

RIGHTS STATE EQUALITY INDEX

Working Toward Innovative Equality

These states have a broad range of protections to ensure equality for LGBTQ people, including comprehensive non-discrimination laws, safe schools laws, and healthcare access for transgender people. Advocates focus on the implementation of laws and advance innovative legislation that addresses the needs of vulnerable populations.

- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Illinois
- Maine
- Massachusetts
- Minnesota
- Nevada
- **New Jersey**
- **New Mexico**
- **New York**
- Oregon
- Rhode Island
- Vermont
- Washington

Solidifying Equality

These states generally have several basic measures of equality, including non-discrimination protections or anti-bullying laws. Advocates work to ensure the broad implementation of these laws while advancing laws concerning parenting, youth, health, and safety to achieve full equality for the LGBTQ community.

- Hawaii
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- Maryland
- **New Hampshire**

Building Equality

In these states, advocates work to build upon initial advances toward LGBTQ equality, such as the passage of a safe schools law, expanding nondiscrimination protections, or increasing protections in healthcare. Work in these states varies widely but may focus on opposing negative legislation, passing comprehensive non-discrimination laws, or making it easier for LGBTQ people to create families.

- Wisconsin
- Utah

High Priority to Achieve Basic Equality

In these states, advocates focus on raising support for basic LGBTQ equality, such as non-discrimination laws. These states are most likely to have religious refusal or other anti-LGBTQ laws. Advocates often further LGBTQ equality by focusing on municipal protections for LGBTQ people or opposing negative legislation that targets the LGBTQ community.

- Alabama
- North Dakota
- Alaska
- Ohio
- Arizona
- Oklahoma
- **Arkansas**
- Pennsylvania
- Florida
- Georgia
- South Dakota

South Carolina

- Idaho
- Tennessee
- Indiana
- **Texas**
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Virginia
- West Virginia Wyoming
- Louisiana
- Michigan
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- North Carolina