

Public Health Agency of Canada
Injury and Child Maltreatment Section
Health Surveillance and Epidemiology Division



**Centre of Excellence
for Child Welfare**

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The 2003 Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect: Major Findings

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Presentation Team:

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Catherine Roy.*

CIS 2003 Background

- Second national study examining the incidence of reported child abuse and neglect.
- A national child health surveillance activity initiated by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), Injury and Child Maltreatment Section of the Health Surveillance and Epidemiology Division.
- A partnership with PHAC, provincial and territorial governments, the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society, and Bell Canada.
- Conducted by a team of researchers from the Universities of McGill, Toronto, Calgary, Quebec, Memorial, and the Public Health Agency of Canada.



CIS 2003 Methods

- Used a modified version of the CIS-1998 instrument to document nature of maltreatment, key child and family characteristics and post-investigation services.
- Data collected directly from investigating social workers (except administrative data used in Quebec).
- **Sample:**
 - 11,562 child investigations conducted by 936 child welfare workers in 55 sites across Canada +
 - administrative data on 2,638 investigations in 8 sites in Quebec.
 - Annualization & regionalization weights applied to the sample to produce an estimate of 217,319 child maltreatment investigations.
- **Limitations:**
 - Limited to reports investigated by child welfare services.
 - Most data from Quebec could not be directly included.
 - Study not designed to make regional comparisons.
 - No follow-up beyond investigation

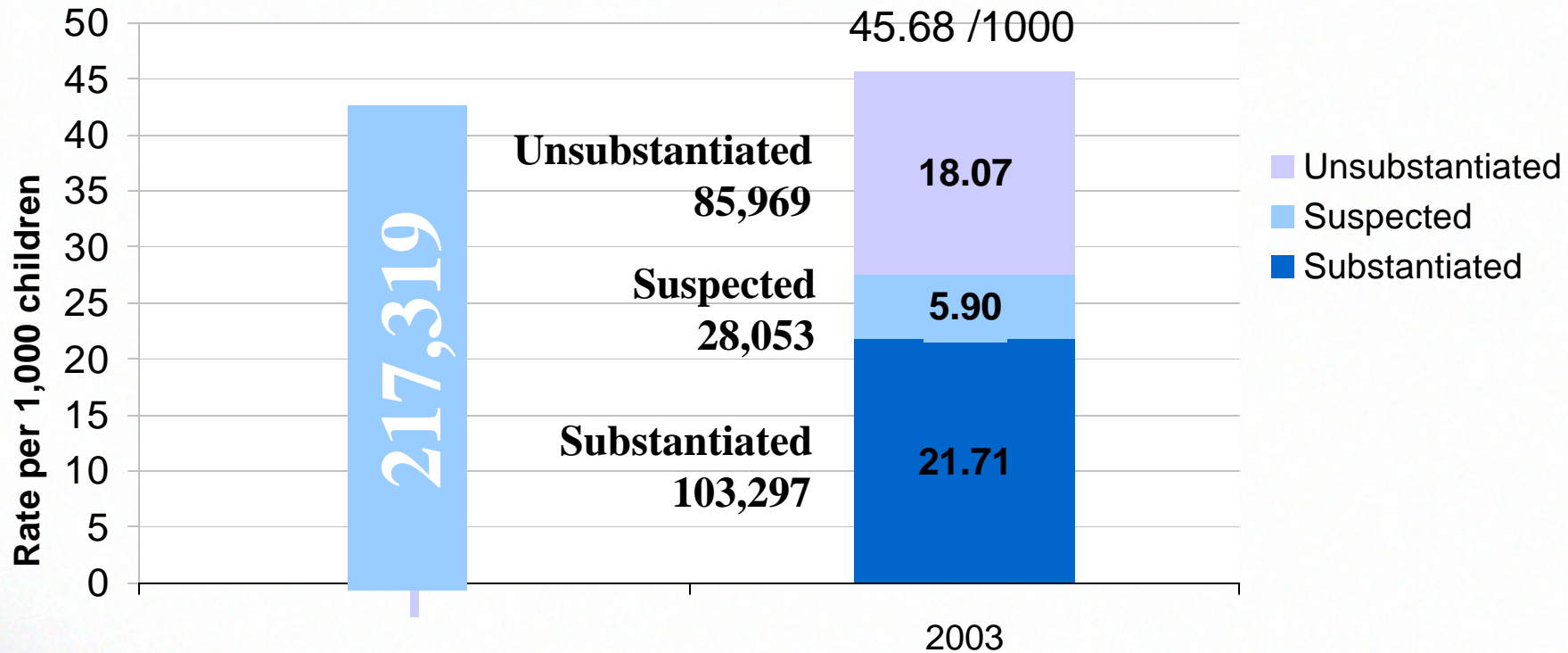


Outline

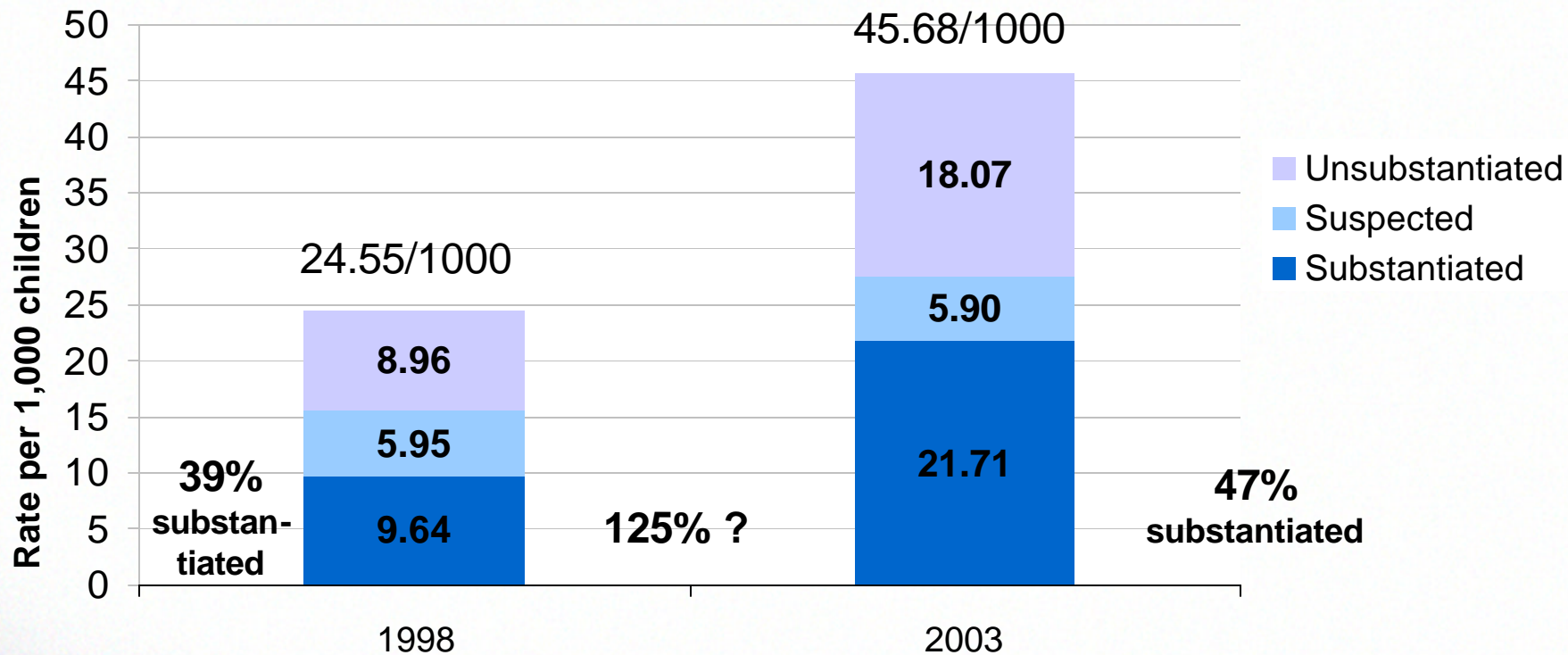
- **Rates & forms of maltreatment: CIS 1998/2003**
- Child and family characteristics: CIS 2003
- Investigation outcomes and sources of referral: CIS 1998/2003



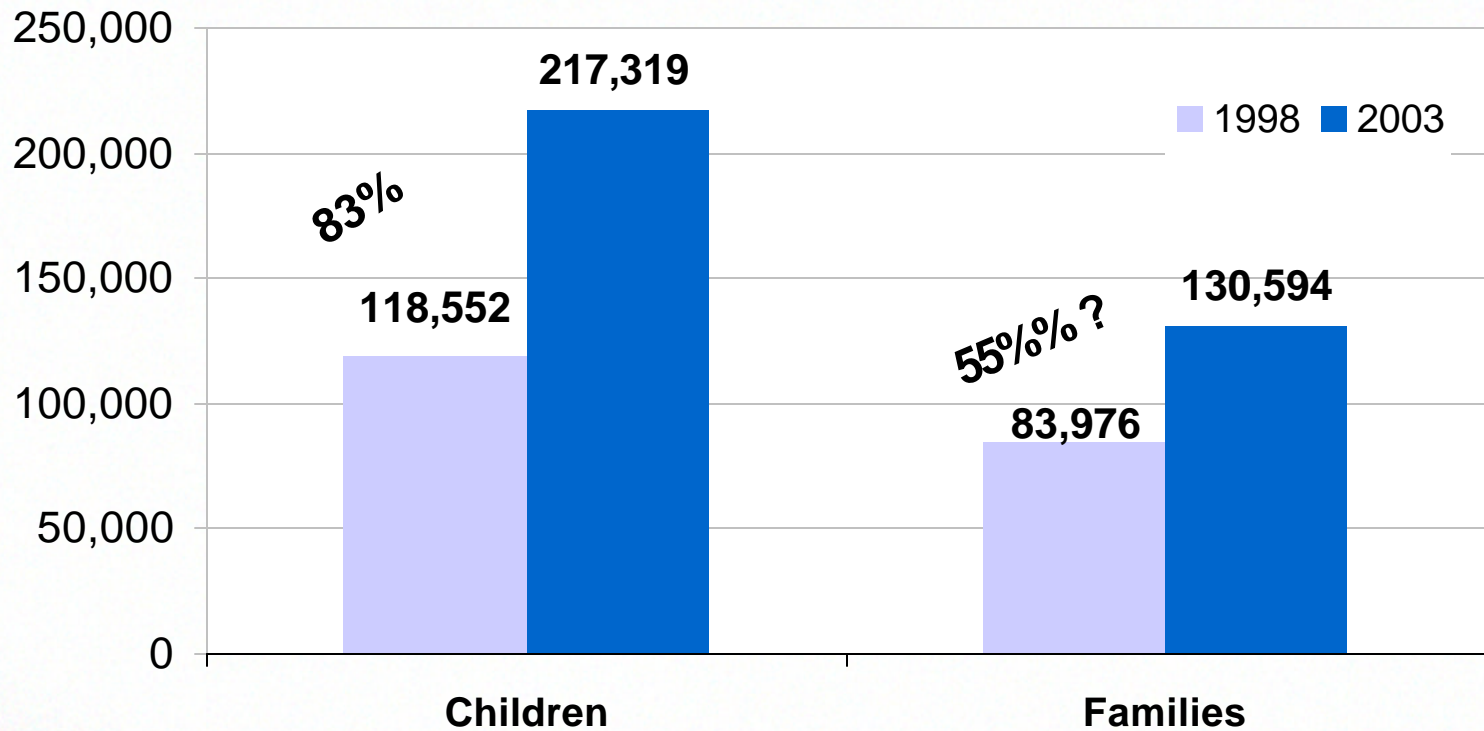
Rates and numbers of reported & substantiated investigations (CIS 2003, excluding Quebec)



Increasing rates of reports & substantiated investigations (CIS 98-03, excluding Quebec)

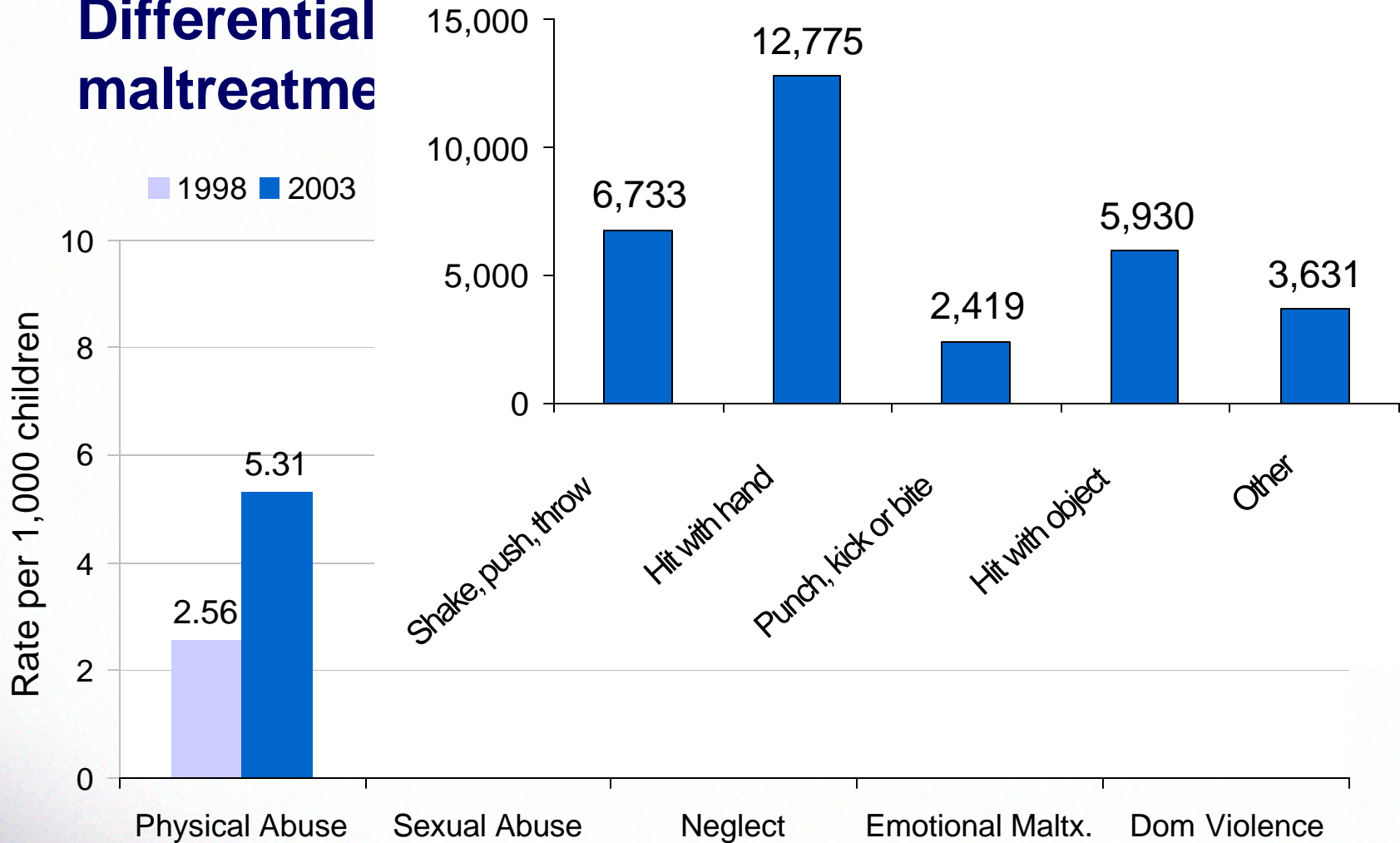


Rates of reports per child vs. per family (CIS 98-03, excluding Quebec)



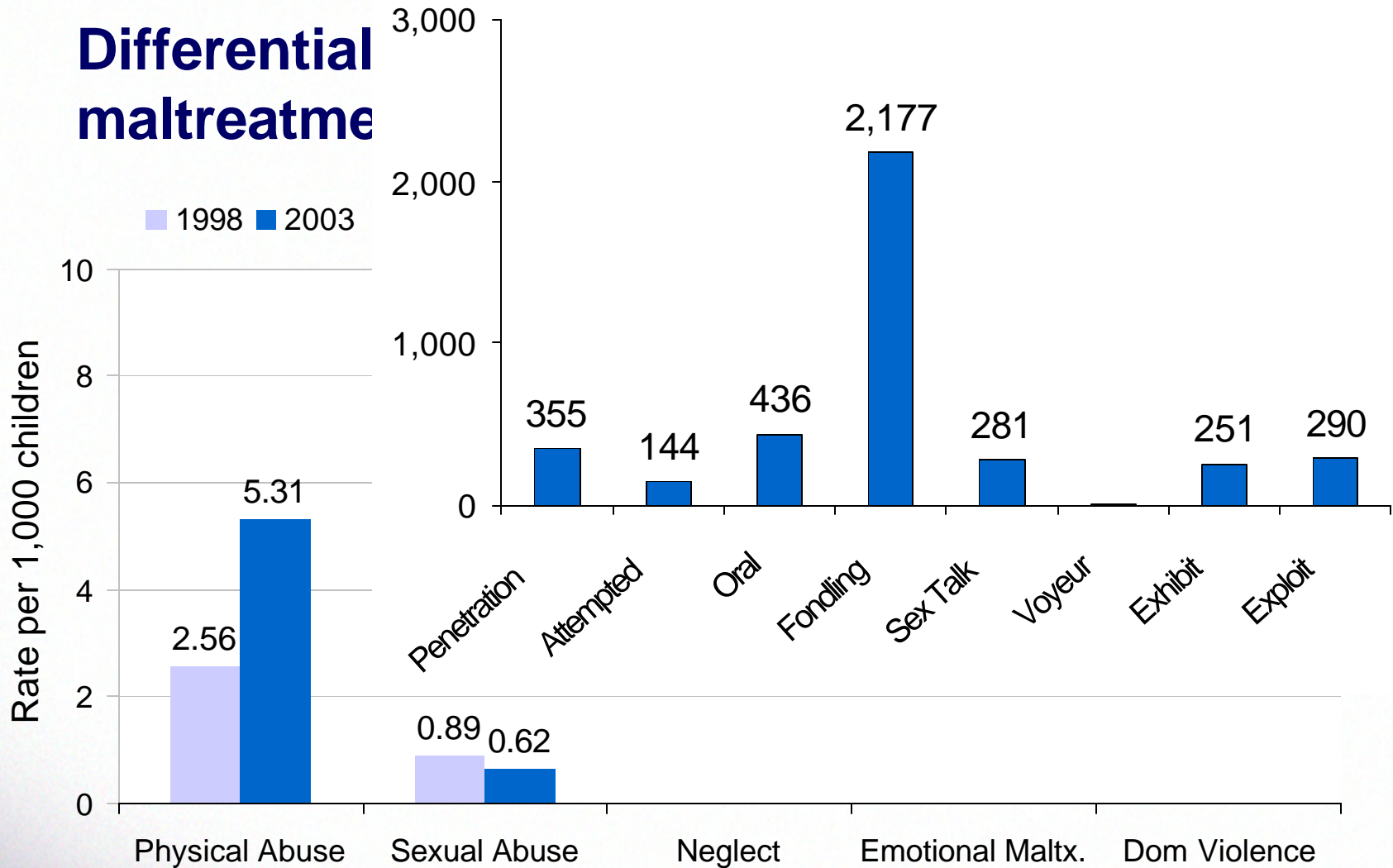
31,488 substantiated cases of physical abuse (primary or secondary /CIS 2003)

Differential maltreatment



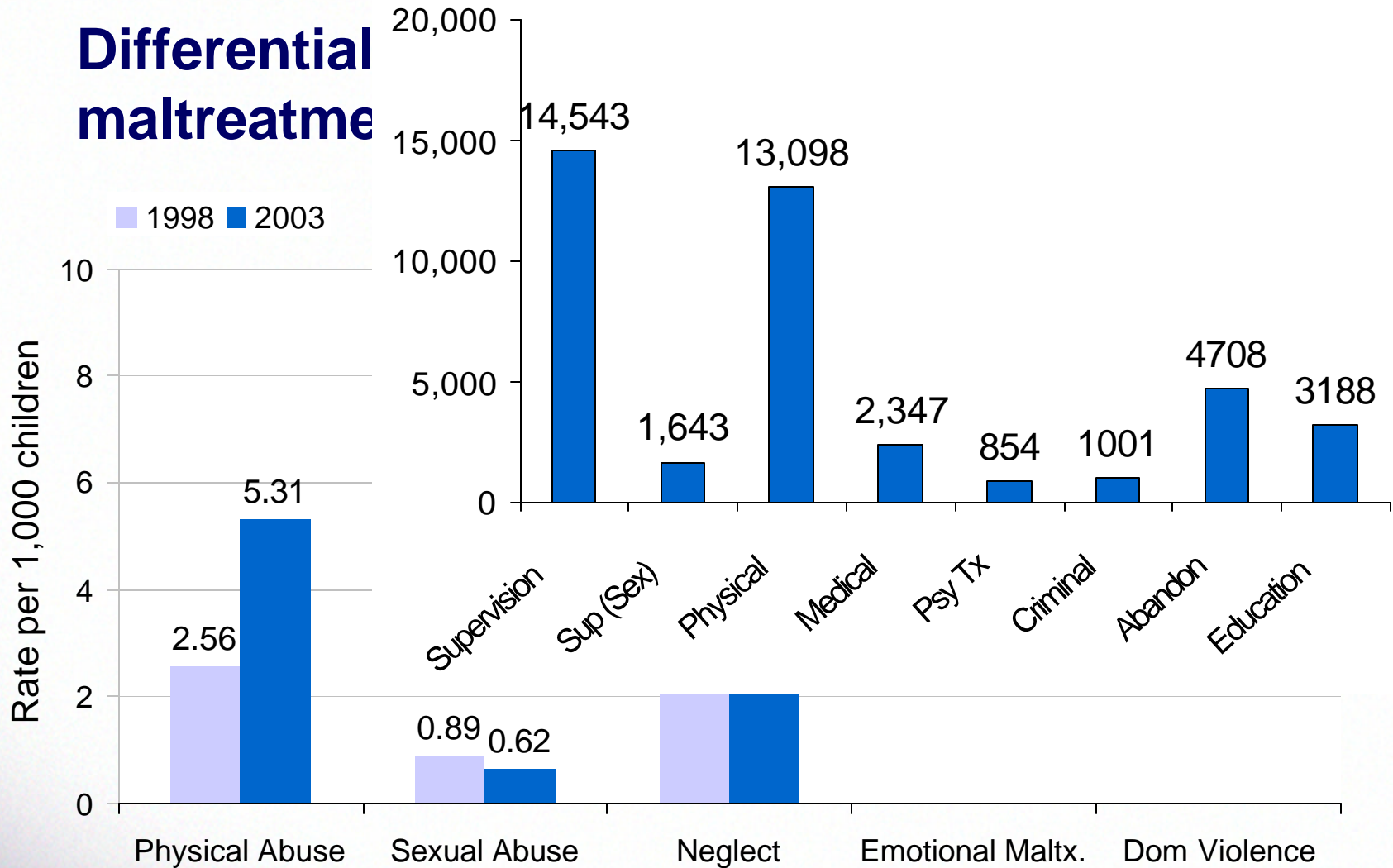
3,958 cases of substantiated sexual abuse (primary or secondary / CIS 2003)

Differential maltreatment



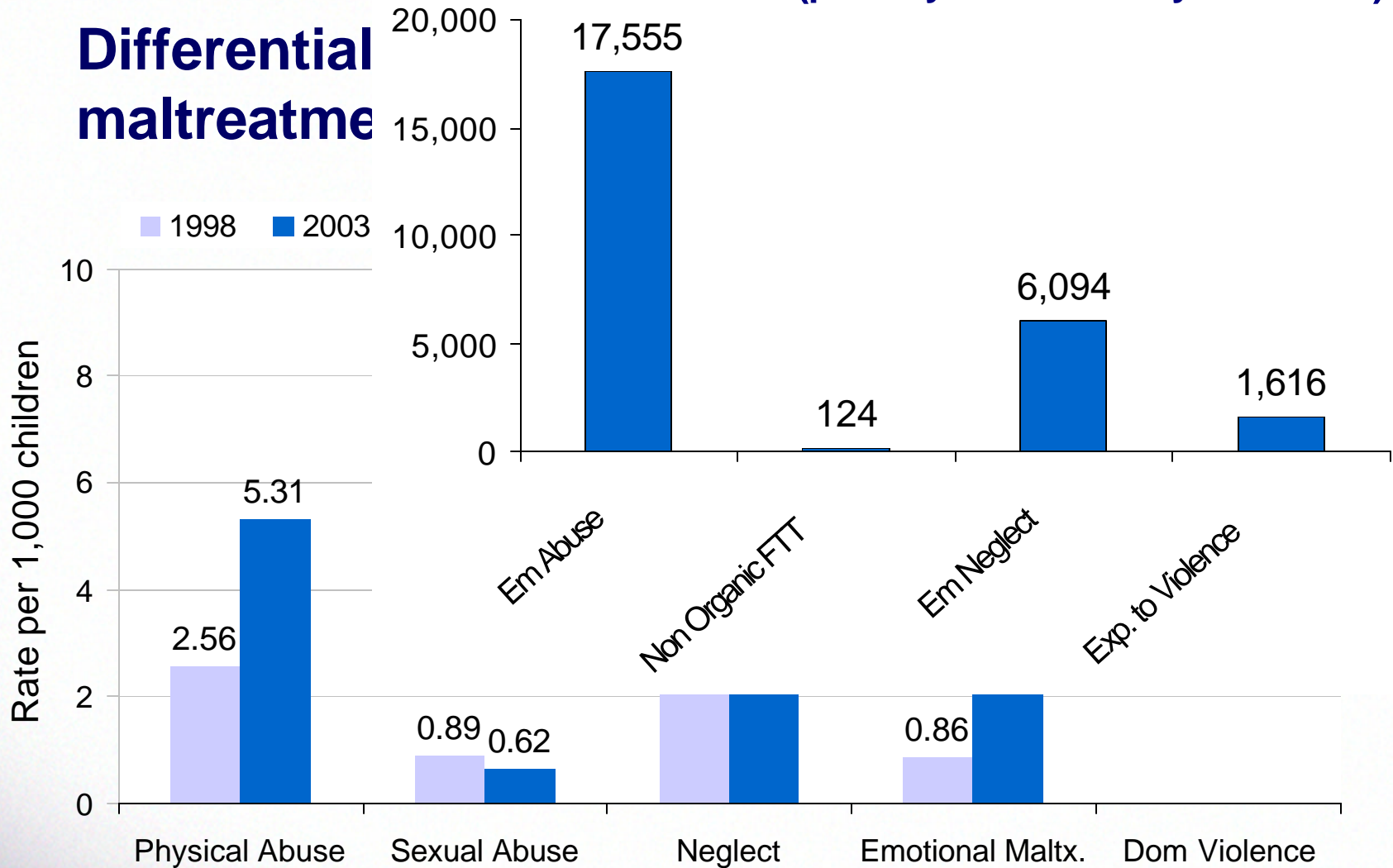
41,382 cases of substantiated neglect (primary or secondary /CIS 2003)

Differential maltreatment

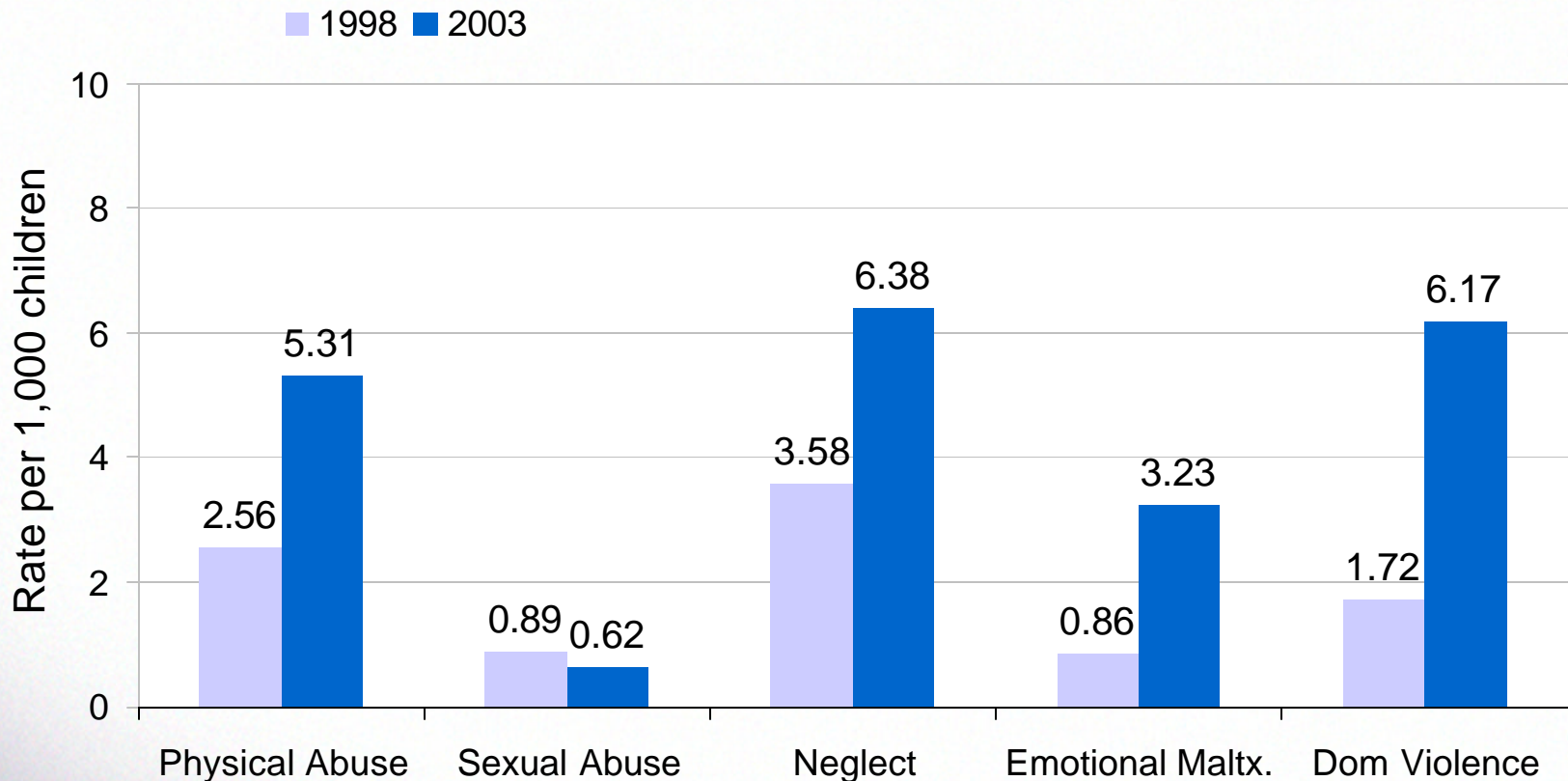


25,389 substantiated cases of emotional maltreatment (primary or secondary /CIS 2003)

Differential maltreatment



Differential trends by form of substantiated maltreatment: CIS 98/03 (excluding Quebec)



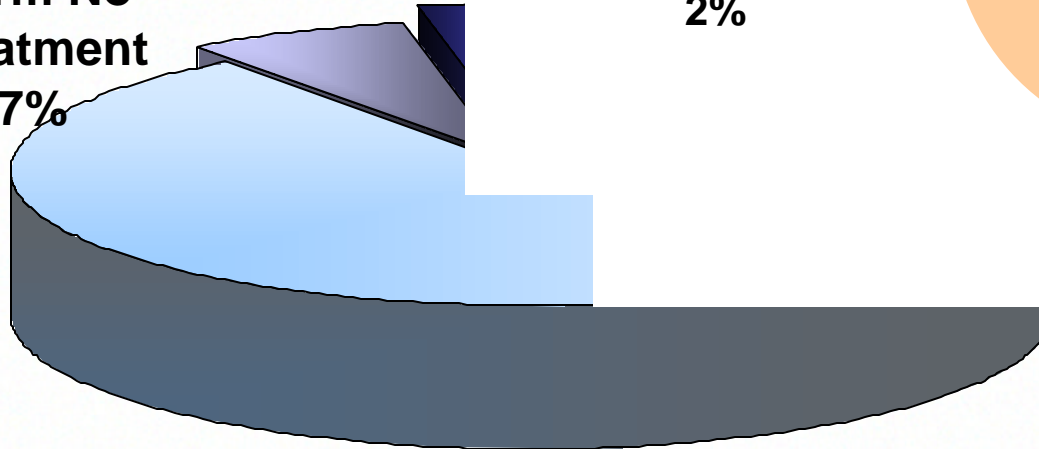
Summary explanation of 98-03 increase

- **125% increase in incidence of substantiated maltreatment:**
 - Increase in substantiation rates.
 - More siblings per family being investigated.
 - Explosion of reports of emotional maltreatment and exposure to domestic violence.



Physical harm in ca (CIS 03 QC Excl.)

Harm No
Treatment
7%

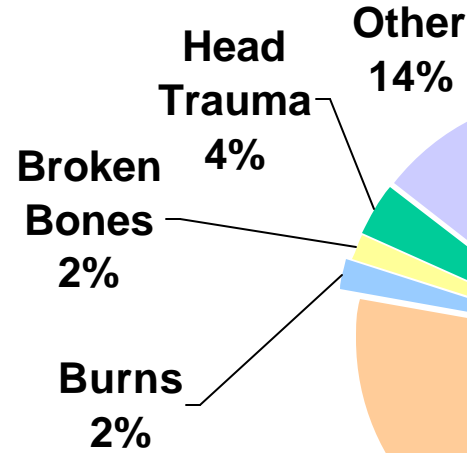


8,0

6,0

4,0

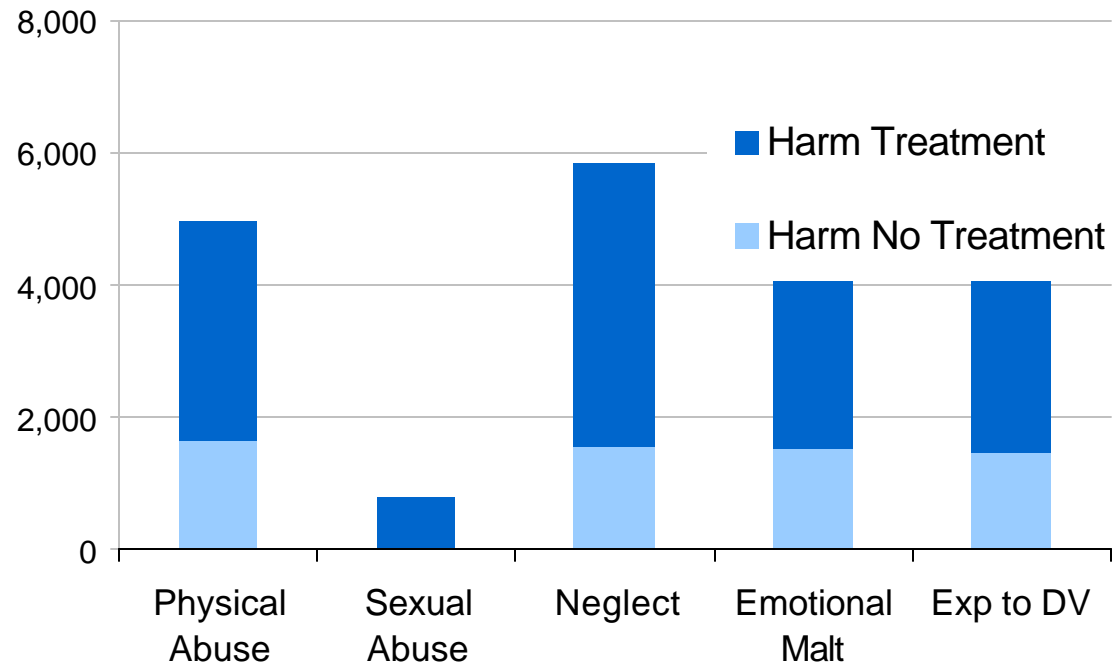
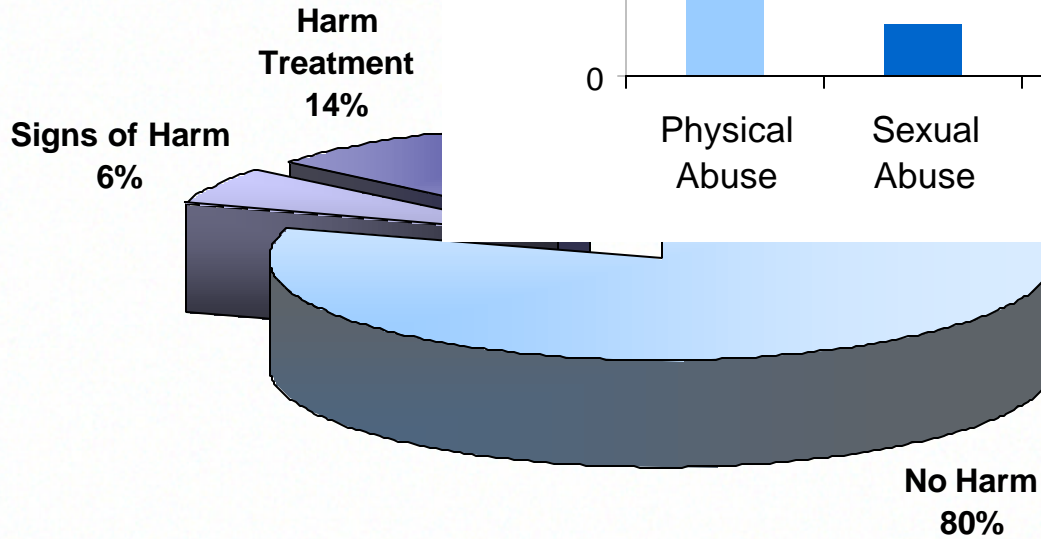
2,0



No Harm
90%



Emotional harm in c (CIS 03 QC Excl.)

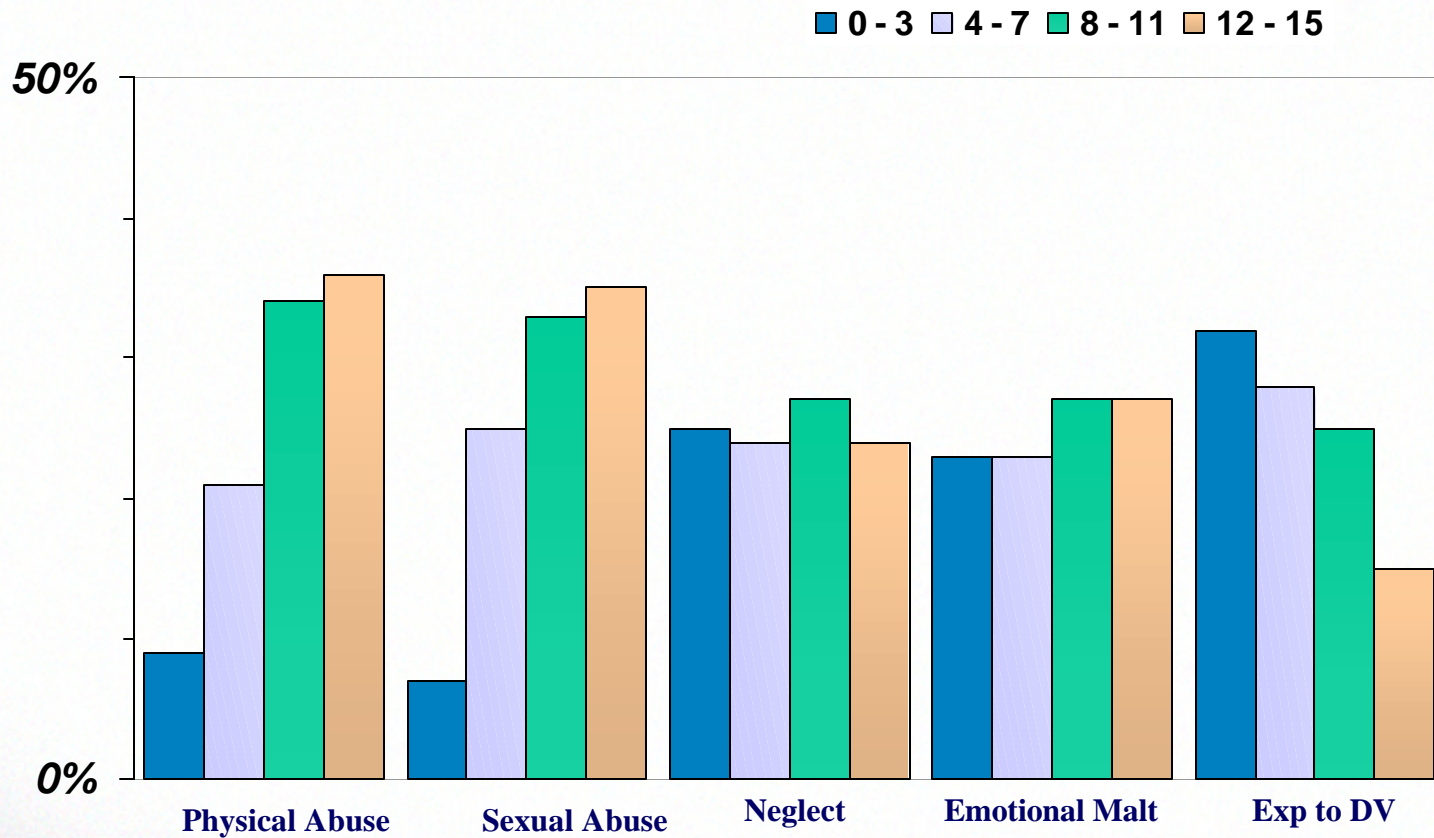


Outline

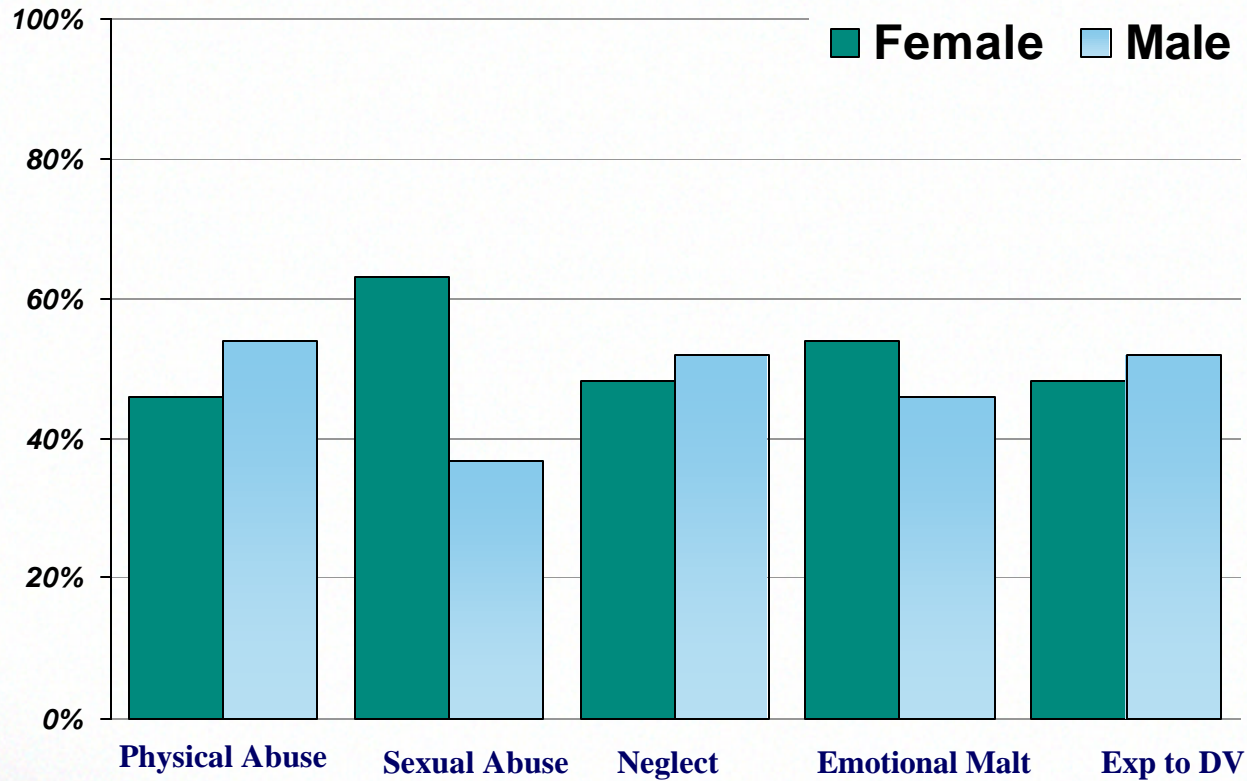
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- Investigation outcomes and sources of referral: CIS 1998/2003



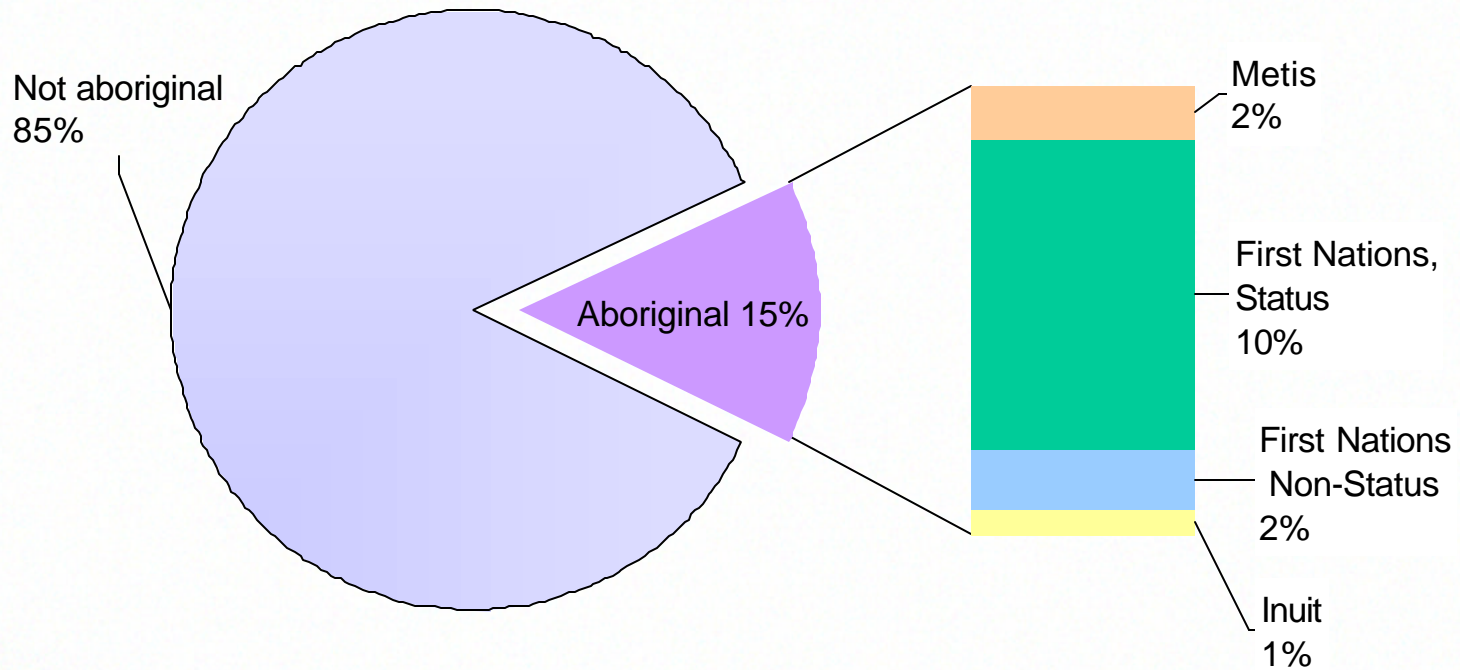
Age of victims by form of maltreatment (CIS 2003, QC Excl.)



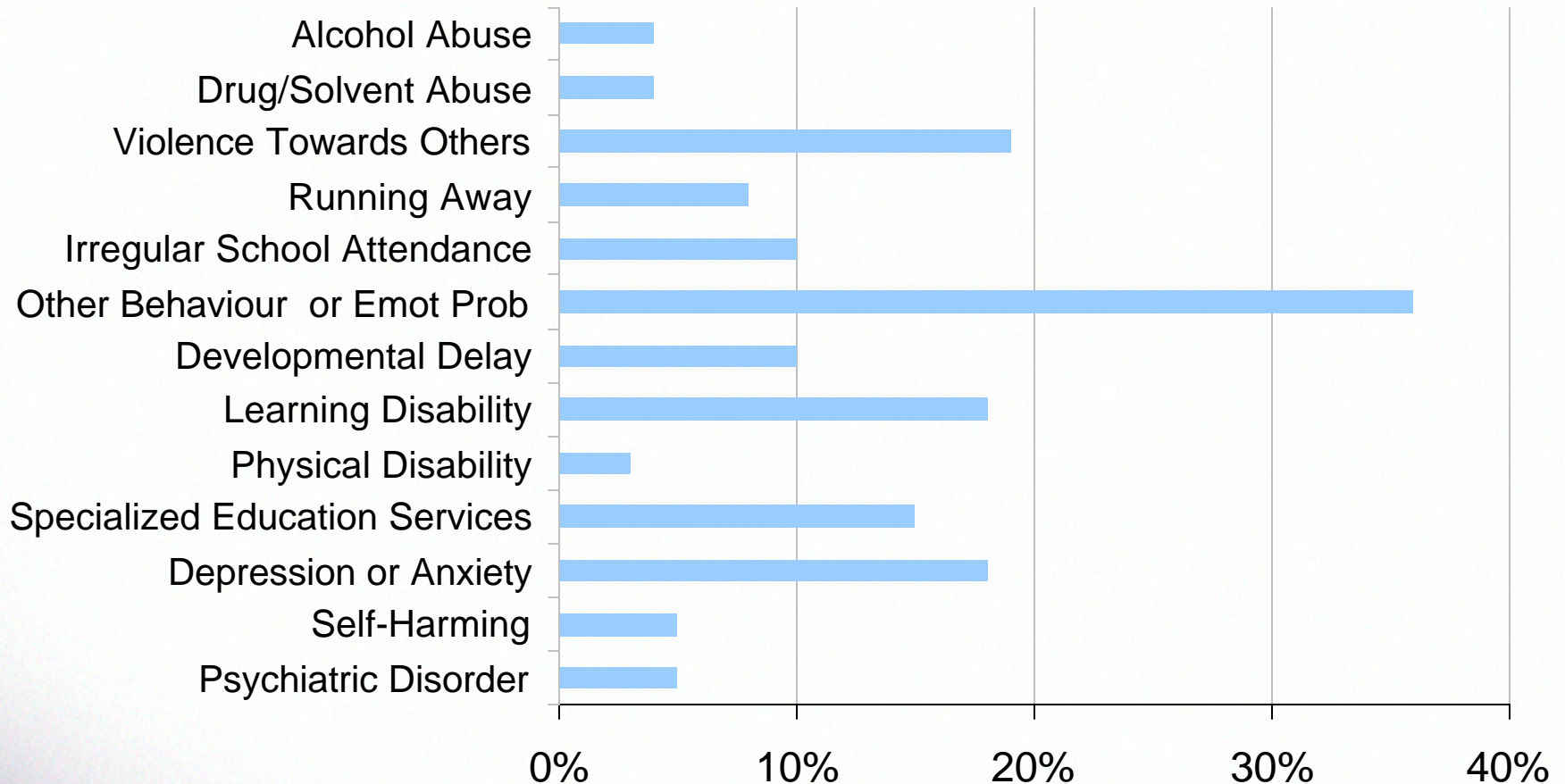
Sex of victims by form of maltreatment (CIS 2003, QC Excl.)



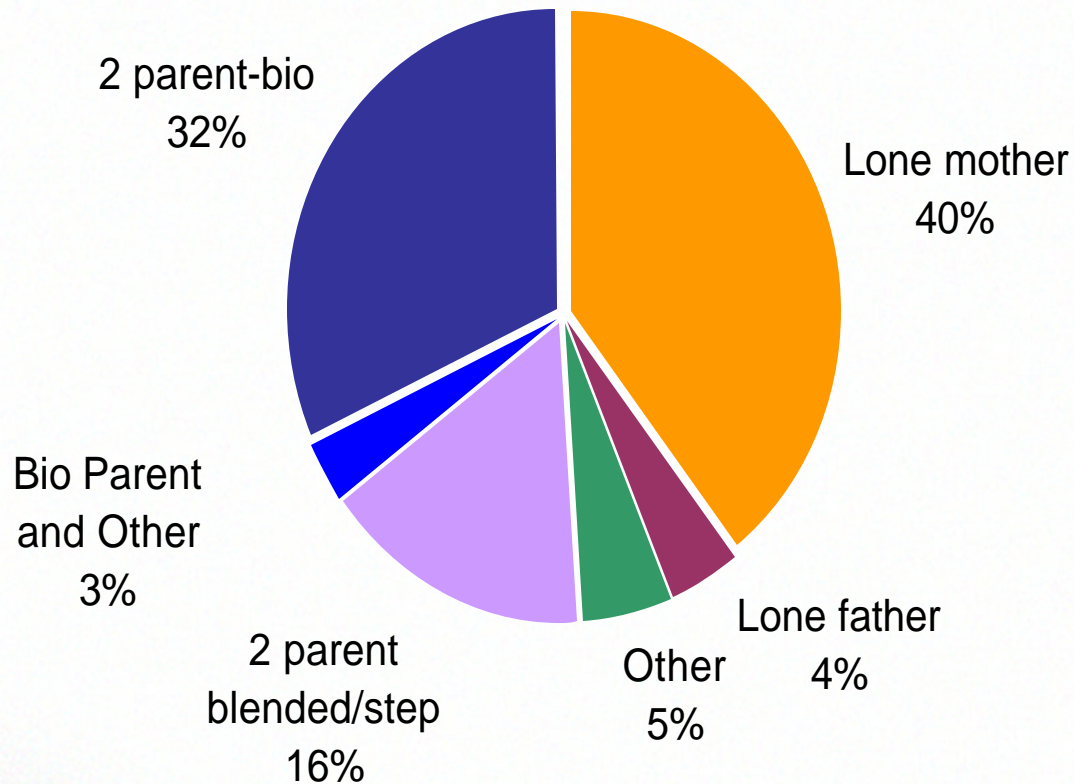
Aboriginal status of victims (CIS 2003, QC Excl.)



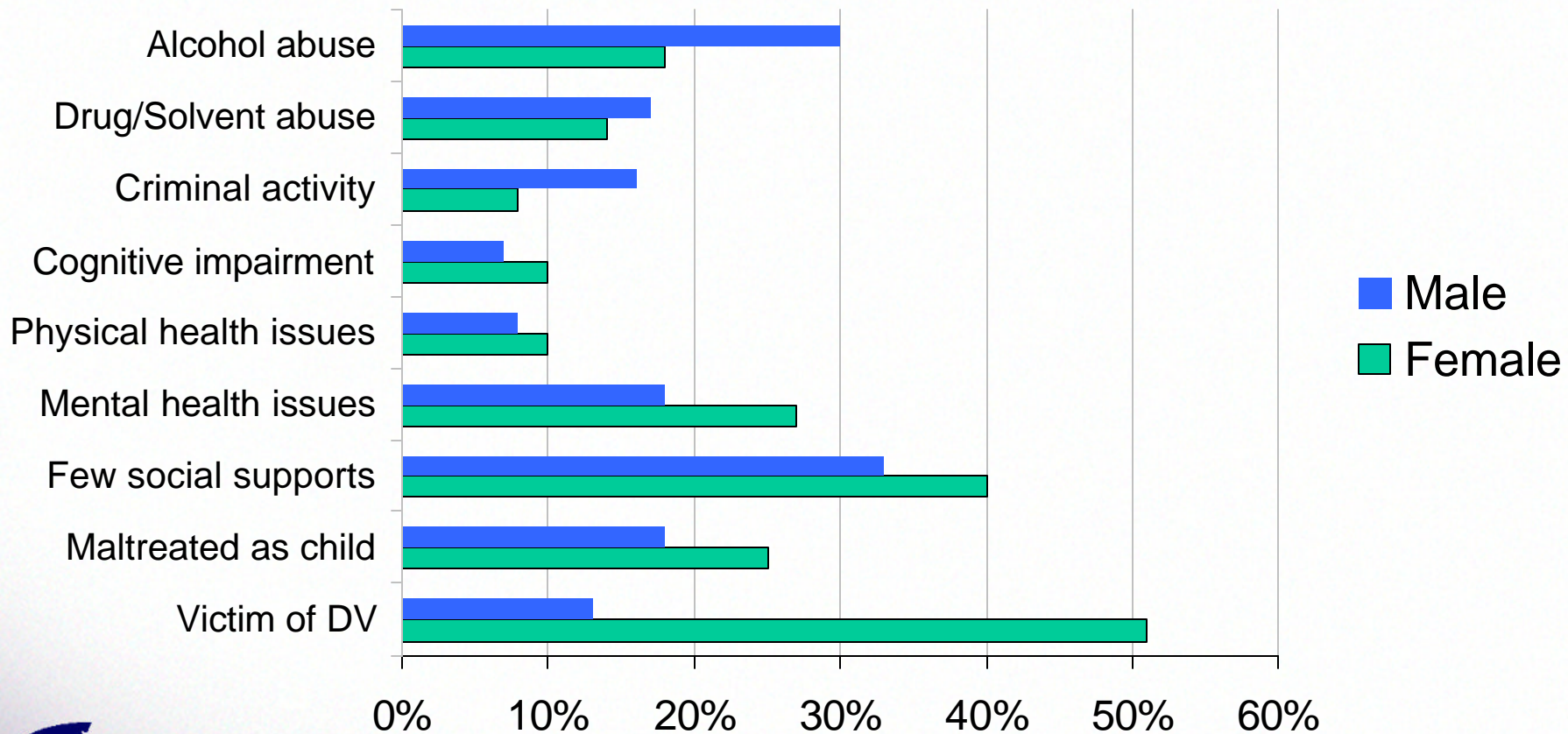
Child Functioning Issues in cases of Substantiated Maltreatment (CIS 03, QC Excl.)



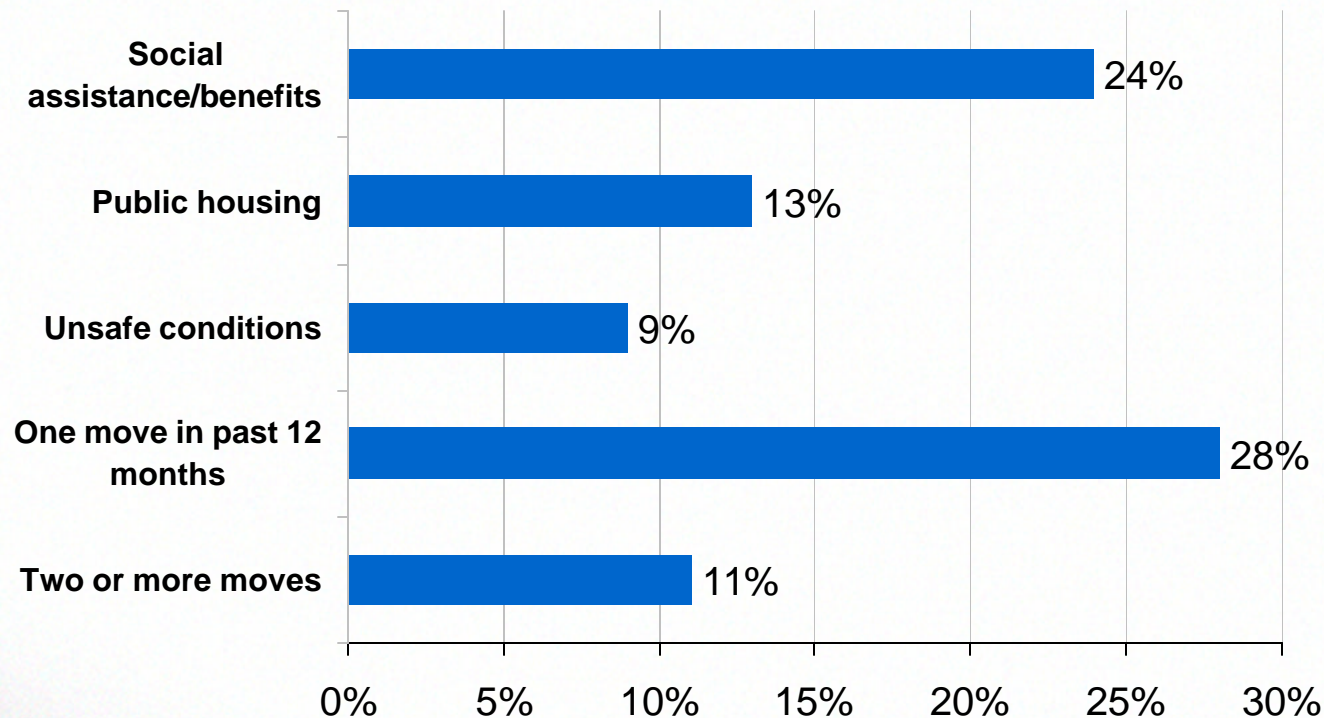
Caregivers in the home (CIS 2003, QC Excl.)



Caregiver risk factors (CIS 2003, QC Excl.)



Household risk factors (CIS 2003, QC Excl.)



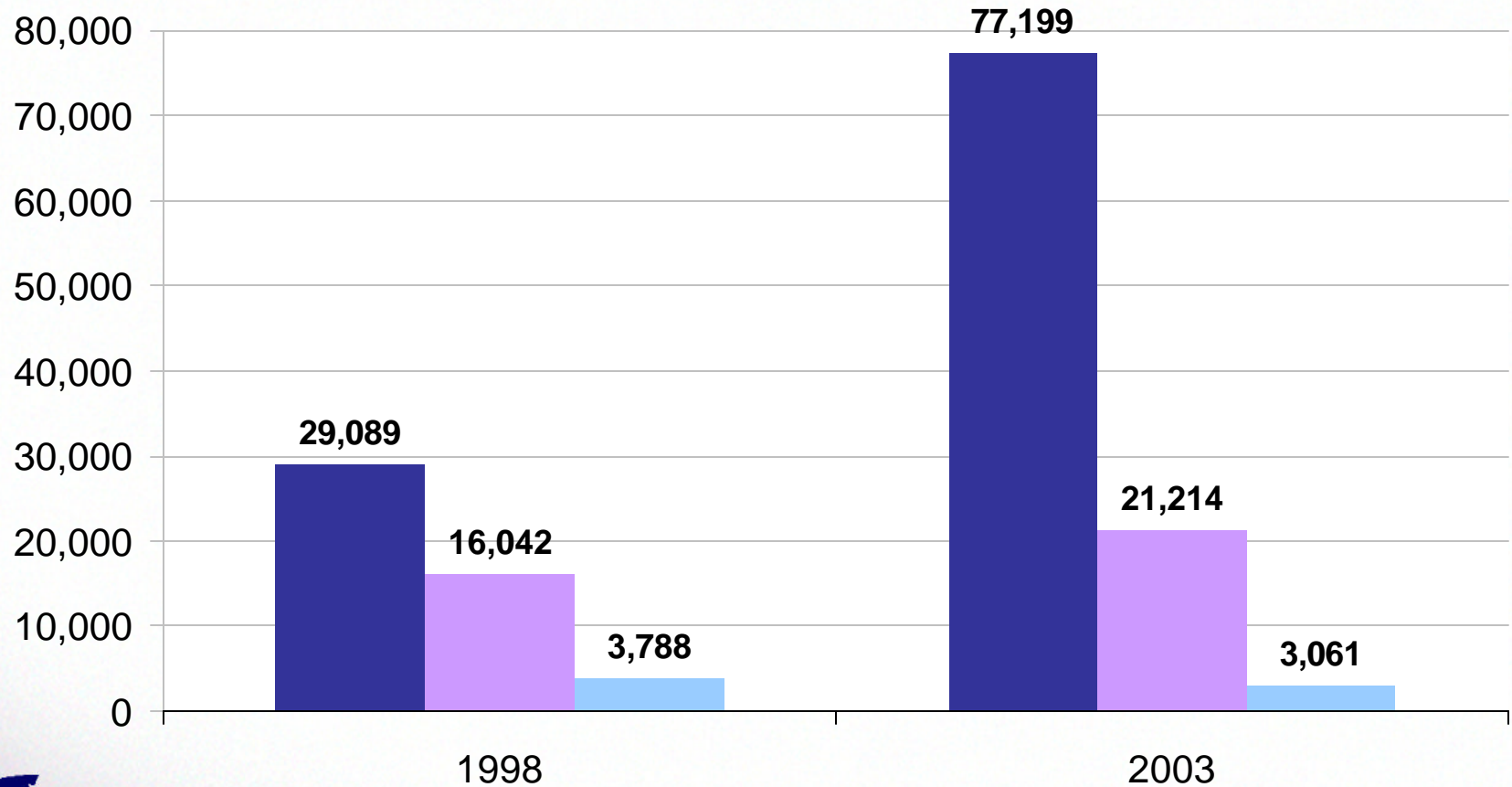
Outline

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- Child and family characteristics: CIS 2003
- **Investigation outcomes and sources of referral:
CIS 1998/2003**



Sources of Report (CIS 98/03; QC Excl.)

■ Professional ■ Non-professional ■ Anonymous

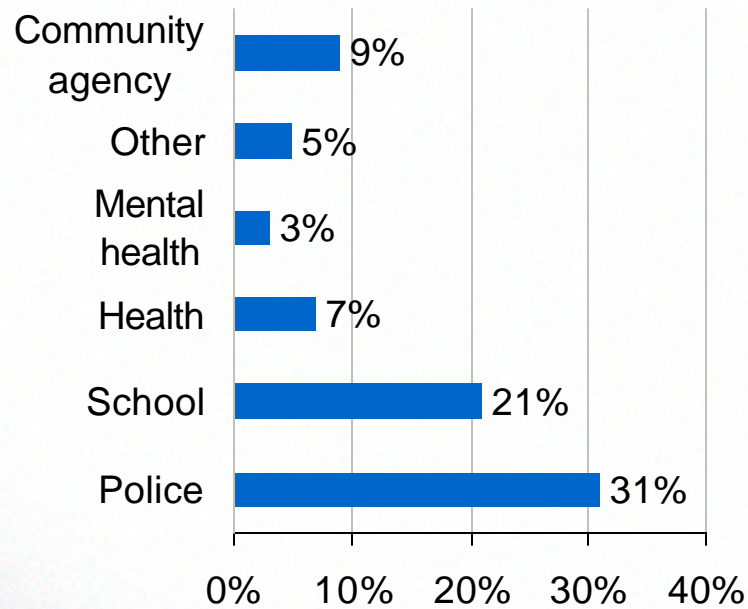


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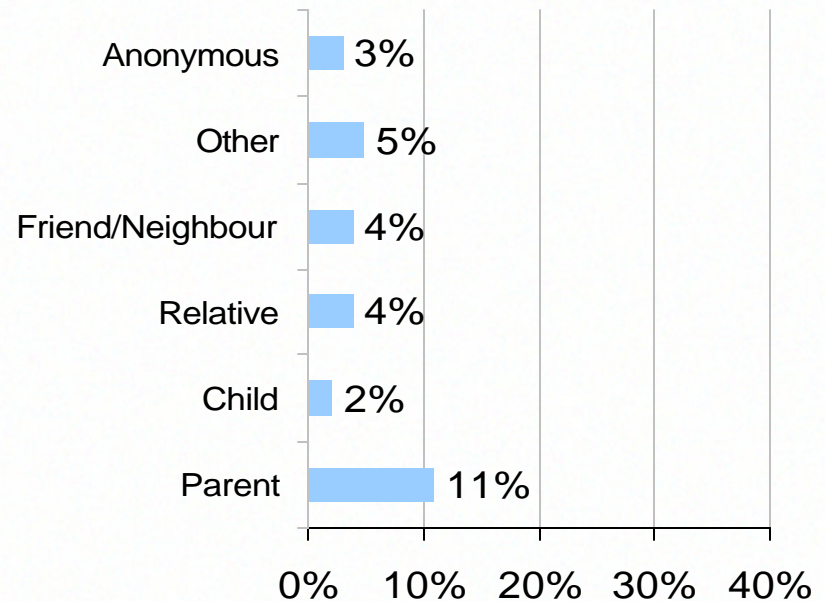
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Referral source (CIS 2003; QC Excl.)

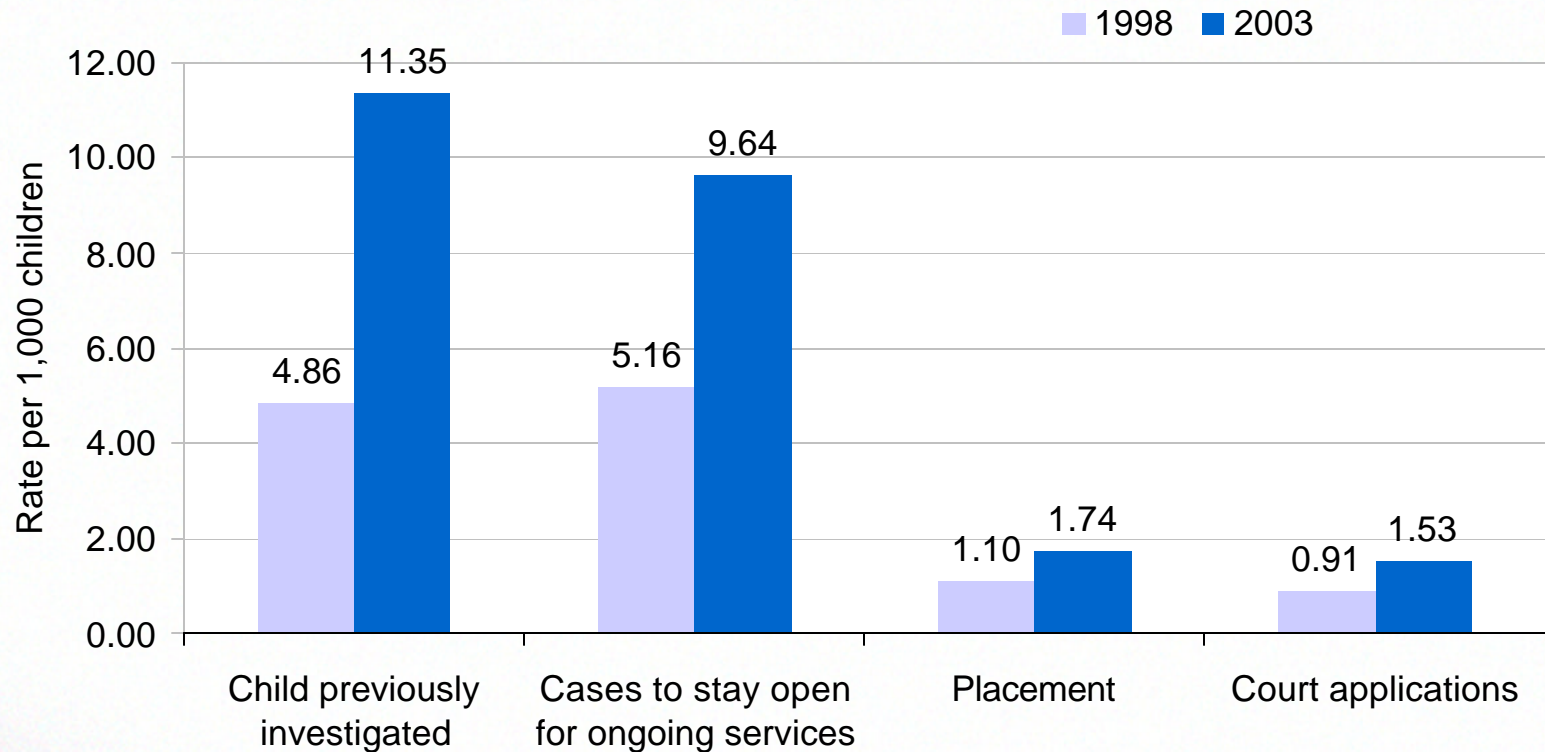
Professional sources



Non-professional sources



Service response: On-going services (CIS 98/03; QC Excl.)



Next steps

- CIS 98/03 provides the first opportunity to examine factors driving the increase in caseloads across Canada.
- Can be used to analyze profiles and intervention responses to various sub-populations (e.g. children exposed to domestic violence, First Nations children, & adolescent victims)
- Data can be accessed through Public Health Agency of Canada (Child_Maltreatment@phac-aspc.gc.ca)
- Planning for CIS 2008 starts in 2006



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