



King County

Department of Judicial Administration

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 2022

Department of Judicial Administration

Prepared by: Shiquan Liao, Ph.D., Statistician

January 15, 2023

Report #: DEP-2022-Q4

Seattle:
516 Third Avenue Room E609
Seattle, WA 98104-2386

Regional Justice Center:
401 Fourth Avenue North Room 2C
Kent, WA 98032-4429

Juvenile Division:
1211 East Alder Room 3015
Seattle, WA 98122-5598

Summary

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

- **Filings**

2021 annual filings. The filings in 2021 were: 394 dependency cases, 203 termination cases, 65 at-risk-youth and children-in-need of service cases, 61 truancy cases, and 155 others⁽¹⁾.

2022 annual filings. The filings in 2022 were: 385 dependency cases, 188 termination cases, 100 at-risk-youth and children-in-need of service cases, 1061 truancy cases, and 193 others.

Comparing with 2021, the change in average monthly filings in 2022 is: 2.3% decrease (-2.3%) for dependency; 7.4% decrease (-7.4%) for termination; and 53.8% increase for ARY/CNS. In addition, truancy filing has returned to a high volume in 2022.

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

Resolution is defined as either the “approval” or the “dismissal” of the petition.

2021 annual resolutions. The resolutions in 2021 were: 399 dependency cases, 265 termination cases, 55 at-risk-youth and children-in-need of service cases, 587 truancy cases, and 170 others⁽¹⁾.

2022 annual resolutions. The resolutions in 2022 were: 324 dependency cases, 165 termination cases, 86 at-risk-youth and children-in-need of service cases, 429 truancy cases, and 155 others.

Comparing with 2021, the change in average monthly resolutions in 2022 is: 18.8% decrease (-18.8%) for dependency; 37.7% decrease (-37.7%) for termination; and 56.4% increase for ARY/CNS.

- **Pending Resolution**

At the end of 2022, the pending resolution (petitions are neither approved nor dismissed yet) caseload was: 279 dependency cases, 265 termination cases, 45 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, 999 truancy cases, and 113 others.

- **Age of Pending Resolution Cases**

At the end of 2022, 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): 139 dependency cases, 175 termination cases, 14 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, and 718 truancy cases.

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

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

2022 annual fact-findings. The number of fact-findings in 2022 were: 211 for dependency cases, 131 for termination cases, 48 for at-risk-youth and children-in-need of service cases, 6 for truancy cases, and 140 for others.

Comparing with 2021, the change in average monthly fact-findings in 2022 is: 9.3% increase (+9.3%) for dependency; and 33.5% decrease (-33.5%) for termination.

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

2021 annual hearings. The number of non fact-finding hearings in 2021 were: 7066 for dependency cases, 448 for termination cases, 77 for at-risk-youth and children-in-need of service cases, and 388 for others.

2022 annual hearings. The number of non fact-finding hearings in 2022 were: 7467 for dependency cases, 439 for termination cases, 166 for at-risk-youth and children-in-need of service cases, 54 for truancy cases, and 781 for others.

Comparing with 2021, the change in average monthly number of hearings (other than fact-findings) in 2022 is: 5.7% increase (+5.7%) for dependency; 2% decrease (-2%) for termination; 116% increase (+115%) for ARY/CNS; and 101% increase (+101%) for other matters.

(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

	2021 Dependency					2022 Dependency				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
Filings										
SEA	66	67	77	52	262	72	54	51	62	239
KNT	45	28	24	35	132	57	35	41	13	146
BOTH SEA/KNT	111	95	101	87	394	129	89	92	75	385
Resolutions										
SEA	98	68	52	52	270	47	63	44	44	198
KNT	36	40	34	19	129	31	42	22	31	126
BOTH SEA/KNT	134	108	86	71	399	78	105	66	75	324
Pending Resolution										
SEA	243	155	168	160		175	164	168	180	
KNT	139	97	81	81		104	96	115	99	
BOTH SEA/KNT	382	252	249	241		279	260	283	279	
Resolved, Pending Completion										
SEA	769	784	728	690		661	644	609	589	
KNT	611	627	578	536		471	456	431	395	
BOTH SEA/KNT	1380	1411	1306	1226		1132	1100	1040	984	
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	16%	20%	21%	16%		24%	12%	12%	1%	
% of Cases within 90 days	17%	32%	23%	21%		32%	19%	21%	4%	
% of Cases within 120 days	37%	42%	33%	30%		41%	40%	30%	23%	
% of Cases within 180 days	57%	54%	60%	49%		63%	52%	60%	45%	
% of Cases >180 days	43%	45%	40%	51%		37%	48%	40%	55%	
Total # of Cases Resolved	134	108	86	71		78	105	66	75	
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	82	54	71	63		108	64	74	62	
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	11	12	14	6		10	14	12	12	
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	26	26	29	20		19	39	21	20	
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	34	38	27	49		26	37	44	46	
# of cases > 180 days	229	122	108	103		116	106	132	139	
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	382	252	249	241		279	260	283	279	
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case, Age Since Filing										
# of Cases less than 1 year	141	151	149	108		147	98	85	93	
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	264	291	254	230		217	214	205	167	
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	337	338	312	307		270	221	190	176	
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	263	255	249	237		207	220	210	196	
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	140	142	139	156		124	145	143	138	
# of cases > 5 years	235	234	203	188		167	202	207	214	
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	1380	1411	1306	1226		1132	1100	1040	984	

Annual total reflects the year-end update and adjustment.

Table 1 (continued). Dependency Statistics

	2021 Dependency					2022 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	270	345	318	256		296	197	182	175	
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	258	238	217	229		198	271	249	214	
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	347	305	274	257		226	172	140	142	
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	209	228	227	226		188	171	177	166	
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	130	117	109	108		91	128	121	119	
# of cases > 5 years	166	178	161	150		133	161	171	168	
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	1380	1411	1306	1226		1132	1100	1040	984	
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	36	37	17	31	121	33	41	38	31	143
KNT	16	36	10	10	72	15	10	20	23	68
BOTH SEA/KNT	52	73	27	41	193	48	51	58	54	211
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)										
SEA	906	1082	979	945	3912	1042	1100	1131	1214	4487
KNT	734	821	849	750	3154	855	760	742	623	2980
BOTH SEA/KNT	1640	1903	1828	1695	7066	1897	1860	1873	1837	7467

Table 2. Termination Statistics

	2021 Termination					2022 Termination				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
Filings										
SEA	21	30	52	25	128	20	24	26	43	113
KNT	25	21	23	6	75	19	25	18	13	75
BOTH SEA/KNT	46	51	75	31	203	39	49	44	56	188
Resolutions										
SEA	31	29	61	19	140	39	23	16	16	94
KNT	25	40	38	22	125	21	20	15	15	71
BOTH SEA/KNT	56	69	99	41	265	60	43	31	31	165
Pending Resolution										
SEA	203	207	174	166		145	148	155	182	
KNT	151	138	104	82		79	84	86	83	
BOTH SEA/KNT	354	345	278	248		224	232	241	265	
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	0%	4%	5%	10%		13%	7%	13%	16%	
% of Cases within 90 days	29%	24%	20%	37%		28%	26%	23%	23%	
% of Cases within 120 days	30%	33%	22%	44%		28%	42%	26%	23%	
% of Cases within 180 days	43%	55%	29%	51%		32%	49%	42%	26%	
% of Cases >180 days	57%	45%	71%	49%		68%	51%	58%	74%	
Total # of Cases Resolved	56	69	99	41		60	43	31	31	
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	41	41	55	19		28	37	39	44	
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	3	7	11	4		2	6	2	7	
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	31	10	13	16		2	10	9	13	
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	37	14	18	33		15	7	24	26	
# of cases > 180 days	242	273	181	176		177	172	167	175	
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	354	345	278	248		224	232	241	265	
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	37	33	31	27	128	28	18	7	17	70
KNT	20	28	14	7	69	14	16	13	18	61
BOTH SEA/KNT	57	61	45	34	197	42	34	20	35	131
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)										
SEA	85	49	64	67	223	78	71	125	113	317
KNT	103	70	46	47	225	42	36	31	30	122
BOTH SEA/KNT	188	119	110	114	448	120	107	156	143	439

Annual total reflects the year-end update and adjustment.

Table 3. ARY/CHINS Statistics

	2021 ARY/CHINS					2022 ARY/CHINS				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
Filings										
SEA	5	5	7	14	31	7	12	11	15	45
KNT	9	8	8	9	34	6	17	15	17	55
BOTH SEA/KNT	14	13	15	23	65	13	29	26	32	100
Resolutions										
SEA	8	8	5	6	27	13	7	12	11	43
KNT	10	6	7	5	28	8	10	11	14	43
BOTH SEA/KNT	18	14	12	11	55	21	17	23	25	86
Pending Resolution										
SEA	17	14	15	22		15	21	19	23	
KNT	10	11	11	12		12	18	20	22	
BOTH SEA/KNT	27	25	26	34		27	39	39	45	
Resolved, Pending Completion										
SEA	44	44	45	46		55	49	50	50	
KNT	24	24	24	17		19	22	26	29	
BOTH SEA/KNT	68	68	69	63		74	71	76	79	
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	50%	36%	33%	73%		52%	71%	52%	64%	
% of Cases within 90 days	50%	50%	42%	73%		67%	71%	57%	64%	
% of Cases within 120 days	56%	57%	67%	82%		76%	77%	66%	68%	
% of Cases within 180 days	67%	64%	83%	82%		95%	88%	74%	72%	
% of Cases >180 days	33%	36%	17%	18%		5%	12%	26%	28%	
Total # of Cases Resolved	18	14	12	11		21	17	23	25	
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	6	9	11	14		7	14	16	19	
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	1	1	1	3		0	5	1	1	
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	1	0	1	4		2	1	1	6	
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	5	1	1	2		5	3	9	5	
# of cases > 180 days	14	14	12	11		13	16	12	14	
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	27	25	26	34		27	39	39	45	
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case - Age Since Filing										
# of Cases less than 1 year	14	15	16	9		20	15	21	22	
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	2	1	1	2		2	3	2	4	
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	3	1	1	0		0	1	1	1	
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	1	3	3	3		3	1	1	0	
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	4	4	4	5		5	3	3	3	
# of cases > 5 years	44	44	44	44		44	48	48	49	
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	68	68	69	63		74	71	76	79	

Annual total reflects the year-end update and adjustment.

Table 3 (continued). ARY/CHINS Statistics

	2021 ARY/CHINS					2022 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	15	15	16	10		21	16	21	24	
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	1	1	1	1		1	2	2	2	
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	3	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	2	3	3	2		2	1	1	1	
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	3	4	4	5		5	3	3	2	
# of cases > 5 years	44	44	44	44		44	48	48	49	
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	68	68	69	63		74	71	76	79	
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	1	2	1	3	7	3	4	4	3	14
KNT	4	1	3	4	12	5	8	10	11	34
BOTH SEA/KNT	5	3	4	7	19	8	12	14	14	48
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)										
SEA	4	2	6	8	20	14	21	24	13	72
KNT	20	17	8	12	57	14	26	19	35	94
BOTH SEA/KNT	24	19	14	20	77	28	47	43	48	166

Table 4. Truancy Statistics

	2021 Truancy					2022 Truancy				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
Filings										
SEA	0	2	0	31	33	120	109	11	116	356
KNT	0	2	0	26	28	216	302	53	134	705
BOTH SEA/KNT	0	4	0	57	61	336	411	64	250	1061
Resolutions										
SEA	61	9	14	110	194	6	6	190	37	239
KNT	224	66	102	1	393	11	14	51	114	190
BOTH SEA/KNT	285	75	116	111	587	17	20	241	151	429
Pending Resolution										
SEA	352	345	325	246		359	463	284	363	
KNT	206	134	36	61		266	614	616	636	
BOTH SEA/KNT	558	479	361	307		625	1077	900	999	
Resolved, Pending Completion										
SEA	15	15	15	14		14	16	17	15	
KNT	25	25	22	19		16	20	22	31	
BOTH SEA/KNT	40	40	37	33		30	36	39	46	
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	0%	0%	0%	1%		65%	45%	4%	13%	
% of Cases within 90 days	0%	0%	0%	1%		65%	60%	7%	13%	
% of Cases within 120 days	0%	0%	0%	1%		71%	60%	11%	17%	
% of Cases within 180 days	0%	0%	0%	1%		77%	90%	18%	40%	
% of Cases >180 days	100%	100%	100%	99%		24%	10%	82%	60%	
Total # of Cases Resolved	285	75	116	111		17	20	241	151	
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	0	4	0	55		302	420	57	224	
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	0	0	0	1		23	38	2	12	
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	0	0	2	0		31	138	148	2	
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	0	0	2	0		22	187	292	43	
# of cases > 180 days	558	475	357	251		247	294	401	718	
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	558	479	361	307		625	1077	900	999	
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case - Age Since Filing										
# of Cases less than 1 year	1	1	1	0		2	8	12	15	
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	1	1	1	2		2	1	1	4	
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	8	6	5	2		1	1	1	2	
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	6	7	6	4		1	2	1	0	
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	5	5	4	2		1	0	0	1	
# of cases > 5 years	19	20	20	23		23	24	24	24	
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	40	40	37	33		30	36	39	46	

Annual total reflects the year-end update and adjustment.

Table 4 (continued). Truancy Statistics

	2021 Truancy					2022 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	1	1	1	0		2	8	12	19	
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	6	3	3	2		2	1	1	0	
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	9	11	7	4		1	1	1	2	
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	4	3	4	5		3	2	1	0	
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	5	7	7	3		3	2	2	3	
# of cases > 5 years	15	15	15	19		19	22	22	22	
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	40	40	37	33		30	36	39	46	
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
KNT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
BOTH SEA/KNT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	6
Number of Hearings (Non Fact-findings)										
SEA	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	3	7	14
KNT	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	8	20	40
BOTH SEA/KNT	0	0	0	0	0	3	13	11	27	54

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

	DDP/EFC/GFC/RPR/RVS etc.									
	Q1/2021	Q2/2021	Q3/2021	Q4/2021	2021 Annual	Q1/2022	Q2/2022	Q3/2022	Q4/2022	2022 Annual
Filings										
SEA	27	26	28	13	94	15	34	26	30	105
KNT	19	14	16	12	61	17	16	17	38	88
Both SEA/KNT	46	40	44	25	155	32	50	43	68	193
Resolutions										
SEA	41	25	30	9	105	18	23	22	22	85
KNT	16	16	23	10	65	18	17	14	21	70
Both SEA/KNT	57	41	53	19	170	36	40	36	43	155
Pending Resolution										
SEA	64	66	46	50		42	53	53	62	
KNT	65	60	37	36		33	33	35	51	
Both SEA/KNT	129	126	83	86		75	86	88	113	
Pending Completion										
SEA	248	297	324	267		239	241	247	233	
KNT	110	126	136	121		107	118	121	132	
Both SEA/KNT	358	423	460	388		346	359	368	365	
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	9	9	14	9	41	12	16	21	21	70
KNT	5	9	10	6	30	14	13	13	30	70
BOTH SEA/KNT	14	18	24	15	71	26	29	34	51	140
Number of Hearings (non FF)										
SEA	107	152	164	130	553	148	126	154	124	552
KNT	61	48	65	52	226	52	66	55	56	229
BOTH SEA/KNT	168	200	229	182	779	200	192	209	180	781

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.

Annual total reflects the year-end update and adjustment.

