

GA CII Race Equity Data 2021



CII Meeting, 2022-03-03

Andy Barclay, FosteringCourtImprovement.org

Christopher Church, Casey.org



Outline

- I. Hypothesis
- II. Background Story on New Orleans
- III. We've been measuring racial impacts wrong for 20 years
- IV. Overview of our Work in NOLA
- V. Considering this Context for CII

A close-up, high-angle shot of a red running track. The track has white lane lines and stylized white and green graphics, possibly representing a logo or decorative element. The texture of the track is visible.

Our Starting Line:

Judge Gray is the most effective
anti-racist foster care intervention.



Background on New Orleans Our Administrative Data Story

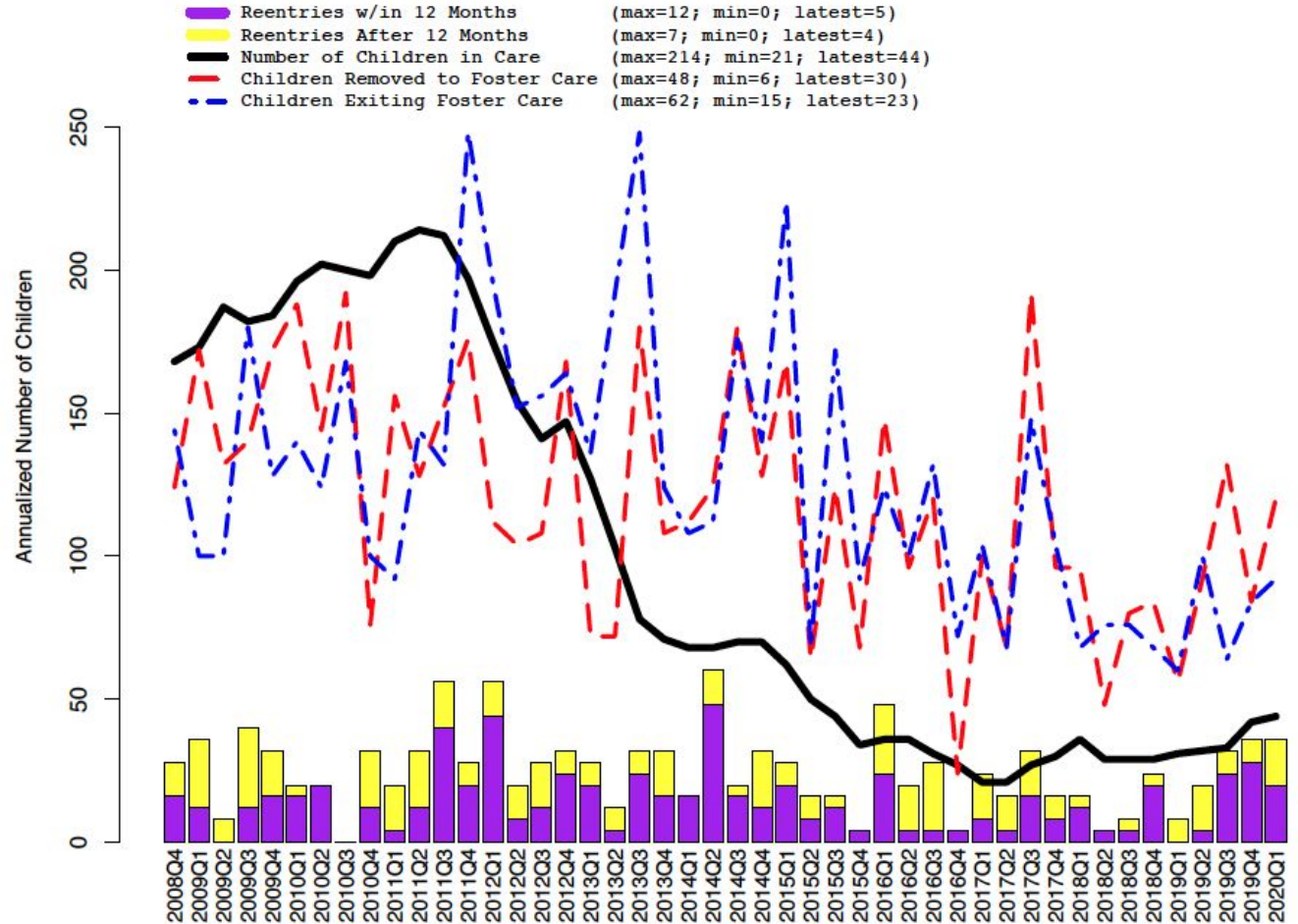
Our Relentless Pursuit
of Outliers:
How did we miss NOLA?





The Hydraulics of our Foster Care System

Orleans Parish: Foster Care Dynamics
October 2008 through March 2020 by Quarter



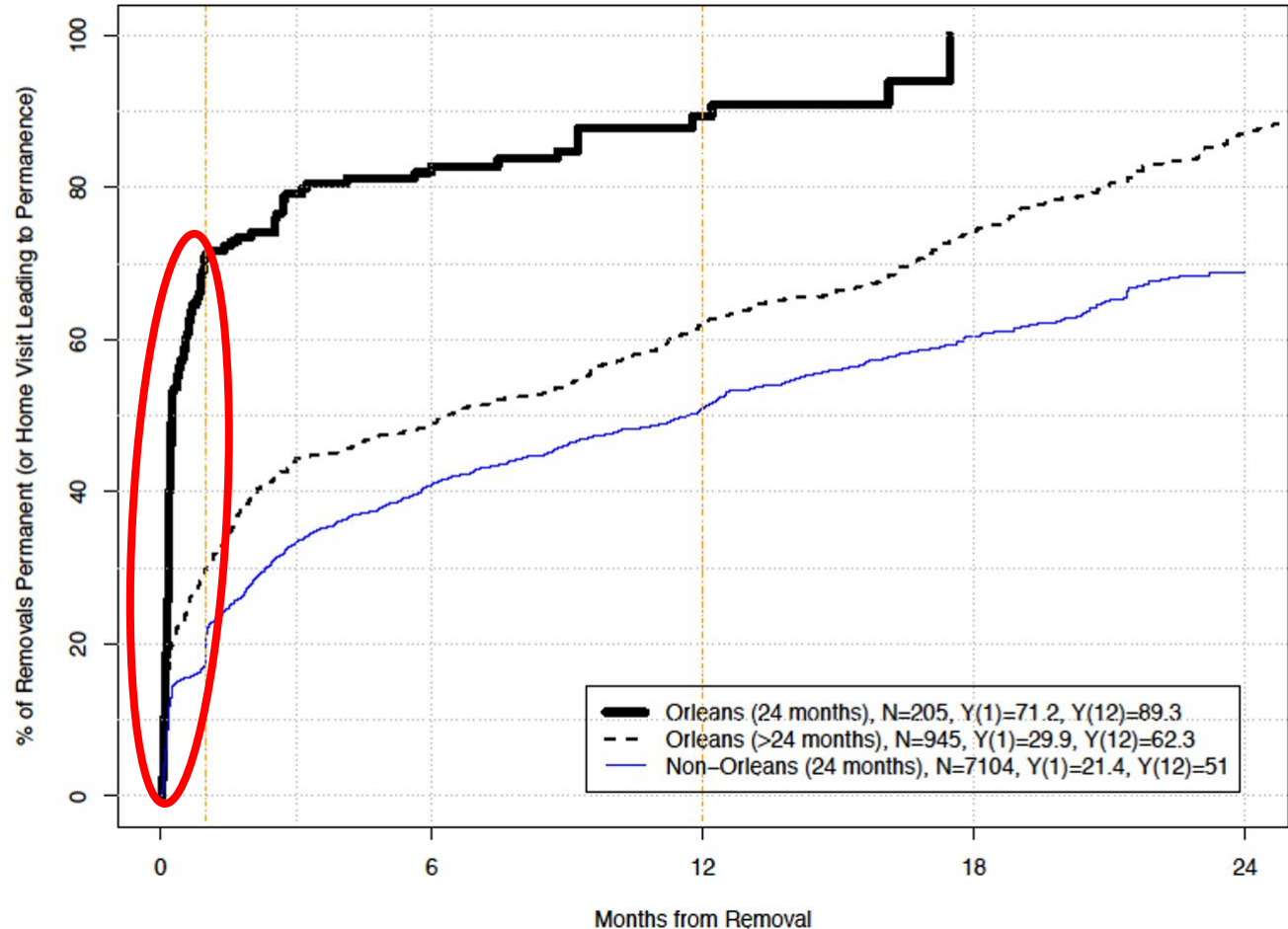
Orleans Parish: Removal Cohort Permanence
Length of Stay, October 2008 through September 2017



The kids that did
enter care:

75% discharged
within a month

82% discharged
within 3 months.





Child Pop

in Care

Per 10K



72,5525

1,153

159



79,994

308

39



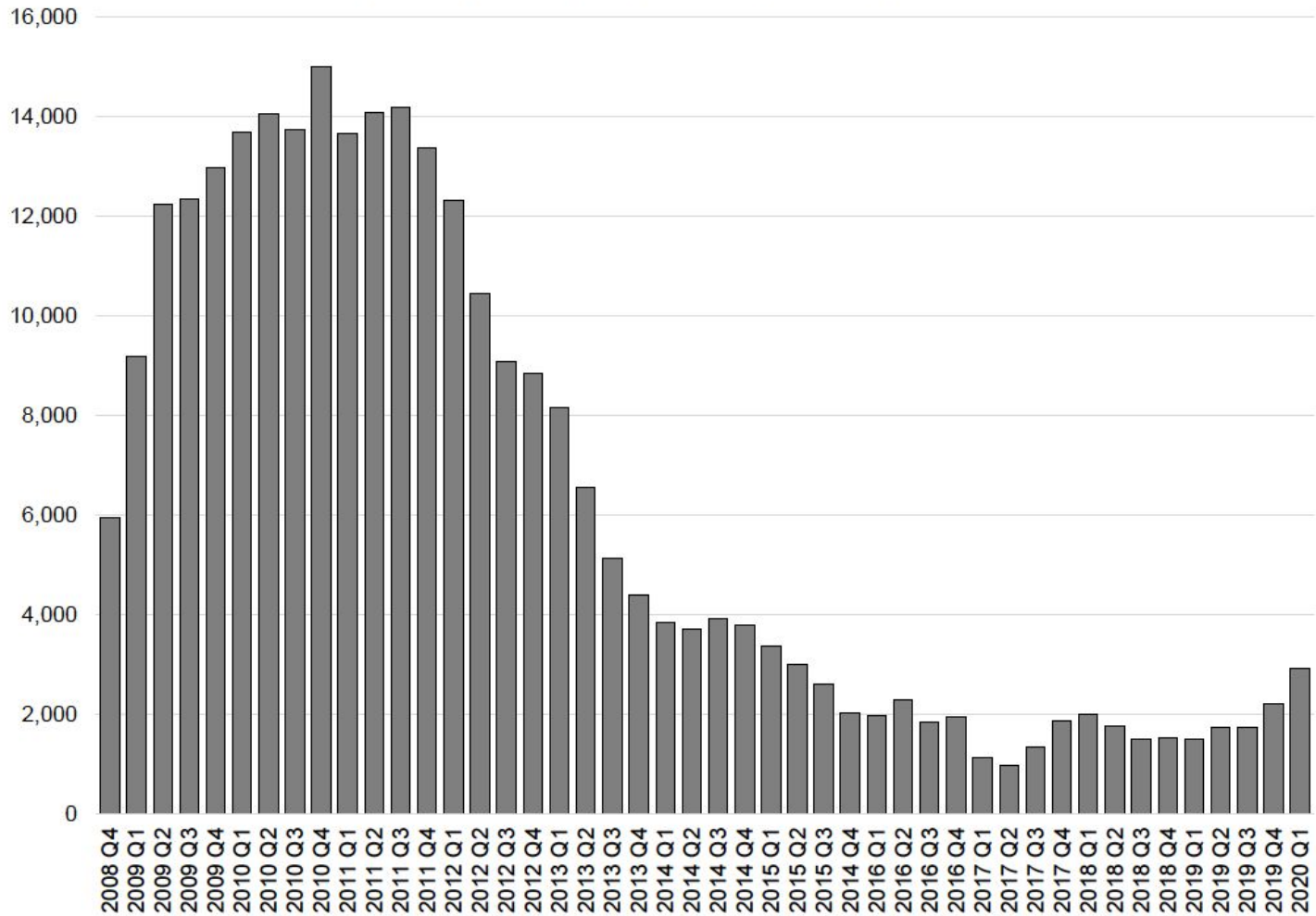
80,323

32

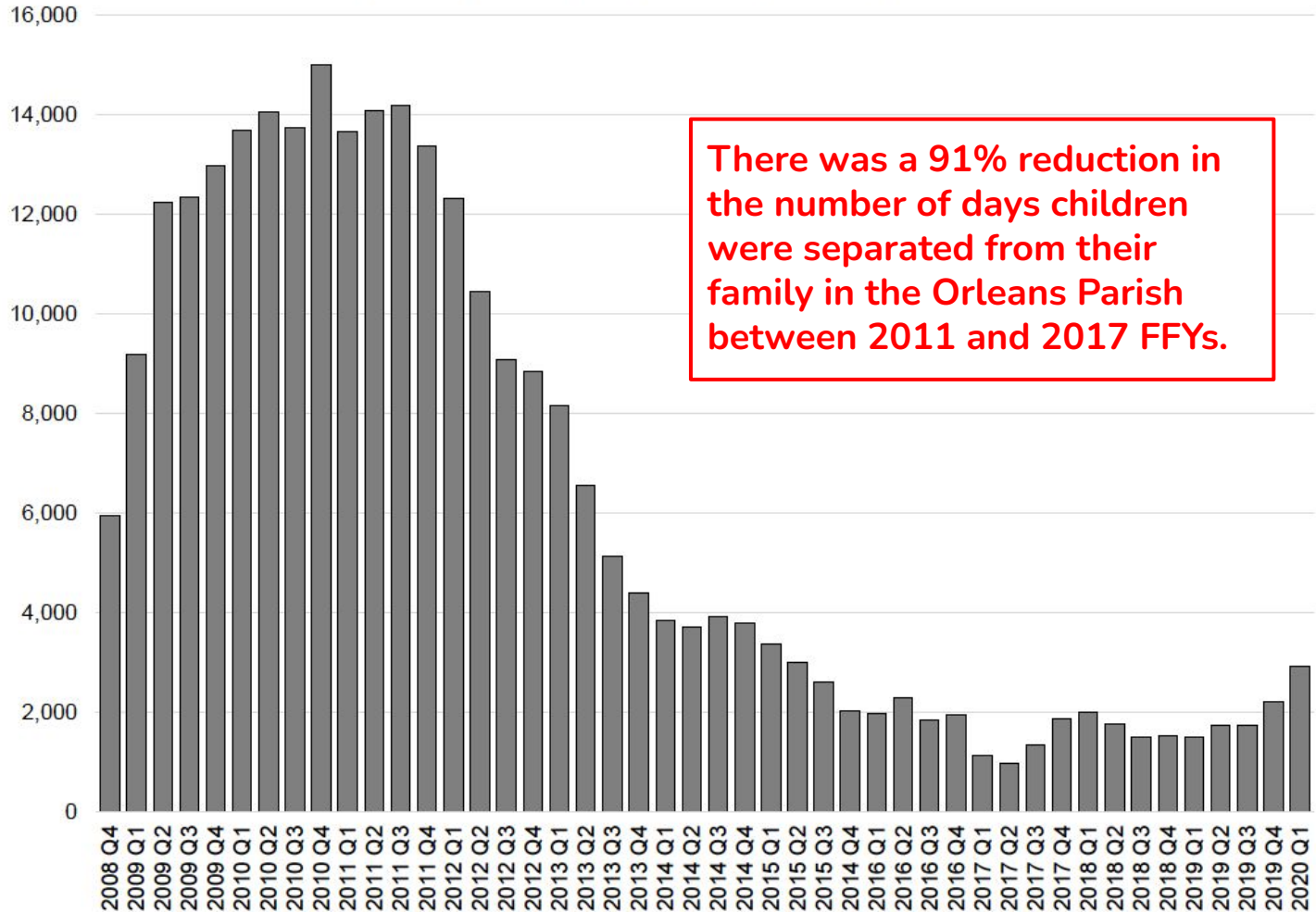
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Orleans Parish - Days Separated from Family, by Quarter

2009 to 2020a FFY, Courtesy of Fostering Court Improvement

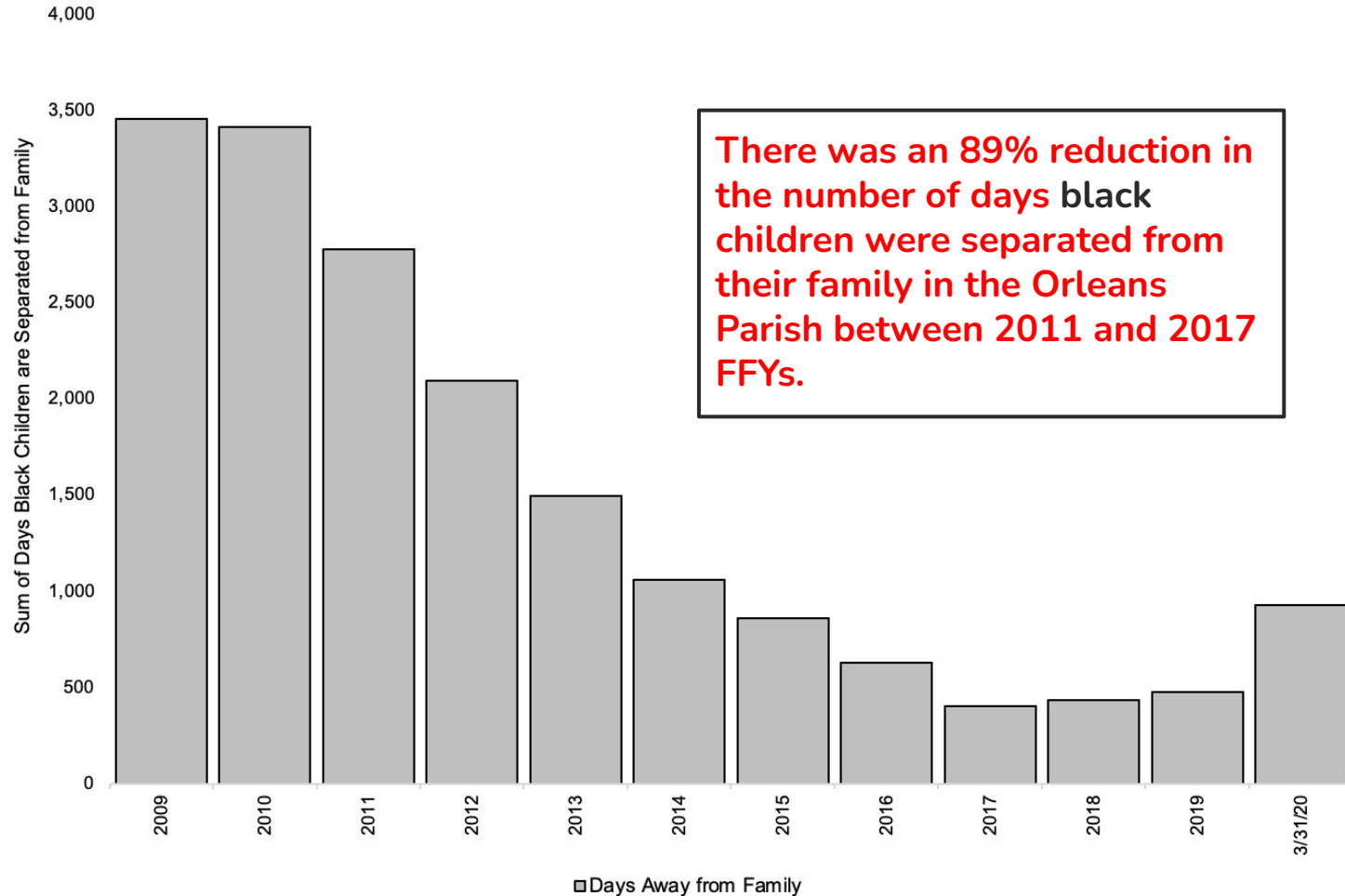


Orleans Parish - Days Separated from Family, by Quarter
2009 to 2020a FFY, Courtesy of Fostering Court Improvement



Orleans Parish Black Children: Days Away from Family v. Racial Disparity Ratio

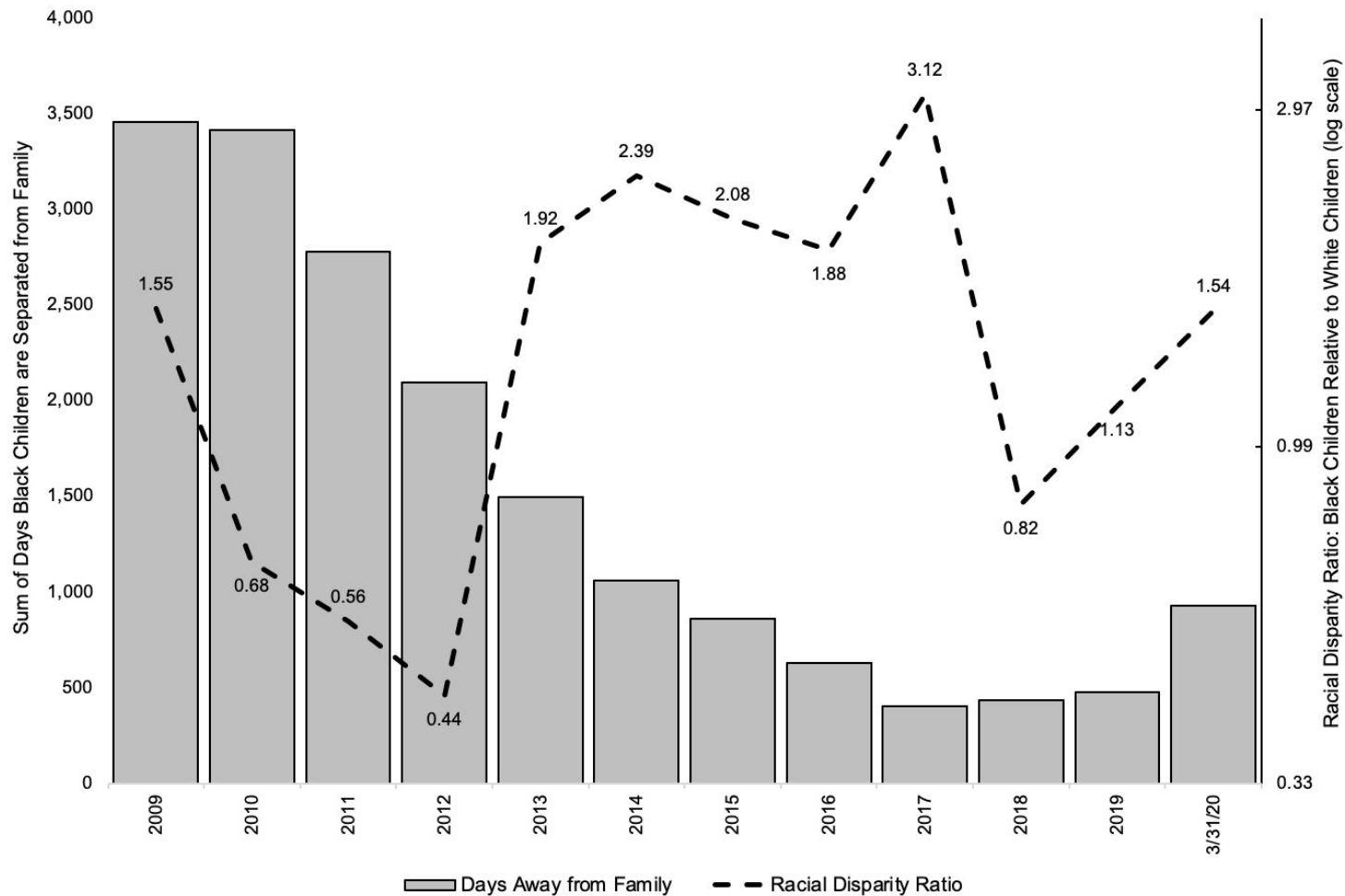
2009 FFY through March 31, 2020, NDACAN AFCARS Foster Care File



Orleans Parish Black Children: Days Away from Family v. Racial Disparity Ratio

2009 FFY through March 31, 2020, NDACAN AFCARS Foster Care File

I think you should use this chart in your “we’ve been measuring this wrong” - it highlights it so well





We've been measuring racial impacts wrong for 20 years.

Definitions from https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubpdfs/racial_disproportionality.pdf :

1. **Disproportionality**: The overrepresentation or underrepresentation of a racial or ethnic group compared with its percentage in the total population.
2. **Disparity**: The unequal outcomes of one racial or ethnic group compared with outcomes for another racial or ethnic group.
3. **Racism**: The systematic discrimination directed against minority or marginalized groups.
4. **Antiracism**: The active process of identifying and challenging racism by changing attitudes, policies and practices, organizational structures, and systems, with the goal of redistributing power in an equitable way.
5. **Cultural humility**: The ability to maintain an openness to learning about other cultures.
6. **Cultural responsiveness**: The ability to adapt one's behavior to the cultural needs of others.
7. **Families/children of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds**: Families or children whose race or ethnicity is other than non-Hispanic, White only (e.g., African American, Hispanic, American Indian or Alaska Native).



We've been measuring racial impacts wrong for 20 years.

1. **Disproportionality:** The overrepresentation or underrepresentation of a racial or ethnic group compared with its percentage in the total population.
 - a. Percentage: per 100, so $p = 100 \times \frac{\text{numerator}}{\text{denominator}}$
which is a ratio. Math quiz: What's p when the denominator is zero?
 - b. Can a denominator be zero anywhere in child welfare practice? How about very small?
 - c. What if the District of Columbia had zero white kids in care for 2 years?



We've been measuring racial impacts wrong for 20 years.

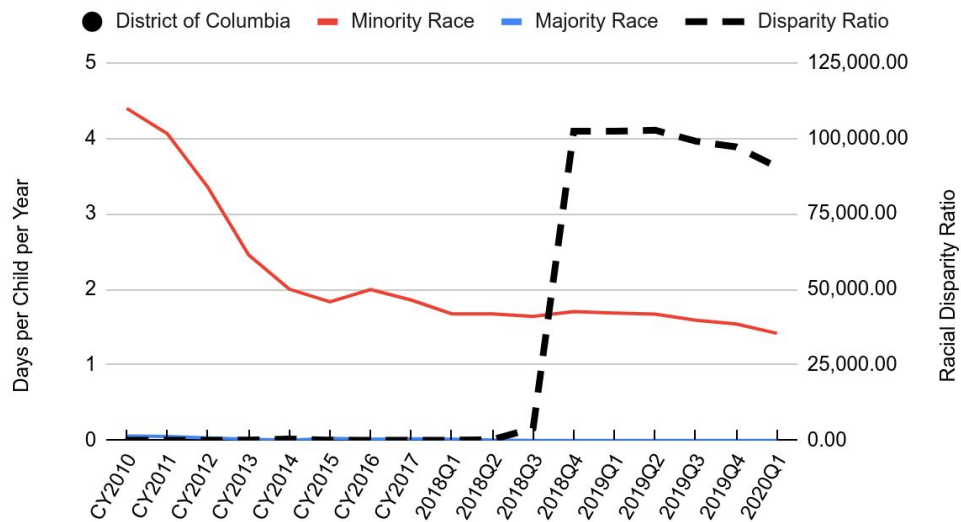
2. **Disparity:** The unequal outcomes of one racial or ethnic group compared with outcomes for another racial or ethnic group.
 - a. Outcome: Not defined here, but anything that happens to a child or family is a good working definition for child welfare. A high caseload is not an outcome. A visit with your parent is an outcome.
 - b. “Compared” is wildly non-specific, lots of ways to compare, but infer that the feds mean to use proportions as above (they do). A day separated from your family is an outcome. The total days all the kids in foster care for a month or a year are separated from their families is an outcome.

We've been measuring racial impacts wrong for 20 years.

So this is an outcome on the left axis and a racial disparity ratio (RDR) on the right axis measures disparity:

- I limited the RDR to 100k, because it's infinite! DC had one White child in foster care for 3 days in July 2018 and none since. Interpretation? Utility?
- Solution: Use the left axis. It's a population-based rate, so:
Days Kids Separated from Family ÷ Number of Kids in the Region.
- Yes, some small regions have zero kids of some races, but the numerator will be zero there too, nobody at risk -- we can handle that. More importantly, we can understand it.

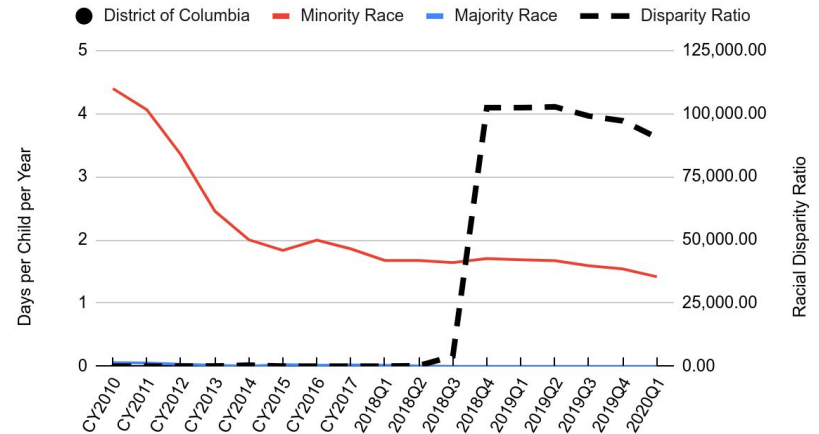
US: Family Separation Days per Child per Year



We've been measuring racial impacts wrong for 20 years.

- Standard: The national rate of children separated from their family has been constant at **~1.2 per child per year for over a decade**. That's all races. Majority (White Non-Hispanic) is 1.0 and **Non-Majority/Minority is 1.4**.
- DC's Non-Majority rate of days separated from families is 1.6, so a little higher than the 1.4 national.
- Please don't use disproportionality or disparity ratios. They kind of work in states with even mixes of races in child welfare and the population, but they go completely haywire when denominators get small. (If you must, use a national proportion in the denominator.)

US: Family Separation Days per Child per Year



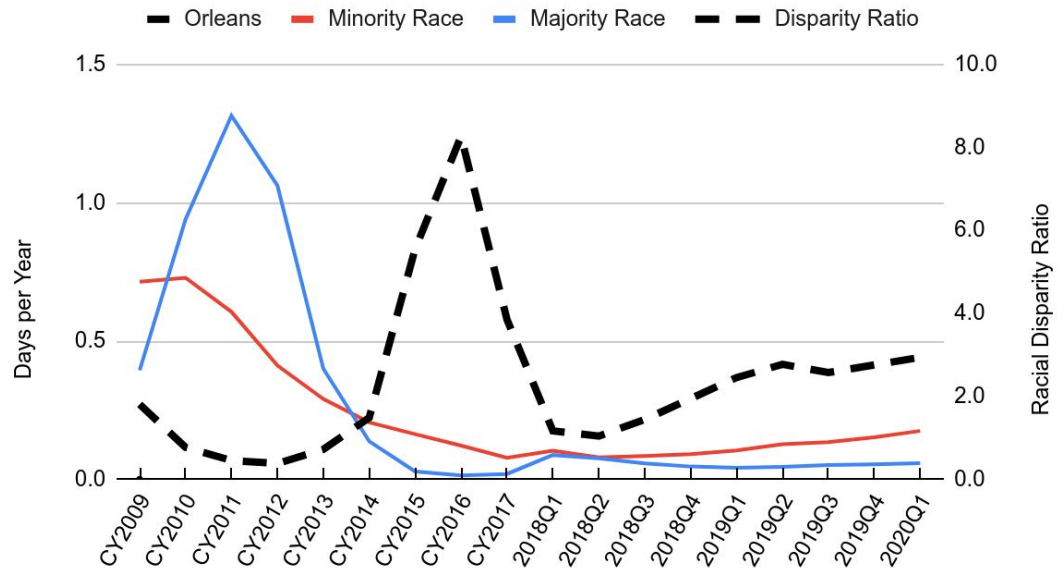
Back to Orleans, Judge Gray ...

Background Story via Data

Orleans Parish:

- All races 0.1 per child per year (US 1.2),
- Majority race 0.05 (US 1.0),
- **Minority race 0.1 (US 1.4)**
- **Don't use ratios (RDR)**

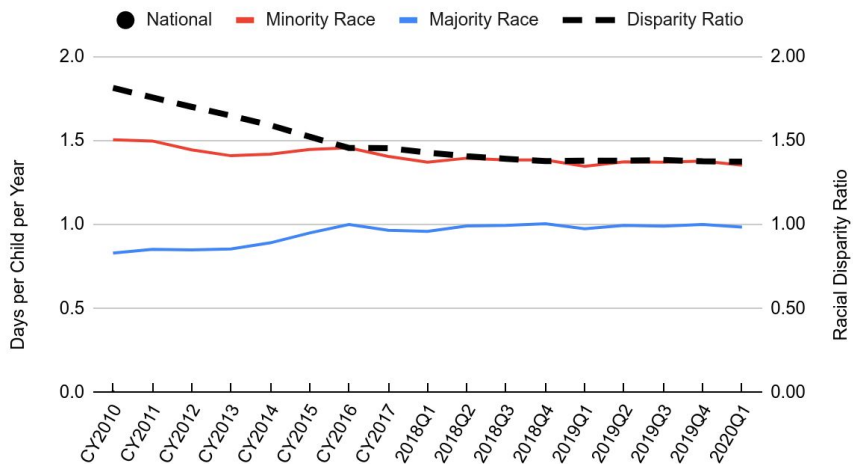
LA: Monthly Family Separation Days per Child per Year



If the whole country had that low separation rate ...

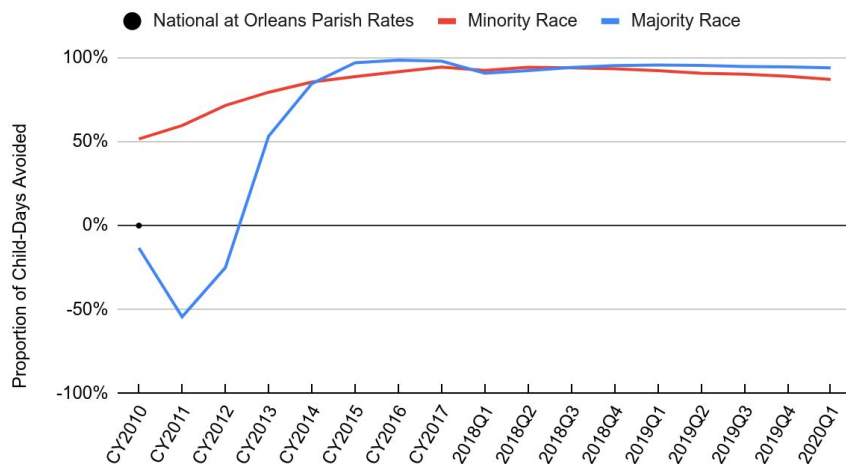
Actual national rate:

Family Separation Days per Child per Year



% of Days Separated that would be avoided:

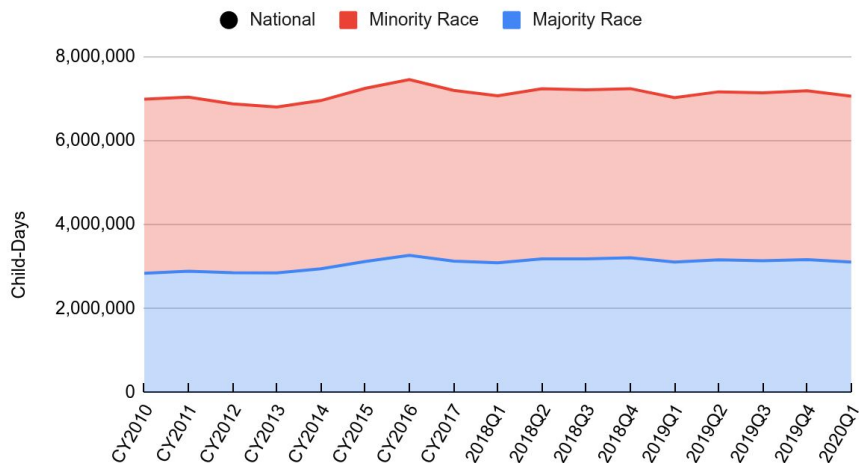
Family Separation Days Avoided



If the whole country had that low separation rate ...

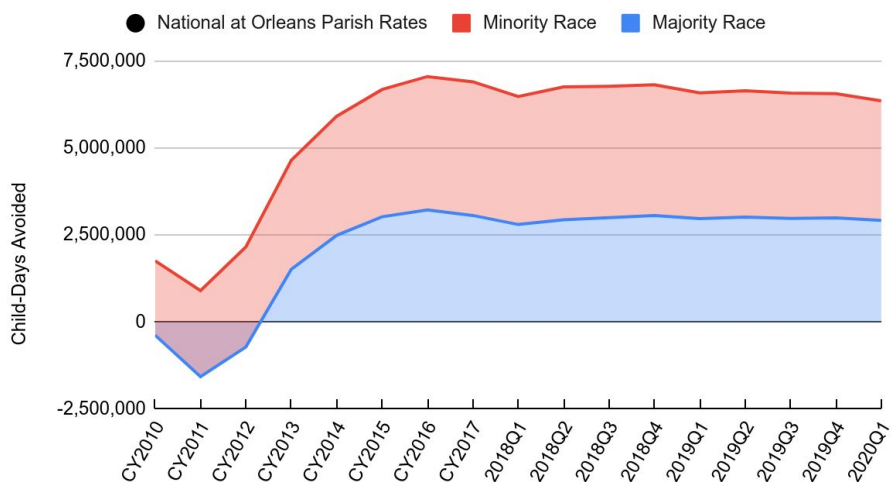
Actual national days:

Family Separation Days



% of Days Separated that would be avoided:

Family Separation Days Avoided



The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

National

One judge's tough approach to foster care





The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

National

One judge's tough approach to foster care

“There are people who absolutely see her as a model for change, somebody who should be held up as an example and followed,” Bruce said. “And you will definitely find people who intensely dislike her and feel very strongly that what she has done is wrong. The only thing we know for sure is that we used to have more kids in care, and now we have fewer.”

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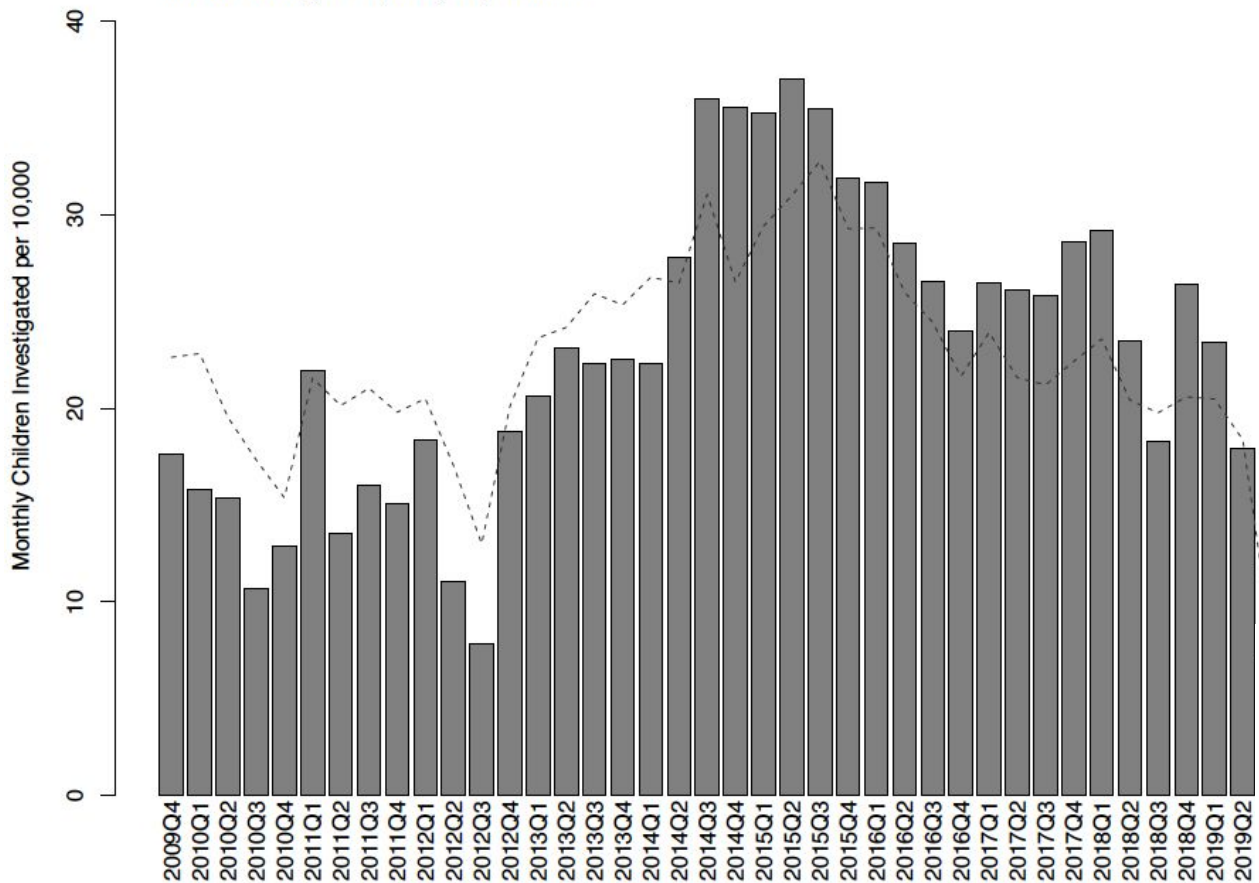


CPS Investigations

Orleans Parish: Average Monthly Children Investigated per 10,000 Children in the Population by Quarter, October 2009 through September 2019

Orleans average = 23 per 10,000 per month
Statewide average = 23 per 10,000 per month

---- Statewide

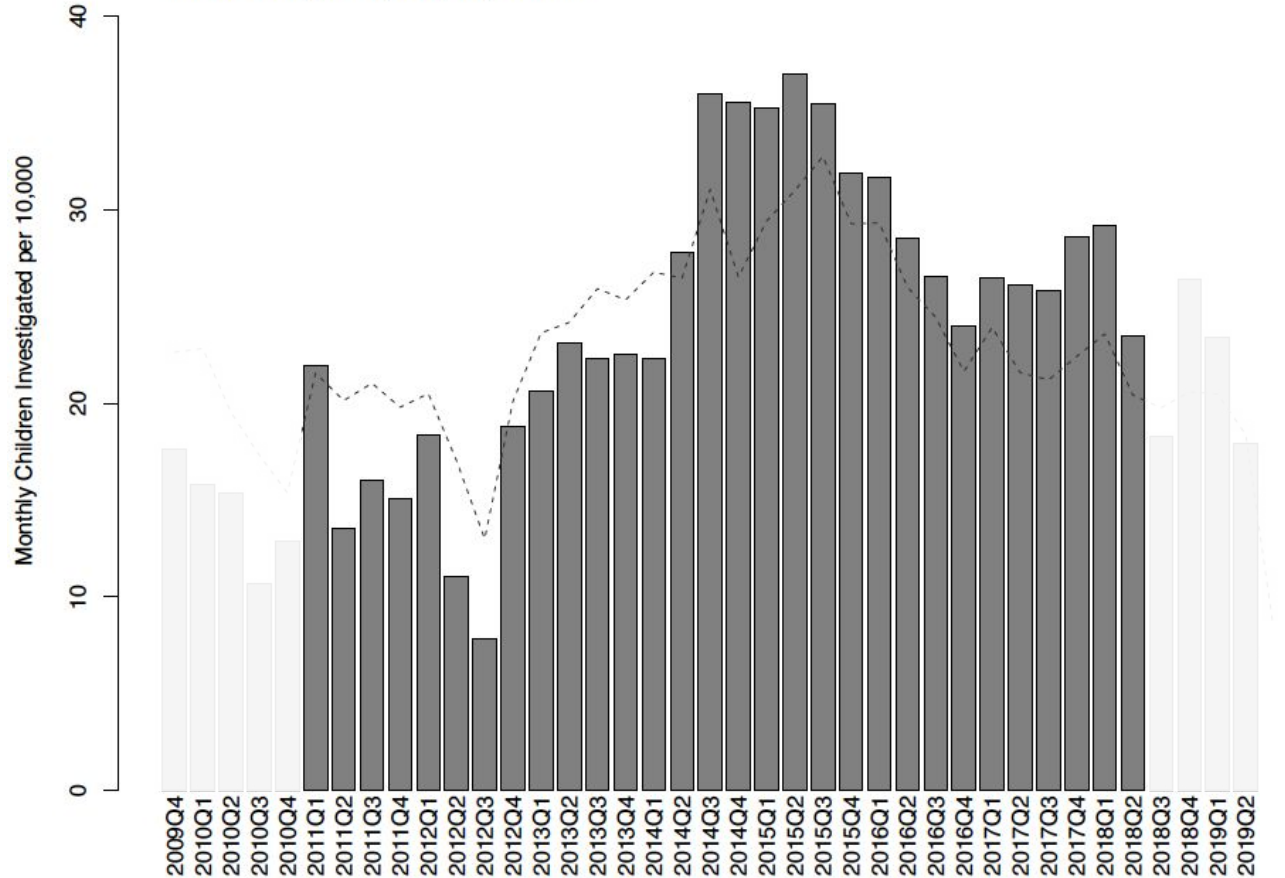


CPS
Investigations
During
Reduction:
*They
increased.*

Orleans Parish: Average Monthly Children Investigated per 10,000 Children in the Population by Quarter, October 2009 through September 2019

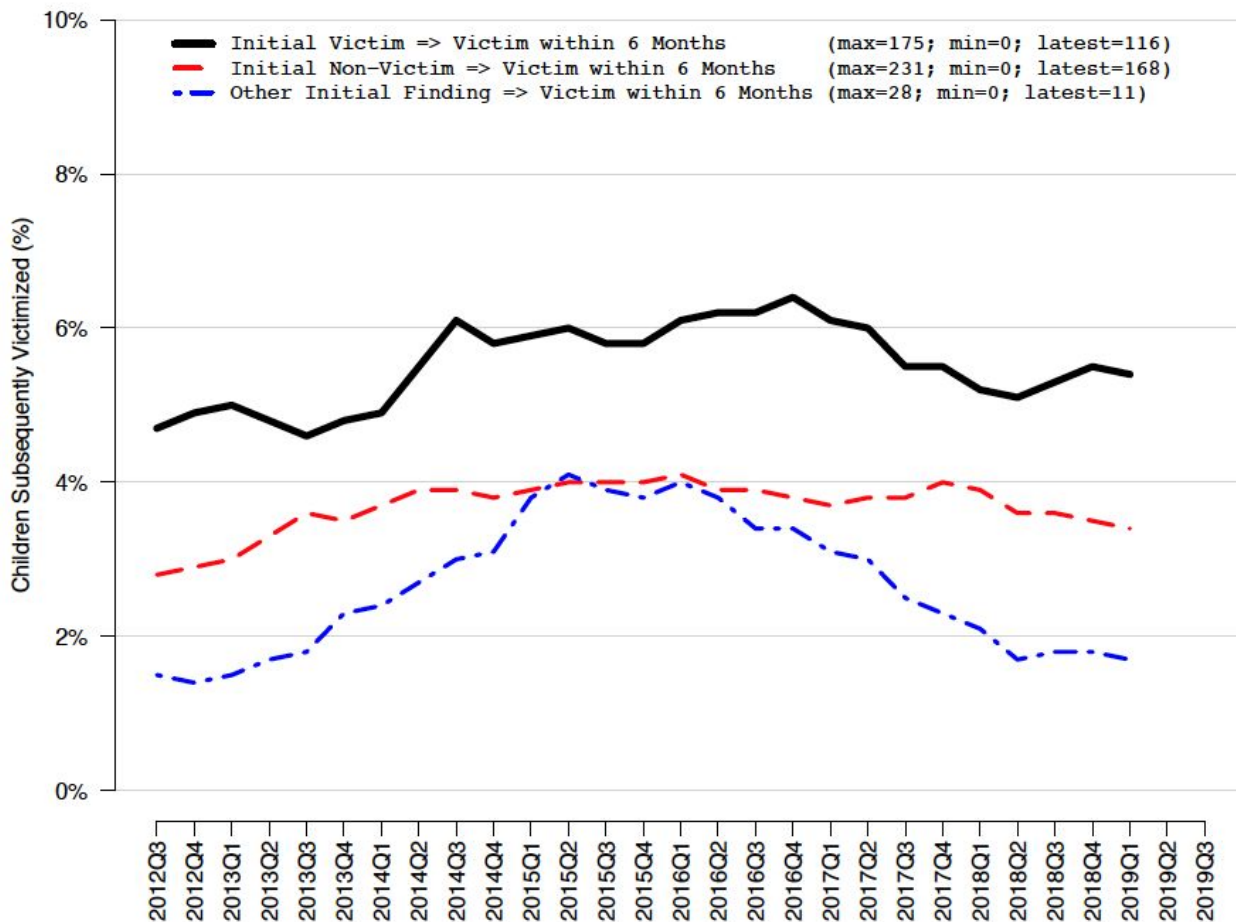
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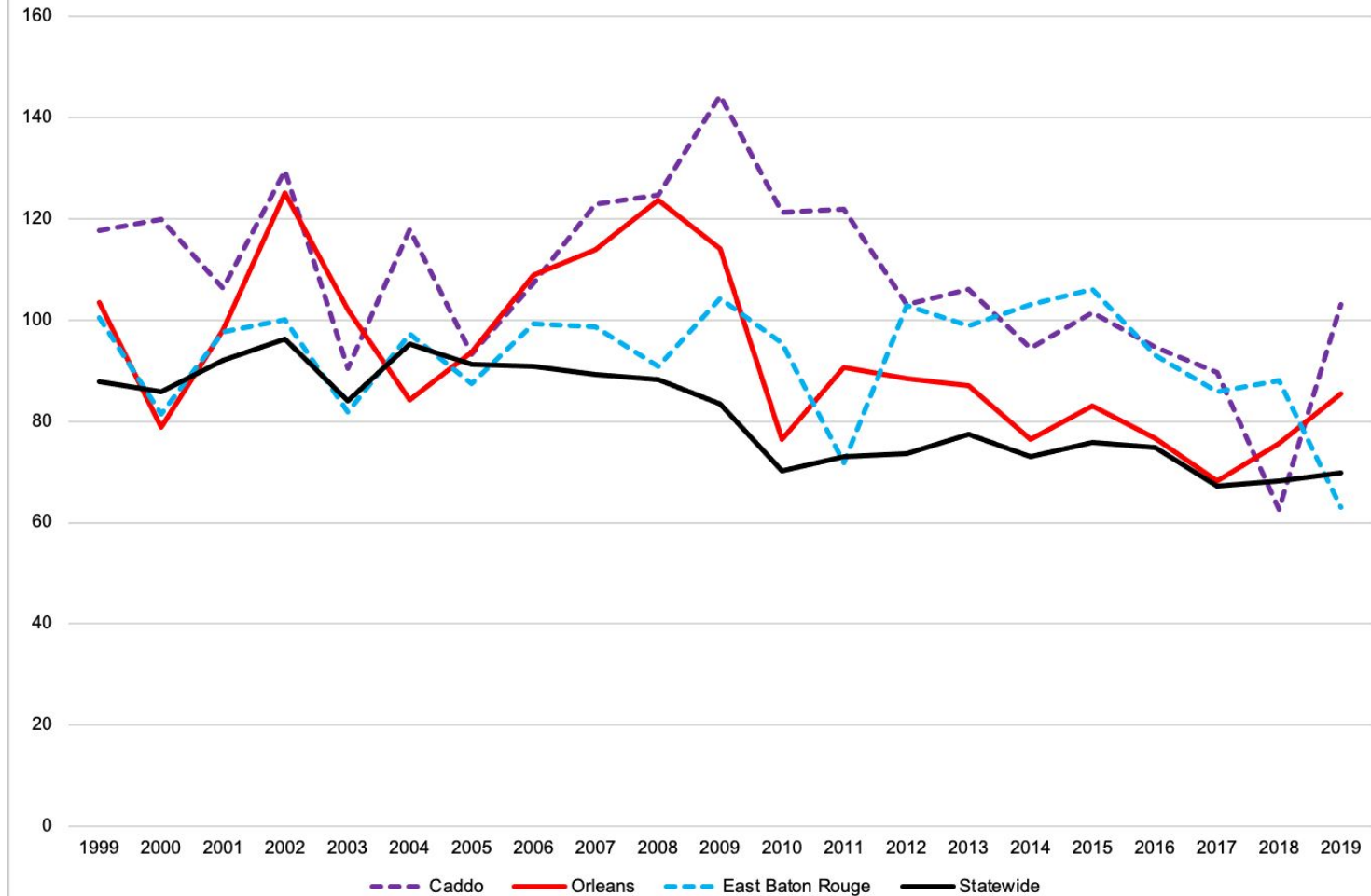


Subsequent
Reports
Leading to
Maltreatment:
*Aligned with
Statewide
rates*

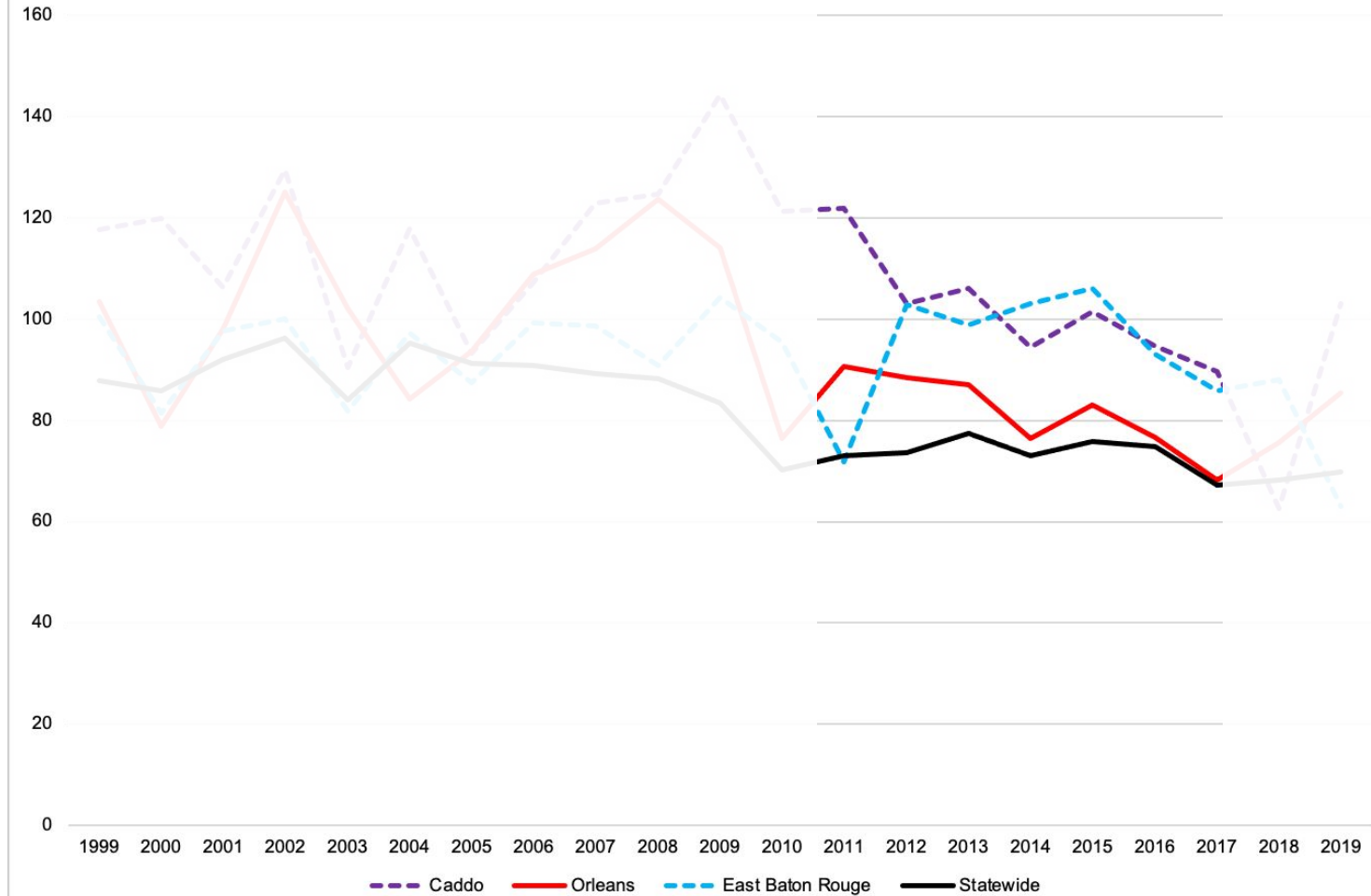
Orleans Parish: Victimized within 6 Months by Type of Initial Finding
October 2009 through September 2019 by Quarter



Louisiana Child Fatalities, Crude Rate per 100K
CDC National Center for Health Statistics, 1999-2019



Louisiana Child Fatalities, Crude Rate per 100K
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What We Are Learning from our Study:
Research, Analysis, Interviews, & Observation

A professional video camera is the central focus, mounted on a tripod. The camera's LCD screen is flipped out and displays a woman with blonde hair, identified as Judge Gray, standing in front of a bookshelf. The camera's control panel is visible, showing buttons for S&O, IRIS, USER MENU, FOCUS, and DISPLAY. To the left of the camera, a large black softbox light is positioned, with a bright circular light source visible through its opening. The background is a blurred library with rows of bookshelves filled with books. The overall lighting is warm and professional.

Several Interviews w/ Judge Gray
Planned Interviews w/ Lawyers



CPS (or other authorized person) requests instant order to remove based on exigency. Judges on monthly rotation.



Same judge holds statutorily required Continued Custody hearing w/in 72 hours.



All cases transferred to Judge Gray for remainder of case, and she holds Second Shelter hearing ~2 weeks after removal.

A hand is holding a black remote control, pointing it towards a television. The television screen is out of focus, showing a grid of colorful icons typical of a smart TV interface. The text "Watched 120+ Recorded Hearings" is overlaid in white at the bottom left.

Watched 120+ Recorded Hearings

A large, disorganized stack of papers and folders in an office setting. The papers are mostly white with yellow and green tabs. The background is a blurred office interior with a ceiling light fixture.

“She interrogated the evidence.”

“She strictly enforced burdens.”

“The rules of evidence were neither aspirational nor optional.”

Judge Gray: Did you notify the relatives that live in New Orleans of this hearing?

Case manager: Yes, I sent them a letter.

Judge Gray: Wait, you just removed the child... When did you send them a letter?

Case manager: When I got back to the office.

Judge Gray: And you thought they would get the letter in time to come to this hearing?

Case manager: Department policy is to notify all [interrupted]

Judge Gray: I'm not asking you about department policy. I'm asking you whether you thought by mailing a letter to relatives here in New Orleans just a few days ago, you thought they would show up to this hearing.

[pause]

No, you don't mail them a letter. When they live in New Orleans, you drive over and talk to them, tell them about the hearing, check the home out, see if they can care for this child.



What is standing in the way of replication?



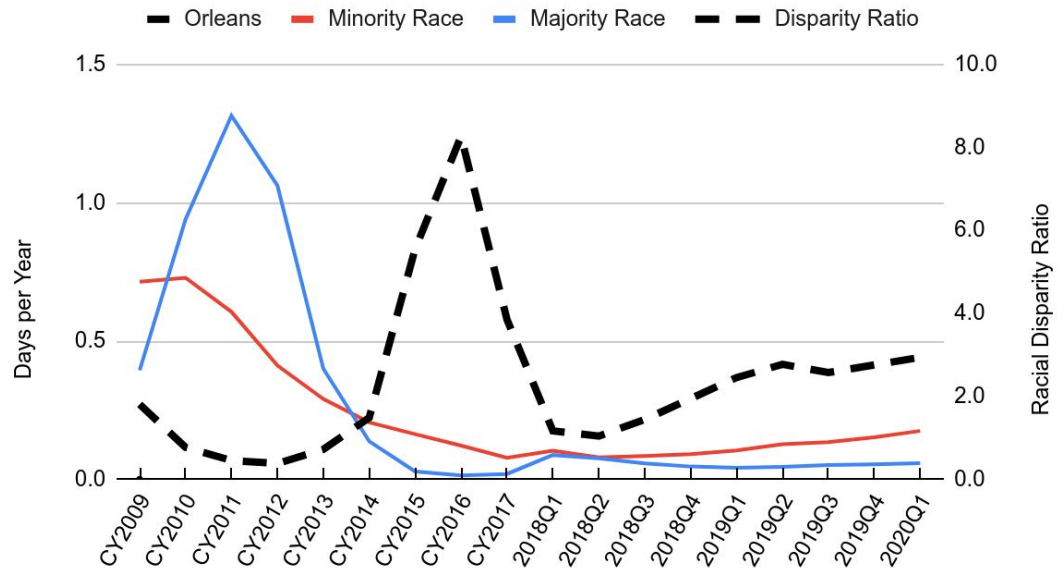
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LA: Monthly Family Separation Days per Child per Year



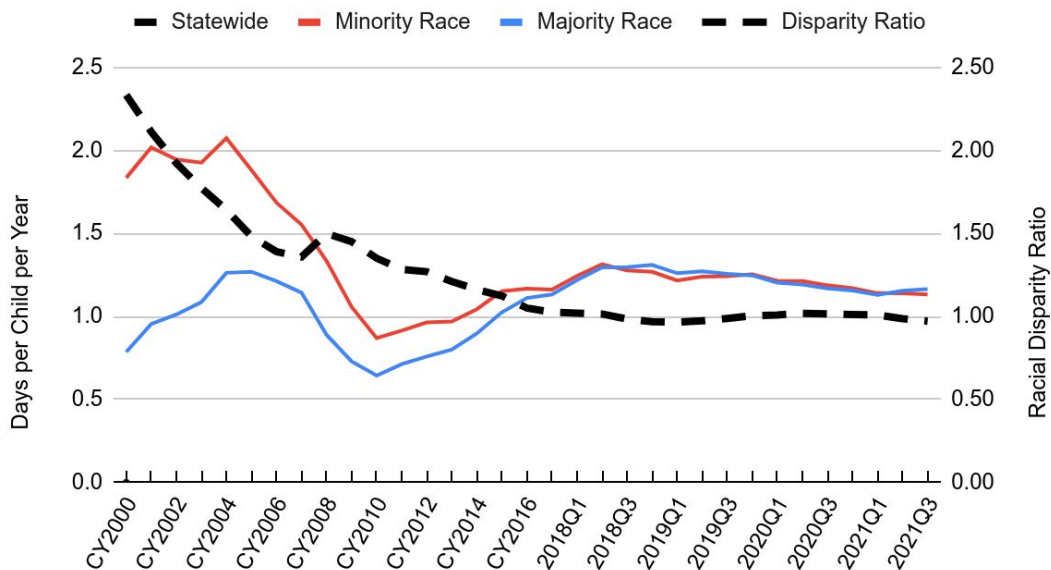


Days Separated from Family by Race: GA

Statewide, Georgia:

- All races **1.2** days per child per year (US 1.2),
- Majority race **1.2** (US 1.0),
- Minority race **1.2** (US 1.4)

GA: Monthly Family Separation Days per Child per Year



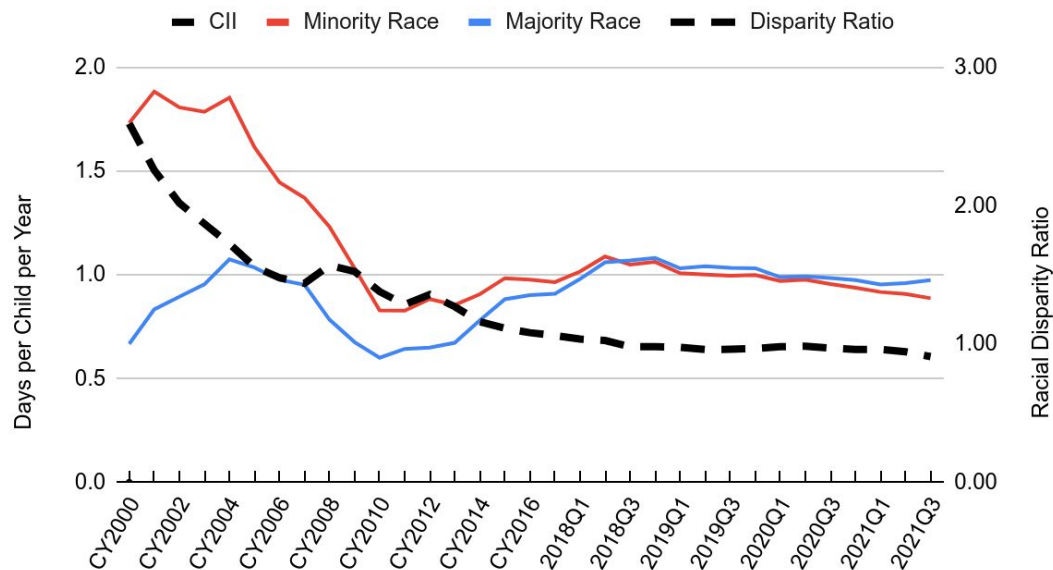


Days Separated from Family by Race: CII

GA CII Counties:

- All races **1.0** days per child per year,
- Majority race **1.0**,
- Minority race **1.0**

GA: Monthly Family Separation Days per Child per Year



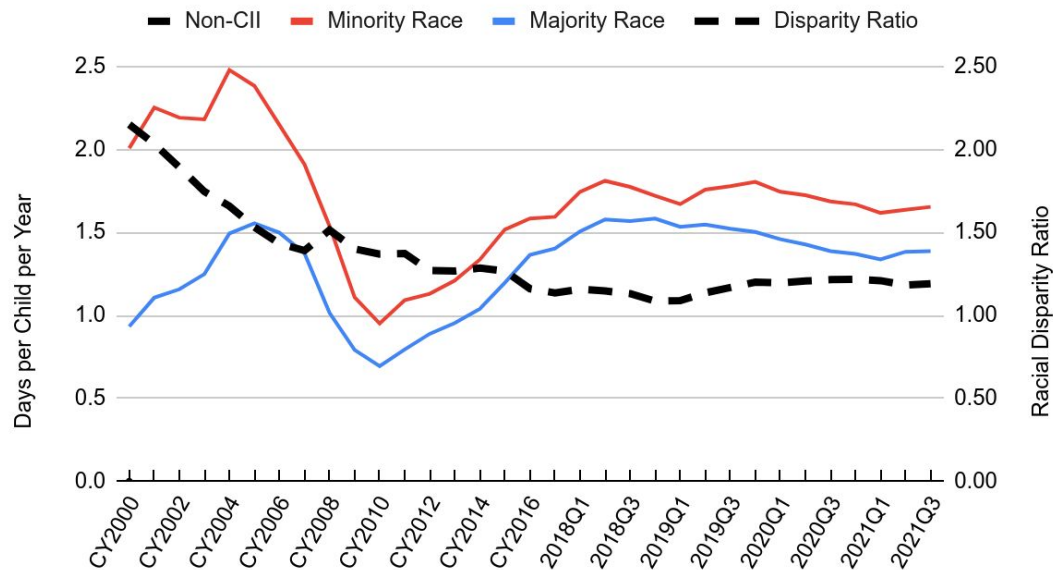


Days Separated from Family by Race: Non-CII

GA Non-CII Counties:

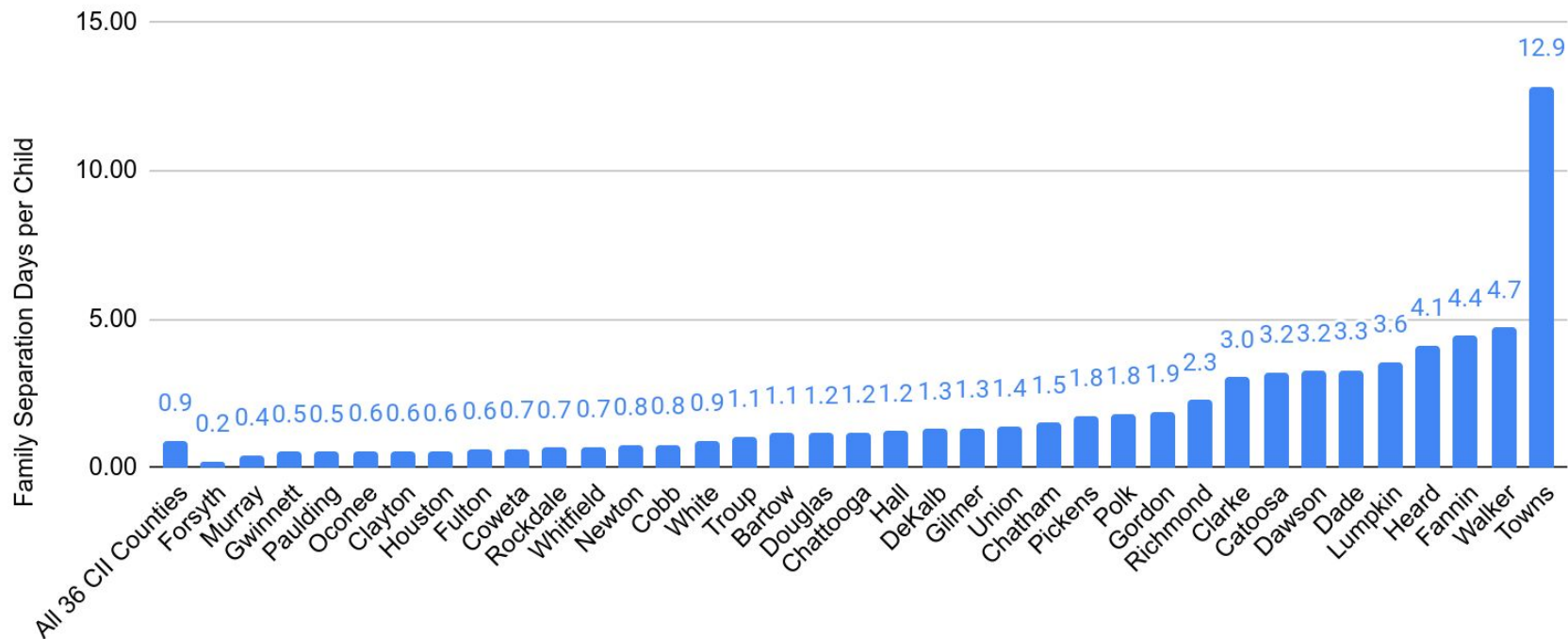
- All races **1.6** days per child per year,
- Majority race **1.4**,
- Minority race **1.7**

GA: Monthly Family Separation Days per Child per Year



Days Separated from Family by Race: CII

CII Minority Race: Annual Family Separation Days per Child



Days Separated from Family by Race: CII

County	Family Separation Days	Child Population	Annual Family Separation Days per Child	County	Family Separation Days	Child Population	Annual Family Separation Days per Child
Bartow	8,872	7,722	1.15	Hall	33,218	27,254	1.22
Catoosa	5,697	1,776	3.21	Heard	1,633	398	4.10
Chatham	57,210	38,147	1.50	Houston	12,231	21,332	0.57
Chattooga	1,401	1,173	1.19	Lumpkin	2,556	716	3.57
Clarke	42,223	13,866	3.05	Murray	1,100	2,567	0.43
Clayton	42,731	74,978	0.57	Newton	14,380	18,544	0.78
Cobb	77,799	98,252	0.79	Oconee	1,097	1,978	0.55
Coweta	7,800	11,898	0.66	Paulding	8,964	16,653	0.54
Dade	772	233	3.31	Pickens	950	540	1.76
Dawson	2,371	730	3.25	Polk	7,408	4,112	1.80
DeKalb	173,734	132,606	1.31	Richmond	76,826	33,677	2.28
Douglas	31,522	27,075	1.16	Rockdale	12,195	18,178	0.67
Fannin	1,715	387	4.43	Towns	1,460	114	12.86
Forsyth	5,828	26,847	0.22	Troup	9,146	8,706	1.05
Fulton	100,072	155,090	0.65	Union	483	344	1.40
Gilmer	2,310	1,714	1.35	Walker	7,572	1,603	4.72
Gordon	8,001	4,236	1.89	White	607	679	0.89
Gwinnett	93,018	178,550	0.52	Whitfield	10,019	14,617	0.69
				All 36 CII Counties	864,921	947,288	0.91



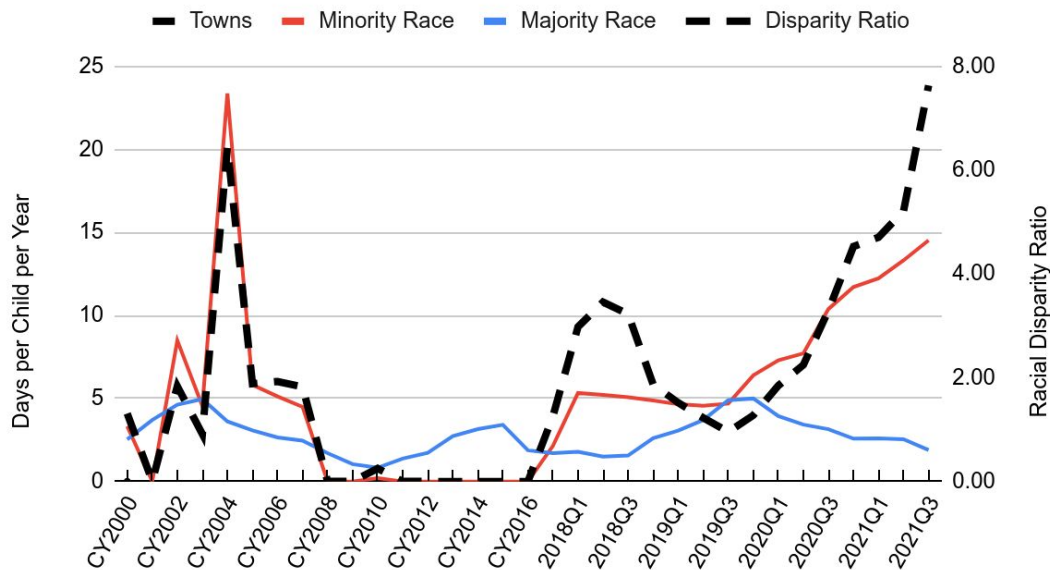
Days Separated from Family by Race: Towns County

GA Towns County:

- All races **3.8** days per child per year,
- Majority race **3.3**,
- Minority race **9.2**

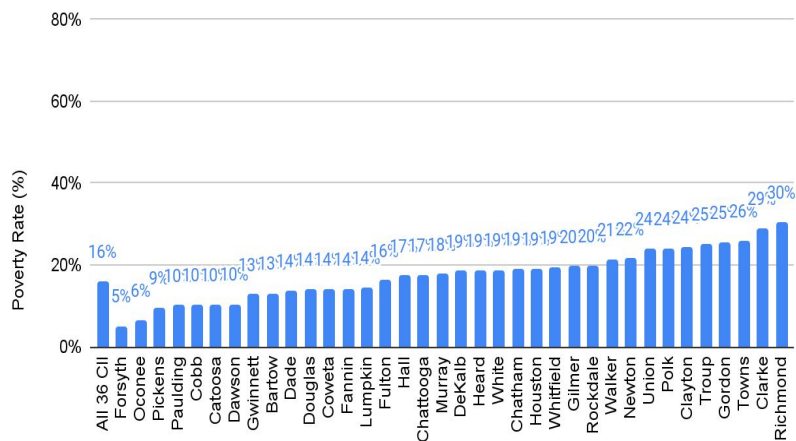
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GA: Monthly Family Separation Days per Child per Year

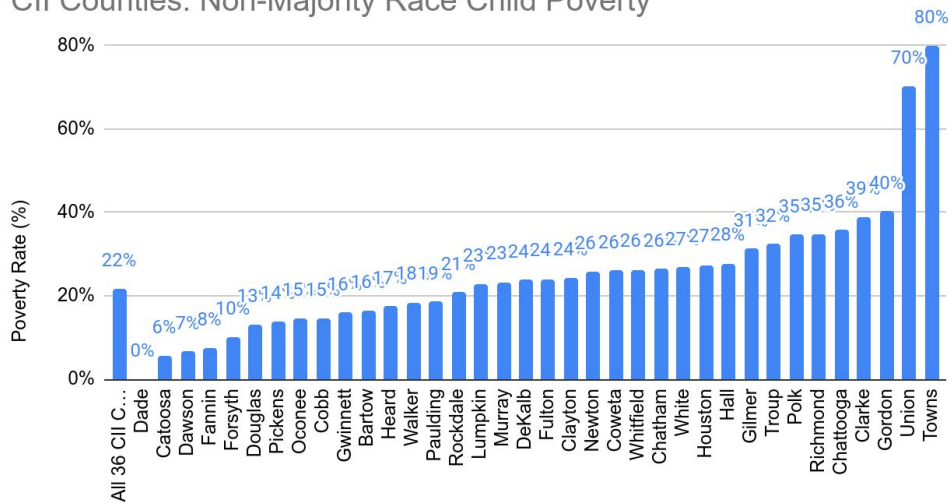


CII Data Stories: Child Poverty

CII Counties: All-Race Child Poverty



CII Counties: Non-Majority Race Child Poverty



CII Data Stories: Child Poverty

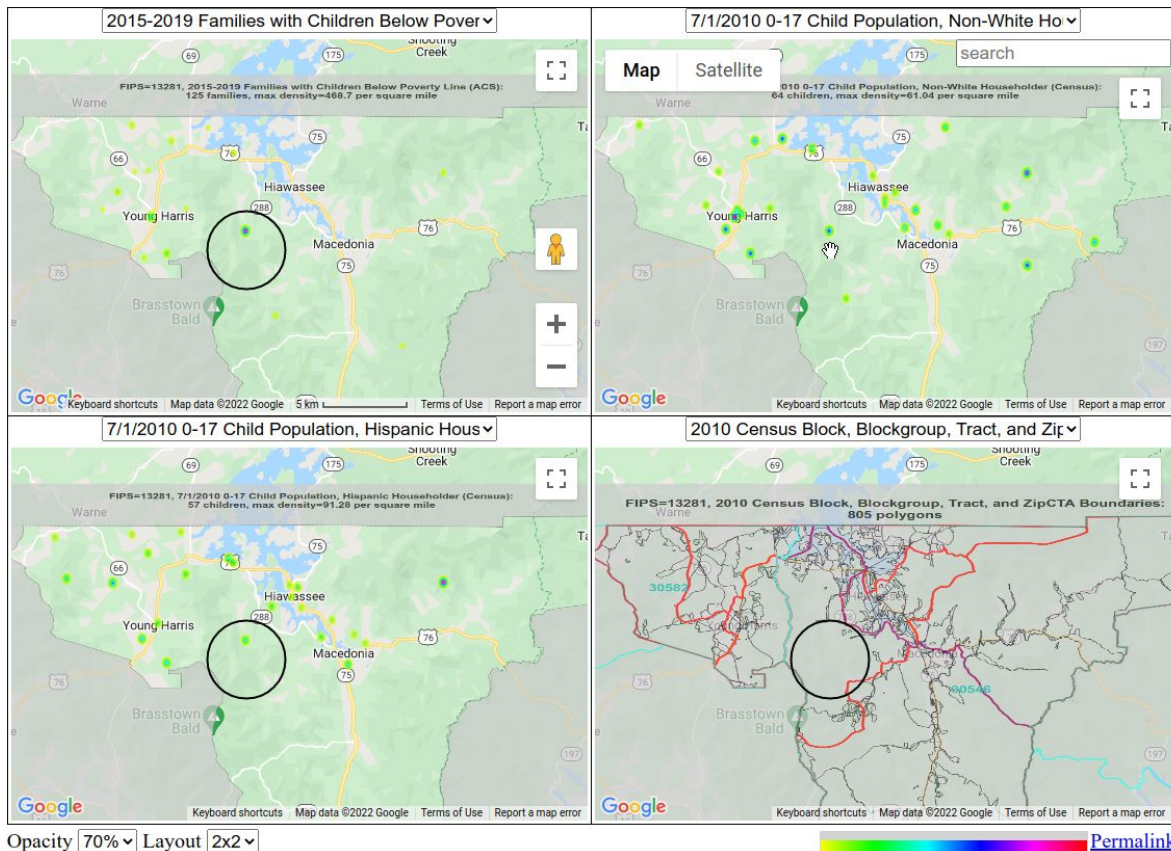
County	% of Families with Children below Poverty Line	% of Non-Majority Race Families with Children below Poverty Line	County	% of Families with Children below Poverty Line	% of Non-Majority Race Families with Children below Poverty Line
Bartow	13%	16%	Hall	17%	28%
Catoosa	10%	6%	Heard	19%	17%
Chatham	19%	26%	Houston	19%	27%
Chattooga	17%	36%	Lumpkin	14%	23%
Clarke	29%	39%	Murray	18%	23%
Clayton	24%	24%	Newton	22%	26%
Cobb	10%	15%	Oconee	6%	15%
Coweta	14%	26%	Paulding	10%	19%
Dade	14%	0%	Pickens	9%	14%
Dawson	10%	7%	Polk	24%	35%
DeKalb	19%	24%	Richmond	30%	35%
Douglas	14%	13%	Rockdale	20%	21%
Fannin	14%	8%	Towns	26%	80%
Forsyth	5%	10%	Troup	25%	32%
Fulton	16%	24%	Union	24%	70%
Gilmer	20%	31%	Walker	21%	18%
Gordon	25%	40%	White	19%	27%
Gwinnett	13%	16%	Whitfield	19%	26%
			All 36 CII Counties	16%	22%

CII Data Stories: Child Poverty

Towns County:

- 842 families w kids, 822 white;
- 218 in poverty, 202 white.
- So 16/20 non-white (I think they're all mixed race, none AA alone) in poverty.
- Find 20 non-white families in poverty in Towns on a map?

<https://fosteringcourtimprovement.org/maps/GA/>



Opacity 70% Layout 2x2

Permalink

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- <https://fosteringcourtimprovement.org/maps/GA/>
- Enota Village Apartments?

