

Criminal Child Physical Abuse Cases in King County (2013)

CourtWatch tracked 39 child physical abuse cases¹ filed in 2013 against adult defendants in King County Superior Court.

General Information:

King County Courthouse (Seattle):	15%	Male Defendant:	62%
Maleng Regional Justice Center (Kent):	85%	Female Defendant:	38%
Victims aged 0-1 year:	33%	36% 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 33% of cases.	
Victims aged 2-5 years:	24%		
Victims aged 6-10 years:	35%		
Victims aged 11-13 years:	8%		

Relationships Between Victims and Defendants:

Parent:	49%	Acquaintance/Friend:	8%
Parent's Significant Other/Stepparent:	20%	Childcare provider:	8%
Other Relative:	10%	Foster Parent:	5%

Resolution of Cases:

As of June 9, 2016, 3% of these cases were still pending due to outstanding warrants. The other 97% of cases were resolved² by guilty plea in 76% of cases, dismissal in 21% of cases, and a guilty verdict after trial in 3% of cases.

The median time to resolution for these cases was 6 months, and the average time to resolution was approximately 8.6 months.

Law Enforcement Jurisdictions:

Auburn:	21%	Tukwila:	7%
King County:	18%	Bellevue:	3%
Kent:	15%	Normandy Park:	3%
Federal Way:	10%	Redmond:	3%
Renton:	10%	Seattle:	3%
Des Moines:	7%		

¹ Child physical abuse offenses that we track include: Assault in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Degrees, Assault of a Child in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Degrees; Criminal Mistreatment in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Degrees; and Reckless Endangerment

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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