

# Trans America 3

**By Andrea Brookes August 2025**

On Tuesday evening, a federal judge granted class certification to transgender people seeking to update the gender marker on their passports. The ruling expands a prior decision—previously limited to a handful of named plaintiffs—to now cover all transgender individuals applying for a passport or seeking to renew one with an accurate gender marker. The order took effect immediately, meaning transgender people should be able to begin submitting updated applications, though appeals could stall implementation or throw applications into chaos and thus some caution may still be warranted. Still, the ruling marks one of the most significant legal victories for transgender people under Trump’s second presidency, striking at one of the administration’s most punitive policies to date.

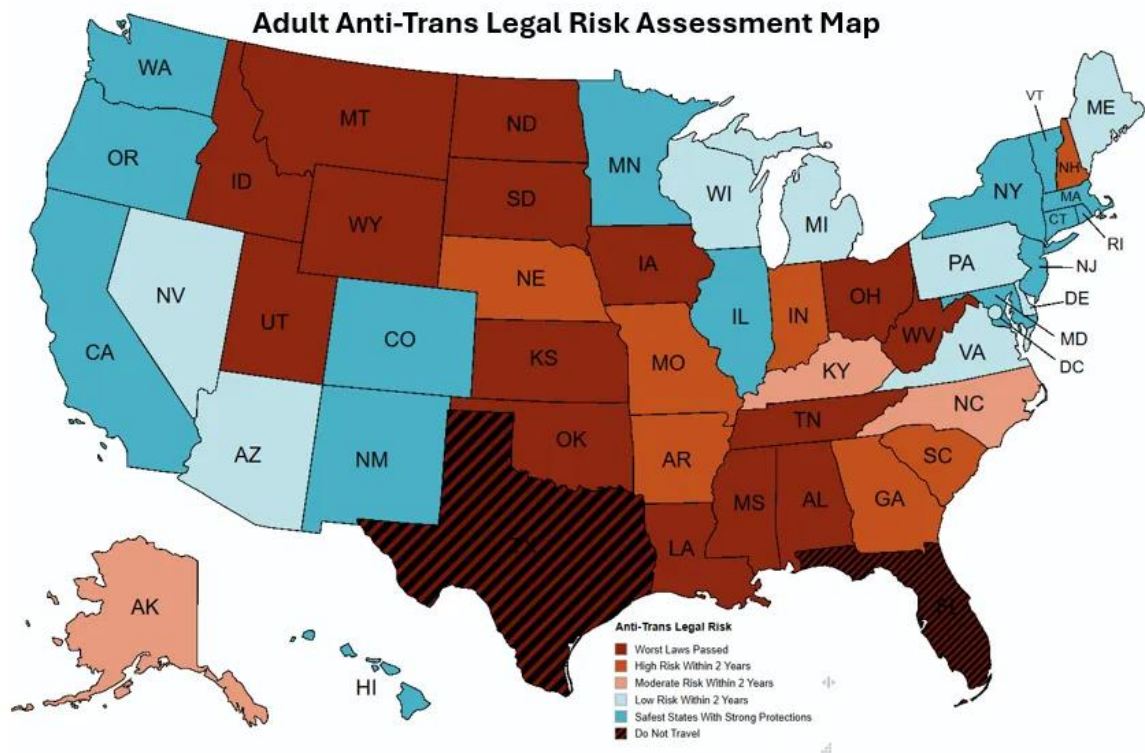
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**August 4th:** From the USA: “Since taking office on January 20, 2025, President Donald J. Trump and his administration have relentlessly, cruelly, and unlawfully targeted transgender individuals,” the complaint reads. “The result is an atmosphere of fear and intimidation experienced by transgender individuals, their families and caregivers, and the medical professionals who seek only to provide necessary, lawful care to their patients.” This is a quote from the legal challenge brought by 15 states plus Washington DC against the actions of the Trump administration's attempts to have a chilling effect on the provision of transgender healthcare across the country - they have not been able to prevent the provision as it is not illegal but by applying heavy workloads on the providers in the form of subpoenas requiring detailed and exhaustive data be provided they can make the healthcare providers determine that it is too much trouble to continue. This challenge focuses on transgender healthcare but also includes other affected minorities and the LGBTQIA+ community in general.

It does seem at the moment that the only defence against the Trump administration's illegal and unconstitutional actions is the court system, however that does seem to always get appealed all the way up to the Supreme Court which is partisan. In the USA there is no court higher than the Supreme Court, fortunately for us in the UK, there is: the European Court of Human Rights, however, this can be very slow to act.

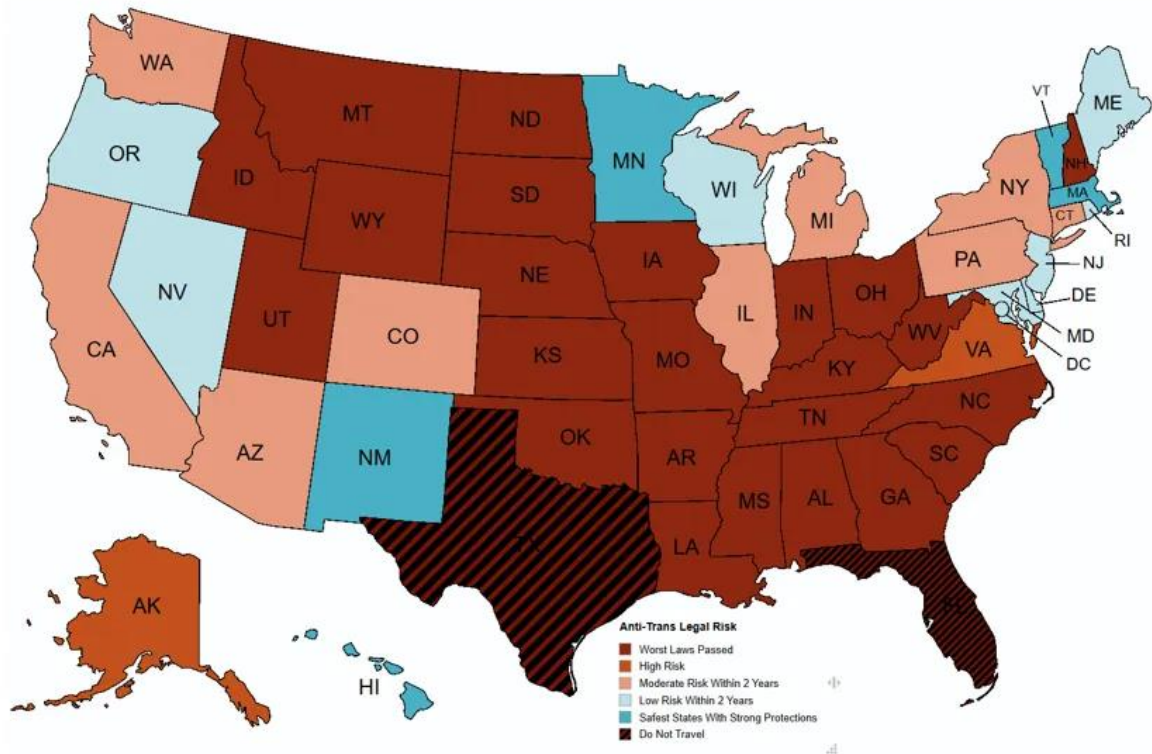
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**AUGUST 29th:** Update to the trans safety map. For adults it seems that only one state has significantly changed standing, safest to low risk - Maine - primarily because the University of Maine has implemented a trans athlete ban, but it is not expected that any further changes will happen soon. Overall, the situation remains awful for trans adults and Texas and Florida are no travel states, certainly in Florida, this likely extends to LGBTQIA+ travel as well as trans.



For youth, however, the situation has become much worse with many hospitals even in safe states capitulating to the Mangotini and denying trans healthcare. Only five states, Hawaii, New Mexico, Minnesota, Vermont and Maryland remaining as safest states, a few more are in the low risk category but the rest are moderate to worst and Texas and Florida retaining no travel status.

### Youth Anti-Trans Legal Risk Assessment Map



Even in states such as California where governor Newsome is standing up to Trump's policies such as gerrymandering Californian districts to create as many new Democrat districts as the new Republican ones created by gerrymandering in Texas, thereby nullifying Trump's attempt to rig the election system in his favour at the mid-terms and for the next presidential election, the situation for trans people is not good as Newsome has endorsed many anti-trans policies.

The risk for trans people in the USA as well as for democracy, business and the people as a whole is that the effect of the changes and destruction that Trump has caused to the legal and political systems will take decades, if ever, to put right. And there is at least another 15 months of this to go.