

2019

Add Health Documentation



**Report prepared by**

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# Wave IV Sexual Minority Policy Data Documentation



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This research was supported by grant RO1AG042794 from the National Institute on Aging. Further information may be obtained by contacting Add Health at [addhealth\\_contracts@unc.edu](mailto:addhealth_contracts@unc.edu)

Suggested Citation:

Joyner, Kara and Wendy Manning. 2019. The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health (Add Health), Wave III and IV Sexual Minority Policy Data [machine-readable data file and documentation]. Chapel Hill, NC: Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The creation of this database was supported in part by the Center for Family and Demographic Research, Bowling Green State University, which has core funding from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (P2CHD050959). We are grateful to Tim Monbureau, Joyce Tabor, Kathleen Mullan Harris, Carolyn Halpern, and Robert Hummer, in addition to staff from the Add Health project and the Carolina Population Center, in helping us produce this data base. Special thanks also goes to Barbara Prince and Esther Lamidi for locating and compiling information on policies relevant to sexual minorities at the state level.

Add Health is a program project designed by J. Richard Udry, Peter S. Bearman, and Kathleen Mullan Harris, and funded by a grant P01-HD31921 from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, with cooperative funding from 17 other agencies. Special acknowledgment is due Ronald R. Rindfuss and Barbara Entwisle for assistance in the original design. Persons interested in obtaining data files from Add Health should contact Add Health at [addhealth.Contracts@unc.edu](mailto:addhealth.Contracts@unc.edu).

## INTRODUCTION

This contextual database further expands the collection of contextual data currently available to users of The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health (Add Health) through the provision of several state-level measures reported by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). This database includes indicators of the policy context for sexual minorities (a population typically defined on the basis of co-residence with a same-sex partner or self-identification as gay, lesbian, or bisexual) in Wave IV of Add Health. These data will enable researchers to examine how state-level policies in young adulthood are associated with a wide range of indicators of health and well-being among sexual minorities. The variables included in this contextual database measure context at the state level. Wave IV measures correspond to the time period following Wave III and ending at Wave IV (2003-2008). For instance, if a state lacked a hate crime statutory provision based on sexual orientation in the years spanning 2003 to 2008, then respondents are classified as not having this provision at the time of the Wave IV interview, even if the state had such a provision at some point prior to 2003.

### Documentation Structure

The documentation includes this INTRODUCTION and a DATA DICTIONARY that lists the contextual variables available. A SOURCE INDEX describes the sources and source variables used to create the variables comprising this contextual database.

### Data Form

The Wave IV Sexual Minority Policy data file contains one observation for each respondent who conducted a Wave IV interview. The first variable is the respondent identifier (the AID), which permits merging these data with the other Add Health data files that include respondents as the unit of analysis.

### Special Codes

Variables have the following missing code:

Value	Reason for missing
8	Geocode missing

## DATA DICTIONARY

The table below lists all of the variables comprising this Wave IV Sexual Minority Policy data file.

**Table 1: Sexual Minority Policy Contextual Database**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Wave</b>	<b>Coded</b>
SSMP4001	State prohibits employment discrimination based on sexual orientation (Private and/or Public Employment)	4	0=No 1=Yes
SSMP4002	State has hate crime statutory provisions based on sexual orientation	4	0=No 1=Yes
SSMP4003	State allows same-sex marriage/domestic partnership/civil union/reciprocal beneficiary relationships	4	0=No 1=Yes
SSMP4004	State allows same-sex joint adoption and/or second-partner adoption	4	0=No 1=Yes

## SOURCE INDEX

This subsection describes each one of the sources used for the generation of the contextual variables comprising this data file.

HRC Human Rights Campaign 2000-2008

ACLU American Civil Liberties Union 2000-2008

## *State-Level Sources*

### Human Rights Campaign

The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) is America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans.<sup>1</sup> The HRC collects and disseminates information on LGBT laws and policies related to topics such as marriage, adoption, hate crimes, and employment. In addition, every year the HRC releases a state by state summary of LGBT laws and policies. A total of three variables in this data file were generated using information from the HRC. These variables include employment discrimination at Wave IV, hate crime legislation at Wave IV, and relationship recognition at Wave IV. All the HRC derived variables in these Add Health data are based on maps presented on the HRC website or in the yearly "Equality from State to State" reports. More information about the HRC can be found on their website: <http://www.hrc.org/>.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.hrc.org/the-hrc-story/about-us>

## American Civil Liberties Union

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) was founded in 1920 and is the United States' "guardian of liberty." The ACLU works in courts, legislatures, and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to all people in this country by the Constitution and laws and the United States.<sup>2</sup> The ACLU collects and disseminates information on major issues related to individual rights and liberties including, but not limited to, LGBT rights, HIV, human rights, capital punishment and national security. The ACLU website contains information on membership and contributions, contact information for affiliate ACLU chapters, legislative updates searchable by issues and region, activism tools, latest commentary on issues, and multimedia resources. One variable in this data file was generated using information from the ACLU: whether the state had an adoption law related to sexual minorities at Wave IV. This variable is based on a map generated by the ACLU showing statewide same-sex couple adoption rights. More information about the ACLU can be found on their website: <https://www.aclu.org/>.

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<sup>2</sup> [https://www.aclu.org/faqs#1\\_1](https://www.aclu.org/faqs#1_1)