



NORTH CAROLINA

2020 Census Snapshot

Total same-sex couples

34,857

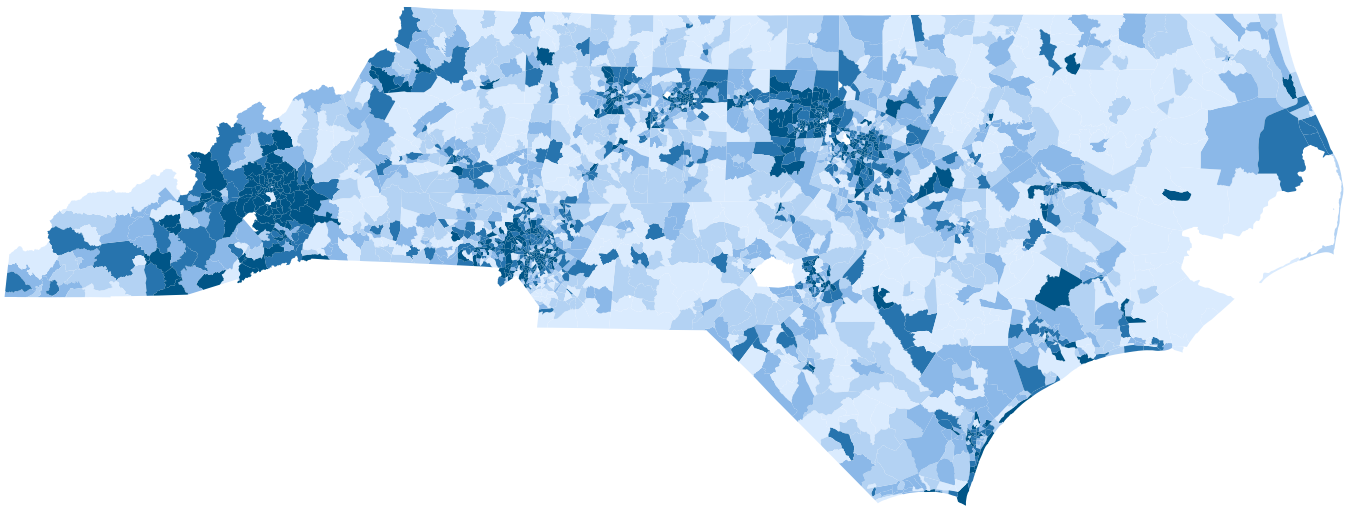
SS couples per 1K households

8.38

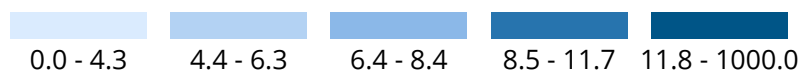
% of SS couples who are married

55.0%

Population density of same-sex couples in North Carolina by Census tract

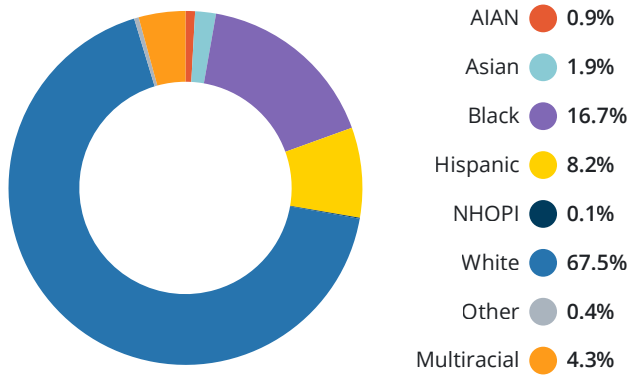


SS couples per 1K households

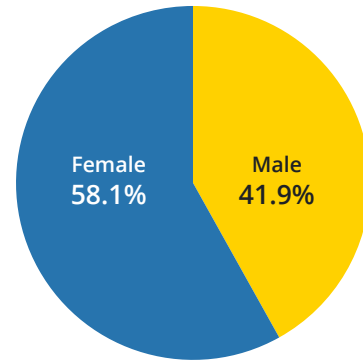


DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

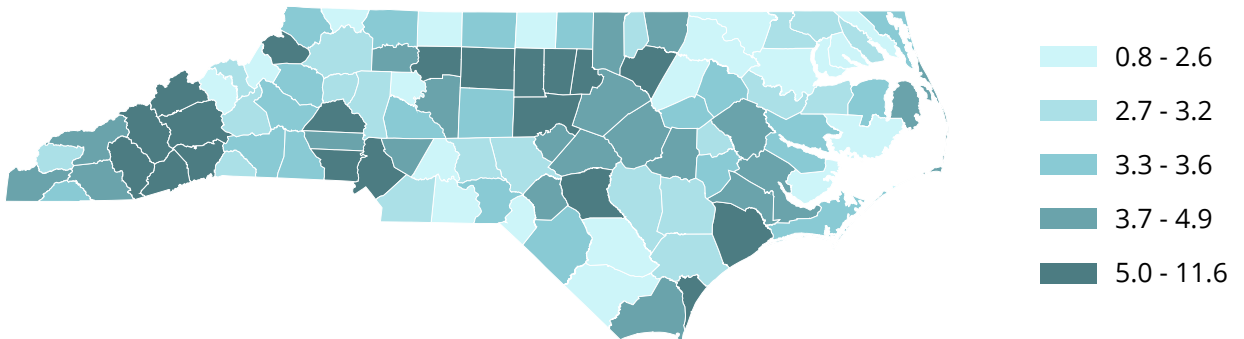
Race/ethnicity of same-sex couples (householder)



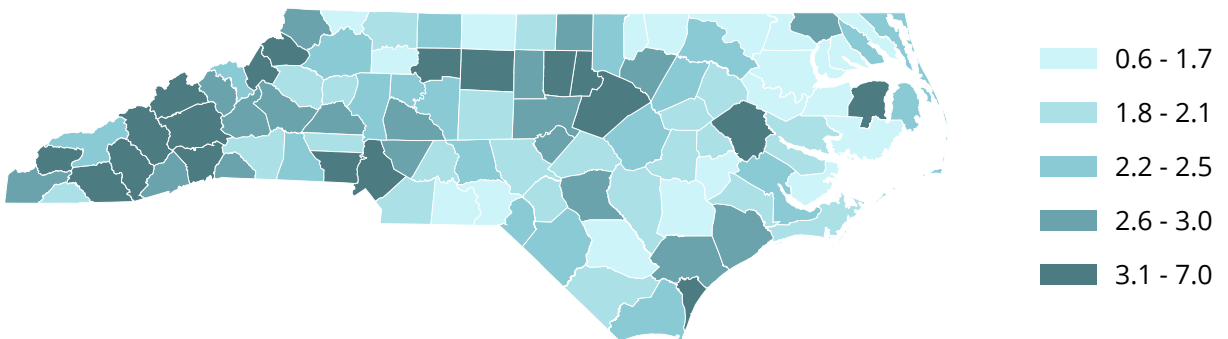
Gender of same-sex couples



Female SS couples per 1K households by county

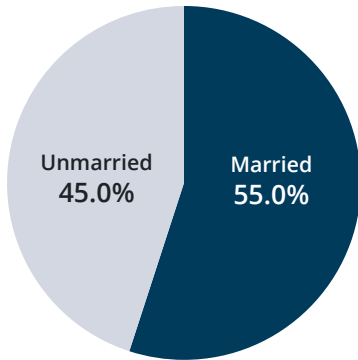


Male SS couples per 1K households by county

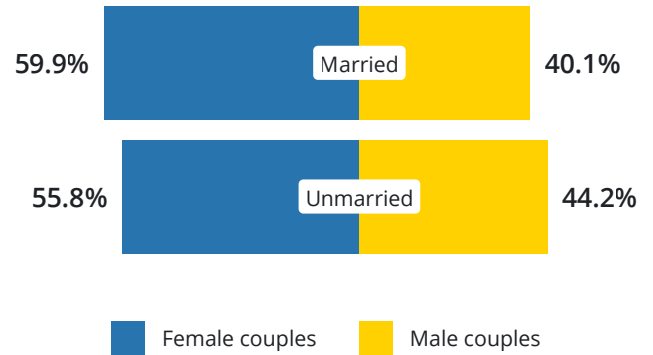


FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS

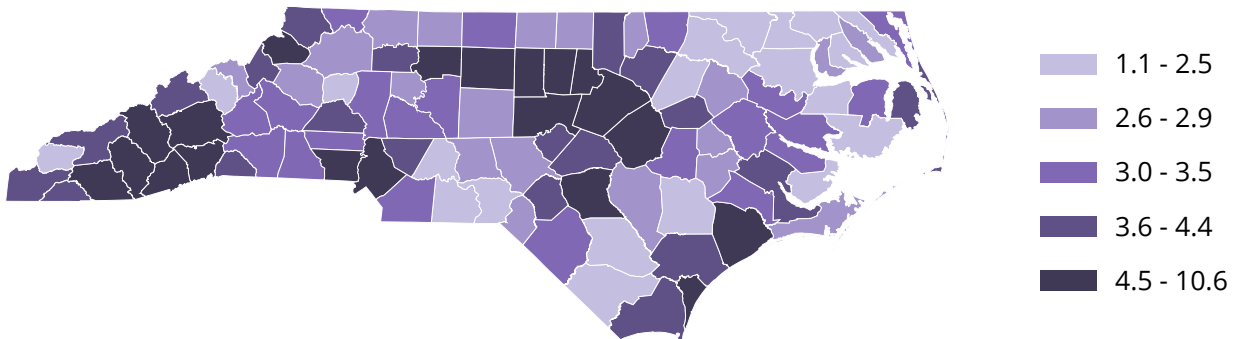
Marital status of same-sex couples



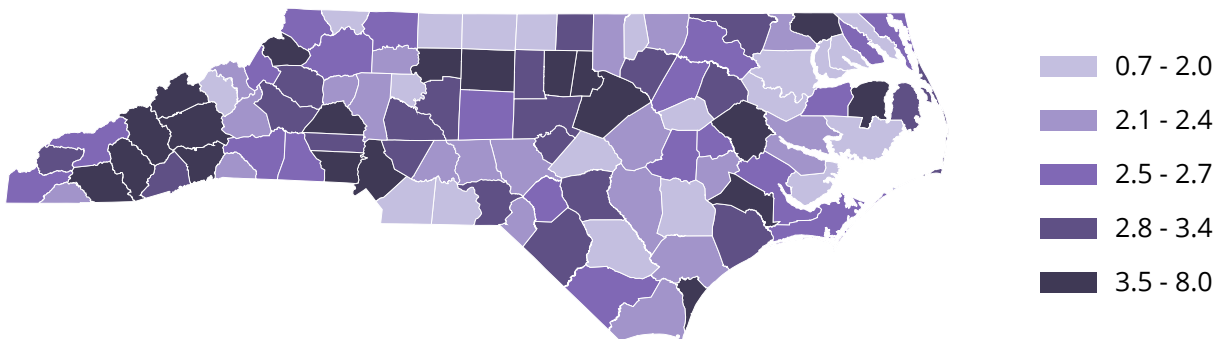
Gender of same-sex couples by marital status



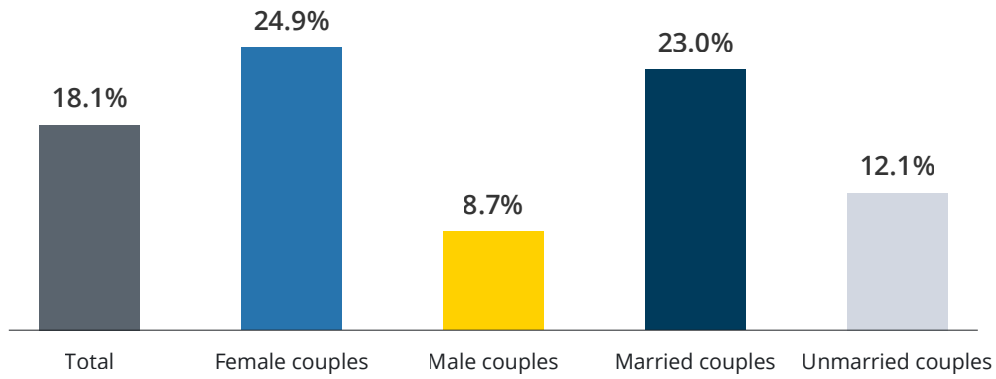
Married SS couples per 1K households by county



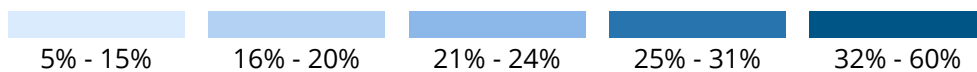
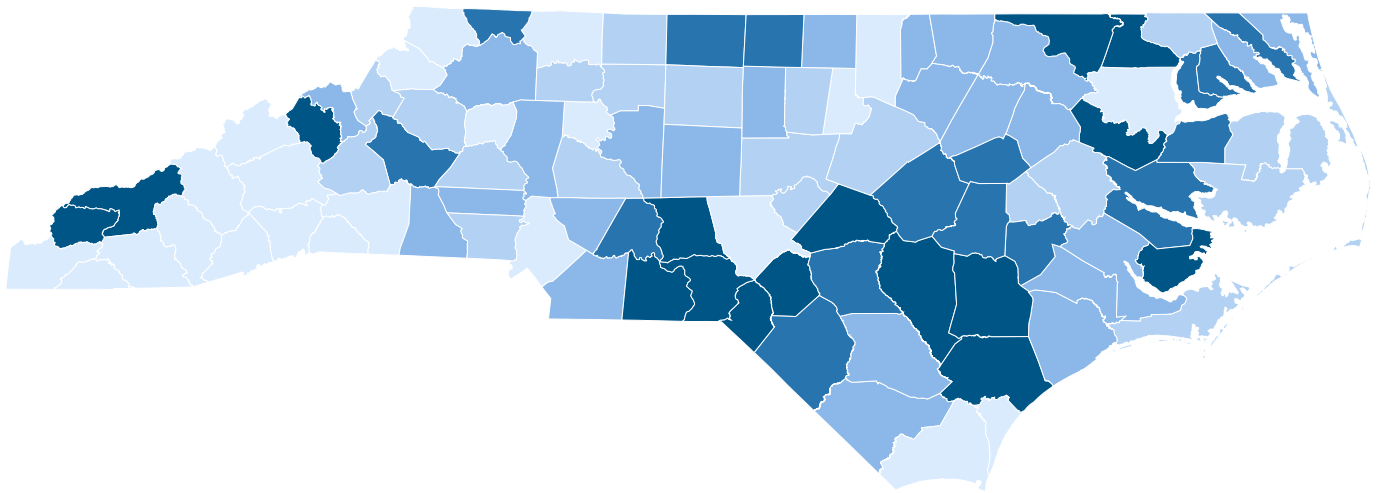
Unmarried SS couples per 1K households by county



Percent of same-sex couples raising own children



Percent of SS couples raising own children by county



TABLES

Counties with 50+ same-sex couples ranked by SS per 1K households

STATE RANK	US RANK	COUNTY	SAME-SEX COUPLES	SS COUPLES PER 1K HH	SS FEMALE COUPLES	SS MALE COUPLES	% RAISING OWN CHILDREN
1	13	Buncombe County	2,158	18.57	1,346	812	12%
2	30	Durham County	2,130	15.82	1,302	828	14%
3	68	Orange County	734	12.86	472	262	18%
4	112	Henderson County	556	11.27	327	229	13%
5	113	Mecklenburg County	5,058	11.27	2,479	2,579	14%
6	123	Haywood County	299	11.00	167	132	11%
7	185	New Hanover County	971	9.90	564	407	12%
8	209	Forsyth County	1,513	9.66	885	628	16%
9	221	Guilford County	2,066	9.56	1,193	873	17%
10	232	Macon County	155	9.46	80	75	15%
11	235	Madison County	84	9.42	52	32	13%
12	240	Watauga County	201	9.39	120	81	5%
13	250	Gaston County	842	9.27	471	371	20%
14	253	Wake County	4,044	9.25	2,061	1,983	16%
15	301	Jackson County	148	8.77	97	51	14%
16	324	Chatham County	269	8.60	182	87	17%
17	332	Cumberland County	1,100	8.53	762	338	27%
18	367	Alamance County	554	8.16	358	196	23%
19	378	Catawba County	518	8.03	333	185	20%
20	393	Onslow County	555	7.98	351	204	22%
21	401	Transylvania County	114	7.92	77	37	11%
22	415	Pitt County	548	7.83	304	244	20%
23	475	Franklin County	198	7.53	130	68	24%
24	514	Dare County	117	7.33	78	39	19%
25	558	Cabarrus County	590	7.14	352	238	24%
26	564	Johnston County	563	7.12	370	193	25%
27	613	Cherokee County	87	6.85	53	34	14%
28	646	Brunswick County	414	6.73	281	133	15%
29	677	Lee County	163	6.63	97	66	18%
30	701	Craven County	268	6.55	176	92	22%
31	742	Davidson County	434	6.37	269	165	22%
32	792	Ashe County	73	6.24	38	35	5%
33	825	Lincoln County	211	6.15	139	72	21%
34	828	Granville County	138	6.14	85	53	15%
35	829	Hoke County	114	6.13	76	38	32%
36	843	Polk County	52	6.09	27	25	8%
37	844	Burke County	214	6.09	117	97	28%

STATE RANK	US RANK	COUNTY	SAME-SEX COUPLES	SS COUPLES PER 1K HH	SS FEMALE COUPLES	SS MALE COUPLES	% RAISING OWN CHILDREN
38	853	Rowan County	348	6.06	203	145	17%
39	877	Pender County	137	5.97	74	63	32%
40	899	Currituck County	63	5.88	38	25	21%
41	926	Person County	94	5.81	54	40	21%
42	929	Robeson County	252	5.81	146	106	29%
43	950	Harnett County	277	5.76	183	94	35%
44	966	Cleveland County	228	5.72	143	85	24%
45	976	Caldwell County	189	5.70	119	70	19%
46	978	Wayne County	262	5.70	172	90	31%
47	1,003	Randolph County	324	5.64	203	121	22%
48	1,019	Rutherford County	149	5.59	96	53	14%
49	1,022	Yadkin County	85	5.58	60	25	18%
50	1,059	Iredell County	398	5.47	231	167	23%
51	1,061	Edgecombe County	109	5.46	67	42	24%
52	1,062	Beaufort County	106	5.46	65	41	28%
53	1,066	Carteret County	164	5.45	109	55	18%
54	1,071	Wilson County	175	5.43	111	64	26%
55	1,072	Surry County	161	5.43	101	60	15%
56	1,082	Wilkes County	149	5.40	81	68	24%
57	1,114	McDowell County	96	5.32	50	46	17%
58	1,191	Pasquotank County	79	5.06	45	34	22%
59	1,203	Lenoir County	115	5.02	79	36	31%
60	1,218	Union County	400	4.99	232	168	24%
61	1,226	Scotland County	64	4.97	33	31	41%
62	1,240	Nash County	193	4.94	98	95	24%
63	1,263	Rockingham County	188	4.85	125	63	30%
64	1,268	Montgomery County	50	4.84	27	23	34%
65	1,280	Sampson County	108	4.79	69	39	33%
66	1,306	Moore County	198	4.73	116	82	15%
67	1,320	Halifax County	97	4.68	49	48	23%
68	1,340	Columbus County	94	4.62	52	42	22%
69	1,344	Stokes County	87	4.60	43	44	17%
70	1,351	Richmond County	80	4.58	59	21	38%
71	1,365	Stanly County	112	4.53	60	52	30%
72	1,385	Alexander County	64	4.44	38	26	14%
73	1,440	Davie County	72	4.17	34	38	15%
74	1,442	Vance County	71	4.17	48	23	23%
75	1,473	Duplin County	76	3.96	51	25	39%

Counties with <50 same-sex couples

COUNTY	SAME-SEX COUPLES	SS COUPLES PER 1K HH	SS FEMALE COUPLES	SS MALE COUPLES	% RAISING OWN CHILDREN
Bladen County	49	3.95	29	20	22%
Avery County	44	6.41	14	30	16%
Martin County	40	4.19	28	12	38%
Hertford County	39	4.67	26	13	33%
Swain County	39	6.80	25	14	36%
Warren County	39	4.94	34	5	21%
Greene County	36	5.15	22	14	17%
Yancey County	36	4.43	13	23	33%
Mitchell County	34	5.14	20	14	24%
Caswell County	33	3.62	14	19	27%
Northampton County	32	4.10	19	13	44%
Anson County	31	3.62	22	9	42%
Clay County	27	5.53	17	10	11%
Jones County	26	6.71	19	7	23%
Bertie County	25	3.44	14	11	8%
Gates County	25	5.89	13	12	20%
Chowan County	24	4.08	15	9	25%
Washington County	20	4.11	14	6	30%
Alleghany County	19	3.92	11	8	26%
Graham County	19	5.73	9	10	37%
Perquimans County	15	2.69	7	8	27%
Camden County	12	3.10	7	5	25%
Tyrrell County	11	7.62	5	6	18%
Pamlico County	10	1.93	4	6	60%
Hyde County	5	2.77	4	1	20%

Cities with 50+ same-sex couples ranked by SS per 1K households

STATE RANK	US RANK	CITY	SAME-SEX COUPLES	SS COUPLES PER 1K HH
1	65	Woodfin	81	24.95
2	93	Asheville	937	21.68
3	178	Carrboro	161	17.20
4	201	Durham	1,956	16.43
5	423	Spring Lake	60	13.21
6	439	Pineville	63	13.05
7	455	Hillsborough	51	12.93
8	463	Black Mountain	50	12.80
9	488	Garner	161	12.54
10	580	Hendersonville	89	11.91

STATE RANK	US RANK	CITY	SAME-SEX COUPLES	SS COUPLES PER 1K HH
11	591	Mount Holly	85	11.81
12	599	Charlotte	4,181	11.76
13	637	Raleigh	2,263	11.57
14	671	Greensboro	1,391	11.38
15	730	Waynesville	52	11.09
16	737	Knightdale	81	11.07
17	746	Chapel Hill	243	10.99
18	794	Belmont	64	10.78
19	804	Wilmington	566	10.73
20	820	Winston-Salem	1,086	10.63
21	842	Mebane	77	10.54
22	855	Gastonia	334	10.48
23	979	Lexington	78	9.96
24	1,040	Murraysville	66	9.76
25	1,055	Greenville	369	9.71
26	1,122	Fayetteville	774	9.47
27	1,125	Havelock	54	9.46
28	1,169	Hickory	170	9.30
29	1,176	Jacksonville	191	9.28
30	1,181	Mint Hill	91	9.26
31	1,189	Huntersville	213	9.25
32	1,192	Cornelius	125	9.24
33	1,234	Leland	92	9.09
34	1,351	Kannapolis	177	8.71
35	1,354	Kernersville	103	8.71
36	1,372	Clayton	86	8.67
37	1,387	Burlington	206	8.63
38	1,651	High Point	352	7.93
39	1,668	Sanford	90	7.86
40	1,703	Reidsville	50	7.78
41	1,709	Graham	56	7.78
42	1,778	New Bern	105	7.61
43	1,784	Clemmons	64	7.59
44	1,812	Cary	504	7.53
45	1,831	Salisbury	102	7.49
46	1,848	Concord	287	7.44
47	1,896	Thomasville	80	7.35
48	2,034	Apex	145	6.95
49	2,043	Morrisville	77	6.93
50	2,062	Asheboro	75	6.86

STATE RANK	US RANK	CITY	SAME-SEX COUPLES	SS COUPLES PER 1K HH
51	2,144	Statesville	76	6.65
52	2,150	Wake Forest	112	6.64
53	2,219	Goldsboro	89	6.43
54	2,299	Fuquay-Varina	75	6.12
55	2,355	Matthews	69	5.92
56	2,373	Rocky Mount	135	5.85
57	2,397	Indian Trail	76	5.72
58	2,467	Mooresville	103	5.30
59	2,488	Monroe	62	5.10
60	2,501	Wilson	100	5.01
61	2,539	Holly Springs	63	4.70

METHODOLOGY

Data was compiled using the US Census Bureau's state, county, city, and Census tract counts for same-sex couples found [here](#). In this analysis, the authors combined incorporated places, independent cities, and consolidated cities to create the "city" category. Geographies listed as "independent cities" (such as Richmond City, VA) are included in both the "county" and "city" designation in this analysis. "Independent cities" are cities that are outside the jurisdiction of any county and are recognized as "county equivalents" by the U.S. Census Bureau. They are assigned a Federal Information Processing Series (FIPS) code. Despite their equivalence to counties, they are also still recognized as cities (as they often have comparable populations to cities of similar geographic size). Independent cities are only located in Virginia, Maryland, Nevada, and Missouri.

The householder is the person, or one of the people, who primarily own or rent the house. Same-sex couples are identified in households where householder describes their relationship with another adult of the same sex as either a "husband/wife" or "unmarried partner". In addition, we utilized the 2020 Census Privacy Protected Microdata Files (PPMF) to identify the race/ethnicity of the householder and the presence of the householder's own child/children.

Disclosure Avoidance Processes

In order to preserve the privacy of individuals in the PPMF data, 2020 Census utilized a differential privacy approach to inject noise into the data at smaller demographics and geographies, then conducted postprocessing steps to ensure that the noised data matched data in the public use tables. This top-down algorithm preserves data reliability at larger universe sizes while maintaining trust in data privacy. Due to the disclosure avoidance process, use caution when interpreting findings from smaller geographies or populations.

We include all values at the national, state, county, city, and Census tract levels. When ranking counties and cities by the number of same sex couples per 1,000 households, the authors only ranked counties with 50 or more same-sex couples. Cities with fewer than 50 same-sex couples were not listed. For our full methodology note, see [here](#).

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