



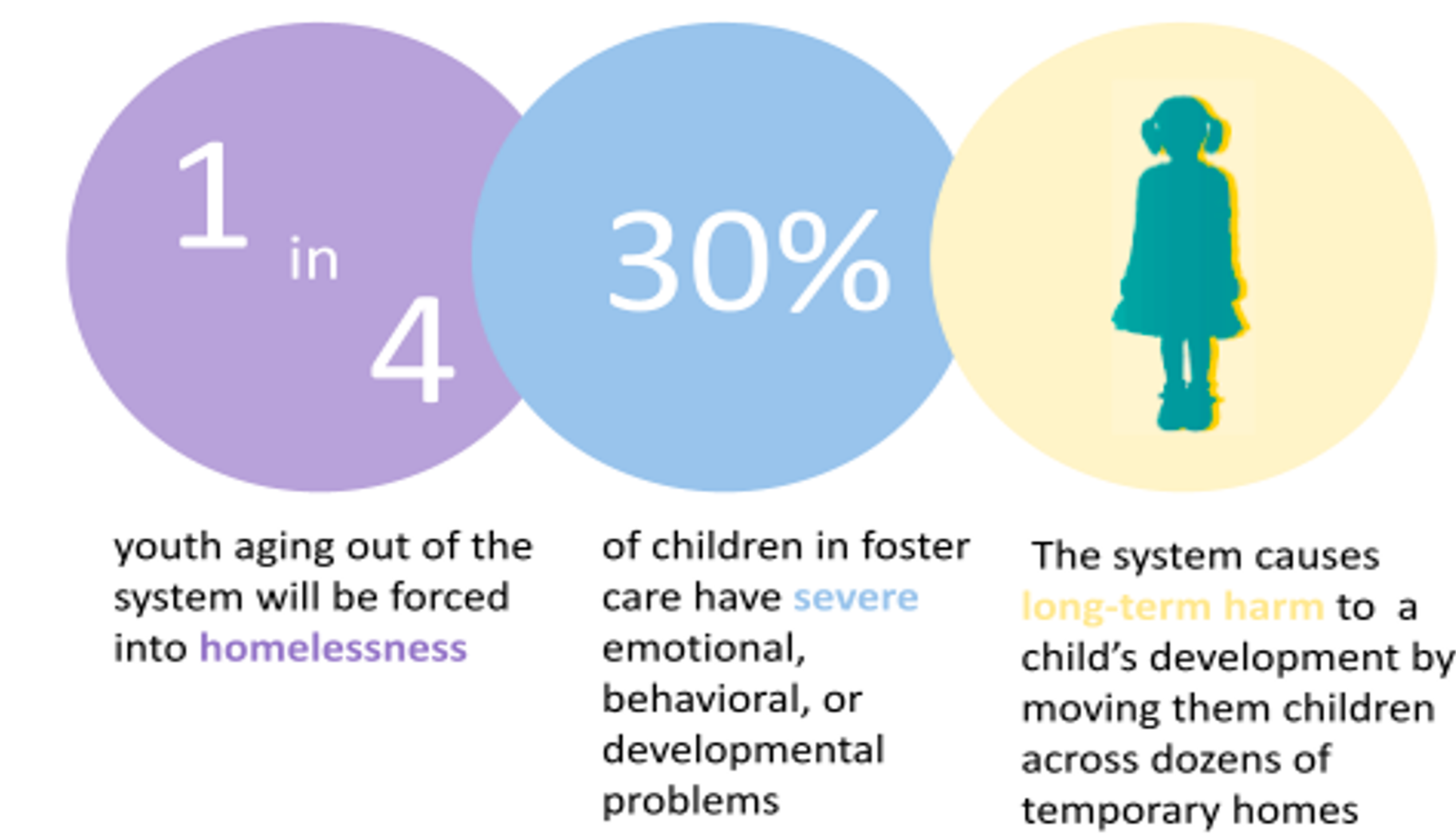
The Impact of the Foster Care on Youth in the System

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Introduction

- Foster care system can be **harmful** to many youth
- Problems with system include **developmental and emotional harm**
- Quality and quantity of resources provided for families to support reunification and support foster youth including mental health support, job procurement, parenting classes, and academic counseling were investigated.



Research Methodologies

Inquiry Approaches:

- Needs assessment research: analyzing the **experiences** of those formerly in system from social media. Looking for patterns in situations and evaluating.
- Case study research; reviewing pre-existing data to investigate **discrepancies in mental health**

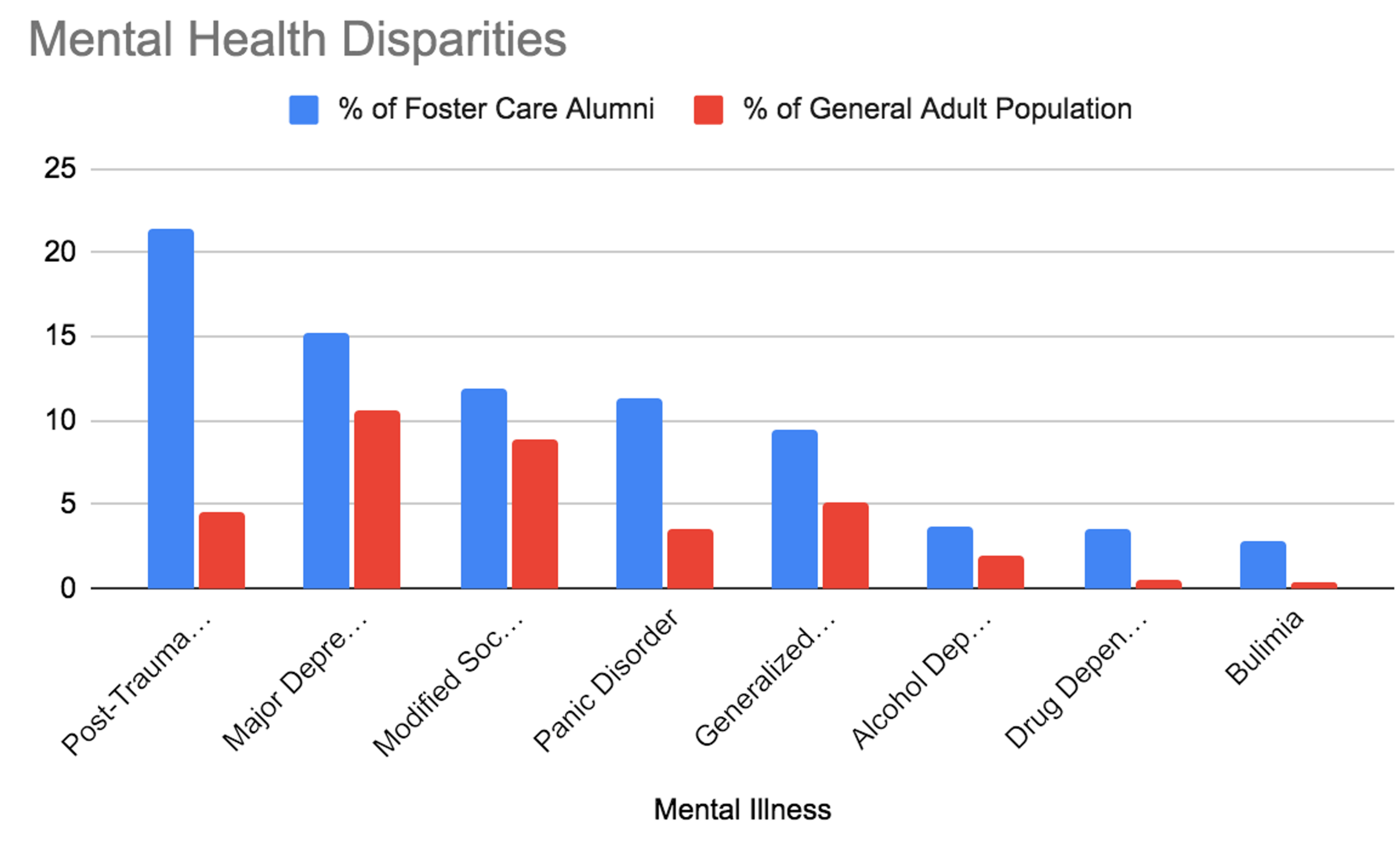
Data Collection Tools:

- Databases: to find pre-existing data
- Content Analysis: Analyzed social media content

Data analysis techniques:

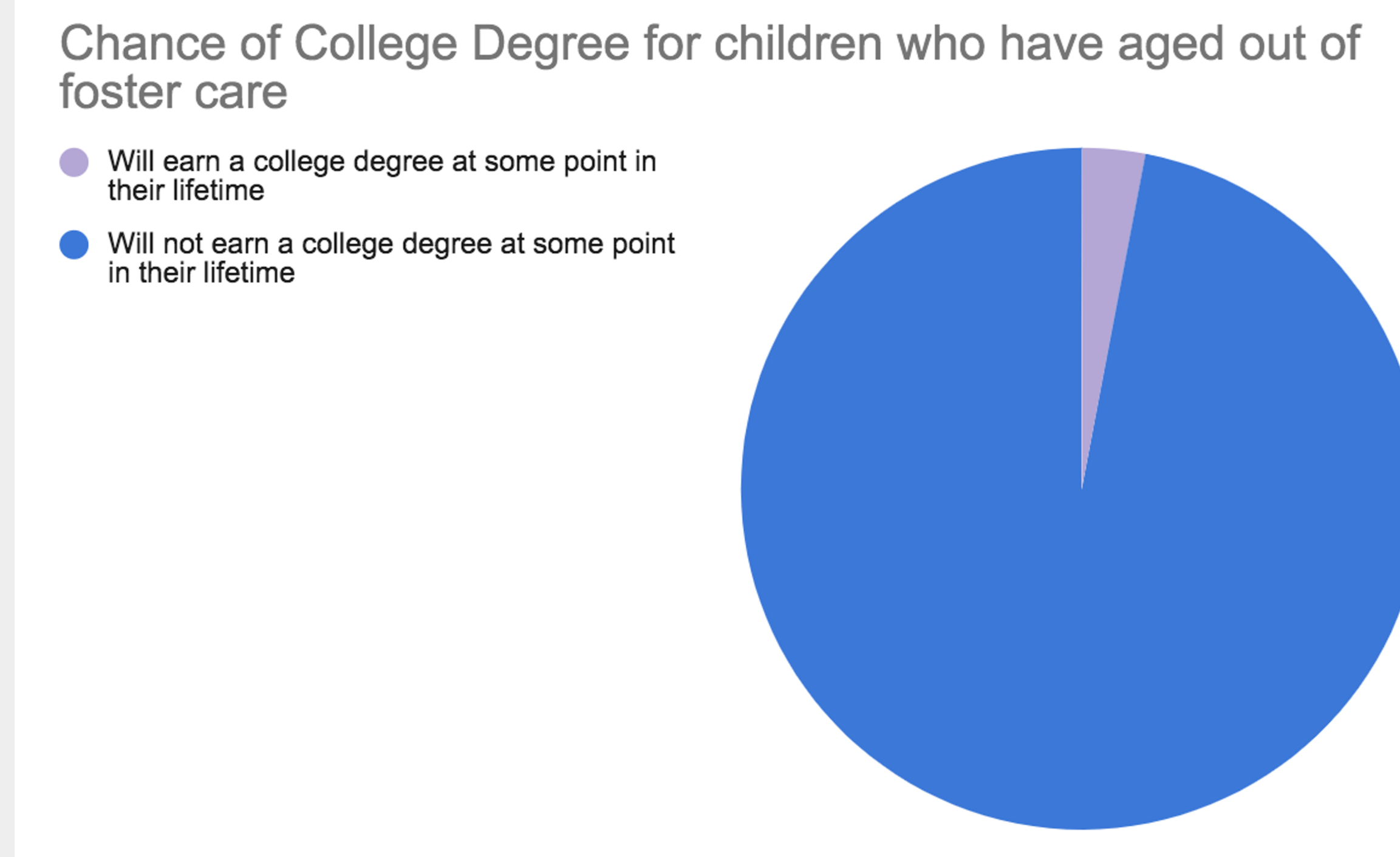
- Descriptive Statistics: to describe data features
- Coding & Summarization

Figure 1



Data & Findings

Figure 2



Reviewed cases on social media. Cases last years and parties involved reported that caseworkers only briefly review cases before making judgements and treat birth parents unfairly. Caseworkers give resources to birth parents based on the resources from their company, however the **quality** and **amount** of resources given depends on the **dedication of the caseworker.**

Conclusions

- There are many **mental health disparities** between foster care youth and the general population. This is likely due to foster care youth being **unable to afford** private mental health resources instead of the ones provided at school which tend to be inadequate.
- The amount of support and resources received is directly correlated with the caseworker and their **dedication and willingness** to help out the family without judgment.

Implications

- If youth in foster care are able to receive the mental health resources they need this will help them to be able to **succeed in school and later in life**
- If youth aging out of foster care receive resources and help finding jobs and colleges this will help them to find **employment**

Next steps

- Addition of more **mechanisms** to improve the situation that causes many families to be separated
- Performing an **additional study** to discover the whether the limited resources given actually have a positive impact on the situation and are preventative measures

References

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