

Criminal Child Physical Abuse Cases in King County (2015)

CourtWatch tracked 31 child physical abuse cases¹ filed in 2015 against adult defendants in King County Superior Court.

General Information:

King County Courthouse (Seattle):	32%	Male Defendant:	55%
Maleng Regional Justice Center (Kent):	68%	Female Defendant:	45%
Victims aged 0-1 year:	27%	42% of defendants had a reported history of domestic violence, abuse and/or neglect. Drugs and alcohol were a factor, or the defendants had a history of drug and/or alcohol abuse in 16% of cases.	
Victims aged 2-5 years:	22%		
Victims aged 6-10 years:	29%		
Victims aged 11-13 years:	22%		

Relationships between Victims and Defendants:

Parent:	68%	Caregiver:	3%
Parent's Significant Other/Stepparent:	23%	Other Relative:	6%

Resolution of Cases:

As of February 21, 2017, 10% of these cases were still pending. The other 90% of cases were resolved² by guilty plea in 82% of cases and dismissal in 18% of cases. None of these cases were resolved via trial.

For resolved cases, the median time to resolution for these cases was 5 months, and the average time to resolution was approximately 6.4 months.

Law Enforcement Jurisdictions:

King County:	24%	Federal Way:	13%
Kent:	19%	Des Moines:	6%
Auburn:	16%	Bellevue:	3%
Seattle:	16%	Issaquah:	3%

¹ Child physical abuse offenses that CourtWatch tracked included: Assault, Assault of a Child; Criminal Mistreatment; Murder; Reckless Endangerment; Violation of DV Order for Protection; Witness Intimidation; and Witness Tampering

² We consider a case to be resolved once the case has been dismissed; the defendant has been acquitted; or after the defendant has been convicted and sentenced.

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