



Childhood in care

We are failing those who spend their childhood in care.

Here's how.

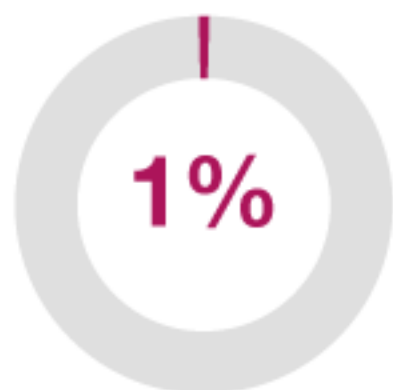


Data source

ONS Longitudinal Study



Office for
National Statistics



Sample of the population
of England and Wales

1971

1981

1991

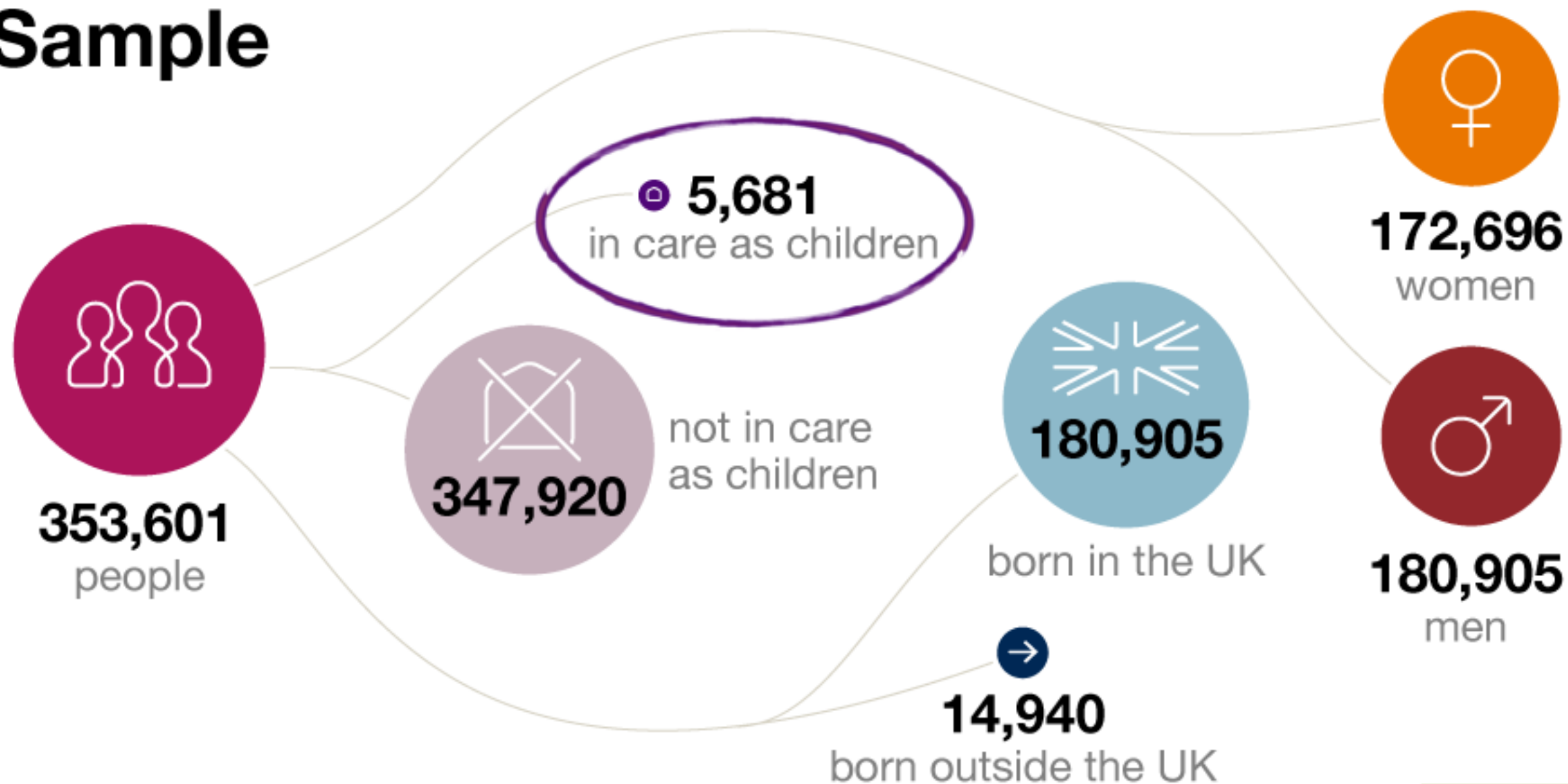
2001

2011

Over 40 years' follow up

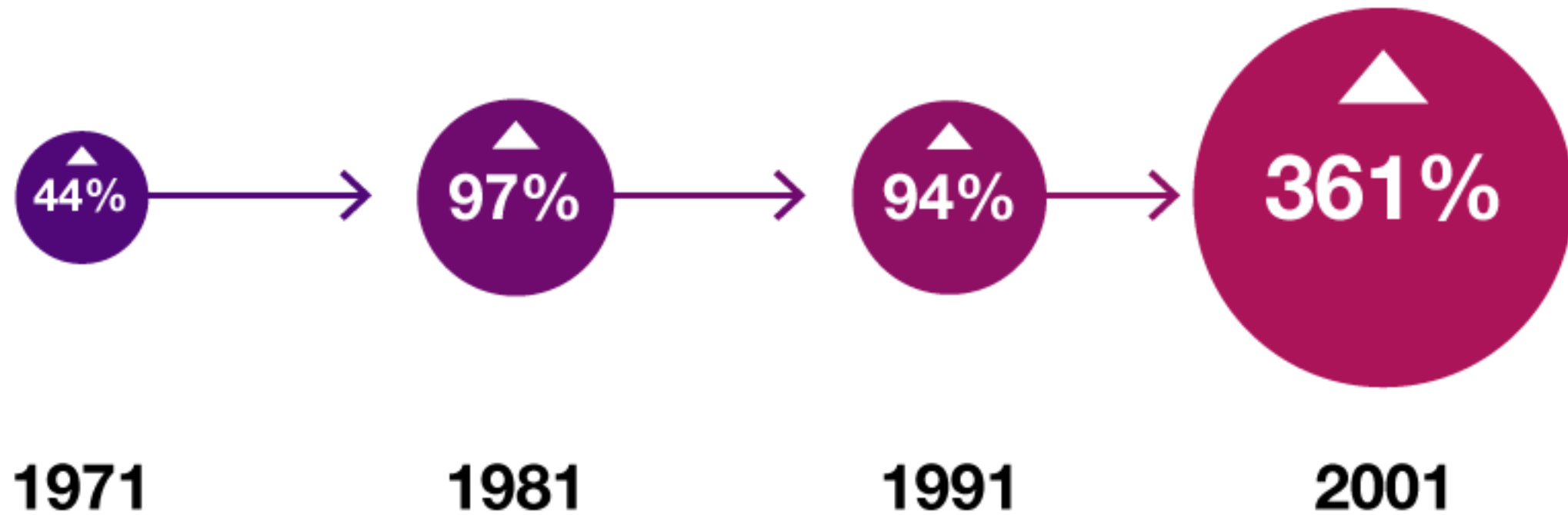
Data from UK national census
and life events records

Sample



Study 1: Mortality

Increase in chance of dying early if in care
Compared to living with one or both parents

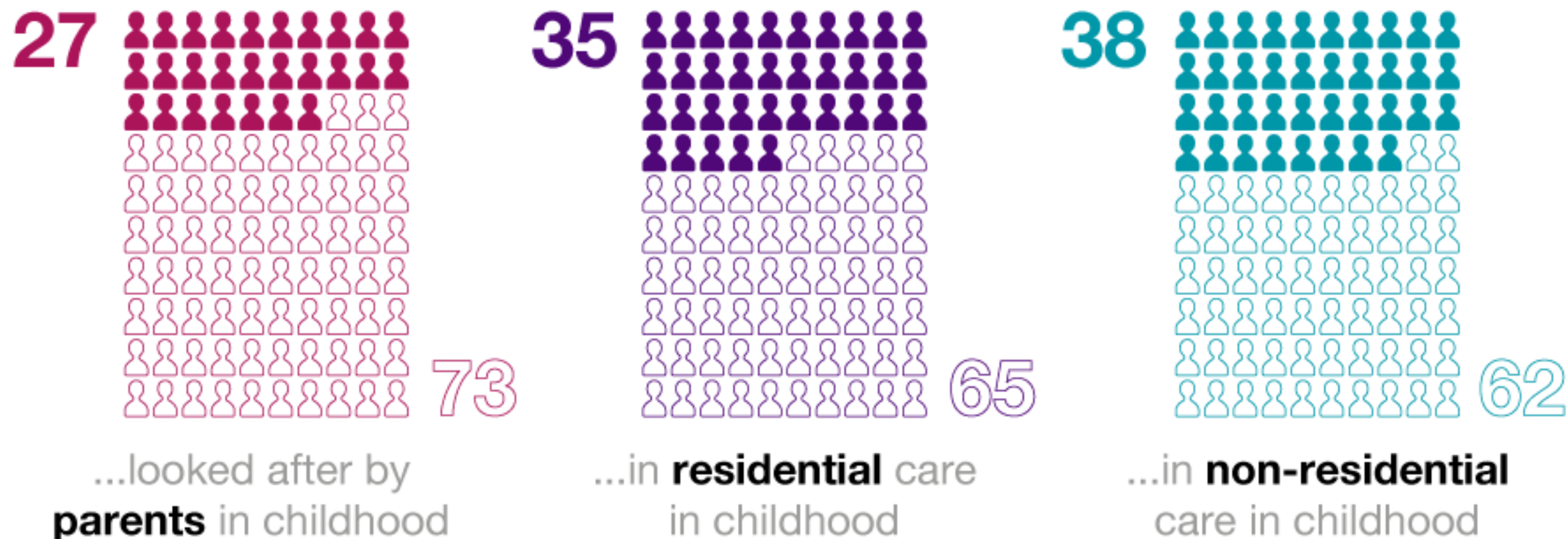


Study 1: Mortality

 Unnatural

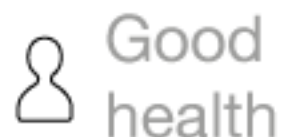
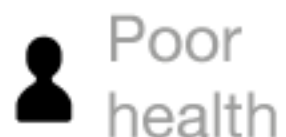
 Other

Causes of death of 100 people...



Study 2: Healthiness

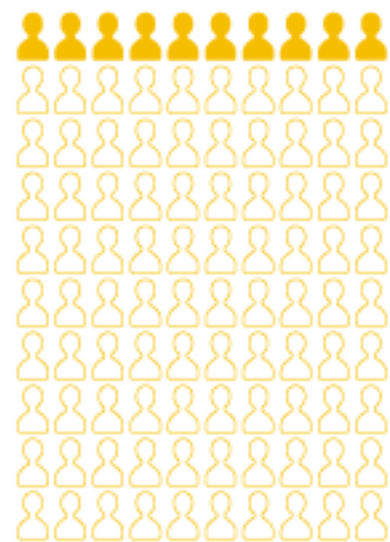
Reported health of 100 people who were...



Ages
20–29

...looked after by
parents in childhood

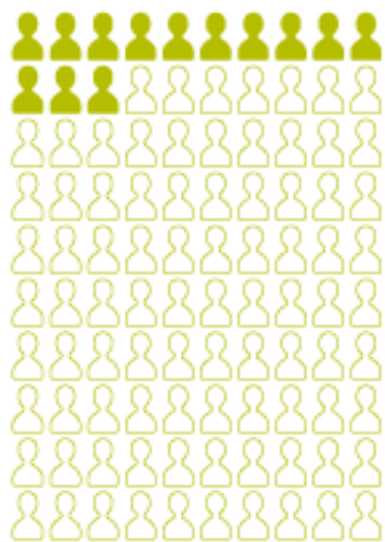
10



90

...looked after by
family in childhood

13



87

...in **foster** care
in childhood

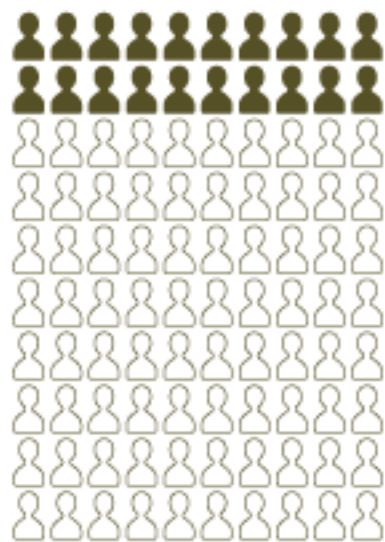
16



84

...in **residential** care
in childhood

20



80

Study 2: Healthiness

 Poor

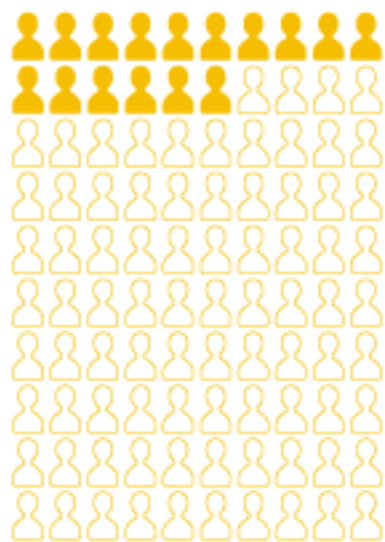
 Good

Ages
30-39

Reported health of 100 people who were...

...looked after by
parents in childhood

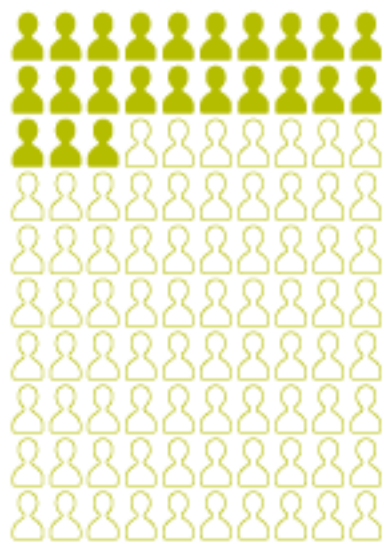
16



84

...looked after by
family in childhood

23



77

...in **foster** care
in childhood

27



73

...in **residential** care
in childhood

32



68

Study 2: Healthiness

 Poor

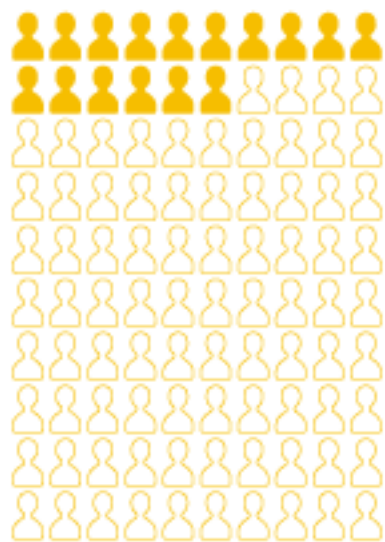
 Good

Ages
40-49

Reported health of 100 people who were...

...looked after by
parents in childhood

20



80

...looked after by
family in childhood

23



77

...in **foster** care
in childhood

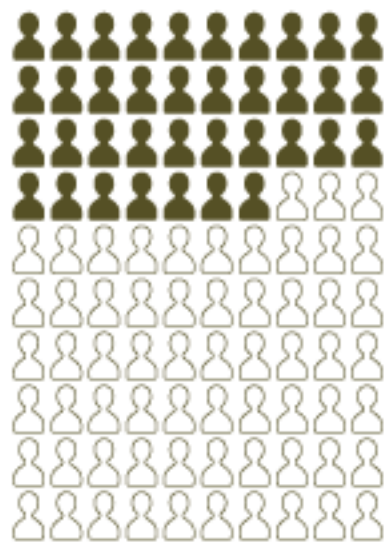
28



72

...in **residential** care
in childhood

37



63

Study 2: Healthiness

These results hold true, even when we use statistical modelling to account for differences in:

Age

Sex

Cohort

Country of birth

Childhood demographics

Marital status

Employment status

Educational achievement

Social class

Children in household

Social circumstances

Recommendations

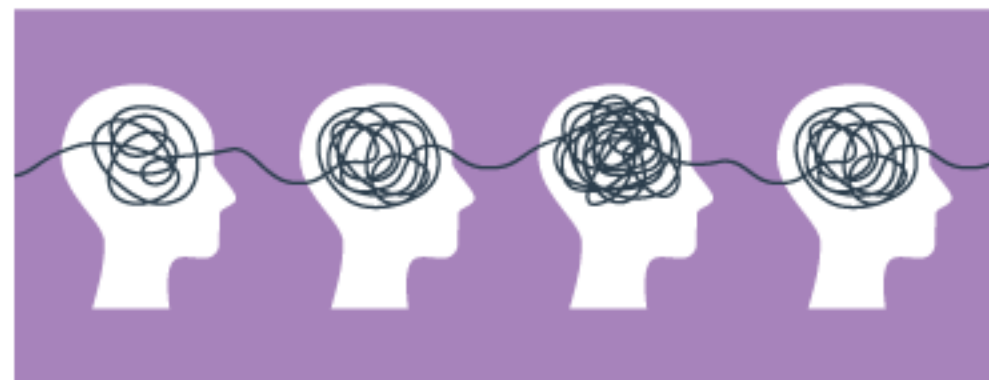
1 Long term thinking

Choose care that will benefit children for the rest of their lives - a matter of public health as well as social welfare



2 Monitor mental health

GPs to offer regular mental health MOTs to care leavers across their adult lives - a priority for health authorities



With thanks to:



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