



Case Progression and Court Improvement Data 2008



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

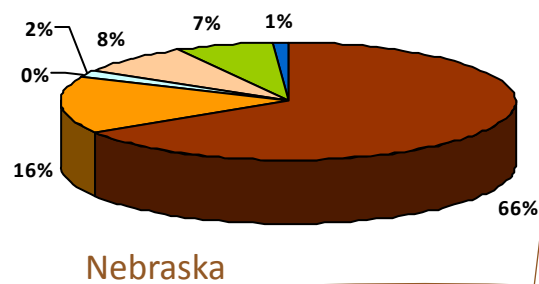
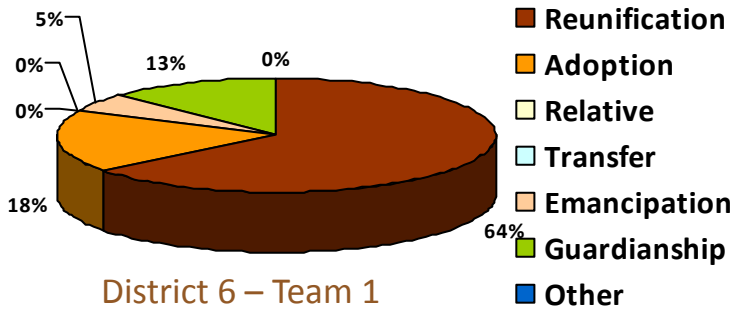
District 6 Team 1 – Dodge County

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) 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 7 months in 2006

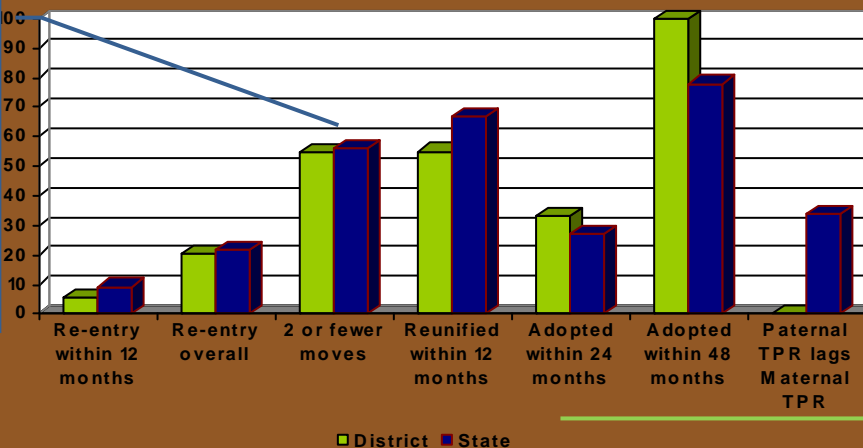
| | District 6 T1 (2008) | Nebraska (2008) | Missouri (2008) | National (2003-2006) |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Median days from report to removal | 4 days | 20 | 19 | Not Available |
| Median length of stay | 13 months | 13 months | 13 months | 12 months |
| Median months to reunification | 7 months | 7 months | 7 months | 7 months |
| Median months to adoption | 25 months | 34 months | 24 months | 32 months |

Type of discharge



Percentages for 2008 Fiscal Year

The percent of children with two or fewer moves has not changed much from 51% in 2006.

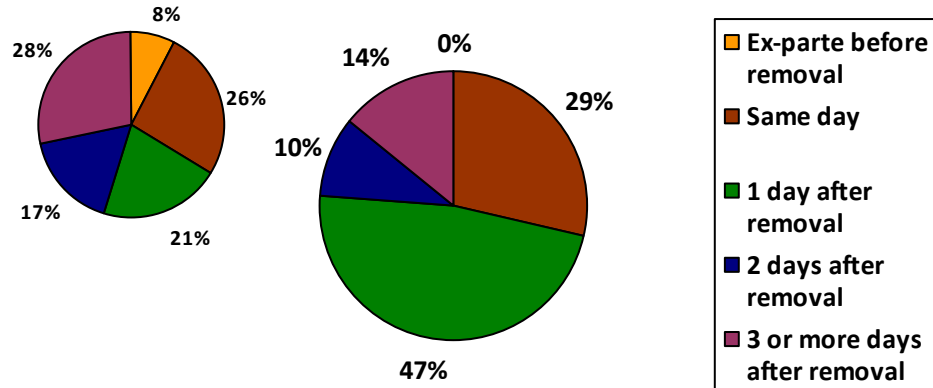


The percent of cases adopted within 24 months has decreased from 50% in 2006 to 34% in 2008.

Timeline progression: All ages Removal to ex-parte

Nebraska (Median = 1 day)

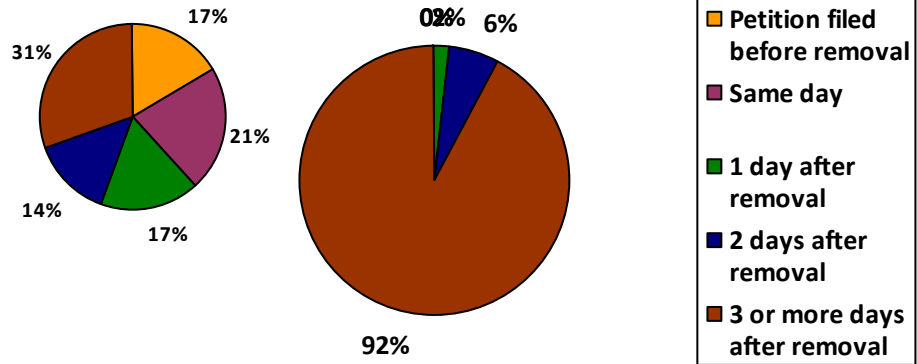
District 6 (Median = 1 day)



Removal to Petition Filing

Nebraska (Median = 1 days)

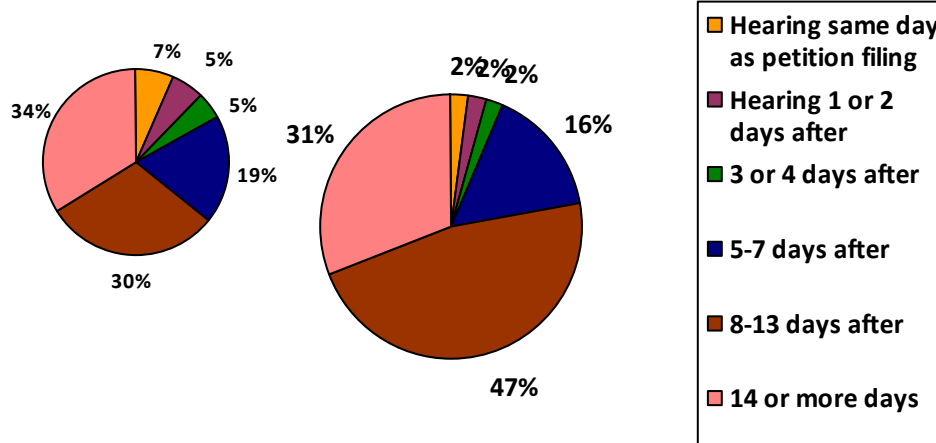
District 6 Team 1 (Median = 5 days)



Petition to First Hearing

Nebraska (Median = 9 days)

District 6, Team 1 (Median = 12 days)

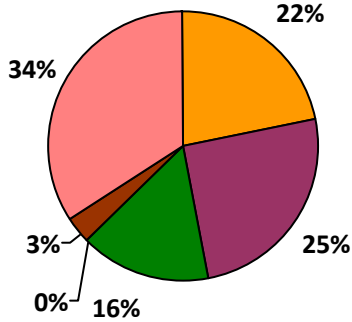
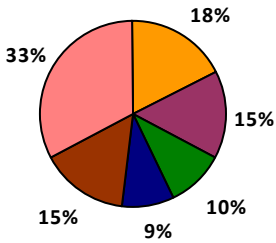


* Note: All data presented uses initial removal date to court closure date and may not match HHS reports

Removal to Adjudication

Nebraska (Median = 57 day)

District 6, Team 1 (Median = 41 days)

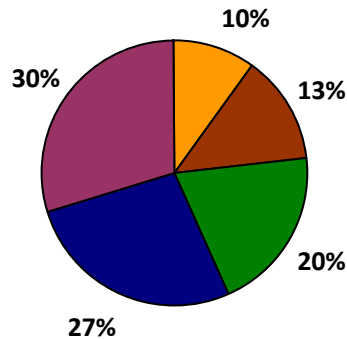
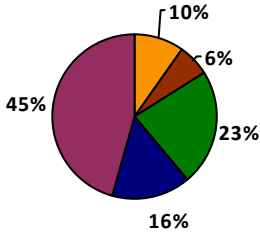


- Adjudication within 15 days
- Within 30 days
- Within 45 days
- Within 60 days
- Within 90 days
- 91 or more days

Adjudication to Disposition

Nebraska (Median = 56 days)

District 6, Team 1 (Median = 48 days)

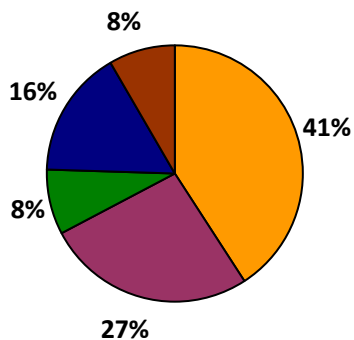
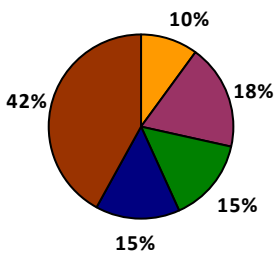


- Disposition within 15 days of adjudication
- Within 30 days
- Within 45 days
- Within 60 days
- 61 or more days

Removal to permanency

Nebraska (Median = 23 mo)

District 6, Team 1 (Median = 11 mo)



- Within 6 months
- Within 12 months
- Within 18 months
- Within 24 months
- 25 or more months

Best practice recommendations

Removal to first hearing – 3 days

29% of 2008 District 6 cases held the first hearing within 3 days of removal

Removal to adjudication – 60 days

63% of 2008 District 6 cases adjudicated within 60 days.

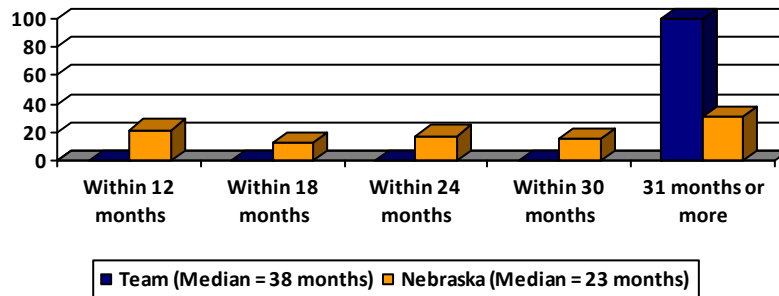
Adjudication to disposition – 30 days

23% of 2008 District 6 cases held a disposition within 30 days of adjudication

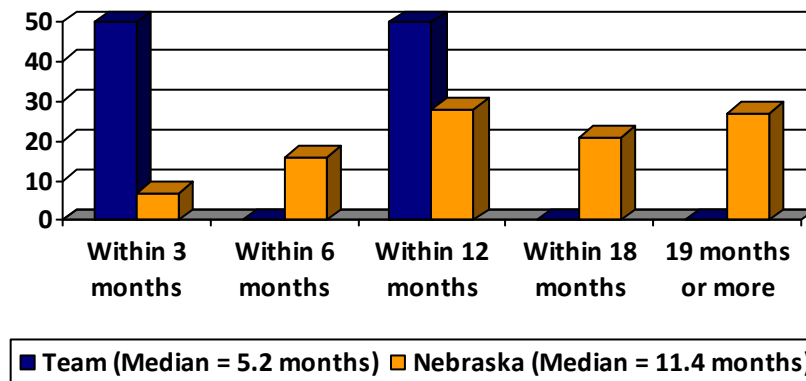
In other words, 22% of TPRs happen within 12 months statewide, compared to 0% for this team.

Progression to TPR is drastically slower for Dodge county, but time to adoption is much quicker.

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 |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Early Stages | | |
| Removal to ex-parte | 1 day | 1 day |
| Removal to 3a petition | 4.5 days | 1 day |
| 3a petition to first appearance | 12 days | 9 days |
| Removal to adjudication | 41 days | 62 days |
| Permanency Stages | | |
| Adjudication to disposition | 46 days | 58 days |
| Removal to permanency | 10 months | 21 months |
| TPR Stages | | |
| | No TPR cases | |
| Removal to TPR | n/a | 23 months |
| TPR to adoption | n/a | 9 months |

Case progression for Children ages 0-3