

Recognition of Same-Sex Couples Worldwide

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RECOGNITION OF SAME-SEX COUPLES WORLDWIDE

Countries allowing same-sex couples to marry:

2000 – The Netherlands	2005 – Canada, Spain	2009 – Norway, Sweden
2003 – Belgium	2006 – South Africa	2010 – Argentina, Iceland, Portugal

Countries recognizing same-sex couples through non-marital partnership registration, case law or other official policies include:

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greenland, Hungary, Israel (and marriages from other countries respected), Luxembourg, New Zealand, Slovenia, Switzerland, Uruguay

Countries conferring a status on same-sex couples in some regions:

Australia, Mexico

RECOGNITION OF SAME-SEX COUPLES IN THE UNITED STATES

States allowing same-sex couples to marry:

2004 – Massachusetts	2009 – Iowa, Vermont
2008 – Connecticut	2010 – New Hampshire, District of Columbia

In California, roughly 18,000 couples married in 2008 remain married after Prop 8.

States respecting same-sex couples' out-of-state marriages:

California (by statute, pre-November 4, 2008 marriages honored as marriages and later out-of-state marriages treated as registered domestic partnerships), Maryland, New Jersey (treats as civil unions), New Mexico (not confirmed by court or official policy), New York, Rhode Island (likely for some purposes but not divorce)

Non-marriage status with marriage-like legal protections for same-sex couples:

California – Broad domestic partnership	Oregon – Broad domestic partnership
Nevada – Broad domestic partnership	Washington State – Broad domestic partnership
New Jersey – Civil unions	

States offering limited recognition to same-sex couples:

Colorado, Hawaii, Maryland, Wisconsin