



# CSE Youth Administrative Analyses

Presented to the King County CSEC Task Force 10/25/19

Michael Pullmann  
University of Washington  
pullmann@uw.edu

# Purpose

---

- ▶ Describe the system involvement of youth identified as commercially sexually exploited or at high risk of CSE by DCYF
- ▶ Update our analyses from three years ago with new data and new types of analyses



# Methods

---

- ▶ Between January, 2015 and June, 2019, 150 youth were identified by DCYF in DSHS Region 2 (King, Everett, Skagit, Whatcom, San Juan, and Island Counties).
- ▶ **Important:**
  - ▶ Formal screening began phasing in during winter, 2016. Full implementation of screening began July 2017.
  - ▶ All youth were state dependent and placed out-of-home at least once.
  - ▶ Many of these youth were identified before a standardized screening instrument was implemented
  - ▶ Not all identified youth were “confirmed” as CSEC
  - ▶ This is NOT a population estimate of the number of commercially sexually exploited children in the region or the state!
  - ▶ CSEC youth only identified in other regions are not included in this sample.
- ▶ Some youth were already engaged in services when identified, others were newly referred, and others were unable to be located (on the run)



## What we learned from the last analysis...

---

- ▶ Early involvement in child welfare (**average age of first referral = 5.5**)
- ▶ An average of **27 living situation changes** while in child welfare
- ▶ Average length of stay for any single living situation about 2 months
- ▶ Approximately **90% ran away** from a child welfare placement at least once



## What we learned from the last analysis...

---

- ▶ Age of first runaway event from child welfare was **14.2** years
- ▶ Age of first detention episode was **14.3** years
- ▶ Of those who ran away, the **average number of runaway episodes was nearly 9**
- ▶ **Runaway episodes made up nearly 19% of the total number of days** that CSEC youth were in the care of child welfare



## What we learned from the last analysis...

---

- ▶ **76% had at least one juvenile detention episode.** Of those youth, the average number of detention episodes was 9
- ▶ Though youth were in the care of Child Welfare in King County, 67% of those with a detention episode had at least one detention episode in another county

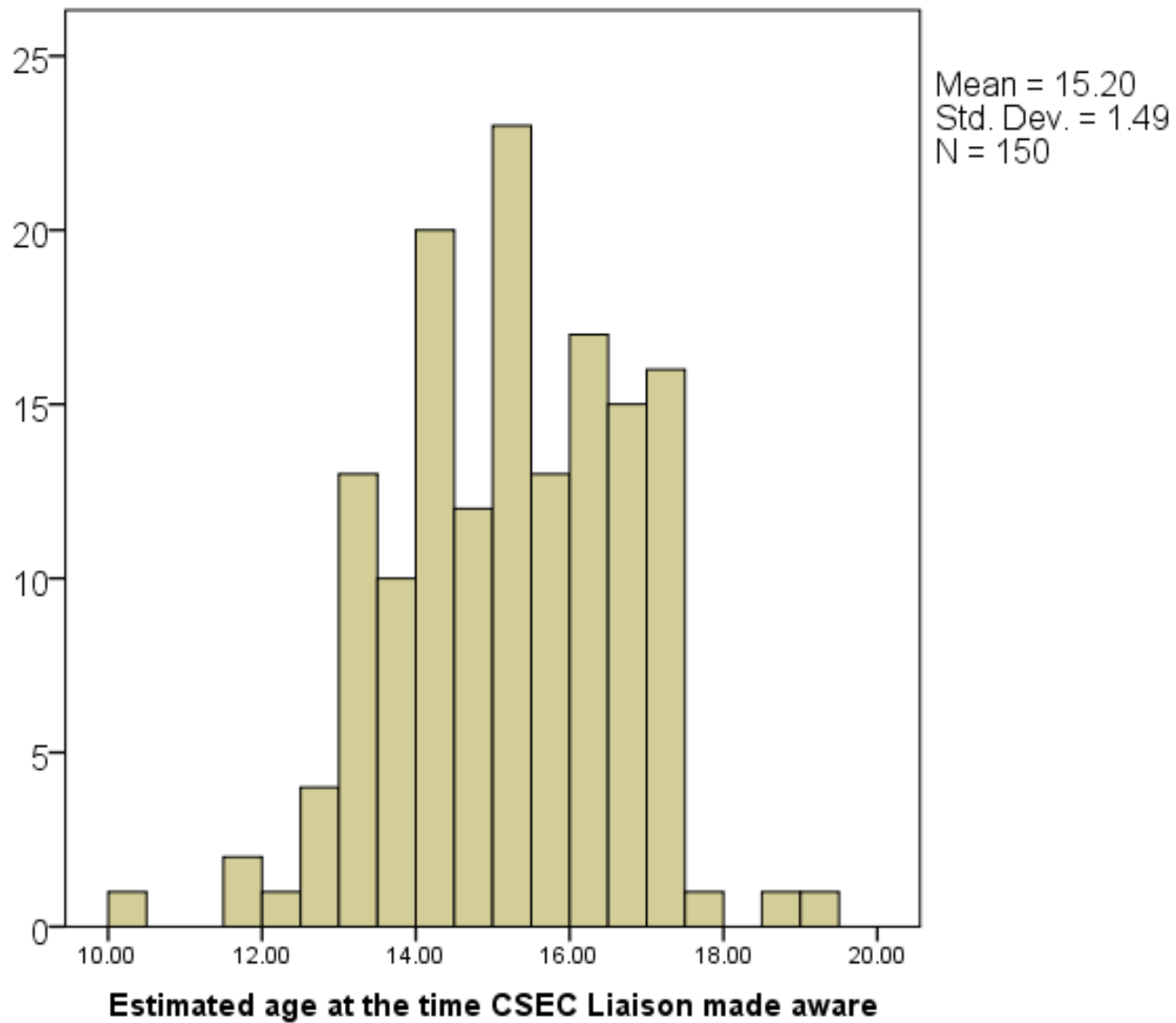


Department of Children, Youth,  
and Families (Child Welfare)

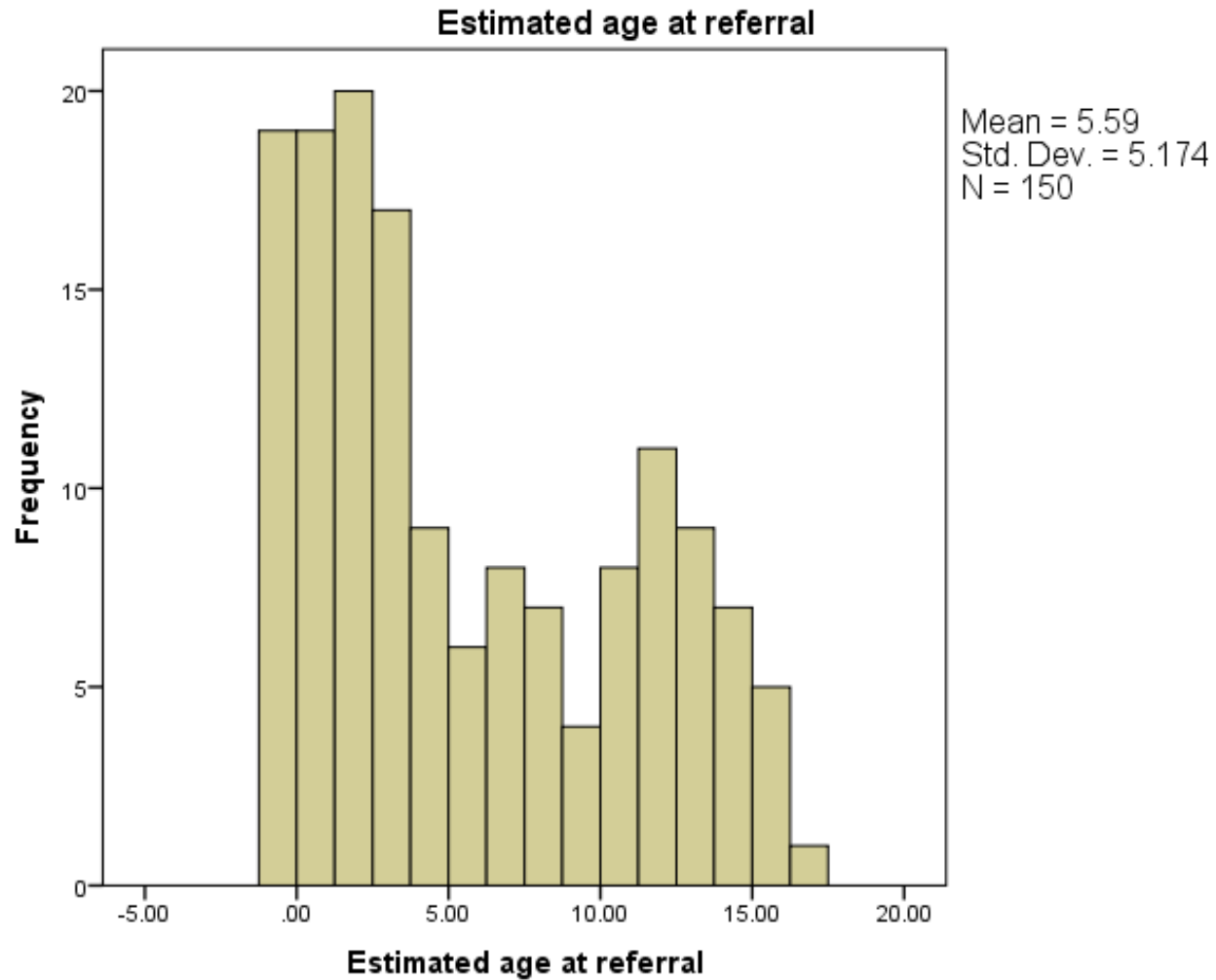
# Demographics of 150 Youth Identified within DCYF

	Frequency	Percent
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
White	60	40.0%
Black/African American	26	17.3%
Mixed Race	37	29.3%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	18	12.0%
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4	2.7%
Hispanic	19	12.7%
<b>Gender</b>		
Female	134	89.3%
Male	16	10.7%
<b>Exploitation status</b>		
Confirmed	55	36.7%
Suspected/Indicated	57	38.0%
At risk	38	25.3%

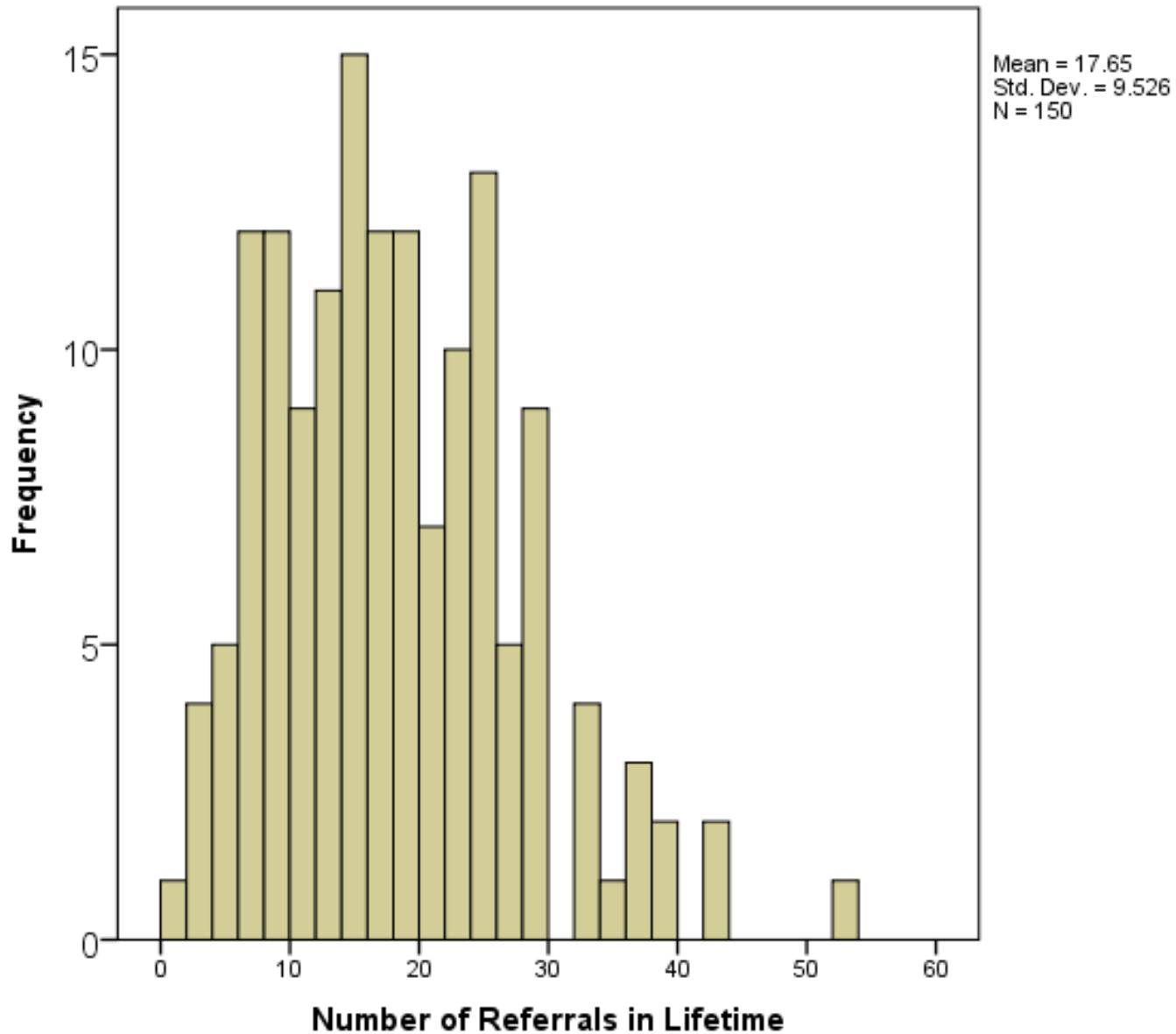




# Age of first referral to DCYF



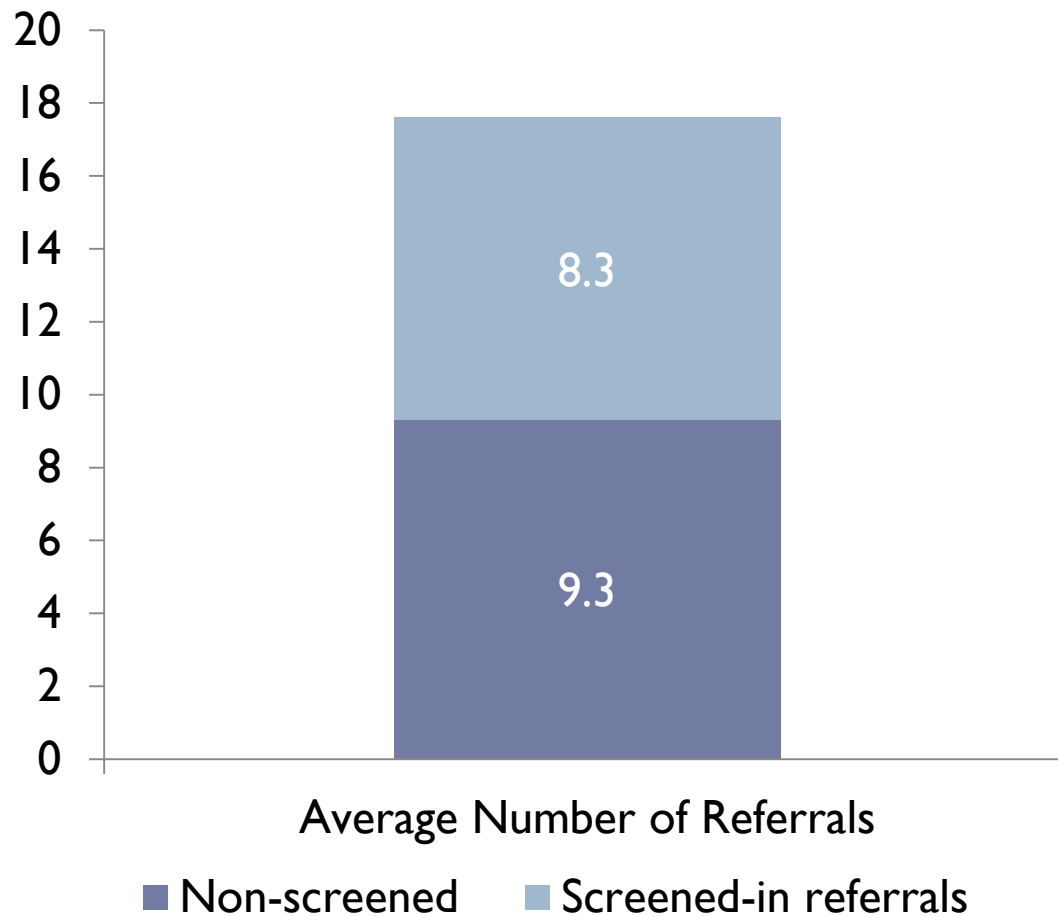
# Total number of DCYF referrals, screened-in or screened-out



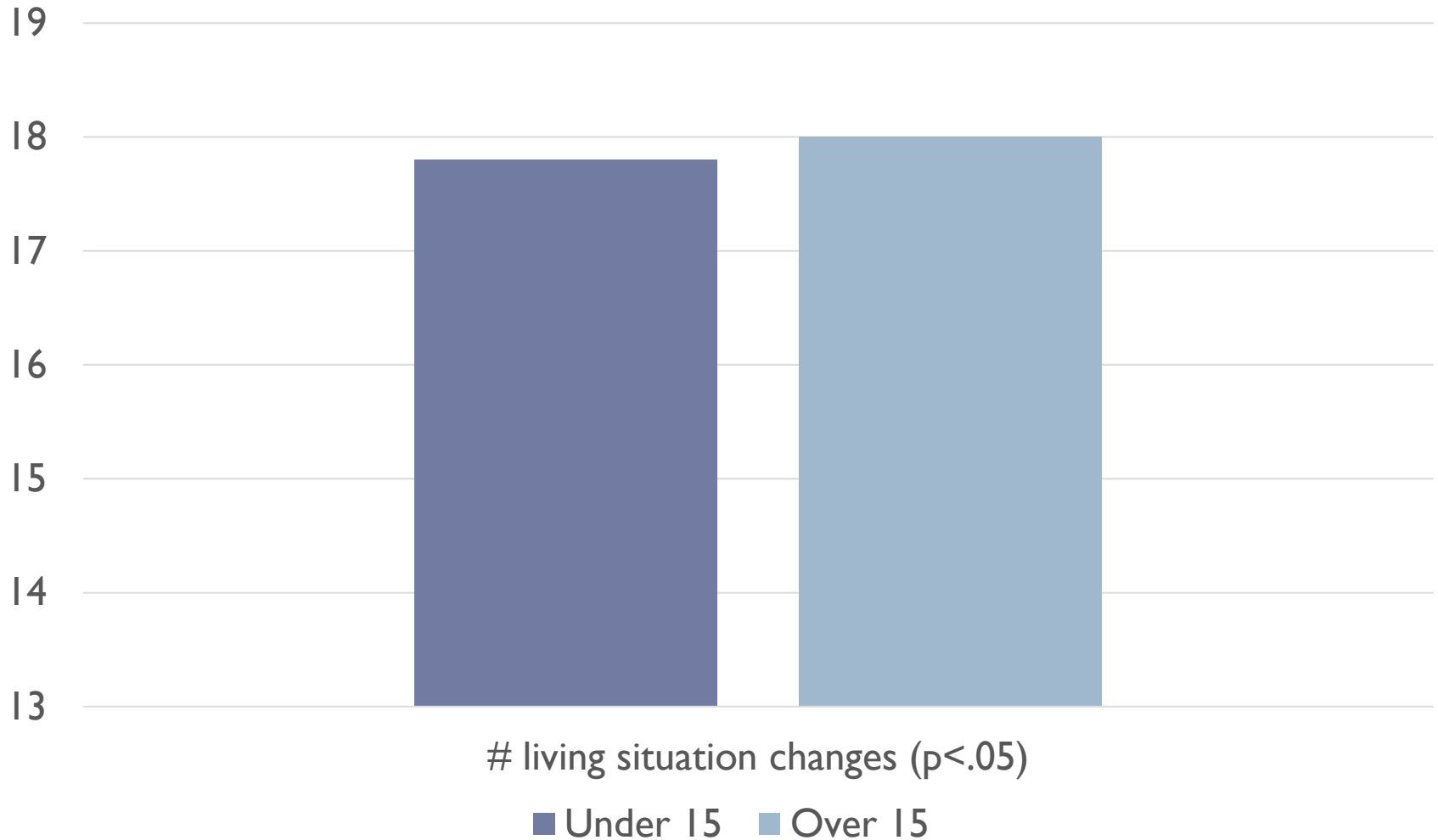
# Lifetime Referrals to DCYF (reports of abuse/neglect)

---

- ▶ Mean founded referrals = 1.5



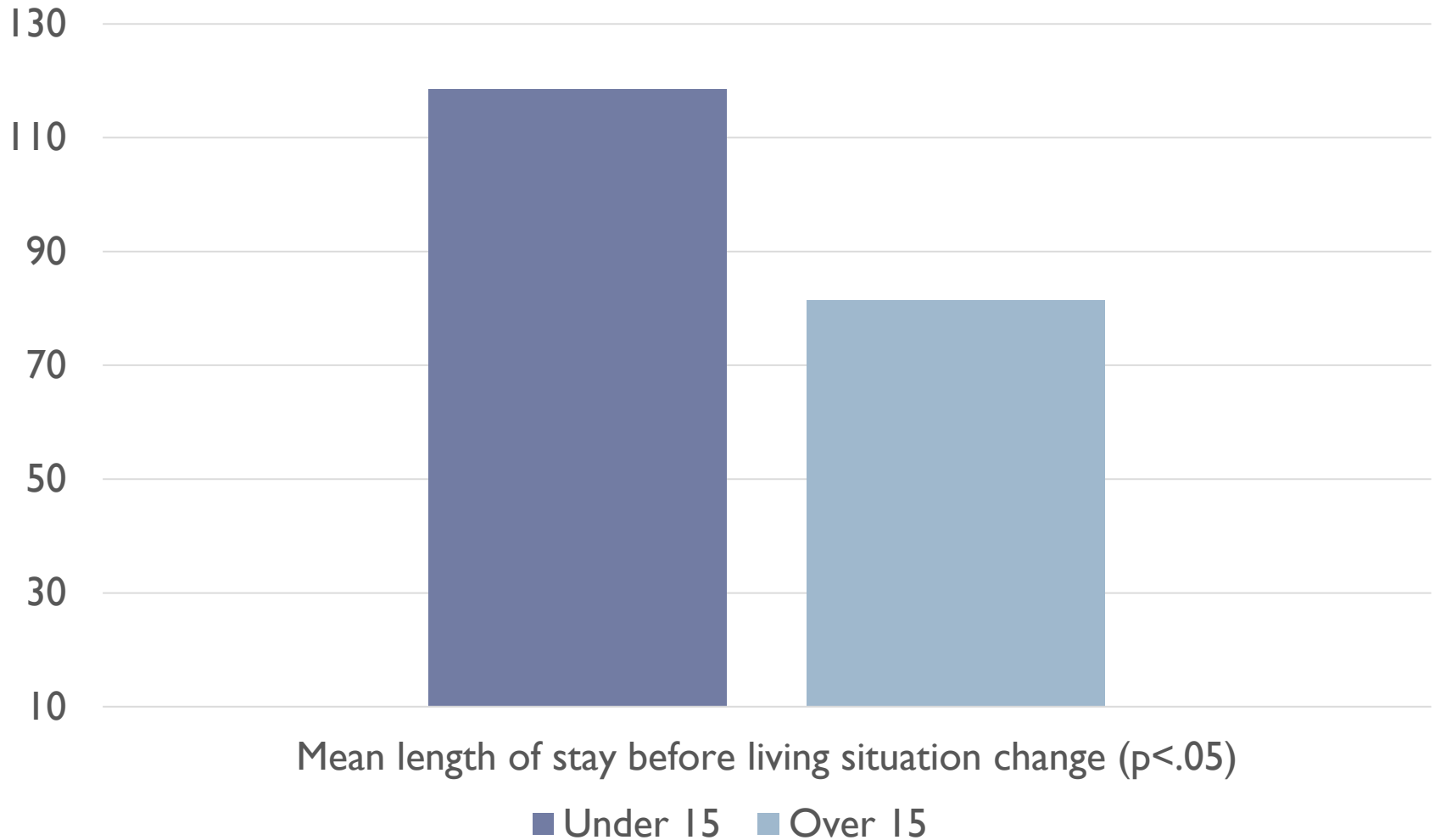
# Number of living situation changes\*



\*“Number of living situations” includes any temporary placement disruption such as runaway, juvenile detention, as well as permanent disruptions such as change in foster home

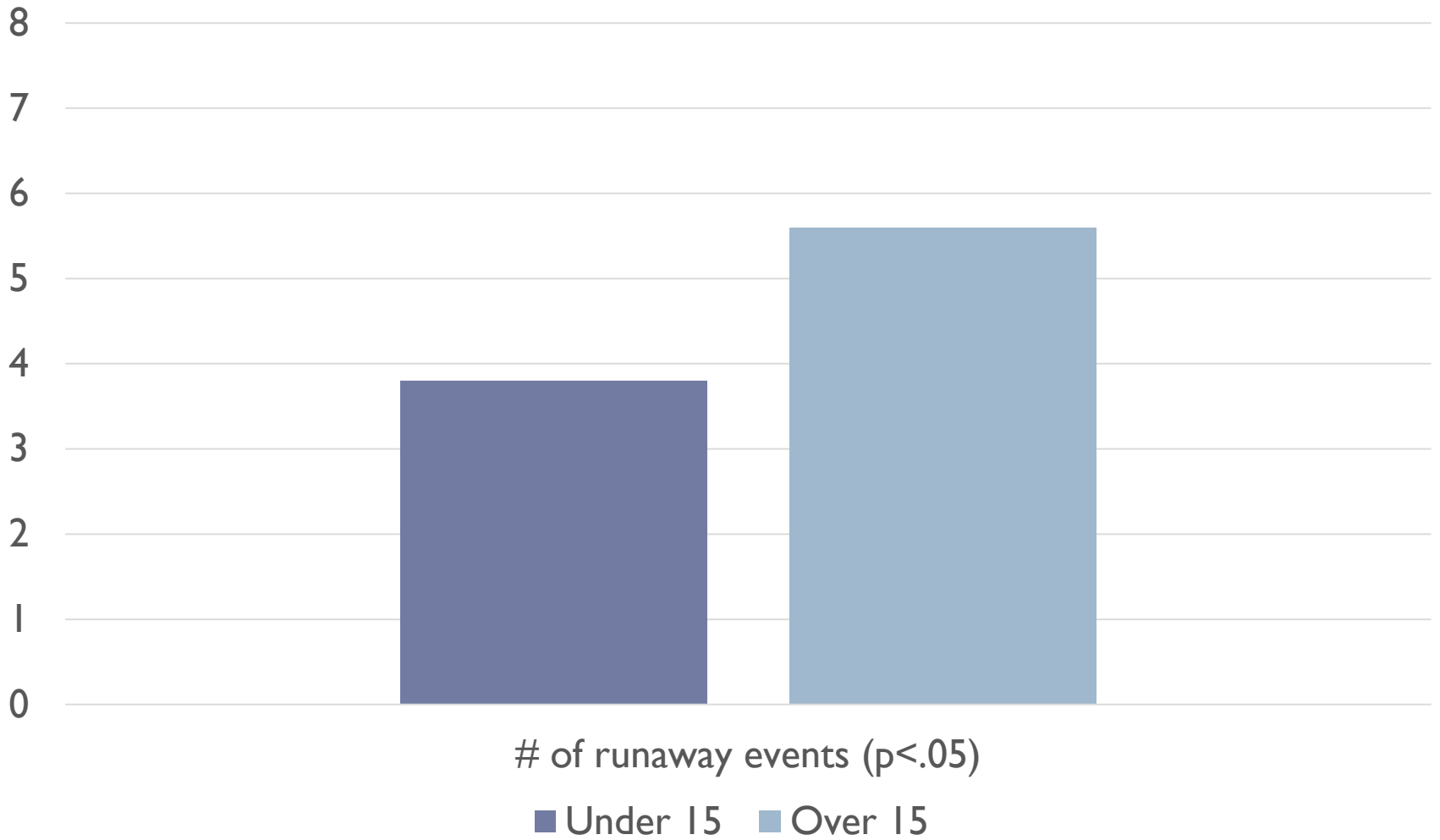
# Mean number of days in living situation

---



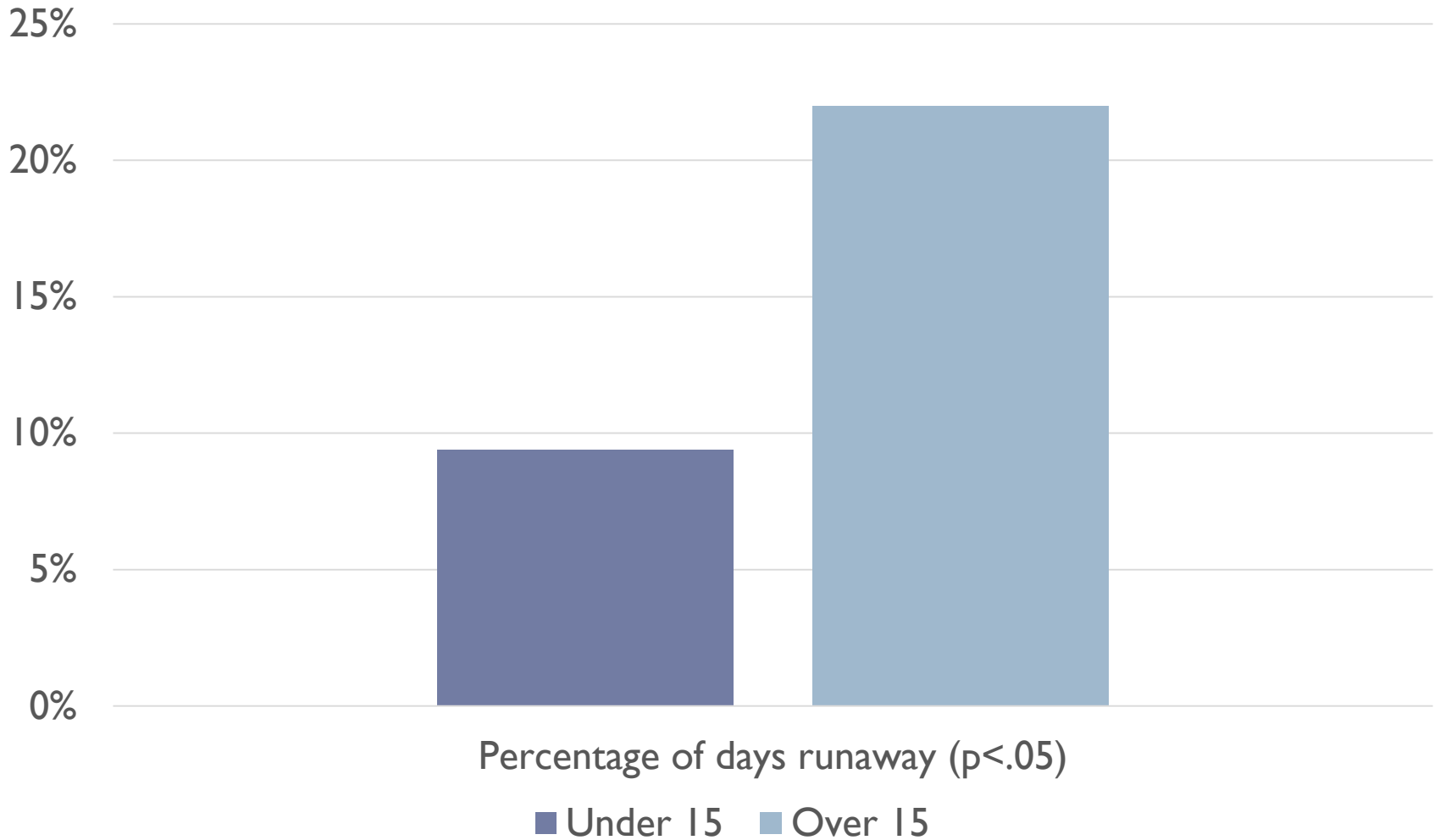
# Mean number of runaway events

---



# Percentage of total days in CW on runaway

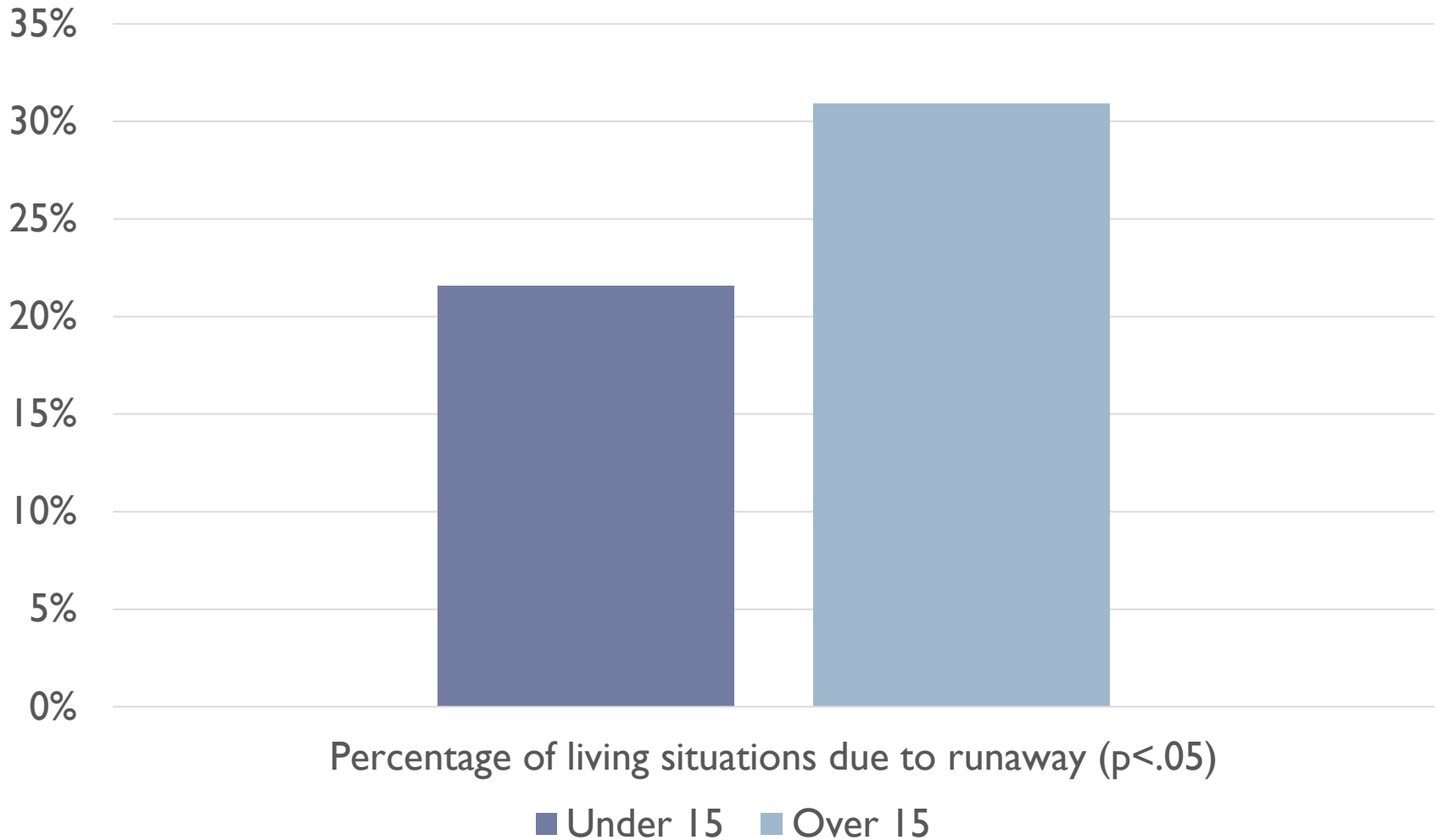
---



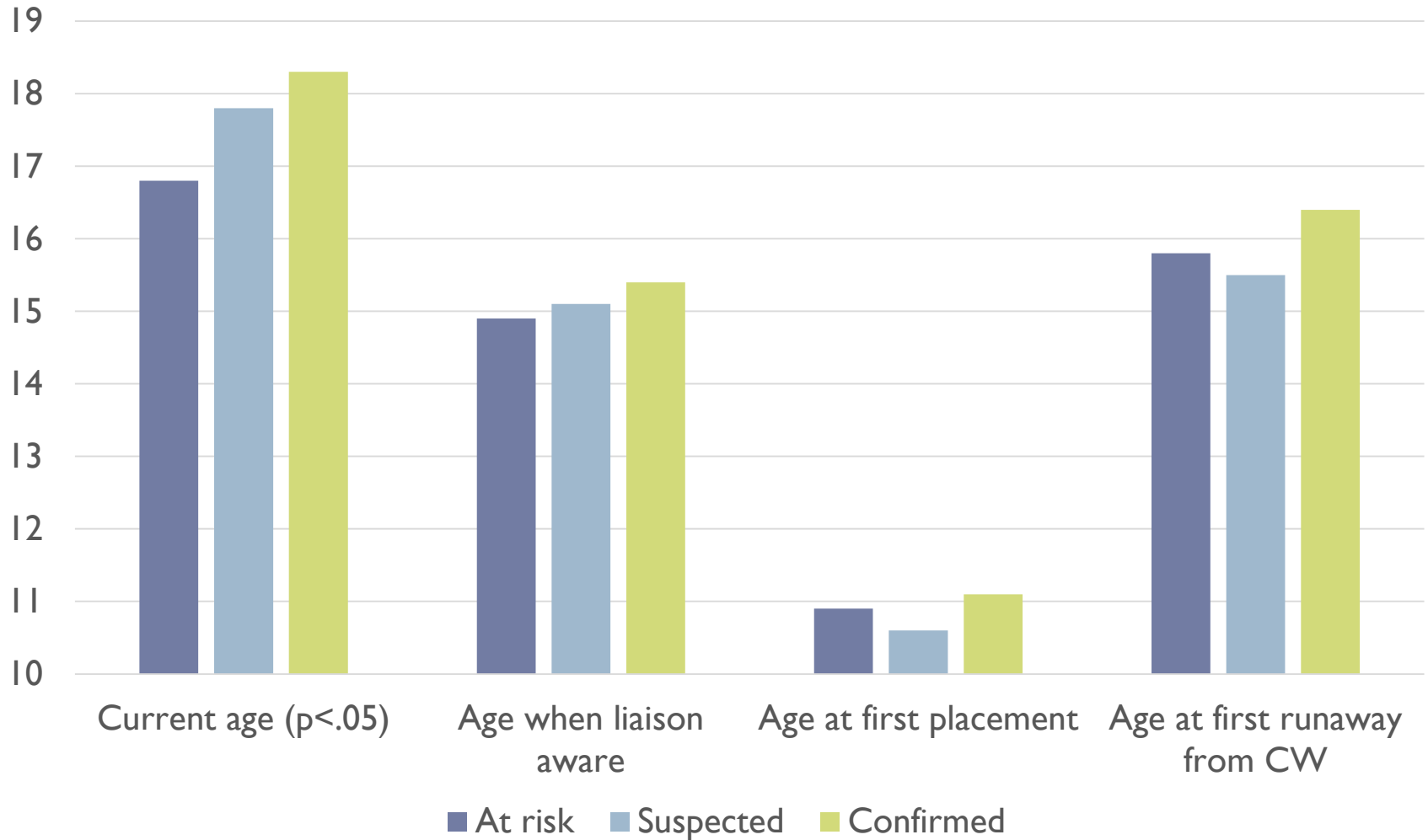


# Percentage of living situation changes in CW due to runaway

---

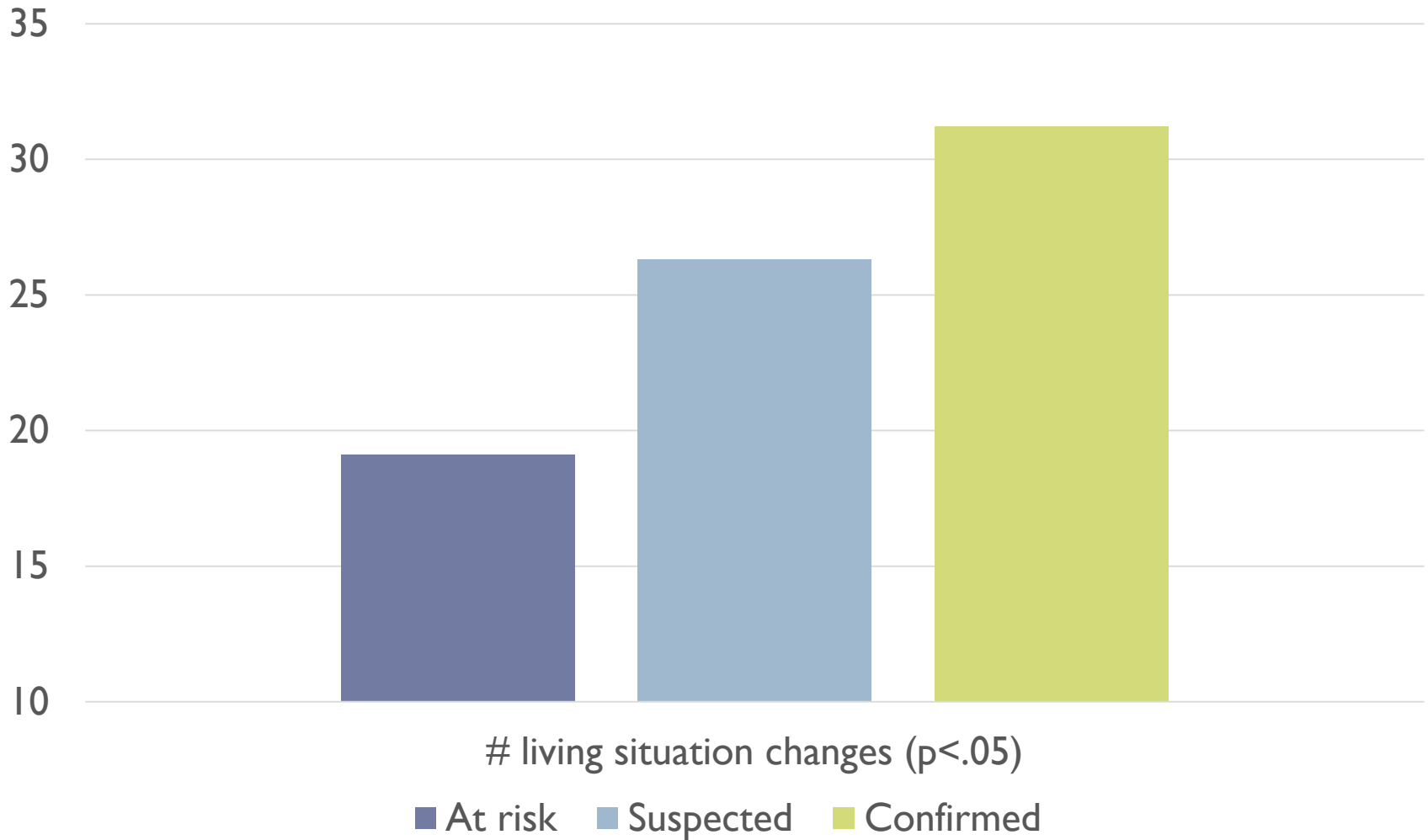


# Confirmed youth were older at time of analyses, but no other significant associations with age



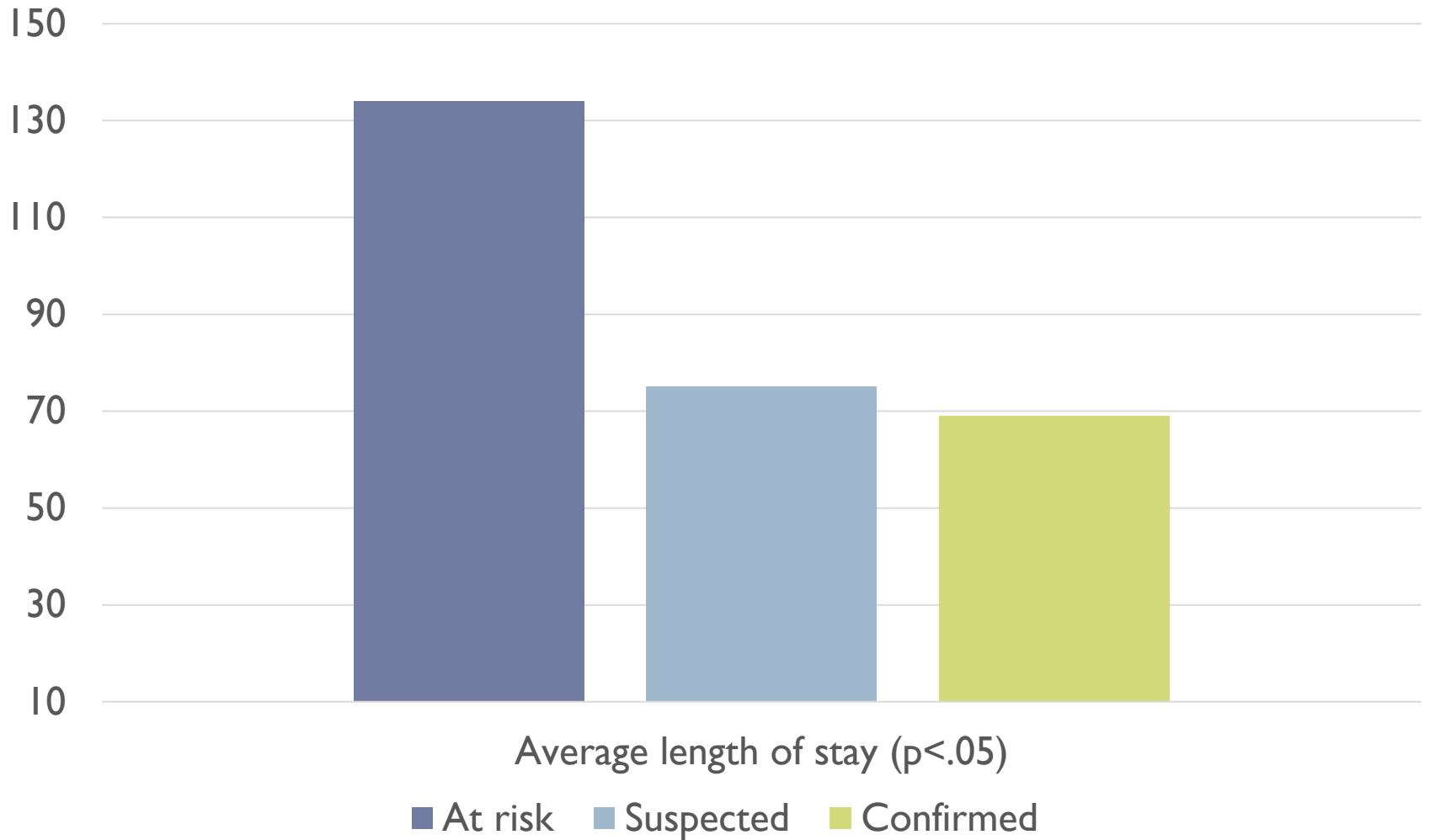
# Confirmed youth had more living situation changes while in Child Welfare

---



# Confirmed youth had shorter lengths of stay in living situations

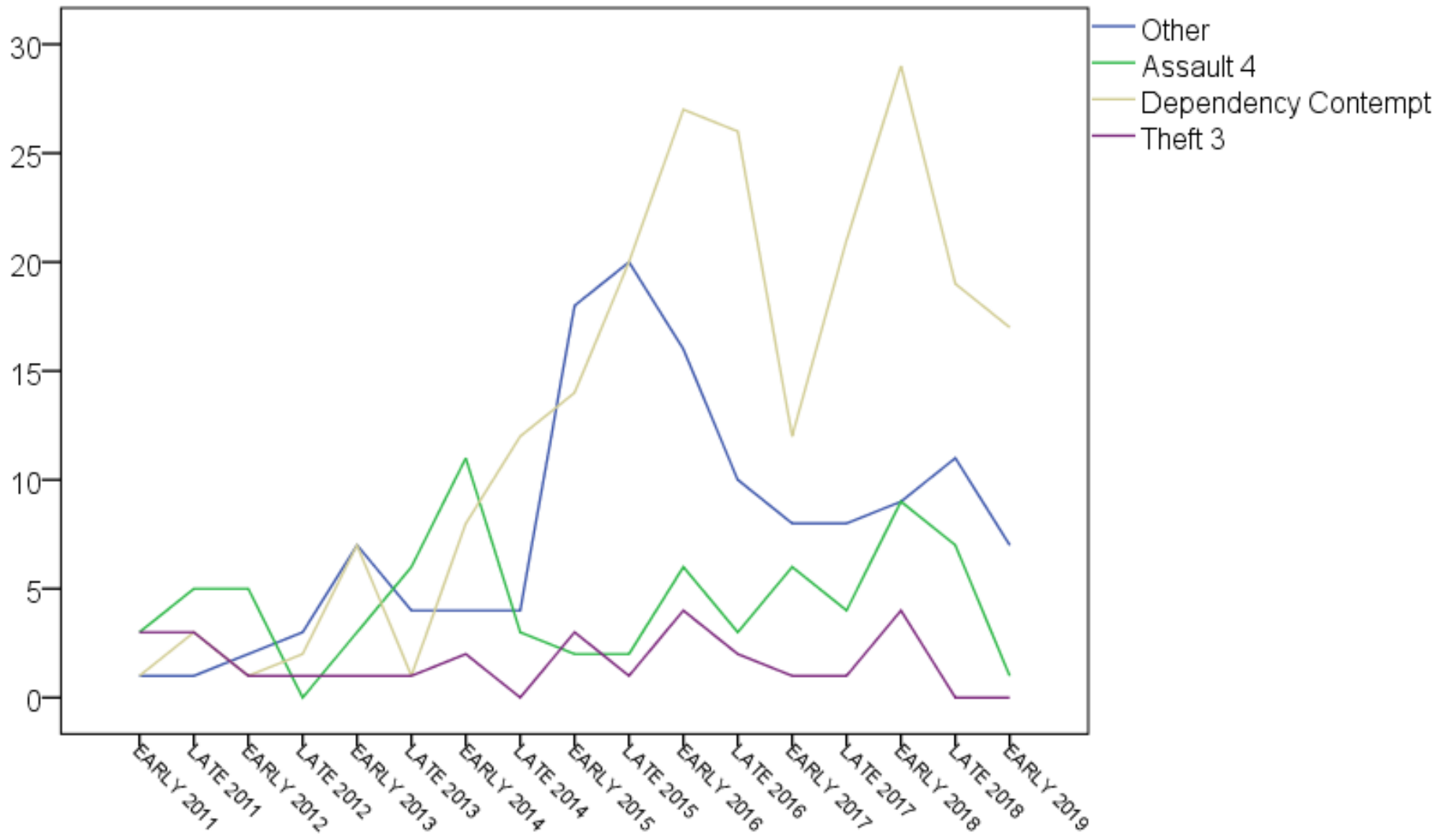
---



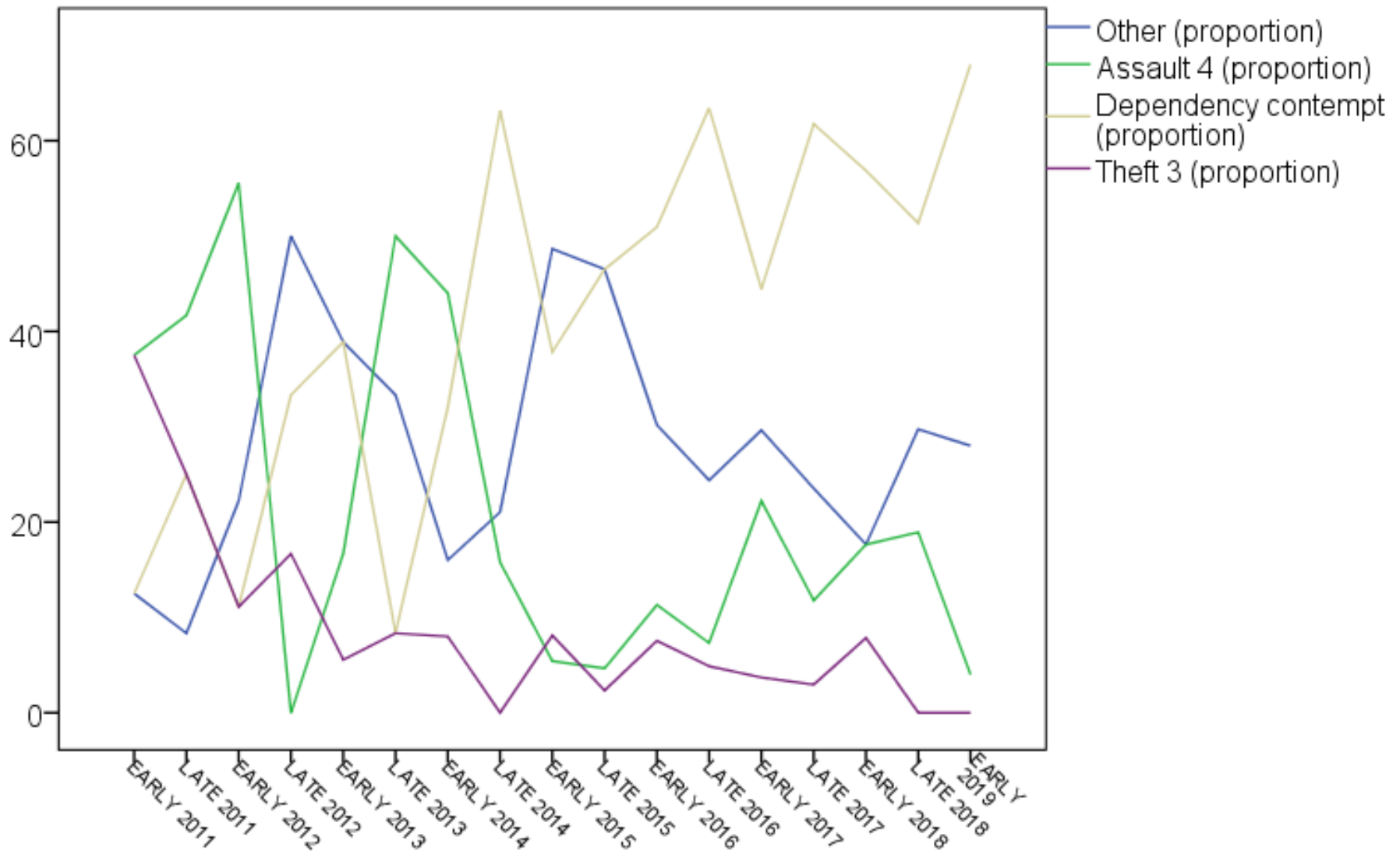


# Juvenile Detention

# Reasons for King County detention (numbers)



# Reasons for King County detention (percents)



# No significant differences in proportion with any KC detention episode

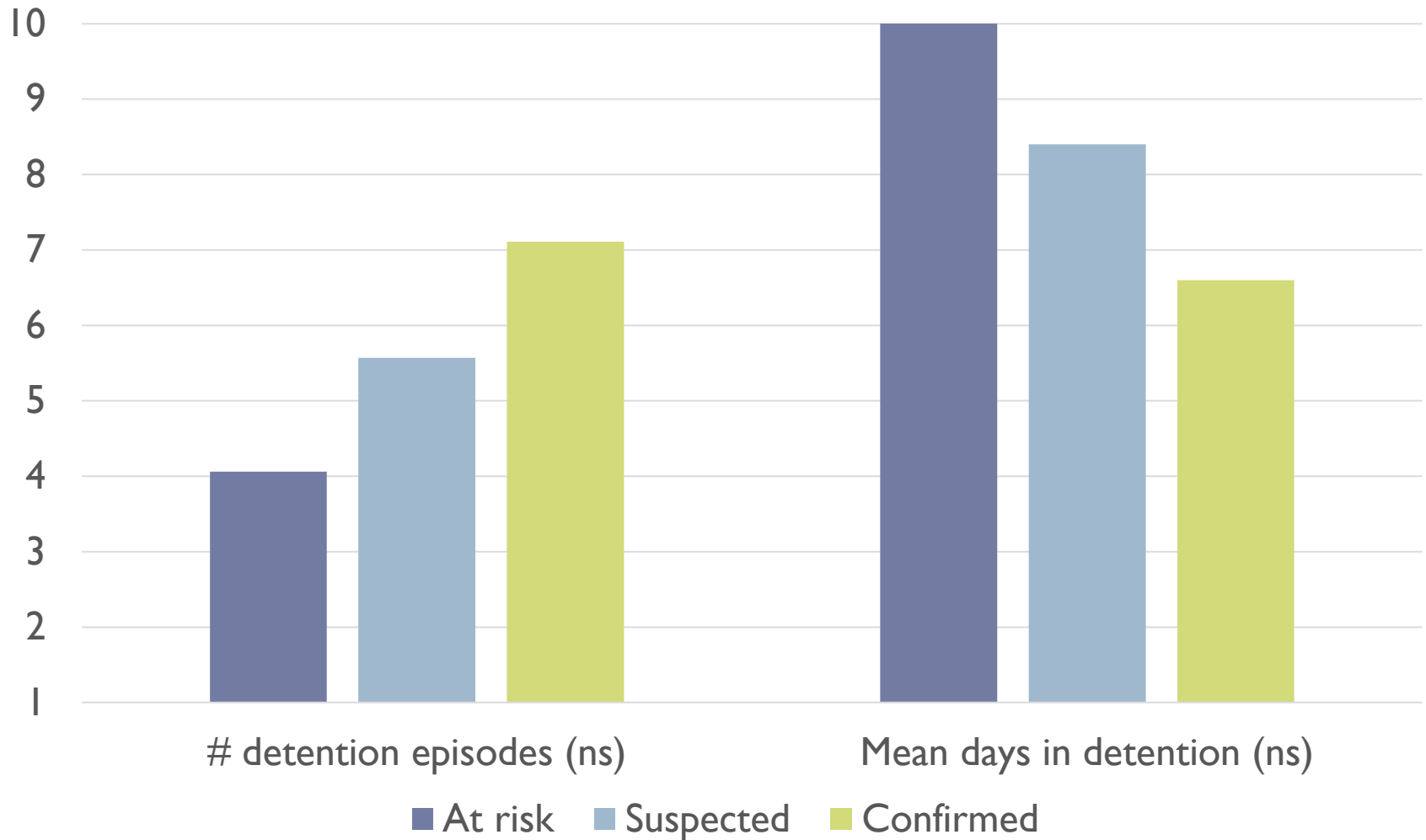
---





No significant differences in number of KC detention episodes or length of episodes, for those with any episodes

---



- 
- ▶ CSEC youth identified in Child Welfare have high rates of placement instability, characterized by excessive runaway episodes
  - ▶ Older youth have significantly less stability and spend over twice as much time on runaway episodes (30% of CW days)
  - ▶ The categorization of youth by the risk assessment into at risk, suspected, and confirmed is significantly associated with placement stability but not age at first placement in CW, or any juvenile detention information
- 

