

DCYF's Office of Innovation, Alignment, and Accountability Research x2: Kinship Care and SUD Infant Placements

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Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

The purpose of DCYF's Office of Innovation, Alignment, and Accountability (OIAA) is to build agency capacity to make evidence-informed decisions, continuously learn and improve, and successfully enact system reform.



The Office of Innovation, Alignment, and Accountability

RESEARCH BRIEF: CHILD OUTCOMES IN KINSHIP CARE IN WASHINGTON STATE



Research Brief: Child Outcomes in Kinship Care in Washington

Data from:

1. National research
2. Surveys of Washington youth not living with parents
3. Assessments of children and youth in DCYF care and authority

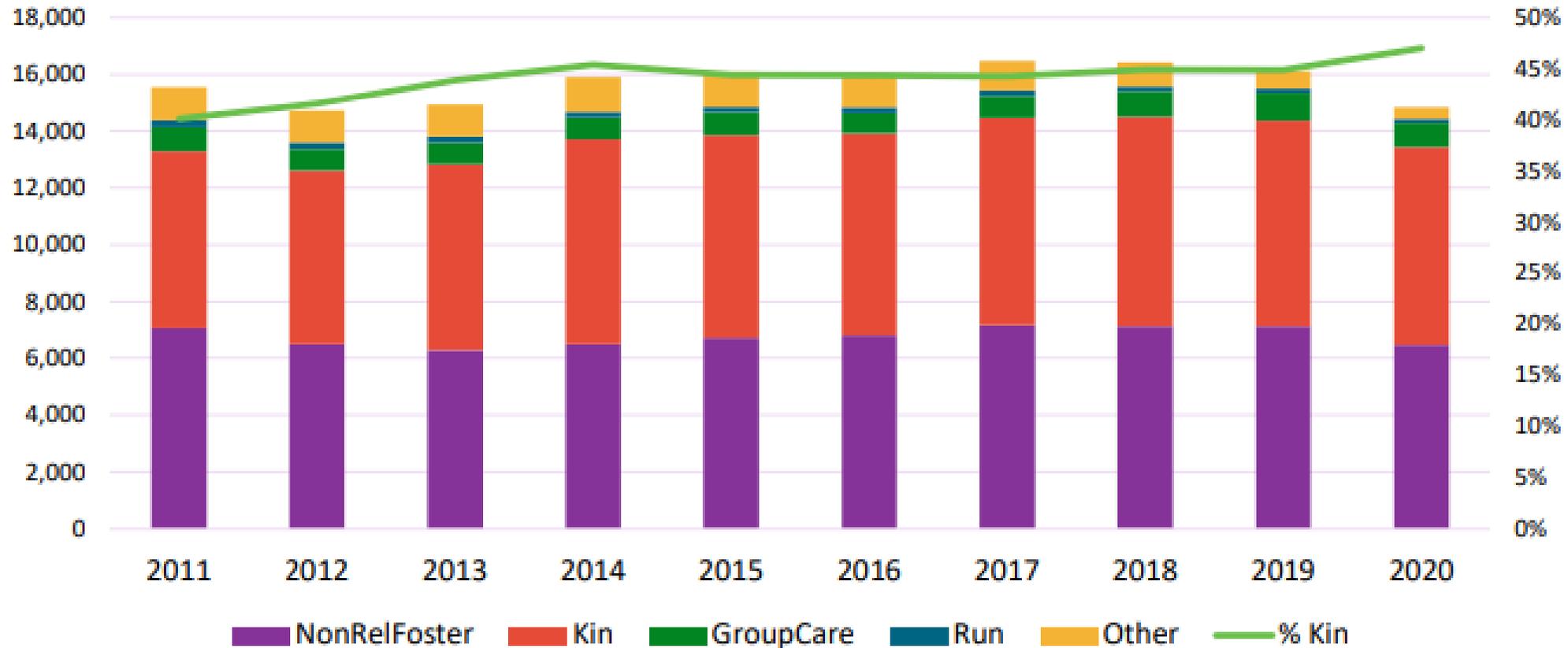
Co Authors:

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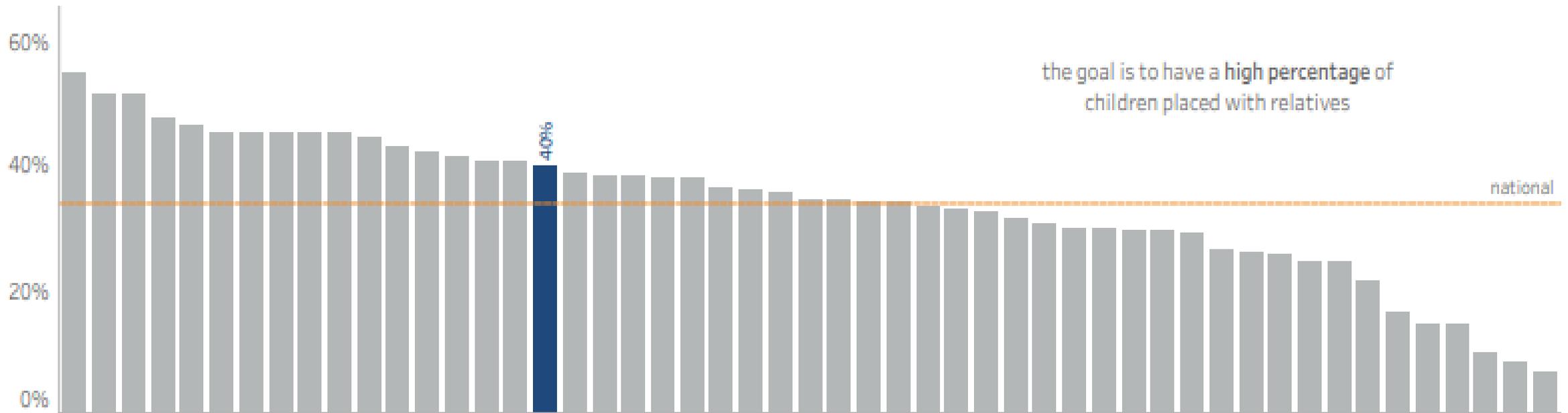
Conclusion

- National research and Washington data show that, on average, children in out-of-home care experience better well-being in kinship care than in non-relative foster care.
- Washington state kinship placement rate is above average compared with other states, but still with room for growth.

Total Children <18 in Out-of-Home Placements by FY 2011-2020



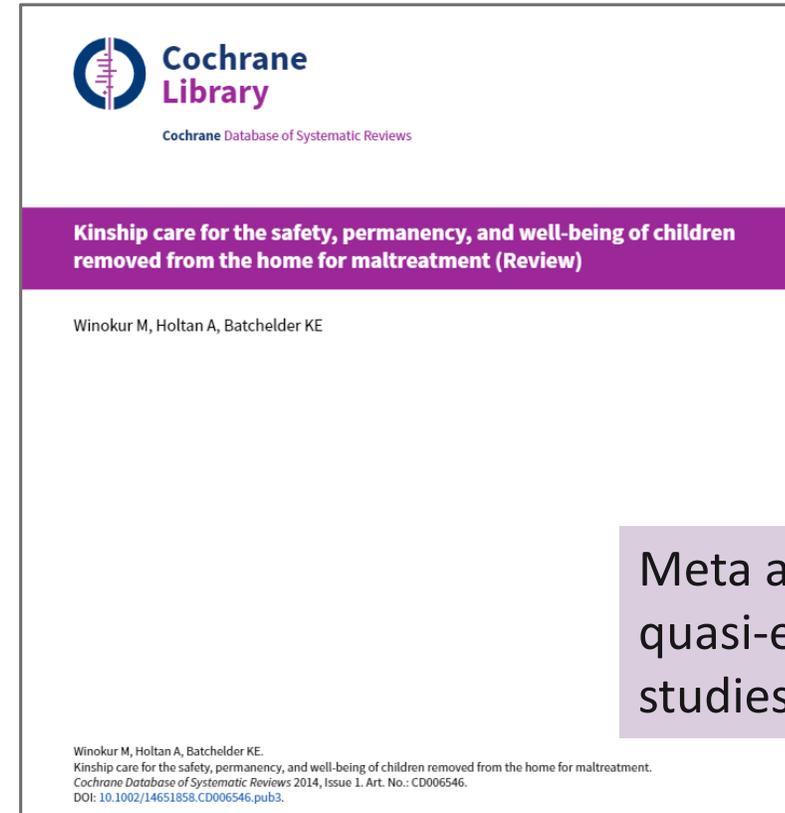
Percent of Children in Kinship Care, All Ages



National Research

Compared with children in non-kin foster care, children in kinship care, on average experience –

- Fewer behavioral problems
- Fewer mental health disorders
- Better well-being
- Less placement disruption



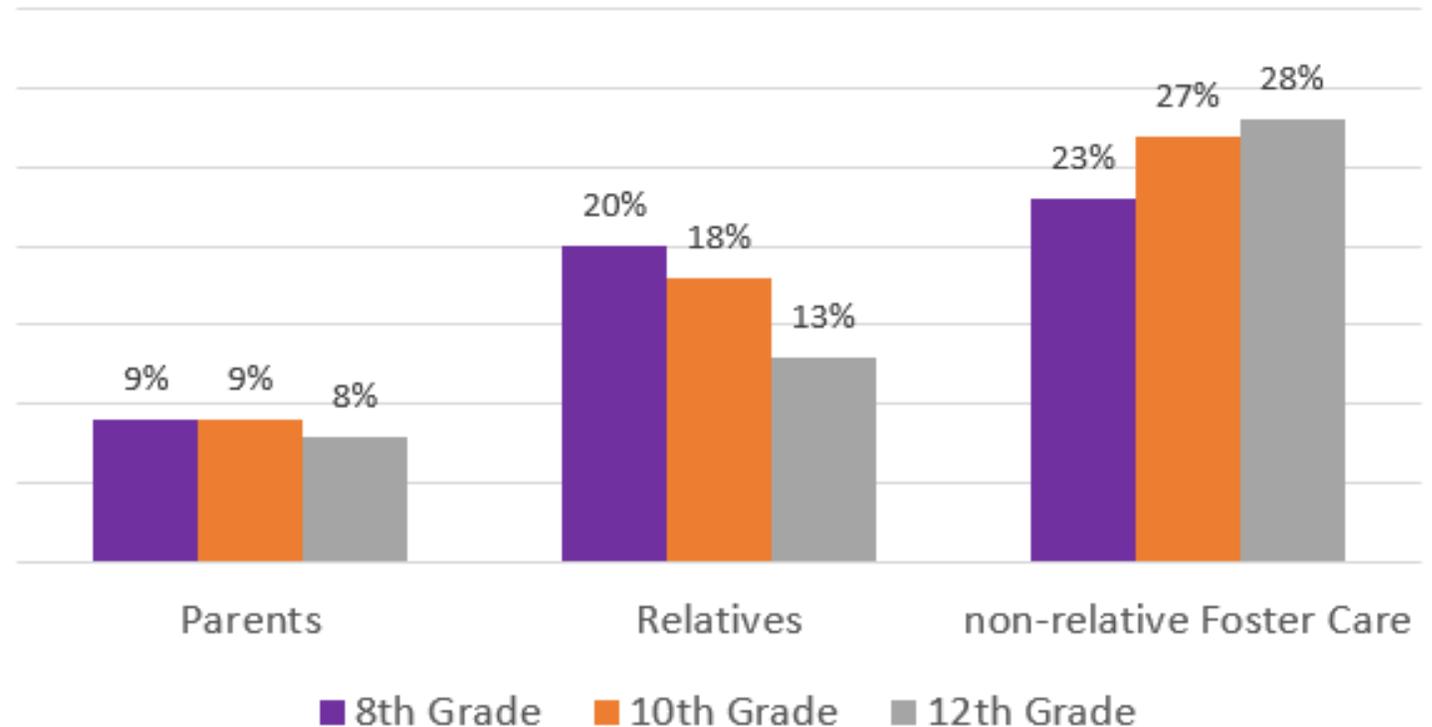
Meta analysis of 102 quasi-experimental studies, >600,000 children

Youth Self-Reporting “Hopelessness” Healthy Youth Survey, 2018

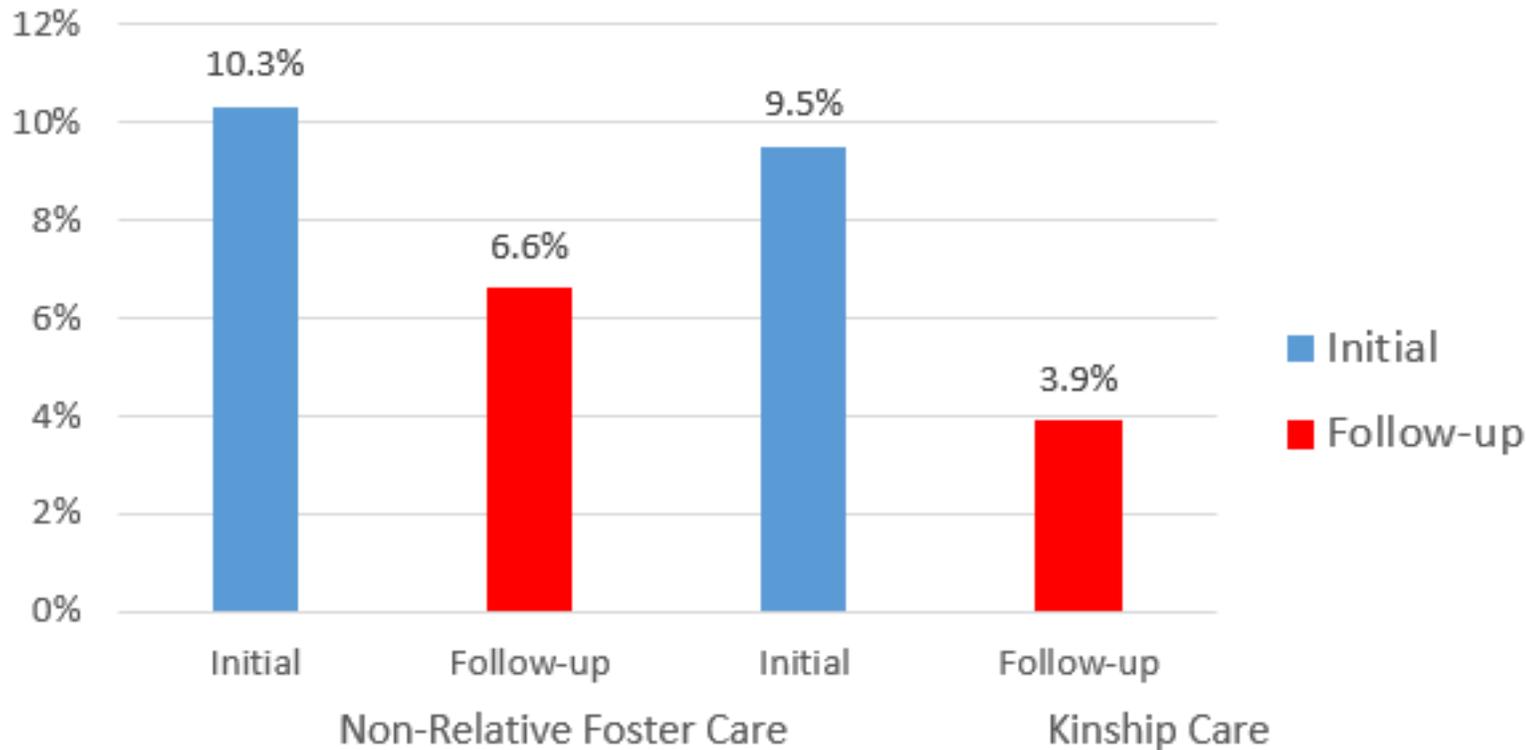
DSHS ALTSA conducts analyses of state Healthy Youth Survey specific for children in other living arrangements

ALTSA bi-annual reports can be found at the DSHS ALTSA Kinship Publications page: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/kinship-care/dshs-kinship-publications>

More about Healthy Youth Survey results: <https://www.askhys.net/>



Percent “At Risk” on PTSD Screener, DCYF Placements 2016-2019

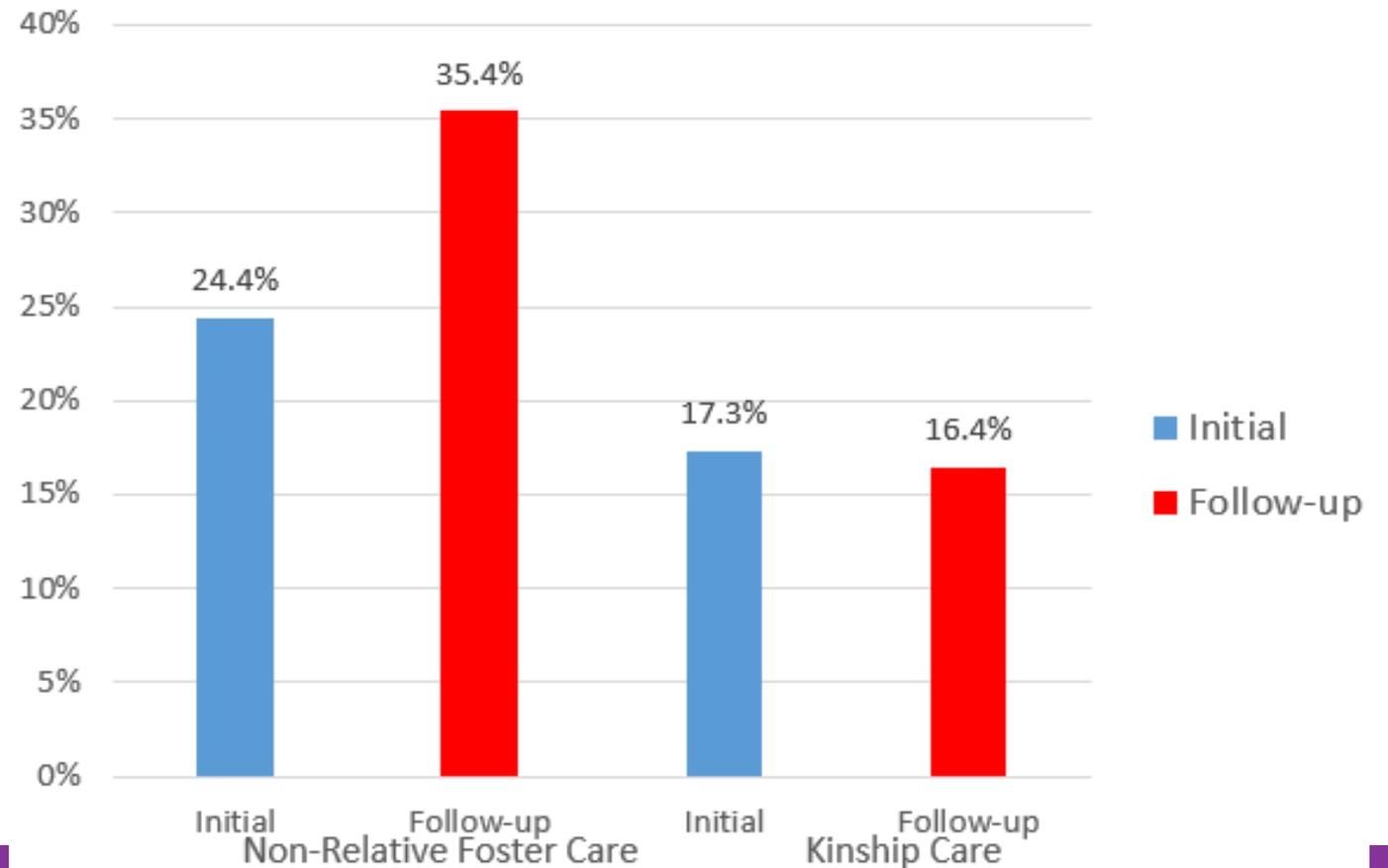


Children and youth ages 6-17 placed in *kinship care* showed greater improvements on their PTSD scores over the course of the first six months in out-of-home care.



Percent “At Risk” on PSC-17 Externalizing Scale DCYF Placements 2016-2019

Children and youth in *kinship care* show better outcomes on externalizing behavioral than those placed in non-relative foster care.



Questions?

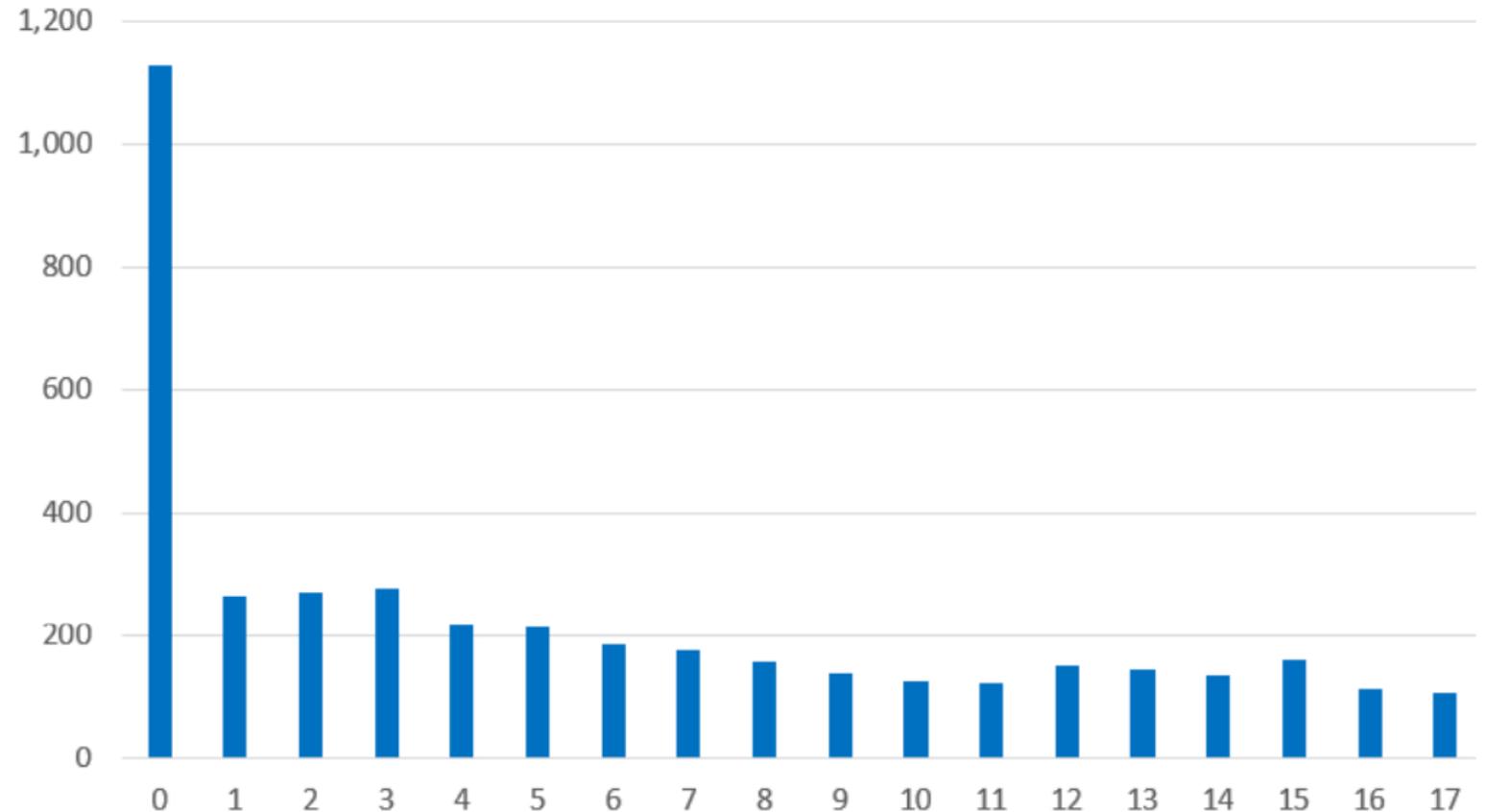


Children Placed in Out-of-Home Care by Age, CY 2020

Washington State 3rd highest state in nation in terms of % of all children entering placement who are infants (<1 year).

23.7% per AFCARS 2019

<https://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/cwodatasite/enteredCare/index>



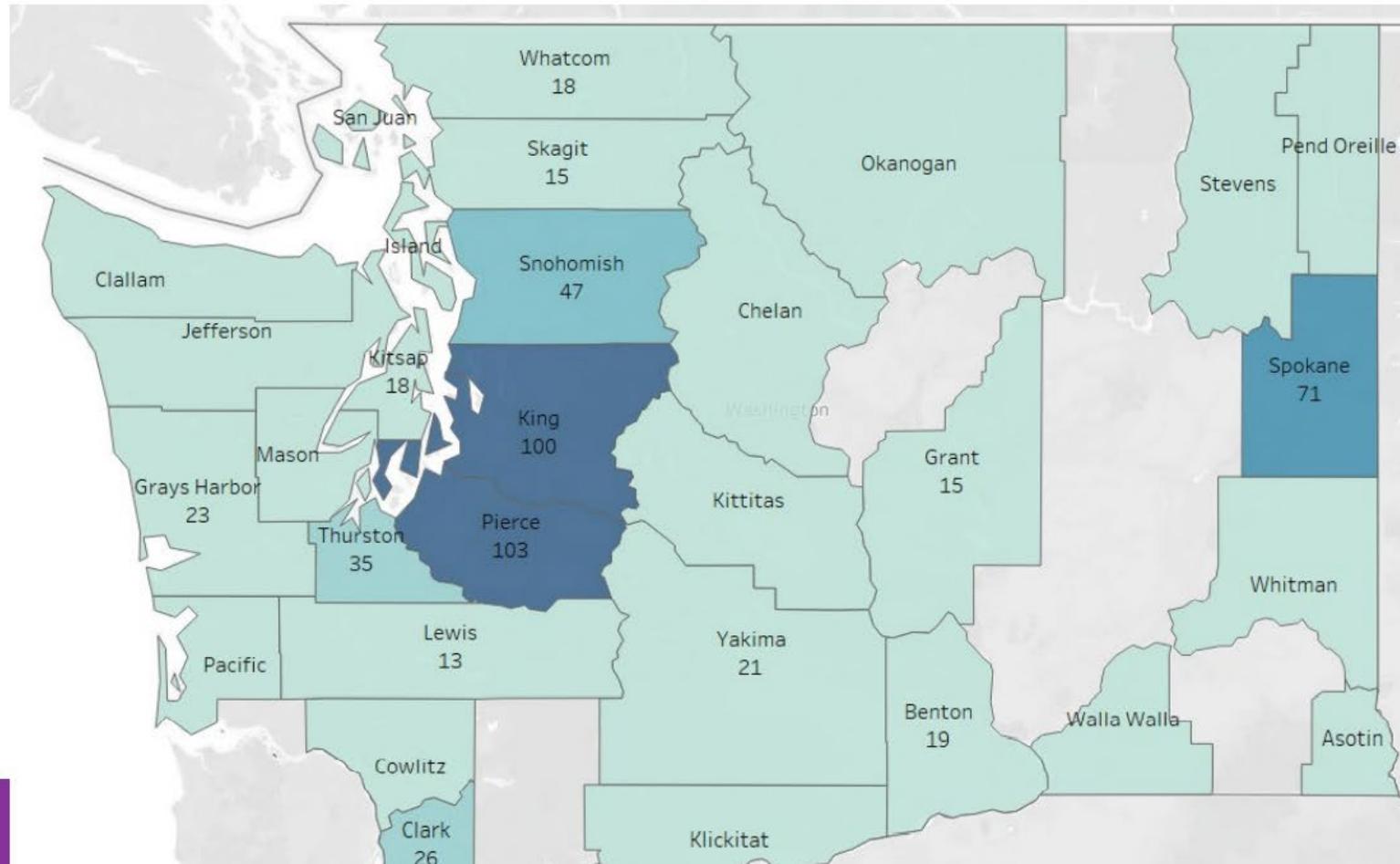
Children Ages 0-1, CY 2019-2020

- In 2020, **63%** of all children ages 0-1 placed and **79%** of newborns placed had Parental Substance Use as a contributing factor.
- Total screened-in intakes for children age 0-1 decreased 9% from 2019-2020, young children placed with Parental Substance Use decreased just 2.8% (ages 0-1) and 4.4% (first 30 days)

	2019	2020
Total Children ages 0-1 in Screened-In Intakes	6,191	5,631
Total Children ages 0-1 Placed in out-of-home care	1,604	1,390
Total Children ages 0-1 Placed w/Parental Substance Use	904	878
Total Newborns Placed First 30 days of life	814	737
Total Newborns Placed First 30 days w/Parental Substance Use	612	585



Newborns Placed First 30 Days w/Parental Substance Use, CY 2020



Statewide N=585

47% in King, Pierce, and
Spokane Counties



PPW (Pregnant & Parenting Women) Inpatient Treatment

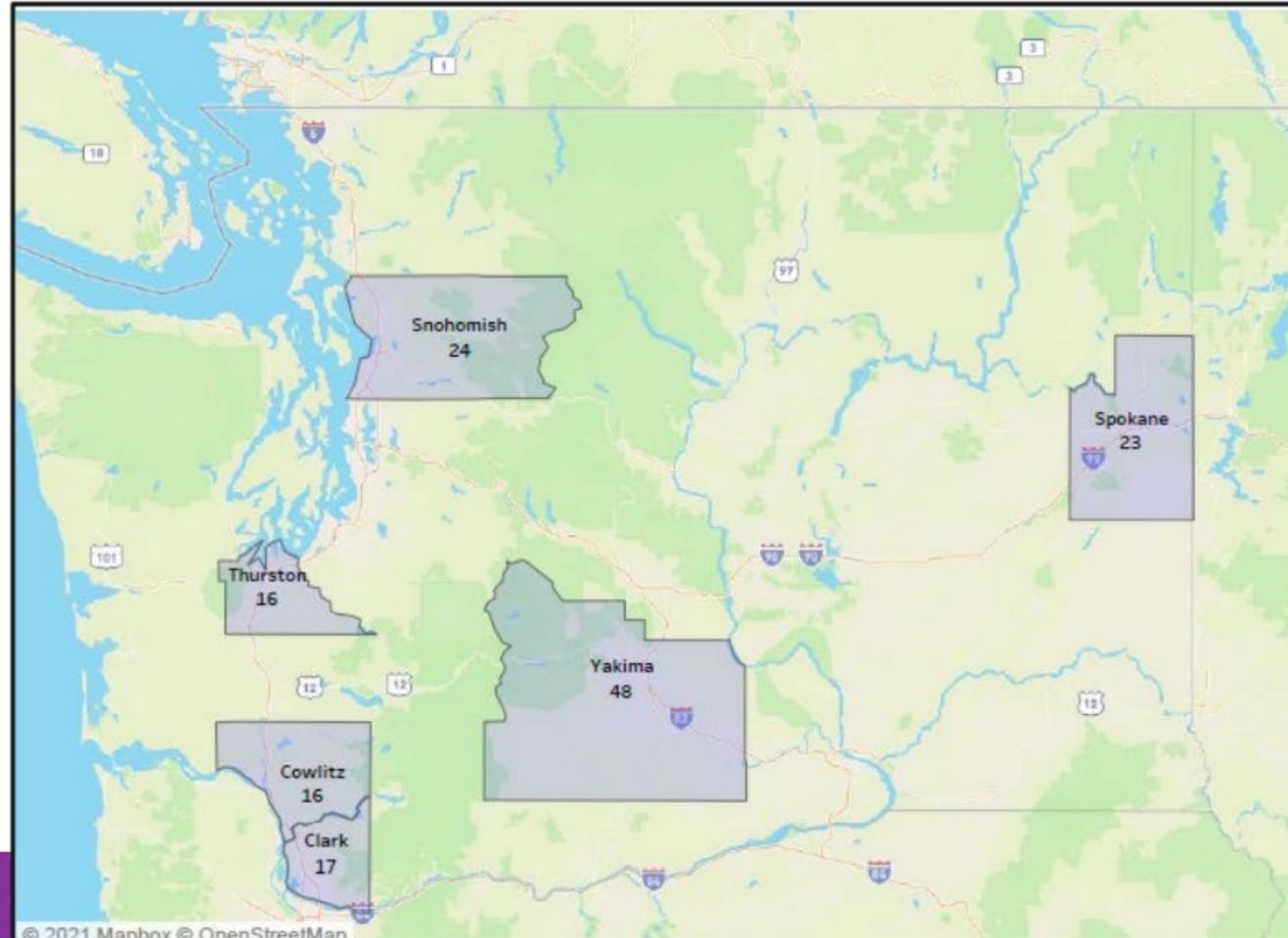
Access to inpatient PPW treatment

HCA reports:

- 9 providers in the state
- 144 beds statewide

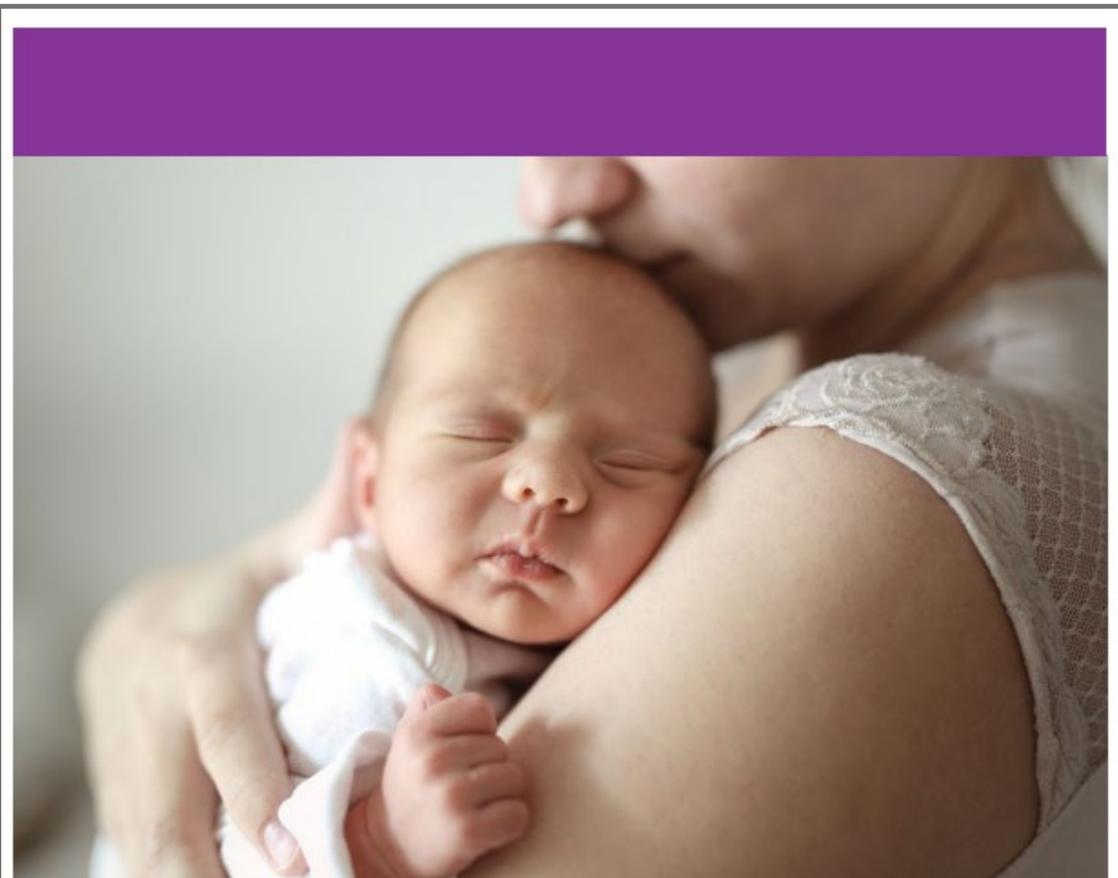
FFPSA allows supplemental foster care payment to these types of providers

- As of August 2021, only 3 providers have ever billed



Research Report: Examination of Infants Indicated for Substance Exposure/Affected at Birth

1. 2012-2020, almost 300% increase in N of children reported to child welfare as substance-exposed/affected
2. A third of these children are placed in out-of-home care
3. 20% of referrals screened out d/t 'unborn victim' (2012-2020) are subsequently referred as newborns



The Office of Innovation, Alignment, and Accountability

EXAMINATION OF INFANTS INDICATED FOR SUBSTANCE EXPOSURE/AFFECTED AT BIRTH



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Author:

Dr. Doug Klinman, OIAA Child
Welfare Researcher

DCYF SUD Pregnant Pilot, started planning in 2020

Partnership with Harvard Government Performance Lab (HGPL Fellow)

1. AAG opinion to clarify DCYF authority to offer voluntary services for screened out referrals
2. Identify and engage community orgs to serve as care coordinators
3. Engage DCYF Intake Units as key prevention partner, create new practices for those staff
4. Work through information sharing permissions
5. Work through tribal pathway for AI/AN referrals

Top 10 Removal of Infants with Caregiver Alcohol or Drug Abuse, by DCYF Office (2019)¹

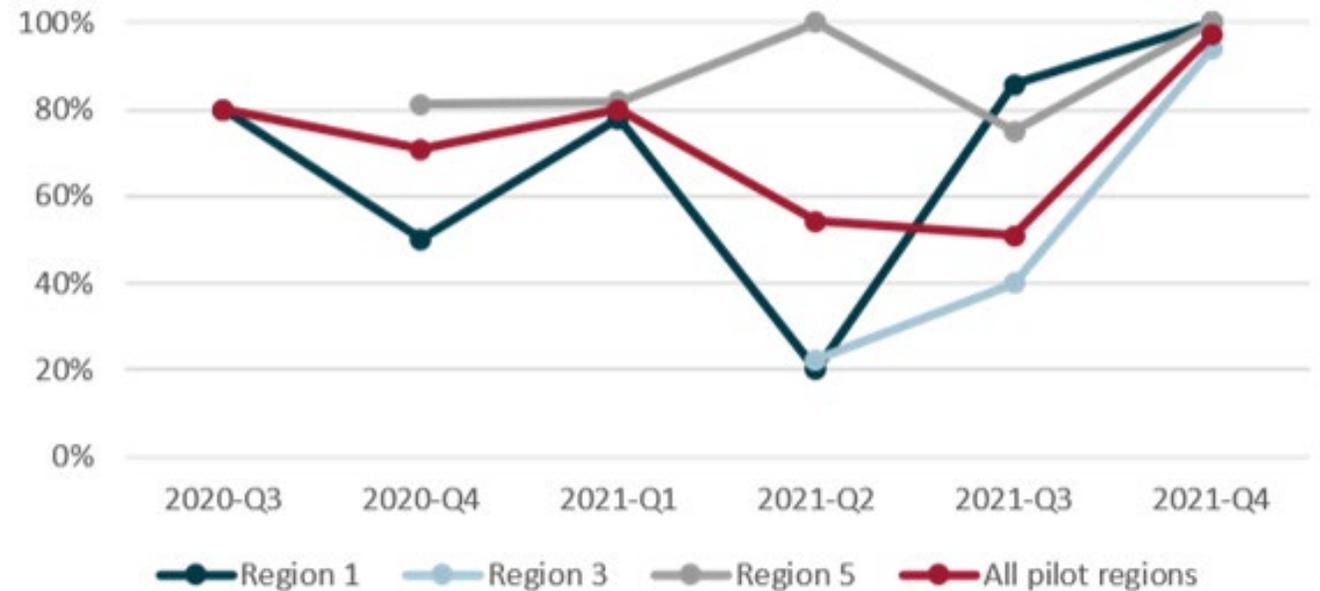
DCYF Office		#
1. Tacoma Office	✓	69
2. Puyallup Office	✓	43
3. Spokane Central	✓	41
4. King South-West	?	34
5. Lakewood		33
6. King West DCFS		30
7. Martin Luther King Jr.		30
8. Aberdeen		29
9. Smokey Point		29
10. Everett		25



DCYF SUD Pregnant Pilot

- We're at the point now that all of the eligible intakes are referred to care coordinators in our pilot areas
- Ready to spread pilot into King County
- Adding King County would mean 60% of eligible referrals statewide

Of eligible clients, % that DCYF intake referred to care coordinators



Questions?



Thank You!

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