



# JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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## REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

*Item No.: 22-084*

For business meeting on March 11, 2022

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**Title**

Trial Court Budget: Report on Disposition  
Data

**Agenda Item Type**

Information Only

**Date of Report**

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### Executive Summary

At its January 2021 meeting, the Judicial Council approved a Judicial Branch Budget Committee recommendation of a Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee (TCBAC) proposal for reporting requirements regarding progress in reducing the COVID-19 backlog. The TCBAC also provided a definition of backlog as the difference between the amount of workload disposed of during the pandemic period as compared to the same time period one year prior. This report and attachment provide a quarterly update on disposition data reported by courts.

### Relevant Previous Council Action

At its July 2020 Judicial Council business meeting, the council adopted an amended recommendation to allocate \$25 million of the \$50 million appropriated to the judicial branch for COVID-19 backlog using a pro rata method based on the workload formula (see Link A). The remaining \$25 million was to be distributed based on a data-driven methodology developed by the TCBAC.

In January 2021, the Judicial Council approved a recommendation to define backlog as the difference between the amount of workload disposed of during a specified pandemic period as compared to the same time period one year prior; this definition served as the basis for allocating the remaining \$25 million (see Link B). The approved methodology required collecting recent disposition data from the trial courts. The dispositions were then weighted using the Resource

Assessment Study (RAS) time study caseweights to convert the disposition counts into workload minutes. These workload minutes (weighted dispositions) from the pandemic-specified time period (March through August 2020) were compared to the workload minutes of the same time period from the previous year (March through August 2019). The total number of statewide workload minutes from this pandemic time period was 44.7 percent lower than that from the same time period the previous year. This decrease in disposition minutes is considered workload backlog. Each court's proportion of the backlog was the basis for the distribution of the second \$25 million.

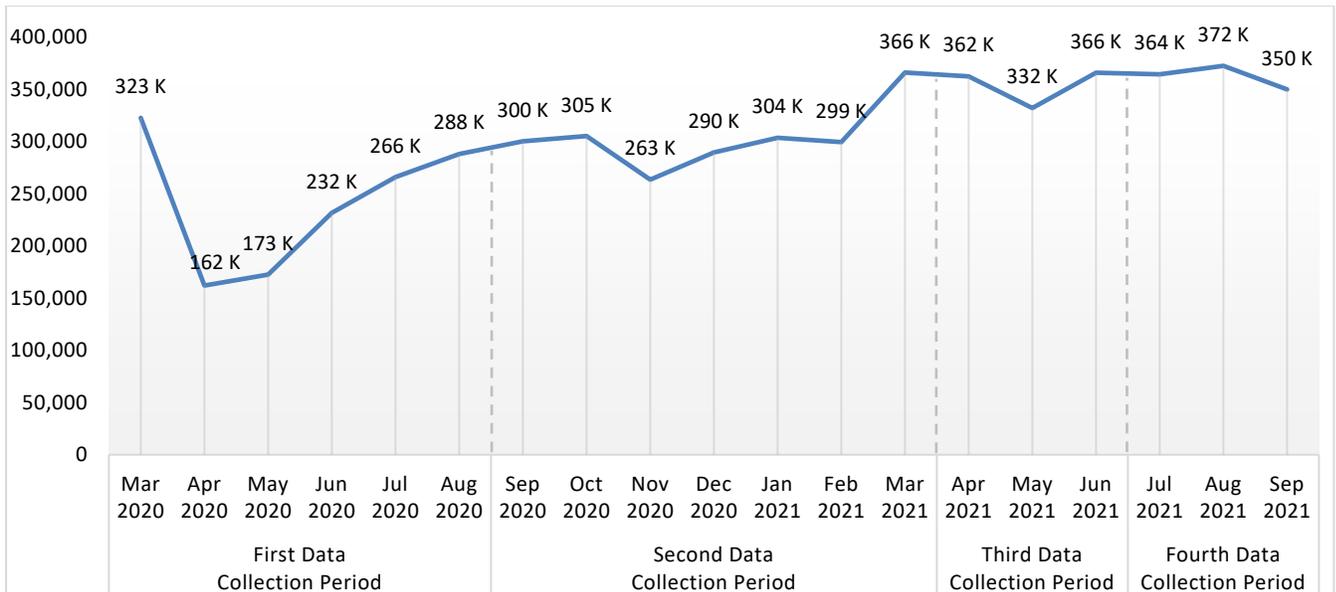
Along with the COVID-19 backlog definition and allocation methodology, a recommendation was adopted for quarterly reporting regarding the progress in reducing the COVID-19 backlog. This report contains the results of the latest disposition data collection (July to September 2021) at attachment A; previous reports to the Judicial Council regarding disposition data collection are at Link C and D.

### **Analysis/Rationale**

In November 2021, courts were asked again to submit monthly disposition data for the period of July 1 to September 30, 2021. Courts submitted data electronically via the Judicial Branch Statistical Information System (JBSIS) or the JBSIS Web Portal. Courts unable to submit disposition data electronically or to collect certain disposition data not available in JBSIS used an Excel template developed for this purpose. Data collection began on November 29, 2021, and data submissions were accepted through January 14, 2022.

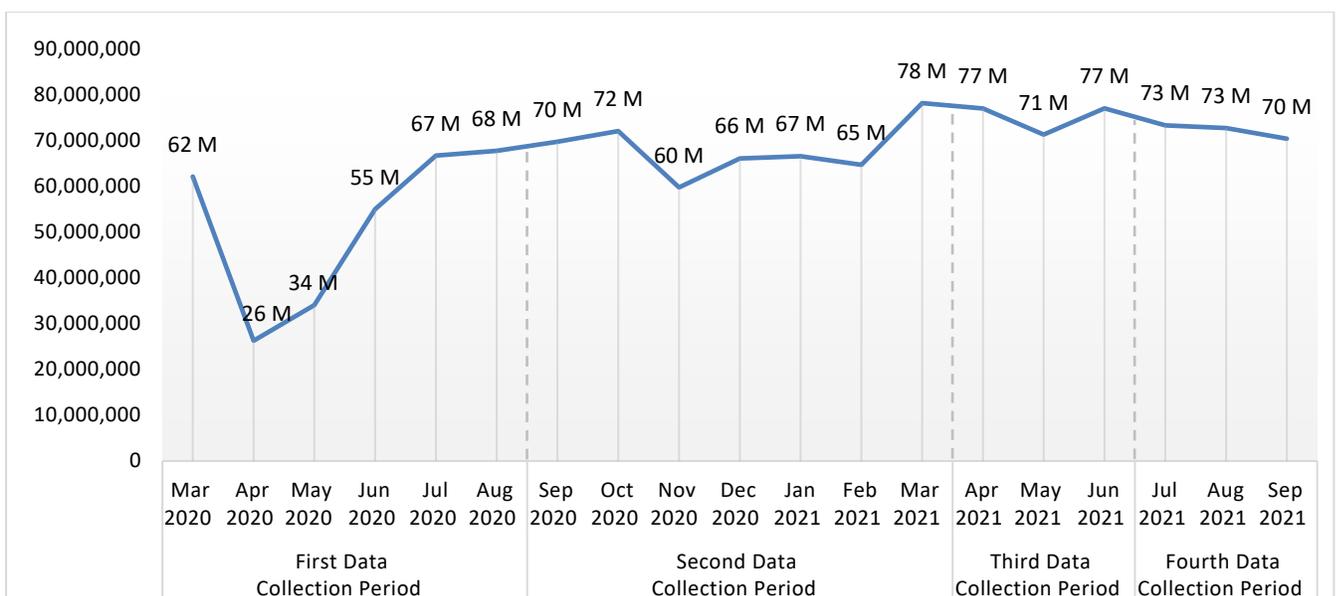
Figure 1 shows the statewide count of dispositions for previous data collection periods (March 2020 to June 2021), and the most recent data collection period (July to September 2021). As shown in the figure, statewide monthly dispositions in April 2020 dramatically declined following the statewide shelter-in-place orders implemented in March 2020. Monthly disposition counts then increased steadily through most of 2020. In November 2020, a modest decrease in dispositions is observable, coinciding with surging COVID-19 cases throughout the state and the reissuance of statewide stay-at-home orders. From December 2020 to February 2021, dispositions were mostly flat, increasing again in March 2021. Dispositions then remained steady through September 2021, with a minor dip in May 2021. The general trend since April 2020 has been steady monthly increases in statewide dispositions.

**Figure 1. Statewide Count of Dispositions, March 2020 through September 2021**



Statewide weighted dispositions (see Figure 2) followed a similar trend as the unweighted dispositions. April 2020 saw a sharp decline in weighted dispositions and a considerable rebound from May 2020 to July 2020, with more modest monthly increases until November 2020. Weighted monthly dispositions remained steady from December 2020 to February 2021, reaching their highest level in over a year by March 2021. April through September 2021 remained consistent with this peak, with relatively small dips in May 2021 and again in September 2021.

**Figure 2. Statewide Calculated Disposition Minutes (Weighted by RAS Caseweights), March 2020 through September 2021**



## Fiscal Impact and Policy Implications

This data fulfills a reporting requirement set by the Judicial Council at its January 2021 meeting. There are no fiscal impacts.

## Attachments and Links

1. Attachment A: Disposition Data Tables 1 and 2
2. Link A: Judicial Council of Cal., *Trial Court Budget: Allocations from the Trial Court Trust Fund and Trial Court Allocations for Fiscal Year 2020–21* (July 2, 2020), [www://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=8651228&GUID=27A3B6D8-9783-4865-8C5A-F6697EB58734](http://www://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=8651228&GUID=27A3B6D8-9783-4865-8C5A-F6697EB58734)
3. Link B: Judicial Council of Cal., *Trial Court Budget: \$50 Million COVID-19 Backlog Funding* (Jan. 12, 2021), [www://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9054988&GUID=54812C82-983E-4812-848C-2F4FD9F6F97A](http://www://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9054988&GUID=54812C82-983E-4812-848C-2F4FD9F6F97A)
4. Link C: Judicial Council of Cal., *Trial Court Budget: Report on Disposition Data* (June 17, 2021), [www://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9499529&GUID=91D6ED5D-CF6F-42AA-9788-E2D6D8C7AF3F](http://www://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9499529&GUID=91D6ED5D-CF6F-42AA-9788-E2D6D8C7AF3F)
5. Link D: Judicial Council of Cal., *Trial Court Budget: Report on Disposition Data* (Oct. 29, 2021), <https://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9933920&GUID=388AE79C-B8E3-4F85-97FA-2CB299A6C425>

## Attachment A: Disposition Data Tables 1 and 2

### Disposition Data Table 1

January 2022

| Court         | No. of Dispositions, July through Sept. 2021 |        |        |
|---------------|--|--------|--------|
|               | July   | Aug.   | Sept.  |
|               | A  | B      | C      |
| Alameda       | 16,936                                       | 18,182 | 16,397 |
| Alpine        | 111  | 146    | 122    |
| Amador        | 530  | 506    | 451    |
| Butte         | 2,203  | 2,090  | 2,169  |
| Calaveras     | 411  | 507    | 396    |
| Colusa        | 301  | 288    | 300    |
| Contra Costa* | 7,011  | 7,721  | 7,693  |
| Del Norte     | 759  | 710    | 658    |
| El Dorado     | 1,128  | 1,210  | 1,052  |
| Fresno        | 8,743  | 9,214  | 8,481  |
| Glenn†        | —  | —      | —      |
| Humboldt      | 1,679  | 1,836  | 1,468  |
| Imperial*     | 3,146  | 3,329  | 3,174  |
| Inyo          | 509  | 638    | 839    |
| Kern          | 10,215                                       | 10,182 | 9,662  |
| Kings         | 1,910  | 1,993  | 1,755  |
| Lake          | 762  | 776    | 755    |
| Lassen        | 396  | 347    | 325    |
| Los Angeles   | 90,704                                       | 93,448 | 87,157 |
| Madera        | 2,040  | 1,747  | 1,874  |
| Marin         | 3,857  | 3,411  | 3,623  |
| Mariposa*     | 92   | 92     | 17     |
| Mendocino     | 398  | 706    | 449    |
| Merced        | 3,039  | 3,302  | 3,001  |
| Modoc         | 168  | 178    | 135    |
| Mono          | 648  | 736    | 734    |
| Monterey      | 5,360  | 4,864  | 4,935  |
| Napa          | 968  | 1,140  | 1,169  |
| Nevada        | 797  | 801    | 882    |
| Orange        | 30,565                                       | 32,025 | 30,993 |
| Placer        | 5,138  | 4,242  | 2,728  |
| Plumas†       | —  | —      | —      |

| Court           | No. of Dispositions, July through Sept. 2021 |                |                |
|-----------------|--|----------------|----------------|
|                 | July   | Aug.           | Sept.          |
|                 | A  | B              | C              |
| Riverside*      | 17,807                                       | 17,331         | 17,337         |
| Sacramento      | 23,417                                       | 24,505         | 24,318         |
| San Benito*     | 427  | 409            | 428            |
| San Bernardino* | 19,779                                       | 20,255         | 20,350         |
| San Diego       | 22,082                                       | 21,296         | 20,284         |
| San Francisco   | 6,102  | 4,595          | 5,765          |
| San Joaquin*    | 7,745  | 8,529          | 6,830          |
| San Luis Obispo | 2,681  | 2,864          | 2,631          |
| San Mateo       | 8,665  | 9,278          | 8,107          |
| Santa Barbara   | 4,358  | 4,821          | 4,315          |
| Santa Clara*    | 8,796  | 8,943          | 7,127          |
| Santa Cruz      | 2,376  | 2,526          | 2,230          |
| Shasta          | 2,499  | 2,578          | 2,527          |
| Sierra          | 47   | 53             | 37             |
| Siskiyou        | 306  | 745            | 231            |
| Solano          | 6,035  | 5,111          | 4,448          |
| Sonoma          | 6,088  | 6,359          | 6,095          |
| Stanislaus      | 4,690  | 4,958          | 4,862          |
| Sutter          | 1,194  | 1,069          | 1,112          |
| Tehama          | 907  | 955            | 855            |
| Trinity         | 177  | 290            | 171            |
| Tulare          | 5,607  | 6,601          | 4,963          |
| Tuolumne        | 596  | 575            | 571            |
| Ventura         | 8,709  | 8,589          | 8,284          |
| Yolo            | 2,130  | 2,229          | 1,940          |
| Yuba            | 628  | 600            | 586            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>364,372</b>                               | <b>372,431</b> | <b>349,798</b> |

\* Court missing some disposition data.

† Court missing all disposition data.

## Disposition Data Table 2

January 2022

| Court         | Calculated Disposition Minutes (Weighted by RAS Caseweights), July through Sept. 2021 |            |            |
|---------------|---|------------|------------|
|               | July 21   | Aug. 21    | Sept. 21   |
|               | A   | B          | C          |
| Alameda       | 2,253,182   | 2,403,287  | 2,361,601  |
| Alpine        | 5,563   | 6,388      | 7,298      |
| Amador        | 103,089   | 115,914    | 91,527     |
| Butte         | 623,773   | 592,321    | 607,807    |
| Calaveras     | 87,201  | 117,478    | 112,473    |
| Colusa        | 43,477  | 45,840     | 47,985     |
| Contra Costa* | 1,127,053   | 1,118,638  | 1,190,596  |
| Del Norte     | 240,193   | 225,910    | 242,087    |
| El Dorado     | 282,835   | 254,607    | 245,196    |
| Fresno        | 1,706,512   | 1,730,880  | 1,639,977  |
| Glenn†        | —   | —          | —          |
| Humboldt      | 386,075   | 343,884    | 396,405    |
| Imperial*     | 517,267   | 613,161    | 495,641    |
| Inyo          | 59,405  | 89,383     | 99,870     |
| Kern          | 2,089,377   | 2,074,199  | 1,976,865  |
| Kings         | 525,412   | 495,469    | 443,838    |
| Lake          | 197,259   | 233,160    | 215,415    |
| Lassen        | 59,630  | 53,037     | 60,921     |
| Los Angeles   | 21,078,986  | 20,438,943 | 19,286,757 |
| Madera        | 424,320   | 428,147    | 379,367    |
| Marin         | 404,893   | 512,650    | 450,361    |
| Mariposa*     | 16,912  | 19,334     | 8,196      |
| Mendocino     | 183,459   | 187,376    | 223,576    |
| Merced        | 485,581   | 597,418    | 574,876    |
| Modoc         | 21,440  | 19,923     | 26,226     |
| Mono          | 39,101  | 47,864     | 47,327     |
| Monterey      | 969,998   | 897,636    | 893,394    |
| Napa          | 226,279   | 282,448    | 294,201    |
| Nevada        | 127,463   | 132,418    | 138,981    |
| Orange        | 5,926,951   | 6,211,419  | 6,404,708  |
| Placer        | 876,154   | 714,662    | 567,600    |
| Plumas†       | —   | —          | —          |
| Riverside*    | 2,707,499   | 2,994,157  | 2,790,587  |

| Court           | Calculated Disposition Minutes (Weighted by RAS Caseweights), July through Sept. 2021 |                   |                   |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|
|                 | July 21   | Aug. 21           | Sept. 21          |
|                 | A   | B                 | C                 |
| Sacramento      | 4,095,718   | 4,100,983         | 4,029,040         |
| San Benito*     | 68,872  | 76,407            | 70,601            |
| San Bernardino* | 4,717,426   | 4,930,724         | 5,083,213         |
| San Diego       | 5,063,399   | 4,733,137         | 4,506,453         |
| San Francisco   | 1,452,755   | 1,266,628         | 1,495,077         |
| San Joaquin*    | 1,862,987   | 1,786,901         | 1,705,984         |
| San Luis Obispo | 519,196   | 551,364           | 536,960           |
| San Mateo       | 1,134,232   | 1,129,695         | 1,049,791         |
| Santa Barbara   | 755,226   | 829,550           | 717,766           |
| Santa Clara*    | 1,807,121   | 931,156           | 823,702           |
| Santa Cruz      | 442,733   | 496,554           | 505,569           |
| Shasta          | 585,963   | 633,472           | 576,056           |
| Sierra          | 7,435   | 11,884            | 9,506             |
| Siskiyou        | 116,461   | 150,865           | 107,370           |
| Solano          | 871,503   | 749,996           | 724,670           |
| Sonoma          | 739,333   | 824,721           | 817,057           |
| Stanislaus      | 1,248,952   | 1,282,456         | 1,365,497         |
| Sutter          | 258,949   | 251,027           | 259,407           |
| Tehama          | 197,087   | 229,415           | 218,850           |
| Trinity         | 43,391  | 35,997            | 26,840            |
| Tulare          | 1,234,830   | 1,513,436         | 1,224,810         |
| Tuolumne        | 170,711   | 162,310           | 154,852           |
| Ventura         | 1,504,258   | 1,435,126         | 1,526,350         |
| Yolo            | 395,138   | 418,345           | 361,348           |
| Yuba            | 232,702   | 216,598           | 194,220           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>73,322,715</b>   | <b>72,746,697</b> | <b>70,412,644</b> |

\* Court missing some disposition data

† Court missing all disposition data