

Tinder Year in Swipe 2021™

DECEMBER 6, 2021: If 2019 had us face-palming at the state of the world and 2020 had us shrugging with uncertainty about the future,* 2021 is the year we all exchanged side eyes and watched the drama continue to unfold. From sharing a collective look of to a common appreciation for simple meet-cutes to keeping it real with vax mentions, Tinder Gen Z members showed how they were authentically themselves as they looked to connect with new people in 2021.

2021 was a side-eye kind of year.

While millions of emojis were used in Tinder bios, one rising star really caught our attention: the Side eye saw a whopping 40% increase in usage in Tinder bios globally this year, as members showed a mixed bag of optimism and skepticism throughout the year.

URL and IRL.

In 2021, Gen Z enjoyed both virtual meet-cutes and post-vax IRL dates. [Video dates](#) have turned into a first date staple for singletons with mentions of “video call” in Tinder bios growing by 52% globally. Yet, Gen Z were also looking to connect with new people close to them for real life hangouts with “nearby” and “close by” both increasing by 20% in Tinder bios globally, showing that the IRL world isn’t going out of fashion anytime soon when it comes to dating.

First date ideas ranged from cozy to outdoorsy.

First date drinks are officially outdated! In 2021, we also learned that [first dates have become more about activities than icebreakers](#). Daters are picking more interesting, unique first date activities that help them really get to know each other. Tinder saw a 51% increase in mentions of ‘rollerskating’ in bios and requests for date activities from making pasta to tarot readings pop up in bios.

Being vaxxed became a (dating) flex.

In a year when getting vaxxed was the first thing on the date prep checklist, sharing the post-vaccine lifestyle on their Tinder bios made Gen Z feel safer to meet someone. As vaccination drives accelerated locally between April and May 2021, mentions of “Vaxxed” in bios in the US grew by over 3x as members advocated for vaccine status as a dating essential.

Vaccine badges*** from Tinder became the new flaunt feature with the badge being the most popular by far amongst US Gen Z members.

Small gestures made it big.

It's the smallest of favours that make a date a favourite. Mentions of “small things” increased by 30% year on year in Tinder bios as members shared their appreciation for the little joys in life. US Tinder members mentioned small gestures such as ‘planning a picnic’ or ‘paying the bill’ as ones that would make their day.

Dating anthems were all kinds of feels.

With music being the top interest shared amongst Tinder members globally, what songs members choose to display on their profile told us a lot about their mood. The raw emotions of Olivia Rodrigo’s good4u and Kid Laroi & Justin Bieber’s STAY ranked as chart-toppers in Tinder bios in 2021.

About Tinder

Tinder was introduced on a college campus in 2012 and is the world’s most popular app for meeting new people. Available in 190 countries and 40+ languages, Tinder is the highest grossing non-gaming app globally.

It's been downloaded more than 450 million times and led to more than 60 billion matches.

All Mentions in Tinder bios compared between the period from 1 Jan 2021 to 30 Nov 2021 and 1 Jan 2020 to 30 Nov 2020

*most popular emojis from Year in Swipe 2019 and 2020

** from Tinder's VIBE feature

***Badges as available in Tinder's Vaccine Centre

The infographic features a large pink calendar icon on the left with the text 'YEAR IN SWIPE 2021' inside it. The 'I' in 'SWIPE' is replaced by a large eye emoji. The background is black with a large green heart shape on the right and a purple shape on the bottom left. A pink arrow points upwards from the bottom right towards the 'Most popular TV shows' list.

tinder

Year in Swipe 2021

With 2021 drawing to a close, Tinder's Year in Swipe looks back on how the last 12 months unfolded on the app as Gen Z embraced the future of dating.

Emoji of the year

Most popular emojis in bios

👁️ 🦴 🙋 🤔 🚩 👻 😂 🙌 📷 😂

Trending on Tinder in 2021

Key moments that marked 2021	Most popular TV shows
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Widespread vaccines2. Free Britney3. Taylor's version4. Bernie's mittens5. Bennifer 2.0	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Office2. Squid Game3. You4. Loki5. Insecure

Most popular Celebs

1. Pete Davidson
2. Doja Cat
3. Elon Musk
4. Dolly Parton
5. Bo Burnham

In 2021 Gen Z were interested in...

Top 10 interest in bios...

1. Music
2. Outdoors
3. Movies
4. Working out
5. Sports
6. Netflix
7. Dog lover
8. Travel
9. Gamer
10. Tattoos

Gen Z & Travel

- ♥ When we asked Tinder members what they'd do if they won the lottery, the top answer was travel the world **(58%)**.
- ♥ Mentions of the **'vacay'** **(+170%)** peaked in August in the heat of summer
- ♥ Americans passported to **4 cities and 2 countries** on average

Top International Passport Cities:

1. London
2. Tokyo
3. Paris
4. Seoul
5. Sydney

Top US Passport Cities:

1. Los Angeles
2. New York
3. Miami
4. Dallas
5. Houston

Gen Z & Music

- ♥ Music is the **number 1 interest** on Tinder

Top 10 Spotify Artists

1. Mac Miller
2. Kanye West

Top 10 Spotify Anthems

1. Way 2 Sexy - Drake, Future, Young Thug
2. Heat Waves - Glass Animals

3. Doja Cat
4. Drake
5. \$uicideboy\$
6. Polo G
7. Olivia Rodrigo
8. Juice WRLD
9. J. Cole
10. The Weeknd

3. Kiss Me More - Doja Cat, SZA
4. good 4 u - Olivia Rodrigo
5. The Spins - Mac Miller
6. RAPSTAR - Polo G
7. INDUSTRY BABY - Lil Nas X, Jack Harlow
8. STAY - The Kid LAROI, Justin Bieber
9. Knife Talk - Drake, 21 Savage, Project Pat
10. Wants and Needs - Drake, Lil Baby

To download this asset, click [here](#).

<https://www.tinderpressroom.com/2021-12-06-Tinder-Year-in-Swipe-2021-TM>