History

While there were earlier demonstrations and activities by the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, the Stonewall riots are considered the beginning of LGBTQ+ Pride celebrations. In the early morning hours of June 28, 1969, armed police officers raided the Stonewall Inn on Christopher Street in Greenwich Village, the center of the LGBTQ+ community in Manhattan, New York. Gay and lesbian bar raids were a regular occurrence in the years preceding the Stonewall riots, but this raid, in which 13 patrons were arrested, represented a tipping point. Fed up, hundreds of people rioted, protested and fought back. A year after the riots, the last Sunday in June was celebrated as Gay Pride Day. In 1999, President Clinton issued a proclamation expanding Gay Pride Day to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month. Today, Pride celebrates the spectrum of sexual orientations and gender identities.

In the past few years, there has been a historic legislative attack on the LGBTQ+ community at the state and federal levels. Approximately 725 anti-LGBTQ+ bills were introduced in 49 states and in Congress in 2023. In 2024, more than 500 anti-LGBTQ+ bills were introduced across 42 states, and 24 bills were passed. Many of the laws, which threaten LGBTQ+ rights and health care, are being challenged in the courts. Many of these laws are targeted at transgender health care, particularly the ability of transgender youth to access evidence-based, medically necessary care. There continues to be great concern in the LGBTQ+ community that the hard-won advances in civil rights will be negated. The current environment is a reminder that PRIDE is both a time of celebration and a renewal of commitment to continue to fight for civil rights and greater acceptance and inclusion of all LGBTQ+ people.

LGBTQ+ Milestones in the United States

- **1979**: Approximately 75,000 people participated in the National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Washington, D.C. making it one of the largest political gatherings in support of LGBTQ+ rights to date
- **1982**: Wisconsin is the first state to outlaw discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation
- **1984**: The city of Berkeley, California, is the first city to offer its employees domestic-partnership benefits
- **1993**: Minnesota is the first state to outlaw discrimination against transgender individuals
- **2000**: Vermont is the first state in the country to legally recognize civil unions between gay or lesbian couples
- **2004**: Same-sex marriages become legal in Massachusetts
- **1974**: First version of Equality Act introduced in Congress. Now, stalled in Congress (2024)
- **1996**: First US Supreme Court case addressing LGBTQ+ rights (Romer v. Evans)
- **2003**: US Supreme Court overturns laws criminalizing private sexual conduct between consenting adults (Lawrence v. Texas)
- **2009**: President Obama signs a referendum, allowing benefits for same-sex partners of federal employees.
- **2010**: “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy is repealed, allowing LGB people to openly serve in the military
- **2015**: The U.S. Supreme Court rules that same-sex marriage is a legal right across the U.S.
- **2016**: Department of Defense revises regulations to allow transgender people to serve openly in the military (Reaffirmed 2021)
- **2020**: U.S. Supreme Court rules that Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects LGBTQ+ people from employment discrimination
- **1952**: Christine Jorgensen is the first American to undergo a gender-affirming operation
- **1965**: The first gender-affirming surgery in the U.S. was conducted at The Johns Hopkins Hospital
- **1999**: The first Transgender Day of Remembrance is observed
- **2012**: The first time the White House observes Transgender Day of Remembrance
- **1973**: American Psychiatric Association removes homosexuality from its official list of mental disorders
- **2013**: American Psychiatric Association removes gender identity disorder from its official list of mental disorders
- **2022**: ICD-11 will recognize that gender incongruence is a matter of sexual health and not mental health
Johns Hopkins supports the LGBTQ+ Community

On Oct. 11, 2011, National Coming Out Day, Johns Hopkins University launched its internal OUTList to connect its LGBTQ community with mentors, creating an informal network of supporters.

The Gertrude Stein Society, named after the former Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine student and well-known lesbian activist, is a student-led organization for LGBTQ+ and allied members of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, including the school of nursing, school of public health and school of medicine. The student leaders of GSS are dedicated to maintaining and developing an even more accepting environment for diversity at JHMI through community service, recruitment and advocacy.

Johns Hopkins Center for Transgender and Gender Expansive Health (JHCTH)

In March 2017, the Center for Transgender Health, opened its doors with the mission to reduce health care disparities and improve the overall health of the transgender community. Since opening, JHCTH has interacted with over 3,000 people seeking care and performed over 600 gender-affirming surgeries. In 2023, JHCTH re-branded itself to reflect that our ongoing mission embraces diversity, inclusion and respect for autonomy by providing affirming care across the lifespan encompassing evidence-based care and increased medical knowledge, research and education. Thanks to the great work of the Center for Transgender Health, The Johns Hopkins Hospital performed its first genital gender affirming surgery in 38 years in August 2017. In 2022, Fan Liang became the center’s medical director and will lead the next phase of its evolution. Paula M. Neira is now the Program Director of LGBTQ+ Equity and Education for Johns Hopkins Medicine in the Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Health Equity.
Health Disparities in the LGBTQ+ Community

**SUICIDE RISKS INCREASED**

LGBTQ+ youth are **4x** more likely than straight youth to make a suicide attempt requiring medical attention.

**VIOLENCE RISKS INCREASED**

49

The number of LGBTQ+ Americans killed in the June 2016 attack in Orlando, representing the worst targeted mass shooting in U.S. history. Another 53 were wounded.

**HIV/STD INFECTION RISKS INCREASED**

As many as **70%** of transgender and gender diverse people in one study have reported being the victim of discrimination when seeking health care.

1 in 5 have been denied care by a provider.

**INSURANCE COVERAGE DECREASED**

**MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS INCREASED**

2x

transgender people are twice as likely as cisgender people to be unemployed.

4x

With trans people of color more than 4 times as likely to be unemployed.

**SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER INCREASED**

LGBTQ+ Pride Month

Local Baltimore/Washington, D.C./St. Petersburg, Florida, Resources

Baltimore City LGBTQ Affairs
linktr.ee/baltcitylgbtq

Chase Brexton Health Care: The Center for LGBTQ Health Equity
chasebrexton.org/services/center-lgbtq-health-equity

The DC Center for the LGBT Community
thedccenter.org/

LGBT St. Petersburg
stpete.org/vision/lgbt.php

Mayor's Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Affairs (Washington, D.C.)
lgbtq.dc.gov/

Metro LGBTQ Welcome Center (St. Petersburg, Florida)
lgbtwelcomecenter.com/

PFLAG Columbia/Howard County
pflaghoco.org

PFLAG Metro DC
pflagdc.org

PFLAG St. Petersburg
pflagstpete.org

The PRIDE Center of Maryland
pridecentermd.org

Trans Maryland
transmaryland.org/

Whitman Walker Health
whitman-walker.org/

Johns Hopkins Resources

Johns Hopkins Center for Transgender and Gender Expansive Health (JHCTH)
hopkinsmedicine.org/center_transgender_health

LGBTQ Health
hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/lgbtq-health

Gay and Bisexual Men's Health Issues
hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/gay-and-bisexual-mens-health-issues

Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Health Issues
hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/lesbian-and-bisexual-womens-health-issues

Transgender Health Issues
hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/transgender-health-what-you-need-to-know

LGBTQ Health Care: Answers from Expert Paula M. Neira

LGBTQ Resources at Johns Hopkins Medicine
hopkinsmedicine.org/diversity/resources/lgbtq-resources.html

Caring for Transgender Patients
hopkinsmedicine.org/news/articles/caring-for-transgender-patients

Sexual Attraction and Orientation
hopkinsallchildrens.org/Patients-Families/Health-Library/Health-Doc-New/Sexual-Attraction-and-Orientation

JHU Office of LGBTQ Life
studentaffairs.jhu.edu/lgltq/

Johns Hopkins Medicine Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Health Equity Pronoun Usage Guide

#HopkinsBetterTogether
LGBTQ+ Pride Month

National Resources

Advocacy and Services for LGBT Elders
sageusa.org/

Center of Excellence for Transgender Health
transhealth.ucsf.edu/

The Fenway Institute
fenwayhealth.org/the-fenway-institute/

GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ Equality
glma.org/

The Human Rights Campaign (HRC)
hrc.org/

Lambda Legal
lambdalegal.org/

Modern Military Association of America (MMAA)
(LGBTQ military and veteran families worldwide)
modernmilitary.org/

National Center for Transgender Equality
transequality.org/

PFLAG: Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays
pflag.org/

The Trevor Project
thetrevorproject.org

University of California San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Resource Center
lgbt.ucsf.edu/

World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH)
wpath.org/