

## FAMILY COURT

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2016-2017 - Total Case Filings</b>				
	2016	2017	Change	% Change
New Castle County	27,381	27,694	313	1.1%
Kent County	10,262	9,765	-497	-4.8%
Sussex County	11,450	11,375	-75	-0.7%
<b>State</b>	<b>49,093</b>	<b>48,834</b>	<b>-259</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2016-2017- Total Case Dispositions</b>				
	2016	2017	Change	% Change
New Castle County	26,340	28,409	2,069	7.9%
Kent County	10,276	10,565	289	2.8%
Sussex County	11,451	11,895	444	3.9%
<b>State</b>	<b>48,067</b>	<b>50,869</b>	<b>2,802</b>	<b>5.8%</b>

**Notes:**

\*A civil filing is defined as one petition or one single civil incident filed with the Family Court. In a divorce matter, although the petition may contain multiple ancillary matters to the divorce, it is counted as only one filing.

\*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 or of multiple charges relating to a single incident.

\*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.

\*Custody, support, visitation, paternity, guardianship, imperiling family relations, and rule to show cause filings are scheduled for mediation unless bypass mediation rules apply as indicated in 13 Del. C. § 711A and 13 Del. C. § 728A; Family Court Procedures OCI-914 and OCI-902.

\*DUE TO IMMEDIATE EXPUNGEMENTS INTRODUCED THIS FY, CRIMINAL FILINGS / DISPOSITIONS JANUARY 2017 THROUGH JUNE 2017 STATS WERE TAKEN FROM REPORTS RAN THE FOLLOWING MONTH. JULY 2016 THROUGH DECEMBER 2016 COULD NOT BE DONE THIS WAY, THOSE STATISTICS ARE FROM THE END OF FISCAL YEAR RAN REPORT. WHILE THIS METHOD WILL NOT CATCH ALL FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS THAT MAY HAVE BEEN EXPUNGED, THIS IS THE METHOD THAT WILL ALLOW US TO CAPTURE THE MOST. The volume of Immediate Expungements will affect all data regarding juvenile criminal charges. Any decreases from prior FYs should not be assumed to be actual decreases as we don't have a definitive way to measure the impact of all the charges immediately expunged.

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