

Region 6

Who are the kids?

- There were 1,681 children in care longer than 60 days (January 2003).
- Of the children who were in care over 60 days, 40% were between 0-3 years; 38% were between 4-11 years; and 22% were 12 years or older.
- Of the children who were in care over 60 days, 80% were Caucasian; 10% were Native American; and 3% were African American.
- More than one-half of all children in care longer than 60 days in Region 6 had been in care longer than 16 months (October 2003).

Permanency Outcomes

Adoptions, Guardianships and Reunifications Achieved Region 6, 1995-2002

	Adoptions	Legally Free	Guardianships	Reunifications	Entry to Care
1995	109	242	55	1712	-
1996	103	259	69	1499	-
1997	182	254	99	1726	1909
1998	210	262	97	1532	1934
1999	253	269	88	1317	1781
2000	209	234	69	1172	1709
2001	190	254	81	1214	1766
2002	167	323	117	1230	1758
FY 2003	216	261	-	-	-

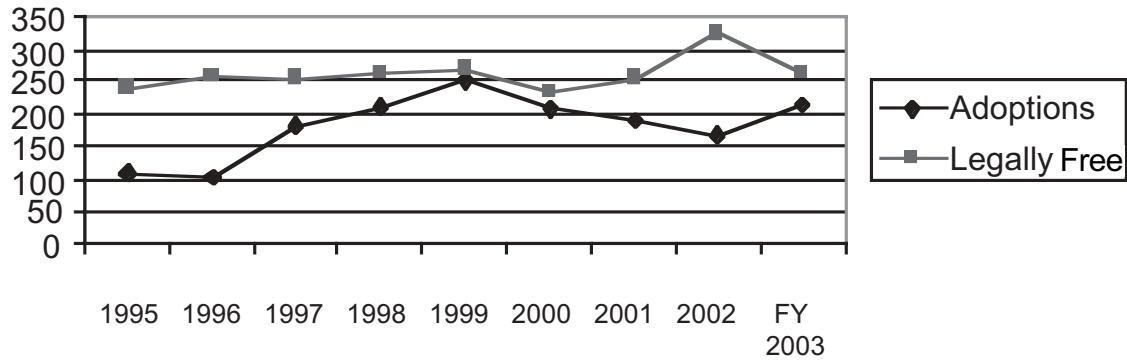
Note: The number of legally free children represents the number free on January 1 of the following calendar year. (For some of these children, adoption is no longer the plan). Other outcomes are for calendar year. The figures from FY 2003 are reported to reflect a more accurate number of adoptions and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

Source: Children's Administration, August 2003

- Of the children who were adopted in 2002, 40% were less than 2 years old at placement.
- The number of reunifications has declined 29% since 1997. A slight decrease in the number of children entering care (7%) suggests that only a fraction of this decrease is accounted for by a decrease in entries to care.



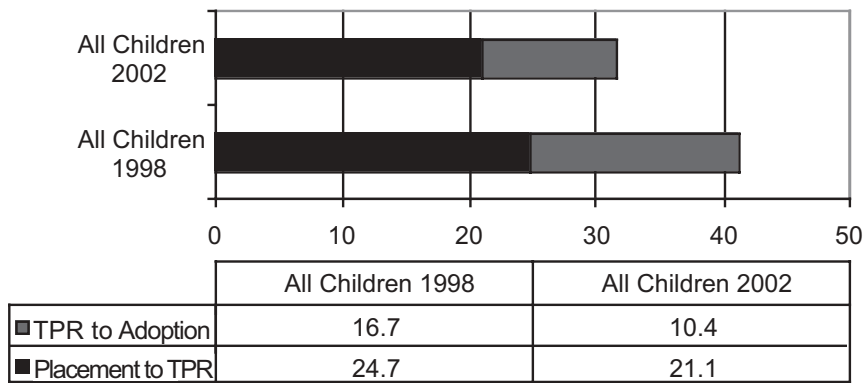
Adoptions and Legally Free Children, 1995-2002 Region 6



Source: Children's Administration, August 2003

- The gap between adoptions and legally free children has grown smaller. In addition, 37% of all adoptions are completed within 2 years of placement which is better than the federal standard.

Length of Time to Adoption Region 6 - 1998 & 2002



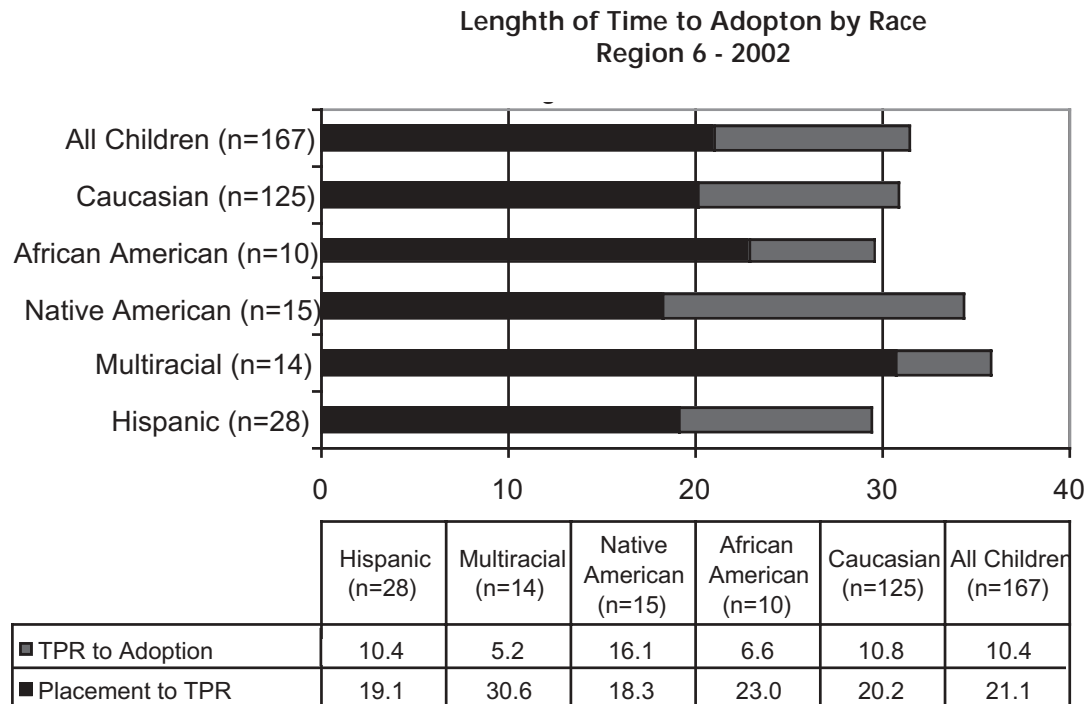
Length of Stay in Months

Source: Children's Administration, August 2003

- Overall, from 1998 to 2002 the total length of time in care for all children in Region 6 decreased by 10 months, from 41.4 to 31.5 months. This is the biggest decrease of any region statewide.
- The months in care from placement to TPR decreased by 3.6 months.
- The months in care from TPR to adoption finalization decreased by 6.3 months. Half of adoptions are completed within less than 6 months, which is the best in the state. This suggests that the number of adoptions in Region 6 is keeping up with the number of children being freed for adoption.



Region 6 - Length of Time to Adoption by Race



Length of Stay in Months

Note: Hispanic children are also included in the other race categories. The Multiracial category was added in 2001 to reflect changes in the national Census Bureau data collection. Only those racial categories with more than 10 children are presented at the regional level.

Source: Children's Administration, August 2003

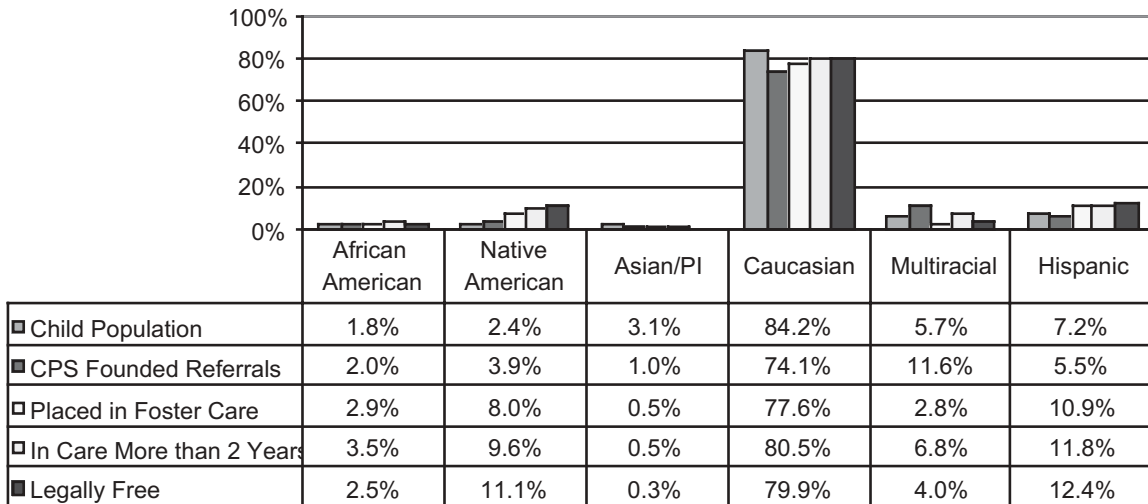
From 2001 to 2002:

- The total length of time in care for Hispanic children has decreased slightly by 1.4 months since 2001.
- The total length of time in care for Multiracial children has increased by 5 months from 30.9 to 35.8, respectively.
- The total length of time in care for Native American children has increased by 12 months since 2001 with the greatest increase in the number of months from TPR to adoption finalization.
- The total length of time in care for African American children has decreased by almost 2 months since 2001, with the greatest decrease in the number of months from TPR to adoption. The small number of children (n=10) in this category should be interpreted with caution.
- The total length of time in care for Caucasian children has increased by 3.7 months since 2001.



Region 6 - Racial and Ethnic Disproportionality

Region 6 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.

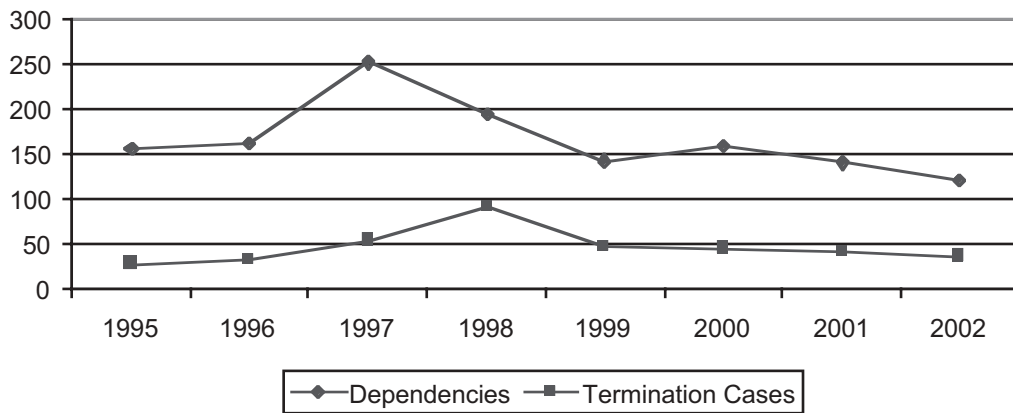
Source: Children's Administration, August 2003

- African American children are almost two times more likely than Caucasian children to be placed into foster care and to be in care longer than two years.
- Native American (33%) children are slightly more likely to be in relative placement than African American and Caucasian (both 29%).
- Native American children are four times more likely than Caucasian children to be placed into foster care and to be in care longer than two years, and five times more likely to be legally free.
- Hispanic children are slightly more likely than Caucasian children to be in care longer than two years, and almost two times more likely to be legally free.
- The number of minority children ages birth to three and in care longer than one year following termination of parental rights has increased slightly since 1999, from 4 to 7 in June 2003.



Region 6 - Legal Actions

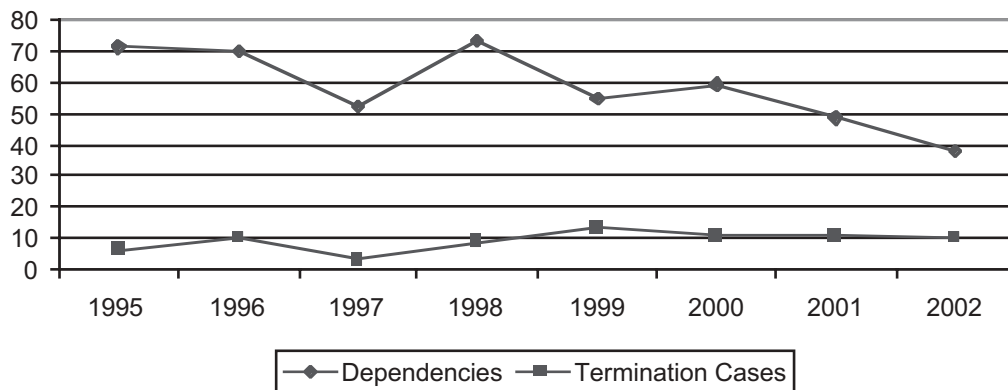
**Dependencies and Terminations Opened, 1995-2002
Olympia**



Source: Washington State Office of the Attorney General, August 2003. Dependencies and Terminations opened are the total cases opened in Lewis, Mason and Thurston Counties.

- The number of dependencies opened has decreased by 22% since 1995.
- The number of termination cases opened has increased by 31% since 1995.
- Terminations as a proportion of dependencies opened have increased slightly from 1995, indicating that for every opened termination there were three opened dependencies in the area served by the Olympia AGO office in 2002.

**Dependencies and Terminations Opened, 1995-2002
Port Angeles**

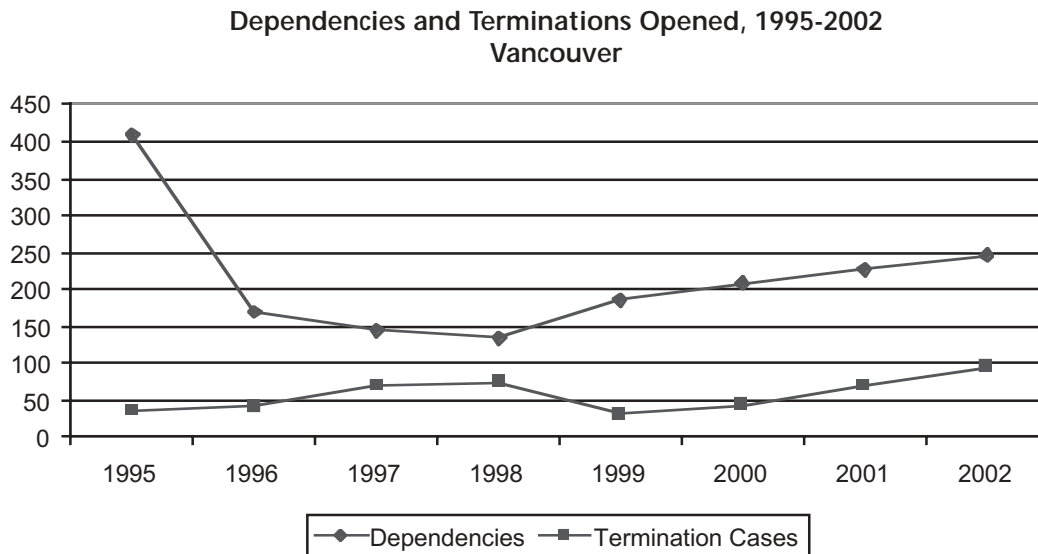


Source: Washington State Office of the Attorney General, August 2003. Dependencies and Terminations opened are the total cases opened in Clallam and Jefferson Counties.

- The number of dependencies has decreased by 47% since 1995.
- The number of termination cases opened has increased by 67% since 1995.
- Terminations as a proportion of dependencies opened have more than doubled since 1995, indicating that for every opened termination there were approximately four opened dependencies in the area served by the Port Angeles AGO office in 2002.



Region 6 - Legal Actions



Source: Washington State Office of the Attorney General, August 2003. Dependencies and Terminations opened are the total cases opened in Clark, Cowlitz and Skamania Counties.

- The number of dependencies has decreased by 39% since 1995.
- The number of termination cases opened has increased by 161% since 1995.
- Terminations as a percentage of dependencies opened have more than tripled since 1995. For every opened termination there were approximately three opened dependencies in the area served by the Vancouver AGO office in 2002.