

# Ministry of Children and Youth Services



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# **The Ontario Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003: Major Findings**

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## OIS 2003 Background

- Third provincial study examining the incidence of reported child abuse and neglect.
- Funded by the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services, the Public Health Agency of Canada, and the Bell Canada Child Welfare Research Unit, University of Toronto
- Conducted in conjunction with the CIS-2003 by a national team of researchers from the Universities of McGill, Toronto, Calgary and Memorial & the Public Health Agency of Canada.



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# OIS 2003 Methods

- Used a modified version of the OIS-1998 instrument to document nature of maltreatment, key child and family characteristics and post-investigation services.
- Data collected directly from investigating social workers.
- **Sample:**
  - 7,172 child investigations conducted by 361 child welfare workers in 18 agencies across Ontario
  - Annualization & regionalization weights applied to the sample to produce an estimate of 128,108 child maltreatment investigations.
- **Limitations:**
  - Limited to reports investigated by child welfare services.
  - Study not designed to make regional comparisons.
  - No follow-up beyond investigation

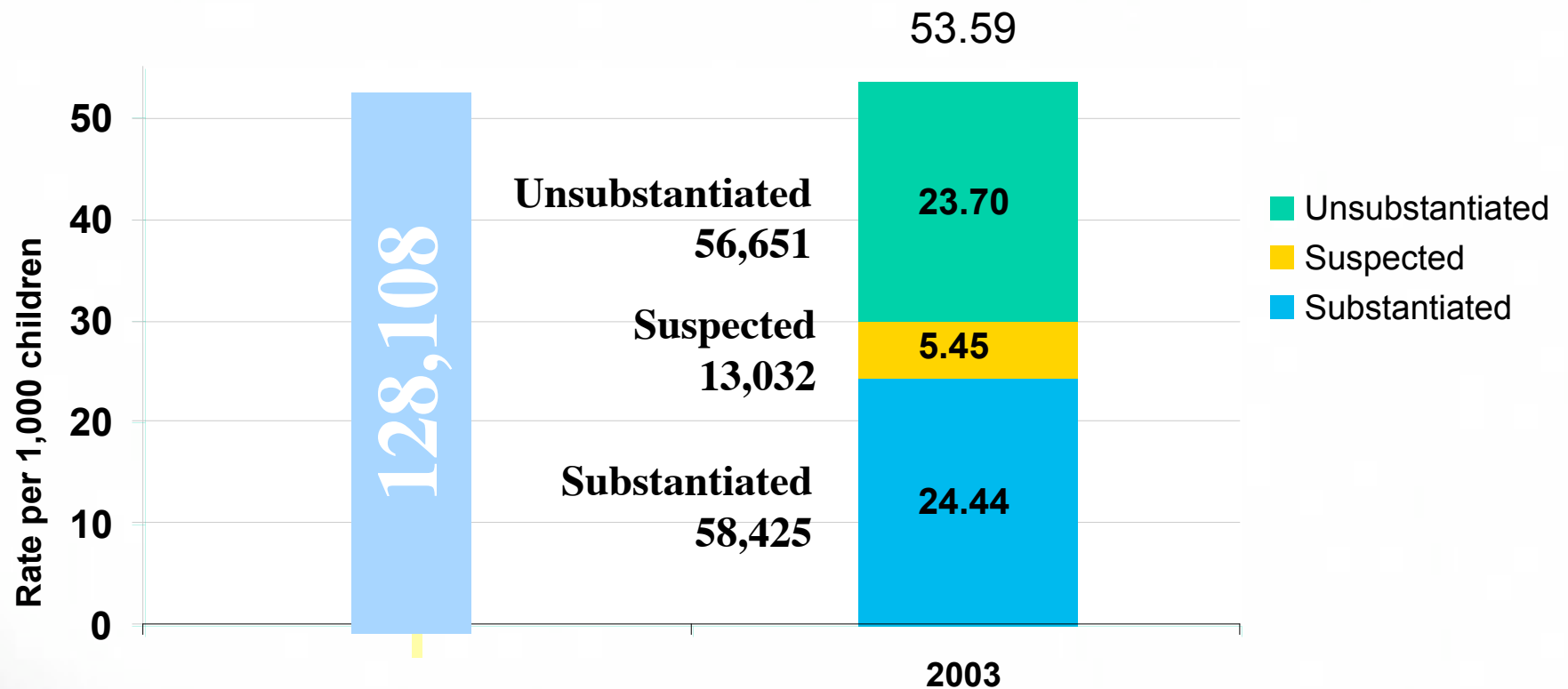


## Outline

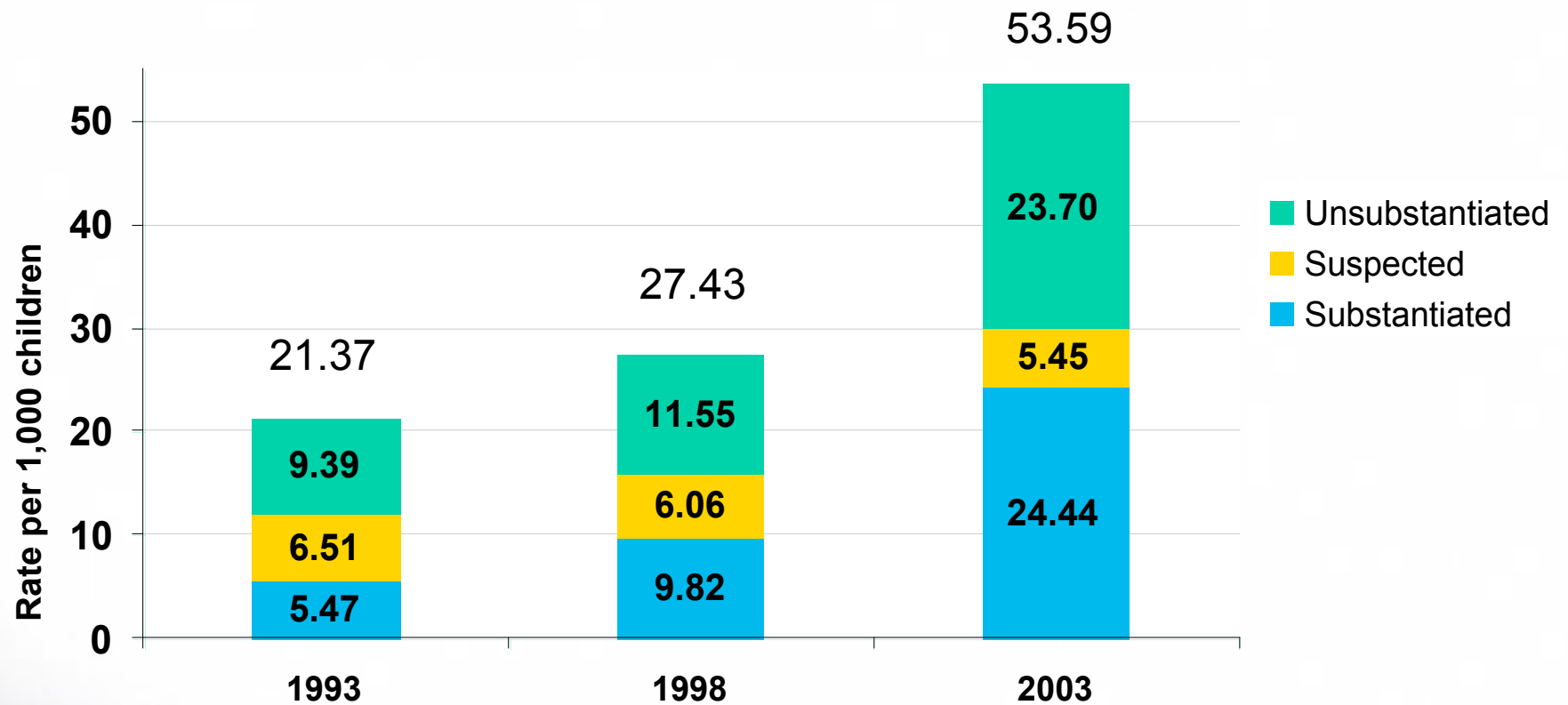
- **Rates & forms of maltreatment: OIS 1993/1998/2003**
- Child and family characteristics: OIS 2003
- Investigation outcomes and sources of referral: OIS 1993/1998/2003



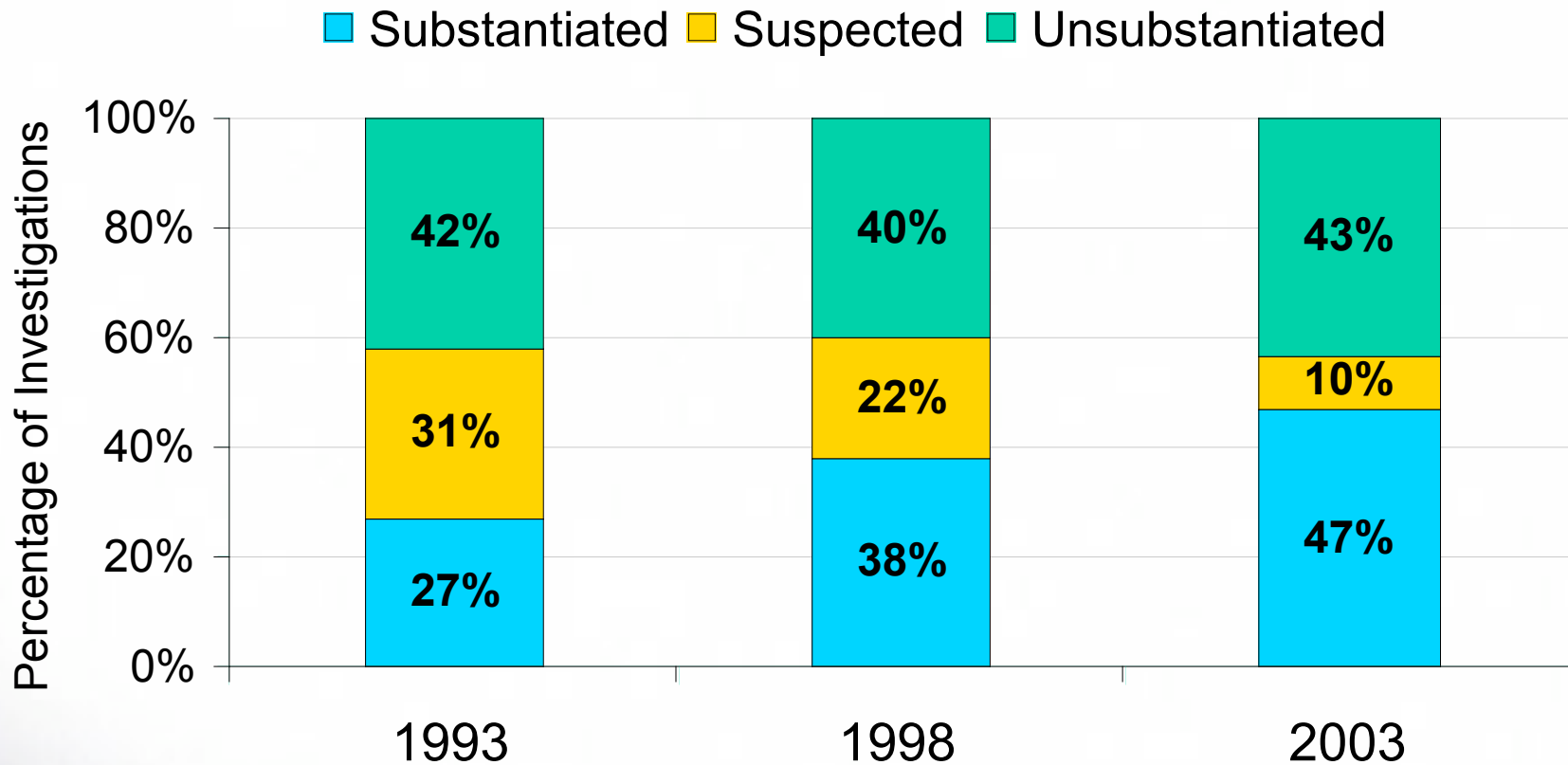
# Rates and numbers of reported & substantiated investigations (OIS 2003)



## Increasing rates of reports & substantiated investigations (OIS 93/98/03)

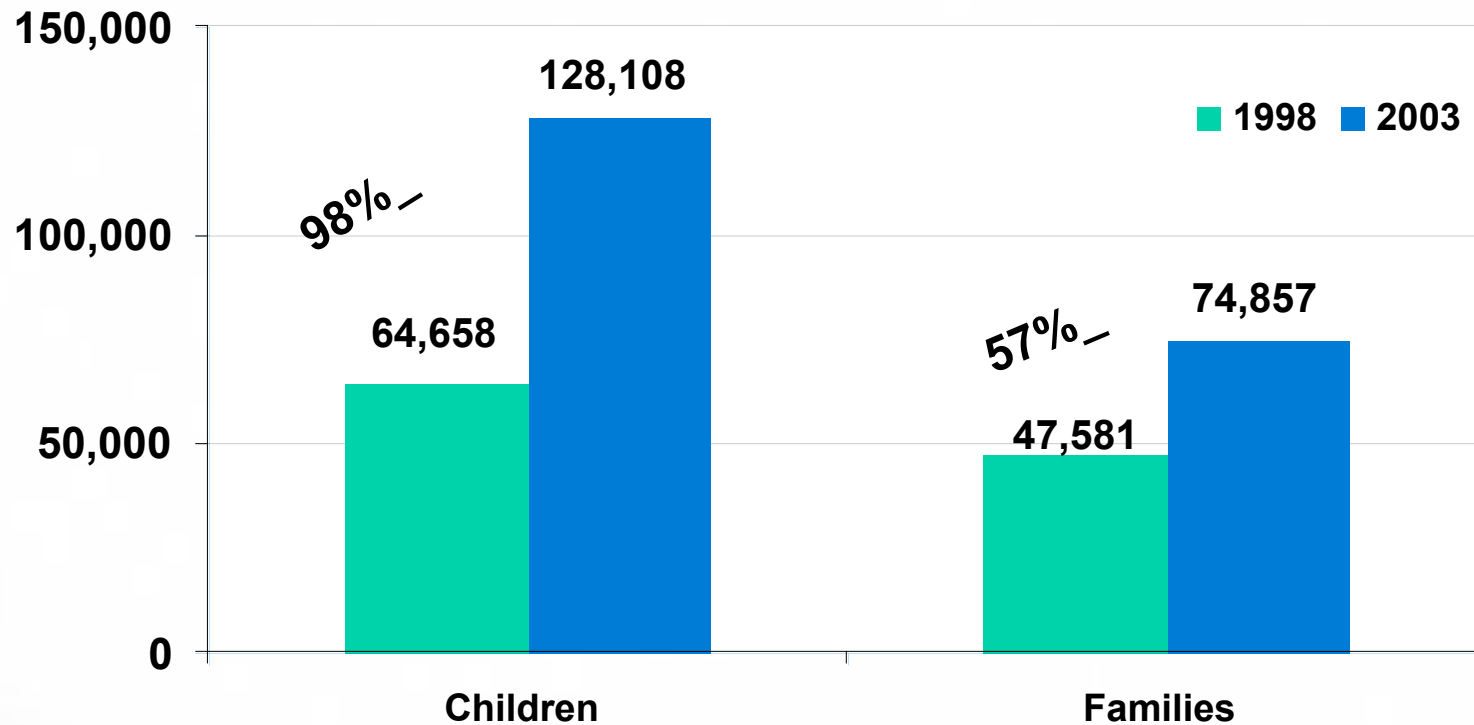


# Substantiation rates over time in Ontario (OIS 93/98/03)





## Number of reports per child vs. per family (OIS 98-03)

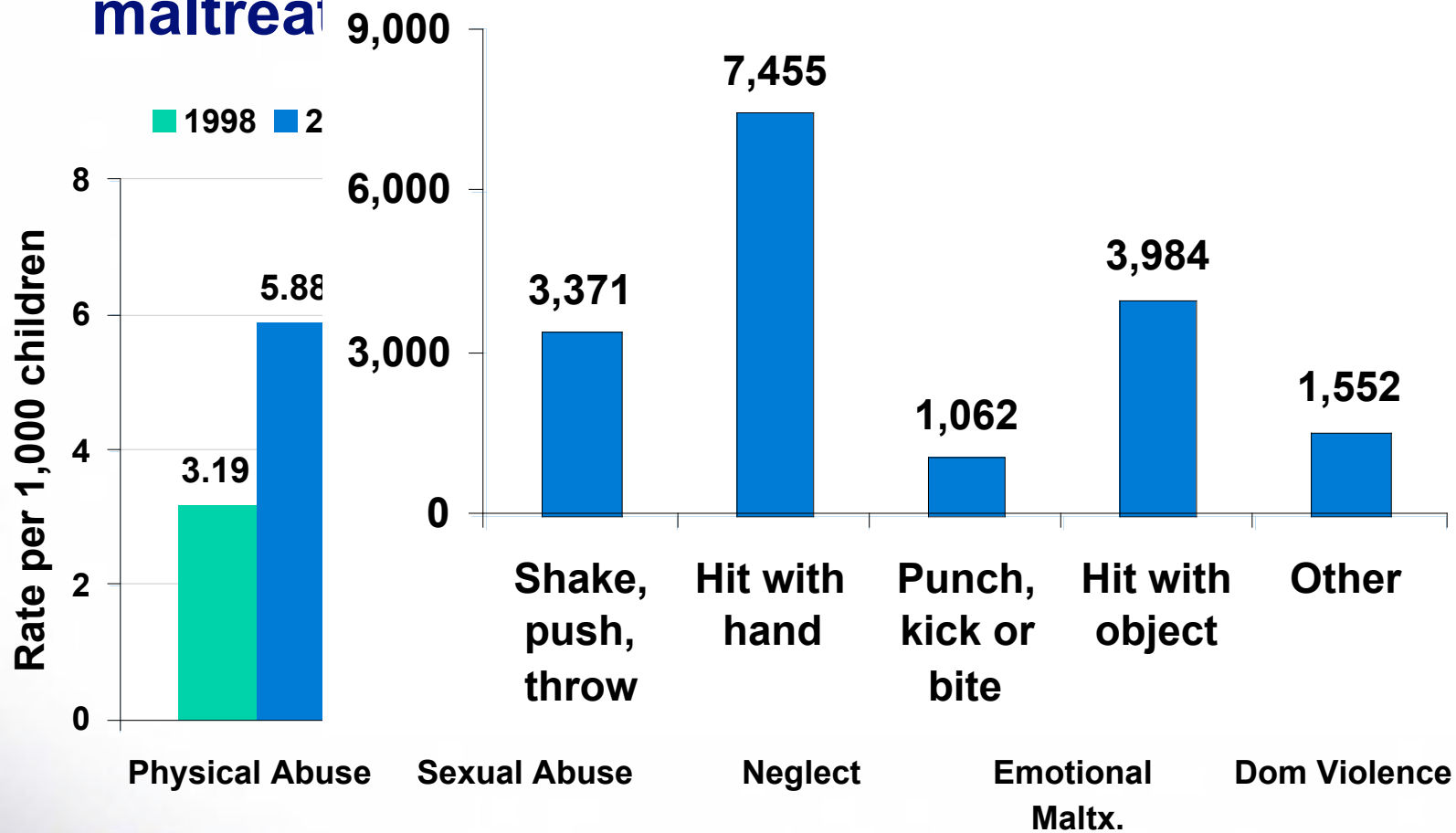


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# Differences in maltreatment

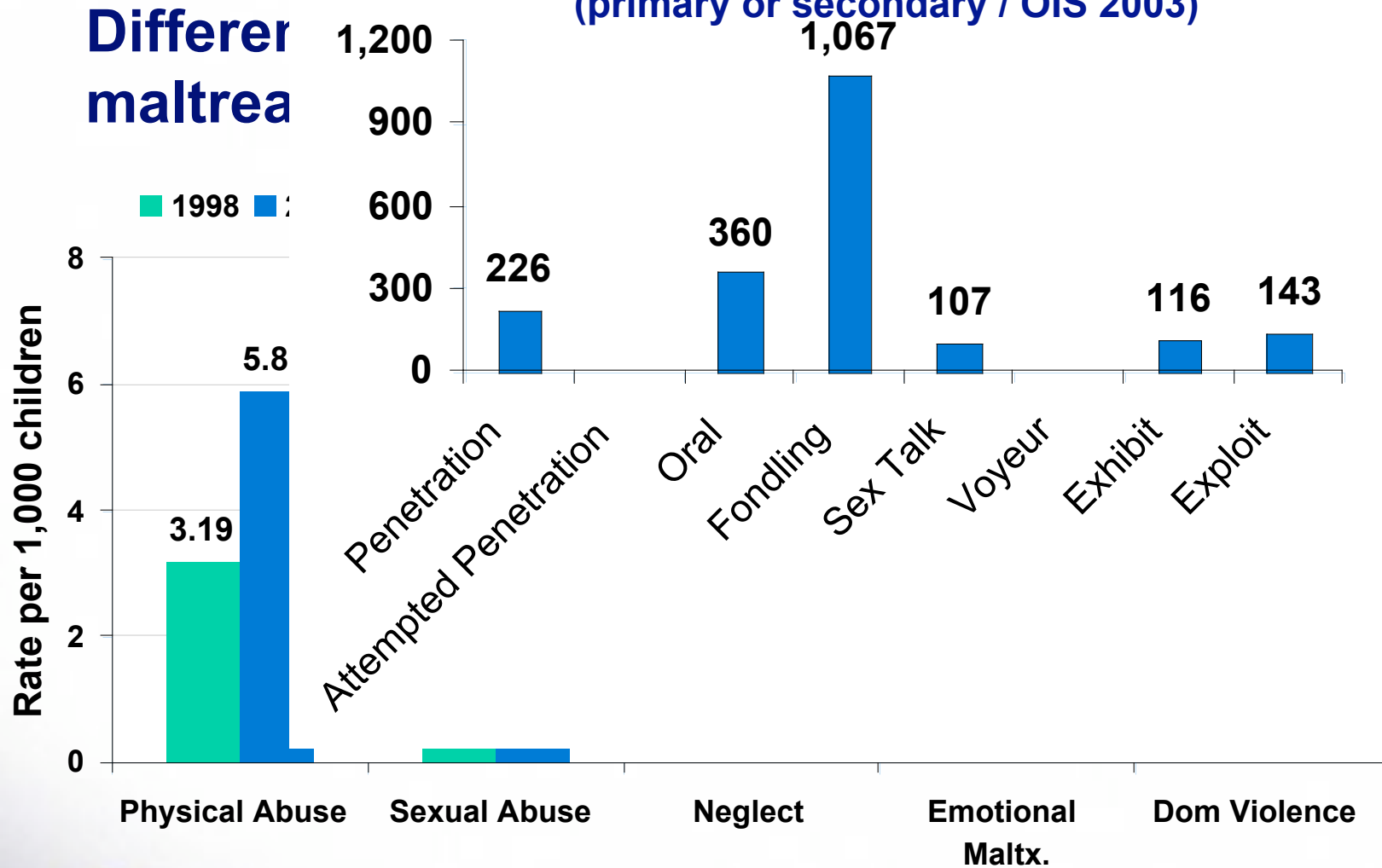
17,424 substantiated cases of physical abuse (primary or secondary /OIS 2003)



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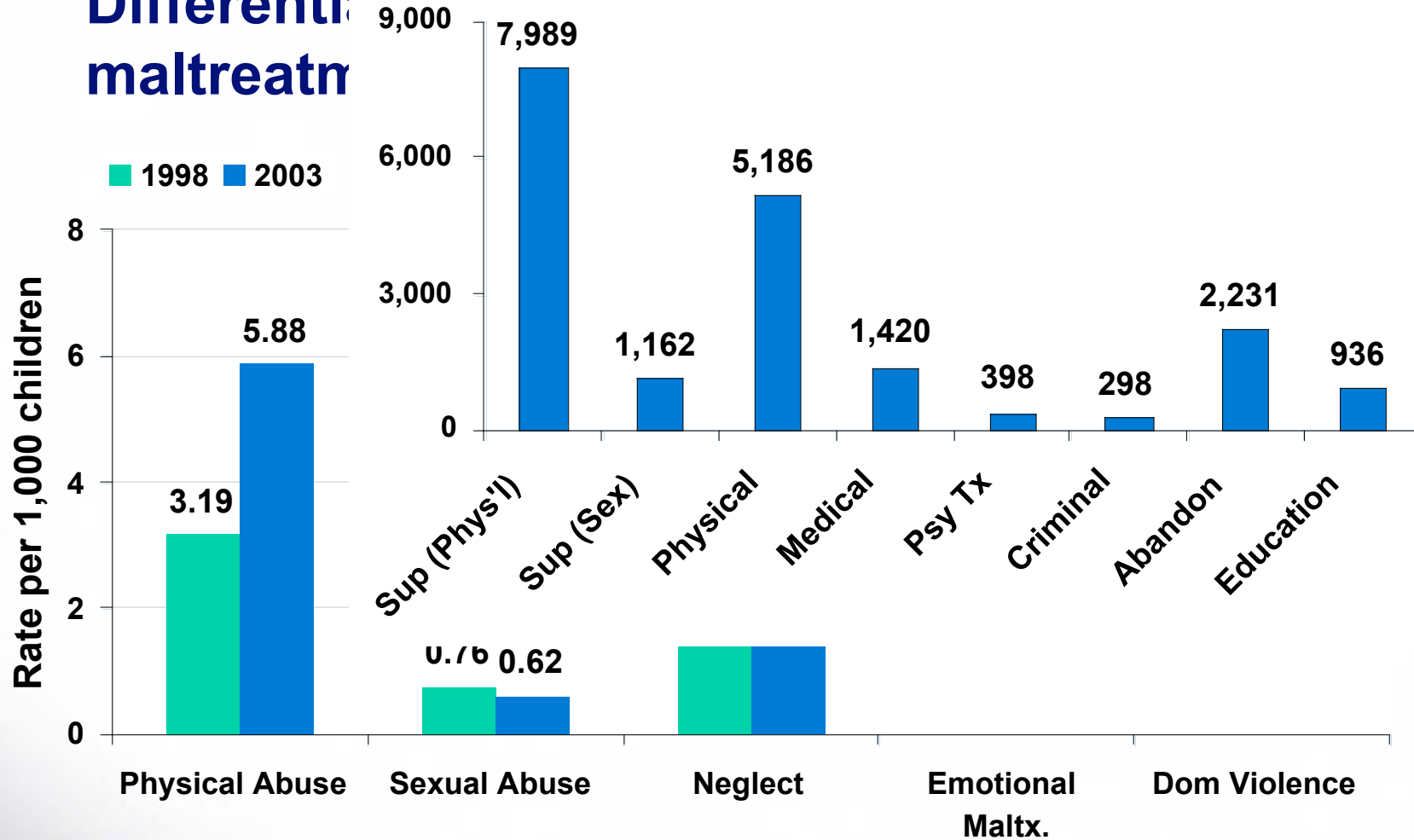
## 2,114 substantiated cases of sexual abuse (primary or secondary / OIS 2003)



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# Differentiated maltreatment

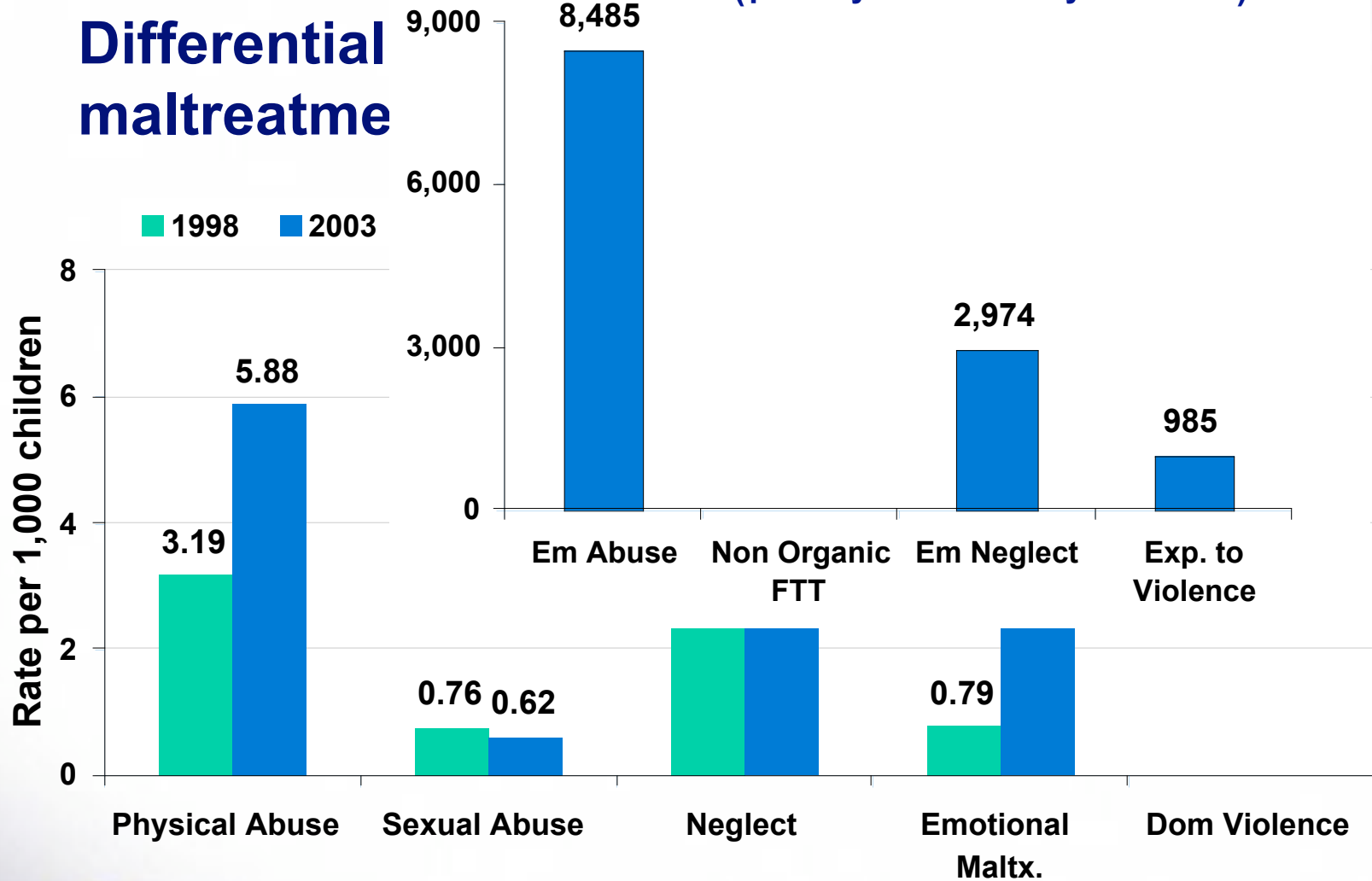


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# Differential maltreatment

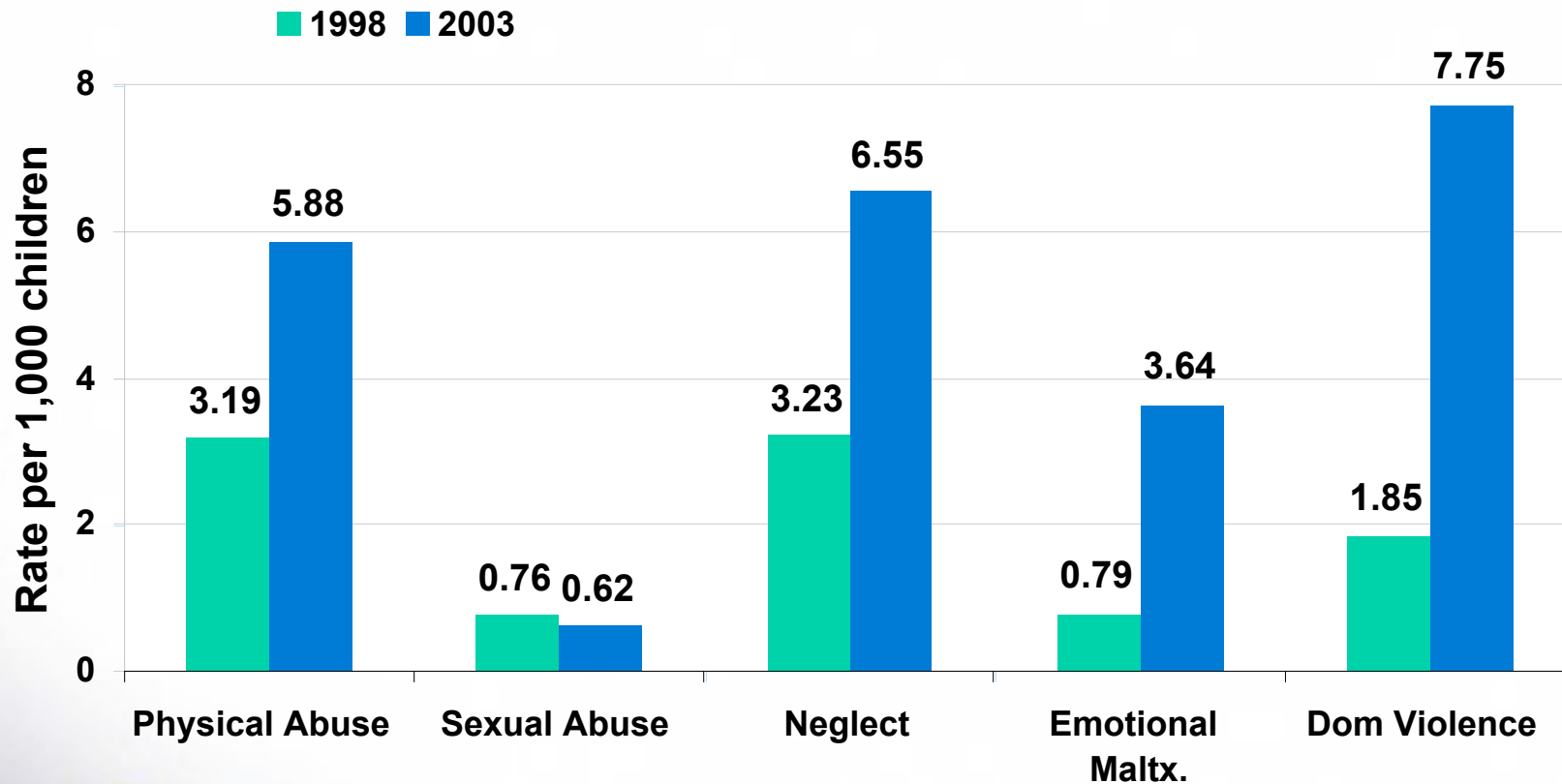
12,543 substantiated cases of emotional maltreatment (primary or secondary /OIS 2003)



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# Differential trends by primary form of maltreatment: OIS 98/03



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# Summary explanation of 98-03 increase

- **149% increase in incidence of substantiated maltreatment:**
  - Increase in substantiation rates – fewer cases are classified as suspected.
  - More siblings per family being investigated.
  - Explosion of reports of emotional maltreatment and exposure to domestic violence.

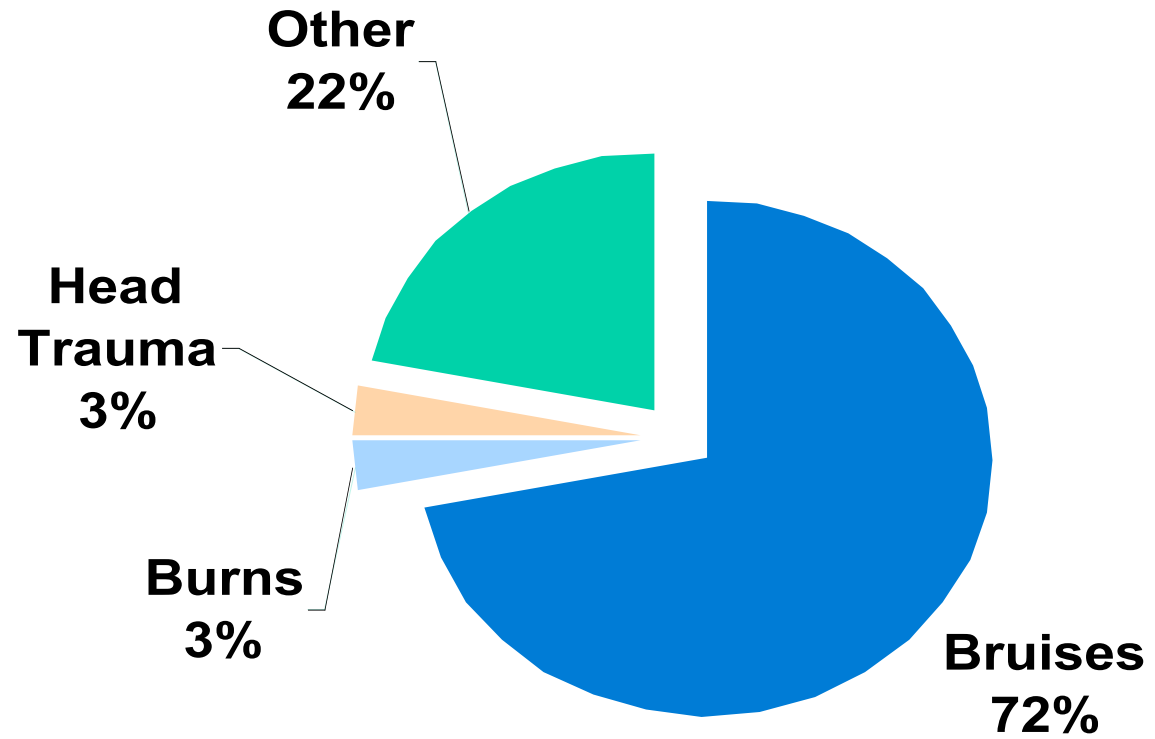


## Types of Harm noted in substantiated investigations

Physical  
sub

3,50

1,75



92%



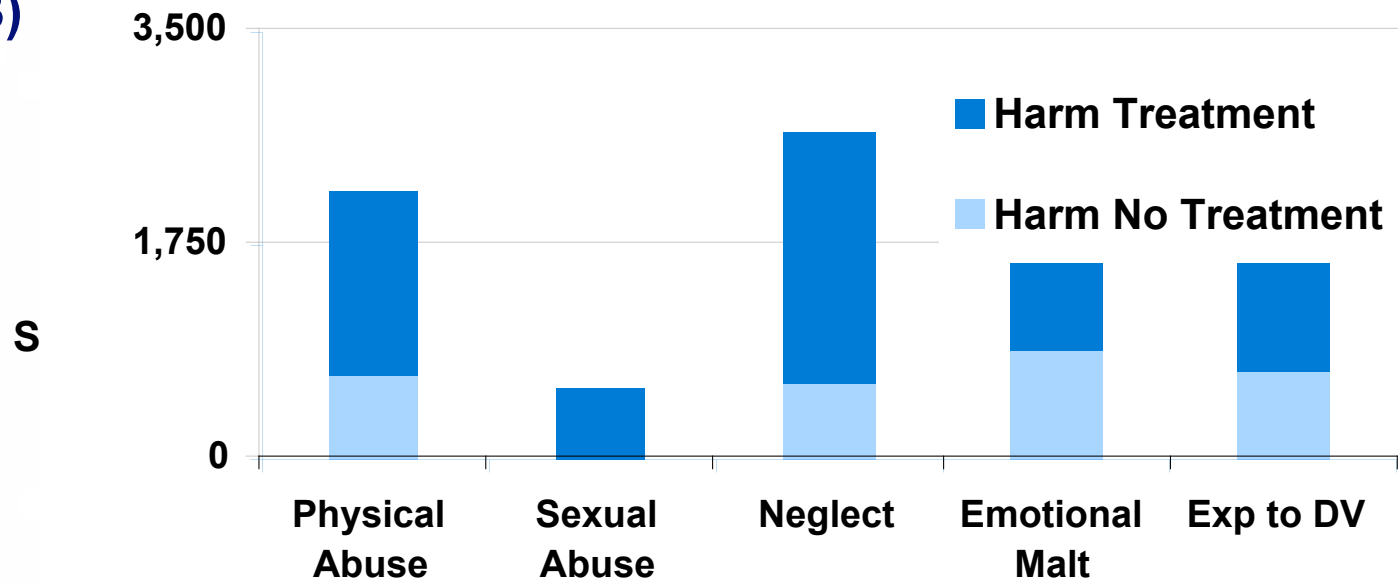
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**Emotion  
(OIS 03)**

## Emotional harm by type of substantiated maltreatment



**No Harm  
82%**



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# Outline

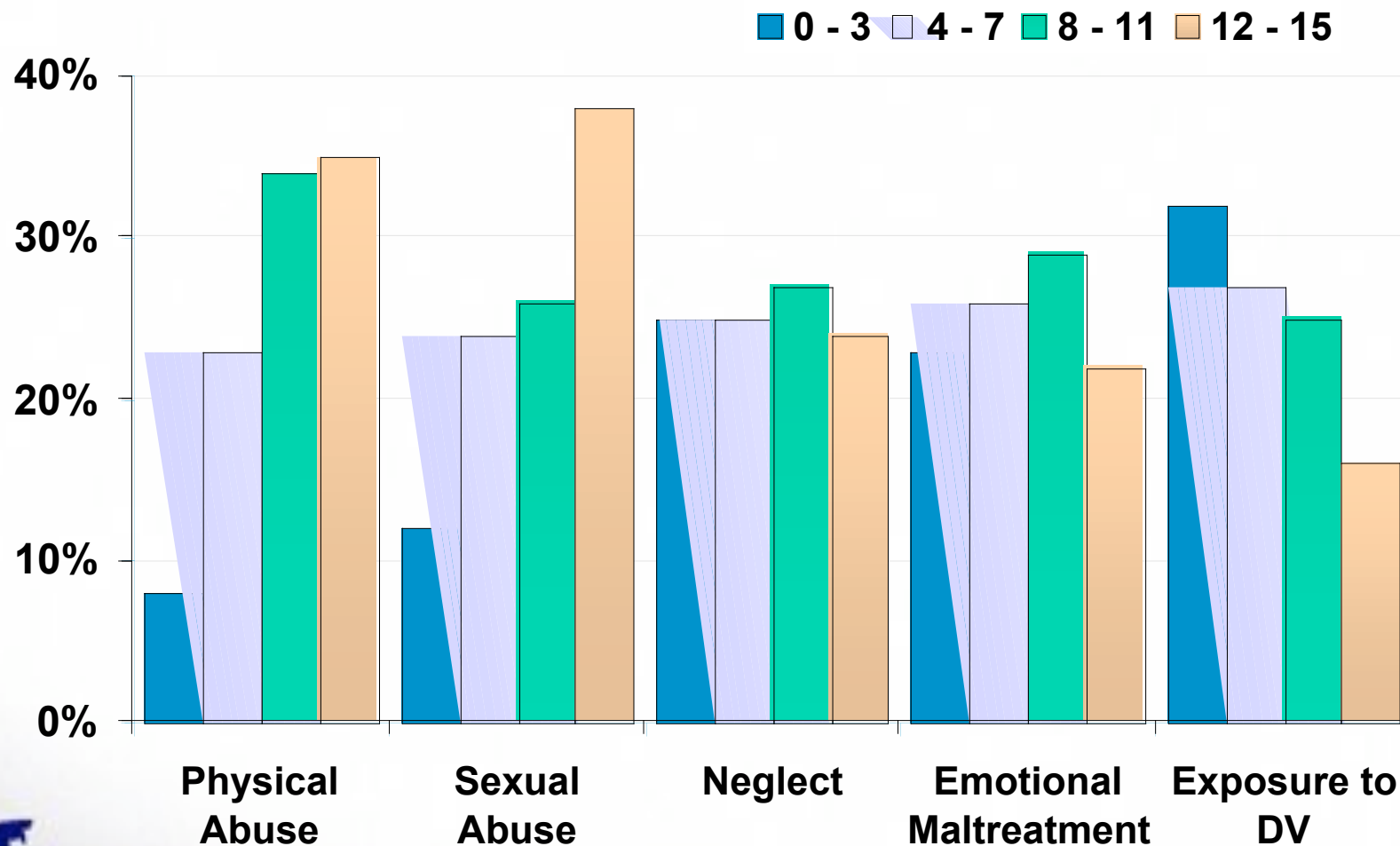
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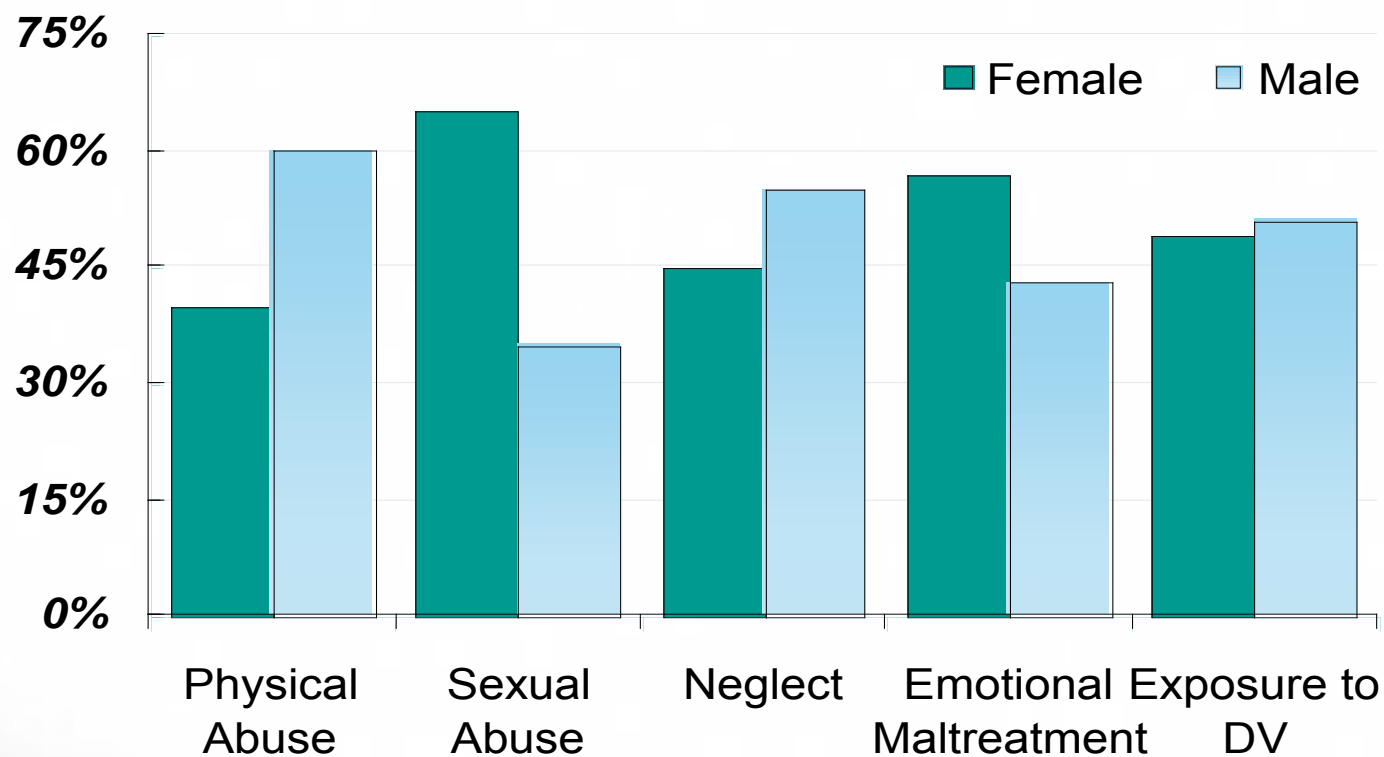
# Age of victims by primary form of maltreatment (OIS 03)



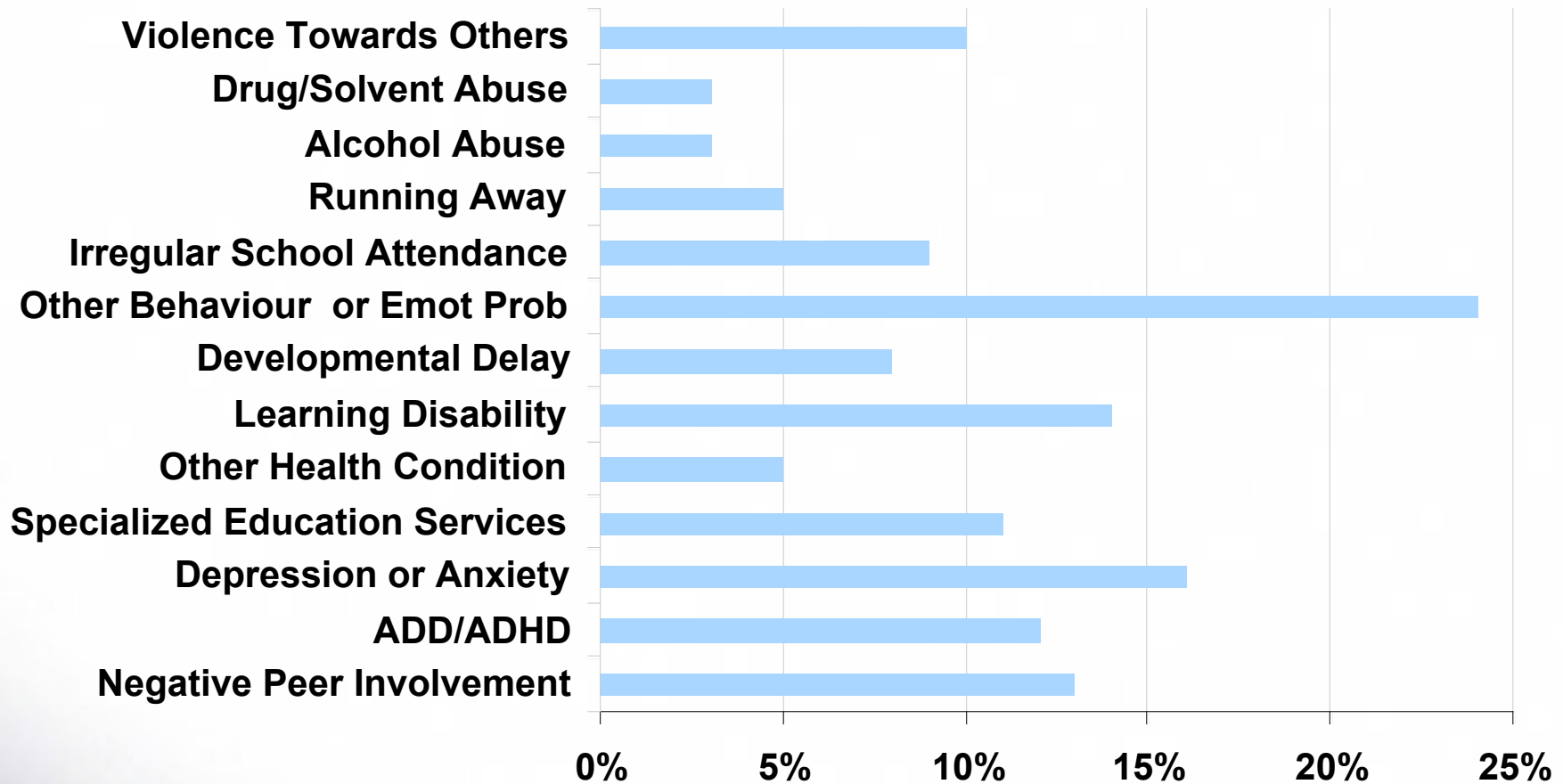
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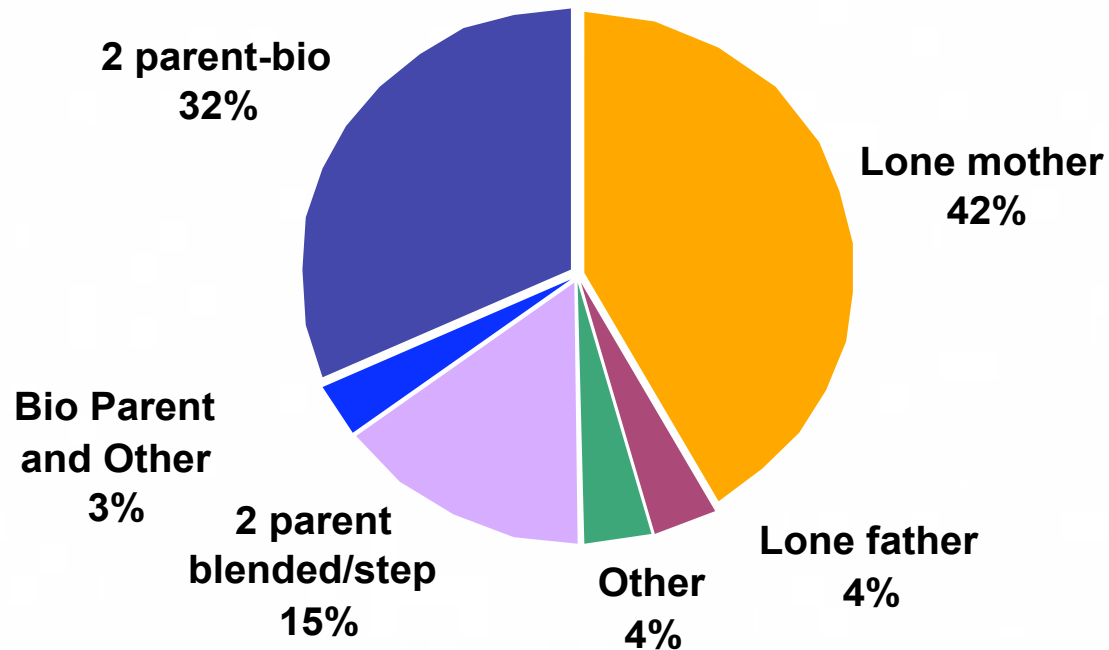
## Sex of victims by primary form of maltreatment (OIS 03)



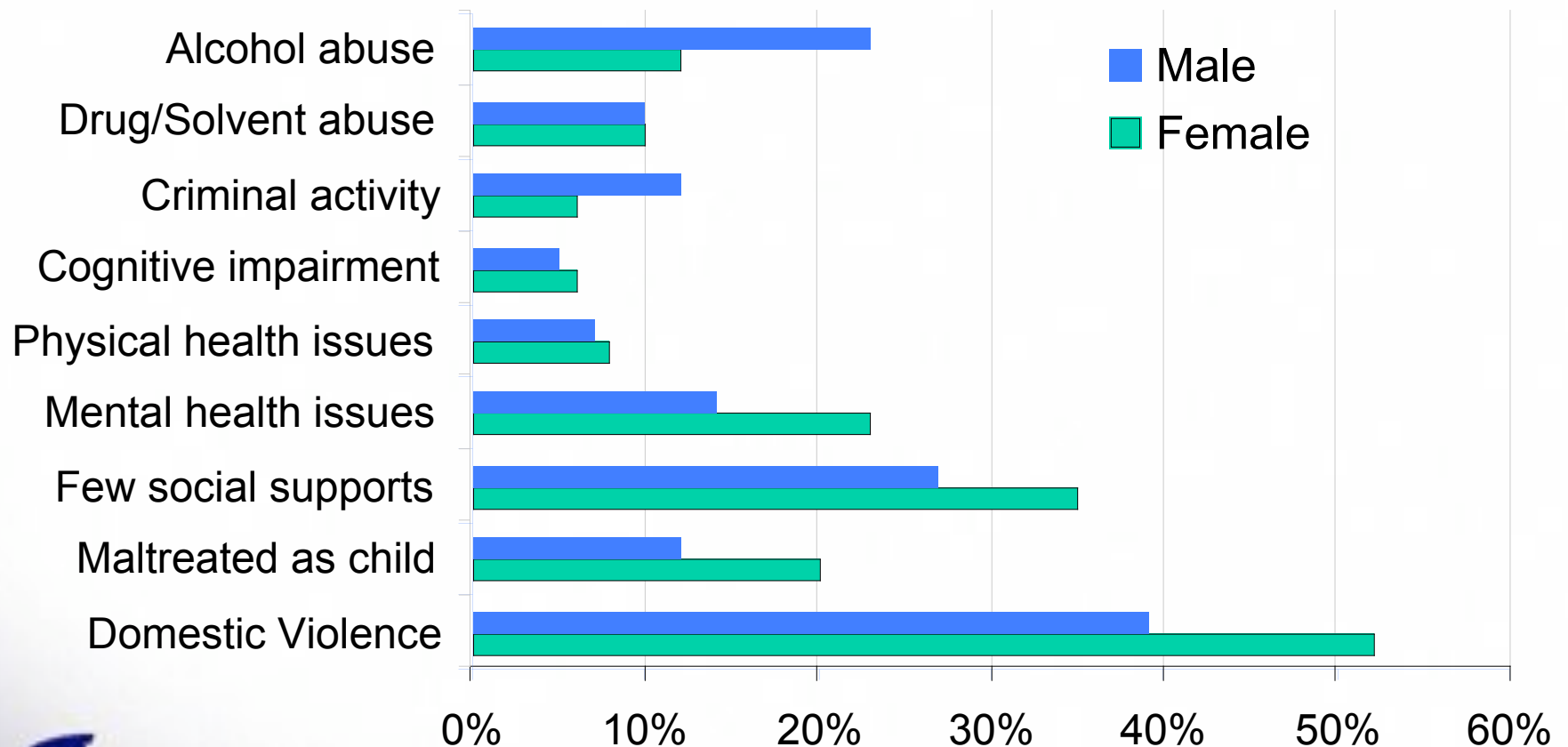
# Child Functioning Issues in cases of Substantiated Maltreatment (OIS 03)



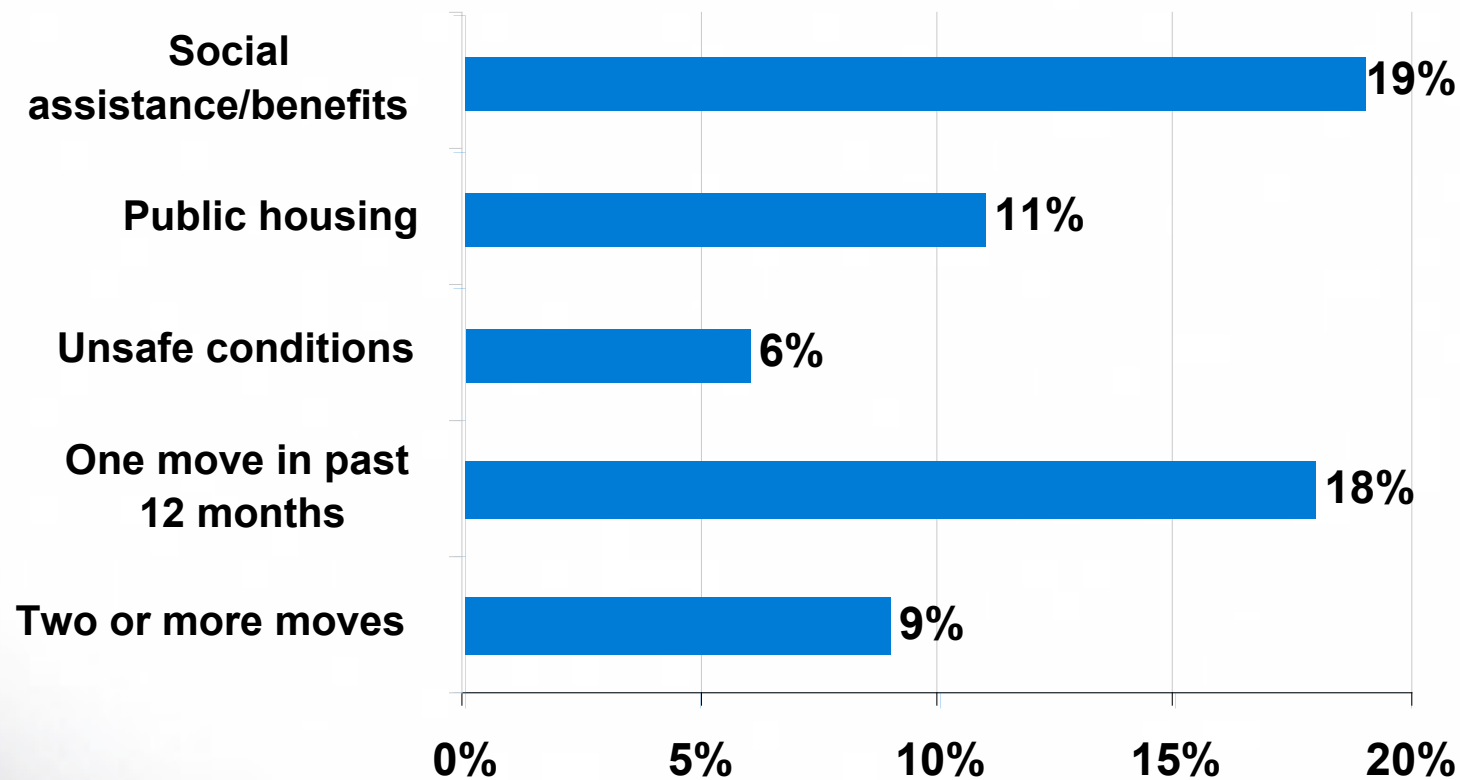
# Caregivers in the home (OIS 2003)



# Caregiver risk factors (OIS 2003)



# Household risk factors (OIS 2003)





# Outline

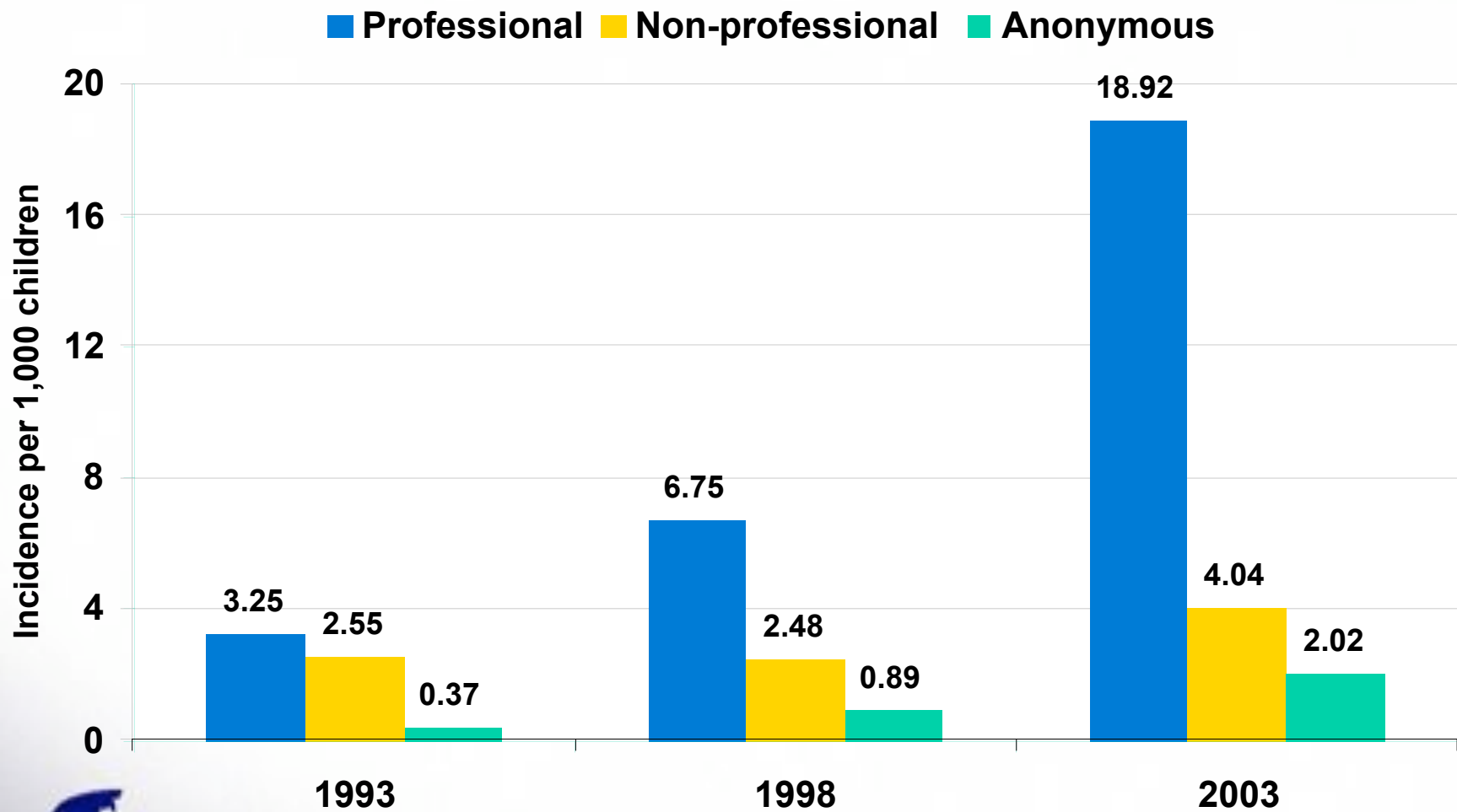
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- Child and family characteristics: OIS 2003
- **Investigation outcomes and sources of referral: OIS 1993/1998/2003**



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# Referral Sources over time (OIS 93/98/03)

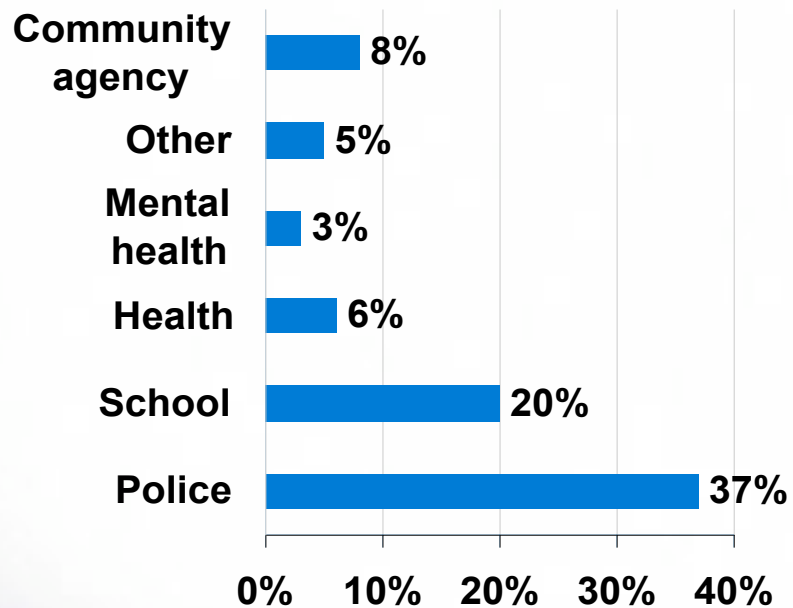


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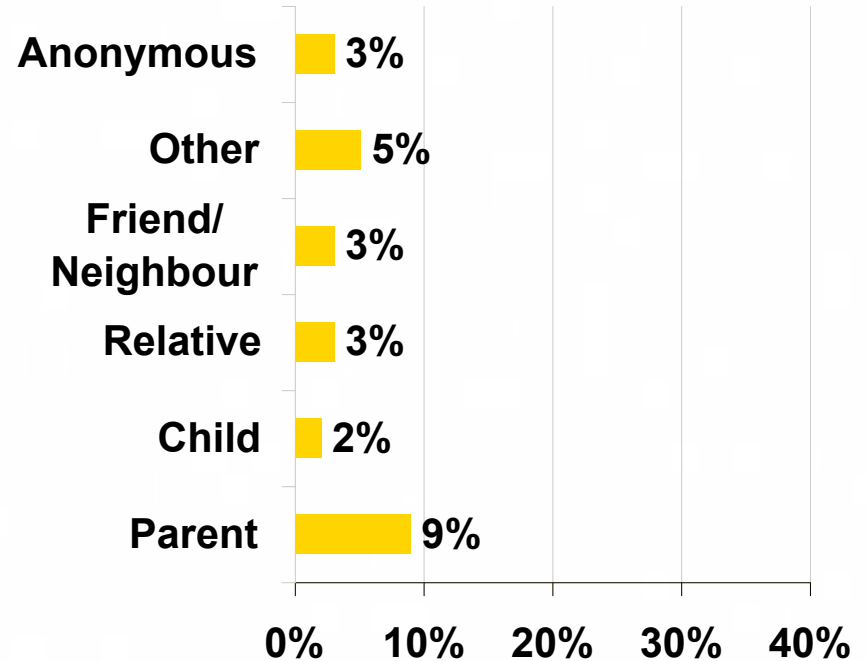
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# Referral source (OIS 2003)

Professional sources

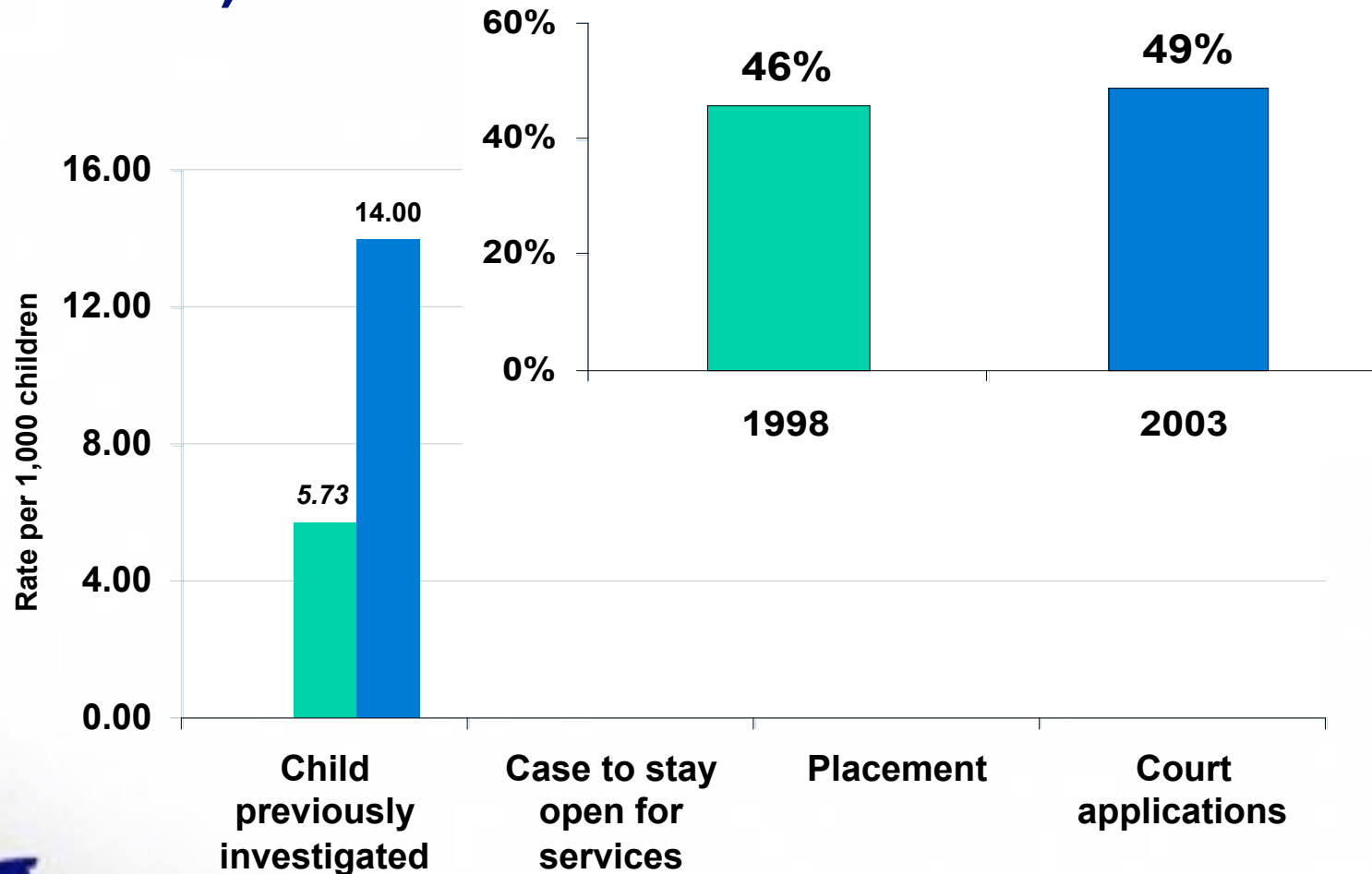


Non-professional sources



# Service response (93/98/03)

## Proportion of substantiated cases with previous CAS involvement

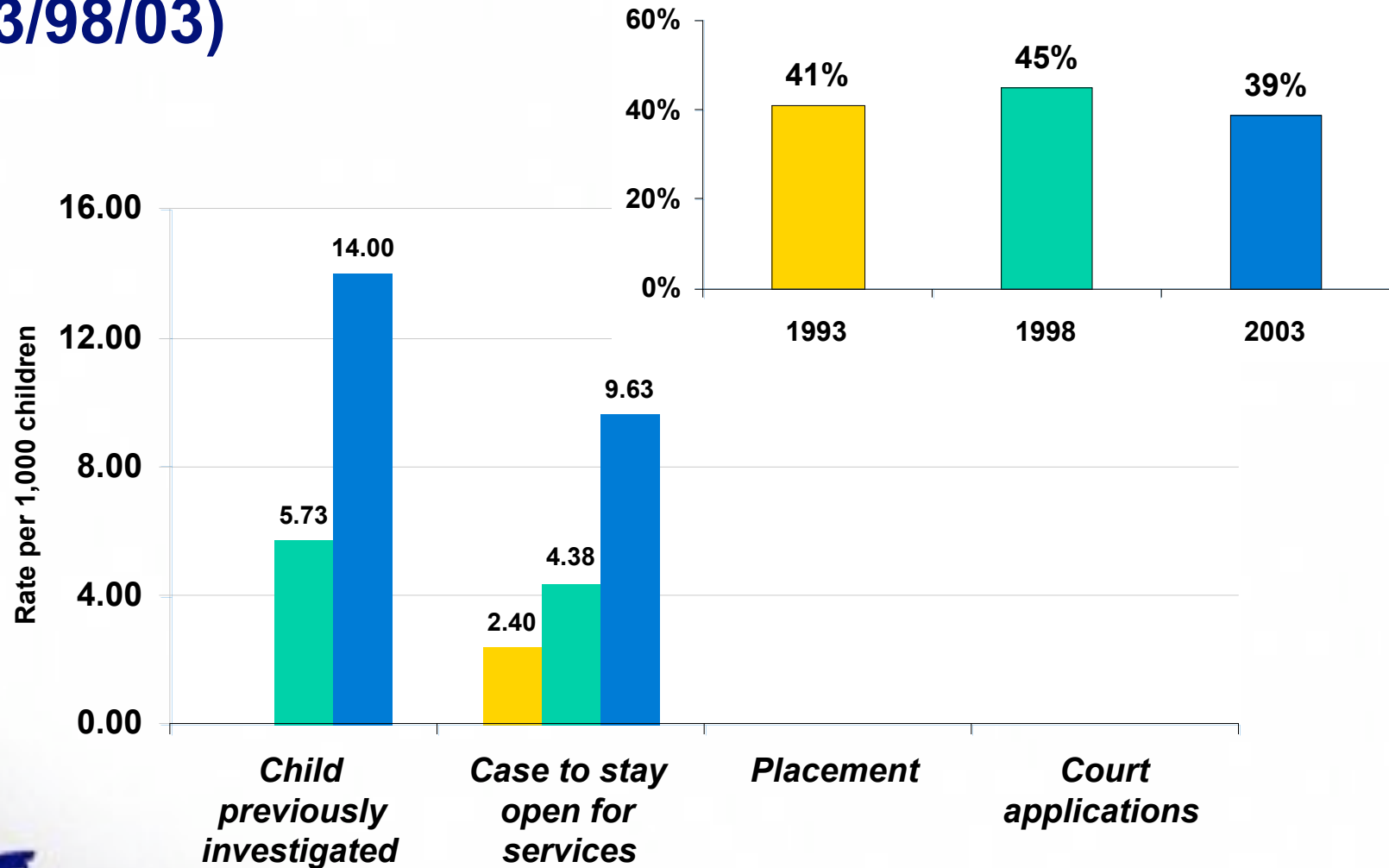


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# Service response, sur (93/98/03)

Proportion of substantiated cases to stay open for service

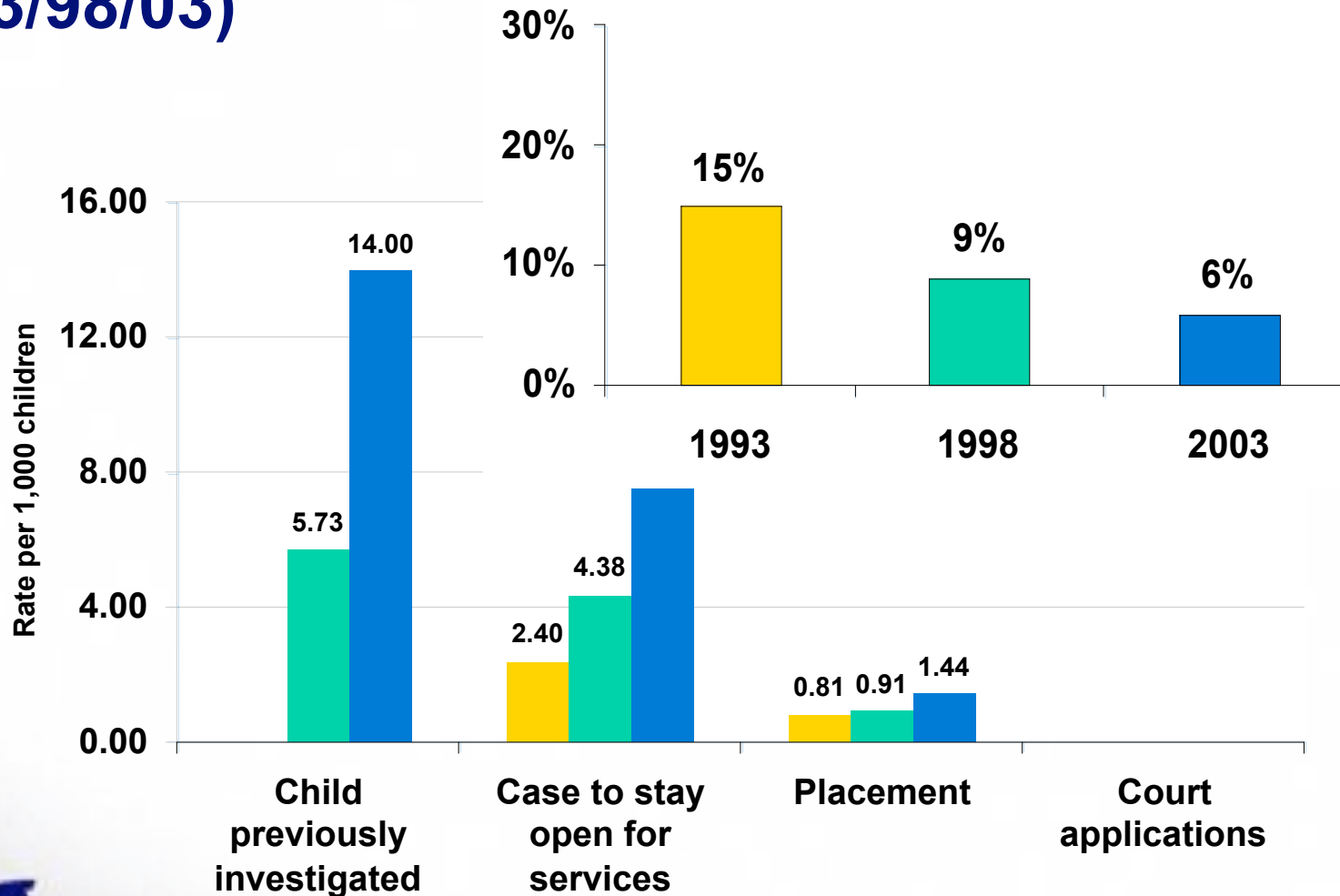


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# Service response (93/98/03)

## Proportion of substantiated cases involving placement

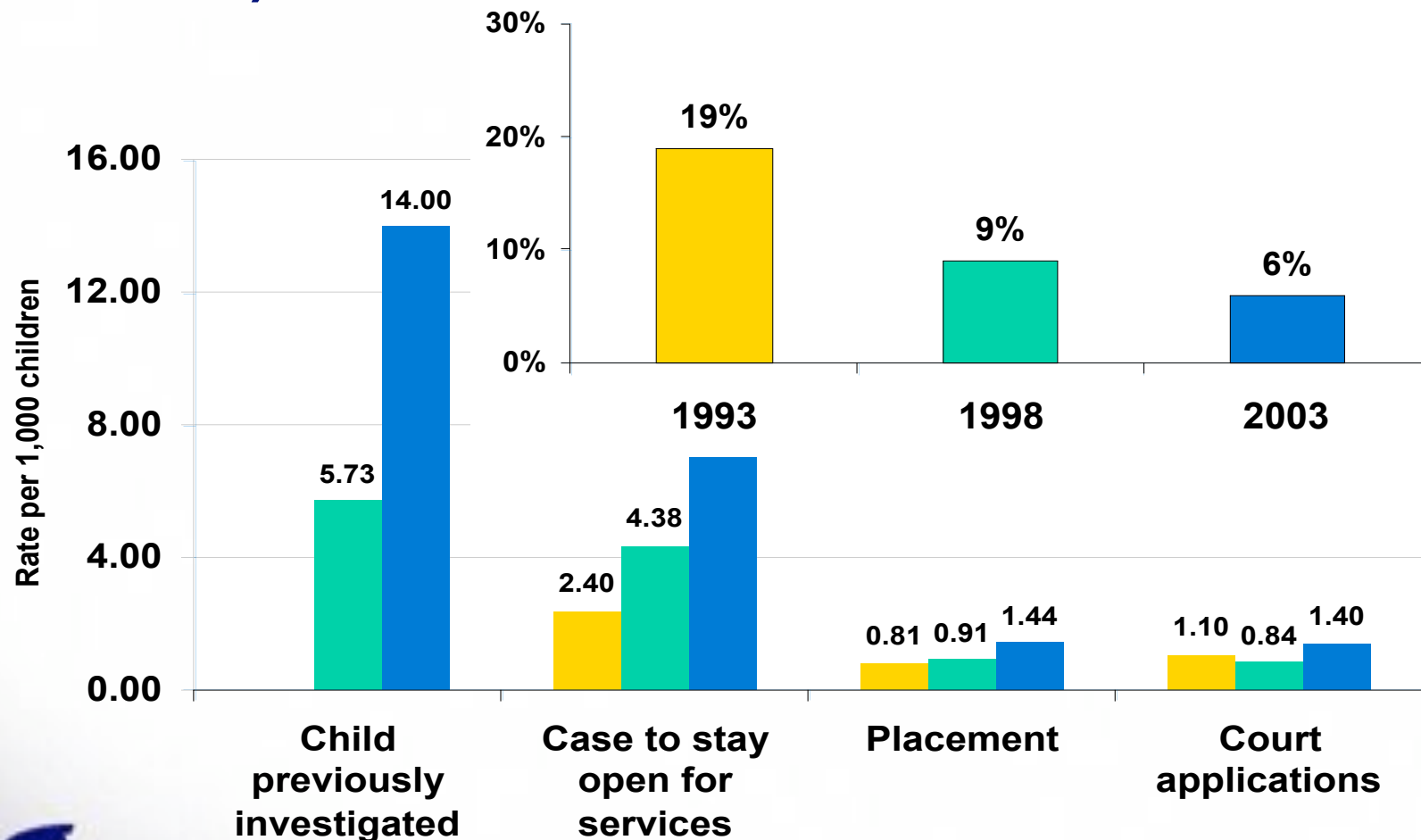


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# Service response (93/98/03)

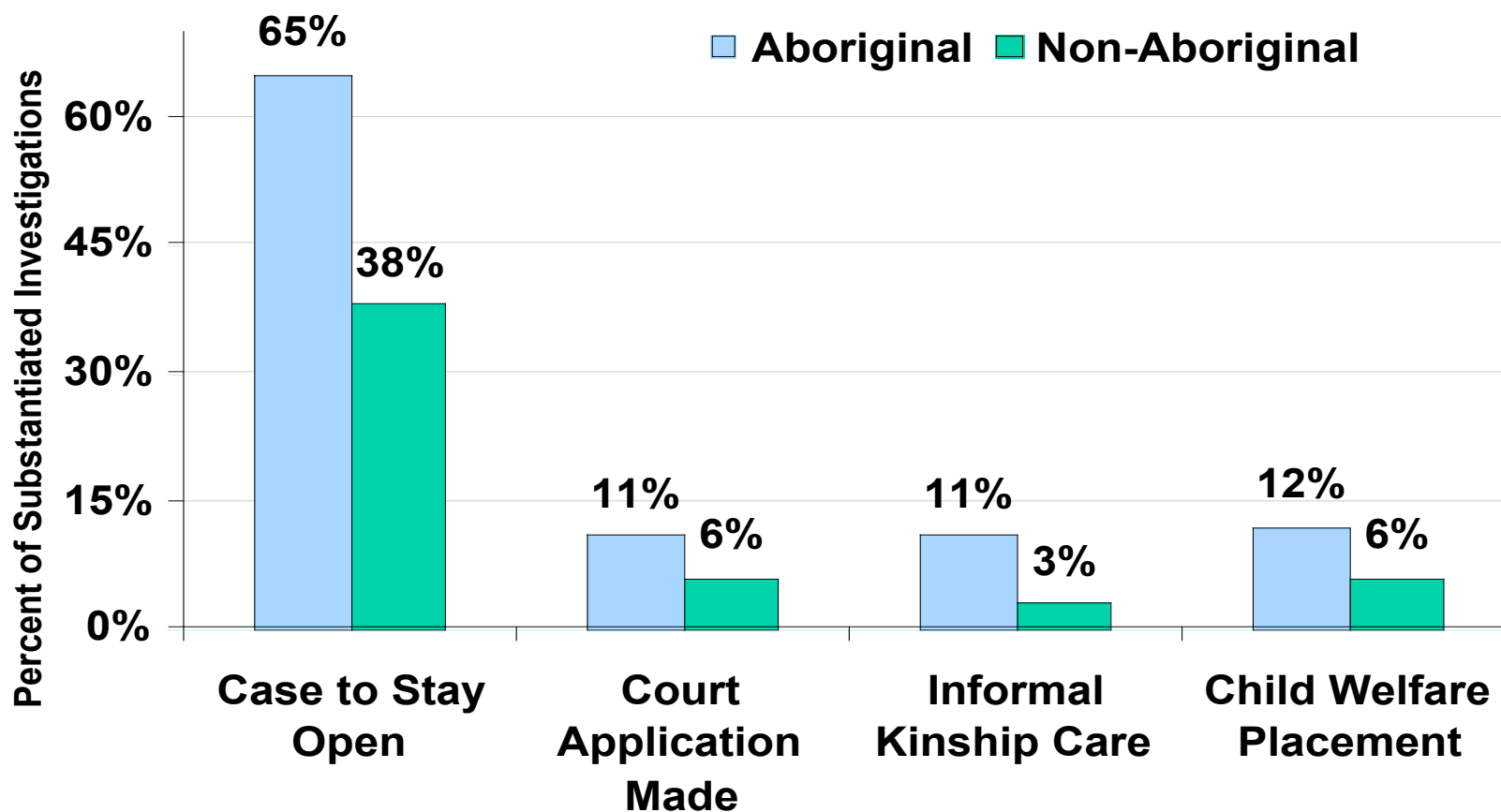
## Proportion of substantiated cases with court applications



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# Service response for Aboriginal children (substantiated maltreatment) (OIS 2003)





## Next steps

- OIS 93/98/03 provides the an opportunity to examine factors driving the increase in caseloads across Ontario.
- 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](mailto:Child_Maltreatment@phac-aspc.gc.ca))
- Planning for OIS 2008 starts in 2006



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