

The Local Reproductive Freedom Index

The Local Reproductive Freedom Index: Evaluating U.S. Cities (Local Index) evaluates the reproductive health, rights, and justice policies of 50 cities across the United States. Cities have a critical opportunity to mitigate a hostile climate created by state and federal governments and to innovate in ways that advance reproductive freedom for their residents. The Local Index analyzes the policies in place in the nation's most populous cities, identifies trends among cities that are successfully improving the reproductive health and lives of their residents, and offers suggestions for how cities can maximize their potential to gain ground on reproductive freedom. The 2nd edition of the Local Reproductive Freedom Index will be issued in Fall 2019.

Local Index Cities

The Local Index also evaluates county-level policies for the cities below when applicable.

- Atlanta, GA
- Austin, TX
- Baltimore, MD
- Billings, MT*
- Birmingham, AL*
- Boston, MA
- Buffalo, NY*
- Charleston, WV*
- Charlotte, NC
- Chicago, IL
- Cleveland, OH
- Columbus, OH
- Dallas, TX
- Denver, CO
- Detroit, MI
- El Paso, TX
- Fargo, ND*
- Fort Worth , TX
- Hartford, CT
- Houston, TX
- Indianapolis, IN
- Jackson, MS*
- Jacksonville, FL
- Las Vegas, NV
- Los Angeles, CA

- Louisville, KY
- Madison, WI*
- Memphis, TN
- Miami, FL
- Milwaukee, WI
- Minneapolis, MN
- Nashville, TN
- New Orleans, LA
- New York, NY
- Newark, NJ*
- Oklahoma City, OK
- Omaha, NE*
- Philadelphia, PA
- Phoenix, AZ
- Portland, OR
- Richmond, VA
- Salt Lake City, UT*
- San Antonio, TX
- San Diego, CA
- San Francisco, CA
- San Jose, CA
- Seattle, WA
- St. Louis, MO
- St. Paul, MN
- Washington, DC

*new city in 2019



Local Index Indicators

Building Healthy and Just Communities

- Positive public awareness campaigns on sexual and reproductive health
- Menstrual equity initiative
- "Shield" laws for victim reporting
- \$15 minimum wage
- Support for immigrants to access reproductive health care
- Advancing democracy
- Paid sick leave
- Anti-discrimination ordinances for employees: Gender identity
- Anti-discrimination ordinances for housing: Gender identity

Funding and Coverage for Reproductive Health

- Funding for abortion
- Funding for STD/STI Testing & prevention
- Municipal insurance coverage of abortion
- Funding to train providers in reproductive health care
- Funding for contraception
- Funding for community-based organizations to provide comprehensive sex education

Protecting Abortion Access

- Clinic safety ordinance
- Regulations on anti-abortion pregnancy centers
- Local protections for abortion clinics & providers
- Public awareness about access to abortion care
- Anti-discrimination ordinances for employees: Reproductive health decisions
- Anti-discrimination ordinances for housing: Reproductive health decisions

Supporting Families

- Supportive breastfeeding policies
- Paid family leave for municipal employees
- Environmental protections for maternal & reproductive health
- Anti-discrimination ordinances for employees: Pregnancy & family status
- Anti-discrimination ordinances for housing: Pregnancy & family status

Supporting Young People

- Support for pregnant & parenting youth
- Funding for comprehensive sexuality ed
- Comprehensive sexuality education
- Reproductive health care in school-based health centers

Taking a Stand (Resolutions)

- Opposition to deceptive practices of antiabortion pregnancy centers
- Support for abortion coverage, including EACH Woman Act
- Pro-choice stance on state or federal legislation or ballot initiatives
- Support for anti-discrimination

Local Landscape

- Population, 2017
- Median income
- Annual costs (family of 4)
- Number of abortion clinics
- Number of Title X clinics
- Number of school-based health centers
- Number of anti-abortion pregnancy centers
- Sexuality education policy
- Teen pregnancy/birth rate
- Number of Catholic hospitals
- Rates of incarceration
- Maternal mortality
- Infant mortality by race
- Population breakdown by race