



King County

Department of Judicial Administration

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King County Superior Court

Dependency/Termination/
At-Risk Youth/Child in-Need-of Service/
Truancy
Quarterly Statistical Report

Third Quarter 2020

Department of Judicial Administration

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Executive Summary

NOTE: Washington State Supreme Court orders related to the coronavirus pandemic, beginning March 2020, affect the statistics for the foreseeable future.

- **Filings**

2019 filings. The total filings in 2019 were: DEP=759 (SEA: 474, KNT: 285), TER=225 (SEA: 142, KNT: 83), ARY/CNS=158 (SEA: 69, KNT: 89), TRU=1706 (SEA: 760, KNT: 946).

2020 filings. The year-to-date filings in 2020 were: DEP=323 (SEA: 233, KNT: 90), TER=194 (SEA: 112, KNT: 82), ARY/CNS=52 (SEA: 23, KNT: 29), TRU=493 (SEA: 179, KNT: 314), OTHERS=63 (SEA: 37, KNT: 26).

- **Resolutions (approval or dismissal of petitions)**

Based on the State's definition and the nature of the cases, the resolution of DEP/TER/ARY/CNS/TRU is defined as either the "approval" or the "dismissal" of the petition. Such a "resolution" does not indicate the "closure" of cases. Nevertheless, it is a milestone and a "resolution" to the original petition.

2019 resolutions. The total resolutions in 2019 were: DEP=652 (SEA: 400, KNT: 252), TER=187 (SEA: 120, KNT: 67), ARY/CNS=145 (SEA: 59, KNT: 86), TRU=1632 (SEA: 711, KNT: 921).

2020 resolutions. The year-to-date resolutions in 2020 were: DEP=341 (SEA: 220, KNT: 121), TER=118 (SEA: 75, KNT: 43), ARY/CNS=63 (SEA: 29, KNT: 34), TRU=1496 (SEA: 755, KNT: 714), OTHERS=31 (SEA: 21, KNT: 10).

- **Pending Resolution**

At the end of the third quarter of 2020, the pending resolution (petitions are neither approved nor dismissed yet) caseload was: DEP=539 (SEA: 343, KNT: 196), TER=341 (SEA: 214, KNT: 117), ARY/CNS=0 (SEA: 0, KNT: 0), TRU=1042 (SEA: 512, KNT: 530), OTHERS=211 (SEA: 116, KNT: 95).

- **Pending Completion (resolved)**

The resolution of "approval of petition" of DEP/TER/ARY/CNS/TRU cases does not indicate the "closure" of these cases. In most situations, the cases move to next phase which requires significant court involvement (like permanency planning, adoption, or reviewing and monitoring). At the end of the third quarter of 2020, the caseload in the "post-resolution" phase (resolved but still pending completion) in the DEP/ARY/CNS/TRU categories was: DEP=1583 (SEA: 905, KNT: 678), ARY/CNS =65 (SEA: 45, KNT: 20), TRU=64 (SEA: 24, KNT: 40), OTHERS=79 (SEA: 48, KNT: 31).

- **Age of Pending Resolution Cases**

At the end of the third quarter of 2020, there were a number of cases (older than 180 days since filing) which remained as unresolved cases (still pending the approval or dismissal of the petitions): DEP=375, TER=227, ARY/CNS=0, TRU=1004 cases.

- **Age of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases since the Approval of Petition**

Of the cases that have been resolved but pending completion (still involving court actions) at the end of the third quarter of 2020, most of them are within 1 year, except for DEP and ARY cases. There were 281 DEP cases and 44 ARY cases still pending completion 5 years after the approval of the original petition.

- **Number of Fact-findings (FF)**

2019 fact-findings. The number of fact-findings in 2019 were: DEP=318 (SEA: 109, KNT: 209), TER=163 (SEA: 101, KNT: 62), ARY/CNS=31 (SEA: 2, KNT: 29), TRU=35 (SEA: 16, KNT: 19).

2020 fact-findings. The year-to-date number of fact-findings in 2020 were: DEP=142 (SEA: 64, KNT: 78), TER=122 (SEA: 81, KNT: 41), ARY/CNS=27 (SEA: 14, KNT: 13), TRU=2 (SEA: 1, KNT: 1).

- **Number of Hearings (non Fact-findings)**

2019 hearings. The number of non fact-finding hearings in 2019 were: DEP=9502 (SEA: 5295, KNT: 4207), TER=328 (SEA: 228, KNT: 100), ARY/CNS=251 (SEA: 81, KNT: 170), TRU=297 (SEA: 88, KNT: 209).

2020 hearings. The year-to-date number of non fact-finding hearings in 2020 were: DEP=4456 (SEA: 2630, KNT: 1826), TER=192 (SEA: 139, KNT: 53), ARY/CNS=104 (SEA: 26, KNT: 78), TRU=36 (SEA: 4, KNT: 32).

Terminology

Filings

Number of petitions (cases) filed.

Resolutions

Number of petitions (cases) resolved, either by “approval” or “dismissal” of petitions. Unlike the definition of “resolution” for other Superior Court case types, the “resolution” for these case categories does not indicate the end of judicial involvement if the petition is approved.

Pending Resolution

Number of active cases that have not been resolved, namely the petition has neither been approved nor dismissed yet.

Resolved, Pending Completion

Number of cases for which the petition has been approved, but issues (sometime significant issues) still remain in which the court is actively involved.

Resolution Age

Time (days) from filing to resolution, less suspense time if applicable.

Pending Resolution Case Age

Time (days) from filing to the last day of the reporting period for these cases that still remain unresolved (no approval or dismiss yet), less suspense time, if applicable.

Pending Completion Case Age since the Approval of Petition

Time (days) from filing from the approval of the original petition (resolution) to the last day of the reporting period for those cases that still remain uncompleted (resolved, but with court activities), less suspense time, if applicable.

Number of Fact-findings (FF)

This is an estimate of actual fact-finding hearings held due to siblings belonging to one family unit having data entered on each case for the same fact-finding hearing proceeding.

Number of Hearings (non Fact-findings)

Number of all hearings other than fact-findings entered during the reporting period. The number of hearings is further divided into “pre-resolution” and “post-resolution” hearings depending on the time of the hearings in relation to the resolution date.

Table 1. Dependency Statistics

	2019 Dependency					2020 Dependency				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Filings										
SEA	113	135	103	123		75	85	73		233
KNT	69	80	78	58		48	20	22		90
BOTH SEA/KNT	182	215	181	181		123	105	95		323
Resolutions										
SEA	123	93	95	89		91	40	89		220
KNT	68	47	79	58		41	22	58		121
BOTH SEA/KNT	191	140	174	147		132	62	147		341
Pending Resolution										
SEA	251	293	298	337		319	366	343		
KNT	177	210	211	224		228	231	196		
BOTH SEA/KNT	428	503	509	561		547	597	539		
Resolved, Pending Completion										
SEA	1028	1016	1054	1010		968	935	905		
KNT	810	826	873	822		771	708	678		
BOTH SEA/KNT	1838	1842	1927	1832		1739	1643	1583		
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	23%	26%	21%	18%		14%	18%	2%		
% of Cases within 90 days	35%	40%	34%	23%		16%	21%	10%		
% of Cases within 120 days	46%	61%	52%	33%		22%	30%	12%		
% of Cases within 180 days	69%	86%	73%	48%		35%	45%	55%		
% of Cases >180 days	31%	14%	27%	52%		65%	55%	45%		
Total # of Cases Resolved	191	140	174	147		132	62	147		
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	166	169	132	139		91	86	73		
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	10	26	23	23		22	18	16		
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	44	32	66	40		47	34	34		
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	40	72	46	77		81	61	41		
# of cases > 180 days	168	204	242	282		306	398	375		
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	428	503	509	561		547	597	539		
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case, Age Since Filing										
# of Cases less than 1 year	281	257	315	227		184	104	102		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	497	486	502	503		438	424	362		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	355	366	375	394		394	387	397		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	311	308	301	255		255	257	252		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	160	160	182	185		190	191	189		
# of cases > 5 years	234	265	252	268		278	280	281		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	1838	1842	1927	1832		1739	1643	1583		

Table 1 (continued). Dependency Statistics

	2019 Dependency					2020 Dependency				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case, Age Since Approval of Petition										
# of Cases less than 1 year	495	431	489	423		331	245	210		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	457	491	484	470		476	430	398		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	399	397	327	340		348	381	371		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	185	182	293	274		251	241	213		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	138	146	130	126		128	123	172		
# of cases > 5 years	164	195	204	199		205	223	225		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	1838	1842	1927	1832		1739	1643	1589		
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	33	26	23	27	109	18	11	35		64
KNT	83	50	42	34	209	25	8	45		78
BOTH SEA/KNT	116	76	65	61	318	43	19	80		142
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)										
SEA	1192	1409	1364	1330	5295	1316	508	806		2630
KNT	1049	1129	1111	918	4207	955	306	565		1826
BOTH SEA/KNT	2241	2538	2475	2248	9502	2271	814	1371		4456

Table 2. Termination Statistics

	2019 Termination					2020 Termination				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Filings										
SEA	45	27	29	41	142	39	40	33		112
KNT	29	12	16	26	83	23	24	35		82
BOTH SEA/KNT	74	39	45	67	225	62	64	68		194
Resolutions										
SEA	38	35	25	22	120	23	13	39		75
KNT	20	23	9	15	67	17	2	24		43
BOTH SEA/KNT	58	58	34	37	187	40	15	63		118
Pending Resolution										
SEA	168	160	161	178		192	220	214		
KNT	92	81	87	99		105	112	127		
BOTH SEA/KNT	260	241	248	277		297	332	341		
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	14%	2%	3%	5%		0%	0%	0%		
% of Cases within 90 days	43%	29%	38%	30%		62%	75%	0%		
% of Cases within 120 days	45%	36%	38%	30%		67%	75%	0%		
% of Cases within 180 days	52%	55%	50%	46%		81%	75%	6%		
% of Cases >180 days	48%	45%	50%	54%		19%	25%	94%		
Total # of Cases Resolved	58	58	34	37		40	15	63		
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	61	35	38	57		50	42	59		
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	5	3	5	7		10	20	7		
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	21	13	6	12		10	10	6		
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	37	33	19	21		27	49	42		
# of cases > 180 days	136	157	180	180		200	211	227		
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	260	241	248	277		297	332	341		
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	18	44	22	17	101	27	5	49		81
KNT	14	27	10	11	62	20	0	21		41
BOTH SEA/KNT	32	71	32	28	163	47	5	70		122
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)										
SEA	60	58	68	42	228	31	21	87		139
KNT	22	22	33	23	100	21	9	23		53
BOTH SEA/KNT	82	80	101	65	328	52	30	110		192

Table 3. ARY/CHINS Statistics

	2019 ARY/CHINS					2020 ARY/CHINS				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Filings										
SEA	8	24	23	14	69	12	4	7		23
KNT	26	26	19	18	89	17	5	7		29
BOTH SEA/KNT	34	50	42	32	158	29	9	14		52
Resolutions										
SEA	10	12	21	16	59	16	2	11		29
KNT	26	31	17	12	86	9	4	21		34
BOTH SEA/KNT	36	43	38	28	145	25	6	32		63
Pending Resolution										
SEA	16	28	31	29		24	28	0		
KNT	22	14	20	25		32	32	0		
BOTH SEA/KNT	38	42	51	54		56	60	0		
Resolved, Pending Completion										
SEA	59	56	56	49		47	47	45		
KNT	29	34	39	31		19	21	20		
BOTH SEA/KNT	88	90	95	80		66	68	65		
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	81%	72%	66%	50%		20%	0%	8%		
% of Cases within 90 days	86%	74%	68%	54%		20%	0%	8%		
% of Cases within 120 days	89%	77%	76%	64%		20%	33%	8%		
% of Cases within 180 days	97%	86%	84%	86%		40%	33%	15%		
% of Cases >180 days	3%	14%	16%	14%		60%	67%	85%		
Total # of Cases Resolved	36	43	38	28		25	6	32		
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	16	25	24	20		22	10	0		
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	2	2	6	4		1	1	0		
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	4	0	7	6		5	4	0		
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	5	4	4	8		9	16	0		
# of cases > 180 days	11	11	10	16		19	29	0		
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	38	42	51	54		56	60	0		
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case - Age Since Filing										
# of Cases less than 1 year	41	39	45	29		13	9	6		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	1	5	4	4		6	7	7		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	2	2	2	3		1	4	4		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	2	0	0	0		2	4	4		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	2	4	4	3		2	0	0		
# of cases > 5 years	40	40	40	41		42	44	44		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	88	90	95	80		66	68	65		

Table 3 (continued). ARY/CHINS Statistics

	2019 ARY/CHINS					2020 ARY/CHINS				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case – Age Since Approval of Petition										
# of Cases less than 1 year	41	39	45	30		14	12	7		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	1	5	4	3		5	4	6		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	2	2	2	3		1	4	4		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	3	1	0	0		2	4	4		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	2	4	5	5		3	1	0		
# of cases > 5 years	39	39	39	39		41	43	44		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	88	90	95	80		66	68	65		
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	0	0	0	2	2	10	0	4		14
KNT	6	7	14	2	29	2	0	11		13
BOTH SEA/KNT	6	7	14	4	31	12	0	15		27
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)										
SEA	16	29	22	14	81	14	1	11		26
KNT	43	39	38	50	170	43	0	35		78
BOTH SEA/KNT	59	68	60	64	251	57	1	46		104

Table 4. Truancy Statistics

	2019 Truancy					2020 Truancy				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Filings										
SEA	281	257	55	167	760	142	37	0		179
KNT	378	363	54	151	946	306	8	0		314
BOTH SEA/KNT	659	620	109	318	1706	448	45	0		493
Resolutions										
SEA	190	126	211	184	711	278	307	170		755
KNT	196	251	213	261	921	270	190	254		714
BOTH SEA/KNT	386	377	424	445	1632	548	497	424		1469
Pending Resolution										
SEA	1175	1307	1151	1132		984	700	512		
KNT	1138	1249	1093	980		992	784	530		
BOTH SEA/KNT	2313	2556	2244	2112		1976	1484	1042		
Resolved, Pending Completion										
SEA	59	57	49	46		43	27	24		
KNT	63	66	68	58		54	43	40		
BOTH SEA/KNT	122	123	117	104		97	70	64		
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	6%	7%	3%	3%		6%	1%	0%		
% of Cases within 90 days	7%	11%	3%	4%		6%	1%	0%		
% of Cases within 120 days	10%	16%	5%	6%		8%	3%	0%		
% of Cases within 180 days	14%	23%	11%	21%		10%	5%	0%		
% of Cases >180 days	86%	78%	89%	79%		90%	95%	100%		
Total # of Cases Resolved	386	377	424	445		548	497	424		
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	583	538	78	280		398	31	0		
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	68	68	27	23		37	13	0		
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	211	241	206	7		114	90	20		
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	195	360	342	92		154	332	18		
# of cases > 180 days	1256	1349	1591	1710		1273	1018	1004		
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	2313	2556	2244	2112		1976	1484	1042		
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case - Age Since Filing										
# of Cases less than 1 year	19	21	27	10		1	1	1		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	42	45	43	42		36	16	15		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	12	15	14	14		21	23	20		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	14	11	10	11		10	8	8		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	5	9	8	12		12	4	2		
# of cases > 5 years	30	22	15	15		17	18	18		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	122	123	117	104		97	70	64		

Table 4 (continued). Truancy Statistics

	2019 Truancy					2020 Truancy				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case - Age Since Approval of Petition										
# of Cases less than 1 year	54	62	67	44		26	5	4		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	16	14	12	23		30	36	32		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	16	19	18	8		10	5	6		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	4	3	4	13		12	9	7		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	8	5	2	2		4	0	0		
# of cases > 5 years	24	20	14	14		15	15	15		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	122	123	117	104		97	70	64		
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	7	6	0	3	16	1	0	0		1
KNT	8	9	1	1	19	0	0	1		1
BOTH SEA/KNT	15	15	1	4	35	1	0	1		2
Number of Hearings (Non Fact-findings)										
SEA	31	36	7	14	88	4	0	0		4
KNT	59	92	27	31	209	30	0	2		32
BOTH SEA/KNT	90	128	34	45	297	34	0	2		36

Table 5. Case Filing, Resolution and Pending for Other Causes of Action

	DDP/EFC/GFC/RPR/RVS etc.									
	Q1/2019	Q2/2019	Q3/2019	Q4/2019	2019 YTD	Q1/2020	Q2/2020	Q3/2020	Q4/2020	2020 YTD
Filings										
SEA	15	15	13	18	61	20	10	7		37
KNT	10	10	14	5	39	11	10	5		26
Both SEA/KNT	25	25	27	23	100	31	20	12		63
Resolutions										
SEA	13	7	16	14	50	7	5	9		21
KNT	4	1	12	7	24	2	6	2		10
Both SEA/KNT	17	8	28	21	74	9	11	11		31
Pending Resolution										
SEA	62	70	67	74		87	92	116		
KNT	52	61	57	58		67	71	95		
Both SEA/KNT	114	131	124	132		154	163	211		
Pending Completion										
SEA	39	45	45	46		48	47	48		
KNT	18	18	18	23		23	26	31		
Both SEA/KNT	57	63	63	69		71	73	79		

This tables starts includes case flow information for the following causes of actions under case type 7: DDP (developmental Disability), GFC (Guardianship Foster Children), RPR (Reinstatement of Parental Rights), RVS (Relative Visitation), and EFC (Extension of Foster Care),

