



The Department of Information & Technology Services
Research and Statistics
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**UPDATE TO 2020 JUDICIAL WORKLOAD ANALYSIS
FOCUS ON JUDICIAL DISTRICTS WITH JUDICIAL DIVISIONS BEING
ELIMINATED
DISTRICT COURT CASES FILED STATEWIDE CY 2014-2023
WITH JUDICIAL WORKLOAD ANALYSIS FOCUSED ON CY 2019, 2022, AND 2023**

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By

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Statistics Request Overall Description

House Bill 244¹ of the 2022 regular legislative session contains the following request:

Caseload Analysis: (1) *Notwithstanding the provisions of KRS 21A.350, the General Assembly requests the Supreme Court to direct the Administrative Office of the Courts to perform an updated caseload analysis to verify the need to eliminate the District Court divisions in the Fourth, Fifteenth, Thirtieth, Thirty-first, Fortieth, Forty-first, and Fifty-first Judicial Districts, and the District Court division eliminated in the newly constituted Thirty-eighth Judicial District and in the newly constituted Forty-second Judicial District.*

(2) *The General Assembly further requests that the updated analysis be initiated by January 1, 2024. If the analysis indicates the need to modify the elimination of the District Court divisions listed in subsection (1) of this section due to population or caseload changes, an amended certification of necessity shall be submitted as required under KRS 21A.350.*

Using the same methodology as was used in the Kentucky Court of Justice's 2020 Judicial Workload Report², this report focuses on the Judicial Districts with divisions being eliminated.

CourtNet, which contains a summary of cases statewide, was queried for District Court cases filed from 1/1/2014 through 12/31/2023 within the judicial districts with divisions removed by House Bill

¹ 22RS HB244: AN ACT making appropriations for the operations, maintenance, support, and functioning of the Judicial Branch of the government of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and its various officers, boards, commissions, subdivisions, and other state-supported activities. <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/acts/22RS/documents/0162.pdf> retrieved February 22, 2024.

² Ostrom, B. J., Kleiman, M. K., Lee, C. G., Sturtevant, D., Dufek, J., Garrison, C. (2020). Judicial Workload Assessment 2020. Microsoft OneDrive Shared Directory. https://kcoj-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/danielsturtevant_kycourts_net/Eoo0Q8Rsa3FOn2By0WiGWp0BldPTceeUu8JqROgHxUoPdQ?e=Wq8HBS retrieved February 22, 2024.

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Statistics Request Overall Description

214³ of the 2022 regular legislative session, as well as Warren County per the forthcoming modification to District 8. The calculation of judicial need based on three years of case filing data uses the Calendar Years (CY) 2019, 2022, and 2023 for the updated analysis. With the 2020 report using case filing data from CY 2017-2019 for this calculation, the Judicial Need calculation uses three years of input. The years 2020 and 2021 are not used in this report since workload during these years was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The remaining years CY 2014-2023 are included in the query to provide additional context for trends of caseload and judicial workload over time.

Statistical Report 24_RS8005

The statistical report consists of a single page with four related tables. All of these tables have the same 11 rows, with a row representing each affected Judicial District. The first table includes the yearly judicial workload for the District. The years from the original analysis and updated analysis are highlighted. The year 2019 is highlighted in magenta as it appears in both analyses. 2017 and 2018 – only part of the original analysis – are highlighted in yellow. 2022 and 2023 – only part of the new analysis – are highlighted in blue. The second table shows the total three-year workload from the original CY 2017-2019 analysis. The second table shows the total three-year workload from the updated CY 2019, 2022, & 2023 analysis. The fourth table shows the number of judges in each District as of the date the report was generated. The 30th District is the only District for which a judicial division has been eliminated under 22RS HB214 by a vacancy thus far.

Further documentation about the Judicial Workload calculation is available in the 2020 Judicial Workload report cited and linked in footnote 1 on page 1 of this report.

Statistical Analysis Considerations:

- These statistics represent a snapshot in time as of the date the data was queried (2/22/2024).
- All numbers reported reflect workloads based on the current configuration of judges. For example, the District 15 workload calculation includes only those cases of types currently heard by District Court even though District Judges in District 15 heard juvenile and domestic violence cases now heard by Circuit Family Court up until the end of CY 2021.
- Edmonson County is grouped with Warren County in District 8, though this change has not yet come into effect.
- Warren County, Marshall County, and Calloway County use the *Multi-County location* calculation of judicial workload – which assumes judges spend some time travelling between counties – rather than the *Single-County location* calculation as in the 2020 report.

³ 22RS HB214: AN ACT relating to judicial districts and circuits and declaring an emergency. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky
<https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/acts/22RS/documents/0129.pdf> retrieved February 22, 2024.

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Statistical Report 24_RS8005

- The judicial need calculation for CY2017-2019 in this report has been calculated using CourtNet data as of the date of the query, including any changes made to related data entries since the original 2020 report.

Data Fields

Database	Data Variable	Description
CourtNet	Jurisdiction	Indicates whether the case was filed in General Circuit, Family Circuit, or District Court. This report is limited to District Court.
	District Number	The number and associated counties of each reported Judicial District.
	Judicial Need	The total number of judges needed for each as implied by the judicial workload model. This model multiplies the number of cases filed each year by the number of judicial minutes associated with this type of case divided by the number of case-related minutes available within a working year. Additional information about this calculation is provided in the documentation for the 2020 report cited and linked in footnote 1 on page 1 of this report.
	Judges	The number of judges currently serving in each reported Judicial District as of the date this report was generated.

Disclaimer Associated with KCOJ/AOC Database(s) and Element(s)

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS DISCLAIMER FOR COURTNET

Information received from KYCourts/CourtNet is subject to change(s), reprogramming, modification(s) of format and availability at the direction of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and may not at any particular moment reflect the true status of court cases due to ordinary limitation(s), delay(s) or error(s) in the system's operation. The KYCourts/CourtNet database is not a real-time system. All datasets are a snapshot of case data at the time a query is run. Case counts are not counts of individuals as some persons may have multiple cases.

The AOC disclaims any warranties as to the validity of the information obtained from KYCourts/CourtNet. The recipient is solely responsible for verifying information received from KYCourts/CourtNet through the cross-referencing of official court records. The AOC shall not be liable to the recipient, or to any third party using the system or information obtained therefrom, for any damages whatsoever arising out of the use of KYCourts/CourtNet.



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
Research and Statistics

Judicial Workload Trends in Locations with New Judges: Cases Filed CY 2014 - 2023
Specified Judicial Districts

The tables below show total location workload for each year followed by the total workload for the 2017-2019 period used for the 2022 redistricting, then followed by the 2019, 2022, and 2023 period used for updated analysis. The year 2019 is used in both periods of analysis. Years shaded gray are not used in either period of analysis. The number of Judges reflects the number of judges in the location as of the date of the report. Workload is measured in terms of Judicial Full Time Need as measured in the previous Judicial Workload Assessment Committee Reports. Workload calculations for Calloway, Marshall, and Warren Counties have been adjusted to use the Multi-County Location calculations instead of the Single-County Locations as used in the previous report. Edmonson County has been modeled with District 8 and not in District 38 in this report.

Judicial Districts with Reduced Numbers of Judges Proposed or In Effect

Location	Location Label	Year										17-19	19,22,23	Current Judges
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023			
DI 31	DI 31 (Floyd)	0.89	1.07	1.05	0.94	0.96	0.92	0.83	0.99	1.00	0.99	0.94	0.97	2
DI 41	DI 41 (Clay, Jackson, Leslie)	1.00	1.02	1.07	1.04	1.04	1.18	0.94	1.00	0.94	0.97	1.09	1.03	2
DI 42	DI 42 (Calloway)	0.80	0.76	0.73	0.71	0.68	0.62	0.48	0.57	0.57	0.65	0.67	0.61	1
DI 58	DI 58 (Marshall)	0.60	0.54	0.65	0.57	0.58	0.58	0.45	0.47	0.50	0.52	0.57	0.53	1
DI 4	DI 4 (Hopkins)	1.11	1.12	1.04	1.13	1.08	1.07	0.88	1.00	0.87	0.88	1.10	0.94	2
DI 51	DI 51 (Henderson)	1.40	1.34	1.28	1.25	1.16	1.05	0.94	1.03	1.07	1.01	1.16	1.05	2
DI 38	DI 38 (Butler, Hancock, Ohio)	0.88	0.84	0.97	0.97	0.96	1.01	0.76	0.87	0.87	0.79	0.98	0.89	2
DI 8	DI 8 (Edmonson, Warren)	3.00	2.93	2.83	2.98	3.03	3.00	2.55	2.65	2.65	2.75	3.00	2.80	3
DI 40	DI 40 (Clinton, Russell, Wayne)	1.13	1.23	1.32	1.28	1.30	1.23	1.03	1.05	1.01	1.04	1.27	1.10	2
DI 30	DI 30 (Jefferson)	18.85	17.06	16.54	16.66	16.19	14.45	10.04	10.84	11.50	11.27	15.77	12.41	16
DI 15	DI 15 (Caroll, Grant, Owen)	1.04	0.99	1.09	1.07	0.95	1.05	0.82	0.96	0.95	0.97	1.02	0.99	2

Statistical Analysis Considerations

* Data provided from the CourtNet database.

* Judicial Workload numbers for the 2017-2019 are revised from the estimates used in previous reporting to reflect current categorizations of cases, which have changed since the original report.