



# Case Progression and Court Improvement Data 2008



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

## District 4 – Douglas County

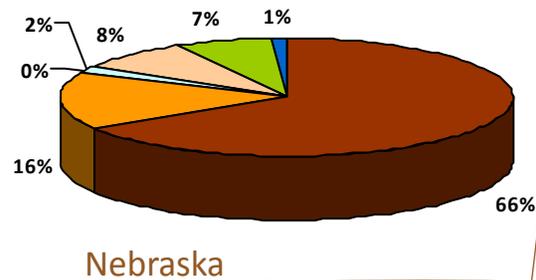
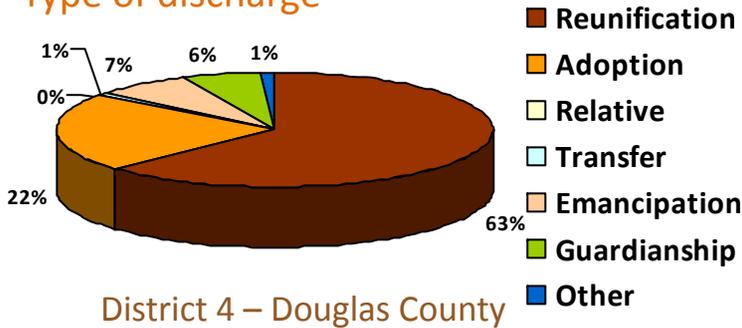
Information provided in this document is designed to help your team improve case progression, as this is one area the courts can control. Timeliness of hearings has a significant impact on time to case closure, which means that courts can make a difference in the lives of children in the system. Data 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 13 months in 2006

	District 4 (2008)	Nebraska (2008)	Missouri (2008)	National (2003-2006)
Median days from report to removal	21 days	20	19	Not Available
Median length of stay	16 months	13 months	13 months	12 months
Median months to reunification	9 months	7 months	7 months	7 months
Median months to adoption	35 months	34 months	24 months	32 months

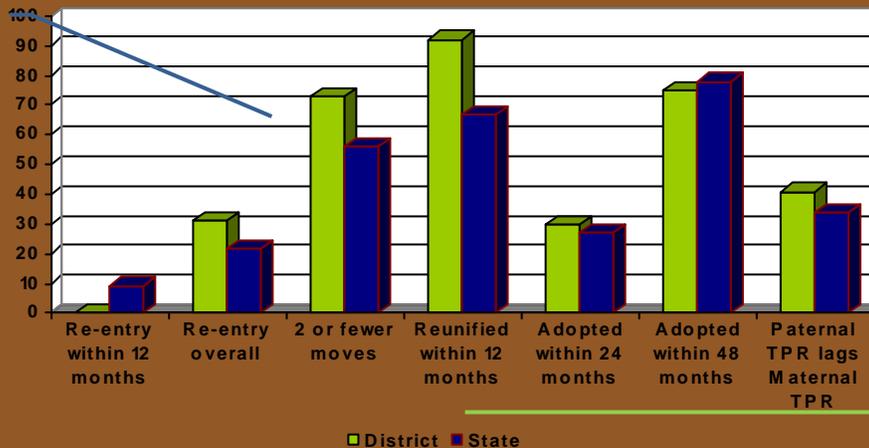
This is an increase from 8 months in 2006

### Type of discharge



### Percentages for 2008 Fiscal Year

Rates for number of moves and re-entry have not changed from 2006.

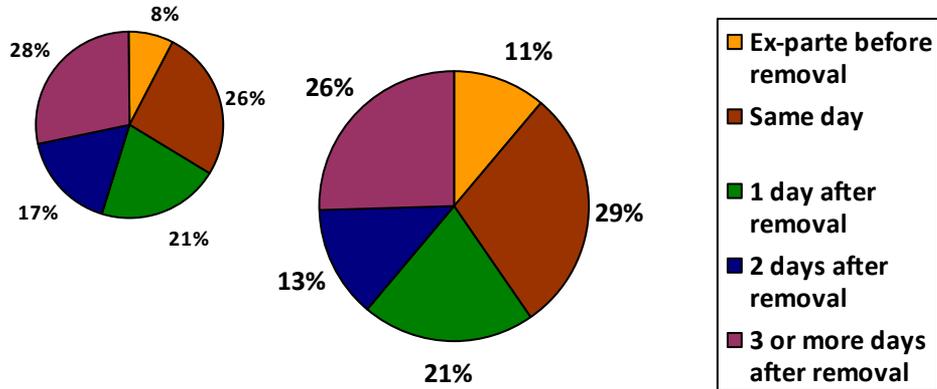


The percent of children reunified within 12 months has increased from 65% in 2006 to 91% in 2008

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

Nebraska (Median = 1 day)

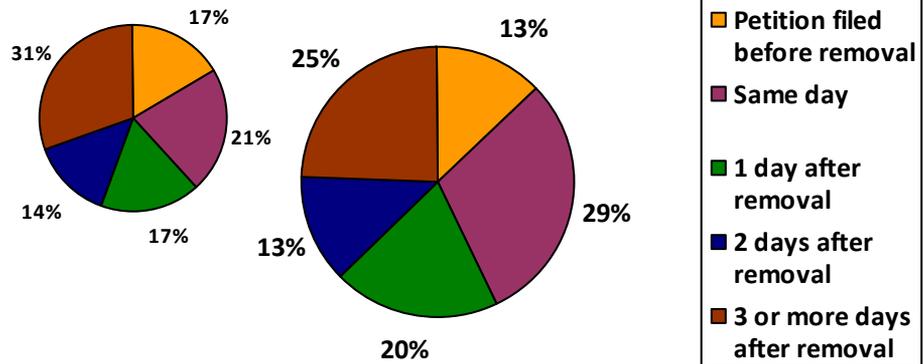
District 4 (Median = 1 day)



## Removal to Petition

Nebraska (Median = 1 days)

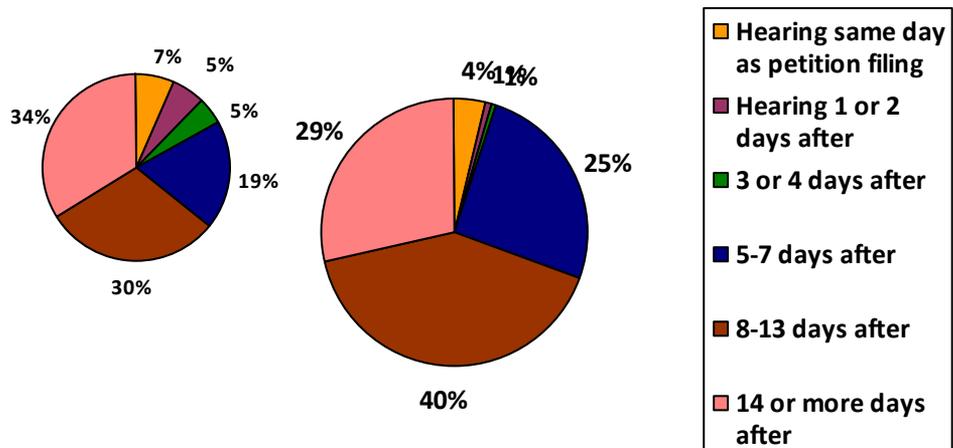
District 4 (Median = 1 days)



## Petition to First Hearing

Nebraska (Median = 9 days)

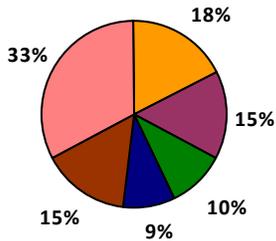
District 4 (Median = 9 days)



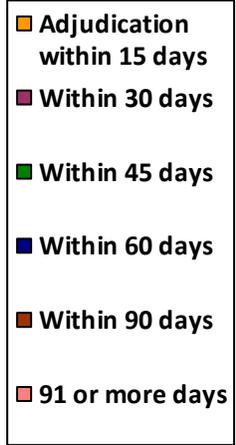
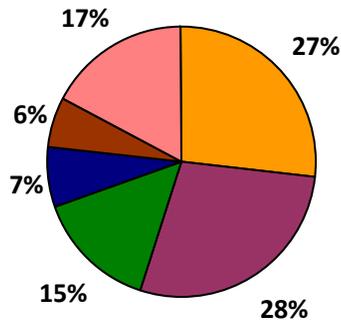
\* Note: All data presented uses initial removal date to court closure date and may not match HHS reports

## Removal to Adjudication

Nebraska (Median = 57 day)

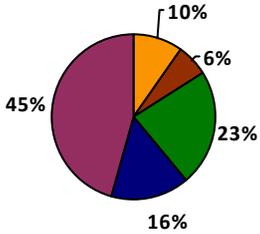


District 4 (Median = 28 days)

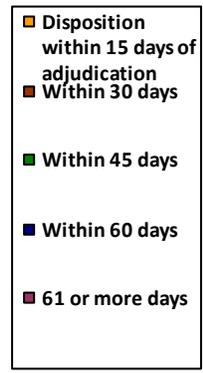
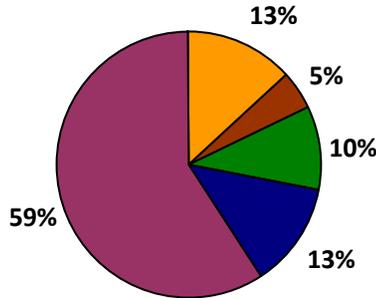


## Adjudication to Disposition

Nebraska (Median = 56 days)

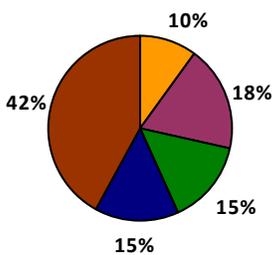


District 4 (Median = 75 days)

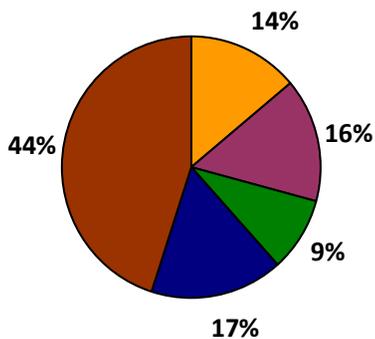


## Removal to permanency

Nebraska (Median = 23 months)



District 4 (Median = 22 months)



### Best practice recommendations

Removal to first hearing – 3 days

7% of 2008 District 4 cases held the first hearing within 3 days of removal

Removal to adjudication – 60 days

77% of 2008 District 4 cases adjudicated within 60 days.

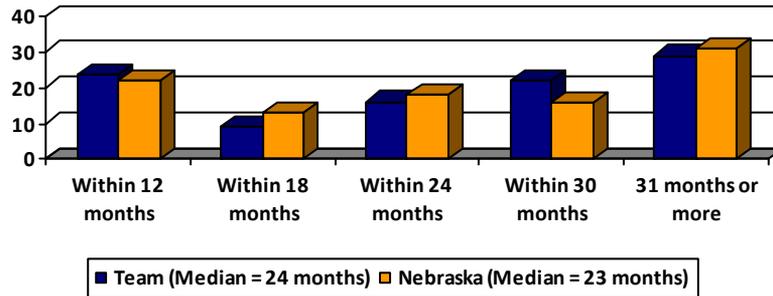
Adjudication to disposition – 30 days

18% of 2008 District 4 cases held a disposition within 30 days of adjudication

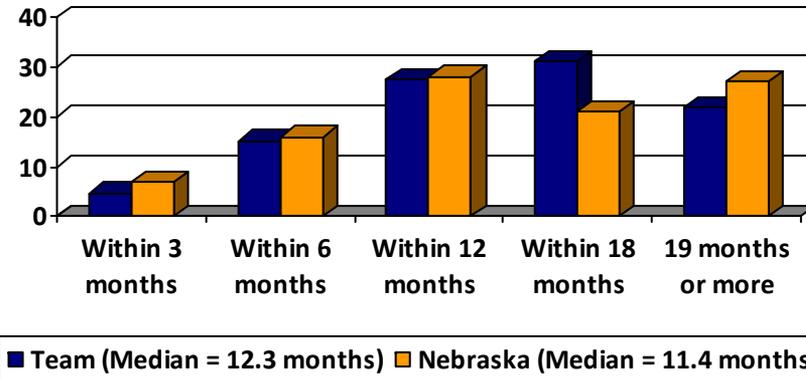
In other words, 22% of TPRs happen within 12 months statewide, compared to 23% for this team.

For TPR within 24 months, Douglas County is below state average. More than half of all cases occur in Douglas County.

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	1 day	1 day
Removal to 3a petition	1 day	1 day
3a petition to first appearance	9 days	9 days
Removal to adjudication	27 days	62 days
<b>Permanency Stages</b>		
Adjudication to disposition	77 days	58 days
Removal to permanency	22 months	21 months
<b>TPR Stages</b>		
Removal to TPR	19 months	23 months
TPR to adoption	10 months	9 months

Case progression for Children ages 0-3