



FAMILY COURT
State of Delaware

2008 Annual Report Statistical Information

FAMILY COURT

Caseload Summary Fiscal Years 2007-2008 - Adult Criminal Case Filings				
	2007	2008	Change	% Change
New Castle County	3,642	2,969	-673	-18.5%
Kent County	875	826	-49	-5.6%
Sussex County	793	697	-96	-12.1%
State	5,310	4,492	-818	-15.4%

Caseload Summary Fiscal Years 2007-2008 - Adult Criminal Case Dispositions				
	2007	2008	Change	% Change
New Castle County	3,474	2,659	-815	-23.5%
Kent County	868	635	-233	-26.8%
Sussex County	831	674	-157	-18.9%
State	5,173	3,968	-1205	-23.3%

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

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Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2007-2008 - Civil Case Filings				
	2007	2008	Change	% Change
New Castle County	24,124	21,474	-2,650	-11.0%
Kent County	8,986	8,079	-907	-10.1%
Sussex County	10,374	10,742	368	3.5%
State	43,484	40,295	-3,189	-7.3%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2007-2008 - Civil Case Dispositions				
	2007	2008	Change	% Change
New Castle County	23,851	22,315	-1,536	-6.4%
Kent County	8,911	8,045	-866	-9.7%
Sussex County	10,340	10,657	317	3.1%
State	43,102	41,017	-2,085	-4.8%

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

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Caseload Breakdown Fiscal Year 2008 - Civil Case Filings												
	Divorces and Annulments		RTSC/Other Civil Contempts		New Non-Support		Support Arrearages		Support Modifications		Custody	
New Castle County	1,935	9.0%	718	3.3%	3,612	16.8%	2,857	13.3%	2,002	9.3%	2,470	11.5%
Kent County	815	10.1%	220	2.7%	1,400	17.3%	1,209	15.0%	646	8.0%	896	11.1%
Sussex County	755	7.0%	162	1.5%	2,142	19.9%	2,819	26.2%	980	9.1%	794	7.4%
State	3,505	8.7%	1,100	2.7%	7,154	17.8%	6,885	17.1%	3,628	9.0%	4,160	10.3%
	Visitation		Protection From Abuse		Adoptions		Termination of Parental Rights		Miscellaneous		Total	
New Castle County	517	2.4%	2,038	9.5%	136	0.6%	144	0.7%	5,045	23.5%	21,474	100%
Kent County	199	2.5%	885	11.0%	41	0.5%	31	0.4%	1,737	21.5%	8,079	100%
Sussex County	161	1.5%	775	7.2%	27	0.3%	30	0.3%	2,097	19.5%	10,742	100%
State	877	2.2%	3,698	9.2%	204	0.5%	205	0.5%	8,879	22.0%	40,295	100%
Caseload Breakdown Fiscal Year 2008 - Civil Case Dispositions												
	Divorces and Annulments		RTSC/Other Civil Contempts		New Non-Support		Support Arrearages		Support Modifications		Custody	
New Castle County	2,134	9.6%	757	3.4%	3,733	16.7%	3,074	13.8%	1,925	8.6%	2,348	10.5%
Kent County	942	11.7%	299	3.7%	1,315	16.3%	1,348	16.8%	577	7.2%	861	10.7%
Sussex County	979	9.2%	186	1.7%	2,240	21.0%	2,798	26.3%	882	8.3%	797	7.5%
State	4,055	9.9%	1,242	3.0%	7,288	17.8%	7,220	17.6%	3,384	8.3%	4,006	9.8%
	Visitation		Protection From Abuse		Adoptions		Termination of Parental Rights		Remaining Petition Types		Total	
New Castle County	497	2.2%	1,753	7.9%	164	0.7%	221	1.0%	5,709	25.6%	22,315	100%
Kent County	207	2.6%	689	8.6%	49	0.6%	54	0.7%	1,704	21.2%	8,045	100%
Sussex County	148	1.4%	543	5.1%	8	0.1%	30	0.3%	2,046	19.2%	10,657	100%
State	852	2.1%	2,985	7.3%	221	0.5%	305	0.7%	9,459	23.1%	41,017	100%

RTSC = Rules to Show Cause

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

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Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2007-2008 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Filings				
	2007	2008	Change	% Change
New Castle County	5,311	5,022	-289	-5.4%
Kent County	1,864	1,750	-114	-6.1%
Sussex County	1,703	1,807	104	6.1%
State	8,878	8,579	-299	-3.4%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2007-2008 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Dispositions				
	2007	2008	Change	% Change
New Castle County	4,146	4,937	791	19.1%
Kent County	1,831	1,621	-210	-11.5%
Sussex County	1,668	1,791	123	7.4%
State	7,645	8,349	704	9.2%

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

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Caseload Breakdowns Fiscal Year 2008 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Filings								
	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic		Total	
New Castle County	1,221	24.3%	3,390	67.5%	411	8.2%	5,022	100%
Kent County	378	21.6%	1,224	69.9%	148	8.5%	1,750	100%
Sussex County	338	18.7%	1,306	72.3%	163	9.0%	1,807	100%
State	1,937	22.6%	5,920	69.0%	722	8.4%	8,579	100%

Caseload Breakdowns Fiscal Year 2008 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Dispositions								
	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic		Total	
New Castle County	1,087	22.0%	3,459	70.1%	391	7.9%	4,937	100%
Kent County	260	16.0%	1,214	74.9%	147	9.1%	1,621	100%
Sussex County	276	15.4%	1,333	74.4%	182	10.2%	1,791	100%
State	1,623	19.4%	6,006	71.9%	720	8.6%	8,349	100%

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

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Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2007-2008 - Mediation Filings				
	2007	2008	Change	% Change
New Castle County	9,147	7,795	-1,352	-14.8%
Kent County	2,577	2,458	-119	-4.6%
Sussex County	3,350	2,804	-546	-16.3%
State	15,074	13,057	-2,017	-13.4%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2007-2008 - Mediation Dispositions				
	2007	2008	Change	% Change
New Castle County	9,159	7,726	-1,433	-15.6%
Kent County	2,572	2,296	-276	-10.7%
Sussex County	3,464	2,583	-881	-25.4%
State	15,195	12,605	-2,590	-17.0%

Mediation Explanatory Notes Fiscal Year 2008

1. 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.
2. Custody, support, visitation, guardianship, imperiling family relations, and rule to show cause filings are scheduled for mediation.

Note: Mediation data was reported as Arbitration data in some previous fiscal years.

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

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Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2007-2008 - Total Case Filings				
	2007	2008	Change	% Change
New Castle County	33,077	29,465	-3,612	-10.9%
Kent County	11,725	10,655	-1,070	-9.1%
Sussex County	12,870	13,246	376	2.9%
State	57,672	53,366	-4,306	-7.5%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2007-2008 - Total Case Dispositions				
	2007	2008	Change	% Change
New Castle County	31,471	31,801	330	1.0%
Kent County	11,610	10,713	-897	-7.7%
Sussex County	12,839	13,114	275	2.1%
State	55,920	55,628	-292	-0.5%

Total Caseload Explanatory Notes Fiscal Year 2008

1. A civil filing is defined as one petition or one single civil incident filed with Family Court. In a divorce matter, although the petition may contain multiple ancillary matters to the divorce, it is counted as one filing.
2. 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 charge, or of multiple charges relating to a single incident.

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

Family Court 10-Year Total Caseload Trend

