
PERFORMANCE MEASURES
KEY RESULTS AND MEASURES
ANNUAL REPORT

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JUDICIAL
BRANCH

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is the policy of the Minnesota Judicial Branch to establish core performance goals and to monitor key results that measure progress toward meeting these goals in order to ensure accountability of the branch, improve overall operations of the court, and enhance the public's trust and confidence in the judiciary.

The six core judicial branch goals are:

Access to Justice

Timeliness

Integrity and Accountability

Excellence

Fairness and Equity

Quality Court Workplace Environment

This is the sixth annual report that contains results for the Key Results and Measures of Judicial Council [Policy 505](#), [505.1](#) and [505.2](#) which were passed in October 2005 and revised most recently in 2014. This report contains current data along with trends, as available.

The contents of this report are organized into four sections –

1. Executive Summary;
2. Review of Key Results and Measures;
3. Using Performance Measures for Administration and
4. Data Details (Appendix).

The executive summary first provides notes about the details of the data and then discusses results that are positive, followed by possible areas of concern and finishes with a brief summary of how performance measure results are being used by court administration. The results in this report present a barometer of the work of the Branch – an overall picture of how the courts are doing at this point in time and over the last several years.

ANALYSIS NOTES

The data in this document come from several sources. The results of timing measures for district courts come from MNJAD (Minnesota Judicial Analytical Database, or data warehouse) reports and the data represents both what exists at a point-in-time and trends over the past months and years.

Data changes each week as new and updated information is loaded into the data warehouse from MNCIS (Minnesota Court Information System). All years noted in the timing area represent calendar years, unless otherwise noted.

The [Trial Court Reports](#) (MNJAD reports) for Clearance Rates, Time to Disposition, Age of Pending Cases, Length of Time to Permanency and Time to Adoption for Children under State Guardianship are available to judges and staff on CourtNet (the intranet of the Minnesota Judicial Branch). The Clearance Rates, Time to Disposition and Age of Pending Cases reports are available in the original tabular format as well as in color-coded "[stoplight report](#)" format. Readers of this report are encouraged to look at the data in this report as well as seek additional information using MNJAD and stoplight reports.

Court of Appeals and Supreme Court timing information is reported from MACS (Minnesota Appellate Court System case management system) and reflects calendar year figures.

Separation rates are reported from the Human Resources and Development Division of the State Court Administrator's Office (SCAO) and reflect Fiscal Year 2014 and include trends back to FY2009. Juror information comes from the jury management system and includes jurors from calendar year 2013 compared to results of the 2010 American Community Survey (replaces the previous long-form census).

Several sections of this report use data previously collected from surveys. The Access, Excellence, Fairness and Equity, and Quality Court Workplace goal areas all have results from surveys conducted within the past two years – the Access & Fairness Survey – a survey of court users at over 100 locations across the state from January to April 2013; and the Quality Court Workplace Survey – conducted among all court employees and judges/justices in October, 2012.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Definitions of measures used in this report include:

Access to Justice Measures

The data for this goal, along with the Excellence and Fairness goals, come from the Access & Fairness Surveys conducted statewide in early 2013. The survey uses mean scores derived from a scale from 1-5 corresponding to:

- 1 = Strongly Disagree
- 2 = Disagree
- 3 = Neutral
- 4 = Agree
- 5 = Strongly Agree

Timeliness Measures

Clearance Rate – Number of dispositions for a specified period of time divided by the number of filings (multiplied times 100). A Clearance Rate of 100% indicates a court is ‘keeping up’ with cases filed. A Clearance Rate under 100% indicates a possible growing backlog.

Time to Disposition – Assesses the length of time it takes to process cases compared to the Judicial Council objectives for timely case processing. The measure is reported as a percentage of cases meeting the timing objectives for when 90% of cases should be disposed, at the 97th percentile and at the 99th percentile. Any more than 1% of cases disposed beyond the 99th percentile are considered to have not met timing objectives.

Age of Pending – Shows the percent of currently pending cases that are within the timing objectives for timely case processing. Data as of the end of each quarter is archived for trend reporting. Cases pending beyond the 99th percentile objective can be considered as one measure of court backlog.

Length of Time to Permanency – Assesses whether or not timely permanency decisions are being made for children. Reports the number of children for whom permanency was achieved on a CHIPS or Permanency case, by type of permanency, and the length of time the child was out of home prior to the permanency order/disposition date for time periods of up to 6 months, up to 12 months, 15 months, 18 months, 24 months and over 24 months. The goal is to achieve permanency by 18 months for 99% of all children.

Time to Adoption for Children under State Guardianship – Assesses whether or not adoptions occur within two years (24 months) of entering foster care for 60% of children reaching adoption. Reports the number of children for whom adoption was achieved, the length of time the child was out of home prior to being under state guardianship and the length of time from state guardianship to adoption. The combination of the two time periods equals Time to Adoption.

Court of Appeals Dispositions within Time Standards – Reports the number and percent of cases, by case area, that met the objectives of disposing of 75% of cases within 290 days of filing and disposing of 90% of cases within 365 days of filing.

Supreme Court Timing Standards – Reports the number of days to accomplish an event for the case that is at the 50% mark of all cases that are placed in numeric order by the number of days to accomplish the event, and at the 90th percentile.

Quality Court Workplace Environment

Turnover Rate - Also called Separation Rate. Number of Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) who leave the branch during the fiscal year divided by the average number of FTEs employed in a location during that fiscal year (multiplied times 100). Rate excludes Judges, Law Clerks, Bar Exam Monitors and Limited/Temporary Appointments.

Quality Court Workplace Survey - This survey was conducted in October 2012 among all court staff and all judges/justices. The same scale is used as in the Access and Fairness Survey with 1= Strongly Disagree to 5 = Strongly Agree.

POSITIVE PERFORMANCE MEASURE RESULTS BY GOAL

Access to Justice

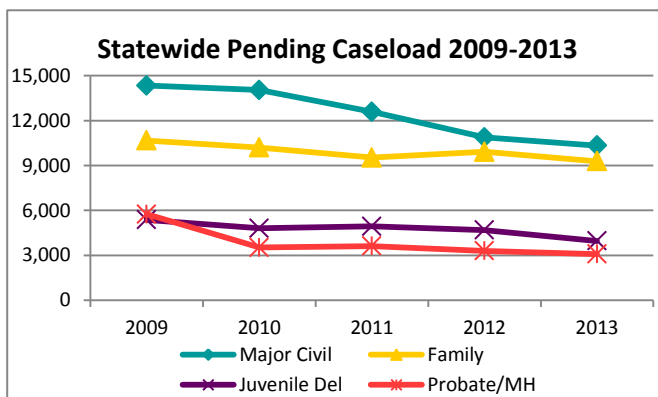
The measure for this goal is the Access and Fairness Survey. Over 4,700 surveys were completed between January and April, 2013 in 105 court locations (physical and virtual).

- ◆ All mean scores in the Access Section, on a scale of 1= strongly disagree to 5 = strongly agree, were at 3.9 or above¹.
- ◆ The highest levels of agreement were for the statements related to finding the courthouse and courtrooms or offices, followed by being treated with courtesy and respect.

Timeliness

This goal area has several measures to determine if courts are handling cases in a timely manner – Clearance Rates, Time to Disposition, Age of Pending Cases, Length of Time to Permanency, Time to Adoption, and Court of Appeals and Supreme Court cases within Time Standards.

- ◆ Except for Major Criminal and Dependency/Neglect cases, all case categories had a Clearance Rate of at least 99% statewide in 2013 (100% means a court disposed of the same number of cases as were filed).
- ◆ All judicial districts, combined, disposed of more Major Civil, Probate/Mental Health, Family, Juvenile (Delinquency and CHIPS/Permanency combined) and Minor Criminal cases in calendar year 2013 than were filed (Clearance Rate above 100%) and the statewide Clearance Rate improved in 2013 compared to the previous four years.



- ◆ The high Clearance Rates combined with mostly flat or declining case filings has resulted in lower pending case numbers in Major Civil, Family, Juvenile Delinquency and Probate/Mental Health case categories from 2009 to 2013.

¹ The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) framework for mean scores is: Greater than 4.0 = Doing a good job; Between 3.5 to 4.0 = doing OK; Less than 3.5 = Needs improvement.

WCL Case Category	99 th Percentile Objective (Months)	2013 % Cases Disposed at 99 th Percentile
Major Civil	24	98.9%
Dissolutions	24	99.6%
Domestic Abuse	4	99.4%
Minor Criminal	9	98.3%
Total All Cases		97.6%

◆ Statewide Time to Disposition results in 2013 are near or above the timing objectives for cases being disposed in four of the six case categories that have time objectives. Over 98% of Major Civil, Dissolutions with or without Child, Domestic Abuse and Minor Criminal cases were disposed within the 99th percentile objective.

◆ Timing results for Major Civil and Dissolutions with or without Child are very positive in 2013. The average number of days to dispose of Major Civil (112) and Dissolution (108) cases has declined by 10% and 19% respectively over the past five years. No district has less than 99% of Dissolution cases resolved within the 24 month objective.

◆ Six districts show steady or improved overall results in Age of Pending cases beyond the 99th percentile. The range in Age of Pending across all case types with timing objectives, by district, was from 4% to 11% in mid-2011. The range is 2% to 7% in mid-2014.

◆ Just over four in ten (41%) of all permanencies reached by children in FY2014 were through Protective Supervision or Trial Home Visit. Of these permanencies, 87% were achieved before the child was out of home for 12 months or less (objective is 90%) and 96% were done by 18 months (objective is 99% at 18 months). Nearly six of ten (56%) Protective Supervision and Trial Home Visit permanencies in FY2014 were accomplished in six months or less (objective is 50%).

Permanency Type	% of FY14 Perms.	Perm in up to 6 mo	Cum to 12 mo	Cum to 18 mo	Total Children
Trial Home Visit & Protective Supervision	41%	56%	87%	96%	1,313
<i>Objectives</i>		50%	90%	99%	

◆ Half of the districts had 59% or more of children reach adoption in FY2014 within 24 months of removal from the home. (Goal = 60%) All together, the state average of 55% of children being adopted within 24 months is an improvement compared to the last annual report when 48% reached adoption in 24 months (calendar year 2012). Also, four districts met the goal of having an average number of days to adoption equal to 730 days or fewer in FY2014.

◆ All Court of Appeals cases, except in the criminal category, met the timing objective of disposing of 75% of cases within 290 days of filing and 90% of cases within 365 days of filing. Overall, 78% of cases disposed in 2013 met the 290 day objective and 95% of cases disposed in 2013 met the 365 day objective. Both of these figures show improvement compared to 2012.

Integrity and Accountability

The goal in this area is to ensure that the electronic record system is accurate, complete and timely.

- ◆ As part of eCourtMN, policies, CAPS (Court Administration Processes), templates and data quality reports were developed and implemented to assist court administration staff to determine the appropriate document security level for imaged documents. All counties completed the approval process to share their imaged documents statewide on MPA Courthouse (Minnesota Trial Court Public Access Courthouse View) within the timeline set by the eCourtMN initiative.

Excellence

The goal in this area is to achieve excellence in the resolution of cases by making decisions that are fair, reasoned, understandable, and that resolve the controversy at issue.

- ◆ The results for the Access and Fairness Survey statement used to measure excellence, “As I leave the court, I know what to do next about my case” had 84% of respondents who were in front of a judge agree or strongly agree.

Fairness and Equity

Measures for this goal area include juror representativeness and statements from the Access and Fairness survey.

- ◆ Almost all of the nearly 42,000 jurors who reported for service in 2013, returned the questionnaire and completed the race information are similar racially, ethnically and by gender compared to the population of the communities in Minnesota.
- ◆ At least 78% of the respondents to the Fairness Section of the Access and Fairness Survey agree or strongly agree with all statements in that section.

Race	2010 ACS*	2013 Jurors
White	89.6%	89.3%
Black	3.4%	3.1%
Asian/Pac Island	2.3%	2.9%
Hispanic	2.1%	2.0%
American Indian	1.0%	.9%
Other & 2+ Races	1.7%	1.9%
Total Statewide		41,786

*American Comm. Survey: Ages 18-70, citizens, not institutionalized, speak English at home or ‘well’ or ‘very well’

Quality Court Workplace

This goal area measures Separation Rates and the results of the Quality Court Workplace survey.

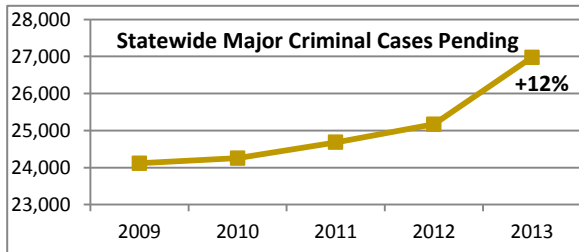
- ◆ Just over 6% (6.4%) of employees left the Branch in FY2014 with nearly 90% of all of the departures being resignations and retirements. The separation rate for FY2014 (6.4%) is very similar to the FY2013 results (6.8%)
- ◆ Based on results of the Quality Court Workplace, nearly all employees (91%) agree or strongly agree that they know how their job contributes to the overall mission of the Branch, as do 93% of judges/justices.
- ◆ Nearly nine in ten (88%) employees agree or strongly agree that they are proud to work in their court while 99% of judges/justices agree or strongly agree with this statement.

POSSIBLE AREAS OF CONCERN

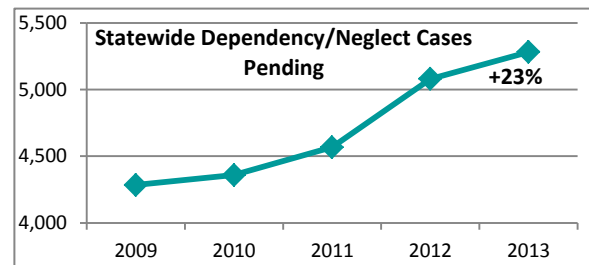
The measures in this section show possible areas of concern, but do not necessarily reflect poor performance.

Timeliness

- ◆ The greatest area of concern for timely processing of cases continues to be Major Criminal.
- ◆ The statewide Clearance Rate for Major Criminal cases was 96% in 2013. This figure is the lowest it has been since 2005 when it was 94%.



- ◆ The number of Major Criminal active pending cases (not dormant) increased by 12% from 2009 to 2013 and increased by 23% in Dependency/Neglect cases during these five years.



- ◆ Statewide, nine percent (9%) of Major Criminal cases pending at the end of FY2014 (July 3, 2014) were open beyond the 12-month objective. An average of 17% of Serious Felony cases were pending beyond the 99th percentile at that time.

WCL Case Type	99 th Percentile Objective (Months)	2013 % Cases Disposed at 99 th Percentile
Major Crim.	12	91.3%
Juvenile Del.	6	95.0%
Total All Cases		97.6%

- ◆ In 2013, 9% of Major Criminal cases and 5% of Juvenile Delinquency cases were disposed beyond the 99th percentile objective (objective is 12 months for Major Criminal, 6 months for Juvenile Delinquency). Four districts had more than 10% of Major Criminal cases disposed in 2013 that were beyond the 12 month objective.

- ◆ District Clearance Rates for Minor Criminal cases for 2013 vary from 129% in the 4th District (this is likely positively impacted due to preparations for the transition from ViBES to MNCIS), down to 91% in the 6th District.
- ◆ The goal of having 99% of children reach permanency within 18 months was not met in FY2014, statewide. However, the number has improved to 93% of children reaching permanency within 18 months and three districts had 96% or more reach permanency by 18 months. Nearly all children (96%) with protective supervision and trial home visits reached permanency by 18 months.

- ◆ Six of ten districts did not achieve the goal of having 60% of children reach adoption within 24 months of removal; however, four districts are close to the goal having 53% to 59% reach adoption in this timeframe. The timing objective of 60% reaching adoption within 24 months is considered to be an aspirational goal.

USING PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR ADMINISTRATION

Reporting to the Judicial Council on results of Performance Measures is done twice per year by District and Appellate Courts. There is a written report in the Spring and an oral report in the Fall. The written reports from March 2014 are available [here](#).

- ◆ The written reports in March 2014 noted steady, positive results, but also pointed out unique challenges to improvement in local courts.
 - In these reviews, several districts mentioned the high number and lengthy time of judicial vacancies as having a negative effect on performance measure results, especially in criminal cases.
- ◆ Work continues to assist the bench and court administration in districts and counties to review timing data regularly.
 - Interactive spotlight reports are available on-line. These reports can be run at any time and are available to all judges and court administration staff.
 - Several reports are available to ensure appropriate document security classifications are used for imaged documents and customized consultation is available for data quality reviews.

"The District (Second) has established a centralized monitoring plan and in addition to reviewing daily reports, we regularly examine the numbers of documents imaged to the number of errors. We are pleased that our error rate averages less than one-half percent. Our staff takes seriously the responsibility of ensuring case records are classified correctly. The individual divisions have implemented methodologies assuring oversight of data quality on an ongoing basis.

An example of this is the Criminal Division's plan.

The Criminal division reviews the disposition data quality reports weekly and is careful to provide appropriate training to staff in order to minimize the number of results on this report. The division has implemented spot-checking of in-court updating and is pleased to learn that generally hearings are updated with a high level of accuracy?"

- ◆ Performance Measures have become a regular part of doing business in district courts. Several districts are reviewing results at bench meetings and court administrator meetings. All districts mentioned continuing a high level of collaboration with criminal justice partners, the local bar, CJI teams and others. Most districts are using some or all available reports for various aspects of data and performance monitoring.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE

The Minnesota Judicial Branch will be open, affordable and understandable to ensure access to justice.

Do participants perceive the courts to be accessible?

ACCESS AND FAIRNESS SURVEY

- ◆ The most recent Access and Fairness Surveys were completed from January to April, 2013. Statewide, 4,710 court users submitted survey responses.
- ◆ [Policy 505.2](#) was revised in April, 2014. It calls for the Access and Fairness Survey to be conducted every four years, alternating every two years with the Quality Court Workplace Survey.

Complete results of the 2013 survey are available on CourtNet including [automated, on-demand reports](#), [written survey analysis](#) presented to the Judicial Council and an [overview of results](#) presented to the Judicial Council.

The highest levels of agreement in the Access section of the survey are for the following statements:

- Finding the courthouse was easy (90% agree/strongly agree)
- I easily found the courtroom or office I needed (90%)
- I was treated with courtesy and respect (88%)
- I felt safe in the courthouse (87%)

The two statements with the lowest levels of agreement, and the lowest mean scores in the Access section, are still within the “Doing OK” range of the National Center for State Courts framework².

- I found the court’s web site useful (71% agree/strongly agree; mean of 3.9).
 - A screening question preceded this statement to exclude those who had not viewed the web site prior to being in court the day of the survey.
- I was able to get my court business done in a reasonable amount of time. (73% agree/strongly agree; mean of 3.9)

The Access Index³ score provides a composite measure of responses to all ten statements in the Access section of the survey on a scale from 0 to 100. The statewide Access Index score is 84.

The largest variations in Access Index scores are by individual county/court locations. The scores range from 96 to 71. Access Index scores by county/court are reported on page 29 of the [written survey analysis](#) posted on CourtNet.

² The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) framework for mean scores is: **Greater than 4.0 = Doing a good job; Between 3.5 to 4.0 = Doing OK; Less than 3.5 = Needs improvement.**

³ Index scores are an overall score for a grouping of statements; also referred to as index categories or sections. They can be calculated at the county, district or other levels. If there are 5 statements in a section with responses on a 1-5 point scale, the index is calculated by summing the means (average) for each question in the section which brings the total maximum score to 25 (5 questions x 5 points maximum each). This score is then multiplied by 4 to place it on a 100-point scale. For a grouping of 10 statements, the total maximum score is 50, so the multiplier is 2.

TIMELINESS

The Minnesota Judicial Branch will resolve cases and controversies in a timely and expeditious way without unnecessary delays.

Are trial courts handling cases in a timely manner?

CLEARANCE RATES

- ◆ District courts disposed of nearly as many cases as were filed in 2013, shown with a Clearance Rate of 99% for all case types combined, excluding Minor Criminal.
- ◆ All case categories except Major Criminal have a Clearance Rate of 99% or higher.
- ◆ Major Criminal and Dependency/Neglect cases are the only types with Clearance Rates below 99% (Major Criminal – 96%; Dependency/Neglect – 97%).

Figure 2.1: Statewide Clearance Rates 2009-2013

Case Group	Clearance Rates				
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Major Crim	103%	99%	100%	99%	96%
Major Civil	100%	99%	105%	104%	101%
Prob/MH	110%	110%	99%	99%	100%
Family	100%	101%	101%	99%	101%
Juvenile	105%	100%	99%	99%	101%
Minor Civil	100%	101%	99%	101%	99%
Minor Crim	95%	92%	107%	98%	111%
State	96%	94%	106%	99%	109%

The 2013 Clearance Rate results, by case group, are mixed compared to 2012, but the overall rate is much higher in 2013 than 2012. The overall statewide Clearance Rate is driven by Minor Criminal in all years, especially parking, which had a Clearance Rate of 140% in 2013.

The overall Clearance Rate in 2013, excluding Minor Criminal cases, is 99%. Except for Minor Criminal, the case types of Major Civil, Family and Juvenile have the highest rate (101%). Wrongful Death (119%) and Malpractice (117%) have the

highest Clearance Rates within these three top categories. Major Criminal cases have the lowest Clearance Rate in 2013 at 96% with Felony DWI cases having the lowest rate within that group (88%). Five-year trends by case category are shown in Figure 2.5 on page 18.

Figure 2.2: Overall (Excludes Minor Criminal) Clearance Rates 2013 by District

Figure 2.2 shows that the 2013 Clearance Rates, excluding Minor Criminal cases, by district, ranges from 97% in the 6th District to 102% in the 2nd.

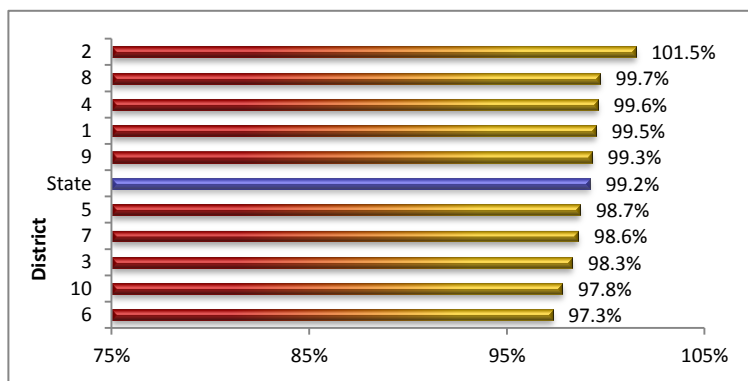
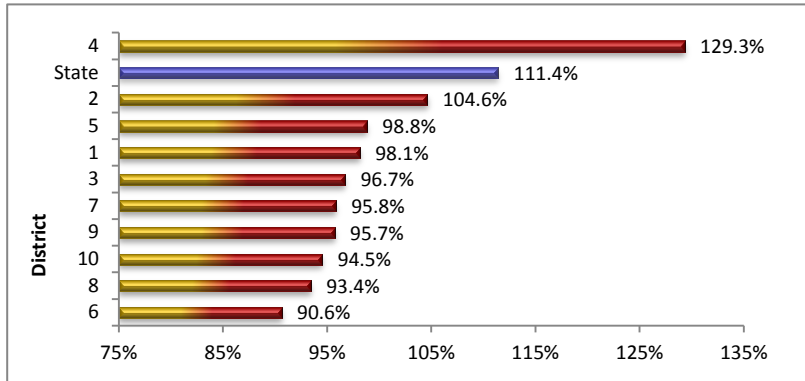


Figure 2.3: Minor Criminal Clearance Rates 2013 by District



Minor Criminal clearance rates are shown separately, in Figure 2.3, due to the high variability of rates based on the large numbers of parking and traffic cases in the largest districts, as well as preparing for the transition from ViBES to MNCIS.

There is a large variation in this Clearance Rate by District – from 91% up to 129%.

Major Criminal clearance rates declined in 2013 to the rate that existed ten years ago (2004) as shown in Figure 2.4. The highest clearance rate for major criminal cases was in 2009 at 103.1% and the lowest rate in the past 15 years is 94.4% in 2005. The currently declining clearance rate may be a contributing factor to the increased number of Major Criminal cases pending as shown in Figure 2.6 on page 19.

Figure 2.4: Statewide Major Criminal Clearance Rates - 1999-2013 (15 Years)

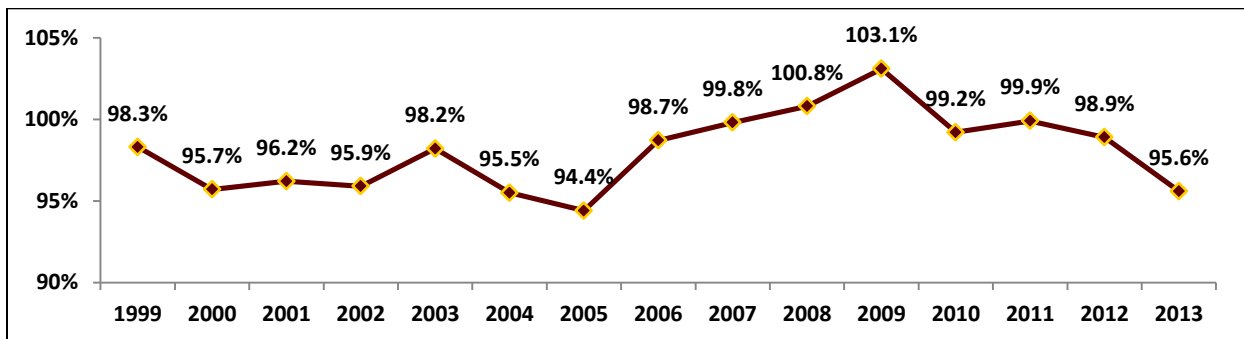
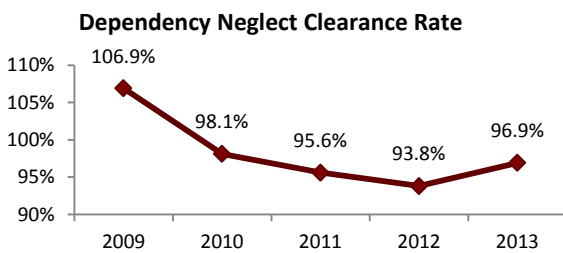
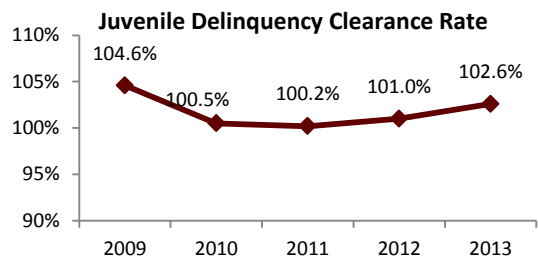
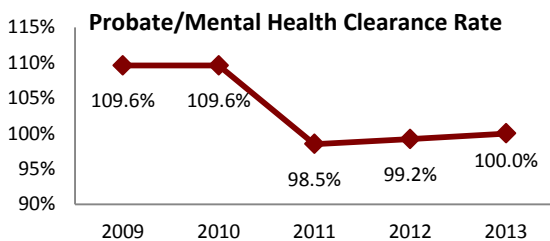
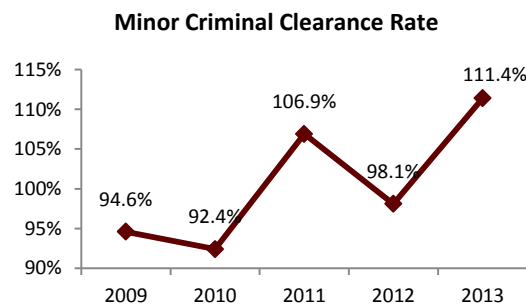
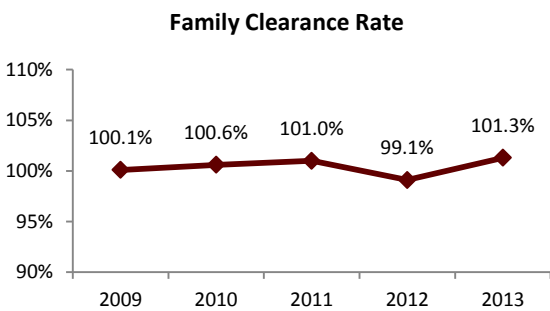
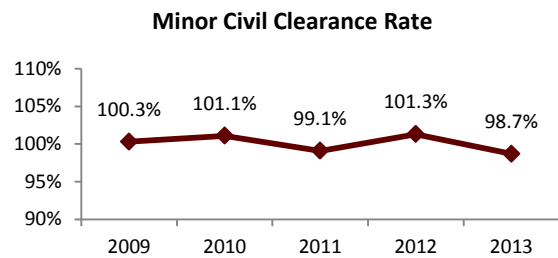
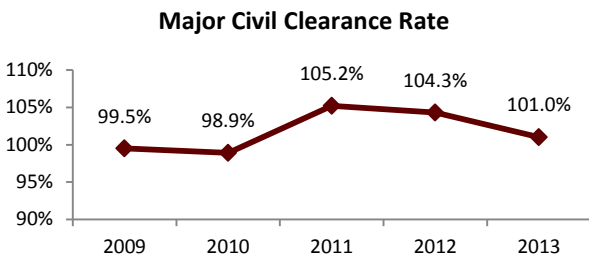
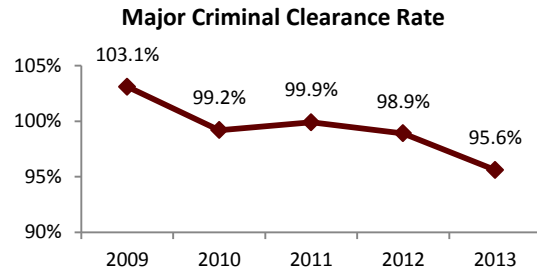
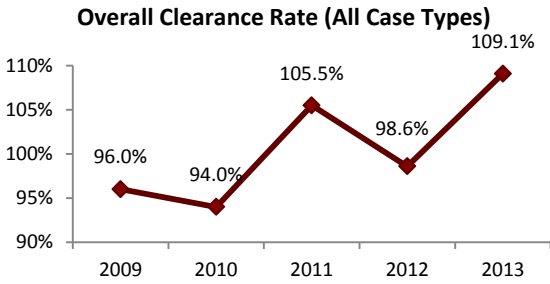


Figure 2.5: Statewide Clearance Rates 2009-2013 – By Case Group

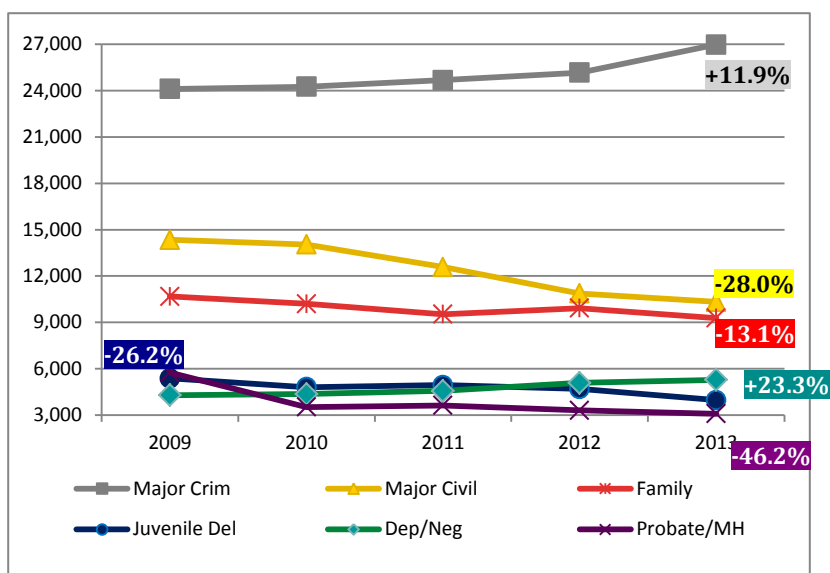


If Clearance Rates do not consistently stay close to 100% or above, the number of pending cases will increase as dispositions lag behind filings.

Figure 2.6: Statewide Active Pending Caseload, Major Cases 2009- 2013

Figure 2.6 shows that the number of cases pending in the major case groups from 2009 to 2013 has declined in all categories except Major Criminal and Dependency/ Neglect. The increase in Major Criminal pending cases is mostly in Other Felony cases (+21%).

While Major Criminal filings increased by 1% from 2009 to 2013, the number of dispositions decreased by 6%. This decline in dispositions is reflected in the 12% increase in pending cases and the lower Clearance Rate for Major Criminal cases.



Excludes Dormant Cases and Out on Warrant

As noted, the number of Major Criminal cases actively pending has increased 12% in the past five years and has grown 25% in the past ten years (not shown on chart). There were 54,700 Major Criminal dispositions in 2013 which is the lowest number since 2001 when there were 52,500 dispositions. These numbers compare to a high of 65,700 dispositions in 2006.

The largest percent increase in pending cases in the Dependency/Neglect category for the past five years is Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) cases (increase of 39%). By volume, all CHIPS pending cases combined have increased by nearly 1,000 cases since 2009 (4,284 in 2009, 5,281 in 2013).

TIME TO DISPOSITION

- ◆ Statewide, nearly 98% of all cases disposed in MNCIS in 2013 were disposed within the 99th percentile of the time objective. Therefore, just over 2% of all cases were disposed later than the objective.
- ◆ Nine percent (9%) of Major Criminal cases were disposed beyond the 12 month objective in 2013 compared to 8% in 2012 (an increase in this number is not positive).
- ◆ Major Civil, Dissolution (with or without child) and Domestic Abuse cases meet or exceed the timing objectives at the 99th percentile in 2013.

The Time to Disposition measure assesses the length of time it takes a court to process cases. This measure takes into account (subtracts out) periods during which cases are dormant.

Figure 2.7: Statewide Time to Disposition Cases Disposed in MNCIS in 2013

WCL Case Group	90th Percentile			97th Percentile			99th Percentile			Beyond 99th		Total	
	Obj	Cases	%	Obj	Cases	Cum %	Obj	Cases	Cum %	Cases	%	Cases	Avg Days
Major Criminal	4	26,917	49.2	6	10,012	67.6	12	12,961	91.3	4,767	8.7	54,657	170
Major Civil	12	34,240	93.7	18	1,475	97.8	24	426	98.9	390	1.1	36,531	112
Dissolutions	12	15,640	94.1	18	705	98.4	24	198	99.6	71	.4	16,614	108
Domestic Abuse	2	10,870	97.7	3	122	98.8	4	58	99.4	72	.6	11,122	10
Juvenile Del	3	12,044	80.5	5	1,780	92.4	6	384	95.0	754	5.0	14,962	61
Minor Criminal	3	360,729	87.5	6	34,737	95.9	9	9,928	98.3	6,833	1.7	412,227	51
State Total		460,440	84.3		48,831	93.3		23,955	97.6	12,887	2.4	546,113	69

Objectives are in months; Minor Criminal counts are cases, rather than charges as on other case statistics reports

Only cases disposed in MNCIS are included (100% of Major Case types; approx. 25% of Minor Criminal disposed cases, rest in ViBES)

In 2013, the Major Criminal category has the highest percent of cases disposed past the 99th percentile objective (8.7%). Within Major Criminal, 27% of the serious felony dispositions in 2013 occurred after 12 months. The percent of cases disposed beyond the 99th percentile time objective rose slightly for Major Criminal cases in 2013 (8.7%) compared to 2012 (8.3%). Major Criminal and Juvenile Delinquency cases are also the only categories that have increases in the average number of days to disposition. (Major Criminal 170 in 2013, 164 in 2012; Juvenile Delinquency 61 in 2013, 60 in 2012)

Figure 2.8: Average Days to Disposition, Dissolutions and Major Civil, 2009-2013

The case categories with the greatest improvement in the average number of days to disposition are Dissolution and Major Civil. As shown in Figure 2.8, the average days to disposition for Dissolutions (with or without child) have declined every year for the past five years, and Major Civil days to disposition have declined after a high point in 2011.

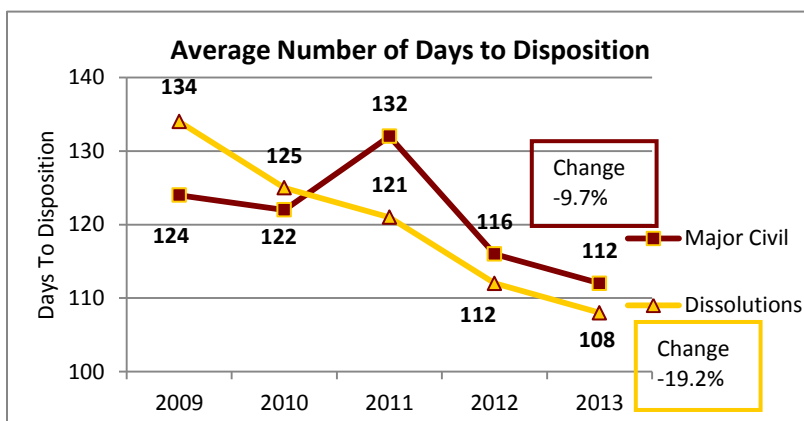


Figure 2.9 below shows Time to Disposition by Case Group for 2013 by District. The greatest variation among districts is in Major Criminal with the 1st District disposing of 12.7% of Major Criminal cases beyond the 99th percentile objective down to the 8th District disposing of 3.3% of Major Criminal cases beyond the 99th percentile. Also, fewer than half of the Major Criminal cases (49.2%) are disposed when the objective is to have 90% disposed (4 months).

Figure 2.9: Time to Disposition 2013 By Case Group By District

Major Crim. Time To Disp. 2013				
District	90th %	97th Cum %	99th Cum %	> 99th %
1	46.2	61.9	87.3	12.7
3	41.4	61.1	88.1	11.9
10	37.3	57.4	89.0	11.0
7	41.8	61.7	89.3	10.7
6	53.4	70.7	92.5	7.5
4	53.1	70.9	92.8	7.2
5	50.7	70.1	93.5	6.5
2	63.4	79.9	94.0	6.0
9	56.8	75.0	94.4	5.6
8	57.0	77.8	96.7	3.3
State	49.2	67.6	91.3	8.7

Major Civil Time to Disp. 2013				
District	90th %	97th Cum %	99th Cum %	> 99th %
9	93.0	96.5	97.7	2.3
6	91.4	95.9	97.8	2.2
7	92.5	97.1	98.4	1.6
10	94.9	98.0	99.0	1.0
3	94.7	97.6	99.1	0.9
2	93.4	98.0	99.1	0.9
1	94.9	98.2	99.1	0.9
5	93.7	97.9	99.2	0.8
8	94.5	98.2	99.3	0.7
4	93.4	98.4	99.4	0.6
State	93.7	97.8	98.9	1.1

Dissolutions Time to Disp. 2013				
District	90th %	97th Cum %	99th Cum %	> 99th %
6	94.1	97.6	99.0	1.0
9	93.9	97.6	99.0	1.0
5	93.4	98.3	99.2	0.8
10	91.8	97.7	99.2	0.8
3	94.1	98.4	99.4	0.6
1	94.9	98.9	99.7	0.3
2	95.2	98.4	99.7	0.3
8	95.6	99.3	99.8	0.2
7	93.4	98.0	99.9	0.1
4	95.7	99.1	100.0	0.0
State	94.1	98.4	99.6	0.4

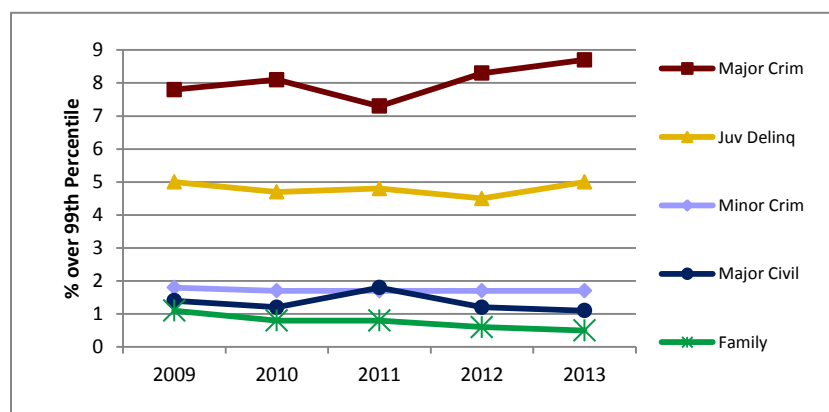
Dom. Abuse Time to Disp. 2013				
District	90th %	97th Cum %	99th Cum %	> 99th %
1	97.0	98.1	98.8	1.2
9	96.5	97.8	99.1	0.9
6	97.0	98.0	99.1	0.9
8	98.8	98.8	99.1	0.9
10	96.8	98.6	99.2	0.8
5	97.9	99.0	99.3	0.7
2	97.1	99.0	99.4	0.6
7	98.1	99.1	99.6	0.4
4	98.9	99.4	99.7	0.3
3	99.0	99.8	99.8	0.2
State	97.7	98.8	99.4	0.6

Minor Crim.* Time to Disp. 2013				
District	90th %	97th Cum %	99th Cum %	> 99th %
4*	69.4	90.0	95.8	4.2
2*	62.0	89.2	96.0	4.0
10	86.4	95.0	97.9	2.1
6	90.8	96.6	98.5	1.5
3	90.7	97.2	98.8	1.2
1	91.4	97.1	98.9	1.1
5	93.0	97.6	99.0	1.0
7	92.4	97.9	99.2	0.8
9	92.9	98.1	99.2	0.8
8	95.4	99.0	99.7	0.3
State	87.5	95.9	98.3	1.7

Juv. Del. Time to Disposition 2013				
District	90th %	97th Cum %	99th Cum %	> 99th %
5	78.6	89.8	92.9	7.1
3	68.1	87.6	93.1	6.9
1	81.1	91.9	93.6	6.4
7	76.1	90.4	94.2	5.8
9	79.7	92.8	94.9	5.1
6	85.3	93.6	95.0	5.0
10	80.0	92.2	95.1	4.9
4	79.9	92.8	95.1	4.9
8	83.4	93.9	96.4	3.6
2	90.7	97.2	98.4	1.6
State	80.5	92.4	95.0	5.0

*Excludes dispositions in ViBES. This exclusion makes the percent of cases over the 99th percentile larger than it would be if ViBES cases were included.

Figure 2.10: Percent of Cases Disposed Statewide Beyond 99th Percentile 2009- 2013 by Case Category



All case categories except Major Criminal show steady or declining percentages of dispositions beyond the 99th percentile from 2009 to 2013 (decline in this number means results are positive). The greatest percentage improvement from 2009 to 2013 is in Family cases (.5% in 2013 down from 1.1% in 2009).

While statewide numbers tend to even out many variances, district and county level information exhibit more variation. As noted in Figure 2.9, statewide, 8.7% of Major Criminal cases were disposed beyond the 99th percentile objective of 12 months with district figures ranging from 3.3% to 12.7% of cases disposed beyond the objective.

There is even more variation when looking at these figures by county. Figure 2.11, on the next page, illustrates county variation in time to disposition for all Major Criminal cases in 2013. It shows that the percent of cases disposed beyond the 12-month objective (99th percentile) ranges from 0% to 34%.

Steele (34%), Nobles (26%), Isanti (22%) and Freeborn (22%) Counties have more than 20% of Major Criminal cases disposed in 2013 beyond the 99th percentile goal. A small number of dispositions can have an impact on the percent of those that are beyond the timing objective since small numbers can produce large variation in percentages. Numbers of Major Criminal dispositions in 2013 vary from Red Lake with 31 dispositions to Hennepin County with 11,950. See the [appendix](#) for numbers of cases disposed by county.

Figure 2.11: Major Criminal Dispositions Beyond the 99th Percentile Time Objective, By County, 2013

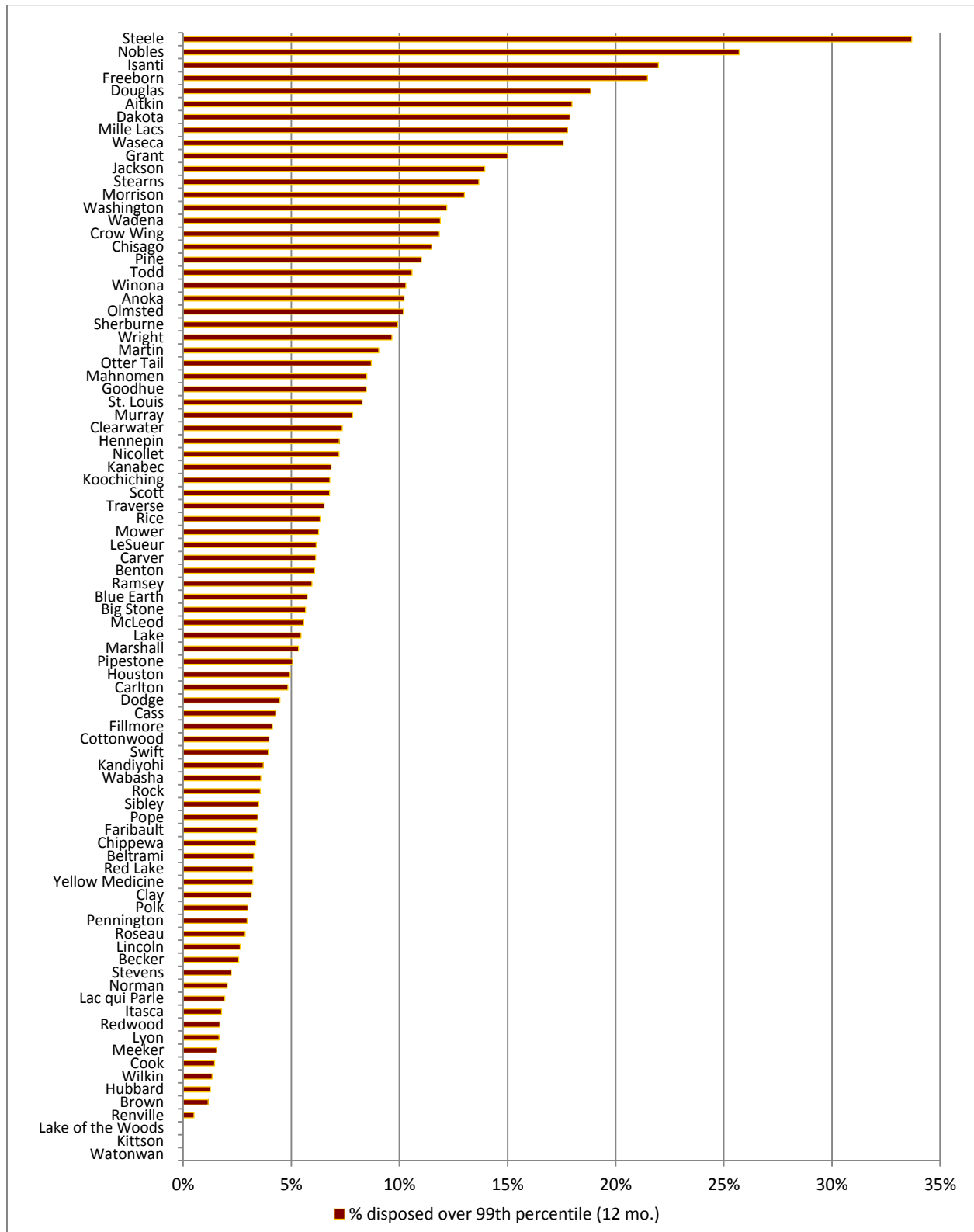
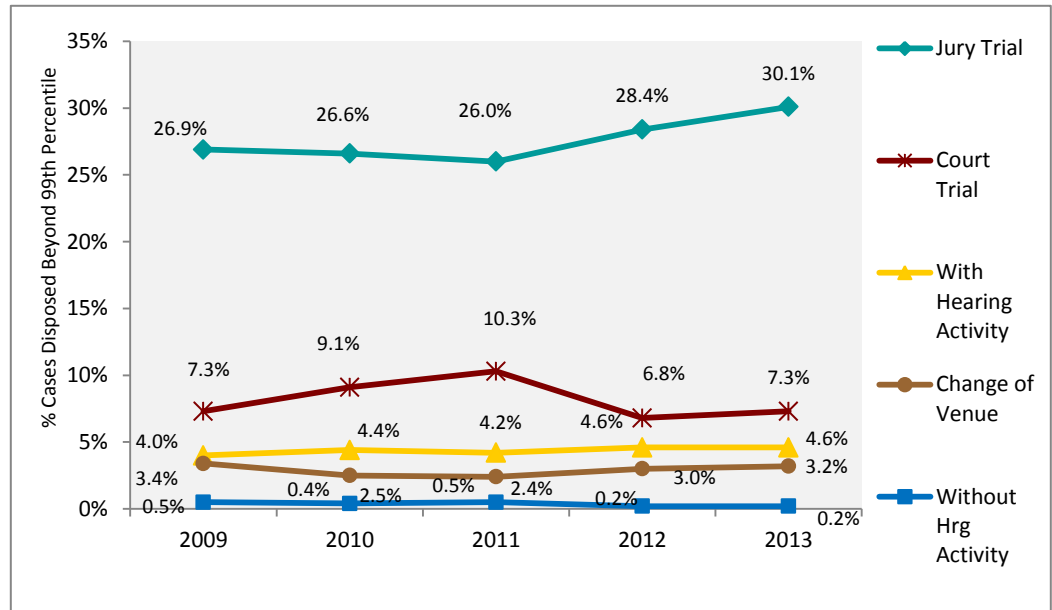


Figure 2.12: Statewide Percent of Cases With Timing Objectives Disposed Beyond 99th Percentile by Disposition Activity Type - 2009-2013

Nearly a third (30%) of the 2,387 cases disposed (of all case types that have timing objectives, combined) in 2013 with a jury trial, were disposed beyond the 99th percentile. Of the cases disposed with a Court Trial, 7% were disposed beyond the 99th percentile objective.



These figures exclude Minor Criminal cases disposed in ViBES in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties.

The proportion of all cases disposed (of those with a timing objective) that have a jury trial has stayed consistent the past five years. In 2009, .5% of cases disposed had a jury trial, and .4% were disposed with a jury trial in 2010 to 2013.

While the proportion of dispositions with a jury trial hasn't increased, the percent of jury trial cases disposed beyond the 99th percentile objective has increased from 26% in 2011 to 30% in 2013.

AGE OF PENDING CASES

- ◆ Timing objectives for Age of Pending cases are being met or nearly met for Major Civil and Dissolution cases. (Timing objectives are the same as those used for Time to Disposition.)
- ◆ Five percent (5%) of active pending cases, statewide, among case categories with timing objectives, at the end of June 2014, were pending beyond the 99th percentile objective for completing the case.
- ◆ Among districts, the percent of cases pending beyond the 99th percentile ranges from 2% in the 8th District to 7% in the 4th District. (Results are distorted negatively for the 2nd and 4th Districts due to exclusion of dispositions done in ViBES.) Having 7% of cases pending beyond the timing objectives being the largest number in 2013 compares to a high of 11% in 2011.

Figure 2.13: Statewide Age of Pending (MNCIS Cases) As Of 7/3/2014

Case Group	90 th Percen -tile	Cum 97 th Percen -tile	Cum 99 th Percen -tile	Over 99 th Percen -tile	Total Active Cases Pending
Major Crim	57%	71%	91%	9%	25,851
Major Civil	90%	96%	98%	2%	12,924
Dissolutions	91%	98%	99%	1%	4,483
Dom. Abuse	67%	73%	76%	24%	373
Juv Delinq	76%	88%	92%	8%	2,467
Minor Crim*	79%	91%	96%	4%	59,660
State Total	75%	87%	95%	5%	105,758

*Excludes ViBES cases

as of the end of June 2013, but more positive than the 11% at mid-year in 2011 and 2012.

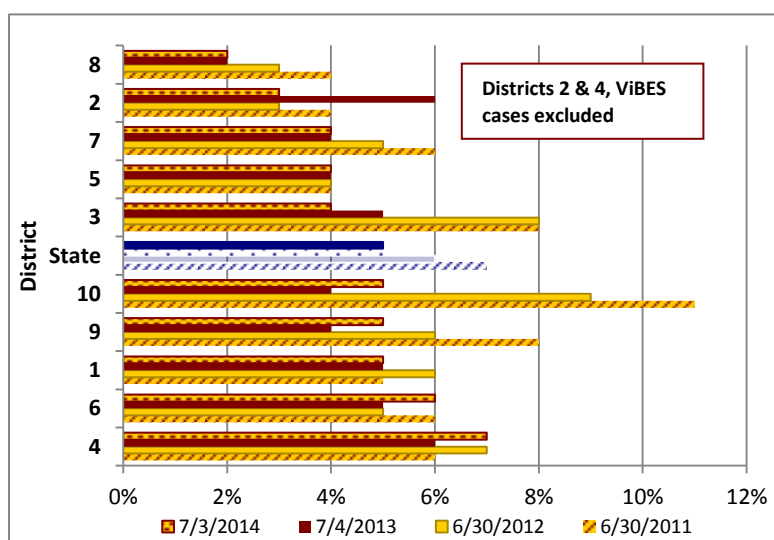
While the statewide average for all case types pending over the 99th percentile is 5% of cases, there is variation among case categories from Dissolution cases at 1% up to 24% of Domestic Abuse cases pending beyond the 99th percentile objective of 4 months, likely due to the small number of cases pending at all.

Nine percent (9%) of Major Criminal cases were pending beyond the 99th percentile objective at the end of June 2014, which is a slight increase (negative) compared to 8% as of the end of June 2013, but more positive than the 11% at mid-year in 2011 and 2012.

Figure 2.14: Age of Pending Cases Beyond 99th Percentile, All Case Types, by District

There are differences among districts in the overall age of pending cases as shown in Figure 2.14.

When comparing the percent of cases pending beyond the 99th percentile from mid-2013 to mid-2014, six districts show steady or improved overall age of pending cases beyond the 99th percentile. The greatest decrease (improvement) is in the 2nd District (3% in FY14, 6% in FY13).



Within statewide results, there is a lot of variation found among districts and among counties, although the variation among districts is narrowing over time.

An example of variation is shown in the Age of Pending of Serious Felony cases. Statewide, 17% (16.6%) of the cases in this WCL group are pending beyond the 99th percentile (as of 7/3/2014). But, district results range from 6% of these cases pending beyond the 12-month objective in the 2nd District to 29% in the 6th District.

An additional example of local variation is shown in the 10th District. Overall, the district's percent of cases pending beyond the 99th percentile is just a bit higher than the state average (17.5% in the 10th, 16.6% statewide). But, within the district, the county results vary on these cases pending beyond 12 months from 0% of cases in Sherburne County to 73% in Isanti County. (Small numbers of cases pending overall can lead to large percentages pending beyond the 99th percentile.)

Figure 2.15: Serious Felony Cases Pending Beyond 99th Percentile (12 months) By District (As of 7/3/2014)

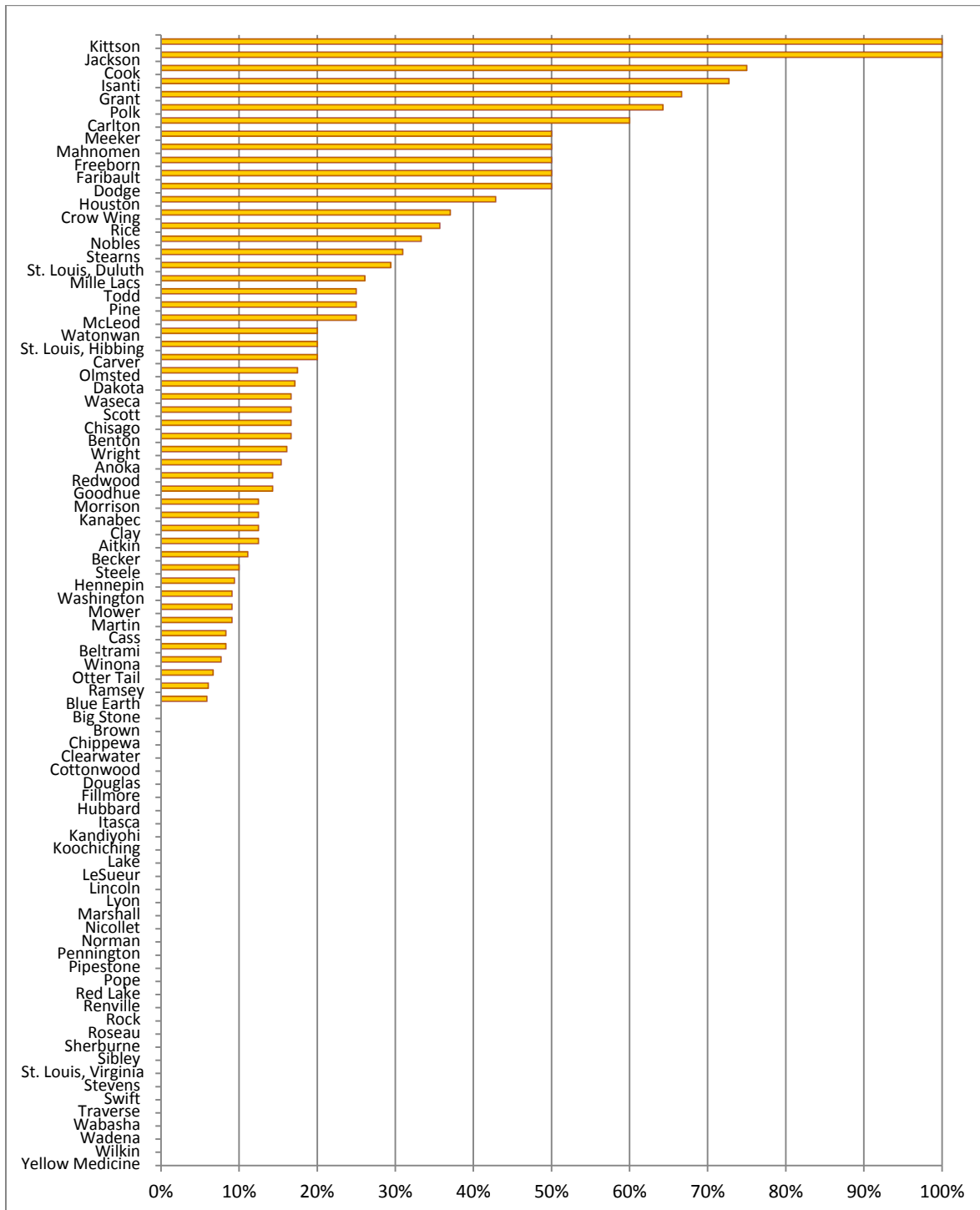
District	% over 99 th Percentile	Tot # of Pending Cases
6	29.3%	41
9	23.9%	109
7	20.0%	135
3	19.5%	118
10	17.5%	171
State	16.6%	1,020
1	16.0%	119
5	14.3%	63
8	10.7%	28
4	9.4%	170
2	6.1%	66

10 th District Counties	% over 99 th Percentile	Tot # of Pending Cases
Isanti	72.7%	11
Pine	25.0%	4
Chisago	16.7%	18
Wright	16.1%	31
Anoka	15.4%	65
Kanabec	12.5%	8
Washington	9.1%	22
Sherburne	0%	12
10th District	17.5%	171

Across all counties, the percent of Serious Felony cases pending beyond the 12-month objective ranges from 100% to 0% as shown in Figure 2.16 on the next page. As noted above, the percentages may appear distorted due to small numbers of cases in some counties. Thirty five (35) courts have zero cases pending beyond the 99th percentile, and 34 of them have fewer than 10 cases pending.

The [appendix](#) contains information about the number of Serious Felony cases pending in each location and the portion of those cases that are pending beyond the 99th percentile.

Figure 2.16: Percent of Serious Felony Cases Pending Beyond 99th Percentile of 12 months, By County (As of 7/3/2014)



The [appendix](#) contains total number of Serious Felony cases pending and the percent pending beyond 12 months by county as of 7/3/2014.

LENGTH OF TIME TO PERMANENCY AND ADOPTION

- ◆ Just under three-fourths (72%) of children who reached permanency during state fiscal year 2014 did so after being out of home for 12 months or less (across all types of CHIPS/ Permanency cases). More than nine of ten (93%) children reached permanency by 18 months. (Goals are 90% by 12 months, 99% in 18 months.)
- ◆ Nearly nine of ten (87%) children reaching permanency via Protective Supervision or Trial Home Visit reached this permanency by 12 months, and 96% reached it by 18 months.
- ◆ The objective of having 60% of children reach adoption within 24 months of removal from the home is considered an ‘aspirational goal’. In fiscal year 2014, 55% of children statewide were adopted within 24 months. District numbers range from 69% reaching adoption by 24 months to 27%.

“It is the policy of the Judicial Branch that juvenile protection cases... be expedited in conformance with state and federal requirements with the goal of serving the best interests of children by providing safe, stable, and permanent homes for abused and neglected children.

... CJI judges accept shared responsibility for monitoring and improving performance on federal and judicial branch child welfare measures and are encouraged to develop and implement local plans to improve such performance.”

Judicial Council Policy 601

One of the goals of the Children’s Justice Initiative (CJI) is for children removed from a custodial parent to have permanency and stability in their living situation. The Length of Time to Permanency report was developed to assist courts in determining the length of time it takes, over the lives of children, to provide permanency to those who are removed from home.

The Judicial Council also set an objective that 60% of all children who are under State Guardianship should reach adoption with 24 months from removal from the home. Reports break the time it takes from removal from the home to being under state guardianship, and then the time it takes from the guardianship order to adoption.

Figure 2.17: Length of Time for Children to Reach Permanency in FY 2014, by District

Figure 2.17 shows that, statewide, the goals of having 50% of children reach permanency by 6 months, 90% by 12 months and 99% by 18 months are not being met. However, the 18-month goal is very close to being met with 93% of 3,177 children reaching permanency in FY2014 doing so in 18 or fewer months.

There is variation among districts for the percent of children reaching permanency within 12 months as shown in Figure 2.17 (goal is 90%). The range is from 56% in the 6th District to 85% reaching permanency within 12 months in the 1st District. The 1st District also has the highest percent of children reaching permanency by 18 months (98%).

District	% reaching perm by 6 months	Cum % reaching perm by 12 months	Cum % reaching perm by 18 months	Total Number Children
1	44%	85%	98%	238
2	35%	67%	96%	276
3	32%	78%	95%	207
4	35%	71%	92%	662
5	37%	78%	94%	233
6	27%	56%	84%	324
7	33%	74%	94%	368
8	33%	70%	93%	135
9	38%	76%	90%	387
10	39%	71%	96%	347
State	35%	72%	93%	3,177
Goal	50%	90%	99%	

Figure 2.18: Length of Time To Permanency Statewide, FY2014, By Permanency Type

As may be expected, the time for children to reach permanency varies by type of permanency achieved. Figure 2.18 shows that by 12 months of being out of home, 87% of children reaching permanency via a Trial Home Visit or Protective Supervision did so, while only 23% of children with Permanent Custody to DHS achieved permanency by 12 months (of types with 10 or more children).

Seventeen percent (17%) of all children reaching permanency in FY2014 had only a Termination of Jurisdiction as the last permanency type entered. A large majority of these cases may have data entry issues which could be reviewed to show more accurately the type of permanency achieved for each child.

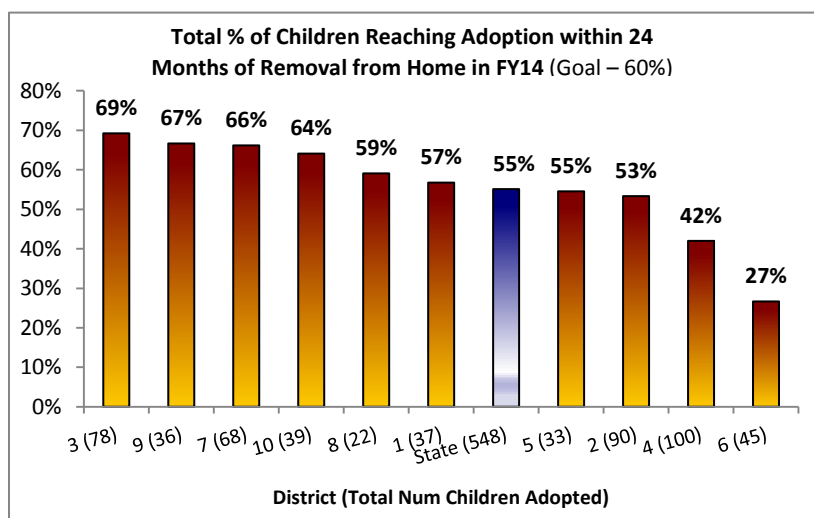
Permanency Type*	% of All Perms	Cum % to 12 mo	Cum % to 18 mo	Total Children
Trial Home Visit	25%	87%	96%	806
State Ward for Adoption	17%	57%	91%	536
Term of Jurisdiction w/o Perm Order **	17%	59%	87%	528
Protective Supervision	16%	87%	96%	507
Transfer of Custody	15%	65%	91%	488
Dismissed w/o Perm Order	4%	81%	94%	135
Reunified	4%	70%	97%	117
Permanent Custody to Agency	1%	23%	58%	43
Temp Custody to Agency	<1%	22%	56%	9
Non State Ward for Adoption	<1%	75%	88%	8
Total	100%	72%	93%	3,177

Timing Objectives **90%** **99%**

*Permanency types include those that are now obsolete.

**All cases with this permanency type may have data entry issues.

Figure 2.19: Length of Time for Children to Reach Adoption in FY2014, by District

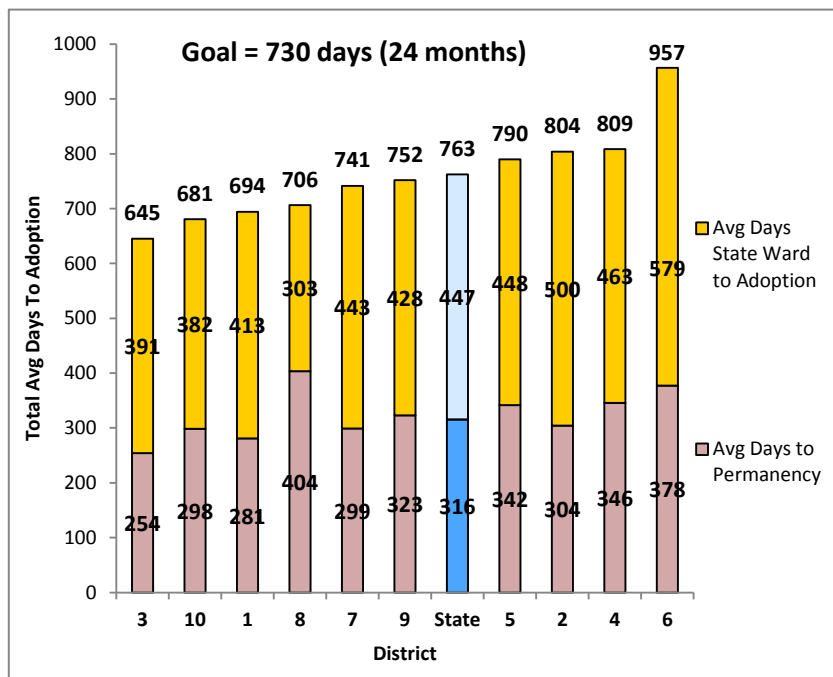


Over half (55%) of the 548 children adopted in FY2014 reached adoption within 24 months of removal from home (goal is 60%). Four districts are above the goal, and four districts are between 50%-60%. The number of children adopted is not large in several districts, so percentages can be distorted by small numbers.

Having 55% of children statewide in FY2014 (of 548 children) reach adoption within the two year time objective compares to 49% of children in FY13 (483 total children) and 54% in FY12 (440 total children). In addition to the result improving to 55%, the number of children included in the report has increased by 25% from FY12 to FY14. The increase in the number of children is important since there are several data quality issues that can lead to children not getting included in the Length of Time to Adoption and Length of Time to Permanency reports.

The automated Time to Adoption for Children Under State Guardianship report on [CourtNet](#) shows details for each child with the time to adoption broken into the time from removal from home to the guardianship order and then the time from guardianship order to adoption order. Figure 2.20 below shows that there is variation among districts in these two phases.

Figure 2.20: Average Number Days to Adoption, by Phase, by District, in FY2014



Four districts have an average number of days per child to reach adoption below the 24 month time objective (730 days). (Lower numbers are a positive result.)

The statewide average number of days from removal from the home to guardianship order (316 days) comprises 41% of the total time to adoption and 59% is the time from the guardianship order to adoption (447 days).

Jurisdictions can use these two categories of time to determine where efforts may be focused to shorten the time to adoption.

COURT OF APPEALS DISPOSITIONS WITHIN TIME STANDARDS

- ◆ In 2013, the Court of Appeals exceeded its goal of disposing 75% of cases within 290 days by disposing of 78% within that timeframe. This is an improvement compared to 2012, when 74% of cases were disposed in 290 days.
- ◆ The Court of Appeals also exceeded the goal of disposing 90% of cases within 365 days, by disposing of 95% of its cases within that time in 2013. This result continues the pattern of exceeding this goal in 2012 and 2011.

The Court of Appeals has adopted the ABA measure of 'case clearance', which measures cases from beginning (filing) to end (disposition). The goals are to have 75% of cases disposed within 290 days of filing and 90% disposed within 365 days of filing.

Figure 2.21: Percent of Court of Appeals Cases Disposed Within 290 Days of Filing, 2011-2013

Court of Appeals Percentage of Cases Disposed Within 290 Days of Filing From Filing to Disposition Goal = 75% of Cases						
	2011		2012		2013	
	# Cases	% of cases meeting objective	# Cases	% of cases meeting objective	# Cases	% of cases meeting objective
Civil						
General Civil	725	89%	742	85%	714	91%
Unemployment	329	87%	341	82%	241	91%
Family	243	96%	242	96%	215	97%
Other	91	100%	79	96%	93	97%
Total Civil	1,388	90%	1,404	87%	1,263	92%
Criminal						
Criminal	677	53%	753	49%	775	53%
Juvenile Protection						
Protection	50	100%	51	100%	61	100%
Juv. Delinquency						
Delinquency	17	94%	21	95%	26	100%
Total Cases*	2,132	79%	2,229	74%	2,125	78%

* For purposes of calculating case clearance rates, later-filed related cases, which are consolidated for decision purposes, are not included. Actual total dispositions were 2,222 cases in 2011; 2,324 in 2012; 2,251 in 2013.

The court disposed of 78% of its cases within 290 days in 2013. This is a larger percentage than in 2012, and exceeds the goal of 75%. The 2013 figure is also a significant improvement over 2010, when 69% of cases were disposed within 290 days (not shown on Figure 2.21).

While only 53% of Criminal cases were disposed within 290 days in 2013, there were various delays in criminal appeals, including court reporters' need for more time to prepare transcripts and longer briefing periods. The Court of Appeals has effectively eliminated all delays in scheduling cases, once transcripts and briefing are completed.

Figure 2.22: Percent of Court of Appeals Cases Disposed Within 365 Days of Filing, 2011-2013

Court of Appeals Percentage of Cases Disposed Within 365 Days of Filing From Filing to Disposition Goal = 90% of Cases						
	2011		2012		2013	
	# Cases	% of cases meeting objective	# Cases	% of cases meeting objective	# Cases	% of cases meeting objective
Civil						
General Civil	725	99%	742	98%	714	99%
Unemployment	329	100%	341	100%	241	100%
Family	243	100%	242	99%	215	100%
Other	91	100%	79	99%	93	100%
Total Civil	1,388	100%	1,404	98%	1,263	99%
Criminal						
Criminal	677	85%	753	80%	775	87%
Juvenile Protection						
Protection	50	100%	51	100%	61	100%
Juv. Delinquency						
Delinquency	17	100%	21	100%	26	100%
Total Cases*	2,132	95%	2,229	92%	2,125	95%

* For purposes of calculating case clearance rates, later-filed related cases, which are consolidated for decision purposes, are not included. Actual total dispositions were 2,222 cases in 2011; 2,324 in 2012; 2,251 in 2013.

In 2013, the Court disposed of 95% of its cases within 365 days, surpassing the goal of 90%. Criminal cases did not quite meet the goal in 2013 (87% disposed within 365 days), but the Court exceeded the 90% goal in all other case types. All case types stayed at 100% or improved compared to 2012.

SUPREME COURT DISPOSITIONS WITHIN TIME STANDARDS

- ◆ The Supreme Court generally met the time standards for disposition of PFRs (Petitions for Further Review) in 2013.
- ◆ There are improvements in several areas in 2013 compared to 2012 in the processing of cases in the court's discretionary jurisdiction (Petition for Further Review, PFR), at both the 50th and the 90th percentile.

To report timing measures, MACS, the Supreme Court case management system, calculates the number of days a case took for particular events at the 50th and 90th percentiles of all of the cases handled of a particular type and by event. This means that if there were 100 cases of a certain type, the number of days to accomplish an event (i.e. filing of PFR to disposition of PFR) would be put in numeric order by number of days that event took to accomplish and the days at case number 50 are then recorded as the 50th percentile and the days at case number 90 are recorded as the 90th percentile.

Although separate time standards were adopted for Circulation of Majority to Dissent; Submission to Disposition with Dissent, and Final Processing, and the court monitors progress of cases on that basis, MACS is not programmed to provide statistics for cases with and without dissents separately.

Figure 2.23: Number of Days Elapsed at 50th Percentile of Supreme Court Cases 2009-2013

Minnesota Supreme Court Time Standards (Days)																
50th Percentile																
Event	Mandatory/Original (Non-PFRs)								Discretionary							
	Mur-der I	Num of Cases	Civil*	Num Of Cases	Prof. Reg.	Num of Cases	Writs	Num of Cases	Review Granted	Num of Cases	Review Denied	Num of Cases	Child Prot.	Num of Cases	Crim Pre-trial	Num of Cases
Filing of PFR to Disp of PFR Standard	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	50 days		50 days		20 days		30 days	
2013									48	64	47	612	20	10	46	16
2012									48	78	47	586	16	15	34	7
2011									47	71	47	531	19	14	40	7
2010									49	66	46	592	18	10	39	17
2009									47	60	47	728	23	15	41	10
Submission (oral arg.) to Circulation of Majority Standard	50 days		40 days		15 days		10 days		60 days		N/A	N/A	20 days		30 days	
2013	77	39	77	36	64	67	22	5	83	64					41	3
2012	77	28	63	26	37	54	8	16	92	78					--	--
2011	55	21	47	23	28	51	--	--	77	71					--	--
2010	59	37	42	26	53	48	--	--	80	66					--	--
2009	63	40	57	23	37	59	--	11	71	60					67	3
Subm. to Disp. with or w/o Dissent Standard	90/105 days		75/105 days		50/60 days		30/40 days		90/105 days		N/A	N/A	30/40 days		45/60 days	
2013	142	39	120	36	133	67	57	5	155	64					60	3
2012	146	28	118	26	107	54	27	16	198	78					--	--
2011	114	21	79	23	77	51	--	--	184	71					--	--
2010	121	37	36	26	98	48	--	--	169	66					--	--
2009	129	40	35	23	70	59	15	11	176	60					223	3

*Tax Court and Workers' Compensation Cases

The review of PFRs, either granted or denied, met the 50th percentile objective of being done within 50 days, as well as the 90th percentile objective of 60 days. Professional Regulation cases (Non-PFRs) have the greatest number of days from submission to disposition among the four non-PFR case groups (217 days). This may be due to the increased number of these cases in 2013.

Figure 2.24: Number of Days Elapsed at 90th Percentile of Supreme Court Cases 2009-2013

Minnesota Supreme Court Time Standards (Days)																
90th Percentile																
Event	Mandatory/Original (Non-PFRs)								Discretionary							
	Mur- der I	Num of Cases	Civil*	Num of Cases	Prof. Reg.	Num of Cases	Writs	Num of Cases	Review Granted	Num of Cases	Review Denied	Num of Cases	Child Prot.	Num of Cases	Crim. Pre- trial	Num of Cases
Filing of PFR to Disposition of PFR Standard	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	60 days		60 days		20 days		40 days	
2013									56	64	56	612	30	10	58	16
2012									62	78	57	586	19	15	56	7
2011									55	71	56	531	25	14	44	7
2010									56	66	56	592	26	10	43	7
2009									57	60	57	728	34	15	54	10
Submission (oral arg.) to Circulation of Majority Standard	125 days		90 days		40 days		20 days		125 days		N/A		20 days		45 days	
2013	126	39	112	36	77	67	22	5	146	64					41	3
2012	125	28	160	26	64	54	14	16	190	78					--	--
2011	191	21	219	23	78	51	--	--	161	71					--	--
2010	110	37	105	26	64	48	--	--	138	66					--	--
2009	96	40	95	23	75	59	--	11	141	60					67	3
Submission to Disposition with or w/o Dissent Standard	170/ 200 days		110/ 140 days		60/ 90 days		35/ 45 days		160/ 190 days		N/A		40/ 40 days		65/ 90 days	
2013	212	39	198	36	217	67	57	5	294	64					90	3
2012	260	28	253	26	153	54	71	16	386	78					--	--
2011	273	21	247	23	141	51	--	--	324	71					--	--
2010	225	37	142	26	129	48	--	--	288	66					--	--
2009	198	40	164	23	127	59	55	11	302	60					223	3

*Tax Court and Workers' Compensation Cases

INTEGRITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Minnesota Judicial Branch will ensure the integrity and accountability of its performance by maintaining a record system that is accurate, complete and timely.

Is the electronic record system accurate, complete and timely?

DATA QUALITY PROGRAM

- ◆ As part of eCourtMN, policies, CAPS (Court Administration Processes), templates and data quality reports were developed and implemented to assist court administration staff to determine the appropriate document security level for imaged documents. All counties completed the approval process to share their imaged documents statewide on MPA Courthouse (Minnesota Trial Court Public Access Courthouse View) on schedule based on the eCourtMN timeline.
- ◆ A high profile statewide initiative was passed by the 2013 Legislature to ensure the passage of appropriate civil commitment data to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). This large effort was led by the Business Practices Unit, Court Services Division, SCAO and involved the collaboration of many SCAO staff, temporary staff, and court staff from across the state to complete the work on schedule.

"...It ... is the policy of the Minnesota Judicial Branch that to ensure accurate, complete and uniform access to court records, and to ensure compliance with all applicable laws for the access of court records, the Appellate Courts and District Courts shall comply with document security and classification procedures, provisions and Court Administration Processes (CAPs) as applicable."

*Judicial Council Policy 505.3
Data Quality and Integrity*

Mission: The Data Quality program was created in July 2007 to define data quality standards, identify data quality issues and determine when it is necessary to develop standard business practices to be implemented statewide. The Data Quality Steering Committee provides leadership for the program by setting priorities, determining acceptable levels of data quality in particular areas, ensuring resources are prioritized to implement solutions, and determining when to move issues to the Court Operations Advisory Workgroup (COAW) or other groups to pursue required business practices in order to achieve the necessary level of data quality.

Accuracy in Identifying Security Classifications of all Imaged Documents

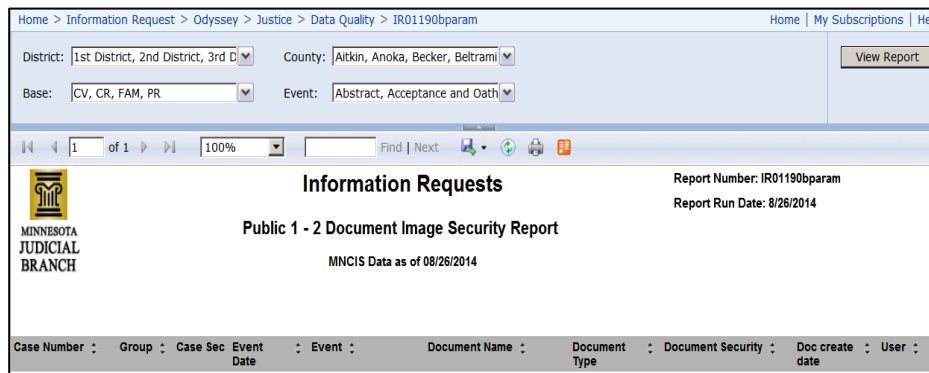
A focus during the past year has been to implement the policies, CAPS (Court Administration Processes), Monitoring Templates, and Data Quality reports to help ensure that imaged documents are appropriately classified for data security. The security classifications allow for the appropriate sharing, or confidentiality, of documents across the state via MPA Courthouse (Minnesota Trial Court Public Access Courthouse View) for the public.

The policies that determine Access to Records of the Judicial Branch are included in [Policy 800 a-f](#). The specific MNCIS Data Security Classifications are defined in [Policy 800\(a\)](#).

All courts that were not part of the eCourtMN pilot counties began to image documents in September, 2013. Each county was required to submit monitoring plans to State Court Administration and demonstrate their understanding of document security via a three week review process where SCAO data quality staff monitored their document security reports.



Each county was approved by the State Court Administrator to share their imaged documents on MPA Courthouse after the three week review period and verification that reports had no unresolved issues. All counties were able to successfully implement this process and imaged documents are available in every county statewide. Sharing documents electronically allows the right people to see the right information at the right time and place, and will greatly reduce the need to pull paper files or make paper copies.



In order to ensure the ongoing security of imaged documents, counties monitor their reports routinely as well as perform random reviews according to their monitoring plans. On a monthly basis, SCAO data quality staff runs all of the five security reports for all counties. If there are

items noted on the reports that were submitted to the system over 24 hours in the past (the suggested amount of time to resolve any issues) and/or the number of items for any county is high, SCAO may contact the Court to discuss resolution strategies. The results of the SCAO monitoring, when it's determined that the Court should be notified, are documented. To date, all counties are doing well in managing their document security and very few issues have surfaced. New reports will be developed in the future to further assist in identifying potential issues.

Civil Commitment Data Reviewed/Updated to Send to National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS)

Another major data quality project taking place this past year was a high profile statewide initiative passed by the 2013 Legislature to ensure the passage of appropriate data on civil commitments to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). This effort was led by the Business Unit in the Court Services Division of SCAO, and involved the collaboration of many SCAO staff, temporary staff, and court staff from across the state to complete the work on schedule.

The legislation required the court to electronically send information on all persons civilly committed between January 1, 1994 and September 28, 2010 to NICS by July 1, 2014. This effort required the review and updating of nearly 59,000 civil commitment cases in MNCIS statewide. About half of these cases resulted in a commitment order and the information was electronically transmitted to NICS. All cases were updated to reflect the decision and action taken on each case.

This project was largely successful due to the teamwork across court units throughout the state. The project was completed ahead of schedule and under budget. Quality controls ensured that there were no lost or mishandled case files. The goal of the legislation was to keep guns out of the hands of people who should not have them. This effort ensured that the identities of people with orders for commitment are now in the NICS Federal database.

“What we have learned is that maintaining quality data requires ongoing attention.”

5th District

In addition to these two major data quality efforts it should be noted that all of the reports, tools, data files and other resources of the Data Quality Program are available on [CourtNet](#). The Data Quality staff are also available for customized consultation.

EXCELLENCE

The Minnesota Judicial Branch will achieve excellence in the resolution of cases by making decisions that are fair, reasoned, understandable, and that resolve the controversy at issue.

Do participants understand the orders given by the Court?

ACCESS AND FAIRNESS SURVEY

- ◆ The most recent Access and Fairness Surveys were completed from January to April, 2013. Statewide, 4,710 court users submitted survey responses.
- ◆ [Policy 505.2](#) was revised in April, 2014. It calls for the Access and Fairness Survey to be conducted every four years, alternating every two years with the Quality Court Workplace Survey.
- ◆ The statement used to measure the goal of Excellence had 84% of all respondents agree or strongly agree with the statement. This is the highest level of agreement within the Fairness section.

The measure for the Excellence goal is the final statement in the Fairness section of the Access and Fairness Survey: “As I leave the court, I know what to do next in my case.” The Fairness Section of the survey is targeted to respondents who answered “Yes” to the question “Did you appear in front of a judicial officer today?” Overall, eighty-four percent (84%) of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement.

There were some variations in responses to this question by different demographic breakdowns. The mean scores for the following roles, race/ethnicity and location were the highest for this statement (5 = strongly agree; 1 = strongly disagree):

- Attorney representing a client (4.5)
- District 1 (4.5)
- Multi-racial (4.4)
- White (4.3)

The mean scores for the following groups were the lowest for this statement:

- Juvenile Delinquency case type (4.0)
- District 6 (4.0)
- Victim (3.8)

FAIRNESS AND EQUITY

The Minnesota Judicial Branch will provide due process and equal protection of the law, and will ensure that individuals called for jury duty are representative of the population from which the jury is drawn.

Do participants perceive they were treated fairly, listened to and are they satisfied with the Court's decision?

ACCESS AND FAIRNESS SURVEY

- ◆ The most recent Access and Fairness Surveys were completed from January to April, 2013. Statewide, 4,710 court users submitted survey responses.
- ◆ The Fairness section of the Access & Fairness Survey had 78% or more respondents agree or strongly agree with each statement in this section.
- ◆ [Policy 505.2](#) was revised in April, 2014. It calls for the Access and Fairness Survey to be conducted every four years, alternating every two years with the Quality Court Workplace Survey.

The Fairness Section of the Access and Fairness survey was targeted to respondents who answered “Yes” to the question of “Did you appear in front of a judicial officer today?” Complete results from the survey are available on [CourtNet](#).

Statewide, over three-quarters (78%) or more of all respondents agreed or strongly agreed with all statements in the Fairness Section.

The statements with the highest percentage of agreement were:

- As I leave the court, I know what to do next about my case (84%)
- I was treated the same as everyone else (83%)

One statement in the Fairness section had fewer than eight in ten respondents agree/strongly agree.

- The way my case was handled by the court was fair (78%)

Responses varied by demographic groups, especially by role of the survey respondent. The highest index scores are recorded for the following demographic groups (scores are from 0 to 100):

- Respondents with Small Claims/Conciliation cases (89)
- Attorneys representing a client (88)
- Respondents age 65 or older (88)

The demographic groups with the lowest Fairness Index scores statewide were:

- Respondents with Juvenile Delinquency cases (81); Specialty Court (81)
- Respondents age 18 or under; age 25-34 (80)
- Black or African American (78); “Other” race respondents (76)
- Victims (73); Friend/family of participant or party (79)

Are jurors representative of our communities?

JURY POOLS

- ◆ The jurors who reported to court in 2013 were similar racially and ethnically compared to the population of the communities in Minnesota.
- ◆ Of the jurors who reported for service, statewide, Asian/Pacific Islander citizens are slightly overrepresented in the jury population compared to the population of Minnesota while White and Black citizens are slightly underrepresented in the jury numbers.
- ◆ The gender of jurors is nearly identical to the population of Minnesota.

Demographics of jurors based on returned questionnaires come from the automated jury management system. Figure 5.1 below compares the racial breakdown of the population as reported in the 2010 American Community Survey to the jurors who reported for service in calendar year 2013, returned their questionnaires, and reported their race. Statewide, only 1% of jurors had missing race data.

The decennial census no longer collects the detailed information that is needed to match as many criteria as possible to the characteristics of people eligible to serve on juries. Instead, the American Community Survey (ACS) is conducted annually on a portion of the population to collect much of the information that used to be on the 'long form' census. Only larger locations and the state as a whole can be reported by race using the specific criteria that closely resemble those eligible for jury service (see [appendix](#) for all county-level juror data).

Figure 5.1: 2013 Juror Race Comparison to '10 American Community Survey Estimates

	White		Black		Hispanic		American Indian		Asian/Pacific Islander		Other & 2+ Races		Total*
	2010 ACS	CY13 Jurors	2010 ACS	CY13 Jurors	2010 ACS	CY13 Jurors	2010 ACS	CY13 Jurors	2010 ACS	CY13 Jurors	2010 ACS	CY13 Jurors	CY13 Jurors
Minnesota	89.6%	89.3%	3.4%	3.1%	2.1%	2.0%	1.0%	.9%	2.3%	2.9%	1.7%	1.9%	41,786
Anoka	90.4%	92.3 %	3.4%	1.7 %	1.9%	.9%	.5%	1.0%	2.4%	3.0%	1.3%	1.1%	1,706
Carver-Scott	92.9%	92.8%	1.4%	.9%	.9%	.8%	.7%	.5%	3.2%	3.6%	.9%	1.3%	969
Dakota	88.5%	91.1%	2.3%	1.9%	2.9%	2.3%	.3%	.2%	3.2%	2.5%	2.8%	2.0%	2,170
Hennepin	82.4%	79.9%	8.1%	8.3%	2.6%	3.0%	.7%	.7%	3.5%	4.9%	2.7%	3.2%	7,936
Olmsted	90.9%	92.4%	2.6%	1.8%	2.0%	1.5%	0%	.3%	3.3%	2.8%	1.2%	1.3%	1,546
Ramsey	80.0%	78.5%	7.8%	6.7%	3.7%	3.7%	.7%	.6%	5.6%	7.7%	2.2%	2.9%	6,217
St. Louis	93.1%	96.2%	.9%	.4%	1.4%	.5%	2.3%	1.1%	.4%	.6%	1.8%	1.1%	2,075
Stearns-Benton	94.0%	97.1%	3.4%	.4%	.6%	.8%	.2%	.3%	1.6%	.6%	.2%	.8%	2,087
Washington	92.0%	90.2%	1.7%	1.9%	1.8%	2.3%	.3%	.7%	2.9%	3.3%	1.2%	1.7%	1,438

* Total Jurors with and without race reported.

Source: 2010 American Community Survey micro data estimates compiled by Minnesota State Demographic Center Population ages 18 to 70, not institutionalized, citizens, speak English at home or speak English "very well" or "well"

Reported Jurors = All jurors who report for service and return questionnaire (may or may not be in voir dire) (Source: JURY+ Next Generation Database; MJB Jury Reports)

In the nine counties or areas that are large enough to meet the demographic criteria, five of the locations have a small overrepresentation of White jurors and five have slight overrepresentation of

Asian/Pacific Island jurors. Four of nine locations have a small overrepresentation of Multi-Racial citizens. Black citizens are underrepresented in the juror figures in all of the nine locations except Hennepin and Washington Counties.

County level juror data (available in the [appendix](#)) shows that the locations with the largest percentage by race are:

- White – Eleven counties at 100%
- Black – Hennepin with 8.3% of jurors in that jurisdiction
- Asian/Pacific Islander – Ramsey at 7.7% of jurors
- Hispanic – Watonwan with 6.0% of their jurors
- Other and 2+ races – Mahnommen at 5.5%
- American Indian – Mahnommen with 26.1% of jurors in that county

Figure 5.2: Comparison of 2013 Jurors’ Gender to Census Results

There are slightly more female jurors than are in communities across the state with some variation by location as shown in Figure 5.2. Statewide, the overrepresentation of females is just half of one percent. Dakota and Washington Counties have the largest differences between the census and jurors in areas for which census information is available.

Hennepin County has a very slight overrepresentation of males compared to the census estimates.

	% Female		% Male	
	2010 ACS	2013 Jurors	2010 ACS	2013 Jurors
Minnesota	50.4%	50.9%	49.6%	49.1%
Anoka	51.0%	52.5%	49.0%	47.5%
Carver-Scott	50.9%	50.7%	49.1%	49.3%
Dakota	50.7%	53.4%	49.3%	46.6%
Hennepin	51.0%	49.5%	49.0%	50.5%
Olmsted	53.0%	52.5%	47.0%	47.5%
Ramsey	51.8%	51.8%	48.2%	48.2%
St Louis	48.8%	50.7%	51.2%	49.3%
Stearns-Benton	48.2%	51.8%	51.8%	48.2%
Washington	50.6%	53.4%	49.4%	46.6%

QUALITY COURT WORKPLACE ENVIRONMENT

The Minnesota Judicial Branch will ensure that judicial officers, court personnel and jurors are qualified to perform their duties and have the materials, motivation, direction, sense of mission, and commitment to do quality work.

What are our turnover rates?

SEPARATION RATES

- ◆ The separation rates of staff for FY2014 by location range from under 5% in the 1st, 5th and 9th Districts to over 11% in the 3rd District with a statewide separation rate of 6%.
- ◆ Retirements and resignations together comprise nearly 90% of all separations in FY2014. There have been no layoffs in the branch since FY2009.
- ◆ The total Branch separation rate for FY2014 (6.4%) is nearly the same as in FY2013 (6.8%).

Figure 6.1: Separation Rates by District and MJC for FY2014

The variation by location in total separation percent ranges from 4.1% in the 9th District to 11.6% in the 3rd District.

Voluntary separations - retirements and resignations - account for 89% of the FTEs leaving the Branch in FY2014, with Dismissals accounting for less than 1% of the separations. These percentage breakdowns of voluntary separations and dismissals are very similar to past fiscal years.

FY2014 (July 2013-June 2014)										
District/ MJC	Retirement		Resignation*		Dismissal**		Layoff		Total Separations	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1	3.3	1.5%	3.7	1.6%	3.0	1.3%	0	0%	9.9	4.4%
2	5.0	2.3%	10.3	4.8%	3.0	1.4%	0	0%	18.3	8.6%
3	8.5	5.6%	5.0	3.3%	4.0	2.7%	0	0%	17.5	11.6%
4	10.8	2.5%	11.9	2.7%		0.0%	0	0%	22.7	5.2%
5	5.0	4.5%		0.0%		0.0%	0	0%	5.0	4.5%
6	4.5	4.5%	4.0	4.0%		0.0%	0	0%	8.5	8.6%
7	3.0	1.8%	4.2	2.6%	1.0	0.6%	0	0%	8.2	5.1%
8	2.0	3.3%	1.0	1.7%		0.0%	0	0%	3.0	5.0%
9	5.0	3.4%	1.0	0.7%		0.0%	0	0%	6.0	4.1%
10	11.0	3.8%	12.0	4.2%	2.0	0.7%	0	0%	25.0	8.6%
MJC***	7.8	2.6%	5.0	1.7%	2.0	0.7%	0	0%	14.8	5.0%
Total	65.8	3.0%	58.1	2.7%	15.0	0.7%	0	0%	138.9	6.4%

= number of FTEs; % = percent of avg # of FTEs in a location during the Fiscal Year who separated from the branch
 All figures exclude Judges, Law Clerks, Bar Exam Monitors, and Limited/Temporary Appointments
 Average FTE calculated by taking avg of beginning and ending fiscal year FTE counts (excluding classifications above)
 *Resignation includes Term Without Rights, Death, End of Disability Leave, Resignations, and Separation - Other
 ** Dismissal figures include Gross Misconduct and Dismissal
 *** MJC includes SCAO, Court of Appeals, Supreme Court, Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board, Board of Law Examiners, Continuing Legal Education

Figure 6.2: Total Separation Rates by District for FY2010 to FY2014

District/ MJC	FY14 %	FY13 %	FY12 %	FY11 %	FY10 %
1	4.4%	4.0%	6.1%	4.4%	3.2%
2	8.6%	10.9%	9.8%	7.1%	2.3%
3	11.6%	3.9%	5.2%	6.6%	1.4%
4	5.2%	7.8%	11.2%	8.4%	4.6%
5	4.5%	3.8%	8.0%	1.8%	7.7%
6	8.6%	13.4%	5.4%	9.3%	7.7%
7	5.1%	2.6%	1.8%	4.8%	2.6%
8	5.0%	7.6%	4.7%	7.9%	1.5%
9	4.1%	4.2%	3.7%	7.8%	4.0%
10	8.6%	9.3%	5.1%	5.5%	4.9%
MJC	5.0%	5.6%	11.7%	3.9%	2.3%
Total	6.4%	6.8%	7.7%	6.2%	3.8%

The statewide separation rate decreased, slightly, in FY2014 (6.4%) compared to FY2013 (6.8%) as shown in Figure 6.2. Both of these fiscal year results are lower than those in FY2012 (7.7%).

There are many different ways to calculate turnover rates (or separation rates.) So, not all numbers are exactly comparable, especially those that report figures by month instead of annually. The annual separation rate of 6.4% for the Branch is roughly estimated at .5% per month. This compares to U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics figures for Federal, State and Local government employees of 1.3% separations per month. The total separation rate of all of the private sector is 3.3% per month.⁴

Figure 6.3: Statewide Separation Rates by Type for FY2010 to FY2014

The trends by type of separation from the branch have remained fairly steady over the past four fiscal years as shown in Figure 6.3. FY2010 had reduced levels of separation.

Separation Type	FY 14	FY 13	FY 12	FY 11	FY 10
Retirement	3.0%	3.1%	3.5%	2.5%	1.4%
Resignation	2.7%	2.7%	3.1%	3.1%	1.5%
Dismissal	.7%	.9%	1.1%	.5%	.9%
Layoff	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	6.4%	6.8%	7.7%	6.2%	3.8%

⁴ News Release from Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, August 12, 2014, USDL-14-1497.

Do employees and judicial officers express satisfaction in their positions?

QUALITY COURT WORKPLACE SURVEY RESULTS

- ◆ The most recent Quality Court Workplace (QCW) Survey was conducted in October 2012 and nearly 2,000 responses were received from employees and justices/judges.
- ◆ In the results of the survey, the statement with the highest level of agreement among employees was: “I understand how my job contributes to the overall mission of the Minnesota Judicial Branch” (91% agree/strongly agree). The highest level of agreement among judges/justices was: “I am proud I work in my court” (99% agree/strongly agree).
- ◆ The next QCW Survey will be conducted in approximately four years, alternating every two years with the Access and Fairness Survey.

The Quality Court Workplace Survey was conducted October 15 – 31, 2012. The employee version of the survey had 1,754 responses (68% response rate) and the judge/justice version received 225 responses (74% response rate). Complete results from the survey, including comments, are available on [CourtNet](#). Employee and Justice/Judge on-demand results can be found [here](#), and the written summary provided to the Judicial Council is [here](#).

RESULTS OF EMPLOYEE SURVEY

The highest statewide scores for employees include several specific statements as shown below.

Highest Scoring Statements (mean scores use a scale from 5 = strongly agree to 1 = strongly disagree):

- I understand how my job contributes to the overall mission of the MJB (91% agreement, 4.2 mean)
- I am skilled in communicating ... with those from diverse backgrounds (91% agreement, 4.2 mean)
- I am proud I work in my court (88% agreement, 4.2 mean)
- The people I work with can be relied upon when I need help (85% agreement, 4.2 mean).

These high scores point to strengths in identification with the mission of the Judicial Branch as well as a collegial work environment.

Some of the lower scores statewide from the employee survey were for the Supervision and Management area as well as statements related to Collaboration and Communications.

Two of the five statements with the lowest scores are in the Supervision & Management area:

- Managers and supervisors follow up on ... suggestions for improvements... (56% agreement, 3.5 mean)
- I have regular meetings with my supervisor that are useful and meaningful (62% agreement, 3.6 mean score)

RESULTS OF JUDGE/JUSTICE SURVEY

The top three statements with mean scores of 4.5 or above:

- I am proud I work in my court (99% agreement, 4.7 mean score)
- I enjoy coming to work (96% agreement, 4.5 mean score)
- I understand how my job contributes to the overall mission of the MJB (93% agreement, 4.5 mean score)

The three statements with the lowest agreement levels and mean scores are:

- I am able to keep up with my workload without feeling overwhelmed (71% agreement, 3.7 mean score)
- The leadership structure of the Branch meets the needs of my court (62% agreement, 3.7 mean score)
- I am able to collaborate effectively with those outside my immediate county/division to improve our work (67% agreement, 3.7 mean score)

USING PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Reviews of performance measure results are reported twice per year to the Judicial Council. The most recent written reports were submitted in March 2014 (available [here](#)) and oral reports are to be given in September/October 2014.
- ◆ Some of the tactical strategies implemented based on results are district-specific plans for reviewing records to comply with document security rules, updated courthouse signage, installing technology that provides additional information to people waiting for their court hearing, reengineering efforts to maximize the use of technology and minimize the use of paper, and filling staff vacancies as soon as possible.

DISTRICT/APPELLATE COURTS REVIEW OF RESULTS

For the [March 2014 written reviews](#), each district received a template with statewide results to summarize their district results and compare them to the statewide figures. Online stoplight reports were again available to assist with the review. These stoplight reports provide data for Age of Pending Cases, Time to Disposition and Clearance Rates and show county-level results in data form and with green, yellow or red lights in tabular and map formats. These online reports allow users to see at a glance where things are going well and where problems might exist.

Calendar Year 2013 Produced Just One “Red Light” Statewide

Statewide, at the end of 2013, there were no overall measures with a “red light” (pages 2-3 in the March report). This shows improvement from 2012 when the Time to Adoption for Children under State Guardianship (AKA Length of Time to Adoption) had a red light (55% in 2013; 48% in 2012). Four districts also had a red light for Time to Adoption in 2013, but few other areas outside of Major Criminal cases had them. Most districts noted improvements compared to 2012 or consistently positive results. Individual counties and divisions had varying results as noted in the written reviews.

Issues That Impact Performance Measure Results

“For a large percentage of 2013 we have been short of judges – sometimes as many as five judges...for months at a time.”

4th District

Shortages of staff resources and reductions in staff among justice partners were mentioned less frequently in 2013 compared to 2012, but these issues are ongoing in some locations. Judge vacancies and turnover due to judicial retirements are also concerns.

The number of judicial vacancies that became effective in the last three fiscal years is higher than any of the seven fiscal years prior to that, with 20 or more trial court judicial vacancies in FY12, FY13 and FY14. The average number of vacancies was fewer than 15 in FY05 to FY11. While the number of judicial

vacancies was high, all vacancies were also to be held open for four months. These two factors (number and length of vacancies) are noted by districts as leading to lower Performance Measure results.

“We attribute part of the backlog in Major Criminal cases to a 100% turnover in judges in a five county assignment district in ... our district in 2012/13.”
5th District

Districts Courts also mentioned that business practice and/or data quality issues have sometimes contributed to timing measures being below objectives, in the past or currently. Some of the current data quality work is waiting for resources to become available following document imaging and other eCourtMN initiatives.

“Even though it is not yet mandatory for all case types to be eFiled in our pilot counties...we are beginning to see the swing towards efficiency.”
6th District

Examples of Plans to Address Issues and Effectively Use Resources

- The 6th District spotlight reports have been shared with prosecutors and public defenders and it has been an effective tool to communicate the importance of data quality efforts. Court administration monitors the case detail reports monthly to address data entry errors and training issues.
- Since August 2013, the 8th District is sharing judicial resources with the 7th District, to cover the Stearns County master criminal calendar. Court Reporters from the 8th District provide coverage for their respective judges, mostly using remote recording technology from their 8th District office. Also, court administration staff members in the 8th District have provided assistance to other districts with eCourtMN attorney training, Odyssey/MNCIS new release testing, and eFile Support Center work.
- In the 2nd District, “The Children’s Justice Initiative (CJI) team has used their quarterly meetings to review the ten cases with the longest out of home placement and identify the greatest obstacles to permanency.” Also on-deck displays have been installed to address responses on the Access and Fairness Survey about waiting times. While reviewing Probate clearance rates, missing case processing steps were identified and files are now double checked to make sure they are closed.
- The 3rd district is conducting a district-wide reengineering effort to maximize the use of technology and minimize or eliminate the movement of paper. The counties that have had their workflow reengineered, or are in process, participate in weekly conference calls “to collaborate and share ideas about what works and what doesn’t work, and to ensure that we are as consistent as possible with our reengineered workflow processes.”
- In response to results of the Quality Court Workplace survey, the 10th District has changed their approach to vacant positions. “In the past, we often held vacancies open in order to generate vacancy savings. We underestimated how demoralizing it is for staff to have to absorb the work of vacant positions.” Vacancies are now filled as fast as possible and MNCIS training is coordinated so everyone gets consistent and comprehensive training.
- Similarly, the 5th District had results of the 2012 Quality Court Workplace survey that were “very disappointing”. In response, there have been meetings with the Labor/Management Committee, additional methods of communication with staff and the budget was re-evaluated to authorize hiring three additional court clerks. Overtime was also authorized in a county where staff had fallen behind as a result of additional work associated with scanning documents into MNCIS.

- The 7th District experienced high levels of judicial turnover in 2013. All judges review pending caseload reports and under advisement reports. Court administration monitors the reports and made calendar changes as necessary to accommodate the four vacancies. And, as previously noted, some judicial resources from the 8th district are shared with the 7th District.
- The 4th District noted an improvement in the percentage of children reaching adoption within 24 months of original out of home placement by 7% in 2013 compared to 2012. However, the figures are still below the rest of the state. There are several barriers to improving these results including recruitment of adoptive and foster parents now being done by only one person, instead of five as in the past; significant service cuts (such as day care) to support the needs of adoptive/foster parents; and the Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department (HSPHD) practice of looking at just one possible family at a time rather than several concurrently. Meetings have been held with HSPHD management and Minnesota Department of Human Services director Lucinda Jessen to seek improvements which are occurring slowly.

DATA DETAILS (APPENDIX)

NUMBER OF DISPOSITIONS BY COUNTY IN 2013, MAJOR CRIMINAL CASES

County	# Dispositions Major Criminal Cases 2013	County	# Dispositions Major Criminal Cases 2013
Aitkin	267	Martin	199
Anoka	2,818	McLeod	287
Becker	428	Meeker	129
Beltrami	672	Mille Lacs	585
Benton	411	Morrison	323
Big Stone	53	Mower	479
Blue Earth	976	Murray	51
Brown	173	Nicollet	222
Carlton	579	Nobles	249
Carver	457	Norman	49
Cass	467	Olmsted	1,394
Chippewa	149	Otter Tail	586
Chisago	444	Pennington	169
Clay	855	Pine	508
Clearwater	136	Pipestone	79
Cook	69	Polk	502
Cottonwood	126	Pope	116
Crow Wing	802	Ramsey	5,594
Dakota	3,265	Red Lake	31
Dodge	134	Redwood	236
Douglas	398	Renville	200
Faribault	176	Rice	584
Fillmore	121	Rock	56
Freeborn	312	Roseau	209
Goodhue	649	Scott	1,138
Grant	40	Sherburne	776
Hennepin	11,950	Sibley	143
Houston	202	St. Louis	2,597
Hubbard	317	Stearns	1,551
Isanti	314	Steele	469
Itasca	676	Stevens	45
Jackson	86	Swift	127
Kanabec	234	Todd	170
Kandiyohi	486	Traverse	46
Kittson	17	Wabasha	223
Koochiching	118	Wadena	185
Lac qui Parle	52	Waseca	182
Lake	110	Washington	1,706
Lake of the Woods	67	Watonwan	131
LeSueur	195	Wilkin	75
Lincoln	38	Winona	573
Lyon	241	Wright	1,223
Mahnomen	212	Yellow Medicine	93
Marshall	75	Statewide	54,657

SERIOUS FELONY CASES PENDING BEYOND 12 MONTHS AS OF 7/3/2014

County	Total Cases Pending	Percent of Cases Pending Beyond 12 Months
Aitkin	8	12.5%
Anoka	65	15.4%
Becker	9	11.1%
Beltrami	12	8.3%
Benton	12	16.7%
Big Stone	1	0.0%
Blue Earth	17	5.9%
Brown	1	0.0%
Carlton	5	60.0%
Carver	5	20.0%
Cass	12	8.3%
Chippewa	3	0.0%
Chisago	18	16.7%
Clay	8	12.5%
Clearwater	3	0.0%
Cook	4	75.0%
Cottonwood	2	0.0%
Crow Wing	27	37.0%
Dakota	70	17.1%
Dodge	2	50.0%
Douglas	5	0.0%
Faribault	4	50.0%
Fillmore	4	0.0%
Freeborn	6	50.0%
Goodhue	7	14.3%
Grant	3	66.7%
Hennepin	170	9.4%
Houston	7	42.9%
Hubbard	6	0.0%
Isanti	11	72.7%
Itasca	6	0.0%
Jackson	1	100.0%
Kanabec	8	12.5%
Kandiyohi	8	0.0%
Kittson	2	100.0%
Koochiching	4	0.0%
Lake	3	0.0%
LeSueur	5	0.0%
Lincoln	0	0.0%
Lyon	5	0.0%
Mahnomen	4	50.0%
Marshall	1	0.0%
Martin	11	9.1%

County	Total Cases Pending	Percent of Cases Pending Beyond 12 Months
McLeod	4	25.0%
Meeker	2	50.0%
Mille Lacs	23	26.1%
Morrison	8	12.5%
Mower	11	9.1%
Nicollet	2	0.0%
Nobles	6	33.3%
Norman	4	0.0%
Olmsted	40	17.5%
Otter Tail	15	6.7%
Pennington	4	0.0%
Pine	4	25.0%
Pipestone	1	0.0%
Polk	14	64.3%
Pope	1	0.0%
Ramsey	66	6.1%
Red Lake	1	0.0%
Redwood	7	14.3%
Renville	3	0.0%
Rice	14	35.7%
Rock	1	0.0%
Roseau	1	0.0%
Scott	24	16.7%
Sherburne	12	0.0%
Sibley	4	0.0%
St. Louis, Duluth	17	29.4%
St. Louis, Hibbing	5	20.0%
St. Louis, Virginia	7	0.0%
Stearns	42	31.0%
Steele	10	10.0%
Stevens	2	0.0%
Swift	1	0.0%
Todd	8	25.0%
Traverse	2	0.0%
Wabasha	5	0.0%
Wadena	5	0.0%
Waseca	6	16.7%
Washington	22	9.1%
Watonwan	5	20.0%
Wilkin	1	0.0%
Winona	13	7.7%
Wright	31	16.1%
Yellow Medicine	1	0.0%
Statewide	1,020	16.6%

JUROR RACE BY COUNTY 2013

District	County	% White	% Black	% Asian/ Pac Isl	% Hispanic	% Multi or Other Race	% Am Indian	Total Jurors
1	Carver	97.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%	1.5%	0.5%	202
1	Dakota	91.1%	1.9%	2.5%	2.3%	2.0%	0.2%	2,170
1	Goodhue	97.3%	0.9%	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.9%	226
1	LeSueur	97.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	0.8%	0.0%	134
1	McLeod	95.3%	0.7%	0.4%	1.8%	0.7%	1.1%	281
1	Scott	91.7%	1.2%	4.3%	1.0%	1.3%	0.5%	767
1	Sibley	94.8%	0.0%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	3.4%	58
	Dist 1 Total	92.4%	1.4%	2.4%	1.8%	1.6%	0.4%	3,838
2	Dist 2 Total	78.5%	6.7%	7.7%	3.7%	2.9%	0.6%	6,217
3	Fillmore	99.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	239
3	Freeborn	94.6%	0.0%	0.8%	2.7%	1.2%	0.8%	260
3	Houston	98.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	107
3	Mower	94.3%	3.2%	0.6%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	156
3	Olmsted	92.4%	1.8%	2.8%	1.5%	1.3%	0.3%	1,546
3	Rice	96.5%	0.2%	0.8%	0.8%	0.4%	1.4%	517
3	Steele	96.7%	0.4%	0.0%	2.0%	0.7%	0.2%	440
3	Wabasha	99.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	197
3	Waseca	98.8%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	85
3	Winona	96.9%	0.0%	0.7%	0.3%	0.7%	1.4%	296
	Dist 3 Total	95.1%	1.0%	1.4%	1.3%	0.8%	0.5%	3,843
4	Dist 4 Total	79.9%	8.3%	4.9%	3.0%	3.2%	0.7%	7,936
5	Blue Earth	93.5%	1.0%	0.2%	2.2%	1.8%	1.2%	496
5	Brown	97.8%	0.5%	0.0%	1.6%	0.0%	0.0%	182
5	Cottonwood	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	28
5	Faribault	94.1%	0.0%	0.0%	4.9%	1.0%	0.0%	99
5	Jackson	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	46
5	Lincoln	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	69
5	Lyon	92.5%	0.6%	2.5%	1.9%	1.2%	1.2%	160
5	Martin	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	75
5	Murray	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	40
5	Nicollet	93.6%	0.0%	1.3%	1.9%	1.9%	1.3%	154
5	Nobles	89.7%	1.5%	1.5%	5.2%	1.8%	0.4%	264
5	Pipestone	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	36
5	Redwood	94.2%	0.3%	0.7%	1.0%	0.3%	3.4%	296
5	Rock	96.4%	0.0%	3.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	28
5	Watonwan	92.8%	0.0%	0.0%	6.0%	1.2%	0.0%	80
	Dist 5 Total	94.4%	0.6%	0.7%	2.3%	1.1%	1.0%	2,053

Data Details (Appendix)

District	County	% White	% Black	% Asian/ Pac Isl	% Hispanic	% Multi or Other Race	% Am Indian	Total Jurors
6	Carlton	92.4%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	2.9%	4.4%	347
6	Cook	96.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.2%	31
6	Lake	95.9%	0.0%	0.0%	2.1%	2.1%	0.0%	96
6	St Louis Duluth	96.2%	0.4%	0.6%	0.6%	1.0%	1.1%	1,629
6	St Louis Hibbing	95.9%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	1.2%	1.6%	248
6	St Louis Virginia	96.9%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	1.5%	0.5%	198
	Dist 6 Total	95.7%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%	1.3%	1.5%	2,549
7	Becker	91.6%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	3.3%	3.7%	275
7	Benton	98.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.6%	0.0%	337
7	Clay	93.5%	0.2%	0.7%	2.6%	2.3%	0.8%	608
7	Douglas	97.3%	0.3%	0.0%	1.4%	0.0%	1.1%	371
7	Mille Lacs	96.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%	0.8%	1.9%	791
7	Morrison	97.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.5%	1.5%	208
7	Otter Tail	96.6%	0.0%	0.4%	1.5%	0.9%	0.7%	556
7	Stearns	96.8%	0.5%	0.7%	0.7%	0.9%	0.3%	1,750
7	Todd	98.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	172
7	Wadena	96.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.3%	0.0%	30
	Dist 7 Total	96.2%	0.3%	0.4%	1.1%	1.1%	0.9%	5,098
8	Big Stone	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	83
8	Chippewa	97.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%	1.0%	0.0%	101
8	Kandiyohi	97.2%	0.6%	0.6%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	181
8	Lac Qui Parle	99.3%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	140
8	Meeker	98.8%	0.0%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	82
8	Pope	98.9%	1.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	94
8	Renville	94.9%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	2.5%	0.8%	118
8	Stevens	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	57
8	Swift	98.2%	0.0%	0.4%	0.7%	0.4%	0.4%	282
8	Traverse	97.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	33
8	Wilkin	95.5%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	2.3%	0.0%	43
8	Yellow Medicine	96.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%	1.0%	1.0%	99
	Dist 8 Total	97.8%	0.2%	0.3%	0.9%	0.5%	0.3%	1,313
9	Aitkin	95.9%	0.0%	0.0%	3.1%	0.0%	1.0%	98
9	Beltrami	85.2%	0.3%	1.0%	0.8%	2.3%	10.4%	392
9	Cass	94.2%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	4.0%	225
9	Clearwater	93.2%	0.0%	0.4%	0.8%	2.8%	2.8%	253
9	Crow Wing	96.7%	0.0%	0.2%	0.4%	1.5%	1.1%	466
9	Hubbard	94.1%	0.5%	0.0%	1.6%	3.7%	0.0%	186
9	Itasca	96.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	1.9%	0.6%	158
9	Koochiching	97.3%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	1.1%	1.1%	187
9	Lake o' Woods	93.3%	0.0%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	0.0%	45
9	Mahnomen	67.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	5.5%	26.1%	166
9	Marshall	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	56
9	Norman	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20

District	County	% White	% Black	% Asian/ Pac Isl	% Hispanic	% Multi or Other Race	% Am Indian	Total Jurors
9	Pennington	94.6%	0.0%	0.6%	2.4%	1.2%	1.2%	167
9	Polk	94.9%	0.0%	0.2%	2.9%	1.6%	0.5%	628
9	Red Lake	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	11
9	Roseau	96.2%	0.0%	0.0%	3.8%	0.0%	0.0%	50
	Dist 9 Total	92.6%	0.1%	0.4%	1.4%	1.9%	3.7%	3,108
10	Anoka	92.3%	1.7%	3.0%	0.9%	1.1%	1.0%	1,706
10	Chisago	98.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	251
10	Isanti	96.9%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	1.1%	0.3%	359
10	Kanabec	96.4%	0.0%	0.3%	0.6%	1.8%	0.9%	333
10	Pine	95.0%	0.4%	0.4%	1.1%	1.4%	1.8%	278
10	Sherburne	97.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.7%	0.7%	549
10	Washington	90.2%	1.9%	3.3%	2.3%	1.7%	0.7%	1,438
10	Wright	97.1%	0.4%	0.3%	1.1%	0.9%	0.2%	917
	Dist 10 Total	93.9%	1.1%	1.9%	1.2%	1.2%	0.7%	5,831
	Statewide	89.3%	3.1%	2.9%	2.0%	1.9%	0.9%	41,786

* Percent of each race is calculated based on the total number of responses to the race question. The number of non-respondents is not included in the calculation. One percent (1%) of jurors did not provide race information. Counties with no jurors in 2013 are excluded from these results.