Study: Vulnerabilities related to COVID-19 among LGBTQ2+ Canadians

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Today, a new study using data from the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (2018), examines perceptions of financial and housing insecurity among LGBTQ2+ Canadians. The Public Health Agency of Canada has identified those facing economic barriers, and those with insecure, inadequate or nonexistent housing as particularly vulnerable populations during the COVID-19 pandemic. This release finds that a larger proportion of LGBTQ2+ Canadians faced economic and housing insecurity prior to the pandemic, and could be more susceptible to facing such insecurity in the context of the pandemic.

Results show that in 2018, just over one-quarter of LGBTQ2+ people (27%) reported previous experiences of homelessness (which includes living in a shelter; temporarily having to live with family, friends, or anywhere else because they had nowhere else to live; or having to live somewhere other than their home because they were leaving an abusive or violent situation)—more than twice the proportion in the non-LGBTQ2+ population (13%). Moreover, one-third of LGBTQ2+ Canadians (33%) found it difficult or very difficult to meet their needs in terms of paying for transportation, housing, food, clothing and participation in some social activities and other necessary expenses, compared with 27% among non-LGBTQ2+ Canadians.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5256.

For more details, readers are invited to consult "Vulnerabilities related to COVID-19 among LGBTQ2+ Canadians," part of the *StatCan COVID-19: Data to Insights for a Better Canada* series (**45280001**).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; **STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca**) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; **STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca**).

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