



# Case Progression and Court Improvement Data 2008



## District 11 Team 3 – Furnas, Hitchcock & Red Willow Counties

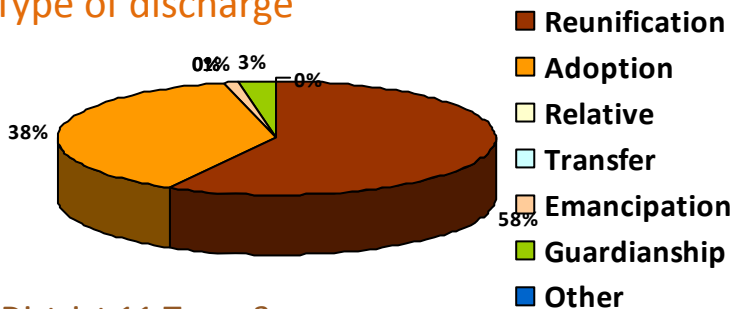
University of Nebraska-Lincoln Center on Children, Families, and the Law

Information provided in this document is designed to help your team improve case progression, as this is one area the courts can control. Timeliness of hearings has a significant impact on time to case closure, which means that courts can make a difference in the lives of children in the system. Data on page 1 comes from Fostering Court Improvement ([fosteringcourtimprovement.org/ne](http://fosteringcourtimprovement.org/ne)) and data on pages 2-4 was collected through JUSTICE to track case progression timelines for all abuse/neglect cases that closed in 2008.

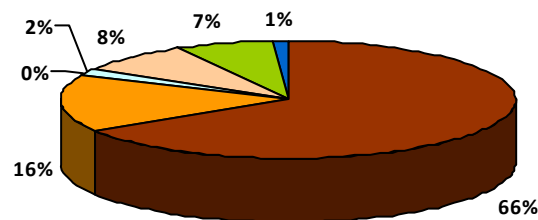
This is an increase from 19 months in 2006.

	District 11 T3 (2008)	Nebraska (2008)	Missouri (2008)	National (2003-2006)
Median days from report to removal	38 days	20	19	Not Available
Median length of stay	12 months	13 months	13 months	12 months
Median months to reunification	10 months	7 months	7 months	7 months
Median months to adoption	37 months	34 months	24 months	32 months

### Type of discharge



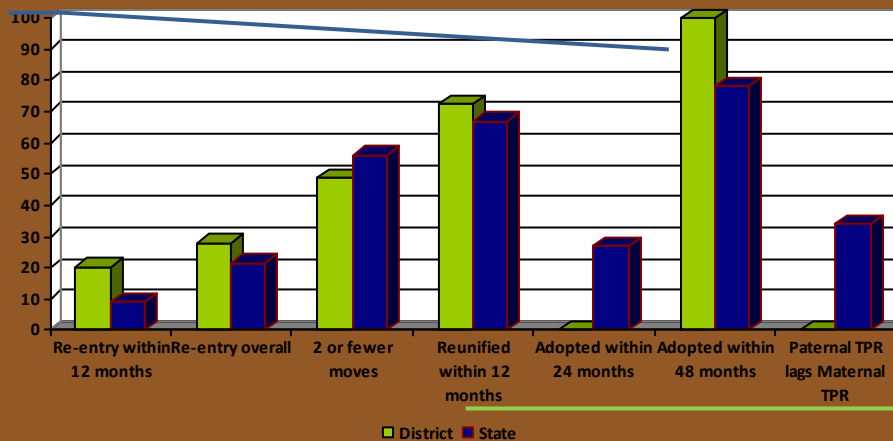
District 11 Team 3



Nebraska

Percentages for 2008 Fiscal Year

Of cases resulting in adoption, all took over 2 years to case closure. In 2006 there were no cases that closed due to adoption.

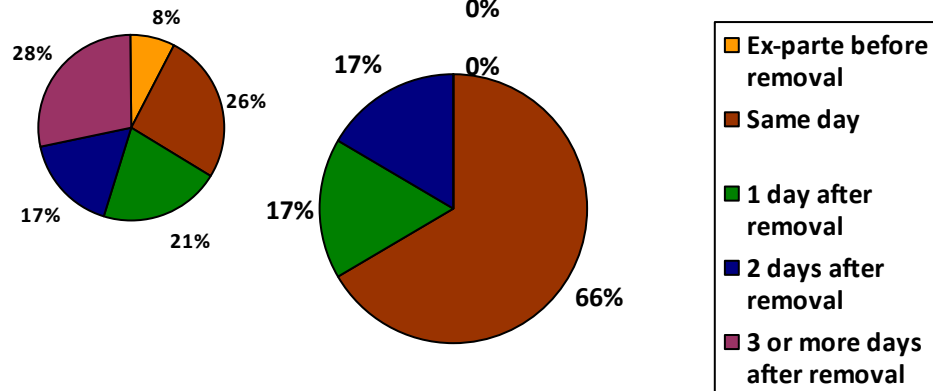


The percent of children reunified within 12 months has decreased from 93% in 2006 to 71% in 2008.

## Timeline progression: All ages Removal to ex-parte

Nebraska (Median = 1 day)

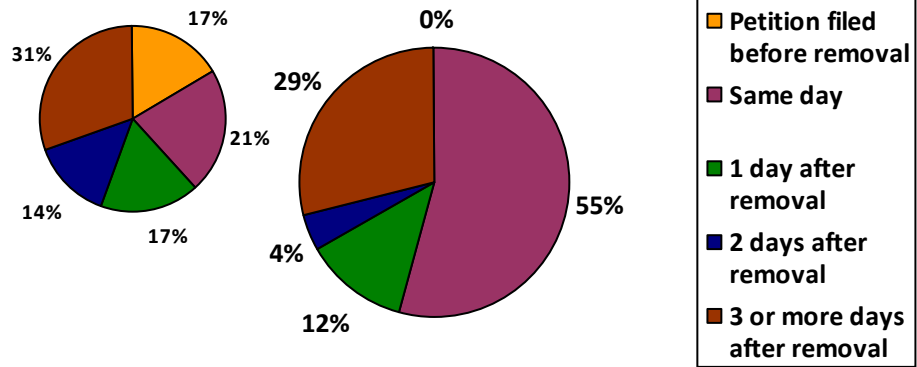
District 11, Team 3 (Median = 0 days)



## Removal to Petition Filing

Nebraska (Median = 1 day)

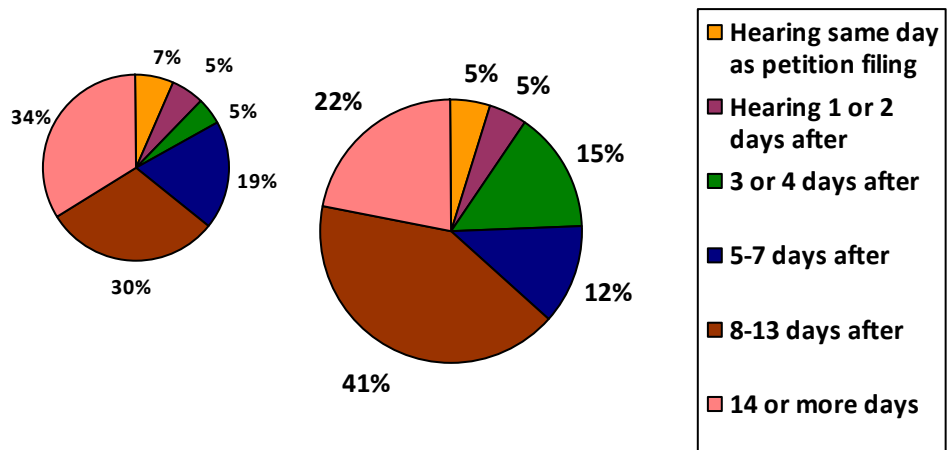
District 11, Team 3 (Median = 0 days)



## Petition to First Hearing

Nebraska (Median = 9 days)

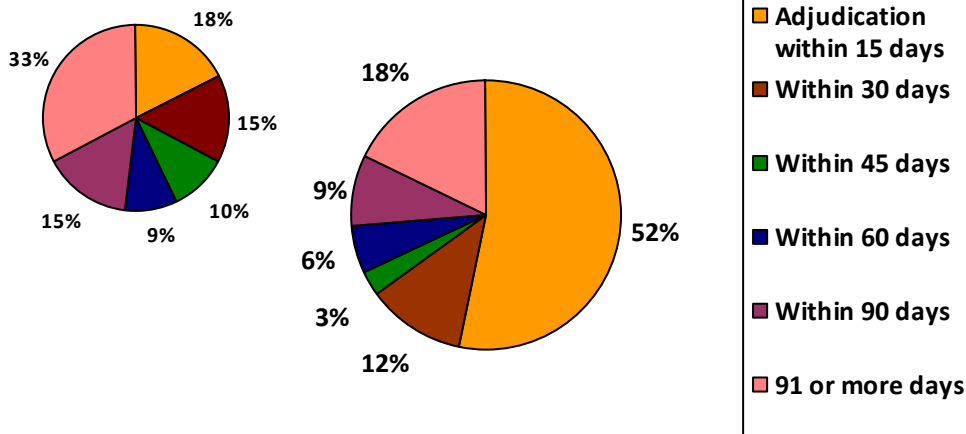
District 11, Team 3 (Median = 12 days)



\* Note: All data presented uses initial removal date to court closure date and may not match HHS reports

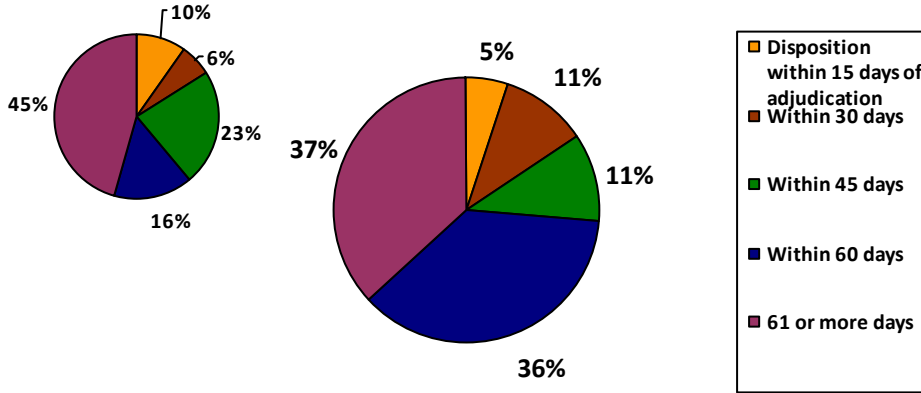
## Removal to Adjudication

Nebraska (Median = 57 days) District 11, Team 3 (Median = 24 days)



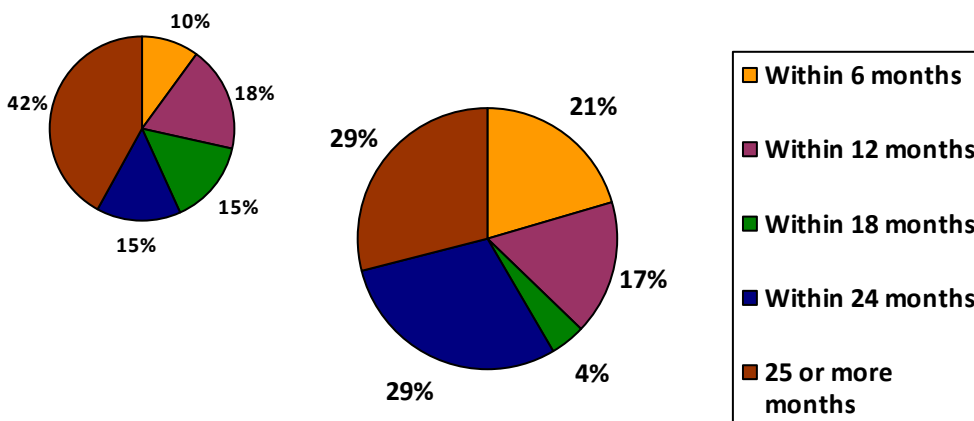
## Adjudication to Disposition

Nebraska (Median = 56 days) District 11, Team 3 (Median = 49 days)



## Removal to permanency

Nebraska (Median = 23 mo) District 11, Team 3 (Median = 18 mo)



### Best practice recommendations

Removal to first hearing – 3 days

13% of 2008 District 11 cases held the first hearing within 3 days of removal

Removal to adjudication – 60 days

73% of 2008 District 11 cases adjudicated within 60 days.

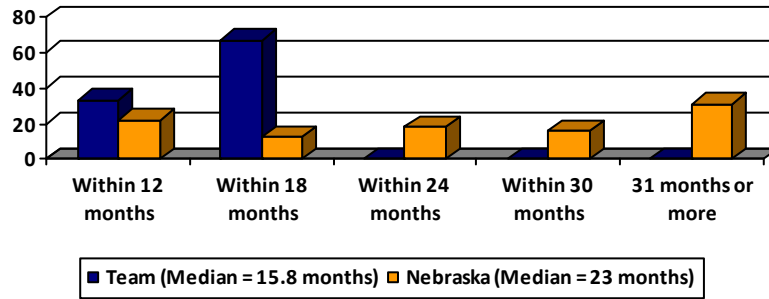
Adjudication to disposition – 30 days

16% of 2008 District 11 cases held a disposition within 30 days of adjudication

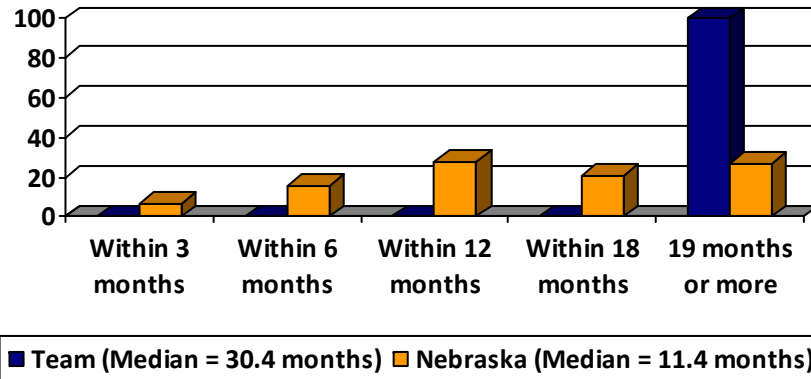
In other words, 22% of TPRs happen within 12 months statewide, compared to 30% for this team.

Cases involving TPR are quick to progress to that point, but take much longer than state averages for time to adoption.

Percentages for time in months from removal to TPR



Percentages for time in months from TPR to adoption



Analysis of the case progression data for all Nebraska judges shows that judges who have more timely adjudications of their cases are also able to close their cases in a more timely fashion. Specifically, those judges who have a median time to adjudications in less than 30 days from removal, have a median time to case closure of 15.5 months. Those judges who have a median time to adjudication of 31-60 days, have a median time to case closure of 17.2 months. Judges with a median time to adjudication of 61-90 days have a median time to case closure of 18.4 months. Finally, judges who have a median time to adjudication of 91 or more days have a median time to case closure of 34.3 months.

Timeline	District	NE
<b>Early Stages</b>		
Removal to ex-parte	0 days	1 day
Removal to 3a petition	1 day	1 day
3a petition to first appearance	12 days	9 days
Removal to adjudication	22 days	62 days
<b>Permanency Stages</b>		
Adjudication to disposition	58 days	58 days
Removal to permanency	17 months	21 months
<b>TPR Stages</b>		
Removal to TPR	16 months	23 months
TPR to adoption	30 months	9 months

Case progression for Children ages 0-3