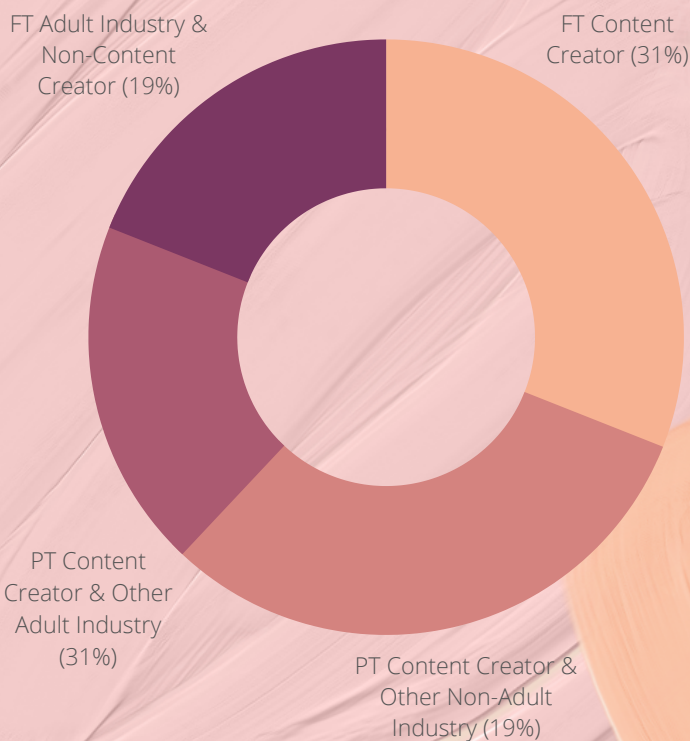


Report on Adult/Sex Work Experiences Survey

In February and March 2022, academic researchers partnered with Erotic Service Providers Union (ESPU) to collect data on content creators in the adult industry. Our goal was to understand the experiences of adult content creators. The final sample varied by question and was between five and 26. The sample size is modest, so interpret with caution, though some preliminary trends are observable.



Earning strategies varied widely including clip sites (e.g., OnlyFans, FanCentro, Manyvids, Clips4Sale), Tiktok, Instagram, Twitter, PTVs (pay-to-views), S4S (shoutout-for-shoutout), Sexting, Reddit, Comesites, and Tubesites (e.g., Pornhub). Four participants reported their accounts had been banned in the last 12 months.

Type of content also varied widely. Taboo content was the most frequently identified (6 participants), followed by solo work, explicit content, fetish, and hardcore. Others included niche, blasphemy, femdom, and GFE (girlfriend experience)

While money was a primary motivator to work in the adult industry, some participants indicated that enjoying the work kept them in the profession:

"[I] have always been passionate and curious about the subject of human expression, art and sexuality"

By The Numbers

\$874.20

Average **highest** weekly earnings in the last 3 months

\$198.20

Average **lowest** weekly earnings in the last 3 months

\$11.45

Average rate per subscriber

\$5.66

Average rate per private message

23.29

Average weekly hours spent creating content

We also asked a series of open-ended questions. While these may be less common in surveys, they are crucial to informing others about the nature of the experience and ensuring that the right questions are answered in future research. It is through this rich source of data that we can challenge damaging narratives about workers in this space.

What effect does your work as an adult content creator have on your emotional well-being?

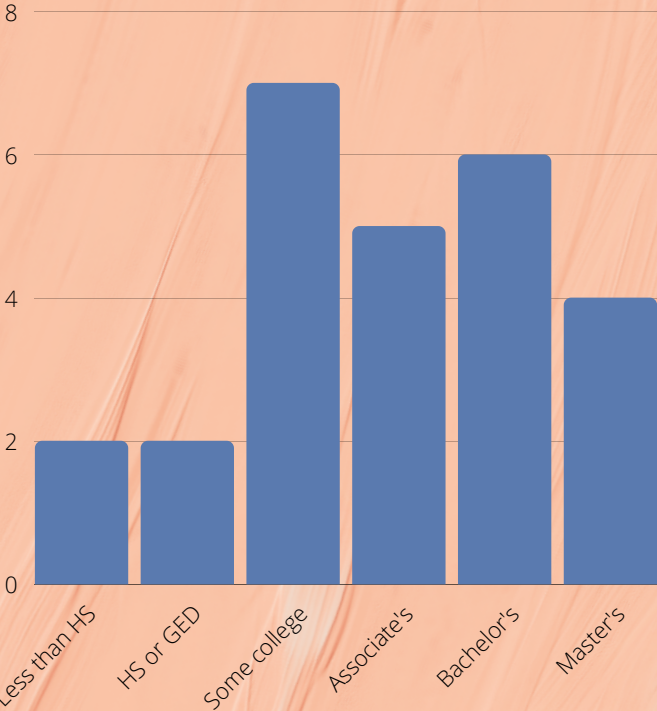
"It helps remind me that I am attractive. I am lucky that when it starts to become draining I am able to step back from it as it is not my sole form of income"

"It can be hard at times but honestly working in this industry gave me self-confidence that I never had before."

What effect does your work as an adult content creator have on your personal relationships?

I am not "out" to portions of my family so it can be tricky to explain why I can't go to an event on a Sunday (one of my biggest income days). However, I have many people who are supportive of what I do and are cheering me on in reaching these goals ... Conversely, the stigma is very real and it has caused me to distance myself from people that I don't want to share this information with.

Demographics



Most respondents identified as Cisgender female/Woman (22 of 26; 81%) with two who identified as Nonbinary/Genderqueer, one Cisgender male/Man, one who preferred not to say, and one who wrote in, "Genderqueer but pass as ciswoman."

Participants ranged from 23 to 63 years of age ($M = 37.54$, $SD = 10.16$).

Most participants identified as White (21 of 26; 81%), with 3 (12%) identifying as American Indian or Alaska Native, or Asian. Six (26%) participants indicated they were more than one race/ethnicity.

Thank you

ESPU Contact:

Maxine Doogan: info@espu-usa.com
<https://www.espu-usa.com/>

Research Contacts:

Emily Campion: ecampion@odu.edu
Kate Keeler: keeler.79@osu.edu