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King County Superior Court

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

Fourth Quarter 2023

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January 15, 2024

Report #: DEP-2023-Q4

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⁾.

<u>2022 annual filings.</u> 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.

<u>2023 annual filings.</u> The filings in 2023 were: 319 dependency cases, 168 termination cases, 111 at-risk-youth and children-in-need of service cases, 1,560 truancy cases, and 351 others.

Resolutions (approval or dismissal of petitions)

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

<u>2021 annual resolutions.</u> 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.

2023 annual resolutions. The resolutions in 2023 were: 319 dependency cases, 223 termination cases, 110 at-risk-youth and children-in-need of service cases, 887 truancy cases, and 323 others.

• Pending Resolution

At the end of December 2023, the pending resolution (petitions are neither approved nor dismissed yet) caseload was: 217 dependency cases, 137 termination cases, 38 at-risk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, 1,677 truancy cases, and 105 others.

• Age of Pending Resolution Cases

At the end of December 2023, 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): 113 dependency cases, 84 termination cases, 22 atrisk-youth and child-in-need of service cases, and 1,220 truancy cases.

Number of Fact-findings (FF)

<u>2021 annual fact-findings.</u> 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.

<u>2022 annual fact-findings.</u> 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.

<u>2023 annual fact-findings.</u> The number of fact-findings in 2023 were: 222 for dependency cases, 140 for termination cases, 75 for at-risk-youth and children-in-need of service cases, 39 for truancy cases, and 268 for others.

• Number of Hearings (non Fact-findings)

<u>2021 annual hearings.</u> The number of non fact-finding hearings in 2021 were: 7,066 for dependency cases, 448 for termination cases, 77 for at-risk-youth and children-in-need of service cases, and 388 for others.

<u>2022 annual hearings.</u> The number of non fact-finding hearings in 2022 were: 7,467 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.

<u>2023 annual hearings.</u> The number of non fact-finding hearings in 2023 were: 7,477 for dependency cases, 785 for termination cases, 173 for at-risk-youth and children-in-need of service cases, 302 for truancy cases, and 708 for 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

			2023 Dependency							
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
Filings										
SEA	72	54	51	62	239	82	48	37	49	216
KNT	57	35	41	13	146	23	33	16	31	103
BOTH SEA/KNT	129	89	92	75	385	105	81	53	80	319
Resolutions										
SEA	47	63	44	44	198	49	65	55	41	210
KNT	31	42	22	31	126	22	27	31	29	109
BOTH SEA/KNT	78	105	66	75	324	71	92	86	70	319
Pending Resolution										
SEA	175	164	168	180		177	164	140	148	
KNT	104	96	115	99		70	76	67	69	
BOTH SEA/KNT	279	260	283	279		247	240	207	217	
Resolved, Pending Completion										
SEA	661	644	609	589		598	562	513	451	
KNT	471	456	431	395		389	394	398	396	
BOTH SEA/KNT	1132	1100	1040	984		987	956	911	847	
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	24%	12%	12%	1%		37%	20%	15%	17%	
% of Cases within 90 days	32%	19%	21%	4%		28%	27%	22%	21%	
% of Cases within 120 days	41%	40%	30%	23%		38%	31%	35%	26%	
% of Cases within 180 days	63%	52%	60%	45%		58%	51%	49%	47%	
% of Cases >180 days	37%	48%	40%	55%		42%	49%	51%	53%	
Total # of Cases Resolved	78	105	66	75		71	92	86	70	
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	108	64	74	62		84	60	42	50	
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	10	14	12	12		6	10	5	23	
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	19	39	21	20		24	30	13	10	
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	26	37	44	46		36	33	31	21	
# of cases > 180 days	116	106	132	139		97	107	116	113	
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	279	260	283	279		247	240	207	217	
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case, Age Since Filing										
# of Cases less than 1 year	147	98	85	93		78	77	75	70	
# of Cases less than 1 year	217	214	205	167		200	202	179	174	
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	270	221	190	176		195	180	203	172	
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	207	220	210	196		176	148	117	116	
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	124	145	143	138		120	138	130	115	
# of cases > 5 years	167	202	207	214		218	211	207	200	
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	1132	1100	1040	984		987	956	911	847	

Table 1 (continued). Dependency Statistics

		2022	Depend	lency		2023 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	296	197	182	175		214	201	195	176		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	198	271	249	214		200	189	174	168		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	226	172	140	142		148	185	173	159		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	188	171	177	166		128	99	82	91		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	91	128	121	119		123	99	114	82		
# of cases > 5 years	133	161	171	168		174	183	173	171		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	1132	1100	1040	984		987	956	911	847		
Number of Fact-findings											
SEA	33	41	38	31	143	37	44	43	23	147	
KNT	15	10	20	23	68	16	21	22	16	75	
BOTH SEA/KNT	48	51	58	54	211	53	65	65	39	222	
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)											
SEA	1042	1100	1131	1214	4487	1409	1266	1149	885	4709	
KNT	855	760	742	623	2980	686	774	632	676	2768	
BOTH SEA/KNT	1897	1860	1873	1837	7467	2095	2040	1781	1561	7477	

Table 2. Termination Statistics

		2022	Termin	ation			2023	Termin	ation	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
Filings										
SEA	20	24	26	43	113	30	40	41	19	130
KNT	19	25	18	13	75	15	10	9	4	38
BOTH SEA/KNT	39	49	44	56	188	45	50	50	23	168
Resolutions										
SEA	39	23	16	16	94	28	49	32	37	146
KNT	21	20	15	15	71	20	22	21	14	77
BOTH SEA/KNT	60	43	31	31	165	48	71	53	51	223
Pending Resolution										
SEA	145	148	155	182		142	130	134	111	
KNT	79	84	86	83		63	50	41	26	
BOTH SEA/KNT	224	232	241	265		205	180	175	137	
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	13%	7%	13%	16%		6%	3%	8%	2%	
% of Cases within 90 days	28%	26%	23%	23%		19%	20%	15%	12%	
% of Cases within 120 days	28%	42%	26%	23%		19%	25%	24%	26%	
% of Cases within 180 days	32%	49%	42%	26%		35%	32%	42%	41%	
% of Cases >180 days	68%	51%	58%	74%		65%	68%	58%	59%	
Total # of Cases Resolved	60	43	31	31		48	71	53	51	
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	28	37	39	44		39	36	41	15	
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	2	6	2	7		4	11	5	4	
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	2	10	9	13		18	12	7	8	
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	15	7	24	26		25	15	24	26	
# of cases > 180 days	177	172	167	175		119	106	98	84	
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	224	232	241	265		205	180	175	137	
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	28	18	7	17	70	23	24	22	23	92
KNT	14	16	13	18	61	17	12	13	6	48
BOTH SEA/KNT	42	34	20	35	131	40	36	35	29	140
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)										
SEA	78	71	125	113	317	138	178	166	138	620
KNT	42	36	31	30	122	45	59	35	26	165
BOTH SEA/KNT	120	107	156	143	439	183	237	201	164	785

Table 3. ARY/CHINS Statistics

		2022	ARY/C	HINS			2023	ARY/C	HINS	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
Filings										
SEA	7	12	11	15	45	10	9	8	10	37
KNT	6	17	15	17	55	16	30	13	15	74
BOTH SEA/KNT	13	29	26	32	100	26	39	21	25	111
Resolutions										
SEA	13	7	12	11	43	9	10	8	13	40
KNT	8	10	11	14	43	18	21	17	14	70
BOTH SEA/KNT	21	17	23	25	86	27	31	25	27	110
Pending Resolution										
SEA	15	21	19	23		25	24	24	18	
KNT	12	18	20	22		16	23	18	20	
BOTH SEA/KNT	27	39	39	45		41	47	42	38	
Resolved, Pending Completion										
SEA	55	49	50	50		48	48	52	60	
KNT	19	22	26	29		33	39	37	34	
BOTH SEA/KNT	74	71	76	79		81	87	89	94	
Resolution Age (days)										
% of Cases within 75 days	52%	71%	52%	64%		44%	68%	72%	70%	
% of Cases within 90 days	67%	71%	57%	64%		63%	74%	72%	74%	
% of Cases within 120 days	76%	77%	66%	68%		74%	74%	80%	78%	
% of Cases within 180 days	95%	88%	74%	72%		82%	90%	80%	81%	
% of Cases >180 days	5%	12%	26%	28%		18%	10%	20%	19%	
Total # of Cases Resolved	21	17	23	25		27	31	25	27	
Pending Resolution Case Age										
# of Cases less than 75 days	7	14	16	19		16	21	11	8	
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	0	5	1	1		1	2	1	1	
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	2	1	1	6		4	2	5	3	
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	5	3	9	5		5	4	7	4	
# of cases > 180 days	13	16	12	14		15	18	18	22	
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	27	39	39	45		41	47	42	38	
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case - Age Since Filing										
# of Cases less than 1 year	20	15	21	22		25	27	30	33	
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	2	3	2	4		1	5	4	5	
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	0	1	1	1		2	2	2	3	
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	3	1	1	0		1	1	1	1	
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	5	3	3	3		3	1	1	0	
# of cases > 5 years	44	48	48	49		49	51	51	52	
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	74	71	76	79		81	87	89	94	

Table 3 (continued). ARY/CHINS Statistics

		2022	ARY/C	HINS		2023 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	21	16	21	24		25	29	30	35	
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	1	2	2	2		2	3	4	4	
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	1	1	1	1		1	2	2	2	
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	2	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	5	3	3	2		3	1	1	1	
# of cases > 5 years	44	48	48	49		49	51	51	51	
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	74	71	76	79		81	87	89	94	
Number of Fact-findings										
SEA	3	4	4	3	14	2	4	15	10	31
KNT	5	8	10	11	34	9	13	15	7	44
BOTH SEA/KNT	8	12	14	14	48	11	17	30	17	75
Number of Hearings (Non fact-findings)										
SEA	14	21	24	13	72	12	9	13	27	61
KNT	14	26	19	35	94	29	27	35	21	112
BOTH SEA/KNT	28	47	43	48	166	41	36	48	48	173

Table 4. Truancy Statistics

		202	22 Trua	псу		2023 Truancy						
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual		
Filings												
SEA	120	109	11	116	356	175	200	4	139	518		
KNT	216	302	53	134	705	284	433	240	85	1042		
BOTH SEA/KNT	336	411	64	250	1061	459	633	244	224	1560		
Resolutions												
SEA	6	6	190	37	239	39	28	102	90	259		
KNT	11	14	51	114	190	140	140	192	146	618		
BOTH SEA/KNT	17	20	241	151	429	179	168	294	236	877		
Pending Resolution												
SEA	359	463	284	363		495	667	569	618			
KNT	266	614	616	636		780	1072	1120	1059			
BOTH SEA/KNT	625	1077	900	999		1275	1739	1689	1677			
Resolved, Pending Completion												
SEA	14	16	17	15		22	37	38	46			
KNT	16	20	22	31		46	65	69	70			
BOTH SEA/KNT	30	36	39	46		68	102	107	116			
Resolution Age (days)												
% of Cases within 75 days	65%	45%	4%	13%		5%	5%	4%	3%			
% of Cases within 90 days	65%	60%	7%	13%		8%	7%	5%	3%			
% of Cases within 120 days	71%	60%	11%	17%		11%	10%	8%	3%			
% of Cases within 180 days	77%	90%	18%	40%		15%	17%	16%	14%			
% of Cases >180 days	24%	10%	82%	60%		84%	83%	84%	86%			
Total # of Cases Resolved	17	20	241	151		179	168	294	236			
Pending Resolution Case Age												
# of Cases less than 75 days	302	420	57	224		389	544	242	195			
# of Cases between 76 and 90 days	23	38	2	12		63	83	1	20			
# of Cases between 90 and 120 days	31	138	148	2		72	184	196	3			
# of Cases between 121 and 180 days	22	187	292	43		146	257	387	239			
# of cases > 180 days	247	294	401	718		605	671	863	1220			
Total # of Pending Resolution Cases	625	1077	900	999		1275	1739	1689	1677			
Pending Completion (but resolved) Case - Age Since Filing												
# of Cases less than 1 year	2	8	12	15		18	24	33	19			
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	2	1	1	4		23	52	48	69			
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	1	1	1	2		1	1	1	2			
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	1	2	1	0		1	1	1	2			
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	1	0	0	1		1	1	1	0			
# of cases > 5 years	23	24	24	24		24	23	23	24			
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	30	36	39	46		68	102	107	116			

Table 4 (continued). Truancy Statistics

		202	2 Truai	псу		2023 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	2	8	12	19		41	71	76	80		
# of Cases between 1 and 2 years	2	1	1	0		0	5	5	10		
# of Cases between 2 and 3 years	1	1	1	2		1	1	1	0		
# of Cases between 3 and 4 years	3	2	1	0		1	1	1	2		
# of Cases between 4 and 5 years	3	2	2	3		1	1	1	0		
# of cases > 5 years	19	22	22	22		24	23	23	24		
Total # of Pending Completion (resolved) Cases	30	36	39	46		68	102	107	116		
Number of Fact-findings											
SEA	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	
KNT	0	0	0	4	4	10	17	8	4	39	
BOTH SEA/KNT	0	0	2	4	6	10	17	8	4	39	
Number of Hearings (Non Fact-findings)											
SEA	3	1	3	7	14	25	41	10	22	98	
KNT	0	12	8	20	40	50	78	21	55	204	
BOTH SEA/KNT	3	13	11	27	54	75	119	31	77	302	

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

	DDP/EFC/GFC/RPR/RVS etc.												
	Q1/2022	Q2/2022	Q3/2022	Q4/2022	2022 Annual	Q1/2023	Q2/2023	Q3/2023	Q4/2023	2023 Annual			
Filings													
SEA	15	34	26	30	105	61	37	54	63	215			
KNT	17	16	17	38	88	31	38	33	34	136			
Both SEA/KNT	32	50	43	68	193	92	75	87	97	351			
Resolutions													
SEA	18	23	22	22	85	48	43	48	50	189			
KNT	18	17	14	21	70	42	29	37	26	134			
Both SEA/KNT	36	40	36	43	155	90	72	85	76	323			
Pending Resolution	30	40	30	13	133	70	72	0.5	70	323			
SEA	42	53	53	62		58	51	56	74				
KNT							31		31				
	33	33	35	51		22		23					
Both SEA/KNT	75	86	88	113		80	82	79	105				
Pending Completion													
SEA	239	241	247	233		231	48	240	253				
KNT	107	118	121	132		130	39	158	164				
Both SEA/KNT Number of Fact-	346	359	368	365		361	87	398	417				
findings													
SEA	12	16	21	21	70	35	41	42	43	161			
KNT	14	13	13	30	70	26	21	36	24	107			
BOTH SEA/KNT Number of Hearings	26	29	34	51	140	61	62	78	67	268			
(non FF)													
SEA	148	126	154	124	552	165	126	95	101	487			
KNT	52	66	55	56	229	65	57	54	45	221			
BOTH SEA/KNT	200	192	209	180	781	230	183	149	146	708			

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.















