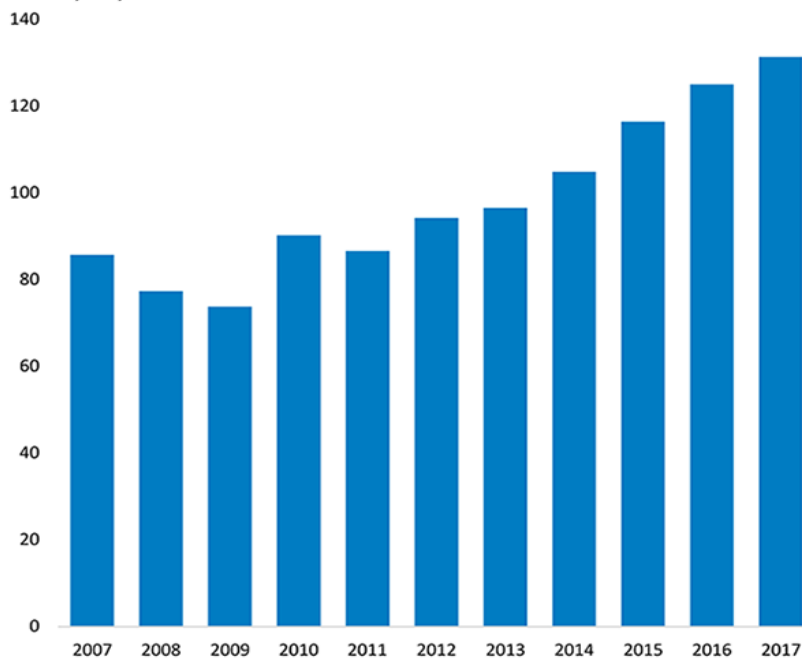




In federal fiscal year (FY) 2017, the rate of children entering foster care due to parental drug abuse rose for the sixth consecutive year to 131 per 100,000 children nationally—a 5 percent increase from the previous fiscal year and a 53 percent increase since FY 2007. Of the 268,212 children under age 18 removed from their families in FY 2017, 96,400 (36 percent) had parental drug abuse listed as a reason for their removal.

The rate of children entering foster care because of parental drug abuse has risen since 2007

Rates of foster care entries due to parental drug abuse, per 100,000, 2007-2017



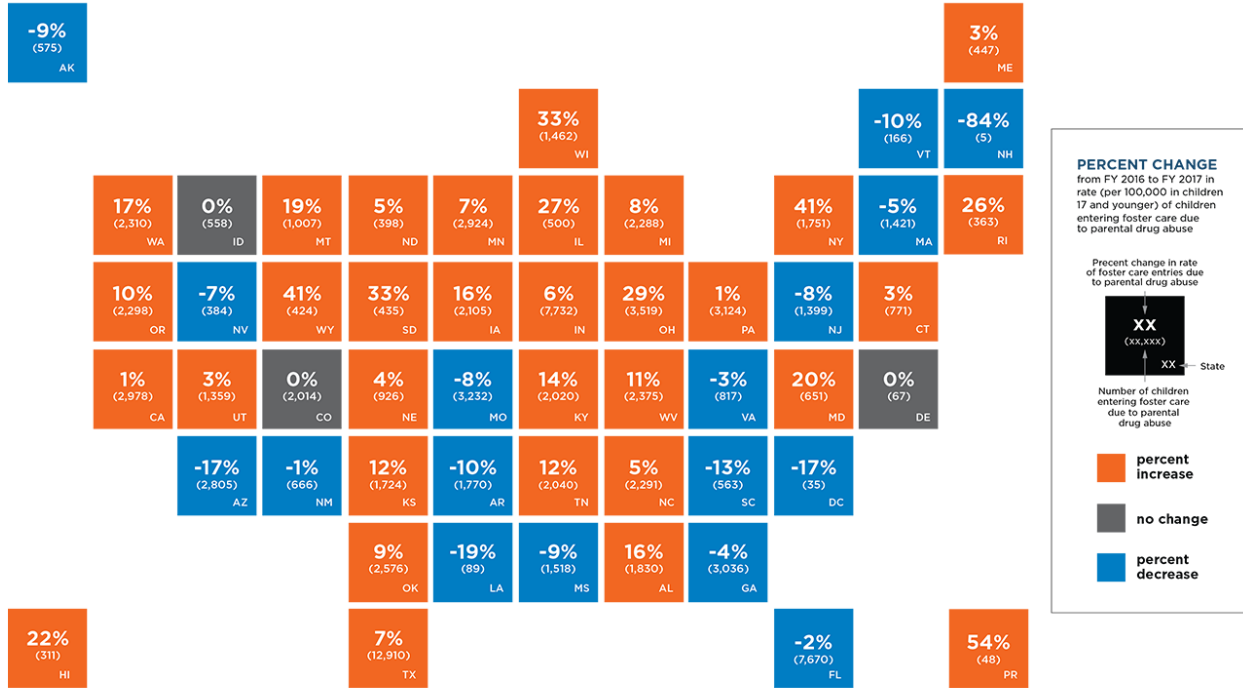
Foster care rates per 100,000 in the general child population (ages 17 and under) are calculated using the federal Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and data from the U.S. Census Bureau. AFCARS data pertain to the FY 2017 reporting period (October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017). Data from the U.S. Census Bureau are from 2017 and are publicly available at the Kids Count Data Center.

childtrends.org

Child Trends’ analysis of [FY 2016 and FY 2017 data](#) from the Adoption and Foster Care Reporting System (AFCARS) also shows that most states (35) experienced an increase in both the number and rate of children entering foster care due to parental drug abuse. For example, some states may have implemented new policies or practices that help them better identify children in need of child welfare services, resulting in a larger number of children coming into care due to parental drug abuse.

The rate of U.S. children entering foster care due to parental drug abuse increased by 5 percent in 2017

Percent change in rate of children ages 17 and younger who entered foster care due to parental drug abuse, per 100,000, by state, fiscal years 2016-2017



Source: Foster care rates are calculated per 100,000 in the general child population (ages 17 and under) using the federal Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data and data from the U.S. Census Bureau. AFCARS data represents the federal fiscal year the FY 2017 reporting period (October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017).