



Annual Report

*Fiscal Year July 1, 2018
to June 30, 2019*

**Nebraska Administrative
Office of the Courts
& Probation**

Message from Chief Justice Mike Heavican



The Nebraska Judicial Branch closed fiscal year 2018 hosting a national state court Summit on Pandemic Preparedness. The event, presented by the Court, was held at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha. The Medical Center is home to the country's largest biocontainment unit and has treated Ebola patients on at least three occasions. Throughout this report, you will see photos of the 2018 Summit on Pandemic Preparedness.

The Summit brought court leaders, public health officials, legislators, and executive branch officials to Nebraska. This provided an opportunity for attendees to begin a collective conversation on the need to plan and prepare for a pandemic, which often includes imposing quarantines that may potentially raise legal issues. The first-of-its-kind planning session included teams from 25 states and three territories.

Showcasing our State is an easy task when we are surrounded by the talent and expertise demonstrated at the Summit. It was an honor to serve as host for this prestigious group, and I thank the Governor for attending and adding to our welcome.

This same talent and dedication can be found every day throughout our court system. The Judicial Branch is privileged to observe the kindness, sacrifice, and innovation of judges, probation officers, court managers, public guardians, mediators, and employees as we serve the public. Our newest endeavor, the Access to Justice Commission, serves as the central organization under which many of our outreach services are now housed. As noted in the Spotlight section of this report (page 11), the Commission's influence and responsibilities continue to grow. Two very valuable committees have been added: the Consortium of Tribal, State, and Federal Courts and the Civil Justice Reform Committee.

On behalf of Nebraska's entire Judicial Branch, I am pleased to present this Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Annual Report of the Nebraska Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation.



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Nebraska Medicine's Chihuly Sanctuary visited during the 2019 Pandemic Summit held in Omaha.

Judicial Leadership

The Nebraska Constitution provides that general administrative authority over all the courts in the state is vested in the Supreme Court and shall be exercised by the Chief Justice (Nebraska Const. art. V).

At the local level, trial court judges are responsible for the operation of the court system and are tasked with providing leadership within their judicial district to enrich the well-being of the court system.

The Court supports a number of commissions and committees consisting of citizens, judges, and lawyers who collaborate to improve the delivery of justice throughout the state. A complete listing of committees and their members can be found on the Judicial Branch website under the Administration section.

Judicial Associations

Each level of the trial court system has an association providing leadership for its judges. The presidents of the associations for the 2018-19 fiscal year are:

- **District Court Judges' Association:** Judge John Colborn, Lincoln
- **County Court Judges' Association:** Judge Marcela Keim, Omaha
- **Separate Juvenile Court Judges' Association:** Judge Christopher Kelly, Omaha

Annual Leadership Conference

Chief Justice Heavican convenes a conference of judicial leaders each spring which includes the chairs of commissions and committees of the Supreme Court. The conference is designed to enhance the leadership skills of trial court judges and to promote innovative programming throughout the branch. The Chief Justice selected five emerging or ongoing issues to be addressed by new judge leaders in workgroups over the upcoming year.

Work Group 1: **Protection Orders – Creating an Accommodating Courtroom for Protection Order Applicants**

- Under the Nebraska Supreme Court Committee on Self-Represented Litigation, Chairperson: Judge Frankie Moore
- Work group Co-chairs: Judges Stephanie Hansen and George Thompson

Work Group 2: **Addressing the Increasing Number of High Conflict Cases Returning to Court**

- Under the Nebraska Supreme Court Dispute Resolution Council, Chairperson: Judge Mike Pirtle
- Work group Co-chairs: Judges John Marsh and John Rademacher

Work Group 3: **Post Release Supervision - Evaluation of Pending Legislation and Implementation**

- Under the Nebraska Supreme Court Probation Services Committee, Chairperson: Judge Jodi Nelson
- Work group Co-chairs: Judges Rick Schreiner and Stefanie Martinez

Work Group 4: **Mentoring of New Attorneys**

- Under the Nebraska Supreme Court Attorney Services Division with Supreme Court Justice Jonathan Papik
- Work group Co-chairs: Judges Derek Vaughan and Tom Zimmerman

Work Group 4: **Evaluation of the Judicial Evaluation Poll**

- Under the Nebraska Supreme Court Services Division with Court of Appeals Judge Riko Bishop
- Work group Co-chairs: Judges Matt Acton and Julie Martin

Nebraska Judges

Judicial Excellence

Nebraska distinguished judges recognized for their contributions to the Judicial Branch and to their communities in October 2018 include:

- **2018 Service to the Community:** Judge Robert O’Neal, Judge of the Separate Juvenile Court, Sarpy County
- **2018 Service to the Judiciary:** Judge John Samson, Judge of the District Court, 6th Judicial District

O’Neal received the **Improvement of Community Relations Award** for his commitment to youth education and development. He has served as a Regional Mock Trial Coordinator, and mentor/attorney coach for his local Mock Trial team for nearly 20 years. He also serves as championship coordinator every three years, welcoming teams, parents, volunteers, and staff to the courthouse in Papillion.

O’Neal’s service extends to educational involvement outside of the court system including numerous activities with the Papillion-La Vista Schools Foundation. He has served on both the Papillion-La Vista Community Schools Board of Education and the Papillion-La Vista Schools Foundation Board of Directors. Each year he has assisted the Papillion Area Historical Society and the Papillion-La Vista Community Schools with the 4th grade History Program, providing history lessons from the old Sarpy County Courthouse and the Jail.

Samson was given the **Improvement of the Judicial System Award** for his leadership role in judicial administration. During a recent Chief Justice Leadership Conference, Samson served as a new-judge leader, along with Judge Linda Bauer, in writing and presenting the findings of the Judicial Workload Equalization Committee. The year-long project was designed to assist in solving the ongoing struggle to arrange for fair and equitable assignments for judges and staff. Previously, Samson co-chaired the Nebraska District and Juvenile Court Record Committee with Judge Robert Otte of Lincoln. Their collaboration resulted in a report which has served as a base for many subsequent studies within the court system.

Samson worked tirelessly to establish the District 6 Adult Drug Court in Washington County. He organized staff and funding for operations by packaging together both county and state funds. The first graduation ceremony and celebration was held in January 2018 with Samson hosting the event.



Separate Juvenile Court Judge Robert O’Neal, Chief Justice Mike Heavican, District Court Judge John Samson.

Judicial Appointments FY 2018-2019

All dates represent the date the judge took the bench on their respective court.

Nebraska Supreme Court

John R. Freudenberg	Supreme Court	07/06/2018
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District Court

Christina M. Marroquin	Judicial District 5	08/30/2018
James M. Masteller	Judicial District 4	11/01/2018
Michael E. Piccolo	Judicial District 11	12/14/2018
Ryan C. Carson	Judicial District 9	02/08/2019
Andrew C. Butler	Judicial District 9	05/31/2019

County Court

Joseph E. Dalton	Judicial District 3	10/29/2018
Andrew R. Lange	Judicial District 5	11/01/2018
David J. Partsch	Judicial District 2	05/01/2019
Joel B. Jay	Judicial District 11	05/21/2019

Administrative Leadership for Courts & Probation

Corey R. Steel, State Court Administrator

Vision:

Be a trusted, collaborative, and respected catalyst for and provider of professional court administrative services.

Mission:

Under the direction of the Nebraska Supreme Court, the Administrative Office of the Courts' mission is to ensure the public has equal access to justice using leadership, education, technology, and administrative services to implement consistent, efficient, and effective court practices.



Probation Administration Transition

Ellen Fabian Brokofsky, Nebraska State Probation Administrator and longtime Judicial Branch employee, announced her retirement after 13 years as Probation Administrator for the Nebraska Supreme Court, effective December 31, 2018. Brokofsky had served in varying levels of the probation system for the past 43 years.

In January 2019, the Nebraska Supreme Court announced the appointment of Deborah (Deb) Minardi as Nebraska's new State Probation Administrator. Minardi, the sixth administrator in sixty years, directs the statewide delivery of all juvenile and adult probation services in Nebraska.



Brokofsky



Minardi

Administrative Office of the Courts & Probation

The office is organized into the following divisions:

- **Administration and Operations:** *Gene Cotter, Deputy Administrator*
- **Attorney Services:** *Carole McMahon-Boies, Administrator*
- **Community-Based Programs and Field Services:** *Robert Denton, Deputy Administrator*
- **Court Services:** *Judy Beutler, Deputy Administrator*
- **Information Technology:** *Jennifer Rasmussen, Deputy Administrator*
- **Juvenile Services:** *Jeanne Brandner, Deputy Administrator*

Program specific annual reports can be found on the Judicial Branch website (supremecourt.nebraska.gov).

Exemplary Employees of the Judicial Branch

Chief Justice Mike Heavican presented 12 Employee Recognition Awards to individuals and team members during the Nebraska Supreme Court's tenth annual recognition event.

The 2018 Award Recipients include:

- **Employee of the Year:** Monica Miles-Steffens, Director of Placement, Juvenile Court Services, Probation Administration
- **Outstanding Customer Service in the Courts:** County Court Information Specialists (Angie Lewandowski, Hamilton County Clerk Magistrate Judicial District 5; Rachel Olson, Washington County Records Clerk, Judicial District 6; Diana Wehrman, Nuckolls County Clerk Magistrate, Judicial District 10; Michele Woods, Kimball County Clerk Magistrate, Judicial District 12)
- **Outstanding County Court Staff:** Sara Gunderson, Assistant Clerk I, Dakota County Court
- **Outstanding County Court Supervisor:** Pat Veburg, Assistant Clerk II, Hall County Court
- **Outstanding County Court Clerk Magistrate:** Lisa Stover, Clerk Magistrate, Dodge County Court
- **Outstanding Clerk of the District Court:** Jacquelyn Stewart, Clerk, Seward County District Court
- **Innovation:** Ashley Nolte, Administrative Assistant, Nebraska Supreme Court
- **Diversity Leadership:** Inclusive Communities Work Group (Christine Christopherson, Director of Judicial Branch Education; Julie Kindler, Probation Program Development Manager, Juvenile Services Division; Matt Lewis, Court Improvement Project Specialist; Monica Miles-Steffens, Director Probation Juvenile Placement; Jerid Wedige, Judicial Branch Education Probation Training Director)
- **Outstanding Probation Officer:** Larissa Funk, Juvenile Specialized Probation Officer, District 7 Probation
- **Outstanding Probation Supervisor:** Marty Metschke, Reporting Center Coordinator, District 1 Probation
- **Outstanding Administrative Employee:** Abbie Christian, ICJ Deputy Compact Administrator and Compact Coordinator, Probation Administration
- **Outstanding Team:** Lancaster County Drug Testing Unit, District 3A Reporting Center (DeRance Chandler, Justin Hardiman, Kylie Jesionowicz, Angelica Menendez, Edwin Quintanilla, Blanca Rincon-Flores, Shawn Schneider)



Legislation Implementation & Finances

Protection Orders

LB532 clarifies the protection order process and increases statutory consistency between the current three types of protection orders. For example, it allows a protection order petition of one type to be treated as another type if the petition, affidavit and evidence show it would be appropriate. Therefore, the petitioner is not required to file a second petition. Additional spending authority was provided to implement this bill.

Justice Reinvestment

LB686 relates to justice reinvestment, an on-going initiative by all branches of Nebraska state government to reduce adult incarceration. Those sections that pertain to the Judicial Branch include changes to post-release supervision, by which probation assists a person's reentry into the community after release from prison or jail. In addition, it establishes deferred judgment as a new sentencing option for judges which may include supervision by probation. Additional spending authority was provided to implement this bill.

District Court Judge

LB309 adds one district court judge, effective July 1, 2021. This action brings the total number of district court judges, within the 4th Judicial District, which includes the city of Omaha, to 17 and implements a portion of a previous finding by the Judicial Resources Commission.

Restorative Justice

LB595 includes restorative justice to the duties of the Office of Dispute Resolution, its director and advisory council. Courts are now authorized to prescribe restorative justice practices and services in juvenile cases. It also authorizes county and city attorneys to use restorative justice in diversion programs.

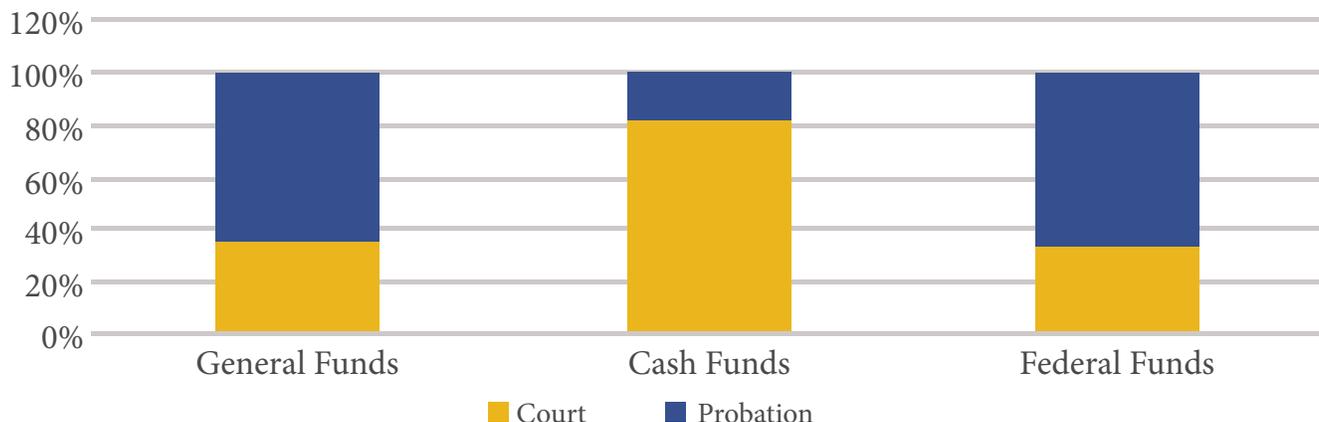
105th Legislature, 2nd Session

FY 2019 Judicial Branch Finances

Total Expenditures by Fund Source

	Court	Probation	Total
General Funds	66,337,204	112,513,919	175,851,123
Cash Funds	7,905,971	735,514	8,641,485
Federal Funds	467,831	892,904	1,360,735
Total	71,711,006	114,142,337	185,853,343

Expenditures by Fund Source FY 2019

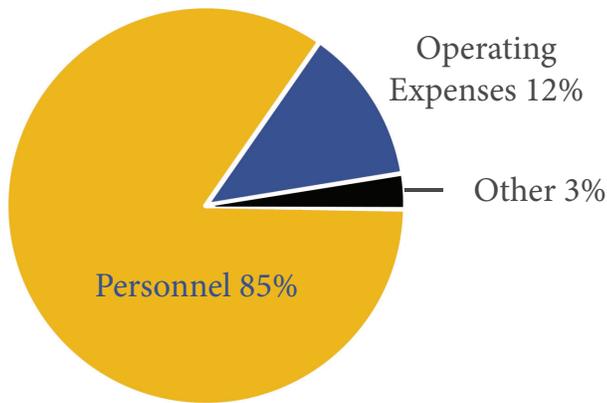


FY 2019 Judicial Branch Finances

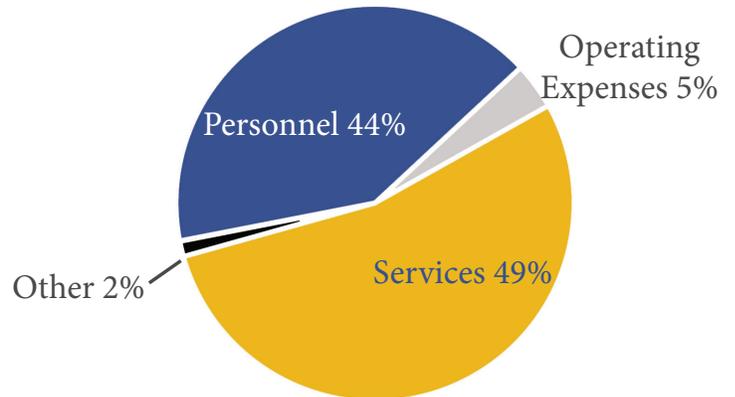
Total Expenditures by Major Account Category

	Court	Probation	Total
Personnel	60,887,343	50,580,002	111,467,345
Operating Expenses	8,766,583	5,575,924	14,342,507
Services	-	56,220,640	56,220,640
Travel	952,761	1,720,269	2,673,030
Equipment	34,320	45,501	79,821
Grant-in-Aid	1,070,000	-	1,070,000
Total	71,711,007	114,142,336	185,853,343

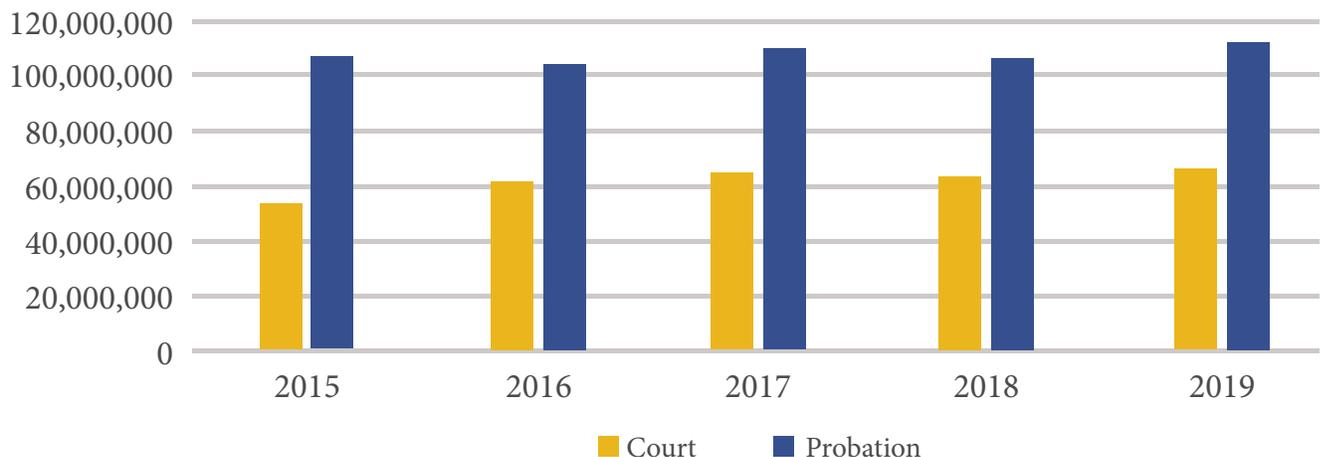
Court FY 2019 Expenditures by Major Account Categories



Probation FY 2019 Expenditures by Major Account Categories



General Fund Expenditures for Judicial Branch Operations FY 2015-2019



Through the Courts to the Community

Community Outreach

The Judicial Branch is committed to providing law-related education to both students and adults in an effort to ensure that Nebraskans understand the workings of our democratic institutions and maintain confidence in our court system.

Public Education and Outreach Promoting Law & Equity (PEOPLE) Committee

Student/Youth Programs

The legal community reaches Nebraska's next generation of leaders through the education of teachers and the general adult public through Nebraska media professionals. The court system assists with the education and support of both journalists and teachers through resources on the Judicial Branch website, person-to-person mentoring, and online programming. Statewide projects in partnership with law-related entities are carried out each year as are individual programs on the local level. Nebraska judges and Judicial Branch professionals regularly speak to community and student groups both at the State Capitol and in their communities.

Nebraska's appellate courts provide outreach with programming focused on high schools, colleges, and law schools. Argument sessions are held within the educational facility, preceded by a guest speaker who outlines the court system and followed by an open question session with students. Youth-education programs are held at the convenience of the school and tied to Constitution Day (September 17) and Law Day (May 1) which are nationally recognized events.

Trial courts and judges participate in Nebraska's Law Day Job Shadowing program for 5th graders where students visit courtrooms for various law-related lessons. Courts also participate in the High School Mock Trial program, County Government Day, and Teen Parents and the Law programming.



Chief Judge Frankie Moore, Judge Dave Arterburn, and Judge Riko Bishop wait for oral arguments to begin on campus at York College in York, Nebraska.



Nebraska Supreme Court (joined by United States District Judge John Gerrard – far left) answers questions from high school students following court arguments in Schuyler, Nebraska.

As stewards of justice, all judicial branch personnel and officers of the court should participate in community outreach and collaboration education programs and projects that enhance public trust and confidence in the judicial branch, the legal system, and promotion of excellence in public service.

~Nebraska PEOPLE Committee

Access to Justice

Nebraska's Access to Justice Commission was established to promote the Nebraska Supreme Court's goal of providing equal access to swift, fair justice for all Nebraskans regardless of income, race, ethnicity, gender, disability, age or language.

The commission coordinates the various activities and projects of the courts, the bar, legal service organizations, legal education providers, the legal and public libraries, and the community through a variety of committees designed to serve under the commission.

A primary objective of the commission is to leverage limited resources and to increase the impact of the work being done to address the unmet access to justice needs of Nebraskans.

Original committees of the Access to Justice Commission are:

- **Committee on Equity and Fairness** whose mission is to identify and address barriers to accessing the courts and related court programs and to continue efforts to ensure fairness in matters related to accessing court in Nebraska. The Committee recognizes that a person's diversity status (e.g., race, ethnicity, gender, disability, English language proficiency, immigration status) can be a barrier to accessing Nebraska's courts and related programs and processes.
- **Language Access Committee** whose purpose is to create, evaluate and recommend statewide policies, rules and regulations of court and probation interpreting throughout the state in order to secure and protect the rights of persons who are unable to readily understand or communicate in the English language and cannot be protected in legal proceedings unless qualified interpreters are provided.
- **Self-Represented Litigation Committee** whose mission is to engage in the continuing analysis and study of the challenges which self-represented litigation poses for court staff, the judiciary, and the practicing bar; to continue assessment of the challenges to the right of self-representation currently presented by the judicial system; to propose solutions or improvements in response to such challenges; and to implement approved recommendations.

Spotlight: Committee Expansion

Consortium of Tribal, State, and Federal Courts

The Supreme Court approved the creation of the Consortium of Tribal, State, and Federal Courts in August 2018. The consortium is designed to improve the working relationship between the tribal, state and federal courts and to improve the public's trust and confidence in the various court systems with the ultimate goal of improving access to justice for all court users in Nebraska. Before the end of the calendar year 2018, the consortium had secured a public engagement grant to convene public hearings or discussion sessions to gather concerns. Justice Stephanie Stacy noted, "By giving voice to our Native American communities and listening to the concerns of those who look to our tribal, state and federal courts to deliver swift, fair justice, we hope to improve the justice system in Nebraska and increase public trust and confidence in our courts."

Civil Justice Reform Committee

In October 2018, the Nebraska Supreme Court formed a Civil Justice Reform Committee designed to analyze the civil justice system in Nebraska and consider methods for improvement. In particular, the committee will review national recommendations to make state justice systems more innovative and cost-effective. "Many state court systems all around the country are taking a hard look at their civil justice systems and considering whether the system can be made to run more efficiently, both in terms of cost and time," stated Justice Jonathan Papik. "I am looking forward to working with this committee to do the same in Nebraska."

Through the Courts to the Community

Court Improvement Project

The Nebraska Court Improvement Project (CIP) is a program of the Nebraska Supreme Court that operates under the guidance of the Supreme Court Commission on Children in the Courts. The goal of CIP is to improve court processing of both child welfare and juvenile justice cases. Through the project, the commission identifies areas of concern, looks for more efficient and effective approaches to case processing, and recommends changes to the Nebraska Supreme Court to ensure the court system is responsive to the needs of the children, youth and families who interact with it.

Nebraska Court Improvement Project Initiatives:

Stakeholder Education:

Educational opportunities provided annually focus on issues relevant to child welfare and juvenile justice across the state. Every three years, a Children’s Summit provides an opportunity for hundreds of individuals to gather for collaboration and education over a period of several days. Between Children’s Summits, CIP also organizes a set of one-day regional conferences each year to offer educational opportunities to teams and partners.

Through the Eyes of the Child Initiative:

Under the leadership of Chief Justice Michael Heavican, the “Through the Eyes of the Child Initiative” is a multidisciplinary network of judge-led local teams that work to improve systems processes. It creates a forum for local court stakeholders to collaborate with each other in their efforts to improve issues in their communities’ court systems as well as communicate with other teams and stakeholders across the state to identify systemic barriers and develop solutions. Each of the 28 local teams select specific projects and goals based on the needs of the community.

Spotlight: Expanded Tools for Helping Youth

CIP Data Dashboard Launch

The Court Improvement Project (CIP) launched the CIP Data Dashboard in 2018. The dashboard provides web-based access to data from the JUSTICE system, U.S. Census, and Nebraska probation concerning court-involved youth. The dashboard replaces the annual printed data reports traditionally distributed by CIP to the “Through the Eyes of the Child Initiative” teams. The dashboard is a vast improvement to the written data reports of years past, as the data is now updated every month and is readily available online from the Court Improvement Project’s homepage on the Judicial Branch Website.

Guides for Court-Involved Youth

“Know Your Rights” guides for court-involved youth have been rewritten and expanded. Two guides are now available: One for youth in the child welfare system and one for youth in the juvenile justice system. The books, written to communicate with youth aged 14 and older, include information on legal rights and the court processes. Each guide contains a listing of resources. “Know Your Rights” guides are available in PDF form on the Court Improvement Project’s homepage under the Resources tab.



Office of Dispute Resolution

The Office of Dispute Resolution (ODR) oversees the development of dispute resolution with a focus on the six ODR-approved non-profit mediation centers and court-connected programs across the state. The six mediation centers approved by ODR provide Nebraskans across the state access to court alternatives to dispute resolution. The ODR arranges mediation training and education, provides funding assistance, and facilitates the development and evaluation of programs offered by the mediation centers. Services include:

- Basic Mediation
(e.g., small claims disputes, employer/employee disputes, landlord/tenant conflicts)
- Parenting Act Mediation
(e.g., custody, visitation, parenting plans)
- Child Welfare Mediation
(e.g., pre-hearing conferencing, pre-hearing permanency review conferencing, expedited family group conferencing)
- Restorative Justice Mediation
(e.g., Victim Youth Conferencing, Justice Youth and Family Conferencing)

Spotlight: Office of Dispute Resolution Expanded and Redefined to Include Restorative Justice

The Nebraska Legislature enacted restorative justice bill LB595 during the 105th legislative session. The law enlarges the Dispute Resolution Advisory Council to include probation representatives, county attorneys, diversion program administrators, educators, law enforcement, crime victim advocates, and former participants in restorative justice programs and related fields. The law also establishes new definitions of restorative justice practice for the State of Nebraska. Restorative justice views crime as harm against people and relationships as opposed to retributive justice, which is strictly punitive. Restorative practices provide opportunities for those who have harmed others to take accountability for their actions and make amends to the victims of an incident. Restorative justice first and foremost is victim-sensitive and is designed to provide an opportunity for the victim to be made whole and to feel secure.

In tandem with the new legislation, ODR continues its three-year effort of statewide implementation of Victim Youth Conferencing, which is an evidence-based restorative justice program. The program engages offending youth and the individual harmed by the offense in a conference to identify a mutual resolution. The passage of LB595 provides support for ODR and the six regional mediation centers to continue providing such services.

Nebraska Medicine's Chihuly Sanctuary visited during the 2019 Pandemic Summit held in Omaha.



Through the Courts to the Community

Office of Public Guardian

Under the Public Guardianship Act, the Office of Public Guardian (OPG) serves as guardian or conservator when it is the least restrictive alternative, the last resort, and will provide only necessary services. In Nebraska, the Public Guardian serves the traditional role of guardian/conservator by and through Associate Public Guardians (APG).

As of June 30, 2019, the OPG served approximately 554 individuals as a last resort when no family member or other suitable individual was available to act as guardian or conservator. Of the 554 wards, 229 cases have been closed due to the OPG finding an alternative guardian, a successor guardian, the guardianship terminating, or due to death of the ward. Two hundred and sixty five wards are under the care of the OPG and 60 individuals are currently accepted for services and in the court process of becoming wards of the OPG. As of June 30, 2019, in most service areas, the fifteen current APGs have reached the capacity of 20 wards appointed, or pending appointment per APG and the Pilot Waiting List Policy has been implemented (see spotlight below).

In addition to its traditional role as guardian or conservator, the OPG is charged with finding Successor Guardians and Conservators; providing support and information for private guardians across the state; and recruiting and training Volunteer Court Visitors. The OPG also provides the training required of all guardians/conservators within 90 days of their appointment. In the last year, the OPG provided 102 Guardian/Conservator education classes in 25 Nebraska counties, and 1,294 individuals received guardianship/conservatorship education from the OPG.

Spotlight: Office of Public Guardian Waiting List

In 2018, the Office of Public Guardian (OPG) reached maximum capacity in most areas of Nebraska. As a result, a waiting list policy was instituted to provide an equitable process for allocating services to individuals in greatest need under the Public Guardianship Act.

By the close of the 2019 Fiscal Year, judges appointed a Guardian ad Litem or Court Visitor in 66 cases. Court Visitors are tasked with evaluating and reporting the level of need and circumstances of individuals requesting consideration for the OPG waiting list. Nine individuals were denied public guardian services because other options were available, and ten individuals from the waiting list were subsequently provided OPG guardianship services. Throughout the course of the year, 28 individuals placed on the waiting list were removed. Six individuals had died, and 22 individuals had either reached the 180-day time limit or had an alternative guardian appointed. Individuals removed from the waiting list may be reconsidered for placement after a re-evaluation of status by a Guardian ad Litem or Court Visitor.



Problem-Solving Courts

Nebraska Problem-Solving courts are governed by a Nebraska Supreme Court committee. Members include representatives of courts, probation, law enforcement and the legal community along with judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys.

Problem-Solving Courts operate within the district, county or juvenile courts in all 12 Nebraska Judicial Districts. Most problem-solving courts in Nebraska operate under the Administrative Office of Probation, with the exception of adult drug courts in Douglas and Lancaster Counties, and the Central Nebraska Adult Drug Court, which serves the 9th and 10th Judicial Districts. Family drug courts typically operate in conjunction with the courts and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Problem-Solving Courts are post-plea or post-adjudicatory intensive supervision treatment programs designed for high-risk and high-need individuals. These courts can only be established with the approval of the Nebraska Supreme Court and must adhere to the 10 Key Components approved by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals and best practice standards.

Each court operates under a team approach where a judge, prosecutor, defense counsel, coordinator, community supervision officer, law enforcement and treatment provider(s) work together to design an individualized program. Compliance with treatment and court orders is verified by frequent alcohol/drug testing, close community supervision, and interaction with a judge in non-adversarial court review hearings. Close monitoring of participants is maintained through home, work and school visits.

Nebraska Problem-Solving Court models include:

- Adult Drug Court
- Juvenile Drug Court
- Veterans Treatment Court
- Family Dependency Court
- DUI Court
- Young Adult Court
- Reentry Court

Spotlight: Nebraska's First Reentry Court Completion

The Hall County Reentry Court celebrated the first participant to complete their program on April 4, 2019. Nebraska Reentry Courts are designed for high-risk and high-need individuals who are re-entering society after incarceration on post-release supervision. The Nebraska Supreme Court authorized reentry Courts in 2017 at the request of the Nebraska Supreme Court's Problem-Solving Court Committee. Nebraska's first Reentry Court opened in the 9th Judicial District (Buffalo and Hall Counties) in August 2017, and the second Reentry Court was established in the 2nd Judicial District (Cass and Sarpy Counties) in January 2018.



Through the Courts to the Community



Summit on Pandemic Preparedness May 2019, at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) held for the nation's state courts.

Hosted by Nebraska Chief Justice Michael Heavican, the summit brought together state court chief justices and other court leaders, health officials, and members of the legislative and executive branches to discuss ways in which a pandemic outbreak will be addressed by the court system and other entities when the need arises.

Chief Justice Mike Heavican welcomes attendees. State Court Administrator Corey Steel experiments with displays at the IExcel VizHub on UNMC Campus. Quarantined Ebola doctor Patrick LaRochelle discusses his experiences at the Omaha facility.

Through the Courts to the Community - Probation-Based Programs

Community-Based Programs and Field Services

The Division of Community Based Programs and Services develops, trains, and implements all statutory requirements for adult investigations and supervision as well as specialized programming for adults and juveniles. Services include rehabilitative and supportive services provided to the courts for individuals under supervision with the goal of enhanced community safety. The division is divided into two distinct units. 1) Adult Field Services manages the administration and application of assessments, presentence investigations, and community based programs and interventions. 2) Rehabilitative Services is responsible for the development and oversight of behavioral health and supportive services for adults and juveniles, including management of the Registered Service Provider network, utilization of financial assistance and adherence to the Standardized Model for the Delivery of Substance Use Services.

Alternatives to Incarceration (AI): An intensive supervision approach targeted for individuals who are considered to be at the highest risk to reoffend and are on probation or post-release supervision.

Domestic Violence/Sex Offender: Single point of contact for the Judicial Branch on domestic violence, sexual assault, and victim-specific issues including review and maintenance of protection orders.

Financial Assistance: Designed to help individuals mitigate financial barriers preventing access to substance abuse, mental health, sex offender and other evaluations, treatment or other programming needs.

Problem-Solving Courts: The purpose of this program is to reduce recidivism by fostering a comprehensive and coordinated court response using early intervention, appropriate treatment, intensive supervision, and consistent judicial oversight.

Registered Service Provider Network: Registration requires providers demonstrate competency in working with justice involved individuals, complete ongoing criminogenic education, and adhere to service definitions and standards of practice.

Probation Reporting Centers: Create a continuum of services for clients under one roof. Services range from employment, life skills and cognitive programming that meet the needs of probationers within the community. Specialized Supervision Caseloads: Individualized, targeted case management for specific populations such as sex offenders, domestic violence offenders, gang involved individuals with an emphasis on trauma and victim-centered approach.

Standardized Model for the Delivery of Substance Use Services: Provides guidance to registered providers and probation officers alike on substance use evaluations and treatment services.

TeleServices: Uses technology to create and expand access to programming and services statewide.

Transitional Living: Provides short-term, stable housing for individuals at high risk to reoffend. Placing individuals in a supportive environment permits them to focus on treatment and/or employment, while reintegrating into the community, with the goal of becoming self-sufficient.

Spotlight: Advanced Coaching 4 Excellence Implemented Across Nebraska

The Advanced Coaching 4 Excellence (AC4E) training hit its stride during Fiscal Year 2019 as Nebraska Probation evolved into a new generation of evidence-based practices.

The AC4E training and principles intend to improve outcomes for individuals on probation, in problem-solving courts, and under post-release supervision. The training strategy was developed under the Carey Group, a national expert in achieving risk reduction for adults and youth on probation.

As is dictated by evidence-based practices, all youth and adults engaged with probation require validated risk/need assessments to apply effective interventions. Nebraska's validated assessments identify the top areas of risk and needs for youth and adults. However, the assessments do not necessarily identify the single most influential area, which is referred to as the "driver," or precipitating factor, behind the problem behavior. The correct criminogenic need or "driver" must be identified and addressed through case management strategies for the most effective intervention to occur.

Through the Courts to the Community - Probation-Based Programs

Juvenile Services

The Juvenile Services Division is responsible for statewide administration of intake and detention alternatives, investigations, assessments and evaluations, case management/supervision and services, placement, reentry, and financial assistance for juveniles.

The goal is to reduce recidivism, which is accomplished by: engaging juveniles and their families in the court process; eliminating barriers to accessing effective treatment and services; and partnering with educational and community stakeholders to coordinate case management, focus accountability, and improve individualized outcomes.

Intake/Detention Alternatives: Law enforcement contacts Probation to request screening a youth for detention. A standardized tool is utilized to assess risk of reoffending before the next court hearing and failing to appear for court. Additionally, Probation assists in creating a continuum of alternatives to detaining youth throughout the state, with the assistance of communities and other stakeholders.

Investigations/Assessments and Evaluations:

Comprehensive investigations utilizing validated risk assessments, motivational interview, and evaluation results assist in proper recommendations for the court.

Juvenile Case Management/Supervision and Services:

Focus on engaging youth and families as an “agent of change,” by creating plans focused on risk and needs resulting in successful completion of probation.

Placement: Probation facilitates the placement of youth in out-of-home settings when care and treatment are necessary away from the family home, prioritizing immediate reentry planning.

Reentry: Probation prepares youth and families for return from the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers and other out-of-home settings back to their communities.

Financial Assistance: Probation is allocated public money for the cost of services, including but not limited to placement, treatment, and detention. Probation considers parental funds, private or public insurance, entitlements, grants, and other resources prior to the authorization of state appropriated monies.

Rural Improvement for Schooling and Employment

(RISE): In a collaboration with AmeriCorps, skill building groups are facilitated to increase support services and educational opportunities for youth on probation.



Spotlight: Service Development Supports Youth and Families in Western Nebraska

The Juvenile Services Division has focused on development of service access for Western Nebraska, prioritizing foster care, home-based services, therapeutic services, and alternatives to detention. Stakeholder partnership has been essential to meet area needs. Local trial court judges, the Supreme Court Commission on Children, regional service providers, and many others have come together to see this vision come to fruition.

Historically, foster care in Judicial District 12 (Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes, Deuel, Garden, Grant, Kimball, Morrill, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan, and Sioux Counties) was limited for youth in the juvenile justice system. Beginning in July 2019, partnership with KVC Nebraska resulted in needed expansion. KVC Nebraska is able to support multiple foster care services, including traditional, professional, and emergency professionals. Additionally, home-based service replication of the Boys Town Ecological In-Home Family Treatment model has begun in the area through a partnership with Educational Service Unit #13 and Boys Town.

Development of therapeutic services and expansion of the clinical workforce is also a great need within the panhandle of Nebraska. Currently, the expansion includes a crisis stabilization shelter, which is a short-term detention alternative placement option with therapeutic interventions. The final focus is providing alternatives to detention, including emergency professional foster care options for youth in need of short-term intensive placement and support. The Judicial Branch plans to continue the current expansion into other areas of Nebraska to meet the service needs for youth and families in the juvenile justice system.

Information Technology

The leading information technology needs of the judicial branch are maintenance and support of the trial court, appellate court, and probation integrated case and financial management systems. These three systems are used on a daily basis to support the needs of thousands of branch employees and court users. These systems also serve as the backbone for associated online services available to the public, attorneys, and service providers.

- **Judicial Users System to Improve Court Efficiency (JUSTICE)** is the case management system for trial courts throughout the State.
- **Supreme Court and Court of Appeals Legal Entries System (SCCALES)** is the case management system for the appellate level courts in Nebraska.
- **Nebraska Probation Applications for Community Safety (NPACS)** is the case management system for the statewide probation system and problem-solving courts casework.

In addition, to maintaining the systems listed above, the division fulfills the technology needs of all offices, including the Office of Public Guardian, the Court Improvement Project, Dispute Resolution, those that provide accounting services, human resources, legal support, policy direction, and education and training.

Judicial Branch Information Technology supports video conferencing and teleservices in courtrooms, probation offices and reporting centers which are utilized to offer additional communication options that reduce travel time and expenses.

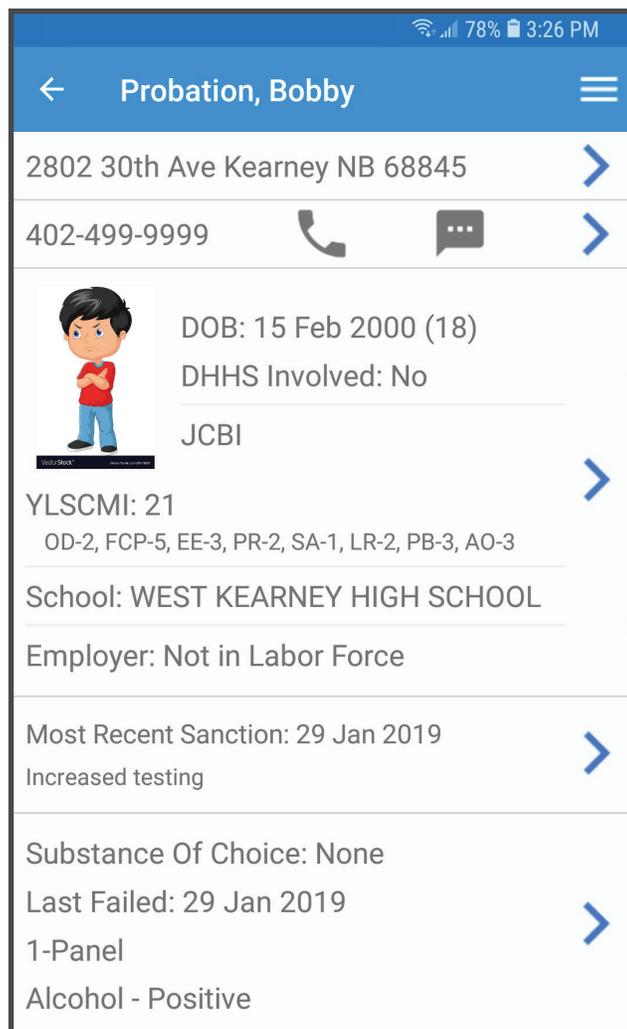
Technology teams also work to continually provide better online services, such as those below, to help the judicial branch run more efficiently in delivering information and services to the public and the legal community.

- eFiling
- ePayment
- service providers registration
- voucher submission
- online training
- court case information searches

Spotlight: Probation Goes Mobile

A key objective in the Supreme Court Technology Strategic Plan is case management modernization. Updated technology is a primary tool in both the court's ability to provide more services to the public, as well as streamlining internal judicial branch processes. The newest development under this objective is a mobile application for probation officers. When accessing the app on phones, officers can input case notes in the field, allowing them to spend more time with clients and less time behind a computer. Additionally, officers can call or text directly from the app and access real-time information about their clients. These features help officers make the most of their time with their clients and enhances the safety of home visits.

The courts continue to build on what is available to attorneys to file electronically and to multiply the ways in which individuals and businesses can receive information from and make payments to the courts. Each month, 75,000 documents are eFiled, 80,000 emails are sent from the JUSTICE (computer case management) program, and 1.5 million dollars in payments are made online.



Judicial Branch Operations

Trial Court Services

The Court Services Division provides support to judges and court staff in areas of Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, security, internal forms and orders, and court operation of best practices and procedures. The division also maintains schedules for the retention of court records in addition to listings of fees and whether or not the fees can be waived. Court Services also works within the branch and with justice-related stakeholders to promote consistency, communication and equal access throughout the state courts.

Spotlight: Combined Clerk of Court Offices

Deuel and Garden Counties became the second and third counties in Nebraska to consolidate the offices of the Clerk of the District Court and Clerk Magistrate under legislation authorizing agreements in areas with ex officio clerks of district court. Joan Hansen (Deuel County) and Jonna Jasnoch (Garden County) assumed their duties as clerk magistrate and ex officio clerk of district court for their respective counties in April 2019.

With the agreements between the State Court Administrator and the county, county clerks are relieved of the very specialized and time-sensitive work of the district court, as well as the extensive education requirements which may be difficult for those with additional county government duties. The county court judge provides direction and oversight for county court responsibilities. District court responsibilities are under the supervision of the district court judge and the Administrative Office of the Court.

Polk County was the first to implement the combined clerk of court office through a pilot program in 2015. Additional mergers are anticipated as these clerk magistrates, area judges and county officials recognize the mutual advantages of this staffing model.



State Court Administrator Corey Steel and Supreme Court Justice John Freudenberg lead applause following Joan Hansen's oath of office ceremony.



State Court Administrator Corey Steel, Judge Derek Weimer, and Justice John Freudenberg observe as Judge Randin Roland administers oath to Jonna Jasnoch.

Judicial Branch Education

The Office of Judicial Branch Education provides essential continuing education for judges and judicial branch employees with the goal of maintaining and increasing professional competence ensuring the delivery of quality judicial services to the people of the State of Nebraska. Supreme Court rules outline minimum continuing education requirements for all Nebraska judges, clerks, probation officers, and other branch employees who are bound by the Judicial Branch Education Standards. In-house programming is guided by the Judicial Branch Education Advisory Committee with project leadership from each individual employee group.

Judicial Branch Education works with each division of the Office of Courts and Probation to coordinate education with new initiatives and ongoing projects of the branch. This division is comprised of education and training leaders who teach and coordinate programs utilizing the four classrooms at the facility in Lincoln and in regional space across the State of Nebraska. Programs are also delivered using distance technology that allows staff access to a wide variety of education, and education on-demand as new legislation becomes law and initiatives are adopted. The division also assists outside stakeholders who seek to meet mandatory education requirement to fulfill roles as part of the judicial system.

Spotlight: Expansion of New Court Employee Orientation

The addition of new training staff has allowed the New Court Employee Orientation curriculum to have its most significant growth to date. Orientation has been expanded from a one-day to a three-day program. Judicial Branch Education utilizes internal experts to work with new employees, ensuring the court's front line employees understand their role in the work of the Judicial Branch. All new employees also attend several in-depth sessions on topics such as: working with self-represented litigants, ethics, Inclusive Communities (bias recognition), and customer service.

Additionally, New Probation Officer Training is continually enhanced and updated as evidence-based practices and procedures are adopted.

Additional Internal Administrative Functions

In order to effectively utilize Judicial Branch resources, probation and court internal and operational services are merged into the following service divisions:

Financial Division: Oversight of all financial transactions and budget management for the Judicial Branch.

Personnel Services: Oversight of payroll, benefits, and

all other personnel functions for the approximately 1,500 employees and judges of the Judicial Branch.

Public Information and Communications: Management of both external and internal communications and related programming for the court system.



Through the Courts for the Legal Community

Attorney Services

The Attorney Services Division oversees the regulation of the legal profession and the provision of services by the Supreme Court to all attorneys licensed in Nebraska.

- **Admissions:** Handling of the admission of attorneys to practice of law in Nebraska and administers the Multistate Bar Exam. 209 applicants took the bar exam in the past year. In all, the Court swore in 218 attorneys who applied for a law license in Nebraska either through the bar examination process or by motioning into the Nebraska Bar.
- **Commission on the Unauthorized Practice of Law:** Investigation of non-attorneys who purport to provide legal services without a license to practice law in Nebraska.
- **Counsel for Discipline:** Investigation of complaints against attorneys for alleged violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct.
- **Licensure:** Responsible for annual attorney license renewals through the use of an on-line portal where attorneys also have the ability to maintain their personal information, trust account reports, and malpractice coverage information and print an annual membership card as part of the renewal process. Provides public notifications of malpractice insurance and attorney discipline. Nebraska has 6,966 active licensed lawyers and 3,060 attorneys who hold inactive licenses.
- **Mandatory Continuing Legal Education:** Oversight of requirements that attorneys obtain mandatory continuing legal education each year. The division also approves vendors of continuing legal education.
- **Resources:** Maintenance of attorney practice forms and mandatory education to qualify as a Guardian ad Litem in juvenile and probate proceedings, along with educational programming for attorneys to maintain knowledge of Supreme Court requirements, ethical duties and required technology.

Spotlight: Innovative, Relevant Education

The Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Commission (MCLE) and attorney services provides education opportunities that serve the legal profession. Two innovative education efforts were implemented this year on behalf of the Nebraska Supreme Court:

- Attorneys were invited to eight locations where education focused on professionalism in the courtroom, dealing with cognitive decline, and being prepared for a sudden disability. The fall education focused on updates from the various Court departments on new processes, procedures, and rules. In all over 1,000 attorneys attended the education programs which took place in Lincoln, Omaha, Grand Island, North Platte, Scottsbluff, Hastings, and O'Neill. By traveling across the state, the Court is able to hear firsthand accounts of the issues that impact Nebraska attorneys, judges and litigants, which, in turn, allows Attorney Services to provide relevant education to satisfy MCLE requirements. Several judges from all levels of the Court system participated as faculty to these programs.
- The MCLE Commission assisted with the sponsorship of the May 2019 Pandemic Summit held in Omaha. Utilizing grant funding from the State Justice Institute, the summit brought together chief justices and medical officials from across the country to focus on the operations of the Courts when faced with a pandemic. Photos of the Pandemic Summit are found throughout this report.





NEBRASKA COURT STRUCTURE



NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT - Chief Justice & 6 Justices

Highest Appellate Court:

- Discretionary appeals from the Court of Appeals
- Mandatory appeals in
 - capital cases
 - cases concerning constitutionality of statutes
- May hear cases removed from or that have bypassed the Court of Appeals by a petition of further review
- Original Jurisdiction: Specified Cases



COURT OF APPEALS - 6 Judges (Panels of 3 judges hear appeals throughout state)

Intermediate Appellate Court:

- Trial court appeals except those heard by Supreme Court pursuant to:
 - mandatory jurisdiction
 - direct appeal status
 - removal procedures
 - bypass procedure



SEPARATE JUVENILE COURTS - 12 Judges

- Serving 3 counties (Douglas, Sarpy, & Lancaster)
- Jurisdiction:
 - County Court
 - Juvenile & domestic jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURTS - 56 Judges

- Serving 12 districts
- Trial court of general jurisdiction:
 - Felony cases
 - Domestic relations cases
 - Civil cases over \$53,000
- When serving as an appellate court:
 - Some county court appeals
 - Administrative agency appeals

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT - 7 Judges

- Judges hear cases throughout the state
- Jurisdiction:
 - Occupation
 - Injury & illness cause

ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

Each board, commission, department, officer, division, or other administrative office or unit of the state government authorized by law to make rules and regulations.

(not a part of the state court structure)



COUNTY COURTS - 58 Judges

- Serving 12 districts
- Jurisdiction:
 - Misdemeanor cases, including traffic, and municipal ordinance violations
 - Preliminary hearing in felony cases
 - Civil cases involving less than \$53,000
 - Small Claims involving less than \$3,600
 - Probate, guardianship, conservatorship, adoption, and eminent domain
 - Function as juvenile courts except in Douglas, Sarpy, and Lancaster Counties

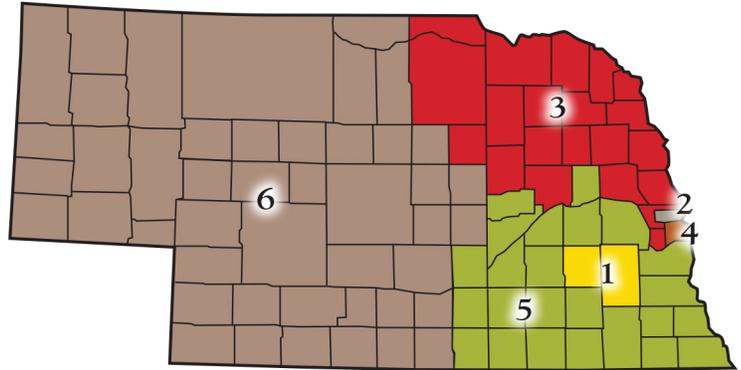
Nebraska Court Case Filings

The Constitution of the State of Nebraska distributes the judicial power of the state among the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, district courts, and county courts. All state courts operate under the administrative direction of the Supreme Court.

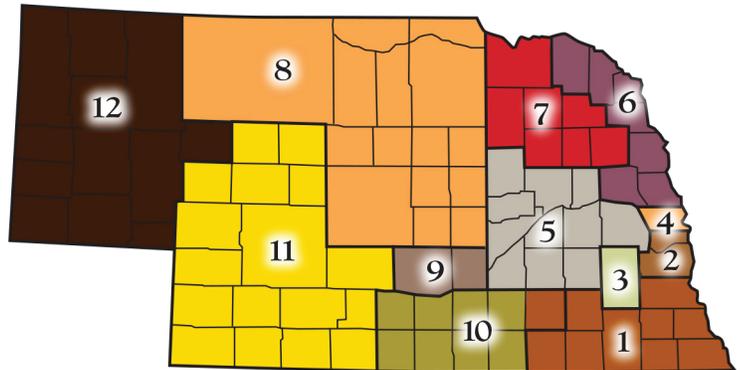
There were a total of 1,293 cases docketed in the Nebraska appellate courts in FY 2019.

There were a total of 375,143 cases opened in the Nebraska trial courts in FY 2019.

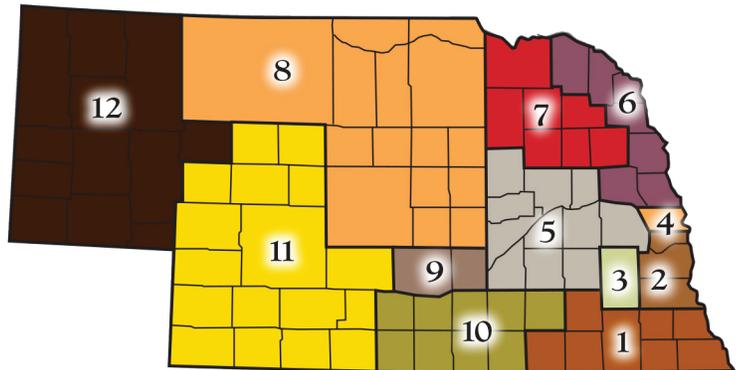
Supreme Court & Court of Appeals Judicial Districts



District Court Judicial Districts

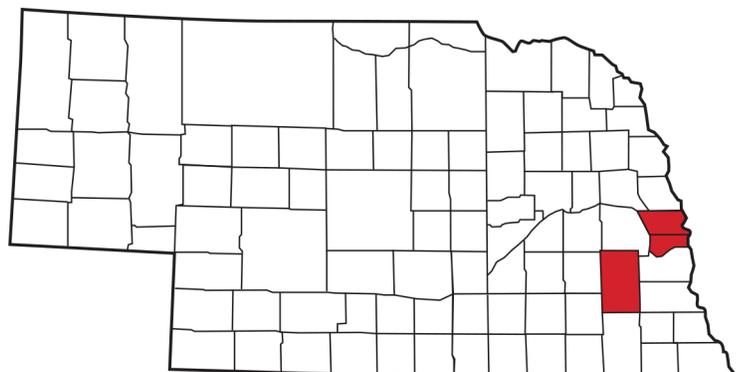


County Court Judicial Districts



Separate Juvenile Courts

Note: Sarpy, Douglas, and Lancaster.



Nebraska Court Case Filings

Appellate Courts Caseload Information

All arguments before the Nebraska Supreme Court are streamed live and preserved on the Oral Argument Archive of the Nebraska Judicial Branch website. Available arguments include the court sessions held at the University of Nebraska College of Law and Creighton University School of Law.

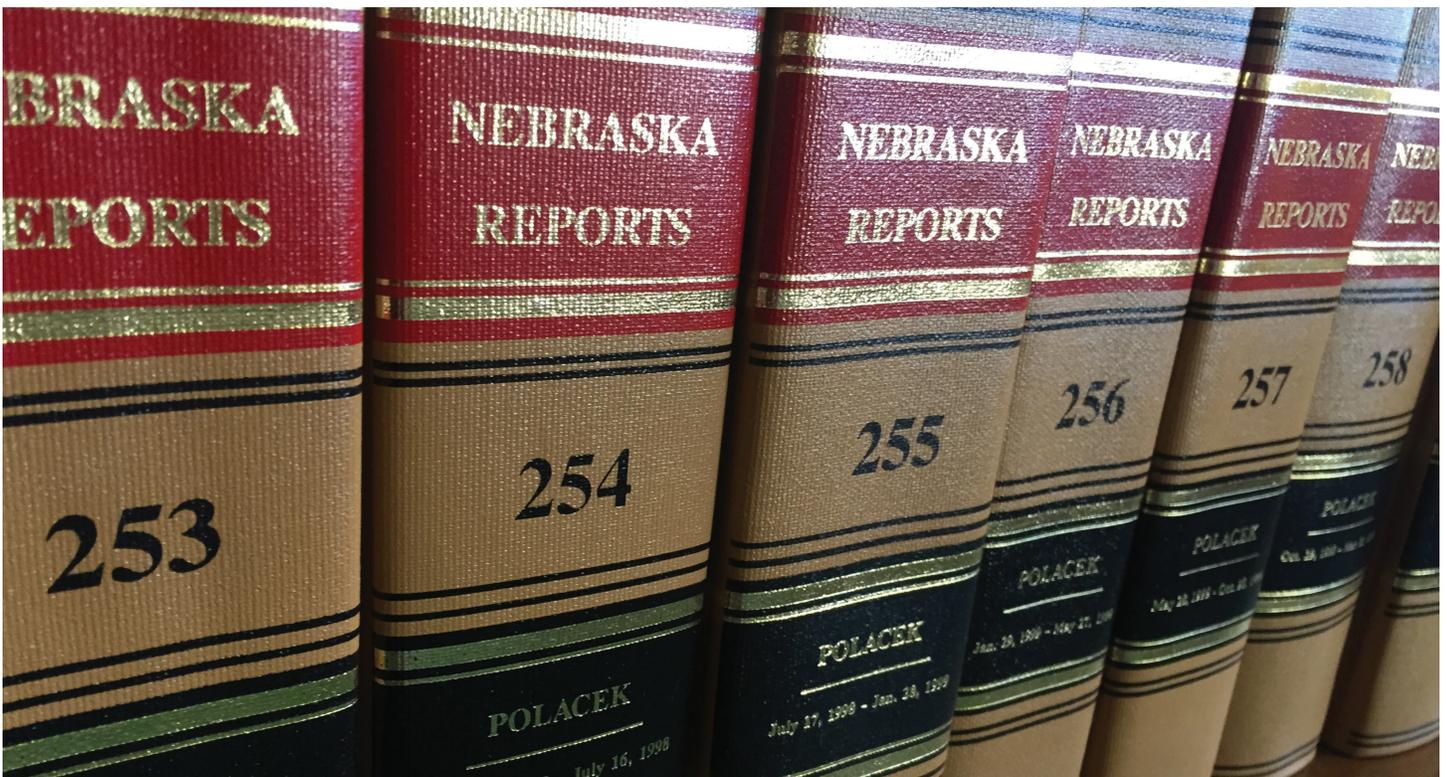
Court of Appeals arguments heard at the State Capitol in Lincoln are streamed live and archived. When the court hears arguments in communities across the state, the audio recording is archived on the website.

Caseload Nebraska Supreme Court

	FY 2018	FY 2019
New Cases Docketed	67	56
• Petitions to Bypass Filed	48	42
• Petitions to Bypass Granted	30	30
• Petitions to Bypass Denied	19	20
Cases Transferred from Court of Appeals	182	184
• Petitions for Further Review Filed	235	238
• Petitions for Further Review Granted	14	15
• Petitions for Further Review Denied	177	218
Cases Disposed by Opinion	270	222
Cases Disposed Without Opinion	33	55
Total Cases Disposed	303	277

Caseload Nebraska Court of Appeals

	FY 2018	FY 2019
New Cases Docketed	1,226	1,133
• Transferred to Supreme Court	182	184
• Petitions to Bypass Granted	30	24
Cases Disposed by Opinion	407	434
Total Cases Disposed	962	978



Nebraska Court Case Filings

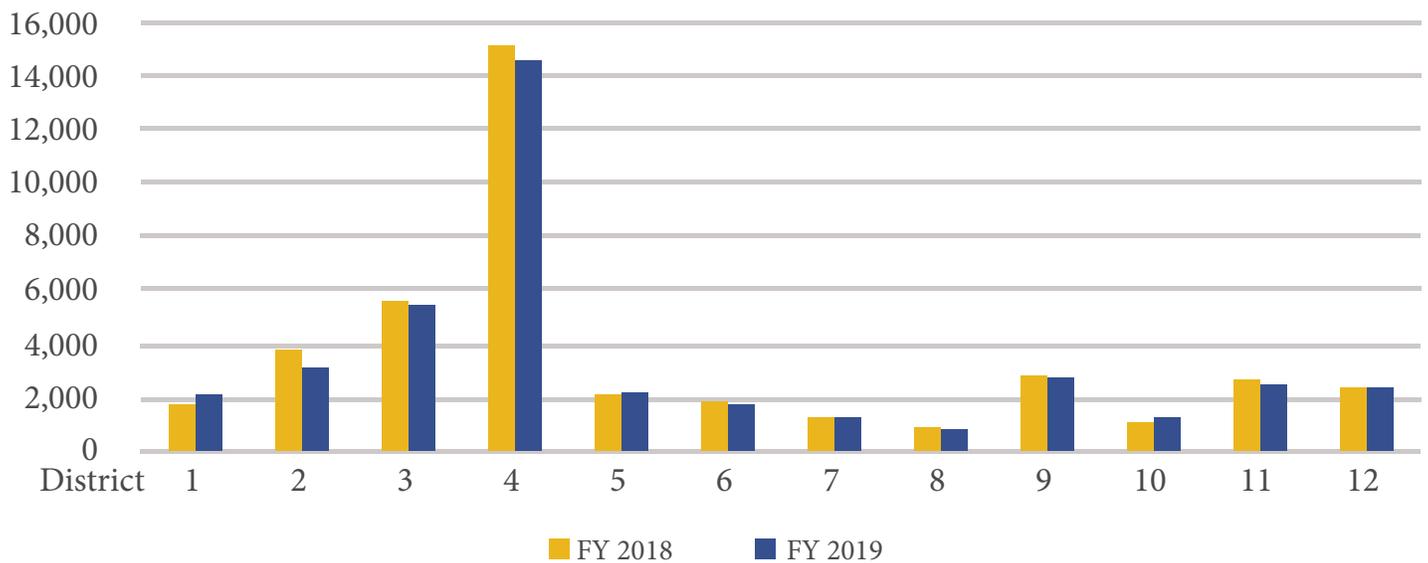
District Courts

Nebraska experienced an overall -3.6% decrease in district court adult cases from FY 2018 to FY 2019. The greatest percentage decrease was seen in District 2, with a decrease of -12.6%, or -490 cases. The greatest numeric decrease was in District 4 with a drop of -885 cases (-5.7%). Increases were seen in District 10 with a 13.7% or 150 case increase and in District 1 with an increase of 207 cases (11.1%).

District Court Cases Opened by District FY 2019

District	FY 2018	FY 2019	Difference	% Change
District 1	1,869	2,076	207	11.1%
District 2	3,878	3,388	-490	-12.6%
District 3	5,565	5,489	-76	-1.4%
District 4	15,451	14,566	-885	-5.7%
District 5	2,247	2,278	31	1.4%
District 6	1,945	1,830	-115	-5.9%
District 7	1,403	1,381	-22	-1.6%
District 8	839	808	-31	-3.7%
District 9	2,761	2,701	-60	-2.2%
District 10	1,094	1,244	150	13.7%
District 11	2,816	2,597	-219	-7.8%
District 12	2,436	2,431	-5	-0.2%
Statewide Cases Opened	42,304	40,789	-1,515	-3.6%

District Court Cases
Adult Cases Opened by District



Nebraska Court Case Filings

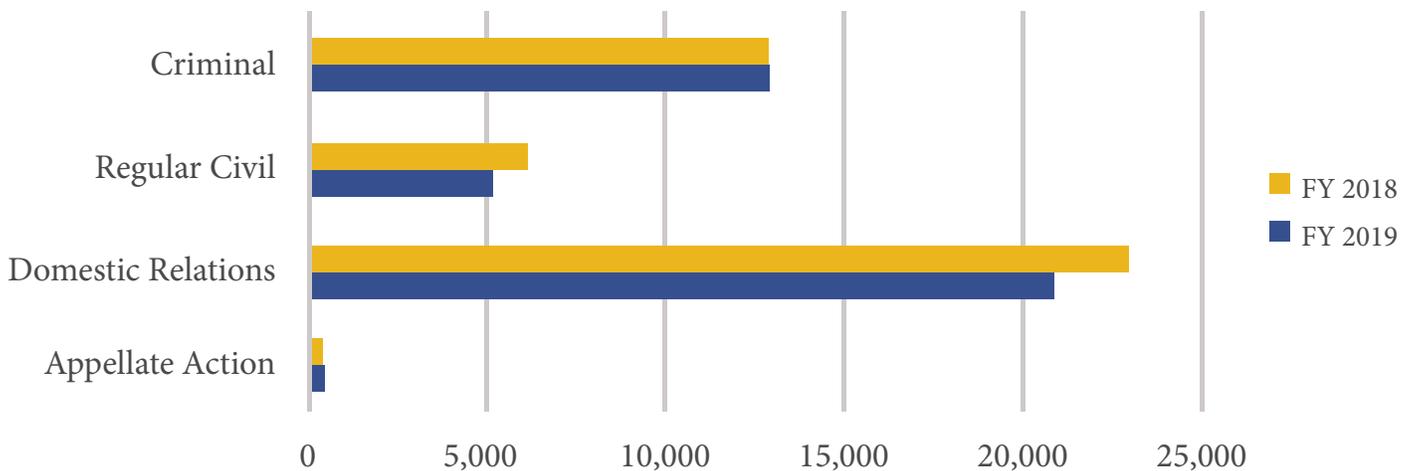
District Courts

The majority of the decrease in adult district court cases was seen in domestic relations with a decrease of -1,156 cases (-3.6%). Regular civil cases also saw a decrease of -497 cases or -8.0%. Criminal cases are up slightly over the year (0.8%, 102 cases), as are appellate action cases (9.9%, 36 cases).

District Court Cases Opened by Case Type FY 2019

Case Type	FY 2018	FY 2019	Difference	% Change
Criminal	12,916	13,018	102	0.8%
Regular Civil	6,190	5,693	-497	-8.7%
Domestic Relations	22,833	21,677	-1,156	-5.1%
Appellate Action	365	401	36	9.9%
Total Cases Opened	42,304	40,789	-1,515	-3.6 %

District Court
Adult Cases Opened by Case Type



Nebraska Court Case Filings

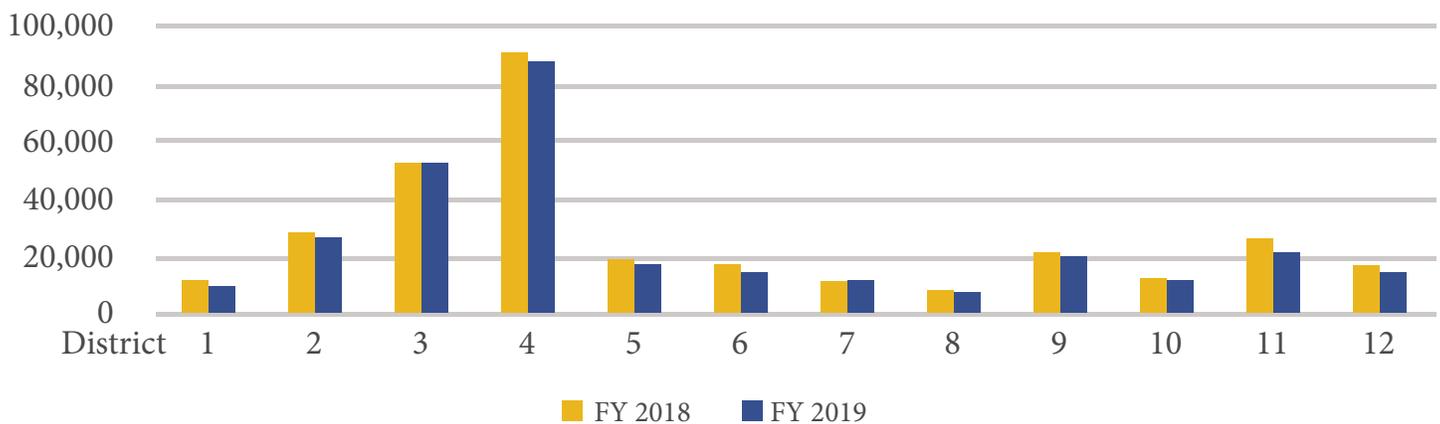
County Courts

In 2019 county court had 299,840 adult cases opened in the year, a decrease of 21,622 cases, or -6.7% from 2018. District 11 experienced the greatest decrease of -18.3%, or -4,833 cases. District 3 had a slight increase of cases opened over the year with an increase of 76 cases, or 0.1%.

County Court Cases Opened by District FY 2019

District	FY 2018	FY 2019	Difference	% Change
District 1	13,963	12,424	-1,539	-11.0%
District 2	27,533	26,148	-1,385	-5.0%
District 3	52,799	52,875	76	0.1%
District 4	90,541	86,945	-3,596	-4.0%
District 5	20,616	18,006	-2,610	-12.7%
District 6	16,911	15,443	-1,478	-8.7%
District 7	11,695	11,378	-317	-2.7%
District 8	8,765	7,662	-1,103	-12.6%
District 9	21,160	20,022	-1,138	-5.4%
District 10	13,219	12,381	-838	-6.3%
District 11	26,439	21,606	-4,833	-18.3%
District 12	17,821	14,960	-2,861	-16.1%
Statewide Cases Opened	321,462	299,840	-21,622	-6.7%

County Court Cases
Adult Cases Opened by District



Nebraska Court Case Filings

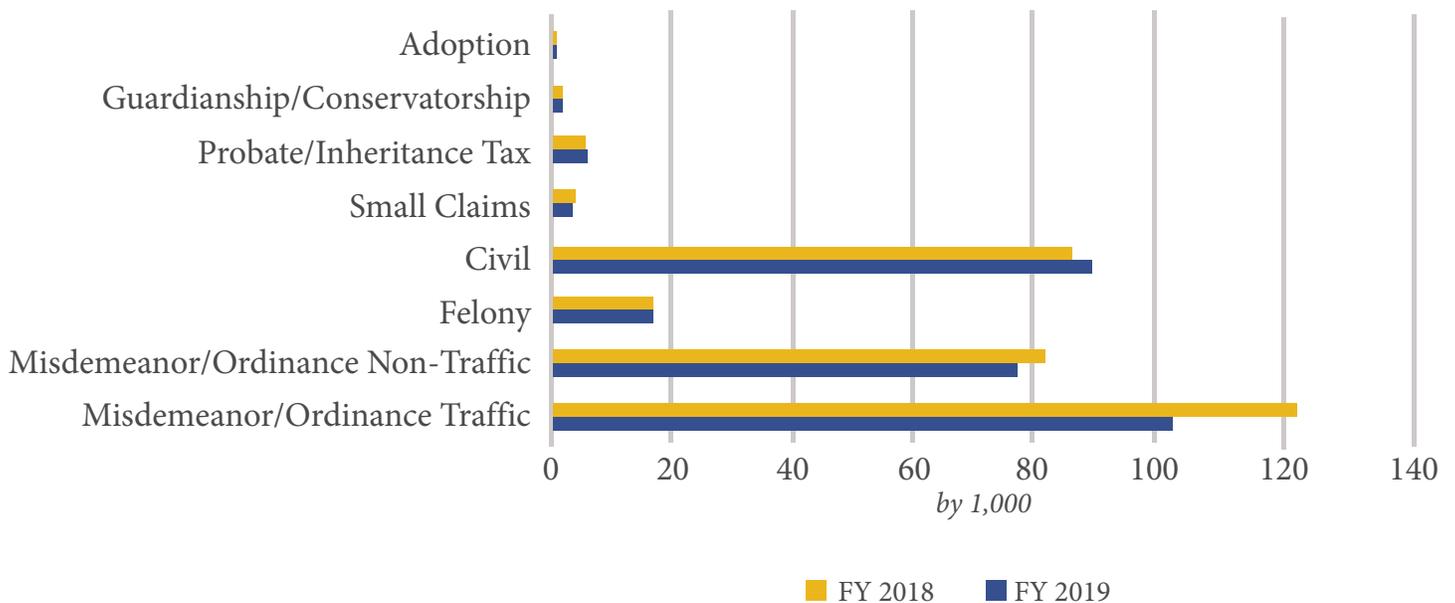
County Courts

Civil cases again had the greatest increase in cases opened in adult county court, with an increase of 4,102 cases (4.7%). Misdemeanor/ordinance traffic cases saw the greatest decrease over the year of -19,626 cases, a -16.1% decrease. Misdemeanor/ordinance non-traffic also decreased by -6,146 cases or -7.5%.

County Court Cases Opened by Case Type FY 2019

Case Type	FY 2018	FY 2019	Difference	% Change
Misdemeanor/Ordinance Traffic	122,136	102,510	-19,626	-16.1%
Misdemeanor/Ordinance Non-Traffic	82,136	75,990	-6,146	-7.5%
Felony	17,659	17,680	21	0.1%
Civil	86,815	90,917	4,102	4.7%
Small Claims	3,771	3,500	-271	-7.2%
Probate/Inheritance Tax	5,937	6,154	217	3.7%
Guardianship/Conservatorship	2,017	2,109	92	4.6%
Adoption	991	980	-11	1.1%
Total Case Filings	321,462	299,840	-21,622	-6.7%

County Court Cases Adult Cases Opened by Case Type

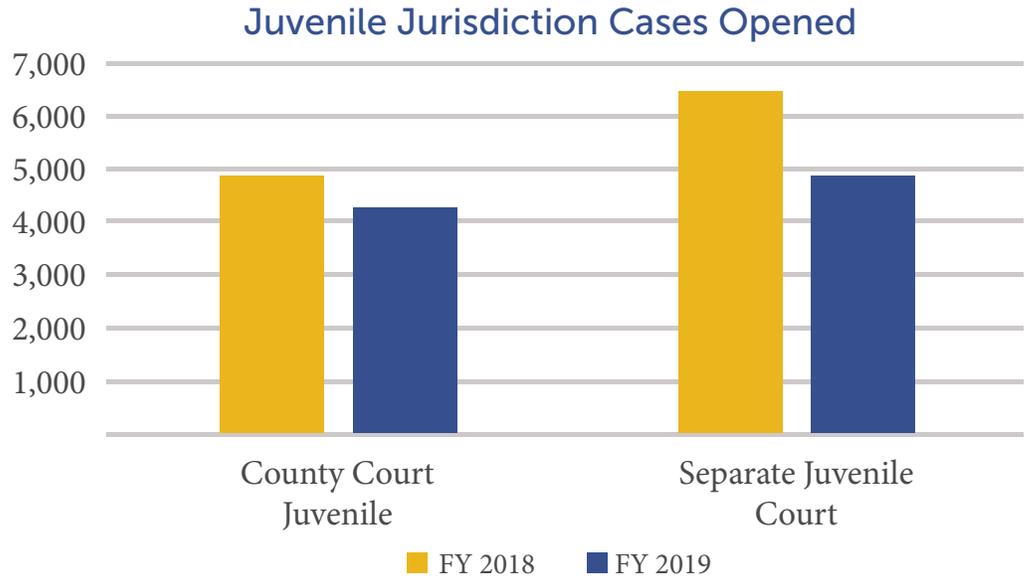


Nebraska Court Case Filings

Juvenile Jurisdiction Case Filings

Court	FY 2018	FY 2019	Difference	% Change
County Court Juvenile	4,834	4,458	-376	-8.4%
Separate Juvenile Court	6,543	4,902	-1,641	33.5%
Total Juvenile Cases	11,377	9,360	-2,017	21.5%

Overall, the number of juvenile cases opened in 2019 decreased by 17.7% or 2,017 cases to 9,360 cases opened in the year. County court saw a decrease of -376 cases opened in the year (-7.8%), while Separate Juvenile Courts experienced a decrease of -1,641 cases or -25.1%. In 2019, 48% of the juvenile cases were in county courts, while 52% were in separate juvenile court.

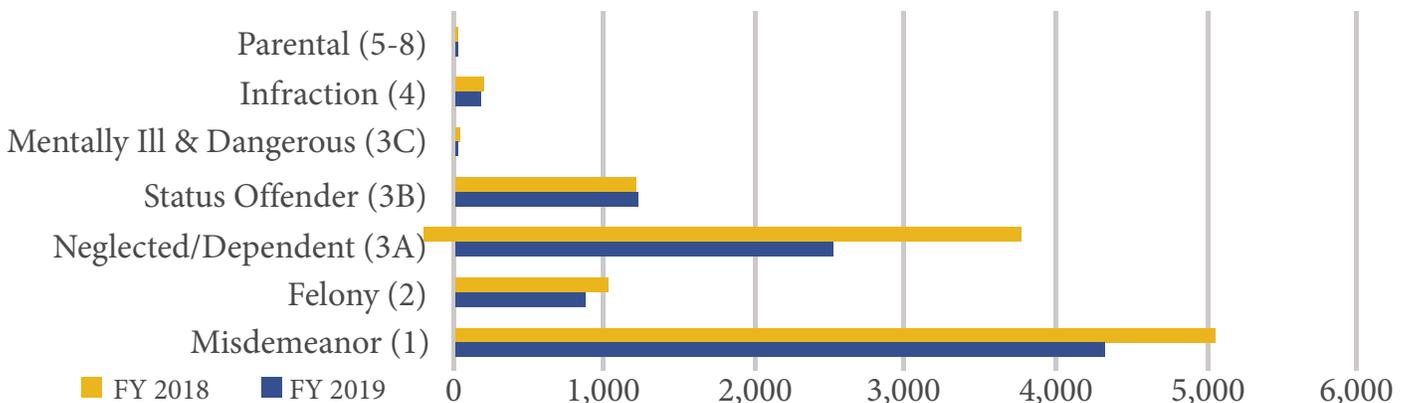


Juvenile Jurisdiction Cases Opened by Case Type FY 2019

Juvenile Case Type	FY 2018	FY 2019	Difference	% Change
Misdemeanor (1)	5,052	4,379	-673	-13.3%
Felony (2)	1,054	881	-173	-16.4%
Neglected/Dependent (3A)	3,752	2,604	-1,148	-30.6%
Status Offender (3B)	1,276	1,283	7	0.5%
Mentally Ill & Dangerous (3C)	31	17	-14	-45.2%
Infraction (4)	180	172	-8	-4.4%
Parental (5 - 8)	32	24	-8	25.0%
Total Juvenile Cases	11,377	9,360	-2,017	-17.7%

Among juvenile cases by case type, the greatest decrease in 2019 was seen in Neglected/Dependent (3A) cases, which decreased -1,148 cases to 2,604 cases opened in the year, a decrease of -30.6%. Misdemeanor (1) cases declined by -673 cases, to 4,379 cases opened in 2019, a decrease of -13.3%.

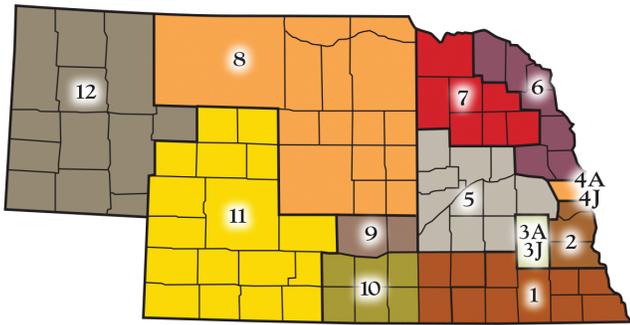
Juvenile Jurisdiction Cases Opened by Case Type



Probation Case Statistics

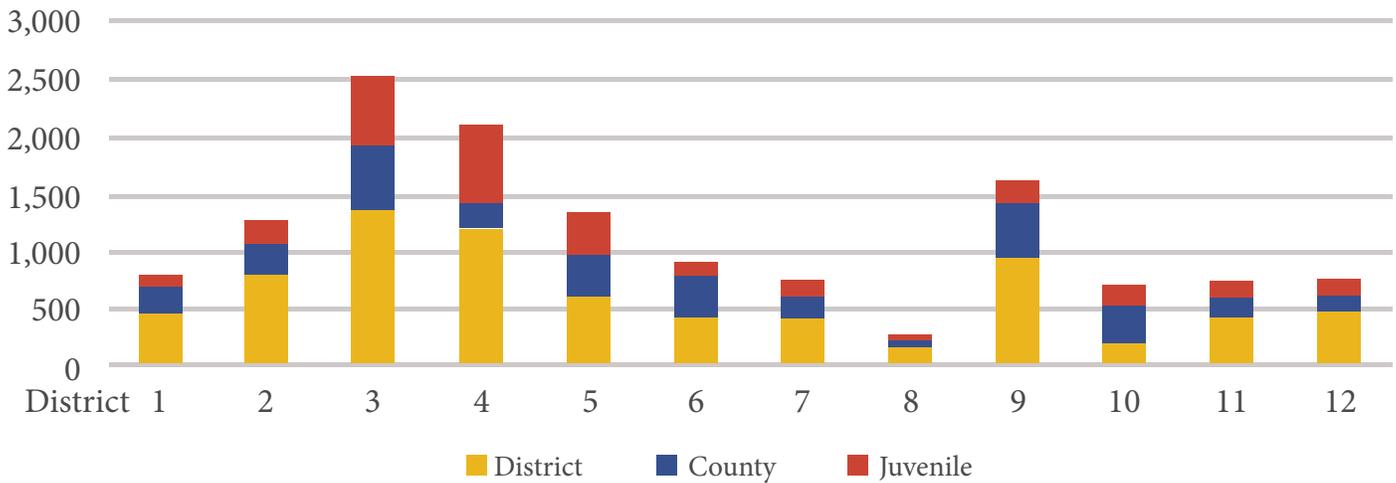
Presentence Investigations

Number of Probation Presentence Investigations Completed by Court Type FY 2019



District #	District	County	Juvenile	Total
District 1	473	245	87	805
District 2	826	201	187	1,314
District 3	1,343	612	564	2,519
District 4	1,271	187	590	2,048
District 5	658	333	357	1,348
District 6	475	323	106	904
District 7	433	142	155	730
District 8	128	54	43	225
District 9	984	491	161	1,636
District 10	152	376	171	699
District 11	436	179	145	760
District 12	482	152	169	803
Total	7,661	3,395	2,735	13,791

Number of Presentence Investigations Completed by Court Type FY 2019

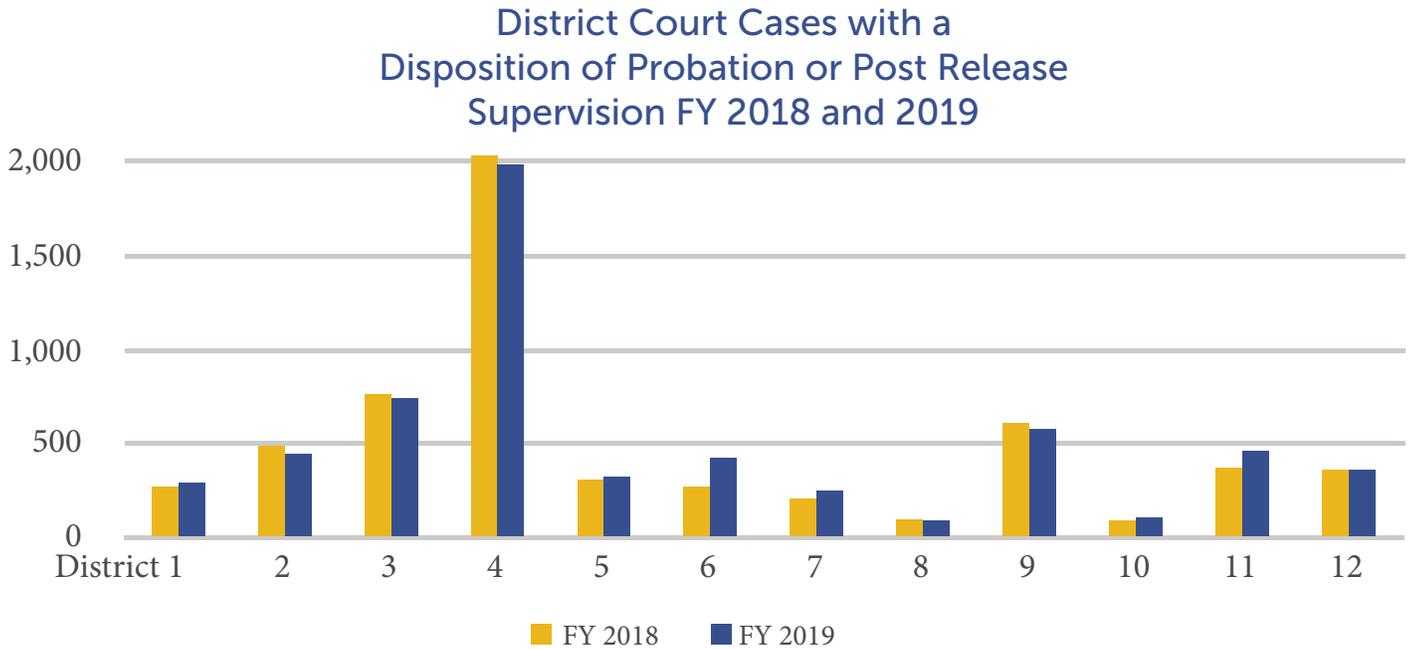


Probation Case Statistics

Disposition of Probation

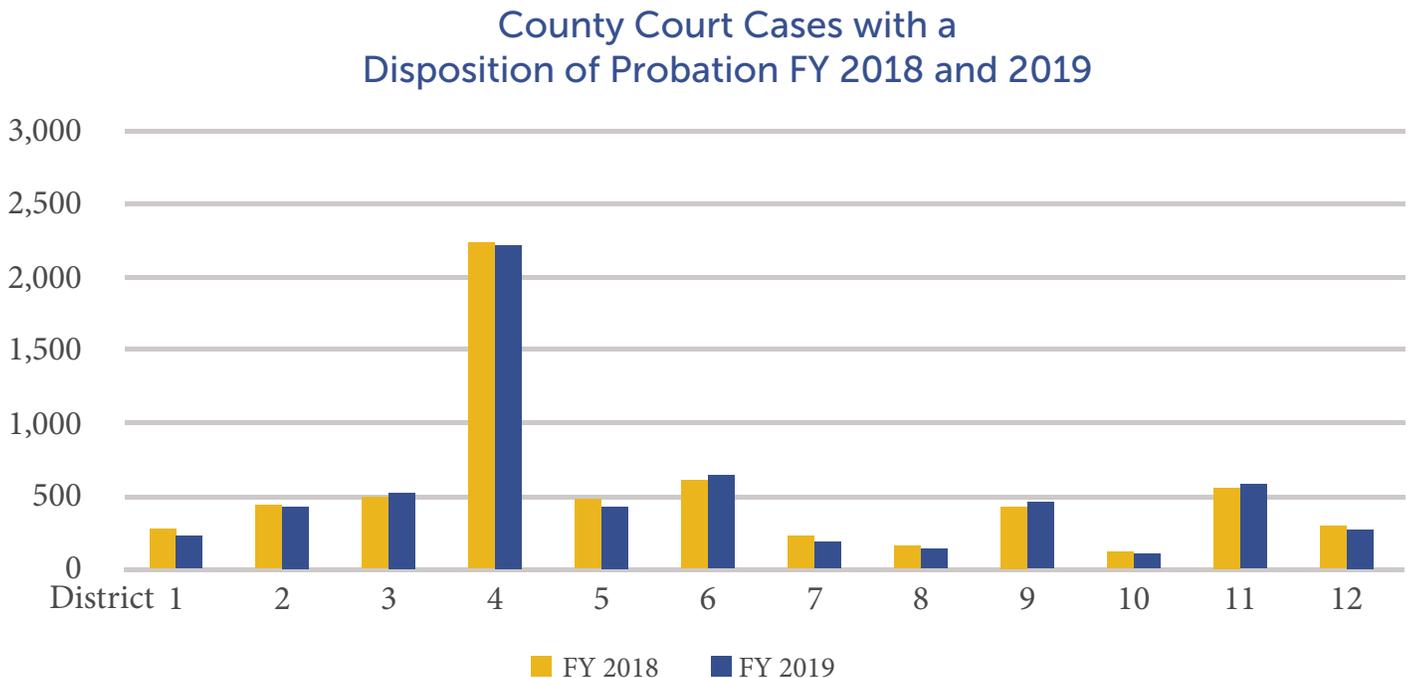
District Court Cases with a Disposition of Probation or Post Release Supervision FY 2019

The number of District Court Cases with a disposition of Probation or Post Release Supervision increased by 2.5% from FY 2018.



County Court Cases with a Disposition of Probation FY 2019

There was a 1.3% decrease in the number of cases with a disposition of Probation from County Courts from FY 2018 to FY 2019.



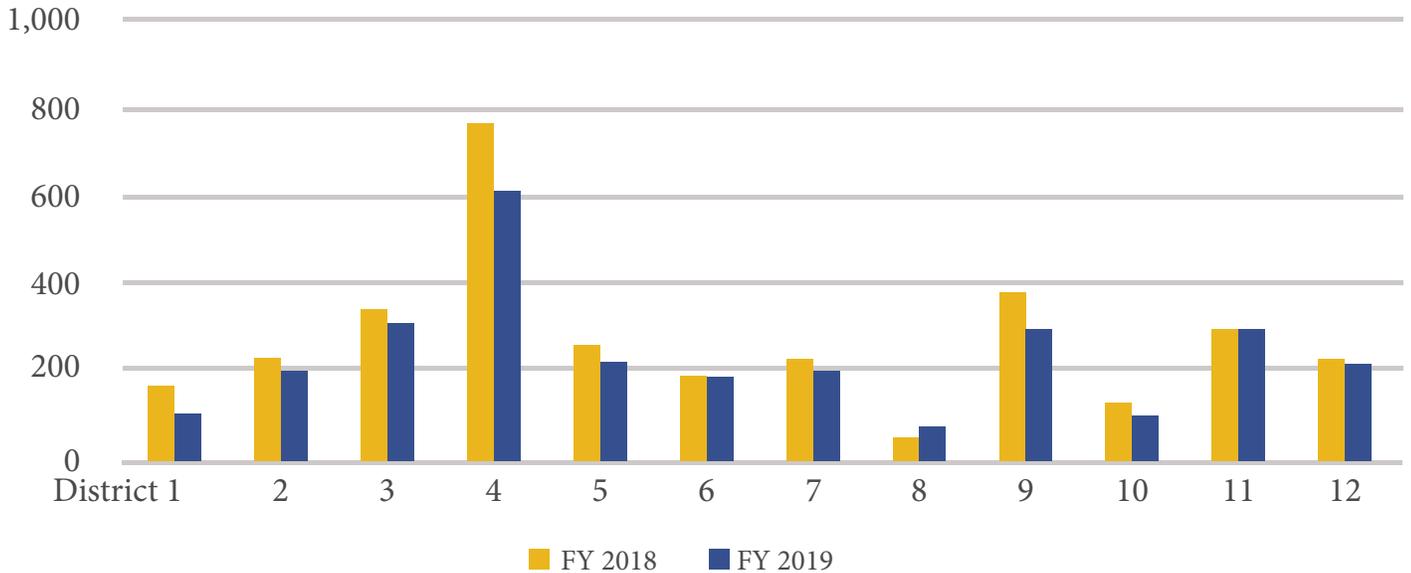
Probation Case Statistics

Disposition of Probation

Juvenile Court Cases with Disposition of Probation FY 2019

There was a 12.7% decrease in the number of cases with a disposition of Probation from Juvenile Courts from FY 2018 to FY 2019.

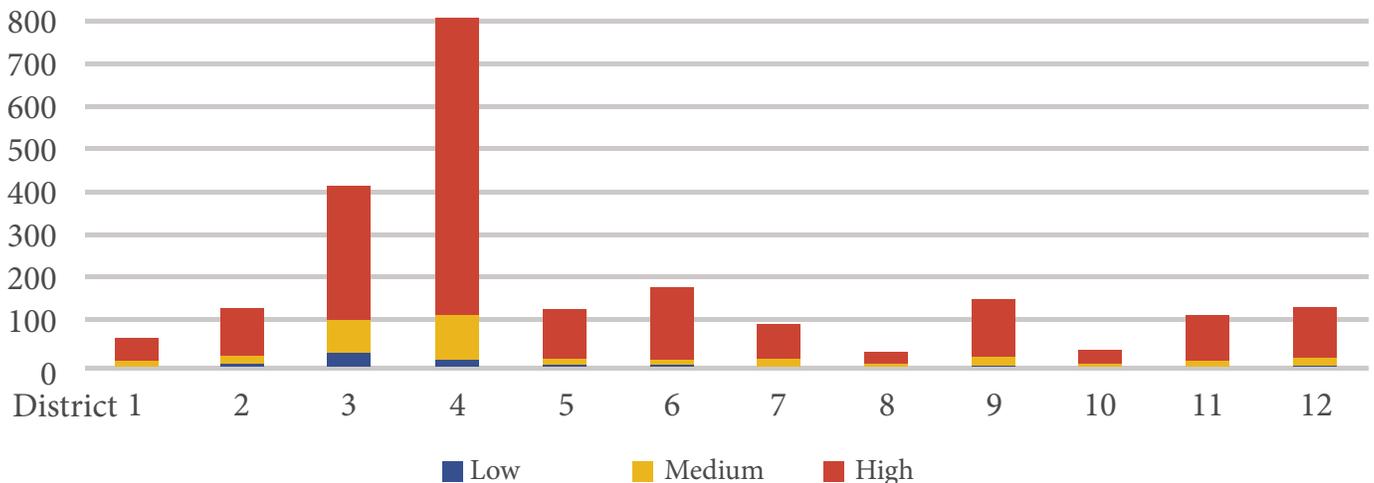
Juvenile Court Cases with a Disposition of Probation FY 2018 and 2019



Post Release Supervision Cases and Risk to Reoffend FY 2019

82% of Post Release Supervision cases are assessed at a high risk to re-offend.

Post Release Supervision Cases and Risk to Reoffend FY 2019

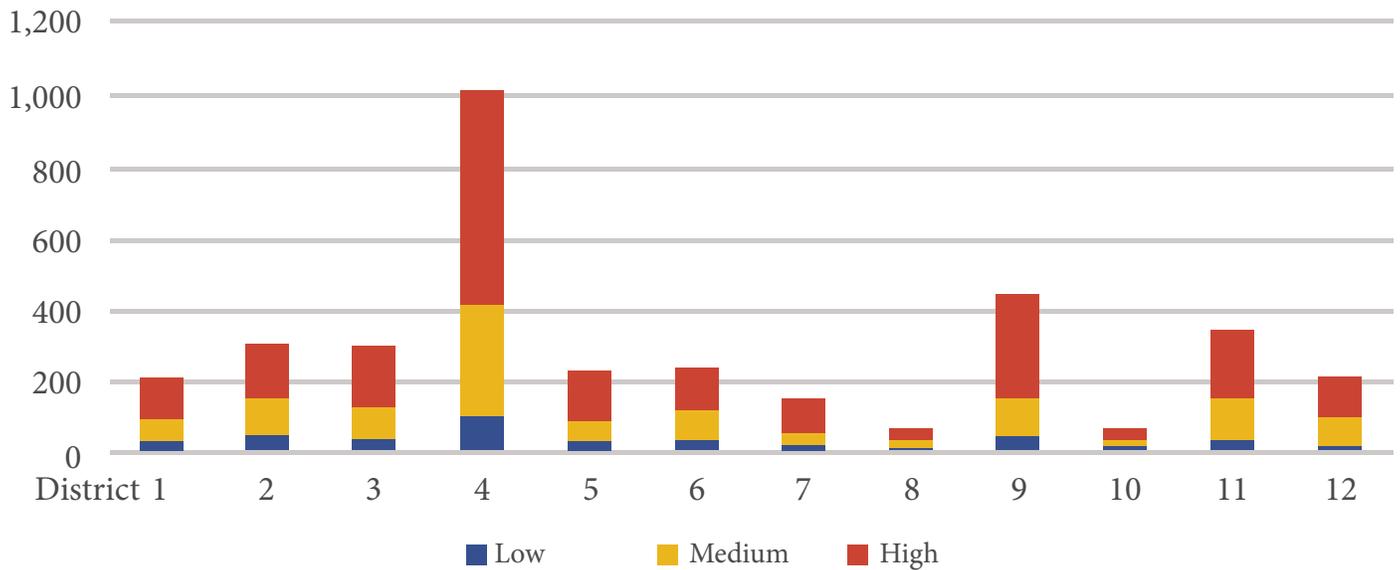


Probation Case Statistics

Risk to Reoffend

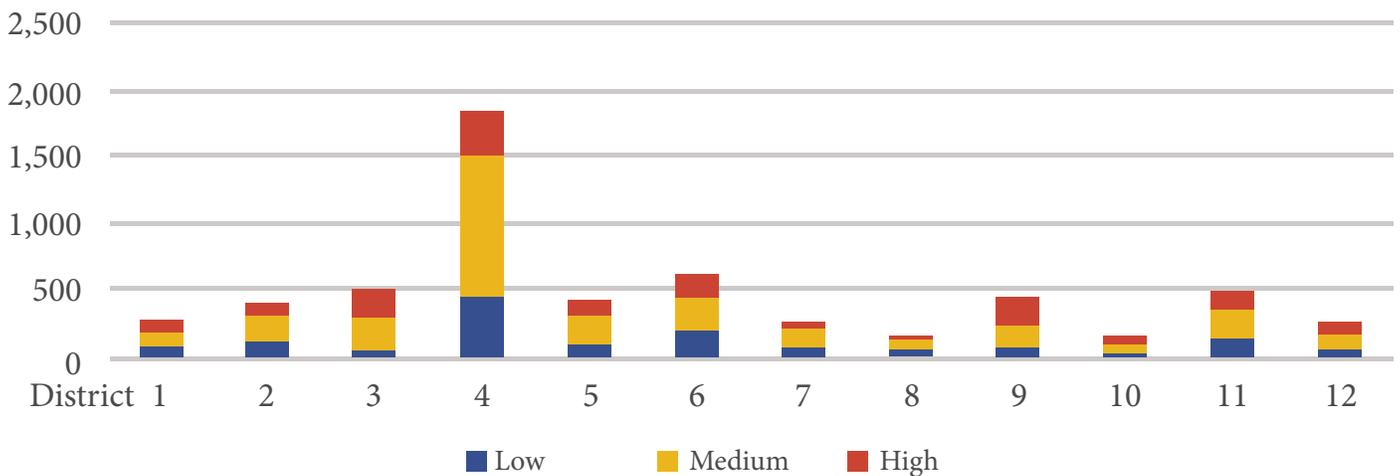
District Court Probation Cases and Risk to Reoffend FY 2019

58% of District Court Probation cases are assessed at a high risk to re-offend.



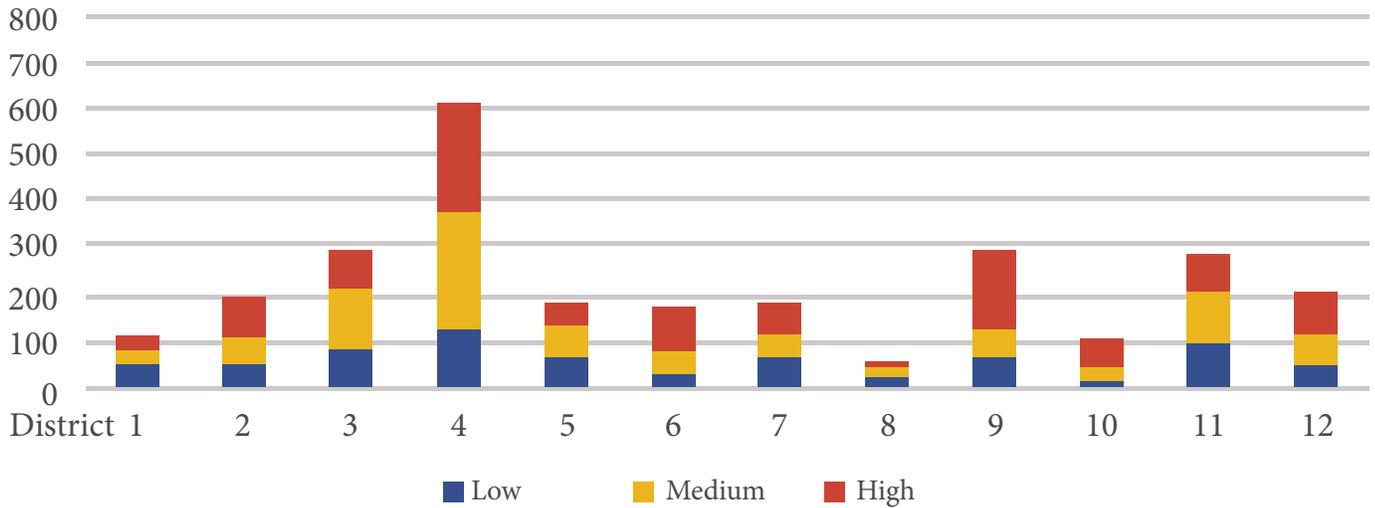
County Court Probation Cases and Risk to Reoffend FY 2019

26% of County Court Probation cases are assessed at a high risk to re-offend.



Juvenile Court Probation Cases and Risk to Reoffend FY 2019

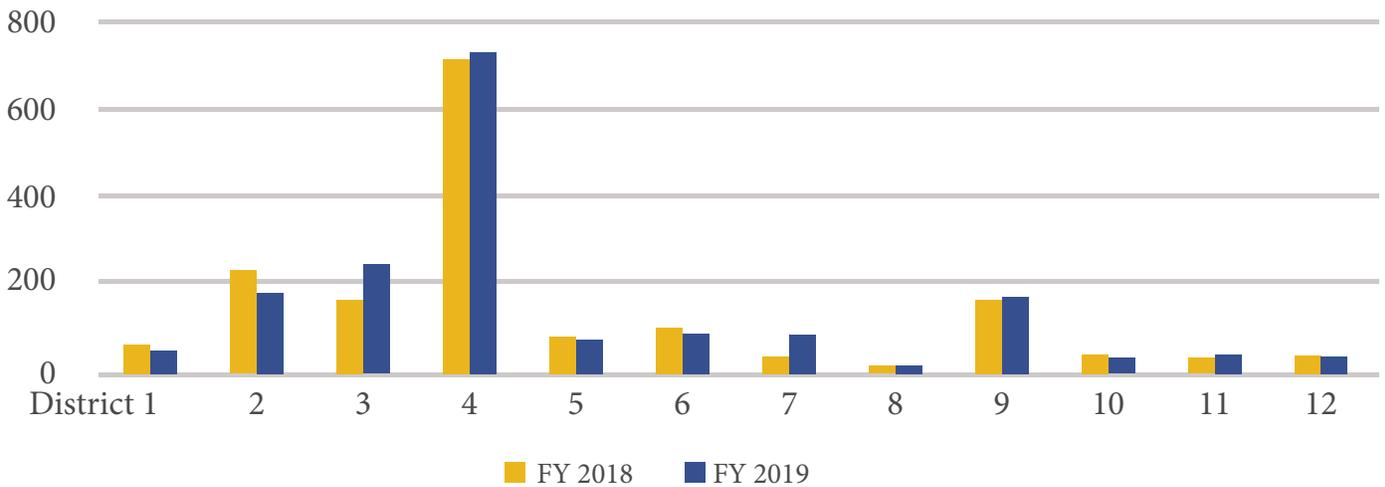
37% of Juvenile Court Probation cases are assessed at a high risk to re-offend.



Juvenile Intakes and Detention

Probation Juvenile Intakes Completed FY 2019

Nebraska State Probation had 1,768 intakes performed by probation officers during FY 2019. This is a 4.4% increase from FY 2018.





Published by the Administrative
Office of the Courts & Probation

1445 K Street
State Capitol, Room 1213
Lincoln, NE 68509