Foster Care Children With Foster Care Alumni Parents

By Nick Kolupanowich

Explanation/Methodology

1 Children Removed During 2012 - 2013

2 If multiple removals, only the first removal was used

3 Client ID for primary caregiver was compared to database to determine if they were a foster care alumni
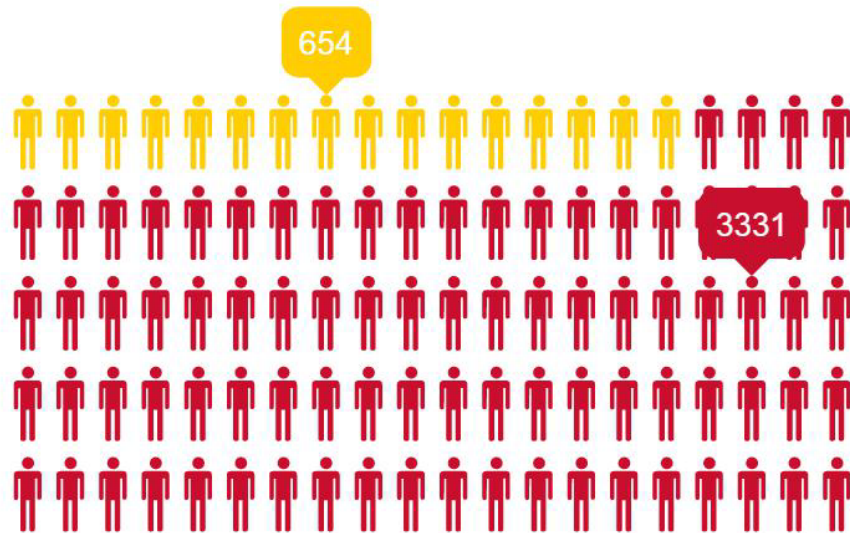
Database Time frame

1988 — Current

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Summary of 2012-13 Foster Care Entry Population

Number of Children whose Parents were Foster Care Alumni

654

3331
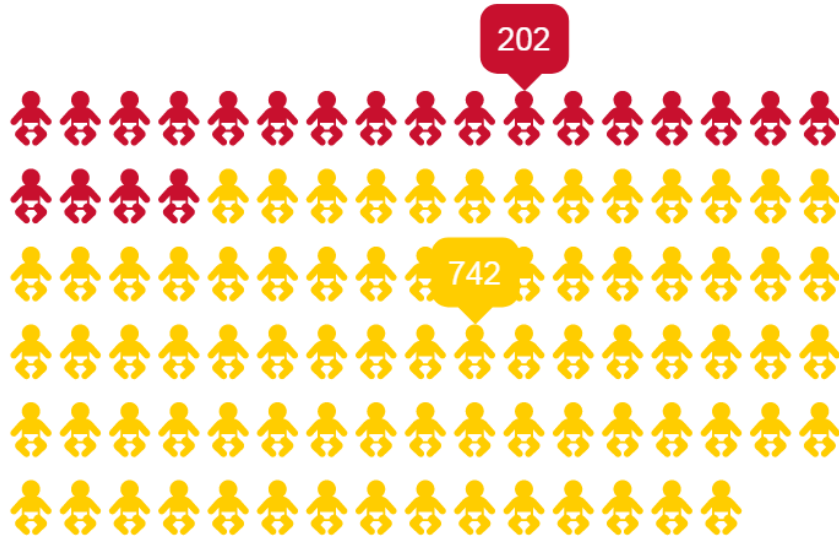
Caregiver with FC History (16.41%)
Caregiver with NO FC History (83.59%)

421 Caregivers with an average of 1.55 children

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Summary of 2012-13 Foster Care Entry Population

Number of Infants whose Parents were Foster Care Alumni

202

742

- Caregiver with a FC History (21.40%)
- Caregiver with NO FC History (78.60%)

5% Higher Rate for Infants

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Caregiver Relationships – Foster Care Alumni

While the primary caregiver with a foster care history is not always a biological parent, 99% of the time it was a biological mother or father.
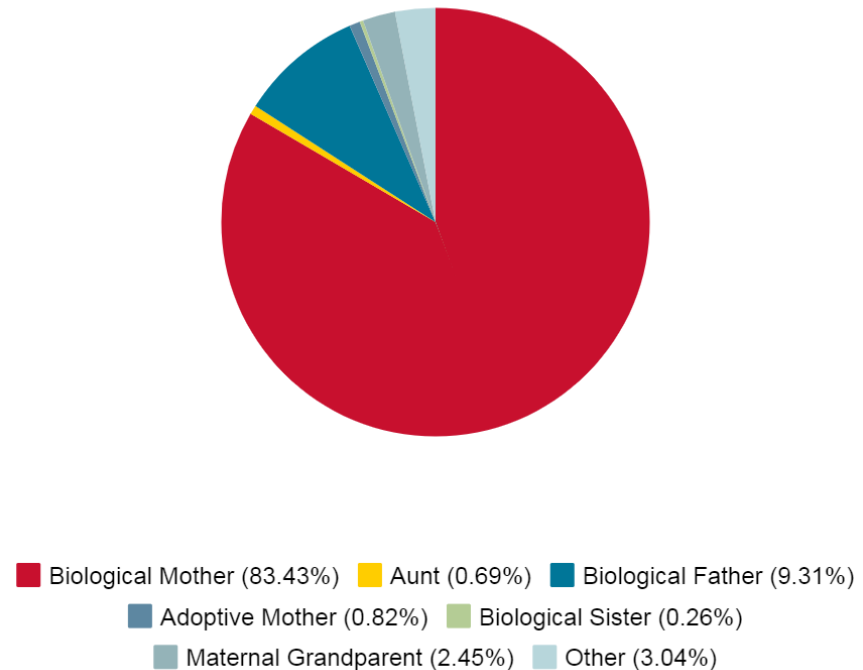
Caregiver Types
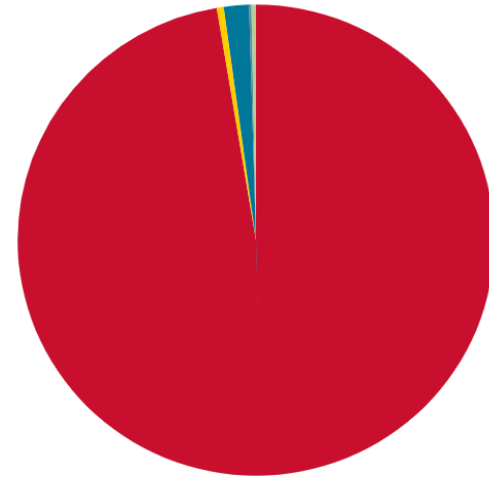
- Biological Mother (97.36%)
- Aunt (0.47%)
- Biological Father (1.71%)
- Adoptive Mother (0.16%)
- Biological Sister (0.31%)

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Caregiver Relationship –
No Documented Foster Care History

When looking at the general population, biological fathers and maternal grandparents increased as primary caregivers during removals.

Caregiver Types with NO Foster Care History

- Biological Mother (83.43%)
- Aunt (0.69%)
- Biological Father (9.31%)
- Adoptive Mother (0.82%)
- Biological Sister (0.26%)
- Maternal Grandparent (2.45%)
- Other (3.04%)

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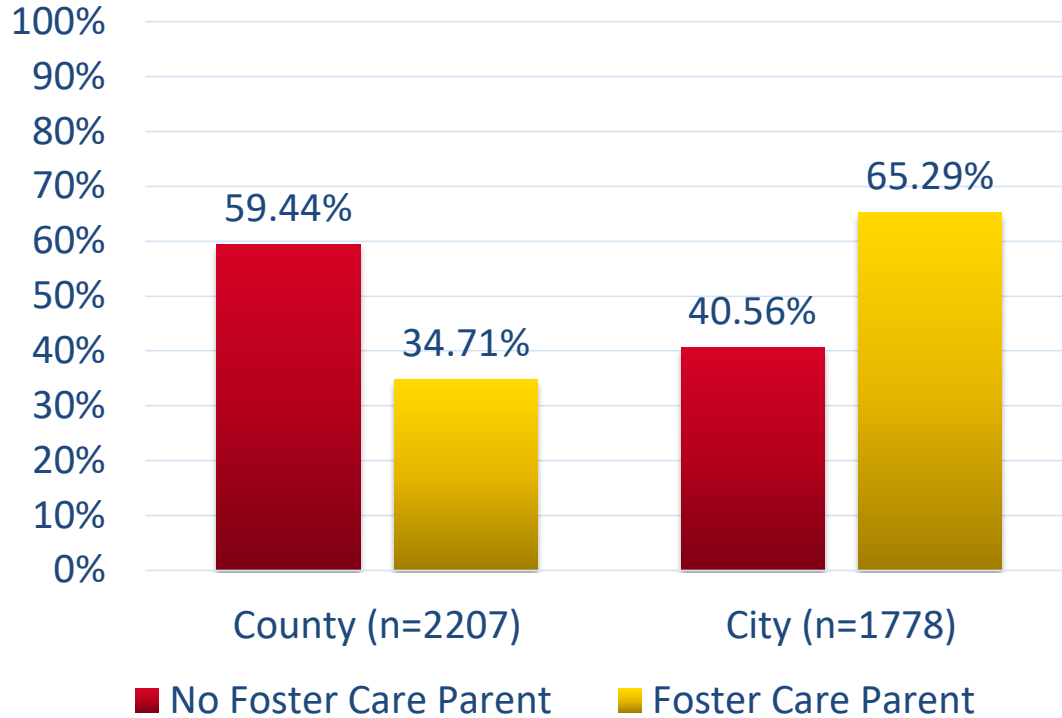FOR FAMILIES & CHILDREN

Demographics - Gender
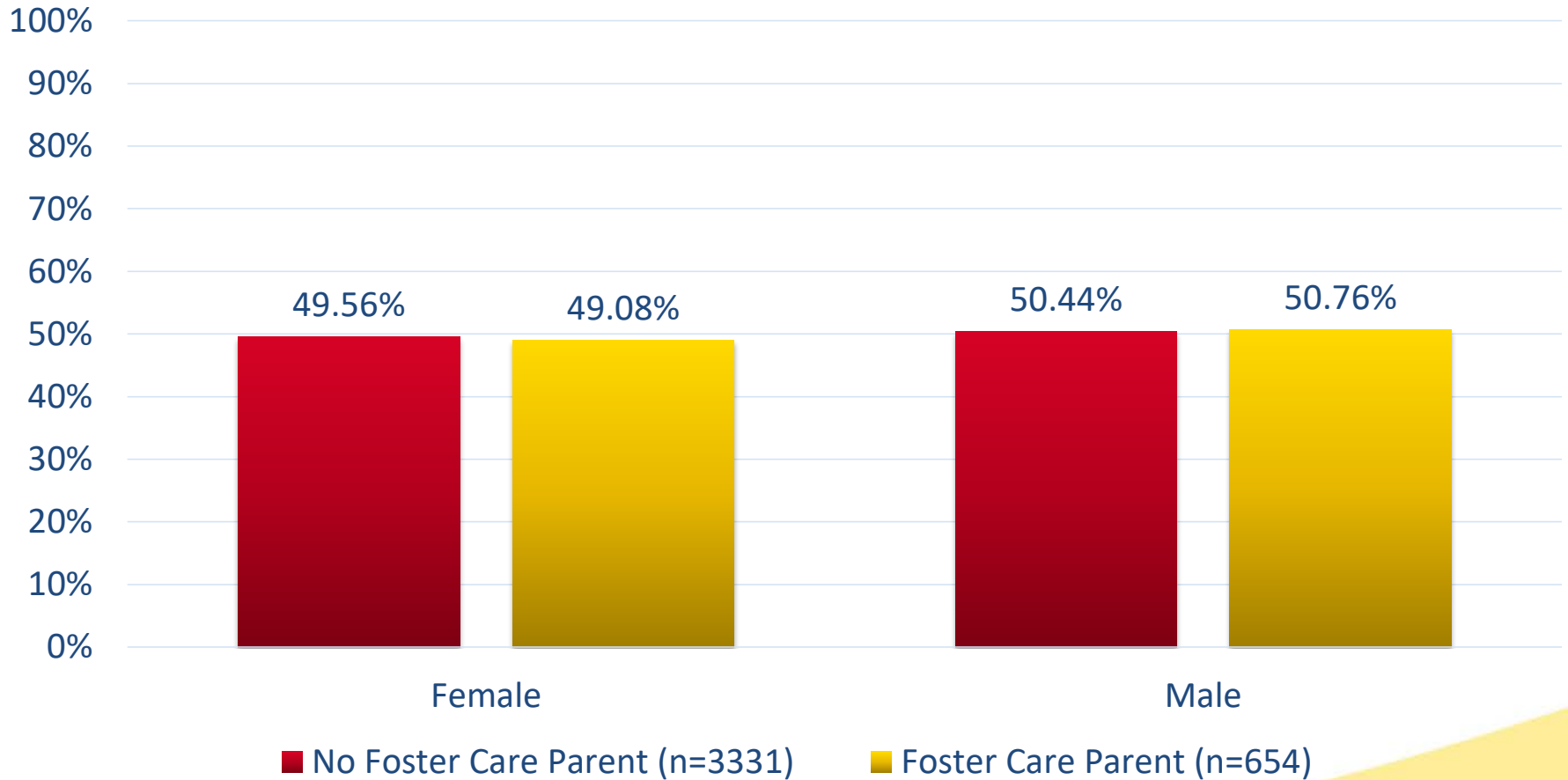
Demographics – Race*
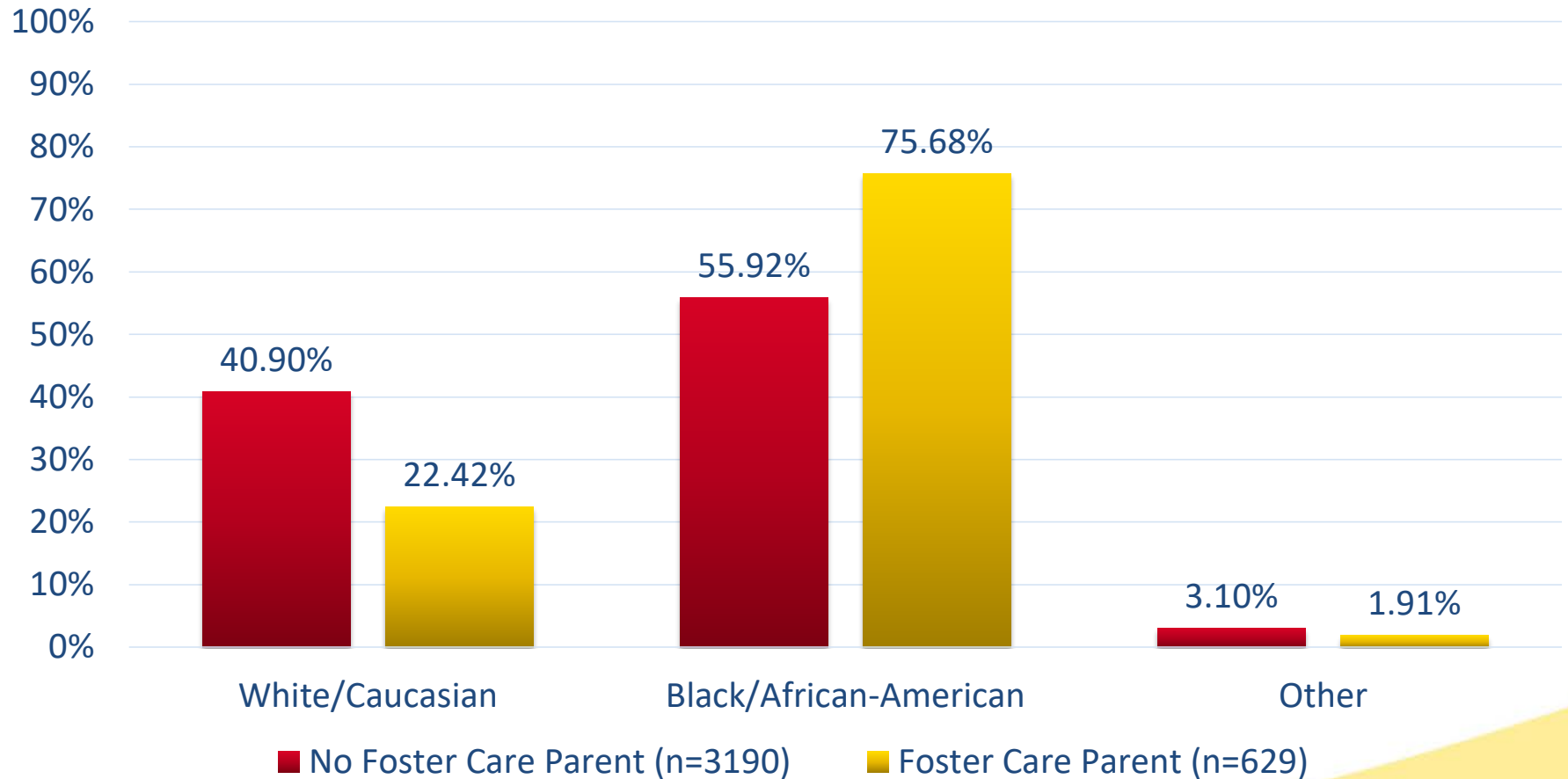
* There are 166 cases where Race was not noted

Demographics – Living Location

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Demographics –
Exit to Permanency

Still in Care
- No Foster Care Parent (n=3331): 9.16%
- Foster Care Parent (n=654): 5.20%

Exited to Permanency
- No Foster Care Parent (n=3331): 88.92%
- Foster Care Parent (n=654): 93.73%

Exited to non-Permanency
- No Foster Care Parent (n=3331): 1.92%
- Foster Care Parent (n=654): 1.07%

■ No Foster Care Parent (n=3331) ■ Foster Care Parent (n=654)

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Reasons for Exit

Reasons for Exit bar chart comparing No Foster Care Parent (red) and Foster Care Parent (yellow):

Reason	No Foster Care Parent	Foster Care Parent
Reunification	49.38%	51.97%
Adoption	14.25%	15.44%
Guardianship	25.28%	26.29%
Emancipation	0.36%	0.15%
Other	1.56%	0.91%
No Return	9.15%	5.19%

Legend: ■ No Foster Care Parent ■ Foster Care Parent

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Length of Stay

Analysis Variable : length_of_stay				
ffpchild	N Obs	Mean	Median	Std Dev
No Foster Care Parent	3026	417.62	345.00	391.89
Foster Care Parent	620	454.15	322.00	450.51

Length of Stay

No Foster Care Parent (n=3026) ■   **Foster Care Parent (n=620)** ■

	1 Week	1 Week to 1 Month	1 to 6 Months	6 Months to 1 Year	1 to 2 Years	More than 2 Years
No Foster Care Parent	11.67%	8.79%	17.55%	13.71%	27.33%	20.95%
Foster Care Parent	16.13%	7.26%	15.00%	14.52%	19.35%	27.74%
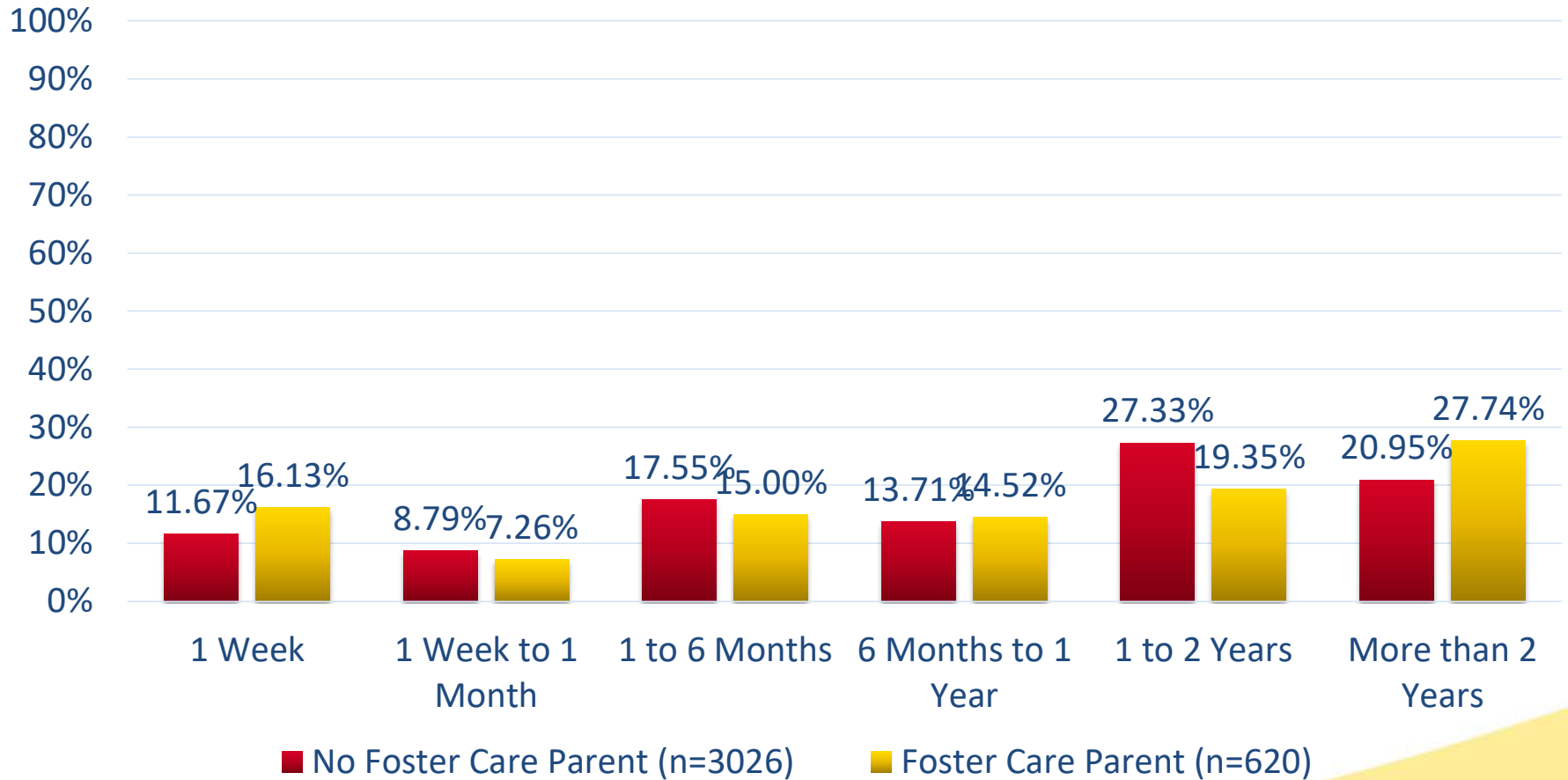
Length of Stay – Survival Curve
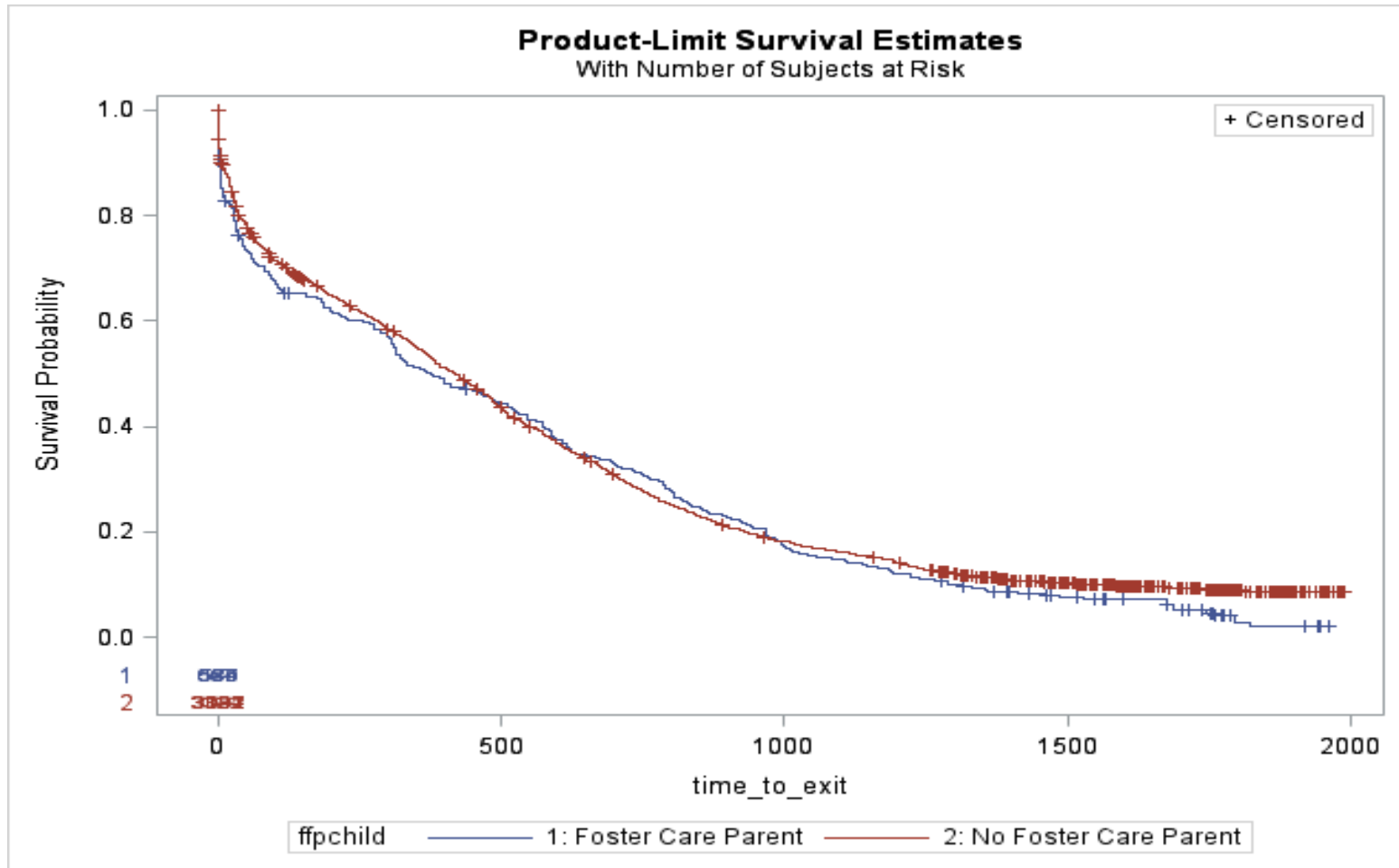
Placement Stability

Children group	Number of Entries	Total number of days in care	Number of placement moves	Moves per 1,000 days
	A	B	C	D
Total	3,985	991,789	4,967	5.01
No Foster Care Parent	3,331	842,188	4,274	5.07
Foster Care Parent	654	149,601	693	4.63

Proportional Hazards

- Hazard function is the rate of a child leaving foster care to permanency at a point in time

- Covariates used are: Gender, Race, Age, Number of Placements, City and Foster Care Parent group

Proportional Hazards Results

Parameter		Parameter Estimate	Standard Error	Chi-Square	P-value	Hazard Ratio
race_group	Black/African-American	-0.11735	0.03895	9.0771	0.0026	0.889
race_group	Other	-0.04477	0.10421	0.1845	0.6675	0.956
GENDER_CD	Female	0.03172	0.03395	0.8728	0.3502	1.032
age		-0.03493	0.00367	90.3556	<.0001	0.966
pplcmt		0.06628	0.04208	2.4811	0.1152	1.069
city_sw	City	-0.43206	0.03816	128.1949	<.0001	0.649
ffpchild	Foster Care Parent	-0.10184	0.04639	4.8195	0.0281	0.903

Conclusions

- There are some differences between children with foster care caregivers and those without, but the differences are not as extreme as one might suspect

- The biggest factors in exiting foster care to permanency appear to be age and location

- Race and having a primary caregiver with a foster care history also have a moderate impact

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