



# Out: The Community Survey

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who is doing this survey?

This survey is a grassroots [community-based effort](#); it is being conducted by volunteer LGBTQIA+ researchers and 74 partner community led nonprofits.

**Further details:** The lead organization is [The LGBTQIA+ Cancer Network](#), and the two principal investigators are [Scout](#), Ph.D., of The LGBTQIA+ Cancer Network and [Lisa M. Diamond](#), Ph.D., of the University of Utah. The project manager is [Kara Hurvitz, Esq.](#)

### How long is it open?

The survey is currently slated to be open through the end of January 2026.

### Who can take the survey?

- LGBTQIA+ youth and adults (15 and older for youth)
- Family and loved ones of LGBTQIA+ people AND
- LGBTQIA+-related workforce members (educators, health providers, researchers, etc)

### What makes this survey different from traditional research?

- It's being led by volunteer LGBTQIA+ community leaders. #forusbyus
- Data will be analyzed and returned to community organizations in a ready-to-use format lightning fast.
- Findings will start hitting in February 2026.
- The survey also asks our family and friends how they're being impacted too.
- The survey has a workforce survey embedded in it.

### What topics does the survey cover?

- Your feelings and experiences over the past year
- Major life events in the last year
- How the last year has impacted your health
- Social safety and community support

### What is the purpose of the OUT survey?

To provide ready to disseminate evidence for LGBTQIA+ and allied nonprofits to show how our communities have been impacted in this historic year.

This is particularly important as policies that target our communities have increased at the same time research on our communities has been broadly terminated.

## Can I take it anonymously?

Yes, you definitely can. You also have the option to provide your email address which will help us to contact you to further this research or to give you access to community strengthening interventions if you want them.

## What would my email address be used for?

Researchers will recontact interested participants to see how information changes next year. If a participant chooses, they can also provide an email address to access further interventions or work being done by the local partner nonprofits.

## Can participants share it after they take it?

Yes! As a volunteer effort, survey success is reliant on our communities sharing it widely.

## Does it have IRB approval?

Yes. The survey has been reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board at the University of Utah, #00174408 (which reviews the responsible and ethical conduct of research) and has been preregistered on the [Open Science Framework](#) (which provides transparency about the aims and methods of the survey).

## How do I know my data is secure?

We have significantly minimized the risk of this dataset being subpoenaed by deliberately not collecting any information on usage of gender affirming care - which is the sole reason why SGM data has been subpoenaed to date.

The survey is hosted on Qualtrics, which is among the most reputable organizations for professional surveys; they regularly receive independent audits of its security protocols. Qualtrics uses ISO 27001, which is the internationally recognized standard for information security management systems (ISMS), and it meets HITRUST (HIPAA compliant) certification standards.

Once the survey is complete, data is stored on the Principal Investigator's private cloud storage account at the University of Utah, which is FERPA and HIPAA compliant.

A fully anonymized dataset will be available to vetted community-based researchers who follow the IRB protocol to get access. The Principal Investigators will manage it, ensuring no two investigators are exploring the same topics and that all researcher access results in an additional plain language community-facing set of findings (as well as any professional publications).

## If I have additional questions, who can I ask?

You can contact [research@cancer-network.org](mailto:research@cancer-network.org) or the principal investigators, Dr. Scout ([scout@cancer-network.org](mailto:scout@cancer-network.org)) and Dr. Diamond ([diamondlab@utah.edu](mailto:diamondlab@utah.edu)).

