

Gender Measure at Statistics Canada

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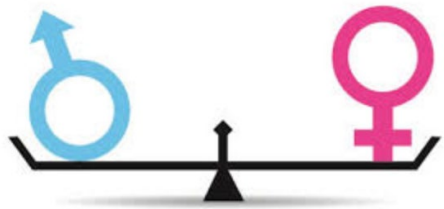


Delivering insight through data for a better Canada

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Measuring Sex and Gender

A New Reality



2016 Census: Reaction to the sex question

Protection for gender identity and expression in the *Canadian Human Rights Act* (Bill C-16) and *Criminal Code*

Modifications to birth certificates in the provinces and territories



Policy direction of the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat and Department of Justice

Creation of the LGBTQ2 Secretariat

Apology to the LGBTQ2 community

Measuring Sex and Gender

Clarifying the concepts

Sex ♂ ♀ ♂♀

Assigned at birth

Based on biological characteristics

- Chromosomes
- Sex hormones
- Genital and reproductive organs

Male, female, intersex

Gender ♂ ♀ ♂♀ ○

Related to a person's social or personal identity

Felt vs lived gender

Male, female, non-binary (gender diverse)

Transgender: People whose gender identity does not match the sex assigned at birth

Mesuring Sex and Gender

2021 Census of Population Questionnaire

Sex assigned at birth

“What was your sex at birth?”

Sex refers to sex assigned at birth.

- Male
- Female



Gender

“What is your gender?”

Gender refers to current gender which may be different from sex assigned at birth and may be different from what is indicated on legal documents.

- Male
- Female
- Other please specify _____

Measuring Sex and Gender Considerations for Surveys

Sex at birth and gender are not necessarily both needed for every statistical vehicle.

The default is gender.

- Both questions are needed to measure the transgender population.
- Sex at birth is needed to measure health or demographic indicators.

The transgender population is a small group.

- The survey's sample size needs to be considered.

These are sensitive questions.

- Proxy responses are an issue.

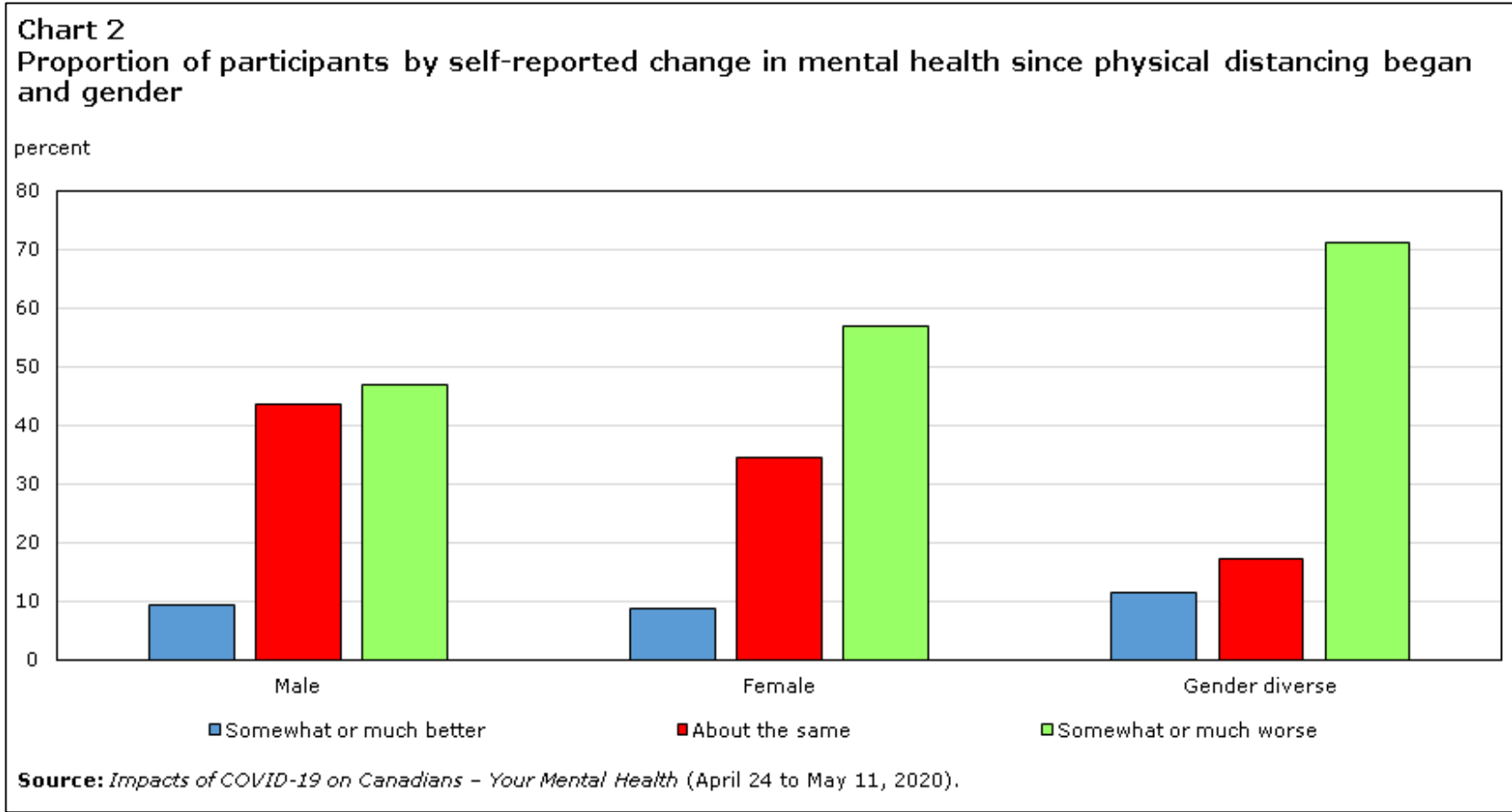


Gender and Sexual Orientation Questions Analysis

- From 2018 onward, several social surveys implemented the two-step approach (sex at birth and gender).
- The sexual orientation question now has standardized content, with multiple new surveys adding this module.
- The sex at birth, gender and sexual orientation variables together could be used to derive the LGBTQ2 population.



Women and gender-diverse participants report worse mental health during COVID-19 than men



Measuring Gender

Refining Statistics Canada's Gender Standard

- Update the standard on gender for the next census.
 - Consultation plan:
 - Focus groups on sexual orientation: certain terms related to gender were tested.
 - Targeted expert consultations
 - Publication of new standard
- International Leadership on Gender Measurement:
 - In 2019, Statistics Canada co-wrote the report *In-depth review of measuring gender identity* with ONS for UNECE.
 - Statistics Canada is co-leading the standards task force for the UNECE working group on gender identity.



Contact Information

Statistics Canada

Thank you!

For references, resources and other questions, please contact us at Statistics Canada.

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