

Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court

Annual Caseload Report

Fiscal Year 2024

July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

Presiding Judge Dirk V. Block

Judge James R. Coe

Judge John R. Hoffert

Judge Thomas E. Stine

Judge Daniel R. Fridrich

Judge Julie A. Martin

Judge Brynne H. Puhl

Clerk of the Court Kimberly Krzycki

Court Administrator Jill Gradwohl Schroeder



Annual Caseload Report, FY 2024

This Annual Caseload Report contains caseload statistics for the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court, which has jurisdiction over claims alleged to have arisen out of and in the course of employment relationships as well as most issues ancillary to the resolution of an employee's right to workers' compensation benefits. See the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act found at **Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 48-101 through 48-1,117.**

Tasks associated with litigation, such as filings of petitions, motions, and settlements are the focus of this report. The Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court submits an Annual Report to the Chief Justice describing the court's adjudication division activities as well as its regulatory and administrative functions. Recent fiscal year Annual Reports can be found on this website: <https://www.newcc.gov/>.

This publication has been prepared by the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court. Please **contact us** with questions or comments about this report, workers' compensation in Nebraska, or any of our programs and services.

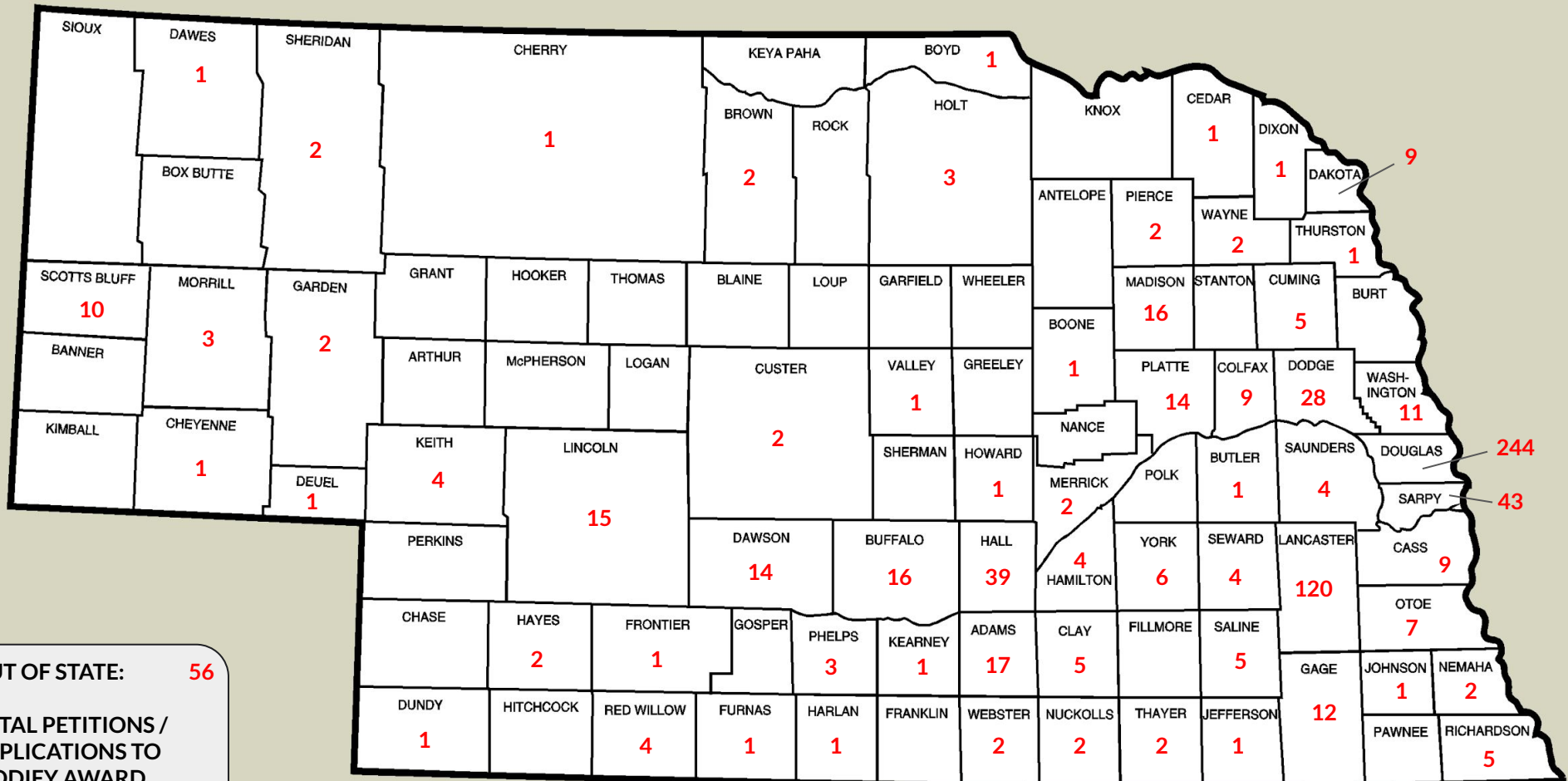
Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court
1010 Lincoln Mall, Suite 100
Lincoln, NE 68508-2833
402-471-6468 or 800-599-5155
<https://www.newcc.gov/>



Petitions and Applications to Modify Award by County

Below is a map showing the total number of Petitions and Applications to Modify Award filed with the court and allocating them to the counties where those Petitions allege the accidents occurred.

In addition to the cases shown below, allegations in an initial Petition can be litigated separately upon entry of an order allowing such. This happened in three cases during FY 2024.



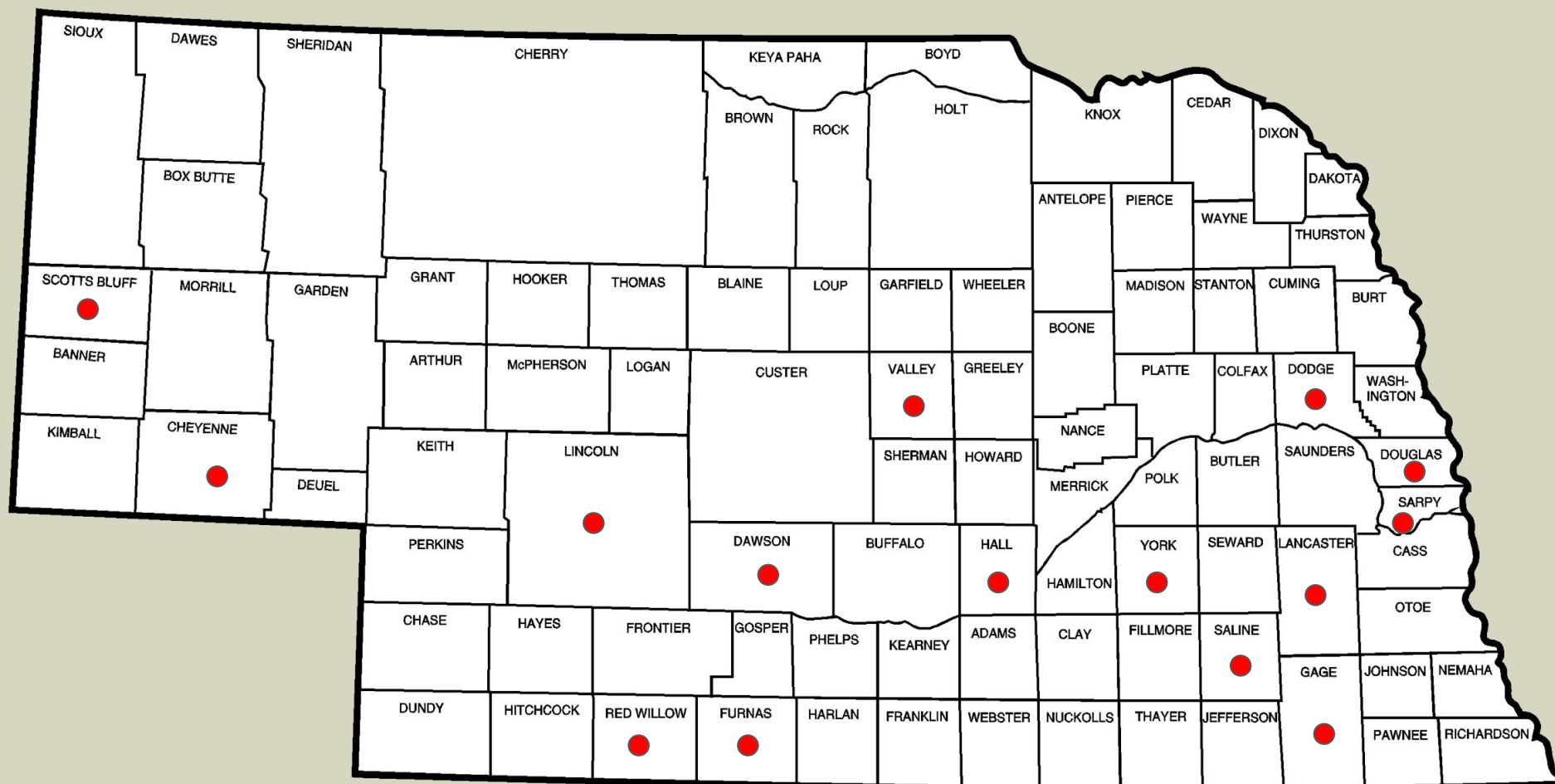
OUT OF STATE: 56

TOTAL PETITIONS /
APPLICATIONS TO
MODIFY AWARD
FILED IN FY 2024: 787



Trials and Evidentiary Hearings by County

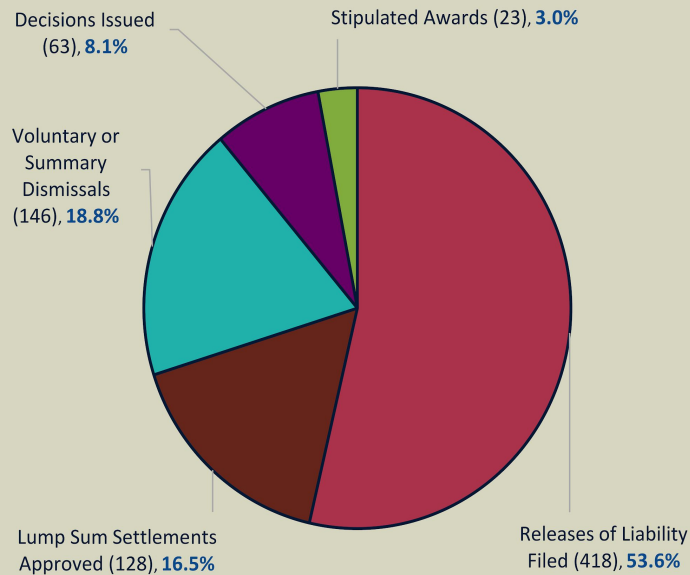
Generally, trials and evidentiary hearings are conducted in the county in which the accident occurred unless the litigants agree to a different location (see [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 48-177](#)). For that reason, the venue for workers' compensation cases could be in any county in Nebraska. In FY 2024, trials were conducted in the 15 Nebraska counties marked below.



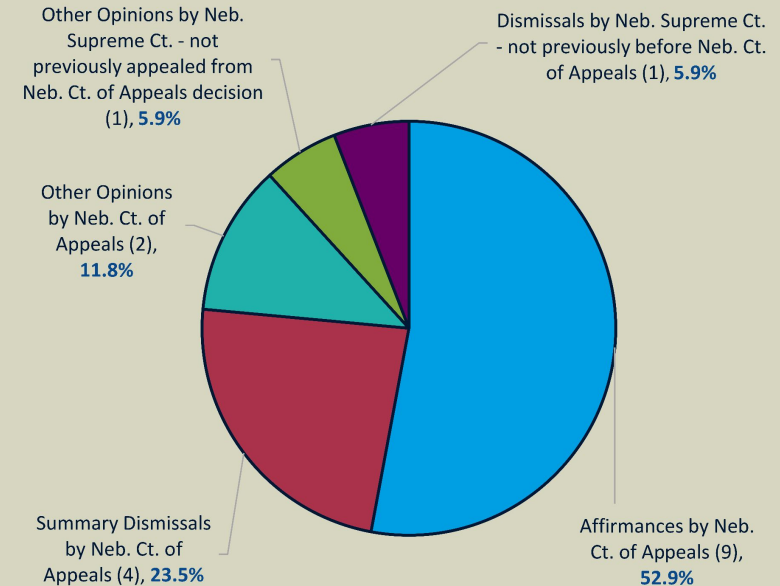
Litigation Summary – Dispositions

The charts on this page summarize Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court and appellate court dispositions of workers' compensation cases during FY 2024. Dispositions were made in 17 of the 19 appeals filed from decisions of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court during the fiscal year.

Dispositions of Pending Cases in Fiscal Year³
(Total Dispositions: 778)



Appellate Dispositions in Fiscal Year^{1, 2}
(Total Dispositions: 17)



Motions in FY 2024

2,531
Filed

322
Hearings

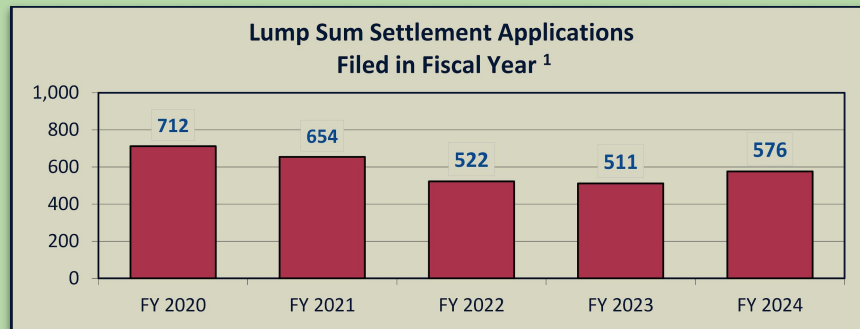
1,816
Dispositions

- Regarding appeals, a decision of a judge of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court may be appealed to the Nebraska Court of Appeals. A limited number of appeals may also be heard by the Nebraska Supreme Court, either directly or by further review of a decision by the Nebraska Court of Appeals. The procedures for those appeals align with those in actions at law from the district courts, except as otherwise provided in [Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 48-182](#) and [48-185](#).
- Regarding "other opinions," these are opinions from the Nebraska Supreme Court or Court of Appeals such as: reversed and remanded; reversed; affirmed in part, reversed in part, and in part remanded; affirmed in part, and in part reversed, and any other variations thereof.
- Correction to [FY 2023 Annual Report](#) data: The number of lump sum settlements approved in cases pending in FY 2023 was 130 (not 477 as previously reported); consequently, the total number of dispositions of pending cases was 809 (not 1,156 as previously reported).

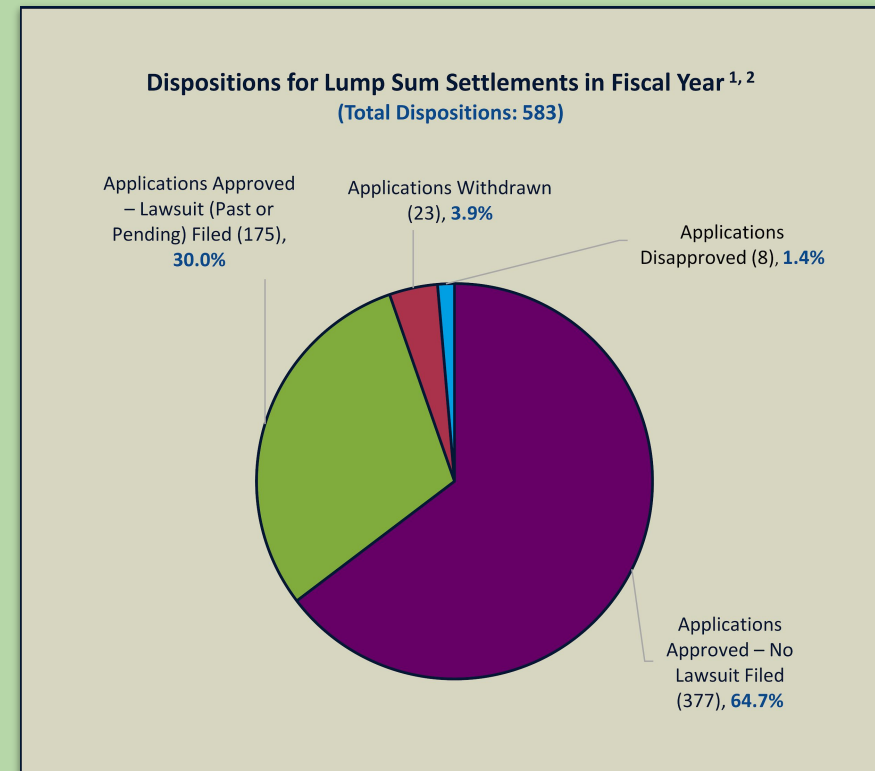


Settlement Summary – Lump Sum Settlement Applications and Dispositions in Fiscal Year

The charts on this page summarize Lump Sum Settlement applications filed and dispositions made during FY 2024. When comparing the charts on this page, please note that not all settlement applications filed in a fiscal year are disposed of in the same fiscal year.



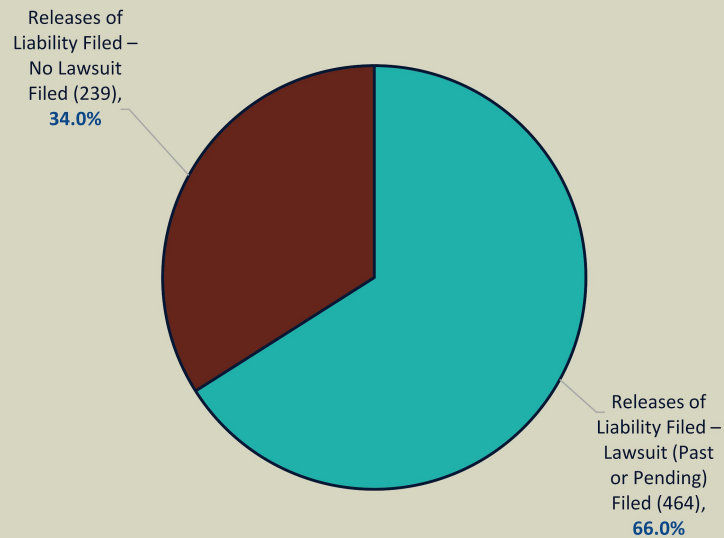
- 1 Pursuant to [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 48-139](#), lump sum settlement agreements require court approval. In 2009, the Nebraska Legislature amended this statute to eliminate mandatory court approval of certain settlement agreements and to require the filing of a release of liability for those settlements no longer requiring court approval.
- 2 “Applications Approved – Lawsuit (Past or Pending) Filed” includes Applications for Lump Sum Settlement accounted for in the “Litigation Summary” as to pending cases in addition to settlements in cases previously litigated.



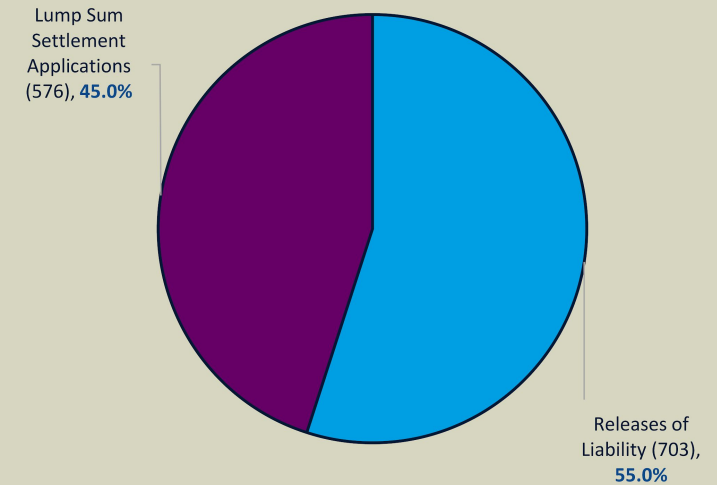
Settlement Summary – Releases of Liability Filed in Fiscal Year

The charts on this page summarize Releases of Liability filed during FY 2024 and compare the number of Lump Sum Settlement applications with the number of Releases of Liability filed during FY 2024.

Releases of Liability Filed in Fiscal Year^{1, 2}
(Total Releases: 703)



Lump Sum Settlements and Releases of Liability Filed in Fiscal Year¹
(Total Applications and Releases: 1,279)



- 1 Pursuant to [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 48-139](#), lump sum settlement agreements require court approval. In 2009, the Nebraska Legislature amended this statute to eliminate mandatory court approval of certain settlement agreements and to require the filing of a release of liability for those settlements no longer requiring court approval.
- 2 “Releases of Liability Filed – Lawsuit (Past or Pending) Filed” includes Releases of Liability accounted for in the “Litigation Summary” as to pending cases in addition to settlements in cases previously litigated.





Contact Us

Please [contact us](#) with questions or comments about this report, workers' compensation in Nebraska, or any of our programs and services.

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Historic fiscal year data is available in our previously published Annual Reports, which may be viewed or downloaded from our website: <https://www.newcc.gov/resources/court-forms-and-publications/annual-reports>

