

Caseloads of the Courts of Washington

Probate and Guardianship Activity - 2019 to 2023

Page 1 of 1

	2019	2020	% Chg (1)	2021	% Chg (1)	2022	% Chg (1)	2023	% Chg (1)
FILINGS									
Probate	15,307	14,822	-3.2 %	16,827	13.5 %	18,337	9 %	17,867	-2.6 %
Guardianship (5)	2,076	1,970	-5.1 %	3,991	102.6 %	3,987	-0.1 %	3,974	-0.3 %
Total Filings	17,383	16,792	-3.4 %	20,818	24 %	22,324	7.2 %	21,841	-2.2 %
RESOLUTIONS
PROBATE RESOLUTIONS									
Dismissal by Clerk	136	761	459.6 %	813	6.8 %	150	-81.5 %	2,099	1,299.3 %
Uncontested	5,367	4,850	-9.6 %	5,209	7.4 %	5,427	4.2 %	9,146	68.5 %
Change of Venue	9	6	. %	4	. %	3	. %	7	. %
Dismissal	108	94	-13 %	164	74.5 %	126	-23.2 %	144	14.3 %
Closed by Court After Hearing	115	90	-21.7 %	163	81.1 %	139	-14.7 %	116	-16.5 %
Prsonal Rep/Guardian Appointed	7,611	7,789	2.3 %	8,464	8.7 %	8,647	2.2 %	8,575	-0.8 %
Total Probate Resolutions	13,346	13,590	1.8 %	14,817	9 %	14,492	-2.2 %	20,087	38.6 %
GUARDIANSHIP RESOLUTIONS									
Dismissal by Clerk	5	35	. %	37	5.7 %	23	. %	78	. %
Change of Venue	49	32	-34.7 %	28	. %	20	. %	37	. %
Dismissal	221	204	-7.7 %	485	137.7 %	503	3.7 %	552	9.7 %
Closed by Court After Hearing	244	140	-42.6 %	380	171.4 %	343	-9.7 %	426	24.2 %
Uncon./Guardian Appointed	1,143	1,211	5.9 %	1,717	41.8 %	1,816	5.8 %	2,111	16.2 %
Total Guardianship Resolutions	1,662	1,622	-2.4 %	2,647	63.2 %	2,705	2.2 %	3,204	18.4 %
Total Resolutions	15,008	15,212	1.4 %	17,464	14.8 %	17,197	-1.5 %	23,291	35.4 %
PROCEEDINGS
PROBATE PROCEEDINGS									
Hearing (2)	2,635	2,374	-9.9 %	3,149	32.6 %	3,316	5.3 %	3,390	2.2 %
Trial	10	6	. %	5	. %	3	. %	19	. %
Total Probate Proceedings	2,645	2,380	-10 %	3,154	32.5 %	3,319	5.2 %	3,409	2.7 %
GUARDIANSHIP PROCEEDINGS (4)									
Hearing (3)	7,438	5,350	-28.1 %	9,593	79.3 %	11,910	24.2 %	11,666	-2 %
Trial	21	15	. %	43	. %	97	125.6 %	146	50.5 %
Review Hearing	167	126	-24.6 %	358	184.1 %	706	97.2 %	659	-6.7 %
Total Guardianship Proceedings	7,626	5,491	-28 %	9,994	82 %	12,713	27.2 %	12,471	-1.9 %
Total Proceedings	10,280	7,879	-23.4 %	16,848	113.8 %	28,384	68.5 %	26,953	-5 %
Average Proceedings/Resolution	0.7	0.5		0.8		0.9		0.7	

(1) Percentages not shown when numbers are less than 30.

(2) Probate hearings include pre-resolution/motion conferences, review hearings, and post-resolution motion hearings.

(3) Guardianship hearings include pre-resolution/motion conferences, and post-resolution motion hearings.

(4) Pierce County Superior Court case information is recorded in Legal Information Network Exchange (LINX). Case filings and resolutions are available in the Judicial Information System (JIS). Non-trial and trial proceedings listed above may be incomplete. LINX information is available on the Internet at <https://linxonline.co.pierce.wa.up/linxweb/Main.cfm>. For further information please contact the Pierce County Clerk by phone at 253-789-7455 or by e-mail at pcclerk@co.pierce.wa.us.

(5) The Guardianship category does not distinguish case activity guardianships involving adults and guardianships involving minors. The Annual Caseload Report for Probate, Guardianship includes separate categories for Guardianships (involving adults) and Minor Guardianship Custody. (a) Between 1/1/2022 and 12/31/2022, the Minor Guardianship/Conservatorship (Gdnsp/Consv) category included: Guardianship, Minor Conservatorship, Minor Guardianship Custody, Other Protective Arrangement, and Standby Minor Guardianship. The Minor Guardianship (MGD) cause of action was end-dated on 12/31/2021. (b) Effective 1/1/2023, Other Protective Arrangement (OPR) and Emergency Guardianship/Conservatorship (EGC) are included in the Guardianship category.

(6) Effective 1/1/2023, Guardianship category includes: Minor Other Protective Arrangement (OPM), and Standby Minor Guardianship (SMG).