**Supplemental results**

In this set of results, children were classified into one of three groups based on whether they met the threshold for competent functioning at ages 8, 12, and 16 years: always competent (met the threshold at all three time points), inconsistently competent (met the threshold at one or two time points), and never competent (never met the threshold). In the first set of analyses, the proportion of children in each longitudinal competence group were compared between the never and ever institutionalized groups, foster care and care as usual groups, early (prior to age 20 months) and late (at or beyond age 20 months) placement in foster care groups, and stable and disrupted foster care placement groups. Finally, the three longitudinal competence groups were compared in regard to caregiving quality variables: quality of caregiving at age 42 months, percent of life spent in institutional care from birth through age 54 months, and number of placement disruptions from birth through age 54 months.

Prior to all analyses, the proportion of males compared to females across the three longitudinal competence categories was examined and found to be non-significant in the entire sample (χ2[1]=4.98, *p*=.083, *V*=.210) as well as among the EIG only (χ2[1]=1.17, *p*=.558, *V*=.122). Cross-sectional data on the number and percent of children classified as competent at ages 8, 12, and 16 years are available in supplemental table 2 (available online).

**Never institutionalized vs. ever institutionalized.** From 8 to 16 years of age, never institutionalized group adolescents were more likely to be consistently competent compared to ever institutionalized adolescents (χ*2*[1]=23.59, *p*<.001, *V*=.457; see Figure 1 in this document). Sixty percent (*n*=21) of never institutionalized group adolescents were in the consistently competent category compared to just 17% (*n*=13) of ever institutionalized adolescents. Conversely, only 3% (*n*=1) ofnever institutionalized group adolescents were in the never competent category compared to 24% (*n*=19) of ever institutionalized adolescents. Finally, 37% (*n*=13) of never institutionalized group adolescents and 59% (*n*=46) of ever institutionalized adolescents were in the inconsistently competent category.

**Foster care group vs. care as usual group.** Despite the fact that foster care group children were four times more likely than care as usual group children to be consistently competent from 8 to 16 years, the difference was not statistically significant (χ2[1]=5.61, *p*=.061, *V*=.268). From 8 to 16 years of age, 26% (*n*=11) of foster care group adolescents were consistently competent compared to only 6% (*n*=2) of care as usual group adolescents (see Figure 2 in this document). Similar proportions of foster care group and care as usual group adolescents were never competent (21% [*n*=10] and 26% [*n*=9] respectively).

**Early vs. late placement into foster care.** Despite differences in the proportion of early- compared to late-placed adolescents in the consistently and never competent categories, the association between early placement and longitudinal competence was not statistically significant (χ2[1]=3.53, *p*=.171, *V*=.29). Forty-six (*n*=5) percent of adolescents placed prior to age 20 months were consistently competent compared to 19% (*n*=6) of adolescents placed at or following 20 months of age (see Figure 3 in this document). Only 1 (9%) early-placed adolescent was never competent compared to 29% (*n*=9) of late-placed adolescents.

**Stable vs. disrupted foster care placement.** Prior to comparing competent functioning between the disrupted foster care and stable foster care groups at age 16 years, we compared these two groups at 54 months of age (prior to any disruptions) and found that there were no differences between those who remained stable and those who subsequently disrupted on measures of total psychiatric symptoms (*t*[47]=1.95, *p*=.058, *d*=0.59), cognitive ability (*t*[47]=-0.82, *p*=.414, *d*=0.25), or percent time in institutional care through age 54 months (*t*[51]=-0.51, *p*=.610, *d*=0.15).

Across middle childhood and adolescence, the largest difference was in the proportion of adolescents who were never competent (see Figure 4 in this document). Only 11% (*n*=2) of stable foster care adolescents were never competent compared to 33% (*n*=8) of disrupted foster care adolescents. However, the association between longitudinal competence category and foster care stability was not statistically significant (χ2[1]=2.94, *p*=.230, *V*=.265).

**Associations between competence and caregiving quality.** Among EIG adolescents, associations were explored between the longitudinal competence categories and caregiver quality at age 42 months, percent time in institutional care through age 54 months, and placement disruptions through age 54 months.

Quality of caregiving behavior at 42 months significantly differed across longitudinal competence categories (*F*[2,71]=4.70, *p*=.012, partial *η*2=.117). Specifically, adolescents in the consistently competent category experienced significantly better quality of early caregiving compared to adolescents in the inconsistently competent and never competent categories (see Table 1 in this document). Percent time spent in institutional care through age 54 months also differed significantly across categories (*F*[2,70]=5.95, *p*=.004, partial *η*2=.145). Adolescents in the consistently competent category experienced less time in institutional care early in life compared to adolescents in the inconsistently competent and never competent categories (see Table 2). The number of placement disruptions through age 54 months did not differ by longitudinal competence category (*F*[2,70]=0.50, *p*=.610, partial *η*2=.014).

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| Table 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| *Comparisons between Consistently Competent, Inconsistently Competent, and Never Competent* | | | | | | | | | |
|  | Consistently competent (*n*=13) |  | Inconsistently competent (*n*=46) |  | Never competent (*n*=19) |  |  |  |  |
|  | *m* (*sd*) |  | *m* (*sd*) |  | *m* (*sd*) | *F*(df1, df2) | *p*-value | Partial *η*2 | Contrasts |
| Overall quality of caregiver behavior at 42 months | 3.21 (0.26) |  | 2.68 (0.61) |  | 2.67 (0.51) | 4.70(2, 71 | .012 | .117 | CC > IC\*, NC\* |
| Percent time in institutional care through 54 months | 35.04 (17.16) |  | 52.05 (24.76) |  | 64.15 (26.19) | 5.65(2, 75) | .005 | .131 | CC < IC\*, NC\*\* |
| Number of placement disruptions through 54 months | 3.08 (0.86) |  | 2.78 (1.23) |  | 2.74 (1.15) | 0.39(2, 75) | .676 | .010 | - |
| \**p*<.05. \*\**p*<.01. | | | | | | | | | |

*Figure 1.* Percent of never institutionalized and ever institutionalized adolescents in each longitudinal competence category.

*Figure 2.* Percent of foster care group and care as usual group adolescents in each longitudinal competence category.

*Figure 3.* Percent of adolescents in each longitudinal competence category by age placed into foster care. Placement prior to age 20 months, placement at or after age 20 months.

*Figure 4.* Percent of adolescents in each longitudinal competence category by placement stability group at age 16 years. Disrupted foster care = Foster care group, disrupted from original foster family; Stable foster care = Foster care group, in original foster family.