

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

Fourth Quarter 2021

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

January 15, 2022

**Report #: DEP-2021-Q4** 

# Summary

# NOTE: Covid-19 pandemic affects the statistics, as of March 2020

# • Filings

**2019 filings.** The total filings in 2019 were: 759 dependency cases, 225 termination cases, 158 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, and 1706 truancy cases.

<u>2020 filings</u>. The filings in 2020 were: 435 dependency cases, 291 termination cases, 71 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, 501 truancy cases, and 116 others.

<u>2021 filings.</u> The filings in 2021 were: 394 dependency cases, 203 termination cases, 65 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, 61 truancy cases, and 155 others.

#### • 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: 652 dependency cases, 187 termination cases, 145 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, and 1632 truancy cases.

**2020 resolutions.** The resolutions in 2020 were: 498 dependency cases, 170 termination cases, 98 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, 1769 truancy cases, and 94 others<sup>(1)</sup>.

<u>2021 resolutions.</u> The resolutions in 2021 were: 399 dependency cases, 265 termination cases, 55 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, 587 truancy cases, and 170 others.

# • Pending Resolution

At the end of 2021, the pending resolution (petitions are neither approved nor dismissed yet) caseload was: 241 dependency cases, 248 termination cases, 34 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, 307 truancy cases, and 86 others

# • Age of Pending Resolution Cases

At the end 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): 103 dependency cases, 176 termination cases, 11 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, and 251 truancy cases.

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

<u>2019 fact-findings.</u> The number of fact-findings in 2019 were: 318 dependency cases, 163 termination cases, 31 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, and 35 truancy cases.

<u>2020 fact-findings.</u> The number of fact-findings in 2020 were: 191 dependency cases, 175 termination cases, 33 at-risk-vouth and child-in-need of service cases, and 2 truancy cases.

**2021 fact-findings.** The number of fact-findings in 2021 were: 193 dependency cases, 197 termination cases, 19 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, and 86 others.

### • Number of Hearings (non Fact-findings)

**<u>2019 hearings.</u>** The number of non fact-finding hearings in 2019 were: 9502 dependency cases, 328 termination cases, 251 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, and 297 truancy cases.

**2020 hearings.** The number of non fact-finding hearings in 2020 were: 5734 dependency cases, 299 termination cases, 122 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, and 40 truancy cases.

**<u>2021 hearings.</u>** The number of non fact-finding hearings in 2021 were: 7066 dependency cases, 448 termination cases, 77 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, and 388 others.

(1) "Others" category includes the following case types: DDP - Developmental Disability; DGN - Dependency Guardianship; RVS - Relative Visitation; EFC - Extended Foster Care, Dependency; GFC - Guardianship Foster Children; RPR - Reinstatement of Parental rights; and VYG - Vulnerable Youth Guardianship.

# 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	52	262	
KNT	48	20	22	35	133	45	28	24	35	132	
BOTH SEA/KNT	123	105	95	111	435	111	95	101	87	394	
Resolutions											
SEA	91	40	89	88	337	98	68	52	52	270	
KNT	41	22	58	67	195	36	40	34	19	129	
BOTH SEA/KNT	132	62	147	155	532	134	108	86	71	399	
Pending Resolution											
SEA	319	366	343	304		243	155	168	160		
KNT	228	231	196	163		139	97	81	81		
BOTH SEA/KNT	547	597	539	467		382	252	249	241		
Resolved, Pending Completion											
SEA	968	935	905	817		769	784	728	690		
KNT	771	708	678	634		611	627	578	536		
BOTH SEA/KNT	1739	1643	1583	1451		1380	1411	1306	1226		
Resolution Age (days)											
% of Cases within 75 days	14%	18%	2%	12%		16%	20%	21%	16%		
% of Cases within 90 days	16%	21%	10%	15%		17%	32%	23%	21%		
% of Cases within 120 days	22%	30%	12%	25%		37%	42%	33%	30%		
% of Cases within 180 days	35%	45%	55%	41%		57%	54%	60%	49%		
% of Cases >180 days	65%	55%	45%	59%		43%	45%	40%	51%		
Total # of Cases Resolved	132	62	147	155		134	108	86	71		
Pending Resolution Case Age											
# of Cases less than 75 days	91	86	73	82		82	54	71	63		
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	22	18	16	17		11	12	14	6		
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	47	34	34	20		26	26	29	20		
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	81	61	41	32		34	38	27	49		
# of cases > 180 days	306	398	375	316		229	122	108	103		
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases Pending Completion (but resolved) Case,	547	597	539	467		382	252	249	241		
Age Since Filing											
# of Cases less than 1 year	184	104	102	126		141	151	149	108		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	438	424	362	304		264	291	254	230		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	394	387	397	382		337	338	312	307		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	255	257	252	254		263	255	249	237		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	190	191	189	141		140	142	139	156		
# of cases > 5 years	278	280	281	244		235	234	203	188		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	1739	1643	1583	1451		1380	1411	1306	1226		

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	256		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	476	430	398	331		258	238	217	229		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	348	381	371	358		347	305	274	257		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years		241	213	194		209	228	227	226		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	128	123	172	141		130	117	109	108		
# of cases > 5 years	205	223	225	177		166	178	161	150		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	1739	1643	1589	1451		1380	1411	1306	1226		
Number of Fact-findings											
SEA	18	11	35	29	93	36	37	17	31	121	
KNT	25	8	45	20	98	16	36	10	10	72	
BOTH SEA/KNT	43	19	80	49	191	52	73	27	41	193	
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)											
SEA	1316	508	806	732	3362	906	1082	979	945	3912	
KNT	955	306	565	546	2372	734	821	849	750	3154	
BOTH SEA/KNT	2271	814	1371	1278	5734	1640	1903	1828	1695	7066	

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	25	128
KNT	23	24	35	61	143	25	21	23	6	75
BOTH SEA/KNT	62	64	68	93	291	46	51	75	31	203
Resolutions										
SEA	23	13	39	23	100	31	29	61	19	140
KNT	17	2	24	20	70	25	40	38	22	125
BOTH SEA/KNT	40	15	63	43	170	56	69	99	41	265
Pending Resolution										
SEA	192	220	214	219		203	207	174	166	
KNT	105	112	127	163		151	138	104	82	
BOTH SEA/KNT	297	332	341	382		354	345	278	248	
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	0%	0%	0%	9%		0%	4%	5%	10%	
% of Cases within 90 days	62%	75%	0%	35%		29%	24%	20%	37%	
% of Cases within 120 days	67%	75%	0%	49%		30%	33%	22%	44%	
% of Cases within 180 days	81%	75%	6%	54%		43%	55%	29%	51%	
% of Cases >180 days	19%	25%	94%	47%		57%	45%	71%	49%	
Total # of Cases Resolved	40	15	63	43		56	69	99	41	
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	50	42	59	79		41	41	55	19	
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	10	20	7	7		3	7	11	4	
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	10	10	6	15		31	10	13	16	
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	27	49	42	34		37	14	18	33	
# of cases > 180 days	200	211	227	247		242	273	181	176	
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	297	332	341	382		354	345	278	248	
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	27	5	49	27	108	37	33	31	27	128
KNT	20	0	21	26	67	20	28	14	7	69
BOTH SEA/KNT	47	5	70	53	175	57	61	45	34	197
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)										
SEA	31	21	87	76	215	85	49	64	67	223
KNT	21	9	23	31	84	103	70	46	47	225
BOTH SEA/KNT	52	30	110	107	299	188	119	110	114	448

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	14	31
KNT	17	5	7	11	41	9	8	8	9	34
BOTH SEA/KNT	29	9	14	17	71	14	13	15	23	65
Resolutions										
SEA	16	2	11	8	40	8	8	5	6	27
KNT	9	4	21	17	58	10	6	7	5	28
BOTH SEA/KNT	25	6	32	25	98	18	14	12	11	55
Pending Resolution										
SEA	24	28	0	20		17	14	15	22	
KNT	32	32	0	9		10	11	11	12	
BOTH SEA/KNT	56	60	0	29		27	25	26	34	
Resolved, Pending Completion										
SEA	47	47	45	46		44	44	45	46	
KNT	19	21	20	27		24	24	24	17	
BOTH SEA/KNT	66	68	65	73		68	68	69	63	
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	20%	0%	8%	44%		50%	36%	33%	73%	
% of Cases within 90 days	20%	0%	8%	52%		50%	50%	42%	73%	
% of Cases within 120 days	20%	33%	8%	56%		56%	57%	67%	82%	
% of Cases within 180 days	40%	33%	15%	60%		67%	64%	83%	82%	
% of Cases >180 days	60%	67%	85%	40%		33%	36%	17%	18%	
Total # of Cases Resolved	25	6	32	25		18	14	12	11	
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	22	10	0	7		6	9	11	14	
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	1	1	0	2		1	1	1	3	
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	5	4	0	3		1	0	1	4	
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	9	16	0	4		5	1	1	2	
# of cases > 180 days	19	29	0	13		14	14	12	11	
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	56	60	0	29		27	25	26	34	
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case - Age Since Filing										
# of Cases less than 1 year	13	9	6	20		14	15	16	9	
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	6	7	7	0		2	1	1	2	
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	1	4	4	4		3	1	1	0	
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	2	4	4	5		1	3	3	3	
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	2	0	0	0		4	4	4	5	
# of cases > 5 years	42	44	44	44		44	44	44	44	
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	66	68	65	73		68	68	69	63	

Table 3 (continued). ARY/CHINS Statistics

		2020	ARY/C	HINS			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	10		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	5	4	6	1		1	1	1	1		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	1	4	4	3		3	1	1	1		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	2	4	4	5		2	3	3	2		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	3	1	0	0		3	4	4	5		
# of cases > 5 years	41	43	44	44		44	44	44	44		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	66	68	65	73		68	68	69	63		
Number of Fact-findings											
SEA	10	0	4	0	14	1	2	1	3	7	
KNT	2	0	11	6	19	4	1	3	4	12	
BOTH SEA/KNT	12	0	15	6	33	5	3	4	7	19	
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)										•	
SEA	14	1	11	6	32	4	2	6	8	20	
KNT	43	0	35	12	90	20	17	8	12	57	
BOTH SEA/KNT	57	1	46	18	122	24	19	14	20	77	

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	31	33	
KNT	306	8	0	8	322	0	2	0	26	28	
BOTH SEA/KNT	448	45	0	8	501	0	4	0	57	61	
Resolutions											
SEA	278	307	170	119	901	61	9	14	110	194	
KNT	270	190	254	109	868	224	66	102	1	393	
BOTH SEA/KNT	548	497	424	228	1769	285	75	116	111	587	
Pending Resolution											
SEA	984	700	512	403		352	345	325	246		
KNT	992	784	530	429		206	134	36	61		
BOTH SEA/KNT	1976	1484	1042	832		558	479	361	307		
Resolved, Pending Completion											
SEA	43	27	24	15		15	15	15	14		
KNT	54	43	40	31		25	25	22	19		
BOTH SEA/KNT	97	70	64	46		40	40	37	33		
Resolution Age (days)											
% of Cases within 75 days	6%	1%	0%	4%		0%	0%	0%	1%		
% of Cases within 90 days	6%	1%	0%	0%		0%	0%	0%	1%		
% of Cases within 120 days	8%	3%	0%	0%		0%	0%	0%	1%		
% of Cases within 180 days	10%	5%	0%	0%		0%	0%	0%	1%		
% of Cases >180 days	90%	95%	100%	96%		100%	100%	100%	99%		
Total # of Cases Resolved	548	497	424	228		285	75	116	111		
Pending Resolution Case Age											
# of Cases less than 75 days	398	31	0	0		0	4	0	55		
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	37	13	0	0		0	0	0	1		
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	114	90	20	0		0	0	2	0		
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	154	332	18	0		0	0	2	0		
# of cases > 180 days	1273	1018	1004	832		558	475	357	251		
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	1976	1484	1042	832		558	479	361	307		
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case - Age Since Filing											
# of Cases less than 1 year	1	1	1	2		1	1	1	0		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	36	16	15	4		1	1	1	2		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	21	23	20	11		8	6	5	2		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	10	8	8	5		6	7	6	4		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	12	4	2	5		5	5	4	2		
# of cases > 5 years	17	18	18	19		19	20	20	23		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	97	70	64	46		40	40	37	33		

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	0		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	30	36	32	12		6	3	3	2		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	10	5	6	6		9	11	7	4		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	12	9	7	4		4	3	4	5		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	4	0	0	4		5	7	7	3		
# of cases > 5 years	15	15	15	15		15	15	15	19		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	97	70	64	46		40	40	37	33		
Number of Fact-findings											
SEA	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
KNT	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
BOTH SEA/KNT	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	
Number of Hearings (Non Fact-findings)											
SEA	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	
KNT	30	0	2	4	36	0	0	0	0	0	
BOTH SEA/KNT	34	0	2	4	40	0	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														
SEA	20	10	7	21	72	27	26	28	13	94				
KNT	11	10	5	14	44	19	14	16	12	61				
Both SEA/KNT	31	20	12	35	116	46	40	44	25	155				
Resolutions														
SEA	7	5	9	20	30	41	25	30	9	105				
KNT	2	6	2	13	30	16	16	23	10	65				
Both SEA/KNT	9	11	11	33	60	57	41	53	19	170				
Pending Resolution														
SEA	87	92	116	78		64	66	46	50					
KNT	67	71	95	62		65	60	37	36					
Both SEA/KNT	154	163	211	140		129	126	83	86					
Pending Completion														
SEA	48	47	48	143		248	297	324	267					
KNT	23	26	31	69		110	126	136	121					
Both SEA/KNT	71	73	79	212		358	423	460	388					
Number of Fact- findings														
SEA						9	9	14	9	41				
KNT						5	9	10	6	30				
BOTH SEA/KNT						14	18	24	15	71				
Number of Hearings (non FF)														
SEA						107	152	164	130	553				
KNT						61	48	65	52	226				
BOTH SEA/KNT						168	200	229	182	779				

This tables includes case flow information for the following causes of actions under case type 7: DDP (developmental Disability), GFC includes the following case types: DDP - Developmental Disability; DGN - Dependency Guardianship; RVS - Relative Visitation; EFC - Extended Foster Care, Dependency; GFC - Guardianship Foster Children; RPR - Reinstatement of Parental rights; and VYG - Vulnerable Youth Guardianship.















