

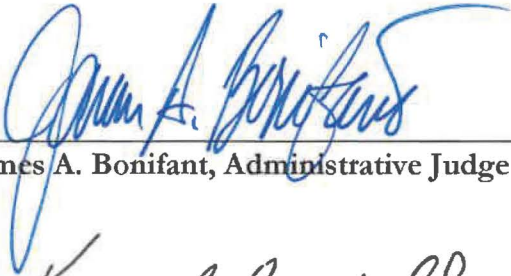
FY2025

Case Processing Performance Analysis

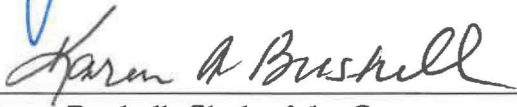


Montgomery County Circuit Court
September 2025

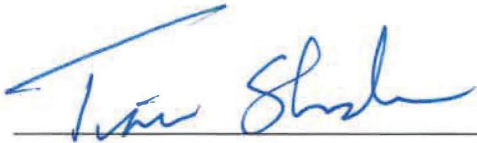
The Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland submits its Case Time Processing Report for fiscal year 2025. As evidenced by their signatures below, the Court's leadership team acknowledges they have reviewed the Report.



James A. Bonifant, Administrative Judge



Karen Bushell, Clerk of the Court



Tim Sheridan, Court Administrator

Montgomery County Circuit Court

Fiscal Year 2025 Case Time Processing Report

In this Report (“the Report”), the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, MD (“the Court”) presents its case processing performance per the Maryland Judiciary’s time standards for fiscal year 2025 (FY25). Table 1 below compares the Court’s FY25 performance to the Judiciary’s Performance Goals for eight case types. The table also compares the Court’s FY25 performance to the Court’s FY23 and FY24 performance. The tables that follow present more detail per case type.

The Court improved its case processing performance in civil-other, family law and delinquency cases between FY24 and FY25. Performance remained unchanged for civil-foreclosures and criminal, while it declined for child in need of assistance (CINA) and termination of parental rights (TPR) matters. It is important to note that the decline in CINA case processing performance is largely due to a change in the statewide time standard, specifically the case stop trigger for adjudication, which was modified from ‘held’ to ‘concluded/held’.

The Court routinely monitors its performance and believes this played a major role in its overall improvement from its FY25 performance. The monitoring includes the development of an online dashboard available to Court leaders that provides data regarding filings, terminations, pending caseload, and clearance rates in criminal, custody, CINA, and delinquency cases. The Court’s leadership team also receives court caseload summary data monthly and case processing performance updates quarterly. Caseload monitoring also includes weekly meetings with the Administrative Judge and court personnel to review all jury and family trials scheduled to begin in the following weeks. Staying on top of resource-intensive cases continues to be a priority. The Court remains committed to identifying issues and adjusting business processes to ensure the effective and efficient administration of justice.

Table 1. Case Processing Performance (Full Data), FY23-FY25

Case Type	Time Standard	Performance Goal	Percentage Within-Standard (%WST)				
			FY23	FY24	FY25	% Point Difference	
						FY23-25	FY24-25
Civil-Foreclosure	730 days	98%	78%	92%	92%	14%	0%
Civil-Other	548 days	98%	92%	92%	97%	5%	5%
Criminal	180 days	98%	67%	74%	74%	7%	0%
Family Law	365 days	98%	87%	86%	88%	1%	2%
Delinquency	90 days	98%	77%	82%	87%	10%	5%
CINA-Shelter	30 days	100%	99%	94%	82%	-17%	-12%
CINA-Non-Shelter	60 days	100%	91%	100%	71%	-20%	-29%
TPR	180 days	100%	91%	97%	91%	0%	-6%

Case Processing Performance by Case Type

This section provides case processing performance results for the following case types: Foreclosure and civil-other, criminal, family-law, juvenile delinquency, CINA, and 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	FY25 Performance
Foreclosure	Case Filing	Disposition, Dismissal, or Judgment	98% within 730 days	92%
Civil-Other			98% within 548 days	97%

Table 2. Case Terminations and Case Processing Performance: Foreclosure and Civil-Other, FY20-FY25

Case Type	Fiscal Year	Total Terminations		Within-Standard Terminations			Over-Standard Terminations		
		N	ACT*	N	%	ACT*	N	%	ACT*
Foreclosure	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
	2024	641	323	591	92%	235	50	8%	1,359
	2025	547	306	504	92%	215	43	8%	1,375
Civil-Other	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
	2024	3,709	247	3,418	92%	201	291	8%	793
	2025	4,940†	208	4,777	97%	188	163	3%	807

* ACT = Average Case Time (in days)

† Actual number of cases used to calculate the Court's FY25 case processing performance. The case eligibility was determined by applying the updated inclusion list provided by the Judicial Information Systems (JIS) Reports Team in August 2025 to the original FY25 termination caseload.

Foreclosure: In FY25, the Court processed 547 foreclosure case terminations, 94 fewer than in FY24. The case processing performance remained unchanged at 92%, which remains noticeably higher than FY23 when performance reached 78%.

- The average case time (ACT) of all terminations (547 cases) is 306 days.
- The ACT for within-standard terminations (504 cases) is 215 days.
- The ACT for over-standard terminations (43 cases) is 1,375 days.

The ACT of within-standard cases is less than the pre-COVID level, but the ACT of over-standard cases is close to 200 days longer, suggesting that the Court has been processing cases filed pre-COVID-19 (i.e., the backlogged cases).

Civil-Other: In FY25, the Court processed 4,940 cases eligible for the assessment. Of these 4,940 cases, 97% were closed within the 548-day time standard. The performance is an improvement since FY21 and comparable to performance in FY20.

- The average case time (ACT) of all terminations (4,940 cases) is 208 days.
- The ACT for within-standard terminations (4,777 cases) is 188 days.
- The ACT for over-standard terminations (163 cases) is 807 days.

Criminal Cases

Maryland Judiciary Case Time Standard

Case Time Start	Case Time Stop	Performance Goal	FY25 Performance
First appearance of defendant or entry of appearance by counsel, Hicks starting events	Disposition: Plea, Verdict, Stet, Nolle Prosequi, Reverse Waiver Granted, NCR Finding. In cases with multiple charges, the earliest guilty verdict in any of the charges.	98% within 180 days	74%

Table 3. Case Terminations and Case Processing Performance: Criminal, FY20-FY25

Fiscal Year	Terminations		Within-Standard Terminations			Over-Standard Terminations		
	N	ACT*	N	%	ACT	N	%	ACT
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
2024	1,490	174	1,110	74%	95	380	26%	404
2025	1,476	181	1,085	74%	107	391	26%	388

* ACT = average case time (in days).

For FY25, the Statewide Time Standard Subcommittee modified the criminal case time stop to include the earliest guilty verdict in multi-charge criminal cases. The Court terminated 1,476 criminal cases in FY25, 14 fewer cases than in FY24. The FY25 within-standard performance remained unchanged at 74% (compared to FY24). The case processing performance remains lower than pre-COVID levels, partly due to the Court addressing a backlog caused by the pandemic, as evidenced by the average case processing time (ACT). While the ACT for over-standard cases in FY25 declined by 16 days compared to FY24, it is still approximately 100 days longer than comparable cases in FY20. Additionally, there is a noticeable increase in the ACT among within-standard cases, from 73 days in FY20 to 107 days in FY25.

- The average case time (ACT) of all terminations (1,476 cases) is 181 days.
- The ACT for within-standard terminations (1,085 cases) is 107 days.
- The ACT for over-standard terminations (391 cases) is 388 days.

Family Law Cases:

Maryland Judiciary Case Time Standards

Case Type	Case Time Start	Case Time Stop	Performance Goal	FY25 Performance
Family Law	Case Filing	Disposition, Dismissal Initial Judgment	98% within 365 days	88%

Table 4. Case Terminations and Case Processing Performance: Family Law Cases, FY20-FY25

Fiscal Year	Total Terminations		Within-Standard Terminations			Over-Standard Terminations		
	N	ACT*	N	%	ACT*	N	%	ACT*
2020	6,147	147	5,813	95%	128	334	5%	485
2021	6,396	211	5,236	82%	150	1,160	18%	486
2022	6,883	180	6,181	90%	137	702	10%	563
2023	7,031	180	6,141	87%	130	890	13%	526
2024	7,927	175	6,836	86%	120	1,091	14%	518
2025	8,150	184	7,194	88%	138	956	12%	529

* ACT = Average Case Time (in days)

In FY25, the Court processed 8,150 cases that were eligible for the annual case processing performance analysis. Eighty-eight percent of these cases closed within the 365-day time standard, which is comparable to FY23 (87%) and FY24 (86%).

- The average case time (ACT) of all terminations (8,150 cases) is 184 days.
- The ACT for within-standard terminations (7,194 cases) is 138 days.
- The ACT for over-standard terminations (956 cases) is 529 days.

In the FY23 report, we noted one possible factor responsible for the decline in the Family case performance between FY22 and FY23 was the increased filings of cases initiated with a Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) petition. Since SIJS cases often require locating and serving a party residing overseas, their termination takes longer than regular family cases. Between FY23 and FY24, SIJS original filings increased by 16% from 1,129 to 1,305 compared to the overall family filings, which rose by 4% (from 8,466 to 8,819) (data not displayed in the table above). In FY25, however, SIJS filings decreased by 8% to 1,205 whereas the original family filings remained relatively unchanged (a 0.4% decrease). In FY24, the Court devoted additional judicial resources to address the SIJS increased filings and associated backlogs. As a result, between FY23 and FY24 original SIJS terminations increased by 50% from 766 to 1,148 and by 27% between FY24 and FY25 (1,455 in FY25). Due to the increased terminations, which addressed case backlog, the SIJS case processing performance declined from 75% in FY23 to 56% in FY24 though it improved to 64% in FY25. The performance differential between SIJS and non-SIJS cases initially observed in FY23 (75% for SIJS and 85% for non-SIJS cases) was present in FY25; the performance of SIJS cases was 64% compared to 94% of non-SIJS cases.

The Administrative Judge, Family Judge-In-Charge and family case management team continue to review and monitor the processing of family cases, including SIJS cases. The Court believes that the improved SIJS case processing in FY25 is the result of the additional case management efforts implemented to at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Juvenile Delinquency Cases

Maryland Judiciary Case Time Standard

Case Time Start	Case Time Stop	Performance Goal	FY25 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	87%

Table 5. Case Terminations and Case Processing Performance: Juvenile Delinquency, FY20-FY25

Fiscal Year	Terminations		Within-Standard Terminations			Over-Standard Terminations		
	N	ACT*	N	%	ACT*	N	%	ACT*
2020	374	53	346	93%	47	28	7%	133
2021	291	88	215	74%	53	76	26%	189
2022	223	74	193	87%	68	30	13%	115
2023	373	86	288	77%	53	85	23%	197
2024	495	71	406	82%	52	89	18%	132
2025	423	62	366	87%	51	57	13%	136

* ACT = Average Case Time

In FY25, the Court processed original terminations in 423 delinquency cases, 72 fewer cases than FY24. The within-standard case processing performance of delinquency cases improved from 82% in FY24 to 87% in FY25. Delinquency case processing performance has been improving for the past two fiscal years.

- The average case time (ACT) of all terminations (423 cases) is 62 days.
- The ACT for within-standard terminations (366 cases) is 51 days.
- The ACT for over-standard terminations (57 cases) is 136 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	FY25 Performance
CINA Shelter	Shelter Care Granted	Adjudication Hearing	100% within 30 days	82%
CINA Non-Shelter	Service of CINA Petition	Concluded	100% within 60 days	71%
TPR	Filing of TPR Petition	Final Order of Guardianship	100% within 180 days	91%

Table 6. Case Terminations and Case Processing Performance: CINA Shelter, CINA Non-Shelter, and TPR, FY20-FY25

Case Type	Fiscal Year	Terminations		Within-Standard Terminations			Over-Standard Terminations		
		N	ACT*	N	%	ACT*	N	%	ACT*
CINA Shelter	2020	122	25	115	94%	22	7	6%	82
	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
	2024	93	24	87	94%	21	6	6%	63
	2025	93	29	76	82%	23	17	18%	52
CINA Non-Shelter	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
	2024	15	46	15	100%	46	0	0%	--
	2025	7	64	5	71%	37	2	29%	129
TPR	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	91%	141	4	9%	227
	2024	39	128	38	97%	125	1	3%	181
	2025	23	135	21	91%	126	2	9%	229

* ACT = Average Case Time (in days)

CINA Shelter: In FY25, the Court concluded/held adjudications or made adjudicatory findings (through agreements reached) in 93 CINA Shelter cases. Eighty-two percent (n=76) reached case stop within the 30-day time standard. There is a slight decline in performance compared to previous fiscal years; however, this is due to adjudication continued no longer recognized as a valid case stop for the Maryland Judiciary's case time standard. The average case processing time for all 93 cases is 29 days, which is slightly higher than the within-standard average processing time of 23 days. The over-standard average processing time is 52 days.

CINA Non-Shelter: In FY25, the Court concluded/held adjudications or made adjudicatory findings (through agreements reached) in seven CINA Non-Shelter cases. The Court processed all but two within the 60-day time standard. Seventy-one percent of cases closed within-standard. The average case time for FY25 is 64 days comparable to FY21. Like the CINA Shelter time standard, adjudication continued is no longer a valid case stop for the Maryland Judiciary's case time standard.

TPR: In FY25, the Court processed all but two of the 23 TPR cases within the 180-day time standard. The FY25 performance decreased from 97% to 91% between FY24 and FY25. The average case processing time for all cases, those closed within the time standard, and those closed over the standard is 135, 126, and 229 days, respectively. TPR cases are not impacted by the change to the case stop defined by the Maryland Judiciary's case time standard as are CINA cases.

Appendix A. Statewide & Local Court Case Processing Performance Recommendations

Recommendations for the Statewide Case Management Subcommittee

- Additional Instruction/Guidance is needed for the Good Cause Suspension for the CINA Shelter time standard. Based on our review of FY25 CINA Shelter cases, clerks are unclear on when to use the Odyssey event code 'Court Found Good Cause to Extend CINA Shelter Time Standard (CFGCC).
 - There are multiple instances where 'good cause' may be found in a CINA case to extend continued shelter care per Maryland Rule or statutory time guidelines.
 - Please confirm (or correct) the understanding of the Maryland Judiciary's 'good cause' extension allowable for the CINA Shelter Time Standard:
 1. The CFGCC case event is to be used when 'good cause' is found to extend the adjudication for up to an additional 30 days (per Maryland Rule 11-213(b)(2)(B) and Maryland Rule 11-204(d)(2)).
 - A reference to CJP 3-815(d) is noted in the CINA Shelter Case Time Standard Quick Reference Guide (QRG). However, the relevant section of that statute appears to be 3-815(c)(4).¹
 2. The CFGCC case event is not in relation to the 'good cause' allowance for the Shelter Care Hearing to be extended for up to 8 days following the respondent's emergency shelter care (per Maryland Rule 11-204(c)(1)).
 - A new event code may be needed for the good cause at the Shelter Care Hearing to differentiate from CFGCC. If a new event code is created, clarity will need to be provided on when to use it.
 3. For the Case Assessment application, the 'good cause' suspension start aligns with the CFGCC case event and the suspension ends 30 days after the CFGCC case event, or the date of the case stop trigger (whichever is earliest).
 - While the Case Assessment application treats 'good cause' as a suspension event, Odyssey's Time Standards tab treats it as a new time standard with the case start being the date of the CFGCC case event as opposed to the starting triggers referenced on the Maryland Judiciary's CINA Shelter Time Standards table. It may be useful to note the difference on the QRG as it will help clarify user updates to the Case Assessment application.
 4. The 'good cause' suspension is not in relation to the hearing outcome – that is, the adjudication hearing being postponed or continued as it relates to the good cause found to allow up to an additional 30 days of continued shelter care to reach adjudication.
 5. Clarification is needed on whether the CFGCC event code should only be used once as a suspension for the CINA Shelter time standard.
 6. The CFGCP (Court Found Good Cause for Postponement) is not an event code that is currently used to suspend time for good cause in accordance with the CINA Shelter case time standard.
- Clarify the alignment between statutory requirements and case time standards in criminal, delinquency, and CINA cases and identify corresponding Odyssey codes and their use. It is requested that the subcommittee work with Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Research

¹ <https://law.justia.com/codes/maryland/2005/gcj/3-815.html>

& Analysis and any other relevant statewide workgroups to develop documentation that compares (or aligns) the Maryland Judiciary's Time Standards with relevant Maryland rules and statutes in terms of the case time start, stop and suspension triggers. The documentation should also provide any Odyssey codes that used to capture the trigger events.

- For example, please clarify the Maryland Rule or statute that states the CINA Shelter cases should be concluded-held within 30 days from case start. It is Montgomery County Circuit Court's understanding that the adjudication hearing shall be commenced within 30 days after the date on which the court ordered continued shelter care (per Maryland Rule 11-213(a)).

1. Montgomery County Circuit Court is under the impression that they are meeting Maryland Rule and statute guidelines by beginning Adjudication within the 30-day requirement while they are not achieving compliance with the Maryland Time Standards to conclude the hearing within the same time guideline. The Court believes that a continued adjudication is a held hearing albeit not concluded.

- Remove 'concluded hearing' as a case start event from criminal and delinquency cases. A hearing may be concluded without the presence of defendant/respondent and/or their attorney, which is a case start trigger in criminal and delinquency time standards. If a bench warrant is issued and the case ultimately dismissed right after case initiation, it results in a 1-day case instead of a case missing a valid case start date. Since defendant's initial appearance and attorney's line of appearance are recognized as valid case start events, when they are present in the earliest hearing, these event codes function as a case start trigger. In the past, if these codes were missing due to a bench warrant, the case start would be missing requiring review of the case by court personnel.
- Remove the filing date as a case start trigger in criminal cases. The current configurations in criminal cases for the assessment include the default of using the case filing date as the case start date when eligible case start events are not identified. We recommend that this requirement be removed and instead flag cases with 'missing case start' in the assessment. Moreover, we recommend determining whether the case filing date is an optional case start date due to configuration requirements in the Time Standards tab.
- Receive case processing data on a more routine basis in the Case Assessment Application (or similar application). It is recommended that case assessment data be made available on a daily, weekly, monthly or quarterly basis for courts interested in interim review of their performance. While Montgomery County Circuit Court receives daily data feeds of their case processing data, the eligible cases do not necessarily align with the cases pulled for the annual assessment based on logic differences. While service tickets have been submitted, they have yet to be resolved. Our court would like, at a minimum, a quarterly review of performance so that discussion and adjustments (as needed) in business processes can be made earlier in the year. Use of the case processing data on a more frequent and routine basis will also help support a data-informed approach to local court business processes and operations decisions.
- Continued Use of an External Database Application for the Caseload Assessment. The Court continues to recommend that the Maryland Judiciary maintain its Assessment Application or develop a more robust application that provides year-round access to the assessment data and allows users to review the data and calculate real-time performance and make necessary corrections and adjustments that may not be performed in the production data. The case management system's enterprise custom reports (ECRs), which draw data from production data, cannot be relied on to accurately reflect case processing performance for several of the case types/case groups including but not limited to delinquency, child welfare, and criminal. While a data

warehouse solution has been discussed, it is unclear how a read-only warehouse can be used to support annual case processing analysis when manual adjustments are needed.

- Review of Assessment Application and Odyssey's Time Standards Tab Functionality/Configurations. Continue supporting the Statewide Time Standards Workgroup in reviewing programming logic used for the Assessment Application, as well as the functionality and configuration of Odyssey's Time Tracks and Time Standards.
 - Given misalignment between the Maryland Judiciary's Time Standards instruction and configuration of the time standards in Odyssey, it is recommended that the judiciary's time standards be hidden on the Time Standards tab or, at a minimum, a caveat be added to all Maryland Judiciary Time Standards QRGs noting the misalignment(s) in case processing time calculation, which may be due to data entry and/or system functionality or configuration limitations. As an example, Montgomery Circuit's CINA Shelter FY24 performance in the Caseflow ECR is 97% (56/58 cases); however, the Assessment Application has a CINA Shelter performance of 82% (76/93 cases, where all 17 over-standard cases were reviewed/validated). Also, the delinquency case time standard on the Time Standards tab will not accurately reflect case processing time for certain scenarios (e.g., multi-charges) unless Tyler development is approved or an alternate way to measure performance is identified.
 - In Criminal cases, the case start and stop dates captured by the assessment application programming logic is not aligned with the Maryland Judiciary case time standard guidelines. For example, the logic does not consistently select the appropriate date, resulting in inaccuracies in case processing time requiring manual review and correction.
- Implementation Date for Approved Changes. If decisions by the Case Management Subcommittee will not be approved by the Major Projects Committee until well into the subsequent fiscal year and those changes require adjustments to local court business processes, then it is requested that the Case Management Subcommittee consider implementing the change for the future assessment year – not the one immediately upcoming – to avoid applying changes to the cases that have already closed.

Montgomery County Circuit Court Case Management Initiatives

- Clarifying Court Processes and Information Sharing. The implementation of MDEC required some offices under Court Administration and the Clerk of the Court 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 offices, updated case manuals and analyses clarifying court processes are being compiled and, where necessary, developed. It is also important the Court's processes align to the extent possible with other circuit courts as we share the same case management system. Continued dialog and collaboration are encouraged as we work to streamline processes and attempt to use data to inform practices and processes.

Appendix B. Caseload Metrics: Filings, Terminations and Pending²

Case Filings, Original and Reopen

In FY25, filings totaled 27,105, broken down between 17,983 original filings and 9,122 reopened filings. This represents 1,260 more total filings than received in FY24 (25,845), a 5% increase. Original filings increased by 4% from 17,307 in FY24 to 17,983 in FY25. Reopened filings increased by 7% from 8,538 in FY24 to 9,122 in FY25. Between FY20 and FY25, the most notable increases occurred in civil and juvenile delinquency filings. Original filings in civil cases increased by 952 (15%) between FY24 and FY25 from 6,131 to 7,083 case closures. Reopen filings increased in civil cases most notably by 209 (12%) from 1,804 (FY24) to 2,013 (FY25).

Table B.1. Total, Original, and Reopen Filings, FY20-FY25

Case Type	Filings						FY20-25 Trend Line	FY20-25 Change
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25		
Total								
Civil	6,626	5,660	6,454	8,058	7,935	9,096		37%
Criminal	4,620	3,754	3,875	4,062	4,477	4,549		-2%
Family	11,057	11,157	10,784	10,798	11,478	11,568		5%
Juvenile	2,180	1,601	1,026	1,225	1,955	2,306		6%
Delinquency	1,960	1,398	869	1,083	1,808	2,181		11%
CINA	188	155	117	108	113	101		-46%
TPR	32	48	40	34	34	24		-25%
Total	24,483	22,172	22,139	24,143	25,845	27,519		12%
% Family	45%	50%	49%	45%	44%	42%		
Original								
Civil*	5,238	3,859	5,041	5,804	6,131	7,083		35%
Criminal	1,493	1,186	1,366	1,435	1,570	1,397		-6%
Family	6,820	6,977	7,871	8,444	8,824	8,784		29%
Juvenile	743	382	447	590	782	719		-3%
Delinquency	556	219	305	453	643	597		7%
CINA	165	118	104	103	106	98		-41%
TPR	22	45	38	34	33	24		9%
Total	14,294	12,404	14,725	16,273	17,307	17,983		26%
% Family	48%	56%	53%	52%	51%	49%		
Reopen								
Civil*	1,388	1,801	1,413	2,254	1,804	2,013		45%
Criminal	3,127	2,568	2,509	2,627	2,907	3,152		1%
Family	4,237	4,180	2,913	2,354	2,654	2,784		-34%
Juvenile	1,437	1,219	579	635	1,173	1,587		10%
Delinquency	1,404	1,179	564	630	1,165	1,584		13%
CINA	23	37	13	5	7	3		-87%
TPR	10	3	2	0	1	0		-100%
Total	10,189	9,768	7,414	7,870	8,538	9,536		-6%
% Family	42%	43%	39%	30%	31%	29%		

Note: Juvenile figures include delinquency, CINA and TPR filings.

² Civil case filings and terminations exclude Register of Wills and liens. Data is from the Case Statistics ECR for FY22 through FY25. Updates to programming logic to capture original filings that occurred in 2024 may explain some increases in filing counts for FY22 and FY23 if comparing to previously reporting counts. Figures as of July 31, 2025.

Case Terminations, Original and Reopened

The Court terminated a total of 26,710 cases in FY25, which is 5% higher than FY24 when a total of 25,454 cases closed (a difference of 1,256 terminations).³ Between FY20 and FY25, the most notable increases occurred in original family and civil terminations as well as reopened civil and juvenile terminations. Original terminations in civil cases increased by 887 (15%) between FY24 and FY25 from 5,738 to 6,625 case closures. Reopen terminations increased in juvenile cases most notably by 1,045 (54%) from 1,045 (FY24) to 1,606 (FY25).

Table B.2. Total, Original, and Reopen Terminations, FY20-FY25

Case Type	Terminations						FY20-25 Trend Line	FY20-25 Change
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25		
Total								
Civil	6,502	6,069	6,523	7,736	7,638	8,441		30%
Criminal	4,374	3,794	3,918	3,993	4,432	4,518		3%
Family	11,047	11,645	10,319	10,307	11,613	11,466		4%
Juvenile	2,104	1,872	1,105	1,232	1,771	2,285		9%
Delinquency	1,895	1,605	946	1,076	1,611	2,155		14%
CINA	175	235	131	110	122	98		-44%
TPR	34	32	28	46	38	32		-6%
Total	24,027	23,380	21,865	23,268	25,454	26,710		11%
% Family	46%	50%	47%	44%	46%	43%		
Original								
Civil*	5,118	4,416	4,959	5,619	5,738	6,625		29%
Criminal	1,357	1,129	1,326	1,407	1,531	1,511		11%
Family	6,709	7,085	7,565	7,979	8,964	8,761		31%
Juvenile	692	617	462	603	726	679		-2%
Delinquency	515	395	311	453	576	554		8%
CINA	154	194	125	104	112	94		-39%
TPR	23	28	26	46	38	31		35%
Total	13,876	13,247	14,312	15,608	16,959	17,576		27%
% Family	48%	53%	53%	51%	53%	50%		
Reopen								
Civil*	1,384	1,653	1,564	2,117	1,900	1,816		31%
Criminal	3,017	2,665	2,592	2,586	2,901	3,007		0%
Family	4,338	4,560	2,754	2,328	2,649	2,705		-38%
Juvenile	1,412	1,255	643	629	1,045	1,606		14%
Delinquency	1,380	1,210	635	623	1,035	1,601		16%
CINA	21	41	6	6	10	4		-81%
TPR	11	4	2	0	0	1		-91%
Total	10,151	10,133	7,553	7,660	8,495	9,134		-10%
% Family	43%	45%	36%	30%	31%	30%		

Note: Juvenile figures include delinquency, CINA and TPR terminations.

³ Termination counts in the caseload section do not necessarily match counts of cases terminated that are eligible for the annual case processing analysis (see earlier tables) 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 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 concluded/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 may not have the case time standard and therefore are not captured in the case processing data extracts. Figures as of July 31, 2025.

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 for the specified reporting period; 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 FY24, the total clearance rates in FY25 increased for Juvenile, particularly delinquency (89% to 99%). For FY25, the Court's total clearance rates are approaching or greater than 100% for criminal, family and juvenile caseloads. The total civil clearance rate dipped slightly between FY24 and FY25 from 96% to 93%. The original clearance rates for family, criminal and TPR are at or above 100%.

Table B.3. Total, Original, and Reopen Clearance Rates, FY20-FY25

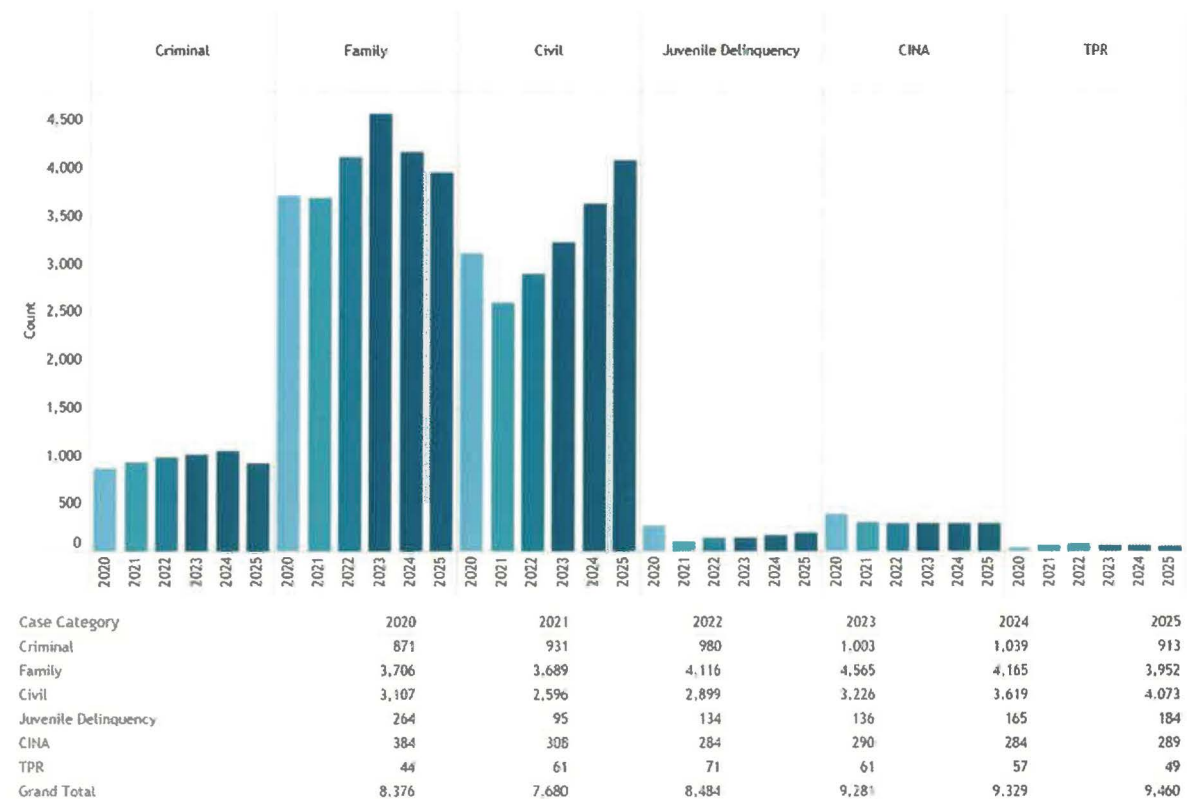
Case Type	Clearance Rates						FY20-25 Trend Line
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	
Total							
Civil	98%	107%	101%	96%	96%	93%	
Criminal	95%	101%	101%	98%	99%	99%	
Family	100%	104%	96%	95%	101%	99%	
Juvenile	97%	117%	108%	101%	91%	99%	
Delinquency	97%	115%	109%	99%	89%	99%	
CINA	93%	152%	112%	102%	108%	97%	
TPR	106%	67%	70%	135%	112%	133%	
Total	98%	105%	99%	96%	98%	97%	
Original							
Civil*	98%	114%	98%	97%	94%	94%	
Criminal	91%	95%	97%	98%	98%	108%	
Family	98%	102%	96%	94%	102%	100%	
Juvenile	93%	162%	103%	102%	93%	94%	
Delinquency	93%	180%	102%	100%	90%	93%	
CINA	93%	164%	120%	101%	106%	96%	
TPR	105%	62%	68%	135%	115%	129%	
Total	97%	107%	97%	96%	98%	98%	
Reopen							
Civil*	100%	92%	111%	94%	105%	90%	
Criminal	96%	104%	103%	98%	100%	95%	
Family	102%	109%	95%	99%	100%	97%	
Juvenile	98%	103%	111%	99%	89%	101%	
Delinquency	98%	103%	113%	99%	89%	101%	
CINA	91%	111%	46%	120%	143%	133%	
TPR	110%	133%	100%	---	0%	---	
Total	100%	104%	102%	97%	99%	96%	

Pending Caseload⁴

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 (including divorce merits and custody), and juvenile (including CINA) caseloads. A reduction in the family original pending caseload occurred when comparing FY23 to FY25. That is, the family pending caseload decreased from 4,565 in FY23 to 3,952 in FY25 (a 13% reduction). There has also been a noticeable reduction in criminal pending caseloads, from 1,003 in FY23 to 913 in FY25 (a 9% reduction). Reductions in the original pending caseloads also occurred for CINA and TPR. Civil and juvenile delinquency experienced increases in the original pending caseload between FY23 and FY25.

The Court continues to actively monitor its pending caseloads and responds (as necessary) to increases in filings. Initiatives have been implemented such as increased opportunities for mediation and settlement in family cases and increases in the number of judges who preside over criminal cases. Weekly case management discussions continue to identify opportunities to ensure efficient and effective administration of justice. Review of civil processes may be of interest given the continued increase in pending caseloads.

Figure B.1. Open and Active Pending Caseload by Case Type (as of the End of Fiscal Year), FY20- FY25



⁴ The pending caseload counts are based on pending data as of the end of June (i.e., the end of the fiscal year). Pending figures may not align with current pending figures for the referenced years if additional adjustments were made to the case as it relates to date filed or closed.

Appendix C. Fiscal Year 2025 Case Processing Time Report

Data Quality Review and Analysis Procedures

Data quality review is a core function of the Court's operations. To maintain confidence in the data, the Court modified its data quality review process for this year's report.

Data Quality Procedures on the FY2025 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 caseflow assessment-eligible cases. This review is essentially a closed-case audit.

For the FY25 case processing analysis, BDQ personnel reviewed closed cases eligible for the Maryland Caseflow Assessment. Data quality reviews included verifying case information pertinent to the assessment, followed by a review of documents and/or digital recordings of court proceedings if such a review was necessary. BDQ personnel also review, verify, and validate additional data points such as the case disposition, dismissal deferrals, and trial postponements. They worked with the Clerk's Office and Court Administration to reconcile identified issues using a Questionable Case Tracking Tool.⁵ Once identified issues were resolved, BDQ personnel corrected any caseflow-related information in the Maryland Judiciary's assessment application. Juvenile data-related corrections were addressed by Research & Performance (R&P) personnel. BDQ personnel also worked closely with R&P personnel to review eligible cases and reconcile questionable information related to case start, case stop, and suspension data elements.

On a quarterly basis throughout FY25, R&P personnel compiled and analyzed the Court's case processing performance based, in part, from data feeds created by AOC-JIS. R&P reviewed and updated the data from these files (e.g., drawing from data contained in the JIS Data Store) to ensure a more accurate universe of eligible cases based on the Maryland Judiciary's Statewide Case Time Standards. Where local business processes or data issues were identified, R&P personnel contacted BDQ personnel and the appropriate clerk department and court administration management teams for discussion and resolution. For the FY25 annual case processing performance analysis, R&P used this data to calculate the Court's case processing performance.

It is important to note that the performance results based on the 'Assessment Application' data should be reasonably comparable, if not identical, to those based on the 'Full' data. However, due to differences in programming logic to select eligible cases and determine the case stop date, for a given case type, these two data sets may have a different composition of cases and yield different case processing performance results over what would be expected by chance given random selection.

Transitioning to and now working with MDEC offers the Court several opportunities to review and revise its processes and practices related to data quality and case processing management. The Court is committed to data accuracy through continued data quality reviews, analysis, and reporting. Maintaining the integrity and accuracy of court records enhances confidence in the data used to inform and report on case and court management.

⁵ The Questionable Case Tracking Tool includes data inquiries beyond the case time standards start, stop, and suspension events. Data inquiries also include questions related to verdicts and case dispositions, hearing type codes, event codes, etc.

For the FY25 caseload assessment, BDQ and R&P personnel plan to meet to conduct timely auditing of eligible cases, standardize and automate reporting efforts, as well as remove duplicative tasks to support the more routine access of case processing performance information.