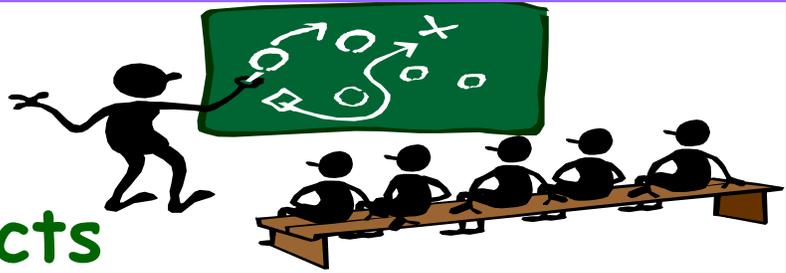
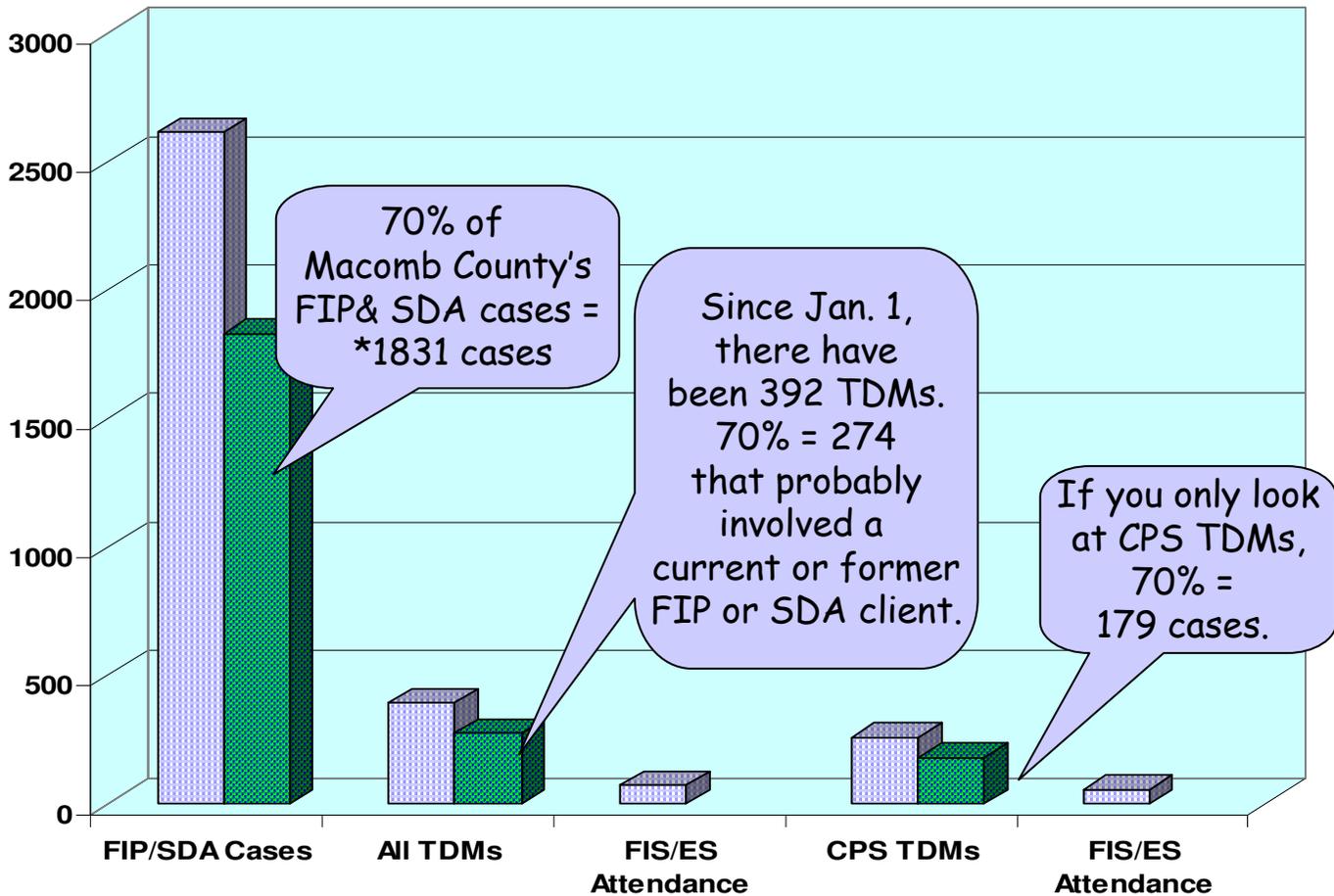


First Down Facts



Did you know that almost **70%** of all cash assistance recipients have a history in Children's Services? **Should you attend a TDM?**



Can you make a difference?

You **bet** you can!
If you're invited to participate in a TDM, please attend. You may have the solution that can change the outcome for one of your families.

Your involvement is valued & appreciated

FIS & ES have attended 70 (26%) of all TDMs held since Jan. 1

FIS & ES have attended 55 (31%) of all CPS TDMs held since Jan. 1

*This # reflects those cases active for FIP & SDA, only. Total Macomb Co. FIS/ES unduplicated case count = 74,672 as of 9/30/04.

Interested in learning more?
For access to the Goal Post newsletter, Punt!



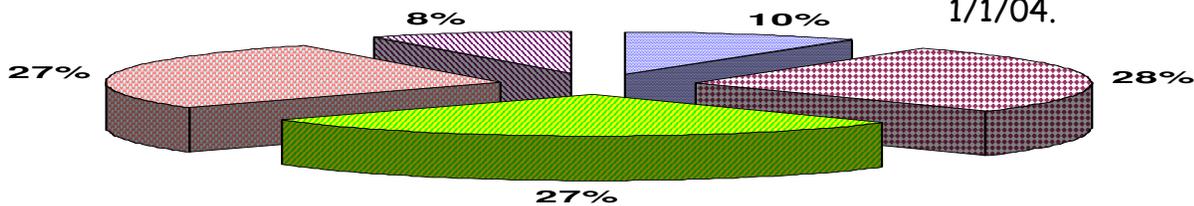
THE GOAL POST

A Quarterly Report Highlighting Outcomes for Macomb County's Children and Families
MACOMB COUNTY FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY **NOVEMBER 2004**

Did you know that when a Change of Placement (COP) TDM is held, a child is **28% more likely** to be able to remain in his or her current placement?



This chart shows us what happened to the 73 foster children affected by COP TDMs since 1/1/04.



Before moving a child from one home to another, here are some facts to consider about OUR children:

243 have experienced at least one Change of Placement during 2004

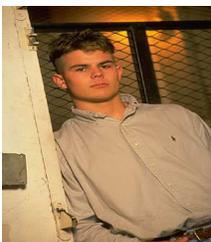
Of the **256** children who entered Foster Care to date in 2004, **37%** (95 children) have already experienced at least one placement change.

17% of all children who entered Foster Care in 2004 & have had multiple placements were initially placed with a relative. These children average 2 placements this year, with subsequent moves more likely to be to another relative's home.

37% of all children who entered Foster Care in 2004 & have had multiple placements were initially placed in a family Foster Home. They average 2.5 placements this year & are more likely to be moved to another Foster Home.



30% of all children who entered care in 2004 were initially placed in an Emergency Shelter. They average 3 placements so far this year & are more likely to move to family Foster Homes.



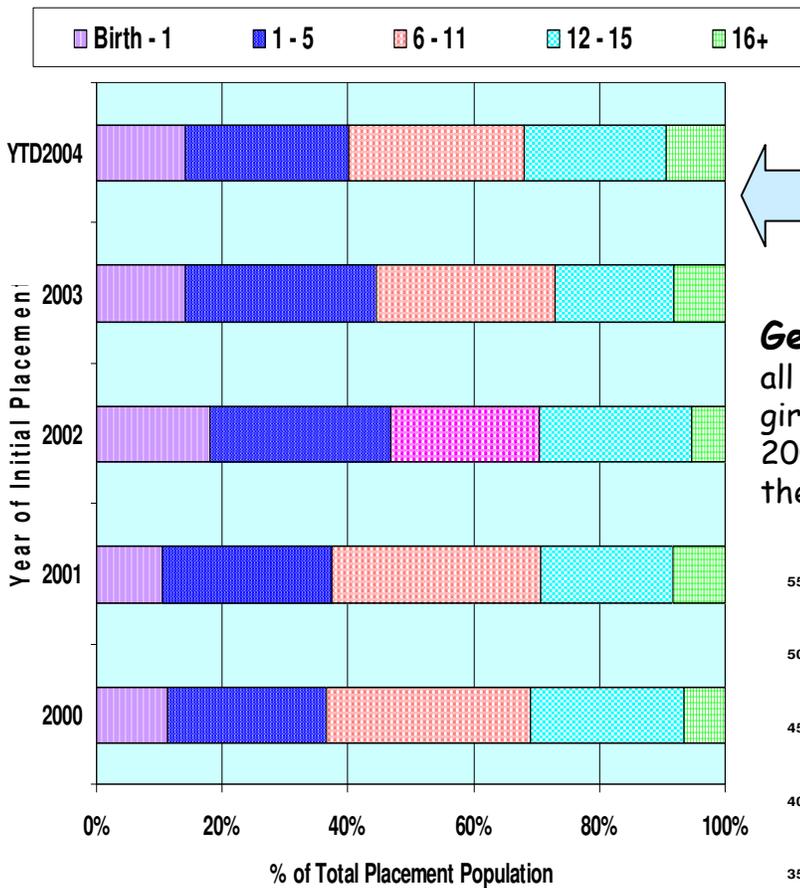
53 children (22%) have had **more than 5** placement changes since the time they entered Foster Care. On average, these children have had 8.5 placements during more than 4 years in Foster Care.

66% of children with **5 or more placements** have had more than 2 placements in residential, institutional, or emergency facilities.

•39% of all children who have entered foster care since January 2000 have never moved from their initial placement!

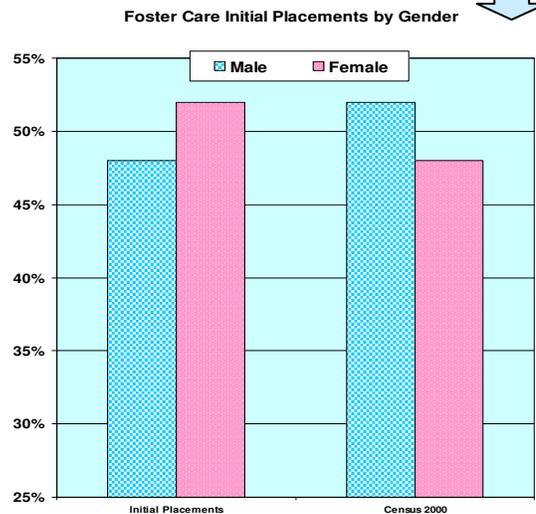
Population Comparisons: Foster Children vs. Macomb County

FOSTER CARE POPULATION BY AGE GROUP AT INITIAL PLACEMENT



Age: According to Census 2000 statistics, children under the age of 12 account for approximately 72% of Macomb County's total under 18 population. For the period of 2000 thru September 2004, 73% of all initial Foster Care placements are for children under the age of 12.

Gender: From 2000 thru 2004, 52% of all initial Foster Care placements are girls. Gender demographics from Census 2000 show that girls account for 48% of the under 18 population.

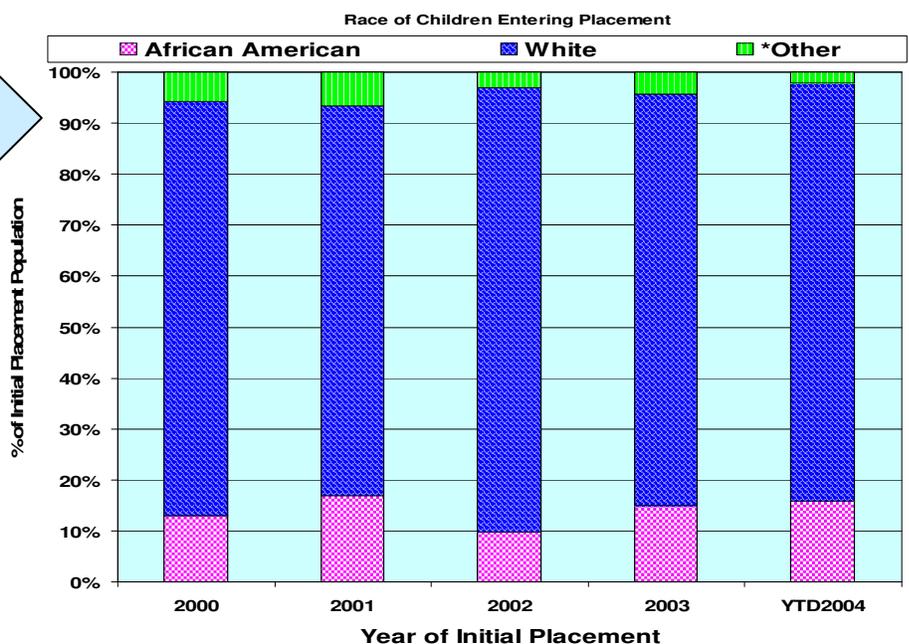


Race: Macomb County's race-based population demographics (all age groups) are as follows (Census 2000):

- White: 93%
- African American: 3%
- Other: 4%

The following data represents the racial breakdown of all initial Foster Care placements for the period 2000 thru YTD 2004:

- White: 82%
- African American: 14%
- Other: 4%

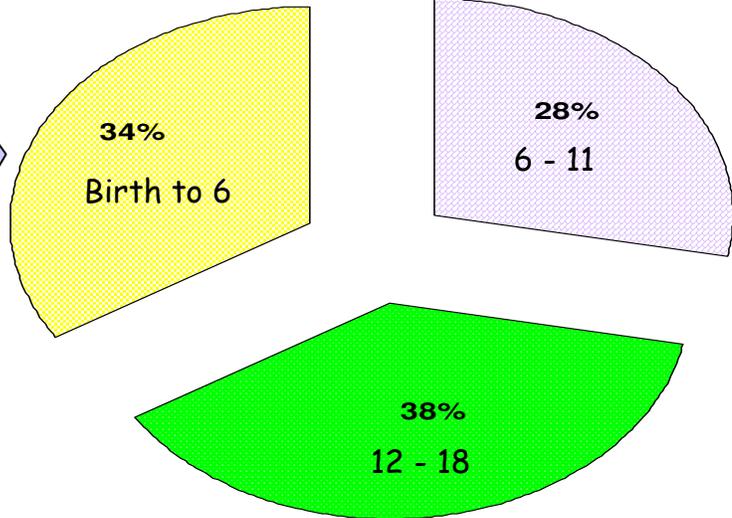


*Other includes children identified as American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Multi-Racial, or where race data entry is missing

Now look at our MCFIA Licensed Foster Homes:

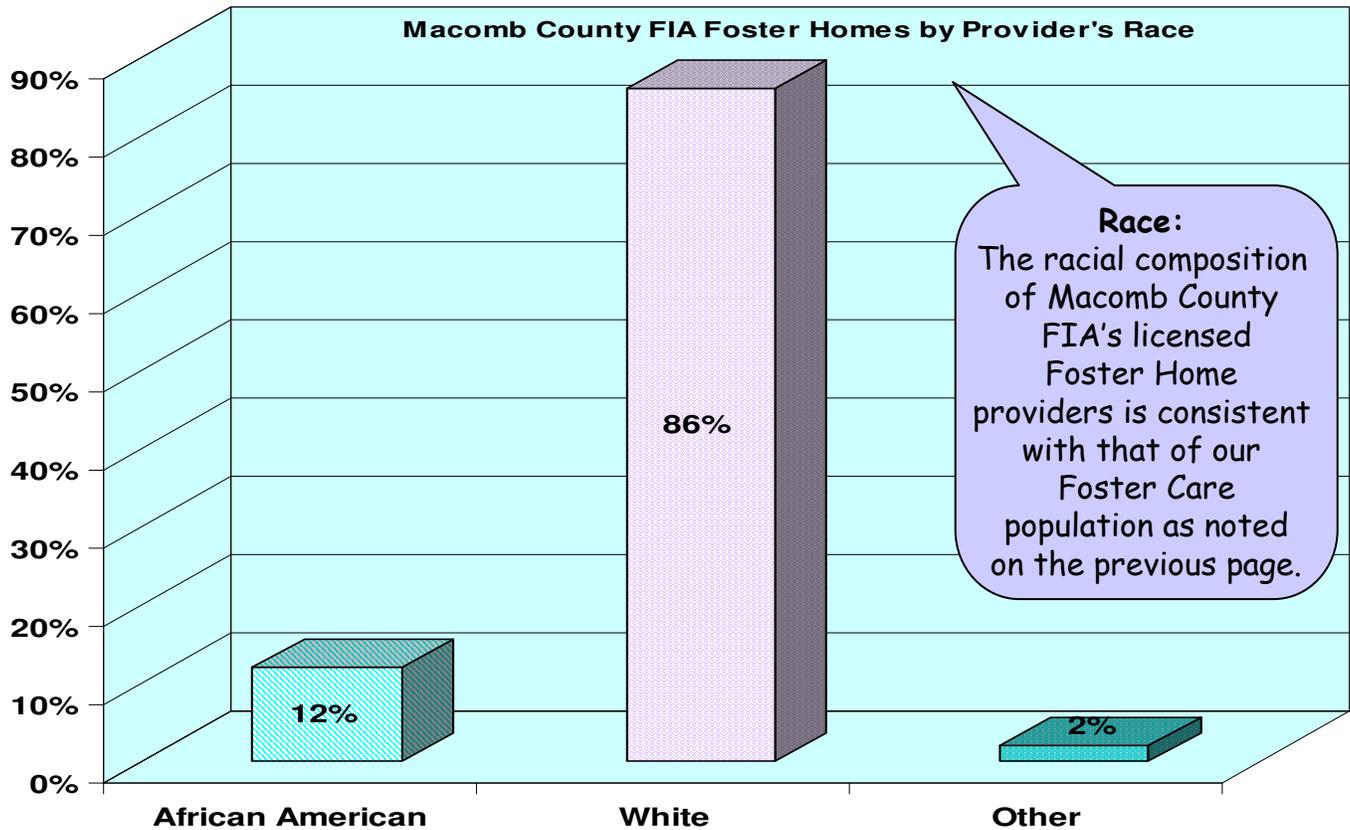
Age:

This chart represents a very rough breakdown of the # of MCFIA's Foster Homes by the age groups of children for whom they are licensed to supervise. Of all our licensed homes, 10% have been licensed to care for children between the ages of 0 & 17. Note that 73% of the children entering care are less than 12 years of age & that represents the largest # of available foster home beds.



We have some terrific Macomb County FIA-licensed Foster Homes. But, we are in **always** in need of homes that will provide care for our special needs children.

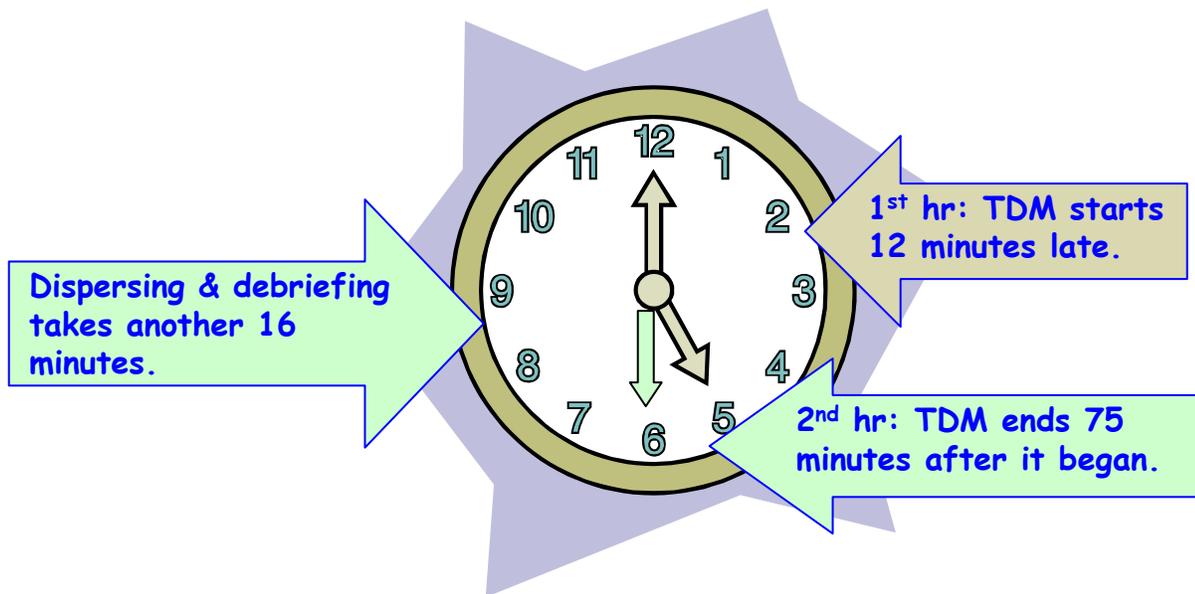
Macomb County FIA Foster Homes by Provider's Race



Race:
The racial composition of Macomb County FIA's licensed Foster Home providers is consistent with that of our Foster Care population as noted on the previous page.

Gender: 79% of all Macomb County FIA licensed Foster Homes have been licensed to care for children of either sex. Of the remaining homes, 14% care for only girls - 7% for only boys.

How much time do you spend in a TDM? The average TDM goes something like this:



The average TDM lasts 103 minutes from scheduled start to finish.

Coding Counts!

When a foster child is placed with a non-custodial parent and the case is subsequently closed, the correct closure reason is 'placed with a parent'. Using any other closure reason means that the closure won't count as a reunification, which it really is. If all 2004 Foster Care case closures showing a last placement of 'parental home' had been coded as 'placed with parent', Macomb County FIA's 2004 reunification rate would jump from **48% to 58%**!

Remember: Your manager is **always** the best resource when you need policy, practice, or process clarification.

Tell us what you think!

1. What additional services would assist staff in preserving placements for children?
2. What would make Team Decision Making more beneficial for staff?

To participate in our poll, [click here](#)

Responses are totally anonymous!



Results will be posted on the [Macomb County Employee Intranet](#).