

THE 2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-REMOVAL INDEX

With rate-of-placement supplement, released December 1, 2017

The *NCCPR Rate-of-Removal Index* compares the propensity of states to adopt a “take-the-child-and-run” approach to child welfare. The index compares the number of children in each state taken from their families by child welfare agencies during federal fiscal year 2016, the most recent year for which data are available, to a Census Bureau estimate of the number of children living in poverty in that state. The result is the number of removals of children from their homes for every 1,000 impoverished children in that state.

THIS IS NOT THE “SNAPSHOT NUMBER”

The measure of a state’s foster care population usually seen in news accounts is the so-called “snapshot number” indicating the number of children in foster care in a state on one particular day – usually September 30 of each year. That is a very important number, but it is a less accurate measure of a state’s propensity to remove children.

A state may have a high snapshot number even if it takes away very few children, if it hangs on to those it takes for a very long time. (That is, in itself, a serious problem, but not a measure of the state’s propensity to take away children in the first place.) Conversely, a state can have a low snapshot number and still take away many children, but take them for only a very short period of time. Thus, a state which takes away many children in January, but returns most of them by August will have a low number when the “snapshot” is taken in September.

RATHER, THE MAIN INDEX USES REMOVALS OVER THE COURSE OF A YEAR

So instead of measuring the foster care population on any given day, the *NCCPR Rate-of-Removal Index* relies on federal data listing the number of children removed at some point over the course of a given year.

But because the snapshot number also is important, we’ve included an *NCCPR Rate-of-Placement Index* immediately after the rate-of-removal data. It uses the same sources and the same methodology as the *Rate-of-Removal Index*.

HOW THE INDEX IS COMPILED

The source for foster care data is the Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS). Data from 2007 through 2016 are available by [going to this link](#), scrolling down and clicking on “state data tables.” Data for earlier years also are available from NCCPR.

COMPARISON DATA: WHY WE THINK IT’S MORE VALID TO COMPARE ENTRIES TO CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY

We could have simply compared the number of children removed to a state’s total child population. (And, for those interested only in that measure, we have included such a comparison in the tables that follow.) But then all the states with high rates of removal and high child poverty rates would complain that this was unfair because we didn’t consider the single largest risk factor for actual abuse (not to mention the factor [most often confused with “neglect”](#)) – poverty.

In addition, **since child protective services agencies almost never take children from affluent families, using the total child population would allow affluent states that still take large numbers of children from impoverished neighborhoods to camouflage this fact.** So, for our main index, in order to come closer to an apples-to-apples comparison, we use the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey to determine the number of people under age 18 living in poverty in each state.

This is a statistical sample, as opposed to the head count used every ten years in the census. This has led to fluctuations from year to year, which probably are a result of sampling problems. To minimize these errors, we've adopted a method used by one of the nation's most authoritative sources of information about impoverished children, the National Center for Children in Poverty at Columbia University. They use the *average* from the last three Current Population Surveys to estimate the number of impoverished children in each state. The estimates in these tables therefore are a three year average for 2014, 2015, and 2016. The data tables are [available from the Census Bureau here](#).

We then compare the number of children removed from their homes in each state to this three-year average estimate of the number of people under age 18 in that state who are living in poverty. (For our comparison using total child population, we use only the 2016 estimate.)

KANSAS AND TEXAS DATA ON REMOVALS ARE PROBABLY GROSS UNDERESTIMATES

One state – Kansas – is, at best, exploiting a technicality in regulations to allow it to hide the true extent to which it takes away children. Regrettably, the federal government's Administration for Children and Families is letting Kansas get away with it. **We believe that the true number of Kansas children torn from their families is at least double the figure reported by the state to the federal government, and that Kansas may well take away children at the highest rate in the nation.** Details on how Kansas gets away with this shameful practice are in [NCCPR's report on Kansas child welfare](#).

Another state, Texas, hides nearly two-thirds of its placements, failing to report them to the federal government. See the discussion of kinship care below and [this post to the NCCPR Child Welfare Blog](#) for details concerning how this is done.

OTHER CAUTIONS AND CAVEATS

- As a group that believes strongly in family preservation, we feel that a high rate-of-removal almost always is a sign of a bad system. But a low rate-of-removal is not necessarily a sign of a good system. A low rate-of-removal can be accomplished either by embracing safe, proven programs to keep families together, or by ignoring children in real danger. We are confident that the low rates of removal in states such as Alabama and Illinois indicate relatively good systems, because those states also reduced the rate of reabuse of children left in their own homes, and independent court-appointed monitors say reforms in these states have improved child safety.

- The data don't reveal trends over time. A state that still has a relatively high number of removals but has been steadily and safely reducing them may be a better "role model" than a state which removed relatively few children in 2016, but now is in the midst of a foster-care panic. Trend data are available at the links to AFCARS data noted above.

- Although placing a child with a relative is less traumatic than placing a child with a stranger, when such a “kinship care” placement is done by order of a court or a child welfare agency, *it is still foster care*. Any child welfare agency official who says “we are keeping children out of foster care by placing them with relatives” is being, at best, disingenuous. However, there is a gray area between a purely voluntary arrangement among relatives and a placement demanded by a child welfare agency. As a result, some states may be making their entry-into-care figures and their snapshot number look lower than they should be by failing to report all such placements. This is, in fact, how Texas hides vast numbers of placements, as noted above.

- In 13 states, individual counties run their child protection systems. Statewide data may obscure success stories or extreme failures in individual counties. In addition, in some systems that are nominally state run, there are, nevertheless, wide variations among counties or regions. Some states make available the raw data needed to do county-by-county or region-by-region comparisons; most do not.

- One cannot say, based on these data, that state X “took Y percent of its poor children from their parents in 2016.” That would be inaccurate because, while the overwhelming majority of children taken from their parents are poor, not all of them are. Thus, we are comparing a pool of children – those removed from their parents – which is mostly poor, to a general population that is entirely poor. One can say only that, for example, in 2016 authorities in Montana appeared more prone to resort to foster care than their counterparts in almost any other state, since this index shows that Montana has the highest rate-of-removal.

BEWARE OF THE TYPICAL EXCUSES

- Some states may claim they don’t really take away as many children as the federal data show. In fact, they’re probably wrong and the feds probably are right. The federal government doesn’t make these numbers up, and it doesn’t do the counting itself. It relies for its data on state human services agencies – the same agencies which, in some states, offer up lower numbers for public consumption.

The difference probably has to do with definitions. The federal government uses a standard definition: If a child has been taken away for more than 24 hours it “counts” as an entry into foster care. And that makes sense – you can be sure it “counts” for a child who endures it. So the numbers states give the federal government are supposed to include all such children.

But when states give figures to newspapers or post them on their websites, or even when they give them to a different federal database, they can use any definition they want. Some states may count a child as “removed” only if s/he is still in foster care at the time of the first court hearing, which can be anywhere from 24 hours to two weeks after removal. All the children agencies take, then change their minds about and return before that hearing -- much the worse for the experience -- are not counted under this definition. (Indeed, Kansas used a similar evasion to avoid even reporting these removals to the federal government, in violation of the spirit, if not the letter, of the federal definition.)

- Some states also claim that they are the only state, or among the very few states, in which the data include children placed in foster care through their juvenile justice systems as well as their child welfare systems. But when staff from the Nebraska Legislature checked on this excuse, they found that, in fact, at least 31 states include such placements.¹ *(Tables begin on the following page)*

¹ Performance Audit Committee, Nebraska Legislature [*DHHS Privatization of Child Welfare and Juvenile Services*](#), November, 2011, pp. 31,32

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-REMOVAL INDEX/4

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-REMOVAL INDEX

State	Average number of children living in poverty, 2014 - 2016	Entries into foster care, 2016	Rate-of-Removal per thousand impoverished children	Rank
Alabama	275,667	3,772	13.68	41
Alaska	25,667	1,336	52.05	3
Arizona	381,667	11,729	30.73	15
Arkansas	146,000	4,103	28.10	19
California	1,833,000	31,254	17.05	36
Colorado	169,333	5,277	31.16	14
Connecticut	115,333	2,040	17.69	35
Delaware	31,000	501	16.16	37
District of Columbia	33,667	395	11.73	49
Florida	917,333	17,677	19.27	30
Georgia	662,667	8,551	12.90	43
Hawaii	40,000	1,163	29.08	18
Idaho	73,667	1,314	17.84	34
Illinois	539,000	4,455	8.27	51
Indiana	287,333	12,785	44.50	7
Iowa	114,667	4,189	36.53	11
Kansas	129,000	3,880	30.08	17
Kentucky	271,000	5,690	21.00	27
Louisiana	303,667	3,729	12.28	46
Maine	47,000	916	19.49	29
Maryland	171,000	2,250	13.16	42
Massachusetts	196,000	6,661	33.98	13
Michigan	428,333	6,512	15.20	39
Minnesota	152,667	7,277	47.67	6
Mississippi	205,333	3,695	18.00	33
Missouri	277,667	7,350	26.47	21
Montana	38,667	2,151	55.63	1
Nebraska	70,333	2,521	35.84	12
Nevada	110,667	3,400	30.72	16
New Hampshire	20,000	751	37.55	10
New Jersey	287,000	4,271	14.88	40
New Mexico	152,333	1,872	12.29	45
New York	898,000	8,235	9.17	50
North Carolina	471,000	5,897	12.52	44
North Dakota	26,667	1,075	40.31	8
Ohio	576,000	10,772	18.70	31
Oklahoma	236,000	5,182	21.96	26
Oregon	156,667	3,826	24.42	22
Pennsylvania	463,000	10,899	23.54	23
Rhode Island	28,667	1,087	37.92	9
South Carolina	247,000	3,758	15.21	38
South Dakota	41,333	1,151	27.85	20
Tennessee	344,000	6,424	18.67	32
Texas	1,571,000	19,193	12.22	47
Utah	118,667	2,365	19.93	28
Vermont	15,333	776	50.61	4
Virginia	244,333	2,940	12.03	48
Washington	259,000	5,736	22.15	25
West Virginia	93,333	4,625	49.55	5
Wisconsin	206,333	4,783	23.18	24
Wyoming	18,667	986	52.82	2
TOTAL	14,521,667	273,177	18.81	

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2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-REMOVAL INDEX BY RANK

State	Average number of children living in poverty, 2014 - 2016	Entries into foster care, 2016	Rate-of-Removal per thousand impoverished children	Rank
Montana	38,667	2,151	55.63	1
Wyoming	18,667	986	52.82	2
Alaska	25,667	1,336	52.05	3
Vermont	15,333	776	50.61	4
West Virginia	93,333	4,625	49.55	5
Minnesota	152,667	7,277	47.67	6
Indiana	287,333	12,785	44.50	7
North Dakota	26,667	1,075	40.31	8
Rhode Island	28,667	1,087	37.92	9
New Hampshire	20,000	751	37.55	10
Iowa	114,667	4,189	36.53	11
Nebraska	70,333	2,521	35.84	12
Massachusetts	196,000	6,661	33.98	13
Colorado	169,333	5,277	31.16	14
Arizona	381,667	11,729	30.73	15
Nevada	110,667	3,400	30.72	16
Kansas	129,000	3,880	30.08	17
Hawaii	40,000	1,163	29.08	18
Arkansas	146,000	4,103	28.10	19
South Dakota	41,333	1,151	27.85	20
Missouri	277,667	7,350	26.47	21
Oregon	156,667	3,826	24.42	22
Pennsylvania	463,000	10,899	23.54	23
Wisconsin	206,333	4,783	23.18	24
Washington	259,000	5,736	22.15	25
Oklahoma	236,000	5,182	21.96	26
Kentucky	271,000	5,690	21.00	27
Utah	118,667	2,365	19.93	28
Maine	47,000	916	19.49	29
Florida	917,333	17,677	19.27	30
Ohio	576,000	10,772	18.70	31
Tennessee	344,000	6,424	18.67	32
Mississippi	205,333	3,695	18.00	33
Idaho	73,667	1,314	17.84	34
Connecticut	115,333	2,040	17.69	35
California	1,833,000	31,254	17.05	36
Delaware	31,000	501	16.16	37
South Carolina	247,000	3,758	15.21	38
Michigan	428,333	6,512	15.20	39
New Jersey	287,000	4,271	14.88	40
Alabama	275,667	3,772	13.68	41
Maryland	171,000	2,250	13.16	42
Georgia	662,667	8,551	12.90	43
North Carolina	471,000	5,897	12.52	44
New Mexico	152,333	1,872	12.29	45
Louisiana	303,667	3,729	12.28	46
Texas	1,571,000	19,193	12.22	47
Virginia	244,333	2,940	12.03	48
District of Columbia	33,667	395	11.73	49
New York	898,000	8,235	9.17	50
Illinois	539,000	4,455	8.27	51
TOTAL	14,521,667	273,177	18.81	

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-REMOVAL INDEX/6

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-REMOVAL INDEX, TOTAL CHILD POPULATION

State	Child population 2016	Entries into foster care, 2016	Rate-of-Removal per thousand children	Rank
Alabama	1,082,000	3,772	3.49	33
Alaska	187,000	1,336	7.14	5
Arizona	1,621,000	11,729	7.24	4
Arkansas	702,000	4,103	5.84	10
California	9,063,000	31,254	3.45	34
Colorado	1,261,000	5,277	4.18	25
Connecticut	754,000	2,040	2.71	42
Delaware	205,000	501	2.44	46
District of Columbia	121,000	395	3.26	38
Florida	4,171,000	17,677	4.24	24
Georgia	2,522,000	8,551	3.39	36
Hawaii	307,000	1,163	3.79	29
Idaho	448,000	1,314	2.93	40
Illinois	2,876,000	4,455	1.55	50
Indiana	1,583,000	12,785	8.08	3
Iowa	713,000	4,189	5.88	9
Kansas	715,000	3,880	5.43	14
Kentucky	1,042,000	5,690	5.46	12
Louisiana	1,096,000	3,729	3.40	35
Maine	256,000	916	3.58	31
Maryland	1,346,000	2,250	1.67	49
Massachusetts	1,383,000	6,661	4.82	21
Michigan	2,140,000	6,512	3.04	39
Minnesota	1,300,000	7,277	5.60	11
Mississippi	721,000	3,695	5.12	19
Missouri	1,398,000	7,350	5.26	17
Montana	226,000	2,151	9.52	2
Nebraska	481,000	2,521	5.24	18
Nevada	685,000	3,400	4.96	20
New Hampshire	266,000	751	2.82	41
New Jersey	1,961,000	4,271	2.18	47
New Mexico	491,000	1,872	3.81	28
New York	4,120,000	8,235	2.00	48
North Carolina	2,309,000	5,897	2.55	45
North Dakota	178,000	1,075	6.04	8
Ohio	2,640,000	10,772	4.08	27
Oklahoma	954,000	5,182	5.43	13
Oregon	892,000	3,826	4.29	23
Pennsylvania	2,648,000	10,899	4.12	26
Rhode Island	201,000	1,087	5.41	15
South Carolina	1,116,000	3,758	3.37	37
South Dakota	217,000	1,151	5.30	16
Tennessee	1,474,000	6,424	4.36	22
Texas	7,322,000	19,193	2.62	43
Utah	922,000	2,365	2.57	44
Vermont	122,000	776	6.36	7
Virginia	1,909,000	2,940	1.54	51
Washington	1,616,000	5,736	3.55	32
West Virginia	373,000	4,625	12.40	1
Wisconsin	1,308,000	4,783	3.66	30
Wyoming	144,000	986	6.85	6
TOTAL	73,588,000	273,177	3.71	

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-REMOVAL INDEX/7

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-REMOVAL INDEX, TOTAL CHILD POPULATION, BY RANK

State	Child population , 2016	Entries into foster care, 2016	Rate-of-Removal per thousand children	Rank
West Virginia	373,000	4,625	12.40	1
Montana	226,000	2,151	9.52	2
Indiana	1,583,000	12,785	8.08	3
Arizona	1,621,000	11,729	7.24	4
Alaska	187,000	1,336	7.14	5
Wyoming	144,000	986	6.85	6
Vermont	122,000	776	6.36	7
North Dakota	178,000	1,075	6.04	8
Iowa	713,000	4,189	5.88	9
Arkansas	702,000	4,103	5.84	10
Minnesota	1,300,000	7,277	5.60	11
Kentucky	1,042,000	5,690	5.46	12
Oklahoma	954,000	5,182	5.43	13
Kansas	715,000	3,880	5.43	14
Rhode Island	201,000	1,087	5.41	15
South Dakota	217,000	1,151	5.30	16
Missouri	1,398,000	7,350	5.26	17
Nebraska	481,000	2,521	5.24	18
Mississippi	721,000	3,695	5.12	19
Nevada	685,000	3,400	4.96	20
Massachusetts	1,383,000	6,661	4.82	21
Tennessee	1,474,000	6,424	4.36	22
Oregon	892,000	3,826	4.29	23
Florida	4,171,000	17,677	4.24	24
Colorado	1,261,000	5,277	4.18	25
Pennsylvania	2,648,000	10,899	4.12	26
Ohio	2,640,000	10,772	4.08	27
New Mexico	491,000	1,872	3.81	28
Hawaii	307,000	1,163	3.79	29
Wisconsin	1,308,000	4,783	3.66	30
Maine	256,000	916	3.58	31
Washington	1,616,000	5,736	3.55	32
Alabama	1,082,000	3,772	3.49	33
California	9,063,000	31,254	3.45	34
Louisiana	1,096,000	3,729	3.40	35
Georgia	2,522,000	8,551	3.39	36
South Carolina	1,116,000	3,758	3.37	37
District of Columbia	121,000	395	3.26	38
Michigan	2,140,000	6,512	3.04	39
Idaho	448,000	1,314	2.93	40
New Hampshire	266,000	751	2.82	41
Connecticut	754,000	2,040	2.71	42
Texas	7,322,000	19,193	2.62	43
Utah	922,000	2,365	2.57	44
North Carolina	2,309,000	5,897	2.55	45
Delaware	205,000	501	2.44	46
New Jersey	1,961,000	4,271	2.18	47
New York	4,120,000	8,235	2.00	48
Maryland	1,346,000	2,250	1.67	49
Illinois	2,876,000	4,455	1.55	50
Virginia	1,909,000	2,940	1.54	51
TOTAL	73,588,000	273,177	3.71	

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-REMOVAL INDEX/8

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-PLACEMENT INDEX

State	Average number of children living in poverty, 2014 - 2016	Children in foster care, Sept. 30, 2016	Rate-of-Placement per thousand impoverished children	Rank
Alabama	275,667	5,053	18.33	48
Alaska	25,667	2,820	109.87	1
Arizona	381,667	17,118	44.85	16
Arkansas	146,000	4,880	33.42	28
California	1,833,000	54,685	29.83	30
Colorado	169,333	5,733	33.86	27
Connecticut	115,333	4,119	35.71	24
Delaware	31,000	780	25.16	35
District of Columbia	33,667	826	24.53	36
Florida	917,333	23,810	25.96	34
Georgia	662,667	12,381	18.68	47
Hawaii	40,000	1,605	40.13	20
Idaho	73,667	1,518	20.61	44
Illinois	539,000	16,113	29.89	29
Indiana	287,333	19,837	69.04	4
Iowa	114,667	6,004	52.36	14
Kansas	129,000	7,302	56.60	10
Kentucky	271,000	7,812	28.83	31
Louisiana	303,667	4,461	14.69	51
Maine	47,000	1,837	39.09	21
Maryland	171,000	3,841	22.46	41
Massachusetts	196,000	10,910	55.66	11
Michigan	428,333	11,599	27.08	32
Minnesota	152,667	8,793	57.60	8
Mississippi	205,333	5,486	26.72	33
Missouri	277,667	12,408	44.69	17
Montana	38,667	3,366	87.05	2
Nebraska	70,333	4,012	57.04	9
Nevada	110,667	4,251	38.41	22
New Hampshire	20,000	1,220	61.00	6
New Jersey	287,000	6,527	22.74	40
New Mexico	152,333	2,610	17.13	49
New York	898,000	19,702	21.94	43
North Carolina	471,000	10,425	22.13	42
North Dakota	26,667	1,407	52.76	13
Ohio	576,000	13,725	23.83	39
Oklahoma	236,000	10,047	42.57	18
Oregon	156,667	7,625	48.67	15
Pennsylvania	463,000	16,086	34.74	25
Rhode Island	28,667	1,654	57.70	7
South Carolina	247,000	3,968	16.06	50
South Dakota	41,333	1,416	34.26	26
Tennessee	344,000	8,333	24.22	37
Texas	1,571,000	30,738	19.57	46
Utah	118,667	2,838	23.92	38
Vermont	15,333	1,323	86.28	3
Virginia	244,333	4,890	20.01	45
Washington	259,000	10,959	42.31	19
West Virginia	93,333	5,973	64.00	5
Wisconsin	206,333	7,382	35.78	23
Wyoming	18,667	993	53.20	12
TOTAL	14,521,667	433,201	29.83	

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-REMOVAL INDEX/9

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-PLACEMENT INDEX, BY RANK

State	Average number of children living in poverty, 2014 - 2016	Children in foster care, Sept. 30, 2016	Rate-of-Placement per thousand impoverished children	Rank
Alaska	25,667	2,820	109.87	1
Montana	38,667	3,366	87.05	2
Vermont	15,333	1,323	86.28	3
Indiana	287,333	19,837	69.04	4
West Virginia	93,333	5,973	64.00	5
New Hampshire	20,000	1,220	61.00	6
Rhode Island	28,667	1,654	57.70	7
Minnesota	152,667	8,793	57.60	8
Nebraska	70,333	4,012	57.04	9
Kansas	129,000	7,302	56.60	10
Massachusetts	196,000	10,910	55.66	11
Wyoming	18,667	993	53.20	12
North Dakota	26,667	1,407	52.76	13
Iowa	114,667	6,004	52.36	14
Oregon	156,667	7,625	48.67	15
Arizona	381,667	17,118	44.85	16
Missouri	277,667	12,408	44.69	17
Oklahoma	236,000	10,047	42.57	18
Washington	259,000	10,959	42.31	19
Hawaii	40,000	1,605	40.13	20
Maine	47,000	1,837	39.09	21
Nevada	110,667	4,251	38.41	22
Wisconsin	206,333	7,382	35.78	23
Connecticut	115,333	4,119	35.71	24
Pennsylvania	463,000	16,086	34.74	25
South Dakota	41,333	1,416	34.26	26
Colorado	169,333	5,733	33.86	27
Arkansas	146,000	4,880	33.42	28
Illinois	539,000	16,113	29.89	29
California	1,833,000	54,685	29.83	30
Kentucky	271,000	7,812	28.83	31
Michigan	428,333	11,599	27.08	32
Mississippi	205,333	5,486	26.72	33
Florida	917,333	23,810	25.96	34
Delaware	31,000	780	25.16	35
District of Columbia	33,667	826	24.53	36
Tennessee	344,000	8,333	24.22	37
Utah	118,667	2,838	23.92	38
Ohio	576,000	13,725	23.83	39
New Jersey	287,000	6,527	22.74	40
Maryland	171,000	3,841	22.46	41
North Carolina	471,000	10,425	22.13	42
New York	898,000	19,702	21.94	43
Idaho	73,667	1,518	20.61	44
Virginia	244,333	4,890	20.01	45
Texas	1,571,000	30,738	19.57	46
Georgia	662,667	12,381	18.68	47
Alabama	275,667	5,053	18.33	48
New Mexico	152,333	2,610	17.13	49
South Carolina	247,000	3,968	16.06	50
Louisiana	303,667	4,461	14.69	51
	14,521,667	433,201		

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-REMOVAL INDEX/10

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-PLACEMENT INDEX, TOTAL CHILD POPULATION

State	Child population, 2016	Children in foster care, Sept. 30, 2016	Rate-of-Placement per thousand children	Rank
Alabama	1,082,000	5,053	4.67	39
Alaska	187,000	2,820	15.08	2
Arizona	1,621,000	17,118	10.56	6
Arkansas	702,000	4,880	6.95	19
California	9,063,000	54,685	6.03	27
Colorado	1,261,000	5,733	4.55	41
Connecticut	754,000	4,119	5.46	32
Delaware	205,000	780	3.80	45
District of Columbia	121,000	826	6.83	21
Florida	4,171,000	23,810	5.71	28
Georgia	2,522,000	12,381	4.91	37
Hawaii	307,000	1,605	5.23	35
Idaho	448,000	1,518	3.39	47
Illinois	2,876,000	16,113	5.60	31
Indiana	1,583,000	19,837	12.53	4
Iowa	713,000	6,004	8.42	11
Kansas	715,000	7,302	10.21	8
Kentucky	1,042,000	7,812	7.50	17
Louisiana	1,096,000	4,461	4.07	44
Maine	256,000	1,837	7.18	18
Maryland	1,346,000	3,841	2.85	50
Massachusetts	1,383,000	10,910	7.89	15
Michigan	2,140,000	11,599	5.42	33
Minnesota	1,300,000	8,793	6.76	23
Mississippi	721,000	5,486	7.61	16
Missouri	1,398,000	12,408	8.88	9
Montana	226,000	3,366	14.89	3
Nebraska	481,000	4,012	8.34	12
Nevada	685,000	4,251	6.21	25
New Hampshire	266,000	1,220	4.59	40
New Jersey	1,961,000	6,527	3.33	48
New Mexico	491,000	2,610	5.32	34
New York	4,120,000	19,702	4.78	38
North Carolina	2,309,000	10,425	4.51	42
North Dakota	178,000	1,407	7.90	14
Ohio	2,640,000	13,725	5.20	36
Oklahoma	954,000	10,047	10.53	7
Oregon	892,000	7,625	8.55	10
Pennsylvania	2,648,000	16,086	6.07	26
Rhode Island	201,000	1,654	8.23	13
South Carolina	1,116,000	3,968	3.56	46
South Dakota	217,000	1,416	6.53	24
Tennessee	1,474,000	8,333	5.65	29
Texas	7,322,000	30,738	4.20	43
Utah	922,000	2,838	3.08	49
Vermont	122,000	1,323	10.84	5
Virginia	1,909,000	4,890	2.56	51
Washington	1,616,000	10,959	6.78	22
West Virginia	373,000	5,973	16.01	1
Wisconsin	1,308,000	7,382	5.64	30
Wyoming	144,000	993	6.90	20
TOTAL	73,588,000	433,201	5.89	

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-REMOVAL INDEX/11

2016 NCCPR RATE-OF-PLACEMENT INDEX, TOTAL CHILD POPULATION, BY RANK

State	Child population 2016	Children in foster care, Sept. 30, 2016	Rate-of-Placement per thousand children	Rank
West Virginia	373,000	5,973	16.01	1
Alaska	187,000	2,820	15.08	2
Montana	226,000	3,366	14.89	3
Indiana	1,583,000	19,837	12.53	4
Vermont	122,000	1,323	10.84	5
Arizona	1,621,000	17,118	10.56	6
Oklahoma	954,000	10,047	10.53	7
Kansas	715,000	7,302	10.21	8
Missouri	1,398,000	12,408	8.88	9
Oregon	892,000	7,625	8.55	10
Iowa	713,000	6,004	8.42	11
Nebraska	481,000	4,012	8.34	12
Rhode Island	201,000	1,654	8.23	13
North Dakota	178,000	1,407	7.90	14
Massachusetts	1,383,000	10,910	7.89	15
Mississippi	721,000	5,486	7.61	16
Kentucky	1,042,000	7,812	7.50	17
Maine	256,000	1,837	7.18	18
Arkansas	702,000	4,880	6.95	19
Wyoming	144,000	993	6.90	20
District of Columbia	121,000	826	6.83	21
Washington	1,616,000	10,959	6.78	22
Minnesota	1,300,000	8,793	6.76	23
South Dakota	217,000	1,416	6.53	24
Nevada	685,000	4,251	6.21	25
Pennsylvania	2,648,000	16,086	6.07	26
California	9,063,000	54,685	6.03	27
Florida	4,171,000	23,810	5.71	28
Tennessee	1,474,000	8,333	5.65	29
Wisconsin	1,308,000	7,382	5.64	30
Illinois	2,876,000	16,113	5.60	31
Connecticut	754,000	4,119	5.46	32
Michigan	2,140,000	11,599	5.42	33
New Mexico	491,000	2,610	5.32	34
Hawaii	307,000	1,605	5.23	35
Ohio	2,640,000	13,725	5.20	36
Georgia	2,522,000	12,381	4.91	37
New York	4,120,000	19,702	4.78	38
Alabama	1,082,000	5,053	4.67	39
New Hampshire	266,000	1,220	4.59	40
Colorado	1,261,000	5,733	4.55	41
North Carolina	2,309,000	10,425	4.51	42
Texas	7,322,000	30,738	4.20	43
Louisiana	1,096,000	4,461	4.07	44
Delaware	205,000	780	3.80	45
South Carolina	1,116,000	3,968	3.56	46
Idaho	448,000	1,518	3.39	47
New Jersey	1,961,000	6,527	3.33	48
Utah	922,000	2,838	3.08	49
Maryland	1,346,000	3,841	2.85	50
Virginia	1,909,000	4,890	2.56	51
TOTAL	73,588,000	433,201	5.89	