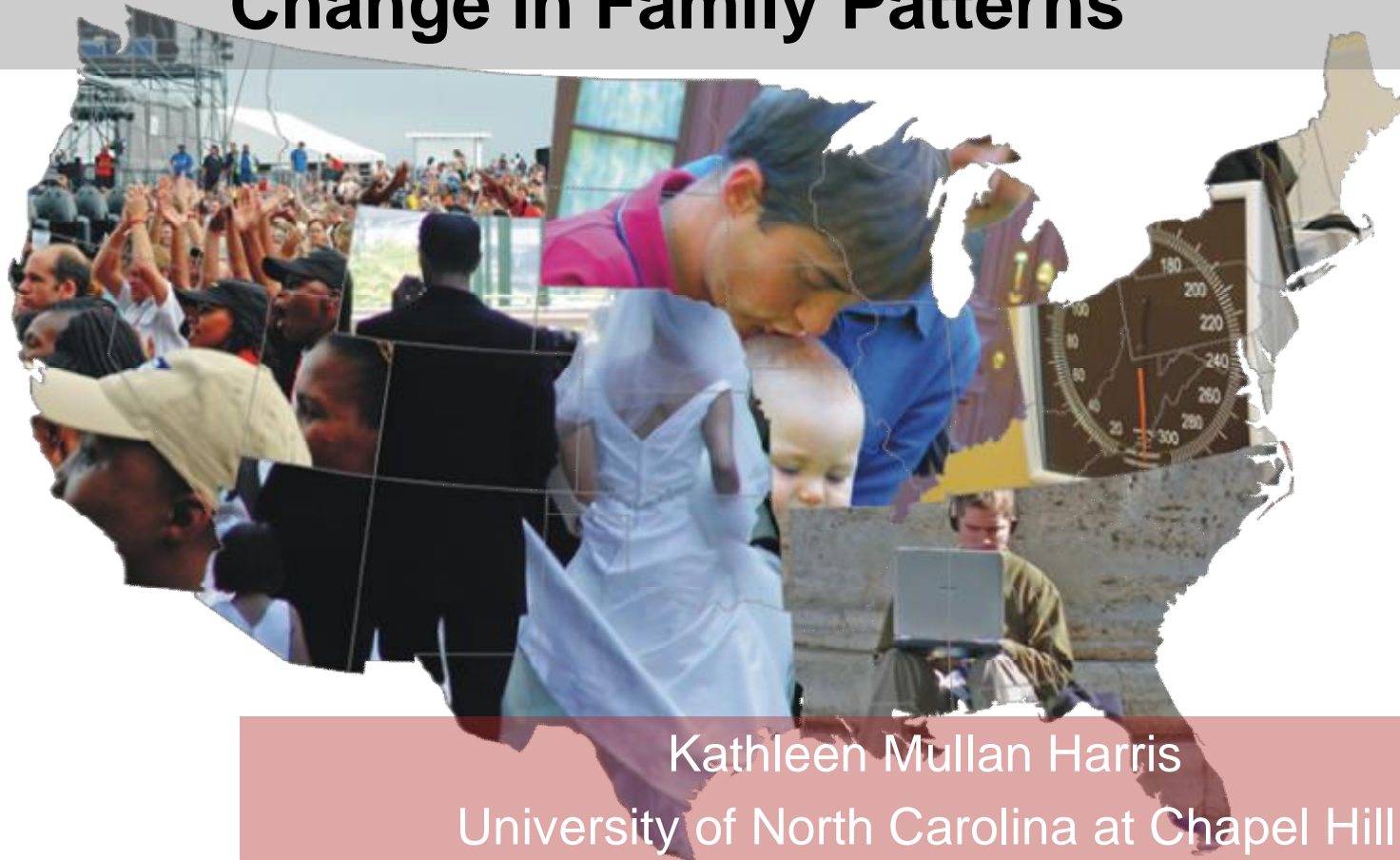


Capturing Intergenerational Aspects of Change in Family Patterns



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Change in Family Patterns

- Declines in marriage
- High rates of divorce
- Increase in births to unmarried mothers
- Increase in births to cohabiting mothers
- Increase in single-parent, unmarried, and remarried or blended families

How to Capture Family Change

- Static measures of family structure
 - Parental perspective
 - Child's perspective
- Dynamic measures of family structure change
- Extended family and kin networks
- Contextual measures of family structure
 - Example of intergenerational family structure effects on family formation behavior

Add Health

- National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health: ongoing program project 1994-2010.
- Nationally representative study that explores the causes of health and health-related behaviors of adolescents and their outcomes in young adulthood.
- Wave I: Adolescents 12-19, 1994-95
Wave II: Adolescents 13-20, 1996
Wave III: Young adults 18-26, 2001-02
Wave IV: Young adults 24-32, 2008
- Funded by the NICHD with co-funding from 17 other federal agencies

Family Structure of Adolescents Add Health 1995

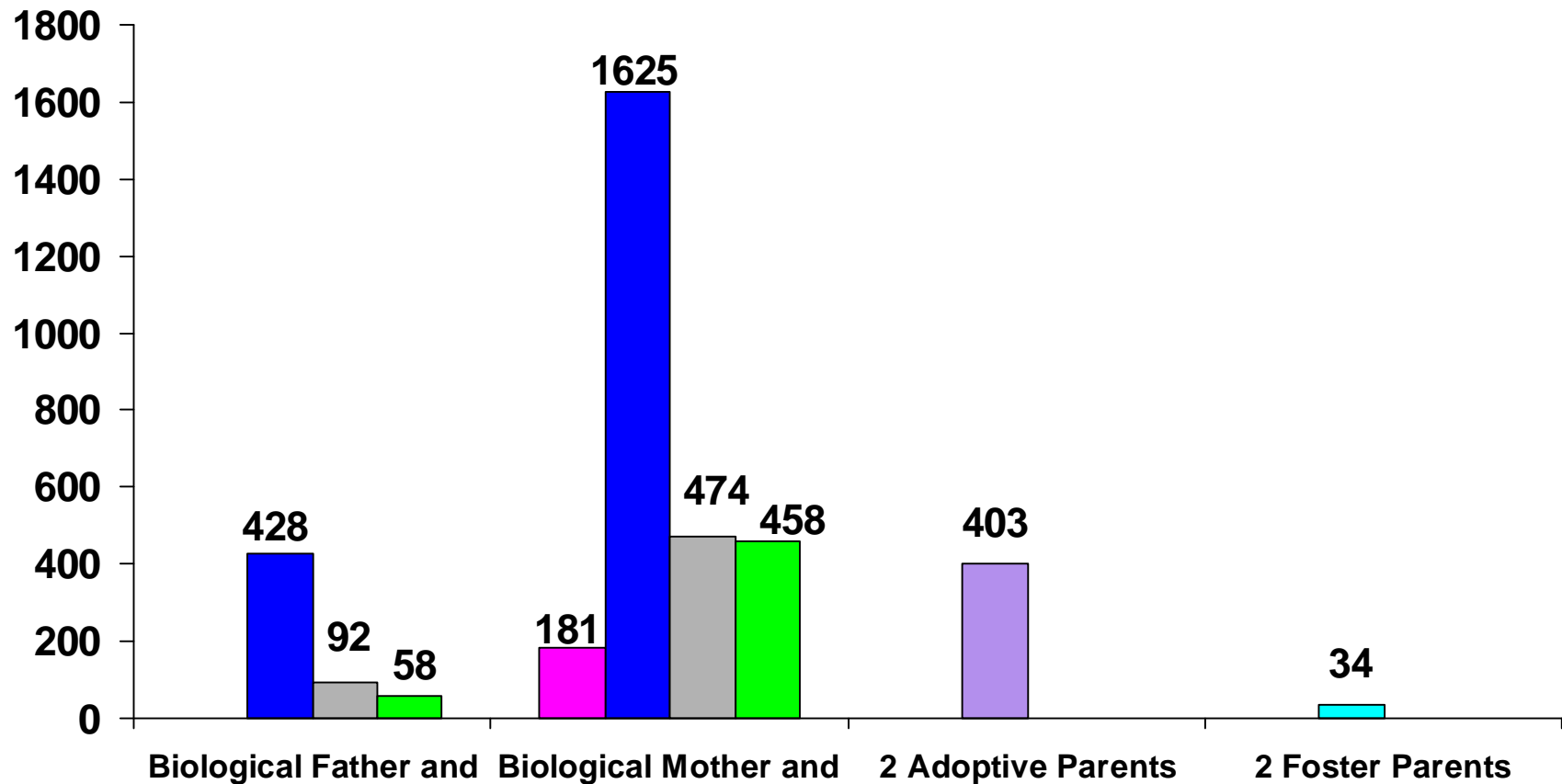
Two-parent family	74%
Single-parent family	26%

Family Structure of Adolescents Add Health 1995

	N	%
2 biological parents	10,339	53.3
2 adoptive parents	403	0.7
Bio Mom/ Step Dad	2,756	13.6
Bio Dad/ Step Mom	591	2.6
Single Mom	4,520	20.4
Single Dad	637	3.1
Surrogate parent(s)	1,499	6.3
Total	20,745	100.0

What is a two parent family?

Family composition from adolescent reports



■ Adoptive
 ■ Step
 ■ Spouse
 ■ Partner

Dynamic Measures of Family Structure Change

- Data demands
 - Parents' relationship histories;
 - Child's co-residence history with parents by type of parent and duration.
- Construct monthly or yearly family structure indicators:
 - Family status (change) in each time period of child's life
 - Duration in each family structure over child's life
 - Duration lived with each parent type over child's life
 - Family structure transitions (when and count)
- Prospective longitudinal study requires tracking and updating parental family structure change

Intergenerational Aspects of Family Change: What we Know

- Primarily family of origin and/or extended kin in household.
- Social and cultural context of the family of origin produces variation in family formation behavior of offspring.
- Extent to which family change in the parent generation impacts family patterns in the child generation.

Family Structure Effects

- Extensive research shows that growing up in a non-intact family form is associated with
 - teenage parenthood, early marriage, nonmarital childbearing, and life course trajectories of family instability
- Intergenerational effects are consistent across numerous national studies in 1980s and 90s.
- Most research on family of origin generational effects using both static and dynamic measures.

Intergenerational Aspects of Family Change

- Substantial knowledge that family change in one generation is associated with family formation patterns in the subsequent generation.
- Are there patterns across more than one generation?
- What about intergenerational effects beyond the family of origin?

Family Change Patterns across Multiple Generations

- Need family formation data on more than parent and child generation;
- Nationally representative and current data;
- Genetic data to sort out shared and unshared genetic and environmental sources of variation in family formation behavior across generations.
- Innovative designs and current research underway.

Intergenerational Effects of Family Change beyond Family of Origin

- Intergenerational effects of family change operate in multiple contexts of children's lives
 - Children spend time with friends and their families, with classmates and their families from school, and are surrounded by families in their neighborhoods.
- Family patterns in the social contexts of children's lives may be especially influential during adolescence when young people begin to formulate their expectations for the future.

Collective Socialization of Family Forms

- Youth observe family forms in the social contexts of their lives—own family, among friends, in the school and neighborhood—and develop notions of acceptable and expected future family forms.
- Parental generation and the families they form serve as role models for youth, especially during adolescence when romantic relationships become salient.
- Social control of youth through monitoring and supervision is less when social contexts contain fewer adults.
- Most research on intergenerational effects of family structure on family of origin.

Intergenerational Patterns of Family Change via Collective Socialization

- Difficult to study because of lack of data.
- Contextual design of Add Health provides an opportunity to study intergenerational effects of family change at multiple levels via collective socialization at
 - peer;
 - school; and
 - neighborhood levels
- Example of intergenerational effects on nonmarital childbearing

Add Health

- School-based design with independent and direct measurement of social contexts
 - Wave I: Grades 7-12 (1994-95)
 - Wave III: Ages 18-26 (2001-02)
- Peer data obtained in Wave I on 5 best male and 5 best female friends also in Add Health survey
- Family data from parent and adolescent interviews
- Neighborhood data from geocoded residence address
- Analysis of nonmarital childbearing based on women present in Wave III, with school, neighborhood, and peer data from Wave I (N=5,888)

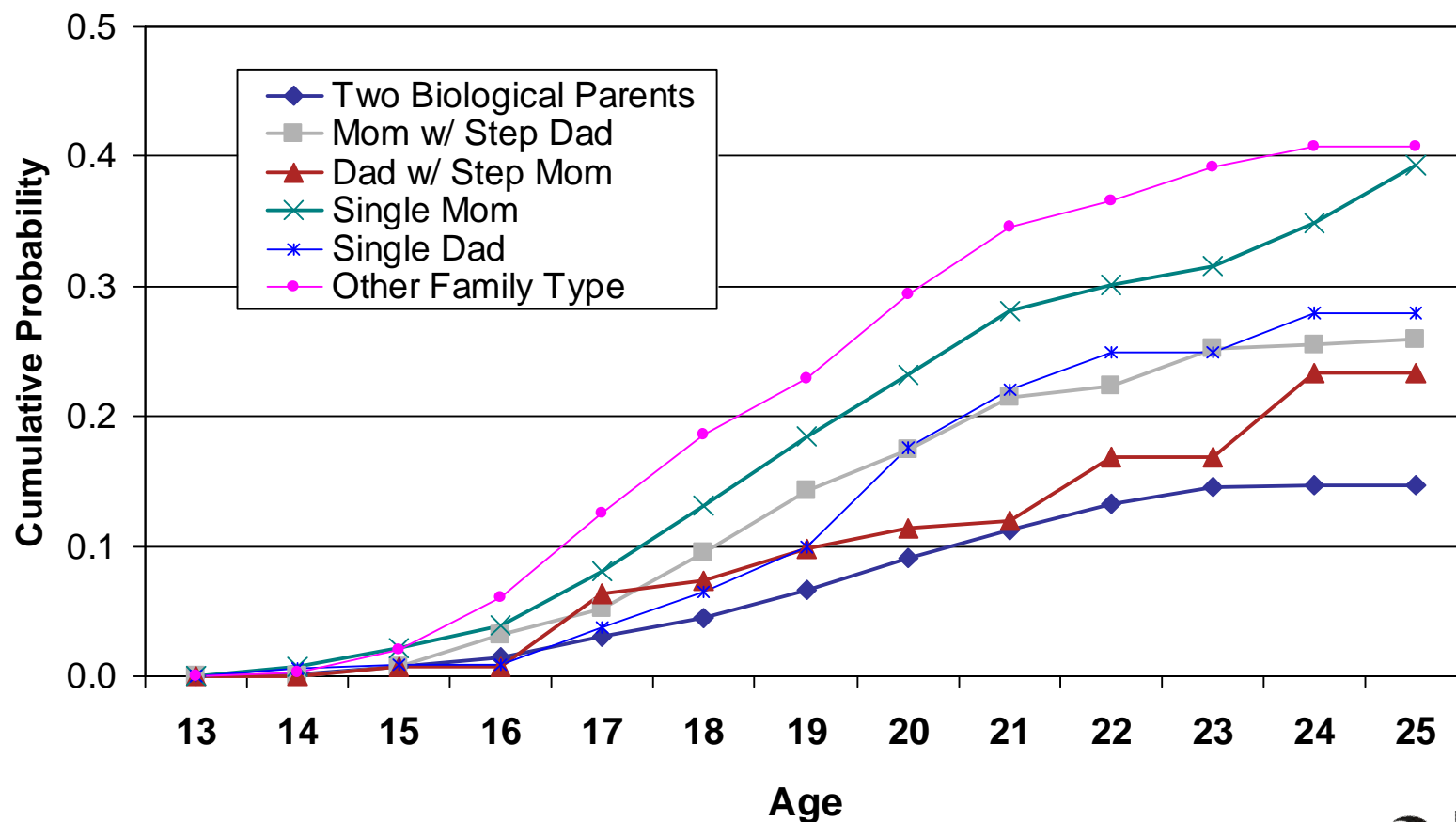
Family Structure Measures

- Family structure in family of origin
 - Two biological/adoptive parents
 - Bio mom/step dad
 - Bio dad/step mom
 - Single mom
 - Single dad
 - Surrogate parent

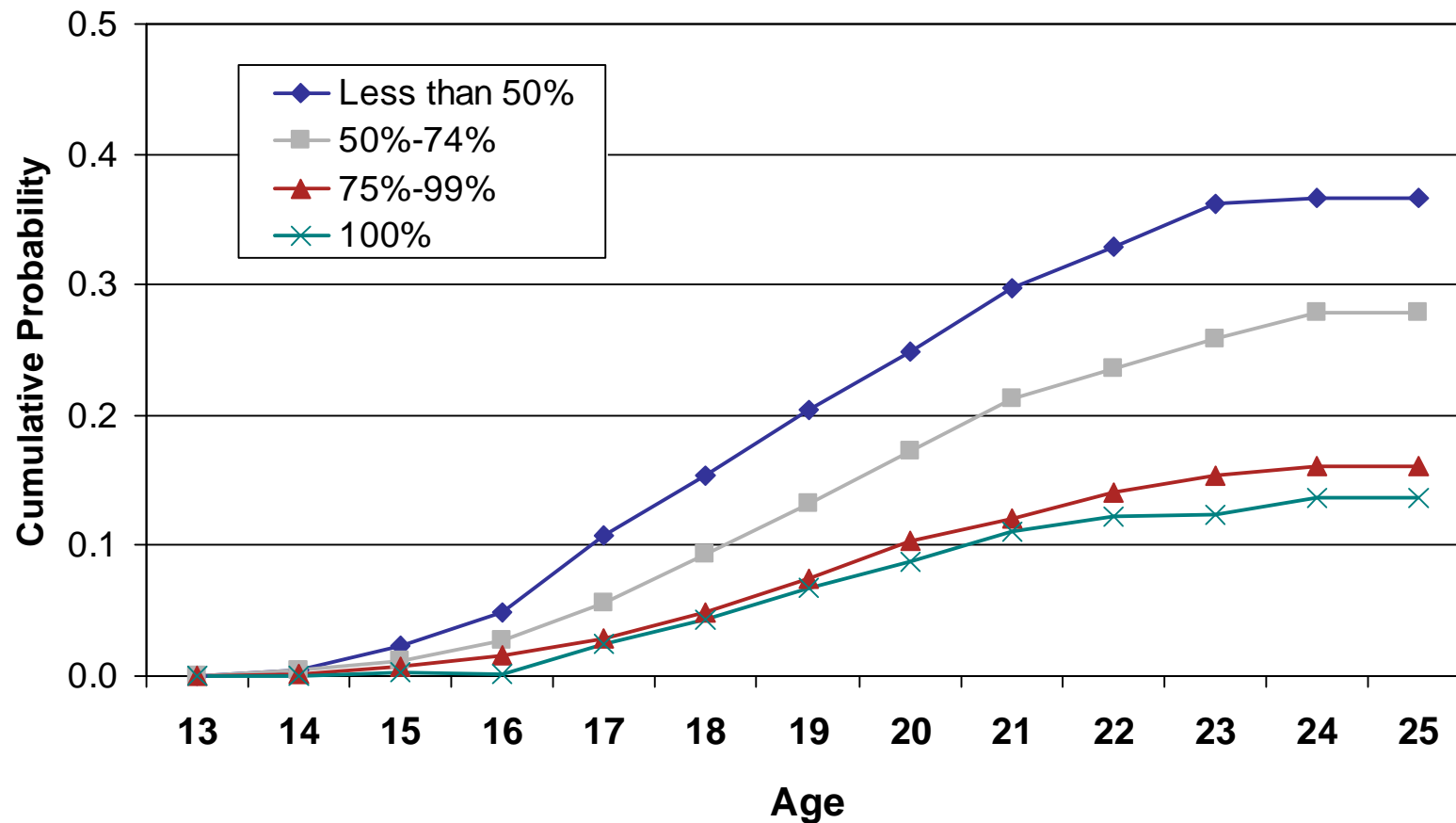
Family Structure Measures

- Family structure of friends, families in school, and families in neighborhood.
- Measured in each context as:
 - Percent in two-parent family
 - Percent in single-parent family
 - Percent in other family structure

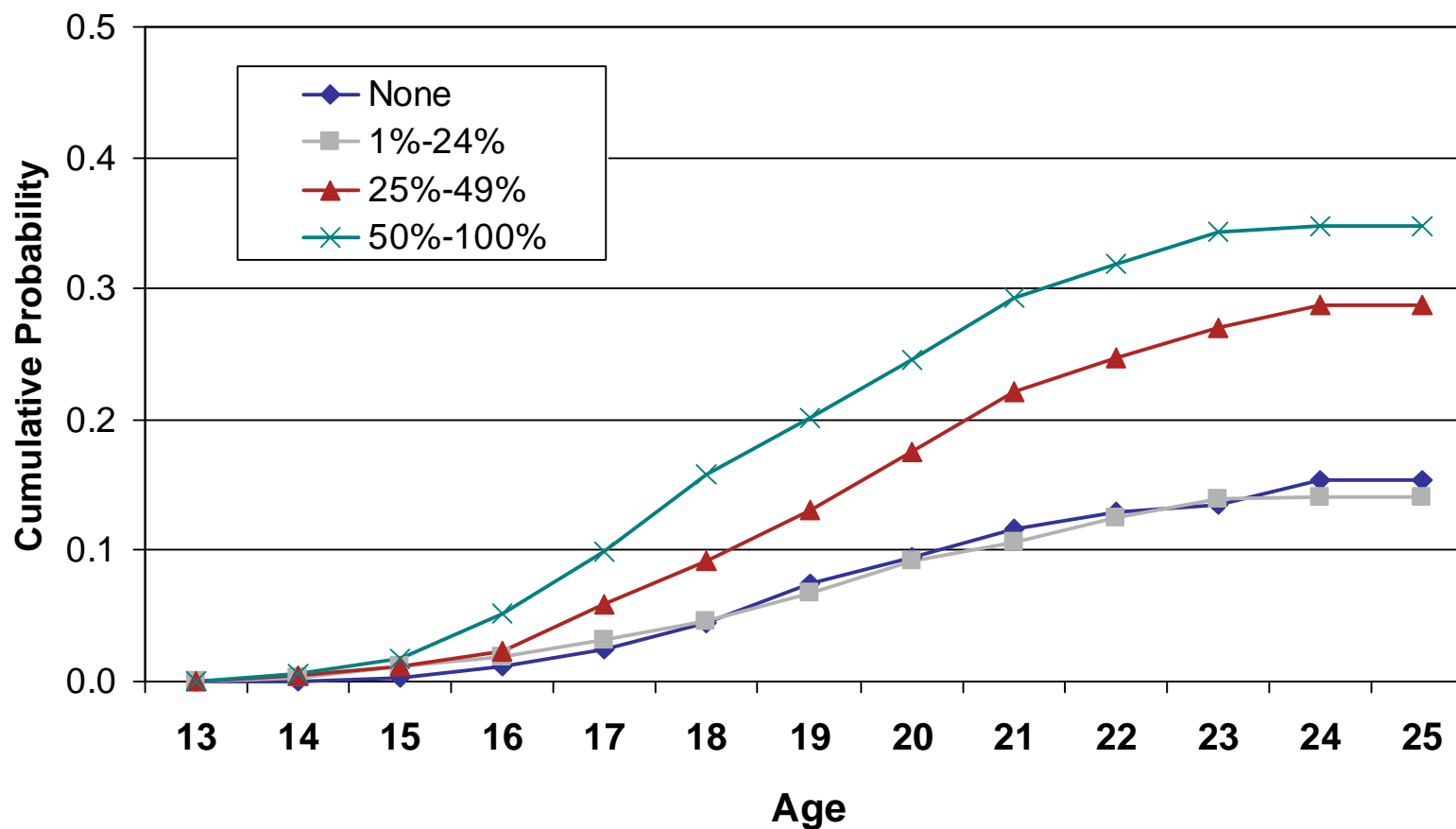
Cumulative probabilities of first nonmarital birth by family of origin family structure. (N=5,884 women)



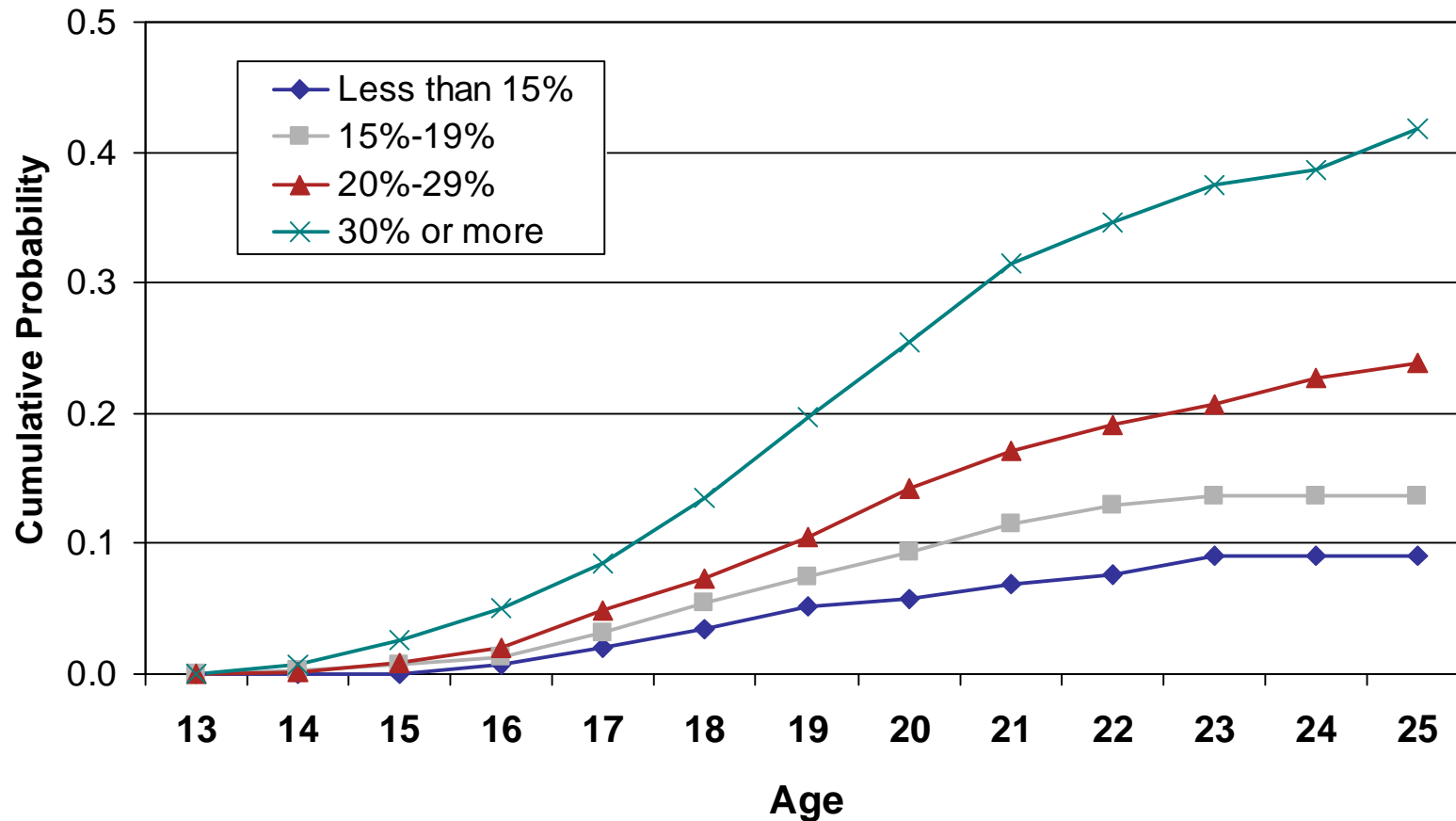
Cumulative probabilities of first nonmarital birth, by percent friends from 2-parent family.



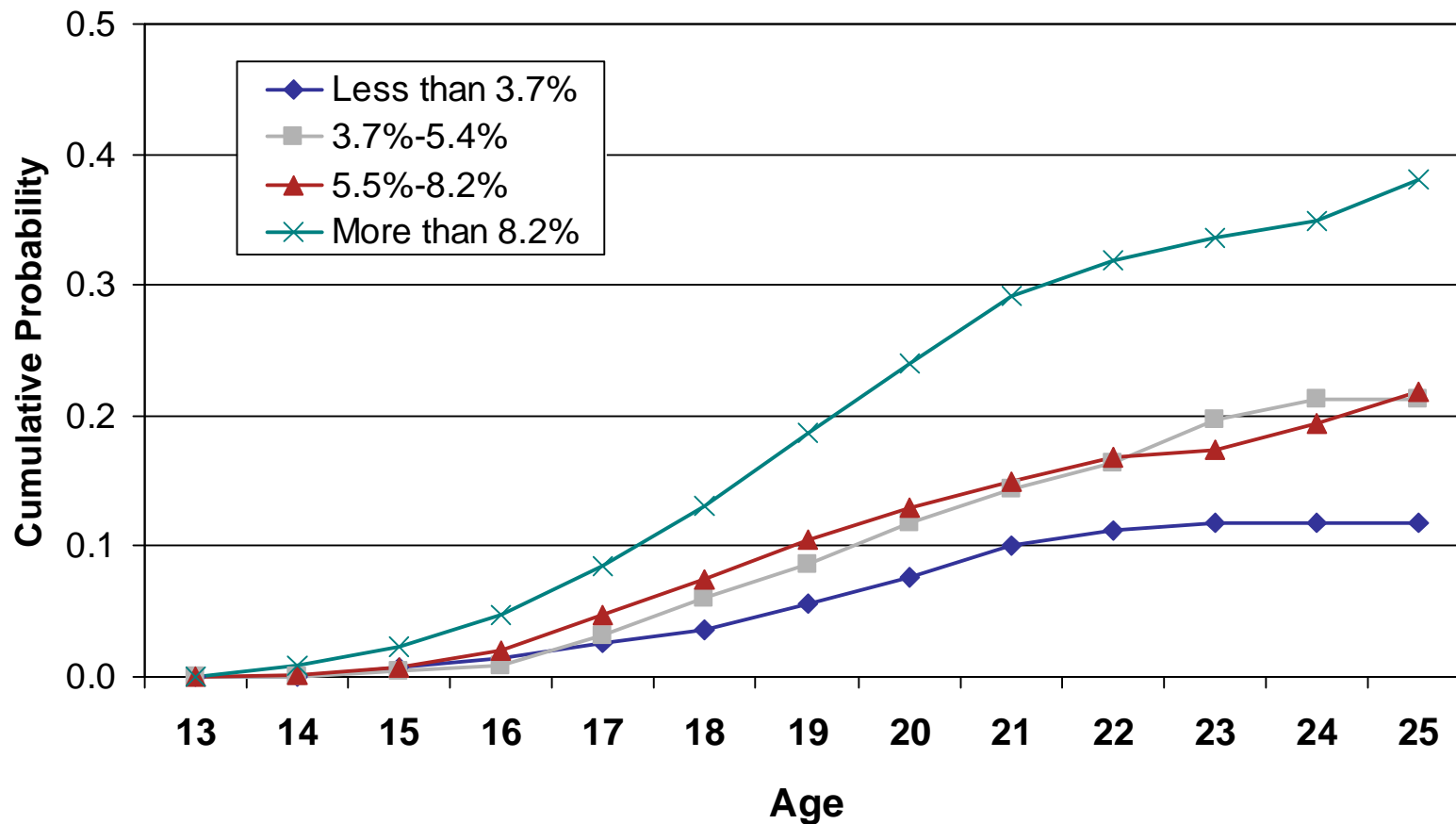
Cumulative probabilities of first nonmarital birth, by percent friends from single-parent family.



Cumulative probabilities of first nonmarital birth, by percent students at school from single-parent family.



Cumulative probabilities of first nonmarital birth, by percent households in neighborhood female-headed with children



Findings

- Intergenerational family change effects on nonmarital childbearing operate independently in different social contexts and are additive.
- Two-biological parent family forms reduce likelihood of nonmarital childbearing especially through family of origin and peers contexts.
- Non-intact family forms increase likelihood of nonmarital childbearing especially through family of origin, peer, and neighborhood contexts.
- Results generalize to other family formation behaviors

Family Change Patterns across Multiple Generations

- Transmission of family change from parents to adult children to their children (i.e., grandchildren).
- Create family histories of “instability” or “stability” across generations (also intra-generational)
- May be genetic profiles of family stability
- Add Health is planning an intergenerational design in future waves of data collection
 - Parents
 - Children
 - Collect similar social and biological data on all generations
- Current nationally-representative intergenerational study design with racial and ethnic diversity, embedded genetic design, and DNA on all generations.

Family Change Patterns across Multiple Generations

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- Create family histories of “instability” or “stability” across generations (also intra-generational)
- May be genetic profiles of family stability
- Add Health is planning an intergenerational design in future waves of data collection
 - Re-interview parents
 - Children of Add Health respondents
 - Collect similar social and biological data on all 3 generations