

**CASE PROCESSING STANDARDS ANALYSIS
JUVENILE - NEGLECT AND ABUSE**

National Center for State Courts Model Time Standards:

Adjudication Hearing: 98% within 90 days of removal

Permanency Hearing: 75% within 270 days of removal
98% within 360 days of removal

Measurement: Date of removal through adjudication.

Arizona Juvenile – Neglect and Abuse Adjudication Hearings

The following standards have been adopted for Juvenile Neglect and Abuse Adjudication Hearings:

98% within 100 days of filing

Measurement: Date of filing through a finding of dependency.

Excluded Time: No excluded time.

Arizona Juvenile – Neglect and Abuse Permanency Hearings

The following standards have been adopted for Juvenile Neglect and Abuse Permanency Hearings:

98% of children under 3 years of age within 180 days of removal

98% of all other cases within 365 days of removal

Measurement: Date of removal through permanent plan determination.

Excluded Time: No excluded time.

Arizona Rules and Statutes	Timelines under Statute and Rule
Petition Filed: ARS ¹ § 823(B)(6)	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>(Measurement Starts Here)</u></p> <p><u>Petition filed 72 hours from removal:</u> If a child is taken into temporary custody, a written notice must be provided within 6 hours to the parent or guardian that the child must be returned within 72 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, unless a dependency petition is filed.</p>
ARS § 824(A) Rule 50, ARJP ²	<p><u>Preliminary Protective Hearing:</u> The court shall hold a preliminary protective hearing to review the taking into temporary custody of a child pursuant to section 8-821 5 - 7 days after the child is taken into custody, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.</p>
ARS § 8-842(A) Rule 52, ARJP	<p><u>Initial Dependency Hearing:</u> At the initial dependency hearing, the court shall determine whether service has been completed and whether the parent, guardian, or Indian custodian admits, denies or does not contest the allegations contained in the dependency petition. The court</p>

¹ Arizona Revised Statutes

² Arizona Rules of Procedure for the Juvenile Court

Arizona Rules and Statutes	Timelines under Statute and Rule
<p>ARS § 8-844(A) Rule 53 and 54, ARJP</p>	<p>shall set the initial dependency hearing within 21 days after the petition is filed.</p> <p>Settlement or Pretrial Conference or Mediation: A settlement conference may be held for the purpose of identifying and resolving issues in a non-adversarial manner. At least 5 days prior to the settlement conference, each party shall provide the court with a confidential settlement conference memorandum. If settlement is not reached, a pretrial conference may be held prior to the dependency adjudication hearing to determine whether the parties are prepared and intend to proceed to trial or whether resolution of remaining issues in a non-adversarial manner is possible and to address any issues raised by the parties.</p>
<p>Adjudication Hearing: ARS § 8-842(C) Rule 55(B), ARJP</p> <p>ARS § 8-845 Rule 56(B) ARJP</p>	<p>Adjudication Hearing: The court may continue the initial dependency hearing for good cause, but, unless the court has ordered in-home intervention, the dependency adjudication hearing shall be completed within 90 days after service of the dependency petition. The time limit for completing the dependency adjudication hearing may be extended for up to 30 days if the court finds good cause or in extraordinary cases as prescribed by the supreme court by rule.</p> <p>Disposition Hearing: The disposition hearing shall be held within 30 days of the dependency adjudication or in conjunction with the preliminary protective hearing, initial dependency hearing, mediation, settlement or pretrial conference or dependency adjudication hearing.</p> <p>(Measurement Stops Here for Adjudication Hearing)</p>
<p>Permanency Hearing: ARS § 8-862(A) Rule 60(C), ARJP</p>	<p>Permanency Hearing: The court shall hold a permanency hearing to determine the future permanent legal status of the child:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Within 30 days after the disposition hearing if the court does not order reunification services. 2. Within 6 months after a child who is under three years of age is removed from the child's home. The court shall not continue that permanency hearing beyond 6 months after the child who is under three years of age is removed from the child's home unless the party who is seeking the continuance shows that the determination prescribed in section 8-829(A)(6) has been made or will be made within the time prescribed in that paragraph. 3. In all other cases, within 12 months after the child is removed from the child's home. The court shall not continue the permanency hearing beyond 12 months after the child is removed from the child's home unless the party who is seeking the continuance shows that the determination prescribed in section 8-829(A)(5) has been made or will be made within the time prescribed in that paragraph. <p>(Measurement Stops Here for Permanency Hearing)</p>