Let $G$ be a nontrivial connected graph on which is defined an edge coloring $c: E(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \ldots, k\}$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$, where adjacent edges may be colored the same. A path $P$ is a rainbow path if no two edges of $P$ are colored the same. The graph $G$ is rainbow-connected if $G$ contains a $u$-$v$ rainbow path for every two vertices $u$ and $v$ of $G$. The minimum $k$ for which there exists such a $k$-edge coloring is the rainbow connection number $rc(G)$ of $G$. Results about the rainbow connection number for several classes of graphs will be discussed.