

JUDICIAL BRANCH

Oregon Judicial Department (OJD)

Chief Justice Recommended Budget 2019-21



OJD PRESENTATION – AGENDA

April 1 - 4, 2019

Day 1	Overview of the Judicial Branch
Day 2	Oregon Tax and Circuit Court Programs
Day 3	OJD Budget and Policy Option Packages
Day 4	Public Testimony

Oregon's Judicial Branch







Legislative Branch

Judicial Branch

Executive Branch



Oregon Judicial Department

Office of Public Defense Services

Commission on Judicial Fitness

Oregon State Bar*

Remembering Our Past

It was a rare occurrence, but it exemplified the administrative abyss in which Oregon's courts dwell.

Court reformers seek unity, command chain

By DAVID WHITNEY of The Oregonian staff

It was a rare occurrence, but it exemplified the administrative abyss in which Oregon's courts dwell.

Because the Supreme Court's budget was sharply cut by the Legislature when a deficit became apparent last summer, two justices lost their secretaries in order to retain other needed staff. So Chief Justice Arno Denecke went before the legislative Emergency Board last month to ask for enough money to restore the two secretarial positions. The board agreed.

After learning of Denecke's victory, George Joseph, chief judge of the Ore-

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lest month to ask for enough money to restore the two secretarial positions.

In what it considers its most necessary piece of legislation, the commission is proposing an administrative revamping that would make the state courts closely parallel the structure of the federal courts. It also would take funding of all court operations from the counties and turn it over to the state.

The commission recommends that the governor appoint the chief justice to a six-year term and that the chief justice's administrative powers be enhanced. The Supreme Court's seven justices currently elect the chief justice. All of them, except Denecke, are opposed to the governor choosing the

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Unification Required Tremendous Effort





The Purpose of Unification

ORS 1.001: The Legislative Assembly hearby declares that, as a matter of statewide concern, it is in the best interest of the people of this state that the judicial branch of state government, including the appellate, tax and circuit courts, be funded and operated at the state level. The Legislative Assembly finds that state funding and operation of the judicial branch can provide for best statewide allocation of governmental resources according to the actual needs of the people and of the judicial branch by establishing an accountable, equitably funded and uniformly administered system of justice for all the people of this state. [1981 s.s. c.3 § 1]



A Unified Branch

- Effective January 1, 1983, the legislature consolidated Oregon's district, circuit, and appellate courts into a unified, state-funded court system known as the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD).
- Municipal, county, and justice courts continue outside of the state-funded court system and control.



Oregon Judicial Department

Mission Statement

As a separate and independent branch of government, our mission is to provide fair and accessible justice services that protect the rights of individuals, preserve community welfare, and inspire public confidence.





The overall goal of the Oregon Judicial Branch is to sustain the Rule of Law environment

Access

Increase Public Access to Justice

Trust

 Provide Public with Improved Experience, Safety, and Awareness

Resolution

 Improve Docket and Caseflow Management Systems

Partnership

 Focus on Specialized Dockets and Plans for Improved Outcomes

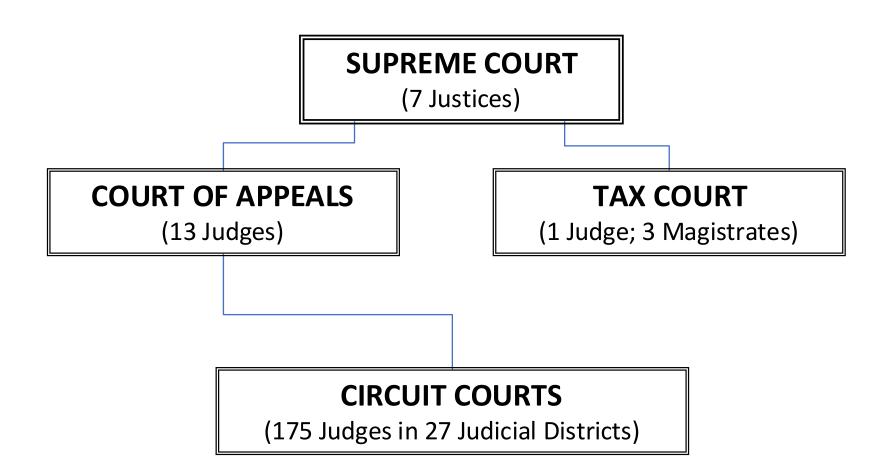
Administration

Improve Accountability and Performance





Oregon's State Court System



Oregon Supreme Court (OSC) State Court of Last Resort



Special Programs

- Appellate eCourt (electronic from filing to disposition); electronic brief banks
- Free online access to opinions and calendars
- Web-casting of oral arguments
- Court outreach oral arguments in schools and communities

OSC Review

- Average 907 cases filed per year (2013-2018)
- Discretionary review of Court of Appeals decisions
- Required Review (statutorily mandated)
 - Direct appeals in death penalty cases
 - Appeals from Tax Court decisions
 - Review of attorney discipline and judge discipline
 - Review of ballot measure titles
 - Prison and energy facility siting disputes
 - Other direct review cases
- Discretionary Review with original jurisdiction
 - Habeas Corpus
 - Mandamus
 - Quo Warranto



Court of Appeals (COA)



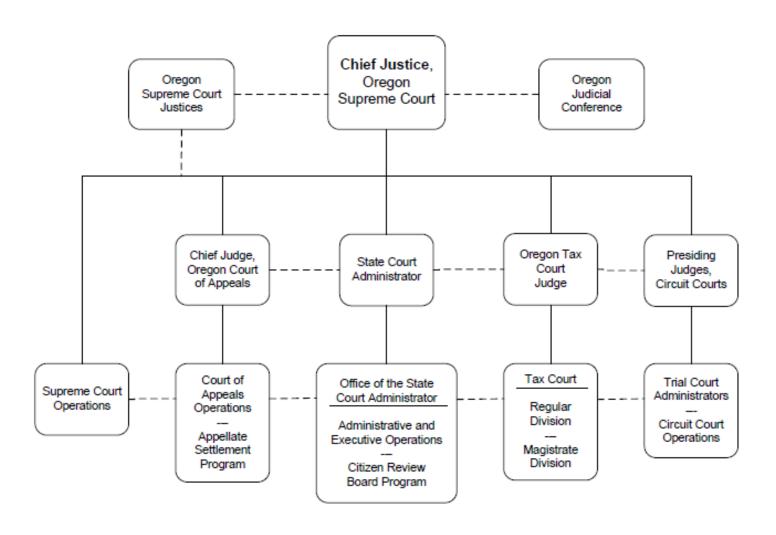
- Most cases reviewed by three-judge panels
- Efficiencies
 - Appellate Commissioner's office
 - Appellate Settlement Program
- Special Programs
 - Trading Benches Program
 - Court Outreach Program oral arguments in schools and communities

COA Review



- Average 2,700 filings per year (2013-2018)
- Opinions available online
- Must accept and decide all:
 - Appeals from circuit courts (criminal, civil, domestic relations, juvenile)
 - Appeals from state agency rules and actions
 - Appeals from local government decisions
- Juvenile dependency matters are on an expedited schedule
 - 108 juvenile dependency matters submitted (2018)
 - 96 resolved (2018); 10 resolved (early 2019)

Organization Structure



Statutory Responsibilities Oregon's Chief Justice

(See primarily ORS Chapters 1, 3, 7-10, 21, 36, 151, and 174)

Statutory Responsibilities:

- Serve as administrative head of the state judicial branch of government
- Make rules and issue orders as administrative head
- Require reports related to administrative supervision
- Assign or reassign state judges on a temporary basis
- Set staffing levels; assign and reassign staff for all state courts and operations
- Establish time standards for disposition of cases
- Establish budgets for the state court system, including the state courts
- Establish statewide personnel rules and policies
- Appoint presiding judges of the circuit courts, Court of Appeals, and Tax Court
- Delegate administrative powers to presiding judges and State Court Administrator
- Develop plan for obtaining and controlling property, materials, and equipment used by state courts
- Establish rules for use of electronic applications in the courts

- Conduct inquiries regarding alleged disabilities of judges
- Designate principal locations for sitting of courts and transactions of state court business
- Declare statewide court closures by Chief Justice Order
- Chair the Oregon Judicial Conference
- Serve as presiding judge of the Oregon Supreme Court
- Oversee Oregon Judicial Department work with the Legislature and the Executive Branch
- Appoint members to Judicial Conference, Judicial Department committees, and to external committees, boards, and commissions
- Represent Oregon Judicial Branch in state and national associations, meetings, and activities
- Make or approve, or both, Chief Justice/Oregon Judicial Department Rules, Uniform Trial Court Rules; Supplementary Local Rules; Oregon Rules of Appellate Procedure
- Serve as appointing authority and ex-officio non-voting member of the Public Defense Services Commission



<u>Administration</u>

- Chief Justice: Administrative head of the state courts, appoints the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, Presiding Judges of the Circuit Courts, and State Court Administrator
- State Court Administrator: Chief Operating Officer, exercises administrative authority and policy leadership for the Chief Justice and courts

Statutory Responsibilities

Oregon's State Court Administrator

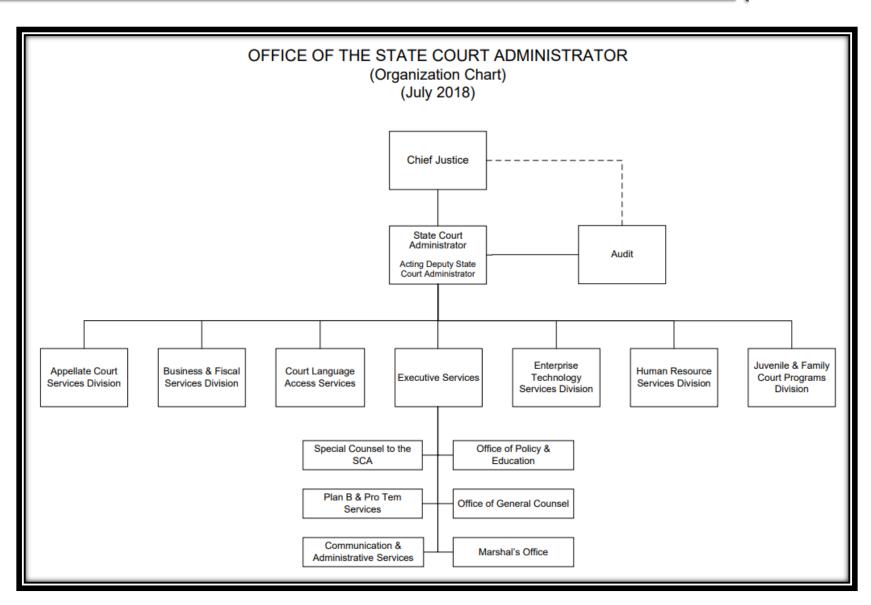
(See primarily ORS Chapters 1, 3, 7, 8, 21, 45, 151, and 419A)

Statutory Responsibilities:

- Serve as court administrator for the Oregon Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Tax Court
- Assist the Chief Justice as directed
- Supervise the Judicial Department's personnel plan
- Supervise preparation and submission of budget requests to the legislature
- Supervise the fiscal, revenue, and accounting systems
- Establish and maintain a property- and inventory-control system
- Collect and compile statistics on court workloads, caseloads, expenses, and revenues
- Conduct a continuing survey of court administration methods and make recommendations
- Establish and supervise a statewide public information service about the courts
- Establish and supervise education and training programs for court staff and judges
- Provide technical and infrastructure services to assist courts, staff, and judges
- Prepare and maintain a long-range plan for court improvement and future needs
- Enter into contracts on behalf of the Judicial Department

- Prescribe retention schedules and standards for court records
- Maintain a State Law Library and other Judicial Department libraries
- Serve as executive secretary for the Judicial Conference
- Administer the Citizen Review Board program (CRB)
- Administer the Certified Shorthand Reporter program (CSR)
- Administer the Court Interpreter Certification program (CIS)
- Administer the Public Defense Verification and Application Fee and Contribution program (ACP)
- Coordinate family-law activities, projects, and education
- Approve written information about mediation for litigants in civil cases
- Calculate and publish annual adjustments of liability limits in tort actions against public bodies
- Direct management of the Office of the State Court Administrator
- Direct and coordinate the Judicial Department's legislative efforts
- Represent the Judicial Department externally

Office of the State Court Administrator (OSCA)



OJD Key Performance Measures

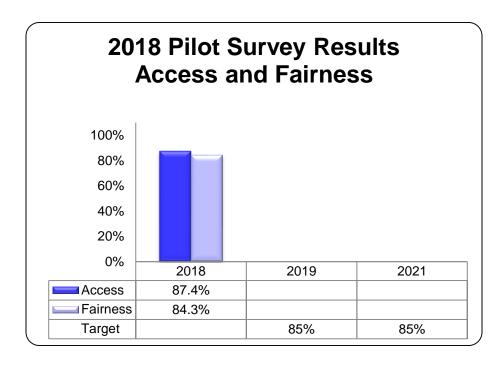
KPM#	Key Performance Measures (KPMs)
*1	Access and Fairness: The rating of court users on the court's accessibility and its treatment of customers in terms of fairness, equality, and respect.
	Proposing individual metrics for Access and Fairness.
2	Clearance Rates: The number of cases closed as a percentage of the number of cases filed.
*3	Time to Disposition: The percentage of cases disposed or otherwise resolved within established timeframes.
	Proposing individual time to disposition goals for each case type.
*4	Time to Entry of Judgment: The average number of days between signature of a judgment and the date of entry into the official record.
	Proposing new definition – The percent of criminal cases that have a final judgment entered into the case register within three business days of the sentencing hearing or disposition.
5	Time to First Permanency Hearing: The percentage of cases that have the first hearing to review a permanent placement for the child within 14 months.
6	Collection Rate in Violations Cases: The percentage of cases paid in full within a year of judgment.
*7	Oregon Recidivism Rates: The arrest, conviction, or incarceration of adults who have previously been convicted of a crime within three years of the date of conviction or release from custody of the previously convicted crime.
	Proposing new definition – The percentage of adult drug court graduates with no misdemeanor or felony charges filed in Oregon circuit courts within one year of program graduation.
8	Effective Use of Jurors: The percentage of available jurors who are selected for jury duty who are qualified and available to serve (the number of jurors who appear and are not disqualified / exempt / excused from serving).
9	Employee Retention: The annual employee retention rate.



1. Access and Fairness (CourTool Measure) - Updated

The rating of court users on the court's accessibility and its treatment of customers in terms of fairness, equality, and respect.

*Individual metrics and targets are being proposed for access and fairness rather than one index score



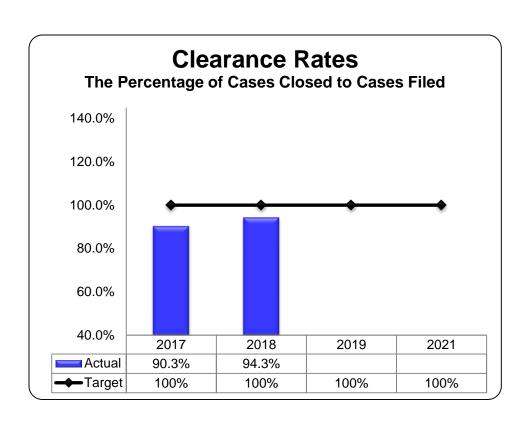
The Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) piloted the survey in 2018 to establish a baseline for this measure.

After reviewing the results of the survey, OJD determined it would be a more useful measure if individual metrics were used rather than one metric as originally proposed.



2. Clearance Rates (CourTool Measure) – Updated

The number of cases closed as a percentage of the number of cases filed.



Updated Reporting Method

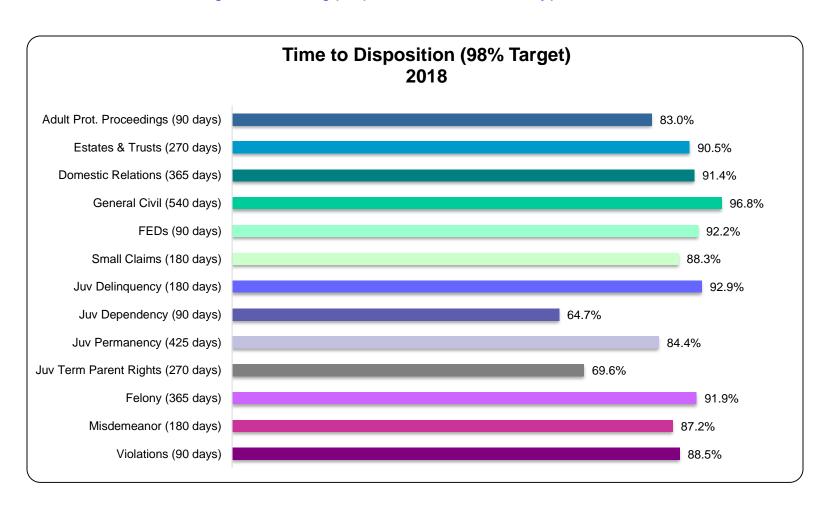
- 230,000+ pending cases
- NOTE: Updated method excludes violations and parking cases which are largely automated



3. Time to Disposition (CourTool Measure) – Updated

The percentage of cases disposed or otherwise resolved within established timeframes.

*Individual metrics and targets are being proposed for each case type rather than one index score.

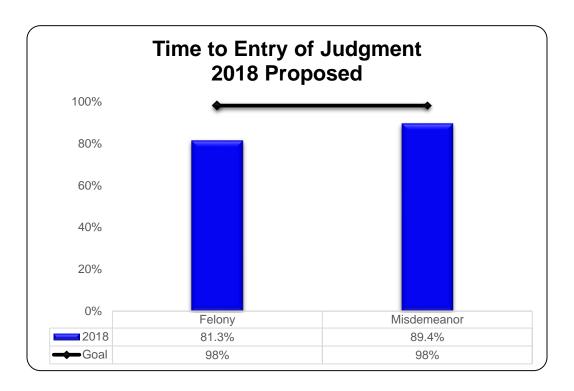




4. Time to Entry of Judgment – *Updated*

The average number of days between signature of a judgment and the date of entry into the official record.

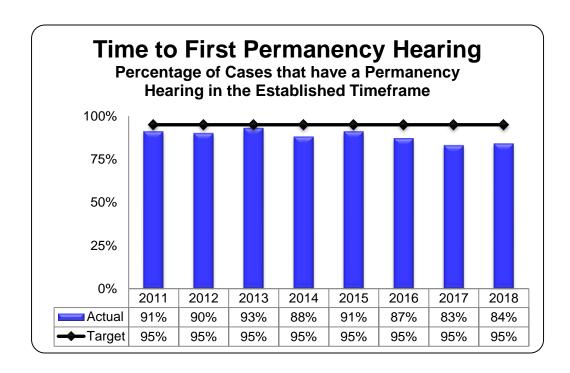
New Proposed Definition: The percent of criminal cases that have a final judgment entered into the case register within three business days of the sentencing hearing or disposition.





5. Time to First Permanency Hearing

The percentage of cases that have the first hearing to review a permanent placement for the child within 14 months.



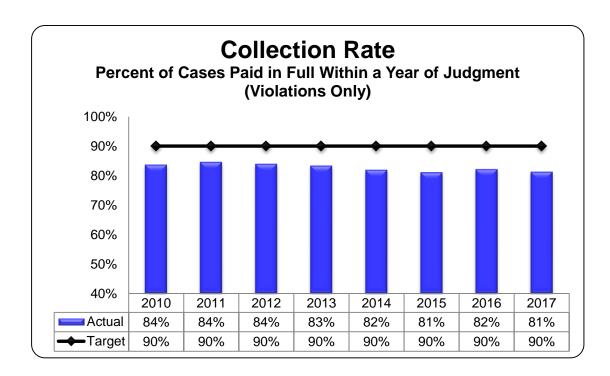
Reports from courts and stakeholders and informal reviews of case files indicate that hearings are continued or rescheduled due to lack of court time and/or attorney availability for contested hearings.

Making additional court time available and increasing the availability of legal counsel for parties would likely move the numbers toward their target.



6. Collection Rate in Violations Cases (CourTool Measure)

The percentage of cases paid in full within a year of judgment.



Improvements should come in the next few years as we implement new technologies.

- Improvements to our ePay system (including online reductions authorized by HB 2240)
- Sending notices soon after people fail to pay or appear by the date on their citation
- Text-to-Debt service to remind people of their payment plan due dates



7. Oregon Recidivism Rates – Requested Change

The arrest, conviction, or incarceration of adults who have previously been convicted of a crime within three years of the date of conviction or release from custody of the previously convicted crime. (CJC definition and data)

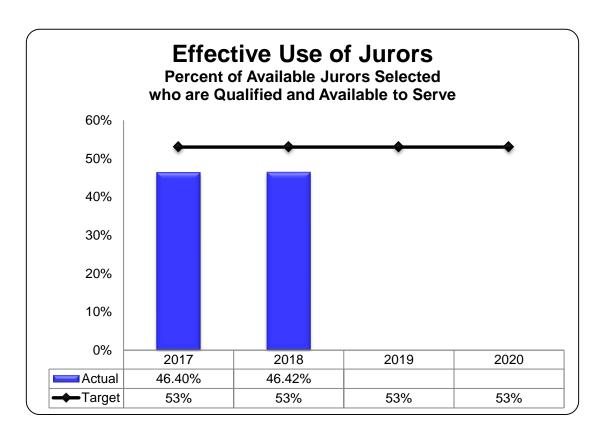
New Proposed Definition: The percentage of adult drug court graduates with no misdemeanor or felony charges filed in Oregon circuit courts within one year of program graduation.

- 2017/2018 No data reported by OJD, referenced CJC recidivism report
- Odyssey (Oregon eCourt) and the new State Court Case Management System (SCMS) will provide ability to see recidivism rates after drug court graduation



8. Effective Use of Jurors (CourTool Measure)

The percentage of available jurors who are selected for jury duty who are qualified and available to serve (the number of jurors who appear and are not disqualified / exempt / excused from serving).

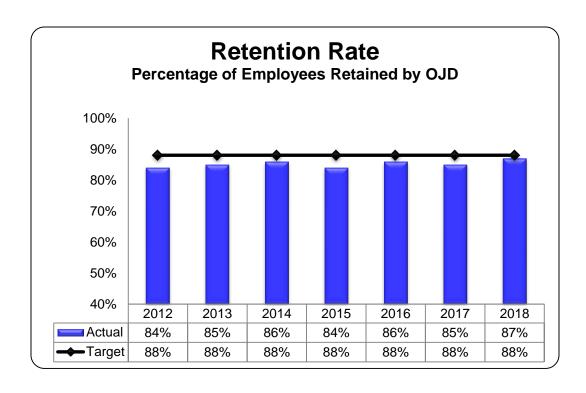


The objective of this measure is to minimize the amount of effort expended to summon and qualify prospective jurors and to maximize the rate at which they are used in the jury selection process.



9. Employee Retention

The annual employee retention rate.



We continue to collect data from exiting employees and analyze their reasons for leaving as part of our strategy to maintain and improve our performance in this measure.

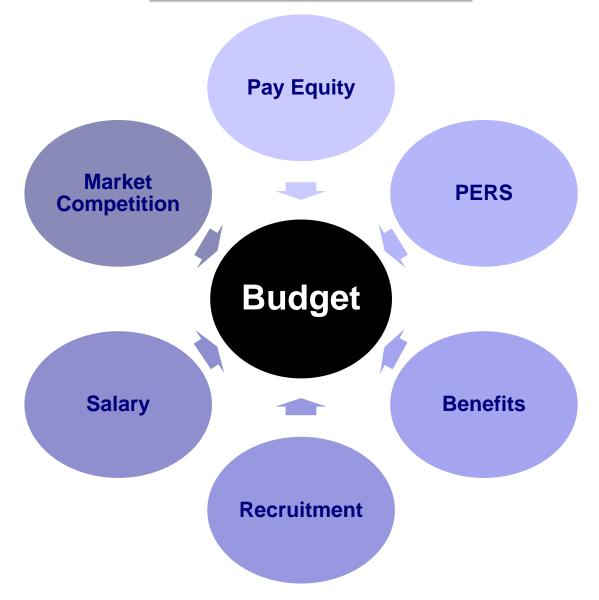


Budget Drivers

- Personnel Costs
- Capital Construction Costs
- Technology Costs
- Changes in Law
- Economic & Demographic Factors
- Justice Partners
- Workload Changes



Personnel Costs



Capital Construction Costs





- Replacing unsafe county courthouses
- Seismic and system upgrades to Supreme Court building
- Increasing construction costs
- Aging county facilities and infrastructure
- Courthouse security



Technology Costs



Increasing costs jeopardize maintaining and upgrading OJD's technology system services

- Public access
- eServices
 - iForms
 - eFile
 - ePay
 - eCitation

- Partner integrations
- Infrastructure replacements
- Licensing and maintenance
- Data analysis
- Help desk

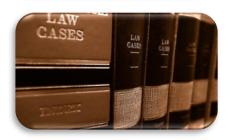




Oregon Statutes and Constitution



Federal Statutes and Constitution



Case law



Ballot measures and initiatives



Economic & Demographic Factors

- Adult and juvenile crime rates
- State's economic and employment health (poverty, homelessness, and unemployment levels)
- Demographic factors and changes (population growth, average age; number of children under age of 18)
- Availability of prevention and intervention services to address substance abuse, poverty, domestic violence, mental health, and other social stressors
- State and Federal revenue and funding stream changes



Justice Partners

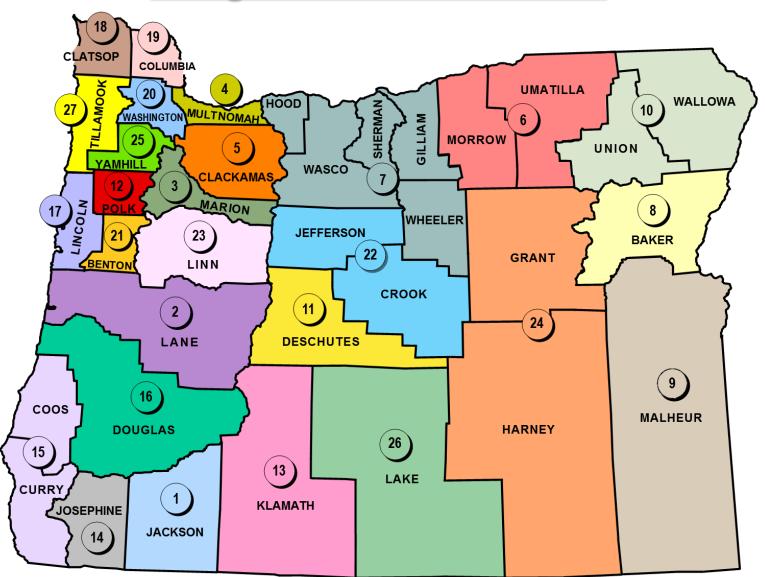
- Staffing levels (prosecuting attorneys; public defenders; human services; and law enforcement)
- Legal aid resources
- Charging practices (violation; misdemeanor; felony)
- Jail and prison bed space
- Availability of programs (pretrial services; housing; treatment services including substance abuse and mental health; probation; and post-prison supervision and support)



Workload Changes

- Volume and type of court case filings
- Case complexity (seriousness or severity; number of claims; number of parties; procedural steps; and hearings)
- Increases in self-represented parties (pro se)
- Availability and adequacy of technological management tools
- Increases in treatment court services
- Demand for data and information
- Creation and maintenance of automated data exchanges
- Statutory deadlines, timelines, and priorities

Oregon's Circuit Courts





Circuit Court Cases

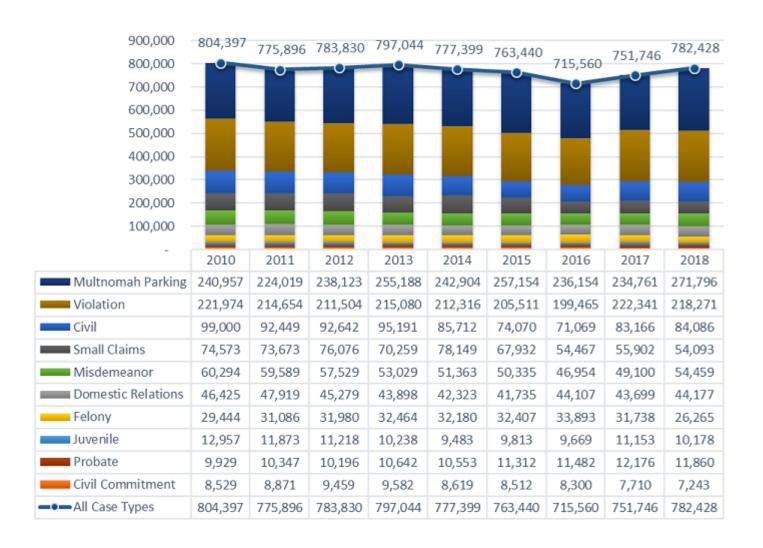
- Over 750,000 cases filed annually
- Each case requires significant attention to detail
 - Accurate data entry and document maintenance
 - Docket management
 - Pre-trial hearings
 - Trial
 - Post-judgment reviews and hearings
- Case duration varies
 - Several months for simple violations
 - Many years for more complex cases (e.g. juvenile, treatment courts, diversion agreements, complex civil)

<u>Circuit Court Case Filings – By County</u>

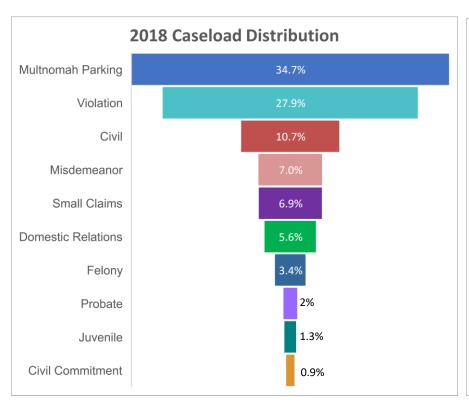
COURT	CASE FILINGS
Baker	1,062
Benton	7,891
Clackamas	20,372
Clatsop	9,576
Columbia	3,653
Coos	14,857
Crook	4,021
Curry	3,870
Deschutes	18,313
Douglas	11,492
Gilliam	132
Grant	440
Harney	592
Hood River	4,666
Jackson	26,268
Jefferson	4,980
Josephine	14,895
Klamath	11,729

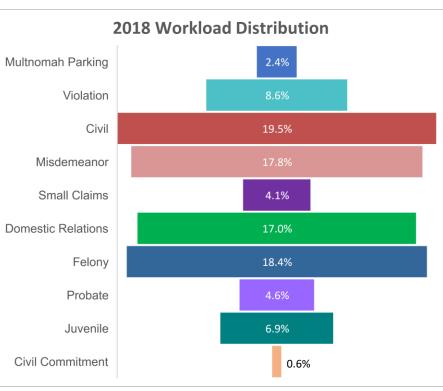
COURT	CASE FILINGS
Lake	1,442
Lane	33,112
Lincoln	7,766
Linn	13,903
Malheur	2,553
Marion	33,663
Morrow	502
Multnomah	454,216
Polk	10,779
Sherman	190
Tillamook	2,096
Umatilla	13,515
Union	3,338
Wallowa	575
Wasco	5,858
Washington	28,658
Wheeler	78
Yamhill	11,375

Circuit Court Case Filings – 2018 Totals



Caseload vs. Workload





Major Changes - Past Six Years

- Oregon eCourt
- Capital Construction
- Staffing Reductions





Yamhill County - first court w/Oregon eCourt



Supreme Court

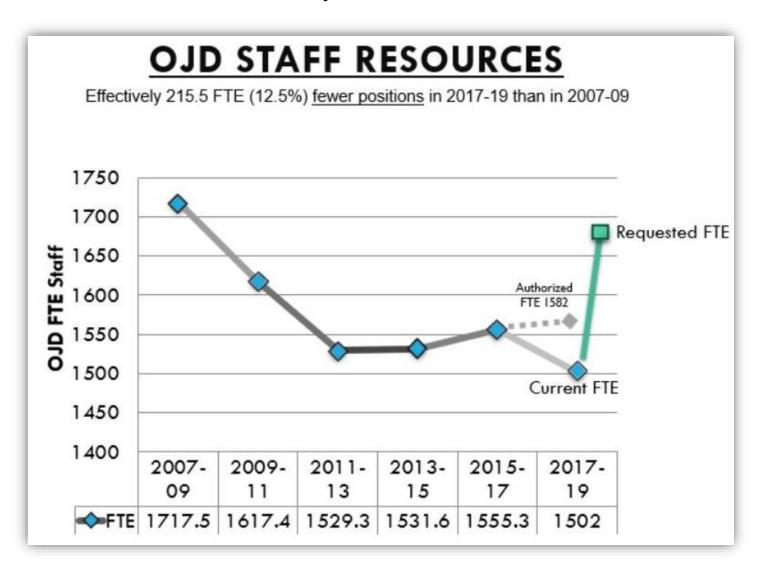


Union County Courthouse construction





by Biennium





WORKLOAD AND STAFFING TRENDS

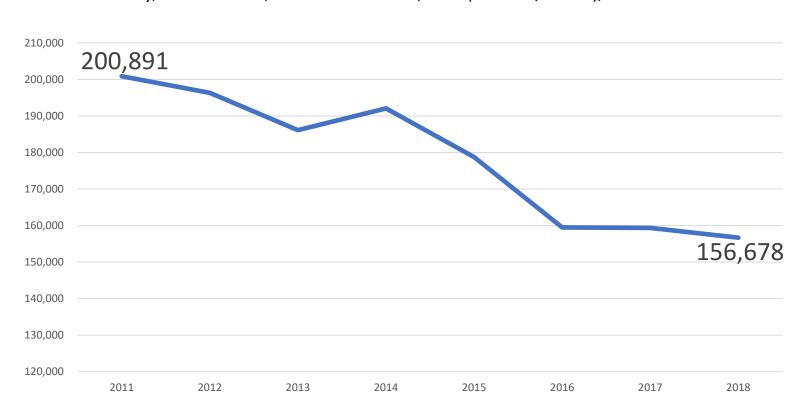
CIRCUIT COURT FTE AVAILABLE VS. FTE NEEDED





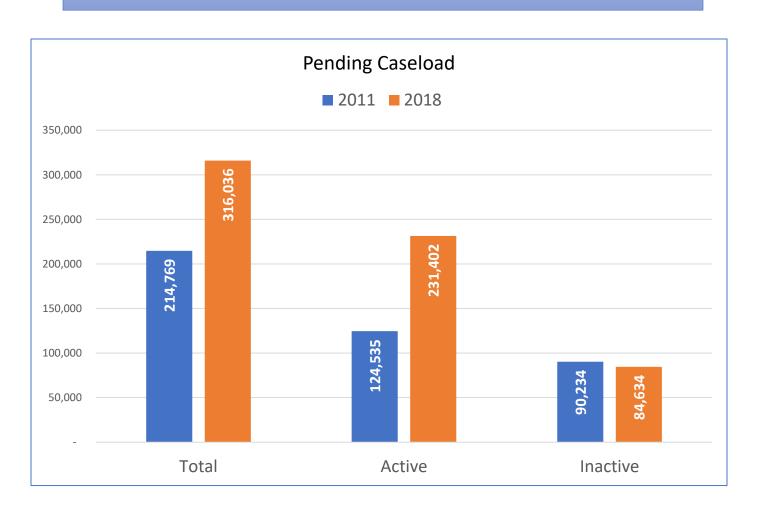
Since 2011

Cases Meeting Time to Disposition Standards
Felony, Misdemeanor, Domestic Relations, FEDs (landlord/tenant), Small Claims



Pending Caseloads Growing

86% Increase in Active Pending Caseload Since 2011











- Access to justice through adequate judicial positions and staffing
- Judicial compensation
- Safe courthouse facilities
- Stable and secure technology platforms and equipment

Courts & Community

- Open, transparent, accessible, and fair court proceedings build public confidence in our justice system.
- Educational opportunities, informal contact between courts and communities, and litigant understanding of the court process increases public trust in Oregon government.



Interpreter at Multnomah Listening Session



Umatilla / Morrow Circuit Courts judges listen to community



OJD certified interpreter provides relay service



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