



THE PROVINCIAL COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Semi-Annual Time to Trial Report

September 30, 2025

Introduction

Time to trial measures the time elapsed from the time the case is ready to be scheduled until the next available date (in months) that a defined event can be routinely scheduled onto a future court list in a particular location.¹

Time to trial does not reflect when cases are actually set, rather it is an estimate of when court time would be available to schedule a particular activity. This estimate is then compared against the standard established by the court for that particular activity.

Time to trial data is currently collected from 69 court locations. The current update includes the following information as of September 30, 2025:

- Adult Criminal Weighted Provincial Time to Trial;
- Family Law Act (FLA) Weighted Provincial Time to Trial;
- Child, Family and Community Service Act (CFCSA)² Weighted Provincial Time to Trial;
- Civil Small Claims Weighted Provincial Time to Trial;
- Locations with the Longest Time to Trial in each area of the court's jurisdiction;
- Time to Trial Results by Location.

¹ Does not include fast tracked events, or dates that become available due to cancellations

² Also known as 'Child Protection'

Overall, the average weighted time to trial has increased by 9% provincially between September 2024 and September 2025. Most categories experienced increased delays over the past year. The top areas that improved were:

- Youth Trials (decreased by 9%)

The top categories that saw an increase in Time to Trial:

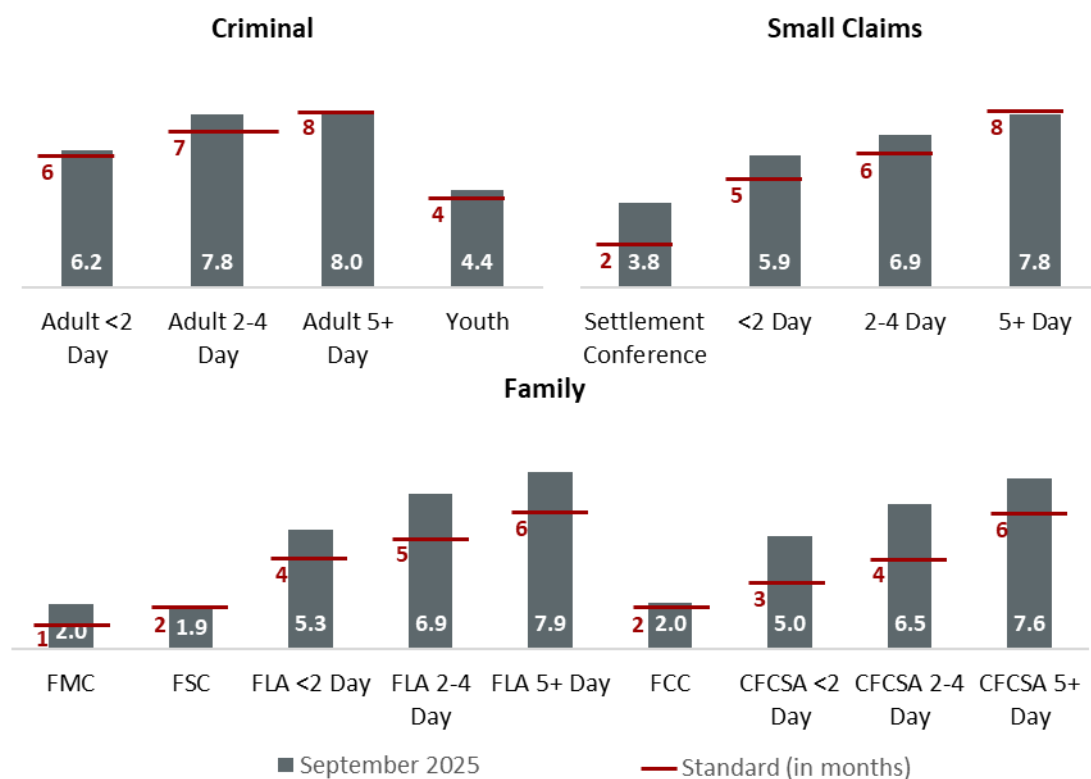
- Family Management Conference (increased by 31%, from 1.5 months to 2.0 months)
- Family Case Conferences (increased by 23%, from 1.7 months to 2.0 months)
- Short (<2 Day) CFCSA Trials (increased by 19%, from 4.2 months to 5 months)

Overall, results ranged from 0.2 months below the Provincial Court standard to 2.5 months above it, with most measures either over or at the standard by September 2025.

Figures 1 to 4 show time elapsed in months from the time the case is ready to be scheduled until the next available date.

Figure 1 shows weighted³ province-wide times to trial, as well as Provincial Court standards in months.

Figure 1 - Provincial Weighted Time to Trial by Jurisdiction and Trial Length



³ All locations in the province were weighted based on fiscal year caseloads. Weighted time to trial is the average time (in months), weighted by caseloads, from the time a request is made to the next available date.

Weighted Results by Jurisdiction

Figures 2 to 4 show weighted province-wide times to trial and Provincial standards in months, by division. These figures also show a comparison between the results as at September 2024 and September 2025.

Figure 2 sets out the number of months between an Arraignment Hearing/Fix Date and the first available court date for typical adult/youth criminal trials of various lengths. These results do not take into account the time between a first appearance in Court and the Arraignment Hearing/Fix Date. Time to shorter criminal (<2 days and 2-4 day) trials has increased slightly, while long (5+ day) and youth trials remained unchanged or decreased from September 2024 to September 2025. All measures are over the standards by less than a month.

Figure 2 - Weighted Provincial Time to Adult/Youth Criminal Trials

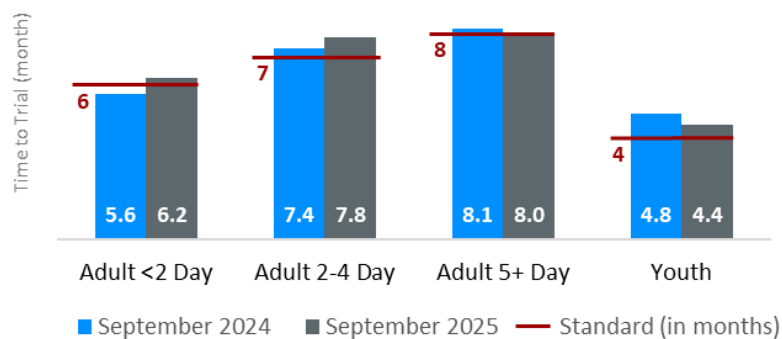
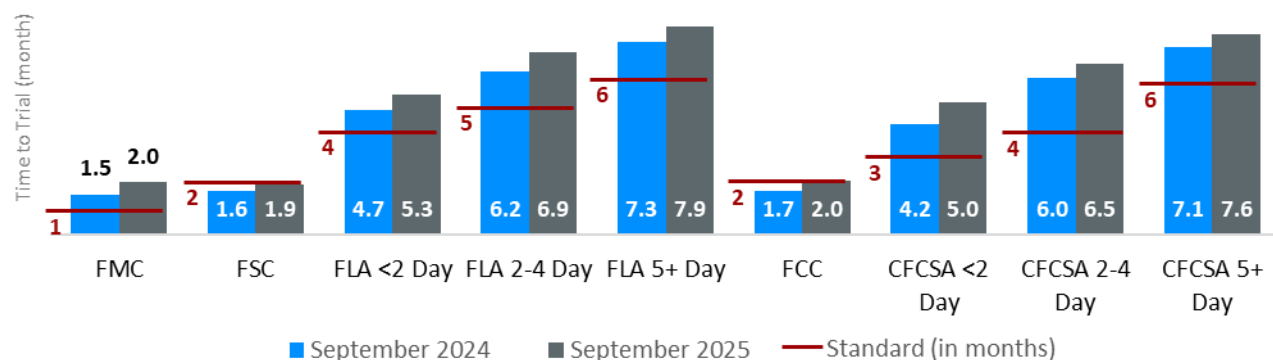


Figure 3 includes two types of proceedings: family conferences and trials. The time to a family case conference is the number of months between the date a judge directs a conference to be set and the first available date for a family case conference. As of June 2024, the Provincial Court now collects data on delays specifically related to Family Management Conferences (FMC) and Family Settlement Conferences (FSC). Since September 2024, all family delays have increased for both FLA and CFCSA divisions. Family Management Conferences (FMC) increased the most by 0.5 months (31%), and Family Case Conferences (FCC) increased by 0.4 months (23%). All trial delays exceed the standard by more than a month.

Figure 3 - Weighted Provincial Time to Family Trials

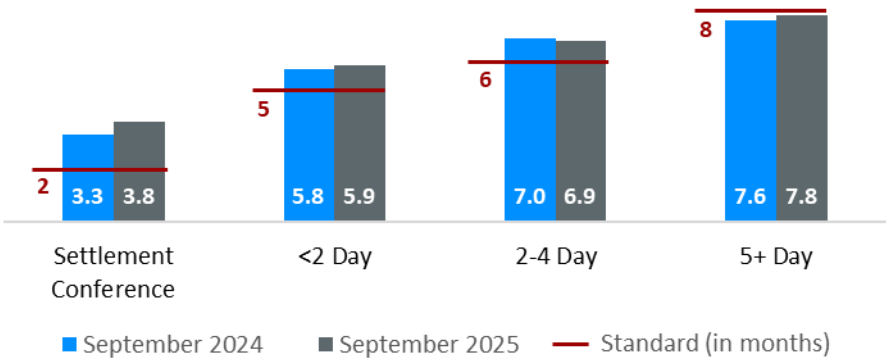


Data Source: Judicial Next Available Date Survey

Weighted Results by Jurisdiction (continued)

Figure 4 includes two types of proceedings: settlement conferences and trials. The time to a settlement conference is the number of months between the date the last reply or document is filed to ready the case for a settlement conference and the first available date for a settlement conference. The time to trial is the number of months between the end of a settlement conference and the first available court date for typical small claims trials of various lengths. These results do not take into account the time between the filing of a claim and the reply. Since September 2024, the time to a Small Claims Settlement Conference increased by 0.5 months (15%), while all other measures remained unchanged.

Figure 4 - Weighted Provincial Time to Small Claims Trials



Data Source: Judicial Next Available Date Survey

Top 10 Results

Figures 5, 6, 7, and 8 show the ten locations with the longest times to trial in months for different jurisdictions as at September 30, 2025. Smaller locations are screened out of these calculations, as a longer wait for trial dates is more likely a result of fewer Court sittings in these locations. The Provincial Court standard in months is shown at the top, and the provincial delay average is shown at the bottom.

Figure 5 - Locations with the Longest Delays to Adult Criminal Trials

<2 Day		2-4 Day		5+ Day	
6 Months Max		7 Months Max		8 Months Max	
Port Hardy	12	Port Hardy	14	North Vancouver	12
Burns Lake	11	Campbell River	11	Nanaimo	11
Campbell River	10	Nanaimo	10	Western Communities	11
Powell River	9	Western Communities	9	Duncan	11
Hazelton	9	Duncan	9	Burns Lake	11
Revelstoke	9	Port Alberni	9	Kamloops	10
Nanaimo	8	Terrace	9	Terrace	10
Terrace	8	Powell River	9	Victoria	9
Prince George	7	Hazelton	9	Abbotsford	9
Kamloops	7	Victoria	8	Port Coquitlam	9
6.2		7.8		8.0	

Figure 6 - Locations with the Longest Delays to Family Trials (FLA)

<2 Day FLA		2-4 Day FLA		5+ Day FLA	
4 Months Max		5 Months Max		6 Months Max	
Port Alberni	8	Port Hardy	12	Nanaimo	11
Hazelton	8	Nanaimo	10	Burns Lake	11
Nanaimo	7	Victoria	9	Kamloops	10
Kamloops	7	Port Alberni	9	Port Coquitlam	9
Salmon Arm	7	Port Coquitlam	8	Abbotsford	9
Terrace	7	Abbotsford	8	Victoria	9
Prince Rupert	7	Kamloops	8	Western Communities	9
Revelstoke	7	North Vancouver	8	North Vancouver	9
Western Communities	6	Terrace	8	Duncan	9
Penticton	6	Surrey	7	Port Alberni	9
5.3		6.9		7.9	

Data Source: Judicial Next Available Date Survey

Top 10 Results (Continued)

Figure 7 - Locations with the Longest Delays to Family Trials (CFCSA)

<2 Day CFCSA		2-4 Day CFCSA		5+ Day CFCSA	
3 Months Max		4 Months Max		6 Months Max	
Port Alberni	8	Nanaimo	10	Nanaimo	11
Hazelton	8	Port Alberni	9	Western Communities	11
Nanaimo	7	Terrace	9	Burns Lake	11
Kamloops	7	North Vancouver	9	Kamloops	10
Terrace	7	Hazelton	9	Abbotsford	9
Salmon Arm	7	Abbotsford	8	Victoria	9
Prince Rupert	7	Kamloops	8	Duncan	9
Vernon	6	Port Coquitlam	8	Port Coquitlam	9
Western Communities	6	Western Communities	8	Port Alberni	9
Penticton	6	Surrey	7	Terrace	9
5.0		6.5		7.6	

Figure 8 - Locations with the Longest Delays to Small Claims Trials

<2 Day Trial		2-4 Day Trial		5+ Day Trial	
5 Months Max		6 Months Max		8 Months Max	
Port Hardy	10	Nanaimo	10	North Vancouver	12
Campbell River	9	Terrace	10	Nanaimo	11
North Vancouver	8	Victoria	9	Western Communities	11
Western Communities	8	Port Coquitlam	9	Duncan	11
Port Alberni	8	North Vancouver	9	Port Coquitlam	10
Terrace	8	Western Communities	9	Kamloops	10
Powell River	8	Duncan	9	Victoria	9
Kamloops	7	Port Alberni	9	Abbotsford	9
Nanaimo	7	Princeton	9	Port Alberni	9
Salmon Arm	7	Abbotsford	8		
5.9		6.9		7.8	

Data Source: Judicial Next Available Date Survey

Appendix 1: Time to Trial by Location, Jurisdiction, and Trial Length

Results in months for all locations for which time to trial information is collected appear below. Results for the Criminal and Small Claims divisions are listed first, followed by results for Family. Locations are listed by region, with the exception of assignment court locations, which are listed together. The Provincial Court standard in months is shown for reference. Not all locations for which time to trial information is collected hear all kinds of trials. Grey cells indicate that the trial type in question is not heard at that location.

Note that 36 of the 69 court locations for which the court collects time to trial information are smaller operations. Of the 36 locations, 10 do not have a resident judge but are staffed and include registry services⁴ and 26 have neither a resident judge nor registry services.⁵ Due to the relatively small number of Court sitting days in these locations, lengthier delays are anticipated for a number of reasons, including:

- The inability to accommodate longer trials. These lengthy trials cannot be scheduled for several days in a row as they often can in larger court locations.
- The inability to react to caseload fluctuations could result in an increase in the number of cases requiring a trial.

Smaller locations are marked with an asterisk in the table below.

⁴ Registry offices are open to public for filing documents, accessing court file information or requesting information on court processes.

⁵ These locations are only open for scheduled courtroom appearances such as hearings and trials.

Time to Trial by Location, Jurisdiction, and Trial Length as at September 30, 2025

	Location	Adult Criminal			Small Claims		
		<2 Day	2 - 4 Day	5+ Day	<2 Day	2 - 4 Day	5+ Day
Provincial Standards		6	7	8	5	6	8
Assignment Court	Abbotsford		8	9		8	9
	Kelowna		4	5		4	4
	Main Street		6	7			
	Port Coquitlam		8	9		9	10
	Robson Square					6	7
	Surrey		7	7		7	7
	Victoria		8	9		9	9
Fraser Region	Chilliwack	5	6	7	5	6	7
	New Westminster	6	6	9	5	6	7
Interior Region	Castlegar	6	7		6	7	
	Clearwater	2			2		
	Cranbrook	5	6		5	6	
	Creston	4	5		4	5	
	Fernie	5	6		5	6	
	Golden	2	3		2	3	
	Grand Forks	6	6		6	6	
	Invermere	3	4		3	4	
	Kamloops	7	8	10	7	8	10
	Lillooet	3	5		3	5	
	Merritt	4	7		4	7	
	Nakusp	4	6		4	6	
	Nelson	6	6		6	6	
	Penticton	5	6	6	6	6	7
	Princeton	6			3	9	
	Revelstoke	9			7		
	Rossland	6	7		6	7	
	Salmon Arm	7			7		
	Sparwood	5	6		5	6	
	Vernon	6	7	7	6	7	7

Time to Trial by Location, Jurisdiction, and Trial Length as at September 30, 2025

	Location	Adult Criminal			Small Claims		
		<2 Day	2 - 4 Day	5+ Day	<2 Day	2 - 4 Day	5+ Day
Provincial Standards		6	7	8	5	6	8
Northern Region	100 Mile House	3	4	4	3	4	4
	Anahim Lake	1	6	6	1	6	6
	Burns Lake	11	11	11	11	11	
	Chetwynd	5					
	Daajing Giids	8	8				
	Dawson Creek	5	6	7	5	6	7
	Fort Nelson	3	7		4	7	
	Fort St. James	6	7	8	5	6	
	Fort St. John	5	6	7	5	5	7
	Fraser Lake	6	7	8	5	6	
	Hazelton	9	9	9	8	9	
	Houston	4	6	7	4	7	
	Kitimat	4	5		4	5	
	Kwadacha	1					
	Mackenzie	5	7		5		
	Masset	8	8		8		
	Prince George	7	8	9	5	6	7
	Prince Rupert	7	7	7	7	7	
	Quesnel	4	5	6	4	5	5
	Smithers	5	6	7	7	7	
	Terrace	8	9	10	8	10	
	Tumbler Ridge	4	5	7	5	5	
	Valemount	7					
	Vanderhoof	6	7	8	5	6	
	Williams Lake	3	4	5	3	5	5
Vancouver Region	North Vancouver	6	8	12	8	9	12
	Pemberton	4	7		4	7	
	Richmond	6	7	7	4	5	7
	Sechelt	4	6	6	4	6	6
Vancouver Island Region	Campbell River	10	11		9		
	Courtenay	6	6		6	6	
	Duncan	7	9	11	6	9	11
	Nanaimo	8	10	11	7	10	11
	Port Alberni	6	9	9	8	9	9
	Port Hardy	12	14		10		
	Powell River	9	9		8		
	Western Communities	6	9	11	8	9	11
OCJ	Bella Bella	6	8		4	8	
	Bella Coola	7	9		7	9	

Time to Trial by Location, Jurisdiction, and Trial Length as at September 30, 2025

	Location	FLA					CFCSA			
		FMC	FSC	<2 Day	2 - 4 Day	5+ Day	FCC	<2 Day	2 - 4 Day	5+ Day
Provincial Standards		1	2	4	5	6	2	3	4	6
Assignment Court	Abbotsford	3	3		8	9	3		8	9
	Kelowna	2	2		6	6	2		6	6
	Main Street									
	Port Coquitlam	1	2		8	9	2		8	9
	Robson Square	2	2		6	7	3		6	7
	Surrey	2	1		7	7	1		7	7
	Victoria	2			9	9	2		7	9
Fraser Region	Chilliwack	2	2	5	6	7	2	5	6	7
	New Westminster	3		5	6	7		5	6	7
Interior Region	Castlegar	2	2	6	7		2	6	7	
	Clearwater	2	2	2			2	2		
	Cranbrook	2	2	5	6		2	5	6	
	Creston	2	2	4	5		2	4	5	
	Fernie	2	2	5	6		2	5	6	
	Golden	2	2	2	3		2	2	3	
	Grand Forks	2	2	6	6		2	6	6	
	Invermere	2	2	3	4		2	3	4	
	Kamloops	2	2	7	8	10	2	7	8	10
	Lillooet	2	2	3	5		2	3	5	
	Merritt	2	2	4	7		2	4	7	
	Nakusp	2	2	4	6		2	4	6	
	Nelson	2	2	5	6		2	5	6	
	Penticton	1	1	6	6	6	1	6	6	6
	Princeton	1	1	3			1	3		
	Revelstoke	2	2	7			2	7		
	Rossland	2	2	6	7		2	6	7	
	Salmon Arm	2	2	7			2	7		
	Sparwood	2	2	5	6		2	5	6	
	Vernon	2	2	6	7	7	2	6	7	7

Time to Trial by Location, Jurisdiction, and Trial Length as at September 30, 2025

	Location	FLA					CFCSA			
		FMC	FSC	<2 Day	2 - 4 Day	5+ Day	FCC	<2 Day	2 - 4 Day	5+ Day
Provincial Standards		1	2	4	5	6	2	3	4	6
Northern Region	100 Mile House	2	2	3	4	4	2	3	4	
	Anahim Lake	2	2	1	6	6	2	1	6	6
	Burns Lake	3	3	6	11	11	3	6	11	11
	Chetwynd	2	2	5	5	6	2	5		
	Daajing Giids	3	3	8			3	8		
	Dawson Creek	2	2	4	6	7	2	4	6	7
	Fort Nelson	2	2	4	4		2	4	4	
	Fort St. James	2	2	4	5	6	2	3	4	
	Fort St. John	2	2	4	6	7	2	5	5	7
	Fraser Lake	2	2	4	5		2	3	4	5
	Hazelton	3	3	8	9	9	3	8	9	9
	Houston	3	3	4	6	7	3	4	6	7
	Kitimat	2	2	4	5		2	4	5	
	Kwadacha	1	1							
	Mackenzie	2	2	3	5		2	3		
	Masset	3	3	8			3	8	8	
	Prince George	2	2	4	7	7	2	3	4	4
	Prince Rupert	3	3	7	7		3	7	7	
	Quesnel	2	2	4	5	5	2	4	5	5
	Smithers	3	3	5	6	7	3	5	6	7
	Terrace	2	2	7	8	9	2	7	9	9
	Tumbler Ridge	2	2	5	5	6	2	5	5	
	Valemount	2	2	7			2	7		
	Vanderhoof	2	2	4	5	6	2	3	4	
	Williams Lake	2	2	3	4	5	2	3	4	6
Vancouver Region	North Vancouver	1	1	6	8	9	1	6	9	9
	Pemberton	1	1	4			1	4		
	Richmond	2.5		5	6	7	4	4	6	7
	Sechelt	1	1	4	6	6	1	4	6	6
Vancouver Island Region	Campbell River	3	3	4	4		3	4	4	
	Courtenay	2	2	1	1		2	1	1	
	Duncan	2	2	5	6	9	2	5	6	9
	Nanaimo	2	2	7	10	11	2	7	10	11
	Port Alberni	2	2	8	9	9	2	8	9	9
	Port Hardy	3	3	6	12		3	4		
	Powell River	2	2	5	1		2	6	6	6
	Western Communities	2	2	6	7	9	2	6	8	11
OCJ	Bella Bella	1	1	4	8		1	4	8	
	Bella Coola	2	2	7	9		2	7	9	

Time to Trial by Location, Jurisdiction, and Trial Length as at September 30, 2025

Results in months for Summary Proceedings Court (SPC) appear below. Summary Proceedings Court generally hears cases that are less complex, have historically high collapse rates, and shorter time estimates. The locations above standard are shown in red. The Provincial Court standard in months is shown across the top, and the provincial assignment court delay average is shown at the bottom.

Time to Trial for Summary Proceeding Court by Location and Jurisdiction

Adult Criminal		FLA		CFCSA		Small Claims	
4 Months Max		3 Months Max		2 Months Max		4 Months Max	
Vancouver Criminal	4	Kelowna	4	Robson Square	4	Robson Square	5
Victoria	4	Victoria	4	Victoria	4	Victoria	5
Kelowna	4	Robson Square	4	Kelowna	4	Kelowna	4
Abbotsford	3	Abbotsford	2	Surrey	2	Surrey	2
Surrey	2	Port Coquitlam	1	Abbotsford	2	Port Coquitlam	2
Port Coquitlam	1			Port Coquitlam	1	Abbotsford	2
All Assignment Court Locations (average)	3.0		2.9		2.9		3.7