



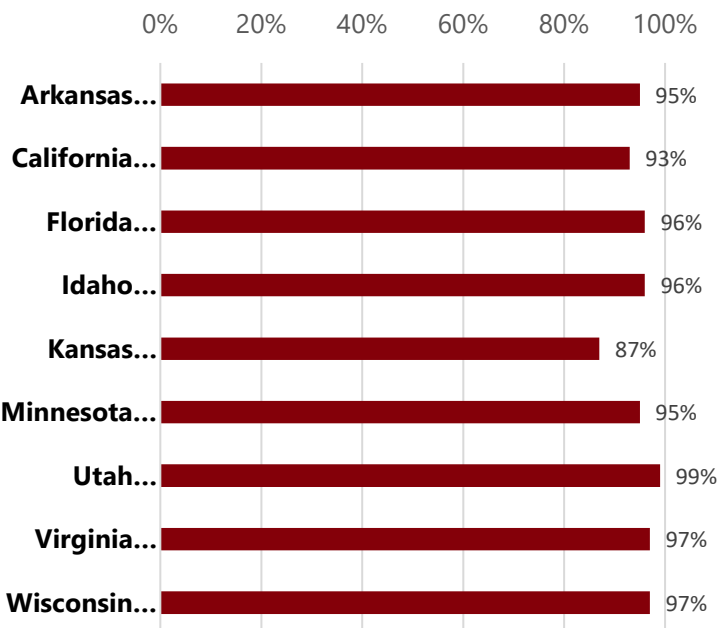
# Shared Parenting Polling: A National Consensus

Between February 2019 and January 2021, National Parents Organization commissioned polling, conducted by an independent, professional polling company, Researchscape International, in nine states about American's beliefs and attitudes concerning shared parenting when parents live apart.

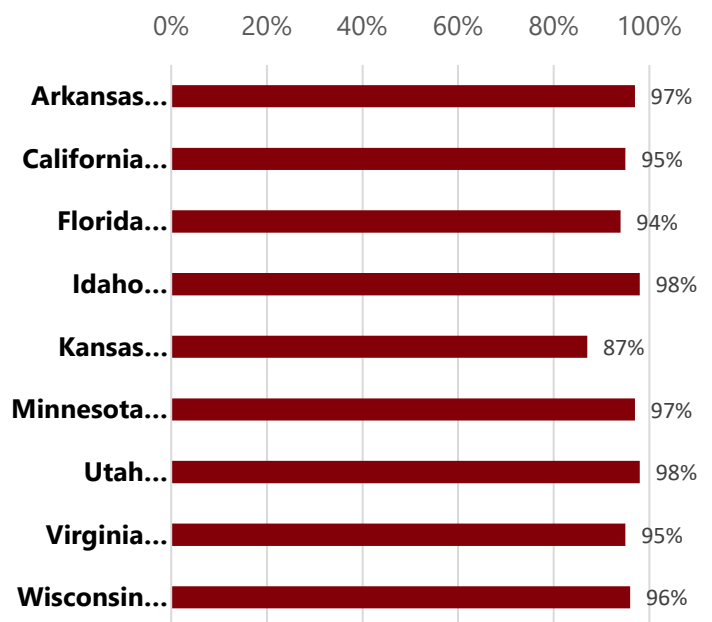
The results show broad and extremely strong support for equal shared parenting by separated parents and, importantly, overwhelming support for creating a *legal presumption* in favor of shared parenting. This national consensus is exhibited in every state that we polled and is shared across demographic divides of race, ethnicity, income, educational level, and gender. In cases where parents are living apart because of divorce or separation:

- Overwhelmingly, Americans believe that it is *in the best interest of children* to spend as much time as possible with both parents.
- Overwhelmingly, Americans believe that *children have a right* to spend equal or nearly equal time with each parent.
- Overwhelmingly, Americans support a legal presumption of shared parenting.
- Overwhelmingly, Americans believe that an award of *sole custody increases* parental conflict.

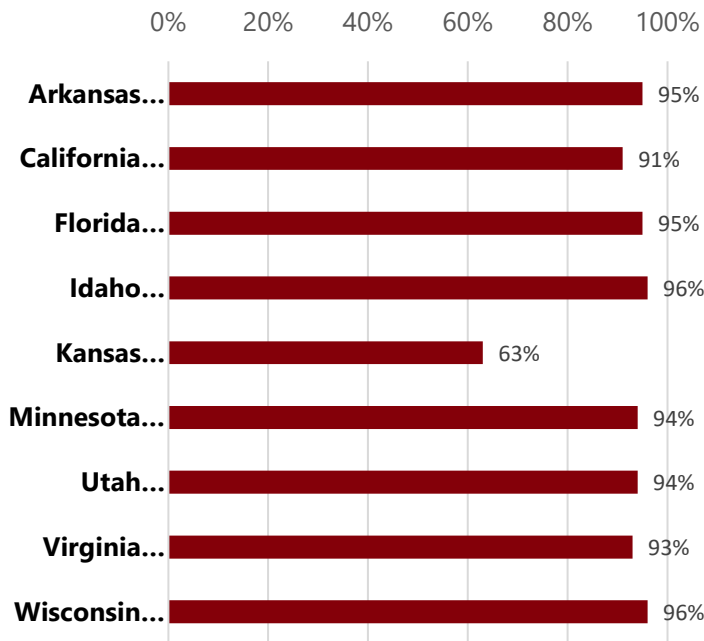
**Believe it is "in a child's best interest to spend as much time as possible with each parent" when the parents are divorced or separated**



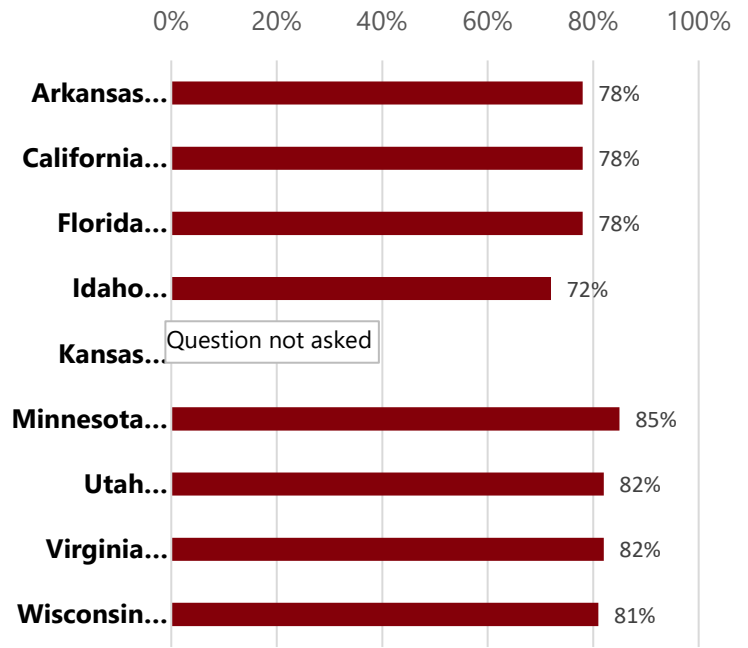
**Believe that "children have a right to spend equal or nearly equal time with both parents" when the parents are divorced or separated**



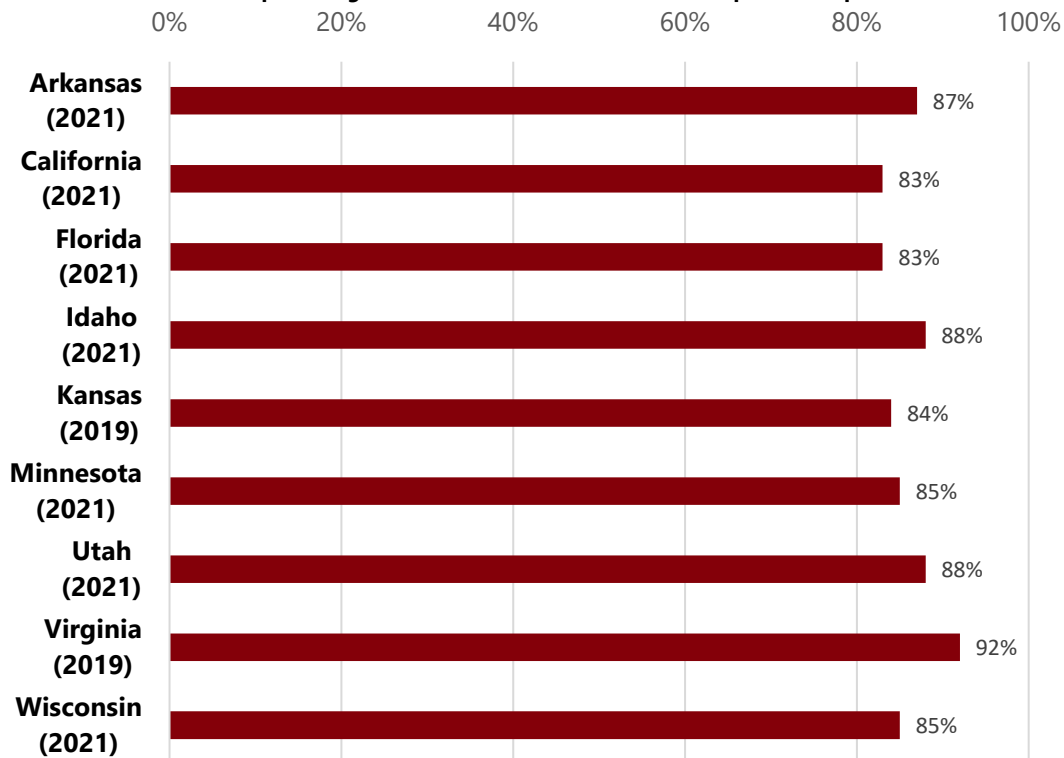
Would "be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports children spending significant, up to equal, amounts of time with each parent following separation or divorce"



Believe that "when there is conflict between parents, awarding sole custody of children to just one parent increases that conflict"



Would support "a change in state law that creates a rebuttable presumption that shared parenting is in the best interest of a child after parental separation"



National Parents Organization is a 501c3 committed to improving the lives of children and strengthen society by protecting every child's right to the love and care of both parents after separation or divorce. We seek better lives for children through family court reform that establishes equal rights and responsibilities for fathers and mothers. The nine state polls referenced above varied in sample size; the samples used were representative of each state's population and included a credibility interval of plus or minus 6%.