

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT
STATE COURT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

**JUDICIAL
RESOURCES
RECOMMENDATIONS**

JULY 2015

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) recommends that the Legislature eliminate nine trial court judgeships by attrition and add three trial court judgeships.

These 2015 Judicial Resources Recommendations build upon the major steps to re-engineer Michigan's judiciary that were accomplished based on the 2011 and 2013 reports. As a result of those previous recommendations, 25 judgeships have already been eliminated with 20 more slated for elimination. Also, 5 additional judges were authorized by the Michigan Legislature for a net reduction of 40 seats. From 2011 through 2014, these reductions have already saved taxpayers more than \$6.1 million. Once net reductions from this report are also realized, the cumulative savings will exceed \$193 million and savings will continue to accrue to the taxpayers in the amount of \$7.4 million per year.

The 2015 recommendations are based on the SCAO's most recent biennial review of the judicial needs of the state of Michigan. That review indicates that, in nine courts, the current number of judgeships is not justified by the courts' workload. The SCAO recommends that judgeships be eliminated by attrition, such as when a judge retires, when a judge is constitutionally prohibited from running for election due to age, or when the position otherwise becomes vacant. The addition of a new judgeship requires both the Legislature's authorization and the local funding unit's approval.

The review of trial court judgeships begins with a statistical analysis. Case filings are weighted to reflect the amount of judicial time necessary to handle each case type. For example, a medical malpractice case requires much more judicial involvement than a civil infraction, so the medical malpractice case weight is much greater.

For each jurisdiction where the statistical analysis indicated a significant judicial need or excess, the SCAO conducted a secondary analysis. This analysis focused on the particular court or courts, and any factor not accounted for in the weighted caseload formula.

Within each judicial circuit, county-funded circuit, probate, and district courts were combined for analysis. District courts funded by cities and townships were analyzed independently from county-funded courts.

2015 JUDICIAL RESOURCES RECOMMENDATIONS

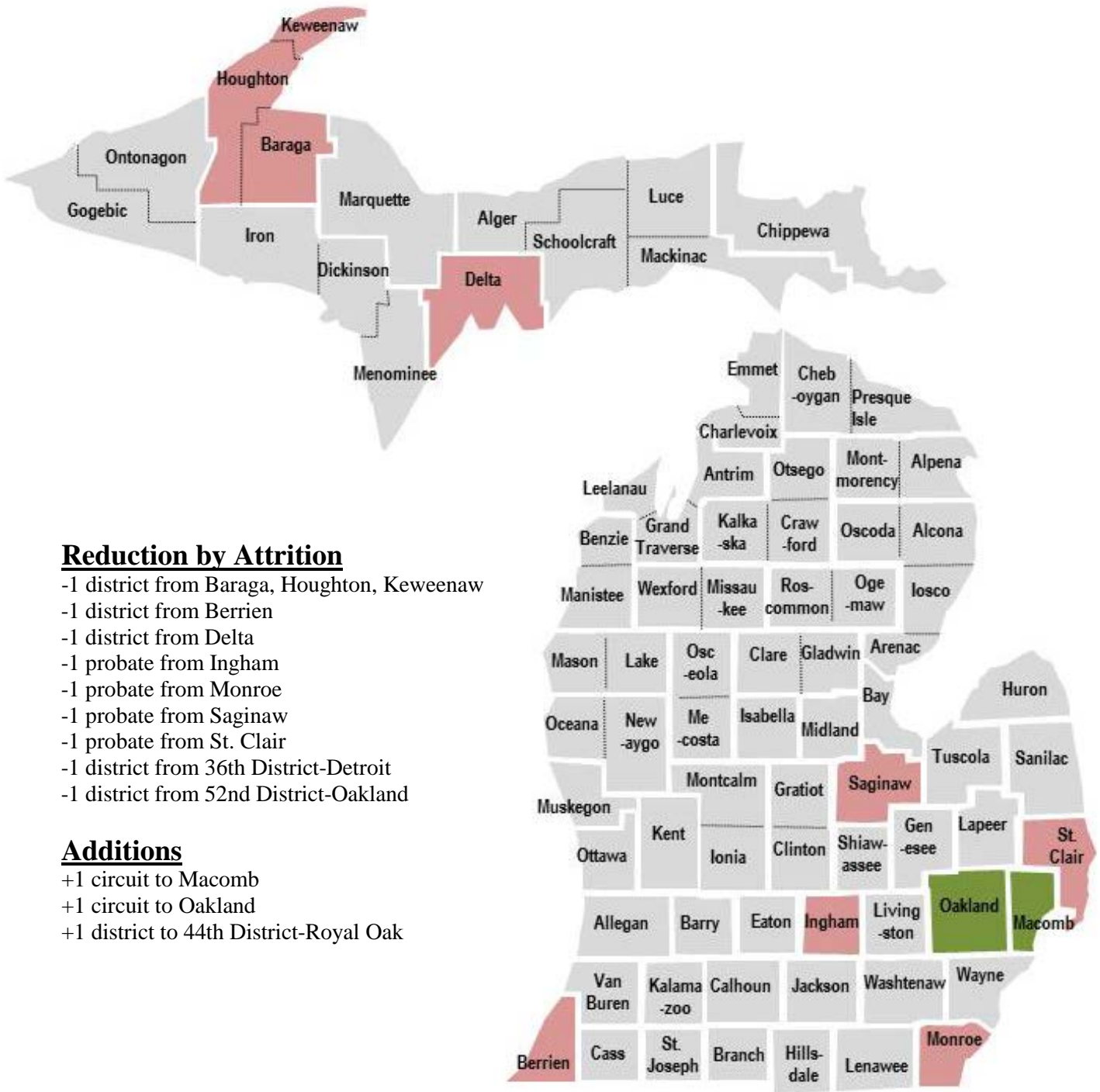
	Total Judgeships Needed	Current		Recommended Change		Page
		Judgeships	Judicial Need	Workload Per Judge	Judgeships	
Reductions by Attrition						
36th District Court – Detroit	26.52	30	-3.48	88%	-1 district	91% 18
Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw Counties	1.72	4.5	-2.78	38%	-1 district	49% 20
Saginaw County	9.51	12	-2.49	79%	-1 probate	86% 23
Berrien County	8.96	11	-2.04	81%	-1 district	90% 25
Delta County	1.55	3	-1.45	52%	-1 district	77% 27
Monroe County	6.76	8	-1.24	84%	-1 probate	97% 30
Ingham County	9.78	11	-1.22	89%	-1 probate	98% 32
St. Clair County	6.82	8	-1.19	85%	-1 probate	97% 34
Additions						
Macomb County	20.25	19 ¹	+1.25	107%	+1 circuit	101% 37
44th District Court – Royal Oak	1.60	1 ²	+0.60	160%	+1 district	80% 40
Reduction by Attrition and Addition						
Oakland County						
52nd District Court	8.19	10	-1.81	82%	-1 district	91% 44
6th Circuit Court & Probate Court	25.91	24 ³	+1.91	108%	+1 circuit	104% 44

**-9 judgeships
+3 judgeships**

¹ A circuit judgeship was temporarily eliminated by the Legislature in Macomb County and will be reinstated January 1, 2017. The Legislature also authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2017, and one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2019. If both are approved by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 15 circuit, 2 probate, and 2 district judgeships.

² As of June 1, 2015, the 44th District Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

³ The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 2, 2019. If approved by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 20 circuit and 4 probate judgeships. The county also has 10 district judgeships.



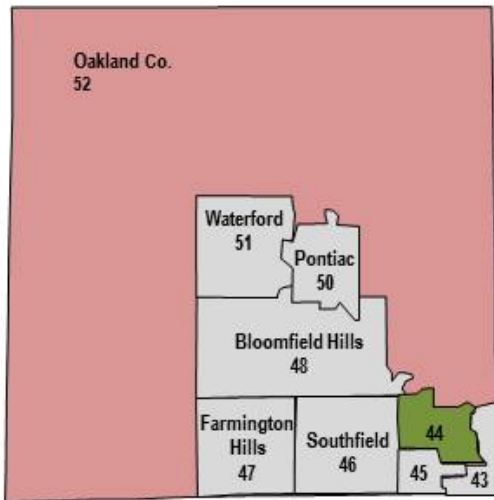
Reduction by Attrition

- 1 district from Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw
- 1 district from Berrien
- 1 district from Delta
- 1 probate from Ingham
- 1 probate from Monroe
- 1 probate from Saginaw
- 1 probate from St. Clair
- 1 district from 36th District-Detroit
- 1 district from 52nd District-Oakland

Additions

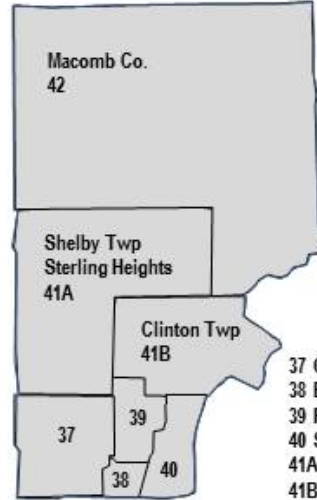
- +1 circuit to Macomb
- +1 circuit to Oakland
- +1 district to 44th District-Royal Oak

Oakland



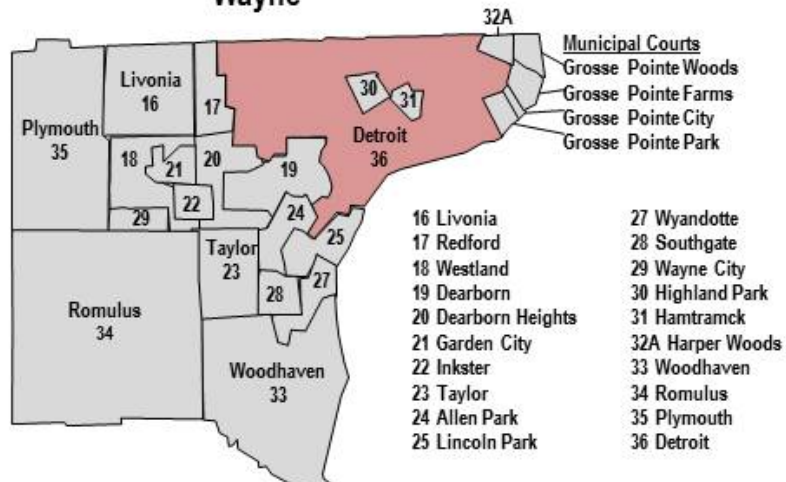
- 43 Ferndale, Hazel Park, Madison Heights
- 44 Royal Oak
- 45 Oak Park
- 46 Southfield
- 47 Farmington Hills
- 48 Bloomfield Hills
- 50 Pontiac
- 51 Waterford

Macomb



- 37 Center Line, Warren
- 38 Eastpointe
- 39 Fraser, Roseville
- 40 St. Clair Shores
- 41A Shelby Twp, Sterling Hts
- 41B Clinton Twp

Wayne



- 16 Livonia
- 17 Redford
- 18 Westland
- 19 Dearborn
- 20 Dearborn Heights
- 21 Garden City
- 22 Inkster
- 23 Taylor
- 24 Allen Park
- 25 Lincoln Park
- 27 Wyandotte
- 28 Southgate
- 29 Wayne City
- 30 Highland Park
- 31 Hamtramck
- 32A Harper Woods
- 33 Woodhaven
- 34 Romulus
- 35 Plymouth
- 36 Detroit

METHODOLOGY

Any estimate of judicial workload and a community's need for judges is a complex and multidimensional process. Most states, including Michigan, consider both quantitative and qualitative factors. The process in Michigan involves two stages. The first stage utilizes a quantitative method - a weighted caseload formula - to estimate the number of judges needed in each court. During the second stage, known as the secondary analysis, the SCAO reviews additional factors, such as the need for judges to travel long distances between court locations in a single large circuit. Other factors include trends in filings or population, changes in prosecutorial practices, and any other issue that may affect the need for judges.

The SCAO evaluates all county-funded courts within a judicial circuit together.⁴ District courts that are funded by cities and townships, however, are analyzed independently from county-funded courts in the same judicial circuit. Aggregating within a circuit is important because concurrent jurisdiction plans pursuant to MCL 600.401 *et seq.* permit more equitable assignment of cases among judges within a circuit, thereby allowing a judicial excess in one court to offset a need in another court. For example, a district court that shows a judicial need for one judge can offset that need by sharing work with circuit and probate courts that show a judicial excess. All courts are eligible to participate in concurrent jurisdiction plans and 78 courts currently do. The SCAO has strongly encouraged and assisted courts in implementing these plans, and will continue to do so.

Weighted Caseload Formula: The weighted caseload formula is the preliminary quantitative method used to identify potential judicial need or excess in each court. In the formula, a weight for each case type accounts for varying amounts of judicial time required to handle an individual case.⁵ The case weight for a medical malpractice case, for example, is much greater than the case weight for a civil infraction. All case weights include postjudgment time.

The case weights are applied to the average annual new case filings and the judicial proportion to generate an estimate of the total judicial time necessary to process the court's caseload. To ensure that short-term variations in new case filings do not unduly affect judicial resource need estimates, caseload data from the preceding three years (2012, 2013, and 2014) were used in the weighted caseload formula.⁶

Judicial proportions reflect the percentage of the case weight workload that is handled by a judge, on average, as opposed to a referee, magistrate, or other quasi-judicial officer. The judicial proportions vary by court type and stratum.⁷ This calculation is divided by the judicial year, which is the average amount of time available to an individual judge each year for case-related activity.⁸ The result is an estimate of the number of judges required to process the court's caseload, as reflected in this formula:

⁴ Because the 7th Probate Court District and the 90th District Court serve both Charlevoix and Emmet counties, these courts are combined with the 33rd Circuit Court in Charlevoix County and the 57th Circuit Court in Emmet County for this report.

⁵ See Appendix A for the case weights used for this report.

⁶ Weighted caseload results for all courts are provided in Appendices C and D.

⁷ Judicial proportions are provided in Appendix B.

⁸ The judicial year is the average amount of time a judge has available each year to handle cases, excluding work-related travel, administration, education, vacations, holidays, etc.

$$\text{Number of Judges Needed} = \frac{\text{Average Annual New Case Filings} \times \text{Case Weight} \times \text{Judicial Proportion}}{\text{Judicial Year}}$$

The weighted caseload formula distinguishes the varying degrees of effort involved in handling different case types at the trial court level, and is far more accurate than an analysis based on unweighted total case filings. The proportions of different case types may vary significantly between different court types⁹ and between different courts.

The National Center for State Courts (NCSC)¹⁰ recommends a weighted caseload methodology above all other methods, such as a simple population analysis or an unweighted case filings analysis. In Michigan, the weighted caseload method has been used by the SCAO since 1998.

The weighted caseload formula was first developed by the Trial Court Assessment Commission (TCAC), which the Legislature created in 1996. The TCAC included representatives from the Court of Appeals, circuit courts, probate courts, district courts, State Bar of Michigan, Michigan House of Representatives, Michigan Senate, and local governments. In 1997, the TCAC conducted a time study for two months to measure the actual time judges spent on cases. The NCSC helped develop the weighted caseload formula.

In 2000, because of the implementation of the family division and changes in circuit and district court jurisdiction, the Michigan Supreme Court directed the SCAO to update the weighted caseload formula through a study of the time required to process case types. The SCAO conducted a time study in September and October 2000 and used the resulting case weights for the 2001, 2003, and 2005 Judicial Resources Recommendations reports. The SCAO conducted another time study in September and October 2006 to update the case weights. The average of the case weights from the 2000 and 2006 time studies were used to generate the recommendations in the 2007 and 2009 Judicial Resources Recommendations reports.

In 2010, the SCAO established a Judicial Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC) comprised of judges, referees, magistrates, and court administrators; JNAC oversaw an extensive review of the weighted caseload methodology. The NCSC, which has extensive experience in workload studies and weighted caseload methods throughout the country and the world, was retained to conduct Michigan’s review. The updated methodology is fully described in a technical report issued by the NCSC and presented by the JNAC in August 2011.

The NCSC conducted a time study in October 2010 with all trial court judges and any quasi-judicial officer performing judicial functions. This was the first judicial time study in Michigan that involved every court in the state. Previous studies were based on data from a sample of trial courts. The NCSC also conducted on-site court visits, an online survey of judges, and a qualitative review process with experienced judges. The result was an extensive update of the weighted caseload methodology and the case weights.

⁹ For example, a significant portion of district court caseload consists of traffic cases, making the total number of cases processed in district courts significantly higher than in either circuit or probate courts.

¹⁰ The National Center for State Courts, based in Williamsburg, Virginia, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the nation’s state courts through research and technical assistance.

History of Judicial Time Studies in Michigan

Time Study	Oversight & Research	Method of Selecting Courts	JRR ¹¹ Reports Issued
1997	TCAC, NCSC, and SCAO	Stratified Random Sample	2000
2000	SCAO	Stratified Random Sample	2001, 2003, 2005
2006	SCAO	Stratified Random Sample	2007, 2009
2010	JNAC, NCSC, and SCAO	All Trial Courts	2011, 2013, 2015

TCAC – Trial Court Assessment Commission
SCAO – State Court Administrative Office

NCSC – National Center for State Courts
JNAC – Judicial Needs Assessment Committee

The policies, practices, and structure of trial courts change over time in response to public need, legislative actions, and funding issues. The SCAO is committed to periodically reviewing and updating its methods of assessing judicial need, as it has in the past, to ensure valid results. This evolution, unfortunately, limits some comparisons between JRR reports when based on different time studies. This is particularly true when attempting to compare judicial needs estimates for large courts over time.

In late 2012, the SCAO formed a Judicial Resources Advisory Committee (JRAC) comprised of judges, court administrators, referees, and magistrates. The JRAC reviewed SCAO's methodology and identified areas where it could be improved and where changes in policy or practice have resulted in increased workload demands. As a result of JRAC's recommendations, SCAO updated the weighted caseload formula for 2013. That updated formula continues to be used for 2015.

Quasi-Judicial Officers: Almost all courts have at least one quasi-judicial officer, such as a referee, magistrate, probate register, or law clerk who perform limited judicial functions. Indeed these quasi-judicial officers perform a significant proportion of judicial work for the courts and during the 2010 Time Study, a total of 326 full-time equivalent quasi-judicial officers performed judicial functions.

Determining how to account for the judicial workload of quasi-judicial officers is difficult and not without controversy. When the SCAO examines the need for judges, it is presumed that local funding units will continue to employ quasi-judicial officers and courts of similar size will have similar levels of support from these positions. In other words, the SCAO uses the average proportion of judicial workload performed by quasi-judicial officers when determining how many judges should be available to each court.

There has not been a statewide analysis on how many are needed in each court or how many would be ideal in each court. In Michigan, statewide committees of SCAO, judges, and court administrators have researched different methods and after extensive analysis and debate, these committees have concluded that the current method of imputing an average level of support from quasi-judicial officers is the most appropriate way to account for the judicial workload handled by quasi-judicial officers.

There is no state control over the number of quasi-judicial officers in each court. Some courts will have more and some will have less than the average level of support. Because local units of government fund these positions, this variation in level of support may be due to the funding unit's economic base or spending priorities. The SCAO's primary focus is weighted caseload and the equitable distribution of available judicial resources statewide.

Secondary Analysis: Calculating judicial need is a complicated and multifaceted process. Both the TCAC and the JNAC advised that the SCAO should conduct a secondary analysis of factors that affect a court's workload before recommending an increase or reduction in judgeships. All of the courts where SCAO recommends a reduction were subject to a secondary analysis.

¹¹ JRR – Judicial Resources Recommendations.

For each specific court under review during the secondary analysis, SCAO considered both qualitative and quantitative information. During the secondary analysis, the SCAO regional administrators met with each court. Discussion focused on case-related factors that affect judicial resources, court resources, and environmental factors in the court's jurisdiction.

During the secondary analysis, the SCAO took into account the constitutional requirements of having at least one circuit judgeship for each judicial circuit and at least one probate judgeship for each county or probate court district.

Other secondary analysis factors include:

- Travel time for judges whose jurisdiction covers a large geographic area, such as the Upper Peninsula.
- A court's technological resources, including whether the court has videoconferencing technology and sufficient bandwidth to use it.
- Local prosecutors' plea-bargaining practices, particularly in counties where those practices result in a greater proportion of cases going to trial.
- Local law enforcement's current and projected practices and their impact on case filings.
- Whether the court operates a problem-solving court beyond those for which SCAO increased the case weight.
- Filing and population trends. These may indicate future growth in workload.
- The local economic climate of each court jurisdiction, particularly projected growth in business, industry, prisons, or other areas. Economic conditions, such as bankruptcy and emergency financial management, in the court's funding unit.
- Changes in policy that have not yet been incorporated into the weighted caseload formula.¹² The next time study will allow SCAO to incorporate these (and other) changes into the weighted caseload formula. This study is anticipated to take place in 2016-2017.

Large versus Small Courts: Finally, SCAO examined workload per judge during the weighted caseload analysis and the secondary analysis. Workload per judge reflects the average percentage of the judicial need that needs to be handled by each judge in a court.

For example, if a court with 3 judges has a judicial need of 2.16, each judge is handling 72 percent of a full workload. If a court with 68 judges has a judicial need of 67.16, each judge is handling 99 percent of a full workload. Both courts have a judicial excess of 0.84, but SCAO is less likely to recommend a reduction in the 3-judge court because the workload per judge would increase from 72 to 108 percent whereas the workload per judge in the 68-judge court would increase from 99 to 100 percent. This type of analysis is critical in comparing relative workload between counties or courts.

¹² For example, the workload for child protective cases in circuit court may have increased both temporarily and over the long-term due to the Michigan Supreme Court decision in *In re Sanders*, 495 Mich. 394, 404; 852 NW2d 524 (2014). Additionally, the workload for felony cases in district court may have increased over the long-term due to statutory changes.

Large Versus Small Courts – Hypothetical

Court	Current Judges	Judicial Excess	Judges Needed	Current Workload Per Judge	Reduction of Judges	Workload Per Judge After a Reduction
Small Court	3	-0.84	2.16	72%	-1 = 2	108%
Large Court	68	-0.84	67.16	99%	-1 = 67	100%

SELECTING COURTS FOR SECONDARY ANALYSIS

Criteria for Secondary Analysis: Courts that met the following three criteria were included in the secondary analysis in 2015:

- A judicial excess more than one full judgeship.
- No pending reductions in judgeships at the time courts were selected for a secondary analysis.
- No recent reductions in the bench of 20 percent or more, which gives the courts time to adjust to a substantial reduction.

The following courts met the first criteria, of having a judicial excess more than one full judgeship, but did not meet all three criteria. Therefore these courts were excluded from the secondary analysis:

- Dickinson, Iron, Menominee Counties – The courts in these three counties have a judicial excess greater than one full judgeship, but one judgeship is scheduled to be eliminated by attrition. Once that judgeship is eliminated, the judicial excess will decrease from 3.46 to 2.46.
- Gogebic, Ontonagon Counties – The courts in these counties have a judicial excess of 1.86, however, the bench was recently reduced by more than 20 percent. The bench reduced from four to three judgeships.
- Alger, Luce, Mackinac, Schoolcraft Counties – The courts in these counties have a judicial excess greater than one full judgeship, but one judgeship is scheduled to be eliminated by attrition. Once that judgeship is eliminated, the judicial excess will decrease from 2.69 to 1.69.
- Marquette County – The courts in this county have a judicial excess greater than one full judgeship, but one judgeship is scheduled to be eliminated by attrition. Once that judgeship is eliminated, the judicial excess will decrease from 2.49 to 1.49.
- Bay County – The courts in this county have a judicial excess greater than one full judgeship, but one judgeship is scheduled to be eliminated by attrition. Once that judgeship is eliminated, the judicial excess will decrease from 2.37 to 1.37.
- Midland County – The courts in this county have a judicial excess of 1.34, however, the bench was recently reduced by 20 percent. The bench reduced from five to four judgeships.
- 68th District Court – Flint – This court has a judicial excess greater than one full judgeship, but one judgeship is scheduled to be eliminated by attrition. Once that judgeship is eliminated, the judicial excess will decrease from 2.24 to 1.24. Additionally, this court will be merging with the 67th District Court of Genesee County, which has a judicial need of 1.30 when combined with the circuit and probate courts.
- Alcona, Arenac, Iosco, Oscoda Counties – The courts in these counties have a judicial excess greater than one full judgeship, but one judgeship is scheduled to be eliminated by attrition. Once that judgeship is eliminated, the judicial excess will decrease from 2.01 to 1.01.

- The Court of Appeals has three pending reductions, therefore, SCAO did not examine the judicial need or excess in this court.

In addition, the following courts met all three criteria for inclusion in the secondary analysis, but SCAO is not recommending a reduction in judgeships. Should the judicial excess in these courts continue to be significant, SCAO will conduct another secondary analysis in 2017 and may recommend reductions at that time.

- Wayne County – The 3rd Circuit Court and Wayne County Probate Court have a combined judicial excess of 1.48, no pending reductions in judgeships, and less than 20 percent reduction in the bench within recent years. However, the loss of five judgeships, or seven percent of the combined circuit/probate bench, occurred within a short time period and the circuit court should be given time to adjust to this change before more reductions. Furthermore, the court has committed to a 5 percent budget cut in fiscal year 2015-16 and will continue to assist the county in addressing its fiscal crisis for the foreseeable future. Due to the number of judges serving these two courts, there is ample opportunity for attrition to occur every election year, therefore, reductions could be recommended in 2017 and quickly implemented.
- 15th District Court – Ann Arbor – The initial weighted caseload analysis indicates that this court has a judicial excess of 1.38, no pending reductions in judgeships, and no recent reductions in judgeships. However, the district judges in Washtenaw County handle felony preliminary examinations by rotation for any jurisdiction in the county, though these cases are not reflected in caseload reports submitted to SCAO. And these courts have streamlined their case management systems with the 22nd Circuit Court, which makes it difficult for the district courts to report the data. As a result, because the 3 district judges in Ann Arbor handle 50 percent of the felony cases filed in district courts in Washtenaw County, the judicial excess for the 15th District Court is closer to 1.09. Further, the population in Ann Arbor has increased from 109,592 in 1990 to over 117,000 today, and growth is anticipated to continue in light of 12 residential developments underway in Ann Arbor. The presence of the University of Michigan and the U of M Hospital creates a diversity of population placing unique demands on the court. Additionally, there are six problem-solving courts in the 15th District Court, but only one is reflected in the weighted caseload estimates.
- Calhoun County – The courts in this county have a judicial excess of 1.12, no pending reductions in judgeships, and less than 20 percent reduction in the bench within recent years. The Calhoun County Probate Court lost a judgeship by attrition in 2011. However, there are four problem-solving courts in Calhoun County, with one more in development, but only two are reflected in the weighted caseload estimates. Furthermore, the population is steady at about 135,000. Over the next several election cycles, SCAO anticipates that judgeships will become vacant, therefore, reductions could be recommended in 2017 and quickly implemented.
- Missaukee and Wexford Counties – The courts in these counties have a judicial excess of 1.10, no pending reductions, and no recent reductions. Although SCAO recommended a reduction of one judgeship in its 2011 report with a judicial excess of 1.10, the judicial excess dropped to 0.99 when analyzed for the 2013 report. Additionally, the population increased from 38,507 in 1990 to over 47,000 today.

The following courts have a judicial need of more than 1.00 and were selected for a secondary analysis.

- Macomb County – See pages 37-39 where SCAO recommends an additional judgeship for this county.
- Genesee County – The county-funded courts in this county currently have a judicial need of 1.30, however, when the 68th District Court of Flint merges with the county-funded district court, the overall judicial need in this county will be 0.67. At this time, SCAO does not recommend additional judgeships for this county.
- 18th District Court – Westland – This court has a judicial need of 1.07, but this court has an active concurrent jurisdiction plan with the 29th District Court of Wayne City, which has a judicial excess of 0.47. These courts share two problem-solving courts and are working closely to share judicial and staff resources. At this time, SCAO does not recommend additional judgeships for this court.

The following courts have exceptional circumstances:

- Oakland County – The county-funded courts in this county have a judicial need of only 0.097, which is well below the threshold for inclusion in the secondary analysis. However, as in past years, SCAO included these courts in the analysis due to the disparity between the district court and the circuit and probate courts. The 52nd District Court has a judicial excess of 1.81, while the 6th Circuit Court and Oakland County Probate Court have a judicial need of 1.91. These courts were included in this report to recognize and respond to this disparity. SCAO attempted to resolve this long-standing disparity by encouraging adoption of a concurrent jurisdiction plan that would have shifted portions of the circuit or probate court docket to the district court judges, but no plan was ever adopted.¹³ Thus, because the courts have not adopted a concurrent jurisdiction plan, SCAO recommends the addition of a circuit court judgeship and a reduction of a district court judgeship.
- 44th District Court – Royal Oak – The judicial need in this court is 0.60, which is below the threshold for inclusion in the secondary analysis, but the workload per judge is 160 percent. The only other court with this high percentage workload is the 38th District Court (discussed in the next bullet). The 44th and 38th District Courts were included in the secondary analysis due to having a higher workload per judge than any other court in Michigan.
- 38th District Court – Eastpointe – During the secondary analysis for this court it was determined that the local facilities are insufficient to house an additional judgeship. Therefore, SCAO does not recommend a change at this time. However, SCAO will work closely with this court to continue developing solutions to the excessive workload before 2017 when SCAO will reassess the judicial need.

¹³ The 2011 JRR stated “The 52nd District Court should consider entering into a concurrent jurisdiction plan with one or both of these other two county-funded courts to help offset this judicial need. If the district court continues to limit its workload to only district cases, the SCAO is likely to recommend in its 2013 Judicial Resources Recommendations report a reduction of one or more judgeships in this district court.”

STATE COST OF A JUDGESHIP

The current method of funding trial courts in Michigan requires counties and local municipalities to bear a significant share of the cost of trial court operations. The state pays the cost of judges' salaries.

State Costs: The state is responsible for the judge's salary, a retirement contribution up to 7 percent, and the employer portion of FICA taxes (OASI and Medicare). The salary for a circuit or probate judge is \$139,919; the salary for a district judge is \$138,272. The annual total state cost of a judgeship ranges from \$159,089 for a circuit or probate judge to \$157,303 for a district judge.

The SCAO recommends that the Legislature eliminate nine trial court judgeships by attrition and add three trial court judgeships, for a net decrease of six judgeships. If the Legislature enacts these recommendations, the annual savings to the state will be \$947,390.

Estimated Annual State Savings & State Expenses

	Recommended Changes in Judgeships	State Cost Per Judge	<u>Annual State Savings and State Expenses</u> Total	
Additions	2 circuit	\$ 159,089	\$ 318,178	Additional Expenses
	1 district	\$ 157,303	\$ 157,303	
Reductions by Attrition	4 probate	\$ 159,089	\$ 636,356	Savings
	5 district	\$ 157,303	\$ 786,515	
			\$ 947,390	Net Savings

Local Costs: Significant local costs are associated with a judgeship, such as judges' fringe benefits; salaries and fringe benefits of court personnel (i.e., clerk, court reporter, bailiff, legal assistants); computer hardware, software, and other equipment for court personnel; and courtrooms, jury rooms, and judges' chambers. Local funding units must approve any increase in judgeships once authorized by the Legislature. As it relates to savings from reductions, local funding, particularly staffing for the courts, varies greatly from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, it is difficult to determine the amount that a funding unit would save through the elimination of a specific judgeship.

RECOMMENDED REDUCTIONS BY ATTRITION

36th District Court – City of Detroit

Using the updated weighted caseload methodology and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the 36th District Court can operate with 26.52 judges and has a judicial excess of 3.48 judges.

Recommendation:

The SCAO recommends the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship. *MCL 600.8121a*.

Current Judgeships	30
2015 SCAO Recommendation	-1
Remaining Judgeships	29

If a judgeship is eliminated by attrition, the workload per judge would increase from 88 to 91 percent.

History of Recommendations:

In 2007, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship. The Michigan Supreme Court recommended the elimination through attrition of two district judgeships.

In 2013, SCAO recommended no changes in judgeships due to the appointment of a special judicial administrator for this court.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

The Legislature eliminated through attrition one district judgeship effective January 1, 2015. *2014 PA 58, MCL 600.8121a*.

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in this court, excluding the traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has decreased from a peak of more than 222,000 in 2008 to less than 152,000 in 2014. The population in Detroit has decreased from over 1 million in 1990 to under 700,000 today.

Case Filings

Year	Traffic Civil Infractions	All Other Cases
2004	78,721	174,862
2005	129,368	178,122
2006	159,224	219,747
2007	187,216	242,458
2008	164,678	222,488
2009	137,719	192,981
2010	137,442	200,634
2011	148,584	197,319
2012	136,707	187,633
2013	128,411	161,541
2014	114,956	151,523

All Other Cases excludes Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Year	Population
1990	1,027,974
2000	951,270
2010	713,777
2013 Estimate	686,674
2014 Estimate	680,250

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Judgeships
36th District Court	Detroit	30

Baraga, Houghton, and Keweenaw Counties

Using the updated weighted caseload methodology and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the courts in these counties can operate with 1.72 judges and have a judicial excess of 2.78.

Recommendation:

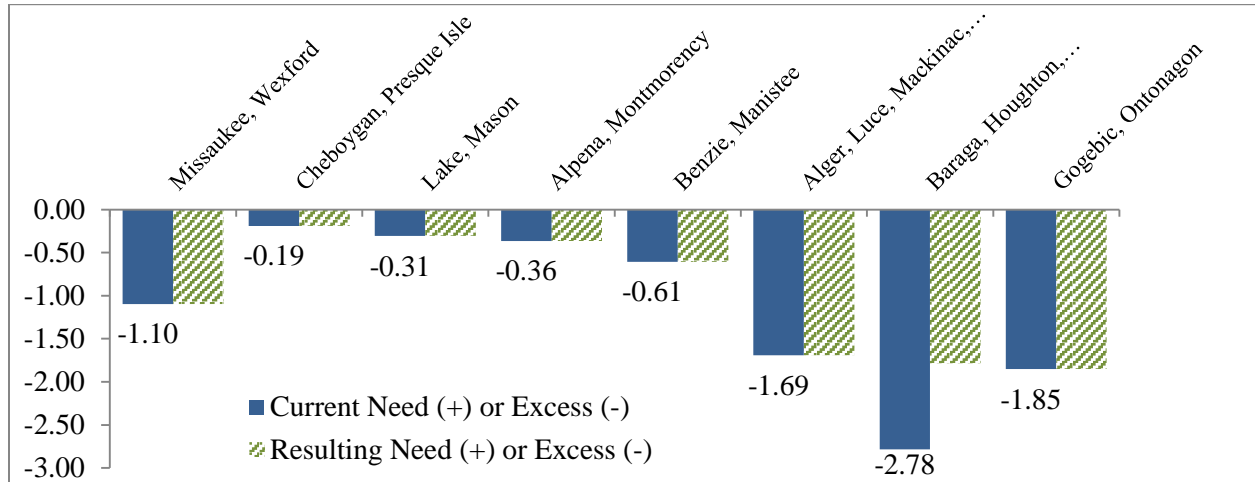
The SCAO recommends the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship. The SCAO also recommends giving the probate judges district court authority. *MCL 600.8162*. The only way to reduce the court by more judgeships is to create a probate court district between two or more counties.

Current Judgeships	4.5 ¹⁴
2015 SCAO Recommendation	-1
Remaining Judgeships	3.5

If a judgeship is eliminated by attrition, the workload per judge would increase from 38 to 49 percent.

Comparable Courts

County	Total Workload in Minutes	Judges Needed	Current			Recommended		
			Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge	Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
Missaukee, Wexford	306,042	2.90	4	-1.10	73%	4	-1.10	73%
Cheboygan, Presque Isle	259,811	2.81	3 ¹⁵	-0.19	94%	3	-0.19	94%
Lake, Mason	250,119	2.69	3 ¹⁶	-0.31	90%	3	-0.31	90%
Alpena, Montmorency	245,850	2.64	3	-0.36	88%	3	-0.36	88%
Benzie, Manistee	225,831	2.39	3	-0.61	80%	3	-0.61	80%
Alger, Luce, Mackinac, Schoolcraft	212,424	2.31	4 ¹⁷	-1.69	58%	4	-1.69	58%
Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw	161,917	1.72	4.5¹⁴	-2.78	38%	3.5	-1.78	49%
Gogebic, Ontonagon	108,060	1.15	3	-1.85	38%	3	-1.85	38%



¹⁴ The Keweenaw County Probate Court judgeship is the only part-time judgeship in Michigan.

¹⁵ As of June 1, 2015, Cheboygan and Presque Isle counties have four judges, but are scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition in the 89th District Court.

¹⁶ As of June 1, 2015, Lake and Mason counties have four judges, but are scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition in the 79th District Court.

¹⁷ As of June 1, 2015, Alger, Luce, Mackinac, and Schoolcraft counties have five judges, but are scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition in the 93rd District Court.

History of Recommendations:

In 2003, the SCAO recommended that the part-time probate judgeships in Baraga and Keweenaw counties be converted to full-time with district court jurisdiction upon elimination of the district judgeship through attrition, if Houghton and Keweenaw counties did not form a probate court district. The counties did not form a probate court district and the Legislature converted the Baraga County probate judgeship to full-time, however, the Legislature did not eliminate the district judgeship.

In 2007, the SCAO and the Michigan Supreme Court recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship.

In 2009, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship. The SCAO also recommended that two district courts be created, one for Baraga County and one for Houghton and Keweenaw counties. As an alternative to eliminating the district judgeship and creating separate district courts, the SCAO stated that the counties could create a probate court district of Houghton and Keweenaw counties, which would result in the elimination through attrition of one part-time probate judgeship.

In 2011, the SCAO recommended the reduction through attrition of one judgeship.

In 2013, SCAO recommended the elimination by attrition of one district judgeship. As an alternative to eliminating the district judgeship, the SCAO also stated that the counties could create a probate court district of Houghton and Keweenaw counties, which would result in the elimination through attrition of one part-time probate judgeship.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

The Legislature converted the Baraga County probate judgeship from part-time to full-time effective January 2, 2007. *2004 PA 492, MCL 600.810a.*

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in these courts, excluding the traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has decreased from a peak of more than 4,000 in 2005 to less than 3,300 in 2014. The population has increased from over 45,000 in 1990 to more than 47,000 today.

Case Filings

Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court		Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Infractions	Civil All Others	
2004	15	131	83	691	294	3,589	2,602	3,816
2005	15	176	75	602	319	3,244	2,878	4,065
2006	23	149	75	635	268	2,954	2,735	3,885
2007	18	128	87	637	264	2,870	2,881	4,015
2008	13	137	79	558	259	2,501	2,571	3,617
2009	13	127	71	472	283	2,592	2,693	3,659
2010	21	139	101	500	269	3,018	2,537	3,567
2011	34	167	79	464	258	2,690	2,438	3,440
2012	21	103	80	415	312	2,119	2,453	3,384
2013	13	130	77	487	349	2,077	2,267	3,323
2014	26	121	59	441	287	2,182	2,294	3,228

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Year	Population
1990	45,101
2000	47,063
2010	47,644
2013 Estimate	47,598
2014 Estimate	47,366

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Judgeships
12th Circuit Court	Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw Counties	1
Baraga County Probate Court	Baraga County	1
Houghton County Probate Court	Houghton County	1
Keweenaw County Probate Court	Keweenaw County	0.5 ¹⁸
97th District Court	Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw Counties	1

¹⁸ The Keweenaw County Probate Court judgeship is the only part-time judgeship in Michigan.

Saginaw County

Using the updated weighted caseload methodology and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the courts in this county can operate with 9.51 judges and has a judicial excess of 2.46.

Recommendation:

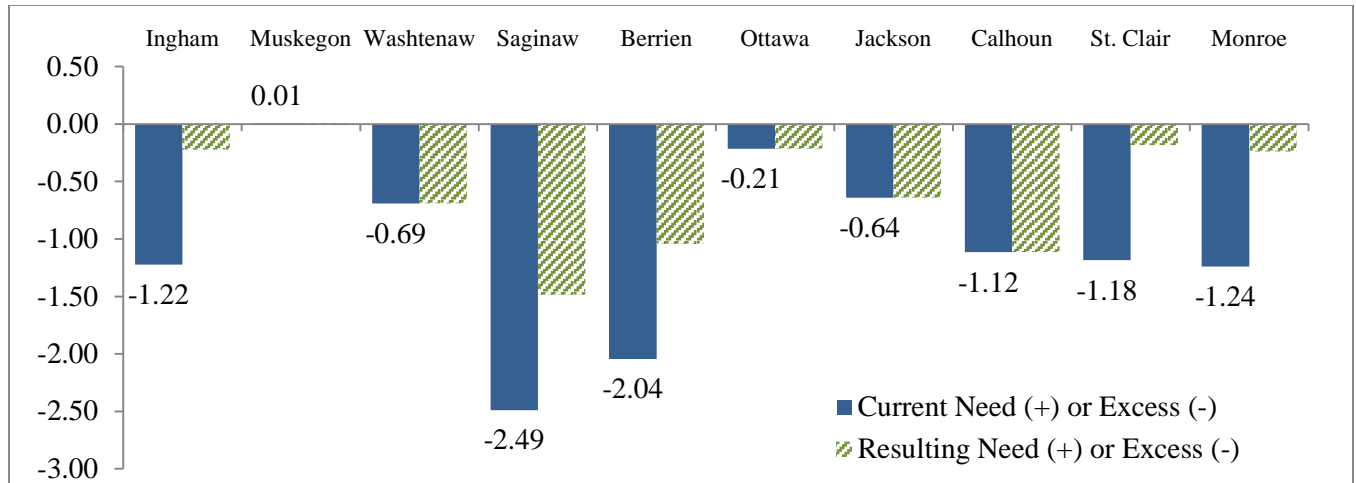
The SCAO recommends the elimination through attrition of one probate judgeship. *MCL 600.803.*

Current Judgeships	12
2015 SCAO Recommendation	-1
Remaining Judgeships	11

If a judgeship is eliminated by attrition, the workload per judge would increase from 79 to 86 percent.

Comparable Courts

County	Total Workload in Minutes	Judges Needed	Current			Recommended		
			Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge	Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
Ingham	1,393,283	9.78	11	-1.22	89%	10	-0.22	98%
Muskegon	1,283,197	10.01	10	0.01	100%	10	0.01	100%
Washtenaw	1,267,917	9.31	10	-0.69	93%	10	-0.69	93%
Saginaw	1,182,409	9.51	12	-2.49	79%	11	-1.49	86%
Berrien	1,108,359	8.96	11	-2.04	81%	10	-1.04	90%
Ottawa	1,094,378	8.79	9	-0.21	98%	9	-0.21	98%
Jackson	1,044,516	8.36	9	-0.64	93%	9	-0.64	93%
Calhoun	971,964	7.88	9	-1.12	88%	9	-1.12	88%
St. Clair	857,804	6.82	8	-1.18	85%	7	-0.18	97%
Monroe	837,544	6.76	8	-1.24	84%	7	-0.24	97%



History of Recommendations:

In 2003, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship.

In 2005, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship.

In 2007, the SCAO and the Michigan Supreme Court recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship.

In 2013, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

The Legislature eliminated through attrition one district judgeship effective March 27, 2014. *2014 PA 60, MCL 600.8135.*

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in these courts, excluding the traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has decreased from a peak of more than 39,000 in 2007 to less than 29,000 in 2014. The population has decreased from over 211,000 in 1990 to less than 196,000 today.

Case Filings

Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court		Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Civil Infractions	All Others	
2004	71	1,438	771	5,124	1,500	21,247	29,517	38,421
2005	80	1,537	724	5,026	1,463	20,524	25,982	34,812
2006	90	1,483	737	5,317	1,497	24,998	27,930	37,054
2007	80	1,670	723	4,702	1,463	22,175	31,206	39,844
2008	62	1,816	664	4,624	1,581	21,371	31,013	39,760
2009	76	1,704	673	4,419	1,484	23,562	29,858	38,214
2010	88	1,647	660	4,293	1,542	23,259	28,601	36,831
2011	83	1,531	632	3,948	1,387	19,684	25,101	32,682
2012	79	1,328	549	3,781	1,289	17,783	23,143	30,169
2013	77	1,361	624	3,265	1,298	17,968	22,680	29,305
2014	96	1,314	629	3,651	1,242	15,254	21,993	28,925

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Year	Population
1990	211,946
2000	210,039
2010	200,169
2013 Estimate	196,660
2014 Estimate	195,012

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Judgeships
10th Circuit Court	Saginaw County	5
Saginaw County Probate Court	Saginaw County	2
70th District Court	Saginaw County	5

Berrien County

Using the updated weighted caseload methodology and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the courts in this county can operate with 8.96 judges and has a judicial excess of 2.04.

Recommendation:

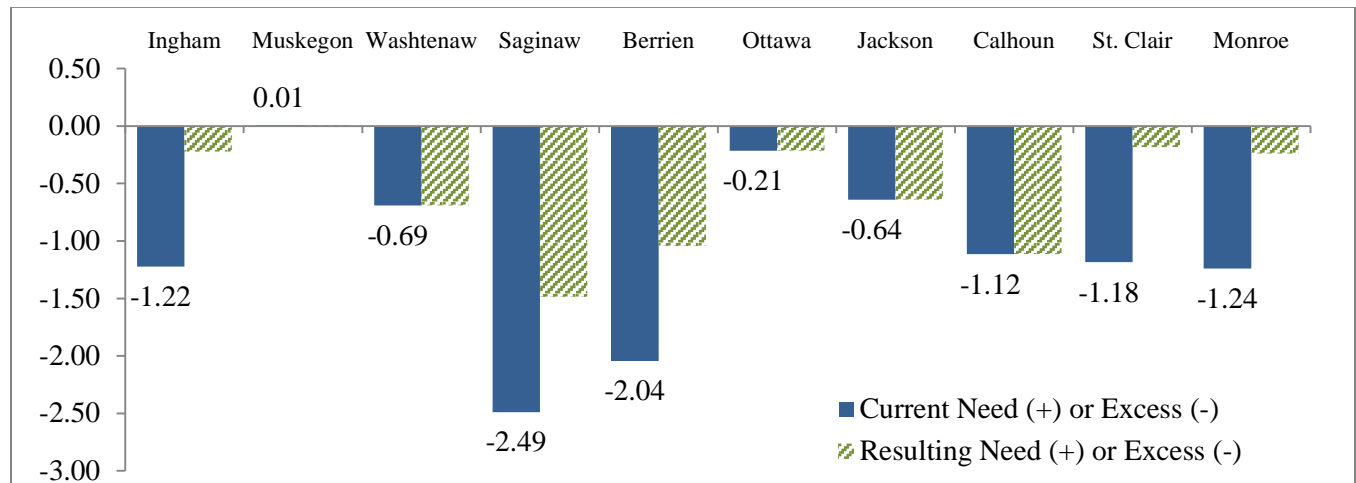
The SCAO recommends the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship. *MCL 600.8115*.

Current Judgeships	11
2015 SCAO Recommendation	-1
Remaining Judgeships	10

If a judgeship is eliminated by attrition, the workload per judge would increase from 81 to 90 percent.

Comparable Courts

County	Total Workload in Minutes	Judges Needed	Current			Recommended		
			Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Workload Per Judge	Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Workload Per Judge
Ingham	1,393,283	9.78	11	-1.22	89%	10	-0.22	98%
Muskegon	1,283,197	10.01	10	0.01	100%	10	0.01	100%
Washtenaw	1,267,917	9.31	10	-0.69	93%	10	-0.69	93%
Saginaw	1,182,409	9.51	12	-2.49	79%	11	-1.49	86%
Berrien	1,108,359	8.96	11	-2.04	81%	10	-1.04	90%
Ottawa	1,094,378	8.79	9	-0.21	98%	9	-0.21	98%
Jackson	1,044,516	8.36	9	-0.64	93%	9	-0.64	93%
Calhoun	971,964	7.88	9	-1.12	88%	9	-1.12	88%
St. Clair	857,804	6.82	8	-1.18	85%	7	-0.18	97%
Monroe	837,544	6.76	8	-1.24	84%	7	-0.24	97%



History of Recommendations:

In 2013, the SCAO recommended the elimination by attrition of one district judgeship.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

None

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in these courts, excluding the traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has decreased from a peak of more than 35,000 in 2004 to less than 26,000 in 2014. The population has decreased from over 161,000 in 1990 to less than 156,000 today.

Case Filings

Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court		Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Civil Infractions	All Others	
2004	44	1,440	459	4,526	726	31,522	28,783	35,978
2005	71	1,502	424	4,804	757	26,440	27,080	34,638
2006	58	1,510	455	4,703	706	25,088	26,134	33,566
2007	38	1,506	426	4,628	690	22,832	26,593	33,881
2008	48	1,533	483	4,785	654	24,875	26,569	34,072
2009	47	1,478	434	4,594	705	25,827	24,049	31,307
2010	32	1,281	434	4,503	692	24,371	22,238	29,180
2011	40	1,275	385	3,979	675	18,870	21,684	28,038
2012	29	1,431	367	3,823	687	18,251	21,265	27,602
2013	30	1,279	346	3,955	683	19,141	20,712	27,005
2014	25	1,178	329	3,691	640	18,592	19,234	25,097

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Year	Population
1990	161,378
2000	162,453
2010	156,813
2013 Estimate	155,321
2014 Estimate	155,233

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Judgeships
2nd Circuit Court	Berrien County	4
Berrien County Probate Court	Berrien County	2
5th District Court	Berrien County	5

Delta County

Using the updated weighted caseload methodology and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the courts in this county can operate with 1.55 judges and has a judicial excess of 1.45.

Recommendation:

The SCAO recommends the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship. The SCAO also recommends giving the Delta County probate judge district court authority. *MCL 600.8159*.

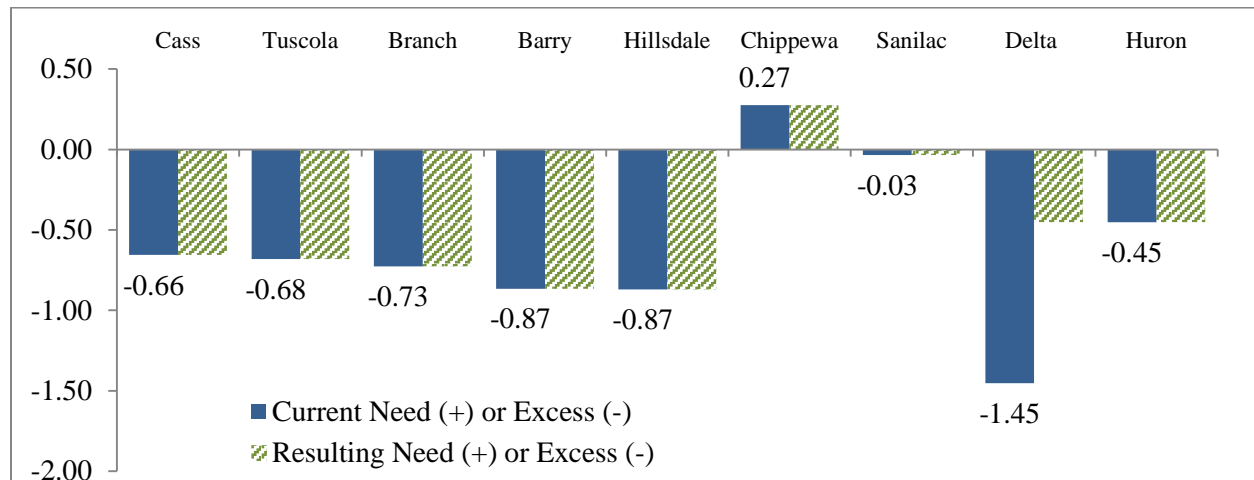
The SCAO also recommends amending the statute to permit inter-circuit concurrent jurisdiction plans throughout the state. Currently, only judges within a judicial circuit are permitted to participate in a plan of concurrent jurisdiction. This would allow judges from other circuits to assist in Delta County and other counties with only two judges. *MCL 600.401*.

Current Judgeships	3
2015 SCAO Recommendation	-1
Remaining Judgeships	2

If a judgeship is eliminated by attrition, the workload per judge would increase from 52 to 77 percent.

Comparable Courts

County	Total Workload in Minutes	Judges Needed	Current			Recommended		
			Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge	Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
Cass	297,394	2.34	3	-0.66	78%	3	-0.66	78%
Tuscola	296,171	2.32	3	-0.68	77%	3	-0.68	77%
Branch	281,426	2.27	3	-0.73	76%	3	-0.73	76%
Barry	271,795	2.13	3	-0.87	71%	3	-0.87	71%
Hillsdale	269,301	2.13	3	-0.87	71%	3	-0.87	71%
Chippewa	237,789	2.27	2	0.27	114%	2	0.27	114%
Sanilac	206,448	1.97	2	-0.03	98%	2	-0.03	98%
Delta	195,059	1.55	3	-1.45	52%	2	-0.45	77%
Huron	162,516	1.55	2 ¹⁹	-0.45	77%	2	-0.45	77%



¹⁹ As of June 1, 2015, Huron County has three judges, but the Huron County Probate Court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

History of Recommendations

In 2011, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship.

In 2013, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship. As an alternative to eliminating a district judgeship, the SCAO recommended that the three circuit courts in the eastern half of the Upper Peninsula be realigned to create two three-county circuit courts. Specifically, the counties of Delta, Alger, and Schoolcraft could be reconfigured to form one circuit court and the counties of Luce, Mackinac, and Chippewa could be reconfigured to form another circuit court. The 11th Circuit Court, which is currently comprised of Alger, Luce, Schoolcraft, and Mackinac would be abolished and a circuit judgeship eliminated by attrition.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

None.

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in these courts, excluding the traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has decreased from a peak of more than 5,000 in 2006 to less than 3,700 in 2014. The population has remained steady at more than 37,000, but has decreased to less than 37,000 today.

Case Filings

Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court		Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Civil Infractions	All Others	
2004	15	154	99	742	175	4,279	3,266	4,451
2005	10	177	106	891	188	5,352	3,338	4,710
2006	16	178	86	892	165	5,388	3,682	5,019
2007	12	156	83	823	164	4,231	3,668	4,906
2008	12	192	94	739	158	4,050	3,661	4,856
2009	16	159	93	644	180	3,880	3,296	4,388
2010	21	147	80	616	165	4,985	3,219	4,248
2011	18	138	79	598	232	4,045	3,114	4,179
2012	11	184	93	686	220	3,359	2,875	4,069
2013	22	184	79	683	239	2,887	2,631	3,838
2014	13	152	84	754	206	2,506	2,407	3,616

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Year	Population
1990	37,780
2000	38,520
2010	37,069
2013 Estimate	36,819
2014 Estimate	36,559

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Judgeships
47th Circuit Court	Delta County	1
Delta County Probate Court	Delta County	1
94th District Court	Delta County	1

Monroe County

Using the updated weighted caseload methodology and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the courts in this county can operate with 6.76 judges and have a judicial excess of 1.24.

Recommendation:

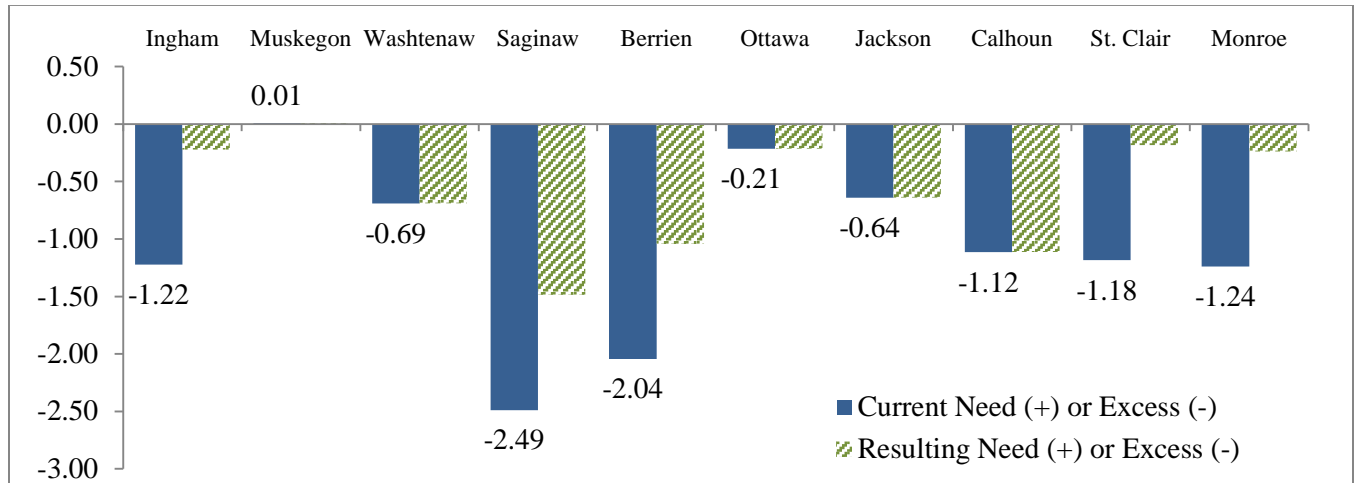
The SCAO recommends the elimination through attrition of one probate judgeship. *MCL 600.803(6)*.

Current Judgeships	8
2015 SCAO Recommendation	-1
Remaining Judgeships	7

If a judgeship is eliminated by attrition, the workload per judge would increase from 84 to 97 percent.

Comparable Courts

County	Total Workload in Minutes	Judges Needed	Current			Recommended		
			Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge	Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
Ingham	1,393,283	9.78	11	-1.22	89%	10	-0.22	98%
Muskegon	1,283,197	10.01	10	0.01	100%	10	0.01	100%
Washtenaw	1,267,917	9.31	10	-0.69	93%	10	-0.69	93%
Saginaw	1,182,409	9.51	12	-2.49	79%	11	-1.49	86%
Berrien	1,108,359	8.96	11	-2.04	81%	10	-1.04	90%
Ottawa	1,094,378	8.79	9	-0.21	98%	9	-0.21	98%
Jackson	1,044,516	8.36	9	-0.64	93%	9	-0.64	93%
Calhoun	971,964	7.88	9	-1.12	88%	9	-1.12	88%
St. Clair	857,804	6.82	8	-1.18	85%	7	-0.18	97%
Monroe	837,544	6.76	8	-1.24	84%	7	-0.24	97%



History of Recommendations:

None

Legislative Action Since 2001:

None

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in these courts, excluding the traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has decreased from a peak of more than 28,000 in 2008 to less than 23,000 in 2014. The population has increased from over 133,000 in 1990 to slightly more than 152,000 in 2010, but has declined since then.

Case Filings

Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court		Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Civil Infractions	All Others	
2004	43	829	525	3,789	772	27,538	17,512	23,470
2005	58	765	486	3,705	761	28,588	19,298	25,073
2006	52	857	530	3,764	725	24,173	22,247	28,175
2007	41	797	501	3,562	743	21,746	22,918	28,562
2008	38	820	543	3,436	748	19,590	23,299	28,884
2009	46	658	522	3,130	678	17,023	22,200	27,234
2010	36	670	496	3,411	744	15,186	21,651	27,008
2011	40	653	511	3,219	787	11,479	19,420	24,630
2012	35	713	473	3,219	768	12,634	20,877	26,085
2013	39	783	425	2,878	765	14,989	20,121	25,011
2014	27	779	404	2,675	749	14,674	17,574	22,208

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Year	Population
1990	133,600
2000	145,945
2010	152,021
2013 Estimate	150,179
2014 Estimate	149,824

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Judgeships
38th Circuit Court	Monroe County	3
Monroe County Probate Court	Monroe County	2
1st District Court	Monroe County	3

Ingham County

Using the updated weighted caseload methodology and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the county-funded courts in this county can operate with 9.78 judges and have a judicial excess of 1.22.

Recommendation:

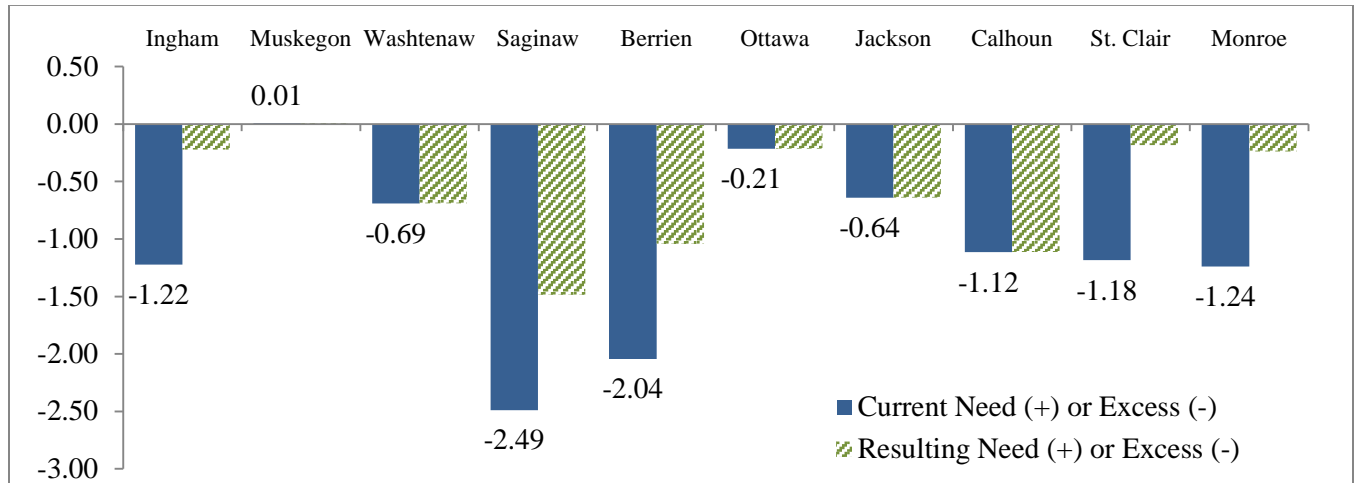
The SCAO recommends the elimination through attrition of one probate judgeship. *MCL 600.803(6)*.

Current Judgeships	11
2015 SCAO Recommendation	-1
Remaining Judgeships	10

If a judgeship is eliminated by attrition, the workload per judge would increase from 89 to 98 percent.

Comparable Courts

County	Total Workload in Minutes	Judges Needed	Current			Recommended		
			Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge	Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
Ingham	1,393,283	9.78	11	-1.22	89%	10	-0.22	98%
Muskegon	1,283,197	10.01	10	0.01	100%	10	0.01	100%
Washtenaw	1,267,917	9.31	10	-0.69	93%	10	-0.69	93%
Saginaw	1,182,409	9.51	12	-2.49	79%	11	-1.49	86%
Berrien	1,108,359	8.96	11	-2.04	81%	10	-1.04	90%
Ottawa	1,094,378	8.79	9	-0.21	98%	9	-0.21	98%
Jackson	1,044,516	8.36	9	-0.64	93%	9	-0.64	93%
Calhoun	971,964	7.88	9	-1.12	88%	9	-1.12	88%
St. Clair	857,804	6.82	8	-1.18	85%	7	-0.18	97%
Monroe	837,544	6.76	8	-1.24	84%	7	-0.24	97%



History of Recommendations:

None

Legislative Action Since 2001:

None

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in these courts, excluding the traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has decreased from a peak of more than 25,000 in 2004 to less than 21,000 in 2014. The population has dropped to 279,320 in 1990, then increased to just over 283,000 today.

Case Filings

Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court		Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Civil Infractions	All Others	
2004	403	1,580	1,348	7,872	2,082	21,674	12,348	25,633
2005	306	1,469	1,215	7,335	1,920	19,121	12,010	24,255
2006	341	1,384	1,363	7,281	1,894	20,309	11,873	24,136
2007	396	1,623	1,482	6,964	1,848	19,188	12,509	24,822
2008	385	1,487	1,302	6,825	1,823	16,709	12,479	24,301
2009	359	1,524	1,383	6,626	1,934	15,081	11,743	23,569
2010	345	1,269	1,340	6,472	1,928	13,690	10,510	21,864
2011	320	1,092	1,089	6,327	2,031	13,048	10,365	21,224
2012	284	1,209	1,134	6,481	1,924	13,748	9,894	20,926
2013	283	1,278	1,157	6,571	2,067	12,798	9,156	20,512
2014	249	1,382	1,198	6,135	1,998	14,505	9,280	20,242

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Year	Population
1990	281,912
2000	279,320
2010	280,895
2013 Estimate	282,999
2014 Estimate	284,582

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Judgeships
30th Circuit Court	Ingham County	7
Ingham County Probate Court	Ingham County	2
55th District Court	Ingham County, excluding Lansing and East Lansing	2

St. Clair County

Using the updated weighted caseload methodology and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the courts in this county can operate with 6.82 judges and have a judicial excess of 1.19.

Recommendation:

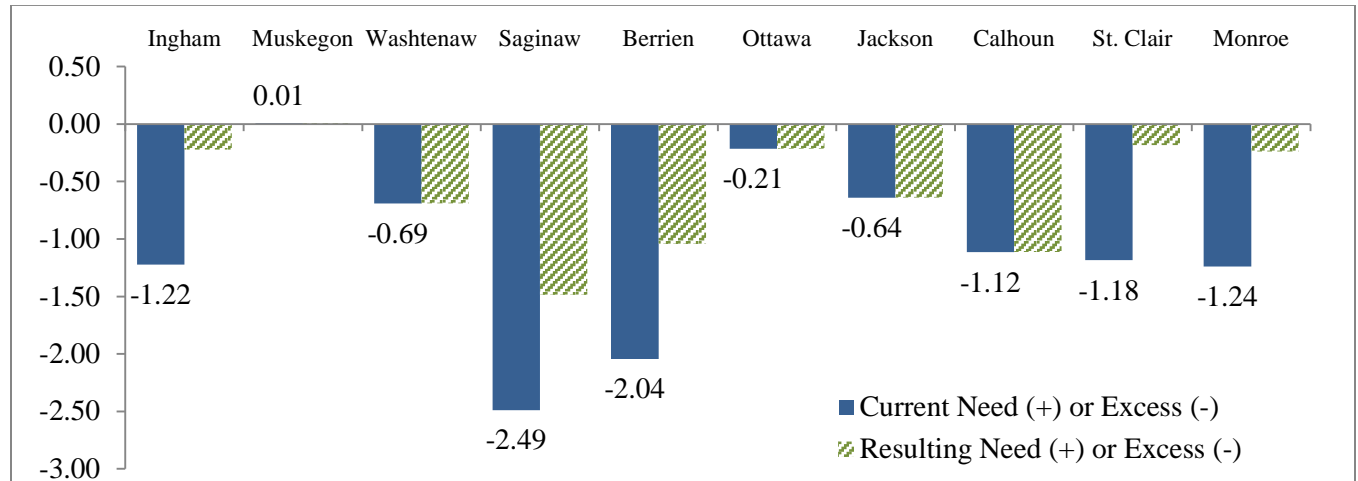
The SCAO recommends the elimination through attrition of one probate judgeship. *MCL 600.803(6)*.

Current Judgeships	8
2015 SCAO Recommendation	-1
Remaining Judgeships	7

If a judgeship is eliminated by attrition, the workload per judge would increase from 85 to 97 percent.

Comparable Courts

County	Total Workload in Minutes	Judges Needed	Current			Recommended		
			Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge	Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
Ingham	1,393,283	9.78	11	-1.22	89%	10	-0.22	98%
Muskegon	1,283,197	10.01	10	0.01	100%	10	0.01	100%
Washtenaw	1,267,917	9.31	10	-0.69	93%	10	-0.69	93%
Saginaw	1,182,409	9.51	12	-2.49	79%	11	-1.49	86%
Berrien	1,108,359	8.96	11	-2.04	81%	10	-1.04	90%
Ottawa	1,094,378	8.79	9	-0.21	98%	9	-0.21	98%
Jackson	1,044,516	8.36	9	-0.64	93%	9	-0.64	93%
Calhoun	971,964	7.88	9	-1.12	88%	9	-1.12	88%
St. Clair	857,804	6.82	8	-1.18	85%	7	-0.18	97%
Monroe	837,544	6.76	8	-1.24	84%	7	-0.24	97%



History of Recommendations:

None

Legislative Action Since 2001:

None

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in these courts, excluding the traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has decreased from a peak of more than 24,000 in 2007 to less than 19,000 in 2014. The population has increased from over 145,000 in 1990 to 164,000 in 2000, but has gradually declined since then.

Case Filings

Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court		Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Civil Infractions	All Others	
2004	55	1,004	703	2,830	1,056	22,093	16,459	22,107
2005	63	921	627	2,714	1,108	21,866	16,693	22,126
2006	41	959	632	2,817	1,039	20,468	17,450	22,938
2007	59	1,025	615	2,830	1,051	18,872	18,961	24,541
2008	39	916	669	2,743	1,065	16,110	17,143	22,575
2009	42	986	625	2,588	927	14,737	15,789	20,957
2010	47	911	581	2,384	991	13,031	15,250	20,164
2011	43	829	571	2,424	1,036	12,607	15,252	20,155
2012	33	988	549	2,285	1,031	12,922	16,565	21,451
2013	34	904	486	2,518	1,041	13,689	14,260	19,243
2014	39	690	493	2,485	1,015	13,416	13,674	18,396

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Year	Population
1990	145,607
2000	164,235
2010	163,040
2013 Estimate	160,225
2014 Estimate	160,078

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Judgeships
31st Circuit Court	St. Clair County	3
St. Clair County Probate Court	St. Clair County	2
72nd District Court	St. Clair County	3

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONS

Macomb County

Using the updated weighted caseload methodology and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the county-funded courts in this county need 20.25 judges. Once one judgeship is restored and if two pending, legislatively authorized, judgeships are approved by the county, the judicial need in these courts will still be 1.25.

Recommendation:

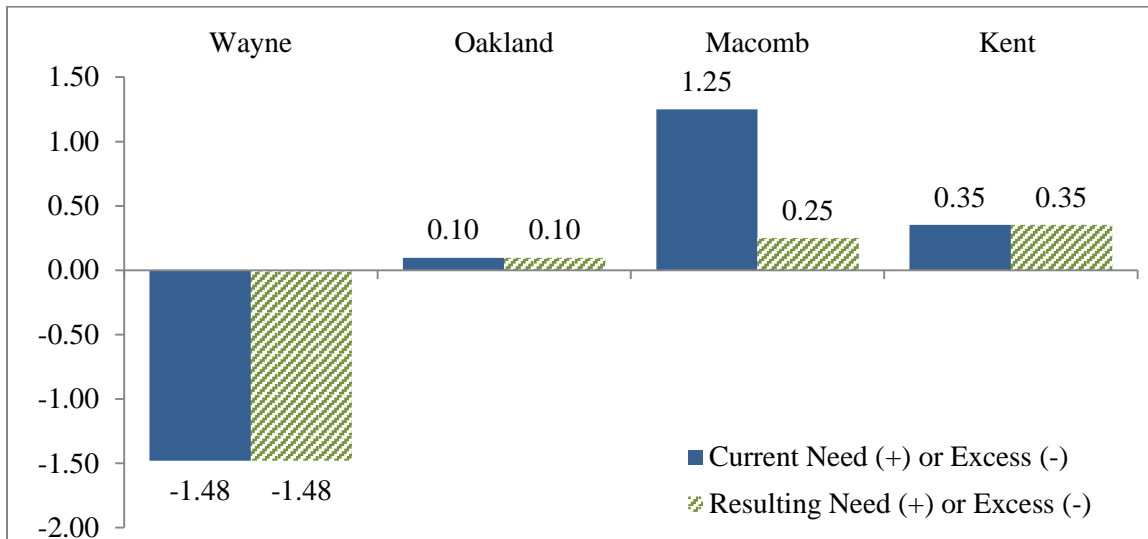
The SCAO recommends the addition of one circuit judgeship. *MCL 600.517.*

Current Judgeships	19 ²⁰
2015 SCAO Recommendation	+1
Recommended Judgeships	20

If one judgeship is added, the workload per judge will decrease from 107 percent to 101 percent.

Comparable Courts

County	Total Workload in Minutes	Judges Needed	Current			Recommended		
			Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge	Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
Wayne	9,678,125	62.52	64	-1.48	98%	64	-1.48	98%
Oakland	4,747,882	34.10	34 ²¹	0.10	100%	34	0.10	100%
Macomb	3,030,120	20.25	19²⁰	1.25	107%	20	0.25	101%
Kent	2,651,987	18.35	18 ²²	0.35	102%	18	0.35	102%



²⁰ A circuit judgeship was temporarily eliminated by the Legislature in Macomb County and will be reinstated January 1, 2017. The Legislature also authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2017, and one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2019. If both are approved by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 15 circuit, 2 probate, and 2 district judgeships.

²¹ The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2019. If approved by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 20 circuit, 4 probate, and 10 district judgeships.

²² The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit and one district judgeship effective January 1, 2017. If both are approved by the Kent County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 11 circuit, 4 probate, and 3 district judgeships.

History of Recommendations:

In 2001, the SCAO recommended the addition of two circuit judgeships.

In 2003, the SCAO recommended the addition of one circuit judgeship.

In 2005, the SCAO recommended the addition of one circuit judgeship.

In 2009, the SCAO recommended the addition of one circuit judgeship and the conversion of one probate judgeship to a circuit judgeship.

In 2013, the SCAO recommended the addition of four circuit judgeships.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

The Legislature authorized the addition of two circuit judgeships effective January 1, 2003. *2001 PA 251, 2001 PA 257, MCL 600.517.*

The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship and eliminated one probate judgeship effective January 1, 2005. *2002 PA 715, MCL 600.517.*

The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2007. *2006 PA 101, MCL 600.517.*

The Legislature temporarily eliminated one circuit judgeship between January 1, 2011, and January 1, 2017. *2009 PA 228, MCL 600.517.*

The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2017, and one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2019. *2014 PA 56, MCL 600.517.*

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in these courts, excluding the traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has decreased from a peak of more than 39,000 in 2005 to less than 33,000 in 2014. The population has increased from over 717,000 in 1990 to over 860,000 today.

Case Filings

Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court		Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Infractions	Civil All Others	
2004	676	4,453	3,898	12,944	4,851	17,799	11,526	38,348
2005	703	5,607	3,754	13,047	4,685	17,418	12,001	39,797
2006	627	5,632	3,974	13,740	4,152	13,565	11,009	39,134
2007	586	6,048	4,249	13,083	4,051	12,228	10,953	38,970
2008	527	6,210	4,444	12,835	4,132	9,896	11,320	39,468
2009	578	5,876	4,496	12,303	4,091	9,820	10,170	37,514
2010	519	5,464	4,243	12,571	4,031	9,849	10,538	37,366
2011	448	4,518	4,339	11,482	4,242	10,179	9,649	34,678
2012	641	4,578	4,241	10,567	4,497	9,350	9,512	34,036
2013	493	4,729	3,957	10,213	4,854	8,683	8,726	32,972
2014	306	4,681	4,037	10,243	5,148	8,844	7,939	32,354

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Year	Population
1990	717,400
2000	788,149
2010	840,978
2013 Estimate	854,997
2014 Estimate	860,112

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Judgeships
16th Circuit Court	Macomb County	15 ²³
Macomb County Probate Court	Macomb County	2
42nd District Court	Macomb County, excluding 3rd class district courts	2

²³ A circuit judgeship was temporarily eliminated by the Legislature in Macomb County and will be reinstated January 1, 2017. The Legislature also authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2017, and one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2019. If both are approved by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 15 circuit judgeships.

44th District Court – Royal Oak

Using the updated weighted caseload methodology and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that this court needs 1.60 judges and has a judicial need of 0.60.

Recommendation:

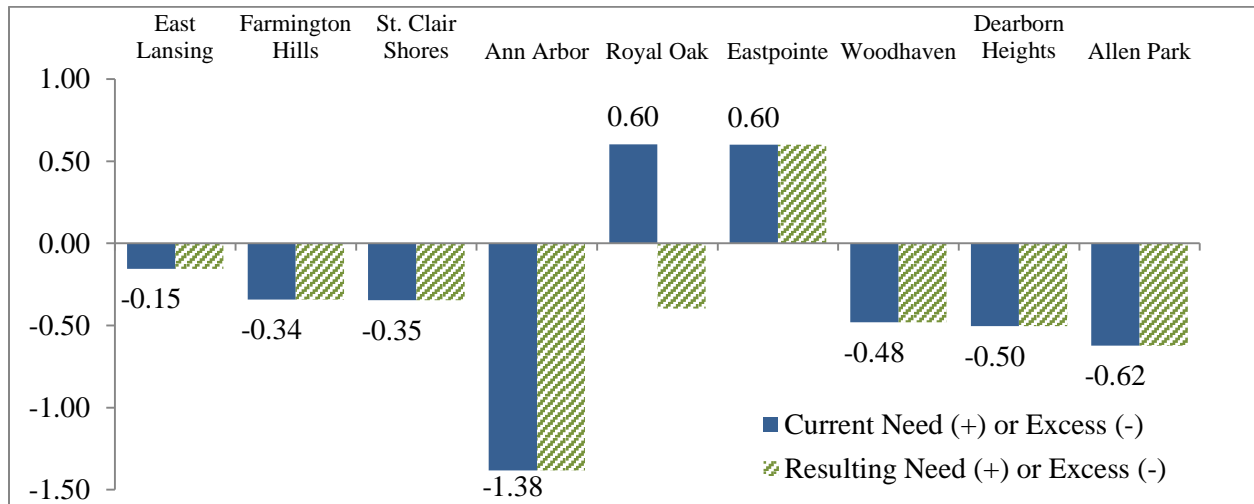
The SCAO recommends that a judgeship scheduled for elimination through attrition not be eliminated. *MCL 600.8123.*

Current Judgeships	1 ²⁴
2015 SCAO Recommendation	+1
Remaining Judgeships	2

If a judgeship is eliminated, the workload for the remaining judge will be 160 percent. If the court retains two judgeships, the workload per judge will be 80 percent.

Comparable Courts

Court	Total Workload in Minutes	Judges Needed	Current			Recommended		
			Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge	Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
54B East Lansing	166,094	1.85	2	-0.15	92%	2	-0.15	92%
47th Farmington Hills	149,243	1.66	2	-0.34	83%	2	-0.34	83%
40th St. Clair Shores	148,845	1.65	2	-0.35	83%	2	-0.35	83%
15th Ann Arbor	145,543	1.62	3	-1.38	54%	3	-1.38	54%
44th Royal Oak	144,341	1.60	1²⁴	0.60	160%	2	-0.40	80%
38th Eastpointe	144,077	1.60	1	0.60	160%	1	0.60	160%
33rd Woodhaven	136,832	1.52	2 ²⁵	-0.48	76%	2	-0.48	76%
20th Dearborn Heights	134,624	1.50	2	-0.50	75%	2	-0.50	75%
24th Allen Park	123,885	1.38	2	-0.62	69%	2	-0.62	69%



²⁴ As of June 1, 2015, the 44th District Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

²⁵ As of June 1, 2015, the 33rd District Court has three judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

History of Recommendations:

In 2011, the SCAO recommended the consolidation of the district courts in Oak Park and Berkley and elimination through attrition of one judgeship. Also, the SCAO recommended the elimination by attrition of one judgeship in Royal Oak.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

The Legislature consolidated the Oak Park and Berkley courts, and provided for the elimination of one judgeship through attrition from the consolidated court and one judgeship through attrition from the Royal Oak court. *2012 PA 37, MCL 600.8123.*

The Legislature subsequently reversed the consolidation of the Oak Park and Berkley courts, provided for the consolidation of the Royal Oak and Berkley courts, and eliminated two judgeships through attrition from the consolidated Royal Oak and Berkley court. The Legislature also provided that a judgeship not be eliminated from the Oak Park court. *2012 PA 624, MCL 600.8123.*

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in this court, excluding the traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has increased to more than 8,300 in 2014. The population has decreased from over 82,000 in 1990 to under 73,000 in 2010, but has increased since then to over 74,000.

Case Filings

Year	Traffic Civil Infractions	All Other Cases
2004	22,334	6,833
2005	24,526	7,269
2006	26,051	7,840
2007	21,959	7,807
2008	19,525	7,465
2009	17,420	7,454
2010	13,598	6,299
2011	11,455	5,945
2012	12,425	6,365
2013	17,536	7,946
2014	19,391	8,345

All Other Cases excludes Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Year	Population
1990	82,370
2000	75,593
2010	72,206
2013 Estimate	74,156
2014 Estimate	74,342

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Judgeships
44th District Court	Royal Oak, Berkley	1 ²⁶

²⁶ As of June 1, 2015, the 44th District Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

RECOMMENDED REDUCTION AND ADDITION

Oakland County

Using the updated weighted caseload methodology and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the county-funded courts in this county need 34.01 judges. If one pending judgeship is approved by the county, the judicial need in these courts will be 0.097. However, there is a disparity between the combined 6th Circuit Court and Oakland County Probate Court and the 52nd District Court. The 52nd District Court can operate with 8.19 judges and has a judicial excess of 1.81. The 6th Circuit Court and Oakland County Probate Court need 25.91 judges and have a judicial need of 1.91.

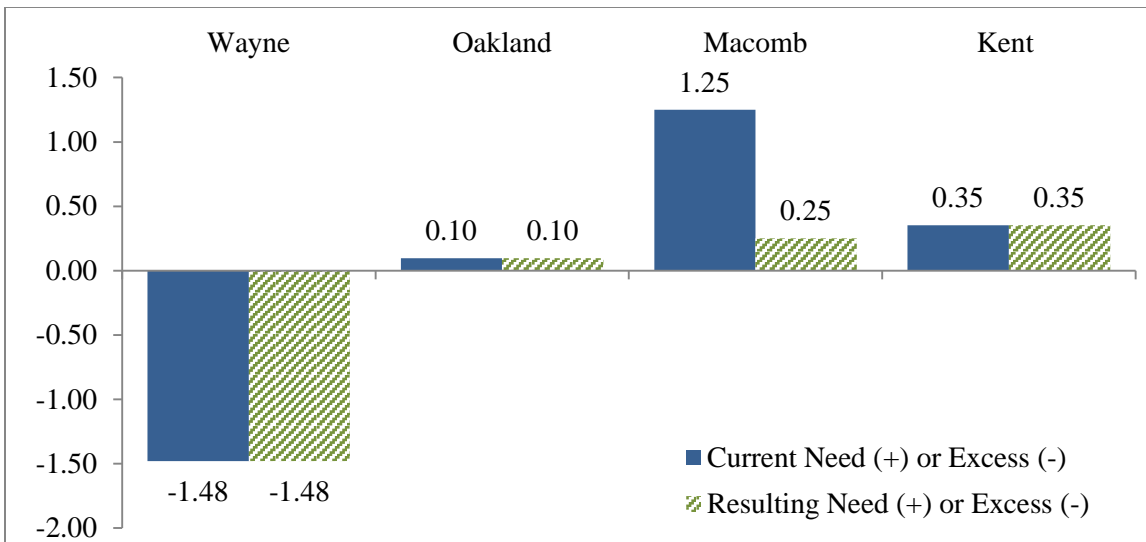
Recommendation:

The SCAO recommends the reduction by attrition of one district judgeship and the addition of one circuit judgeship. *MCL 600.8123(10), MCL 600.507.*

Current Judgeships	34 ²⁷
2015 SCAO Recommendation	-1 district +1 circuit
Recommended Judgeships	34

Comparable Courts

County	Total Workload in Minutes	Judges Needed	Current			Recommended		
			Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge	Judge -ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
Wayne	9,678,125	62.52	64	-1.48	98%	64	-1.48	98%
Oakland	4,747,882	34.10	34²⁷	0.10	100%	34	0.10	100%
Macomb	3,030,120	20.25	19 ²⁸	1.25	107%	20	0.25	101%
Kent	2,651,987	18.35	18 ²⁹	0.35	102%	18	0.35	102%



²⁷ The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2019. If approved by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 20 circuit, 4 probate, and 10 district judgeships.

²⁸ A circuit judgeship was temporarily eliminated by the Legislature in Macomb County and will be reinstated January 1, 2017. The Legislature also authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2017, and one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2019. If both are approved by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 15 circuit, 2 probate, and 2 district judgeships.

²⁹ The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit and one district judgeship effective January 1, 2017. If both are approved by the Kent County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 11 circuit, 4 probate, and 3 district judgeships.

History of Recommendations:

In 2001, the SCAO recommended the addition of two circuit judgeships.

In 2005, the SCAO recommended the addition of one circuit judgeship and the conversion of one probate judgeship to a circuit judgeship.

In 2011, the SCAO recommended the reduction through attrition of one district judgeship.

In 2013, the SCAO recommended the addition of two circuit judgeships.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

The Legislature authorized the addition of two circuit judgeships effective January 1, 2003. *2001 PA 252, MCL 600.507.*

The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2007. *2006 PA 103, MCL 600.507.*

The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2009. *2006 PA 607, MCL 600.507.*

The Legislature temporarily eliminated one circuit judgeship between January 1, 2011, and January 1, 2015. *2009 PA 228, MCL 600.507.*

The Legislature eliminated through attrition one district judgeship effective January 1, 2013. *2011 PA 300, MCL 600.8123.*

The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2019. *2014 PA 57, MCL 600.507.*

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in these courts, excluding the traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has decreased from a peak of more than 96,000 in 2007 to less than 76,000 in 2014. The population has increased from more than 1 million in 1990 to over 1.2 million today.

Case Filings

Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court		Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Infractions	Civil All Others	
2004	1,039	6,050	7,274	17,533	6,727	104,426	51,487	90,110
2005	1,069	6,119	7,260	17,202	6,964	111,219	53,390	92,004
2006	1,089	6,096	7,445	16,745	7,614	102,390	54,883	93,872
2007	1,059	6,159	7,544	16,660	7,759	92,860	57,299	96,480
2008	1,073	6,057	7,909	16,174	7,814	86,239	56,415	95,442
2009	1,090	5,590	8,631	15,270	7,860	86,055	52,597	91,038
2010	1,204	4,924	8,391	14,868	8,094	80,795	51,084	88,565
2011	755	4,650	7,505	13,819	8,333	72,678	48,735	83,797
2012	683	4,576	6,953	14,045	8,129	68,169	49,271	83,657
2013	556	4,481	6,409	13,110	8,090	70,561	45,983	78,629
2014	498	4,239	6,118	12,353	8,245	73,733	43,869	75,322

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Year	Population
1990	1,083,592
2000	1,194,156
2010	1,202,362
2013 Estimate	1,231,820
2014 Estimate	1,237,868

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Judgeships
6th Circuit Court	Oakland County	20 ³⁰
Oakland County Probate Court	Oakland County	4
52nd District Court	Oakland County, excluding 3rd class district courts	10

³⁰ The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2019. If approved by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 20 circuit judgeships.

APPENDIX A – CASE WEIGHTS

Case weights reflect the average number of minutes needed to perform the judicial work associated with a case. The following case weights were established during the [Michigan Judicial Workload Assessment](#) and adjusted by the Judicial Resources Advisory Committee in early 2013. These weights were used in the 2013 and 2015 Judicial Resources Recommendations Reports.

Circuit Court	Case Weight
Capital Felony and Felony Juvenile (FC, FJ)	670
Noncapital Felony (FH, AX)	104
Adult Circuit Problem-Solving Open Cases	171
Auto Negligence (ND, NF, NI)	122
Medical Malpractice (NH)	545
Other Civil (NM, NO, NP, NS, NZ, PC, PD, PR, PS, PZ, CB, CC, CD, CE, CF, CH, CK, CL, CP, CR, CZ)	184
Divorce without Minor Children (DO)	71
Divorce with Minor Children (DM)	342
Non-Divorce Domestic (DP, UF, UI, UM, UN, UT, UW, DS, DC, DZ, UD, UE, JG, NB)	86
PPO (PP, VP, PH, PJ)	25
Adoption (AB, AC, AD, AF, AG, AM, AN, AO, AY)	54
Other Family (EM, ID, NC, PW, VF)	20
Juvenile Delinquency and Designated (DL, DJ)	81
Juvenile Problem-Solving Open Cases	169
Juvenile Traffic (TL)	4
Child Protective Proceedings (NA)	Per Child: 353
Family Dependency Problem-Solving Open Cases	417
Appeals (AR, AV, AA, AE, AL, AP, AS, AH, AW)	148
Probate Court	Case Weight
Supervised Estates (DA)	662
Unsupervised Estates (DE)	43
Small Estates (PE)	14
Trusts (TT, TV)	319
Conservatorships and Protective Orders (CA, CY, PO)	187
Adult Guardianships (DD, GA, GL)	85
Minor Guardianships (GM, LG)	95
Civil Cases (CZ)	399
Judicial Admissions and Mental Commitments (JA, MI)	27
Other Probate (ML, BR, DH)	215
District Court	Case Weight
Felony (FY, FT, EX)	46
Misdemeanor (OM, SM)	28.3
Adult District Problem-Solving Open Cases	70
Non-Traffic Civil Infraction (ON, SN)	4
Traffic Misdemeanor (OT, ST)	9
Traffic Civil Infraction (OI, SI)	1.3
OUIL Misdemeanor (OD, SD)	46.1
Sobriety Problem-Solving Open Cases	70
OUIL Felony (FD)	34.1
General Civil (GC, GZ)	9
Small Claims (SC)	12
Landlord-Tenant/Summary Proceedings (LT, SP)	6

APPENDIX B – STRATA AND JUDICIAL PROPORTIONS

Counties are divided into three strata based on the volume of cases filed in the court. The judicial proportion values reflect the proportion of the case weight, on average, performed by judges. The remaining judicial workload, on average, is performed by referees, magistrates, law clerks, and other quasi-judicial officers who have limited authority to perform judicial functions.

Stratum 1 – 39 Smaller Counties

Alcona	Cheboygan	Houghton	Luce	Ontonagon
Alger	Chippewa	Huron	Mackinac	Osceola
Alpena	Clare	Iosco	Manistee	Oscoda
Antrim	Crawford	Iron	Mason	Otsego
Arenac	Dickinson	Kalkaska	Menominee	Presque Isle
Baraga	Emmet	Keweenaw	Missaukee	Sanilac
Benzie	Gladwin	Lake	Montmorency	Schoolcraft
Charlevoix	Gogebic	Leelanau	Oceana	

	Judicial Proportion	Quasi- Judicial Officer Proportion
Case Type		
Circuit, Family, and Probate Cases	.78	.22
District Cases	.63	.37

Stratum 2 – 33 Medium Counties

Allegan	Clinton	Isabella	Midland	St. Clair
Barry	Delta	Jackson	Monroe	St. Joseph
Bay	Eaton	Lapeer	Montcalm	Tuscola
Berrien	Grand Traverse	Lenawee	Newaygo	Van Buren
Branch	Gratiot	Livingston	Ogemaw	Wexford
Calhoun	Hillsdale	Marquette	Roscommon	
Cass	Ionia	Mecosta	Shiawassee	

	Judicial Proportion	Quasi- Judicial Officer Proportion
Case Type		
Circuit, Family, and Probate Cases	.56	.44
District Cases	.75	.25

Stratum 3 – 11 Largest Counties

Genesee	Kent	Oakland	Washtenaw
Ingham	Macomb	Ottawa	Wayne
Kalamazoo	Muskegon	Saginaw	

	Judicial Proportion	Quasi- Judicial Officer Proportion
Case Type		
Circuit, Family, and Probate Cases	.50	.50
District Cases	.86	.14

APPENDIX C – WEIGHTED CASELOAD RESULTS FOR COUNTY-FUNDED COURTS

Court and County	Judicial Proportion ³¹	Judicial Year in Minutes ³²	Total Workload Minutes ³³	Total Need ³⁴	Judicial Need ³⁵	Judgeships ³⁶	Need or Excess ³⁷	Workload Per Judge ³⁸
1st Circuit	56%	77,400	173,220	2.24	1.25	1		
Hillsdale Probate	56%	77,400	22,266	0.29	0.16	1		
2B District	75%	77,400	73,815	0.95	0.72	1		
			269,301	3.48	2.13	3	-0.87	71%
2nd Circuit	56%	77,400	681,716	8.81	4.93	4		
Berrien Probate	56%	77,400	45,165	0.58	0.33	2		
5th District	75%	77,400	381,478	4.93	3.70	5		
			1,108,359	14.32	8.96	11	-2.04	81%
3rd Circuit	50%	77,400	8,606,448	111.19	55.60	56		
Wayne Probate	50%	77,400	1,071,678	13.85	6.92	8		
			9,678,125	125.04	62.52	64	-1.48	98%
4th Circuit	56%	77,400	635,837	8.21	4.60	4		
Jackson Probate	56%	77,400	82,465	1.07	0.60	1		
12th District	75%	77,400	326,214	4.21	3.16	4		
			1,044,516	13.50	8.36	9	-0.64	93%
5th Circuit	56%	77,400	184,046	2.38	1.33	1		
Barry Probate	56%	77,400	19,267	0.25	0.14	1		
56B District	75%	77,400	68,482	0.88	0.66	1		
			271,795	3.51	2.13	3	-0.87	71%
6th Circuit	50%	77,400	3,446,168	44.52	22.26	20 ³⁹		
Oakland Probate	50%	77,400	565,046	7.30	3.65	4		
52nd District	86%	77,400	736,668	9.52	8.19	10		
			4,747,882	61.34	34.10	34	0.10	100%

³¹ The Judicial Proportion reflects the percentage of the case weight handled by judges.

³² The Judicial Year in Minutes reflects the average amount of time available per judge per year to handle cases, excluding work-related travel, administration, education, vacation, holiday, etc. For multicounty courts, which have additional travel requirements, the judicial day is 5.25 hours and the judicial year is 67,725 minutes. For all other courts, the judicial day is 6.00 hours and the judicial year is 77,400 minutes.

³³ The Total Workload in Minutes reflects the estimated amount of time needed to handle the caseload. It is calculated by multiplying the case weight by the average annual filings from 2012-2014 for each case group.

³⁴ The Total Need reflects the number of judges needed, as well as the number of referees, law clerks, and other quasi-judicial officers needed to assist with the judicial workload. Almost all probate judges handle circuit court cases and some handle district court cases. Therefore, the Total Need column should not be used to determine the workload of an individual judge.

³⁵ The Judicial Need reflects the number of judges needed.

³⁶ The Judgeships, Need or Excess, and Workload Per Judge data were calculated as if all pending eliminations and additions were already implemented. For example, the Legislature eliminated one judgeship from the 25th Circuit Court and when a vacancy occurs in that court, the number of judgeships in Marquette County will reduce from 5 to 4. The information in this table presumes that the judgeship is already eliminated.

³⁷ The Need or Excess shows the number of judges the court(s) either need or have in excess. It is calculated by subtracting the number of Judgeships from the Judicial Need. Negative numbers reflect a judicial excess. Positive numbers reflect a judicial need.

³⁸ Workload Per Judge reflects the average percentage of a full-time judgeship that each judge needs to perform to handle the workload.

³⁹ The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2019. If approved by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 20 circuit judgeships.

Court and County	Judicial Proportion	Judicial Year in Minutes	Total Workload Minutes	Total Need	Judicial Need	Judgeships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
7th Circuit	50%	77,400	1,654,784	21.38	10.69	9		
Genesee Probate	50%	77,400	209,677	2.71	1.35	2		
67th District ⁴⁰	86%	77,400	563,188	7.28	6.26	6		
			2,427,649	31.36	18.30	17	1.30	108%
8th Circuit - Ionia	56%	67,725	206,711	3.05	1.71			
8th Circuit - Montcalm	56%	67,725	219,389	3.24	1.81	2		
Ionia Probate	56%	77,400	25,310	0.33	0.18	1		
Montcalm Probate	56%	77,400	26,071	0.34	0.19	1		
64A District	75%	77,400	94,262	1.22	0.91	1		
64B District	75%	77,400	83,748	1.08	0.81	1		
			655,492	9.26	5.62	6	-0.38	94%
9th Circuit	50%	77,400	1,016,531	13.13	6.57	5		
Kalamazoo Probate	50%	77,400	74,805	0.97	0.48	3		
8th District	86%	77,400	538,122	6.95	5.98	6		
			1,629,459	21.05	13.03	14	-0.97	93%
10th Circuit	50%	77,400	702,280	9.07	4.54	5		
Saginaw Probate	50%	77,400	77,415	1.00	0.50	2		
70th District	86%	77,400	402,714	5.20	4.47	5		
			1,182,409	15.28	9.51	12	-2.49	79%
11th Circuit - Alger	78%	67,725	34,501	0.51	0.40			
11th Circuit - Luce	78%	67,725	27,061	0.40	0.31			
11th Circuit - Mackinac	78%	67,725	40,550	0.60	0.47			
11th Circuit - Schoolcraft	78%	67,725	30,414	0.45	0.35	1		
Probate District 5 - Alger	78%	67,725	4,917	0.07	0.06			
Probate District 5 - Schoolcraft	78%	67,725	3,915	0.06	0.05	1		
Probate District 6 - Luce	78%	67,725	2,480	0.04	0.03			
Probate District 6 - Mackinac	78%	67,725	6,153	0.09	0.07	1		
93rd District - Alger	63%	67,725	12,494	0.18	0.12			
93rd District - Schoolcraft	63%	67,725	14,600	0.22	0.14	0 ⁴¹		
92nd District - Luce	63%	67,725	11,987	0.18	0.11			
92nd District - Mackinac	63%	67,725	23,352	0.34	0.22	1		
			212,424	3.14	2.31	4	-1.69	58%
12th Circuit - Baraga	78%	67,725	23,043	0.34	0.27			
12th Circuit - Houghton	78%	67,725	60,967	0.90	0.70			
12th Circuit - Keweenaw	78%	67,725	2,955	0.04	0.03	1		
Baraga Probate	78%	77,400	5,785	0.07	0.06	1		
Houghton Probate	78%	77,400	16,688	0.22	0.17	1		
Keweenaw Probate	78%	77,400	766	0.01	0.01	.5 ⁴²		
97th District - Baraga	63%	67,725	11,101	0.16	0.10			
97th District - Houghton	63%	67,725	38,414	0.57	0.36			
97th District - Keweenaw	63%	67,725	2,198	0.03	0.02	1		
			161,917	2.35	1.72	4.5	-2.78	38%

⁴⁰ The 68th District Court of Flint will merge with the 67th District Court of Genesee County on January 2, 2016. The combined district court will have 10 judgeships.

⁴¹ As of June 1, 2015, the 93rd District Court has one judge, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

⁴² The Keweenaw County Probate Court judgeship is the only part-time judgeship in Michigan.

Court and County	Judicial Proportion	Judicial Year in Minutes	Total Workload Minutes	Total Need	Judicial Need	Judgeships	Need or Excess	Workload Per Judge
13th Circuit - Antrim	78%	67,725	73,817	1.09	0.85			
13th Circuit - Grand Traverse	56%	67,725	274,235	4.05	2.27			
13th Circuit - Leelanau	78%	67,725	37,834	0.56	0.44	2		
Antrim Probate	78%	77,400	15,036	0.19	0.15	1		
Grand Traverse Probate	56%	77,400	41,860	0.54	0.30	1		
Leelanau Probate	78%	77,400	12,285	0.16	0.12	1		
86th District - Antrim	63%	67,725	35,915	0.53	0.33			
86th District - Grand Traverse	75%	67,725	124,974	1.85	1.38			
86th District - Leelanau	63%	67,725	18,936	0.28	0.18	2		
			634,893	9.25	6.03	7	-0.97	86%
14th Circuit	50%	77,400	853,828	11.03	5.52	4		
Muskegon Probate	50%	77,400	60,083	0.78	0.39	2		
60th District	86%	77,400	369,286	4.77	4.10	4		
			1,283,197	16.58	10.01	10	0.01	100%
15th Circuit	56%	77,400	168,907	2.18	1.22	1		
Branch Probate	56%	77,400	16,230	0.21	0.12	1		
3A District	75%	77,400	96,289	1.24	0.93	1		
			281,426	3.64	2.27	3	-0.73	76%
16th Circuit	50%	77,400	2,550,104	32.95	16.47	15 ⁴³		
Macomb Probate	50%	77,400	334,856	4.33	2.16	2		
42nd District	86%	77,400	145,160	1.88	1.61	2		
			3,030,120	39.15	20.25	19	1.25	107%
17th Circuit	50%	77,400	2,158,667	27.89	13.94	11 ⁴⁴		
Kent Probate	50%	77,400	230,684	2.98	1.49	4		
63rd District	86%	77,400	262,637	3.39	2.92	3 ⁴⁵		
			2,651,987	34.26	18.35	18	0.35	102%
18th Circuit	56%	77,400	362,875	4.69	2.63	2 ⁴⁶		
Bay Probate	56%	77,400	48,331	0.62	0.35	1		
74th District	75%	77,400	170,502	2.20	1.65	3		
			581,708	7.52	4.63	6	-1.37	77%
19th Circuit - Benzie	78%	67,725	45,948	0.68	0.53			
19th Circuit - Manistee	78%	67,725	75,770	1.12	0.87	1		
Benzie Probate	78%	77,400	11,792	0.15	0.12	1		
Manistee Probate	78%	77,400	16,630	0.21	0.17	1		
85th District - Benzie	63%	67,725	20,893	0.31	0.19			
85th District - Manistee	63%	67,725	54,797	0.81	0.51	0		
			225,831	3.28	2.39	3	-0.61	80%
20th Circuit	50%	77,400	653,379	8.44	4.22	4		
Ottawa Probate	50%	77,400	72,125	0.93	0.47	1		
58th District	86%	77,400	368,874	4.77	4.10	4		
			1,094,378	14.14	8.79	9	-0.21	98%

⁴³ The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2017, and one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2019. If both are approved by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 15 circuit judgeships.

⁴⁴ The Legislature authorized the addition of one circuit judgeship effective January 1, 2017. If approved by the Kent County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 11 circuit judgeships.

⁴⁵ The Legislature authorized the addition of one district judgeship effective January 1, 2017. If approved by the Kent County Board of Commissioners, the county will have 3 district judgeships.

⁴⁶ As of June 1, 2015, the 18th Circuit Court has three judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

Court and County	Judicial Proportion	Judicial Year in Minutes	Total Workload Minutes	Total Need	Judicial Need	Judge-ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
21st Circuit	56%	77,400	230,451	2.98	1.67	2		
Isabella Probate	56%	77,400	19,950	0.26	0.14	1		
76th District	75%	77,400	149,674	1.93	1.45	1		
			400,075	5.17	3.26	4	-0.74	82%
22nd Circuit	50%	77,400	900,521	11.63	5.82	5		
Washtenaw Probate	50%	77,400	127,115	1.64	0.82	2		
14A District	86%	77,400	240,281	3.10	2.67	3		
			1,267,917	16.38	9.31	10	-0.69	93%
23rd Circuit - Alcona	78%	67,725	31,927	0.47	0.37			
23rd Circuit - Arenac	78%	67,725	58,315	0.86	0.67			
23rd Circuit - Iosco	78%	67,725	96,117	1.42	1.11			
23rd Circuit - Oscoda	78%	67,725	28,600	0.42	0.33	1		
Alcona Probate	78%	77,400	10,127	0.13	0.10	1		
Arenac Probate	78%	77,400	9,335	0.12	0.09	1		
Iosco Probate	78%	77,400	21,241	0.27	0.21	1		
Oscoda Probate	78%	77,400	3,912	0.05	0.04	1		
81st District - Alcona	63%	67,725	15,541	0.23	0.14			
81st District - Arenac	63%	67,725	33,507	0.49	0.31			
81st District - Iosco	63%	67,725	50,370	0.74	0.47			
81st District - Oscoda	63%	67,725	15,459	0.23	0.14	0 ⁴⁷		
			374,451	5.45	3.99	5	-1.01	80%
24th Circuit	78%	77,400	128,435	1.66	1.29	1		
Sanilac Probate	78%	77,400	18,742	0.24	0.19	1		
73A District	63%	77,400	59,271	0.77	0.48	0		
			206,448	2.67	1.97	2	-0.03	98%
25th Circuit	56%	77,400	189,112	2.44	1.37	1 ⁴⁸		
Marquette Probate	56%	77,400	24,654	0.32	0.18	1		
96th District	75%	77,400	99,420	1.28	0.96	2		
			313,186	4.05	2.51	4	-1.49	63%
26th Circuit - Alpena	78%	67,725	109,297	1.61	1.26			
26th Circuit - Montmorency	78%	67,725	38,856	0.57	0.45	1		
Alpena Probate	78%	77,400	18,157	0.23	0.18	1		
Montmorency Probate	78%	77,400	8,494	0.11	0.09	1		
88th District - Alpena	63%	67,725	54,755	0.81	0.51			
88th District - Montmorency	63%	67,725	16,290	0.24	0.15	0		
			245,850	3.58	2.64	3	-0.36	88%
27th Circuit - Newaygo	56%	67,725	191,924	2.83	1.59			
27th Circuit - Oceana	78%	67,725	89,786	1.33	1.03	1		
Newaygo Probate	56%	77,400	25,188	0.33	0.18	1		
Oceana Probate	78%	77,400	14,085	0.18	0.14	1		
78th District - Newaygo	75%	67,725	84,056	1.24	0.93			
78th District - Oceana	63%	67,725	48,406	0.71	0.45	1		
			453,445	6.62	4.33	4	0.33	108%

⁴⁷ As of June 1, 2015, the 81st District Court has one judge, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

⁴⁸ As of June 1, 2015, the 25th Circuit Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

Court and County	Judicial Proportion	Judicial Year in Minutes	Total Workload Minutes	Total Need	Judicial Need	Judge-ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
28th Circuit - Missaukee	78%	67,725	43,376	0.64	0.50			
28th Circuit - Wexford	56%	67,725	137,044	2.02	1.13	1		
Missaukee Probate	78%	77,400	5,521	0.07	0.06	1		
Wexford Probate	56%	77,400	20,015	0.26	0.14	1		
84th District - Missaukee	63%	67,725	21,499	0.32	0.20			
84th District - Wexford	75%	67,725	78,587	1.16	0.87	1		
			306,042	4.47	2.90	4	-1.10	73%
29th Circuit - Clinton	56%	67,725	155,986	2.30	1.29			
29th Circuit - Gratiot	56%	67,725	114,120	1.69	0.94	1 ⁴⁹		
Clinton Probate	56%	77,400	21,922	0.28	0.16	1		
Gratiot Probate	56%	77,400	20,622	0.27	0.15	1		
65A District	75%	77,400	102,918	1.33	1.00	1		
65B District	75%	77,400	76,439	0.99	0.74	1		
			492,007	6.86	4.28	5	-0.72	86%
30th Circuit	50%	77,400	1,101,674	14.23	7.12	7		
Ingham Probate	50%	77,400	124,900	1.61	0.81	2		
55th District	86%	77,400	166,709	2.15	1.85	2		
			1,393,283	18.00	9.78	11	-1.22	89%
31st Circuit	56%	77,400	530,013	6.85	3.83	3		
St. Clair Probate	56%	77,400	79,783	1.03	0.58	2		
72nd District	75%	77,400	248,007	3.20	2.40	3		
			857,804	11.08	6.82	8	-1.18	85%
32nd Circuit - Gogebic	78%	67,725	43,117	0.64	0.50			
32nd Circuit - Ontonagon	78%	67,725	16,771	0.25	0.19	1		
Gogebic Probate	78%	77,400	10,703	0.14	0.11	1		
Ontonagon Probate	78%	77,400	2,421	0.03	0.02	1		
98th District - Gogebic	63%	67,725	26,121	0.39	0.24			
98th District - Ontonagon	63%	67,725	8,927	0.13	0.08	0		
			108,060	1.57	1.15	3	-1.85	38%
33rd Circuit - Charlevoix ⁵⁰	78%	77,400	86,066	1.11	0.87	1		
57th Circuit - Emmet	78%	77,400	111,046	1.43	1.12	1		
Probate District 7 - Charlevoix	78%	67,725	11,503	0.17	0.13			
Probate District 7 - Emmet	78%	67,725	17,874	0.26	0.21	1		
90th District - Charlevoix	63%	67,725	40,823	0.60	0.38			
90th District - Emmet	63%	67,725	68,743	1.02	0.64	1		
			336,055	4.60	3.34	4	-0.66	84%
34th Circuit - Ogemaw	56%	67,725	87,127	1.29	0.72			
34th Circuit - Roscommon	56%	67,725	100,546	1.48	0.83	1		
Ogemaw Probate	56%	77,400	15,186	0.20	0.11	1		
Roscommon Probate	56%	77,400	20,917	0.27	0.15	1		
82nd District - Ogemaw	75%	67,725	57,787	0.85	0.64			
82nd District - Roscommon	75%	67,725	63,278	0.93	0.70	1 ⁵¹		
			344,841	5.03	3.15	4	-0.85	79%

⁴⁹ As of June 1, 2015, the 29th Circuit Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

⁵⁰ Because the 7th Probate Court District and the 90th District Court serve both Charlevoix and Emmet counties, these courts are combined with the 33rd Circuit Court in Charlevoix County and the 57th Circuit Court in Emmet County for this report.

⁵¹ As of June 1, 2015, the 82nd District Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

Court and County	Judicial Proportion	Judicial Year in Minutes	Total Workload Minutes	Total Need	Judicial Need	Judgeships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
35th Circuit - Shiawassee	56%	77,400	212,817	2.75	1.54	1		
Shiawassee Probate	56%	77,400	35,667	0.46	0.26	1		
66th District	75%	77,400	93,660	1.21	0.91	1 ⁵²		
			342,145	4.42	2.71	3	-0.29	90%
36th Circuit	56%	77,400	310,341	4.01	2.25	2		
Van Buren Probate	56%	77,400	43,113	0.56	0.31	1		
7th District	75%	77,400	173,701	2.24	1.68	2		
			527,155	6.81	4.24	5	-0.76	85%
37th Circuit	56%	77,400	548,281	7.08	3.97	4		
Calhoun Probate	56%	77,400	76,533	0.99	0.55	1		
10th District	75%	77,400	347,150	4.49	3.36	4		
			971,964	12.56	7.88	9	-1.12	88%
38th Circuit	56%	77,400	495,061	6.40	3.58	3		
Monroe Probate	56%	77,400	57,483	0.74	0.42	2		
1st District	75%	77,400	285,000	3.68	2.76	3		
			837,544	10.82	6.76	8	-1.24	84%
39th Circuit	56%	77,400	345,165	4.46	2.50	2		
Lenawee Probate	56%	77,400	37,812	0.49	0.27	1		
2A District	75%	77,400	187,383	2.42	1.82	2		
			570,359	7.37	4.59	5	-0.41	92%
40th Circuit	56%	77,400	249,782	3.23	1.81	2		
Lapeer Probate	56%	77,400	24,295	0.31	0.18	1		
71A District	75%	77,400	128,534	1.66	1.25	1		
			402,610	5.20	3.23	4	-0.77	81%
41st Circuit - Dickinson	78%	67,725	98,342	1.45	1.13			
41st Circuit - Iron	78%	67,725	39,574	0.58	0.46			
41st Circuit - Menominee	78%	67,725	60,084	0.89	0.69	2		
Dickinson Probate	78%	77,400	10,370	0.13	0.10	1		
Iron Probate	78%	77,400	7,812	0.10	0.08	1		
Menominee Probate	78%	77,400	16,652	0.22	0.17	1		
95B District - Dickinson	63%	67,725	41,659	0.62	0.39			
95B District - Iron	63%	67,725	21,283	0.31	0.20	1		
95A District - Menominee	63%	77,400	39,815	0.51	0.32	0 ⁵³		
			335,592	4.82	3.54	6	-2.46	59%
42nd Circuit	56%	77,400	208,295	2.69	1.51	2		
Midland Probate	56%	77,400	30,607	0.40	0.22	1		
75th District	75%	77,400	96,502	1.25	0.94	1		
			335,404	4.33	2.66	4	-1.34	67%
43rd Circuit	56%	77,400	191,049	2.47	1.38	1		
Cass Probate	56%	77,400	27,941	0.36	0.20	1		
4th District	75%	77,400	78,405	1.01	0.76	1		
			297,394	3.84	2.34	3	-0.66	78%
44th Circuit	56%	77,400	478,859	6.19	3.46	2		
Livingston Probate	56%	77,400	62,757	0.81	0.45	1		
53rd District	75%	77,400	189,455	2.45	1.84	3		
			731,071	9.45	5.75	6	-0.25	96%

⁵² As of June 1, 2015, the 66th District Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

⁵³ As of June 1, 2015, the 95A District Court has one judge, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

Court and County	Judicial Proportion	Judicial Year in Minutes	Total Workload Minutes	Total Need	Judicial Need	Judgeships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
45th Circuit	56%	77,400	262,875	3.40	1.90	1		
St. Joseph Probate	56%	77,400	24,729	0.32	0.18	1		
3B District	75%	77,400	125,668	1.62	1.22	2		
			413,272	5.34	3.30	4	-0.70	82%
46th Circuit - Crawford	78%	67,725	79,531	1.17	0.92			
46th Circuit - Kalkaska	78%	67,725	66,235	0.98	0.76			
46th Circuit - Otsego	78%	67,725	107,395	1.59	1.24	2		
Crawford Probate	78%	77,400	10,264	0.13	0.10	1		
Kalkaska Probate	78%	77,400	9,031	0.12	0.09	1		
Otsego Probate	78%	77,400	17,171	0.22	0.17	1		
87C District - Crawford	63%	77,400	39,987	0.52	0.33	0		
87B District - Kalkaska	63%	77,400	46,888	0.61	0.38	0		
87A District - Otsego	63%	77,400	53,157	0.69	0.43	0 ⁵⁴		
			429,659	6.02	4.42	5	-0.58	88%
47th Circuit	56%	77,400	112,999	1.46	0.82	1		
Delta Probate	56%	77,400	26,543	0.34	0.19	1		
94th District	75%	77,400	55,517	0.72	0.54	1		
			195,059	2.52	1.55	3	-1.45	52%
48th Circuit	56%	77,400	365,681	4.72	2.65	2		
Allegan Probate	56%	77,400	41,651	0.54	0.30	1		
57th District	75%	77,400	186,510	2.41	1.81	2		
			593,842	7.67	4.75	5	-0.25	95%
49th Circuit - Mecosta	56%	67,725	148,113	2.19	1.22			
49th Circuit - Osceola	78%	67,725	87,492	1.29	1.01	2		
Probate District 18 - Mecosta	56%	67,725	20,254	0.30	0.17			
Probate District 18 - Osceola	78%	67,725	13,947	0.21	0.16	1		
77th District - Mecosta	75%	67,725	81,141	1.20	0.90			
77th District - Osceola	63%	67,725	38,199	0.56	0.36	1		
			389,146	5.75	3.81	4	-0.19	95%
50th Circuit	78%	77,400	138,738	1.79	1.40	1		
Chippewa Probate	78%	77,400	36,420	0.47	0.37	1		
91st District	63%	77,400	62,631	0.81	0.51	0		
			237,789	3.07	2.27	2	0.27	114%
51st Circuit - Lake	78%	67,725	50,646	0.75	0.58			
51st Circuit - Mason	78%	67,725	106,610	1.57	1.23	1		
Lake Probate	78%	77,400	5,292	0.07	0.05	1		
Mason Probate	78%	77,400	16,649	0.22	0.17	1		
79th District - Lake	63%	67,725	22,695	0.34	0.21			
79th District - Mason	63%	67,725	48,226	0.71	0.45	0 ⁵⁵		
			250,119	3.65	2.69	3	-0.31	90%
52nd Circuit	78%	77,400	85,648	1.11	0.86	1		
Huron Probate	78%	77,400	30,844	0.40	0.31	1 ⁵⁶		
73B District	63%	77,400	46,024	0.59	0.37	0		
			162,516	2.10	1.55	2	-0.45	77%

⁵⁴ As of June 1, 2015, the 87A District Court has one judge, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

⁵⁵ As of June 1, 2015, the 79th District Court has one judge, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

⁵⁶ As of June 1, 2015, the Huron County Probate Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

Court and County	Judicial Proportion	Judicial Year in Minutes	Total Workload Minutes	Total Need	Judicial Need	Judgeships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
53rd Circuit - Cheboygan	78%	67,725	124,496	1.84	1.43			
53rd Circuit - Presque Isle	78%	67,725	42,446	0.63	0.49	1		
Cheboygan Probate	78%	77,400	20,089	0.26	0.20	1		
Presque Isle Probate	78%	77,400	9,931	0.13	0.10	1		
89th District - Cheboygan	63%	67,725	44,144	0.65	0.41			
89th District - Presque Isle	63%	67,725	18,706	0.28	0.17	0 ⁵⁷		
			259,811	3.78	2.81	3	-0.19	94%
54th Circuit	56%	77,400	197,044	2.55	1.43	1		
Tuscola Probate	56%	77,400	27,144	0.35	0.20	1		
71B District	75%	77,400	71,982	0.93	0.70	1		
			296,171	3.83	2.32	3	-0.68	77%
55th Circuit - Clare	78%	67,725	130,617	1.93	1.50			
55th Circuit - Gladwin	78%	67,725	107,607	1.59	1.24	2		
Probate District 17 - Clare	78%	67,725	14,479	0.21	0.17			
Probate District 17 - Gladwin	78%	67,725	12,253	0.18	0.14	1		
80th District - Clare	63%	67,725	59,814	0.88	0.56			
80th District - Gladwin	63%	67,725	48,474	0.72	0.45	1		
			373,245	5.51	4.06	4	0.06	101%
56th Circuit	56%	77,400	317,972	4.11	2.30	2		
Eaton Probate	56%	77,400	46,231	0.60	0.33	1		
56A District	75%	77,400	147,505	1.91	1.43	2		
			511,707	6.61	4.06	5	-0.94	81%

⁵⁷ As of June 1, 2015, the 89th District Court has one judge, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

APPENDIX D – WEIGHTED CASELOAD RESULTS FOR CITY- OR TOWNSHIP-FUNDED COURTS

Court and Jurisdiction

County	Judicial Proportion ⁵⁸	Judicial Year in Minutes ⁵⁹	Total Workload in Minutes ⁶⁰	Total Need ⁶¹	Judicial Need ⁶²	Judgeships ⁶³	Need or Excess ⁶⁴	Workload Per Judge ⁶⁵
14B District, Ypsilanti Township Washtenaw	86%	77,400	118,679	1.53	1.32	1	0.32	132%
15th District, Ann Arbor Washtenaw	86%	77,400	145,543	1.88	1.62	3	-1.38	54%
16th District, Livonia Wayne	86%	77,400	198,499	2.56	2.21	2	0.21	110%
17th District, Redford Wayne	86%	77,400	102,375	1.32	1.14	2	-0.86	57%
18th District, Westland Wayne	86%	77,400	276,549	3.57	3.07	2	1.07	154%
19th District, Dearborn Wayne	86%	77,400	279,523	3.61	3.11	3	0.11	104%
20th District, Dearborn Heights Wayne	86%	77,400	134,624	1.74	1.50	2	-0.50	75%
21th District, Garden City Wayne	86%	77,400	65,148	0.84	0.72	1	-0.28	72%
22nd District, Inkster Wayne	86%	77,400	61,291	0.79	0.68	1	-0.32	68%
23rd District, Taylor Wayne	86%	77,400	178,249	2.30	1.98	2	-0.02	99%
24th District, Allen Park Wayne	86%	77,400	123,885	1.60	1.38	2	-0.62	69%

⁵⁸ The Judicial Proportion reflects the percentage of the case weight handled by judges.

⁵⁹ The Judicial Year in Minutes reflects the average amount of time available per judge per year to handle cases excluding work-related travel, administration, education, vacation, holiday, etc. For city- and township-funded courts, the judicial day is 6.00 hours and the judicial year is 77,400 minutes.

⁶⁰ The Total Workload in Minutes reflects the estimated amount of time needed to handle the caseload. It is calculated by multiplying the case weight by the average annual filings from 2012-2014 for each case group.

⁶¹ The Total Need reflects the number of judges needed, as well as the number of magistrates, law clerks, and other quasi-judicial officers needed to assist with the judicial workload.

⁶² The Judicial Need reflects the number of judges needed.

⁶³ The Judgeships, Need or Excess, and Workload Per Judge data provided in this table were calculated as if all pending eliminations were implemented. For example, the 44th District Court is scheduled to lose 1 judgeship by attrition, which will reduce the court to 1 judge.

⁶⁴ The Need or Excess shows the number of judges the court either needs or has in excess. It is calculated by subtracting the number of Judgeships from the Judicial Need. Negative numbers reflect a judicial excess. Positive numbers reflect a judicial need.

⁶⁵ Workload Per Judge reflects the average percentage of a full-time judgeship that each judge needs to perform to handle the workload.

Court and Jurisdiction

County	Judicial Proportion	Judicial Year in Minutes	Total Workload in Minutes	Total Need	Judicial Need	Judge-ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
25th District, Lincoln Park Wayne	86%	77,400	181,715	2.35	2.02	2	0.02	101%
27th District, Wyandotte Wayne	86%	77,400	76,484	0.99	0.85	1	-0.15	85%
28th District, Southgate Wayne	86%	77,400	72,379	0.94	0.80	1	-0.20	80%
29th District, Wayne City Wayne	86%	77,400	47,418	0.61	0.53	1	-0.47	53%
30th District, Highland Park Wayne	86%	77,400	88,980	1.15	0.99	1	-0.01	99%
31st District, Hamtramck Wayne	86%	77,400	107,746	1.39	1.20	1	0.20	120%
32A District, Harper Woods Wayne	86%	77,400	58,141	0.75	0.65	1	-0.35	65%
33rd District, Woodhaven Wayne	86%	77,400	136,832	1.77	1.52	2 ⁶⁶	-0.48	76%
34th District, Romulus Wayne	86%	77,400	262,728	3.39	2.92	3	-0.08	97%
35th District, Plymouth Wayne	86%	77,400	221,302	2.86	2.46	3	-0.54	82%
36th District, Detroit Wayne	86%	77,400	2,387,166	30.84	26.52	30	-3.48	88%
37th District, Center Line, Warren Macomb	86%	77,400	374,078	4.83	4.16	4	0.16	104%
38th District, Eastpointe Macomb	86%	77,400	144,077	1.86	1.60	1	0.60	160%
39th District, Fraser, Roseville Macomb	86%	77,400	186,786	2.41	2.08	3	-0.92	69%
40th District, St. Clair Shores Macomb	86%	77,400	148,845	1.92	1.65	2	-0.35	83%
41A District, Shelby Township, Sterling Heights Macomb	86%	77,400	331,979	4.29	3.69	4	-0.31	92%
41B District, Clinton Township Macomb	86%	77,400	273,980	3.54	3.04	3	0.04	101%
43rd District, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Madison Heights Oakland	86%	77,400	240,008	3.10	2.67	3	-0.33	89%

⁶⁶ As of June 1, 2015, the 33rd District Court has three judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

Court and Jurisdiction

County	Judicial Proportion	Judicial Year in Minutes	Total Workload in Minutes	Total Need	Judicial Need	Judge-ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
44th District, Royal Oak Oakland	86%	77,400	144,341	1.86	1.60	1 ⁶⁷	0.60	160%
45th District, Oak Park Oakland	86%	77,400	118,234	1.53	1.31	2	-0.69	66%
46th District, Southfield Oakland	86%	77,400	221,487	2.86	2.46	3	-0.54	82%
47th District, Farmington Hills Oakland	86%	77,400	149,243	1.93	1.66	2	-0.34	83%
48th District, Bloomfield Hills Oakland	86%	77,400	168,255	2.17	1.87	2 ⁶⁸	-0.13	93%
50th District, Pontiac Oakland	86%	77,400	213,037	2.75	2.37	3 ⁶⁹	-0.63	79%
51st District, Waterford Oakland	86%	77,400	90,537	1.17	1.01	2	-0.99	50%
54A District, Lansing Ingham	86%	77,400	280,368	3.62	3.12	4	-0.88	78%
54B District, East Lansing Ingham	86%	77,400	166,094	2.15	1.85	2	-0.15	92%
59th District, Grandville, Walker Kent	86%	77,400	71,072	0.92	0.79	1	-0.21	79%
61st District, Grand Rapids Kent	86%	77,400	482,535	6.23	5.36	6	-0.64	89%
62A District, Wyoming Kent	86%	77,400	179,507	2.32	1.99	2	-0.01	100%
62B District, Kentwood Kent	86%	77,400	93,221	1.20	1.04	1	0.04	104%
68th District, Flint ⁷⁰ Genesee	86%	77,400	248,890	3.22	2.77	4	-1.23	69%
Grosse Pointe Municipal Wayne	86%	77,400	6,264	0.08	0.07	1	-0.93	7%
Grosse Pointe Farms Municipal Wayne	86%	77,400	21,677	0.28	0.24	1	-0.76	24%

⁶⁷ As of June 1, 2015, the 44th District Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

⁶⁸ As of June 1, 2015, the 48th District Court has three judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

⁶⁹ As of June 1, 2015, the 50th District Court has four judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

⁷⁰ The 68th District Court of Flint will merge with the 67th District Court of Genesee County on January 2, 2016. The combined district court will have 10 judgeships.

Court and Jurisdiction

County	Judicial Proportion	Judicial Year in Minutes	Total Workload in Minutes	Total Need	Judicial Need	Judge-ships	Need or Excess	Work-load Per Judge
Grosse Pointe Park Municipal Wayne	86%	77,400	12,808	0.17	0.14	1	-0.86	14%
Grosse Pointe Woods Municipal Wayne	86%	77,400	13,129	0.17	0.15	1	-0.85	15%