

Introduction to Self-Evaluation in Family to Family

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Results of Self-Evaluation

- Create a clear and unified vision of the agency's work that is grounded in an explicit set of values, outcomes, and practice principles, distinct from reporting requirements
- Provide a framework within which to communicate that vision to agency staff and to the community
- Evaluate performance relative to:
 - Achievement of specific outcomes for families, children, and youth
 - Conformity to values and principles that guide practice

Some Key Issues

- Reporting requirements imposed by CFSR, consent decrees, Family to Family, etc. vs. performance-based management that will drive work by the agency and provide a basis for assessing efforts by the agency and community to promote safety and permanency
- Support for local evaluation by state office

Self-Evaluation . . .

- Seeks to create a flow of information to support mid-course corrections and continuous improvements in *outcomes*

Evaluation is a process, not a report



- Assumes evaluation is most effective when it includes diverse perspectives

- Managers and staff of public agencies
- Residents
- Community-based organizations
- Funders and policymakers
- Evaluators

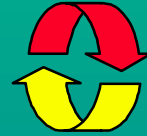


- Requires technical expertise to ensure defensibility and adaptability

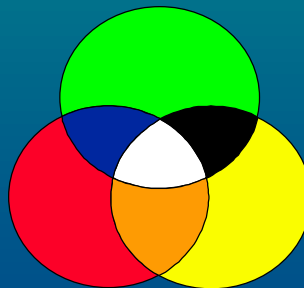


Staffing Requirements for Self-Evaluation

Agency Management



Program Staff



Data Manager



Analyst



Presenting Results Within a Framework That Facilitates *Evaluation* of Changes in Outcomes

- **Comparisons of localities**

Capitalize on sub-state variations in local policies and practices, emphasizing how they are related to differences in outcomes, to establish a context within which to interpret results for a given locality

Experiences of Children Entering Child Welfare Custody: 1993 - 1997

	Statewide					Level 3 Counties					Sample County				
	SFY93	SFY94	SFY95	SFY96	SFY97	SFY93	SFY94	SFY95	SFY96	SFY97	SFY93	SFY94	SFY95	SFY96	SFY97
Pattern of Initial Placements															
Own Home	6%	7%	5%	5%	5%	6%	6%	5%	6%	5%	9%	9%	4%	5%	7%
Relative	13%	14%	14%	14%	15%	15%	15%	15%	14%	16%	17%	10%	14%	18%	23%
Foster Home	41%	42%	43%	42%	42%	35%	39%	38%	41%	39%	36%	42%	36%	43%	39%
Shelter	6%	6%	4%	4%	3%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	17%	10%	16%	10%	5%
Other	34%	32%	34%	34%	35%	38%	35%	37%	36%	37%	21%	29%	31%	24%	26%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of children	4787	5264	5217	5135	5219	2051	2288	2204	2241	2207	165	162	131	182	166

Length of Time in Custody/Placement Authority															
Median Number of Days	543	531	486	434	NA	573	576	543	472	NA	613	723	650	435	NA
% remaining in custody/pa after 3 months	85%	86%	84%	84%	83%	88%	88%	87%	88%	88%	96%	98%	93%	95%	89%
% remaining in custody/pa after 6 months	78%	78%	76%	75%	NA	82%	82%	80%	78%	NA	91%	91%	90%	86%	NA
% remaining in custody/pa after 12 months	64%	63%	60%	57%	NA	67%	68%	65%	61%	NA	77%	77%	72%	65%	NA
% remaining in custody/pa after 18 months	50%	49%	46%	NA	NA	53%	52%	50%	NA	NA	63%	62%	63%	NA	NA
% remaining in custody/pa after 24 months	40%	39%	36%	NA	NA	42%	43%	39%	NA	NA	45%	51%	47%	NA	NA
% remaining in custody/pa after 36 months	27%	24%	NA	NA	NA	29%	25%	NA	NA	NA	30%	32%	NA	NA	NA
% in care when record checked on 3/24/98	14%	17%	23%	33%	53%	12%	17%	27%	36%	59%	8%	26%	40%	33%	58%

Length of Time in Licensed Care															
Median Number of Days	241	268	246	221	208	297	337	321	265	267	241	308	507	187	125
% in licensed care for 3 months	67%	70%	67%	66%	66%	72%	71%	72%	70%	71%	72%	76%	80%	62%	57%
% in licensed care for 6 months	56%	58%	56%	55%	53%	60%	62%	61%	58%	58%	60%	65%	69%	51%	41%
% in licensed care for 12 months	42%	45%	42%	41%	NA	46%	49%	47%	44%	NA	40%	47%	60%	32%	NA
% in licensed care for 18 months	34%	35%	32%	30%	NA	37%	38%	35%	32%	NA	30%	38%	49%	27%	NA
% in licensed care for 24 months	27%	28%	26%	NA	NA	29%	31%	29%	NA	NA	22%	31%	43%	NA	NA
% in licensed care for 36 months	18%	17%	NA	NA	NA	19%	17%	NA	NA	NA	17%	25%	NA	NA	NA
% in care when record checked on 3/24/98	10%	14%	20%	26%	39%	11%	15%	22%	28%	43%	5%	17%	33%	24%	28%

Disruptions in care															
% remaining in own home only	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%	1%	2%	2%	3%
% remaining with relative only	7%	8%	8%	8%	10%	9%	9%	10%	8%	10%	8%	6%	11%	9%	16%
% in other/non facility arrangements only	11%	9%	10%	11%	12%	11%	9%	9%	10%	12%	7%	1%	6%	7%	4%
% with only 1 licensed facility	37%	40%	40%	43%	46%	34%	37%	37%	42%	43%	30%	39%	23%	35%	43%
% with 2 licensed facilities	17%	16%	17%	16%	17%	17%	17%	16%	17%	17%	19%	11%	21%	20%	17%
% with 3 licensed facilities	10%	9%	8%	8%	7%	9%	9%	9%	9%	7%	16%	15%	14%	15%	9%
% with four or more licensed facilities	15%	15%	13%	10%	6%	16%	16%	15%	12%	7%	18%	28%	24%	13%	7%

Rates of Re-entry															
% children who re-entered care	11%	8%	8%	NA	NA	10%	7%	7%	NA	NA	3%	14%	6%	NA	NA

This report tracks the experiences of children each fiscal year who entered dss custody/placement authority for the first time in their lives.

NA = data not available due to insufficient follow-up time

Note: Percentage totals may be slightly greater than or less than 100% due to rounding.

Presenting Results Within a Framework That Facilitates *Evaluation* of Changes in Outcomes

- **Comparisons of localities**

Capitalize on sub-state variations in local policies and practices, emphasizing how they are related to differences in outcomes, to establish a context within which to interpret results for a given locality

Avoids the “information in a vacuum” problem of working only with data from a single site .

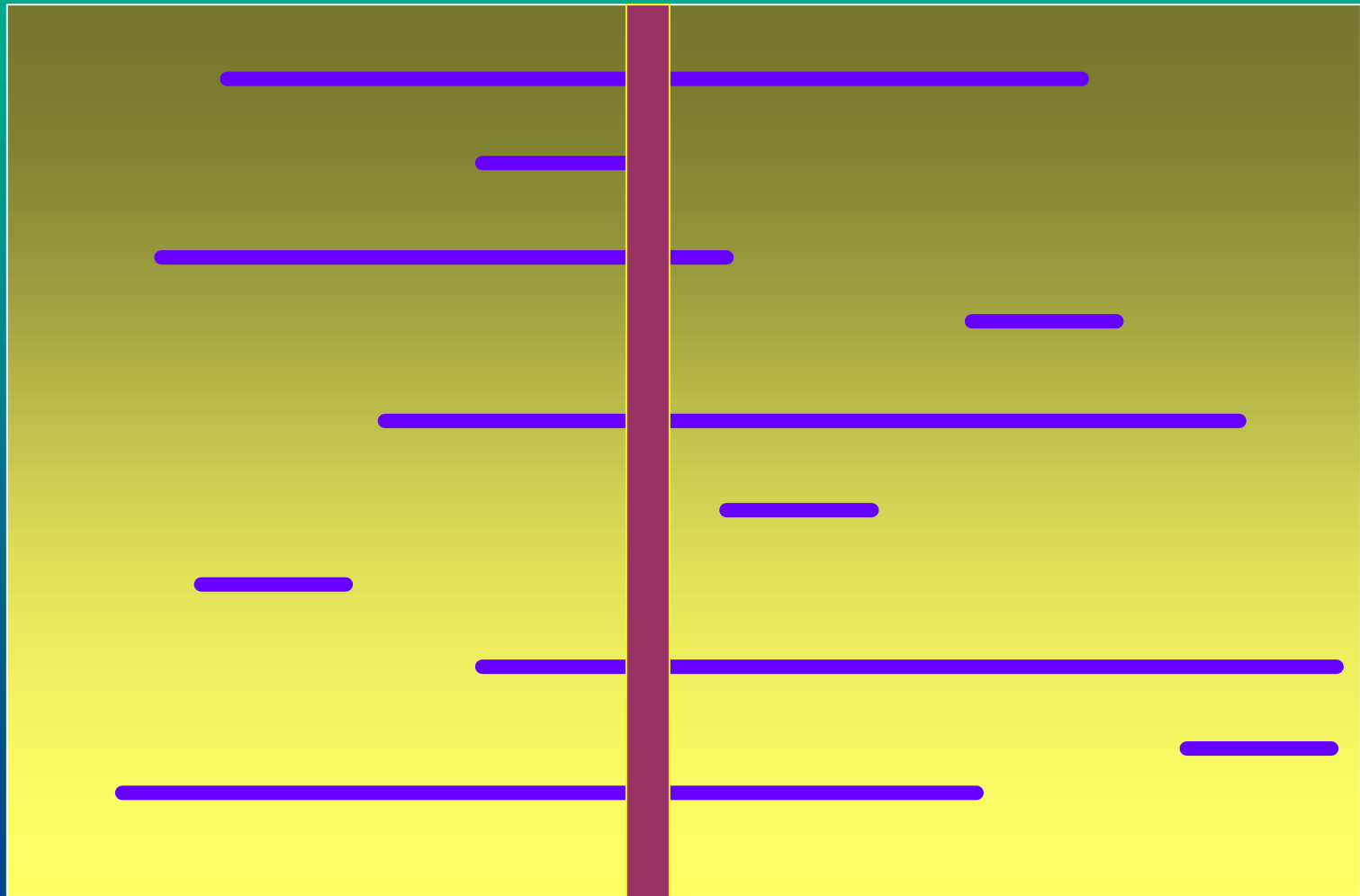
- **Comparisons of the experiences of cohorts across time reveal changes in local policies, practices, and outcomes**

Provides earliest indication of changes because focus is on distinct groups, especially those who entered care most recently and were subject to changes in policy and practice.

Changes tend to be concealed in caseload data and longitudinal data are more reliable because they represent *all* children who enter care.

The Bias of Caseload Snapshots: The Long and Short of It

Jan. 1, 2002

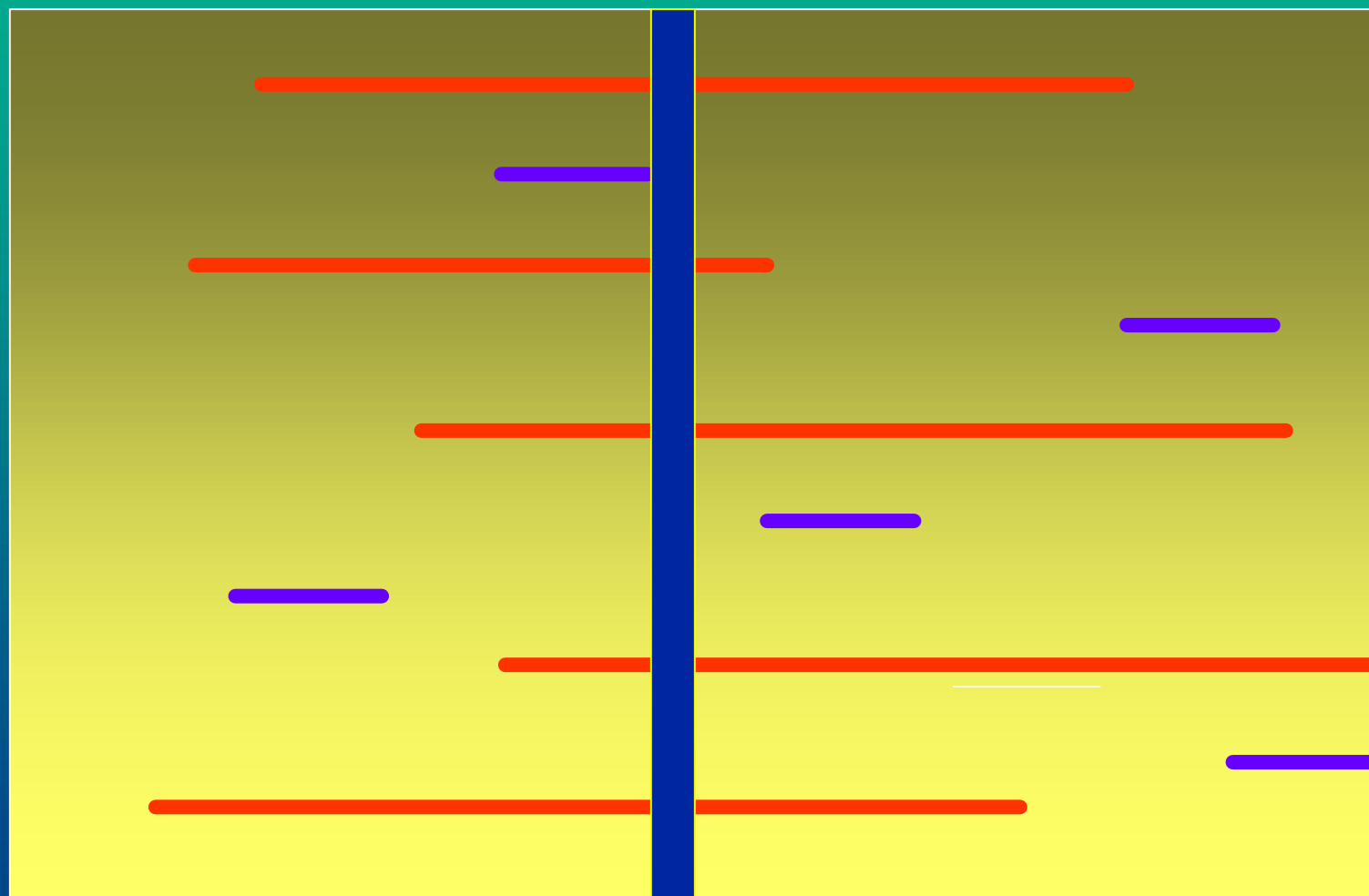


Jan. 1, 2001

Jan. 1, 2003

Long and Short Spells in the "Sample"

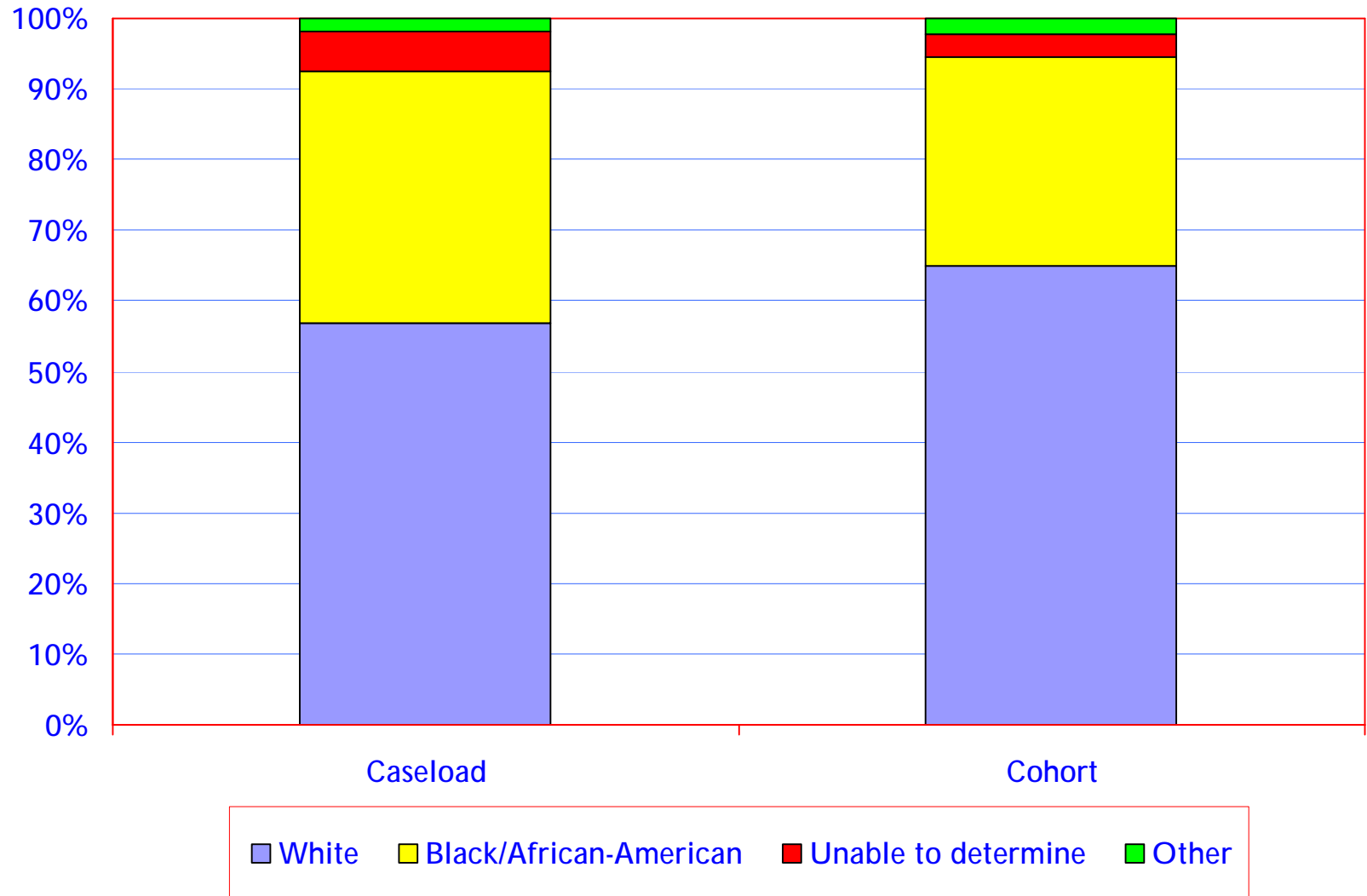
Jan. 1, 2002



Jan. 1, 2001

Jan. 1, 2003

Race of 7,397 Children In Care on May 31, 2002, Compared to Race of 10,250 Children Who Entered Care 1999 - August 2002

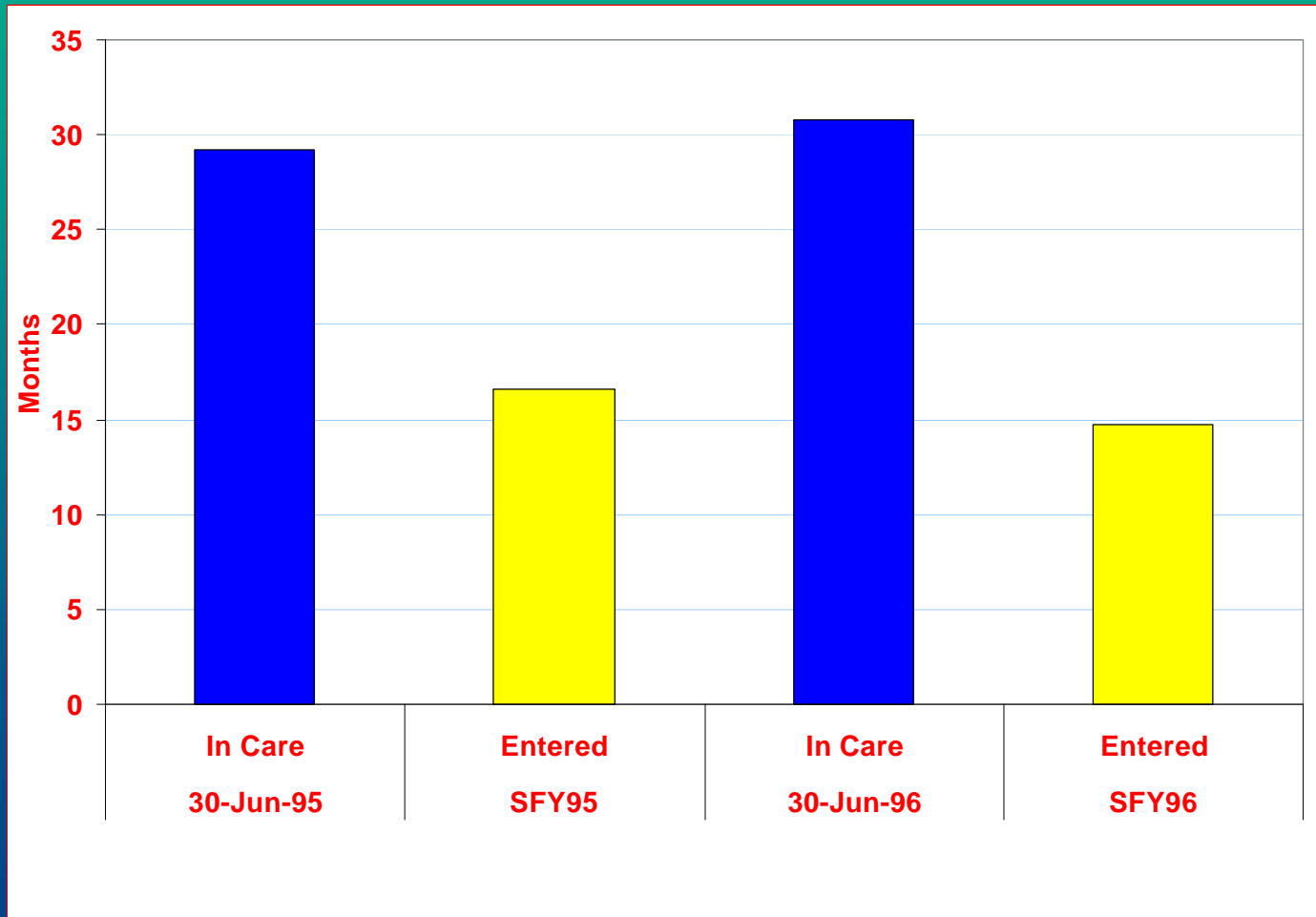


Current Ages of 7,397 Children In Care on May 31, 2002,
Compared to Age at Entry of 10,250 Children Who Entered Care
1999 - August 2002

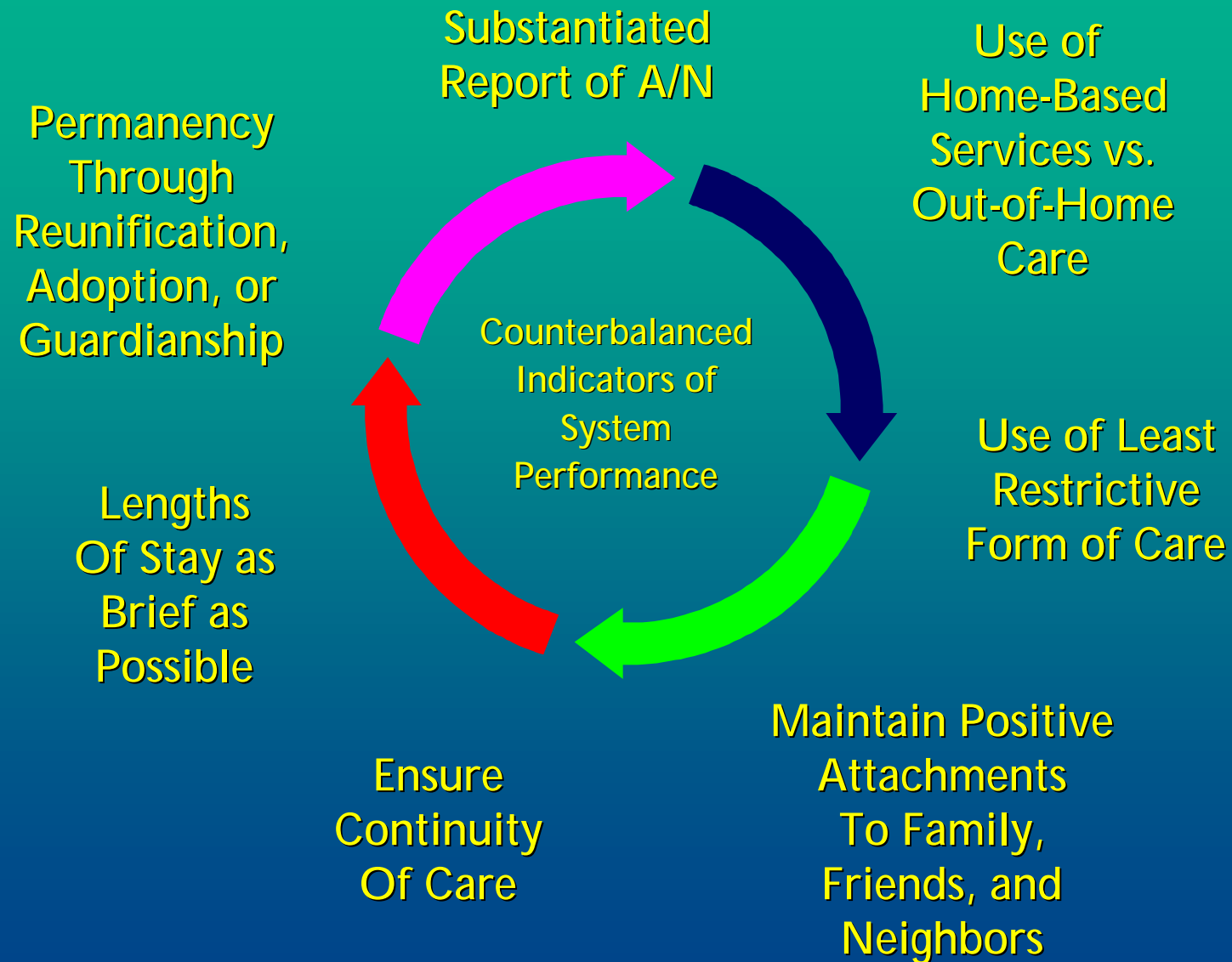


■ Birth - 1 ■ 2 - 4 ■ 5 - 12 ■ 13 - 18 ■ 19 or older

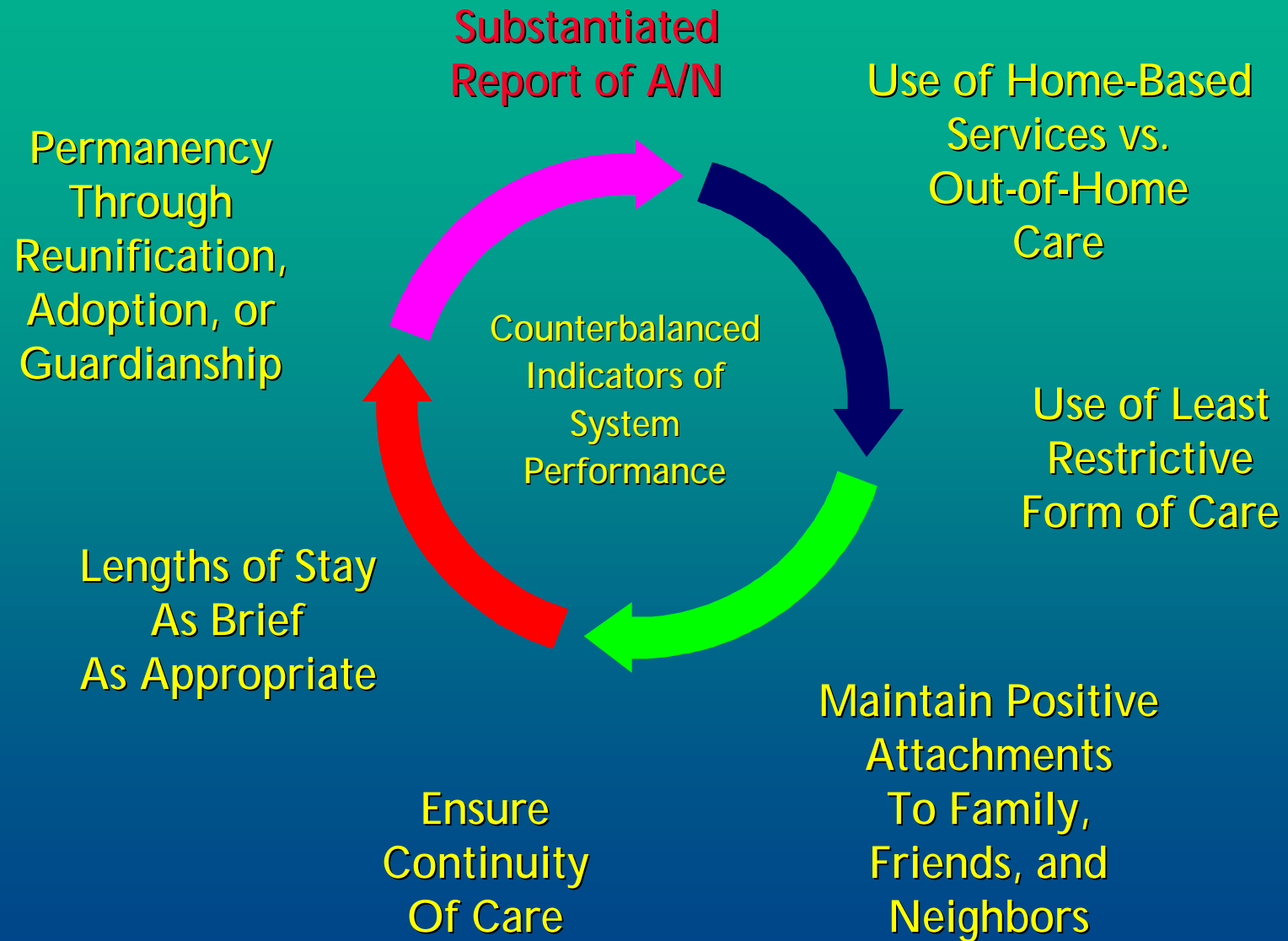
Caseload vs. Longitudinal Perspectives on Length of Stay



The Cycle of Experiences in the Child Welfare System

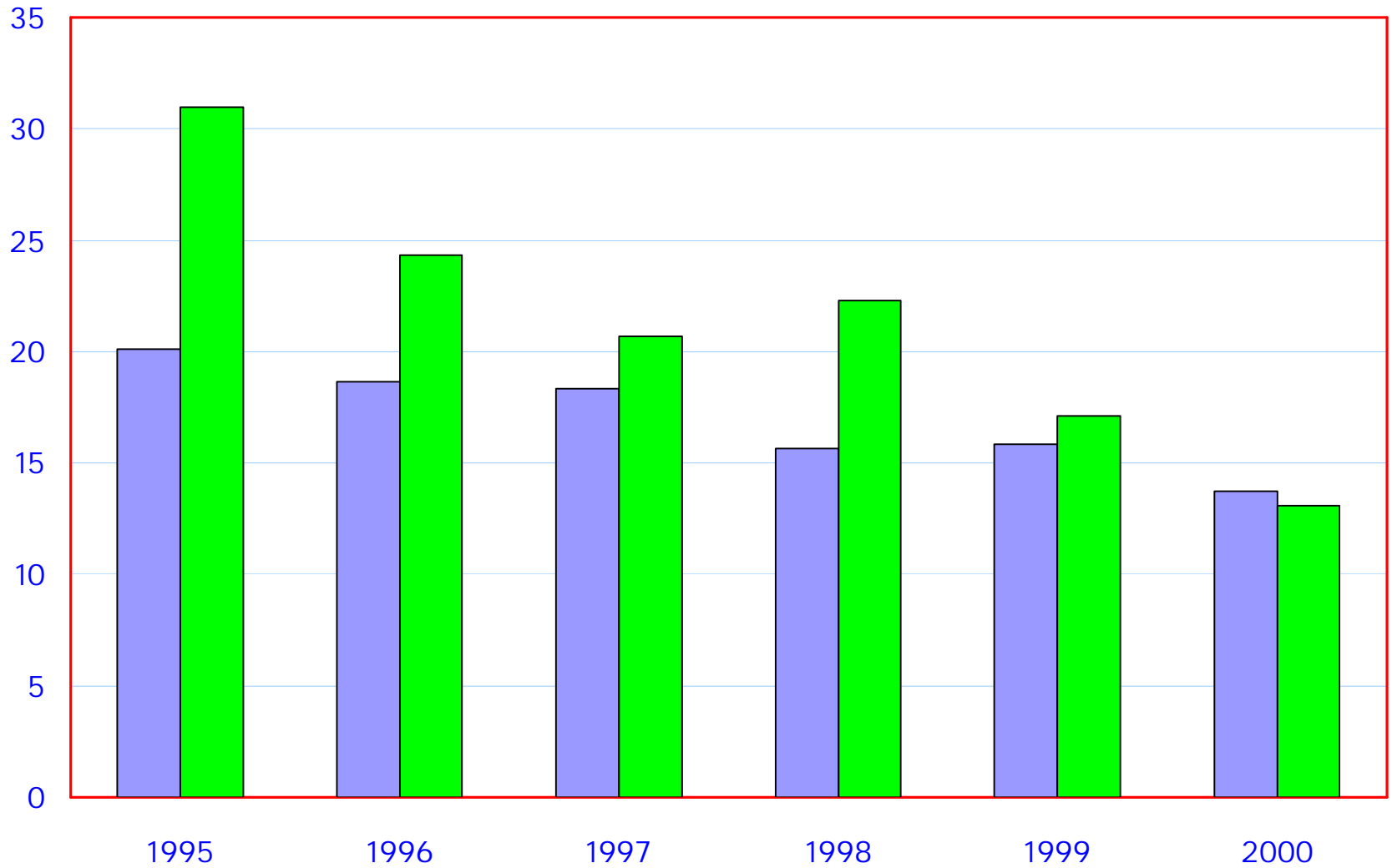


The Cycle of Experiences in the Child Welfare System

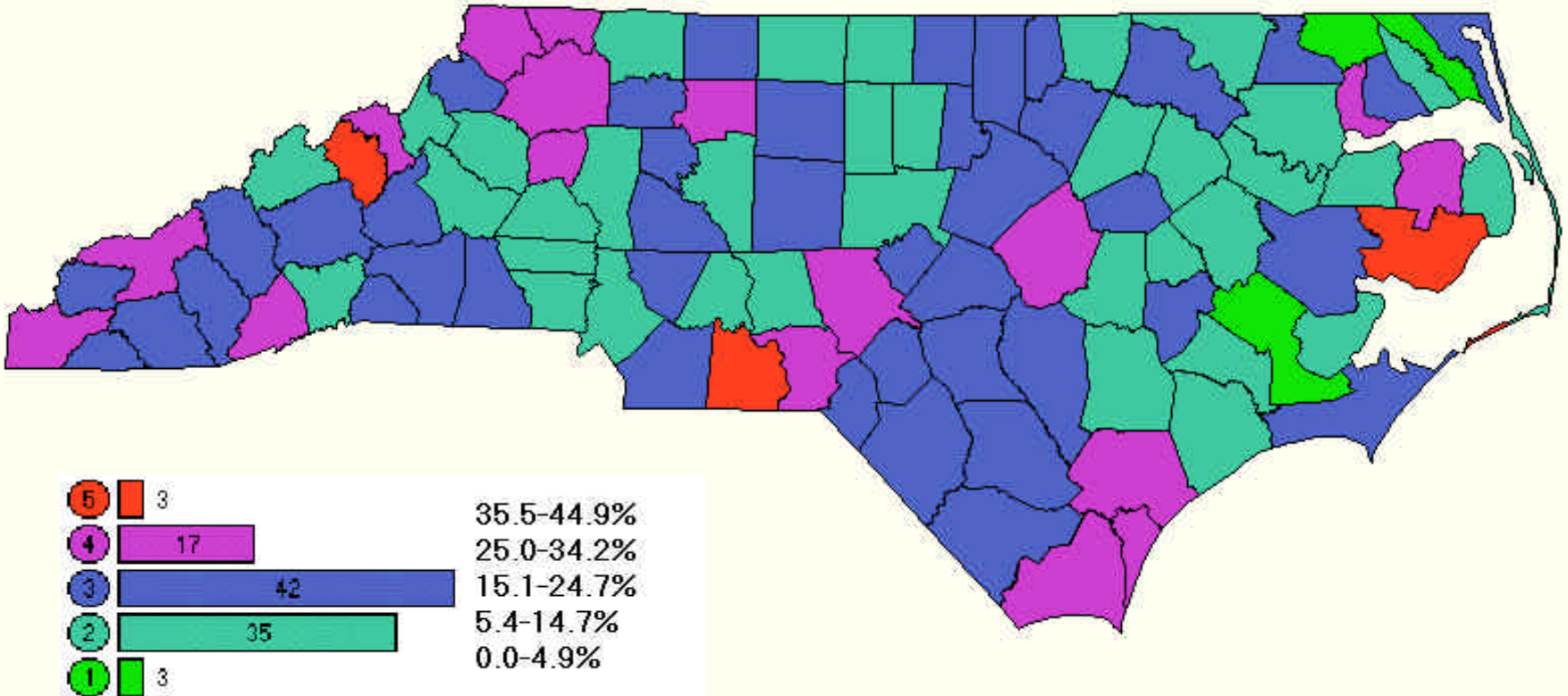


Rates of Out-of-Home Placement

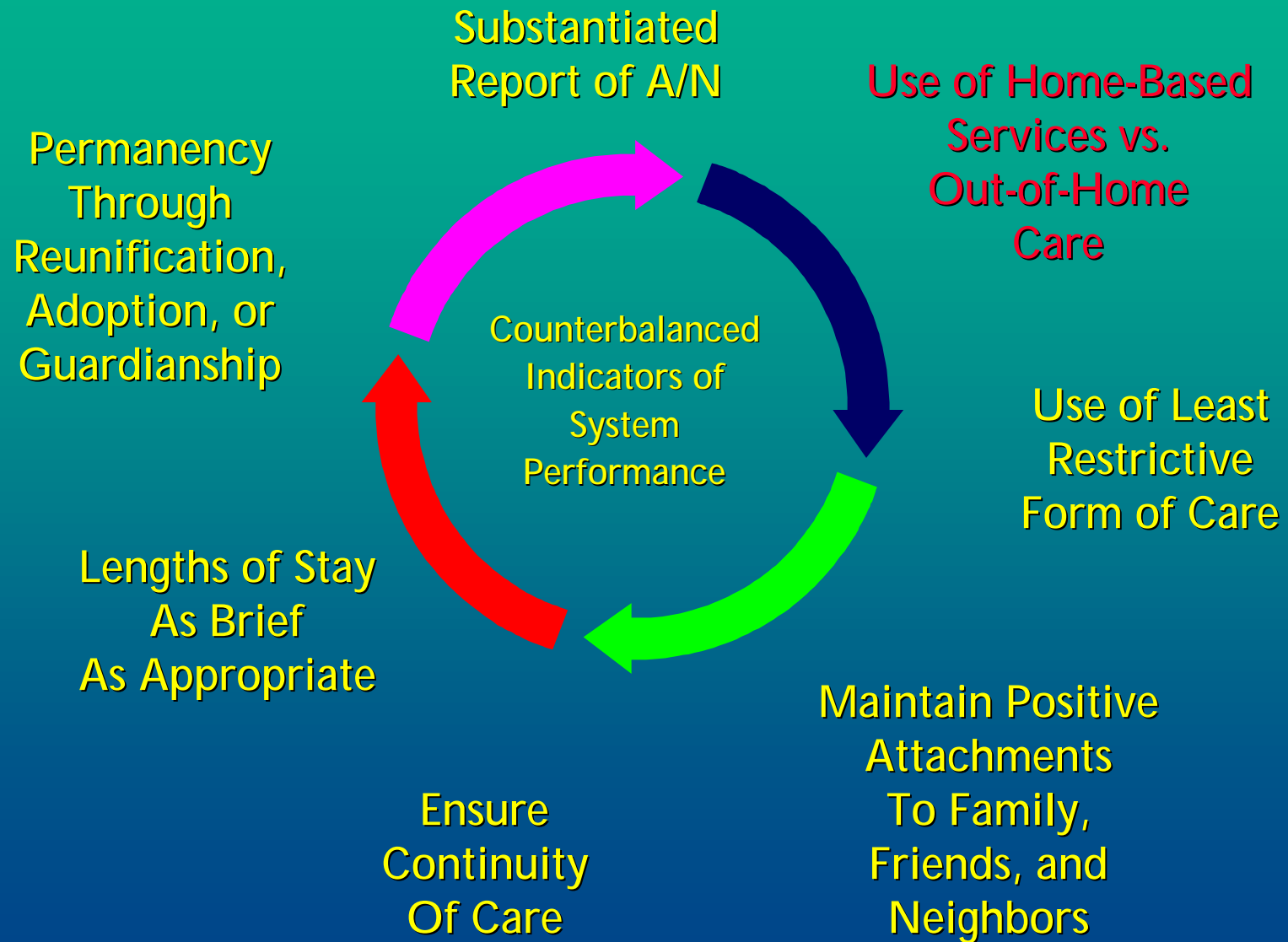
% of 1st Substantiations



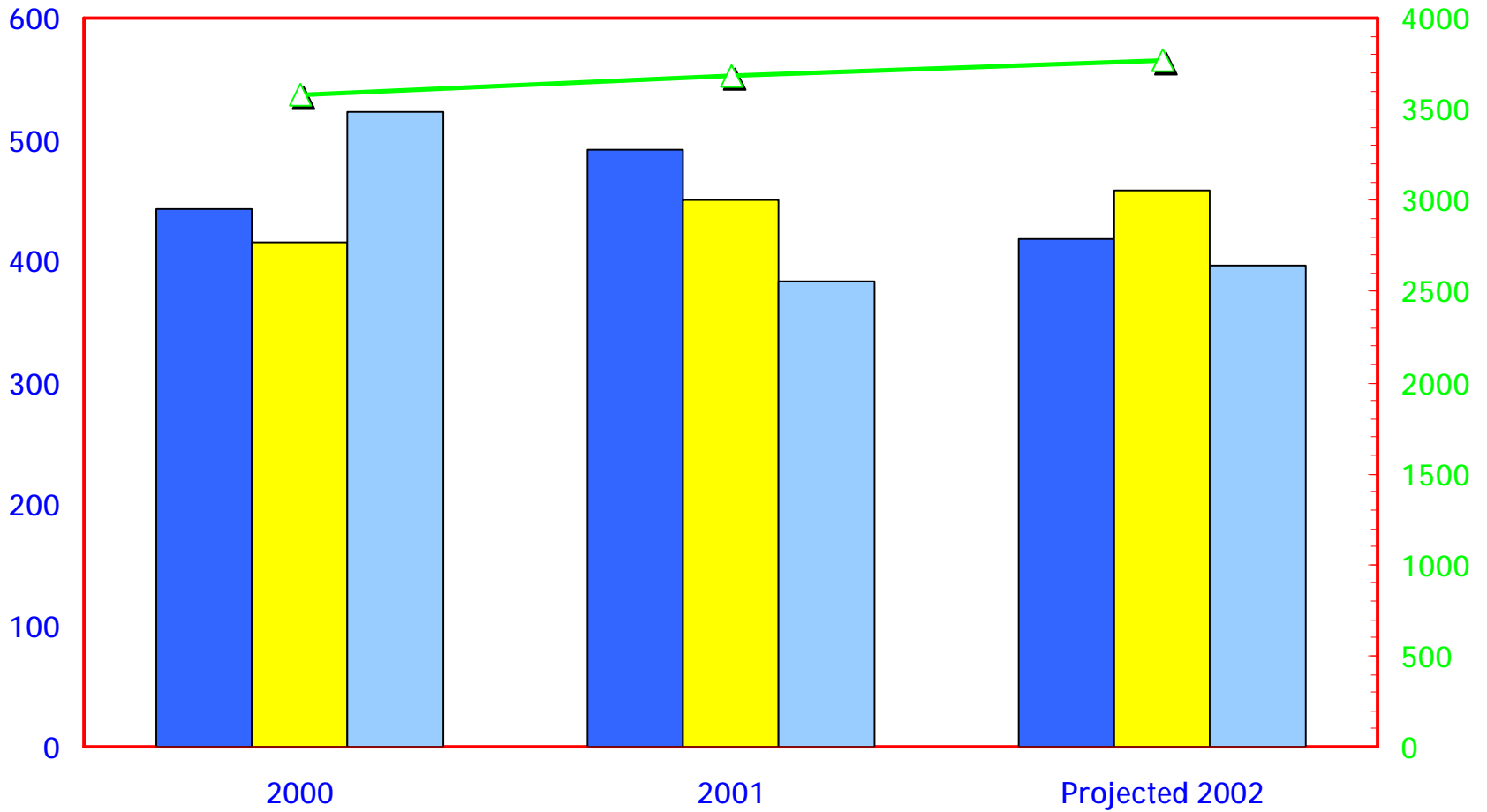
Placement Rates at Initial Substantiated Report



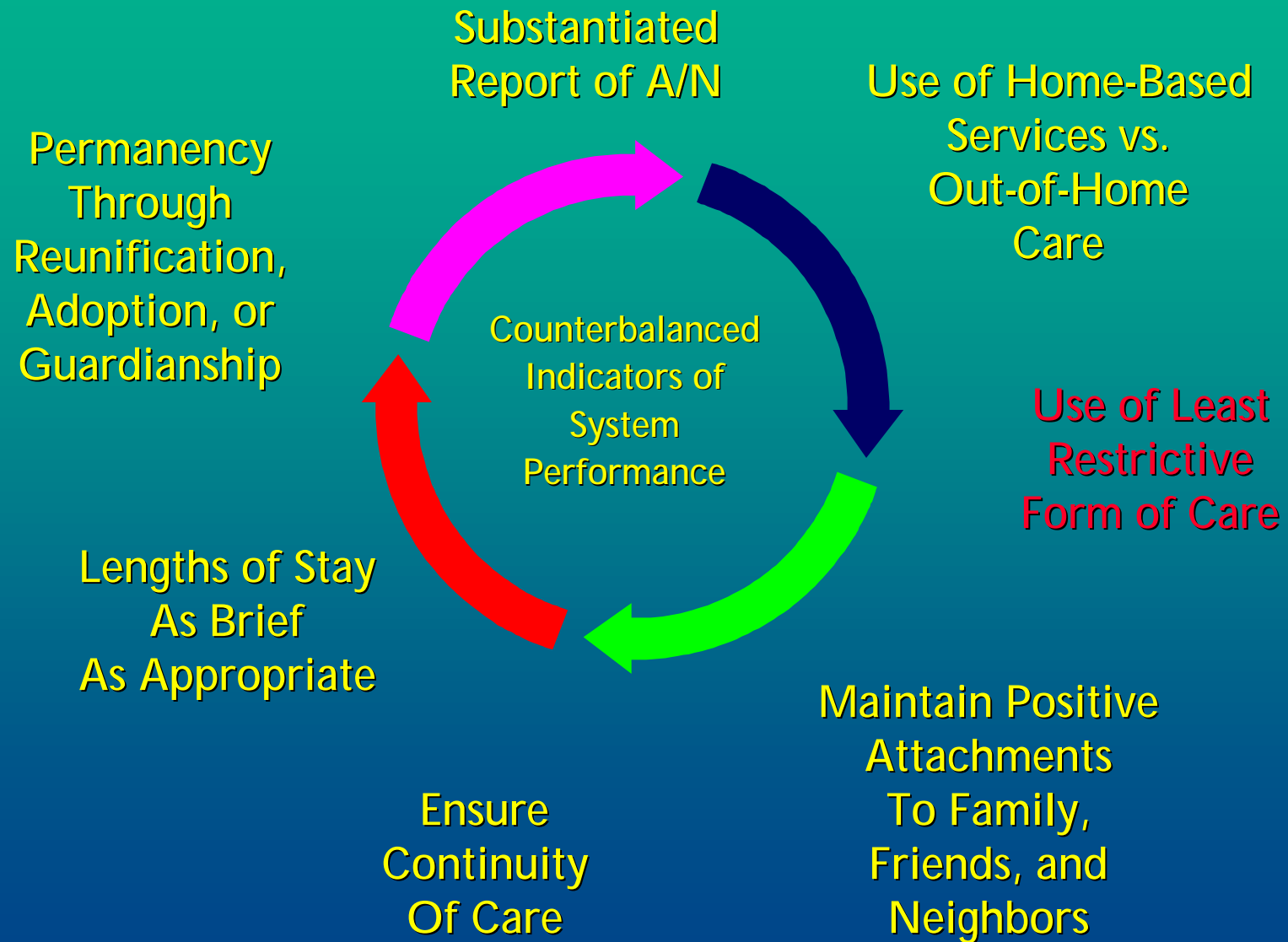
The Cycle of Experiences in the Child Welfare System



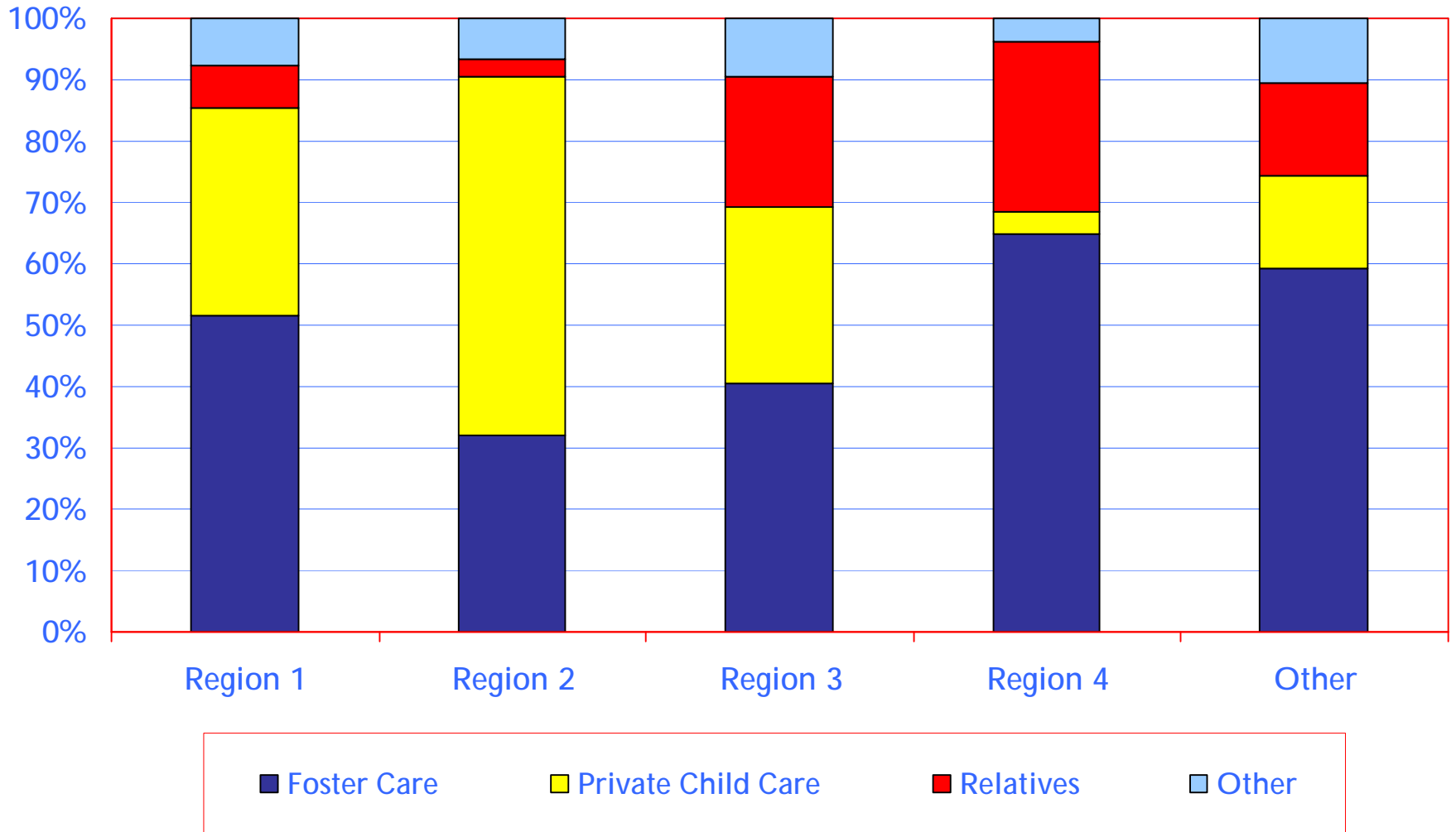
Initial Admissions to Child Welfare Custody



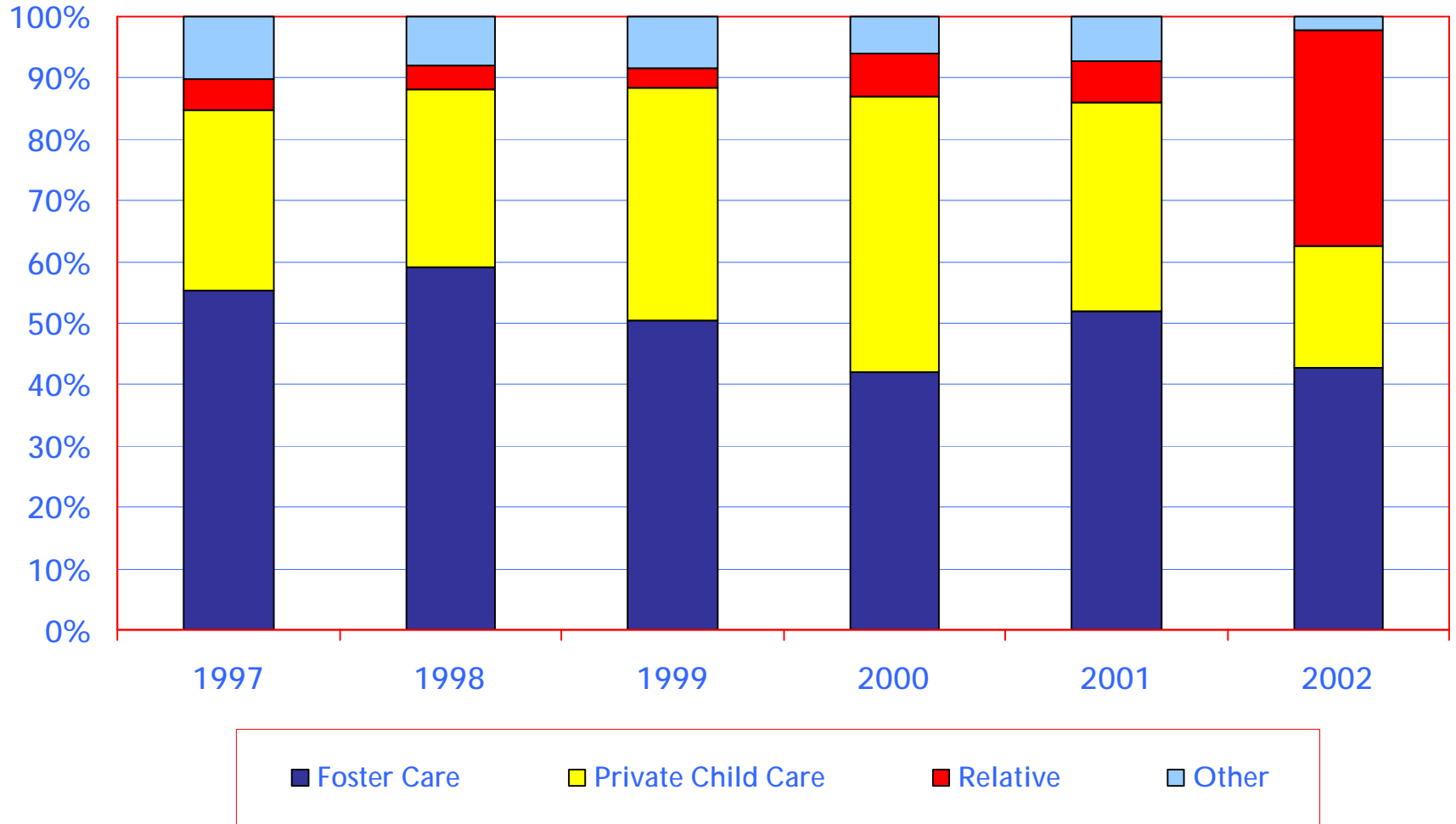
The Cycle of Experiences in the Child Welfare System



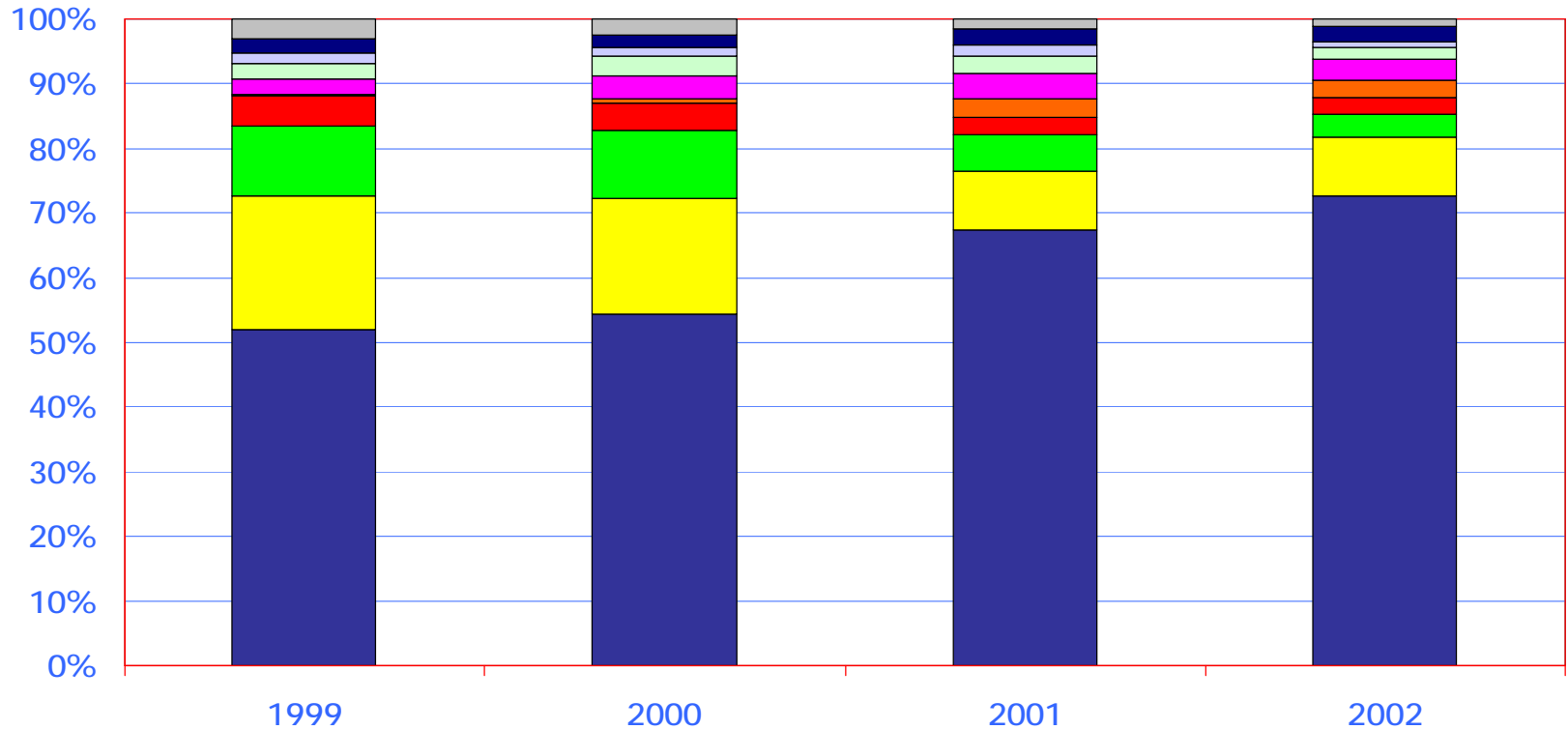
Initial Placements for Children Entering Care 1997 - 2002



Initial Placements in F2F County: 1997 - 2002

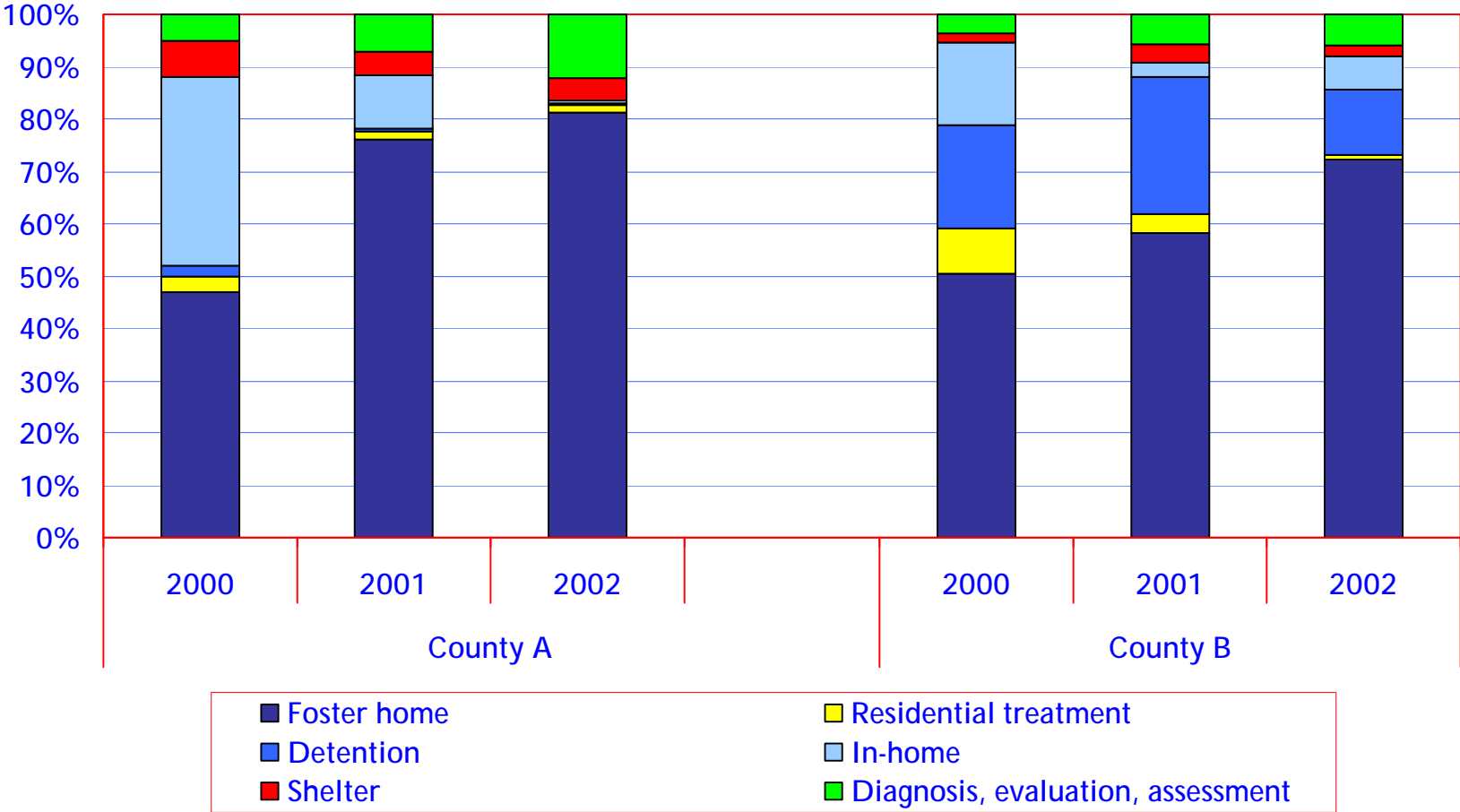


Initial Placements of Children Entering Child Welfare Custody 1999 - August 2002

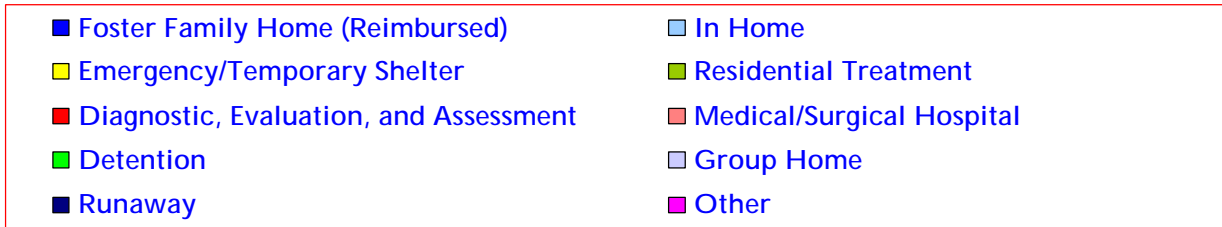
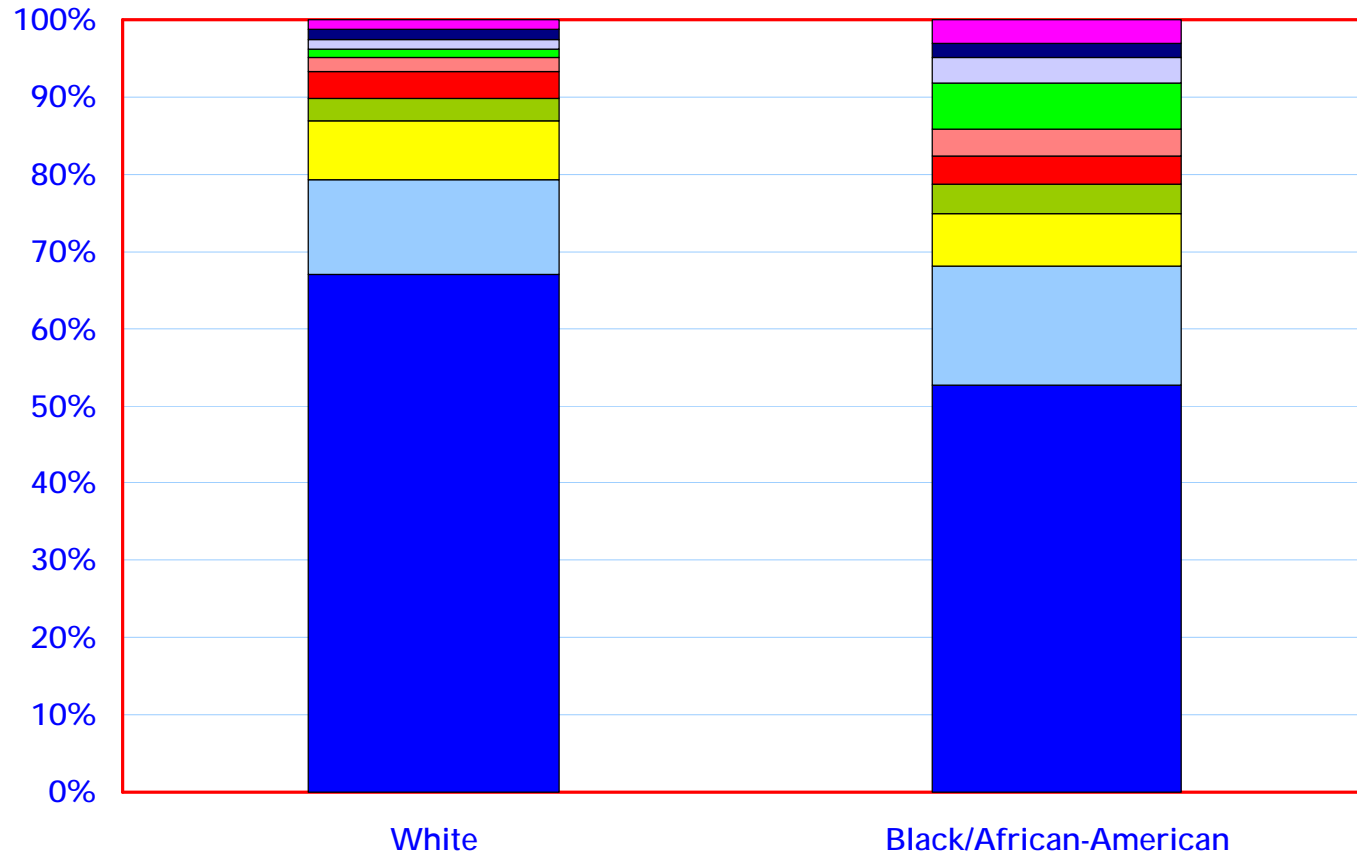


- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ■ Foster Family Home (Reimbursed) | ■ In Home |
| ■ Emergency/Temporary Shelter | ■ Residential Treatment |
| ■ Group Home | ■ Diagnostic, Evaluation, and Assessment |
| ■ Detention | ■ Runaway |
| ■ Medical/Surgical Hospital | ■ Other |

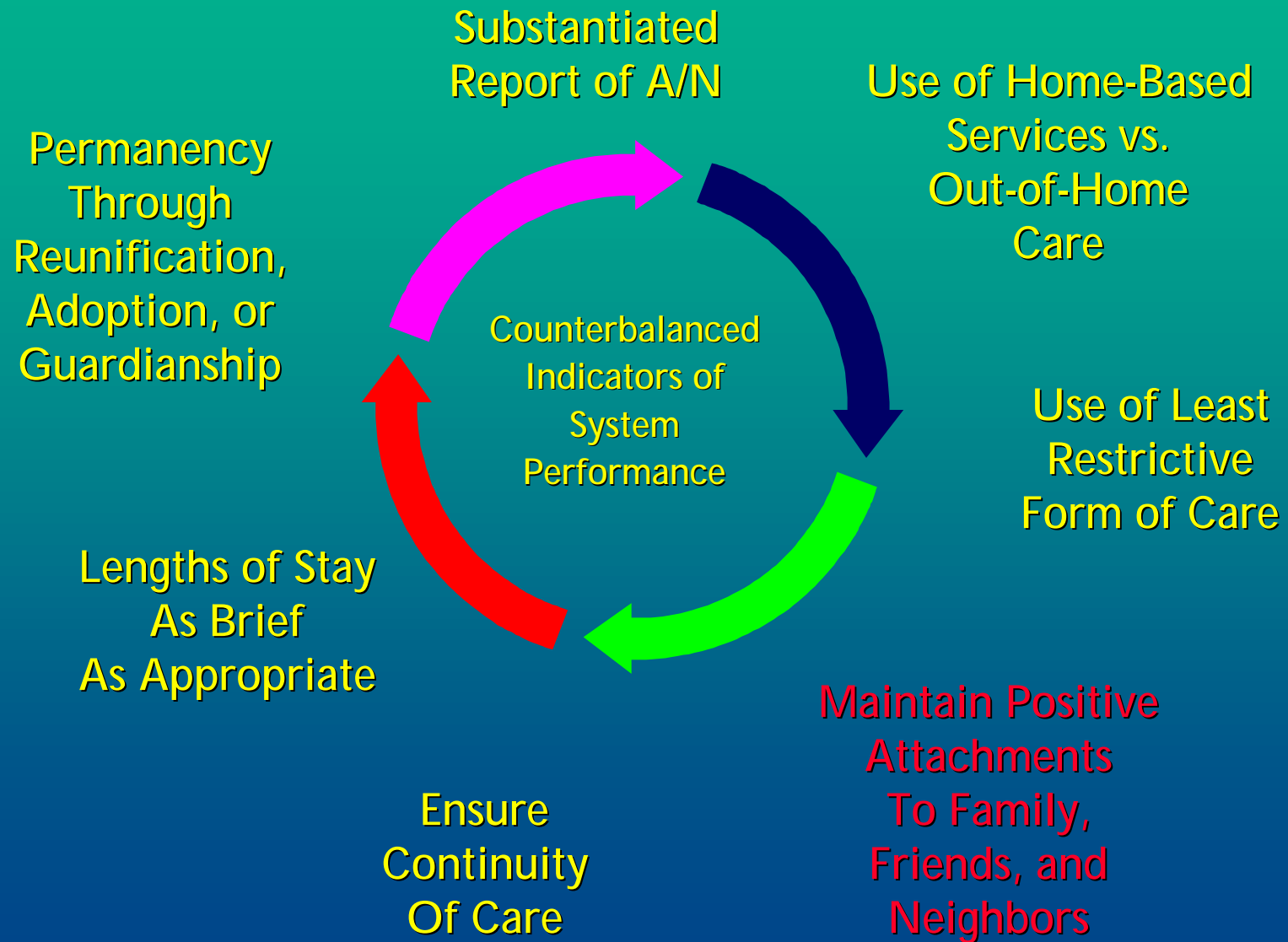
Initial Placements in Two Counties



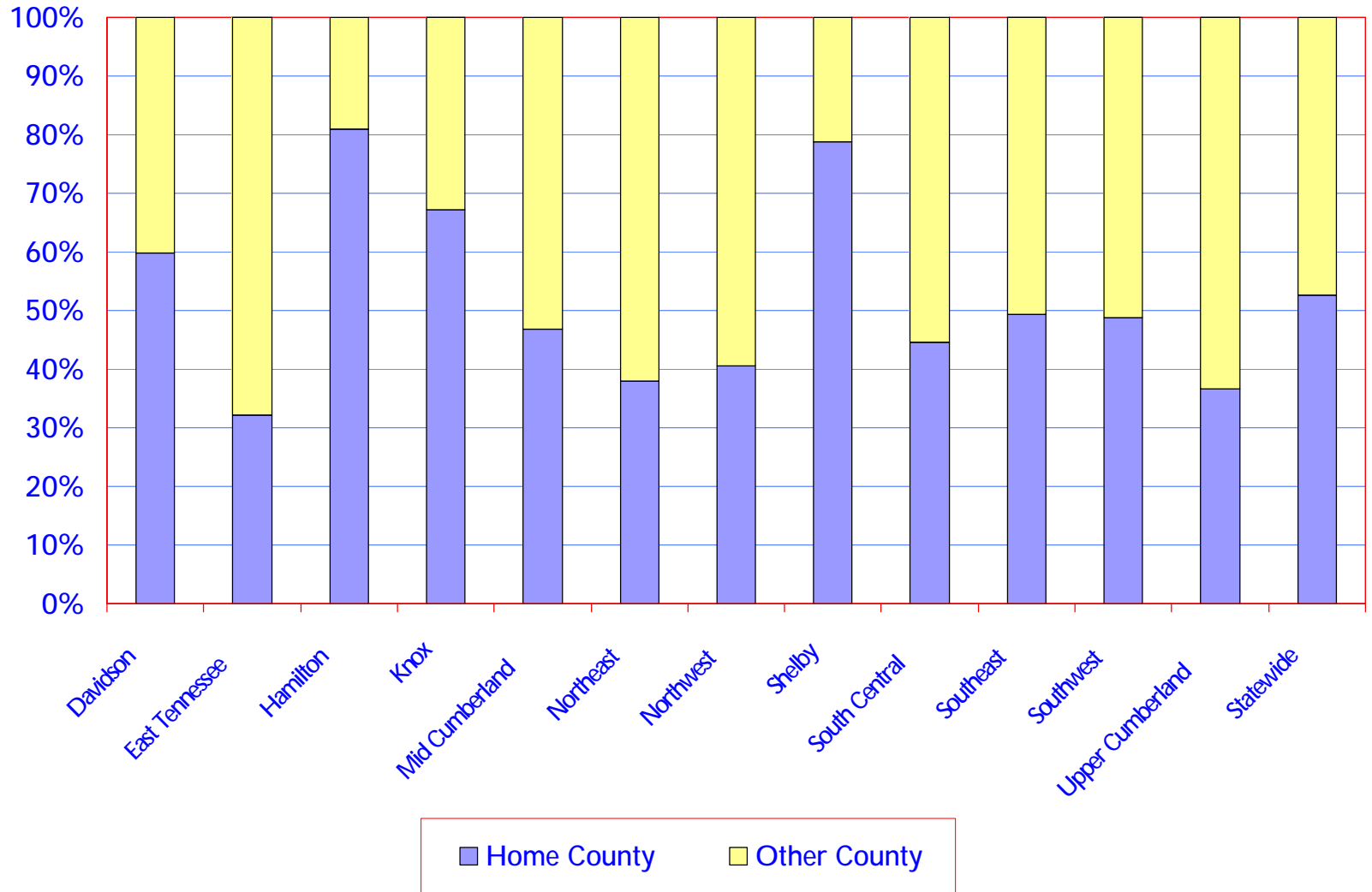
Initial Placements in First Spell



The Cycle of Experiences in the Child Welfare System

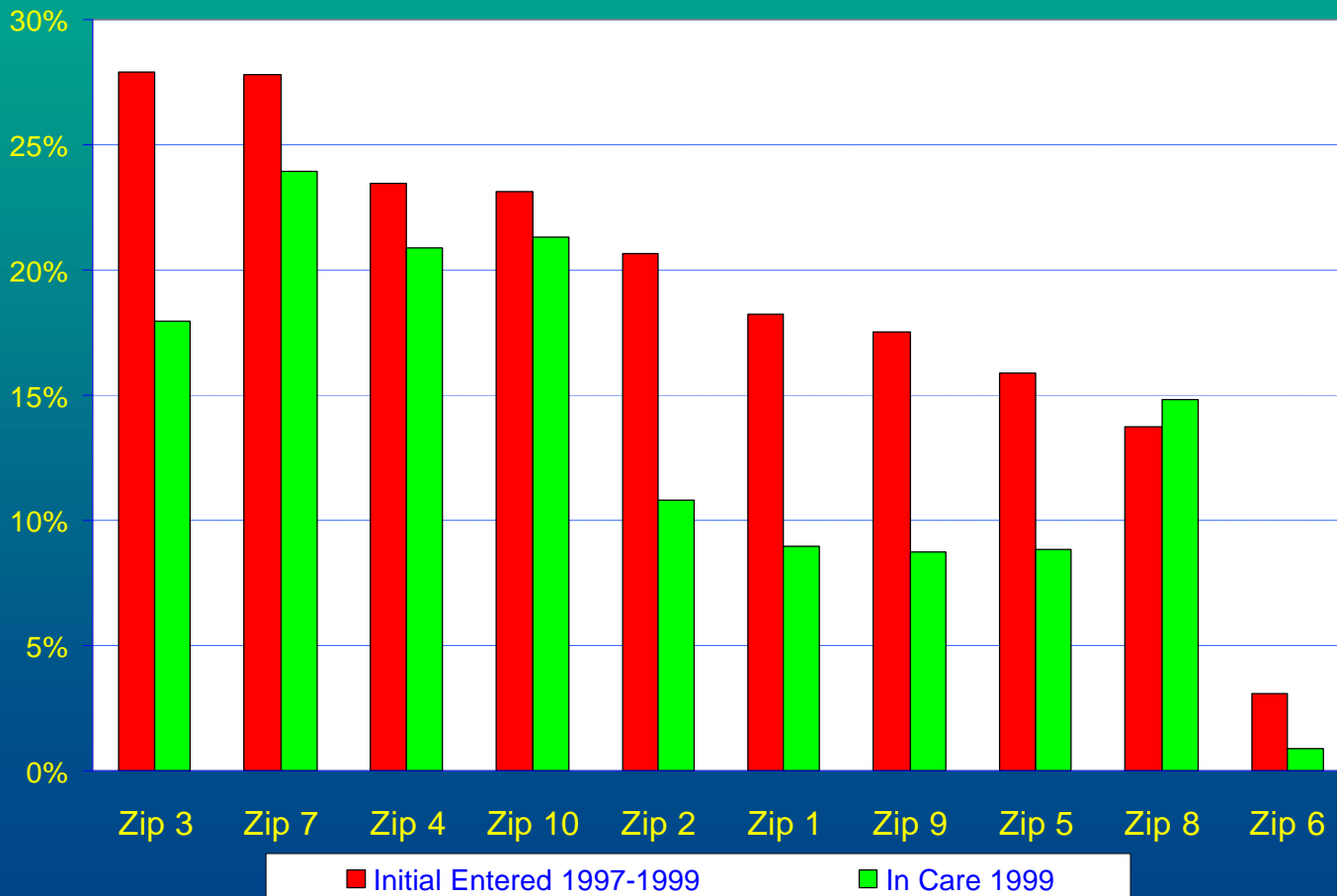


Percentage of Initial Placements in Home County: DCSN Cases



Are Children Being Placed Near Their Homes? Caseload vs. Longitudinal Perspectives

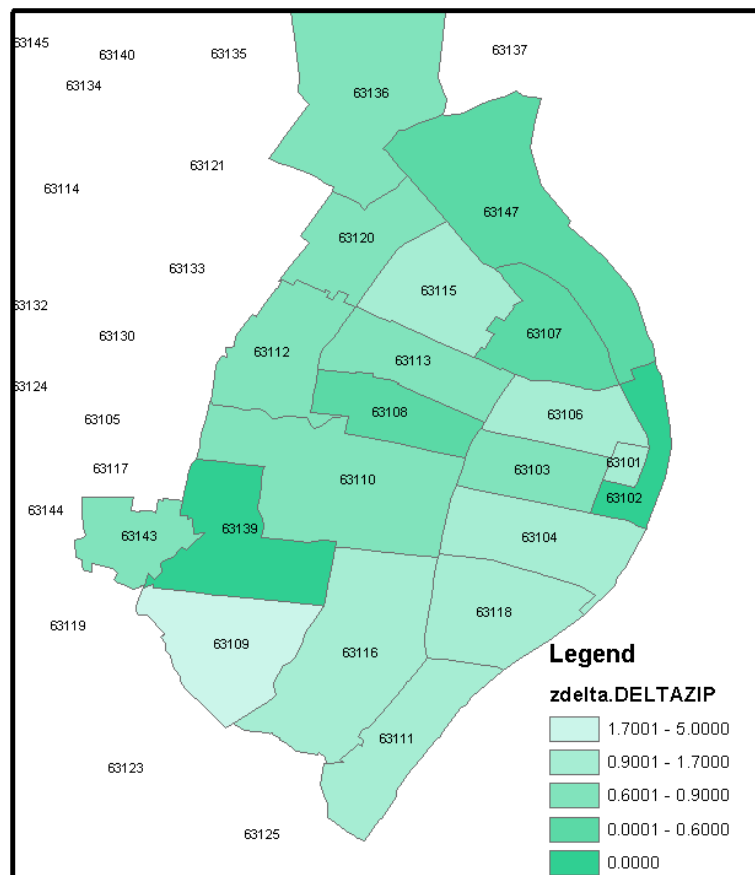
Percentage of Children Placed in Same Zip Code



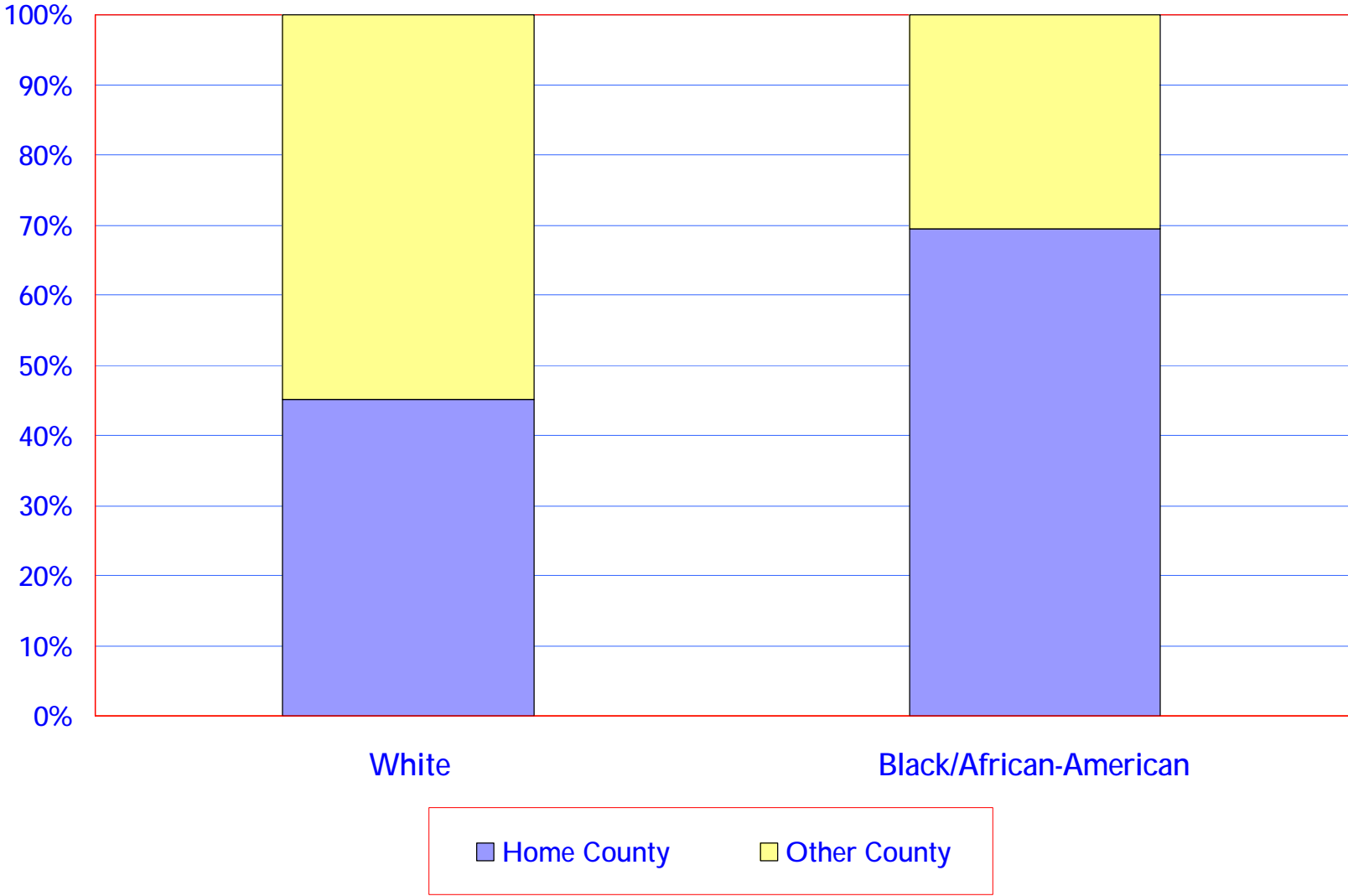
St. Louis City, 2000 Data

Average Distance From Home to Placement

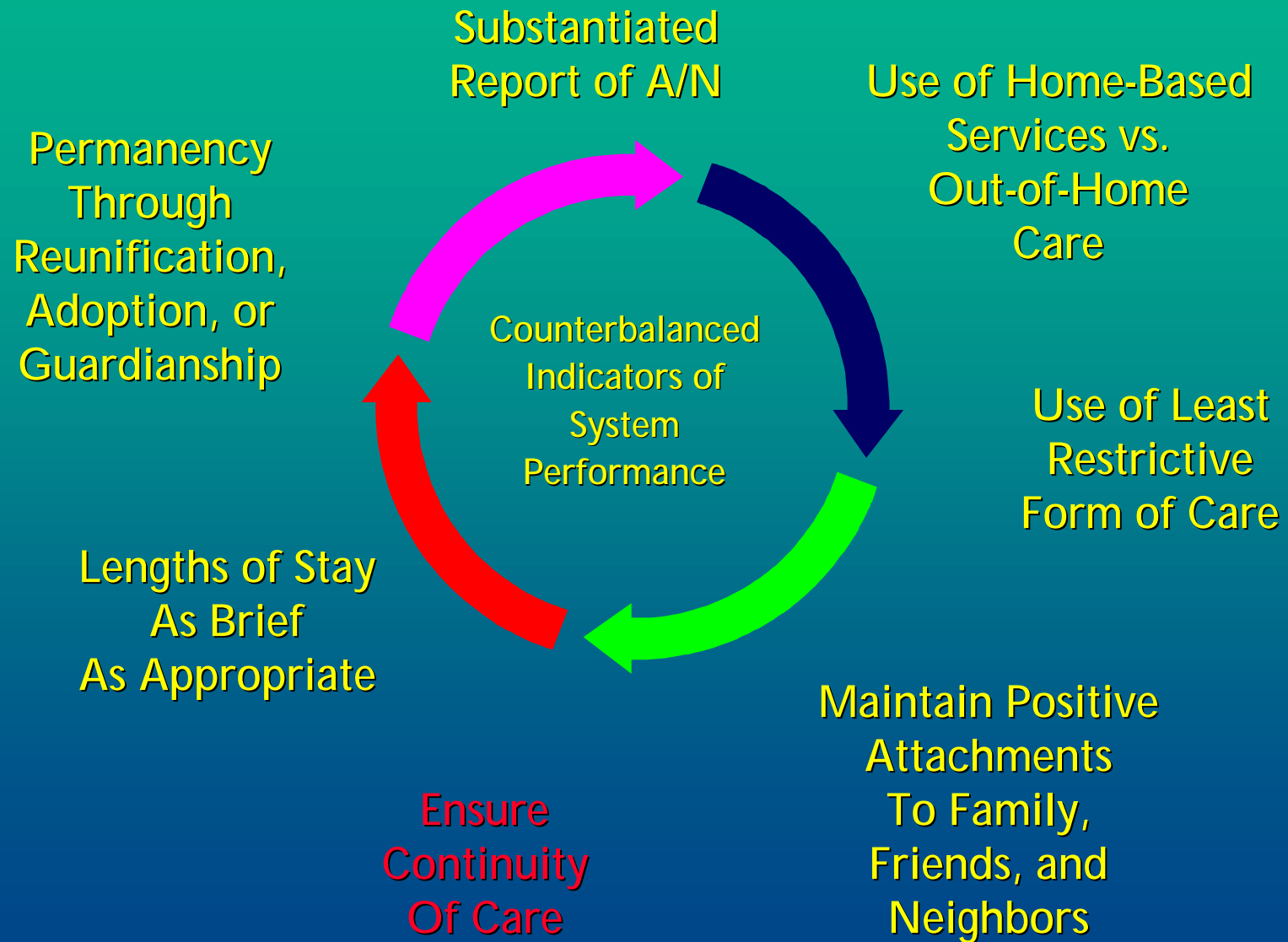
Distance is in miles for children for whom we have data.
Year 2000 data.



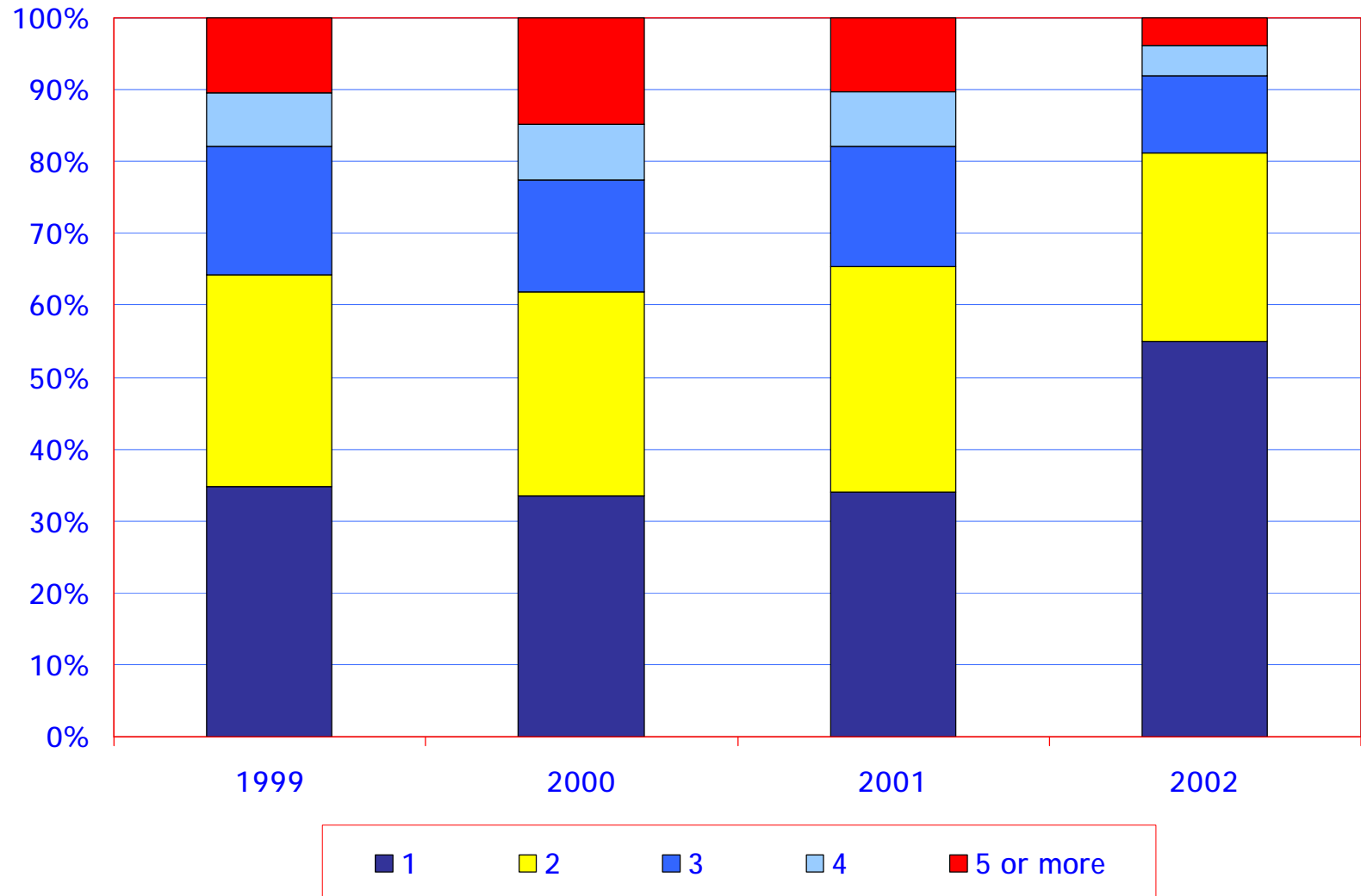
DCSN Placements in Home County



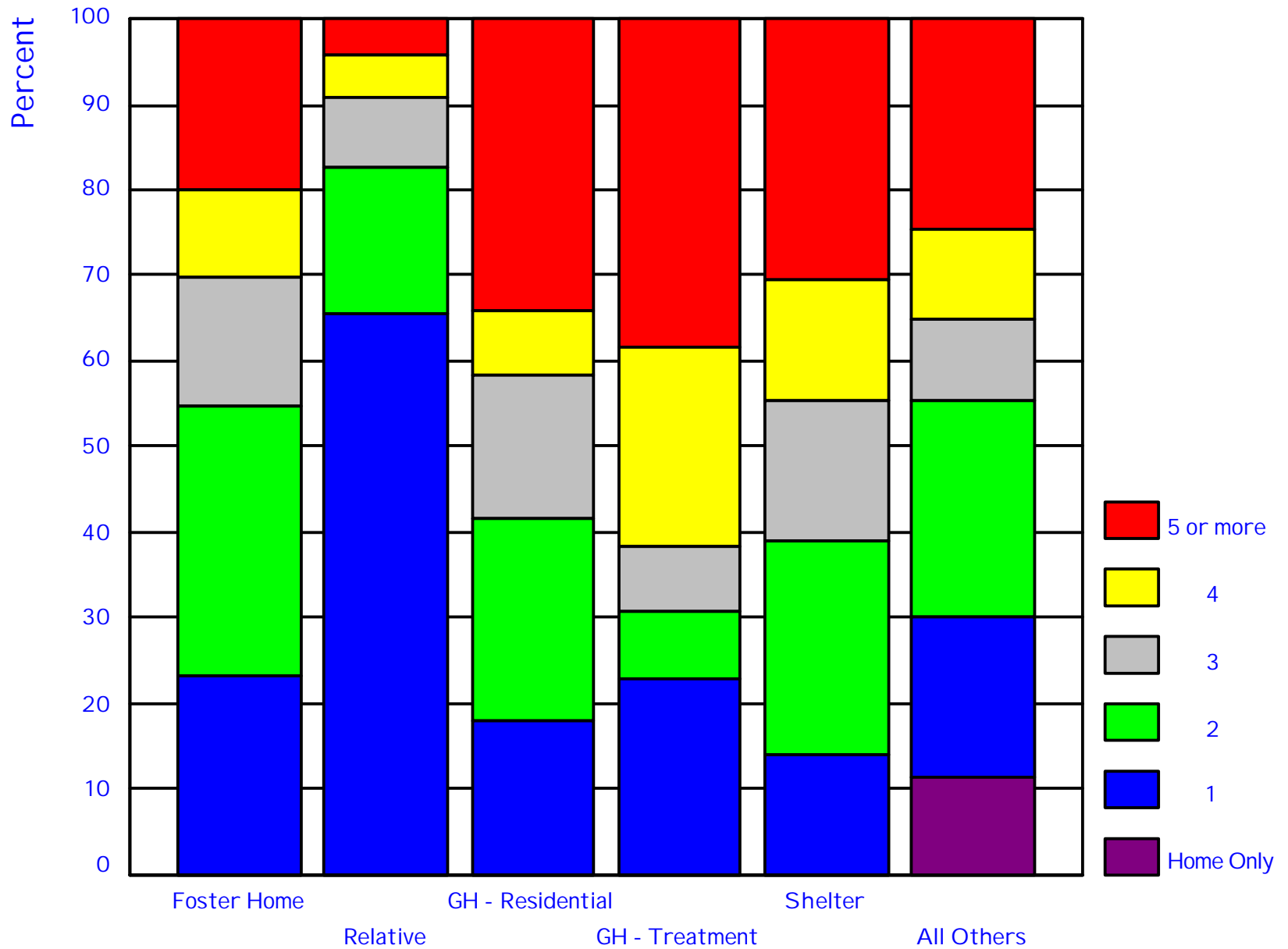
The Cycle of Experiences in the Child Welfare System



Number of Placements in 1st Spell Among Children Initially Entering DCSN Custody 1999 - August 2002



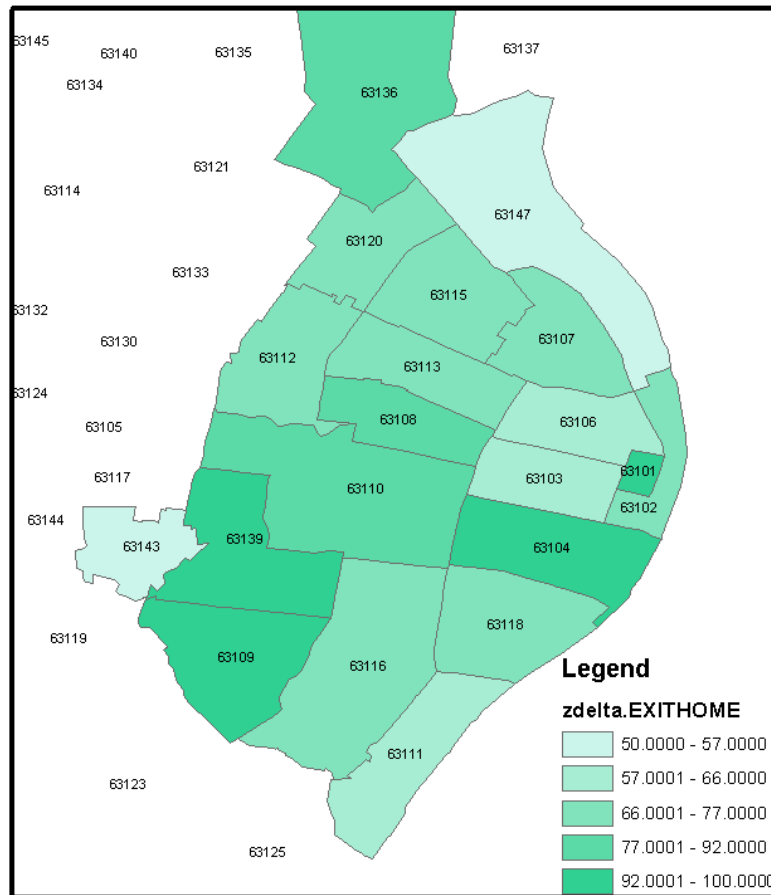
Number of Placements by Type of Initial Placement



St. Louis City, 2000 Data

Percentage Exiting To Home (2000)

Percentage exiting first spell to home.
See Legend below for percentages.



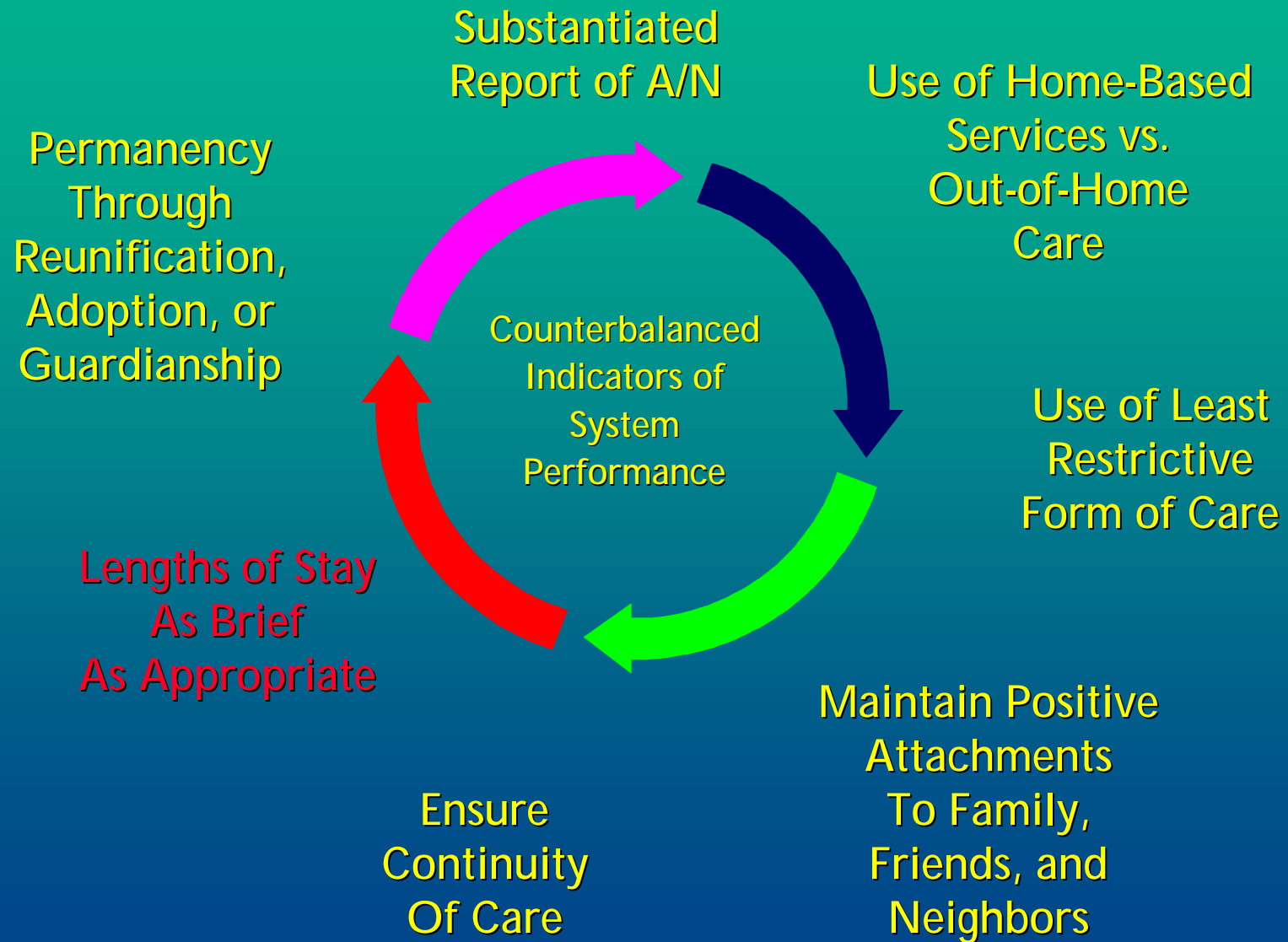
Placement Patterns in First Spell for DCSN Children and Youth Entering Care 1999 - 2002 and Initially Placed in a Foster Home

Children Who Left Care				Children Who Remain in Care			
Placement Pattern	Number of Children	Percent of Children	Cumulative Percentage	Placement Pattern	Number of Children	Percent of Children	Cumulative Percentage
FFD	1,409	37.8%	37.8%	FFD	1,107	41.3%	41.3%
FFD FFD	482	12.9%	50.7%	FFD FFD	564	21.1%	62.4%
FFD THV	441	11.8%	62.5%	FFD FFD FFD	221	8.2%	70.6%
FFD IH	277	7.4%	69.9%	FFD FFD FFD FFD	86	3.2%	73.8%
FFD FFD THV	169	4.5%	74.4%	FFD THV	79	2.9%	76.8%
FFD FFD FFD	134	3.6%	78.0%	FFD FFD THV	61	2.3%	79.1%
FFD FFD IH	61	1.6%	79.7%	FFD IH	52	1.9%	81.0%
FFD FFD FFD THV	47	1.3%	80.9%	FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD	29	1.1%	82.1%
FFD FFD FFD FFD	45	1.2%	82.1%	FFD THV FFD	22	0.8%	82.9%
FFD IH THV	34	0.9%	83.0%	FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD	16	0.6%	83.5%
FFD RUN	28	0.8%	83.8%	FFD RT	16	0.6%	84.1%
FFD FFD FFD FFD THV	26	0.7%	84.5%	FFD IH FFD	15	0.6%	84.7%
FFD FFD FFD IH	22	0.6%	85.1%	FFD FFD FFD THV	13	0.5%	85.1%
FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD	19	0.5%	85.6%	FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD	12	0.4%	85.6%
FFD RT	16	0.4%	86.0%	FFD FFD IH	10	0.4%	86.0%
FFD ETS	14	0.4%	86.4%	FFD FFD THV FFD	9	0.3%	86.3%
FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD THV	11	0.3%	86.7%	FFD GH FFD	9	0.3%	86.6%
FFD RT THV	11	0.3%	87.0%	FFD ETS FFD	8	0.3%	86.9%
FFD THV IH	10	0.3%	87.2%	FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD	8	0.3%	87.2%
FFD IH IH	9	0.2%	87.5%	FFD FFD FFD IH	8	0.3%	87.5%
FFD IH FFD	8	0.2%	87.7%	FFD FFD FFD DEA FFD	6	0.2%	87.8%
FFD THV THV	7	0.2%	87.9%	FFD FFD FFD FFD THV	6	0.2%	88.0%
FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD	7	0.2%	88.1%	FFD RT FFD	6	0.2%	88.2%
FFD THV FFD THV	6	0.2%	88.2%	FFD DEA FFD	5	0.2%	88.4%
FFD THV FFD	6	0.2%	88.4%	FFD DEA RT	5	0.2%	88.6%
FFD IH FFD IH	6	0.2%	88.6%	FFD FFD FFD THV FFD FFD	5	0.2%	88.8%
FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD FFD	6	0.2%	88.7%	All other patterns	301	11.2%	100.0%
FFD DET	6	0.2%	88.9%				
FFD RT IH	5	0.1%	89.0%	Total	2,679		
FFD RT FFD	5	0.1%	89.1%				
FFD GH	5	0.1%	89.3%				
FFD FFD THV IH	5	0.1%	89.4%				
FFD FFD THV FFD	5	0.1%	89.5%				
FFD ETS THV	5	0.1%	89.7%				
FFD DEA	5	0.1%	89.8%				
Other patterns	380	10.2%	100.0%				
Total	3,732						

Key:

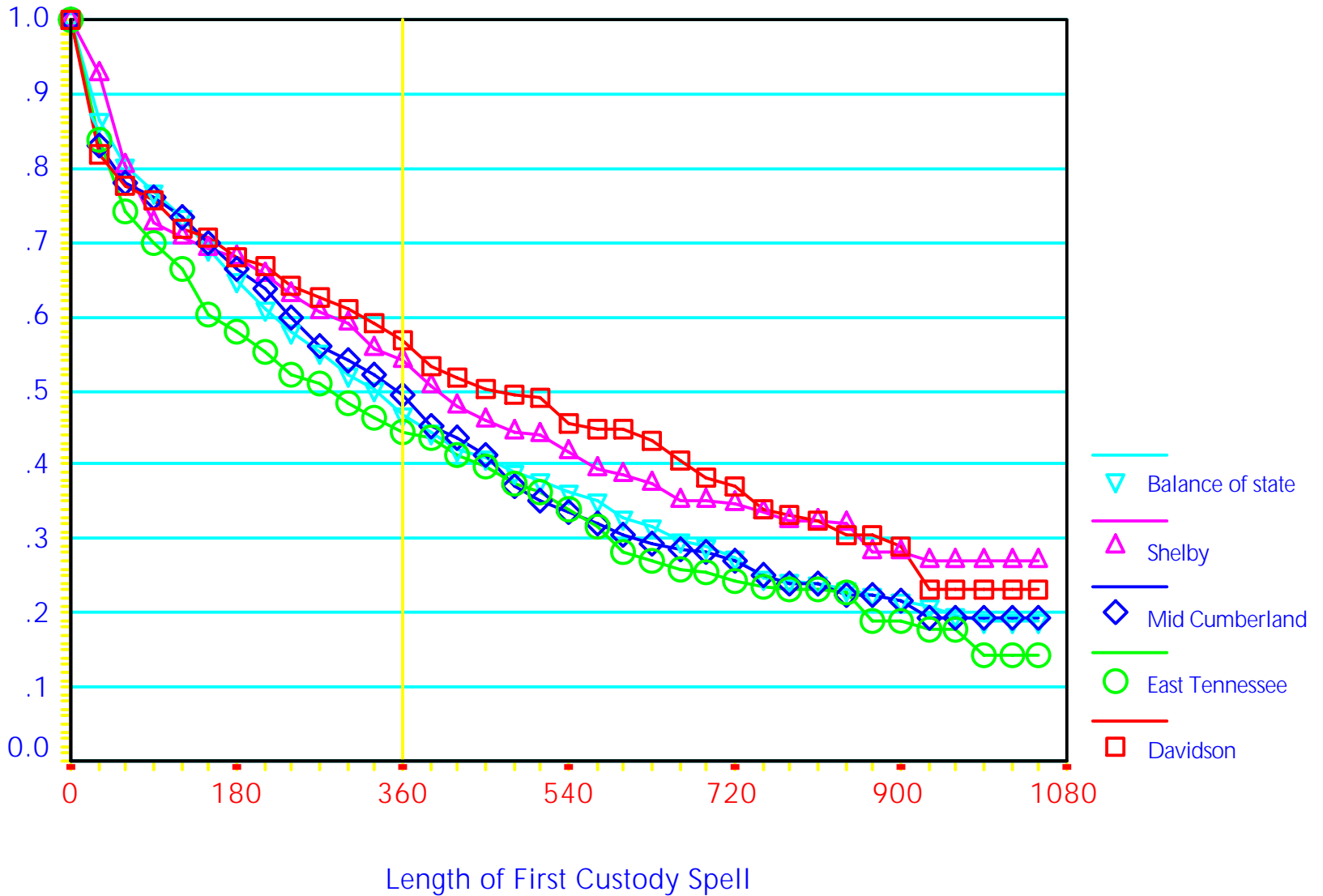
- DEA Diagnosis, Evaluation, Assessment
- DET Detention
- ETS Shelter
- FFD Foster home
- GH Group home
- IH In-home
- RT Residential treatment
- RUN Runaway
- THV Trial home visit

The Cycle of Experiences in the Child Welfare System



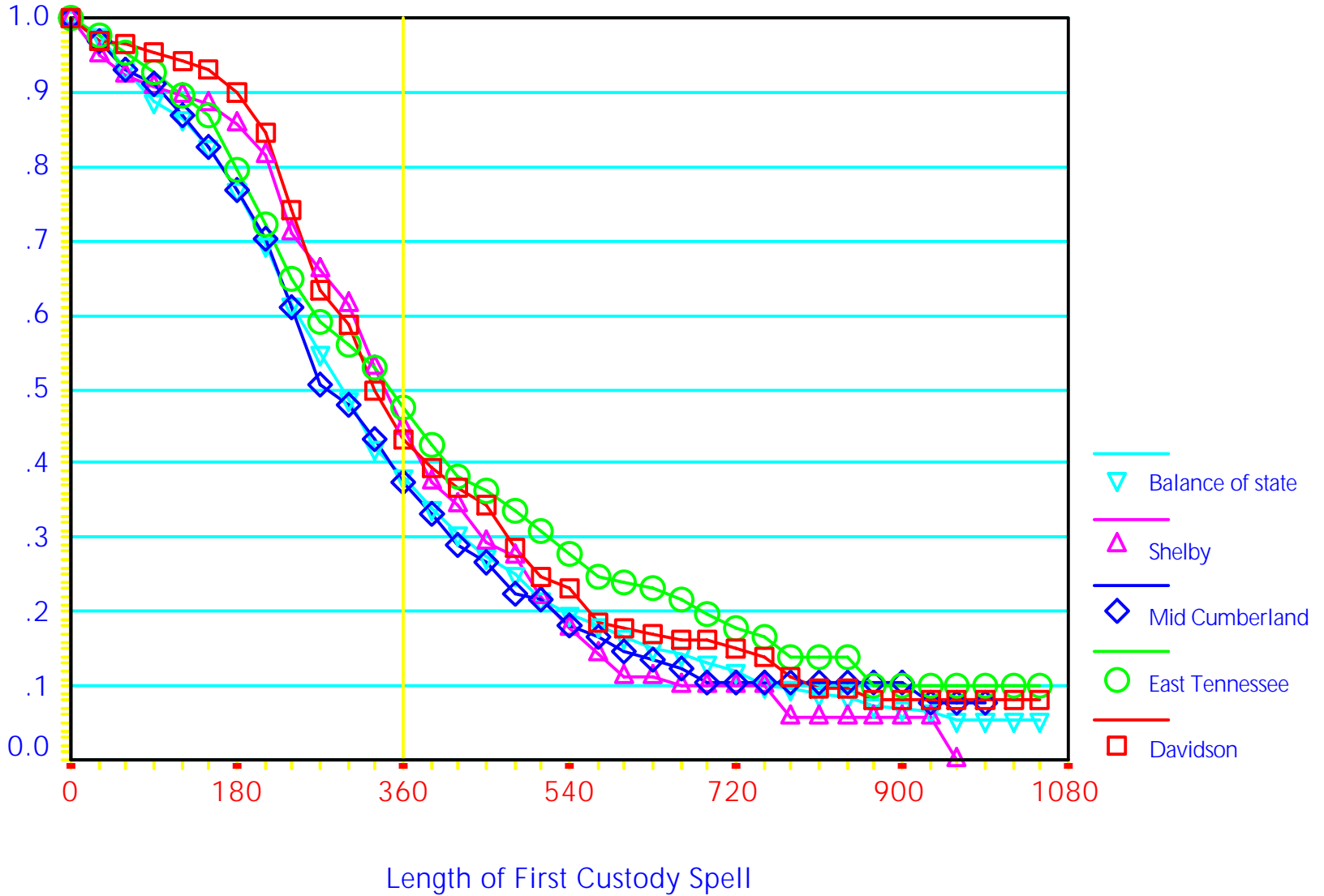
Length of Stay Among DCSN Children Initially Placed in Foster Homes

Proportion remaining in care



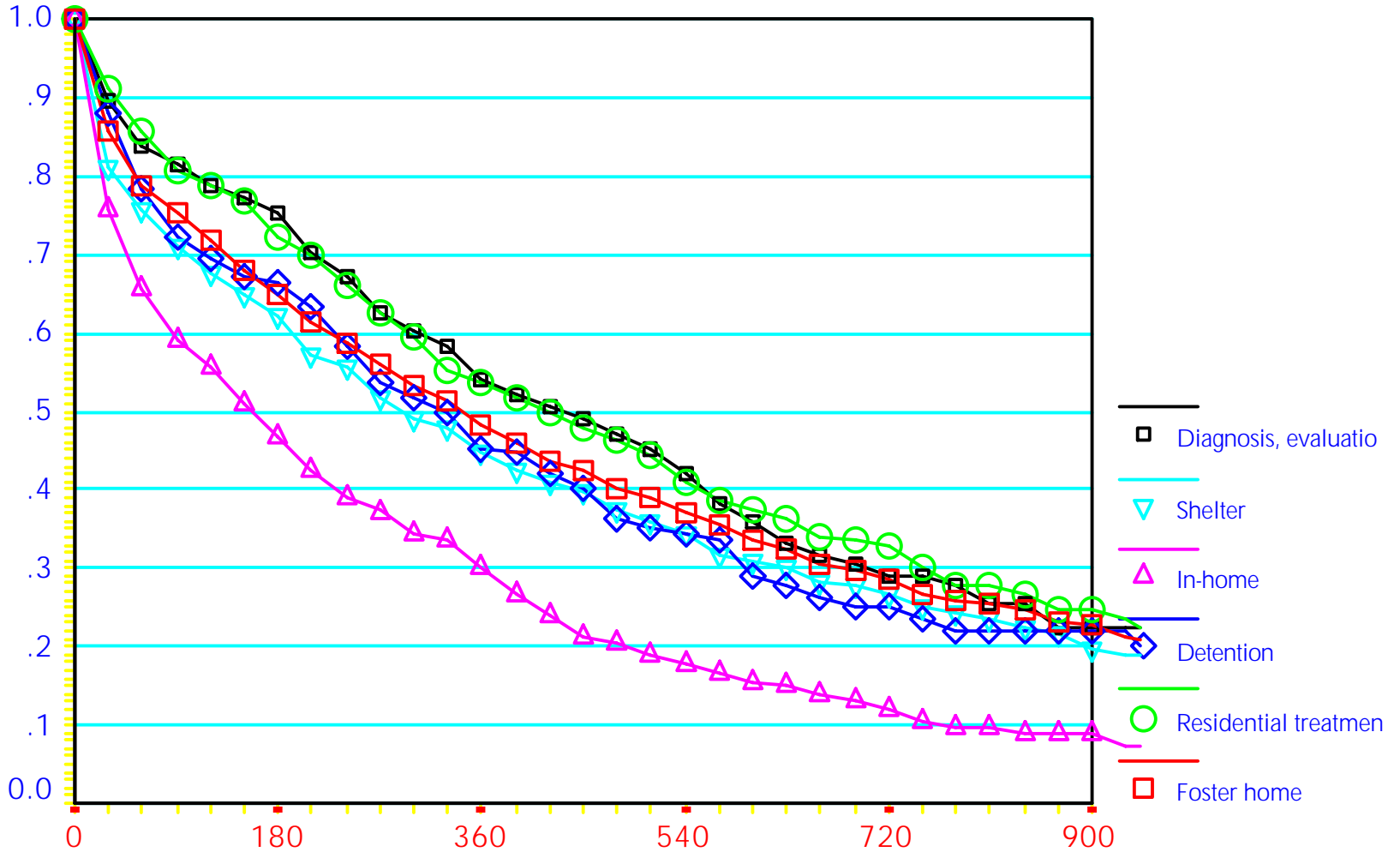
Length of Stay Among DCSD Youth Entering Care 1999 - 2002

Proportion remaining in care



Length of Stay Among DCSN Children by Initial Placement

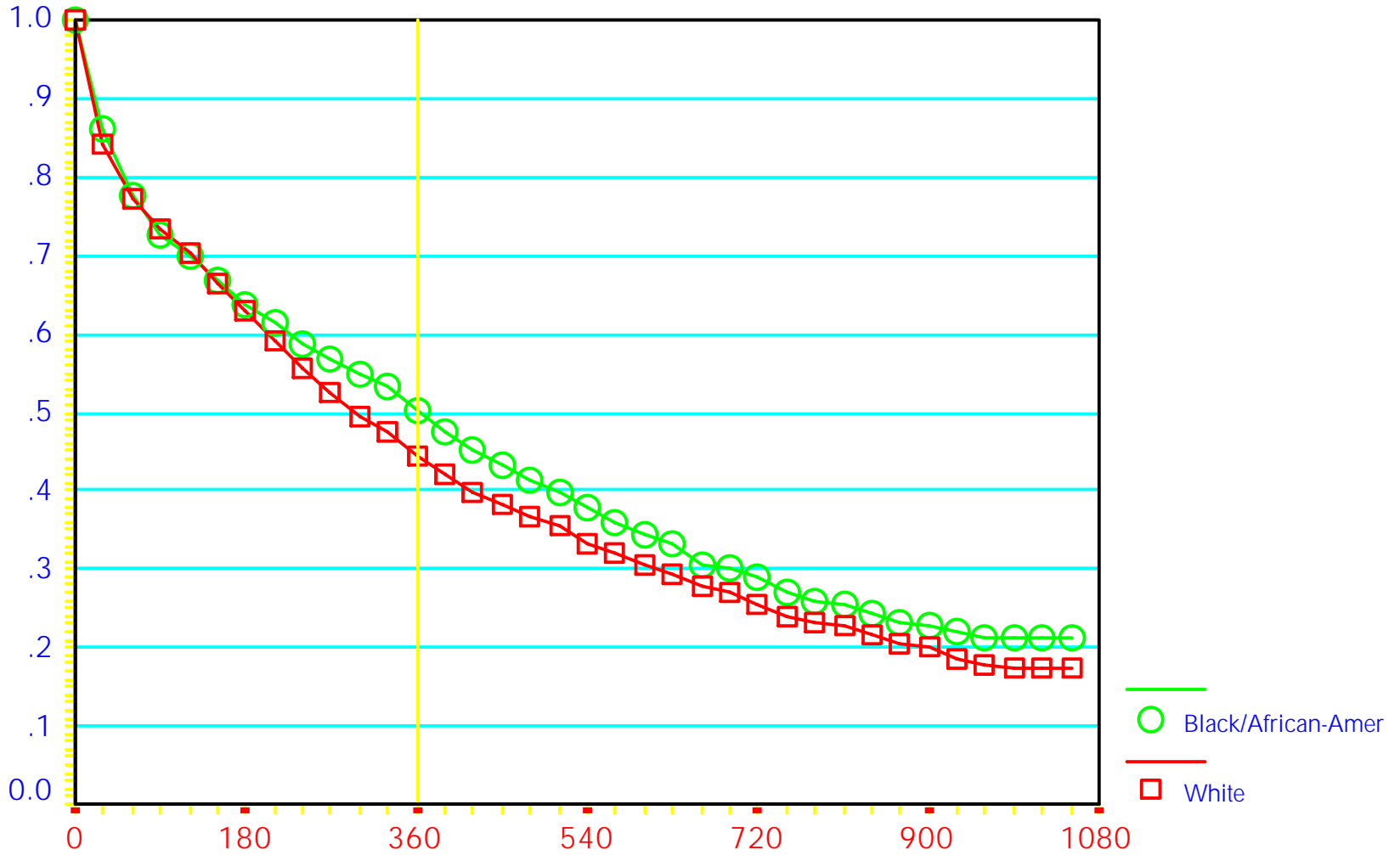
Proportion remaining in care



Length of First Custody Spell

Length of Stay Among DCSN Children

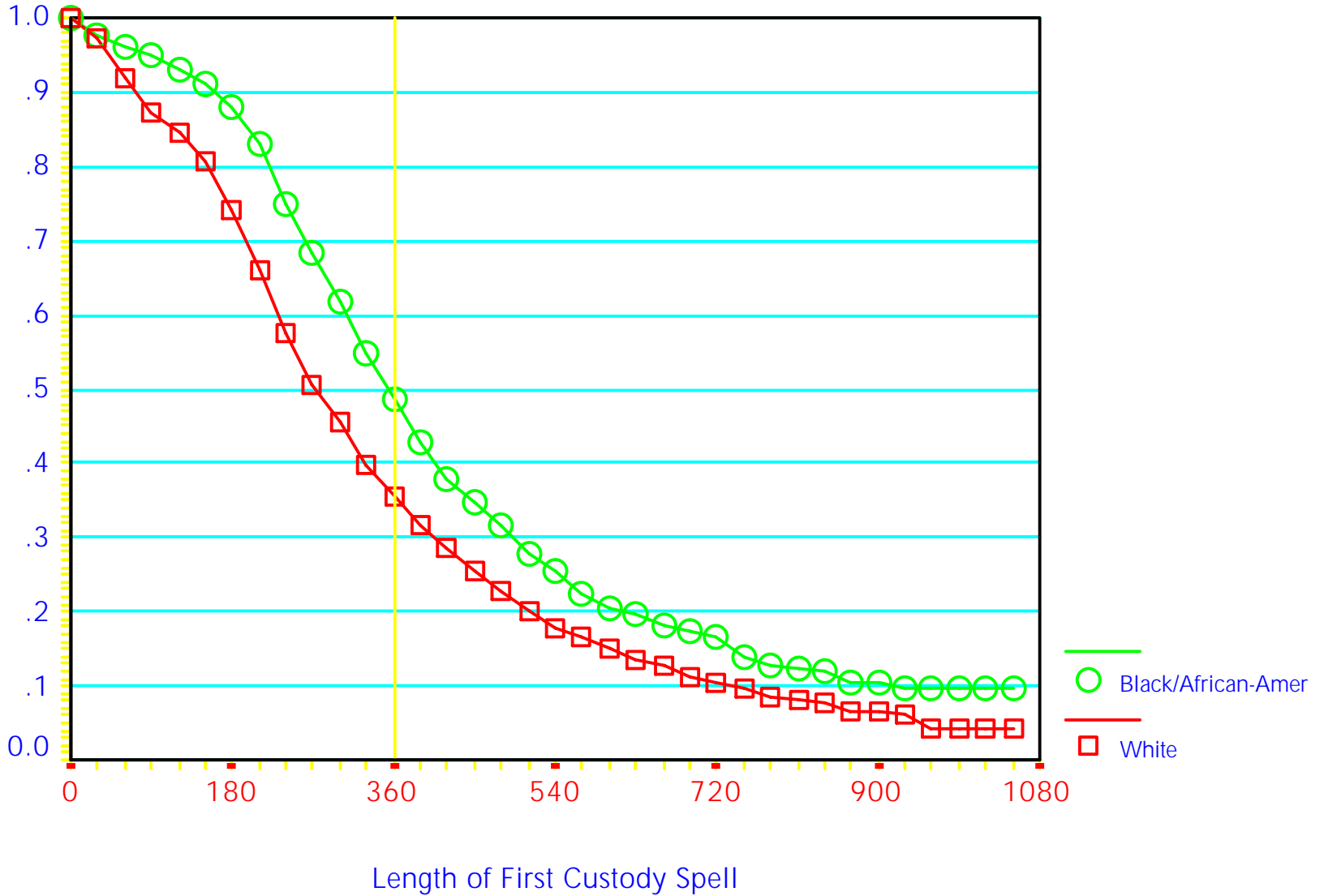
Proportion remaining in care



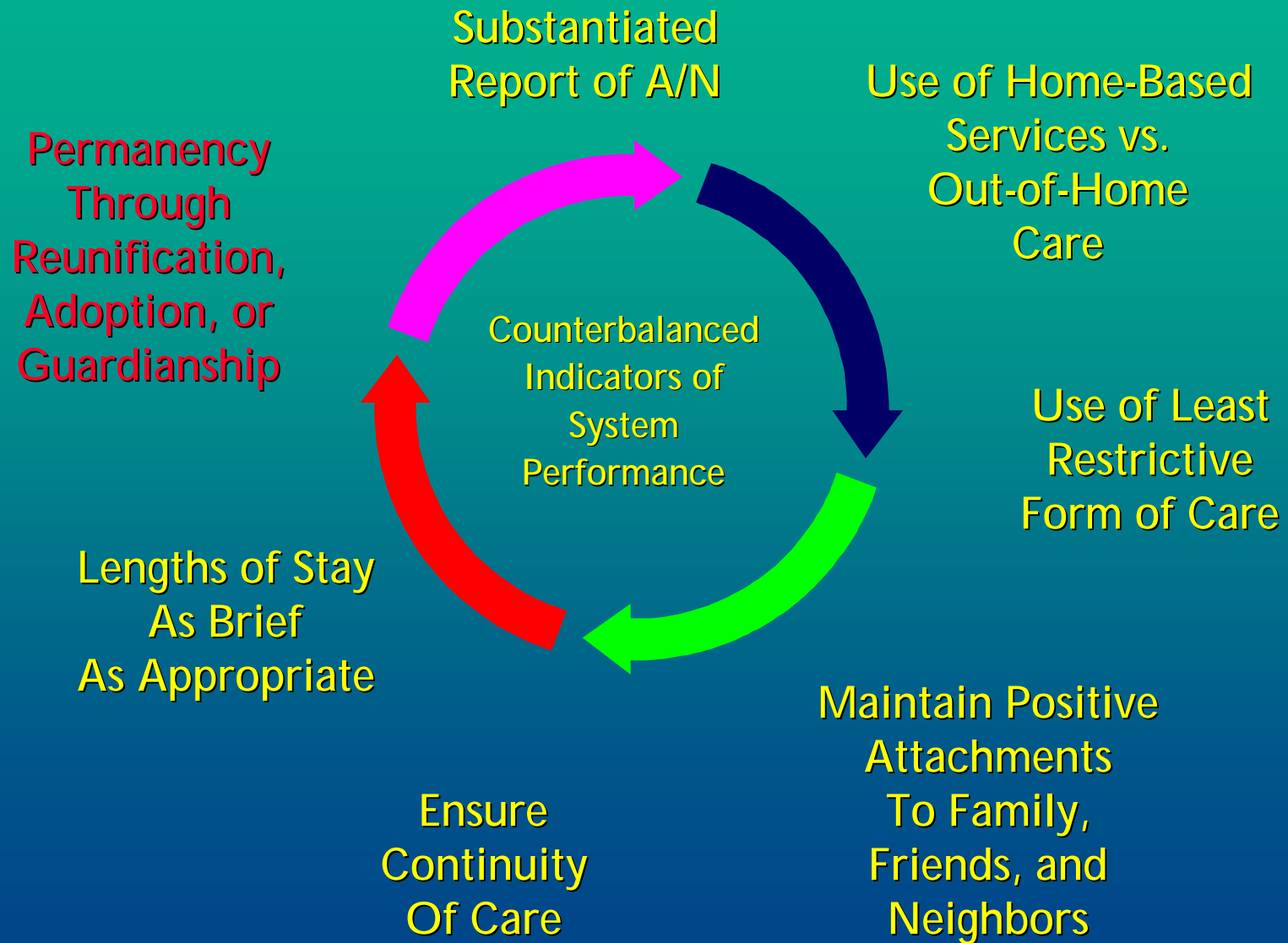
Length of First Custody Spell

Length of Stay Among Youth Entering DCSD Custody

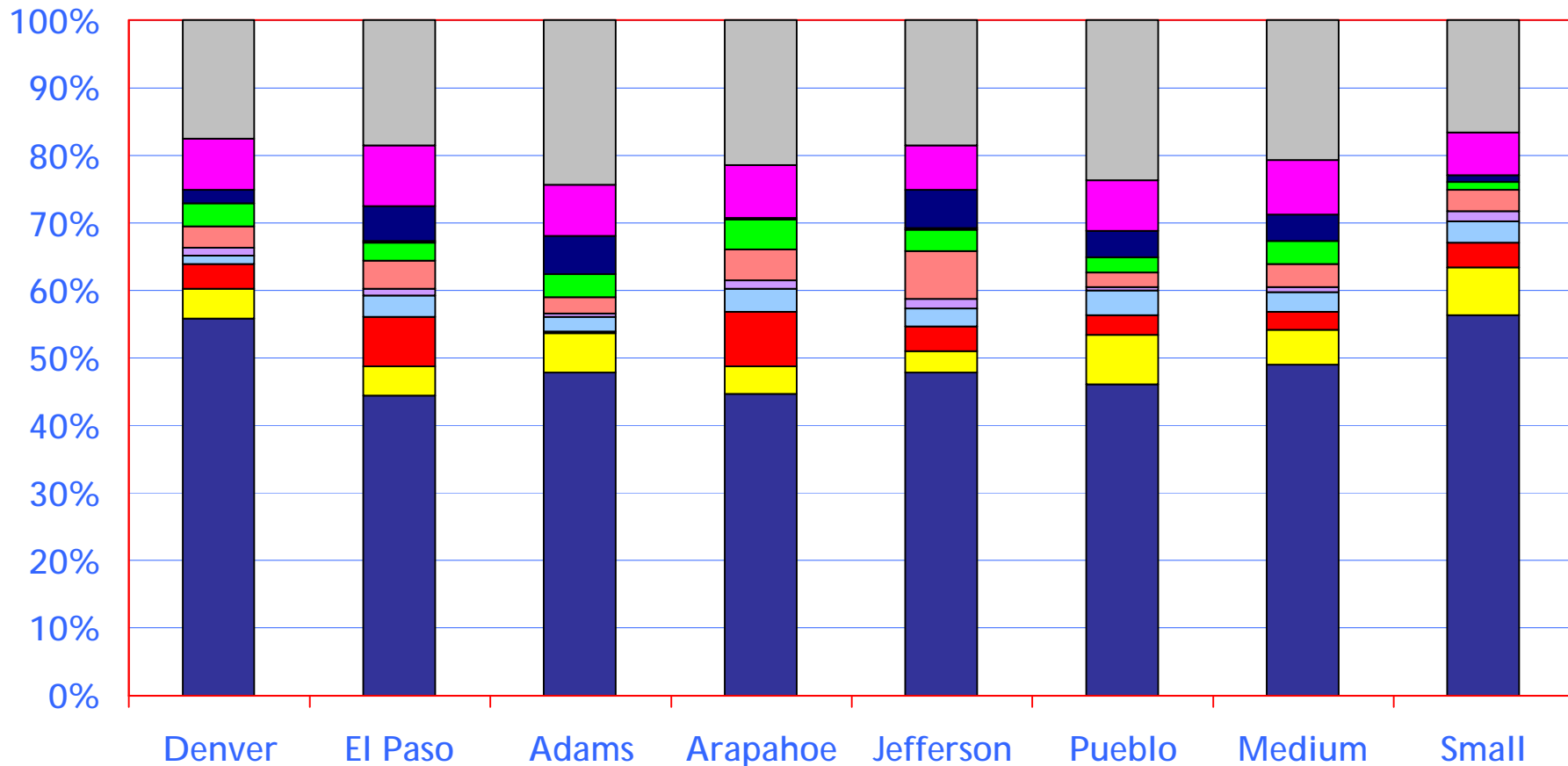
Proportion remaining in care



The Cycle of Experiences in the Child Welfare System

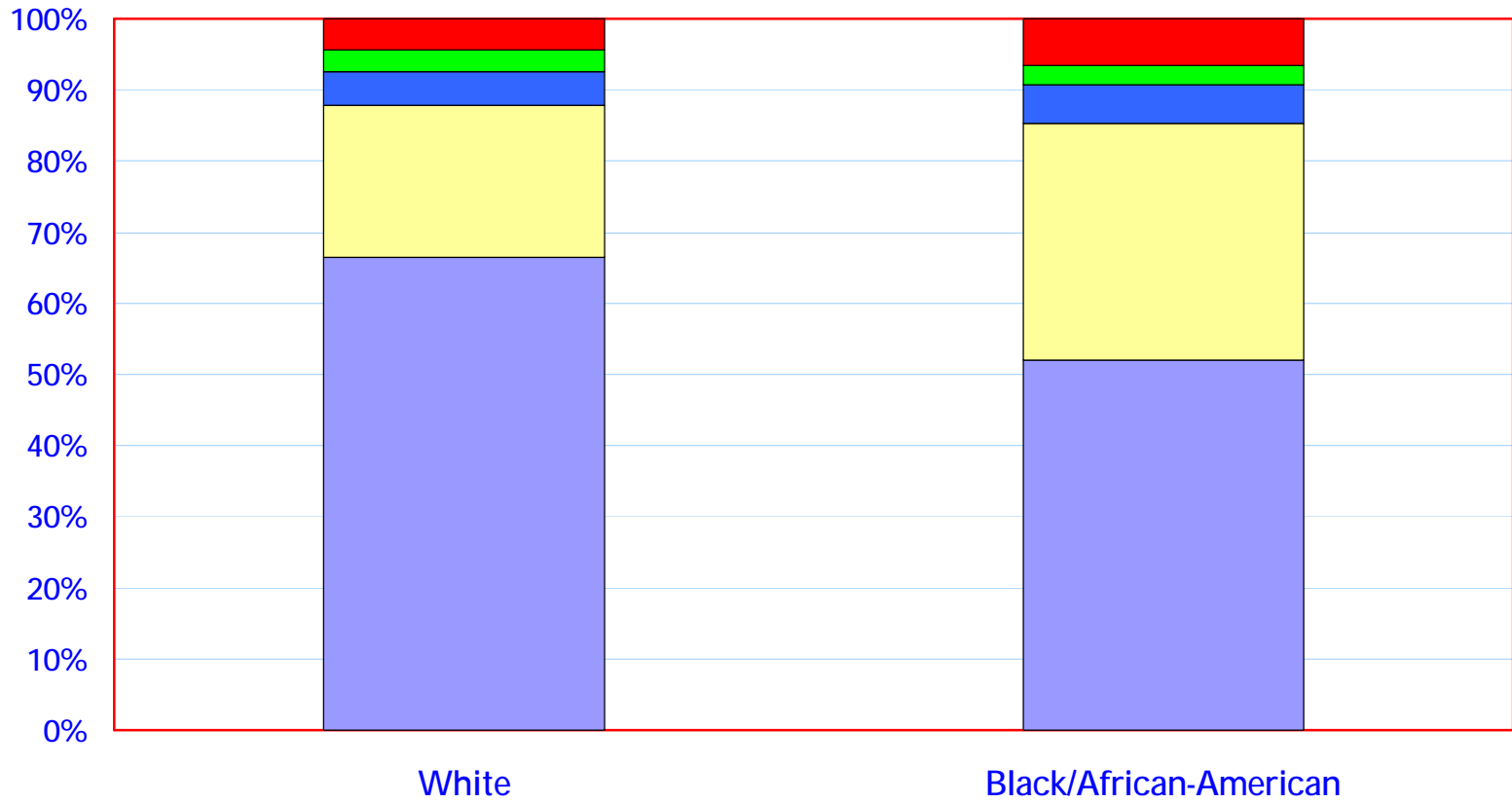


Permanent Placements by County



- Reunification with Parents
- Emancipation
- Runaway (ran from FC plcmnt)
- Conversion Code-No Longer Used
- Guardianship
- Death of child while in FC
- Living With Other Relatives
- Adoption (Legal Adoption)
- Transfer to Another County or Agency
- Placed for Adoption

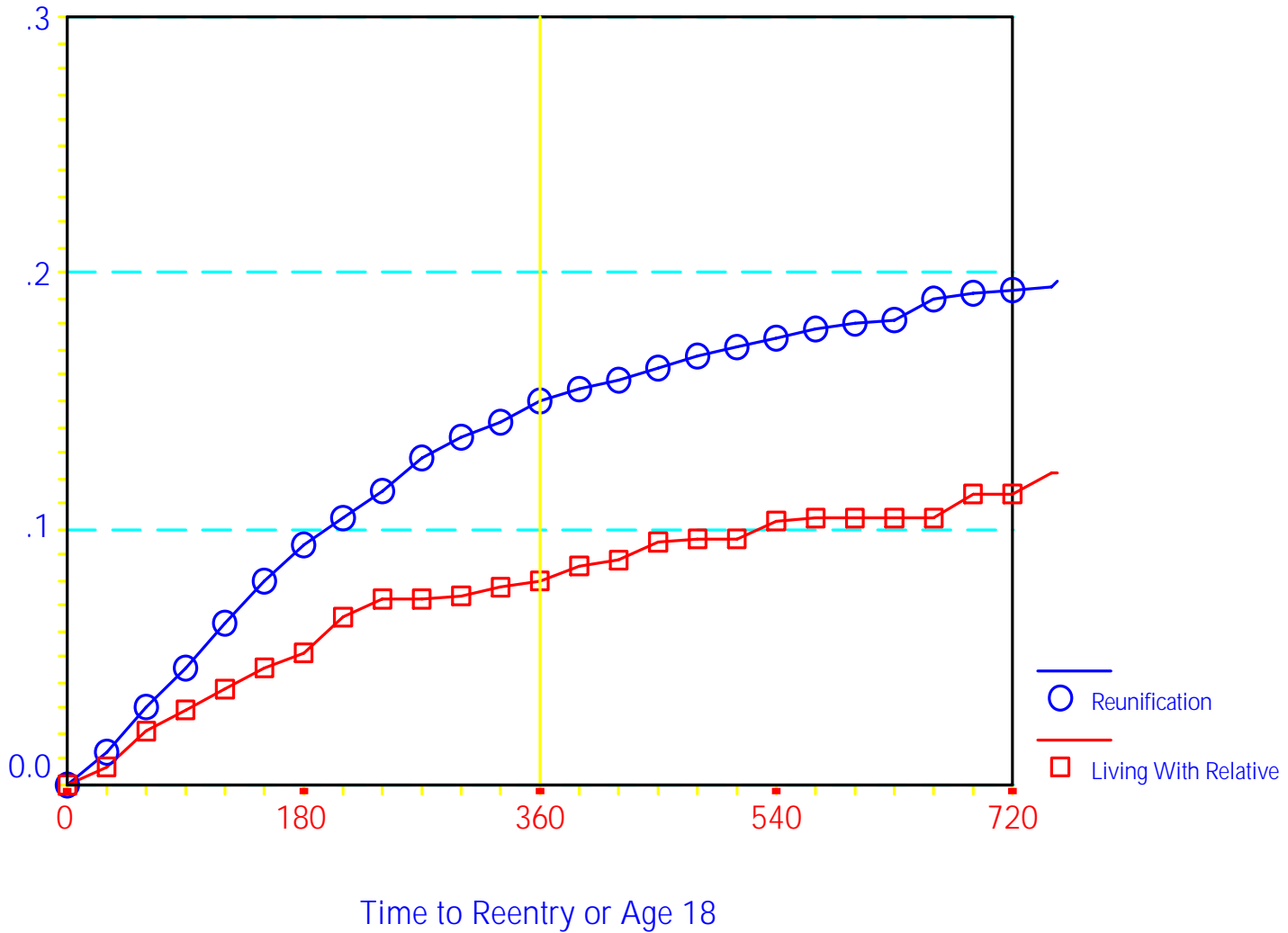
Permanent Placements for DCSN Children Who Left Care



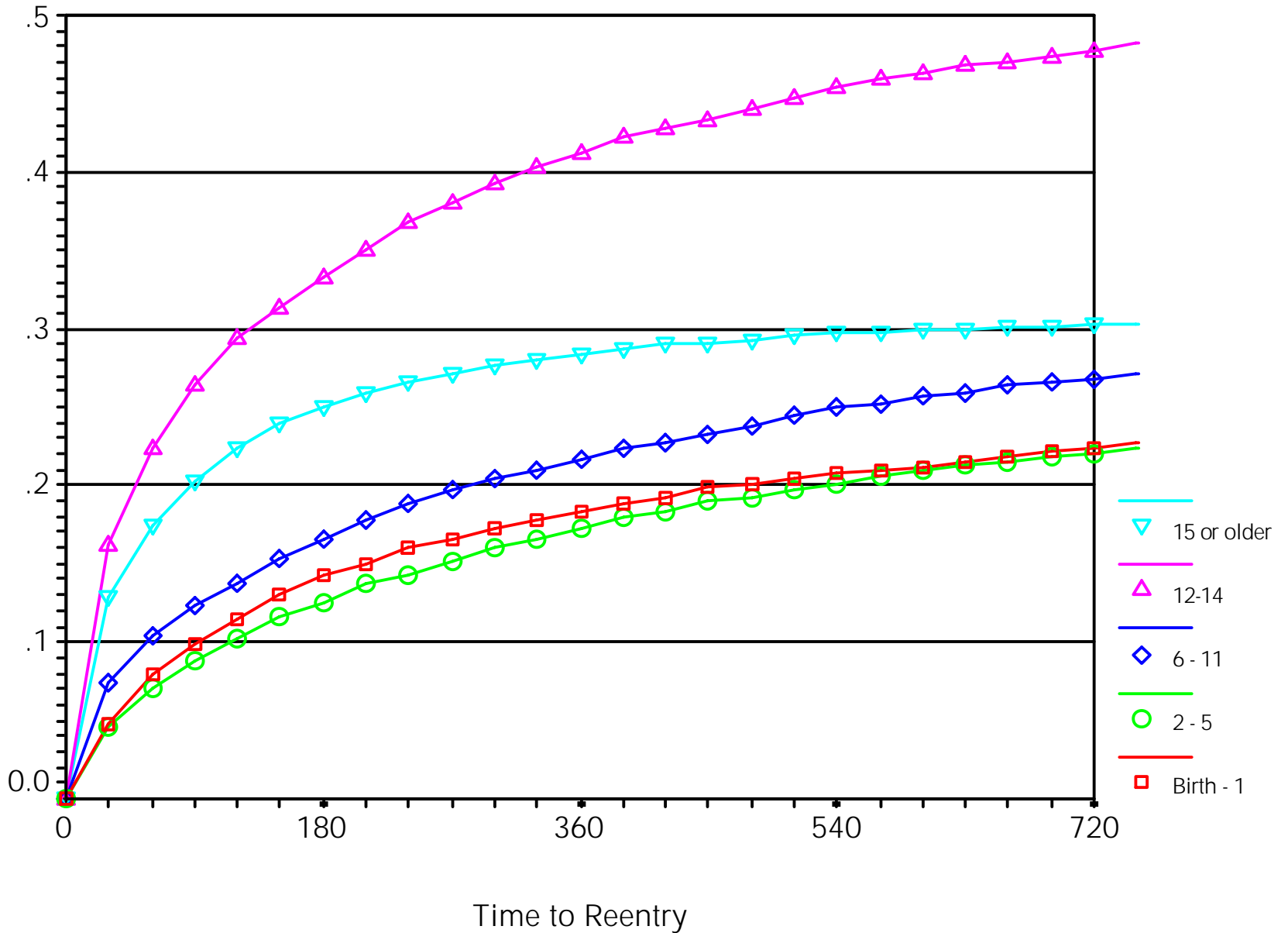
- Reunification With Parents or Primary Caretakers
- Emancipation
- Other
- Living With Other Relatives
- Adoption

Re-Entry to Care by Permanent Placement at End of First Spell

Proportion Re-Entering Care



Re-Entry by Age at Initial Entry



The Relationship Between Core Strategies and Outcomes

- Strategy groups for TDM, community partnerships, and resource families identify how their efforts are leading to improvements in Family to Family outcomes
- Strategy groups monitor their progress toward full and effective implementation by establishing and monitoring benchmarks
- The self-evaluation team supports other strategy groups by providing outcome data at geographic and programmatic aggregations that are useful

Estimate of Number of TDM Staffings per Month

Estimate of Children at Risk of Entering Placement

Source of data: entry cohort data files

Total initial entries in 5.25 years	11,971	
Total reentries in 5.25 years	1,676	
Total entries and reentries	13,647	
Annual number of entries and reentries	2,599	
Average number entries/reentries per month	217	
Estimate of Children at "risk for placement" - TDM required (assumes 80% placement rate)		271

Estimate of children exiting placement

Source of data: entry cohort data files

Total exits in 5.25 years	9,090	
Annual number of exits	1,731	
Average number exits per month	144	
Number of TDM's for children exiting		144

Estimate of placement changes

Source of data: entry cohort data files

Total placement changes in 5.25 years	8,694	
Annual number of changes	1,656	
Average number of changes per month	138	
Number of TDM's for children at risk for moves		138

Total events per month **553**

SAR's 407

Obstacles to Self-Evaluation

- Manager's failure to assert that self-evaluation is part of the "real work" of the agency
- Shifting the focus to reports or monitoring systems rather than maintaining a commitment to an ongoing interactive process
- Difficulty hiring and retaining staff who have analytic and data management skills

