

NEW YORK CITY EARLY INTERVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL (LEICC)		
6.28.2019	10:01 AM	CUNY School of Law
<b>LEICC Member Attendees</b>	<p>Lidiya Lednyak, MA, PMP, Acting Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Early Intervention, NYC DOHMH</p> <p>Jacqueline D. Shannon, Ph.D., Chair of LEICC</p> <p>Tricia DeVito, MS, Ed., SDL</p> <p>Liz Isakson, MD, FAAP</p> <p>Catherine Ayala</p> <p>Simone C. Hawkins</p> <p>Elizabeth Leone</p> <p>Sonu Sanghoo, MS, CCC-SLP</p> <p>Cara Chambers, MS</p> <p>Christopher Treiber, LMSW</p> <p>Angel Mendoza, MD</p> <p>Dawn B. Oakley, OTR/L, MS</p>	
<b>Welcome, Introductions, and Minutes Approval</b>	<p><b>Dr. Jacqueline Shannon</b> opened the meeting by reminding attendees that New York City’s Local Law No. 103 of 2013 and the New York State Open Meetings Law require “open” meetings to be both webcast and archived; therefore, today’s meeting was being recorded.</p> <p><b>Dr. Shannon</b> reviewed the procedures for LEICC meetings, including that attendees should pre-register on the New York City Bureau of Early Intervention (NYC BEI) website. She reminded attendees that, while meetings are open to the public, the audience does not address the LEICC members during the meeting. Audience members may sign up with A. Felicia Poteat if they wish to speak during the “Public Comment” section. <b>Dr. Shannon</b> stated that transcription will be available for this meeting, and that written meeting minutes will be made available. She stated we have a new member, Rosanne Saltzman. Ms. Saltzman was not present, but will be joining us in the fall.</p> <p>LEICC members introduced themselves. <b>Dr. Shannon</b> stated she wanted to make a correction to the March minutes about the research being done through PDI; it should read “qualitative interviews and focus groups” not “cognitive interviews.” Minutes from the March meeting were approved.</p>	

**SEICC Report and Bureau Updates**

**SEICC Report**

**Lidiya Lednyak** provided a summary of the State Early Intervention Coordinating Council (SEICC) meeting held on 6/13/2019.

Five Percent Targeted Rate Increase. The 2019-2020 Enacted Budget includes a 5% rate increase for approved services, delivered by speech-language pathologists (including CFYs), occupational therapists, and physical therapists. Rate increase applies to Home/Community basic, Home/Community extended, and facility-based and non-physical supplemental evaluations. The rate increase will be effective April 1, 2019. It is contingent on approval of a Medicaid State Plan Amendment and will be retroactively applied from the date of implementation back to April 1, 2019. SDOH released an FAQ on the 5% rate increase in June 2019. Rationale for the rate increase is the Annual Performance review data that providers collect and submit every year.

Update on Assistive Technology Guidance Document. The Assistive Technology (AT) Guidance Document was last updated February 1999. Updated guidance document will include clarification on items that are and are not considered AT devices under the NYS Early Intervention Program, clarification on transition steps for children with AT in the Early Intervention Program, and process update to include additional collaboration with AT vendors up front. Updated guidance document to be released Summer 2019.

NYC Insurance Videos. NYC BEI insurance videos were presented to the SEICC. Other NYS EI County Administrators expressed interest in sharing the NYC videos with families and providers in their counties.

Telehealth Presentation. A Telehealth Presentation done by Meredith Berger, from Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech, focused on the use of telehealth with the birth-three population outside of the Early Intervention Program. This project was grant-funded. It employed a parent coaching approach to deliver therapeutic intervention using FaceTime.

Provider Capacity. There was a presentation on the number of new agencies and individuals approved by SDOH, and the SEICC voted to create a Task Force on provider capacity.

RFP Update. The NYS Department of Health RFP 17744, entitled Support for Operational Management of the EIP, was awarded to Public Consulting Group Inc. (PCG).

PCG and NYEIS Update. The contract with PCG is in the registration process. In the first phase, enhancements to EI Billing and fiscal functionality will be phased in during summer-fall of 2019. In the second phase, conversion to a new web-based system for all Early Intervention case management will take place. Transition will include data migration, provider enrollment functionality, and case management (which currently happens in NYEIS). The go-live date for the second phase is April 1, 2020.

**NYC Bureau of Early Intervention Updates**

**Lidiya Lednyak** announced that The Early Childhood Direction Centers (ECDCs) are closing as of June 30, 2019. New York State Education Department is recommending that INCLUDEnyc be awarded the contracts to serve as the Early Childhood and School-Age Family and Community Engagement (FACE) center for all five boroughs. BEI will be collaborating with INCLUDEnyc to support their work with parents and EI providers in the transition process. The Bureau will inform families of this change through Text 2 Families, which has over 18,000 subscribers in English and Spanish, and will be sharing additional information about INCLUDEnyc with EI providers in July 2019.

Discussion

**Cara Chambers** asked a question regarding provider attrition. **Lidiya Lednyak** responded that the NYS SDOH and the SEICC moved to create the task force on provider capacity, and one of the goals is to make speedy recommendations to NYS DOH about the issue. **Dr. Shannon** stated that one aspect of the partnership with the academic partners is to try to prepare the new generation of therapists.

**Cara Chambers** had questions regarding Telehealth. **Lidiya Lednyak** replied that, if the LEICC members agree, we can invite Meredith Berger to speak at a subsequent LEICC meeting regarding Telehealth. The LEICC members agreed.

**Christopher Treiber** inquired about ECDCs closing and the deliverables regarding children ages 0-3.

**Lidiya Lednyak** responded that NYS SDOH does intend to fill this space for the Early Intervention community. However, NYC BEI has had ongoing discussions with INCLUDEnyc. This organization plans on serving the EI population as part of their work.

**Dr. Elizabeth Isakson** asked about changes to NYEIS and the new system. **Lidiya Lednyak** responded that the understanding is that the conversion will start early 2020 with supports for providers and municipalities.

**Cara Chambers** had concerns about reimbursement rates and doing a cost benefit analysis. **Lidiya Lednyak** replied that more work needs to be done with insurers about maximizing reimbursement. There are now insurance representatives involved at the SEICC meetings. A cost benefit analysis would be a task for the state to undertake.

**Communication Projects and Videos**

**Dr. Jeanette Gong** presented on Communication Projects and Videos. The BEI Public Health Action Kit page was launched in May 2019 and includes a Clinician Tool Kit, a Child Care Provider Tool Kit, five new EI videos and family education materials. Information about the BEI Public Health Action Kit page was distributed to about 1,000 community partners. In collaboration with the Bureau of Child Care, Early Intervention distributed the Child Care Tool Kit to 250 center-based child care settings in communities with the lowest EI referral rates. Child Care Tool Kits were also distributed to the UFT, the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), DOE, ACS, HRA, and the Day Care Council of NY. In FY2020, the NYC BEI will expand distribution to family child care settings. Parent brochures are available in ten languages: English, Spanish, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Russian, French, Bangla, Arabic, Korean, and Urdu. A social media campaign will be launched in FY2020.

**LMS Launch and Upcoming Trainings**

**Raisa Alam** provided a list of current and upcoming online trainings. She explained the benefits of the Learning Management System (LMS) platform and NYC BEI Free Professional Development Trainings. The LMS is accessible 24-7 online from the provider page of the EI Website. It supports EI professionals in meeting their annual requirement for ten hours of professional development based on the NYS EI Provider Agreement. People may repeat the trainings as needed. NYC BEI professional development

	<p>trainings provide contact hours or Continuing Education Units (CEUs). <b>Raisa Alam</b> also presented LMS data to date. To sign up for the BEI Professional Development mailing list, email <a href="mailto:EmbeddedCoaching@health.nyc.gov">EmbeddedCoaching@health.nyc.gov</a>.</p> <p><b>Dr. Catherine Canary</b> spoke about the online training entitled <i>Assistive Technology Through the New York City Early Intervention Program: A How-to for Assessment, Equipment Request and Selection, and Follow-up</i>. The training is designed for Physical Therapists, Physical Therapy Assistants, Occupational Therapists, and Certified Occupational Therapy Assistants. The idea by the end of the course is that motor therapists will know how to evaluate a child for durable medical equipment and orthoses.</p> <p><b><u>Evaluation Standards Unit Provider Letter Enhancements</u></b></p> <p><b>Dr. Canary</b> spoke about the enhancements made to the Evaluation Standards Unit (ESU). A new application is launching in August 2019. Changes to ESU correspondence with providers include names of MDE team members, follow-up actions, and citations listed as endnotes.</p>
<p><b>Data Report and Provider Oversight</b></p>	<p><b>Nora Puffett</b> reviewed the data report. Data was presented on referrals, receipt of service, and children’s retention in the Program by borough and race. She also reviewed Provider Oversight results and discussed the Annual Performance Reports.</p> <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <p><b>Lidiya Lednyak</b> asked the LEICC committee to vote on the creation of a Service Coordination Quality Group where the LEICC members of the group will enforce the facilitators guide and sampling methodology for potentially developing an integrated curriculum for Service Coordinators. The LEICC committee voted in favor.</p>
<p><b>Social-Emotional Development in NYC Early Intervention</b></p>	<p><b>Rochelle Macer</b> spoke about promoting social-emotional support in the NYC BEI. She presented an overview of the Social-Emotional Guidance Document, priority projects, and the Social-Emotional Workgroup purpose and goals. <b>Ms. Macer</b> gave a description of the Social-Emotional Development Training. For access and information on Social-Emotional Development eLearning, go to <a href="http://www.ttacny.org/">http://www.ttacny.org/</a>. The training will soon be hosted on the NYC BEI’s LMS.</p>

<p><b>United for Brownsville Presentation</b></p>	<p><b>Kassa Belay</b> from United for Brownsville spoke about the measurable improvement in the language and social-emotional development of children aged 0-3 in Brownsville. He also spoke about the development of a sustainable community infrastructure that positions parents/caregivers and service providers to work collaboratively towards shared goals.</p>
<p><b>DOE Birth-to-Five Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Jessica Wallenstein</b> from the NYC Department of Education (DOE) gave updates on DOE Birth-to-five.</p> <p><u>Program Access.</u> 3-K continues to expand and will be available in the following Districts in September 2019: Districts 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 19, 23, 27, 31, 32. In addition to the ~500 special class seats opened over the past two years in Pre-K, DOE is opening an additional ~200 special class seats in September, pending state approval. In September, it is also piloting its first ever 3-K only Special Class in an Integrated Setting (SCIS) program in the Bronx, pending state approval. EarlyLearn will transition to the DOE on July 1, 2019.</p> <p><u>Family Support.</u> The Early Intervention Transition pilot is now serving almost 200 families in the Bronx and DOE is developing a strategy for expanding the pilot to reach families citywide.</p> <p><u>Data Improvements.</u> The DOE has decided to phase out its current case management system, SESIS, and replace it with a new system(s). This will happen over a number of years.</p>
<p><b>ACS-DOE Transfer and Security Clearance Requirements for EI Providers</b></p>	<p><b>Caitlyn Moore</b> from the DOE presented on the EarlyLearn Transfer and Security Clearance Requirements for EI providers. Beginning July 1, 2019, current ACS EarlyLearn programs, which include EarlyLearn Head Start and EarlyLearn Child Care programs, will come under the management and administration of the DOE. All children who attend EarlyLearn programs will now be considered DOE students. EI therapists and teachers must have background investigations completed by NYC DOE’s Office of Personnel Investigation (OPI) in order to deliver EI services to a child who is enrolled in a DOE program and is authorized to receive EI services on-site at that DOE program. The NYC DOE’s Office of Personnel Investigation uses the Personnel Tracking System (PETS).</p> <p>To expedite PETS clearance processing, the DOE sponsored the fingerprinting fee (until July 1) for all individuals who provide Early Intervention services to children in EarlyLearn programs.</p> <p>Employees/contractors who have not been PETS cleared by the July 1, 2019 transition will <b>not</b> be allowed</p>

	<p>to continue to provide services that involve direct contact with DOE students or to have access to DOE confidential records.</p> <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <p><b>Dr. Shannon</b> asked about DOI fingerprinting. <b>Caitlyn Moore</b> responded that DOI is separate from PETS clearance. PETS clearance is specific to DOE. <b>Simone Hawkins</b> stated that DOI fingerprinting is required in childcare settings depending on staff and programs, and regardless of whether they are regulated by DOE or DOHMH.</p>
<p><b>Early Intervention Transition Coordinator Pilot</b></p>	<p><b>Caitlyn Moore</b> presented on the Bronx EI Transition Coordinator Pilot. The pilot launched in January 2019 in District 7 to provide direct support for families in the South Bronx. District 7 is a 3-K for All district and has a high rate of referrals to CPSE. DOE Transition Coordinators (TC) conduct outreach and provide information and support to families by joining EI Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) meetings. TCs also provide support by making calls, sending emails, and having in-person meetings with families. Pilot implementation statistics were provided.</p> <p><b>Kandrea Higgins-Ahluwat</b> spoke about the Bronx EI Transition Coordinator Pilot. The goal is to build a bridge for smoother transition from EI to CPSE and Early Childhood Programs. The partnership with the Bronx Regional Office, DOE, and the families has been strong and beneficial. E-Faxing of referrals to CPSE was tested in this pilot project and has been successful. Families can walk into the DOE Family Welcome Center at 1 Fordham Plaza for support, or they can text “AfterEI” to 877-877 and opt-in to have a TC contact them. Families can email <a href="mailto:EItoPreschool@schools.nyc.gov">EItoPreschool@schools.nyc.gov</a> with questions and requests.</p> <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <p><b>Dr. Isakson</b> had a question regarding children who are approaching age-out and are being referred to EI. <b>Caitlyn Moore</b> responded that several cases were referred to EI and CPSE concurrently. TCs supported those families regardless of whether they were currently in EI or not.</p> <p><b>Christopher Treiber</b> inquired about placement availability for children being referred and evaluated. <b>Jessica Wallenstein</b> responded CPSEs will continue to find placement for those children. If families need assistance, there are Transition Coordinators there to liaise and support the family.</p>

<p><b>LEICC Committee Updates</b></p>	<p>No updates were given.</p>
<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>	<p>-<b>Dr. Beth Elenko</b> of SUNY’s Occupational Therapy Program discussed the Early Intervention Program academic partnership and introduced Early Intervention staff and Providers to Occupational Therapy graduate students who plan on providing Early Intervention services after they graduate.</p> <p>-<b>Tamara Morgan</b> and <b>Tamara Ewoldt</b> made a public comment on the availability of Assistive Technology devices.</p> <p>-<b>Linda Silver</b> made a public comment regarding the PETS requirement for providers.</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM.</p>



# Early Intervention Data Report

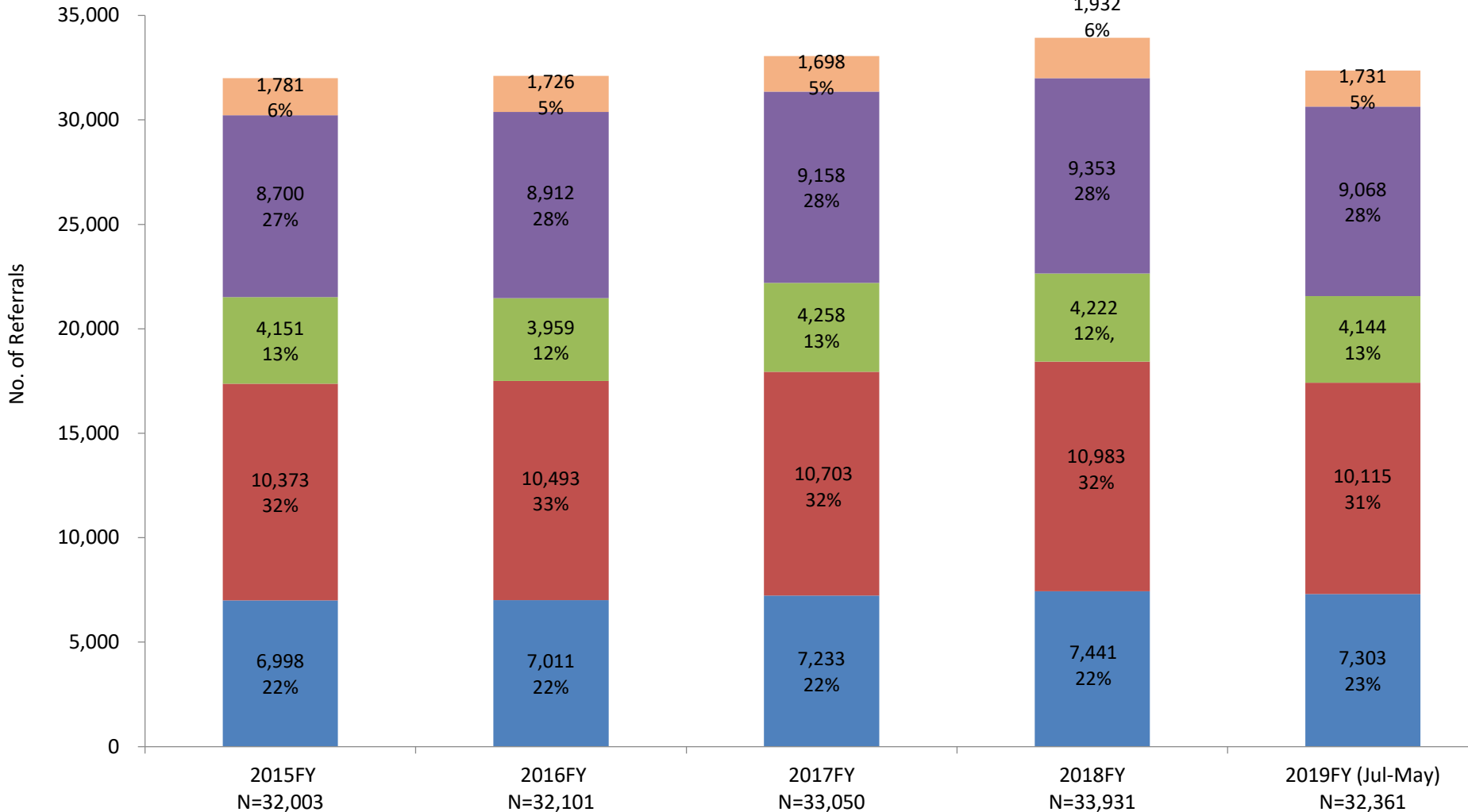


Nora Puffett, MPA

# Number of New and Re-Referrals Per Fiscal Year, by Borough

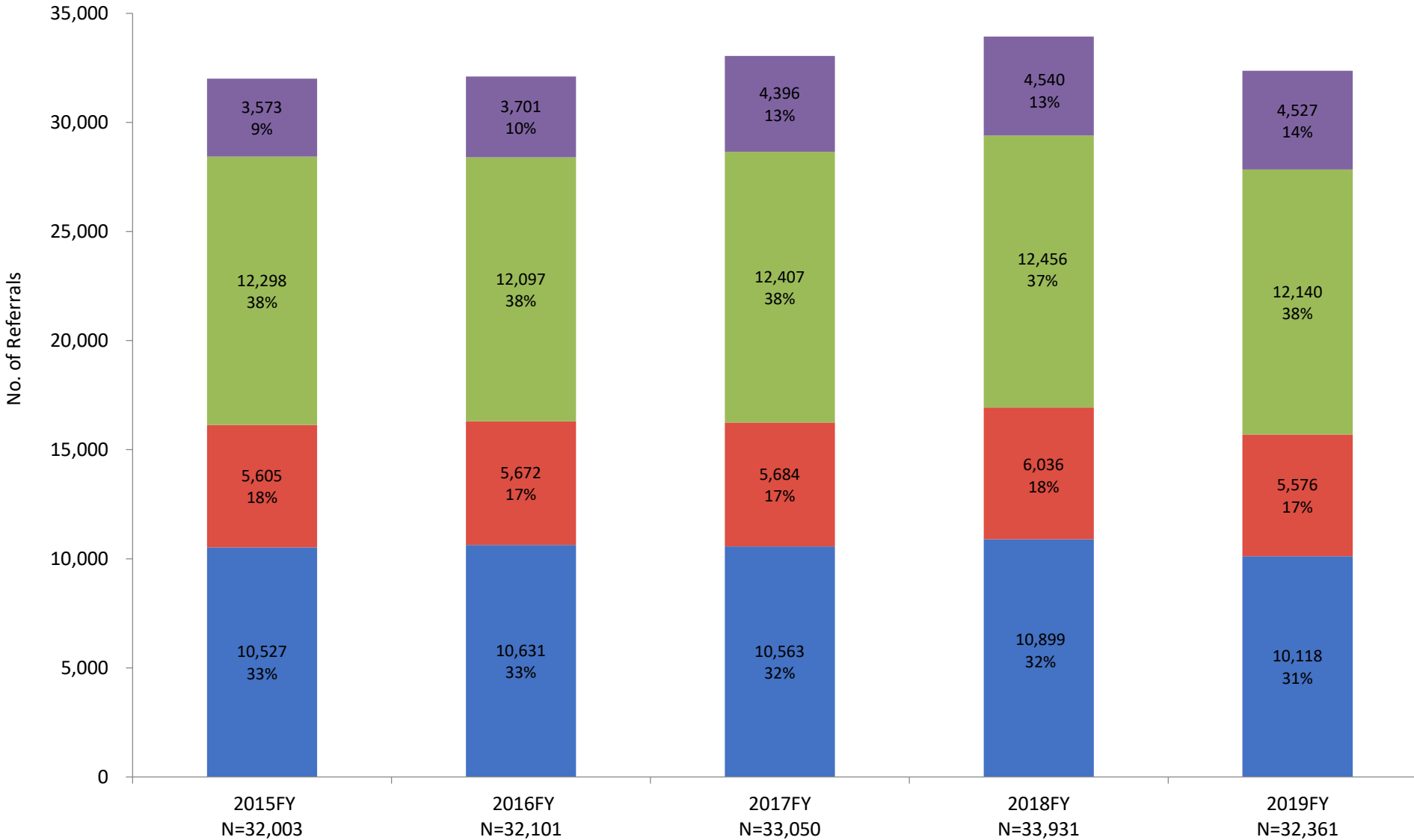
## July 2014-May 2019

■ Bronx    
 ■ Brooklyn    
 ■ Manhattan    
 ■ Queens    
 ■ Staten Island

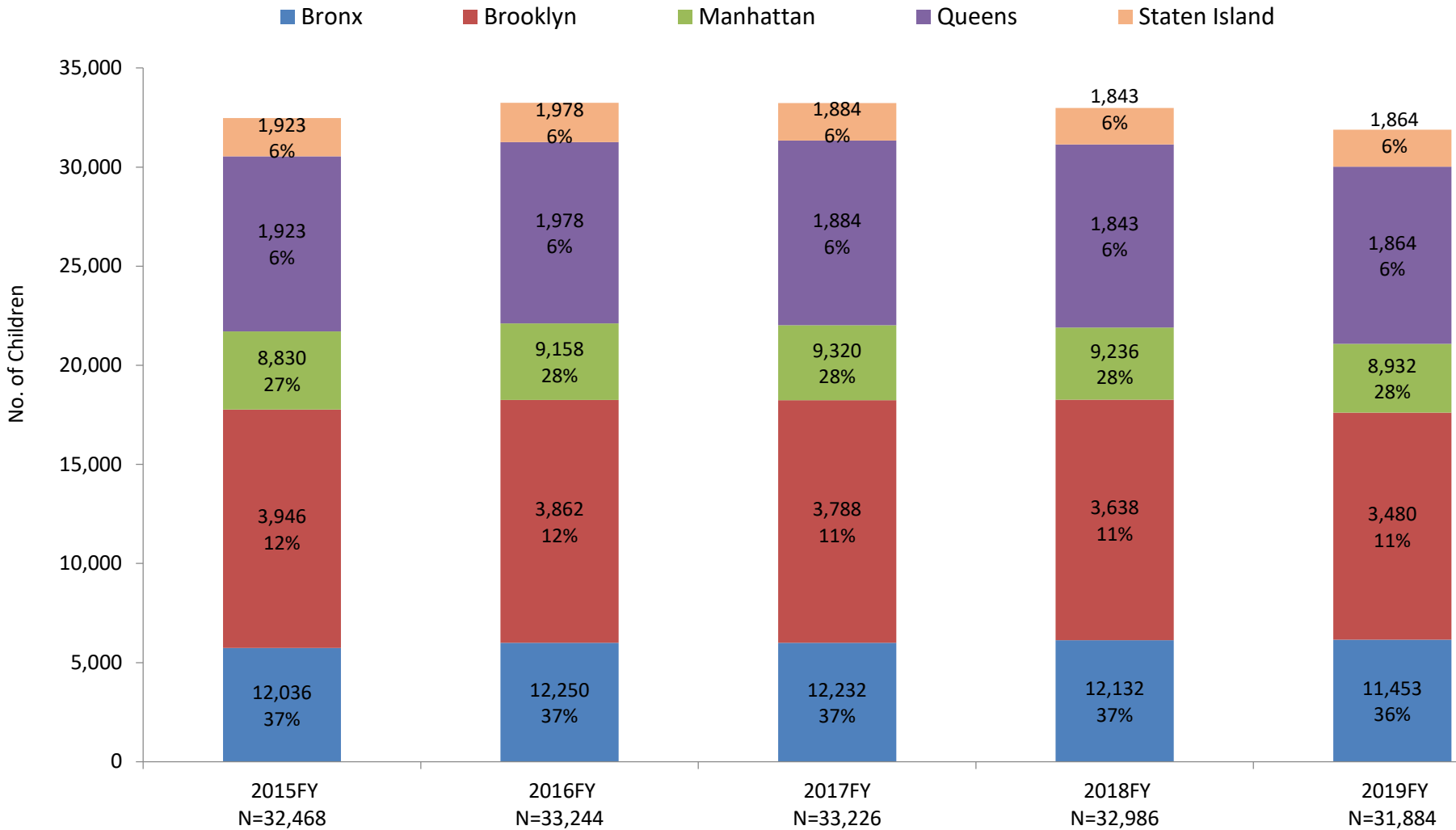


# Number of New and Re-Referrals Per Fiscal Year, by Race and Ethnicity July 2014-May 2019

White, NH      Black, NH      Hispanic      Asian, NH

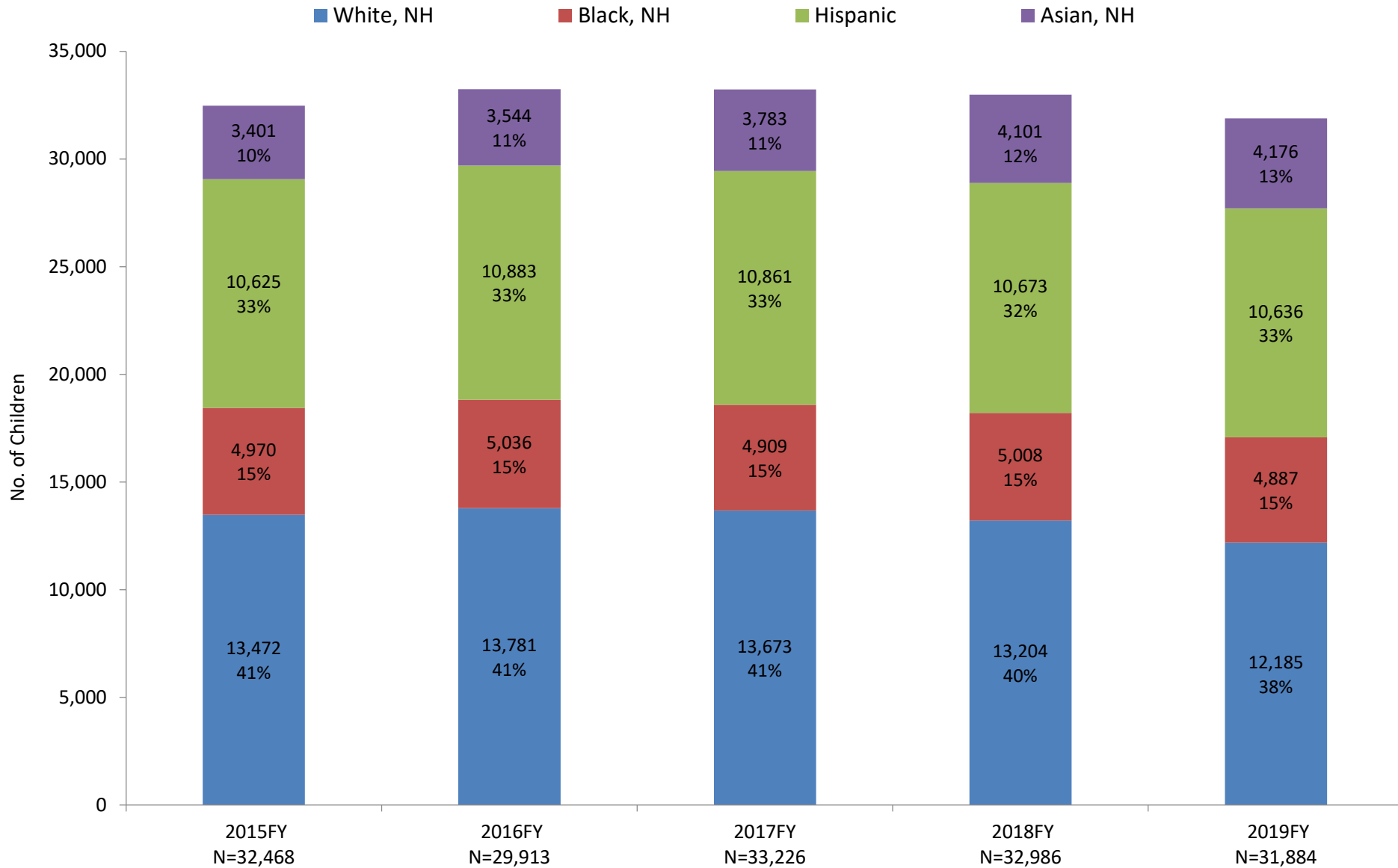


# Number of Children Receiving General Services Per Fiscal Year, by Borough July 2014-May 2019



\* General services include all those except for service coordination, evaluation, assistive technology and transportation.

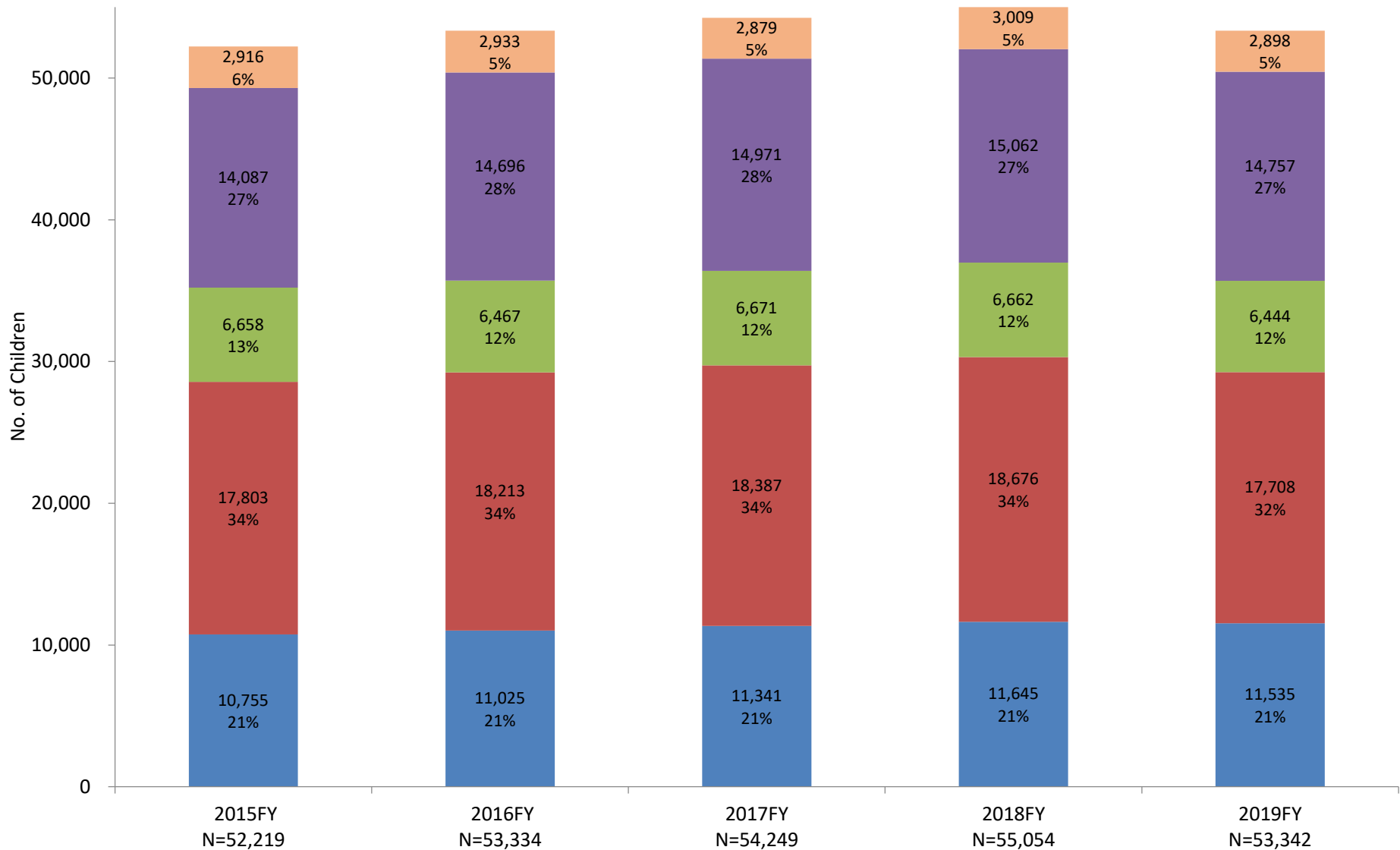
# Number of Children Receiving General Services Per Fiscal Year, by Race and Ethnicity, July 2014-May 2019



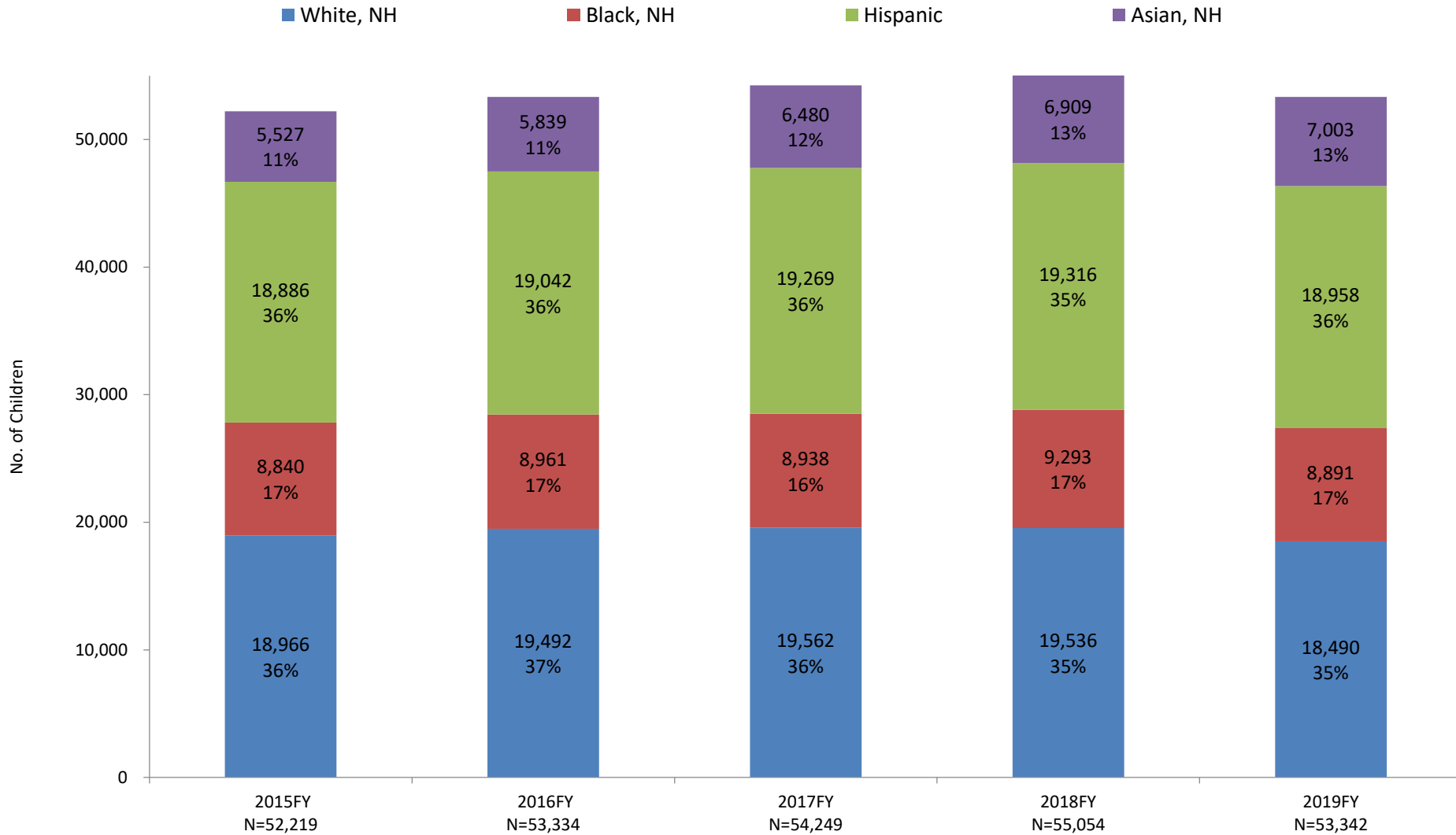
\* General services include all those except for service coordination, evaluation, assistive technology and transportation.

# Children Receiving Any Type of Service Per Fiscal Year, by Borough: Service Coordination, Evaluation and/or General Services July 2014-May 2019

■ Bronx     
 ■ Brooklyn     
 ■ Manhattan     
 ■ Queens     
 ■ Staten Island

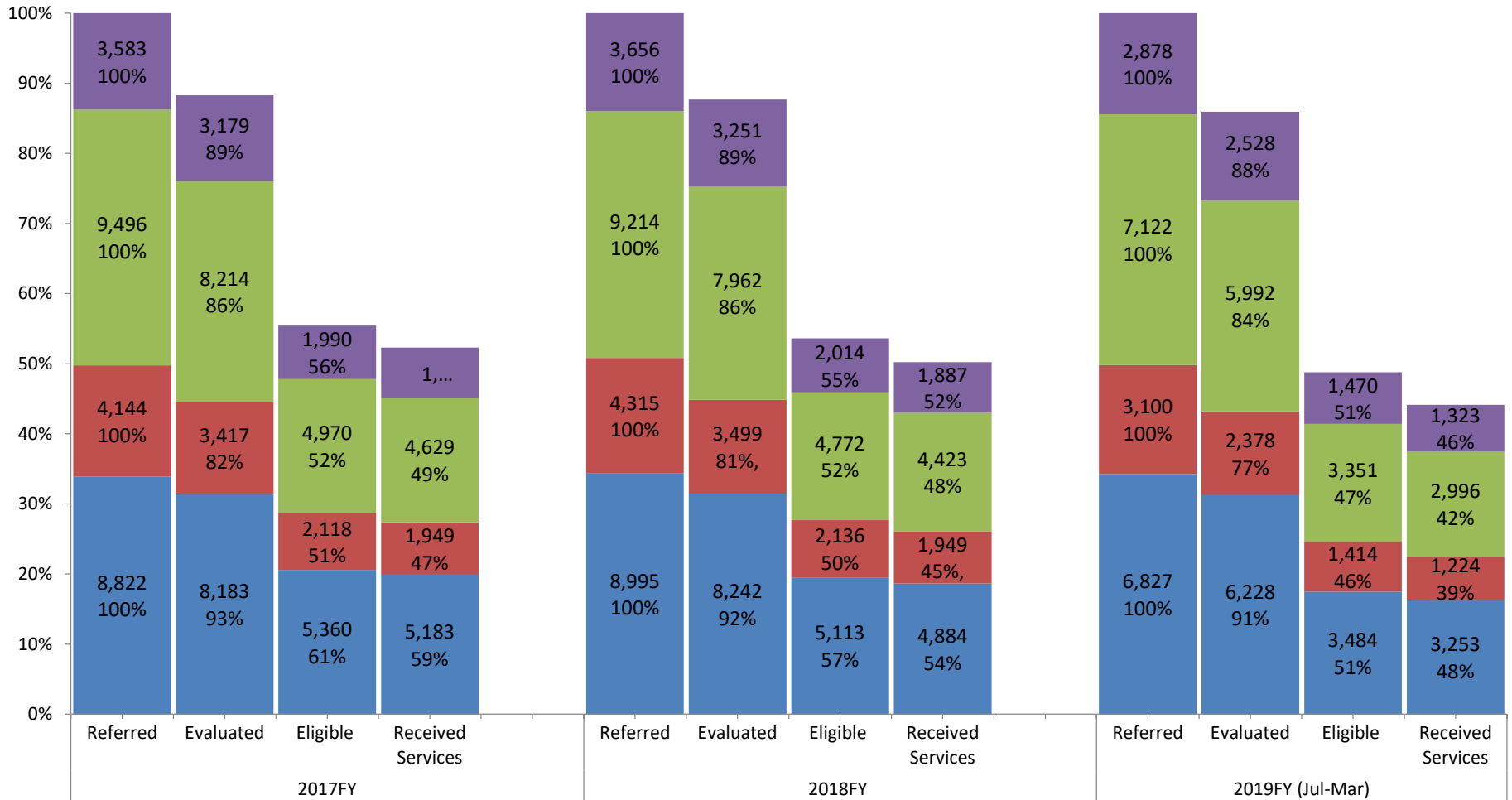


# Children Receiving Any Type of Service Per Fiscal Year, by Race and Ethnicity: Service Coordination, Evaluation and/or General Services July 2014-May 2019



# Progress of New Referrals Through the EIP by Race and Ethnicity, Citywide, July 2016-March 2019

Population Estimates by Race/Ethnicity by Year						
	2015		2016		2017	
	0-3 Pop	% of Pop	0-3 Pop	% of Pop	0-3 Pop	% of Pop
White NH	104,987	30.1%	103,453	30.5%	100,656	29.7%
Black NH	70,370	20.2%	69,468	20.5%	70,480	20.8%
Hispanic	125,772	36.1%	123,436	36.6%	121,330	35.8%
Asian NH	47,442	13.6%	47,673	13.8%	46,847	13.8%

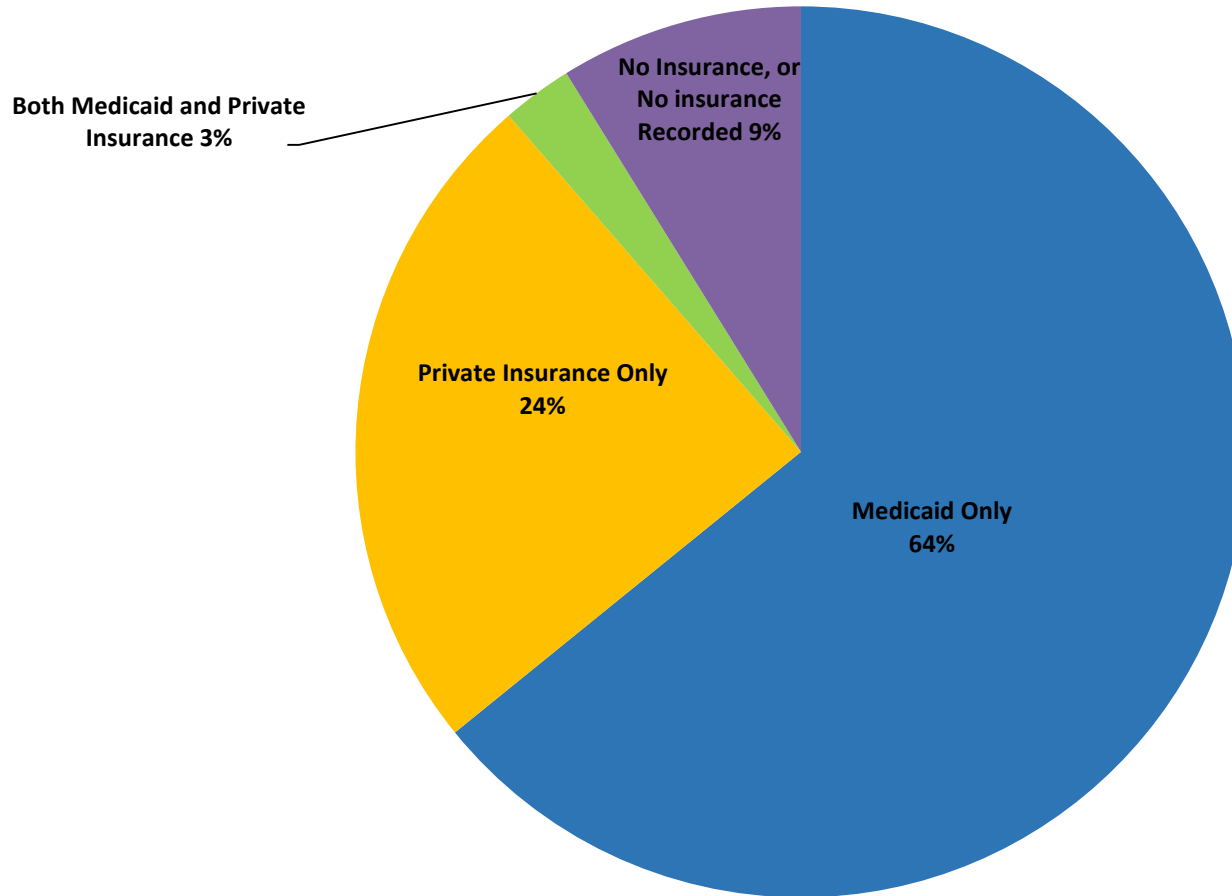




# Insurance Status of Children Receiving General Services

July 2018-May 2019

N = 31,885



Note: Medicaid Managed Care plans and Child Health Plus are categorized as Medicaid. This chart shows the most recent or current insurance policy unless a child has both Medicaid and private. In that case, both are reported.