

The Supreme Court of Montana
Office of the Court Administrator

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TO: Walker Hopkins, Fiscal Analyst
Sara Hess, Legislative Researcher

FROM: Beth McLaughlin
Supreme Court Administrator

RE: HB693 Required Report

Attached is the report of open general civil cases (DV) required by 3-1-713, MCA. The report is directly generated from the Full Court case management system using the parameters of "every civil case in an open status" as of March 31, 2024. The report is broken down by Judicial District and counties within a given District. The committee should be aware of the following limitations to this report:

- Litigants filing a civil case have three years in which to serve the other party following the filing and opening of a case in the system. Cases reflected in this report may not yet be served on the responding party.
- Clerks of the District Courts are responsible for closing cases resolved either by a court decision or via other means (settlement agreements, party did not pursue the case, etc.). However, significant workloads in many county offices create administrative backlogs for clerks. You will note several more rural counties with a significant number of older open cases. It is highly likely these are *not* active cases, but cases that should be administratively closed by the Clerk of the District Court in that county.

Pending Civil Cases Q1 2024

District / Court	2 Yrs Pending	3 Yrs. Pending	4 Yrs Pending	5+ Yrs Pending	Grand Total
1	154	67	74	59	354
Broadwater County District Court	14	6	14	22	56
Lewis & Clark County District Court	140	61	60	37	298
2	86	42	37	59	224
Butte-Silver Bow County District Court	86	42	37	59	224
3	41	14	18	13	86
Anaconda-Deer Lodge County District Court	17	4	12	11	44
Granite County District Court	5	3	5	1	14
Powell County District Court	19	7	1	1	28
4	105	22	8	12	147
Mineral County District Court	2	1	1		4
Missoula County District Court	103	21	7	12	143
5	35	9	6	6	56
Beaverhead County District Court	9	1	1		11
Jefferson County District Court	8	1	1	4	14
Madison County District Court	18	7	4	2	31
6	21	7	1	1	30
Park County District Court	17	6	1	1	25
Sweet Grass County District Court	4	1			5
7	41	16	21	130	208
Dawson County District Court	11	12	8	73	104
McCone County District Court	2	1	1	2	6
Prairie County District Court	3		7	1	11
Richland County District Court	24	2	4	47	77
Wibaux County District Court	1	1	1	7	10
8	135	122	79	47	383
Cascade County District Court	135	122	79	47	383
9	22	14	3	7	46
Glacier County District Court	5	3	1		9
Pondera County District Court	9	6	1	1	17
Teton County District Court	6			2	8
Toole County District Court	2	5	1	4	12
10	16	5	3	6	30
Fergus County District Court	10	2	1		13
Judith Basin County District Court	1		1	5	7
Petroleum County District Court	5	3	1	1	10
11	135	42	10	5	192
Flathead County District Court	135	42	10	5	192
12	15	6	11	17	49
Chouteau County District Court	4	3	9	8	24
Hill County District Court	10	1	2		13
Liberty County District Court	1	2		9	12
13	203	65	38	109	415
Yellowstone County District Court	203	65	38	109	415
14	14	12	5	9	40
Golden Valley County District Court	6	4		2	12
Musselshell County District Court	4	5	1	3	13
Wheatland County District Court	4	3	4	4	15
15	30	10	17	99	156
Daniels County District Court	3	3	1		7
Roosevelt County District Court	8		2	3	13
Sheridan County District Court	19	7	14	96	136

Pending Civil Cases Q1 2024

District / Court	2 Yrs Pending	3 Yrs. Pending	4 Yrs Pending	5+ Yrs Pending	Grand Total
16	19	17	7	12	55
Carter County District Court	1	1			2
Custer County District Court	4		1	1	6
Fallon County District Court	4	1		1	6
Garfield County District Court		2	1		3
Powder River County District Court	1	1			2
Rosebud County District Court	6	6	1	1	14
Treasure County District Court	3	6	4	9	22
17	4	1	2	1	8
Blaine County District Court	1		2		3
Phillips County District Court	2	1			3
Valley County District Court	1			1	2
18	141	58	25	30	254
Gallatin County District Court	141	58	25	30	254
19	54	15	6	13	88
Lincoln County District Court	54	15	6	13	88
20	53	49	28	28	158
Lake County District Court	23	24	22	9	78
Sanders County District Court	30	25	6	19	80
21	108	65	53	71	297
Ravalli County District Court	108	65	53	71	297
22	46	6	3	7	62
Big Horn County District Court	7	1		1	9
Carbon County District Court	20	4	2	2	28
Stillwater County District Court	19	1	1	4	25
23	22	68	50	55	195
Asbestos Claims District Court	22	68	50	55	195
Grand Total	1500	732	505	796	3533