

Children Who Go Missing From Home & Care

Children and Young People's Committee
July 2014

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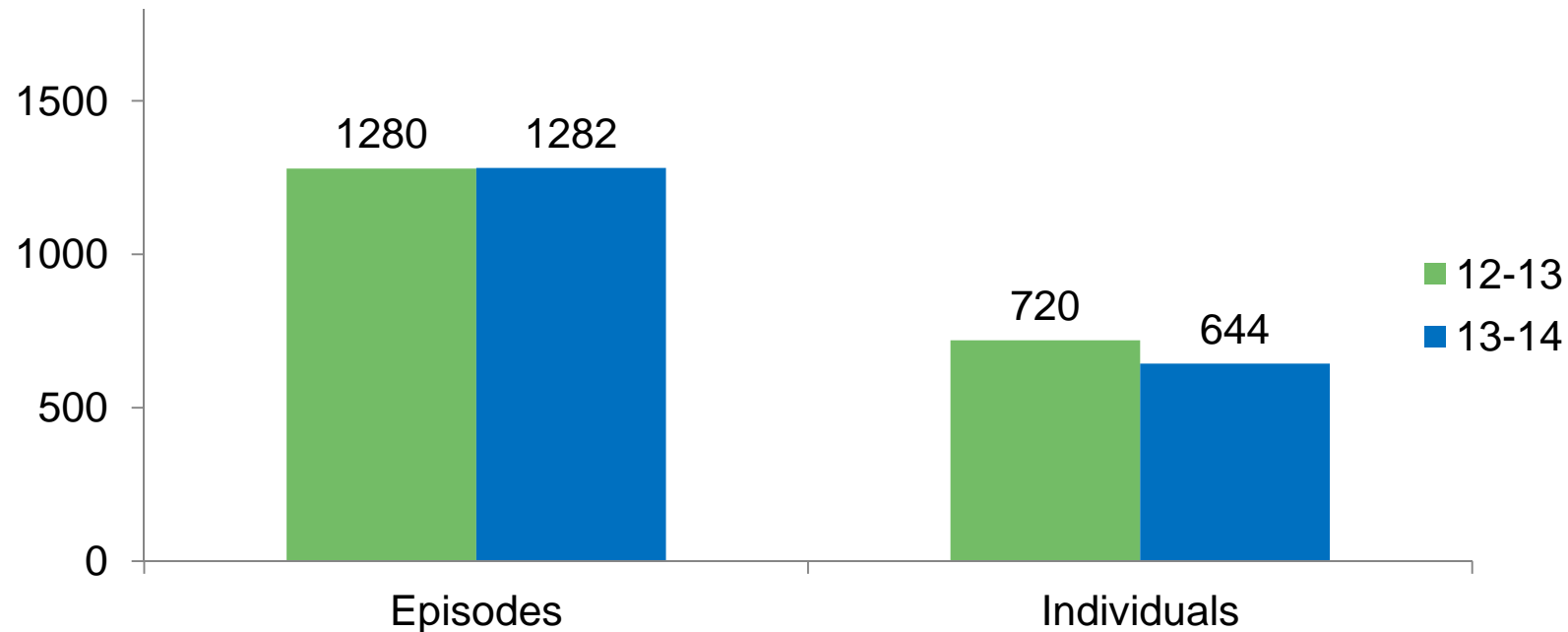
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Headlines for 2013-14

- 644 Nottinghamshire children went missing in 2013/14 (112 children in care)
- Individual children missing from home has continued to decrease (by 99 since 12/13)
- Episodes of children missing from home has continued to decrease (by 106 since 12/13)
- Whilst individually girls and boys go missing equally, girls are more likely to go missing on multiple occasions
- The majority (89%) of children who go missing are age between 10rs and 17yrs
- 92% of children who go missing are found in under a day
- The median time children went missing for is 4 hours
- Improvement in recording children missing from care
- Improvements in the completion and timeliness of return interviews
- Family and friends relationships, boundary issues and school based problems are cited as reasons for going missing more frequently by children at home
- NSCB audit identified good arrangements for missing children in Nottinghamshire

Missing individuals & episodes

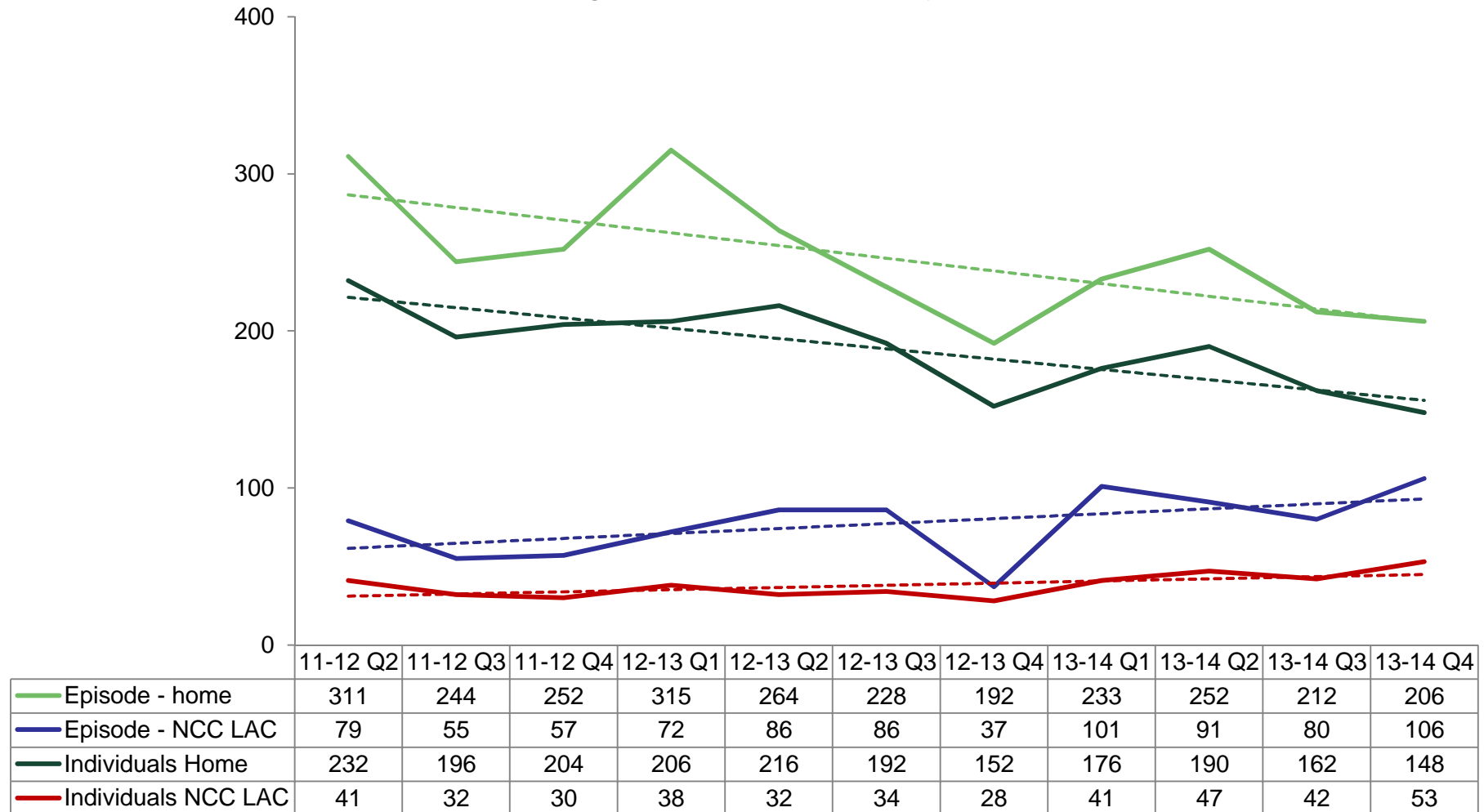
(excluding Other Local Authority LAC)



- The number of individuals who went missing has decreased while the number of missing episodes has remained stable

Missing individuals & episodes

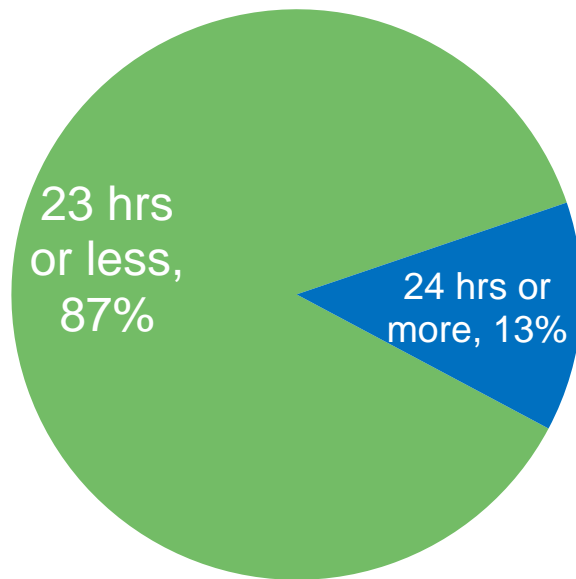
(excluding Other Local Authority LAC)



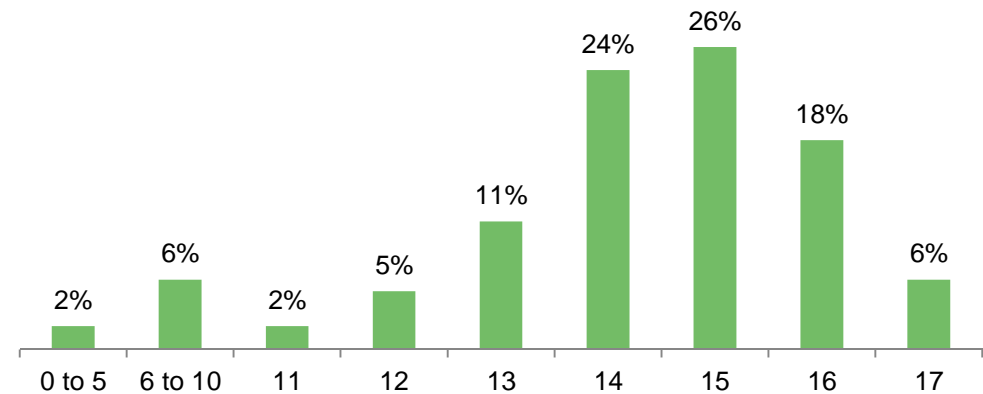
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Further information

How long do children go missing for?



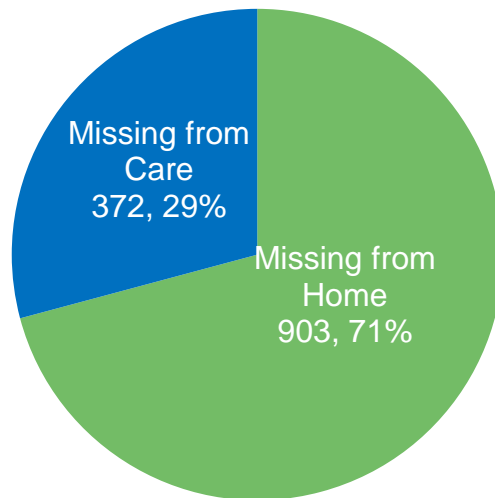
Age Profile of children who go missing



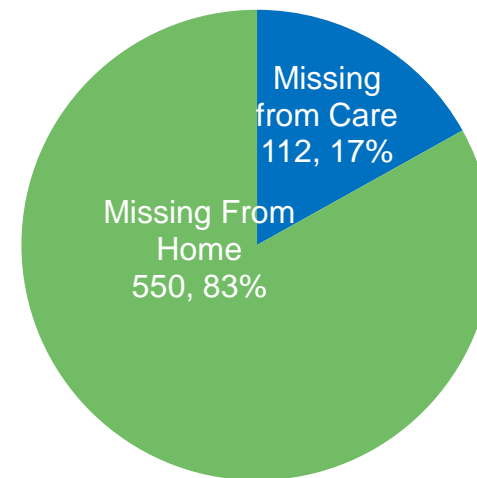
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Proportion of children going missing from home or care

Episodes

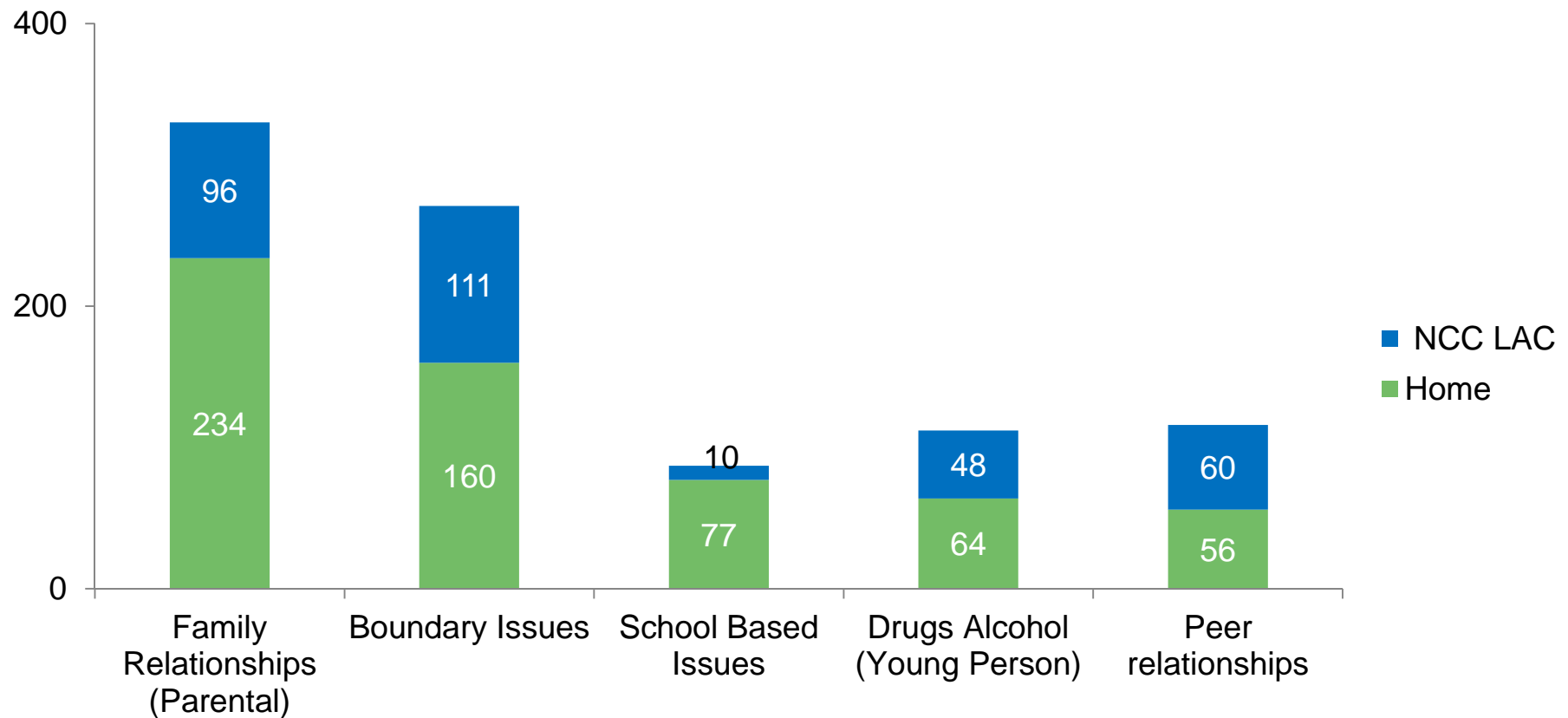


Individuals



- Children in care are more likely to go missing than those at home, when compared to the overall population
- Nottinghamshire has a growing number of older LAC (25% increase in 16 & 17 year old LAC in 13-14) and it is more common for older children to go missing

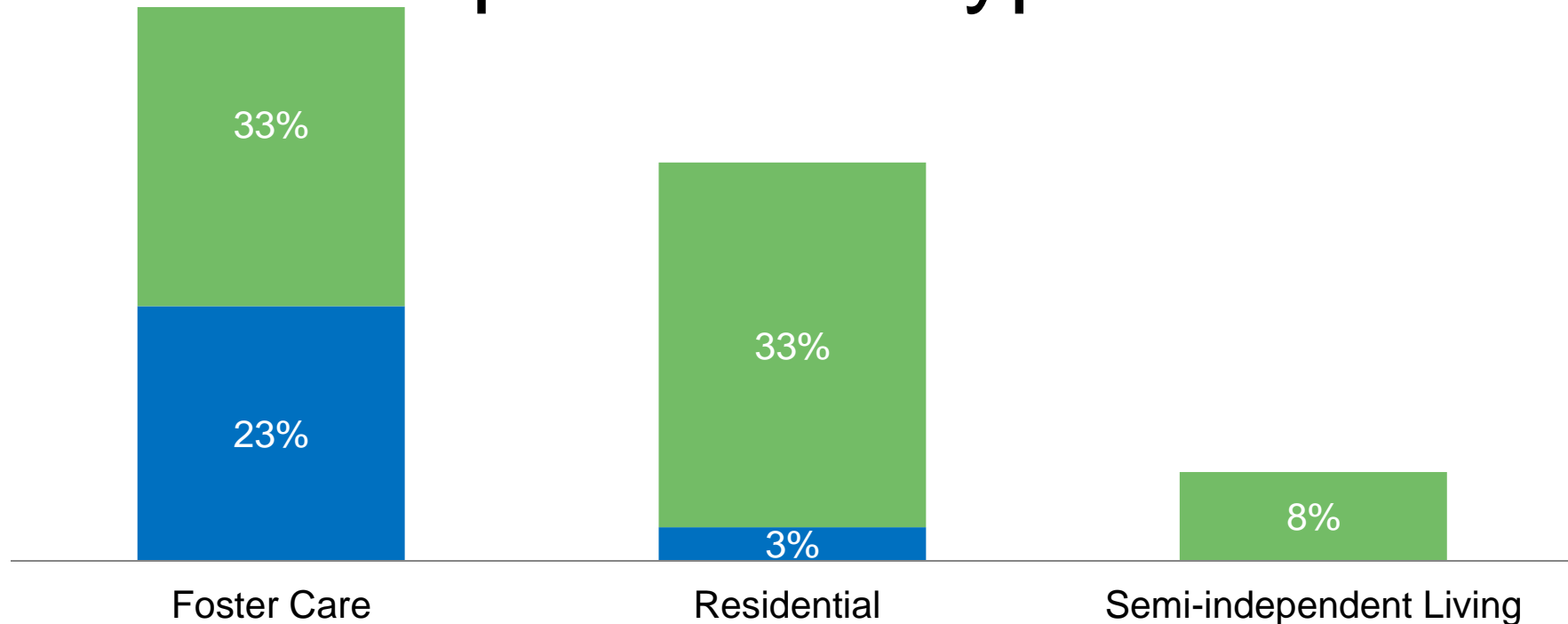
Factors linked to going missing



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Note that an individual may have given a separate reason for more than one episode

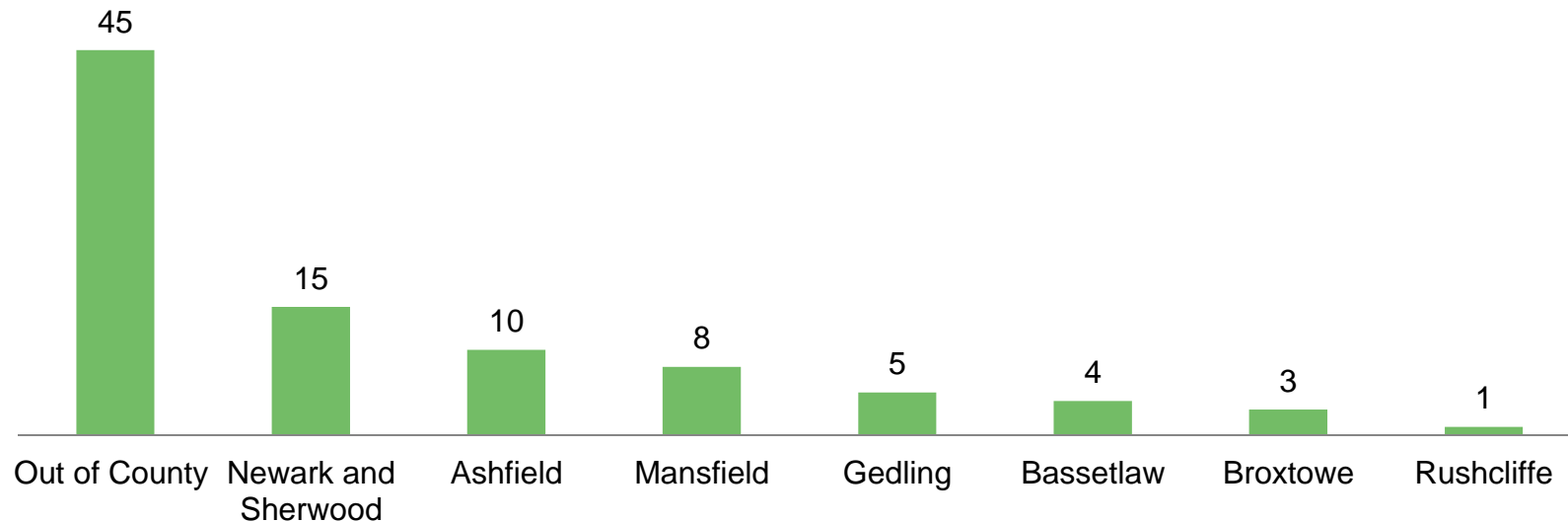
Missing from Care individuals split by placement type



- Children are least likely to go missing when they are placed in NCC placements.
- External residential provisions have high numbers of children go missing (of all LAC who went missing, 33% were from these settings compared to 12% of all LAC who are in this placement type). Work is underway to grow the residential care market in-county
- Note - Nottinghamshire doesn't currently internally manage any semi-independent provision

Missing from Care

Individuals missing from care (by locality of placement)



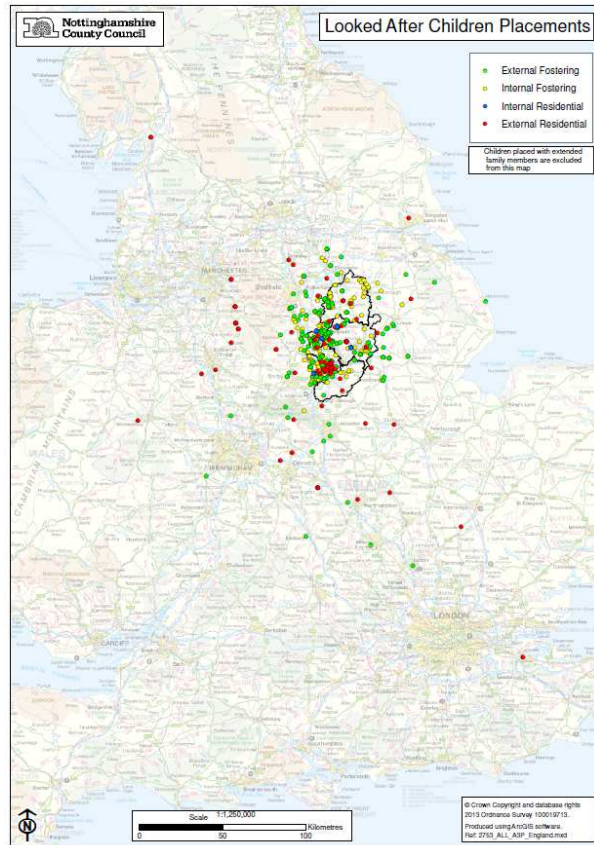
- Children in out-of-county placements are most likely to go missing



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Note: this is incomplete. It only relates to 91 of 112 individuals who went missing from care as there are gaps in available data.

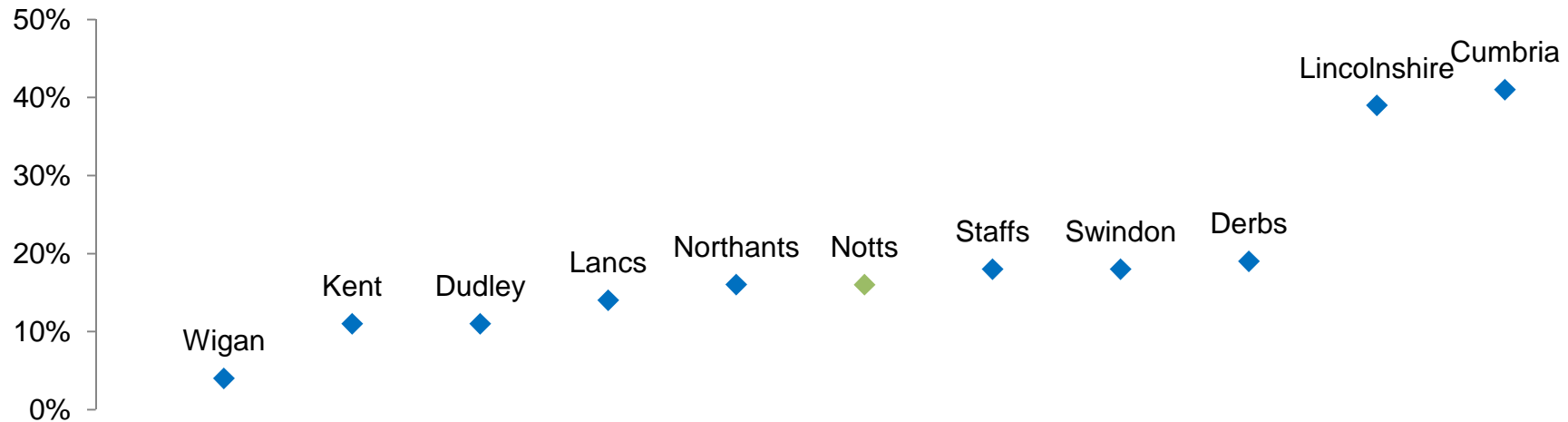
Where are our looked after children placed?



- The majority of children are in foster care
- 11.5% in a residential care home
- 16% of looked after children are placed more than 20 miles from their home address (as at Mar 31st 2013)
- The majority of our out-of-county placements are still within the East Midlands
- Children most likely to go missing from residential care, and these placements are most likely to be out-of-county (around 60% at present)

Benchmarking information

% of Looked after children placed more than 20 miles from home address



- Nottinghamshire place most children in their care (84%) close to their local communities
- Counties usually place children in their care further away from their home address (only Lancashire places more LAC in-county than Notts, when looking at counties only)

Notes

- “Children in Care” refers to looked after children
- “Children at Home” refers to children at home with their family/ extended family, those on a post-adoptive order, and those in supported living but are not looked after
- Population figures are taken from the 2011 Census. The 0-17 population estimate was 162, 394
- The data excludes other local authority looked after children unless specified.
- There are some gaps in data relating to where children go missing from - we know where 91 of 112 children in care went missing from.