

Criminal Sex Offense Cases in King County (2011)

CourtWatch tracked 397 sex offense cases¹ filed in 2011 against adult defendants in King County Superior Court. 24% of cases involved adult victims, 73% involved minor² victims, and 3% involved no victims (police sting operations).

Venue:

King County Courthouse (Seattle):	52%	(24% adult victim, 72% minor victim, 4% sting cases)
Maleng Regional Justice Center (Kent):	48%	(23% adult victim, 76% minor victim, 1% sting cases)

Resolution of Cases:

As of November 10, 2016, 5% of these cases were pending. 90% of those open cases have outstanding bench warrants.

The other 95% of cases have been resolved by:

Guilty plea to lesser offense:	63%	Cases that resolved by guilty plea averaged 9.6 months to reach a resolution whereas the average case length for those that went to trial was 19.9 months.
Guilty plea as charged (or greater):	15%	
Dismissal:	13%	73% of convicted offenders initially charged with a registerable sex offense are required to register as sex offenders as a condition of sentence.
Guilty verdict after trial:	7%	
Acquittal after trial:	2%	

75% of convicted offenders were sentenced to DOC supervision.

Law Enforcement Jurisdiction:

Seattle:	32%	Bothell:	.5%
King County:	25%	Duvall:	.5%
Kent:	9%	Enumclaw:	.5%
Federal Way:	8%	Out of County:	.5%
Auburn:	6%	Redmond:	.5%
Renton:	6%	Unknown:	.5%
Bellevue:	4%	Washington State Patrol:	.5%
Kirkland:	2%	Black Diamond:	.25%
Des Moines:	2%	Issaquah:	.25%
Tukwila:	1%	Pacific:	.25%
Algona:	.5%	Port of Seattle:	.25%

¹ Sex offenses include: Assault, Burglary, Child Molestation, Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor, Communication With a Minor for Immoral Purposes, Dealing in Depictions of Minors, Extortion, Indecent Exposure, Indecent Liberties, Kidnapping, Luring, Possession of Depictions of Minors, Promoting Prostitution, Promotion of Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor, Rape, Rape of a Child, Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, Sexual Misconduct With a Minor, Viewing Depictions of Minors, Voyeurism, Attempts to commit any of the above-listed crimes, Any of the above-listed crimes or other crimes committed with "sexual motivation"

² A minor is a person under 18 years of age

This project was supported by Grant No. 2015-FJ-AX-0002 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/ program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.