



Case Progression and Court Improvement Data Report for 2010



District 7: Antelope, Cuming, Knox, Madison, Pierce, Stanton, And Wayne Counties

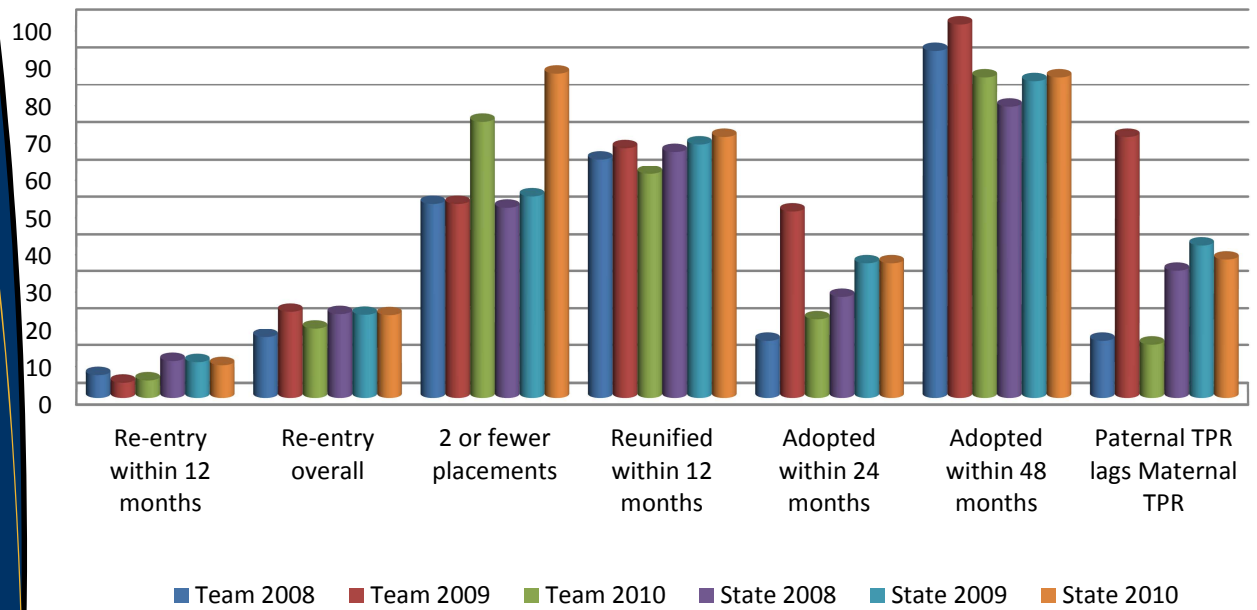


Information provided in this document is designed to help your team improve case progression, as this is one area the courts can control. Timeliness of hearings has a significant impact on time to case closure, which means that courts can make a difference in the lives of children in the system. Data on pages 1 and 2 come from Fostering Court Improvement (fosteringcourtimprovement.org/ne) and data on pages 3-8 were collected through JUSTICE to track case progression timelines for all abuse/neglect cases that closed in 2008, 2009, and 2010.

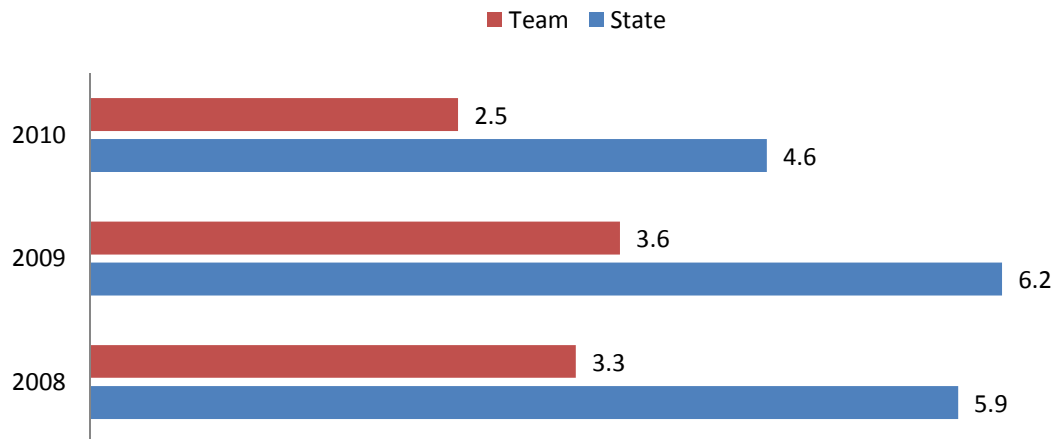
	2008	Team 2009	2010	2008	State 2009	2010	National 2009
Poverty rate*	14.9%	16.3%	n/a	13.7%	15.3%	n/a	20%
Median length of stay	13 months	12 months	17 months	13 months	12 months	14 months	14 months
Median months to reunification	8 months	11 months	15 months	7 months	7 months	11 months	n/a
Median months to adoption	32 months	23 months	26 months	34 months	29 months	29 months	n/a

* Poverty data comes from the U.S. Census Bureau. For the Fostering Court Improvement measures, 2010 refers to data from April 2010 through March 2011.

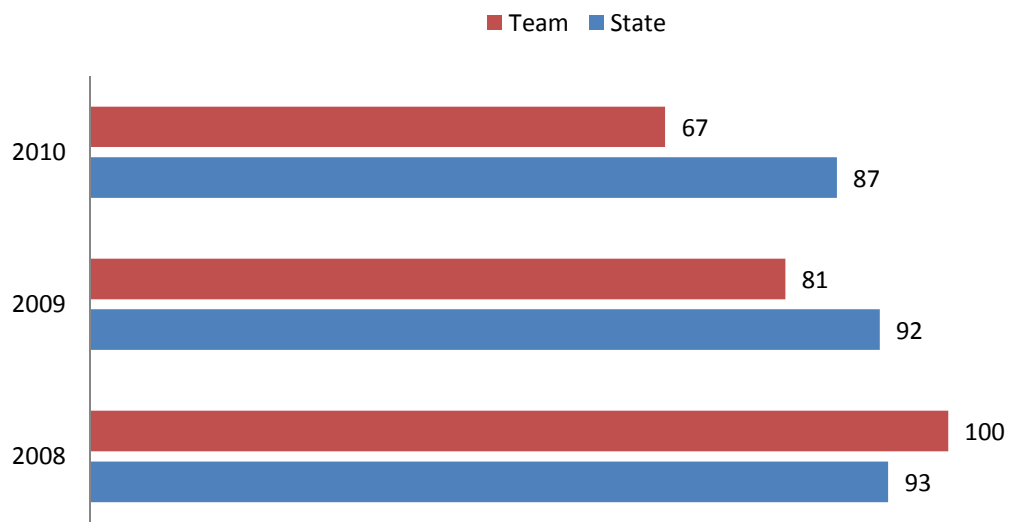
Percentages for 2008, 2009, and 2010



Rates of Removal per 10k Children



Percent of Children over 12 in Group Home



In District 7 there were 51 abuse and neglect cases that closed between January and December 31, 2008. In 2009, 32 such cases closed. In 2010, 35 abuse and neglect cases closed. The analyses below are based on that data.

Medians represent the center-point for cases in your team. Half of your cases had time that was shorter than the median, and half of cases had time longer than the median. N/r means that values were "not reported." N/a means "not applicable" because the sample size was too small for analyses to be conducted.

Timeline progression: All ages

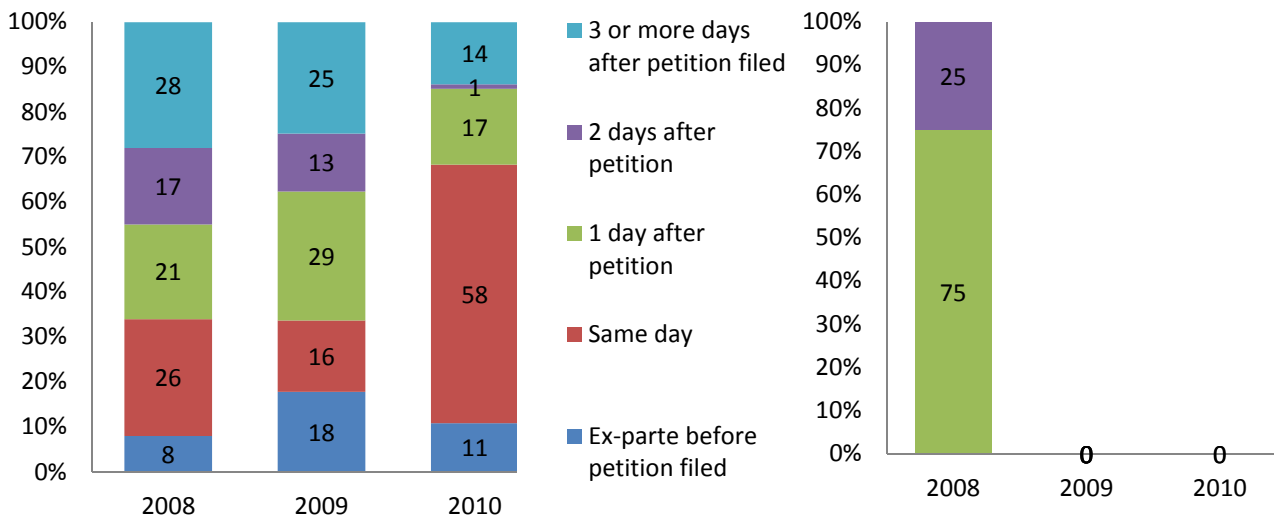
Nebraska

Petition to ex-parte

District 7

2008 Median = 1 day
2009 Median = 1 day
2010 Median = 0 days

2008 Median = 1 day
2009 Median = n/r
2010 Median = n/r



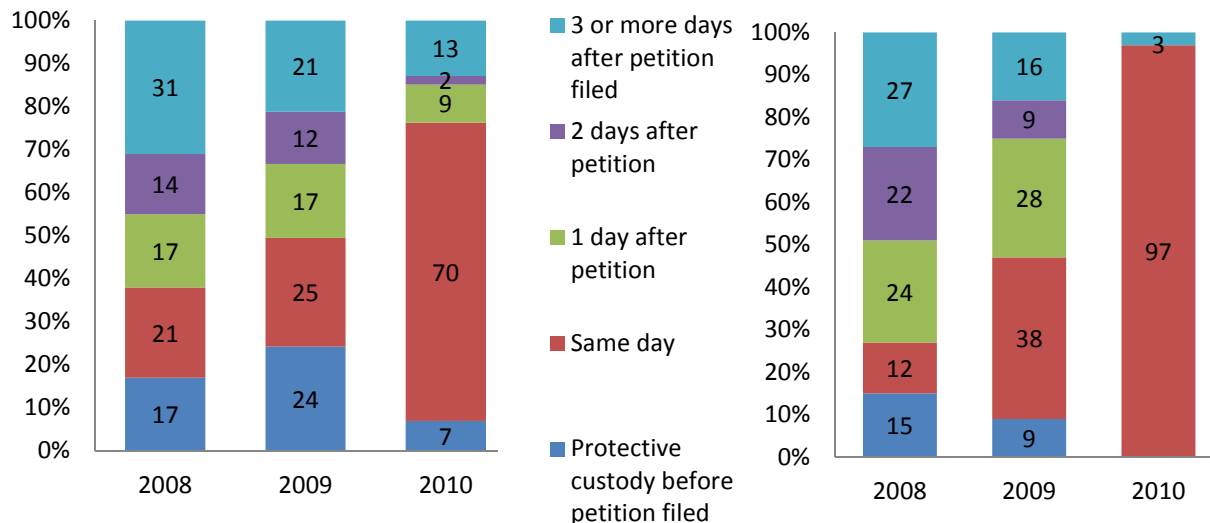
Petition Filing to Protective Custody

Nebraska

District 7

2008 Median = 1 day
2009 Median = 1 day
2010 Median = 0 days

2008 Median = 1 day
2009 Median = 1 day
2010 Median = 0 days

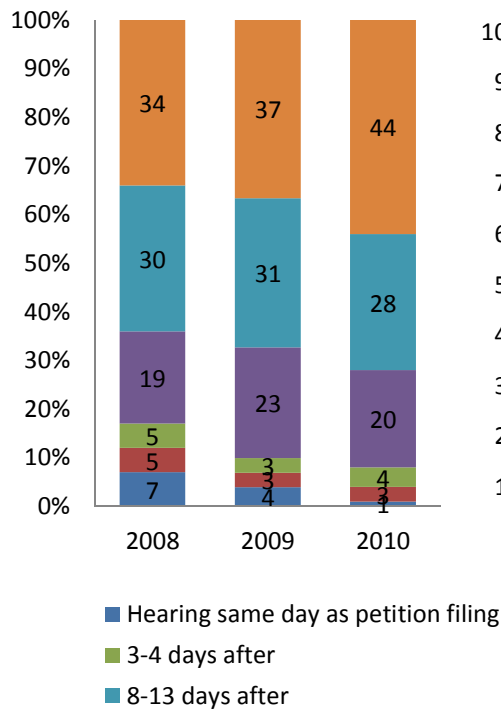


* Note:
All data
presented
uses initial
petition date
to court closure
date and may
not match HHS
reports

Petition to First Appearance

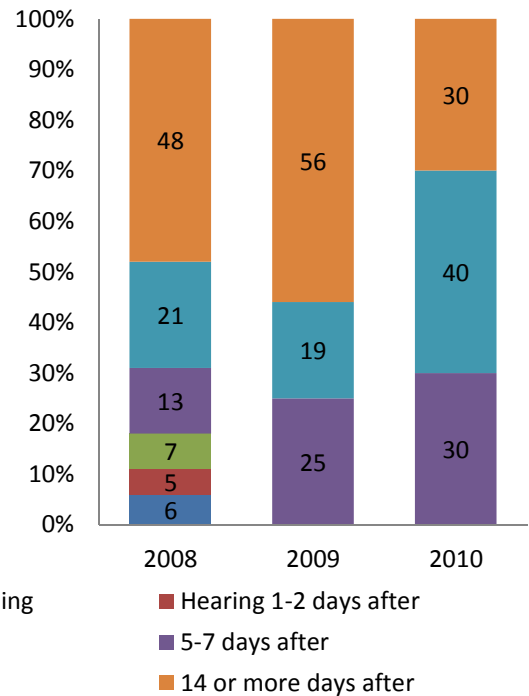
Nebraska

2008 Median = 9 days
2009 Median = 10 days
2010 Median = 12 days



District 7

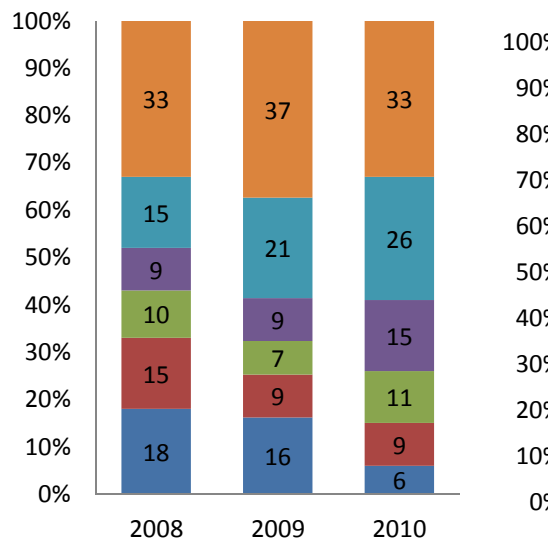
2008 Median = 14 days
2009 Median = 15 days
2010 Median = 10 days



Petition to Adjudication

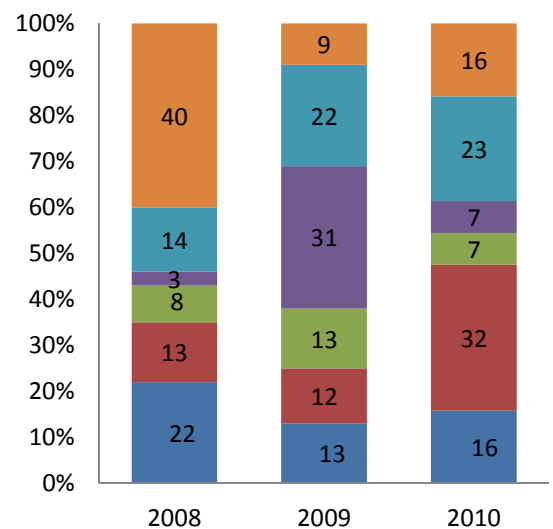
Nebraska

2008 Median = 57 days
2009 Median = 72 days
2010 Median = 73 days



District 7

2008 Median = 75 days
2009 Median = 47 days
2010 Median = 31 days



Best practice recommendations

Petition to Protective Custody – petition prior to or same day

97% of 2010 District 7 cases had filed the petition the same day as protective custody order

Petition to adjudication – 60 days

62% of 2010 District 7 cases held the adjudication within 60 days of petition filing

Adjudication to disposition – 30 days

20% of 2010 District 7 cases held the disposition within 30 days of adjudication

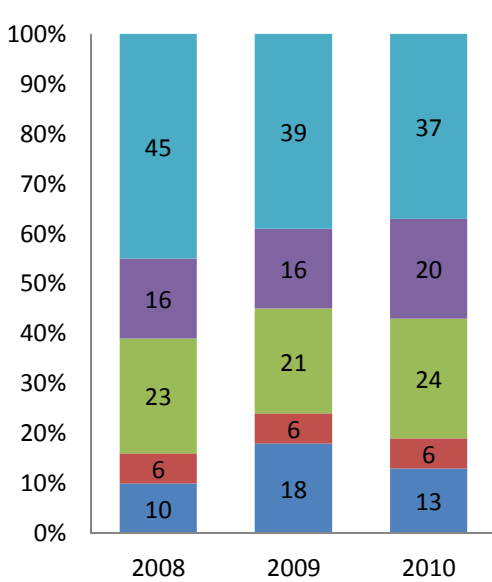
Adjudication to Disposition

Nebraska

2008 Median = 56 days

2009 Median = 49 days

2010 Median = 50 days

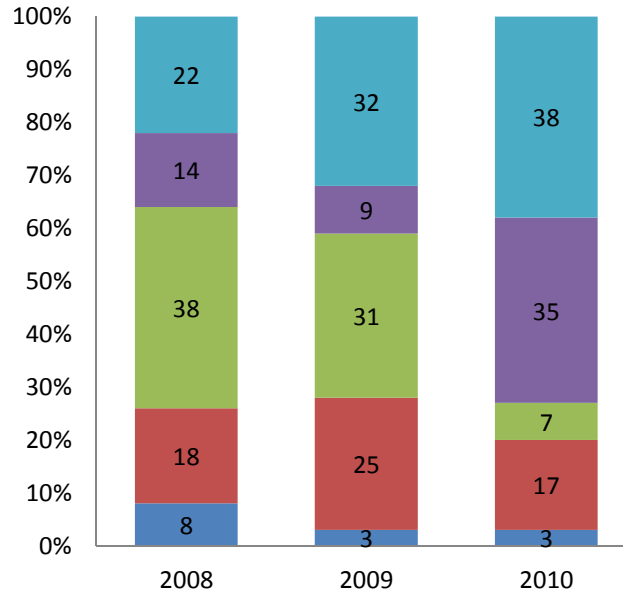


District 7

2008 Median = 39 days

2009 Median = 41 days

2010 Median = 53 days



■ Disposition within 15 days
 ■ Within 30 days
 ■ Within 45 days
■ Within 60 days
 ■ 61 or more days

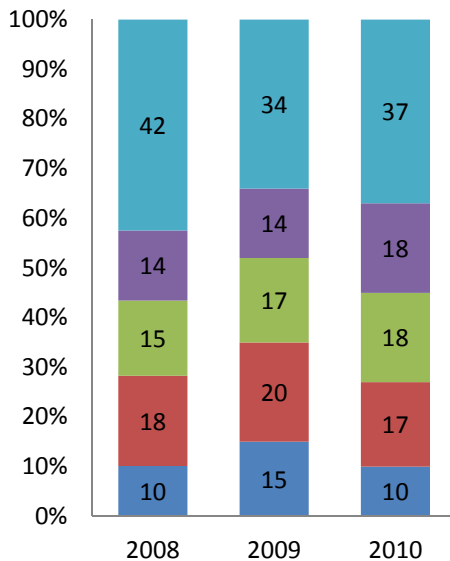
Petition to Case Closure

Nebraska

2008 Median = 23 months

2009 Median = 18 months

2010 Median = 19 months

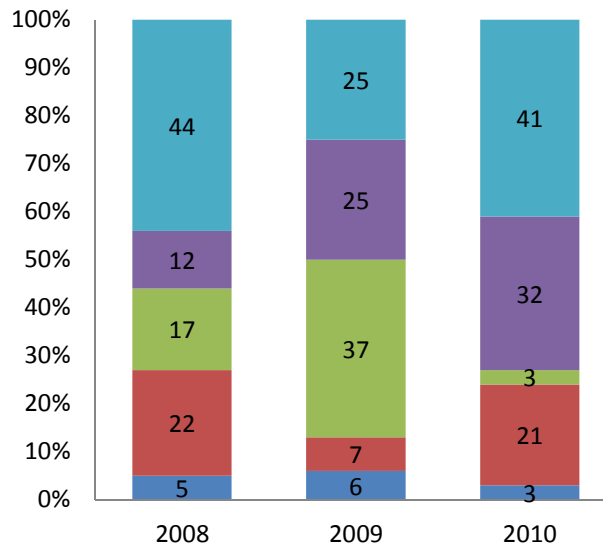


District 7

2008 Median = 21 months

2009 Median = 16 months

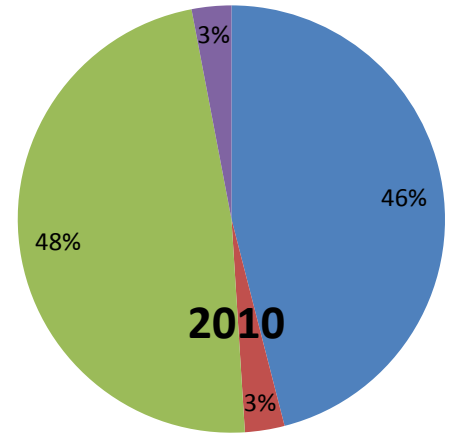
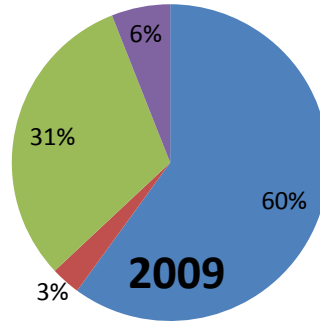
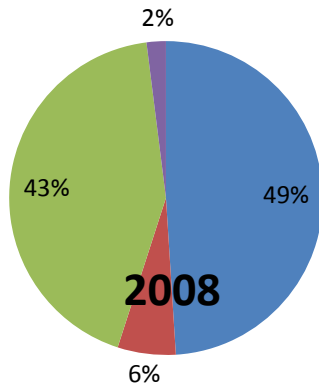
2010 Median = 21 months



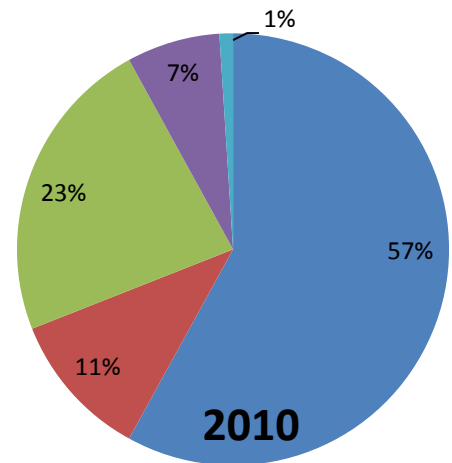
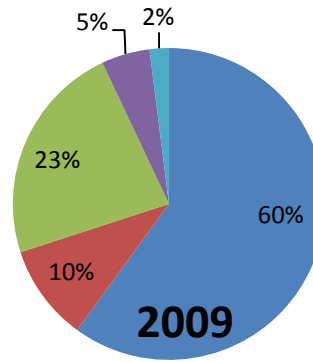
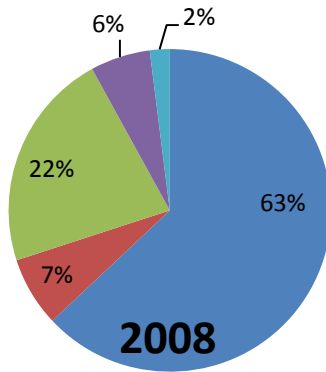
■ Within 6 months
 ■ Within 12 months
 ■ Within 18 months
■ Within 24 months
 ■ 25 or more months

Type of Discharge

Team



State

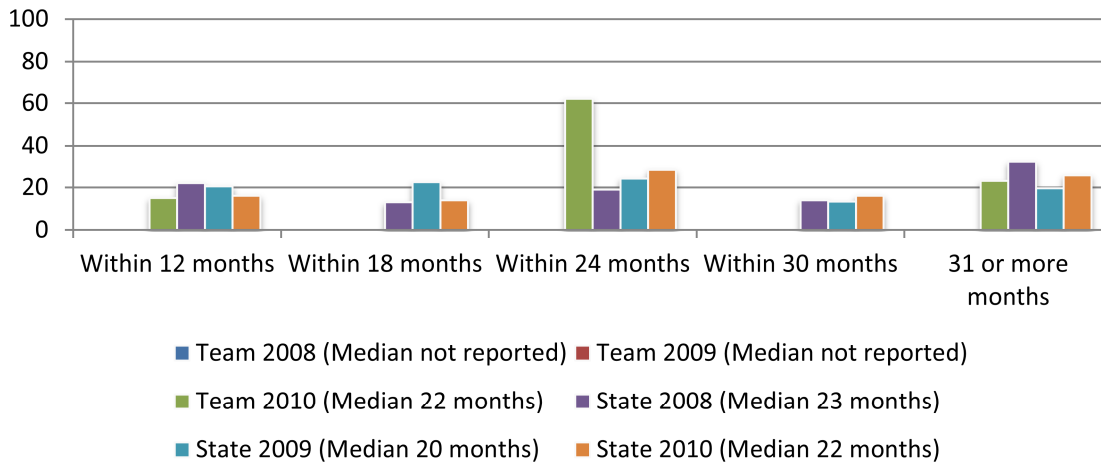


■ Reunification ■ Guardianship ■ Adoption ■ Independent Living ■ Other

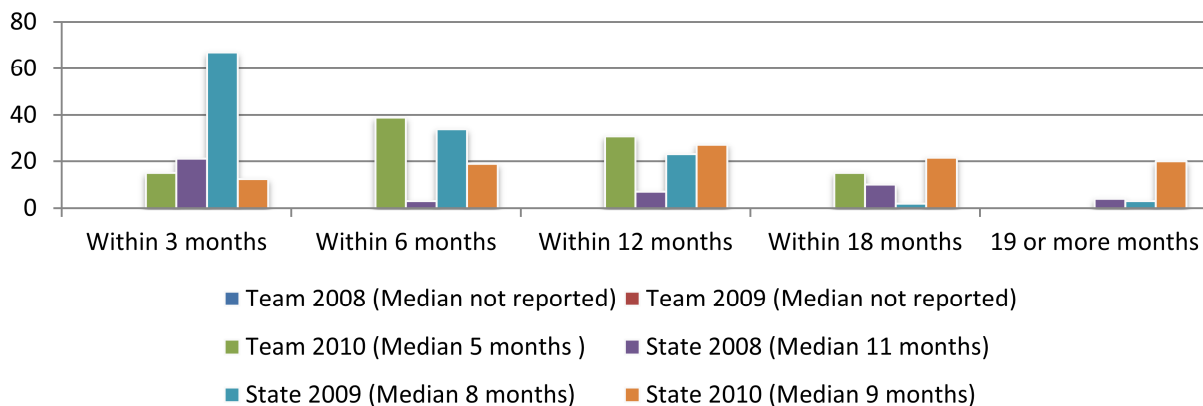
Case Progression for Zero to Three

Median Times	2008	Team 2009	2010	2008	State 2009	2010
Early Stages						
Petition to Ex-parte	not reported	not reported	not reported	1 day	1 day	0 days
Petition to Protective custody	not reported	not reported	0 days	1 day	0 days	0 days
Petition to First Appearance	not reported	not reported	12 days	9 days	10 days	13 days
Petition to Adjudication	not reported	not reported	26 days	62 days	70 days	70 days
Permanency Stages						
Adjudication to Disposition	not reported	not reported	71 days	58 days	49 days	50 days
Petition to Case Closure	not reported	not reported	26 months	21 months	19 months	20 months
TPR Stages						
Petition to TPR	n/r	n/r	n/a	23 months	19 months	21 months
TPR to Adoption	n/r	n/r	n/a	9 months	7 months	8 months

Petition to TPR - All Ages



TPR to Adoption - All Ages



Trends

Your team's data shows that the percentage of adoptions increased significantly. That may account for the increase in the length of stay for children in care and the increased time until case closure. It would not account for a longer time to reunification for reunified families. Of concern is that the time from adjudication to disposition is considerably longer (71 days) for the youngest children in care as compared to the entire foster care population. Given the need for the highest level of urgency for infants and toddlers, your team may want to take a look at what might be causing excessive delays to disposition for their cases and how you might address the barriers to timely dispositions.





Adolescents Case Progression and Outcomes

Almost 40% of Nebraska youth in out-of-home placement are between 16 and 19 years old. Exiting foster care through "aging out" without a permanent family relationship is associated with a variety of serious negative outcomes including lack of a high school degree, unemployment, and homelessness.

The federal Fostering Connections Act and recent Nebraska legislation require a detailed written independent living transition plan for all youth age 16 and over. This plan is to be prepared by DHHS in conjunction with the youth and is to be reviewed at each review or permanency hearing by the court.

Your team might review the new state law and develop a plan to make the transition planning and review process meaningful and effective in preparing older youth for the challenges of adulthood.