

Dependent Children in Washington: Case Timeliness and Outcomes



Washington State

CENTER *for*
COURT
RESEARCH

2014
Annual Report

Dependent Children in Washington State: Case Timeliness and Outcomes

2014 Annual Report

Produced by the Washington State Center for Court Research

Dr. Carl McCurley, Manager
Matt Orme, Senior Research Associate
Catherine Pickard, Senior Research Associate
Cindy Bricker, Senior Court Program Analyst
Janet Skreen, Court Association Coordinator
Rachael Sanford, Research Administrative Assistant

Administrative Office of the Courts
Washington State Center for Court Research
PO Box 41170
Olympia, WA 98504-1170
360.753.3365
wscrr@courts.wa.gov

Other staff contributors: Wei Wang
Other external contributors: Robert Wyman and David Marshall

Photos: The images used on the cover and throughout this report are of models and are used for illustrative purposes only.

Recommended Citation:

Orme, M., McCurley, C., Pickard, C., Bricker, C., Skreen, J., Sanford, R., Wang, W. (2015) *Dependent Children in Washington State: Case Timeliness and Outcomes, 2014 Annual Report*. Olympia, WA: Center for Court Research, Administrative Office of the Courts.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
Background.....	1
A Commitment to Improvement.....	2
Advisory Committee	2
Interactive Reports.....	3
Accountable & Transparent = Responsive & Improving	4
OVERVIEW	5
Case Volume and Court Performance.....	5
Dependency and Termination Filing Trends	6
New Developments for Future Reporting.....	7
Goals and Recommendations	7
DEPENDENCY COURT IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS	8
The Court Improvement Program.....	8
Continuous Quality Improvement	9
Court Improvement Training Academy	10
Early Engagement Strategies.....	12
Baby Teams	12
Establishing Biological Paternity Early Project	12
Family Team Decision Making	13
Fathers Matter Outreach Program	13
Mediation	13
Parents for Parents Program	14
Parents Representation Program	15
Shared Planning Meetings	15
Solutions Based Casework	16
Local Initiatives to Improve Courts	17
Family Dependency Treatment Courts	17
Family and Juvenile Court Improvement Program	17
Indian Child Welfare Act Projects	20
Collaboration with Other Child Welfare Partners	21
IV-E Waiver and Family Assessment Response	21
Child and Family Services Review	21
Children’s Representation Program	22
The Commission on Children in Foster Care	22
Education Workgroup	22
Extended Foster Care	23
Foster Youth and Alumni Leadership Summit	24
Immigration/Unaccompanied Minors/Special Immigrant Juvenile Status	24
MULTI-SYSTEM YOUTH	25
THE WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN DEPENDS ON ALL OF US	30

OBJECTIVES	32
Objective 1: Fact-Finding within 75 days	33
Objective 2: Review Hearing Every Six Months	35
Objective 3: Permanency Planning Hearing within 12 Months	37
Objective 4: Permanency Achieved before 15 Months of Out-of-Home Care	40
Objective 5: Termination of Parental Rights Petition Filed within 15 Months of Out-of-Home Care	43
Objective 6: Adoption Completed within Six Months of Termination Order	47

TECHNICAL REPORT SUMMARY: DEPENDENCY COURT PROCESSES AND OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE **49**

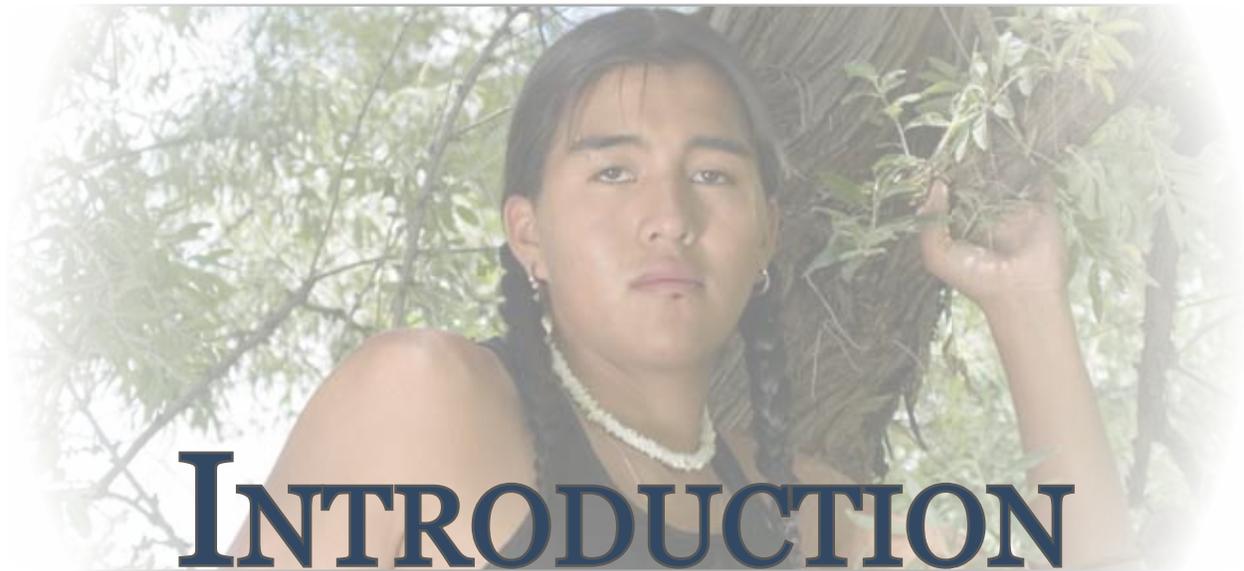
SUMMARY **56**

RECOMMENDATIONS **58**

APPENDICES **59**

<i>APPENDIX A: PERFORMANCE OF THE FJCIP COURTS</i>	A
<i>APPENDIX B: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES</i> ..	B
<i>APPENDIX C: COUNTY LEVEL DATA</i>	C
Adams	C-1
Asotin	C-5
Benton	C-9
Chelan	C-13
Clallam	C-17
Clark	C-21
Columbia	C-25
Cowlitz	C-29
Douglas	C-33
Ferry	C-37
Franklin	C-41
Garfield	C-45
Grant	C-49
Grays Harbor	C-53
Island	C-57
Jefferson	C-61
King	C-65
Kitsap	C-69
Kittitas	C-73
Klickitat	C-77
Lewis	C-81
Lincoln	C-85
Mason	C-89
Okanogan	C-93
Pacific	C-97
Pend Oreille	C-101

Pierce	C-105
San Juan	C-109
Skagit	C-113
Skamania	C-117
Snohomish	C-121
Spokane	C-125
Stevens	C-129
Thurston	C-133
Wahkiakum	C-137
Walla Walla	C-141
Whatcom	C-145
Whitman	C-149
Yakima	C-153



INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

Since 2007 when the Legislature first mandated the annual Timeliness of Dependency Case Processing Report, the Washington State Center for Court Research (WSCCR) at the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) has worked to provide policy makers with relevant information as they create and shape the state's dependency laws in an effort to improve the outcomes for children in the dependency system. The report has also helped the courts, the Children's Administration (Children's), and other child welfare system partners track their progress in meeting the performance measures that have been developed to address some of the most pressing problems facing those who are involved in or working in the child welfare system.

These performance measures are tracked through eight case-processing objectives that were identified based on federal and state guidelines and are consistent with those suggested by the American Bar Association, the National Center for State Courts, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. The timeline set up for case processing aims for:

- 1) Fact-finding hearing within 75 days;
- 2) First review hearing within six months;
- 3) First permanency planning hearing within 12 months;
- 4) Subsequent permanency planning hearings every 12 months;
- 5) Permanency achieved before 15 months of out-of-home care;
- 6) Termination of parental rights petition filed within 15 months of out-of-home care;
- 7) Case tracking from dependency filing to legally free status; and
- 8) Adoption completed within six months of the termination order.

For an explanation of these data elements, see the Objectives Section beginning at [page 32](#). For each statewide measure, data is presented on the percentage of cases achieving the statutory goal and the median length of time needed to reach that goal. This data is also provided at the individual county level in [Appendix C](#).

The first annual report, produced by WSCCR in January 2008, met the initial requirement set forth by the Legislature to provide information about whether the courts were succeeding in meeting the statutory guidelines for achieving permanency for dependent children. Publication of that report prompted many questions from the courts and others regarding how the statistics were developed. The courts provided WSCCR with valuable, detailed feedback regarding case processing, and, in response, the 2008 Annual Report was revised and re-released in June of that same year with revised indicators and more refined data.

Those were the first of the many improvements that have been made to the detail and scope of the report in a continued effort to provide the courts and the Legislature with accurate and useful information. This year's edition includes a report regarding multi-system youth and further refinements on reporting outcomes for children in dependency cases.

A COMMITMENT TO IMPROVEMENT

Emphasis is shifting from mere reporting on the timeliness of case processing. Of course, timeliness deserves attention, and unnecessary delay must be addressed, but other aspects of process, such as delivery of services intended to improve family functioning should also be measured, analyzed, and reported. In addition to under-reported treatment services and effects, those deeply involved in the child welfare system must steer efforts and focus toward outcomes – permanency, safety, and ever more importantly, well-being. Well-being encompasses factors such as education stability and progress, physical and mental health, placement of children together, and improved safe visits with parents and family members. WSCCR is committed to increased monitoring and reporting of these and other outcomes for children. The State's attention must be addressed not only to how we are processing cases, but also to *what* we are doing as we process cases and with what impact on children and families.

Advisory Committee

A Dependency Timeliness Report Advisory Committee reviews and makes recommendations about the measures of court processes and outcomes in the annual report and the continually-updated online Interactive Dependency Timeliness Report (IDTR). Members were selected from the judiciary, the Attorney General's Office, the Office of Public Defense, the Court Improvement Training Academy (CITA), Children's, DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Casey Family Programs, the Washington State Racial Disproportionality Advisory Committee, the Commission on Children in Foster Care, and WSCCR. Each has demonstrated a real commitment to improving outcomes for children and families. Suggestions from the Advisory Committee have already proven beneficial and will enhance the usefulness of the annual report for future performance improvement efforts.

INTERACTIVE REPORTS

In recent years, courts have come to rely increasingly on the Interactive Dependency Timeliness Report (IDTR), a web-based application, housed securely on an internal server at the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), which addresses the need for frequent and robust feedback to the field. The tool allows users to view data for the state, their own county, or any other county. Users specify data filter criteria and level of detail, allowing them to view data all along the spectrum, from broad state-to-county or county-to-county comparisons to case-specific information.

Improvements to the data exchange schedule between the AOC and Children’s allow for more frequent updates to the interactive reports, supplying users with information needed to rapidly identify trends and areas needing attention. Counties are able to see, in nearly real time, how they are performing in comparison to other counties in the state, and look at problematic cases to see what needs to be done to get the cases back on track, a process that supports the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) efforts in Washington State. See [page 9](#) for more details on CQI efforts.

Through continual and expanding cooperation from Children’s, quality assurance teams, County Clerks, Family and Juvenile Court Improvement Program (FJCIP) Coordinators, and CITA’s Tables of Ten, the IDTR is also enhancing direct training efforts, providing the needed data to more accurately assess training needs and improve outcomes for children and families. The collaboration and cooperation of these partners improves CQI, a key element of any child welfare efforts.

“Foster care is intended to be a temporary living arrangement for children who need a safe place to live when their parents or families cannot take care of them. These children are uprooted from the familiar, separated from parents and siblings. The impact is enormous. It is critical that they be quickly and safely reunified with their families — or moved quickly into adoptive homes. The Dependency Timeliness Report greatly assists the judges who are working toward safe reunification or another permanent living situation by giving them the information necessary to identify points where timeliness problems arise, leading to reforms and better outcomes for children.”

- Chief Justice Barbara Madsen
Washington State Supreme Court

ACCOUNTABLE & TRANSPARENT = RESPONSIVE & IMPROVING

There can be no doubt that Washington continues to face significant fiscal challenges in spite of modest improvements to revenue forecasts and the economy in general. Yet, at a time when state and local budgets are decreasing, the commitment to innovative dependency-related programs has not only been sustained, but expanded. It is difficult to achieve and maintain improvements to systems that are underfunded and operating under significant budget reductions. As this report shows, substantial improvements in case processing measures have been made over recent years. This improvement includes better data and more timely and thorough evaluation of that data. In addition, programs such as the Family and Juvenile Court Improvement Plan (FJCIP) and Family Treatment Courts are still in operation, in no small part through a local commitment of resources and leadership. The expansion and improvement of dependency timeliness data collection and reporting has been undertaken by WSCCR since 2007 without specified state funding because of the clear benefit to Washington's dependent children and their families and with the hope that its improvement will be sustainable in the future. WSCCR hopes that as the report will continue to grow in depth and scope, the State will reenergize its efforts and fiscal attention to the needs of families in the child welfare system to make progressive and meaningful improvements in outcomes for those families.

The 2014 Annual Report contains:

- Measures of statewide trends in dependency and termination filings
- Statewide and county-level indicators of the achievement of the performance measures
- Placement exit and federal permanency outcome indicators
- Child demographic breakouts
- Analysis of policy and program trends that affect process and outcomes for children involved in dependency cases
- Recommendations for system reform

This annual report is another step toward a comprehensive dependency reporting system that includes information on court and child welfare operations, outcomes for court-involved children and families, and recommendations for reform to the dependency care system.

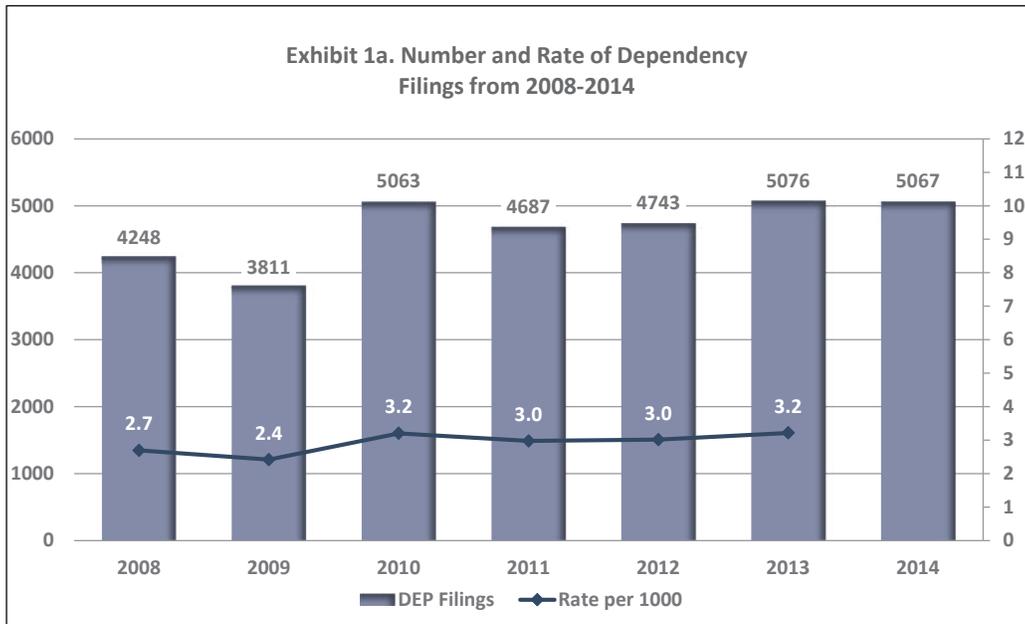
This annual report reflects all of the juvenile dependency and termination cases that were filed in Washington's courts from January 2000 through December 2014. Court records from the AOC's Superior Court Management and Information System (SCOMIS) were matched with information from Children's FamLink system. Information relevant to each of the performance measures represents a subset of these matched cases that were documented before January 1, 2015.

OVERVIEW

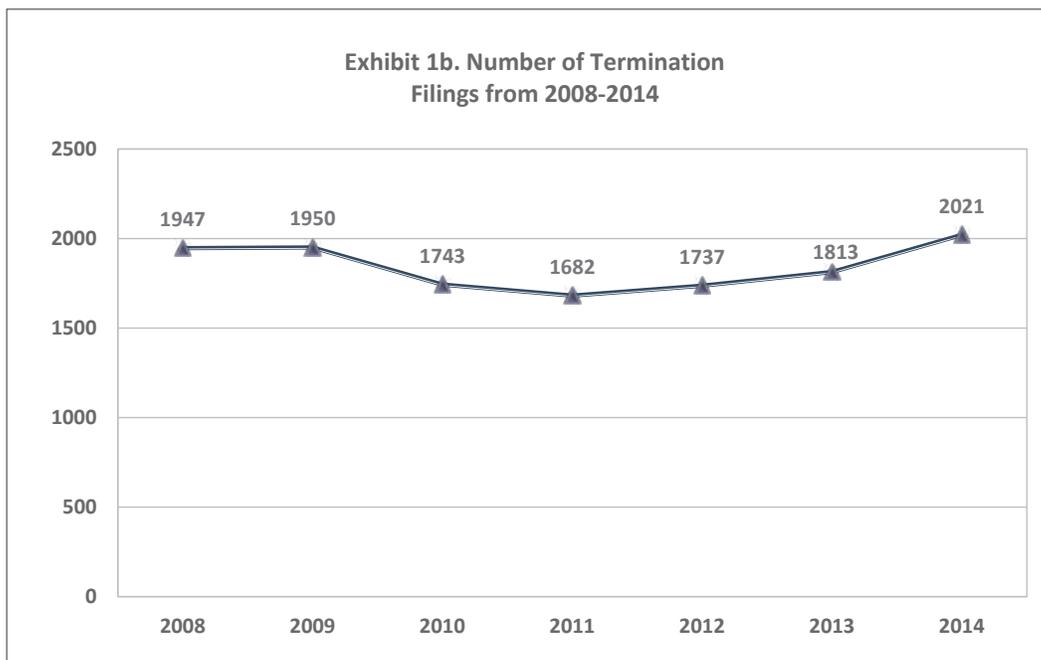
CASE VOLUME AND COURT PERFORMANCE

- Continued high volume for dependency and termination of parental rights (TPR) filings. A total of 5,067 dependency cases were filed in Washington's courts in 2014, virtually unchanged from 2013 and remaining at a seven year high. Across the 2013-2014 period, termination filings increased by 11.5% to 2,021.
- Time to fact-finding dropped 2% in 2014. Statewide, 70% of cases achieved fact-finding within the 75-day statutory requirement.
- Six-month review hearings compliance decreased 1% in 2014. Statewide, 85% of cases achieved the first review hearing within six months.
- Permanency planning hearings within 12 months decreased 3%. In 2014, 84% of cases met the 12-month time standard for first permanency hearing.
- The percentage of cases reaching permanency before 15 months of out-of-home care increased 4% to 33% in 2014. The percentage of reunifications before 15 months, a subset of all reunification exits, also increased 4% to 52% in 2014. Adoptions increased by close to 5% in 2014; however, median time to completion remained the same at 29 months. The percentage of cases achieving adoption before 15 months of out-of-home care decreased 1% to 4% in 2014.
- The percentage of TPR petitions filed within 15 months of out-of-home care decreased 3% to 62% in 2014.
- Adoptions that achieved the statutory goal of finalization within six months of the termination order by 'year adoption was completed' currently sits at 44% for 2014, an increase of 6% from the previous reporting year.

DEPENDENCY AND TERMINATION FILING TRENDS



The number of dependency filings has shown notable volatility in recent years, dropping 14% between 2007 and 2009, and then increasing by 33% in 2010. Filings in 2013 and 2014 have remained nearly unchanged and remain at all-time highs over the last seven year period. Dependency filing rates (per 1,000 children in general population) increased as well, matching 2010 highs.



Termination filings have shown a steady increase over the last four years, rising 20% from 2011 through 2014.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS FOR FUTURE REPORTING

Work continues toward providing data on two performance measures added in 2013. Historically this report has tracked the timeliness of filings of TPR petitions; the time from dependency filing to a child's legally free status will now also be measured. While family reunification remains a strong priority in cases for which it is a safe option, in some cases, permanency for a child depends on the timely adjudication of the TPR. Tracking the timeliness of these rulings will help courts identify obstacles to timely adjudications and may reduce the time it takes for a child to be welcomed permanently into a new and safe family.

The second measure, mandated by the Federal Administration for Children and Families, will track the time between all permanency hearings. At these hearings, the court oversees efforts to achieve a safe and permanent plan for the child, whether it is family reunification, adoption into a new and safe family, guardianship, or nonparental (third-party) custody.

Pursuant to RCW 13.34.145, permanency planning hearings are to be held at least once every 12 months after the first permanency planning hearing for as long as the child remains in care. Permanency planning hearings help the court, parties, attorneys, social workers, and court-appointed special advocates stay focused on the strengths and challenges of the child and the parents while developing a plan that best suits the family.

GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Establish adequate and stable funding to support courts' research efforts in child welfare outcomes, including the sustainability of this report.
- Continue development of process and outcomes measures to assess the impact of any changes that are made to individual court's case processing practices. Specifically, time from TPR petition to actual termination of those rights, and time from initial (first) permanency planning hearing to subsequent (second) permanency planning hearing.
- Maintain the level of data sharing between WSCCR and Children's, increasing the understanding of child events and outcomes by clarifying data entry, coding, and analysis of foster care information.
- Sustain established timely and regular data exchanges with Children's to maintain and improve management reporting and online updates to performance reporting – directly supporting Washington's CQI efforts.
- Establish better collaboration, coordination, and cooperation with child welfare and children's research entities at state and national levels.
- Continue enhanced consultation and communication by working with the Dependency Timeliness Report Advisory Committee regarding policy changes and measurement improvements that affect the courts and child welfare partners.

- Continue useful and meaningful performance management and case handling through implementation of CQI, using the data provided in the Interactive Dependency Timeliness Report (IDTR) and this report.
- Improve consistency and accuracy in the input of court data codes that are used to track court performance.

DEPENDENCY COURT IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS

THE COURT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Court Improvement Program (CIP) is a coordinated, federally-funded effort to improve the state courts' handling of foster care and adoption proceedings. In Washington, the AOC administers the CIP and the three associated grants Washington State receives.

- Basic Grant sponsors judicial attendance at the annual Children's Justice Conference, national conferences, and also funds specific projects detailed below.
- Training Grant sponsors Court Improvement Training Academy (CITA).
- Data Grant helps provide funding support for this report and other child welfare research efforts at WSCCR.

With the assistance of a multi-disciplinary advisory committee, the CIP strategically plans for a variety of activities and programs to improve permanency, safety and well-being of children in foster care. CIP funds augment the funds available to the juvenile courts and the AOC to assist in the efforts of judicial officers to improve outcomes for children and families. CQI requirements provide accountability and transparency in the administration of the grants, and ultimately improve outcomes for children and families.

"We would encourage you to take a few minutes to review this report. We believe it contains valuable and useful information about your court's handling of dependencies and will allow you to evaluate your effectiveness by identifying the strengths and weaknesses in your system. Ultimately it is our hope that this will assist you in implementing best practices in your court."

- Judge Anne Hirsch & Commissioner Steve Grovdahl, Co-chairs
Superior Court Judges' Association Family and Juvenile Law Committee
and Court Improvement Program Steering Committee

CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

A tenet of the CIP, and all work in child welfare, is Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI).

CQI can be defined as: use of data “to identify, inform, monitor and improve progress toward outcomes in an ongoing fashion.”¹

CQI is readily apparent in the development of this report and the IDTR, both of which have grown and become more useful and useable to the greater child welfare community.

- Through requested feedback and suggestions, WSCCR has helped the courts and stakeholders increase their accountability to children and families in the way their cases are handled, with the goal of ever-improving outcomes.
- Courts have used the data presented in this and the interactive report to refine processes and procedures to improve timeliness of case processing.
- CQI procedures are also used in the Child and Family Service Review Program Improvement Plan. As of this writing, Washington State is preparing for the third Child and Family Service Review, a comprehensive examination of the child welfare system. Data analysis was used to pinpoint areas that needed focus, rather than spending time and money on a broad-sweeping statewide approach to improvements. Focus on the courts with higher rates of non-compliance has decreased the percentage of non-compliance for those counties, which in turn affected the statewide numbers.
- Expanding the report’s coverage of outcomes measures marks a significant expansion of CQI related to children involved with dependency cases.

“Safety and security don’t just happen; they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in our society, a life free of violence and fear.”

- Nelson Mandela
former President of South Africa

¹ Administration for Children and Families Program Instruction, OMB Control No: 0970-0307, 01.11.2012, at page 6, fn. 3.

COURT IMPROVEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY

The Court Improvement Training Academy (CITA), sited at the University of Washington School of Law, provides training for the courts and child welfare community. CITA is once again pleased to have the opportunity to collaborate with WSCCR in making the data presented in the IDTR a tool for court improvement statewide. The IDTR provides data counties can use to manage, assess, and improve their court systems on a local level and allows CITA to more efficiently target federal training resources to maximize their effectiveness.

An example of how CITA uses the IDTR data to work with communities to improve their court process is the work related to the federal Child and Family Service Review (CFSR) Program Improvement Plan. Washington's Program Improvement Plan, from the second CFSR, included a provision to increase compliance with requirements under both state and federal law to either file a petition for termination of parental rights (TPR) or enter a finding of good cause when a child has been placed in out-of-home care for 15 of the previous 22 months. Generally, plans designed to address such an issue involve large, statewide training efforts where everyone is trained in a top-down manner with the belief that awareness of the issue will generate action on the local level. Sometimes these efforts work, but more frequently, they result in implementation that is too slow, too limited in scope, or too inefficient when comparing the resources spent to the gains made.

The IDTR allowed CITA, AOC, Children's, and local court systems to operate from a common data source when making strategic decisions. The group was able to see a larger pattern that would have been impossible to see from any one vantage point, namely, that compliance with this measure actually varied considerably from county to county. Whereas some counties performed quite well on the measure, other counties needed to improve compliance. The IDTR allowed us to focus resources on the six counties where improvement was most needed, saving time and resources that could be devoted to other issues for counties that were already performing well on the measure. For those counties that needed improvement, the IDTR allowed us to partner directly with people working in each county to determine the reason for non-compliance and to fashion a local solution to the issue. Work on this collaboration began in April 2013 and continued through July 2014.

The overall TPR non-compliance rate for the state improved from 21% to 10%. On average, target counties reduced non-compliance by 15.8% in 14 months. One individual county improved its non-compliance rate by 22% based in part on the targeted intervention CITA was able to facilitate. Due to these improvements and others, Children's Administration passed their review of the Program Improvement Plan the latter part of 2014. In addition to the ability to look back at historical data to identify issues, IDTR has the ability to look forward to cases which are due for action to help sustain the gains made in these types of interventions. The collaborative relationship between WSCCR and CITA also allows for continuous improvement of the data system itself. Unlike many systems which are based

on static reporting categories, the IDTR has continued to evolve based on needs from the field. Thus, IDTR not only allows us to better project where resources need to be deployed in the future, but the data system actually adapts to ongoing developments in the environment permitting more meaningful responses to trends rather than being in the position of continually reacting to issues after they arise.

Additionally, CITA provides the following services:

- Maintains a website where past trainings and pertinent information can be accessed.
- Works with seasoned judicial officers to create an interactive two-day dependency training that includes role-playing in a series of in-court hypotheticals. The training is designed to be flexible so it can incorporate new issues as they arise, such as the recommendations that will come out of case studies regarding timely filing of TPR petitions.

CITA designed the [“Washington State Dependency Best Practices Report”](#) released November 29, 2012, a compendium of court best practices and services available to children and families in dependency cases. Judicial officers, both experienced and new to child welfare cases, refer to the Best Practices Report regularly.

CITA also supports Tables of Ten in several counties statewide to reach creative solutions that impact and improve outcomes for families, and train stakeholders on the new solutions. Virtually all of the Tables of Ten have used data from IDTR to improve case resolution times and as a base to encourage and develop broad cross-disciplinary training initiatives focused on improving the local child welfare legal system by enhancing skill development, broadening individuals’ knowledge base, and focusing on systemic reform at the operational level. CITA, again, uses the CQI process as it implements Tables of Ten throughout the state

CITA is providing training to a select group of children’s attorneys for the National Quality Improvement Center (QIC) Legal Representation for Children in Foster Care Program Evaluation project. Washington State is one of two sites that is participating in a randomized controlled design to test whether implementation of the QIC Child Representation Best Practice model will improve child representation over its current practice. Outcomes from this project should be available by the end of 2015.

CITA is also working with the Office of Civil Legal Aid (OCLA) to develop training for the Children’s Representation Program. WSCCR is reworking the interactive data dashboard in order to assist CITA and OCLA with implementation of the new legislation regarding child representation. For more details, see [page 22](#).

EARLY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Baby Teams

Three counties have recently implemented infant-toddler court teams for dependency cases.

Pierce County sponsors the Best for Babies Pilot Project. The goal is to front-load services to infants (0-3 years) and their parents, in accordance with current best practices, to preserve the infant-parent bond, promote child well-being, and reduce time to permanence. The advisory team consists of community stakeholders from the fields of medicine, mental health, social work, nutrition, education, law, and others. The team meets twice monthly with parents, foster parents, social workers and CASAs. The team offers input, feedback, and suggestions to enhance the infant-parent relationship and development, and provides information, support, and encouragement to parents and caregivers.

Grays Harbor County sponsors a baby team similar to the program described above. There, a supervisor is assigned to the baby to provide transportation and to ease transitions to and from the parent(s). The baby team meetings are facilitated by the same person, twice monthly.

King County sponsors Supporting Early Connections to help babies and parents in dependency court. Child-Parent therapy is provided by Navos Mental Health Solutions and paid for by Medicaid. The therapist works closely with parents to help them develop the confidence and skills to care for and bond with their children, by attending weekly sessions for approximately one year. They also help the client connect to resources such as housing, food, diapers, and assistance navigating government agencies. To be eligible for the program the child must be between 4 and 36 months old. During the year of therapy, three reports about family goals and progress are provided to the attorney, social worker, and judge for the dependency case.

Establishing Biological Paternity Early Project

Establishing Biological Paternity Early Pilot Project is in the beginning stages of implementation. The purpose of the project is to significantly reduce the time to determine paternity in dependency and termination cases. The four pilot courts provide low-cost, easily accessible and rapid DNA testing to alleged fathers in dependency and termination cases. The pilot is for one year and courts will provide a report including: comparison of average time between the request for a DNA test and the results using cases prior to the pilot project and during the project to show whether there was reduction in time for testing; any cost savings to the court, Children's Administration, and other court partners; and other results such as increased placement with paternal relatives, increase participation by fathers in court hearings, and earlier visitation with fathers.

Family Team Decision Making

A Family Team Decision Making (FTDM) meeting is a facilitated team process that brings together the family, child welfare workers, community members, service providers, caregivers (with parent approval), youth when appropriate, and other people involved in the life of a child. The purpose of an FTDM meeting is to help guide the department in making critical decisions regarding the placement of a child. These placements include initial placement, placement moves, reunification, and placement in a permanent home.

Fathers Matter Outreach Program

The Fathers Matter Outreach Program provides tools and resources to help engage fathers in the lives of their children involved with the public child welfare system. In 2010 Washington State was chosen as one of four pilot sites around the country to participate in a three-year grant from the federal Children's Bureau, Bringing Back the Dads: A Model Program Curriculum for Non-Resident Father Engagement. The pilot project was operated in King County and because of the success, it has expanded into other regions throughout the state. The pilot project revealed the earlier a father is engaged in a dependency case, the more likely he will become involved in the child's life. Social workers now are required to contact both parents as soon as possible in a dependency case. Each region has a father liaison who reaches out to these fathers and provides referrals to resources to increase father engagement, including a 12-week class that is facilitated by peer mentor fathers who have successfully navigated the child welfare system. Social workers and peer mentors are a critical link between fathers and their children. By providing support and resources, fathers can understand the impact they have on the lives of their children and learn how to improve their relationships.

Mediation

Mediation in dependency cases is a topic of increasing interest in Washington State. The more robust mediation programs are in King and Pierce counties, focusing on the time between the shelter care hearing and the fact-finding hearing. According to research conducted by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) the King County program has achieved significant outcomes in the first five years of operation including timelier case processing, increased resolution rates, increased placement with relatives compared to foster care, and higher rates of reunification with parents. Other counties also use various forms of mediation and alternative dispute resolution strategies.

Parents for Parents Program

The Parents for Parents (P4P) program is a peer outreach and education program provided by parents who have successfully navigated the child welfare system to parents who have recently become engaged with the dependency system. The purpose of the program is to engage families earlier in services and reduce resistance to the court process. Beginning in 2005, Court Improvement Program funds have supported the start-up of each of the seven programs, and a contract is in place to add two more counties. Continuous Quality Improvement techniques have been used to expand the program from its initial pilot project in Pierce County to King County which includes a more robust program evaluated by the National Center for Juvenile and Family Court Judges. Catalyst for Kids created a Parents for Parents Program Start-Up Guide, which aids in the development of a program customized for the particular needs of the area being served.

Dependency 101 classes are designed to educate parents about the dependency system that they must navigate in order to have their children returned. In addition to Dependency 101, the Pierce County P4P program sponsors Dependency 201 and 301 classes which are designed to provide tools and resources that help empower parents to be successful throughout their dependency cases. Parents for Parents provides the framework and infrastructure for parent advocacy work and develops the capacity of peer mentor leadership. While this program has been identified as a promising practice, the next step is to work toward becoming an evidence-based program. Recently, because of severe budget cuts, Children's Administration cut funds to programs that were not evidence-based, including Parents for Parents. Proposed legislation is being considered during the 2015 legislative session which would fund existing Parents for Parents programs and also fund an evaluation to determine if the program can be considered research-based.

*“Our Parents for Parents Program has been one of the most impactful programs in our dependency process. Constant feedback is given to our program personnel, the court, and the dependency stakeholders that this mentorship program has made the greatest difference in a parents’ **belief** that they can be successful in the dependency process.”*

- Commissioner Michelle Ressa
Spokane County Superior Court

Parents Representation Program

The Washington State Office of Public Defense (OPD) Parents Representation Program (PRP) provides state-funded attorney representation and case support services to indigent parents, custodians, and legal guardians involved in child dependency and termination of parental rights proceedings. Key elements of the PRP include the implementation of caseload limits and professional attorney standards, access to expert services and independent social workers, OPD oversight, and ongoing training and support. The program operates in 31 of Washington's 39 counties. In a recent evaluation of the program, the PRP's enhanced legal representation was shown to reduce the days to establishing permanency for children in foster care by speeding up reunification with parents, or where reunification was not possible, by speeding up permanency through guardianship or adoption. The program began in 2000 after the Legislature directed OPD to implement a pilot program providing enhanced legal representation in the Pierce and Benton/Franklin juvenile courts.

The pilot program addressed parent attorneys' resource inequities, including a lack of practice standards; little or no investigative or expert resources; inadequate compensation; and high caseloads. In 2005 the PRP began expanding to other Washington counties. The PRP is currently operating in approximately 80% of Washington State. Since its inception; the PRP has been evaluated numerous times showing positive results.

In 2014, the Legislature appropriated funding for the OPD and the Attorney General's Office (AGO) to provide additional legal services on a temporary basis to help resolve a backlog of termination of parental rights cases with the goal of achieving permanency for these children. In an effort to ensure effective processing of these cases and to reduce the backlog, the OPD and the AGO worked together to make voluntary settlement conferences available to parties in the juvenile courts where they would have the greatest impact on the backlog of cases. The OPD and the AGO shared equally in the costs for retired judicial officers' time to preside over these settlement conferences. Further information on the program is available at www.opd.wa.gov.

Shared Planning Meetings

Shared Planning Meetings give parents and Children's the opportunity to share information, plan, and make decisions to support the safety, permanency and well-being of children. These meetings are scheduled at regular intervals during the time Children's is working with a family:

- Within 6 months of filing of dependency
- Within 9 to 11 months of filing of dependency prior to permanency planning hearing
- Every 12 months or until the child's permanent plan is achieved or the case is closed
- Within 30 days of a termination of parental rights (TPR) referral to the assistant attorney general

- Within 30 days after the court orders a TPR
- Within 10 days of confirmation of a dependent youth's pregnancy

A parent or their attorney may request a conference or Shared Planning Meeting at any point in the dependency process. Participants in Shared Planning Meetings may include the child, parents, other family members, friends, caregivers, Tribes, members of the Local Indian Child Welfare Advisory Committee, community members, service providers, court appointed special advocates/guardian ad litem, attorneys, and others identified by the parents.

Solutions Based Casework

Children's Administration provides an evidence-based practice model, Solutions Based Casework, as a family-centered approach to child welfare. Social workers are taught engagement skills, interviewing techniques, family life cycle development, and relapse prevention frameworks. In their work with families, social workers:

- Focus on everyday challenges the family faces, helping to find solutions to the situations the family is not handling well
- Help the family understand what led to maltreatment and utilize a relapse prevention framework to prevent further maltreatment
- Ensure the family feels their experience and their family dynamics are understood
- Quickly build a consensus with the family and service providers on what needs to happen to reduce risk, protect children, and achieve goals
- Build on the reality that all families have had times when they have been successful
- Document and offer encouragement for even the smallest improvements

LOCAL INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE COURTS

Family Dependency Treatment Courts

The Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC) program is designed to break the cycle of addiction and neglect and/or abuse through monitored service delivery and ongoing, expedited permanency planning. The FDTC uses a team approach to working with child abuse and neglect cases. The primary mission of the FDTC is to improve the lives of children and their families by addressing the problems resulting from substance abuse by a parent or caregiver. This mission is carried out by addressing the comprehensive needs of parents and children through an integrated, court-based, and multi-disciplinary team approach which strives to achieve timely decisions, coordinated treatment and ancillary services, judicial oversight, and safe and permanent placements. Judges, attorneys, child welfare services, and treatment personnel unite with the goal of providing safe, nurturing, and permanent homes for children while simultaneously providing parents the necessary support and services to become drug- and alcohol-abstinent. The FDTCs help parents regain control of their lives and promote long-term stabilized recovery to enhance the possibility of family reunification within mandatory timeframes.

Since the first FDTC in Washington was established in 1996, 789 parents have graduated with the hope of reunifying their family. Additionally, at least 29 drug-free babies were born to parents in these courts. Fourteen counties have FDTCs: Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Okanogan, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, Whatcom, and Yakima.

Family and Juvenile Court Improvement Program

The Family and Juvenile Court Improvement Program (FJCIP), RCW 2.56.030, coordinates superior courts' efforts on family and juvenile cases, to strategically implement principles of Unified Family Court (UFC) which were adopted as best practices by the Board for Judicial Administration in 2005. The guiding principles for reform are based on the UFC strategies, as well as state and federal timelines related to processing dependency cases.

- The state provides FJCIP funding and framework to 13 superior courts to implement enhancements to their family and juvenile court operations that are consistent with UFC principles, including longer judicial rotations.
- The FJCIP allows flexible implementation centered on core elements including stable leadership, education, and case management support.
- The statewide plan promotes a system of local improvements.
- The demonstrated successes in FJCIP courts are a result of appointing judicial leaders to create actionable plans to enhance court operations.
- The coordinators work closely with the assigned chief judge to implement local court improvements associated with UFC best practices.

- The system improvements that were not realistic prior to FJCIP funding have evolved to the point they are critical to the culture of family and juvenile court operations in those counties fortunate enough to have FJCIP.

Superior Courts receiving FJCIP funding are:

Asotin/Columbia/Garfield	Clallam/Jefferson	King	Pierce	Snohomish
Chelan	Island	Kitsap	Spokane	Thurston

The FJCIP courts generally perform better than other courts on the timeliness measures reported herein, as seen in [Appendix A](#). Additional funding has been requested in the governor’s budget to add FJCIP courts to an additional four to eight counties.

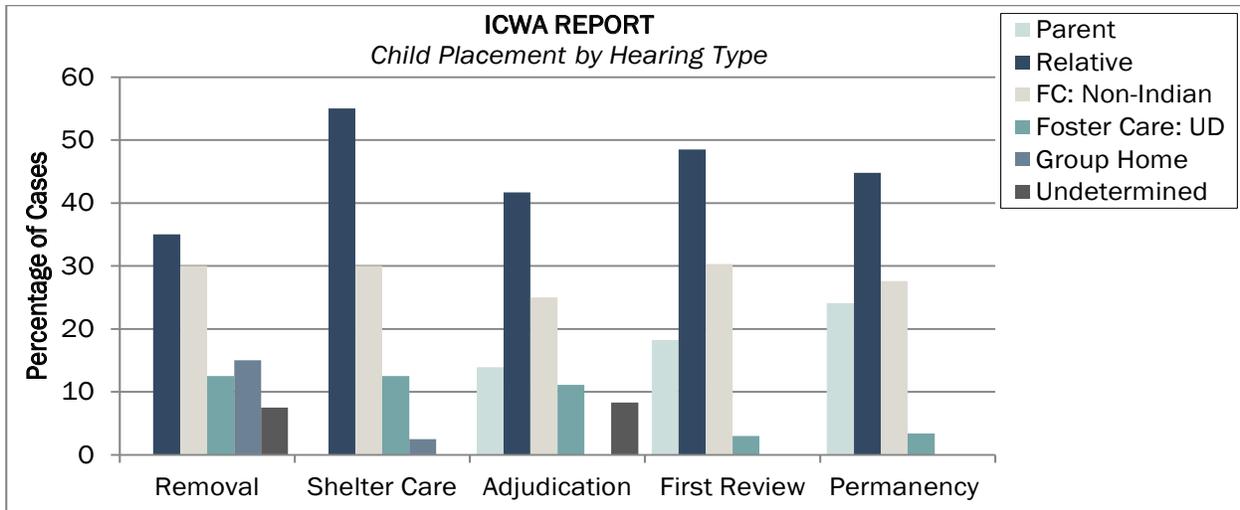
The original FJCIP legislation, as drafted in 2007, contemplated Phase II of the FJCIP program to further implement court process improvements, but courts have been limited in moving toward this phase by lack of resources. Funding for a one family-one team, private-public partnership has been requested in the 2015 legislative session. This funding would provide an opportunity for existing FJCIP courts to further UFC efforts, funded through a partnership of public and private money and ideally would include program oversight, expansion and outcome evaluation of court processes that impact well-being and timeliness factors in dependency, juvenile, and family court operations.

The CIP Steering Committee will be engaged to provide regular oversight and feedback to FJCIP courts to meet two currently unmet demands. First, the FJCIP chief judges, program coordinators, and administrators need information on best practice development for family, dependency, and juvenile court operations. As research and studies advance, court operations should be continually adapting to current developments. Second, the CIP Steering Committee will serve as oversight of deliverables of FJCIP courts and be able to provide feedback on how a program can target local improvements. Additionally, if a FJCIP court program is not meeting expected outcomes then the CIP Steering Committee can recommend remedial actions to promote the UFC principles.

The following describes some of the innovative programs FJCIP counties are implementing:

KING COUNTY- The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) made a site visit to the Youth Service Center for King County to complete a trauma assessment for juvenile court and review ICWA compliance in dependency cases. For the trauma assessment, NCJFCJ toured the courthouse, observed hearings, and met with stakeholders from dependency and offender systems. The recommendations from this NCJFCJ report are to be used to assist King County in creating a trauma-informed court – everything from the layout of the building to a universal method of interacting with clientele, the majority of whom have experienced trauma in their lives.

For the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) report, NCJFCJ used a small sample of cases and focused on demographics, jurisdiction, tribal intervention, hearing specific information (e.g., findings on the record and ICWA applicability) and case-specific information (e.g., child placement and case outcome).



NCJFCJ will be publishing both reports in the near future. King County will look at ways to implement suggested changes during 2015.

King County juvenile dependency stakeholders meet regularly to review programs, implement innovative processes and share cross-system information. One improvement that resulted from these meetings is the Child Welfare-Early Learning Searchable Database, which allows those involved in dependency to easily identify early learning and development programs to meet the needs of young children. One goal for 2015 is to have a designated person in the courthouse to assist with identifying and scheduling participants' services and hearings.

PIERCE COUNTY – Setting an earlier first review helps to ensure services have been referred. First review hearings are set approximately 90 days from the dependency petition filing date. Implementing this procedure has decreased median days to first review hearing from 135 days in 2013 to 106 days in 2014.

Status hearings are set by the judicial officer to address issues and barriers prior to the next review. Status hearings assist in moving the case forward and are typically set to ensure the Department has referred services and providers and parents have followed up with the case plan.

Interim reviews are typically set in cases where the dependency was recently established, and at the first review there hadn't been enough time to refer or engage parents in services, and a "reserved" finding was entered as to progress and compliance. Setting an interim review helps monitor the case and provides a more accurate record of progress and compliance findings.

Other FJCIP projects: see the Early Engagement Strategies section above for discussion of Best for Babies Pilot Project, Fatherhood Engagement Group, Mediation, and Parents for Parents.

Indian Child Welfare Act Projects

The Court Improvement Program (CIP) staff worked with Children's, Casey Family Programs, and University of Washington Alliance to plan a statewide Indian Child Welfare Summit held in October 2014. The legal track of breakout sessions included tribal-state court collaboration, legal processes and practices in tribal court ICWA proceedings, qualified expert witnesses, best interest of the Indian child, child's voice and ICWA, legal issues in permanency planning for Indian children, and representing parents in ICWA proceedings. The conference was well-attended by a variety of child welfare partners.

The Court Improvement Training Academy (CITA) facilitated dependency training with a focus on the ICWA in December 2014 at the Port Madison Indian Reservation. Nine tribal court judges and seven state court judicial officers participated in discussions about the differences between state and tribal dependency courts. Relationships were developed between tribal and state court judges and interest expressed in joining the Tribal-State Court Consortium. Tribal judges are interested in attending future state court trainings. CITA is also partnering with the Suquamish Nation and other entities to develop a one-day training focused on issues of significance to the Native American community related to child welfare.

The Tribal-State Court Consortium met on September 22, 2014, as part of the 56th Washington Judicial Conference. In the future, regional meetings will be held for tribal and state court judicial officers to work more closely to develop relationships and work on issues between their jurisdictions. The first regional meeting was hosted by the Suquamish Tribe in February 2015.

"We know that Native American children are over-represented in our dependency system, both in the percentage of cases and the length of time the cases stay open. What we don't know is how the system can address this issue. The timeliness report can give the courts details about Native American children's cases that have not been available to us before. We can then start looking at the places where we have control and then adjust or make changes to ensure we are not exacerbating the issue. As a firm believer in the creation of an ICW court caseload and dedicated team comprised of a specified judicial officer and specially assigned AAG, parents' attorneys and social workers, I believe the report can assist by comparing courts that are using these specialized teams to those without the teams, to determine if the teams are improving outcomes for our Native children."

- Commissioner Michelle Ressa
Spokane County Superior Court

COLLABORATION WITH OTHER CHILD WELFARE PARTNERS

IV-E Waiver and Family Assessment Response

The federal Department of Health and Human Services IV-E waiver allows Washington State to receive reimbursement for serving children through innovative approaches designed to safely prevent removal from their homes. Washington State's primary approach is the Family Assessment Response (FAR), an alternative response pathway designed to respond to lower-risk allegations of child abuse and neglect, also known as differential response. The FAR pathway works with families to identify strengths and needs. Because there is no identified "perpetrator" or formal finding of abuse, and families can choose to participate in the FAR pathway, the intervention is less adversarial than the investigative pathway. Both the FAR and investigative pathways focus on child safety. Children's Administration began implementing FAR in January 2014 and it will be phased in gradually through June 30, 2016. Children's has been tracking CPS intake trends since January 2014. Between January 1 and August 31, 2014, FAR social workers responded to 1,263 intakes. FAR workers filed dependencies due to child safety threats in the home in fewer than 2 percent of cases. Five percent of FAR intakes were reassigned to investigations because of safety concerns or because the family chose an investigation instead of FAR. More information can be found at <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ca/advancing-child-welfare/family-assessment-response-far>.

Child and Family Services Review

The CIP Director was invited by Children's to attend several informational meetings about the third round of Child and Family Services Review (CFSR), including the Children's Bureau Briefing for States. CIP will be an active partner as Children's continues to move forward with program improvement processes to improve outcomes for children and families in preparation for the CFSR and under the Child and Family Services Plan and Annual Progress and Services Report. The CIP team will actively participate in the review and analysis of data and development of strategies related to court activities that impact child safety, permanency and well-being, as well as improvements in the case review systemic factor. The CIP Steering Committee will be informed throughout the process.

CIP will continue to work with Children's on communication and education, focusing work in jurisdictions where areas for improvement have been identified, and helping to facilitate Children's and court partner engagement. Children's will develop an oversight committee to coordinate the work of groups that will focus on specific areas. The CIP Director will be an ongoing participant in the oversight group. The CIP Steering Committee will be informed of the Child and Family Services Plan progress and incorporate identified goals and activities into the CIP strategic plan as part of the CQI process.

Children’s Representation Program

Legislation passed in the 2014 session requires the appointment of an attorney to represent a child in a dependency proceeding six months after the granting of a TPR petition when there is no remaining parent with parental rights. The Legislature appropriated money for the payment of legal services as long as counsel meet certain standards. The court may appoint attorneys for children at any time in a dependency action on its own initiative or upon the request of a parent, child, guardian ad litem, caregiver, or Children’s. The Office of Civil Legal Aid (OCLA) is responsible for implementation and administration of the program, including verifying attorneys are providing representation in accordance with the standards of practice and training recommended in the *Meaningful Legal Representation for Children and Youth in Washington’s Child Welfare System*, written by the statewide Children’s Representation Workgroup of the Washington Supreme Court Commission on Children in Foster Care. Since the implementation of this law in July 2014, OCLA has established a Children’s Representation Advisory Group of judges, assistant attorneys general, juvenile court administrators, Office of Public Defense, and children’s advocates. OCLA has identified children who require attorneys under the new law, contracted with counties for reimbursement, identified 150 attorneys statewide to take the cases, contracted with CITA to provide training, developed a case activity reporting and oversight system, and began conducting oversight of Children’s Representation Program attorneys.

The Commission on Children in Foster Care

Co-chaired by a current or retired Supreme Court Justice and the Assistant Secretary of Children’s, the Commission on Children in Foster Care’s mission is to “[p]rovide all children in foster care with safe, permanent families in which their physical, emotional, intellectual, and social needs are met.” Stakeholders, including representatives from the courts, tribes, Legislature, the Office of Public Defense, the Office of Civil and Legal Aid, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), the Attorney General’s Office, foster parents, foster youth alumni, and Washington State CASA work to promote communication, collaboration, and cooperation. In 2012, the Commission on Children in Foster Care developed a compendium of best practices juvenile courts can utilize to improve case processing practices. The Commission promotes Adoption Day and Reunification Day celebrations throughout the state. The Commission supports the annual Foster Youth and Alumni Leadership Summit, where foster youth and alumni are given a voice and an opportunity to exchange concerns, challenges, and suggestions for systems improvements. Policymakers, advocates, and community members work alongside youth to address the proposed reforms. More information regarding the Commission can be found at www.courts.wa.gov under Programs and Organizations – Commissions.

Education Workgroup

CIP is working with partners at OSPI and Children’s Administration to improve the educational experience of youth in foster care. The education chapter of the Washington State Juvenile Nonoffender Benchbook was updated in 2014. The revised chapter gives guidance to juvenile and family court judges for school placement decisions. In addition,

to further assist judges, and to ensure they are considering all factors when ruling on change in placement, the Dependent Child's Education Judicial Checklist was updated. The first section of the checklist is devoted to determine what efforts have been made to place the student in school, based on the best interest of the child. The checklist also includes questions about the child's progress and post-secondary preparation.

Understanding that students do better with less disruption of their education, including a reduction in the time out of school, enrollment outcomes for youth in foster care were examined. Of the youth in foster care with a placement or placement move from 2012-2013, 64 percent did not change schools. Data shows that efforts to expedite transfer of records for children and youth in care can reduce delays in enrollment. According to data, currently it takes fewer days to enroll a student compared to two years ago. For more information on efforts to improve educational outcomes for youth in foster care, visit this OSPI website: <http://www.k12.wa.us/FosterCare/default.aspx>.

Data-share agreements have significantly improved the delivery of school records due to online availability. A need has been recognized for developing an effective and efficient shared data system among Children's, the courts, and OSPI. A data-sharing agreement will soon be implemented that allows for matching of education data to court data. This will allow for a broader range of outcome analyses. It is anticipated that early childhood education data will be included in the soon-to-be finalized data sharing agreement with education. Although there may be limitations with this data based upon the years that are included in the data, this is an initial step toward the inclusion of early childhood development in court outcome analysis.

WSCCR is a member of a research group that meets on a monthly basis at the OSPI. A committee called "Graduation A Team Effort" (GATE) is working on improved collaborative data sharing, with the intent of improved outcome analyses, as well as real-time data sharing across education/health/court systems for youth who are currently, or are at risk of becoming, court-involved. The GATE committee is currently exploring a possible pilot project for local school districts to develop and establish a data-informed model that targets the social, emotional, behavioral, and academic needs of foster care students with multi-tiered interventions.

Extended Foster Care

In 2011 legislation was enacted establishing the Extended Foster Care program in Washington for youths ages 19-21 who were participating in or completing a secondary education program. Each year the Legislature has expanded eligibility to include youths who are enrolled or have applied for postsecondary academic or vocational programs, participate in programs designed to promote employment or to remove barriers to employment, and engage in employment for 80 hours or more per month. In 2015 legislation has been proposed to expand eligibility to include youth with a documented medical condition.

Foster Youth and Alumni Leadership Summit

CIP provides ongoing funding and support to the Mockingbird Society to sponsor the annual Foster Youth and Alumni Leadership Summit. Policymakers, advocates, and community members work alongside youth throughout the year to address the proposed reforms. The proposals are presented by the youth at the summit to the Washington State Supreme Court Commission on Children in Foster Care, legislators, and other stakeholders. These proposals initiate a year-round effort to bring positive changes that will benefit those currently in foster care as well as those who have yet to enter the system.

At the 2014 summit, youth from across the state proposed the following reforms:

- Expand extended foster care
- Address overmedication
- Implement more specialized pre-licensure training for foster parents
- Involve foster youth in foster parent training
- Change how foster youth are placed into group homes
- Help undocumented youth in care to receive legal status

Immigration/Unaccompanied Minors/Special Immigrant Juvenile Status

The Attorney General's Office hosted a meeting regarding the increasing number of unaccompanied minors crossing the borders. Two non-profit organizations are training pro bono attorneys to represent unaccompanied minors and file petitions in state courts for non-parental custody, adoption, and dependency. A representative from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will be presenting on this topic at the 2015 Spring Conference of the Washington State Superior Court Judges' Association. Immigration issues for foster youth is also a topic that is being addressed by the Foster Youth and Alumni workgroup.

"As a justice system, our goal is ensuring stability and better outcomes for children. We do that in part by decreasing the amount of time children spend in foster care. This annual report is a valuable resource to help my office, the local courts, and our partners gauge the timeliness of key hearings and proceedings in child dependency cases across our state. The data gives us important insights into how we can further improve the system to achieve the best outcomes for our state's children."

- Bob Ferguson
Washington State Attorney General

MULTI-SYSTEM YOUTH

The Court Improvement Program helps to fund the Multi-System Research Project through the Washington State Center for Court Research (WSCCR). The goal of the Multi-System Youth Project is to use statewide data to identify prevalence and characteristics of youth involved in child welfare and juvenile justice and improve our understanding of the trajectories and outcomes of this high-risk population of youth in Washington. This research aims to contribute to the awareness of multi-system involvement and inform stakeholders who work directly with youth and families, as well as stakeholders who work in the field of court operations, programming, and public policy.

Elements of this project include:

- Working with partner organizations to increase policy momentum and identify how research and data translate into action.
- Presenting at conferences and committee meetings to disseminate research findings. 2014 presentations included the Commission on Children in Foster Care, the Washington State Juvenile Court Administrators, the Juvenile Court Probation Managers, Superior Court Judges' Association Family and Juvenile Law Committee, and the 2014 Annual Becca Conference.
- The release of research briefs to circulate the results of analyses. The article "Multi-System Youth In Washington State" was released in 2014. It is anticipated that additional findings will be released in 2015. The report can be accessed electronically by clicking [here](#). A printed version of the report is on the following pages.
- Fostering relationships between agencies in effort to continue the growth in the field of cross-system collaboration and data sharing.

Goals and project expansion:

- Build upon current data capabilities to track youth through multiple systems and identify opportunities for prevention and intervention. It is projected that data from the courts, child welfare, mental health, and educational systems will add valuable points of interest to the Multi-System Youth Project.
- Increase the availability of online tools and educational materials related to multi-system youth in Washington. Interactive data tables and maps will improve data accessibility, informing stakeholders and maintaining awareness for multi-system youth in Washington.
- Pairing the statistical analysis of multi-system youth data with a qualitative approach, helping to align the story that is told through the data with the voices of the youth and families who experience multiple system involvement.
- Build an inventory of prevention, intervention, and treatment programs offered to multi-system youth in various regions and counties in Washington.

Prevalence and Characteristics of Multi-System Youth in Washington State

Washington State Center for Court Research

April, 2014

Catherine Pickard, MSW, MPP

Youth involved with either the child welfare or juvenile justice system are often identified as a high-risk population who are in need of services and intervention programs. Child welfare system involvement can be an indicator for a history of adverse childhood experiences, including the trauma of neglect, or emotional, physical, or sexual abuse. Prior research has documented that youth in foster care have a substantially higher need for behavioral and mental health treatment than the general population.¹ Juvenile justice system involvement has also been associated with increased need for services, including mental health and substance abuse treatment, with females in even greater need than their male counterparts.² Taking into account the obstacles presented for youth with either child welfare or juvenile justice involvement, a population of youth who are in particular need are “multi-system” youth, or those who “cross-over” and are involved with both the child welfare and juvenile justice system. Past research has identified such multi-system youth as at higher risk for negative outcomes, including a higher rate of juvenile offender recidivism, a greater need for treatment than youth in a single system, and reduced educational success.³ While multi-system youth have been identified as at higher-risk, additional research is necessary to enhance our understanding of the particular needs of this population. The Washington State Center for Court Research’s multi-system youth project builds upon the King County-based efforts of Uniting for Youth and the Models for Change report “Doorways to Delinquency”⁴, with the objective of inspiring state-wide action towards system reform. Informing policy makers, courts, and other stakeholders about the prevalence and consequences of multi-system involvement can lead to improved interventions and services for this vulnerable population. This report, the first in a series intended to improve the understanding of multi-system youth in Washington, presents results from a study of demographic characteristics and trajectory of system involvement.

WHO ARE

“MULTI-SYSTEM” YOUTH?

Multiple terms are used to describe youth who have involvement with both the juvenile justice and child welfare system.

MULTI-SYSTEM, CROSSOVER, AND DUAL STATUS⁵ YOUTH

Terms used to describe youth who have involvement in both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. These terms do not take into consideration the trajectory of a youth’s system involvement, i.e. a youth may enter juvenile justice prior to child welfare, or vice-versa. They also do not indicate if a youth is actively involved in either system, but acknowledge a record of involvement in both systems.

KEY FINDINGS

Of all youth referred to juvenile justice in the state of Washington in 2010, 43.9% of these youth had a history of involvement with the child welfare system (Children’s Administration)⁶ (Figure 1, Page 2).

Youth from the 2010 juvenile justice cohort were divided into three groups determined by their **highest** level of involvement with the child welfare system: 1) no history of child welfare system involvement (56.1%) 2) at least one referral and investigation by Child Protective Services and not placed out of the home (31.3%), or 3) legal activity and/or an out-of-home child welfare placement (12.7%).⁷

Females and minority youth with a history of child welfare system contact have a higher likelihood of multi-system involvement (Table 1, Page 3).⁸

Females account for 33.7% of the population of juvenile justice referred youth with no history of child welfare system involvement, yet the representation of females increases to 43.1% of juvenile justice referred youth with a history of legal activity and/or out-of-home child welfare placement.

Among youth who have **both a delinquency and status referral⁹** in 2010, females made up 27.7% of youth with no history of child welfare involvement, in contrast to 44.8% of those with legal activity and/or an out-of-home child welfare placement.

Multi-system youth are referred to the juvenile justice system at an earlier age than youth with no history of child welfare system involvement (Figure 2, Page 2). Multi-system youth with a more extensive child welfare history experience their first juvenile justice referral an average of 1.5 years earlier than youth with no child welfare history (13.2 versus 14.7 years old at time of first referral to juvenile justice).

STUDY DESIGN

To examine the characteristics and prevalence for multi-system youth and establish a baseline understanding for this population, records from Washington Courts' Juvenile Information System and Juvenile Court System were matched to the Department of Social and Health Services/Children's Administration data (FamLink). Individual cases were carefully linked between systems using key person identifiers, such as name, date of birth, and gender. A system to routinely match cases across systems does not currently exist, therefore once an individual was matched between systems, they were assigned a unique linking identification number. The result was a person-level record that enables tracking system contact across time.

The population included in this study are the 31,388 youth who experienced at least one delinquency and/or one status referral (At-Risk Youth, Child in Need of Services, or Truancy) to a juvenile court within the state of Washington in 2010. This number reflects youth who were between the ages of 8-17 at the time of their referral on an offender matter, and includes all youth referred to court in 2010 regardless of the outcome of the case (dismissal, diversion, adjudication, etc.). This study excludes youth who were referred to court in 2010 due to a juvenile infraction, such as speeding or driving without a license, or a minor in possession of tobacco.

Youth were assigned to one of three groups based upon the highest level of child welfare system involvement that occurred prior to the youth's juvenile justice referral in 2010.¹⁰ Group 1 includes youth with no history of child welfare system involvement. Group 2 are those youth who have a history of one or more referrals to Child Protective Services (CPS) accepted for investigation, but did not result in an out-of-home placement.¹¹ Group 3 is considered the highest level of child welfare system involvement and includes youth with any history of a child welfare out-of-home residential placement and/or legal activity that resulted in a dependency case.¹²

Figure 1: Highest Level of Child Welfare System Involvement Prior to 2010 Referral to the Juvenile Justice System

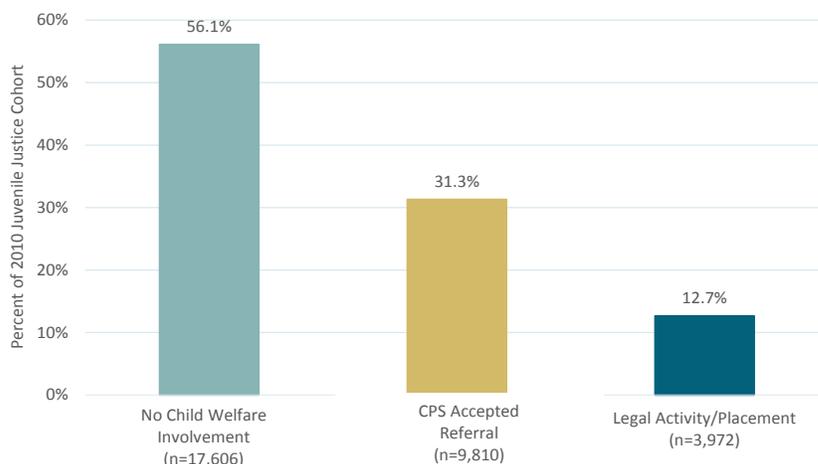


Figure 2: Type of First Juvenile Justice Referral Experienced by the 2010 Juvenile Justice Cohort and Average Age at Time of Referral

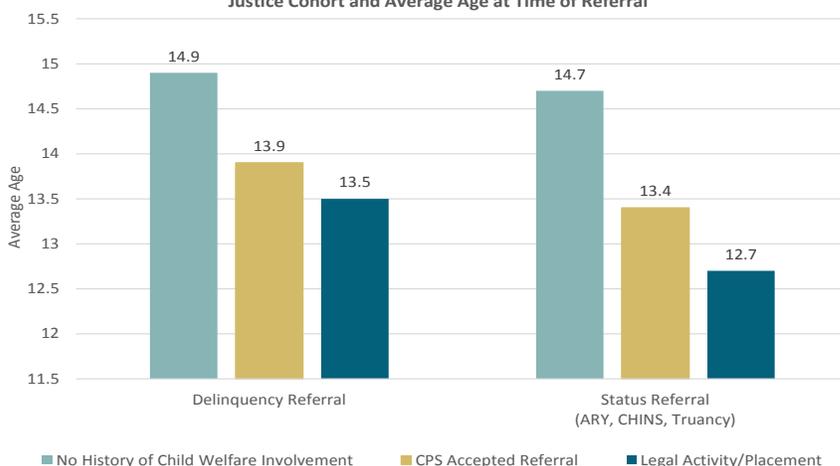
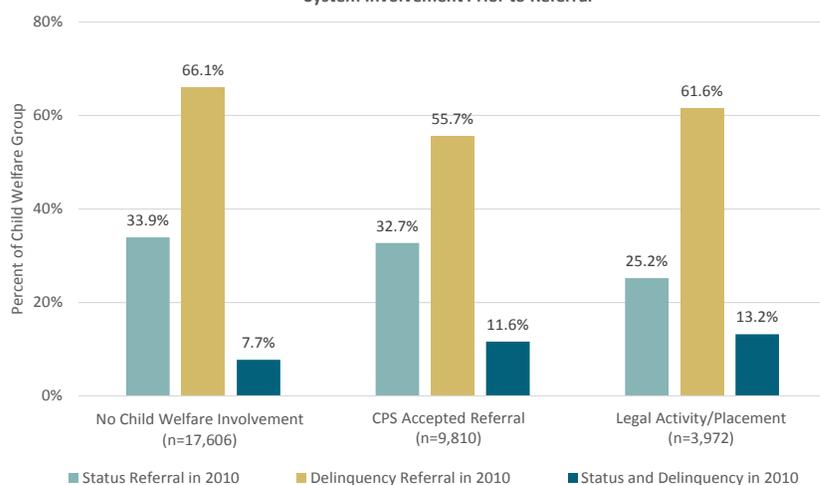


Figure 3: Type of Juvenile Justice Referral in 2010 and Highest Level of Child Welfare System Involvement Prior to Referral



SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Some of the most notable findings of this study pertain to the population of youth who are identified as at highest risk of becoming multi-system involved. Females and minority youth are at a significantly higher risk of transitioning from the child welfare system to juvenile justice. Age at entry into the child welfare system may also indicate an increased risk for juvenile justice system involvement. For youth in this study, those who entered the child welfare system at an earlier age were more likely to enter the juvenile justice system at a younger age than juvenile justice referred youth with no history of child welfare system involvement. It was also found that youth with a history of legal activity and/or out-of-home child welfare placement were more likely to be referred to the juvenile justice system through multiple avenues. Youth with a history of child welfare system involvement were more likely to experience more than one type of referral to juvenile justice in 2010, with at least one delinquency and at least one status referral occurring within the calendar year (Figure 3).

The findings presented in this paper are not intended to correlate negative outcomes with system involvement, rather they should encourage discussion about the unique experiences of multi-system youth and how we can minimize risk for continued system involvement. Cross system coordination and collaboration will be instrumental in successfully improving outcomes for youth and families who are currently, or are at high risk of becoming, multi-system involved.¹⁵

Stakeholders are encouraged to consider the following questions;

- **How do we currently respond to multi-system youth?**
- **How can we use policy, programs, and innovation to increase positive outcomes?**
- **How can you take action to play a role in improving the outcomes for this population of youth and their families?**

Upcoming reports will more closely examine the level of youth involvement with the juvenile justice system, including type of crime and frequency of referral for both delinquency and status offenses. Available data allows for the analysis of sub-populations and a more in-depth examination of outcomes for youth who have been identified as at highest risk of becoming multi-system involved. An area of particular interest involves the characteristics that separate crossover youth with a delinquency referral from those who have experienced a status referral to juvenile court. The Washington State Center for Court Research (WSCCR) will continue to work with data from both the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and Children’s Administration, with an anticipated expansion of information from the State of Washington Education Research and Data Center and the Department of Social and Health Services. It is anticipated that research studies conducted by WSCCR will contribute to the improved understanding of the multi-system youth population, and will be used to inform response and stimulate reform. As change is implemented, WSCCR and the AOC can continue to maintain a multi-system youth dataset and contribute to the evaluation of program implementation and change in youth outcomes.

Table 1: Demographic Characteristics by Highest Level of Child Welfare System Involvement Prior to 2010 Referral to the Juvenile Justice System

Demographic Characteristics	Full 2010 Cohort (n=31,388)	No Child Welfare Involvement (n=17,606)	CPS Accepted Referral (n=9,810)	Legal Activity or Out-of-Home Placement (n=3,972)
Gender				
Female	37.2%	33.7%	41.1%	43.1%
Male	62.7	66.2	58.9	56.9
Race				
African American ¹³	10.3%	8.7%	11.0%	15.7%
Asian	3.9	4.8	2.9	2.1
Native American or Alaska Native ¹⁴	4.0	2.7	4.4	9.0
White	71.1	70.1	74.1	68.4
Unknown	11.8	14.4	9.5	8.0
Ethnicity				
Hispanic	18.0%	20.8%	15.2%	13.2%
Age				
Average Age at First 2010 Juvenile Justice Referral	15.4 Years	15.6 Years	15.2 Years	15.1 Years
Average Age at Very First Juvenile Justice Referral	14.2	14.7	13.7	13.2
Average Age at First Child Welfare System Contact	NA	NA	9.1	7.1

NOTES AND REFERENCES

- 1 Pecora, P.J., Jensen, P.S., Romanelli, L.H., Jackson, L.J., & Ortiz, A. (2009). Mental health services for children placed in foster care: An overview of current challenges. *Child Welfare, 88*(1), 5-26.
- 2 Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (2010). *Youth's Needs and Services: Findings from the survey of youth in residential placement*. Washington D.C.: Sedlak, A.J., & McPherson, K.S.
- 3 Herz, D.C., Ryan, J.P., & Bilchik, S. (2010). Challenges Facing Crossover Youth: An examination of juvenile-justice decision making and recidivism. *Family Court Review, 48*(2), 305-321.
- 4 Halemba, G. & Siegel, G. (2011). *Doorways to Delinquency: Multi-System Involvement of Delinquent Youth in King County*. Pittsburgh: National Center for Juvenile Justice.
- 5 Wiig, J.K. & Tuell, J.A., & Heldman, J.K. (2013). *Guidebook for Juvenile Justice & Child Welfare System Coordination and Integration, 3rd Edition*. Boston: Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps. <http://www.rfknrcjj.org/images/PDFs/Guidebook-for-JJ-and-CW-System-Coordination-and-Integration-Cover.pdf>.
- 6 Children's Administration is the child welfare division of the Department of Social and Health Services of Washington State.
- 7 The date of initial Children's Administration legal activity and/or out-of-home child welfare placement is unavailable for 306 youth from the 2010 juvenile justice referred cohort. Based upon characteristics of these youth, including their age and initial juvenile justice contact date, they have been included in the count of youth with child welfare system involvement prior to the 2010 juvenile justice referral.
- 8 A proportion of racial demographic information is absent from the juvenile justice and child welfare datasets. Race is reported as unknown for 8% of youth with a history of legal activity and/or out-of-home child welfare placement. Race is also unknown for 15.2% of youth who have a referral to Child Protective Services as their highest level of child welfare involvement.
- 9 Juvenile Status Offenses fall under the 1995 "Becca Bill" (RCW 13.32A.010). There are three types of status offense in WA state:
TRUANCY: Upon the accrual of 7 unexcused absences during a month or at the 10th unexcused absence within the school year, the school will file a petition to juvenile court to order the student to attend school. This rule applies to children between the ages of 8 and 18 with some exceptions for youth 16 or older.
AT-RISK YOUTH PETITION: An At-Risk Youth (ARY) Petition is a process by which a parent of an at-risk youth can file a petition requesting assistance from the juvenile court in the form of services and resources.
CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES: A Child in Need of Services (CHINS) petition can be filed by the youth, a parent, or a representative from the Department of Social and Health Services. A CHINS petition can result from various situations, including: youth who are considered beyond parental control, youth in need of necessary services (food, clothing, shelter), or youth who are considered a sexually exploited child.
- 10 Children's Administration data is currently available through the end of calendar year 2013. As data is updated, and future research studies are performed, the percent of youth from the 2010 juvenile justice referred cohort with child welfare involvement could rise.
- 11 When a CPS referral is received by Children's Administration, the allegation is assessed to determine "If the allegation were true, does it meet the legal definition of abuse and/or neglect?" If the answer to this question is "yes", CPS will "accept" the referral and investigate the allegation. The investigation will determine if the allegation is founded or unfounded, and the finding will guide Children's Administration in determining how to proceed with the case.
- 12 Current data does not allow for the identification of active versus closed Children's Administration cases at the time of juvenile justice referral.
- 13 2010 US Census data reported that 3.6% of the Washington State population identified as "Black or African American" and 4.7% of the Washington state population identified as "Two of More Races." U.S. Census Bureau. (2010). Profile of General Population and Housing Characteristics: 2010 Demographic Profile Data. More demographic data can be retrieved online at: <http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/doc/dpsf.pdf>
- 14 Only 1.5% of Washington State residents identified as "American Indian and Alaska Native Alone" in the 2010 US Census Profile of General Population and Housing Characteristics: 2010 Demographic Profile Data.
- 15 Chuang, E., & Wells, R. (2010). The role of interagency collaboration in facilitating receipt of behavioral health services for youth involved with child welfare and juvenile justice. *Child Youth Services Review, 32*(12), 1814-1822.



Administrative Office of the Courts
Washington State Center for Court Research
1206 Quince Street SE
Olympia, WA 98053
www.courts.wa.gov

THE WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN DEPENDS ON ALL OF US



- FAMILY • Birth Parents • Relatives • Foster Parents •
- JUDICIAL BRANCH • Judges and Commissioners •
- Attorney General's Office • Office of Public Defense •
- Office of Civil Legal Aid • CASAs • Administrators •
- PROFESSIONAL • Child Advocacy Groups • Physicians •
- Mental Health Professionals • EXECUTIVE BRANCH •
- DSHS - Children's Administration • Social Workers •
- Supervisors • Indian Policy Advisory Committee •
- SCHOOLS • Teachers • Staff • Administration •
- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction •
- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH • Representatives • Senators •
- TRIBAL NATIONS • Judges • Social Workers •
- FAITH COMMUNITIES •

GOVERNMENT	COMMUNITY
<p>JUDICIAL BRANCH</p> <p>Judges and Commissioners Attorney General's Office Office of Public Defense Office of Civil Legal Aid Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) Administrators</p>	<p>FAMILY</p> <p>Birth Parents Relatives Foster Parents</p>
<p>EXECUTIVE BRANCH</p> <p>DSHS – CHILDREN'S ADMINISTRATION Social Workers Supervisors Indian Policy Advisory Committee</p> <p>SCHOOLS</p> <p>Teachers Staff Administration Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction</p>	<p>PROFESSIONAL</p> <p>Child Advocacy Groups Physicians Mental Health Professionals</p>
<p>LEGISLATIVE BRANCH</p> <p>Representatives Senators</p>	<p>FAITH COMMUNITIES</p>
<p>TRIBAL NATIONS</p> <p>Judges Social Workers</p>	



OBJECTIVES

This report on dependency case processing presents analysis of timeliness of certain events in court cases for children involved in the child welfare system. The timeliness standards for these events are all specified in federal or state law, and the set of standards were initially identified by staff at the AOC working with the Family and Juvenile Law Committee of the Superior Court Judges' Association and Children's Administration (Children's).

The Washington State Center for Court Research (WSCCR), which produces this report, continually checks with the organizations – courts, Children's, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of Public Defense, court-appointed special advocates, and the Legislature – on possible improvements to the report that will make it more useful to recipients. In response to the ongoing feedback from groups of report users, and as part of WSCCR's commitment to Continuous Quality Improvement, WSCCR has added detail to some aspects of the report, such as separate analyses for the timeliness of specific permanency outcomes (adoption, aging out/emancipation, guardianship, and reunification), and demographic analysis of court-involved dependent children for each court.

Working with Children's and with encouragement from the courts and other stakeholders, WSCCR introduced new outcomes measures in 2011. The measures reported for each court show federally computed placement stability and re-entries to foster care after reunification.

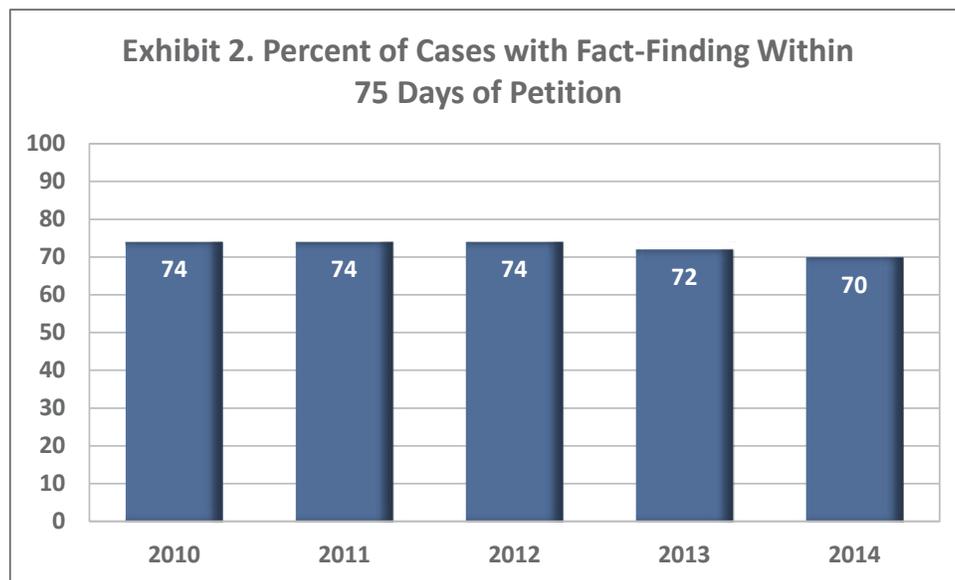
OBJECTIVE 1: FACT-FINDING WITHIN 75 DAYS

Measures:

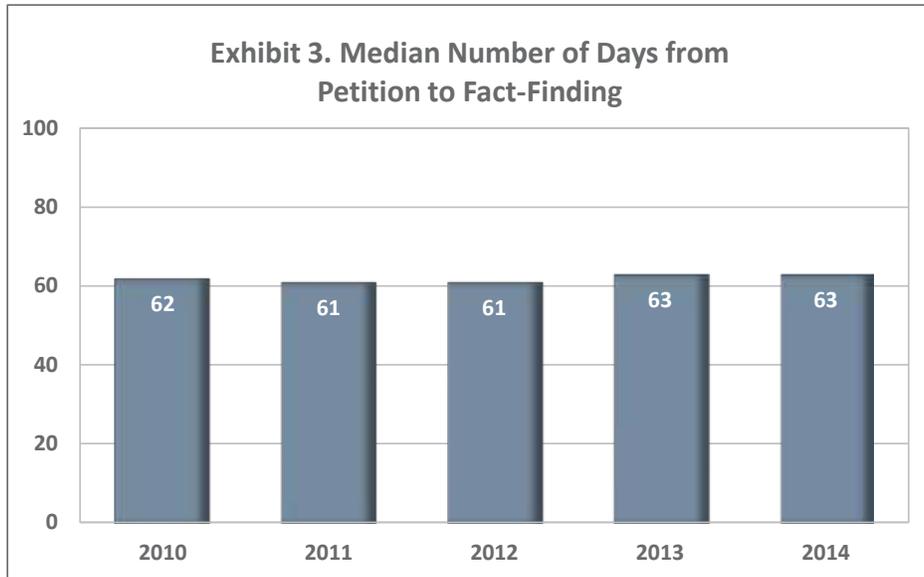
- 1) Percent of cases with fact-finding within 75 days of the petition
- 2) Median number of days to fact-finding

RCW 13.34.070(1): The fact-finding hearing on the petition shall be held no later than seventy-five days after the filing of the petition, unless exceptional reasons for a continuance are found.

Fact-finding is one of the first major judicial events in the dependency process, and significant delays to fact-finding may prolong court involvement and increase the amount of time a child spends in foster care. To evaluate case processing with respect to this performance measure, court data from Superior Court Management and Information System (SCOMIS) was used to calculate the number of days to the first fact-finding hearing. However, in some instances – such as parties stipulating to a finding of dependency and waiving a fact-finding hearing, or a case dismissal prior to the hearing – action is taken on the petition without a formal hearing. In such cases where a fact-finding hearing is not documented in SCOMIS, the length of time from the petition to the first order of dependency or an order of dismissal was used as an imputed time-to-fact-finding interval.



The rate of compliance for 2014 dropped 2% from the previous reporting year to 70%. This is the lowest compliance rate over the previous 5 years. Note that cases are included in the year in which the fact-finding hearing is due, not the year in which the petition is filed.



The median number of days from the date the petition is filed to the fact-finding hearing remains stable from the previous reporting year. 2014 median days to fact finding is 63 days.

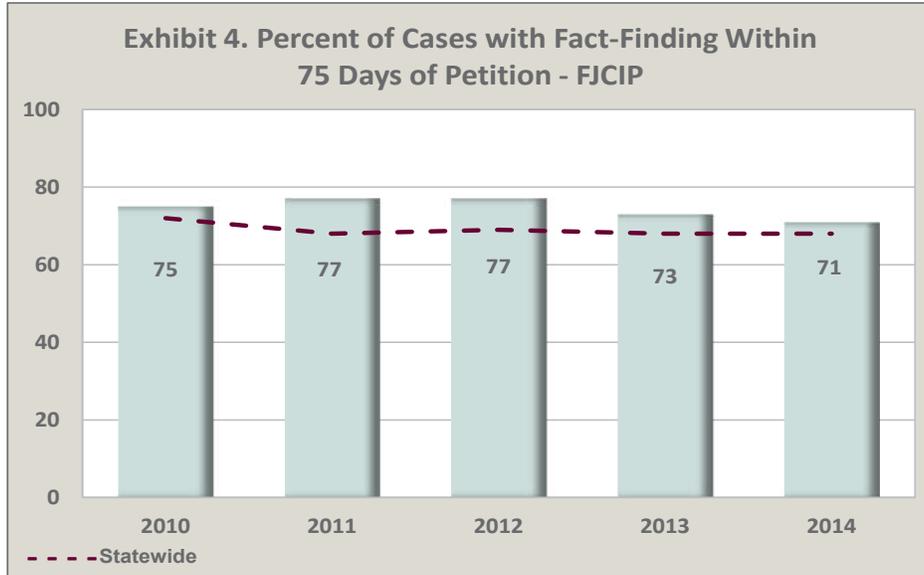


Exhibit 4 illustrates fact-finding compliance for Family and Juvenile Court Improvement (FJCIP) counties compared to the rest of the state.

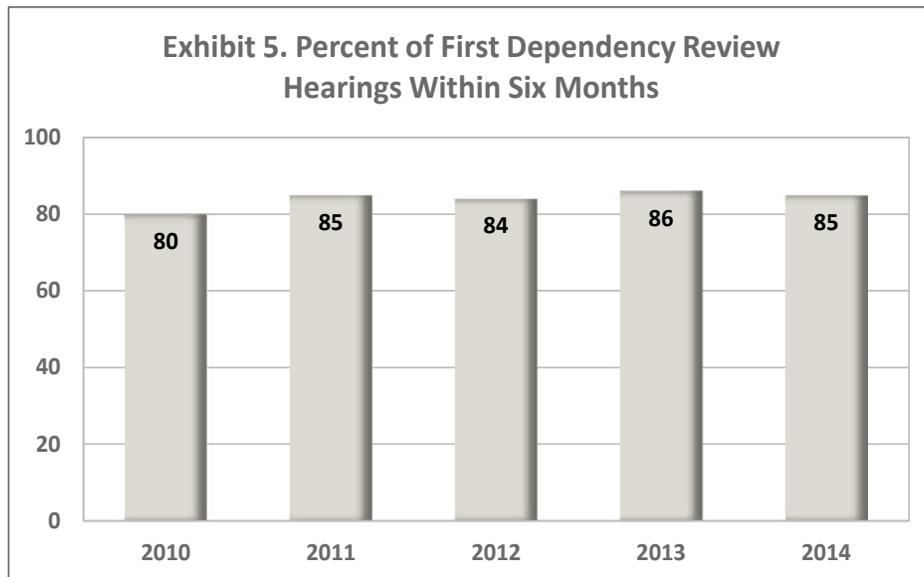
OBJECTIVE 2: REVIEW HEARINGS EVERY SIX MONTHS

Measures:

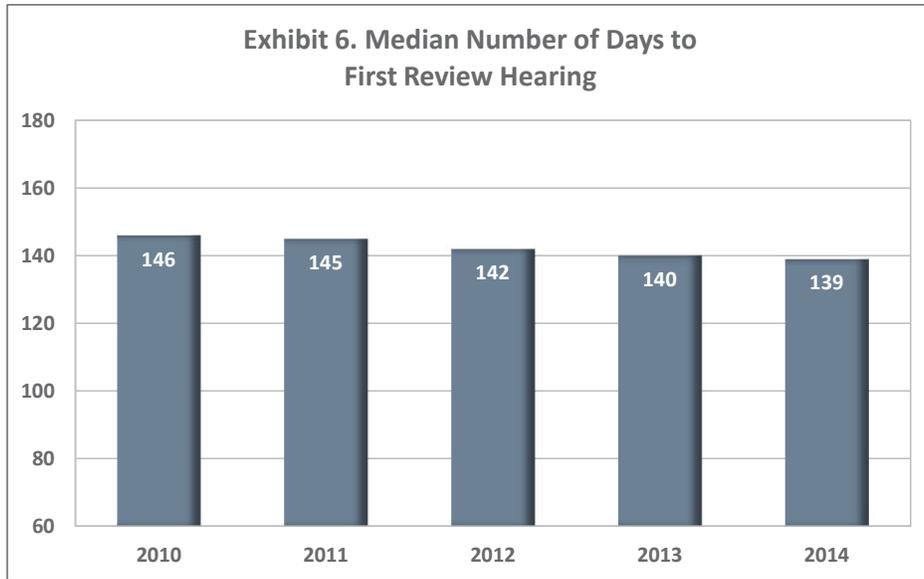
- 1) Percent of first dependency review hearings within six months
- 2) Median number of days to first review hearing

RCW 13.34.138(1): The status of all children found to be dependent shall be reviewed by the court at least every six months from the beginning date of the placement episode or the date dependency is established, whichever is first. The purpose of the hearing shall be to review the progress of the parties and determine whether court supervision should continue.

The purpose of a review hearing is to assess the progress of the parties and determine whether court supervision should continue. Because the statutorily required due date for the first review hearing is difficult to identify for some cases, this report determines the due date for the first review hearing to be six months from the filing date of the dependency petition.



The rate of compliance for 2014 decreased 1% from 2013 to 85%.



The median number of days from the petition to the first review hearing has dropped for the past five years. Median days for 2014 is 139 days.

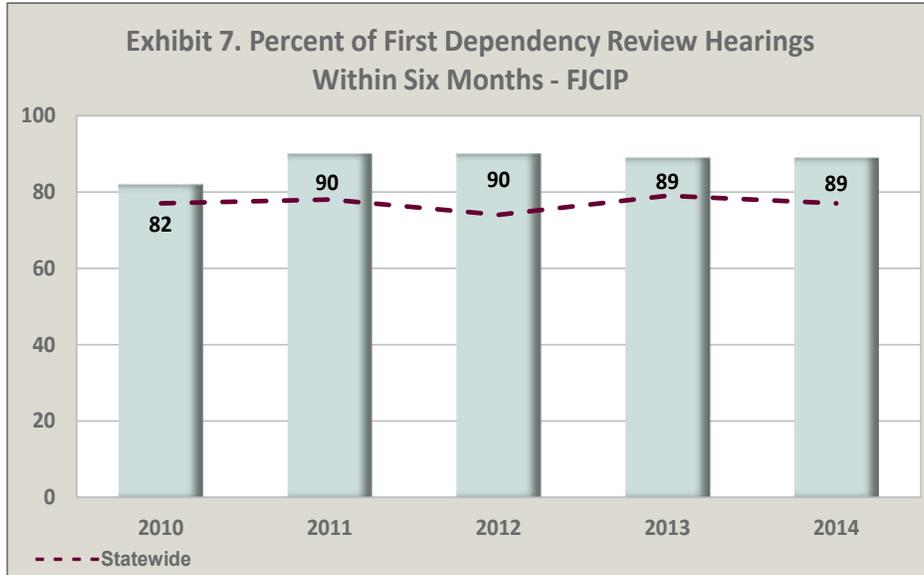


Exhibit 7 illustrates first review hearing compliance for FJCIP counties compared to the rest of the state.

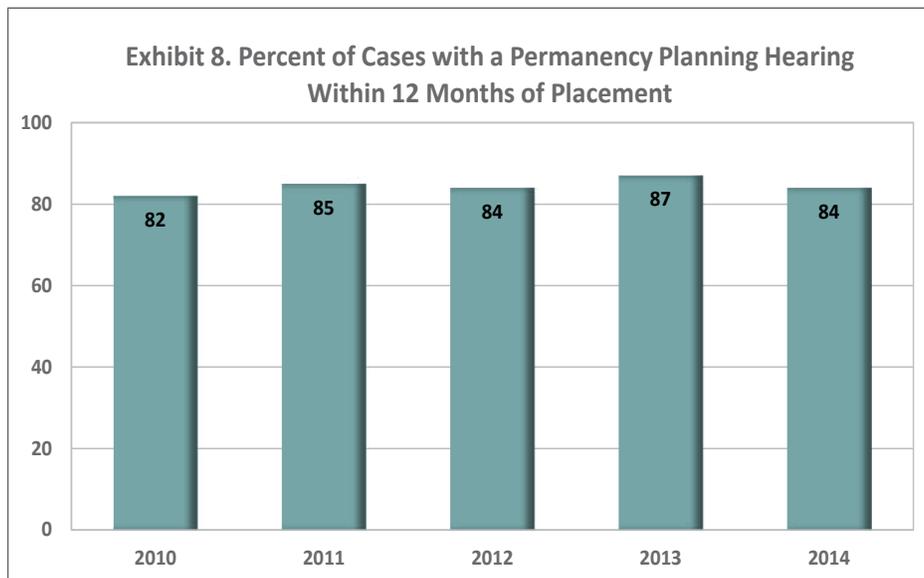
OBJECTIVE 3: PERMANENCY PLANNING HEARING WITHIN 12 MONTHS

Measures:

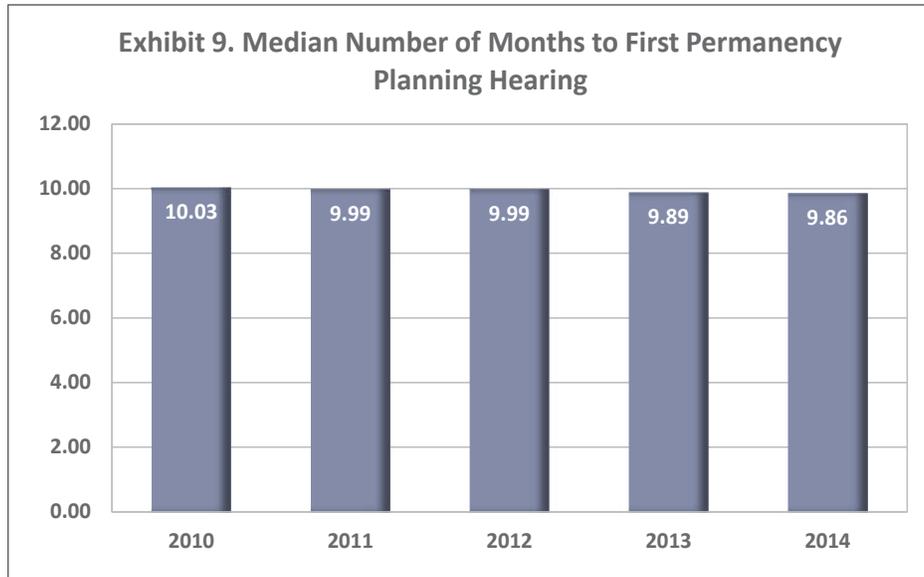
- 1) Percent of cases with first permanency planning hearing within 12 months of placement
- 2) Median duration from placement to first permanency planning hearing
- 3) Percent of all dependency permanency planning hearings within 12 months
- 4) Median number of days for all permanency planning hearings

RCW 13.34.145(1)(a): A permanency planning hearing shall be held in all cases where the child has remained in out-of-home care for at least nine months and an adoption decree, guardianship order, or permanent custody order has not previously been entered. The hearing shall take place no later than twelve months following commencement of the current placement episode.

The purpose of a permanency planning hearing is to inquire into the welfare of the child and progress of the case, and to reach decisions regarding permanent placement. In order to calculate a due date for a permanency planning hearing, FamLink data was used to determine the beginning date of the placement episode and the length of time the child was in that placement. If the requisite nine months had passed, the due date for the permanency planning hearing was set at 12 months from the date the placement began.



The percentage of cases in which the first permanency planning hearing occurred within 12 months of the beginning of the placement episode (meeting the statutory requirement) decreased 3% in 2014 to 84%.



The median number of months to the first permanency planning hearing has improved over the last 4 reporting years to 9.86 months in 2014.

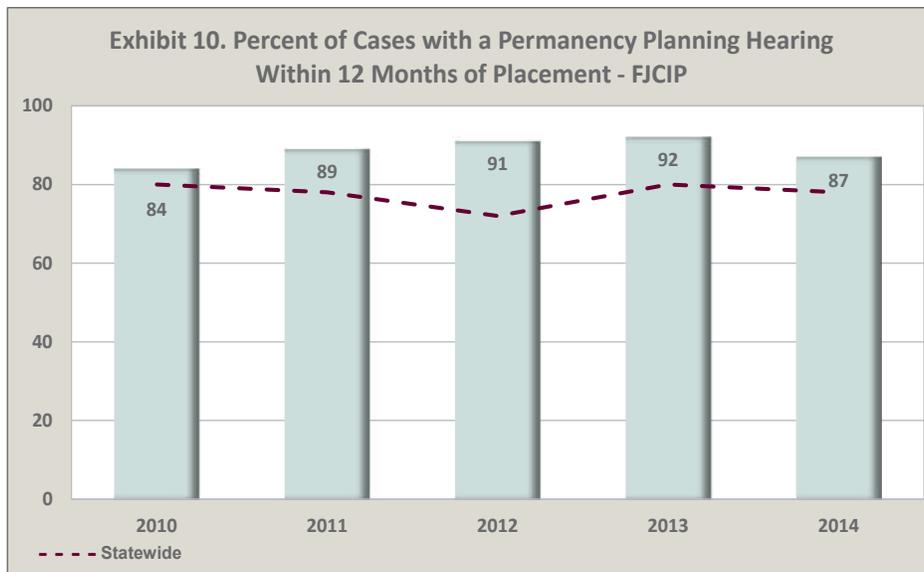
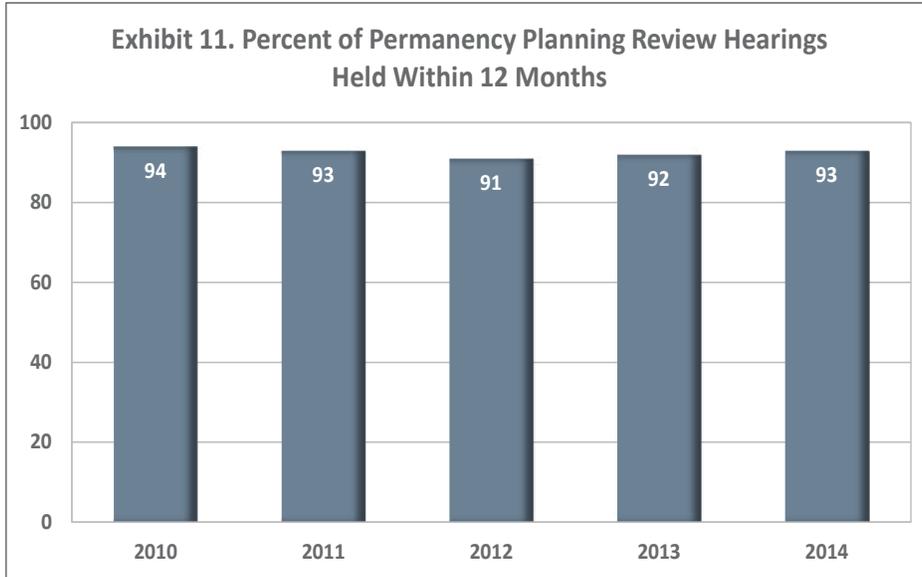
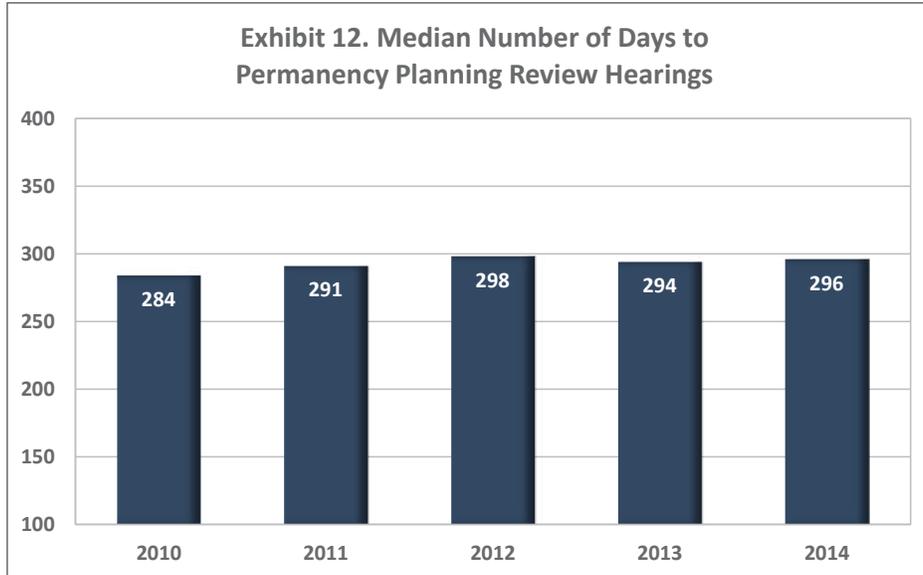


Exhibit 10 illustrates first permanency planning hearing compliance for FJCIP counties compared to the rest of the state.



The percent of all permanency planning hearings held in a timely manner increased to 93% for 2014.



Median number of days to all permanency planning hearings increased in 2014 to 296 days.

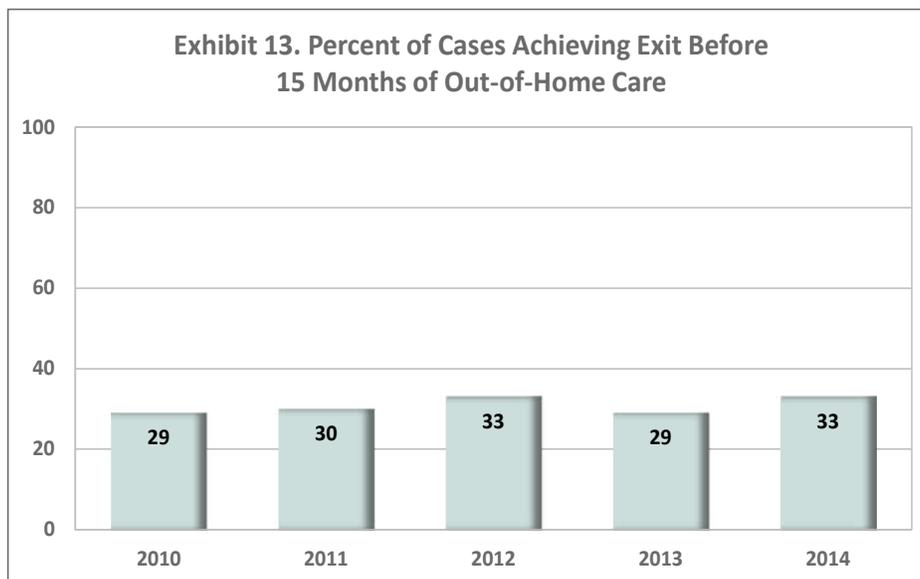
OBJECTIVE 4: PERMANENCY ACHIEVED BEFORE 15 MONTHS OF OUT-OF-HOME CARE

Measures:

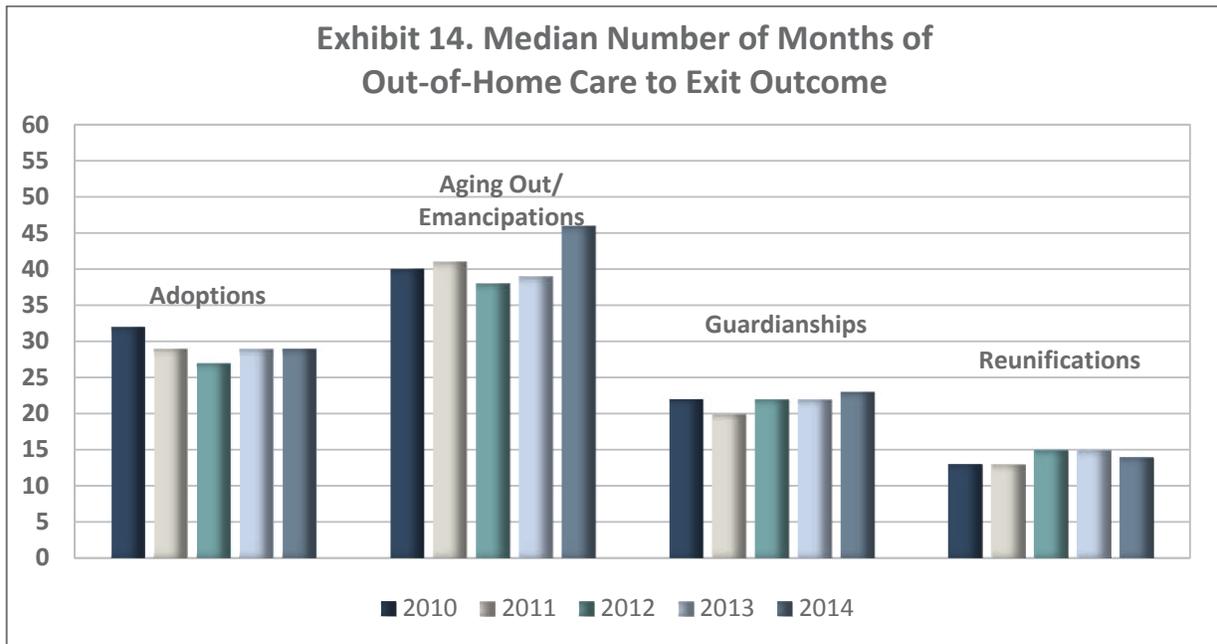
- 1) **Percent of cases achieving permanency within 15 months of out-of-home care**
- 2) **Median number of months spent in out-of-home care prior to final outcome**
- 3) **Percent of cases resulting in reunification before 15 months of out-of-home care**

RCW 13.34.145(1)(c): Permanency planning goals should be achieved at the earliest possible date, preferably before the child has been in out-of-home care for fifteen months.

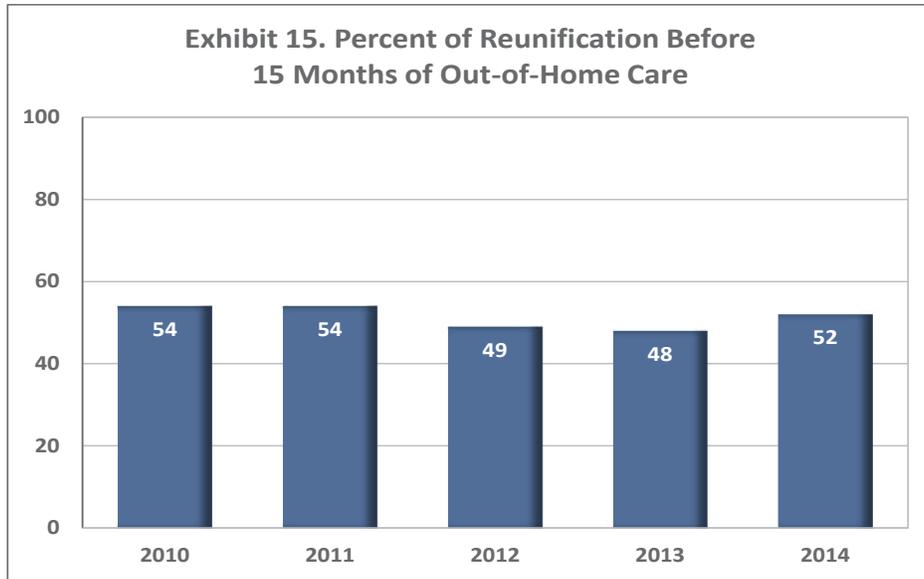
The goals of state and federal child welfare laws are to provide children with safe, nurturing, and permanent living situations as quickly as possible. Although there is no specific statutory time requirement for achieving permanency, the Washington State Legislature has set a goal of achieving permanency before a child has spent 15 months in out-of-home care. To measure time to permanency, FamLink data was used to identify the length of time spent in out-of-home care. Final permanent outcomes, (reunification, adoption, and guardianship) and other outcomes (aging out), were also taken from FamLink. A permanency due date was set as the date the child reached 15 months in out-of-home care. This indicator shows the percentage of children who had an exit from placement by the 15-month due date, as documented in FamLink.



Permanency within 15 months of out-of-home care increased 4% to 33% in 2014.



The length of time spent in out-of-home care differs depending upon the type of outcome. In 2014, the median length of time to permanency dropped to 14 months for reunifications, compared to 46 months for youth who had aged out or were emancipated, and 29 months for youth who were adopted. Over the last five years, the median number of months spent in out-of-home care before establishing a guardianship has increased to 23 months.



The percentage of reunifications that occurred timely within 15 months of out-of-home care increased by 4% to 52% in 2014.

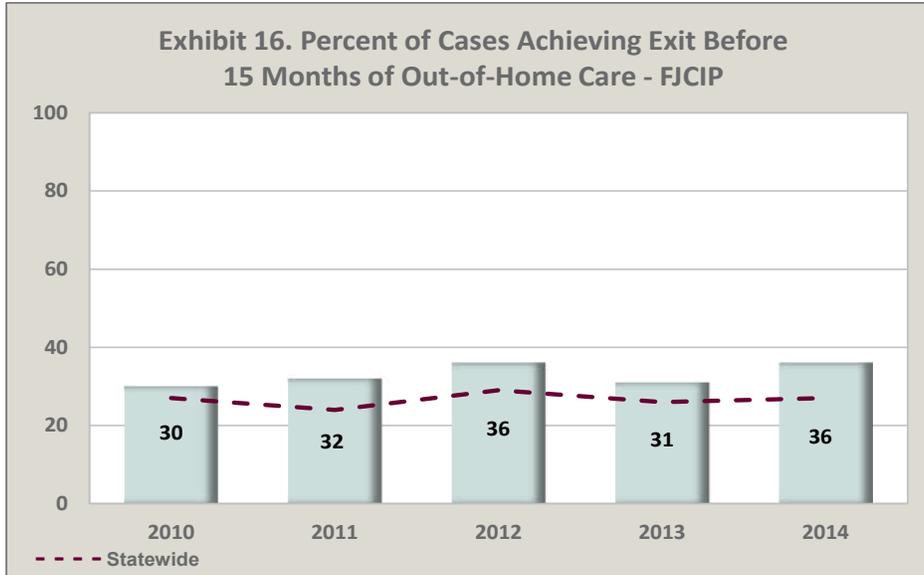


Exhibit 16 illustrates permanency within 15 months of out-of-home care compliance for FJCIP counties compared to the rest of the state.

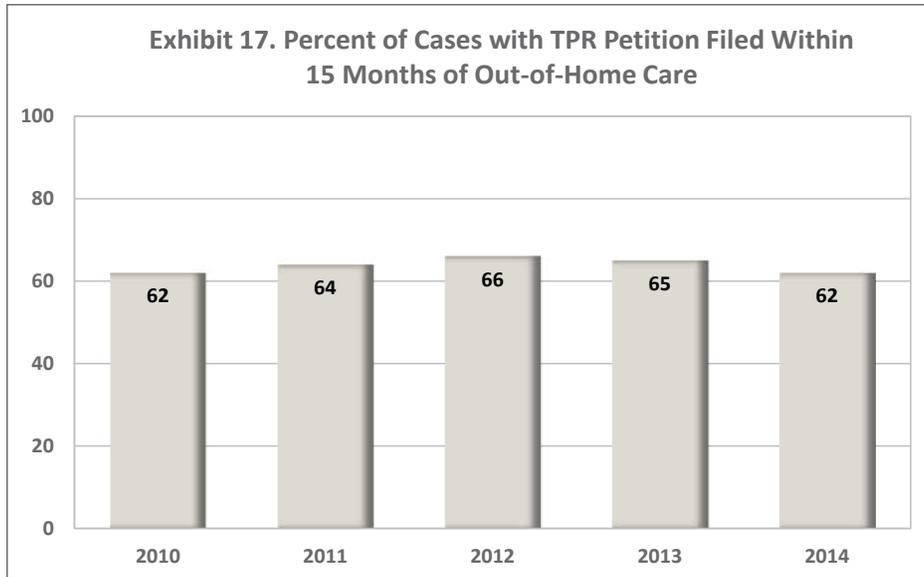
OBJECTIVE 5: TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS PETITION FILED WITHIN 15 MONTHS OF OUT-OF-HOME CARE

Measures:

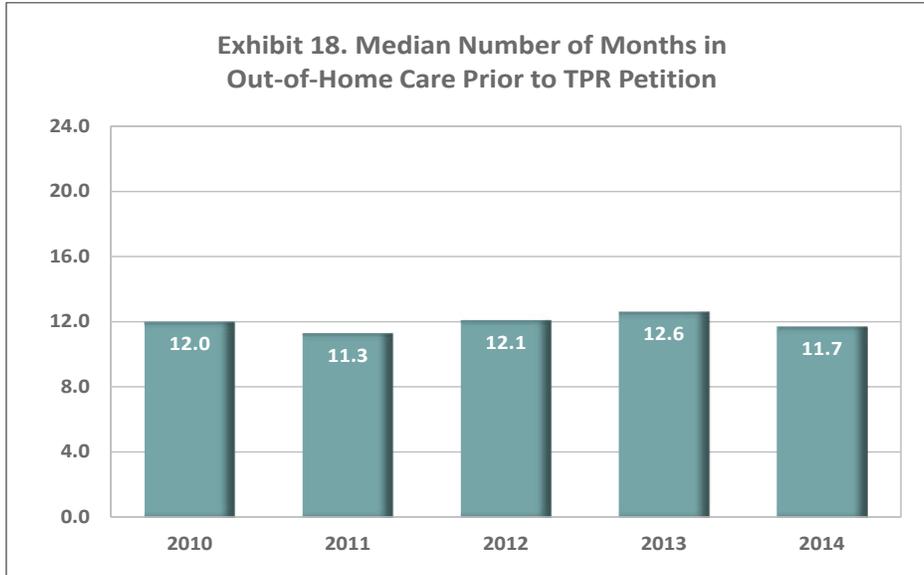
- 1) Percent of cases with Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) petition filed within 15 months of out-of-home care**
- 2) Median number of months of out-of-home care prior to TPR petition filing**
- 3) Median number of months from dependency filing to legally free status**

The Adoptions and Safe Families Act (ASFA; United States Public Law 105-89, section 103) requires states to begin the process of terminating parental rights for certain cases, including those in which children have been in foster care for 15 of the most recent 22 months. Exceptions to this rule are cases where the child is being cared for by a relative, there is a compelling reason why termination would not be in the best interest of the child, or the State has failed to offer the necessary services to the family.

FamLink data was used to calculate time in out-of-home care, as well as the time from the start of the placement to the date of petition to terminate parental rights. Data from AOC was used to determine the actual filing date of the TPR petition, if one had been filed, and whether other compelling reasons existed for not filing a TPR petition. In general, both the quality of data for TPR petitions and the accuracy of reporting have improved in recent years thanks to more widespread use of valid codes when documenting exceptions to the 15-month requirement based on “compelling reasons”.



Of the dependent children who had an associated termination case or who were due for a termination case in 2014, 62% had a termination petition within 15 months of out-of-home care, a drop of 3% from the previous reporting year.



The median number of months spent in out-of-home care prior to the filing of a TPR petition was 11.7 months in 2014.

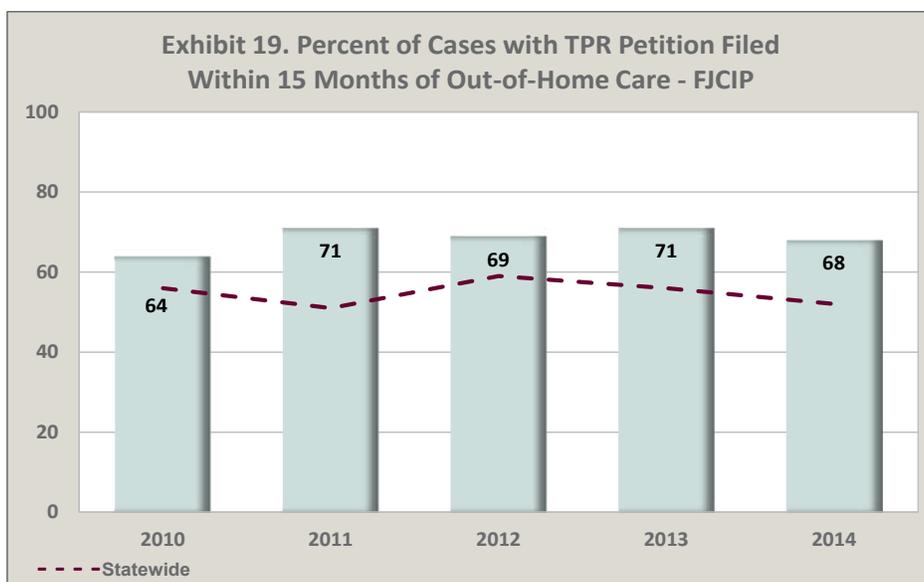


Exhibit 19 illustrates the percent of cases with TPR petition filed within 15 months of out-of-home care for FJCIP counties compared to the rest of the state.

Exhibit 20. Number of Termination Cases Resolved with an Approved Petition by Year

Legally Free Month	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Grand Total
January	112	105	72	107	101	497
February	95	103	104	106	125	533
March	149	107	106	113	114	589
April	121	82	94	117	107	521
May	116	81	129	124	125	575
June	122	120	107	122	112	583
July	101	85	109	108	125	528
August	80	96	84	104	128	492
September	108	87	104	89	141	529
October	127	93	147	120	129	616
November	79	114	122	102	107	524
December	75	81	110	95	101	462
Grand Total	1285	1154	1288	1307	1415	6449

This exhibit shows the number of termination cases with a resolution of an approved petition indicating the child is legally free.

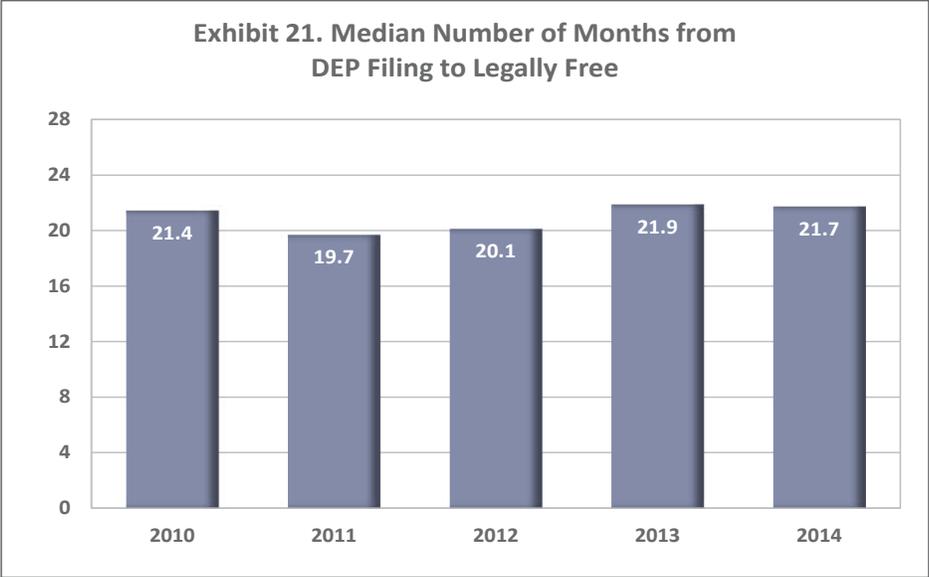


Exhibit 21 shows the median number of months from dependency filing to legally free status – termination cases with a resolution of an approved petition.

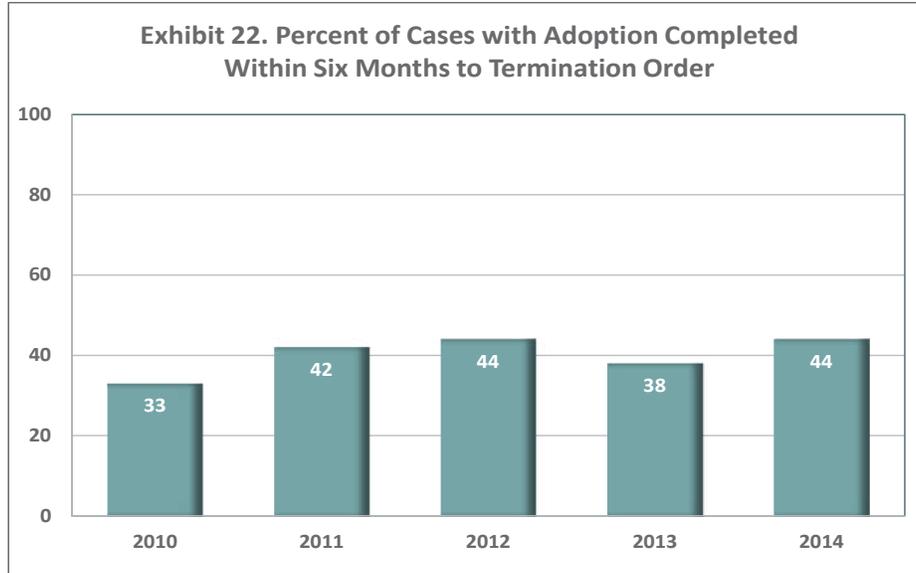
OBJECTIVE 6: ADOPTION COMPLETED WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF TERMINATION ORDER

Measures:

- 1) **Percent of cases with adoption completed within six months of the termination order**
- 2) **Median number of months to adoption completion**

RCW 13.34.145(1)(c): In cases where parental rights have been terminated, the child is legally free for adoption, and adoption has been identified as the primary permanency planning goal, it shall be a goal to complete the adoption within six months following entry of the termination order.

In order to determine the percentage of cases that achieved the goal of adoption within six months of a termination order, a due date for a completed adoption was set at six months from the date the child became legally free. AOC's SCOMIS data was used to identify the date of the termination order, and Children's FamLink data was used to identify the date the adoption was finalized.



Adoptions that achieved the statutory goal of finalization within six months of the termination order by 'year adoption was completed' currently sits at 44% for 2014, an increase of 6% from the previous reporting year.

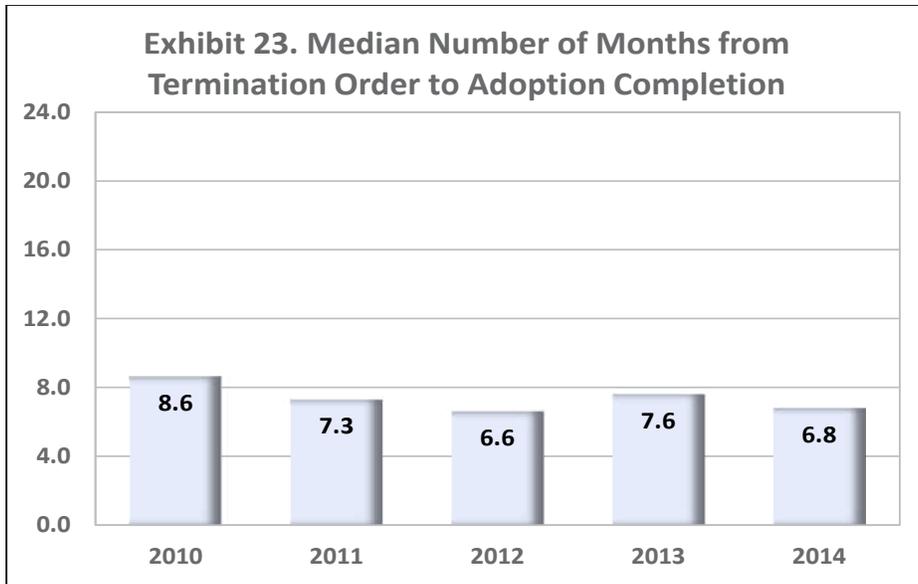


Exhibit 23 shows the median number of months from termination order to adoption completion was 6.8 months in 2014.

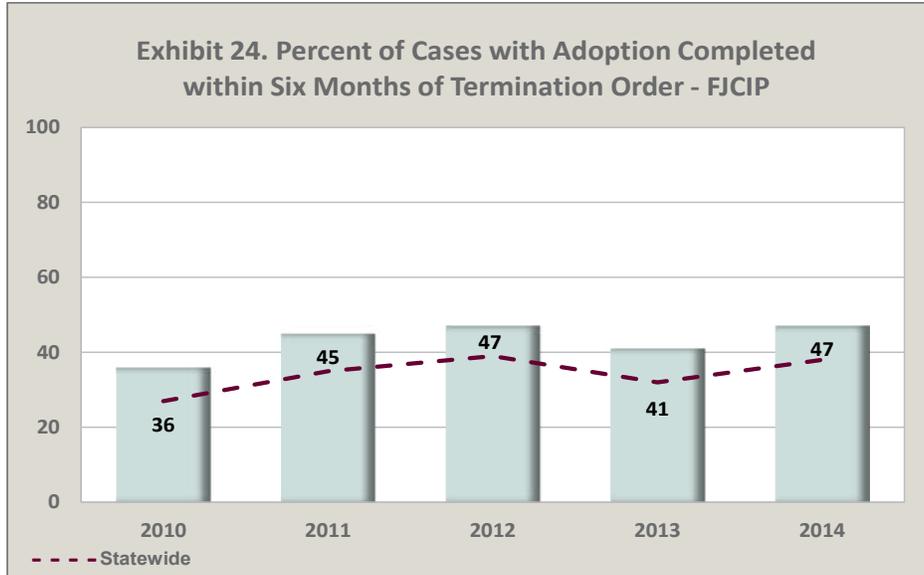


Exhibit 24 illustrates the percent of cases with adoption completed within six months of the termination order for FJCIP counties compared to the rest of the state.

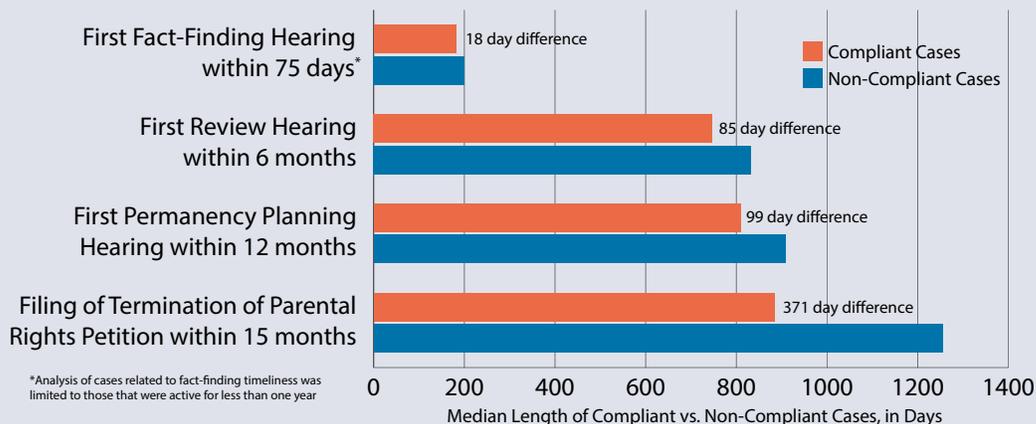
Dependency Court Processes and Outcomes for Children in Out of Home Care

A recent joint study of the Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) Children’s Administration (CA), conducted by DSHS Research and Data Analysis (RDA), examined court process timeliness and its relationship with permanency-related outcomes. The cooperative efforts between these organizations facilitated the analysis of combined data and has yielded new insights about the impact of meeting key process milestones.

Key Findings

- Dependency cases in compliance with statutory guidelines had significantly shorter durations.
- Significant differences exist in the duration of dependency cases across courts.
- Racial and ethnic disparities in dependency length exist in nearly all courts for cases longer than one year.

Figure 1. Cases Compliant with Timeliness Guidelines Show Faster Resolution



This study examined dependency cases opened between 2005 and 2011 and looked at statewide court compliance as well as the performance differences among courts. This study uses case dismissal to indicate a “permanency outcome”. A case dismissal is typically when either reunification, permanent guardianship, aging out, or adoption occurs. The full Technical Report (see Related Resources) also examines placement re-entry and new founded abuse/neglect allegations. While examining the factors relating to the duration of dependencies, this study placed particular attention on investigating the presence and magnitude of disparities across racial and ethnic groups.

Relationship of Compliance to Permanency Outcome

Compliance with dependency court statutory guidelines correlates with shorter periods of dependency for children placed into out of home care. Figure 1 illustrates this connection. The major case milestones are shown on the left side and the length of cases along the bottom. One can see that compliant cases are shorter in length than those that do not meet each respective guideline. For instance, cases in which the termination of parental rights was filed within the statutory guideline of 15 months were shorter by 371 days (for the median case) than non-compliant cases.

While the annual Dependent Children in Washington series (see Related Resources) has shown that court compliance with process guidelines has improved over time, the question of whether and how process relates to permanency outcomes has not previously been systematically examined. This study considered a wide range of case and court characteristics, and while it cannot be claimed that court process compliance itself causes reduced lengths of dependency, the observed differences are consistent with this interpretation.

Variation of Dependency Duration by Court

Results show significant performance disparities between the various state court jurisdictions with regard to how long it takes to gain permanency outcomes for dependency cases. Figure 2 shows the duration of dependency cases, per court/court group, for the three broad categories of case types studied: reunifications less than one year, all types greater than one year, and adoptions.¹

While significant demographic and other differences exist across courts in Washington State, the analyses controlled for these differences so that per-court performance could be compared. The collaboration between the CA, AOC, and RDA enabled cases to be matched between court docket activity and CA case data, which then allowed a broader set of case characteristics to be examined for their relationship to court performance.

¹ To facilitate the analysis of courts with fewer cases, the following groupings were made in Figures 2-5. See the Technical Report for details.

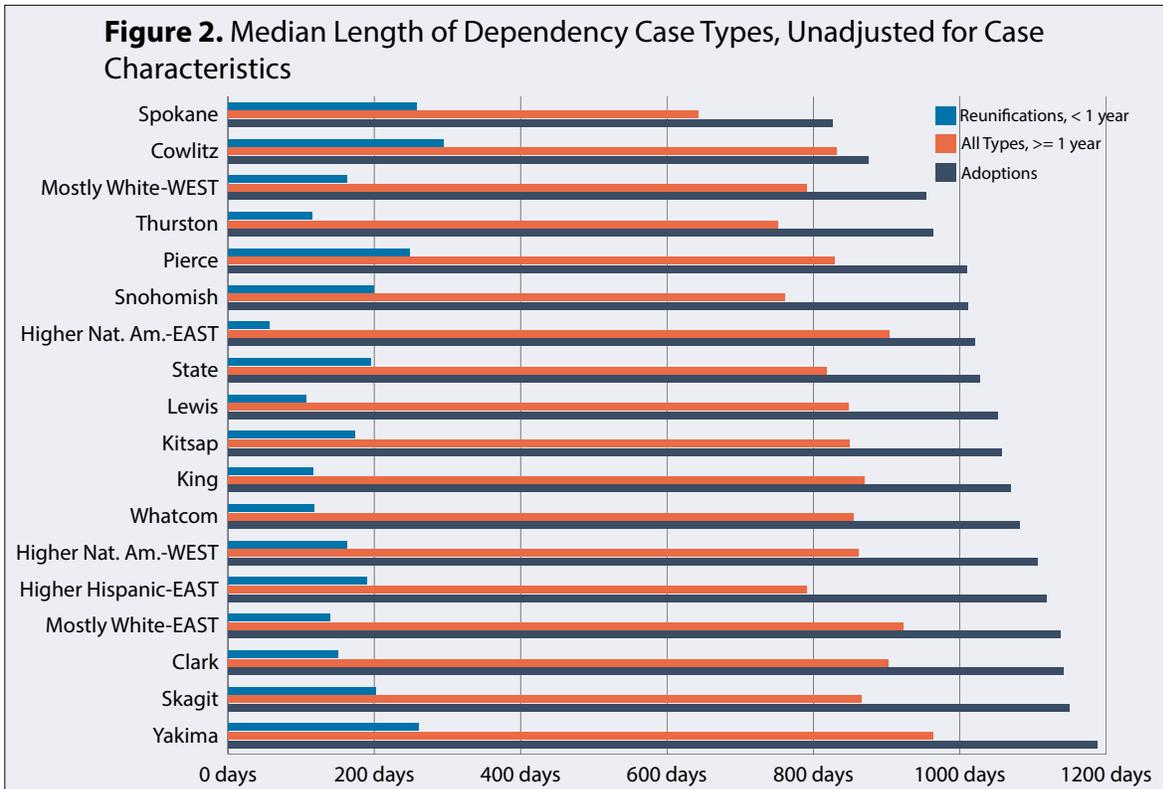
Higher Hispanic-EAST: Adams, Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Franklin, Grant, Walla Walla

Higher Native American-EAST: Ferry, Okanogan

Higher Native American-WEST: Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Pacific

Mostly White-EAST: Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, Kittitas, Klickitat, Pend Oreille, Stevens, Whitman

Mostly White-WEST: Island, San Juan, Skamania, Wahkiakum



These factors include risk and assessment data for child and parental mental illness, substance abuse, criminality, economic stress, homelessness, and domestic violence, as well as basic demographic information.²

Figures 3 through 5 illustrate the variations in court performance for the three categories of case types. Bars to the left of zero indicate the likelihood of a dismissal slower than the state average; bars to the right, faster.

For comparison purposes, the data these three figures represent were adjusted for the differences in case characteristics that exist in each court.³ All three figures show only small differences in performance between results that control for race and ethnicity and those that do not for each court, which indicates the racial composition of cases has only a marginal role in the relative performance of the courts studied.

Case duration across courts varied widely even after taking into account available statistical controls. Since this variation was greater than the difference in studied case characteristics, one must then consider internal court functioning as a likely reason for these performance differences. It is also possible that there are other differences in case characteristics beyond the child and family characteristics considered in this study.

² For more details on the specific multivariate statistical models that were used to control for varying case characteristics, as well as for all the results shown in this document, please reference the complete Technical Report.

³ The x-axis in Figures 3-6 are the rescaled exp(Beta) values from multivariate Cox regression models: see the Technical Report for details.

Figure 3. Court Variations in Length of Dependencies, Reunifications Less Than One Year

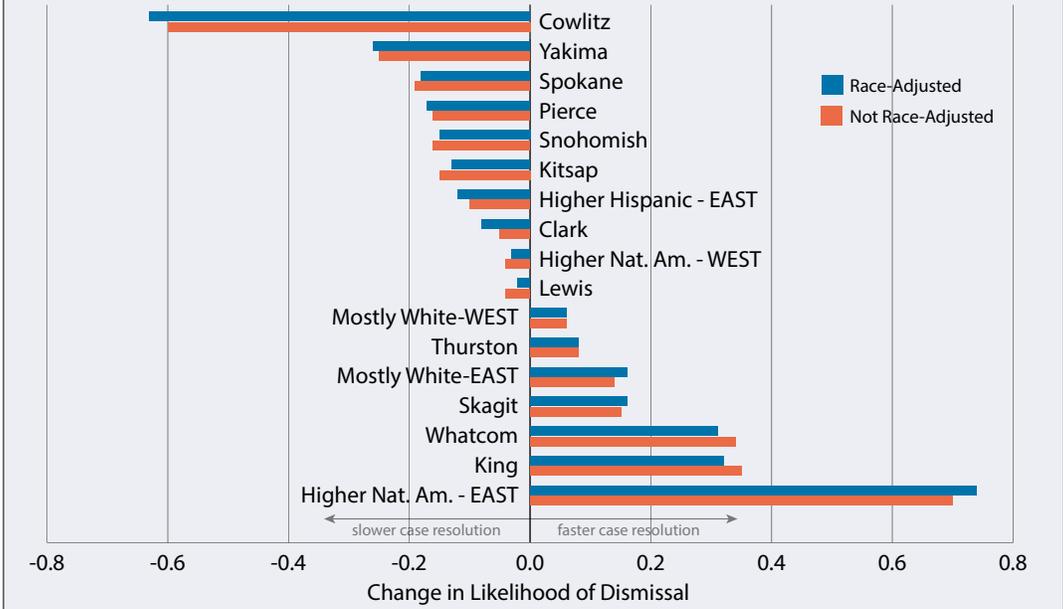
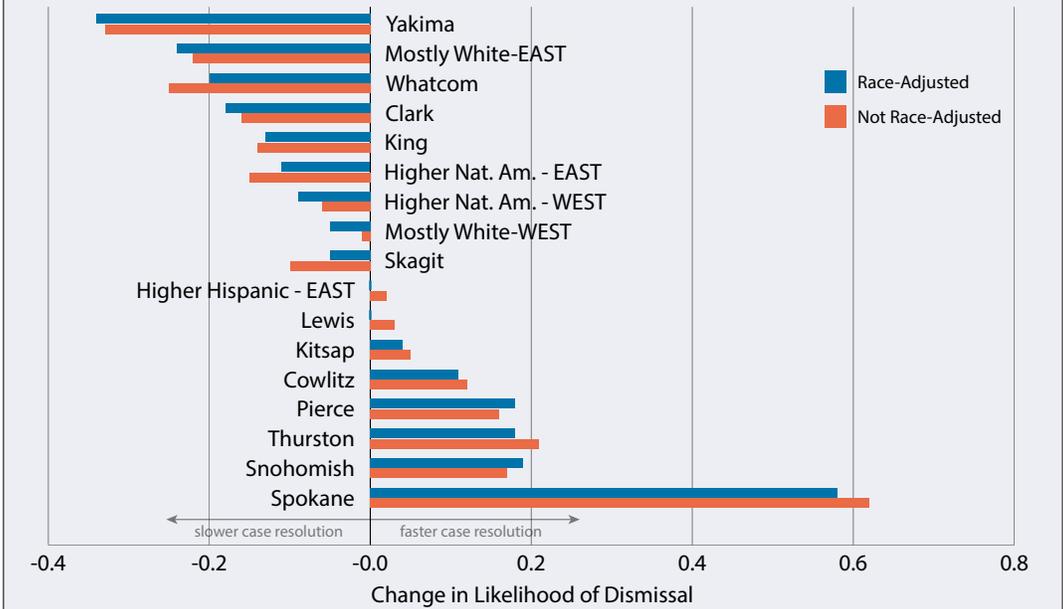
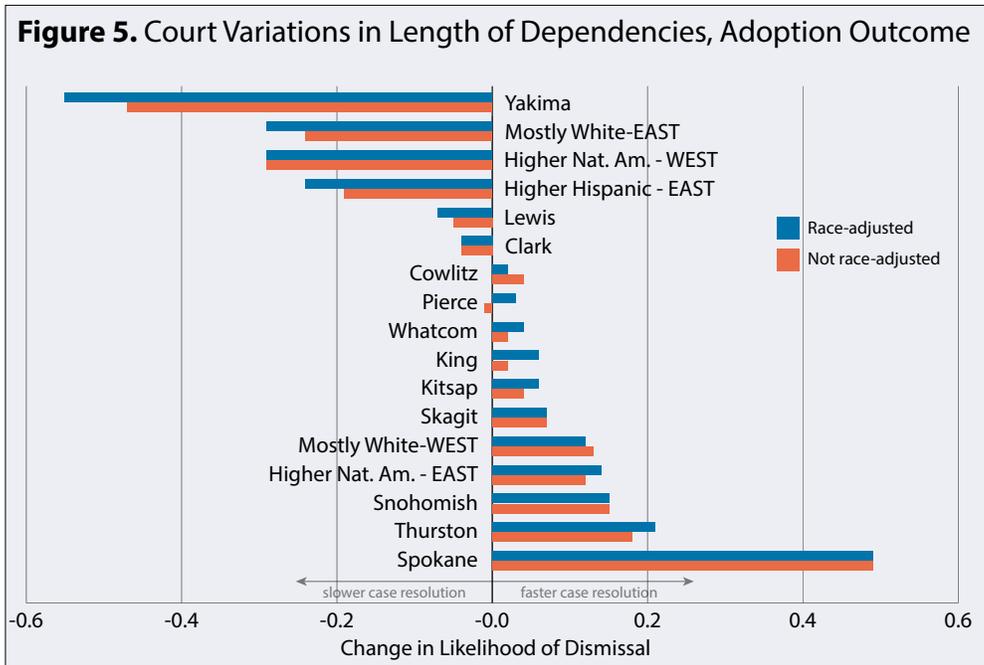


Figure 4. Court Variations in Length of Dependencies, All Case Types Greater Than One Year

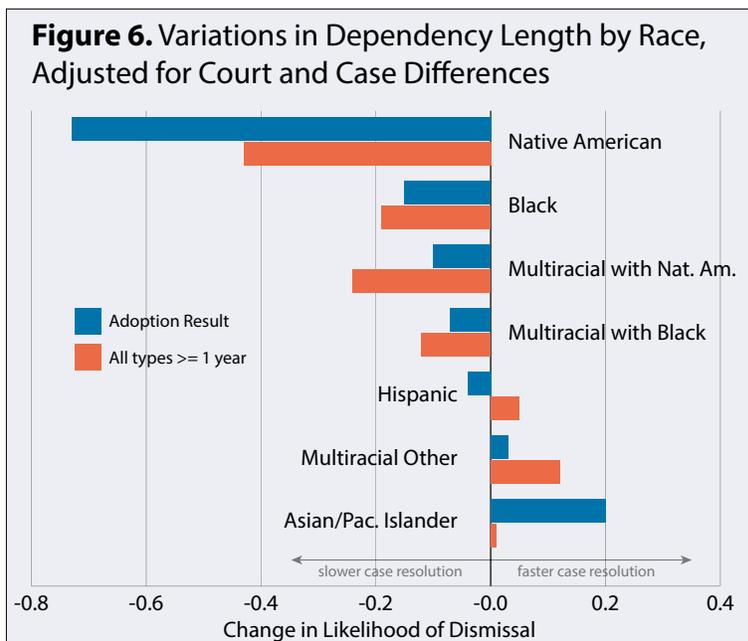




Racial Disparities

Racial disparities are observed statewide and within nearly all courts and this disparity becomes more pronounced for dependency cases lasting longer than one year. These results suggest that racial disparities exist largely independent of the factors associated with court timeliness. Figure 6 illustrates the statewide disparities for various racial groups compared to Whites.

A court by court examination of case duration based on race indicates that a court’s overall permanency performance is not necessarily correlated with its performance along racial lines. For example, Spokane’s court is producing good dependency duration performance, but its racial performance disparity is large: the median length of dependency for single- and multi-race Native American



or Black children is 928 days compared to 807 days for Whites. On the other hand, the Yakima court has relatively long dependencies and relatively small differences between racial/ethnic groups. The Technical Report (see Related Resources) covers the nature and extent of racial and ethnic disparity in outcomes and court processing times in much greater detail.

Other Findings of the Study

- Monthly Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) Social Worker visits with the child were found to favorably influence both the duration of dependency and the post-dismissal outcome. The Technical Report includes details on the influence of case processes and characteristics on the length of dependencies.
- Compliance with the statutory guidelines of filing for termination of parental rights within 15 months is significantly associated with shorter periods until finalization of adoption compared to non-compliance for this guideline.
- The magnitude of the difference in dependency length between compliant and non-compliant cases varies with the specific court milestone and the type of dependency case.
- Cases involving chronic neglect and children with mental illness/behavioral problems are significantly likely to have longer lengths of dependency and higher likelihoods of placement re-entry or new founded allegations.
- Cases with parental substance abuse, homelessness, or domestic violence are significantly more likely to result in post-reunification placement re-entry or new founded allegations of abuse and neglect.

Future Research

Over the next few years, the Washington State Center for Court Research (WSCCR) and RDA plan to extend the research reported here in the following ways:

- improve the data linking between the CA child welfare records (FAMLINK) and AOC court records (SCOMIS). These improvements will enable a more accurate assessment of the trajectory of cases and the timing of events.
- improve the ability to track evidence based and other specific services, to evaluate the effectiveness of services and the interplay between services and court processes in determining dependency outcomes.
- the subsequent post-dismissal and longer-term outcomes of court actions are worthy of future investigation: placement stability, education, employment, law-violating behavior (whether juvenile or adult), and homelessness.

Related Resources

TECHNICAL REPORT: Permanency Court Processes and Outcomes for Children in Out of Home Care, David B. Marshall, PhD, Department of Social and Health Services, Research and Data Analysis Division. Matthew Orme, MFA and Carl McCurley, PhD, Washington State Center for Court Research, Administrative Office of the Courts. http://www.courts.wa.gov/wscrr/docs/TECHNICAL_REPORT_PermanencyCourtProcessesOutcomesForChildrenInOutOfHomeCare.pdf

Dependent Children in Washington State: Case Timeliness and Outcomes, 2013 Annual Report. Orme, M., Skreen, J., McCurley, C., Bricker, C., Sanford, R., Wang, W. (2014) Washington State Center for Court Research, Administrative Office of the Courts. <http://www.courts.wa.gov/wscrr/docs/DTR2013.pdf>

NCJFCJ Judicial Workload in Washington State Dobbin, S., Gatowski, S., Summers, Alicia (2010) National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. http://www.ncjfcj.org/sites/default/files/Measuring%20Judicial%20Workload_lessons%20learned_WA%20Workload%20TAB.pdf

The authors gratefully acknowledge that this work was funded in part by a grant from Casey Family Programs.

Recommended Citation:

Marshall, D., Orme, M., and Kittas, P. 2014. "Dependency Court Processes and Outcomes for Children in Out of Home Care." Olympia: Research and Data Analysis, Department of Social and Health Services and Washington State Center for Court Research, Administrative Office of the Courts.



SUMMARY

The outcomes of children and families are increasingly the focus of court improvements, as case processing times improve. The courts and their child welfare partners, including Children's Administration, parents' and children's counsel, CASAs and GALs, the Legislature, Attorney General's Office, and others, must continue their efforts to better the lives of the families and must continue working toward a timely, safe, and permanent home for children. Continuing efforts will further increase support for parents through the Parents for Parents programs, achieve speedier resolution of cases, improve data for monitoring cases, and aid in the successful collaboration on critical issues such as children's representation.

By using Continuous Quality Improvement, courts and other partners provide ongoing, continual feedback to the Washington State Center for Court Research to make both significant and nuanced changes to the Interactive Dependency Timeliness Report, leading to greater sophistication in managing and using data. Case processing techniques in the courts can then be honed to produce better resolutions and outcomes for children and families. Consistency in data entry has improved steadily, and work continues across the state to strengthen the quality and quantity of essential data elements. Through thoughtful analysis, trends can be identified and procedures modified to make even more progress.

The use of data to guide intelligent adjustment to process is a proven, evidence-based management practice. In the courts, repeated evaluations have shown the relationship between use of performance reporting and improved outcomes in both therapeutic courts and juvenile probation. Obviously, for the sake of court-involved kids and families and for the sake of informed management, the information should be collected and made available. In juvenile probation, for example, information is available, analyzed, and reported on assessment of needs and risks, assignment of youth to appropriate treatment, the quality of service delivery, and the effect on youths' law-violating behavior. Dependent children deserve no less.

In the seven years' history of this report, modest but steady improvements have been made in how the courts handle cases involving dependent children. Of course, reporting by itself does nothing — to be effective, reporting must have strong connections to informed, capable, and active teams that are empowered to take action. Therefore, increasing collaboration and cooperation among child welfare partners is necessary for the continuation of these advancements. The federal Court Improvement Program and the state Family and Juvenile Court Improvement Program are providing meaningful and tangible support to the courts. It is increasingly imperative for these efforts to continue through adequate and stable funding of the juvenile courts. Services to children and families must be maintained and strengthened. Child welfare partners must continue to be efficient and resourceful in finding new ways to identify methods to better data and the processes that inform and shape the child welfare system.



RECOMMENDATIONS

All child welfare partners have an important role to play in making the following recommendations move from suggestions to reality.

- Provide adequate and stable funding for education, programmatic improvements, court process enhancements, and research efforts regarding dependency case management and children's outcomes.
- Sustain and enhance inter-agency exchange of data among the courts, Children's Administration, and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- Continue strategic collaboration, cooperation, and coordination with child welfare partners and research entities.
- Develop improved consultation and communication strategies with child welfare partners concerning policy and programmatic changes.
- Further communication and collaboration among the courts and child welfare partners to build a system-wide view and assessment of children's overall outcomes, including well-being.
- Promote consistency of data entry codes and procedures to produce robust and meaningful data.
- Prepare the way for routine access to information from sources such as schools and state agencies on important outcome measures, such as school performance, graduation/GED, post-secondary education, and employment.
- Close the gap created by the absence of data about services ordered and delivered.



APPENDICES

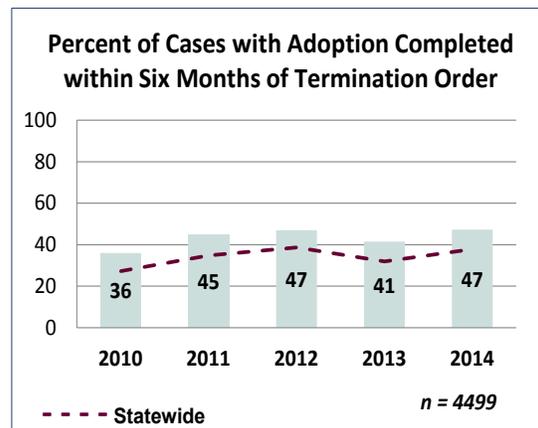
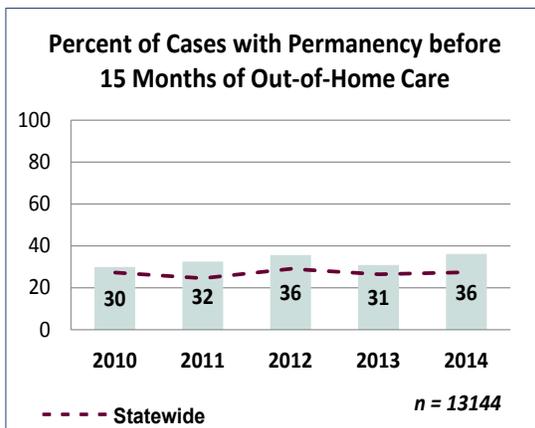
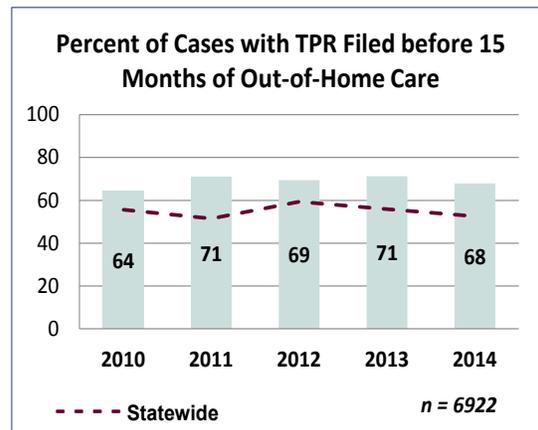
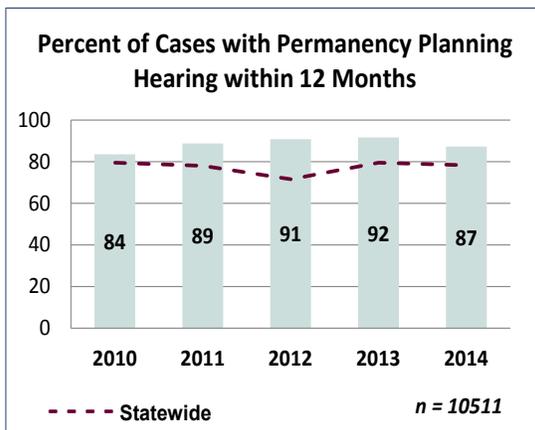
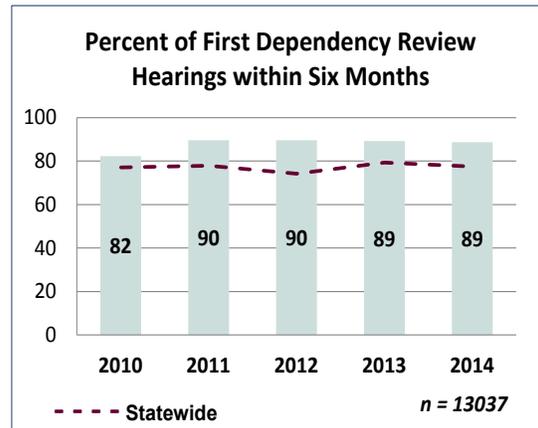
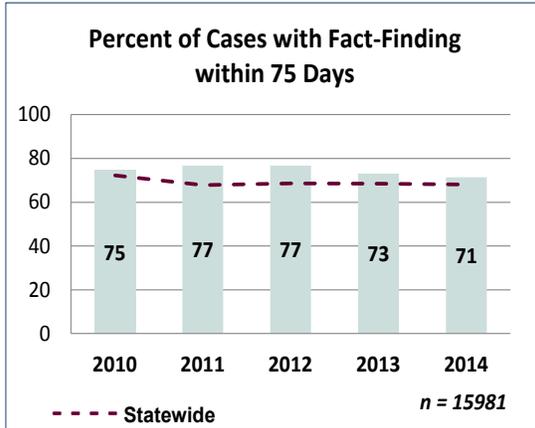
APPENDIX A: FJCIP

APPENDIX B: DEMOGRAPHICS

APPENDIX C: COUNTY LEVEL

- PERFORMANCE MEASURES
- OUTCOMES AND DEMOGRAPHICS
- FILINGS AND AFCARS

APPENDIX A: PERFORMANCE OF THE FJCIP COURTS ON DEPENDENCY TIMELINESS INDICATORS

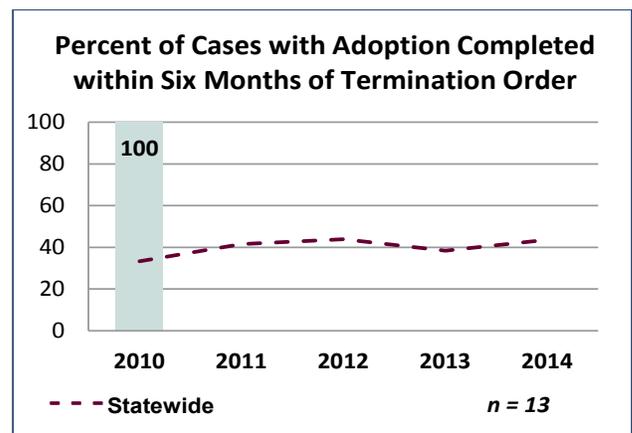
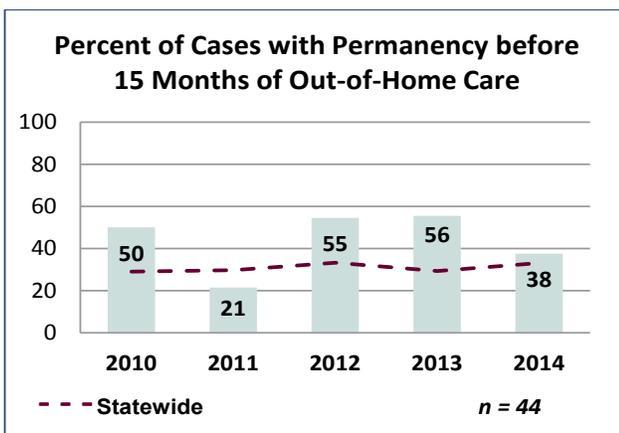
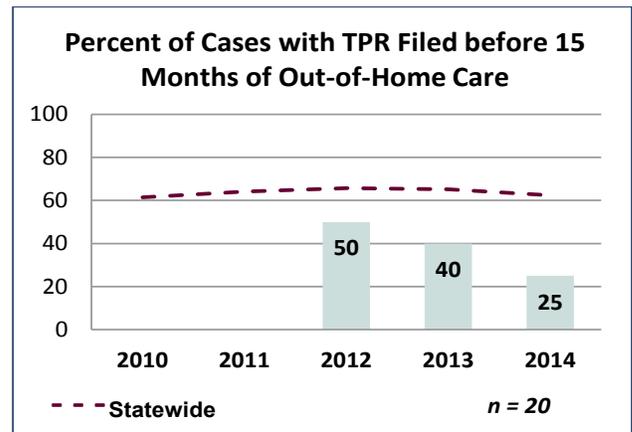
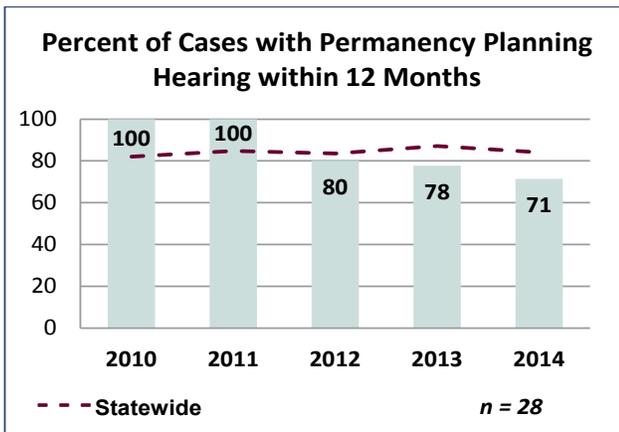
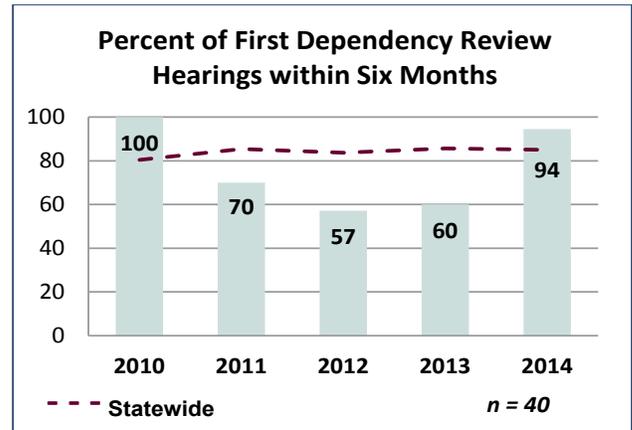
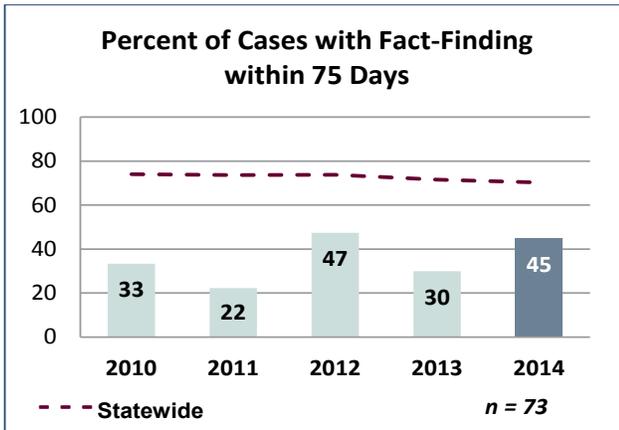


APPENDIX B: STATEWIDE DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	25%	26%	26%	27%	26%
	(2) 1-2 yrs	18%	16%	16%	15%	16%
	(3) 3-5 yrs	19%	18%	20%	18%	17%
	(4) 6-11 yrs	22%	23%	23%	25%	26%
	(5) 12-17 yrs	15%	16%	15%	15%	15%
	(6) >17 yrs		0%		0%	0%
Gender	(1) Female	51%	50%	49%	49%	48%
	(2) Male	49%	50%	51%	51%	52%
Race	(1) Native American	5%	4%	5%	4%	6%
	(2) Asian/Pacific Islander	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	(3) Black	8%	8%	7%	8%	9%
	(4) White	53%	54%	56%	56%	51%
	(5) Hispanic	15%	15%	13%	13%	16%
	(6) Multiracial - Native American	8%	8%	9%	9%	6%
	(7) Multiracial - Black	7%	7%	6%	6%	6%
	(8) Multiracial - Other	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	(9) Unknown	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%
NOTE: ANNUAL NUMBERS BASED ON YEAR OF PETITION						

APPENDIX C:
COUNTY LEVEL DATA

- PERFORMANCE MEASURES
- OUTCOMES AND DEMOGRAPHICS
- FILINGS AND AFCARS



Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

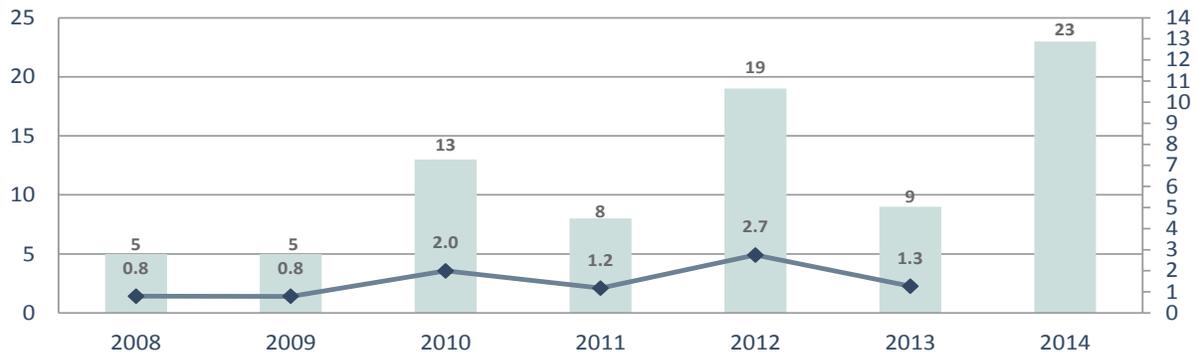
20+ CASE EVENTS

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	40	52	41.5	30	45
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months					
	% < 15 Months to Outcome					
Guardianships	Median Months					6
	% < 15 Months to Outcome					100%
Reunifications	Median Months	0	19	0	11.5	2
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	100%	27%	86%	63%	100%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adams	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	55%	43%	27%	56%	35%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	18%		27%	11%	22%
		(3) 3-5 yrs		43%	13%	11%	22%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	27%	14%	27%		17%
		(5) 12-17 yrs			7%	22%	4%
	Gender	(1) Female	73%	43%	53%	67%	35%
		(2) Male	27%	57%	47%	33%	65%
	Race	(1) Native American					4%
		(4) White	18%	29%	60%	22%	39%
		(5) Hispanic	82%	71%	27%	67%	43%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American			13%	11%	
		(7) Multiracial - Black					13%

DEPENDENCY FILINGS PER YEAR

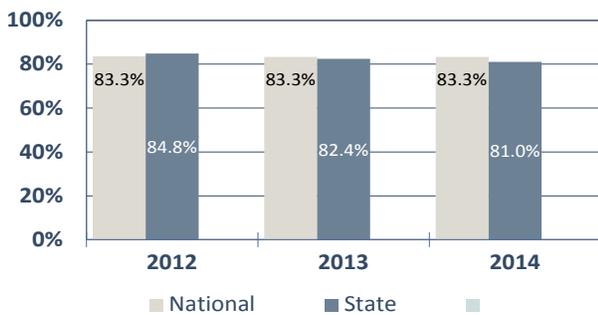
Number and Rate Per 1000 of Dependency Filings Per Year - Adams



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

Percent of children in care for less than 12 months with two or fewer placement settings



Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

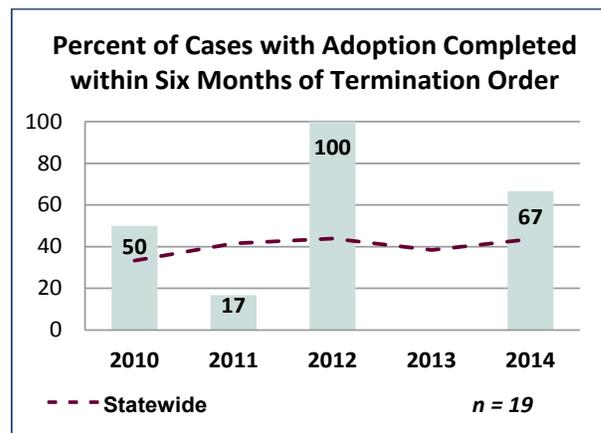
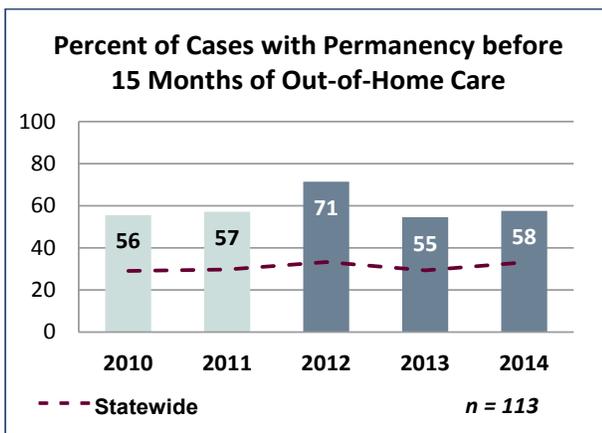
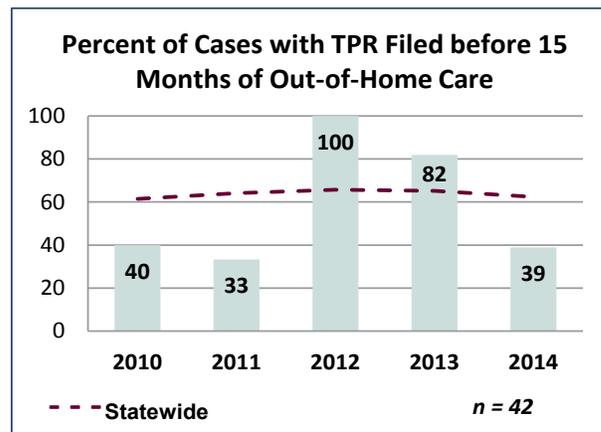
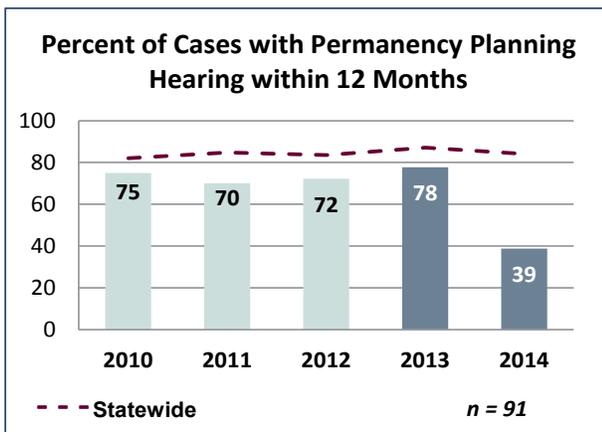
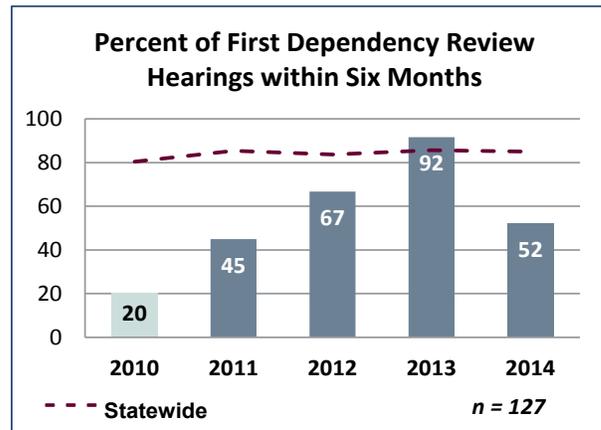
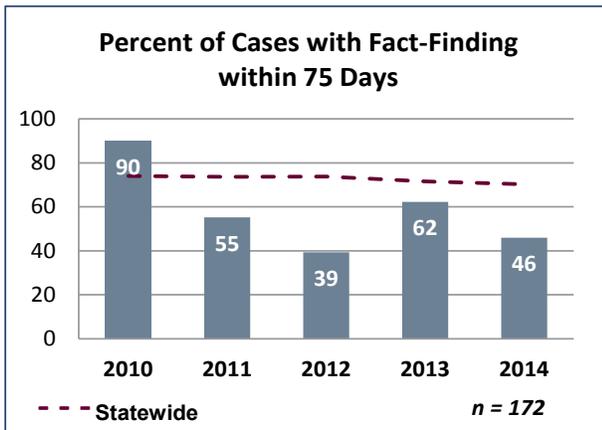
National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Re-entries to foster care in less than 12 months after reunification



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



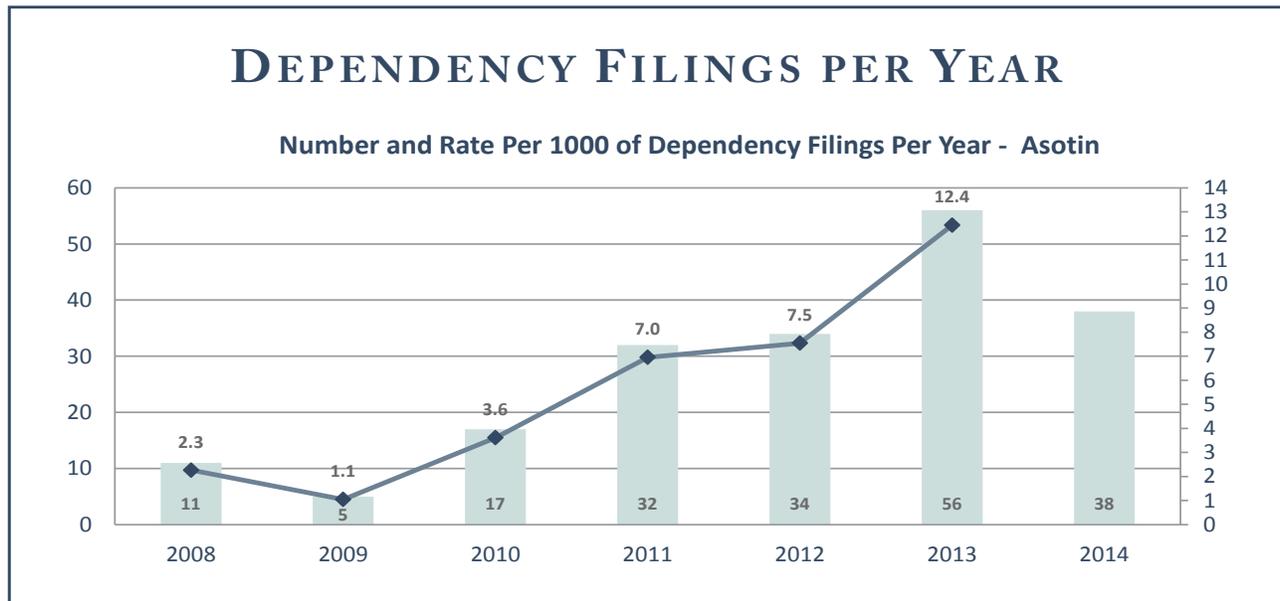
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

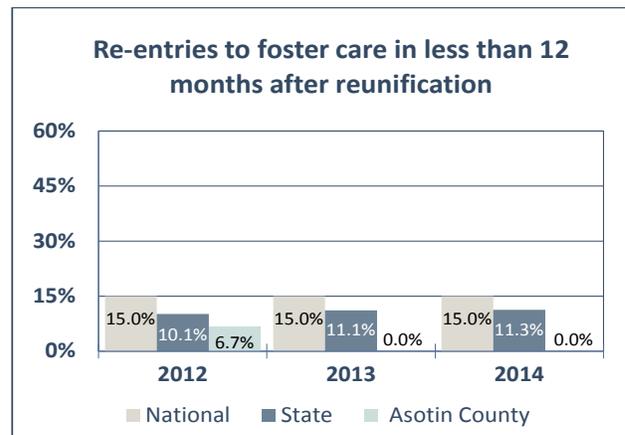
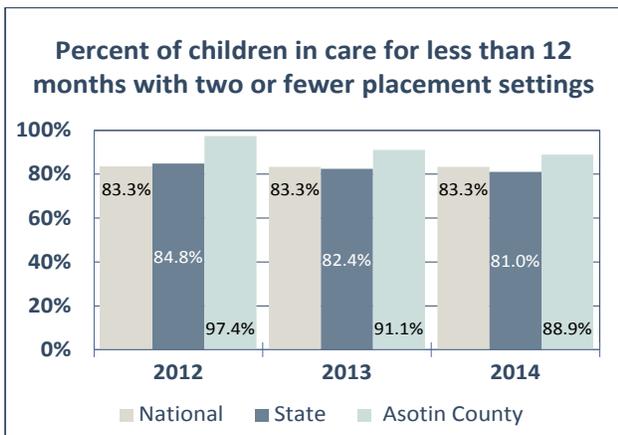
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	25	30.5	21	23.5	22
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	25%	0%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months				37	
	% < 15 Months to Outcome				0%	
Guardianships	Median Months	19	2	9.5	5	11.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	100%	100%	100%	50%
Reunifications	Median Months	3	1	12	12	10.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	100%	67%	72%	64%	69%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Asotin	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	20%	19%	24%	21%	18%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	27%	19%	26%	9%	24%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	20%	25%	12%	20%	21%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	33%	28%	32%	38%	21%
		(5) 12-17 yrs		9%	6%	13%	18%
	Gender	(1) Female	60%	47%	56%	48%	53%
		(2) Male	40%	53%	44%	52%	47%
	Race	(1) Native American		3%	3%	2%	6%
		(4) White	87%	75%	79%	86%	79%
		(5) Hispanic	7%		6%	7%	9%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American			9%	2%	6%
		(7) Multiracial - Black		22%		4%	
		(8) Multiracial - Other	7%		3%		



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

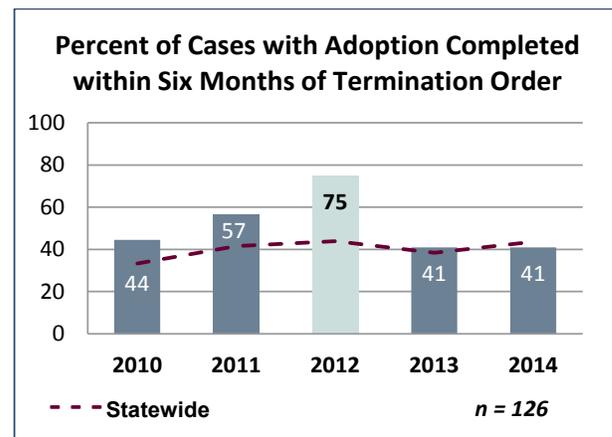
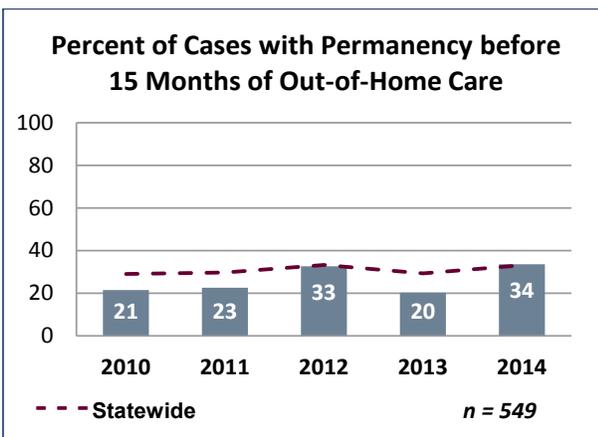
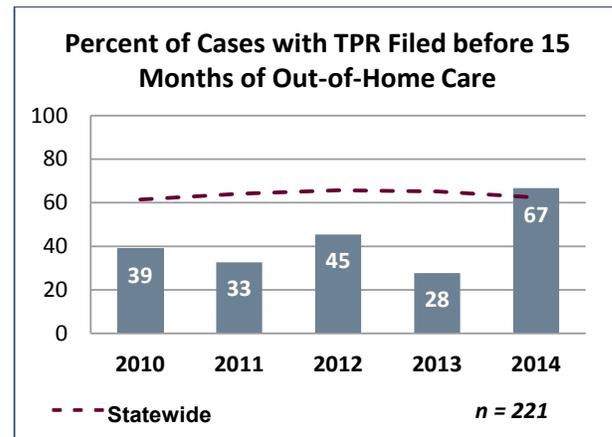
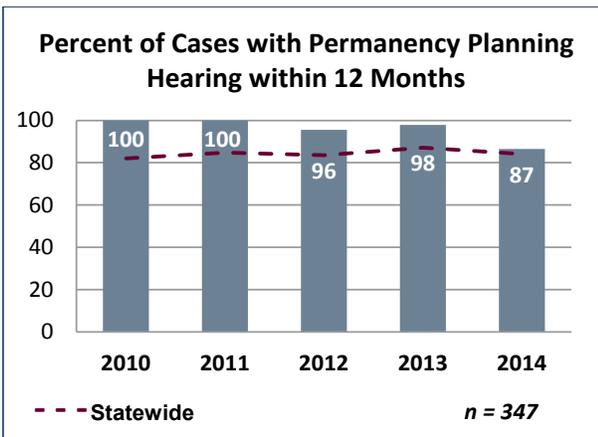
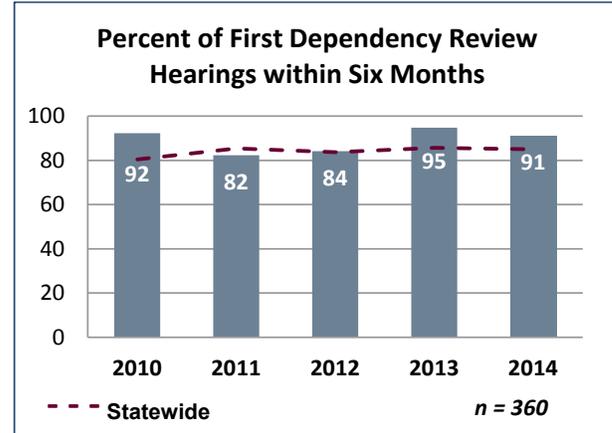
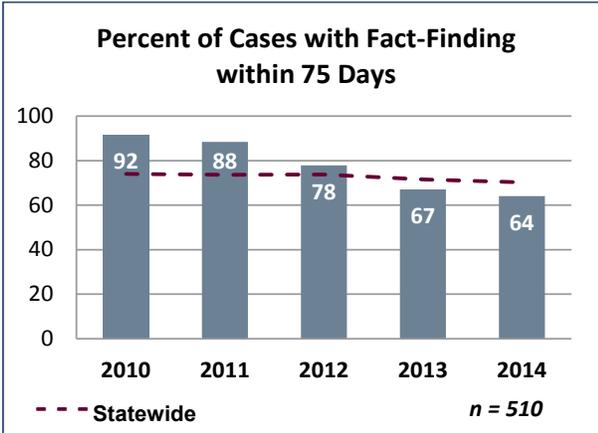


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



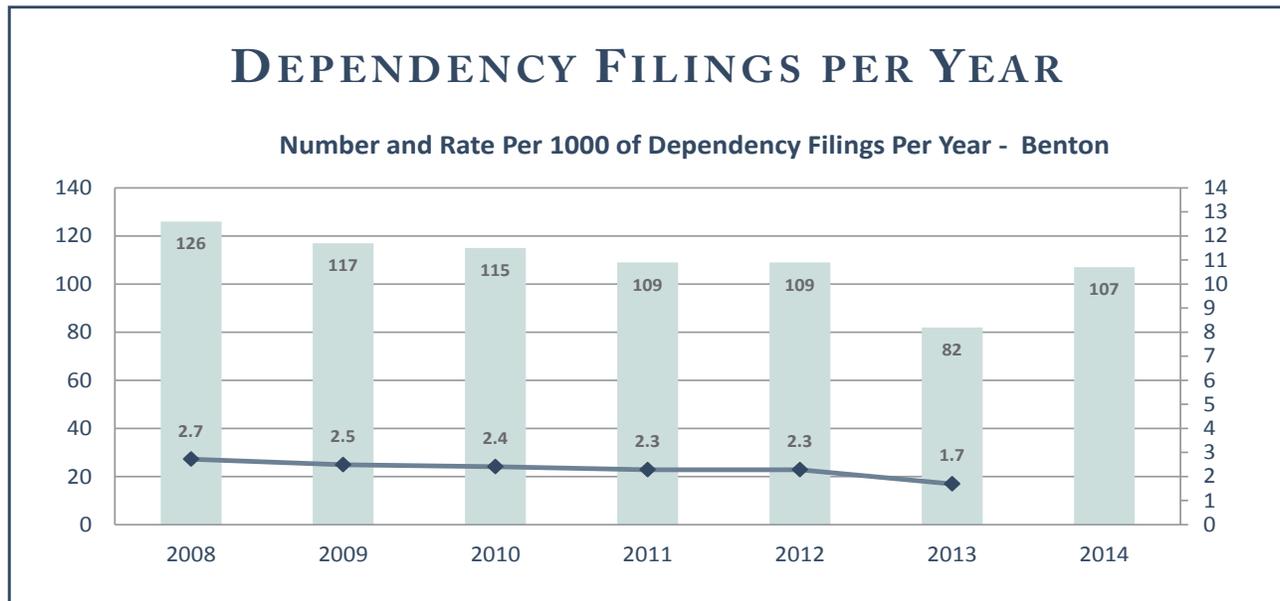
< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

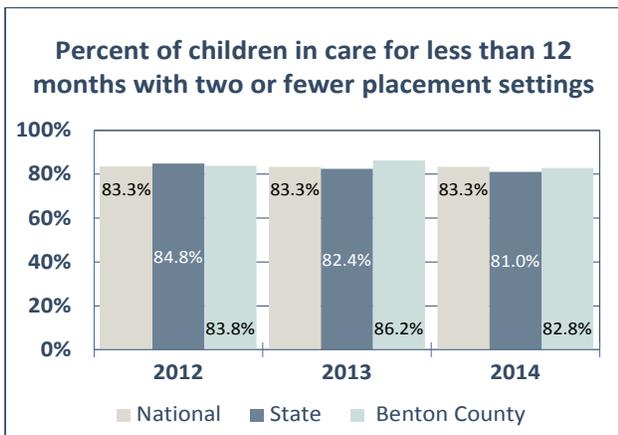
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	28	27	24	31	35
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	22	37	24.5	36.5	26
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	40%	22%	33%	0%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	23	33	24	31	14
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	17%	18%	19%	38%	63%
Reunifications	Median Months	17	18.5	16	16.5	18
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	30%	34%	45%	30%	39%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Benton	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	13%	29%	29%	21%	26%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	18%	15%	9%	16%	17%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	22%	11%	19%	19%	17%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	23%	24%	25%	25%	27%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	25%	21%	18%	20%	12%
	Gender	(1) Female	52%	55%	57%	64%	51%
		(2) Male	48%	45%	43%	36%	49%
	Race	(1) Native American				2%	
		(2) Asian/PI		1%			
		(3) Black	3%	3%		11%	5%
		(4) White	52%	45%	58%	48%	49%
		(5) Hispanic	32%	30%	26%	28%	37%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	10%	11%	10%	4%	6%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	3%	10%	5%	5%	1%
		(8) Multiracial - Other			1%	1%	2%
		(9) Unknown	1%				1%



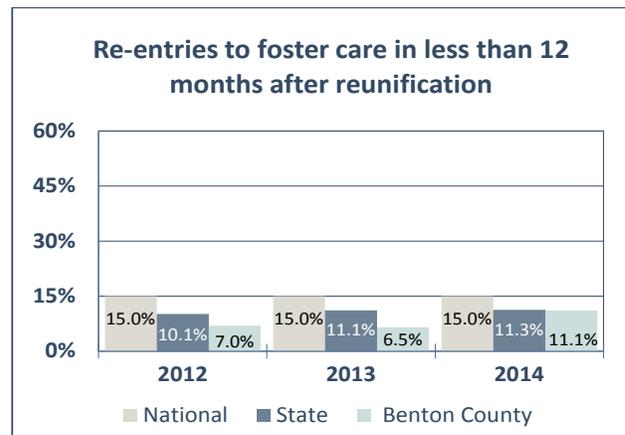
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



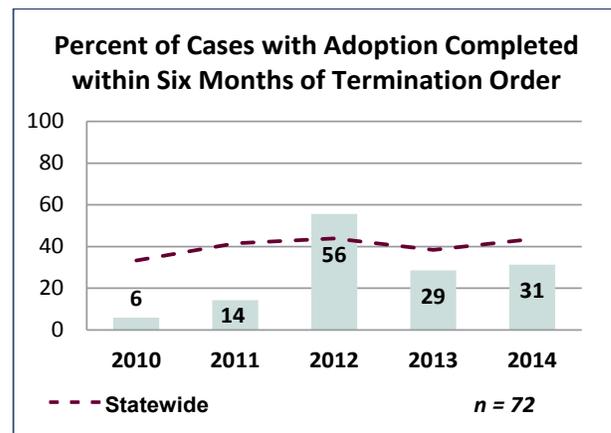
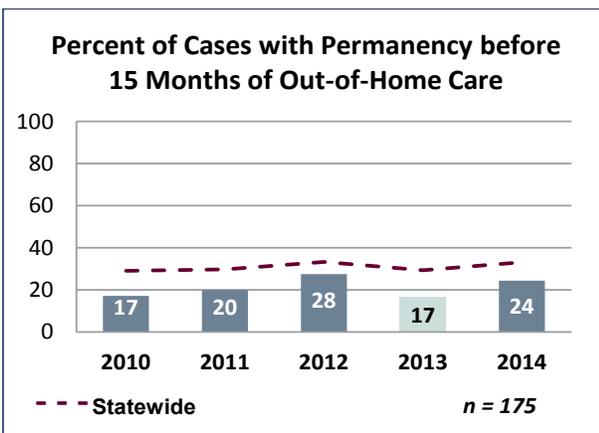
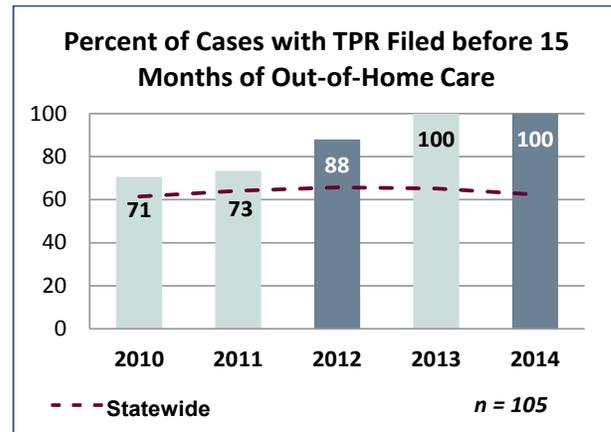
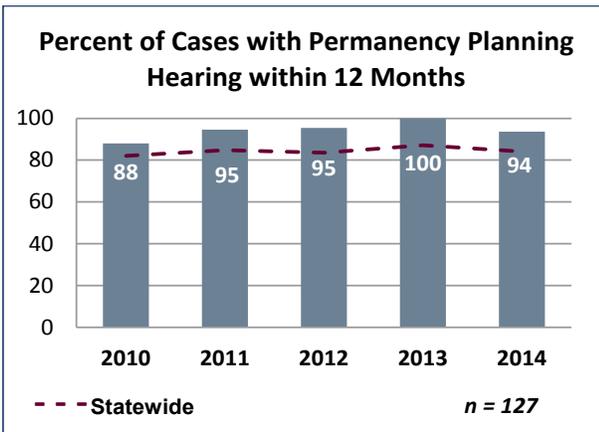
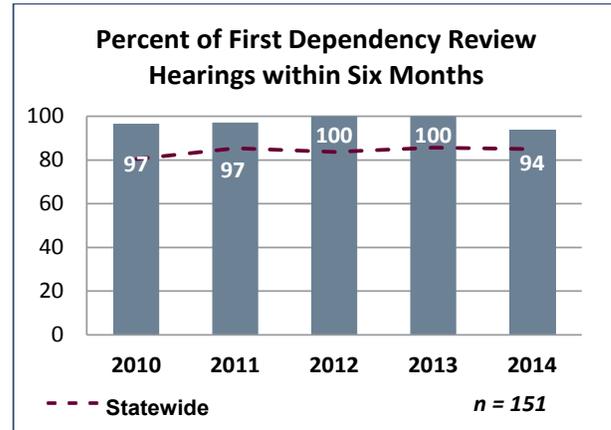
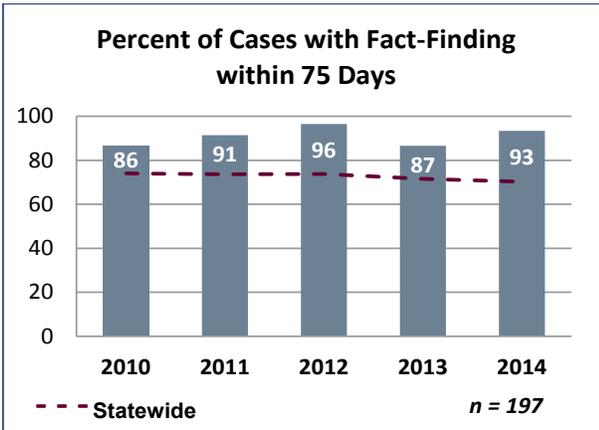
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



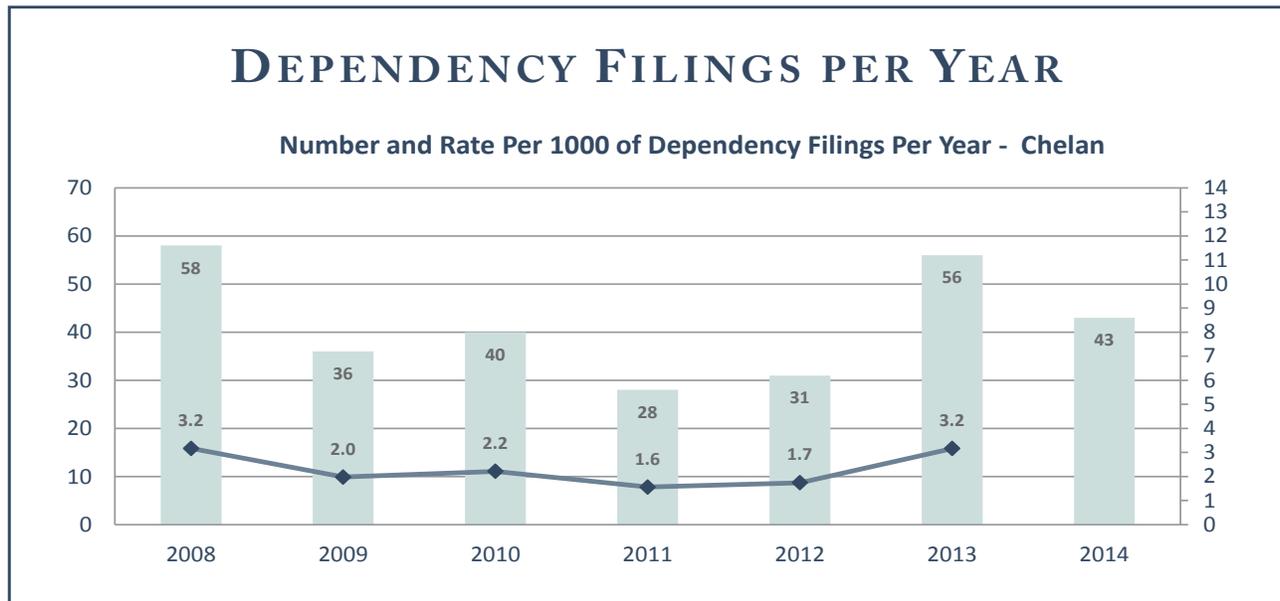
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

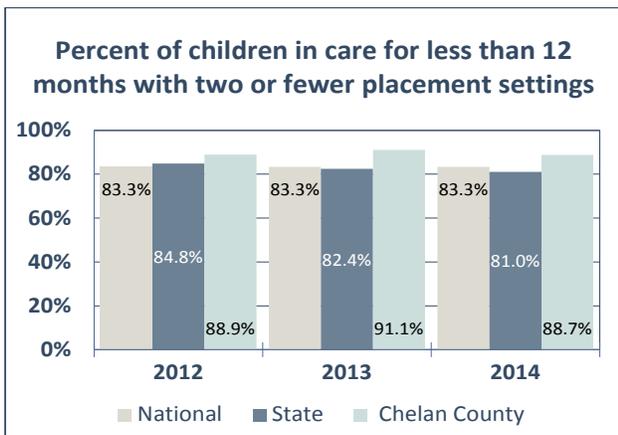
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	37	30	25	26	18
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	5%	0%	6%	0%	7%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	56	75	48	88	44
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	23	13	25.5	8.5	
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	25%	60%	0%	50%	
Reunifications	Median Months	20	21	13	8.5	19
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	38%	26%	56%	50%	42%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Chelan	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	21%	35%	25%	34%	30%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	21%	12%	11%	16%	9%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	31%	8%	7%	13%	12%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	18%	31%	25%	21%	26%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	10%	15%	32%	16%	23%
	Gender	(1) Female	38%	73%	50%	59%	49%
		(2) Male	62%	27%	50%	41%	51%
	Race	(1) Native American		4%	11%		12%
		(2) Asian/PI			11%		
		(3) Black					2%
		(4) White	54%	50%	32%	57%	49%
		(5) Hispanic	46%	35%	21%	32%	23%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American		12%	18%	5%	9%
		(7) Multiracial - Black				5%	5%
		(8) Multiracial - Other			4%		
		(9) Unknown			4%		



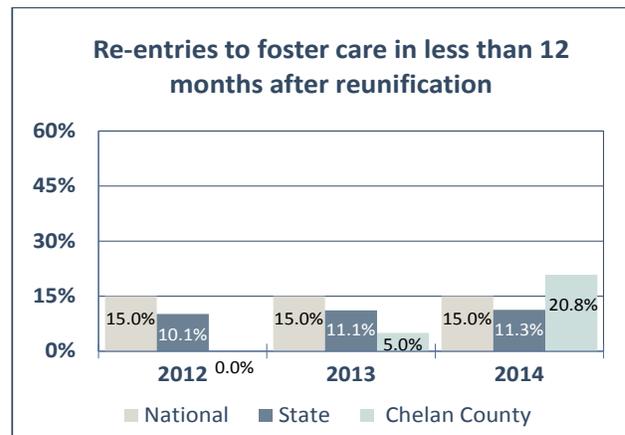
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



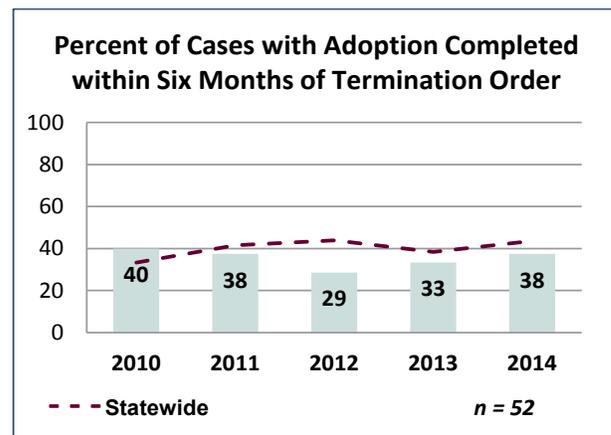
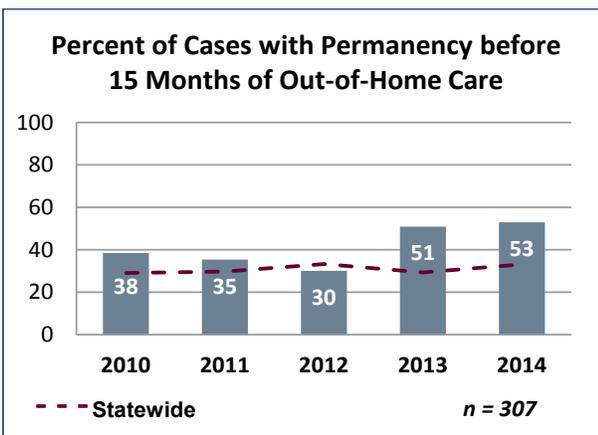
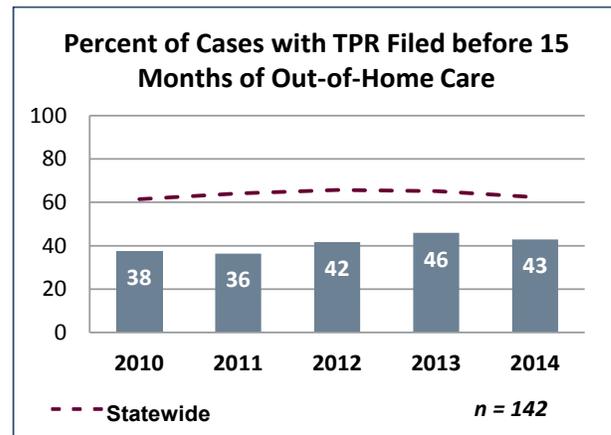
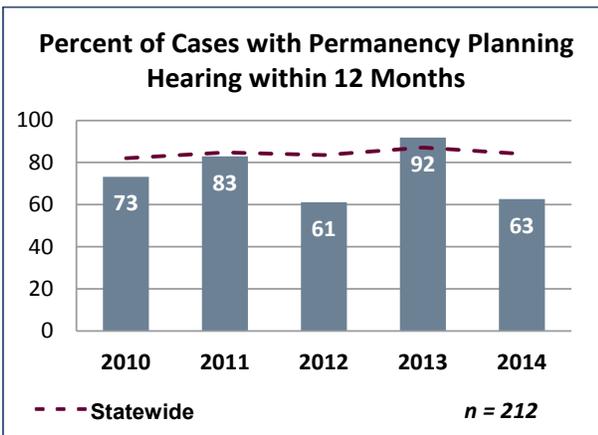
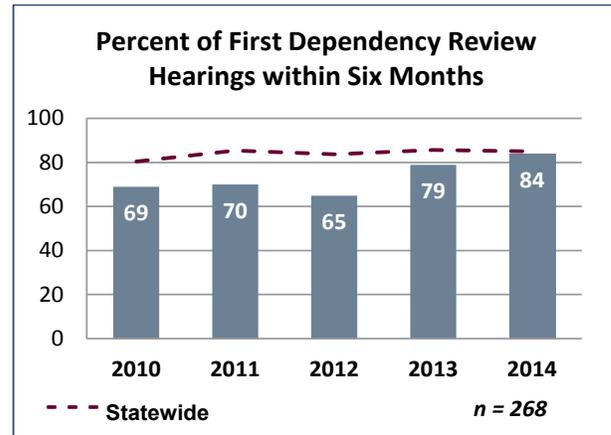
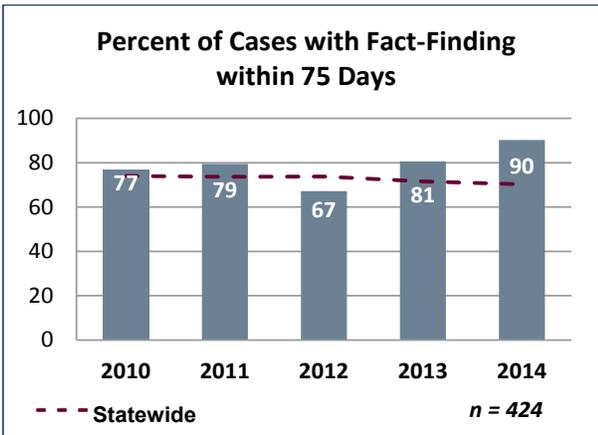
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



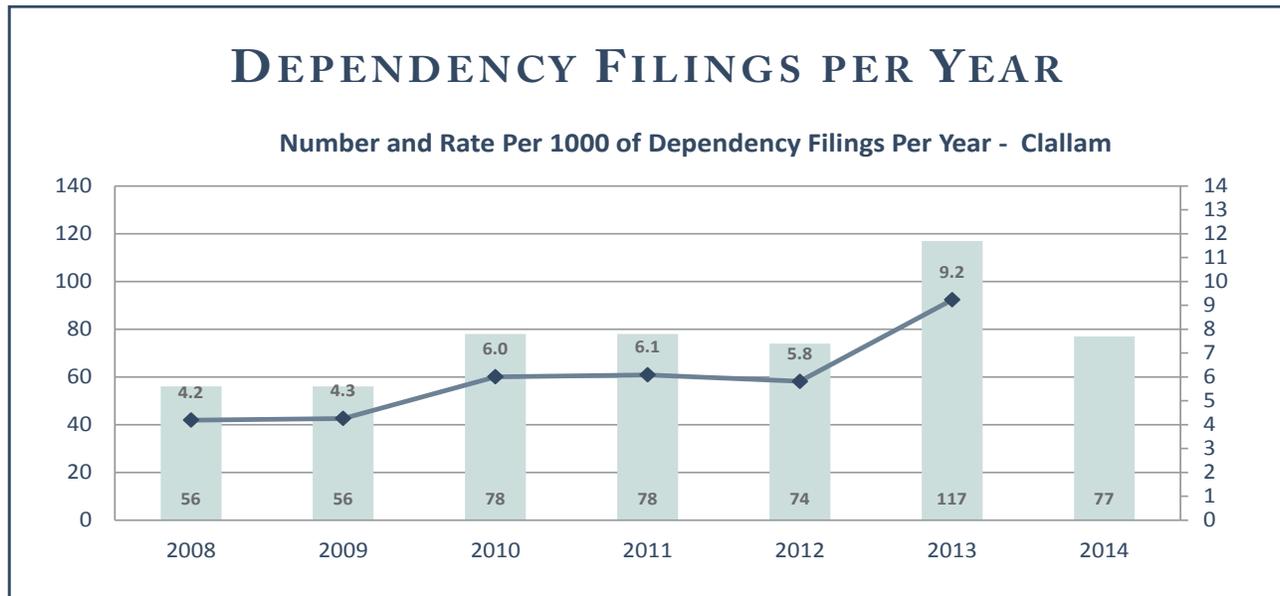
< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

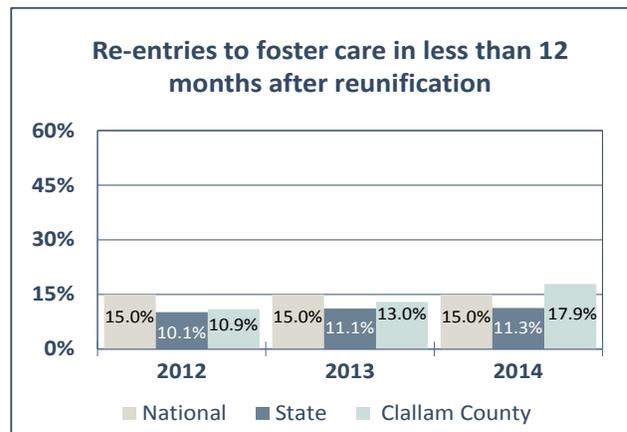
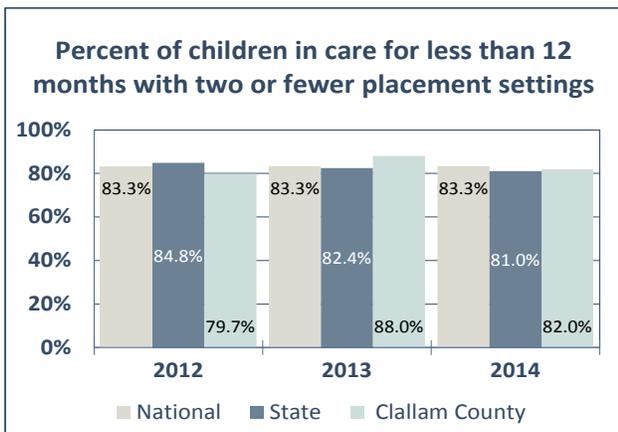
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	32	35	30	26	25.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	25%	7%	8%	10%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	29	14	42	63	58.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	20%	100%	0%	17%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	26.5	20	34	31	33
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	20%	0%	25%	13%
Reunifications	Median Months	15	16	16	6	11
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	49%	45%	40%	70%	72%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Clallam	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	19%	28%	22%	26%	34%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	14%	10%	19%	21%	16%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	17%	26%	23%	19%	15%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	26%	17%	19%	22%	27%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	23%	19%	17%	12%	7%
	Gender	(1) Female	36%	54%	51%	48%	45%
		(2) Male	64%	46%	49%	52%	55%
	Race	(1) Native American	17%	15%	9%	14%	30%
		(2) Asian/PI	5%				1%
		(3) Black				3%	
		(4) White	61%	64%	80%	61%	55%
		(5) Hispanic	4%	8%	3%	7%	10%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	12%	10%	6%	12%	3%
		(7) Multiracial - Black		3%	1%		1%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	1%		1%	2%	
		(9) Unknown				1%	



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

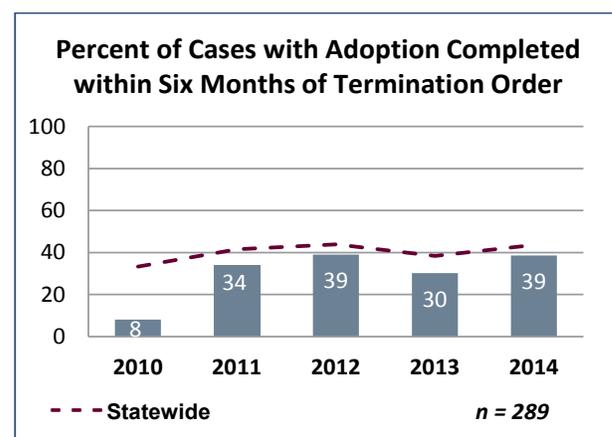
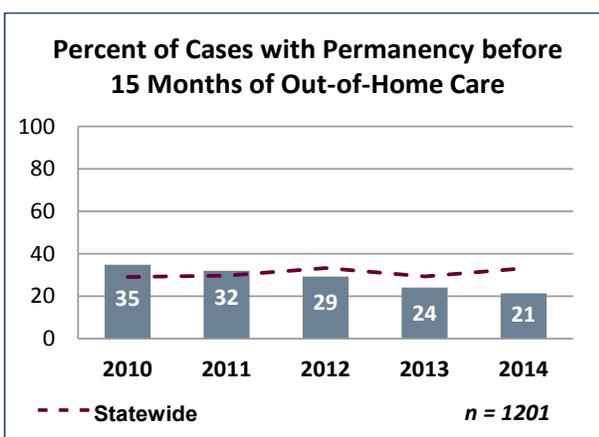
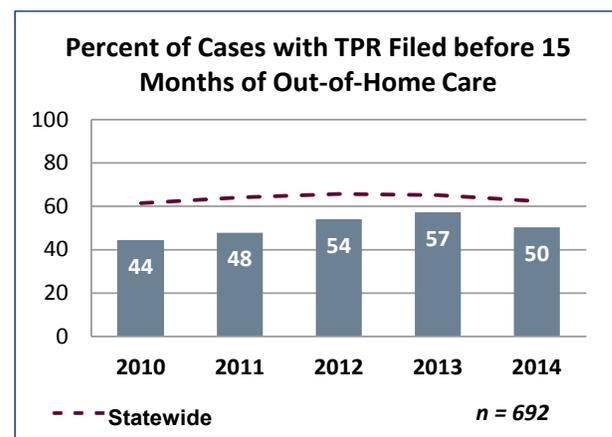
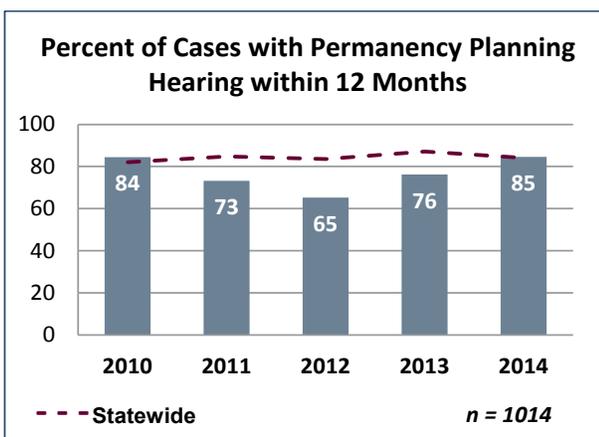
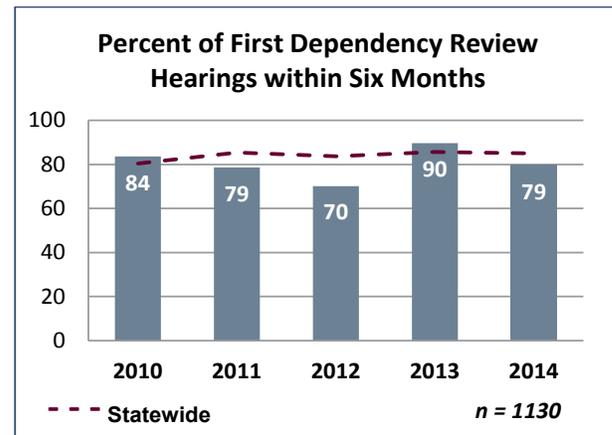
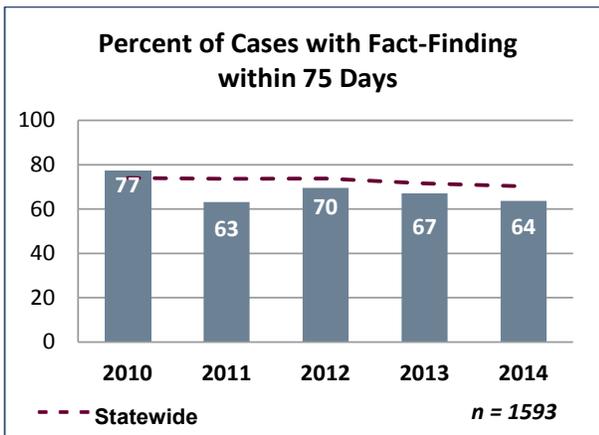


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



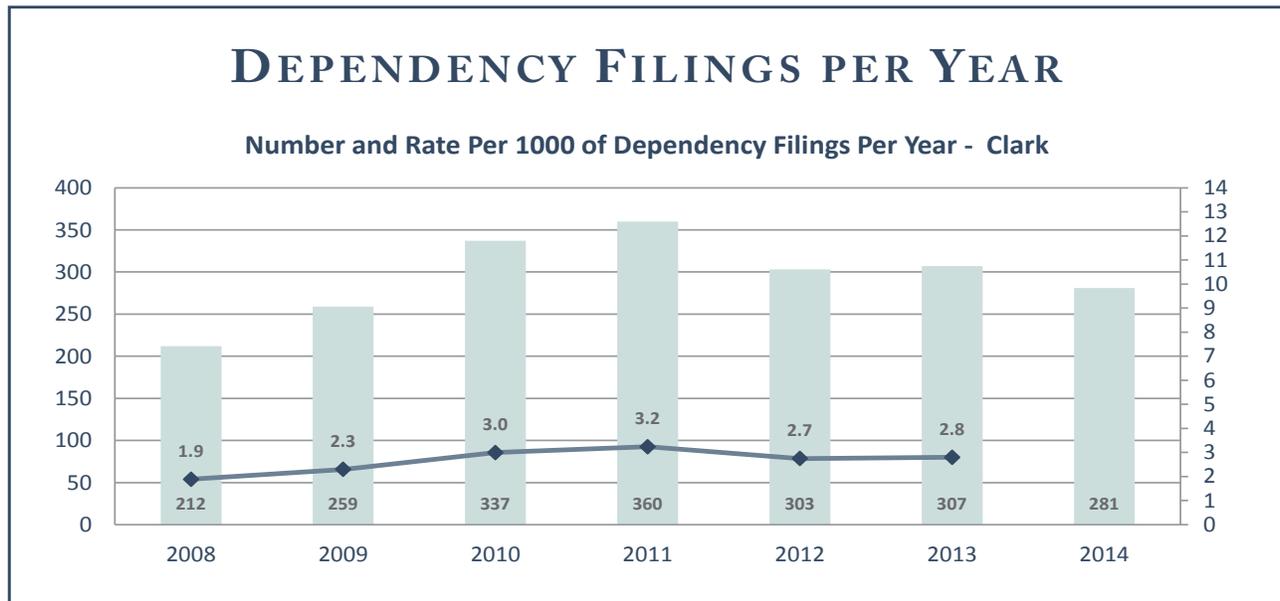
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

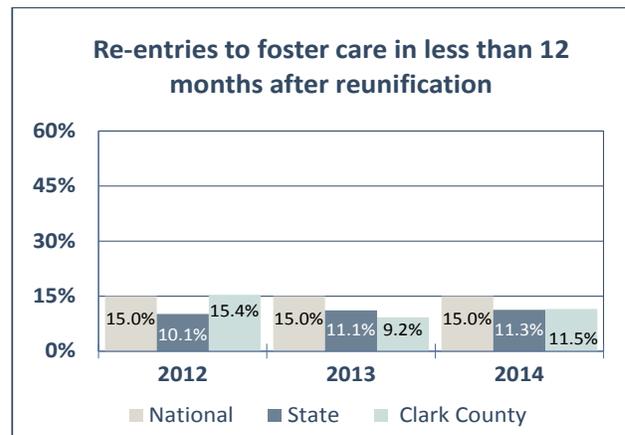
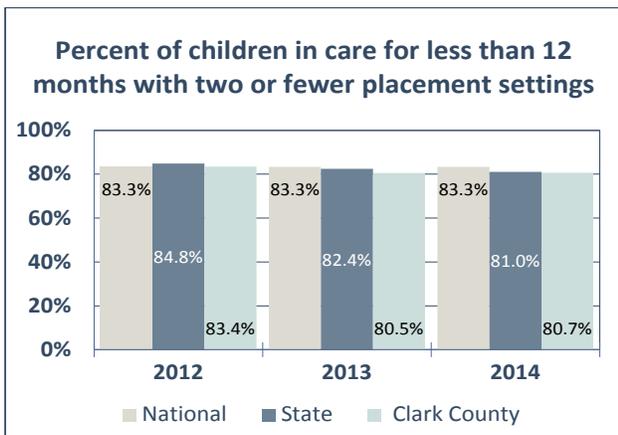
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	37	29	29	35	37
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	6%	2%	0%	2%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	28	54	37	26	43.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	24%	24%	4%	17%	6%
Guardianships	Median Months	26	17	13	26	27
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	10%	33%	54%	8%	0%
Reunifications	Median Months	10	15	16	20	20
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	61%	50%	40%	37%	34%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Clark	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	19%	19%	23%	26%	21%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	17%	16%	14%	16%	15%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	18%	18%	16%	17%	20%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	23%	26%	27%	26%	27%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	22%	22%	20%	15%	17%
	Gender	(1) Female	53%	48%	51%	52%	47%
		(2) Male	47%	52%	49%	48%	53%
	Race	(1) Native American	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%
		(2) Asian/PI	5%	1%	4%	1%	2%
		(3) Black	7%	1%	5%	6%	11%
		(4) White	59%	60%	69%	67%	57%
		(5) Hispanic	9%	26%	10%	8%	14%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	9%	5%	5%	8%	7%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	6%	4%	6%	5%	5%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	1%	1%	0%	2%	2%
		(9) Unknown	3%	0%		2%	1%



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

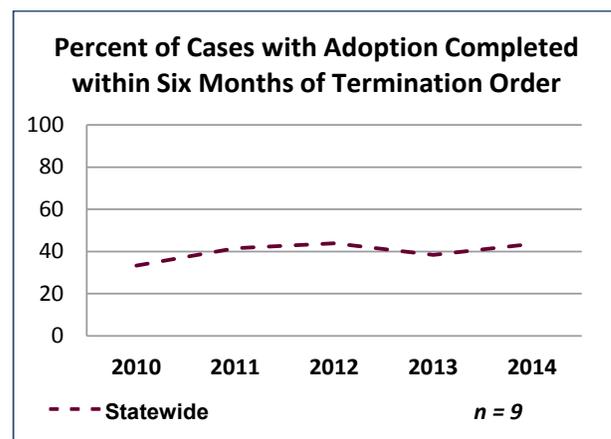
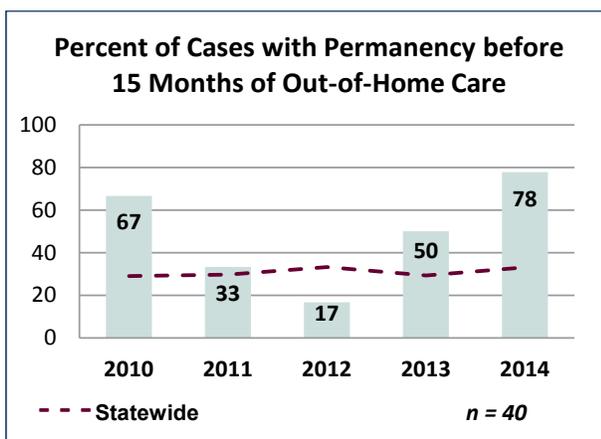
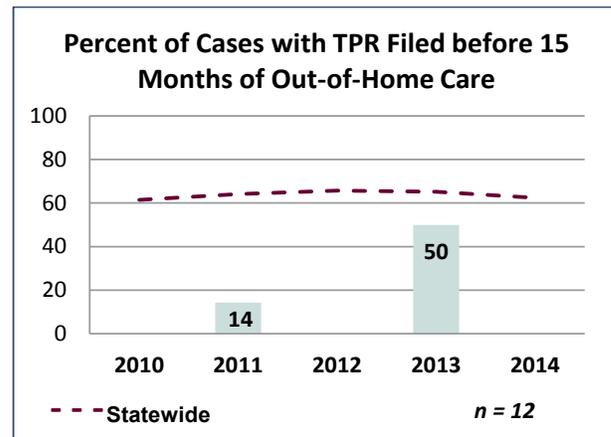
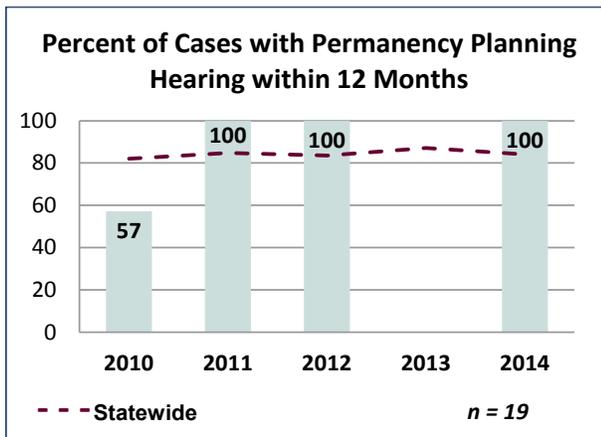
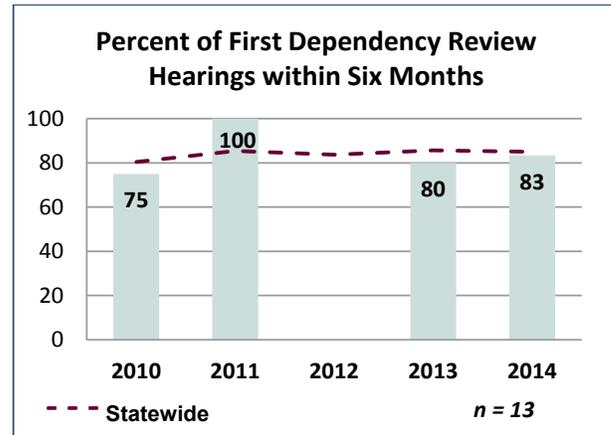
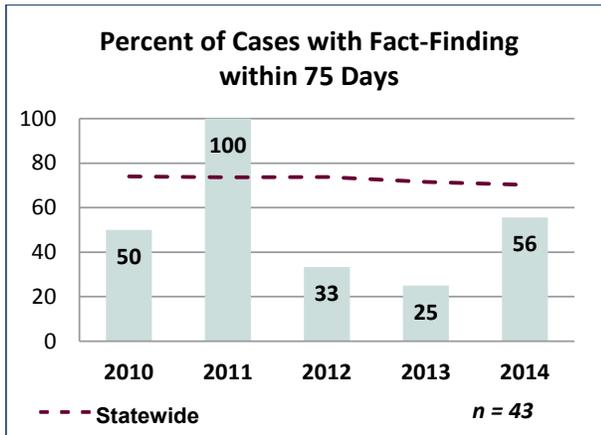


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



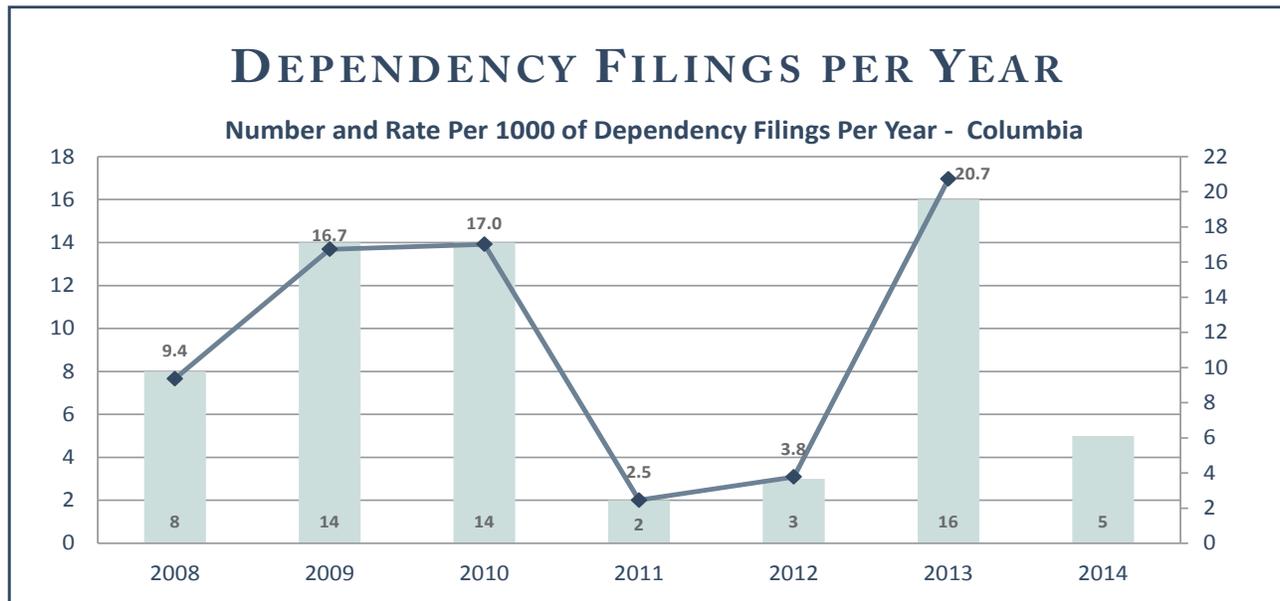
< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

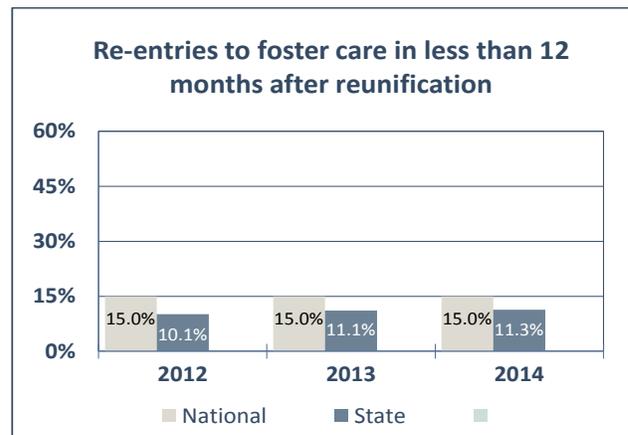
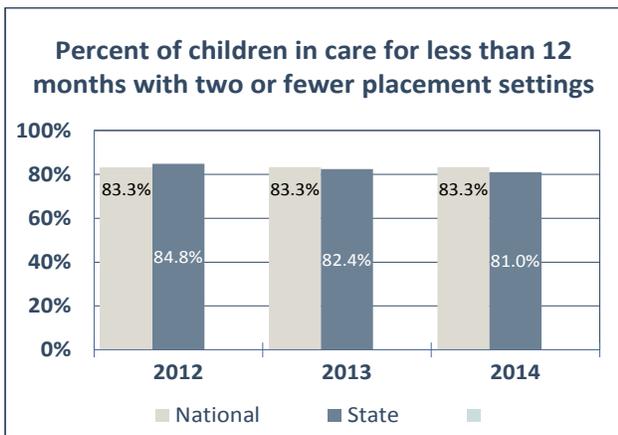
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	33	33	65.5	43	30
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months			6		
	% < 15 Months to Outcome			100%		
Guardianships	Median Months		18			
	% < 15 Months to Outcome		0%			
Reunifications	Median Months	12.5	14.5	28	3	4
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	100%	50%	0%	71%	88%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Columbia	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	14%	50%	67%	13%	20%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	29%			13%	20%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	21%	50%		38%	
		(4) 6-11 yrs	29%			19%	20%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	7%		33%	19%	40%
	Gender	(1) Female	57%	50%	100%	44%	40%
		(2) Male	43%	50%		56%	60%
	Race	(1) Native American	7%				
		(4) White	93%	50%	100%	94%	100%
		(5) Hispanic		50%			
		(7) Multiracial - Black				6%	



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

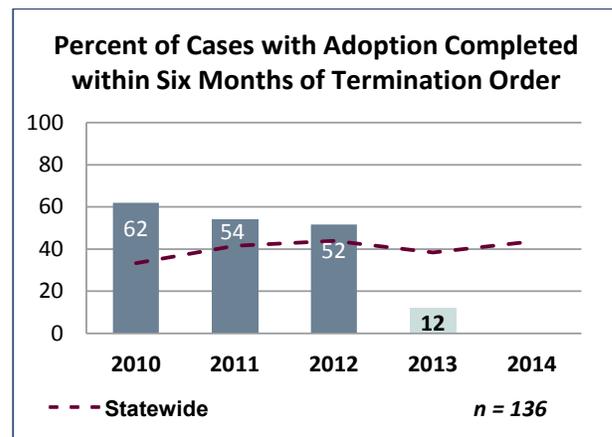
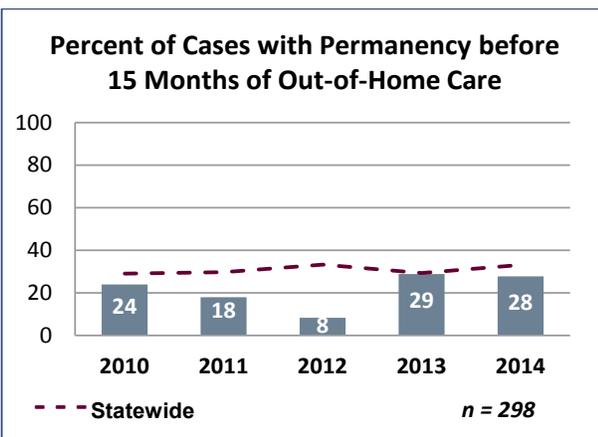
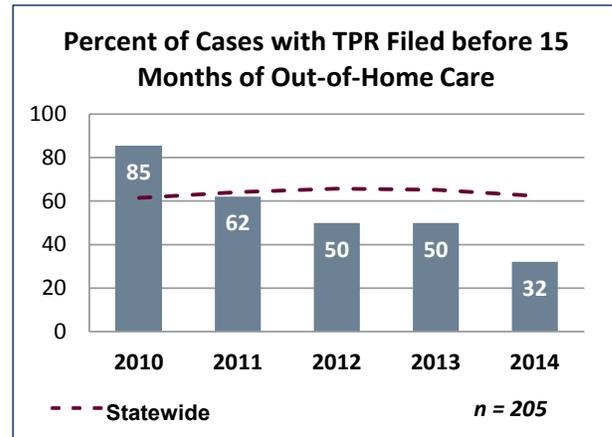
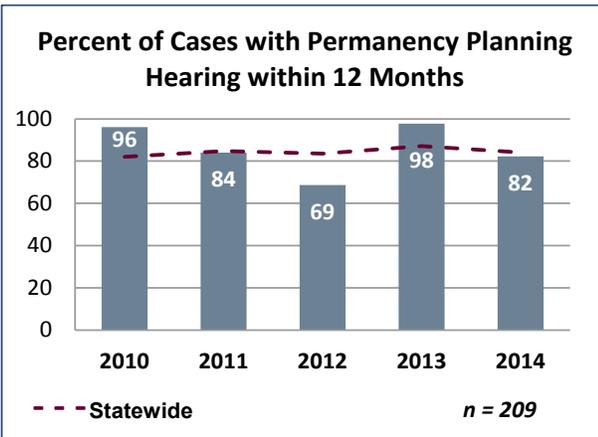
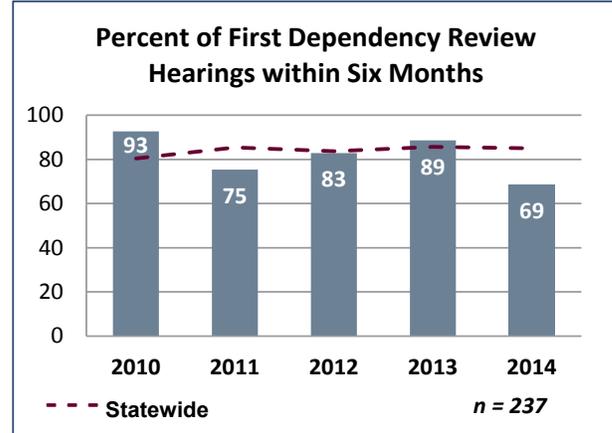
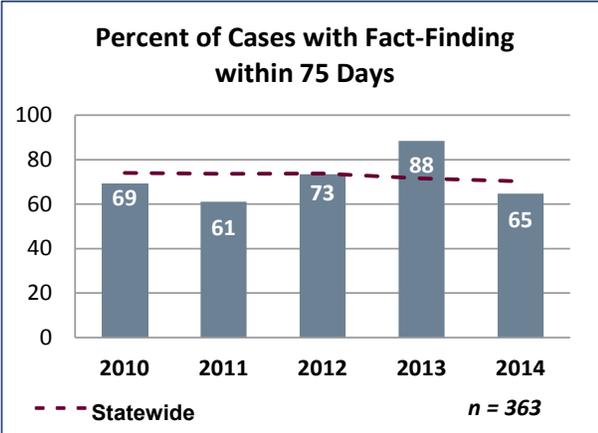


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



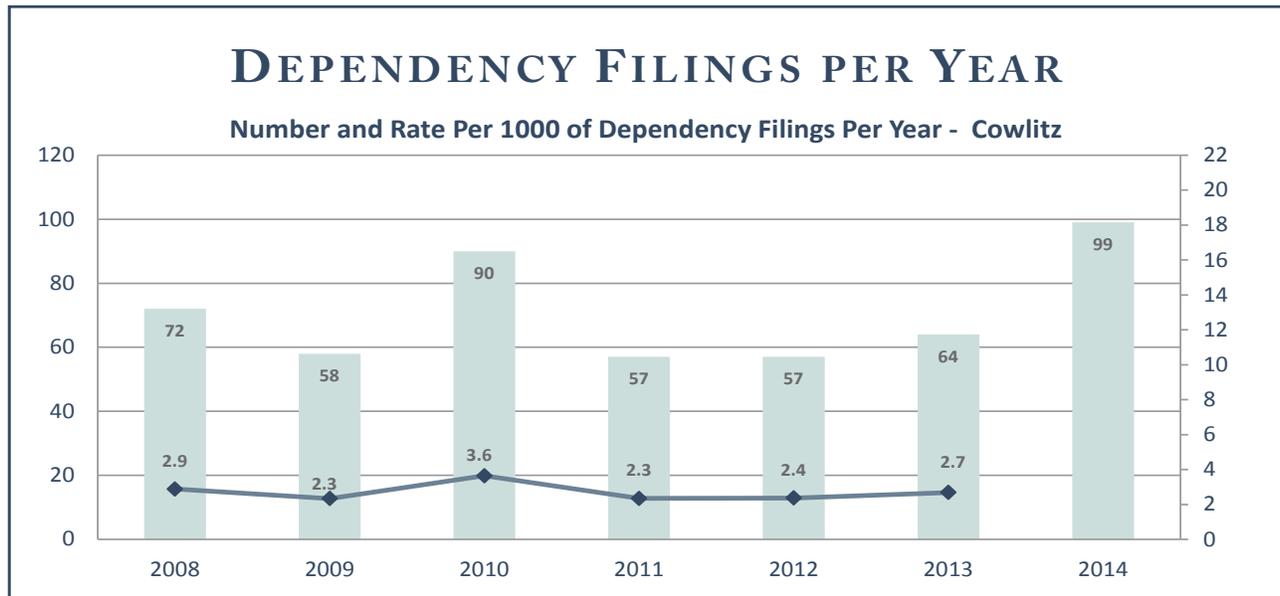
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

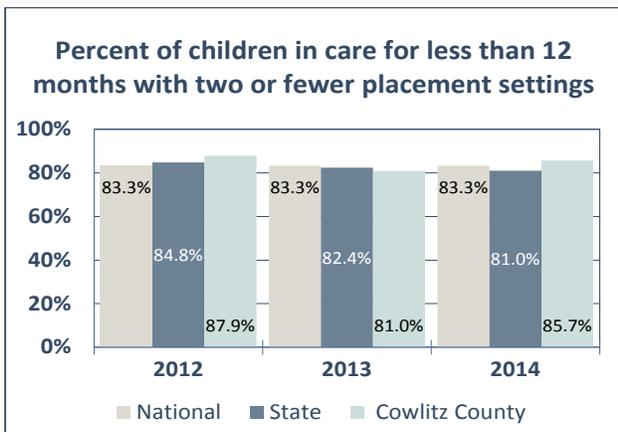
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	24	23	26	31	34
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	2%	8%	0%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	45	36	66	37.5	42
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	14%	0%	0%	17%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	5	15	9	14	9
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	100%	0%	100%	67%	67%
Reunifications	Median Months	11	21.5	22	15	15
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	60%	39%	16%	46%	47%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Cowlitz	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	24%	34%	29%	33%	14%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	21%	16%	19%	18%	20%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	20%	14%	19%	17%	25%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	20%	14%	13%	13%	31%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	14%	21%	19%	18%	10%
	Gender	(1) Female	52%	54%	50%	50%	46%
		(2) Male	48%	46%	50%	50%	54%
	Race	(1) Native American	1%		2%	7%	4%
		(3) Black		7%			1%
		(4) White	71%	64%	71%	68%	66%
		(5) Hispanic	19%	14%	10%	15%	17%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	2%	9%	6%	3%	5%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	7%	5%	12%	2%	3%
		(8) Multiracial - Other				3%	1%
		(9) Unknown				2%	2%



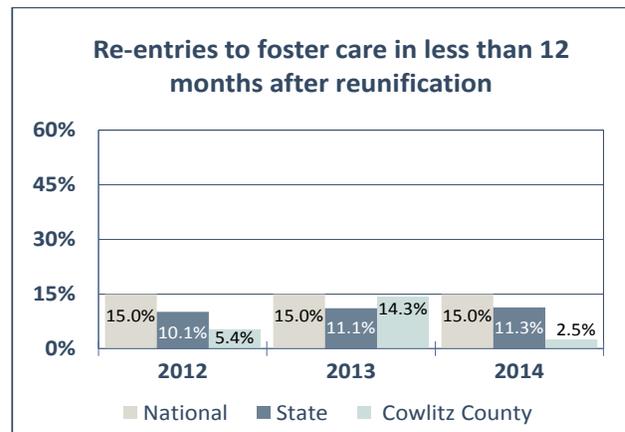
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



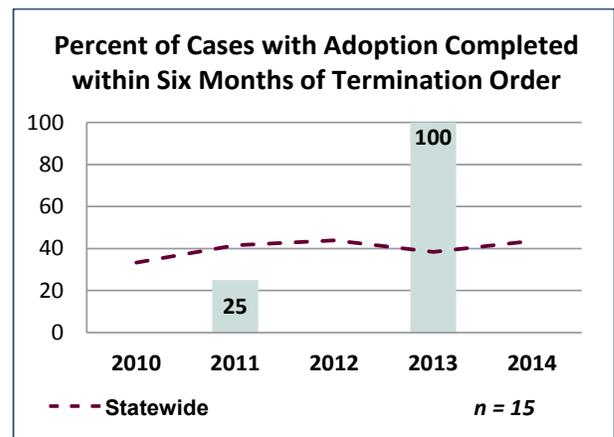
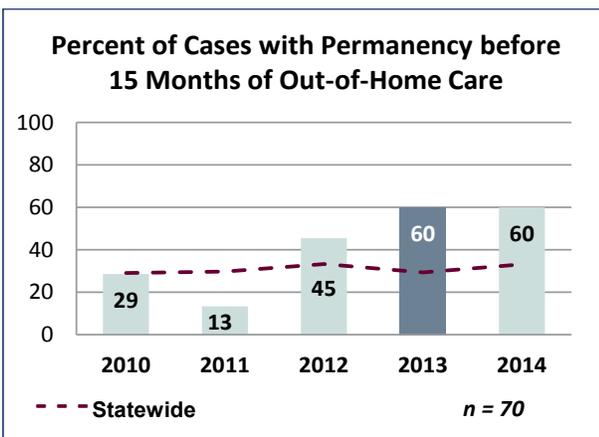
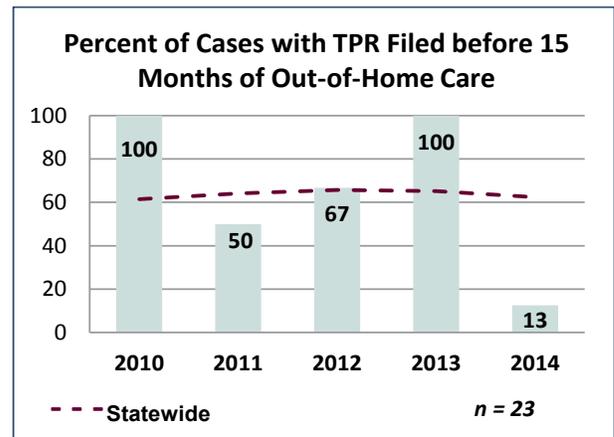
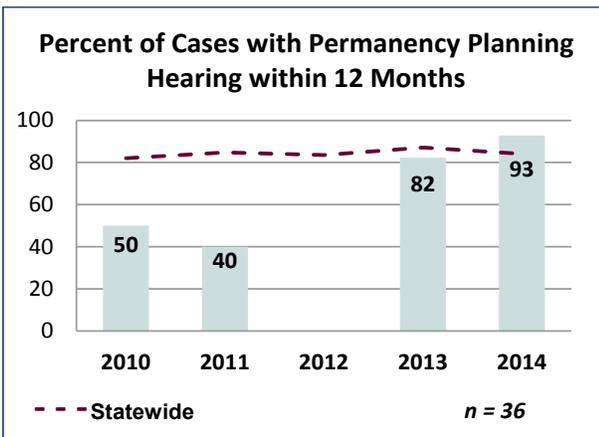
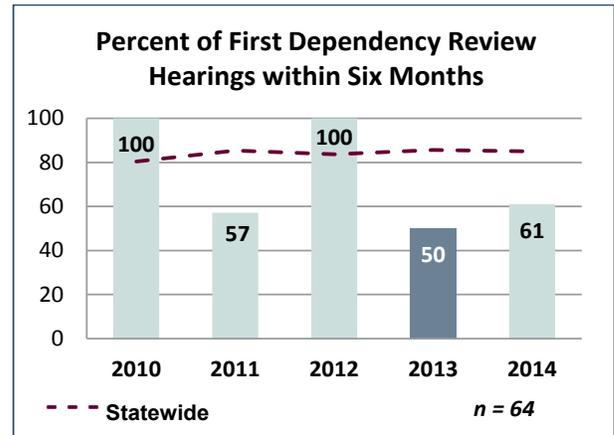
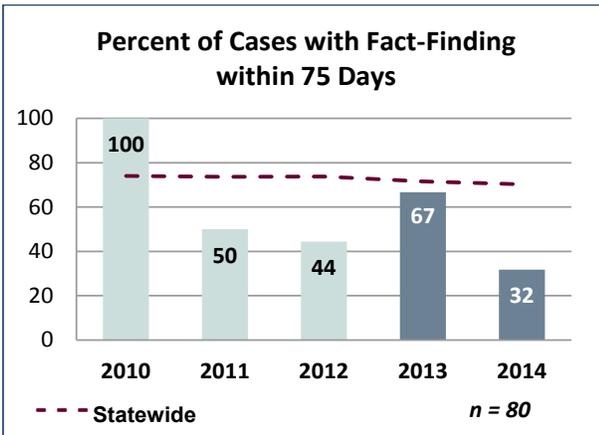
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



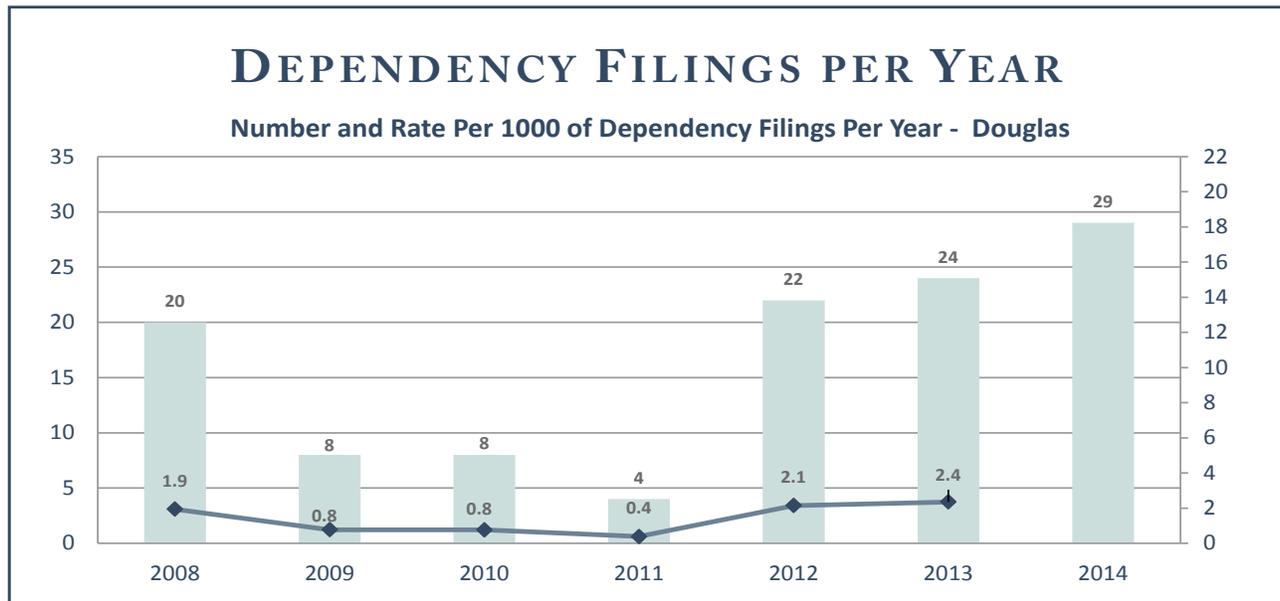
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

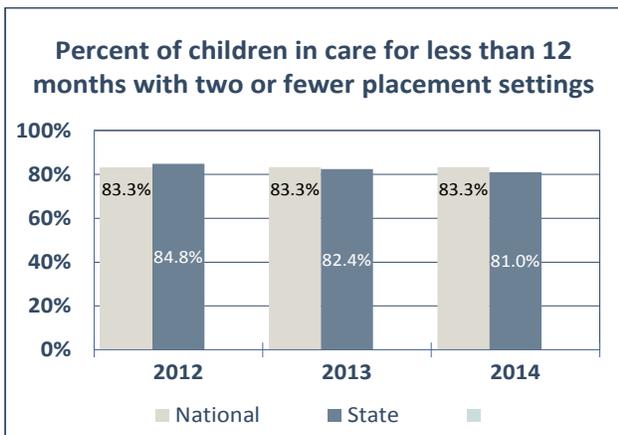
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	54	64	27	22	
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months				27.5	18
	% < 15 Months to Outcome				50%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	22	8	3	29	16
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	100%	100%	0%	0%
Reunifications	Median Months	13	30	4.5	3	11
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	67%	0%	75%	69%	86%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Douglas	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	43%	33%	27%	21%	17%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	14%	33%	14%	17%	14%
		(3) 3-5 yrs		33%	14%	8%	
		(4) 6-11 yrs	29%		14%	42%	48%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	14%		32%	13%	21%
	Gender	(1) Female	57%	33%	64%	38%	31%
		(2) Male	43%	67%	36%	63%	69%
	Race	(3) Black			5%	8%	
		(4) White	43%	67%	45%	42%	55%
		(5) Hispanic	57%	33%	45%	33%	38%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American			5%	8%	7%
		(7) Multiracial - Black				8%	



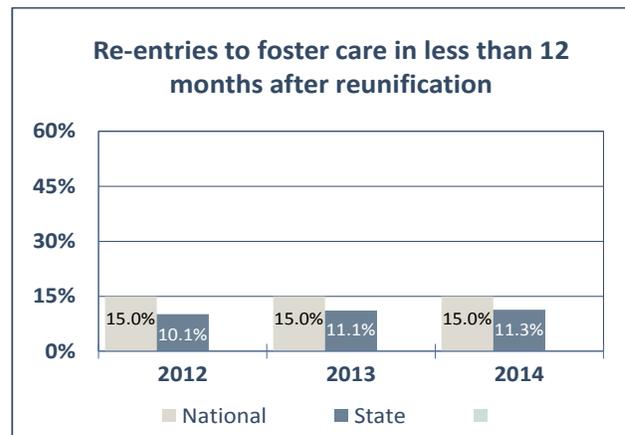
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



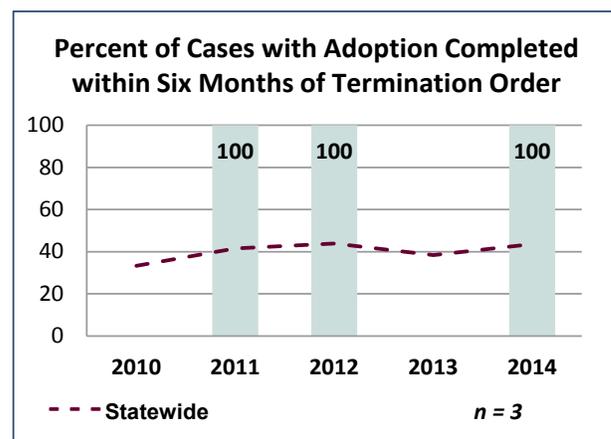
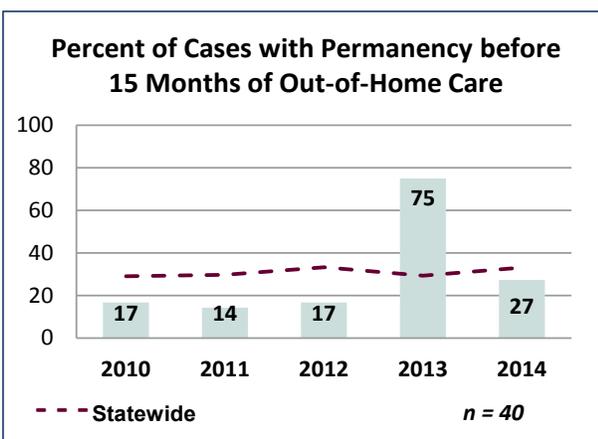
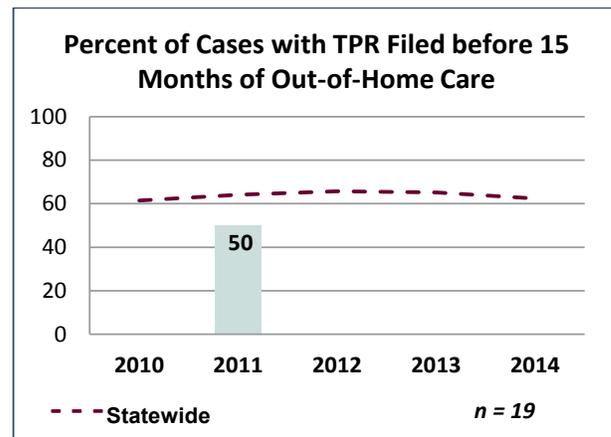
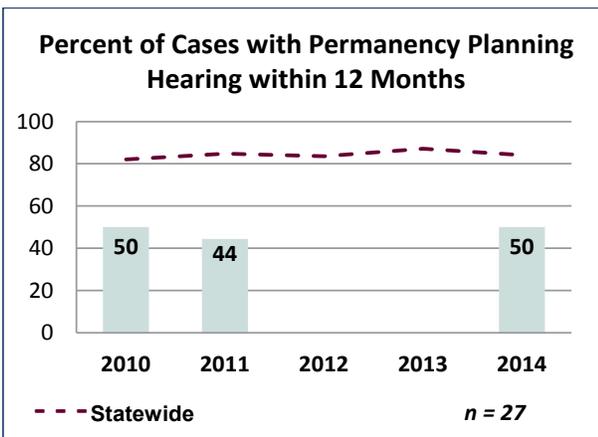
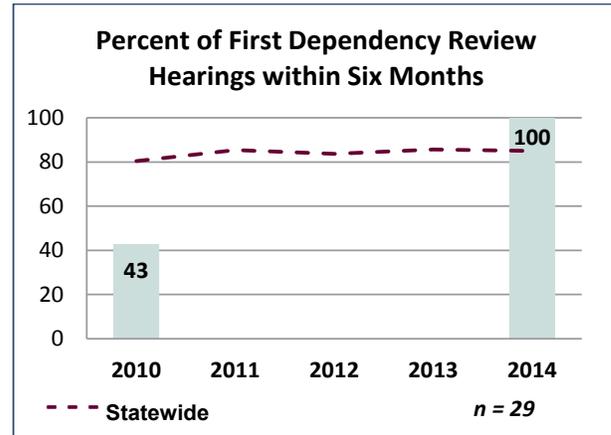
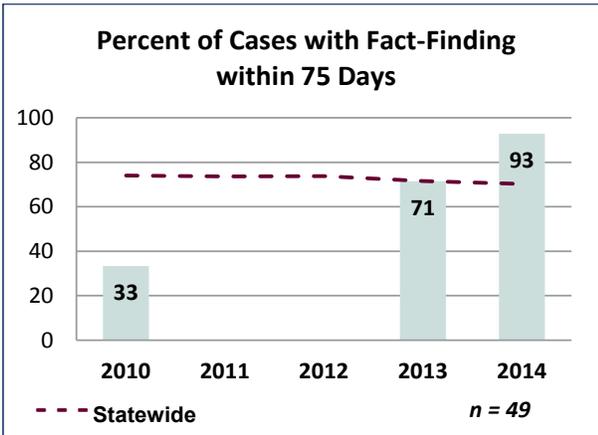
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



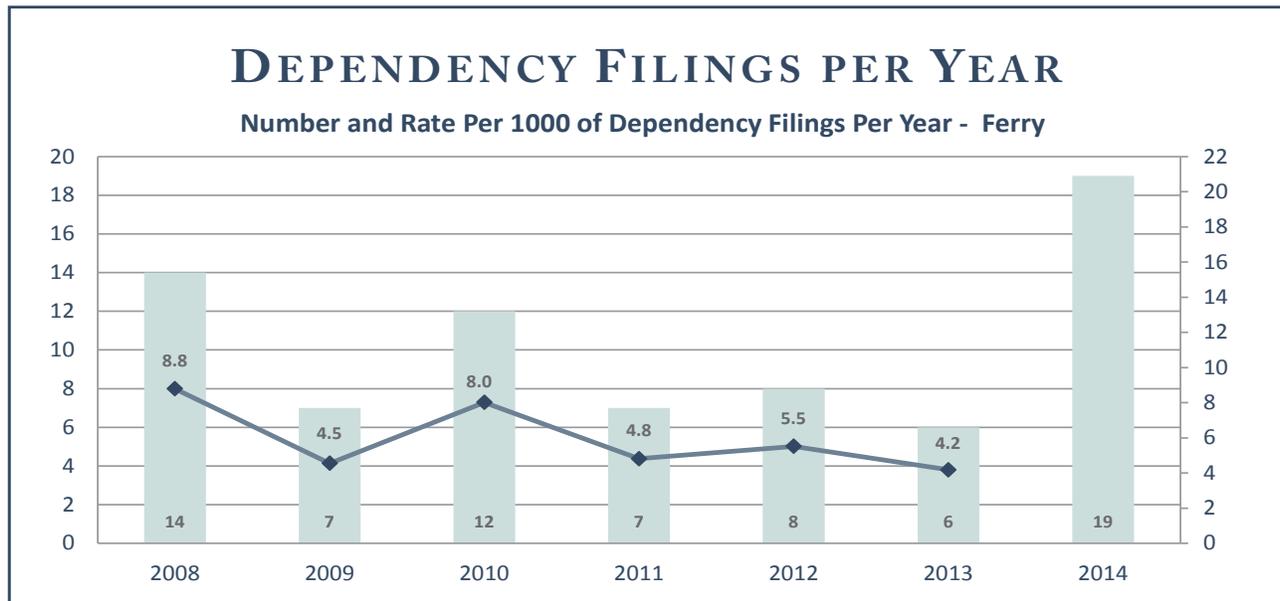
< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

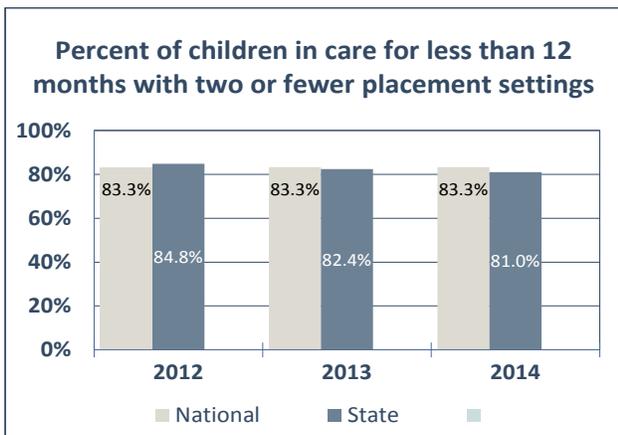
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	79	40	22		35
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%		0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months		54.5	115		
	% < 15 Months to Outcome		0%	0%		
Guardianships	Median Months				15.5	36
	% < 15 Months to Outcome				50%	33%
Reunifications	Median Months	17	17	20	12.5	39.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	22%	25%	33%	100%	25%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Ferry	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	33%	14%	38%	17%	16%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	8%	29%		50%	
		(3) 3-5 yrs	25%		13%		16%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	25%	43%	25%	33%	37%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	8%	14%	25%		32%
	Gender	(1) Female	58%	43%	25%	17%	37%
		(2) Male	42%	57%	75%	83%	63%
	Race	(1) Native American					5%
		(3) Black			13%		
		(4) White	100%	100%	88%	83%	79%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American				17%	5%
		(9) Unknown					11%



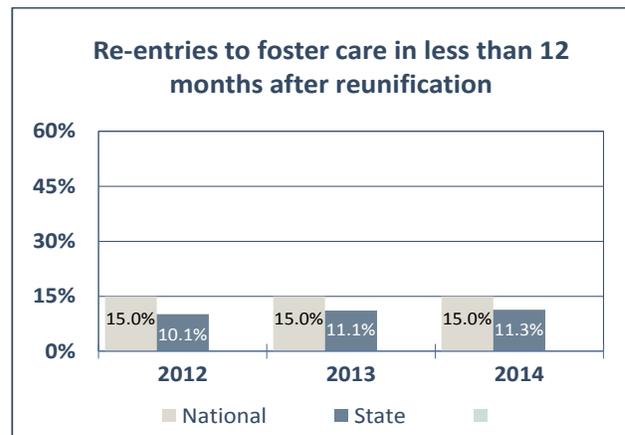
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



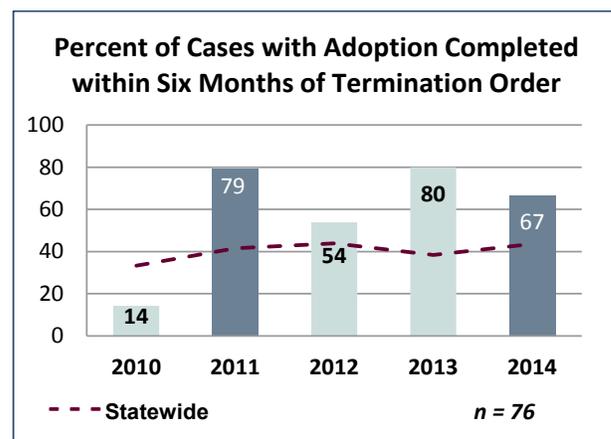
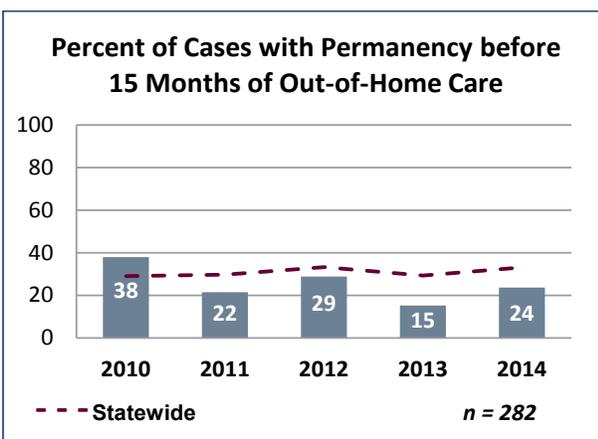
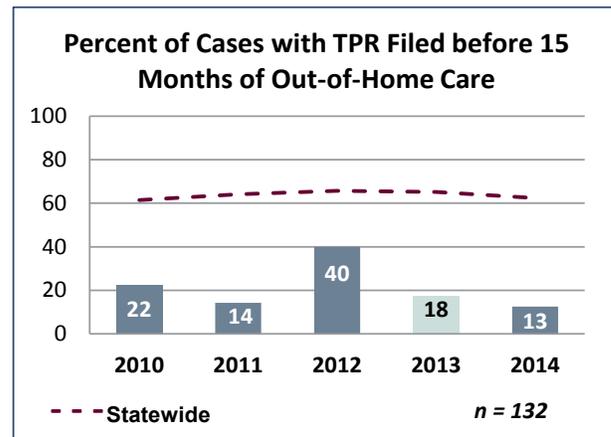
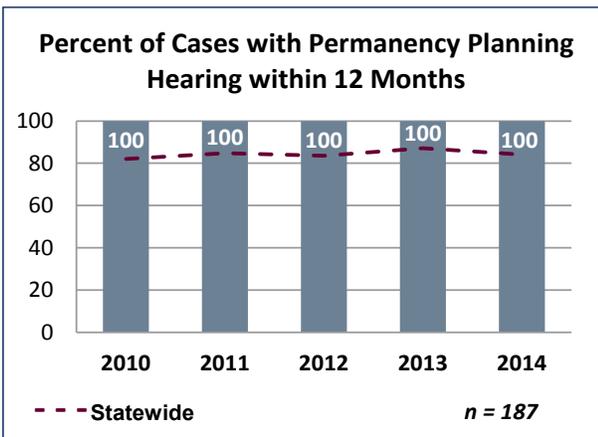
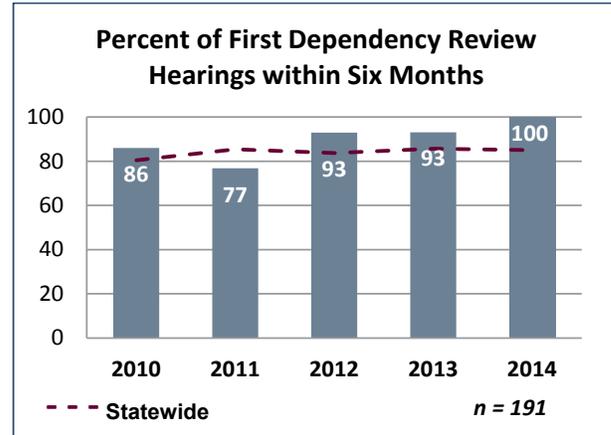
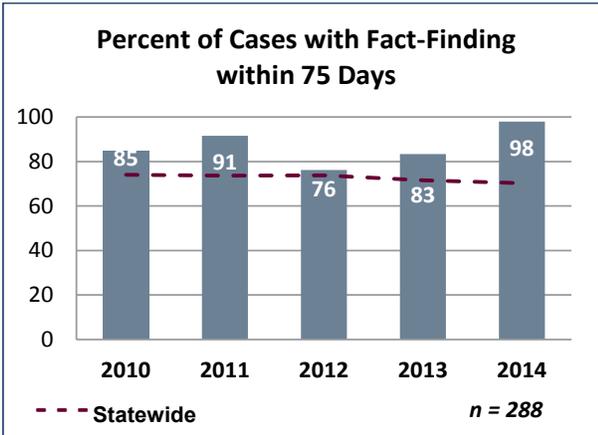
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



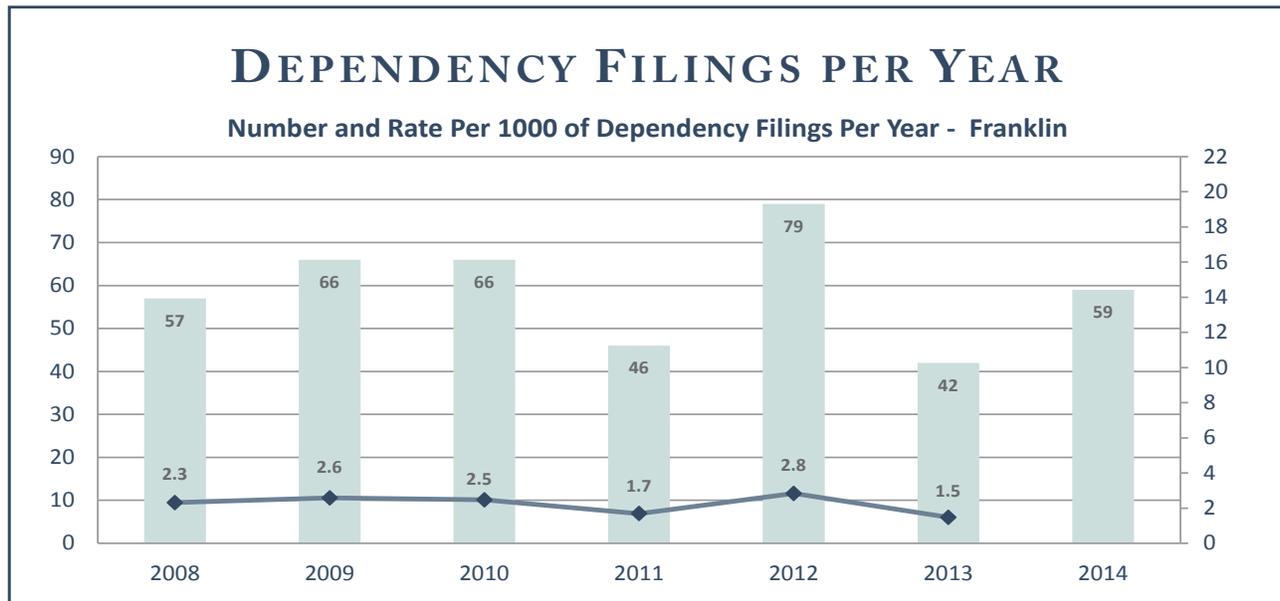
< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

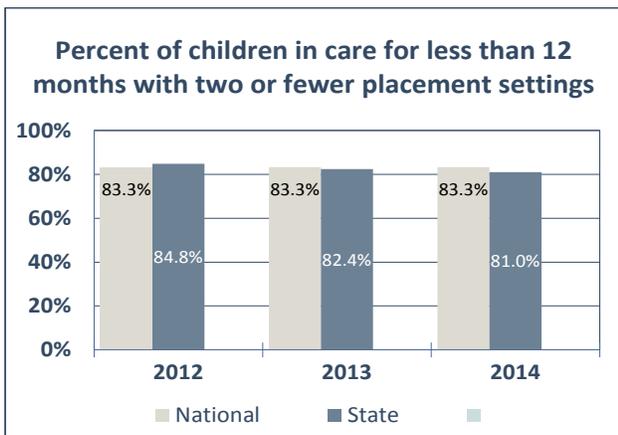
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	30	41	36	34	38
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	64.5	42.5	44	45	50.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	25%	50%	20%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	24	40	41	36	41
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	9%	10%	0%	0%	0%
Reunifications	Median Months	9	17	21	20.5	12.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	69%	44%	39%	20%	54%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Franklin	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	18%	17%	13%	22%	14%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	17%	9%	16%	12%	14%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	20%	20%	23%	29%	20%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	33%	26%	25%	24%	38%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	12%	28%	23%	12%	14%
	Gender	(1) Female	48%	65%	45%	39%	61%
		(2) Male	52%	35%	55%	61%	39%
	Race	(2) Asian/PI		7%			
		(3) Black	11%	9%	4%	2%	2%
		(4) White	27%	11%	19%	56%	20%
		(5) Hispanic	56%	72%	68%	34%	77%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	6%			7%	2%
		(7) Multiracial - Black		2%	9%		



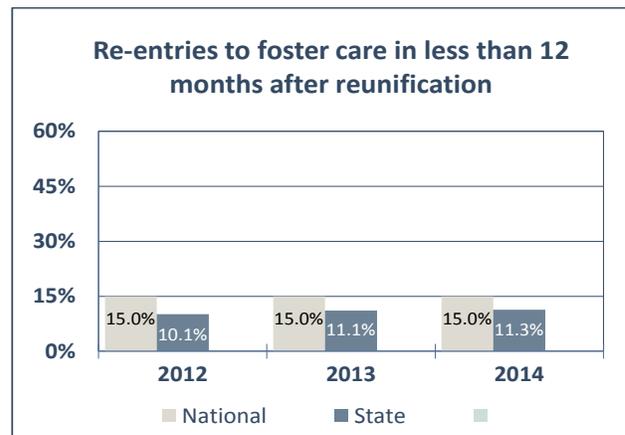
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



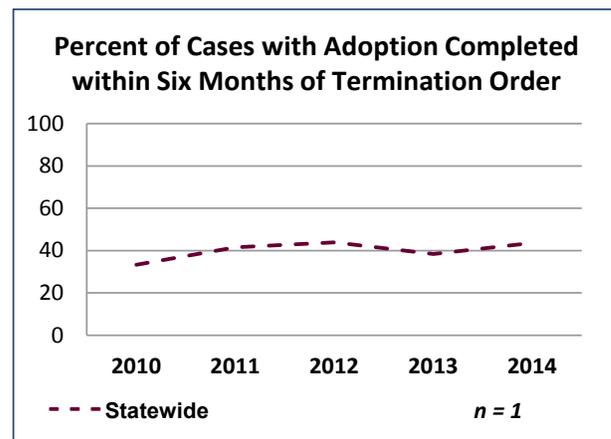
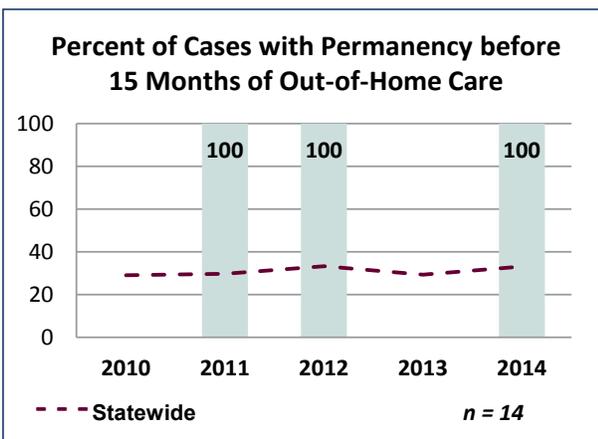
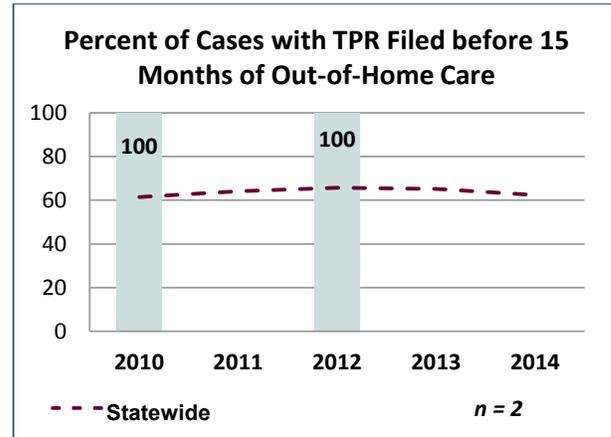
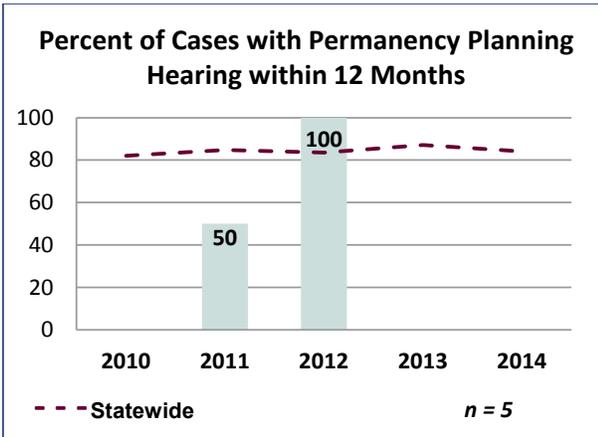
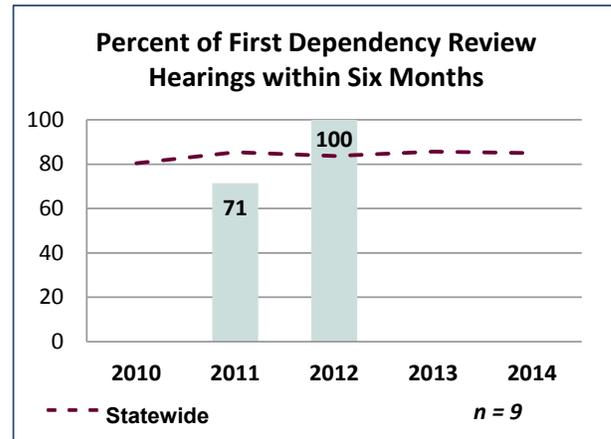
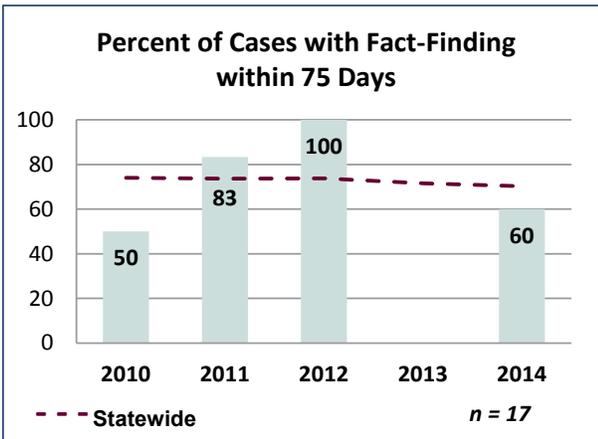
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



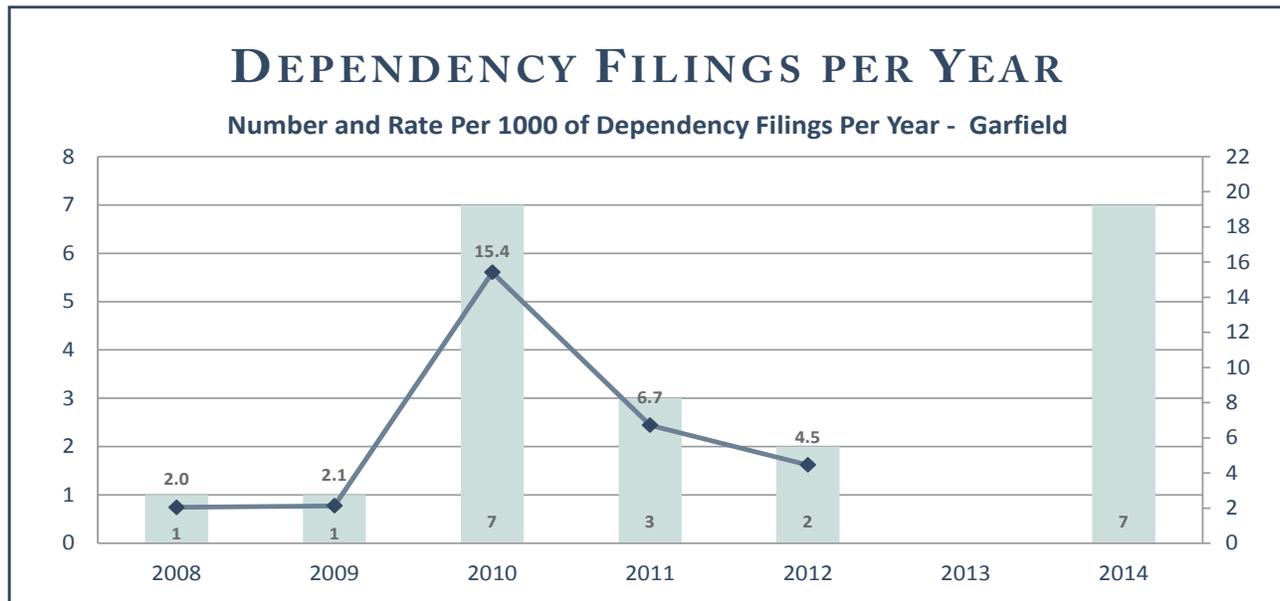
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

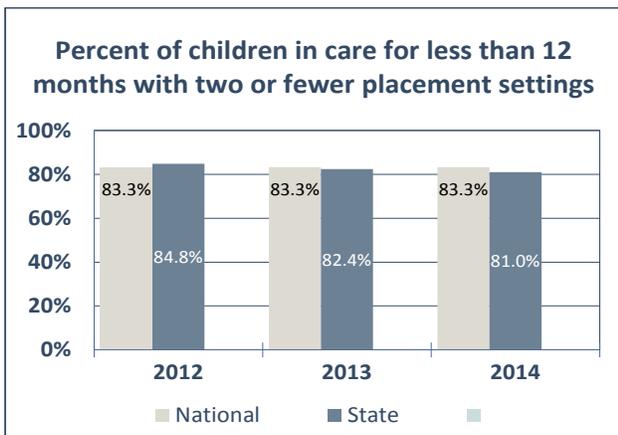
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months		14		25	
	% < 15 Months to Outcome		100%		0%	
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months					
	% < 15 Months to Outcome					
Guardianships	Median Months		13	4		
	% < 15 Months to Outcome		100%	100%		
Reunifications	Median Months		10	0		2
	% < 15 Months to Outcome		100%	100%		100%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Garfield	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	14%	33%			
		(2) 1-2 yrs	43%				
		(3) 3-5 yrs	29%	67%			29%
		(4) 6-11 yrs			100%		29%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	14%				43%
	Gender	(1) Female	86%	67%	50%		43%
		(2) Male	14%	33%	50%		57%
	Race	(4) White	86%	67%	100%		71%
		(5) Hispanic	14%	33%			
		(6) Multiracial - Native American					29%



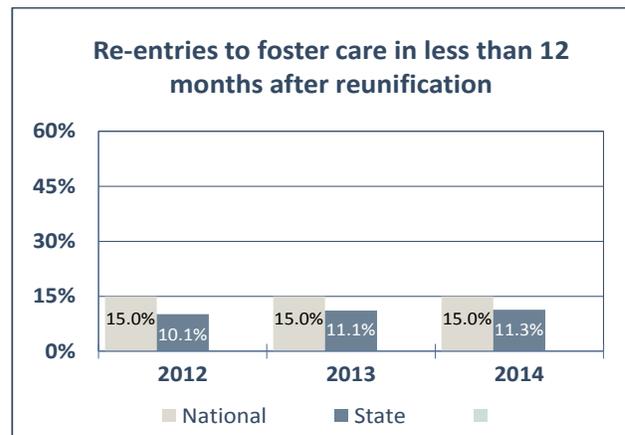
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



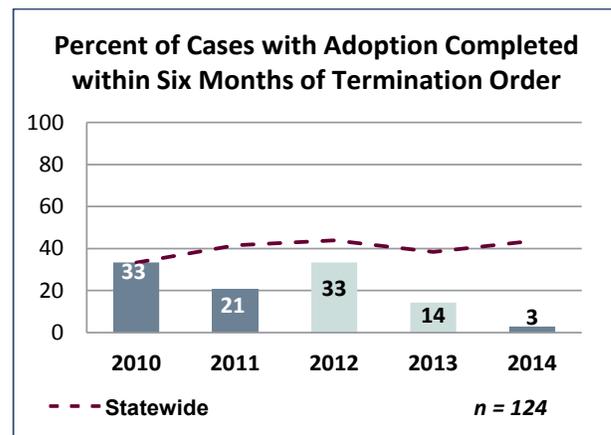
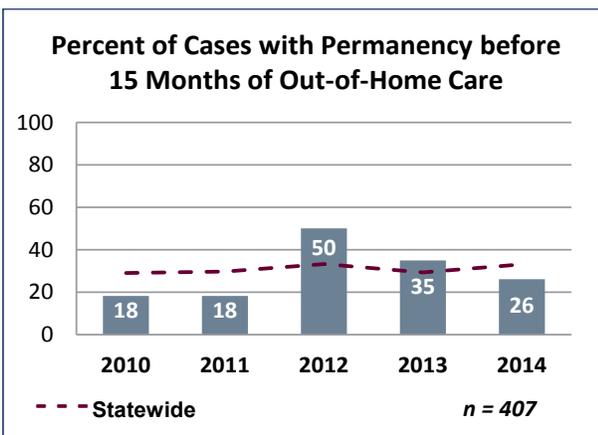
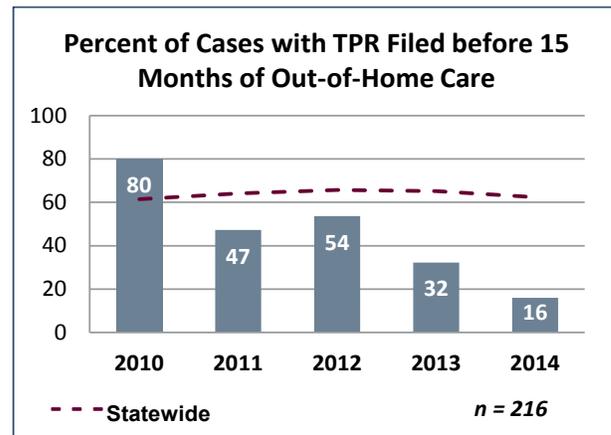
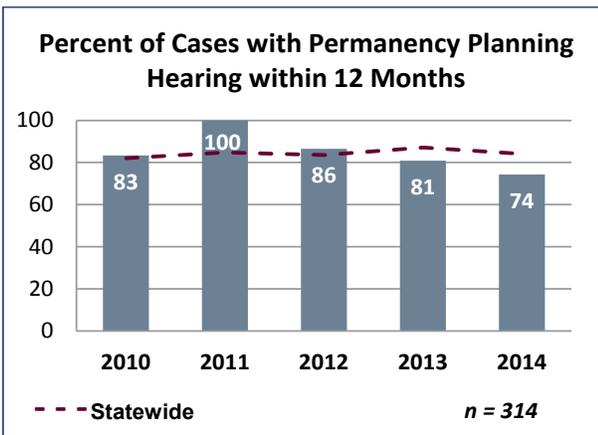
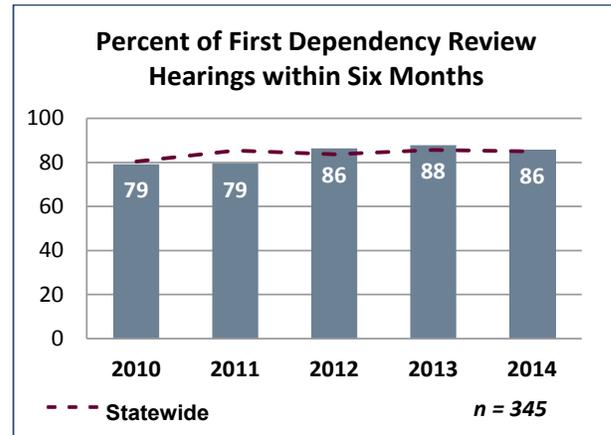
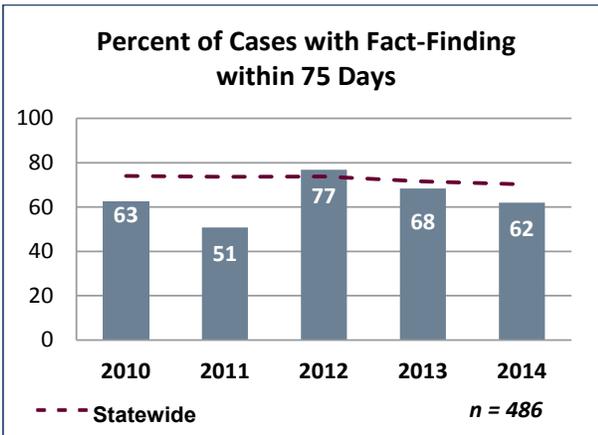
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

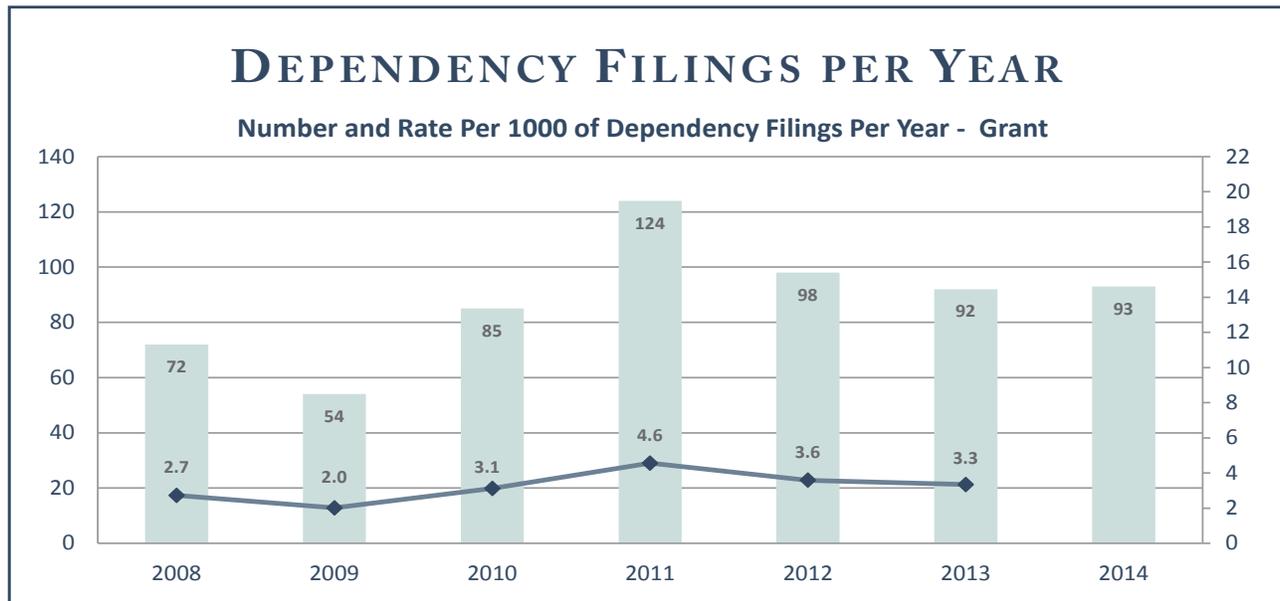
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	39	37	28	47.5	37.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	7%	10%	12%	7%	3%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	46	29	17	50	86
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	33%	25%	50%	0%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	28	18.5	14	31	31
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	64%	11%	40%
Reunifications	Median Months	21	15.5	14	14	15
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	34%	33%	57%	51%	46%

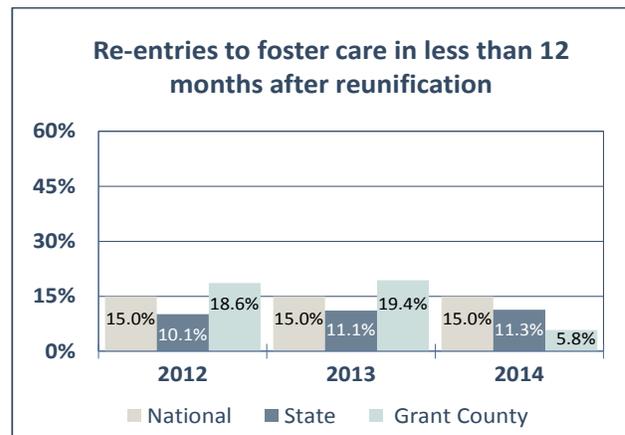
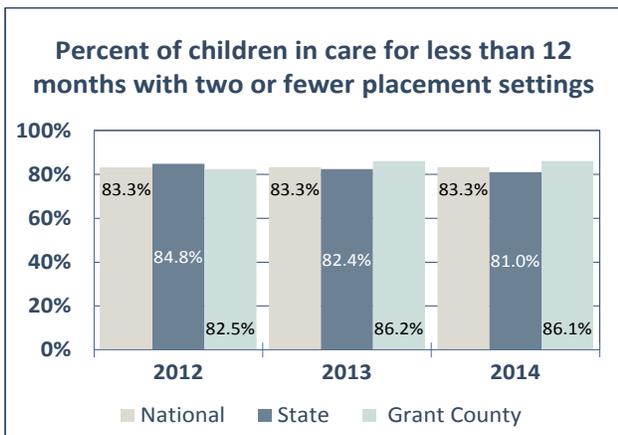
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Grant	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	33%	21%	13%	36%	25%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	25%	26%	26%	20%	25%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	14%	23%	17%	18%	18%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	19%	23%	32%	18%	26%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	8%	6%	12%	7%	5%
	Gender	(1) Female	52%	54%	58%	47%	46%
		(2) Male	48%	46%	42%	53%	54%
	Race	(1) Native American	1%	1%		1%	2%
		(2) Asian/PI				1%	
		(3) Black		1%	2%	3%	
		(4) White	48%	50%	62%	43%	51%
		(5) Hispanic	36%	40%	28%	44%	41%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	11%	6%	8%	2%	1%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	2%	2%		1%	
		(8) Multiracial - Other		1%			
(9) Unknown		1%	1%		3%	5%	



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

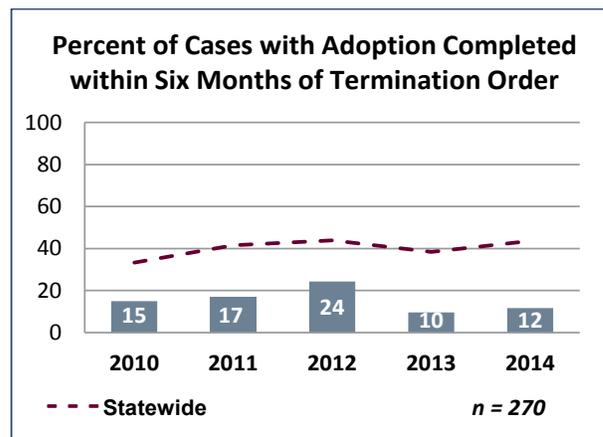
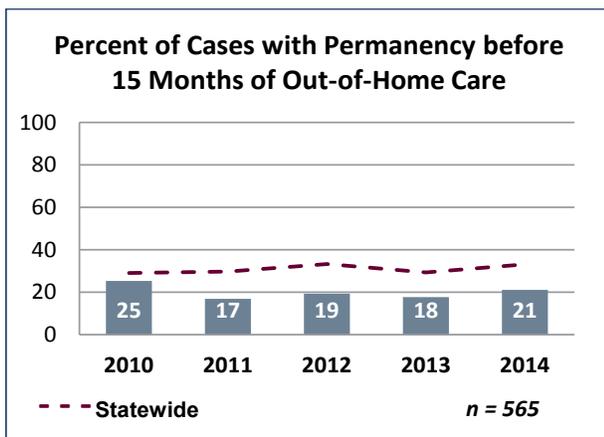
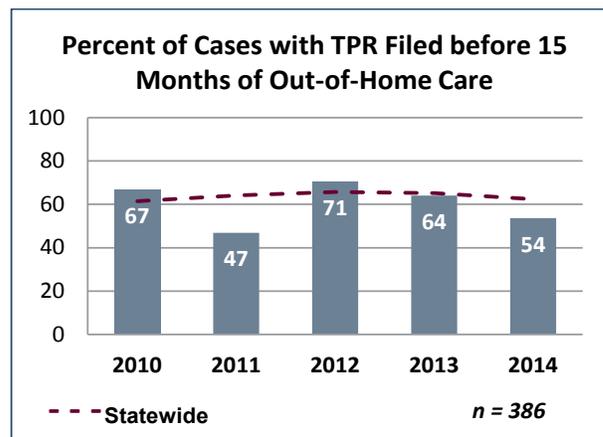
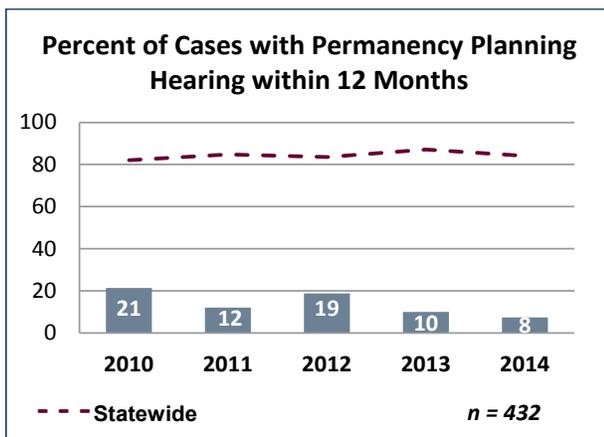
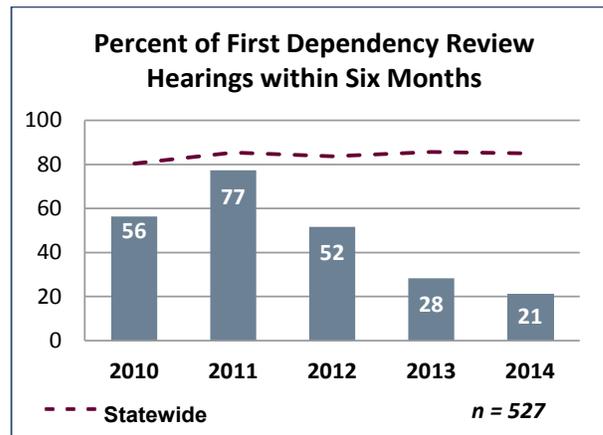
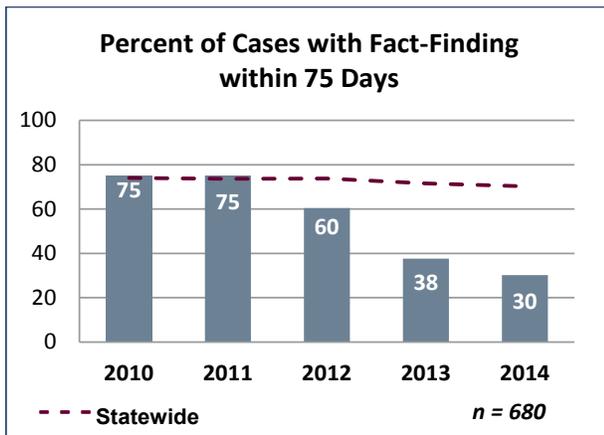


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

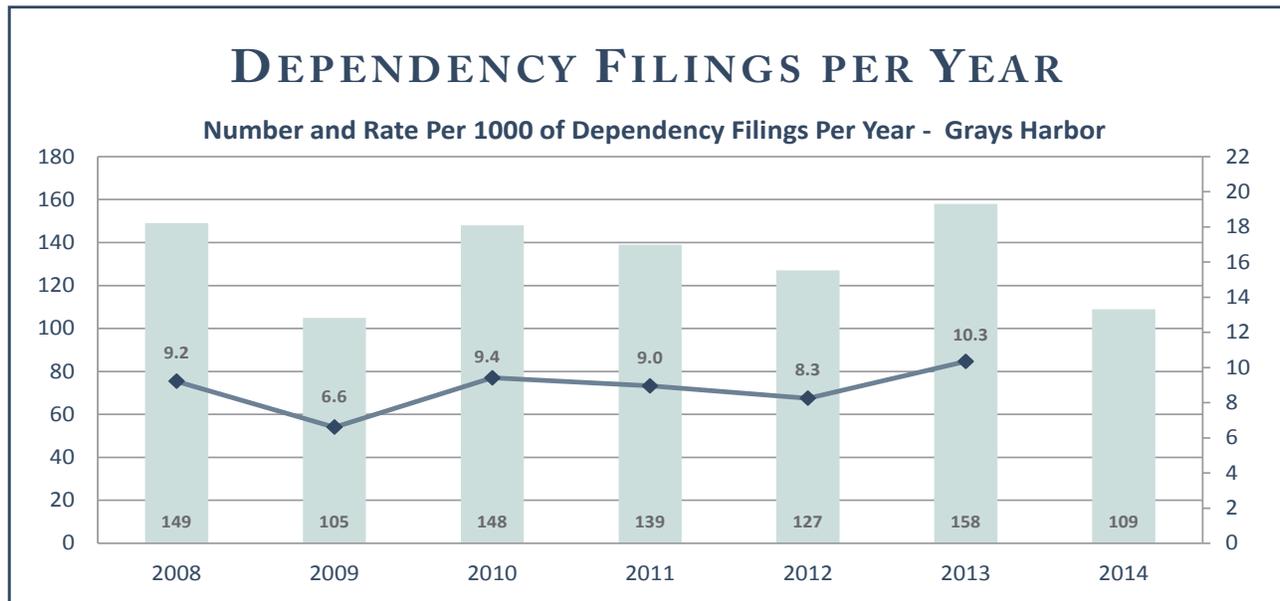
20+ CASE EVENTS

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	37	36	29	31.5	36
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	6%	8%	10%	7%	7%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	43	79	27	66	64
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	20%	33%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	23	26	27	18	20
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	11%	5%	33%	33%
Reunifications	Median Months	9	16	17	20	17
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	64%	43%	34%	31%	41%

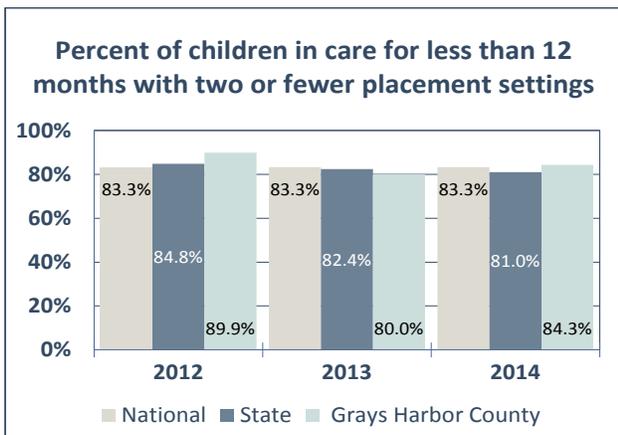
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Grays Harbor	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	30%	30%	34%	29%	47%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	24%	11%	13%	13%	11%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	17%	25%	22%	17%	10%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	17%	23%	20%	24%	17%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	12%	11%	11%	16%	15%
	Gender	(1) Female	52%	44%	46%	42%	53%
		(2) Male	48%	56%	54%	58%	47%
	Race	(1) Native American	5%	5%	11%	5%	8%
		(2) Asian/PI	2%	2%		3%	
		(3) Black	1%	2%		1%	1%
		(4) White	62%	73%	47%	55%	61%
		(5) Hispanic	13%	6%	13%	17%	21%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	16%	11%	21%	13%	6%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	1%	2%	3%	1%	2%
		(8) Multiracial - Other			5%	4%	
(9) Unknown						1%	



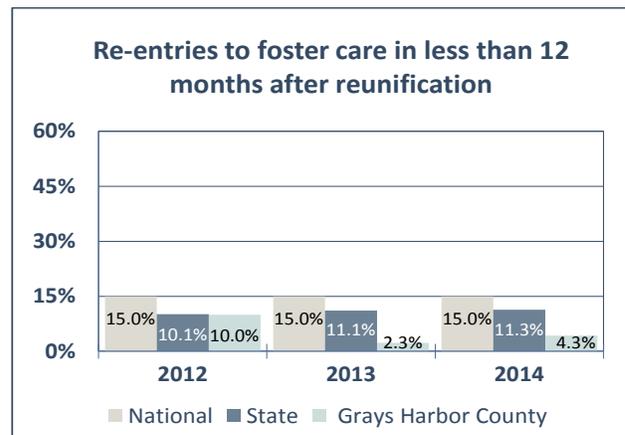
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



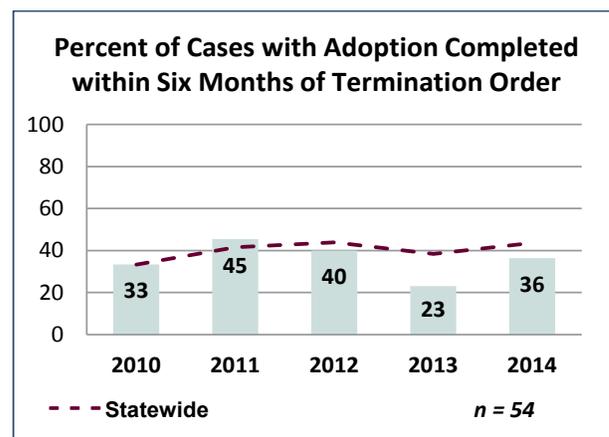
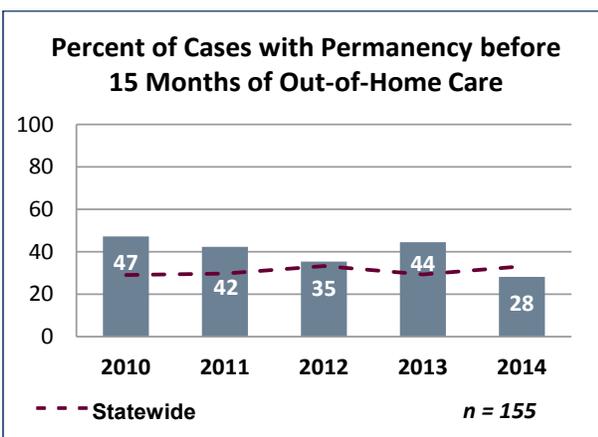
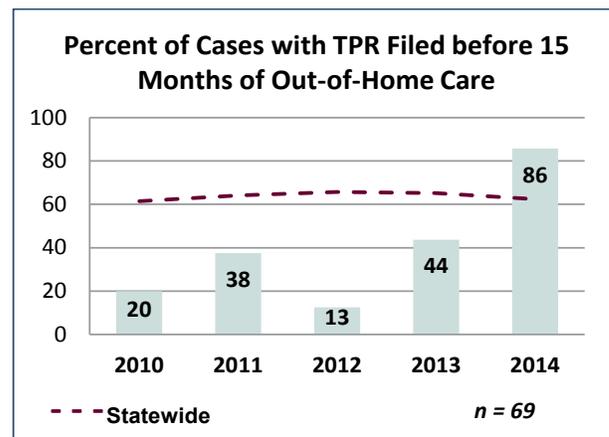
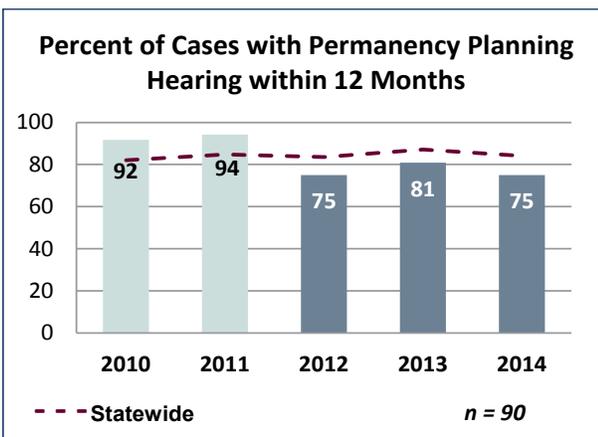
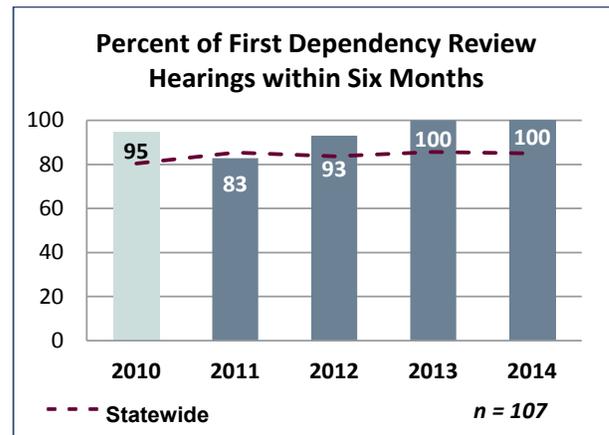
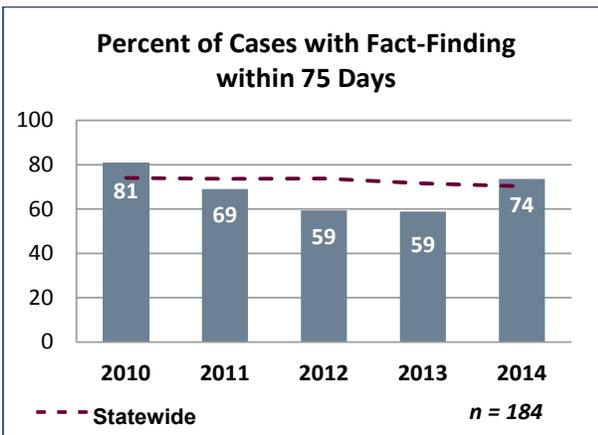
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

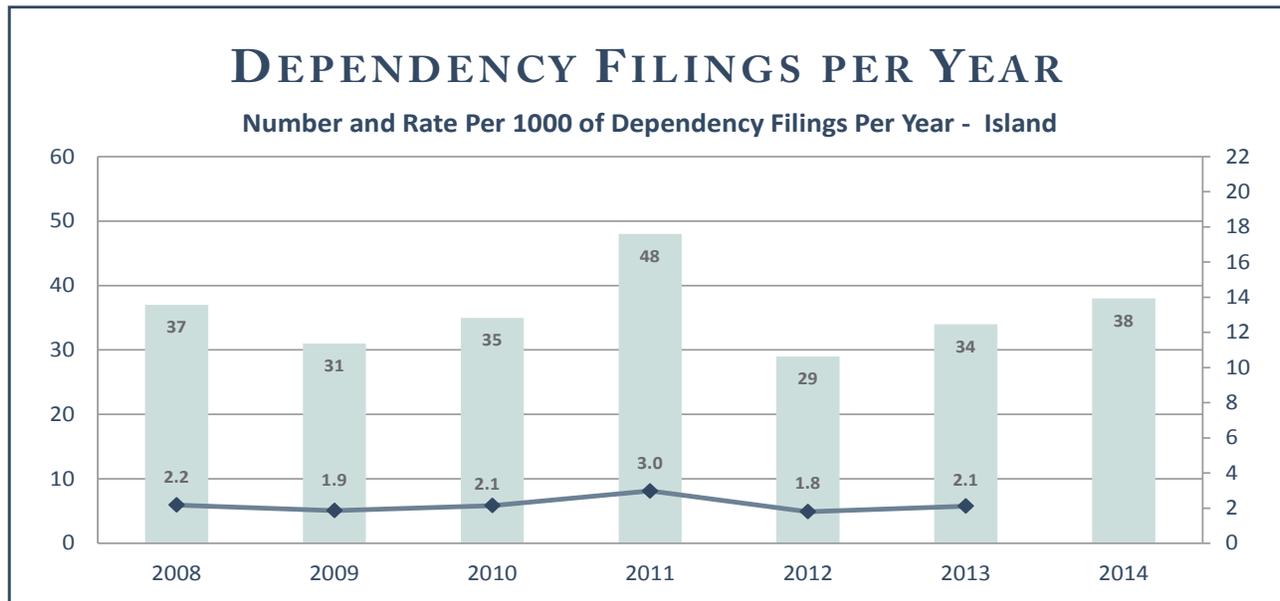
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	36	46	20.5	36	28
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	8%	8%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	66		42	87.5	112
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%		0%	0%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	1	28		0	15
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	100%	0%		100%	50%
Reunifications	Median Months	6	7	14	8	14
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	71%	79%	52%	89%	50%

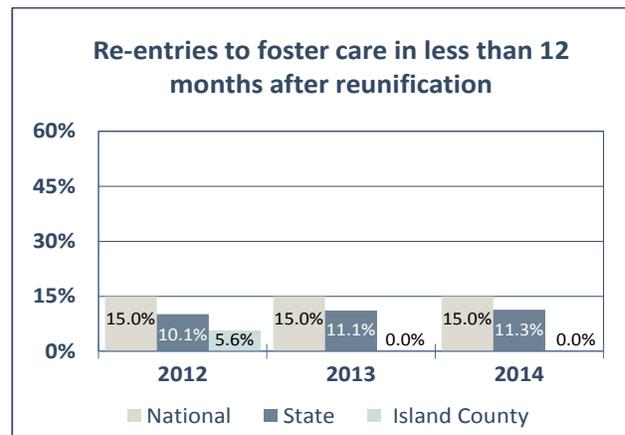
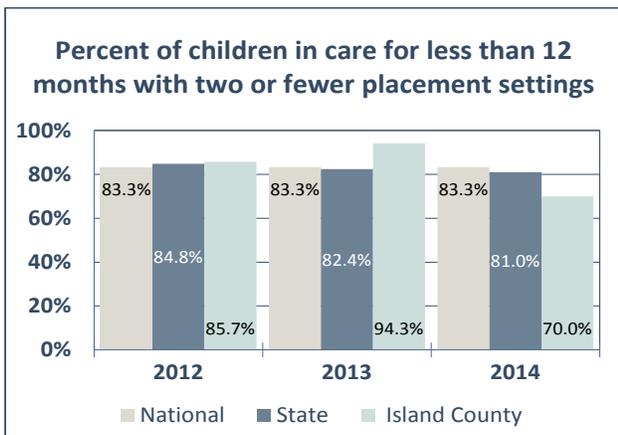
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Island	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	23%	20%	17%	18%	13%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	26%	7%	21%	18%	22%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	26%	20%	31%	24%	13%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	17%	26%	21%	30%	34%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	9%	28%	10%	6%	19%
		(6) >17 yrs				3%	
	Gender	(1) Female	40%	46%	38%	70%	44%
		(2) Male	60%	54%	62%	30%	56%
	Race	(1) Native American		2%	3%		3%
		(2) Asian/PI	9%				3%
		(3) Black	3%	4%	3%	15%	28%
		(4) White	66%	80%	66%	79%	53%
		(5) Hispanic	6%	7%	3%	3%	3%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	9%			3%	6%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	6%	7%	24%		3%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	3%				



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

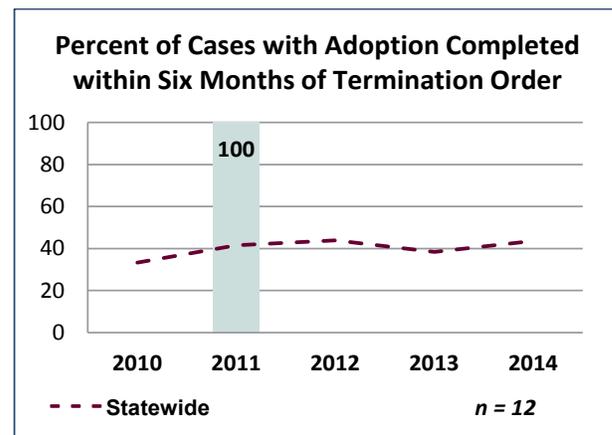
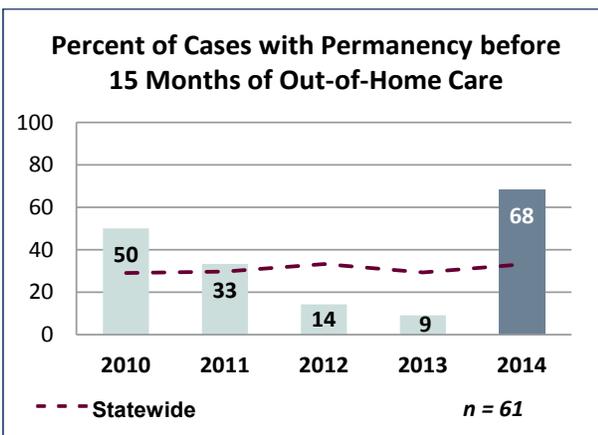
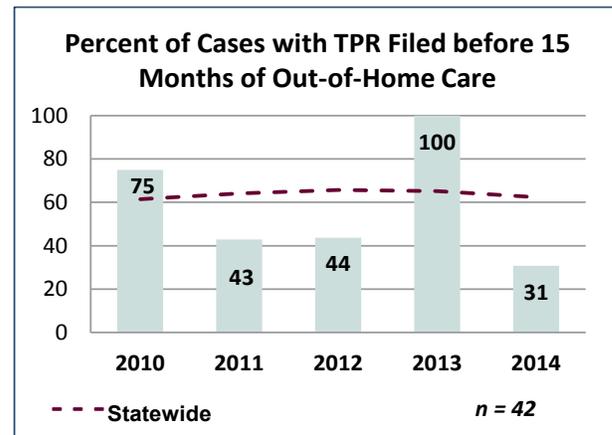
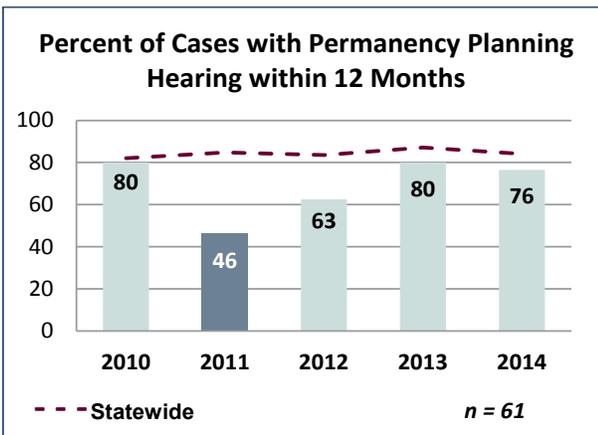
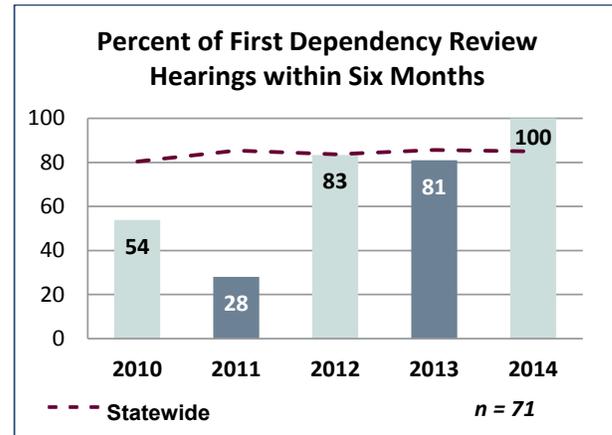
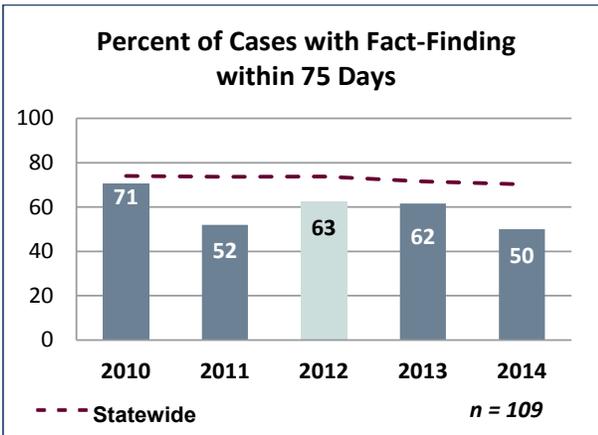


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

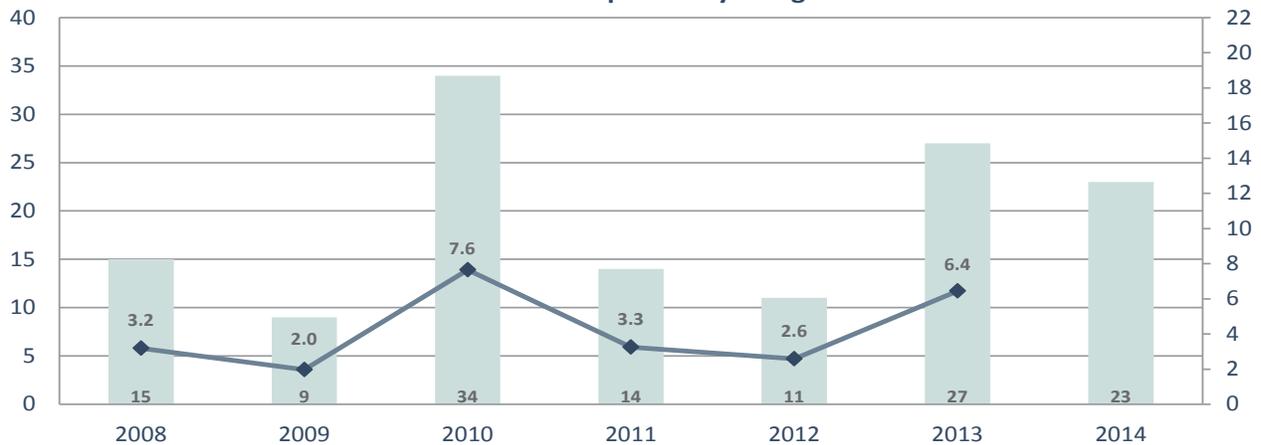
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	38	19	36	29	41
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	6	8	22	39	51
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	17			55	45
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%			0%	0%
Reunifications	Median Months	0	16	17	39	6
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	100%	25%	25%	17%	88%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Jefferson	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	21%	7%	18%	27%	9%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	9%	7%		19%	14%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	9%	14%	45%	4%	23%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	18%	29%	18%	35%	36%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	42%	43%	18%	15%	18%
	Gender	(1) Female	48%	57%	64%	58%	59%
		(2) Male	52%	43%	36%	42%	41%
	Race	(1) Native American	9%	36%		15%	14%
		(2) Asian/PI	9%				
		(3) Black		7%			23%
		(4) White	64%	29%	82%	69%	41%
		(5) Hispanic		21%			
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	15%		9%	12%	23%
		(7) Multiracial - Black			9%	4%	
		(8) Multiracial - Other		7%			
		(9) Unknown	3%				

DEPENDENCY FILINGS PER YEAR

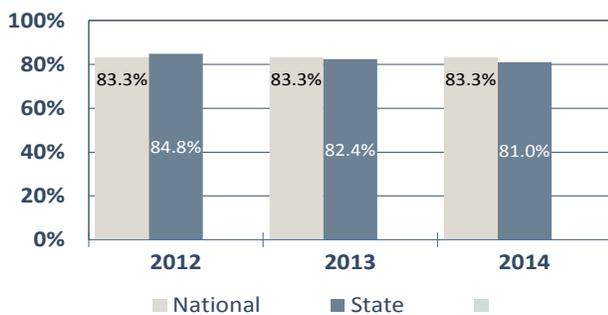
Number and Rate Per 1000 of Dependency Filings Per Year - Jefferson



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

Percent of children in care for less than 12 months with two or fewer placement settings



Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

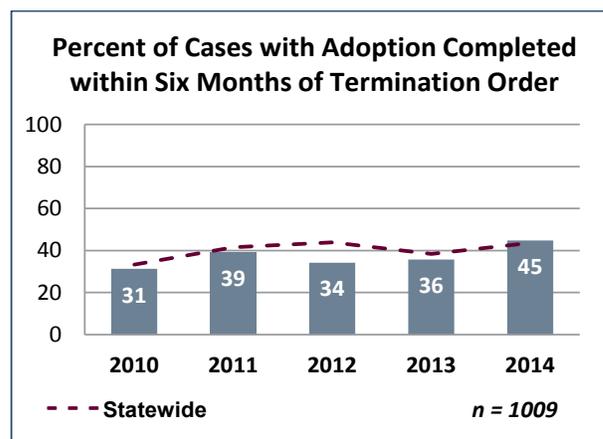
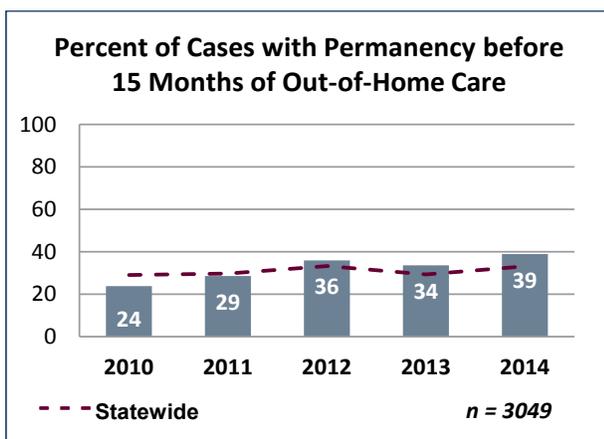
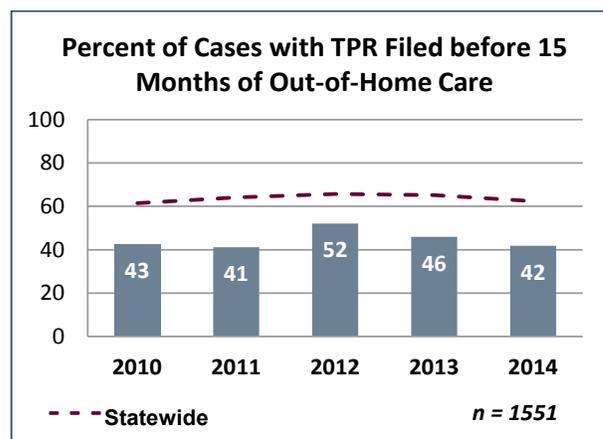
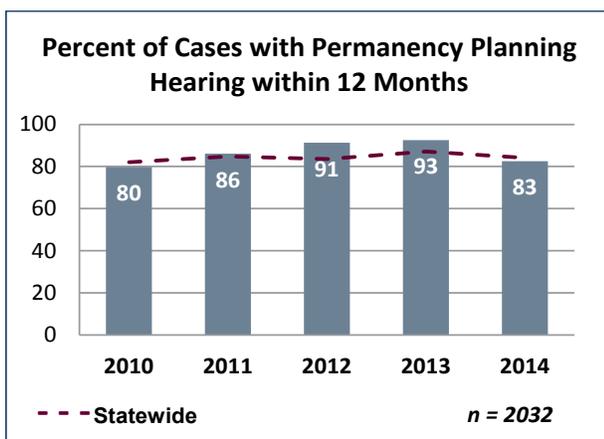
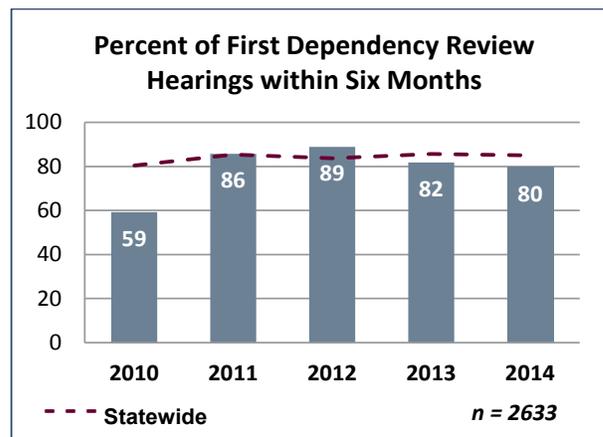
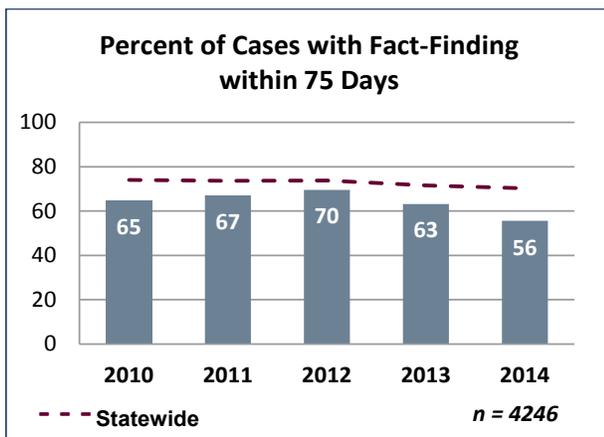
National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Re-entries to foster care in less than 12 months after reunification



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



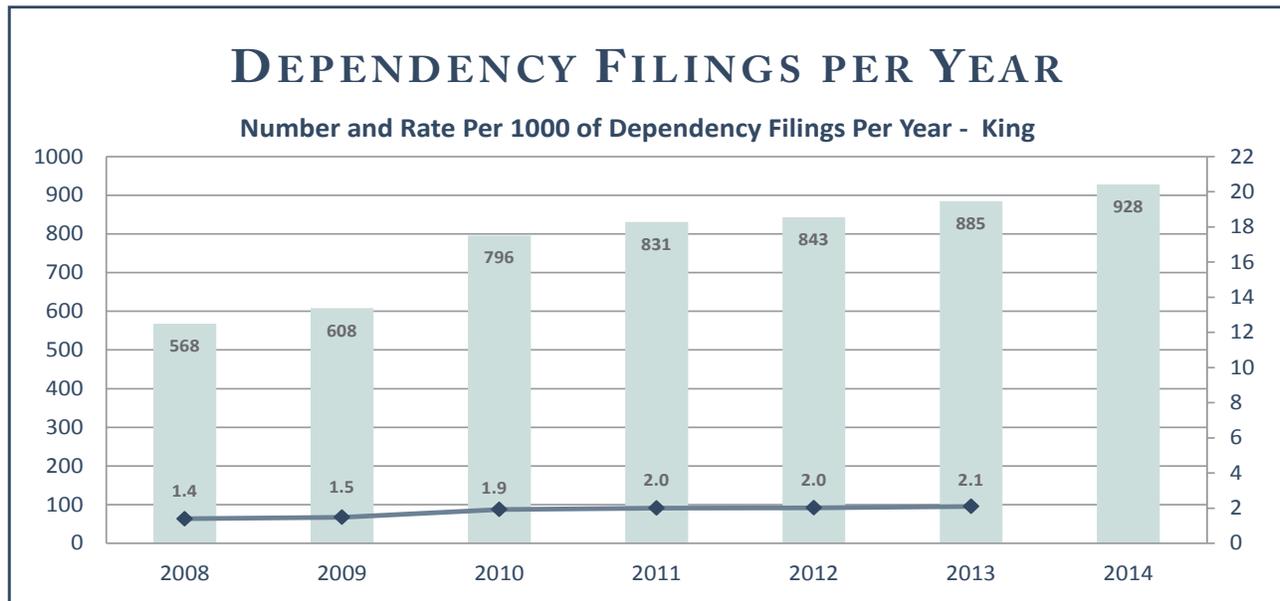
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

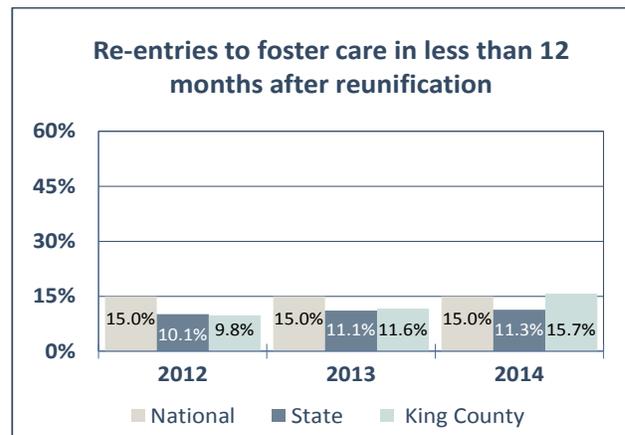
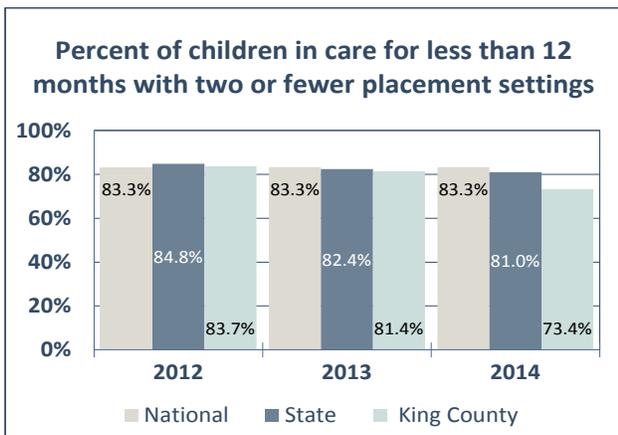
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	35	32	33	32	31
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	3%	4%	3%	1%	2%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	46	35	39	32	48
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	20%	17%	15%	17%	18%
Guardianships	Median Months	27	25	26	26	28
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	10%	21%	15%	8%	8%
Reunifications	Median Months	14	14	14	14	8
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	52%	55%	52%	53%	60%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
King	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	27%	28%	26%	25%	25%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	16%	12%	15%	14%	14%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	17%	16%	22%	18%	15%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	22%	23%	25%	27%	26%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	18%	20%	13%	17%	20%
		(6) >17 yrs		0%			
	Gender	(1) Female	52%	51%	51%	48%	49%
		(2) Male	48%	49%	49%	52%	51%
	Race	(1) Native American	3%	5%	5%	4%	4%
		(2) Asian/PI	5%	6%	3%	6%	6%
		(3) Black	25%	24%	20%	26%	19%
		(4) White	31%	32%	39%	29%	32%
		(5) Hispanic	14%	12%	8%	14%	17%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	9%	10%	14%	10%	5%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	10%	10%	9%	10%	12%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	3%	2%	1%	2%	3%
		(9) Unknown					2%



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

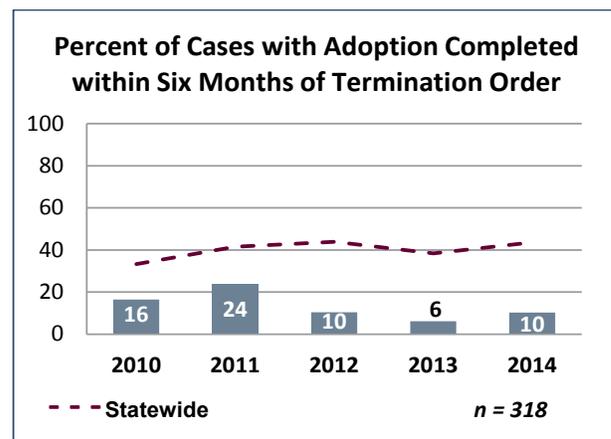
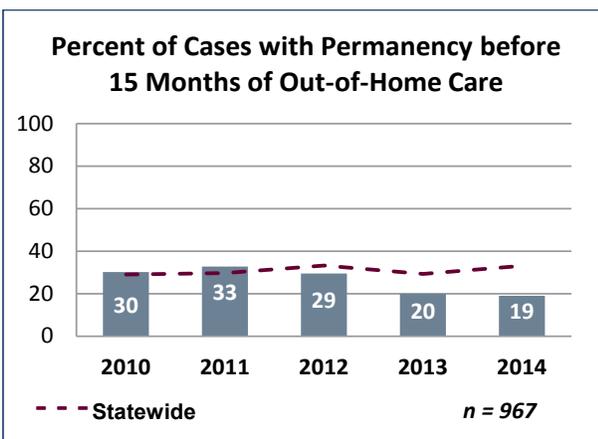
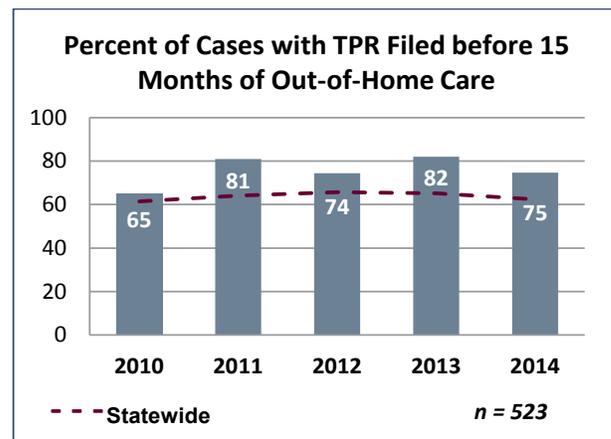
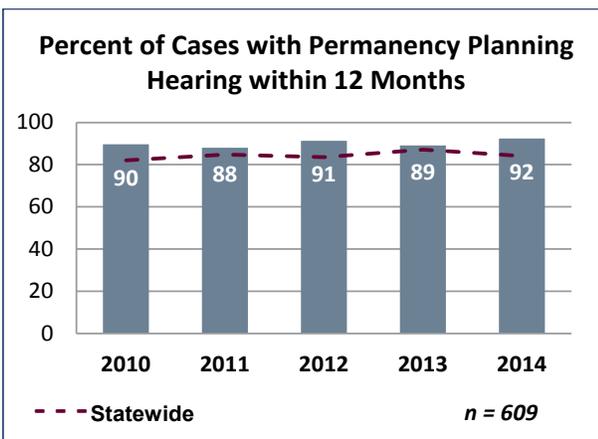
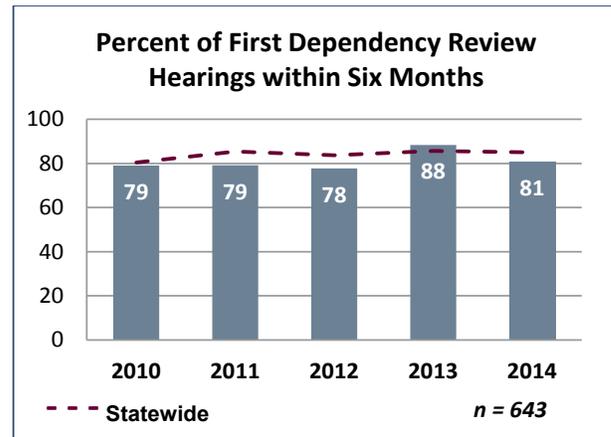
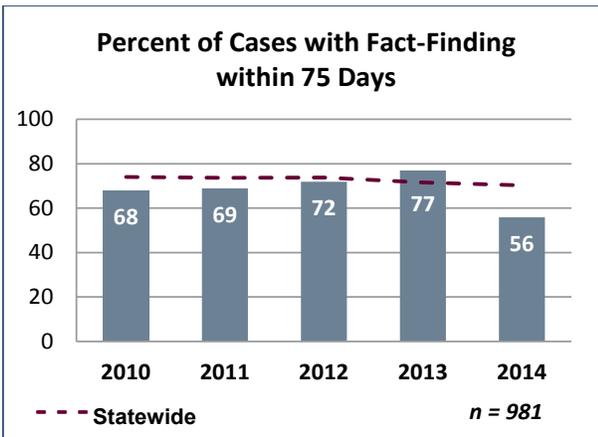


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



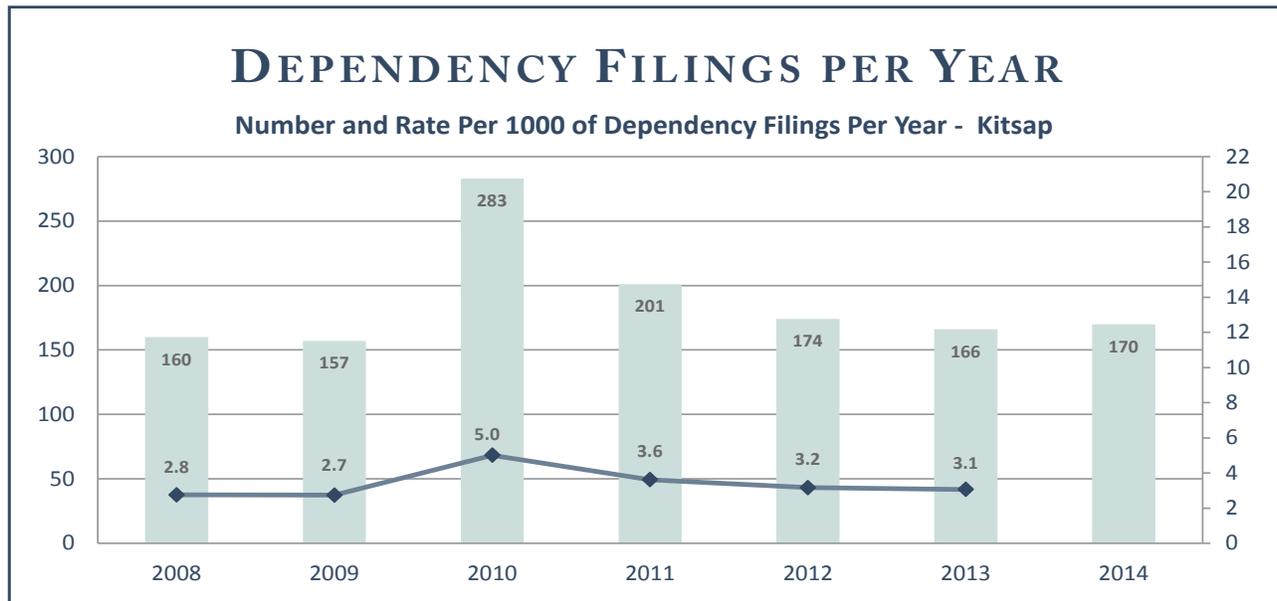
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

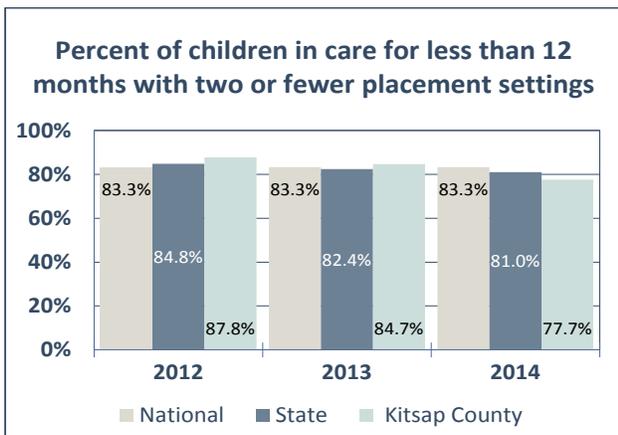
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	34	30	27	31	37
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	6%	2%	3%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	35	19	21	31	51
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	6%	37%	20%	24%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	45	31	25	18	22
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	11%	0%	6%	0%	14%
Reunifications	Median Months	13	10.5	16	17	17.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	55%	63%	46%	37%	36%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Kitsap	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	22%	29%	31%	28%	25%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	19%	18%	15%	13%	10%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	15%	19%	17%	20%	15%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	23%	18%	20%	20%	25%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	21%	16%	17%	18%	24%
	Gender	(1) Female	54%	52%	50%	47%	49%
		(2) Male	46%	48%	50%	53%	51%
	Race	(1) Native American	6%	1%	5%	5%	5%
		(2) Asian/PI	1%	3%		1%	4%
		(3) Black	4%	10%	8%	4%	2%
		(4) White	59%	61%	71%	56%	56%
		(5) Hispanic	7%	9%	5%	7%	12%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	11%	8%	6%	12%	7%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	9%	4%	4%	10%	7%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	2%	4%	2%	4%	2%
		(9) Unknown					4%



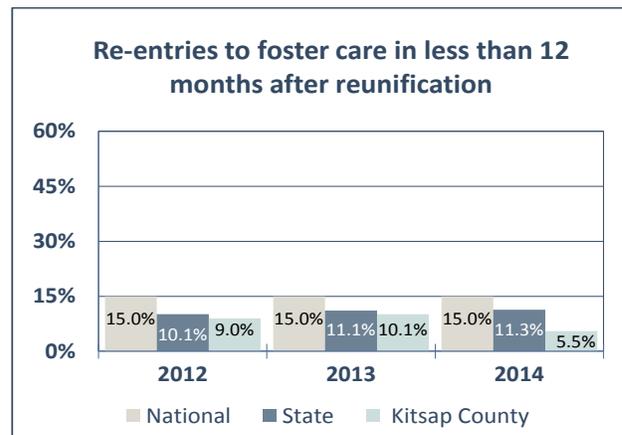
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



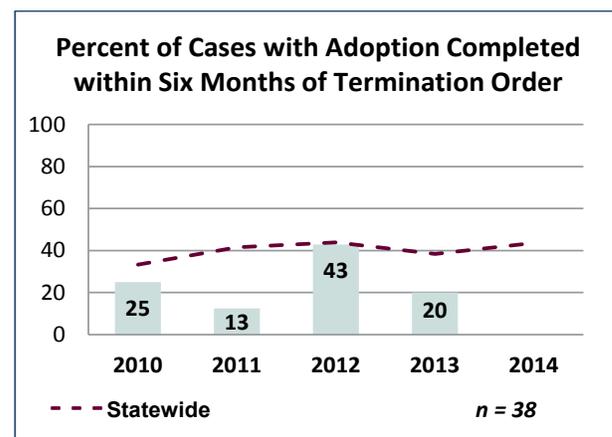
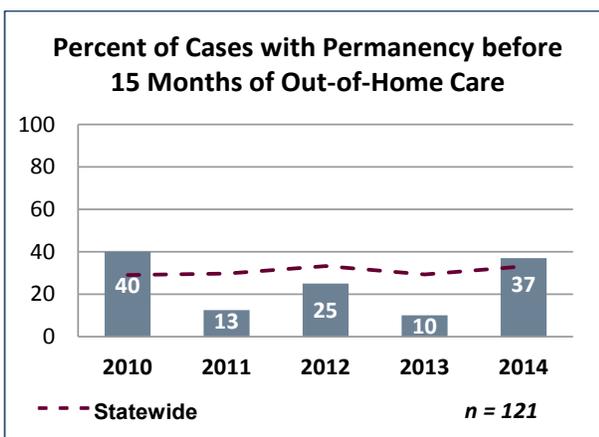
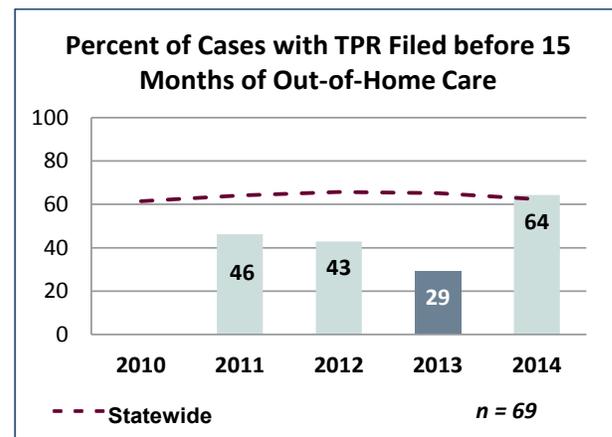
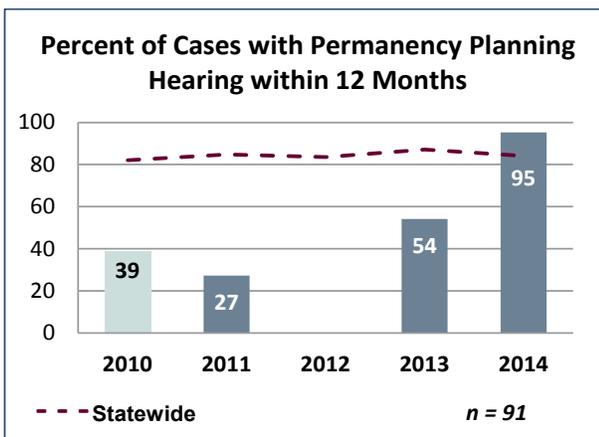
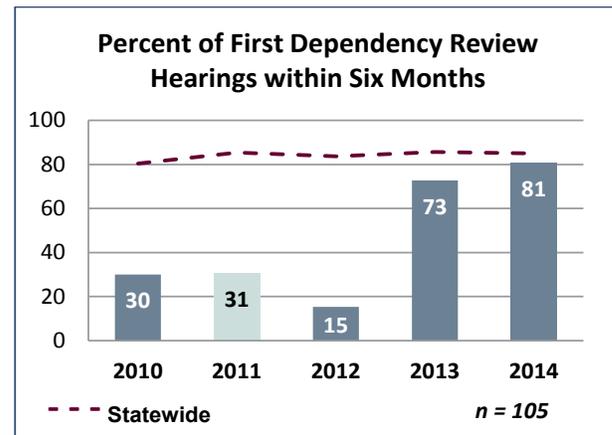
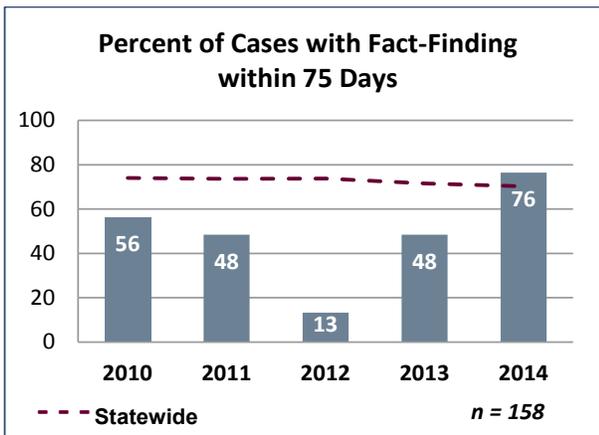
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

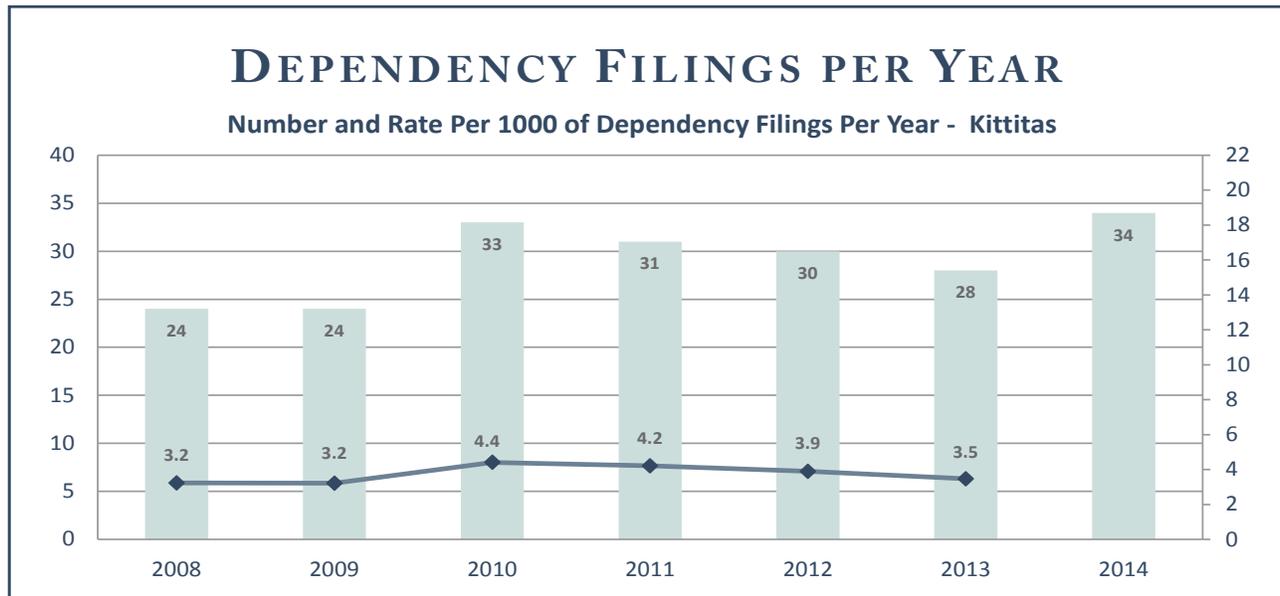
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	42	52	37	36.5	40
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	15	46	62	47	77
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	20.5	19	6	20.5	24
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	25%	100%	0%	40%
Reunifications	Median Months	10	20.5	23	21	13
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	75%	17%	36%	33%	53%

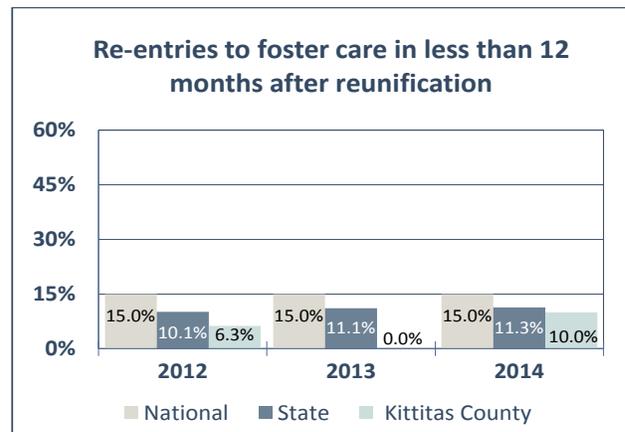
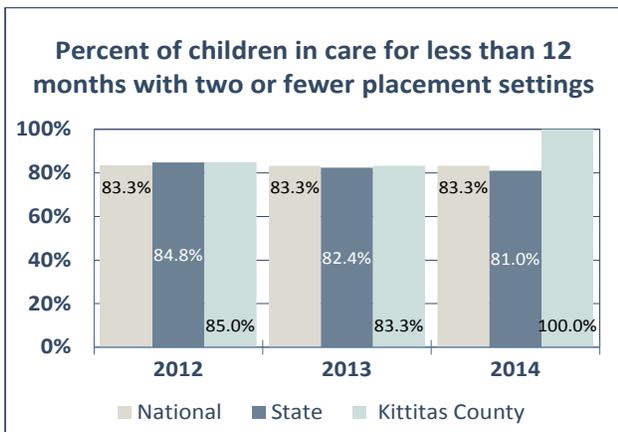
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Kittitas	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	23%	13%	15%	29%	6%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	13%	7%	8%	25%	15%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	26%	20%	35%	13%	18%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	32%	30%	19%	21%	44%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	6%	30%	23%	13%	15%
		(6) >17 yrs					3%
	Gender	(1) Female	61%	57%	50%	50%	53%
		(2) Male	39%	43%	50%	50%	47%
	Race	(3) Black	3%	7%			
		(4) White	58%	67%	77%	50%	74%
		(5) Hispanic	29%	13%	23%	8%	12%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American		10%		29%	15%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	6%			13%	
		(8) Multiracial - Other		3%			
		(9) Unknown	3%				



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

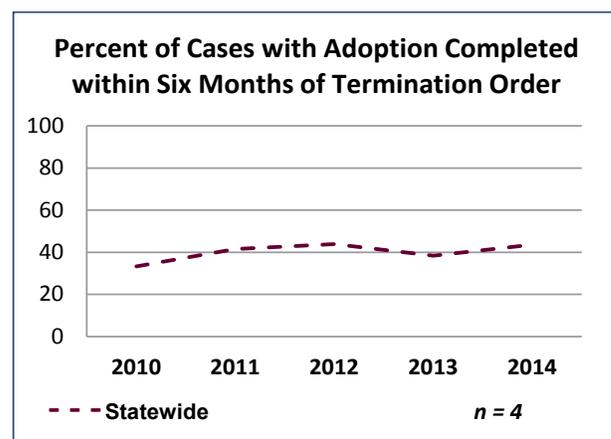
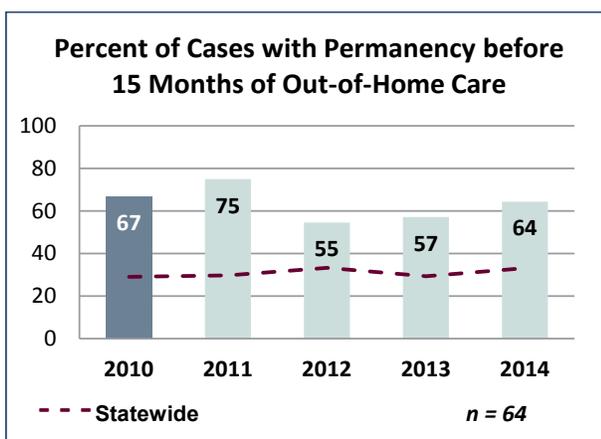
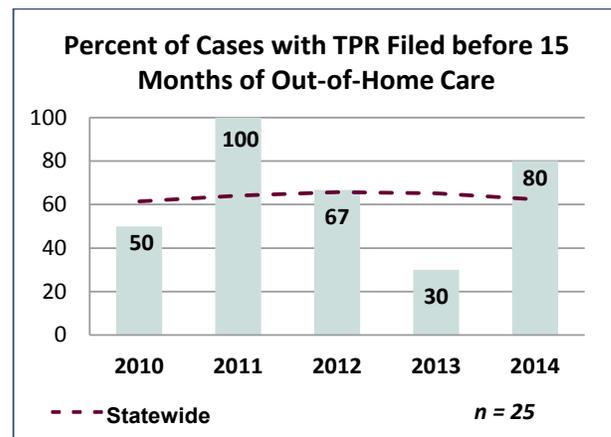
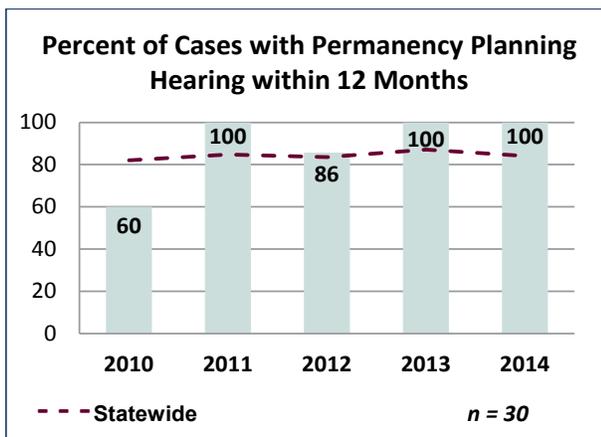
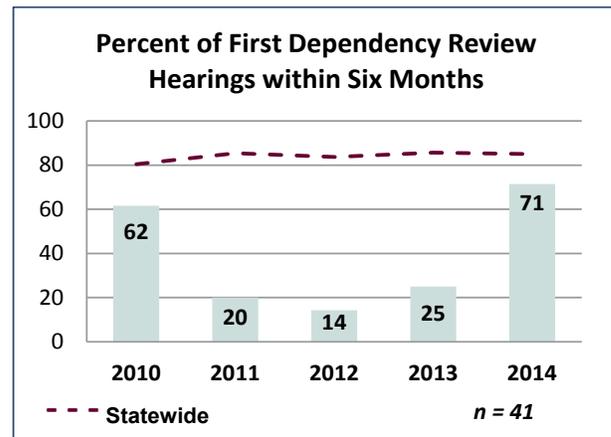
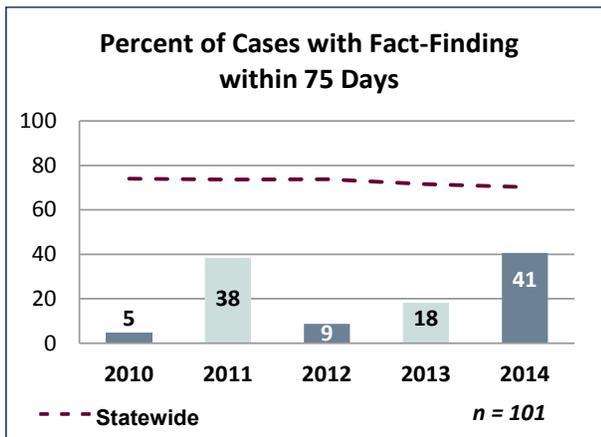


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

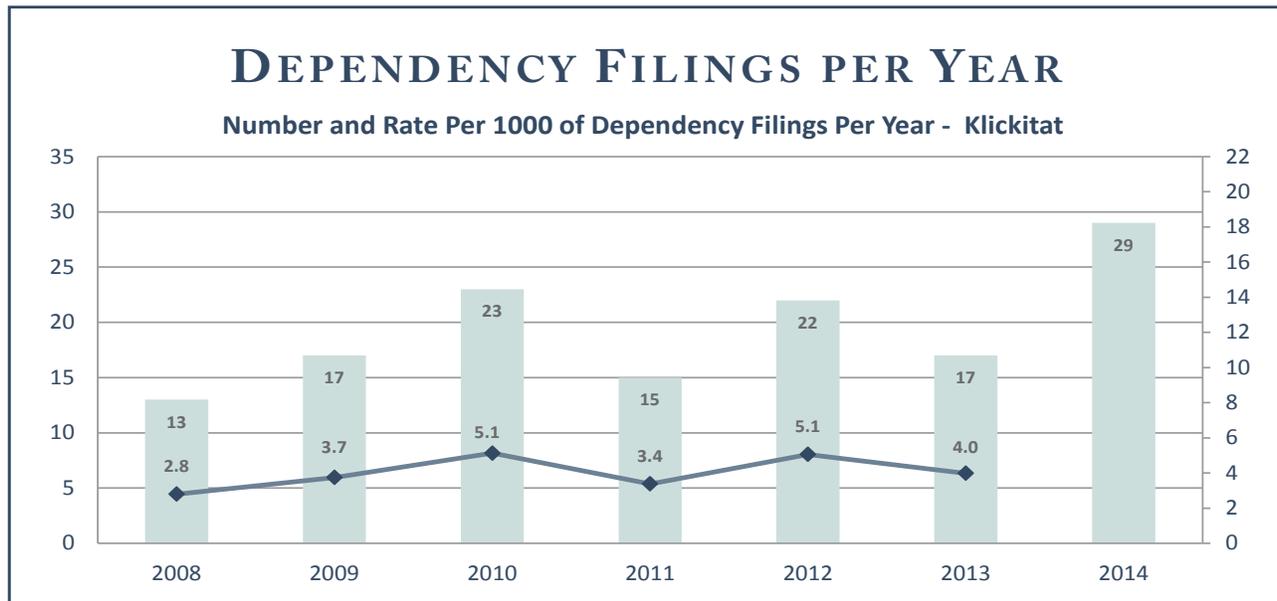
20+ CASE EVENTS

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	45			47	
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%			0%	
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	79	17	27		37
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%		0%
Guardianships	Median Months	18	15			28
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	25%	0%			0%
Reunifications	Median Months	4	1	6	5.5	8
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	100%	100%	75%	100%	75%

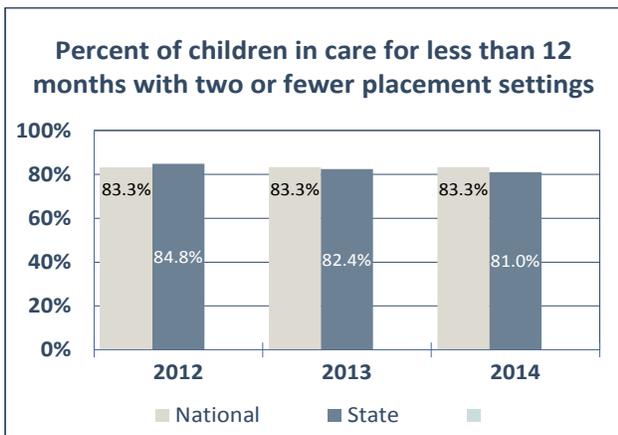
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Klickitat	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	14%	20%	5%	19%	29%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	18%	20%	5%	19%	18%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	23%	20%	25%	31%	18%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	18%	20%	25%	19%	21%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	27%	20%	40%	13%	14%
	Gender	(1) Female	59%	60%	50%	25%	46%
		(2) Male	41%	40%	50%	75%	54%
	Race	(1) Native American			15%	6%	21%
		(2) Asian/PI			5%		
		(4) White	64%	70%	30%	88%	57%
		(5) Hispanic	23%		40%	6%	4%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	9%	20%	5%		14%
		(9) Unknown	5%	10%	5%		4%



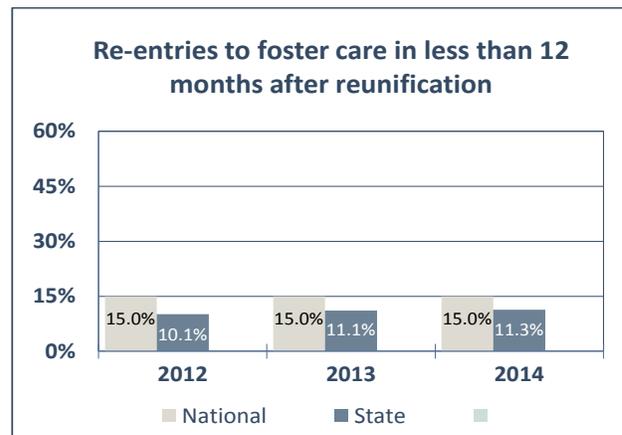
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



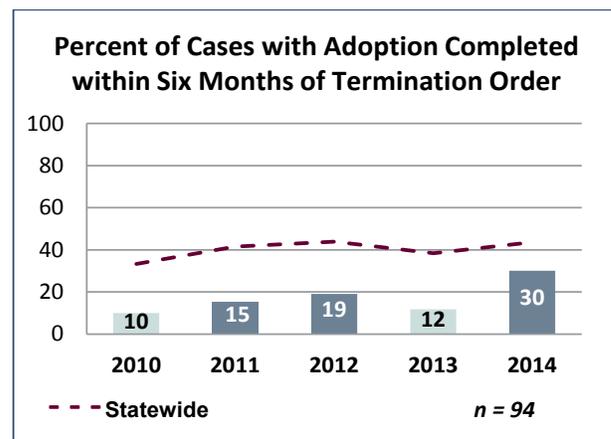
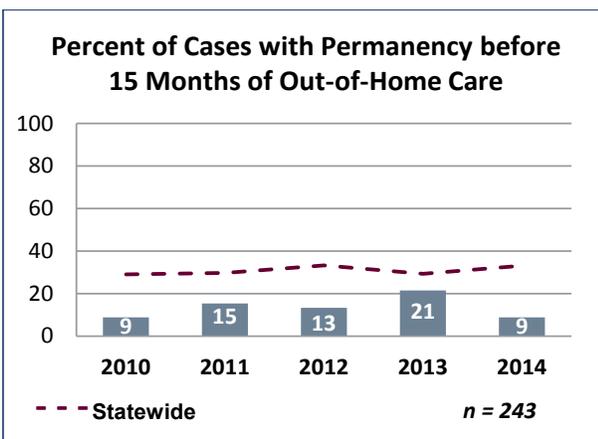
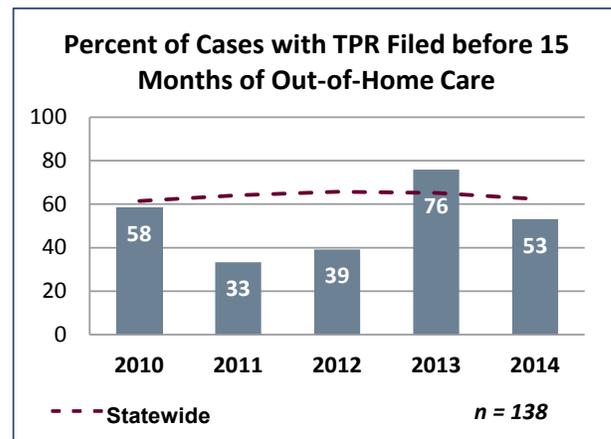
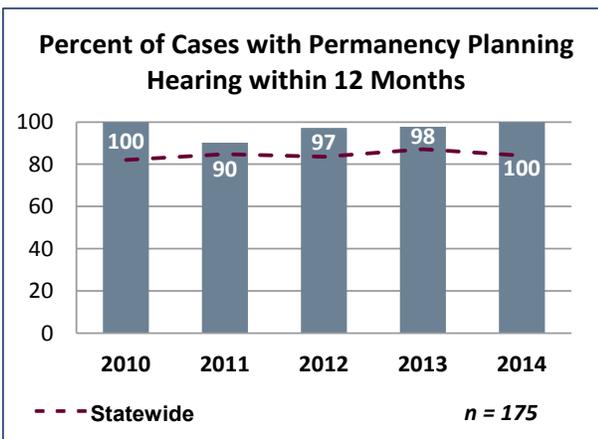
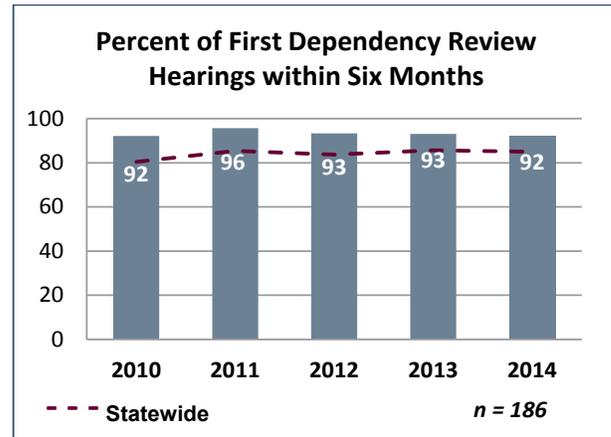
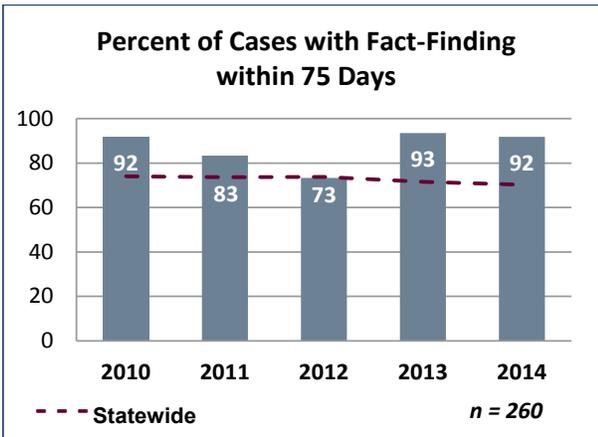
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

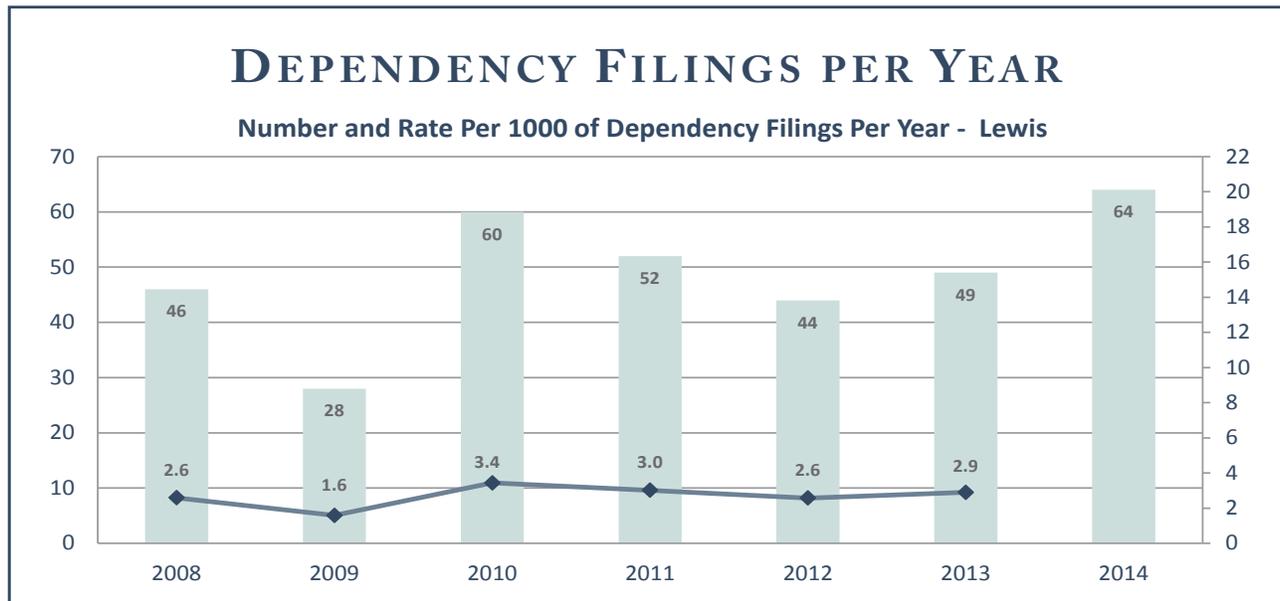
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	45	42.5	33	25	28
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	14%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	38	72	95	35	80
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	20%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	21.5	16		23	31
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	29%		0%	0%
Reunifications	Median Months	32	18	19	16	15
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	20%	38%	32%	42%	25%

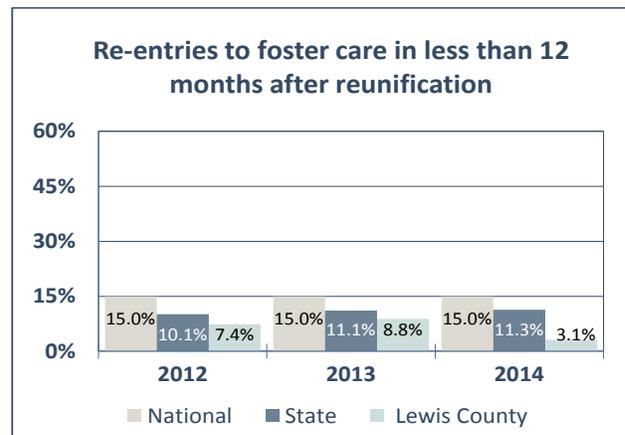
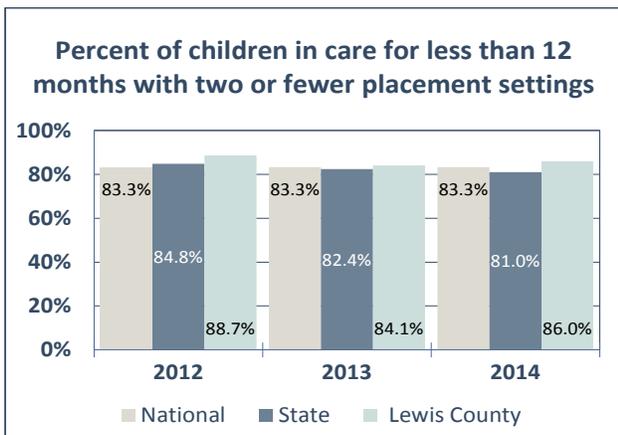
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Lewis	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	27%	31%	25%	31%	21%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	15%	20%	25%	27%	16%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	23%	12%	27%	10%	30%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	27%	18%	9%	13%	25%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	8%	18%	14%	19%	9%
	Gender	(1) Female	45%	47%	57%	40%	49%
		(2) Male	55%	53%	43%	60%	51%
	Race	(1) Native American		2%			4%
		(3) Black					2%
		(4) White	77%	65%	70%	90%	67%
		(5) Hispanic	8%	12%	9%	8%	7%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	15%	16%	14%	2%	18%
		(7) Multiracial - Black		2%	7%		
		(8) Multiracial - Other		2%			
		(9) Unknown					4%



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

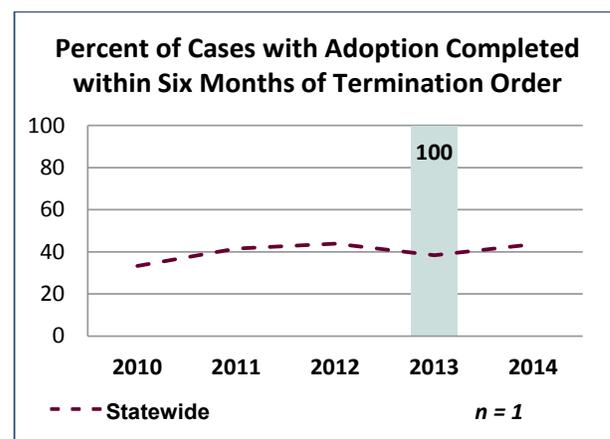
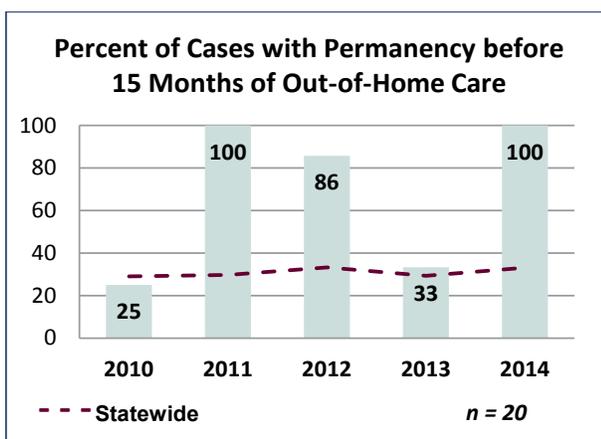
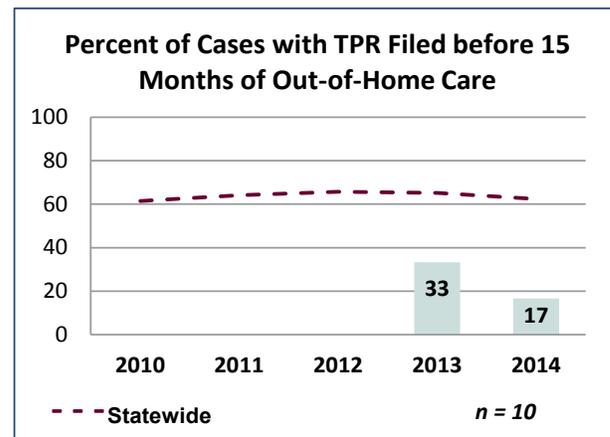
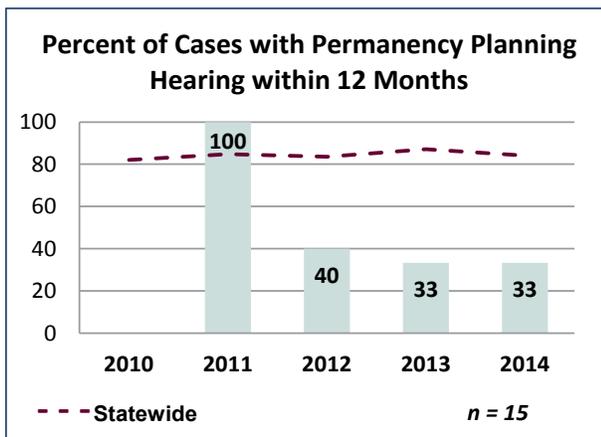
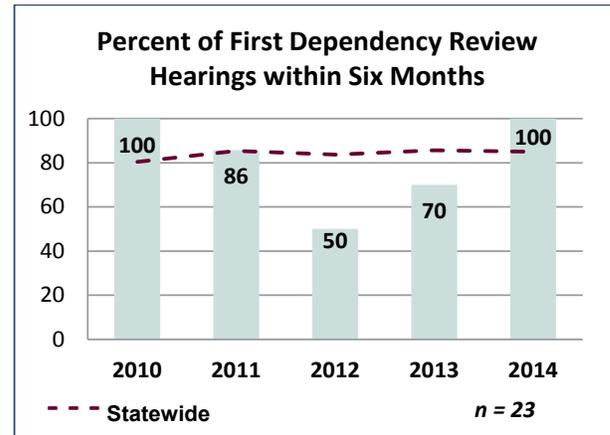
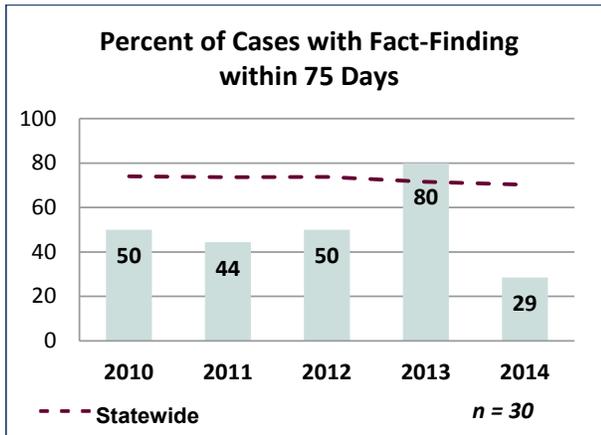


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



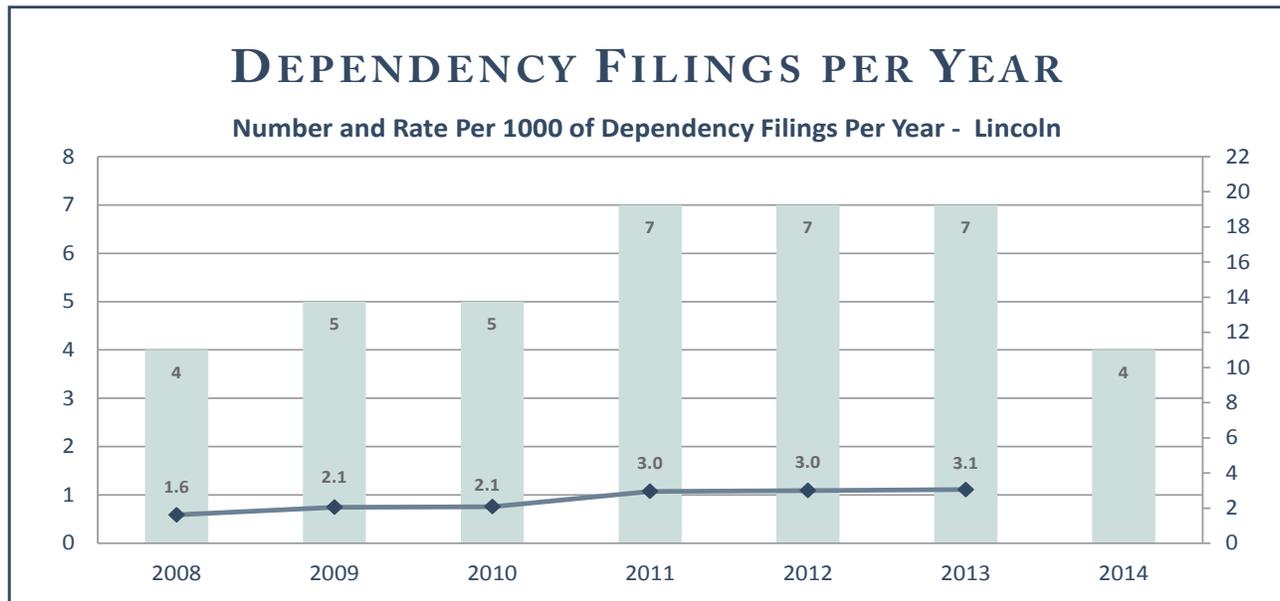
< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

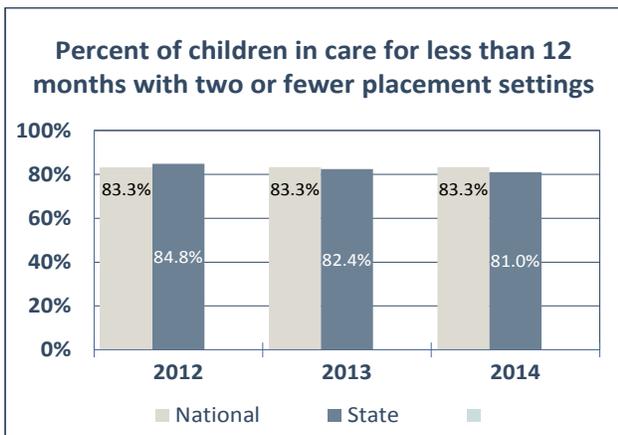
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	22			25	
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%			0%	
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months					
	% < 15 Months to Outcome					
Guardianships	Median Months	17		22		
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%		0%		
Reunifications	Median Months	16	9	5.5	18	0
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	50%	100%	100%	50%	100%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Lincoln	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	20%	14%			
		(2) 1-2 yrs		14%		14%	25%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	20%	29%	14%	29%	50%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	40%	14%	57%	43%	
		(5) 12-17 yrs	20%	29%	29%	14%	25%
	Gender	(1) Female	60%	29%	71%	57%	50%
		(2) Male	40%	71%	29%	43%	50%
	Race	(4) White	100%	86%	100%	86%	75%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American		14%		14%	
		(7) Multiracial - Black					25%



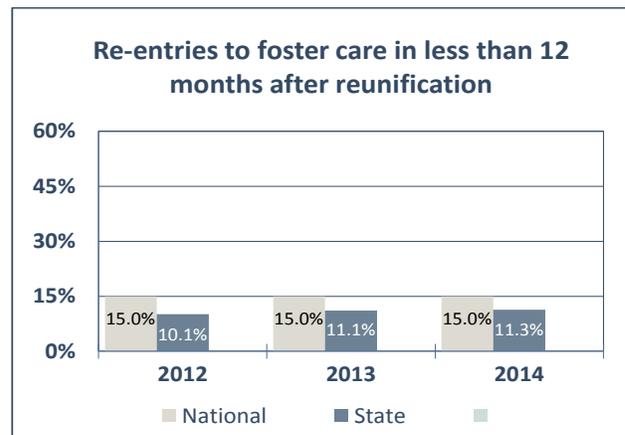
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



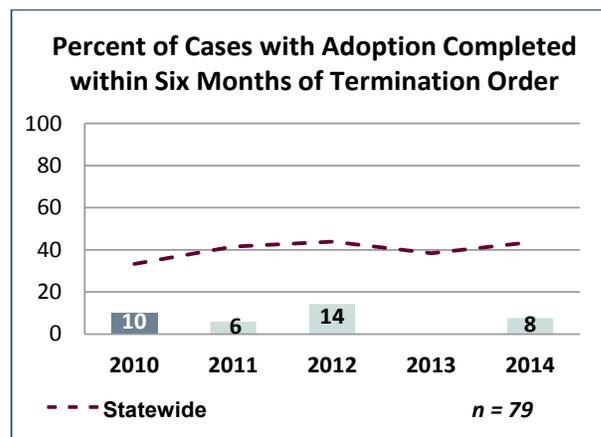
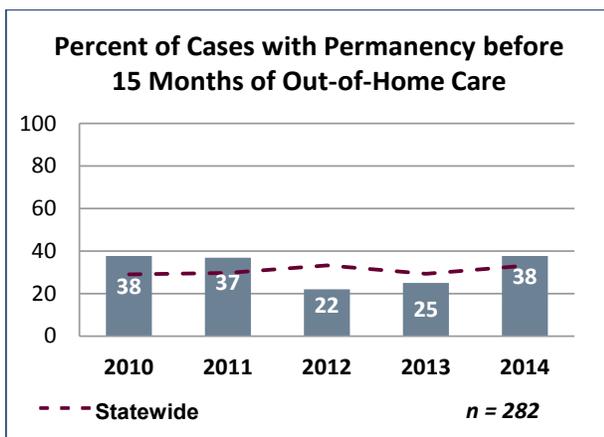
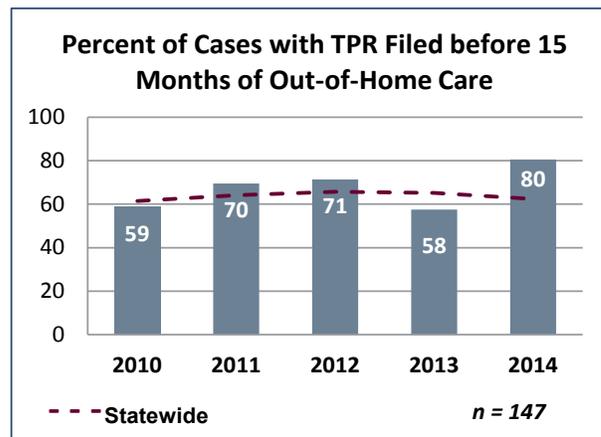
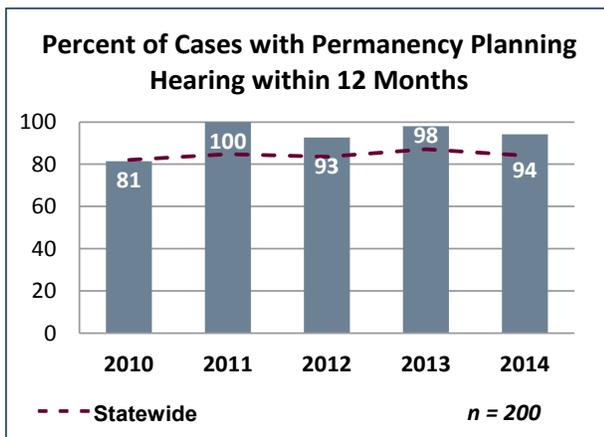
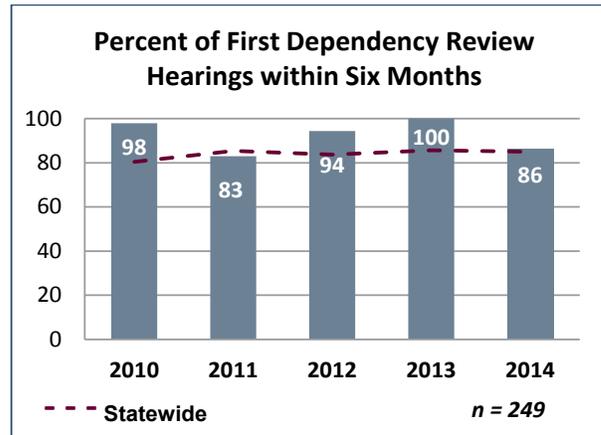
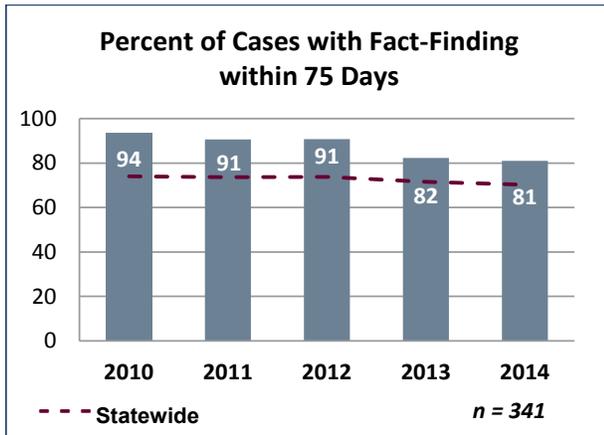
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

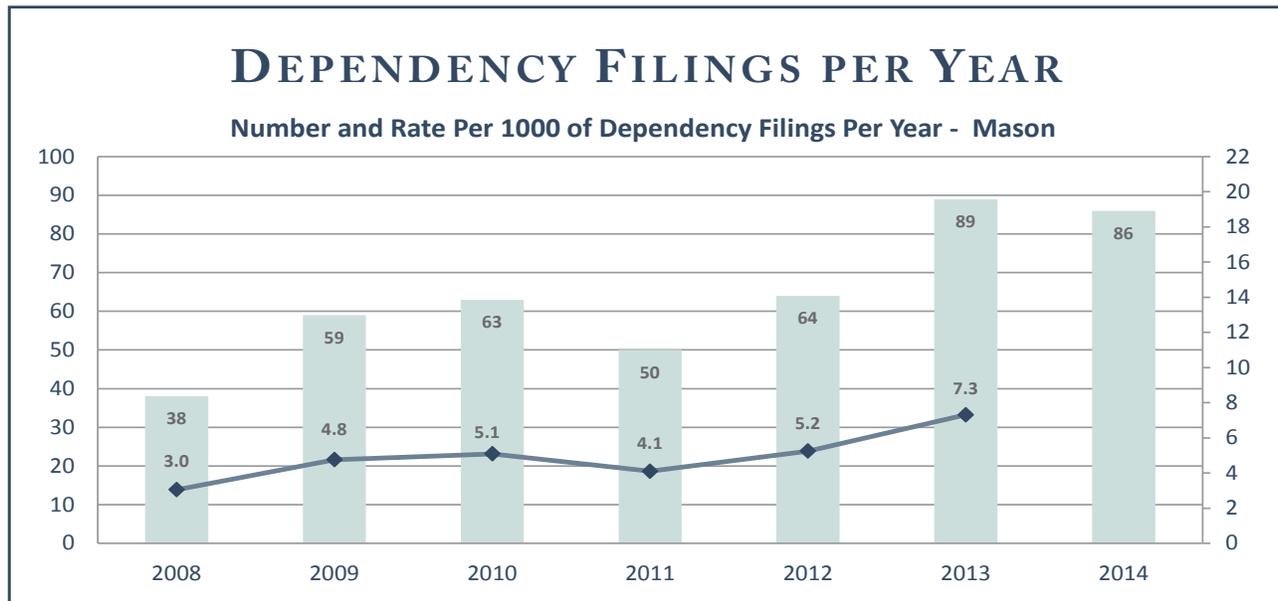
20+ CASE EVENTS

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	35	30	29	56	29
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	11%	6%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	24	45	42	40.5	71
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	14%	0%	33%	13%	33%
Guardianships	Median Months	22	12	25	3	17
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	40%	100%	33%	100%	13%
Reunifications	Median Months	10	13	20.5	16.5	10
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	62%	71%	29%	38%	53%

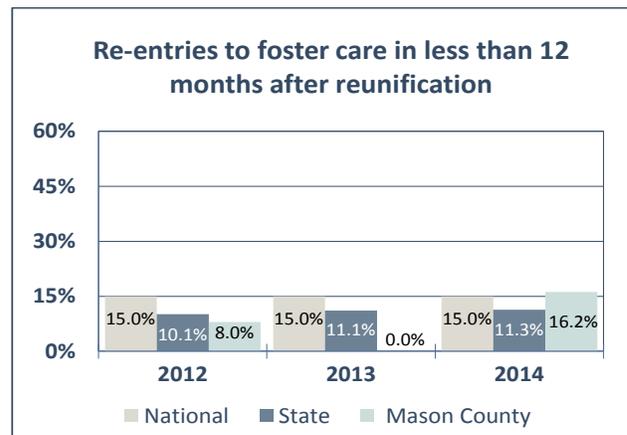
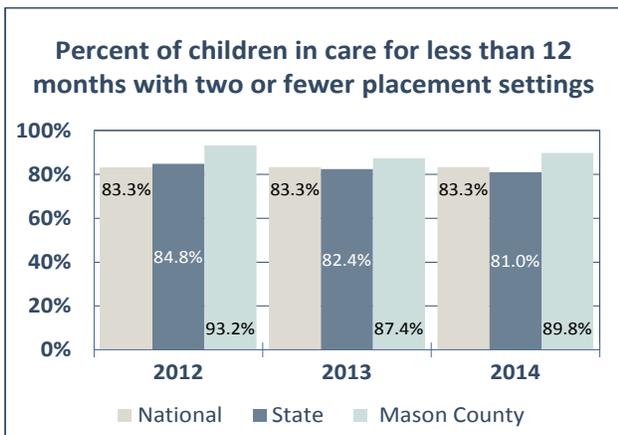
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Mason	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	38%	35%	27%	38%	23%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	15%	4%	9%	15%	24%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	28%	14%	22%	19%	14%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	11%	18%	25%	20%	25%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	8%	29%	17%	8%	13%
	Gender	(1) Female	56%	51%	53%	59%	51%
		(2) Male	44%	49%	47%	41%	49%
	Race	(1) Native American	8%	6%	11%	11%	8%
		(2) Asian/PI				1%	
		(3) Black		4%	2%	1%	
		(4) White	69%	69%	66%	63%	48%
		(5) Hispanic	10%	14%	14%	16%	22%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	11%	6%	8%	8%	6%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	2%				
		(8) Multiracial - Other					4%
(9) Unknown						12%	



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

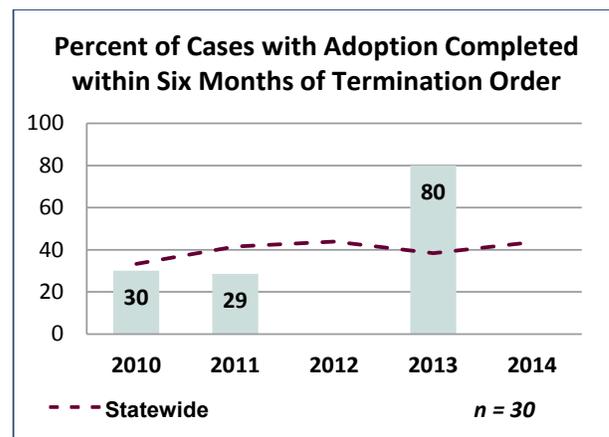
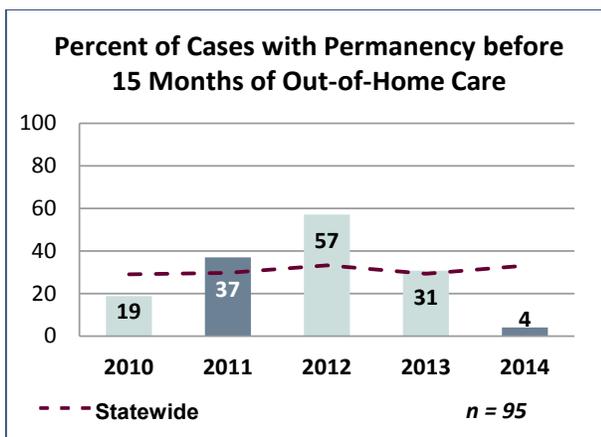
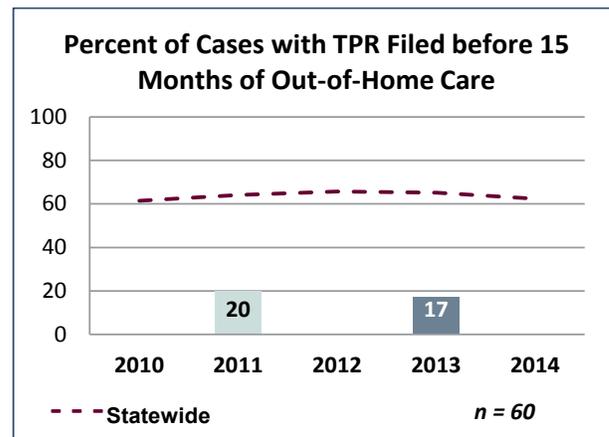
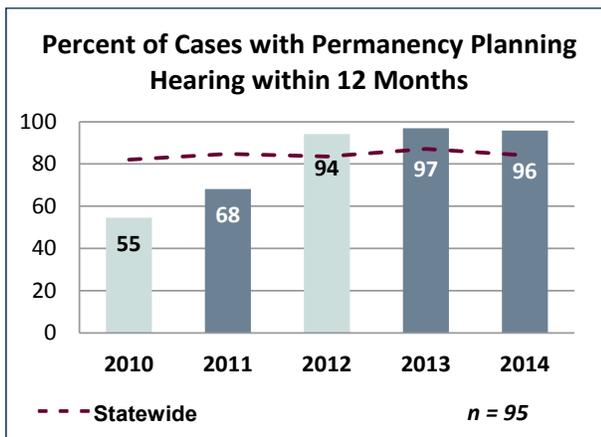
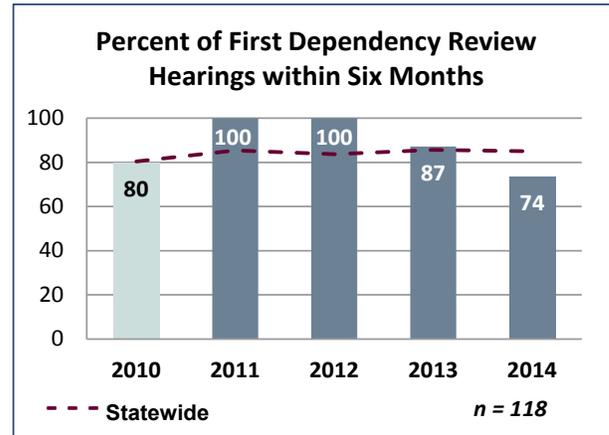
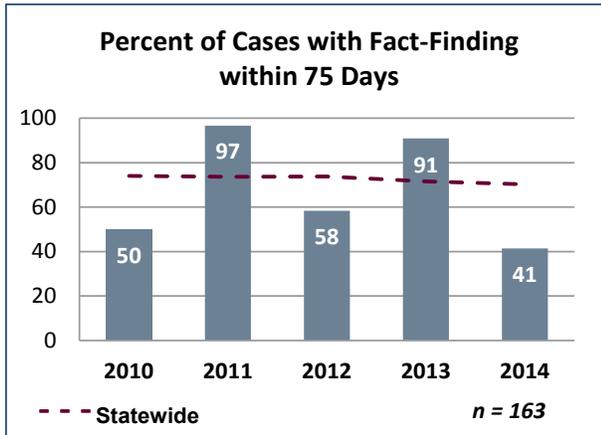


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

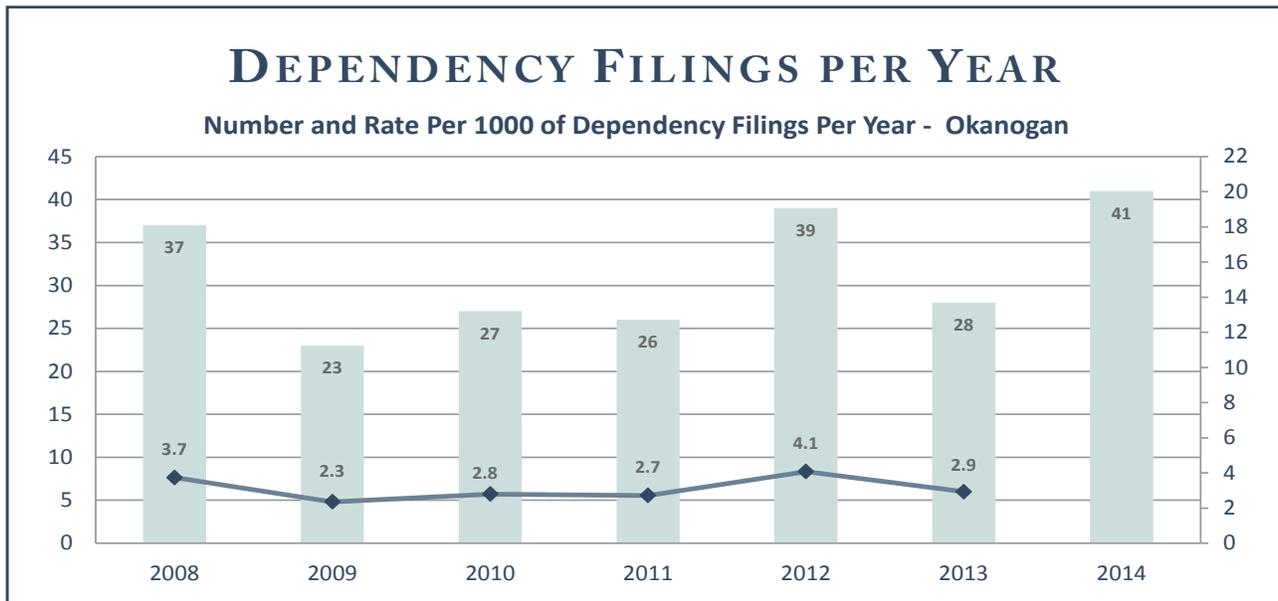
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	28	29	42	21	31.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	11%	0%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	119	40	42	138	42
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	21	33			
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%			
Reunifications	Median Months	6.5	14	8	10	20.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	75%	56%	80%	57%	6%

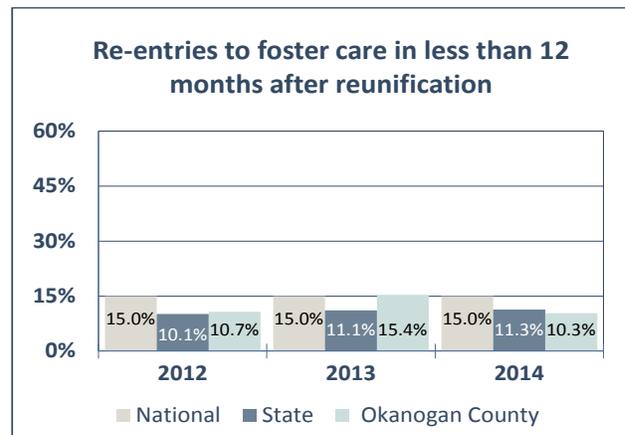
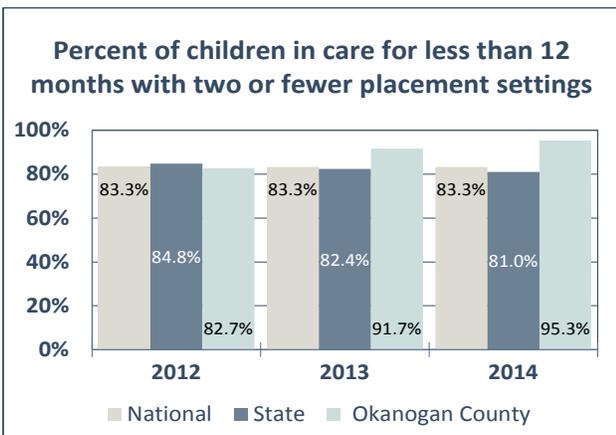
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Okanogan	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	22%	16%	28%	26%	25%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	4%	20%	15%	22%	15%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	13%	8%	5%	11%	18%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	26%	40%	33%	30%	33%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	35%	16%	18%	11%	10%
	Gender	(1) Female	65%	48%	56%	52%	58%
		(2) Male	35%	52%	44%	48%	43%
	Race	(1) Native American	26%	8%	21%	7%	8%
		(3) Black				7%	
		(4) White	65%	64%	62%	52%	55%
		(5) Hispanic	9%	8%	18%	11%	33%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American		20%		7%	5%
		(7) Multiracial - Black				11%	
		(8) Multiracial - Other				4%	



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

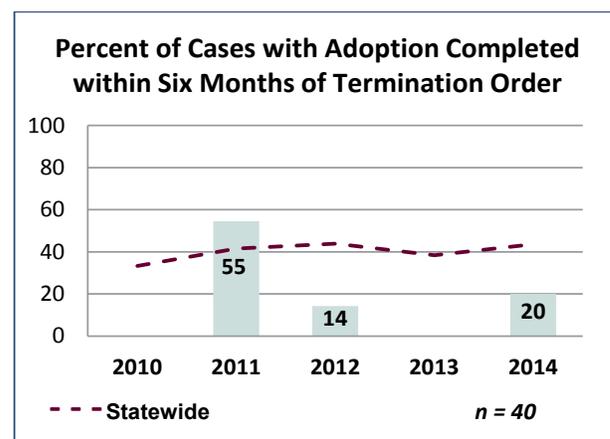
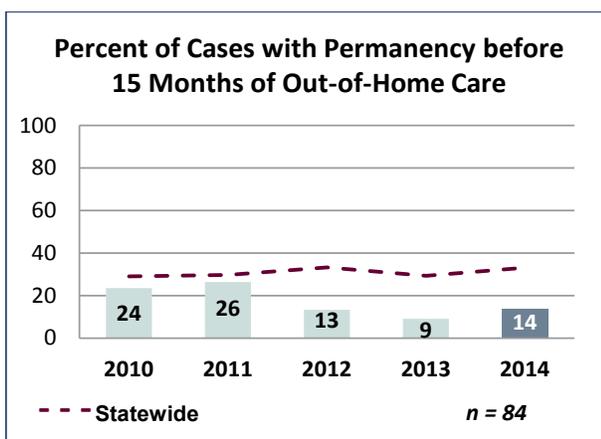
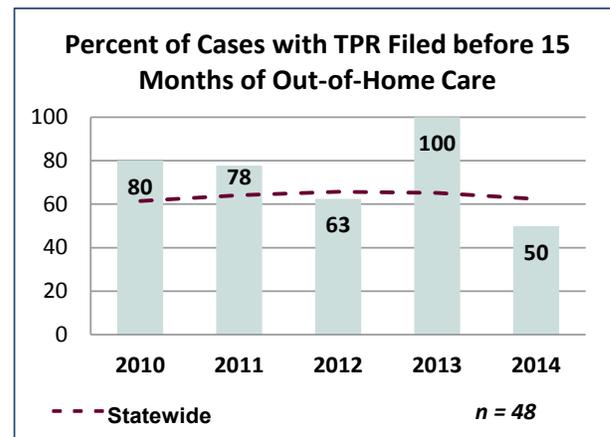
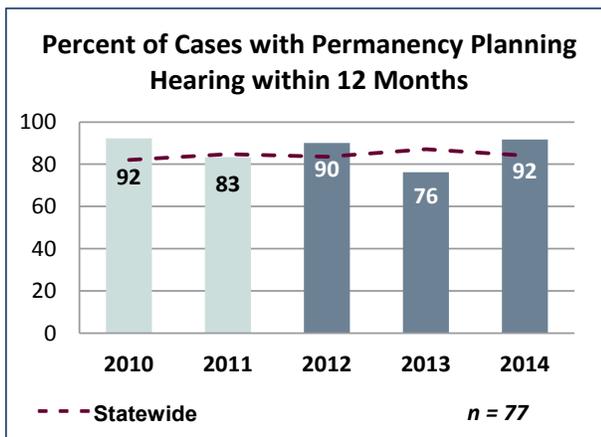
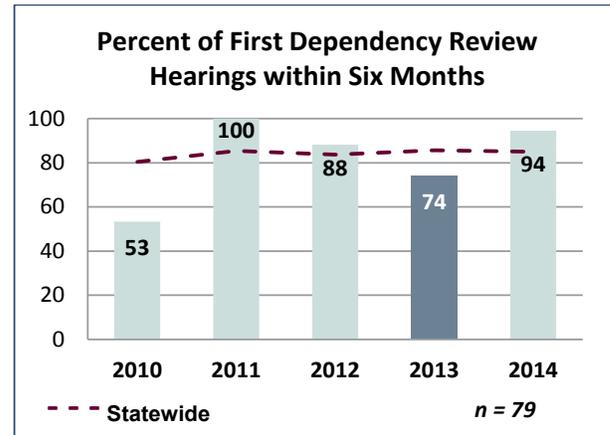
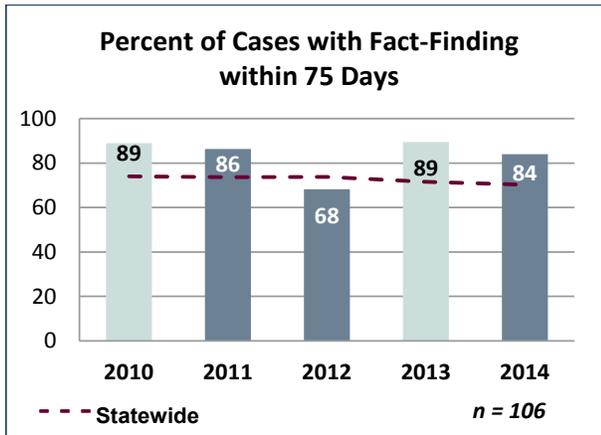


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



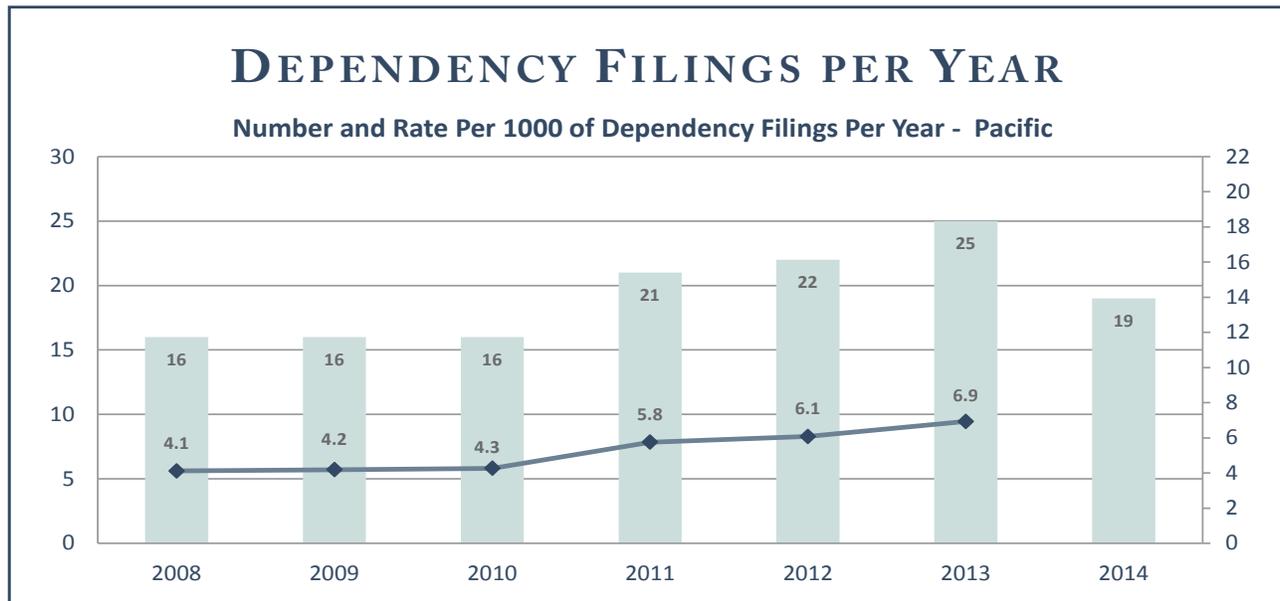
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

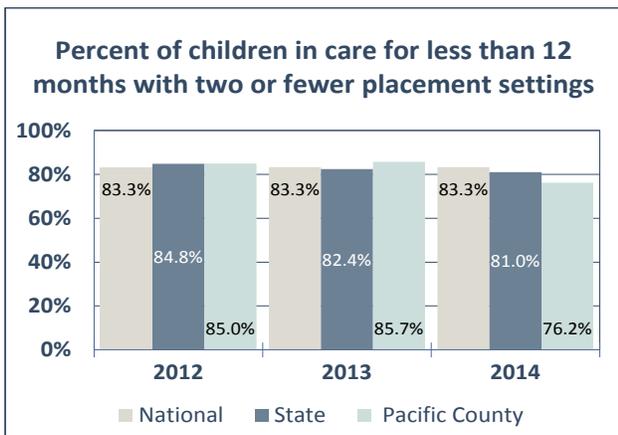
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	28	26	20	22	28.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	17%	10%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	84	13	90	39	83
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	34	3	56		
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	50%	100%	0%		
Reunifications	Median Months	16	14.5	15.5	21	24
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	40%	50%	33%	0%	18%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION								
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Pacific	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	38%	15%	36%	40%	53%	
		(2) 1-2 yrs	25%	25%	14%	12%	6%	
		(3) 3-5 yrs	13%	45%	18%	12%	18%	
		(4) 6-11 yrs	13%	15%	18%	28%	18%	
		(5) 12-17 yrs	13%		14%	8%	6%	
	Gender	(1) Female		44%	55%	41%	44%	35%
		(2) Male		56%	45%	59%	56%	65%
	Race	(1) Native American		6%	5%			
		(2) Asian/PI					8%	
		(3) Black				5%		
		(4) White		69%	70%	55%	52%	94%
		(5) Hispanic			15%	36%	16%	6%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American		6%	5%	5%	24%	
		(7) Multiracial - Black		6%				
		(8) Multiracial - Other		13%	5%			



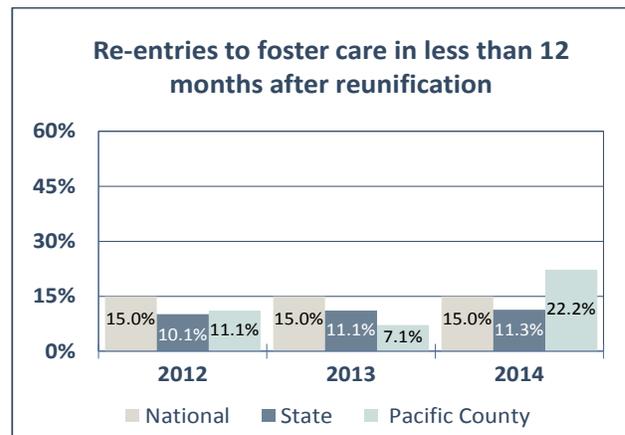
In partnership with the Washington State Children's Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children's Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



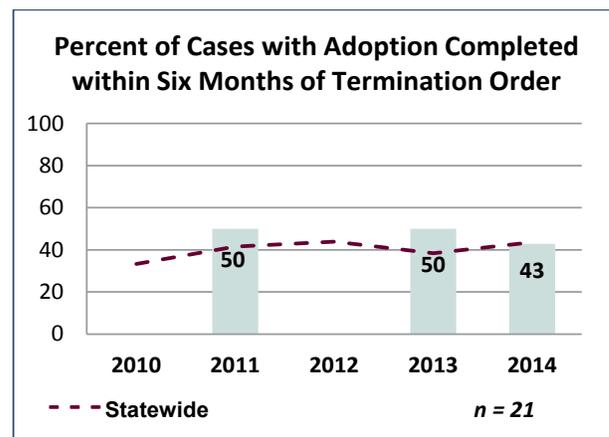
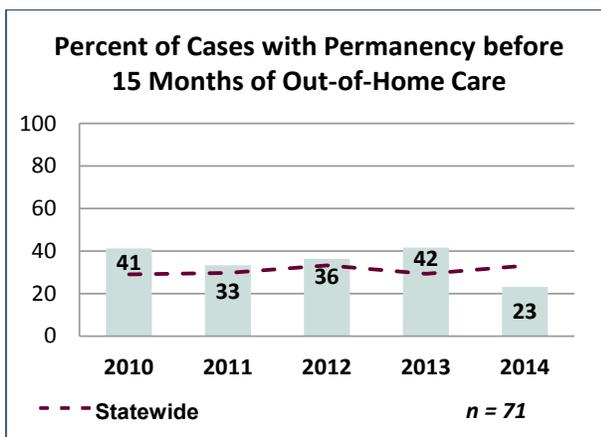
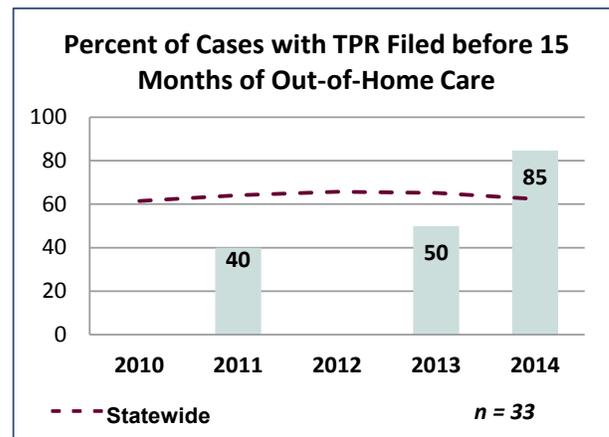
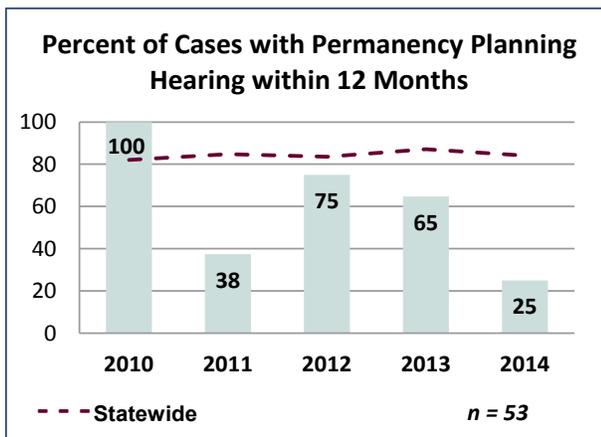
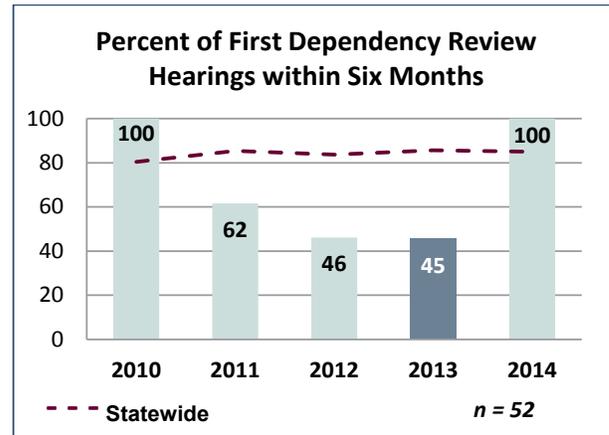
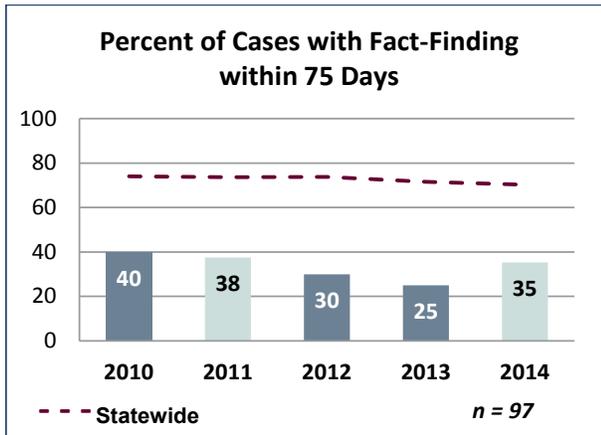
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

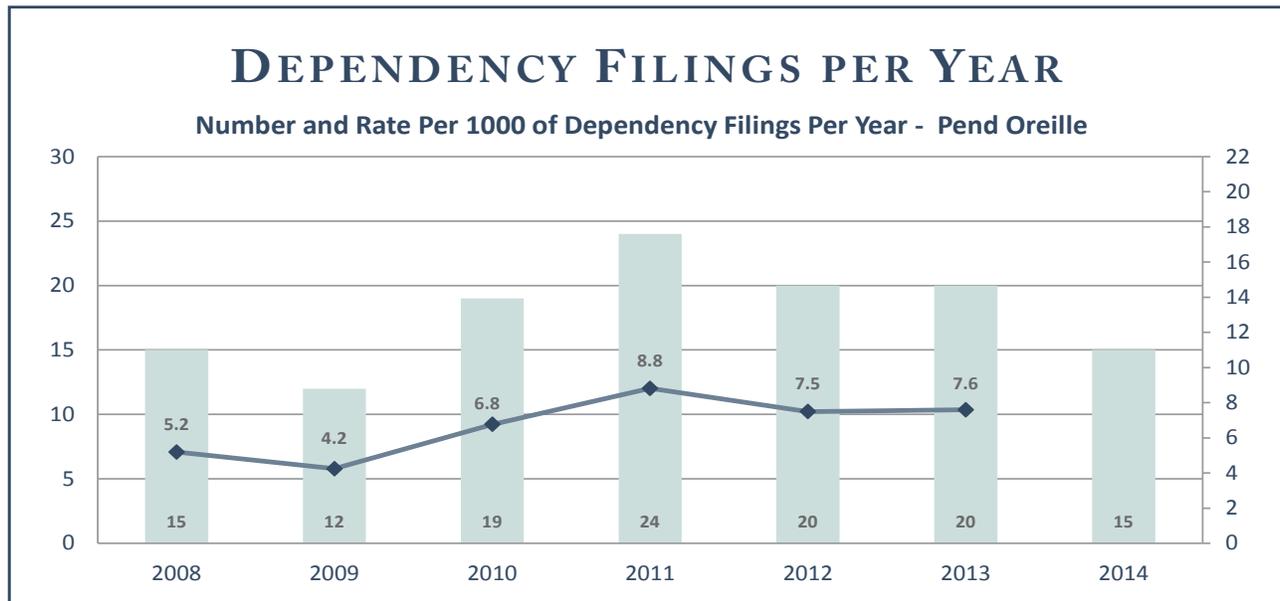
20+ CASE EVENTS

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	40	32	49.5	43.5	20
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	42	78	68	53.5	
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Guardianships	Median Months	60		15		13
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%		0%		100%
Reunifications	Median Months	2	17	5	9	21
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	78%	50%	80%	63%	40%

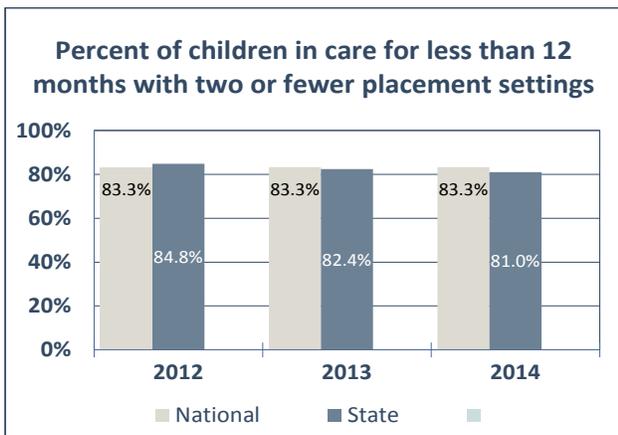
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Pend Oreille	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	21%	13%	12%	20%	25%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	14%	22%	12%	20%	25%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	7%	26%	18%	25%	25%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	36%	22%	29%	10%	25%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	21%	17%	29%	25%	
	Gender	(1) Female	50%	30%	47%	20%	67%
		(2) Male	50%	70%	53%	80%	33%
	Race	(4) White	57%	78%	76%	65%	67%
		(5) Hispanic		4%		35%	
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	36%	13%	24%		8%
		(7) Multiracial - Black					8%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	7%				
		(9) Unknown		4%			17%



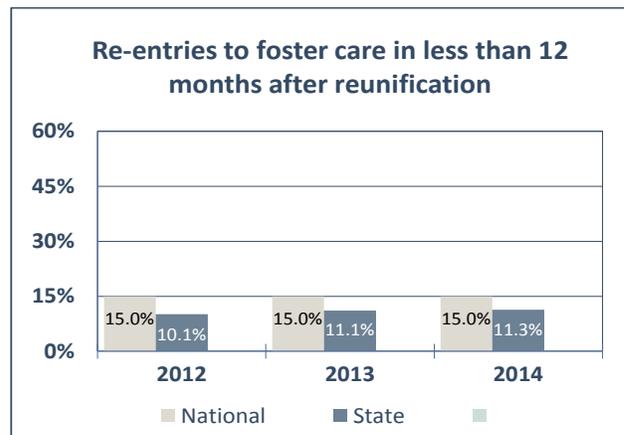
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



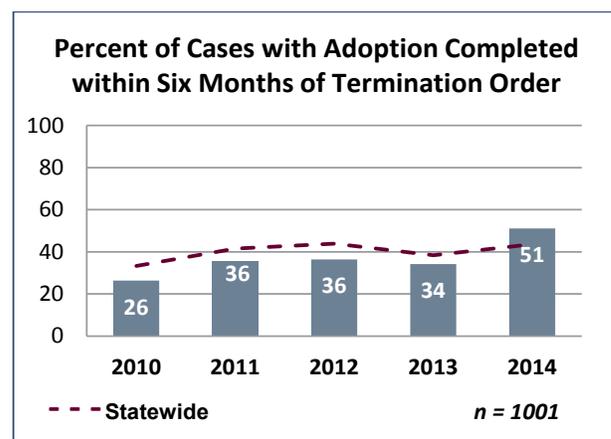
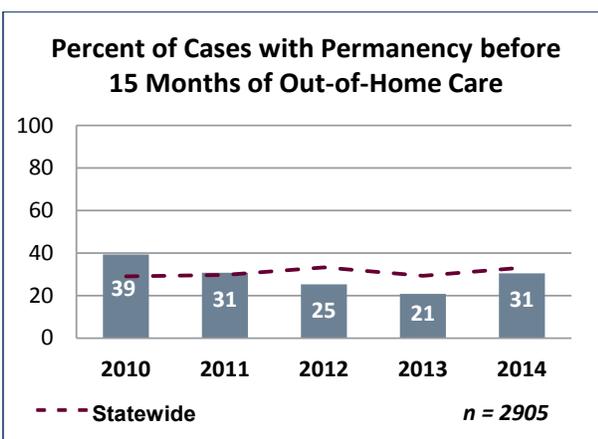
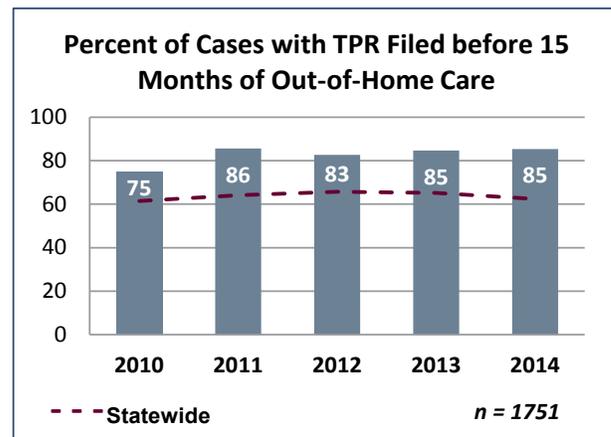
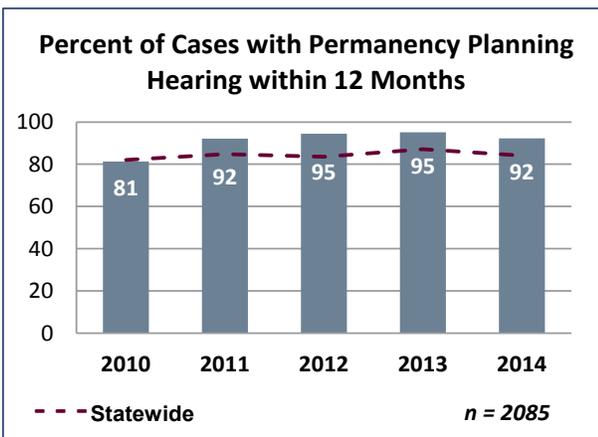
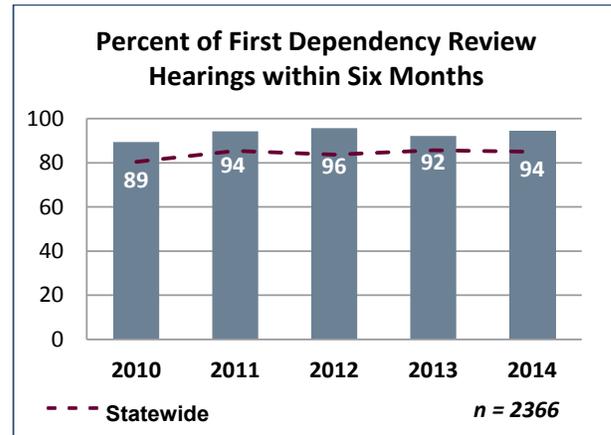
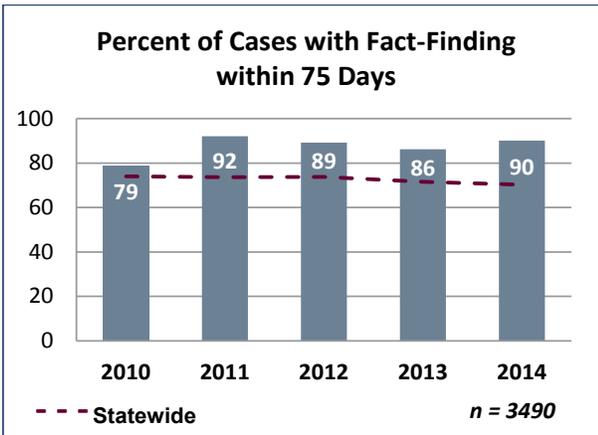
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



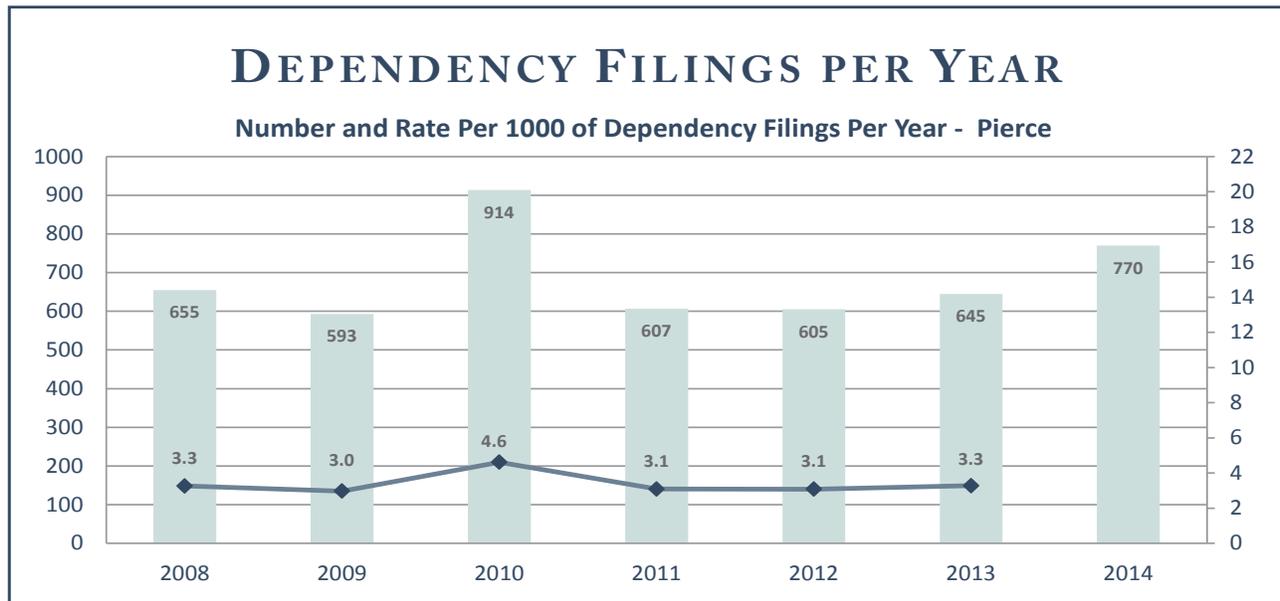
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

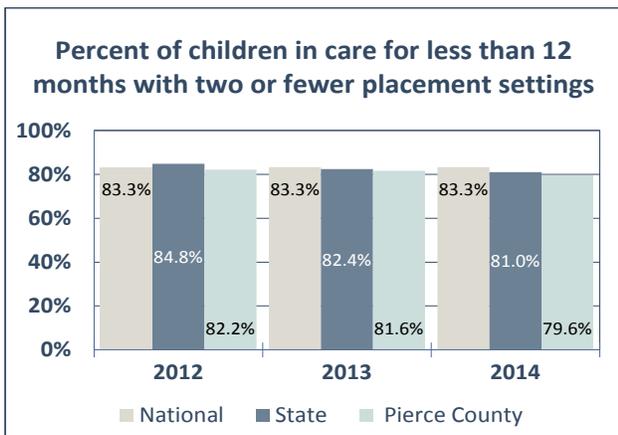
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	31	29	28.5	29	29
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	6%	5%	4%	8%	6%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	44	38	28	36	33
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	7%	11%	6%	6%	13%
Guardianships	Median Months	25.5	22	24	33	33
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	19%	15%	15%	10%	18%
Reunifications	Median Months	9	10.5	17	19	15
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	67%	63%	41%	36%	47%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Pierce	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	25%	29%	27%	29%	27%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	19%	17%	18%	13%	14%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	19%	17%	23%	18%	17%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	22%	23%	21%	25%	27%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	15%	15%	12%	15%	15%
	Gender	(1) Female	52%	52%	48%	47%	49%
		(2) Male	48%	48%	52%	53%	51%
	Race	(1) Native American	5%	3%	1%	3%	4%
		(2) Asian/PI	2%	1%	3%	2%	4%
		(3) Black	14%	16%	14%	10%	16%
		(4) White	47%	47%	50%	54%	51%
		(5) Hispanic	10%	11%	11%	7%	6%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	7%	7%	7%	9%	6%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	12%	12%	10%	10%	8%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	3%	3%	4%	4%	2%
		(9) Unknown	0%			1%	3%



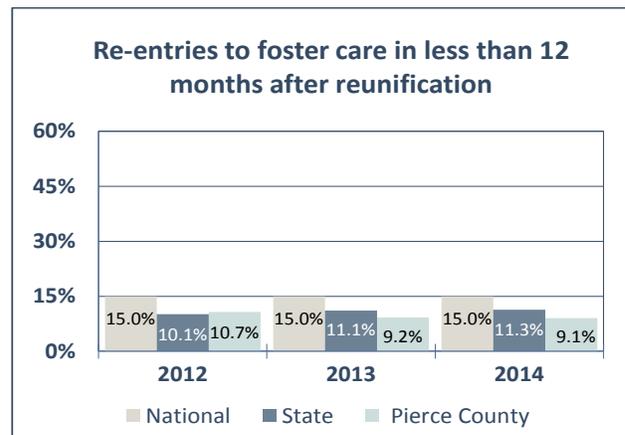
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



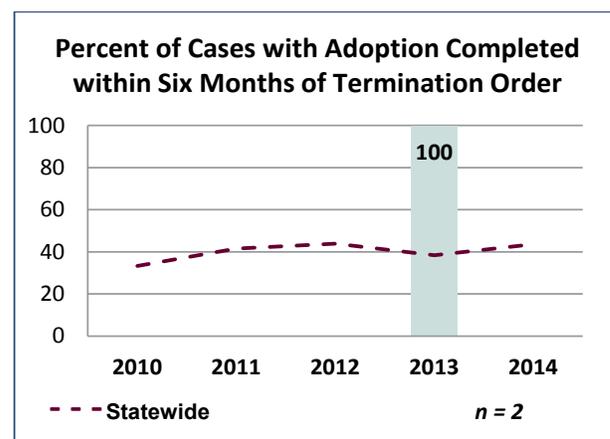
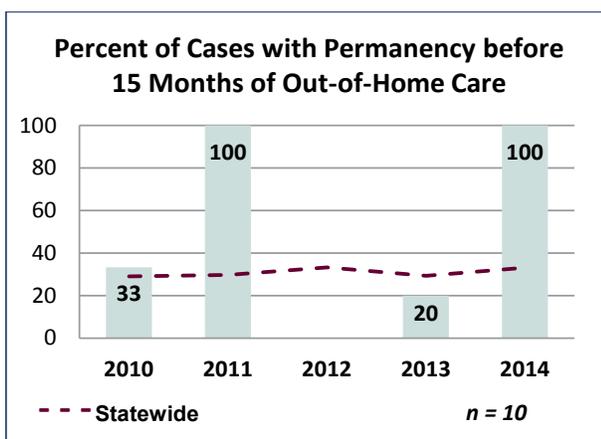
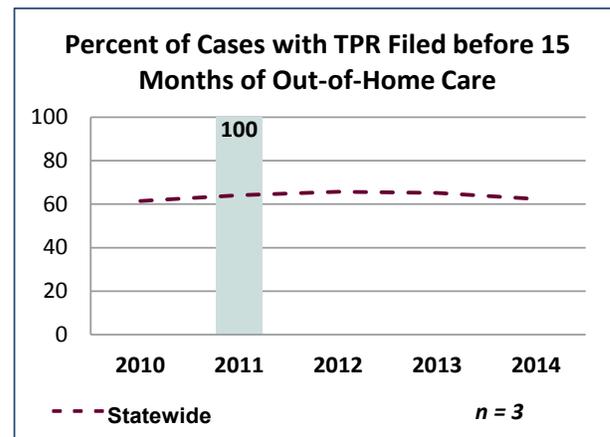
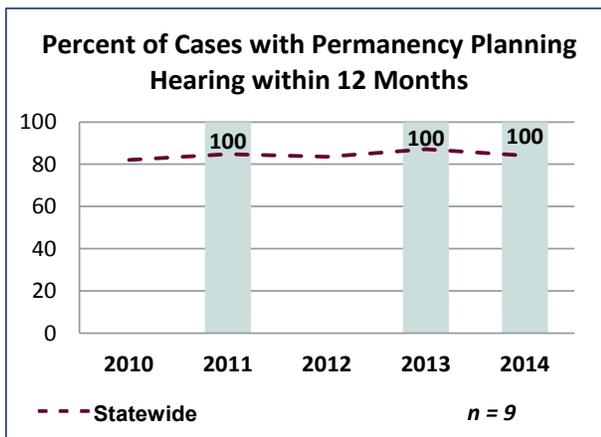
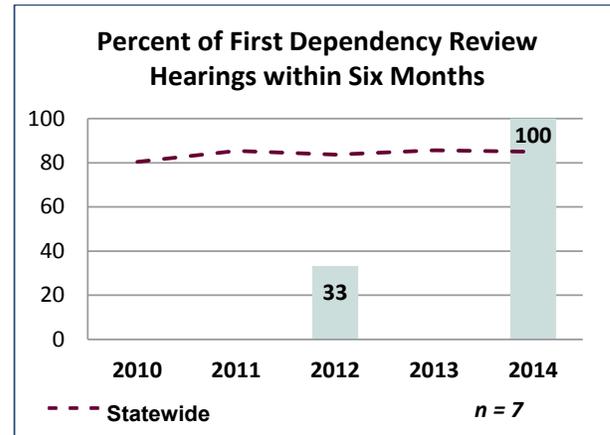
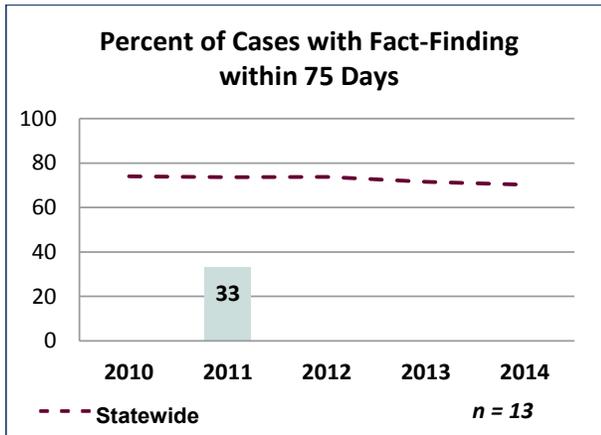
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



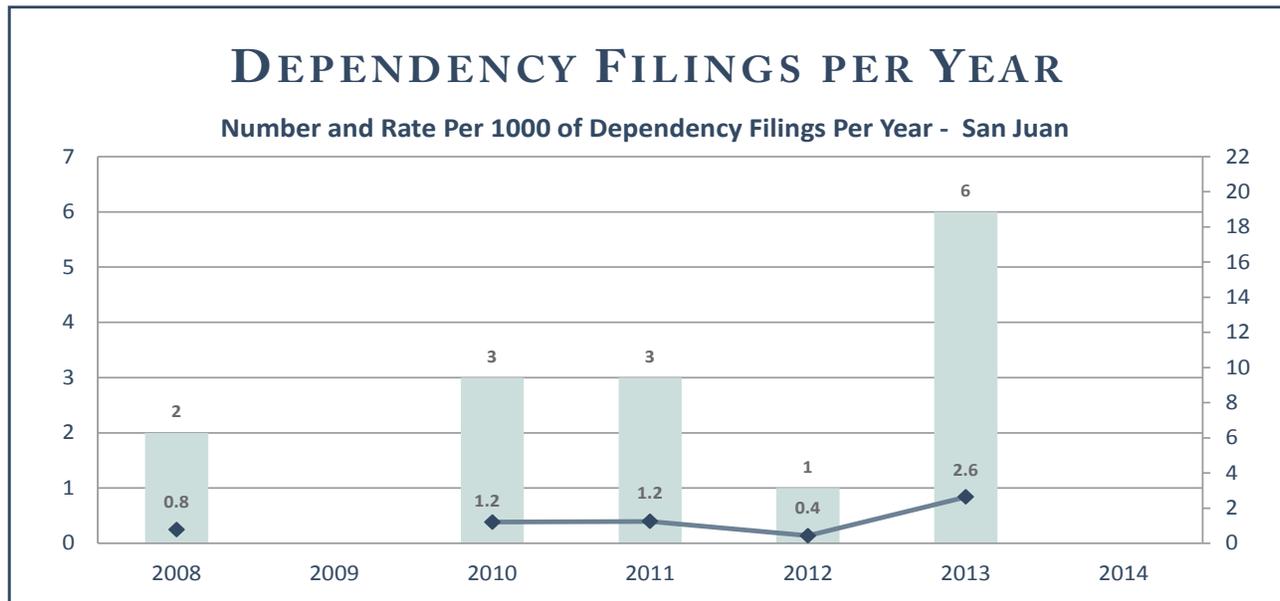
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

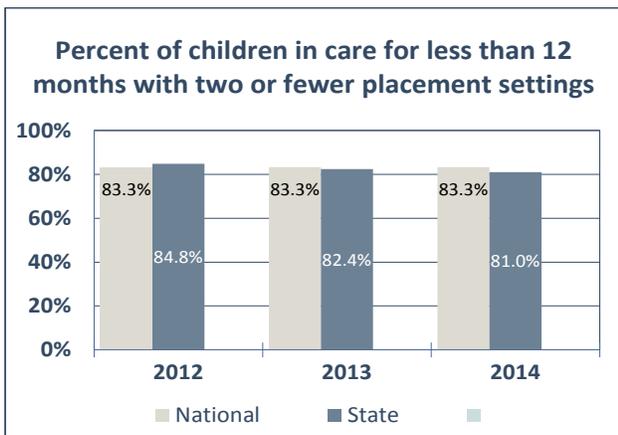
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	43			41	
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%			0%	
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months				23	
	% < 15 Months to Outcome				0%	
Guardianships	Median Months	33				
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%				
Reunifications	Median Months	6	0		19	10
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	100%	100%		50%	100%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
San Juan	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs				20%	
		(2) 1-2 yrs	33%	33%			
		(3) 3-5 yrs	67%				20%
		(4) 6-11 yrs		33%		60%	
		(5) 12-17 yrs		33%	100%		
	Gender	(1) Female	100%		100%		
		(2) Male		100%		100%	
	Race	(4) White	100%	67%		100%	
		(5) Hispanic		33%			
		(8) Multiracial - Other			100%		



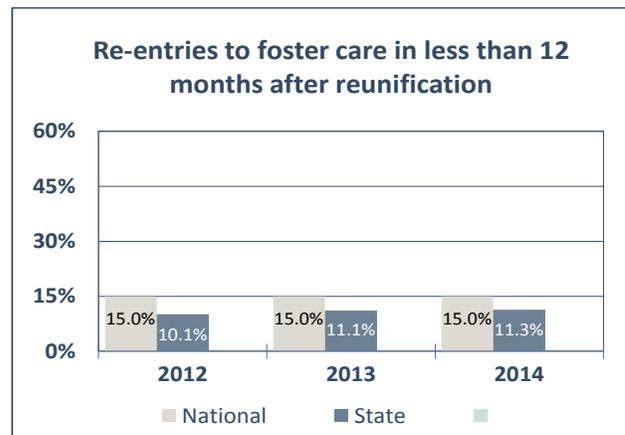
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



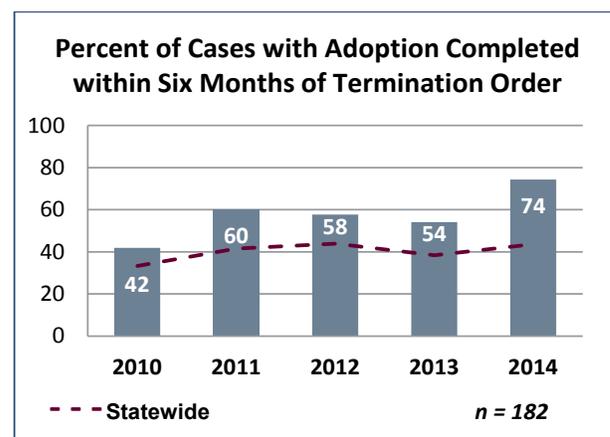
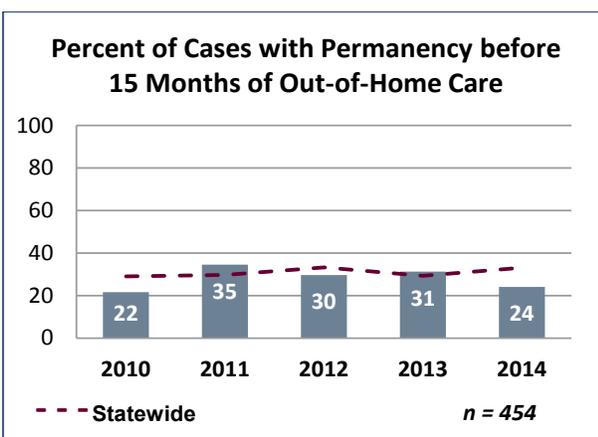
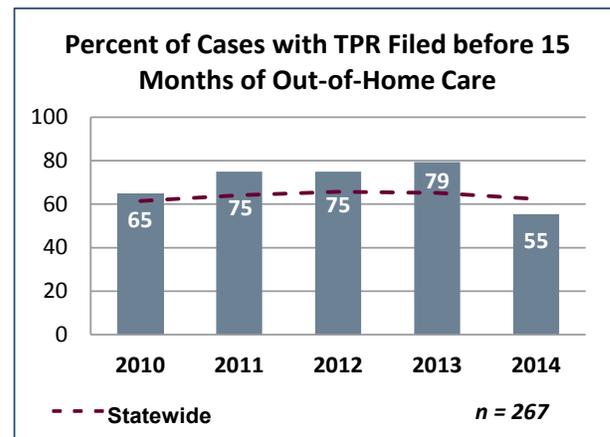
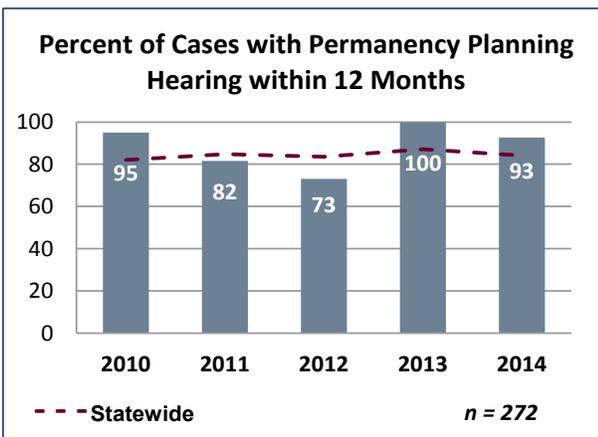
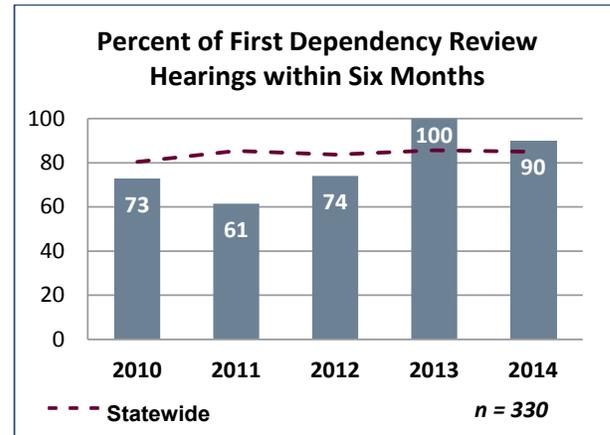
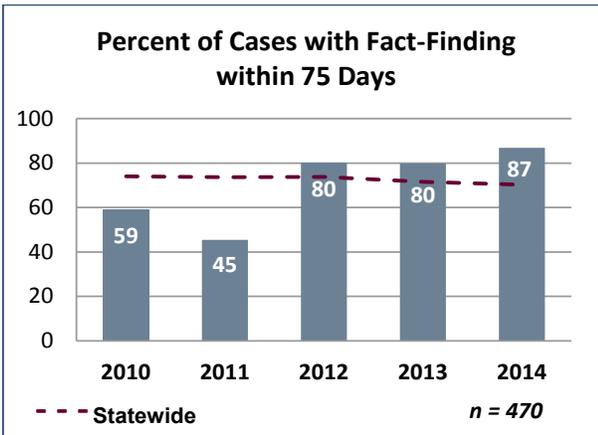
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

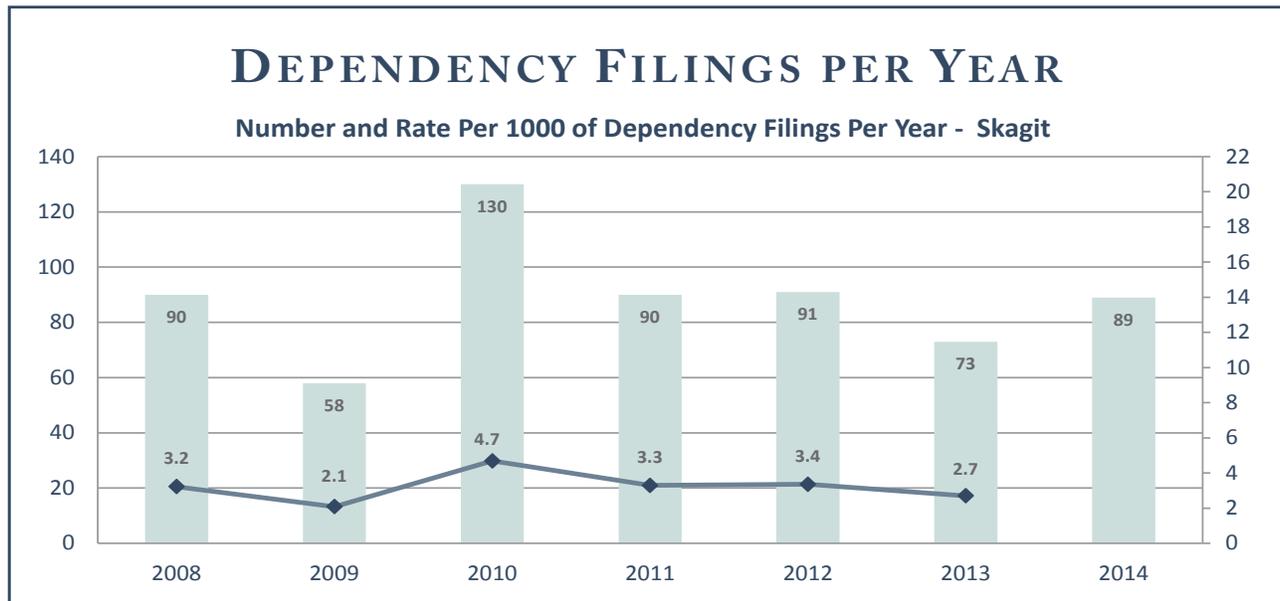
20+ CASE EVENTS

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	37	32	28	31	29
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	2%	0%	8%	5%	5%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	35	61	40	26	33
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	29%	17%	29%	20%	20%
Guardianships	Median Months	41.5	41	29	28	21.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	25%	18%	20%	13%	25%
Reunifications	Median Months	13	9	16	13	16
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	51%	69%	47%	53%	48%

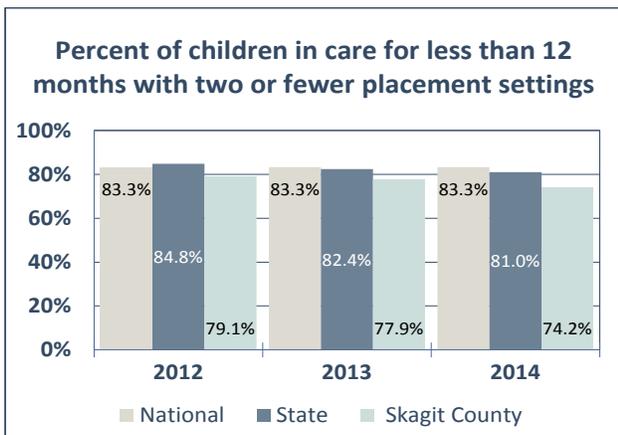
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Skagit	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	30%	17%	28%	36%	26%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	15%	19%	17%	10%	23%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	17%	13%	23%	23%	14%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	18%	24%	22%	16%	23%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	20%	27%	10%	14%	15%
	Gender	(1) Female	50%	45%	49%	46%	50%
		(2) Male	50%	55%	51%	54%	50%
	Race	(1) Native American	10%	5%	18%	19%	5%
		(2) Asian/PI					1%
		(3) Black	2%	1%		1%	1%
		(4) White	54%	64%	66%	55%	67%
		(5) Hispanic	28%	21%	7%	12%	16%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	5%	7%	3%	9%	7%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	2%	1%	2%	4%	1%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	1%	1%	3%		1%
(9) Unknown						1%	



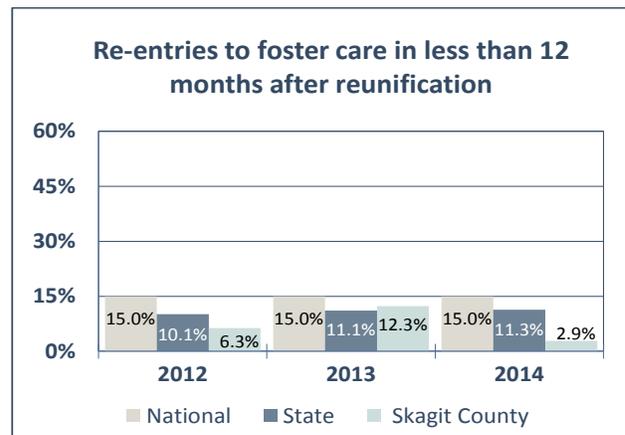
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



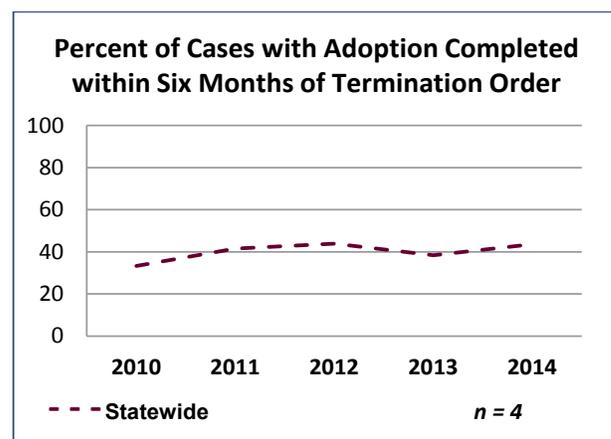
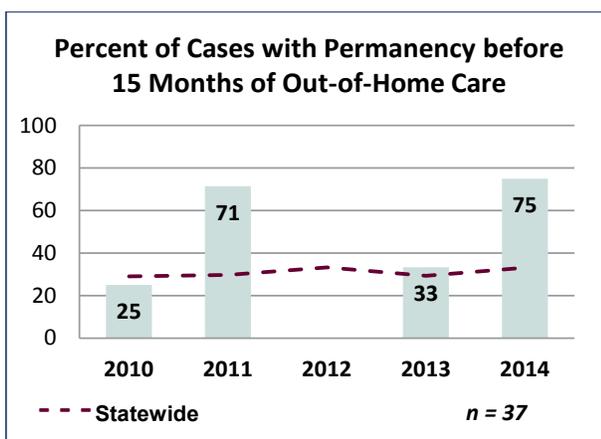
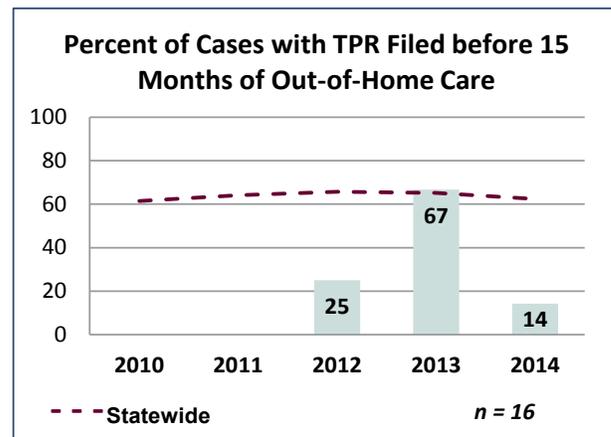
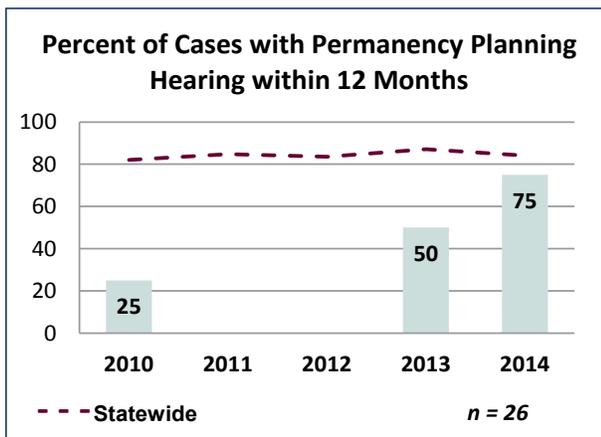
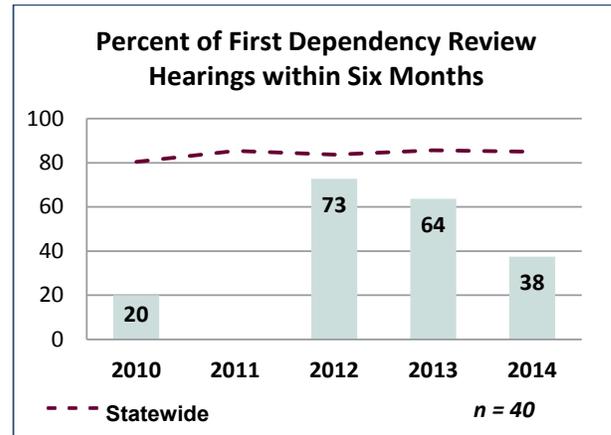
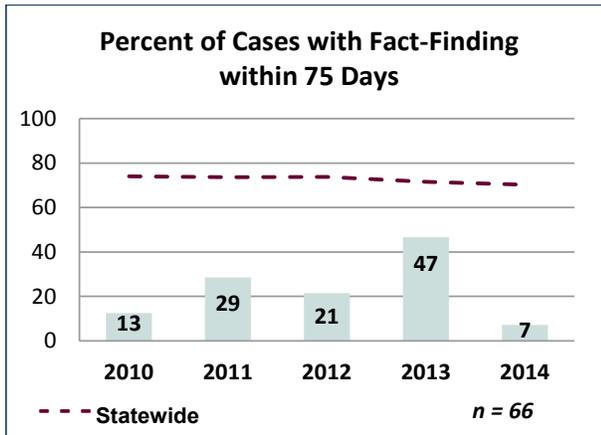
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



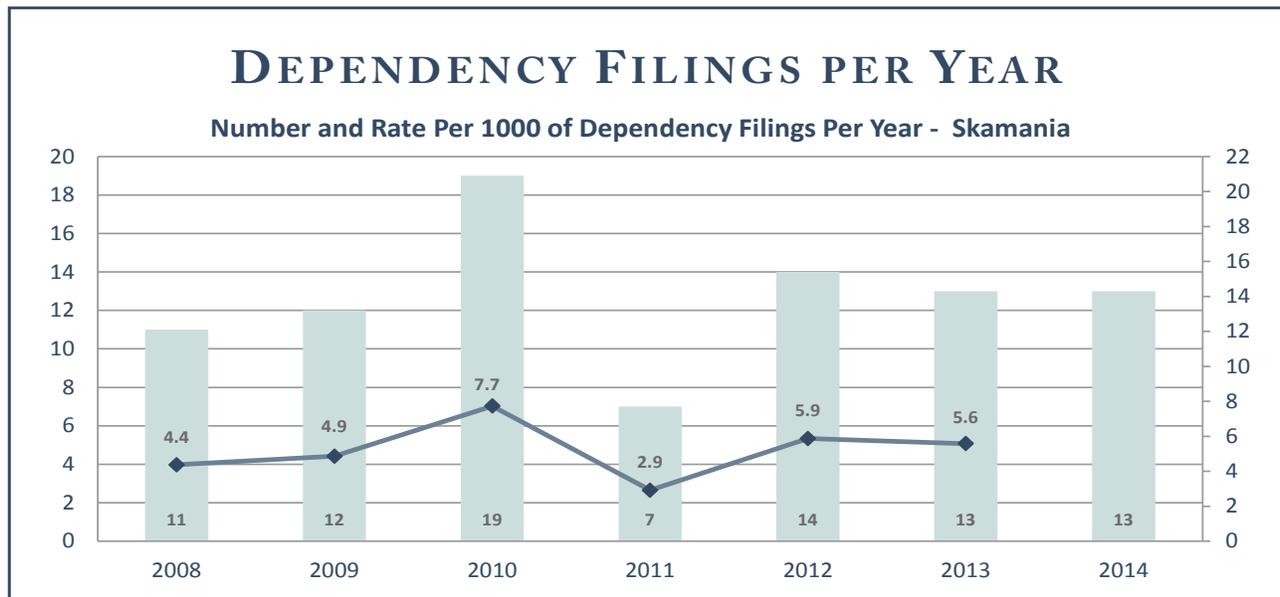
< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

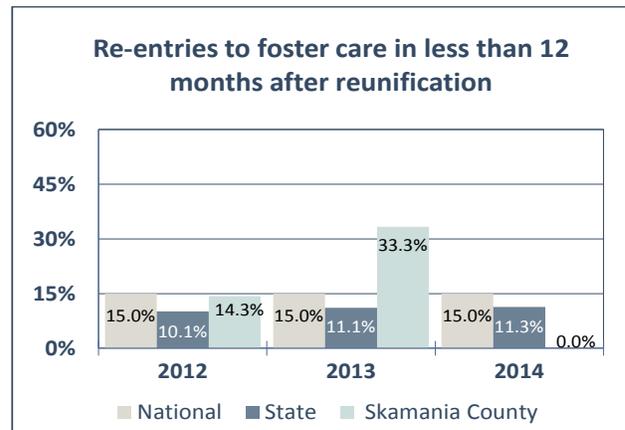
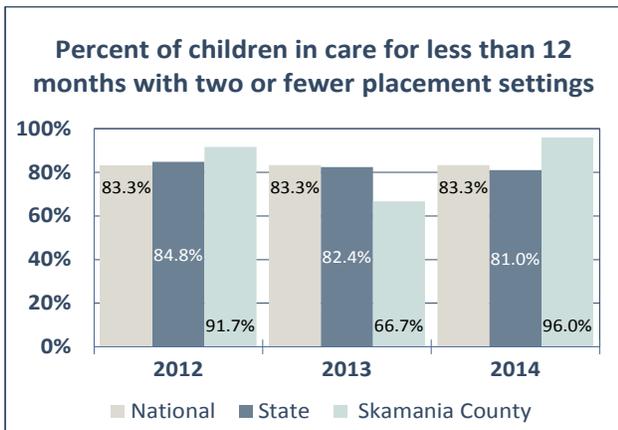
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	32		58		
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%		0%		
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	17	96		17	
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	50%	0%		0%	
Guardianships	Median Months			41		31
	% < 15 Months to Outcome			0%		0%
Reunifications	Median Months	16	3	18	16	11
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	20%	100%	0%	40%	86%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Skamania	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs		43%	17%	46%	
		(2) 1-2 yrs	23%	14%	17%	8%	17%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	31%		17%	8%	8%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	23%	29%	17%	23%	58%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	23%	14%	33%	15%	17%
	Gender	(1) Female	38%	57%	33%	54%	67%
		(2) Male	62%	43%	67%	46%	33%
	Race	(1) Native American			8%		
		(2) Asian/PI		14%			
		(4) White	100%	86%	67%	92%	83%
		(5) Hispanic			17%		
		(6) Multiracial - Native American				8%	
		(7) Multiracial - Black			8%		8%
		(9) Unknown					8%



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

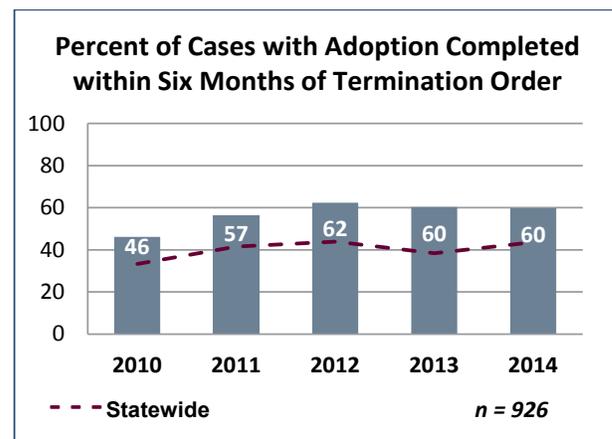
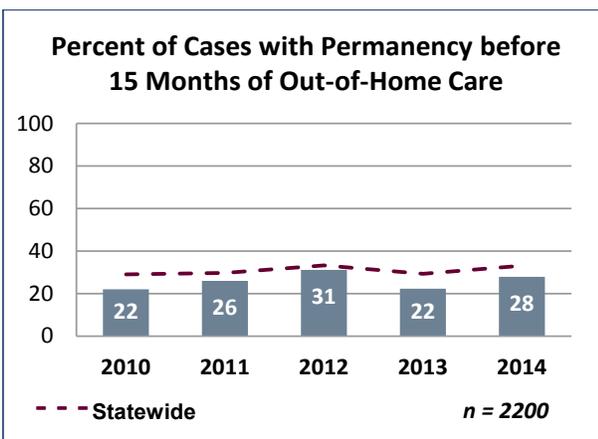
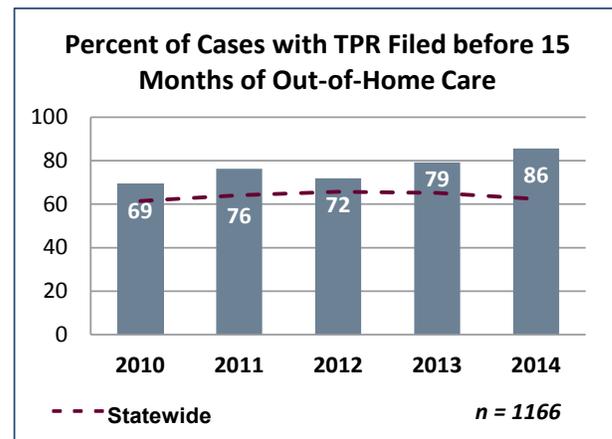
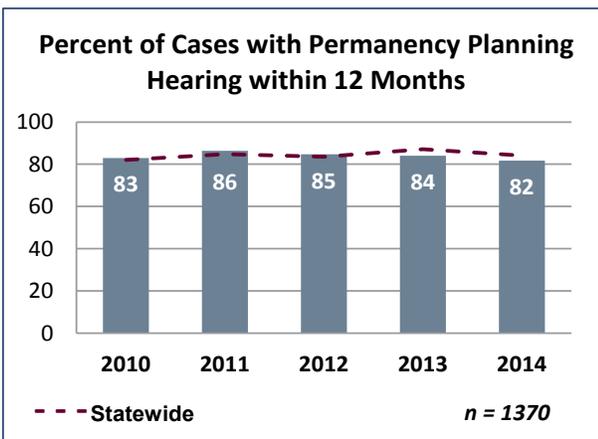
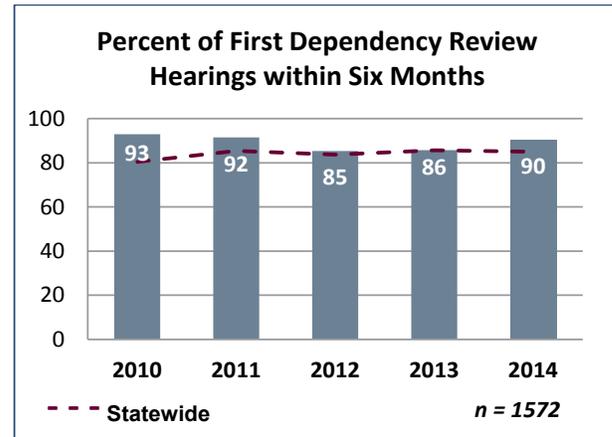
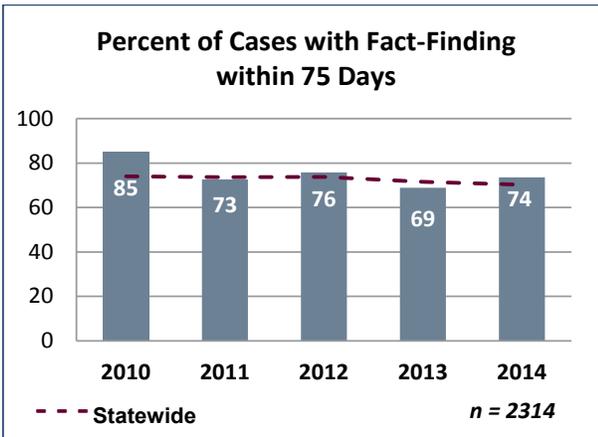


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

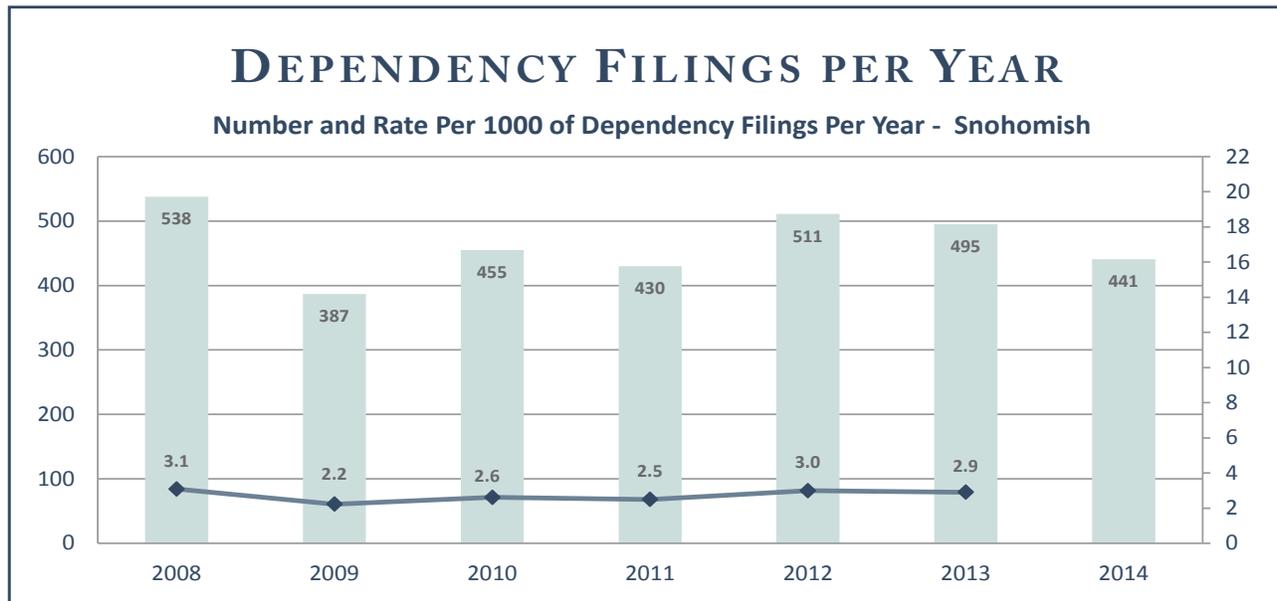
20+ CASE EVENTS

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	30	30	25	26	26
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	4%	4%	2%	3%	2%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	43	50.5	48	54.5	18.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	13%	13%	9%	10%	25%
Guardianships	Median Months	25	26	18	17	22
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	23%	13%	25%	32%	31%
Reunifications	Median Months	16	13	14	17	15
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	43%	56%	52%	39%	48%

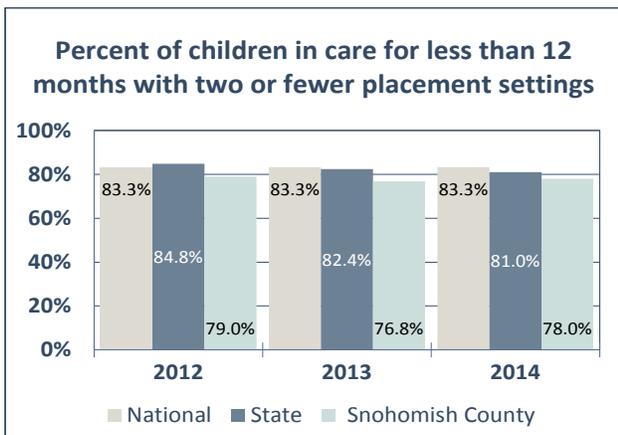
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Snohomish	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	24%	24%	23%	23%	31%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	19%	20%	17%	16%	16%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	21%	22%	22%	21%	18%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	25%	26%	25%	26%	24%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	10%	9%	13%	14%	11%
	Gender	(1) Female	47%	51%	45%	51%	44%
		(2) Male	53%	49%	55%	49%	56%
	Race	(1) Native American	8%	6%	5%	4%	9%
		(2) Asian/PI	1%	5%	2%	1%	1%
		(3) Black	5%	4%	4%	5%	5%
		(4) White	61%	54%	60%	64%	58%
		(5) Hispanic	13%	12%	16%	11%	12%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	5%	9%	6%	6%	6%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	6%	6%	6%	5%	5%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	1%	3%	1%	3%	1%
(9) Unknown		0%		0%		2%	



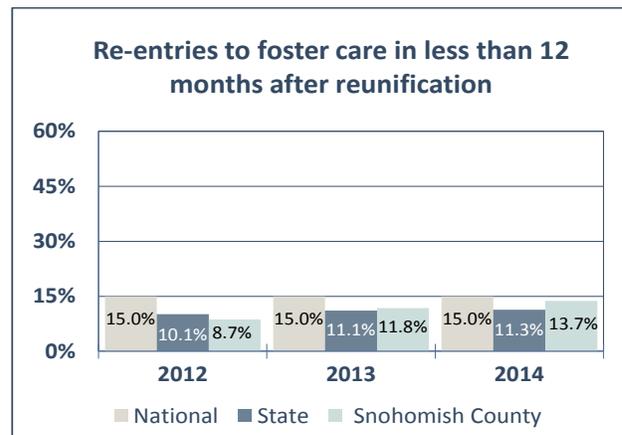
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



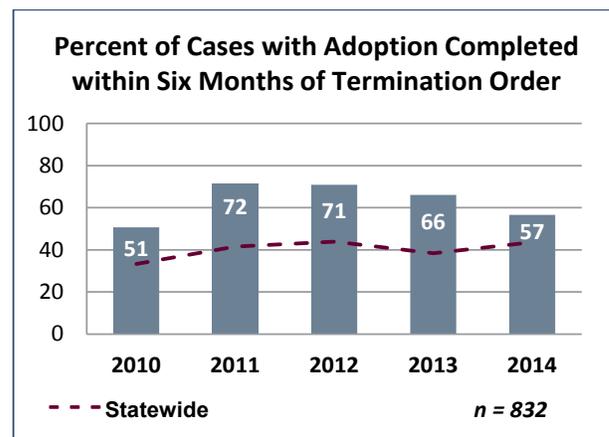
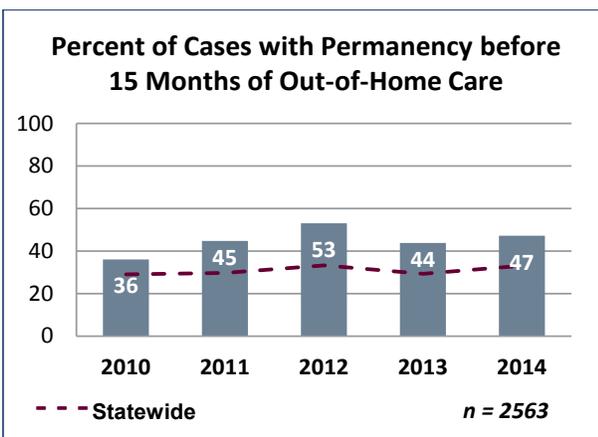
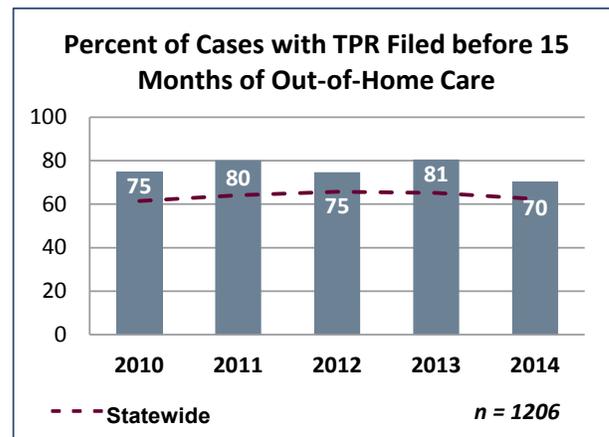
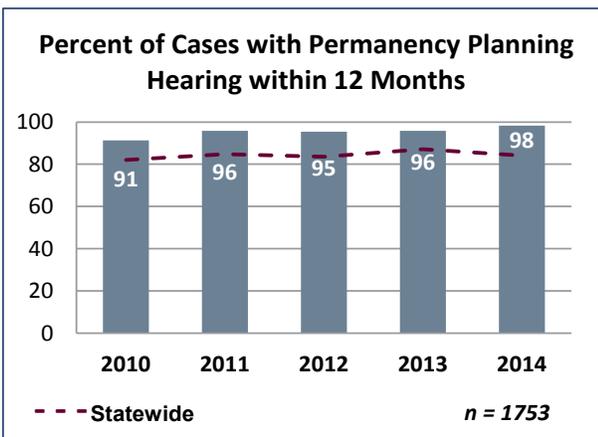
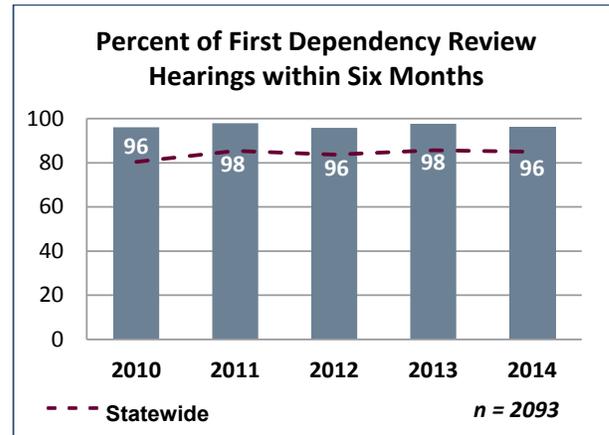
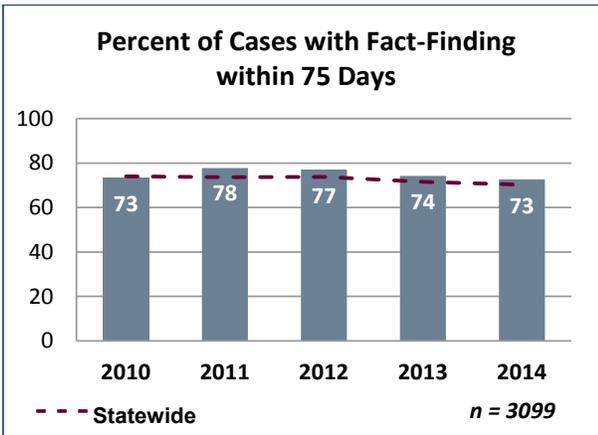
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

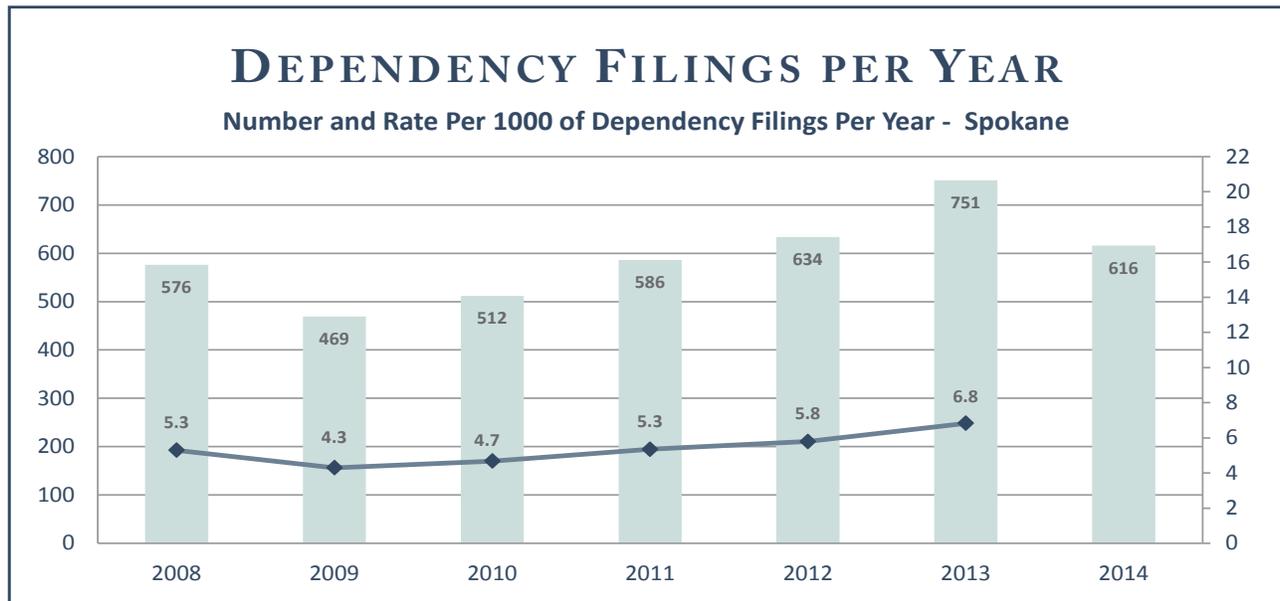
20+ CASE EVENTS

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	23	20	19	22	24
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	15%	23%	20%	12%	9%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	34.5	58	56	68	56.5
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	11%	22%	0%	0%	9%
Guardianships	Median Months	14	14.5	13.5	15	14
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	56%	50%	60%	48%	52%
Reunifications	Median Months	14	12	10	12	12
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	53%	63%	70%	66%	66%

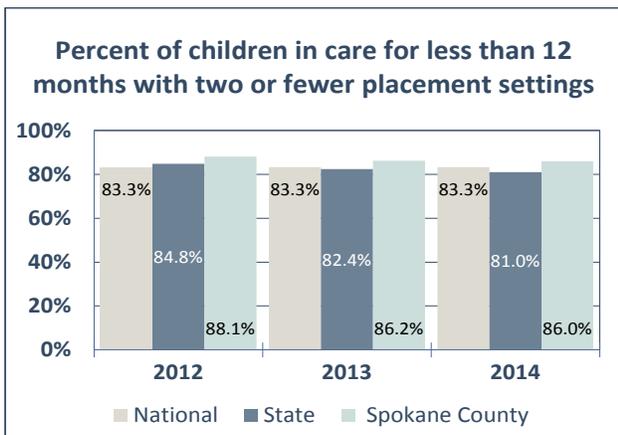
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Spokane	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	31%	31%	29%	29%	27%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	21%	18%	18%	18%	16%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	21%	18%	21%	19%	16%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	18%	21%	21%	24%	28%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	9%	11%	11%	11%	12%
	Gender	(1) Female	48%	44%	49%	49%	46%
		(2) Male	52%	56%	51%	51%	54%
	Race	(1) Native American	3%	2%	4%	4%	9%
		(2) Asian/PI	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
		(3) Black	3%	4%	6%	2%	7%
		(4) White	68%	67%	65%	67%	56%
		(5) Hispanic	8%	4%	5%	5%	8%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	8%	12%	10%	13%	9%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	8%	10%	7%	6%	7%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%
(9) Unknown		0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	



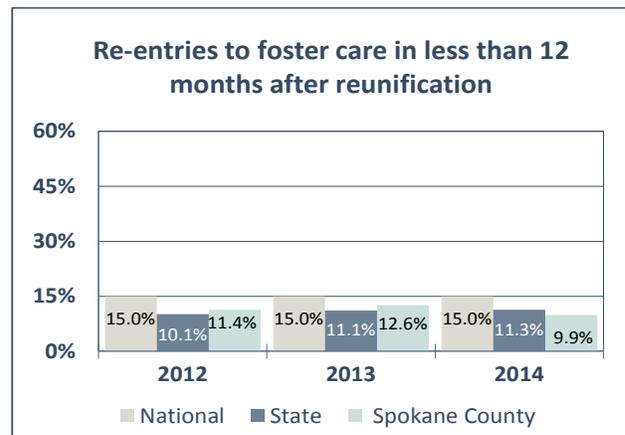
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



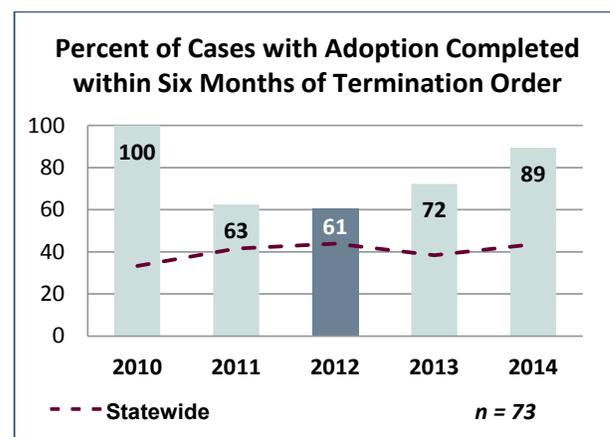
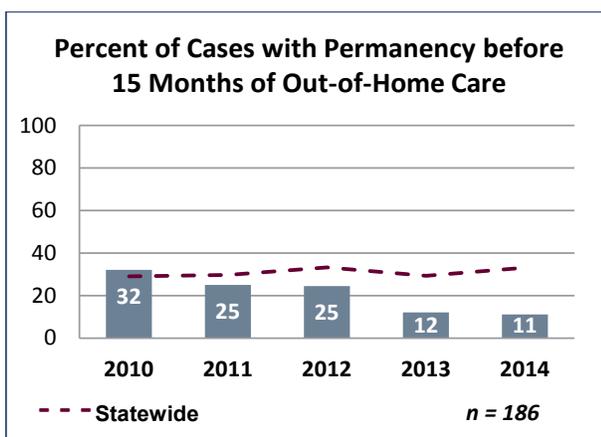
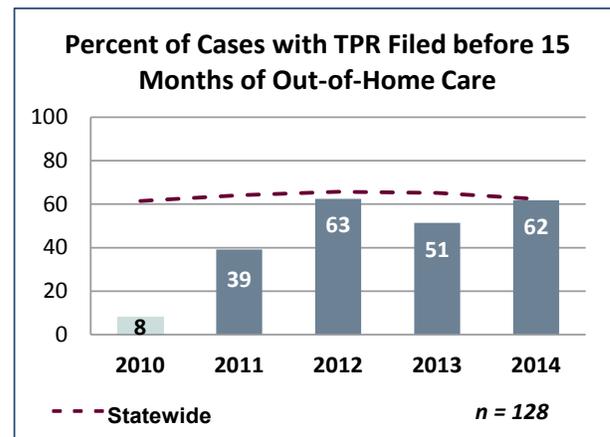
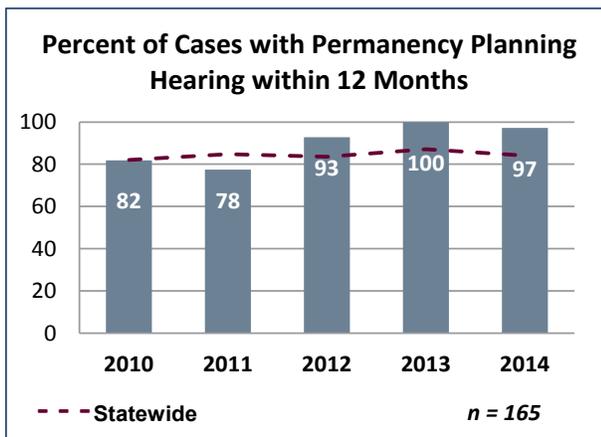
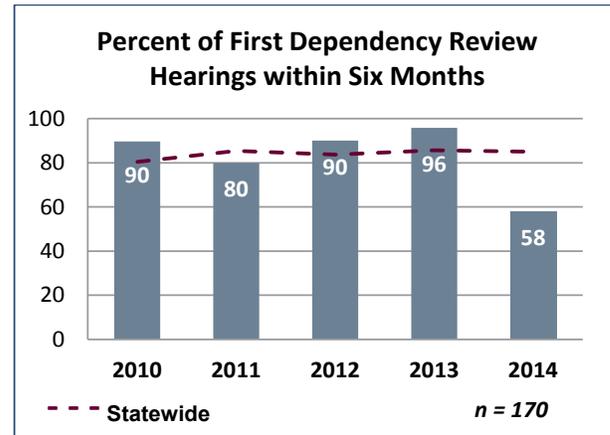
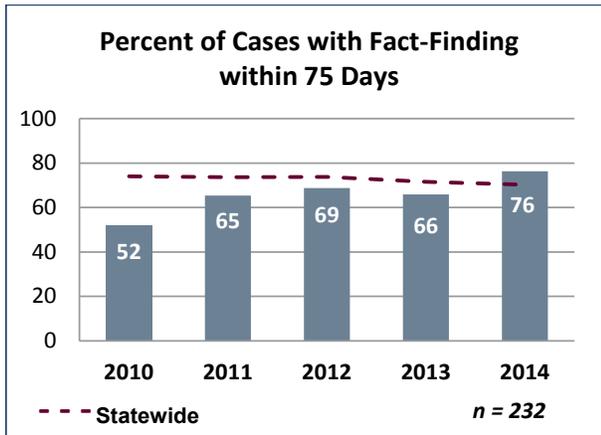
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

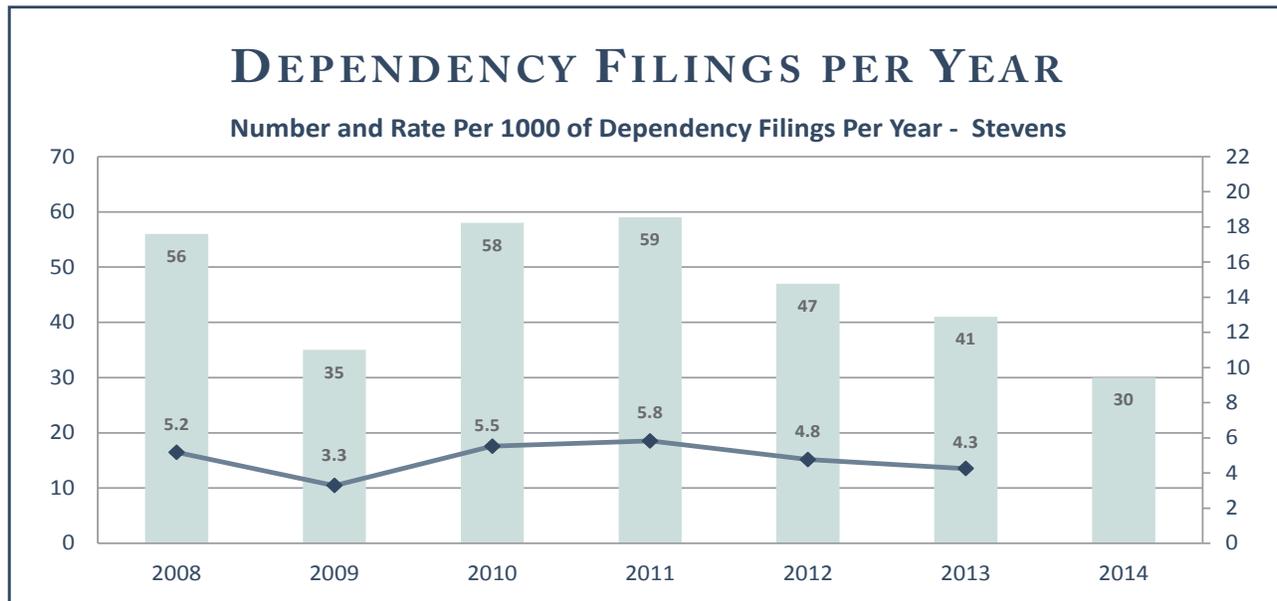
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	32	32.5	21	23	17
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	14%	17%	16%	21%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	58.5	73	20	59	49
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	25%	0%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	8		21	33	16
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	60%		23%	0%	0%
Reunifications	Median Months	12	16	16	37.5	18
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	55%	37%	38%	25%	0%

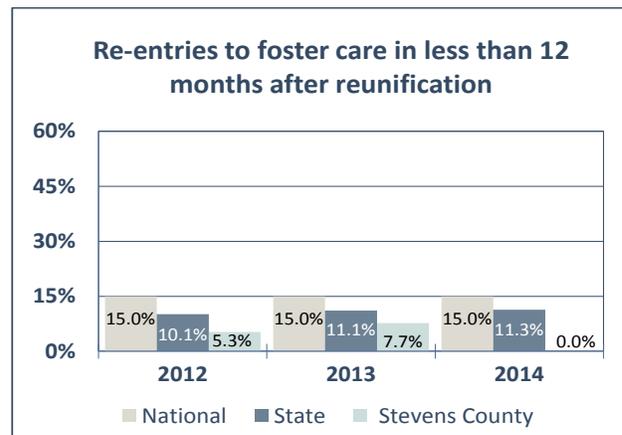
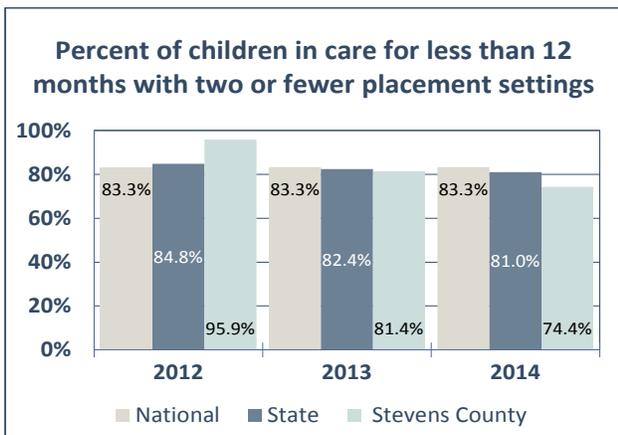
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Stevens	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	18%	25%	17%	21%	27%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	14%	16%	17%	3%	10%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	12%	18%	17%	21%	10%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	30%	32%	34%	37%	37%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	26%	11%	15%	18%	17%
	Gender	(1) Female	60%	53%	45%	34%	57%
		(2) Male	40%	47%	55%	66%	43%
	Race	(1) Native American	12%	2%		3%	3%
		(3) Black			6%		
		(4) White	72%	74%	79%	82%	73%
		(5) Hispanic	11%	7%	9%	13%	
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	5%	18%	6%	3%	20%
		(9) Unknown					3%



In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).

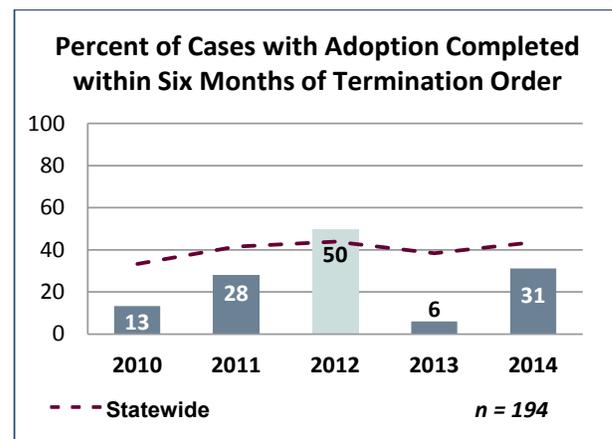
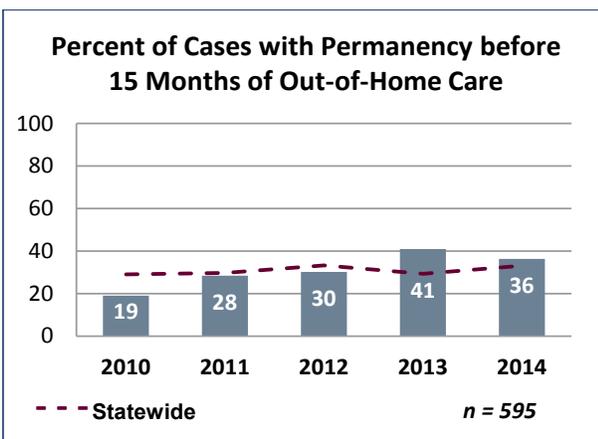
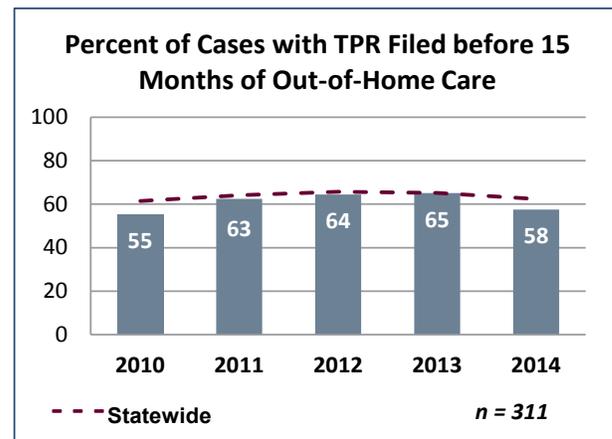
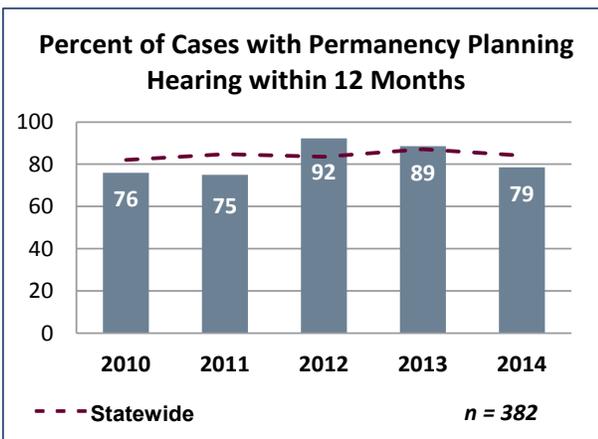
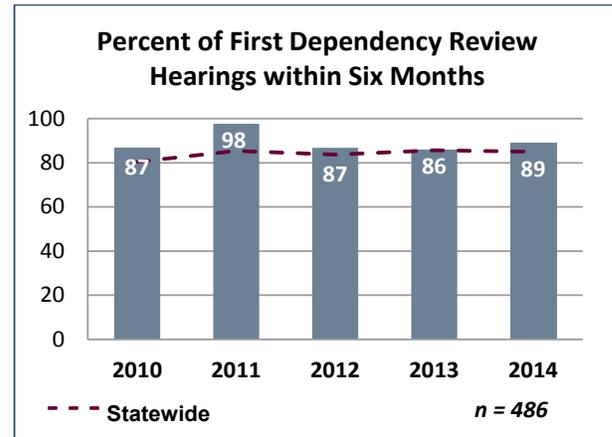
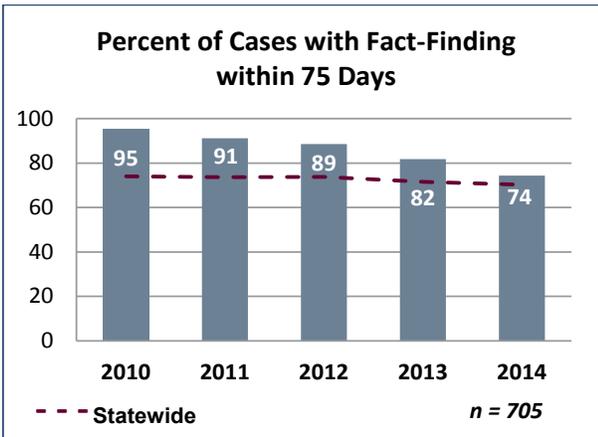


Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%

Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

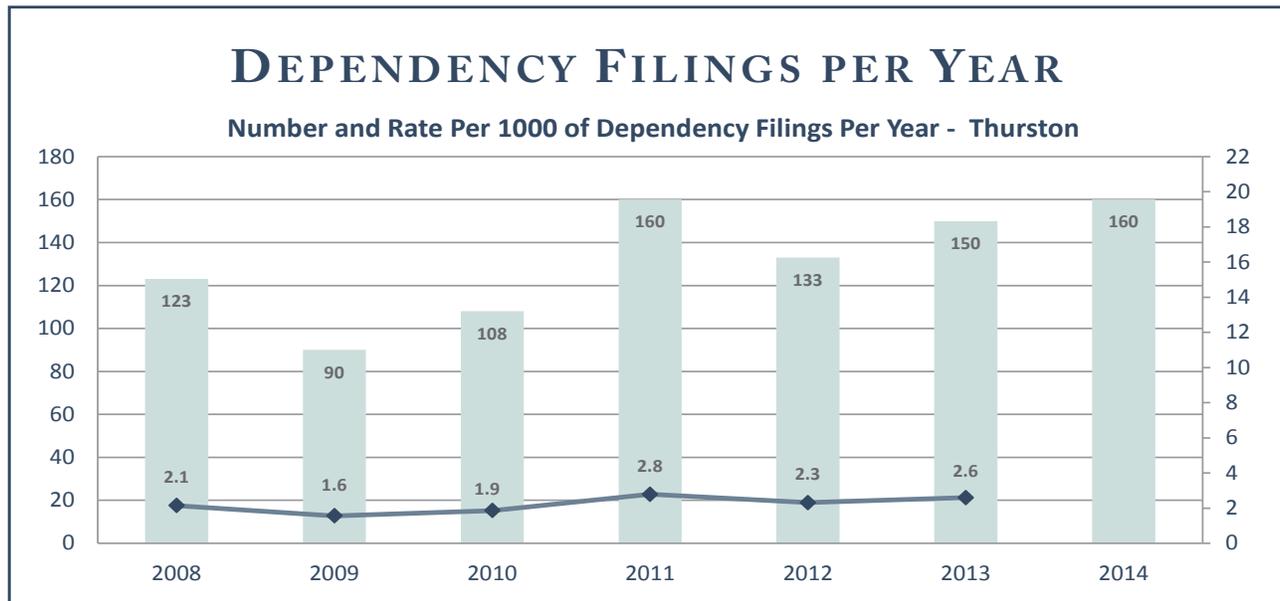
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	28	30.5	22	28	26
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	6%	6%	18%	6%	7%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	47	50	50	64	23
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	18%	16%	0%	0%	10%
Guardianships	Median Months	23.5	11	18	5	16
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	30%	60%	38%	70%	47%
Reunifications	Median Months	18	15	17.5	13	12
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	32%	50%	37%	61%	55%

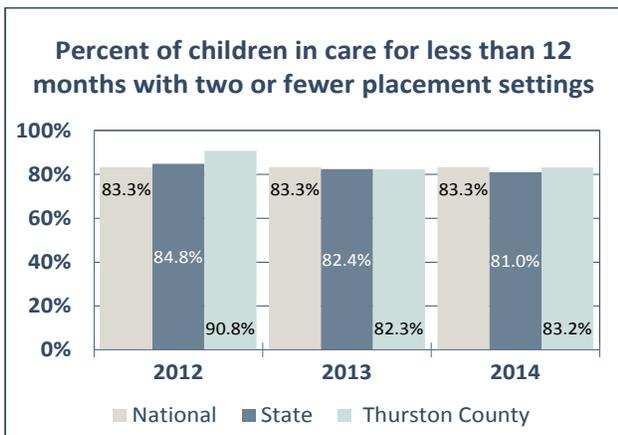
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Thurston	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	19%	25%	34%	34%	28%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	23%	16%	18%	9%	14%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	23%	17%	15%	9%	18%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	20%	21%	15%	29%	22%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	14%	21%	18%	19%	18%
	Gender	(1) Female	59%	43%	46%	51%	46%
		(2) Male	41%	57%	54%	49%	54%
	Race	(1) Native American	2%	1%	8%	3%	3%
		(2) Asian/PI	2%	1%	2%	4%	1%
		(3) Black	5%	2%	3%	4%	8%
		(4) White	48%	71%	54%	64%	56%
		(5) Hispanic	22%	11%	8%	11%	12%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	9%	2%	13%	4%	6%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	10%	9%	7%	5%	4%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	2%	3%	3%	1%	3%
(9) Unknown		1%		1%	4%	6%	



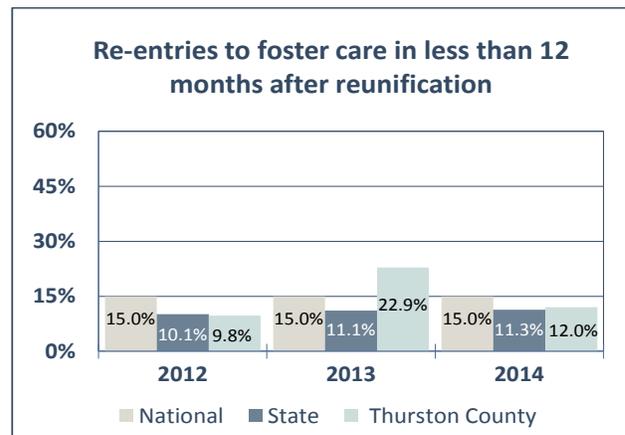
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



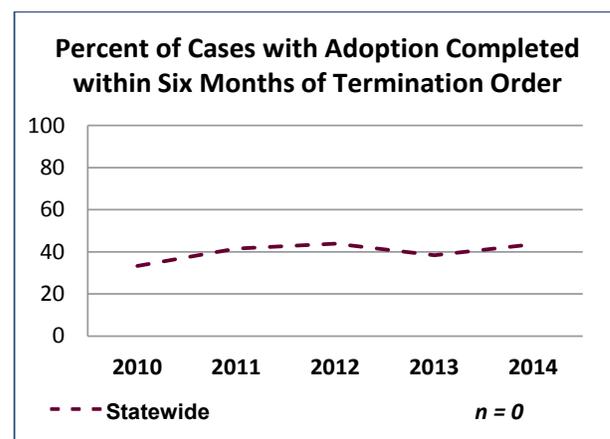
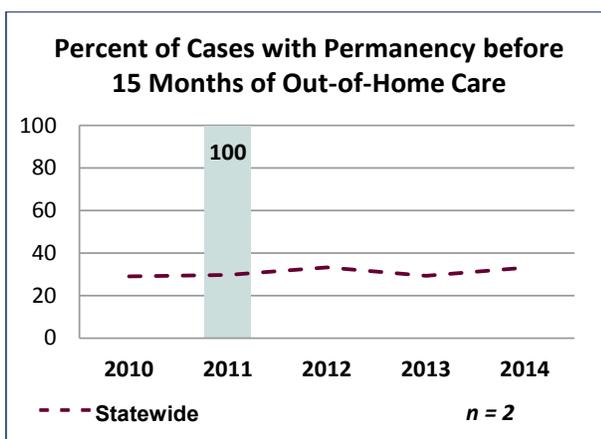
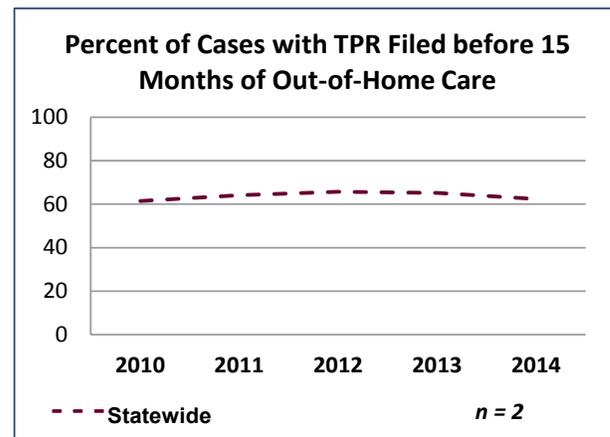
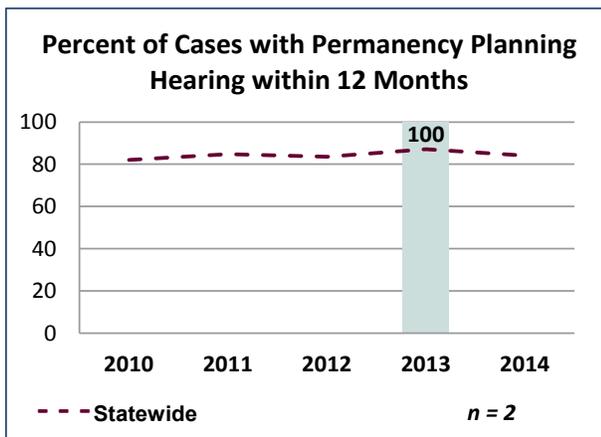
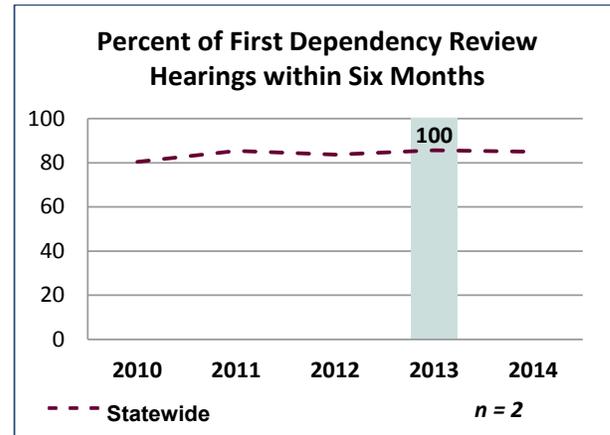
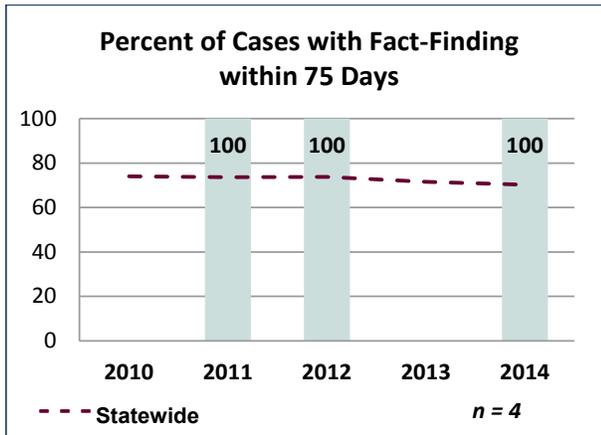
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

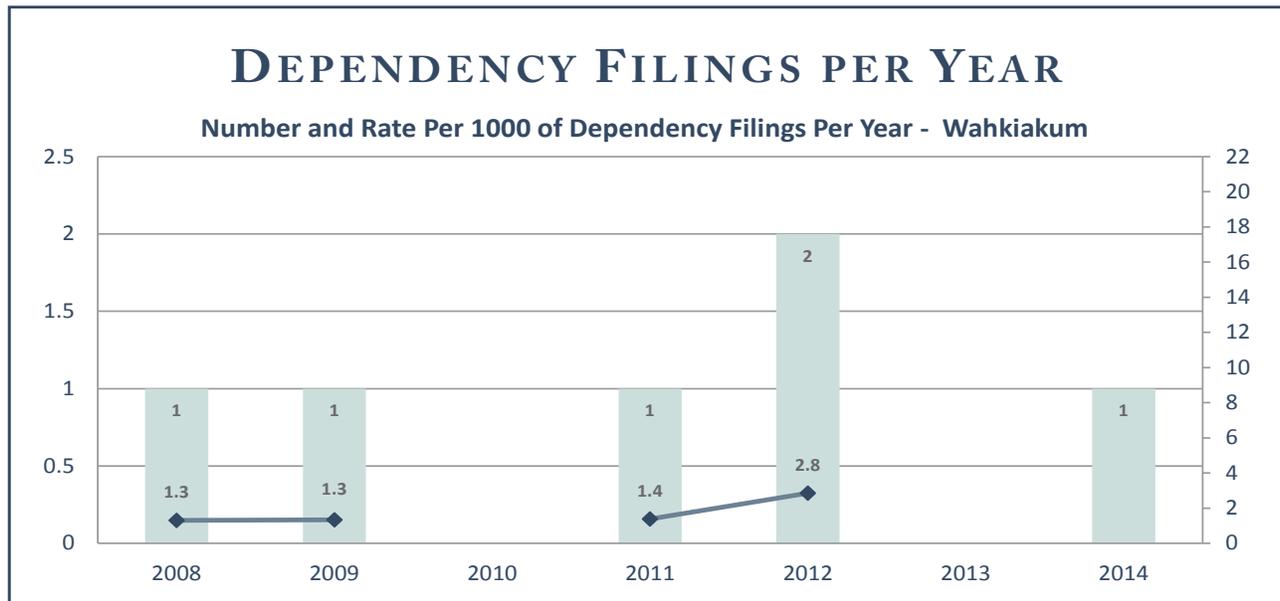
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months					
	% < 15 Months to Outcome					
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	56				
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%				
Guardianships	Median Months		7			
	% < 15 Months to Outcome		100%			
Reunifications	Median Months					
	% < 15 Months to Outcome					

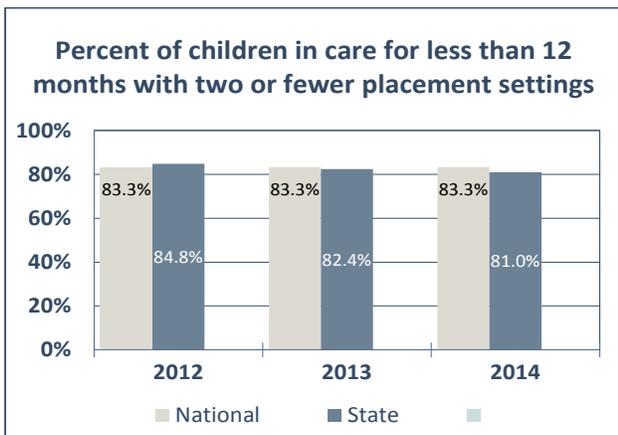
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Wahkiakum	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs			50%		
		(2) 1-2 yrs			50%		
		(5) 12-17 yrs		100%			100%
	Gender	(1) Female		100%			100%
		(2) Male			100%		
	Race	(4) White			100%		100%
		(8) Multiracial - Other		100%			



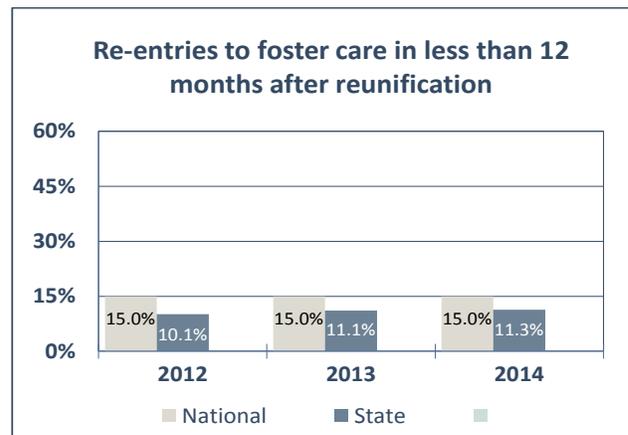
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



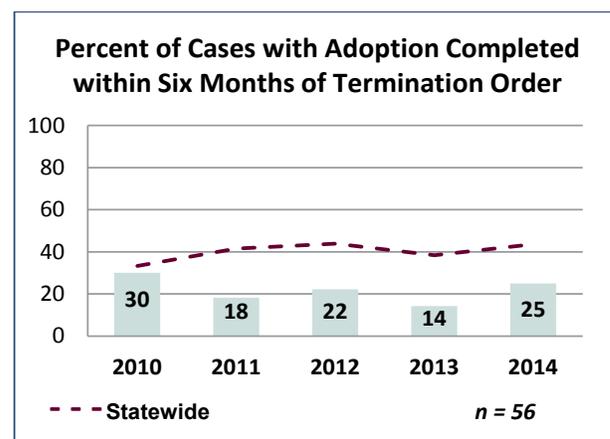
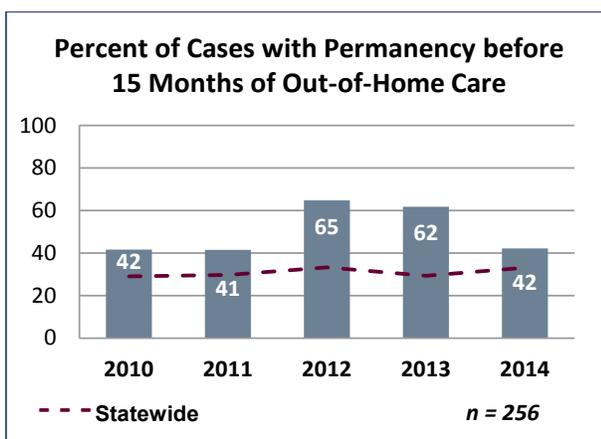
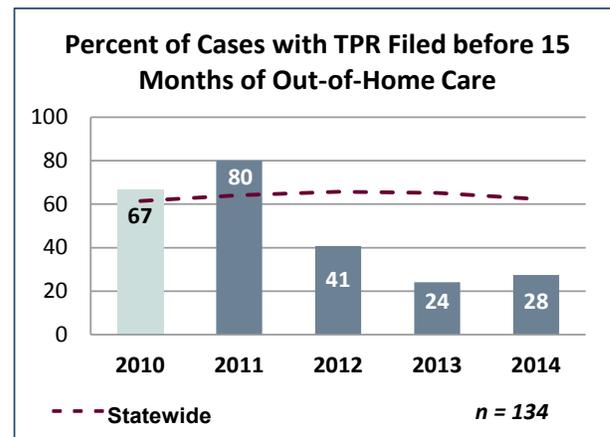
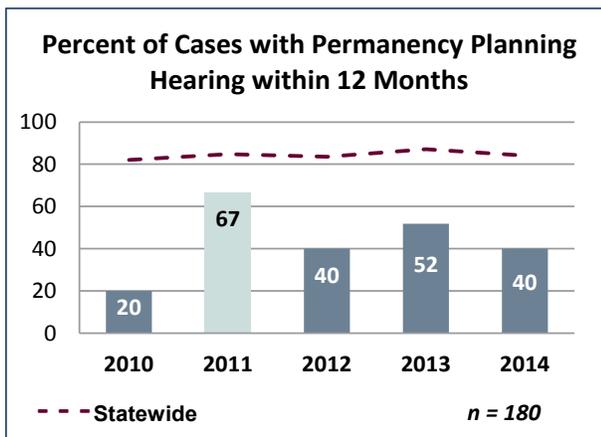
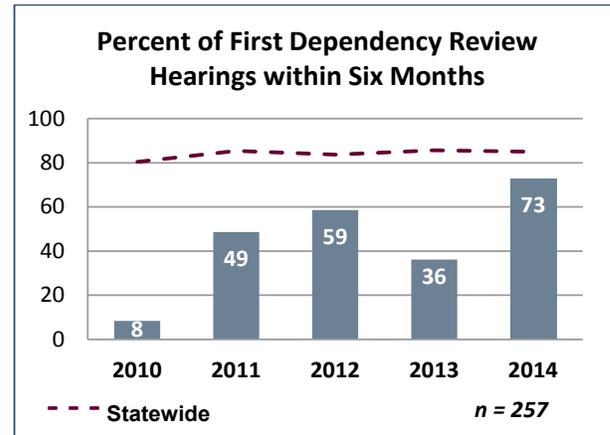
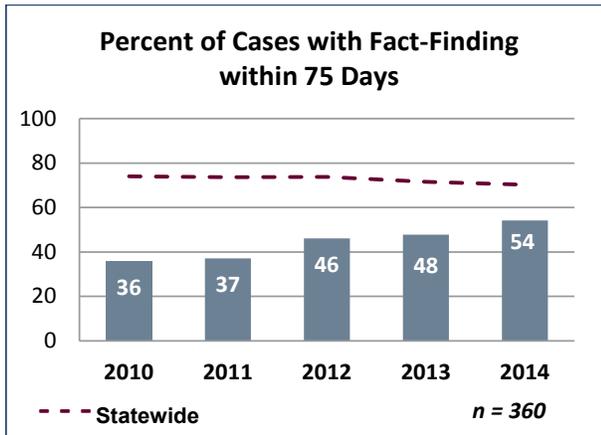
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

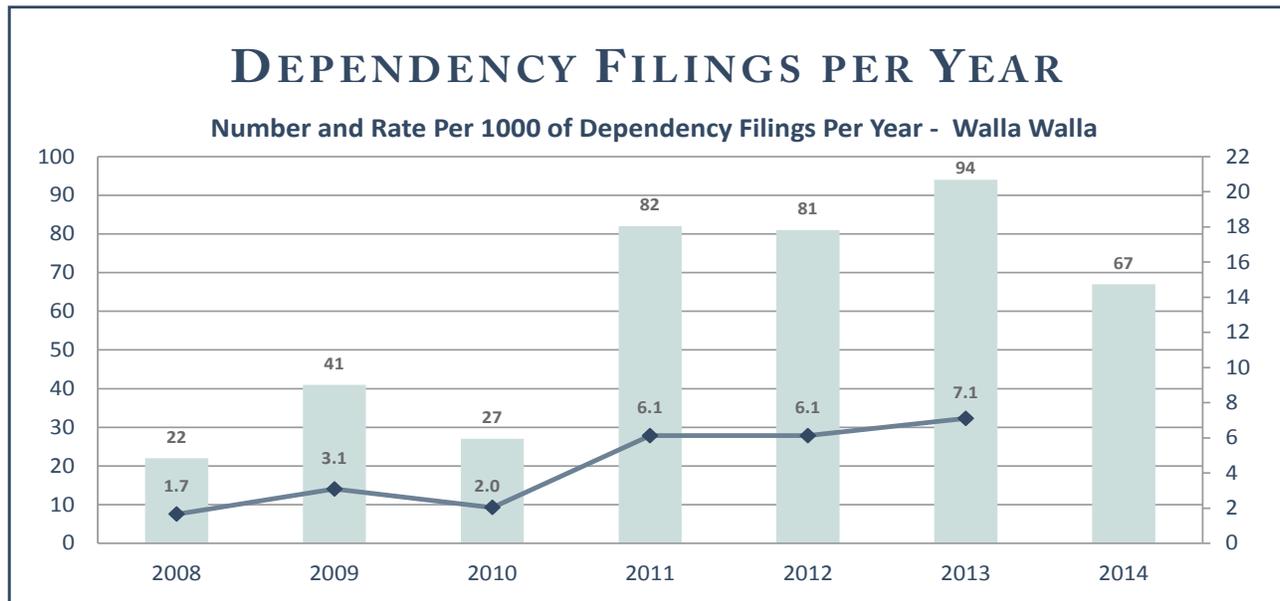
20+ CASE EVENTS

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	29	29	33	36.5	33
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	30	103	63.5		43
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	50%		0%
Guardianships	Median Months	10	47	17	18	49
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	60%	0%	0%	50%	17%
Reunifications	Median Months	6	5	6	3	10
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	71%	85%	81%	90%	60%

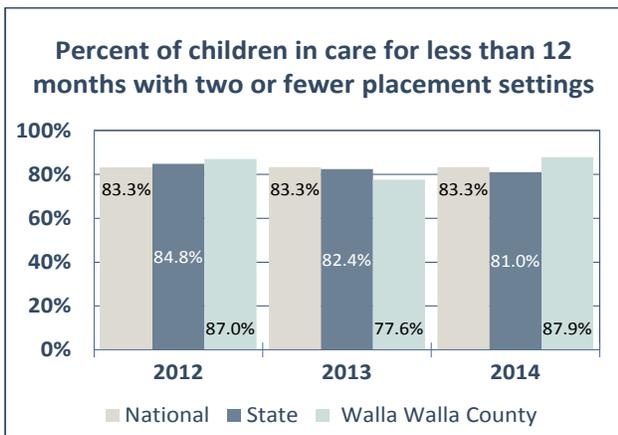
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Walla Walla	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	17%	21%	17%	15%	17%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	21%	18%	19%	15%	17%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	38%	15%	15%	24%	20%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	25%	32%	32%	26%	30%
		(5) 12-17 yrs		14%	17%	19%	14%
		(6) >17 yrs					2%
	Gender	(1) Female	63%	51%	58%	57%	50%
		(2) Male	38%	49%	42%	43%	50%
	Race	(1) Native American			1%	2%	3%
		(2) Asian/PI		3%	1%		
		(3) Black				1%	3%
		(4) White	92%	68%	74%	77%	58%
		(5) Hispanic	8%	27%	21%	16%	23%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American				3%	5%
		(7) Multiracial - Black		3%	2%		5%
		(9) Unknown					3%



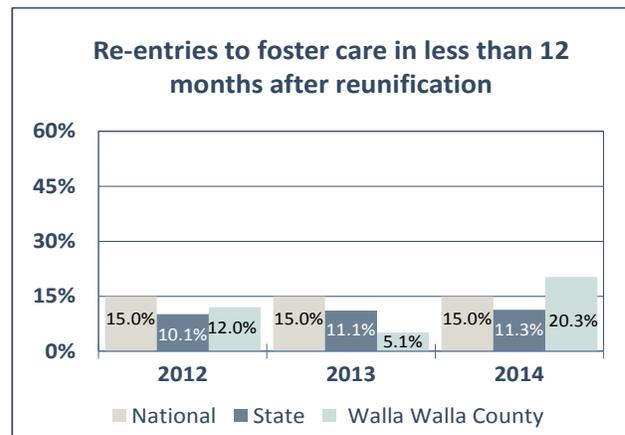
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



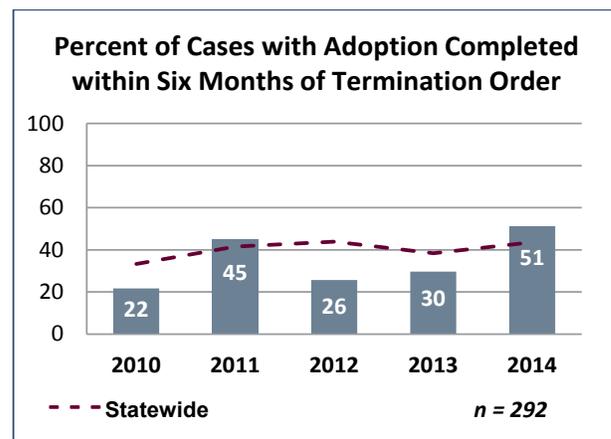
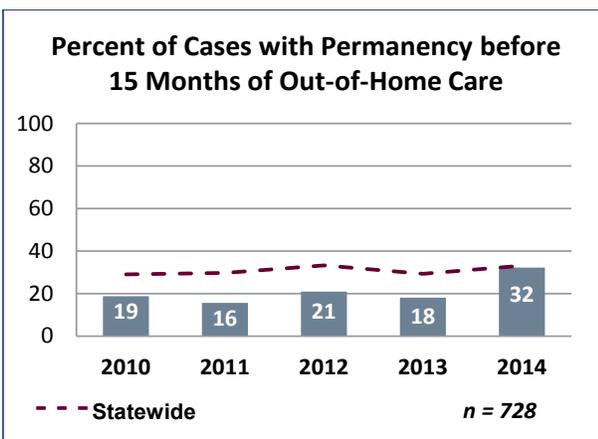
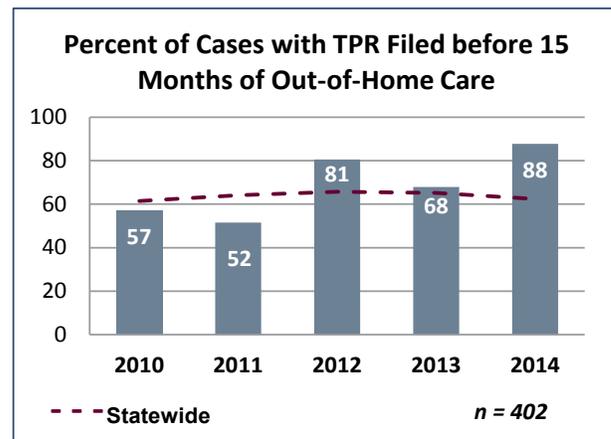
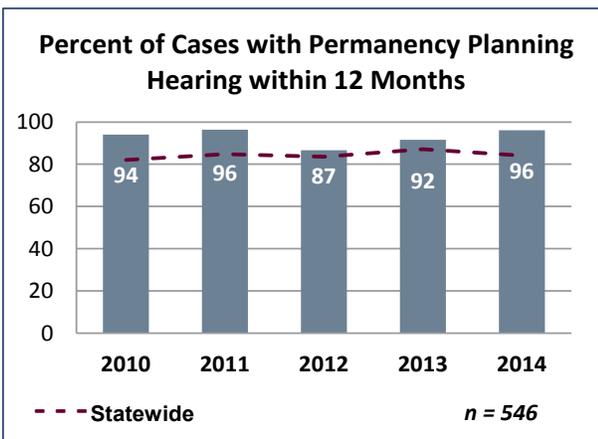
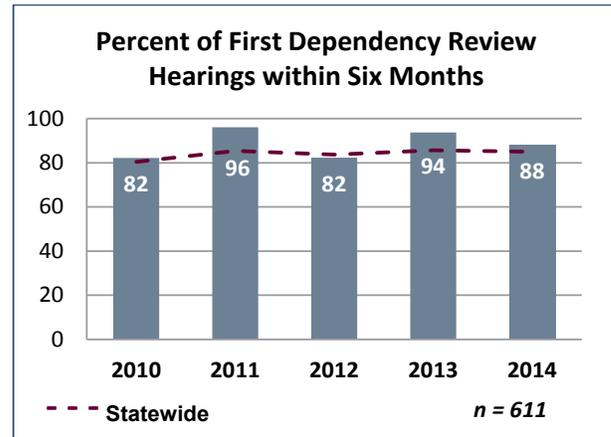
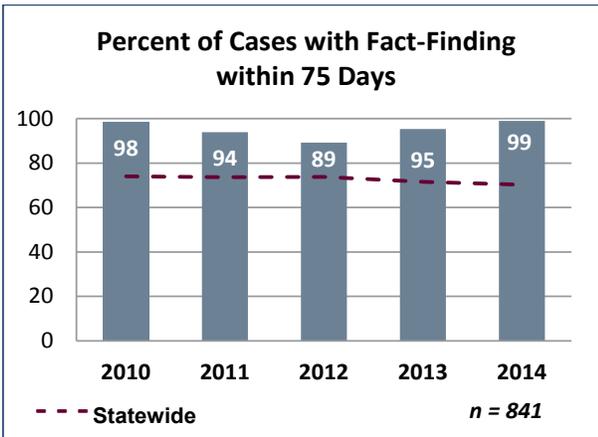
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



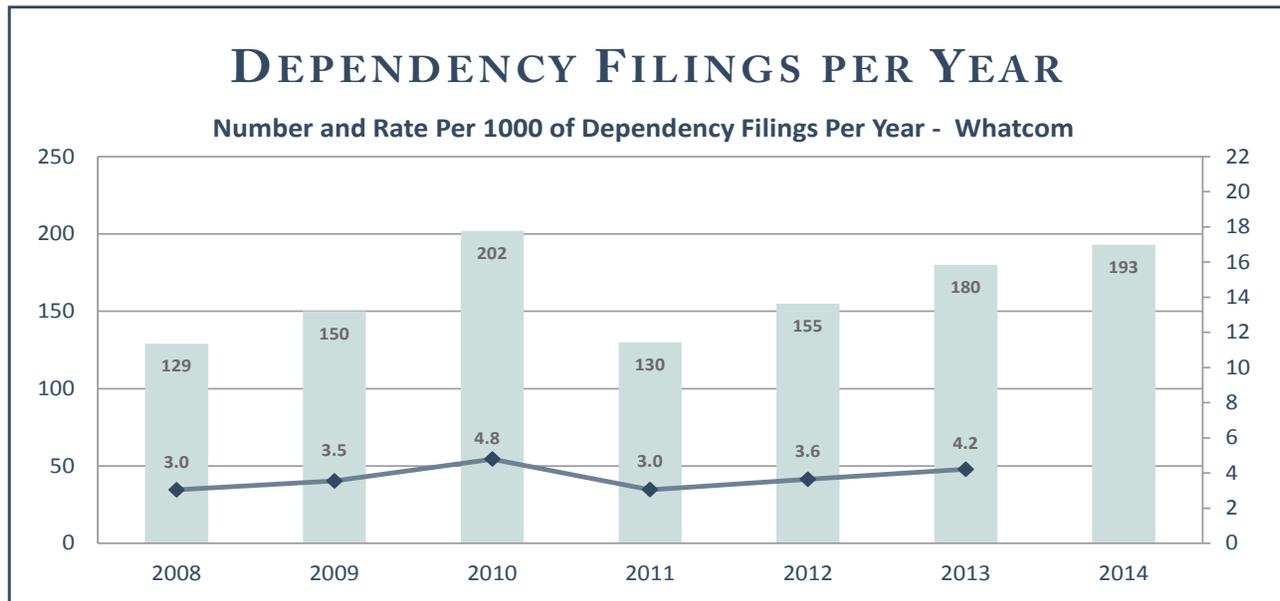
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

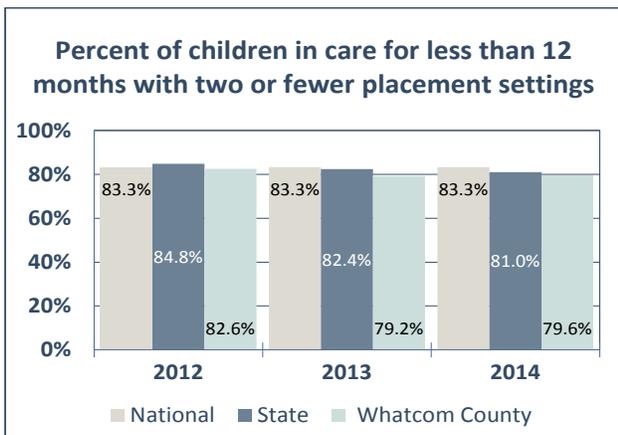
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	33	32.5	29	29	27
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	5%	5%	3%	2%	8%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	30.5	29	50	47.5	54
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	13%	14%	10%	14%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	25.5	25	33	31.5	32
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	33%	14%	0%	0%
Reunifications	Median Months	14	20	20	20	14
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	51%	27%	32%	33%	58%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Whatcom	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	21%	24%	24%	26%	24%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	20%	20%	17%	18%	22%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	23%	16%	17%	17%	17%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	25%	22%	23%	18%	22%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	10%	19%	19%	22%	15%
		(6) >17 yrs					1%
	Gender	(1) Female	52%	51%	49%	51%	48%
		(2) Male	48%	49%	51%	49%	52%
	Race	(1) Native American	18%	16%	22%	17%	10%
		(2) Asian/PI		1%	1%	1%	1%
		(3) Black	3%		1%	1%	
		(4) White	52%	57%	53%	54%	62%
		(5) Hispanic	19%	14%	12%	13%	17%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	3%	9%	8%	9%	7%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	4%	3%	2%	5%	2%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	2%	1%			1%



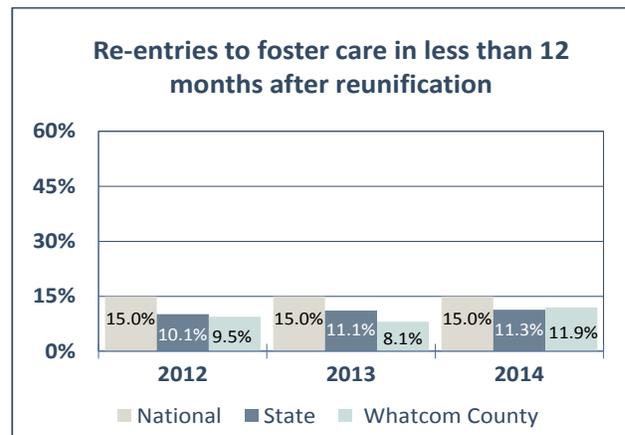
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



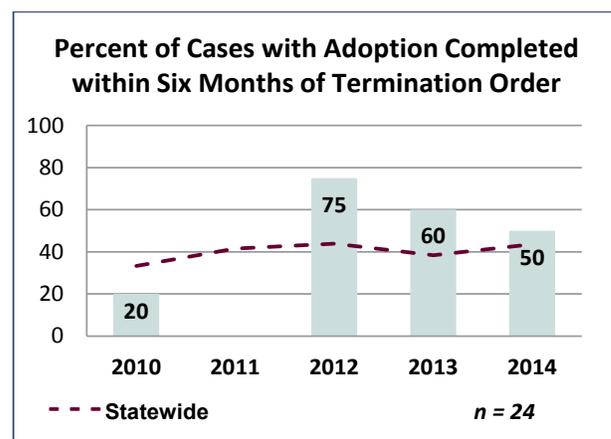
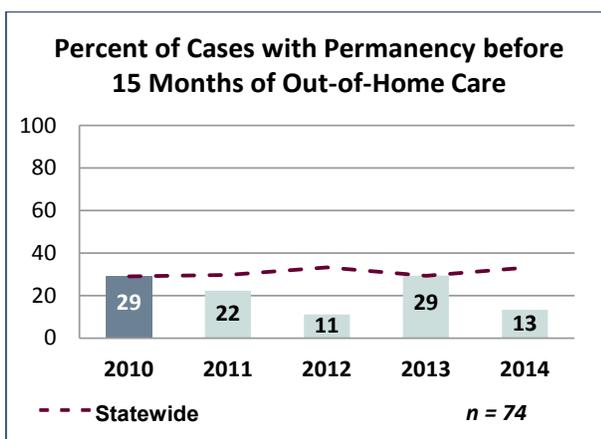
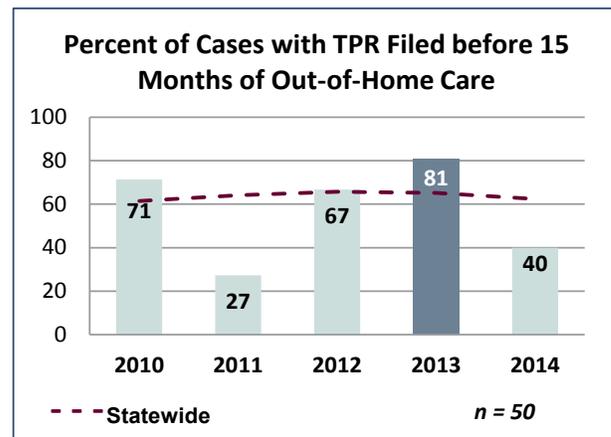
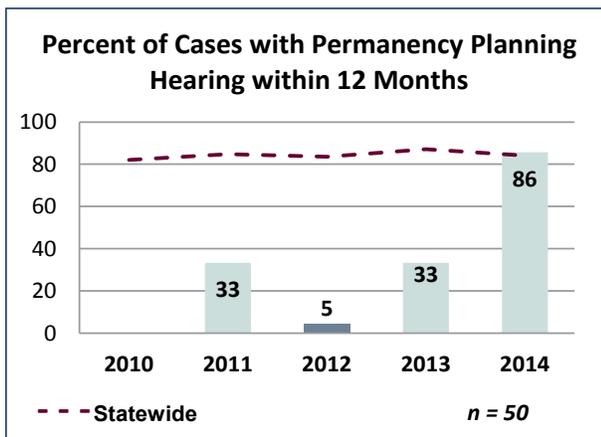
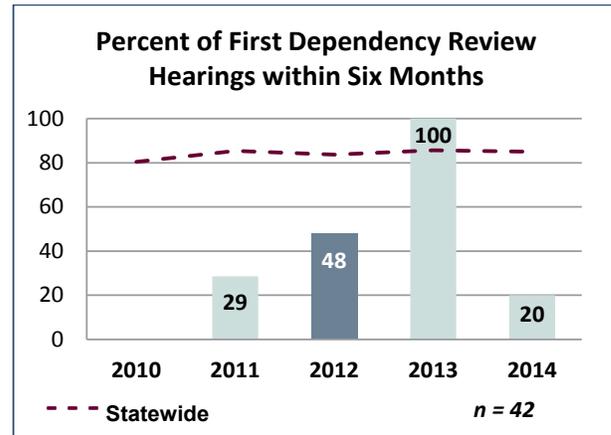
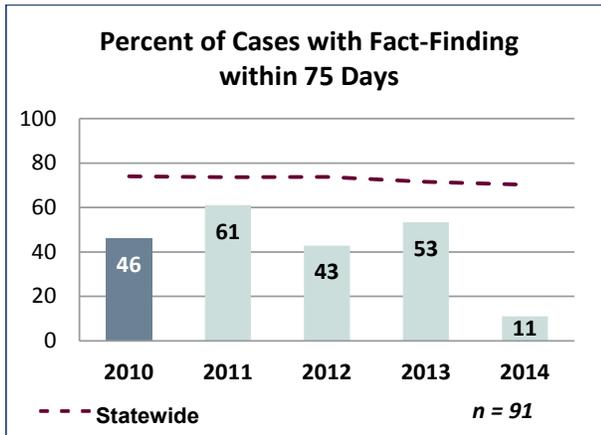
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



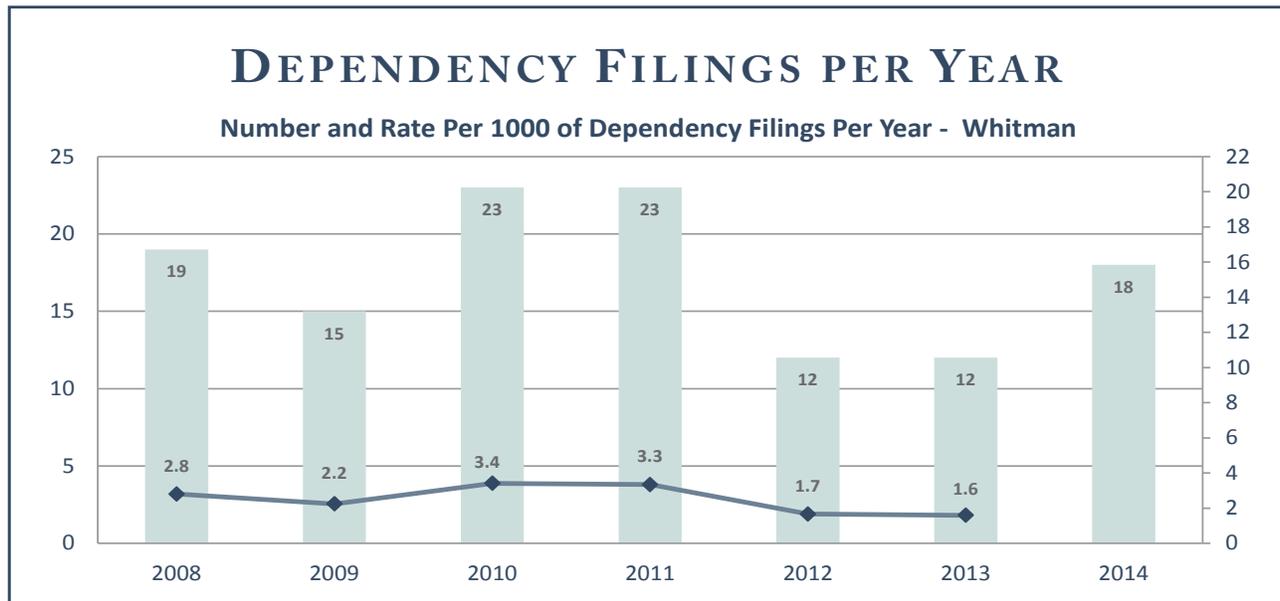
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

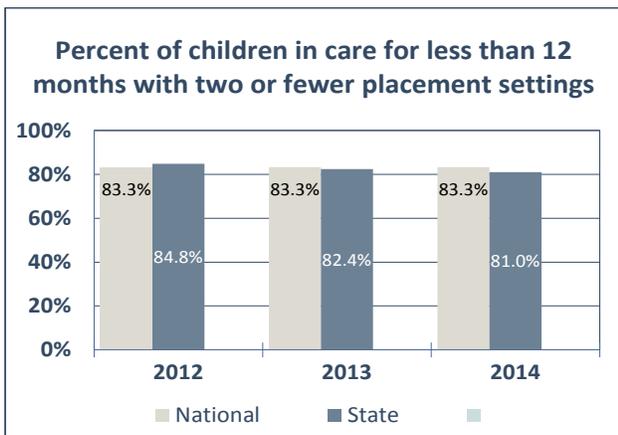
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	39.5	27	22	29	29
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	0%	0%	20%	0%	0%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months		10		101	
	% < 15 Months to Outcome		100%		0%	
Guardianships	Median Months	25		23.5		
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	25%		0%		
Reunifications	Median Months	16	41	36.5	10	21
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	43%	25%	0%	56%	25%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Whitman	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	25%	25%		25%	44%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	15%	15%	33%	17%	
		(3) 3-5 yrs	15%	25%	17%	25%	17%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	25%	35%	25%	25%	22%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	20%		25%	8%	17%
	Gender	(1) Female	60%	45%	33%	33%	56%
		(2) Male	40%	55%	67%	67%	44%
	Race	(4) White	90%	85%	100%	83%	83%
		(5) Hispanic		5%		17%	17%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	5%	10%			
		(7) Multiracial - Black	5%				



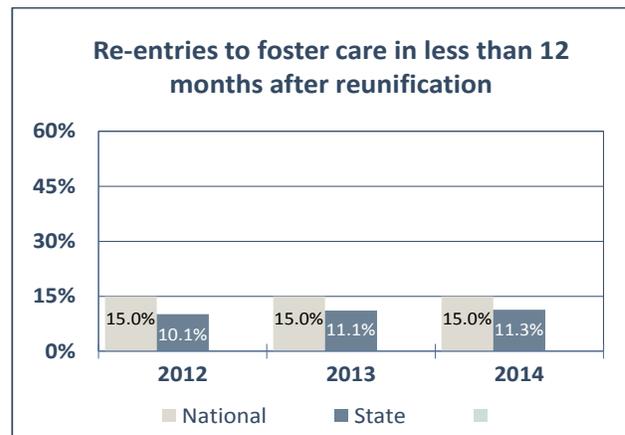
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



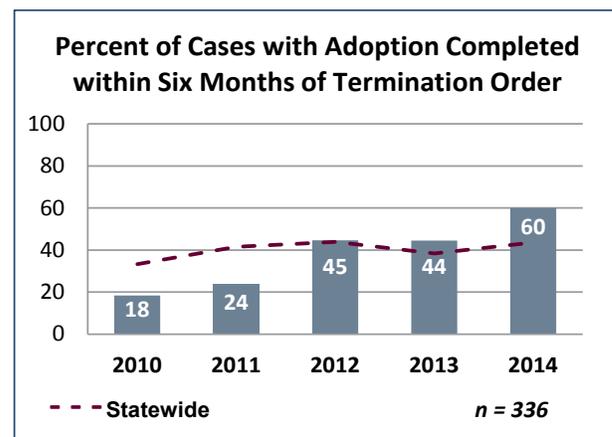
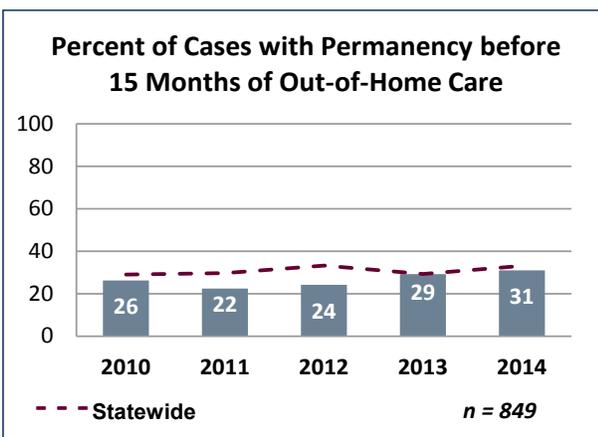
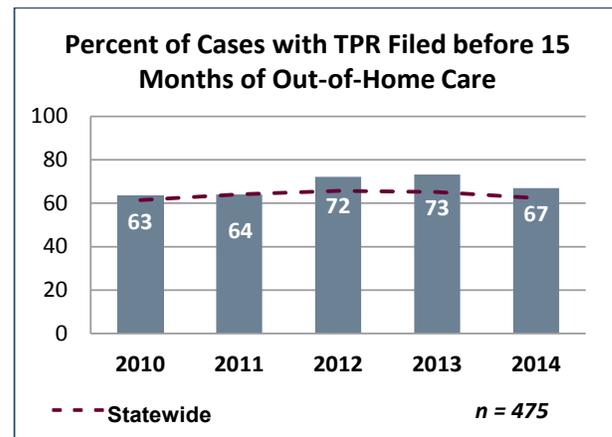
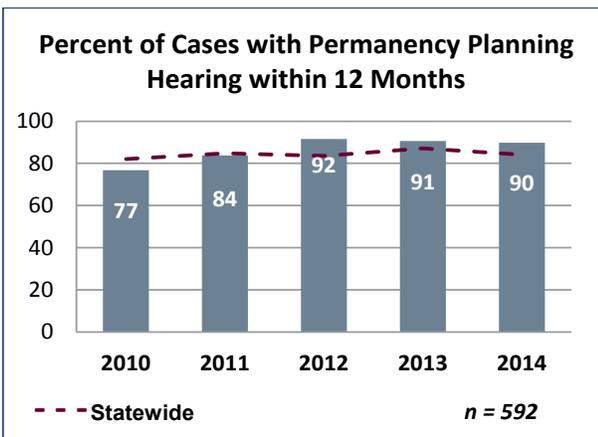
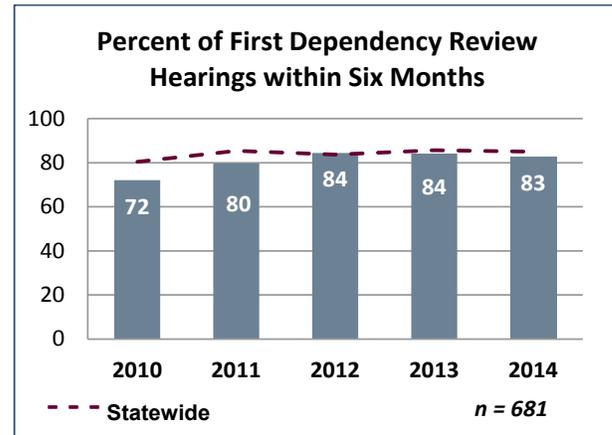
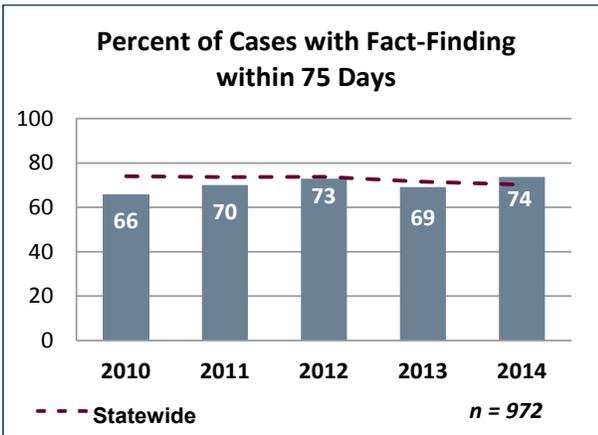
Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings.
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment).
Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



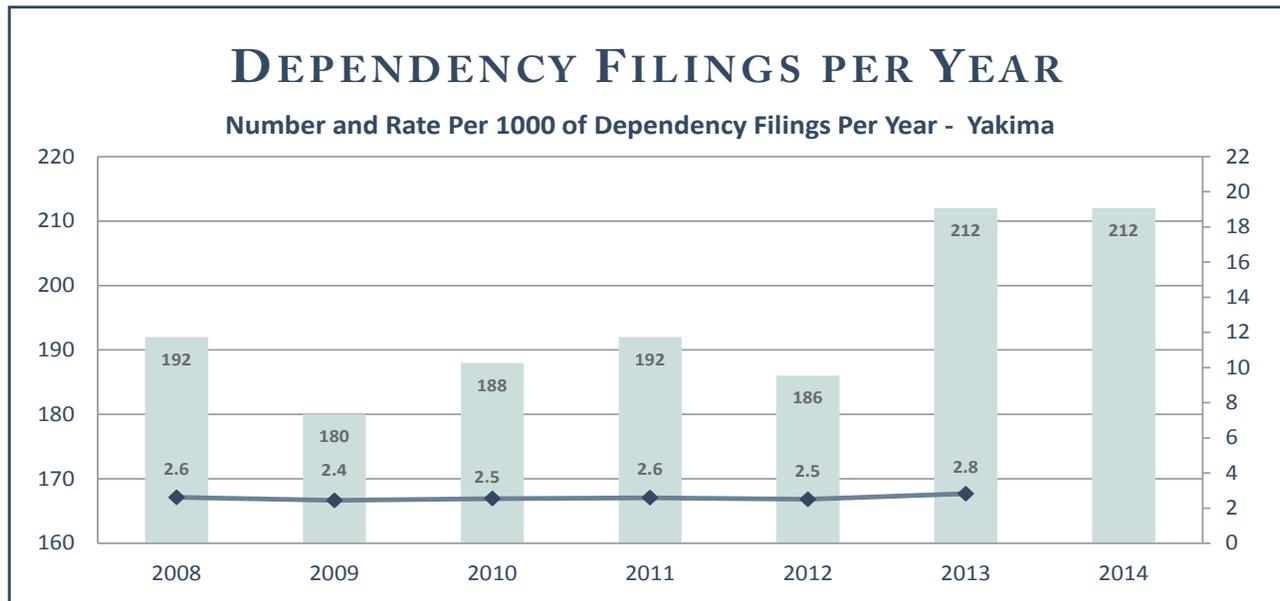
Adoption measure is now reported by 'year adoption was completed'.

< 20 CASE EVENTS

20+ CASE EVENTS

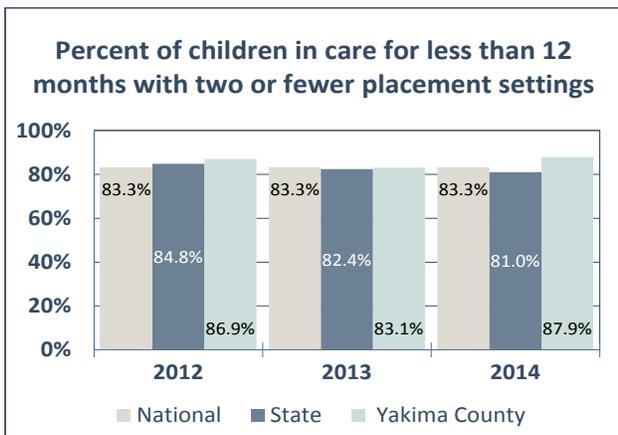
PERMANENCY OUTCOMES						
Outcome	Values	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adoptions	Median Months	37	32	29	26	27
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	7%	3%	6%	5%	6%
Age of Majority/Emancipation	Median Months	32	62	67	28	63
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	11%	18%	0%	22%	0%
Guardianships	Median Months	34	28	28	10	27
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	20%	16%	38%	62%	8%
Reunifications	Median Months	11.5	15	15.5	16	15
	% < 15 Months to Outcome	60%	49%	40%	43%	48%

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES BY YEAR OF PETITION							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Yakima	Age at Filing	(1) <1 yrs	37%	31%	31%	26%	24%
		(2) 1-2 yrs	15%	19%	14%	13%	13%
		(3) 3-5 yrs	15%	15%	18%	22%	20%
		(4) 6-11 yrs	22%	21%	25%	24%	26%
		(5) 12-17 yrs	11%	13%	13%	15%	17%
	Gender	(1) Female	49%	52%	49%	50%	54%
		(2) Male	51%	48%	51%	50%	46%
	Race	(1) Native American	3%	4%	7%	3%	3%
		(2) Asian/PI					0%
		(3) Black	4%	2%	4%	2%	2%
		(4) White	30%	44%	42%	38%	39%
		(5) Hispanic	49%	43%	40%	50%	46%
		(6) Multiracial - Native American	5%	6%	2%	4%	8%
		(7) Multiracial - Black	6%	1%	3%	2%	1%
		(8) Multiracial - Other	2%	1%	2%	1%	
		(9) Unknown	1%	1%			



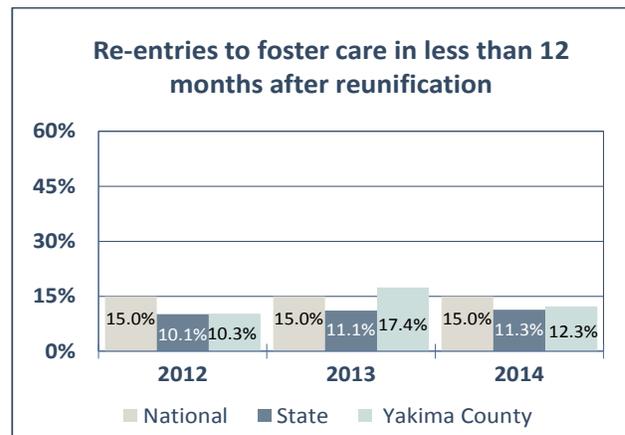
In partnership with the Washington State Children’s Administration, Federal Placement Stability and Reentry Scores are derived by the Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS.

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) 2015 Federal Data Submission may include non-dependent children (i.e. VPA).



Percent of children in foster care during the 12-month target period who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months and had two or fewer placement settings. Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=83.3%, 75th Percentile=86.0%



Percent of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-months prior to the year shown who re-entered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge (including trial return home adjustment). Federal Fiscal Year 2012-14.

National median=15.0%, 25th Percentile=9.9%



WASHINGTON
COURTS

Washington State Center for Court Research
www.courts.wa.gov/wscrr
wscrr@courts.wa.gov