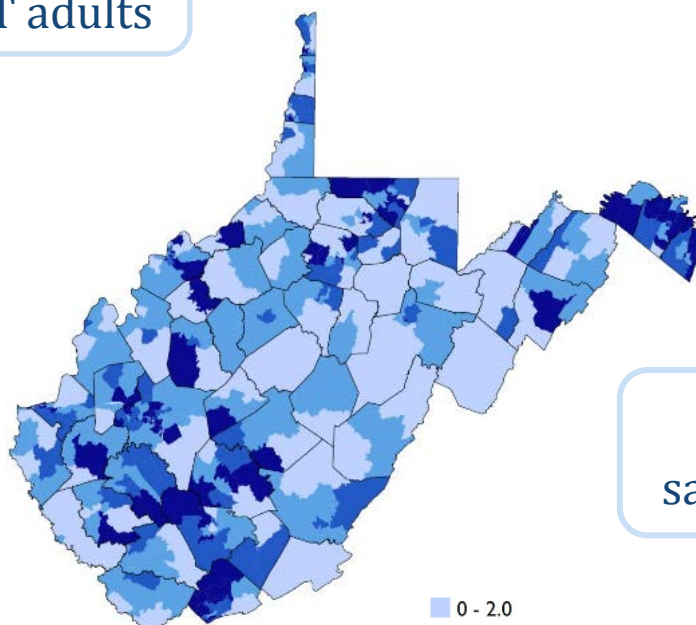




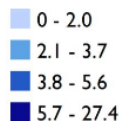
the Williams  
INSTITUTE

## LGBT People in West Virginia

West Virginia is home  
to **46,000** LGBT adults



And **2,800**  
same-sex couples



*Same-sex couples per 1,000 households in West Virginia*



18% of same-sex couples in West Virginia  
(500 couples) are raising children

## **As a result of a court decision extending marriage equality, an estimated 1,400 same-sex couples in West Virginia will marry by the end of 2017**

- *In total, wedding spending by these couples will add an estimated \$9 million to the state economy*
- *This economic boost would add \$500,000 in sales tax revenue to state and local coffers*
- *It could also generate up to 80 full- and part-time jobs*



### **LGBT people in West Virginia experience discrimination because of their sexual orientation or gender identity**

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*Polls have found that 78% of West Virginia residents think that LGBT people experience discrimination in the state*

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**Only 5% of West Virginia's workforce is covered by local laws that protect workers from discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity**

*But, 70% of West Virginia residents support employment non-discrimination protections for LGBT people*

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