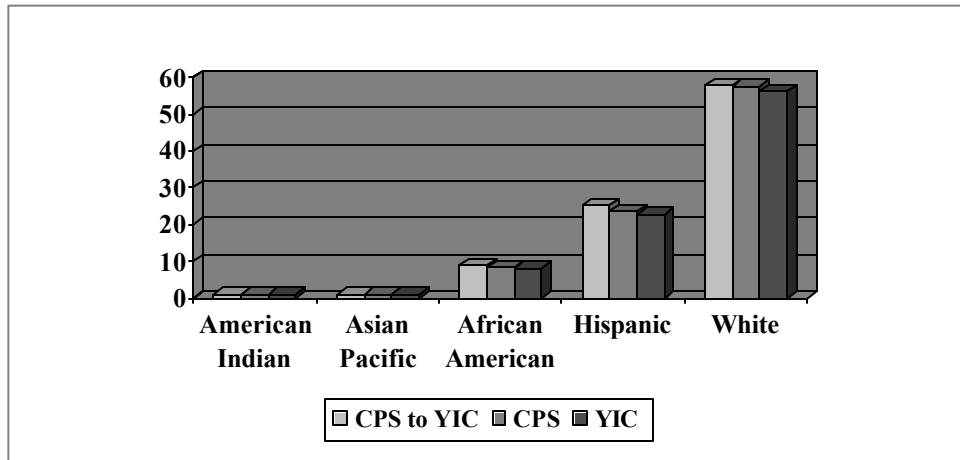


Chapter 4: Child Protective Services to Youth In Conflict Cases

In this chapter we examine a cohort of youth who enter the Child Welfare system as Child Protection clients and who returned to the system with a second case in the Youth in Conflict program area. Examination of this group allows us to look closely at the service patterns for youth who are making a transition from receiving services based primarily on their family's needs for service addressing child maltreatment to receiving services based, in part, on their own behavior in family and community contexts. These youth may be seen as moving "deeper" into the public child welfare system and may be at increased risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system.

Some 4,030 youth returned from a first CPS case to a second YIC case. Of these, 3,797 have known ethnicities and are the group discussed in this chapter. This group is similar to both the general CPS and YIC first service groups as can be see below. White, Hispanic and African American youth are slightly more likely to be found in this group.

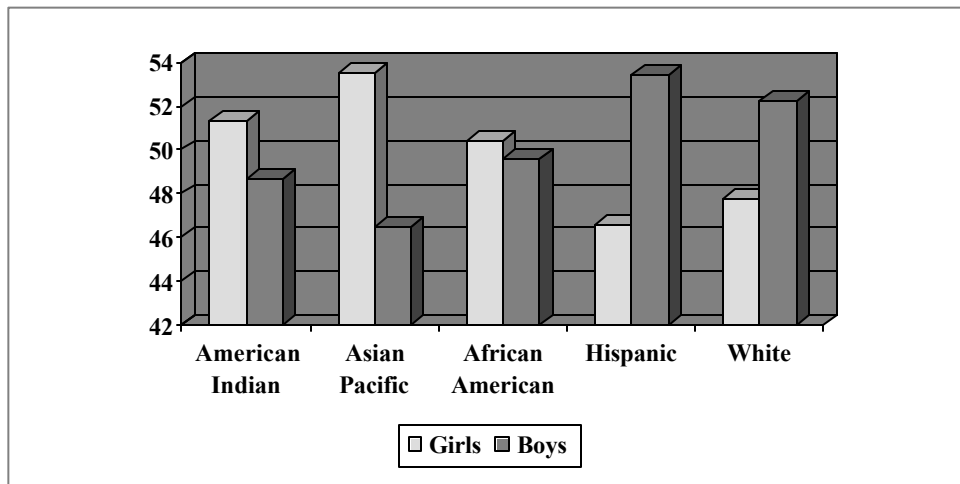
Figure 4.1: Minority Youth Served, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



Demographic Characteristics

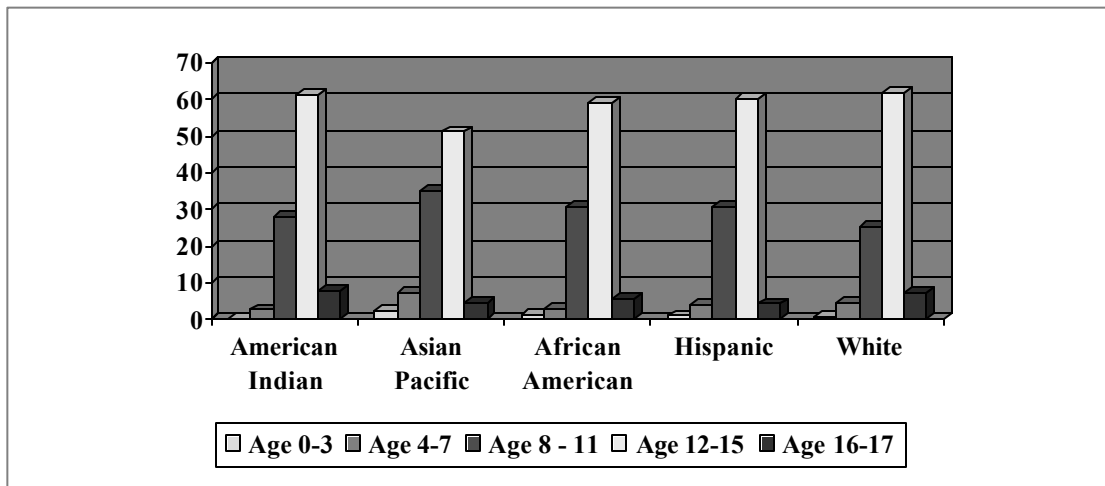
The gender composition of this group varies by ethnicity. For American Indian and Asian Pacific youth, girls are most likely to move from CPS to YIC. For African American youth, girls are also most likely but the percentage of girls are much more comparable to that of boys. For Hispanic and White youth, boys are much more likely to move from CPS to YIC.

Figure 4.2: Gender by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



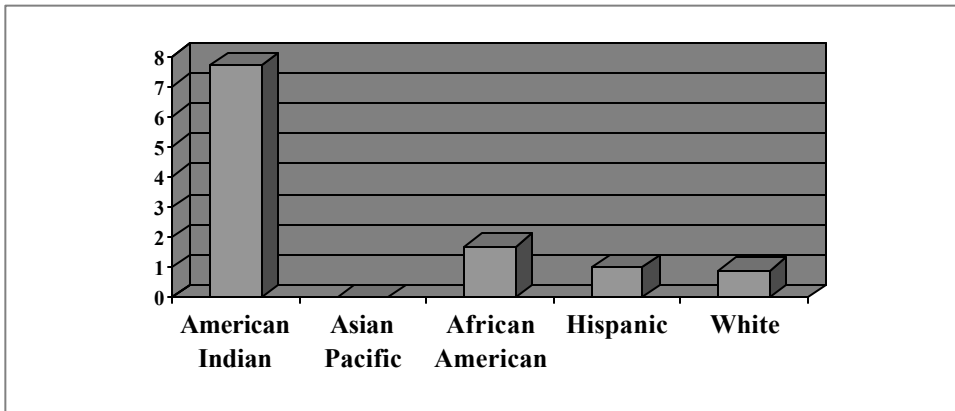
Age at entry to the CPS system also varies by ethnicity. For all groups the majority of youth entered their first CPS case at age 12 to 15, however this is less true for Asian Pacific youth who are more likely than other youth to enter at age 8 to 11. Compared to White youth, all minority youth are more likely to have entered their first case at the younger 8 to 11 age.

Figure 4.3: Age at Entry to First Case by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



With regard to extreme poverty, American Indian youth are substantially more likely to be found among the extremely poor, followed by African American youth. American Indian youth are more than 7 times more likely to be extremely poor.

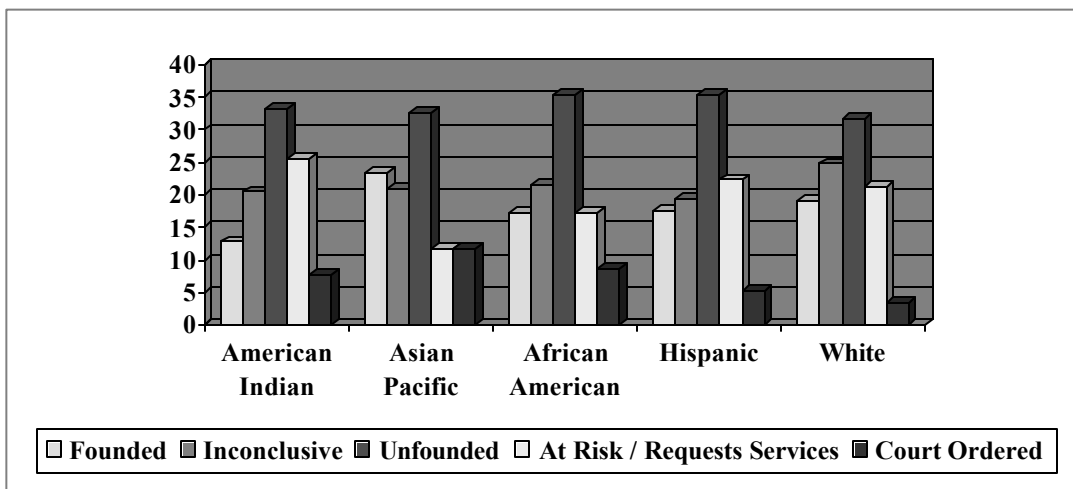
Figure 4.4: Extreme Poverty by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



Service Characteristics of the First (CPS) Case

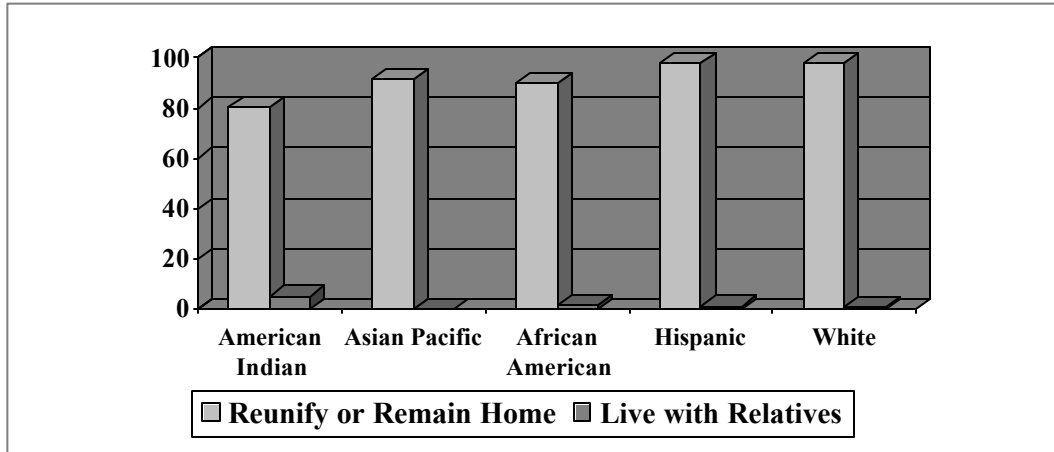
The program target variable indicates the reasons for involvement in the child welfare system. For this cohort of youth the pattern among these reasons is similar. For example, all youth are most likely to be described as being served as a result of unfounded child protection investigation, and all youth are least likely to be court ordered into services. The pattern varies for Asian Pacific youth, where they are much more likely than other youth to be served as a result of a founded investigation, and less likely to be served as a result of requesting services.

Figure 4.5: Program Target, First Case (CPS) by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



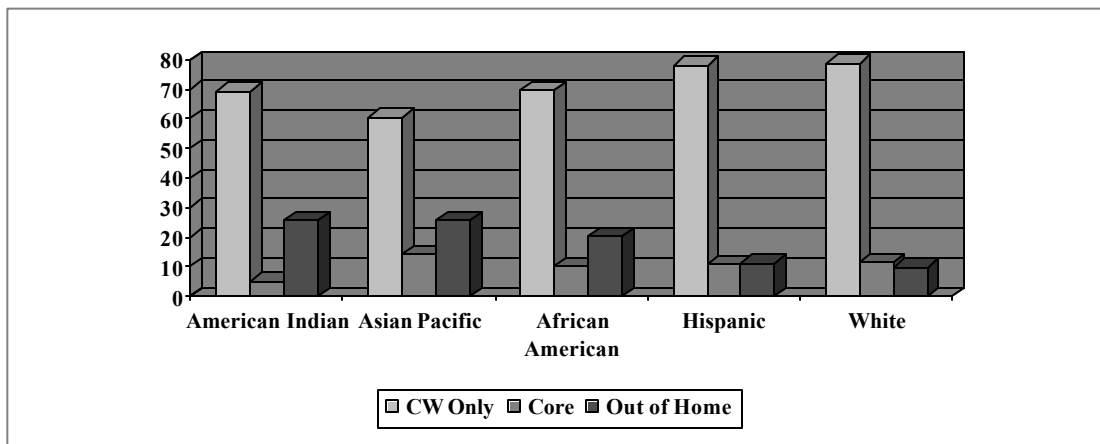
The vast majority of youth have a first case permanency goal of reunification or return home; upwards of 90% of all youth save American Indian youth have such a goal.

Figure 4.6: Permanency Goal, First Case (CPS) by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



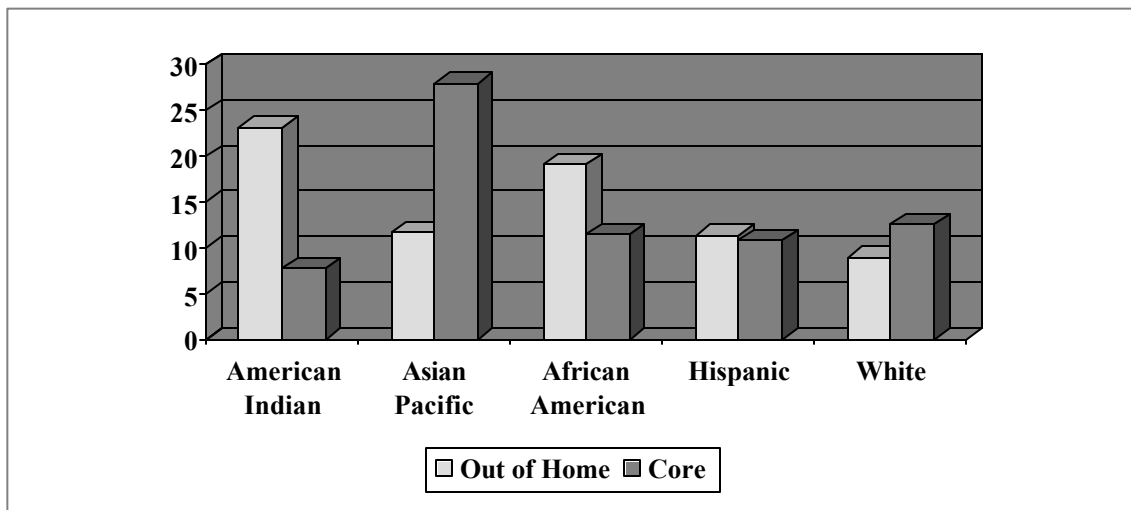
First services of the first case vary by ethnic group. While all groups are by far the most likely to receive casework supervision only as a first service, American Indian, Asian Pacific and African American youth are more likely than Whites to receive out-of-home care as a first service. American Indian youth are least likely to receive a Core service.

Figure 4.7: First Service of the First Case (CPS) by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



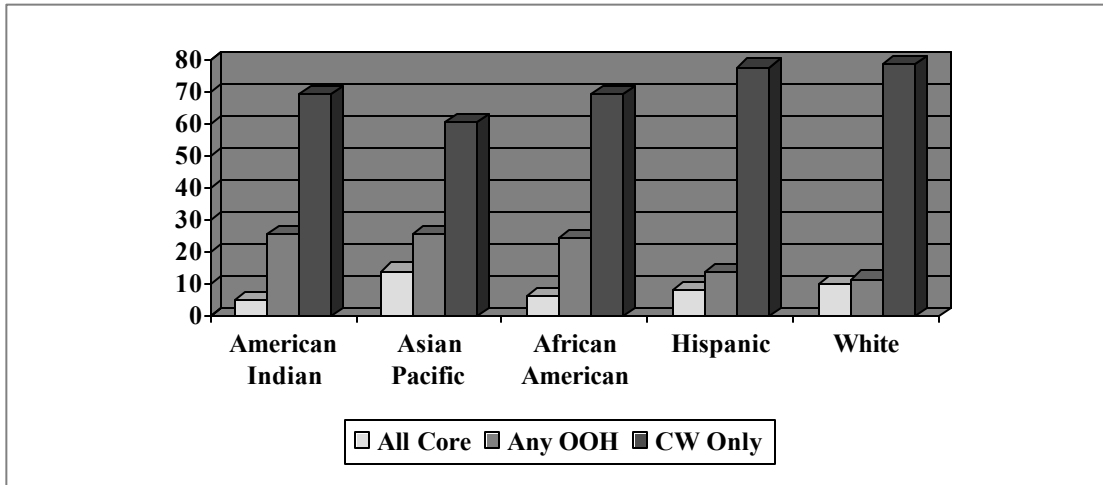
In terms of the last paid service prior to case closure, American Indian youth remain by far the least likely to receive a core service as a last service, followed by African American youth. Asian Pacific youth are most likely to end a case with a Core service. American Indian and African American youth are more likely than White, Hispanic and Asian Pacific youth to exit the case directly from an out-of-home placement.

Figure 4.8: Last Service of the First Case (CPS) by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



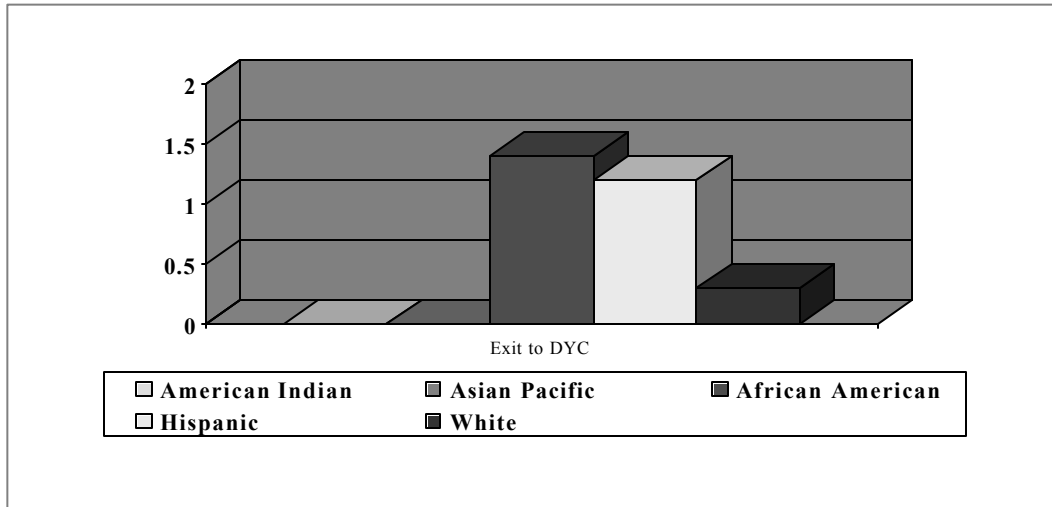
The broad pattern of services during the first CPS case indicates that American Indian, Asian Pacific and African American youth are more likely than white and Hispanic youth to receive some type of out-of-home care during the first case. Asian Pacific and White youth are most likely to have received all Core services.

Figure 4.9: Broad Patten of Services in the First Case (CPS) by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



As noted in Chapter 3, exit to DYC is measured with a variable indicating residence at case closure. This is an under-count of youth who may be transferring to the DYC system in that it does not count those who may not be physically living in a DYC facility at the time of case closure. At the end of the first case, a CPS case, some 1% of youth are living in DYC facilities, with African American and Hispanic Youth being more likely than White youth to be doing so. It is important to note that the vast majority of youth, in excess of 90% for all groups, are living with parents or relatives at the close of the first case.

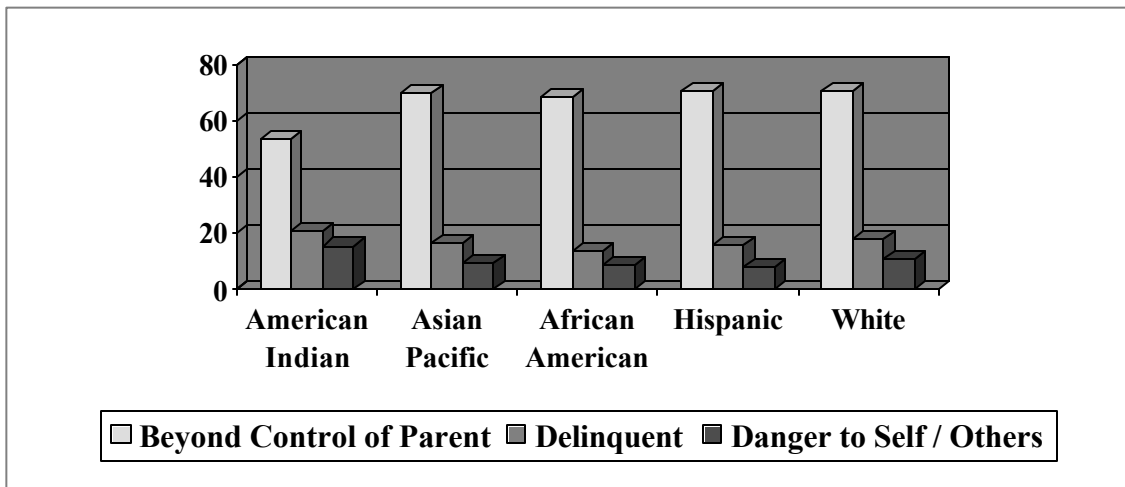
Figure 4.10: Residence at Closure of the First Case (CPS) by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



The Second Case, YIC

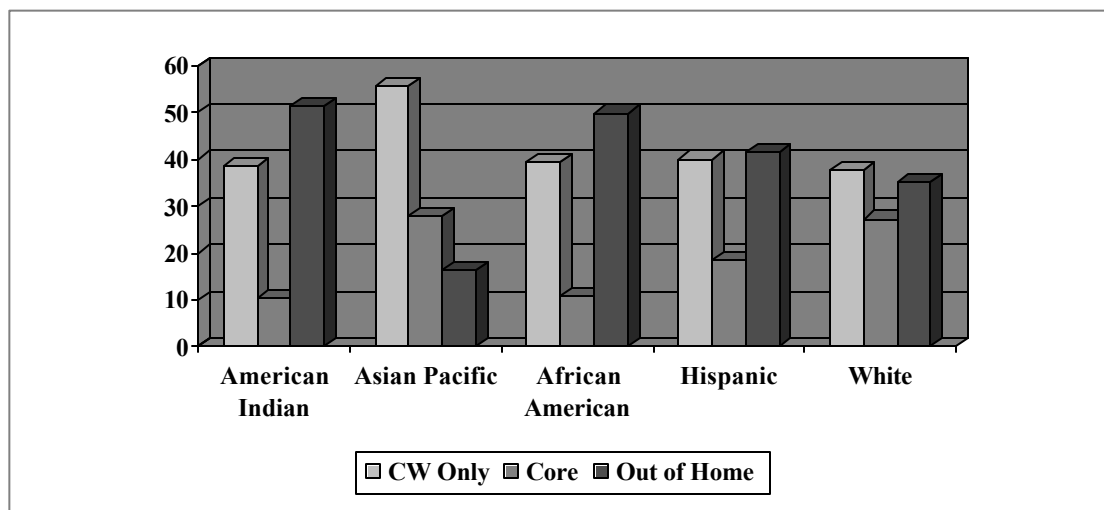
The majority of all youth return to the second case for the reason of being Beyond Control of Parent. The percentages are very similar for all groups save American Indians where the percentage is considerably lower. Percentages for delinquent behavior and danger to self and others are similar for all groups.

Figure 4.11: Program Target for the Second Case (YIC) by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



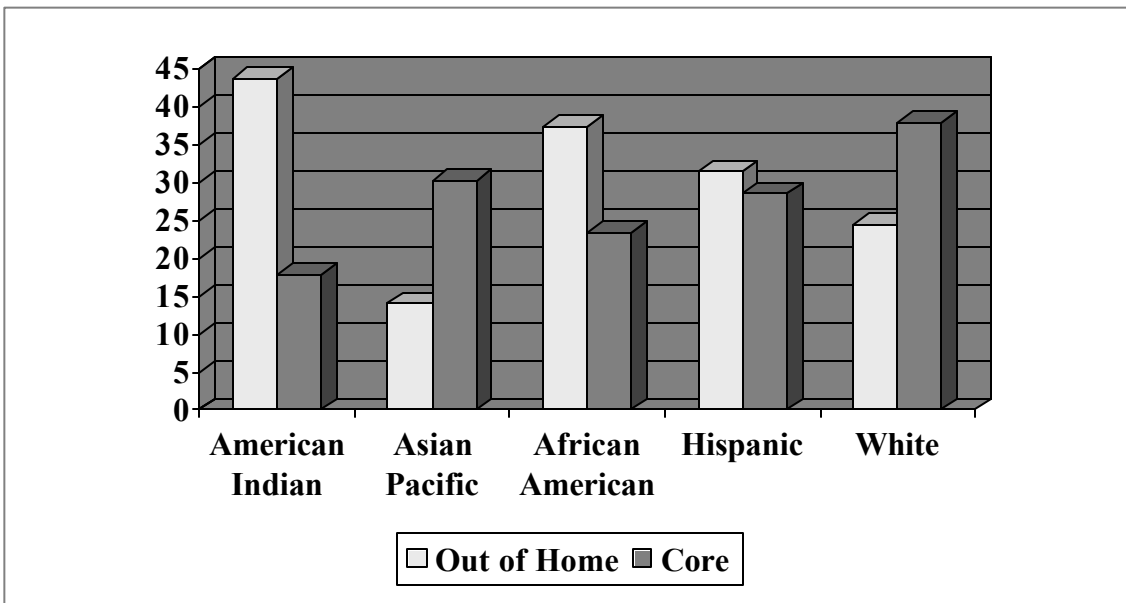
Service patterns, however, vary considerably. American Indian, African American and Hispanic youth are most likely to receive out-of-home placement as a first service than are White and Asian Pacific Youth. They are also less likely to receive Core services. Use of casework supervision as a first service is similar for most groups, except that Asian Pacific youth are more likely to begin services in this way.

Figure 4.12: First Service of the Second Case (YIC) by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



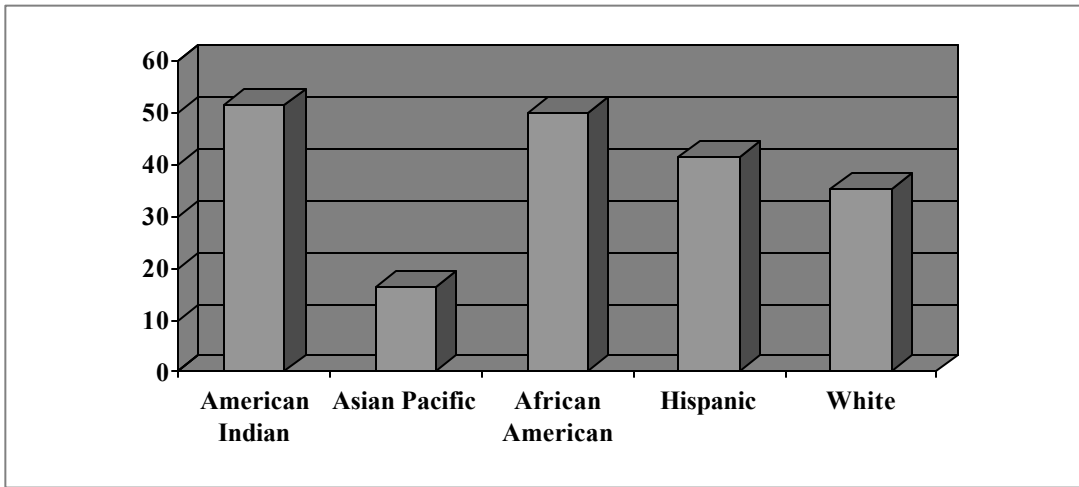
The last paid service of the second case for this cohort follows a familiar pattern, with American Indian, African American and Hispanic youth most likely to end the second case with an out-of-home placement, while White and Asian Pacific youth are most likely to end with a Core service.

Figure 4.13: Last Paid Service of the Second Case (YIC) by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



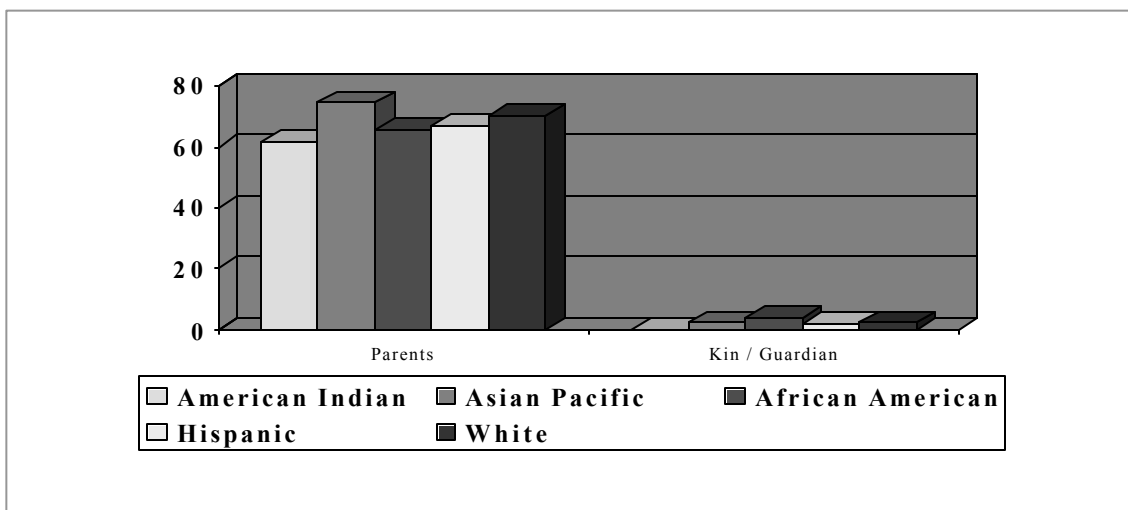
To underscore the point, it may be useful to examine group differences in whether placement is ever used during the second case. Here we find that about 50% of American Indian and African American youth are placed at some point in the second, YIC case, compared to 34% of White youth and 14% of Asian Pacific and 15% of Asian Pacific youth.

Figure 4.14: Ever Placed During the Second Case (YIC) by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



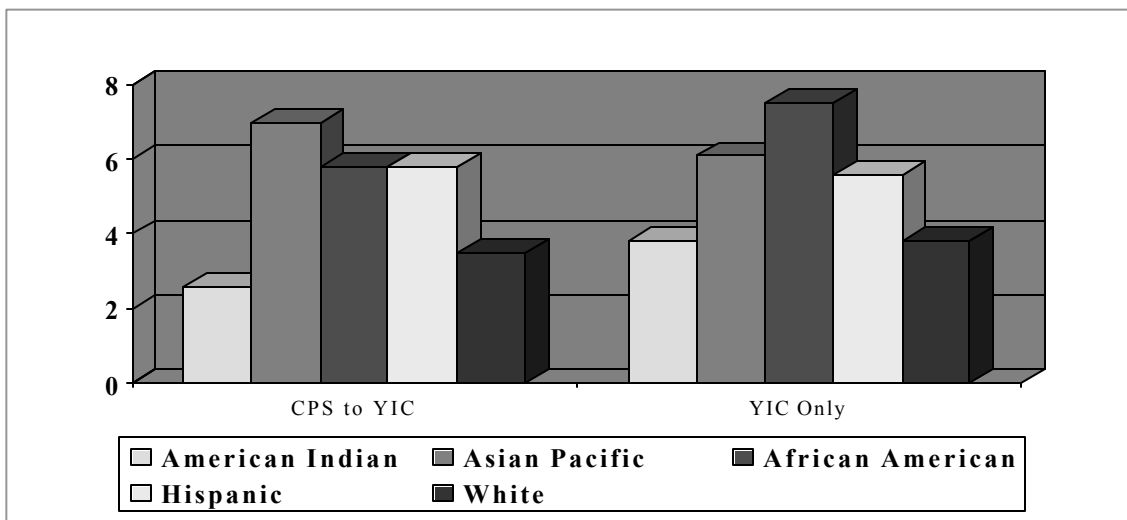
At the close of the second case, most youth are living with parents or relatives/guardians. This is least likely to be the case for Native American youth and most likely to be the case for Asian Pacific youth.

Figure 4.15: Family and Kin Residence at Close of the Second Case (YIC) by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



Residence in a DYC facility at the close of the second case is similar for this cohort to the general YIC group, who first enter the system as a YIC client. The exceptions are that African American youth are less likely to exit to DYC from this cohort than if they had entered as at YIC case, while Asian Pacific youth are more likely to exit to DYC from this cohort than from the general YIC population.

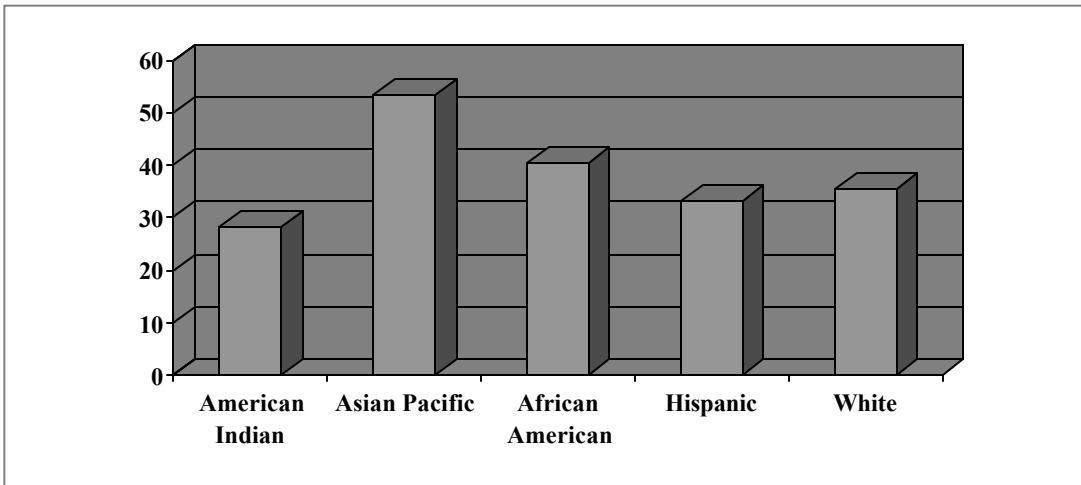
Figure 4.16: Residence at DYC at Close of the Second Case (YIC) by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



Third Cases

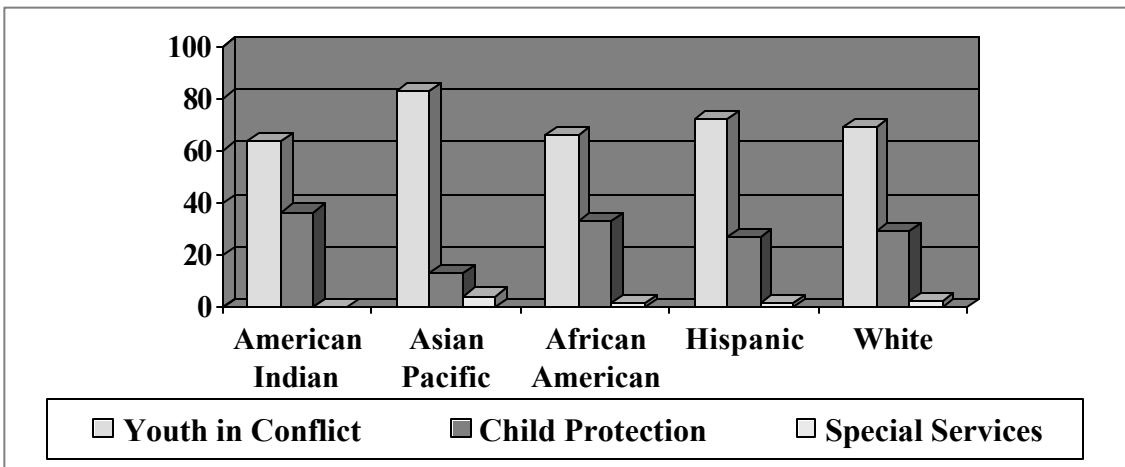
On average, some 35% (1349) of youth in this cohort return to the child welfare system for a third case. These returns vary by ethnic group. Asian Pacific and African American youth are most likely to return to for a third case, while American Indian youth are least likely to do so.

Figure 4.17: Third Cases by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



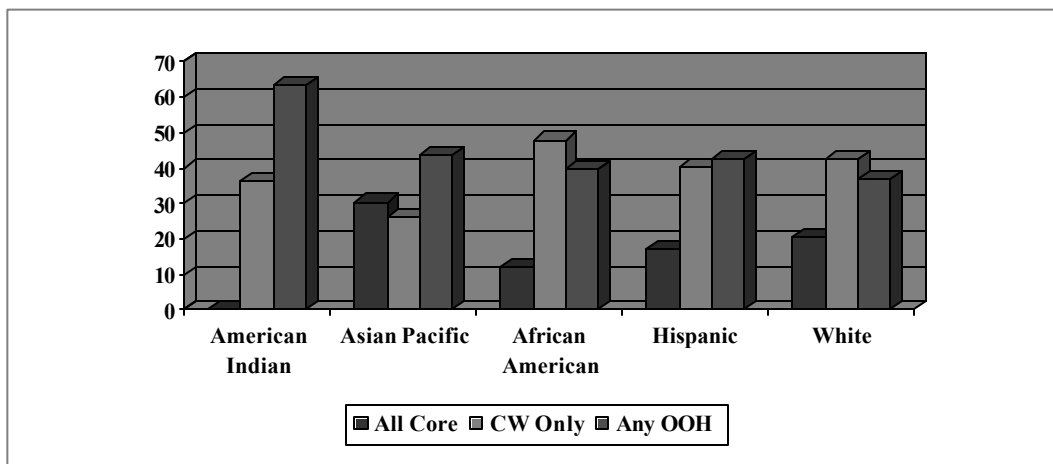
Moreover, the reasons for return in a third case also vary by ethnic group. Asian Pacific youth are most likely to return with a third YIC case, whereas American Indian youth are least likely to do so. American Indian and African American youth are most likely to return with a third case in the CPS program area.

Figure 4.18: Program Target for Third Cases by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



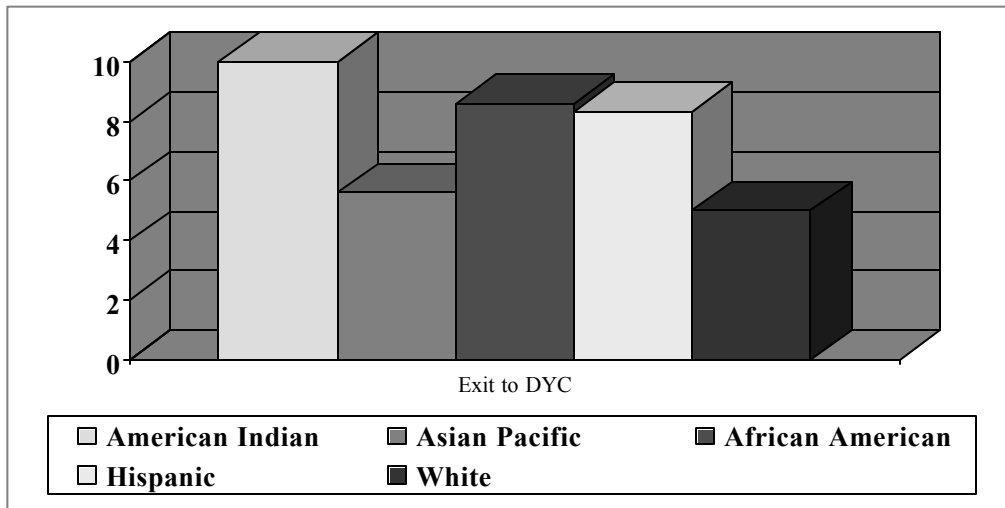
The broad service pattern in the third case also varies by ethnic group. Again, American Indian youth are extremely likely to be placed in out-of-home care during the third case. Greater than 60% are so placed. Asian Pacific youth are the most likely to receive all Core services while American Indian, African American and Hispanic youth are least likely to receive all Core services.

Figure 4.19: Broad Service Pattern for Third Cases by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents



The third case had closed for only 1,161 youth. For these youth, at the end of the third case, over 70% are living with parents or kin / guardians. A higher percentage of these youth move on to NYC as compared to exit percentages in earlier cases. At the end of the third case, youth from all ethnic groups are more likely to exit to NYC than are White youth. For the first time, American Indian youth are more likely than Whites to exit to NYC and also more likely than other ethnic groups, with 10% of these youth exiting to NYC, however this percentage reflects only 1 youth who exited to NYC.

**Figure 4.20: Exits to DYC for Third Cases
by Ethnic Group, CPS to YIC Cases, 1995 – 2000, Percents**



Summary

Examination of the cohort of youth that proceed from a first CPS case to a second YIC case reveals similar service disparities to examination of both the CPS and YIC cases examined in previous chapters. These youth have similar ethnic group membership to CPS and YIC first cases, indicating that minority youth are not more likely to take this path. Neither are they more likely to exit to DYC than the other pathways.

There are indications that ethnic groups differ from White youth in terms of some demographic characteristics, such as gender, age and poverty level. There are also some ethnic differences in the CPS program target areas, although there are fewer differences in the YIC program targets for the second case.

Nevertheless, we do see some familiar service disparities. White and Hispanic youth are most likely to receive casework supervision services both as a first and an only service across the first 3 cases. White, Hispanic and Asian Pacific youth are more likely

to receive Core services than are other groups. American Indian, African American and Asian Pacific youth are more likely to receive placement than are White and Hispanic youth. Asian Pacific, Hispanic and African American youth are more likely to exit to DYC at the end of the first and second cases.

In sum, while there is some evidence that youth may enter the child welfare system with some service need differences, these differences do not appear to be great. There is, however, very strong disparity in the service package provided for these youth.