



Nebraska Family Group Conference

Nebraska Family Group Conference (FGC) Case Statistics

July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2010

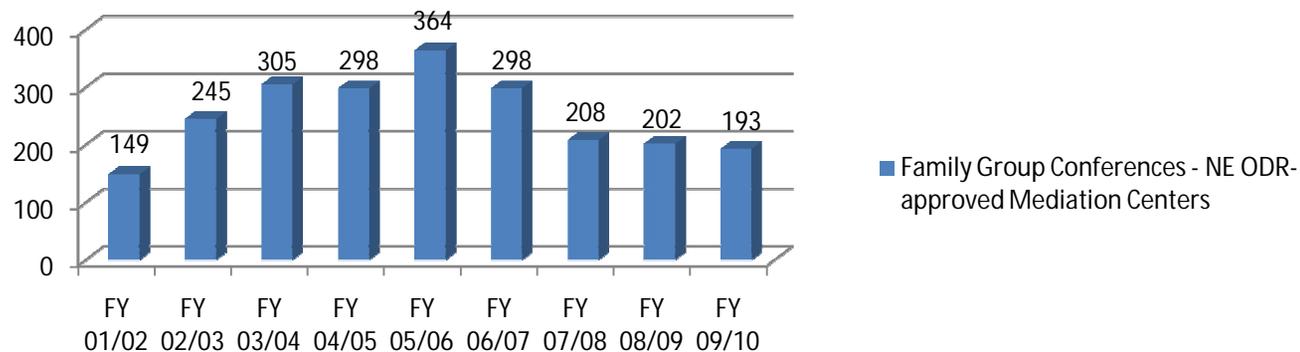
Nebraska State Court Administrator ODR-approved Mediation Centers

Nebraska's Family Group Conferencing for children was initiated by the **Administrative Office of the Court's Court Improvement Project** with the Nebraska Center for Children, Families, and the Law in the late 1990s. Nebraska's ODR-approved mediation centers, in partnership with Nebraska Health and Human Services, have been providing Family Group Conferencing (FGC) for children and their families since 2001 as a statewide service. This **family and child-centered approach for decision making around a child's safety, permanency, and well-being** for children involved in child abuse and neglect cases, adoption, juvenile justice, and transitioning into adulthood.

A **qualified impartial FGC Coordinator**, proficient in conflict resolution strategies and family conferencing decision-making, devotes up to 30 hours in preparation in working with children, their parents, other kinship members, and child welfare professionals, such as attorneys, guardians ad litem, counselors, and others to prepare for half to full day gathering **to create a family plan**. The 3-7 hour gathering includes addressing critical safety issues, strengths and concerns for the child and family, and **providing private family time for decision-making**, prior to the last phase of the conference which reality-tests **the family plan** in regard to the child safety issues.

Nebraska's FGC model is adapted from New Zealand's Maori family child inclusion model, and as taught to Nebraska FGC Coordinators by the **American Humane Association's Family Group Decision-Making team**. (see www.americanhumane.org).

Family Group Conference 2001-2010 Nebraska ODR-approved Mediation Centers



**Nebraska Family Group Conference
2001-2010
Nebraska ODR-approved Mediation Centers
Case Type Totals**

Family Group Conference Referral case type	FY 01-02	FY 02-03	FY 03-04	FY 04-05	FY 05-06	FY 06-07	FY 07-08	FY 08-09	FY 09-10	TOTALS 2001-2010
Neglect/Abuse	109	179	243	232	289	225	178	183	143	1,781
Adoption	4	1	2	6	5	1	1	0	0	20
Juvenile	19	48	31	32	50	43	10	8	4	245
Other	17	17	29	28	20	29	19	11	46	216
Totals	149	245	305	298	364	298	208	202	193	2,262