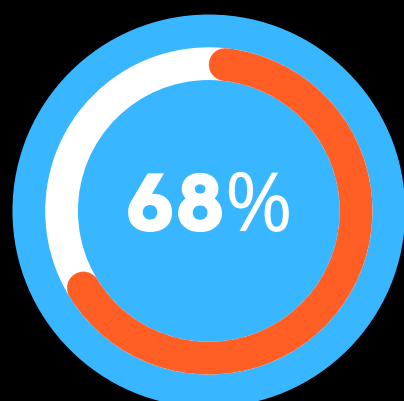


Townsville
LGBTIQ+
COMMUNITIES
Survey, February - June 2023



Of people feel their access to safe and affirming healthcare is moderate to high, with 27% of people feeling in the middle.



"PRETTY SAFE BUT NOT MANY OPTIONS FOR TRANS PEOPLE UNDER 16."

"Qld Health don't care about assumes gender and more about getting the numbers of patients in and out quickly. Most are uneducated about LGBTI pronouns."



"Having the power to improve the lives of others is a privilege, one that is closely associated with its own sense of obligation. Acting on these powerful feelings of responsibility is an excellent way of reinforcing our own personal values and feel like we're living in a way that abides by our beliefs."

"LAST TIME I WAS AT THE SEXUAL HEALTH I WAS TOLD TO ESSENTIALLY 'NOT COME BACK TIL I'VE HAD TOP SURGERY.'"

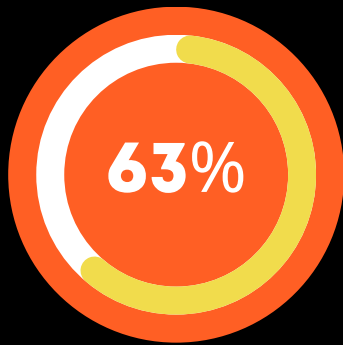


"I THINK THERE IS MORE HOMOPHOBIA IN TOWNSVILLE THEN OTHER PLACES I HAVE EXPERIENCED."

"My experience with local GPs has been hit and miss - I have had some negative experiences mainly with inappropriate use of language, assumptions or presenting barriers to accessing health care."

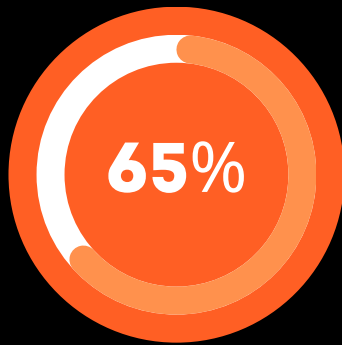


Townsville



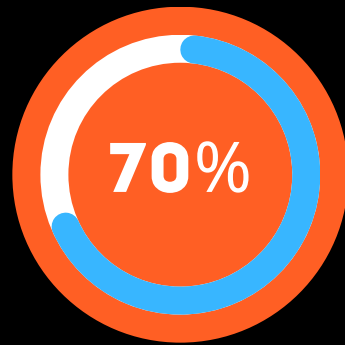
OF PEOPLE

Rate accessing government and community services low to moderate.



OF PEOPLE

Rate participating comfortably in community events low to moderate.



OF PEOPLE

Feel moderate to highly like a marginalised member of the community.

HOW WOULD YOU RATE ACCESSING SAFE AND AFFIRMING HEALTHCARE WHERE YOU LIVE?

"WAIT LISTS ARE VERY LONG AND THERE ARE NO SPECIALIST SERVICES."

"Very little support from the government or community organisations. While there are a slowly increasing number of community organisations, it is still lacking, and there is a lack of options. Feel totally unsupported by the government, there is almost no effort to create queer events or places."



"Having the power to improve the lives of others is a privilege, one that is closely associated with its own sense of obligation. Acting on these powerful feelings of responsibility is an excellent way of reinforcing our own personal values and feel like we're living in a way that abides by our beliefs."

"TOWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL IS NOT SAFE FOR QUEER PEOPLE."



"THERE IS A FREE SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC RUNNING IN THE TOWNSVILLE AREA"

"Another government service is useless up here. But if u lived in brisbane it would be a different sorry. Brisbane steals all the funding. Whats even funnier is these government funded organisations that operate from brisbane with massive amounts of funding to help and assist North Queensland. They send out stupid surveys and once a year send an employee on a road trip who sets up a table in the corner of a pub and tells everyone how much money is been invested into the community. With that employee getting drunk doing drugs and shagging the locals all well every cent is coming out of the funding."



"WE HAVE VERY FEW SERVICES."

"DEPENDS ON THE AREA."

"NO SERVICES."

"HARD TO FIND INFORMATION."

PARTICIPATING IN COMMUNITY EVENTS

Townsville



"I'D BE HAPPY TO ATTEND, DISCUSS AND ASSIST IN EVENTS."

"TSV is centred around the cowboys and sport - I have heard numerous homophobic, transphobic and sexist remarks at these events that make me feel unsafe.

I don't feel comfortable dressing how I would like to dress in public. I feel that I have to tame it down."



"Queer community is welcoming, however there is a lack of accessibility. Most of the queer scene is based at the Mansfield, which can be loud and difficult to manage if you have sensory processing issues."

"Nothing ever on. Queer Candy was massive and a real fun vibe tho."

"PRETTY SAFE JUST A GENERALLY PARANOID AND ANXIOUS PERSON."



"NEED MORE EVENTS."

"WORRIED ABOUT PEOPLE."

"THIS IS A SKETCHY AREA BRO."

"I have no fear of locals or the straight community my fear is these tax payer funded corporations preying on locals and making sure anyone who has the knowledge of the corruption is kept silent. Or they make out they have done wrong to turn the locals against them."

"Unfortunately I have not been able to participate in LGBT events in the Townsville area as I am unaware of any events that occur."

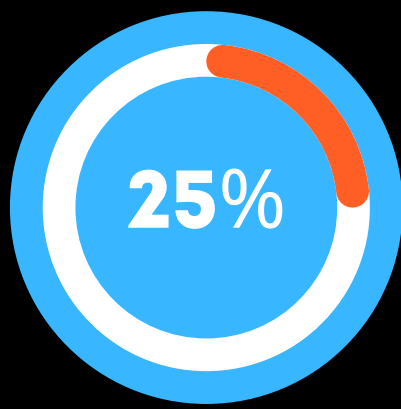


"My gender is not openly accepted and using toilets I get abused no matter which one I use."

"Queer community is welcoming, however there is a lack of accessibility. Most of the queer scene is based at the Mansfield, which can be loud and difficult to manage if you have sensory processing issues."

"THERE ARE A LOT OF BARRIERS, TOXICITY WITHIN THE SPACE BEING ONE FACTOR."

FEELING MARGINALISED



25% of people feel the highest levels of being marginalised.



"WHEN I HOLD MY WIFE'S HAND. WE GET STARRED AT OR ASKED QUESTIONS."

"The lack of interest and buy in from local council in response to an lgbti submission made me feel further marginalised in this community - no visible or specific queer safe spaces adds to this marginalisation."

"Heteronormativity in the community which can be ostracising, but my race affords me a great deal of privilege."

"DON'T TALK TO LIKE ANYONE BUT PRETTY ALRIGHT."

"No, sometimes I feel different as people think differently from me due to my autism, but I don't really feel like an outcast."

"I HAVEN'T BEEN OUTSIDE TOO MUCH BECAUSE OF THE HEAT."

"FEEL EXCLUDED."

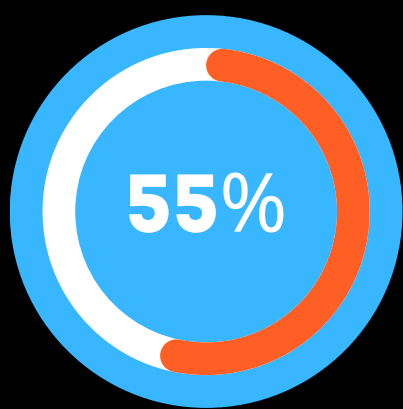
"Thankfully I have not encountered and discrimination where I live. Apart from the occasional looks from some members of the community, majority of people in the community are relatively friendly."

"I present very clearly as a man, that affords privileges, however it can also lead to admonishments regarding Non-binary status or Queer identity more broadly."

"AS ABOVE."

"TRANS COMMUNITY. ENOUGH SAID"

HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION WHERE YOU LIVE?



55% of people said they have been discriminated against, and 15% said they are unsure if they have been discriminated against.



"I GET UPSET BEING ASKED ABOUT HOW WE WILL MAKE CHILDREN."

"Responses from Townsville have been discriminatory - I have experienced discrimination in the workplace."

"Indirectly. Hate speech about lgbt members."



"I get abused using public toilets regardless of which one i use."

"Only time anyone is going to feel this is when they believe its their right to rub their sexuality into peoples faces. No one cares about other's sexuality as long as they dont shove it in their faces. As all the young ones do they random message str8 guys offering them sex saying well if you want the best you now have my details. This shit where they think every str8 guy wants gay sex is the biggest problem. You tell everyone they have to be inclusive but you say nothing to the gays that don't respect the straight community and their choices you just brand them haters or homophobic."

"BROUGHT A HOUSE AND THE OLD OWNER TOLD THE NEIGHBOURS THAT 2 LESBIANS BROUGHT IT."



"VERBAL ABUSE ON THE STREET IS NORMAL IN TOWNSVILLE."

"I've been driven off the road while driving my pink moped and wearing a crop top and painted nails. Then the guy got out of his car to film and laugh at me."



HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR EXPERIENCE OVERALL LIVING IN TOWNSVILLE?



"I LOVE TOWNSVILLE."

"LONELY - OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT WITH QUEER COMMUNITY ARE LIMITED."



"HOT, OTHER THEN THAT GREAT."

"DON'T TALK TO LIKE ANYONE BUT PRETTY ALRIGHT."

"BLEAK. NO PRESENCE OF QUEER CULTURE OR VISIBLE COMMUNITY."



"NOT GREAT. VERY LITTLE COMMUNITY. THE WHOLE TOWN IS STILL STUCK IN A VERY ONE NOTE KIND OF VIBE, WHICH MAKES IT DIFFICULT IF YOU ARE NOT THE STANDARD."

"IT HAS BEEN PRETTY NICE. THERE'S A LOT OF FRIENDLY AND PRO-LGBT PEOPLE."



"OVERALL I USUALLY JUST KEEP TO MYSELF SO ITS OK BETTER THAN IT WAS IN MACKAY AND BUNDABERG."

"I'D RATHER MOVE."

"GETTING BETTER. WHEN I FIRST CAME OUT ABOUT 10 YEARS AGO IT WAS SIGNIFICANTLY WORSE. PEOPLE ARE GENERALLY ACCEPTING NOW, EVEN IF THEY AREN'T FULLY WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE JUST YET. WE'RE GETTING THERE."

WHAT CHANGES AND SUPPORTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY?



"MORE EVENTS. A SAFE SPACE FOR EVENTS WEEKLY."

"MORE OPTIONS FOR GENDER AFFIRMING CARE."

"BETTER ACCESS TO PSYCHOLOGICAL HELP AS WELL AS MORE EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY TO BRING MEMBERS LGBTIQ+ TOGETHER."

"ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE AND PRIVACY."

"LOCAL QUEER SPECIFIC SERVICES - A TOWNSVILLE PRIDE FESTIVAL - ADDITIONAL QUEER ENTERTAINMENT AND ENTERTAINERS - INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOCIAL CONNECTION."

"PRIDE DAY OR GAY DAY TO MEET MORE LIKEMINDED PEOPLE."

"ANY INCREASE IN COMMUNITY WOULD BE GOOD. A PRIDE MARCH THAT ISN'T JUST FOR KIDS, MORE ACCESSIBLE QUEER SPACES, MORE SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE MARGINALISED WITHIN THE QUEER COMMUNITY."

"MORE QUEER EVENTS AT AFFORDABLE PRICES WEEKLY EVEN A QUEER BAR."

"UNI SEX TOILETS OR EDUCATION POSTERS ON GENDERS POSTED NEAR AND IN PUBLIC TOILETS."

"More visibility for the community and greater access to family and peer supports. It would also be lovely to see us develop a more activist focus in our community. There is a still a lot to be done and we cannot forget where our movement came from and the struggles our elder queer comrades have already fought through and prevailed over. The fight for our rights is not over and we can't forget that."