

FAMILY COURT
State of Delaware

2017 Annual Report Statistical Information

FAMILY COURT

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2016-2017 - Adult Criminal Case Filings				
	2016	2017	Change	% Change
New Castle County	2,290	2,642	352	15.4%
Kent County	769	856	87	11.3%
Sussex County	628	775	147	23.4%
State	3,687	4,273	586	15.9%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2016-2017 - Adult Criminal Case Dispositions				
	2016	2017	Change	% Change
New Castle County	2,162	2,046	-116	-5.4%
Kent County	725	777	52	7.2%
Sussex County	617	705	88	14.3%
State	3,504	3,528	24	0.7%

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

FAMILY COURT

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2016-2017 - Civil Case Filings				
	2016	2017	Change	% Change
New Castle County	22,185	22,496	311	1.4%
Kent County	8,317	7,941	-376	-4.5%
Sussex County	9,795	9,779	-16	-0.2%
State	40,297	40,216	-81	-0.2%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2016-2017- Civil Case Dispositions				
	2016	2017	Change	% Change
New Castle County	21,271	23,842	2,571	12.1%
Kent County	8,437	8,591	154	1.8%
Sussex County	9,750	10,379	629	6.5%
State	39,458	42,812	3,354	8.5%

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

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Caseload Breakdown - Fiscal Year 2017 - Civil Case Filings								
	Child Support/New Non-support		Child Support/Modifications		Child Support/Arrearages		Child Support/Verified Notice of Income Attachment	
New Castle County	3,461	15.4%	1,219	5.4%	3,412	15.2%	6	0.0%
Kent County	1,326	16.7%	549	6.9%	831	10.5%	4	0.1%
Sussex County	1,445	14.8%	573	5.9%	2,121	21.7%	0	0.0%
State	6,232	15.5%	2,341	5.8%	6,364	15.8%	10	0.0%
	Child Support/Determination of Parentage		Child Support/Revocation		Child Support/Registration of Foreign Order		Child Support/Notice of Admin. Adjustment	
New Castle County	283	1.3%	778	3.5%	208	0.9%	3,146	14.0%
Kent County	55	0.7%	259	3.3%	92	1.2%	822	10.4%
Sussex County	58	0.6%	307	3.1%	75	0.8%	1,808	18.5%
State	396	1.0%	1,344	3.3%	375	0.9%	5,776	14.4%
	Child Support/Other Support		Custody		Dependency/Neglect		Visitation	
New Castle County	18	0.1%	1,959	8.7%	236	1.0%	309	1.4%
Kent County	11	0.1%	785	9.9%	103	1.3%	114	1.4%
Sussex County	31	0.3%	688	7.0%	64	0.7%	110	1.1%
State	60	0.1%	3,432	8.5%	403	1.0%	533	1.3%
	Termination of Parental Rights		Civil Dissolution		Guardianship		Spousal Support	
New Castle County	137	0.6%	0	0.0%	1,010	4.5%	92	0.4%
Kent County	43	0.5%	0	0.0%	443	5.6%	23	0.3%
Sussex County	50	0.5%	0	0.0%	464	4.7%	16	0.2%
State	230	0.6%	0	0.0%	1,917	4.8%	131	0.3%
	Expungements (Juv. & Adult)		Imperiling Family Relationships		Protection from Abuse		Divorce/Annulment	
New Castle County	907	4.0%	27	0.1%	2,467	11.0%	1,884	8.4%
Kent County	382	4.8%	4	0.1%	1,077	13.6%	660	8.3%
Sussex County	290	3.0%	4	0.0%	670	670.0%	739	7.6%
State	1,579	3.9%	35	0.1%	4,214	10.5%	3,283	8.2%
	Rules to Show Cause/Other Civil Contempt		Minor to Marry		Miscellaneous Civil		Adoption	
New Castle County	537	2.4%	3	0.0%	251	1.1%	146	0.6%
Kent County	170	2.1%	0	0.0%	157	2.0%	31	0.4%
Sussex County	113	1.2%	3	0.0%	120	1.2%	30	0.3%
State	820	2.0%	6	0.0%	528	1.3%	207	0.5%
	Total							
New Castle County	22,496	100%						
Kent County	7,941	100%						
Sussex County	9,779	100%						
State	40,216	100%						

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

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Caseload Breakdown - Fiscal Year 2017 - Civil Case Dispositions								
	Child Support/New Non-support		Child Support/Modifications		Child Support/Arrearages		Child Support/Verified Notice of Income Attachment	
New Castle County	4,090	17.2%	1,218	5.1%	3,687	15.5%	6	0.0%
Kent County	1,597	18.6%	525	6.1%	1,067	12.4%	3	0.0%
Sussex County	1,467	14.1%	660	6.4%	2,367	22.8%	0	0.0%
State	7,154	16.7%	2,403	5.6%	7,121	16.6%	9	0.0%
	Child Support/Determination of Parentage		Child Support/Revocation		Child Support/Registration of Foreign Order		Child Support/Notice of Admin. Adjustment	
New Castle County	294	1.2%	804	3.4%	214	0.9%	3,139	13.2%
Kent County	40	0.5%	259	3.0%	104	1.2%	822	9.6%
Sussex County	67	0.6%	324	3.1%	86	0.8%	1,804	17.4%
State	401	0.9%	1,387	3.2%	404	0.9%	5,765	13.5%
	Child Support/Other Support		Custody		Dependency/Neglect		Visitation	
New Castle County	17	0.1%	2,027	8.5%	222	0.9%	330	1.4%
Kent County	11	0.1%	841	9.8%	91	1.1%	136	1.6%
Sussex County	32	0.3%	754	7.3%	71	0.7%	131	1.3%
State	60	0.1%	3,622	8.5%	384	0.9%	597	1.4%
	Termination of Parental Rights		Civil Dissolution		Guardianship		Spousal Support	
New Castle County	133	0.6%	0	0.0%	989	4.1%	88	0.4%
Kent County	24	0.3%	0	0.0%	438	5.1%	17	0.2%
Sussex County	44	0.4%	0	0.0%	495	4.8%	19	0.2%
State	201	0.5%	0	0.0%	1,922	4.5%	124	0.3%
	Expungements (Juv. & Adult)		Imperiling Family Relationships		Protection from Abuse		Divorce/Annulment	
New Castle County	1065	4.5%	30	0.1%	2,444	10.3%	2,191	9.2%
Kent County	399	4.6%	2	0.0%	1,098	12.8%	732	8.5%
Sussex County	347	3.3%	3	0.0%	661	6.4%	775	7.5%
State	1811	4.2%	35	0.1%	4,203	9.8%	3,698	8.6%
	Rules to Show Cause/Other Civil Contempt		Minor to Marry		Miscellaneous Civil		Adoption	
New Castle County	535	2.2%	3	0.0%	220	0.9%	96	0.4%
Kent County	196	2.3%	0	0.0%	163	1.9%	26	0.3%
Sussex County	128	1.2%	3	0.0%	100	1.0%	41	0.4%
State	859	2.0%	6	0.0%	483	1.1%	163	0.4%
	Total							
New Castle County	23,842	100%						
Kent County	8,591	100%						
Sussex County	10,379	100%						
State	42,812	100%						

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

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Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2016-2017 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Filings				
	2016	2017	Change	% Change
New Castle County	2,906	2,556	-350	-12.0%
Kent County	1,176	968	-208	-17.7%
Sussex County	1,027	821	-206	-20.1%
State	5,109	4,345	-764	-15.0%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2016-2017 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Dispositions				
	2016	2017	Change	% Change
New Castle County	2,907	2,521	-386	-13.3%
Kent County	1,114	1,197	83	7.5%
Sussex County	1,084	811	-273	-25.2%
State	5,105	4,529	-576	-11.3%

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

Notes:

*A criminal or delinquency filing is defined as one incident filed against one individual or defendant. A single criminal or juvenile delinquency filing may be comprised of a single or of multiple charges relating to a single incident.

*DUE TO IMMEDIATE EXPUNGEMENTS INTRODUCED THIS FY, CRIMINAL FILINGS / DISPOSITIONS JANUARY 2017 THROUGH JUNE 2017 STATS WERE TAKEN FROM REPORTS RAN THE FOLLOWING MONTH. JULY 2016 THROUGH DECEMBER 2016 COULD NOT BE DONE THIS WAY, THOSE STATISTICS ARE FROM THE END OF FISCAL YEAR RAN REPORT. WHILE THIS METHOD WILL NOT CATCH ALL FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS THAT MAY HAVE BEEN EXPUNGED, THIS IS THE METHOD THAT WILL ALLOW US TO CAPTURE THE MOST. The volume of Immediate Expungements will affect all data regarding juvenile criminal charges. Any decreases from prior FYs should not be assumed to be actual decreases as we don't have a definitive way to measure the impact of all the charges immediately expunged.

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Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2017 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Filings						
	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic	
New Castle County	524	20.5%	1,512	59.2%	163	6.4%
Kent County	209	21.6%	587	60.6%	84	8.7%
Sussex County	171	20.8%	444	54.1%	134	16.3%
State	904	20.8%	2,543	58.5%	381	8.8%
	VOP				Total	
New Castle County	357	14.0%			2,556	100%
Kent County	88	9.1%			968	100%
Sussex County	72	8.8%			821	100%
State	517	11.9%			4,345	100%

Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2017 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Dispositions						
	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic	
New Castle County	466	18.5%	1,604	63.6%	151	6.0%
Kent County	186	15.5%	784	65.5%	110	9.2%
Sussex County	130	16.0%	473	58.3%	142	17.5%
State	782	17.3%	2,861	63.2%	403	8.9%
	VOP				Total	
New Castle County	300	11.9%			2,521	100%
Kent County	117	9.8%			1,197	100%
Sussex County	66	8.1%			811	100%
State	483	10.7%			4,529	100%

VOP = Violations of Probation.

Notes:

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Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

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Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2016-2017 - Mediation Hearings Scheduled				
	2016	2017	Change	% Change
New Castle County	5,981	6,137	156	2.6%
Kent County	2,677	2,576	-101	-3.8%
Sussex County	3,132	3,070	-62	-2.0%
State	11,790	11,783	-7	-0.1%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2016-2017 - Mediation Dispositions				
	2016	2017	Change	% Change
New Castle County	3,632	3,665	33	0.9%
Kent County	1,600	1,508	-92	-5.8%
Sussex County	2,006	1,793	-213	-10.6%
State	7,238	6,966	-272	-3.8%

Note:

*Mediation is the process prior to adjudication in which a trained mediator attempts to assist the parties in reaching an agreement. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement, the matter is scheduled to be heard before a Commissioner or Judge.

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

FAMILY COURT

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2016-2017 - Total Case Filings				
	2016	2017	Change	% Change
New Castle County	27,381	27,694	313	1.1%
Kent County	10,262	9,765	-497	-4.8%
Sussex County	11,450	11,375	-75	-0.7%
State	49,093	48,834	-259	-0.5%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2016-2017- Total Case Dispositions				
	2016	2017	Change	% Change
New Castle County	26,340	28,409	2,069	7.9%
Kent County	10,276	10,565	289	2.8%
Sussex County	11,451	11,895	444	3.9%
State	48,067	50,869	2,802	5.8%

Notes:

*A civil filing is defined as one petition or one single civil incident filed with the Family Court. In a divorce matter, although the petition may contain multiple ancillary matters to the divorce, it is counted as only one filing.

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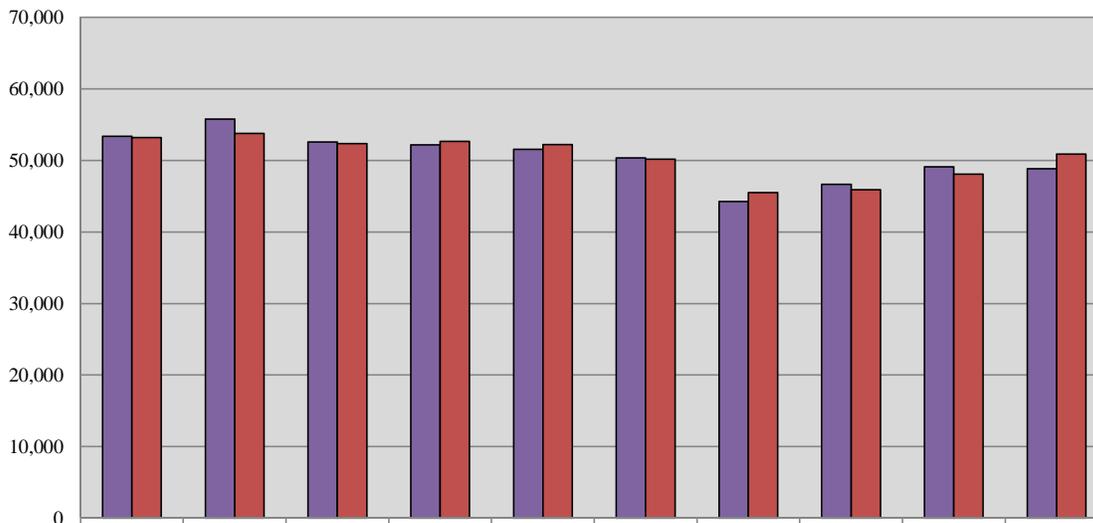
*Mediation is the process prior to adjudication in which a trained mediator attempts to assist the parties in reaching an agreement. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement, the matter is scheduled to be heard before a Commissioner or Judge.

*Custody, support, visitation, paternity, guardianship, imperiling family relations, and rule to show cause filings are scheduled for mediation unless bypass mediation rules apply as indicated in 13 Del. C. § 711A and 13 Del. C. § 728A; Family Court Procedures OCI-914 and OCI-902.

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Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

Family Court 10-Year Total Caseload Trend



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
■ Filings	53,366	55,797	52,580	52,189	51,568	50,364	44,243	46,681	49,093	48,834
■ Dispositions	53,211	53,772	52,353	52,661	52,213	50,191	45,516	45,884	48,067	50,869

Fiscal Year

Note: The number of filings for Fiscal Year 2009 was amended.

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

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