

This document contains the questions that are currently asked to eLife editors to help us understand the diversity present within our editorial board. When designing the survey, we endeavoured to follow recommended best practices wherever they exist.

Nevertheless, we recognise that the way aspects of identity are described and conceived differs between individuals, cultures and nations – and we anticipate that these questions will change in response to new recommendations and community feedback.

An initial report based on the data collected, so far, can be read here:

<https://elifesciences.org/inside-elife/12096861/elife-latest-the-diversity-of-our-editorial-community>

Questions and comments are welcome; via an email to Stuart King, Research Culture Manager (edi@elifesciences.org) or anonymously via [this form](#).

Demographic Information

"Increasing equity in science is key to improving research communication"

We aspire to have an editorial board that both reflects the diverse, international research communities that we serve and provides equitable experiences and opportunities to all its members. As a current eLife editor, please help us to achieve these goals by telling us more about yourself.

You are under no obligation to answer the questions and may decline to provide any or all of the following information. If you provide information then you are giving your consent for us to use the data to monitor the representation and experiences of different groups across our editorial board and to prepare anonymised, aggregated reports, as explained in

the details of the [Privacy Notice](#).

Geography

What is your country of residence?

This field has been pre-populated based on our most recent record of your affiliation. Please amend if incorrect.

- *<editable drop down list>*
- A country not listed – please specify *<opens free text box>*
- Prefer not to say

Career stage

Are you an independent researcher?

We define this as scientists who have secured funding to support a research group, for example in a Group Leader, Principal Investigator or Assistant Professor position.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

<if “No” or “Prefer not to say” the following question is skipped>

In approximately which year did you become an independent researcher?

- Please use YYYY format *<text box>*
- Prefer not to say

Gender

With which gender do you most identify?

- Man
- Non-binary
- Woman
- Self describe (please describe) *<opens free text box>*

- Prefer not to say

Do you identify as trans?

Trans is an umbrella term for people whose identity differs from what is typically associated with the sex they were assigned at birth. People under the trans umbrella may describe themselves using one or more of a wide variety of terms – including transgender.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Race and ethnicity

Race and ethnicity are two concepts related to human ancestry; both are social constructs and thus the products of their social context. Language is constantly evolving and there are a number of terms in use around race and ethnicity. Your answers to the following questions should be based on how you identify.

Do you identify as a member of a minority or underrepresented group within your field of expertise based on your race or ethnicity?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

How do you describe your race or ethnicity?

- *<free text box>*
- Prefer not to say

Disability and long-term health conditions

The next two questions ask about disability and long-term conditions in different ways. Asking about disability is complex, and these questions will help us to develop a broader understanding and compare with existing statistics. Please answer each question separately and don't feel that your answer to one should determine your answer to the other.

Do you identify as a disabled person?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Do you experience barriers or limitations in your day-to-day activities related to any disability, health conditions or impairments?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable
- Prefer not to say

Sexual orientation

Do you identify as a member of an underrepresented or minority group based on your sexual orientation?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Family educational background

The next two questions ask about related elements of socio-economic diversity. No single question can comprehensively capture someone's socio-economic background, though these specific questions will help us begin to develop a broader understanding and to compare with existing statistics. Please answer each question separately and don't feel that your answer to one should determine your answer to the other.

When you were 18, had any of your parents or guardians completed a university degree course or equivalent (e.g., BA, BSc or higher)?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know
- Prefer not to say

Do you identify or would you have identified as a “first-generation student”?

We define this as someone who studied for an undergraduate degree or equivalent and whose parents or guardians had, at that time, not attended university or college to study for an undergraduate degree or equivalent.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know
- Not applicable
- Prefer not to say

Please note any information provided above will only be used as explained in the detailed [Privacy Notice](#).

“SUBMIT”