

Criminal Child Physical Abuse Cases in King County (2016)

CourtWatch tracked 21 child physical abuse cases¹ filed in 2016 against adult defendants in King County Superior Court.

General Information:

King County Courthouse (Seattle):	38%	Male Defendant:	67%
Maleng Regional Justice Center (Kent):	62%	Female Defendant:	33%
Victims aged 0-1 year:	33%	29% 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 24% of cases.	
Victims aged 2-5 years:	19%		
Victims aged 6-10 years:	29%		
Victims aged 11-13 years:	19%		

Relationships Between Victims and Defendants:

Parent:	62%	Other Relative:	9%
Parent's Significant Other/Stepparent:	24%	Stranger:	5%

Resolution of Cases:

As of February 21, 2017, 71% of these cases were still pending. The other 29% of cases were resolved² by guilty plea in 83% of cases and dismissal in 17% of cases. None of these cases were resolved via trial.

For resolved cases, the median time to resolution for these cases was 6.75 months, and the average time to resolution was approximately 6.9 months.

Law Enforcement Jurisdictions:

Auburn:	24%	Bellevue:	5%
Seattle:	19%	Federal Way:	5%
King County:	14%	Kent:	5%
Renton:	14%	Kirkland:	5%
Des Moines:	9%		

¹ Child physical abuse offenses that CourtWatch tracked included: Assault, Assault of a Child; Criminal Mistreatment; Murder; Violation of DV Order for Protection

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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