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.

In other words, 22% of TPRs happen within 12 months statewide, compared to 55% for this team.

Overall, progression to TPR is faster for this team, but time to adoption is comparable to the state averages.

Since 2006, the rate of reunification has increased from 59.7% to 79% in 2008.

This is an increase from 10 months in 2006.
District 8 Team 3 had 40 foster care cases that closed between January 1 and December 31, 2008. Of those cases, 82.5% were abuse/neglect cases. This data uses only those cases.

Timeline progression: All ages

Removal to ex-parte

Nebraska (Median = 1 day) District 8, Team 3 (Median = 1 day)

- Ex-parte before removal: 20%
- Same day: 26%
- 1 day after removal: 26%
- 2 days after removal: 8%
- 3 or more days after removal: 0%

Removal to Petition Filing

Nebraska (Median = 1 day) District 8, Team 3 (Median = 1 day)

- Petition filed before removal: 15%
- Same day: 31%
- 1 day after removal: 17%
- 2 days after removal: 14%
- 3 or more days after removal: 31%

Adjudication to disposition

Nebraska (Median = 56 days) District 8, Team 3 (Median = 35 days)

- Disposition within 15 days of adjudication: 10%
- Within 30 days: 55%
- Within 45 days: 16%
- Within 60 days: 4%
- 61 or more days: 0%

Petition to first hearing

Nebraska (Median = 9 days) District 8, Team 3 (Median = 24 days)

- Hearing same day as petition filing: 3%
- Hearing 1 or 2 days after: 14%
- 3 or 4 days after: 3%
- 5-7 days after: 0%
- 8-13 days after: 19%
- 14 or more days: 30%

Removal to permanency

Nebraska (Median = 23 mo) District 8, Team 3 (Median = 14 mo)

- Within 6 months: 15%
- Within 12 months: 37%
- Within 18 months: 18%
- Within 24 months: 5%
- 25 or more months: 5%
District 8 Team 3 had 40 foster care cases that closed between January 1 and December 31, 2008. Of those cases, 82.5% were abuse/neglect cases. This data uses only those cases.*

Timeline progression: All ages

Removal to ex-parte
Nebraska (Median = 1 day)  District 8, Team 3 (Median = 1 day)
- Ex-parte before removal
- Same day
- 1 day after removal
- 2 days after removal
- 3 or more days after removal

Removal to Petition Filing
Nebraska (Median = 1 day)  District 8, Team 3 (Median = 1 day)
- Petition filed before removal
- Same day
- 1 day after removal
- 2 days after removal
- 3 or more days after removal

Petition to first hearing
Nebraska (Median = 9 days)  District 8, Team 3 (Median = 24 days)
- Hearing same day as petition filing
- Hearing 1 or 2 days after
- 3 or 4 days after
- 5-7 days after
- 8-13 days after
- 14 or more days

Removal to adjudication
Nebraska (Median = 57 days)  District 8, Team 3 (Median = 97 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 8, Team 3 (Median = 35 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 8, Team 3 (Median = 14 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 (0% of 2008 District 8 cases held the first hearing within 3 days of removal)
- Removal to adjudication – 60 days (40% of 2008 District 8 cases adjudicated within 60 days)
- Adjudication to disposition – 30 days (5% of 2008 District 8 cases held a disposition within 30 days of adjudication)

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

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.

**Timeline**

**Early Stages**
- Removal to ex-parte: 1 day
- Removal to 3a petition: 1 day
- 3a petition to first appearance: 26 days
- Removal to adjudication: 64 days

**Permanency Stages**
- Adjudication to disposition: 35 days
- Removal to permanency: 15 months

**TPR Stages**
- Removal to TPR: 22 months
- TPR to adoption: 11 months

Since 2006, the rate of reunification has increased from 69.7% to 79% in 2008. The percent of cases with 2 or fewer moves has not changed since 2006.