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Early connections last a lifetime

Elevating Parent Voice in the Conversation of Perinatal Substance Use

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March 27, 2023



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Funding Acknowledgment

This program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$5,000,000 with 0 percent financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit [HRSA.gov](https://www.hrsa.gov).



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Objectives:

- Participants will increase their awareness of substance use disorders among parents as a public health concern and chronic disease instead of the historical early childhood system response that can often be stigmatizing, shaming, and punitive.
- Participants will gain insights into strategies that reduce stigma.
- Participants will develop strategies to support engagement of pregnant and parenting individuals and their families in the early childhood system.





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- ✓ Recurrent use
 - ✓ Clinically Significant impairment (@ home, health, or work)
 - ✓ Encompasses 10 separate drug classes
 - ✓ Designation of Mild, Moderate, Severe based on # of symptoms



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Perinatal Substance Use Disorder

Perinatal substance use disorder is defined by misusing legal and/or illegal alcohol or drugs during pregnancy. This includes drugs such as alcohol, opioids, amphetamines, or tobacco.



Parental Substance Use Continues to be a Major Driver of Child Welfare Involvement



Children ages birth to 5 years are entering care more often due to parental substance use (60%); in comparison to children & youth (ages 6-12 29%; ages 13-18 10%)

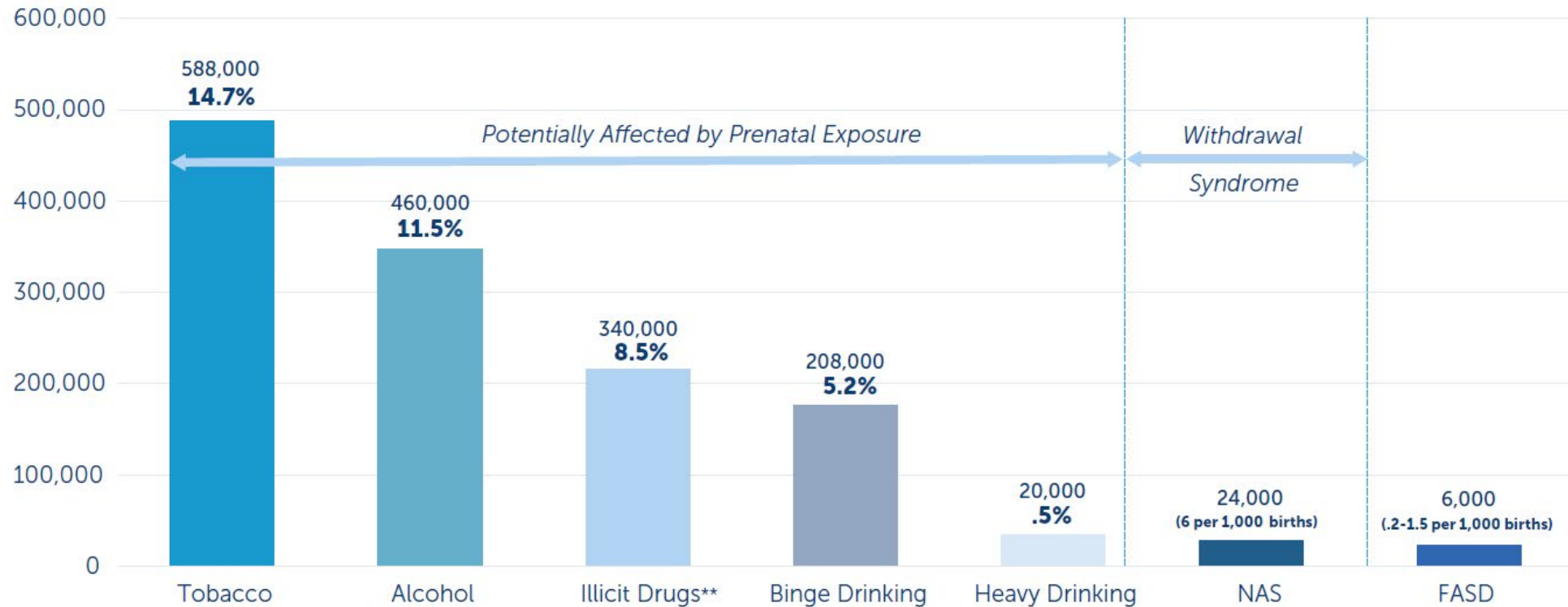
Infants under the age of 1 are the fastest growing age group of children entering foster care. Between 2011 and 2018, there was a 24% increase in infants being placed in foster care (~50,000 infants in 2018).

Prenatal exposure to substances is linked with higher rates of child welfare involvement for babies under one year of age. More than 61% of infants with substance exposure at birth are reported to child protective services before they turn one year old, which is much higher than babies who are not substance exposed (4.5% referred to child welfare).



Infants Affected by Prenatal Exposure

Estimated Number of Infants* Affected by Prenatal Exposure,
by Type of Substance and Infant Disorder, 2017



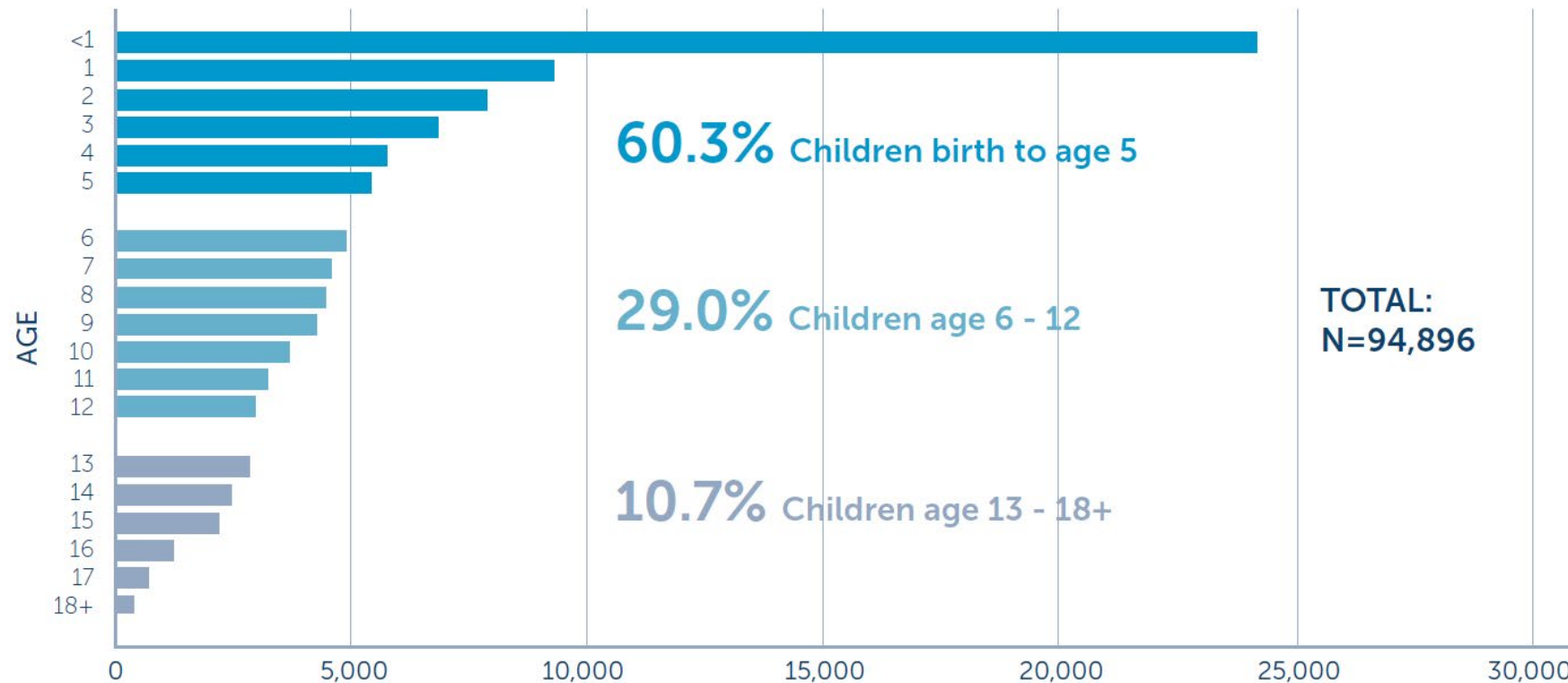
Source: (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2018; Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, 2018; Patrick et. al., 2015; Milliren et. al., 2017; CDC, 2002)

Children who Entered Out-of-Home w/Incidence of Parental Substance Abuse



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Number of Children who Entered Out-of-Home Care with Incidence of Parental Alcohol or Drug Abuse as an Identified Condition of Removal, by Age at Removal in the United States, 2019



Source: Child welfare and alcohol and drug use statistics. (n.d.). National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare. Retrieved January 6, 2023, from <https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/research/child-welfare-and-treatment-statistics.aspx>. Note: Estimate based on children who entered out-of-home care during Fiscal Year

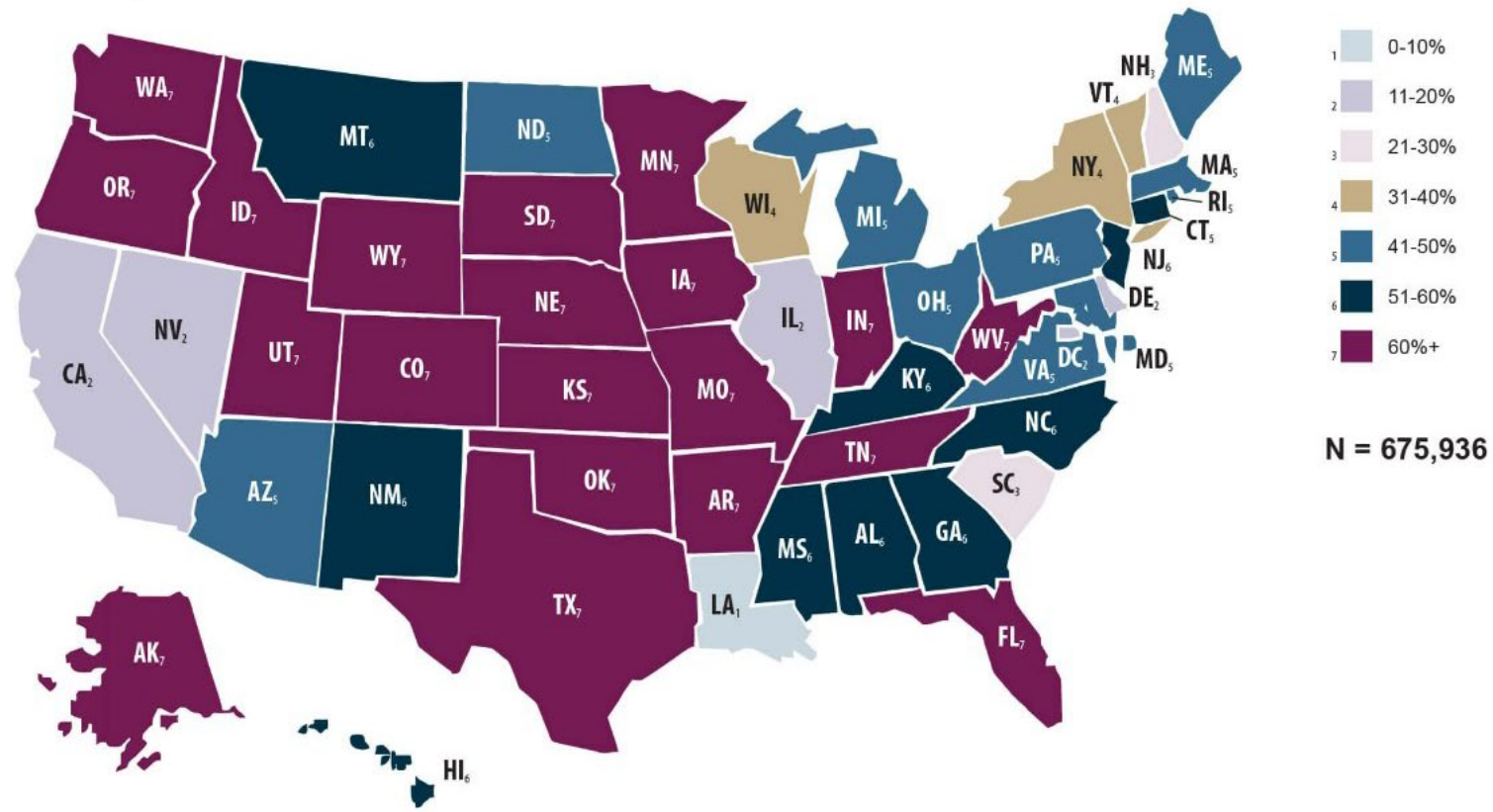
Percent of Children Removed with Parental Alcohol or Drug Abuse as Identified Condition of Removal (2019)



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Under Age 1

National Average 50.7%



Source: AFCARS data, 2019v1, <https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/research/child-welfare-and-treatment-statistics.aspx>



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