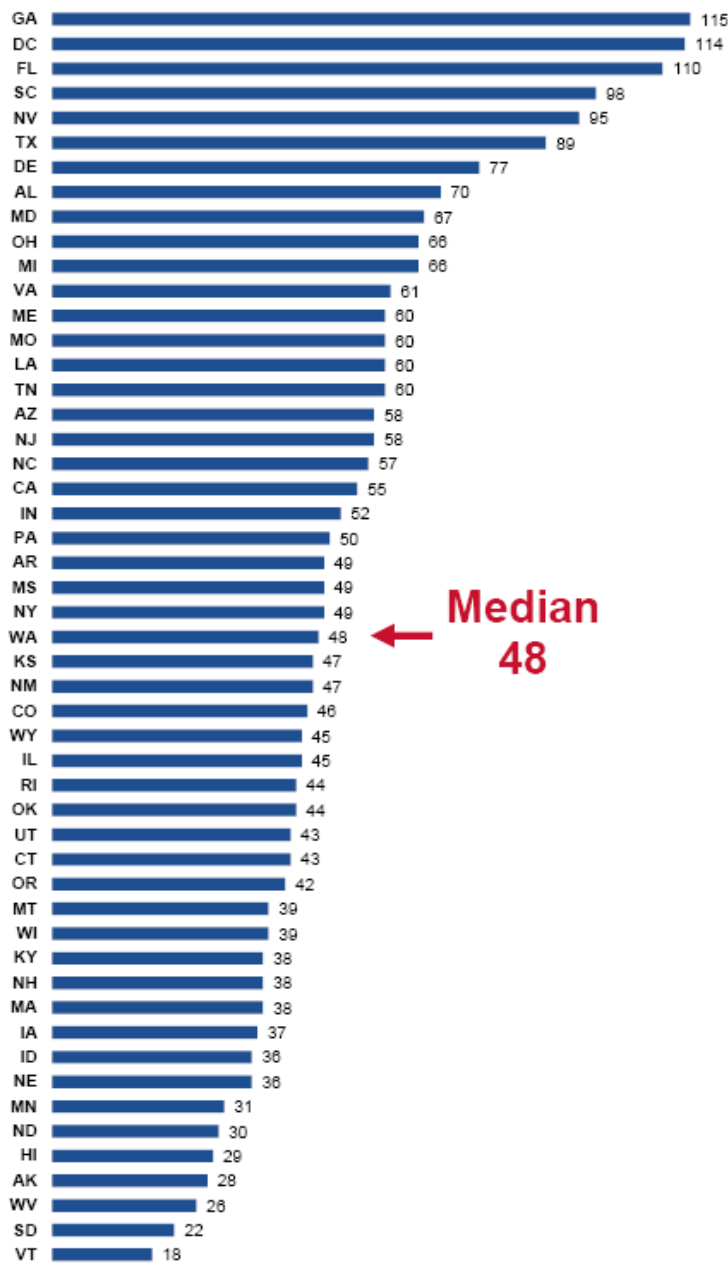




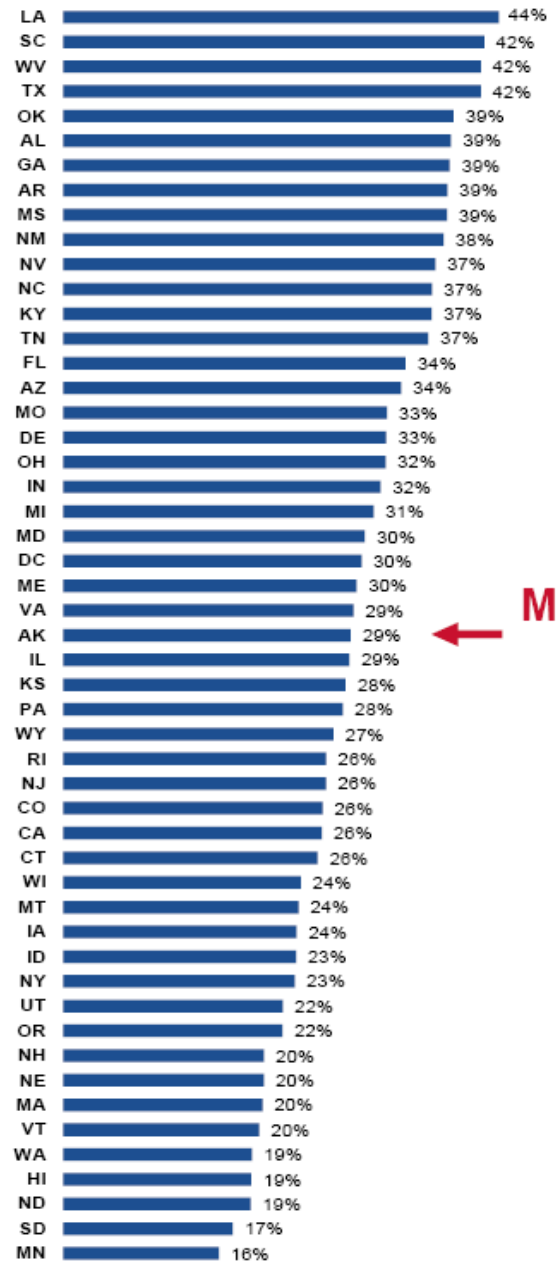
In 2019, [68 million Americans](#) had one or more debts in collection on their credit reports. A debt in collection can wreak havoc on consumers, subjecting them to harassing debt collection calls, negative credit reporting, and potential lawsuits. This chart ranks the 50 states and Washington, D.C. based on rate of debt collection complaints and share of the population with debt in collection. It provides a snapshot before the onset of the 2020 economic recession.

### Debt Collection Complaints Per 100,000 People\* (50 States and D.C.)



**Median 48**

### Share of Population with Debt in Collections\*\* (50 States and D.C.)



**Median 29%**

\* 2019 data compiled by FTC and produced to NCLC in March 2020 via FOIA request. Population data based on 2019 [population estimates](#) from the Census Bureau, July 2019

\*\* Data based on 2018 credit bureau records. Urban Institute, 2019.