



# 2021 Ace Community Survey Summary Report

## Ace Community Survey Team

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## About this Report

This report offers an overview of the responses to questions that were asked in the 2021 Ace Community Survey (previously known as the Asexual Community Survey).

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:

Ace Community Survey Team. (2023). *2021 ace community survey summary report*.

<https://acecommunitysurvey.org/2023/10/23/2021-ace-community-survey-summary-report/>

In text citation: (Ace Community Survey Team, 2023) or the Ace Community Survey Team (ACST, 2023) reported...

## About the Survey Team

The Ace Community Survey Team is a 100% volunteer-run group that designs, administers, analyzes, and reports on the annual Ace Community Survey. Team members come from a variety of backgrounds and bring their skills and expertise related to survey design, coding, data analysis and visualization, writing, and more. You can contact the survey team at [acecommunitysurvey@gmail.com](mailto:acecommunitysurvey@gmail.com).

For updates from the Survey Team and views of additional analysis, [subscribe](#) to the [Ace Community Survey Blog](#).

## Accessibility

This document strives to meet basic accessibility standards, including navigation, readable font, alt text, and descriptions of the highlights of each data visualization in the main text. If you would prefer to access data as textual tables or wish to recommend further accessibility improvements, please contact us at [acecommunitysurvey@gmail.com](mailto:acecommunitysurvey@gmail.com). You may also send us an email with your voice message attached.

## Content Warning

This report contains material that may be sensitive for readers, including (but not limited to) discussions of prejudice, discrimination, and harassment. Please see the table of contents for all subjects discussed in detail in the report.

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# Methodology and Terminology

## Survey Methodology

The Ace Community Survey is an annual online survey administered with the goals of learning about ace people around the world and tracking the makeup and well-being of online ace communities. This survey has been released annually since 2014.

## Survey Design

The survey consists of a core set of demographic and identity questions (reviewed and revised annually as the team learns more about people on the asexual spectrum and their communities), as well as rotating sets of topical questions.

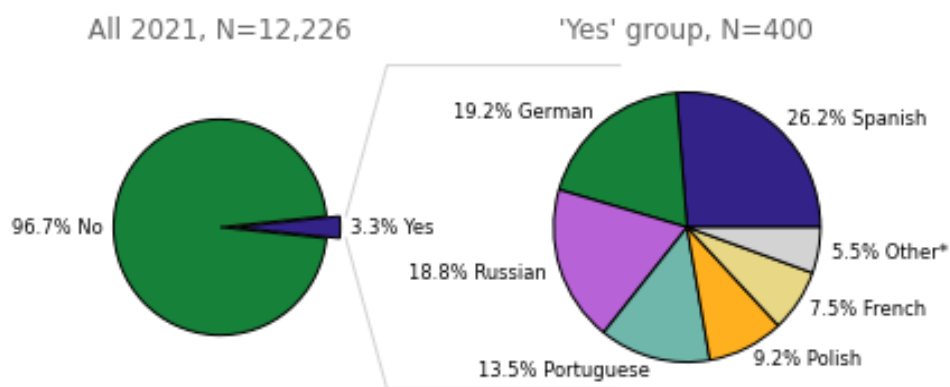
Similar to previous years, responses to most questions were optional. Content notes were included for sensitive sections, and participants could skip these entirely. The final number of respondents (N) count is included for every table and plot in this report.

The raw text of the 2021 survey can be found on the [Ace Community Survey website](#).

## Survey Translation

In 2021, there were nine translation guides ([Danish](#), [Dutch](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Japanese](#), [Polish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Russian](#), and [Spanish](#)) to make the survey accessible to more respondents. Of all respondents, 3.3% used a translation guide. Spanish, German, and Russian were the most commonly used ones. Volunteers with backgrounds in ace activism translated the survey into their native languages. The survey form itself was left in its original English version.

Did you use a translation guide to complete this survey?  
If yes, please select the language.



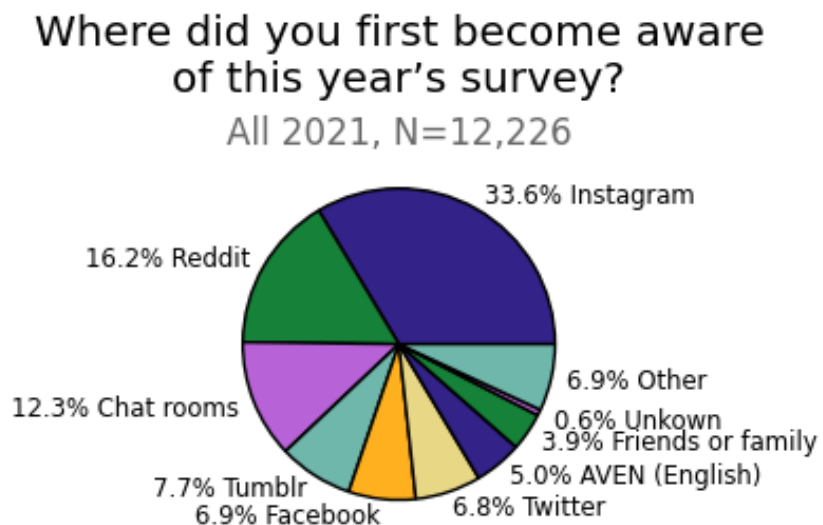
\*Other languages: Danish, Dutch, Japanese

## Sampling

The 2021 survey was open between October 25 and December 4, 2021, and received a total of 12,226 responses (ace = 11,547, unsure if ace = 400, non-ace = 278, question skipped = 1; see [Section 2](#)).

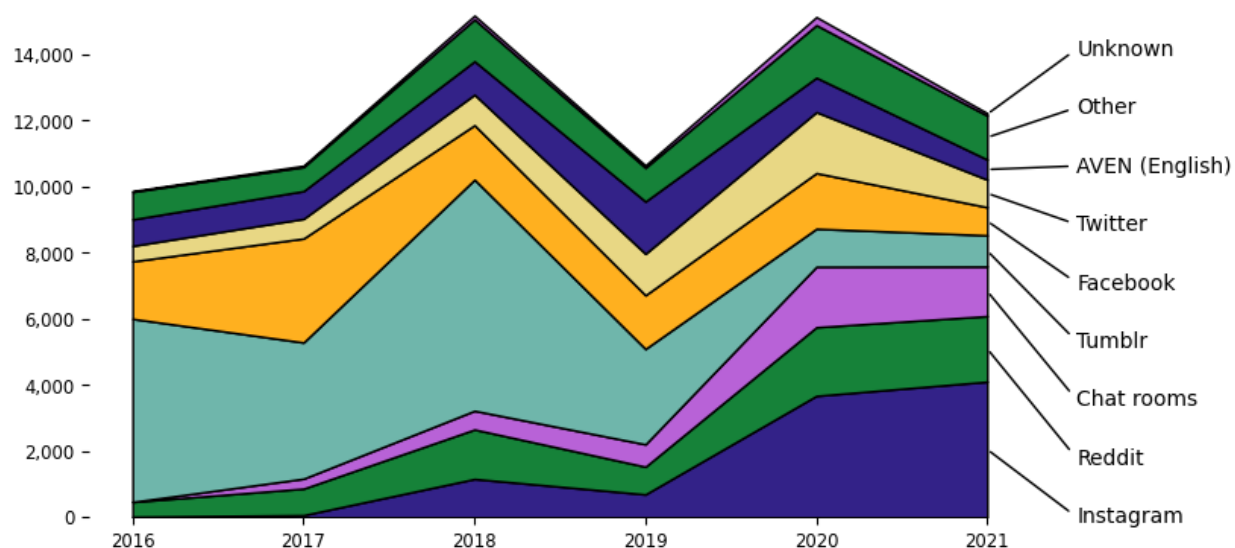
The participants represented a convenience sample recruited via snowball sampling techniques. Announcements containing links to the survey were posted on the Ace Community Survey website, several major ace websites (AVEN, the Asexual Agenda, etc.), as well as in asexuality- and LGBTQIA+-themed groups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

The following pie chart shows where the respondents first became aware of the 2021 survey. In 2021, as in the previous year, Instagram was the most common platform where the participants found the survey (33.6%), followed by Reddit (16.2%) and chat rooms such as Discord and IRC (12.3%).



The following figure shows a trend of where participants first became aware of the survey between 2016 and 2021. There has been a notable increase in the percentage of respondents coming across the survey on Instagram and Reddit. Tumblr, however, which was the most common point of discovery between 2016 and 2019, decreased to 7.7% in 2021.

Where did you first become aware of this year's survey?  
All respondents



## Write-in Interpretation

Respondents had the option of writing their own response to many of the questions in the survey. These write-in answers were interpreted by hand and back-coded into existing response options where applicable. In previous years, new categories were created for common themes that were distinct from existing response options; however, this did not become necessary for 2021 data.

## Data Preprocessing

The raw data output, generated by Google Forms, underwent some preprocessing to ensure data quality. This included removing duplicate responses, and dummy encoding checkbox questions (in which respondents were instructed to “check all that apply”). Responses of the form “N/A” or “Prefer not to answer” were dropped. If a question asked for an age but respondents mistakenly provided a year, the age was inferred from birth year.

Incomplete responses were also removed, and people were allowed to skip questions that they did not wish to answer or which were inapplicable. Questions were identified with at least a 99% response rate, and a response was defined as incomplete if the respondent skipped at least 20% of these questions. Only 21 responses were dropped in this way, leaving the 12,226 responses described above.

Data preprocessing is described in more detail in the [2021 Guide to Ace Community Survey Data](#).

## Data Analysis and Visualization

All data analysis was performed with Python 3.10 and pandas 1.3.4, using jupyter 1.0 and ipython 7.29; visualizations were created with matplotlib 3.5 (see [References](#)).

Before starting data analysis, team members agreed on subset definitions for groups like “Aces” or “TNB” (see [Terminology](#)) which were later used consistently. Data was split into six sections to allow volunteers to work in parallel. Colors for data visualizations were mostly taken from pride flags and checked for color blind accessibility. Team members also agreed upon additional measures for accessibility, consistency, and good scientific practice. Commonly used functions were taken from the 2020 code, refactored where necessary, documented, and made available for all analysts. All analysis was reviewed by at least one member of the team.

## Report Writing

Once data analysis was complete, tables and graphs were imported from GitHub and interpreted by writing team volunteers. The completed sections were then peer reviewed by other members of the writing and data analysis teams. Prior to publishing, the report was reviewed by senior members of the survey team.

## Research Limitations

Because of the sampling method described in the previous section, the ace respondents in 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. Comparisons between ace and non-ace respondents are generally not indicative of the differences between ace and non-ace people.<sup>1</sup>

It is also worth noting that the Ace Community Survey is international. The participants of the 2021 survey resided in 101 different countries. The survey results, however, are not reflective of the international ace communities, as both ace and non-ace people participated in the survey more often if they were in contact with the online anglophone ace communities or able to use one of the translation guides provided. 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.

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<sup>1</sup> 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 a documentation of some of these challenges.

## Terminology

The following terms and abbreviations are used throughout this report. These terms may hold different definitions when used in other contexts.<sup>2</sup>

Term	Definition
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” to “Do you consider yourself to be on the asexual spectrum?”
Allosexual	Allosexual is a term used to refer to individuals who are not on the asexual spectrum.
Aro	Shorthand for “aromantic.” In this report, “aro” or “aros” refers to respondents who identified anywhere on the aromantic spectrum. This included respondents who answered “Yes” to “Do you consider yourself to be on the aromantic spectrum?”
Aro ace	The subset of respondents who answered “Yes” both to “Do you consider yourself to be on the asexual spectrum?” and to “Do you consider yourself to be on the aromantic spectrum?”
Aromantic	The subset of respondents who identified specifically as aromantic. Thus, “aromantic” as used in this report does not include other aromantic spectrum identities, such as demiromantic, grayromantic, or questioning.
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, graysexual, or questioning.
Binary gender group	Respondents who indicated a gender identity that is exclusively “man or male” or exclusively “woman or female.”
LGB PQ	Respondents who identified as lesbian, gay, bi, pan, polysexual/polyromantic, or queer in terms of sexual and/or romantic orientation.
LGBTQIA+	Umbrella term used to refer to lesbian, gay, bi, transgender, queer, intersex, ace, aro, and other members of the queer community.
Non-ace	Respondents who did not identify on the asexual spectrum and were not unsure or questioning if they were ace.

<sup>2</sup> To learn more about ace terminology, please see the [AVEN website](#) or visit an LGBTQIA+ glossary such as the one provided by [UC Davis](#). These resources are not owned or overseen by the Ace Community Survey Team; they are provided for educational purposes only and the team cannot vouch for their accuracy.



Term	Definition
Nonbinary men and women	Respondents who selected both binary (i.e., “man or male” and/or “woman or female”) <b>and</b> nonbinary gender identities. The term “nonbinary” is used descriptively in this context, as not all of these respondents identified specifically with the nonbinary label.
Nonbinary umbrella	Respondents who selected an option other than “man or male” or “woman or female” as their gender identity. It also includes respondents who identified as “man or male” or “woman or female” in addition to another gender label. In most analyses in the report, “nonbinary” is used descriptively and does not indicate that respondents specifically identified as nonbinary. Some respondents did identify specifically as nonbinary, as described in <a href="#">Section 3</a> .
TNB	Transgender and/or nonbinary. In this report, TNB is used as an umbrella term and includes those who said “Yes” to “Do you identify as transgender?” as well as those who selected a gender within the nonbinary umbrella (see definition above).
Unsure if ace	This refers to respondents who answered “Unsure” to “Do you consider yourself to be on the asexual spectrum?”

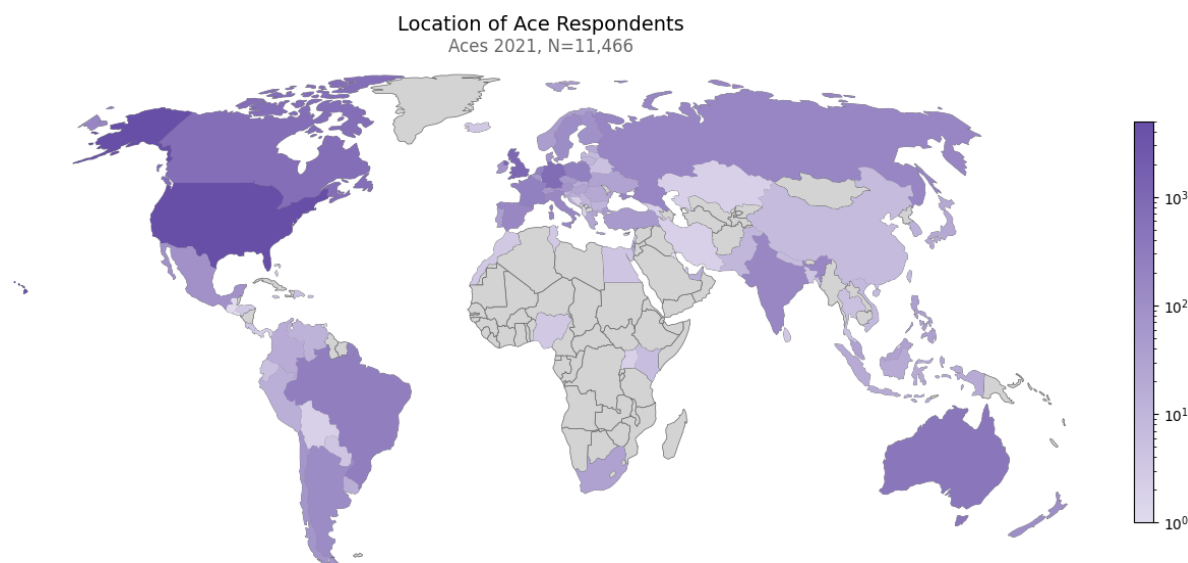
## Section 1: General Survey Demographics

### 1.1 Human Geography

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.”*

When asked which country they currently lived in, 43.5% of ace respondents selected the United States of America. This was followed by the United Kingdom (9.7%), Germany (7.2%), Canada (6.1%), and Australia (3.6%). At least 1% of ace respondents also reported from Brazil (2.4%), Poland (2.1%), France (2.1%), Netherlands (1.9%), Russia (1.5%), India (1.4%), Italy (1.4%), Spain (1.4%), Argentina (1.0%), and Sweden (1.0%). A full list of countries is included in [Appendix I](#) of this report.



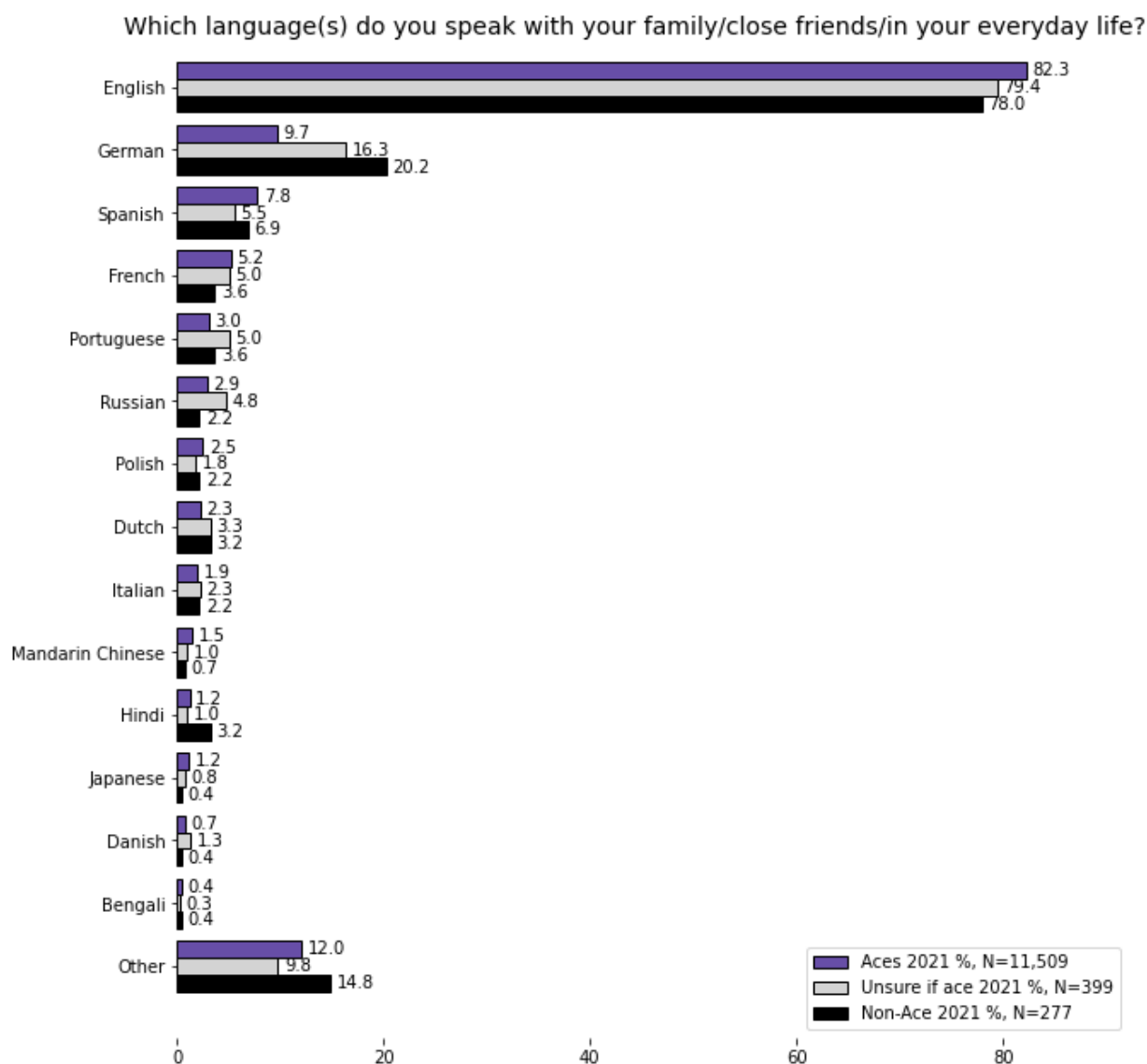
Please select the country in which you live (2021, %)	Aces, N=11,547
United States of America	43.5
United Kingdom	9.7
Germany	7.2
Canada	6.1
Australia	3.6
Brazil	2.4
Poland	2.1
France	2.1
Netherlands	1.9

Please select the country in which you live (2021, %)	Aces, N=11,547
Russia	1.5
India	1.4
Italy	1.4
Spain	1.4
Argentina	1.0
Sweden	1.0
Other	13.9

### Which language(s) do you speak with your family/close friends/in your everyday life?

Check all that apply.

When asked which language they spoke with family and close friends in everyday life, around four out of five participants indicated that they spoke English, including 82.3% of aces. The next most popular spoken language was German, spoken by 9.7% of aces. Spanish was spoken by 7.8% of aces, followed by French (5.2%), Portuguese (3.0%), Russian (2.9%), Polish (2.5%), Dutch (2.3%), Italian (1.9%), Mandarin Chinese (1.5%), Hindi (1.2%), Japanese (1.2%), Danish (0.7%), Bengali (0.4%), and other languages (12.0%).



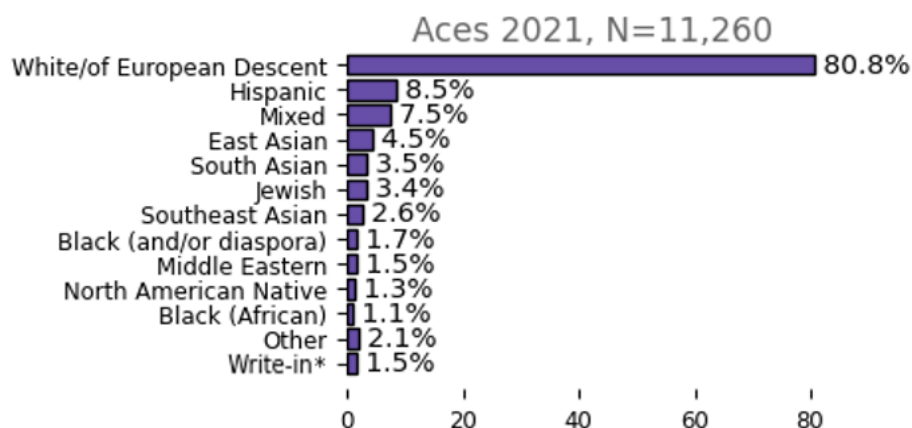
## 1.2 Race

### Do you identify with any of the following racial/ethnic categories?

*Check all that apply.*

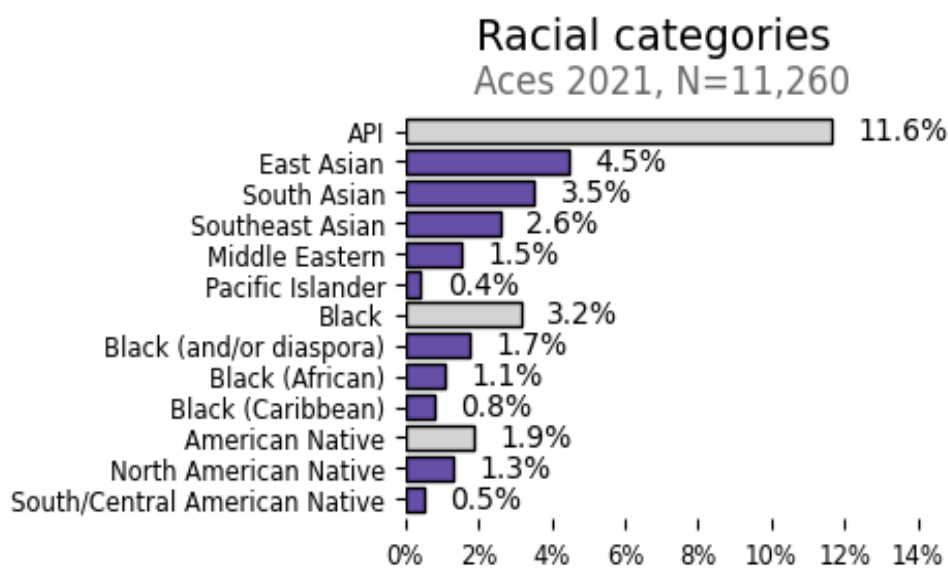
Participants were asked to indicate which racial and ethnic categories they identified with and were allowed to select more than one option. Four out of five (80.8%) ace participants identified as White or of European descent. A further 8.5% identified as Hispanic and 7.5% identified as mixed. Smaller grouped categories included East Asian (4.5%), South Asian (3.5%), Jewish (3.4%), Southeast Asian (2.6%), Black (1.7%), Middle Eastern (1.5%), North American Native (1.3%), Black African (1.1%), Other (2.1%), and user-submitted write-in options (1.5%).

### Do you identify with any of the following racial/ethnic categories?

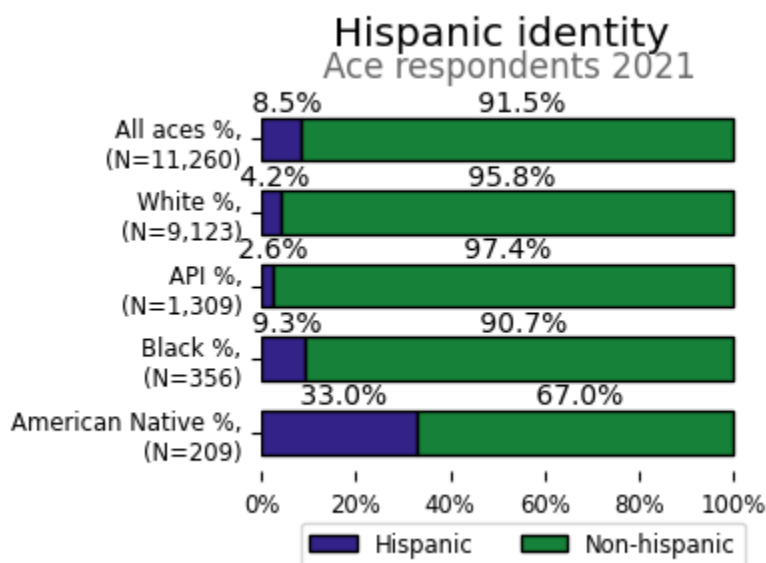


For the following chart, some categories were derived by grouping. “Asian and Pacific Islander” counted anyone from Asia, including the Middle East (e.g., Iran), South Asia (e.g., India), East Asia (e.g., China), Southeast Asia (e.g., Vietnam), and the Pacific Islands. “Black” included Africa, the diaspora, Afro-Caribbean, and North Africa (but excluded North Africans who identified with the racial/ethnic identity “White”). “American Native” included both North and South/Central American natives.

One in nine participants identified as Asian and Pacific Islander (API, 11.6%), including East Asian (4.5%), South Asian (3.5%), Southeast Asian (2.6%), Middle Eastern (1.5%), and Pacific Islander (0.4%). One in thirty participants (3.2%) identified as Black, including Black and/or Black diaspora (1.7%), Black African (1.1%), and Black Caribbean (0.8%). One in fifty participants identified as American Native (1.9%), including North American Native (1.3%) and South/Central American Native (0.5%).



In addition to other racial and ethnic categories, some participants also identified as Hispanic. Among all aces, 8.5% identified as Hispanic. Among white aces, 4.2% identified as Hispanic, as did 2.6% of Asian and Pacific Islanders, 9.3% of Black respondents, and a third (33.0%) of American Natives.



### 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.*

Respondents were asked whether they considered themselves a racial or ethnic minority at a national and/or local level. This question was intended to take into account cultural enclaves, where a participant might be a part of a national racial or ethnic minority but live in a district in which members of their community were prevalent. Conversely, the participant might be a member of the national majority but live in a local area where a different racial/ethnic group was dominant.

Four out of five ace respondents (81.4%) did not identify as a racial or ethnic minority, while 14.9% did identify as either a national and/or a local minority. This included both the 13.5% who identified as a national minority in their country of residence and the 11.5% who identified as a local minority in their community.

Are you a racial/ethnic minority? (2021, %)	Aces
Non-minority (N=11,450)	81.4
Minority (N=11,450)	14.9
National minority (N=11,388)	13.5
Local minority (N=11,430)	11.3

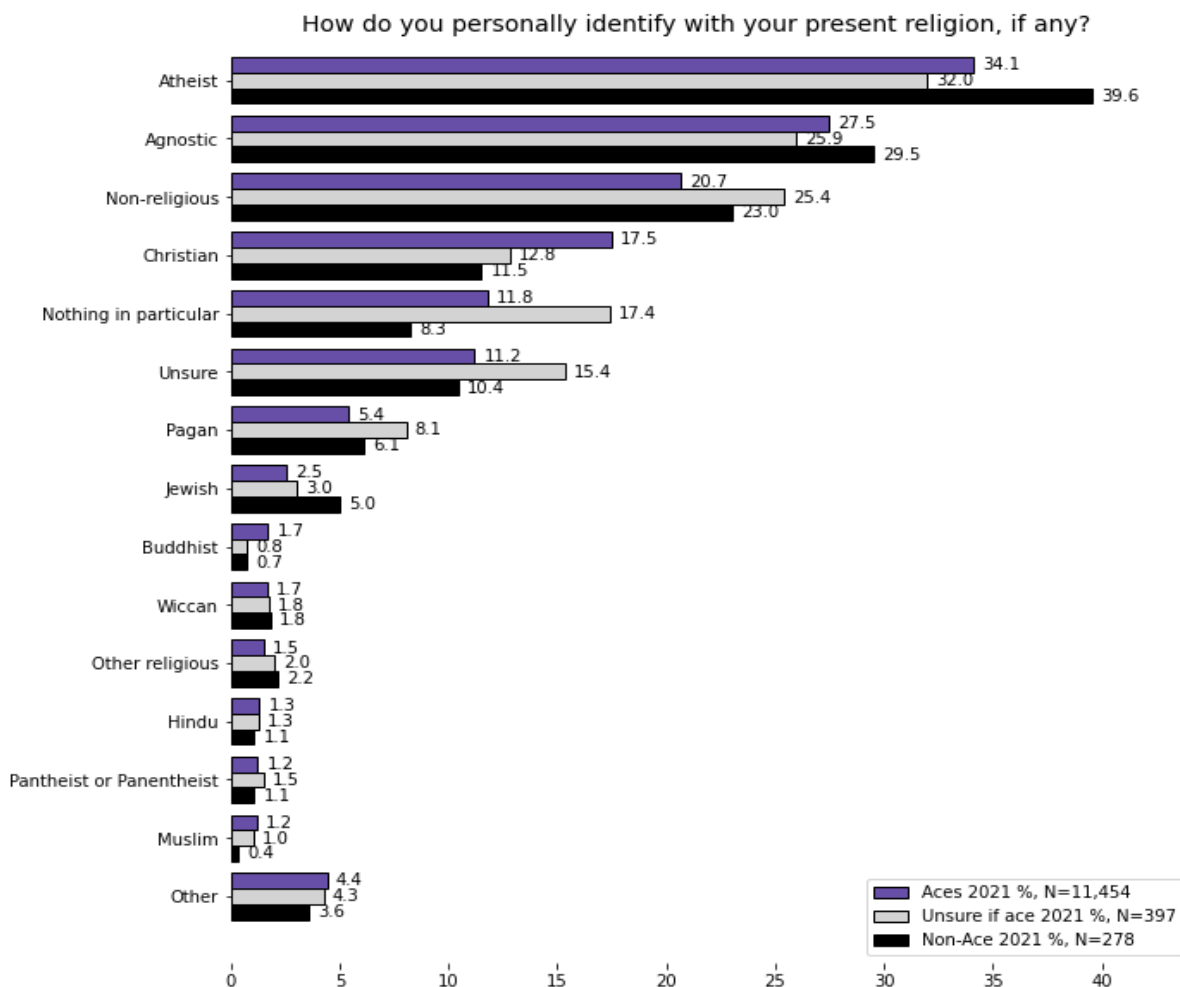
## 1.3 Religion

### How do you personally identify with your present religion, if any?

*Check all that apply.*

The majority of respondents did not belong to a specific organized religion. Approximately one third of ace participants identified as atheist (34.1%), while over a quarter identified as agnostic (27.5%), a fifth identified as non-religious (20.7%), and a tenth identified as nothing in particular (11.8%) or were unsure (11.2%). These numbers were similar among non-aces and those who were unsure if they were ace, with the majority identifying as atheist (39.6% and 32.0%, respectively), agnostic (29.5% and 25.9%, respectively), and non-religious (23.0% and 25.4%, respectively).

Among those who identified with a specific religion, Christianity was most common across the board, among 17.5% of aces, 11.5% of non-aces, and 12.8% of those who were unsure if they were ace. This was followed by Pagan aces (5.4%), non-aces (6.1%), and those unsure if they were ace (8.1%). To a lesser extent, aces also identified as Jewish (2.5%), Buddhist (1.7%), Wiccan (1.7%), Hindu (1.3%), Pantheist/Panentheist (1.2%), Muslim (1.2%), or another religion (1.5%). These numbers were fairly similar among non-aces and those who were unsure if they were ace.

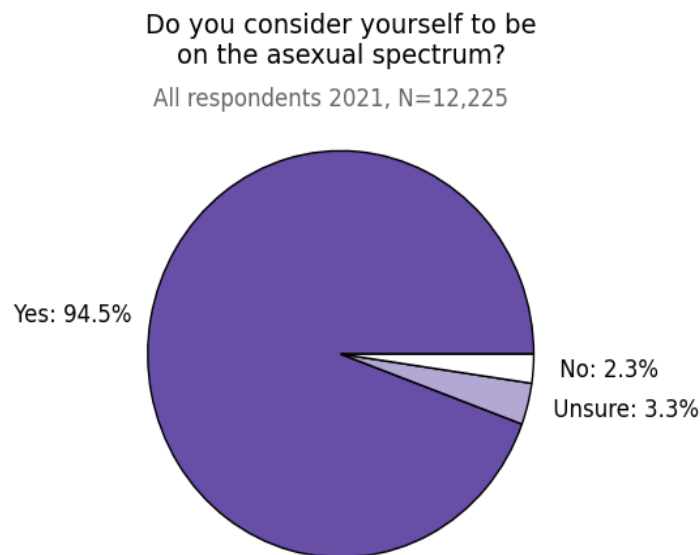


## Section 2: Sexual and Romantic Identities

### Do you consider yourself to be on the asexual spectrum?

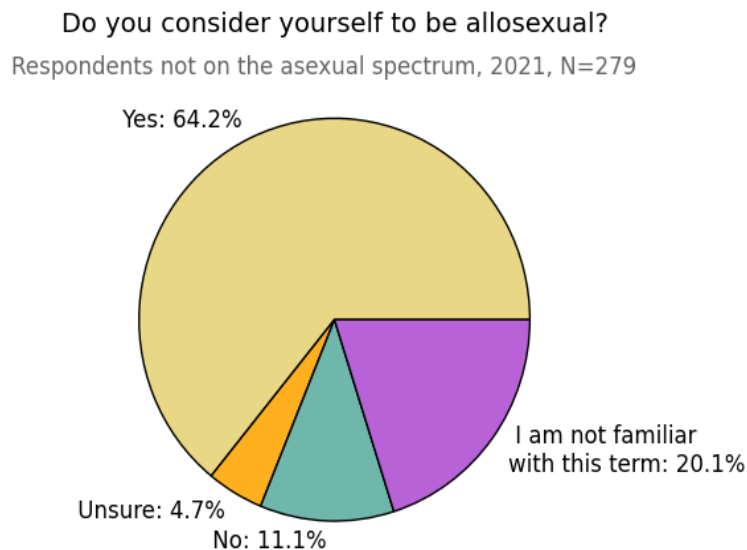
*In this survey, the “asexual spectrum” includes asexuals, graysexuals, demisexuals, aces, etc.*

The vast majority (94.5%) of respondents to the survey identified as ace. Another 3.3% were unsure if they were and 2.3% did not identify as being on the asexual spectrum.



### Do you consider yourself to be allosexual?

This question was only asked to respondents who answered “No” to the previous question. Over half of them did consider themselves allosexual (64.2%). A fifth were unfamiliar with the term (20.1%), a tenth did not describe themselves as allosexual (11.1%), and a few were unsure (4.7%).





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

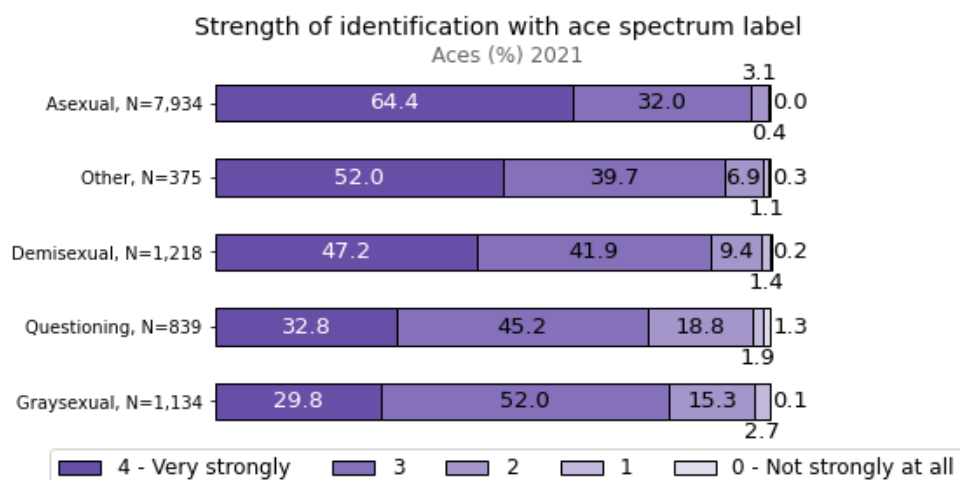
Among all respondents who identified as ace or were unsure, two thirds (66.7%) identified specifically with the term asexual. In this group, almost all (66.6% of 66.7%) considered themselves ace, while a tiny fraction of participants (0.1%) were unsure. About a tenth identified as demisexual (10.5%) or graysexual (9.7%). Slightly fewer respondents were questioning their identity (9.8%). The questioning group contained the highest proportion of respondents that were unsure if they were ace; however, 7.3% in 9.8% still considered themselves ace. A few respondents (3.4%) provided a write-in, most commonly aegosexual, aceflux, or ace-spec (See [Appendix II](#)).

Ace spectrum identities (2021, %) N=11,930	Considers self ace	Unsure if ace	Total
Asexual	66.6	0.1	66.7
Demisexual	10.2	0.3	10.5
Graysexual	9.5	0.2	9.7
Questioning	7.3	2.5	9.8
Other	3.2	0.2	3.4

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

This question used a Likert scale to answer how strongly the respondents identified with their identity labels. The scale ranged from 0 to 4, with 0 labeled “Not strongly at all” and 4 labeled “Very strongly.” The following figures further break down the responses into five subsets: whether the respondent was asexual, demisexual, questioning, graysexual, or identified with a different label not present in the response option list (“Other”).

Of the ace respondents that identified with the term “asexual,” over half of them identified very strongly with this term (64.4%). Among ace respondents who wrote in their ace identity term (see [Appendix II](#)), about half very strongly identified with their label (52.0%), while just under half of ace respondents that identified as demisexual (47.2%) strongly identified with the term. A third of aces that were questioning strongly identified with that label (32.8%), which is similar to the aces that identified as graysexual (29.8%).

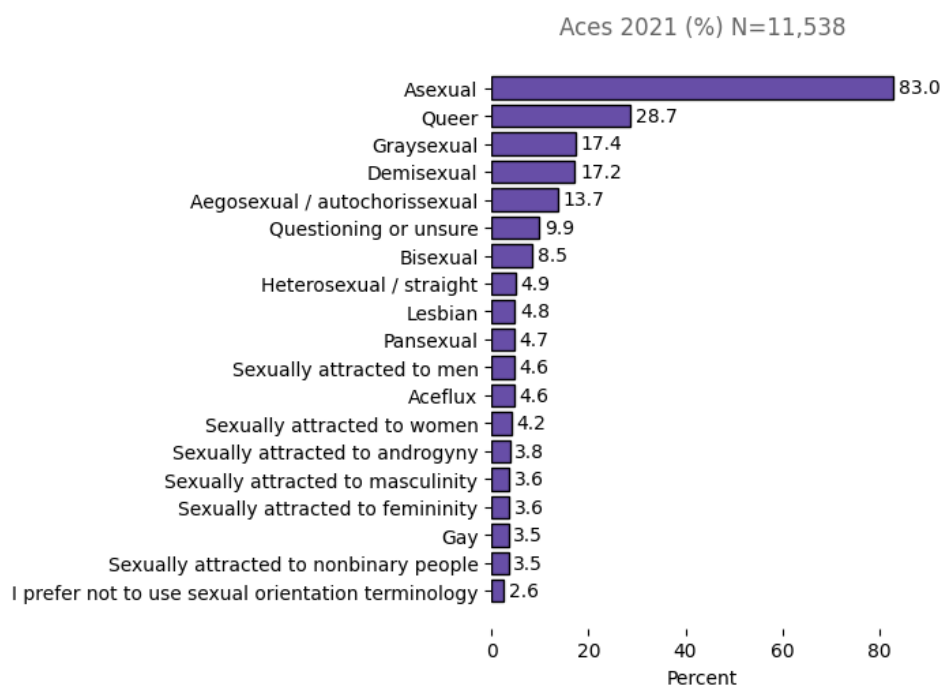


## Which of the following sexual orientation labels do you currently identify with?

*There is a later question for labels specific to romantic orientation. Check all that apply.*

The majority of ace respondents (83.0%) identified with the term “asexual” at the time of the survey. Less than a third of ace respondents identified as queer (28.7%). Aces also identified as graysexual (17.4%) or demisexual (17.2%). Notably, these three percentages were much higher in this multiple-choice question than in the previous single choice question (66.7% asexual, 10.5% demisexual, 9.7% graysexual, respectively), suggesting that many aces identified with more than one label. About one in seven participants (13.7%) selected aegosexual/ autochorissexual. Just below a tenth of aces were questioning or unsure (9.9%) or bisexual (8.5%). Just below 5% of aces identified as heterosexual/straight (4.9%), lesbian (4.8%), or pansexual (4.7%). The rest of the identity labels were each used by less than 4.6% of ace respondents.

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



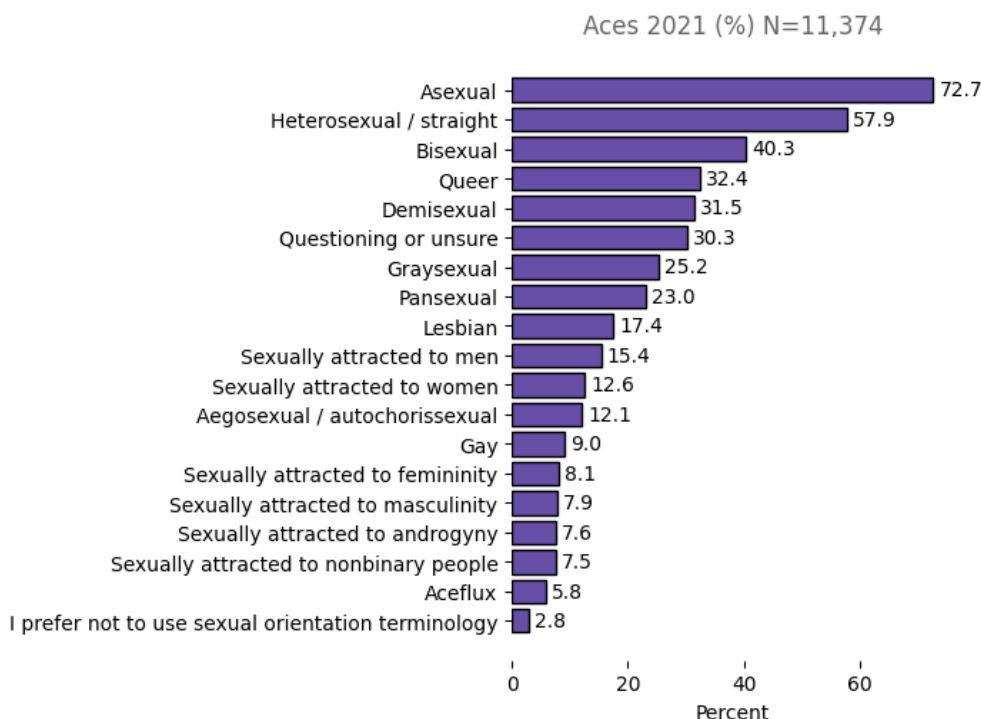
## Which of the following labels have you \*ever\* identified with at some point in time (even if you no longer do so currently)?

*There is a later question for labels specific to romantic orientation. Check all that apply.*

About three fourths of ace respondents had identified as asexual at some point (72.7%). This is lower than the percentage of aces who identified as asexual currently (83.0%) and could be due to respondents misinterpreting the question as asking them to *only* select those labels they did not identify with any longer. Over half of aces had identified as heterosexual or straight (57.9%). Two fifths of aces had identified as bisexual (40.3%). A third of aces had identified as queer (32.4%), demisexual (31.5%), or questioning (30.3%). A quarter of aces had identified as graysexual (25.2%) or pansexual (23.0%). Under a fifth of aces had identified as lesbian (17.4%), while 15.4% of aces had identified as sexually attracted to men. About an eighth of aces had identified as sexually attracted to women (12.6%) or aegosexual/autochorissexual

(12.1%). Below 10% had identified as gay (9.0%), sexually attracted to femininity (8.1%), sexually attracted to masculinity (7.9%), sexually attracted to androgyny (7.6%), or sexually attracted to nonbinary people (7.5%). About 5.8% had identified as aceflux, and 2.8% preferred not to use sexual orientation terminology to describe themselves.

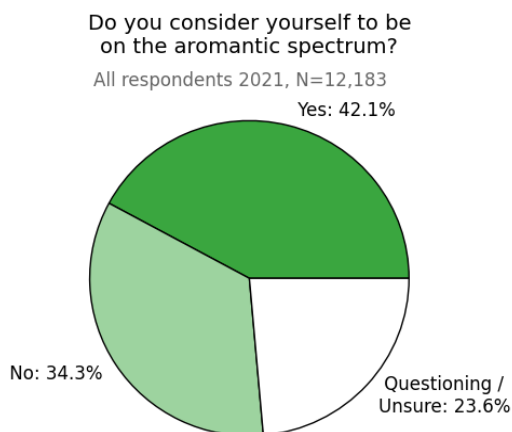
Which of the following labels have you *ever* identified with at some point in time (even if you no longer do so currently)?



## Do you consider yourself to be on the aromantic spectrum?

In this survey, the “aromantic spectrum” includes aromantics, grayromantics, demiromantics, aros, etc.

Just under half of all respondents identified as aro (42.1%). A third did not (34.3%) and a quarter (23.6%) were questioning or unsure.



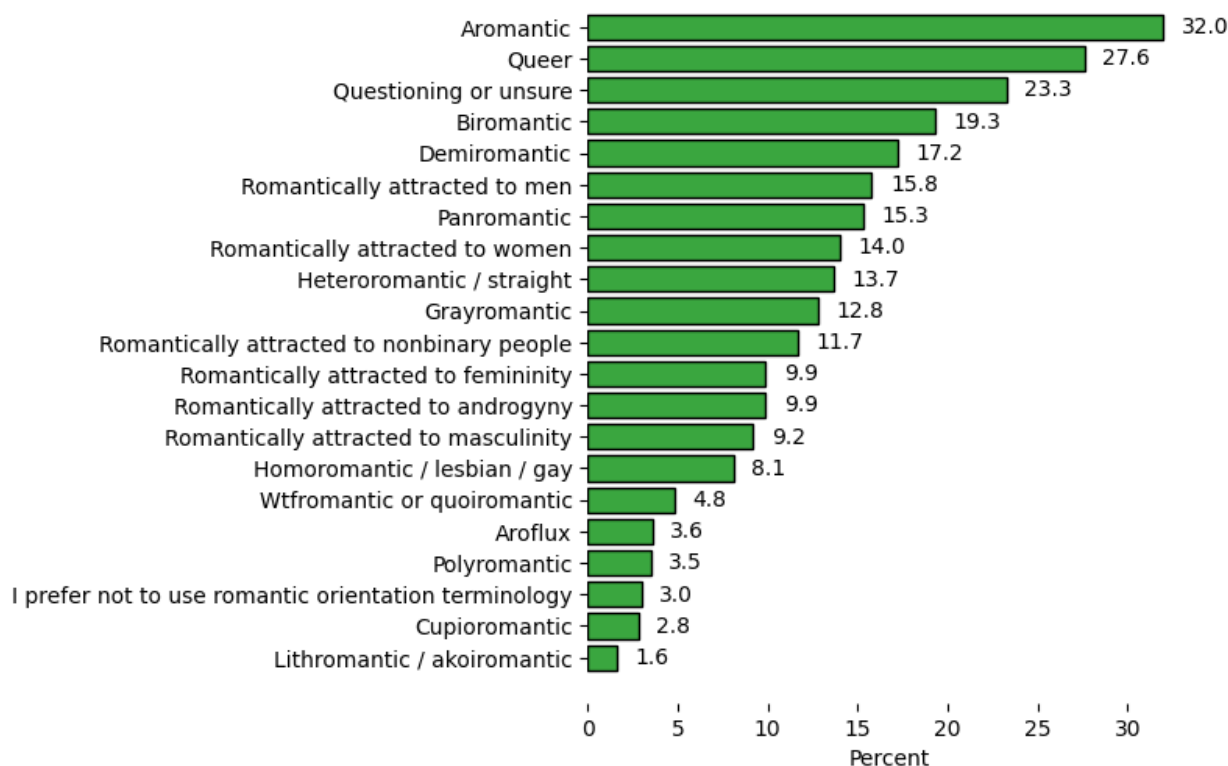
## Which (if any) of the following romantic orientation labels do you currently identify with?

*Check all that apply.*

A third of ace respondents identified with the term aromantic specifically (32.0%). A quarter of ace respondents identified as queer (27.6%) or questioning (23.3%). A fifth of ace respondents identified as biromantic (19.3%) or demiromantic (17.2%). About 15% of ace respondents identified as romantically attracted to men (15.8%), panromantic (15.3%), romantically attracted to women (14.0%), or heteroromantic/straight (13.7%). About a tenth of ace respondents identified as grayromantic (12.8%), romantically attracted to nonbinary people (11.7%), romantically attracted to femininity (9.9%), romantically attracted to androgyny (9.9%), romantically attracted to masculinity (9.2%), or as homoromantic/lesbian/gay (8.1%). The rest of the options were each selected by less than 5% of ace respondents.

Which (if any) of the following romantic orientation labels do you currently identify with?

Aces 2021 (%) N=11,413



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

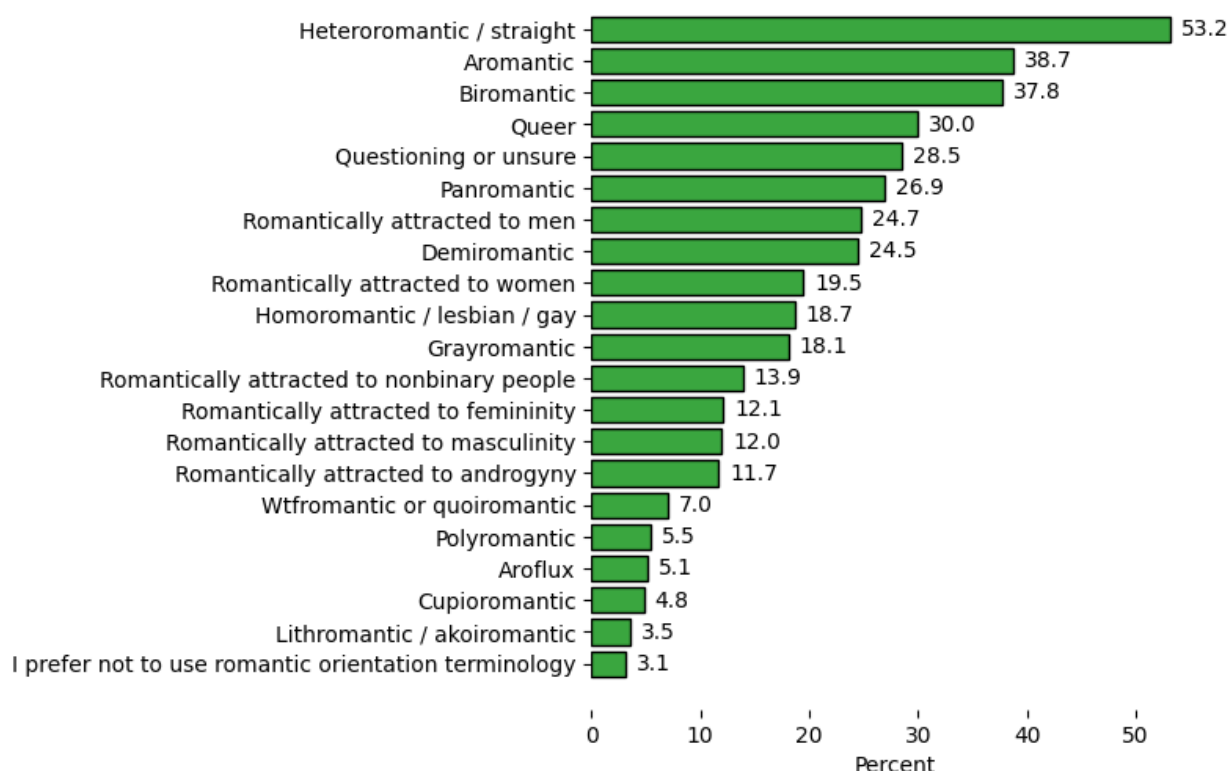
*Check all that apply.*

Half of ace respondents had identified as heteroromantic/straight at some point in time (53.2%). Two fifths of ace respondents had identified as aromantic (38.7%) or biromantic (37.8%). A third had identified as queer (30.0%) or questioning (28.5%). A quarter of ace respondents had identified as panromantic (26.9%), romantically attracted to men (24.7%), or

demiromantic (24.5%). A fifth of ace respondents had identified as romantically attracted to women (19.5%), homoromantic/lesbian/gay (18.7%), or grayromantic (18.1%), while 13.9% of ace respondents identified as romantically attracted to nonbinary people. About a tenth of ace respondents identified as romantically attracted to femininity (12.1%), romantically attracted to masculinity (12.0%), romantically attracted to androgyny (11.7%), or wtfromantic/quoiromantic (7.0%). The rest of the options were each selected by less than 6% of ace respondents.

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

Aces 2021 (%) N=11,105

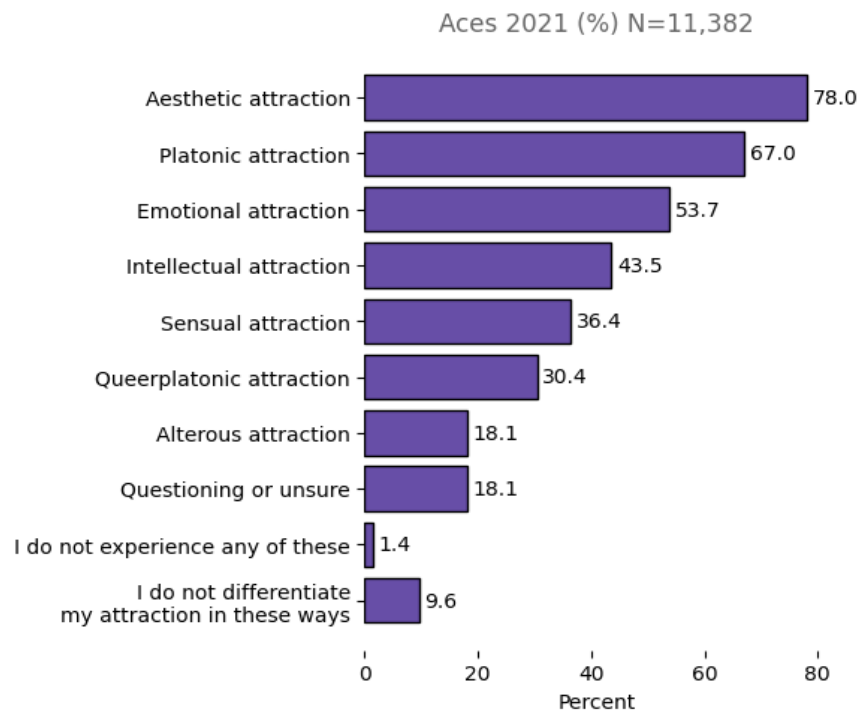


Some people experience types of attraction other than romantic or sexual attraction. If you are familiar with any of the following terms, which of them describe something you experience?

*Check all that apply.*

A majority of ace respondents had experienced aesthetic attraction (78.0%) or platonic attraction (67.0%). About half of ace respondents had experienced emotional attraction (53.7%). Two fifths of ace respondents had experienced intellectual attraction (43.5%) and a third had experienced sensual attraction (36.4%) or queerplatonic attraction (30.4%). A fifth of ace respondents had experienced alterous attraction (18.1%) or were questioning what attraction they had felt (18.1%). About a tenth of respondents did not differentiate their attraction in these ways (9.6%) and 1.4% of ace respondents did not experience any of these forms of attraction. Since some of these terms have been emerging rather recently, their lower percentages might also reflect the unfamiliarity that many respondents had with them.

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?



## Section 3: Gender

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

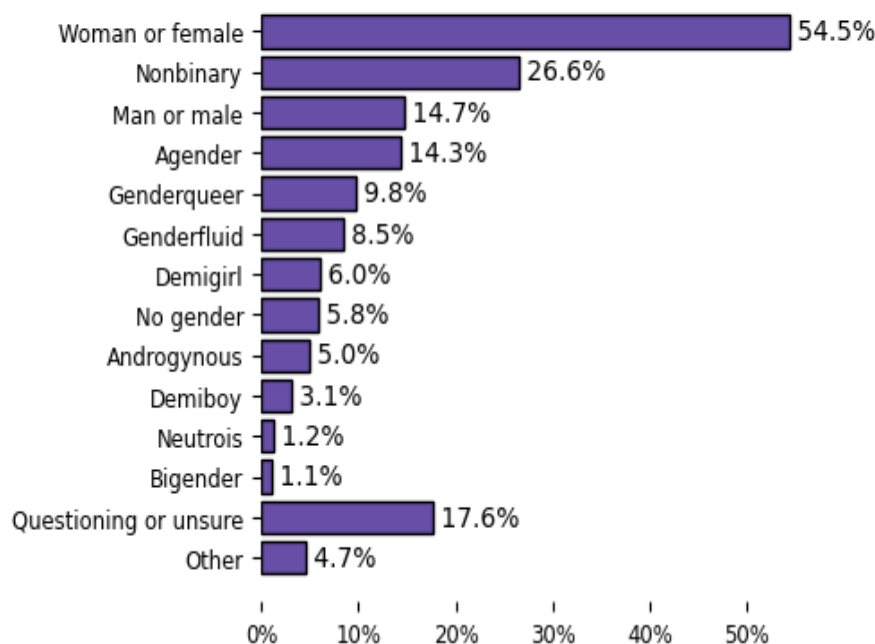
*Check all that apply.*

Respondents were asked to describe their gender identity by selecting as many labels that applied to them which included: woman or female, man or male, nonbinary, agender, androgynous, bigender, demigirl, demiboy, genderfluid, genderqueer, neutrois, no gender, questioning or unsure, and the option to write in their own answer.

About half of ace respondents identified as woman or female (54.5%) while a quarter identified as nonbinary (26.6%). Additionally, 14.7% identified as man or male, 14.3% as agender, 9.8% as genderqueer, 8.5% as genderfluid, 6.0% as demigirl, 5.8% indicated they had no gender, 5.0% identified as androgynous, 3.1% as demiboy, 1.2% as neutrois, and 1.1% as bigender. A further 17.6% of aces were questioning or unsure of their gender while 4.7% selected “Other” or wrote in a different answer.

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

Aces 2021, N=11,537

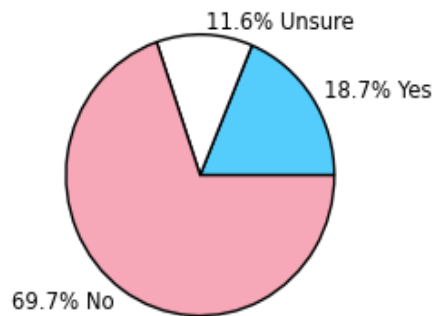


## Do you identify as transgender?

More than one in six ace respondents (18.7%) identified as transgender. More than half of respondents (69.7%) did not identify as transgender and 11.6% were unsure.

### Do you identify as transgender?

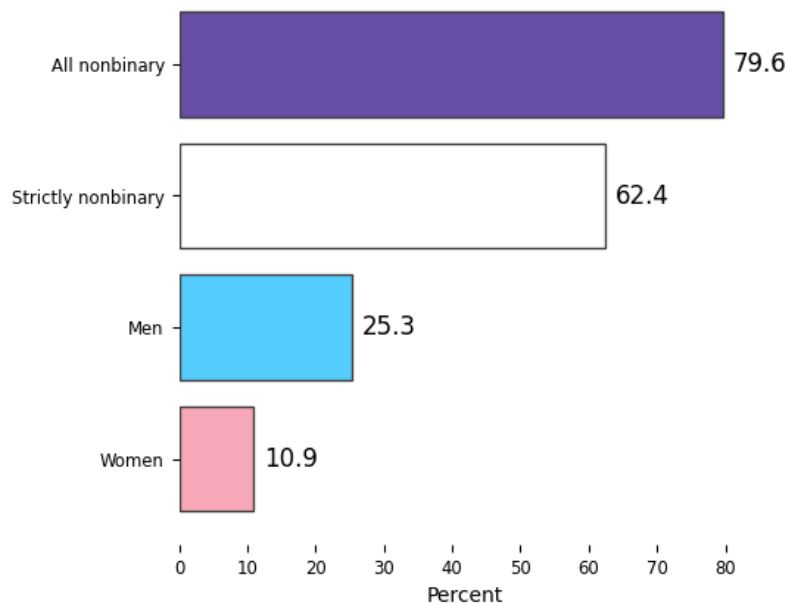
Aces 2021, N=11,425



The following bar chart gives an overview of gender identities of transgender ace respondents and includes respondents who answered “Yes” to the previous question about transgender identity. Among them, 79.6% also identified as nonbinary, which includes respondents who identified as man/male or woman/female, in addition to nonbinary genders. Three in five (62.4%) identified with nonbinary genders only, while a quarter (25.3%) identified as transgender men and one in ten (10.9%) identified as transgender women.

### Transgender aces by gender

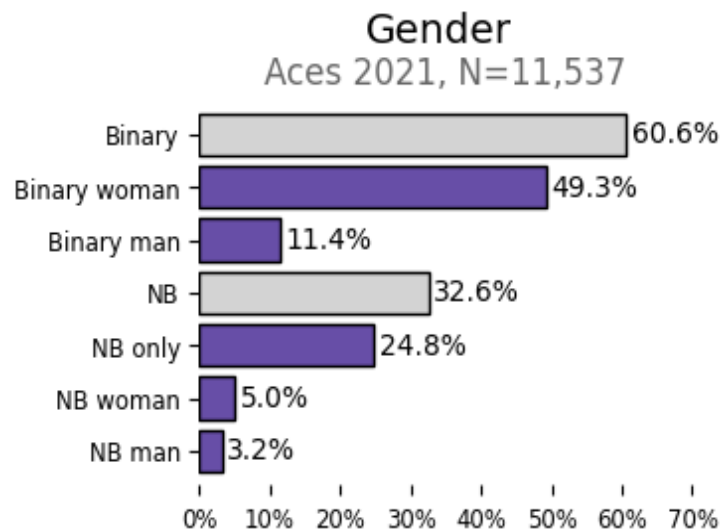
(2021, %, N=2,135)





## Do you identify as nonbinary or consider yourself to be part of the nonbinary umbrella?

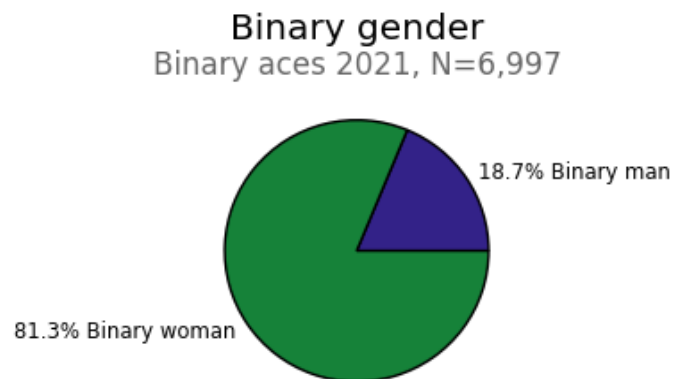
Six out of ten ace respondents (60.6%) identified with a binary gender, with 49.3% of the total identifying as binary women and 11.4% as binary men. A third of the ace respondents (32.6%) identified as nonbinary (NB), with a quarter (24.8%) identifying with nonbinary genders only, 5.0% with nonbinary genders in addition to woman/female (nonbinary women), and 3.2% with nonbinary genders in addition to man/male (nonbinary men).



The following heatmap examines the intersection of nonbinary and transgender identities among all aces. A relative majority of aces (47.5%) identified as binary and not transgender. A further 15.0% identified as both nonbinary and transgender, while 12.7% were unsure if they identified as nonbinary but did not identify as transgender, 9.4% identified as nonbinary but not transgender, and 8.3% identified as nonbinary but were unsure if they were transgender. Only 0.4% who identified as binary were unsure if they were transgender.

Intersection of nonbinary and transgender identities (Aces, 2021, %) N=11,364	Transgender	Unsure if transgender	Not transgender
Nonbinary	15.0	8.3	9.4
Unsure if nonbinary	1.4	3.0	12.7
Binary	2.4	0.4	47.5

Examining the binary genders only, four out of five (81.3%) aces that fell under the gender binary identified as binary women and one out of five (18.7%) binary aces identified as binary men.



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?

Among the ace respondents, 0.6% indicated that they were intersex. Most (97.0%) were not intersex, while 2.4% were unsure.

Intersex? (2021, %)	Aces, N=11,488
Yes	0.6
Unsure	2.4
No	97.0

## Section 4: Relationships

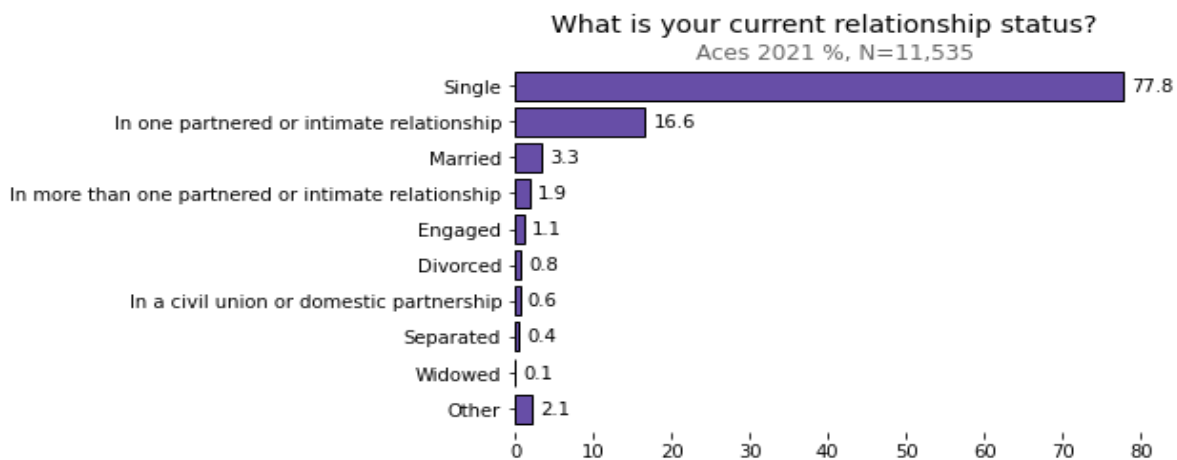
### 4.1 Relationship Approaches

#### What is your current relationship status?

*Check all that apply.*

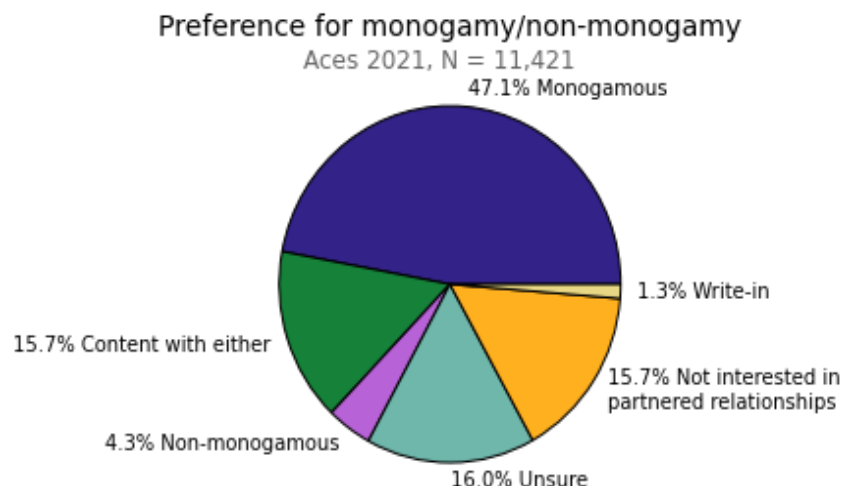
When asked about current relationship status, three out of four ace respondents (77.8%) replied that they were single. One out of six ace respondents (16.6%) were in one partnered or intimate relationship, while 1.9% were in more than one partnered or intimate relationship. Among ace respondents, 3.3% were married, 1.1% were engaged, and 0.6% were in a civil union or domestic partnership. Additionally, 0.8% were divorced, 0.4% were separated, and 0.1% were widowed. The remaining 2.1% wrote in their own answer and/or indicated that none of the given options described their relationship status well.

Some common write-in responses included people who said they could technically describe themselves as single but rejected the term or referred to themselves as solo or self-partnered; people who described platonic, cuddle, or kink relationships that they did not consider to be “partnered or intimate”; friends with benefits; people who were currently dating/crushing/forming new relationships; and people who were taking breaks from their relationships.

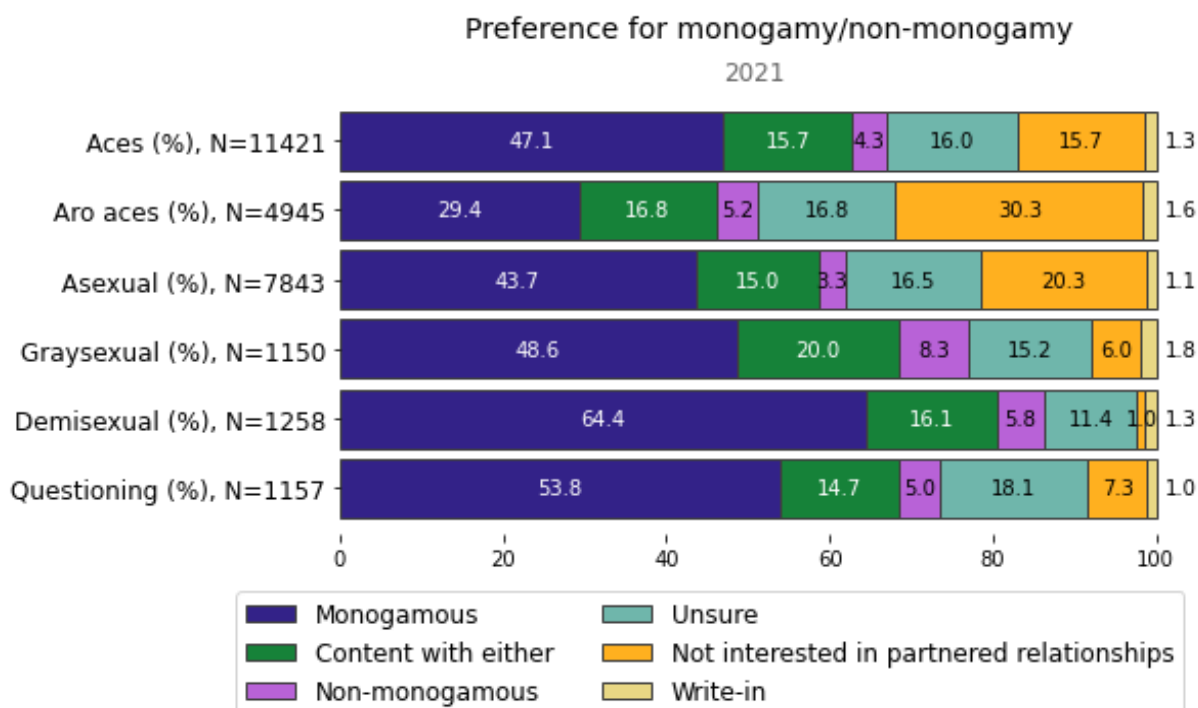


#### Which of the following \*best\* describes your preference for monogamy/ non-monogamy within partnered or intimate relationships?

Almost half of ace respondents (47.1%) reported a preference for monogamy, while less than one in twenty (4.3%) reported a preference for non-monogamy. However, 15.7% reported that they would be content with either monogamy or non-monogamy, while 16.0% were unsure and 1.3% wrote in a different response. Among those, some worth mentioning are: being content with either monogamy, non-monogamy, or being single; being monogamous while being fine with a non-monogamous partner; specific non-monogamy terms such as polyaffection, polyfidelity, and platonic non-monogamy; and preferring non-monogamy yet having to be in monogamous relationships because of different reasons such as culture, profession, taxes, etc. A further 15.7% reported that they were not interested in partnered relationships.



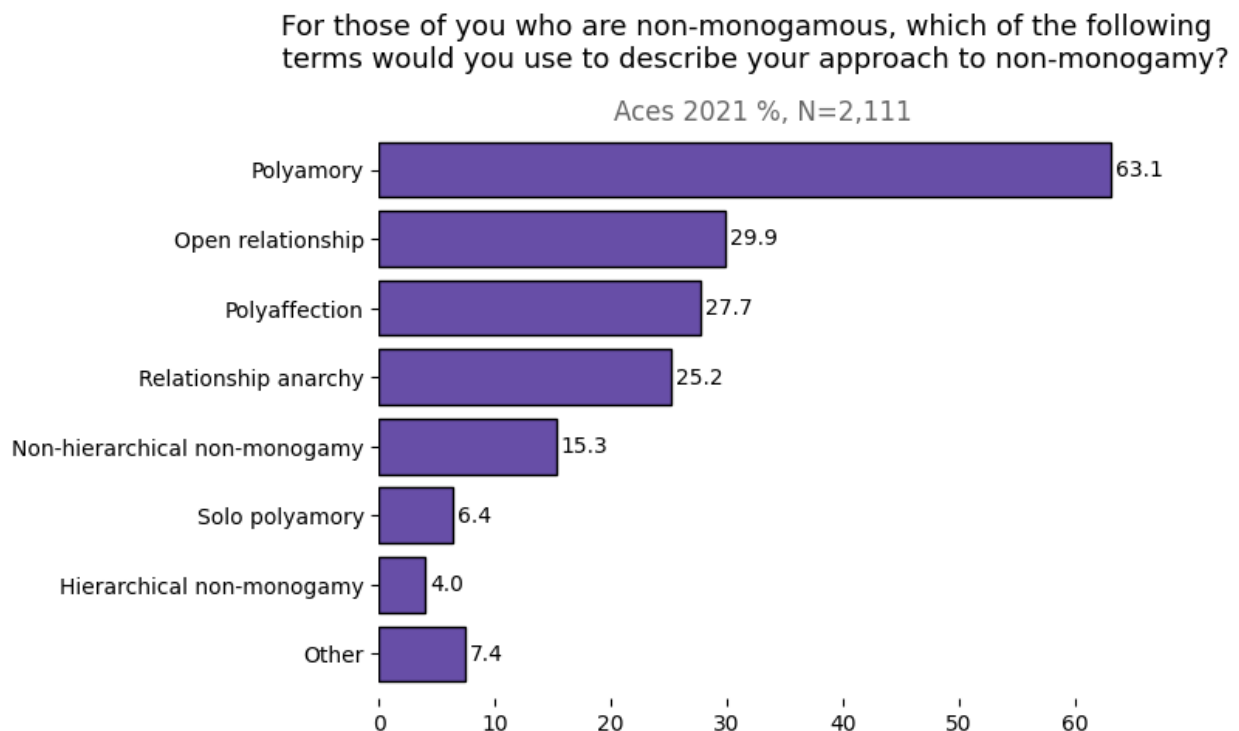
There was some variety in responses across different subcategories of ace participants. The number of aro ace respondents who were not interested in partnered relationships was nearly double (30.3%) that of the general ace population. Additionally, less than a third (29.4%) of aro ace respondents were interested in a monogamous relationship. Among demisexual respondents, 64.4% preferred a monogamous relationship, while only 1.0% were not interested in partnered relationships. A higher percentage of graysexual participants selected non-monogamy (8.3%) or reported being content with either monogamy or non-monogamy (20.0%). A higher percentage of questioning participants (18.1%) responded that they were unsure about which they preferred.



## For those of you who are non-monogamous, which of the following terms would you use to describe your approach to non-monogamy?

*If you are not non-monogamous, you may skip this question. Check all that apply.*

When asked about which terms they would use to describe their approaches to non-monogamy, the term “polyamory” was most common, used by almost two thirds of non-monogamous aces (63.1%). This was followed by the terms “open relationship” (29.9%), “polyaffection” (27.7%), and “relationship anarchy” (25.2%). To a lesser extent, aces also used terms such as “non-hierarchical non-monogamy” (15.3%), “solo polyamory” (6.4%), and “hierarchical non-monogamy” (4.0%). Write-ins were provided by 7.4% of aces; two common responses among them were people currently looking for a style of non-monogamy that suited them, and closed polyamory/polyfidelity.



## 4.2 Relationship History

Have you ever had a partnered or intimate relationship?

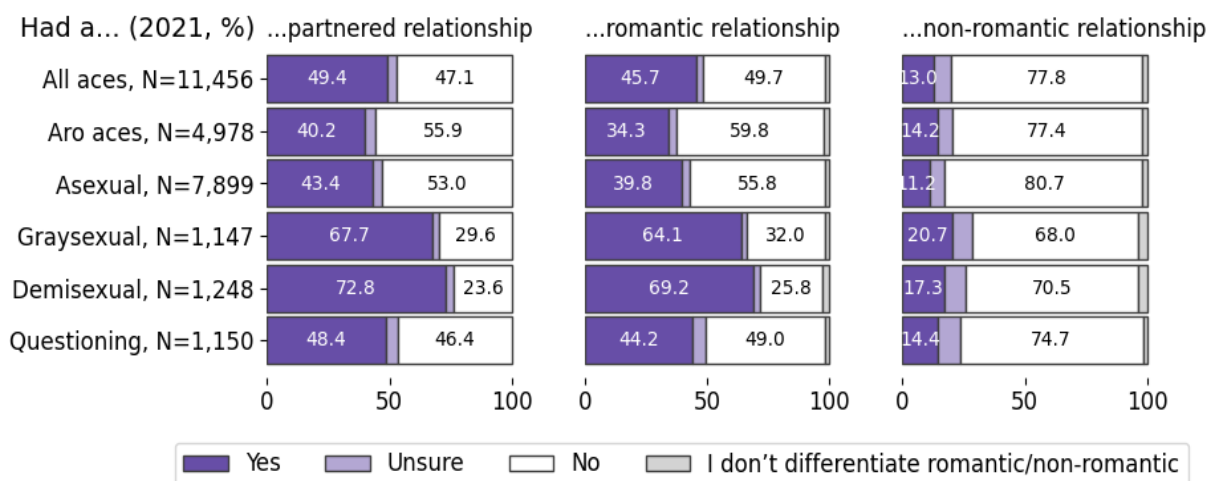
Have you ever had a partnered or intimate relationship that was romantic?

Have you ever had a partnered or intimate relationship that was non-romantic?

When asked whether they ever had a partnered or intimate relationship, regardless of its nature (romantic or non-romantic), nearly half of ace respondents (49.4%) answered that they had had one. The proportion of those who had had partnered or intimate relationships was greater among demisexual and graysexual respondents (72.8% and 67.7%, respectively). In contrast, the percentage of aro aces and asexual respondents who answered that they had not had a partnered or intimate relationship (55.9% and 53.0%, respectively) was greater than those who answered affirmatively (40.2% and 43.4%, respectively).

When asked about having had a partnered or intimate relationship that was romantic, the percentage of ace respondents who responded that they had had one (45.7%) was slightly lower when compared to their overall relationship history (49.4%). When examining the responses among ace respondents of different asexual spectrum identities, demisexual and graysexual respondents again had a larger percentage that answered that they had had romantic relationships (69.2% and 64.1%, respectively), compared to only 39.8% of asexual respondents. Among aro aces, about one third (34.3%) indicated they had had romantic relationship experience.

Non-romantic relationship history across different asexual spectrum identities followed a different pattern than romantic and general relationship history. Whereas the percentages of aro ace respondents who had general and romantic relationships were lower than all aces combined, a slightly greater proportion of aro ace respondents (14.2%) had at least one non-romantic relationship compared to all aces. Graysexuals most frequently reported they had had a non-romantic relationship (20.7%), while demisexuals had the second highest percentage (17.3%). This is different from general and romantic relationship history, where demisexuals had the most relationship experience (72.8% and 69.2%, respectively). Asexuals had the lowest proportion of respondents with non-romantic relationship experience (11.2%).

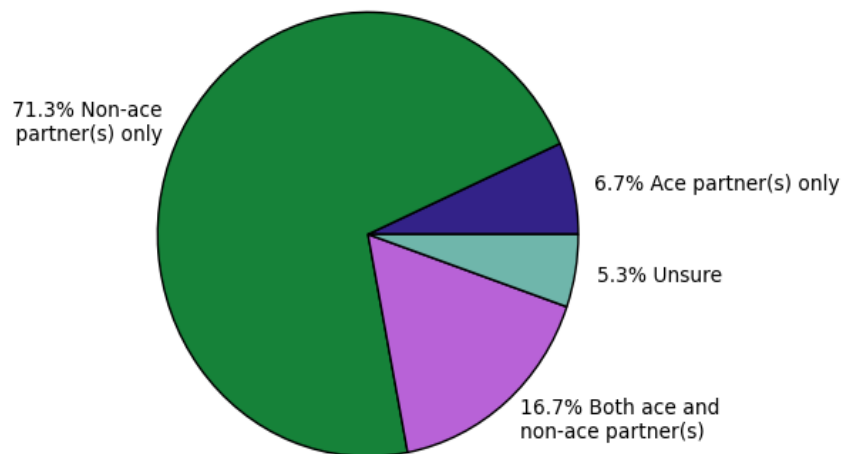


Tables that include responses from non-ace respondents and data underlying the above bar chart can be found in [Appendix III](#).

## Have you ever had any kind of partnered or intimate relationship with someone you know was...

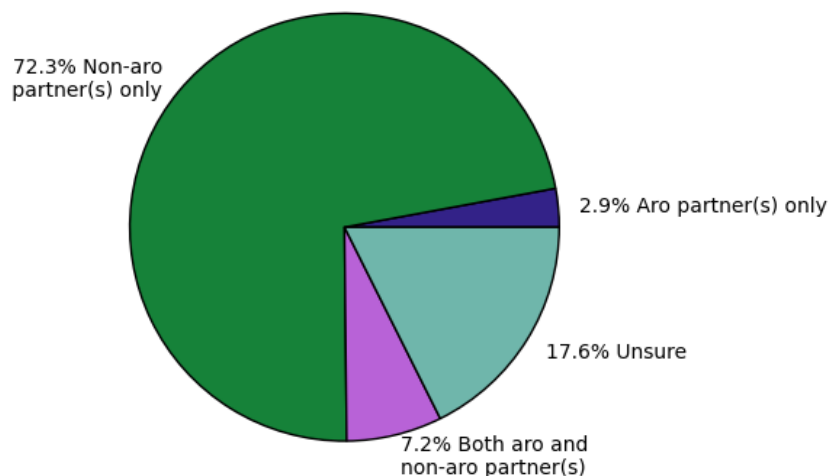
Of the ace respondents who had had a partnered or intimate relationship, 6.7% had been in a relationship with (an) ace partner(s) only and 16.7% had both ace and non-ace partner(s). The majority (71.3%) had (a) non-ace partner(s) only. Compared to results from 2020, there was a slight increase in the proportion of respondents who had only had relationships with ace partner(s), from 5.4% in 2020 (Hermann et al., 2022) to 6.7% in 2021.

Partner sexual orientation history  
Aces with relationship history 2021, N=5,537



When examining the romantic orientation of the partners that ace respondents had had partnered or intimate relationships with, the majority only had (a) non-aro partner(s) (72.3%), 7.2% had both aro and non-aro partner(s), and just 2.9% had (an) aro partner(s) only. Compared to the question regarding their partner's sexual orientation, a greater percentage of ace respondents answered that they were unsure (17.6%).

Partner romantic orientation history  
Aces with relationship history 2021, N=5,500



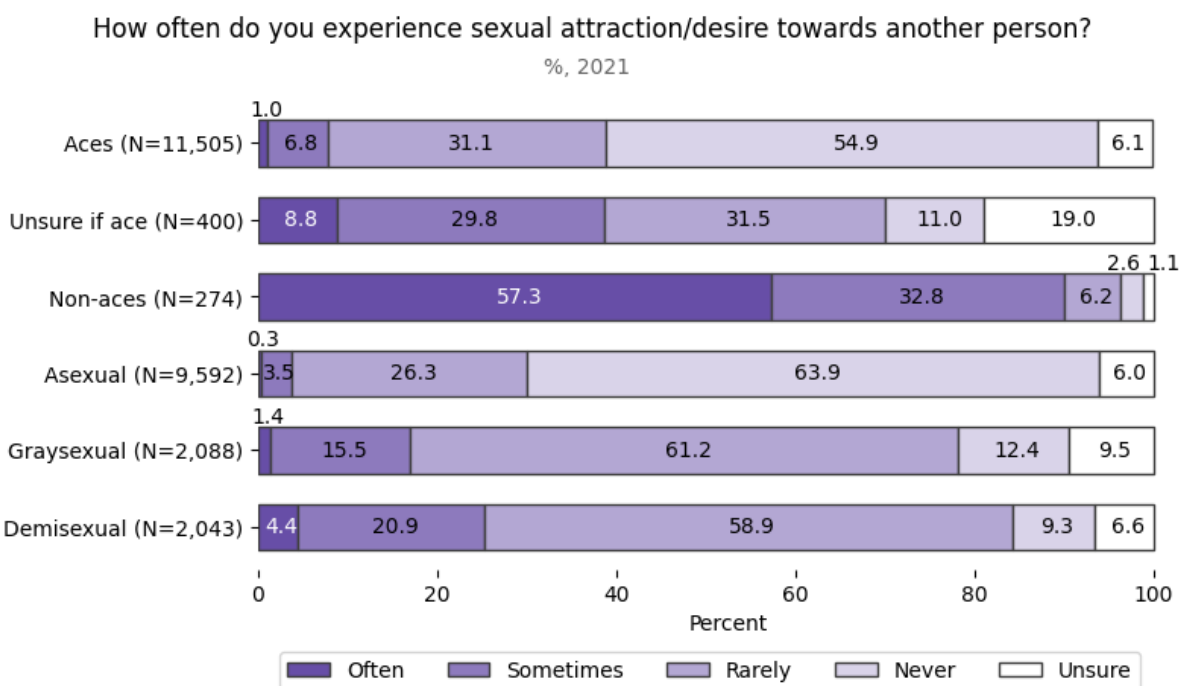
## Section 5: Sexual Attraction and Action

### 5.1 Attraction

#### How often do you experience sexual attraction/desire towards another person?

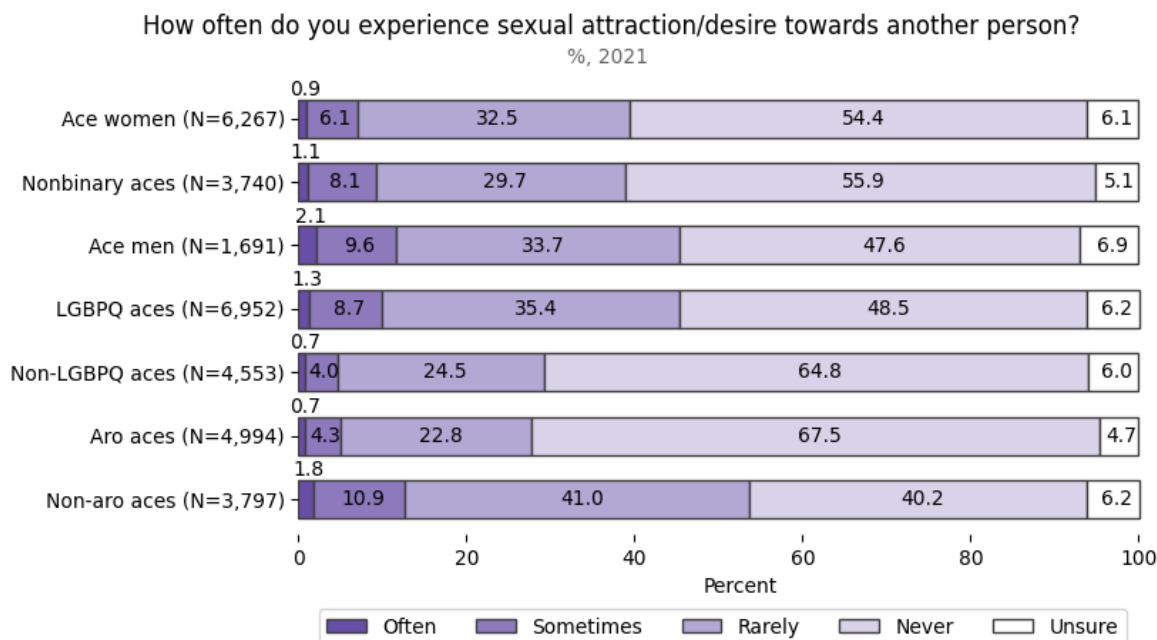
This question was a single-choice question. Respondents chose only one option between “Often,” “Sometimes,” “Rarely,” “Never,” and “Unsure.”

Overall, a small number of ace and respondents who were unsure if they were ace indicated that they often experienced sexual attraction. More than half of ace respondents never experienced sexual attraction (54.9%), and over 80% of this group experienced it rarely or not at all. While demisexual and graysexual respondents experienced sexual attraction more often than aces and asexuals, the majority of them only experienced it rarely. In contrast, most non-ace respondents often (57.3%) or sometimes (32.8%) felt sexual attraction.



The data was also broken down by romantic and sexual orientation identities, as well as by gender. While the majority of each identity still rarely or never experienced sexual attraction, there were some differences among these groups. Between genders, however, there was not much difference. Just below a half of ace men (45.5%) often, sometimes, or rarely experienced sexual attraction, which was slightly more frequent than ace women (39.5%) and nonbinary aces (38.9%). There was a more remarkable difference between LGBPQ and non-LGBPQ aces, where 45.4% of LGBPQ aces often, sometimes, or rarely experienced sexual attraction, compared to 29.2% of non-LGBPQ aces. Lastly, aro aces had the lowest percentage of respondents that experienced sexual attraction (27.8%), while the non-aros had the highest (53.7%). Among aces who experienced sexual attraction, the ratio of often to sometimes to rarely experiencing it was approximately the same for each ace subset.

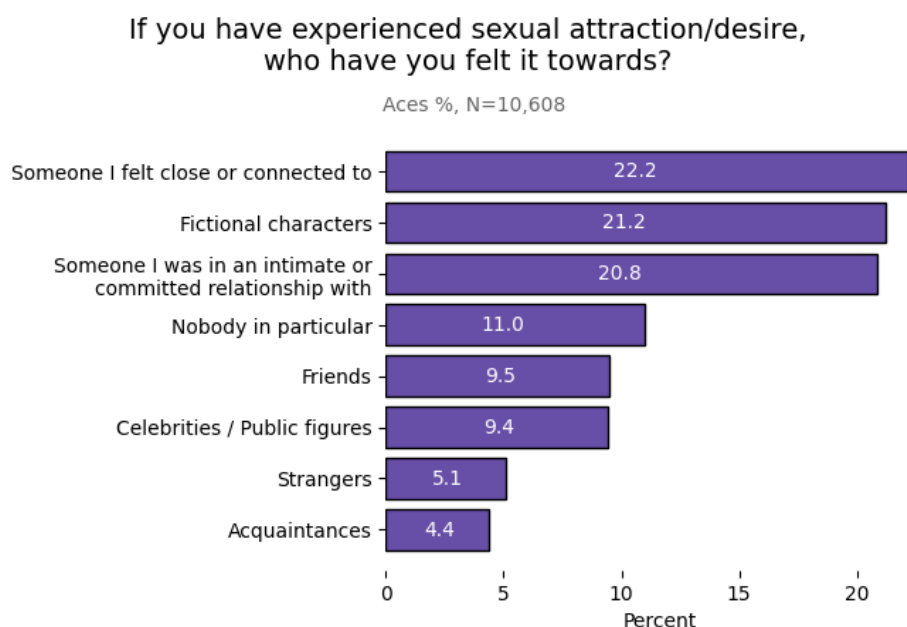




### If you have experienced sexual attraction/desire, who have you felt it towards?

*If you are not sure whether you experienced sexual attraction, you may skip the question or leave it blank. Check all that apply.*

This question was a checkbox question that allowed respondents to select all of whom they had experienced sexual attraction or desire toward. One in five ace respondents (22.2%) experienced sexual attraction towards someone they felt close to, towards a fictional character (21.2%), or towards someone they were in an intimate relationship with (20.8%). One in ten (11.0%) experienced this towards nobody in particular, towards friends (9.5%), or towards public figures (9.4%). Few aces experienced sexual attraction/desire towards strangers and/or acquaintances (4.4%).



When data was broken down by ace identity, demisexual, graysexual, and questioning respondents reported having experienced sexual attraction more often, especially toward people they felt close to, their intimate partner, or a fictional character. Asexual respondents were the group that reported having experienced the least sexual attraction toward anyone, and fictional characters were the most frequent targets of their sexual attraction.

Around 15% of asexual respondents reported that they had experienced sexual attraction towards someone they were in an intimate relationship with or with someone they felt close or connected to, compared to nearly half of graysexual respondents (44.3% and 47.6%, respectively) and respondents who were unsure if they were ace (41.9% and 49.4%, respectively). Over half of demisexual respondents reported the same (57.1% and 64.0%, respectively). Additionally, about one third of graysexuals and demisexuals reported they had experienced sexual attraction towards fictional characters, compared to 18.2% of asexuals, who were the only ace spectrum group to fall below the ace average of 21.2%. Demisexuals reported more commonly than graysexuals that they experienced sexual attraction towards partners and friends, while graysexuals more commonly than demisexuals experienced attraction towards acquaintances, strangers, celebrities/public figures, fictional characters, and nobody in particular.

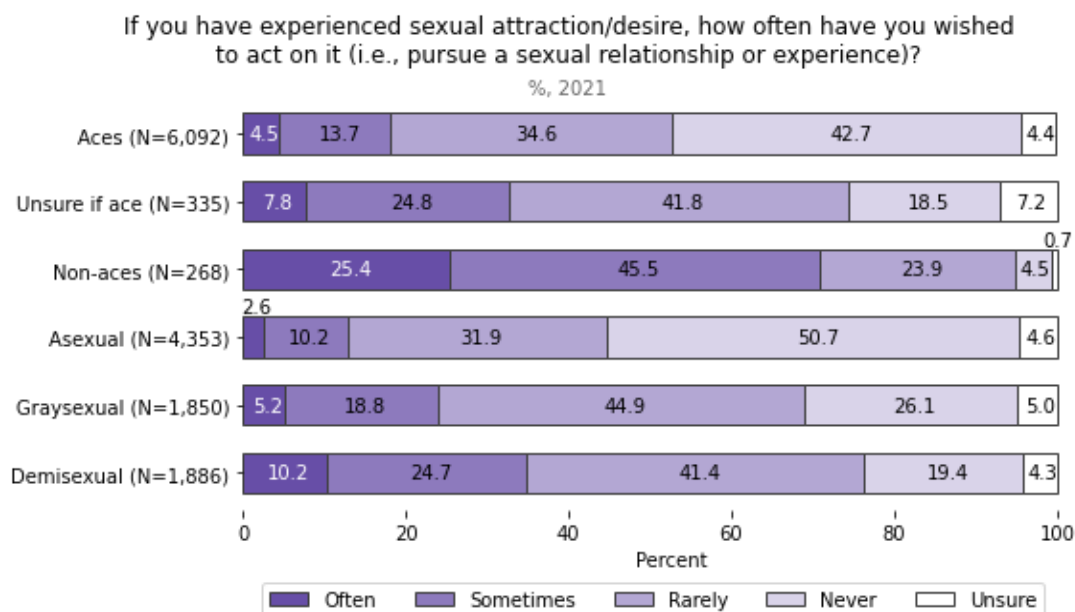
If you have experienced sexual attraction/desire, who have you felt it towards? (2021, %)	Aces, N=10,608	Unsure if ace, N=356	Asexual, N=8,758	Graysexual, N=1,970	Demisexual, N=1,985
Someone I was in an intimate or committed relationship with	20.8	41.9	15.0	44.3	57.1
Someone I felt close or connected to	22.2	49.4	15.2	47.6	64.0
Friends	9.5	33.1	6.1	21.7	24.5
Acquaintances	4.4	17.7	3.2	13.3	5.3
Strangers	5.1	18.8	4.1	13.7	4.6
Celebrities / Public figures	9.4	25.3	7.8	20.7	11.9
Fictional characters	21.2	42.7	18.2	37.1	31.9
Nobody in particular	11.0	11.0	11.5	12.9	7.1

### If you have experienced sexual attraction/desire, how often have you wished to act on it (i.e., pursue a sexual relationship or experience)?

This question was a single-choice question about the frequency at which respondents wished to act on their sexual attraction, if they did experience such feelings.

To look more closely at the ace community, the data was broken down to examine how often the respondent wished to act on their sexual attraction if they experienced it. For all ace identities, two out of five (42.7%) ace respondents never wished to act on their sexual desire, while most non-ace respondents often (25.4%) or sometimes (45.5%) wanted to act on their attraction. Additionally, a similar number of graysexual and demisexual respondents reported

rarely wishing to act on their sexual desire (44.9% and 41.4% respectively). Half (50.7%) of asexual respondents wished to never act on their sexual desire, which is the greatest percentage compared to every other identity.



## 5.2 Attitudes

### How strong is your sex drive/libido, typically?

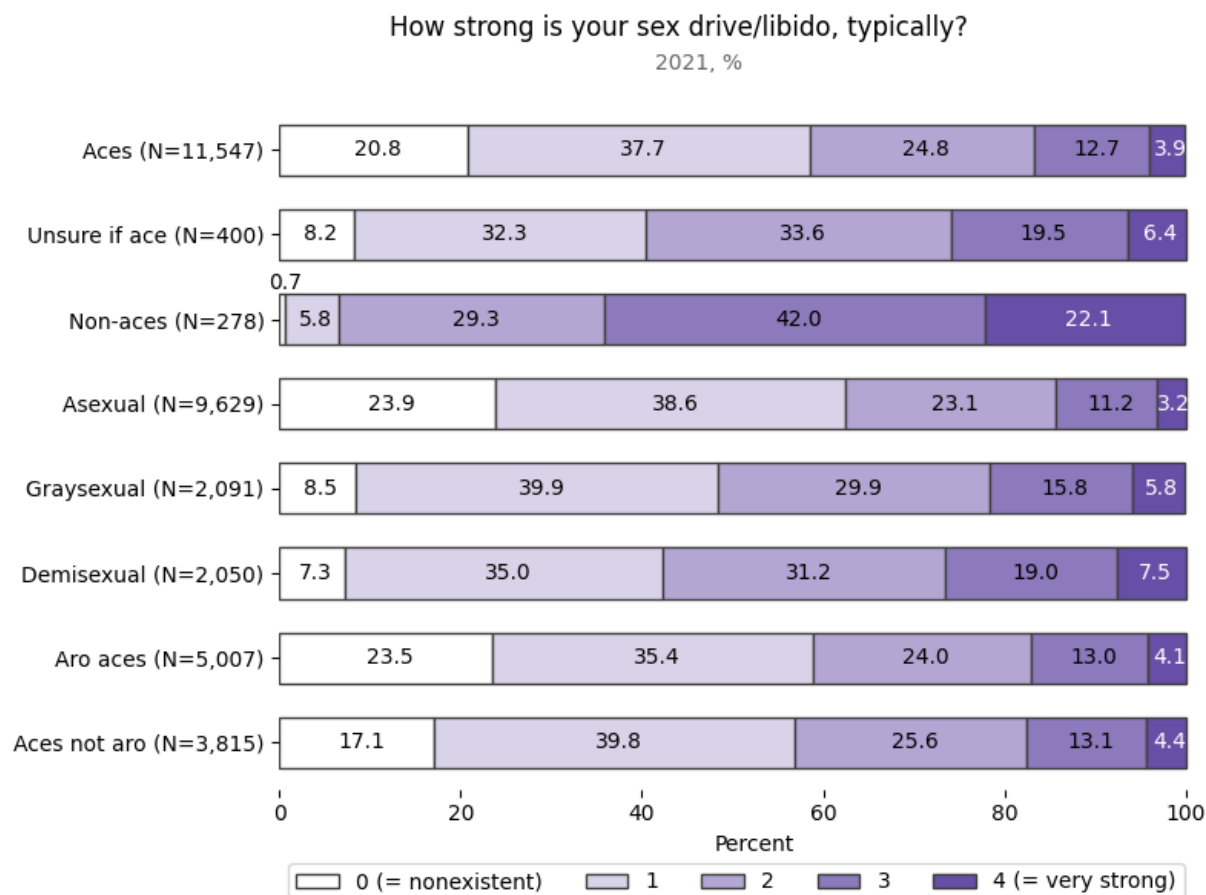
*Sex drive, or libido, refers to the drive to engage in some kind of sexual stimulation, whether through partnered sex or solo stimulation (e.g., masturbation).*

This question used a Likert scale for respondents to answer how strong their sex drive or libido was. The scale ranged from 0 to 4, with 0 labeled “nonexistent” and 4 labeled “very strong.” The following figure breaks down the responses into different ace and aro subsets. Overall, most ace respondents rated their sex drive or libido close to “nonexistent,” with a small percentage of participants rating their libido as “very strong.” A majority of respondents who were unsure if they were ace rated themselves between “nonexistent” and “very strong,” with one third of them rating themselves as a “2” (33.6%). Most non-ace respondents were closer to “very strong,” with two out of five choosing “4” (42.0%).

Asexuals had the highest number of participants choosing “nonexistent” (23.9%) and the lowest number choosing “very strong” (3.2%). Graysexuals and demisexuals had the most variability in their responses, with high numbers in between “nonexistent” and “very strong,” and nearly two in five choosing “1” (39.9% and 35.0%, respectively). Higher numbers (“2” or above) were selected more often by graysexuals (51.5%) and demisexuals (57.7%) when compared to 37.5% of asexuals.

The most common rating of sex drive/libido by both aro and non-aros was “1” (35.4% and 39.8%, respectively). There were similar frequencies by aro and non-aros, in selecting “2” (24.0% and 25.6%), “3” (13.0%, 13.1%) and “4” (4.1%, 4.4%). The greatest divergence was in the percentage of aros and non-aros who selected “0”

(23.5% and 17.1%, respectively). Overall, these similarities suggest that there were no major differences in libido specifically related to romantic orientation among ace respondents.



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

Examples of “sex” include intercourse, oral sex, anal sex, and manual stimulation by or of another person, etc. Check all that apply.

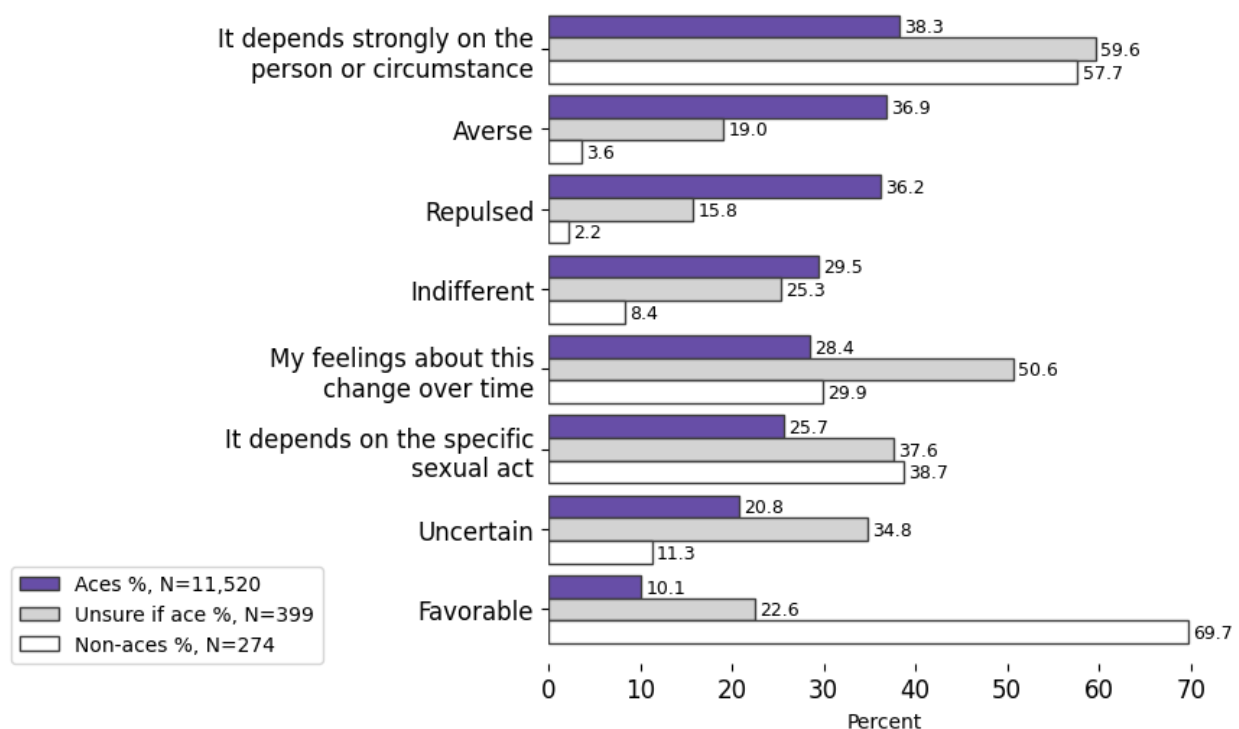
Ace individuals often use a set of common terms to describe their own attitudes when personally engaging in sex: sex-repulsed, sex-averse, sex-indifferent, and sex-favorable. While the definitions are not precise, this usage of terminology is important for aces to label their feelings toward sex in a personal context from their attitudes toward sex in a cultural sense. For example, “sex-repulsed” can mean that the individual dislikes or is repulsed by the idea of engaging in sexual activity and is usually uncomfortable interacting with sex as a concept, while “sex-averse” can mean that the individual feels repulsed or is not interested in participating in sexual activity, but is usually not bothered by the concept of sex in general. AVEN (n.d.) states that “asexual people may have an openly accepting attitude towards sex in society at large while not being open to sex themselves.” In other words, a person may have a sex-positive attitude when it comes to other people having consensual sex, but may feel sex-repulsed when it comes to personal participation.

This question was a checkbox-type question that allowed respondents to select multiple answers indicating how they felt about the idea of personally engaging in sex. Among aces, only

one in ten (10.1%) were favorable toward the idea of personally engaging in sex, which was the least commonly selected answer among aces, in contrast to nearly seven out of ten (69.7%) non-aces, who selected this answer most frequently. Overall, one third of ace respondents (38.3%) felt that the idea of them engaging in sex strongly depended on the person or circumstance, which was the answer selected most frequently by aces and those who were unsure if they were ace (59.6%) and the second most common answer among non-ace respondents (57.7%). Additionally, less than one third of ace respondents felt that their feelings would change over time (28.4%), which was less than respondents who were unsure (50.6%), but similar to non-aces (29.9%).

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

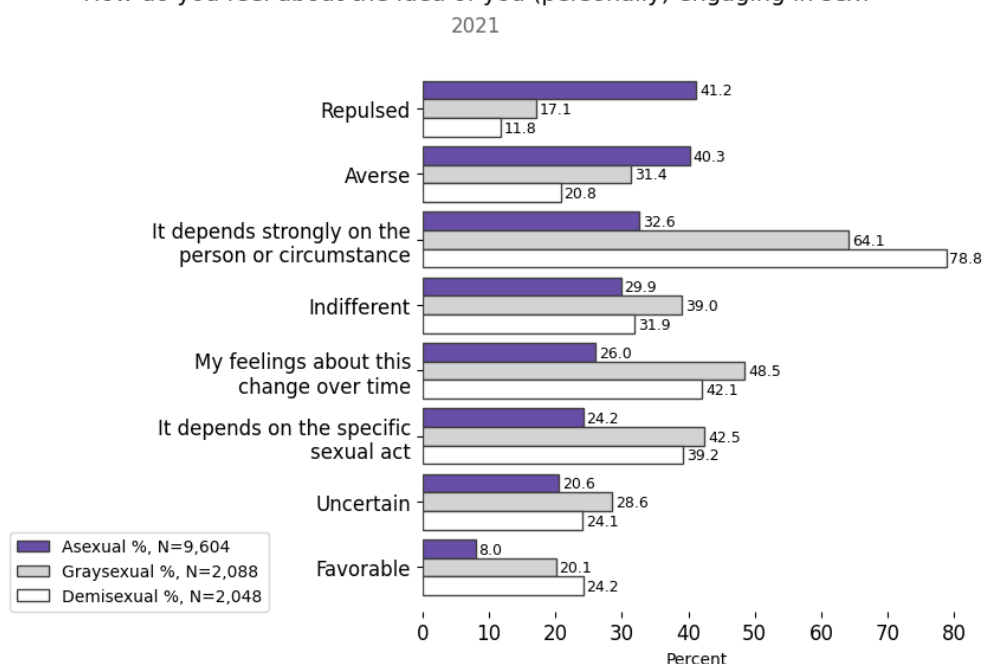
2021



The following figure breaks down the responses of this question by ace subsets of asexual, graysexual, or demisexual. Asexual respondents reported the highest frequencies of feeling sex repulsed (41.2%) or sex averse (40.3%), while demisexual respondents reported the lowest frequencies of repulsed (11.8%) or averse (20.8%). In contrast, less than one tenth (8.0%) of asexuals shared a favorable view of personally engaging in sex compared to graysexuals (20.1%) and demisexuals (24.2%).

A closer look at these respondents showed that, over three out of four (78.8%) demisexuals and two out of three (64.1%) graysexuals said that engaging in sex strongly depended on the person or circumstance, whereas only one third (32.6%) of asexuals felt the same. Additionally, a similar proportion of graysexual and demisexual respondents (48.5% and 42.1% respectively), and nearly one third of asexual respondents (26.0%) reported that their feelings changed over time.

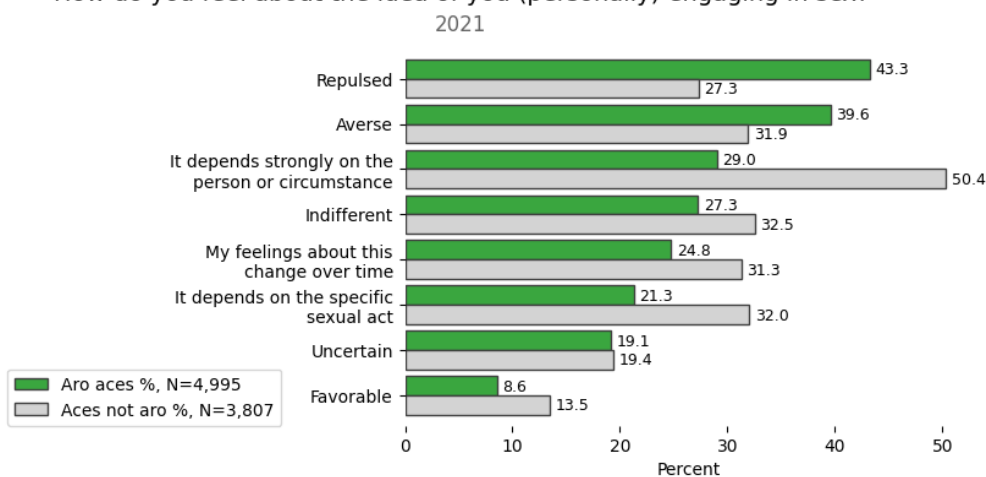
How do you feel about the idea of you (personally) engaging in sex?



The following figure further breaks down the responses by whether or not the ace respondents were aromantic or not. Half of ace respondents (50.4%) who were not aromantic and slightly less than one third (29.0%) of aro ace respondents reported that engaging in sex depended on the person or circumstance. Around one third (32.0%) of non-aromantic ace respondents and around one in five (21.3%) aro ace respondents reported that the idea of having sex depended on the specific sexual act.

Two out of five aro ace respondents (39.6%) and one third non-aromantic ace (31.9%) felt sex-averse, while both groups had a similar number of participants that felt uncertain (19.1% and 19.4%, respectively).

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



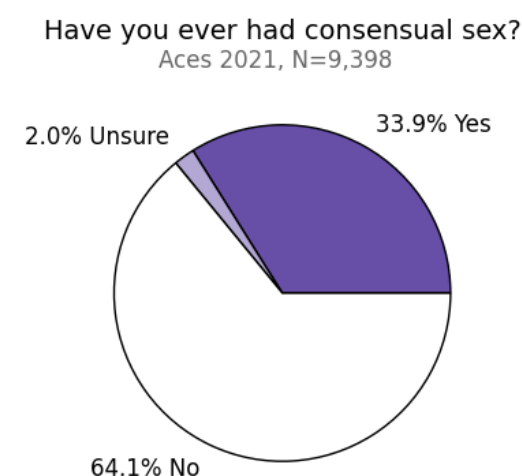
## 5.3 Sexual History

*The results in this section only include respondents who were willing to proceed with this section (81.6% of all ace respondents and 81.9% of all respondents). The survey questions in this section defined “sex” as including “vaginal, oral, or anal sex, or manual stimulation by or of another person.”*

### Have you ever had consensual sex?

This question was a single-choice question in which respondents answered whether they had had consensual sex. Respondents could respond “Yes,” “No,” or “Unsure.” If respondents responded “No,” they would skip this section and go straight to the next section.

The majority of ace respondents (64.1%) had never had consensual sex, while more than a third (33.9%) had. Only 2.0% of respondents answered “Unsure.” In contrast, over two thirds of non-ace respondents (71.3%) had had consensual sex, while less than a third of this sample (27.5%) had not.



Have you ever had consensual sex? (2021, %)	Yes	Unsure	No
Aces (N=9,398)	33.9	2.0	64.1
Non-Aces (N=251)	71.3	1.2	27.5

By your best estimate, how old were you at the EARLIEST time you had consensual sex?

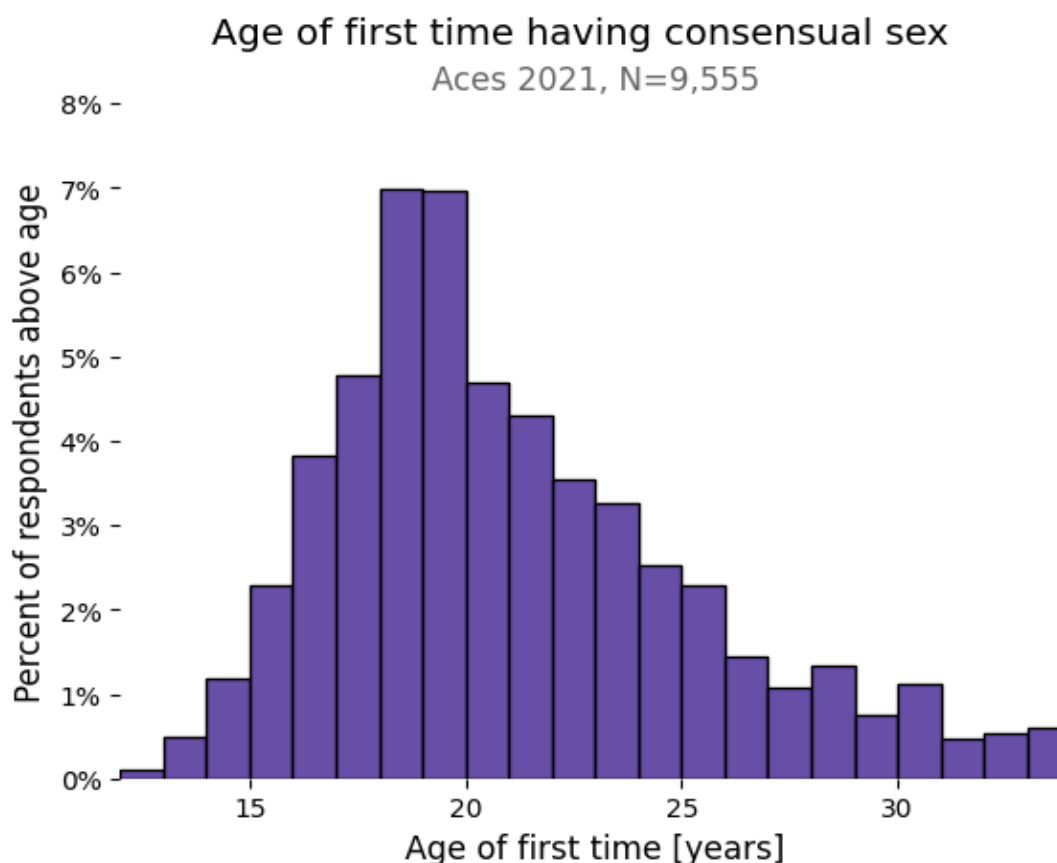
By your best estimate, how old were you at the MOST RECENT time you had consensual sex?

These questions were short answer questions where respondents wrote in the age at which they had consensual sex for the first time and the most recent time. Respondents could only write whole numbers in the answer box.

Across all sexual orientation subgroups, the median age of the respondents' first sexual encounter was around 18, indicating no major differences between ace spectrum identities. Notably, while non-ace respondents had generally had consensual sex within the last year, ace and questioning respondents had more typically had sex over two years before.

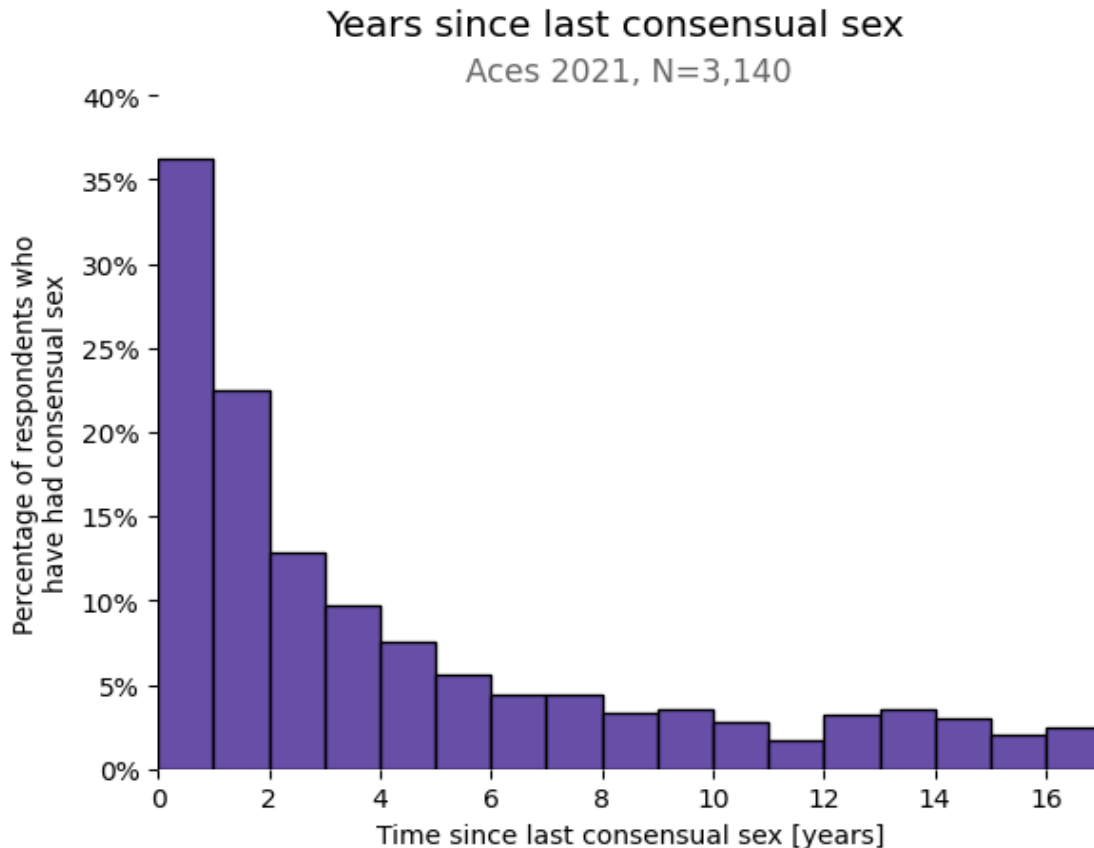
Sexual encounters among respondents who have had consensual sex (2021, years of age)	Median age of first consensual sexual encounter	Average age of first consensual sexual encounter	Average years since last consensual sexual encounter
Aces (N=3,140)	18.0	19.0	2.6
Asexual (N=2,241)	19.0	19.3	2.8
Demisexual (N=1,009)	18.0	19.1	2.0
Graysexual (N=998)	18.0	18.8	2.2
Questioning (N=351)	18.0	18.9	2.0
Not ace (N=164)	18.0	18.1	0.8

The next plot shows the percentage of respondents whose first time of having consensual sex was at a given age out of the number of respondents who were at least that age. At all ages, less than 10% of respondents had their first time of consensual sex among their same-age peers. The majority (around 7%) of participants had consensual sex for the first time around age 18 or 19. Before the age of 18, younger respondents had fewer first sexual encounters. After the age of 19, the percentage of respondents having first sexual encounters decreased gradually. Overall, the respondents of this survey skewed younger, meaning that a smaller sample size of older participants led to lower numbers on the right side of the chart. The plot does not account for the younger participants who may have sex at a later age in the future.





Among ace respondents who had had consensual sex (N=3,140), more than a third had had consensual sex within the previous year before taking the 2021 survey, and more than a fifth had had consensual sex one to two years before the survey. The rest of the respondents had had their most recent consensual sexual encounter three or more years before the point of data collection.



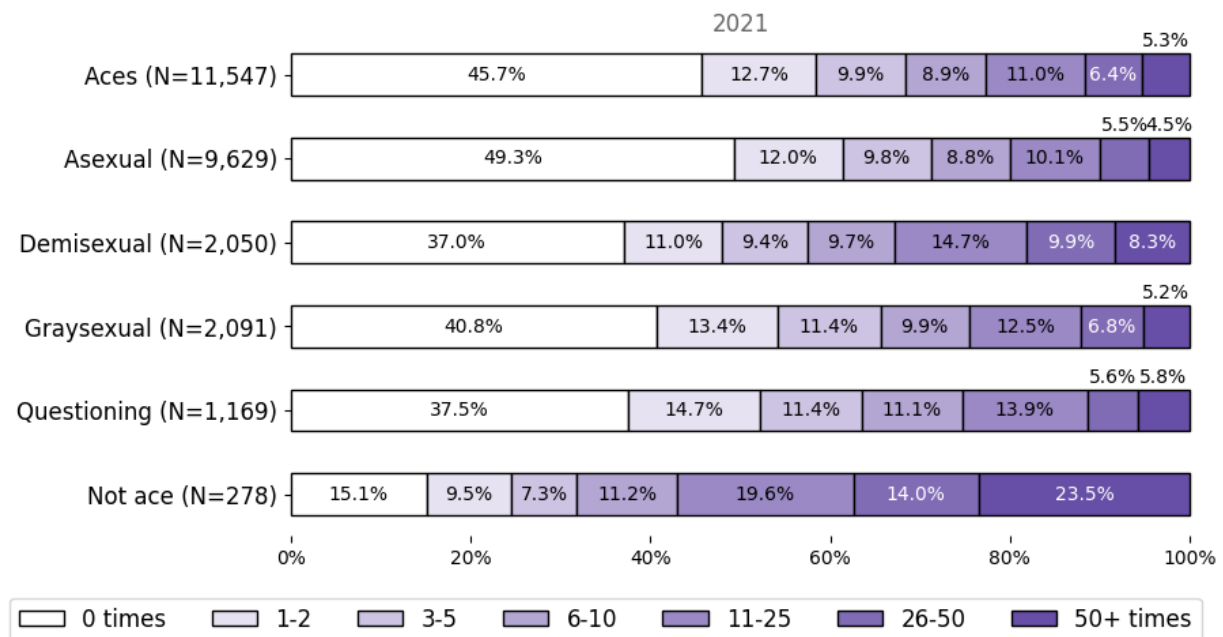
### How often have you engaged in consensual sexual activity in the past year?

This question was a single-choice question where respondents reported the number of times they engaged in consensual sex within the past year.

Across all ace spectrum subgroups, more than a third of respondents had not had any consensual sexual encounters within the past year. Non-ace respondents engaged in more consensual sexual activity than any ace spectrum subgroup, with only 15.1% not having had consensual sex at all within the year before. Generally, non-ace respondents consensually engaged in a greater number of sexual activities than ace respondents.

A closer look at the graph shows that asexual respondents engaged in the fewest consensual sexual activities within the past year, with nearly half (49.3%) of them not engaging in consensual sex at all. More than a third of both demisexual (37.0%) and questioning (37.5%) respondents had not had consensual sex in a year. However, for those who did engage in consensual activities, demisexual respondents engaged in consensual sexual activities more often, with almost 20% having consensual sex at least 26 times within the past year. This number was approximately 10% for ace, asexual, graysexual, and questioning respondents.

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



## Section 6: Discrimination

The following questions were intended to collect data for prevalence and impact of any discrimination experience respondents may have had relating to their sexual or romantic orientation. They were asked questions about their experiences with different forms of discrimination (social exclusion, verbal harassment, physical violence, among many others), and level of support (including difficulty in finding support) as they relate to their identities.

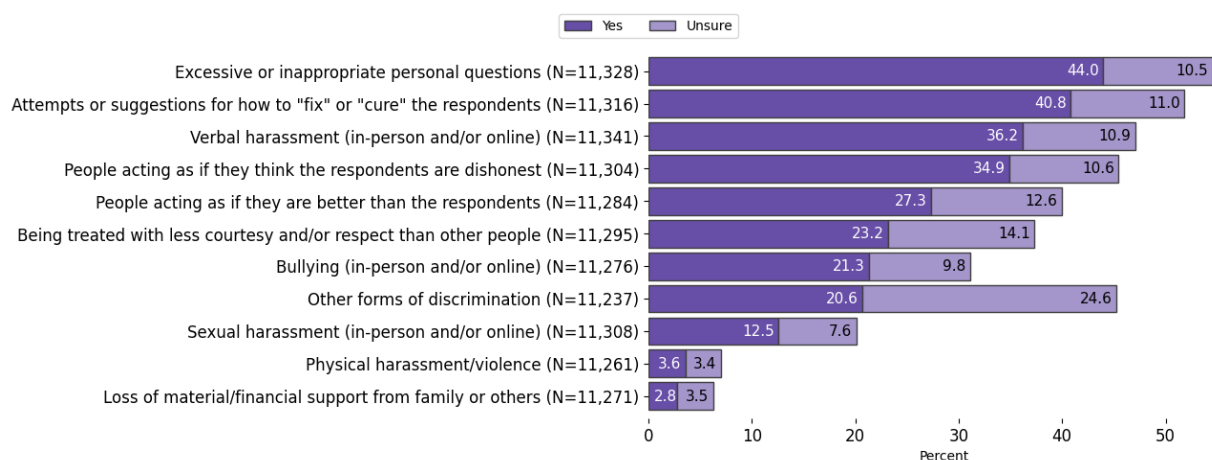
**Because of your sexual and/or romantic orientation, have you experienced any of the following?**

*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.*

The most common form of discrimination that ace respondents reported was excessive or inappropriate personal questions relating to their sexual and/or romantic orientation (44.0%). A further 10.5% were unsure if they had experienced this. Two out of five ace respondents (40.8%) also reported attempts or suggestions to “fix” or “cure” them (i.e., suggestions/attempts for conversion “therapy”), with a further 11.0% unsure if they had experienced this. A third of respondents reported verbal harassment, either in-person and/or online (36.2%) and others acting as if the respondents were dishonest (34.9%). Around a quarter of respondents reported other people acting superior (27.3%), being treated with less courtesy and/or respect (23.2%), and bullying (21.3%). One in eight ace respondents reported sexual harassment, either in-person or online (12.5%), while 3.6% reported physical harassment or violence and 2.8% experienced loss of material or financial support from others. One in five ace respondents reported other forms of discrimination (20.6%), while a further quarter (24.6%) were unsure if they had experienced these.

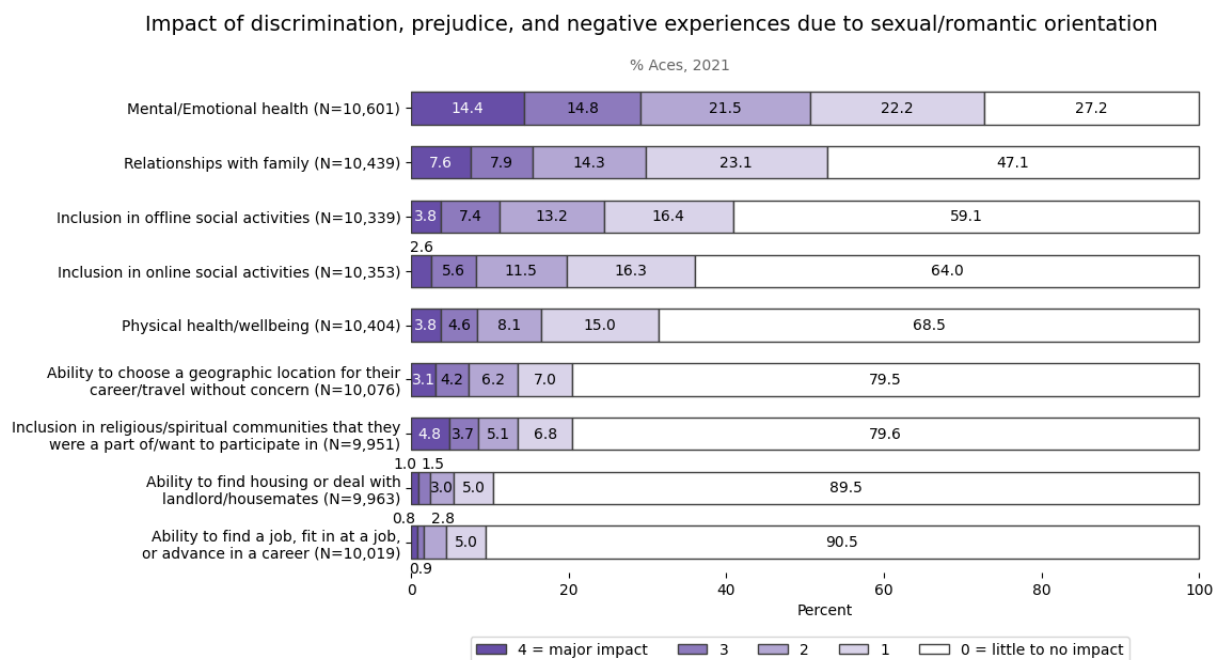
Because of your sexual and/or romantic orientation, have you experienced any of the following?

(% Aces, 2021)



## 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?

Three out of four ace respondents (72.8%) reported that discrimination, prejudice, and negative experiences relating to their sexual or romantic orientation had some impact on their mental or emotional health, with 14.4% reporting a major impact. Over half of ace respondents (52.9%) also reported that discrimination had impacted relationships with their family, with 7.6% reporting a major impact. Two out of five respondents (40.9%) saw an impact in their offline social activities, 36.0% reported an impact in online social activities, 31.5% saw an impact in their physical health and wellbeing, and 20.5% reported that discrimination, prejudice, and negative experiences affected their ability to choose a geographic location for their career/travel. A third of ace respondents (20.4%) reported an impact in inclusion in religious/spiritual communities that they were a part of or wanted to participate in, with 4.8% reporting a major impact. One in ten (10.5%) also noted an impact in their ability to find our deal with landlords or housemates, and 9.5% saw an impact in their ability to find a job, fit in at a job, or advance in their career. These rates are similar to those reported in the 2020 Ace Community Survey (Hermann et al., 2022).

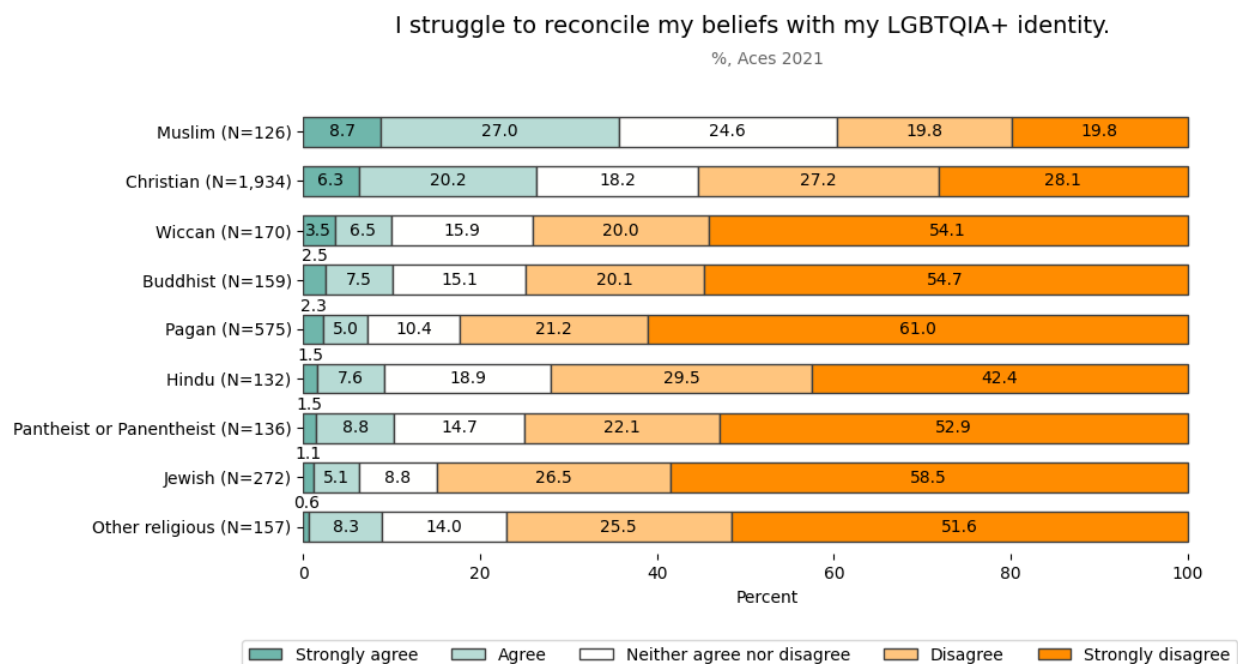


## I struggle to reconcile my beliefs with my LGBTQIA+ identity.

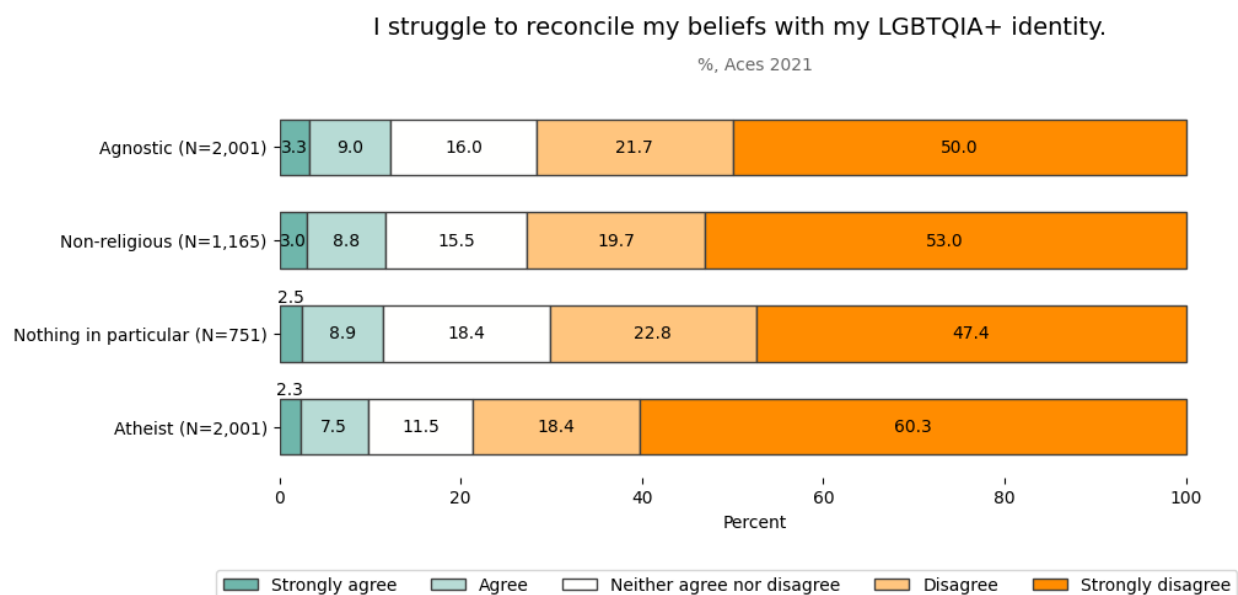
For each of the following statements related to your experience with religion, please indicate your level of agreement/disagreement.

When ace participants were asked whether they struggled to reconcile their religious beliefs with their LGBTQIA+ identity, over a third (35.7%) of Muslim respondents agreed (27.0%) or strongly agreed (8.7%), the highest of any religious demographic. Over a third (36.6%) strongly disagreed (19.8%) or disagreed (19.8%) with the statement. Christian participants responded similarly, with about a quarter (26.7%) strongly agreeing (6.5%) and 20.2% agreeing. Over half of Pagan (61.0%), Jewish (58.5%), Buddhist (54.7%), Wiccan (54.1%), and Pantheist (52.9%)

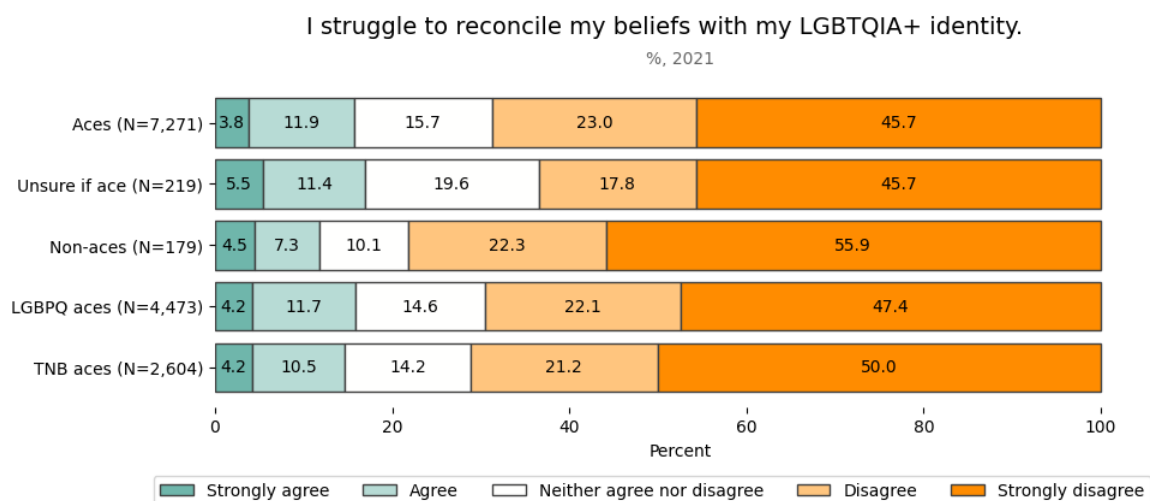
participants strongly disagreed that they struggled to reconcile religious beliefs with their identity. Of those who agreed or strongly agreed that they struggled to reconcile their beliefs and LGBTQIA+ identity, Jewish participants were the least common (6.2%), followed by Pagan participants (7.4%).



Among ace respondents without religious affiliations, a little over one in ten agreed or strongly agreed that they struggled to reconcile their beliefs with their LGBTQIA+ identity. Agnostic participants had the highest rate of agreeing (9.0%) or strongly agreeing (3.3%) with the statement, while atheists had the lowest rate (7.5% and 2.3%, respectively).



The majority of both ace and non-ace participants across different subgroups disagreed or strongly disagreed that they struggled to reconcile their beliefs with their LGBTQIA+ identity. Over half of those who were not ace disagreed (22.3%) or strongly disagreed (55.9%) with the statement. Only 7.3% of non-aces agreed and 4.5% strongly agreed with the statement, while one in ten (10.1%) neither agreed nor disagreed. Among aces, only 11.9% agreed that they struggled to reconcile their beliefs, and 3.8% strongly agreed. A similar proportion of those who were unsure if ace (11.4%) agreed, and slightly greater proportion of unsure if ace respondents strongly agreed (5.5%). Among TNB aces, 21.2% disagreed, while half (50.0%) strongly disagreed. Only 10.5% of TNB aces agreed, and 4.2% strongly agreed. Numbers among LGBPQ aces were similar, with 11.7% agreeing and 4.2% strongly agreeing. One out of five respondents who were unsure if they were ace neither agreed nor disagreed that they struggled to reconcile their beliefs (19.6%). These findings suggest that there are no major differences across ace and non-ace groups with regards to reconciling their beliefs with their LGBTQIA+ identity, and that the majority of respondents did not struggle with reconciling their beliefs.



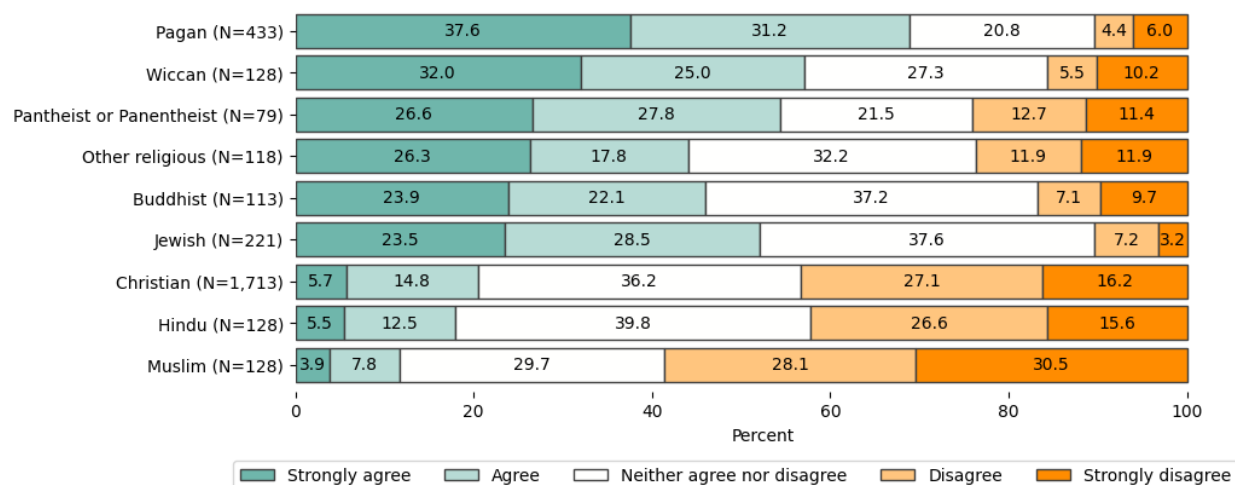
### My religious community accepts and supports my sexuality and/or gender identity.

When asked to indicate the level to which they agreed or disagreed that their religious community accepted and supported their sexuality and/or gender, the majority of Pagan ace respondents agreed (31.2%) or strongly agreed (37.6%), followed by those who were Wiccan (25.0% and 32.0%, respectively), Pantheist/Panentheist (27.8%, 26.6%), Jewish (28.5%, 23.5%), and Buddhist (22.1%, 23.9%).

Over half of Muslim participants disagreed (28.1%) or strongly disagreed (30.5%) that their religious community accepted and supported their sexuality and/or gender identity, followed by slightly less than half of Christian (27.1%, 16.2%) and Hindu (26.6%, 15.6%) who disagreed or strongly disagreed. Ace participants who neither agreed nor disagreed with the statement included about a third of Hindu (39.8%), Jewish (37.6%), Buddhist (37.2%), Christian (36.2%), and Muslim (29.7%) participants, and about a quarter of Wiccan (27.3%) and one in five Pantheist or Panentheist (21.5%) and Pagan (20.8%) participants. Among those who identified with other religions, a quarter strongly agreed (26.3%), a third neither agreed nor disagreed (32.2%), and one in ten strongly disagreed (11.9%).

## My religious community accepts and supports my sexuality and/or gender identity.

%, Aces 2021

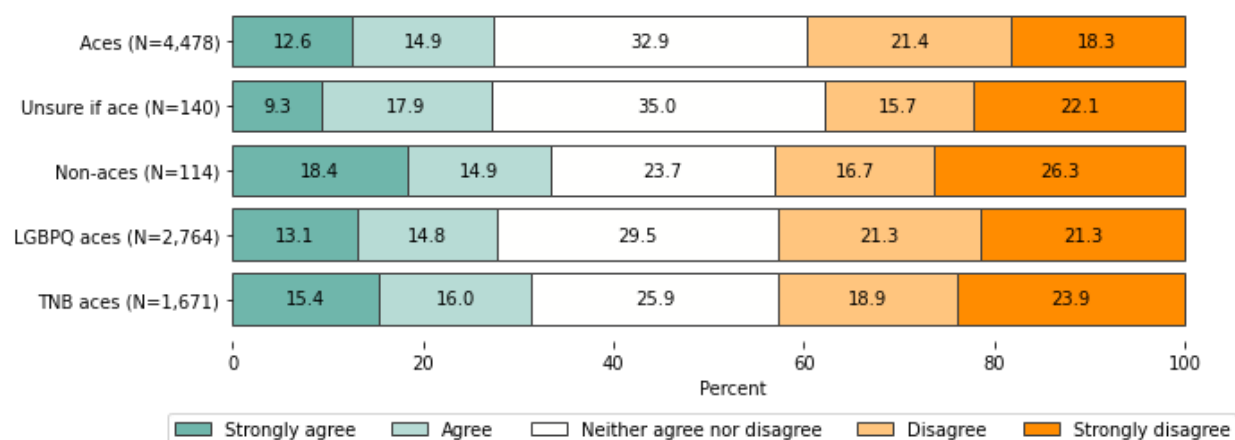


Among aces, over a quarter (27.5%) agreed or strongly agreed that their religious community accepted and supported their sexuality and/or gender identity. A third of both those who were ace (32.9%) and those who were unsure if they were ace (35.0%), neither agreed nor disagreed. Two out of five aces (39.7%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement, while a lower percentage of those who were unsure if they were ace disagreed or strongly disagreed (37.8%) with the statement than other populations.

These numbers were similar among LGBPQ aces, where over a quarter (27.9%) agreed or strongly agreed that their religious community accepted and supported their sexual and/or gender identity, while two fifths (42.6%) disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement. Among TNB aces, almost a third (31.4%) agreed or strongly agreed, while 42.8% disagreed or strongly disagreed.

## My religious community accepts and supports my sexuality and/or gender identity.

%, 2021



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# Appendix

## I. Countries of Residence (Full List)

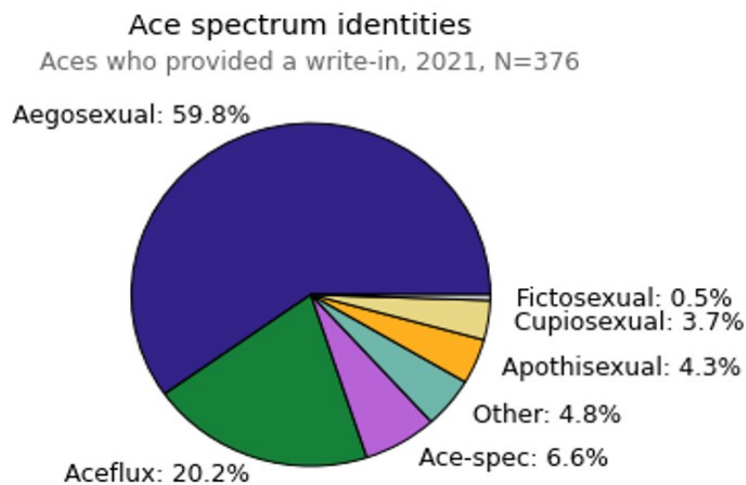
The table below includes the full list of countries of residence selected by aces in [Section 1.1](#).

Please select the country in which you live.	Aces 2021 (N=11,547)	Please select the country in which you live.	Aces 2021 (N=11,547)
United States of America	5,262	Norway	50
United Kingdom	1,192	Portugal	48
Germany	931	Philippines	38
Canada	736	Israel	38
Australia	432	Malaysia	35
Brazil	292	South Africa	34
Poland	251	Singapore	32
France	251	Hungary	31
Netherlands	237	Ukraine	30
Russia	191	Greece	27
India	179	Estonia	23
Italy	169	Romania	21
Spain	166	Japan	21
Argentina	123	Indonesia	19
Sweden	114	Hong Kong	19
New Zealand	112	Colombia	18
Finland	96	Slovakia	17
Mexico	90	Uruguay	16
Austria	84	Peru	16
Denmark	83	United Arab Emirates	16
Ireland	80	Croatia	16
Chile	71	South Korea	13
Switzerland	68	Venezuela	13
Turkey	66	Bulgaria	12
Belgium	57	Serbia	12
Czech Republic	57	Slovenia	12

Please select the country in which you live.	Aces 2021 (N=11,547)	Please select the country in which you live.	Aces 2021 (N=11,547)
Lithuania	10	Qatar	3
Pakistan	9	Honduras	3
Latvia	8	Iceland	3
Vietnam	8	Armenia	3
Taiwan	8	Tunisia	3
Puerto Rico	8	Panama	2
China	7	Uganda	2
Nepal	7	Bosnia and Herzegovina	2
Kenya	6	Trinidad and Tobago	2
Luxembourg	5	Bahrain	2
Ecuador	5	Aruba	2
Belarus	5	Grenada	2
Dominican Republic	5	Kazakhstan	2
Thailand	5	Iran	2
Malta	5	Albania	2
Jamaica	5	Georgia	2
Sri Lanka	4	Bolivia	2
Paraguay	4	Mongolia	1
Costa Rica	4	Zimbabwe	1
Moldova	4	Nicaragua	1
Lebanon	4	Myanmar	1
Cyprus	4	Cambodia	1
Bangladesh	4	Botswana	1
Egypt	4	Jersey	1
Bahamas	3	El Salvador	1
Brunei	3	Kuwait	1
Morocco	3	Guatemala	1
Nigeria	3	Maldives	1
Macedonia	3	Zambia	1

## II. Ace Identity Write-ins

The pie chart below is a representation of what individual respondents wrote into the survey to describe their ace spectrum identity in [Section 2](#). Six in ten write-ins were “aegosexual” (59.8%) and a fifth were “aceflux” (20.2%). Of the remainder, 6.6% wrote “ace-spec,” 4.3% wrote “apothisexual,” 3.7% wrote “cupiosexual,” and 0.5% wrote “fictosexual.” An additional 4.8% wrote something else.



### III. Relationship History

The tables below include the responses of non-aces, and also include the data underlying the bar charts in [Section 4.2](#). The number of all aces (N=11,456) were lower than the number of aces when compared with non-aces in the following tables, because the responses were limited to individuals who answered all three questions regarding partnered/intimate relationship in this section.

When asked about having ever had a partnered or intimate relationship, nearly half of the ace respondents (49.6%) answered that they had had one. Nearly as many of the ace respondents (46.8%) answered that they had not had a partnered or intimate relationship, while 3.6% were unsure. In contrast to the ace respondents, about three-quarters of the non-ace respondents (76.8%) answered that they had had a partnered or intimate relationship, while 18.8% answered that they had not had one.

Have you ever had a partnered or intimate relationship? (2021, %)	Yes	Unsure	No
Aces (N=11,513)	49.6	3.6	46.8
Non-Aces (N=276)	76.8	4.3	18.8

The proportion of respondents who were unsure if they ever had a partnered or intimate relationship remained relatively the same across different asexual spectrum identities (3.6% of all aces, 3.9% of aro aces, 3.6% of asexuals, and 3.5% of demisexual). Fewer graysexuals reported unsure (2.6%), and there were more questioning respondents who were unsure (5.1%).

Had a partnered/intimate relationship (2021, %)	Yes	Unsure	No
All aces (N=11,456)	49.4	3.6	47.1
Aro aces (N=4,978)	40.2	3.9	55.9
Asexual (N=7,899)	43.4	3.6	53.0
Graysexual (N=1,147)	67.7	2.6	29.6
Demisexual (N=1,248)	72.8	3.5	23.6
Questioning (N=1,150)	48.4	5.1	46.4

When asked about having ever had a partnered or intimate relationship that was romantic, non-aces again indicated more frequently that they had a romantic relationship experience (72.2%) than aces (45.8%). The proportion of both ace respondents and non-ace respondents who answered that they were unsure were similar (2.8% and 3.2%, respectively). There were about twice as many non-ace respondents (4.0%) than ace respondents (1.8%) who did not differentiate between romantic and non-romantic relationships.

Have you ever had a partnered or intimate relationship that was romantic? (2021, %)	Yes	Unsure	No	I don't differentiate between romantic and non-romantic relationships
Aces (N=11,524)	45.8	2.8	49.5	1.8
Non-Aces (N=277)	72.2	3.2	20.6	4.0

Similar to the responses to the question regarding general partnered or intimate relationships, the graysexual group again had the lowest proportion of respondents who answered “Unsure” (1.9%), and the questioning group had the highest proportion (5.2%). Across all subgroups, the proportion of respondents who did not differentiate between romantic and non-romantic relationships were similar, ranging between 1.6% and 2.8%.

Had a romantic relationship (2021, %)	Yes	Unsure	No	I don't differentiate romantic/non-romantic
All aces (N=11,456)	45.7	2.8	49.7	1.8
Aro aces (N=4,978)	34.3	3.4	59.8	2.5
Asexual (N=7,899)	39.8	2.9	55.8	1.6
Graysexual (N=1,147)	64.1	1.9	32.0	2.0
Demisexual (N=1,248)	69.2	2.2	25.8	2.8
Questioning (N=1,150)	44.2	5.2	49.0	1.7

When asked about non-romantic relationships, non-aces more commonly reported experience with non-romantic relationships (30.9%) than aces (13.1%). However, there were fewer aces and non-aces who responded “Yes” to having had a non-romantic relationship than those who had any or romantic partnered or intimate relationship, with 77.8% of aces and 53.6% of non-aces responding that they had not had a non-romantic partnered or intimate relationship. There was also an increase in the proportion of both ace and non-ace respondents who answered that they were unsure or did not differentiate between romantic and non-romantic relationships.

Have you ever had a partnered or intimate relationship that was non-romantic? (2021, %)	Yes	Unsure	No	I don't differentiate between romantic and non-romantic relationships
Aces (N=11,493)	13.1	6.9	77.8	2.3
Non-Aces (N=278)	30.9	9.0	53.6	6.5

Across different subgroups, there was an increase in the percentage of respondents who answered that they were unsure about having had a non-romantic relationship when compared to romantic relationships. Although graysexuals were the least unsure about their general and romantic relationship experience, 7.8% of graysexual respondents selected “Unsure,” compared to 6.8% of all aces, 6.0% of aro aces, and 7.8% of asexual respondents who were also unsure. An even greater proportion of demisexual and questioning respondents were unsure about their non-romantic relationship experience (8.3% and 9.0%, respectively). There was also a greater percentage of those who did not differentiate between romantic and non-romantic relationships, ranging between 1.8% and 3.8%, with the exception of aro aces, where a smaller percentage of respondents did not differentiate between the two.

Had a non-romantic relationship (2021, %)	Yes	Unsure	No	I don't differentiate romantic/non-romantic
All aces (N=11,456)	13.0	6.8	77.8	2.3
Aro aces (N=4,978)	14.2	6.0	77.4	2.3
Asexual (N=7,899)	11.2	6.2	80.7	1.9
Graysexual (N=1,147)	20.7	7.8	68.0	3.5
Demisexual (N=1,248)	17.3	8.3	70.5	3.8
Questioning (N=1,150)	14.4	9.0	74.7	1.8