

A collage of images showing children and families. In the top left, a child is being carried on a parent's shoulders. In the top center, a young girl with yellow flower accessories looks forward. In the top right, two boys smile together. In the bottom right, a woman and a child are shown in a close embrace.

Children *and* Family  
Research Center

# Cook County

## Permanency Enhancement Symposium

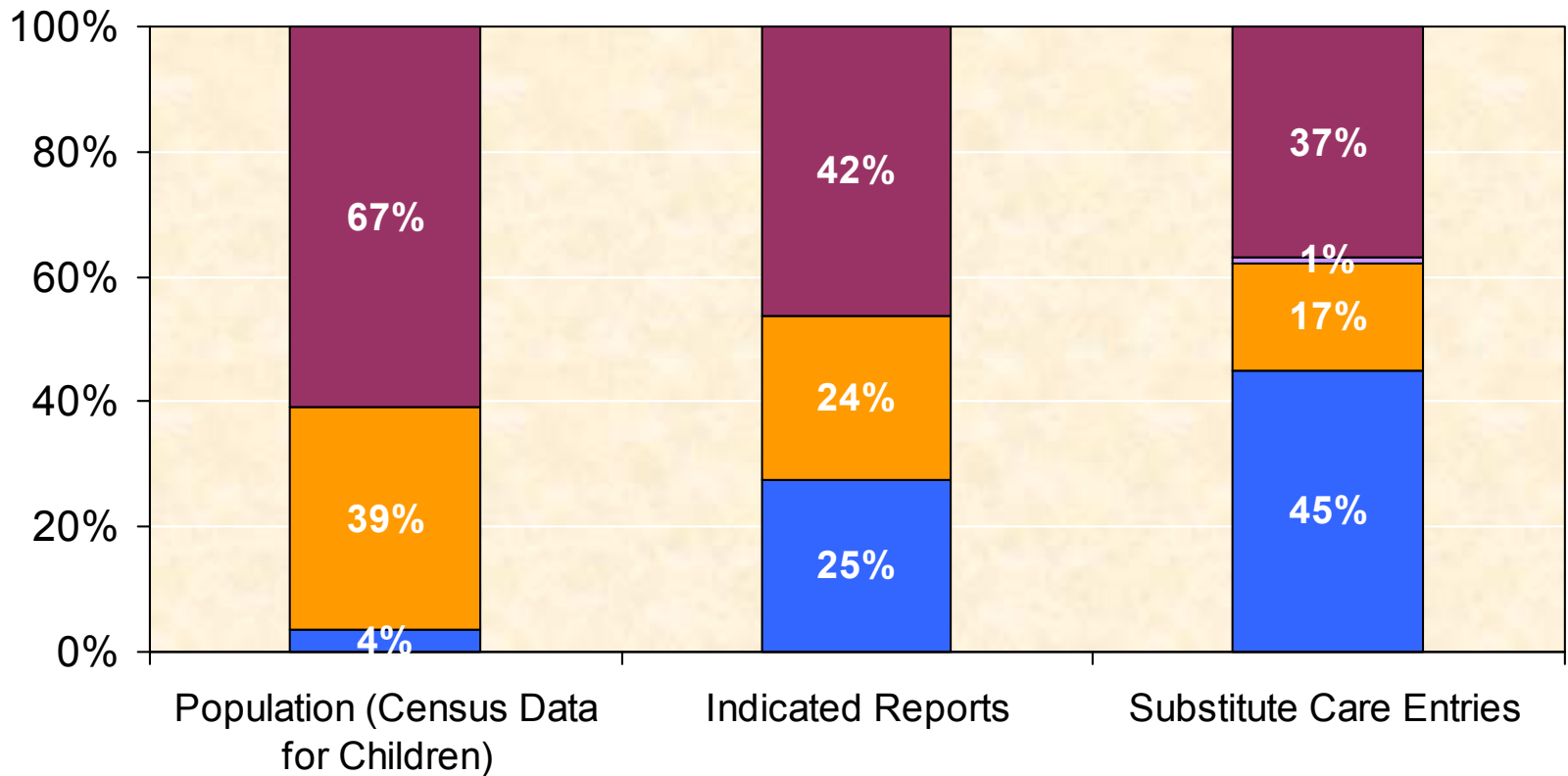
Jackie Bright and Nancy Rolock



School of Social Work

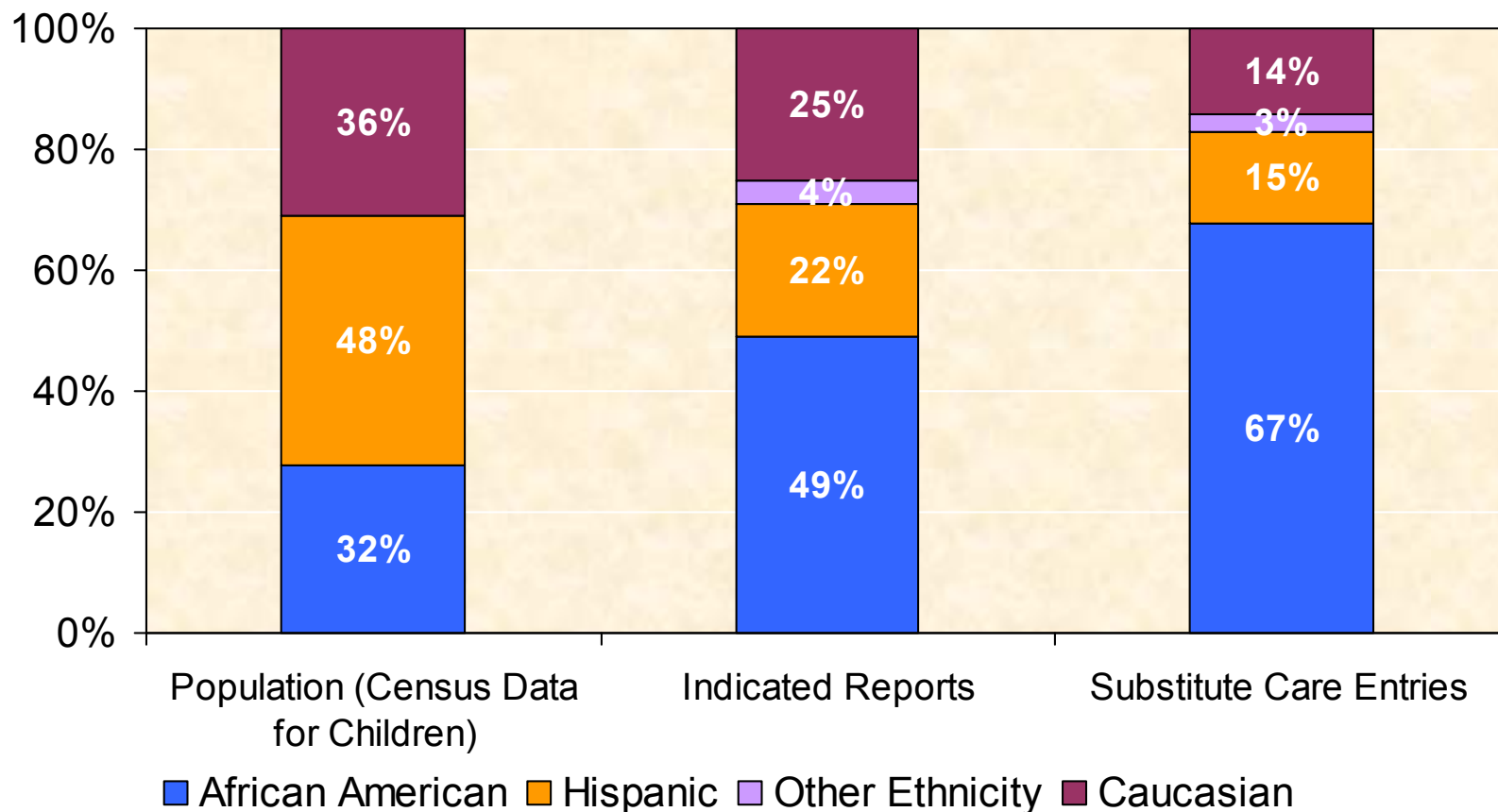
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

# Child Welfare System SFY 2007 Data Cook North

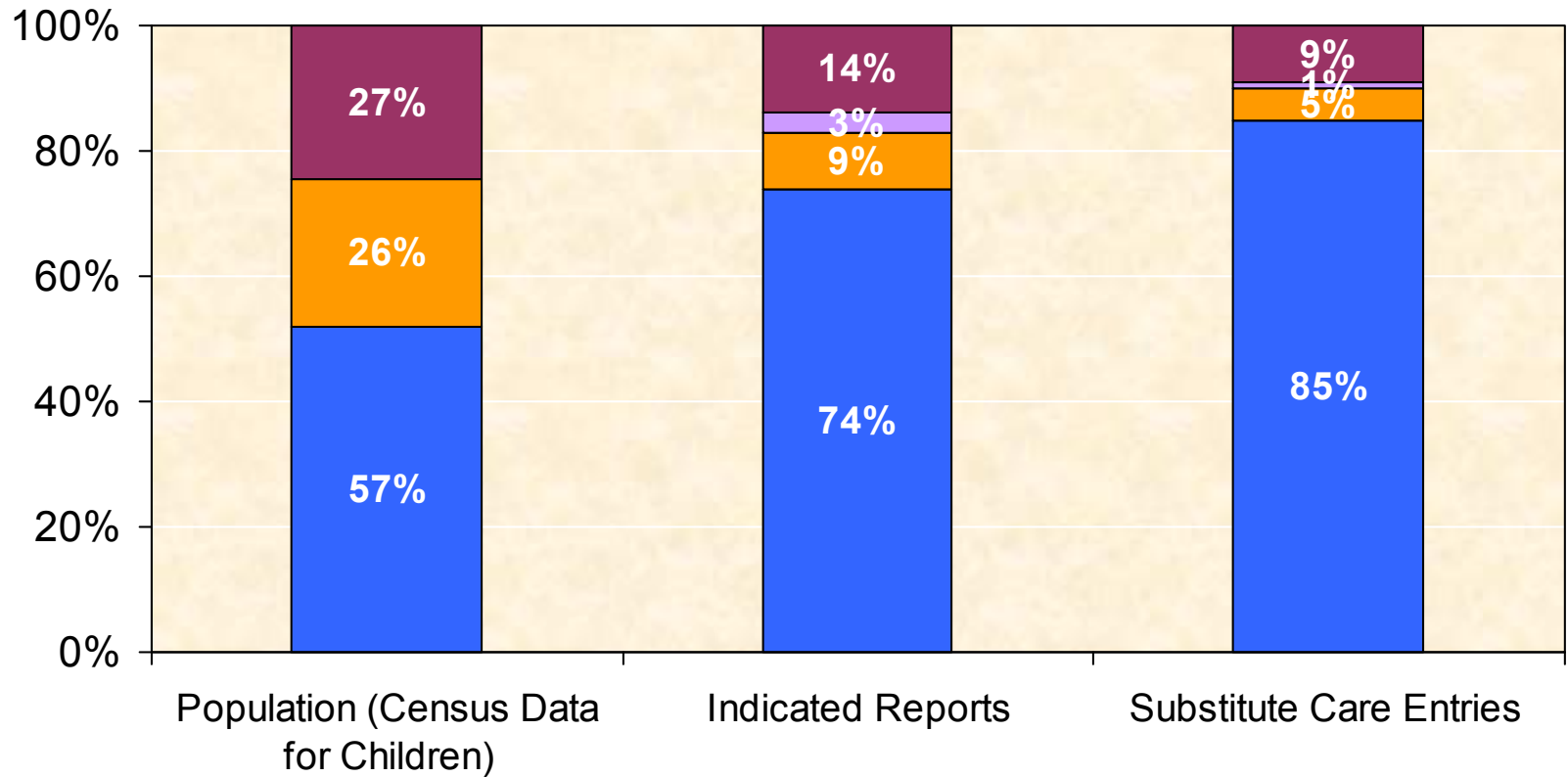


■ African American 
 ■ Hispanic 
 ■ Other Ethnicity 
 ■ Caucasian

# Child Welfare System SFY 2007 Data Cook Central

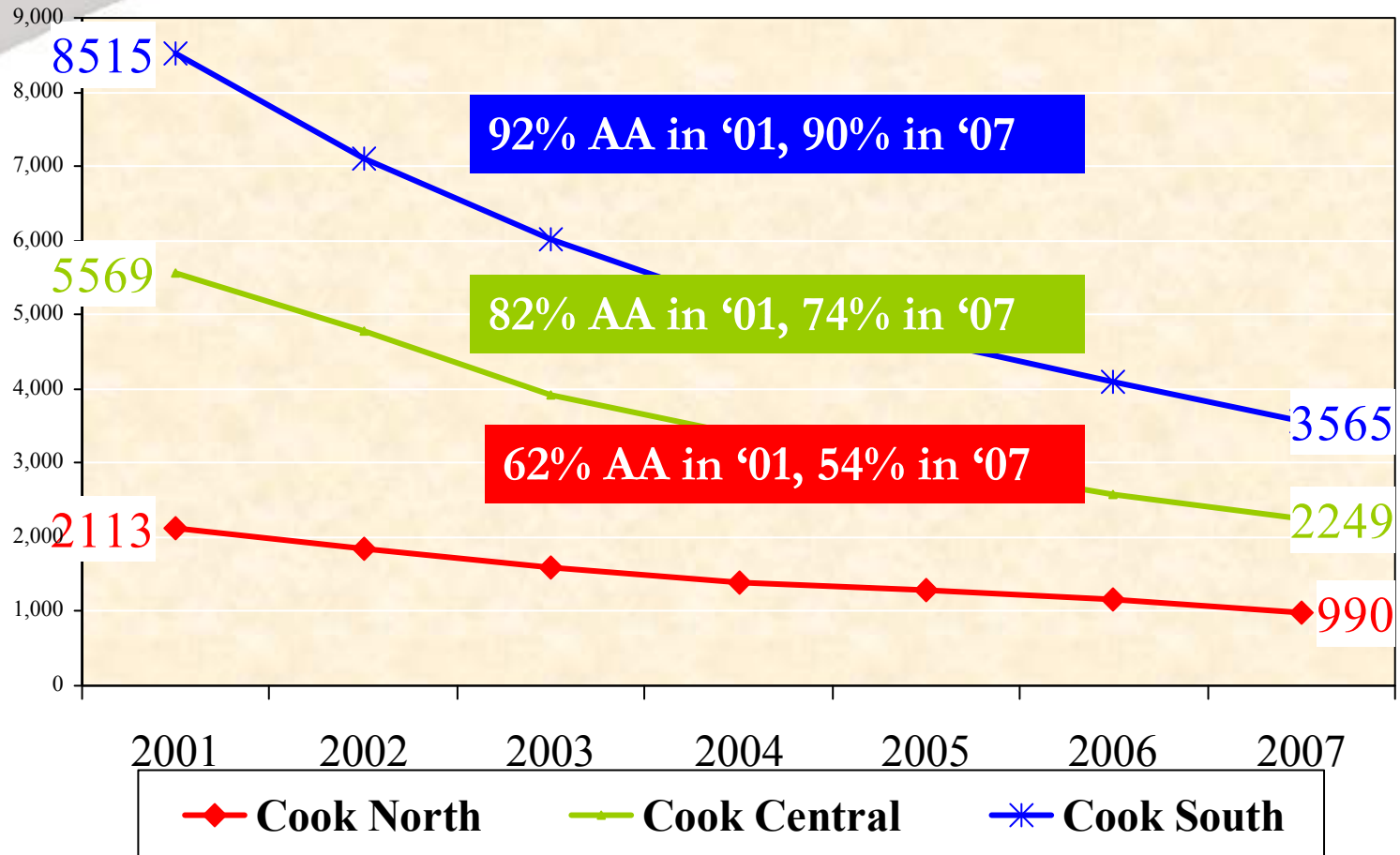


# Child Welfare System SFY 2007 Data Cook South

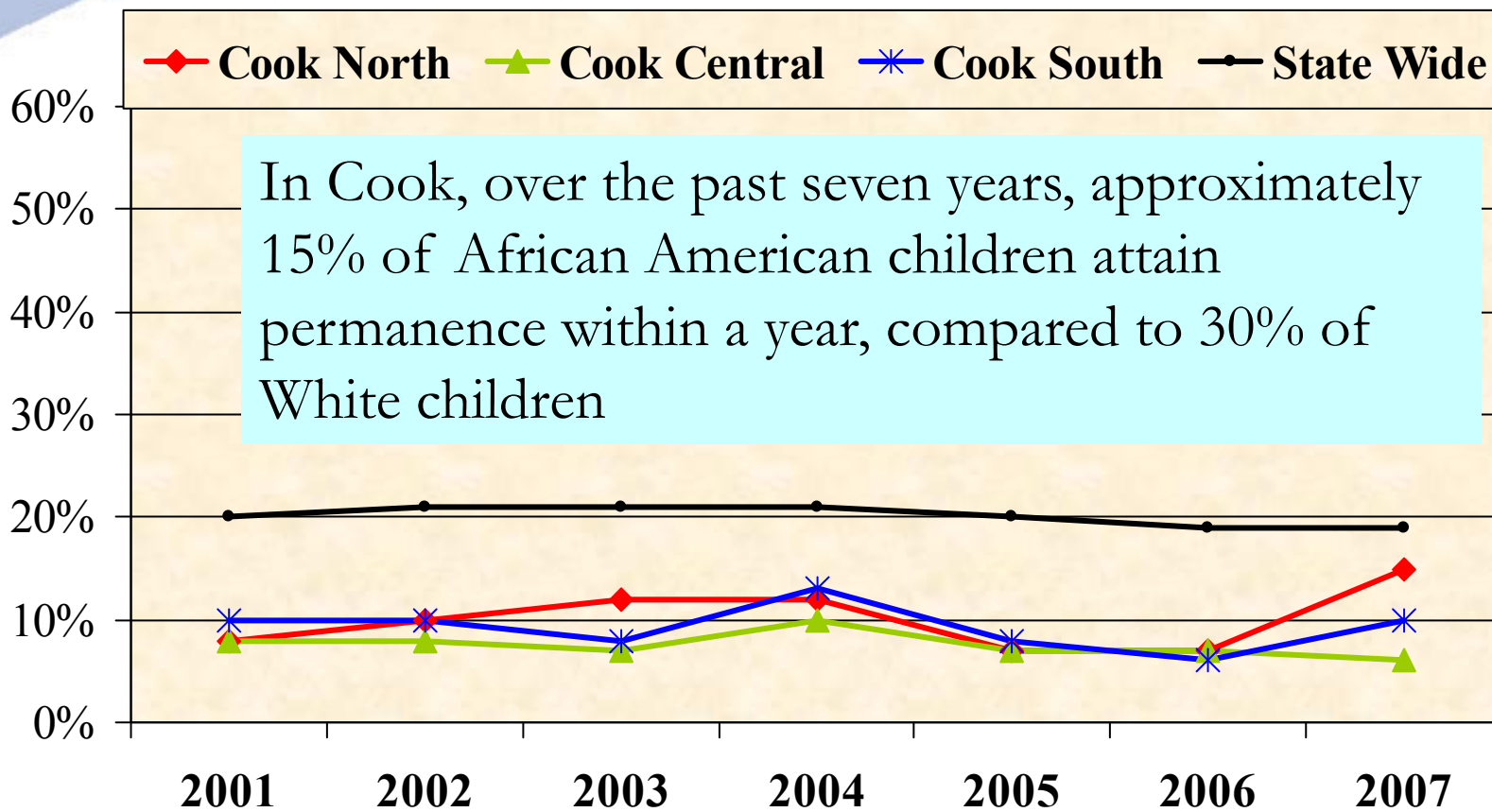


■ African American ■ Hispanic ■ Other Ethnicity ■ Caucasian

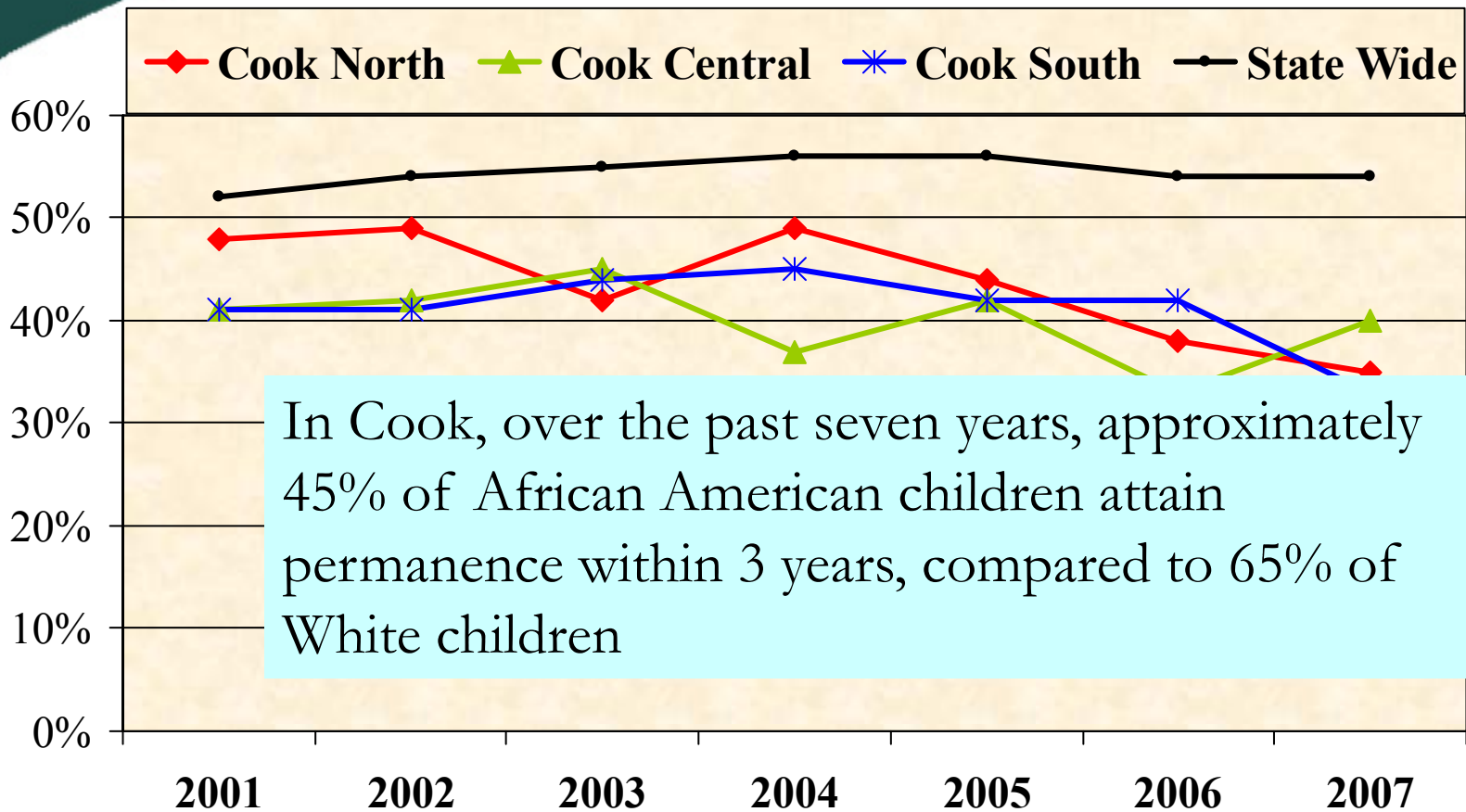
# Children in Substitute Care



# Permanence by 12 Months

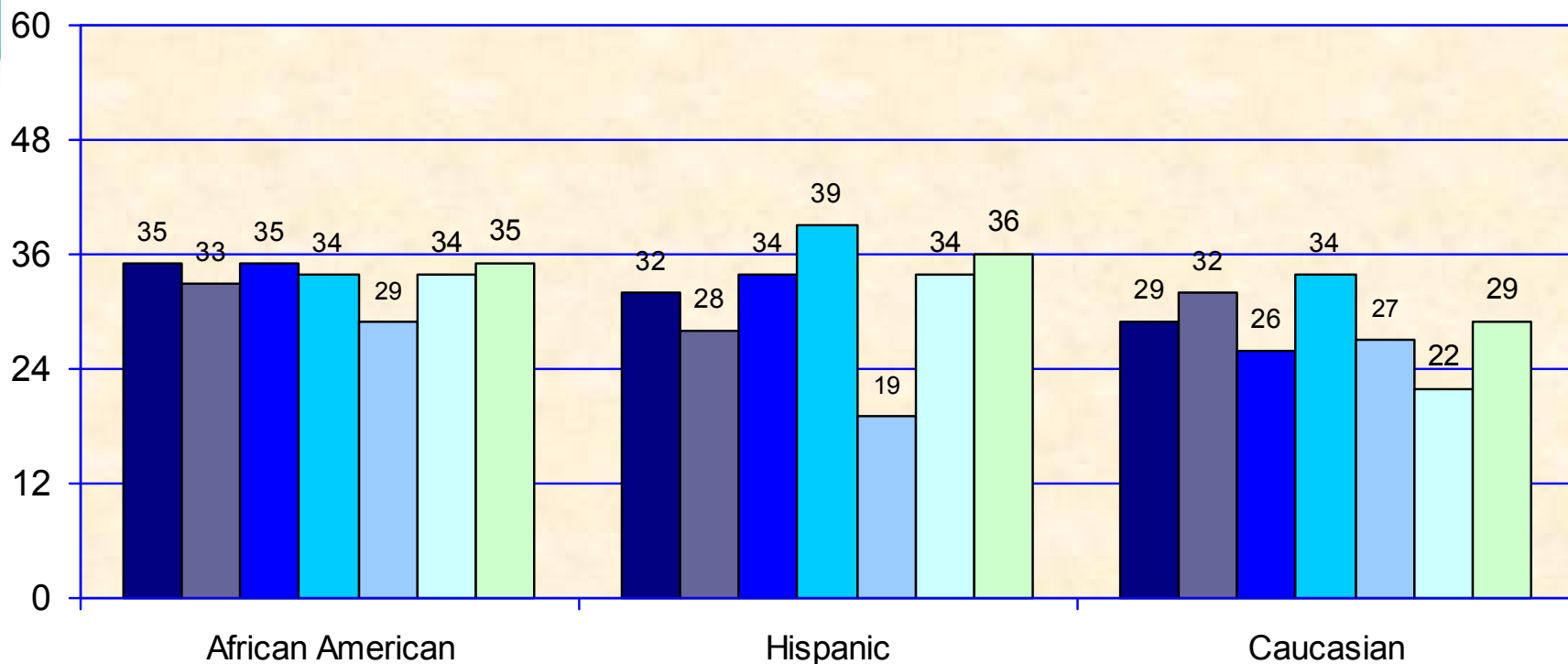


# Permanence by 36 Months



In Cook, over the past seven years, approximately 45% of African American children attain permanence within 3 years, compared to 65% of White children

# Median Length of Stay (Months)



Cook County: 1999 - 2005



# Regional Breakouts



Data is provided for each of the three Cook Regions, and is broken down within each region.

## **Cook North**

- Skokie Site
- Bradley Site
- 1911 Indiana Site

## **Cook South**

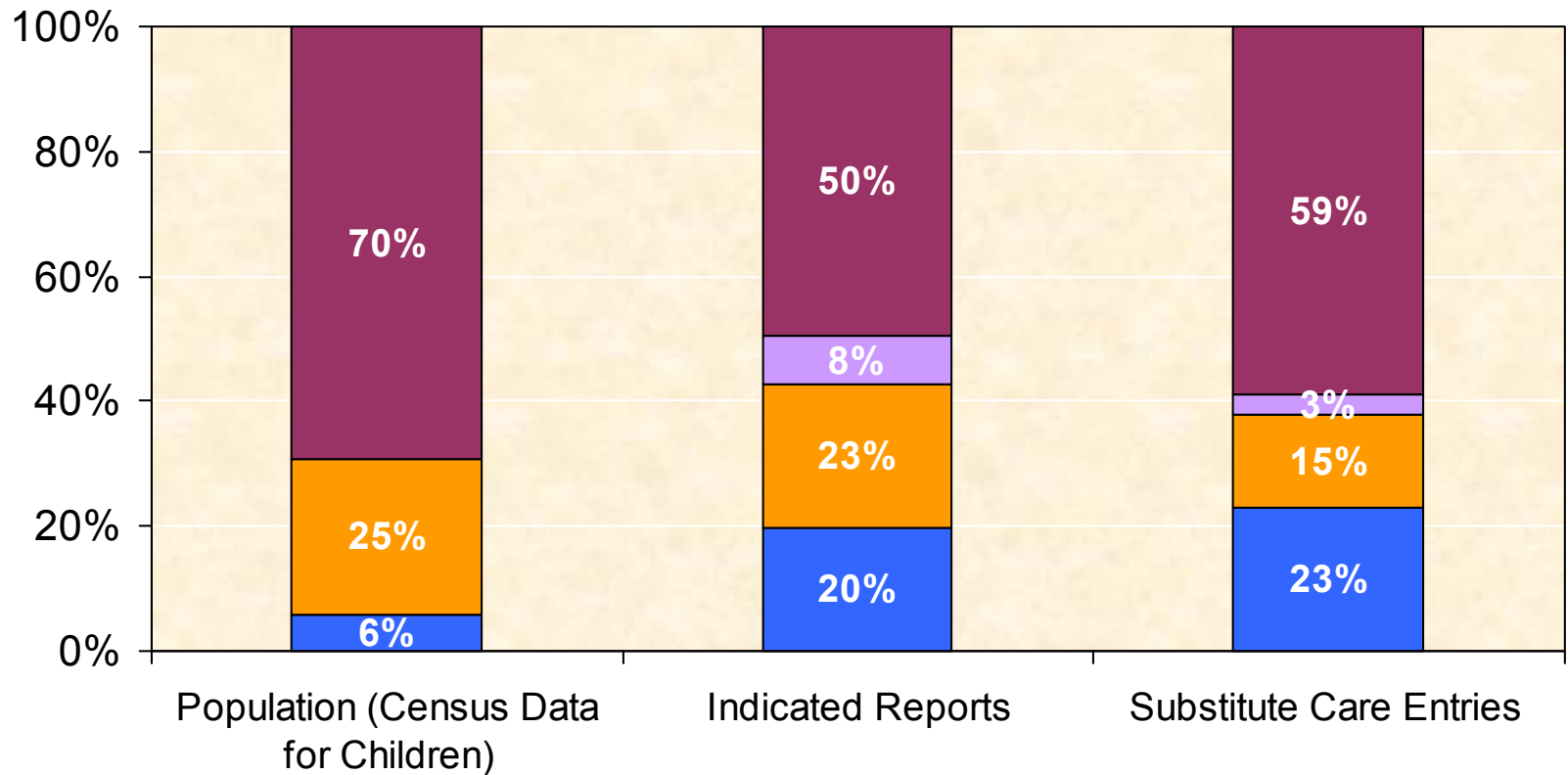
- Suburban LANS 53 & 56 (Harvey & Tinley Park)
- City LANS 82, 86, & 87 (Emerald & Harvey)
- City LANS 77, 79, 84, & 85 (Emerald)

## **Cook Central**

- 3518 Site
- 4909 Site
- Maywood Site



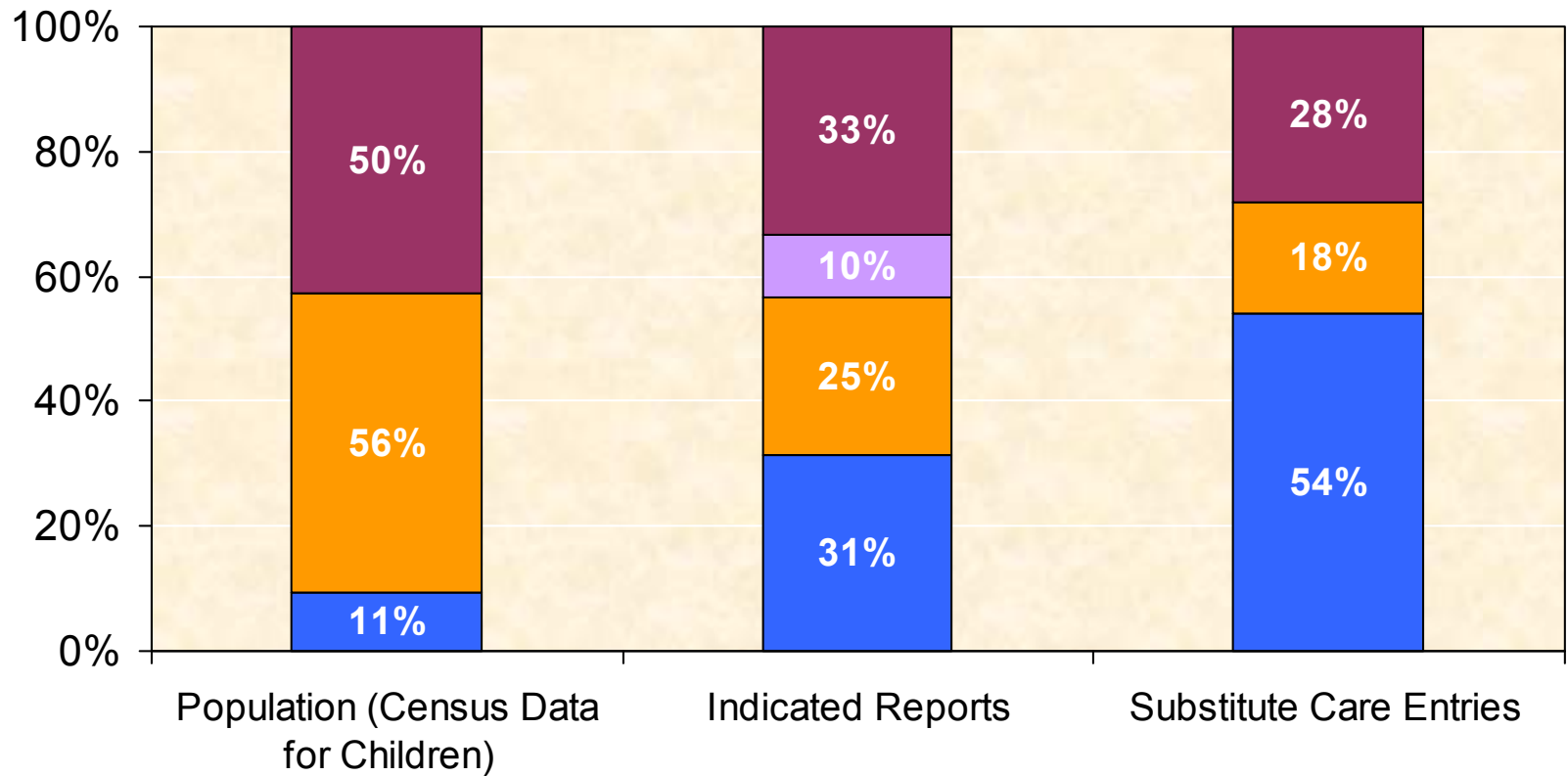
# Child Welfare System SFY 2007 Data Skokie



■ African American ■ Hispanic ■ Other Ethnicity ■ Caucasian

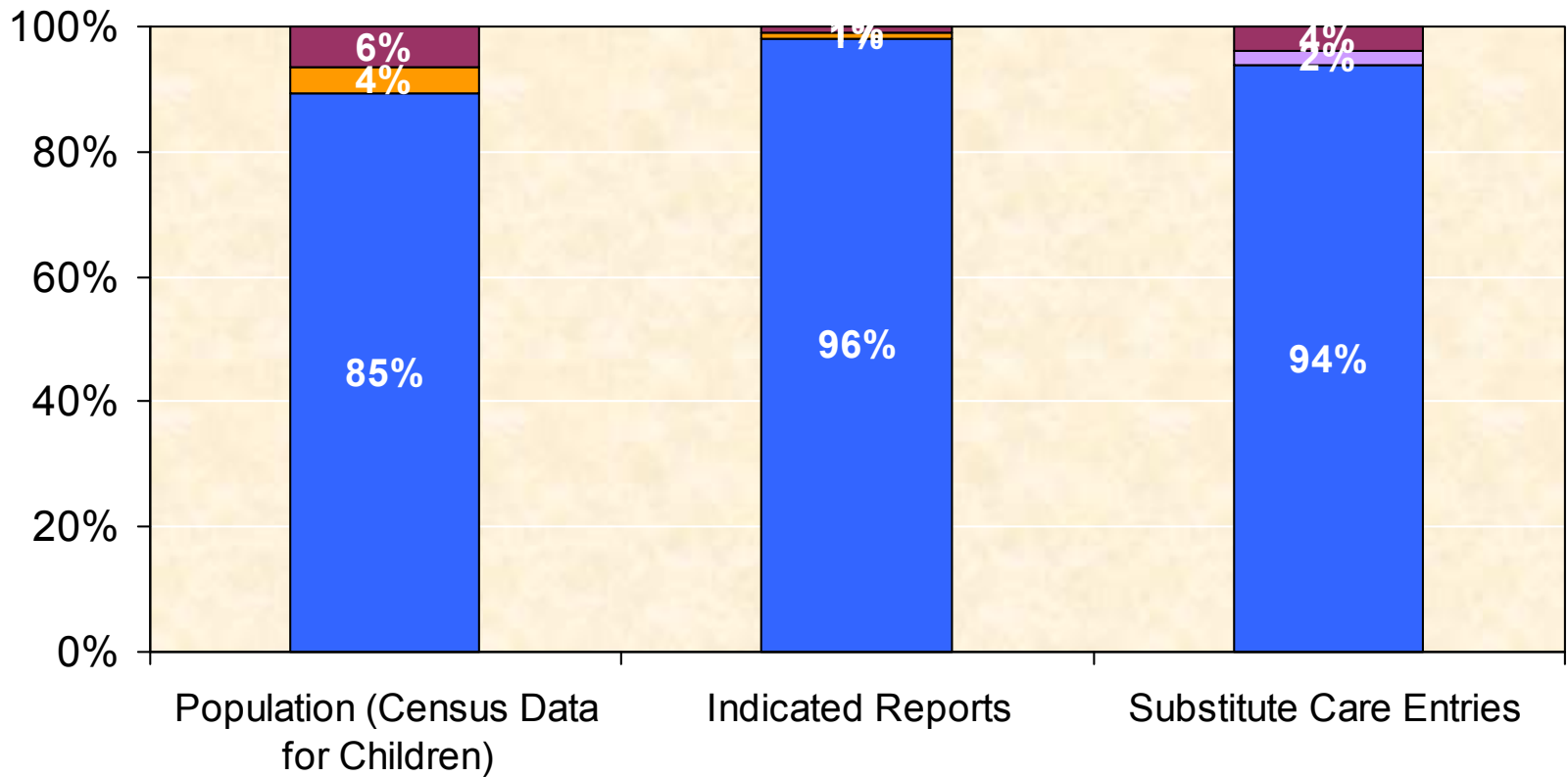


# Child Welfare System SFY 2007 Data Bradley



■ African American ■ Hispanic ■ Other Ethnicity ■ Caucasian

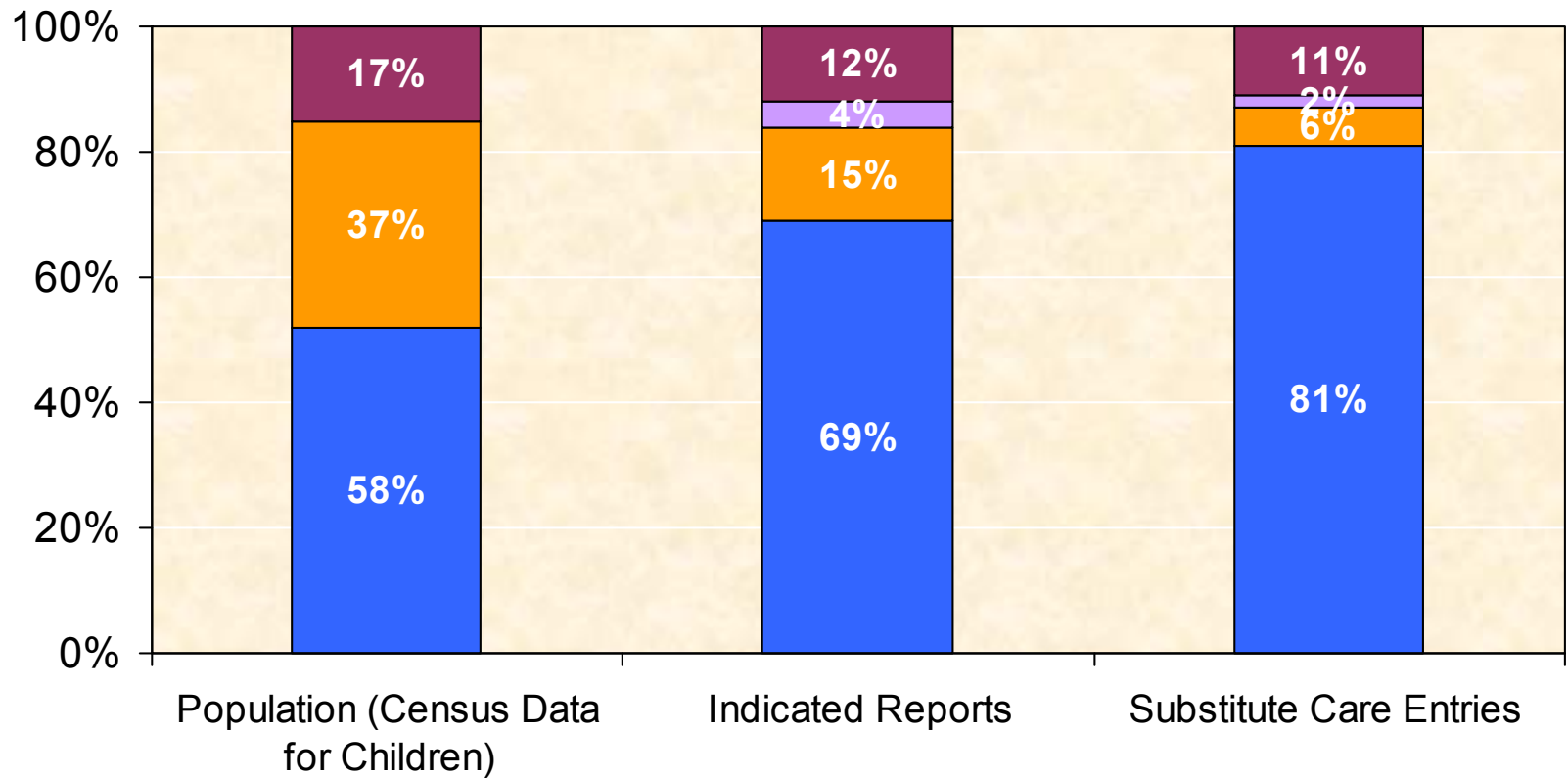
# Child Welfare System SFY 2007 Data Indiana



■ African American ■ Hispanic ■ Other Ethnicity ■ Caucasian

# Child Welfare System SFY 2007 Data

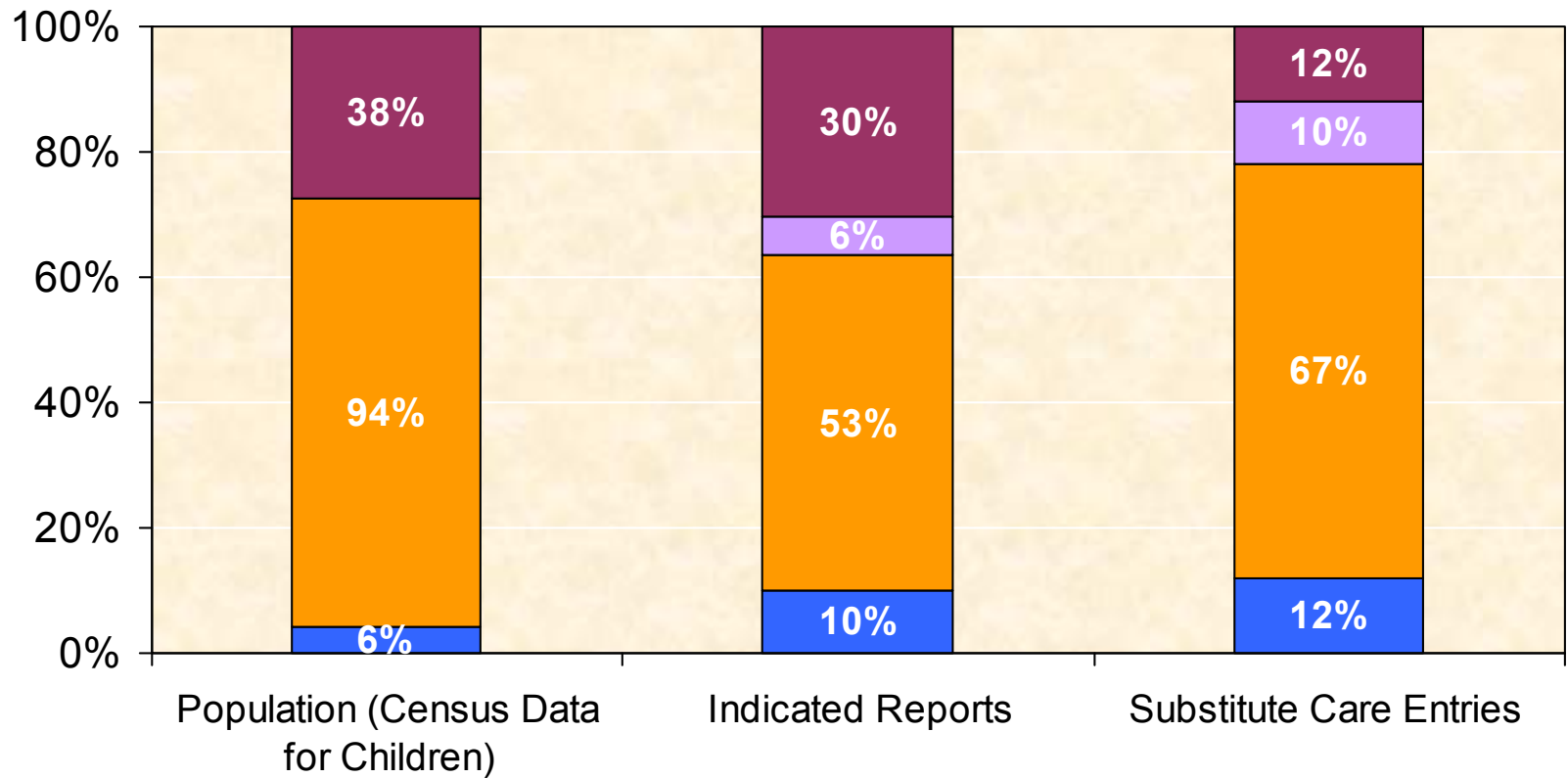
## 3518 Site



■ African American ■ Hispanic ■ Other Ethnicity ■ Caucasian

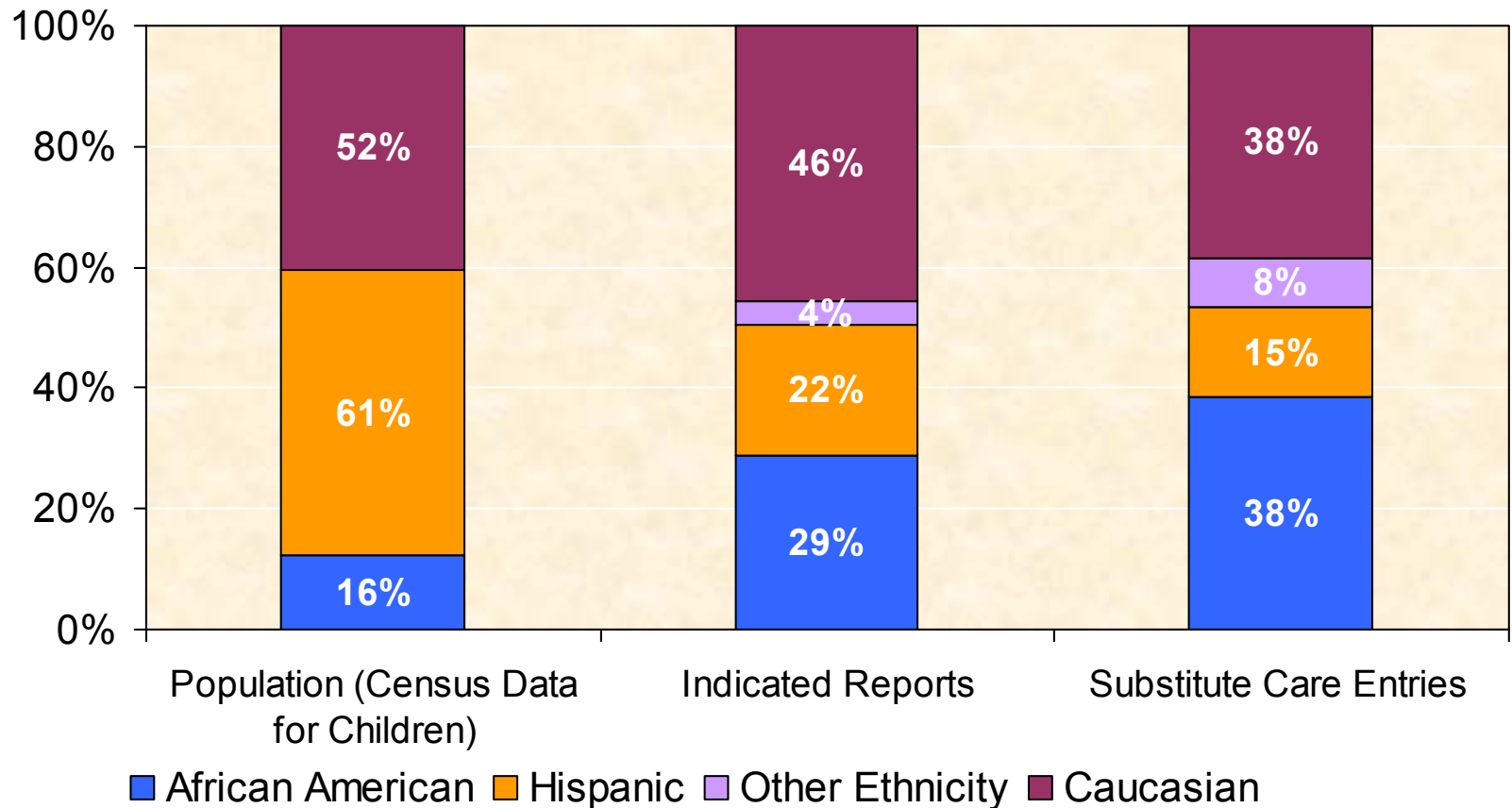
# Child Welfare System SFY 2007 Data

## 4909 Site

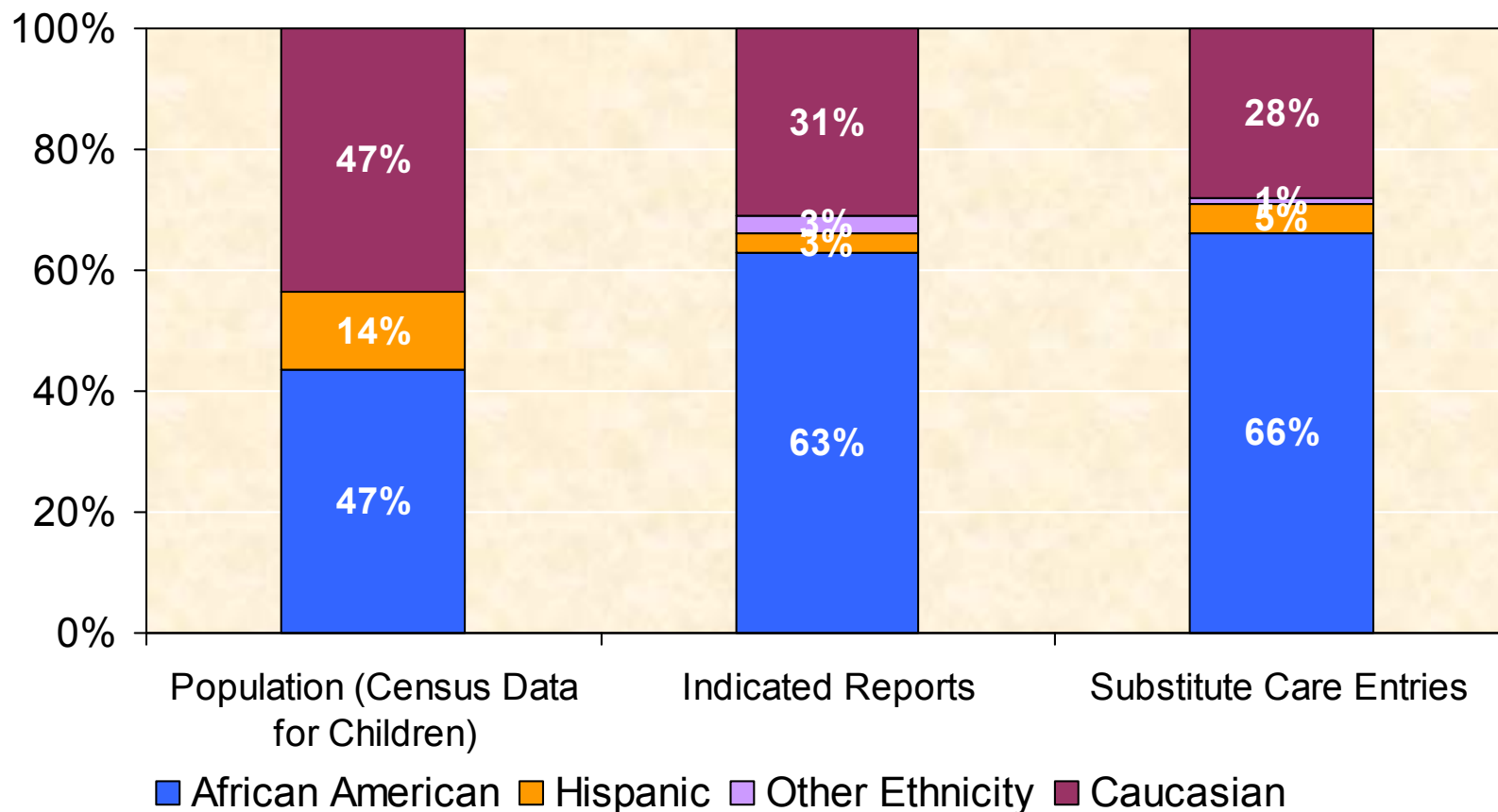


■ African American ■ Hispanic ■ Other Ethnicity ■ Caucasian

# Child Welfare System SFY 2007 Data Maywood



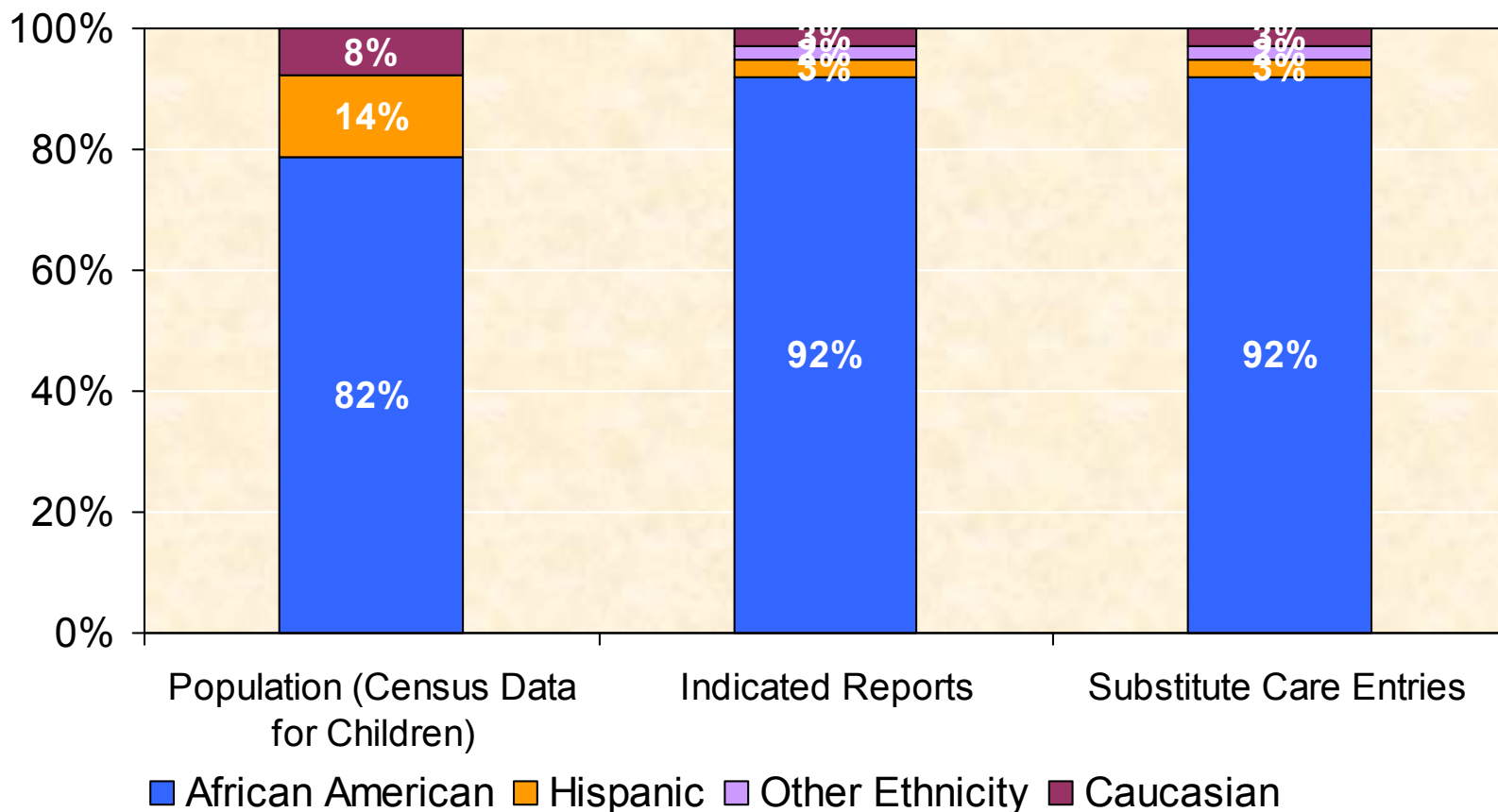
# Child Welfare System SFY 2007 Data Suburban LANS 53 & 56 (Harvey & Tinley Park)



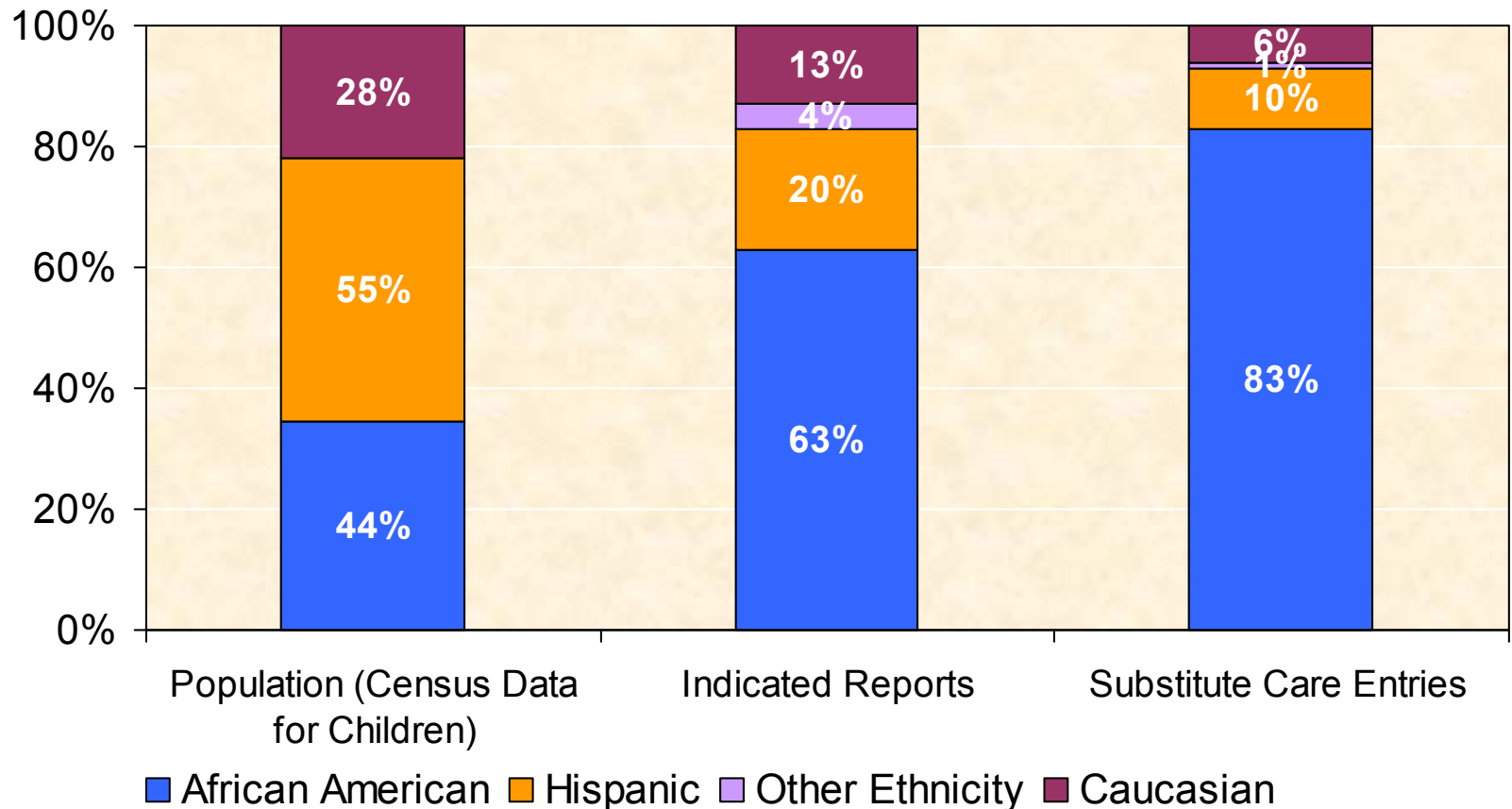




# Child Welfare System SFY 2007 Data City LANS 82, 86, & 87 (Emerald & Harvey)



# Child Welfare System SFY 2007 Data City LANS 77, 79, 84 & 85 (Emerald)





# Summary

In Cook County, African American children make up **32%** of the child population yet they make up:

- o **55%** of the indicated reports
- o **74%** of entries into foster care

At each step into substitute care, disparity increases

In addition, African American children are reunited with their families at half the rate of White children (1 year).

Once in care, African American children stay longer than other children

# Conclusion

National research shows that White families are just as likely to abuse their children as African American families but are far less likely to be reported to child welfare departments.

Research in Illinois shows that the biggest disparity exists at the point of reporting maltreatment, and is amplified at each subsequent point of contact with the child welfare system.

Research in Illinois also tells us that African American children are less likely to attain permanence, and that this disparity is greater in Cook than in the other regions of the state. This is particularly true for reunification.



# Additional Data Available

## Children & Family Research Center

<http://cfrcwww.social.uiuc.edu>

Click on 'PRACTICE RESOURCES'

Click on 'Outcome Monitoring Data'

View data by LAN, Chicago Community Area,  
County or DCFS Region (all broken out by race,  
age and gender)