

The Williams Institute

RESEARCH THAT MATTERS

The Williams Institute is dedicated to conducting rigorous and independent research on issues affecting the lives of LGBTQ people. But our work doesn't stop there. We ensure that our findings reach policymakers, judges, service providers, and the public so that decisions concerning the lives of LGBTQ people and families are grounded in facts—not stereotypes. Take a look at some of the impact our research has had in the past year.

Pride Executive Order

In honor of Pride month, President Biden signed an executive order in June 2022 to advance equality for LGBTQI+ youth and adults. The order expands access to gender-affirming care and youth mental health services, strengthens non-discrimination protections in the foster care system, protects youth from conversion therapy, and increases federal data collection of LGBTQI+ people. A fact sheet accompanying the executive order cited Williams Institute findings that show same-sex parents are seven times more likely than different-sex parents to be raising an adopted or foster child.

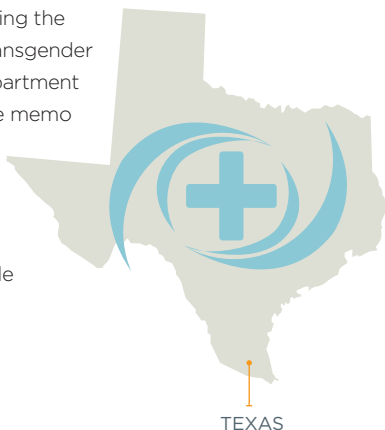


Same-sex parents are **7** times more likely to be raising adopted and foster children than male/female parents.

- same-sex parents
- male/female parents

Gender-Affirming Care

In February 2022, the governor of Texas sent a letter to the Department of Family Protective Services directing the agency to interpret gender-affirming care for transgender children as child abuse. In response, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issued a guidance memo to state child welfare agencies that included a discussion of a Williams Institute report on the over-representation of LGBTQI+ youth in foster care in Los Angeles and their increased risk of mistreatment, violence, and emotional harm while in the system.



TEXAS

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Trans Bills of Rights

In June 2022, a group of U.S. representatives introduced the Transgender Bill of Rights, which aims to codify the rights of transgender and nonbinary people and ensure access to medical care, shelter, safety, and economic security. The resolution calls for amending civil rights laws to explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender identity and sex characteristics and includes the Williams Institute's estimate of the number of transgender adults in the U.S.



Estimated number of adults who identify as transgender in the U.S.

4

Transgender Youth

In July 2021, a federal court in West Virginia blocked a state law that bans transgender girls and women from participating in school sports. The case, *B.P.J. v. West Virginia State Board of Education*, involved a transgender middle school student who wanted to try out for the girl's cross-country team. The court cited the Williams Institute's estimates of the transgender youth population in ruling in favor of the student.

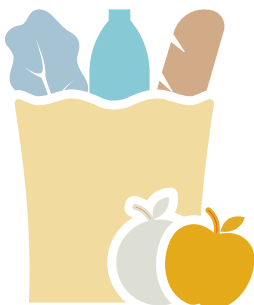


West Virginia is one of 18 states in the U.S. that limit transgender youth participation in school sports.

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Food Insufficiency

In May 2022, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service announced a policy prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity across its food assistance programs. The policy is aimed at reducing barriers to food insecurity for LGBTQ+ people. In its release, the USDA cited research by the Williams Institute on the percentage of LGBTQ people who experienced food insufficiency during the pandemic.



2.5X

LGBT people are more than twice as likely as non-LGBT people to experience food insecurity.