



HEALTH
MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATES

**Racial Disparities
and Disproportionality
in
Child Welfare**

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Welcome

■ Objectives



- ❑ Develop foundational understanding of disparities and disproportionality in the child welfare system
- ❑ Understand the decision points that have the greatest impact on child and family involvement and experiences with child welfare

■ Social Justice Guidelines for Conversation

- + **Strive for humility.** Be willing to grapple with challenging ideas.
- + **Differentiate between opinion and informed knowledge**, which comes from sustained experience, study, and practice.
- + Hold your **opinions lightly** and with humility.
- + **Notice your own defensive reactions** and attempt to use these reactions as entry points for gaining **deeper self-knowledge**, rather than as a rationale for closing off.
- + **Recognize** how your own **social positionality** (e.g., race, class, gender, sexuality, ability) **informs your perspectives and reactions** to information that is shared by the facilitators, guests, and other task force members.
- + **Differentiate between safety and comfort.** Accept discomfort as necessary for social justice and racial equity growth.
- + **Identify** where your **learning edge** is and **push it**.
- + **Seek out counter-stereotypic images.** Much of what we believe about the world, including people, is introduced and reinforced through imagery (movies, television, commercials, etc).

Race is a Powerful Predictor of
Experiences and Outcomes

■ Using an Anti-Racist Intersectional Frame

- + Race, like no other characteristic, has been baked into our government and systems and has resulted in deep and persistent inequities across identities.
- + Leading with race and understanding the ways in which systemic and institutional inequities are perpetuated provides a framework that can be applied to other forms of oppression.
- + Oftentimes discussions about group oppression (gender, ability, sexuality) leave out the compounding impact of the intersection of race and other identities.

Race Remains One of the Biggest Predictors of Opportunity in the United States

- + In the United States, children of color are **more likely to live in poverty**
- + Black Americans and American Indians have much lower rates of upward mobility and higher rates of downward mobility than whites, leading to persistent **disparities across generations.****
- + Differences in **parental marital status, education, and wealth explain little** of the Black-white income gap conditional on parent income.**
- + More than half of all Black children **experience a child protective services investigation** within their lifetime.***



*National Kids Count, KidsCount Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org, a Project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

**Raj Chetty, Nathaniel Hendren, Maggie R Jones, Sonya R Porter, Race and Economic Opportunity in the United States: an Intergenerational Perspective, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 135, Issue 2, May 2020, Pages 711–783, <https://doi.org/10.1093/qje/qjz042>

*** Hyunil, K. et.al. (2017). Lifetime Prevalence of Investigating Child Maltreatment Among US Children. *Am. J. Public Health. Vol. 107 (2).* 274-280

“If we expect to help all children succeed, we must do more than closing gaps and pointing to disparities. **All of our work must strive to achieve race equity**, a state in which all children have the same opportunity to reach the potential we know they have.”

Patrick McCarthy, Former President and CEO, The Annie E. Casey Foundation



Core Concepts and Language

Disproportionality

exists when the representation of one group is **larger** or **smaller** than the same group's representation in the general population

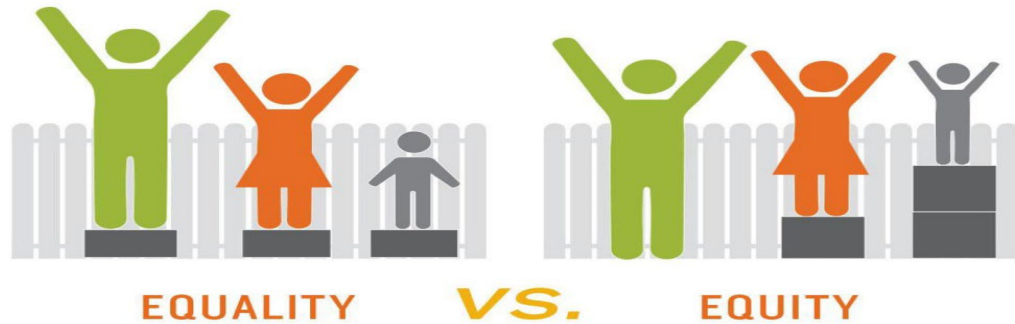
Disparity is **the difference in outcomes** that children experience based on race

Equality

The quality or state of being equal.
Having the same rights, social status, etc.

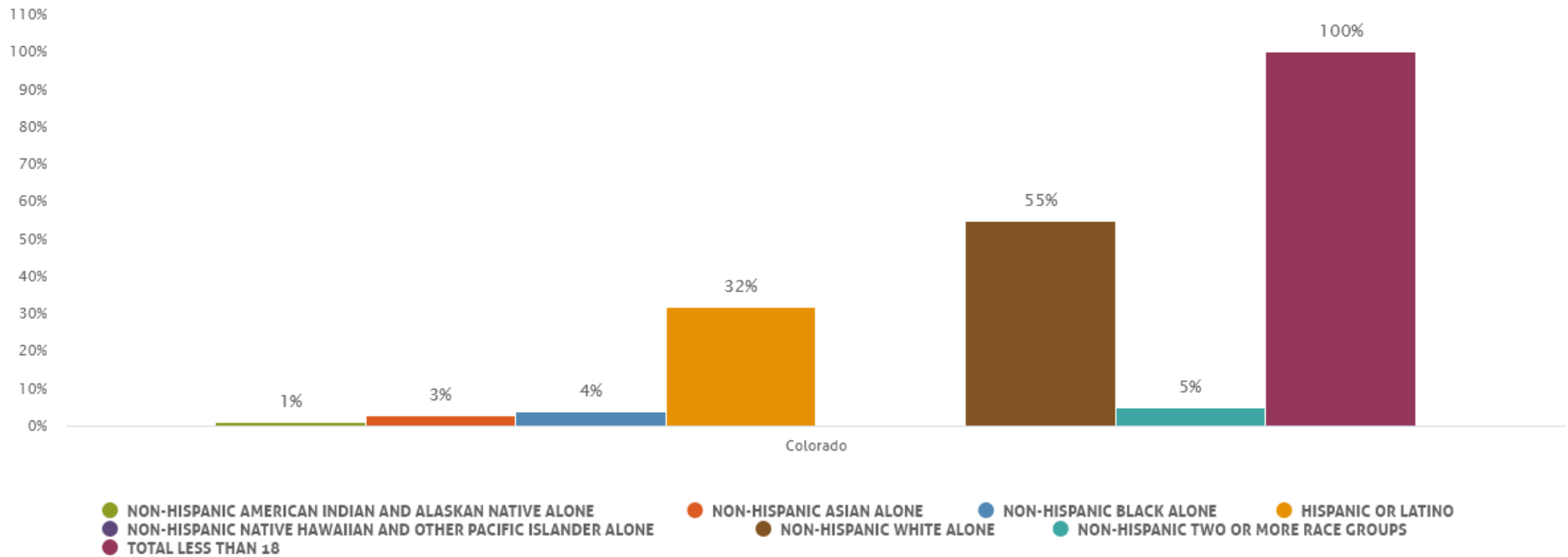
Equity

Fairness or justice in the way people are treated based on needs



Colorado Has a Large Population of Latino/a/x Children

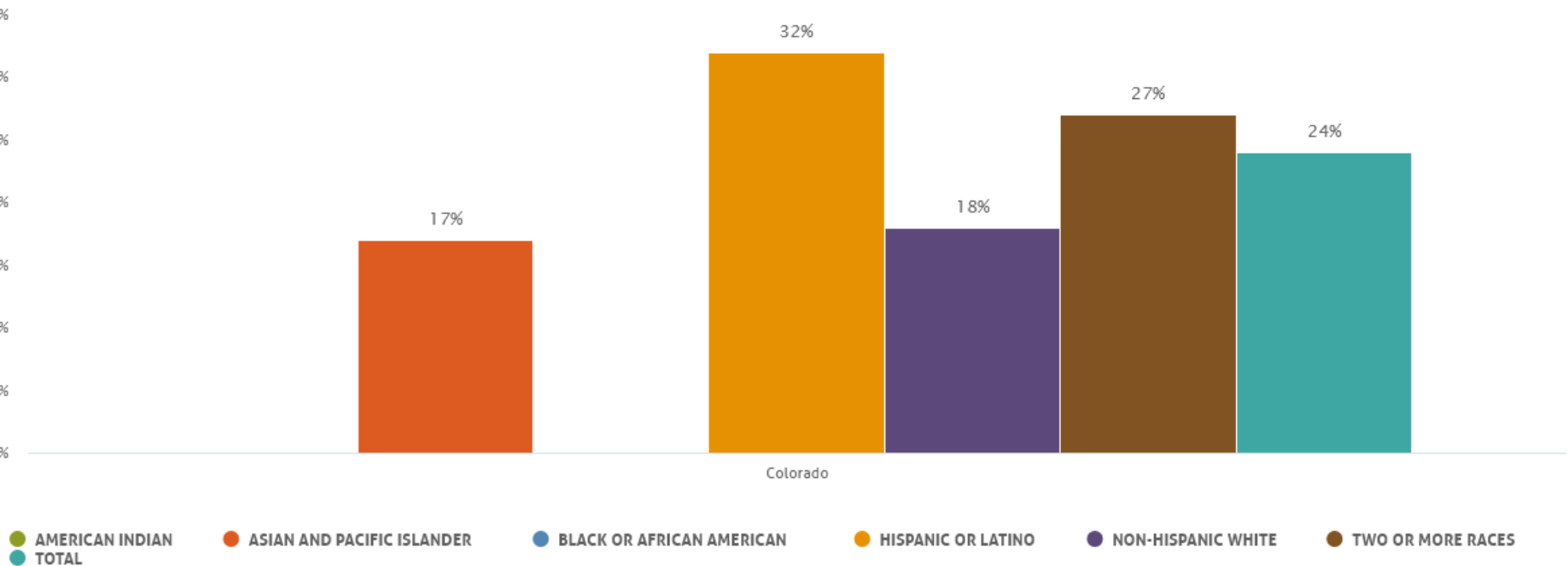
CHILD POPULATION BY RACE AND ETHNICITY (PERCENT) - 2021



The Annie E. Casey Foundation from datacenter.kidscount.org

Black, Latino/a/x, and Mixed-Race Children in Colorado Are More Likely to Have Parents Who Lack Secure Employment

CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS LACK SECURE EMPLOYMENT BY RACE AND ETHNICITY (PERCENT) - 2021

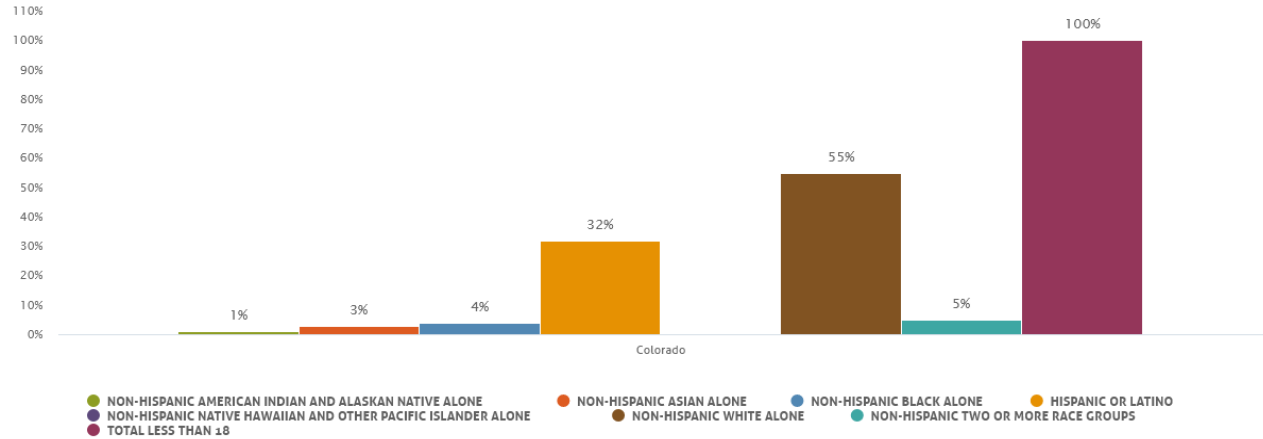


The Annie E. Casey Foundation from datacenter.kidscount.org

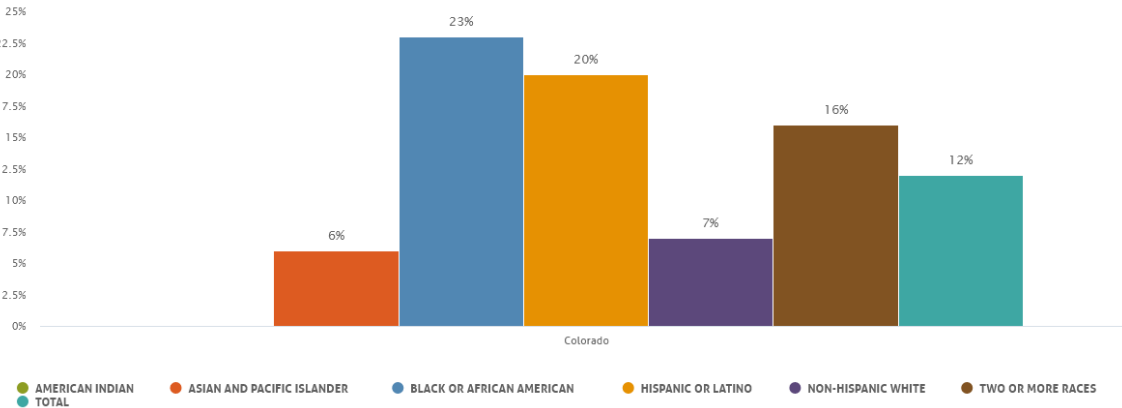
In Colorado, Children who are Black, Indigenous Latino/a/x and People of Color (BILPOC) are More Likely to Live in Poverty

CHILD POPULATION BY RACE AND ETHNICITY (PERCENT) - 2021

Less than half of Colorado children are BILPOC.



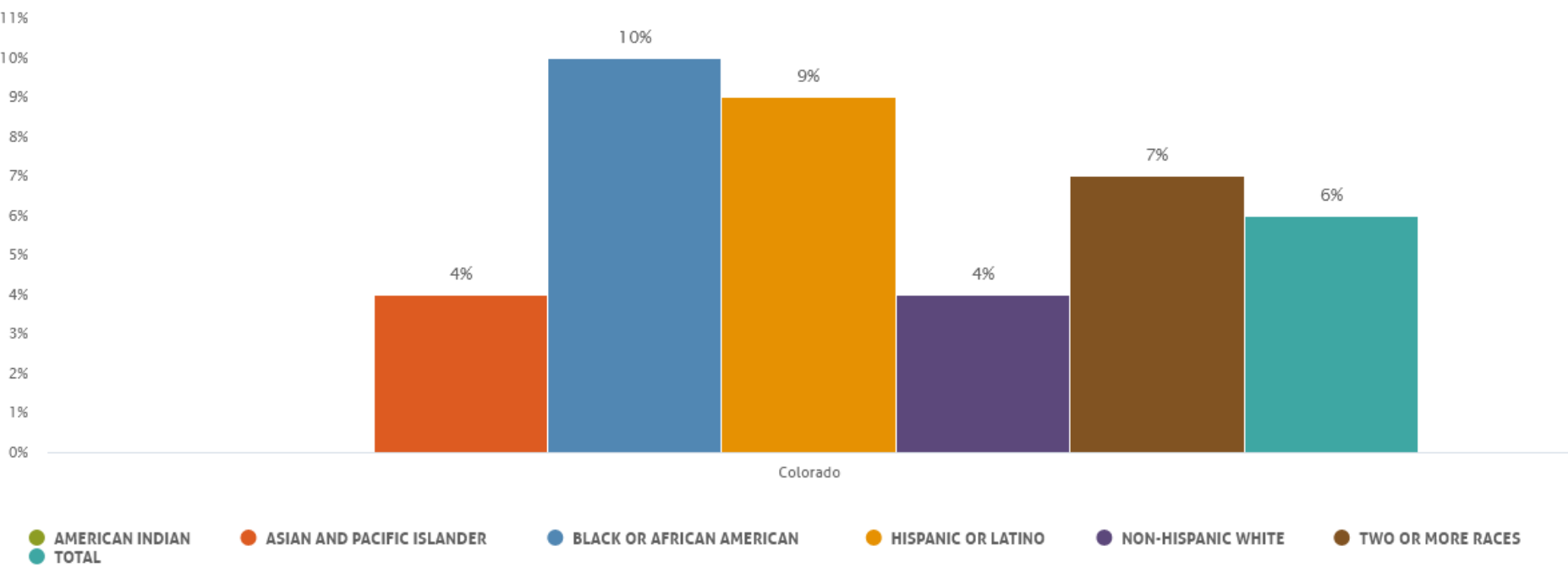
CHILDREN IN POVERTY BY RACE AND ETHNICITY (PERCENT) - 2021



BILPOC children represent 65% of the children living in poverty.

Black, Latino/a/x, and Mixed-Race Children are More Likely to Live in Extreme Poverty in Colorado

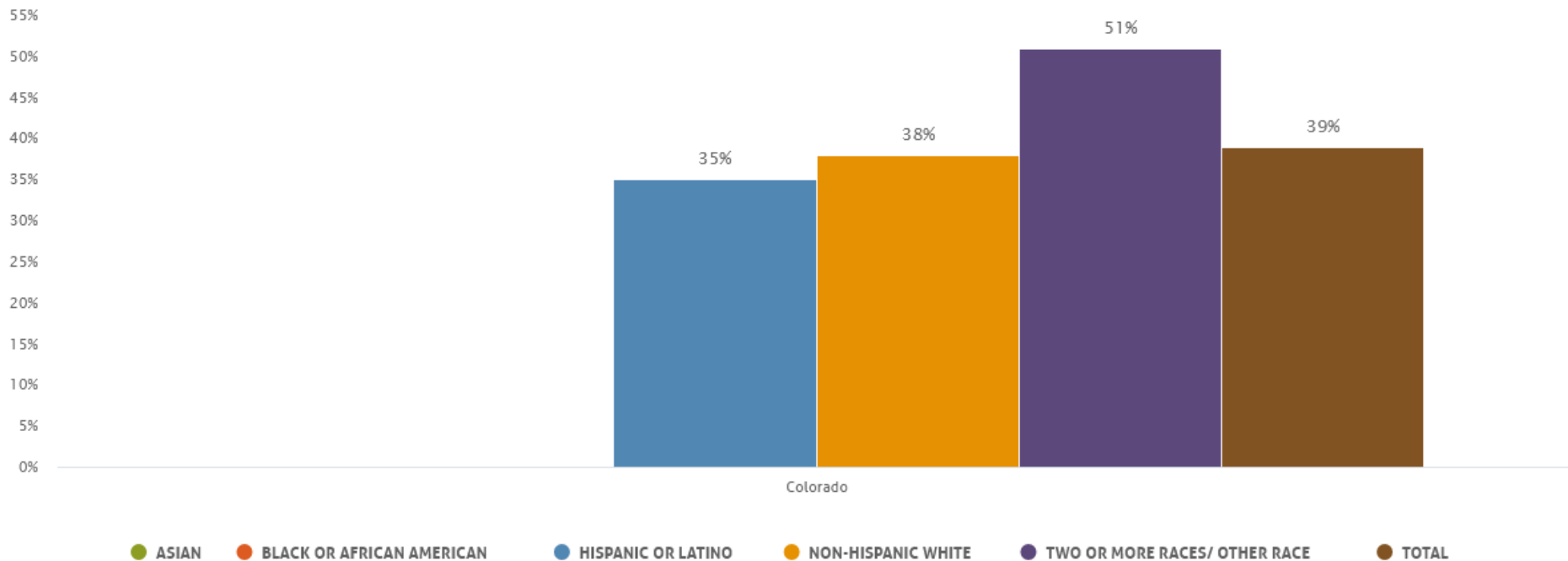
CHILDREN IN EXTREME POVERTY BY RACE AND ETHNICITY (PERCENT) - 2021



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Latino/a/x, and Mixed-Race Children are Disproportionately More Likely to Live in Households at Risk for Eviction or Foreclosure

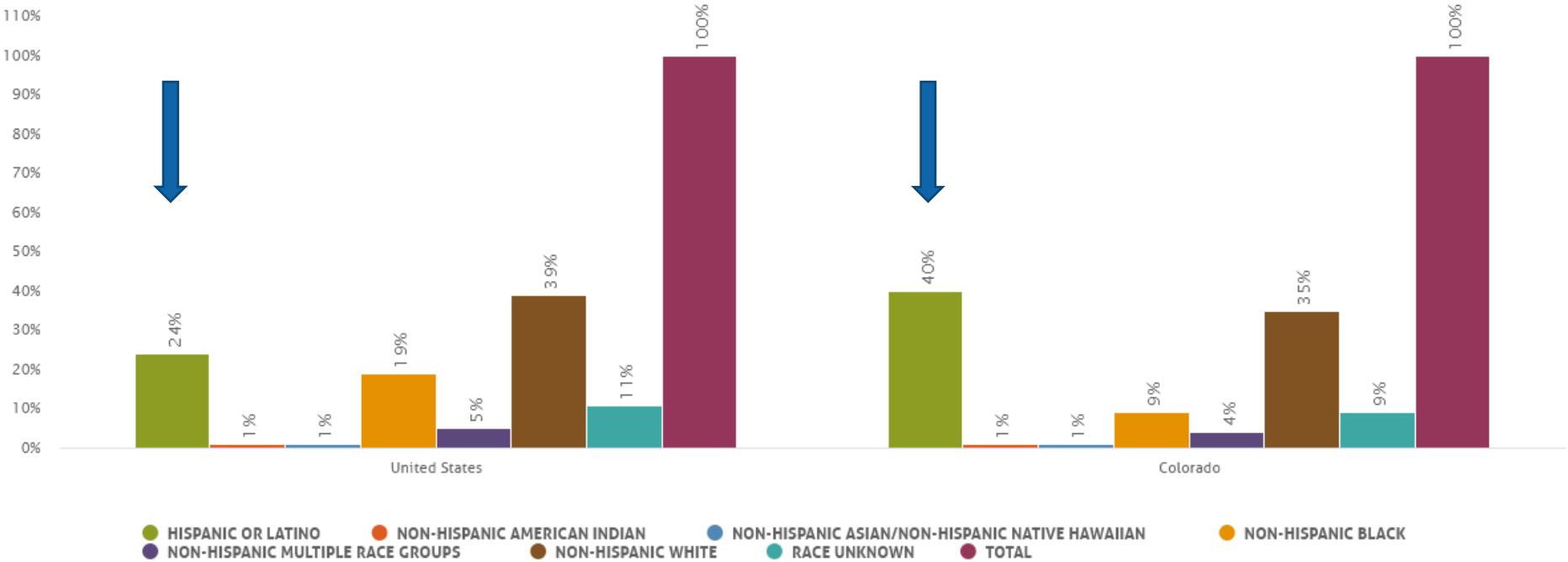
HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN THAT ARE NOT CAUGHT UP ON RENT OR MORTGAGE AND ARE VERY OR EXTREMELY LIKELY TO HAVE TO LEAVE THIS HOME DUE TO EVICTION OR FORECLOSURE IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS BY RACE AND ETHNICITY: TOTAL (PERCENT) - 2021



The Annie E. Casey Foundation from datacenter.kidscount.org

In Colorado, Latino/a/x children are more likely to be confirmed victims of maltreatment.

CHILDREN WHO ARE CONFIRMED BY CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES AS VICTIMS OF MALTREATMENT BY RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN (PERCENT) - 2020

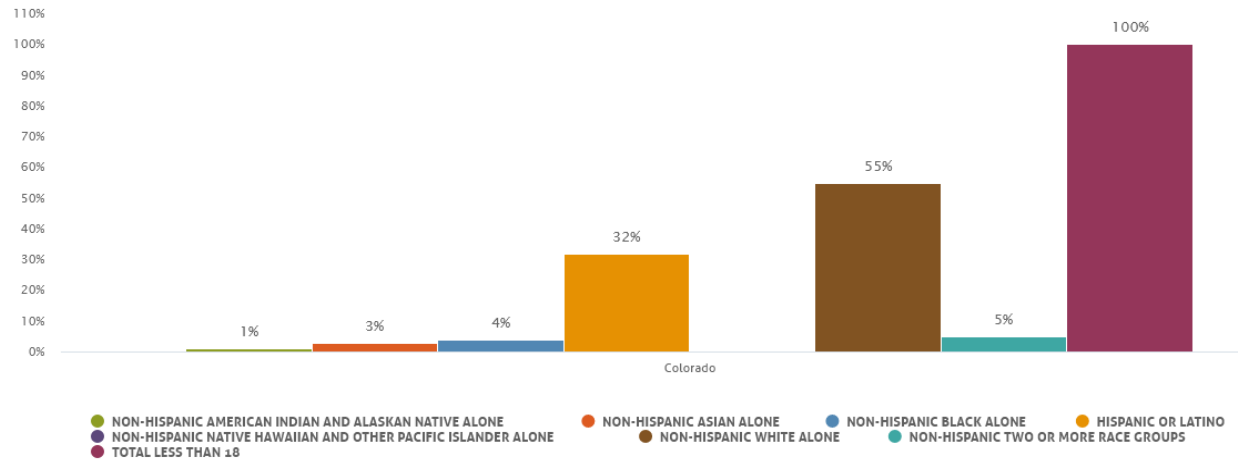


The Annie E. Casey Foundation from datacenter.kidscount.org

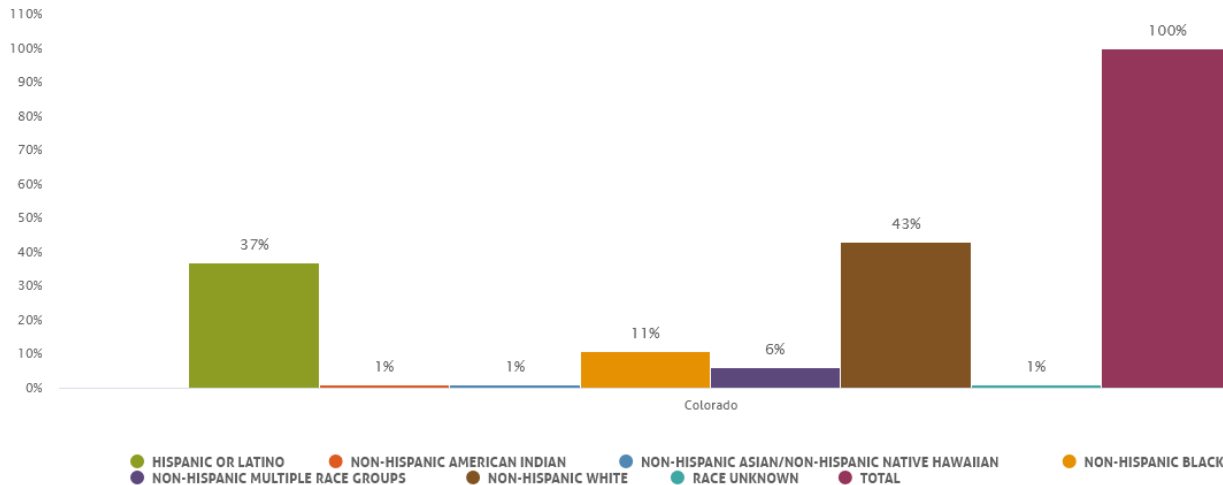
In Colorado, Black, Indigenous, Latino/a/x and children of color are overrepresented in foster care

45% of Colorado children are BILPOC.

CHILD POPULATION BY RACE AND ETHNICITY (PERCENT) - 2021



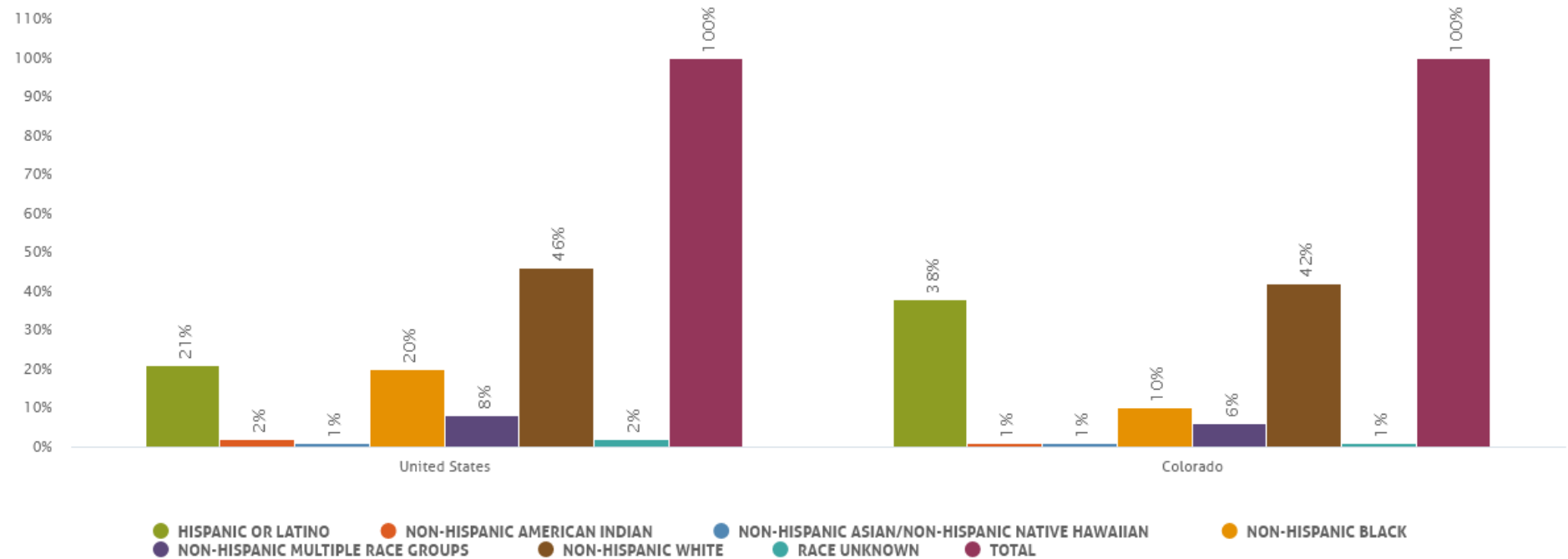
CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE BY RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN (PERCENT) - 2020



But represent 56% of the children in foster care.

In Colorado, Latino/a/x children are more likely to enter foster care

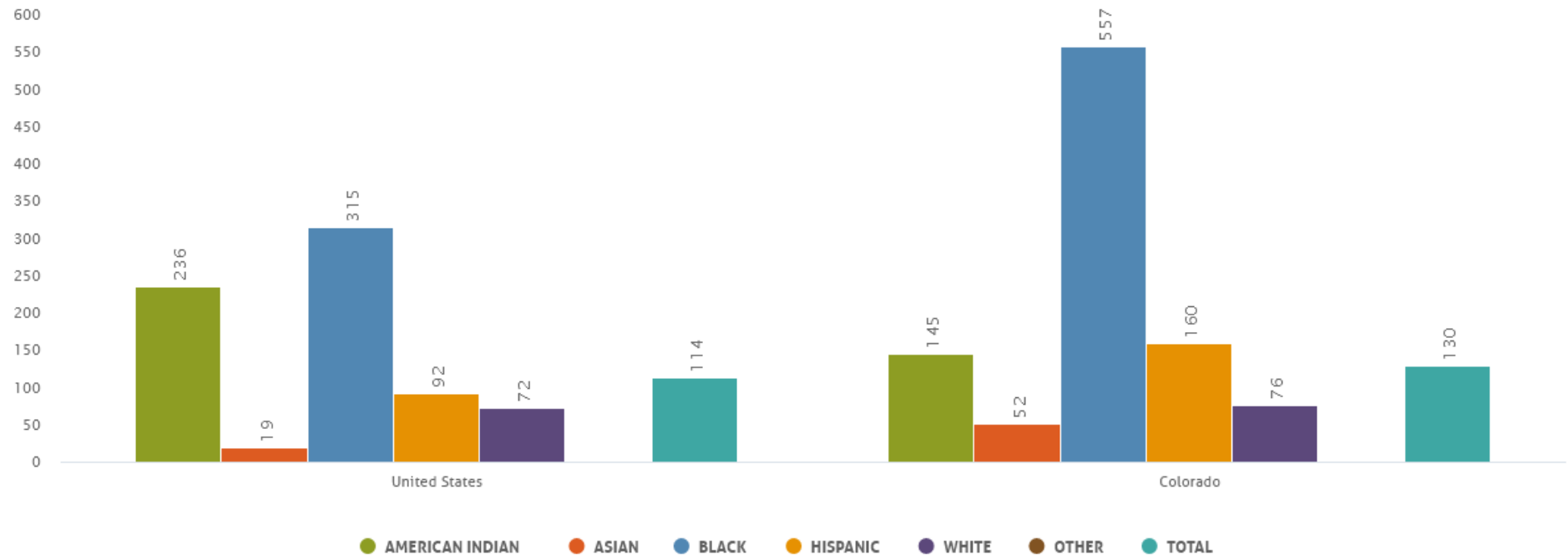
CHILDREN ENTERING FOSTER CARE BY RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN (PERCENT) - 2020



The Annie E. Casey Foundation from datacenter.kidscount.org

In Colorado, Youth are More Likely to Reside in Congregate Settings. Black Youth are Starkly More Represented in These Settings.

YOUTH RESIDING IN JUVENILE DETENTION, CORRECTIONAL AND/OR RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES BY RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN (RATE PER 100,000) - 2019



The Annie E. Casey Foundation from datacenter.kidscount.org

Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect

■ Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect

- + Hotline data (including data on screened-out calls) offer the first touchpoint for learning about who is reporting and for what circumstances, including the underlying needs of families.
- + Nationally, in FFY 2020, data show **professionals submitted 66.7 percent of child abuse and neglect (CA/N) reports.**
- + The highest percentages of reports are from **legal and law enforcement** personnel (**20.9%**), **education** personnel (**17.2%**), and **medical** personnel (**11.6%**).
- + **Nonprofessionals submit 17.0 percent of reports** with the largest category of nonprofessional reporters being parents (6.3%), other relatives (6.3%), and friends and neighbors (4.0%).
- + Unclassified sources submit the remaining 16.3 percent
- + In Colorado, **Black children** are the focus of calls to the child abuse hotline **1.27 times more** than their percentage of the population in Colorado.
- + **White children are underrepresented** in hotline calls compared to their portion of the state population, at a rate of 0.64.

■ Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect

+ Analysis of hotline data can help us:

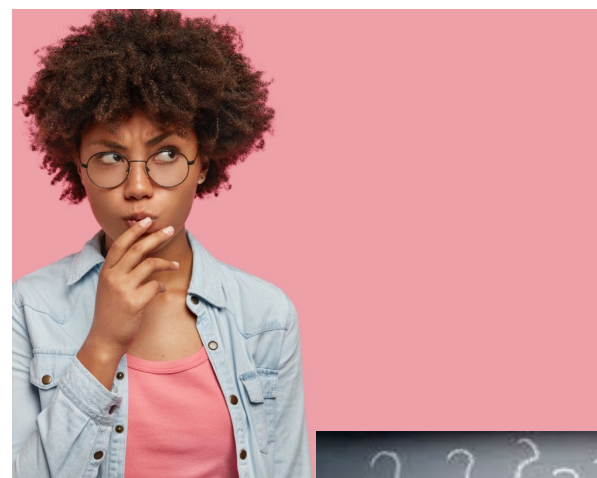
❑ Improve training for mandated reporters

- + For example, if a jurisdiction finds that a high percentage of calls from a certain group of mandated reporters (such as school staff in a particular school or neighborhood) results in a particularly large number of screened-out reports, focused mandated reporter training can clarify what constitutes maltreatment and can provide guidance on alternative sources of support for children and families.

❑ Identify communities from which a disproportionately high number of reports come can help target the development and placement of prevention services.

❑ Develop approaches to provide an alternative to hotlines by helping connect families to resources without a report to child protection being made

Questions



Fireside Chat



A Fireside Chat: Perspectives From Leaders In Child Welfare



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