



Region 1

Who are the kids?

- There were 1,190 children in care longer than 60 days (January 2003).
- Of the children who were in care over 60 days, 48% were between 0-3 years; 38% were between 4-11 years; and 13% were 12 years or older.
- Of the children who were in care over 60 days, 76% were Caucasian; 9% were Native American; and 4% were African American.
- More than one-half of all children in care longer than 60 days in Region 1 had been in care longer than 17 months (October 2003)

Permanency Outcomes

Adoptions, Guardianships and Reunifications Achieved, Region 1, 1995-2002

	Adoptions	Legally Free	Guardianships	Reunifications	Entry to Care
1995	119	160	62	1276	-
1996	79	153	59	1337	-
1997	126	181	70	1167	1387
1998	162	207	88	990	1402
1999	177	177	76	930	1367
2000	160	199	94	1045	1409
2001	141	236	76	791	1313
2002	156	301	75	821	1291
FY 2003	227	271	-	-	-

Note: The number of legally free children represents the number free on January 1 of the following calendar year. (For some of these children, adoption is no longer the plan). Other outcomes are for this calendar year. The figures from FY 2003 are reported to reflect a more accurate number of adoptions and legally free children due to federal tax incentives.

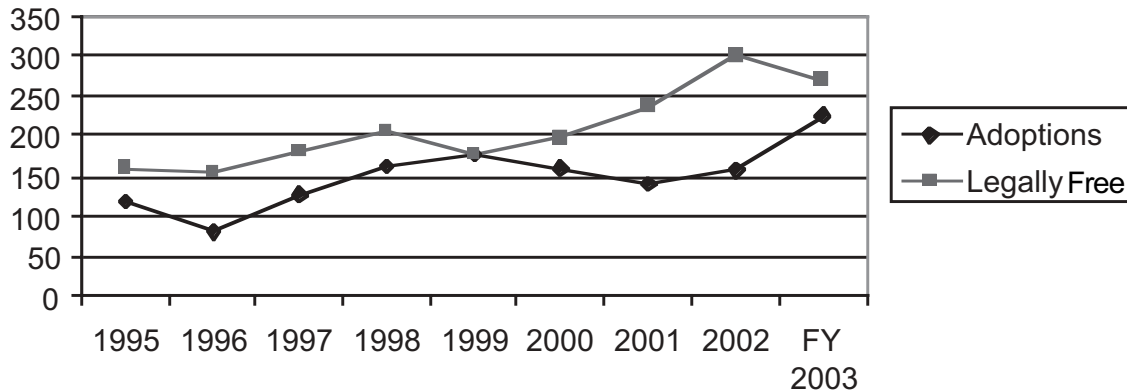
Source: Children's Administration, August 2003

- Of the children who were adopted, 60%(n=93) were less than 2 years old at placement.
- The number of reunifications has declined 30% since 1997. A slight decrease in the number of children entering care (5%) suggests that only a fraction of this decrease is accounted for by a decrease in entries to care.





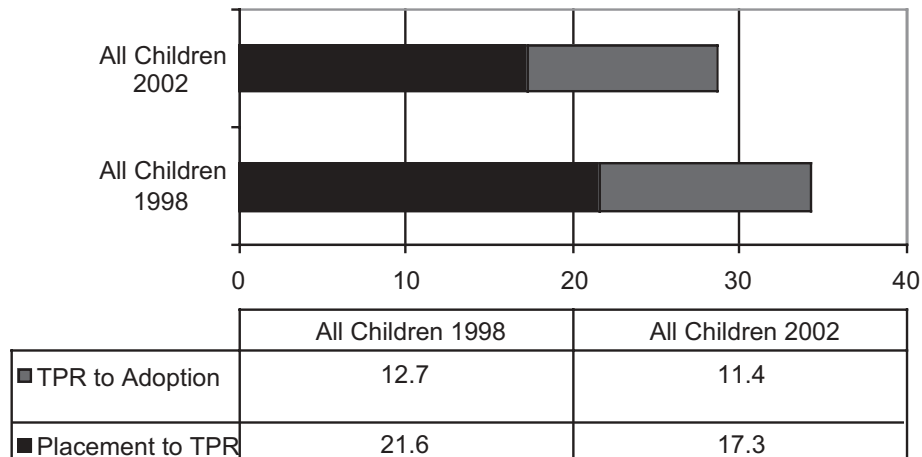
Adoptions and Legally Free Children, 1995-2002 Region 1



Source: Children's Administration, August 2003

- The number of adoptions in FY 2003 is higher than any previous year. Additionally, 40% of all adoptions are completed within two years of placement, which is better than the national standard. If this trend continues, it would suggest that the number of adoptions in Region 1 is keeping up with the number of children free for adoption.

Length of Time to Adoption Region 1 - 1998 & 2002



Length of Stay in Months

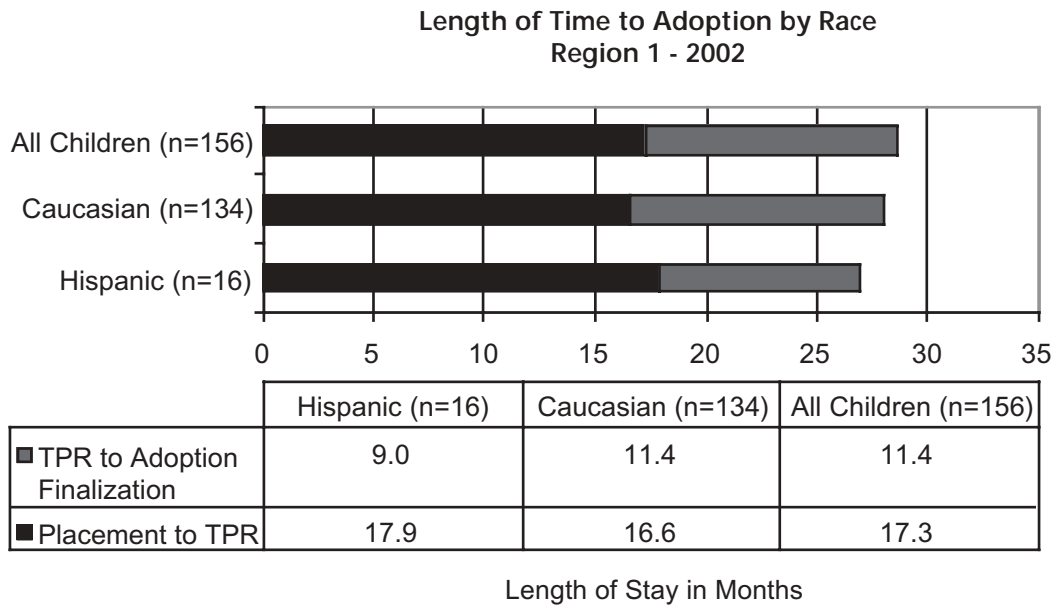
Source: Children's Administration, August 2003

- In 1998, Region 1 had the shortest time in care to adoption (34.3 months). By 2002, the time to adoption decreased almost 7 months. Region 1 still has the shortest length of time to adoption in the state (28.7 months).
- The months in care from placement to TPR decreased by 4.3 months.
- The months in care from TPR to adoption finalization decreased by 1.5 months. In 2002 half the adoptions were completed in less than 10 months of TPR.





Region 1 - Length of Time to Adoption by Race



Note: Hispanic children are also included in the other race categories. Only those racial categories with more than 10 children are presented at the regional level.

Source: Children's Administration, August 2003

The total length of time in care for all children remained the same from 2001 to 2002.

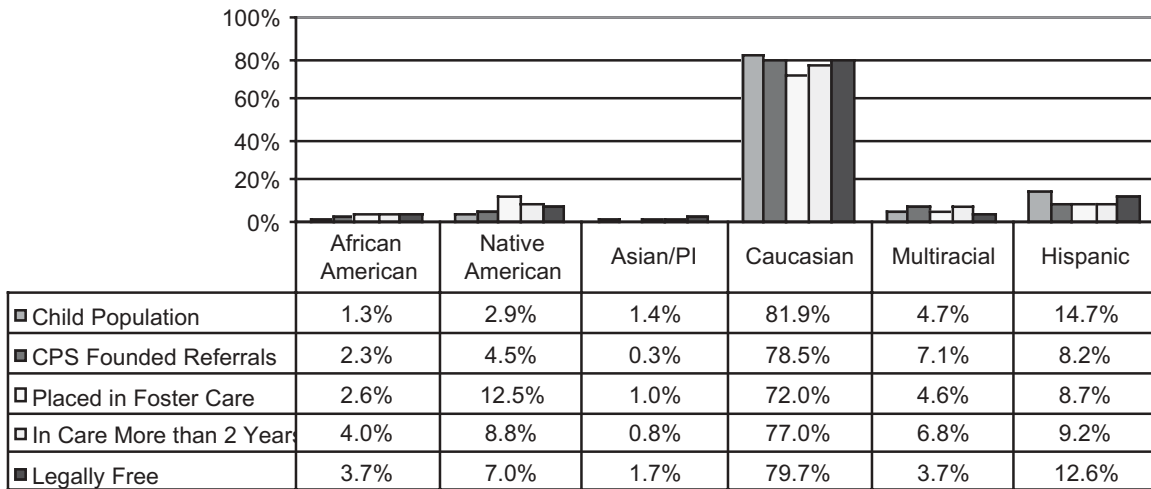
- Length of time from placement to adoption decreased by four months for Hispanic children from 2001 to 2002. This number should be interpreted with some caution because of the small number of Hispanic children.
- For all children there was little change in months in care from 2001. Length of time from placement to TPR decreased by approximately two months for Hispanic and Caucasian children.
- Length of time from TPR to adoption finalization decreased by two months for Hispanic children and Caucasian children.





Region 1 - Racial and Ethnic Disproportionality

Region 1 Percentages of CPS Founded Referrals, Placed in Care, in Care More than Two Years, and Legally Free by Race/Ethnic Group, 2002



Note: The total across any category will not equal 100%; Hispanic children are also included in the other race categories; children of "Other" or "Unknown" race are not included in this chart. The Multiracial category was added in 2001 to reflect changes in the national Census Bureau data collection.

Source: Children's Administration, August 2003

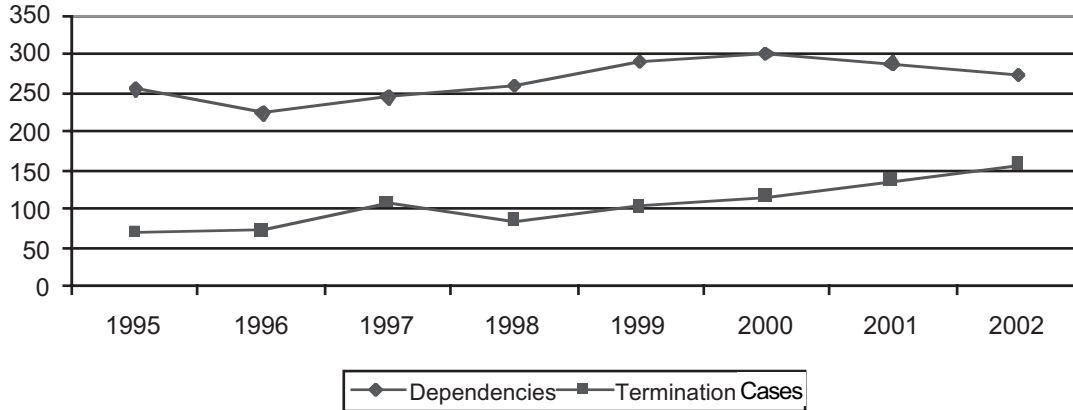
- African American children are two times more likely than Caucasian children to be placed in foster care, three times more likely to be in care longer than two years, and three times more likely to be legally free.
- Native American children are five times more likely than Caucasian children to be placed in foster care, three times more likely to be in care longer than two years, and 2.5 times more likely to be legally free.
- Caucasian children are more likely to be in relative placements (37%) than either African American (30%) or Native American children (33%).





Region 1 - Legal Actions

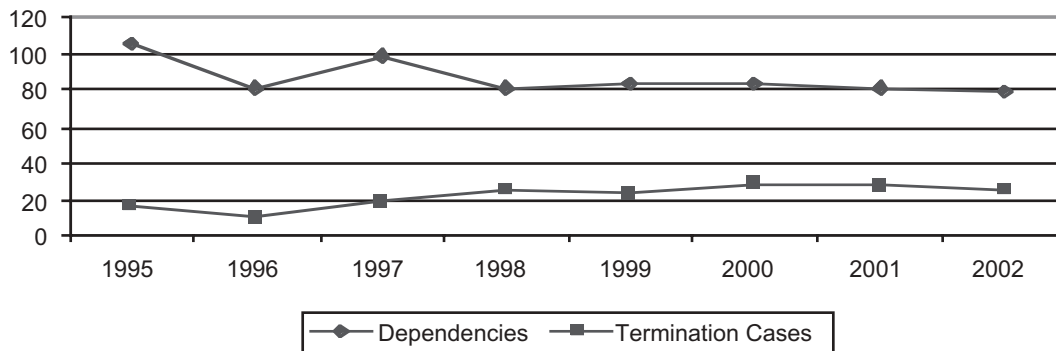
Dependencies and Terminations Opened, 1995-2002, Spokane



Source: Washington State Office of the Attorney General, August 2003. Dependencies and Terminations opened are the total cases opened in Adams, Lincoln, Spokane and Whitman Counties.

- The number of dependencies opened has increased by 7% since 1995.
- The number of termination cases opened has increased by 129% since 1995.
- Terminations, as a percentage of dependencies opened, have more than doubled since 1995 and have reached an all-time high of 58%, indicating that for every opened termination there were two opened dependencies in the area served by the Spokane AGO office in 2002.

Dependencies and Terminations Opened, 1995-2002, Wenatchee



Source: Washington State Office of the Attorney General, August 2003. Dependencies and Terminations opened are the total cases opened in Chelan, Douglas, Grant and Okanogan Counties.

- The number of dependencies has decreased by 25% since 1995.
- The number of termination cases opened has increased by 47% since 1995.
- Terminations, as a percentage of dependencies opened, have almost doubled since 1995, indicating that for every opened termination there were 2.5 opened dependencies in the area served by the Wenatchee AGO office in 2002.

