Quick Facts About California

- **Percent of Adults (18+) Who are LGBTQ:** 5.3%
  - *Gallup/Williams 2019*
- **Total LGBTQ Population (13+):** 1,859,000
  - *Williams 2020*
- **Percent of Workforce That is LGBTQ:** 6%
  - *Census 2018; Williams 2020*
- **Total LGBTQ Workers:** 1,194,000
  - *Williams 2020*
- **Percent of LGBTQ Adults (25+) Raising Children:** 24%
  - *Gallup/Williams 2019*

California's LGBTQ Policy Tally

MAP's "LGBTQ Policy Tally" examines each state's LGBTQ policy climate, as measured by over 35 pro- or anti-LGBTQ laws and policies. These laws are grouped into seven major categories: relationship and parental recognition; non-discrimination; religious exemptions; LGBTQ youth; healthcare; criminal justice; and the ability for transgender people to correct name and gender markers on identity documents. See the state’s full profile for more detailed information.

Scores as of 03/29/2024. For full state profile, visit: [https://www.lgbtmap.org/equality_maps/profile_state/CA](https://www.lgbtmap.org/equality_maps/profile_state/CA)

California's LGBTQ Laws and Policies

Click on each issue for more information and to see where the state fits into the national landscape.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KEY</th>
<th>Indicates state law or policy</th>
<th>Indicates local laws or policies and/or partial law</th>
<th>Indicates no law or policy</th>
<th>Enumeration not applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

As a result of the 2015 U.S. Supreme Court decision in Obergefell, same-sex couples can marry nationwide and states must extend all the rights and benefits of marriage to same-sex couples. As a result, the following benefits are available to all married same-sex couples on the same basis they are available to married different-sex couples:

- Marriage for Same-Sex Couples
- Medical Decision-Making Authority for Married Same-Sex Couples
- Stepparent Adoption for Married Same-Sex Couples
- Joint Adoption for Married Same-Sex Couples

### Relationship and Parental Recognition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Sexual Orientation</th>
<th>Gender Identity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>As a result of the 2015 U.S. Supreme Court decision in Obergefell, same-sex couples can marry nationwide and states must extend all the rights and benefits of marriage to same-sex couples. As a result, the following benefits are available to all married same-sex couples on the same basis they are available to married different-sex couples:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage for Same-Sex Couples</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Decision-Making Authority for Married Same-Sex Couples</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stepparent Adoption for Married Same-Sex Couples</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Adoption for Married Same-Sex Couples</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second-Parent Adoption for Unmarried Couples</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmatory Adoption</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voluntary Acknowledgement of Parentage (VAP)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Services Nondiscrimination Laws</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adoption Nondiscrimination Protections for LGBTQ Parents</td>
<td>✓ 0.5/0.5</td>
<td>✓ 0.5/0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foster Care Nondiscrimination Protections for LGBTQ Parents</td>
<td>✓ 0.5/0.5</td>
<td>✓ 0.5/0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition for Parents Using Assisted Reproduction</td>
<td>✓ 1/1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Family Leave Laws</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBTQ-Inclusive Definitions of Spouse/Partner</td>
<td>✓ 0.5/0.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBTQ-Inclusive Definitions of Children/Parents</td>
<td>✓ 0.5/0.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>7/7 1/1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationship and Parental Recognition Total</td>
<td>8/8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## State Nondiscrimination Laws

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law Exists?</th>
<th>Tally</th>
<th>Law Exists?</th>
<th>Tally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employment Nondiscrimination Laws</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Nondiscrimination Laws</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Accommodations Nondiscrimination Laws</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit and Lending Nondiscrimination Laws</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nondiscrimination Policies for State Employees</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>0.5/0.5</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Negative Law:** State Bans Cities and Counties from Passing Nondiscrimination Laws
- No Negative Law 0/-1

**Negative Law:** State Bans Transgender People From Using Bathrooms or Facilities Consistent With Their Gender Identity In Government-Owned Buildings
- No Negative Law 0/-1

**Negative Law:** State Explicitly Defines “Sex” Throughout State Law To Exclude Transgender People
- No Negative Law 0/-1

**Subtotal**
- 4.5/4.5

**Nondiscrimination Total**
- 9/9

*If state lacks statewide law, tally looks at local Nondiscrimination ordinances in employment, housing, and public accommodations and provides partial points based on percent of LGBTQ population covered by local laws.*

## Religious Exemption Laws

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law Exists?</th>
<th>Tally</th>
<th>Law Exists?</th>
<th>Tally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> Broad “RFRA” or Religious Exemption Law</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-0.5</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> Targeted Religious Exemption for Child Welfare Services</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-1</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> Targeted Religious Exemption for Medical Professionals</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-1</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> Targeted Wedding Services</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-0.5</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Wedding Services</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-0.5</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State and Local Officials Providing Marriage Licenses</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-0.5</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal**
- 0/-3.5

**Religious Exemption Laws Total**
- 0/-6

Scores as of 03/29/2024
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGBTQ Youth Laws and Policies</th>
<th>Sexual Orientation Law Exists?</th>
<th>Tally</th>
<th>Gender Identity Law Exists?</th>
<th>Tally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nondiscrimination Laws and Policies Covering LGBTQ Students</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Bullying Laws and Policies Covering LGBTQ Students</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> Laws Banning Local Schools and Districts from Passing LGBTQ Nondiscrimination and/or Anti-Bullying Policies</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-1</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Curricular Standards Required to Be LGBTQ-Inclusive</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> &quot;Don't Say Gay&quot; Law Barring or Explicitly Restricting Educators From Discussing LGBTQ People or Issues in Schools</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-1</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> State Law Requires Parental Notification of LGBTQ-Inclusive Curricula and Allows Parents to Opt Children Out</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-1</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> State LawRestricts Discussions of &quot;Homosexuality&quot; in Specific School Subjects</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-0.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> State Law Prevents Transgender Students from Participating in Sports Consistent With Their Gender Identity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> State Law Prevents Transgender Students from Using School Facilities Consistent With Their Gender Identity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> Forced Outing of Transgender Youth in Schools</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conversion Therapy Ban Covering LGBTQ Youth</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protections for LGBTQ Youth in the Child Welfare System</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>5/5</td>
<td></td>
<td>5/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LGBTQ Youth Laws Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>10/10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scores as of 03/29/2024
### Healthcare Laws and Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law Exists?</th>
<th>Tally</th>
<th>Law Exists?</th>
<th>Tally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Health Insurance Nondiscrimination Laws</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> Ban on Best Practice Medical Care for Transgender Youth</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Shield” Laws Protecting Access to Transgender Health Care</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance Providers Banned from Excluding Coverage for Transgender-Specific Care</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Medicaid Policy Related to Coverage for Transgender People</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transgender Inclusive Health Benefits for State Employees</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Data Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LGBTQ Adults</th>
<th>Tally</th>
<th>LGBTQ Youth</th>
<th>Tally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/0.5</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>0.5/0.5</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sexual Orientation</th>
<th>Gender Identity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.5/2</td>
<td>4.5/5.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Healthcare Total**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sexual Orientation</th>
<th>Gender Identity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6/7.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Criminal Justice Laws and Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law Exists?</th>
<th>Tally</th>
<th>Law Exists?</th>
<th>Tally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hate Crime Law Covering LGBTQ People</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ban on Panic Defense</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jury Service Nondiscrimination</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative Law:</strong> HIV Criminalization Law</td>
<td>NEGATIVE LAW</td>
<td>-0.25/-1</td>
<td>NEGATIVE LAW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative Law: Restrictions on Drag Performances</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
<td>0/-1</td>
<td>No Negative Law</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sexual Orientation</th>
<th>Gender Identity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.75/3</td>
<td>2.75/3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Criminal Justice Total**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sexual Orientation</th>
<th>Gender Identity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.5/6</td>
<td>5.5/6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Ability for Transgender People to Correct Name and Gender Marker on Identity Documents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sexual Orientation</th>
<th>Gender Identity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Law Exists?</td>
<td>Tally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changing Gender Marker on Driver's Licenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changing Gender Marker on Birth Certificates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Neutral Options</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;X&quot; Option on Driver's Licenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;X&quot; Option on Birth Certificates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name Change Process</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Identity Documents Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Grand Totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sexual Orientation Policy Tally</th>
<th>Gender Identity Policy Tally</th>
<th>Overall Tally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td>20.75/21.5</td>
<td>21.75/23</td>
<td>42.5/44.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ratings</strong></td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scores as of 03/29/2024
Local Nondiscrimination Ordinances

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

100% of population fully protected

0% of population only partially protected

LEGEND

State Protections  County Protections  City Protections  No Protections  Protections Banned

County map only shows areas with full protections for sexual orientation (i.e., discrimination prohibited in private employment, housing, and public accommodations)

GENDER IDENTITY

100% of population fully protected

0% of population only partially protected

LEGEND

State Protections  County Protections  City Protections  No Protections  Protections Banned

County map only shows areas with full protections for gender identity (i.e., discrimination prohibited in private employment, housing, and public accommodations)

This data was collected in collaboration with the **Equality Federation** and **Equality California** and is maintained by MAP.
Local Conversion Therapy Ordinances

CONVERSION THERAPY BANS

State Protections
County Protections
City Protections
No Protections
Protections Banned

LEGEND

Scores as of 03/29/2024

CITY AND COUNTY NUMBERS:

0 counties out of 0 have an ordinance prohibiting conversion therapy for minors.

0 cities have an ordinance prohibiting conversion therapy for minors.