

Objective: Decrease length of stay without increasing re-entry

Measured by: Children re-entering care

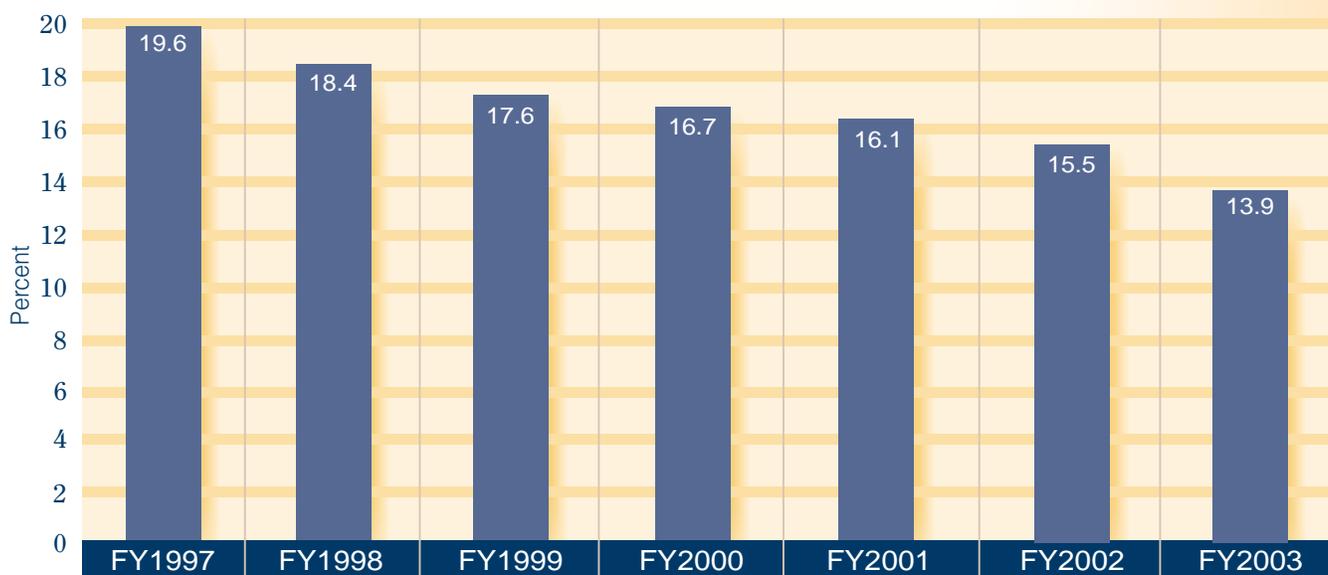
The Children's Administration returns children to the custody of their families only after safety plans are in place and families have demonstrated a willingness and ability to adequately care for their children.

Despite the implementation of safety strategies, sometimes children who are reunified with their families must again be placed in out-of-home care as the result of additional abuse or neglect.

CA has attempted to reduce re-entry rates through increased emphasis on safety assessments and planning and the use of community-based supports designed to assist families in caring for their children upon return home.

Over the course of the seven years reported, CA has demonstrated steady progress with reference to this measure decreasing the rate of re-entry by 32 percent since reporting began in 1997. Although progress has been made, the administration continues to explore ways of safeguarding children thereby reducing the re-entry rate.

Percent of Children Re-entering Care Within 12 Months of Reunification*



*Percent of children who re-enter out-of-home care within 12 months of reunification with their parents, regardless of length-of-stay. Based on federal calculation standards