



FACT SHEET

WYOMING LEGISLATIVE SERVICE OFFICE

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 April 28, 2015
 15FS014

CHILD SUPPORT FORMULAS WITHIN THE 50 STATES

There are generally three main model types to determine child support which are used by the states:

The **Income Shares Model** is based on the concept that a child should receive the same percentage of parental income as they would if the parents still lived together.

The **Percentage of Income Model** utilizes the income information of the non-custodial parent to set child support as a percentage, and the custodial parent's income is not considered. There are two additional subtypes under this category of child support, including the Flat Percentage Model and the Varying Percentage Model.

The **Melson Formula** is a version of the Income Shares Model, which additionally incorporates several public policy judgments which help to ensure that the parent's basic needs are met in addition to the children's.

Table 1, below, depicts information from the National Conference of State Legislatures regarding the child support formulas utilized within the 50 states. The table reflects the name of the state, the guideline type that is used, as well as a link to the location of each state's guidelines. In sum, 10 states (including the District of Columbia) utilize the Percentage of Income Model, 3 states utilize the Melson Formula, and the remaining 38 states all use the Income Shares Model.

Table 1. Child Support Provisions.

State	Guideline Type	Link to Guidelines
Alabama	Income Shares	Rule 32, Alabama Rules of Judicial Administration Administration
Alaska	Percentage of Income	Alaska Child Support Guidelines
Arizona	Income Shares	Arizona Child Support Guidelines
Arkansas	Percentage of Income	Administrative Order of the Supreme Court No. 10
California	Income Shares	California Family Code §§ 4050-4076
Colorado	Income Shares	Colorado Rev. Stat. §§ 14-10-115 et seq.
Connecticut	Income Shares	Child Support and Arrearages Guidelines
Delaware	Melson Formula	13 Delaware Code §514
D.C.	Percentage of Income	D.C. Child Support Guidelines
Florida	Income Shares	Florida Title VI, Chapter 61.30
Georgia	Income Shares	Georgia Child Support Guidelines
Hawaii	Melson Formula	Hawaii Child Support Guidelines
Idaho	Income Shares	Idaho R. Civ. Pro. 6(c)(6)
Illinois	Percentage of Income	750 ILCS Illinois Child Support Guidelines
Indiana	Income Shares	Indiana Child Support Rules and Guidelines

State	Guideline Type	Link to Guidelines
Iowa	Income Shares	Iowa Child Support Guidelines
Kansas	Income Shares	Kansas Child Support Guidelines
Kentucky	Income Shares	Kentucky Rev. Stat. §§ 403-210 to -213
Louisiana	Income Shares	Louisiana Rev. Stat. 9:315.1 et seq.
Maine	Income Shares	Maine Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 19-A, §§ 2001-2010
Maryland	Income Shares	Maryland Fam. Law Code Ann. §§ 12-201 et seq.
Massachusetts	Income Shares	Massachusetts Child Support Guidelines
Michigan	Income Shares	Michigan Child Support Formula Manual
Minnesota	Income Shares	Minn. Stat. Ann. §§ 518A.35 et seq.
Mississippi	Percentage of Income	Miss. Code §§ 43-19-101 et seq.
Missouri	Income Shares	Section 452.340
Montana	Melson Formula	Montana Child Support Guidelines
Nebraska	Income Shares	Nebraska Court Rules Chapter 4, Article 2, §§ 4-201 to 4-220
Nevada	Percentage of Income	Nev. Rev. Stat. §§ 125B.070 to -.080
New Hampshire	Income Shares	N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 458-C:1 to -:7
New Jersey	Income Shares	New Jersey Rules of Court Appendix IX
New Mexico	Income Shares	N.M. Stat. §§ 40-4-11.1 to -11.6
New York	Percentage of Income	N.Y. Dom. Rel. Law. § 240(1-b)
North Carolina	Income Shares	North Carolina Child Support Guidelines
North Dakota	Percentage of Income	North Dakota Child Support Guidelines
Ohio	Income Shares	Ohio Rev. Code §§ 3119.01 et seq.
Oklahoma	Income Shares	Okla. Stat. tit. 43, §§ 118 to 120
Oregon	Income Shares	Oregon Child Support Guidelines
Pennsylvania	Income Shares	Pa. R. Civ. Pro. 1910.16-1 to -5
Rhode Island	Income Shares	R.I. C.S.G. Administrative Order
South Carolina	Income Shares	Southern Carolina Soc. Serv. Reg. 114-4710 to -4750
South Dakota	Income Shares	South Dakota Cod. Laws §§ 25-7-6.1 et seq.
Tennessee	Income Shares	Tennessee Child Support Guidelines
Texas	Percentage of Income	Tex. Fam. Code §§ 154.001 et seq.
Utah	Income Shares	Utah Code §§ 78B-12 et seq.
Vermont	Income Shares	Vt. Stat. title 15, §§ 653-657
Virginia	Income Shares	Va. Code §§ 20-108.1, 20-108.2
Washington	Income Shares	Wash. Rev. Code §§ 26.19.001 et seq.
West Virginia	Income Shares	West Virginia Child Support Guidelines
Wisconsin	Percentage of Income	Wisconsin Child Support Guidelines
Wyoming	Income Shares	Wyoming Child Support Guidelines

Source: LSO Research staff summary of information provided by the National Conference of State Legislatures.

If you need anything further, please contact LSO Research at 777-7881.