarily self-identify as non-binary. Information from both gender identity questions was used to examine subgroups of respondents based on different combinations of binary and non-binary gender identities. As the following analysis will reveal, the prominence of different gender identity labels varied depending on how the subgroup was defined.

This first table examines the overall gender identity distribution when gender identities were rolled up into three non-overlapping groups: binary women, binary men, and any respondents who indicated at least one non-binary identity. The binary groups consisted of respondents who *exclusively* chose a binary identity, while the non-binary group consisted of respondents who identified with any non-binary identity, even if they also identified with a binary gender identity.

When looking at the data in this way, binary women represented 44.7% of ace respondents, a sizable difference from the 59.1% who said "woman or female" best represented their gender identity in the first gender question. Respondents who indicated a non-binary gender composed 45.7% of ace respondents, making it the largest gender group among these classifications. Binary men composed the remaining 9.6%.

Gender Identity	Aces 2019 (%) N=10,192
Non-binary	45.7
Woman or female only	44.7
Man or male only	9.6

While it is interesting to consider gender demographics through non-overlapping categories, it is not an accurate representation of all respondents' gender identities, because many respondents did not identify exclusively as a binary or non-binary gender, as shown by the table below. Among respondents who selected "woman or female" to the first gender question, three-quarters of them identified solely with that label, while the other quarter also identified with a non-binary gender identity. The proportion of binary men was slightly smaller, with fewer than 70% identifying as binary only and the remainder also identifying with a non-binary gender identity. Among those who indicated a non-binary gender identity, a little more than half identified only with non-binary gender identities, while the remainder also chose a binary gender identity. This data confirms some of the trends seen in the gender identity correlation heatmap in Section 1.2.1.

	Aces 2019		
	Woman or female (%) N=6005	Man or male (%) N=1414	Indicated a non-binary gender (%) N=4654
Binary gender only	75.9	69.5	_
Binary and non-binary gender	24.1	30.5	47.3
Non-binary gender only	_	_	52.7

The table on the following page examines specific non-binary gender labels across various ways a non-binary subgroup could be defined: those who indicated exclusively non-binary genders, those who selected both binary and non-binary genders, and those who indicated any non-binary gender (regardless of whether or not they also selected a binary gender).

Among all respondents who indicated a non-binary gender in either question (noted in the table as "any non-binary gender"), more than half identified specifically with the label non-binary. A little under a third identified as agender and/or were questioning or unsure of their gender identity, while a quarter identified as genderqueer. The "any non-binary gender" subset is the filter used to represent "non-binary respondents" when performing intersectional analysis in other parts of the report, unless otherwise specified.

When filtered down to respondents who only indicated a non-binary gender (i.e., did not identify as "man or male" or "woman or female" in either question), a greater number in this group identified specifically as non-binary (more than three-quarters), agender (more than two in five), genderqueer (nearly a third), and/or no gender or genderfluid (one in five) compared to other subgroups. Fewer respondents in this group were questioning or unsure of their gender identity (19.1%) compared to all who indicated a non-binary gender (31.5%).

In contrast, among those who selected both a binary and non-binary gender identity, almost half indicated they were questioning or unsure of their gender identity, the highest proportion among the three subgroups. Less than a quarter identified specifically as non-binary, making this the smallest proportion among the subgroups. Similar proportions of respondents identified as androgynous in all subgroups.

	Aces 2019				
Gender Identity	Non-binary gender only (%) N=2770	Binary and non-binary gender (%) N=1881	Any non-binary gender (%) N=4651		
Agender	43.4	15.5	32.1		
Androgynous	14.8	14.0	14.4		
Bigender	3.2	1.4	2.5		
Demigirl	8.9	16.8	12.1		
Demiguy	6.2	6.6	6.3		
Genderfluid	20.3	8.7	15.6		
Genderqueer	33.0	12.1	24.6		
Neutrois	5.0	1.5	3.6		
Non-binary	76.0	22.5	54.4		
No Gender	20.5	7.6	15.3		
Questioning or unsure	19.1	49.8	31.5		
Other	8.7	9.8	9.2		

1.2.3 Transgender Identity

Do you identify as transgender?

The number of respondents who identified as transgender has continued to increase slightly each year, from 11.6% in 2015, to 14.8% in 2016, to 16.2% in 2017, to 16.9% in 2018, and now 17.9% in 2019 (Bauer et al., 2017, 2018; Weis et al., 2020).

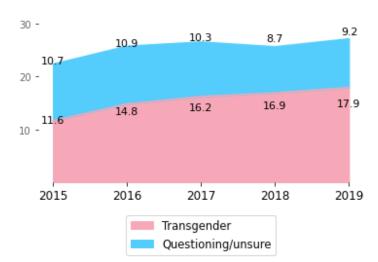
The tornado chart to the right shows the proportion of respondents across different gender identities who identified as transgender. The width of the bar represents the number of respondents who identified with a given gender identity, while the percent labels on the right show the proportion of respondents who identified transgender within that gender identity. Note that the 9.2% of respondents who were unsure if they identified as transgender are not represented in the corresponding visualization.

Ace respondents who identified as demiguy, bigender, or neutrois were among the highest co-occurence of also identifying as transgender (76.1%, 74.4%, and 69.5%, respectively), though these gender identities were also among the smallest gender identity groups. Among the more populous gender identity groups, respondents who identified as genderqueer or non-binary had a similarly high co-occurance as the aforementioned groups, with more than two-thirds of respondents in each group also identifying as transgender.

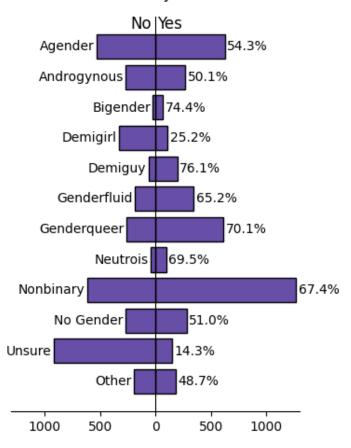
Transgender Identity Trend (%)

Aces 2015-2019

40 -



Transgender Identification across Non-Binary Aces (2019)



1.2.4 Intersex Respondents

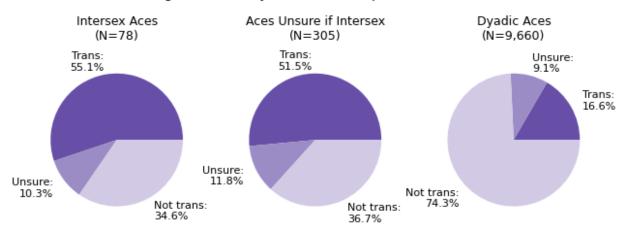
Have you ever been diagnosed by a medical doctor with an intersex condition or a 'difference of sex development', or were you born with (or developed naturally in puberty) genitals, reproductive organs, and/or chromosomal patterns that do not fit standard definitions of male or female?

A small number of ace respondents (0.8%) indicated they were intersex, with an additional 3.0% who were unsure. These responses are almost identical to the percentages reported in 2018, where 0.7% of respondents were intersex with 3.0% who were unsure (Weis et al., 2020).

Intersex	Aces 2019 (%) N=10,175
Yes	8.0
Unsure	3.0
No	95.8
Prefer not to answer	0.4

About half of aces who were intersex or unsure if intersex identified as transgender, compared to one out of six of dyadic aces.



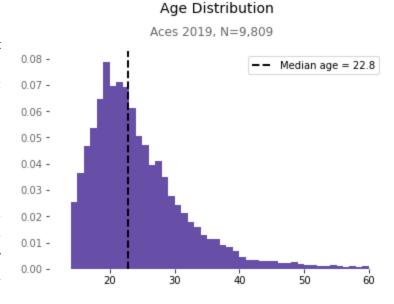


1.3 Age

In which year were you born?

For legal reasons, respondents must be at least 13 years of age at the time of the survey in order to submit responses. However, due to a mistake in the 2019 survey logic, respondents were only able to complete the survey if they were aged 14 or older.

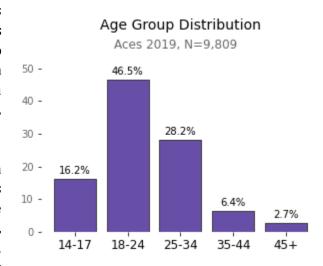
Overall, ace respondents ranged in age from 14 to 82, with a median age of 22.8 and a mean age of 24.6. The age distribution skewed younger with 81.9% of respondents between 14 and 30 years of age.



The chart below shows the distribution of age groups that are used in certain analyses throughout this report. Once again, the age distribution skewed younger, with nearly half (46.5%) of ace respondents in the 18–24 age group alone and the vast majority (90.9%) between the ages of 14

and 34. The age distribution of ace respondents follows the wider trend of queer communities being predominantly young, due to "increasingly accepting environments, wherein [...] overall safety is less of a concern when coming out," among other factors (GLAAD, 2017).

Julia Sondra Decker (2014, p.74) comments on one consequence of the age distribution of aces in her book, *The Invisible Orientation*: "Because of asexual people's isolation by geography, much of the asexual conversation, connection, and communion is happening among a rather

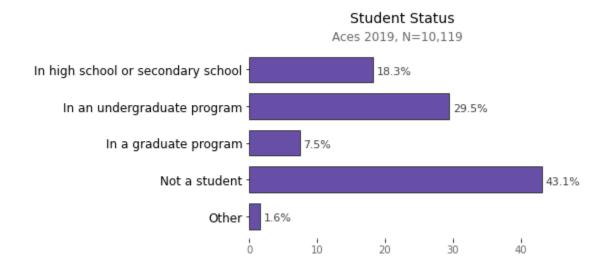


young crowd over the Internet. Because of this—and because young people typically discuss their identity with their peers more than older people do—the Internet-based asexual communities are getting more attention and being assumed more representative." This is a helpful reminder that the survey results only represent a specific snapshot of the ace community, and not all aces as a whole.

1.4 Education

Are you currently a student?

Over half of ace respondents reported that they were students at the time of the survey, with 43.1% reporting that they were not a student. The largest proportion of students were those who reported they were undergraduate college students (29.5%), followed by high school or secondary school students (18.3%).



What is your highest completed level of education?

More than 70% of ace respondents had at least some college education. The largest proportion of respondents consisted of those who had some college, university, or higher education but no degree (33.1%). More than one in ten ace respondents had a master's, professional, or doctorate degree, a slightly higher proportion compared to the 2018 survey (Weis et al., 2020).

Level of Education	Aces 2019 (%) N=10,136
Less than secondary education (e.g. has not graduated high school, only primary education)	17.2
Completed secondary education (e.g. high school graduate, A-levels, etc.)	11.3
Some college / university / higher education (no degree yet)	33.1
Associate's degree (including occupational or academic degrees)	4.8
Bachelor's degree (BA, BS, BSc, AB, etc.)	23.1
Master's degree (MA, MS, MENG, MSW, etc.)	8.6
Doctorate degree (PhD, EdD, etc.)	1.1
Professional school degree (MD, DDC, JD, etc.)	8.0

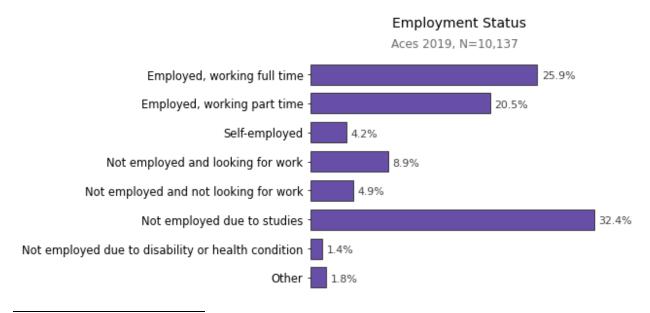
1.5 Employment

Which of the following best describes your employment status?

While variations of this question have been asked in the annual surveys since 2017,² it was converted from a checkbox question (where respondents could select all options that applied) to a multiple choice question (where respondents could select only one answer) in 2018. The answer options remained, in essence, the same in 2018 and 2019; however, the wording as well as the sequence of some of the options changed. The following table summarizes the semantic changes:

2018	2019
Employed, working 40 or more hours per week	Employed, working full time
Employed, working less than 40 hours per week	Employed, working part time
Student	Not employed due to studies

The distribution of responses changed somewhat strikingly between 2018 and 2019. For example, almost half (47.0%) described their employment status as "student" in 2018 (Weis et al., 2020), but less than one third selected "not employed due to studies" in 2019. Those who described themselves as working full or part time (25.9% and 20.5%, respectively) increased from 2018, where 17.5% said they were working "40 or more hours per week" and 18.1% said they were working fewer than 40 hours per week. While phrased differently, these options from 2018 and 2019 were intended to correspond to each other, although it's possible that "full-time" and "part-time" language can have multiple interpretations in an international survey. All in all, just over half of ace respondents were employed in some capacity, while the rest were unemployed for various reasons.³



² Raw text from prior surveys can be accessed at https://asexualcensus.wordpress.com/past-censuses/.

³ Figures showing family income for respondents living in the US, UK, and Canada can be accessed in Appendix II.

The table to the right further investigates the change of employment status respondents who indicated they were students from 2018 to 2019. Notably, the amount of students who said they were "not employed due to studies" in 2019 was nearly 20% lower than the proportion who said their employment status was "student" in 2018, while the proportion working "part time" (2019) was about 10% greater than the corresponding working "less than 40 hours per week" in 2018. These shifts are suspected to be a result of the semantic changes distinguishing employment status from student status.

Employment Status	Ace students 2019 (%) N=5,729	Ace students 2018 (%) N=8,921
Employed, working full time (2019) / Employed, working 40 or more hours per week (2018)	5.9	3.3
Employed, working part time (2019) / Employed, working less than 40 hours per week (2018)	23.5	13.4
Self-employed	2.3	-
Not employed and looking for work	6.4	3.0
Not employed and not looking for work	4.2	2.2
Not employed due to studies (2019) / Student (2018)	56.4	75.8
Other	1.4	2.4

Do you hold multiple jobs?

More than half (53.7%) of ace respondents reported having one or more jobs. In total, 6.9% had two jobs, and 1.5% had three or more jobs.

Which of the following best describes the industry in which you primarily work?

The two most common industries that ace respondents worked in were education/library (9.1%) and art/design/entertainment/sports/media (8.2%). The high occurrence of these types of jobs may be related to LGBTQIA+ students having a higher likelihood of pursuing degrees in arts and humanities or social sciences compared to heterosexual or cisgender peers (Greathouse et al., 2018).

Do you hold multiple jobs?	Aces 2019 (%) N=9,970
No, I'm unemployed	46.3
No, just the one	45.3
Yes, 2 jobs	6.9
Yes, 3 or more jobs	1.5

Primary Industry	Aces 2019 (%) N=9,941
I am not currently employed	40.5
Educational instruction and library	9.1
Art, design, entertainment, sports, and media	8.2
Sales and related	5.1
Computer and mathematical	4.9
Food preparation and serving-related	4.8
Office and administrative support	3.8
Healthcare practitioners and technical	2.5
Life, physical, and social service	2.3
Business and financial operations	2.1
Healthcare support	1.6
Architecture and engineering	1.4
Personal care and service	1.0
Other	12.6

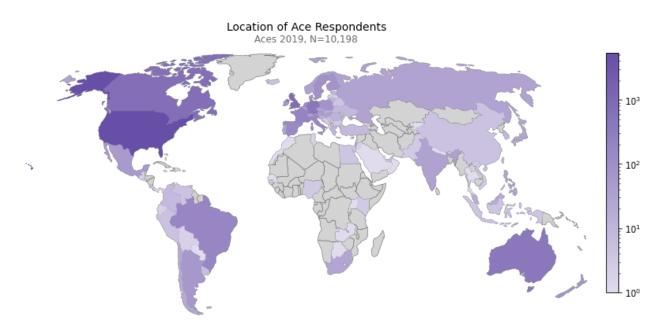
1.6 Country of Residence

Please select the country in which you live. If you spend time in more than one country, select the country in which you spend the most time. If your country is absent from the list, choose "other."

The table below shows all the countries that represented more than 1% of respondents. The majority of respondents were residing in the United States (53.1%), followed by the United Kingdom (9.0%), Canada (7.5%), Germany (4.4%), and Australia (4.3%). The United States represented fewer respondents compared to 2018, where 57.3% were from the US, while the proportion of respondents from the UK, Canada, Germany, and Australia remained similar (Weis et al., 2020).

Country of Residence	Aces 2019 (%) N=10,198	Aces 2018 (%) N=14,459	Change from 2018
United States of America	53.1	57.3	-4.2
United Kingdom	9.0	8.8	0.2
Canada	7.5	6.7	0.8
Germany	4.4	4.2	0.2
Australia	4.3	3.6	0.7
France	2.0	1.6	0.4
Brazil	1.8	1.2	0.6
Italy	1.7	1.3	0.4
Spain	1.5	1.1	0.4
Netherlands	1.4	1.4	0.0
Other	13.4	12.9	0.5

The map below shows the global distribution of ace respondents. All in all, ace respondents resided in 101 different countries. A list of countries and their corresponding number of respondents, as well as regional data for the US, UK, and Canada, can be found in Appendix III.



1.7 Religion

What is your present religion, if any?

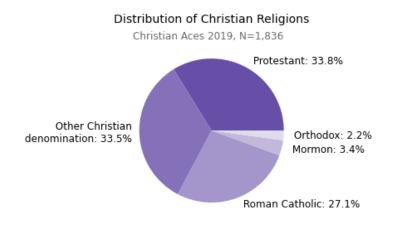
The majority of the ace respondents reported that they were not necessarily affiliated with a religion, including more than a quarter who identified as Atheist, about one in six who identified as Agnostic, and about one in seven who described their religious affiliation as "nothing in particular."

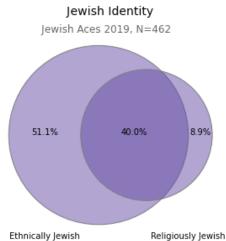
Christian denominations made up the largest religious category, totalling nearly 20% when combining Protestant, Roman Catholic, Mormon, Orthodox, and "other Christian denomination." Of Christian respondents, Protestant and Roman Catholic made up more than half. The proportion of these religions among Christian respondents can be seen in the pie chart on the bottom left.

Slightly more than 2% of ace respondents said they were religiously Jewish. Some respondents identified as ethnically Jewish (see Section 1.8.1), but not religiously Jewish, as shown by the venn diagram on the bottom right. Of the total respondents who identified as Jewish in one of these capacities, just over half identified as being only ethnically Jewish (51.1%), while the remainder were religiously Jewish, with 40.0% identifying as both ethnically and religiously Jewish, and 8.9% who identified only as religiously Jewish.

Religion	Aces 2019 (%) N=9,678
Atheist	26.9
Agnostic	18.3
Nothing in particular	13.4
Protestant	6.4
Other Christian denomination	6.4
Roman Catholic	5.1
Other Pagan	4.8
Unsure	4.7
Other non-religious	4.3
Jewish	2.3
Other religious	1.7
Wiccan	1.4
Buddhist	0.9
Muslim	0.7
Unitarian Universalist	0.7
Mormon	0.7
Pantheist or Panentheist	0.6
Hindu	0.4
Orthodox (such as Greek or Russian Orthodox)	0.4

Pagan, Wiccan, Buddhist, Muslim, Unitarian Universalist, Pantheist, Hindu, and other religious and non-religious identities were represented in the results.





1.8 Race and Ethnicity

1.8.1 Race and Ethnicity Categorizations

Do you identify with any of the following racial/ethnic categories? *Check all that apply.*

Information about respondents' racial identities was collected in several stages. First, all participants were asked if they identified with any of 19 specific racial/ethnic groups, where they could check all groups that applied to them as well as write in their own description. The 19 options were chosen from racial

Aggregated Racial Distributions	Aces 2019 (%) N=10115
Aboriginal Australian Only	0.1
Asian/Pacific Islander Only	4.5
Black Only	1.7
Hispanic or Latinx Only	2.8
Jewish Only	0.6
Middle Eastern Only	0.1
Mixed or Multi Racial	4.7
Multiple Races, Not Mixed	4.7
N. or S. American Native Only	0.3
N. or S. American Native and Hispanic or Latinx	0.2
N. or S. American Native and White	1.9
West Asian Only	0.1
White Hispanic or Latinx	3.5
White Only	74.8
Other Race Only	0.0

categories found in existing censuses from several countries as well as frequent responses the surveys have received in previous years. This question is reported in multiple tables, to show differing levels of detail.

The table to the right shows all 19 categories, with respondents checking all that applied. For example, if someone had indicated Latinx and Hispanic, they would have been included in both categories. The "Aggregated Racial Distributions" table above shows combined data where each respondent fits into only one category. The composition of each of these categories is described in Appendix IV.

Do you identify with any of the following racial/ethnic categories?	Aces 2019 (%) N=9958
Aboriginal Australian	0.2
Asian: Eastern (Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese, Mongolian, etc.)	4.5
Asian: Southern (Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.)	1.7
Asian: Southeast (Vietnamese, Cambodian, Malaysian, Laotian, etc.)	1.8
Asian: Western (Arab, Azerbaijani, Kurdish, Persian, Turk, etc.)	0.6
Black and/or of the African Diaspora	1.9
Black: African	1.2
Black: Caribbean	0.7
Brown	1.2
Hispanic	5.4
Jewish (Ashkenazi, Sephardic, etc.)	4.2
Latinx	5.3
Middle Eastern	1.0
Mixed Race / Multi-Racial	6.8
North African: (Berber, Egyptian, Libyan, Nilo- Saharan, etc.)	0.4
North American Native (North American Indian, Inuit, Metis, First Nations, etc.)	2.1
Pacific Islander and/or Polynesian (Kanaka Maoli, Filipino, Māori, Samoan, etc.)	0.9
South or Central American Native (Quechua, Aymara, Chiquitano, etc.)	0.5
White or of European Descent	86.2
Other	1.3

In addition to this multiple-select question, all respondents had the option to describe their racial identity in their own words. Responses to this question, in addition to write-in responses for the multiple-select question, were interpreted and included in the above tables where possible.

The racial/ethnic distributions of 2019 respondents were generally similar to the distributions seen in 2017 and 2018 (Weis et al., 2020). The main exception was in the Aggregated Racial Distribution chart, where more respondents were sorted into the Multiple Races, Not Mixed category (4.7% compared to 2.2% in 2018 and 1.9% in 2017).

Survey data from 2017 and 2018 showed that the racial distributions of US, Canada, and UK respondents were over-representative of white respondents when compared to each country's respective census data (Weis et al., 2020). In 2019, the US-, Canada-, and UK-specific questions that enabled these comparisons were discontinued, however the similarities in the racial distributions between the three years of data sets suggests that the survey population continues to be over-representative of white respondents, assuming census data has not changed drastically. Angela Chen (2020) describes the whiteness of the ace community as "glaring, though not necessarily surprising," suggesting the following rationale for this disparity:

White people typically have more economic, political, and cultural power than people of color. They are usually given more credit when championing a cause and are more likely to become the figureheads. So far, the asexual movement has followed this pattern. [...] Many early figureheads were white, so a white culture with white artifacts developed. White people feel most comfortable in this community and join it, therefore making it even more white.

Chen adds that the complicated intersection of sexuality and race contributes to the association of whiteness with the ace community. It is worth keeping these factors in mind when interpreting results from the survey and understanding the ace community as a whole.

1.8.2 Racial Minority Identity

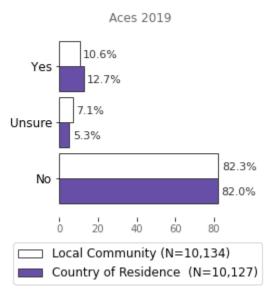
The following analysis examines these two questions in tandem:

- Are you a racial/ethnic minority in your local community?
- Are you a racial/ethnic minority in your country of residence? *If you spend time in more than one country, consider the country in which you spend the most time.*

These questions were included to give space for respondents in all areas of the world to identify for themselves if race or ethnicity was an area where they were in a minority group compared to those around them locally and nationally.

About one in ten aces (10.6%) identified as a racial or ethnic minority in their local community and an additional 7.1% were unsure. One in eight aces (12.7%) identified as a racial or ethnic minority in their country of residence and an additional 5.3% were unsure. There was slightly more uncertainty about identifying as a racial or ethnic minority in a local community compared to country of residence.

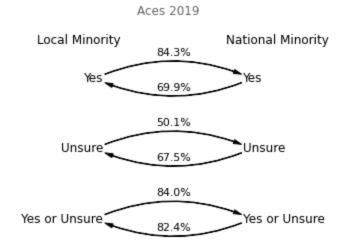
Are you a racial/ethnic minority in your...



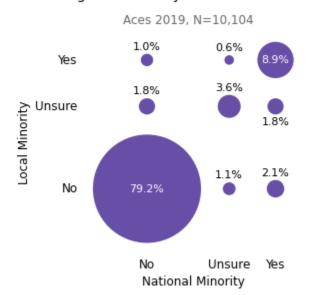
The figure to the right shows the conditional probability with which one minority status implied another. Respondents who identified as a racial or ethnic minority in their country of residence were likely to have also identified as a racial or ethnic minority in their local community, and vice-versa. Those who identified as a local minority were more likely to identify as a national minority than the reverse. Those who were unsure whether they were a minority in their country were more than 60% likely to be unsure about their minority status in their local community, but those who were unsure whether they were a minority in their local community were about 50% likely to be unsure about their minority status in their country.

Finally, the following figure shows the overall distribution of combinations of local and national racial and ethnic minority identification. Four in five aces did not identify as a local or national minority, and nearly one in ten aces were a racial/ethnic minority in both their local community and country of residence.

Conditional Probability of Regional Minority Status Identification



Overall Distribution of Regional Minority Status Identification



Section 2: Identity Discovery and Navigation

Respondents were asked questions about their sexual and romantic identities. The questions were intended to gauge how respondents described their orientations and attractions, the educational resources they had access to, and whether or not they were out to other people.

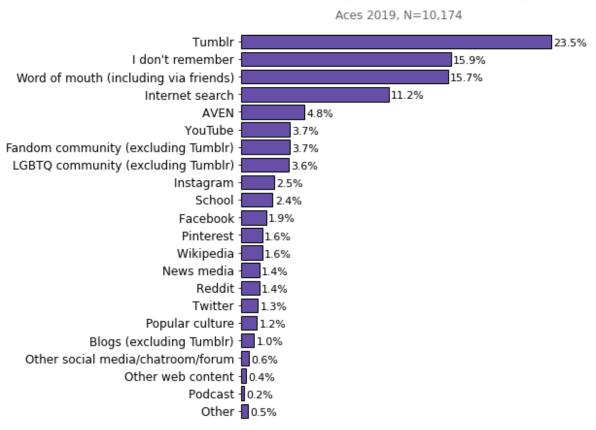
2.1 Learning about Asexuality

2.1.1 Discovering Asexuality

Where did you first hear of asexuality?

Nearly one in four ace respondents (23.5%) discovered asexuality through the blogging website Tumblr, while 15.9% didn't recall, and 15.7% had heard about it through word of mouth. Slightly more than one in ten ace respondents (11.2%) had found out about asexuality through an internet search. The remaining aces heard about asexuality through other means, with fewer than 5% of respondents discovering asexuality through each source. It is helpful to examine these results in the demographic context of the survey, where the median age of ace participants was 22.8 years and most (62.7%) were 14–24.

Where did you first hear of asexuality?

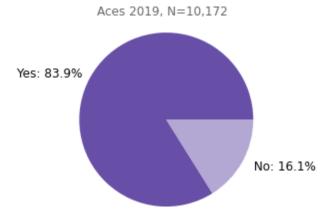


2.1.2 Sex Education

Have you ever been taught anything about sex education in a health class or any other class in school?

The majority of ace respondents (83.9%) had some form of sex education at school. The remaining questions in this section, which are follow-up questions about the coverage and information in these classes, were filtered to respondents who said "yes" to this question.

Taught about sex education in school

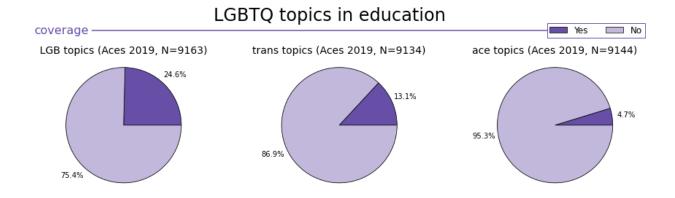


Overall, how positive or negative was the information on:

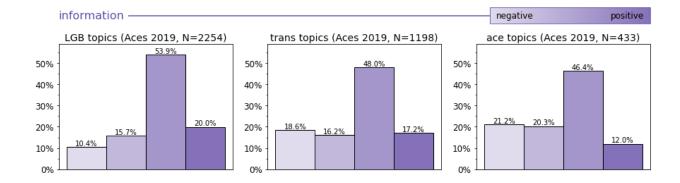
- lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) topics
- transgender topics or diverse gender identities
- asexual topics

in your sex education class(es)?

Most ace respondents who received sex education at school reported that LBGTQ topics were not included or discussed in their classes. The pie charts below reveal that when LGBTQ topics were covered in classes, LGB topics were more often taught (24.6%) compared to trans topics (13.1%) and ace topics (4.8%).



Although information on these LGBTQ topics was not widely available in many respondents' sex education classes, the information presented was more positive than negative when they were taught in the classrooms. Of the ace respondents who said LGBTQ topics were covered in their sex education classes, more than half reported that information presented on the topics was positive or somewhat positive across all three topics. However, a greater proportion said the information they received on ace topics was negative or very negative (41.5%) in contrast to trans topics (34.8%) or LGB topics (26.1%)



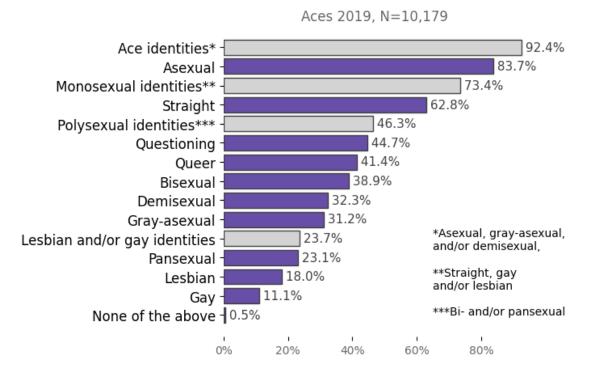
2.2 Previous Identities

Which of the following labels have you *ever* identified with at some point in time (even if you no longer do so currently)? *Check all that apply.*

The bar chart below illustrates the responses to this question, where the purple bars show how respondents selected individual options, and the gray bars show analyst-curated groupings of some of these responses.

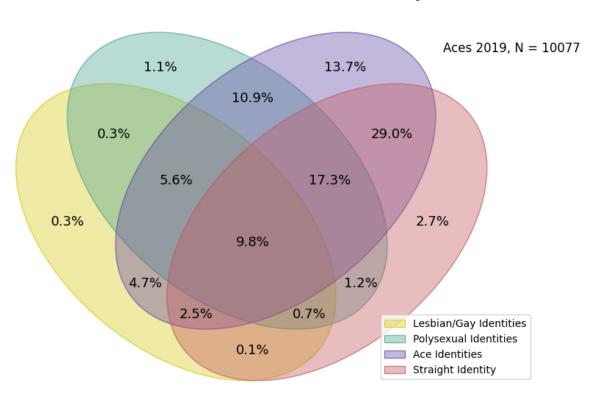
In 2019, almost all ace respondents (92.4%) had identified with at least one identity on the ace spectrum, while 83.7% of respondents had identified with the asexual label itelf. The majority of ace respondents (73.4%) had identified with at least one non-ace monosexual identity (i.e., straight, gay, and/or lesbian), and just under half (46.3%) had identified with at least one polysexual identity (i.e., bisexual and/or pansexual). Less than half had at some point in time identified as queer (41.4%) or questioning (44.7%).

Which of the following labels have you *ever* identified with at some point in time (even if you no longer do so currently)?



The following venn diagram shows the intersections of sexual identities that respondents had identified with at some point in their life. The most common combination was ace/straight identities, with 29.0% of ace respondents ever having identified with both an ace identity and a straight identity but not with a lesbian/gay or polysexual identity. The second most common intersection included those who had at some point identified with an ace identity, a polysexual identity, and a straight identity, representing 17.3% of respondents.

Intersections in Sexual Identification History



2.3 Coming Out

The following questions were asked about when respondents first identified with their sexual and romantic identity.

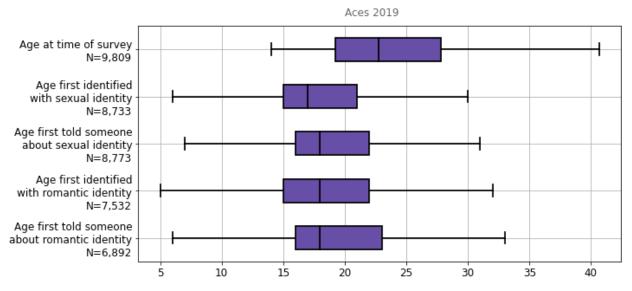
At what age did you first...

- ...*privately identify* with the sexual orientation with which you currently identify? It counts even if you did not take the term seriously. If you are questioning your identity or do not have a specific memory of when you started to identify with your current sexual orientation, please answer 0 or leave blank.
- ...tell someone about your current sexual orientation? *If you have never told someone, please answer 0 or leave blank.*
- ... *privately identify* with the romantic orientation with which you currently identify? It counts even if you did not take the term seriously. If you are questioning your identity or do not have a specific memory of when you started to identify with your current romantic orientation, please answer 0 or leave blank.
- ...tell someone about your current romantic orientation? If you have never told someone, please answer 0 or leave blank.

On average, ace respondents began privately identifying with their sexual or romantic identity around age 19 and first told someone else about their identity about a year later. For context, the mean age of respondents was 24.6. A distribution of these responses can be seen below.

Age of ace respondents compared to age of first identification (2019)	Mean	Median
Age first identified with sexual identity	18.9	17.0
Age first told someone about sexual identity	20.2	18.0
Age first identified with romantic identity	19.2	18.0
Age first told someone about romantic identity	20.0	18.0

Age of respondents compared to age of first identification



Which of the following best describes how "out" you are to various groups, about your being asexual, demisexual, gray-asexual, or ace? If any of the following categories do not apply to you (e.g., you have no coworkers) select "N/A." If you do not consider yourself asexual/demisexual/etc., leave this question blank, or check "N/A" for all.

In 2019, LGBTQIA friends were the most common group for aces to be out about their ace identity. Aces seemed to be more comfortable coming out to their LGBTQIA friends compared to their heterosexual friends. When it came to telling parents and family members about their identity, 21.7% of aces were out to their parents and 4.5% disclosed their identity to all other family

How many people in the following groups have you told about your ace identity? (Aces 2019)	None	A few	Most	All
Partners and ex-partners (%) N=6,598	32.1	18.3	18.8	30.8
Parents (%) N=9,920	54.0	14.1	10.2	21.7
Other family members (%) N=9,951	55.8	32.2	7.4	4.5
LGBTQIA friends (%) N=9,616	11.8	21.5	29.7	36.9
Non-LGBTQIA friends (%) N=9,789	25.0	40.8	22.3	11.9
Classmates (%) N=7,588	55.4	34.3	6.8	3.5
Teachers and school staff (%) N=7,530	82.3	13.0	2.4	2.3
Coworkers (%) N=7,180	70.6	21.1	4.9	3.4
Counselors (%) N=6,847	64.5	12.6	7.7	15.2
Medical professionals (%) N=8,703	72.6	15.4	5.6	6.4

members. Aces seemed to be hesitant to come out to teachers and school staff (82.3%), medical professionals (72.6%), and coworkers (70.6%).

Which of the following best describes how "out" you are to various groups, about your being lesbian, gay, bisexual, pansexual, questioning, or queer, in terms of your sexual orientation? If any of the following categories do not apply to you (e.g., you have no coworkers) select "N/A." If you do not consider yourself lesbian/gay/bisexual/etc., leave this question blank or check "N/A" for all. Note that this is only asking about identities other than the asexual identities asked about above.

In 2019, nearly 50% of lesbian, gay, bisexual, pansexual, or (LGBPQQ) queer ace respondents had told all of their LGBTOIA friends about their LGBPQQ identity. In fact, this seemed to be the group aces were most comfortable talking to when it came to their LGBPQQ identity followed by partners, ex-partners parents. Participants tended to not talk about their LGBPQQ

How many people in the following groups have you told about your LGBPQQ identity? (LGBPQQ Aces 2019)	None	A few	Most	All
Partners and ex-partners (%) N=3,262	23.8	13.7	20.8	41.7
Parents (%) N=4,294	43.7	13.6	11.9	30.8
Other family members (%) N=4,300	45.2	32.0	12.6	10.2
LGBTQIA friends (%) N=4,246	10.6	15.1	24.9	49.4
Non-LGBTQIA friends (%) N=4,238	21.2	30.3	26.4	22.1
Classmates (%) N=3,277	45.0	33.4	13.0	8.5
Teachers and school staff (%) N=3,258	68.0	19.2	6.6	6.1
Coworkers (%) N=3,258	56.7	23.3	10.5	9.5
Counselors (%) N=3,144	54.4	12.8	11.4	21.4
Medical professionals (%) N=3,810	63.3	16.8	8.8	11.1

identity with medical professionals and teachers and school staff.

Which of the following best describes how "out" you are to various groups, about your being trans, non-binary, or gender non-conforming (TGNC)? If any of the following categories do not apply to you (e.g., you have no coworkers) select "N/A." If you do not consider yourself trans/non-binary/gender non-conforming, leave this question blank or just check "N/A" for all.

Responses to this question were filtered to transgender and gender non-conforming (TGNC) aces for this analysis (including aces identifying within the non-binary umbrella).⁴

LGBTQIA friends were the most likely group for TGNC ace respondents to be out to about their TGNC identity, with 84% having come out to at least a few friends in that group. The next groups TGNC ace respondents were mostly likely to tell about their gender identity were partners and ex-partners and non-LGBTQIA friends.

How many people in the following groups have you told about your TGNC identity? (TGNC Aces 2019)	None	A few	Most	All
Partners and ex-partners (%) N=2,965	36.7	16.7	15.3	31.3
Parents (%) N=4,076	59.9	9.2	8.3	22.6
Other family members (%) N=4,086	60.7	22.7	8.2	8.4
LGBTQIA friends (%) N=4,039	16.0	27.3	20.6	36.0
Non-LGBTQIA friends (%) N=3,985	40.4	28.8	15.4	15.4
Classmates (%) N=3,055	62.9	22.0	7.8	7.3
Teachers and school staff (%) N=3,052	70.6	15.1	6.9	7.3
Coworkers (%) N=2,880	72.5	14.2	6.0	7.3
Counselors (%) N=2,930	60.5	11.1	8.4	19.9
Medical professionals (%) N=3,622	69.0	11.5	7.8	11.7

Respondents were about twice as likely to not tell any of their non-LGBTQIA friends about their TGNC identity (40.4%) compared to their romantic/sexual orientation (25%) and LGBPQQ identity (21.2%). Once again, the majority of TGNC respondents were not out to any of their coworkers, medical professionals, classmates, counselors, and teachers and school staff.

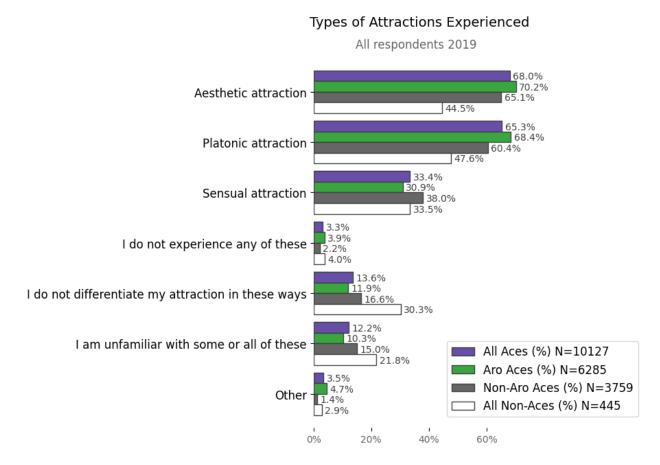
⁴ Please visit the Terminology section to see the classification of TGNC respondents used in this report.

2.4 Non-Sexual and Non-Romantic Attraction

Some people experience types of attraction other than romantic or sexual attraction. If you are familiar with any of the following terms, which of them describe something you experience? *Check all that apply.*

In this question, respondents were able to select multiple responses. The two most common forms of non-romantic and non-sexual attraction, aesthetic attraction and platonic attraction, were experienced by approximately two-thirds of the ace respondents (68.0% and 65.3%, respectively). One-third of ace respondents said they experience sensual attraction (33.4%) while the remaining ace respondents did not differentiate their attraction in these ways (13.6%), were unfamiliar with the terminology (12.2%), did not experience any of the aforementioned (3.3%), or wrote in a different option (3.5%).

When comparing the responses of aro aces and non-aro aces, a greater proportion of aro aces reported experiencing aesthetic and platonic attraction compared to non-aro aces. The opposite was true for sensual attraction. Non-aces had the smallest proportion who said they experienced aesthetic and platonic attraction, and the greatest proportion who did not differentiate these attractions or were unfamiliar with the terms. Non-aro aces had greater proportions who did not differentiate their attraction or who were unfamiliar with the terms compared to aro aces.



Section 3: Significant Relationships

Respondents were asked general questions about their significant relationships including information about their relationship status, partners, relationship history, and relationship style.

For purposes of this study, a "significant relationship" is defined as close relationships other than family or close friends—typical examples could include marriage, domestic partnerships, queerplatonic relationships, partner, boyfriend, girlfriend, etc. Significant relationships need not necessarily be sexual or romantic. In addition, where applicable, the language of the questions were designed to consider people in polyamorous relationships (e.g., having answer options include "in at least one relationship where we are engaged or married" or "not engaged or married, but in at least one significant relationship").

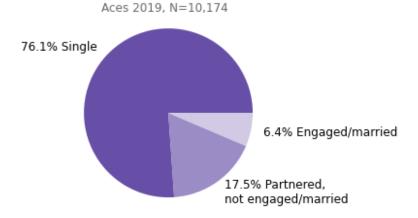
Overall for this section, there were not many differences in the 2019 results compared to the 2017 and 2018 surveys (Weis et al., 2020).

3.1 Relationship Status and History

What's your current relationship status?

The majority of ace respondents were single (76.1%), followed by those who indicated they were in at least one significant relationship currently (17.5%), and 6.4% reporting they were engaged or married.

Current Relationship Status



The following analysis addresses these three questions across different orientation groupings:

- Have you ever had a significant relationship?
- Have you ever had a significant relationship that was romantic?
- Have you ever had a significant relationship that was non-romantic?

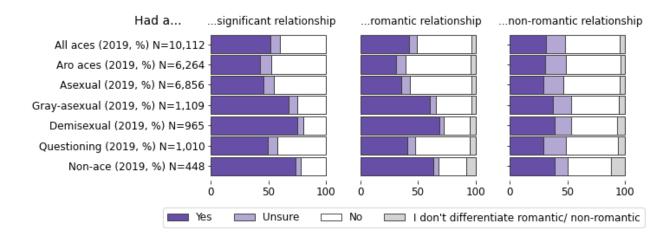
About half of ace respondents (51.5%) reported having been in a significant relationship, while around 40% said they have not. The remaining ace respondents were unsure. In contrast, nearly three-quarters of non-ace respondents (73.2%) said they have had a significant relationship. Gray-asexual and demisexual respondents had similarly higher proportions of those who had been in a significant relationship as compared to ace respondents.

When it came to romantic relationships, there was a higher proportion of demisexual, non-ace, and gray-asexual respondents who had been in such a relationship compared to the other identity groupings. Experience with non-romantic relationships was more uniform across all the identities, with about 30--40% of respondents in each group having been in a non-romantic relationship, plus about 10--20% who were unsure. In comparison to ace respondents, more than twice the proportion of non-ace respondents said they do not differentiate between romantic and non-romantic relationships.

An equal proportion of aro aces had been in a romantic relationship compared to a non-romantic relationship (31.0%). In contrast, experience with romantic relationships was more prevalent than experience with non-romantic relationships across all other identity groups.

When it came to respondents who were unsure if they had experienced these relationships, more than twice as many ace and non-ace respondents were unsure if they had ever had a significant non-romantic relationship (17.0% ace, 11.6% non-ace) compared to a significant romantic one (6.8% ace, 4.5% non-ace).

Data tables detailing the percentages for these questions can be found in Appendix V.



3.2 Orientation of Partners

The following analysis interprets both of these questions together:

- Have you ever had a partner who was asexual, gray-asexual, or demisexual, that you know of?
- Have you ever had a partner who was NOT asexual, gray-asexual, or demisexual, that you know of?

Had an ace partner	Aces with relationship history (2019, %) N=6055	Non-aces with relationship history (2019, %) N=348
Yes	21.7	30.2
No	78.3	69.8

Had a non-ace partner	Aces with relationship history (2019, %) N=6029	Non-aces with relationship history (2019, %) N=349
Yes	83.3	91.7
No	16.7	8.3

Partner Orientation History	Aces with relationship history (2019, %) N=6019	Non-aces with relationship history (2019, %) N=348
Ace partner(s) only	5.8	4.0
Non-ace partner(s) only	67.4	65.5
Both ace and non-ace partner(s)	15.9	26.1
Other	10.9	4.3

Among aces who had ever had a significant relationship, fewer than a quarter (21.7%) had a partner who was on the ace spectrum in comparison to about 30% among non-aces. It is important to point out here that the question asked respondents if they knew their partner was ace, and presumed that only those respondents who had confirmation of their status would partner's ace respond affirmatively. If a respondent had a partner who had not come out to them, then there would be no way of knowing that partner's orientation.

A potential explanation for the higher rate of non-aces who had an ace partner is in sampling. It may be that non-ace respondents were made aware of the survey from their close relationship with someone on the ace spectrum (including a partner or former partner), as opposed to being a member of an ace community for their own identity.

By comparison, 83.3% of aces who had ever had a significant relationship had a non-ace partner, while 91.7% of non-aces who had ever had a significant relationship had a non-ace partner.

In total, almost 16% of ace respondents who had ever had significant relationships had both ace and non-ace partners. More than two-thirds (67.4%) had only had non-ace partners, while almost 6% had only had ace partners.

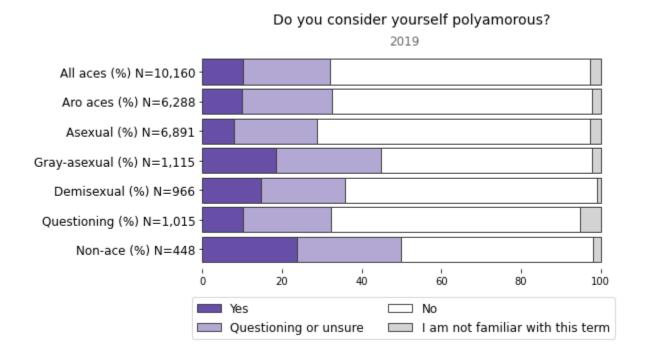
3.3 Polyamory

Do you consider yourself polyamorous?

About one in ten ace respondents considered themselves polyamorous (10.3%), along with twice as many respondents who were questioning or unsure if they considered themselves as such (21.7%).

When examining specific ace spectrum identities, a greater proportion of gray-asexual and demisexual respondents considered themselves polyamorous in comparison to questioning and asexual respondents. Non-ace respondents had the greatest proportion who considered themselves polyamorous (23.7%), plus another 26.1% who were questioning or unsure.

Data tables with percentages for these questions can be found in Appendix V.



Section 4: Lifestyles

Respondents were asked questions about life events they would like to experience, as well as their relationships with their parents.

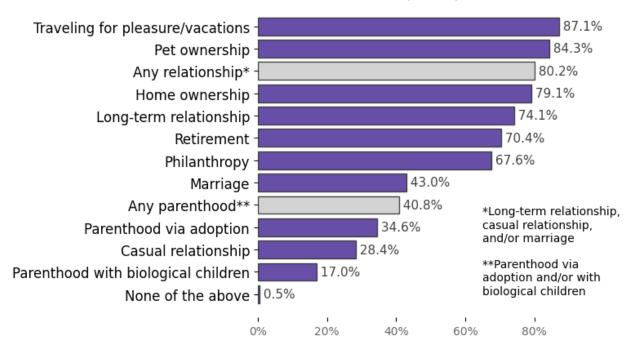
4.1 Life Events

Which of the following life events would you ideally like to experience? *Check all that apply.*

Most participants expressed a desire to travel for pleasure/vacations (87.1%) and to own a pet (84.3%). Four out of five aces (80.2%) said they would like to experience a relationship (long-term, casual, and/or marriage) and 74.1% said they would specifically like to experience a long-term relationship. Two out of five aces (40.8%) said they would like to experience parenthood, with 34.6% of aces wanting to experience parenthood via adoption and 17.0% stating they would like to experience parenthood with biological children. Owning a house (79.1%), retiring (70.4%), and philanthropy (67.6%) are also life events ace respondents said they would like to experience.

Which of the following life events would you ideally like to experience?

Aces 2019, N=10,171



How likely do you think it is that you will experience each of the following life events?

This question examined the life events featured in the previous question, polling respondents on how likely they felt they were to happen or if they already had happened. To contextualize these results, it may be helpful to remember that the survey demographics are more representative of younger, Anglophone populations, with the majority of survey takers between the ages of 14 and 24 and residing in the US, Canada, UK, Australia, or Western European countries.

When it came to relationships, almost a quarter of ace respondents (22.0%) had already experienced a long-term relationship and 5.4% had experienced marriage. Notably, more than half of ace respondents (53.0%) did not expect to get married and nearly a third (32.4%) thought they would not experience long-term relationships. Most ace respondents (51.2%) also felt it was unlikely or very unlikely for them to have a casual relationship. Among the remaining half, 17.3% had already experienced casual relationships, while 16.3% of respondents expected to do so in the future.

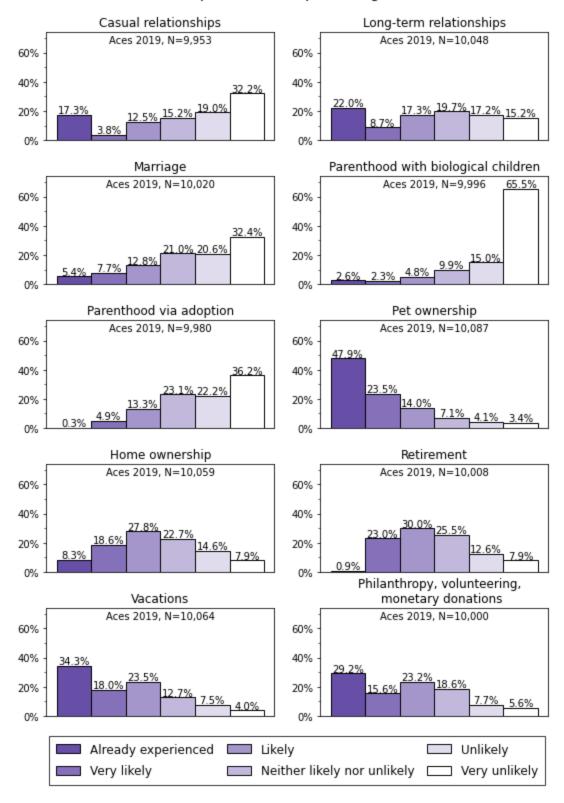
Fewer than 3% of ace respondents said they had already experienced parenthood (2.6% with biological children and 0.3% with adoptive children). A clear majority of respondents (80.5%) thought parenthood with biological children was unlikely or even very unlikely, compared to 58.4% who felt the same about parenthood with adopted children. Overall, aces felt they were more likely to experience adoptive parenthood than biological parenthood.

In contrast, there were considerably higher numbers of ace respondents who had experienced pet ownership (47.9%) or felt it was likely or very likely that they would in the future (37.5%). Less than 10% of ace respondents said that experiencing pet ownership was either unlikely or very unlikely.

The next section examines socio-economic indicators such as home ownership, retirement, and vacations. Results show that 8.3% of ace respondents were homeowners while almost one half (46.4%) expected to become homeowners. More than half of respondents (53.0%) expected to experience retirement while about one-fifth (20.5%) did not think there was a high likelihood. About one-third (34.3%) of ace respondents had already been on vacation, with an additional 41.5% expecting to go on vacation in the future and more than one in ten (11.5%) not expecting this to happen. Additional socio-economic indicators such as food security and income can be accessed in Section 7.4 and Appendix II, respectively.

Lastly, the survey asked about philanthropy, volunteering, or monetary donations. Almost one-third (29.2%) of respondents had already engaged in such endeavors, with 38.8% expecting to do so in the future, leaving 13.3% of respondents who did not expect philanthropy, volunteering, or monetary donations to become part of their lives.

Expectation of experiencing life events

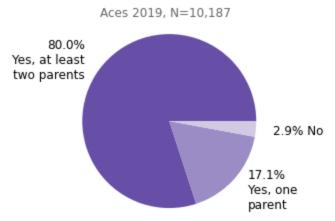


4.2 Family Relationships

Do you have contact with your parent(s)?

Four out of five ace respondents (80.0%) had contact with at least two parents. 17.1% were in contact with one parent, and 2.9% were not in contact with any parents.

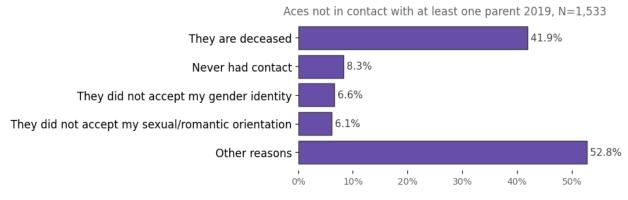
Do you have contact with your parents?



(For those who do not have contact with at least one parent) Why are you not in contact with your parent(s)? *Check all that apply.*

A sizeable percentage of aces (41.9%) said they do not maintain contact with one of their parents because they passed away. Some aces said they do not have contact with one parent because they did not accept their gender identity (6.6%) or they did not accept their sexual/romantic orientation (6.1%). However, given the prevalence of other reasons (52.8%) for not having contact with a parent, gender identity and sexual/romantic orientation do not stand out as primary causes.

Why are you not in contact with your parent(s)?



Do you identify

as transgender?

Questioning or unsure

Neutrois

Bigender Demigirl

The following tables show the gender identity and sexual and romantic orientations of ace respondents who reported they are not in contact with at least one parent due to one of these identities. Among aces who were not in contact with at least one parent due to their gender identity, the vast majority (84.2%) identified as transgender. Three in five (60.4%) identified as non-binary.

Among respondents who were not in contact with at least one parent due to their sexual/romantic orientation, more than half had, at some point in time, identified as asexual (76.3%), queer (59.1%), and/or bisexual (51.6%).

No	8.9	
Unsure		6.9
Which (if any) of the words would you describe your gen	ou use to	Aces not in contact with at least one parent due to gender identity, 2019 (%) N=101
Non-binary		60.4
Agender		30.7
Genderqueer		27.7
Man or Male		19.8
Woman or Female		19.8
Androgynous		17.8
Genderfluid		16.8
No Gender		12.9
Other		12.9
Demiguy		10.9

Aces not in contact with at least one parent due to gender identity, 2019 (%) N=101

84.2

6.9 5.9

5.0

4.0

Which (if any) of the following romantic orientation labels do you identify with?	Aces not in contact with at least one parent due to orientation, 2019 (%) N=92
Queer	43.5
Aromantic	34.8
Panromantic	29.3
Biromantic	20.7
Homoromantic	16.3
Gray-romantic or gray- aromantic	15.2
Demiromantic	14.1
Questioning or unsure	8.7
WTFromantic or quoiromantic	7.6
I prefer not to use a/romantic orientation terminology	6.5
Polyromantic	5.4
Lithromantic	4.3
Heteroromantic	3.3
Other	2.2

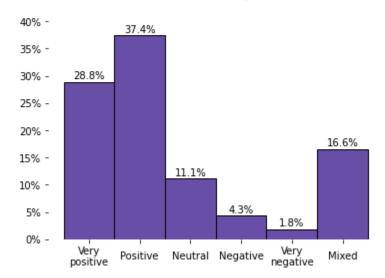
Which of the following labels have you *ever* identified with at some point in time (even if you no longer do so currently)?	Aces not in contact with at least one parent due to orientation, 2019 (%) N=93
Asexual	76.3
Queer	59.1
Bisexual	51.6
Straight	48.4
Pansexual	39.8
Demisexual	36.6
Questioning	35.5
Lesbian	30.1
Gray-asexual (or gray-A, graysexual, etc.)	29.0
Gay	22.6

(For those who have contact with at least one parent) How would you rate your relationship with your parent(s) you are in contact with?

Nearly two-thirds (66.2%) of ace respondents who had contact with at least one parent said they had a positive or very positive relationship with the parent(s) they were in contact with. A smaller portion (6.1%) reported having a negative or very negative relationship. One in six respondents said their relationships with parent(s) they were in contact with were mixed.

How would you rate your relationship with your parent(s) you are in contact with?

Aces in contact with one or more parent 2019, N=9,401



Section 5: Sexual Violence

Due to the sensitive nature of the questions in this section, respondents were asked at the beginning of it if they were willing to answer questions about their sexual history, including experiences with sexual violence. This section only includes respondents who were willing to proceed with this section. 15.9% of ace respondents skipped this section. All questions in this section were optional.

5.1 Categorizations of Sexual Violence

Respondents who agreed to answer questions about sexual violence were asked 10 questions about how many times, if at all, someone had initiated specific types of non-consensual sexual behavior with them. These questions, as well as the corresponding analysis, were modeled after the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) conducted in the United States.⁵

The analysis in this section provides a summary view of sexual violence experienced by different subsets of ace respondents. To perform this summary analysis, the 10 sexual violence questions were mapped into four categories based on the interpretations of sexual violence used by the United States' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) analysis of NISVS data: rape, sexual coercion, unwanted sexual contact, and non-contact sexual violence. The table on the following page shows the correspondence between the Ace Community Survey questions and the CDC categories of sexual violence.

⁵ Survey methodology for the NISVS can be accessed at https://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR34305.v1.

CDC sexual violence category ⁶	Corresponding 2019 Ace Community Survey questions	
Rape	How many people have ever TRIED to use force or threats to physically harm you to make you have vaginal, anal, or oral sex, or put fingers or an object into your vagina or anus, but it did not happen? (1)	
	How many people have ever had vaginal, anal, or oral sex with you, or put fingers or an object into your vagina or anus in the following circumstances:	
	 When you were drunk, high, or passed out, AND unable to consent? (2) Using force or threats to physically harm you? (3) 	
Sexual coercion	How many people have ever had vaginal, anal, or oral sex with you, or put fingers or an object into your vagina or anus in the following circumstances: • After they pressured you by telling you lies, or making promises about the future that they knew were untrue? (4) • After they pressured you by threatening to end your relationship or threatening to spread rumors about you? (5) • After they pressured you by wearing you down by repeatedly asking for sex or showing they were unhappy? (6) • After they pressured you by using their influence or authority over you, for example a boss or a teacher? (7)	
Unwanted sexual contact	How many people have ever kissed you in a sexual way, fondled, groped, grabbed or touched you when you did not want it to happen or in a way that made you feel unsafe? (8)	
Non-contact sexual violence	How many people have ever exposed their sexual body parts, made you show your sexual body parts, or made you look at sexual photos or movies when you did not want it to happen? (9)	
	How many people have verbally harassed you while you were in a public place in a way that made you feel unsafe? (10)	
Any sexual violence	Any of the 10 questions in this section.	

 $^{^6}$ The CDC's 2015 definitions of rape, sexual coercion, and unwanted sexual contact can be accessed at https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/datasources/nisvs/2015NISVSdatabrief.html. The CDC's definition of non-contact sexual violence can be accessed on p.17 of this document: https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/NISVS_Report2010-a.pdf.

Grouping the questions into these categories introduced some complexity about how the experiences of respondents who skipped some, but not all, of the questions in a given category were represented in the analysis. For example, the sexual coercion category consolidates responses to four different questions. If a respondent said they experienced any form of sexual coercion, it was straightforward to count them in both the numerator and the denominator when calculating the proportion, even if they skipped the other sexual coercion questions. If a respondent said they had not experienced all four forms of sexual coercion, it was similarly straightforward to include them in only the denominator. However, if a respondent said they did not experience certain types of sexual coercion, but skipped the other sexual coercion questions, there was not enough information to determine whether they had *not* experienced any form of sexual coercion (i.e., if they should be included in the denominator).

The following table shows the prevalence of this "incomplete information" among all ace respondents for each sexual violence category. The prevalence of incomplete information for questions related to rape was much greater compared to the other categories of sexual violence. Since it is not known whether respondents skipped these questions because they were difficult to read, triggering of past experiences, or for another reason entirely, Ace Community Survey analysts chose to avoid making interpretations of these experiences with incomplete information. Therefore, respondents who skipped a question in a sexual violence catagory and answered that they did not experience the other experience(s) were ommitted from the analysis.

Number of ace respondents with "incomplete information" for each sexual violence category (2019)		
Any sexual violence 259/8,442 (3.1%)		
Rape	540/7,918 (6.8%)	
Sexual coercion	46/7,396 (0.6%)	
Unwanted sexual contact	0/8,158 (0.0%)	
Non-contact sexual violence	139/8,295 (1.7%)	

In order to represent the experiences of as many ace respondents with complete data as possible, the data tables in this section of the report look different from data tables throughout the rest of the report. Namely, every cell within a table includes the sample size, N, whereas the tables typically include one overarching sample size for a row or column subgroup. Capturing the data in this way does not filter or exclude respondents who experienced at least one form of sexual violence but did not answer all the sexual violence questions. The sample size N, in each cell represents the number of respondents who answered that question, and the percentage in each cell is the proportion of those N respondents who experienced that type of sexual violence.

Data analysis for the 10 individual questions (not consolidated into grouped categories) is available in Appendix VI for each ace subgroup examined in this analysis.

5.2 Sexual Violence Experienced by Aces

More than four out of five aces had experienced some form of sexual violence (82.2%). Similarly, almost three out of four aces (73.9%) had experienced non-contact sexual violence. More than half of aces had experienced unwanted sexual contact (55.2%) with more than one out of four aces having experienced sexual coercion (27.4%) and more than one out of five aces having experienced rape (20.7%). By comparison, the 2015 NISVS (2018) reports that 43.6% of women and 24.8% of men in the US experience some form of sexual violence over their lifetime. Likewise, NISVS reports lower proportions for unwanted sexual contact (37.0% women, 17.9% men) and coercion (16.0% women, 9.6% men), and comparable proportions for rape experienced by women (21.3%, 2.6% men).

The table below shows a breakdown of these sexual violence categories by age. There is a correlation between the age of the ace respondents and the percentage of those who have experienced sexual violence, with the percentage gradually increasing as the groups increase in age. The exceptions are unwanted sexual contact and non-contact sexual violence, where the age bracket 35–44 had the highest percentages (72.1% and 82.3% respectively), though this may be due to statistical uncertainty with limited sampling size, especially among older aces. This trend is not unexpected considering these questions asked about experiences with sexual violence over one's lifetime, however, it is worth keeping in mind when interpreting this data.

Furthermore, the average numbers (shown in the column under "All aces") are more closely representative of younger ace respondents' experiences, particularly the age group 18–24, which constituted nearly half of the survey's respondents (see Section 1.3).

Experienced sexual violence:	All aces (2019)	Aces aged 14- 17 (2019)	Aces aged 18- 24 (2019)	Aces aged 25- 34 (2019)	Aces aged 35- 44 (2019)	Aces aged 45+ (2019)
Any sexual violence	82.2% (N=7815)	69.9% (N=913)	80.1% (N=3590)	87.4% (N=2442)	90.4% (N=581)	90.7% (N=226)
Rape	20.7% (N=7035)	13.6% (N=780)	16.4% (N=3181)	24.1% (N=2262)	32.4% (N=556)	48.1% (N=208)
Sexual coercion	27.4% (N=7012)	12.8% (N=767)	21.4% (N=3182)	34.2% (N=2255)	44.6% (N=558)	55.4% (N=202)
Unwanted sexual contact	55.2% (N=7788)	37.4% (N=932)	50.2% (N=3569)	64.1% (N=2430)	72.1% (N=569)	71.8% (N=227)
Non-contact sexual violence	73.9% (N=7788)	62.4% (N=936)	71.3% (N=3593)	79.8% (N=2406)	82.3% (N=570)	79.6% (N=221)

5.3 Sexual Violence Experienced by LGBTQIA+ Orientation

Lesbian, gay, bi, pan, questioning, and queer (LGBPQQ) aces were more likely to have experienced any type of sexual violence (85.5%) than aces on average (82.2%). The rate of sexual violence exerperienced by LGBPQQ aces was approximately 3–4% higher for each individual category between all aces and LGBPQQ aces.

More than three-quarters of aro aces experienced some form of sexual violence (78.8%), with more than two-thirds who experienced non-contact sexual violence specifically (70.4%). Nearly half had experienced unwanted sexual contact (49.5%).

The surveyed group of non-aces generally had experienced comparable or slightly higher rates of sexual violence, while aro aces had generally experienced lower rates of sexual violence as compared to other cohorts. However, aro aces surveyed still experienced higher rates of sexual violence (78.8%), sexual coercion (20.4%), and unwanted sexual contact (49.5%) than the rates reported by the 2015 NISVS report (2018).

Experienced sexual violence:	All aces (2019)	LGBPQQ aces (2019)	Aro aces (2019)	Non-aces (2019)
Any sexual violence	82.2% (N=7815)	85.5% (N=4073)	78.8% (N=2906)	85.6% (N=368)
Rape	20.7% (N=7035)	23.4% (N=3687)	16.8% (N=2625)	23.3% (N=343)
Sexual coercion	27.4% (N=7012)	30.0% (N=3659)	20.4% (N=2616)	32.2% (N=338)
Unwanted sexual contact	55.2% (N=7788)	58.8% (N=4061)	49.5% (N=2918)	59.7% (N=370)
Non-contact sexual violence	73.9% (N=7788)	77.8% (N=4059)	70.4% (N=2916)	75.3% (N=368)

5.4 Sexual Violence Experienced by Gender/Sex

Aces who exclusively identified as non-binary (i.e., did not also identify as a man or woman) and non-binary ace women experienced all forms of sexual violence at a higher frequency than all aces, binary ace women, and binary ace men.

Ace men and women who identified as non-binary also experienced all forms of sexual violence at a higher frequency than their binary counterparts. Non-binary ace men experienced disproportionate sexual coercion, with 34.2% of them having experienced sexual coercion compared to the other subgroups, which ranged from 19.3%–29.8%. Non-binary ace women had the greatest proportion who experienced unwanted sexual contact (60.7%).

Regardless of binary or non-binary gender, at least half of ace respondents among all the gender categories experienced some form of sexual violence and non-contact sexual violence. This was also true for binary ace men, who generally had lower rates of experience with sexual violence compared to the other gender categories: more than three out of five binary ace men experienced some form of sexual violence (63.2%), and more than half had specifically experienced non-contact sexual violence (52.6%). Furthermore, more than one in seven binary ace men (15.3%) were a victim of rape, a proportion more than five times greater than the 2.6% of adult men in the US reported by the 2015 NISVS (2018).

Experienced sexual violence:	All aces (2019)	Binary ace women (2019)	Binary ace men (2019)	Non-binary ace women (2019)	Non-binary ace men (2019)	Non-binary only aces (2019)
Any sexual violence	82.2% (N=7815)	82.9% (N=3489)	63.2% (N=749)	87.5% (N=1125)	79.4% (N=344)	85.8% (N=2087)
Rape	20.7% (N=7035)	20.1% (N=3139)	15.3% (N=691)	23.4% (N=1005)	22.9% (N=314)	22.1% (N=1865)
Sexual coercion	27.4% (N=7012)	26.7% (N=3130)	19.3% (N=688)	29.8% (N=992)	34.2% (N=316)	29.4% (N=1865)
Unwanted sexual contact	55.2% (N=7788)	55.4% (N=3483)	37.2% (N=769)	60.7% (N=1114)	54.5% (N=345)	59.1% (N=2055)
Non-contact sexual violence	73.9% (N=7788)	73.8% (N=3476)	52.6% (N=756)	79.5% (N=1117)	70.2% (N=346)	79.7% (N=2072)

Transgender aces (including those who were unsure if they consider themselves transgender) disproportionally experienced all types of sexual violence when compared with cisgender (non-transgender) aces in each category.

Similarly, intersex aces experienced far greater levels of sexual violence across all categories compared to dyadic (not intersex) aces. These differences were most striking for rape, experienced by 53.4% of intersex aces and 20.0% of dyadic aces, as well as sexual coercion (52.6% and 26.9% respectively). Respondents who were unsure if they are intersex (described in section 1.2.4) were not included in this analysis.

Experienced sexual violence:	All aces (2019)	Transgender aces (2019)	Non-transgender aces (2019)	Intersex aces (2019)	Dyadic aces (2019)
Any sexual violence	82.2% (N=7815)	85.8% (N=2130)	80.9% (N=5685)	95.5% (N=66)	81.8% (N=7477)
Rape	20.7% (N=7035)	22.6% (N=1916)	20.0% (N=5119)	53.4% (N=58)	20.0% (N=6729)
Sexual coercion	27.4% (N=7012)	30.8% (N=1921)	26.2% (N=5091)	52.6% (N=57)	26.9% (N=6712)
Unwanted sexual contact	55.2% (N=7788)	59.1% (N=2104)	53.8% (N=5684)	78.1% (N=64)	54.5% (N=7452)
Non-contact sexual violence	73.9% (N=7788)	79.5% (N=2122)	71.9% (N=5666)	89.1% (N=64)	73.4% (N=7451)

5.5 Sexual Violence Experienced by Racial/Ethnic Minority Status

The rate of sexual violence exerperienced by minority aces was higher for each category of sexual violence compared to non-minority aces, with the disparity ranging from 3.0%–5.4%. Minority status for this analysis was determined by self-identification as a national and/or local minority (including aces who were unsure if they considered themselves a minority), as described in section 1.8.2.

Experienced sexual violence:	All aces (2019)	Minority aces (2019)	Non-minority aces (2019)
Any sexual violence	82.2% (N=7815)	84.8% (N=1541)	81.7% (N=6221)
Rape	20.7% (N=7035)	25.1% (N=1340)	19.7% (N=5650)
Sexual coercion	27.4% (N=7012)	29.9% (N=1343)	26.9% (N=5625)
Unwanted sexual contact	55.2% (N=7788)	58.1% (N=1521)	54.5% (N=6214)
Non-contact sexual violence	73.9% (N=7788)	77.6% (N=1533)	73.1% (N=6202)

Section 6: Sexual Attitudes and Behaviors

Respondents were asked about their feelings towards sex in general, as well as their experiences with consensual, partnered sex. Respondents were given the option to skip questions about sexual experiences due to their sensitive nature.

6.1 Attitudes about Sex

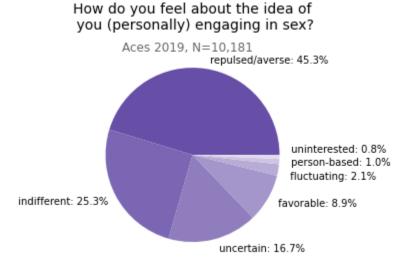
How do you feel about the idea of you (personally) engaging in sex?

In ace communities, there is a common set of language used to describe one's attitude about personally engaging in sex: repulsed, averse, indifferent, and favorable. The precise meaning of each word is contested, but people who have never encountered these labels can often categorize themselves based on their suggested meaning. This framework is a particularly useful way of distinguishing one's feelings about *personally* engaging in sex from one's feelings about *other people* participating in sex, a distinction that is described by AVEN (n.d.) as a personal vs. cultural attitude. This helps address the misconception that aces are "anti-sex" or believe that sex is a universally bad thing, because aces can be personally averse to first-hand participation in sex, while supporting the normalization of consensual sexual activity among those who want it (i.e., culturally "sex-positive"), among other combinations of personal and cultural attitudes (AVEN, n.d.).

This question builds off of this framework, allowing respondents to indicate if they felt repulsed/averse, indifferent, favorable, or uncertain about personally engaging in sex. Respondents were also given the option to write in their own answer.

Nearly half (45.3%) of aces said they felt repulsed or averse about personally engaging in sex. A quarter (25.3%) of ace respondents were indifferent, one in six (16.7%) were uncertain, and a little

more than one in twelve were favorable (8.9%).The common write-in responses could be summarized by "fluctuating" (2.1%), "person-based" (1.0%), or "uninterested" (0.8%). write-in responses were adapted into options for the 2020 survey, where this question was also changed to a checkbox question where respondents could select multiple answers (including "averse" and "repulsed" as distinct options).



When responses to this question are broken down by ace spectrum identity, there are some clear differences in experiences. The majority of those who identified as asexual felt repulsed/averse (57.5%), while only 4.2% were favorable. Among demisexual respondents, fewer than 10% were repulsed/averse, while nearly a third (31.5%) were favorable, and 4.3% said their feelings about it depended on the person, a proportion that is more than three times greater than any other ace identity.

Gray-asexuals had the greatest proportion of respondents who felt indifferent (38.3%), with 4.0% reporting their feelings fluctuated. Questioning respondents had the greatest proportion who felt uncertain (31.9%), and the second-greatest proportion (after asexuals) who felt repulsed/averse (25.9%).

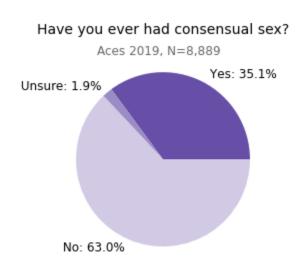
More than three-quarters of non-aces said they felt favorable, a distinctly higher number than the aggregated 8.9% of aces who felt favorable (depicted in the previous pie chart), and more than twice the proportion as the greatest ace spectrum subgroup (demisexuals at 31.5%). Less than 3% of non-aces felt repulsed/averse.

Sex disposition (2019)	Repulsed/Averse	Indifferent	Uncertain	Favorable	Fluctuating	Person-Based	Uninterested
Asexual (%) N=6,915	57.5	22.8	12.7	4.2	1.6	0.5	0.7
Gray-Asexual (%) N=1,114	19.9	38.3	20.7	14.7	4.0	1.3	0.9
Demisexual (%) N=964	9.8	26.9	24.5	31.5	2.6	4.3	0.5
Questioning (%) N=1,015	25.9	26.3	31.9	12.1	2.3	0.6	0.9
Non-Ace (%) N=448	2.7	8.3	8.7	78.1	1.6	0.4	0.2

6.2 Consensual Sexual Experiences

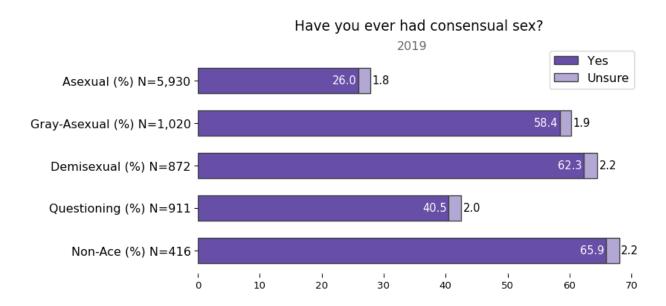
The results in this section only include respondents who were willing to proceed with this section (87.5% of all ace respondents).

Have you ever had consensual sex?



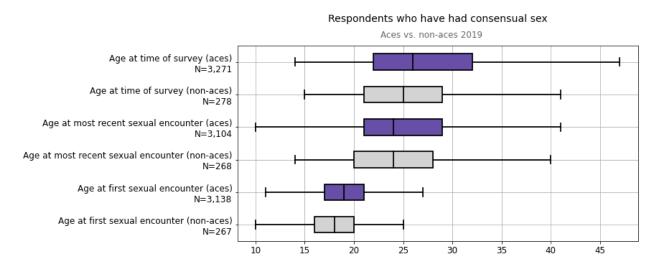
The majority of respondents (63.0%) had never engaged in consensual sexual, while more than a third (35.1%) had. The remainder (less than 2%) were unsure.

When broken down by ace spectrum identity, asexuals had the smallest proportion of those who had consensual sex (26.0% with 1.8% who were unsure). There was a similar proportion of demisexuals who had had consensual sex (62.3%, plus 2.2% unsure) as non-ace respondents (65.9%, plus 2.2% unsure), with gray-asexuals not far behind (58.4% plus 1.9% unsure).



By your best estimate, how old were you at the EARLIEST time you had consensual sex? By your best estimate, how old were you at the MOST RECENT time you had consensual sex? *If this has never happened, or you don't know when, leave this blank.*

The boxplots below compare the age distribution of aces and non-aces who have had consensual sex with each group's respective age at their most recent sexual encounter, as well as age at first sexual encounter. For non-aces, the distribution of age at the most recent sexual encounter closely aligned with the distribution of age of respondents, and on average, 1.1 years had passed since the most recent sexual encounter. For aces, the distribution of age at the most recent sexual encounter skewed a little younger compared to the age distribution of aces who have had consensual sex, suggesting that more time had passed since ace respondents' last sexual encounter. On average, 2.7 years had passed since ace respondents' most recent sexual encounter. Ace respondents tended to have their first sexual encounter about a year later than non-ace respondents.



The table below examines sexual activity among ace spectrum subgroups who had had consensual sexual encounters. Asexuals had the highest average age at first sexual encounter (19.5), while non-aces had the lowest average age (18.1), followed by questioning aces (18.4). On average, non-ace respondents had sexual encounters more recently (1.1 years ago). The average questioning,

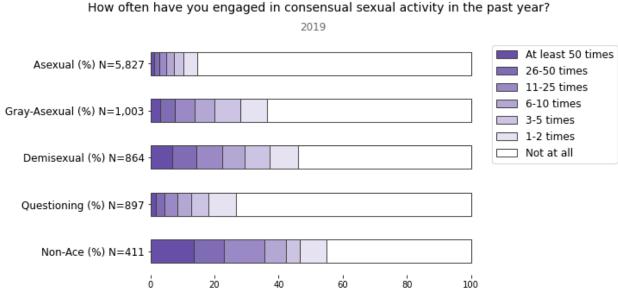
gray-asexual, and demisexual had their most recent sexual encounters about 2 years prior, and more than 3 years had passed since the average asexual's most recent sexual encounter.

Sexual activity among respondents who have had consensual sex (2019)	Average age at first consensual sexual encounter	Average number of years since most recent consensual sexual encounter
Asexual, N=1522	19.5	3.2
Gray-Asexual, N=577	19.0	2.2
Demisexual, N=536	19.1	1.9
Questioning, N=349	18.4	2.2
Non-Ace. N=260	18.1	1.1

⁷ Outliers were omitted from this analysis.

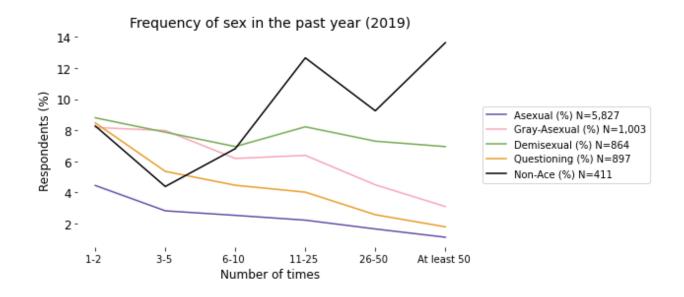
How often have you engaged in consensual sexual activity in the past year?

Overall, non-ace respondents engaged in more consensual sexual activity than any ace spectrum subgroup. Demisexual respondents had the next most sexual activity, followed by gray-asexual and questioning respondents. Asexual respondents had the least sexual activity, with 85.2% who had not had sex at all in the past year. Specific percentages for this data can be found in Appendix VII.



There were also some noticeable patterns in the proportion of respondents who engaged in sexual activity at each frequency, as explored more in the line chart below. In general, the proportion of asexual, gray-asexual, and questioning respondents decreased as frequency of sexual activity increased. The proportion of demisexual respondents remained similar as frequency increased, and

the proportion of non-ace respondents increased overall as frequency increased.



If you have had consensual sex, please list your motivations for engaging in sex at those times. *Check all that apply.*

Among aces who have had consensual sex, many of the motivations for doing so were related to the other person/people involved: the majority indicated they wanted to please their partners (69.1%), three in five (59.2%) reported that it was a way to show affection, two in five (40.8%) felt like their partners or relationships needed it, and a similar proportion (35.6%) thought it seemed like the natural next step in their relationship. More than half (53.1%) had sex out of a desire for emotional closeness.

Among the various types of attraction, romantic attraction motivated more than half (53.5%) of aces who had had consensual sex. Sensual and aesthetic attraction were the next most common, at 33.3% and 29.1% respectively, followed by one in five (20.4%) who said they were motivated by sexual attraction.

Other reasons for engaging in sex were more personal: nearly half said they were curious about sex or wanted to experience physical pleasure. Over a third said they wanted to try to like sex or were motivated by their libido, and a fifth wanted to fit in with other people. One in thirteen had consensual sex as a way to self-harm. Some respondents also chose to write other reasons (7.0%) than the ones listed in the question.

Reasons for having consensual sex

Aces who have had consensual sex 2019, N=3,116



The following table examines in further detail the reasons for engaging in consensual sex that were related to attraction, broken down by ace spectrum identity. Among all subgroups, romantic attraction was the most common reason why aces had consensual sex. For asexual, gray-asexual, and questioning respondents, sensual attraction was the second common reason for having consensual sex, followed by aesthetic attraction, and sexual attraction ranking as the least common reason for having consensual sex. This differs from demisexual respondents, for whom sexual attraction was the second common reason for having consensual sex, followed by sensual attraction, then aesthetic attraction.

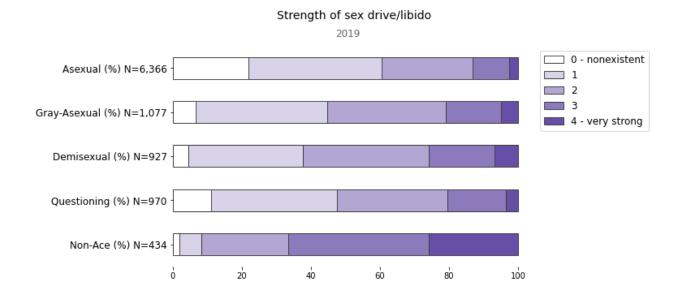
Reasons for having consensual sex (2019)	Asexual (%) N=1552	Gray-asexual (%) N=589	Demisexual (%) N=537	Questioning (%) N=363
I was sexually attracted to the person.	3.5	27.7	56.4	25.3
I was romantically attracted to the person.	45.9	56.5	74.1	51.8
I was sensually attracted to the person.	25.8	39.4	48.2	33.9
I was aesthetically attracted to the person.	23.7	34.1	40.4	27.5

6.3 Sex Drive / Libido

The results in this section only include respondents who were willing to proceed with this section (93.4% of all ace respondents).

How strong is your sex drive/libido, typically? Sex drive, or libido, refers to the drive to engage in some kind of sexual stimulation, whether through partnered sex or solo stimulation (e.g., masturbation).

As seen from the graph and table below, asexual respondents more frequently classified their sex drive/libido as non-existent compared to non-aces and other ace spectrum identities. The proportion of non-aces who reported a very strong libido was more than 10 times the proportion of asexuals who reported the same. Overall, ace participants typically classified their strength of sex drive/libido with an 1 or 2 on a scale of 0 (nonexistent) to 4 (very strong).



Strength of sex drive/libido (2019)	0 - nonexistent	1	2	3	4 - very strong
Asexual (%) N=6,366	21.9	38.6	26.3	10.6	2.5
Gray-Asexual (%) N=1,077	6.6	38.3	34.2	16.2	4.8
Demisexual (%) N=927	4.6	33.0	36.5	19.2	6.7
Questioning (%) N=970	11.1	36.5	31.9	17.0	3.5
Non-Ace (%) N=434	1.8	6.5	25.1	40.8	25.8

Section 7: Health and Ability

Respondents were asked questions about their physical and mental health, suicide ideation and attempts, and substance use. The questions were intended to gauge the respondents' considerations of their own well being, what diagnoses respondents had, and how they interacted with substances.

7.1 Physical and Mental Health

Do you consider yourself any of the following?

The prevalence of mental illness among ace respondents was greater than that found in samples of the general population. For example, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA, 2020) reported 20.6% of adults in the United States having any mental illness in 2019, compared to 41.2% of ace respondents who considered themselves mentally ill. Although Ace Community Survey data cannot be directly compared to the SAMHSA (due to the difference in the age and nationality of the sample populations and the self-identification aspect of mental health reporting in the Ace Community Survey), the high frequency of mental illness is consistent with lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) populations in both the US and UK, who tend to present a greater prevalence of mental health conditions when compared to the heterosexual population (Hudson-Sharp & Metcalf, 2016; Medley et al., 2016).

A considerable proportion of ace respondents (30.4%) considered themselves neurodivergent, with another one in five unsure. Nearly one in seven aces considered themselves disabled or chronically ill. A smaller portion of aces considered themselves physically disabled (6.9%) or cognitively disabled (5.7%).

Respondents Consider Self (Aces 2019, %)	Yes	Unsure	No
Disabled (N=10,012)	13.6	10.4	75.9
Physically disabled (N=9,928)	6.9	5.9	87.2
Cognitively disabled (N=9,913)	5.7	9.4	84.9
Chronically ill (N=9,878)	13.4	8.3	78.3
Mentally ill (N=10,060)	41.2	20.5	38.3
Neurodivergent (N=10,008)	30.4	21.2	48.4

Have any of the following ever applied to you?

Next, a more specific question on mental health asked if respondents were diagnosed with a particular disorder. The most common was anxiety disorder with over half of ace respondents (58.5%) having been professionally or self-diagnosed, followed closely by depressive order with 53.5% receiving professional- or self-diagnosis. More than one in five ace respondents were professionally or self-diagnosed with ADHD, more than one in six were professionally or self-diagnosed with a personality disorder.

Less than half a percent of ace respondents were professionally diagnosed with Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder (HSDD) or Sexual Interest Arousal Disorder (SIAD), which is consistent with results from 2017 and 2018 (Weis et al., 2020). HSDD and SIAD are listed in the DSM-4-TR as sexual disorders characterized by distressingly low sexual desire (American Psychiatric Association, 2000). The distinction between HSDD/SIAD and asexuality is important because it emphasizes that asexuality is an orientation, not a medical disorder⁸. Although many aces also experience low sexual desire, this lack of desire is not usually experienced as distressing (one of the main criteria for a HSDD/SIAD diagnosis); in contrast, having others pathologize one's asexual identity as a sexual disorder can be a source of distress among asexuals (Brotto, 2009). The DSM-5 has revised its diagnostic criteria for disorders with low sexual desire. The new disorder, Female Sexual Interest/Arousal Disorder (FSIAD), specifically states that people who self identify as asexual should not be diagnosed with FSIAD (American Psychiatric Association, 2013).

Neurodiversities and Disorders (Aces 2019, %)	Yes - Professionally Diagnosed	Yes - Self- Diagnosed	Unsure	No
ADHD (N=9,972)	11.9	9.6	17.8	60.6
Anxiety Disorder (N=10,099)	36.7	21.8	16.5	25.0
Autism Spectrum (N=9,952)	8.5	9.0	17.8	64.7
Depressive Disorder (N=10,072)	36.1	17.4	15.8	30.6
Personality Disorder (N=9,893)	4.1	3.0	9.3	83.6
Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder or Sexual Interest/Arousal Disorder (N=9,926)	0.3	1.0	4.6	94.1

 $^{^{8}}$ See Section 8.1, where more than 40% of ace respondents reported experiencing attempts or suggestions to "fix" or "cure" them due to their sexual or romantic orientation.

Has a doctor, nurse, or other health professional ever told you that you had/have...

- diabetes?
- hypertension or high blood pressure?
- high cholesterol?

About one in twelve ace respondents (8.0%) had been told they had high cholesterol, with another 2.6% unsure. One in fifteen ace respondents (6.7%) had been told they had hypertension or high blood pressure, with another 2.8% unsure. About one in sixty aces (1.6%) were told they had diabetes.

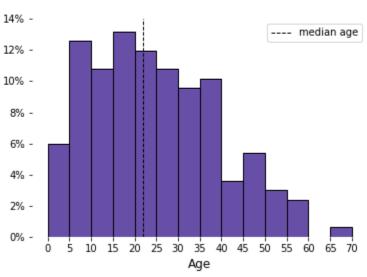
Health conditions (Aces 2019, %)	Yes	Not sure	No
Diabetes (N=10,181)	1.6	0.0	97.7
Hypertension or high blood pressure (N=10,155)	6.7	2.8	90.4
High cholesterol (N=10,109)	8.0	2.6	89.4

How old were you when you were told that you had diabetes?

Among the 167 respondents who had been told they had diabetes, most found out before the age of 40. The median age was 22.

How old were you when you were told that you had diabetes?

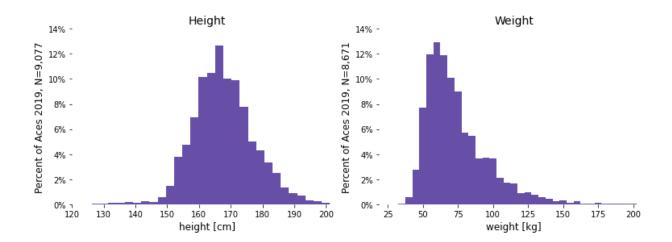
Aces with diabetes 2019, N=167



The following analysis examines these two questions together:

- How tall are you without shoes? *Enter your numerical response here, in inches or centimeters.*
- About how much do you weigh without shoes? *Enter your numerical response here, in pounds, kilograms, or stones.*

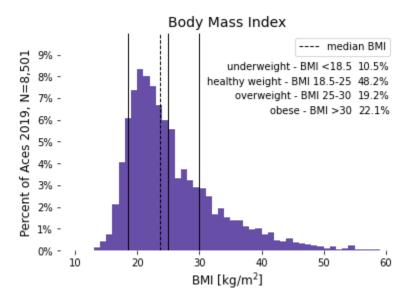
When answering these questions, respondents indicated the unit in which they responded (inches or centimeters; pounds, kilograms, or stones). All responses were converted to metric units for the purposes of analysis. The distributions for each question can be seen below.



When responses to these two questions are combined, they can be used to calculate Body Mass Index (BMI). BMI is an inexpensive screening tool used to indicate whether further health assessments are required, and can also be used to gauge general population health (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021). For example, weight and BMI have been shown to be health

risk factors for lesbian and bisexual women when compared to heterosexual women in the US (SAMHSA, 2012).

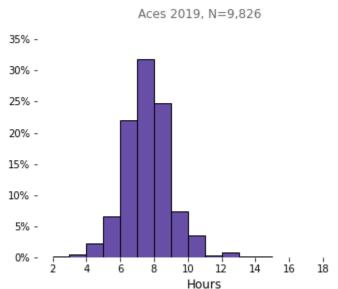
According to these results, nearly half (48.2%) of ace respondents are considered to have had a healthy weight. About one in ten are considered to have been underweight, while the remaining are considered to have been overweight or obese.



On average, how many hours of sleep do you get in a 24-hour period? *If you prefer not to answer, leave this question blank.*

More than 30% of participants said they sleep 7–8 hours in a 24-hour period.

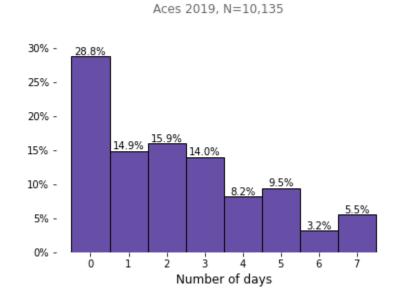
On average, how many hours of sleep do you get in a 24-hour period?



During the past 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes per day? Add up all the time you spent in any kind of physical activity that increased your heart rate and made you breathe hard some of the time.

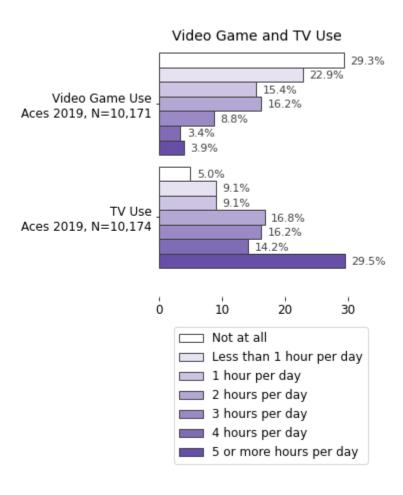
44.8% of ace respondents were physically active (for at least 60 minutes per day) 1–3 days per week. About one in four aces were active four or more days per week, while nearly one in three aces were not physically active for at least 60 minutes on any given day during the week before they took the survey.

During the past 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes per day?



On an average weekday, how many hours do you watch TV?
On an average weekday, how many hours do you play video or computer games or use a computer for something that is not related to school or work? Count time spent on things such as Xbox, PlayStation, an iPod, an iPad or other tablet, a smartphone, YouTube, Facebook, or other social networking tools, and the Internet.

The trends related to TV and video or computer game use were somewhat opposite: 29.3% of ace respondents said they never play computer games while 5.0% said they never watch TV. In contrast, 3.9% of ace respondents said they play games 5 or more hours per day while 29.5% said they watch TV 5 or more hours per day.

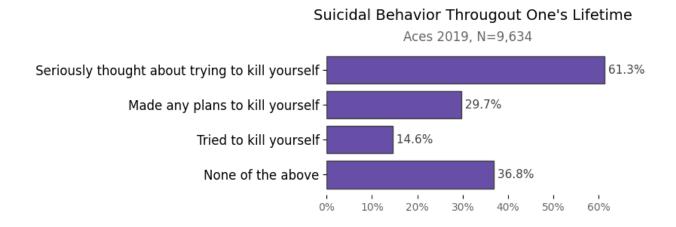


7.2 Suicide

Respondents were asked if they had seriously thought about trying to kill themselves, made any plans to kill themselves, tried to kill themselves, or whether none of the above applied in the past year or over the course of their lifetime. As a checkbox question, respondents could choose any combination of those options for either timeframe. These questions were designed to be comparable to existing research on suicide, such as the reports produced by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). Respondents were given the choice to skip questions related to suicide, which 5.2% of ace respondents opted to do.

At any time in your life, have you ever... *Check all that apply.*

The majority of aces (61.3%) had seriously considered suicide at some time in their life. Nearly a third of ace respondents (29.7%) made plans to kill themselves, and about half of those who made plans attempted suicide (14.6%). These numbers are quite consistent to the ones registered in 2017 and 2018 (Weis et al., 2020).

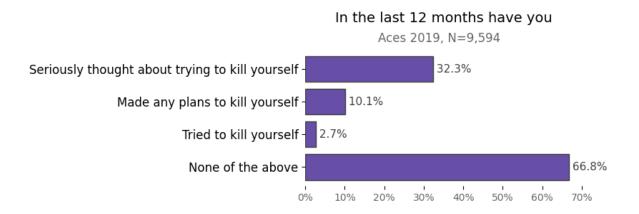


In the last 12 months have you... *Check all that apply.*

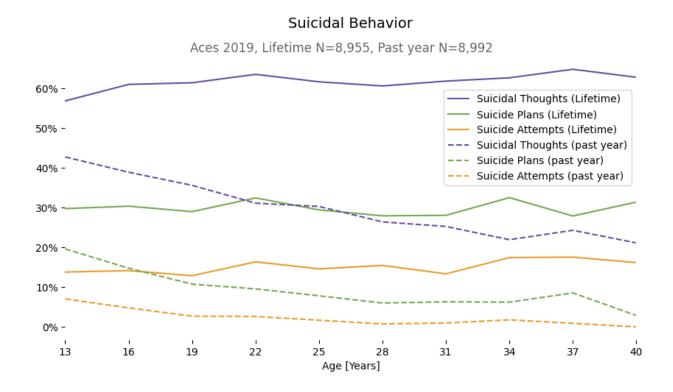
Nearly one-third of respondents had seriously considered suicide in the last 12 months, which is about half the portion of those who had thought about it at any point in their life — implying that this is an ongoing struggle among an alarming number of ace respondents. In contrast, the NIMH (2020) reported that 4.3% of adults over 18 in the United States had thoughts about suicide and 0.6% had attempted suicide in 2018.

⁹ The NIMH uses data from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) survey to report on suicide. See page A-72 for notes on SAMHSA survey design related to suicide: https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/cbhsq-reports/NSDUHMethodsSummDefs2018/NSDUHM ethodsSummDefs2018.pdf.

While the proportion of those thinking about or making plans to kill themselves in the prior 12 months was slightly lower than the rates reported in 2018 (where 37.0% had considered suicide and 12.1% had made plans), ace respondents continue to be at great risk of suicidal ideation and attempts (Weis et al., 2020).



The following line chart shows suicidal behavior across different ages of respondents. Adolescents were most at risk of suicidal ideation and attempts within the past 12 months, with decreasing risk as respondents got older.

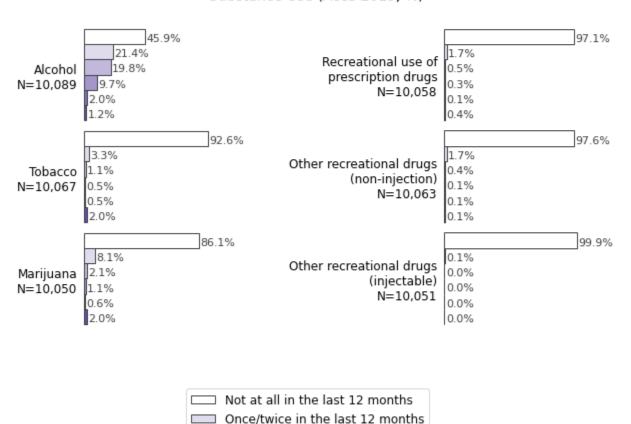


7.3 Substances

How often have you used the following in the past 12 months? *Exclude use as part of religious practices or as prescribed by a medical professional.* *This survey is anonymous*

More than 50% of ace respondents consumed alcohol in the previous 12 months. Other than alcohol, marijuana and tobacco were the substances most frequently used, with 13.9% of ace respondents using marijuana and 7.4% of ace respondents using tobacco at least once in the previous 12 months. When compared with data from 2018, the number of respondents who used any of these substances decreased (Weis et al., 2020).

Substance Use (Aces 2019, %)



Once/twice a month
Once/twice a week
3/4 days a week
5+ days a week

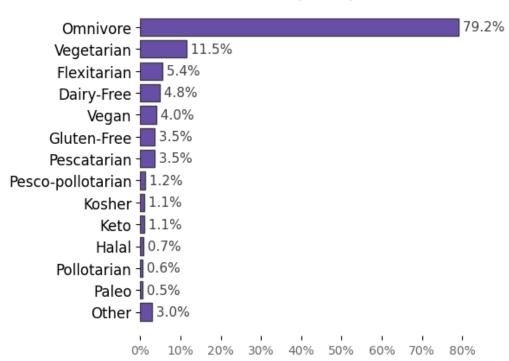
7.4 Diet and Food Security

How would you describe your diet? *Check all that apply.*

Four out of five ace respondents described their diet as omnivorous (79.2%). Vegetarianism was the second most popular diet, practiced by more than one in ten aces (11.5%). Flexitarian, dairy-free, vegan, gluten-free, and pescetarian diets were practiced by 3.5% to 5.4% of ace respondents.

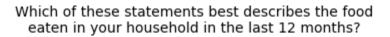
How would you describe your diet?

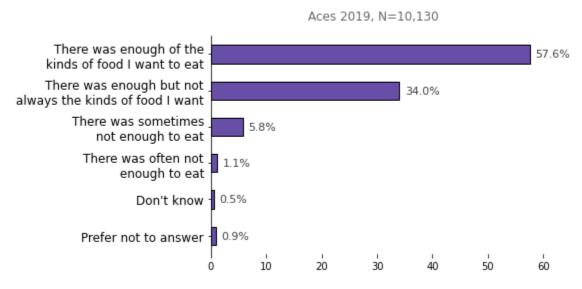
Aces 2019, N=10,126



Which of these statements best describes the food eaten in your household in the last 12 months?

Over half of aces (57.6%) were satisfied with the quantity of their food supply. Less than 10% responded that at times they did not have enough to eat.





In the last 12 months...

- I worried whether my food would run out before I got money to buy more.
- I couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.

In the past 12 months, nearly 20% of participants reported that they were worried whether they would have enough food before they ran out of money to buy more. Similarly, one in four ace respondents (25.7%) could not afford to eat a balanced diet.

In the last 12 months (Aces 2019, %)		Sometimes true	Never true	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
I worried whether my food would run out before I got money to buy more. (N=10,097)	3.9	15.8	74.7	3.9	1.7
I couldn't afford to eat balanced meals. (N=10,099)	8.3	17.4	67.3	5.1	1.9

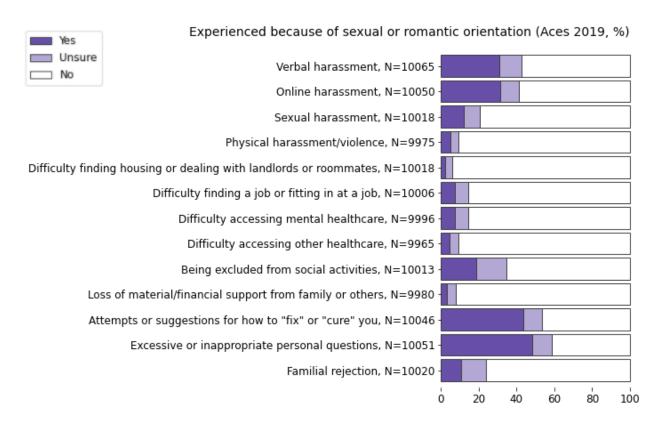
Section 8: Negative Experiences

The following questions were intended to gauge respondents' perspective of the origin and impact of any negative experience they may have had due to their sexual or romantic orientation or gender identity. Respondents were asked questions about their experiences with harassment, physical violence, level of support (including difficulty in finding support), and basic necessities as they relate to their identities.

8.1 Negative Experiences Based on Sexual and Romantic Identity

Because of your sexual and/or romantic orientation, have you experienced any of the following? If you are unable to determine a clear cause for any incidents, feel free to count them if you feel your sexual/romantic orientation was a significant factor.

As a result of their sexual or romantic orientation, nearly half of ace respondents (48.3%) reported experiencing excessive or inappropriate personal questions, and 43.7% had been subjected to attempts or suggestions for how to "fix" or "cure" them. Additionally, about 10% of respondents were unsure if they had experienced each of these. These examples show how prevalent misunderstanding, denial, and bigotry (whether overt or covert) are in ace experiences.



Nearly a third of ace respondents also experienced online or verbal harassment because of their sexual or romantic orientation, with an additional 9.6%–11.9% who were unsure. Many aces also experienced social exclusion, familial rejection, sexual harassment, difficulty fitting in at a job (or finding one in the first place), and difficulty accessing mental healthcare.

The percentages of each of these negative experiences are similar to the rates seen in 2017 and 2018 (Weis et al., 2020). Specific numbers for this question can be accessed in Appendix VIII.

The following tables examine the correlation between how many aces were out to counselors and medical professionals (discussed in section 2.3) and the difficulty they experienced accessing mental and other healthcare.

Among aces who were out to at least a few counselors, anywhere from 11.7% to 14.6% reported having difficulty finding mental healthcare, plus an additional 6.2% to 11.1% who were unsure. In contrast, a combined 12.1% of those who were not out to any counselors had or were unsure if they had difficulty finding mental healthcare.

When it came to accessing other (e.g., non-mental) healthcare, aces reported less difficulty in comparison to mental healthcare. Still, 7.8% to 10.7% of aces who were out to at least a few medical professionals reported having difficulty accessing healthcare, plus 5.0% to 8.1% who were unsure.

Overall, aces who were out to at least a few of their counselors or medical professionals reported having twice as much difficulty accessing healthcare than aces who were not out to anyone in those groups.

	Out to how many of their counselors				
Aces 2019	None (%) N=4304	A few (%) N=850	Most (%) N=520	All (%) N=1030	
Had difficulties finding mental healthcare	5.7	14.6	11.7	12.7	
Unsure	6.4	11.1	10.8	6.2	
Had no difficulties finding mental healthcare	88.0	74.4	77.5	81.1	

	Out to how many of their medical professionals			
Aces 2019	None (%) N=6150	A few (%) N=1323	Most (%) N=484	All (%) N=544
Had difficulties finding other healthcare	3.2	7.8	8.1	10.7
Unsure	4.1	8.1	7.2	5.0
Had no difficulties finding other healthcare	92.7	84.1	84.7	84.4

8.2 Negative Experiences at the Intersection of Ace and Gender Identity

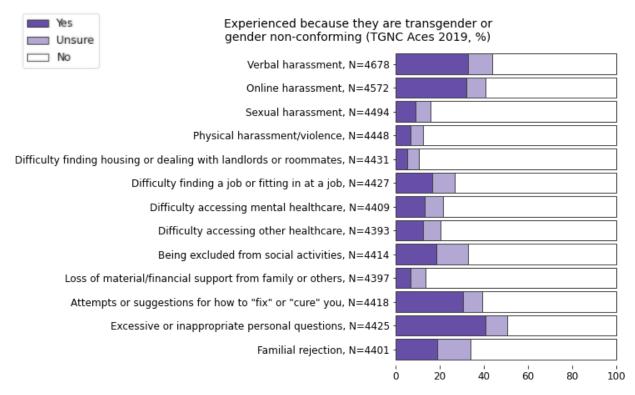
Because you are transgender/gender non-conforming have you experienced any of the following? If you are not transgender or gender non-conforming, you may skip this question. If you are unable to determine a clear cause for any incidents, feel free to count them if you feel being transgender/gender non-conforming was a significant factor.

Responses to this question were filtered to transgender and gender non-conforming (TGNC) aces for this analysis.¹⁰

Two in five TGNC aces experienced excessive or inappropriate personal questions due to their gender identity. About a third had been harassed verbally or online, and/or faced people trying to "fix" or "cure" them of their gender identity. In addition, around 10% of respondents were unsure if they had been subject to each of these negative experiences.

Approximately one in five TGNC aces faced familial rejection and exclusion from social activities due to their gender identity, plus about 15% who were unsure. About one in six (plus 10% who were unsure) had trouble finding or fitting in at a job, and more than one in eight had difficulty accessing healthcare (including mental healthcare), plus about 8% who were unsure.

Data tables for this question can be accessed in Appendix VIII.



¹⁰ Please visit the Terminology section to see the classification of TGNC respondents used in this report.

8.3 Impact of Discrimination or Prejudice Due to Sexual/Romantic Orientation

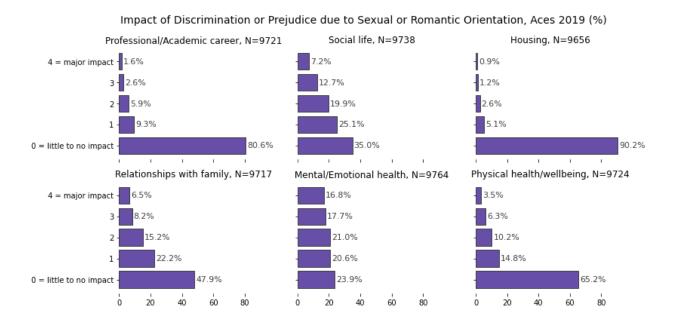
On a scale of 0 (little to no impact) to 4 (major impact), how much of an impact has discrimination, prejudice, or other negative experiences due to your sexual or romantic orientation had on the following aspects of your life?

Discrimination or prejudice due to sexual or romantic orientation had the largest impact on the mental or emotional health of ace respondents compared to the other categories, with more than three-quarters feeling at least some impact (a response of 1 through 4), and more than a third feeling a high impact (a response of 3 or 4).

The category with the next largest impact was social life, where nearly two-thirds felt at least some impact and one in five felt a high level of impact, followed by relationships with family, where almost half reported at least some impact and one in seven felt high impact.

The impact of discrimination or prejudice was much lower when it came to physical wellbeing, professional or academic career, and housing, where more than half of ace respondents reported little to no impact among those categories.

Overall, these results are similar to findings from the 2017 and 2018 surveys (Weis et al., 2020).



Section 9: Communities

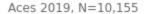
Respondents were asked questions about their participation in ace communities, online and offline, as well as participation in LGBTQ spaces. This year, there were also questions gauging respondents' feelings about LGBTQ-targeted marketing.

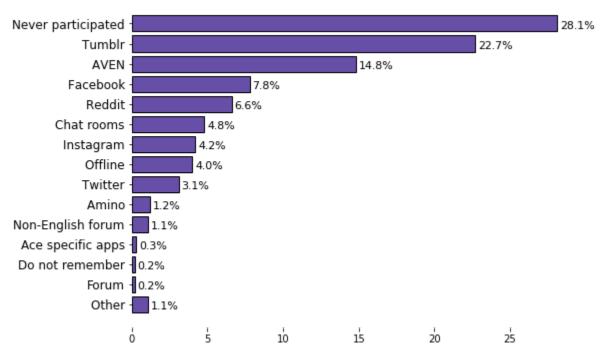
9.1 Initial Participation in Ace Communities

Where did you first participate in an asexual community?

More than a quarter of respondents had never participated in an asexual community. Among those that had, the most common platform for first participation was Tumblr (22.7%), followed by AVEN (14.8%).

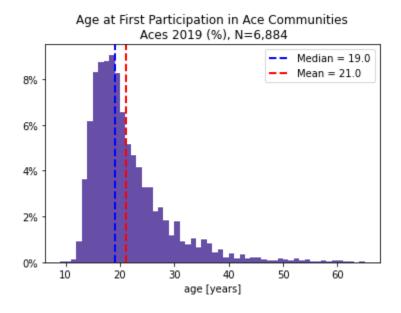
Where did you first participate in an asexual community?





How old were you when you first participated in an asexual community? *If you have never participated in an asexual community, you can leave this blank.*

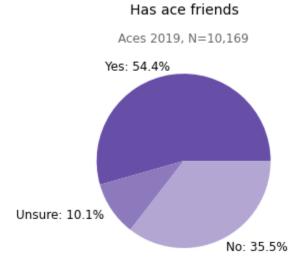
For respondents who had participated in an asexual community, the average first age of participation was 21 and the median was 19.



9.2 Engagement with Ace and Aro Communities

Do you have any current friends who identify as asexual, gray-asexual or demisexual, that you know of?

Just over half of ace respondents said they had ace friends. One in ten were unsure, and more than a third said they did not have ace friends.



Have you ever met someone *OFFLINE* who identified as asexual, gray-asexual or demisexual, that you know of?

The majority of ace respondents had met an ace person offline (62.2%), though three in ten had not. The remaining respondents were unsure.

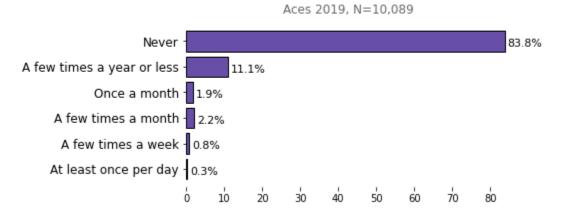
Aces 2019, N=10,162 Yes: 62.2% Unsure: 8.3% No: 29.5%

Met an ace person offline

How often do you currently participate in *OFFLINE* asexual groups?

The vast majority of aces (83.8%) never participated in offline asexual groups. About one in six (16.3%) aces said they participate in offline asexual groups in some capacity. The majority of those who participated in offline asexual groups said they did so a few times a year or less.

How often do you currently participate in offline asexual groups?



Next, these two questions about community participation are analyzed in tandem:

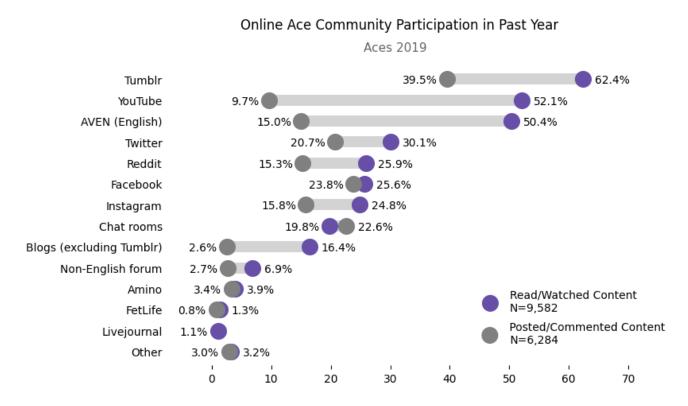
- In the past year, have you read/watched content from any of the following online asexual communities? *Check all that apply.*
- In the past year, have you posted/commented in any of the following online asexual communities? *Check all that apply.*

The three most common platforms that aces used to read or watch content from asexual communities were Tumblr (62.4%), YouTube (52.1%), and AVEN (50.4%). It is worth noting that since recruitment for the survey came primarily through online communities, the overall utilization of these communities is almost certainly over-representative of the larger ace population.

Tumblr was also the most common platform that ace respondents posted or commented to, with nearly two in five contributing in the previous year. Facebook, chat rooms, and Twitter were also popular venues, with more than one in five having posted or commented.

Chat rooms were the only platform where the proportion of respondents who actively participated (by posting or commenting) was greater than the proportion who passively participated (by reading or watching content). Facebook and Amino also had high rates of active participation in comparison to passive participation.

Youtube had the largest community participation discrepancy, with 52.1% of aces reading and watching ace community related content on the website but only 9.7% interacting by posting or commenting. AVEN also shows a similar discrepancy although a bit smaller.

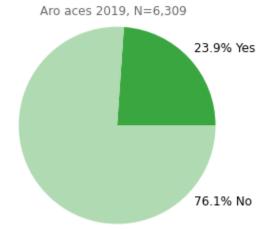


Do you currently read/watch/participate in any communities specifically for *aromantic* or *aromantic*-spectrum people? *If yes, please choose "other" and name the community.*

Responses to this question were collected as write-in answers that were then interpreted into categories by Ace Community Survey team members. Approaching the question in this way helped inform response options for future survey questions asking about aro communities.

Most ace respondents who were also on the aro spectrum did not read, watch, or participate in any aro community (76.1%). For aro aces who did participate in aro communities, Tumblr, Reddit, Facebook, Discord, and Instagram were the five most common write-in responses.

Do you currently read, watch, or participate in any aro communities?



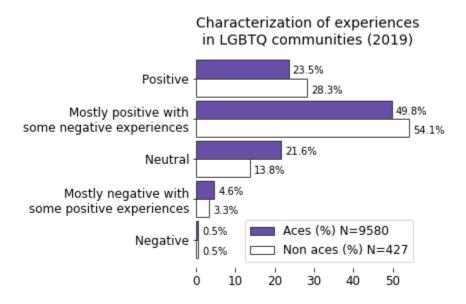
9.3 LGBTQ Communities

In this section, LGBTQ spaces were defined as a space dedicated to people primarily under the LGBTQ umbrella, such as a discussion group, social event, parade, or bar. Asexual-specific spaces such as asexual meetups were excluded from this definition.

How would you characterize your experience in LGBTQ communities?

When asked about their experience in LGBTQ communities, the most common response among ace respondents was "mostly positive with some negative experiences" (49.8%), followed by 23.5% who answered "positive." About one in five (21.6%) ace respondents characterized their experience in LGBTQ communities as "neutral," while the remaining 5.1% described their experience as "mostly negative with some positive experiences" or "negative."

The pattern of most ace respondents answering "mostly positive with negative experiences" followed by "positive," "neutral," "mostly negative with some positive experiences," and "negative" follows the same pattern from the 2018 survey (Weis et al., 2020). While non-ace respondents also follow this pattern, there were slightly more non-ace respondents who characterized their expeirences in LGBTQ communities as "mostly positive with some negative experiences" (54.1%) or "positive" (28.3%) compared to ace respondents, and fewer non-ace respondents who characterized their experience in LGBTQ communities as "neutral" (13.8%) or "mostly negative with some positive experiences" (3.3%).



If you have ever decided NOT to participate in an LGBTQ community, what factors played a role? *Check all that apply.*

The most common reason aces chose not to participate in an LGBTQ community was feeling nervous or afraid (62.4%). Two in five (39.9%) aces said they did not fit in, and a quarter (24.5%) of ace respondents avoided participation due to there being a risk of being out. For more than one in ten (11.4%) aces, age differences were also an issue.

Access to these communities was also a big factor in the decision not to participate. A third of ace respondents said they either had no local offline community or that the location or schedule of the LGBTQ community was inconvenient. A quarter of aces said there was a general lack of information. For a smaller portion (6.2%), participation was not financially feasible. Additionally, 2.5% said the community was not accessible to people with disabilities.

Issues related to gatekeeping were also reasons aces did not participate in LGBTQ communities. More than one in five said the group was not welcoming to people who identified on the ace spectrum, and one in ten said the group was not welcome to aro-identifying participants. A little more than 6% said the groups were not welcoming to trans, non-binary, or other (non-ace) sexual orientations (e.g., bisexuality).

Some also felt unwelcome for reasons unrelated to LGBTQ identity, such as their religious affiliation or beliefs (4.6%) or their race and/or ethnicity (2.1%).

Nearly one in five said they were not interested in participating in an LGBTQ community (18.0%) and 7.9% said they do not identify with the LGBTQ community.

In summary, more than three-quarters of aces did not participate in an LGBTQ due to personal concerns. Nearly two-thirds cited lack of accessibility, more than a quarter faced gatekeeping or an unwelcoming community, and more than one-fifth had a lack of interest or affiliation.

Reasons for not participating in an LGBTQ community	Aces 2019 (%) N=8807
Nervous or afraid	62.4
Not fitting in	39.9
No local offline community in my area	33.4
Inconvenient location and/or schedule	33.0
General lack of information	24.5
Risk of being out	24.5
The group was not welcoming to those who identify as asexual, demisexual, or gray-asexual	21.3
Not interested	18.0
Age differences	11.4
The group was not welcoming to those who identify as aromantic, demiromantic, or gray-aromantic	10.6
Do not identify with the LGBTQ community	7.9
The group was not welcoming to trans or nonbinary people.	6.7
It was not financially feasible	6.2
The group was not welcoming to other sexual orientations (e.g. bisexuality)	6.2
I felt unwelcomed due to my religious affiliation and/or beliefs	4.6
The community was not accessible to people with disabilities	2.5
I felt unwelcomed due to my race and/or ethnicity	2.1
Summary of reasons for not participating in an LGBTQ community	Aces 2019 (%) N=8807
Personal concerns	76.4
Lack of accessibility	62.5
Gatekeeping or unwelcoming community	27.8
Look of interest/offiliation	22.6

Lack of interest/affiliation

22.6

9.4 LGBTQ Targeted Marketing

How do you feel about...

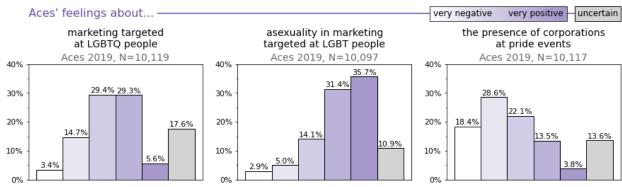
- marketing targeted at LGBTQ people?
- inclusion of asexuality in marketing targeted at LGBT people? *If you have never seen this, please say how you would feel about it if you did see it.*
- the presence of corporations at pride events?

This is the first year that the respondents were asked how they feel about LGBTQ-targeted marketing, a phenomenon in which businesses "create products specifically marketed towards the queer community, in order to capitalize off and leverage their purchasing power" (Falco & Gandhi, 2019, p. 104). While LGBTQ-targeted marketing can spread awareness of queer identities, it can also be exploitative of the self-expression of LGBTQIA+ communities, with proceeds sometimes supporting organizations with anti-LGBTQIA+ policies rather than LGBTQIA+ communities (Falco & Gandhi, 2019).

Only 5.6% of ace respondents said they felt very positive about marketing targeted at LGBTQ people. Even fewer ace respondents (3.8%) said they felt very positive about the presence of corporations at pride events. However, when asked about their feelings about inclusion of asexuality in marketing targeted at LGBT people, 35.7% of the ace respondents (whether they had seen it or not) said they felt very positive, with approximately two-thirds of aces feeling somewhat or very positive overall.

Marketing targeted at LGBTQ people and presence of corporations at pride events had more mixed reactions. There were just as many ace respondents with neither positive nor negative feelings about marketing targeted at LGBTQ people (29.4%) as ace respondents with somewhat positive feelings (29.3%). In total, there were also more ace respondents with somewhat negative (28.6%) or very negative (18.4%) feelings about the presence of corporations at pride events than respondents with neutral (22.1%) or somewhat positive (13.5%) feelings about it.

Marketing targeted at LGBTQ people



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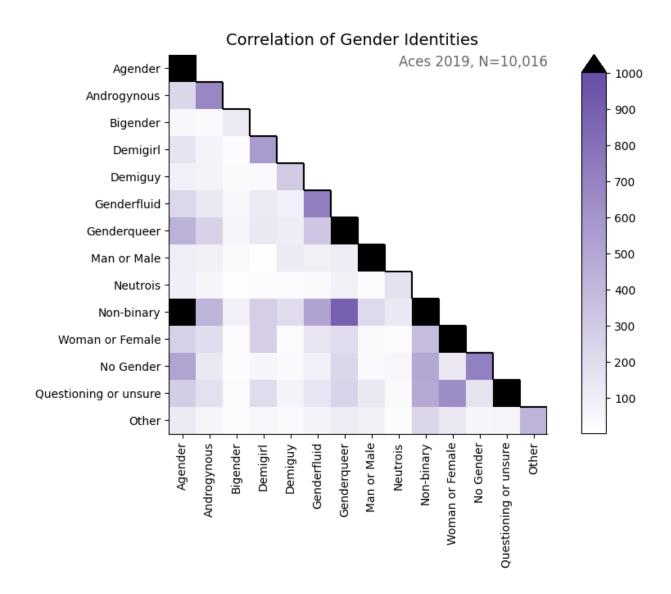
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<u>Appendix</u>

I. Correlation of Gender Identities (Raw Numbers)



II. Family Income

US Residents:

Last year, that is in 2018, what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes?

2018 Total Family Income

US Aces 2019, N=4,407

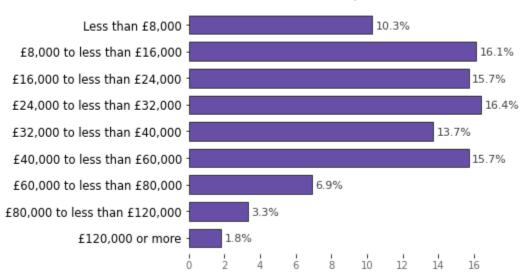


UK Residents:

Last year, that is in 2018, what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes?

2018 Total Family Income

UK Aces 2019, N=707

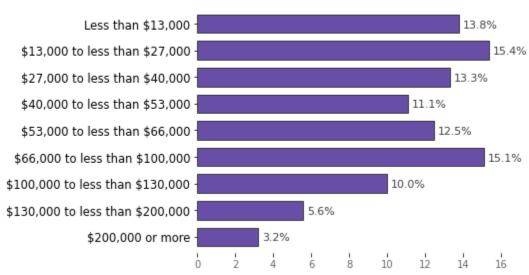


Canada Residents:

Last year, that is in 2018, what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? *Please use Canadian dollars*

2018 Total Family Income

Canadian Aces 2019, N=602



III. Additional Country Data

Count of ace respondents residing in different countries (filtered to those with 10 or more respondents, for privacy reasons).

Number of Respondents by Country	Aces 2019 (N=10,198)
Argentina	59
Australia	435
Austria	44
Belgium	41
Brazil	186
Canada	765
Chile	21
Croatia	13
Czech Republic	33
Denmark	86
Finland	81
France	203
Germany	445
Greece	11
Hong Kong	11
Hungary	40
India	35
Ireland	77
Israel	29
Italy	170
Japan	28
Malaysia	18
Mexico	54
Netherlands	147
New Zealand	73
Norway	33
Philippines	29
Poland	81
Portugal	30
Romania	12
Russia	31
Singapore	18
Slovakia	12
Slovenia	11
South Africa	27
Spain	151
Sweden	93
Switzerland	37
United Kingdom	922
United States of America	5411
Other	195

US Residents

Which state or US territory do you live in?

If you spend time in more than one state, select the state in which you spend the most time.

US State or Territory	US Aces 2019 (%) N=5,210	US State or Territory	US Aces 2019 (%) N=5,210
Alabama	0.9	Montana	0.4
Alaska	0.4	Nebraska	0.5
Arizona	1.6	Nevada	8.0
Arkansas	0.6	New Hampshire	0.6
California	11.3	New Jersey	2.0
Colorado	2.3	New Mexico	0.5
Connecticut	8.0	New York	5.9
Delaware	0.4	North Carolina	2.6
District of Columbia	0.4	North Dakota	0.1
Florida	4.1	Ohio	3.5
Georgia	2.2	Oklahoma	0.9
Hawaii	0.2	Oregon	2.7
Idaho	0.6	Pennsylvania	5.1
Illinois	3.7	Puerto Rico	0.2
Indiana	2.5	Rhode Island	0.4
lowa	0.9	South Carolina	0.9
Kansas	8.0	South Dakota	0.2
Kentucky	1.1	Tennessee	1.6
Louisiana	0.6	Texas	6.9
Maine	0.7	Utah	1.6
Maryland	2.8	Vermont	0.3
Massachusetts	3.9	Virginia	2.8
Michigan	3.8	Washington	5.9
Minnesota	2.1	West Virginia	0.3
Mississippi	0.4	Wisconsin	1.9
Missouri	1.6	Wyoming	0.2
		Other	0.1

UK Residents

In which region do you currently reside?

UK Region	UK Aces 2019 (%) N=919
England	80.4
Guernsey	0.1
Northern Ireland	1.7
Scotland	11.5
Wales	6.2

How would you describe your national identity?

National Identity	UK Aces 2019 (%) N=914
British	43.0
English	29.9
Scottish	7.3
Welsh	4.9
Dual Nationality	2.7
Irish	2.5
American	1.5
Other	8.1

Canada residents

What province do you currently reside in?

Province	Canadian Aces 2019 (%) N=742
Alberta	13.3
British Columbia	18.9
Manitoba	3.4
New Brunswick	1.6
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.6
Northwest Territories	0.1
Nova Scotia	4.0
Ontario	43.5
Prince Edward Island	8.0
Quebec	9.4
Saskatchewan	2.8
Yukon	0.3
Other/NA	0.1

IV. Racial Distribution Categories

The categories for the Combined Racial Distributions table in Section 1.8.1 were based on responses to "Do you identify with any of the following racial/ethnic categories?") and were combined as follows:

Asian/Pacific Islander (API) Only is anyone who exclusively indicated a combination of Asian: Eastern (Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese, Mongolian, etc.), Asian: Southeast (Vietnamese, Cambodian, Malaysian, Laotian, etc.), Asian: Southern (Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.), or Pacific Islander and/or Polynesian (Kanaka Maoli, Filipino, Ma ori, Samoan, etc.). In the Detailed table, if someone only indicated one of those categories they were included in that one specific category, while someone who indicated more than one of only those categories would be included in API Only.

Similar logic was used for Black Only, where if someone exclusively selected from Black and/or of the African Diaspora, Black: African, and/or Black: Caribbean, they were included in the Black Only category; if they only indicated one of those specific categories, they would be included in that one specific category in the Detailed table.

Hispanic or Latinx Only includes anyone who only indicated Latinx and/or Hispanic.

Jewish Only includes those who only indicated Jewish. Similar logic was used for the Aboriginal Australian Only, Middle Eastern Only, and West Asian Only with their respective racial categories.

Mixed or Multi Racial includes anyone who chose Mixed Race / Multi-Racial.

Multiple Races, Not Mixed includes anyone who chose more than one of the combined racial categories listed here, but did not choose Mixed Race / Multi-Racial.

N. or S. American Native Only includes respondents who exclusively indicated a combination of North American Native (North American Indian, Inuit, etc.) and South or Central American Native (Quechua, Aymara, Chiquitano, etc.).

N. or S. American Native and Hispanic or Latinx includes respondents who indicated N. or S. American Native as described above and Hispanic or Latinx as described above.

N. or S. American Native and White includes respondents who indicated N. or S. American Native as described above and White or of European Descent.

North African Only includes those who only indicated North African.

Other Race Only were write-in responses that did not fit into one of the other races provided, with no other options indicated.

White Hispanic or Latinx includes anyone who indicated White or of European Descent and Hispanic or Latinx as described above.

White Only includes those who only indicated White or of European Descent

V. Significant Relationships Percentage Reference

Had a Significant Relationship	Yes	Unsure	No
All aces (2019, %) N=10,112	51.5	8.4	40.2
Aro aces (2019, %) N=6,264	42.6	10.0	47.4
Asexual (2019, %) N=6,856	45.7	8.9	45.4
Gray-asexual (2019, %) N=1,109	67.7	7.4	24.9
Demisexual (2019, %) N=965	74.8	5.7	19.5
Questioning (2019, %) N=1,010	49.4	8.2	42.4
Non-ace (2019, %) N=448	73.2	4.7	22.1

Had a Romantic Relationship	Yes	Unsure	No	I don't differentiate romantic/ non-romantic
All aces (2019, %) N=10,112	42.4	6.8	47.3	3.6
Aro aces (2019, %) N=6,264	31.0	8.2	56.9	3.8
Asexual (2019, %) N=6,856	35.8	7.3	53.7	3.2
Gray-asexual (2019, %) N=1,109	60.7	5.2	30.3	3.8
Demisexual (2019, %) N=965	68.5	4.1	22.6	4.8
Questioning (2019, %) N=1,010	40.6	7.4	47.2	4.8
Non-ace (2019, %) N=448	63.4	4.5	24.1	8.0

Had a Non-Romantic Relationship	Yes	Unsure	No	I don't differentiate romantic/ non-romantic
All aces (2019, %) N=10,112	31.3	17.0	46.8	4.9
Aro aces (2019, %) N=6,264	31.0	18.0	46.9	4.1
Asexual (2019, %) N=6,856	29.4	17.2	49.1	4.3
Gray-asexual (2019, %) N=1,109	37.3	16.0	41.2	5.5
Demisexual (2019, %) N=965	38.9	14.3	39.9	6.9
Questioning (2019, %) N=1,010	29.4	19.1	45.2	6.2
Non-ace (2019, %) N=448	39.1	11.6	37.3	12.1

Do you consider yourself polyamorous?	Yes	Questioning or unsure	No	I am not familiar with this term
All aces (2019, %) N=10,160	10.3	21.7	65.5	2.6
Aro aces (2019, %) N=6,288	10.1	22.5	65.1	2.3
Asexual (2019, %) N=6,891	8.1	20.8	68.5	2.6
Gray-asexual (2019, %) N=1,115	18.6	26.3	52.9	2.2
Demisexual (2019, %) N=966	14.8	20.9	63.5	0.8
Questioning (2019, %) N=1,015	10.1	22.1	62.7	5.1
Non-ace (2019. %) N=448	23.7	26.1	48.2	2.0

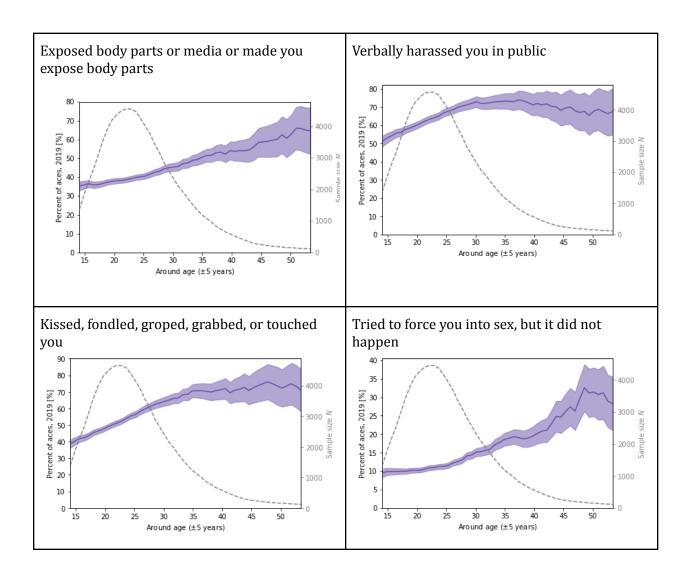
VI. Sexual Violence Detail

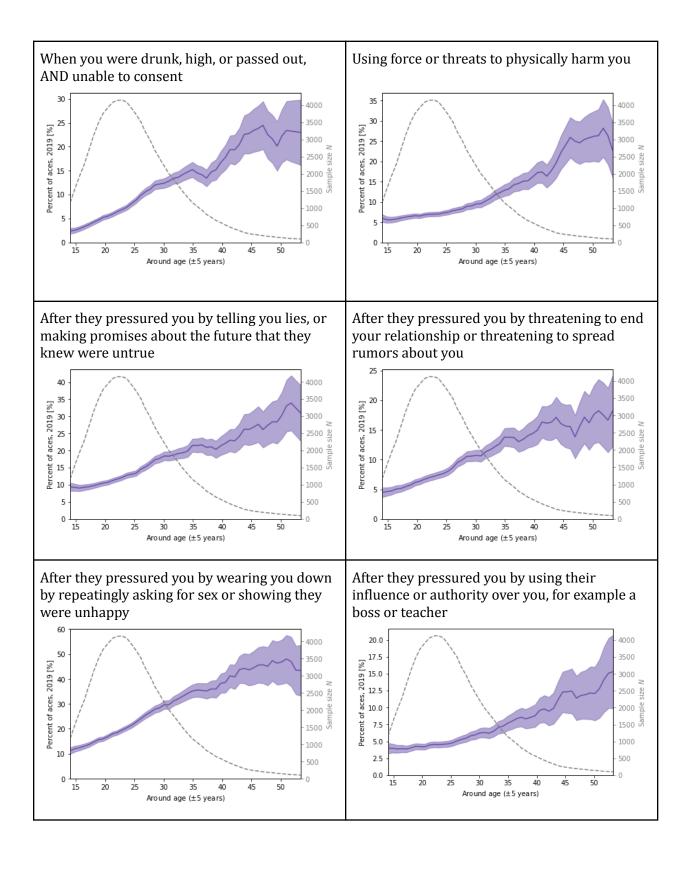
Bands in plots represent 80% confidence intervals.

Sexual violence across age for all aces:

Type of threat	All aces (2019)	Aces aged 14-17 (2019)	Aces aged 18-24 (2019)	Aces aged 25-34 (2019)	Aces aged 35-44 (2019)	Aces aged 45+ (2019)
Exposed body parts or media or made you expose body parts.	41.9%	35.8%	38.1%	45.2%	54.5%	60.6%
	(N=7620)	(N=917)	(N=3492)	(N=2370)	(N=563)	(N=221)
Verbally harassed you in public.	64.7%	51.0%	61.8%	72.6%	71.7%	66.0%
	(N=7607)	(N=920)	(N=3519)	(N=2341)	(N=551)	(N=215)
Kissed, fondled, groped, grabbed, or touched you.	55.2%	37.4%	50.2%	64.1%	72.1%	71.8%
	(N=7788)	(N=932)	(N=3569)	(N=2430)	(N=569)	(N=227)
Tried to force you into sex, but it did not happen.	12.9%	9.6%	10.4%	14.9%	19.5%	30.1%
	(N=7464)	(N=890)	(N=3406)	(N=2346)	(N=550)	(N=216)

Someone has had non-consensual sexual relations:	All aces (2019)	Aces aged 14-17 (2019)	Aces aged 18-24 (2019)	Aces aged 25-34 (2019)	Aces aged 35-44 (2019)	Aces aged 45+ (2019)
When you were drunk, high, or passed out, AND unable to consent.	9.0%	1.7%	6.1%	12.4%	17.0%	23.0%
	(N=6986)	(N=762)	(N=3168)	(N=2253)	(N=553)	(N=204)
Using force or threats to physically harm you.	8.8%	5.9%	6.7%	9.4%	16.3%	25.6%
	(N=6981)	(N=767)	(N=3167)	(N=2251)	(N=546)	(N=203)
After they pressured you by telling you lies, or making promises about the future that they knew were untrue.	14.4%	8.9%	10.9%	18.3%	21.9%	29.6%
	(N=6988)	(N=768)	(N=3178)	(N=2248)	(N=548)	(N=199)
After they pressured you by threatening to end your relationship or threatening to spread rumors about you.	8.6%	3.9%	6.7%	10.7%	14.6%	16.1%
	(N=6940)	(N=761)	(N=3161)	(N=2230)	(N=542)	(N=199)
After they pressured you by wearing you down by repeatedly asking for sex or showing they were unhappy.	23.1%	9.4%	17.7%	29.5%	39.0%	45.3%
	(N=6999)	(N=766)	(N=3174)	(N=2256)	(N=554)	(N=201)
After they pressured you by using their influence or authority over you, for example a boss or a teacher.	5.5%	3.7%	4.3%	6.2%	9.0%	15.6%
	(N=6936)	(N=760)	(N=3156)	(N=2233)	(N=542)	(N=199)

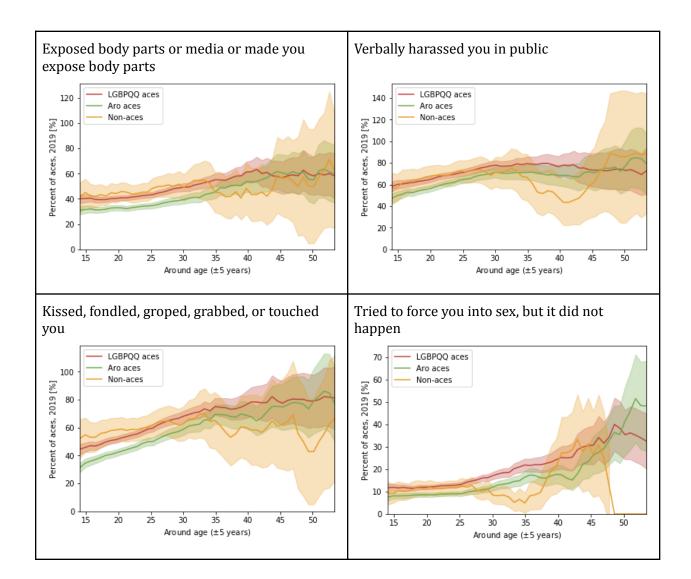


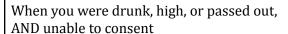


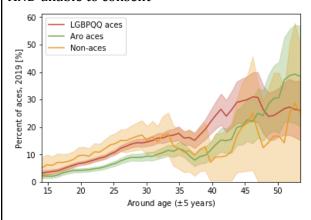
Sexual violence experienced by orientation:

Type of threat	All aces (2019)	LGBPQQ aces (2019)	Aro aces (2019)	Non-aces (2019)
Exposed body parts or media or made you expose body parts.	41.9% (N=7620)	44.6% (N=3986)	36.8% (N=2863)	46.3% (N=363)
Verbally harassed you in public.	64.7% (N=7607)	69.4% (N=3964)	61.6% (N=2849)	67.1% (N=359)
Kissed, fondled, groped, grabbed, or touched you.	55.2% (N=7788)	58.8% (N=4061)	49.5% (N=2918)	59.7% (N=370)
Tried to force you into sex, but it did not happen.	12.9% (N=7464)	14.6% (N=3893)	10.7% (N=2799)	11.2% (N=356)

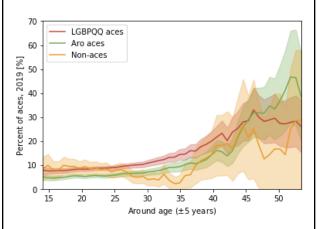
Someone has had non-consensual sexual relations:	All aces (2019)	LGBPQQ aces (2019)	Aro aces (2019)	Non- aces (2019)
When you were drunk, high, or passed out, AND unable to consent.	9.0%	10.6%	6.9%	12.0%
	(N=6986)	(N=3655)	(N=2609)	(N=342)
Using force or threats to physically harm you.	8.8%	10.2%	7.2%	8.3%
	(N=6981)	(N=3651)	(N=2612)	(N=337)
After they pressured you by telling you lies, or making promises about the future that they knew were untrue.	14.4%	16.6%	10.3%	16.3%
	(N=6988)	(N=3650)	(N=2614)	(N=337)
After they pressured you by threatening to end your relationship or threatening to spread rumors about you.	8.6%	9.7%	6.1%	6.9%
	(N=6940)	(N=3631)	(N=2600)	(N=333)
After they pressured you by wearing you down by repeatedly asking for sex or showing they were unhappy.	23.1%	25.3%	16.6%	25.1%
	(N=6999)	(N=3651)	(N=2610)	(N=338)
After they pressured you by using their influence or authority over you, for example a boss or a teacher.	5.5%	6.2%	5.4%	7.7%
	(N=6936)	(N=3623)	(N=2595)	(N=336)



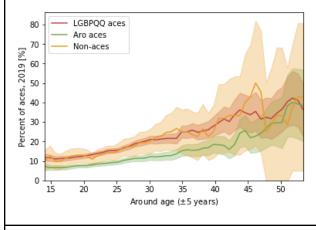




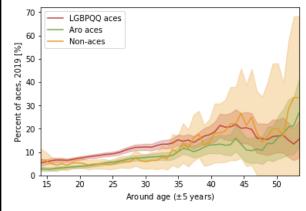
Using force or threats to physically harm you



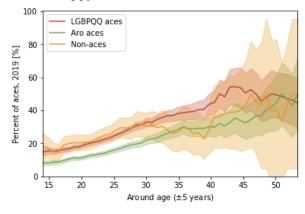
After they pressured you by telling you lies, or making promises about the future that they knew were untrue



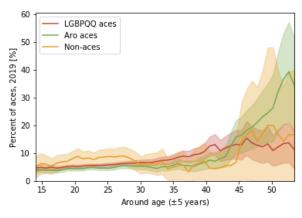
After they pressured you by threatening to end your relationship or threatening to spread rumors about you



After they pressured you by wearing you down by repeatingly asking for sex or showing they were unhappy



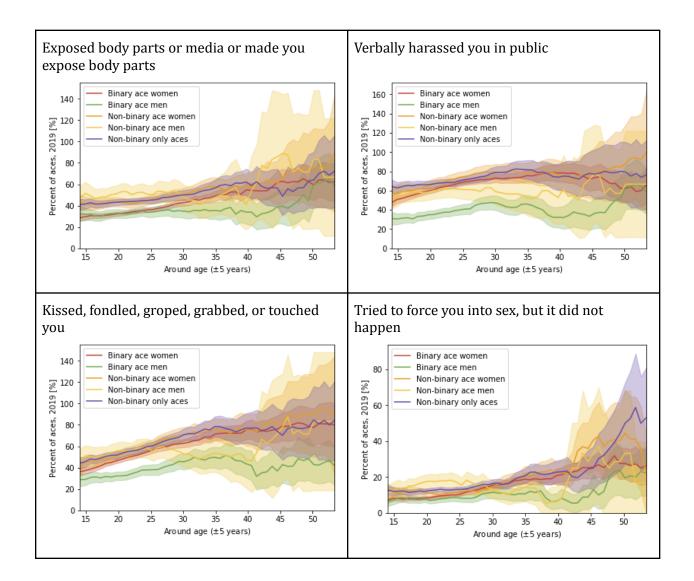
After they pressured you by using their influence or authority over you, for example a boss or teacher

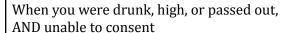


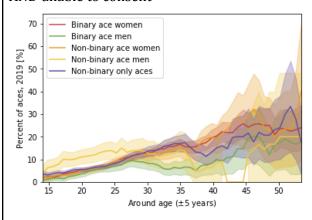
Sexual violence experienced by gender/sex:

Type of threat	All aces (2019)	Binary ace women (2019)	Binary ace men (2019)	Non-binary ace women (2019)	Non-binary ace men (2019)	Non-binary only aces (2019)
Exposed body parts or media or made you expose body parts.	41.9% (N=7620)	38.5% (N=3410)	34.5% (N=748)	47.7% (N=1077)	50.3% (N=340)	46.1% (N=2022)
Verbally harassed you in public.	64.7%	65.4%	38.9%	71.5%	58.5%	70.5%
	(N=7607)	(N=3400)	(N=750)	(N=1090)	(N=335)	(N=2011)
Kissed, fondled, groped,	55.2%	55.4%	37.2%	60.7%	54.5%	59.1%
grabbed, or touched you.	(N=7788)	(N=3483)	(N=769)	(N=1114)	(N=345)	(N=2055)
Tried to force you into sex, but it did not happen.	12.9%	12.2%	9.2%	14.3%	15.5%	14.5%
	(N=7464)	(N=3348)	(N=732)	(N=1062)	(N=329)	(N=1971)

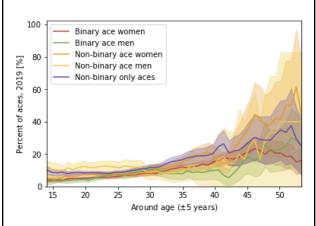
Someone has had non-consensual sexual relations:	All aces (2019)	Binary ace women (2019)	Binary ace men (2019)	Non- binary ace women (2019)	Non- binary ace men (2019)	Non- binary only aces (2019)
When you were drunk, high, or passed out, AND unable to consent.	9.0%	9.7%	5.7%	9.4%	11.0%	8.6%
	(N=6986)	(N=3128)	(N=683)	(N=990)	(N=309)	(N=1855)
Using force or threats to physically harm you.	8.8%	7.5%	7.3%	10.0%	11.6%	10.4%
	(N=6981)	(N=3115)	(N=686)	(N=991)	(N=310)	(N=1858)
After they pressured you by telling you lies, or making promises about the future that they knew were untrue.	14.4%	13.4%	10.0%	16.3%	19.0%	16.2%
	(N=6988)	(N=3123)	(N=683)	(N=989)	(N=311)	(N=1861)
After they pressured you by threatening to end your relationship or threatening to spread rumors about you.	8.6% (N=6940)	7.6% (N=3097)	7.0% (N=684)	9.7% (N=984)	13.7% (N=307)	9.5% (N=1847)
After they pressured you by wearing you down by repeatedly asking for sex or showing they were unhappy.	23.1%	23.0%	15.7%	25.0%	28.8%	24.1%
	(N=6999)	(N=3130)	(N=687)	(N=987)	(N=313)	(N=1861)
After they pressured you by using their influence or authority over you, for example a boss or a teacher.	5.5%	4.2%	3.5%	6.5%	10.4%	7.1%
	(N=6936)	(N=3095)	(N=683)	(N=985)	(N=307)	(N=1845)



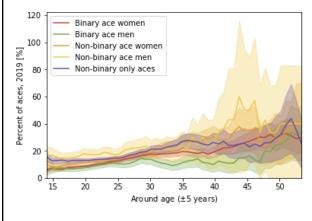




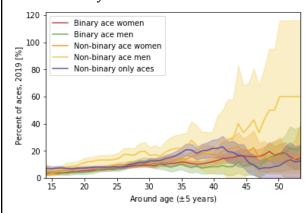
Using force or threats to physically harm you



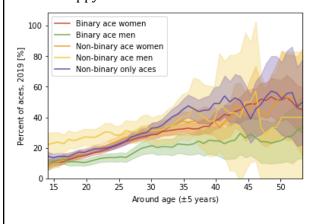
After they pressured you by telling you lies, or making promises about the future that they knew were untrue



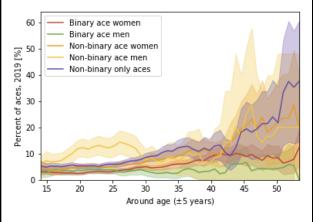
After they pressured you by threatening to end your relationship or threatening to spread rumors about you



After they pressured you by wearing you down by repeatingly asking for sex or showing they were unhappy



After they pressured you by using their influence or authority over you, for example a boss or teacher



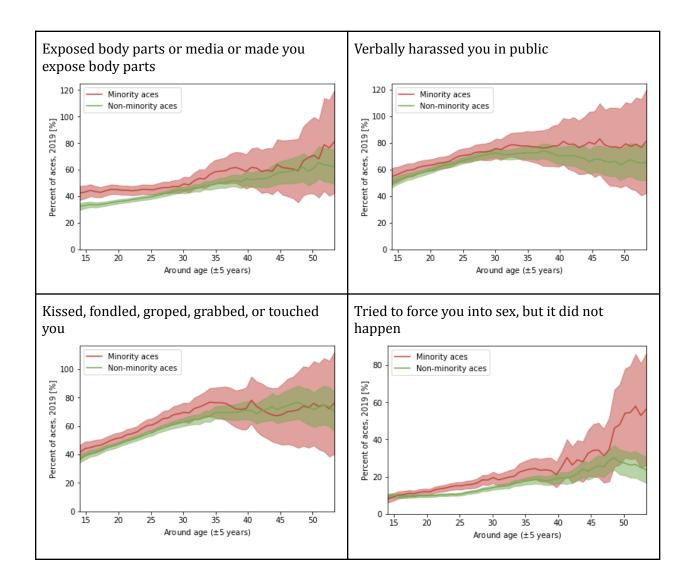
Type of threat	All aces (2019)	Transgender aces (2019)	Non-transgender aces (2019)	Intersex aces (2019)	Dyadic aces (2019)
Exposed body parts or media or made you expose body parts.	41.9% (N=7620)	47.4% (N=2069)	39.9% (N=5551)	64.5% (N=62)	41.0% (N=7294)
Verbally harassed you in public.	64.7% (N=7607)	70.5% (N=2053)	62.5% (N=5554)	79.4% (N=63)	64.1% (N=7281)
Kissed, fondled, groped, grabbed, or touched you.	55.2% (N=7788)	59.1% (N=2104)	53.8% (N=5684)	78.1% (N=64)	54.5% (N=7452)
Tried to force you into sex, but it did not happen.	12.9% (N=7464)	14.8% (N=2017)	12.2% (N=5447)	44.3% (N=61)	12.3% (N=7146)

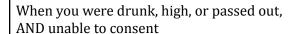
Someone has had non-consensual sexual relations:	All aces (2019)	Transgender aces (2019)	Non- transgender aces (2019)	Intersex aces (2019)	Dyadic aces (2019)
When you were drunk, high, or passed out, AND unable to consent.	9.0%	8.5%	9.2%	20.7%	8.8%
	(N=6986)	(N=1900)	(N=5086)	(N=58)	(N=6689)
Using force or threats to physically harm you.	8.8%	10.8%	8.0%	37.9%	8.1%
	(N=6981)	(N=1902)	(N=5079)	(N=58)	(N=6682)
After they pressured you by telling you lies, or making promises about the future that they knew were untrue.	14.4%	17.3%	13.4%	40.4%	13.9%
	(N=6988)	(N=1907)	(N=5081)	(N=57)	(N=6693)
After they pressured you by threatening to end your relationship or threatening to spread rumors about you.	8.6%	10.3%	8.0%	29.8%	8.2%
	(N=6940)	(N=1892)	(N=5048)	(N=57)	(N=6645)
After they pressured you by wearing you down by repeatedly asking for sex or showing they were unhappy.	23.1%	25.4%	22.2%	42.1%	22.7%
	(N=6999)	(N=1911)	(N=5088)	(N=57)	(N=6703)
After they pressured you by using their influence or authority over you, for example a boss or a teacher.	5.5%	7.5%	4.8%	21.1%	5.1%
	(N=6936)	(N=1893)	(N=5043)	(N=57)	(N=6640)

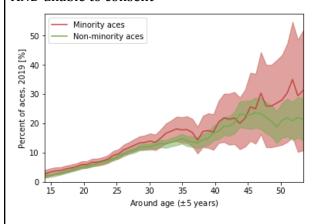
Sexual violence experienced by racial/ethnic minority status:

Type of threat	All aces (2019)	Minority aces (2019)	Non-minority aces (2019)
Exposed body parts or media or made you expose body parts.	41.9% (N=7620)	46.8% (N=1496)	40.7% (N=6071)
Verbally harassed you in public.	64.7% (N=7607)	67.4% (N=1492)	64.1% (N=6063)
Kissed, fondled, groped, grabbed, or touched you.	55.2% (N=7788)	58.1% (N=1521)	54.5% (N=6214)
Tried to force you into sex, but it did not happen.	12.9% (N=7464)	15.2% (N=1450)	12.4% (N=5962)

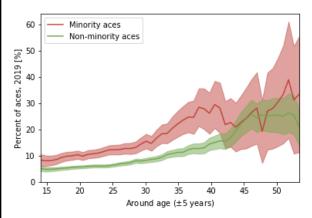
Someone has had non-consensual sexual relations:	All aces (2019)	Minority aces (2019)	Non-minority aces (2019)
When you were drunk, high, or passed out, AND unable to consent.	9.0% (N=6986)	9.6% (N=1330)	8.8% (N=5611)
Using force or threats to physically harm you.	8.8% (N=6981)	13.2% (N=1329)	7.7% (N=5607)
After they pressured you by telling you lies, or making promises about the future that they knew were untrue.	14.4% (N=6988)	17.3% (N=1331)	13.8% (N=5613)
After they pressured you by threatening to end your relationship or threatening to spread rumors about you.	8.6% (N=6940)	10.5% (N=1322)	8.2% (N=5574)
After they pressured you by wearing you down by repeatedly asking for sex or showing they were unhappy.	23.1% (N=6999)	24.8% (N=1337)	22.8% (N=5618)
After they pressured you by using their influence or authority over you, for example a boss or a teacher.	5.5% (N=6936)	7.8% (N=1321)	5.0% (N=5571)



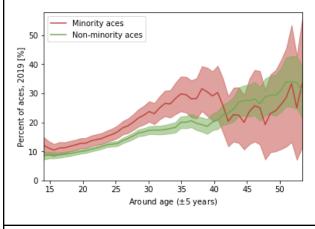




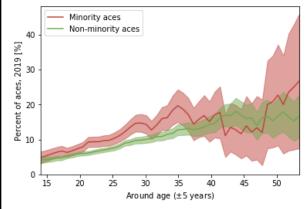
Using force or threats to physically harm you



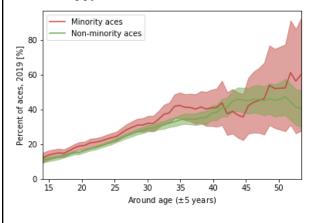
After they pressured you by telling you lies, or making promises about the future that they knew were untrue



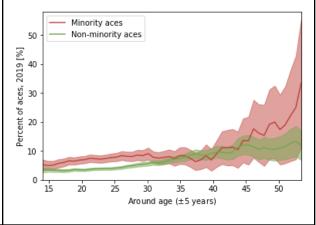
After they pressured you by threatening to end your relationship or threatening to spread rumors about you



After they pressured you by wearing you down by repeatingly asking for sex or showing they were unhappy



After they pressured you by using their influence or authority over you, for example a boss or teacher



VII. Frequency of Consensual Sexual Activity Percentage Reference

How often have you engaged in consensual sexual activity in the past year? (2019)	Not at all	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-10 times	11-25 times	26-50 times	At least 50 times
Asexual (%) N=5,827	85.2	4.4	2.8	2.5	2.2	1.6	1.1
Gray-Asexual (%) N=1,003	63.7	8.2	8.0	6.2	6.4	4.5	3.1
Demisexual (%) N=864	53.9	8.8	7.9	6.9	8.2	7.3	6.9
Questioning (%) N=897	73.4	8.5	5.4	4.5	4.0	2.6	1.8
Non-Ace (%) N=411	45.0	8.3	4.4	6.8	12.7	9.2	13.6

VIII. Negative Experiences Due to Orientation or Gender Identity Percentage Reference

Experienced because of sexual or romantic orientation (Aces 2019, %):	Yes	Unsure	No
Verbal harassment, N=10065	30.9	11.9	57.1
Online harassment, N=10050	31.5	9.6	58.9
Sexual harassment, N=10018	12.0	8.3	79.7
Physical harassment/violence, N=9975	5.1	4.1	90.7
Difficulty finding housing or dealing with landlords or roommates, N=10018	2.3	3.4	94.4
Difficulty finding a job or fitting in at a job, N=10006	7.5	7.1	85.4
Difficulty accessing mental healthcare, N=9996	7.3	6.9	85.8
Difficulty accessing other healthcare, N=9965	4.3	4.8	90.9
Being excluded from social activities, N=10013	18.6	16.1	65.2
Loss of material/financial support from family or others, N=9980	3.2	4.5	92.4
Attempts or suggestions for how to "fix" or "cure" you, N=10046	43.7	10.0	46.2
Excessive or inappropriate personal questions, N=10051	48.3	10.3	41.4
Familial rejection, N=10020	10.5	13.2	76.3

Experienced because they are transgender or gender non-conforming (TGNC Aces 2019, %):	Yes	Unsure	No
Verbal harassment, N=4678	33.0	10.9	56.2
Online harassment, N=4572	32.2	8.7	59.0
Sexual harassment, N=4494	9.2	6.6	84.2
Physical harassment/violence, N=4448	7.0	5.4	87.5
Difficulty finding housing or dealing with landlords or roommates, N=4431	5.2	5.6	89.2
Difficulty finding a job or fitting in at a job, N=4427	16.8	10.1	73.2
Difficulty accessing mental healthcare, N=4409	13.2	8.3	78.4
Difficulty accessing other healthcare, N=4393	12.6	8.0	79.4
Being excluded from social activities, N=4414	18.4	14.5	67.1
Loss of material/financial support from family or others, N=4397	6.9	6.9	86.2
Attempts or suggestions for how to "fix" or "cure" you, N=4418	30.5	8.8	60.6
Excessive or inappropriate personal questions, N=4425	40.9	9.6	49.5
Familial rejection, N=4401	19.1	15.0	65.9