

- Colorado’s Child Welfare practice is trending toward serving more children in their homes.
- The percentage of children served in their homes has increased from **53.8%** of all children who achieved permanency in 2006 to **60.8%** in 2011.
- The percentage of children who exited to permanency by emancipation or adoption has decreased since 2006.
- In 2011, **88.5%** of the children served remained home or were reunified with their families.

**PERMANENCY OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN**

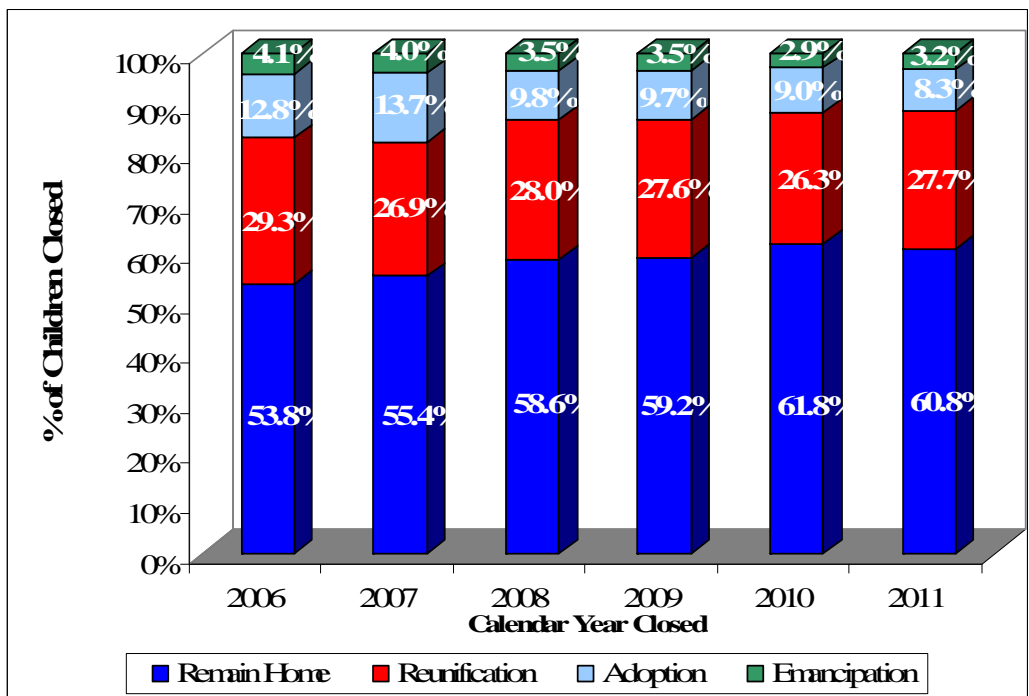
The table below indicates permanency outcomes that can be achieved for children served in child welfare cases: children can remain safely at home while receiving services, be reunified with their families, be adopted if parental rights are terminated by the courts, or emancipated from out-of-home care.

The trend in Colorado’s child welfare practice is to gear more services toward protecting children in their home and avoiding entry into out-of-home placement whenever possible. Over the last 6 years, the percentage of children being served in the home with their parents has increased from **53.8%** of all cases closed in 2006 to **60.8%** of all cases closed in 2011. In 2011, **88.5%** of the children served remained home or were reunified with their families.

Because more children remain safely in their homes, fewer were placed in out-of-home care and thus the percentage of total closures that were reunifications with the child’s family has decreased from **29.3%** in 2006 to **27.7%** in 2011.

The percentage of children emancipating from foster care has decreased from **4.1%** of total children closed in 2006 to **3.2%** of children closed in 2011, while the number of closures resulting from adoptions has decreased from **12.8%** to **8.3%** in that same timeframe.

**Permanency Outcomes for Children Served – Calendar Years 2006 to 2011**



**Source:** Trails child closure / ending residence data