

The State of New York's Children



Welcome!
The webinar will begin at 9:32.

A Data Briefing
January 11, 2022

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#StateofNYKids

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Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy



What all New York children need to thrive

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- Strong and economically stable families
- Healthy bodies and minds
- Safe homes and communities
- A sound education



The pandemic has taken a heavy toll on New York children

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- 7,175 New York children had lost a parent or caregiver to COVID-19 (as of June 2021).
- Food insecurity remains high; in an early December Census Pulse Survey, 13.1% (nearly 1.7 million) of New York adults reported there was "sometimes" or "often" not enough to eat in their household in the last 7 days.
- The US Surgeon General and the American Academy of Pediatrics sounded the alarm last month about an escalating mental health crisis facing the nation's youth.



Government interventions cast families a lifeline

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- Pandemic relief programs softened the economic blow of the pandemic – so much so the Supplemental Poverty Measure rate declined from 11.4% in 2019 to 9.1% in 2020.
 - Two stimulus payments
 - SNAP benefits increased by 15%
 - Enhanced, monthly Child Tax Credit (2021)
- Enrollment in Medicaid increased, with small increases in child coverage and larger increases among adults; no consumers have been disenrolled during the public health emergency.

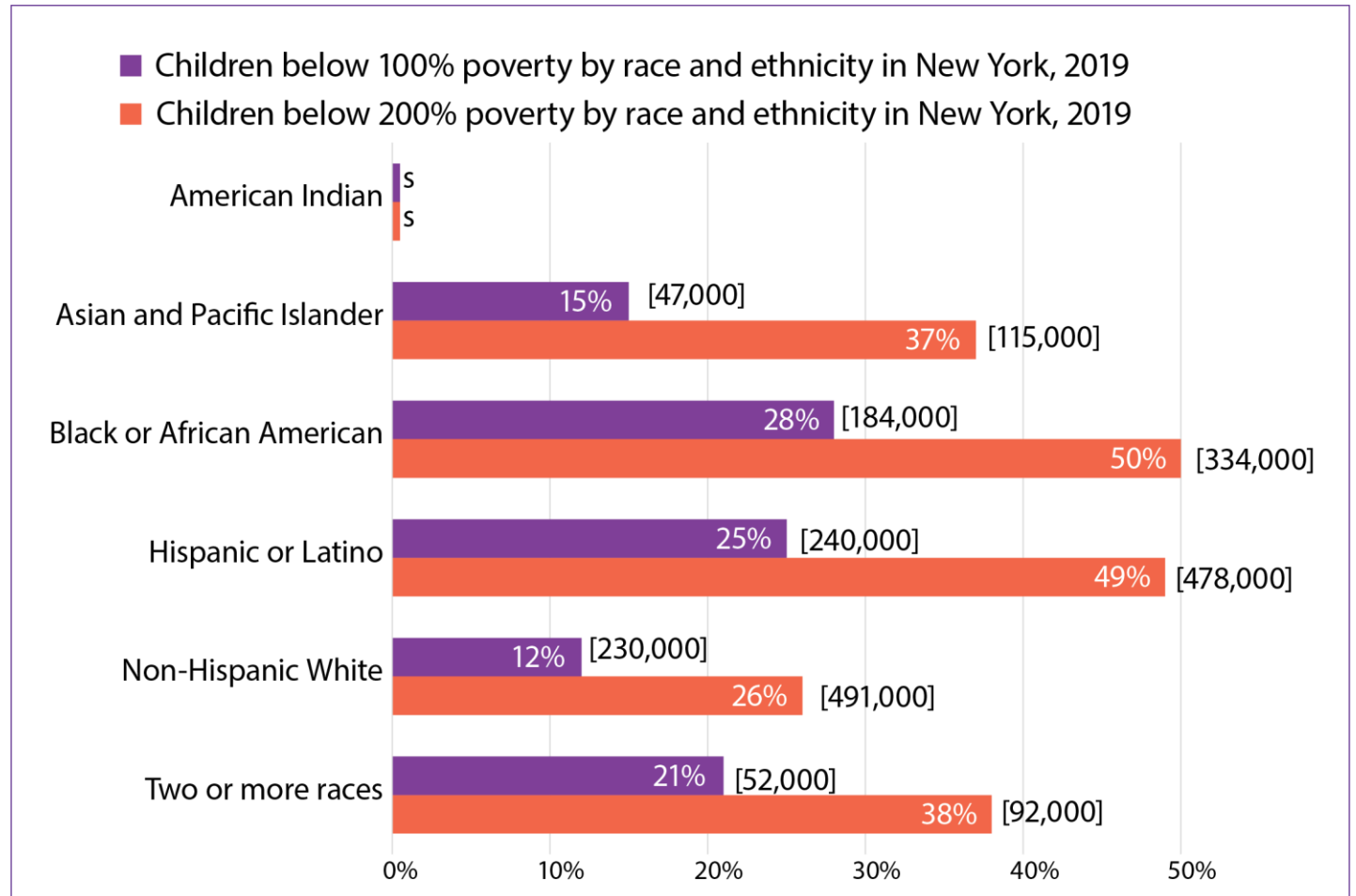


Child Poverty

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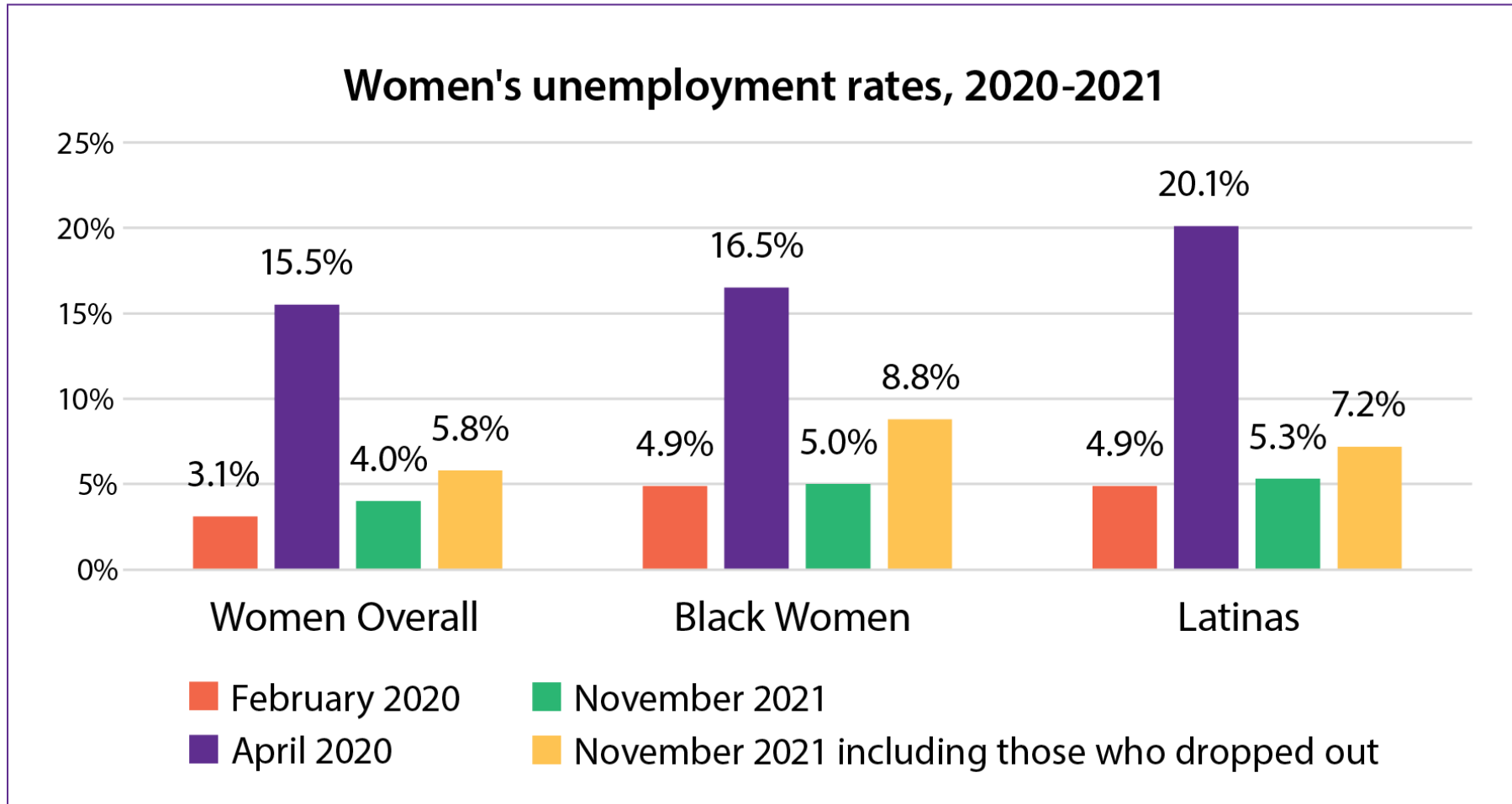
Many families entered the pandemic without economic reserves.

- Pre-pandemic, 18% of NYS children lived in poverty
- 37% lived in near poverty
- Racial disparities were severe





Women's pandemic unemployment may mean long-term economic insecurity for many families

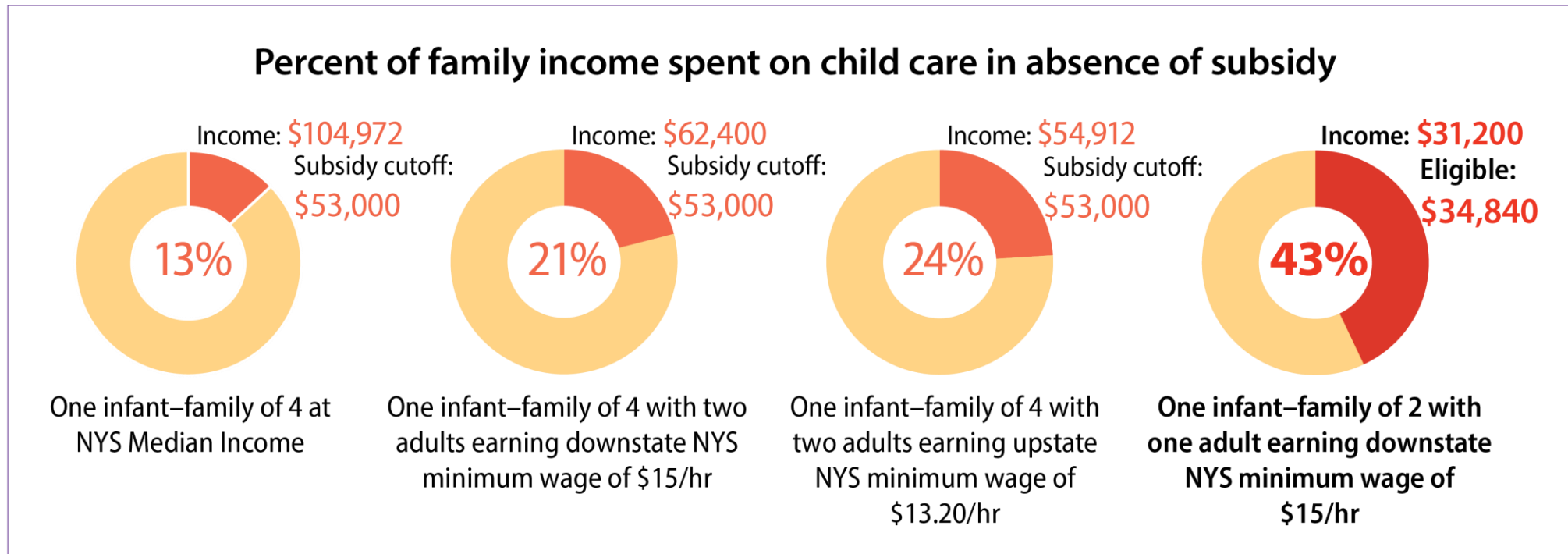




Early Childhood Care and Well Being

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To be affordable under federal guidance, child care costs should not exceed 7% of income.





Child Poverty and Early Childhood Care and Well Being





Child Welfare

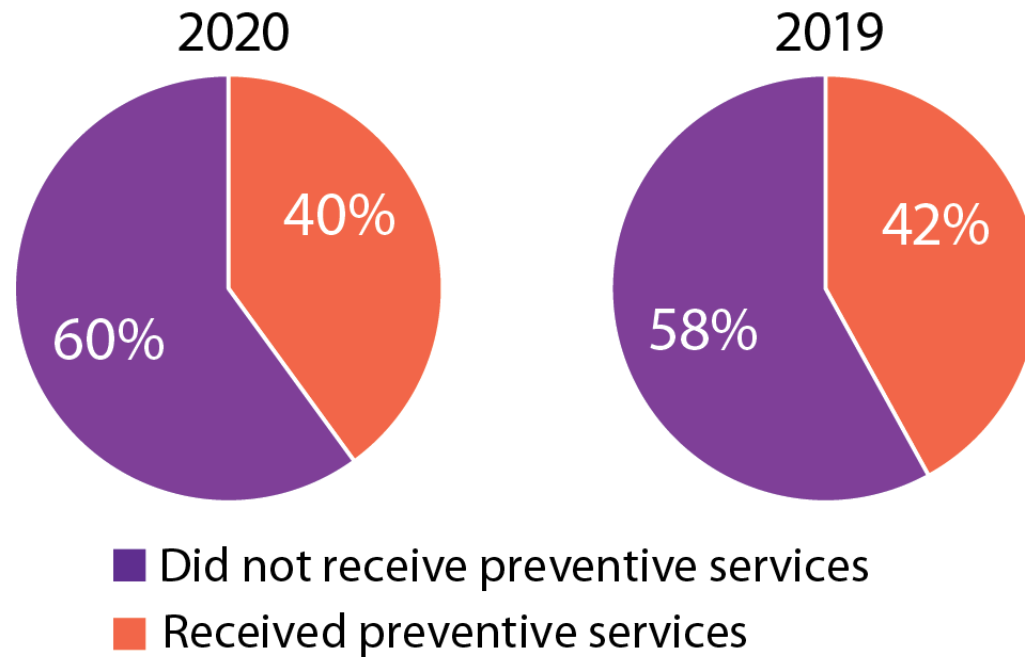
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New York's children and youth thrive when all families, caregivers, and communities are well-supported.



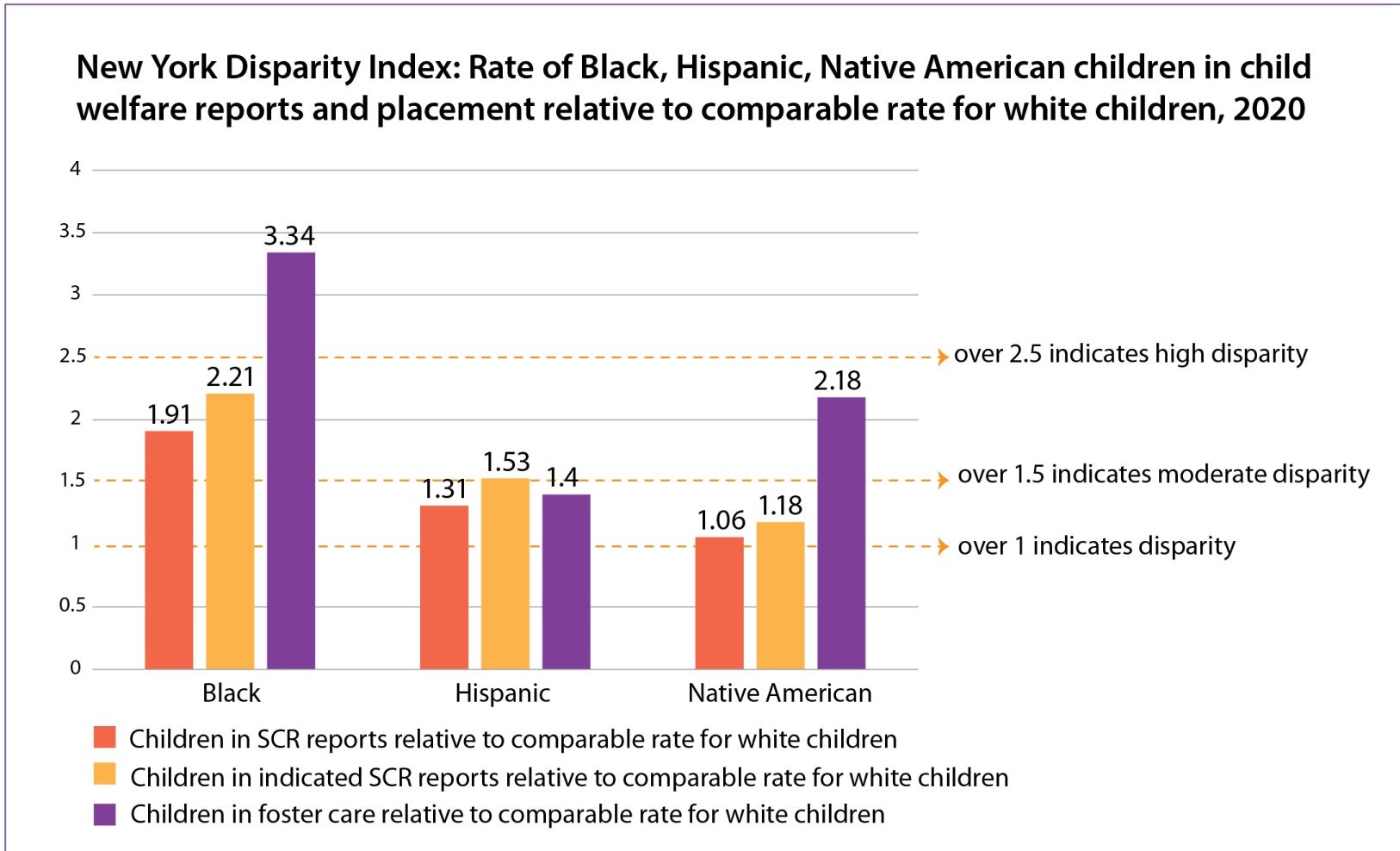
Many families are not provided preventive services before children enter foster care

Preventive services status for children at time of admission to foster care





The Disparity Index for Black children in foster care improved in 2020 compared to 2019

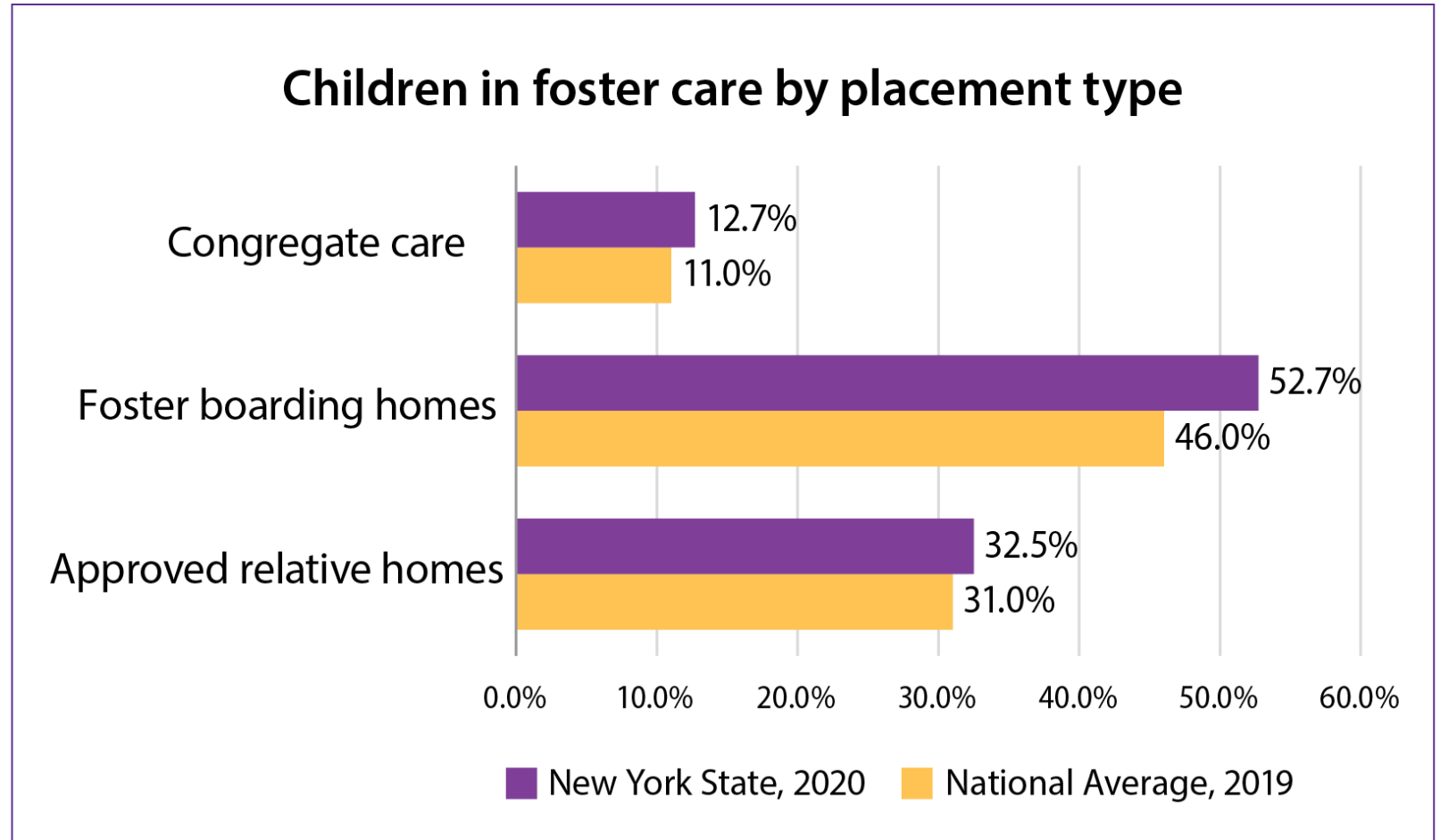




Foster care placements are moving in the right direction

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- In 2020, New York finally surpassed the national average in percentage of approved relative home placements.
- Congregate care placements, while lower than 2019, were still higher than the national average.





The pandemic hit transition-age and former foster youth hard

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Respondents in a 2021 survey reported experiencing:

- Challenges that caused them to fall behind or abandon their education
- Unmet medical and behavioral health needs
- Unstable and substandard living situations
- Food insecurity
- Underemployment and low wage jobs
- Emotional and physical repercussions of enduring chronic stress.



Child Welfare

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Medicaid Matters

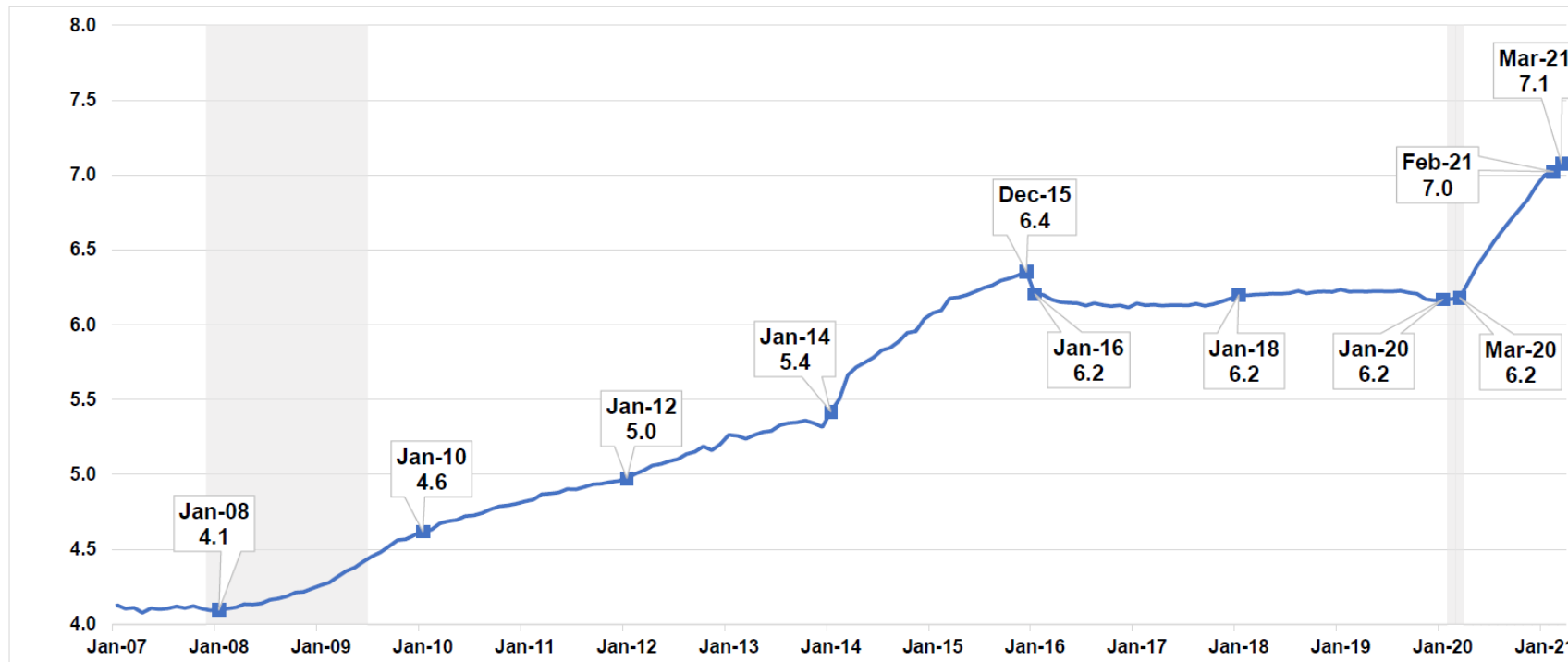
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- There are now over seven million people enrolled in Medicaid in New York.
- As of August 2020, children made up 39% of Medicaid/CHIP enrollment in New York.
- Based on 2018 Census data, 42% of children are covered by Medicaid/CHIP.



Pandemic enrollment tells the story

DOH Medicaid Enrollment, 2007-2021 (in millions)



Source: New York State Department of Health (DOH).

Note: The two areas of light gray shading denote the recessionary periods from December 2007 to June 2009 and from February 2020 to April 2020, as identified by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).



Removing barriers matters

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Governor Hochul is proposing to eliminate the \$9 monthly Child Health Plus premium for some families with low income.

In 2019, almost 70,000 children lost their Child Health Plus coverage due to failure to pay the monthly premium.



Strong Medicaid policy is part of the solution

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Health: Complete state of physical, mental and social-emotional well-being. Not just the absence of disease or infirmity.



Disruption in services

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- Reduced economic security
- Reduced access to school/community services and supports
- Missed routine primary and preventive care
- Increased need for behavioral health, child development



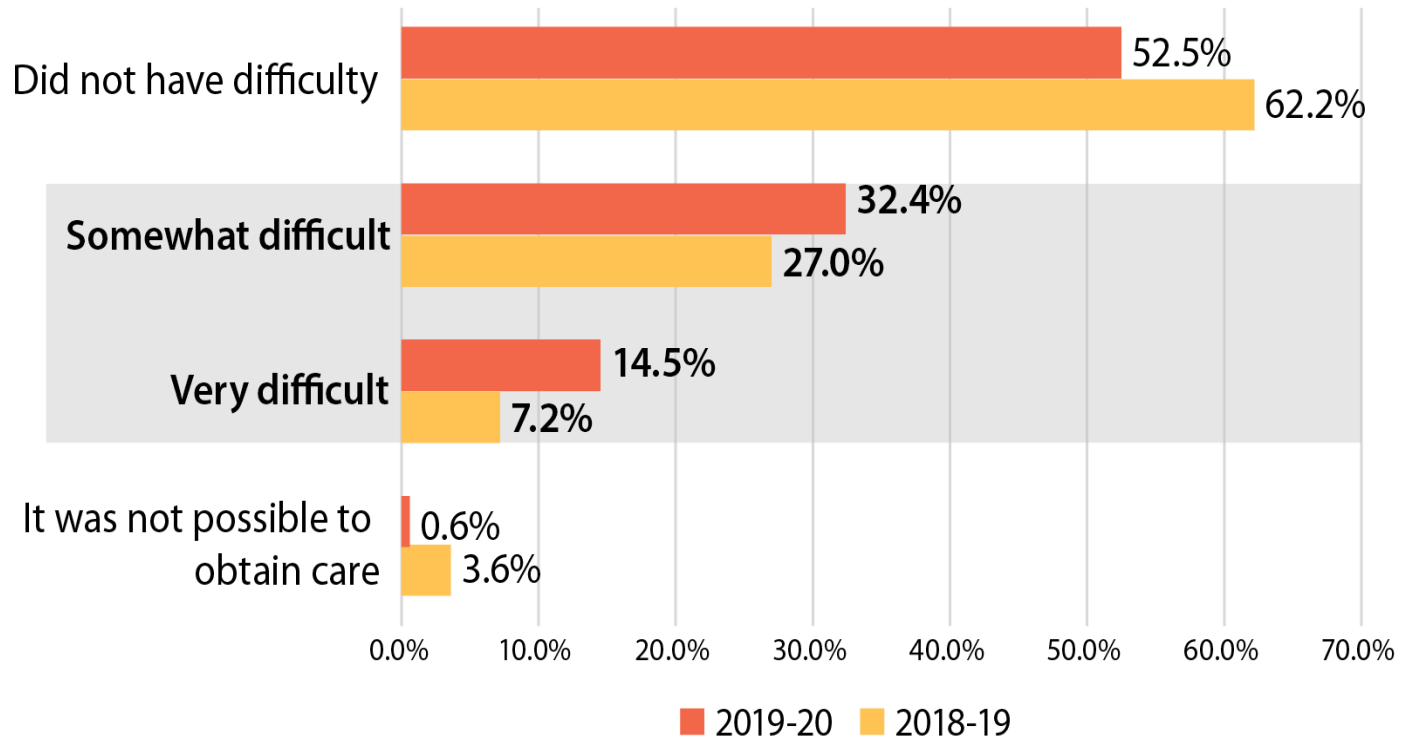
Difficulties obtaining mental health care

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Mental health is an essential part of overall health.

- Almost half of children seeking mental health care had difficulty obtaining services (2019-2020)
- Increase from just over one third (2018-2019)

Difficulties obtaining mental health care, age 3-17 years, New York, 2019-2020





Parental Mental Health

Indicator	Non-Hispanic			Hispanic
	Black	White	Other	
Percentage of pregnant women who were asked by a health care worker if they were feeling down or depressed, 2018	84.4%	65.2%	64.5%	85.8%
Percentage of women who experienced depressive symptoms after giving birth, 2018	17.5%	11.5%	19.6%	9.8%



Health



Thank You!

Download *The State of New York's Children Data Book 2022* at:
<https://scaany.org/state-of-new-yorks-children-2022/>