

Welcome to the 2011 TgR Survey

What is the TgR survey?

This survey takes a snapshot of the gender diverse population in Australia and New Zealand in 2011. It was designed and created by TransGender Radio (www.tgr.net.au)

Participation is strictly anonymous and is being offered only to the 700+ validated members of TgR.

The aims of the survey are to better understand the diversity of our gender diverse community, increase awareness of our community's needs, and identify significant issues of concern.

The survey consists of 8 sections which explore:

- The demographics of our community
- The way we express our true gender identity
- The history of our gender journey
- Our acceptance in society
- The problems we encounter
- Other organisations
- TgR and the internet
- Our hopes for the coming year

How will this survey be reported?

After the survey responses have been collected a report will be prepared for circulation to voluntary and government organisations in Australia.

The report will not include any information that refers to any individual. It will also be made publicly available on the TgR website.

Access to the raw data may be provided to bona fide researchers who are able to provide assurances of that it will be maintained confidential and copyright.

TgR's commitment to protect your privacy

This survey is completely anonymous. Your answers will not be associated with any information that could trace back to your TgR membership.

There are a number of opportunities in the survey to write additional comments.

To ensure your anonymity, particularly if you are from a small community, please be careful not to include any detail that may offer clues about your identity.

Do I have to answer all the questions?

The survey contains about 40 questions, most are optional. You may not be presented with all the questions - depending on the answers you give. The survey should take less than 30 mins to complete (depending how many questions are appropriate for you to answer). You can leave the survey at any time you wish and restart from where you left off.

If you are short of time, you are encouraged to answer the first question in each section - that's just 8 questions!

It is appreciated that you may not wish to share some particular items of information. This is very much understood. Partially completed survey responses are better than no response at all! However please answer as many questions as you can, because the more you contribute, the more representative and accurate the survey results will be.

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Section 1

Demographics

To analyse the results of the survey we do need to know a bit about you first.

Of course, we don't want you to record anything that reveals your identity.

So, in this first section of the survey we are seeking some minimal baseline information about you.

We request that everyone completes the first question below:

Q1 What physical sex was recorded on your Birth Certificate when you were born?

Please choose only one of the following:

- Male
- Female
- Intersex / Ambiguous

All the following questions are optional, so if you consider your answer might divulge something private or confidential then just skip to the next question. But please do answer as many of the demographic questions as you can.

Q2 What is your age?

Please choose only one of the following:

- Under 18
- 18 - 24
- 25 - 44
- 45 - 64
- 65 and over

Q3 What is your current employment status?

- Please choose only one of the following:
- Employed full-time
- Employed part-time
- Casually Employed
- Student / Full-time study
- Unemployed
- Retired / Pensioner
- Home duties / Homemaker
- Full time carer
- Other (describe briefly)

By employment we mean something you do for wages, salary, or in kind. Do not include any voluntary work you do here.

Q4 What is your current relationship status?

Please choose only one of the following:

- Married (legal)
- De facto or in permant relationship
- Divorced, separated or single
- Other

Q5 Do you live alone?

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Please choose only one of the following:

- Yes
- No

Q6 What state / country do you live in?

Please choose only one of the following:

- NSW
- VIC
- ACT
- TAS
- SA
- WA
- NT
- QLD
- New Zealand
- Other

Q7 Have you had children?

Please choose only one of the following:

- Yes
- No

Q7A Please tell us about your children. How many have you had and what was their assigned sex at birth?

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

None 1 2 3 4 5 or more

Male (at birth)

Female (at birth)

Intersex / Ambiguous

Section 2

Your gender expression

In this section we explore your true gender identity and ask you to tell us how you express it in your life.

By true gender identity we mean the way you feel inside about your gender - not necessarily your current physical sex.

We request that everyone completes the question below.

Q8 What do you feel is your true gender identity?

Note that by true gender identity we mean the way you feel inside about your gender - not necessarily your current physical sex or gender. This definition is used throughout this survey.

For guidance on this question see the help below.

Please choose only one of the following:

- male
- male (with some female aspects)
- neither male nor female
- female (with some male aspects)
- female

To illustrate what is meant by true gender and how it is not related to sexual preference the following examples may help understand the options offered above. But they are only intended as examples - please answer this question as you feel is right for you.

Male: "I'm a man inside. I have a heterosexual preference for women"

Male: "I'm a man inside, but to be honest I prefer men for my friends, in fact I have a steady boyfriend"

Male with some female aspects: "I'm a happily married man and feel comfortable as a man most of the time, but sometimes I feel the need to explore a softer, emotional, empathetic side to my personality and I put on a dress"

Neither male nor female: "To be honest inside I feel as if I am both male and female. I can present as a man or a woman but don't feel totally comfortable with either. I have close relationships with both men and women".

Female with some male aspects: "I'm a woman inside, but sometimes there is a bit of me that is male that I need to express -perhaps I'm just a bit of a tomboy as I like going to watch the footy"

Female: "I'm a woman inside. I'm totally comfortable living as a woman. I have a steady girlfriend."

All the following questions are optional, so if you consider your answer might divulge something private or confidential then just skip to the next question. But please do answer as many of the questions as you can.

Q9 Who knows, or has known, of your true gender identity?

Please choose all that apply:

- No one else
- Partner(s)
- All of my children
- Some of my children
- Parent(s)
- Relative(s)
- All of my friends

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- Some of my friends
- Neighbour(s)
- Work colleague(s)
- GP

Q10 At the moment, how often do you express your true gender identity in private, and in public?

There are two parts to this question. In the first column we are asking how frequently you express your true gender identity in private (that is in your home or a friends home)

In the second column please tell us how frequently you present in your true gender identity in public, that is, outside your home.

Answer this question with reference to the true gender identity you indicated above.

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

	In PRIVATE	In PUBLIC
Never		
Once a year or less		
Several times a year		
Several times a month		
Several times a week		
Most of the time		
All of the time		

Note that this question is not asking , for instance, how often you dress in a way associated with someone of the opposite physical sex.

What we are interested in knowing is how often you present to friends and associates in a way that reflects the way you feel inside.

Q10A Is there some specific occasion when you do not currently present in public as your true gender identity - such as when working, or visiting relatives?

If so please describe briefly below.

Q11 What changes (if any) have you experienced as a result of presenting as gender diverse in public?

Please choose all that apply:

- A loss of friends
- A gain of new friends
- An increase in social activity
- A decrease in social activity
- Other:

Q12 How do you feel about being part of the gender diverse community?

By gender diverse we mean people who have a true gender identity that does not completely match the physical sex they were assigned at birth.

Please choose only one of the following:

- I wish that I wasn't gender diverse and could live a 'normal' life like others
- I am happy that I know my true gender identity and can now live as I truly am
- Knowing I am gender diverse doesn't make much difference to me
- I don't consider myself gender diverse

Section 3

Your gender journey

This section of the survey explores your gender journey so far.

All the questions below are optional, but we do encourage everyone to answer the first question.

If you consider your answer might divulge something private or confidential then just skip to the next question. But please do answer as many of the questions as you can.

Q13 When did you first become aware that you were 'different' from others, in a way that now you associate with your gender diversity?

Please choose only one of the following:

- for as long as I can remember
- as a child
- as a teenager
- when I was 20 to 39 years old
- when I was 40 to 60 years old
- when I was over 60

Q14 Do you have any blood relatives:

a) born male, who present with feminine attributes

OR

b) born female who present with male attributes?

Please choose only one of the following:

- No
- Yes (If yes please briefly describe)

A blood relative is one related by blood or origin (but not by marriage); especially someone you share an ancestor with.

Q15 To what degree does your appearance affect your feelings about your gender?

Please choose only one of the following:

- My physical appearance is not particularly important to me
- My physical appearance is of some importance to me
- My physical appearance is of significant importance to me

Q16 Have you ever taken anything (or applied anything) to assist with your perception of your true gender identity?

Please choose all that apply:

- Herbal supplements
- Prescription Hormones (self prescribed)
- Prescription Hormones (prescribed by a doctor)
- Other (please briefly describe):

Q17 Have you had surgery to align your physical appearance with your true gender identity?

Please choose all that apply:

- Cosmetic facial surgery
- Breast enhancement
- Sex Reassignment Surgery (SRS/GRS)
- Other (please briefly describe):

Section 4

Your acceptance in society

Now we consider how a gender diverse person is accepted in society at the present time.

All the questions below are optional, but we do encourage everyone to answer the first question.

If you consider your answer might divulge something private or confidential then just skip to the next question. But please do answer as many of the questions as you can.

Q18 Consider the gender diverse community and how it presents in society.

For each of the statements below please indicate if you agree or disagree
If you do not feel strongly one way or the other about the statement,
or if you feel you don't know enough about the issue to have an opinion
then select "No answer"

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

Agree Disagree

- a) The gender diverse community is generally accepted by society
- b) Organisations and groups should actively lobby on behalf of the gender diverse community to change the attitude of society
- c) Society should accept a gender diverse person as female even if they still have male genitals
- d) Gender diverse people should present as either male or female to gain acceptance in society
- e) We need an accepted and understood 'umbrella' label to describe everyone in the gender diverse community
- f) People who identify as transsexual (seeking sexual reassignment) are different and should not be grouped with other gender diverse people
- g) People who identify as intersex are different and should not be grouped with the gender diverse community
- h) People who identify only as gay/lesbian are different and should not be grouped with the gender diverse community

Q4A How does your current partner relate to your gender diversity?

Please choose only one of the following:

- My partner does not know
- My partner is openly hostile
- My partner is tolerant but unsupportive
- My partner is supportive

Q9A How well does your GP understand your needs as a gender diverse person?

Please choose only one of the following:

- I don't know
- My GP has little understanding of gender issues
- My GP has some understanding of gender issues
- My GP has good understanding of gender issues

Section 5

Your negative experiences this year

This section invites you to share any negative experiences you may have experienced as a result of being gender diverse in the past 12 months.

This survey is looking at the current state of the gender diverse community, so please do not describe in this section any experience you had over 12 months ago.

All the questions below are optional, but we do encourage everyone to answer the first question.

If you consider your answer might divulge something private or confidential then just skip to the next question. But please do answer as many of the questions as you can.

Q19 In the past 12 months have you had any negative experiences in society that you attribute to your gender diversity?

- Yes
- No

In this section only consider events that have occurred in the last 12 months.

Q19A In the past 12 months have you had any negative experiences with regard to your gender when accessing medical services?

- No
- Yes (Please briefly describe)

Q19B In the past 12 months have you had any negative experiences with regard to your gender when interacting with the police?

- No
- Yes (Please briefly describe)

Q19C In the past 12 months have you had any negative experiences with regard to your gender when interacting with government agencies (state or federal)?

- No
- Yes (Please briefly describe)

Q19D In the past 12 months have you had any negative experiences with regard to your gender when interacting with businesses and private companies?

- No
- Yes (Please briefly describe)

Q19E In the past 12 months have you had any negative experiences with regard to your gender in your workplace or in applying for work?

- No
- Yes (Please briefly describe)

Section 6

Our gender diverse community

In this section of the survey we look at support groups and organisations in our community.

All the questions below are optional, but we do encourage everyone to answer the first question.

If you consider your answer might divulge something private or confidential then just skip to the next question. But please do answer as many of the questions as you can.

Q20 Are you currently involved, or have you been involved in the past, with groups and organisations (other than TgR) that aim to serve the gender diverse community?

Please choose only one of the following:

- Yes
- No

Please do not include forums/chat rooms and other internet resources in your answer

Q20A Which of the following organisations/groups are you currently involved with, or have been involved in

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

Currently involved Was involved in the past

NSW Seahorse Society

NSW Gender Centre

ACT Canberra Transgender Network

ACT A Gender Agenda

SA Carrousel Club

SA Chameleons

WA Chameleon Society

QLD Freedom Gender Identity Association

QLD Seahorse Queensland

QLD Australian Transgender Support Association of QLD (ATSAQ)

VIC Seahorse Club of Victoria

NZ Agender New Zealand

NZ Gender Bridge

Other gender diverse organisation/group (please identify in the box below)

Please do not include forums/ chat rooms and other internet resources in your answer to this question.

Section 7

Our community on the internet

In this section of the survey we look at our community online and how it can be improved.

All the questions below are optional, but we do encourage everyone to answer the first question.

If you consider your answer might divulge something private or confidential then just skip to the next question. But please do answer as many of the questions as you can.

Q21 How long were you aware of the Tgr (formally Trannyradio) web site before you actually joined up?

Please choose only one of the following:

- I joined up straight away
- I joined within a year
- I joined within 3 years
- I joined 3 years or more after becoming aware of the site

Q22 Thinking of your current use of the TgR website, which of the following features do you use and which are valuable to you?

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

I use this and find it valuable I use this I do not use this feature

Forums

Chat Room

Photograph Albums

Personal Blogs

Emailing other members

Receiving emails from non-members

Event calendar

Reputation points

Q23 With regard to the TgR forums, how appropriate do you consider the current level of moderation to be?

Please choose only one of the following:

- Under moderated
- Moderated appropriately
- Over moderated

Q24 Do you publish a person blog (or personal website) of your gender diverse experiences on the internet? And if so, how often do you update it.

Note that this question includes blogs held on both TgR and external sites.

Please choose only one of the following:

- No, I don't maintain a blog or personal website
- Yes, I have a blog/website that I update irregularly
- Yes, I have a blog/website that I try to update regularly

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Q4B How well are the needs of your partner being addressed?

Please choose only one of the following:

- My partner does not have any needs that TgR can address
- My partner would like to seek support from other partners
- My partner has other needs that could be addressed by TgR (please describe)

Section 8

Your hopes for the coming year

The final section of the survey invites you to share your hopes and dreams for the next 12 months.

This survey is looking at the current state of the gender diverse community, so in this section we are asking what you hope will change before the next (2012) survey.

The following question is optional, but we do encourage everyone to answer it.

Q25 If you could have three wishes come true in the next 12 months what would they be?

Please write your answer(s) here:

Wish 1:

Wish 2:

Wish 3: