

Fatal Violence Against Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming People in the United States:

2013-2025 Counts and Other Statistics

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Content warning: This report discusses death, violence, and suicide.

Introduction

Every year, since 2013, for Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR), the Human Rights Campaign Foundation has released key statistics about fatal violence against the transgender and gender non-conforming community.

TDOR was first established by transgender community advocates more than two decades ago. The day's purpose is to remember the lives of transgender and gender non-conforming people lost to violence and to simultaneously demand an end to such violence. On November 13th, Advocates for Trans Equality (A4TE) released the **2025 Remembrance Report**, memorializing at least **27 known trans people** who have died to violence since November 2024.

Since 2013, at least 399 cases of fatal violence against transgender and gender non-conforming people are known. The words “at least” are used since transgender and gender non-conforming people's cases often go unreported or misreported. This means the statistics presented in this report likely undercount and misestimate the true scope and magnitude of fatal violence against transgender and gender non-conforming people.

It has become increasingly difficult for transgender people to live their lives peacefully and without fear. Escalating political rhetoric has misrepresented transgender people, and social media has amplified damaging misinformation about the community. As these narratives grow louder, they can obscure the realities of fatal violence itself—making it harder for the public to recognize the patterns, conditions, and inequities that place transgender and gender-expansive people at risk.

The following report summarizes key statistics about these 399 cases, of which each one is a story and tragedy. The report also presents new analyses from HRC Foundation's 2025 LGBTQ+ Community Survey on transgender and gender-expansive people's experiences with discrimination, acceptance, outness, and visibility over the last year.

Fatal Violence Happens Everywhere in the U.S.

Fatal violence against transgender and gender non-conforming people occurs in every region of the United States. Since 2013, cases have been recorded in nearly every state, from large metropolitan areas like Houston, Atlanta, Chicago, and Miami to smaller cities and rural communities spanning the South, Midwest, East Coast, and Mountain West. States such as Texas, Florida, California, Georgia, Louisiana, Illinois, Maryland, and Ohio have each reported notable numbers of cases, but no single region is exempt.

The ten states with the most cases are:

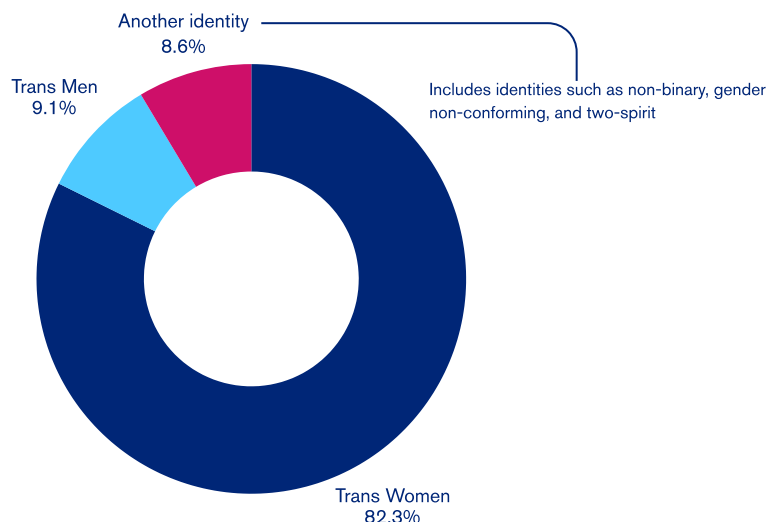
- Texas – **9.8%**
- Florida – **8.3%**
- California – **7.1%**
- Georgia – **6.1%**
- Louisiana – **5.8%**
- Ohio – **5.5%**
- Pennsylvania – **5.0%**
- Illinois – **4.8%**
- Maryland – **4.5%**
- North Carolina – **4.0%**

The city-level data further reveal how widely dispersed these incidents are: fatal violence has occurred in **263** distinct cities and towns—including major urban centers, suburbs, and small towns. This geographic breadth underscores the reality that fatal violence is not confined to any one place, policy environment, or type of community. It is a national crisis that demands national attention.

Transgender Women Comprise Most Known Cases in the U.S.

Transgender women continue to bear the greatest burden of known fatal violence in the United States. Their disproportionate representation in cases (**82.3%**) reflects the compounded risks created by transphobia, sexism, misogyny, and transmisogyny. These overlapping forces place transgender women in situations where safety, support, and protection are far less accessible.

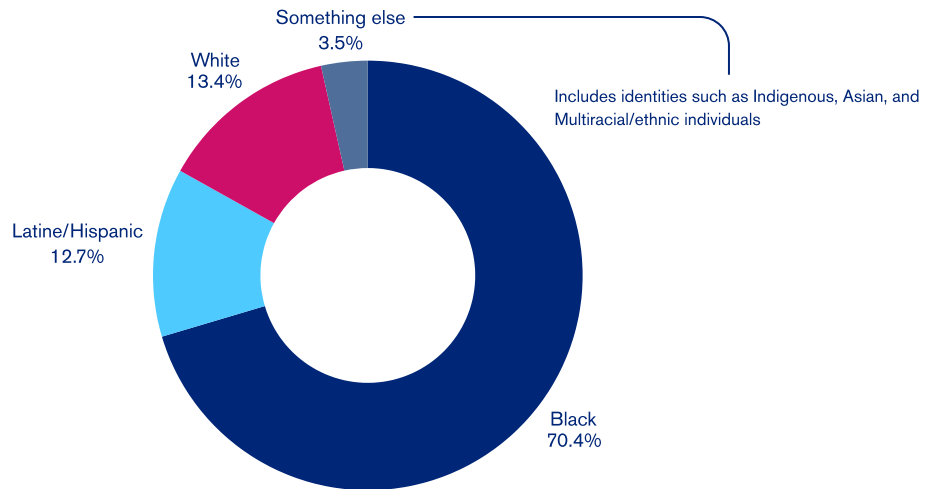
Figure 1: Known Fatal Violence Cases by Gender Identity (2013-2025)



Black Trans People Comprise Most Known Cases in the U.S.

Black transgender and gender non-conforming people continue to face the greatest burden of fatal violence in the United States. **Seven in ten (70.4%)** of all known victims since 2013 were Black, which is an overwhelming disparity that reflects the overlapping systems of inequity Black trans people face in their daily lives. The data make clear that addressing fatal violence requires confronting the conditions that disproportionately endanger Black trans communities.

Figure 2: Known Fatal Violence Cases by Race/Ethnicity (2013-2025)



Black Trans Women Face Multiple Forms of Marginalization

Black transgender women make up the majority of known victims of fatal violence in the United States. About **six in ten (59.4%)** of all cases since 2013 involved Black trans women, reflecting how racism, sexism, and transphobia collide to create uniquely dangerous conditions in their daily lives. The disproportionate impact on Black trans women underscores the urgent need for interventions that address both anti-Black racism, anti-woman, and anti-trans violence simultaneously.

Gun Violence is a Major Cause of Death

Gun violence is the leading cause of death in the cases tracked. An **overwhelming majority (71.2%)** of known victims since 2013 were killed with a firearm, underscoring how access to firearms dramatically increases the lethality of violence against transgender and gender non-conforming people. Reducing fatal violence against transgender people requires addressing the broader epidemic of gun violence in the United States.

Discrimination Against the Transgender Community

Bigotry, fear, and silence are not only individual experiences. These are woven into our institutions, communities, and culture. For transgender and gender-expansive people, discrimination is a barrier to housing, a loss of employment opportunity, a threat in a doctor's office, and a danger in public spaces. Time and again, trans people are forced into the margins: made invisible in policy, misrepresented in media, and left unprotected by systems meant to guarantee safety for all.



Findings from the 2025 Annual LGBTQ+ Community Survey highlight the broader experiences of discrimination that shape the lives of transgender and gender-expansive people in the U.S. Among transgender respondents, **43.9%** report experiencing discrimination based on their sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity/expression in the last year.

Acceptance, Outness, and Visibility

Over the past year, transgender and gender-expansive people have reported a notable decline in social and community acceptance. Evidence suggests that transgender people are withdrawing from public life and becoming less open about their identities.

When asked how acceptance of the LGBTQ+ community has changed over the last 12 months, **four in ten (41.7%)** transgender respondents say the LGBTQ+ community is facing less acceptance compared to 12 months ago. From workplaces to local schools and public spaces, these shifts indicate rising discomfort and exclusion even in places that were once relatively safe.

When asked directly whether they are more or less open about their LGBTQ+ identities compared to a year ago, over half of transgender and gender-expansive people reported being less out—including in their workplaces, healthcare settings, and public spaces. **More than half (57.6%)** of transgender and gender-expansive people say they are less out about their LGBTQ+ identities compared to 12 months ago, while **42.4%** say they are either out more or about the same amount.

A similar share reported being less visible in daily life than they were last year, whether in showing Pride symbols, disclosing their identity, or participating openly in community spaces. **More than half (58.5%)** of transgender and gender-expansive people say they are less visible regarding their LGBTQ+ identities compared to 12 months ago, while **41.5%** say they are either more visible or about the same amount.

Conclusion

For more than a decade, fatal violence has continued to rob transgender and gender non-conforming people—particularly Black transgender women—of their lives. Since 2013, we've documented **at least 399 cases** of fatal violence, occurring in states of every region, in cities and small towns alike.

Behind every statistic is a person loved by family, friends, and community—a person whose life was cut short by unfounded hatred, systemic neglect, or targeted violence. This year's data make an undeniable truth clearer: even as public awareness of transgender people grows, safety and dignity remain out of reach for far too many.

Ending fatal violence against transgender and gender non-conforming people requires more than tracking data. It calls for active efforts to dismantle the policies, practices, and cultural narratives that enable violence, and replacing them with systems that ensure dignity, visibility, and belonging for all transgender people. That work begins with rejecting the silence, misinformation, and indifference that allow harm to persist, and building a future in which transgender people can live openly, safely, and freely.

We honor the memory of each life lost not only by naming their existence, but by committing to building a world where their lives would have never been threatened in the first place.

Methodology

Victim Identification and Data and Analysis

HRC monitors local news and social media, corroborating reporting done through the [Trans Murder Monitoring Project/Transgender Europe \(TGEU\)](#) and [Advocates for Trans Equality \(A4TE\)](#).

HRC has been tracking fatal violence against the trans community since the start of 2013. Throughout this report, only data from 2013-Present are analyzed and examined. Because new details may emerge as cases work their way through the justice system, and as law enforcement agencies release new information, data in this report may not always reflect what was noted in original reporting, or what may emerge in the future.

On November 14th, HRC confirmed the fatal killing of Maurice Harrison, whose death may not have been included in earlier tallies from other advocacy organizations. HRC has identified Harrison as the 27th known case of fatal violence in 2025. Differences in count may arise because HRC is currently not including the case of Jonathan Joss, due to conflicting reporting. Early reports and available information have described Joss as cisgender, gay, bisexual, and two-spirit individual, and as such, HRC is reviewing whether this case should be counted within its transgender and gender-expansive tracking.

2025 Annual LGBTQ+ Community Survey Data and Analysis

The Human Rights Campaign Foundation's 2025 Annual LGBTQ+ Community Survey (ALCS) provides robust data on the experiences, attitudes, and well-being of LGBTQ+ adults in the United States. The 2025 ALCS version included a supplemental comparison sample of non-LGBTQ+ adults.

Data were collected online from September 29 to October 27, 2025, among U.S. adults aged 18 and older. The analyses are based on data from nearly 2,000 transgender and gender-expansive respondents. Non-LGBTQ+ respondents (approximately N = 5,000) were collected by [PSB Insights](#) during the same period. To ensure demographic representativeness, PSB used quotas for respondents' race, age, geography, education, and gender.

Post-survey weighting was applied to correct for non-probability sampling bias and align the dataset with external benchmarks. Predicted probabilities from logistic regression with robust standard errors are presented controlling for race/ethnicity, age, and education level.

See the [complete report methodology here](#).

See the [complete ALCS methodology and data quality report here](#).

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