

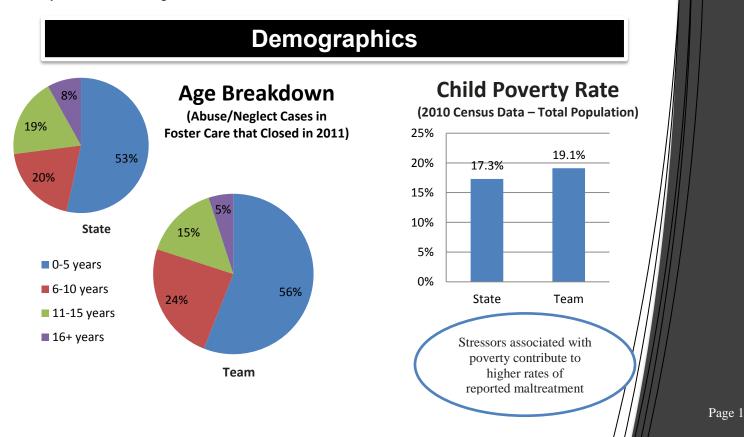
# Case Progression and Court Improvement Data Report for 2011

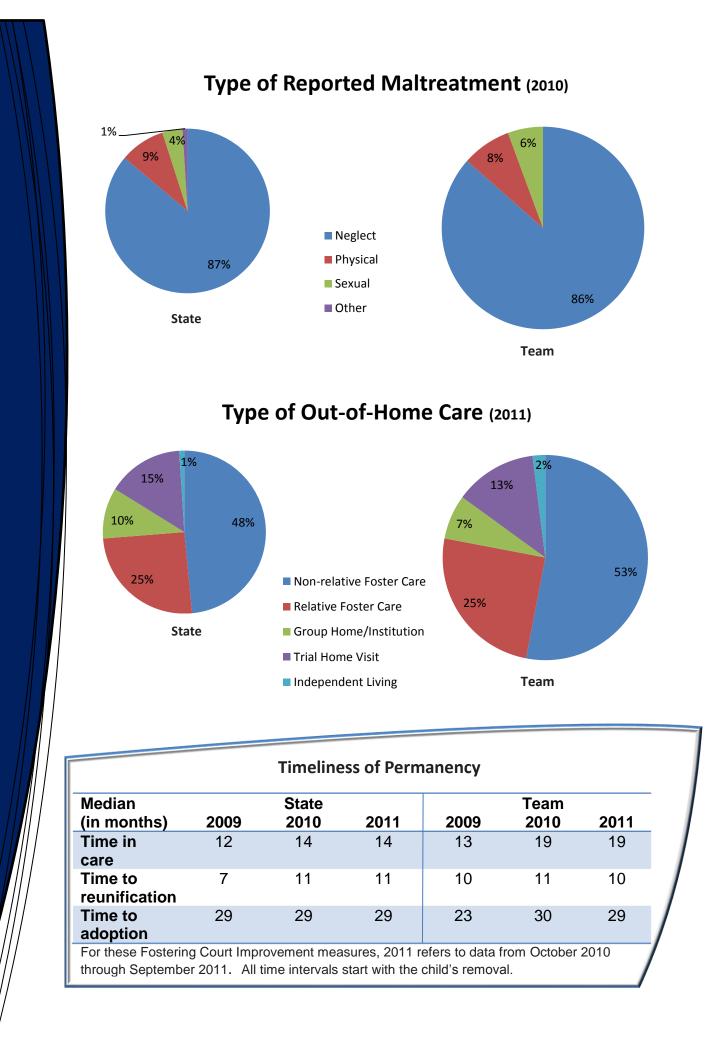




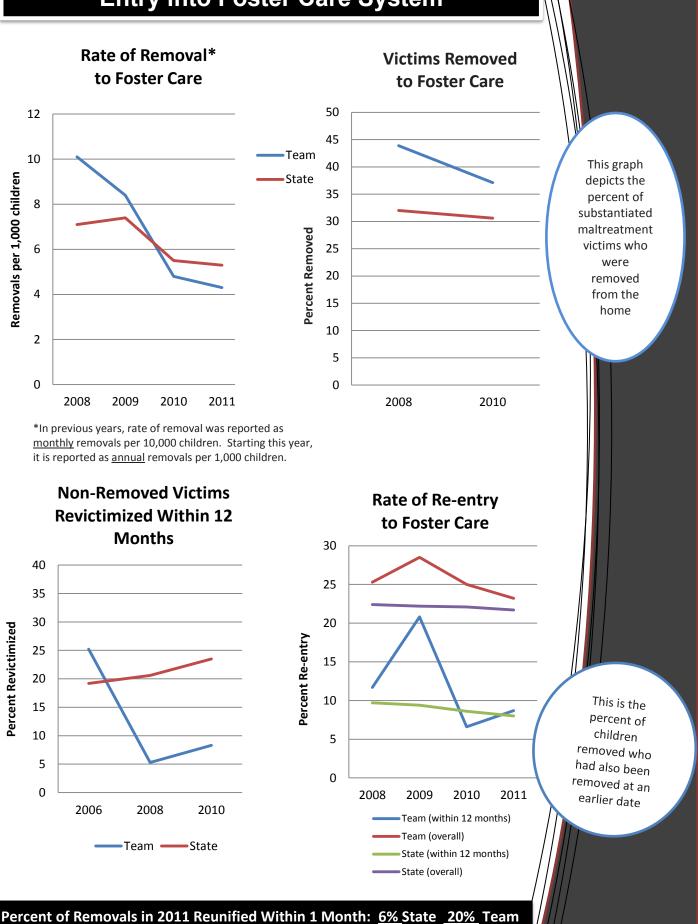
Information provided in this document is designed to help your team improve case progression, as this is one area the courts can control. Timeliness of hearings has a significant impact on time to case closure, which means that courts can make a difference in the lives of children in the system.

Data on pages 2, 3, and 7 come from the Fostering Court Improvement website (*www.fosteringcourtimprovement.org/ne*). Data on pages 4, 5, 6, and 8 were collected through JUSTICE to track case progression timelines for all abuse/neglect cases in foster care that closed in the years 2008 through 2011.





# **Entry into Foster Care System**



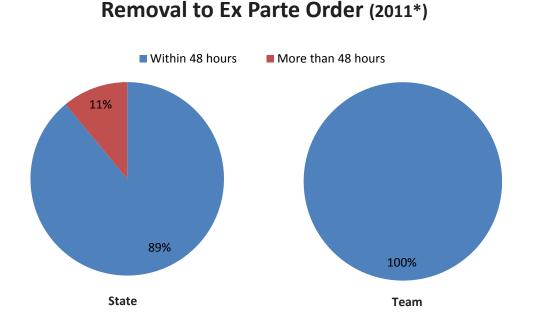
Each year, the case progression report is based on the number of abuse and neglect cases that closed in the prior year. In the data from years 2008 through 2010, there were 91 cases, 62 cases, and 71 cases, respectively. In the 2011 data, there were 41 cases.

Medians represent the center-point for cases from your team. Half of the cases took longer than the median; the other half were shorter.

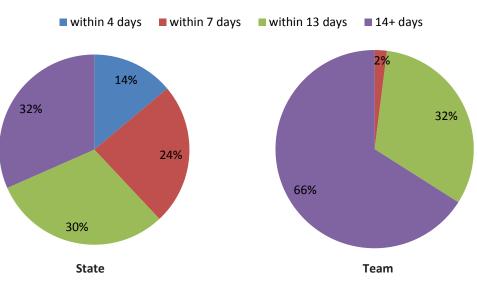
**N/R** means the values were "not reported" in JUSTICE or were inconsistently coded in past years.

**N/A** means "not applicable," due to the sample size being too small for analyses to be conducted.

# **Case Progression**



### Petition Filing to Protective Custody Hearing (2011\*)



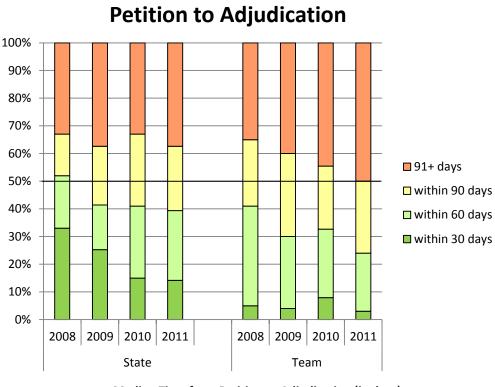
\*For Removal to Ex Parte Order and Petition Filing to Protective Custody Hearing: only 2011 data is reported, due to recently identified inconsistencies in the coding and labeling of data for years 2008 to 2010.

2011 Median Time from Removal to Ex Parte Order

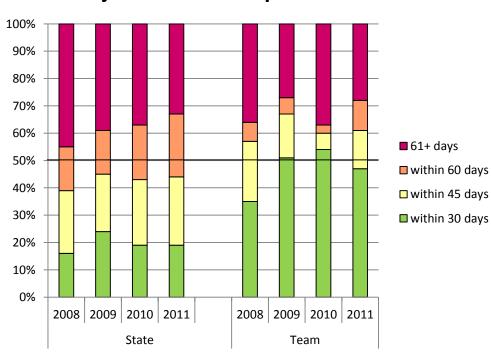
> State: 0 days Team: 0 days

2011 Median Time from Petition Filing to Protective Custody Hearing

> State: 9 days Team: 19 days



Median Time from Petition to Adjudication (in days)			
	State	Team	
2008	57	77	
2009	72	78	
2010	73	82	
2011	73	90	



# Adjudication to Disposition

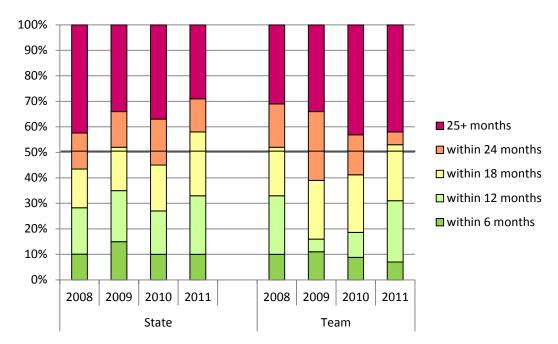
Median Time from	Adjudication to	Disposition	(in days)

	State	Team	
2008	56	35	
2009	49	24	
2010	50	21	
2011	49	31	



#### **Review Hearings (2011)**

	State	Team
Average Number of	3.0	2.0
Review Hearings per Child		
Average Time Between	147.5	230.4
Review Hearings (days)		



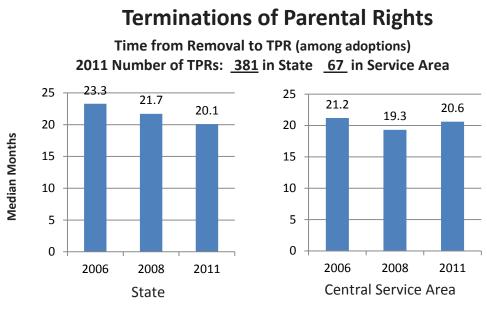
#### **Petition to Case Closure**

#### Median Time from Petition to Case Closure (in months)

	State	Team
2008	23	17
2009	18	20
2010	19	20
2011	17	17

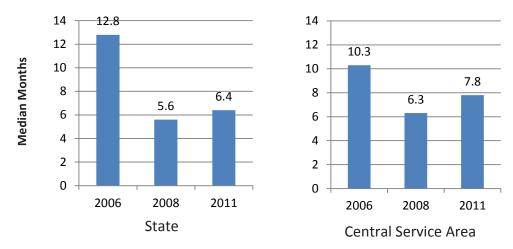
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#### Permanency

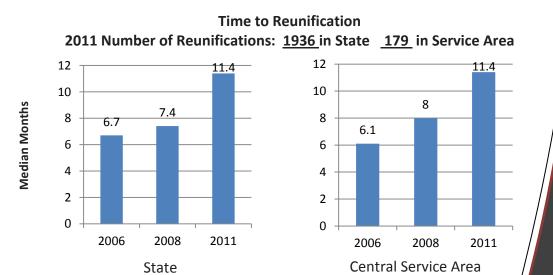


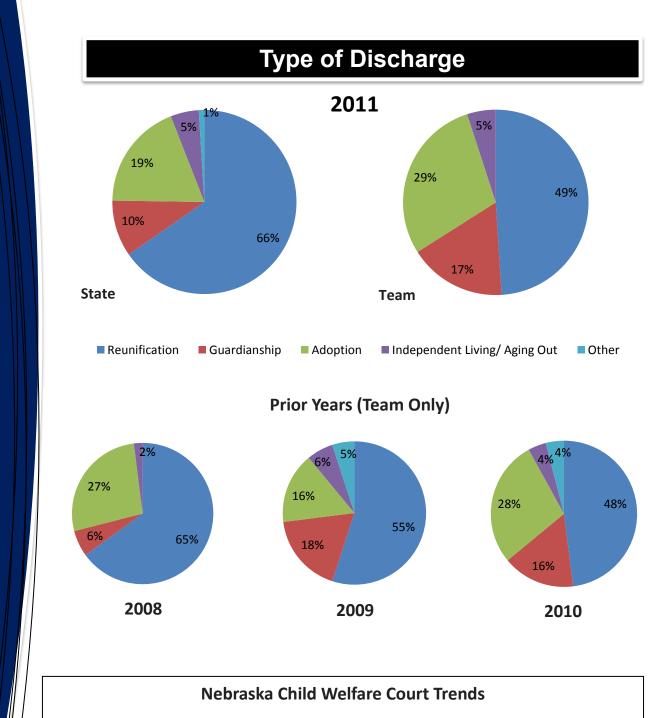
#### Adoptions

Time from TPR to Adoption 2011 Number of Adoptions: <u>383</u> in State <u>67</u> in Service Area



#### Reunifications





Since 2008, time to case closure in Nebraska courts has declined from 23 months to 17 months in 2011. The drop has tapered off in the past couple years but does not appear to be increasing; however, time in care until reunification has increased from 7 months to 11 months. Nebraska courts have not made progress in reducing the time to adjudication over the past four years. Over 30% of cases have consistently taken longer than 90 days for adjudication (the statutory timeline requirement). The 2011 sample indicates that almost 40% of the cases are taking over 90 days. There has also not been meaningful progress in the time frame between adjudication and disposition. Only 20% of the dispositions occur within 30 days of the adjudication. Less than half occur within 45 days.

Other findings worth noting: Children under the age of five make up over half the cases. About a third of all children found to be maltreated are placed in foster care and 15% of children formally in foster care are in trial home visits. About 24% of the children who were left at home had an additional substantiated child maltreatment episode within 12 months, which is a 20% increase from 2006. Over 20% of children placed in foster care had been in foster care previously.