

Scotland's Census 2022 – Sexual orientation and trans status or history in Aberdeenshire

On 27 June 2024 data from the 2022 Census was published on [sexual orientation and trans status or history](#). This report highlights some of the main results for Aberdeenshire.

Questions on these topics were asked for the first time in 2022 so there is no comparable data from previous censuses. The questions asked were voluntary although most people did complete them. Unless otherwise stated, the percentages of people in each category given in this report are calculated using the overall population (aged 16 and over), not just those who answered the question.

The term “LGB+” is used to refer to the group of people who described their sexual orientation as “Gay or Lesbian”, “Bisexual” or “Other sexual orientation”. Transgender or trans people are those who identify with a gender which is not the same as their sex registered at birth, for example “transman”, “transwoman”, “non-binary”.

All data is available to download from [Scotland's Census website](#).

Sexual Orientation

In Aberdeenshire in 2022, 98% of people who answered this question identified as Heterosexual/Straight. LGB+ people made up 2% of Aberdeenshire's total population aged 16 and over, of whom 1,928 people (0.9%) identified as Gay or Lesbian, 1,914 (0.9%) as Bisexual and 597 (0.3%) as another sexual orientation. These proportions are lower than for Scotland with 4% LGB+, of whom 1.9% were Gay or Lesbian, 1.9% Bisexual and 0.6% Other.

Figure 1: Numbers of LGB+ people in Aberdeenshire, 2022

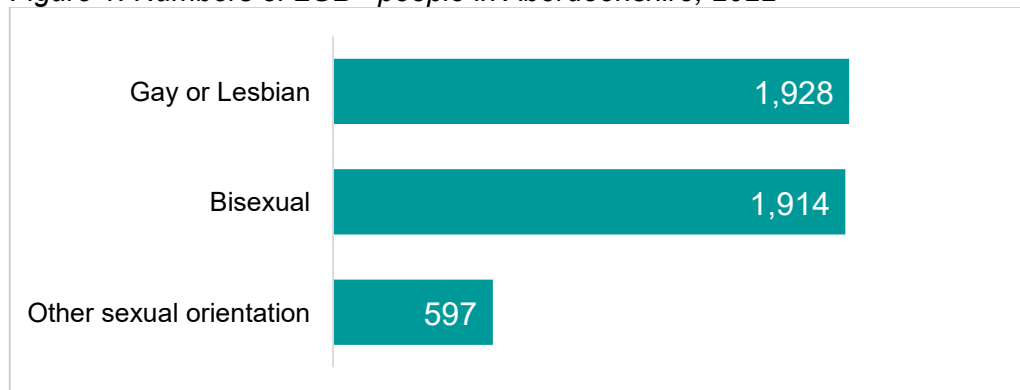


Figure 2 shows that there are more LGB+ people in younger age groups. 57% of the LGB+ population in Aberdeenshire are under 35. This compares with 52% for Scotland. In the 16-34 age group, more people identified as bisexual than gay/lesbian while the opposite was true for people aged 35 or over.

Figure 3 shows there was also a difference between men and women. More women (2,650) than men (1,792) identified as LGB+. Women were also more likely to identify as bisexual or another sexual orientation while more men identified as gay and again this is the same pattern as for Scotland as a whole.

Figure 2: Number of LGB+ people in Aberdeenshire by Age Group, 2022

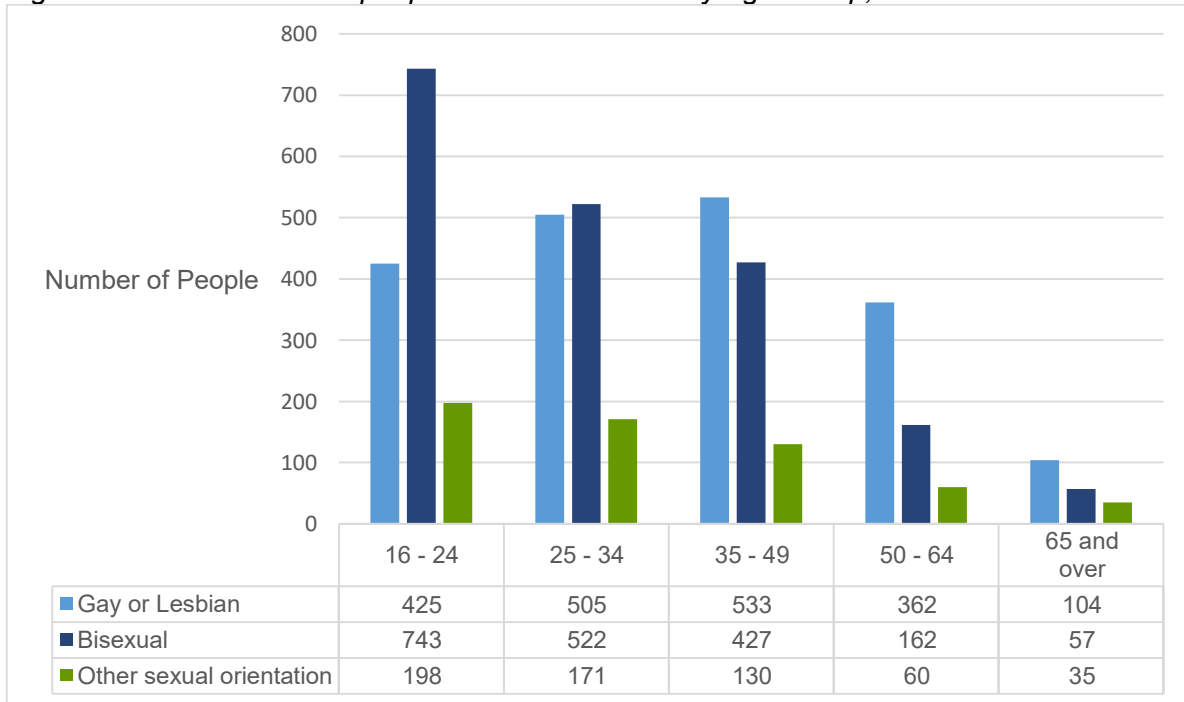
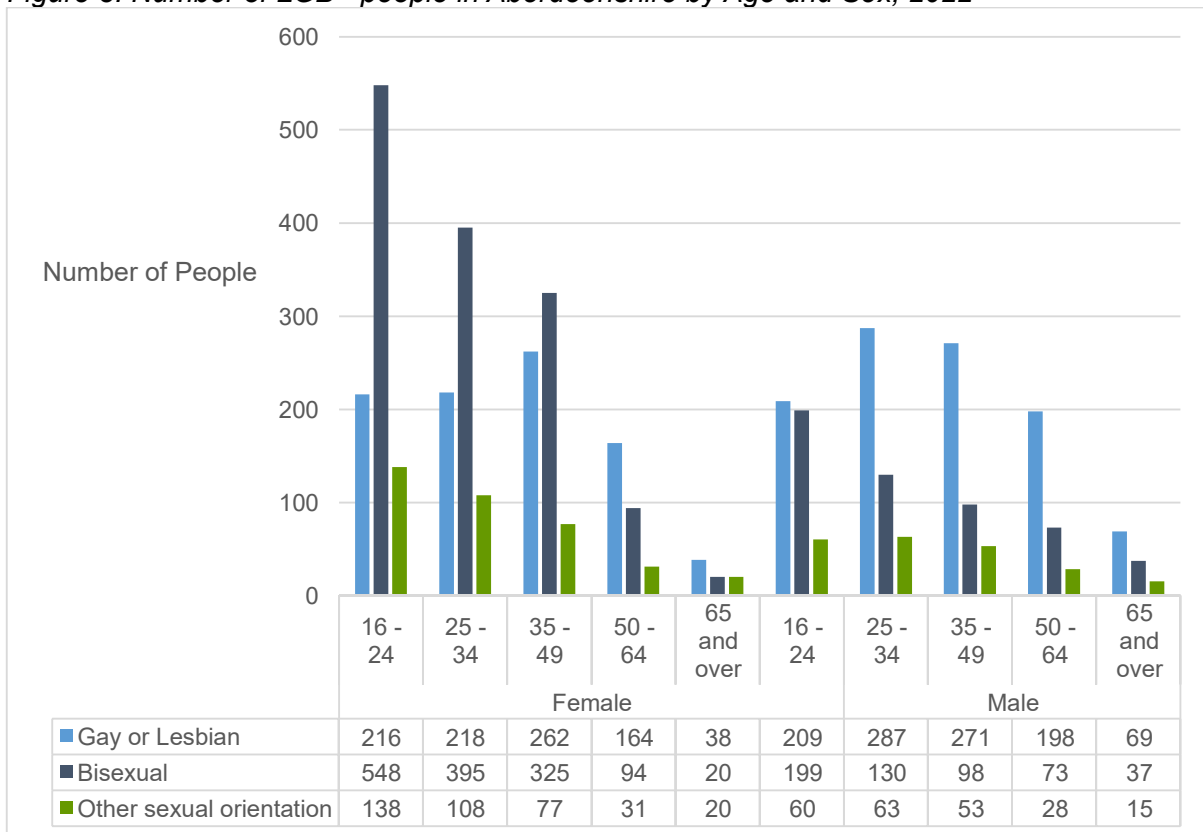


Figure 3: Number of LGB+ people in Aberdeenshire by Age and Sex, 2022



Trans Status or History

In Aberdeenshire in 2022, 0.25% of the population (533 people) identified as trans or had a trans history. This is lower than the proportion for Scotland which was 0.44%. Of those who identified as trans in Aberdeenshire, 97 people (18%) identified as a transman, 114 (21%) as a transwoman, 174 (33%) as non-binary, with the remaining 144 (27%) having an 'other' or 'not specified' trans status or history.

Figure 1: Number of Trans people in Aberdeenshire, 2022

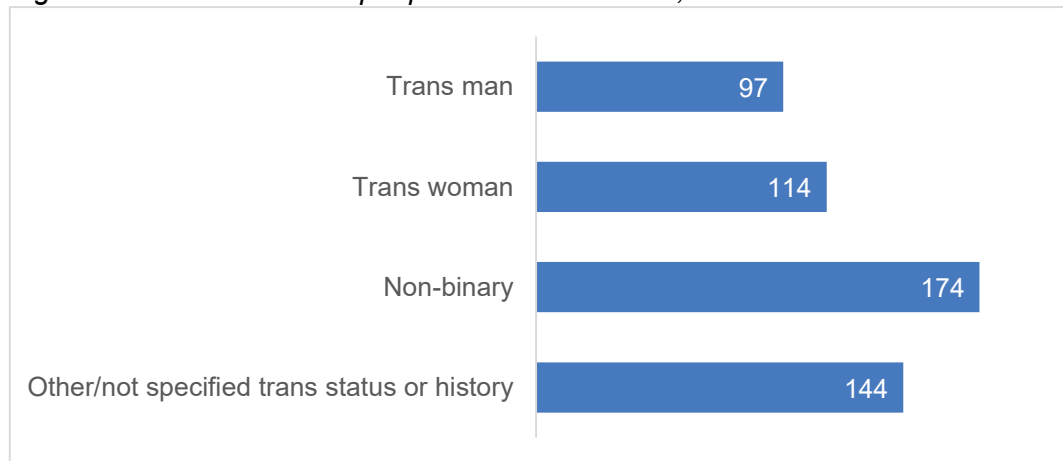
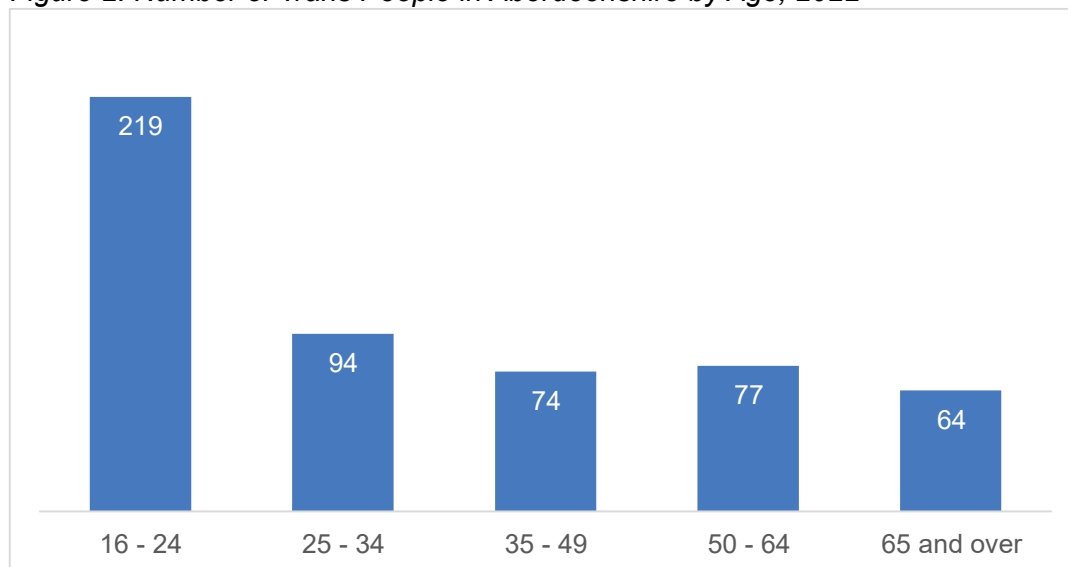


Figure 2 shows that there were more trans people in younger age groups, with the largest proportion (41%) in the 16-24 group. This is also the case in Scotland where almost half of trans people are aged 16-24.

Figure 2: Number of Trans People in Aberdeenshire by Age, 2022



Report produced by the Planning Information & Delivery Team, Aberdeenshire Council.
For more information, please contact statistics@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or visit [Scotland's Census 2022](https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk) website.