

spartacus | Gay Travel Index 2021



Spartacus publishes the Gay Travel Index every year since 2012. The index measures the legal situation and living conditions for members of the queer community in the respective country.

The index consists of 17 categories at present, ranging from gay marriage to death penalty for homosexuals. The countries are color-coded, a dark green indicating the most liberal and queer-friendly countries, red highlighting the most dangerous countries for homosexuals to visit or live in.

The index attempts at finding a balance between measuring the rights of the local LGBTIQ community and considering the demands of queer holidaymakers. Our aim is to monitor the safety of queer people in each country and also increase

the awareness on grievances. We are convinced that there are holidaymakers who choose countries where the queer community is an accepted and beloved part of society. But there are also holidaymakers who consciously want to travel to a country in order to enter into a dialogue with the oppressed local queer community. The index is intended to provide either type of holidaymaker with trustworthy and valid information.

The index has become more and more diverse and queer in the past years. We have added new categories

this year to match with a broader diversity of the queer community. Thus, the rights of intersexuals or to a third gender option on legal documents are indexed, as is the welcome fact that conversion procedures are being banned by more and more countries. A specific new category for queer travellers is that of gay marketing, indicating how and if gay travel is promoted per country. It can also be considered an indicator of acceptance of queer people by the local society.

■ HOW THE RATING SYSTEM WORKS

It has a negative impact on the rating of a country, if human rights are not observed nor guaranteed or even worse, violated. A zero rating as lowest rating is only awarded if a country is lacking in important but not elementary categories such as LGBT marketing or anti-discrimination legislation. The weighing of the factors as well as the categories themselves are subject to constant editorial monitoring. Both can be modified if necessary, which we indicate clearly if it is done.

■ DEATH SENTENCES

Countries in which the death sentences for homosexuals is enshrined in law but is no longer performed have received one negative point. If people are still executed in a country because of their homosexuality, the country has been given five negative points. We can thus assure that the countries concerned get their deserved place at the bottom of our ranking.

Countries in which Islamic sharia law applies in parts (Indonesia / Aceh, Pakistan and Libya minus one point) or are applied (Nigeria minus three points) are a special case in this system.

Ranking 2021	Country	Total	LGBT Rights								Social & Cultural						Violence & Justice		
			Anti-Discrimination Legislation	Marriage / Civil Partnership	Adoption Allowed	Transgender Rights	Intersex / 3 rd Option	Equal Age of Consent	"Conversion Therapy"	LGBT Marketing	Religious Influence	HIV Travel Restrictions	Anti-Gay Laws	Homosexuality Illegal	Pride Banned	Locals Hostile	Prosecution	Murders	Death Sentences
1	Canada	13	3	2	2	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
2	Malta	11	2	2	2	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
2	Portugal	11	3	2	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Spain	11	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
5	Austria	10	2	2	2	2	1	0	-1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Denmark	10	2	2	2	2	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
5	Sweden	10	3	2	2	1	-1	0	-1	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
5	United Kingdom	10	3	2	2	2	-1	0	0	2	-1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
5	Uruguay	10	2	2	2	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
10	Australia	9	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
10	Germany	9	2	2	2	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
10	Iceland	9	2	2	2	2	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
10	Taiwan	9	3	2	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Colombia	8	2	2	2	2	1	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
14	Netherlands	8	2	2	2	2	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	New Zealand	8	2	2	2	1	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
14	Switzerland	8	3	1	1	2	-1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Belgium	7	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Greenland	7	1	2	2	2	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Ireland	7	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
18	Norway	7	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
22	Argentina	6	1	2	2	2	-1	0	1	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
22	Finland	6	3	2	2	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	France	6	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Luxembourg	6	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Reunion	6	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	French Polynesia	5	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	New Caledonia	5	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
27	Puerto Rico	5	1	2	2	2	0	0	1	1	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-2	0
27	South Africa	5	3	2	2	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
31	Costa Rica	4	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
31	Ecuador	4	3	2	0	2	-1	0	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0
31	Guadeloupe	4	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
31	Israel	4	2	1	1	2	-1	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	Martinique	4	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
31	USA	4	1	2	2	-1	0	0	0	2	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
37	Gibraltar	3	2	2	2	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
37	Guam	3	1	2	2	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
37	Slovenia	3	3	2	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40	Andorra	2	3	1	2	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0
40	Brazil	2	2	2	2	0	-1	0	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-2	0
40	Chile	2	2	1	0	2	1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
40	Czech Republic	2	2	1	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40	Estonia	2	2	0	1	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40	Mexico	2	3	1	1	1	-1	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-2	0
46	Cuba	1	3	0	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
46	Greece	1	2	1	0	2	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
46	India	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0
46	San Marino	1	3	1	1	1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
46	Thailand	1	2	0	0	-1	-1	0	-1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
51	Bermuda	0	1	2	1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0

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51	Croatia	0	2	1	1	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
51	Italy	0	1	1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
51	Liechtenstein	0	1	1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
51	Nepal	0	3	-1	0	0	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
51	Slovakia	0	2	0	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
51	Virgin Islands	0	1	2	2	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0
58	Bolivia	-1	2	0	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
58	Bosnia-Herzegovina	-1	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
60	Albania	-2	2	-1	0	-1	-1	0	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
60	Aruba	-2	1	1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
60	Bhutan	-2	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
60	Japan	-2	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	1	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
60	Mozambique	-2	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
60	Samoa	-2	1	-1	0	1	1	0	1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
66	Angola	-3	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66	Bulgaria	-3	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	China incl. Hong Kong	-3	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0
66	Cyprus	-3	1	1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	Fiji	-3	3	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	Hungary	-3	2	1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	Korea South	-3	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	North Macedonia	-3	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	Monaco	-3	0	1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66	Montenegro	-3	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	Panama	-3	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
66	Romania	-3	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	Serbia	-3	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	St. Maarten	-3	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
66	Vietnam	-3	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
81	Armenia	-4	0	-1	0	-0	-1	0	-1	0	1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
81	Botswana	-4	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
81	Cabo Verde	-4	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
81	Curacao	-4	1	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
81	El Salvador	-4	2	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0
81	Kazakhstan	-4	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0
81	Kosovo	-4	3	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
81	Laos	-4	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
81	Latvia	-4	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
81	Lesotho	-4	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
81	Lithuania	-4	2	-1	-1	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
81	Macao	-4	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
81	Mali	-4	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
81	Mongolia	-4	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
81	Niger	-4	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
96	Belize	-5	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
96	Benin	-5	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
96	British Virgin Islands	-5	3	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
96	Cambodia	-5	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
96	Georgia (Europe)	-5	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0
96	Moldova	-5	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0
96	Pakistan	-5	1	-1	0	2	1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1

Ranking 2021	Country	Total	Anti-Discrimination Legislation	Marriage / Civil Partnership	Adoption Allowed	Transgender Rights	Intersex / 3 rd Option	Equal Age of Consent	"Conversion Therapy"	LGBT Marketing	Religious Influence	HIV Travel Restrictions	Anti-Gay Laws	Homosexuality Illegal	Pride Banned	Locals Hostile	Prosecution	Murders	Death Sentences
96	Seychelles	-5	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
96	Singapore	-5	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0
96	Sri Lanka	-5	1	-1	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
96	Suriname	-5	1	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
107	Antigua & Barbuda	-6	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0
107	Barbados	-6	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0
107	Gabon	-6	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0
107	Guinea-Bissau	-6	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
107	Jordan	-6	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0
107	Kyrgyzstan	-6	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-2	0	0	0
107	Namibia	-6	0	-1	1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0
107	Peru	-6	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-2	0
107	Ukraine	-6	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-2	0	0	0
107	Vanuatu	-6	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
117	Burkina Faso	-7	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0
117	Honduras	-7	2	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-2	0	-1	0
117	Lebanon	-7	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0
117	Mauritius	-7	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	-1	0	0
117	Myanmar	-7	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
117	Nicaragua	-7	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-2	0	0	0
117	Philippines	-7	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
117	Turkey	-7	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0
117	Venezuela	-7	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	-2	0	-1	0
126	Bangladesh	-8	0	-1	0	1	1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	0
126	Cook Islands	-8	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
126	Equatorial Guinea	-8	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0
126	Poland	-8	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-2	0	0	0
126	Tajikistan	-8	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-2	-1	0	0
126	Trinidad & Tobago	-8	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0
132	Algeria	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	0	-1	0	0
132	Bahamas	-9	0	-1	0	1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-2	0	-2	0
132	Bahrain	-9	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0	0	-2	-1	0	0
132	Burundi	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0
132	Central African Rep.	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0
132	Dem.Rep. of Congo	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-2	0	0	0
132	Djibouti	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	-1	0	0
132	Grenada	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0
132	Guatemala	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-2	0	-2	0
132	Indonesia	-9	0	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-2	-1	0	0
132	Korea North	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
132	Madagascar	-9	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-2	0	-2	0
132	Republic of the Congo	-9	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-2	0	0	0
132	Rwanda	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-2	0	0	0
132	Sierra Leone	-9	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0
132	Tonga	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
132	Tunisia	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0
132	Vatican City	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0
150	Azerbaijan	-10	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-2	0	0
150	Belarus	-10	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-2	-2	0	0
150	Guyana	-10	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0
150	Kenya	-10	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0

Ranking 2021	Country	Total	Anti-Discrimination Legislation	Marriage / Civil Partnership	Adoption Allowed	Transgender Rights	Intersex / 3 rd Option	Equal Age of Consent	"Conversion Therapy"	LGBT Marketing	Religious Influence	HIV Travel Restrictions	Anti-Gay Laws	Homosexuality Illegal	Pride Banned	Locals Hostile	Prosecution	Murders	Death Sentences
150	Oman	-10	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0
150	Papua New Guinea	-10	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0
150	Paraguay	-10	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-2	0
150	Togo	-10	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
150	Uzbekistan	-10	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
150	Zambia	-10	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
160	Brunei	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1
160	Chad	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	0	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
160	Comoros Islands	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
160	Dominica	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
160	Dominican Republic	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-2	0
160	Ethiopia	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
160	Ghana	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
160	Ivory Coast	-11	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-2	0	0	0
160	Liberia	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
160	Maldives	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
160	Senegal	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
160	Solomon Islands	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0
160	Sudan	-11	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0
160	Swaziland	-11	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-2	0
160	Syria	-11	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1
160	Turkmenistan	-11	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
176	Eritrea	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	0
176	Gambia	-12	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
176	Haiti	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	-1	-2	0	-2	0
176	Indonesia/Aceh	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	-1
176	Iraq	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0	0	-2	-1	-1	0
176	Jamaica	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	0
176	Malawi	-12	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	0
176	Malaysia	-12	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0
176	Mauritania	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	-1
176	Morocco	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-2	-1	0
176	Russia	-12	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	0	-1	-2	-1	-2	0
176	Tanzania	-12	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-2	0	0
176	Uganda	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	-1	-2	-1	0	0
176	Zimbabwe	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	0
190	Cameroon	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	0
190	Egypt	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-2	0	0
190	Kuwait	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-2	0	0
190	Nigeria	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	-3
190	Qatar	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	-1
195	Afghanistan	-14	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	-1
195	Libya	-14	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	-1
195	United Arab Emirates	-14	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1
198	Yemen	-15	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	-1
199	Iran	-17	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	-5
200	Saudi Arabia	-18	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-5
200	Somalia	-18	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	-5
202	Chechnya	-19	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	0	0	-2	0	-1	-1	-1	-2	-2	-2	-5

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The legal situation for queer people varies widely within the 50 federal US states. We have therefore decided to publish the USA Index again this year and to examine each state individually. In doing so, we were able to adapt the categories specific to the whole country and thus guarantee a more precise look. It was our clear intention to highlight the differences between the individual federal states.

■ EXPLANATION ON THE INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES

We have removed the categories *Marriage Equality* and *Equal Age of Consent* since they no longer vary - the age at which one is considered sexually mature is the same for homosexuals and heterosexuals in all states. Following a ruling of the Supreme Court on 26.6.2015, homosexual couples can marry in all states. We have also omitted the fact that since last year, by federal law, transgender people are no longer allowed to serve in the military as long as they insist on their transition.

Although the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act has covered sexual identity and orientation in principle since 2009, all states have their own different hate crime laws. The new category of *Hate Crime Laws* reflects this development. Also new is the category *Gay And Trans Panic Defense*. The states that have

not yet banned this method of defence in court have been given a negative point. The category *Anti-Discrimination Legislation* now also measures if legislation extends to sexual identity. States that have explicitly mentioned both sexual orientation and sexual identity in their protection laws have been awarded 2 points. In contrast to the past, states in which only some towns and cities have such protection laws were awarded zero points.

We have also created the category *Queer Infrastructure* that shows the legal situation and balances the category of LGBT marketing. The new category contains information in which states Prides and other queer events take place and queer establishments can be found in more than one city. This may disadvantage small states, but it makes sense that even states with backward

and queerphobic legislation can have cities with a great deal of queer variety and offers. The best example of this is Ohio, the state in last place, and especially the city of Columbus. Not only does it have a dazzling queer scene and a remarkably large LGBTIQ community, it also hosts the largest Pride of the Midwest with more than 500,000 visitors annually.

Under the heading of *Hostility*, we have mainly counted murders of members of the LGBTIQ community in the past year. Other physical or verbal assaults were considered when the final score was not quite clear, based on the number of murders only. Incidents in which people are insulted or physically assaulted can be found almost everywhere. This can happen even in states that have not received any negative points.

Ranking 2021	State	Total	Anti-Discrimination Legislation	Transgender Rights	Intersex / 3 rd Option	Hate Crime Law	"Conversion Therapy"	LGBT Marketing	Queer Infrastructure	Gay and Trans* Panic Defense	Locals Hostile
1	California	11	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	0	0
1	Illinois	11	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	0	0
3	Colorado	10	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	0
3	Nevada	10	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	0
3	New York	10	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	0	-1
3	Washington DC	10	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	0
7	Connecticut	9	2	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	0
7	Hawaii	9	2	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	0
7	Massachusetts	9	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	-1	0
7	Oregon	9	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	-1	0
7	Washington	9	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	-1
12	New Jersey	8	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
12	Rhode Island	8	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
12	Virginia	8	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	-1	0
15	New Mexico	7	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	-1	0
15	Utah	7	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	-1	0
15	Vermont	7	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	-1	0
18	Maryland	6	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	-1	-1
19	Delaware	5	2	2	-1	2	1	0	0	-1	0
19	Maine	5	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
19	New Hampshire	5	2	0	1	2	1	0	0	-1	0
22	Minnesota	4	2	1	1	2	-1	0	0	-1	0
23	Florida	3	1	2	-1	1	-1	2	1	-1	-1
23	Pennsylvania	3	2	2	1	0	-1	0	1	-1	-1
25	Idaho	2	1	2	1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
26	Arizona	1	1	0	-1	1	-1	1	1	-1	0
26	Georgia	1	2	0	-1	1	-1	1	1	-1	-1
26	Indiana	1	0	1	1	1	-1	0	0	-1	0
26	Iowa	1	2	1	-1	1	-1	0	0	-1	0
26	Kansas	1	2	1	-1	1	-1	0	0	-1	0
26	Louisiana	1	1	0	-1	1	-1	1	1	-1	0
32	Alaska	0	1	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
32	Arkansas	0	1	0	1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
32	Montana	0	1	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
35	Kentucky	-1	1	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	-1	0
35	Mississippi	-1	1	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
35	Nebraska	-1	1	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	-1	0
35	South Dakota	-1	1	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
35	Tennessee	-1	1	-1	-1	2	-1	0	1	-1	-1
35	Texas	-1	1	1	-1	1	-1	0	1	-1	-2
35	West Virginia	-1	1	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
35	Wisconsin	-1	1	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	-1	0
43	Alabama	-2	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
43	Michigan	-2	2	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1
43	Missouri	-2	1	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	-1	-1
43	North Carolina	-2	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	-1
43	North Dakota	-2	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
43	Ohio	-2	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	1	-1	-1
43	Oklahoma	-2	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
43	South Carolina	-2	1	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1
43	Wyoming	-2	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0

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