

Where Do Gay and Lesbian Couples Live?

Census 2000 counts same-sex couples in 99 percent of U.S. counties. Like the distribution of the U.S. population at large, the distribution of gay and lesbian families is far from uniform across the nation.

(From *The Gay and Lesbian Atlas*, by Gary J. Gates and Jason Ost, Urban Institute Press, May 2004.)

States with the most same-sex couple households

1. California
2. New York
3. Texas
4. Florida
5. Illinois
6. Pennsylvania
7. Georgia
8. Ohio
9. Massachusetts
10. New Jersey

Highest concentrations of same-sex couple households...

by state

1. Vermont
2. California
3. Washington
4. Massachusetts
5. Oregon
6. New Mexico
7. Nevada
8. New York
9. Maine
10. Arizona

by large metro area

1. San Francisco, CA
2. Oakland, CA
3. Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA
4. Fort Lauderdale, FL
5. Austin-San Marcos, TX
6. New York, NY
7. Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA
8. Albuquerque, NM
9. Atlanta, GA
10. Jersey City, NJ

by city/town*

1. Provincetown, MA
2. Guerneville, CA
3. Wilton Manors, FL
4. West Hollywood, CA
5. Palm Springs, CA
6. Miami Shores, FL
7. Decatur, GA
8. Key West, FL
9. Northampton, MA
10. North Druid Hills, GA

by neighborhood (ZIP code)

1. Provincetown, MA - 02657
2. Castro, San Francisco, CA - 94114
3. Guerneville, CA - 95446
4. Twin Peaks, San Francisco, CA - 94131
5. West Hollywood, CA - 90069
6. Oakland Park/Ft. Lauderdale, FL - 33305
7. Haight Ashbury, San Francisco, CA - 94117
8. Chelsea, New York, NY - 10011
9. Roxbury, Boston, MA - 02118
10. Montrose, Houston, TX - 77006

*Cities or towns with at least 50 same-sex couples.

Location Patterns Differ between Gay and Lesbian Couples

Same-sex male and female couples share only five states and one county among their respective top ten locations. Lesbian couples are less urban than their gay male counterparts. Gay male couples are more likely to live in areas with higher concentrations of same-sex couples than are lesbian couples.

(From *The Gay and Lesbian Atlas*, by Gary J. Gates and Jason Ost, Urban Institute Press, May 2004.)

Highest concentration of gay male couples...

by state

1. California
2. Nevada
3. Florida
4. New York
5. Georgia
6. Washington
7. Arizona
8. Delaware
9. Massachusetts
10. Vermont

by metropolitan statistical area

1. San Francisco, CA
2. Fort Lauderdale, FL
3. Santa Rosa, CA
4. Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA
5. New York, NY
6. Jersey City, NJ
7. Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA
8. Santa Fe, NM
9. Oakland, CA
10. Miami, FL

by neighborhood (ZIP codes)

1. Castro, San Francisco, CA – 94114
2. Provincetown, MA - 02657
3. Twin Peaks, San Francisco, CA - 94131
4. West Hollywood, CA – 90069
5. Guerneville, CA - 95446
6. Oakland Park/Ft. Lauderdale, FL - 33305
7. Roxbury, Boston, MA - 02118
8. Dallas, TX – 75219
9. Chelsea, New York, NY – 10011
10. Haight Ashbury, San Francisco, CA - 94117

Highest concentration of lesbian couples...

by state

1. Vermont
2. New Mexico
3. Oregon
4. Massachusetts
5. California
6. Maine
7. Washington
8. New Hampshire
9. Colorado
10. Arizona

by metropolitan statistical area

1. Santa Rosa, CA
2. Santa Cruz-Watsonville, CA
3. Santa Fe, NM
4. San Francisco, CA
5. Oakland, CA
6. Burlington, VT
7. Portland, ME
8. Springfield, MA
9. Corvallis, OR
10. Madison, WI

by neighborhood (ZIP codes)

1. Provincetown, MA - 02657
2. Florence/Northampton, MA - 01062
3. Florence/Northampton, MA - 01060
4. Guerneville, CA – 95446
5. Jamaica Plain, MA – 02130
6. Decatur, GA - 30030
7. Castro, San Francisco, CA – 94114
8. Oakland/Piedmont, CA - 94602
9. Berkeley, CA – 94702
10. Mission District, San Francisco, CA – 94110

Where Do Same-Sex Couples with Children Live?

An estimated one in four same-sex couple households report children under age 18 living in the home. Same-sex couples with children often live in states and large metropolitan areas not known for large gay and lesbian communities.

(From *The Gay and Lesbian Atlas*, by Gary J. Gates and Jason Ost, Urban Institute Press, May 2004.)

States with the highest concentration of same-sex couples with children...

among all households

1. California
2. New Mexico
3. Vermont
4. Nevada
5. Alaska
6. Texas
7. Arizona
8. New York
9. Georgia
10. Louisiana

among all households with children

1. Vermont
2. Nevada
3. California
4. New Mexico
5. Arizona
6. New York
7. Florida
8. Massachusetts
9. Texas
10. South Carolina

among all same-sex couples

1. Mississippi
2. South Dakota
3. Alaska
4. South Carolina
5. Louisiana
6. Alabama
7. Texas
8. Kansas
9. Utah
10. Arizona

Large metropolitan areas with the highest concentration of same-sex couples with children...

among all households

1. New York, NY
2. Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA
3. Oakland, CA
4. Miami, FL
5. Houston, TX
6. Riverside-San Bernardino, CA
7. Las Vegas, NV
8. San Francisco, CA
9. New Orleans, LA
10. Phoenix-Mesa, AZ

among all households with children

1. San Francisco, CA
2. New York, NY
3. Oakland, CA
4. Miami, FL
5. Las Vegas, NV
6. Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA
7. Austin-San Marcos, TX
8. Phoenix-Mesa, AZ
9. Houston, TX
10. Boston, MA

among all same-sex couples

1. San Antonio, TX
2. Bergen-Passaic, NJ
3. Memphis, TN
4. Houston, TX
5. Fort Worth-Arlington, TX
6. Newark, NJ
7. Riverside-San Bernardino, CA
8. Nassau-Suffolk, NY
9. Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport News, VA
10. Orange County, CA

Where Do Senior Gay and Lesbian Couples Live?

Nearly one in five people in a same-sex couple is at least 55 years old. Senior gay and lesbian couples often live in states and metropolitan areas with high proportions of seniors in the general adult population.

(From *The Gay and Lesbian Atlas*, by Gary J. Gates and Jason Ost, Urban Institute Press, May 2004.)

States with the highest concentration of same-sex coupled seniors...

among all adults

1. Vermont
2. Florida
3. New Mexico
4. North Dakota
5. Maine
6. Wyoming
7. South Dakota
8. Hawaii
9. New York
10. Alabama

among all seniors

1. Vermont
2. Alaska
3. New Mexico
4. California
5. Wyoming
6. North Dakota
7. Hawaii
8. Maine
9. Florida
10. New York

among all same-sex couples

1. North Dakota
2. South Dakota
3. Montana
4. Wyoming
5. West Virginia
6. Nebraska
7. Iowa
8. Arkansas
9. Mississippi
10. Idaho

Metropolitan statistical areas with the highest concentration of same-sex coupled seniors...

among all adults

1. Barnstable-Yarmouth, MA
2. Santa Rosa, CA
3. San Francisco, CA
4. Sarasota-Bradenton, FL
5. Santa Fe, NM
6. Fort Myers-Cape Coral, FL
7. Fort Lauderdale, FL
8. West Palm Beach-Boca Raton, FL
9. Naples, FL
10. Punta Gorda, FL

among all seniors

1. Santa Rosa, CA
2. San Francisco, CA
3. Santa Fe, NM
4. Barnstable-Yarmouth, MA
5. Fort Lauderdale, FL
6. Santa Cruz-Watsonville, CA
7. Riverside-San Bernardino, CA
8. Burlington, VT
9. Goldsboro, NC
10. New York, NY

among all same-sex couples

1. Punta Gorda, FL
2. Barnstable-Yarmouth, MA
3. Sarasota-Bradenton, FL
4. Naples, FL
5. Ocala, FL
6. Johnstown, PA
7. Fort Myers-Cape Coral, FL
8. Fort Pierce-Fort St. Lucie, FL
9. Danville, VA
10. Bismarck, ND

Where Do African-American Same-Sex Couples Live?

Areas with large African-American communities have higher concentrations of African-American gay and lesbian couples, both in the population and among gay and lesbian couples.

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States with the highest concentration of African-American same-sex couples...

among all households

1. Mississippi
2. Louisiana
3. South Carolina
4. Georgia
5. Maryland
6. Alabama
7. North Carolina
8. Delaware
9. Virginia
10. New York

among all African-American households

1. Vermont
2. New Hampshire
3. Utah
4. Maine
5. Idaho
6. North Dakota
7. Rhode Island
8. Massachusetts
9. Oregon
10. California

among all same-sex couples

1. Mississippi
2. South Carolina
3. Louisiana
4. Alabama
5. Maryland
6. Georgia
7. North Carolina
8. Arkansas
9. Virginia
10. Delaware

Metropolitan statistical areas* with the highest concentration of African-American same-sex couples...

among all households

1. Sumter, SC
2. Albany, GA
3. Pine Bluff, AR
4. Rocky Mount, NC
5. Florence, SC
6. Memphis, TN
7. Macon, GA
8. New Orleans, LA
9. Montgomery, AL
10. Columbus, GA

among all African-American households

1. San Francisco, CA
2. Jersey City, NJ
3. Newburgh, NY
4. Fresno, CA
5. Oakland, CA
6. Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA
7. West Palm Beach-Boca Raton, FL
8. Boston, MA
9. Sarasota-Bradenton, FL
10. Houma, LA

among all same-sex couples

1. Sumter, SC
2. Pine Bluff, AR
3. Albany, GA
4. Rocky Mount, NC
5. Florence, SC
6. Macon, GA
7. Montgomery, AL
8. Columbus, GA
9. Goldsboro, NC
10. Jackson, MS

* with more than 50 African-American couples

Where Do Hispanic Same-Sex Couples Live?

Areas with large Hispanic communities have higher concentrations of Hispanic gay and lesbian couples, both in the population and among gay and lesbian couples.

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States with the highest concentration of Hispanic same-sex couples...

among all households

1. New Mexico
2. California
3. Texas
4. Arizona
5. Nevada
6. Florida
7. New York
8. Colorado
9. New Jersey
10. Illinois

among all Hispanic households

1. Georgia
2. South Carolina
3. North Carolina
4. Alabama
5. Mississippi
6. Maine
7. Washington
8. Delaware
9. Arkansas
10. Kentucky

among all same-sex couples

1. New Mexico
2. Texas
3. California
4. Arizona
5. Nevada
6. Florida
7. New Jersey
8. Colorado
9. New York
10. Illinois

Metropolitan statistical areas* with the highest concentration of Hispanic same-sex couples...

among all households

1. McAllen, TX
2. Laredo, TX
3. Brownsville, TX
4. Miami, FL
5. El Paso, TX
6. Visalia, CA
7. Las Cruces, NM
8. Santa Fe, NM
9. Salinas, CA
10. San Antonio, TX

among all Hispanic households

1. San Francisco, CA
2. Madison, WI
3. Birmingham, AL
4. Santa Rosa, CA
5. Seattle, WA
6. Indianapolis, IN
7. Atlanta, GA
8. Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC
9. Santa Cruz-Watsonville, CA
10. Greensboro, NC

among all same-sex couples

1. Laredo, TX
2. McAllen, TX
3. Brownsville, TX
4. El Paso, TX
5. Las Cruces, NM
6. Corpus Christi, TX
7. Miami, FL
8. Yuma, AZ
9. Visalia, CA
10. San Antonio, TX

* with more than 50 Hispanic same-sex couples