

Human Rights Watch

Map: Attacks on Gender Affirming Care by State

Last Updated: July 13, 2023

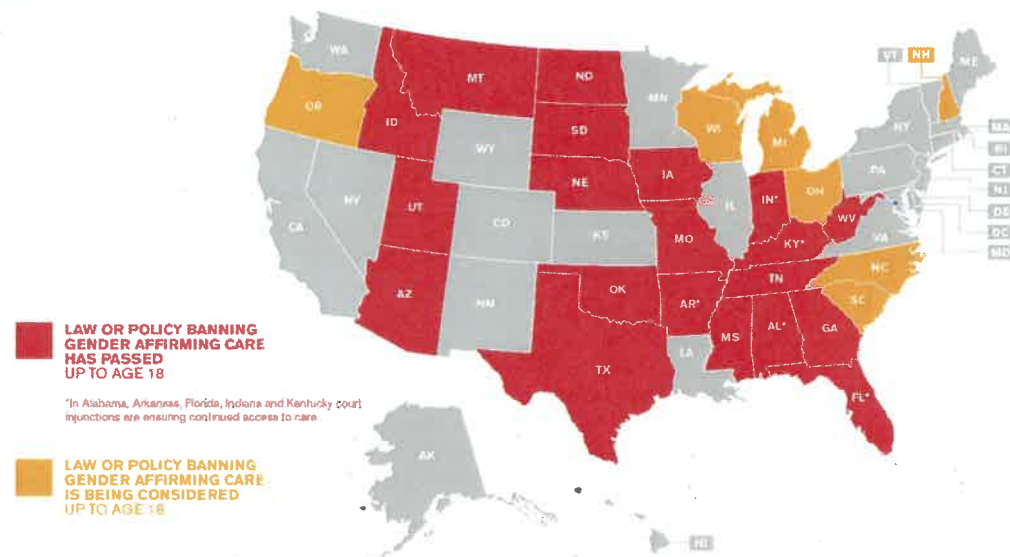
<https://www.hrc.org/resources/attacks-on-gender-affirming-care-by-state-map>

In a coordinated push led by national anti-LGBTQ+ groups, legislators across the country have overridden the recommendations of the American medical establishment and introduced hundreds of bills that target transgender and non-binary youth's access to age-appropriate, medically necessary care.

The attack on gender affirming care is relentless and changing every day. Here, the Human Rights Campaign provides a real-time snapshot of the assault against trans youth's access to age-appropriate and medically necessary gender affirming care in the United States.



Gender-Affirming Care Bans Impacting Youth



As reported by The Williams Institute (in “How Many Adults and Youth Identify as Transgender in the United States?”), there are

more than 300,000 high school-aged (ages 13-17) transgender youth in the United States today, many who need gender affirming care. Many trans youths (44.1%, or 132,300) live in states in which transgender youth have lost access to, or are at risk of losing access to, gender-affirming care, because of discriminatory laws and policies (more information on methodology below).

Three in ten (30.9% or 92,700 total) trans youth aged 13-17 live in states that have passed bans on gender affirming care.

An additional 13.2% (39,600 total) trans youth are living in states that are considering bills and policies that will deny more trans kids access to life saving gender affirming care.

While our map focuses solely on high school aged youth (age 13-17), some states, such as Oklahoma, Texas, and South Carolina, have considered banning care for transgender people up to 26 years of age. The William's Institute's annual reporting provides additional detail about the number of trans adults and youth people impacted of these types of laws and policies, accounting for the full range of people potentially impacted.

States that have not passed a gender-affirming care ban and are out of their legislative session are no longer labeled as "considering" a gender-affirming care ban. However, the legislative session ending does not prohibit an administrative or executive form of a ban or restriction on gender affirming care.

Gender-affirming care is age-appropriate care that is medically necessary for the wellbeing of many transgender and non-binary people who experience symptoms of gender dysphoria, or distress that results from having one's gender identity does not match their sex assigned at birth.

By preventing doctors from providing this care, or threatening to take children away from parents who support their child in their transition, these bills prevent transgender youth from accessing medically necessary, safe health care backed by decades of research and supported by every major medical association representing over 1.3 million US doctors.