

Main article: *“List of U.S. Jurisdictions Banning Conversion Therapy for Minors”*

**Banned in 2020 states, 2 territories, and local counties/municipalities:** As of March 2020, 20 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and some counties and municipalities in the United States have passed laws banning the practice of conversion therapy on minors. It is also banned in major cities like Miami and Cincinnati.

Subsequently, legal challenges against New Jersey’s and California’s conversion therapy bans were filed. United States District Court Judge Freda L. Wolfson rejected the claim of New Jersey parents that it violated their rights by keeping them from treating their child for same-sex attraction. In *Doe v. Christie*, Wolfson wrote, “*Surely, the fundamental rights of parents do not include the right to choose a specific medical or mental health treatment that the state has reasonably deemed harmful or ineffective.*” Wolfson added, “*To find otherwise would create unimaginable and unintentional consequences.*” On February 10, 2015, a New Jersey Superior Court Judge ruled that offering conversion services on the basis of a description of homosexuality as abnormal or a mental illness is a violation of the *New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act*. An article about the ruling on the New Jersey Law Journal website said the decision is “believed to be the first of its kind in the U.S.” On August 29, 2013, in the case of *Pickup v. Brown and Welch v. Brown*, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit upheld California’s ban. In August 2016, the Ninth Circuit again upheld the state’s ban, finding that legislation prohibiting conversion therapy is not unconstitutional. The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly dismissed challenges against conversion therapy bans.

The states of New Jersey (2013), California (2013), Oregon (2015), Illinois (2016), Vermont (2016), New Mexico (2017), Connecticut (2017), Rhode Island (2017), Nevada (2018), Washington (2018), Hawaii (2018), Delaware (2018), Maryland (2018), New Hampshire (2019), New York (2019), Massachusetts (2019), Maine (2019), Colorado (2019), Utah (2019), and Virginia (2020), as well as the District of Columbia (2015) and Puerto Rico (2019), ban the use of conversion therapy on minors.

Opinion polls have found that conversion therapy bans enjoy popular support among the American population. As of 2019, no nationwide opinion poll has been carried out, though surveys in three states (Florida, New Mexico and Virginia) show support varying between 60% and 75%. According to a 2014 national poll, only 8% of Americans believed conversion therapies to be successful.

