



## How NCSL Strengthens Legislatures



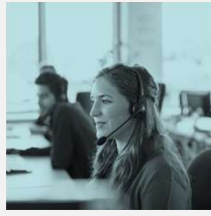
### Policy Research

NCSL provides trusted, nonpartisan policy research and analysis



### Connections

NCSL links legislators and staff with each other and with experts



### Training

NCSL delivers training tailored specifically for legislators and staff



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NCSL represents and advocates on behalf of states on Capitol Hill



### Meetings

NCSL meetings facilitate information exchange and policy discussions

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1. Family First Overview
2. 2021 State Activity
3. Challenges and Solutions
4. Q&A



## Today's Agenda

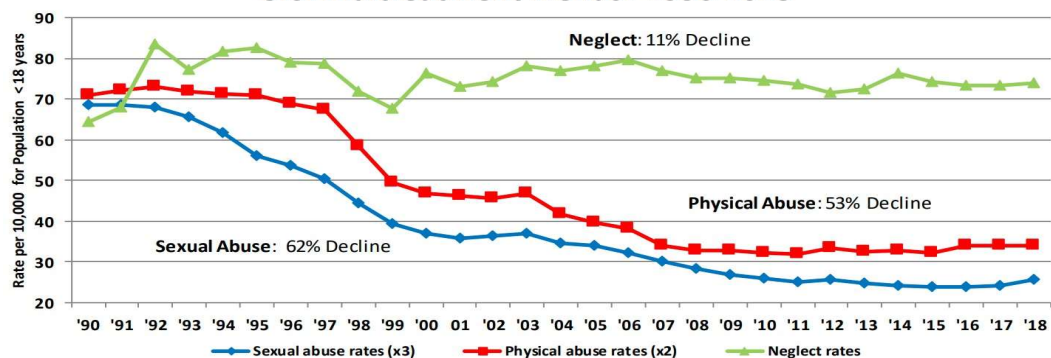
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## What are recent trends?



### U.S. Maltreatment Trends: 1990-2018



Note: Trend estimates represent total change from 1992 to 2018. Annual rates for physical abuse and sexual abuse have been multiplied by 2 and 3 respectively in Figure 1 so that trend comparisons can be highlighted.

<sup>1</sup> The statistics in Table 1 and Figure 1 concern substantiated cases of sexual abuse, physical abuse and neglect. A substantiated case means a case that has been reported to a child protection agency, investigated and deemed to have occurred according to a "preponderance of evidence." The child maltreatment cases referred and investigated by state child protection agencies primarily involve abuse by caregivers. The cases do not include many involving stranger abusers, unless some element of caregiver neglect was involved.

## Family First

### Child Maltreatment Prevention



- A monumental shift in child welfare funding and structure.
- The federal government will reimburse states for prevention services for candidates for foster care
- Eligible services can include skill-based programs, mental health services and substance abuse prevention and treatment services
- 12-month limit
- Must be a part of a 5-year prevention plan
- Must be approved by the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse as:
  - Promising Practice: Created from an independently reviewed study and shows statistically significant results.
  - Supported Practice: Reviewed using a rigorous experimental design and has sustained success for at least six months after the end of treatment.
  - Well-supported treatment: Meets all of the previous requirements and shows success beyond a year after treatment.

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## Family First

### Congregate Care

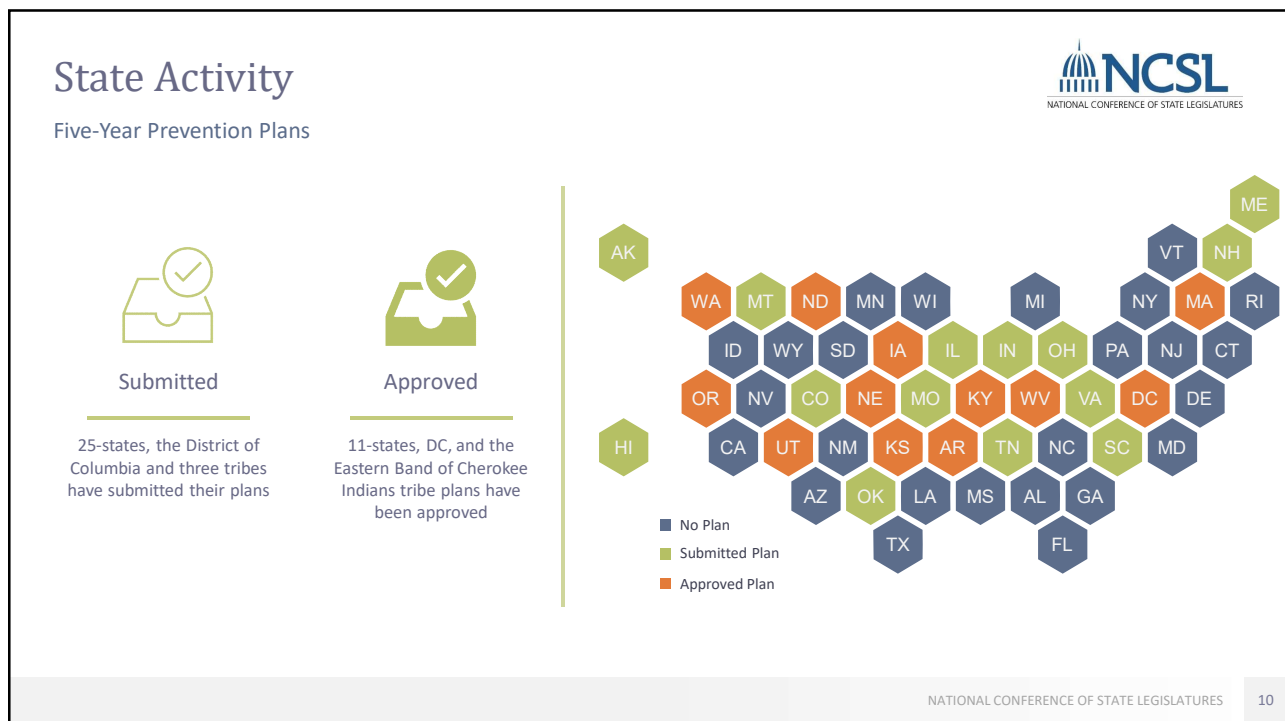


- States can only receive federal funds for foster homes or Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTPs)
  - Foster home = 6 or fewer children
  - QRTPs = 25 or fewer children
    - Must be licensed
    - Utilizes a trauma-informed treatment model
    - Must be staffed by a registered or licensed nursing staff
    - Inclusive of family members
    - Six months of support after discharge.
    - Reviewed and approved by the court

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## Challenges and Solutions



### Challenges

- Program Costs
- Identifying Eligible Prevention Programs
- COVID-19

### Solutions

- Program costs
  - Utah uses Child and Family Team Case Reviews and Trial Home Placements
  - States are utilizing multiple funding streams
  - Family First Transition Act
- Identifying Eligible Prevention Programs
  - California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare
  - SAMHSA's Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center
  - Submit programs and services for review

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