



# Case Progression and Court Improvement Data 2008

## District 9 Team Kearney – Buffalo County



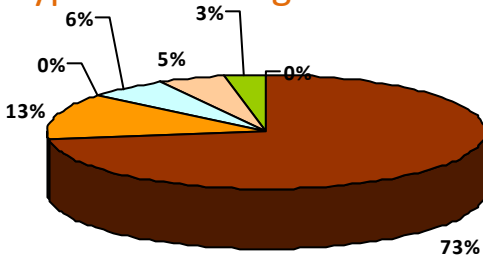
University of Nebraska-Lincoln Center on Children, Families, and the Law

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 a decrease from 13 months in 2006.

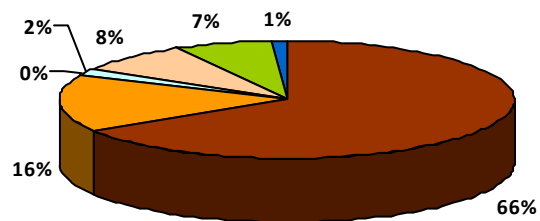
	District 9 K (2008)	Nebraska (2008)	Missouri (2008)	National (2003-2006)
Median days from report to removal	11 days	20	19	Not Available
Median length of stay	8 months	13 months	13 months	12 months
Median months to reunification	5 months	7 months	7 months	7 months
Median months to adoption	19 months	34 months	24 months	32 months

### Type of discharge



District 9 Team Kearney

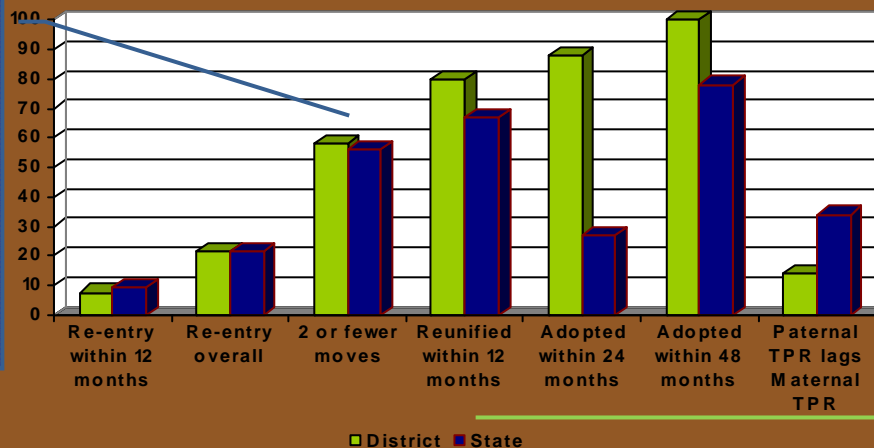
- Reunification
- Adoption
- Relative
- Transfer
- Emancipation
- Guardianship
- Other



Nebraska

### Percentages for 2008 Fiscal Year

The percent of cases with two or fewer moves has increased from 50% in 2006 to 58% in 2008.



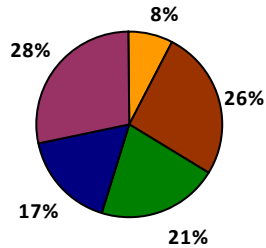
The percent of cases reunited within 12 months has increased from 66% in 2006 to 80% in 2008.

District 9 Team Kearney had 67 foster care cases that closed  
Of those cases, 59.7% were abused

Timeline progression: All ages  
Removal to ex-parte

Nebraska (Median = 1 day)

District 9, Team 2

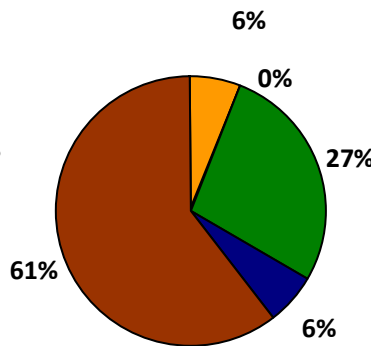
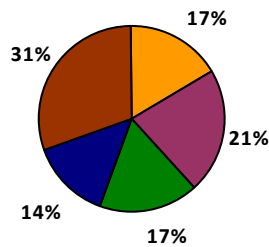


Not Reported - Data not included in JUSTICE Data System

Removal to Petition Filing

Nebraska (Median = 1 day)

District 9, Team 2 (Median = 4 days)

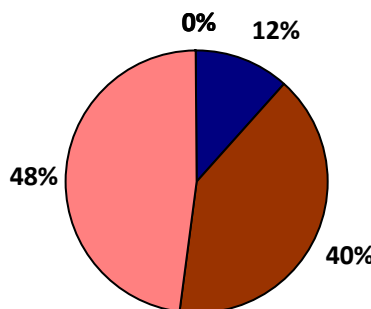
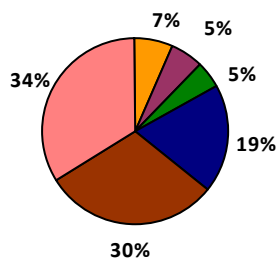


- Petition filed before removal
- Same day
- 1 day after removal
- 2 days after removal
- 3 or more days after removal

Petition to first hearing

Nebraska (Median = 9 days)

District9, Team 2 (Median = 13 days)

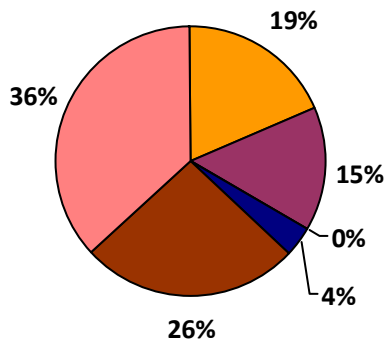
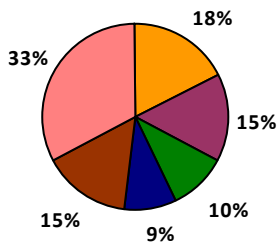


- Hearing same day as petition filing
- Hearing 1 or 2 days after
- 3 or 4 days after
- 5-7 days after
- 8-13 days after
- 14 or more days

\* 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 9, Team 2 (Median = 64 days)



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

### Best practice recommendations

Removal to first hearing – 3 days

10% of 2008 District 9 cases held the first hearing within 3 days of removal

Removal to adjudication – 60 days

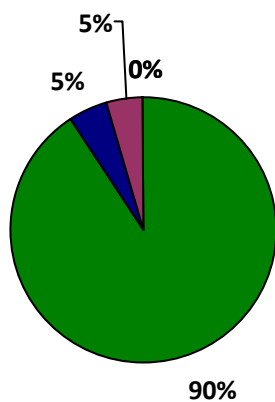
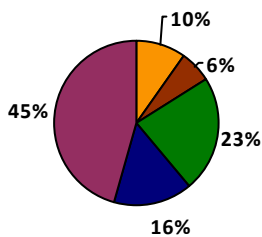
38% of 2008 District 9 cases adjudicated within 60 days.

Adjudication to disposition – 30 days

0% of 2008 District 9 cases held a disposition within 30 days of adjudication

### Adjudication to disposition

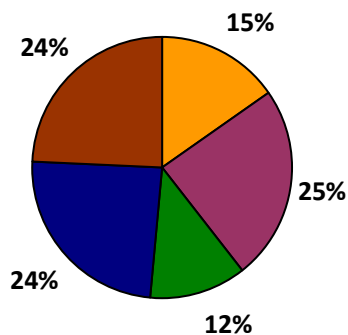
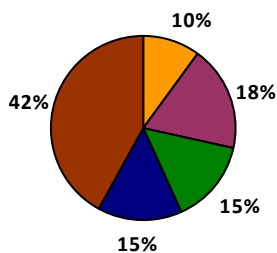
Nebraska (Median = 56 days)      District 9, Team 2 (Median = 39 days)



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

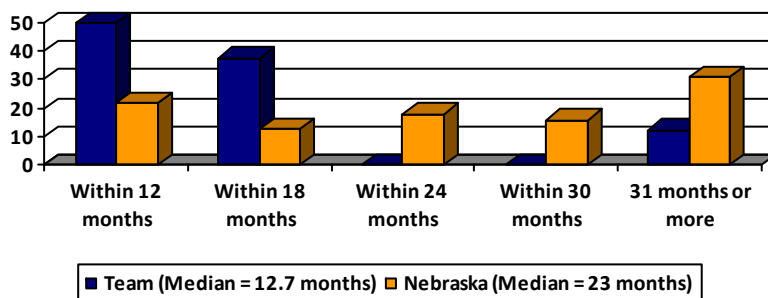
### Removal to permanency

Nebraska (Median = 23 mo)      District 9, Team2 (Median = 14 mo)

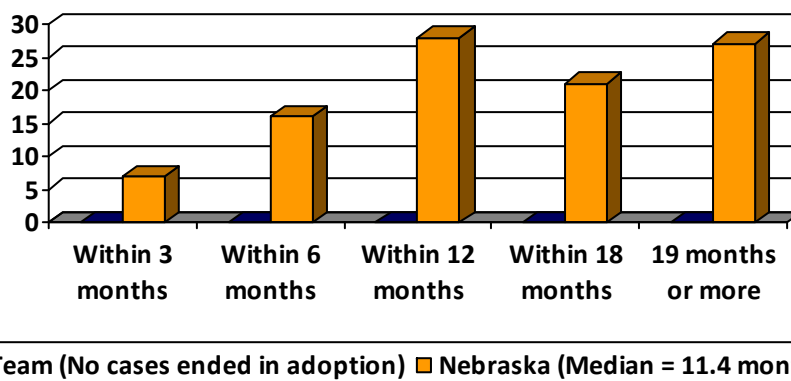


- Within 6 months
- Within 12 months
- Within 18 months
- Within 24 months
- 25 or more months

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	2 days	1 day
Removal to 3a petition	3 days	1 day
3a petition to first appearance	13 days	9 days
Removal to adjudication	64 days	62 days
<b>Permanency Stages</b>		
Adjudication to disposition	42 days	58 days
Removal to permanency	17 months	21 months
<b>TPR Stages</b>		
Removal to TPR	8 months	23 months
TPR to adoption	n/a	9 months

Case progression for Children ages 0-3

In other words, 22% of TPRs happen within 12 months statewide, compared to 50% for this team.

Case progression to TPR is much quicker for Buffalo County, with half of cases having TPR in the first year.