

State Public Opinion from States on Civil Marriage and  
Other Recognition of Same-Sex Relationships

A. Alabama

*Mobile Register/University of South Alabama* - September 2003

- 2% opposes marriages between same-sex couples
- 64% oppose allowing same-sex couples from entering into legal agreements, which are not marriage, but would give them many of the same legal and financial rights as married couples.
- 78% support the federal anti-marriage constitutional amendment

B. Arizona

*Northern Arizona University Social Research Laboratory*, October 2003.

- 53% favor civil unions
- 42% support marriage for same-sex couples; 54% oppose
- 52% think marriages between same-sex couples from other jurisdictions should be legally recognized in Arizona.

C. California

*Field Poll* - August 2003

- 42% of CA voters approve of giving the right of marriage to same-sex couples
- 72% approve of granting legal recognition to same-sex couples for such areas as hospital visitation, medical powers of attorney and conservator ship

D. Connecticut

*Quinnipiac University Poll* - October 2003

- 51% favor a civil union law similar to that offered in Vermont
- 44% favor marriage

E. Georgia

*Atlanta Journal-Constitution/ Zogby America* - July 2003

- 30% would allow same-sex couples to enter civil unions (giving them the same rights as married couples)

*Shapiro Research Group* - September 2002

- 27% "agree strongly" or "somewhat agree" that partners in a gay relationship are entitled to the same spousal benefits as a married couple.

F. Iowa

*Des Moines Register*, September 2003

- 23% of those polled favor marriage for same-sex couples
- 49% believe that gay and lesbian couples should have the same legal rights as heterosexual couples

## G. Massachusetts

*Globe/WBZ Poll - April 2003*

- 50% support marriage
- 58% support civil unions

*Decision Research - October 2003*

- 59% say that gay and lesbian couples should have the right to enter into civil marriage
- 64% of voters would agree with a court ruling (by the Supreme Judicial Court of Mass.) if the court rules that couples of the same sex have a constitutional right to marry

*Boston Globe/WBZ TV Poll - Nov. 2003 (post-Goodridge)*

- 50% agreed with the ruling
- 38% opposed the ruling
- 53% against a state constitutional amendment
- 36% would support a state constitutional amendment

*Boston Sunday Herald - Nov. 2003 (post-Goodridge)*

- 49% support legalizing marriage for same-sex couples
- 38% oppose legalizing marriage for same-sex couples
- 54% against a state constitutional amendment
- 36% would support a state constitutional amendment

*Merrimack College - Nov. 2003 (done before and after Goodridge - no significant changes in numbers)*

- 75% support marriage or civil unions for same-sex couples

## H. Michigan

*Detroit News/Local4/Mitchell Poll - September 2003*

- 51% favor banning marriage between same-sex couples, 38% oppose
- 53% oppose civil unions, 39% support

## I. New Hampshire

University of New Hampshire Survey Center (Granite State Poll)- May 2003

- 54% of residents are in favor of "a law that will allow the state to issue civil marriage licenses to gay and lesbian couples.

## J. New Jersey

*Star Ledger/Eagleton-Rutgers - September 2003 Poll)*

- 43% would allow same-sex couples to marry
- 52% would allow civil unions
- 53% would allow legally married same-sex couples from other states who move to NJ to be recognized as married in NJ.
- 60% thought same-sex couples should be entitled to health insurance and Social Security benefits through their partners

K. North Carolina

*Charlotte Observer/NBC6 Poll - September 2003*

- 24 % of Carolinians (North and South) surveyed said they favor "legal status for same-sex couples"

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M. Virginia

*Times-Dispatch/NBC12 Poll- October 2003*

- 64% said they would oppose a Virginia law allowing "homosexuals" to marry
- 25% favored a law that would permit same-sex couples to marry

N. Wisconsin

*Badger Poll - September 2003*

- 32% would allow marriage for same-sex couples
- 48% would allow for civil unions