

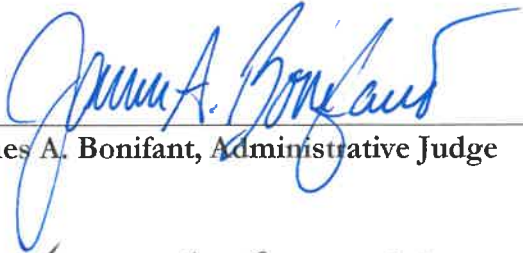
FY2023

Case Processing Performance Analysis

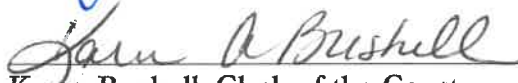


Montgomery County Circuit Court
September 2023

The Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland herein submits its Case Time Processing Report for FY 2023. As evidenced by their signatures below, the Court's leadership team acknowledges they have reviewed the Report.



James A. Bonifant, Administrative Judge



Karen Bushell, Clerk of the Court



Tim Sheridan, Court Administrator

Montgomery County Circuit Court

Fiscal Year 2023 Case Time Processing Report

The case processing report (‘the Report’) for Montgomery County Circuit Court (‘the Court’) examines its case processing performance per the Maryland Judiciary’s time standards for Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23). The Court closed 13,529 original cases eligible for the assessment in FY23, 1,351 more terminations than FY22. Year-over-year improvement was achieved in three categories (Criminal, Civil-Foreclosure, and CINA-Shelter), but failed to meet statewide goals in all case types. Factors that negatively impacted the Court’s performance included: 1.5 fewer judges for the fiscal year due to vacancies, the continued implementation and modifications of business and case management processes due to the transition to Odyssey, and the lingering impact of the pandemic, specifically, processing those backlogged cases created by COVID-19. The Court is committed to identifying issues and adjusting processes to ensure the effective and efficient administration of justice.

Table 1. Case Processing Performance-Eligible Cases,¹ FY22 -FY23

Case Type	Original Case Terminations			
	FY22	FY23	Difference	% Difference
Civil-Foreclosure	307	591	284	93%
Civil-Other	3,177	3,735	558	18%
Criminal	1,267	1,461	194	15%
Family-Limited Divorce	178	178	0	0%
Family-Other	6,883	7,031	148	2%
Delinquency	223	373	150	67%
CINA-Shelter	95	90	-5	-5%
CINA-Non-Shelter	10	23	13	130%
TPR	38	47	9	24%
Total	12,178	13,529	1,351	11%

Table 2. Case Processing Performance (Full Data), FY21-FY23

Case Type	Time Standard	Performance Goal	Percentage Within-Standard (%WST)				
			FY21	FY22	FY23	% Point Difference	
						FY21-22	FY22-23
Civil-Foreclosure	730 days	98%	89%	62%	78%	-27%	16%
Civil-Other	548 days	98%	95%	92%	92%	-3%	0%
Criminal	180 days	98%	67%	63%	67%	-4%	4%
Family-Limited Divorce	730 days	98%	94%	90%	89%	-4%	-1%
Family-Other	365 days	98%	82%	90%	87%	8%	-3%
Delinquency	90 days	98%	74%	86%	77%	12%	-9%
CINA-Shelter	30 days	100%	99%	92%	99%	-7%	7%
CINA-Non-Shelter	60 days	100%	75%	100%	91%	25%	-9%
TPR	180 days	100%	67%	95%	92%	28%	-3%

¹ The following groups of cases are excluded from the statewide case assessment analysis: adoption, asbestos, domestic violence, friendly suit, general liens, homeowners’ association, Lis Pendens, peace order, recorded judgment, reopened cases, restricted (sealed and expunged) cases, cases transfers from other jurisdictions for probation, cases filed prior to January 1, 2001, and voluntary placement.

Case Processing Performance by Case Type

This section provides case processing performance results for the following case types: Foreclosure and Civil-Other, Criminal, Limited Divorce, Family-Other, Juvenile Delinquency, Child In Need of Assistance (CINA) and Termination of Parental Rights (TPR).

Civil Cases: Foreclosure and All Other Civil General ('Civil-Other')

Maryland Judiciary Case Time Standards

Case Type	Case Time Start	Case Time Stop	Performance Goal	FY23 Performance
Foreclosure*	Case Filing	Disposition, Dismissal, or Judgment	98% within 730 days	78%
Civil-Other			98% within 548 days	92%

Table 3. Case Terminations and Case Processing Performance: Foreclosure and Civil-Other, FY19-FY23

Case Type	Fiscal Year	Total Terminations		Within-Standard Terminations			Over-Standard Terminations		
		N	ACT*	N	%	ACT*	N	%	ACT*
Foreclosure	2019	1,187	299	1,113	94%	250	74	6%	1,037
	2020	895	302	843	94%	247	52	6%	1,181
	2021	350	429	311	89%	367	39	11%	927
	2022	307	418	191	62%	321	116	38%	575
	2023	591	431	463	78%	221	128	22%	1,192
Civil-Other	2019	3,825	184	3,757	98%	174	68	2%	753
	2020	3,613	192	3,537	98%	180	76	2%	752
	2021	3,536	226	3,349	95%	200	187	5%	701
	2022	3,177	241	2,920	92%	196	257	8%	755
	2023	3,735	255	3,421	92%	200	314	8%	857

* ACT = Average Case Time (in days)

Foreclosure: In FY23, the Court processed 591 Foreclosure cases, 65% (284 terminations) more than in FY22. Despite increased terminations, the performance improved by 16 percentage points from 62% in FY22 to 78% in FY23 without accounting for the impact of the foreclosure moratorium.

- The average case time (ACT) of all Foreclosure terminations (n = 591) is 431 days.
- The ACT for within-standard Foreclosure terminations (n = 463) is 221 days.
- The ACT for over-standard Foreclosure terminations (n = 128) is 1,192 days.

The ACT of within-standard cases is less than the pre-COVID level, but the ACT of over-standard cases is higher, suggesting that the Court has been processing cases filed pre-COVID-19 (i.e., the backlogged cases).

Civil-Other: In FY23, the Court processed 3,735 Civil-Other cases, of which 92% were closed within the 548-day time standard. The performance is the same as that in FY22.

- The ACT of all Civil-Other terminations (n = 3,735) is 255 days.
- The ACT for within-standard Civil-Other terminations is 200 days.
- The ACT for over-standard Civil-Other terminations is 857 days.

The FY23 terminations are comparable to the pre-COVID-19 level, suggesting the civil case processing performance is expected to further improve as new cases are filed.

Criminal Cases

Maryland Judiciary Case Time Standard

Case Time Start	Case Time Stop	Performance Goal	FY23 Performance
First appearance of defendant or entry of appearance by counsel	Disposition: Plea, Verdict, Stet, Nolle Prosequi, Reverse Waiver Granted, NCR Finding	98% within 180 days	67%

Table 4. Case Terminations and Case Processing Performance: Criminal, FY19-FY23

Fiscal Year	Terminations		Within-Standard Terminations			Over-Standard Terminations		
	N	ACT*	N	%	ACT	N	%	ACT
2019	1,892	92	1,717	91%	70	175	9%	302
2020	1,304	91	1,196	92%	73	108	.8%	292
2021	1,061	164	712	67%	84	349	33%	328
2022	1,267	217	804	63%	91	463	37%	436
2023	1,461	208	979	67%	98	482	33%	431

* ACT = average case time (in days).

During FY23, the Court processed 1,461 criminal cases, 200 more than in FY22 and 400 more than in FY21, yet still 500 fewer than in FY19. The FY23 within standard performance improved by 4% points from FY22 to 67% in FY23. One of the reasons for the performance still being lower than the pre-COVID level is that the Court was processing backlogged caused by the pandemic as evidenced by the average case processing time (ACT) for FY23 cases, which is substantially higher than the pre-COVID-19 level. In short, due to the statewide court closure, the Court was responsible for processing 15 months of accumulated cases within 12 months. In addition, many of these older cases may also have been more complex and required extensive judicial resources than those terminated during the pandemic; during part of FY21 and FY22, due to limited judicial availability due to COVID-19 and judicial vacancy and retirement, the Court was forced to prioritize cases that were either ready to plea or required less judicial intervention. This not only impacted the Court but also its justice partners. The substantial increase in the ACT among within-standard cases is also likely due to the decreased filings (and thus terminations) of District Court Appeal and Jury Trial Pray cases, most of which normally meet the 180-day time standard goal. Other factors that negatively impacted the Court's criminal case processing performance include the reduced judicial resources and substantial changes in the Court's business processes and case management due to the transition to MDEC.

- The ACT of all Criminal terminations (n = 1,461) is 208 days.
- The ACT for within-standard Criminal terminations is 98 days.
- The ACT for over-standard Criminal terminations is 431 days.

Family Cases: Limited Divorce and Other Family General ('Family-Other')

Maryland Judiciary Case Time Standards

Case Type	Case Time Start	Case Time Stop	Performance Goal	FY23 Performance
Limited Divorce	Case Filing	Disposition, Dismissal, or Judgment of Absolute or Limited Divorce (divorce cases)	98% within 365 days	89%
Family-Other			98% within 730days	87%

Table 5. Case Terminations and Case Processing Performance: Limited Divorce and Family-Other, FY19-FY23

Case Type	Fiscal Year	Total Terminations		Within-Standard Terminations			Over-Standard Terminations		
		N	ACT*	N	%	ACT*	N	%	ACT*
Limited Divorce	2019	283	299	279	99%	290	4	1%	924
	2020	226	339	222	98%	329	4	2%	910
	2021	188	379	177	94%	349	11	6%	856
	2022	178	380	161	90%	321	17	10%	939
	2023	178	397	159	89%	332	19	11%	936
Family-Other	2019	7,295	144	6,853	94%	122	442	6%	493
	2020	6,147	147	5,813	95%	128	334	5%	485
	2021	6,396	211	5,236	82%	150	823	18%	486
	2022	6,883	180	6,181	90%	137	702	10%	563
	2023	7,031	180	6,141	87%	130	890	13%	526

* ACT = Average Case Time (in days)

Limited Divorce: In FY23, the Court processed 178 Limited Divorce cases, of which 159 cases (89%) closed within the 730-day time standard. Performance slightly declined from FY22 (90%). The average case time of all cases and cases closed within the time standard is substantially higher than the FY19 level suggesting that the Court was processing cases filed prior to COVID-19.

Family-Other: In FY23, the Court processed 7,031 Family-Other cases, of which 87% closed within the 365-day time standard. The performance slightly declined from FY22 (90%). One of the possible factors responsible for the decline in the performance in FY23 is the increased filing of SIJS cases. Between FY22 and FY23, SIJS increased by 36% from 833 to 1,130 whereas the overall family filings increased by 7%. Furthermore, between FY19 (pre-COVID-19) and FY23, SIJS terminations increased by 64% compared to a 3% increase in the overall family filings during the same period. As a result of the dramatic increase in filings, combined with modification in the SIJS case processing practice, the case processing performance of SIJS cases declined by 17 percentage points from 93% to 76% during the 5-year period. In terms of ACT, while the within-standard ACT reduced close to the pre-COVID level, the over-standard time is substantially greater, suggesting the Court's pending caseload contains cases filed prior to COVID-19.

- The average case time (ACT) of all Family-Other terminations (n = 7,031 cases) is 180 days.
- The ACT for within-standard Family-Other terminations is 130 days.
- The ACT for over-standard Family-Other terminations is 526 days.

Juvenile Delinquency Cases

Maryland Judiciary Case Time Standard

Case Time Start	Case Time Stop	Performance Goal	FY23 Performance
First appearance of respondent or entry of appearance by counsel	Disposition: jurisdiction waived, dismissal, stet, probation, found delinquent, found not delinquent, nolle prosequi, change of venue	98% within 90 days	99%

Table 6. Case Terminations and Case Processing Performance: Juvenile Delinquency, FY19-FY23

Fiscal Year	Terminations		Within-Standard Terminations			Over-Standard Terminations		
	N	ACT*	N	%	ACT*	N	%	ACT*
2019	553	48	523	95%	44	30	5%	116
2020	374	53	346	93%	47	28	7%	133
2021	291	88	215	74%	53	76	26%	189
2022	223	76	188	84%	65	33	16%	137
2023	373	86	288	77%	53	85	23%	197

* ACT = Average Case Time

In FY23, the Court processed 373 delinquency cases, 150 more cases than FY22. While the overall performance declined by 7% points to 77% in FY23 from 84% in FY22, the FY23 quarterly performance shows improvements from the first quarter to the fourth quarter, suggesting that adjustments to caseload and case management have been working. The Court expects the quarterly upward trend in performance to continue.

- The ACT of all Juvenile Delinquency terminations (n = 373 cases) is 86 days.
- The ACT for within-standard Juvenile Delinquency terminations is 53 days.
- The ACT for over-standard Juvenile Delinquency terminations is 197 days.

Child Welfare Cases: CINA Shelter, CINA Non-Shelter and TPR

Maryland Judiciary Case Time Standards

Case Type	Case Time Start	Case Time Stop	Performance Goal	FY23 Performance
CINA Shelter	Service of CINA Petition	Adjudication Hearing Start	100% within 30 days	99%
CINA Non-Shelter			100% within 60 days	91%
TPR	Filing of TPR Petition	Final Order of Guardianship	100% within 180 days	92%

Table 7. Case Terminations and Case Processing Performance: CINA Shelter, CINA Non-Shelter, and TPR, FY19-FY23

Case Type	Fiscal Year	Terminations		Within-Standard Terminations			Over-Standard Terminations		
		N	ACT*	N	%	ACT*	N	%	ACT*
CINA Shelter	2019	178	22	173	97%	21	5	3%	41
	2020	122	25	115	94%	22	7	6%	32
	2021	105	39	88	84%	25	17	16%	107
	2022	95	23	87	92%	20	8	8%	63
	2023	90	22	89	99%	22	1	1%	52
CINA Non-Shelter	2019	30	25	30	100%	25	0	0%	--
	2020	21	29	21	100%	29	0	0%	--
	2021	20	67	15	75%	44	5	25%	136
	2022	10	32	10	100%	32	0	0%	--
	2023	23	31	21	91%	24	2	9%	110
TPR	2019	22	135	21	95%	130	1	5%	239
	2020	25	117	25	100%	117	0	0%	--
	2021	39	183	26	67%	127	13	33%	296
	2022	38	142	36	95%	140	2	5%	187
	2023	47	148	43	92%	141	4	8%	227

* ACT = Average Case Time (in days)

CINA Shelter: In FY23, the Court processed all but one of the 90 CINA Shelter cases within the 30-day time standard. The FY23 performance improved to 99% from 92% in FY22. The average case time for all 90 cases, as well as that of the 89 that closed within the time standard, is 22 days.

CINA Non-Shelter: In FY23, the Court processed all but two of the 31 CINA Shelter cases within the 60-day time standard. The FY23 performance declined from 100% in FY22 to 91% due to the small number of eligible cases used in the calculation of the performance. The average case time of all cases and those closed within the time standard is 31 and 24 days, respectively, comparable to their pre-COVID levels. The two over-standard cases are sibling cases where the adjudication hearing was postponed twice.

TPR: In FY23, the Court processed all but four of the 47 TPR cases within the 180-day time standard. The FY23 performance declined to 92% from 95% in FY22. The average case time for all cases and those closed within the time standard cases is 148 and 140 days, respectively, comparable to their pre-COVID levels. Four over-standard cases, including two sibling cases, were complex cases where the Court took the case under advisement.

Appendix A. Statewide & Local Court Case Processing Performance Recommendations

Recommendations for the Statewide Case Management Subcommittee

- *Review of Assessment Application and Odyssey's Time Standards tab functionality/configurations.* Leverage current statewide workgroups or create a temporary team to review programming logic used for the Assessment Application and functionality and configuration of Odyssey's case time standards. The Court continued to find differences in how time standards-eligible cases are identified among the Maryland Judiciary's Assessment Application, the Time Standards tab (in Odyssey), the caseload assessment manual, and the Time Standards Quick Reference Guides in some case types (see Appendix B). These differences should be reconciled or explained, if not removed.
- *Continued Use of an external Database Application for the Caseload Assessment.* We recommend that the Maryland Judiciary continue to maintain and utilize the Assessment Application (or some other web-based application) for future annual case assessment data review and correction, and calculation of case processing performance. While caseload-related enterprise custom reports (ECRs) will provide courts with a tool to review and address data issues throughout the year, they do not provide courts a data repository where: 1) they can make corrections that they cannot otherwise make in Odyssey; 2) they can add reasons cases closed over-standard and other notes; and 3) they have an official ("locked down") database for calculation of case processing performance without concern about data elements being changed in Odyssey Production.
- *Create Data Quality – Caseload ECRs:* Explore the creation of data quality reports to ensure the accurate identification of time standards-eligible cases.

Montgomery County Circuit Court Case Management Initiatives

- *Information Sharing:* FY23 case processing performance results will be shared with judicial officers and court personnel to identify and address any case processing issues and inefficiencies without impacting the quality of justice administered.
- *Administrative Case & Data Management in MDEC.* The implementation of MDEC required some offices under Court Administration, including Case Management, Business Data Quality, and Research & Performance to develop new approaches to perform their functions. New business processes, new system development, and data conversion have created challenges and opportunities for these offices to devise new ways of performing their work including the identification/use of new tools. Through coordination with the Administrative Judge, the bench, and colleagues in both Court Administration and Clerk of the Court's departments/offices, updated case management manuals and analyses are being compiled to inform caseload mitigation efforts.
- *Systematic Data Quality Reviews.* The Court is developing a case status manual to document business processes on when to use various "statuses" in Odyssey's Detail tab and to support system training. The Court created a ticket with AOC-JIS over a year ago for a report to support the tracking of case status issues. Case status impacts multiple caseload and case processing analyses and reports. We encourage continued engagement between the Court, AOC-JIS, and AOC-R&A to finalize this report to support accurate reporting locally and statewide. has identified several data quality issues that it did not experience prior to its transition to Odyssey.

Appendix B. Case Time Standards Questions & Considerations

#	Identified Issue	Application	Additional Notes	Implication/Example Cases
1	Delinquency – Charge disposition is taken as case stop (inaccurately) when it should be “sentence” (found delinquent/not delinquent) in cases with multiple charges where at least one charge is dismissed at Adjudication.	Assessment Application & TIME STNDS tab	When a case has multiple charges and one of them is dismissed at adjudication, the dismissal date is captured as the case stop while other charges are not disposed of (found delinquent, found not delinquent, etc.)	FY22 Cases missing from the Assessment Application that are eligible, cases included have the inaccurate case processing time and cases may not be included that are eligible. Example: C-15-JV-22-000011 (respondent was found involved on 3/11/22 and found delinquent on 8/30/22; Odyssey Juvenile Case Time Standard selected 3/11/22 as the case stop date, which is incorrect. C-15-JV-22-000240 (9/2/2022, not 02/22/2023, appears as Case Stop date)
2	Delinquency – Case Start date capture	Assessment Application	Case Start data is primarily keyed to the attorney appearance date, not the first appearance of the respondent.	When the line of appearance is filed later than the initial hearing where the respondent was present, the application failed to capture the respondent’s initial appearance date (prevalent in non-detention cases: 06-J-21-050168, 06-J-21-050205, 06-J-21-000006).
3	Delinquency - MPWJC (Motion/Petition to Waive from Juvenile to Criminal Court) is not recognized as a valid suspension start in QRG.	& TIME STNDS tab		Waiver to Adult court is not captured. (C-15-JV-21-000026)
4	Delinquency - In cases with multiple charges with different charge disposition dates, the earliest date (normally charge dismissed date) is selected as the case stop while other charge disposition is pending	& TIME STNDS tab		Example: C-15-JV-22-000011 (Earliest charge disposition date: 3/11/22 (dismissed), last charge disposition date (case stop date): 8/30/22)
5	Delinquency/Criminal - Competency Suspension: CMDHE (MDH - Examination Competency Stand Trial CP3-105) is not captured as the valid suspension start.	Assessment Application		FY23 Example Cases: Example Cases: C-15-CR-22-000682, C-15-CR-22-000347, C-15-CR-22-000330. FY22 Example Cases: 06-J-19-050338, 06-J-21-050137, 06-J-19-050686, 06-J-20-050047, 06-J-21-050042
6	Delinquency/Criminal - Competency Suspension: FINST (Defendant Found Incompetent to Stand Trial) is captured as a suspension stop. This should be regarded as the continuation of the suspension, not a suspension stop.	Assessment Application		Example Cases: Same as above

#	Identified Issue	Application	Additional Notes	Implication/Example Cases
7	Criminal – Case Stop Logic Multiple Charges – Capturing Nolle Pros at sentencing.	Assessment Application & TIME STDS tab	In some multiple-charge cases where the defendant pled on some charges, the assessment correctly picks up the case stop date, but Odyssey's Time Standard does not. Odyssey's Time Standard uses the sentence date when the remaining charges were nolle as the case stop date, resulting in overestimating the case age.	<p>FY23: Example - In 138005C, the plea was heard on 2/21/23. Sentencing occurred on 5/30/23. The Assessment has 2/21/23 as the stop date. Odyssey has 5/30/23 as the stop date.</p> <p>FY23: Examples - C-15-CR-22-000920 – Plea 4/17/23 – Sentencing 4/19/23 - The Assessment has the correct case stop but the Odyssey Time Standard does not. C-15-CR-22-000898 – Plea 5/15/23 – Sentencing 6/8/23. C-15-CR-22-000885 – Plea 2/14/23 – Sentencing 3/9/23.</p> <p><i>FY22: Example: 136864C; Assessment (Sentence): 3/9/2022; Odyssey event: 9/23/2021.</i></p> <p>Is it possible to apply the same logic used for the case assessment application to Odyssey's case stop Time Standard configuration to correctly capture case stop in these scenarios? If not, this may be a reason why an external application is useful for routine data quality review/performance analysis.</p>
8	Criminal - Assessment Application failed to capture the correct case stop date for converted cases. However, the assessment captures cases without an Adult Criminal Time Standard in TIME STDS tab.	Assessment Application & TIME STDS tab		<p>It appears that Assessment Application evaluates the date of sentence, not disposition or plea date, under DISPOSITON tab, to determine the case stop date even when a case does not have the appropriate case time standard under TIME STDS tab. Accordingly, the Assessment Application logic may be used to capture eligible cases that ODY TIME STDS logic fails to identify.</p>

#	Identified Issue	Application	Additional Notes	Implication
9	Criminal – Filing Date or other date is used as Case Start Date instead of earliest start per Adult Criminal Time Standard QRG	Assessment Application	<p>FY23 Example: C-15-CR-22-000427, the Assessment disregards the initial appearance on 5/6/22 for the DEAAF on 5/19/22 as the start time.</p> <p><i>FY22 Example: C-15-CR-21-000138; Case start should be 1/6/2022 not 12/2/2021.</i></p> <p><i>FY22 Example: 138910C, DEAAF used as case start (2/28/2022) instead of INTAP (10/15/2021)</i></p> <p><i>FY22 Example: C-15-CR-22-000299; has concluded hearing as case start (4/22/2022) when first eligible time standard's start date is 4/11/2022 (per Adult Criminal Time Standard QRG).</i></p>	Depending on the start date pulled by the Assessment Application, the case processing time may be over- or underestimated. With the case start date being pulled, it is difficult to figure out what inaccuracies exist in the data unless a comparison is performed between case data from the TIME STDS tab and case data from the Assessment Application.
10	Family-Initial Judgment Date Not Captured as a valid Case Stop	TIME STNDS tab	<p>Example: 173717FL , Case Stop = 6/16/2023 (aligned with case closed date in Detail tab); Judgment of Absolute Divorce = 11/22/2022.</p>	<p>Initial Judgment – Eligible Case Stop (per FY22 Caseflow Manual). Absolute divorce cases normally have JUADI (Judgment of Absolute Divorce). However, this is not recognized in the Domestic Case Time Track QRG or (because of this) is not configured in ODY's Time Standards tab.</p> <p>Also - In limited divorce cases, JULDI (Case Event - Judgment of Limited Divorce) is listed as a valid case stop event but not captured as such.</p>
11	Maryland Time Standards -- Request for Prepayment Waiver Not Listed on Maryland Time Standards Chart (Circuit)		AOC's Caseflow Manual	The Request for Prepayment Waiver is not listed as a suspension on the Maryland Time Standards Chart for circuit court Civil and Domestic cases. The Civil and Domestic QRGs do acknowledge the suspension. It is also unclear whether the Assessment Application (for FY22) captured the suspension/shift in case start.

#	Identified Issue	Application	Additional Notes	Implication
12	Multiple Suggestions of Bankruptcy triggering the Bankruptcy Suspension (in Foreclosure cases, for example) yet one release from Bankruptcy	TIME STNDS tab	487374V (also, 475918V) – Foreclosure case, two parties – two suggestions of bankruptcy pleadings filed, different days, indicating same Bankruptcy Court case #. If this occurs, should the user not use the Suggestion of Bankruptcy code (for the second entry), or do they continue to code accordingly? In addition, two suspensions have been added for the time standard (Odyssey's TIME STDS tab). However, it appears that we need two releases when we typically only get one from the Bankruptcy Court. In the Assessment Application, we can make manual adjustments to support this scenario; however, what functionality exists (or manual adjustment exists) to accurately reflect suspension time?	Is it possible to apply logic/configuration to the Time Standard on Odyssey's TIMESTDS tab to take the earliest suggestion of bankruptcy and the latest release (or some other suspension start/stop logic)? If not, will the TIMESTDS tab allow for manual adjustments with user comments when edits/corrections need to be made to the adjusted case age (as the Assessment Application allows)?
13	Bankruptcy Removed case event needs to be added as a resumption in Foreclosure-Residential cases.	TIME STNDS tab	The Foreclosure Case Time Standard QRG notes that Bankruptcy Removed (BANKR) is a valid resumption. However, the only resume trigger in Odyssey's TIMESTDS tab is 'Order Lifting Stay of Bankruptcy' (FOLSB).	The adjusted case age may artificially appear shorter than it actually is because the case is appearing in a suspended status longer than is accurate per case information. Example case: 399735V; 412176V; C-15-CV-21-000466
14	In CINA Shelter cases, when adjudication was continued, the last date of the hearing (or the date of the hearing that was held after the adjudication hearing) was captured as a case time stop.	Assessment Application	C-15-JV-23-000093: Adjudication Hearing Started on 03/31/2023 and continued and concluded on 04/12/2023. Other examples: C-15-JV-23-000052, C-15-JV-23-000062, C-15-JV-23-000063, C-15-JV-23-000069, C-15-JV-23-000070, C-15-JV-23-000071)	These cases appear as over-standard termination.
15	CINA Shelter cases where Shelter was denied were still recognized as Shelter cases.	Assessment Application	C-15-JV-23-000177, C-15-JV-23-000176, , C-15-JV-23-000178 - Shelter Denied on 4/20/2023	These cases appear as over-standard termination. They are also missing in the Assessment's Non-Shelter cases.
16	Entry of Stet is not recognized as a case top in Delinquency Cases.	Assessment Application & TIME STDS tab	C-15-JV-22-000002 (Stet on 3/29/22); C-15-JV-21-000037 (Stet on 3/21/22)	These cases often appear as over-standard termination.

Appendix C. Caseload Metrics: Filings, Terminations and Pending²

Case Filings, Original and Reopen

In FY23, filings totaled 23,274, broken down between 15,462 original filings and 7,812 reopened filings. This represents 1,743 more total filings than received in FY22 (21,531), an 8% increase. The increased number of total FY23 filings occurred because more original and reopened matters were filed with the Court. Original filings increased by 10% from 14,117 in FY22 to 15,462 in FY23. Reopened filings increased by 5% from 7,414 in FY22 to 7,812 in FY23. Except for reopened family filings, which decreased between FY22 and FY23 by 19%, all other case types³ had increases in original and reopened filings between the two fiscal years. The most notable increases occurred in family and civil original filings, as well as civil reopened filings.

Table C.1. Total, Original, and Reopen Filings, FY19-FY23

Case Type	Filings					FY19-23 Trend Line	FY19-23 Change
	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23		
Total							
Civil*	7,368	6,626	5,660	5,846	7,247		-2%
Criminal	5,307	4,620	3,754	3,875	4,004		-25%
Family	13,462	11,057	11,157	10,784	10,798		-20%
Juvenile	2,532	2,180	1,601	1,026	1,225		-52%
Delinquency	2,277	1,960	1,398	869	1,083		-52%
CINA	225	188	155	117	108		-52%
TPR	30	32	48	40	34		13%
Total	28,669	24,483	22,172	21,531	23,274		-19%
%Family	47%	45%	50%	50%	46%		
Original							
Civil*	5,931	5,238	3,859	4,433	4,993		-16%
Criminal	1,884	1,493	1,186	1,366	1,435		-24%
Family	8,169	6,820	6,977	7,871	8,444		3%
Juvenile	1,122	743	382	447	590		-47%
Delinquency	893	556	219	305	453		-49%
CINA	204	165	118	104	103		-50%
TPR	25	22	45	38	34		36%
Total	17,106	14,294	12,404	14,117	15,462		-10%
%Family	48%	48%	56%	56%	55%		
Reopen							
Civil*	1,437	1,388	1,801	1,413	2,254		57%
Criminal	3,423	3,127	2,568	2,509	2,569		-25%
Family	5,293	4,237	4,180	2,913	2,354		-56%
Juvenile	1,410	1,437	1,219	579	635		-55%
Delinquency	1,384	1,404	1,179	564	630		-54%
CINA	21	23	37	13	5		-76%
TPR	5	10	3	2	0		-100%
Total	11,563	10,189	9,768	7,414	7,812		-32%
%Family	46%	42%	43%	39%	30%		

² Civil case filings and terminations exclude Register of Wills and liens. Data is from Odyssey, Case Statistics ECR for FY22 and FY23. **Juvenile case filings and terminations include delinquency, peace orders, voluntary placements, and juvenile miscellaneous petitions. Source: Odyssey, Case Statistics ECR (data run on July 11, 2023)

³ Juvenile (overall, including delinquency, CINA and TPR cases) had increases in filings; however, there are slight decreases in CINA and TPR filings. Delinquency case filings tend to drive the pattern of juvenile filings, more broadly.

Case Terminations, Original and Reopened

The Court terminated a total of 23,268 cases in FY23, which is 6% higher than FY22 when a total of 21,856 cases closed (a difference of 1,412 terminations).⁴ The most notable increases occurred in original civil and family terminations as well as reopened civil terminations. Original terminations in civil cases increased by 660 (13%) between FY22 and FY23 from 4,959 to 5,619 case closures. Family original terminations increased by 414 (5%) between the past two fiscal years from 7,565 (FY22) to 7,979 (FY23). Reopen terminations increased in civil cases only by 553 (35%) from 1,564 (FY22) to 2,117 (FY23).

Table C.2. Total, Original, and Reopen Terminations, FY19-FY23



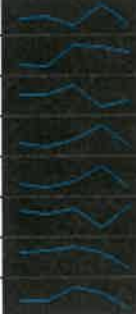
Case Type	Terminations					FY19-23 Trend Line	FY19-23 Change
	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23		
Total							
Civil*	7,103	6,502	6,069	6,523	7,736		9%
Criminal	5,259	4,374	3,794	3,918	3,993		-24%
Family	13,439	11,047	11,645	10,319	10,307		-23%
Juvenile	2,587	2,104	1,872	1,105	1,232		-52%
Delinquency	2,327	1,895	1,605	946	1,076		-54%
CINA	205	175	235	131	110		-46%
TPR	55	34	32	28	46		-16%
Total	28,388	24,027	23,380	21,865	23,268		-18%
%Family	47%	46%	50%	47%	44%		
Original							
Civil*	5,681	5,118	4,416	4,959	5,619		-1%
Criminal	1,931	1,357	1,129	1,326	1,407		-27%
Family	8,040	6,709	7,085	7,565	7,979		-1%
Juvenile	1,168	692	617	462	603		-48%
Delinquency	935	515	395	311	453		-52%
CINA	183	154	194	125	104		-43%
TPR	50	23	28	26	46		-8%
Total	16,820	13,876	13,247	14,312	15,608		-7%
%Family	48%	48%	53%	53%	51%		
Reopen							
Civil*	1,422	1,384	1,653	1,564	2,117		49%
Criminal	3,328	3,017	2,665	2,592	2,586		-22%
Family	5,399	4,338	4,560	2,754	2,328		-57%
Juvenile	1,419	1,412	1,255	643	629		-56%
Delinquency	1,392	1,380	1,210	635	623		-55%
CINA	22	21	41	6	6		-73%
TPR	5	11	4	2	0		-100%
Total	11,568	10,151	10,133	7,553	7,660		-34%
%Family	47%	43%	45%	36%	30%		

⁴ Termination counts in the caseload section do not necessarily match counts of cases terminated that eligible for the annual case processing analysis for several reasons. Termination caseload counts are based on case status where case status is 'closed' or 'closed/active'. For the annual case processing performance, criminal, family (including limited divorce) and child's welfare cases have 'closed' case status as one of the case selection criteria, as well as other case events such as verdict in criminal cases and a held adjudication hearing in CINA cases. Also, the termination count includes case types not eligible for the annual case processing analysis such as domestic violence cases, transferred-in cases, etc. Third, caseload terminations include cases terminated that are eligible for the annual assessment but do not have the case time standard in Odyssey and therefore not captured in the case processing data extracts.

Clearance Rates

The clearance rate examines the ratio of terminations to filings. A clearance rate over 100% indicates that a higher number of cases are being terminated than are filed; potentially clearing out some of a court's backlogged (older) cases. A national, court performance guideline for the clearance rate metric is 100%. When compared to FY22, the total clearance rates across case types in FY23 either stayed the same or decreased with the most notable declines in civil and juvenile case types, which are driven largely by reopened filings and terminations. For FY23, the Court's total clearance rates across case types is at or greater than 100% for all case types except family, which is at 95%. The clearance rates for original filings and terminations are greater than 100% for civil and juvenile case types. Among reopen clearance rates, criminal cases are the only case type category (along with CINA) with a clearance rate greater than 100% (at 101% and 120%, respectively). However, family and juvenile reopen clearance rates are approaching the national performance guideline at 99%.

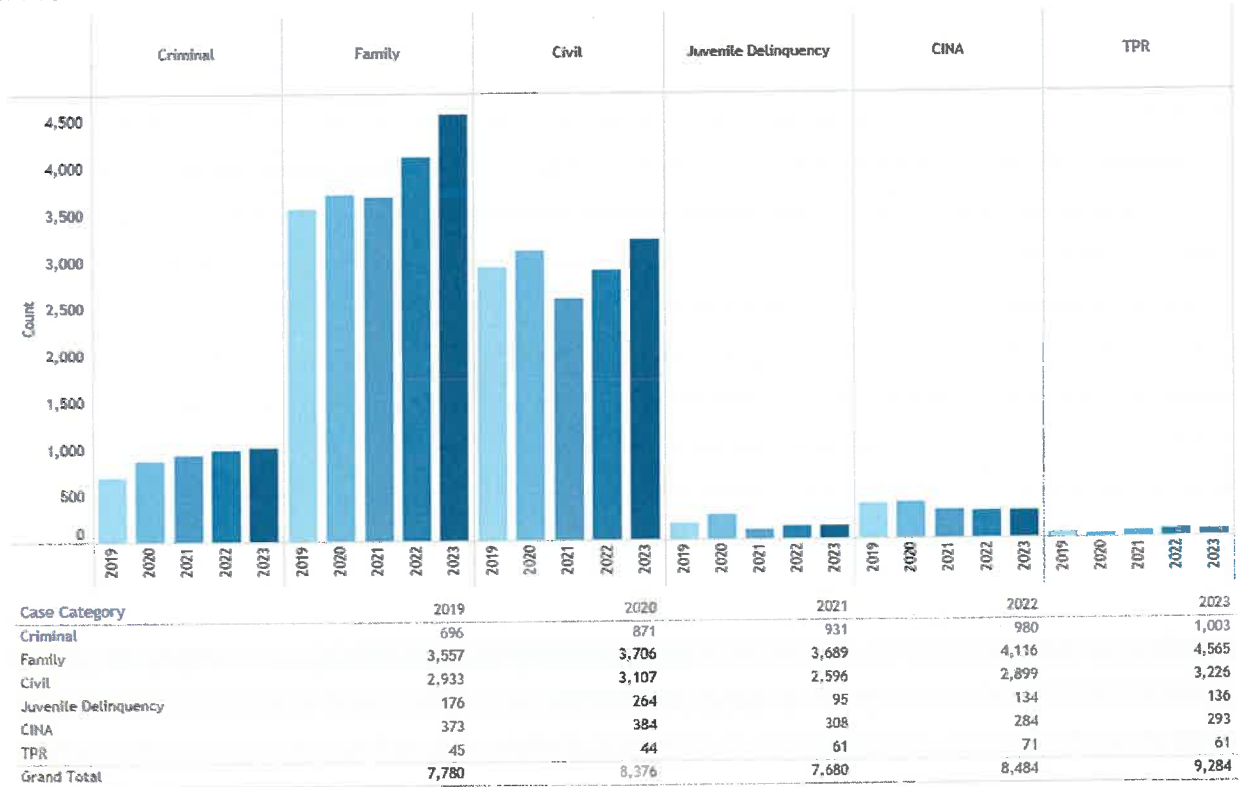
Table C.3. Total, Original, and Reopen Clearance Rates, FY19-FY23

Case Type	Clearance Rates					FY19-23 Trend Line
	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	
Total						
Civil*	96%	98%	107%	112%	107%	
Criminal	99%	95%	101%	101%	100%	
Family	100%	100%	104%	96%	95%	
Juvenile	102%	97%	117%	108%	101%	
Delinquency	102%	97%	115%	109%	99%	
CINA	91%	93%	152%	112%	102%	
TPR	183%	106%	67%	70%	135%	
Total	99%	98%	105%	102%	100%	
Original						
Civil*	96%	98%	114%	112%	113%	
Criminal	102%	91%	95%	97%	98%	
Family	98%	98%	102%	96%	94%	
Juvenile	104%	93%	162%	103%	102%	
Delinquency	105%	93%	180%	102%	100%	
CINA	90%	93%	164%	120%	101%	
TPR	200%	105%	62%	68%	135%	
Total	98%	97%	107%	101%	101%	
Reopen						
Civil*	99%	100%	92%	111%	94%	
Criminal	97%	96%	104%	103%	101%	
Family	102%	102%	109%	95%	99%	
Juvenile	101%	98%	103%	111%	99%	
Delinquency	101%	98%	103%	113%	99%	
CINA	105%	91%	111%	46%	120%	
TPR	100%	110%	133%	100%	--	
Total	100%	100%	104%	102%	98%	

Pending Caseload⁵

The Court monitors its open, active pending caseloads monthly and examines changes in relation to filings and terminations given the interrelated nature of these three metrics. The Court's case management and scheduling improvement efforts have primarily focused on criminal, family, and juvenile (including CINA) caseloads.

Figure C.1. Open and Active Pending Caseload by Case Type (as of the End of Fiscal Year), FY19- FY23



The Court has seen the pending caseloads increase for all of its case categories except for delinquency and CINA between FY19 and FY23. Active (open) criminal pending cases increased by 44% between June 2019 and June 2023 (from 696 to 1,003). Family pending cases also increased by 23% from 3,557 to 4,388. While a much smaller caseload, TPR pending cases increased by 36% from 45 (June 2019) to 61 (June 2023). Open, active pending juvenile cases are comparable between June 2022 and June 2023 whereas they are higher in June 2023 for the other case categories. The routine, monthly monitoring of criminal and family pending caseloads allows the Administrative Judge to make case management adjustments, as needed. New initiatives have been implemented to better respond to the increases in filings, the reduced number of judges, and the increasing pending caseload including but not limited to increased opportunities for mediation and settlement in custody cases, increases in the number of judges who preside over criminal cases, and utilizing magistrates to preside over family cases with Special Immigrant Juvenile Status petitions. It is expected that these and other initiatives will help reduce the Court's pending caseload in FY2024.

⁵ The pending caseload counts are based on pending data as of the end of June (i.e., the end of the fiscal year). No adjustments were made to the data if a case was filed or closed after June of the specified fiscal year.

Appendix D. Fiscal Year 2023 Data Quality Efforts

Data Quality Procedures for the FY2023 Case Assessment Data

Montgomery County Circuit Court receives data feeds from AOC-JIS that are aligned with Odyssey's Time Standards tab. These data feeds populate a local database that is used by Business Data Quality (BDQ) personnel to review all caseflow assessment-eligible cases. This review is essentially an original, closed-case audit.

For the FY23 caseflow assessment, BDQ personnel reviewed all closed cases eligible for the Maryland Caseflow Assessment. Data quality reviews included verifying case information pertinent to the caseflow assessment in Odyssey, followed by a review of documents and/or digital recordings of court proceedings if such a review was necessary. BDQ personnel worked with the Clerk's Office to reconcile identified issues. Once identified issues were resolved, BDQ personnel corrected any caseflow-related information in the Maryland Judiciary's assessment application.

Every quarter throughout FY23, Research & Performance (R&P) analyzed the Court's case processing performance based on the aforementioned data feeds from AOC-JIS. As part of this work, R&P also reviewed and updated the data to capture the complete universe of eligible cases based on the Judiciary's case time standards. Where local business process or data issues were identified, R&P personnel contacted BDQ personnel and the Clerk of Court's department management teams for discussion and resolution. For the FY23 annual case processing performance analysis, R&P used this data to calculate the Court's case processing performance. This data reflects the 'Full', complete universe of eligible cases as described below.