

Codebook for Conversion Therapy Laws

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Conversion Therapy Laws

This longitudinal dataset captures details of state level statutes, regulations, and executive orders which impact provision of conversion therapy in 50 U.S. States and the District of Columbia from January 1, 2013 – July 31, 2025. There are four standard variables in every LawAtlas dataset. They are:

JURISDICTION

This is a dropdown selection in each coding form. It includes the jurisdictions coded in the dataset.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This date (MM/DD/YYYY) is the most recent effective date of the legal text captured for this place. The effective date represents the date the policy coded was put into effect.

VALID THROUGH DATE

This date (MM/DD/YYYY) is either the last date a law or policy was in effect prior to an amendment or the last date the researcher confirmed the law or policy was in effect during the research process.

LEGAL TEXT

This is a text box that captures all legal text relevant to the coding questions. This will not download into Microsoft Excel.

An important note about the Effective Date:

This dataset captures only those laws in the included jurisdictions in effect on January 1, 2013, or any date thereafter through July 31, 2025. This dataset does not purport to measure the law as it existed prior to the dataset start date (in this case, January 1, 2013) or provide the original date the law was signed by the executive.

An important note about the Statistical Data page:

This codebook should be used in conjunction with the statistical data extract that can be downloaded from the dataset homepage by clicking on the Data button. The value labels defined below will correspond with the coded responses you will see on the Statistical Data page. Coding questions that are not answered will show as a period (“.”) in the Excel cell. Coding questions can be intentionally not answered, such as when a state does not have a law and the coder therefore leaves the remaining coding answers as unanswered.

Questions	
Question 1:	Is there a conversion therapy law in the state?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 1:	CT_Law
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 1.1:	How does the law regulate conversion therapy?
Question Type:	Categorical - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 1.1:	CT_Intent
Variable Values:	0, 1, 2
Value Label:	0 = Forbid
Value Label:	1 = Allow
Value Label:	2 = Restricts funding
Question 1.2:	What populations are covered by the law?
Question Type:	Categorical - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 1.2:	CT_Population
Variable Values:	0, 1, 2
Value Label:	0 = Sexual Orientation
Value Label:	1 = Gender Identity
Value Label:	2 = Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
Question 1.3:	What age groups are covered by the law?
Question Type:	Categorical - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 1.3:	CT_Adult_Minor
Variable Values:	0, 1, 2
Value Label:	0 = All Ages
Value Label:	1 = Minors Only
Value Label:	2 = Minors and Adults with guardians or limited legal capacity
Question 1.4:	What providers are covered by the law?
Question Type:	Categorical - check all that apply
Variable Name 1.4(A):	CT_Providers Mental Health Providers - generally
Variable Values:	0, 1

Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.4(B):	CT_Providers Mental Health Providers - specifically identified
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.4(C):	CT_Providers Medical Providers
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.4(D):	CT_Providers Child Welfare Providers
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 1.5:	What types of exemptions are provided?
Question Type:	Categorical - check all that apply
Variable Name 1.5(A):	CT_Exemptions Religious
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.5(B):	CT_Exemptions None
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 1.6:	Does the law preempt localities from creating laws regarding conversion therapy?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 1.6:	CT_Preemption
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes

Question 1.7:	What type of enforcement mechanism is described?
Question Type:	Categorical - check all that apply
Variable Name 1.7(A):	CT_Enforcement_Type Civil Penalty - Injunction or Restraining Order
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.7(B):	CT_Enforcement_Type Civil Penalty - Fee
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.7(C):	CT_Enforcement_Type License Removal or other professional sanction
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.7(D):	CT_Enforcement_Type Funding Restriction
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.7(E):	CT_Enforcement_Type None
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 1.8:	What agency is assigned enforcement responsibilities?
Question Type:	Categorical - check all that apply
Variable Name 1.8(A):	CT_Enforc_Agent State Health Department
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.8(B):	CT_Enforc_Agent State Attorney General
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No

Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.8(C):	CT_Enforc_Agent Local Prosecutor
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.8(D):	CT_Enforc_Agent State Education Department
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.8(E):	CT_Enforc_Agent Professional Board
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.8(F):	CT_Enforc_Agent State Treasurer
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.8(G):	CT_Enforc_Agent None
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 1.9:	Does the law have a provision forbidding advertising?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 1.9:	CT_Ads
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes