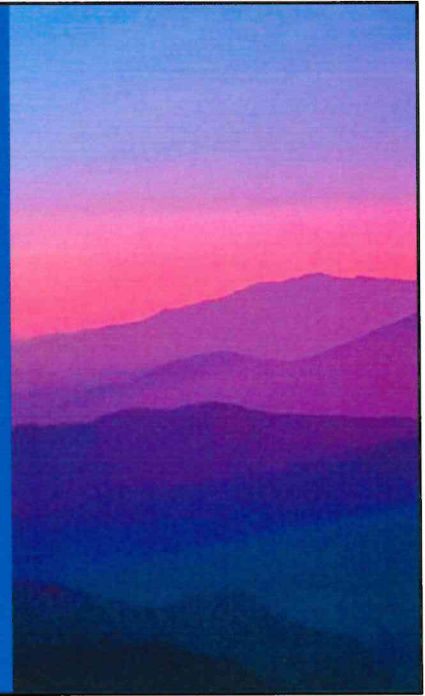


District Court Overview

Beth McLaughlin
Supreme Court Administrator





Agenda

District Court Overview

- Overview of District Courts in Montana
- Workload Allocation Practices
- DN Caseloads Including Projections
- Wrap-up

2023 2

Introduction



District Court Overview

District Courts are general jurisdiction courts created by the Constitution.

Section 4. District court jurisdiction. (1) The district court has original jurisdiction in all criminal cases amounting to felony and all civil matters and cases at law and in equity. It may issue all writs appropriate to its jurisdiction. It shall have the power of naturalization and such additional jurisdiction as may be delegated by the laws of the United States or the state of Montana. Its process shall extend to all parts of the state.

(2) The district court shall hear appeals from inferior courts as trials anew unless otherwise provided by law. The legislature may provide for direct review by the district court of decisions of administrative agencies.

(3) Other courts may have jurisdiction of criminal cases not amounting to felony and such jurisdiction concurrent with that of the district court as may be provided by law.

2023

3

Overview

See attached map

District Court Overview

2023 4

State of Montana Judicial Districts



Costs

District Court Overview

	Judge and Staff (Judge, court reporter, law clerk & judicial assistant)	IT and Travel	Physical Space	Clerk Support
State or County	State	State	County***	County
Cost (Annual)	\$456,266	Travel is largely unknown	Unknown/ question about county responsibility 3-5-901(2)(b)	Unknown

2023 Costs

5

New judge with staff, startup costs, on going and estimated increase in variable (CASA/GAL)

New Judge with Staff

	Sal/Fringe	
	FTE	Total Cost
Elected Official	1.00	194,424
Judicial Admin Assistant I (\$21.78/Hr)	1.00	66,310
Official Court Rpt-Steno (\$24.55/Hr)	1.00	73,135
Law Clerk I (\$27.14/Hr)	1.00	79,517
Total personal Services	4.00	413,386

Based on 2088 hours with current entry level rates

<i>One Time Startup Costs</i>	Per Employee Cost	# of Emp	% of YR Funded	Total Amount	Notes
PC	1,371	4	NA	5,484	Cost per 23B Exec. Bdg Instructions/Adj for inflation
Judge Robes	571	1	NA	571	
Fax Machine	514	1	NA	514	
Courtroom Signs	457	1	NA	457	
MCAs	525	1	NA	525	Full set + annotations to the MCA (based on 21 rates)
Employee Ads	214	1	NA	214	
Steno/FTR equipment	11,424	1	NA	11,424	
Judge/Jury Chairs/Tables	-			-	<i>No new courtrooms planned??</i>
Total Startup				\$ 26,500	

621 inc 7.06%
622 Inc 14.24%
623 Inc 6.57%
627 inc 16.06%

<i>On Going Operating Costs</i>	Per Employee Cost	# of Emp	% of YR Funded	Total Amount	Notes
Lexis/Nexis	945	1	1	945	1 judge+1 user/FY25 rate adj for inflation
Copies	16	4	1	64	Based on FY22 Actuals/Adj for inflation
Communications	400	4	1	1,599	Based on FY22 Actuals/Adj for inflation
Books & Ref Material	1,118	1	1	1,118	Based on FY22 Actuals/Adj for inflation
FTR Machine Maintenance	919	1	1	919	Based on FY22 Actuals/Adj for inflation
Total Operating				\$ 5,797	

<i>Variable Costs</i>	Per Judge Cost	#	% of YR Funded	Total Amount	Notes
Total Variable				\$ 10,583	

Total cost per judge \$ 456,266

Workload Versus Caseload

Caseload (Handout by County)

- The number of cases by county and by district
- Good information to have but not terribly useful in evaluating the time needed to complete the work

Workload (Handout by District)

- The time needed to complete each type of case
- Other impacts on workload including travel and professional responsibilities (training, committee work, etc.)
- Judicial Branch uses the court “gold standard” for workload analysis - updated in 2022

Montana District Courts

2022 New Case Filings and Reopened Cases

District	Court Name	Abuse & Neglect	Adoption	Civil	Commitment	Criminal	Developmental Disability	Domestic Relations	Guardian Conservator	Investigative Subpoena / Search Warrant	Juvenile	Paternity	Probate	2022 Grand Total	2021 Grand Total	Difference
1	Broadwater County District Court	0	2	89	4	40	0	58	2	0	0	0	32	227	251	-24
	Lewis & Clark County District Court	75	44	2,447	57	936	0	1,020	66	273	63	2	219	5,202	5,330	-128
	Subtotal	75	46	2,536	61	976	0	1,078	68	273	63	2	251	5,429	5,581	-152
2	Butte-Silver Bow County District Court	74	31	586	100	447	0	262	30	206	48	0	174	1,958	1,824	134
	Subtotal	74	31	586	100	447	0	262	30	206	48	0	174	1,958	1,824	134
3	Anaconda-Deer Lodge County District Court	10	7	171	151	129	2	67	17	33	2	1	31	621	659	-38
	Granite County District Court	0	1	63	0	25	0	30	3	4	0	0	21	147	134	13
	Powell County District Court	5	5	94	3	132	0	48	10	26	2	0	29	355	391	-36
	Subtotal	15	14	328	154	286	2	145	30	63	4	1	81	1,123	1,184	-61
4	Mineral County District Court	5	4	104	4	71	0	284	2	49	2	1	17	543	430	113
	Missoula County District Court	87	47	1,962	229	1,521	4	1,139	155	846	116	4	325	6,435	6,223	212
	Subtotal	92	51	2,066	233	1,592	4	1,423	157	895	118	5	342	6,978	6,653	325
5	Beaverhead County District Court	15	11	147	6	87	0	80	10	21	5	1	46	429	452	-23
	Jefferson County District Court	10	9	129	0	68	6	59	3	27	0	1	52	364	348	16
	Madison County District Court	5	0	148	0	41	0	47	7	25	3	0	48	324	317	7
	Subtotal	30	20	424	6	196	6	186	20	73	8	2	146	1,117	1,117	0
6	Park County District Court	12	3	295	11	162	0	164	19	104	12	0	76	858	815	43
	Sweet Grass County District Court	0	2	50	0	38	0	28	2	4	3	0	17	144	151	-7
	Subtotal	12	5	345	11	200	0	192	21	108	15	0	93	1,002	966	36
7	Dawson County District Court	13	4	108	6	62	0	59	5	89	3	0	40	389	412	-23
	McCone County District Court	0	0	13	0	1	0	6	0	0	0	0	5	25	55	-30
	Prairie County District Court	1	1	21	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	8	35	39	-4
	Richland County District Court	10	4	234	6	134	0	64	4	101	5	1	85	648	675	-27
	Wibaux County District Court	0	1	11	0	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	21	39	30	9
	Subtotal	24	10	387	12	203	0	131	11	190	8	1	159	1,136	1,211	-75
8	Cascade County District Court	216	58	910	17	1,435	4	667	67	926	252	0	336	4,888	4,664	224
	Subtotal	216	58	910	17	1,435	4	667	67	926	252	0	336	4,888	4,664	224
9	Glacier County District Court	68	7	104	0	76	0	34	6	11	7	0	36	349	311	38
	Pondera County District Court	4	7	69	0	28	0	17	6	18	3	0	23	175	198	-23
	Teton County District Court	7	2	67	0	46	0	36	6	27	4	1	36	232	221	11
	Toole County District Court	6	2	66	2	73	0	44	4	4	0	0	38	239	275	-36
	Subtotal	85	18	306	2	223	0	131	22	60	14	1	133	995	1,005	-10
10	Fergus County District Court	45	10	143	78	108	0	107	11	63	4	1	67	637	639	-2
	Judith Basin County District Court	0	1	34	0	21	0	12	4	4	0	0	21	97	79	18
	Petroleum County District Court	2	0	11	0	6	0	7	0	11	0	0	7	44	47	-3
	Subtotal	47	11	188	78	135	0	126	15	78	4	1	95	778	765	13
11	Flathead County District Court	72	63	2,029	38	1,263	0	1,022	158	424	69	1	400	5,539	5,642	-103
	Subtotal	72	63	2,029	38	1,263	0	1,022	158	424	69	1	400	5,539	5,642	-103
12	Chouteau County District Court	0	5	46	0	17	0	27	3	2	3	0	27	130	159	-29
	Hill County District Court	79	8	188	9	137	2	129	25	45	7	0	67	696	708	-12
	Liberty County District Court	0	0	34	1	4	0	14	5	0	0	0	17	75	76	-1
Subtotal	79	13	268	10	158	2	170	33	47	10	0	111	901	943	-42	
13	Yellowstone County District Court	372	139	2,491	97	3,400	3	1,758	210	1,119	244	12	452	10,297	10,042	255
	Subtotal	372	139	2,491	97	3,400	3	1,758	210	1,119	244	12	452	10,297	10,042	255
14	Golden Valley County District Court	1	0	24	0	2	0	3	0	3	0	0	8	41	49	-8
	Meagher County District Court	0	1	28	0	4	0	7	2	5	0	0	9	56	68	-12
	Musselshell County District Court	19	6	82	0	33	0	34	5	18	10	0	39	246	256	-10
	Wheatland County District Court	0	0	30	0	38	0	21	0	10	0	1	13	113	123	-10
	Subtotal	20	7	164	0	77	0	65	7	36	10	1	69	456	496	-40

Workload Study Spreadsheet

Cases

- Case types reduced to estimate minutes needed to complete the work
- Travel by judge calculated based on miles and reporting
- Misc. including time off, training, etc.

How is it used

- The study is the guidepost for adding new judges
- Also used to allocate other resources including standing masters and other staff requests

Redistricting

- Used by the 2009 Redistricting Commission
- Ultimately decided there were no reasonable district changes that could improve case processing times

District Court Judicial Officer Model: 2022 filings

CASE TYPES	CASE WEIGHTS	Cases Filed by District																				State Total		
		1st District	2nd District	3rd District	4th District	5th District	6th District	7th District	8th District	9th District	10th District	11th District	12th District	13th District	14th District	15th District	16th District	17th District	18th District	19th District	20th District		21st District	22nd District
Criminal (DC)	141.00	976	447	286	1,592	196	200	203	1,435	223	135	1,263	158	3,400	77	79	193	90	671	148	557	381	182	12,892
Civil (DV) (does not include statutory liens)	109.00	1,216	375	241	1,571	322	246	221	612	208	155	1,519	175	1,450	105	119	209	122	1,323	213	333	485	272	11,492
Adoptions (DA)	25.00	46	31	14	51	20	5	10	58	18	11	63	13	139	7	8	26	11	46	11	33	26	18	665
Guardian/Conservator (DG)	62.00	68	30	30	157	20	21	11	67	22	15	158	33	210	7	18	19	26	70	18	56	53	24	1,133
Juvenile (DJ)	101.00	63	48	4	118	8	15	8	252	14	4	69	10	244	10	5	20	14	31	5	10	14	14	980
Child Abuse and Neglect (DN)	232.00	75	74	15	92	30	12	24	216	85	47	72	79	372	20	2	35	17	57	17	15	19	39	1,414
Probate (DP)	18.00	251	174	81	342	146	93	159	336	133	95	400	111	452	69	172	136	82	244	150	174	143	114	4,057
Domestic Relations (DR)	140.00	1,078	262	145	1,423	186	192	131	667	131	126	1,022	170	1,758	65	55	169	134	1,016	207	197	382	118	9,634
Paternity (DF)	49.00	2	0	1	5	2	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	12	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	30
Commitment of a Person with Developmental Disability	89.00	0	0	2	4	6	0	0	4	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
Commitment of a Person with a Mental Illness (DI)	60.00	61	100	154	233	6	11	12	17	2	78	38	10	97	0	3	13	5	65	3	20	34	2	964
Investigative Subpoena (IS)/Search Warrant (SW)	20.00	273	206	63	895	73	108	190	926	60	78	424	47	1,119	36	24	101	67	380	60	156	141	70	5,497
Treatment Courts/Drug Courts	392.00	39	32	0	69	0	14	32	62	17	0	12	46	204	0	0	11	0	21	12	17	19	0	607
Total Cases by Location	4,148	1,779	1,036	6,552	1,015	917	1,002	4,652	914	745	5,041	854	9,460	397	485	933	568	3,025	844	1,569	1,698	853	49,387	
Case-specific Work Minutes (sum of WT x cases)	479,233	191,029	105,174	704,887	103,362	97,602	98,335	493,839	105,830	74,082	544,491	108,610	1,128,172	39,672	37,851	95,271	55,109	427,076	87,689	165,366	184,755	87,802	5,415,237	
Judicial Officer Annual Availability	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760	101,760
Subtract Annual Non-Case-Related Time	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930	12,930
Subtract Annual Travel Time	1,170	110	4,384	4,617	28,912	7,365	4,876	1,015	13,831	5,192	815	12,450	1,460	1,590	22,472	12,976	11,334	405	3,180	4,111	289	23,093	3,266	
Judicial Officer Annual Case-Related Availability	87,670	88,730	83,956	84,223	59,928	81,475	83,964	87,825	75,009	83,648	88,025	76,391	87,180	87,250	66,368	75,864	77,507	88,435	85,660	84,728	88,652	65,747	85,574	
Judicial Officer FTE Demand	5.5	2.2	1.3	8.4	1.7	1.2	1.2	5.6	1.4	.9	6.2	1.4	12.9	.5	.6	1.3	.7	4.8	1.0	2.0	2.1	1.3	63.99	

2023 DISTRICT COURT WORKLOAD REVIEW

JUDICIAL RESOURCE NEEDS

The District Court Council tracks and reviews judicial resource needs using case filing statistics and a weighted workload formula approved by the Council. The following table summarizes the results of each review year, 2013 - 2022. The number represents the estimated number of judicial resources (FTE) needed to meet workload demands. The data is sorted on CY2022 data (largest to smallest). The sparkline is a line graph of the data for each district – a red dot marks the highest number recorded for the district. CY2022 values are also depicted on the map on page 2.

Judicial Resource Need

Judicial District	CY2013	CY2014	CY2015	CY2016	CY2017	CY2018	CY2019	CY2020	CY2021	CY2022	Sparkline
13	3.75	5.01	6.18	6.70	7.14	7.75	4.46	5.18	4.73	4.15	
4	2.02	2.59	2.70	2.39	2.26	3.01	2.03	2.17	1.79	2.40	
11	2.29	2.01	2.44	2.39	2.42	2.44	2.70	2.59	2.51	2.20	
1	1.84	2.27	2.66	2.25	1.38	2.79	4.12	5.27	2.91	1.50	
8	1.67	2.16	2.14	2.08	2.39	2.35	3.60	2.59	1.08	1.10	
5	0.48	0.33	0.40	0.40	0.59	0.52	0.43	0.53	0.52	0.70	
12	0.45	0.33	0.39	0.31	0.21	0.25	0.25	0.29	0.25	0.40	
3	0.31	0.17	0.33	0.49	0.34	0.52	0.32	0.37	0.33	0.30	
18	0.69	1.50	1.43	1.45	1.58	2.36	2.89	3.28	2.31	0.30	
2	0.23	0.33	0.41	0.28	0.49	0.80	0.80	0.74	0.35	0.20	
6	0.24	0.02	0.02	0.14	0.05	0.22	0.23	0.32	0.22	0.20	
9	0.68	0.58	0.61	0.25	0.35	0.48	0.22	0.34	0.23	0.15	
21	0.40	0.06	0.06	-0.05	-0.15	0.11	-0.04	-0.12	0.00	0.10	
22	0.50	0.46	0.54	0.25	0.15	0.43	0.36	0.43	0.31	0.05	
19	0.32	0.21	0.27	0.32	0.24	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.23	0.00	
20	0.34	-0.04	0.55	0.55	0.26	0.44	0.43	0.19	0.10	0.00	
10	0.10	-0.09	0.00	-0.09	-0.11	0.06	-0.14	-0.08	-0.22	-0.10	
17	0.18	-0.04	0.02	-0.05	-0.09	-0.06	0.05	-0.11	-0.18	-0.30	
15	-0.07	0.00	-0.04	-0.14	-0.16	-0.16	-0.11	-0.13	-0.22	-0.40	
14	-0.22	-0.42	-0.38	-0.42	-0.56	-0.46	-0.44	-0.37	-0.41	-0.50	
16	0.06	-0.10	0.00	0.00	-0.13	-0.06	0.07	-0.02	-0.27	-0.70	
7	0.34	0.32	0.47	0.22	0.08	0.11	-0.02	0.08	-0.22	-0.80	
All	16.60	17.63	21.20	19.72	18.73	24.13	22.44	23.76	16.35	10.95	

DN Cases and DN Workload

Cases

- Case numbers are dropping
- Increase in the time needed for DN Cases (148 versus 232 minutes)
- Steady decrease -
 - 2020 Quarter 1 (600 filings)
 - 2023 Quarter 2 (289 filings)

Pressure Points

- Dropping or steady in all Districts
- Closely watch the 8th, 9th, and 13th Judicial Districts.
- Resources directed to those Districts (standing masters and new judges)

Workload

- 50 judges in 22 Districts
- 2022 case numbers (2023 will be lower) need 2.6 judges to manage the DN workload **BUT** that does not include travel or other demands
- Vast geography would require more than 2 judges

2023 DISTRICT COURT CASE FILING REVIEW

The following tables summarize District Court case filings by major case category for calendar years 2013 – 2022. The sparkline is a trendline. Tables include: ALL Judicial Districts and summaries for JD 1, 4, 8, 11, 13, and 18.

District Court Case Filings - ALL

Case Category	CY2013	CY2014	CY2015	CY2016	CY2017	CY2018	CY2019	CY2020	CY2021	CY2022	Sparkline	Avg. Case Filings 2013-2022
Adoption	665	840	764	715	791	870	924	739	782	665		776
Child Abuse and Neglect	1,527	1,609	2,321	2,433	2,667	2,519	2,382	2,114	1,750	1,414		2,074
Civil	18,899	20,113	20,197	17,988	15,703	19,842	21,262	23,984	18,640	17,384		19,401
Commitment of a Person with a Mental Illness	1,240	1,213	1,295	1,344	1,237	1,166	1,045	1,178	1,030	964		1,171
Commitment of a Person with Dev. Disability	50	50	27	29	24	19	23	25	25	22		29
Criminal	9,147	9,339	10,707	11,774	12,378	12,850	12,582	12,383	12,948	12,892		11,700
Domestic Relations	10,732	10,438	10,731	10,926	10,644	10,958	10,333	9,276	8,910	9,634		10,258
Drug & Other Treatment Courts	344	405	391	369	447	409	554	566	499	607		459
Guardian/Conservator	1,061	1,124	1,047	1,105	1,104	1,160	1,129	1,071	1,198	1,133		1,113
Investigative Subpoena/Search Warrant	3,525	3,519	3,666	3,948	4,441	4,317	4,398	5,212	4,812	5,497		4,334
Juvenile	1,565	1,379	1,310	1,271	1,226	1,071	1,009	839	780	980		1,143
Paternity	70	73	51	41	48	50	35	51	27	30		48
Probate	3,624	3,485	3,708	3,436	3,601	3,528	3,482	3,679	4,053	4,057		3,665
Total	52,449	53,587	56,215	55,379	54,311	58,759	59,158	61,117	55,454	55,279		56,171

*Child Abuse and Neglect, Civil, Criminal, Drug & other Treatment Courts, and Juvenile are typically the most time intensive case types.

District Court Case Filings - JD1

Case Category	CY2013	CY2014	CY2015	CY2016	CY2017	CY2018	CY2019	CY2020	CY2021	CY2022	Sparkline	Avg. Case Filings 2013-2022
Adoption	63	64	51	68	79	75	66	40	73	46		63
Child Abuse and Neglect	88	110	141	131	135	122	126	153	123	75		120
Civil	2,020	2,299	2,560	2,251	1,532	2,485	3,604	4,367	2,687	2,536		2,634
Commitment of a Person with a Mental Illness	101	79	87	99	79	56	60	68	63	61		75
Commitment of a Person with Dev. Disability	8	4	1	2	0	1	1	0	1	0		2
Criminal	833	936	893	988	956	1,083	1,098	1,164	1,088	976		1,002
Domestic Relations	1,193	1,059	1,083	1,045	1,017	1,099	991	940	904	1,078		1,041
Drug & Other Treatment Courts	11	24	33	18	26	26	30	43	34	39		28
Guardian/Conservator	64	76	65	47	74	67	82	64	68	68		68
Investigative Subpoena/Search Warrant	214	234	234	257	257	294	280	310	243	273		260
Juvenile	142	88	63	53	62	61	73	89	80	63		77
Paternity	0	4	1	0	0	4	4	2	1	2		2
Probate	204	196	222	205	238	225	208	233	250	251		223
Total	4,941	5,173	5,434	5,164	4,455	5,598	6,623	7,473	5,615	5,468		5,594

*Child Abuse and Neglect, Civil, Criminal, Drug & other Treatment Courts, and Juvenile are typically the most time intensive case types.

2023 DISTRICT COURT CASE FILING REVIEW

District Court Case Filings - JD11

Case Category	CY2013	CY2014	CY2015	CY2016	CY2017	CY2018	CY2019	CY2020	CY2021	CY2022	Sparkline	Avg. Case
												Filings
												2013-2022
Adoption	56	85	64	66	73	98	70	43	78	63		70
Child Abuse and Neglect	92	90	146	137	129	138	159	126	69	72		116
Civil	2,076	2,026	2,006	1,694	1,670	1,903	2,092	2,223	2,051	2,029		1,977
Commitment of a Person with a Mental Illness	179	142	127	134	137	151	84	102	44	38		114
Commitment of a Person with Dev. Disability	8	6	2	4	4	0	0	0	0	0		2
Criminal	935	829	1,020	1,192	1,247	1,046	975	1,021	1,220	1,263		1,075
Domestic Relations	1,234	1,257	1,293	1,384	1,386	1,419	1,432	1,186	1,093	1,022		1,271
Drug & Other Treatment Courts	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	13	19	12		5
Guardian/Conservator	107	99	116	119	117	99	117	109	131	158		117
Investigative Subpoena/Search Warrant	276	307	305	408	431	408	455	482	433	424		393
Juvenile	277	205	147	138	100	94	141	94	106	69		137
Paternity	5	2	1	3	2	3	2	4	3	1		3
Probate	245	257	411	281	328	336	351	400	414	400		342
Total	5,490	5,305	5,638	5,560	5,624	5,695	5,886	5,803	5,661	5,551		5,621

*Child Abuse and Neglect, Civil, Criminal, Drug & other Treatment Courts, and Juvenile are typically the most time intensive case types.

District Court Case Filings - JD13

Case Category	CY2013	CY2014	CY2015	CY2016	CY2017	CY2018	CY2019	CY2020	CY2021	CY2022	Sparkline	Avg. Case
												Filings
												2013-2022
Adoption	137	153	149	125	158	161	195	119	140	139		148
Child Abuse and Neglect	266	223	512	626	755	678	464	533	521	372		495
Civil	2,885	3,141	3,048	2,845	2,597	3,074	3,025	3,422	2,771	2,491		2,930
Commitment of a Person with a Mental Illness	113	137	168	221	187	135	154	159	98	97		147
Commitment of a Person with Dev. Disability	4	8	2	1	4	4	4	3	4	3		4
Criminal	1,601	1,695	2,291	2,622	2,867	3,163	2,687	2,826	3,211	3,400		2,636
Domestic Relations	2,035	1,808	1,968	2,044	1,993	2,034	1,701	1,499	1,392	1,758		1,823
Drug & Other Treatment Courts	132	110	110	124	135	101	163	185	163	204		143
Guardian/Conservator	177	237	223	217	201	253	227	207	230	210		218
Investigative Subpoena/Search Warrant	798	799	639	666	883	1,038	861	833	987	1,119		862
Juvenile	350	313	350	384	411	305	218	173	193	244		294
Paternity	27	23	11	9	7	14	9	7	9	12		13
Probate	365	378	389	383	369	374	404	420	486	452		402
Total	8,890	9,025	9,860	10,267	10,567	11,334	10,112	10,386	10,205	10,501		10,115

*Child Abuse and Neglect, Civil, Criminal, Drug & other Treatment Courts, and Juvenile are typically the most time intensive case types.

Summary

- Caseload is not the same as workload
- The caseload is dropping significantly
-workload will follow but it takes time
- The state is large and the distance between county seats may not be direct - travel time and routes are critical
- Space responsibilities are not clear

