

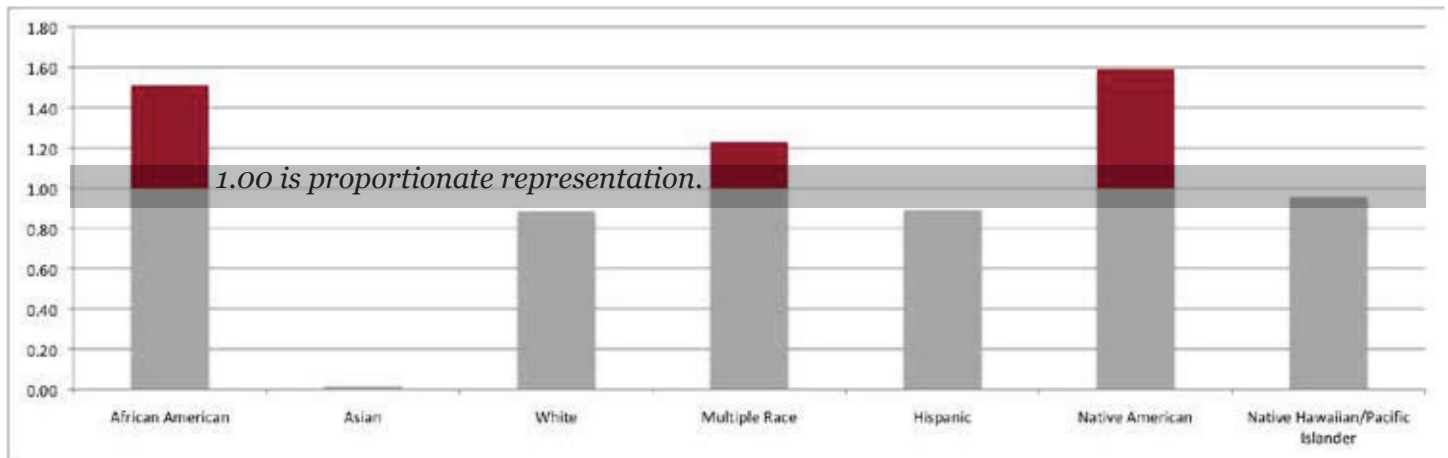
Disproportionality of Minority Children in Tennessee Child Welfare Investigations

Tennessee Disproportionality Indices Unavailable

Tennessee was not included in the Children's Bureau Child Maltreatment 2016 report* due to a lack of data reported. Thus it is not included here.

Nationwide Disproportionality Indices

The following graph is based on 2016 data from the Children's Bureau's Child Maltreatment 2016 report. An index number below 1.00 indicates an under-representation of that ethnicity/race in the "maltreatment" child population, while a number above 1.00 indicates an over-representation. Indices > 1.10 with > 30 in the "maltreatment" child population are shaded dark red; lighter red indicates indices > 1.10 with > 10 but < 30 in the "maltreatment" child population.



- 1.51** In 2016, **African American children** were “substantiated for maltreatment” at a rate 1.51 times more than their proportions in the U.S. child population.
- 1.23** In 2016, **Multiple Race children** were “substantiated for maltreatment” at a rate 1.23 times more than their proportions in the U.S. child population.
- 1.59** In 2016, **Native American children** were “substantiated for maltreatment” at a rate 1.59 times more than their proportions in the U.S. child population.

Data & Notes

Nationwide Data	A. Total Child Population %	B. “Maltreatment” Child Population	C. “Maltreatment” Child Population %	D. Disproportionality Index
African American	13.8	136,808	20.8	1.51
Asian	4.9	547	0.1	0.02
White	51.1	296,910	45.2	0.88
Multiple Race	4.2	34,091	5.2	1.23
Hispanic	24.9	145,868	22.2	0.89
Native American	0.9	8,861	1.3	1.59
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0.2	1,256	0.2	0.96
Unknown	N/A	32,416	4.9	
<i>TOTAL</i>		<i>656,757</i>		

Highlighted rows show disproportionality indices of at least 1.10. (Note: If the “maltreatment” child population is between 10-30, the row is highlighted in lighter gray because even slight variation at such low numbers can easily affect the index; rows with “maltreatment” child population < 10 are not highlighted.) An index number below 1.00 indicates an under-representation of that ethnicity/race in the “maltreatment” child population, while a number above 1.00 indicates an over-representation. Native American includes Alaska Native/Native American/American Indian.

“Maltreatment” child population refers to the population of children that a child welfare agency believes have been maltreated. *Substantiated* means only that a child welfare agency believes maltreatment occurred. *Maltreatment* refers to abuse or neglect. They are in quotations since the federal government has acknowledged that racial bias often plays a part in these determinations.*

The term *disproportionality index* and its explanations were adapted from Appendix II of the GAO report.* See “Choosing a Metric” on page 7 for details.

Source for Column A: Children’s Bureau, *Child Maltreatment 2016*, (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families), <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2016.pdf>, Appendix C; retrieved from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/research-data-technology/statistics-research>.

Source for Column B: Ibid., Table 3-7.

Column C: State “maltreatment” population for that ethnicity/race (B) divided by the total state “maltreatment” population (B-TOTAL).

Column D: Portion of state “maltreatment” population (C) divided by portion of total state child population (A).

*Children’s Bureau, *Child Maltreatment 2016*, p. 25.

† U.S. Government Accountability Office, *Report to the Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means, House of Representatives: African American Children in Foster Care* (Washington, DC: 2007), 4, 73–76, <https://www.gao.gov/new.items/do7816.pdf>.