

**Residential Care in Illinois: Trends and
Alternatives**

**Interim Report: Descriptive Findings From
Analysis of DCFS Administrative Data**

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KEY FINDINGS FROM THE INTERIM REPORT

Chapin Hall Center for Children is currently conducting a study of trends in residential care utilization and placement outcomes, and alternatives to residential care. The fundamental purpose of the study is to provide DCFS and service providers with information that can inform management and practice discussions, and decisions about how to better serve the most troubled children and youth in care. Below we list key findings from an analysis of residential care between fiscal years 1993 and 2003 using DCFS administrative data. Our findings provide information about trends in caseload characteristics and the experiences of youth prior to, during, and after placements in residential care programs, including both discharge and post-discharge placement outcomes. Most findings focus on youth age 12 and over and on institutional (IPA) residential placements. The final section of the interim report includes a summary and discussion of the key findings, and describes next steps in our research.

Caseload Characteristics

1. Total residential care (institutions or IPAs and group homes combined, all ages) caseloads declined consistently over time, from a high of 4,015 children at the end of FY95 to 1,683 children at the end of FY03 (a 58 percent decline).
2. Residential care caseloads also declined as a percentage of the overall DCFS caseloads, from 10 percent at the end of FY95 to 7 percent at the end of FY03.
3. The proportion of youth age 12 and older in any type of placement who were in residential care declined by almost half, from 26 percent in FY95 to 15 percent at the end of FY03.
4. Compared to the mid-1990s, youth entering residential programs for the first time in recent years were older, with large proportionate increases in 15-17 year old entrants and large declines in the proportion of infants and young children under age 6. Seventy-one percent of first time IPA entrants in FY03 were 12 or older.
5. Compared to the mid-1990s, among youth (i.e., age 12 and older), there were modest increases in the proportion of first time entrants to residential care who were African American and who were male. The proportion of first time entrants who were white to residential care declined over time. In FY03, among first time entrants to IPAs, 62 percent were male, 60 percent were African American, and 32 percent were white.

Youth Experiences Prior to Residential care

6. The average (mean) number of prior placements for first time IPA entrants age 12 and over almost doubled over time, rising steadily from 4.8 in FY95 to 9.3 in FY03. The percentage of first time IPA entrants with 11 or more prior placements also rose sharply over time, from 13 percent in FY95 to 36 percent in FY03 (a 169 percent increase).
7. Surprisingly, given the dramatic declines in DCFS caseloads, the *number* of first time entrants with 16 or more prior placements in FY03 (151 youth) was about the same as it was in FY95 (150 youth).
8. The percentage of all youth entering IPAs from high-end placements (detention, corrections, hospitalization) almost doubled between FY95 (21%) and FY03 (39%).

9. The percentage of all youth entering IPAs from foster care and residential care declined modestly over time. In FY03, 21 percent of youth entering IPAs came from foster care and 23 percent came from another placement in an IPA, group home, or shelter.

Youth Experiences During Residential care

10. Instability during placement increased dramatically between FY95 and FY02. The percentage of IPA youth who ran away at least once during a placement increased from 7 percent in FY95 to 22 percent in FY02. During this time frame, the percentage of youth experiencing detentions (one or more) increased from 2 to 9 percent, and the percentage of youth hospitalized at least once increased from 4 to 15 percent. Group home trends were similar to IPA trends.
11. Consistent with efforts after FY95 to step youth down from residential care and to shorten lengths of stay, youth entering IPAs during FY96-00 (median length of stay = 74 days) exited more quickly than youth entering during FY93-95 (median = 101 days). But this decline appears to be partly due to the higher proportion of youth in the FY96-00 group with discharges within 30 days.
12. Since FY96-00, median length of stay for IPAs has increased sharply—from 74 days in FY96-00 to 99 days in FY01 and 140 days in FY02, and rising to over 180 days for FY03.

Discharge Outcomes

13. There was a marked increase in the percentage of discharges that were negative discharges (i.e., runaways, detentions, and hospitalizations, which all increased), from 19 percent for FY95 IPA entrants to 35 percent in FY01 and 41 percent in FY02. Among FY02 IPA entrants who were discharged as of the end of calendar year 2003, 24 percent ran away, 7 percent went to detention, and 7 percent were hospitalized. It is possible that the results for the FY02 entrants are slightly skewed because some youth have not yet exited care.
14. The percent of discharges with *positive* discharges to parents, guardians, or independent living stayed fairly stable over time for IPA cases (around 18 percent), but grew sharply for group home cases, from 16 percent of all discharges of FY95 entrants to 25 percent for FY02 entrants. The improvements for group home cases resulted from increased proportion of discharges to independent living and home of the youth's parent.
15. The percentage of discharged youth who were stepped down to foster care from IPAs increased modestly in the early years of the study, but has stayed at about 20 percent since FY98.
16. Lateral moves to other DCFS residential placements declined slightly from 27 percent in FY96 to 18 percent for FY02 IPA entrants.

Post-Discharge Outcomes (Living Arrangement of Youth 90 Days after Discharge)

17. For IPA exit cohorts, the proportion of youth in a subsequent IPA placement rose sharply from 24 percent of IPA discharges in FY99 to 49 percent in FY03.
18. Runaways accounted for 8-13 percent of lateral 90-day post-discharge outcomes across the 11-year period, though there were no clear trends over time.

19. *Step-downs* from IPAs to foster care or permanency increased slightly as a proportion of post-discharge outcomes from 30 percent in FY93 to 35 percent in FY97. There were dramatic declines in these step-downs between FY01 (31 percent of post-discharge outcomes) and FY03 (19 percent). The recent decrease included proportionate declines in relative foster care, non-relative foster care, and permanencies.
20. Post-discharge step-downs from IPAs to group homes or independent living declined from 18 percent in FY97 to 10 percent in FY03.
21. Step-ups to detention/corrections or hospitalization increased from 5 percent of FY95 post-discharge outcomes to 12 percent in FY03. Ten percent of all youth discharged from IPAs in FY03 were in detention or corrections 90 days later.

INTRODUCTION

Chapin Hall Center for Children is currently conducting a study of residential care utilization and placement outcomes. We are also exploring promising residential care strategies and alternative programs that may reduce the need for residential care or facilitate transitions from residential to less restrictive settings. The fundamental purpose of the study is to provide the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and service providers with information that can inform management and practice decisions about how to better serve the most troubled children and youth in care in Illinois. Study methods include analysis of administrative data, case record reviews, interviews, and a literature review.

In this interim report we describe methods and initial findings from our analysis of residential care between fiscal years 1993 and 2003 using DCFS administrative data. The 11-year time period provides ample opportunity to examine trends over time and to consider the policy and contextual factors that have influenced those trends. We focus here on *residential care* provided in institutional (i.e., IPA¹) and group home settings. Other types of residential placements (e.g., shelter care, detention, hospitalization) are examined in relation to institutional and group home care experiences, and we do not refer to them as residential care.

Our findings are presented from a *continuum of care* perspective in which residential care is viewed within the context of an array of service options (i.e., a *continuum* of services) and youth's experiences in residential care are put in the historical context of their pre-residential and post-residential care experiences. We first describe trends in the characteristics of the DCFS residential care caseload. We then provide descriptive information about the following sequence of longitudinal stages of a youth's involvement with DCFS:

- Experiences prior to entering residential care
- Experiences during placement with a specific residential care provider
- Discharge outcomes (i.e., where youth go at the point of discharge)
- Post-discharge outcomes (i.e., what happens to youth after discharge)

Analysis of trends across these longitudinal stages provides valuable information about the experiences of youth, the characteristics of youth currently in care, and the possible effects of policy and program changes on caseload dynamics and youth outcomes. We believe that the report's findings can inform critical policy and practice dialogues, as well as decisions about the utilization of residential care.

This report lays the groundwork for future descriptive and multivariate analyses and informs our efforts to develop a useful multidimensional set of performance indicators in collaboration with DCFS and residential care providers. Specific future plans are described in the concluding section. We look forward to comments from DCFS staff and our advisory group regarding substantive interpretations of the findings and to suggestions about how to refine and augment these analyses.

¹ IPA is a code for institutional placements in the administrative data that stands for *Institution Private Agency*.

Some figures (i.e., graphs or numerical tables) are interspersed throughout the narrative of the report. A larger and more complete set of figures is included in Appendix B.²

² In Appendix B the figures are numbered sequentially. Since not all of the figures in Appendix B are included in the body of the report, the figure numbers in the text appear to skip numbers.

KEY METHODOLOGICAL STRATEGIES AND DECISIONS

In this section we describe how some core methodological issues were addressed. Articulating our decisions will make the findings more transparent and interpretable. To the extent possible, substantive policy and program considerations have informed our methodological decisions. The final analysis plans were ours, but they reflect good ideas from DCFS staff and our desire to produce useful information for DCFS and residential care providers.

Deciding what age groups to include in the analysis. Youth age 12 and older represented 71 percent of all children in residential care in 2003. In some of our initial analyses we found that youth sometimes have very different placement outcomes than younger children. Because of these differences, except for some of our analysis of residential caseload trends, we limit our initial analysis in this initial report to youth age 12 and older. Future analyses of younger children in residential care is warranted. Although the proportion of younger children in residential care has declined, it is still fairly large, especially in light of specific DCFS gatekeeping policies designed to inhibit the use of this intervention for children age 10 and younger.

Defining a placement. Defining a placement, including identifying admission and discharge dates, is necessary in order to do such critical analyses as counting the number of placements, describing youth experiences *before* residential care (e.g., how long it was from the first time a youth entered out-of-home care to her/his first IPA placement), *during* treatment (e.g., length of stay, percentage of youth who run away during a placement), at discharge (e.g., stepdowns), and post-discharge outcomes.

We have written programming codes that *bridge* temporary placements (detentions and hospitalizations) and runaways that occur within a child or youth's placement experience with a single provider. This creates one placement with a particular provider. DCFS and Chapin Hall agree that there is a need for a time limit on these *temporary* events. Thus, we define and count a temporary placement or runaway as a (formal) placement if it lasts longer than 30 days. Although this time frame is somewhat arbitrary, we believe that any experience longer than one month should not be considered temporary from the perspective of the youth. The 30-day time frame is also appropriate because 30 days is the maximum time, under most circumstances, that DCFS will hold (i.e., pay for) a bed with a service provider while a youth is gone.

There are also various administrative procedures that make it appear (in CYCIS) that a child has two placements when in fact the child is still living in the same place (e.g., with the same foster parent) even though the level of care has changed. We have consolidated these types of duplicate records into a single placement.

Defining shelter care. It is important to distinguish whether the intent of a residential placement is to provide temporary shelter care or residential care. Although DCFS has made significant improvements recently in identifying shelter placements and using shelter codes in the database, it is not possible to reliably and accurately define all shelter care placements historically. In order to analyze trends over time, we needed a reliable way to define as many shelter care placements as possible. DCFS came up with a useful strategy for reliably identifying

most shelter placements over time: all of the Maryville shelter placements. Thus, a relatively small but unknown number of shelter placements are included in our IPA and group home estimates.

Categorizing and interpreting events from a continuum of care perspective. In order to meaningfully interpret a series of placement events in a child's life, it is necessary to understand an event in relation to prior and subsequent events. Thus, in our analyses of events prior to and following residential care placements, we sometimes categorize the events (e.g., stepdowns, step-ups, lateral moves, and negative and positive discharges) both in order to summarize the results and to give interpretive meaning to the findings. We attempt to be transparent about these decisions in the narrative and/or the appended material so that readers can comment on our approach and offer alternative categories or interpretations—this will help to improve the quality and utility of future research.

Comparisons over time relative to FY95. In describing trends between FY93 and FY03, we often use FY95 as a baseline point from which to compare subsequent years. The primary reason for this analytic strategy is that extensive reforms in the policies and management of residential care utilization were starting in FY95, but FY96 was the first full year of implementation of these changes.³ Thus, changes that occur after FY95 may have been influenced by DCFS policy changes.

Use of cohort analyses-developing a longitudinal perspective. The use of fiscal year cohorts provides a tool for looking at two interrelated but distinct phenomena: the performance of the system over time and the longitudinal experiences of youth. We define cohorts in several ways because we are interested in both phenomena. Three types of fiscal year cohorts are used:

- First IPA/Group Home entrants by fiscal year: We use the date of a youth's first admission to residential care—grouped by fiscal year—as the starting point for analyzing prior and subsequent experiences. Youth are only counted one time in the whole analysis (even if they re-enter residential care in a later year).
- Entry cohorts of *all* admissions within a fiscal year: These entry cohorts do not focus on the experiences of individual youth per se (since a youth can be admitted more than once within a fiscal year), but they provide a full set of data on events that occur during each fiscal year (e.g., all runaways that occur during a placement).
- Exit cohorts of all exits within a fiscal year: Although we usually prefer to use entry cohorts (because youth who exit have been in care for varying lengths of time and this biases longitudinal analyses), we use exit cohorts to examine post-discharge outcomes in this report. Using exit cohorts enables us to have more complete data on post-discharge outcomes and trends in recent years.

Finally, note that, in analyzing discharge (not post-discharge) outcomes, we examine different types of discharges as a percentage of all *entry* (not *exit*) cohort members who have been discharged. So, for example, discharge outcomes for FY02 cases refer to youth entrants in

³ These policy and management changes are described in a previous Chapin Hall Center for Children report on *Trends in Residential Care in Illinois: 1993-2000* (Goerge, Budde, Mackey-Bilaver, & Harden, 2001).

FY02, not to those who exited in FY02, though in any given entry cohort there are of course youth that exit in the same year. The FY03 estimates in these analyses are slightly biased and are designated as unreliable.

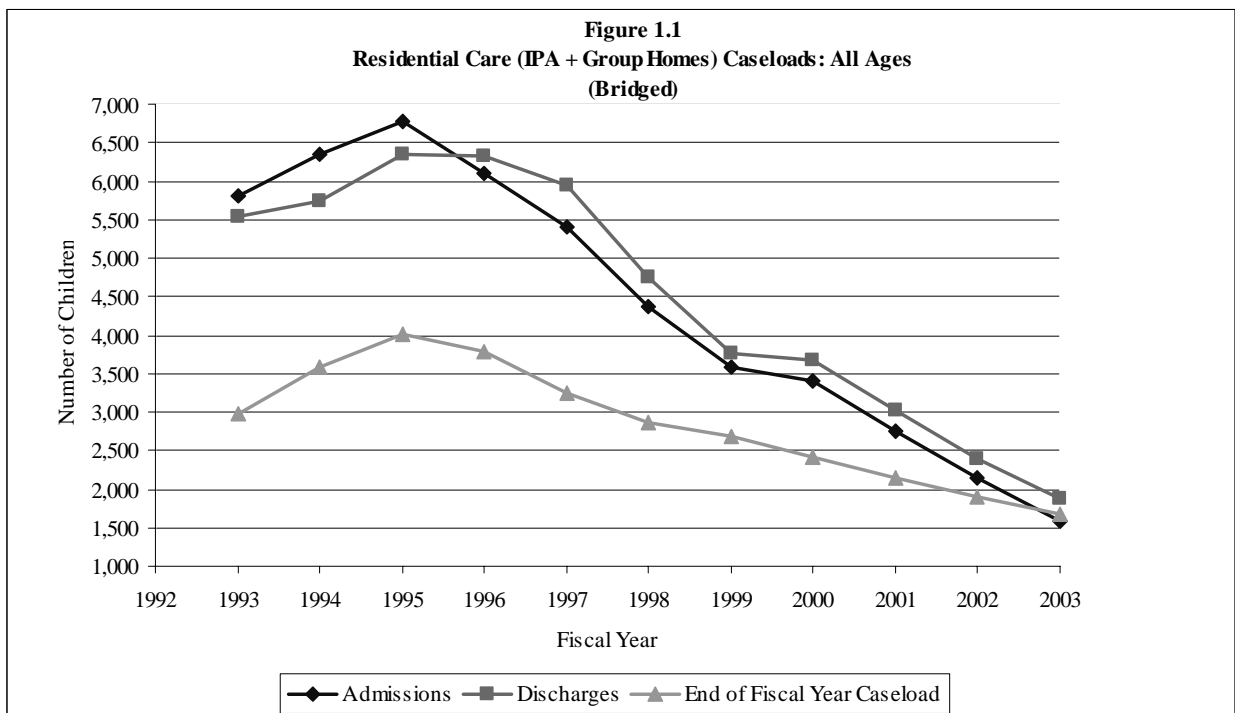
KEY FINDINGS

Caseload Characteristics

Caseload Size and Dynamics

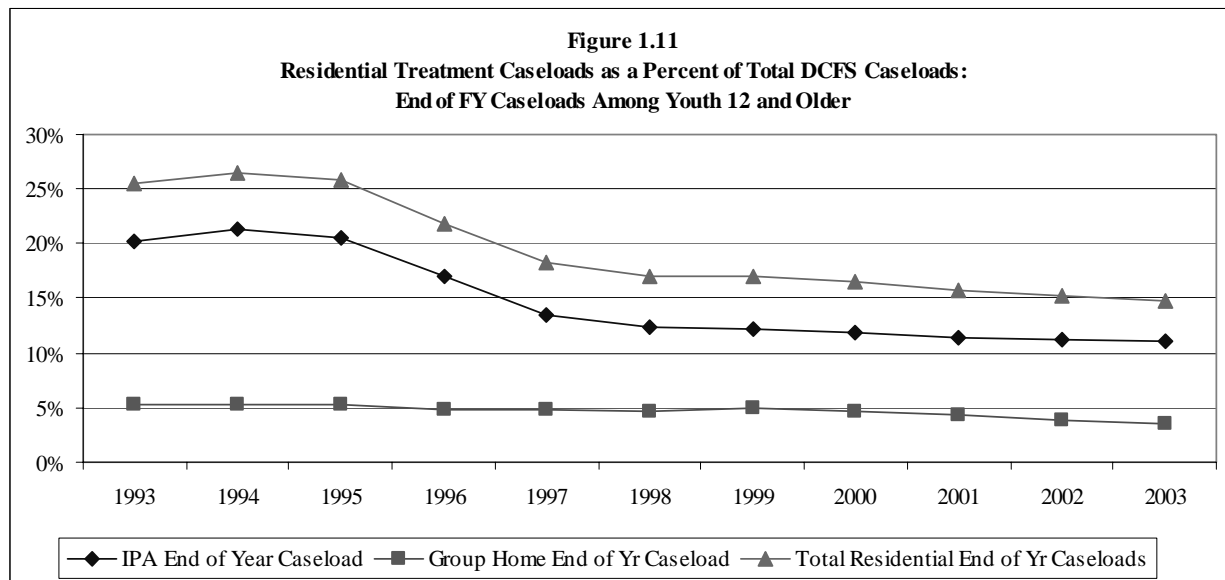
Residential care caseloads (IPA and group homes combined) across all age groups increased during the early 1990s, peaking at 4,015 children at the end of FY95. Since the implementation of a series of gatekeeping policy changes in FY95 to restrict entries into residential care and to step youth down to non-residential placements, caseloads declined by 58 percent to 1,683 children at the end of FY03. IPA and group home caseloads declined at the same rate between FY95 and FY03.

Total caseloads declined primarily because of decreasing admissions (i.e., entries)—down from an unduplicated total of 6,785 in FY95 to 1,593 in FY03 (a 77 percent decline). In addition, especially since FY98, for both IPAs and group homes, the numbers of admissions and discharges have been almost exactly the same, with discharges slightly exceeding admissions.



The decline in the use of residential care occurred within a broader context of overall declines in out-of-home care caseloads in Illinois. But these overall changes do not fully account for the decline in residential care utilization. Residential care caseloads also declined as a percentage of the overall caseloads, from 10 percent at the end of FY95 to 7 percent in FY03, indicating that residential care declined more rapidly than the rest of the out-of-home care caseload. In the figure below, we see that, among youth age 12 and over, residential care caseloads declined by almost half, from 26 percent in FY95 to 15 percent in FY03. This indicates that the percentage of DCFS youth wards living in residential care programs has decreased

dramatically over time and that DCFS is serving proportionately more youth in less restrictive types of placement settings.

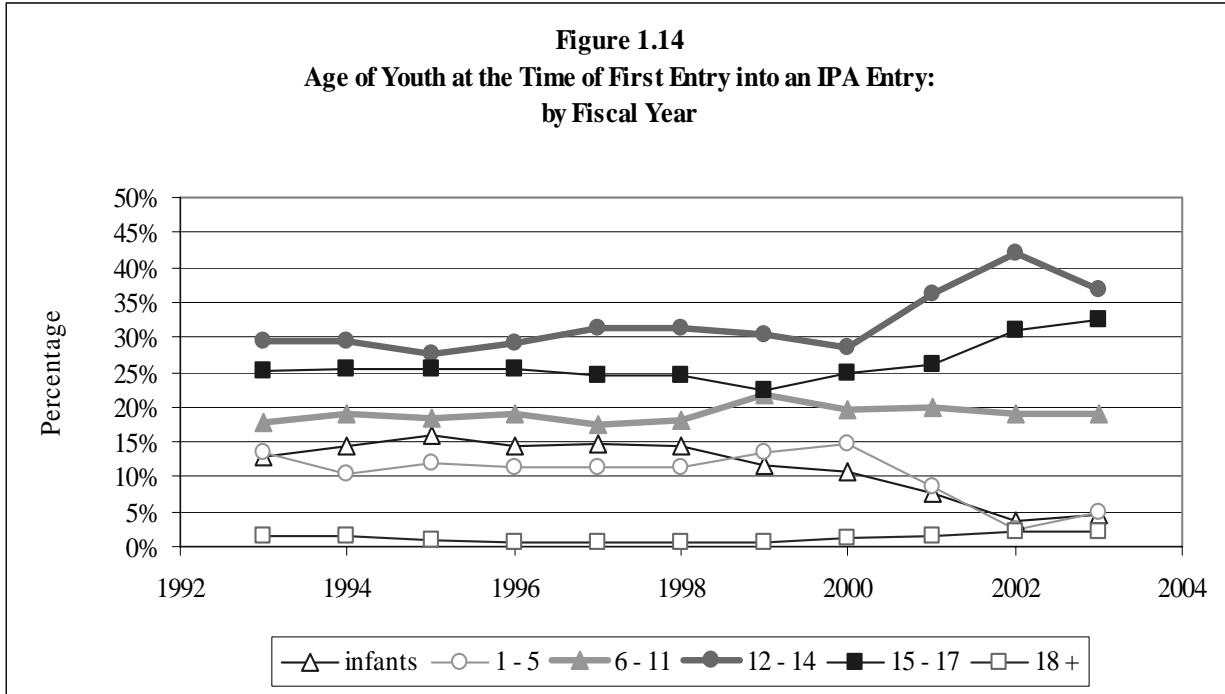


The trends in caseload dynamics—the declining caseloads and declining utilization of residential care relative to other forms of out-of-home care—may reflect the success of systematic efforts by DCFS to decrease the residential care caseload.

Characteristics of the Population

Concurrent with the declining caseloads, the composition of the residential care population changed. First, we examined the proportion of all admissions that were new (vs. repeat) admissions. The proportion of IPA admissions that were first admissions dropped slowly but fairly steadily from 56 percent in FY95 to 43 percent in FY03 (a 24 percent decline) for all ages, and from 43 percent in FY95 to 36 percent in FY03 (a 16 percent decline) for youth entering IPAs at age 12 and over. Because, almost by definition, repeat admissions mean that a child’s prior placement in an IPA failed, this finding provides one of many indicators that suggest a possible increase over time in the severity of the behavioral problems manifested by youth entering residential care in Illinois.

We also examined demographic characteristics of the first entries into IPAs and group homes. The age distribution of first time IPA entrants was fairly steady between FY93 and FY98, then the population started getting older. Between FY98 and FY03, the percentage of first time IPA entrants who were 12 or older rose from 57 to 71 percent. The percentage of first time entrants who were 5 or younger declined during that time period from 26 percent in FY98 to 10 percent in FY03 while the percentage of 6-11 year olds remained fairly stable—around 20 percent.



For the remainder of this report, all findings are based on analysis of youth 12 and over.

There were some modest but potentially meaningful changes over time in the race and gender of youth who entered residential care for the first time. Without further analysis, we cannot know whether these trends stem from changes in the composition of the overall out-of-home care caseload. The percentage of African American youth entering IPAs rose slightly from 52 percent in FY93 to 62 percent in FY98, and it stayed at about 60 percent through FY03. White youth entering IPAs declined from 42 percent of entries in FY93 to 31 percent in FY97, and white youth were 32 percent of FY03 entries. Hispanic youth made up only 4-6 percent of IPA entries across fiscal years. There were similar racial distributions and trends over time for group homes. The percentage of males entering residential care rose between FY95 to FY03 (from 54 percent to 62 percent for IPAs; from 50 percent to 60 percent for group homes).

Thus, it is clear that youth entering residential programs in recent years are much older and somewhat more likely to be male and African American than entrants from the mid-1990s. We do not know the causes of many of these changes in the residential care population, but declining utilization among infants and young children may result from purposeful changes in admission criteria for residential care.

Youth Experiences Prior to Entering Residential Care

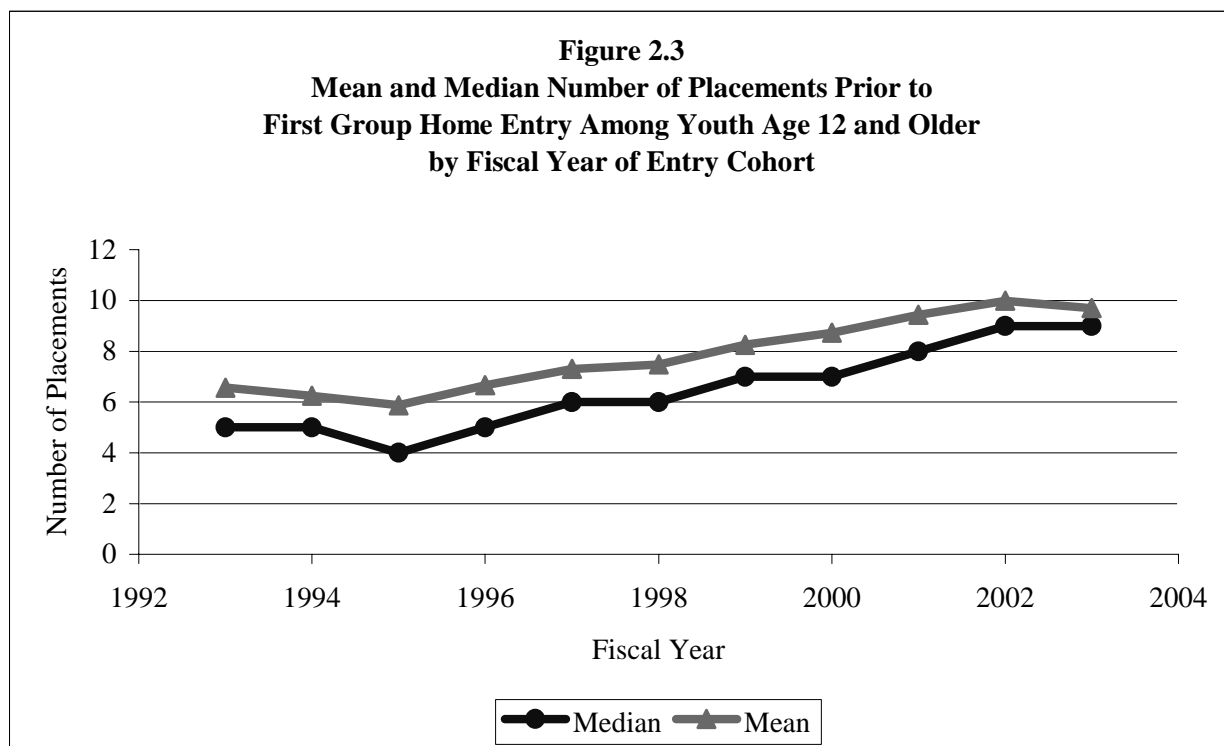
We examined several dimensions of youth placement experiences prior to entering residential care for the first time: the number of prior placements, the length of time from first entry into any

out-of-home care placement to first entry into residential care, and the living arrangement (placement) of youth immediately prior to entry.⁴

FY03. The median number of prior placements doubled during this time frame from 4 to 8 prior placements. That is, in FY03, 50 percent of first IPA entrants had 8 or more prior placements.

Prior Placement Experiences

As shown below, the average (mean) number of prior placements for first time IPA entrants age 12 and over almost doubled over time, rising steadily from 4.8 in FY95 to 9.3 in FY03. The percentage of first time IPA entrants with 11 or more prior placements also rose sharply over time, from 13 percent in FY95 to 36 percent in FY03 (a 169 percent increase), and the percentage with 16 or more prior placements increased from 5 to 18 percent during this time span (a 233 percent increase). Surprisingly, given the dramatic declines in overall DCFS caseloads, the *number* of first time entrants with 16 or more prior placements in FY03 (151 youth) was almost exactly the same as it was in FY95 (150 youth).



Relative to IPAs first entrants, first time group home entrants had fairly similar levels and trends in the number of prior placements.

⁴ We had hoped to examine trends in the provision of wraparound and other intensive services—these services have been integrated into the current System of Care (SOC) program—that are sometimes provided prior to or after residential care. However, we couldn't reliably identify these services over a time span sufficient for analysis of yearly trends.

For youth 12 or older entering IPAs for the first time, the median length of time from the first out-of-home care placement to first IPA entry more than doubled between FY95 (468 days) and FY01 (1,088 days), before declining to 861 in FY03. The corresponding median time to first group home placement more than quadrupled between FY95 (525 days) and FY02 (2,222 days), before declining slightly in FY03. Increased length of time to first IPA placement may be one reason that the population of IPA youth has grown older over time.

Dramatic increases over time in the number of prior placements and in the length of time to first residential placement indicate that, on average, the residential care population has become increasingly likely to have experienced the trauma of placement failure, and they have endured a longer time period without a permanent placement prior to entering residential care. In addition, increases in the length of time from first ever placement to first residential care placement show that youth entering residential care were without permanent living arrangements for long periods of time prior to their first residential placement. These findings appear to be consistent with the common perception of residential care providers that they are serving increasingly troubled youth. The fact that increases in case severity of entrants continued over time suggests that decision criteria for admitting youth to residential care may not have simply changed at one point in time in FY95, rather, they may have gotten *increasingly* restrictive *since* FY95.

Where were Youth Right Before Residential Placement?

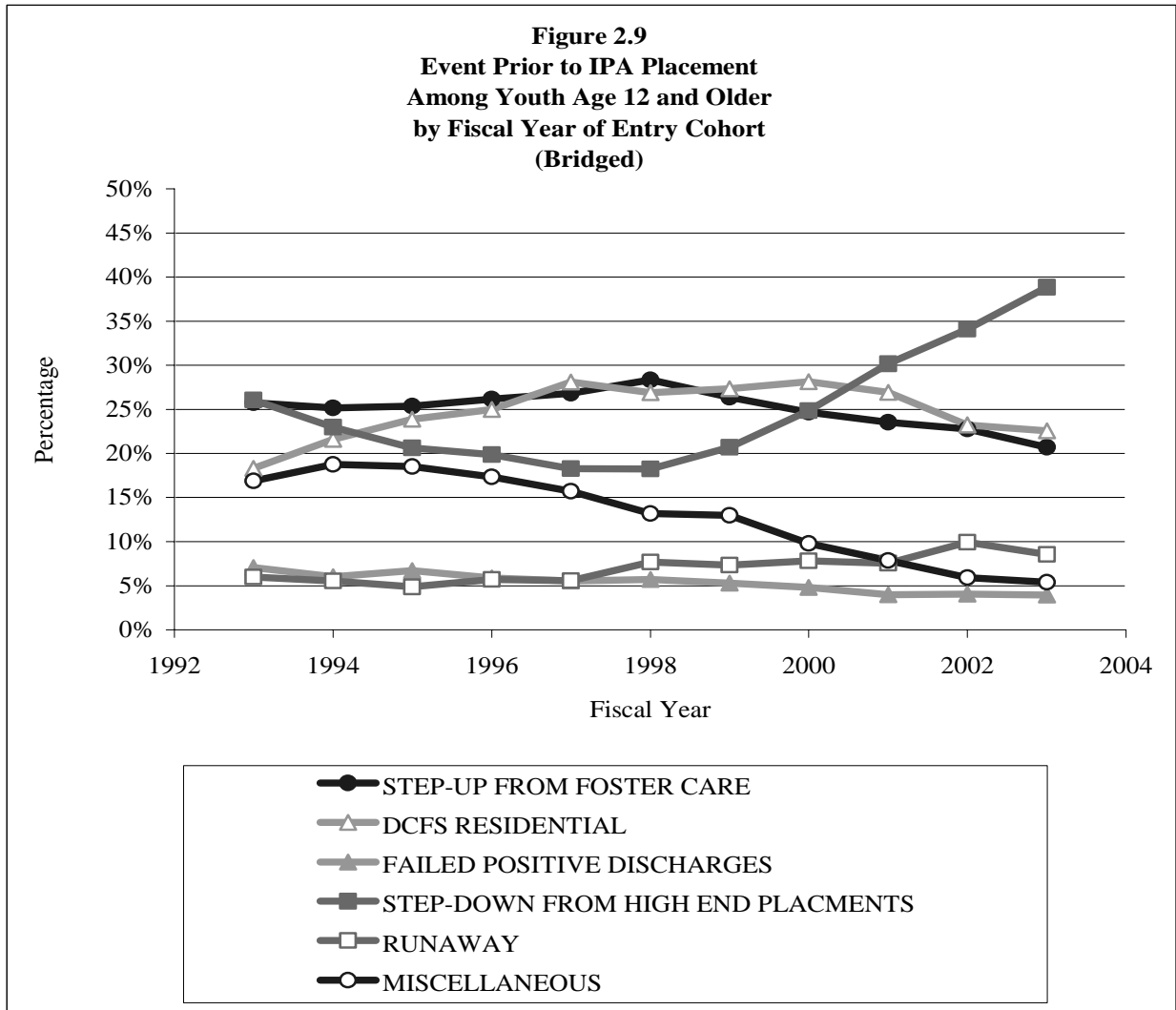
We developed the following categories to describe the living arrangements of youth immediately prior to entries into residential care and the relationship of those living arrangements events to residential placements:

- *Step-up from foster care*: includes all types of foster care placement
- *DCFS residential*: IPA, group home, or shelter
- *Failed positive discharges*: permanency living arrangements with parents or independent living
- *Step-downs from high end placements*: includes detention, placement in corrections, hospitalization, and other residential placements (i.e., placements that were coded as *other* in the data)
- *Runaways*
- *Miscellaneous*: includes case opening and other codes

The figure below shows that the most dramatic change among these categories is that the percentage of all IPA entrants within a fiscal year stepping down from high-end placements almost doubled between FY95 (21 percent of entrants) and FY03 (39 percent). These overall increases stemmed from dramatic proportionate increases in prior hospitalization (from 6 percent of FY95 entrants to 19 percent of FY03 entrants), detention (5 percent to 12 percent), and correctional placements (1.6 percent to 4.8 percent). In addition, the percent of all entrants who came from runaway episodes doubled, from 5 percent in FY95 to 10 percent in FY03. These trends provide further support for the hypothesis that the population entering residential care in Illinois may have become more difficult behaviorally over the past several years. The trends

may also point to an increased focus on using residential care for youth coming from these more restrictive facilities.⁵

Among all IPA entrants within each fiscal year, the percentage of step-ups from foster care declined from a peak of 28 percent in FY98 to 21 percent in FY03. Lateral moves from other DCFS residential programs also declined in recent years, from a peak of 28 percent in FY00 to 23 percent in FY03. Trends were similar for first time IPA entrants.



Youth Experiences During Placement

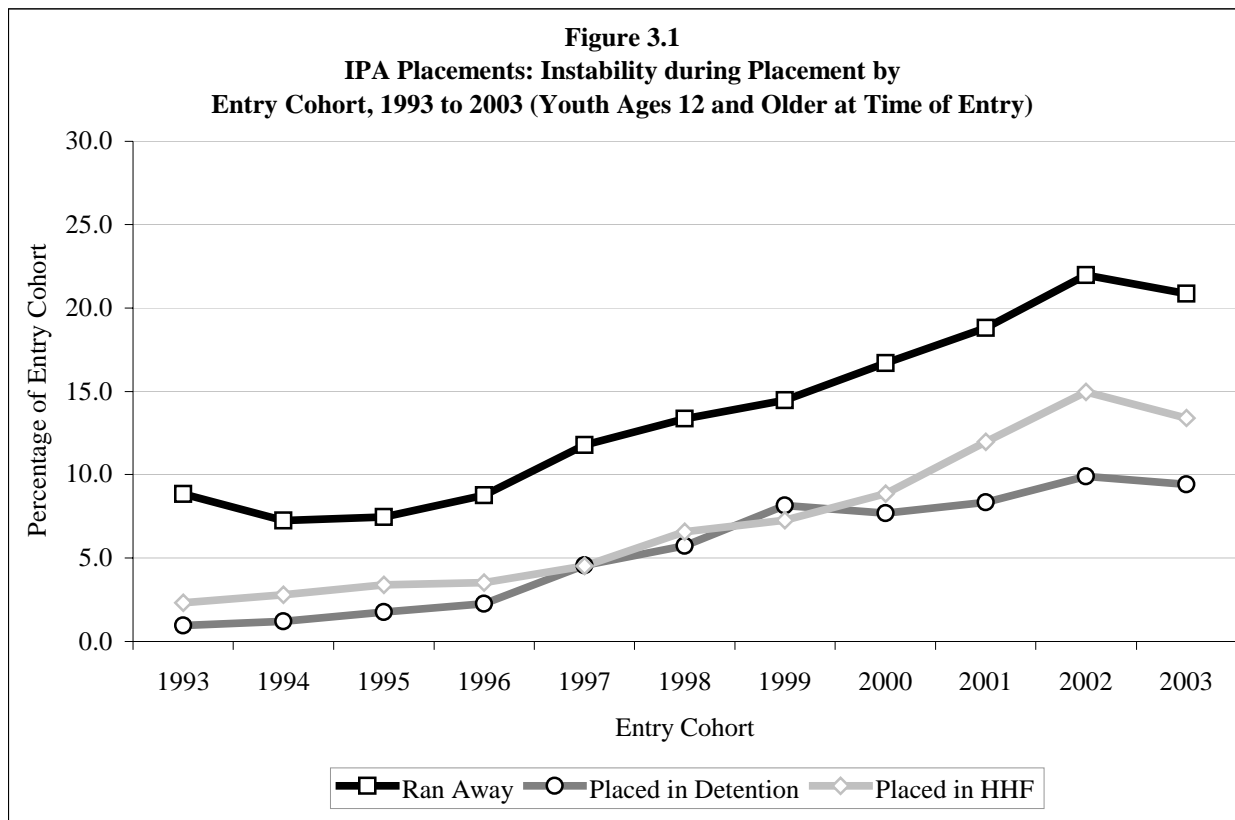
In order to characterize youth experiences during a placement with a particular residential care provider we examined indicators of instability during placement and length of stay.

⁵ First *ever* entrants into IPAs (as opposed to *all* entrants) were less likely to come from high-end placements, but the trend (rate of increase) was similar.

Instability During Placement⁶

Instability within a placement experience with a particular provider can be measured using administrative data by examining tracked negative events that interrupt a placement, such as running away, detention, and hospitalization.

Using (first) entry cohorts within fiscal year for youth 12 or older, we found that all three indicators of instability during placement increased dramatically between FY95 and FY02.⁷ The percentage of IPA youth who ran away at least once during a placement experience more than tripled, increasing from 7 percent in FY95 to 22 percent in FY02. Detentions (one or more) increased from 2 percent of FY95 entrants first entries to 10 percent in FY03, while the percentage of youth hospitalized at least once increased from 4 percent of FY95 entrants to 15 percent in FY02. Group home trends were similar to IPA trends.



Levels of instability during placements clearly worsened over time. These changes may reflect an increasing level of behavior problems over time among the members of the residential

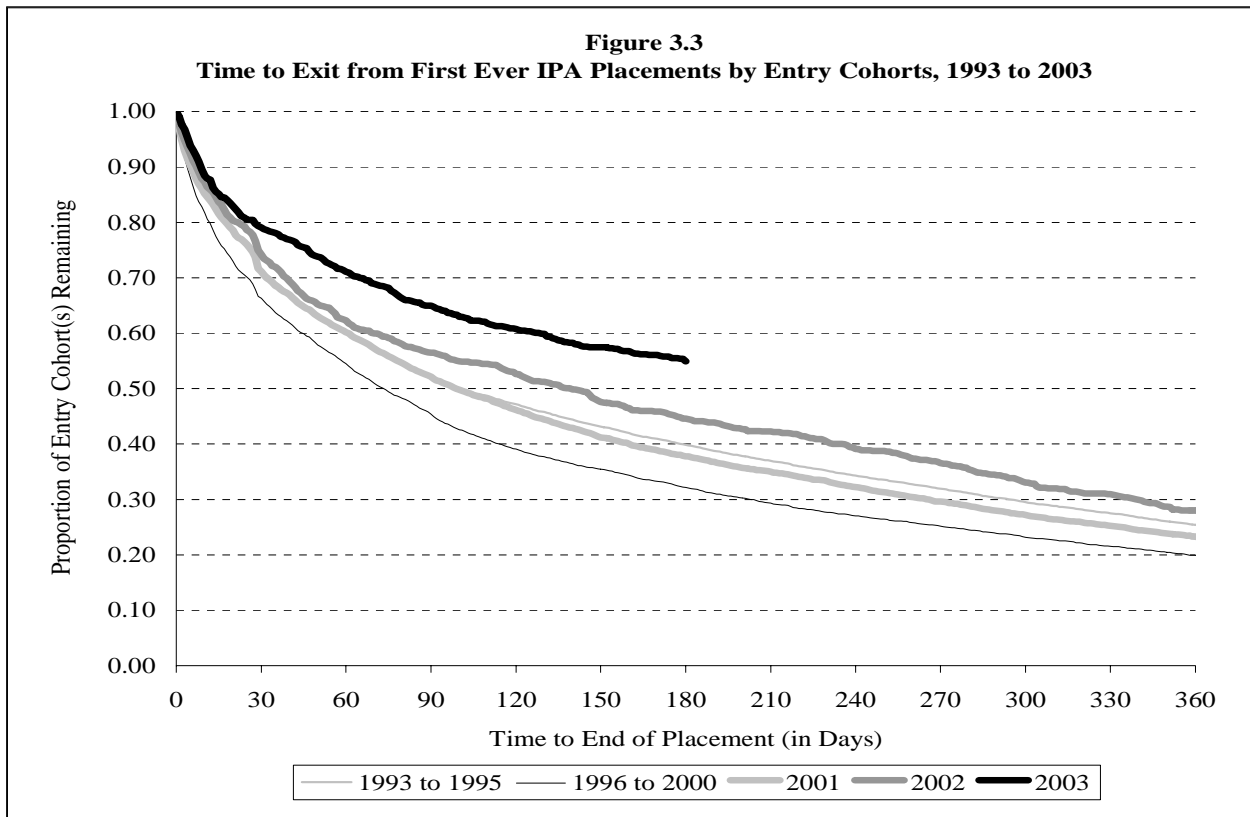
⁶ The useful notions of labeling temporary interruptions that occur during a placement as *placement instability* and the delineation of the three specific indicators examined come to us from Ron Davidson of DCFS. These measures can be used as indicators of provider level performance. In addition, they complement indicators of instability across placements (e.g., the number of placements).

⁷ We examine change through FY02 instead of FY03 because many youth who entered residential care in FY03 were still in care (they hadn't exited), making the FY03 figures less complete and reliable.

care caseload, but they may also indicate that residential care providers have been less able as time goes on to help youth achieve stable placement experiences. It is also possible, and open to empirical study, that DCFS policies intended to tighten criteria for admission to residential care have contributed to an increase in placement failures. These failures may exacerbate youths' preexisting behavioral and emotional problems, thus worsening instability outcomes over and above any effect of selecting more behaviorally disordered youth for residential care in the first place.

Length of Stay

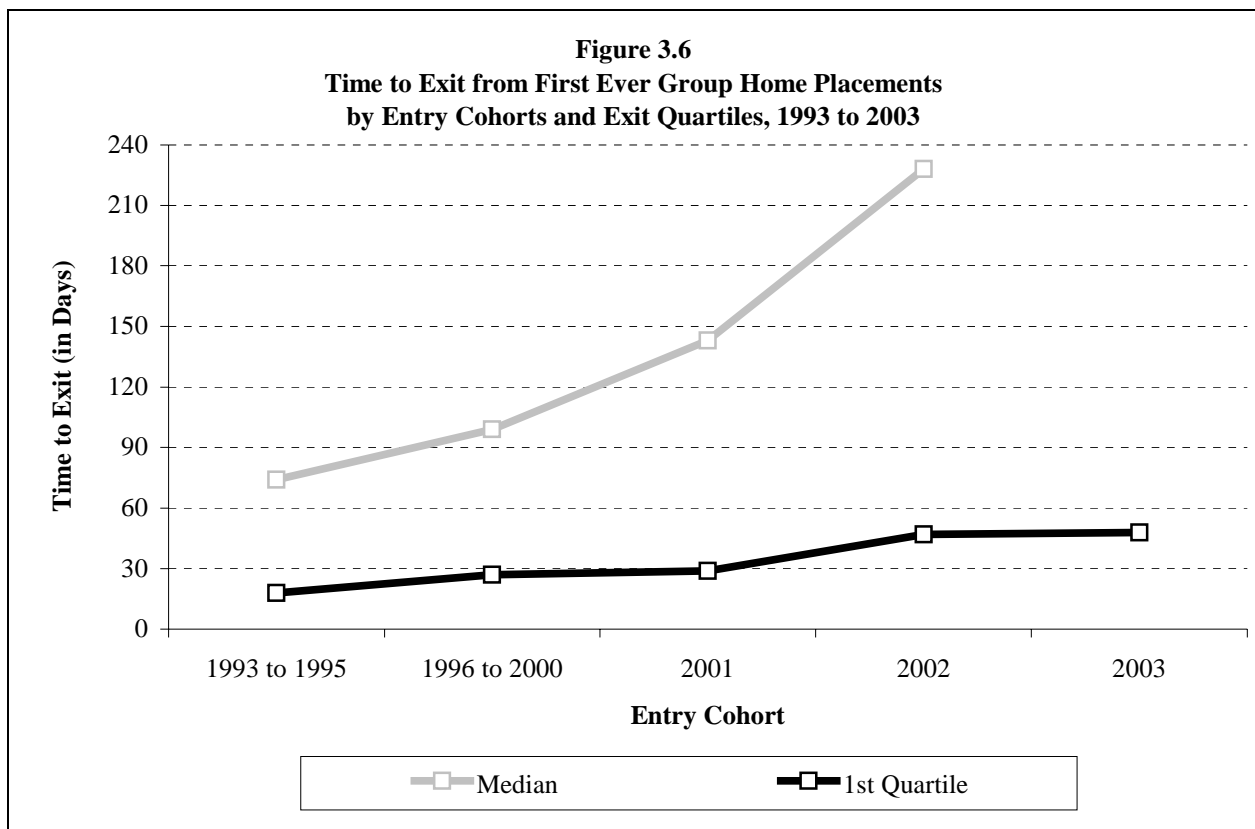
We computed length of stay outcomes for first ever entries into residential care, and created five groups of fiscal years: 1993-1995 (before widespread implementation of policy reforms), 1996-2000 (after and during the implementation of policy reforms), and FY01, FY02, and FY03. This analytic strategy enabled us to look both at the potential effects of policy reforms, which included efforts to decrease length of stay, and to provide more detailed information to DCFS on recent trends that may affect current policy decisions. Information on length of stay is presented in survival curves below in which the proportion of youth still in care is graphed over time for each group (one line per group). In the subsequent figure, we graphed points at which 25 percent (1st quartile) and 50 percent (the median⁸) of youth have exited their first-ever IPA or group home placement over time.



⁸ The 25th quartile and the median (the middle point in the distribution of youth exits—50 percent of youth in a group exited within a certain amount of time) are more useful than means for comparing results across fiscal years. The reason for this is that, in recent years, many youth have not yet exited care, and they cannot be counted in averages, biasing these estimates by not including youth who stay longer.

Consistent with efforts after FY95 to step youth down from residential care and to shorten lengths of stay, youth exited IPAs more quickly during FY96-00 (median length of stay = 74 days) than during FY93-95 (median = 101 days). But this decline appears to be partly due to the higher proportion of youth in the FY96-00 group with very quick discharges—the first 25 percent of discharges occurred in 27 days for the FY93-95 group and within only 18 days for the FY96-00 group.

In the figure below, first quartile length of stay for IPAs increased from FY96-00 (27 days) to 47 days in FY03, indicating that FY03 IPA youth were much less likely to leave early. Since FY96-00, median length of stay for IPAs has increased even more sharply—from 74 days in FY96-00 to 99 days in FY01 and 140 days in FY02, and rising to greater than 180 days for FY03 (although we can't yet compute a median for FY03).



The earlier survival curve also shows that, at one year after first entry, the proportion of youth who had exited was fairly similar across groups (except for FY03, for which data are not yet available). The two groups had fairly similar rates of exit: 80 percent of the FY96-00 group had exited compared with 77 percent of the FY93-95 group). In combination with visual analysis of the survival curve, these findings indicate that most of the variability in exits over time occurred within about 180 days after first entry.

Thus, length of stay in residential care has clearly increased in recent years. It may be that the increased length of stay is an indication that fewer youth are experiencing unplanned early

discharges. These changes may result from increased pressure to keep youth from bouncing to other placements. Support for this interpretation may come from the increased number of runs, detentions, and hospitalizations that occur *within* placements with a particular provider. Alternatively, increased length of stay may be influenced by a variety of factors, including: caseload composition, such as the presumed increase in the proportion of the residential care population with developmental disabilities (who tend to have longer, more stable placements); clinical considerations (e.g., the need for longer treatment for more troubled youth); or program implementation issues (e.g., less attention over time being given to discharge planning once youth stabilize in residential care).

It is difficult to interpret the meaning of length of stay outcomes in the absence of more analysis of how youth characteristics and type of discharge, and post-discharge outcomes relate to length-of-stay outcomes. For example, lower length-of-stay outcomes may be associated with higher rates of negative discharges. We hope to examine factors influencing length of stay in future research.

Discharge Outcomes

Discharge outcomes refer to living arrangement events that immediately follow discharge from residential care. We developed five categories of discharge outcomes:

Type of Discharge	Definition
<i>Step-downs to foster care</i>	All types of foster care placement
<i>DCFS residential</i>	IPA, group home, or shelter
<i>Positive discharges</i>	Permanency living arrangements with parents or independent living
<i>Negative discharges</i>	High-end placements (detention, placement in corrections, hospitalization, and other residential placements) and runaways
<i>Miscellaneous⁹</i>	Other codes

The next figure below summarizes all discharge outcomes from IPAs by fiscal year of entry.¹⁰ The most striking trend for discharge outcomes was the marked increase in the percentage of discharges that were negative discharges, from 19 percent for FY95 entrants to 35 percent in FY01 and 41 percent in FY02. It is possible that the FY02 results are slightly skewed because a small proportion of youth in this cohort had not yet exited care by the end of December 2003 (the end point of the analysis). This increase was driven primarily by an increase in runaways from 12 percent of FY95 entrants to 21 percent of FY01 and 24 percent of FY02 entrants. There were also sizable proportionate increases in detention discharges (from 3 percent in FY95 to 7 percent in FY02) and hospitalizations (3 percent in FY95, 7 percent in FY02). Group homes showed similar trends in negative discharges, but the rate of increase was lower.

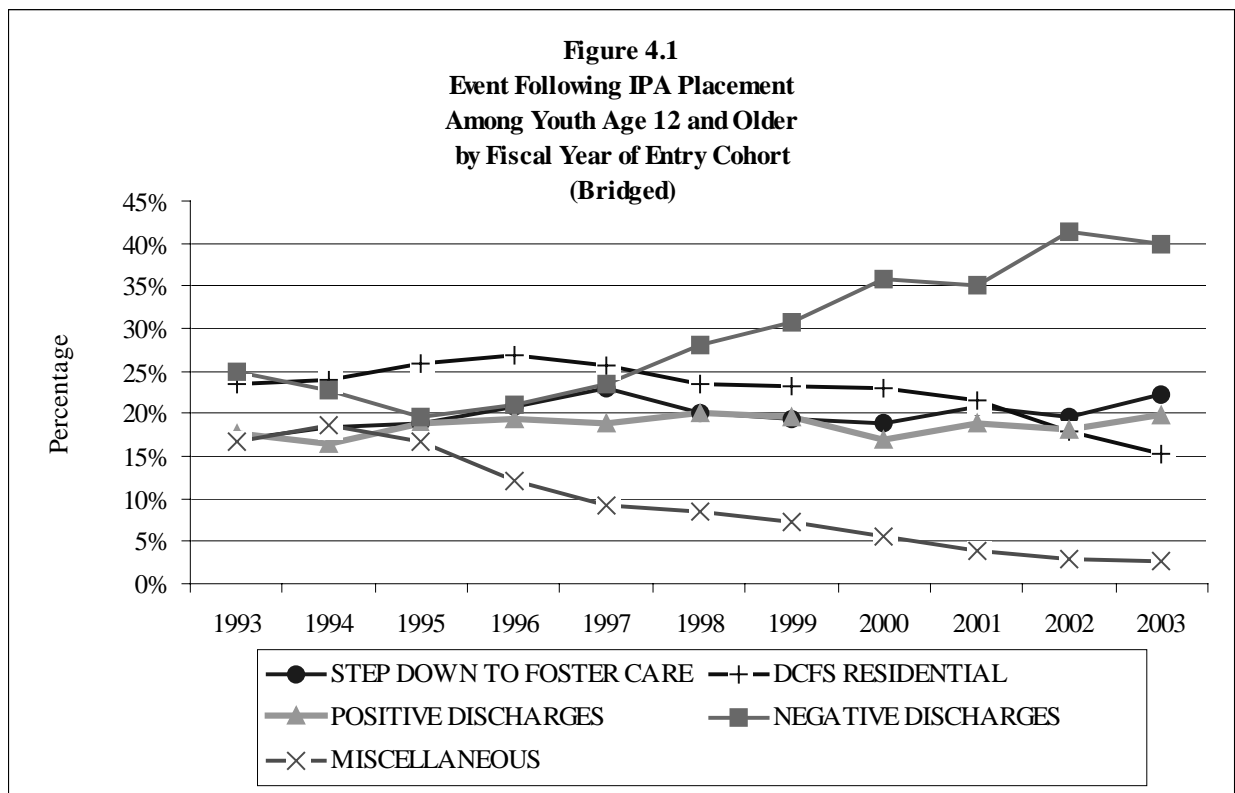
⁹ The proportion of miscellaneous discharges declined dramatically over time due to case codes other than *case opening*. These findings are not discussed because we do not yet adequately understand how some of the codes have been used historically.

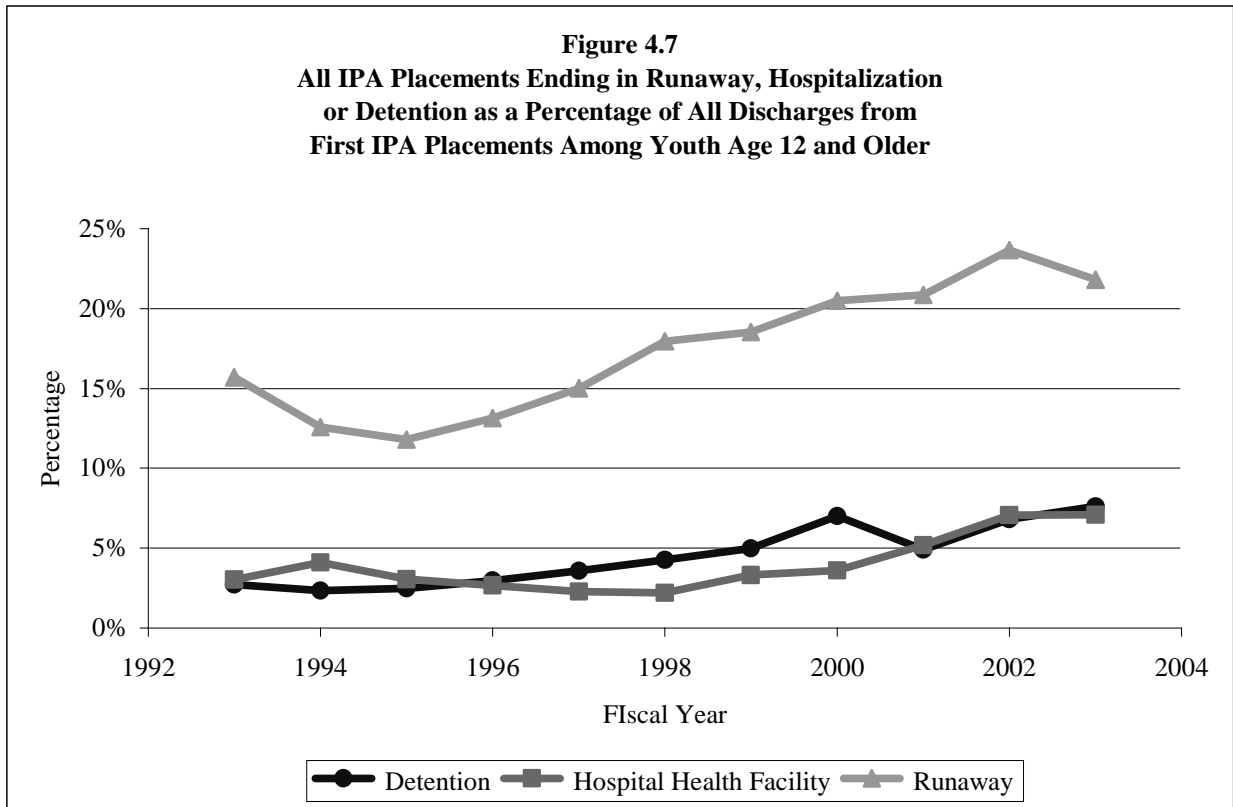
¹⁰ All youth entrants within a fiscal year are examined, including youth entering twice in a year, although the discharges may or may not occur during the fiscal year of entry.

The percentages of youth entry cohort discharges with positive discharges stayed fairly stable over time for IPA cases (around 18 percent), but grew sharply for group home cases, from 16 percent of all discharges of FY95 entrants to 25 percent for FY02 entrants. The improvements for group home cases resulted from increased proportion of discharges to independent living and home of the youth's parent.

The percentage of youth who were stepped down to foster care from IPAs increased modestly in the early years of the study, but has stayed at about 20 percent since FY98. Lateral moves to other DCFS residential placements declined slightly from 27 percent in FY96 to 18 percent for FY02 entrants.

Overall, the findings show a marked increase in negative discharges over time, especially for IPA cases. These findings may partly reflect a more difficult population served in IPAs, but nonetheless raise concerns about effectiveness of existing services for this highly troubled population. There were also some modest improvements in IPA discharge outcomes—slight increases in stepdowns and slight decreases in lateral moves—that may reflect efforts by DCFS and service providers to address these objectives.





Post-Discharge Outcomes

Length-of-stay findings and discharge outcomes are important but insufficient indicators of the effectiveness or performance of the system. Here we examine what happens to youth after they are discharged from residential care, or *post-discharge outcomes*. Our analysis of post-discharge outcomes is just beginning, but we share these initial findings in order to stress their critical importance in assessing residential care performance and in order to obtain feedback.

Given the many possible patterns of placement that can occur after discharge, we found that the clearest way to present initial post-discharge findings was to use fiscal year exit cohorts (every discharge within a fiscal year is counted) and report the living situation of youth at 90 days and one year after discharge. The percentage of youth in various types of living situations was fairly similar at 90 days and one year after discharge, so we report findings for 90 days in order to examine change over time through FY03. Using the continuum of care ranking described in Appendix A, post-discharge outcomes for youth discharged from IPAs¹¹ were categorized as follows:

¹¹ For Group Homes, another group home is counted as a lateral move and an IPA is counted as a *step-up*.

Type of Post-Discharge Outcome	Definition
<i>Step-downs to foster care/permanency</i>	All types of foster care placement
<i>Step-downs to independent living/group homes</i>	Independent living and group home
Lateral events	Includes another IPA placement, shelter, other types of residential care, runaways, ¹² and miscellaneous codes
<i>Step-ups to more restrictive placement</i>	High-end placements (detention, placement in corrections, hospitalization)

At 90 days after IPA discharge, 23-49 percent (across the eleven fiscal years) of youth were back in a DCFS residential program and 15-25 percent were in some type of foster care, 8-13 percent had run away, 5-12 percent were in permanency placements with a parent or guardian, 6-10 percent were in independent living arrangements, 3-10 percent were in detention or correctional placements, and less than 3 percent were hospitalized.

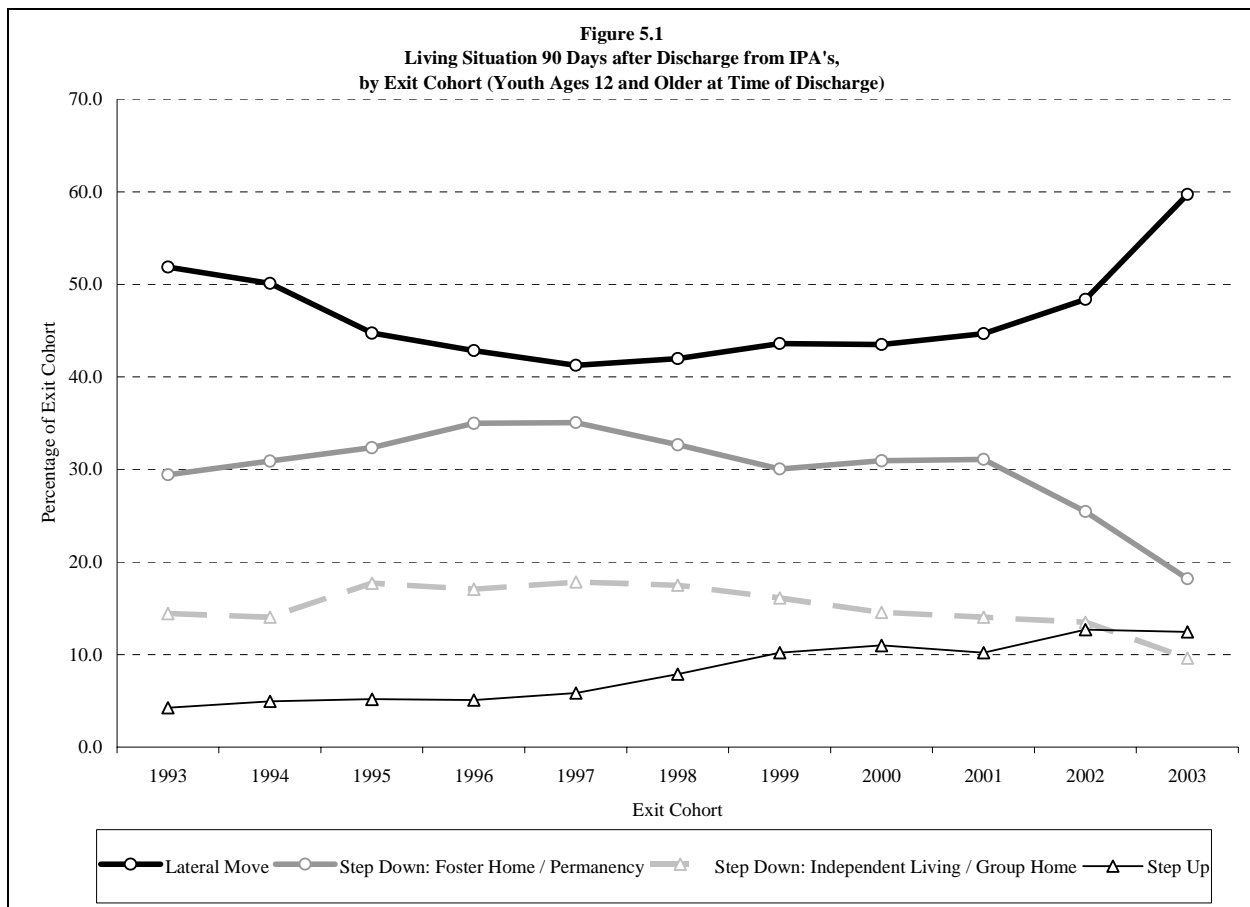
As shown in the figure below, *lateral events* were the most common type of 90-day post-discharge living arrangement for youth discharged from IPAs, ranging from 41 to 60 percent of post-discharge outcomes over time. Lateral moves decreased from 52 percent of all outcomes in FY93 to 41 percent in FY97 before increasing to 60 percent in FY03. IPAs (i.e., a subsequent IPA placement event after IPA discharge) was the most prevalent lateral move for youth. IPAs accounted for most of the recent changes in lateral moves, rising from 24 percent of IPA discharges in FY99 to 49 percent in FY03. Runaways accounted for 8-13 percent of lateral 90-day post-discharge outcomes across the 11-year period.

Step-downs from IPAs to foster care or permanency were the second most common type of 90-day post-discharge outcome. These types of step-downs increased slightly as a proportion of post-discharge outcomes from 30 percent in FY93 to 35 percent in FY97. There were dramatic declines in these foster care/permanency step-downs from 31 percent of post-discharge outcomes in FY01 to 18 percent in 2003. The recent decrease included proportionate declines in relative foster care, non-relative foster care, and permanencies.

Post-discharge step-downs from IPAs to group homes or independent living also declined from 18 percent in FY97 to 10 percent in FY03. Step-ups to detention/corrections or hospitalization increased from 5 percent of FY95 post-discharge outcomes to 12 percent in FY03. Ten percent of all youth discharged from IPAs in FY03 were in detention or corrections 90 days later.

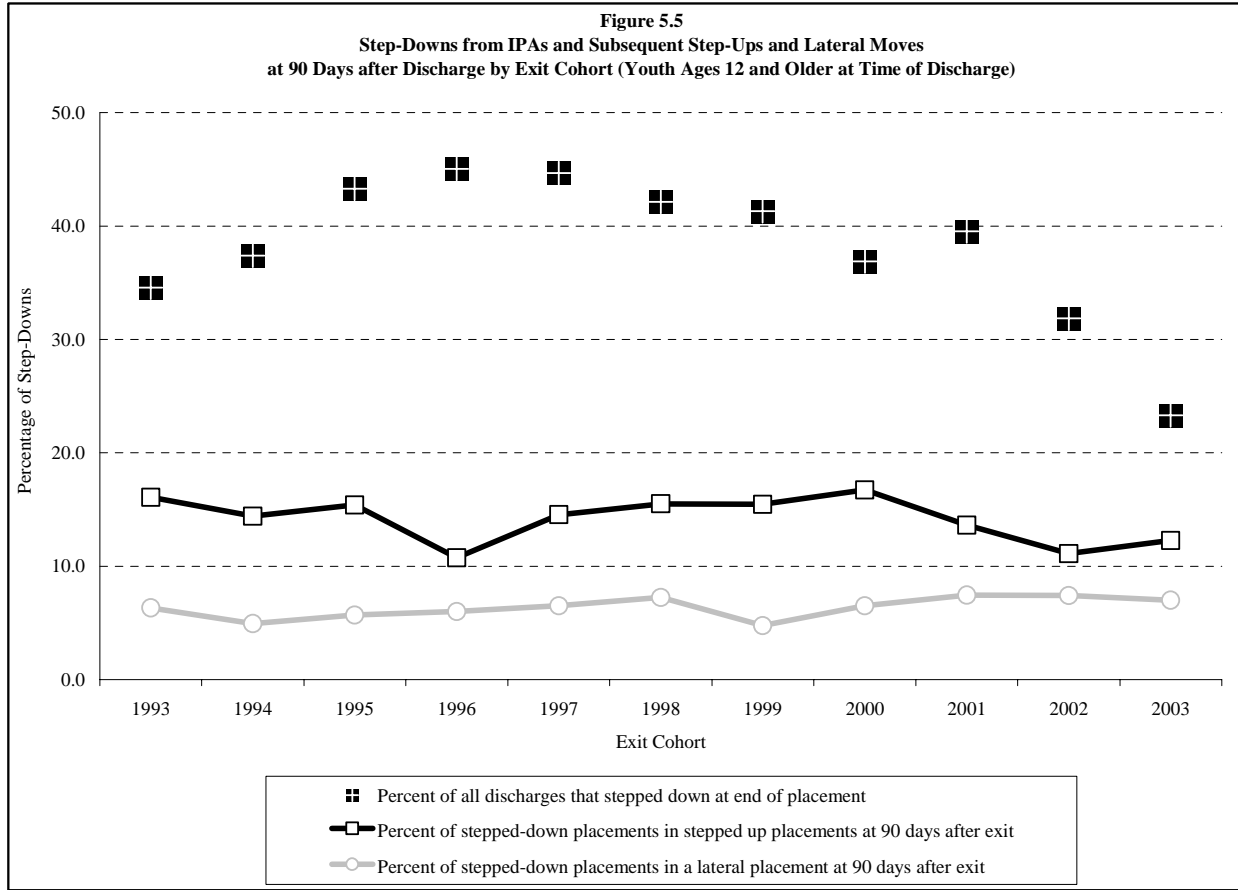
Group homes had similar levels and trends of post-discharge outcomes, although 90 day post-discharge rates of independent living were slightly higher and increased substantially between FY94 (7 percent) and FY02 (14 percent).

¹² In this set of analyses, we are interested in changes in the level of care provided—because it is not clear whether to call runaways a step-up, we categorize them as *lateral event*. We do not mean to imply that running away is not a negative post-discharge outcome.



Overall, youth discharged from IPAs have had much poorer post-discharge outcomes in recent years. The proportion of youth living in various types of stepped-down placements 90 days after discharge has declined since FY97, with an especially steep decline from FY01 to FY03. There was a concomitant increase in youth who were living in *lateral* living arrangements, most of whom were in a new IPA placement, indicating increased placement instability, and a substantial proportionate increase in youth living in detention.

We conducted a preliminary analysis of post-discharge outcomes for those youth who were stepped down at discharge. We examined, at 90 days and one year, how many youth were in a stepped-up level of care or in a placement that would be considered a lateral move, after initially being stepped down (see figure 5.5). For IPAs, the percentage of step-downs that were later in stepped-up living situations ranged from 11 to 17 percent across all fiscal years, while the proportion living in a *lateral* type of placement ranged from 5 percent to 7 percent. There were no strong trends over time, although there were relatively low proportions of step-ups in FY02 and FY03. For group homes, step-ups declined somewhat after FY95, but the low numbers of youth exits (less than 250 after FY00) make recent trend data somewhat less reliable.



Thus, most fundamentally, among youth discharged from residential care, the proportion of youth living in stepped-down living arrangements at 90 days declined markedly between FY95 and FY03. By FY03, half of youth discharged from IPAs were living in an IPA 90 days later and over 10 percent were in highly restrictive placements. Once again, these findings may reflect a change over time in the characteristics of children in residential care, ineffectiveness of the treatment provided to many youth, or both.

DISCUSSION

In the mid-1990s, DCFS began to implement extensive gatekeeping procedures in order to reduce the utilization of residential care programs in Illinois. Our data suggest that these efforts likely have produced their desired effect—residential care utilization has declined consistently and dramatically since FY95, and at a much faster rate than utilization of all other types of placements. Based partly on a study by Lyons et al. (1998), DCFS policies have been based on the assumption that many youth in residential care in the mid-1990s did not require restrictive residential care. The continuing relative declines in residential caseloads suggest that the criteria for admission to residential care, whether formal or informal, may have gotten progressively more restrictive between FY95 and FY01. Declines in residential care utilization have resulted in cost savings for DCFS that have undoubtedly enabled the department to focus its fiscal resources on other important needs for children and families, especially in an era of fiscal austerity and cuts. It is important to note that the concomitant development and implementation of wraparound services and other intensive therapeutic services may have helped some youth to step down from or avoid residential care settings. Our data cannot speak to this possibility.

However, as with all change efforts, there appear to have been important consequences of the dramatic reductions in residential care. The smaller population of youth entering residential care in recent years may be, on average, much more difficult to care for than previous populations.¹³ Evidence for this increased case severity comes in the form of the dramatic increases in the mean number of prior placements for first entries, the increased length of time between initial entry to out-of-home care and placement in residential care, the increased proportion of all entries to IPAs that are repeat IPA entries, and the increased proportion of youth entering IPAs from negative events such as runaways or high-end placements such as detention and hospitalization. Assuming that residential care providers have had to cope over time with an increasingly troubled population, it is not surprising that a higher proportion of youth are experiencing negative events during placements and negative discharge and post-discharge outcomes. However, it is far from certain that these poor outcomes are entirely a function of changes in caseload composition. A substantial number of youth have clearly not received adequate or effective services prior to or during residential care. In addition, DCFS efforts to reduce residential care utilization may have had the unintended effect of subjecting youth to multiple placement failures before they receive treatment-oriented out-of-home care.

These findings raise a set of important questions that have long-term policy, practice, and research implications:

- Are the criteria for judging the need for residential care consistent, valid (based on empirical analysis of clinical and placement outcomes), and clinically sound?
- Have tighter admission criteria for residential care led to higher levels of placement instability for children and youth in less restrictive forms of substitute care?

¹³ The tighter admissions criteria for residential care may also have had the effect of increasing the average severity of the foster care population.

- To what extent have the increased placement failures and associated trauma prior to IPA entry influenced subsequent placement and clinical outcomes?
- Can we identify the characteristics of placement experiences or children at an earlier point in placement careers who are at risk of placement instability and residential care admission in order to better target preventive services?
- Are intensive alternative therapeutic services sufficiently available to all youth who experience placement instability or who are deflected or stepped down from residential care?
- Are alternative therapeutic programs sufficient in intensity and duration to meet the needs of youth, and are they effective in stabilizing youth in less restrictive settings and in improving clinical outcomes?
- Other states have strengthened their continuum of care by developing more extensive and intensive treatment foster care programs—would this option be helpful in Illinois?
- How can residential care programs adapt to and be better supported in their efforts to meet the extreme needs of youth entering residential care? Are there some programs that are more successful than others, or promising approaches not currently used in Illinois that could be helpful to these youth? If so, how do they work?

NEXT STEPS

In our upcoming research, we will begin to address some of the important questions raised above, as well as other issues discussed earlier in this report. We will work with our external advisory group to determine how our work can best inform critical policy and programmatic decisions about residential care and alternative strategies, and to develop plans for future research and evaluation. For our June 2004 report, we plan to:

- Examine key residential care trends for children under age 12
- Compare post-discharge outcomes for youth by age and type of discharge
- Develop provider-level indicators of performance based partly on the types of analyses presented in this report (see Appendix C for a list of possible performance indicators)
- Describe the recent utilization of intensive therapeutic services (System of Care-SOC), specifically with regard to the timing of service provision, including the extent to which SOC is used to stabilize foster care placements or promote step-downs
- Use different types of multivariate models to examine the extent to which policy changes, characteristics of foster care services and placements, youth characteristics, and variability among residential care providers are predictive of key placement outcomes:
 - Placement instability
 - Children/youth entering residential care
 - Length of stay
 - Discharge and post-discharge outcomes
- Describe the residential care referral review process and service plans for youth who are deflected from residential care
- Describe promising treatment models and approaches for both residential care and alternatives (pre- and post-residential care), including treatment and professional foster care models
- Provide a review of selected literature on residential care, treatment foster care, promising therapeutic approaches, and continuum of care perspectives

In addition, we will explore the exciting future possibility of examining the relationship of clinical outcomes (based on data from studies developed by John Lyons and colleagues) to placement outcomes for youth.

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- Goerge, R. M., Budde, S., Mackey-Bilaver, L., & Harden, A. (October 2001). *Trends in residential care in Illinois, 1993-2000*. (Report to the Child Care Association of Illinois) Chicago: Chapin Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago.
- Lyons, J. S., Libman-Mintzer, L. N., Kisiel, C. L., & Shallcross, H. (1998). Understanding the mental health needs of children and adolescents in residential care. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, Vol. 29, No. 6, 582-587.

Appendix A

Level of Care Continuum

This document describes how we categorized and ranked living arrangement codes in the DCFS database for the purpose of analyzing step-downs and step-ups. Note that runaways are excluded. Note that certain levels contain subcategories of placements that are considered equal (lateral, parallel) for this purpose, while other levels contain ranked subcategories.

1. Level 1: permanency placements (not hierarchically ranked within level)
 - 1.1. Permanency: parent
 - 1.2. Permanency: guardianship
2. Level 2: foster care placements (hierarchically ranked within level)
 - 2.1. FC: HMR
 - 2.2. FC: traditional
 - 2.3. FC: Specialized/Treatment
3. Level 3: Independent Living (hard to define in relation to foster care)
4. Level 4: Group Home
5. Level 5: Institutional
 - 5.1. Shelter (also parallel to group home in relation to step-downs to group home)
 - 5.2. IPA
6. Level 6: Highly restrictive (tie, not hierarchically ranked)
 - 6.1. Other residential
 - 6.2. Detention
 - 6.3. Corrections
 - 6.4. Hospital/health facility (usually private psychiatric hospitalization for youth)

Appendix B

List of Figures (Tables and Graphs)

The following trend analyses of institutional placements (IPAs) and group homes are presented in the attached figures and discussed in this narrative:

1. Caseload characteristics

- 1.1. Caseload dynamics: entries, exits, end of year caseloads (graphs and tables)
- 1.2. Residential care as a proportion of all substitute care (graph)
- 1.3. First time entries into residential care versus repeat entries (graphs)
- 1.4. Demographic characteristics of first ever residential care entrants(graphs):
 - 1.4.1. age
 - 1.4.2. race
 - 1.4.3. gender

2. Youth experiences prior to entering residential care

- 2.1. Mean and median time from first placement ever to first residential care placement
- 2.2. Prior living arrangement event for first entrants within fiscal year
- 2.3. Number of prior living arrangements/transitions prior to entry into residential care for first entries ever and first entries within fiscal year
- 2.4. Number of prior formal (non-temporary) placements

3. Youth experiences during placements with a specific residential care provider

- 3.1. Length of stay (survival curves): first entries ever and first entries within fiscal year
- 3.2. Negative experiences during and following after residential provider placement spells
 - 3.2.1. runaways
 - 3.2.2. detention
 - 3.2.3. hospitalization

4. Youth discharge outcomes

- 4.1. Living arrangements following all provider placement spells

5. Post-discharge outcomes

- 5.1. For youth who were stepped down (by exit cohort)
- 5.2. Living situation at 90 and 360 days after discharge (by exit cohort)

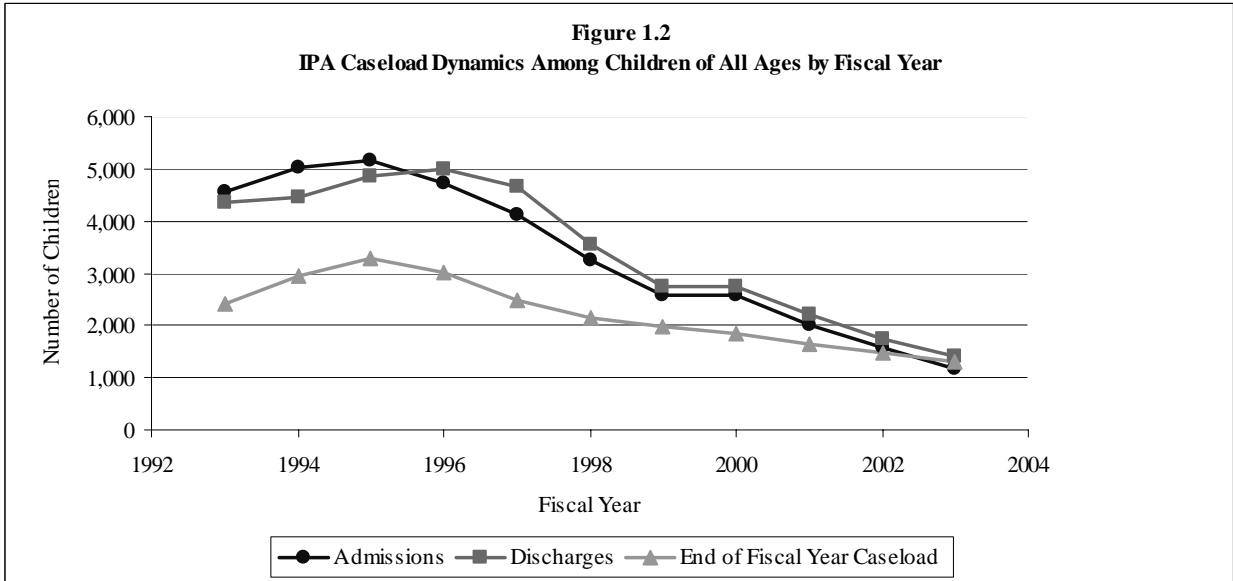
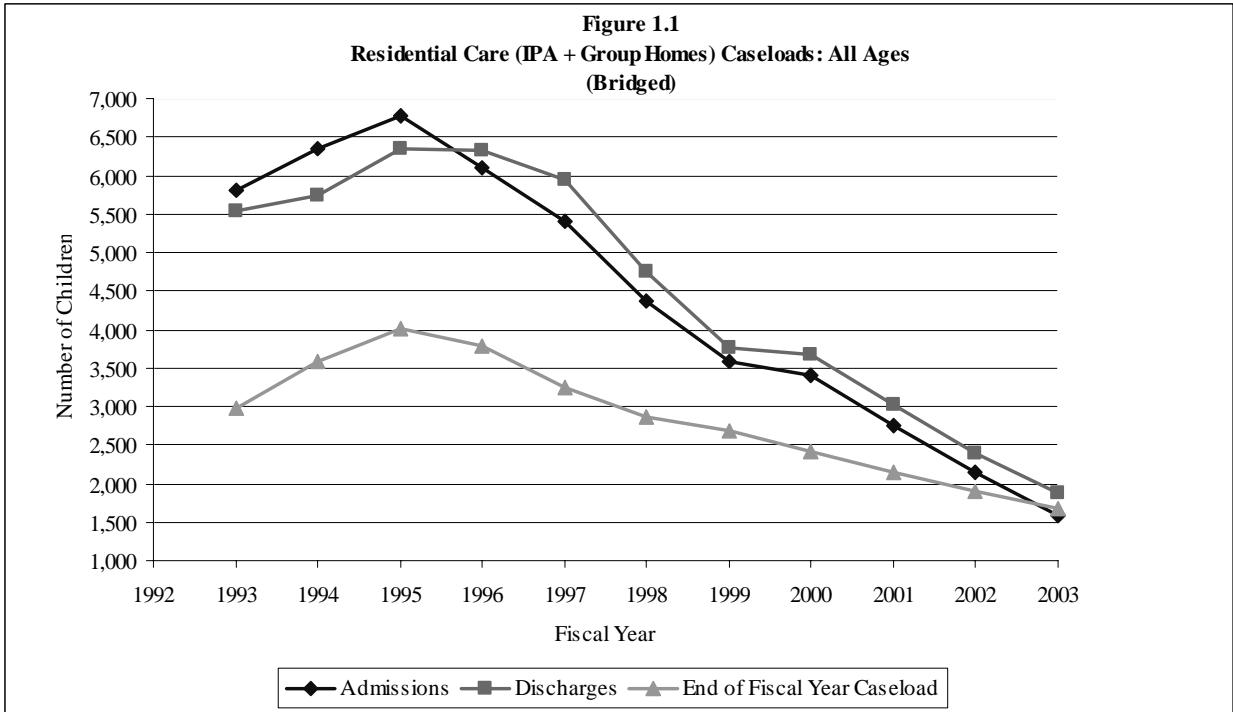


Figure 1.3
Group Home Caseload Dynamics Among
Children of All Ages by Fiscal Year

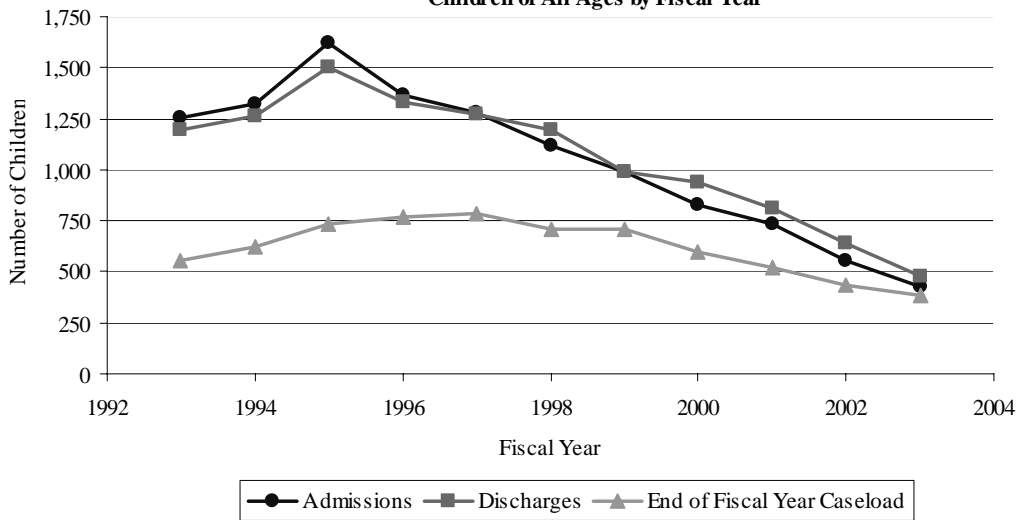


Figure 1.4
IPA Caseload Dynamics for All Children:
Admissions, Discharges and End of Year Caseloads by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Admissions	Discharges	End of Fiscal Year Caseload
1993	4,557	4,351	2,414
1994	5,021	4,473	2,962
1995	5,167	4,851	3,278
1996	4,728	4,991	3,015
1997	4,129	4,675	2,469
1998	3,238	3,545	2,162
1999	2,587	2,763	1,986
2000	2,578	2,736	1,828
2001	2,006	2,205	1,629
2002	1,592	1,748	1,473
2003	1,166	1,399	1,300

Figure 1.5
Group Home Caseload Dynamics for All Children:
Admissions, Discharges and End of Year Caseloads by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Admissions	Discharges	End of Fiscal Year Caseload
1993	1,256	1,197	559
1994	1,326	1,261	624
1995	1,618	1,505	737
1996	1,367	1,332	772
1997	1,280	1,270	782
1998	1,122	1,197	707
1999	991	990	708
2000	824	937	595
2001	737	810	522
2002	554	643	433
2003	427	477	383

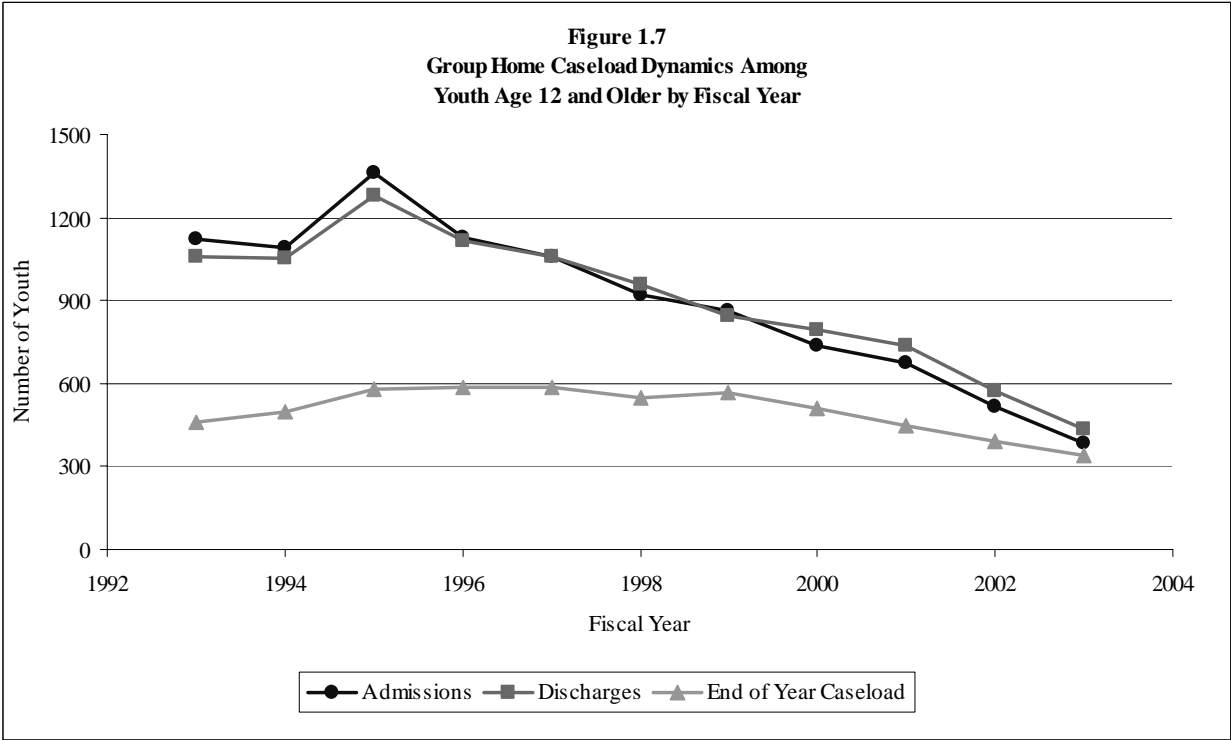
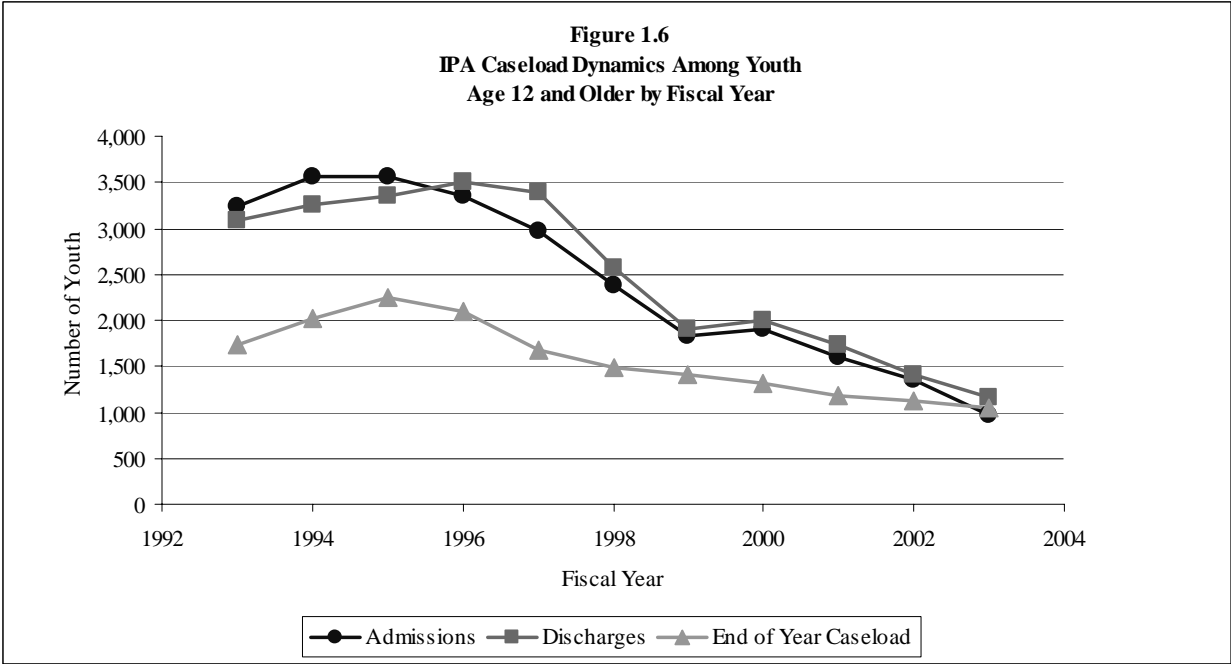
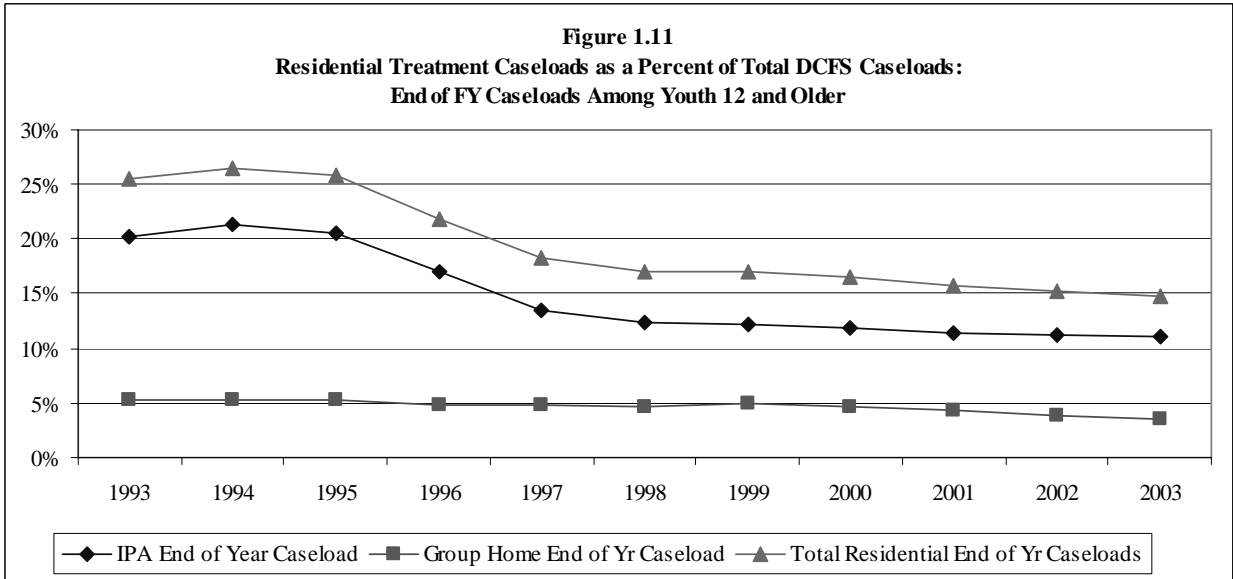
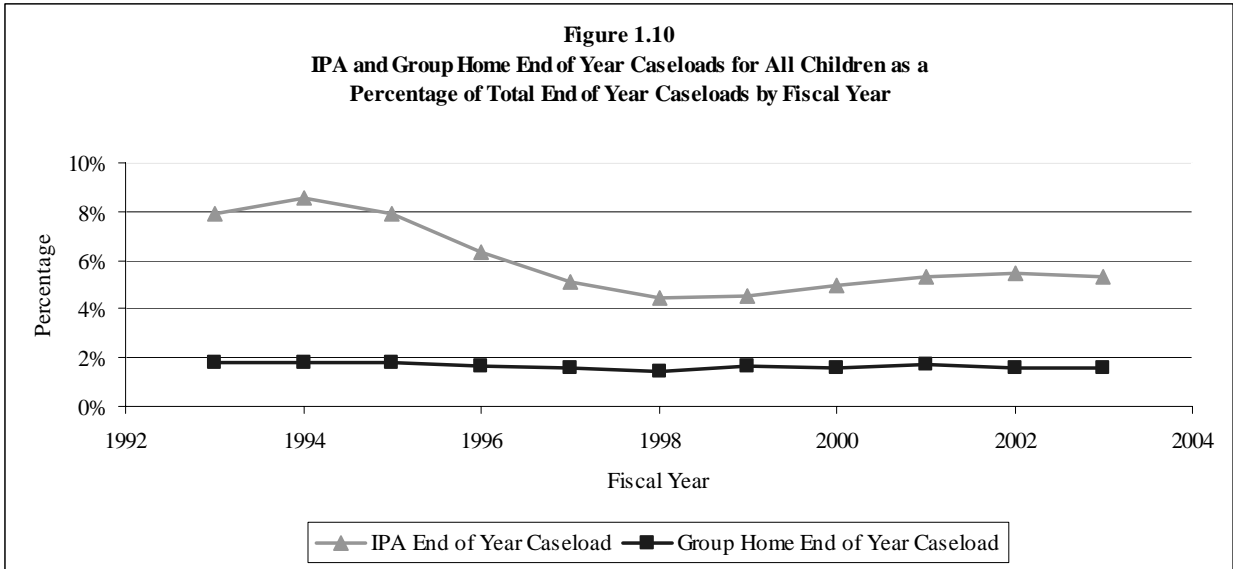


Figure 1.8
IPA Caseload Dynamics for Youth Age 12 and Older:
Admissions, Discharges and End of Year Caseloads by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Admissions	Discharges	End of Fiscal Year Caseload
1993	3,231	3,078	1,727
1994	3,566	3,265	2,028
1995	3,563	3,352	2,239
1996	3,360	3,509	2,090
1997	2,978	3,399	1,669
1998	2,383	2,565	1,487
1999	1,826	1,903	1,410
2000	1,903	2,003	1,310
2001	1,595	1,725	1,180
2002	1,353	1,406	1,127
2003	976	1,155	1,048

Figure 1.9
Group Home Caseload Dynamics for Youth Age 12 and Older:
Admissions, Discharges and End of Year Caseloads by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Admissions	Discharges	End of Fiscal Year Caseload
1993	1120	1060	458
1994	1093	1054	497
1995	1361	1281	577
1996	1129	1117	589
1997	1056	1058	587
1998	923	961	549
1999	863	844	568
2000	738	797	509
2001	677	736	450
2002	514	572	392
2003	385	438	339



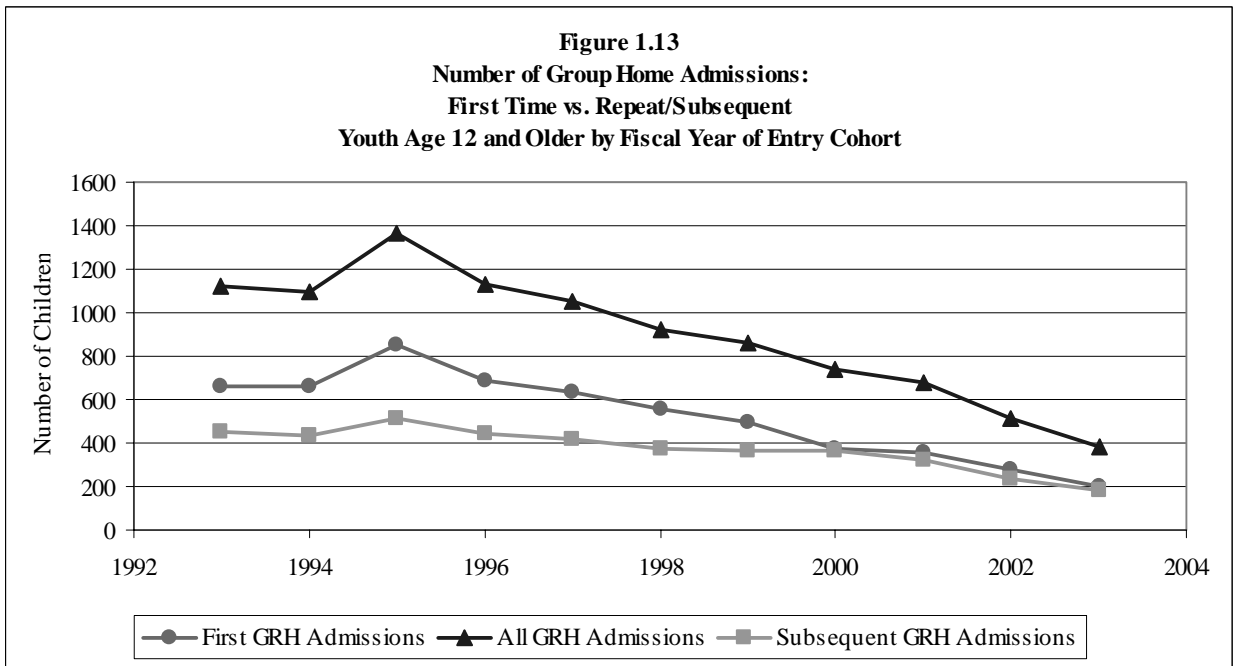
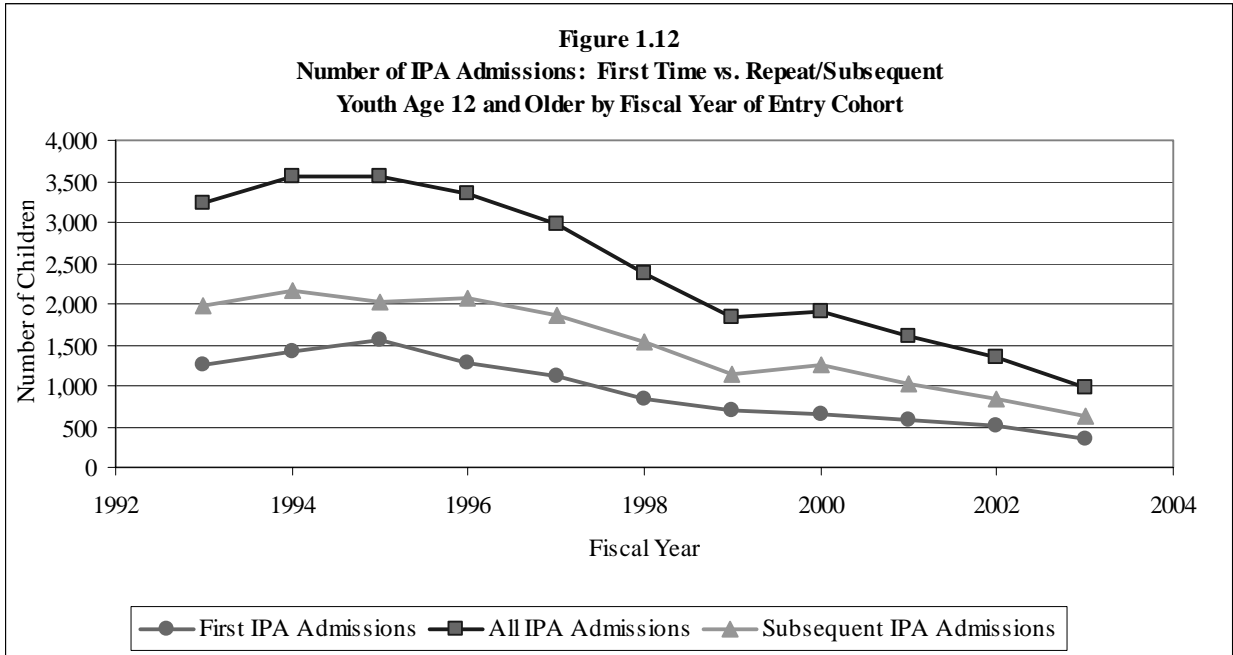


Figure 1.14
Age of Youth at the Time of First Entry into an IPA Entry:
by Fiscal Year

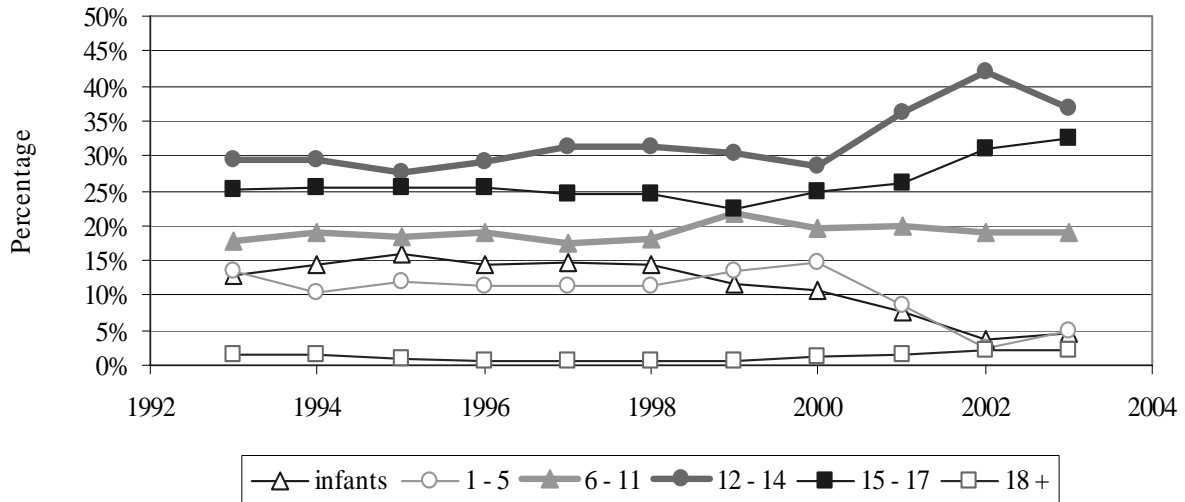


Figure 1.15
Age of Youth at Time of First Entry into a Group Home by Fiscal Year

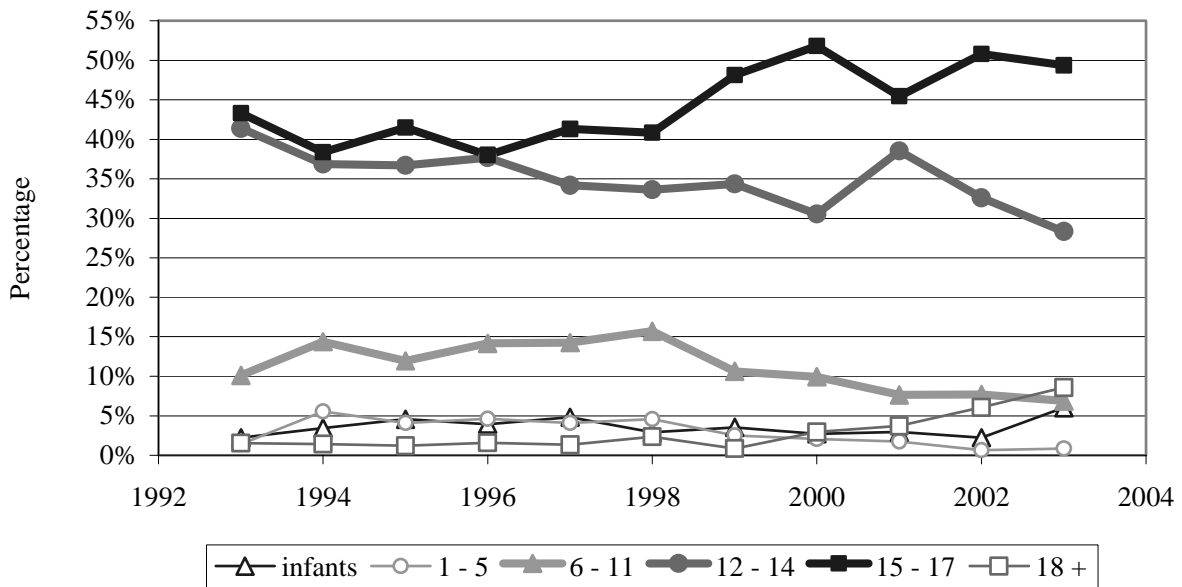


Figure 1.16
Race of First IPA Entrants Age 12 and Older
by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort

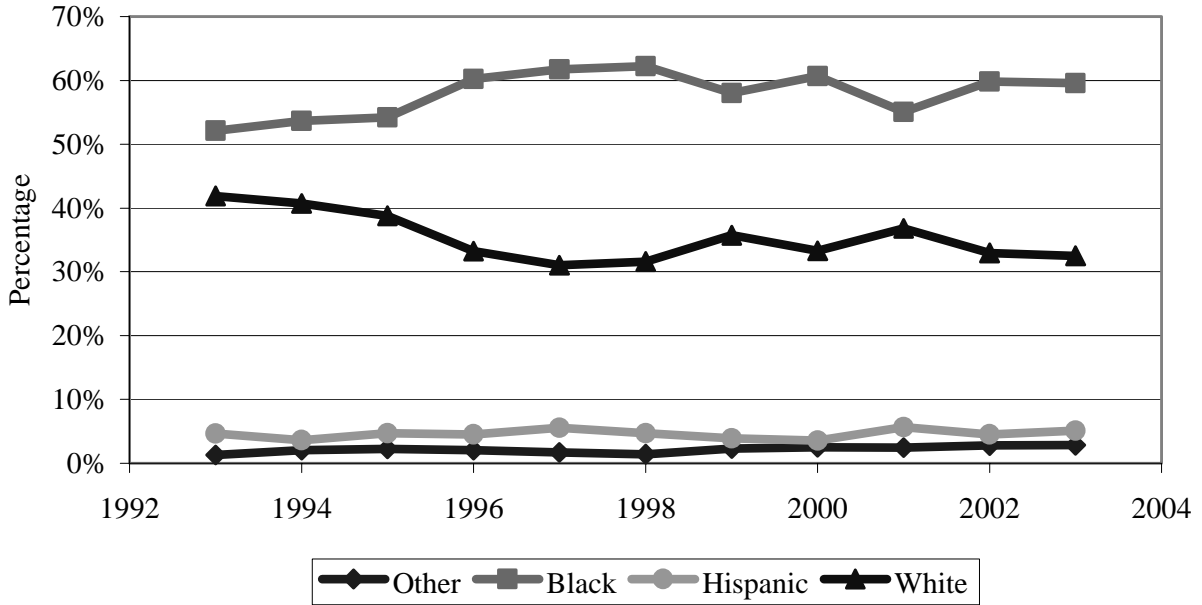


Figure 1.17
Race of First Group Home Entrants
Age 12 and Older by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort

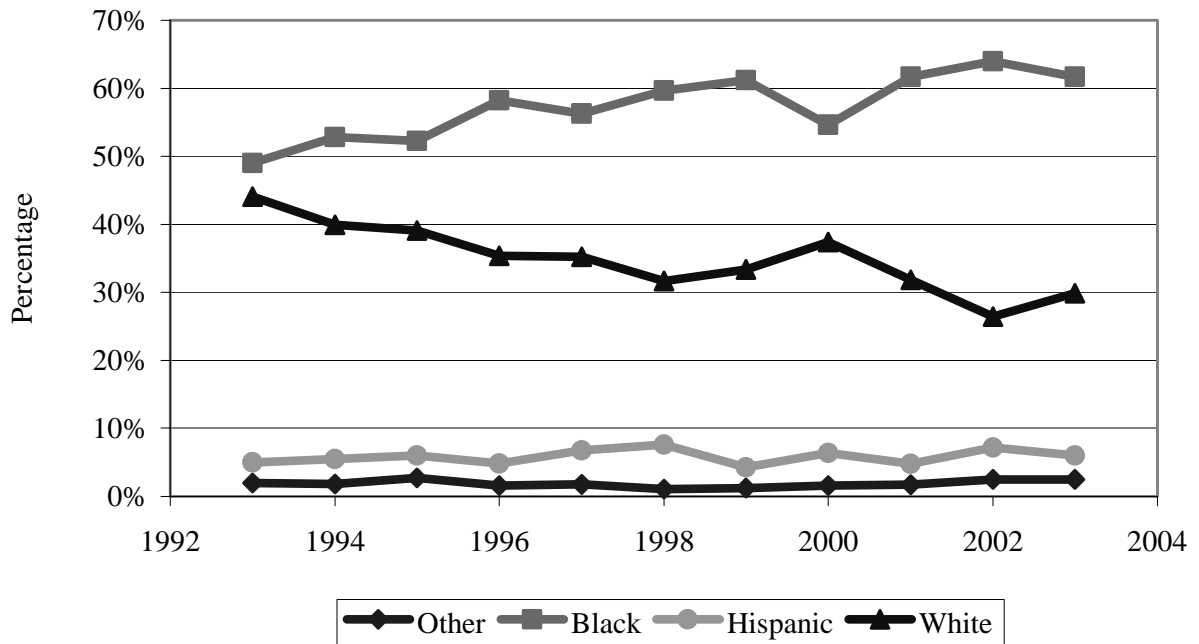


Figure 1.18
Gender of First IPA Entrants Age 12 and Older
by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort

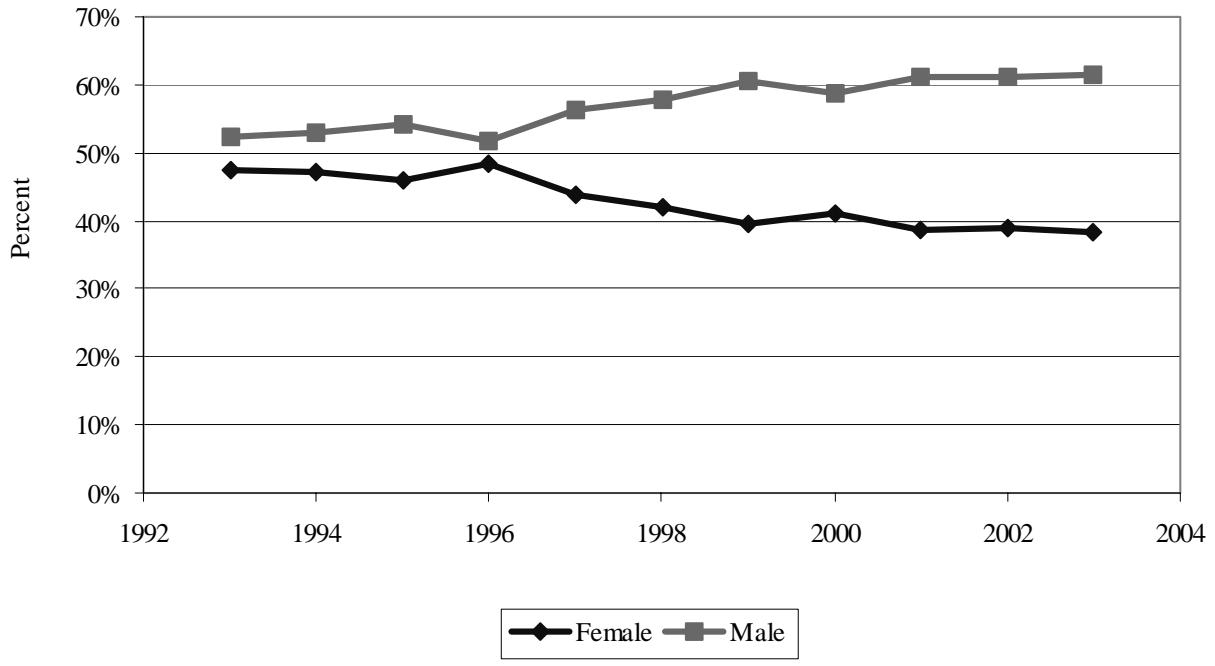


Figure 1.19
Gender of First Group Home Entrants Age 12 and Older
by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort

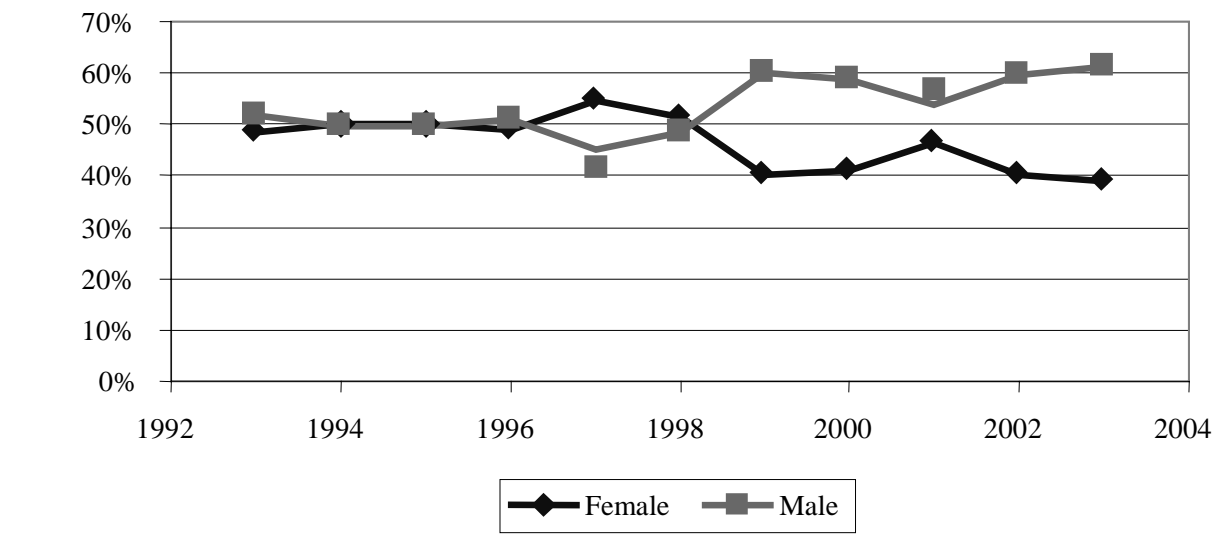


Figure 2.1
Time from First Out of Home Care Entry to First IPA Placement
Among Youth Age 12 or Older at First IPA Placement of Entry Cohort

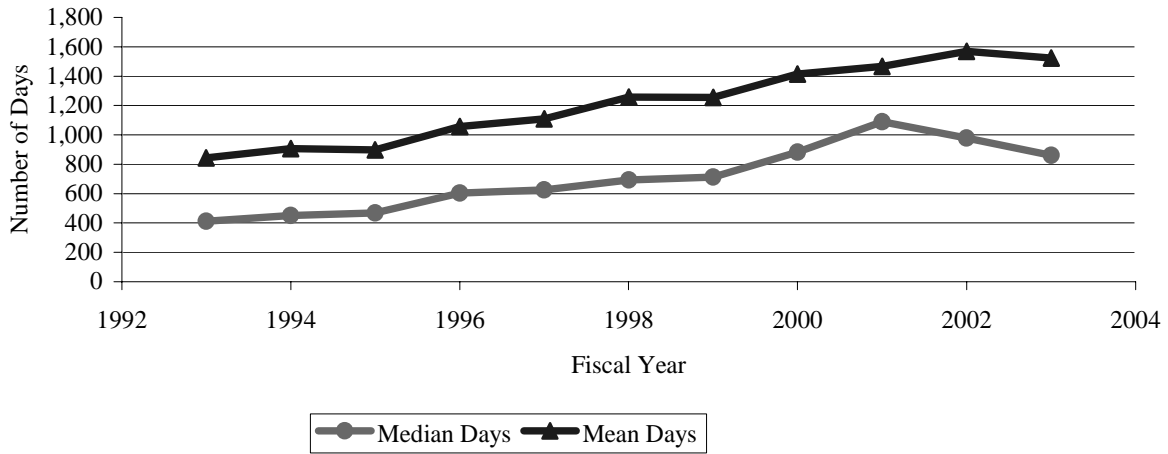


Figure 2.2
Time from First Out of Home Care Entry to
First Group Home Placement Among Youth Age 12 or Older
at First Group Home Placement by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort

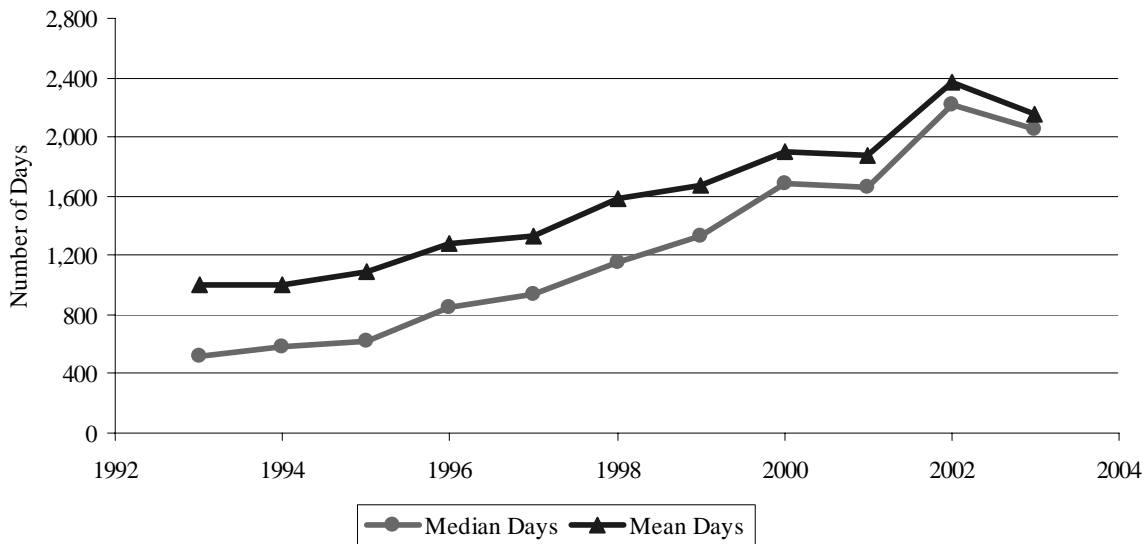


Figure 2.3
Mean and Median Number of Placements Prior to
First Group Home Entry Among Youth Age 12 and Older
by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort

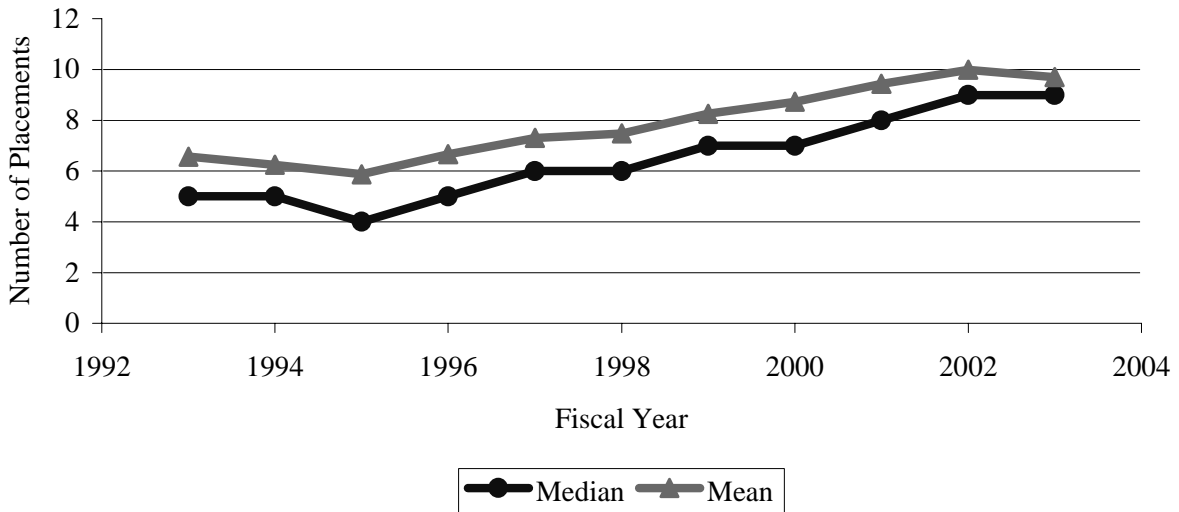


Figure 2.4
Mean and Median Number of Placements Prior to
First IPA Entry Among Youth Age 12 and Older
by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort

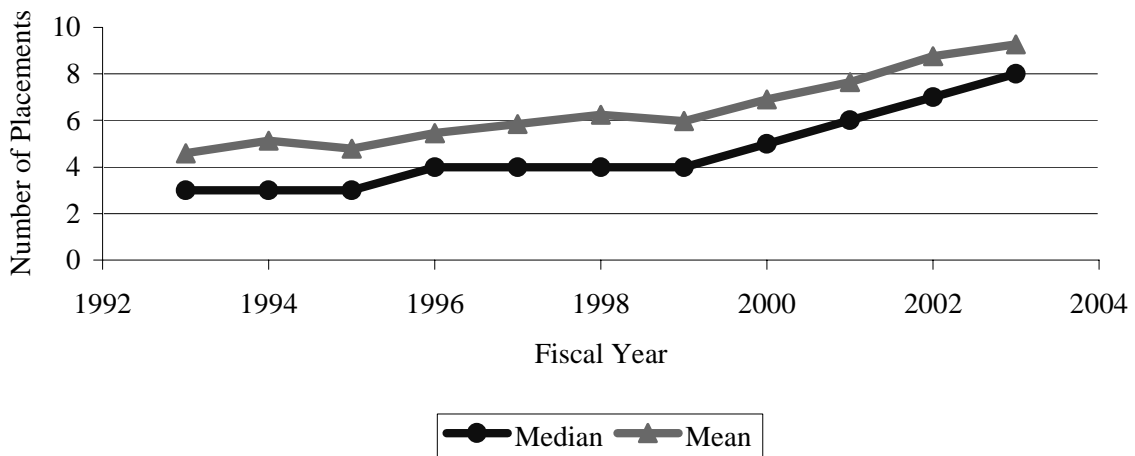


Figure 2.5
Event Prior to All IPA Placements Among Youth Age 12 and Older (Bridged)
Number of Youth in Entry Cohort

Event Type	Fiscal Year											95-03 change	01-03 change
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003		
STEP-UP FROM FOSTER CARE	866	936	1,051	1,086	1,002	863	687	613	527	455	353	-66.4	-33.0
Traditional FC	376	392	436	392	335	264	218	210	171	152	124	-71.6	-27.5
Relative FC	271	311	371	434	437	353	254	189	138	114	94	-74.7	-31.9
Specialized/Treatment FC	219	233	244	260	230	246	215	214	218	189	135	-44.7	-38.1
DCFS RESIDENTIAL	616	804	989	1,037	1,049	820	712	699	603	464	385	-61.1	-36.2
Private Institution	337	396	442	469	547	479	400	353	336	263	215	-51.4	-36.0
Group Home	196	232	274	273	195	149	163	174	130	93	68	-75.2	-47.7
Shelter	83	176	273	295	307	192	149	172	137	108	102	-62.6	-25.5
FAILED POSITIVE DISCHARGE^E	237	224	279	245	206	173	138	119	89	81	67	-76.0	-24.7
Permanency Outcomes-													
Parent Home	212	199	254	218	180	155	119	101	81	71	60	-76.4	-25.9
Permanency Outcomes-													
Guardianship	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	1	1	2		100.0
Independent Living	25	25	25	27	26	18	15	12	7	9	5	-80.0	-28.6
STEP-DOWN FROM HIGH END PLACEMENTS	877	854	855	825	682	556	539	617	675	681	663	-22.5	-1.8
Other Residential	361	327	250	198	102	60	28	19	18	18	14	-94.4	-22.2
Correctional Facility	65	59	67	68	72	64	63	82	79	71	82	22.4	3.8
State Mental Hospital	111	106	90	75	67	70	59	56	57	44	33	-63.3	-42.1
Hospital/Health Facility	191	204	244	275	218	150	163	194	258	303	326	33.6	26.4
Detention	149	158	204	209	223	212	226	266	263	245	208	2.0	-20.9
RUNAWAY	202	205	202	236	208	234	191	194	169	198	146	-27.7	-13.6
MISCELLANEOUS	568	697	767	720	586	402	338	243	176	118	92	-88.0	-47.7
Case Opening	211	300	321	252	242	209	200	138	92	66	55	-82.9	-40.2
Other	357	397	446	468	344	193	138	105	84	52	37	-91.7	-56.0
TOTAL	3,366	3,720	4,143	4,149	3,733	3,048	2,605	2,485	2,239	1,997	1,706	-58.8	-23.8

Figure 2.6
Event Prior to All IPA Placements Among Youth Age 12 and Older (Bridged)
Percentage of Entry Cohort

Event Type	Fiscal Year											95-03 change %	01-03 change %
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003		
STEP-UP FROM FOSTER CARE	25.7	25.2	25.4	26.2	26.8	28.3	26.4	24.7	23.5	22.8	20.7	-18.4	-12.1
Traditional FC	11.2	10.5	10.5	9.4	9.0	8.7	8.4	8.5	7.6	7.6	7.3	-30.9	-4.8
Relative FC	8.1	8.4	9.0	10.5	11.7	11.6	9.8	7.6	6.2	5.7	5.5	-38.5	-10.6
Specialized/Treatment FC	6.5	6.3	5.9	6.3	6.2	8.1	8.3	8.6	9.7	9.5	7.9	34.4	-18.7
DCFS RESIDENTIAL	18.3	21.6	23.9	25.0	28.1	26.9	27.3	28.1	26.9	23.2	22.6	-5.5	-16.2
Private Institution	10.0	10.6	10.7	11.3	14.7	15.7	15.4	14.2	15.0	13.2	12.6	18.1	-16.0
Group Home	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.6	5.2	4.9	6.3	7.0	5.8	4.7	4.0	-39.7	-31.3
Shelter	2.5	4.7	6.6	7.1	8.2	6.3	5.7	6.9	6.1	5.4	6.0	-9.3	-2.3
FAILED POSITIVE DISCHARGE¹	7.0	6.0	6.7	5.9	5.5	5.7	5.3	4.8	4.0	4.1	3.9	-41.7	-1.2
Permanency Outcomes-													
Parent Home	6.3	5.3	6.1	5.3	4.8	5.1	4.6	4.1	3.6	3.6	3.5	-42.6	-2.8
Permanency Outcomes-													
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1		162.5
Independent Living	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.3	-51.4	-6.3
STEP-DOWN FROM HIGH END PLACEMENTS	26.1	23.0	20.6	19.9	18.3	18.2	20.7	24.8	30.1	34.1	38.9	88.3	28.9
Other Residential	10.7	8.8	6.0	4.8	2.7	2.0	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	-86.4	2.1
Correctional Facility	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.4	3.3	3.5	3.6	4.8	197.2	36.2
State Mental Hospital	3.3	2.8	2.2	1.8	1.8	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.2	1.9	-11.0	-24.0
Hospital/Health Facility	5.7	5.5	5.9	6.6	5.8	4.9	6.3	7.8	11.5	15.2	19.1	224.5	65.8
Detention	4.4	4.2	4.9	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.7	10.7	11.7	12.3	12.2	147.6	3.8
RUNAWAY	6.0	5.5	4.9	5.7	5.6	7.7	7.3	7.8	7.5	9.9	8.6	75.5	13.4
MISCELLANEOUS	16.9	18.7	18.5	17.4	15.7	13.2	13.0	9.8	7.9	5.9	5.4	-70.9	-31.4
Case Opening	6.3	8.1	7.7	6.1	6.5	6.9	7.7	5.6	4.1	3.3	3.2	-58.4	-21.5
Other	10.6	10.7	10.8	11.3	9.2	6.3	5.3	4.2	3.8	2.6	2.2	-79.9	-42.2
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		

Figure 2.7
Event Prior to All Group Home Placements Among Youth Age 12 and Older (Bridged)
Number of Youth in Entry Cohort

Event Type	Fiscal Year											95-03 change	01-03 change
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003		
STEP-UP FROM FOSTER CARE	250	296	377	371	329	289	254	206	173	107	80	-78.8	-53.8
Traditional FC	119	113	127	116	105	95	90	73	66	30	28	-78.0	-57.6
Relative FC	61	87	133	142	126	101	76	54	45	31	23	-82.7	-48.9
Specialized/Treatment FC	70	96	117	113	98	93	88	79	62	46	29	-75.2	-53.2
DCFS RESIDENTIAL	408	458	625	661	696	648	556	486	469	427	377	-39.7	-19.6
Private Institution	291	300	368	407	457	403	376	307	275	239	198	-46.2	-28.0
Group Home	66	77	86	103	96	109	85	95	84	63	76	-11.6	-9.5
Shelter	51	81	171	151	143	136	95	84	110	125	103	-39.8	-6.4
FAILED POSITIVE DISCHARGE¹	73	73	79	56	53	24	44	34	36	26	26	-67.1	-27.8
Permanency Outcomes-													
Parent Home	66	67	74	49	40	21	39	30	32	21	21	-71.6	-34.4
Permanency Outcomes-													
Guardianship	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1		
Independent Living	7	6	5	7	13	3	4	4	4	4	4	-20.0	0.0
STEP-DOWN FROM HIGH END PLACEMENTS	200	184	155	142	154	159	168	182	188	154	128	-17.4	-31.9
Other Residential	83	83	61	42	25	20	10	5	10	9	2	-96.7	-80.0
Correctional Facility	9	9	8	17	31	32	36	36	40	31	27	237.5	-32.5
State Mental Hospital	42	20	10	10	14	12	12	16	14	7	2	-80.0	-85.7
Hospital/Health Facility	47	50	48	44	39	45	41	51	64	64	59	22.9	-7.8
Detention	19	22	28	29	45	50	69	74	60	43	38	35.7	-36.7
RUNAWAY	49	58	62	62	50	66	65	79	66	67	46	-25.8	-30.3
MISCELLANEOUS	221	215	217	144	119	94	97	84	57	29	14	-93.5	-75.4
Case Opening	143	123	122	51	37	40	43	43	30	10	7	-94.3	-76.7
Other	78	92	95	93	82	54	54	41	27	19	7	-92.6	-74.1
TOTAL	1,201	1,284	1,515	1,436	1,401	1,280	1,184	1,071	989	810	671	-55.7	-32.2

Figure 2.8
Event Prior to All Group Home Placements Among Youth Age 12 and Older (Bridged)
Percentage of Entry Cohort

Event Type	Fiscal Year											95-03 change %	01-03 change %
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003		
STEP-UP FROM FOSTER CARE	20.8	23.1	24.9	25.8	23.5	22.6	21.5	19.2	17.5	13.2	11.9	-52.1	-31.8
Traditional FC	9.9	8.8	8.4	8.1	7.5	7.4	7.6	6.8	6.7	3.7	4.2	-50.2	-37.5
Relative FC	5.1	6.8	8.8	9.9	9.0	7.9	6.4	5.0	4.6	3.8	3.4	-61.0	-24.7
Specialized/Treatment FC	5.8	7.5	7.7	7.9	7.0	7.3	7.4	7.4	6.3	5.7	4.3	-44.0	-31.1
DCFS RESIDENTIAL	34.0	35.7	41.3	46.0	49.7	50.6	47.0	45.4	47.4	52.7	56.2	36.2	18.5
Private Institution	24.2	23.4	24.3	28.3	32.6	31.5	31.8	28.7	27.8	29.5	29.5	21.5	6.1
Group Home	5.5	6.0	5.7	7.2	6.9	8.5	7.2	8.9	8.5	7.8	11.3	99.5	33.4
Shelter	4.2	6.3	11.3	10.5	10.2	10.6	8.0	7.8	11.1	15.4	15.4	36.0	38.0
FAILED POSITIVE DISCHARGE¹	6.1	5.7	5.2	3.9	3.8	1.9	3.7	3.2	3.6	3.2	3.9	-25.7	6.4
Permanency Outcomes-													
Parent Home	5.5	5.2	4.9	3.4	2.9	1.6	3.3	2.8	3.2	2.6	3.1	-35.9	-3.3
Permanency Outcomes-													
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1		
Independent Living	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.9	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	80.6	47.4
STEP-DOWN FROM HIGH END PLACEMENTS	16.7	14.3	10.2	9.9	11.0	12.4	14.2	17.0	19.0	19.0	19.1	86.5	0.4
Other Residential	6.9	6.5	4.0	2.9	1.8	1.6	0.8	0.5	1.0	1.1	0.3	-92.6	-70.5
Correctional Facility	0.7	0.7	0.5	1.2	2.2	2.5	3.0	3.4	4.0	3.8	4.0	662.0	-0.5
State Mental Hospital	3.5	1.6	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.5	1.4	0.9	0.3	-54.8	-78.9
Hospital/Health Facility	3.9	3.9	3.2	3.1	2.8	3.5	3.5	4.8	6.5	7.9	8.8	177.5	35.9
Detention	1.6	1.7	1.8	2.0	3.2	3.9	5.8	6.9	6.1	5.3	5.7	206.4	-6.7
RUNAWAY	4.1	4.5	4.1	4.3	3.6	5.2	5.5	7.4	6.7	8.3	6.9	67.5	2.7
MISCELLANEOUS	18.4	16.7	14.3	10.0	8.5	7.3	8.2	7.8	5.8	3.6	2.1	-85.4	-63.8
Case Opening	11.9	9.6	8.1	3.6	2.6	3.1	3.6	4.0	3.0	1.2	1.0	-87.0	-65.6
Other	6.5	7.2	6.3	6.5	5.9	4.2	4.6	3.8	2.7	2.3	1.0	-83.4	-61.8
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		

Figure 2.9
Event Prior to IPA Placement
Among Youth Age 12 and Older
by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort
(Bridged)

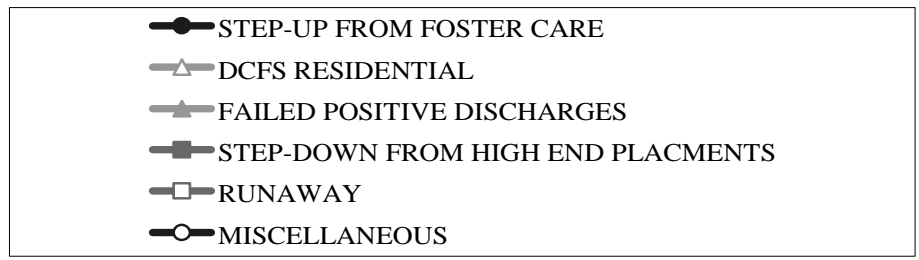
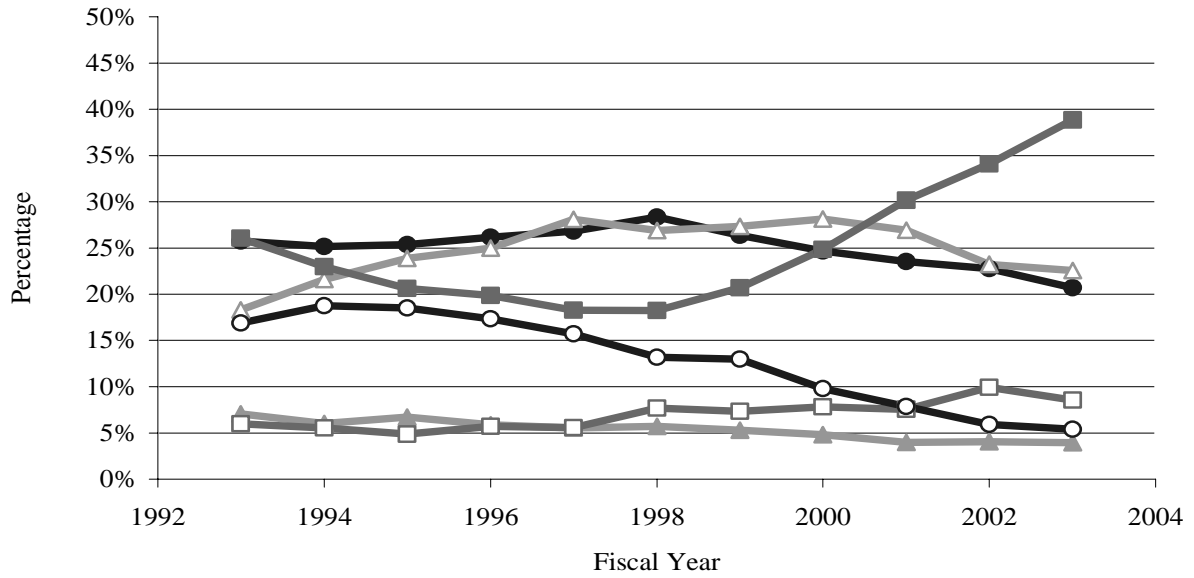


Figure 2.10
Event Prior to Group Home Placement
Among Youth Age 12 and Older
by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort
(Bridged)

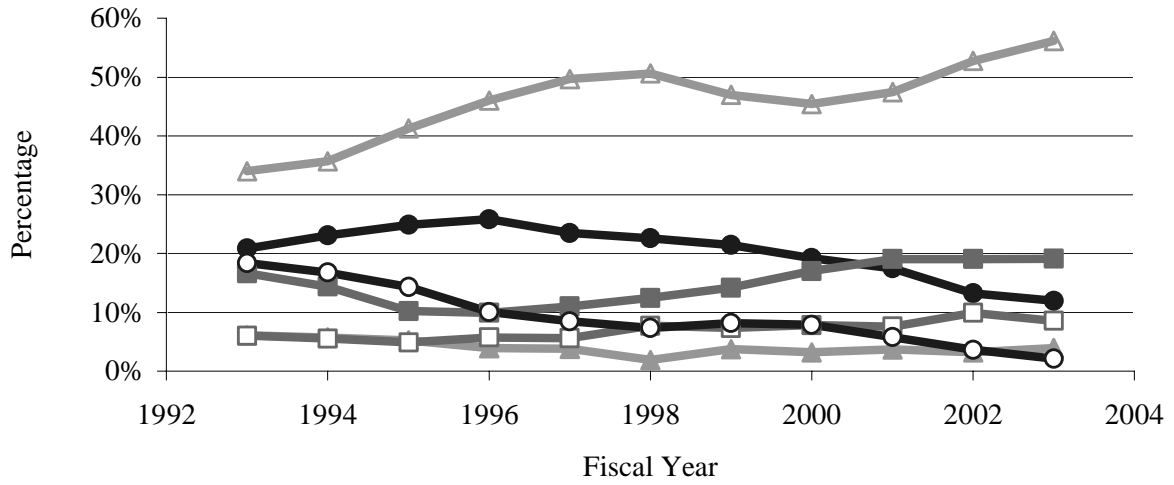


Figure 2.11
Mean and Median Number of Placements Prior to
First Group Home Entry Among Youth Age 12 and Older
by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort

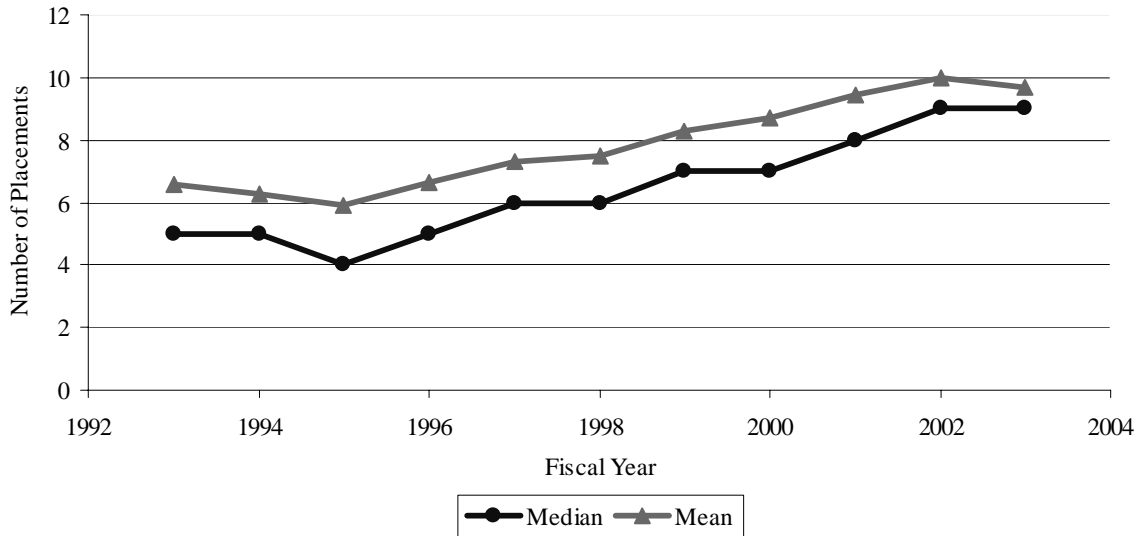


Figure 2.12
Mean and Median Number of Placements Prior to
First IPA Entry Among Youth Age 12 and Older
by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort

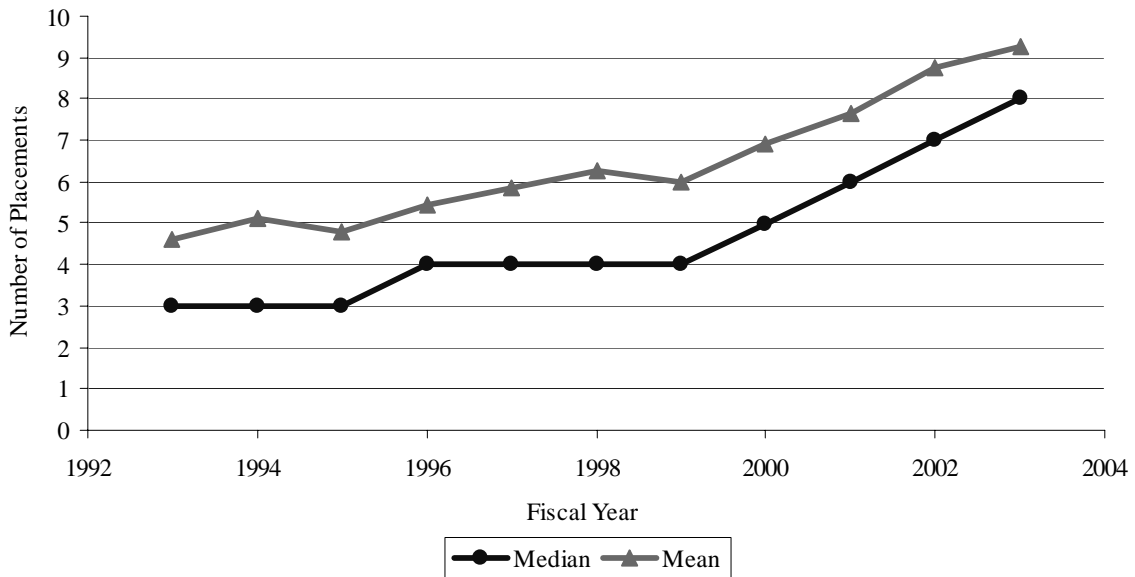


Figure 3.1
IPA Placements: Instability during Placement by
Entry Cohort, 1993 to 2003 (Youth Ages 12 and Older at Time of Entry)

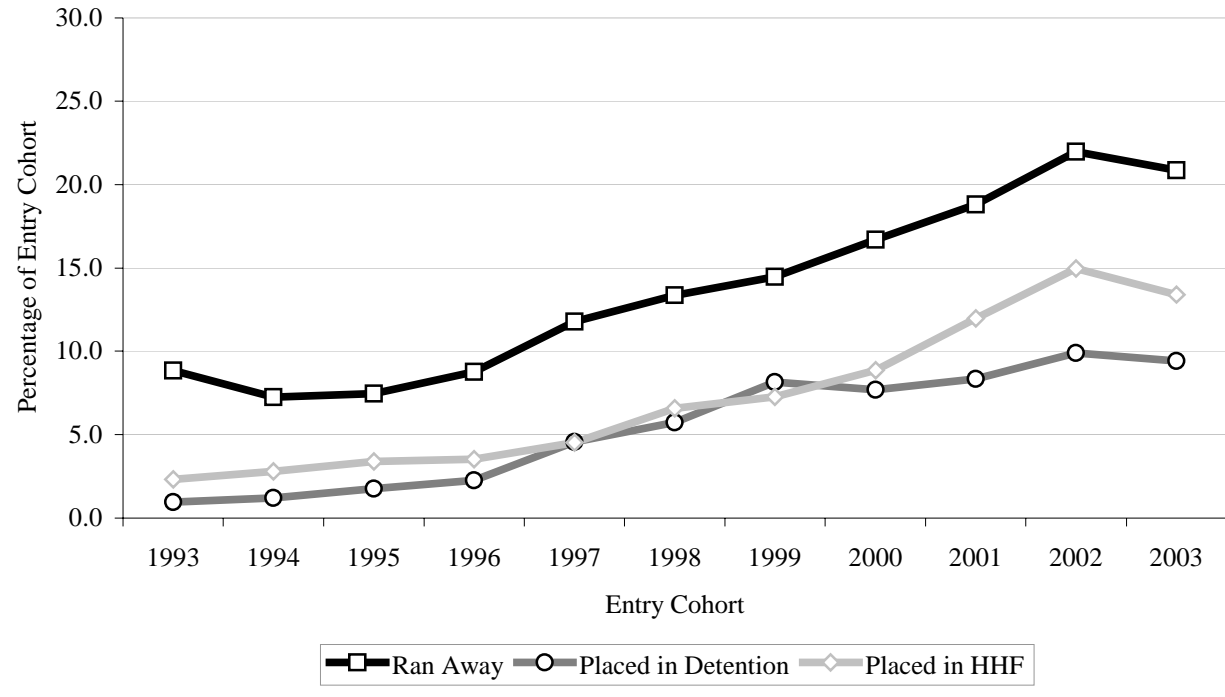


Figure 3.2
Group Home Placements: Instability during Placement
by Entry Cohort, 1993 to 2003 (Youth Ages 12 and Older at Time of Entry)

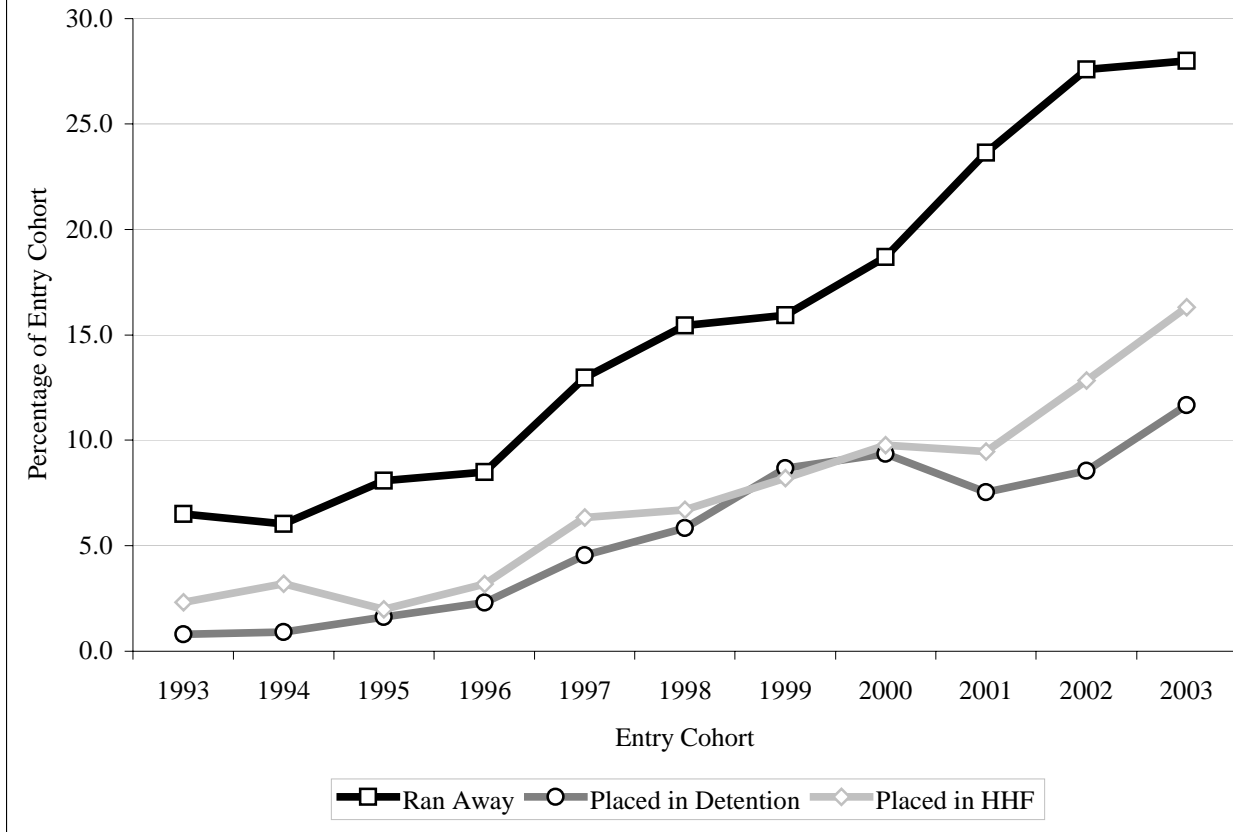


Figure 3.3
Time to Exit from First Ever IPA Placements by Entry Cohorts, 1993 to 2003

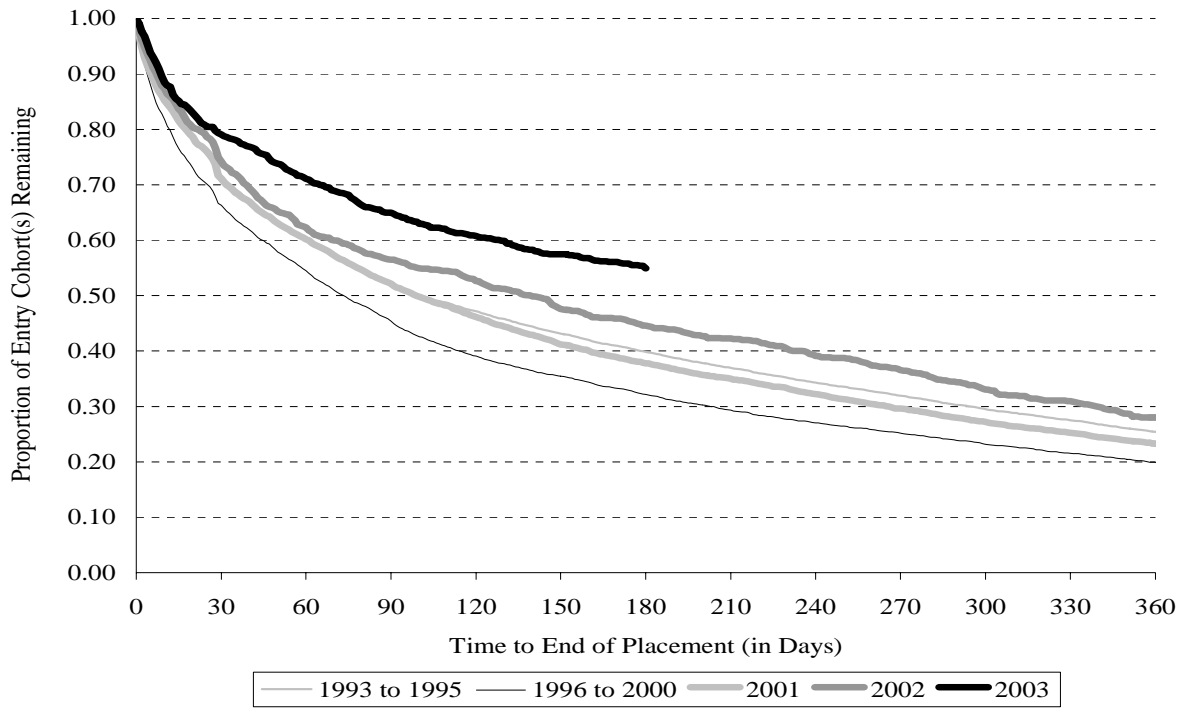


Figure 3.4
Time to Exit from First Ever GRH Placements by Entry Cohorts, 1993 to 2003

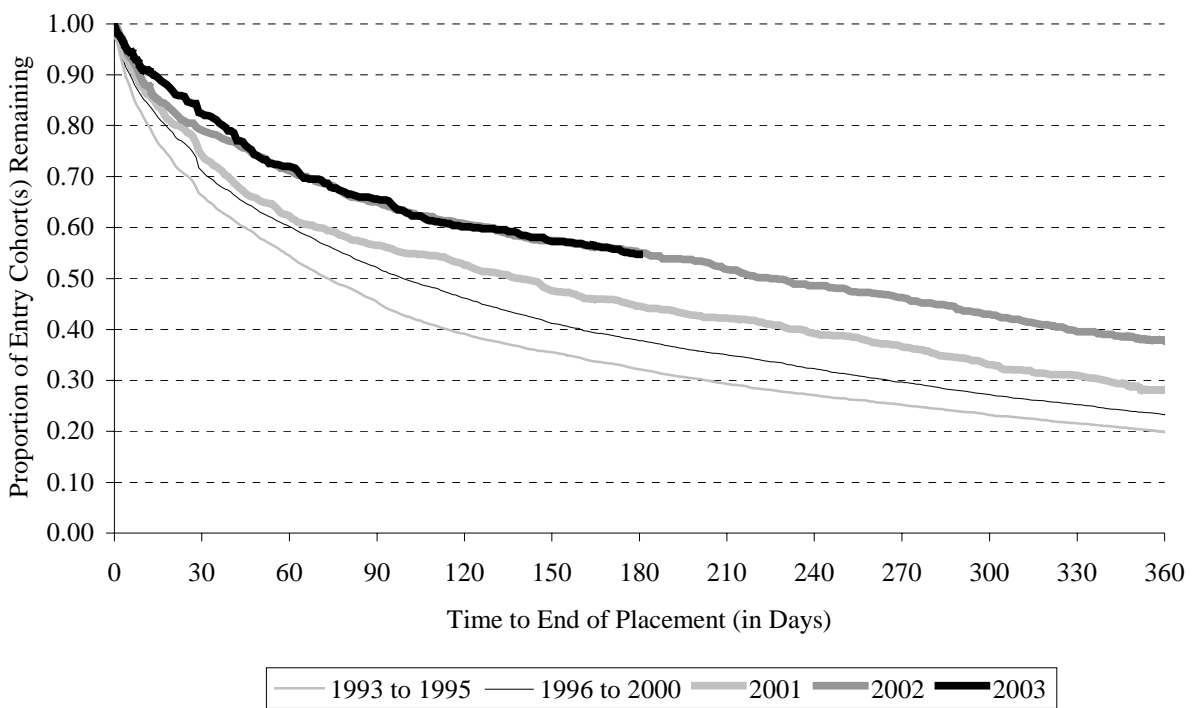


Figure 3.5
Time to Exit from First Ever IPA Placements
by Entry Cohorts and Exit Quartiles, 1993 to 2003

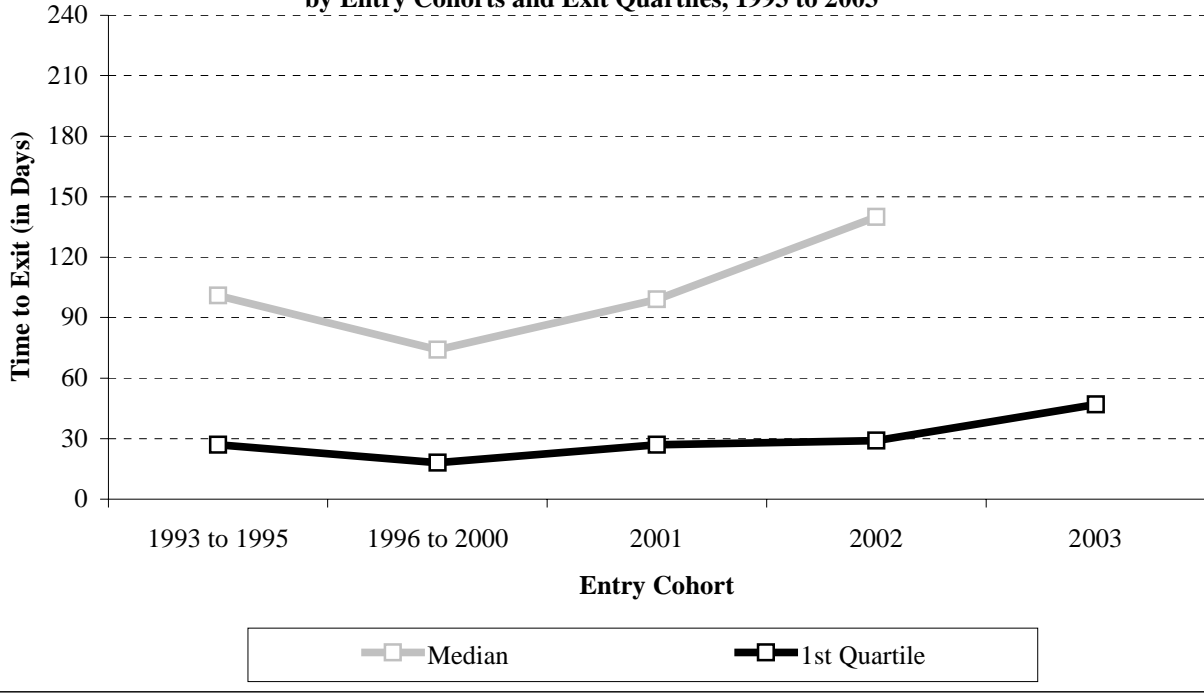


Figure 3.6
Time to Exit from First Ever Group Home Placements
by Entry Cohorts and Exit Quartiles, 1993 to 2003

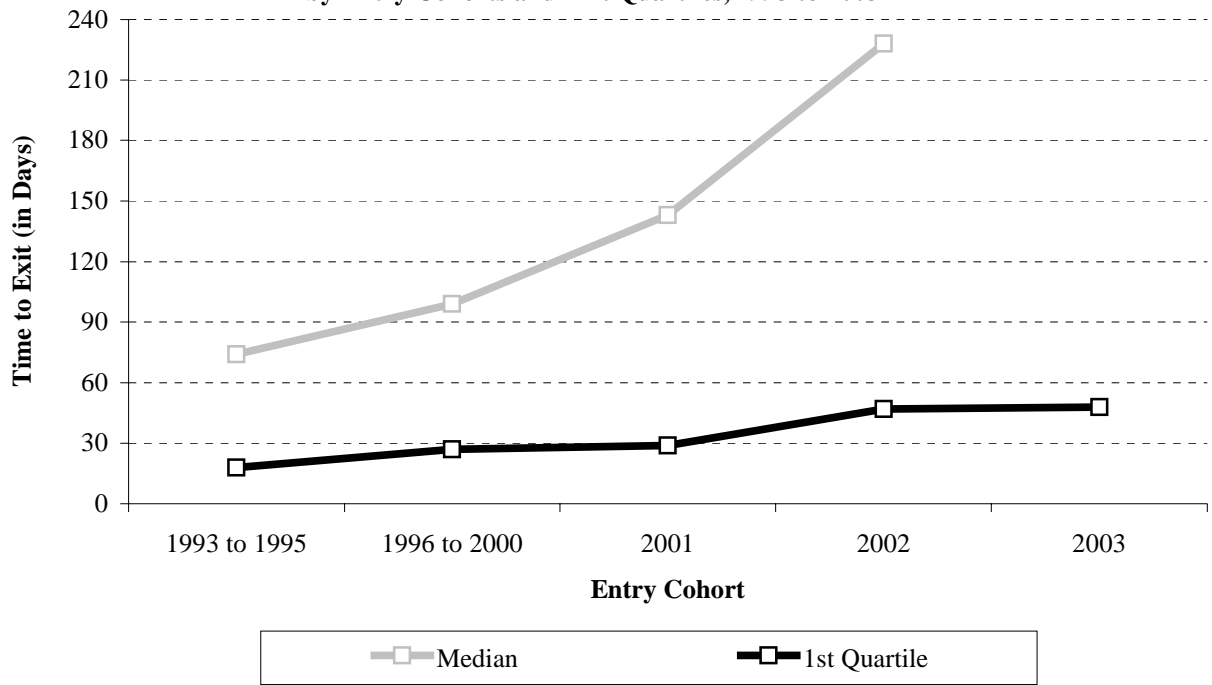


Figure 4.1
Event Following IPA Placement
Among Youth Age 12 and Older
by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort
(Bridged)

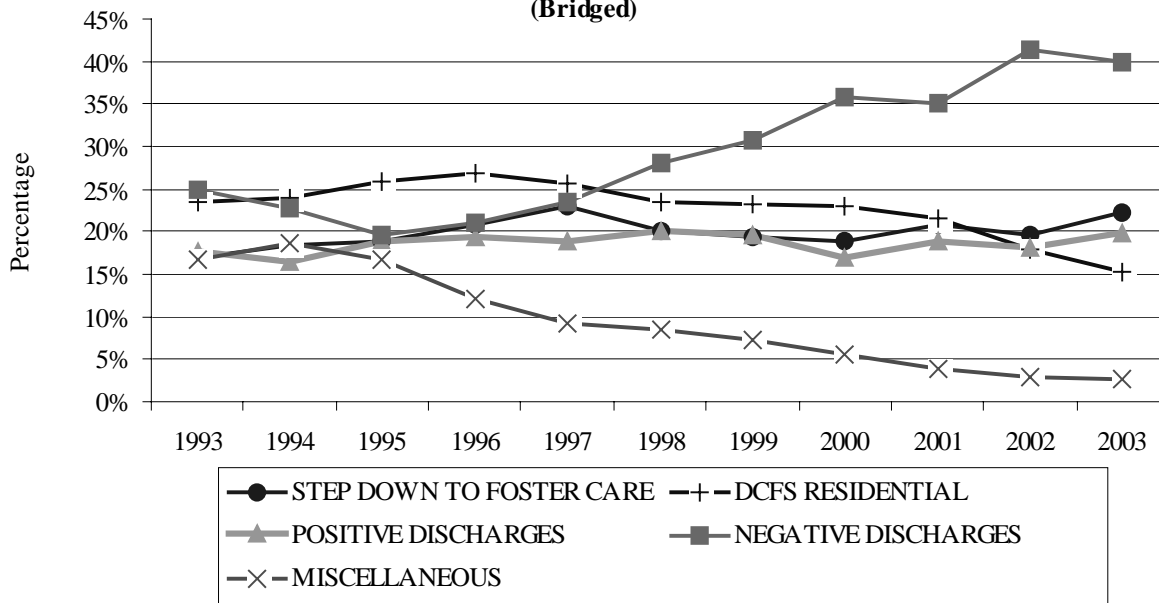


Figure 4.2
Event Following Group Home Placement
Among Youth Age 12 and Older
by Fiscal Year of Entry Cohort
(Bridged)

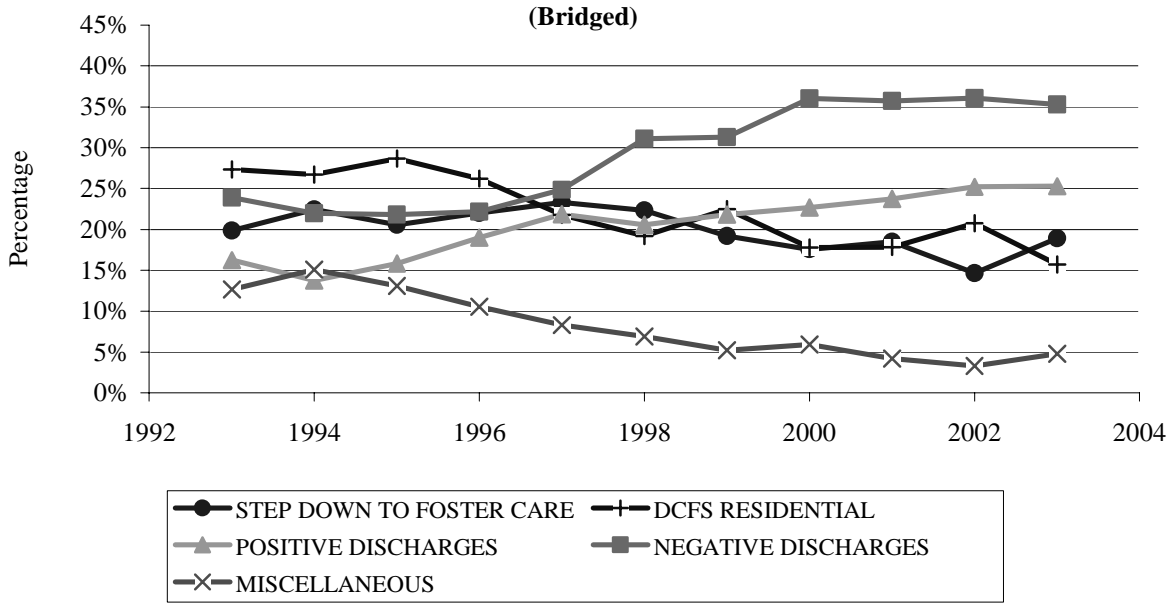


Figure 4.3
Event Following All IPA Placements Among Youth Age 12 and Older (Bridged)
Number of Youth in Entry Cohort

Event Type	Fiscal Year										2003	95-03 change	01-03 change
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002			
STEP-DOWN FROM FOSTER CARE	467	536	620	715	732	518	406	388	379	298	259	-51.9	-21.4
Traditional FC	164	167	194	207	233	156	128	122	134	84	75	-56.7	-37.3
Relative FC	152	194	216	285	277	203	136	112	102	71	52	-67.1	-30.4
Specialized/Treatment FC	151	175	210	223	222	159	142	154	143	143	132	-31.9	0.0
DCFS RESIDENTIAL	646	702	852	925	818	604	491	470	390	272	178	-68.1	-30.3
Private Institution	428	460	564	601	509	342	267	266	220	145	83	-74.3	-34.1
Group Home	179	187	240	274	267	240	212	183	162	124	94	-48.3	-23.5
Shelter	39	55	48	50	42	22	12	21	8	3	1	-93.8	-62.5
POSITIVE DISCHARGES	487	479	616	663	598	518	415	346	341	274	233	-55.5	-19.6
Permanency Outcomes-													
Parent Home	315	292	327	330	272	231	190	149	156	103	81	-68.5	-34.0
Permanency Outcomes-													
Guardianship	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1		
Independent Living	172	187	289	333	326	287	225	195	185	170	151	-41.2	-8.1
NEGATIVE DISCHARGES	682	664	645	724	746	722	647	737	637	627	467	-2.8	-1.6
Other Residential	60	71	35	29	19	13	11	12	12	13	8	-62.9	8.3
Detention	75	69	82	102	114	110	105	144	89	103	89	25.6	15.7
Correctional Facility	8	8	14	24	19	21	26	32	27	18	22	28.6	-33.3
State Mental Hospital	26	28	27	25	42	58	44	54	36	28	10	3.7	-22.2
Hospital/Health Facility	83	120	100	92	73	57	70	74	94	107	83	7.0	13.8
Runaway	430	368	387	452	479	463	391	421	379	358	255	-7.5	-5.5
MISCELLANEOUS	458	545	547	414	295	219	151	112	69	43	32	-92.1	-37.7
Case Opening	11	11	12	17	9	7	8	8	5	5	0	-58.3	0.0
Other	447	534	535	397	286	212	143	104	64	38	32	-92.9	-40.6
TOTAL	2,740	2,926	3,280	3,441	3,189	2,581	2,110	2,053	1,816	1,514	1,169	-53.8	-16.6

Data for FY 2003 are censored because 17.9% of the youth who entered an IPA in that year were still in that placement at the end of FY 2003. Hence, caution should be used in interpreting the findings for FY 2003.

Figure 4.4
Event Following All IPA Placements Among Youth Age 12 and Older (Bridged)
Percentage of Entry Cohort

Event Type	Fiscal Year										2003 change %	95-03 change %	01-03 change %
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002			
STEP-DOWN FROM FOSTER CARE	17.0	18.3	18.9	20.8	23.0	20.1	19.2	18.9	20.9	19.7	22.2	4.1	-5.7
Traditional FC	6.0	5.7	5.9	6.0	7.3	6.0	6.1	5.9	7.4	5.5	6.4	6.4	-24.8
Relative FC	5.5	6.6	6.6	8.3	8.7	7.9	6.4	5.5	5.6	4.7	4.4	4.4	-16.5
Specialized/Treatment FC	5.5	6.0	6.4	6.5	7.0	6.2	6.7	7.5	7.9	9.4	11.3	11.3	19.9
DCFS RESIDENTIAL	23.6	24.0	26.0	26.9	25.7	23.4	23.3	22.9	21.5	18.0	15.2	-30.8	-16.3
Private Institution	15.6	15.7	17.2	17.5	16.0	13.3	12.7	13.0	12.1	9.6	7.1	7.1	-44.3
Group Home	6.5	6.4	7.3	8.0	8.4	9.3	10.0	8.9	8.9	8.2	8.0	11.9	-8.2
Shelter	1.4	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.3	0.9	0.6	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	-86.5
POSITIVE DISCHARGES	17.8	16.4	18.8	19.3	18.8	20.1	19.7	16.9	18.8	18.1	19.9	-3.6	-3.6
Permanency Outcomes-													
Parent Home	11.5	10.0	10.0	9.6	8.5	9.0	9.0	7.3	8.6	6.8	6.9	6.9	-31.8
Permanency Outcomes-													
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	
Independent Living	6.3	6.4	8.8	9.7	10.2	11.1	10.7	9.5	10.2	11.2	12.9	12.9	10.2
NEGATIVE DISCHARGES	24.9	22.7	19.7	21.0	23.4	28.0	30.7	35.9	35.1	41.4	39.9	110.6	18.1
Other Residential	2.2	2.4	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.7	-19.5
Detention	2.7	2.4	2.5	3.0	3.6	4.3	5.0	7.0	4.9	6.8	7.6	7.6	38.8
Correctional Facility	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.9	1.9	-20.0
State Mental Hospital	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.7	1.3	2.2	2.1	2.6	2.0	1.8	0.9	0.9	-6.7
Hospital/Health Facility	3.0	4.1	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.2	3.3	3.6	5.2	7.1	7.1	7.1	36.5
Runaway	15.7	12.6	11.8	13.1	15.0	17.9	18.5	20.5	20.9	23.6	21.8	21.8	13.3
MISCELLANEOUS	16.7	18.6	16.7	12.0	9.3	8.5	7.2	5.5	3.8	2.8	2.7	-83.0	-25.3
Case Opening	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	19.9
Other	16.3	18.3	16.3	11.5	9.0	8.2	6.8	5.1	3.5	2.5	2.7	2.7	-28.8
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Data for FY 2003 are censored because 17.9% of the youth who entered an IPA in that year were still in that placement at the end of FY 2003. Hence, caution should be used in interpreting the findings for FY 2003.

Figure 4.5
Event Following All Group Home Placements Among Youth Age 12 and Older (Bridged)
Number of Youth in Entry Cohort

Event Type	Fiscal Year											2003	95-03 change	01-03 change
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003			
STEP-DOWN FROM FOSTER CARE	193	235	247	250	258	227	176	151	145	89	87	-64.0	-38.6	
Traditional FC	74	69	75	83	82	78	64	43	55	28	23	-62.7	-49.1	
Relative FC	53	75	98	87	98	79	54	47	53	27	19	-72.4	-49.1	
Specialized/Treatment FC	66	91	74	80	78	70	58	61	37	34	45	-54.1	-8.1	
DCFS RESIDENTIAL	266	280	344	298	241	195	206	153	140	126	72	-63.4	-10.0	
Private Institution	134	146	174	147	102	93	92	69	55	42	30	-75.9	-23.6	
Group Home	115	112	154	125	121	91	105	80	79	82	39	-46.8	3.8	
Shelter	17	22	16	26	18	11	9	4	6	2	3	-87.5	-66.7	
POSITIVE DISCHARGES	158	144	190	216	242	209	200	195	186	153	116	-19.5	-17.7	
Permanency Outcomes-														
Parent Home	90	76	98	86	84	65	62	48	48	24	15	-75.5	-50.0	
Permanency Outcomes-														
Guardianship	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Independent Living	68	68	92	130	158	144	138	147	138	129	101	40.2	-6.5	
NEGATIVE DISCHARGES	232	230	262	252	275	316	287	310	280	219	162	-16.4	-21.8	
Other Residential	27	16	11	8	6	3	6	1	3	0	1	-100.0	-100.0	
Detention	12	23	25	21	46	49	52	59	35	32	41	28.0	-8.6	
Correctional Facility	8	3	6	14	8	12	11	13	20	14	8	133.3	-30.0	
State Mental Hospital	9	4	5	6	7	14	12	17	11	2	3	-60.0	-81.8	
Hospital/Health Facility	36	30	22	21	21	24	21	37	31	30	26	36.4	-3.2	
Runaway	140	154	193	182	187	214	185	183	180	141	83	-26.9	-21.7	
MISCELLANEOUS	123	158	157	120	92	70	48	51	33	20	22	-87.3	-39.4	
Case Opening	5	3	4	5	8	7	7	6	4	2	3	-50.0	-50.0	
Other	118	155	153	115	84	63	41	45	29	18	19	-88.2	-37.9	
TOTAL	972	1,047	1,200	1,136	1,107	1,016	917	860	784	607	459	-49.4	-22.6	

Data for FY 2003 are censored because 15.0% of the youth who entered a group home in that year were still in that placement at the end of FY 2003. Hence, caution should be used in interpreting the findings for FY 2003.

Figure 4.6
Event Following All Group Home Placements Among Youth Age 12 and Older (Bridged)
Percentage of Entry Cohort

Event Type	Fiscal Year											2003 change %	95-03 change %	01-03 change %
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003			
STEP-DOWN FROM FOSTER CARE	19.9	22.4	20.6	22.0	23.3	22.3	19.2	17.6	18.5	14.7	19.0	-28.8	-20.7	
Traditional FC	7.6	6.6	6.3	7.3	7.4	7.7	7.0	5.0	7.0	4.6	5.0	-26.2	-34.2	
Relative FC	5.5	7.2	8.2	7.7	8.9	7.8	5.9	5.5	6.8	4.4	4.1	-45.5	-34.2	
Specialized/Treatment FC	6.8	8.7	6.2	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.3	7.1	4.7	5.6	9.8	-9.2	18.7	
DCFS RESIDENTIAL	27.4	26.7	28.7	26.2	21.8	19.2	22.5	17.8	17.9	20.8	15.7	-27.6	16.2	
Private Institution	13.8	13.9	14.5	12.9	9.2	9.2	10.0	8.0	7.0	6.9	6.5	-52.3	-1.4	
Group Home	11.8	10.7	12.8	11.0	10.9	9.0	11.5	9.3	10.1	13.5	8.5	5.3	34.1	
Shelter	1.7	2.1	1.3	2.3	1.6	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.7	-75.3	-56.9	
POSITIVE DISCHARGES	16.3	13.8	15.8	19.0	21.9	20.6	21.8	22.7	23.7	25.2	25.3	59.2	6.2	
Permanency Outcomes-														
Parent Home	9.3	7.3	8.2	7.6	7.6	6.4	6.8	5.6	6.1	4.0	3.3	-51.6	-35.4	
Permanency Outcomes-														
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Independent Living	7.0	6.5	7.7	11.4	14.3	14.2	15.0	17.1	17.6	21.3	22.0	177.2	20.7	
NEGATIVE DISCHARGES	23.9	22.0	21.8	22.2	24.8	31.3	31.3	36.0	35.7	36.1	35.3	65.2	1.0	
Other Residential	2.8	1.5	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.2	-100.0	-100.0	
Detention	1.2	2.2	2.1	1.8	4.2	4.8	5.7	6.9	4.5	5.3	8.9	153.0	18.1	
Correctional Facility	0.8	0.3	0.5	1.2	0.7	1.2	1.2	1.5	2.6	2.3	1.7	361.3	-9.6	
State Mental Hospital	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	1.4	1.3	2.0	1.4	0.3	0.7	-20.9	-76.5	
Hospital/Health Facility	3.7	2.9	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.4	2.3	4.3	4.0	4.9	5.7	169.6	25.0	
Runaway	14.4	14.7	16.1	16.0	16.9	21.1	20.2	21.3	23.0	23.2	18.1	44.4	1.2	
MISCELLANEOUS	12.7	15.1	13.1	10.6	8.3	6.9	5.2	5.9	4.2	3.3	4.8	-74.8	-21.7	
Case Opening	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.7	-1.2	-35.4	
Other	12.1	14.8	12.8	10.1	7.6	6.2	4.5	5.2	3.7	3.0	4.1	-76.7	-19.8	
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

Data for FY 2003 are censored because 15.0% of the youth who entered a group home in that year were still in that placement at the end of FY 2003. Hence, caution should be used in interpreting the findings for FY 2003.

Figure 4.7
All IPA Placements Ending in Runaway, Hospitalization
or Detention as a Percentage of All Discharges from
First IPA Placements Among Youth Age 12 and Older

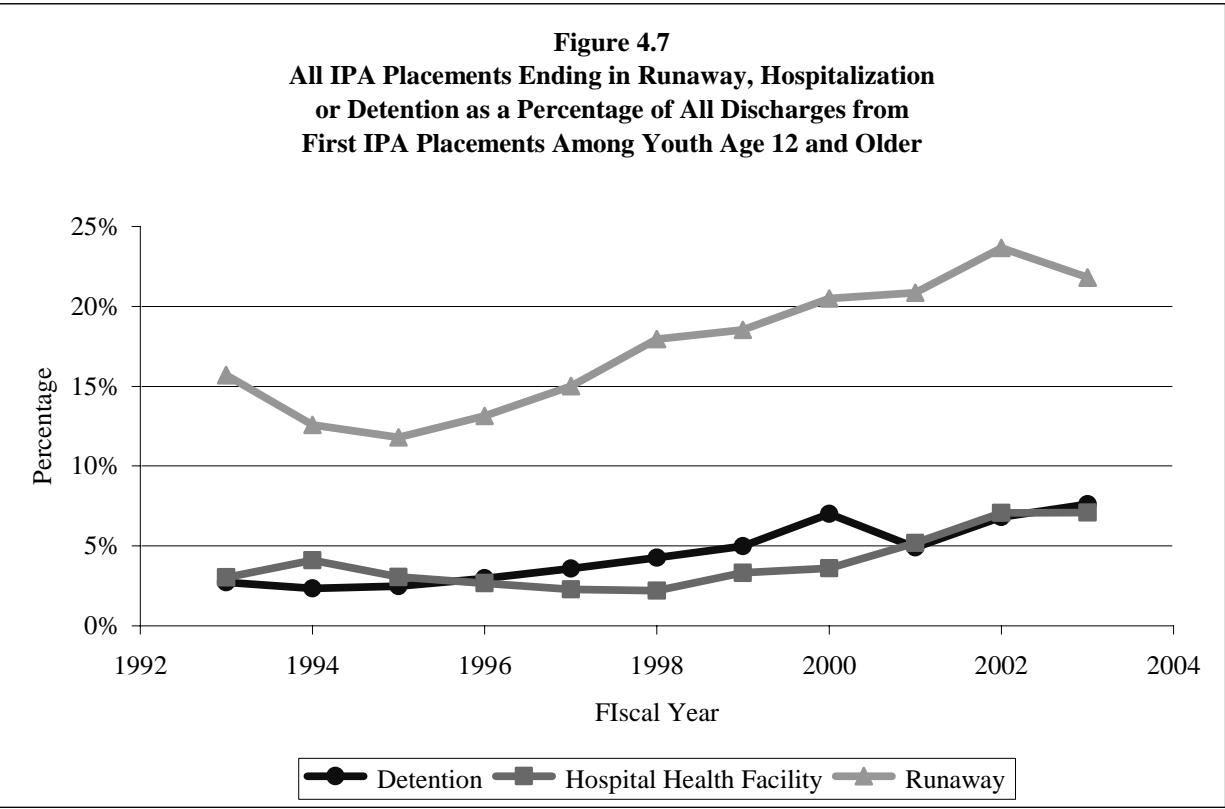


Figure 4.8
All Group Home Placements Ending in Runaway, Hospitalization
or Detention as a Percentage of All Discharges from First Group Home
Placements Among Youth Age 12 and Older

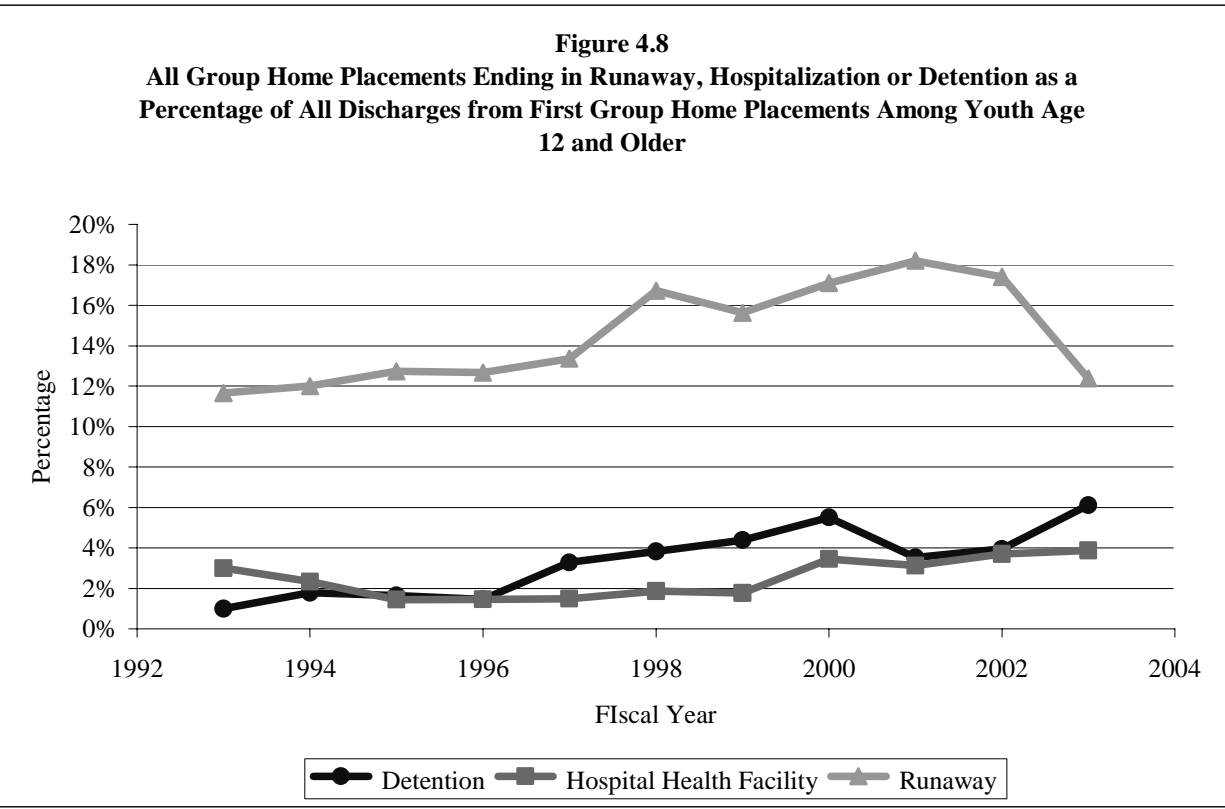


Figure 5.1
Living Situation 90 Days after Discharge from IPA's,
by Exit Cohort (Youth Ages 12 and Older at Time of Discharge)

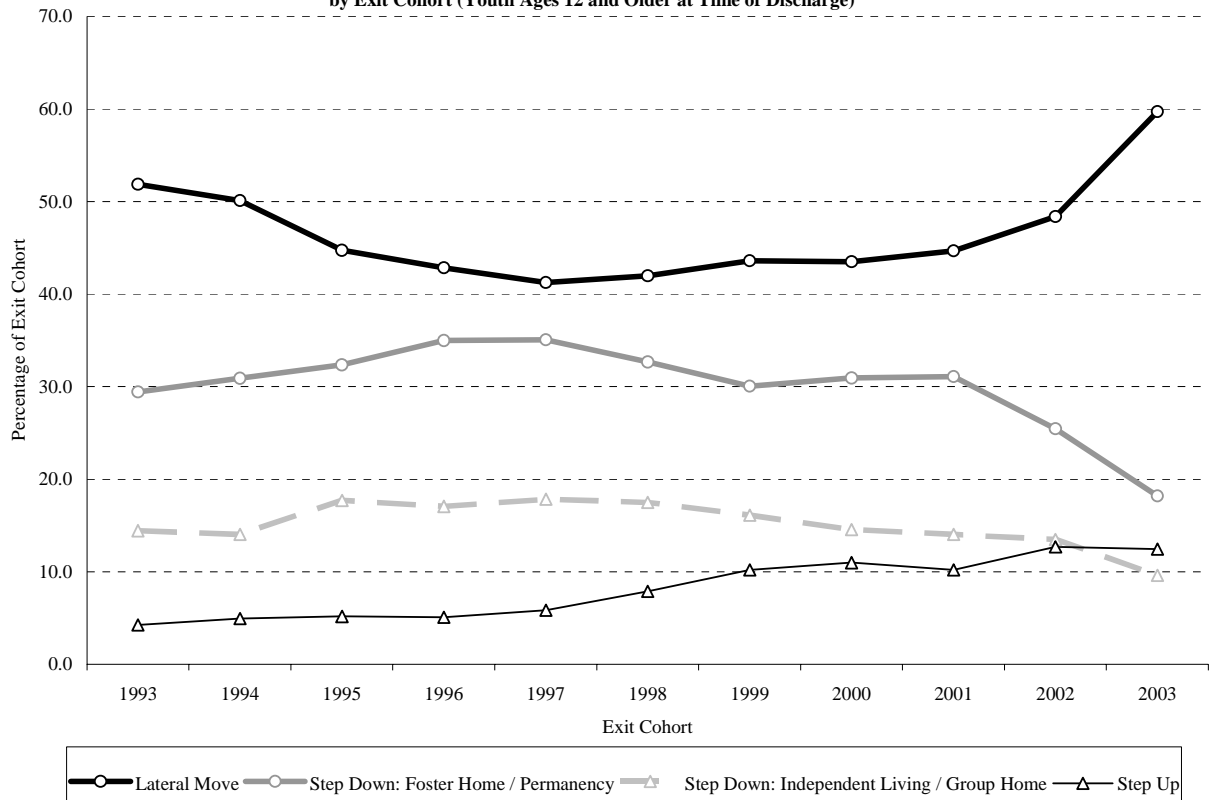


Figure 5.2
Living Situation 90 days post Discharge from IPA's by Exit Cohorts, 1993 to 2003 (Youth Ages 12 and Older at Time of Discharge)

exit cohort	N	Lateral Move						Step Down's						Step Up's											
		IPA		shelter residential care		other runaway other		non-relative foster care		relative foster care		permanency		independent living		group home		detention / corrections	hospital / health facility						
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%					
1993	3,239	899	27.8	47	1.5	85	2.6	317	9.8	332	10.3	317	9.8	266	8.2	370	11.4	215	6.6	253	7.8	96	3.0	42	1.3
1994	3,575	1,046	29.3	87	2.4	54	1.5	306	8.6	298	8.3	382	10.7	311	8.7	412	11.5	276	7.7	226	6.3	133	3.7	44	1.2
1995	3,566	938	26.3	47	1.3	51	1.4	311	8.7	248	7.0	393	11.0	325	9.1	436	12.2	364	10.2	268	7.5	139	3.9	46	1.3
1996	3,367	834	24.8	27	0.8	36	1.1	355	10.5	191	5.7	464	13.8	343	10.2	371	11.0	302	9.0	273	8.1	148	4.4	23	0.7
1997	2,983	679	22.8	21	0.7	52	1.7	359	12.0	119	4.0	422	14.1	282	9.5	342	11.5	284	9.5	248	8.3	151	5.1	24	0.8
1998	2,388	544	22.8	18	0.8	44	1.8	289	12.1	107	4.5	336	14.1	214	9.0	230	9.6	201	8.4	217	9.1	167	7.0	21	0.9
1999	1,830	447	24.4	20	1.1	40	2.2	228	12.5	63	3.4	239	13.1	118	6.4	193	10.5	154	8.4	141	7.7	165	9.0	22	1.2
2000	1,910	501	26.2	24	1.3	24	1.3	234	12.3	48	2.5	266	13.9	130	6.8	195	10.2	154	8.1	124	6.5	181	9.5	29	1.5
2001	1,596	450	28.2	8	0.5	22	1.4	205	12.8	28	1.8	248	15.5	105	6.6	143	9.0	122	7.6	102	6.4	136	8.5	27	1.7
2002	1,356	453	33.4	12	0.9	17	1.3	151	11.1	23	1.7	174	12.8	75	5.5	96	7.1	118	8.7	65	4.8	140	10.3	32	2.4
2003	978	481	49.2	6	0.6	9	0.9	73	7.5	15	1.5	95	9.7	39	4.0	44	4.5	60	6.1	34	3.5	99	10.1	23	2.4
Total	26,788	7,272	27.1	317	1.2	434	1.6	2,828	10.6	1,472	5.5	3,336	12.5	2,208	8.2	2,832	10.6	2,250	8.4	1,951	7.3	1,555	5.8	333	1.2

Figure 5.3
Living Situation 90 Days after Discharge from Group Homes
by Exit Cohort (Youth Ages 12 and Older at Time of Discharge)

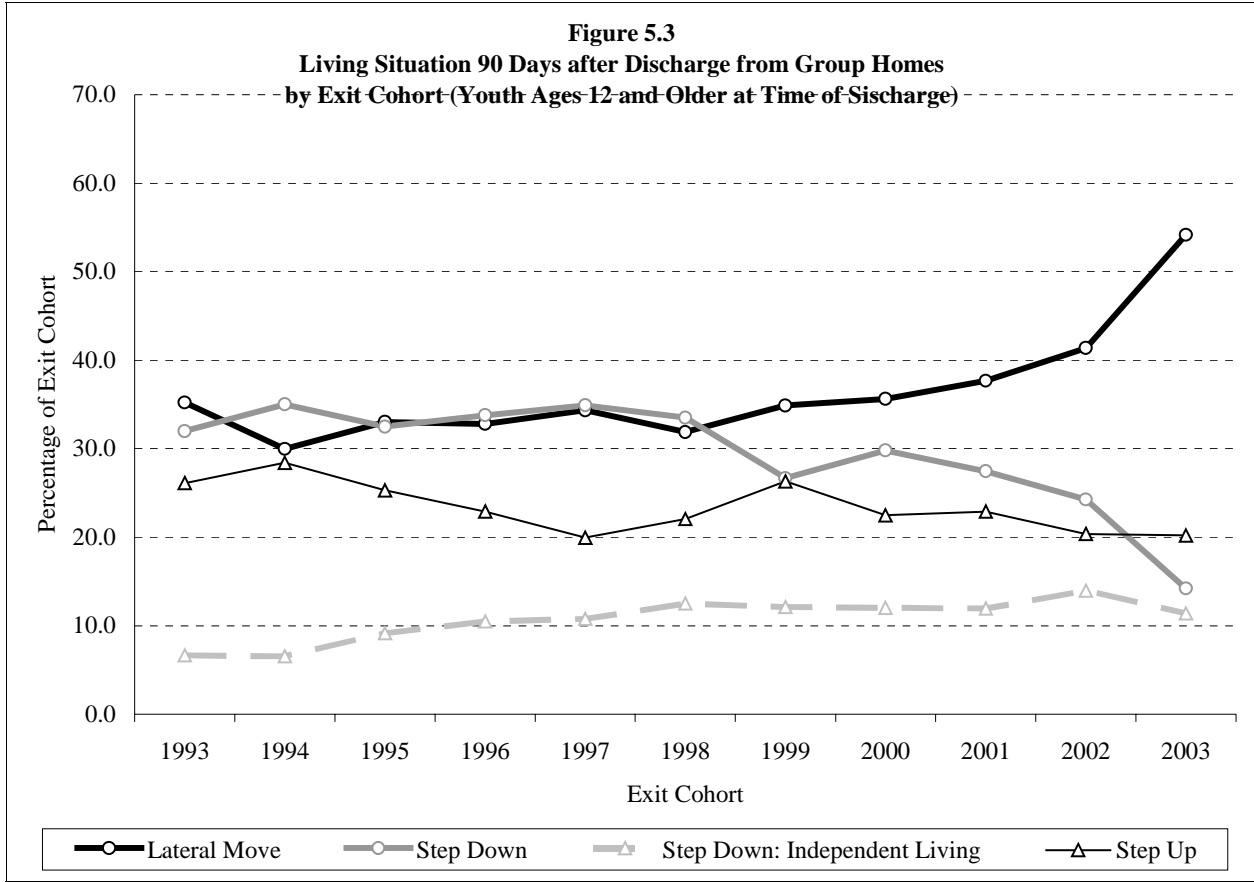
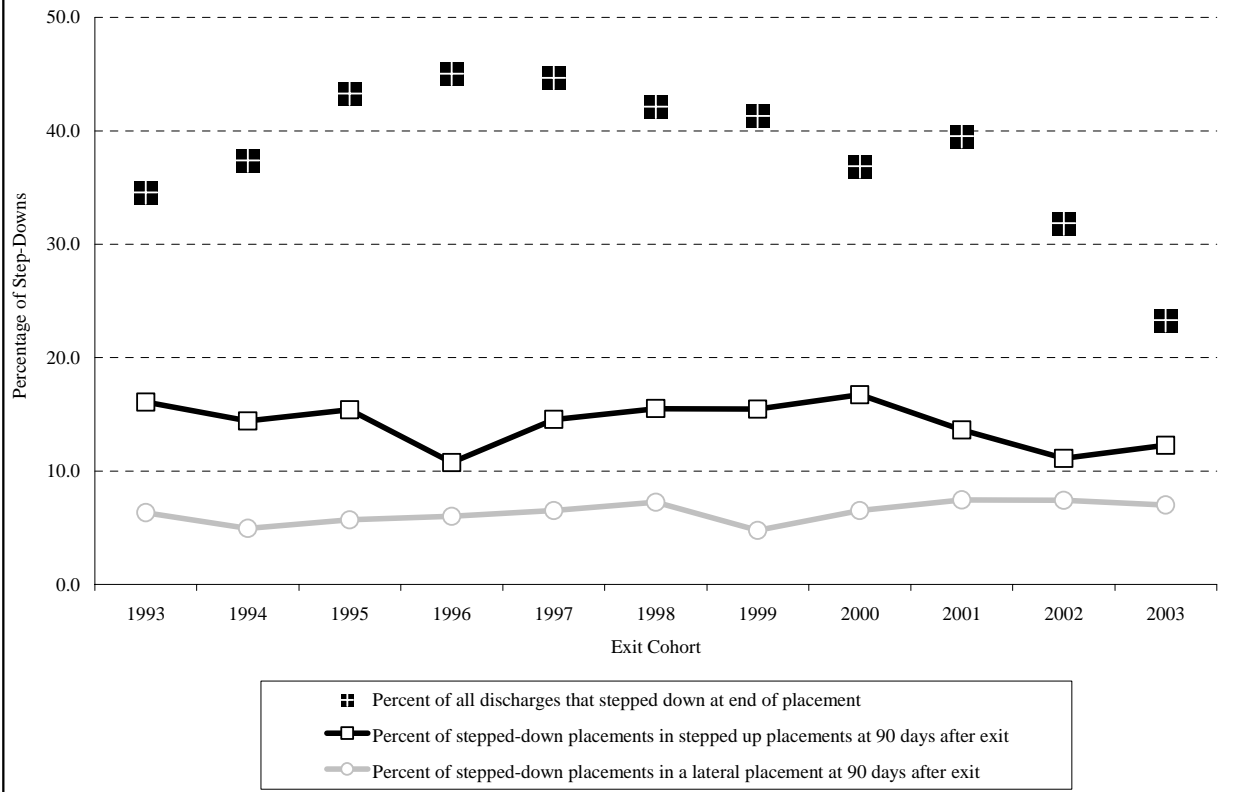


Figure 5.4
Living Situation 90 days post Discharge from Group Homes by Exit Cohorts, 1993 to 2003 (Youth Ages 12 and Older at Time of Discharge)

exit cohort	N	Lateral Moves						Step Down's						Step Up's											
		shelter		other residential care		runaway		other		non-relative foster care		relative foster care		permanency		independent living		group home		IPA		detention / corrections		hospital / health facility	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1993	1,122	14	1.2	19	1.7	123	11.0	56	5.0	137	12.2	83	7.4	139	12.4	75	6.7	183	16.3	250	22.3	30	2.7	13	1.2
1994	1,094	23	2.1	11	1.0	92	8.4	66	6.0	136	12.4	116	10.6	131	12.0	72	6.6	136	12.4	255	23.3	44	4.0	12	1.1
1995	1,363	18	1.3	12	0.9	131	9.6	77	5.6	152	11.2	134	9.8	157	11.5	125	9.2	212	15.6	280	20.5	49	3.6	16	1.2
1996	1,131	16	1.4	7	0.6	135	11.9	75	6.6	168	14.9	112	9.9	102	9.0	119	10.5	138	12.2	193	17.1	54	4.8	12	1.1
1997	1,057	6	0.6	14	1.3	147	13.9	56	5.3	171	16.2	93	8.8	105	9.9	114	10.8	140	13.2	146	13.8	57	5.4	8	0.8
1998	925	11	1.2	9	1.0	117	12.6	29	3.1	124	13.4	94	10.2	92	9.9	116	12.5	129	13.9	134	14.5	60	6.5	10	1.1
1999	866	6	0.7	8	0.9	107	12.4	23	2.7	103	11.9	66	7.6	62	7.2	105	12.1	158	18.2	132	15.2	89	10.3	7	0.8
2000	738	8	1.1	5	0.7	97	13.1	21	2.8	91	12.3	68	9.2	61	8.3	89	12.1	132	17.9	84	11.4	72	9.8	10	1.4
2001	677	6	0.9	6	0.9	106	15.7	17	2.5	86	12.7	43	6.4	57	8.4	81	12.0	120	17.7	83	12.3	64	9.5	8	1.2
2002	515	4	0.8	5	1.0	47	9.1	9	1.7	74	14.4	24	4.7	27	5.2	72	14.0	148	28.7	50	9.7	50	9.7	5	1.0
2003	386	1	0.3	3	0.8	33	8.5	4	1.0	28	7.3	14	3.6	13	3.4	44	11.4	168	43.5	36	9.3	35	9.1	7	1.8
Total	9,874	113	1.1	99	1.0	1,135	11.5	433	4.4	1,270	12.9	847	8.6	946	9.6	1,012	10.2	1,664	16.9	1,643	16.6	604	6.1	108	1.1

Figure 5.5
Step-Downs from IPAs and Subsequent Step-Ups and Lateral Moves
at 90 Days after Discharge by Exit Cohort (Youth Ages 12 and Older at Time of Discharge)



Appendix C

List of Possible Provider Performance Indicators

DCFS, residential care providers, and Chapin Hall are all working on developing provider-level performance indicators. Dialogue on this topic is just beginning. To inform these discussions, we offer a wide range of possible measures of youth characteristics and performance indicators. We emphasize the need for a robust set of indicators (single indicators are inadequate for judging performance) that span the experiences of children and youth before, during, and after placement in residential care.

1. Characteristics of youth entering residential care (i.e., measures of caseload mix or composition that can affect outcomes)
 - 1.1. Median (and mean) number of prior placements
 - 1.2. Percent of admissions who are first time (versus repeat) entrants into residential care
 - 1.3. Demographics: age, race, gender distributions
 - 1.4. Percent developmentally disabled
 - 1.5. Percent of entrants coming from high-end placements (detention, corrections, hospitalization)
 - 1.6. other indicators of emotional/behavior problems
2. Youth experiences during care
 - 2.1. First quartile, median, and mean length of stay
 - 2.2. Runaways per provider year of care-days
 - 2.3. Detentions per provider year of care-days
 - 2.4. Hospitalizations per provider year of care-days
 - 2.5. Youth functioning—measures that could eventually become available for some youth
 - 2.5.1. Clinical outcomes—change over time in various dimensions of youth functioning (see the work of John Lyons et al.)
 - 2.5.2. Educational outcomes (e.g., suspensions, attendance, promotions, change in achievement or test scores, graduation)
3. Discharge outcomes for youth (for entry and exit cohorts)
 - 3.1. Percent step-downs to foster care or permanency
 - 3.2. Percent other step-downs
 - 3.3. Percent runaways
 - 3.4. Percent detention or hospitalization
4. Post-discharge outcomes for youth at 90 days and 1 year (for exit cohorts)
 - 4.1. Percent of step-downs who are not in *lateral* placements or step-ups
 - 4.2. Percent experiencing negative events: runaway, detention, corrections, hospitalization
 - 4.3. Number of subsequent placements (by age at discharge)