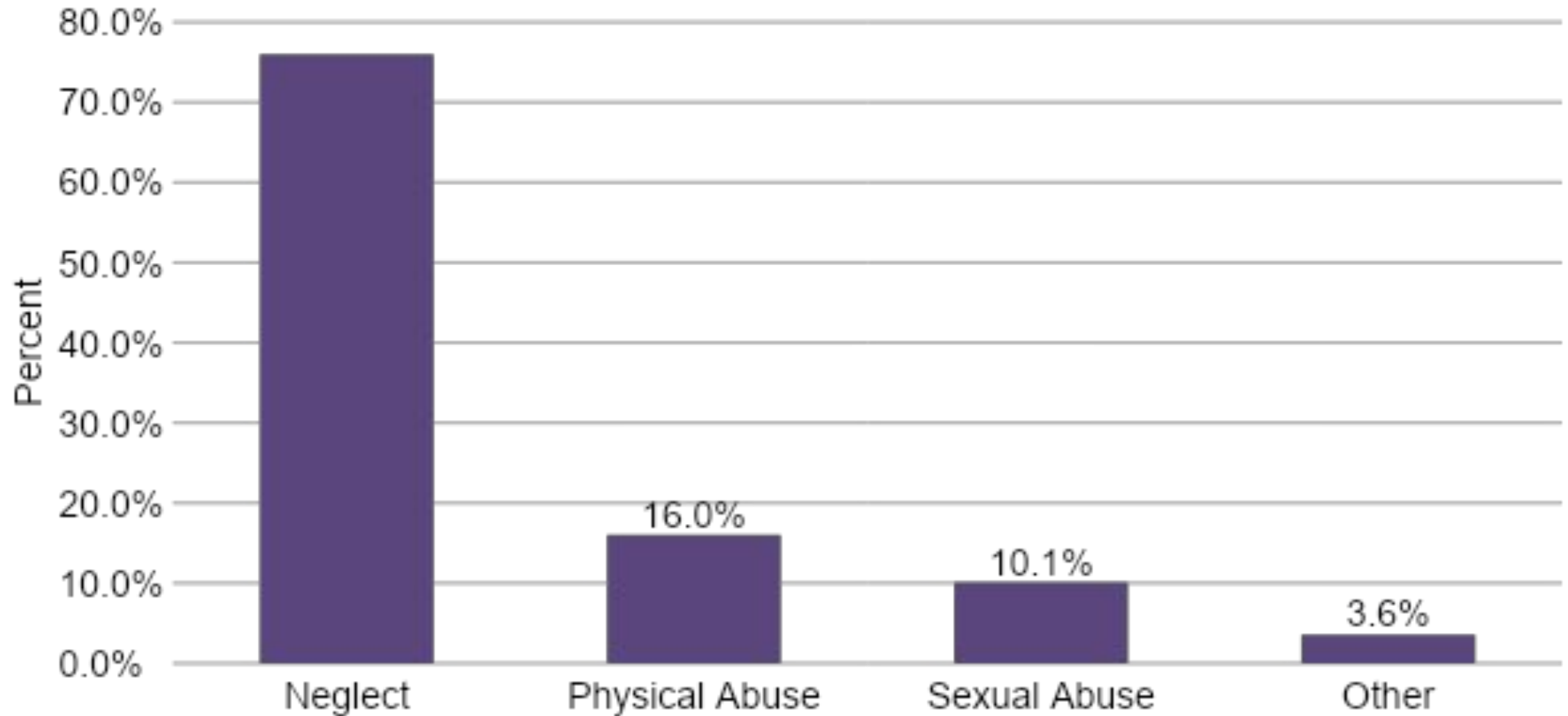


# **Discovery Cycle, Part 1**

## **Overloaded Families**

Neglect persists as a *Wicked Problem*.

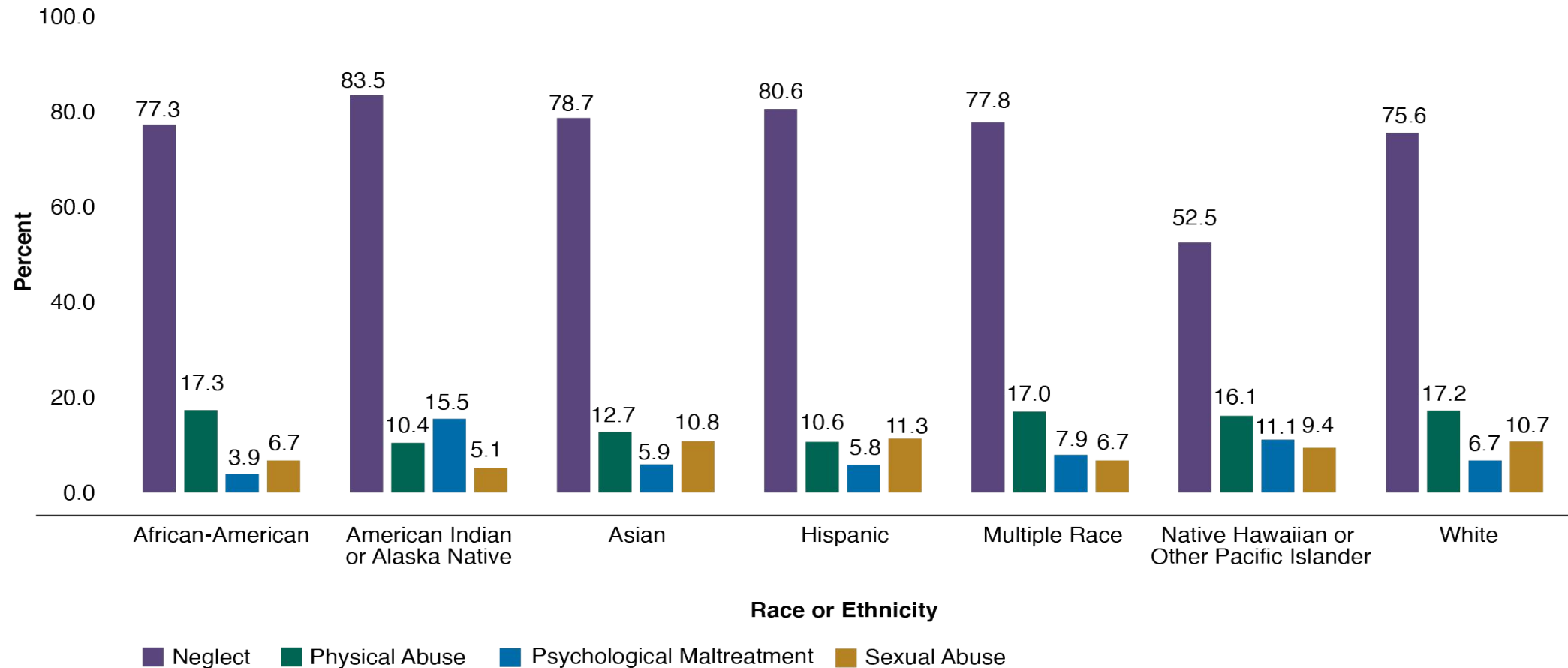
## Maltreatment Types National Data for 2021



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2023). *Child Maltreatment 2021*. Available from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/data-research/child-maltreatment>. Data source: NCANDS FFY21.

\*In this analysis, a victim who has more than one type of maltreatment is counted once per type; Therefore, the percentages total more than 100%.

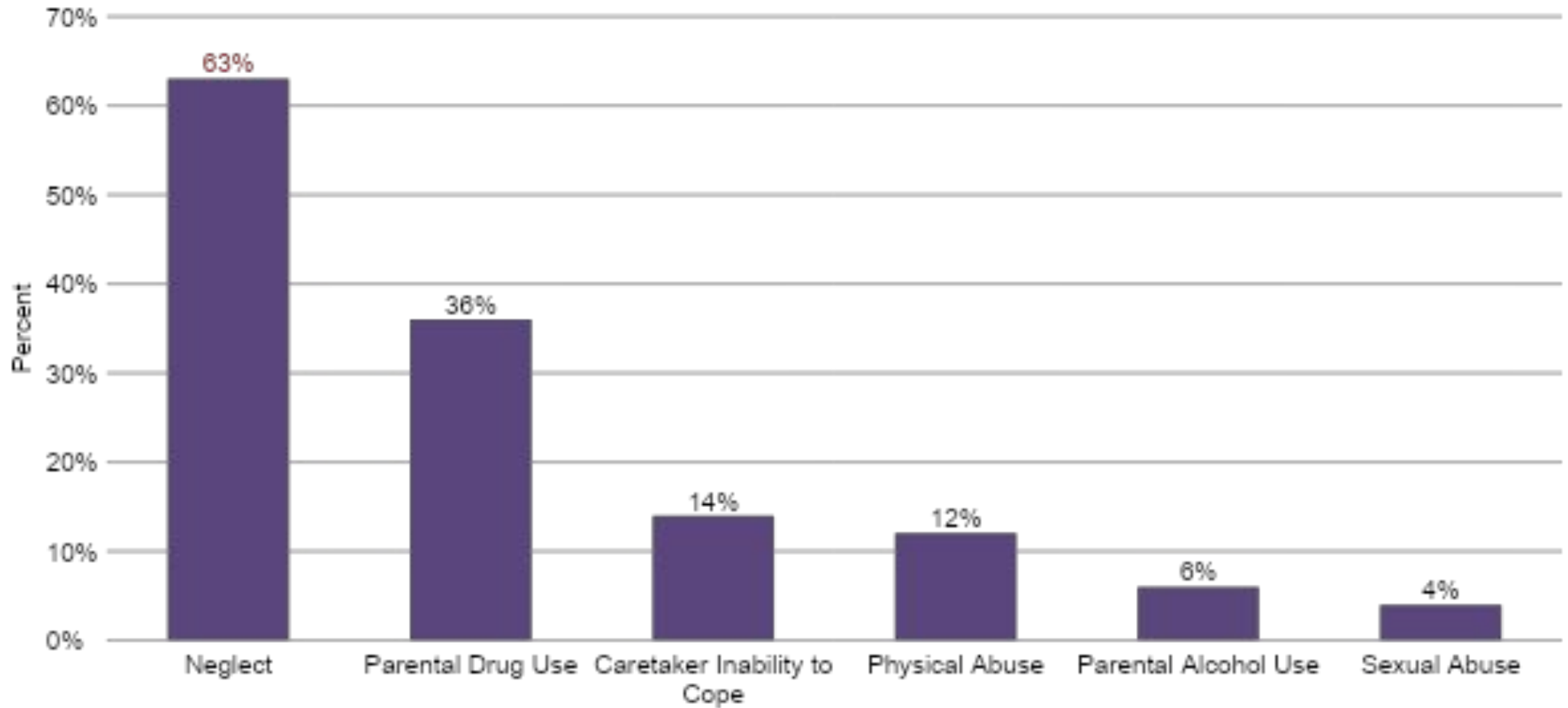
## Selected Maltreatment Types of Victims by Known Race or Ethnicity, 2021



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2023). *Child Maltreatment 2021*. Available from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/data-research/child-maltreatment>. Data source: NCANDS FFY21.

\*In this analysis, a victim who has more than one type of maltreatment is counted once per type; Therefore, the percentages total more than 100%.

## Select Circumstances Associated with Child's Removal Children Entering Foster Care During FY 2021

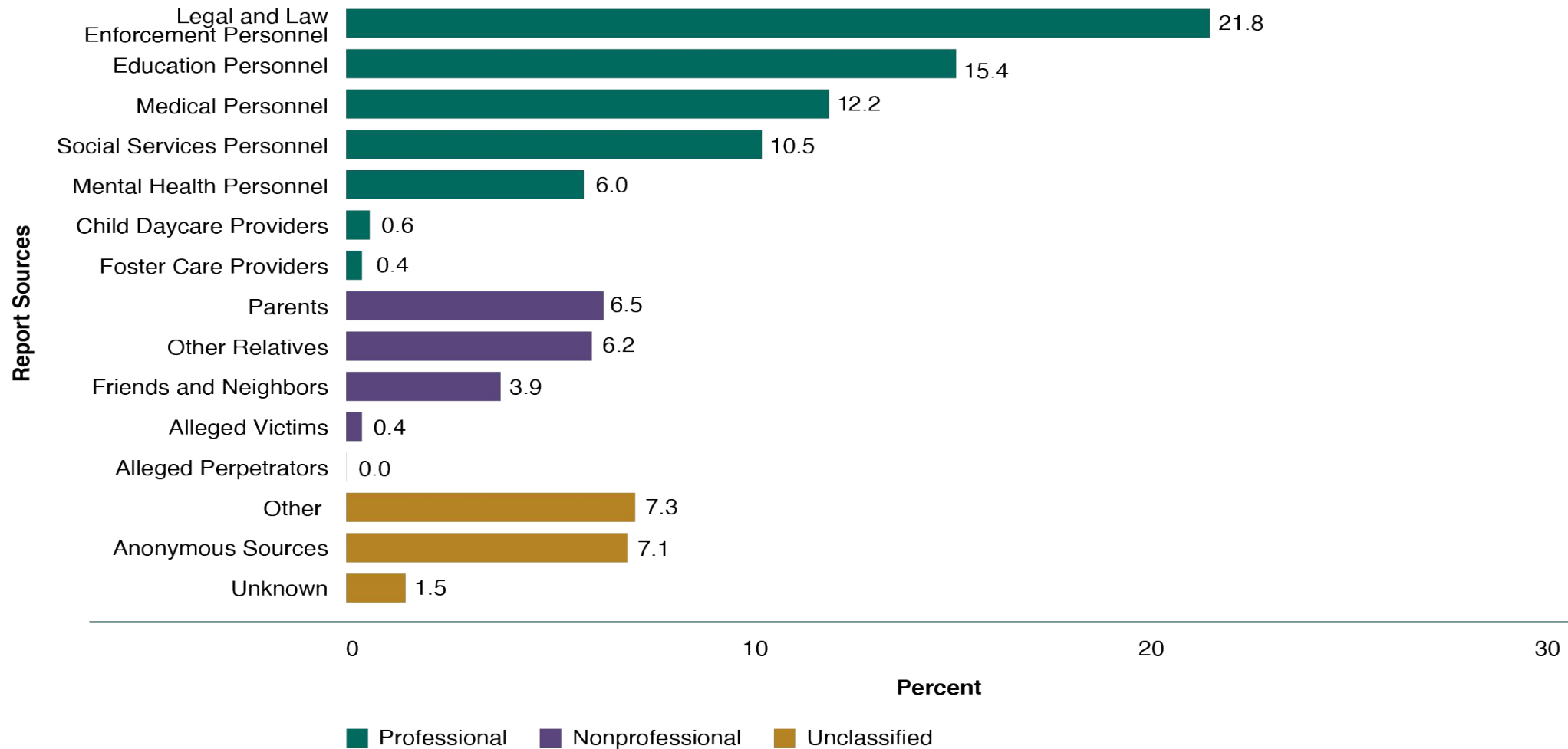


U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/afcars-report-29.pdf>. Data source: AFCARS Preliminary FY 2021 estimates, N=206,812.

\*In this analysis, circumstances for removal are not mutually exclusive; Therefore, the percentages total more than 100%.

## Report Sources, 2021

### All Types of Child Maltreatment

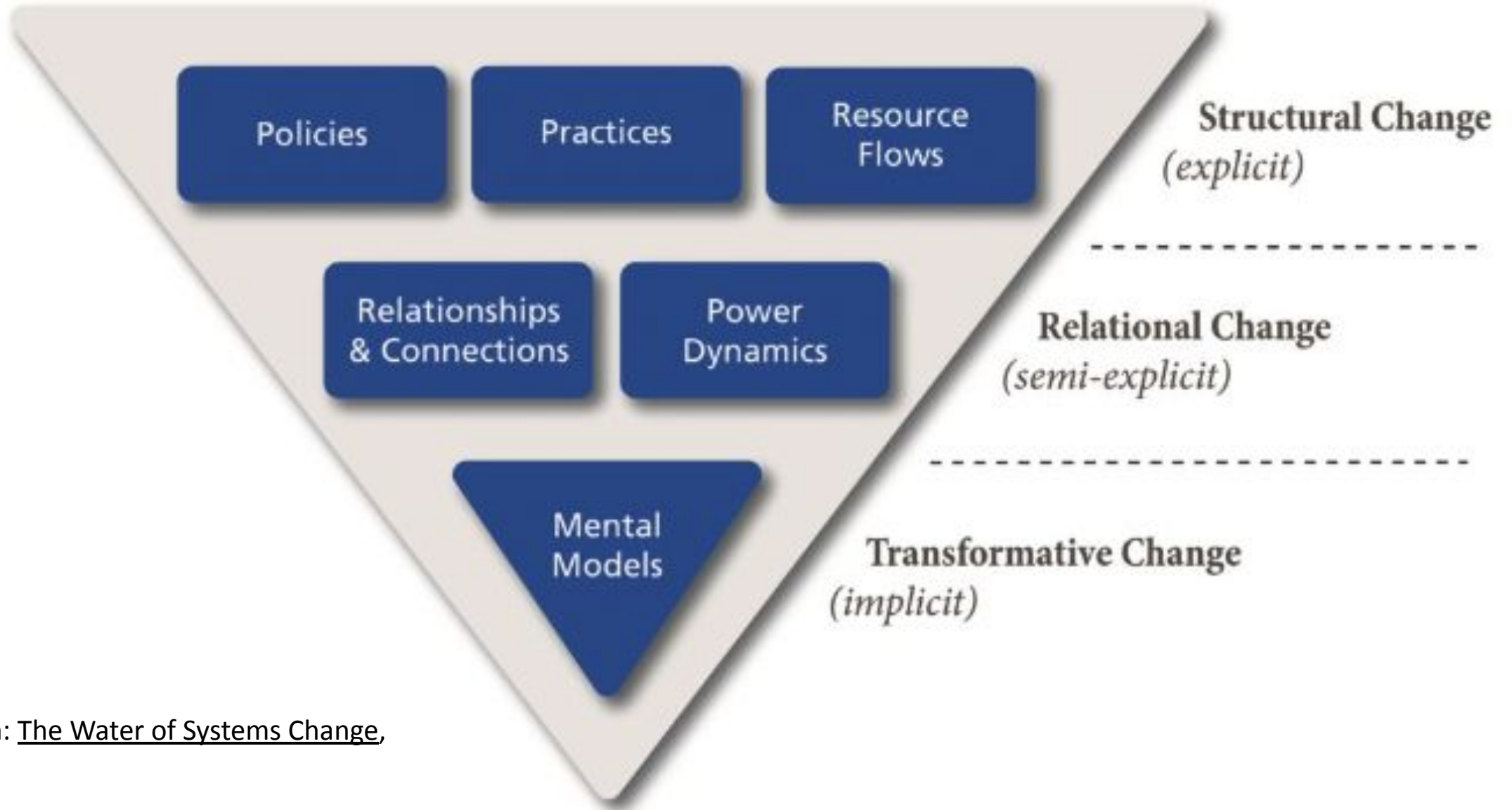


*Data are from the Child File. Based on data from 48 states. States are excluded from this analysis if more than 15.0 percent had an unknown report source or if of the known sources, more than 20.0 percent are reported as Other. Does not equal 100.0 percent due to rounding. Supporting data not shown.*



Excerpt from: Systems Transformation Through Community Leadership, Chapin Hall

## Six Conditions of Systems Change

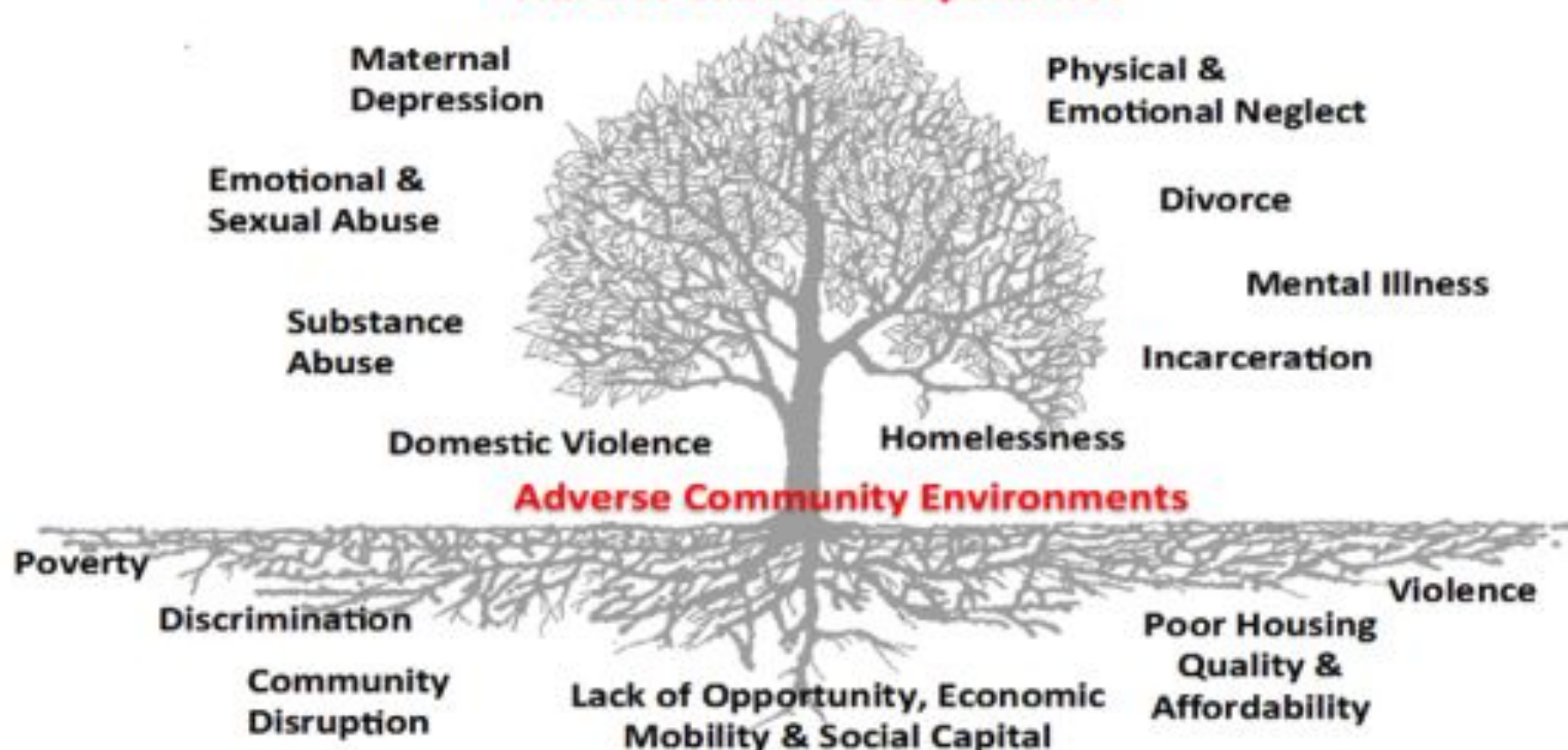


Excerpt from: [The Water of Systems Change](#),  
FSG



## The Pair of ACEs

### Adverse Childhood Experiences



Ellis, W., Dietz, W. (2017) A New Framework for Addressing Adverse Childhood and Community Experiences: The Building Community Resilience (BCR) Model. *Academic Pediatrics*. 17 (2017) pp. S86-S93. DOI information: 10.1016/j.acap.2016.12.011

**Discovery Cycle, Part 2**  
**Financial Strain Contributes to**  
**Family Overload**

# Context & Economic Factors Matter

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- Economic factors are associated with neglect outcomes **above** individual-level parenting behaviors & capacities
- Material hardship is associated with CPS involvement **beyond** caregiver psychological distress & parenting factors
- The association of individual factors (such as caregiver substance abuse or mental health) with child maltreatment is **reduced after accounting for poverty** experienced by families

□ *“Contextual factors like poverty are essential to understanding a family’s needs when addressing child maltreatment.”*

(Slack, 2011)

(Yang, 2015)

(Escaravage, 2014)

# The Intersection of Family Economic Insecurity & Child Welfare Involvement

Most reliable **economic predictors** of child welfare involvement

- Income Loss** 
- Cumulative Material Hardship** 
- Housing Hardship** 

Strongest predictors of investigated neglect reports

- Food pantry use** 
- Cutting meals** 
- Short duration of residence** 
- Difficulty paying rent** 
- Utility shutoffs** 
- Inability to receive medical care for sick family member** 
- Public benefit receipt** 


(Conrad-Hiebner, 2020 systematic review)


(Slack, 2011 cross-study comparison)


# Economic Insecurity Is Widespread, But Families Move In and Out of Poverty

(Drake, 2014)  
(Cellini, 2008)  
(Mistry, 2002)  
(Han, 2021)


## Economic insecurity is widespread


 **Almost 50% of American families** with young children are at risk of poverty before their child enters kindergarten

 **More than 50% of all Americans** will spend a year in poverty (*by age 65*)

 **84% of all Black Americans** will spend a year in poverty (*by age 65*)

## Families move in and out of poverty over time

 **Almost 50%** of those who become poor are out of poverty a year later

 **But more than 50% of those who previously left poverty will return to poverty within 5 years**

THE **VOLATILITY AND TURBULENCE** CREATED BY ENTERING & LEAVING POVERTY  
MAY CREATE SERIOUS STRESS FOR PARENTS AND IMPACT PARENTING

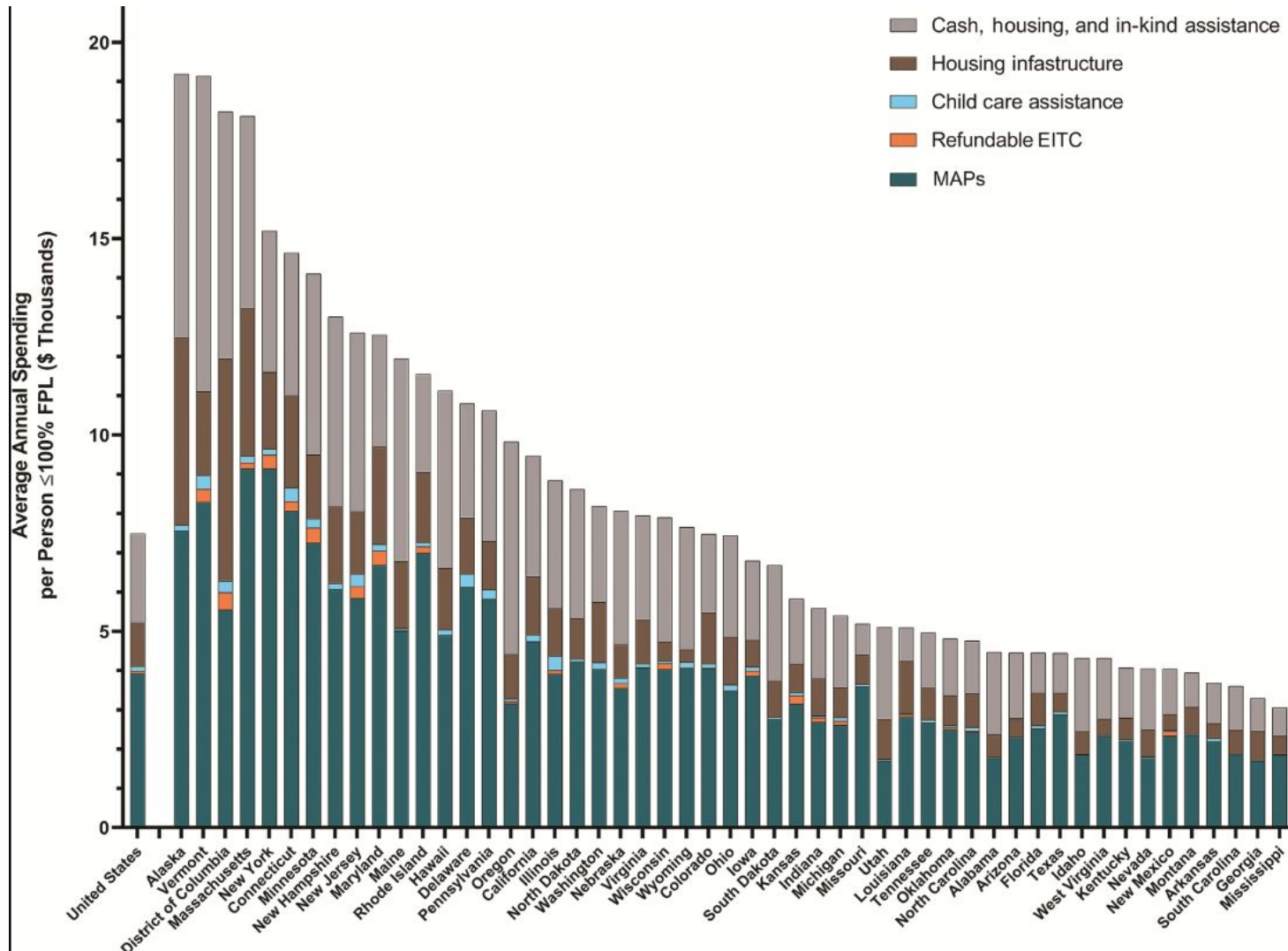
# What Current & Historic Systemic Inequities Put Families of Color at Disproportionate Risk of Economic Hardship?

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## Some examples include:

- Exclusion from homeownership via red-lining
- Denial of access to mortgages, banking & financial services
- Lending discrimination
- Exclusionary zoning policies
- Discriminatory federal housing policy
- Residential segregation
- Racially restrictive covenants & laws
- Denial of access to quality housing
- Discrimination in labor markets & commerce
- Inequitable hiring practices
- Denial of access to quality education
- Lack of access to health care
- Discriminatory law enforcement & criminal legal system policies
- Political disenfranchisement

# State Policy Option: Level & Mix of State Spending on Public Benefits Per Person Living in Poverty



States' total annualized spending on public benefit programs per person living in poverty  
(FFY 2010 – 2017)



# **Increased** Access to Economic & Concrete Supports Is Associated with Decreased Risk for Child Welfare Involvement



## Macroeconomic Supports

- Tax credits (EITC & CTC)
- Employment
  - Minimum wage
  - Paid family leave
  - Unemployment benefits



## Concrete Supports

- Healthcare (Medicaid)
- Home visiting with ECS
- Child care & pre-K
- Housing



## Public Benefits

- Overall state spending on benefits
- TANF
- SNAP & WIC



## Child Welfare Interventions with ECS

- Differential response
- Family preservation



# *Decreased* Access to Economic & Concrete Supports Is Associated with Increased Child Welfare Involvement



Reduced  
TANF  
benefits



Reduced income  
& negative  
earnings shocks



Lack of  
child care



Reduced  
employment



Lack of  
stable  
housing



Increased  
gas prices



**Increased risk  
for child welfare  
involvement**

(Ginther, 2017) (Ginther, 2022) (Paxson, 2003) (Yang, 2016) (Cash, 2003)  
(Klevens, 2015) (Brown, 2020) (Berger, 2011) (Warren, 2015) (Cai, 2021)  
(Weiner, 2020) (McLaughlin, 2017) (Bullinger, 2021) (Berger, 2015)  
(Frioux, 2014) (Wood, 2012)

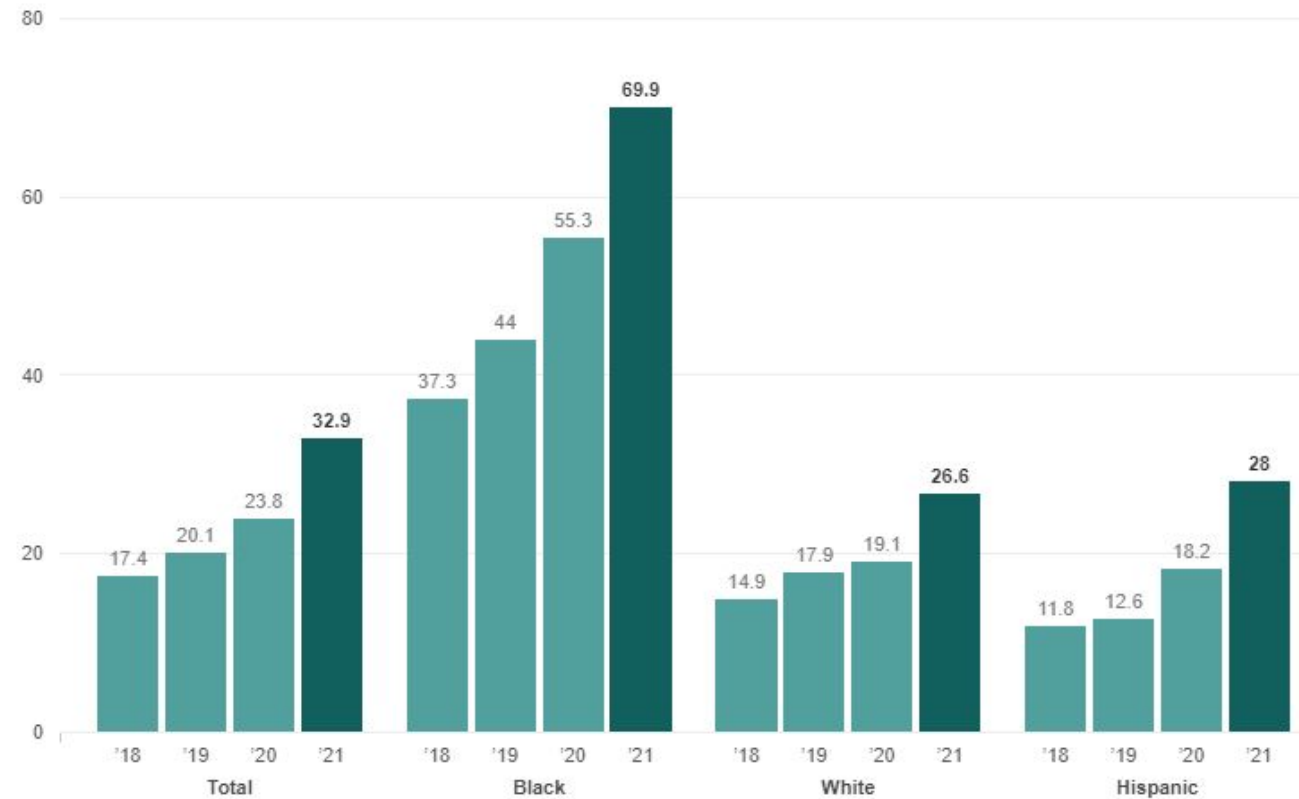
**Discovery Cycle, Part 3**  
**Postpartum Focus:**  
**Overloading Factors Intensified**

# CDC Data

- Maternal mortality rates **INCREASED 40%** in 2021 in the United States as the COVID-19 pandemic worsened a health crisis among pregnant women in the country, data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- The mortality rate for Black women in the United States was about 3x higher than white and Hispanic women.
- The CDC's latest compilation of data from state committees that review these deaths found that 84% of pregnancy-related deaths in the U.S. were **preventable**.

## U.S. maternal mortality rates rise between 2018 and 2021

Maternal deaths per 100,000 live births

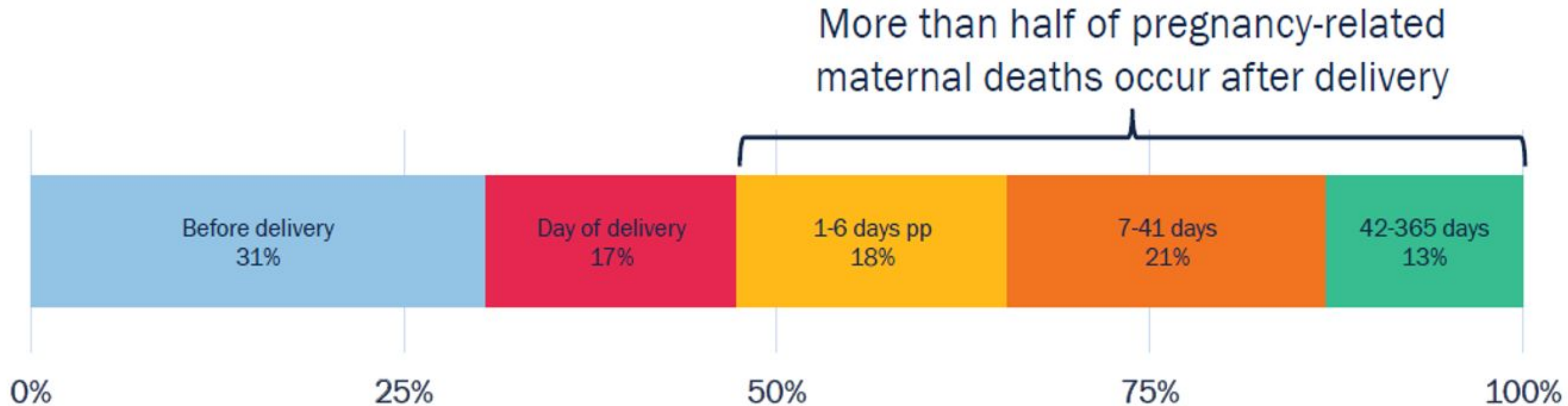


### Notes

The World Health Organization defines a maternal death as the death of a woman "from any cause related to or aggravated by pregnancy or its management (excluding accidental or incidental causes) during pregnancy and childbirth or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy."

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

# Maternal Mortality Timing

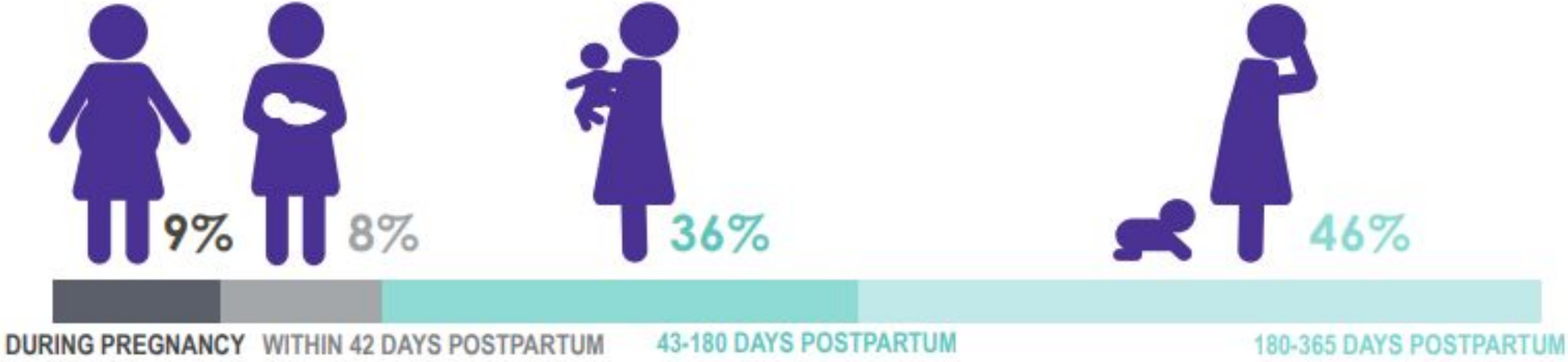


Petersen, Emily E. "Vital Signs: Pregnancy-Related Deaths, United States, 2011–2015, and Strategies for Prevention, 13 States, 2013–2017." MMWR. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 68 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6818e1>.  
White House Blueprint for Addressing the Maternal Health Crisis.

# Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance (2021)

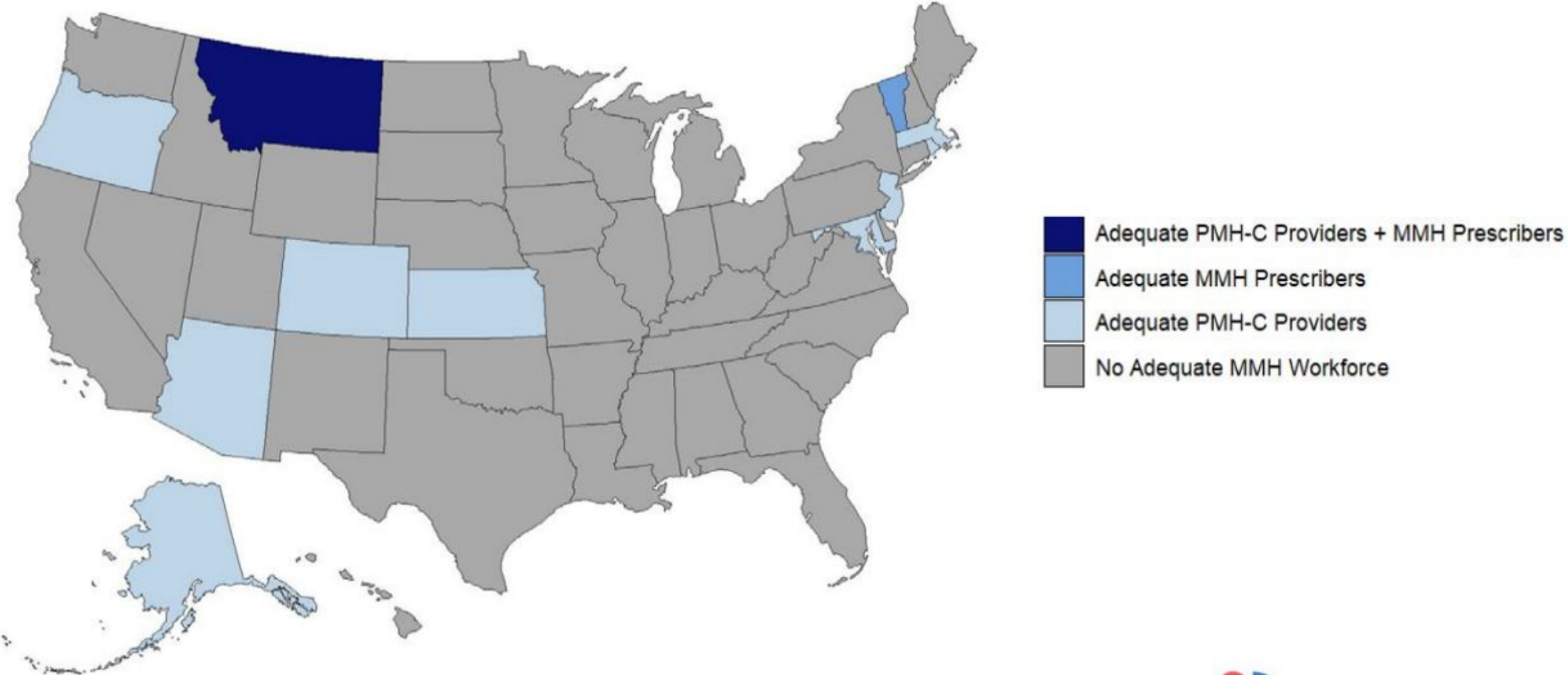
Top Risks: Personal or Family History of Mental Health Challenges, Interpersonal Violence, Substance Use Disorder

## STAGE WHEN MATERNAL SUICIDE OCCURS<sup>7</sup>



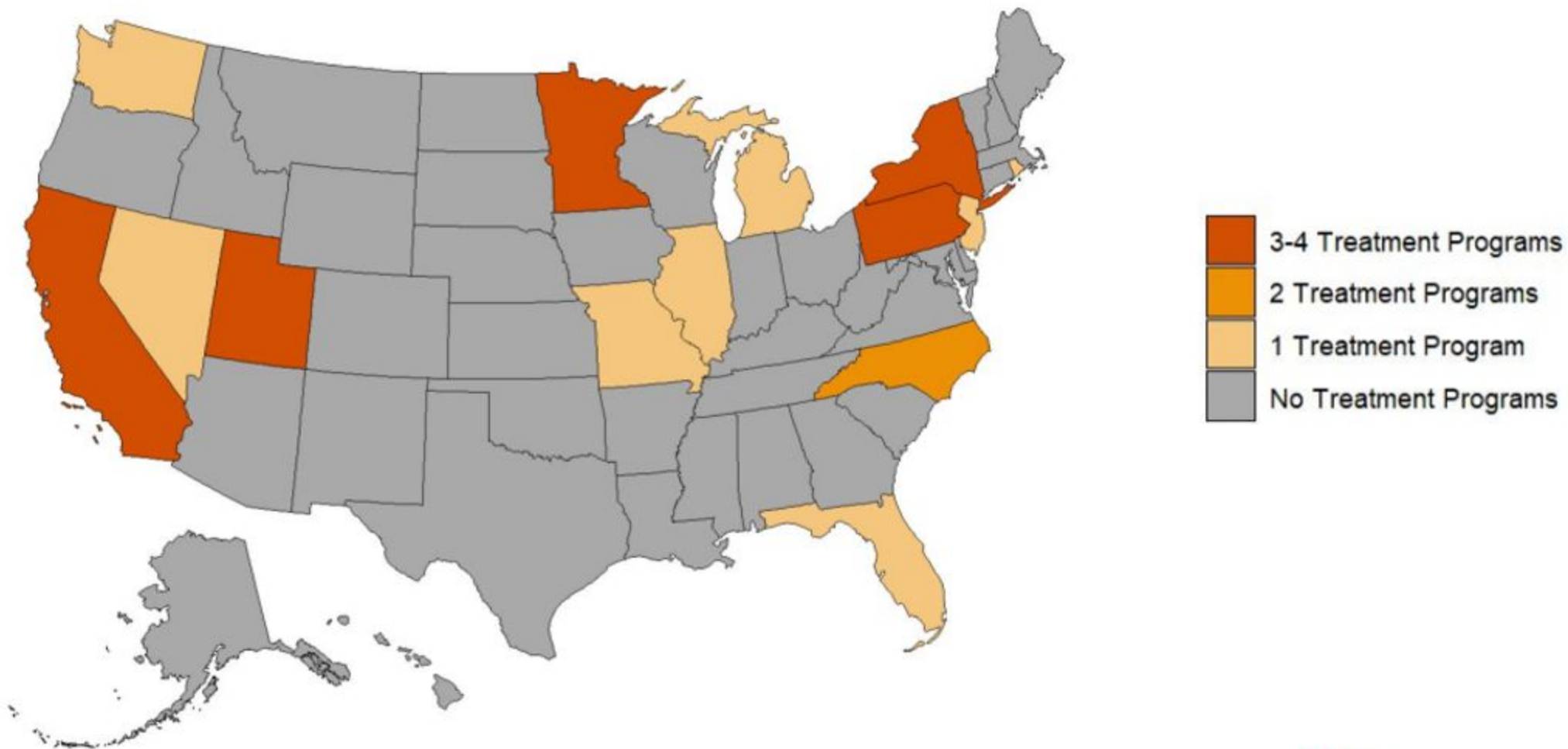
**THESE FINDINGS UNDERSCORE THE NEED FOR CONTINUED SCREENING FOR MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS THROUGHOUT PREGNANCY AND THE ENTIRE YEAR POSTPARTUM.**

# Only one state has an adequate MMH workforce.





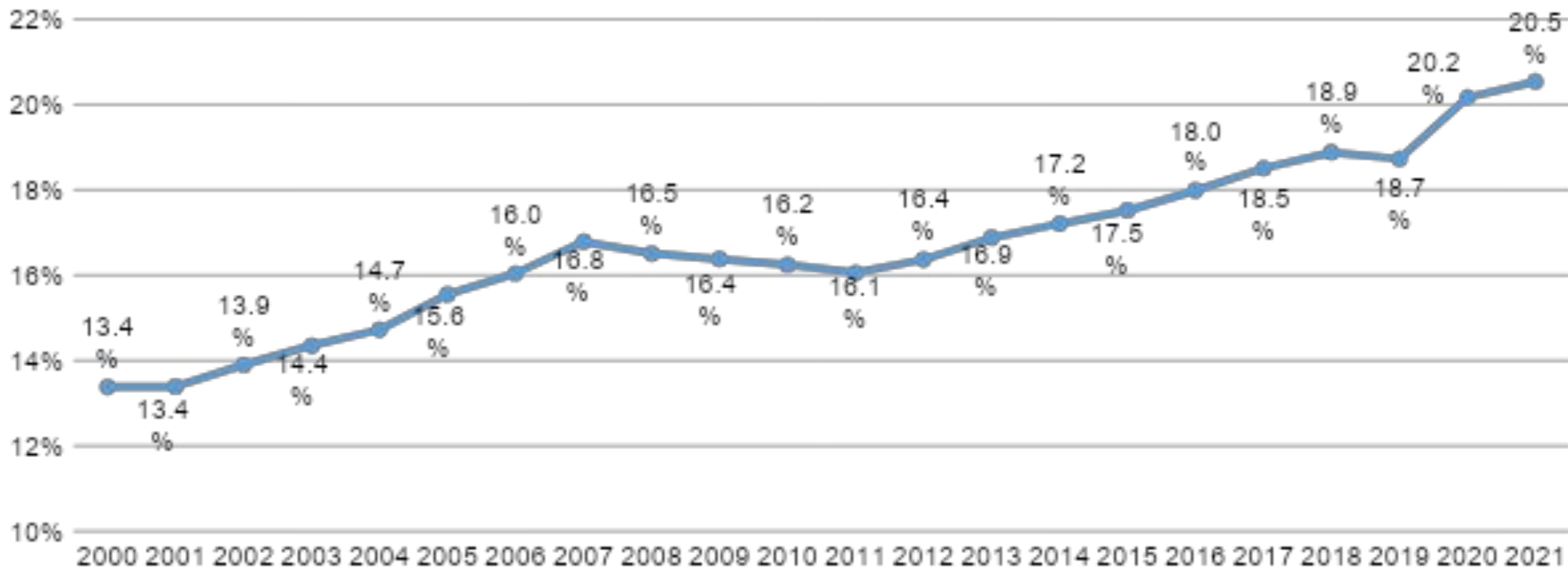
Only 14 states have **maternal mental health treatment programs**.







# Percent of Children who Entered Out of Home Care who were Under Age 1 in the United States, 2000 to 2021

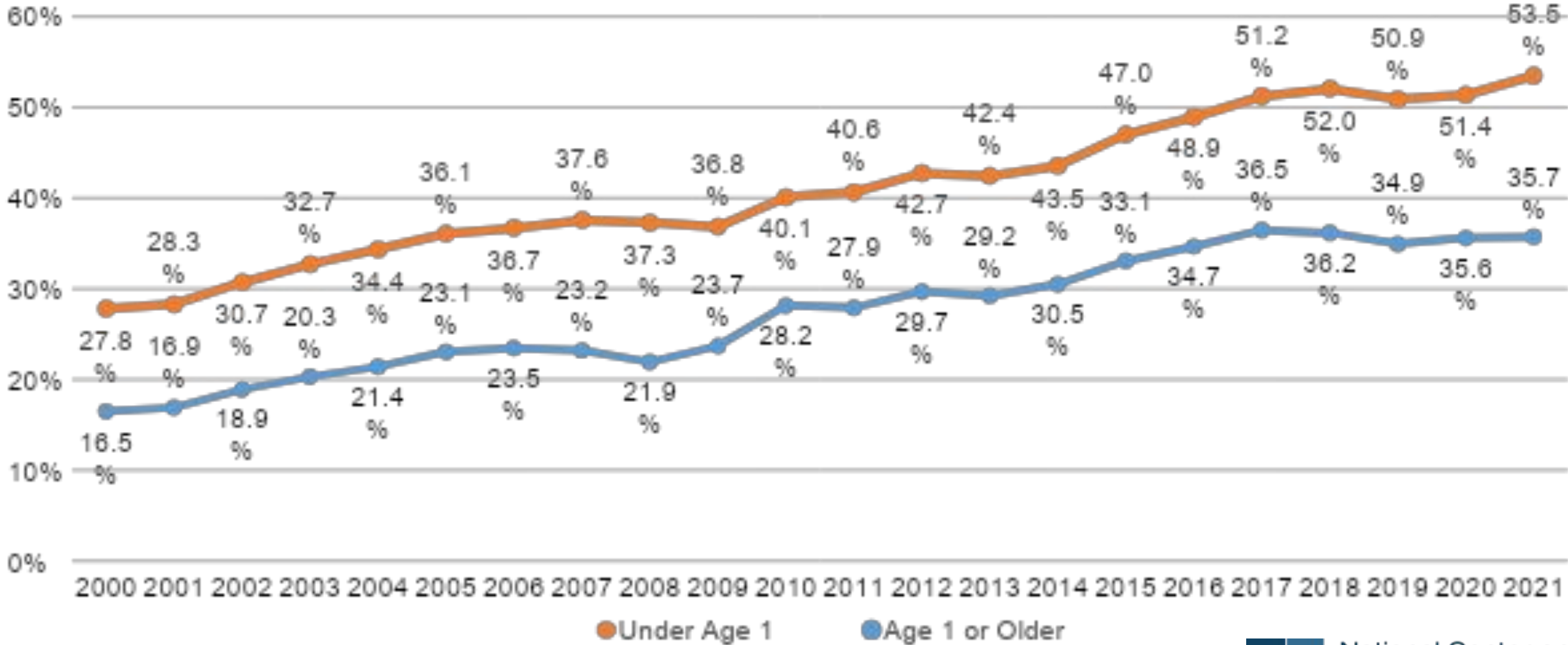


The percentage of children under age 1 who entered out-of-home care increased from 13.4% in 2000 to 20.5% in 2021.

*Note: Estimates based on children who entered out of home care during Fiscal Year*

*Source: AFCARS Data, 2000-2021*

# Incidence of Parental Alcohol or Drug Abuse as an Identified Condition of Removal in the United States, 2000 to 2021

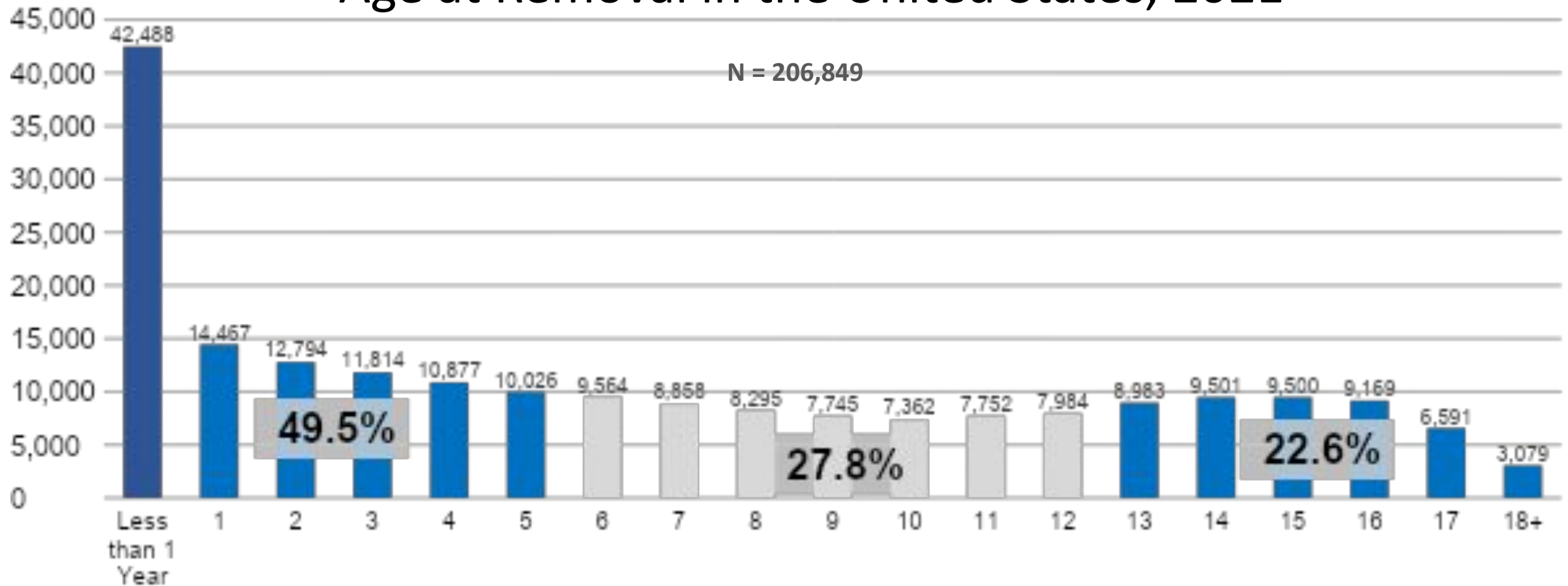


Note: Estimates based on children who entered out of home care during Fiscal Year

Source: AFCARS Data, 2000-2021



# Number of Children who Entered Out of Home Care, by Age at Removal in the United States, 2021



Children from birth to age 5 make up nearly half (49.5%, N=102,466) of the children placed in out-of-home care during Fiscal Year 2021. Children age 6 — 12 make up 27.8% (N=57,560) and children age 13 — 18+ make up 22.6% (N=46,823) of the children removed from their homes and placed in out-of-home care during the same time period.

*Note: Estimates based on children who entered out of home care during Fiscal Year*

*Source: AFCARS Data, 2021 v1*

