

LGBT Pride Month ✦ *Timeline*

1828 The term “crime against nature” is coined in the U.S. Criminal Code

1867 “Father of the LGBT Movement” Karl-Heinrich Ulrichs is the first to speak out for gay rights

1892 First use of “bisexual” appears in Charles Gilbert Chaddock’s translation of Richard von Krafft-Ebing’s *Psychopathia Sexualis*

1924 The Society for Human Rights, the first gay-rights organization in the United States, is founded. It is shut down by police within a few months

1955 The Daughters of Bilitis, the first national U.S. lesbian organization, is formed



1962 Illinois becomes the first state to decriminalize homosexual acts

1966 The National Planning Conference of Homophile Organizations is formed

1969 Stonewall riots in New York gain national attention for gay rights

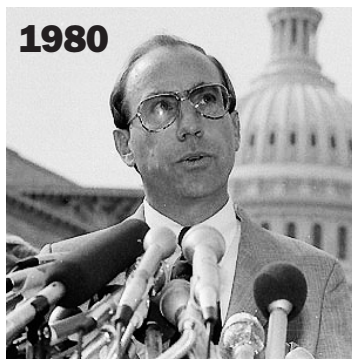
1970 First Gay Liberation Day March is held in New York City; similar events are held in Los Angeles and San Francisco

1973 The American Psychiatric Association removes “homosexuality” definition as a mental disorder

1975 Minneapolis becomes the first city to protect transgender people by law from discrimination

1978 Rainbow flag is first used as symbol of gay pride

1979 First national gay-rights march is held in Washington, D.C.



1980 David McReynolds becomes the first openly LGBT person to run for president

1982 Wisconsin is the first state to outlaw discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation

1983 Rep. Gerry Studds (Mass.) becomes the first openly gay member of Congress

1989 Denmark becomes the first country to legalize same-sex partnerships

1993 “Don’t ask, don’t tell” policy allows gays/lesbians to serve in the U.S. military as long as they are closeted

Minnesota passes the first state-wide law prohibiting discrimination against transgender people

1996 Supreme Court says protections for gays/lesbians are civil rights guaranteed to all U.S. citizens

2000 Vermont becomes first state to legally recognize civil unions for gays and lesbians

President Bill Clinton names June Gay and Lesbian Pride Month

2003 Supreme Court rules sodomy laws unconstitutional in *Lawrence v. Texas*

2004 Massachusetts legalizes same-sex marriage

2005 Civil unions become legal in Connecticut

2006 Civil unions become legal in New Jersey

2007 DiversityInc requires domestic-partner benefits as a prerequisite to make The DiversityInc Top 50 Companies for Diversity list

2008 Diego Sanchez is appointed top legislative assistant to Rep. Barney Frank, making him the first transgender staff member on Capitol Hill

California’s State Supreme Court allows gay marriage; Proposition 8 then eliminates it

Connecticut legalizes same-sex marriage

2009 President Barack Obama signs a law extending existing federal hate-crime laws to include those committed on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity

President Obama renames June as LGBT Pride Month

Iowa and Vermont legalize same-sex marriage

2010 Federal court declares California’s Prop. 8 unconstitutional

The District of Columbia and New Hampshire legalize same-sex marriage

President Obama signs law to end “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy

2011 The Respect for Marriage Act is filed in U.S. House of Representatives and Senate to repeal DOMA and end federal discrimination against legally married same-sex couples

New York legalizes same-sex marriage

President Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton announce policy for more specific actions against countries that do not move to create LGBT equality



2012 The Human Rights Campaign assigns more stringent qualifications for ranking as a best place to work for LGBT employees on its Corporate Equality Index, with an emphasis on benefits for transgender employees

Proposition 8 in California is ruled unconstitutional, but ruling is expected to go to U.S. Supreme Court

Maryland and Washington state legalize same-sex marriage

Ellen DeGeneres is named jcpenny spokesperson; CEO Ron Johnson supports her—and her strong values—despite protests from group calling itself “One Million Moms”



Source: Catalyst, National Women’s History Project

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FOR MORE FACTS AND FIGURES:
www.DiversityInc.com/diversity-facts