

Barbara Miner
Director and Superior Court Clerk
(206) 296-9300 (206) 296-0100 TTY/TDD

King County Superior Court

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

Third Quarter 2021

Department of Judicial Administration Prepared by: Shiquan Liao, Ph.D., Statistician

October 15, 2021

Report #: DEP-2021-Q3

Summary

NOTE: Covid-19 pandemic affects the statistics starting March 2020

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 filings in 2020 were: DEP=435 (SEA: 302, KNT: 133), TER=291 (SEA: 148, KNT: 143), ARY/CNS=71 (SEA: 30, KNT: 41), TRU=501 (SEA: 179, KNT: 322), OTHERS=116 (SEA: 72, KNT: 44).

2021 filings. The filings in the first three quarters of 2021 were: DEP=307 (SEA: 210, KNT: 97), TER=172 (SEA: 103, KNT: 69), ARY/CNS=42 (SEA: 17, KNT: 25), TRU=4 (SEA: 2, KNT: 2), OTHERS=130 (SEA: 81, KNT: 49).

• Resolutions (approval or dismissal of petitions)

Resolution is defined as either the "approval" or the "dismissal" of the 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 resolutions in 2020 were: DEP=498 (SEA: 308, KNT: 190), TER=170 (SEA: 100, KNT: 70), ARY/CNS=98 (SEA: 40, KNT: 58), TRU=1769 (SEA: 901, KNT: 868), OTHERS=94 (SEA: 59, KNT: 35).

2021 resolutions. The resolutions in the first three quarters of 2021 were: DEP=328 (SEA: 218, KNT: 110), TER=224 (SEA: 121, KNT: 103), ARY/CNS=44 (SEA: 21, KNT: 23), TRU=476 (SEA: 84, KNT: 392), OTHERS=151 (SEA: 96, KNT: 55).

Pending Resolution

At the end of the third quarter of 2021, the pending resolution (petitions are neither approved nor dismissed yet) caseload was: DEP=249 (SEA: 168, KNT: 81), TER=278 (SEA: 174, KNT: 104), ARY/CNS=26 (SEA: 15, KNT: 11), TRU=361 (SEA: 325, KNT: 36), OTHERS=83 (SEA: 46, KNT: 37).

Pending Completion

At the end of the third quarter of 2021, the caseload in the "post-resolution" phase (resolved but still pending completion) in the DEP/ARY/CNS/TRU categories was: DEP=1306 (SEA: 728, KNT: 578), ARY/CNS =69 (SEA: 45, KNT: 24), TRU=37 (SEA: 15, KNT: 22), OTHERS=460 (SEA: 324, KNT: 136).

• Age of Pending Resolution Cases

At the end of the third quarter of 2021, there were a number of cases (older than 180 days since filing) which remained as unresolved (still pending the approval or dismissal of the petitions): DEP=108, TER=181, ARY/CNS=12, TRU=357.

• 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 2021, most of them are within 1 year, except for DEP and ARY cases. There were 203 DEP cases and 44 ARY/CNS 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 number of fact-findings in 2020 were: DEP=191 (SEA: 93, KNT: 98), TER=175 (SEA: 108, KNT: 67), ARY/CNS=33 (SEA: 14, KNT: 19), TRU=2 (SEA: 1, KNT: 1).

2021 fact-findings. The number of fact-findings in the first three quarters of 2021 were: DEP=152 (SEA: 90, KNT: 62), TER=163 (SEA: 101, KNT: 62), ARY/CNS=12 (SEA: 8, KNT:4), TRU=0 (SEA: 0, KNT: 0).

• 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 number of non fact-finding hearings in 2020 were: DEP=5734 (SEA: 3362, KNT: 2372), TER=299 (SEA: 215, KNT: 84), ARY/CNS=122 (SEA: 32, KNT: 90), TRU=40 (SEA: 4, KNT: 36).

2021 hearings. The number of non fact-finding hearings in the first three quarter of 2021 were: DEP=5371 (SEA: 2967, KNT: 2404), TER=417 (SEA: 198, KNT: 219), ARY/CNS=57 (SEA: 12, KNT: 45), TRU=0 (SEA: 0, KNT: 0).

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

		2020	Depend	dency		2021 Dependency					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	
Filings											
SEA	75	85	73	76	302	66	67	77		210	
KNT	48	20	22	35	133	45	28	24		97	
BOTH SEA/KNT	123	105	95	111	435	111	95	101		307	
Resolutions											
SEA	91	40	89	88	337	98	68	52		218	
KNT	41	22	58	67	195	36	40	34		110	
BOTH SEA/KNT	132	62	147	155	532	134	108	86		328	
Pending Resolution											
SEA	319	366	343	304		243	155	168			
KNT	228	231	196	163		139	97	81			
BOTH SEA/KNT	547	597	539	467		382	252	249			
Resolved, Pending Completion											
SEA	968	935	905	817		769	784	728			
KNT	771	708	678	634		611	627	578			
BOTH SEA/KNT	1739	1643	1583	1451		1380	1411	1306			
Resolution Age (days)											
% of Cases within 75 days	14%	18%	2%	12%		16%	20%	21%			
% of Cases within 90 days	16%	21%	10%	15%		17%	32%	23%			
% of Cases within 120 days	22%	30%	12%	25%		37%	42%	33%			
% of Cases within 180 days	35%	45%	55%	41%		57%	54%	60%			
% of Cases >180 days	65%	55%	45%	59%		43%	45%	40%			
Total # of Cases Resolved	132	62	147	155		134	108	86			
Pending Resolution Case Age											
# of Cases less than 75 days	91	86	73	82		82	54	71			
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	22	18	16	17		11	12	14			
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	47	34	34	20		26	26	29			
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	81	61	41	32		34	38	27			
# of cases > 180 days	306	398	375	316		229	122	108			
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	547	597	539	467		382	252	249			
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case, Age Since Filing											
# of Cases less than 1 year	184	104	102	126		141	151	149			
# of Cases less than 1 year	438	424	362	304		264	291	254			
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	394	387	397	382		337	338	312			
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	255	257	252	254		263	255	249			
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	190	191	189	141		140	142	139			
# of cases > 5 years	278	280	281	244		235	234	203			
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	1739	1643	1583	1451		1380	1411	1306			

Table 1 (continued). Dependency Statistics

		2020	Depend	lency		2021 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	331	245	210	250		270	345	318			
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	476	430	398	331		258	238	217			
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	348	381	371	358		347	305	274			
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	251	241	213	194		209	228	227			
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	128	123	172	141		130	117	109			
# of cases > 5 years	205	223	225	177		166	178	161			
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	1739	1643	1589	1451		1380	1411	1306			
Number of Fact-findings											
SEA	18	11	35	29	93	36	37	17		90	
KNT	25	8	45	20	98	16	36	10		62	
BOTH SEA/KNT	43	19	80	49	191	52	73	27		152	
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)											
SEA	1316	508	806	732	3362	906	1082	979		2967	
KNT	955	306	565	546	2372	734	821	849		2404	
BOTH SEA/KNT	2271	814	1371	1278	5734	1640	1903	1828		5371	

Table 2. Termination Statistics

		2020	Termin	ation			2021	Termin	ation	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
Filings										
SEA	39	40	33	32	148	21	30	52		103
KNT	23	24	35	61	143	25	21	23		69
BOTH SEA/KNT	62	64	68	93	291	46	51	75		172
Resolutions										
SEA	23	13	39	23	100	31	29	61		121
KNT	17	2	24	20	70	25	40	38		103
BOTH SEA/KNT	40	15	63	43	170	56	69	99		224
Pending Resolution										
SEA	192	220	214	219		203	207	174		
KNT	105	112	127	163		151	138	104		
BOTH SEA/KNT	297	332	341	382		354	345	278		
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	0%	0%	0%	9%		0%	4%	5%		
% of Cases within 90 days	62%	75%	0%	35%		29%	24%	20%		
% of Cases within 120 days	67%	75%	0%	49%		30%	33%	22%		
% of Cases within 180 days	81%	75%	6%	54%		43%	55%	29%		
% of Cases >180 days	19%	25%	94%	47%		57%	45%	71%		
Total # of Cases Resolved	40	15	63	43		56	69	99		
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	50	42	59	79		41	41	55		
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	10	20	7	7		3	7	11		
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	10	10	6	15		31	10	13		
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	27	49	42	34		37	14	18		
# of cases > 180 days	200	211	227	247		242	273	181		
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	297	332	341	382		354	345	278		
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	27	5	49	27	108	37	33	31		101
KNT	20	0	21	26	67	20	28	14		62
BOTH SEA/KNT	47	5	70	53	175	57	61	45		163
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)										
SEA	31	21	87	76	215	85	49	64		198
KNT	21	9	23	31	84	103	70	46		219
BOTH SEA/KNT	52	30	110	107	299	188	119	110		417

Table 3. ARY/CHINS Statistics

		2020	ARY/C	HINS			2021	ARY/C	HINS	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
Filings										
SEA	12	4	7	6	30	5	5	7		17
KNT	17	5	7	11	41	9	8	8		25
BOTH SEA/KNT	29	9	14	17	71	14	13	15		42
Resolutions										
SEA	16	2	11	8	40	8	8	5		21
KNT	9	4	21	17	58	10	6	7		23
BOTH SEA/KNT	25	6	32	25	98	18	14	12		44
Pending Resolution										
SEA	24	28	0	20		17	14	15		
KNT	32	32	0	9		10	11	11		
BOTH SEA/KNT	56	60	0	29		27	25	26		
Resolved, Pending Completion										
SEA	47	47	45	46		44	44	45		
KNT	19	21	20	27		24	24	24		
BOTH SEA/KNT	66	68	65	73		68	68	69		
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	20%	0%	8%	44%		50%	36%	33%		
% of Cases within 90 days	20%	0%	8%	52%		50%	50%	42%		
% of Cases within 120 days	20%	33%	8%	56%		56%	57%	67%		
% of Cases within 180 days	40%	33%	15%	60%		67%	64%	83%		
% of Cases >180 days	60%	67%	85%	40%		33%	36%	17%		
Total # of Cases Resolved	25	6	32	25		18	14	12		
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	22	10	0	7		6	9	11		
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	1	1	0	2		1	1	1		
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	5	4	0	3		1	0	1		
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	9	16	0	4		5	1	1		
# of cases > 180 days	19	29	0	13		14	14	12		
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	56	60	0	29		27	25	26		
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case - Age Since Filing										
# of Cases less than 1 year	13	9	6	20		14	15	16		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	6	7	7	0		2	1	1		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	1	4	4	4		3	1	1		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	2	4	4	5		1	3	3		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	2	0	0	0		4	4	4		
# of cases > 5 years	42	44	44	44		44	44	44		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	66	68	65	73		68	68	69		

Table 3 (continued). ARY/CHINS Statistics

		2020 ARY/CHINS						2021 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	14	12	7	20		15	15	16				
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	5	4	6	1		1	1	1				
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	1	4	4	3		3	1	1				
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	2	4	4	5		2	3	3				
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	3	1	0	0		3	4	4				
# of cases > 5 years	41	43	44	44		44	44	44				
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	66	68	65	73		68	68	69				
Number of Fact-findings												
SEA	10	0	4	0	14	1	2	1		4		
KNT	2	0	11	6	19	4	1	3		8		
BOTH SEA/KNT	12	0	15	6	33	5	3	4		12		
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)												
SEA	14	1	11	6	32	4	2	6		12		
KNT	43	0	35	12	90	20	17	8		45		
BOTH SEA/KNT	57	1	46	18	122	24	19	14		57		

Table 4. Truancy Statistics

		202	20 Trua	псу		2021 Truancy					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	
Filings											
SEA	142	37	0	0	179	0	2	0		2	
KNT	306	8	0	8	322	0	2	0		2	
BOTH SEA/KNT	448	45	0	8	501	0	4	0		4	
Resolutions											
SEA	278	307	170	119	901	61	9	14		84	
KNT	270	190	254	109	868	224	66	102		392	
BOTH SEA/KNT	548	497	424	228	1769	285	75	116		476	
Pending Resolution											
SEA	984	700	512	403		352	345	325			
KNT	992	784	530	429		206	134	36			
BOTH SEA/KNT	1976	1484	1042	832		558	479	361			
Resolved, Pending Completion											
SEA	43	27	24	15		15	15	15			
KNT	54	43	40	31		25	25	22			
BOTH SEA/KNT	97	70	64	46		40	40	37			
Resolution Age (days)		-	-			-	-				
% of Cases within 75 days	6%	1%	0%	4%		0%	0%	0%			
% of Cases within 90 days	6%	1%	0%	0%		0%	0%	0%			
% of Cases within 120 days	8%	3%	0%	0%		0%	0%	0%			
% of Cases within 180 days	10%	5%	0%	0%		0%	0%	0%			
% of Cases >180 days	90%	95%	100%	96%		100%	100%	100%			
Total # of Cases Resolved	548	497	424	228		285	75	116			
Pending Resolution Case Age											
# of Cases less than 75 days	398	31	0	0		0	4	0			
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	37	13	0	0		0	0	0			
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	114	90	20	0		0	0	2			
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	154	332	18	0		0	0	2			
# of cases > 180 days	1273	1018	1004	832		558	475	357			
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	1976	1484	1042	832		558	479	361			
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case - Age Since Filing											
# of Cases less than 1 year	1	1	1	2		1	1	1			
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	36	16	15	4		1	1	1			
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	21	23	20	11		8	6	5			
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	10	8	8	5		6	7	6			
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	12	4	2	5		5	5	4			
# of cases > 5 years	17	18	18	19		19	20	20			
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	97	70	64	46		40	40	37			

Table 4 (continued). Truancy Statistics

	2020 Truancy						2021 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	26	5	4	5		1	1	1			
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	30	36	32	12		6	3	3			
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	10	5	6	6		9	11	7			
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	12	9	7	4		4	3	4			
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	4	0	0	4		5	7	7			
# of cases > 5 years	15	15	15	15		15	15	15			
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	97	70	64	46		40	40	37			
Number of Fact-findings											
SEA	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		0	
KNT	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0		0	
BOTH SEA/KNT	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0		0	
Number of Hearings (Non Fact-findings)											
SEA	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0		0	
KNT	30	0	2	4	36	0	0	0		0	
BOTH SEA/KNT	34	0	2	4	40	0	0	0		0	

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

		DDP/EFC/GFC/RPR/RVS etc.												
	Q1/2020	Q2/2020	Q3/2020	Q4/2020	2020 Annual	Q1/2021	Q2/2021	Q3/2021	Q4/2021	2021 Annual				
Filings														
	20	10	7	21	72	27	26	20		0.1				
SEA	20	10	7	21	72	27	26	28		81				
KNT	11	10	5	14	44	19	14	16		49				
Both SEA/KNT	31	20	12	35	116	46	40	44		130				
Resolutions														
SEA	7	5	9	20	30	41	25	30		96				
KNT	2	6	2	13	30	16	16	23		55				
Both SEA/KNT	9	11	11	33	60	57	41	53		151				
Pending Resolution														
	0.7	0.2	117	70				16						
SEA	87	92	116	78		64	66	46						
KNT	67	71	95	62		65	60	37						
Both SEA/KNT	154	163	211	140		129	126	83						
Pending Completion														
SEA	48	47	48	143		248	297	324						
KNT	23	26	31	69		110	126	136						
Both SEA/KNT	71	73	79	212		358	423	460						
Number of Fact- findings			.,_					100						
SEA						9	9	14		32				
KNT						5	9	10		24				
BOTH SEA/KNT Number of Hearings						14	18	24		56				
(non FF)														
SEA						107	152	164		423				
KNT						61	48	65		174				
BOTH SEA/KNT						168	200	229		597				

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),















