



## JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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# REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

*Item No.: 23-048*

For business meeting on January 20, 2023

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**Title**

Report to the Legislature: Trial Court  
Operational Metrics, Year One Report

**Agenda Item Type**

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January 12, 2023

**Submitted by**

Data Analytics Advisory Committee  
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### Executive Summary

The Budget Act of 2022 (Stats. 2022, ch. 43) requires that the Judicial Council annually report to the Legislature on the operations of each trial court and include various specified operational and budgetary metrics. The Data Analytics Advisory Committee determined that the judicial branch should report on a set of metrics that draws on existing data sources for the year one report, which is due February 1, 2023. Over the coming year, the Data Analytics Advisory Committee will consider whether additional metrics would be informative for future reports. *Trial Court Operational Metrics, Year One Report* is included as Attachment A to this report.

### Relevant Previous Council Action

The Judicial Council previously adopted trial court case disposition time goals (Cal. Stds. Jud. Admin., standard 2.2).<sup>1</sup> Additionally, the council submits a similar legislative report on standards and measures of judicial administration per Government Code section 77001.5.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See October 8, 2003, report to the Judicial Council from the Case Management Subcommittee of the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee, at item C4, [www.courts.ca.gov/documents/min1003.pdf](http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/min1003.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> See [www.courts.ca.gov/documents/lr-2022-standards-and-measures-that-promote-fair-and-efficient-administration-of-justice\\_GovCode-77001.5.pdf](http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/lr-2022-standards-and-measures-that-promote-fair-and-efficient-administration-of-justice_GovCode-77001.5.pdf).

## **Analysis/Rationale**

The Budget Act of 2022 included language requiring the Judicial Council to annually report to the Legislature on trial court operations and specified a set of metrics that “shall include, but are not limited to, all of the following: time to disposition and case clearance rates by case type, backlogs by case type, court hours of operations including public counter hours, staff vacancy rates by classification, fund balance detail from the prior fiscal year, calculated funding level of each court and the percent of funding actually provided to each court, and funding level of each trial court as measured by the Judicial Council-approved workload formula.”<sup>3</sup> The Budget Act further specified that the report be submitted no later than February 1 and that it should reflect metrics from the prior fiscal year.

During the pandemic, a small group of court executives provided valuable feedback on court operational metrics to show areas of backlog and other workload impacts resulting from pandemic-related changes in operations. Those discussions evolved as the pandemic shifted into new phases, and they shaped the proposed metrics for the year one report. Underlying all discussions, the group outlined a set of guiding principles for trial court workload measurement:

- Focus on increasing public access to courts;
- Take a wider perspective beyond the pandemic;
- Ensure data points are practical to measure (leverage existing data when appropriate); and
- Consider metrics that directly measure court outcomes.

The group’s discussions form the foundation of the year one report to the Legislature.

## **Role of the Data Analytics Advisory Committee**

The Data Analytics Advisory Committee was formed by rule of court in March 2022 and its membership was appointed in September 2022. The committee’s charge includes, among other things, “develop[ing] and recommend[ing] performance measures, studies, and methodologies to measure and report on court administration, practices, and procedures,” which are all areas within the scope of this report.<sup>4</sup>

As the committee is new and does not yet have an annual agenda, it sought and received dispensation from the Executive and Planning Committee to begin working on this report. The Data Analytics Advisory Committee met on November 7, 2022, to discuss the reporting requirement and to determine a course of action for the year one report, due February 1, 2023. Recognizing that there may be additional metrics and measures that could be included in future reports, the committee agreed to include this report on its annual agenda and to immediately

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<sup>3</sup> Sen. Bill 154, § 2, item 0250-101-0932, provision 29, [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220SB154](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB154)

<sup>4</sup> Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.68.

commence work to consider additional potential data points for the year two and ongoing reports.

### **Fiscal Impact and Policy Implications**

Since this report relies on metrics and data that are already reported by trial courts to the Judicial Council, there is no fiscal impact other than Judicial Council staff time needed to gather the data and prepare the report. If additional metrics are considered in the future, the costs of such data collection, in terms of trial court time and resources needed to gather and submit the data, will be considered prior to implementation. In terms of policy implications, reporting this data could potentially highlight areas where the Judicial Council may wish to make new policy or revise existing policies.

### **Attachments and Links**

1. Attachment A: *Trial Court Operational Metrics, Year One Report*  
Attachment B: *Sample Court Individual Operational Metrics Report*



# **Trial Court Operational Metrics: Year One Report**

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REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE AS  
REQUIRED UNDER SENATE BILL 154  
(STATS. 2022, CH. 43)

FEBRUARY 2023



JUDICIAL COUNCIL  
OF CALIFORNIA

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BUSINESS MANAGEMENT SERVICES

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# Trial Court Operational Metrics: Year One Report

## Background

Senate Bill 154 (Stats. 2022, ch. 43) requires that the Judicial Council annually report to the Legislature on various operational and budgetary metrics in the trial courts. The budget bill language states that the metrics “shall include, but are not limited to, all of the following: time to disposition and case clearance rates by case type, backlogs by case type, court hours of operations including public counter hours, staff vacancy rates by classification, fund balance detail from the prior fiscal year, calculated funding level of each court and the percent of funding actually provided to each court, and funding level of each trial court as measured by the Judicial Council-approved workload formula.”<sup>1</sup> The report is to be submitted annually on or before February 1 and should reflect data and information from the prior fiscal year.

## 2021–22 Report

This year’s report contains data and information from the end of fiscal year 2021–22, except for hours of operation data, which is current as of November 2022. Additionally, since vacancy rates are reported from the start of the fiscal year, data from the start of fiscal year 2022–23 has been included to illustrate the vacancy rate closer to the end of the 2021–22 fiscal year. The judicial branch is reporting on metrics that are both responsive to the reporting requirement and that are largely already reported by courts. In future years, the branch’s Data Analytics Advisory Committee, charged with “develop[ing] and recommend[ing] performance measures, studies, and methodologies to measure and report on court administration, practices, and procedures,”<sup>2</sup> will consider whether additional data and information would be informative to include in this report.

## Metric 1: Hours of Operation Including Public Counter Hours

Courts provide assistance to the public in a variety of modalities, such as phone, in-person, and self-directed help via court websites. In addition, self-help centers assist members of the public seeking guidance about court processes or help completing a court document. Investments in court technology have allowed courts to expand offerings to include services such as chatbots, the ability to schedule in-person appointments online, and live on-line help. The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the expansion of these services so that the public could continue to receive needed assistance safely and conveniently.

Further rounding out the service methods that courts offer, drop boxes, e-filing, court-provided computers or terminals for looking up cases, and remote access to online records, cases, and

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<sup>1</sup> Sen. Bill 154, § 2, item 0250-101-0932, provision 29.

<sup>2</sup> Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.68.

court calendars provide additional means of transacting court business that free up court staff to help those who require in-person assistance.

Court hours of operation are an indicator of when the public may enter a court facility and public counter hours are the times when a clerk's window or counter is open to help those needing assistance. There are two primary services offered at the public counter: people can file a court document or request general information.

Information on court hours of service was most recently collected by the Judicial Council as of November 1, 2022. Courts with multiple locations were asked to report on the hours of operation and public counter hours for the main court location.

Data reported by courts shows that most courts open at 8:00 a.m. (38 courts) and close at 5:00 p.m. (36 courts), with some courts opening as early at 7:00 or 7:30 a.m. and some closing as late as 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. Most public counter hours start at 8:00 a.m. (31 courts) and end at 4:00 p.m. (24 courts) or earlier (23 courts).

Some courts adjusted their public counter hours after finding that many court customers prefer to file court documents or look up case information online rather than come into a courthouse. Correspondingly, staff can be assigned to other areas of the court to help with case processing activities to increase the speed of resolution of court matters for court customers. Customers who prefer to come into a courthouse can still submit documents through a drop box, view documents at public kiosks, or ask for assistance from other court staff any time during normal court hours of operation.

**Table 1. Court Hours of Operation and Public Counter Hours**

Court	Court Hours of Operation	Public Counter Hours
Alameda	8:00 AM - 4:30 PM	8:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Alpine	8:00 AM - 4:30 PM	8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Amador	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Butte	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Calaveras	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	8:15 AM - 3:00 PM
Colusa	8:30 AM - 5:00 PM	9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Contra Costa	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Del Norte	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
El Dorado	8:00 AM - 4:30 PM	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Fresno	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Glenn	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Humboldt	9:00 AM - 4:30 PM	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Imperial	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Inyo	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Kern	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Kings	7:45 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Court	Court Hours of Operation	Public Counter Hours
Lake	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Lassen	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Los Angeles	7:30 AM - 4:30 PM	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Madera	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Marin	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Mariposa	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Mendocino	7:30 AM - 5:30 PM	8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Merced	7:45 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Modoc	8:30 AM - 5:00 PM	8:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Mono	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Monterey	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Napa	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Nevada	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Orange	8:00 AM - 4:30 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Placer	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Plumas	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Riverside	7:30 AM - 4:30 PM	7:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Sacramento	7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
San Benito	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
San Bernardino	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
San Diego	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
San Francisco	8:15 AM - 6:00 PM	8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
San Joaquin	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
San Luis Obispo	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM
San Mateo	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Santa Barbara	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Santa Clara	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Santa Cruz	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Shasta	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Sierra	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Siskiyou	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Solano	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Sonoma	8:00 AM - 3:30 PM	8:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Stanislaus	8:00 AM - 4:30 PM	8:15 AM - 4:00 PM
Sutter	8:00 AM - 4:30 PM	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Tehama	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Trinity	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Tulare	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Tuolumne	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Ventura	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Yolo	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Court	Court Hours of Operation	Public Counter Hours
Yuba	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

## Metric 2: Time to Disposition by Case Type

Time to disposition, the percent of cases resolved within a certain time frame, is a nationally recognized metric of court caseflow management that helps courts assess the length of time that it takes to bring cases to disposition.<sup>3</sup> Standard 2.2 of the California Rules of Court established case disposition time goals for civil and criminal cases.<sup>4</sup> These data are updated and reported annually in the *Court Statistics Report*, although not all courts are able to report these data mostly due to technical issues resulting from case management system transitions.<sup>5</sup> As courts finalize their case management systems transitions, more courts will be able to report this data.

**Table 2. 2021–22 Criminal Case Processing Time, by County**

COUNTY	Felonies Disposed of in Less Than 12 Months (A)	Felonies Disposed of in Less Than _ Days			Misdemeanors Disposed of in Less Than _ Days		
		30	45	90	30	90	120
		(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>52%</b>
Alameda	47%	31%	42%	56%	48%	79%	89%
Alpine	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Amador	56%	16%	21%	29%	12%	26%	33%
Butte	73%	8%	21%	57%	11%	36%	45%
Calaveras	63%	21%	29%	48%	12%	41%	49%
Colusa	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Contra Costa	77%	14%	17%	39%	11%	28%	36%
Del Norte	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
El Dorado	43%	50%	57%	71%	15%	33%	42%
Fresno	56%	8%	17%	34%	27%	46%	53%
Glenn	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

<sup>3</sup> See National Center for State Courts, *CourTools*, Time to Disposition (2005), [https://www.courttools.org/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0011/8201/courttools\\_trial\\_measure3\\_time\\_to\\_disposition\\_pdf.pdf](https://www.courttools.org/data/assets/pdf_file/0011/8201/courttools_trial_measure3_time_to_disposition_pdf.pdf). Also, see the Court Statistics Report (<https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/2022-Court-Statistics-Report.pdf>) at page 5 for a definition of ‘disposition.’

<sup>4</sup> The Judicial Council’s Data Analytics Advisory Committee is charged with reviewing and making recommendations on court operational metrics and will be reviewing these standards as part of their annual workplan.

<sup>5</sup> For the most current version of the *Court Statistics Report*, see [www.courts.ca.gov/627.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/627.htm). Note that the 2021 and 2022 reports do not include Table 10a, “Criminal Case Processing Time, by County,” because the calculation methodology for felony case processing was updated during this time period and a majority of courts had not yet been certified for data reporting. This metric will be reported in the 2023 report and ongoing. Additionally, courts that are not certified to report data to the Judicial Branch Statistical Information System using the JBSIS data reporting standards are not able to report case processing time data.

COUNTY	Felonies Disposed of in Less Than 12 Months	Felonies Disposed of in Less Than _ Days			Misdemeanors Disposed of in Less Than _ Days		
		30	45	90	30	90	120
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
Humboldt	58%	15%	24%	42%	15%	18%	37%
Imperial	--	--	--	--	8%	17%	53%
Inyo	88%	100%	100%	100%	11%	39%	54%
Kern	65%	17%	31%	58%	61%	73%	77%
Kings	69%	11%	19%	32%	5%	20%	28%
Lake	75%	12%	23%	53%	9%	19%	25%
Lassen	43%	40%	52%	67%	10%	25%	32%
Los Angeles	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Madera	80%	10%	20%	30%	6%	9%	25%
Marin	36%	7%	12%	28%	18%	31%	38%
Mariposa	80%	25%	33%	43%	8%	28%	33%
Mendocino	98%	29%	43%	70%	28%	50%	60%
Merced	69%	19%	30%	51%	10%	22%	27%
Modoc	62%	17%	21%	49%	12%	23%	60%
Mono	40%	17%	27%	44%	4%	23%	33%
Monterey	68%	17%	28%	50%	37%	67%	74%
Napa	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Nevada	82%	8%	12%	20%	7%	23%	31%
Orange	55%	21%	29%	42%	30%	45%	53%
Placer	83%	11%	18%	35%	11%	14%	34%
Plumas	80%	11%	18%	42%	15%	24%	53%
Riverside	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sacramento	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
San Benito	50%	9%	17%	28%	12%	19%	51%
San Bernardino	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
San Diego	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
San Francisco	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
San Joaquin	74%	31%	37%	49%	18%	31%	36%
San Luis Obispo	81%	11%	20%	42%	34%	55%	61%
San Mateo	94%	30%	41%	61%	23%	41%	52%
Santa Barbara	59%	9%	19%	43%	41%	59%	66%
Santa Clara	57%	11%	15%	27%	20%	33%	39%
Santa Cruz	64%	21%	27%	46%	40%	83%	88%
Shasta	64%	36%	47%	67%	29%	53%	62%
Sierra	100%	0%	0%	31%	4%	5%	28%
Siskiyou	67%	100%	100%	100%	10%	21%	31%
Solano	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sonoma	66%	9%	15%	37%	13%	32%	41%
Stanislaus	47%	26%	34%	46%	40%	53%	61%
Sutter	55%	35%	43%	59%	25%	44%	51%
Tehama	92%	28%	36%	66%	47%	73%	79%
Trinity	45%	15%	19%	29%	7%	11%	24%
Tulare	72%	11%	18%	34%	17%	23%	44%
Tuolumne	65%	29%	40%	57%	8%	12%	27%
Ventura	56%	34%	40%	53%	46%	62%	67%

COUNTY	Felonies Disposed of in Less Than 12 Months	Felonies Disposed of in Less Than _ Days			Misdemeanors Disposed of in Less Than _ Days		
		30	45	90	30	90	120
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
Yolo	72%	27%	33%	46%	11%	30%	37%
Yuba	68%	36%	48%	74%	32%	66%	72%

**Column Key:**

(A) This column consists only of cases in which defendants were held to answer or were certified on guilty pleas. Processing time is based on time from first appearance in limited-jurisdiction court to final disposition in unlimited-jurisdiction court.

(B)–(D) Based on the time from filing of the initial complaint to certified plea, bindover, or dismissal at or before preliminary hearing.

**Note:**

— The court did not submit a report in this category.

**Table 3. 2021–22 Civil Case Processing Time, by County**

COUNTY	General Unlimited Civil			Limited Civil			Unlawful Detainers Disposed of in Less Than _ Days		Small Claims Disposed of in Less Than _ Days	
	Disposed of in Less Than _ Months			Disposed of in Less Than _ Months			Than _ Days		Than _ Days	
	12 (A)	18 (B)	24 (C)	12 (D)	18 (E)	24 (F)	30 (G)	45 (H)	70 (I)	90 (J)
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>56%</b>
Alameda	63%	71%	80%	59%	74%	89%	13%	24%	5%	14%
Alpine	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Amador	74%	82%	85%	83%	94%	97%	35%	59%	53%	59%
Butte	76%	83%	90%	76%	85%	93%	30%	56%	50%	59%
Calaveras	76%	80%	84%	78%	92%	94%	25%	55%	66%	85%
Colusa	91%	91%	91%	85%	93%	93%	44%	63%	47%	53%
Contra Costa	67%	79%	86%	50%	77%	93%	26%	44%	23%	36%
Del Norte	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
El Dorado	76%	84%	90%	71%	84%	92%	43%	65%	29%	41%
Fresno	66%	77%	86%	68%	77%	85%	38%	60%	58%	62%
Glenn	74%	79%	86%	79%	87%	93%	23%	31%	36%	50%
Humboldt	80%	87%	90%	79%	90%	94%	15%	28%	7%	41%
Imperial	77%	88%	94%	82%	96%	98%	27%	59%	79%	86%
Inyo	83%	91%	93%	85%	94%	99%	67%	100%	77%	77%
Kern	63%	74%	84%	90%	94%	97%	20%	43%	73%	84%
Kings	69%	80%	86%	80%	86%	90%	29%	56%	55%	67%
Lake	83%	89%	93%	82%	92%	97%	34%	63%	48%	61%
Lassen	64%	77%	79%	74%	83%	88%	39%	48%	74%	85%
Los Angeles	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Madera	75%	83%	89%	52%	67%	83%	20%	42%	61%	72%
Marin	69%	79%	87%	72%	91%	96%	33%	52%	51%	61%
Mariposa	75%	83%	83%	77%	85%	88%	24%	41%	22%	44%
Mendocino	79%	84%	90%	70%	80%	87%	48%	69%	75%	86%
Merced	72%	79%	85%	71%	80%	86%	21%	45%	53%	66%
Modoc	84%	90%	94%	76%	93%	96%	31%	46%	48%	62%

COUNTY	General Unlimited Civil			Limited Civil			Unlawful Detainers Disposed of in Less Than _ Days		Small Claims Disposed of in Less Than _ Days	
	Disposed of in Less Than _ Months			Disposed of in Less Than _ Months						
	12 (A)	18 (B)	24 (C)	12 (D)	18 (E)	24 (F)	30 (G)	45 (H)	70 (I)	90 (J)
Mono	63%	79%	85%	88%	100%	100%	6%	25%	49%	60%
Monterey	72%	82%	89%	68%	86%	91%	31%	53%	66%	74%
Napa	74%	86%	92%	79%	88%	92%	42%	56%	70%	78%
Nevada	85%	91%	93%	93%	98%	98%	22%	44%	43%	56%
Orange	60%	72%	86%	70%	81%	96%	21%	41%	66%	74%
Placer	66%	80%	88%	72%	81%	88%	29%	46%	31%	36%
Plumas	84%	91%	94%	91%	93%	97%	40%	53%	50%	75%
Riverside	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sacramento	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	15%	30%	46%	64%
San Benito	71%	81%	89%	79%	85%	91%	37%	56%	31%	41%
San Bernardino	64%	76%	85%	76%	96%	99%	16%	36%	54%	64%
San Diego	--	--	--	75%	84%	91%	24%	36%	24%	31%
San Francisco	53%	66%	76%	74%	87%	94%	25%	38%	45%	60%
San Joaquin	61%	72%	82%	68%	79%	86%	17%	41%	56%	65%
San Luis Obispo	67%	78%	86%	75%	94%	97%	12%	22%	36%	42%
San Mateo	68%	81%	87%	75%	84%	89%	33%	53%	5%	6%
Santa Barbara	66%	78%	85%	76%	84%	89%	39%	58%	42%	61%
Santa Clara	57%	71%	79%	49%	73%	82%	32%	51%	58%	70%
Santa Cruz	75%	84%	90%	84%	94%	98%	28%	49%	49%	59%
Shasta	77%	87%	93%	77%	97%	100%	26%	51%	68%	75%
Sierra	95%	95%	95%	92%	92%	92%	0%	20%	0%	0%
Siskiyou	82%	88%	93%	86%	95%	97%	33%	46%	63%	78%
Solano	72%	83%	90%	76%	89%	97%	24%	41%	48%	65%
Sonoma	71%	82%	90%	81%	93%	98%	39%	64%	4%	5%
Stanislaus	69%	79%	85%	77%	95%	98%	36%	62%	71%	80%
Sutter	74%	83%	88%	76%	89%	92%	28%	63%	71%	84%
Tehama	81%	89%	94%	74%	82%	88%	37%	53%	50%	69%
Trinity	80%	93%	99%	93%	95%	98%	46%	61%	60%	60%
Tulare	79%	91%	95%	78%	88%	92%	48%	75%	57%	72%
Tuolumne	85%	94%	96%	85%	97%	98%	10%	27%	47%	54%
Ventura	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	22%	47%	82%	88%
Yolo	68%	81%	87%	81%	94%	96%	36%	58%	66%	77%
Yuba	74%	82%	88%	78%	91%	94%	29%	51%	73%	85%

**Column Key:**

(G), (H) Includes limited unlawful detainers only.

**Note:**

— The court did not submit a report in this category.

### Metric 3: Caseload Clearance by Case Type

Caseload clearance is another nationally recognized court workload metric, used to generally assess whether courts are able to keep up with incoming workload and to identify areas of potential backlog. Clearance rates are calculated by dividing dispositions by filings for a given period of time. A clearance rate of 100 percent would indicate that the number of cases disposed equals the number of cases that come into the court system (as filings). Caseload clearance by court and case type has been reported in the *Court Statistics Report* for many years.

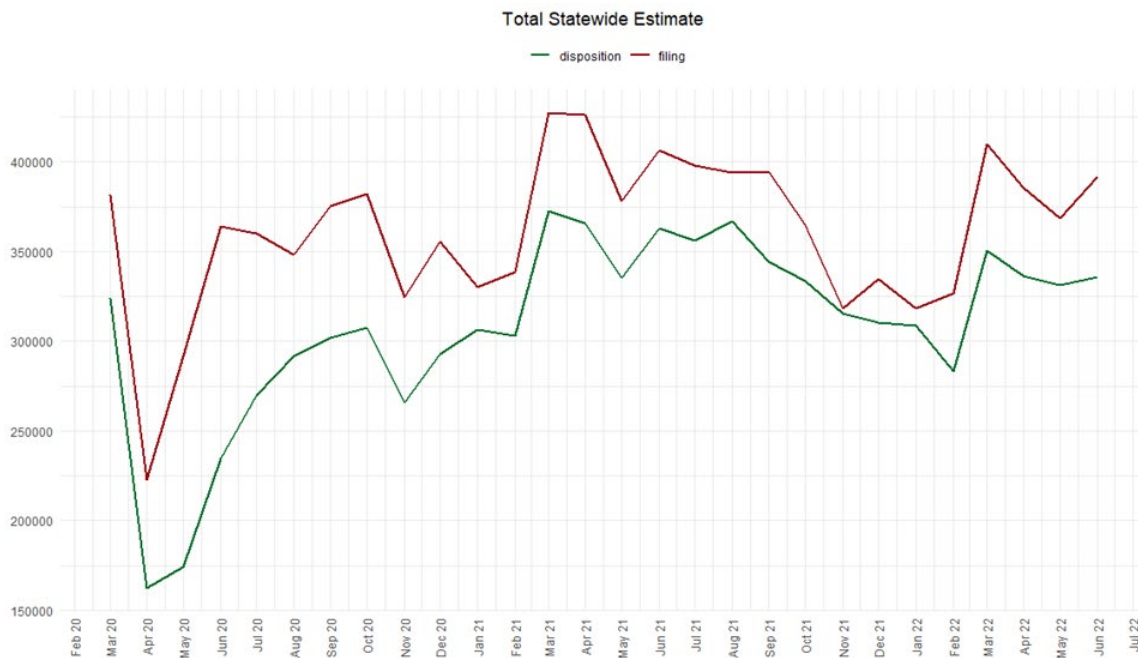
While clearance rates vary by court and case type, the overall average branchwide clearance rate across all case types for fiscal year 2021-22 was XX%. Prior to the pandemic (2018-19), the clearance rate was 71%.

### Metric 4: Backlog by Case Type

During the pandemic, clearance data was used as the basis for estimating the pandemic-related backlog when court case processing was affected by physical distancing requirements and other capacity limitations that lengthened the time it took to dispose cases. Patterns in trial court filings and dispositions from March 2020 to June 2022 (the most recent period for which the data are validated) help to understand court workload during that period. On average, before the pandemic, there were about 500,000 total filings per month in California courts. Filings (see figure 1, red line) dropped by nearly half in April 2020 at the start of the pandemic. Starting in June 2020, some case types moved back toward pre-pandemic levels while others remained lower than their pre-pandemic filing rates. There was a dip in winter 2020–21 corresponding to new shelter-in-place restrictions as the number of COVID-19 cases surged. Filings increased in spring 2021, possibly a sign of previously suppressed demand corresponding to increased access to vaccines, schools reopening, and more movement of people.

Case dispositions should, in general, follow the same trajectory as filings. Pending caseloads at the courts occur because the individual needs and complexities of each individual case will drive case processing time required; cases will not always take equal time to process. Periods in which filings exceed dispositions can be an indicator of backlog. Statewide dispositions are shown in figure 1 below as the green line. The gap between the red and green lines is an indicator of the backlog that developed due to physical distancing requirements and other capacity limits that slowed case processing, particularly in the early part of the pandemic.

**Figure 1. Statewide Filings and Dispositions, March 2020 to June 2022**



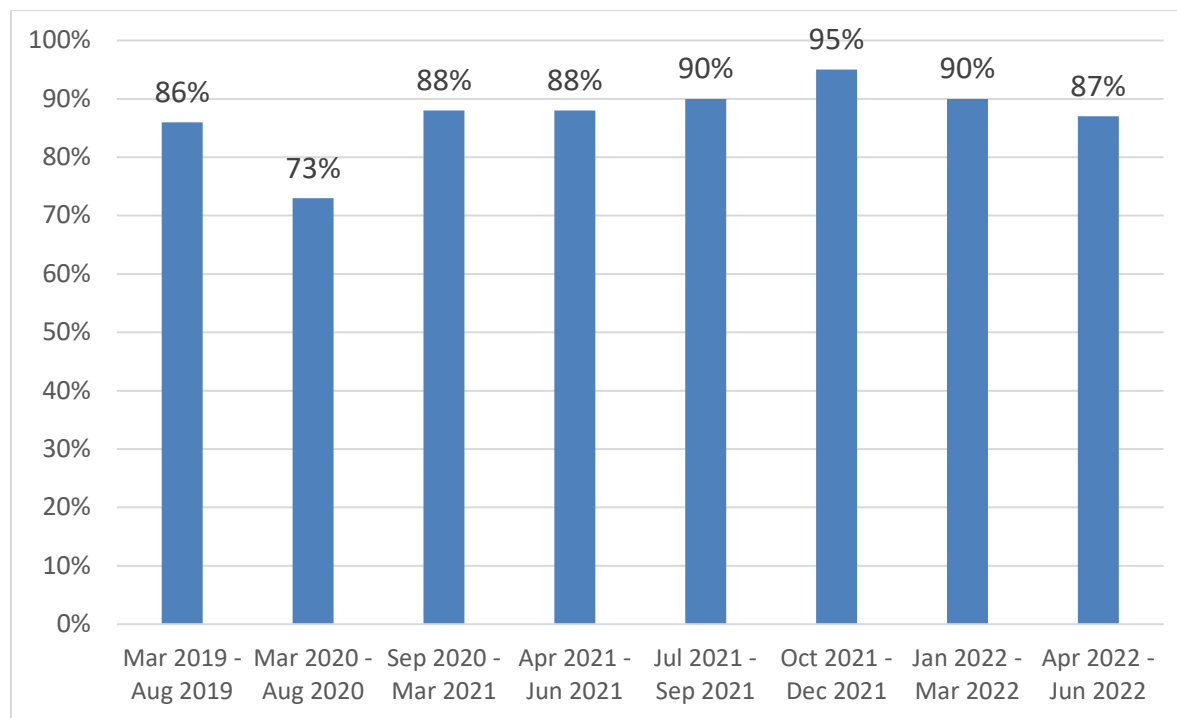
For purposes of measuring pandemic-era backlog, caseload clearance rates by case type were compared across two time periods: a pre-pandemic period that was defined as March 2019 to August 2019 and a pandemic period, which was initially defined as March to August 2020 but was expanded to include additional months as the pandemic period lengthened (currently defined as March 2020 to June 2022). Pandemic backlog is a portion of the overall pending caseload. Pending caseload, or backlog, is measured by multiplying the difference between the two clearance rates by pandemic filings to estimate the number of pending cases by case type. If the clearance percentage difference is a positive number, cases are processing at a higher rate than before the pandemic and there is no backlog for that case type.

These calculations have been updated quarterly with new data to better understand court workload changes over the course of the pandemic and so that courts could anticipate and plan for changes in court workload and shift resources accordingly.<sup>6</sup> Figure two shows the statewide average clearance rate, across all casetypes, for various periods since March 2019. The pre-pandemic clearance rate, measured from March to August 2019, was 86%; at the onset of the pandemic, March to August 2020, the clearance rate dropped to 73% as courts realigned business practices to operate safely under state and local health and safety guidelines. In fall 2020, the clearance rate increased to 88% and has remained approximately at or above that level. The overall pandemic period clearance rate, accounting for all filings and dispositions from March

<sup>6</sup> The data collected for backlog data reporting was collected at a different time interval and via a different collection process than the data reported in the *Court Statistics Report*. The data reported for each process reflects each court's best effort to supply complete and accurate data when requested for statewide reporting.

2020 to June 2022, is 86% (see table 4), which happens to be the same as the pre-pandemic (March 2019 to August 2019) clearance rate.<sup>7</sup>

**Figure 2. Statewide Clearance Rates, Various Periods, March 2019 to June 2022**



As the state shifts into a post-pandemic phase, it will be important to review the backlog calculation methodology to make sure it accurately reflects court workload. Moving further away from the pandemic onset, the branch will need to consider whether 2019 is the correct comparison point for present-period caseload clearance.

Examples from the following table illustrate the backlog calculations. For example, estates/trust cases had a 2019 clearance rate of about 77 percent and a pandemic period clearance rate of around 74 percent; cases were clearing at a slower rate during the pandemic. Multiplying the clearance percent difference of 3 percent by total pandemic period filings estimates the statewide backlog for this case type: about 3,099 filings. Infractions cases are an example of a case type with no statewide backlog during this period. In the pre-pandemic period, infractions cases cleared at a rate of 83 percent and in the pandemic period, the clearance rate was slightly better (85 percent). This suggests that courts were able to clear infractions cases more quickly during the pandemic period, most likely due to lower filings volumes, and there are no pending cases (backlog) for infractions as a result.

<sup>7</sup> Court-specific reports are included in the appendix; note that clearance rates and pending caseload (backlog) may differ from statewide calculations.

**Table 4. Pre-pandemic and Pandemic Clearance Rates, by Case Type and Statewide Backlog**

	Mar to Aug 2019 (Pre pandemic)			Mar 2020 to June 2022 (All pandemic)			Backlog		
	Average Monthly Filings	Average Monthly Dispos.	2019 Clearance Rate	Average Monthly Filings	Average Monthly Dispos.	Pandemic Clearance Rate	Clear. % Diff.	Pandemic filings	Backlog (filings)
Certification	4,510	3,811	84%	4,637	4,373	94%	10%	115,925	-
Child Support	7,262	7,132	98%	6,013	5,612	93%	-5%	150,333	7,346
Civil - Limited	36,582	30,828	84%	25,997	27,666	106%	22%	649,927	-
Civil - Unlimited	20,176	17,749	88%	20,067	17,128	85%	-3%	501,676	13,128
Conservatorship/ Guardianship	1,529	1,110	73%	1,321	1,060	80%	8%	33,018	-
Dissolution	11,175	10,038	90%	10,221	8,226	80%	-9%	255,536	23,875
Domestic Violence	7,070	5,161	73%	6,388	4,858	76%	3%	159,707	-
Estates/Trusts	3,110	2,399	77%	3,608	2,659	74%	-3%	90,191	3,099
Felony	16,629	13,806	83%	17,215	11,509	67%	-16%	430,380	69,597
Infractions	335,176	278,711	83%	235,063	200,483	85%	2%	5,876,580	-
Juvenile Delinquency	2,329	2,132	92%	1,464	1,494	102%	10%	36,608	-
Juvenile Dependency	3,480	3,141	90%	3,109	3,060	98%	8%	77,719	-
Mental Health	3,557	3,480	98%	3,454	3,180	92%	-6%	86,341	4,985
Misd - Non traffic	36,613	35,695	97%	27,210	23,000	85%	-13%	680,260	88,193
Misd - Traffic	23,142	22,197	96%	18,650	15,422	83%	-13%	466,254	61,681
Other Family Petition	3,399	2,373	70%	2,966	2,154	73%	3%	74,158	-
Parentage	2,215	1,483	67%	1,711	945	55%	-12%	42,765	5,012
Small Claims	12,862	13,505	105%	5,911	6,790	115%	10%	147,773	-
Unlawful Detainer	10,507	10,782	103%	4,777	4,230	89%	-14%	119,420	16,798
<b>Total Average</b>	<b>541,320</b>	<b>465,529</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>399,783</b>	<b>343,849</b>	<b>86%</b>			<b>293,712</b>

## Metric 5: Staff Vacancy Rates by Classification

Trial courts annually report on budgeted and filled positions using the Schedule 7A.<sup>8</sup> These data are reported by classification<sup>9</sup> and are designated as filled or vacant as of July 1 of each reporting year. Schedule 7A data were used to calculate the vacancy rate by classification; since the data are reported as of a point in time—July 1, 2021—the data will not reflect changes in the number of filled positions that were made after that date. Although this year’s report on trial court operational metrics largely focuses on data for the most recent, complete fiscal year (2021-22), the 2022-23 data, reported as of July 1, 2022, was recently compiled and has been included here to give a more contemporary representation of trial court vacancy information. A comparison of the two reporting years shows that the number of total positions has increased by 3%, and the

<sup>8</sup> The Schedule 7A is a statewide salary and positions reporting document. Each court’s Schedule 7A is posted on the “Trial Courts Budget Reports” page of the California Courts website at [www.courts.ca.gov/48362.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/48362.htm).

<sup>9</sup> Classifications are based on model classification codes used in the Schedule 7A; classification may not be the same as job title or working title.

vacancy rate has increased by 1%. For this report, data for every classification are shown (see table 5); future reports may consolidate some classifications for ease of use.

**Table 5. Statewide Vacancy Data by Classification**

Classification	2021-22 Schedule 7A (data as of July 1, 2021)			2022-23 Schedule 7A (data as of July 1, 2022)			Difference in Vacancy Rate
	Total FTE	Filled FTE	Vacancy Rate	Total FTE	Filled FTE	Vacancy Rate	
Accountant-Auditor	59.9	48.0	20%	61.1	54.1	11%	-9%
Accounting Clerk	103.4	87.4	15%	105.5	88.5	16%	1%
Accounting Technician	96.0	79.5	17%	90.5	72.5	20%	3%
Administrative Analyst	175.7	153.7	13%	196.1	162.1	17%	4%
Administrative Support Staff (temporary, part-time, intern or student worker)	95.5	61.8	35%	130.9	94.4	28%	-7%
Administrative Technician	22.7	19.7	13%	24.7	19.7	20%	7%
Alternative Dispute Resolution Program Administrator	1.0	1.0	0%	2.0	2.0	0%	0%
Assistant Court Executive Officer	41.5	37.0	11%	40.8	36.0	12%	1%
Attorney	401.2	367.2	8%	481.0	417.4	13%	5%
Calendar Administrator	9.3	9.3	0%	9.8	9.8	0%	0%
Calendar Clerk	14.4	14.4	0%	12.8	12.8	0%	0%
Child Services Provider	4.5	4.5	0%	8.0	7.0	13%	13%
Commissioner	234.1	215.1	8%	239.5	232.6	3%	-5%
Communications Technician	21.0	21.0	0%	21.0	21.0	0%	0%
Court Administrative/ Operations Manager	343.8	312.3	9%	372.5	337.9	9%	0%
Court Administrative/ Operations Supervisor	73.0	70.0	4%	76.0	66.0	13%	9%
Court Attendant	237.7	213.0	10%	263.8	221.4	16%	6%
Court Clerk	664.2	571.1	14%	609.3	566.7	7%	-7%
Court Division Director/ Branch Administrator	236.3	221.5	6%	240.4	216.5	10%	4%
Court Executive Officer	58.0	57.3	1%	57.2	56.0	2%	1%
Court Interpreter Pro Tempore	35.8	23.7	34%	35.7	28.7	20%	-14%
Court Law Librarian	3.0	2.0	33%	3.0	3.0	0%	-33%
Court Program Manager	201.8	185.8	8%	207.8	191.8	8%	0%
Court Program/Project Specialist	55.2	49.2	11%	96.1	74.1	23%	12%
Court Program/Project Supervisor	24.0	23.0	4%	27.0	25.0	7%	3%
Court Records Clerk	124.0	103.0	17%	130.5	90.5	31%	14%
Court Records Supervisor	11.9	9.0	24%	10.8	10.0	7%	-17%

Classification	2021-22 Schedule 7A (data as of July 1, 2021)			2022-23 Schedule 7A (data as of July 1, 2022)			Difference in Vacancy Rate
	Total FTE	Filled FTE	Vacancy Rate	Total FTE	Filled FTE	Vacancy Rate	
Court Reporter	1,408.9	1,264.7	10%	1,426.1	1,136.9	20%	10%
Courtroom Clerk	2,624.2	2,386.9	9%	2,641.1	2,426.6	8%	-1%
Custodian	87.3	78.3	10%	87.6	83.6	5%	-5%
Data Entry Operator	1.0	1.0	0%	-	-	-	-
Deputy Marshal	28.5	28.5	0%	31.5	31.5	0%	0%
Detention Release Officer	11.0	10.0	9%	13.0	10.0	23%	14%
Examiner	93.6	87.4	7%	100.2	98.0	2%	-5%
Exhibit Custodian	42.0	38.0	10%	44.0	37.0	16%	6%
Facilities Coordinator	10.0	8.0	20%	13.0	8.0	38%	18%
Family Law Facilitator	52.2	49.9	4%	52.2	49.4	5%	1%
Financial Analyst	43.0	40.0	7%	50.0	34.0	32%	25%
Graphic Arts Specialist	8.0	6.0	25%	7.0	5.0	29%	4%
Hearing Officer	8.1	8.0	2%	8.0	8.0	0%	-2%
Human Resource Analyst	81.1	72.2	11%	81.0	73.3	10%	-1%
Human Resource Technician	54.0	50.0	7%	57.2	49.7	13%	6%
Information Systems Analyst	251.6	231.9	8%	261.4	228.4	13%	5%
Information Systems Engineer	64.0	58.0	9%	71.0	65.0	8%	-1%
Information Systems Specialist	25.0	22.0	12%	23.0	22.0	4%	-8%
Information Systems Technician	129.2	125.2	3%	136.7	127.0	7%	4%
Interpreter	228.1	186.1	18%	226.0	177.6	21%	3%
Interpreter Coordinator	20.8	19.8	5%	21.9	21.0	4%	-1%
Interpreter Supervisor	13.0	13.0	0%	15.2	14.0	8%	8%
Investigator	161.4	150.4	7%	199.3	171.5	14%	7%
Jury Commissioner	19.3	19.3	0%	19.3	19.3	0%	0%
Jury Services Assistant	34.2	28.2	18%	31.0	24.2	22%	4%
Law Clerk	72.0	58.0	19%	44.0	33.0	25%	6%
Law Library Technician	3.5	3.5	0%	4.5	4.5	0%	0%
Legal Process Clerk	3,241.3	2,901.2	10%	3,289.0	2,834.9	14%	4%
Legal Process Supervisor	348.5	328.0	6%	355.4	336.0	5%	-1%
Legal/Judicial Secretary	150.9	133.8	11%	152.9	133.6	13%	2%
Maintenance Worker	35.0	33.0	6%	37.0	36.0	3%	-3%
Managing Attorney	21.8	21.8	0%	26.0	25.0	4%	4%
Marshal	2.0	2.0	0%	2.0	2.0	0%	0%
Materials Services Assistant	43.0	41.0	5%	45.0	39.0	13%	8%

Classification	2021-22 Schedule 7A (data as of July 1, 2021)			2022-23 Schedule 7A (data as of July 1, 2022)			Difference in Vacancy Rate
	Total FTE	Filled FTE	Vacancy Rate	Total FTE	Filled FTE	Vacancy Rate	
Materials Services Supervisor	2.0	2.0	0%	2.1	1.1	47%	47%
Media Services Technician	1.0	-	100%	-	-	-	-
Mediator/Counselor	211.0	184.4	13%	219.7	189.6	14%	1%
Mental Health Behavioral Counselor	29.8	28.8	3%	30.2	29.2	3%	0%
Mental Health/Behavioral Counselor Supervisor	4.0	4.0	0%	3.0	3.0	0%	0%
Office Assistant	142.4	91.8	36%	69.2	61.2	12%	-24%
Paralegal	163.4	154.8	5%	173.1	160.3	7%	2%
Payroll Supervisor	1.0	1.0	0%	1.0	1.0	0%	0%
Payroll Technician	12.0	12.0	0%	9.0	9.0	0%	0%
Printing/Production Equipment Operator	2.0	2.0	0%	2.0	2.0	0%	0%
Public Information Officer	7.0	7.0	0%	7.0	6.0	14%	14%
Purchasing Agent	16.0	13.0	19%	16.0	15.0	6%	-13%
Purchasing Supervisor	9.0	9.0	0%	11.0	8.0	27%	27%
Purchasing Technician	15.0	14.0	7%	14.8	14.0	5%	-2%
Referee	20.0	17.0	15%	27.7	26.7	4%	-11%
Revenue Collection Specialist	184.0	164.0	11%	183.3	159.3	13%	2%
SB371 Interpreter	533.0	438.2	18%	539.7	420.6	22%	4%
Secretary	23.1	23.1	0%	40.6	36.1	11%	11%
Senior Accountant-Auditor	33.0	29.0	12%	33.0	31.0	6%	-6%
Senior Accounting Clerk	63.0	53.0	16%	67.0	60.0	10%	-6%
Senior Accounting Technician	30.8	25.8	16%	35.0	29.0	17%	1%
Senior Administrative Analyst	105.9	94.4	11%	109.9	90.0	18%	7%
Senior Attorney	153.8	151.8	1%	166.2	158.2	5%	4%
Senior Court Attendant	1.0	-	100%	1.0	0.0	100%	0%
Senior Court Clerk	147.2	141.2	4%	202.2	191.2	5%	1%
Senior Court Records Clerk	17.0	14.0	18%	20.0	17.0	15%	-3%
Senior Court Reporter	13.0	12.0	8%	16.0	15.0	6%	-2%
Senior Courtroom Clerk	175.3	166.3	5%	220.7	207.7	6%	1%
Senior Custodian	3.0	3.0	0%	4.0	3.0	25%	25%
Senior Data Entry Operator	8.0	8.0	0%	8.0	8.0	0%	0%
Sr. Detention Release Officer	2.0	2.0	0%	2.0	-	100%	100%
Senior Examiner	15.0	15.0	0%	19.0	18.0	5%	5%
Senior Exhibit Custodian	6.0	6.0	0%	5.0	5.0	0%	0%

Classification	2021-22 Schedule 7A (data as of July 1, 2021)			2022-23 Schedule 7A (data as of July 1, 2022)			Difference in Vacancy Rate
	Total FTE	Filled FTE	Vacancy Rate	Total FTE	Filled FTE	Vacancy Rate	
Senior Financial Analyst	17.0	15.0	12%	20.0	16.0	20%	8%
Sr. Human Resources Analyst	70.3	66.3	6%	83.1	68.4	18%	12%
Senior Human Resource Technician	13.0	13.0	0%	16.0	15.0	6%	6%
Senior Information Systems Analyst	145.0	138.0	5%	152.7	134.2	12%	7%
Senior Information Systems Technician	33.0	28.0	15%	35.8	32.0	11%	-4%
Senior Investigator	1.5	1.0	33%	1.5	1.5	0%	-33%
Senior Legal Process Clerk	2,075.0	1,824.0	12%	2,126.8	1,869.8	12%	0%
Senior Legal/Judicial Secretary	58.0	56.0	3%	59.0	58.0	2%	-1%
Senior Maintenance Worker	4.0	4.0	0%	3.0	3.0	0%	0%
Senior Materials Services Assistant	5.0	5.0	0%	5.0	5.0	0%	0%
Sr. Media Services Technician	2.0	2.0	0%	2.5	2.0	19%	19%
Senior Mediator/Counselor	78.3	67.8	13%	95.3	63.3	34%	21%
Senior Microfilm Technician	1.0	1.0	0%	1.0	1.0	0%	0%
Senior Office Assistant	186.0	137.0	26%	194.8	144.0	26%	0%
Senior Paralegal	15.0	13.0	13%	15.0	15.0	0%	-13%
Senior Printing/Production Equipment Operator	2.0	1.0	50%	2.0	2.0	0%	-50%
Senior Revenue Collection Specialist	23.0	19.0	17%	23.0	22.0	4%	-13%
Senior Secretary	60.0	54.0	10%	58.0	56.0	3%	-7%
Sr. Support Services Assistant	2.0	1.0	50%	3.0	2.0	33%	-17%
Skilled Trades Worker	13.0	12.0	8%	13.0	12.0	8%	0%
Supv. Accountant-Auditor	14.8	13.8	7%	13.9	12.0	13%	6%
Supervising Accounting Clerk	11.0	11.0	0%	12.0	12.0	0%	0%
Supv. Accounting Technician	4.0	4.0	0%	4.0	4.0	0%	0%
Supv. Administrative Analyst	5.0	5.0	0%	8.0	8.0	0%	0%
Supervising Attorney	31.6	29.6	6%	31.6	30.6	3%	-3%
Supervising Court Attendant	4.0	4.0	0%	4.0	4.0	0%	0%
Supervising Court Clerk	202.0	185.0	8%	196.0	191.0	3%	-5%
Supervising Court Reporter	20.8	18.8	10%	21.8	19.8	9%	-1%
Supervising Courtroom Clerk	71.0	69.0	3%	79.0	75.0	5%	2%

Classification	2021-22 Schedule 7A (data as of July 1, 2021)			2022-23 Schedule 7A (data as of July 1, 2022)			Difference in Vacancy Rate
	Total FTE	Filled FTE	Vacancy Rate	Total FTE	Filled FTE	Vacancy Rate	
Supervising Custodian	9.0	9.0	0%	10.0	10.0	0%	0%
Supervising Detention Release Officer	1.0	1.0	0%	1.0	1.0	0%	0%
Supervising Examiner	3.5	2.0	43%	4.5	3.0	33%	-10%
Supervising Financial Analyst	7.5	5.8	23%	6.8	6.8	0%	-23%
Supervising Human Resources Analyst	8.7	8.7	0%	7.4	7.4	0%	0%
Supervising Information Systems Analyst	37.0	34.0	8%	38.0	34.0	11%	3%
Supervising Information Systems Technician	8.0	6.0	25%	12.0	8.0	33%	8%
Supervising Investigator	8.5	7.0	18%	11.0	10.0	9%	-9%
Supv. Maintenance Worker	9.0	9.0	0%	8.0	7.0	13%	13%
Supv. Mediator/Counselor	22.5	20.5	9%	24.5	21.5	12%	3%
Supervising Office Assistant	1.0	1.0	0%	1.0	1.0	0%	0%
Supervising Revenue Collection Specialist	16.0	16.0	0%	16.0	14.0	13%	13%
Supervising Secretary	5.0	5.0	0%	5.0	4.0	20%	20%
Support Services Assistant	64.8	58.8	9%	69.5	63.5	9%	0%
Support Services Supervisor	6.0	6.0	0%	17.2	15.0	13%	13%
<b>Total Statewide</b>	<b>18,291.0</b>	<b>16,340.4</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>18,902.0</b>	<b>16,546.0</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>1%</b>

## Funding Metrics:

**Metric 6: Calculated Funding Level of Each Court**

**Metric 7: Funding Level of Each Trial Court as Measured by Judicial  
Council–Approved Workload Formula**

**Metric 8: Percent of Funding Actually Provided to Each Court**

The Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$3.617 billion for trial court operations. The Judicial Council allocated the majority of this funding to the trial courts according to its approved allocation methodology, known as the Workload Formula. The Workload Formula determines the need for trial court staff and funding based on workload measures.

For 2021-22, the council approved a Workload Formula allocation of \$2.215 billion. When compared to the 2021-22 measured workload need of \$2.754 billion, the allocation represented a statewide funding percentage of 80.4 percent.

Other funding allocated to the trial courts included \$1.336 billion for judges' compensation, dependency counsel, court interpreters' program, and various other programs. The remaining \$65.7 million was available to reimburse courts for the AB 1058 child support commissioner program, California collaborative and drug court projects, and other various grants.

Table 6 displays the calculated funding level of each court allocation, the funding level of each court measured by the Judicial Council-approved Workload Formula, and the percent of funding actually provided to each court.

**Table 6. Calculated Funding Level of Each Court, Funding Level as Measured by Workload Formula, Percent of Funding Provided**

Court	Metric 6: Calculated Funding Level of each Court (Workload Formula Allocation)	Metric 7: Funding level of each trial court as measured by the Workload Formula (Workload Formula "Need")	Metric 8: The percent of funding actually provided to each court (Workload Formula Percentage)
	A	B	C (A / B)
Alameda	\$82,853,797	\$91,263,264	90.8%
Alpine	800,000	436,233	183.4%
Amador	3,811,969	4,104,927	92.9%
Butte	12,686,526	15,499,673	81.9%
Calaveras	3,113,405	3,034,383	102.6%
Colusa	2,371,498	2,415,621	98.2%
Contra Costa	50,550,945	59,635,536	84.8%
Del Norte	3,488,058	3,448,591	101.1%
El Dorado	8,921,043	10,324,368	86.4%
Fresno	58,549,644	75,332,816	77.7%
Glenn	2,795,390	2,676,801	104.4%
Humboldt	7,919,693	9,021,637	87.8%
Imperial	10,492,754	9,738,693	107.7%
Inyo	2,343,914	2,271,352	103.2%
Kern	62,809,351	73,668,735	85.3%
Kings	9,599,952	11,675,695	82.2%
Lake	4,286,900	5,493,217	78.0%
Lassen	2,553,568	2,263,344	112.8%
Los Angeles	614,047,038	819,680,292	74.9%
Madera	9,513,674	13,010,199	73.1%
Marin	13,986,764	15,094,820	92.7%
Mariposa	1,639,792	1,798,556	91.2%
Mendocino	7,063,064	7,538,191	93.7%

Court	Metric 6: Calculated Funding Level of each Court (Workload Formula Allocation)	Metric 7: Funding level of each trial court as measured by the Workload Formula (Workload Formula "Need")	Metric 8: The percent of funding actually provided to each court (Workload Formula Percentage)
	A	B	C (A / B)
Merced	15,107,823	18,692,196	80.8%
Modoc	1,276,377	1,219,811	104.6%
Mono	2,338,492	1,974,169	118.5%
Monterey	23,012,580	27,857,633	82.6%
Napa	8,786,945	10,602,266	82.9%
Nevada	5,522,629	7,272,182	75.9%
Orange	161,041,188	206,095,347	78.1%
Placer	20,407,354	25,911,569	78.8%
Plumas	1,763,098	1,680,815	104.9%
Riverside	124,855,721	148,174,515	84.3%
Sacramento	91,994,611	124,969,095	73.6%
San Benito	4,348,381	4,030,123	107.9%
San Bernardino	115,829,476	150,737,725	76.8%
San Diego	165,997,651	191,973,298	86.5%
San Francisco	63,735,563	62,252,778	102.4%
San Joaquin	41,675,837	56,687,245	73.5%
San Luis Obispo	16,448,537	20,537,274	80.1%
San Mateo	42,484,708	48,051,532	88.4%
Santa Barbara	26,277,821	30,835,347	85.2%
Santa Clara	85,784,634	104,543,924	82.1%
Santa Cruz	15,428,108	18,583,838	83.0%
Shasta	14,068,286	16,930,842	83.1%
Sierra	800,000	405,754	197.2%
Siskiyou	3,441,097	4,512,234	76.3%
Solano	27,405,940	32,364,148	84.7%
Sonoma	26,972,793	32,871,831	82.1%
Stanislaus	28,393,203	35,282,048	80.5%
Sutter	6,738,836	9,183,121	73.4%
Tehama	5,447,312	6,309,266	86.3%
Trinity	1,916,942	1,957,377	97.9%
Tulare	25,654,309	33,580,726	76.4%
Tuolumne	4,447,375	4,989,741	89.1%
Ventura	40,816,162	50,901,752	80.2%
Yolo	12,849,462	17,607,955	73.0%
Yuba	5,898,802	5,150,429	114.5%

Court	Metric 6: Calculated Funding Level of each Court (Workload Formula Allocation)	Metric 7: Funding level of each trial court as measured by the Workload Formula (Workload Formula "Need")	Metric 8: The percent of funding actually provided to each court (Workload Formula Percentage)
	A	B	C (A / B)
<b>Total<sup>10</sup></b>	<b>\$2,215,166,791</b>	<b>\$2,754,156,851</b>	<b>80.4%</b>

Individual funding percentages for the trial courts ranged from 73.0 percent to 197.2 percent. Courts that have funding percentages that exceed 100 percent are generally the smallest courts. Alpine and Sierra, the two smallest courts based on workload measures, receive a set allocation amount determined for operations. For 2021-22, this amount was set at \$800,000. Other small courts, those with two authorized judicial positions, have been prioritized for new funding through the Workload Formula methodology to fund up to a minimum of 100 percent of measured workload need.<sup>11</sup> Courts may exceed 100 percent of workload need due to other factors such as consumer price index funding.

### ***Determining Workload Formula Need***

The calculated funding level of each court, or Workload Formula need, is measured by the Judicial Council-approved weighted caseload study, the Resource Assessment Study (RAS). The methodology for weighted caseload was developed by the National Center for State Courts and is based on the principle that funding should be linked to workload. In addition to California, weighted caseload models are used in at least 25 other states.

California's RAS model calculates 22 different caseweights. It uses an average number of processing minutes per case type, taking into account differences in workload complexity and time to process, and multiplies those weighting factors by the number of filings in each case type in each court. The total number of minutes for all case types in a court, based on each court's unique case mix, comprises the 'workload' for each court. This workload is then used to calculate how many trial court staff are needed to process these cases.

Once the number of staff has been calculated, this information is converted into dollars by using an average salary cost, adjustments for cost-of-labor differentials based on United States Bureau

<sup>10</sup> Variance in total is due to rounding.

Judicial Council report (July 9, 2021), <https://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9503183&GUID=6AEC14FF-C7BD-455E-9B5B-86E521702022>; Judicial Council minutes (July 9, 2021), <https://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=M&ID=803683&GUID=7A91FDD5-4839-4018-9831-79E23D4383BF>.

<sup>11</sup> Includes Amador, Calaveras, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Inyo, Lassen, Mariposa, Modoc, Mono, Plumas, San Benito, and Trinity.

of Labor Statistics data, retirement and health costs, operating expenditures and equipment costs, and other adjustments to account for court size.

The RAS model is updated each year to reflect the most recent three-year average of filings data. The Workload Formula for 2021-22 was based on the three-year average filings data for 2017-18 through 2019-20. The filings data for 2019-20 was further adjusted to account for the early impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Metric 9: Year End Fund Balance Detail for 2021-22

Government Code section 68502.5(c)(2)(A) requires the Judicial Council to finalize allocations to trial courts in January of each fiscal year after review of available trial court reserves as of June 30 of the prior fiscal year. For 2021-22, the trial courts had a balance of \$132.8 million which was used for specific purposes.

The \$132.8 million comprises several categories: 1) a three percent fund balance cap of \$79.5 million, 2) funds held on behalf (FHOB) of the trial courts requests totaling \$12.4 million, and 3) court-funded requests (CFR) totaling \$39.4 million. The remaining balance of \$1.5 million is retained in the Trial Court Trust Fund (TCTF). Table 7 displays the court-specific information for each of these categories.

**Table 7. Fund Balance Detail for 2021-22**

Court	Fund Balance Subject to Cap <sup>12</sup>	Funds Held on Behalf of Courts	Court Funded Requests <sup>13</sup>	Retained in TCTF
	A	B	C	D
Alameda	\$3,122,215	\$0	\$13,736	\$0
Alpine	461	0	0	0
Amador	1,044,742	902,484	0	0
Butte	586,395	88,188	158,000	0
Calaveras	171,343	0	0	56,256
Colusa	457,059	168,065	7,00	192,800
Contra Costa	1,929,910	0	226,907	0
Del Norte	13,562	0	20,833	0
El Dorado	824,874	504,978	15,951	5,580
Fresno	1,371,121	0	0	0
Glenn	229,319	111,000	0	6,280
Humboldt	183,363	0	0	0
Imperial	332,530	0	13,500	4,406

<sup>12</sup> Variance in total is due to rounding.

<sup>13</sup> Court Funded Requests are funded through court operational budgets.

Court	Fund Balance Subject to Cap <sup>12</sup>	Funds Held on Behalf of Courts	Court Funded Requests <sup>13</sup>	Retained in TCTF
	A	B	C	D
Inyo	9,140	0	0	0
Kern	2,240,120	0	2,558,341	0
Kings	1,011,969	629,230	195,611	0
Lake	664,571	510,940	62,600	0
Lassen	73,471	0	0	0
Los Angeles	20,201,869	0	26,912,066	0
Madera	356,337	0	0	1,265
Marin	66,828	0	0	0
Mariposa	123,026	53,753	127,140	0
Mendocino	122,391	0	0	0
Merced	535,202	0	64,413	0
Modoc	93,224	0	0	36,530
Mono	469,974	135,000	169,753	247,681
Monterey	1,403,320	552,953	0	15,000
Napa	111,696	0	0	1,958
Nevada	112,576	0	0	0
Orange	2,640,511	0	250,000	0
Placer	1,366,016	575,000	150,000	29,507
Plumas	52,684	0	0	5,653
Riverside	5,249,782	0	1,296,398	0
Sacramento	7,200,950	3,946,130	1,129,947	0
San Benito	848,307	709,532	0	0
San Bernardino	1,907,705	0	1,048,734	0
San Diego	3,240,777	0	1,113,382	0
San Francisco	198,805	0	0	0
San Joaquin	1,738,350	212,917	313,446	0
San Luis Obispo	1,072,669	471,740	0	0
San Mateo	2,595,305	973,054	440,256	0
Santa Barbara	738,543	0	223,322	0
Santa Clara	2,041,068	0	129,485	0
Santa Cruz	515,631	0	0	1,008
Shasta	722,028	0	0	0
Sierra	65,921	29,604	0	0
Siskiyou	79,694	0	0	0
Solano	943,264	0	0	1,866
Sonoma	1,815,874	0	194,516	890,985
Stanislaus	1,753,187	739,168	2,568,029	152

Court	Fund Balance Subject to Cap <sup>12</sup>	Funds Held on Behalf of Courts	Court Funded Requests <sup>13</sup>	Retained in TCTF
	A	B	C	D
Sutter	873,699	604,590	0	6
Tehama	704,429	495,697	0	0
Trinity	36,212	0	0	0
Tulare	821,799	0	0	0
Tuolumne	194,250	0	0	8,741
Ventura	1,440,978	0	0	0
Yolo	536,941	0	0	0
Yuba	194,437	0	315,569	0
<b>Total<sup>14</sup></b>	<b>\$79,479,426</b>	<b>\$12,414,023</b>	<b>\$39,433,242</b>	<b>\$1,505,670</b>

### **Three Percent Fund Balance Cap – \$79.5 million**

In 2021-22, trial courts retained \$79.5 million under the allowable three percent fund balance cap. Government Code section 77203(b) authorizes the amount of unexpended funds that a trial court may carry over to the next fiscal year to provide a designated reserve. Effective June 30, 2020, a trial court can carry over unexpended funds in an amount not to exceed three percent of the court's operating budget from the prior fiscal year. This process excludes encumbrances, prepayments, and other excluded funds in the allowable fund balance.

In 2019-20, the amount of funding that a court could carry over was increased from one percent to three percent in recognition of the need for trial courts to have adequate reserve funding to support operational needs and address emergency expenditures.

### **Funds Held on Behalf of the Trial Courts – \$12.4 million**

In 2021-22, the Judicial Council approved a total of \$12.4 million in requests for FHOB of the trial courts. Under this process, courts can request that a reduction in their TCTF allocations be retained in the TCTF as restricted fund balance for the benefit of those courts.<sup>15</sup> The funds are then allocated back to the courts by the Judicial Council for the purposes stated in their approved requests. Allowable FHOB requests can include, but are not limited to:

1. Projects that extend beyond the original planned three-year process such as delayed deployment of information systems;
2. Technology improvements or infrastructure such as a new case management system;

<sup>14</sup> Judicial Council report (January 20, 2023), [xxx](#); Judicial Council minutes (January 20, 2023), [xxx](#).

<sup>15</sup> <https://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=10830769&GUID=305F68B7-26CF-4E57-B29D-BD15D8B1CB6D>

3. Facilities maintenance or repair allowed under rule 10.810 of the California Rule of Court;
4. Court efficiencies such as online and smart forms for court users; and
5. Other court infrastructure projects such as vehicle replacement or copy machine replacement.

### ***Court-Funded Requests – \$39.4 million***

In 2021-22, approved CFR requests for the trial courts totaled \$39.4 million. The CFR process allows trial courts to make a court-funded facilities request to assist in paying for certain facilities' costs through a reduction in courts' TCTF allocations.<sup>16</sup> This process allows the trial courts to plan for necessary facilities needs that may not otherwise be funded due to insufficient trial court facilities resources.

Allowable costs under the CFR process include specific facility modifications, such as tenant improvements and audio/video modifications; allowable court operations costs under rule 10.810 of the California Rule of Court such as interior painting, replacement/maintenance of flooring and furniture, facilities maintenance or repair; and lease-related costs.

Approval of CFRs is delegated to the director of the Judicial Council's Facilities Program by the Trial Court Facility Modification Advisory Committee. Requests that increase ongoing operational costs to the Judicial Council beyond the initial outlay for the project are presented to the Trial Court Facility Modification Advisory Committee for approval. Approved requests are reported to the Judicial Council on a quarterly basis.

### ***Retained in the Trial Court Trust Fund – \$1.5 million***

After calculation of the final three percent fund balance cap and approved FHOB and CFR requests, \$1.5 million was retained in the TCTF as unrestricted fund balance, as required by Government Code section 68502.5(c)(2)(A).

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<sup>16</sup> <https://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=4625695&GUID=15BB7747-C300-48DA-AA81-5546168A1991>

## ABC Superior Court

### FY 2021 - 22 Operational Metrics Report

#### Metric 1: Hours of Operation Including Public Counter Hours

Court hours of operation are an indicator of when the public may enter a court facility and public counter hours are the times when a clerk's window or counter is open to help those needing assistance. There are two primary services offered at the public counter: people can file a court document or look up a case. Information on court hours of service is current as of November 1, 2022. Courts with multiple locations were asked to report on the hours of operation and public counter hours for the main court location

<b>Court Hours of Operation</b>	08:00 AM - 04:30 PM
<b>Public Counter Hours</b>	08:30 AM - 03:00 PM

#### Metric 2: Time to Disposition by Case Type

Time to disposition, the percent of cases resolved within a certain time frame, is a nationally recognized metric of court caseload management that helps courts assess the length of time that it takes to bring cases to disposition. Standard 2.2 of the California Rules of Court established case disposition time goals for civil and criminal cases. Not all courts are able to report these data mostly due to technical issues resulting from case management system transitions. As courts finalize their case management systems transitions, more courts will be able to report this data.

Casetype	Timeframe	Percent
Unlimited Civil	Percent disposed of in less than 12 months	0%
	Percent disposed of in less than 18 months	0%
	Percent disposed of in less than 24 months	0%
Limited Civil	Percent disposed of in less than 12 months	0%
	Percent disposed of in less than 18 months	0%
	Percent disposed of in less than 24 months	0%
Unlawful Detainers	Percent disposed of in Less than 30 Days	0%
	Percent disposed of in Less than 45 Days	0%
Small Claims	Percent disposed of in Less than 70 Days	0%
	Percent disposed of in Less than 90 Days	0%
Felony	Percent disposed of in Less than 12 months	0%
	Percent disposed of in Less than 30 days	0%
	Percent disposed of in Less than 45 days	0%
	Percent disposed of in Less than 90 days	0%
Misdemeanors	Percent disposed of in Less than 30 days	0%
	Percent disposed of in Less than 90 days	0%
	Percent disposed of in Less than 120 days	0%

### Metric 3: Caseload Clearance by Case Type

Caseload clearance is another nationally recognized court workload metric, used to assess whether courts are able to keep up with incoming workload and to identify areas of potential backlog. Clearance rates are calculated by dividing dispositions by filings for a given period of time. A clearance rate of 100 percent would indicate that the number of cases disposed equals the number of cases that come into the court system (as filings).

### Metric 4: Backlog by Case Type

To measure pandemic-era backlog, caseload clearance rates were compared across a pre-pandemic period (March to August 2019) and a pandemic period, which was initially defined as March to August 2020 but was expanded to include additional months as the pandemic period lengthened (currently defined as March 2020 to June 2022). Backlog is measured by multiplying the difference between the two clearance rates by pandemic filings to estimate the backlog by case type. If the clearance percentage difference is a positive number, cases are processing at a higher rate than before the pandemic and there is no backlog for that case type.

	March to August 2019 (Prepandemic)		March 2020 to June 2022 (Pandemic)		Prepandemic	Pandemic	Clearance	Total Pandemic	Est. Backlog
Casetype	Avg. Filings/Mth	Avg. Dis/Mth	Avg. Filings/Mth	Avg. Dis/Mth	Clearance	Clearance	Difference	Filings	(filings)
Certification	300	323	278	261	108%	94%	-14%	7,788	1,090
Child Support	234	227	147	124	97%	84%	-13%	4,127	521
Civil - Limited	621	574	499	553	93%	111%	18%	13,981	-
Civil - Unlimited	300	323	278	261	108%	94%	-14%	7,788	1,090
Cons./Guardianship	234	227	147	124	97%	84%	-13%	4,127	521
Dissolution	621	574	499	553	93%	111%	18%	13,981	-
Domestic Violence	300	323	278	261	108%	94%	-14%	7,788	1,090
Estates/Trusts	234	227	147	124	97%	84%	-13%	4,127	521
Felony	621	574	499	553	93%	111%	18%	13,981	-
Infractions	300	323	278	261	108%	94%	-14%	7,788	1,090
Juvenile Delinquency	234	227	147	124	97%	84%	-13%	4,127	521
Juvenile Dependency	621	574	499	553	93%	111%	18%	13,981	-
Mental Health	300	323	278	261	108%	94%	-14%	7,788	1,090
Misd - Non traffic	234	227	147	124	97%	84%	-13%	4,127	521
Misd - Traffic	621	574	499	553	93%	111%	18%	13,981	-
Other Family Petition	300	323	278	261	108%	94%	-14%	7,788	1,090
Parentage	234	227	147	124	97%	84%	-13%	4,127	521
Small Claims	621	574	499	553	93%	111%	18%	13,981	-
Unlawful Detainer	300	323	278	261	108%	94%	-14%	7,788	1,090

## Metric 5: Staff Vacancy Rates by Classification

Trial courts annually report on budgeted and filled positions using the Schedule 7A.<sup>1</sup> These data are reported by classification and are designated as filled or vacant as of July 1 of each reporting year. Schedule 7A data were used to calculate the vacancy rate by classification; since the data are reported as of a point in time—July 1, 2021—the data will not reflect changes in the number of filled positions that were made after that date. Although this year’s report largely focuses on data for the most recent, complete fiscal year (2021-22), the 2022-23 data, reported as of July 1, 2022, was recently compiled and has been included here to give a more contemporary representation of trial court vacancy information. For this report, data for every classification are shown (see table 5); future reports may consolidate some classifications for ease of use.

Classification	2021-22 Schedule 7A (data as of July 1, 2021)			2022-23 Schedule 7A (data as of July 1, 2022)			Difference in Vacancy Rate
	Total FTE	Filled FTE	Vacancy Rate	Total FTE	Filled FTE	Vacancy Rate	
Accountant-Auditor	18	11	39%	16.0	16.0	0%	-39%
Administrative Analyst	10	9	10%	13.0	8.0	38%	28%
Administrative Support Staff (temporary, part-time, intern or student worker)	8.8	8.3	7%	9.9	6.9	30%	24%
Assistant Court Executive Officer	18	11	39%	16.0	16.0	0%	-39%
Attorney	10	9	10%	13.0	8.0	38%	28%
Commissioner	8.8	8.3	7%	9.9	6.9	30%	24%
Communications Technician	18	11	39%	16.0	16.0	0%	-39%
Court Administrative/ Operations Manager	10	9	10%	13.0	8.0	38%	28%
Court Attendant	8.8	8.3	7%	9.9	6.9	30%	24%
Court Division Director/Branch Administrator	18	11	39%	16.0	16.0	0%	-39%
Court Executive Officer	10	9	10%	13.0	8.0	38%	28%
Court Interpreter Pro Tempore	8.8	8.3	7%	9.9	6.9	30%	24%

<sup>1</sup> Each court’s Schedule 7A is posted on the “Trial Courts Budget Reports” page of the California Courts website at [www.courts.ca.gov/48362.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/48362.htm).

## Funding Metrics:

### Metric 6: Calculated Funding Level of Each Court

### Metric 7: Funding Level of Each Trial Court as Measured by Judicial Council–Approved Workload Formula

### Metric 8: Percent of Funding Actually Provided to Each Court

The Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$3.617 billion for trial court operations. The Judicial Council allocated the majority of this funding to the trial courts according to its approved allocation methodology, known as the Workload Formula. The Workload Formula determines the need for trial court staff and funding based on workload measures.

For 2021-22, the council approved a Workload Formula allocation of \$2.215 billion. When compared to the 2021-22 measured workload need of \$2.754 billion, the allocation represented a statewide funding percentage of 80.4 percent.

Metric 6: Calculated Funding Level of each Court (Workload Formula Allocation)	\$80,000,000
Metric 7: Funding level of each trial court as measured by the Workload Formula (Workload Formula "Need")	\$100,000,000
Metric 8: The percent of funding actually provided to each court (Workload Formula Percentage)	80%

### Metric 9: Year End Fund Balance Detail for 2021-22

Government Code section 68502.5(c)(2)(A) requires the Judicial Council to finalize allocations to trial courts in January of each fiscal year after review of available trial court reserves as of June 30 of the prior fiscal year. For 2021-22, the trial courts had a year-end fund balance of \$132.8 million, which was used for specific purposes.

The year-end fund balance comprises several categories: 1) a three percent fund balance cap; 2) funds held on behalf (FHOB) of the trial courts requests; and 3) court-funded requests (CFR). The remaining balance is retained in the Trial Court Trust Fund (TCTF).

Fund Balance Subject to Cap	\$ 1,000
Funds Held on Behalf of Courts	-
Court Funded Requests	1,000
Retained in TCTF	-