

# spartacus® | Gay Travel Index



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 colour-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 trustworthiness 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.

In some countries the Islamic Sharia law applies, either in some regions (Aceh / Indonesia, Pakistan and Libya, one negative point) or entirely (Nigeria, three negative points). Those countries are considered special cases in this index.

## NOTES ON SOME SPECIFIC RATINGS 2020

*Zero points were awarded for conversion processes if a ban only applies in individual parts of the country / states (Canada, among others) or, for example, if legal action could be successfully taken even without an explicit law (Switzerland).*

**Poland:** Deduction of points for establishing so-called „LGBT-ideology-free zones“ on one third of the Polish territory

**Sweden:** Special additional point for recognition of Trans\* Parenthood and a

further additional point for Worldpride as touristic highlight in 2020

**Germany:** Zero rating regarding conversion therapy since the law had not yet come into effect.

Ranking 2020	Country	Total	LGBT Rights								Social & Legal Climate						Human Rights		
			Anti-Discrimination Legislation	Marriage / Civil Partnership	Adoption Allowed	Transgender Rights	Intersex / 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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	12	3	2	2	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	Malta	12	2	2	2	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	Sweden	12	3	2	2	3	0	0	-1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
4	Austria	11	2	2	2	2	1	0	-1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	Argentina	9	1	2	2	2	1	0	1	2	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
5	Netherlands	9	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Spain	9	2	2	2	2	-1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	United Kingdom	9	3	2	2	2	-1	0	0	2	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Uruguay	9	2	2	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Denmark	8	2	2	2	2	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Germany	8	2	2	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
10	Iceland	8	2	2	2	2	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	New Zealand	8	2	2	2	2	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Portugal	8	3	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Belgium	7	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Colombia	7	2	2	2	1	1	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
15	Switzerland	7	3	1	1	2	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Australia	6	1	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Finland	6	3	2	2	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Luxembourg	6	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Norway	6	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Reunion	6	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	France	5	2	2	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
23	Gibraltar	5	2	2	2	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Greenland	5	2	2	2	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Ireland	5	2	2	2	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Israel	5	2	1	2	2	-1	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Puerto Rico	5	2	2	2	2	-1	0	1	1	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-2	0
23	South Africa	5	3	2	2	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0
23	Taiwan	5	2	2	0	1	-1	0	1	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	French Polynesia	4	2	2	2	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	New Caledonia	4	2	2	2	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	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
34	Andorra	3	3	1	2	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	Guadeloupe	3	2	2	2	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
34	Martinique	3	2	2	2	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
34	Slovenia	3	3	2	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
38	Czech Republic	2	2	1	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
38	Estonia	2	2	1	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
38	Guam	2	1	2	0	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
41	Chile	1	1	1	0	2	1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
41	Ecuador	1	3	2	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
41	Italy	1	1	1	0	1	-1	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
41	Liechtenstein	1	2	1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
41	Nepal	1	3	-1	0	1	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
41	Slovakia	1	2	1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
41	Thailand	1	2	1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	2	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
48	India	0	1	-1	0	1	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0
49	Bermuda	-1	1	1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
49	Bolivia	-1	2	-1	0	2	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
49	Brazil	-1	1	2	2	-2	-1	0	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-2	0

Ranking 2020	Country	Total	Anti-Discrimination Legislation	Marriage / Civil Partnership	Adoption Allowed	Transgender Rights	Intersex / 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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
49	Croatia	-1	2	1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
49	Hungary	-1	2	1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	1	0	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
49	Mexico	-1	1	1	2	0	-1	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-2	0
49	Mozambique	-1	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
56	Bosnia-Herzegovina	-2	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	0	0	0
56	Botswana	-2	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
56	Costa Rica	-2	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
56	Cuba	-2	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
56	Cyprus	-2	1	1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
56	Greece	-2	1	1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
56	Korea South	-2	1	-1	0	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
56	Macao	-2	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
56	Seychelles	-2	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
56	Virgin Islands	-2	1	2	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0
66	Angola	-3	2	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66	Cambodia	-3	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	China incl. Hong Kong	-3	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	El Salvador	-3	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0
66	Fiji	-3	3	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	Japan	-3	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	Lesotho	-3	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66	Lithuania	-3	2	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	Mongolia	-3	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
66	Panama	-3	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
66	San Marino	-3	3	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	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
78	Albania	-4	2	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
78	Aruba	-4	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
78	Benin	-4	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
78	Bulgaria	-4	2	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
78	Curacao	-4	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
78	Kosovo	-4	3	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	1	-2	0	0	0
78	Laos	-4	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
78	Latvia	-4	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
78	Mali	-4	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
78	Monaco	-4	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
78	Montenegro	-4	2	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
78	Romania	-4	2	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
78	St. Maarten	-4	2	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
78	Vietnam	-4	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
92	Armenia	-5	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
92	British Virgin Islands	-5	3	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
92	Cabo Verde	-5	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
92	Guinea-Bissau	-5	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
92	Kazakhstan	-5	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
92	Macedonia	-5	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
92	Moldova	-5	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0
92	Nicaragua	-5	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
92	Niger	-5	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
92	Philippines	-5	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
92	Singapore	-5	0	-1	0	1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0

Ranking 2020	Country	Total	Anti-Discrimination Legislation	Marriage / Civil Partnership	Adoption Allowed	Transgender Rights	Intersex / 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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
103	Belize	-6	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
103	Gabon	-6	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0
103	Georgia (Europe)	-6	2	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0
103	Honduras	-6	2	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0
103	Kyrgyzstan	-6	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0
103	Peru	-6	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-2	0
103	Poland	-6	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	-1	0	0	0
103	Ukraine	-6	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-2	0	0	0
111	Burkina Faso	-7	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0
111	Myanmar	-7	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
111	Sri Lanka	-7	1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
111	Turkey	-7	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0
111	Vanuatu	-7	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
111	Venezuela	-7	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-2	0	-1	0
117	Bhutan	-8	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
117	Dem.Rep. of Congo	-8	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-2	0	0	0
117	Indonesia	-8	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-2	-1	0	0
117	Kenya	-8	0	-1	0	0	1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
117	Lebanon	-8	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0
117	Mauritius	-8	1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0
117	Namibia	-8	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0
117	Pakistan	-8	1	-1	0	1	1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1
117	Republic of the Congo	-8	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-2	0	0	0
117	Rwanda	-8	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0
117	Samoa	-8	0	-1	0	1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
117	Suriname	-8	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
117	Syria	-8	0	-1	0	1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
117	Tajikistan	-8	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-2	-1	0	0
131	Algeria	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0
131	Antigua & Barbuda	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0
131	Azerbaijan	-9	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-2	0	0
131	Bahamas	-9	0	-1	0	1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-2	0	-2	0
131	Bahrain	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	-1	0	0
131	Bangladesh	-9	0	-1	0	1	1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	0
131	Barbados	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
131	Djibouti	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	-1	0	0
131	Equatorial Guinea	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0
131	Guatemala	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-2	0	-2	0
131	Jordan	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0
131	Korea North	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0
131	Madagascar	-9	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-2	0	-2	0
131	Trinidad & Tobago	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0
131	Tunisia	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0
131	Vatican City	-9	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0
147	Belarus	-10	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	-2	-2	0	0
147	Burundi	-10	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0
147	Dominican Republic	-10	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-2	0
147	Grenada	-10	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0
147	Guyana	-10	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	-1	0
147	Ivory Coast	-10	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	-2	0	0	0
147	Oman	-10	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0

Ranking 2020	Country	Total	Anti-Discrimination Legislation	Marriage / Civil Partnership	Adoption Allowed	Transgender Rights	Intersex / 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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
147	Paraguay	-10	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	-2	0
147	Sierra Leone	-10	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0
156	Central African Rep.	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0
156	Ghana	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0
156	Liberia	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0
156	Togo	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
156	Tonga	-11	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
161	Brunei	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1
161	Chad	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
161	Comoros Islands	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
161	Cook Islands	-12	-1	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0
161	Dominica	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
161	Ethiopia	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
161	Gambia	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
161	Haiti	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	-1	-2	0	-2	0
161	Iraq	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0	0	-2	-1	-1	0
161	Jamaica	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	1	-2	-1	-2	0
161	Maldives	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
161	Mauritania	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	-1
161	Morocco	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	0
161	Papua New Guinea	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0
161	Russia	-12	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	0	-1	-2	-1	-2	0
161	Senegal	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
161	Solomon Islands	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0
161	Swaziland	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	1	-2	0	-2	0
161	Uzbekistan	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
161	Zambia	-12	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
181	Egypt	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-2	0	0
181	Eritrea	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	0
181	Indonesia/Aceh	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	-1
181	Kuwait	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-2	0	0
181	Sudan	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	0	-1
181	Tanzania	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-2	0	0
181	Turkmenistan	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	0
181	Uganda	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	-1	-2	-1	0	0
181	Zimbabwe	-13	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	0
190	Cameroon	-14	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	0
190	Malawi	-14	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	0
190	Malaysia	-14	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-2	0	-2	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0
190	Nigeria	-14	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	-3
190	Qatar	-14	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	0	-1
195	Afghanistan	-15	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	-1
195	Libya	-15	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	-1
195	United Arab Emirates	-15	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1
198	Yemen	-16	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	-1
199	Iran	-18	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	-2	-5
199	Saudi Arabia	-18	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-1	-5
201	Somalia	-19	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	0	-2	-1	-2	-5
202	Chechnya	-20	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-1	-1	-2	-2	-2	-5

# spartacus® | America-Index



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 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.

## NOTES

**North Carolina:** As the only Southern state that did not ban conversion therapy, but explicitly prohibited government funding of such programs, NC receives zero points for being a special case.

**Texas:** Two negative points were given in the Hostility towards LGBT category as there were four murders on LGBTIQ people and we also found numerous other types of assaults.

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openly accessible  
NGO portals and  
government organisations

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Ranking 2020	State	Total	Anti-Discrimination Legislation	Transgender Rights	Intersex / 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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
2	Nevada	10	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	0
2	New York	10	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	0	-1
4	Colorado	9	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	-1	0
4	Connecticut	9	2	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	0
4	Illinois	9	2	2	-1	2	1	2	1	0	0
4	Massachusetts	9	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	-1	0
4	Oregon	9	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	-1	0
4	Washington DC	9	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	-1	0
10	New Jersey	8	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
10	Washington	8	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	-1	-1
12	Hawaii	7	2	2	-1	2	1	0	1	0	0
12	New Mexico	7	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	-1	0
12	Utah	7	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	-1	0
12	Vermont	7	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	-1	0
16	Maryland	6	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	-1	-1
16	New Hampshire	6	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	-1	0
16	Rhode Island	6	2	2	-1	2	1	0	0	0	0
19	Delaware	5	2	2	-1	2	1	0	0	-1	0
19	Maine	5	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
21	Minnesota	4	2	1	1	2	-1	0	0	-1	0
22	Florida	2	0	2	-1	1	-1	2	1	-1	-1
23	Indiana	1	0	1	1	1	-1	0	0	-1	0
23	Iowa	1	2	1	-1	1	-1	0	0	-1	0
23	Pennsylvania	1	2	2	-1	0	-1	0	1	-1	-1
26	Arizona	0	0	0	-1	1	-1	1	1	-1	0
26	Georgia	0	2	0	-1	0	-1	1	1	-1	-1
26	Louisiana	0	0	0	-1	1	-1	1	1	-1	0
26	Virginia	0	0	1	-1	0	-1	1	1	-1	0
30	Alaska	-1	0	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
30	Arkansas	-1	0	0	1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
30	Idaho	-1	0	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
30	Kansas	-1	0	1	-1	1	-1	0	0	-1	0
30	Michigan	-1	2	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	-1	-1
30	Montana	-1	0	2	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
30	Wisconsin	-1	1	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	-1	0
37	Kentucky	-2	0	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	-1	0
37	Mississippi	-2	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
37	Missouri	-2	0	0	-1	2	-1	0	0	-1	-1
37	Nebraska	-2	0	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	-1	0
37	South Dakota	-2	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
37	Tennessee	-2	0	-1	-1	2	-1	0	1	-1	-1
37	Texas	-2	0	1	-1	1	-1	0	1	-1	-2
37	West Virginia	-2	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
45	Alabama	-3	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
45	North Carolina	-3	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	-1
45	North Dakota	-3	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
45	Oklahoma	-3	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
45	South Carolina	-3	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1
45	Wyoming	-3	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0
51	Ohio	-4	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0	1	-1	-1