

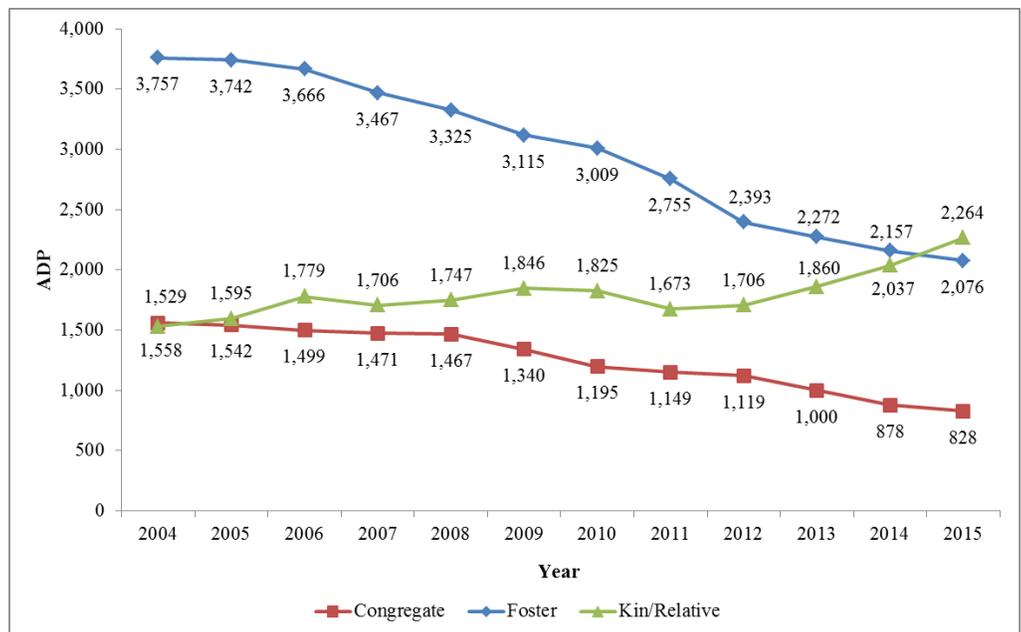
- Total average daily placements (ADP) for children in out-of-home care declined by **25%** from 2004 to 2015.
- In 2004, there was an average of **6,844** children in out-of-home placement on any given day in Colorado’s child welfare system. In 2015, the average daily out-of-home population was reduced to **5,168**.
- Average daily placements in congregate care declined by **47%** from 2004 to 2015.
- Average daily placements in non-relative foster care declined by **45%** from 2004 to 2015.
- The average daily population of children in kin/relative placements has increased by **48%** over the last 12 years. This shows a shift in practice from non-relative foster homes or congregate care placements to placements with relatives and family members.
- The percentage of total open involvements in which in-home services were provided has increased from **52.6%** in 2004 to **57.9%** in 2015.

TRENDS IN AVERAGE DAILY OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS (ADP)

The trend in Colorado’s child welfare practice has been to expand the use of community and home-based services to protect children in their home and avoid entry into out-of-home placement whenever possible. In 2004, there was an average of **6,844** children in out-of-home care on any given day compared to **5,168** in 2015. This represents in **25%** decrease in the overall average daily out-of-home population in the last twelve years.

The chart below shows the annual ADP by placement type from 2004 to 2015. In 2004, Colorado’s child welfare system had a daily average of **1,558** children in congregate care, which are non-family based placement settings such as residential treatment facilities and group homes. In 2015, the average daily population of children in congregate care had been reduced by **47%** to **828**. Similar to the trend in congregate care, the ADP in non-relative foster homes was reduced by **45%** from 2004 to 2015. Kinship (relative) care was the only placement type in which there was an increase in the average daily population from 2004 to 2015. The ADP in kinship care increased by **48%** from **1,529** in 2004 to **2,264** in 2015. The reduction in both congregate and non-relative foster care is the result of an increase in the use of community-based services and the use of relative (kinship) placements.

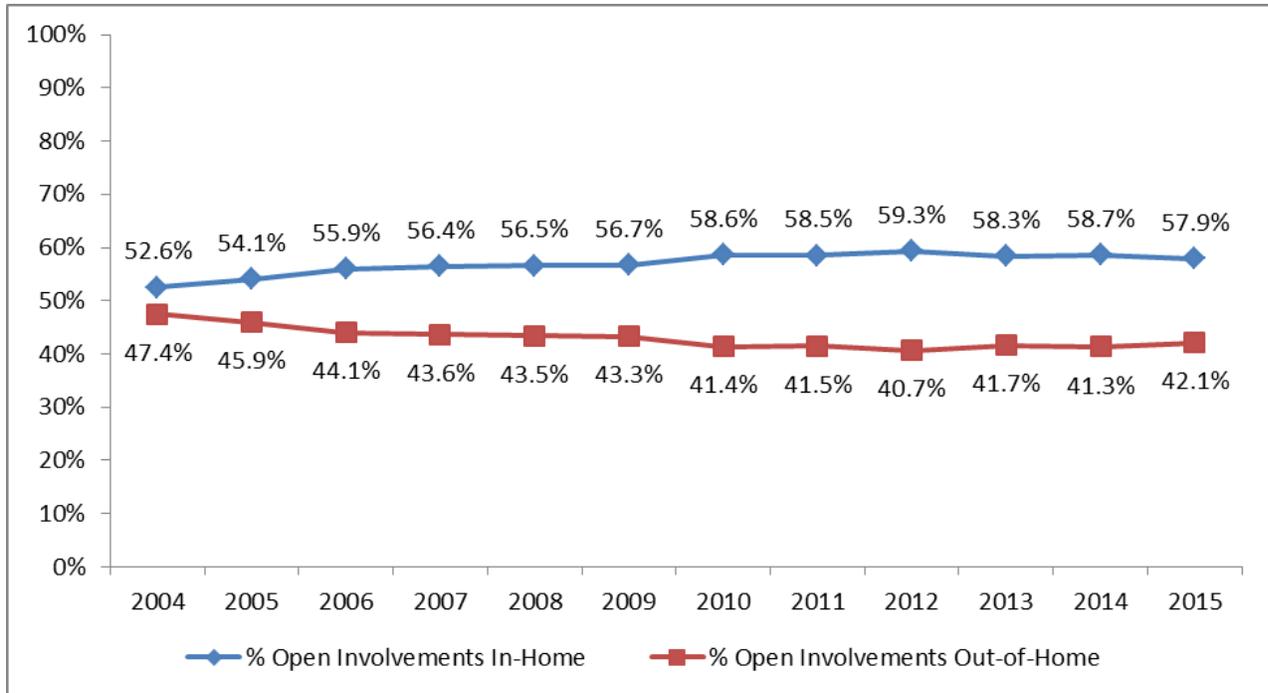
Average Daily Out-of-Home Placements (ADP) by Placement Type 2004 to 2015



Source: Trails out-of-home placement data, excluding Division of Youth Corrections

An important safety outcome of the federal Children and Family Services Review (CFSR) is children being safely maintained in the home whenever possible. Consistent with this goal, the trend in Colorado’s child welfare practice in the last twelve years has been to gear services toward maintaining children safely in their home and avoiding entry into out-of-home placement whenever possible. The chart below displays the percentage of total days children who were open in a case for services (open involvements) spent in out-of-home care compared to the totals days children were open for in-home services. The percentage of total open involvements for in-home services has increased from **52.6%** in 2004 to **57.9%** in 2015.

**Percentage of Total Open Case Involvement* Days Served In-Home versus Out-of-Home
2004 to 2015**



Source: Trails case involvement data

* Case involvements include any children open in a traditional case for services, excluding non-Colorado children, as well as children open in Family Assessment Response (FAR) cases in which services were provided. Children receiving a subsidized adoption are only included if they are open for out-of-home or Core services.