

LGBTQ Repro Health in Alabama Factsheet

The South holds the highest percentage of LGBTQ+ people compared to other US regions. And in Alabama, in 2023 about 4.6% of the population identified as LGBTQ+ which amounted to about 173,000 people.

As is the case in most states, in Alabama, the largest age group category of LGBTQ+ people is 18-24 years old.¹

These shifts in population trends align with national LGBTQ+ data over the previous many years to show more and more people are identifying as LGBTQ+ in each new generation.²

According to the Trevor Project, in 2022 61% of LGBTQ+ young people in Alabama who wanted access to mental healthcare did not receive it - 57% of which identified as trans and nonbinary.³

In 2025 alone, there were 7 bills attacking LGBTQ+ people in the Alabama Legislature 4 of them targeting LGBTQ+ people in schools and libraries.⁴

LGBTQ+ Laws in Alabama:

- ★ In 1998, a broad Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) was added to the Alabama Constitution, allowing medical providers to refuse care to LGBTQ+people and others.^{5,6}
- ★ In 2017, a law passed in Alabama which allows religious adoption agencies to refuse child placement to families that do not share their religious beliefs.⁷
- ★ In 2021, URGE celebrated a win with organizational partners when legislation passed to update the state sex education code to eliminate stigmatizing and homophobic language related to HIV & AIDS as well as ensure medically accurate sex ed.8

¹ LGBT-Adult-US-Pop-Dec-2023.pdf

² LGBTO+ Identification in U.S. Rises to 9.3%

³ <u>The-Trevor-Project-2022-National-Survey-on-LGBTQ-Youth-Mental-Health-by-State-Alabama.pdf</u>

⁴ Mapping Attacks on LGBTQ Rights in U.S. State Legislatures in 2025 | American Civil Liberties Union

⁵ Alabama Freedom of Religion, Amendment 8 (1998) - Ballotpedia

⁶ <u>AMENDMENT 622 RATIFIED :: Alabama Constitution :: Alabama Law :: US Law :: Justia</u>

⁷ HB24 (2017) - "Child Placing Agency Inclusion Act" | ACLU of Alabama

⁸ <u>Alabama governor signs bill to remove anti-LGBTQ language from sex education curriculum</u>



- ★ In 2021, the anti-trans sports bill passed and went into law which prohibits transgender youth from participating in sports in Alabama Public Schools.9
- ★ In 2022, the anti-trans youth healthcare ban was signed into law which makes it a felony for healthcare providers to prescribe puberty blockers or hormone replacement therapy to young people under the age of 19 years old.¹⁰
- ★ In 2025, the Alabama legislature passed the transmisogynistic "What is a Woman Act" which creates legal definitions for "male" and "female" to create single sex spaces and requires any public entity that collects vital statistics related to sex to identify participants sex they were assigned at birth.

In a state where LGBTQ+ health disparities and outcomes are already in dire condition, the overlay of poor reproductive health resources and options weigh doubly hard on LGBTQ+ folks seeking affirming and quality reproductive healthcare.¹¹

State abortion bans have caused many reproductive health care providers to close and move to practice in other states, **leaving LGBTQ+ people in Alabama with even less** access to reproductive and other life-saving healthcare.¹¹

Due to state abortion bans, 11% of LGBTQ+ people were forced to change medical providers or struggled to find them compared to only 2% of people who are not LGBTQ+.¹¹ Things get steeper at the margins, with **15% of disabled LGBTQ+ people's access to healthcare being negatively affected by state abortion bans.**¹¹

LGBTQ+ people deserve to exist and thrive in Alabama and to create the family structures that work for us. Access to quality and affirming reproductive healthcare for LGBTQ+ young people is a core priority to achieving Reproductive Justice in Alabama.

⁹ HB 391 (2021) - Anti-Trans Participation in Sports | ACLU of Alabama

¹⁰ Federal appeals court allows Alabama's gender-affirming care ban to go into effect | Alabama Reflector

¹¹ New Survey Shows Abortion Bans' Unique and Chilling Impact on LGBTQI+ People - Center for American Progress