

# **Mapping the Regional Variation in Foster Care Rates A Geospatial Benchmark**

**National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics  
2019 Workshop ~ Collaborating Across Lines to Build Up Lives  
New Orleans, Louisiana ~ Omni Royal Orleans Hotel  
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**Gilbert L. Crouse, Sr. Ph.D.  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
202-730-3917 voice 202-690-6562 fax  
email: gilbert.crouse@hhs.gov**

**The views expressed in this presentation are solely those of the author and do not represent the official position of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.**

# Findings

- Variation in the amount of foster-care caseload growth among HHS regions, states, and counties is very large
- The pressure on program resources—as measured by 2017 levels of caseload compared to the previous maximum caseload—is also very large.
- Growth is not easily explained by any one cause but appears to be related to different factors in different locations.

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# HOW HAS THE TREND IN FOSTER CARE CASES CHANGED OVER TIME?

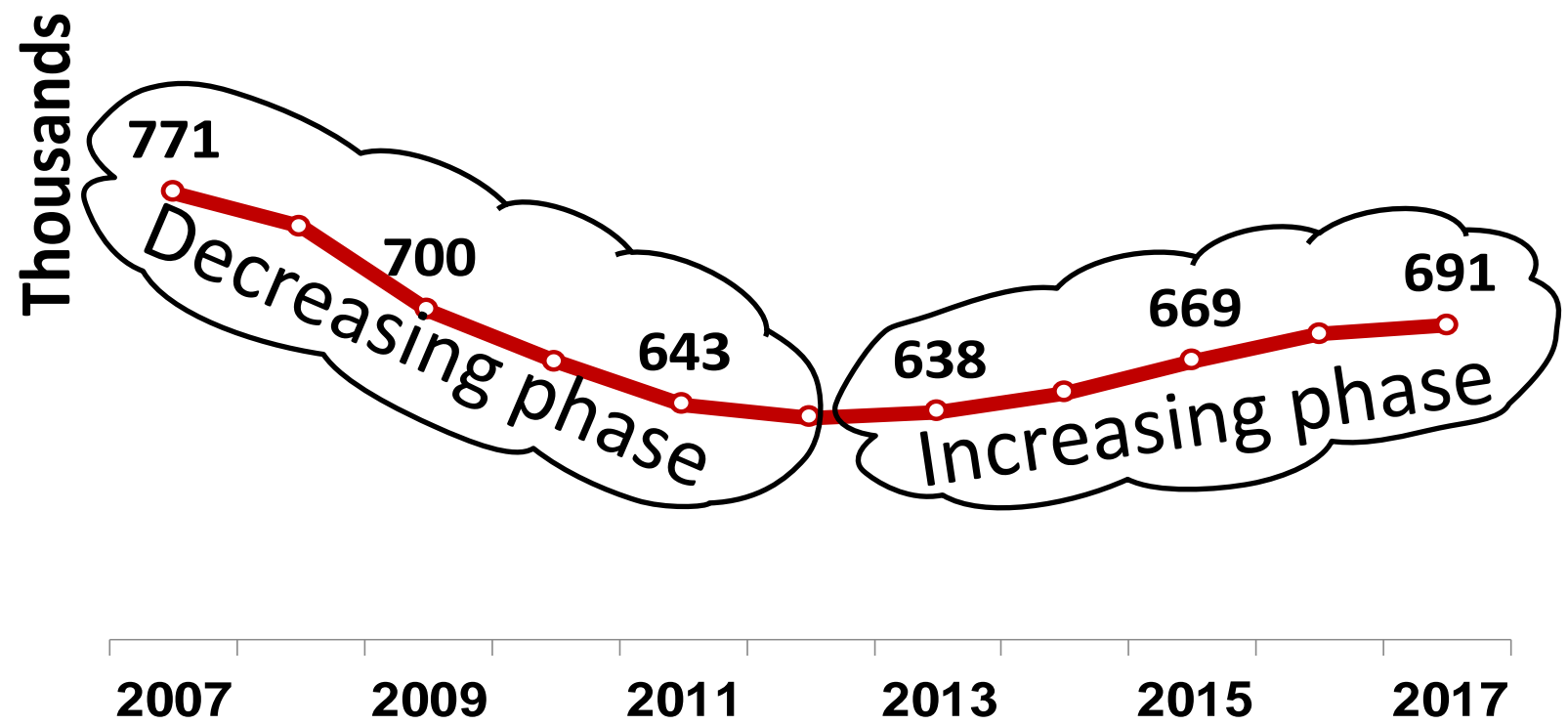


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# Trends in Foster Care Caseloads

## Total Children Served: 2007-2017



**Note:** Totals include Puerto Rico which had 7,600 cases in 2007 and 4,694 in 2017.  
**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.



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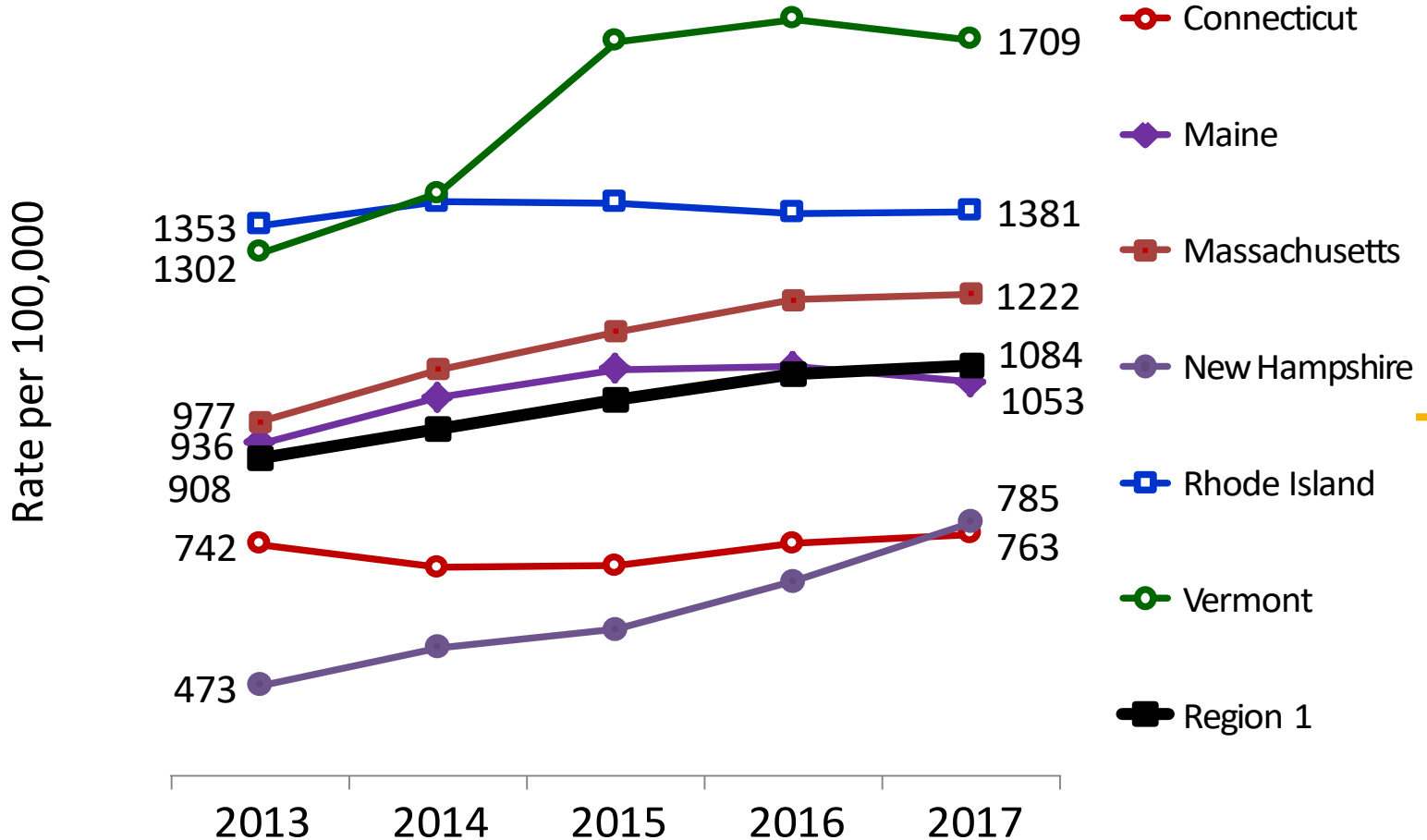
**IN WHAT REGIONS/STATES HAVE  
THE MOST SIGNIFICANT  
INCREASES/DECREASES IN FOSTER  
CARE CASELOADS OCCURRED?**



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# Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 1

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017



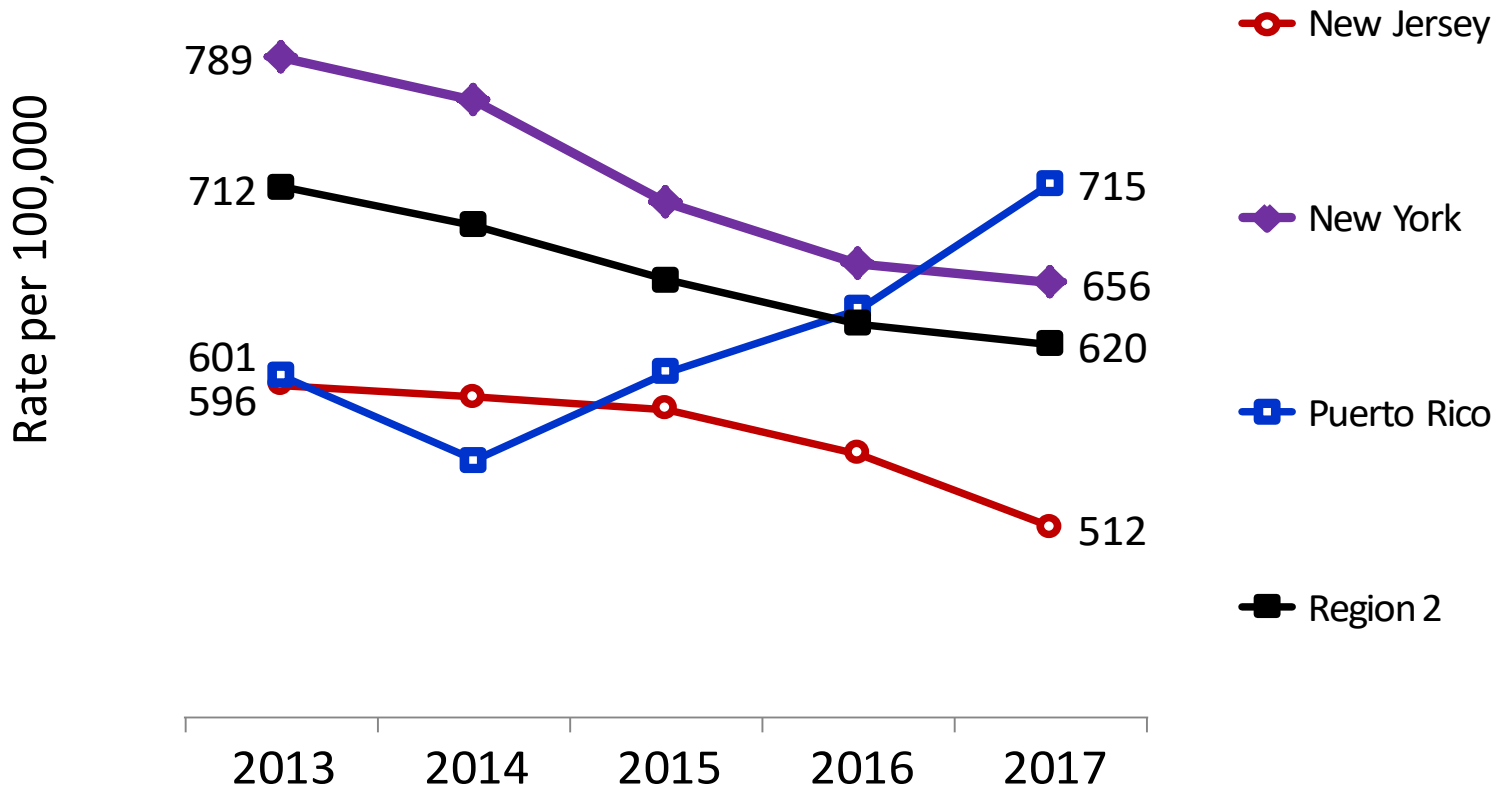
**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.



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# Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 2

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017



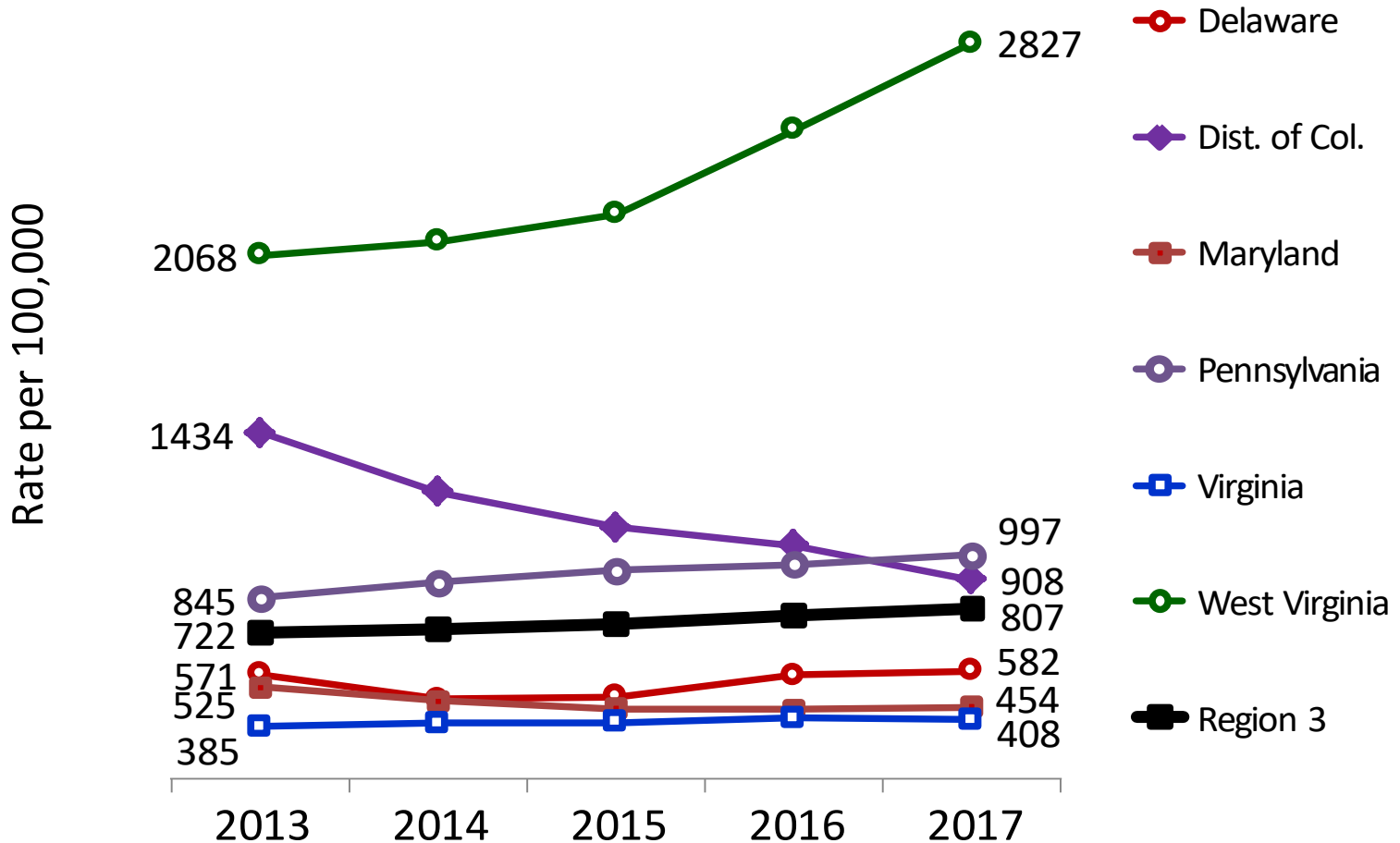
**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.



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# Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 3

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017



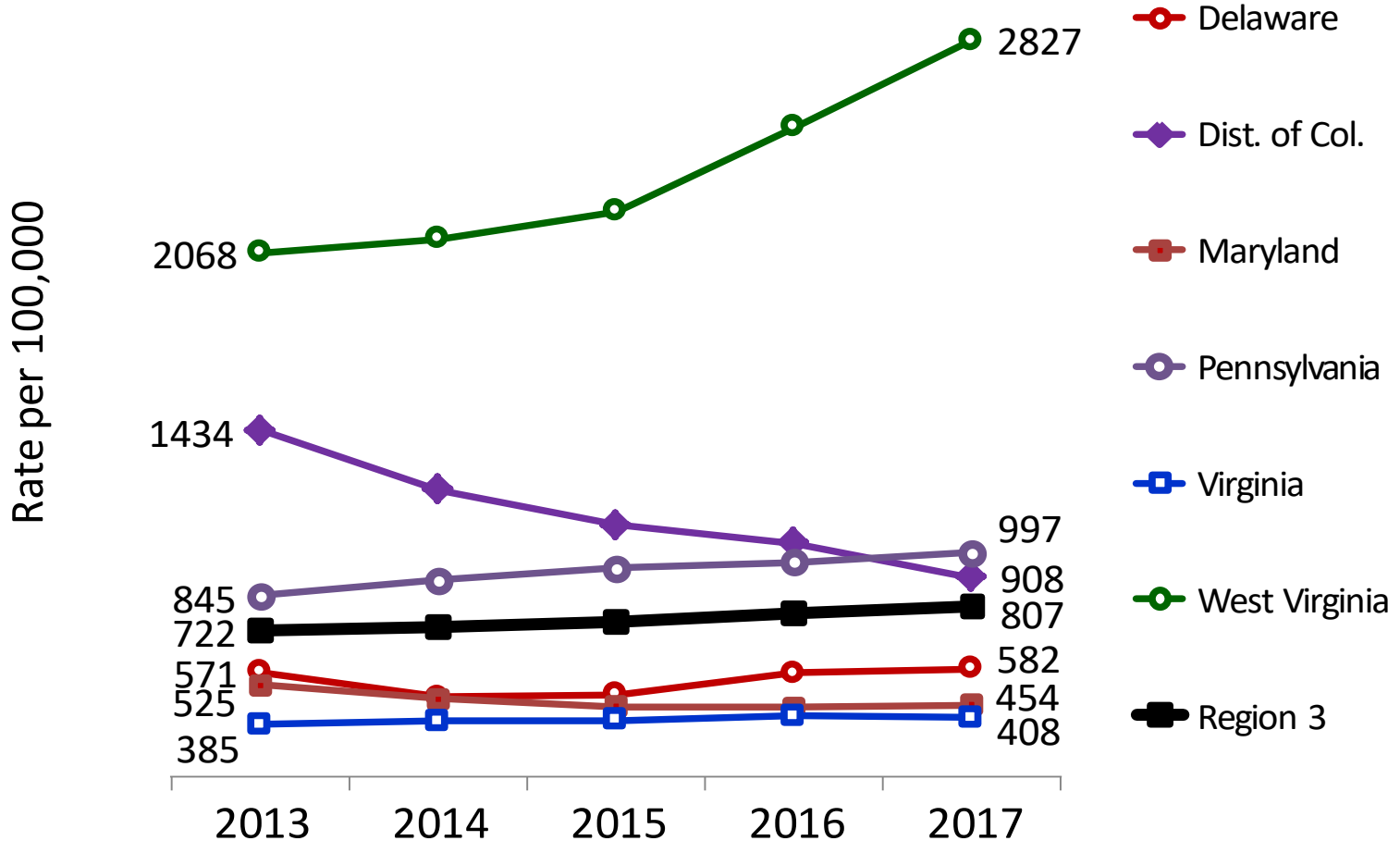
**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.



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# Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 3

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017



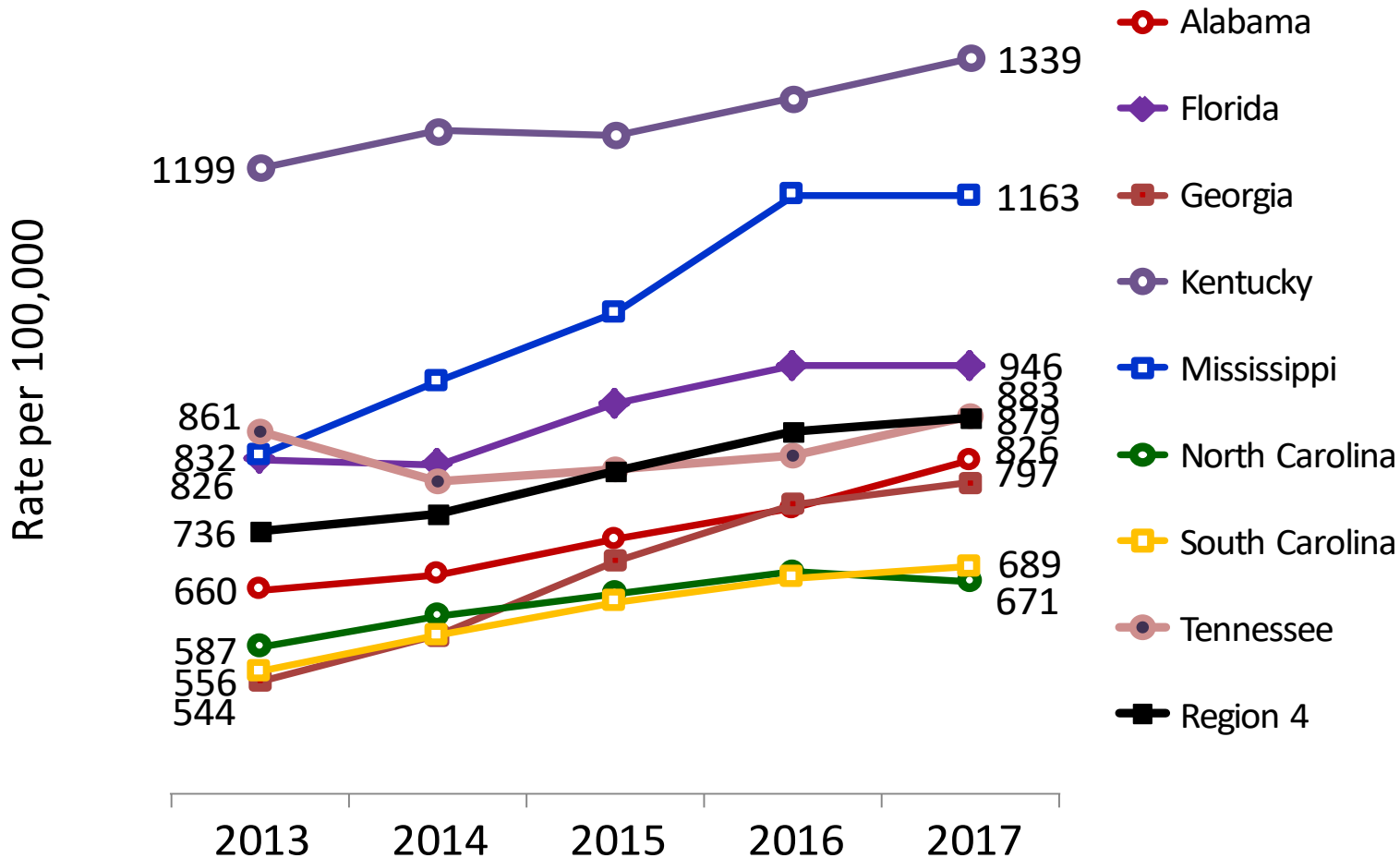
**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.



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# Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 4

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017



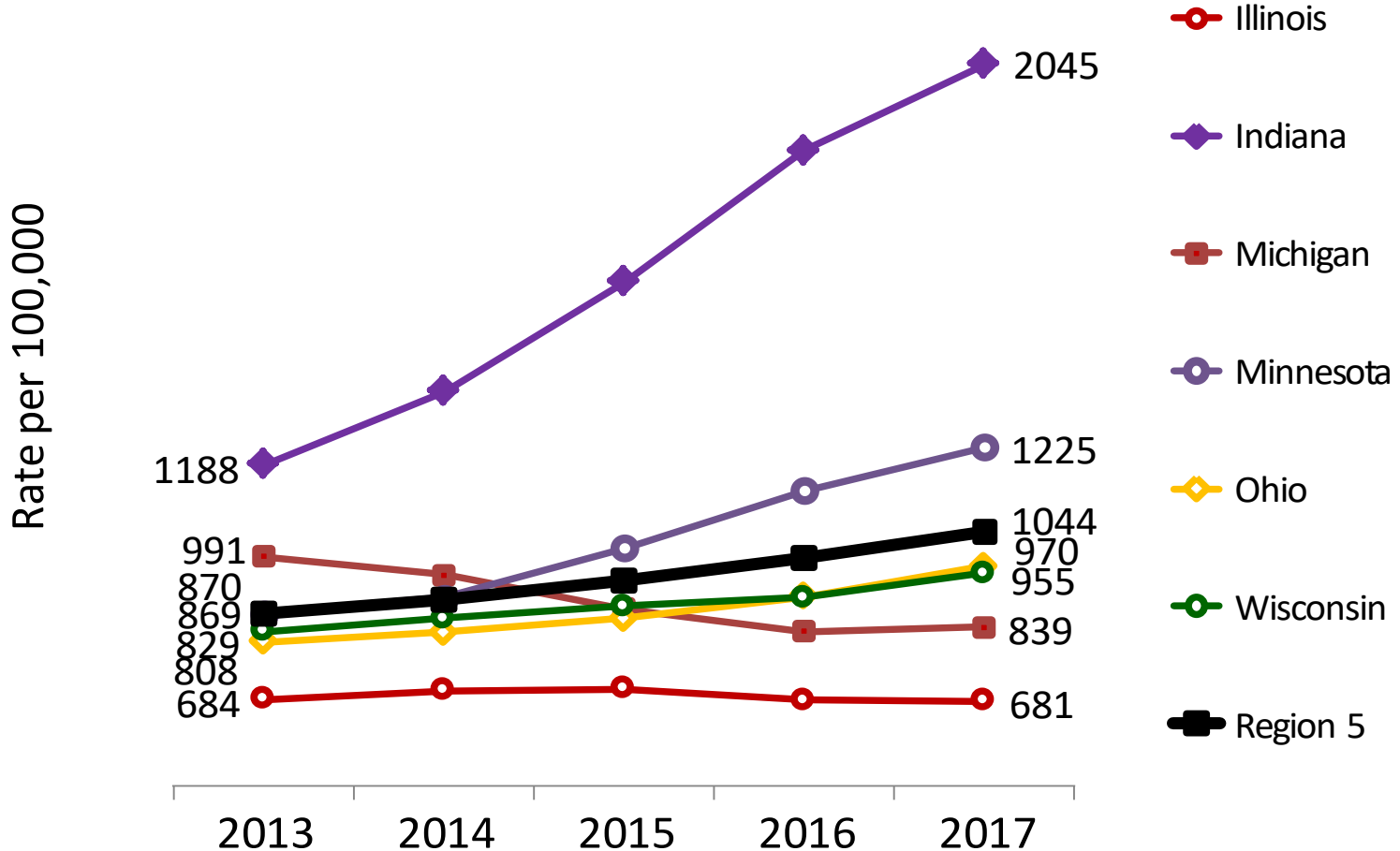
**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.



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# Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 5

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017



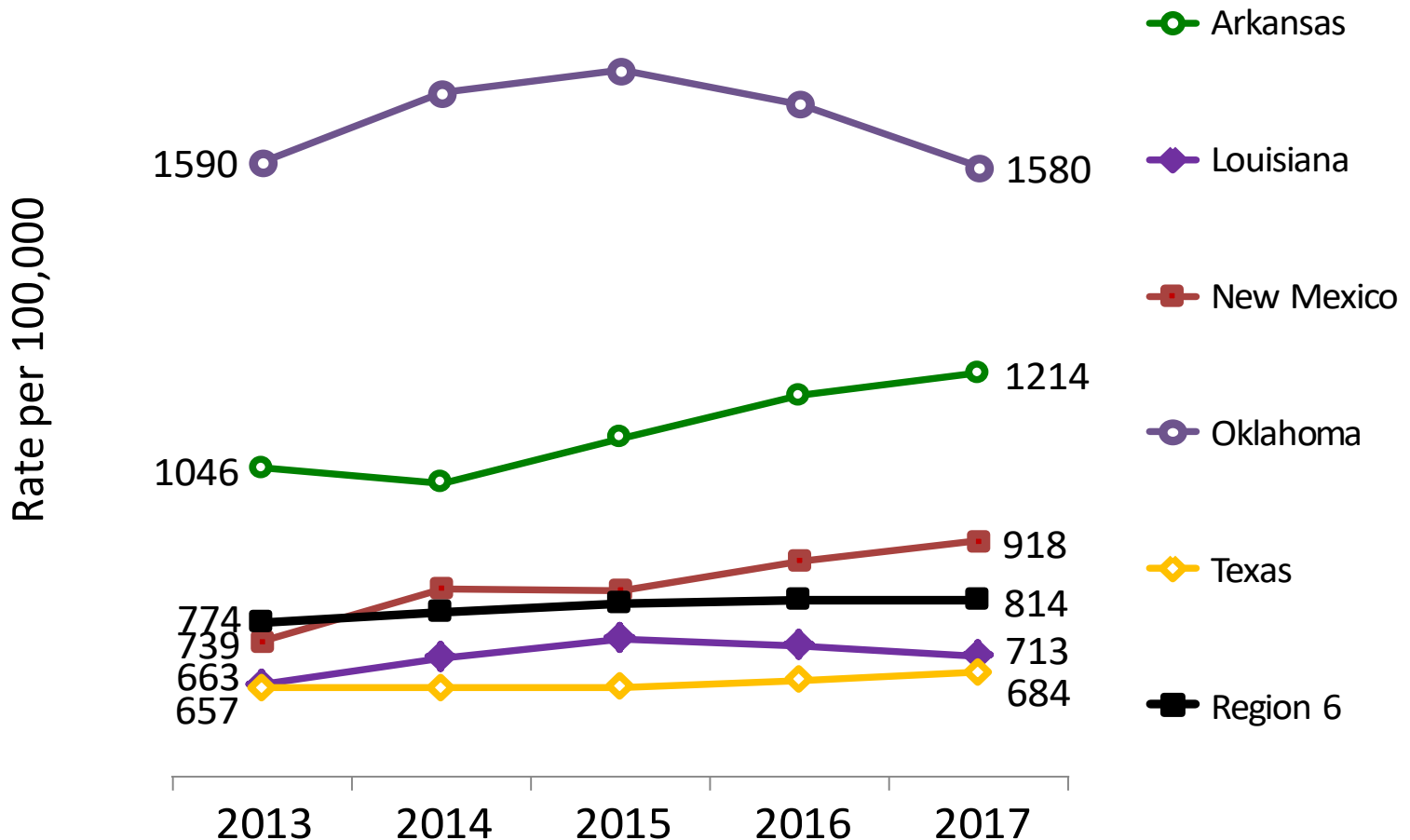
**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.



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# Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 6

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017



**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

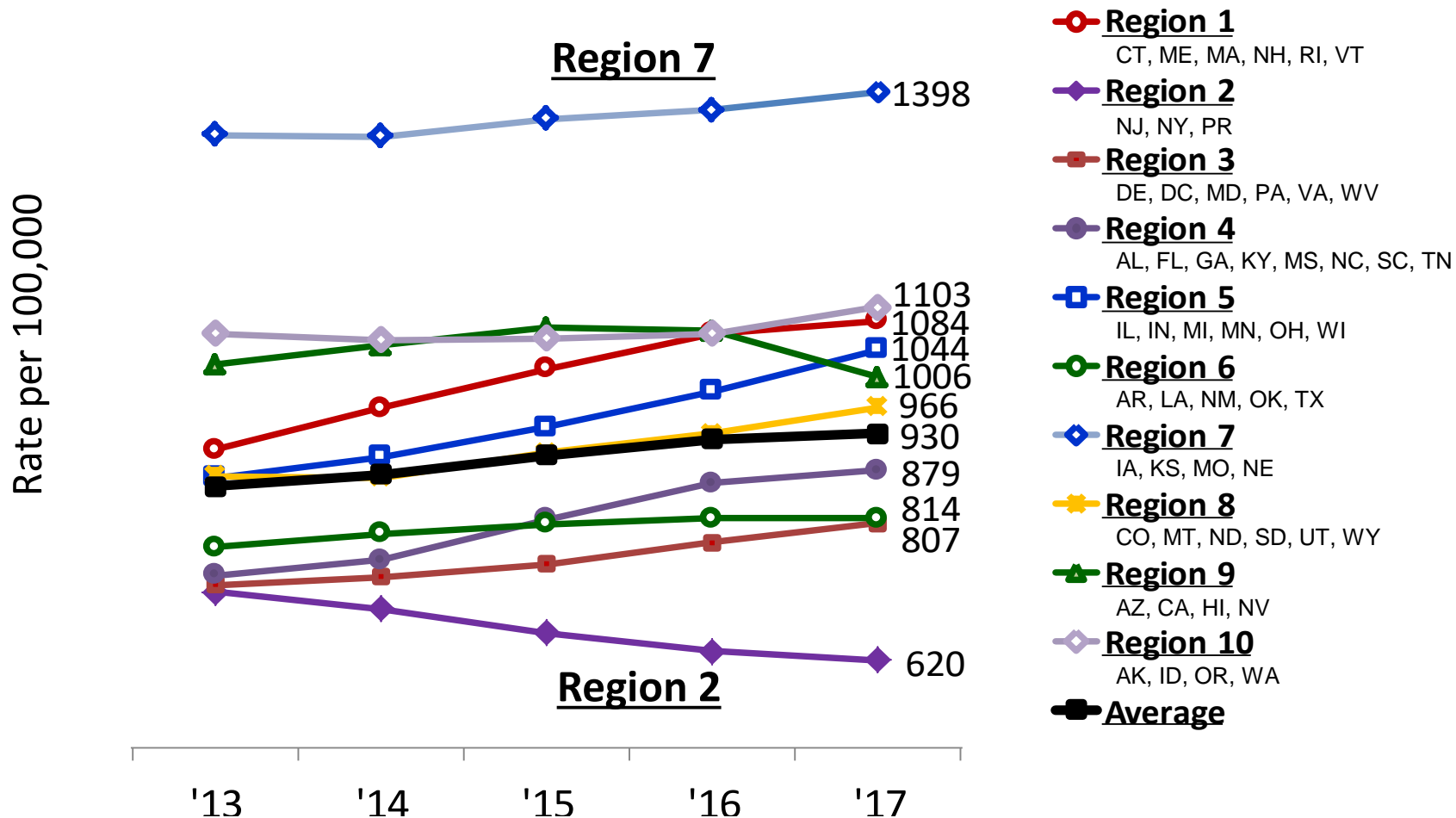


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# Foster Care Rates of HHS Regions

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017

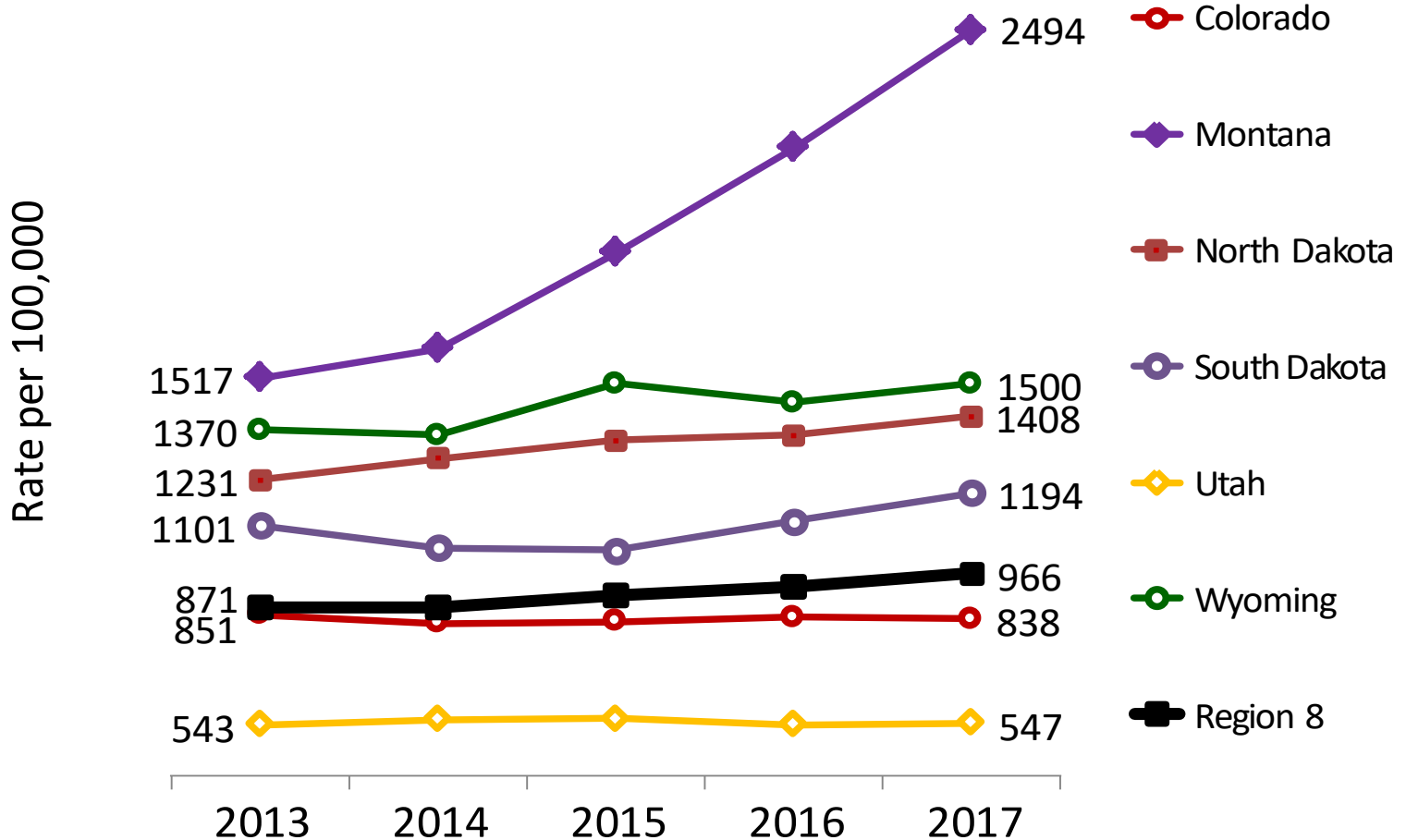


**Note:** Region 2 includes Puerto Rico which saw its rate increase from 601 in 2013 to 715 in 2017.

**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

# Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 8

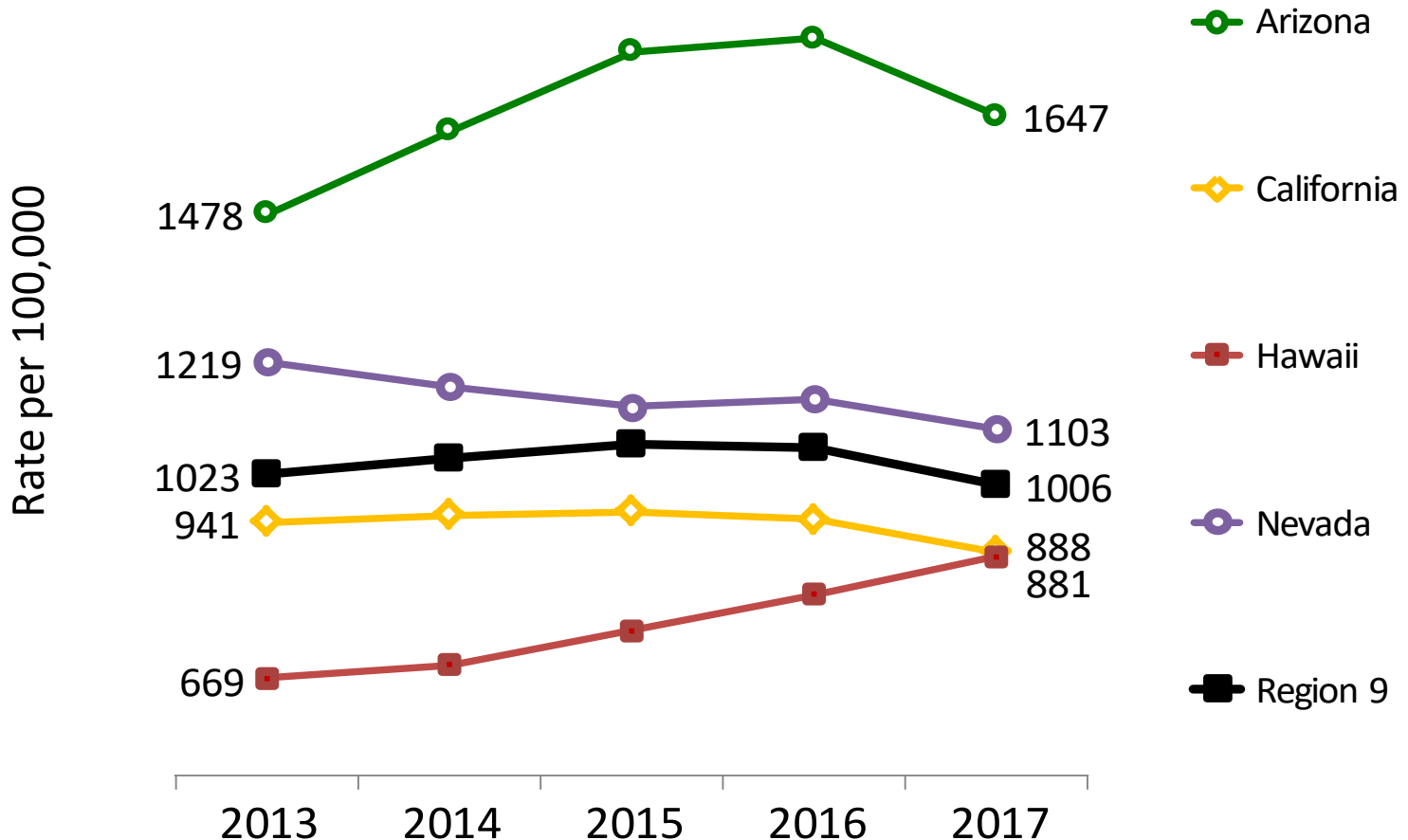
Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017



**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children’s Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

# Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 9

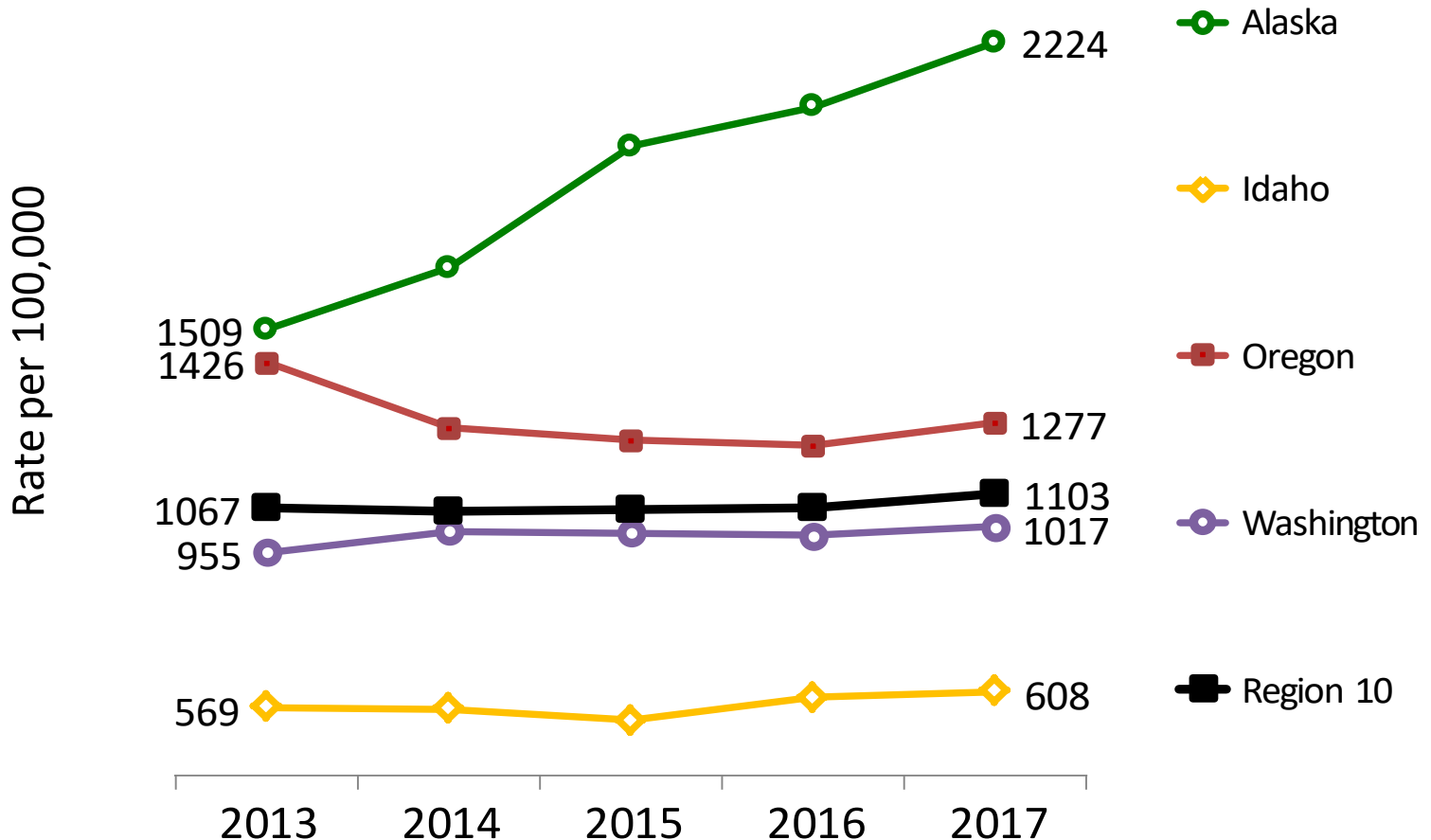
Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017



**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

# Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 10

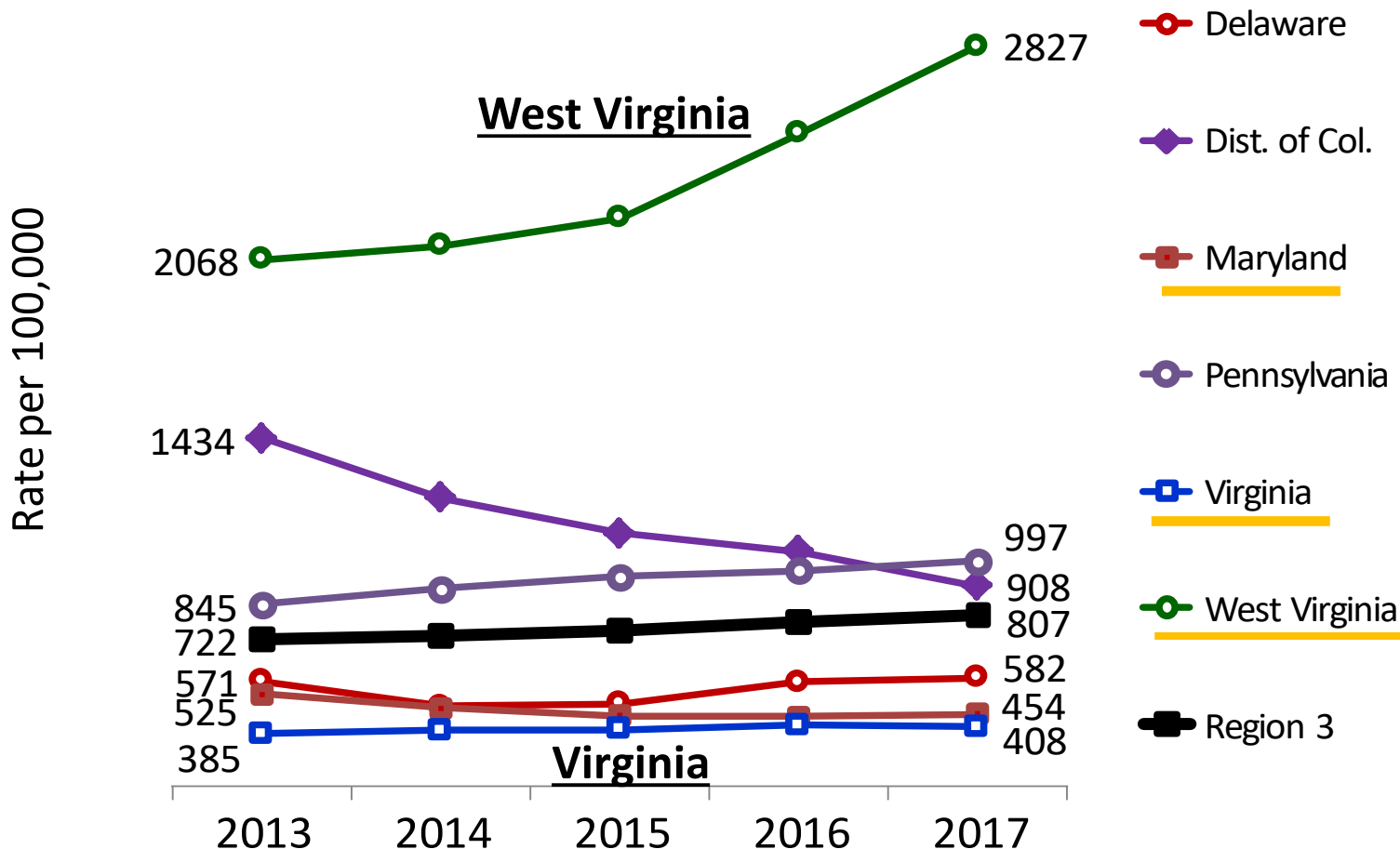
Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017



**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

# Foster Care Rates of States in HHS Region 3

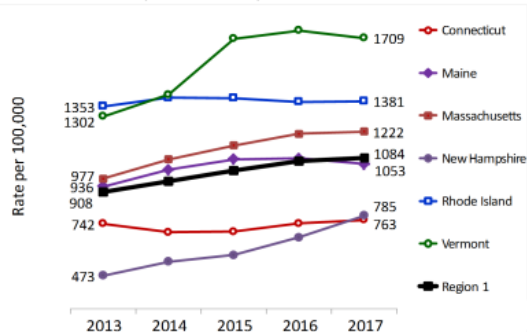
Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017



**Source:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

## Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 1

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017

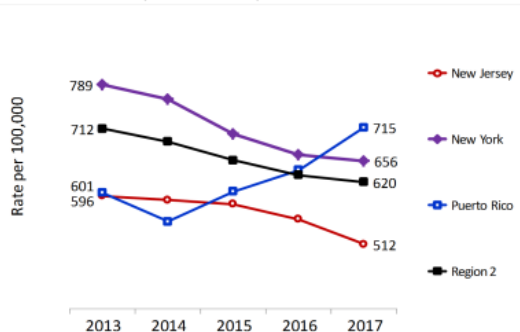


Source: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

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## Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 2

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017

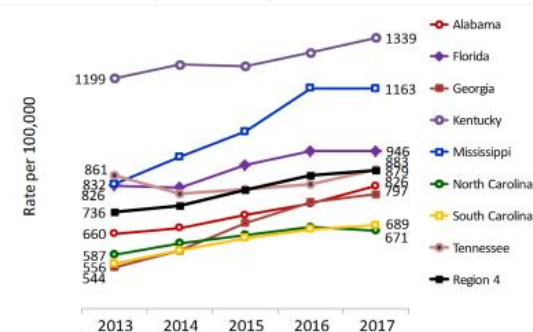


Source: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

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## Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 4

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017

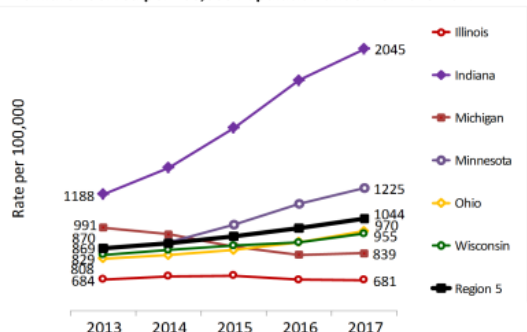


Source: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

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## Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 5

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017

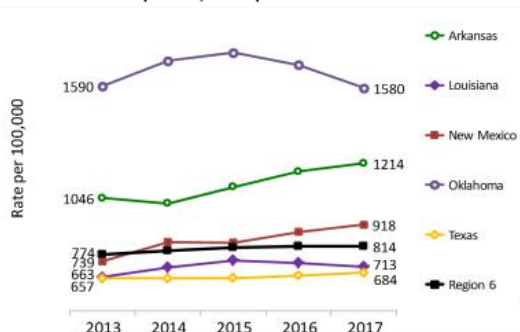


Source: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

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## Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 6

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017

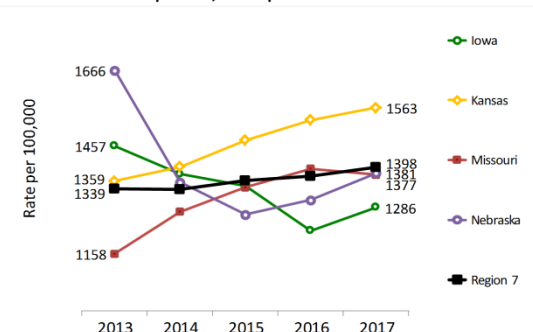


Source: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

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## Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 7

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017

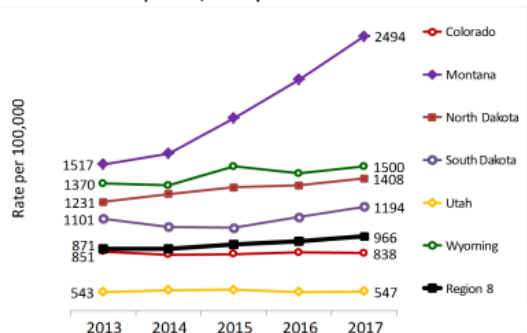


Source: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

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## Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 8

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017

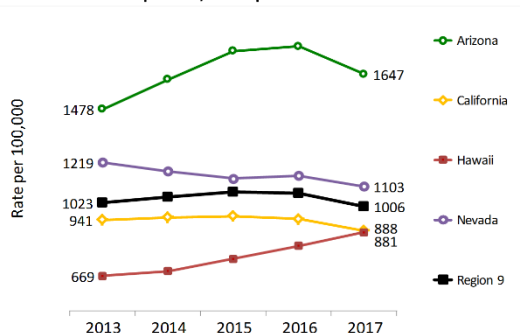


Source: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

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## Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 9

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017

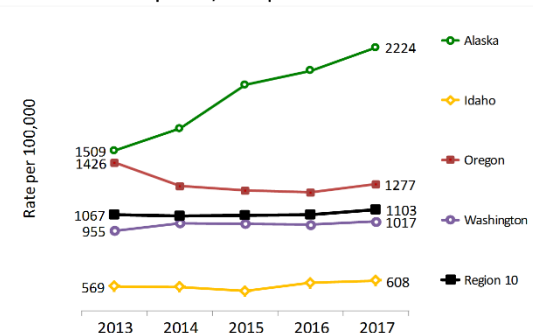


Source: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

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## Foster Care Rates in HHS Region 10

Children Served per 100,000 Population under 18: 2013-2017



Source: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, DHHS, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

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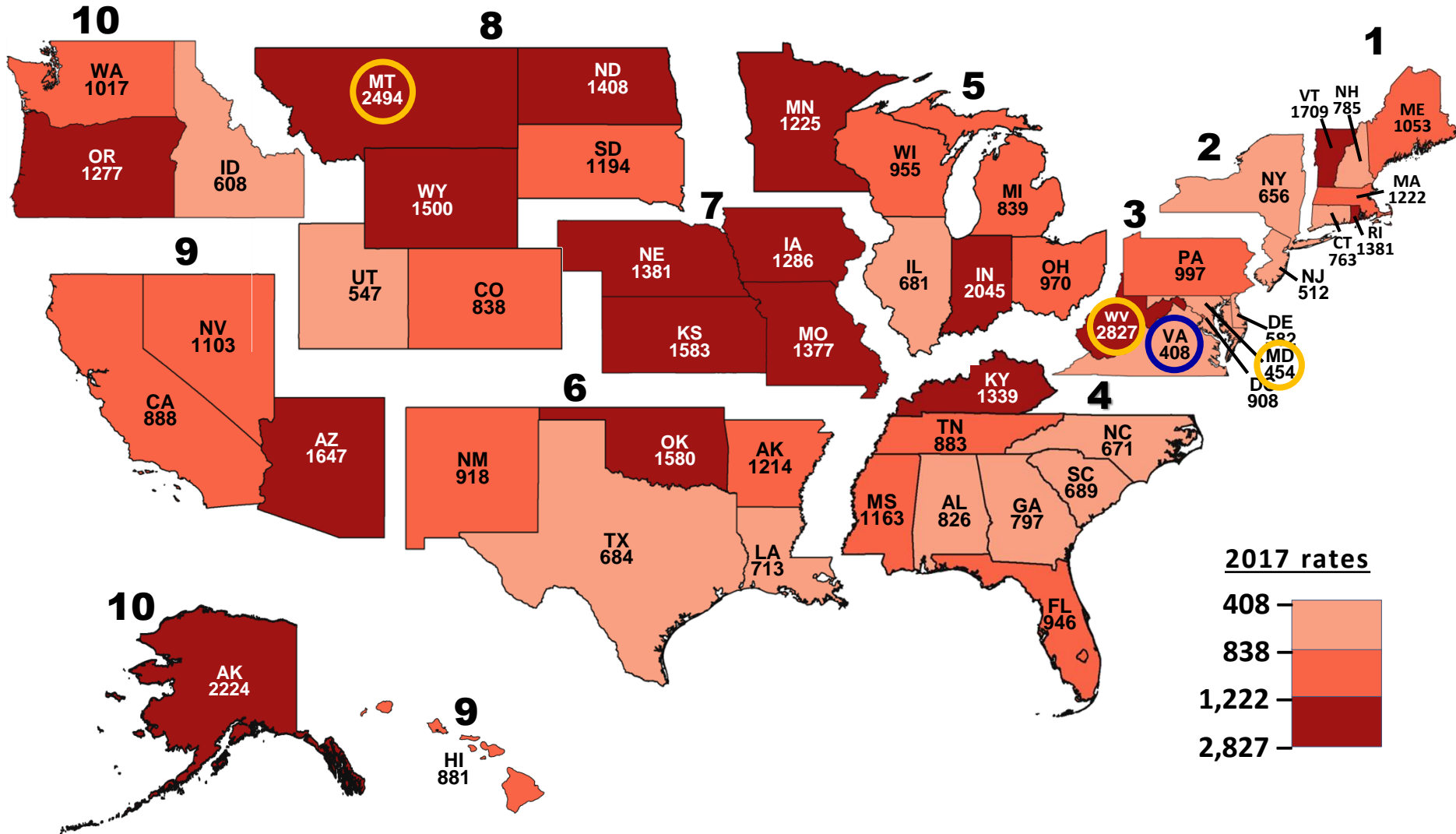
# **WHAT IS THE GEOSPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF FOSTER CARE CASELOAD BY REGIONS, STATES, COUNTIES & WHERE DO WE SEE THE HIGHEST FOSTER CARE CASELOADS?**



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# State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

HHS Regions by Terciles

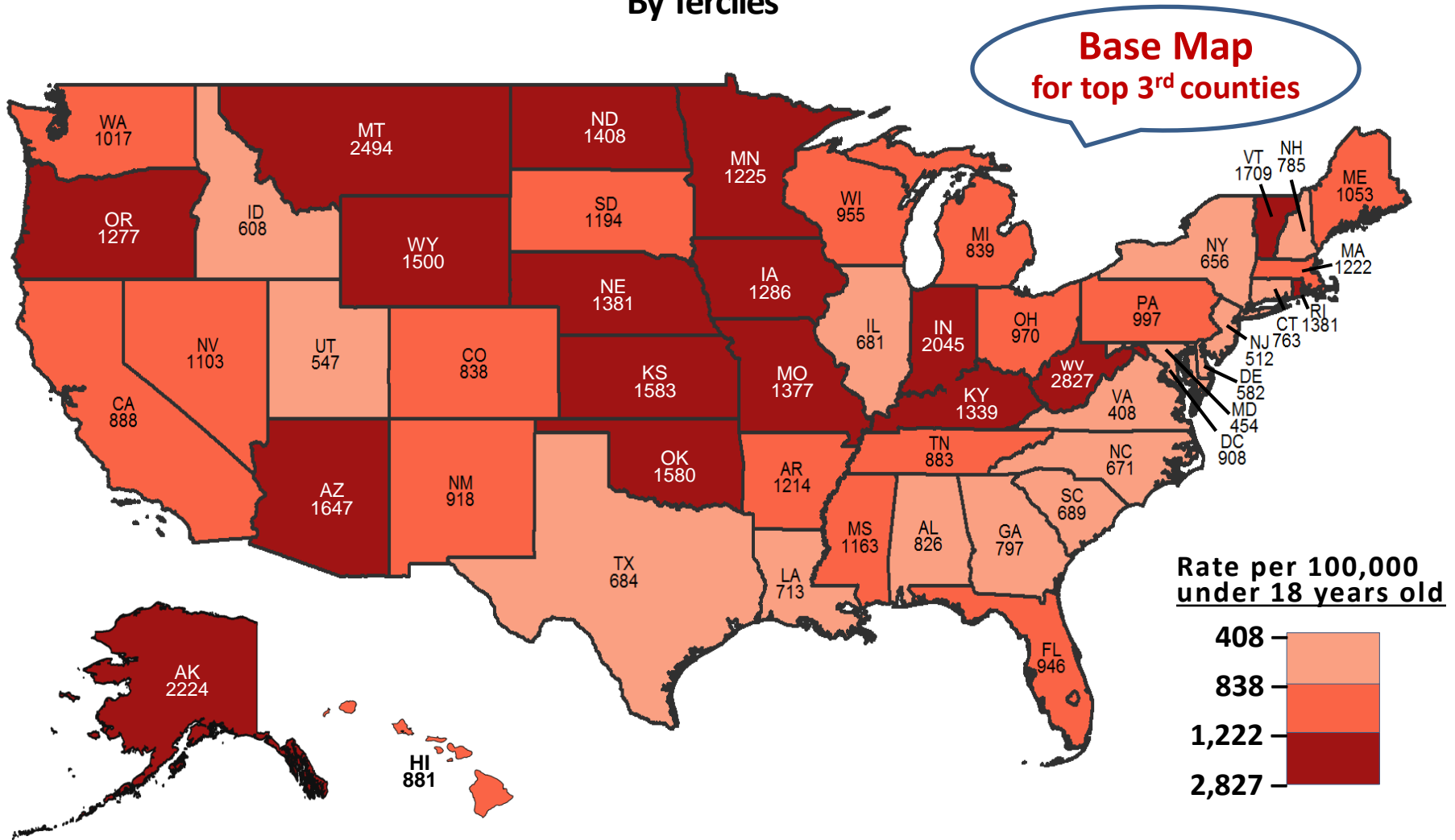


Source: Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children’s Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.



# Foster Care Rate per 100,000 under 18: 2017

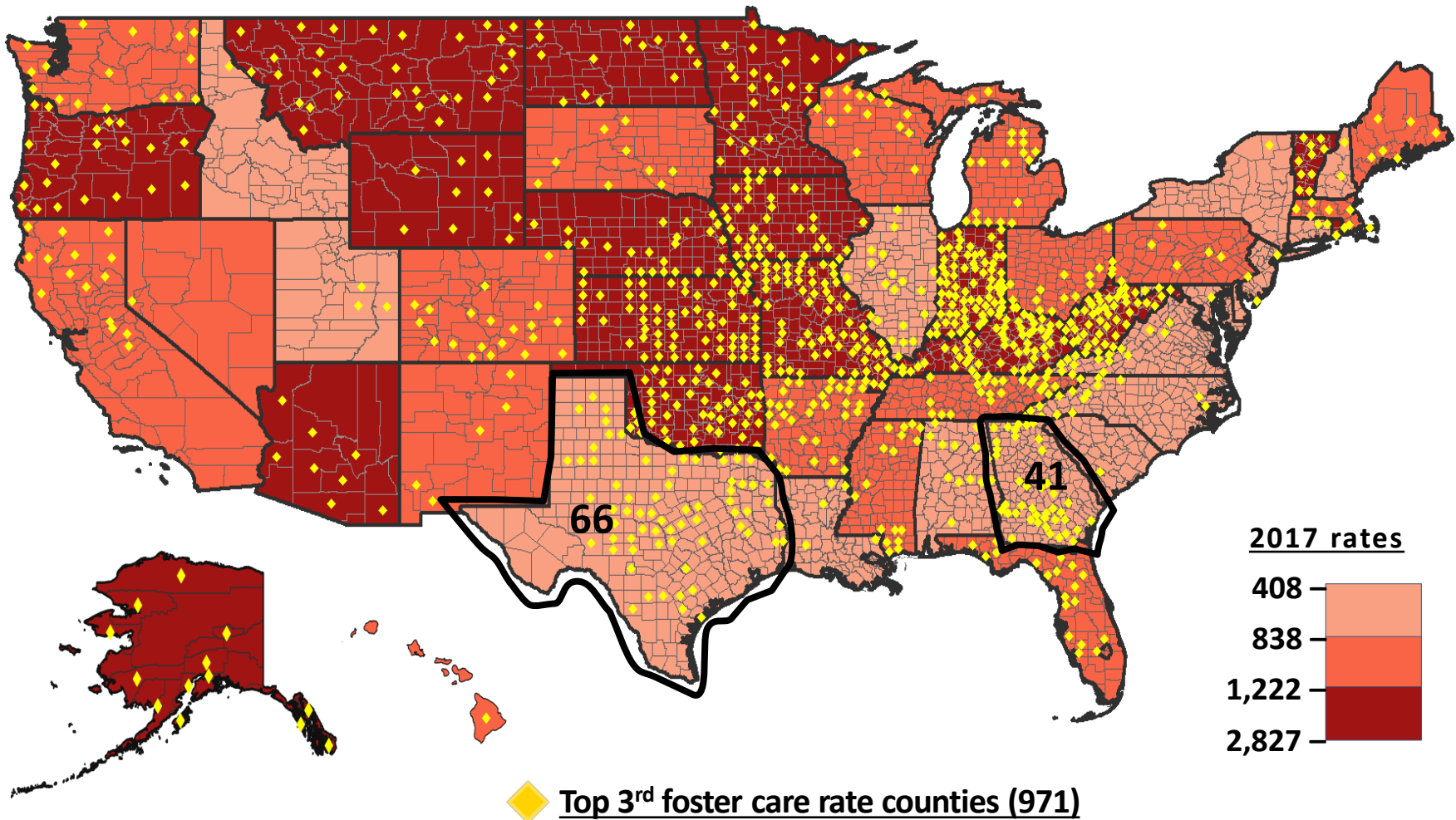
## By Terciles



**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children’s Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with Top 3<sup>rd</sup> Foster Care Rate Counties



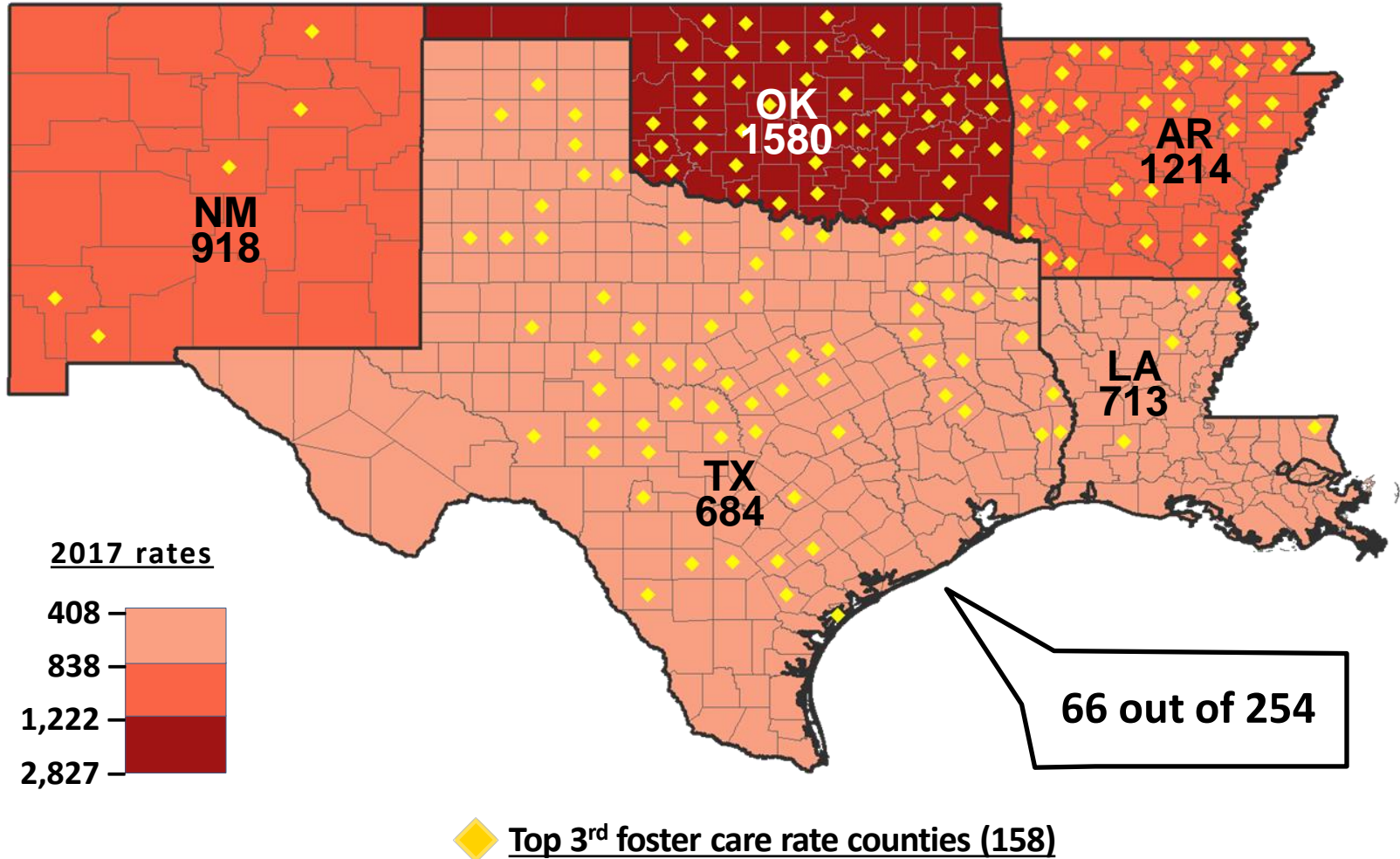
**Note:** Both state and county terciles are determined nationally and then applied locally.

**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Region 6

## State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with Top 3rd Foster Care Counties

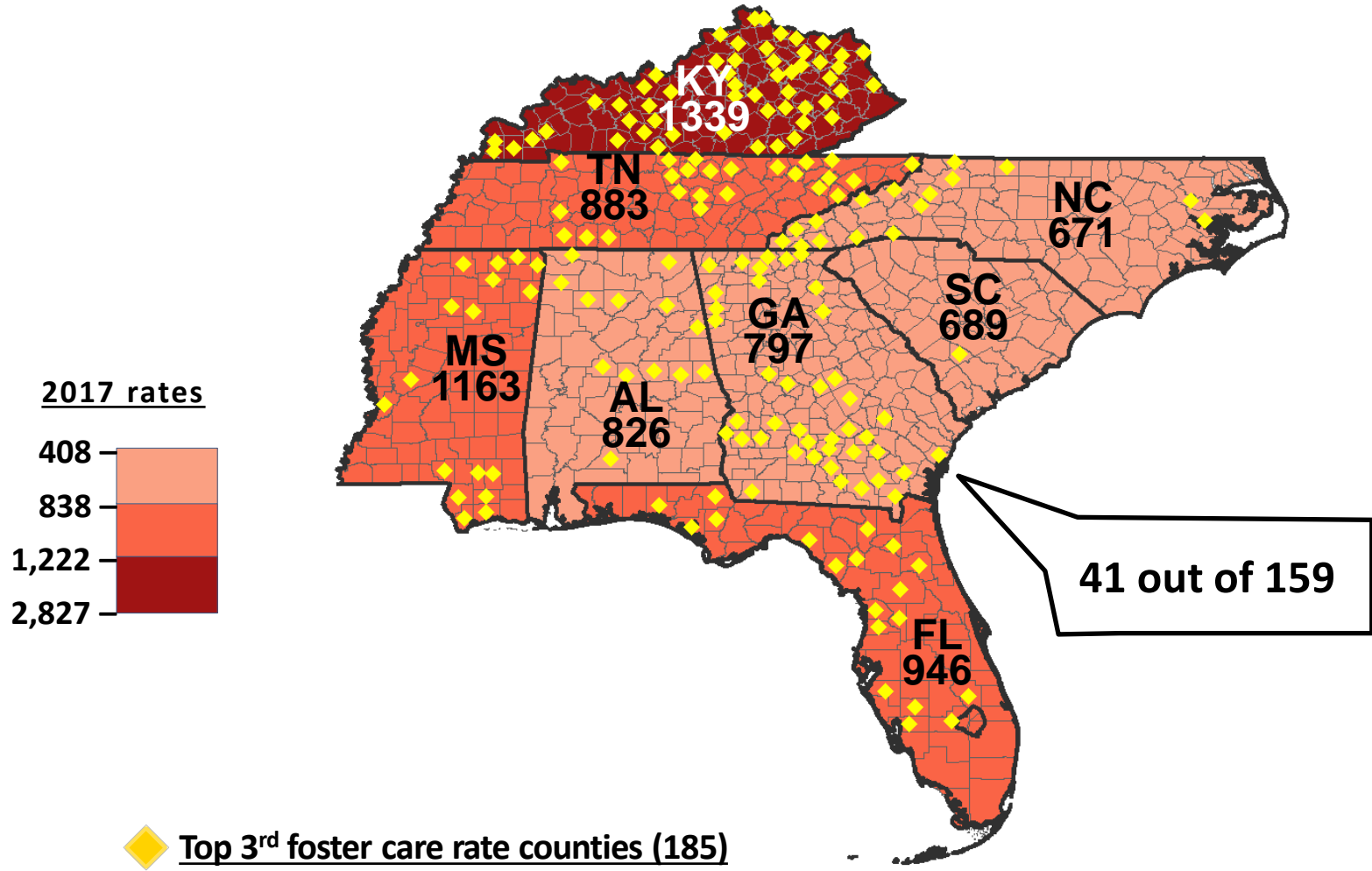


**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children’s Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Region 4

## State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with Top 3rd Foster Care Counties



**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children’s Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

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# WHAT COUNTIES HAVE SEEN SIGNIFICANT INCREASES AND DECREASES IN THEIR FOSTER CARE CASELOADS?



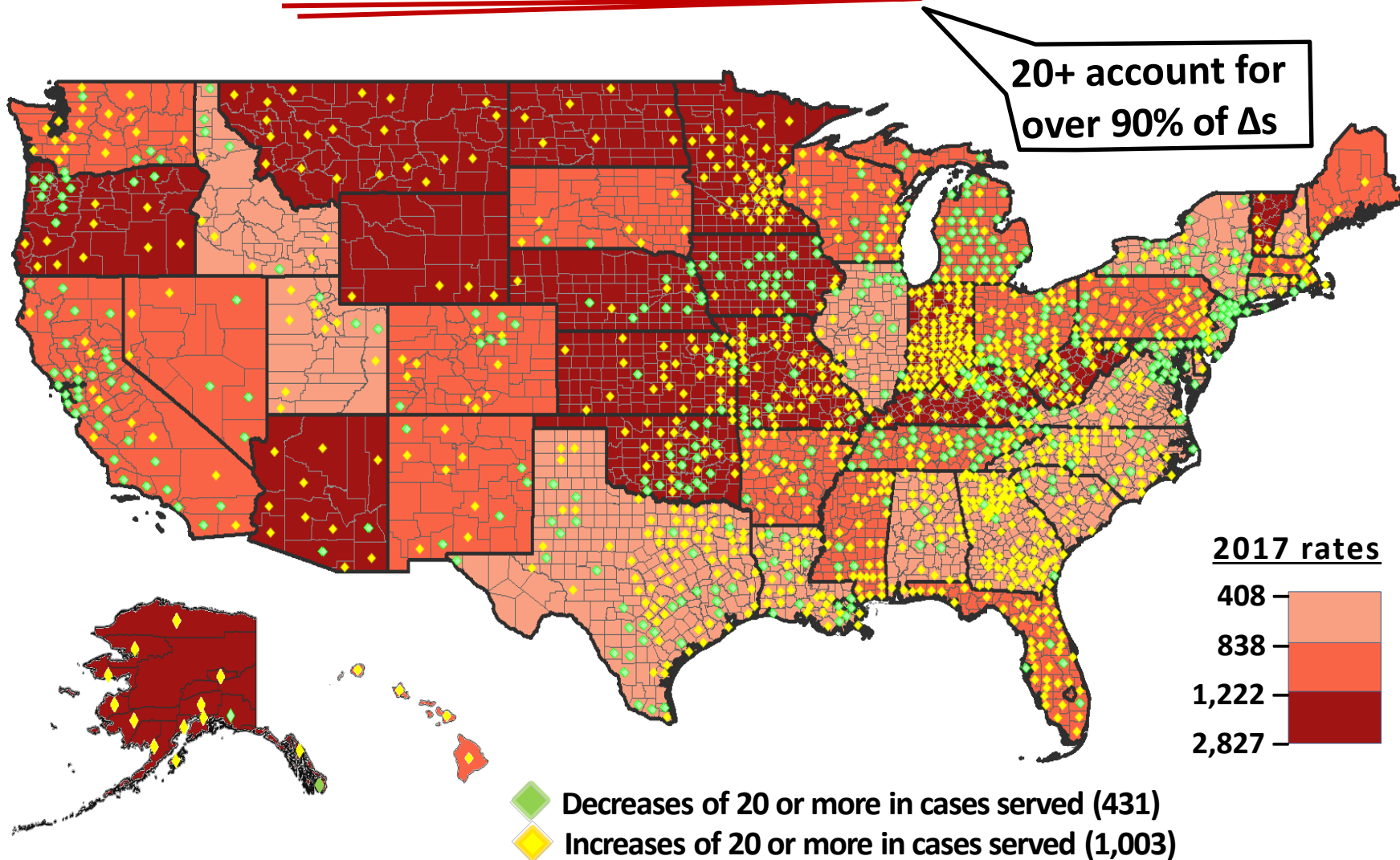
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# State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

With 2013-2017 Increases ◆ & Decreases ◆ of 20 or more in Number of Cases by County

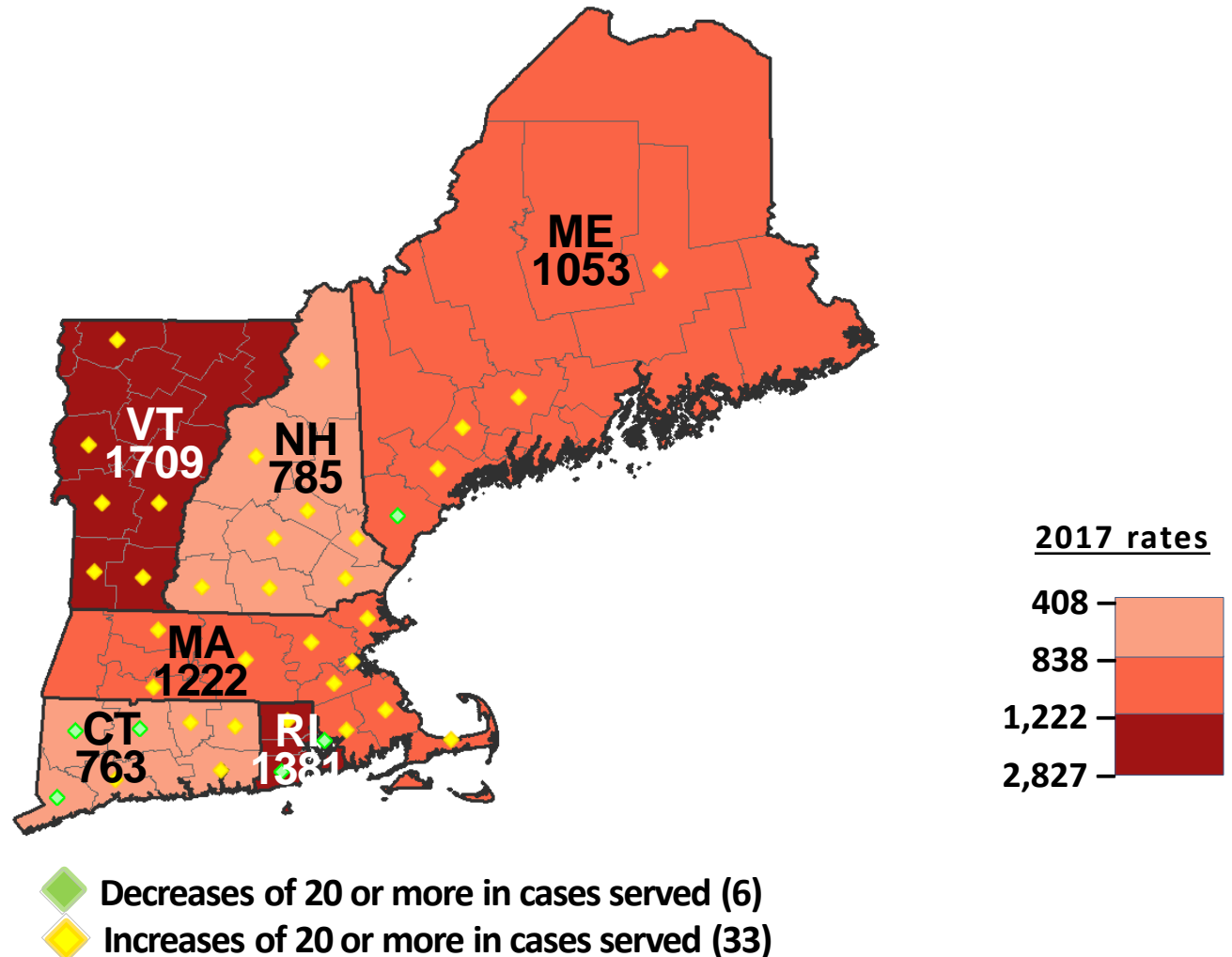


**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Region 1

## State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with 2013-2017 Increases & Decreases of 20 or More in Number of Cases by County

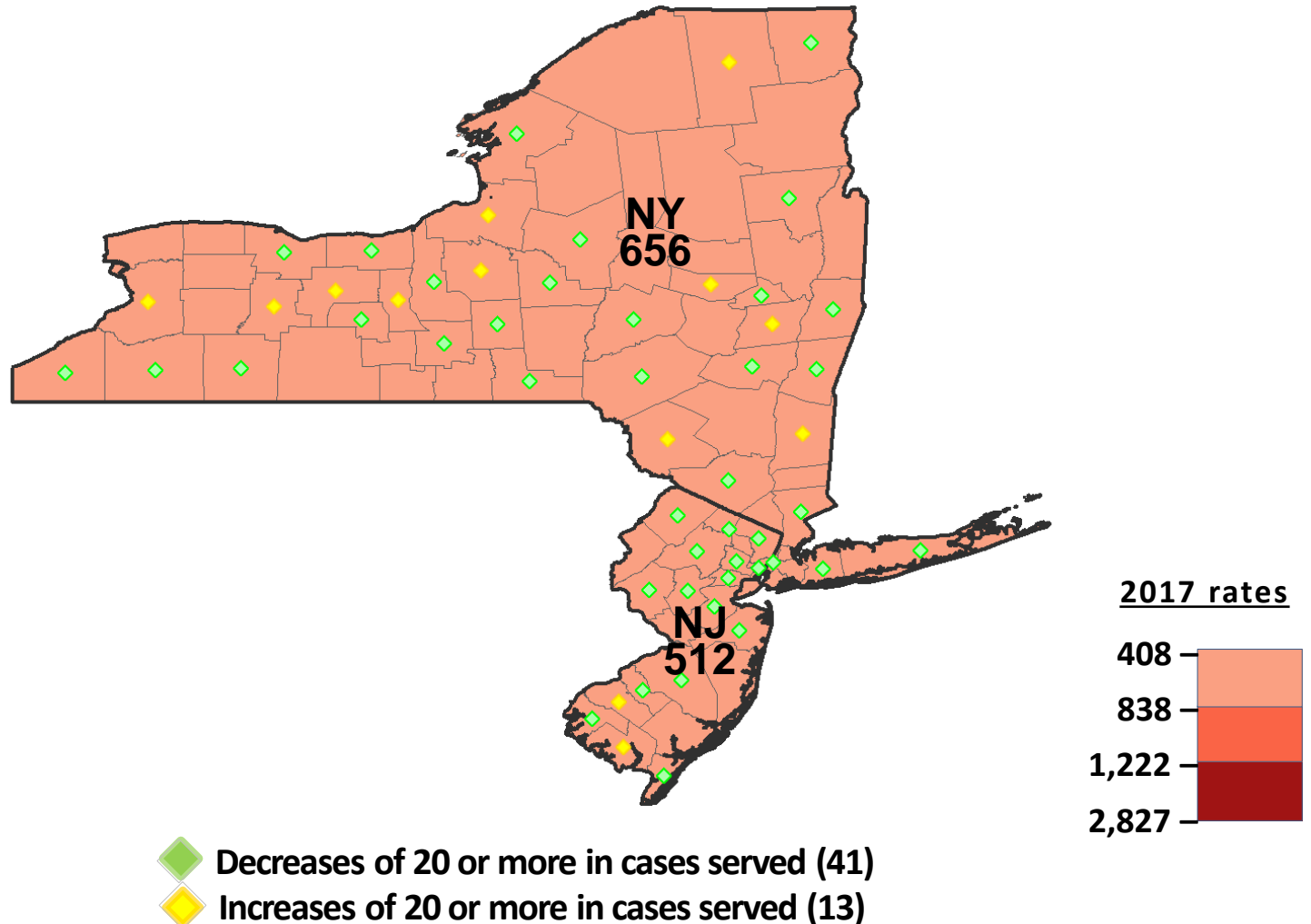


**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Region 2

## State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with 2013-2017 Increases & Decreases of 20 or More in Number of Cases by County



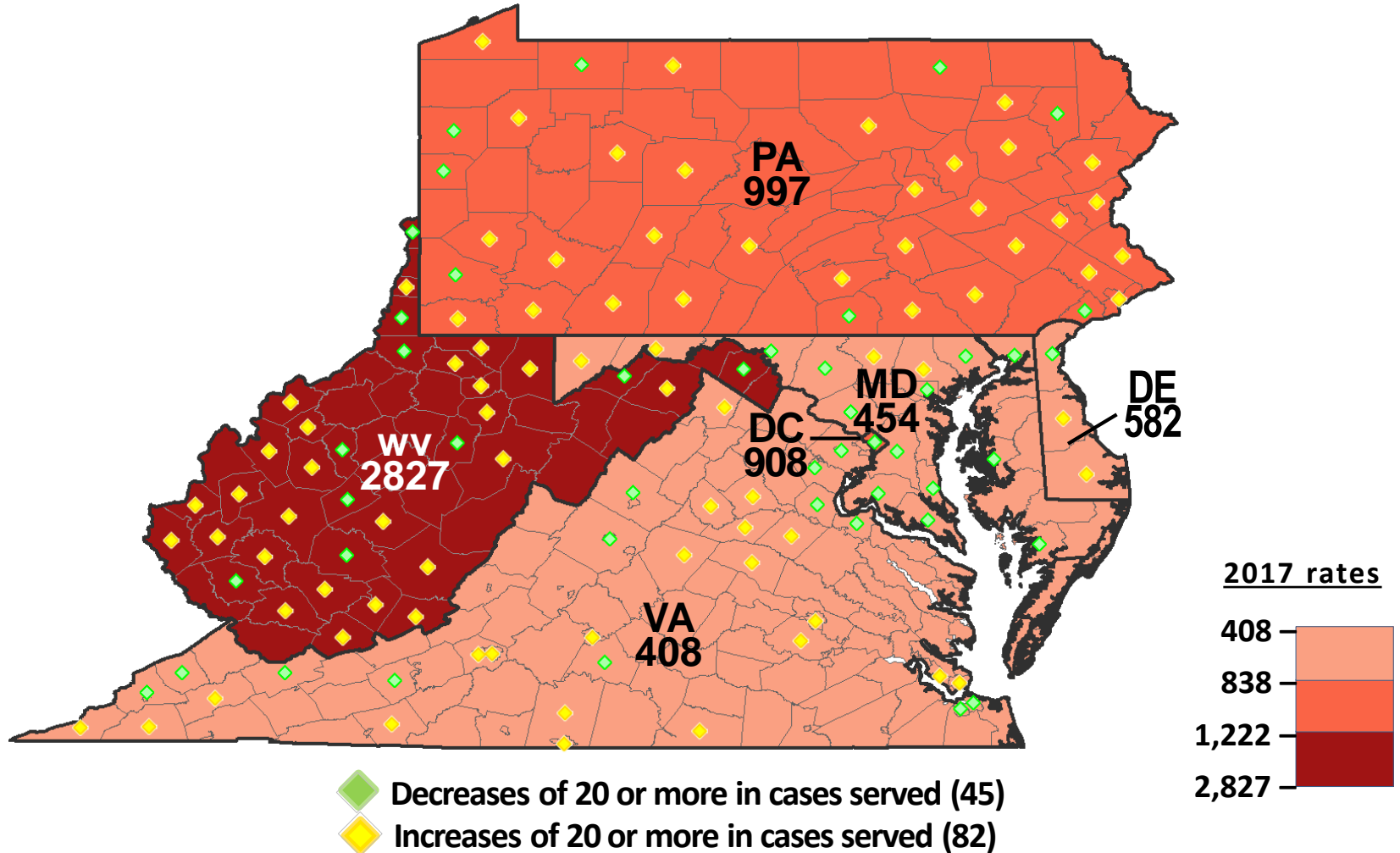
**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.



# Region 3

## State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with 2013-2017 Increases & Decreases of 20 or More in Number of Cases by County

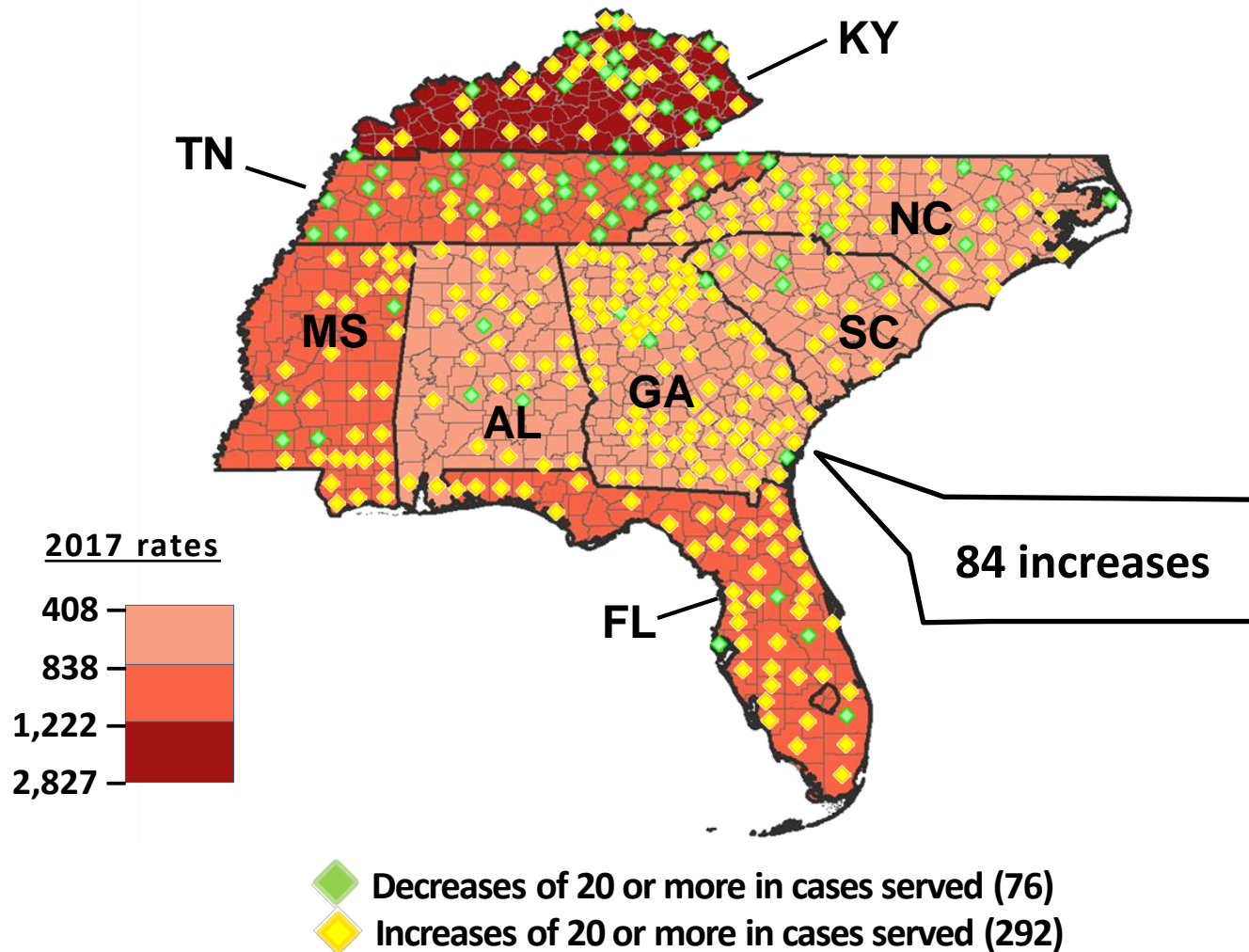


**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Region 4

## State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with 2013-2017 Increases & Decreases of 20 or More in Number of Cases by County

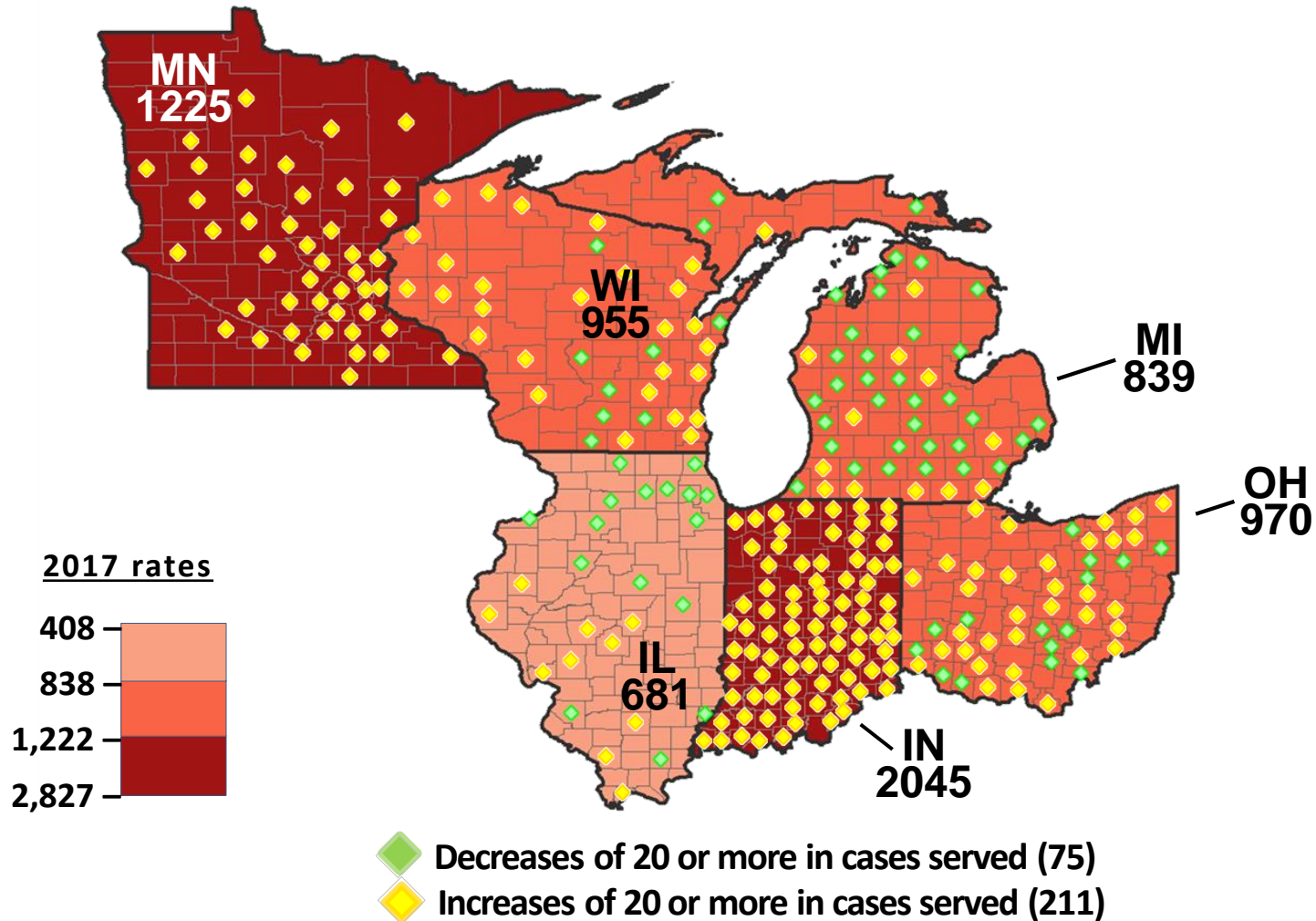


**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Region 5

## State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with 2013-2017 Increases & Decreases of 20 or More in Number of Cases by County

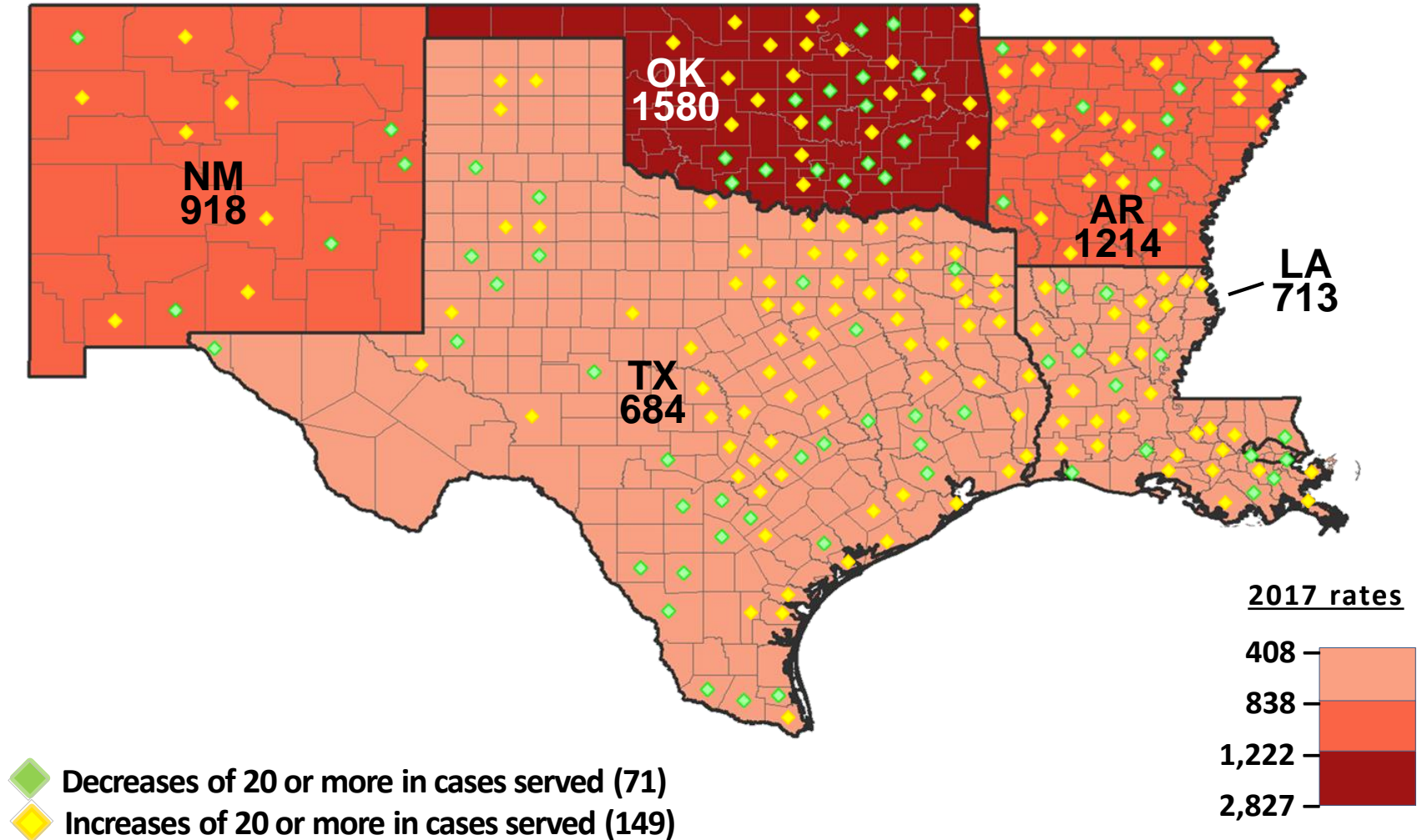


**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Region 6

## State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with 2013-2017 Increases & Decreases of 20 or More in Number of Cases by County



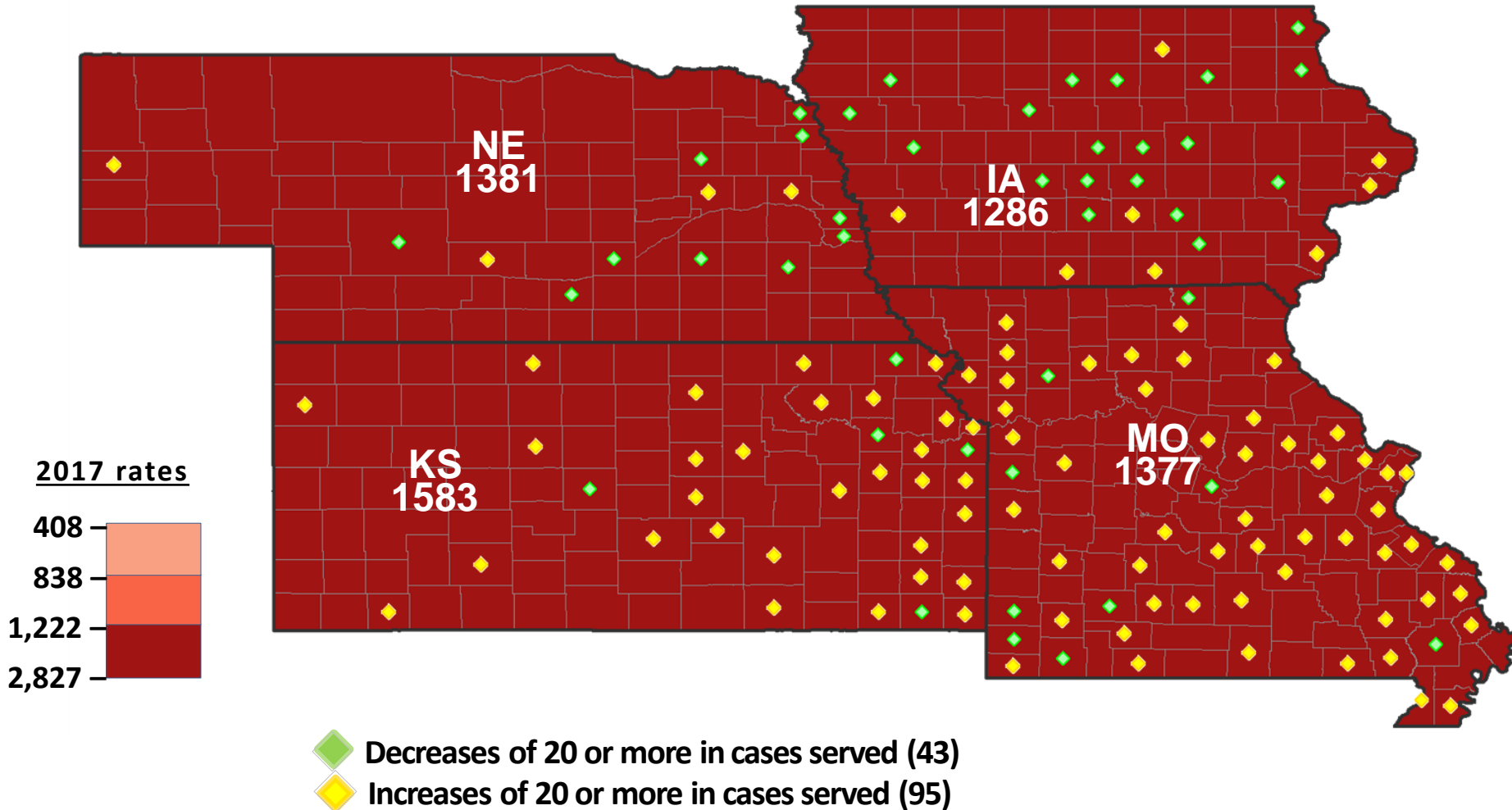
**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.



# Region 7

## State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with 2013-2017 Increases & Decreases of 20 or More in Number of Cases by County

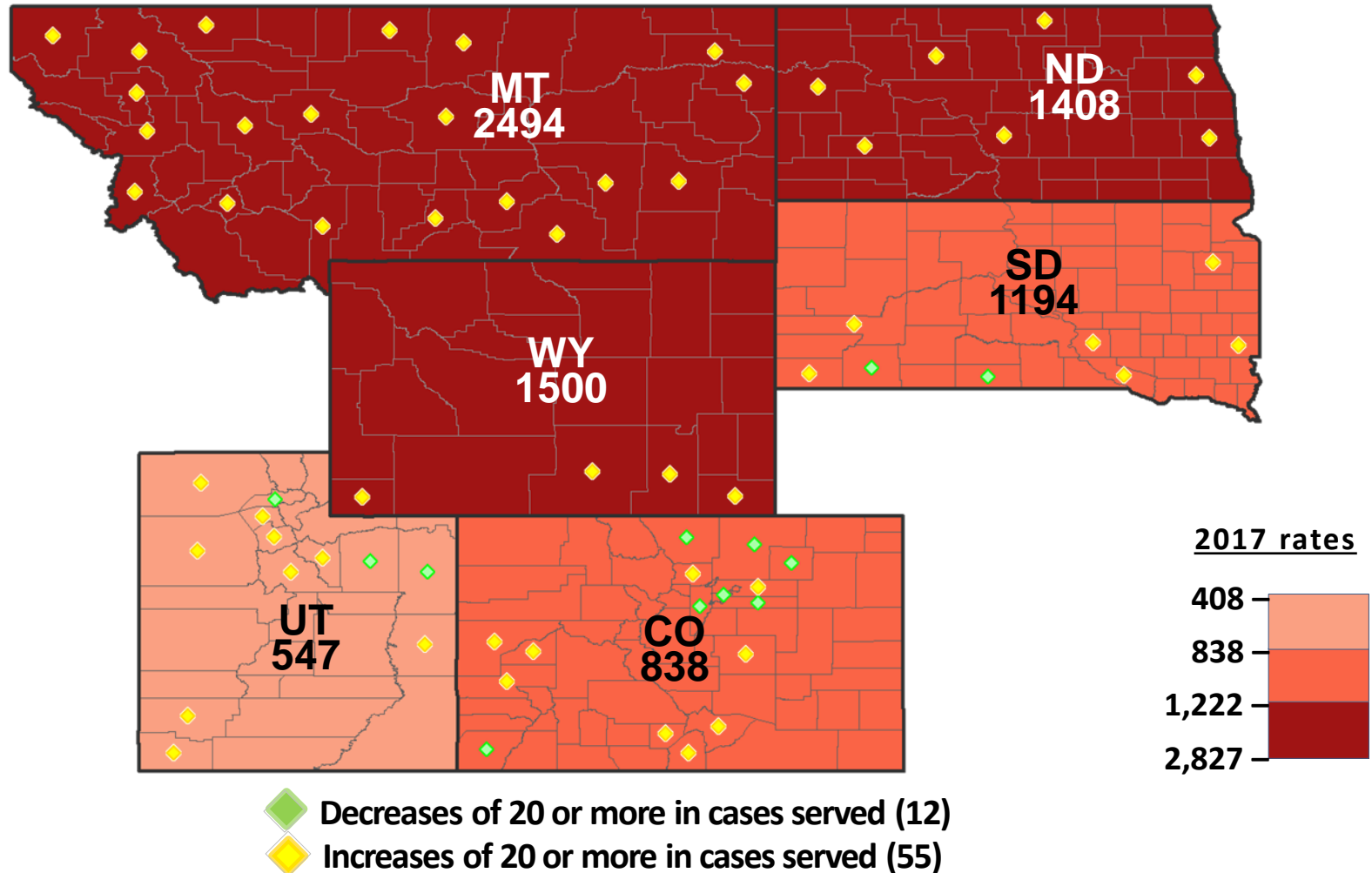


**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Region 8

## State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with 2013-2017 Increases & Decreases of 20 or More in Number of Cases by County

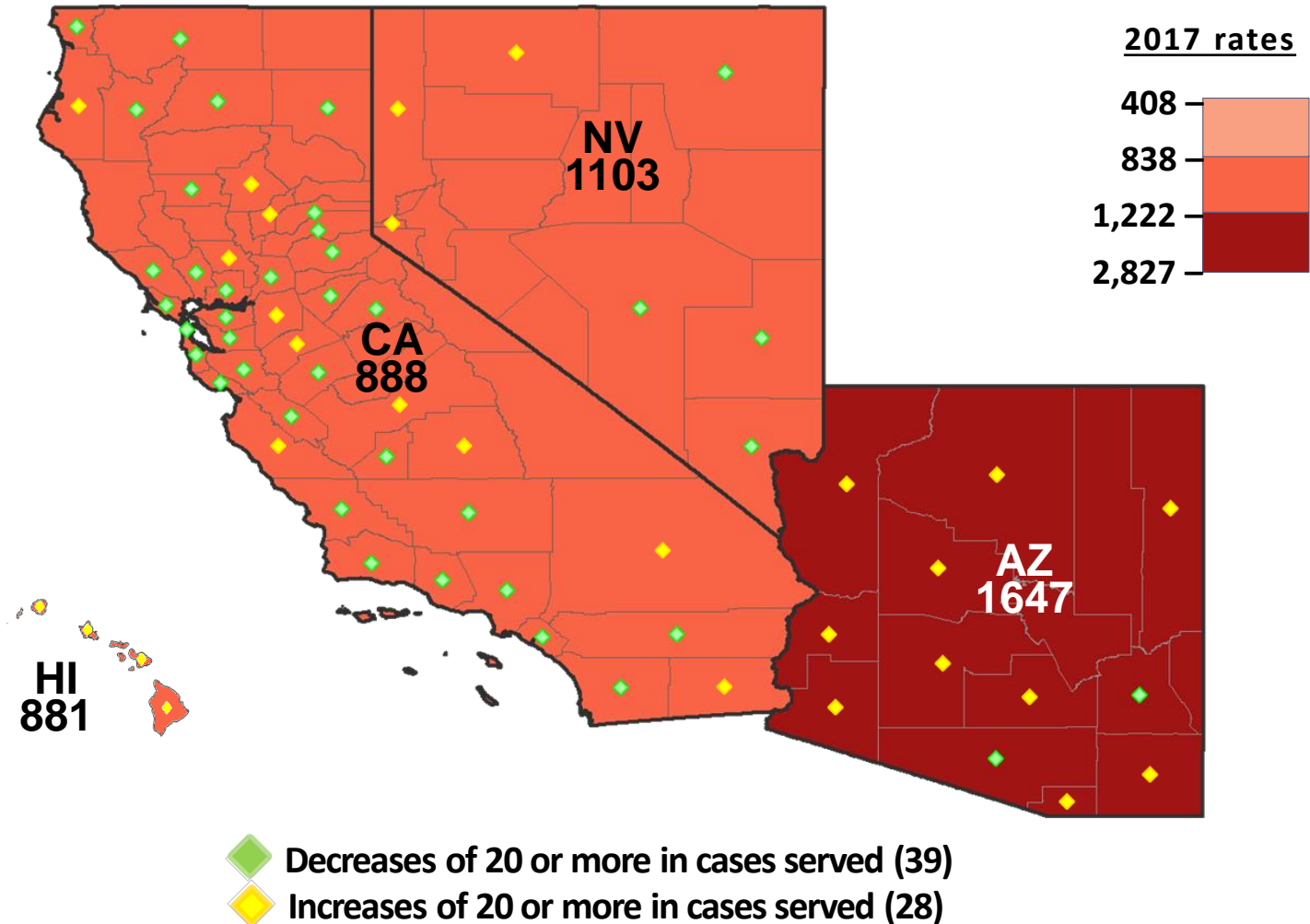


**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children’s Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Region 9

## State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with 2013-2017 Increases & Decreases of 20 or More in Number of Cases by County

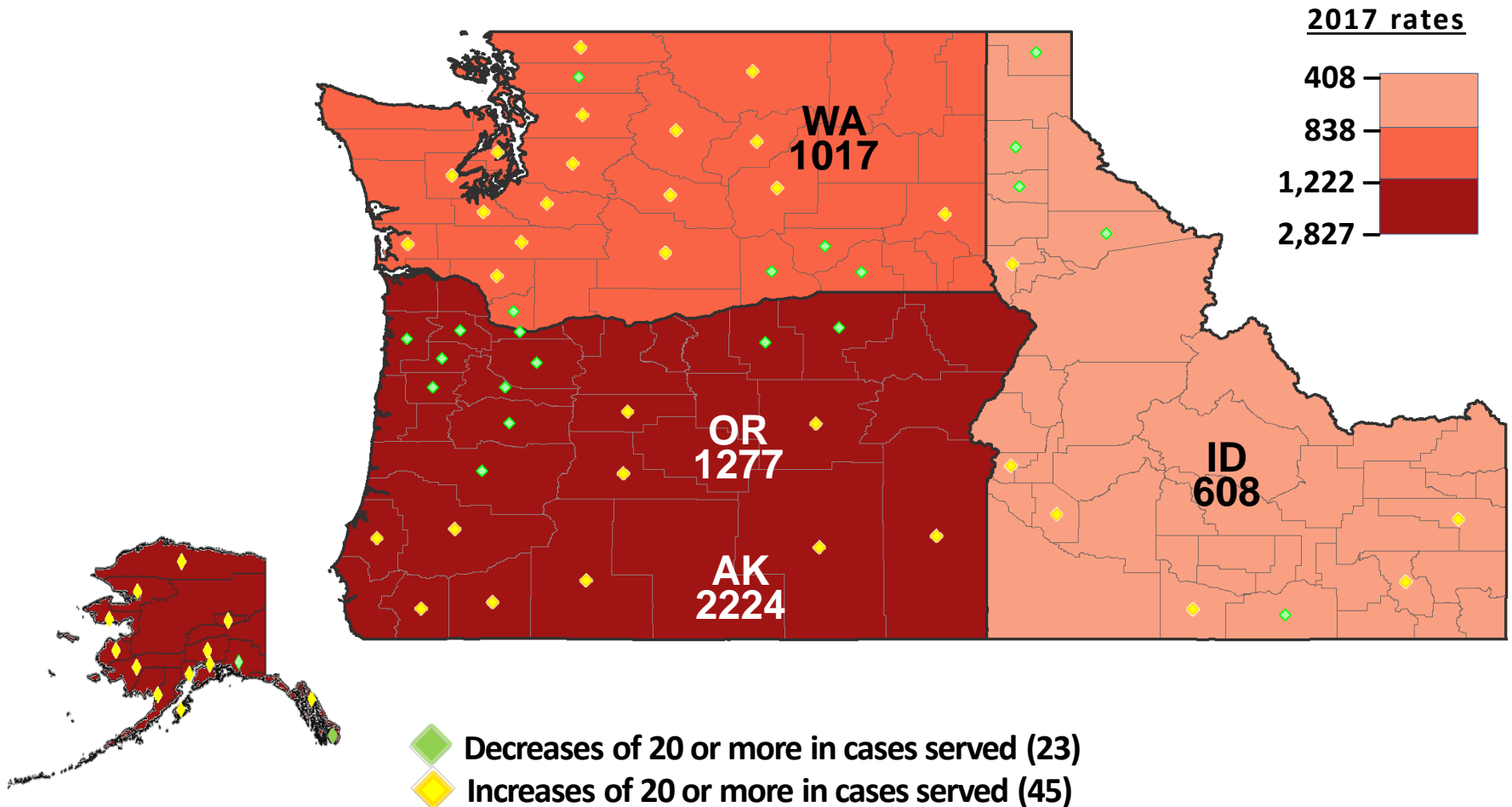


**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Region 10

## State Foster Care Rates per 100,000 under 18: 2017

Overlaid with 2013-2017 Increases & Decreases of 20 or More in Number of Cases by County



**Source:** Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.



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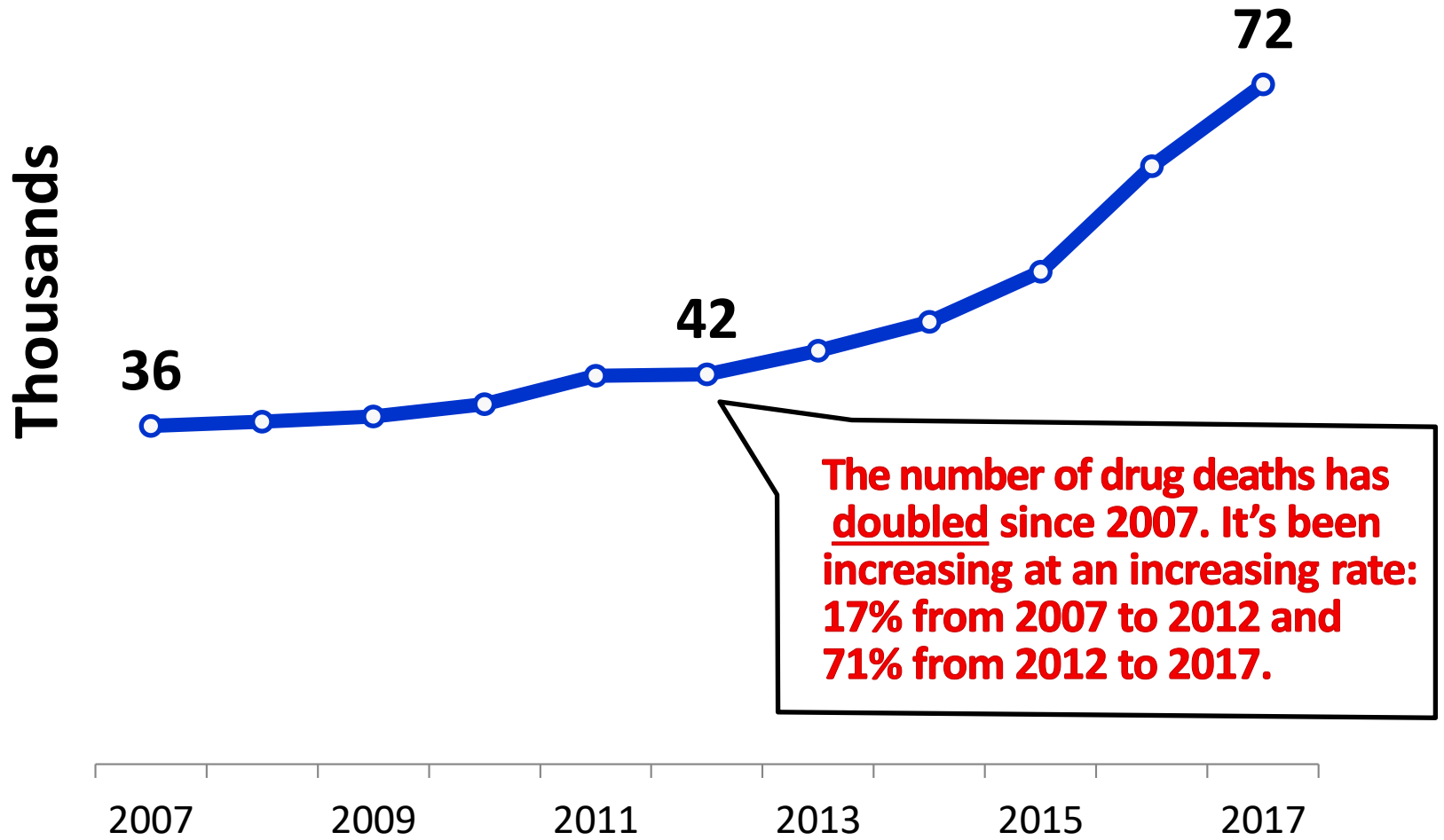
# HOW MUCH HAVE DRUG DEATH RATES INCREASED DURING THE PERIOD OF ANALYSIS?



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# Drug Overdose Deaths: 2007-2017



Source: National Center for Health Statistics, CDC Wonder.

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# **IN WHAT REGIONS/STATES HAVE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN DRUG DEATH RATES OCCURRED?**

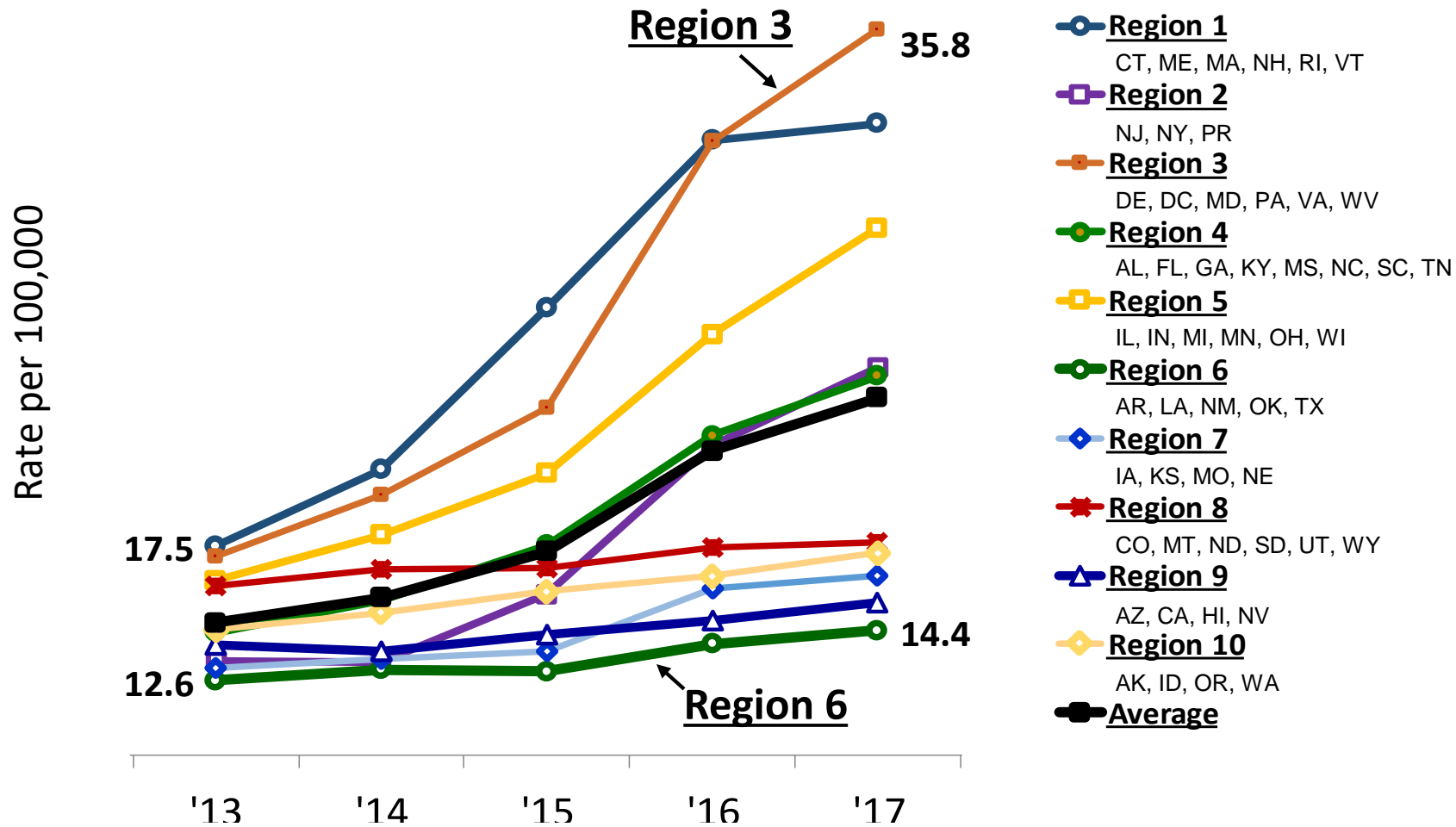


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# Drug Death Rates by HHS Region

## Per 100,000 Population: 2013-2017



Source: National Center for Health Statistics, CDC Wonder; calculations by ASPE.

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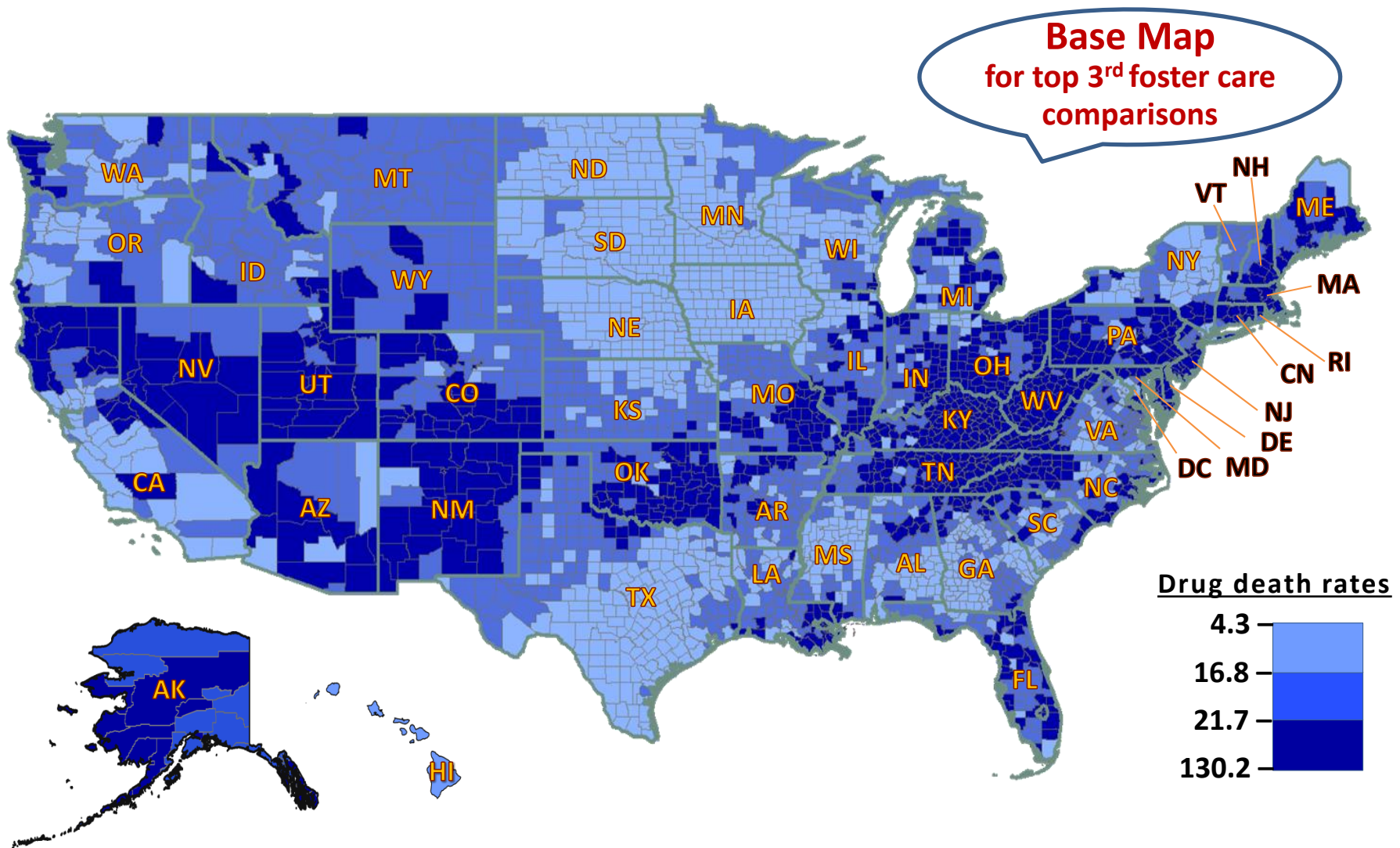
**WHAT HAS BEEN THE GEOSPATIAL  
DISTRIBUTION OF DRUG DEATHS BY  
COUNTIES?**

**IN WHAT REGIONS/COUNTIES ARE  
DRUG DEATHS THE HIGHEST?**



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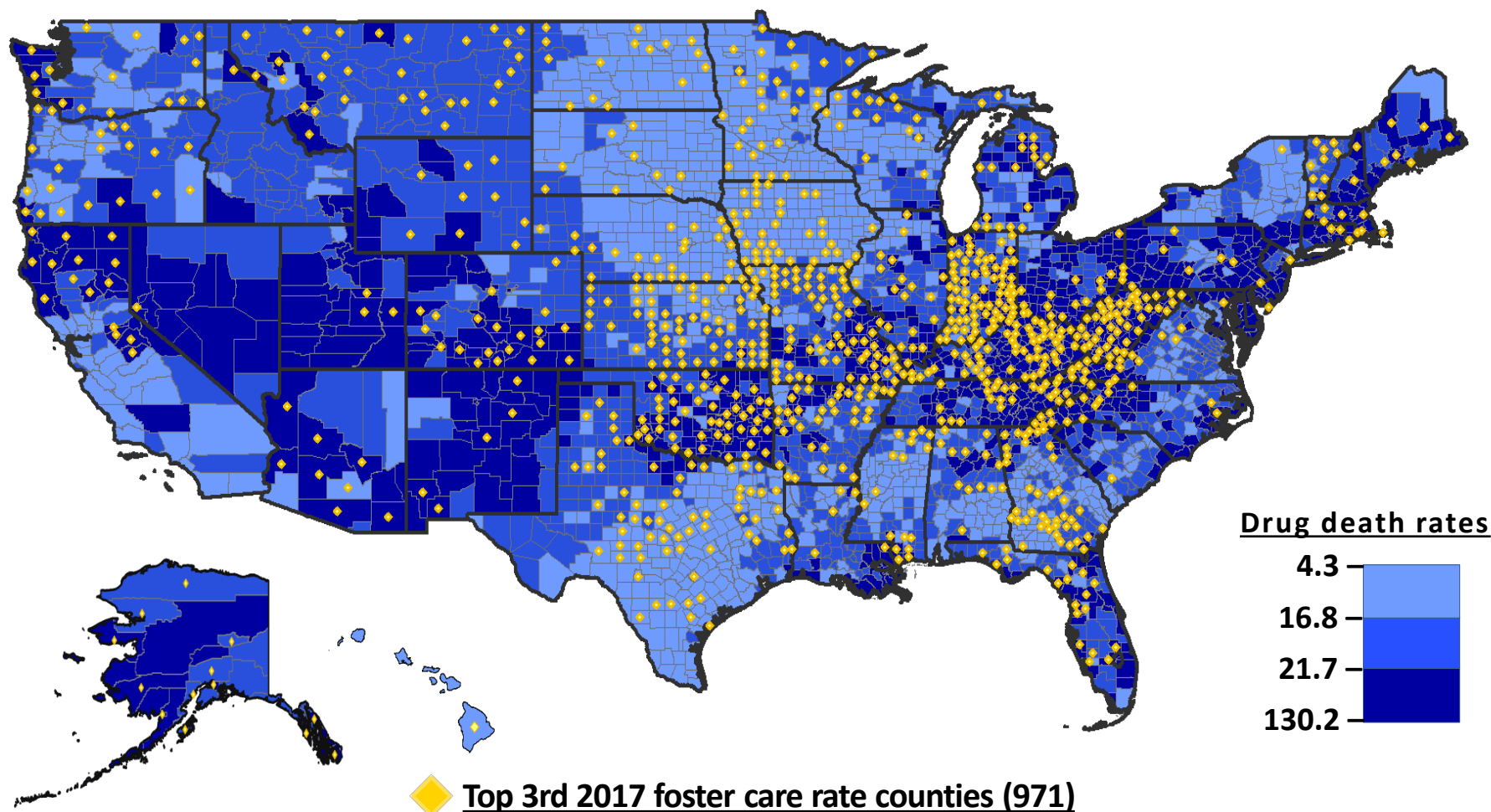
# 2017 Drug Death Rates per 100,000 by Terciles



Source: NCHS, <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-visualization/drug-poisoning-mortality/index.htm>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# County Drug Death Rates per 100,000 by Terciles: 2017

Overlaid with 2017 Top 3<sup>rd</sup> Foster Care Rate Counties



Source: NCHS, <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-visualization/drug-poisoning-mortality/index.htm>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

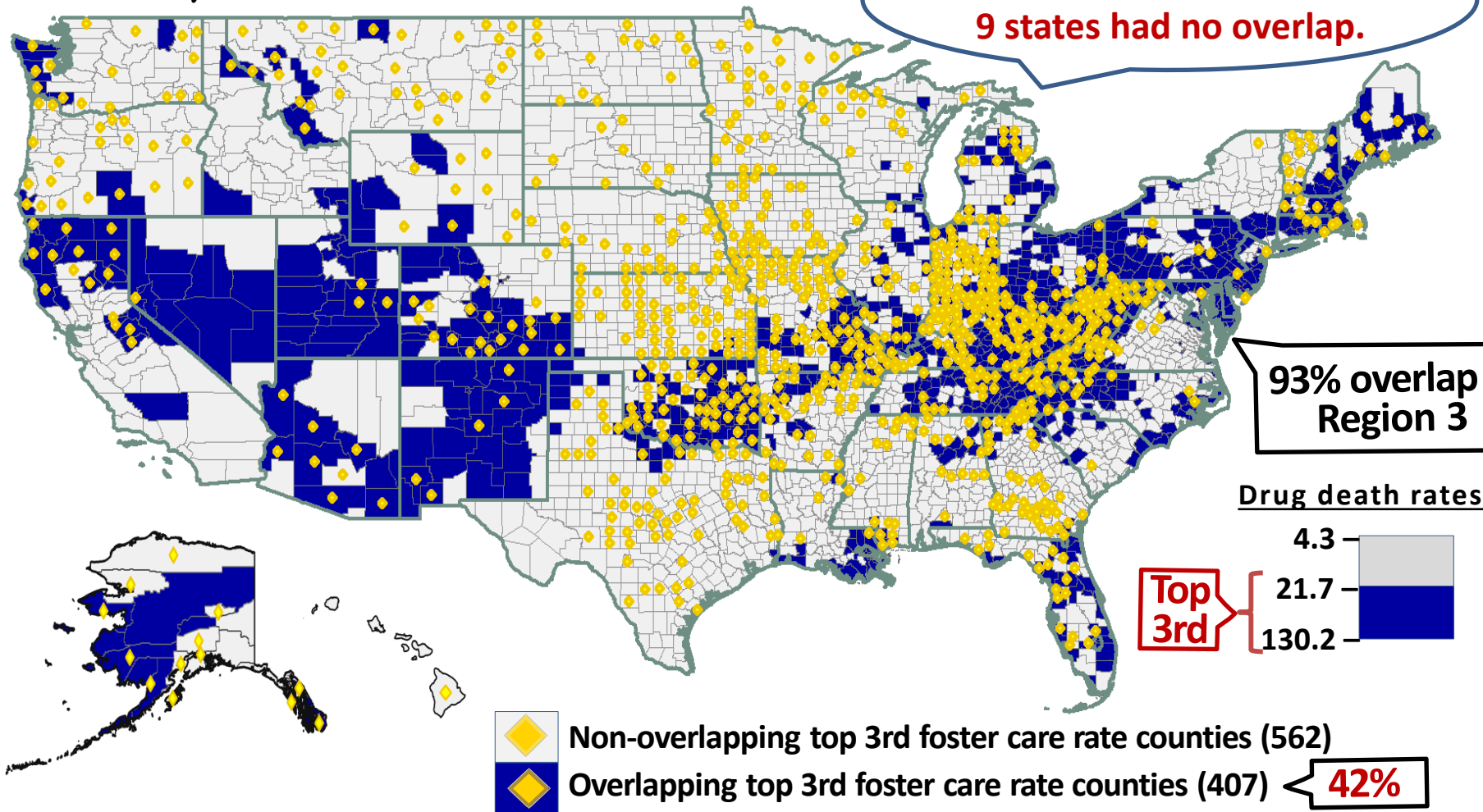


# Top 3<sup>rd</sup> Drug Death Rates by County: 2017

Overlaid with 2017 Top 3<sup>rd</sup> Foster Care Rate Counties

28% overlap  
Region 10

9 states had 100% overlap.  
9 states had no overlap.



**Source:** Poverty rates from U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saie/data/datasets.html>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

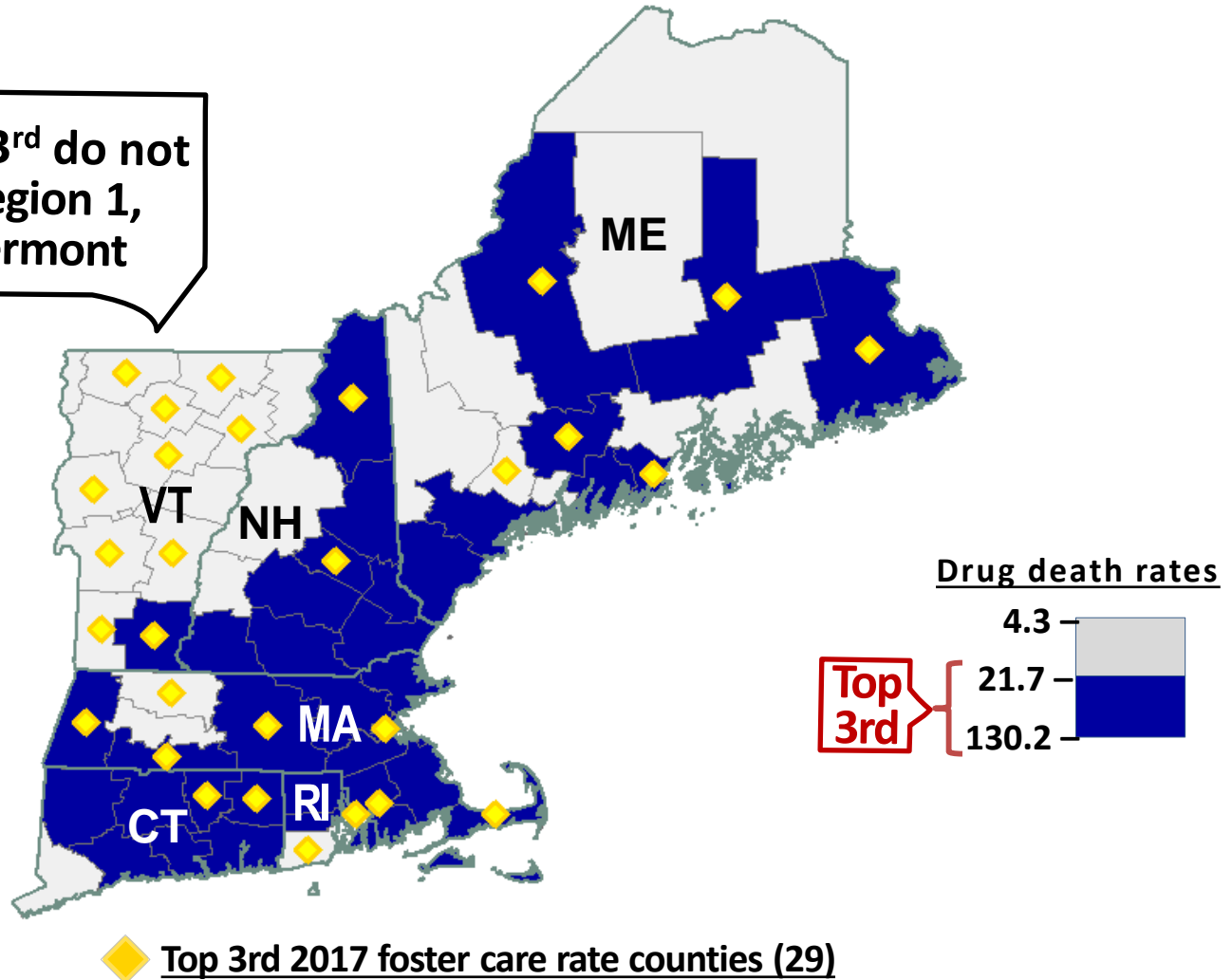


# Region 1

## Top 3<sup>rd</sup> County Drug Death Rates per 100,000: 2017

### Overlaid with 2017 Top 3<sup>rd</sup> Foster Care Rate Counties

Only 41% top 3<sup>rd</sup> do not overlap in Region 1, mostly in Vermont



Source: NCHS, <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-visualization/drug-poisoning-mortality/index.htm>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

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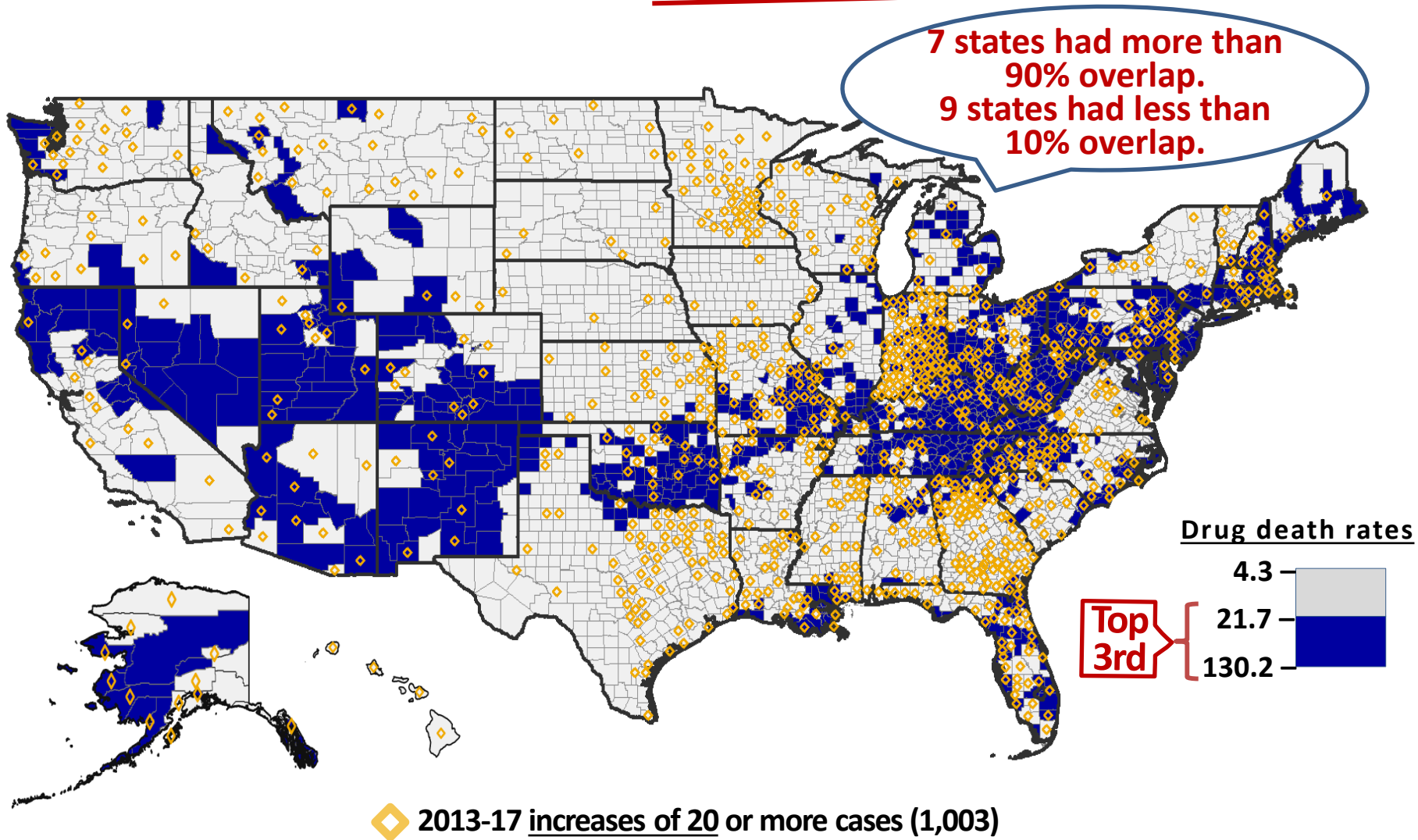
**HOW DOES THE GEOSPATIAL  
DISTRIBUTION OF DRUG DEATHS  
COMPARE WITH THAT OF THE  
INCREASES AND DECREASES IN  
FOSTER CARE CASELOADS?**



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# County Drug Death Rates by Terciles: 2017

Overlaid with Counties whose Foster Care Caseloads Increased by 20 or More from 2013 to 2017

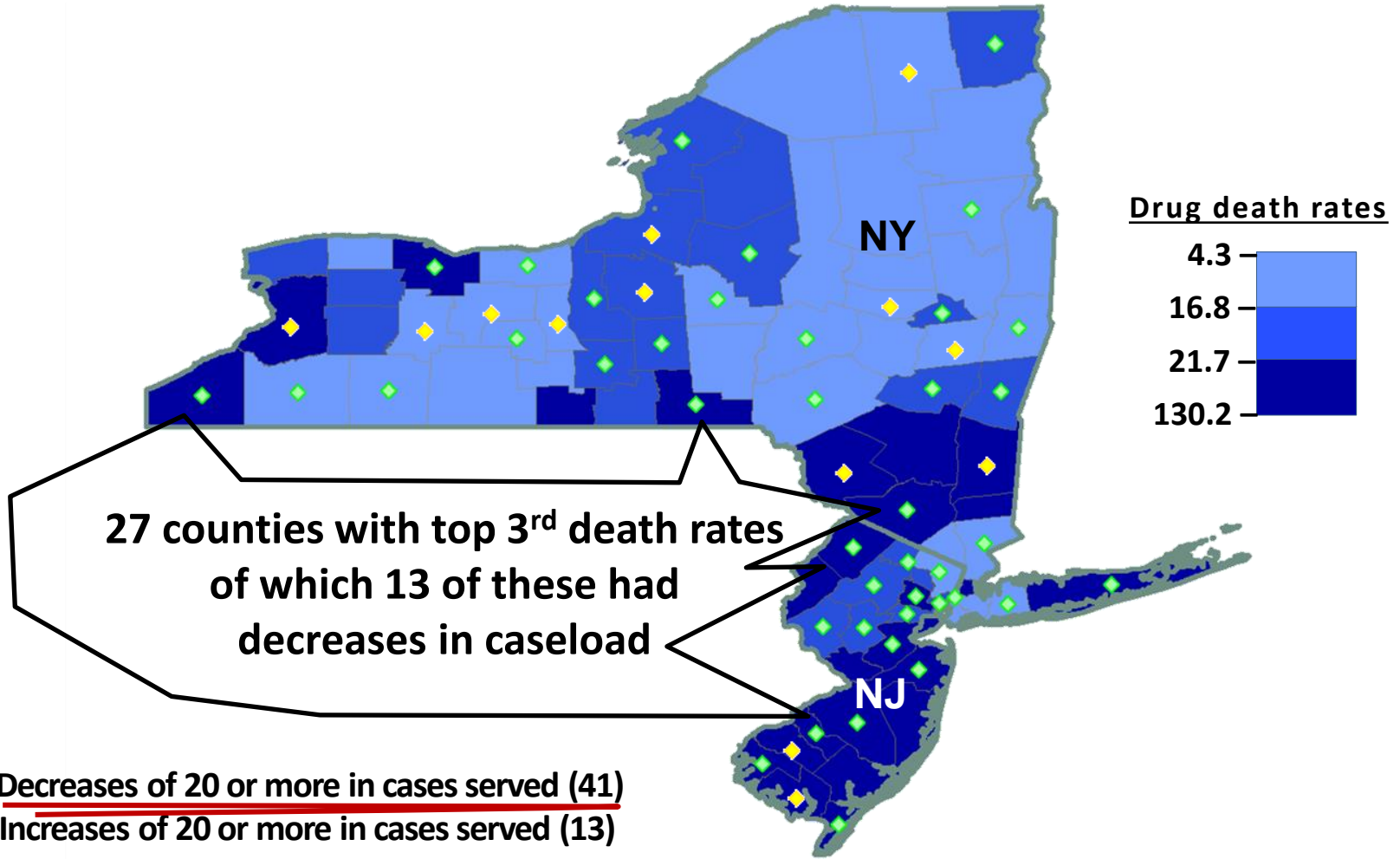


Source: NCHS, <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-visualization/drug-poisoning-mortality/index.htm>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Region 2

## County Drug Death Rates per 100,000 by Terciles: 2017

With '13-'17 Increases ◆ & Decreases ◆ of 20 or More in Number of Foster Care Cases in a County

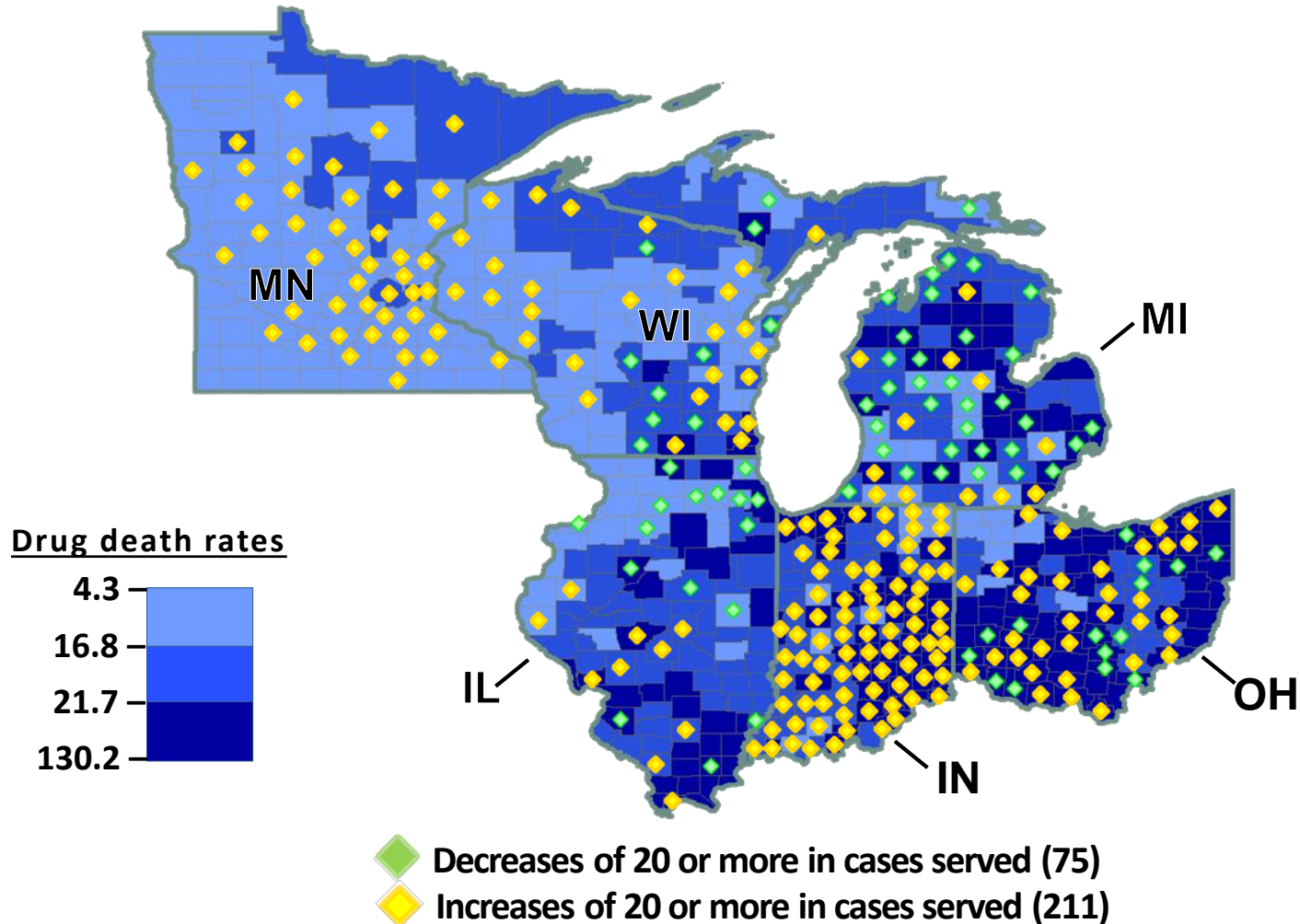


Source: NCHS, <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-visualization/drug-poisoning-mortality/index.htm>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Region 5

## County Drug Death Rates per 100,000 by Terciles: 2017

With '13-'17 Increases ◆ & Decreases ◆ of 20 or More in Number of Foster Care Cases in a County



Source: NCHS, <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-visualization/drug-poisoning-mortality/index.htm>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

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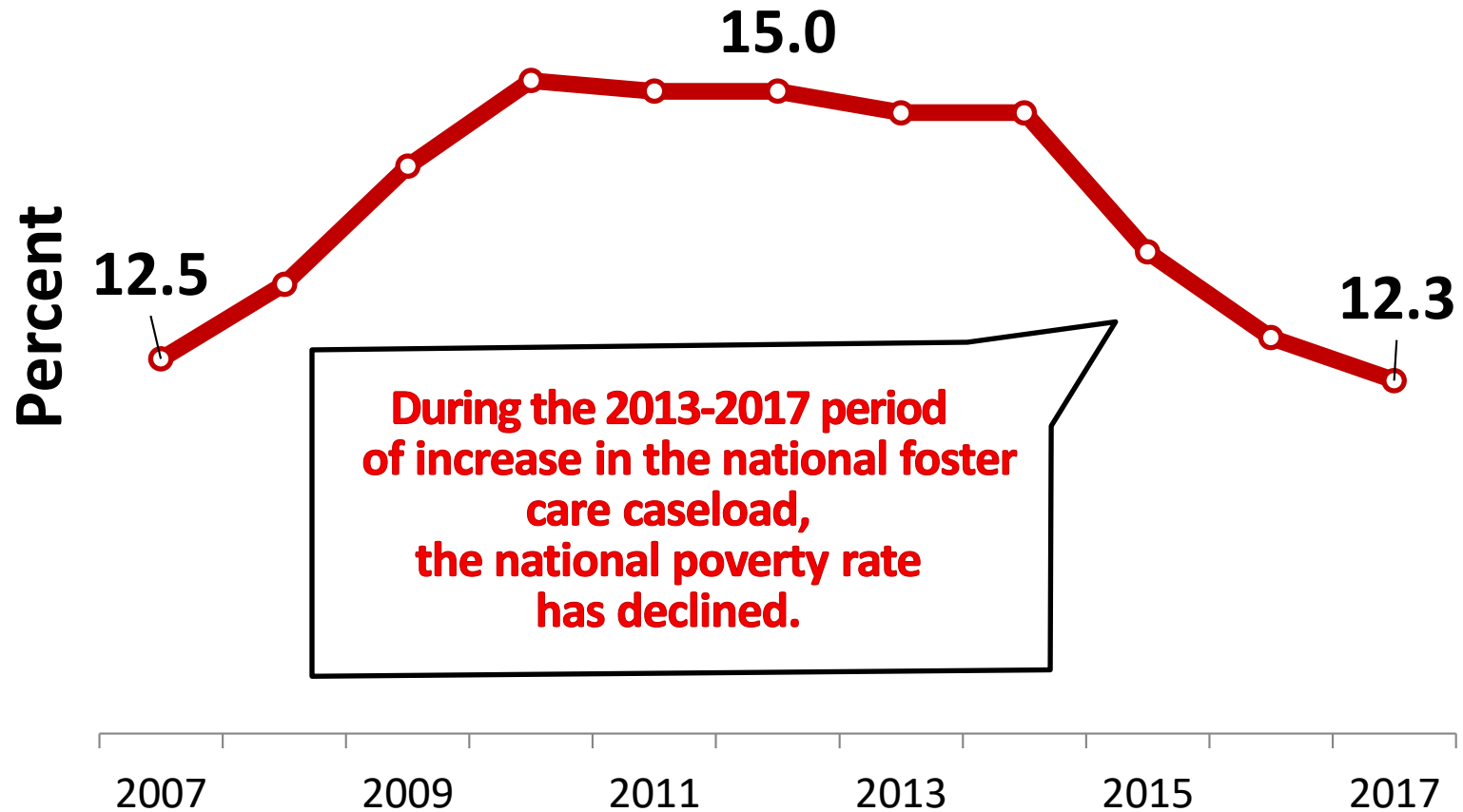
# WHAT IS THE NATIONAL TREND OF POVERTY RATES?



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# Poverty Rate: 2007-2017



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-people.html>.

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**WHAT HAS BEEN THE GEOSPATIAL  
DISTRIBUTION OF POVERTY RATES  
BY COUNTIES?**

**IN WHAT REGIONS/COUNTIES ARE  
POVERTY RATES THE HIGHEST?**



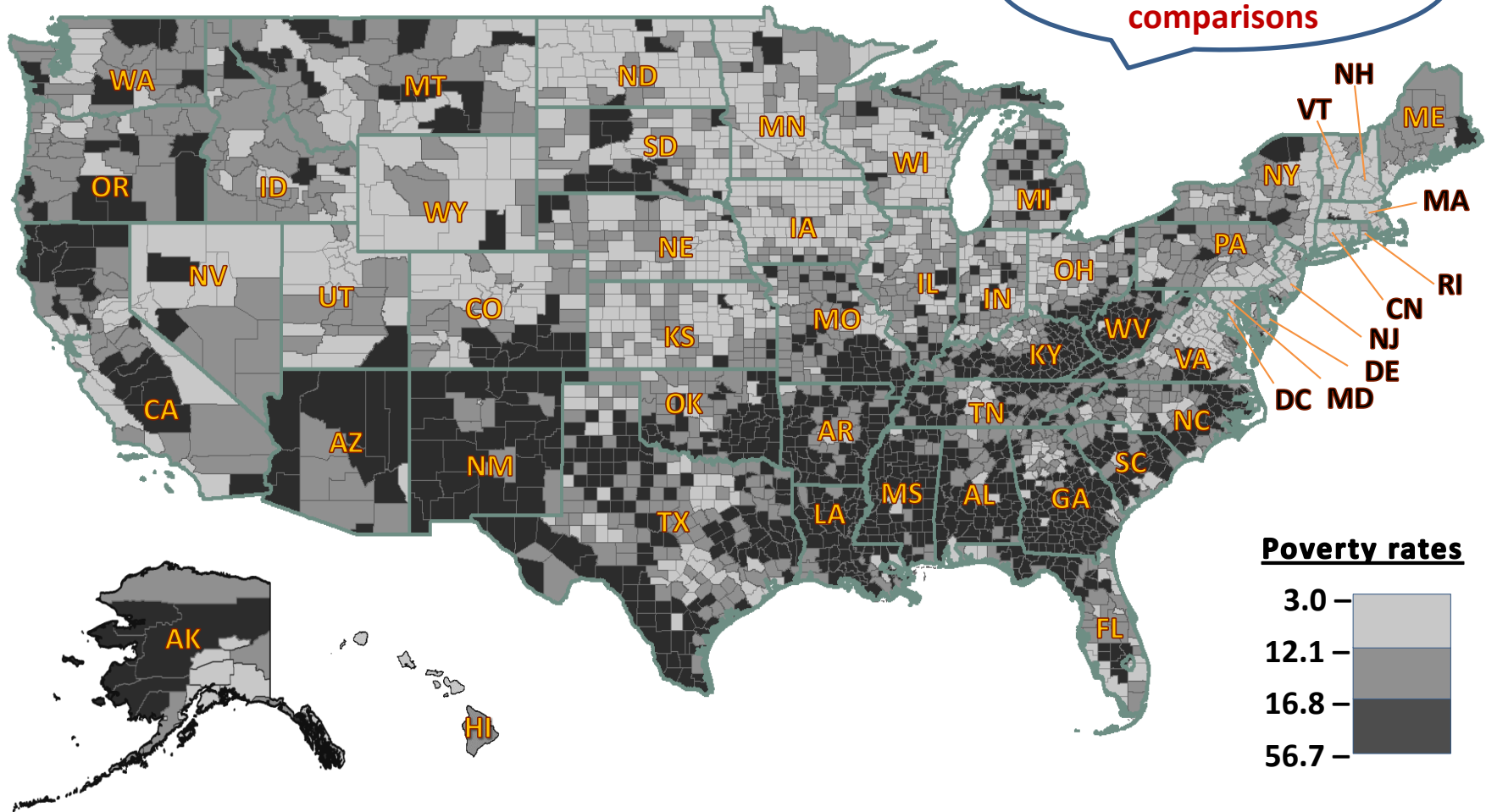
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# County Poverty Rates by Terciles: 2017

By Terciles

Base Map  
for top 3<sup>rd</sup> foster care  
comparisons



**Source:** Poverty rates from U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saie/data/datasets.html>.

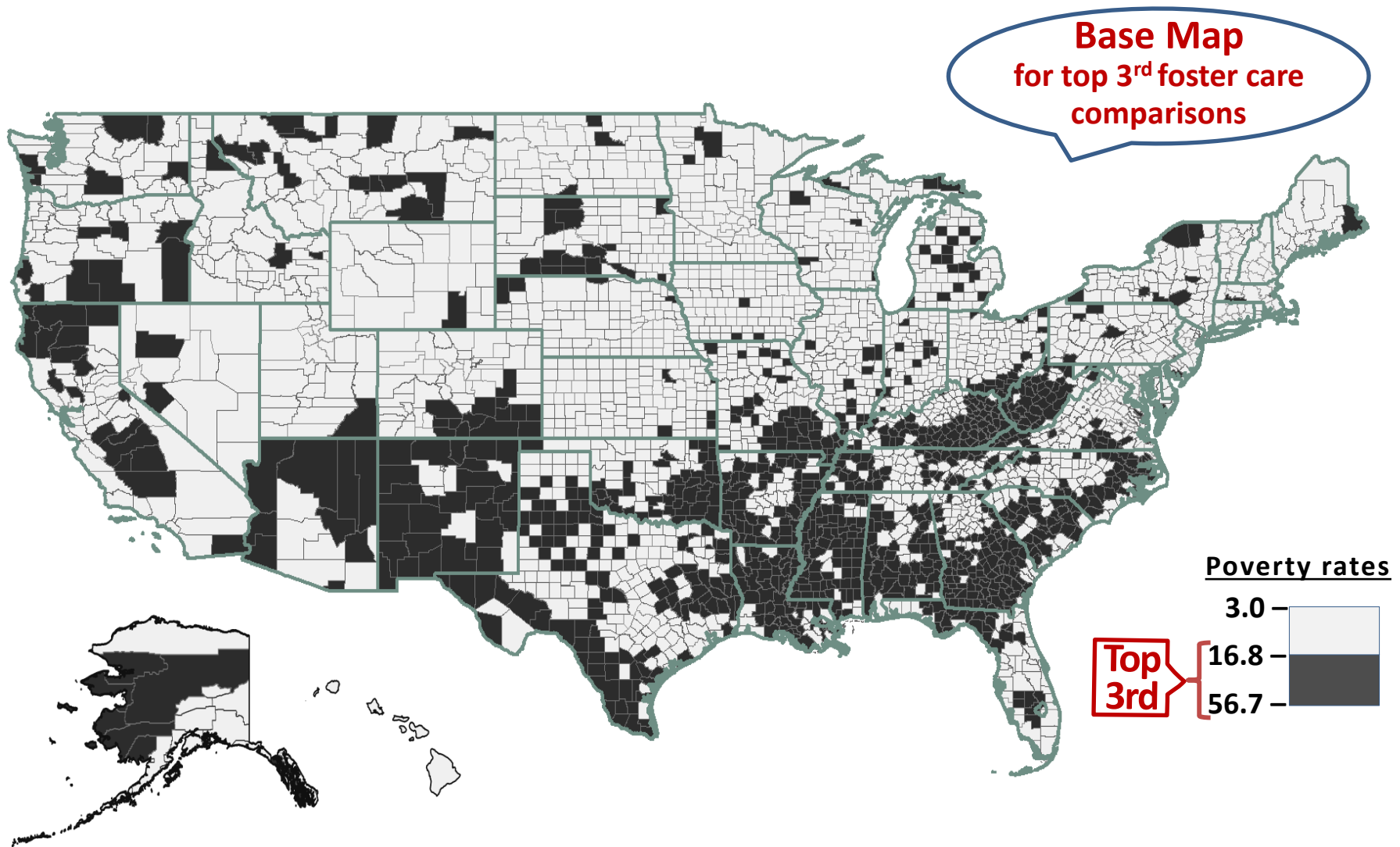
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**HOW DOES THE GEOSPATIAL  
DISTRIBUTION OF POVERTY  
COMPARE WITH THAT OF: (A) HIGH  
FOSTER CARE CASELOADS AND (B)  
THE INCREASES IN FOSTER CARE  
CASELOADS?**



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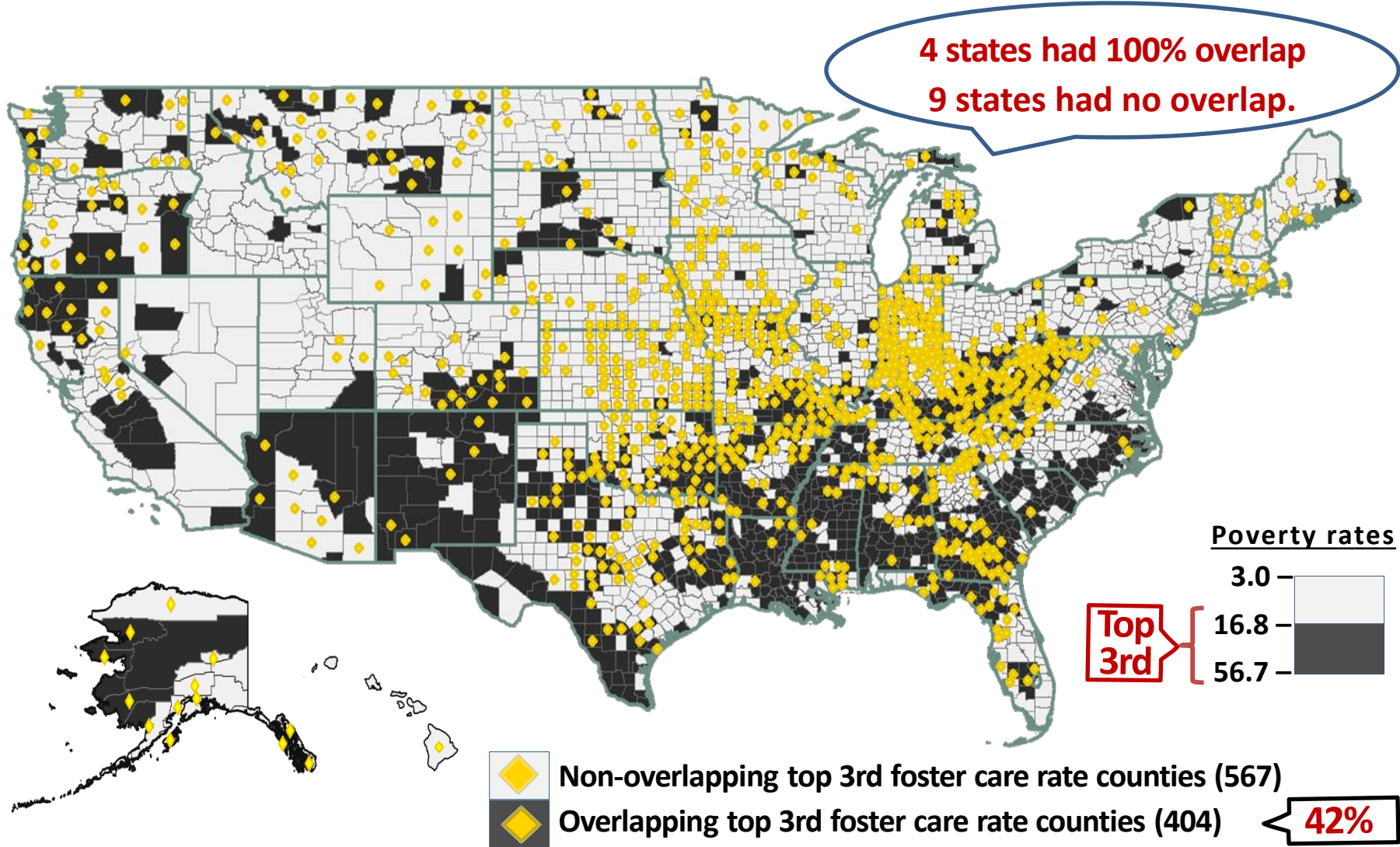
# Top 3<sup>rd</sup> Poverty Rates by County: 2017



**Source:** Poverty rates from U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/data/datasets.html>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Top 3<sup>rd</sup> Poverty Rates by County: 2017

## Overlaid with 2017 Top 3<sup>rd</sup> Foster Care Rate Counties



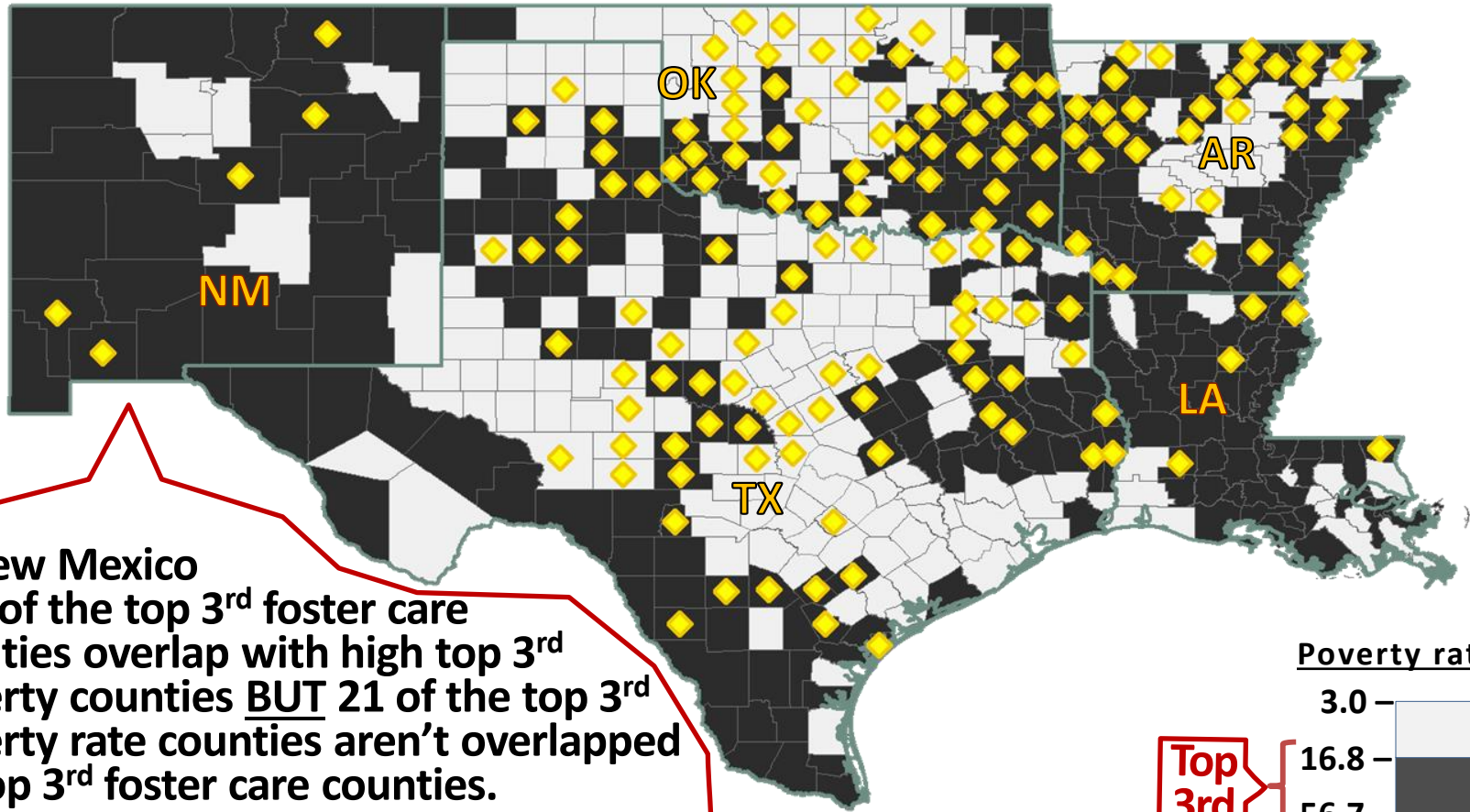
**Source:** Poverty rates from U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saie/data/datasets.html>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.




# Region 6

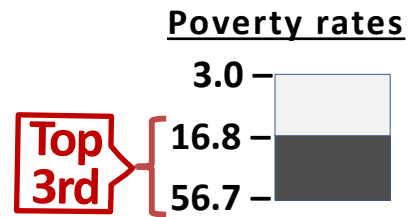
## Top 3<sup>rd</sup> Poverty Rates by County: 2017

### Overlaid with 2017 Top 3<sup>rd</sup> Foster Care Rate Counties



In New Mexico all 5 of the top 3<sup>rd</sup> foster care counties overlap with high top 3<sup>rd</sup> poverty counties BUT 21 of the top 3<sup>rd</sup> poverty rate counties aren't overlapped by top 3<sup>rd</sup> foster care counties.

-  Non-overlapping top 3<sup>rd</sup> foster care rate counties (52)
-  Overlapping top 3<sup>rd</sup> foster care rate counties (106)

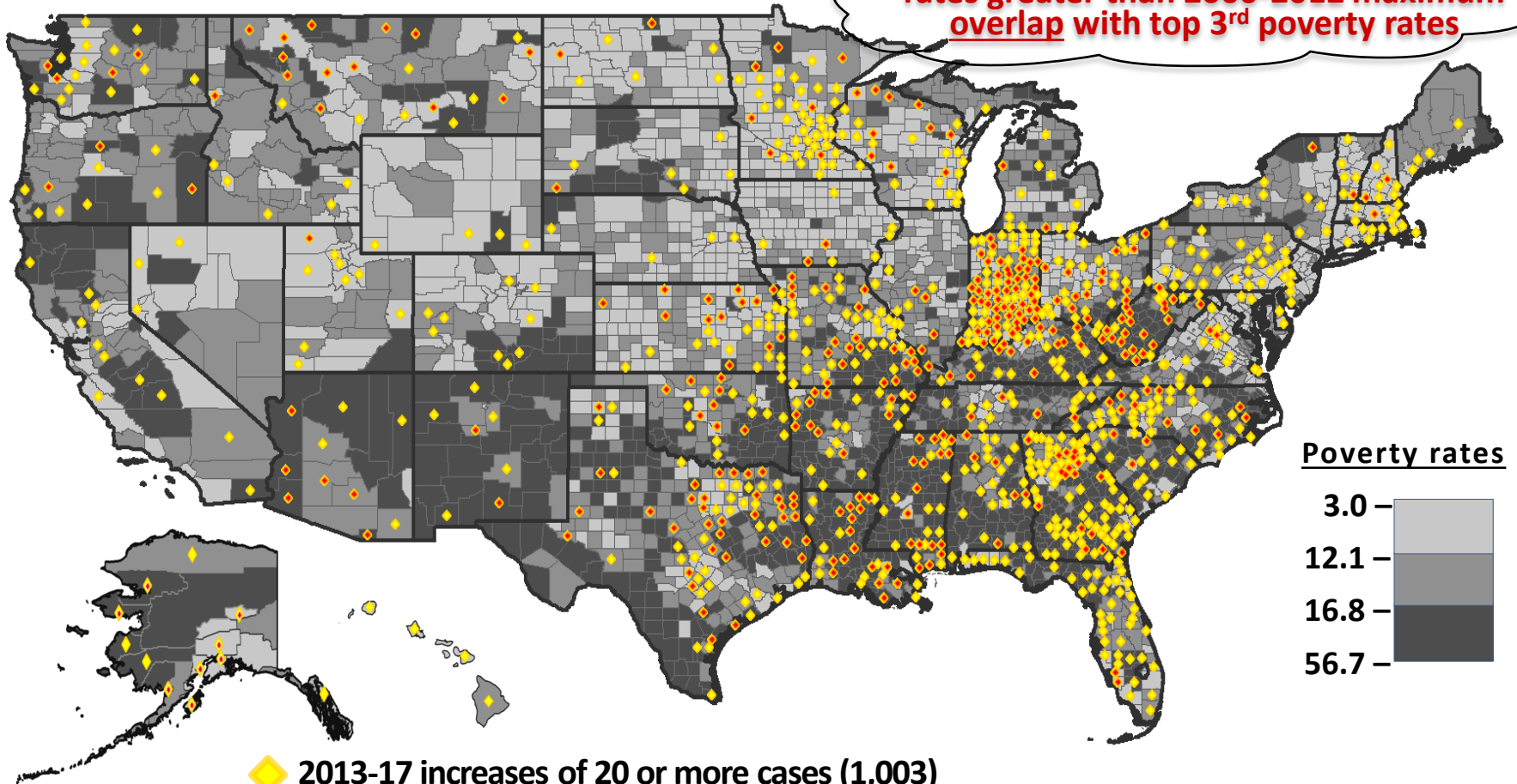


**Source:** Poverty rates from U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/data/datasets.html>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

# County Poverty Rates by Terciles: 2017

Overlaid with Counties whose Foster Care Caseloads Increased by 20 or More from 2013 to 2017  
And with 2017 Case Levels at least 20 Percent Higher Than their 2000-2012 Maximum

129 of the foster care counties with 2017 rates greater than 2000-2012 maximum overlap with top 3<sup>rd</sup> poverty rates



◆ 2013-17 increases of 20 or more cases (1,003)

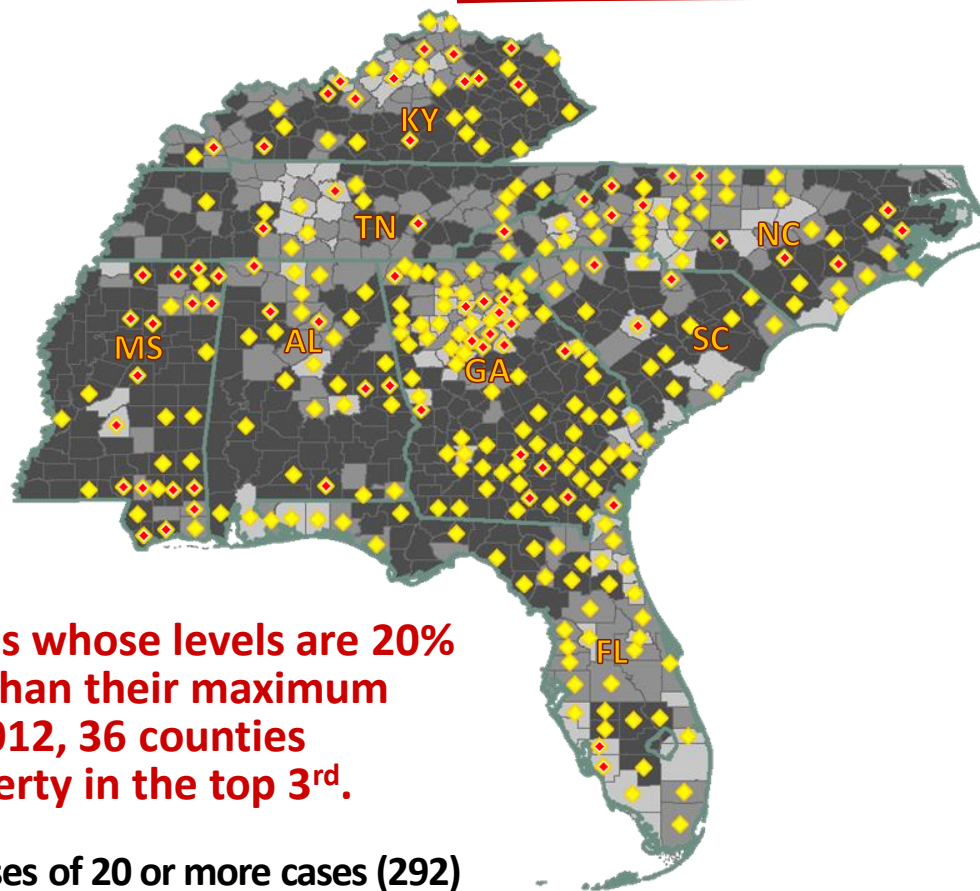
◆ And with 2017 levels 20% or more higher than their 2000-12 maximum (339)

Source: Poverty rates from U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/data/datasets.html>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

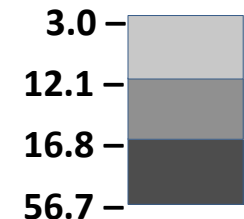
# Region 4

## County Poverty Rates by Terciles: 2017

Overlaid with Counties whose Foster Care Caseloads Increased by 20 or More from 2013 to 2017  
And with 2017 Case Levels at least 20 Percent Higher Than their 2000-2012 Maximum



### Poverty rates



**Of the 73 counties whose levels are 20% or more greater than their maximum during 2000 to 2012, 36 counties overlap with poverty in the top 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

- ◆ 2013-17 increases of 20 or more cases (292)**
- ◆ And with 2017 levels 20% or more higher than their 2000-12 maximum (73)**

**Source:** Poverty rates from U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/data/datasets.html>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

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**HOW DOES THE GEOSPATIAL  
DISTRIBUTION OF PERCENT OF  
POPULATION NOT EMPLOYED  
COMPARE WITH THAT OF THE  
INCREASES IN FOSTER CARE  
CASELOADS?**

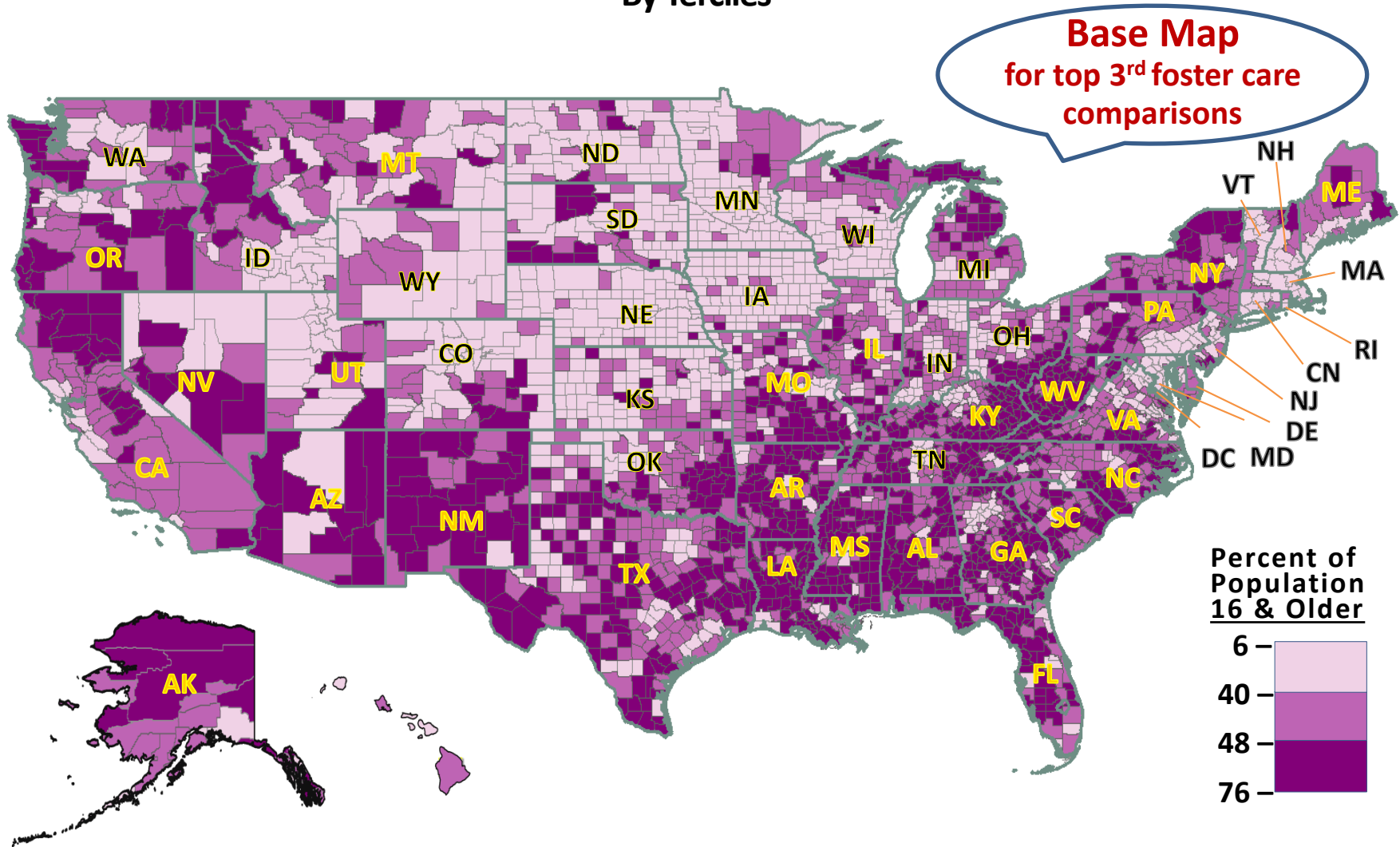


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# Percent of Population 16 & Older Not Employed : 2017

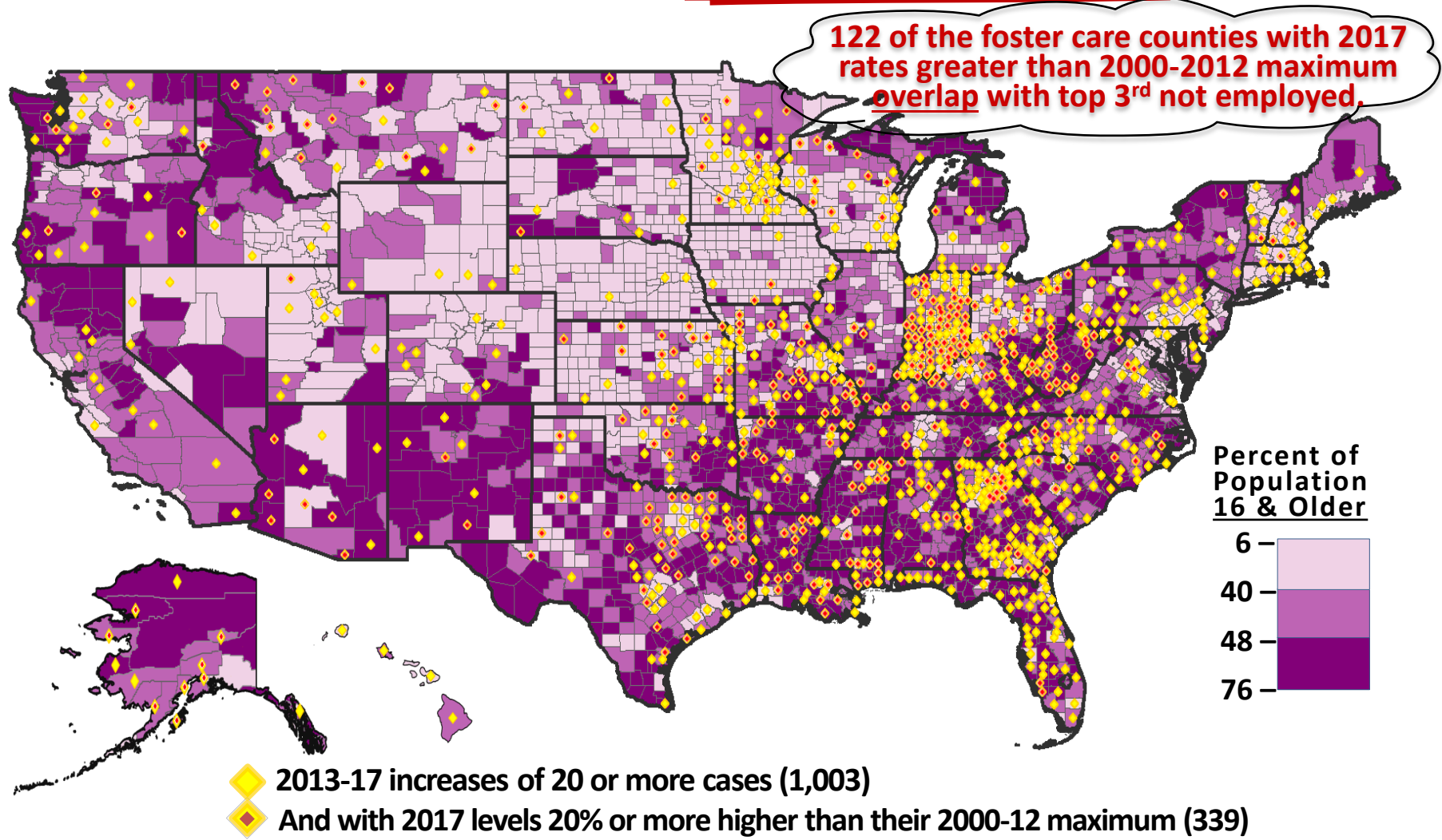
## By Terciles



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, <https://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm>; county population data from CDC Wonder, <https://wonder.cdc.gov/>; rates calculated by ASPE.

# Percent of Population 16 & Older Not Employed: 2017

Overlaid with Counties whose Foster Care Caseloads Increased by 20 or More from 2013 to 2017  
And with 2017 Case Levels at least 20 Percent Higher Than their 2000-2012 Maximum



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, <https://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm>; county population data from CDC Wonder, <https://wonder.cdc.gov/>; Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau; population data from U.S. Census Bureau; rates calculated by ASPE.

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**HOW DOES THE GEOSPATIAL  
DISTRIBUTION OF PER CAPITA  
INCOME COMPARE WITH THAT OF  
THE INCREASES IN FOSTER CARE  
CASELOADS?**

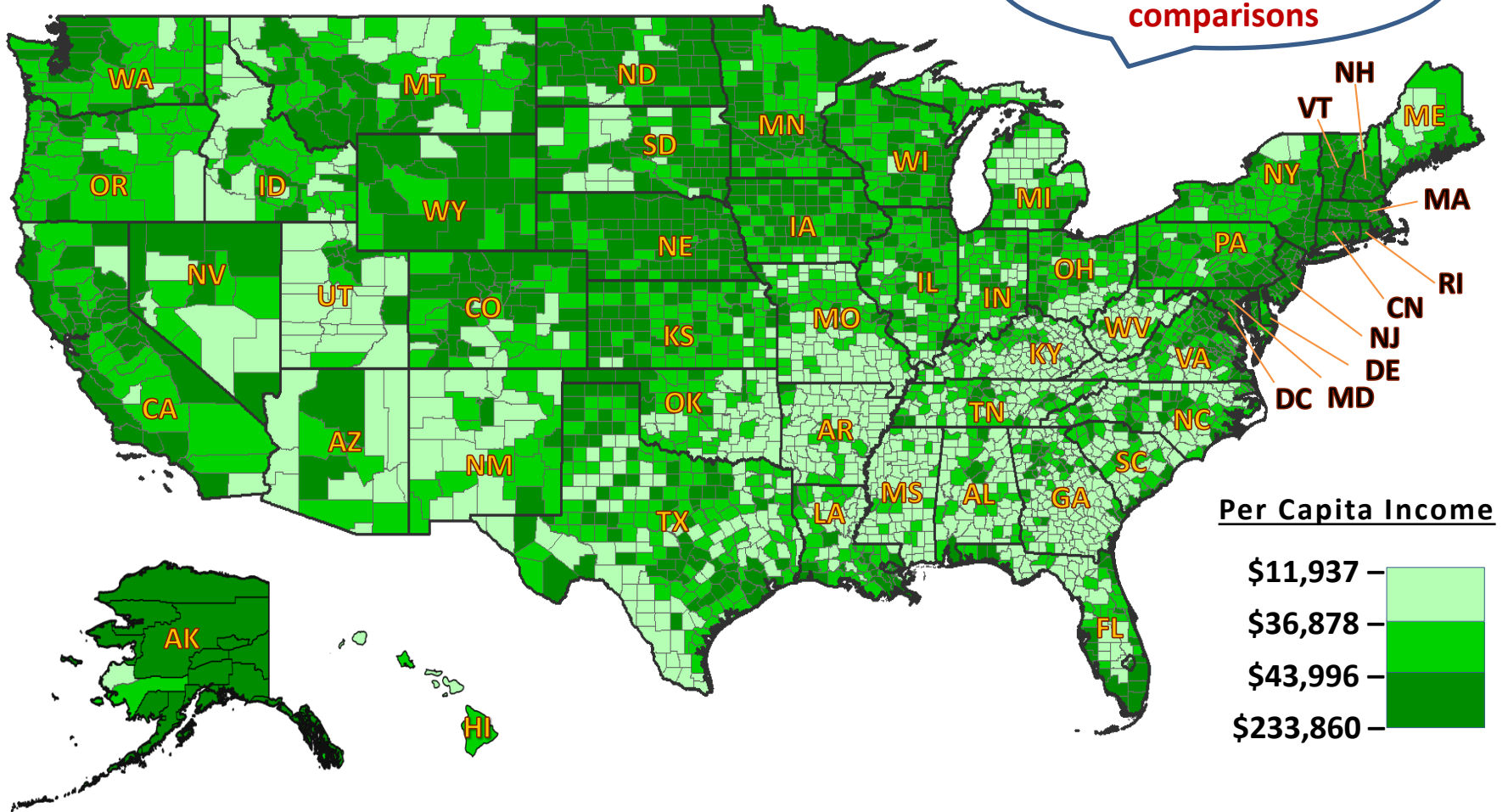


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# Per Capita Income by County: 2017

By Terciles

Base Map  
for top 3<sup>rd</sup> foster care  
comparisons

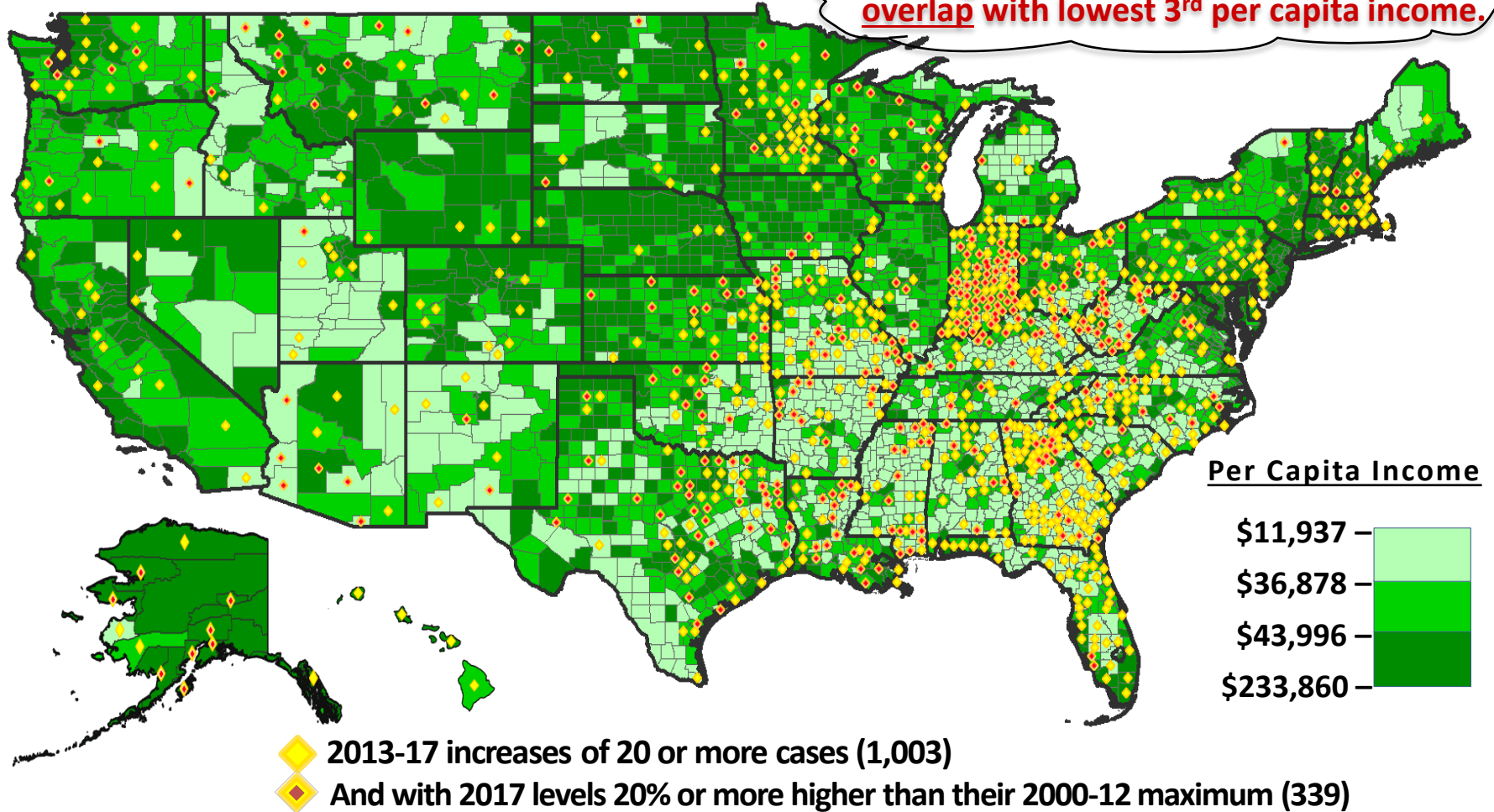


Source: U.S. Department of Commerce / Bureau of Economic Analysis / Regional Income Division, <https://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm>, <https://www.bea.gov/data/income-saving/personal-income-county-metro-and-other-areas>.

# Per Capita Income by County: 2017

Overlaid with Counties whose Foster Care Caseloads Increased by 20 or More from 2013 to 2017  
And with 2017 Case Levels at least 20 Percent Higher Than their 2000-2012 Maximum

136 of the foster care counties with 2017 rates greater than 2000-2012 maximum overlap with lowest 3<sup>rd</sup> per capita income.



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce / Bureau of Economic Analysis / Regional Income Division, <https://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm>, Foster care children from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children's Bureau.



# Discussion

- There have been nearly twice as many counties experiencing increases in their foster care case-load as counties seeing decreases.
- New “high” foster care rate counties, those with foster care rates in 2017 that were 120% or more of their maximum during the period from 2000 to 2012, were **clustered** together in certain areas: 42% were in weak clusters where 1/3rd of their bordering counties were also high rate counties and 35% were in high clusters where 2/3rds of their bordering counties were also high rate counties.
- In most cases, policy responses need to be **targeted** to areas seeing new highs in caseloads, particularly in those areas where resources are limited as evidenced by indicators such as high poverty, high percentages of the population not employed, low per capita incomes or other such relevant factors.