

Bridge Program for Foster Children Data from 12 Sample Counties

The Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for foster children works to connect child welfare and early care and education systems in each county across the state to provide emergency child care vouchers, child care navigators, and trauma-informed care (TIC) training and coaching to child care providers. In January 2020, the Child Care Resource Center (CCRC) Research team began conducting a two-year study of the Bridge Program to determine lessons learned that could help guide continuous program improvement. The data below was collected during Year 1 of the study from caregivers (relative caregivers, resource families, foster families, etc.) and child care providers across 12 sample counties who participated in the Bridge Program.

Caregivers Said...

37%

of caregivers said it would be very unlikely that they would have accepted the child without access to child care.

52%

of caregivers heard about the Bridge Program through the child's social worker.

87%

of caregivers agreed or strongly agreed that enrolling in the Bridge Program was easy.

Child Care Provider Selection

Selection process

70%

of caregivers already had a Child Care Provider in mind when they first began the program.

Type of Child Care setting

- 52%** Licensed Child Care Center
- 49%** Licensed Family Child Care
- 6%** Family/ Friend/ Neighbor

*Caregivers were able to select more than one answer.

Caregivers relationship to foster child

- 59%** Resource Family
- 34%** Relative
- 8%** Non-Relative Extended Family Member

Child Care Bridge Program's impact on caregivers

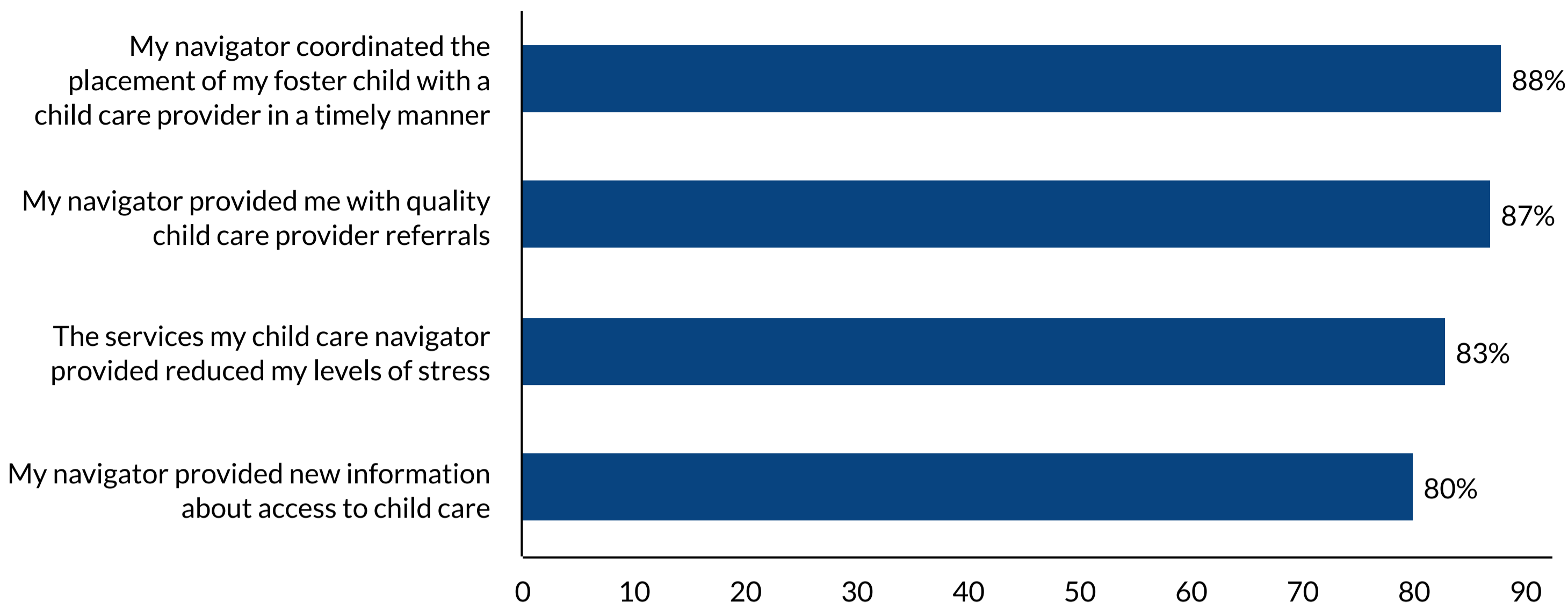
Listed below are the top four answers that show the ways in which the Child Care Bridge Program has impacted caregivers (Caregivers were able to select more than one answer).

Factor	Percentage
Reduced my level of economic stress	82%
Reduced my level of emotional stress	78%
Allowed me to keep a job	75%
Allowed me to get to work on time	69%

"They helped me navigate the process to obtain the best child care for my foster child. I was new to everything and they were extremely helpful and informative. It made the process less stressful for me which helped me focus on bonding instead of stressing out about finding child care. I appreciate all my questions were answered timely and respectfully."
-Caregiver

Caregivers Experience with Child Care Navigator

Over 80% of Caregivers agreed with the following statements about their Child Care Navigator



Child Care Provider Experiences

Initial concerns accepting foster child

Although most providers (74%) reported having no initial concerns accepting a foster child, 22% had concerns about the child's behavior.

Child Care Providers agreed...

76%

The Bridge program staff provided them with helpful resources relating to child care

70%

The Bridge program staff informed them about Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) training options.

65%

The Bridge program staff informed them about Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) coaching options.

"I have had the ability to receive hands on coaching that provided more thoughts and insights on behaviors that I was not understanding. She was also able to recognize some of my skills that I didn't even notice which allowed me to strengthen that area more".

-Child Care Provider

TIC Training and Coaching

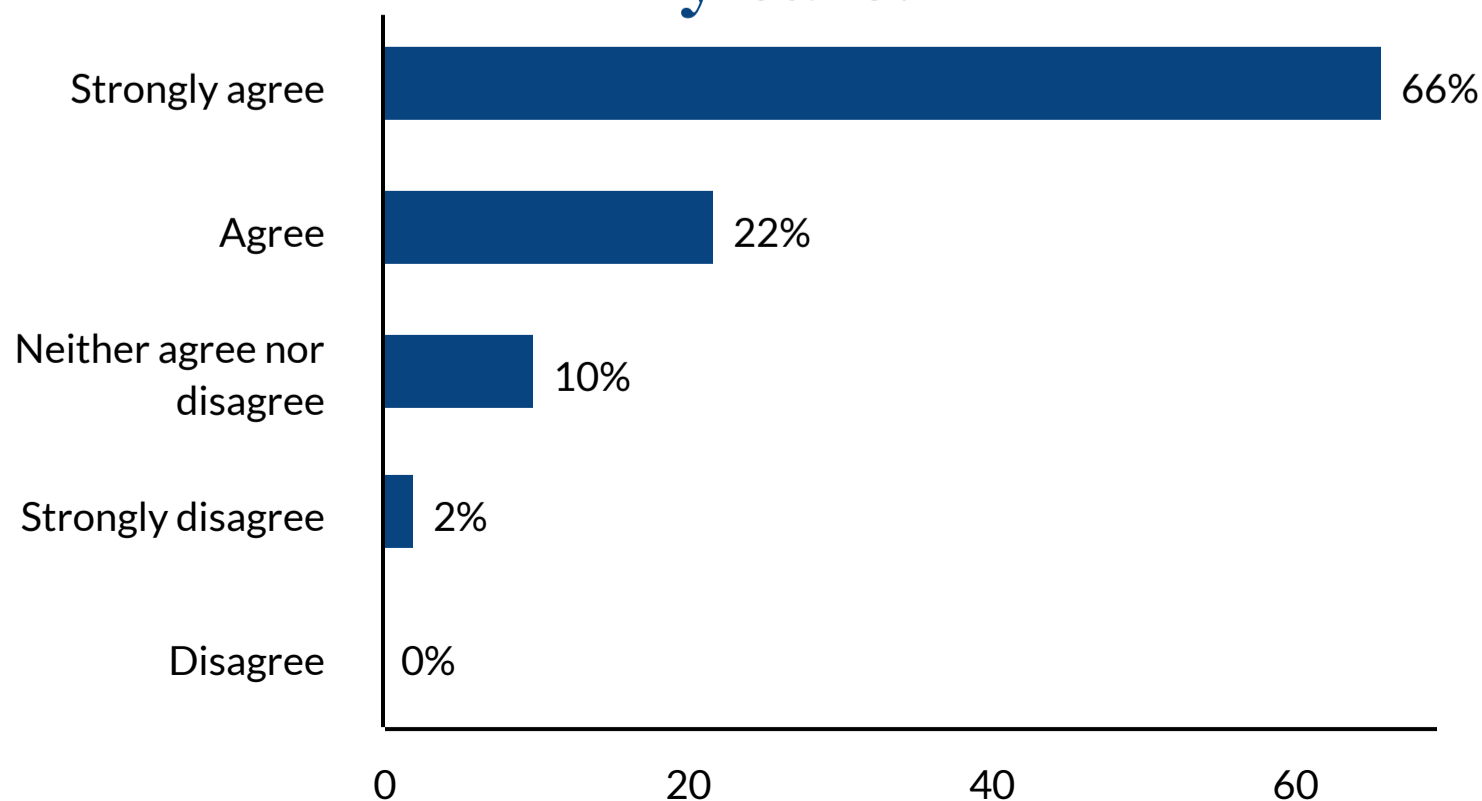
36%

of providers attended Trauma Informed Care Training

25%

of providers attended Trauma Informed Care Coaching

The Trauma-Informed Care Training helped me better support a foster child in my care.



The Trauma-Informed Care Coaching helped me better support a foster child in my care.

