

Length of Time in Foster Care in North Carolina - by cohort - SFY 2009-2013

	SFY 2013		SFY 2012		SFY 2011		SFY 2010		SFY 2009	
Total Number of Children in Cohort [4]	4,801		4,561		4,694		4,563		4,702	
Median Number of Days in Care [5]	N/A		473		434		452		454	
Children Remaining in Care	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
After 90 days	4,337	90.34%	4,017	88.07%	4,149	88.39%	4,050	88.76%	4,135	87.94%
After 180 days	3,963	82.55%	3,612	79.19%	3,711	79.06%	3,667	80.36%	3,713	78.97%
After 360 days	2,994	62.37%	2,762	60.56%	2,777	59.16%	2,769	60.68%	2,822	60.02%
After 450 days	2,585	53.84%	2,382	52.23%	2,273	48.42%	2,289	50.16%	2,364	50.28%
After 540 days	2,250	46.86%	2,039	44.71%	1,867	39.77%	1,817	39.82%	1,955	41.58%
After 720 days	N/A	N/A	1,474	32.32%	1,269	27.03%	1,222	26.78%	1,386	29.48%
After 1080 days	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	616	13.13%	536	11.75%	615	13.08%

[4] A "cohort" is a group of children who entered DSS custody/placement authority for the very first time in a given fiscal year. This way of organizing the data ensures that each child is counted only once and that reentries to care are distinguished from initial entries.

[5] The median number of days reflects the point in time at which half of all of the children in the cohort have left care.