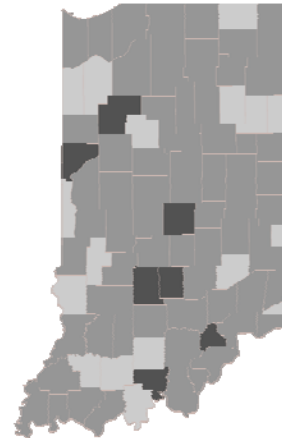


## INDIANA

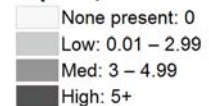
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Using data from the U.S. Census Bureau, this report provides demographic and economic information about same-sex couples and same-sex couples raising children in Indiana. We compare same-sex “unmarried partners,” which the Census Bureau defines as an unmarried couple who “shares living quarters and has a close personal relationship,” to different-sex married couples in Indiana.<sup>1</sup>



Same-sex couple households  
per 1,000 households



In many ways, the almost 16,000 same-sex couples living in Indiana are similar to married couples. According to Census 2000, they live throughout the State, are racially and ethnically diverse, have partners who depend upon one another financially, and actively participate in Indiana’s economy. Census data also show that 23% of same-sex couples in Indiana are raising children. However, same-sex couples have fewer economic resources to provide for their families than married couples: they have lower household incomes and lower rates of homeownership.

### SAME-SEX COUPLES AND THE LGB POPULATION IN INDIANA

- In 2000, there were 10,219 same-sex couples living in Indiana.<sup>2</sup>
- By 2005, the number of same-sex couples increased to 15,714.<sup>3</sup> This increase likely reflects same-sex couples’ growing willingness to disclose their partnerships on government surveys.
- In 2005, there were an estimated 169,700 gay, lesbian, and bisexual people (single and coupled) living in Indiana.<sup>4</sup>

### INDIVIDUALS IN SAME-SEX COUPLES ARE DEMOGRAPHICALLY AND GEOGRAPHICALLY DIVERSE

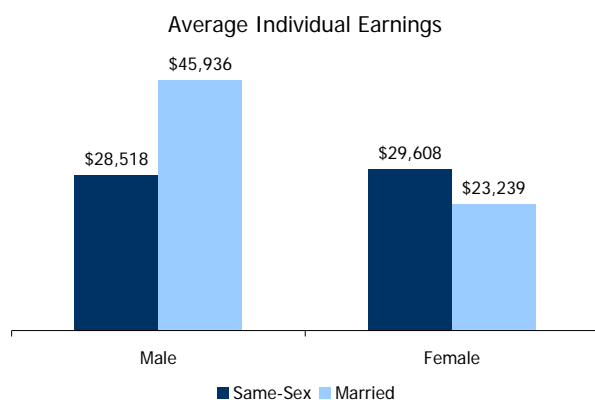
- There are more female same-sex couples (51%) than male same-sex couples (49%) in Indiana.<sup>5</sup>
- Individuals in same-sex couples are, on average, 39 years old, and significantly younger than individuals in married couples (47 years old) in Indiana.

- Same-sex couples live in every county in Indiana and constitute 0.7% of coupled households and 0.4% of all households in the state. Marion County reported the most same-sex couples with 2,423 couples (0.69% of all households in the county), followed by Lake County with 630 couples (0.35%), and Allen County with 572 couples (0.44%). The counties with the highest percentage of same-sex couples are Monroe County (0.74% of all county households), Marion County (0.69%), and Brown County (0.66%).<sup>6</sup>
- Indiana’s same-sex couples are more racially and ethnically diverse than their married counterparts: 12% of same-sex couples are nonwhite, compared to 9% of married couples.

### PEOPLE IN SAME-SEX COUPLES ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE STATE ECONOMY

- Individuals in same-sex couples in Indiana are significantly more likely to be employed than are married individuals: 77% of individuals in same-sex couples are employed, compared to 68% of married individuals.

- Contrary to a popular stereotype, the annual earnings of men in same-sex couples are significantly lower than those of married men. On average, men in same-sex couples in Indiana earn \$28,518 each year, significantly less than \$45,936 for married men. The median income of men in same-sex couples in Indiana is \$25,000, or 34% less than that of married men (\$38,000).
- Women in same-sex couples in Indiana earn an average of \$29,608 per year (with a median of \$26,000), more than married women, whose earnings average \$23,239 (with a median of \$29,000). Women in same-sex couples earn less than married men but more than men in same-sex couples.



- Individuals in same-sex couples in Indiana are more likely to work in the private sector: 80% of individuals in same-sex couples work in the private sector, compared to 77% of married individuals; 14% of individuals in same-sex couples work in the public sector, compared to 12% of married individuals; and 6% of individuals in same-sex couples are self-employed, compared to 10% of married individuals.
- Individuals in same-sex couples are more likely to have a college degree: 29% of individuals in same-sex couples and 21% of married individuals have earned a college degree.
- Despite the military's historic policies of excluding gay men and lesbians from service, individuals in same-sex couples have served in the military: 9% of individuals in same-sex couples are veterans, compared to 16% of married individuals.

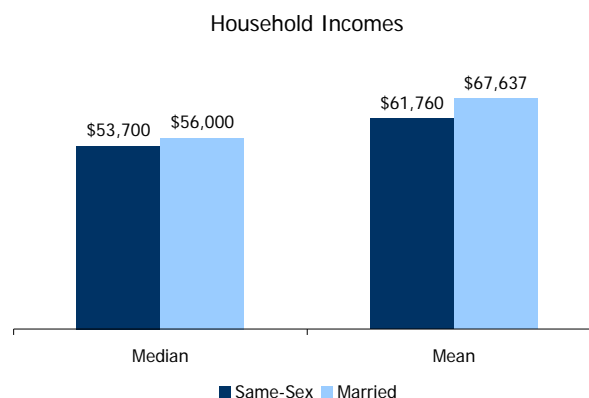
### SAME-SEX PARTNERS IN INDIANA DEPEND UPON ONE ANOTHER IN WAYS THAT ARE SIMILAR TO MARRIED COUPLES

- Couples in which one partner does not work or earns significantly less than the other partner may indicate financial interdependence. 24% of same-sex couples have only one wage earner, compared to 30% of married couples.

- The income gap between same-sex partners is \$17,432, compared to \$27,624 for married spouses.
- A larger percentage of same-sex couples in Indiana have at least one partner who is disabled: 31% of same-sex couples, compared to 29% of married couples.
- 6% of same-sex couples have at least one partner who is age 65 or older, compared to 18% of married couples.

### SAME-SEX HOUSEHOLDS IN INDIANA HAVE FEWER ECONOMIC RESOURCES THAN MARRIED HOUSEHOLDS

- The median income of same-sex coupled households in Indiana is \$53,700, less than that of married couples (\$56,000). The average household income of same-sex couples is \$61,760, less than \$67,637 for married couples.

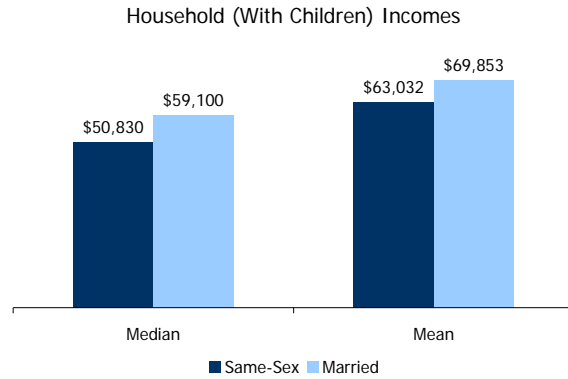


- Same-sex couples are significantly less likely than married couples to own their homes: 63% of same-sex couples in Indiana own their home, compared to 86% of married couples.

### SAME-SEX COUPLES ARE RAISING CHILDREN IN INDIANA, YET WITH FAR FEWER ECONOMIC RESOURCES THAN MARRIED PARENTS

- 23% of same-sex couples in Indiana are raising children under the age of 18.
- As of 2005, an estimated 5,369 of Indiana's children are living in households headed by same-sex couples.<sup>7</sup>
- In Indiana, married and same-sex couples with children under 18 in the home have, on average, 2 children.
- 2% of Indiana's adopted children (or 725 children) live with a lesbian or gay parent.<sup>8</sup>
- 36% of same-sex parents have only one wage earner, compared to 32% of married parents.

- Same-sex parents have far fewer financial resources to support their children than married parents in Indiana. The median household income of same-sex couples with children is \$50,830, or 14% lower than that of married parents (\$59,100). The average household income of same-sex couples with children is \$63,032, less than \$69,853 for married parents.
- While 66% of same-sex couples with children own their home, a much larger percentage of married parents (83%) own their home.



## CONCLUSION

Census data provide valuable information about gay and lesbian couples in Indiana. While in many respects Indiana's same-sex couples look like married couples, same-sex couples have fewer economic resources to provide for their families than married couples and lower rates of homeownership.

	Same-Sex	Married
Race/Ethnicity <sup>9</sup>		
White	88.1%	91.4%*
Black	7.5%	4.3%*
Hispanic	2.7%	2.5%
Asian	0.5%	1.0%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.7%	0.2% ^
Other	0.5%	0.7%
Average age	38.6	47.5*
Percent with a college degree or better	29.4%	21.2%*
Percent Employed	76.8%	68.1%*
Employment <sup>9</sup>		
Private employer	79.7%	77.1%
Public employer	14.2%	12.2%
Self-employed	5.8%	10.4%*
Veteran Status	9.0%	16.2%*
Average individual salary		
Men	\$28,518	\$45,936*
Women	\$29,608	\$23,239*
Median individual salary		
Men	\$25,000	\$38,000
Women	\$26,000	\$20,000

\* Difference significant at the 5% level or better (two-tailed tests).  
^ Difference significant at the 10% level or better (two-tailed tests).

	Same-Sex	Married
At least one partner 65 or older	6.5%	17.8%*
Percent disabled	31.4%	28.8%
Average household income	\$61,760	\$67,637^
Median household income	\$53,700	\$56,000
Income gap between partners	\$17,432	\$27,624*
Single wage earner	23.6%	29.7%*
Homeownership	63.5%	86.1%*
Percent with children under 18	23.5%	46.8%*

\* Difference significant at the 5% level or better (two-tailed tests).  
^ Difference significant at the 10% level or better (two-tailed tests).

	Same-Sex parents	Married parents
Average number of children under 18 in the household	1.5	1.9*
Single wage earner (parents)	35.6%	32.2%
Average household income (parents)	\$63,032	\$69,853
Median household income (parents)	\$50,830	\$59,100
Homeownership	65.6%	83.2%*

\* Difference significant at the 5% level or better (two-tailed tests).  
^ Difference significant at the 10% level or better (two-tailed tests).

**Appendix A: Counts and percent of same-sex couples by county**

County	Number of same-sex couples	Percent of same-sex couples out of all households
Adams	33	0.28%
Allen	572	0.44%
Bartholomew	100	0.36%
Benton	16	0.45%
Blackford	21	0.37%
Boone	73	0.43%
Brown	39	0.66%
Carroll	20	0.26%
Cass	59	0.38%
Clark	182	0.47%
Clay	26	0.25%
Clinton	48	0.38%
Crawford	21	0.50%
Daviess	39	0.36%
Dearborn	59	0.35%
Decatur	21	0.22%
DeKalb	55	0.36%
Delaware	210	0.45%
Dubois	31	0.21%
Elkhart	228	0.34%
Fayette	47	0.46%
Floyd	136	0.49%
Fountain	27	0.38%
Franklin	32	0.41%
Fulton	27	0.33%
Gibson	41	0.32%
Grant	108	0.38%
Greene	46	0.34%
Hamilton	239	0.36%
Hancock	64	0.31%
Harrison	53	0.41%
Hendricks	142	0.38%
Henry	62	0.32%
Howard	120	0.34%
Huntington	39	0.27%
Jackson	68	0.42%
Jasper	30	0.28%
Jay	33	0.39%
Jefferson	40	0.33%
Jennings	37	0.37%
Johnson	168	0.40%
Knox	66	0.42%
Kosciusko	110	0.40%
LaGrange	33	0.29%
Lake	630	0.35%
LaPorte	181	0.44%
Lawrence	71	0.38%
Madison	217	0.41%

County	Number of same-sex couples	Percent of same-sex couples out of all households
Marion	2423	0.69%
Marshall	70	0.42%
Martin	14	0.33%
Miami	52	0.38%
Monroe	345	0.74%
Montgomery	56	0.38%
Morgan	107	0.44%
Newton	13	0.24%
Noble	77	0.46%
Ohio	5	0.23%
Orange	17	0.22%
Owen	32	0.39%
Parke	27	0.42%
Perry	20	0.28%
Pike	10	0.20%
Porter	206	0.38%
Posey	32	0.31%
Pulaski	16	0.31%
Putnam	42	0.34%
Randolph	36	0.33%
Ripley	40	0.41%
Rush	22	0.32%
Scott	49	0.55%
Shelby	61	0.37%
Spencer	23	0.30%
St. Joseph	422	0.42%
Starke	32	0.37%
Steuben	43	0.34%
Sullivan	23	0.29%
Switzerland	15	0.44%
Tippecanoe	230	0.42%
Tipton	30	0.46%
Union	6	0.21%
Vanderburgh	301	0.43%
Vermillion	15	0.22%
Vigo	158	0.39%
Wabash	50	0.38%
Warren	21	0.65%
Warrick	66	0.34%
Washington	39	0.38%
Wayne	122	0.43%
Wells	21	0.20%
White	60	0.62%
Whitley	50	0.43%

## About the Authors

**Adam P. Romero** is Public Policy Fellow at the Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law. J.D. Yale Law School; A.B., *summa cum laude*, Cornell University. His current research examines the significance of family in society and law, especially as relevant to disabled adults without family.

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**Gary J. Gates** is Senior Research Fellow at the Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law. He studies the demographic and economic characteristics of the lesbian and gay population.

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise noted, we calculate the demographic characteristics from the Census 2000 Public Use Microdata Sample (5% file) available from the U.S. Census Bureau. For a detailed discussion of the Census 2000 methodology used in this report, see *Census Snapshot: Methods Note*, available at <http://www.law.ucla.edu/williamsinstitute/publications/MethodologicalDetailsForCensusSnapshots.pdf>. In estimating numbers of same-sex couples and children raised by same-sex couples, however, we use the total number of same-sex couples from 2005 and the proportion of couples with children from 2000 in order to provide a more up-to-date estimate.

<sup>2</sup> Tavia Simmons & Martin O'Connell, U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, *Married-Couple and Unmarried-Partner Households*, Census 2000 Special Reports, CENSR-5, p. 4, tab. 2 (Feb. 2003).

<sup>3</sup> Gary J. Gates, The Williams Institute, *Same-sex Couples and the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Population: New Estimates from the American Community Survey*, p. 11, apx. 1, available at <http://www.law.ucla.edu/williamsinstitute/publications/SameSexCouplesandGLBpopACS.pdf>. Sample sizes for individual states in 2005 are not sufficiently large for the analyses presented in this report, we therefore use data from Census 2000 where samples are on average five times larger than 2005.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> Simmons & O'Connell, *supra* note 2.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *Unmarried Partner Households by Sex of Partners*, PCT14. Percentages of total households computed by dividing data in PCT14 by data in P15 (total households).

<sup>7</sup> Computed by multiplying the number of same-sex couples times the percent of same-sex couples with children times the average number of children under 18 in the household.

<sup>8</sup> Gary J. Gates, M.V. Lee Badgett, Kate Chambers, Jennifer Macomber, The Williams Institute & The Urban Institute, *Adoption and Foster Care by Gay and Lesbian Parents in the United States (2007)*, available at <http://www.law.ucla.edu/Williamsinstitute/publications/Policy-Adoption-index.html>.

<sup>9</sup> Due to rounding, percent may not add to 100.

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