



Case Progression and Court Improvement Data Report for 2009



District 10

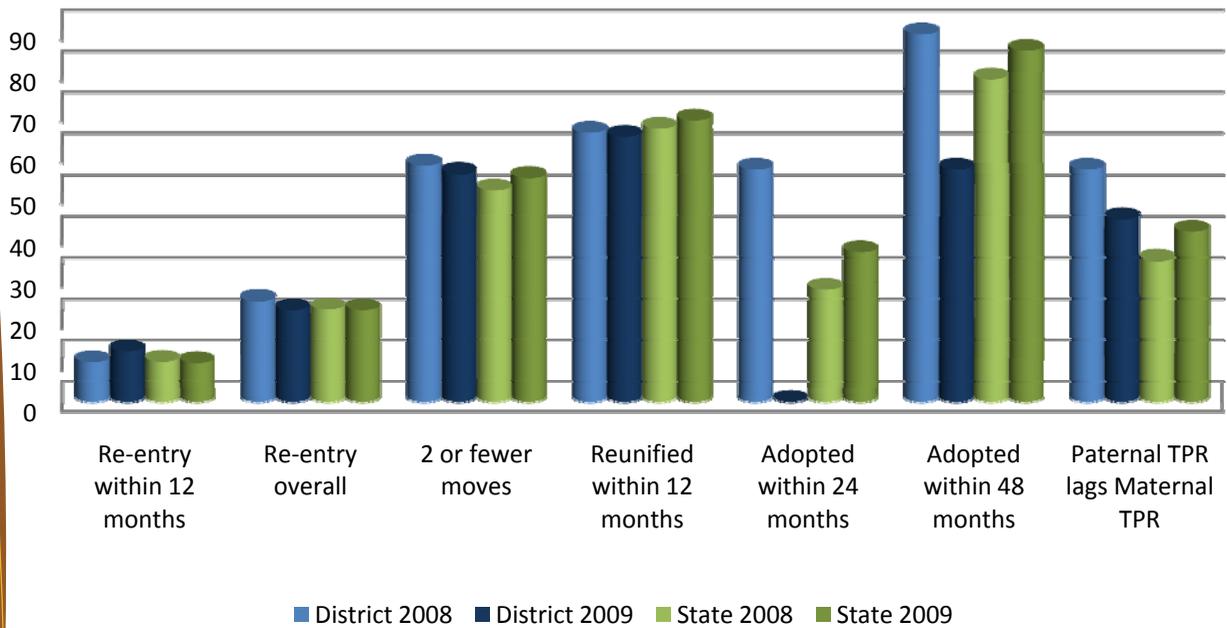


Information provided in this document is designed to help your team improve case progression, as this is one area the courts can control. Timeliness of hearings has a significant impact on time to case closure, which means that courts can make a difference in the lives of children in the system. Data on page 1 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 and 2009.

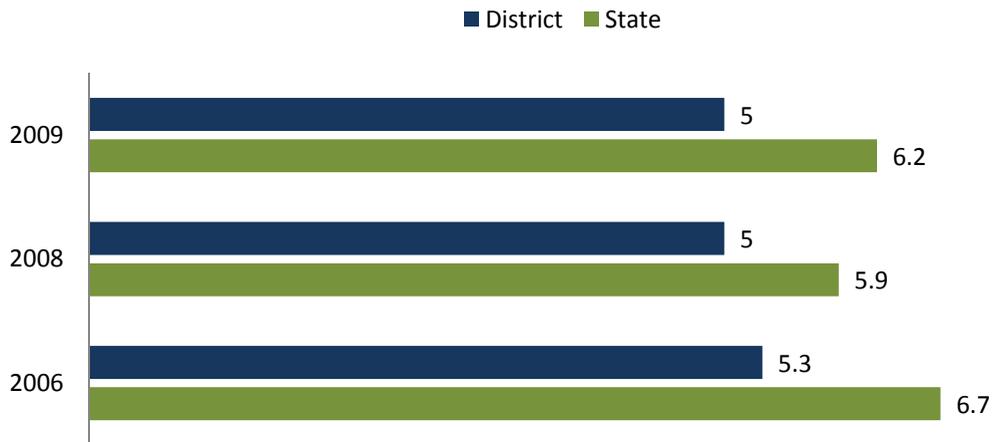
	District 10		Nebraska		Missouri	National
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2009	2008-2009
Poverty rate*	15.2%	Not available	13.4%	14%	20%	18%
Median length of stay	13 months	11 months	13 months	12 months	13 months	16 months
Median months to reunification	8 months	8 months	7 months	7 months	8 months	7 months
Median months to adoption	23 months	46 months	34 months	29 months	27 months	29 months

* 2008 county data comes from the U.S. Census Bureau. NE, MO, and National data are from Kids Count. 2009 is considered October 2008 through September 2009

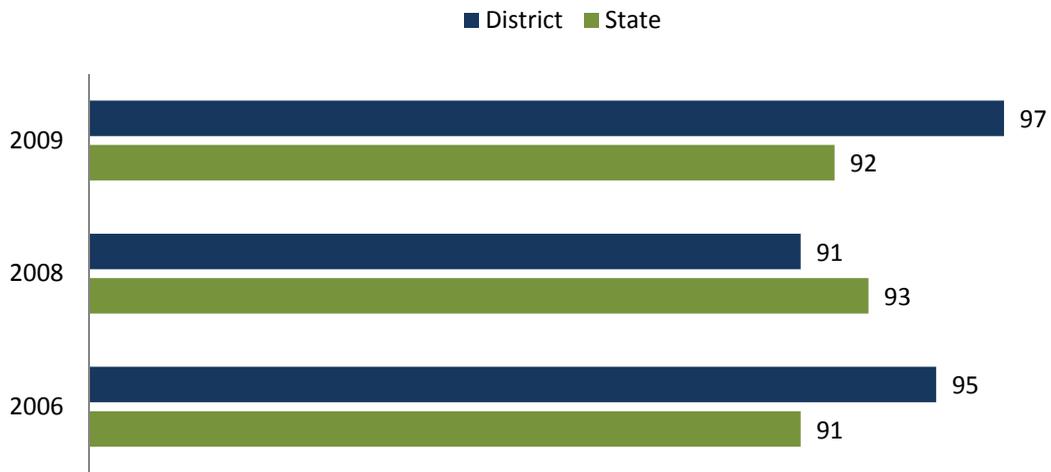
Percentages for 2008 and 2009 Fiscal Years



Rates of Removal per 10k Children



Percent of Children over 12 in Group Home or Institutional Placements



In District 10, there were 57 abuse and neglect cases that closed between January 1 and December 31, 2008. In 2009, 69 abuse and neglect cases closed. The following analyses are based on that data.

As you look through the data provided below, keep in mind that 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. When medians are different from 2008 to 2009, you should also see differences in the bar charts. This will help you to identify where differences are occurring, and is meant as a visual aid to interpreting medians.

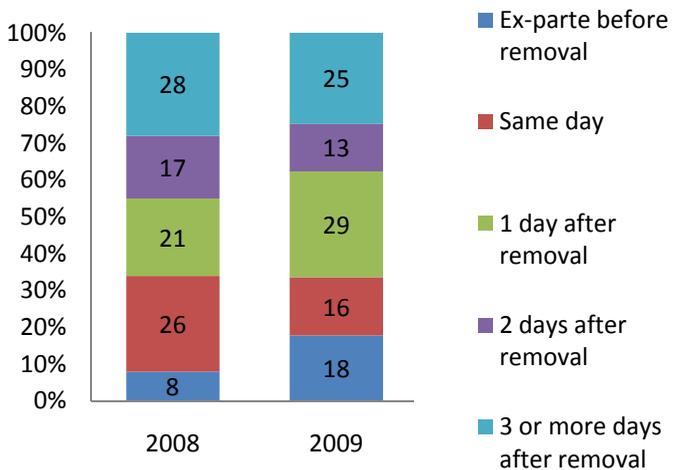
Timeline progression: All ages

Removal to ex-parte

Nebraska

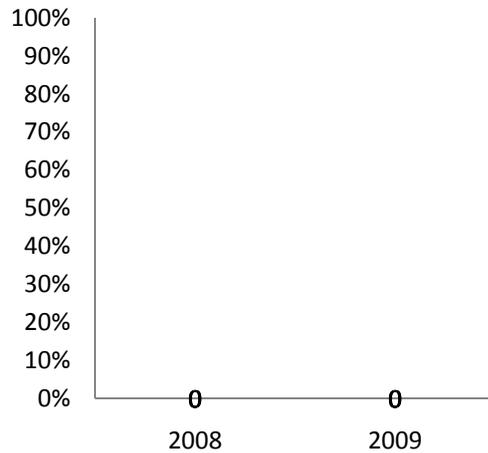
2008 Median = 1 day

2009 Median = 1 day



District 10

2008 & 2009 ex parte data not reported on JUSTICE

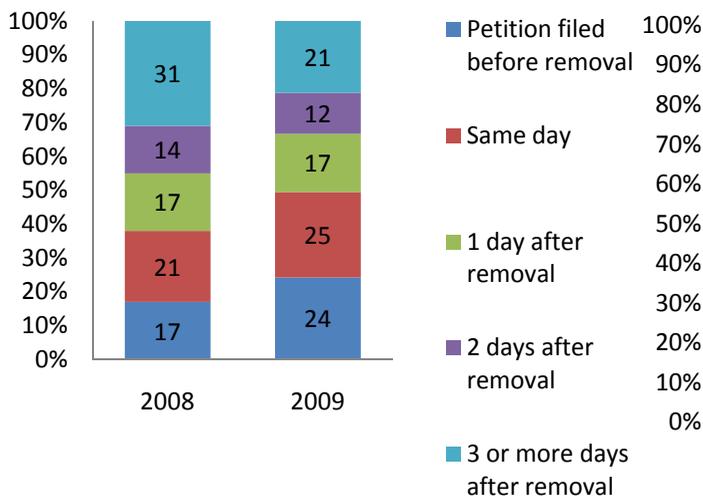


Removal to Petition Filing

Nebraska

2008 Median = 1 day

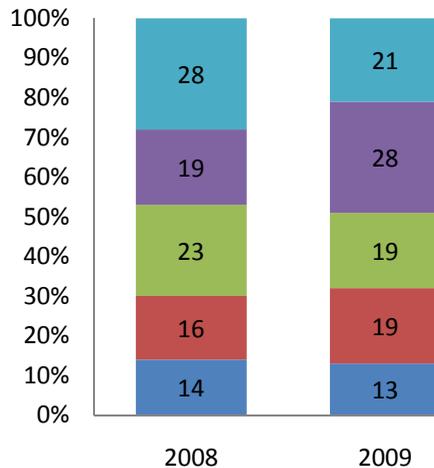
2009 Median = 1 day



District 10

2008 Median = 1 day

2009 Median = 1 day



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

Best practice recommendations

Removal to first hearing – 3 days

9% of 2009 District 10 cases held the first hearing within 3 days of removal

Removal to adjudication – 60 days

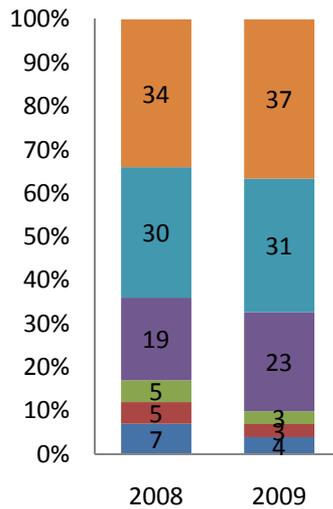
40% of 2009 District 10 cases held the adjudication within 60 days of removal

Adjudication to disposition – 30 days

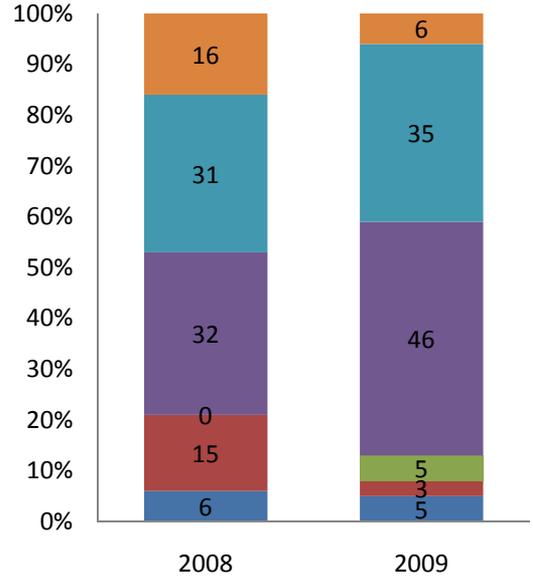
55% of 2009 District 10 cases held the disposition within 30 days of adjudication

Petition to First Hearing

Nebraska
2008 Median = 9 days
2009 Median = 10 days



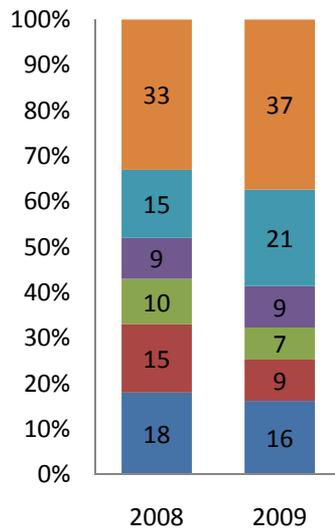
District 10
2008 Median = 7 days
2009 Median = 7 days



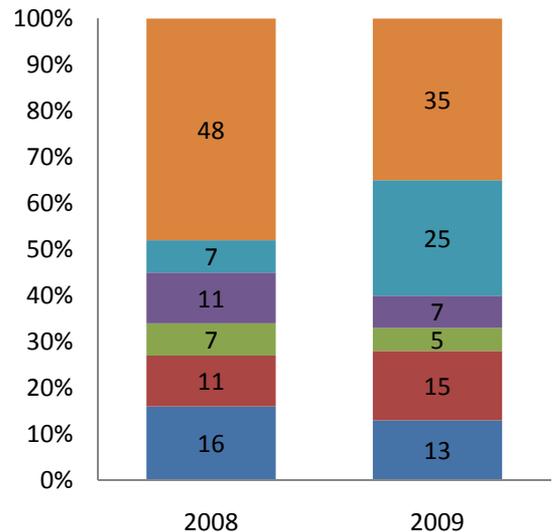
- Hearing same day as petition filing
- Hearing 1-2 days after
- 3-4 days after
- 5-7 days after
- 8-13 days after
- 14 or more days after

Removal to Adjudication

Nebraska
2008 Median = 57 days
2009 Median = 72 days



District 10
2008 Median = 84 days
2009 Median = 82 days



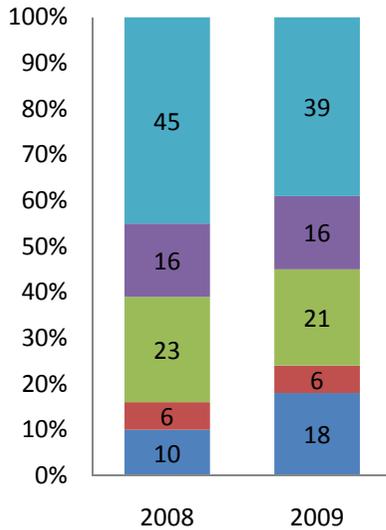
- Adjudication within 15 days
- Within 30 days
- Within 45 days
- Within 60 days
- Within 90 days
- 91 or more days

Adjudication to Disposition

Nebraska

2008 Median = 56 days

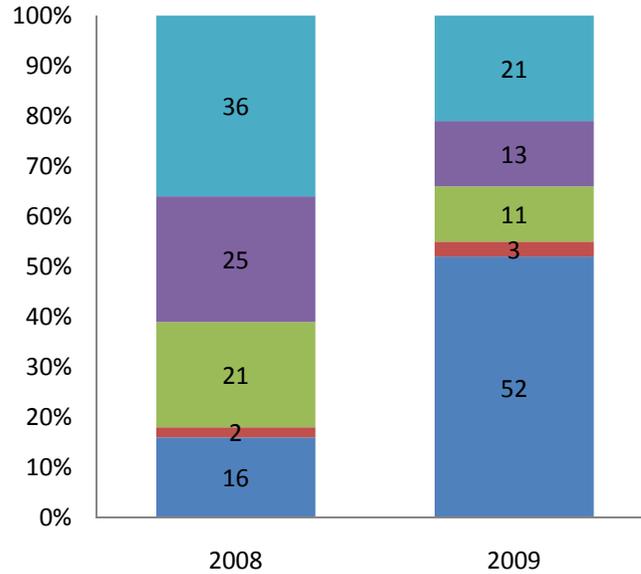
2009 Median = 49 days



District 10

2008 Median = 49 days

2009 Median = 11 days



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

Removal to Case Closure

Nebraska

2008 Median = 23 months

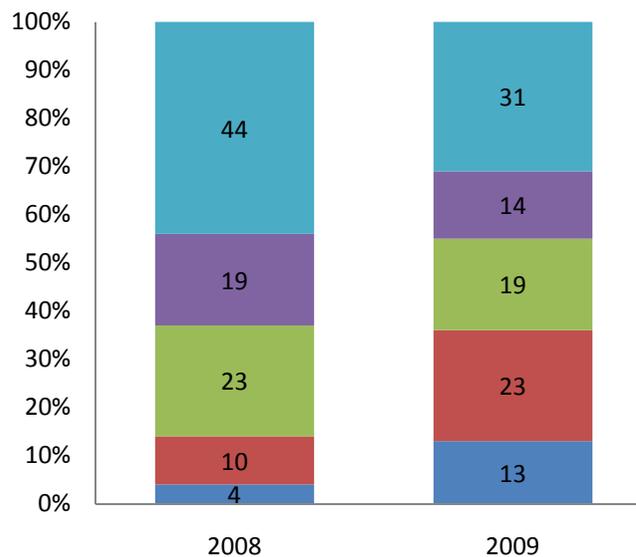
2009 Median = 18 months



District 10

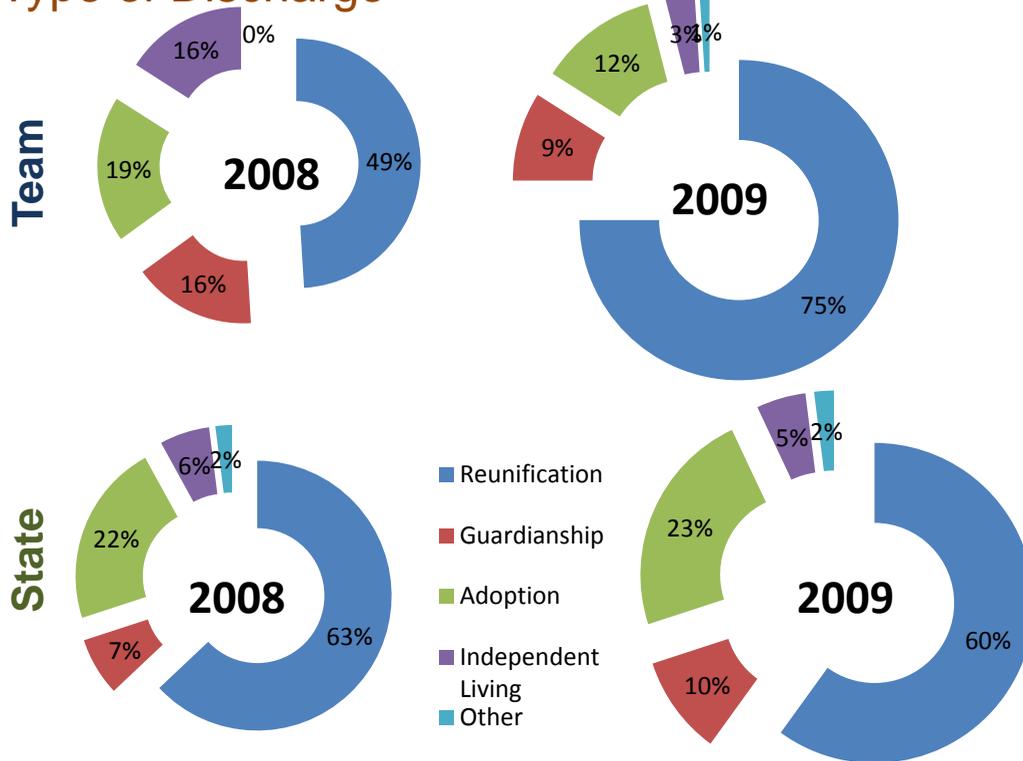
2008 Median = 23 months

2009 Median = 18 months



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

Type of Discharge



Trends

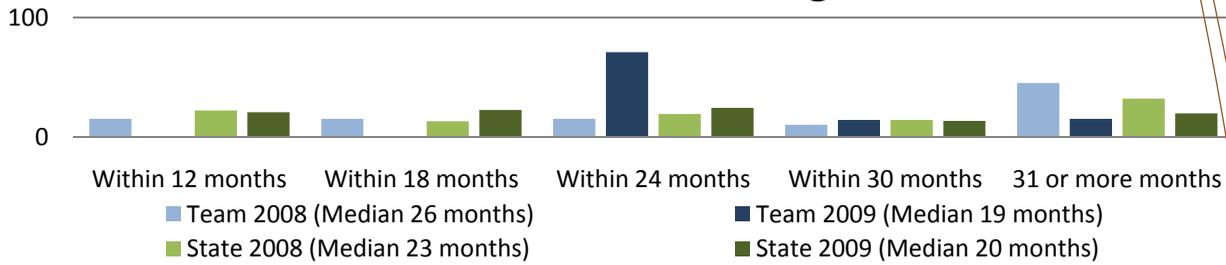


With the exception of time to adoption, median times to closure decreased in 2009. JUSTICE data shows a decreased in time to case closure from 23 months to 18 months, which is consistent with statewide data.

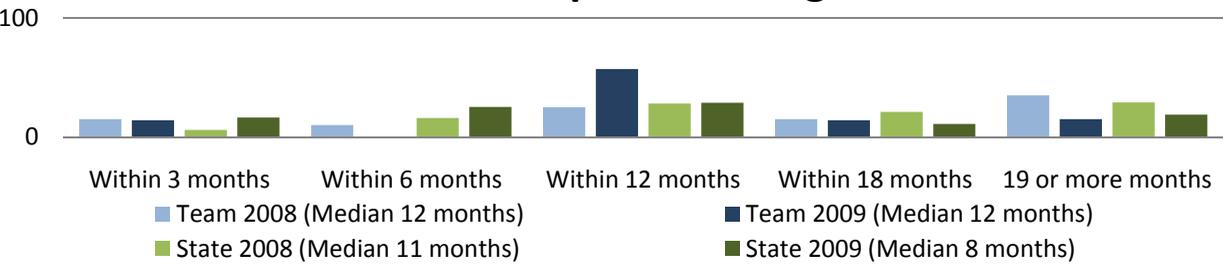
The time to adjudication has remained high at 82 days; however, with a decrease in time from adjudication to disposition from 49 days to 11 days, there has been a substantial decrease in time from removal to disposition. Your team may want to talk about case progression in early stages of the case and whether more front-loading can occur to decrease time to adjudication and disposition and provide services to the family earlier in the case.

In 2009, many fewer cases discharged to independent living, decreasing from 16% of cases to 3%.

Removal to TPR - All Ages



TPR to Adoption - All Ages



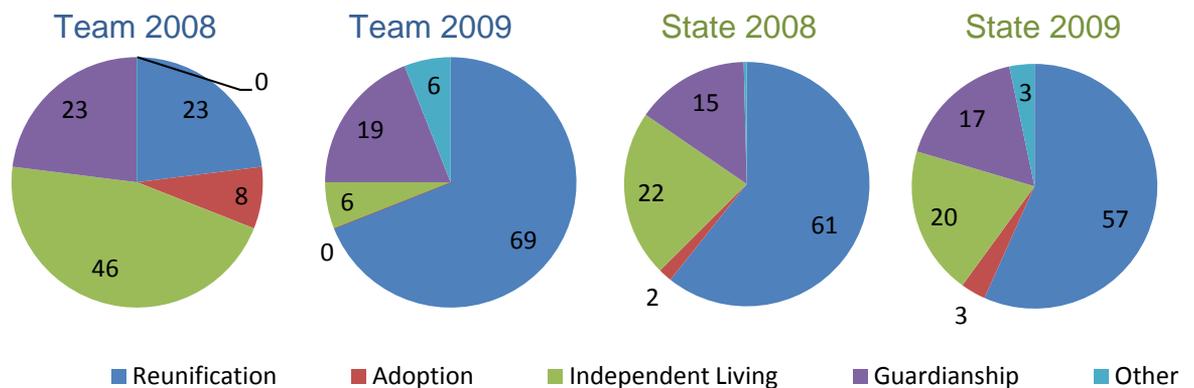
Case Progression for Zero to Three

Median Times	Team		State	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
Early Stages				
Removal to Ex-parte	n/a	n/a	1 day	1 day
Removal to Petition	1 day	1 day	1 day	0 days
Petition to first hearing	8 days	7 days	9 days	10 days
Removal to Adjudication	66 days	83 days	62 days	70 days
Permanency Stages				
Adjudication to Disposition	54 days	4 days	58 days	49 days
Removal to Case Closure	20 months	22 months	21 months	19 months
TPR Stages				
Removal to TPR	24 months	20 months	23 months	19 months
TPR to adoption	10 months	12 months	9 months	7 months



Adolescent Case Progression and Outcomes

Permanency Type for Youth 12 and older – 3a cases only



Median Times

	Team		State	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
Removal to Adjudication	79 days	19 days	53 days	79 days
Adjudication to Disposition	49 days	56 days	49 days	49 days
Average Number of Review Hearings	7	6	3	3
Removal to Case Closure	24 months	14 months	17 months	17 months
Removal to TPR	20 months	n/a	n/a	16 months
TPR to case closure	39 months	n/a	26 months	12 months

The rate of removal has remained consistently below the state average. However, the percentage of children over 12 in group homes increased in 2009 to 97%. Your team may want to discuss reasons for this increase and consider adding this issue as an Action Plan item for future team meetings.

Data on time to adoption showed substantial increases with the median time moving from 23 months to 46 months in 2009, and 0% of adoptions happening within 24 months. Your team may want to discuss possible reasons; one possibility is that your courts are moving more old cases to permanency, thus skewing the data.