



A CONSERVATIVEMOVE FAMILY GUIDE

# Finding Your Family's Conservative Home State

A practical 2026 guide to the best states for families relocating to align where they live with what they value.

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**CONSERVATIVEMOVE**

# Why Families Are Making the Move

More families than ever are choosing to live somewhere that reflects their values — lower taxes, a lower cost of living, safer communities, and more freedom for how they raise their kids.

The numbers back it up. In 2026, states like Florida, Texas, the Carolinas, Tennessee, and Idaho continue to lead the nation in people moving *in*, while high-tax states keep losing residents. Florida draws the highest share of inbound moving demand in the country, and Idaho hit its strongest in-to-out move ratio since 2020.

But a move like this is a big decision — usually two transactions at once: selling your current home and buying in a new state, often sight-unseen. This guide breaks down six of the most popular conservative-friendly destinations so you can start with clear eyes. At the end, we'll show you how ConservativeMove makes the whole thing simple.

## Six States at a Glance

Tax and cost figures below are 2026 estimates from the Tax Foundation and cost-of-living indexes (national average = 100). Property tax is the typical effective rate on owner-occupied homes; rates vary by county.

| State          | State Income Tax              | Property Tax (eff.)  | Cost of Living     | Why Families Choose It                                            |
|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tennessee      | None                          | ~0.5% (low)          | ~10% below avg     | No income tax, low everyday costs, consistent top-5 inbound state |
| Florida        | None                          | ~0.7%                | Slightly above avg | No income or retirement tax; #1 in inbound moving demand          |
| Texas          | None                          | ~1.6% (high)         | ~Average           | No income tax, strong job market, leads U.S. in new residents     |
| South Carolina | 0% up to ~\$18K, then 5% flat | ~0.5% (among lowest) | ~7% below avg      | Recent tax reform, very low property tax, top-5 inbound           |
| Idaho          | 5.3% flat                     | ~0.5% (3rd lowest)   | ~Average           | #1 in-to-out move ratio in 2026; low property tax                 |
| Wyoming        | None                          | ~0.6%                | ~Average           | Lowest total tax burden in the nation; wide open and free         |

Figures are directional and for planning only — confirm current rates and your specific county before making decisions.

## A Closer Look

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### NO INCOME TAX • LOW COST

#### Tennessee

**Income tax:** None | **Property tax:** ~0.5% | **Cost of living:** ~10% below average

Tennessee is a favorite for families who want their paycheck to go further. No state income tax, some of the lowest everyday costs in the Southeast, and a strong sense of community. From Nashville's energy to the quiet of the Smokies, there's a fit for almost everyone.

### NO INCOME TAX • #1 INBOUND DEMAND

#### Florida

**Income tax:** None | **Property tax:** ~0.7% | **Cost of living:** slightly above average

Florida pairs no income tax (including on retirement income) with year-round sunshine and a deep bench of family-friendly communities. Housing in the hottest metros runs higher, but the lifestyle and tax savings keep it the country's top relocation magnet.

### NO INCOME TAX • JOB ENGINE

#### Texas

**Income tax:** None | **Property tax:** ~1.6% | **Cost of living:** around average

Texas leads the nation in new residents for a reason: no income tax, a booming job market, and room to grow. Property taxes run higher here, so the right county and homestead exemptions matter — exactly the kind of thing a local agent helps you navigate.

### TAX REFORM • LOW PROPERTY TAX

#### South Carolina

**Income tax:** 0% up to ~\$18K, then 5% flat | **Property tax:** ~0.5% | **Cost of living:** ~7% below average

South Carolina recently simplified and cut its income tax, and it carries some of the lowest property taxes in the country. Add mild winters, the coast, and welcoming small towns, and it's no surprise the state stays in the top tier for inbound moves.

#### #1 MOVE RATIO 2026

### Idaho

**Income tax:** 5.3% flat | **Property tax:** ~0.5% (3rd lowest) | **Cost of living:** around average

Idaho is having a moment — the strongest in-to-out move ratio of any state in early 2026. Families come for the outdoors, the safety, the values, and property taxes among the lowest in the nation. Boise and its suburbs lead the growth.

#### LOWEST TOTAL TAX BURDEN

### Wyoming

**Income tax:** None | **Property tax:** ~0.6% | **Cost of living:** around average

Wyoming quietly carries the lowest total tax burden in the country — no income tax, low property and sales taxes. For families who value wide-open space, low taxes, and a fiercely independent culture, few places compare.

# How to Choose the Right State

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Taxes are the headline, but the right move balances several things. Use this quick checklist as you compare:

- **Total tax picture.** Look past income tax to property and sales tax combined — a "no income tax" state with high property tax can cost more overall.
- **Cost of living & housing.** What will a comparable home actually cost, and how far does your budget stretch day to day?
- **Community & values.** Schools, faith communities, safety, and local culture — the things that make a place feel like home.
- **Work & income.** Job market or remote-work fit, and whether your industry is growing there.
- **Distance & logistics.** Proximity to family, climate, and the practical reality of moving across the country.

The hardest part isn't picking a state — it's executing two transactions at once, in two markets, with people you can trust on both ends. That's where we come in.

## Ready to Make Your Move?

ConservativeMove connects you with vetted, values-aligned real estate agents who help you sell your current home and buy in the conservative state that fits your family — start to finish, at no cost to you.

[Get Your Free Agent Match →](#)

conservativemove.com • We'll match you and stay with you from listing to closing.

Sources: Tax Foundation (2026 state tax data), Kiplinger no-income-tax cost-of-living rankings, and 2026 migration reports (moveBuddha, Visual Capitalist). Figures are estimates for planning purposes and change over time; verify current rates for your situation.