# 2023 Columbia Court of Common Pleas Caseload Statistics for

Caseload Statistics for



#### SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ANDREA B. TUOMINEN COURT ADMINISTRATOR OF PENNSYLVANIA



We are pleased to provide you with a copy of the 2023 County Caseload Display pages. They can also be viewed on the AOPC webpage at <u>www.pacourts.us</u> in the *News & Statistics* section under *Research & Statistics*.

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at 717.231.3300 .

Sincerely,

Sasanka Adikari, Ph.D. Data Scientist Department of Research and Statistics

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2023 Population estimate: 65,439 Class of County: 6th No. of Common Pleas Court Judgeships: 3 (Columbia and Montour combined)

2023 Criminal	No. of Cases	
Cases Pending 1/1/2023	1,185	
New Cases Filed in 2023	770	
Reopened Cases	85	
Cases Available for Processing	2,040	
Processed by:		
Withdrawn/Dismissed	163	17.5%
Diversionary Disposition*	207	22.2%
Guilty Plea	445	47.7%
Non-Jury Trial	5	0.5%
Jury Trial	13	1.4%
Inactive	96	10.3%
Other	3	0.3%
Total Cases Processed	932	100.0%
Cases Pending 12/31/2023	1,108	

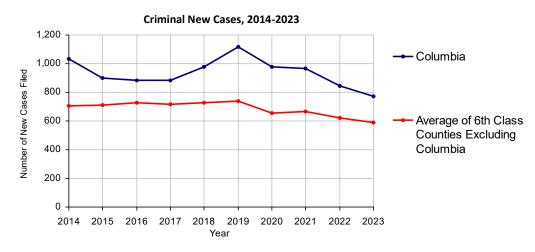


Age of Pend as of 12/3	•	es
0-60 Days	132	11.9%
61-120 Days	101	9.1%
121-180 Days	118	10.6%
181-240 Days	80	7.2%
241-300 Days	91	8.2%
301-360 Days	67	6.0%
Over 360 Days	519	46.8%
Total	1,108	100.0%

Data provided by CPCMS

**Cases Awaiting Sentencing** 

\* Includes other diversionary programs such as Veterans Court.



36

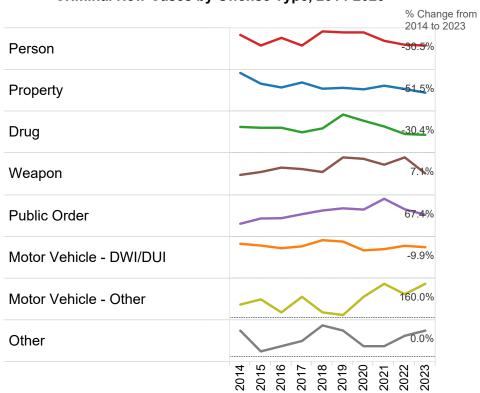
2023 Population: 65,439 Class of County: 6th No. of Common Pleas Judgeships: 3 (Columbia and Montour combined)



#### 2023 Criminal - New Cases by Offense Type

Case Type	Felony	Misdemeanor	Summary	Total	
Person	50	48	0	98	12.7%
Property	68	80	1	149	19.4%
Drug	41	131	0	172	22.3%
Weapon	10	5	0	15	1.9%
Public Order	31	40	1	72	9.4%
Motor Vehicle - DWI/DUI	5	241	0	246	31.9%
Motor Vehicle - Other	3	10	0	13	1.7%
Other	5	0	0	5	0.6%
Total	213	555	2	770	100.0%
	27.7%	72.1%	0.3%	100.0%	

Data provided by CPCMS

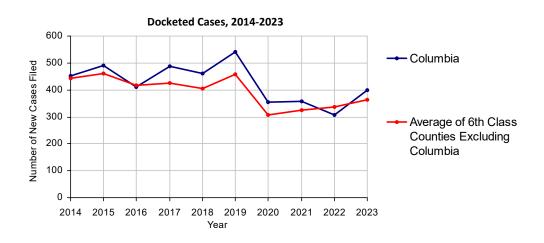


## Criminal New Cases by Offense Type, 2014-2023

2023 Population estimate: 65,439 Class of County: 6th No. of Common Pleas Court Judgeships: 3 (Columbia and Montour combined)



2023 Civil	<b>Civil Action</b>	Other	Total			
Cases Pending 1/1/2023	310	139	449			
Docketed Cases	265	133	398			
Arbitration Appeals	1	0	1		_	
Transferred In	0	0	0	Age of Pendin	•	2S
Returned to Active	0	0	0	as of 12/31		
Cases Available for Processing	576	272	848	(Civil Action	i Only)	
-				0-6 months	150	42.4%
Processed By:				7-12 months	78	<mark>22.0%</mark>
Default Judgments	92	29	121	13-18 months	74	20.9%
Cases Decided by Arbitration Boar	d 8	0	8	19-24 months	30	8.5%
Dispositive Motions	1	4	5	25-30 months	15	4.2%
Settlements	3	4	7	31-36 months	7	2.0%
Moved to Inactive Status	0	0	0	37-42 months	0	
Transferred/Withdrawn	0	0	0	43-48 months	0	
Dismissed/Discontinued	94	30	124	49-54 months	0	
Administrative Purge	16	6	22	55-60 months	0	
Other	6	3	9	61-66 months	0	
Jury Trial	2	0	2	67-72 months	0	
Non-Jury Trial	0	0	0	Over 72 months	0	
Total Cases Processed	222	76	298	Total	354	100.0%
Cases Pending 12/31/2023	354	196	550			



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### 2023 Civil - Docketed Cases Listed by Case Type

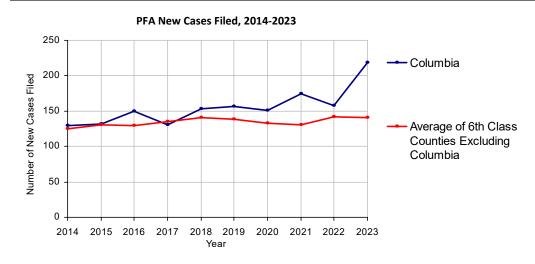
TORT	39	9.8%	REAL PROPERTY	103	25.9%
(does not include mass tort)			Ejectment*	7	
Intentional	4		Eminent Domain/Condemnation	n* 2	
Malicious Prosecution	4		Ground Rent	0	
Motor Vehicle	22		Landlord/Tenant Dispute	3	
Nuisance	1		Mortgage Foreclosure:	<b>U</b>	
Premise Liability	4		Residential*	77	
Product Liability	0		Commercial*	1	
Slander/Libel/Defamation	1		Partition of Real Property*	2	
Other	3		Quiet Title*	6	
MASS TORT	6	1.5%	Other*	5	
Asbestos	0		CIVIL APPEALS	14	3.5%
Tobacco	0		- Administrative Agencies		
Toxic Tort - DES	0		Board of Assessment*	5	
Toxic Tort - Implant	0		Board of Elections*		
Toxic Waste	0		Dept. of Transportation*	6	
Other	6		Zoning Board*	2	
PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY	5	1.3%	Statutory Appeal - Other*	0	
Dental	1		Other*	1	
Legal	0		MISCELLANEOUS	19	4.8%
Medical Malpractice	4		Common Law/		
Other	0		Statutory Arbitration*	0	
			Declaratory Judgment*	1	
CONTRACT	212	53.3%	Mandamus*	0	
(does not include judgments)	0		Non-Domestic Relations		
Buyer Plaintiff	3		Restraining Order*	1	
Debt Collection: Credit Card	131 00		Quo Warranto*	0	
Debt Collection: Other	68		Replevin*	9	
Employment Dispute:Discrimination	0		Other*	8	
Employment Dispute: Other	1		-	_	
Other	9		TOTAL DOCKETED CASES:	398	100.0%
Of the Docketed Cases:					
Pro Se Filings: 0	Class	Action Suits:	0 MDJ Ap	peals:	3 0.8%
* Civil Other					

\*Civil Other

2023 Population estimate: 65,439 Class of County: 6th No. of Common Pleas Court Judgeships: 3 (Columbia and Montour combined)



2023 Protection From Abuse	No. of Petitions	
Cases Pending 1/1/2023	102	
New Cases Filed in 2023	219	
Of these, Petitions Requesting Temporary Orders: 219 (100.0%) Temporary Orders DENIED: 8 (3.7%), Temporary Orders GRANTED: 211 (96.3%)		
Cases Available for Processing	321	
Processed By:		
Temporary Order DENIED After Ex Parte Hearing and No Evidentiary Hearing Scheduled	1	0.5%
Temporary Order DISMISSED After Evidentiary Hearing and No Final Order Entered	7	3.2%
Final Order DENIED After Evidentiary Hearing Before a Judge or a Judicial Officer	1	0.5%
Final Order GRANTED After Evidentiary Hearing Before a Judge or a Judicial Officer	111	50.7%
Plaintiff Did Not Appear For Evidentiary Hearing	6	2.7%
Final Order by STIPULATION OR AGREEMENT Between the Parties	2	0.9%
Petition WITHDRAWN by Plaintiff	90	41.1%
TRANSFERRED to Another Jurisdiction	0	
Other	1	0.5%
Cases Processed	219	100.0%
Cases Pending 12/31/2023	102	



Note. The average of 6th class counties for 2023 excludes Tioga County due to unavailable data.

2023 Population estimate: 65,439 Class of County: 6th No. of Common Pleas Court Judgeships: 3 (Columbia and Montour combined)

2023 Spousal & Child Support	No. of Petitions	;
Cases Pending 1/1/2023	134	
New Cases Filed in 2023	847	
Dockets Transferred In (+)	17	
Dockets Transferred Out (-)	12	
Cases Available for Processing	986	
Processed By:		
Judge	10	1.2%
Intake Officer	771	90.1%
Hearing Officer	75	8.8%
Other	0	
Cases Processed	856	100.0%
Cases Pending 12/31/2023	130	

Data provided by PACSES

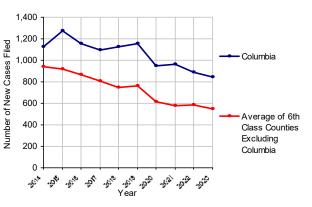
2023 Paternity	No. of Cases	
Acknowledgements Filed:		
Non-Domestic Relations Section	105	82.7%
During Conference	20	15.7%
Non-Stipulated (post genetic test)	2	1.6%
Pre-Trial Conference	0	
Total	127	100.0%
Established:		
Stipulated by Genetic Tests	5	19.2%
Default - Father Failed to Appear	10	38.5%
Adjudication by Court Proceeding	0	
Out of State	11	42.3%
Total	26	100.0%
Cases Pending 12/31/2023	17	

Data provided by PACSES

Note: Include support and paternity data for Montour County since Domestic Relations Offices were combined in 2015 and breakouts are not available.



Spousal & Child Support New Cases, 2014-2023



#### **DEFINITIONS:**

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS FILED:

NON-DOMESTIC RELATIONS SECTION: The voluntary Acknowledgement of Paternity by the alleged father. DURING CONFERENCE: The alleged father signed the Acknowledgement of Paternity-Waiver of Trial (PE-010) at the initial child support conference.

NON-STIPULATED (POST GENETIC TEST): The alleged father signed the Acknowledgement of Paternity-Waiver of Trial after genetic tests were conducted and resulted in the alleged father being determined to be the biological father. PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE: The alleged father signed the Acknowledgement of Paternity-Waiver of Trial at the pre-trial conference.

#### ESTABLISHED:

STIPULATED BY GENETIC TESTS: The alleged father requested genetic tests and signed a stipulation that if the test results had a 99% or higher probability of paternity then the alleged father would be stipulated as the biological father of the child.

DEFAULT - FATHER FAILED TO APPEAR: The alleged father failed to appear after being served for either a support conference, hearing, or genetic test and a default paternity order was entered by the court.

ADJUDICATION BY COURT PROCEEDING: The alleged father was determined to be the biological father of the child through a court proceeding.

OUT OF STATE: Paternity was established in another state, "Out of state only".

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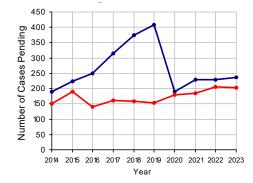


2023 Custody/Partial Custody/Visitation	No. of Petitions	
Cases Pending 1/1/2023	228	
New Cases Filed in 2023	224	
Cases Available for Processing	452	
Processed By:		
Judge	28	13.1%
Non-Judicial Officer	172	80.4%
Administrative Review/Purge	0	
Other	14	6.5%
Cases Processed	214	100.0%
Cases Pending 12/31/2023	238	

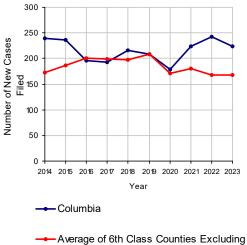
Clearance Rate, 2014-2023

Note: Clearance Rate = Cases Processed / New Cases Filed

Cases Pending at the End of Year, 2014-2023



Custody/Partial Custody/Visitation New Cases Filed, 2014-2023



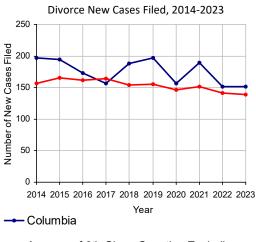
 Average of 6th Class Counties Excluding Columbia

Note: The unusually high clearance rate in 2014 was due to an administrative review and purge.

2023 Population estimate: 65,439 Class of County: 6th No. of Common Pleas Court Judgeships: 3 (Columbia and Montour combined)

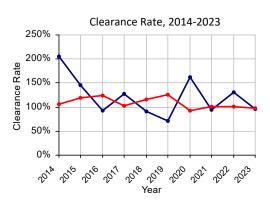


2023 Divorce	No. of Petitions	
Cases Pending 1/1/2023	103	
New Cases Filed in 2023	151	
Cases Available for Processing	254	
Processed By:		
Contested Before a Judge	8	5.6%
Contested Before a Non-Judicial Officer	5	3.5%
Uncontested	129	89.6%
Administrative Review/Purge	0	
Other	2	1.4%
Cases Processed	144	100.0%
Cases Pending 12/31/2023	110	

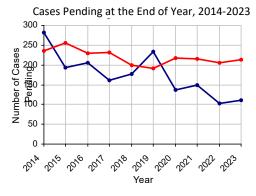


 Average of 6th Class Counties Excluding Columbia

Note. The unusually high clearance rate in 2014 was due to an administrative review and purge.



Note: Clearance Rate = Cases Processed / New Cases Filed



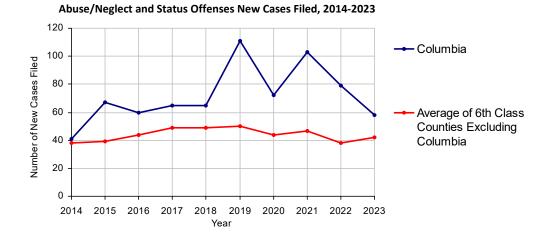
2023 Population estimate: 65,439 Class of County: 6th No. of Common Pleas Court Judgeships: 3 (Columbia and Montour combined)



## 2023 Juvenile Dependency - Petitions Pending Adjudication

	Abuse/ Neglect	Status Offenses	Total
Cases Pending 1/1/2023	27	0	27
New Petitions Filed in 2023	58	0	58
Other	10	2	12
Total Petitions Available for Processing	95	2	97
Processed by:			
Adjudicated Dependent			
Judge	2	0	2
Juvenile Court Hearing Officer	74	2	76
Adjudicated NOT Dependent			
Judge	0	0	0
Juvenile Court Hearing Officer	3	0	3
Withdrawn/Dismissed/Inactive	5	0	5
Other	1	0	1
Total Petitions Processed	85	2	87
Cases Pending 12/31/2023	10	0	10

Data provided by CPCMS



2023 Population estimate: 65,439 Class of County: 6th No. of Common Pleas Court Judgeships: 3 (Columbia and Montour combined)



## 2023 Juvenile Dependency - Adjudicated Dependent Inventory

	Abuse/ Neglect	(	Status Offenses	i	Total	
Cases Pending 1/1/2023	139		2		141	
New Adjudicated Dependent Cases	76		2		78	
Other	0		0		0	
Total Adjudicated Dependent Cases	215		4		219	
Court Supervision Terminated:						
Family Reunification	29	33.3%	0		29	33.0%
Adoption	15	17.2%	1	100.0%	16	18.2%
Placement with a Relative/Guardian	27	31.0%	0		27	30.7%
Aged Out	9	10.3%	0		9	10.2%
Other Permanency Outcomes*	1	1.1%	0		1	1.1%
Other**	6	6.9%	0		6	6.8%
Total Adjudicated Dependent Cases Terminated	87	100.0%	1	100.0%	88	100.0%
Cases Pending 12/31/2023	128		3		131	

Data provided by CPCMS

\* Other Permanency Outcomes include: adjudicated delinquent, death due to natural causes, emancipation, permanent living arrangement, and parent has come forward.

\*\* Other includes cases where court supervision is terminated due to transfer out of jurisdiction, withdrawal and administrative closure.

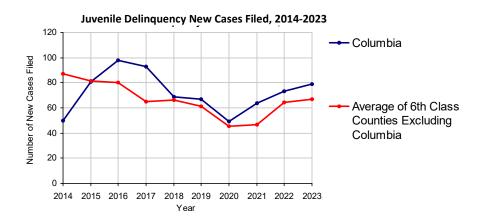
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## 2023 Juvenile Delinquency - Cases Pending Disposition

Begin Pending	20
New Cases	79
Consent Decree Revoked	1
Informal Adjustment Program Revoked	0
Alternative Program Revoked	0
Warrant Returned	0
Other	11
Total Cases Available for Disposition	111
Warrant Issued	0
Disposed by:	
Adjudicated Delinquent by a Judge	24
Adjudicated Delinquent by a Juvenile	
Court Hearing Officer	0
Consent Decree Entered	14
Informal Adjustment Program Entered	26
Warned and Counseled (Pre-Petition)	1
Dismissed/Withdrawn/Transferred	20
Transferred to Criminal Court	0
Other	2
Total Cases Disposed	87
End Pending	24

Data provided by CPCMS



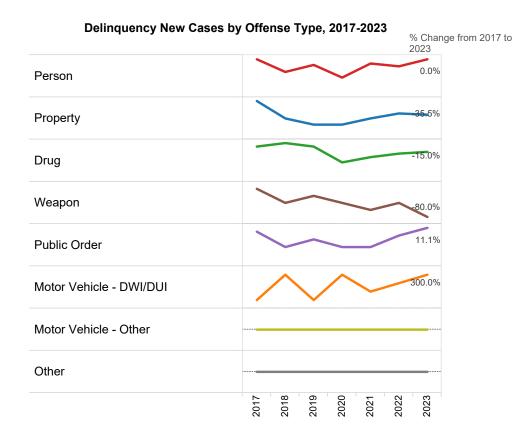
2023 Population: 65,439 Class of County: 6th No. of Common Pleas Judgeships: 3 (Columbia and Montour combined)



#### 2023 Delinquency - New Cases by Offense Type

Case Type	Felony	Misdemeanor	Summary	Total	
Person	7	20	0	27	34.2%
Property	5	15	0	20	25.3%
Drug	1	16	0	17	21.5%
Weapon	1	0	0	1	1.3%
Public Order	1	9	0	10	12.7%
Motor Vehicle - DWI/DUI	0	4	0	4	5.1%
Motor Vehicle - Other	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Other	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total	15	64	0	79	100.0%
_	19.0%	81.0%	0.0%	100.0%	

Data provided by CPCMS



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## **2023 Juvenile Delinquency** - Formal Dispositions

Begin Pending	26
Adjudicated Delinquent by a Judge	24
Adjudicated Delinquent by a Juvenile Court Hearing Officer	0
Warrant Returned	0
Other	0
Total Adjudicated Delinquent Cases	50
Warrant Issued	0
Court Supervision Terminated:	
Conditions Satisfied	17
Compelling Reasons	5
Reached Age 21	0
Transferred to Another Juvenile Court	0
Other	0
Total Adjudicated Delinquent Cases Terminated	22
End Pending	28

(R) - Revised Data provided by CPCMS

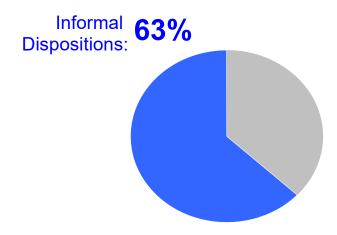
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## **2023 Juvenile Delinquency** - Informal Dispositions

Pending Consent Decrees	2
Pending Informal Adjustments	10
New Consent Decrees	14
New Informal Adjustments	26
Warrant Returned	0
Other	0
Cases Informally Disposed	52
Warrant Issued	0
Terminated by:	
Consent Decree Completed	6
Informal Adjustment Completed	26
Consent Decree Revoked	1
Informal Adjustment Program Revoked	0
Other	1
Total Informally Disposed Cases Terminated	34
End Pending	18

(R) - Revised Data provided by CPCMS

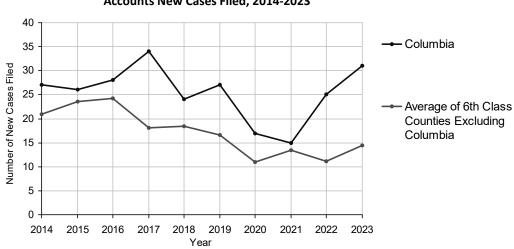


Delinquency Cases are disposed either formally, at a proceeding held before a judge or hearing officer, or informally without a proceeding. Informal dispositions include informal adjustments supervised by a juvenile probation officer; consent decrees agreed upon with the District Attorney after a petition is filed; or other prepetition process by the juvenile probation department.

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2023 Accounts	No. of Cases	
Cases Pending 1/1/2023	22	
New Cases Filed in 2023	31	
Cases Available for Processing 53		
Processed By:		
Contested before a Judge	0	
Contested before a Non-Judicial Officer	0	
Uncontested	24	100.0%
Other	0	
Cases Processed	24	100.0%
Cases Pending 12/31/2023	29	

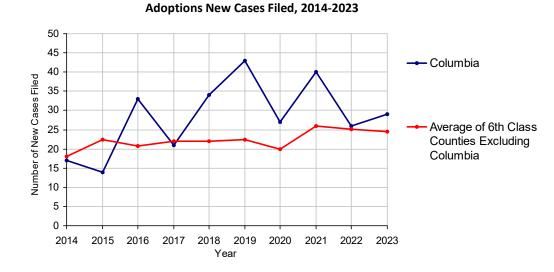


Accounts New Cases Filed, 2014-2023

2023 Population estimate: 65,439 Class of County: 6th No. of Common Pleas Court Judgeships: 3 (Columbia and Montour combined)



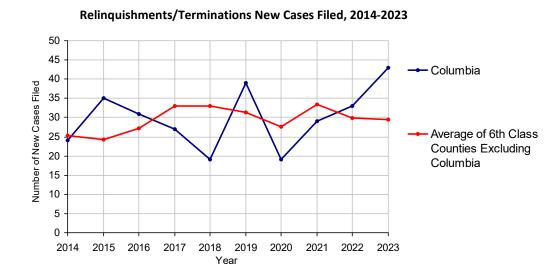
2023 Adoptions		No. of Cases	
Cases Pending 1/1/2023		10	
New Cases Filed in 2023		29	
Cases Available for Processing		39	
Processed By:			
Contested before a Judge	Granted	0	
	Denied	0	
Uncontested	Granted	33	97.1%
	Denied	0	
Other		1	2.9%
Cases Processed		34	100.0%
Cases Pending 12/31/2023		5	



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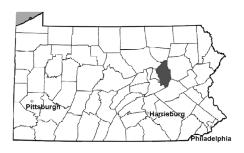


2023 Relinquishments/Terminations	No. of Cases	
Cases Pending 1/1/2023	13	
New Cases Filed in 2023 43		
Cases Available for Processing		
Processed By:		
Contested before a Judge	2	3.8%
Uncontested	33	62.3%
Other	18	34.0%
Cases Processed	53	100.0%
Cases Pending 12/31/2023	3	

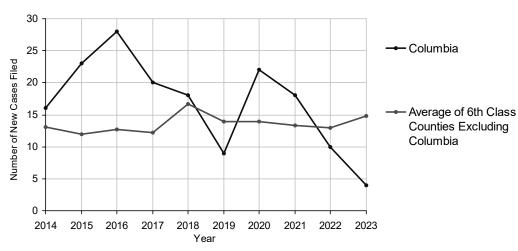


Last Modified: October 1, 2024

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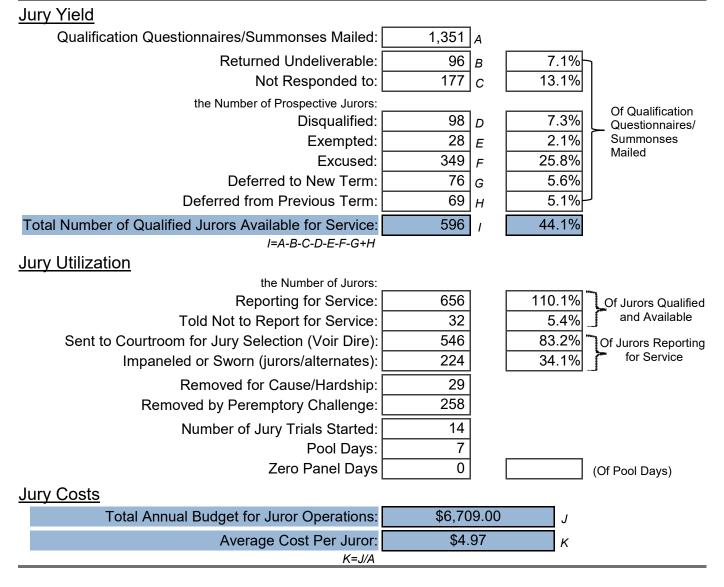
2023 Appointment of Guardians	No. of Cases	
Cases Pending 1/1/2023	29	
New Cases Filed in 2023 4		
Cases Available for Processing 33		
Processed By:		
Contested before a Judge	0	
Uncontested	4	100.0%
Other	0	
Cases Processed	4	100.0%
Cases Pending 12/31/2023	29	



Appointment of Guardians New Cases Filed, 2014-2023

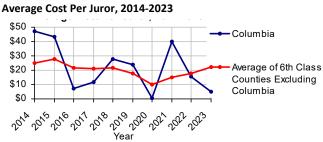
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## 2023 Jury Yield and Utilization



Pittsb

delphia

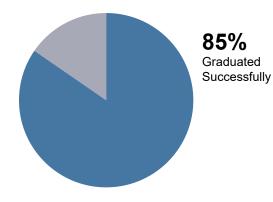


## **Columbia/Montour Counties**

#### **2023 Problem Solving Courts**

#### 13 Discharges

Of All Court Participants Discharged:

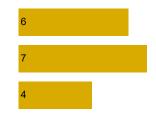


#### 17 Admissions

Adult Drug Court

**DUI** Court

Adult Mental Health Court

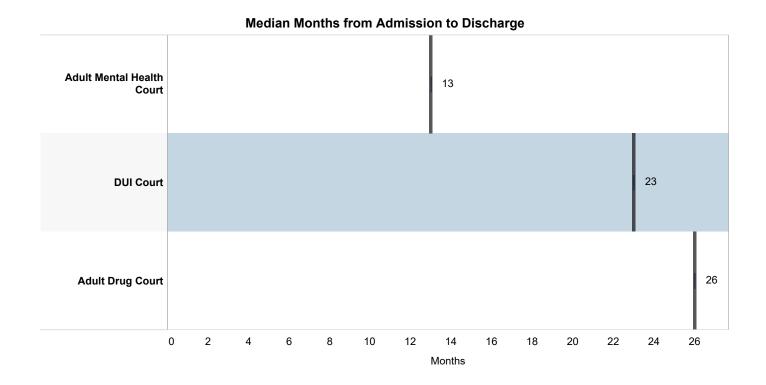


#### Discharge Reason

	Successfully Completed	Unsuccessful /Non-Compliant	Other	Total Discharges
Adult Drug Court	6 (100.0%)			6 (100.0%)
DUI Court	4 (80.0%)	1 (20.0%)		5 (100.0%)
Adult Mental Health Court	1 (50.0%)		1 <i>(50.0%)</i>	2 (100.0%)

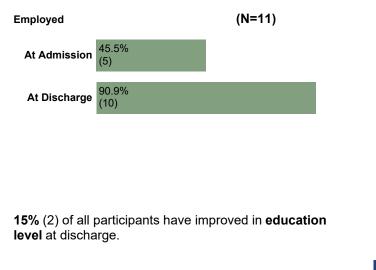
## **Columbia/Montour Counties**

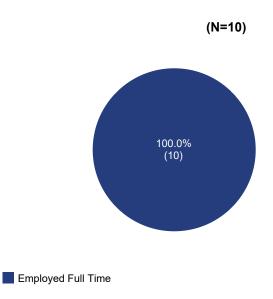
#### 2023 Problem Solving Courts



# Among successful graduates, there was a 100% increase in employment.

100% of the employed successful graduates were employed full time:





DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH & STATISTICS

KIM NIEVES, PH.D. DIRECTOR

ANDREW GINDER, MPA ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

YAN LIU, M.S. SENIOR STATISTICAL ANALYST

SASANKA ADIKARI, PH.D DATA SCIENTIST

AMANDA PEREIRA RESEARCH ASSISTANT