



Implementation and Outcomes of Concurrent Planning: Quantitative Findings

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This series of publications, *Implementation Outcomes of Concurrent Planning*, details the findings from a quantitative assessment of the practice and outcomes of concurrent planning in six California counties: Contra Costa, Mendocino, Placer, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Yolo. Cases of two cohorts of children entering care (1155 children total) were reviewed. The first cohort entered care in 1993 and 1994; the second cohort entered care between 1998 and 2000. Details on case and family characteristics, concurrent planning practices, and case outcomes over 1 to 3 years were gathered from case files. (For these analyses, the sample was restricted to cases continuing past the jurisdictional hearing and receiving reunification services, as these are the cases for which concurrent planning would be relevant; n=885.)

Finding #4: *Permanency is more likely for more recent entries to care.*

Many changes have occurred in agencies' policies and practices between '93-'94 and '98-'00. These changes have been in response to state and federal legislative mandates, as well as county-sponsored innovations and an overall philosophical shift toward emphasizing permanency for children. While it cannot be determined from this analysis what changes have led to the difference, in this sample permanency was more likely for children who entered care more recently. This chart shows the probability of remaining in care (not attaining permanency). The upper line represents children in the first cohort, and the lower line represents children in the second cohort. For the first six months, the two lines are almost identical; after that point, children in the second cohort were more likely to have left care (i.e., less likely to have remained in care) at every point in time. Exits from care were due to reunification, adoption, guardianship or placement with the non-offending parent.

