

FAMILY COURT
State of Delaware

2007 Annual Report Statistical Information

FAMILY COURT

Caseload Summary Fiscal Years 2006-2007 - Adult Criminal Case Filings				
	2006	2007	Change	% Change
New Castle County	2,787	3,642	855	30.7%
Kent County	760	875	115	15.1%
Sussex County	743	793	50	6.7%
State	4,290	5,310	1020	23.8%

Caseload Summary Fiscal Years 2006-2007 - Adult Criminal Case Dispositions				
	2006	2007	Change	% Change
New Castle County	2,770	3,474	704	25.4%
Kent County	799	868	69	8.6%
Sussex County	745	831	86	11.5%
State	4,314	5,173	859	19.9%

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

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Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2006-2007 - Civil Case Filings				
	2006	2007	Change	% Change
New Castle County	23,272	24,124	852	3.7%
Kent County	8,827	8,986	159	1.8%
Sussex County	10,307	10,374	67	0.7%
State	42,406	43,484	1,078	2.5%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2006-2007 - Civil Case Dispositions				
	2006	2007	Change	% Change
New Castle County	23,753	23,851	98	0.4%
Kent County	9,422	8,911	-511	-5.4%
Sussex County	10,247	10,340	93	0.9%
State	43,422	43,102	-320	-0.7%

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

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Caseload Breakdown Fiscal Year 2007 - Civil Case Filings												
	Divorces and Annulments		RTSC/Other Civil Contempts		New Non-Support		Support Arrearages		Support Modifications		Custody	
New Castle County	2,056	8.5%	711	2.9%	4,945	20.5%	4,506	18.7%	2,063	8.6%	2,200	9.1%
Kent County	817	9.1%	218	2.4%	1,767	19.7%	1,800	20.0%	660	7.3%	847	9.4%
Sussex County	824	7.9%	149	1.4%	1,870	18.0%	2,925	28.2%	799	7.7%	799	7.7%
State	3,697	8.5%	1,078	2.5%	8,582	19.7%	9,231	21.2%	3,522	8.1%	3,846	8.8%
	Visitation		Protection From Abuse		Adoptions		Termination of Parental Rights		Miscellaneous		Total	
New Castle County	498	2.1%	2,029	8.4%	157	0.7%	129	0.5%	4,830	20.0%	24,124	100%
Kent County	206	2.3%	791	8.8%	53	0.6%	42	0.5%	1,785	19.9%	8,986	100%
Sussex County	159	1.5%	828	8.0%	41	0.4%	39	0.4%	1,941	18.7%	10,374	100%
State	863	2.0%	3,648	8.4%	251	0.6%	210	0.5%	8,556	19.7%	43,484	100%
Caseload Breakdown Fiscal Year 2007 - Civil Case Dispositions												
	Divorces and Annulments		RTSC/Other Civil Contempts		New Non-Support		Support Arrearages		Support Modifications		Custody	
New Castle County	2,053	8.6%	752	3.2%	4,924	20.6%	4,553	19.1%	2,142	9.0%	2,313	9.7%
Kent County	788	8.8%	214	2.4%	1,735	19.5%	1,689	19.0%	664	7.5%	874	9.8%
Sussex County	825	8.0%	210	2.0%	1,927	18.6%	2,469	23.9%	886	8.6%	799	7.7%
State	3,666	8.5%	1,176	2.7%	8,586	19.9%	8,711	20.2%	3,692	8.6%	3,986	9.2%
	Visitation		Protection From Abuse		Adoptions		Termination of Parental Rights		Miscellaneous		Total	
New Castle County	527	2.2%	2,025	8.5%	150	0.6%	101	0.4%	4,311	18.1%	23,851	100%
Kent County	202	2.3%	787	8.8%	51	0.6%	27	0.3%	1,880	21.1%	8,911	100%
Sussex County	195	1.9%	875	8.5%	47	0.5%	28	0.3%	2,079	20.1%	10,340	100%
State	924	2.1%	3,687	8.6%	248	0.6%	156	0.4%	8,270	19.2%	43,102	100%

RTSC = Rules to Show Cause

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

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Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2006-2007 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Filings				
	2006	2007	Change	% Change
New Castle County	5,418	5,311	-107	-2.0%
Kent County	1,950	1,864	-86	-4.4%
Sussex County	1,998	1,703	-295	-14.8%
State	9,366	8,878	-488	-5.2%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2006-2007 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Dispositions				
	2006	2007	Change	% Change
New Castle County	6,458	4,146	-2,312	-35.8%
Kent County	2,023	1,831	-192	-9.5%
Sussex County	2,018	1,668	-350	-17.3%
State	10,499	7,645	-2,854	-27.2%

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

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Caseload Breakdowns Fiscal Year 2007 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Filings								
	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic		Total	
New Castle County	1,114	21.0%	3,767	70.9%	430	8.1%	5,311	100%
Kent County	365	19.6%	1,345	72.2%	154	8.3%	1,864	100%
Sussex County	276	16.2%	1,262	74.1%	165	9.7%	1,703	100%
State	1,755	19.8%	6,374	71.8%	749	8.4%	8,878	100%

Caseload Breakdowns Fiscal Year 2007 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Dispositions								
	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic		Total	
New Castle County	851	20.5%	2,986	72.0%	309	7.5%	4,146	100%
Kent County	325	17.7%	1,346	73.5%	160	8.7%	1,831	100%
Sussex County	315	18.9%	1,198	71.8%	155	9.3%	1,668	100%
State	1,491	19.5%	5,530	72.3%	624	8.2%	7,645	100%

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

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Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2006-2007 - Mediation Filings				
	2006	2007	Change	% Change
New Castle County	8,909	9,147	238	2.7%
Kent County	3,092	2,577	-515	-16.7%
Sussex County	3,739	3,350	-389	-10.4%
State	15,740	15,074	-666	-4.2%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2006-2007 - Mediation Dispositions				
	2006	2007	Change	% Change
New Castle County	9,706	9,159	-547	-5.6%
Kent County	3,122	2,572	-550	-17.6%
Sussex County	3,643	3,464	-179	-4.9%
State	16,471	15,195	-1,276	-7.7%

Mediation Explanatory Notes Fiscal Year 2007

1. Mediation is a process prior to adjudication in which a trained mediator attempts to assist the parties in reaching an agreement in disputes which involve child custody, support, visitation, guardianships, imperiling family relations, and rules to show cause. Mediation is mandatory in child custody, visitation, and support matters.
2. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement, the matter is scheduled to be heard before a commissioner or a judge.

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

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

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Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2006-2007 - Total Case Filings				
	2006	2007	Change	% Change
New Castle County	31,477	33,077	1,600	5.1%
Kent County	11,537	11,725	188	1.6%
Sussex County	13,048	12,870	-178	-1.4%
State	56,062	57,672	1,610	2.9%

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2006-2007 - Total Case Dispositions				
	2006	2007	Change	% Change
New Castle County	32,981	31,471	-1,510	-4.6%
Kent County	12,244	11,610	-634	-5.2%
Sussex County	13,010	12,839	-171	-1.3%
State	58,235	55,920	-2,315	-4.0%

Total Cases Explanatory Notes Fiscal Year 2007

1. The unit of count in Family Court for adult criminal, juvenile delinquency, and civil cases is the filing.
2. A criminal or delinquency filing is defined as one incident filed against one individual. Each incident is counted separately so that multiple incidents brought before the Court on a single individual are counted as multiple charges.
 - a. A single criminal or delinquency filing may be comprised of a single or multiple charges relating to a single incident.
 - b. A criminal filing is received by the Court in the form of an information or a complaint, and a delinquency filing is received by the Court in the form of a petition or a complaint.
3. A civil filing is defined as a single civil incident filed with Family Court. A civil incident is initiated by a petition. In a divorce, although the petition may contain multiple ancillary matters to the divorce, it is counted as one filing.

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

Family Court 10-Year Total Caseload Trend

