

# Infants in Out of Home Care

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Policy research that benefits children, families, and their communities

# **Infants differ from older children in out of home care...**

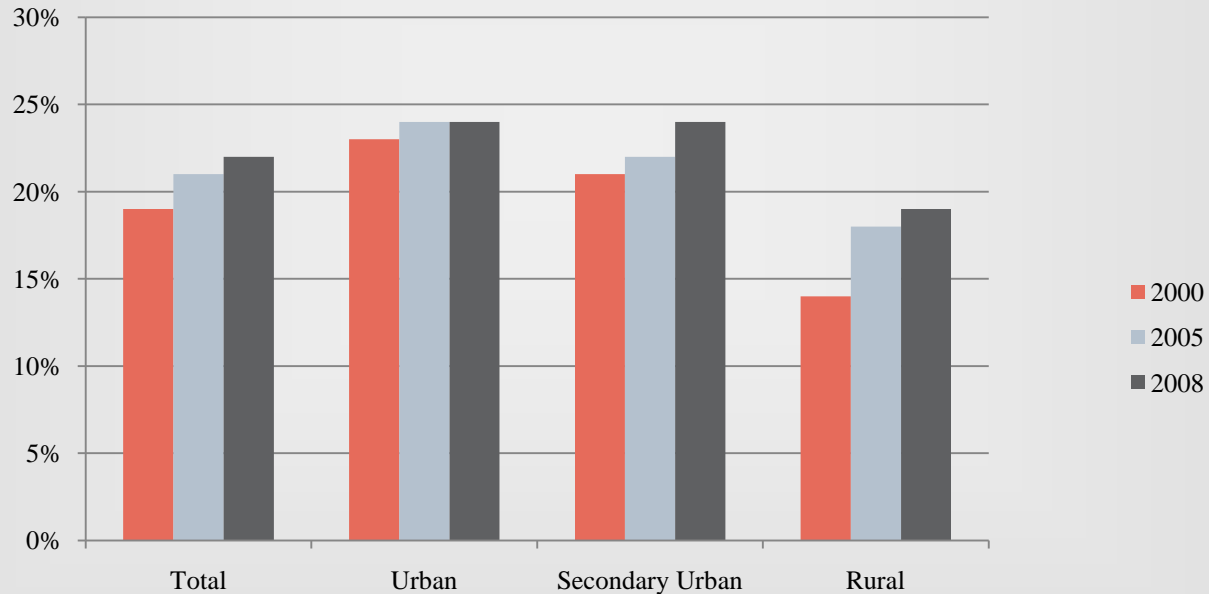
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- **Incidence**
- **Duration**
- **Placement Experience**
- **Child Characteristics**
- **Birth Family Characteristics**
- **Context**

# Incidence\*

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## Percentage of First Time Admissions to Care that are Infants by Location and Year

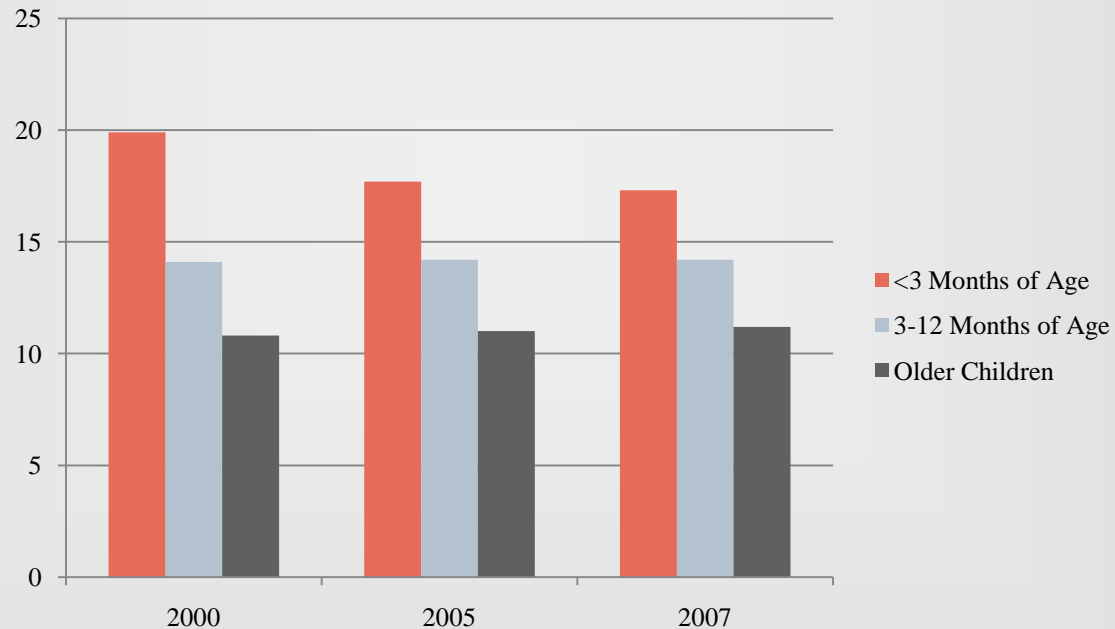


\*Data from The Multistate Foster Care Data Archives

# Duration\*

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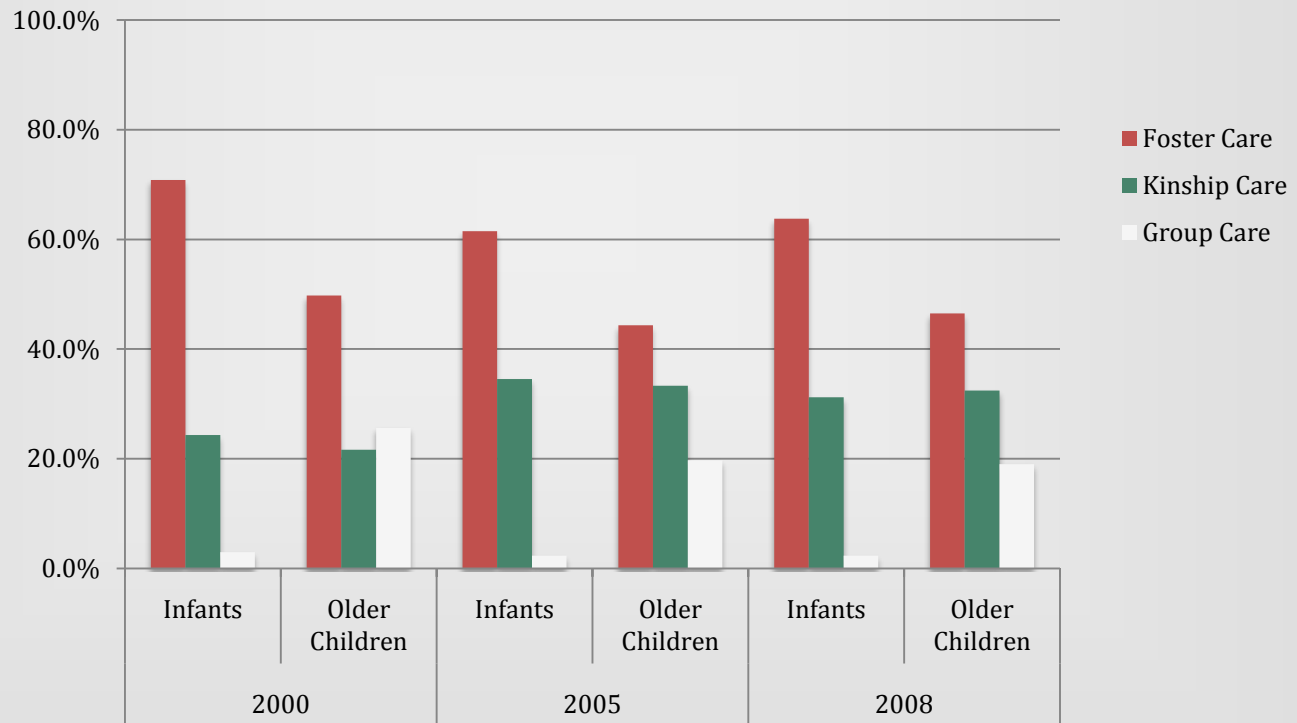
## Median Length of Time in Care in Months



\*Data from The Multistate Foster Care Data Archives

# Placement Experience\*

## Percentage of Infants Spending the Majority of their Time in Care in Each Placement Setting by Age and Year



\*Data from The Multistate Foster Care Data Archives

## Characteristics of the infants\*

		Infants		Children	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	White	129	30%	410	48%
	Black	190	39%	396	33%
	Hispanic	81	21%	152	13%
	Other/Missing	39	10%	72	6%
<b>Child Health Status</b>	Excellent	153	39%	347	34%
	Very Good	116	22%	355	39%
	Good	99	22%	241	18%
	Fair/Poor	69	19%	87	10%
<b>Child Health Ins.</b>	Private, self-pay, other	25	5%	130	21%
	Medicaid and State Programs	412	95%	900	79%
<b>Child Abuse Type</b>	Neglect – didn't provide	213	46%	259	21%
	Neglect – no supervision, abandon	68	16%	246	28%
	Emotional, Sexual, Moral Maltreatment	16	5%	209	16%
	Physical maltreatment	67	11%	182	20%
<b>Gender</b>	Male	216	47%	485	47%
	Female	221	53%	545	53%
<b>Chronic Health Condition</b>	Yes	119	28%	180	14%
	No	318	72%	850	86%

\*Data from NSCAW

## Characteristics of the birth families\*

		Infants		Children	
		Number	Percent*	Number	Percent
<b>Prior Involvement with Child Welfare</b>	Yes	262	65%	705	66%
	No	135	27%	233	23%
<b>Caregiver Drug / Alcohol Abuse</b>	Yes	269	61%	469	41%
	No	119	29%	427	45%
<b>Prior/Active Domestic Violence</b>	Yes	172	46%	409	37%
	No	197	40%	499	50%
<b>Difficulty Paying Necessities</b>	Yes	226	57%	432	39%
	No	146	31%	467	50%
<b>Caregiver Recent Arrests</b>	Yes	165	43%	280	24%
	No	193	44%	565	52%
<b>Child with Special Needs/ Behavior Problem</b>	Yes	105	25%	404	33%
	No	286	68%	523	56%
<b>Caregiver Serious Mental Health Problem</b>	Yes	181	42%	377	28%
	No	182	44%	482	55%

\*Data from NSCAW

## Characteristics of the birth families (cont.)\*

		Infants		Children	
		Number	Percent*	Number	Percent
<b>Caregiver Intelligent/Cognitive Impairment</b>	Yes	71	15%	131	9%
	No	300	71%	745	75%
<b>Caregiver Unrealistic Expectation of Child</b>	Yes	139	29%	492	38%
	No	229	57%	382	46%
<b>Caregiver Poor Parenting Skill</b>	Yes	307	70%	754	69%
	No	76	18%	165	19%
<b>Caregiver Excessive Discipline of Child</b>	Yes	44	13%	318	26%
	No	336	75%	575	60%
<b>Caregiver High Stress in Family</b>	Yes	322	79%	694	62%
	No	59	10%	224	26%
<b>Low Social Support</b>	Yes	220	46%	489	46%
	No	171	45%	420	42%
<b>Caregiver History of Child Abuse/Neglect</b>	Yes	191	48%	353	28%
	No	195	42%	536	56%

\*Data from NSCAW

## **Their context\***

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		Infants		Children	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Neighborhood Quality</b>	No Serious Problem	399	90%	931	88%
	Serious Problem	38	10%	99	12%
<b>Urbanicity of PSU</b>	Non-urban	49	16%	750	16%
	Urban	388	84%	880	84%
<b>Child Service Setting</b>	Foster Home	260	53%	476	36%
	Kin Care Setting	163	45%	409	45%
	Group Home/ Res Program	7	1%	97	10%
	Other OOHC Arrangement	7	1%	48	9%

\*Data from NSCAW