

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT
STATE COURT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

**JUDICIAL
RESOURCES
RECOMMENDATIONS**

JULY 2017

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) recommends that the Legislature eliminate four trial court judgeships by attrition, reverse two trial court judgeships pending elimination, convert a district judgeship to a circuit judgeship, and allow two sets of district courts to merge.

These 2017 Judicial Resources Recommendations continue to build upon the major steps to re-engineer Michigan's judiciary that were accomplished based on the 2011 and 2013 reports. As a result of those previous recommendations, 31 judgeships have already been eliminated with 14 more slated for elimination. Also, 5 additional judges were authorized by the Michigan Legislature for a net reduction of 40 seats. These net reductions are saving taxpayers \$19.5 million from 2011 through the end of this year. Once reductions from this report are also realized, the cumulative savings will approach \$200 million and savings will continue to accrue to the taxpayers in the amount of more than \$7 million per year.

The 2017 recommendations are based on the SCAO's most recent biennial review of the judicial needs of the state of Michigan. That review indicates that, in three courts, the current number of judgeships is not justified by the courts' workload. The SCAO recommends that judgeships be eliminated by attrition, such as when a judge retires, when a judge is constitutionally prohibited from running for election due to age, or when the position otherwise becomes vacant. Further, the review indicates that two pending reductions should be reversed, that a district judgeship should be converted to a circuit judgeship, and that two sets of district courts should merge. The addition of a new judgeship requires both the Legislature's authorization and the local funding unit's approval.

The review of trial court judgeships begins with a statistical analysis. Case filings are weighted to reflect the amount of judicial time necessary to handle each case type. For example, a medical malpractice case requires much more judicial involvement than a civil infraction, so the medical malpractice case weight is much greater.

For each jurisdiction where the statistical analysis indicated a significant judicial need or excess, the SCAO conducted a secondary analysis. This analysis focused on the particular court or courts, and any factor not accounted for in the weighted caseload formula.

Within each judicial circuit, county-funded circuit, probate, and district courts were combined for analysis. In general, district courts funded by cities and townships were analyzed independently from county-funded courts.

2017 JUDICIAL RESOURCES RECOMMENDATIONS

	Range of Total Judgeships Needed		Current Judgeships	Range of Judicial Need		Recommendation	Pg
Reductions by Attrition							
36th District Court – City of Detroit	26.6	27.9	30	-2.1	-3.4	-2 district judgeships	15
Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw Counties	1.6	2.0	4.5 ¹	-2.5	-2.9	Create probate court district of Houghton and Keweenaw with 1 probate judge or -1 district judgeship ²	17
Saginaw County	9.5	10.1	12	-1.9	-2.5	-1 circuit judgeship	20
Reversals of Pending Reductions							
44th District Court – Cities of Royal Oak and Berkley	1.8	2.0	1 ³	+0.8	+1.0	+1 district judgeship	24
Clinton and Gratiot Counties	4.4	5.8	5 ⁴	-0.6	+0.8	+1 circuit judgeship	26
Conversion							
Livingston County 53rd District Court	2.1	2.2	3	-0.8	-0.9	-1 district judgeship	30
44th Circuit Court & Livingston County Probate Court	1.5	3.6	3	-1.5	+0.6	+1 circuit judgeship	
Mergers to Balance Workload							
18th District Court – City of Westland & 29th District Court – City of Wayne	3.0	3.2	2.0	+1.0	+1.2	Allow these courts to merge into one court and retain 3 judgeships	34
38th District Court – City of Eastpointe & 39th District Court – Cities of Roseville and Fraser	1.5	1.8	1.0	+0.5	+0.8	Allow these courts to merge into one court and retain 4 judgeships ⁵	37

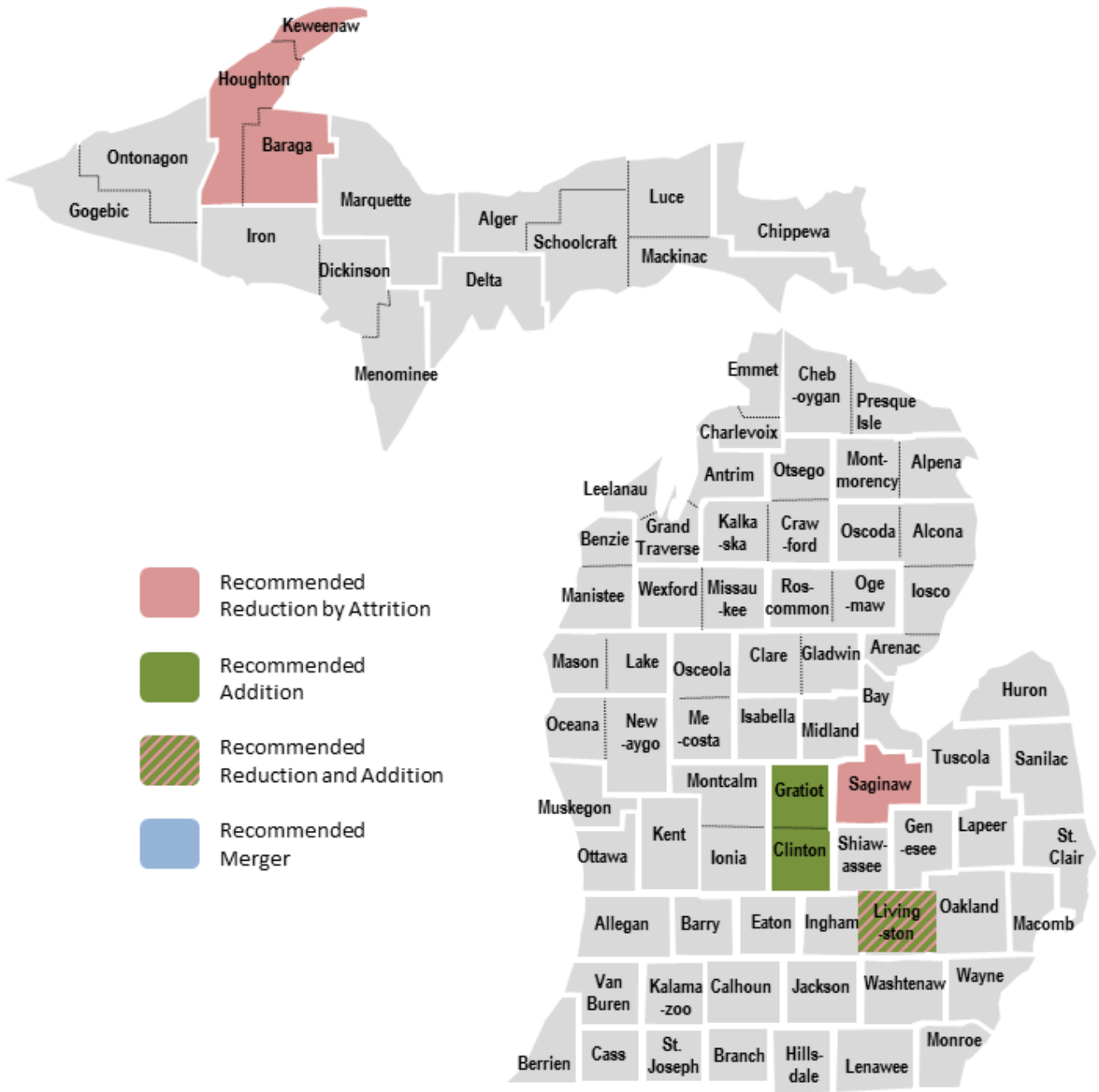
¹ The Keweenaw County Probate Court judgeship is the only judgeship in Michigan where state law permits the judge to also engage in the practice of law. It is shown as 0.5, instead of 1.0, in this report.

² MCL 600.807 (a) permits the counties of Houghton and Keweenaw to form a probate court district when a majority of electors voting on the question in each affected county approves. As an alternative to a probate court district with one judge, SCAO recommends the reduction of one district judgeship.

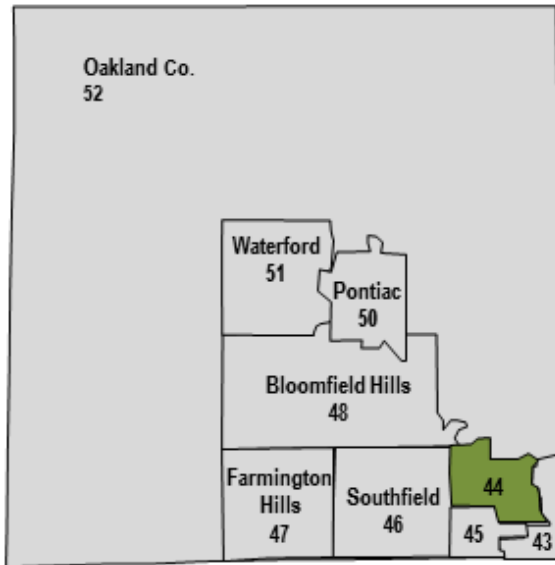
³ As of June 1, 2017, the 44th District Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

⁴ As of June 1, 2017, the 29th Circuit Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition. This would reduce the number of judges in these two counties from six to five.

⁵ As an alternative to merging these two courts, SCAO recommends that these courts submit a concurrent jurisdiction plan to balance workload.

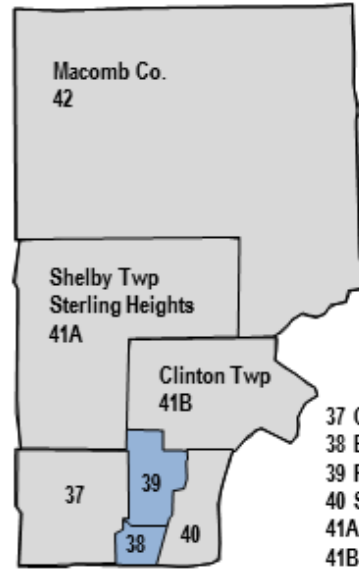


Oakland



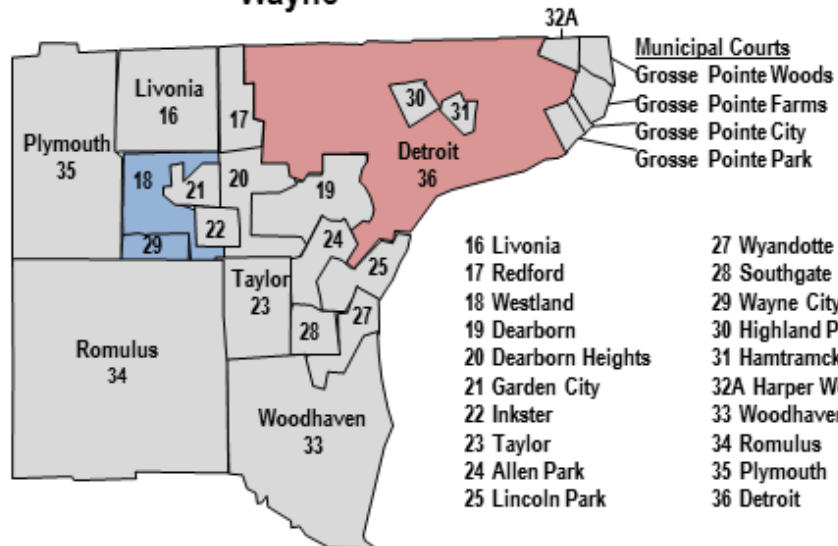
- 43 Ferndale, Hazel Park, Madison Heights
- 44 Royal Oak
- 45 Oak Park
- 46 Southfield
- 47 Farmington Hills
- 48 Bloomfield Hills
- 50 Pontiac
- 51 Waterford

Macomb



- 37 Center Line, Warren
- 38 Eastpointe
- 39 Fraser, Roseville
- 40 St. Clair Shores
- 41A Shelby Twp, Sterling Hts
- 41B Clinton Twp

Wayne



- 16 Livonia
- 17 Redford
- 18 Westland
- 19 Dearborn
- 20 Dearborn Heights
- 21 Garden City
- 22 Inkster
- 23 Taylor
- 24 Allen Park
- 25 Lincoln Park
- 27 Wyandotte
- 28 Southgate
- 29 Wayne City
- 30 Highland Park
- 31 Hamtramck
- 32A Harper Woods
- 33 Woodhaven
- 34 Romulus
- 35 Plymouth
- 36 Detroit

METHODOLOGY

Any estimate of judicial workload and a community’s need for judges is a complex and multidimensional process. Most states, including Michigan, consider both quantitative and qualitative factors. The process in Michigan involves two stages. The first stage utilizes a quantitative method - a weighted caseload formula - to estimate the number of judges needed in each court. During the second stage, known as the secondary analysis, the SCAO reviews additional factors, such as the need for judges to travel long distances between court locations in a single large circuit. Other factors include trends in filings or population, changes in prosecutorial practices, and any other issue that may affect the need for judges.

The SCAO evaluates all county-funded courts within a judicial circuit together. In general, district courts that are funded by cities and townships, however, are analyzed independently from county-funded courts in the same judicial circuit. Aggregating within a circuit is important because concurrent jurisdiction plans pursuant to MCL 600.401 *et seq.* permit more equitable assignment of cases among judges within a circuit, thereby allowing a judicial excess in one court to offset a need in another court. For example, a district court that shows a judicial need for one judge can offset that need by sharing work with circuit and probate courts that show a judicial excess. All courts are eligible to participate in concurrent jurisdiction plans and 78 courts currently do. The SCAO has strongly encouraged and assisted courts in implementing these plans, and will continue to do so.

Weighted Caseload Formula: The weighted caseload formula is the preliminary quantitative method used to identify potential judicial need or excess in each court. In the formula, a weight for each case type accounts for varying amounts of judicial time required to handle an individual case.⁶ The case weight for a medical malpractice case, for example, is much greater than the case weight for a civil infraction. All case weights include postjudgment time.

The case weights are applied to the average annual new case filings and the judicial proportion to generate an estimate of the total judicial time necessary to process the court’s caseload. To ensure that short-term variations in new case filings do not unduly affect judicial resource need estimates, caseload data from the preceding three years (2014, 2015, and 2016) were used in the weighted caseload formula.

Judicial proportions reflect the percentage of the case weight workload that is handled by a judge, on average, as opposed to a referee, magistrate, or other quasi-judicial officer. The judicial proportions vary by court type and stratum.⁷ This calculation is divided by the judicial year, which is the average amount of time available to an individual judge each year for case-related activity.⁸ The result is an estimate of the number of judges required to process the court’s caseload, as reflected in this formula:

$$\text{Number of Judges Needed} = \frac{\text{Average Annual New Case Filings} \times \text{Case Weight} \times \text{Judicial Proportion}}{\text{Judicial Year}}$$

⁶ See Appendix A for the case weights used for this report.

⁷ See Appendix B for the judicial proportions used for this report.

⁸ The judicial year is the average amount of time a judge has available each year to handle cases, excluding work-related travel, administration, education, vacations, holidays, etc.

The weighted caseload formula distinguishes the varying degrees of effort involved in handling different case types at the trial court level, and is far more accurate than an analysis based on unweighted total case filings. The proportions of different case types may vary significantly between different court types⁹ and between different courts.

The National Center for State Courts (NCSC)¹⁰ recommends a weighted caseload methodology above all other methods, such as a simple population analysis or an unweighted case filings analysis. In Michigan, the weighted caseload method has been used by the SCAO since 1998.

The weighted caseload formula was first developed by the Trial Court Assessment Commission (TCAC), which the Legislature created in 1996. The TCAC included representatives from the Court of Appeals, circuit courts, probate courts, district courts, State Bar of Michigan, Michigan House of Representatives, Michigan Senate, and local governments. In 1997, the TCAC conducted a time study for two months to measure the actual time judges spent on cases. The NCSC helped develop the weighted caseload formula.

In 2000, because of the implementation of the family division and changes in circuit and district court jurisdiction, the Michigan Supreme Court directed the SCAO to update the weighted caseload formula through a study of the time required to process case types. The SCAO conducted a time study in September and October 2000 and used the resulting case weights for the 2001, 2003, and 2005 Judicial Resources Recommendations reports. The SCAO conducted another time study in September and October 2006 to update the case weights. The average of the case weights from the 2000 and 2006 time studies were used to generate the recommendations in the 2007 and 2009 Judicial Resources Recommendations reports.

In 2010, the SCAO established a Judicial Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC) comprised of judges, referees, magistrates, and court administrators; JNAC oversaw an extensive review of the weighted caseload methodology. The NCSC, which has extensive experience in workload studies and weighted caseload methods throughout the country and the world, was retained to conduct Michigan’s review. The updated methodology is fully described in a technical report issued by the NCSC and presented by the JNAC in August 2011.

The NCSC conducted a time study in October 2010 with all trial court judges and any quasi-judicial officer performing judicial functions. This was the first judicial time study in Michigan that involved every court in the state. Previous studies were based on data from a sample of trial courts. The NCSC also conducted on-site court visits, an online survey of judges, and a qualitative review process with experienced judges. The result was an extensive update of the weighted caseload methodology and the case weights.

History of Judicial Time Studies in Michigan

Time Study	Oversight & Research	Method of Selecting Courts	JRR ¹¹ Reports Issued
1997	TCAC, NCSC, and SCAO	Stratified Random Sample	2000
2000	SCAO	Stratified Random Sample	2001, 2003, 2005
2006	SCAO	Stratified Random Sample	2007, 2009
2010	JNAC, NCSC, and SCAO	All Trial Courts	2011, 2013, 2015, 2017

TCAC – Trial Court Assessment Commission
 SCAO – State Court Administrative Office
 NCSC – National Center for State Courts
 JNAC – Judicial Needs Assessment Committee

⁹ For example, a significant portion of district court caseload consists of traffic cases, making the total number of cases processed in district courts significantly higher than in either circuit or probate courts.

¹⁰ The National Center for State Courts, based in Williamsburg, Virginia, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the nation’s state courts through research and technical assistance.

¹¹ JRR – Judicial Resources Recommendations.

The policies, practices, and structure of trial courts change over time in response to public need, legislative actions, and funding issues. The SCAO is committed to periodically reviewing and updating its methods of assessing judicial need, as it has in the past, to ensure valid results. This evolution, unfortunately, limits some comparisons between JRR reports when based on different time studies. This is particularly true when attempting to compare judicial needs estimates for large courts over time.

In late 2012, the SCAO formed a Judicial Resources Advisory Committee (JRAC) comprised of judges, court administrators, referees, and magistrates. The JRAC reviewed SCAO’s methodology and identified areas where it could be improved and where changes in policy or practice have resulted in increased workload demands. As a result of JRAC’s recommendations, SCAO updated the weighted caseload formula for 2013 and 2015.

In late 2016, the SCAO reconvened the JRAC to review several recent issues affecting judicial workload and make quality adjustments to the case weights. Experienced judges reviewed the following issues:

- The impact of *In re Sanders*, decided in 2014, in child protective cases.
- The creation of new business courts by Public Act 333 of 2012.
- The activity by district courts on felony cases required by Public Acts 123 and 124 of 2014.
- Providing criminal courts with additional time to assess obligor’s ability to pay as recommended in 2015 by the Ability to Pay Workgroup.
- Three new types of problem-solving courts.

To account for these issues, SCAO generated a set of case weights for the 2017 recommendations that are larger than the weights used in 2013 and 2015. However, these larger case weights were used only when assessing judicial *excess* or *possible reversal* of a pending reduction. The smaller case weights were used only when assessing judicial *need*. This approach maintains stability in the courts while addressing courts with a significant judicial need or excess.

	Smaller 2013/2015 Case Weight	Larger 2017 Case Weight
Circuit Court		
Noncapital Felony	104.00	104.80
Business Court Cases	184.00	854.00
Child Protective	353.00	406.00
Juvenile Guardianships	86.00	134.00
District Court		
Misdemeanor	28.30	30.40
Nontraffic Civil Infraction	4.00	4.01
Traffic Misdemeanor	9.00	10.40
Traffic Civil Infraction	1.30	1.31
OUIL Misdemeanor	46.10	47.50
Problem-Solving Courts		
Swift and Sure Sanctions Program	There were no case weights for these three problem-solving courts; however, the workload was reviewed during the secondary analysis.	227.00
Mental Health Court		454.00
Veterans Treatment Court		521.00

Quasi-Judicial Officers: Almost all courts have at least one quasi-judicial officer, such as a referee, magistrate, probate register, or law clerk who performs limited judicial functions. Indeed these quasi-judicial officers perform a significant proportion of judicial work for the courts and during the 2010 Time Study, a total of 326 full-time equivalent quasi-judicial officers performed judicial functions.

Determining how to account for the judicial workload of quasi-judicial officers is difficult and not without controversy. There has not been a statewide analysis on how many are needed in each court or how many would be ideal in each court and there is no state control over the number of quasi-judicial officers in each court.

In 2017, for the first time, SCAO used two sets of judicial proportions to calculate how many judges should be available to each court. As in prior reports, SCAO used the average proportion of judicial workload performed by judges compared to quasi-judicial officers during the 2010 Time Study. This presumes that courts of similar size will have similar levels of support from these positions. SCAO also used a second set of judicial proportions based on the amount of judicial workload performed by judges compared to quasi-judicial officers in each court during the 2010 Time Study. These are unique to each court. This presumes that courts will continue to receive the same level of support from these positions as they have in the past. By using two sets of judicial proportions, there is a range of judicial need for each court. For example, the judicial excess in the 36th District Court ranged from -2.1 to -3.4.

Secondary Analysis: Calculating judicial need is a complicated and multifaceted process. Both the TCAC and the JNAC advised that the SCAO should conduct a secondary analysis of factors that affect a court's workload before recommending an increase or reduction in judgeships. All of the courts where SCAO recommends a reduction were subject to a secondary analysis.

For each specific court under review during the secondary analysis, SCAO considered both qualitative and quantitative information. During the secondary analysis, the SCAO regional administrators met with each court. Discussion focused on case-related factors that affect judicial resources, court resources, and environmental factors in the court's jurisdiction.

During the secondary analysis, the SCAO took into account the constitutional requirements of having at least one circuit judgeship for each judicial circuit and at least one probate judgeship for each county or probate court district.

Other secondary analysis factors include:

- Travel time between courthouses.
- Specialized dockets.
- Number of quasi-judicial officers.
- Staffing.
- Facilities.
- Accuracy of caseload reporting.
- Demographics.
- Population trends.
- Technology usage/capability.
- Effect of others' practices/policies on the court.
- Financial.
- Concurrent jurisdiction plan.
- Dispute resolution.
- Backlog of cases.
- Discipline or potential discipline.
- Minimum judges.
- Experience of the bench.

SELECTING COURTS FOR SECONDARY ANALYSIS

Possible Reduction: Courts that met the following four criteria were included in the secondary analysis in 2017 for a possible reduction in judgeships.

- Using the larger 2017 case weights and the average judicial proportions, a judicial excess greater than one full judgeship, and
- Using the larger 2017 case weights and the court's judicial proportions, a judicial excess greater than one full judgeship, and
- No pending reductions at the time courts were selected for a secondary analysis, and
- No recent reductions in the bench of 20 percent or more.

Possible Reversal of Pending Reduction: Courts that met the following two criteria were included in the secondary analysis in 2017 for a possible reversal of a pending reduction in judgeships.

- Using the larger 2017 case weights and the court's judicial proportions, a judicial need greater than +0.50, and
- A pending reduction at the time courts were selected for a secondary analysis.

STATE COST OF A JUDGESHIP

The current method of funding trial courts in Michigan requires counties and local municipalities to bear a significant share of the cost of trial court operations. The state pays the cost of judges' salaries.

State Costs: The state is responsible for the judge's salary, a retirement contribution up to 7 percent, and the employer portion of FICA taxes (OASI and Medicare). The salary for a circuit or probate judge is \$141,318; the salary for a district judge is \$139,654. The annual total state cost of a judgeship ranges from \$161,146 for a circuit or probate judge to \$159,342 for a district judge.

The SCAO recommends that the Legislature eliminate five trial court judgeships by attrition and add three trial court judgeships, for a net decrease of two judgeships. If the Legislature enacts these recommendations, the annual savings to the state will be an additional \$316,880.

Estimated Annual State Savings & State Expenses

	Recommended Changes in Judgeships ¹²	State Cost Per Judge	Annual State Savings and State Expenses Total	
Additions ¹³	2 circuit	\$ 161,146	\$ 322,292	
	1 district	\$ 159,342	\$ 159,342	
			\$ 481,634	Additional Expenses
Reductions by Attrition	1 circuit	\$ 161,146	\$ 161,146	
	4 district ¹⁴	\$ 159,342	\$ 637,368	
			\$ 798,514	Savings
			\$ 316,880	Net Savings

Local Costs: Significant local costs are associated with a judgeship, such as judges' fringe benefits; salaries and fringe benefits of court personnel (i.e., clerk, court reporter, bailiff, legal assistants); computer hardware, software, and other equipment for court personnel; and courtrooms, jury rooms, and judges' chambers. Local funding units must approve any increase in judgeships once authorized by the Legislature. As it relates to savings from reductions, local funding, particularly staffing for the courts, varies greatly from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, it is difficult to determine the amount that a funding unit would save through the elimination of a specific judgeship.

¹² The conversion of a district judgeship to a circuit judgeship in Livingston County is counted as one addition and one reduction in this table.

¹³ These additions include two judgeships that are scheduled to be eliminated, but have not yet been.

¹⁴ For purposes of the fiscal analysis in this table, the judgeship to be reduced in Baraga, Houghton, and Keweenaw Counties is the district judgeship. The creation of a probate court district and reduction of the Keweenaw County Probate Court judgeship would result in fewer savings to the state.

RECOMMENDED REDUCTIONS BY ATTRITION

36th District Court – City of Detroit

Using the larger case weights with both sets of judicial proportions and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the 36th District Court can operate with 26.6 to 27.9 judges and has a judicial excess of 2.1 to 3.4 judges.

Recommendation:

The SCAO recommends the elimination through attrition of two district judgeships.

Current Judgeships	30
2017 SCAO Recommendation	-2
Remaining Judgeships	28

History of Recommendations:

In 2007, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship. The Michigan Supreme Court recommended the elimination through attrition of two district judgeships.

In 2013, SCAO recommended no changes in judgeships due to the appointment of a special judicial administrator for this court.

In 2015, SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

The Legislature eliminated through attrition one district judgeship effective January 1, 2015. *2014 PA 58, MCL 600.8121a.*

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

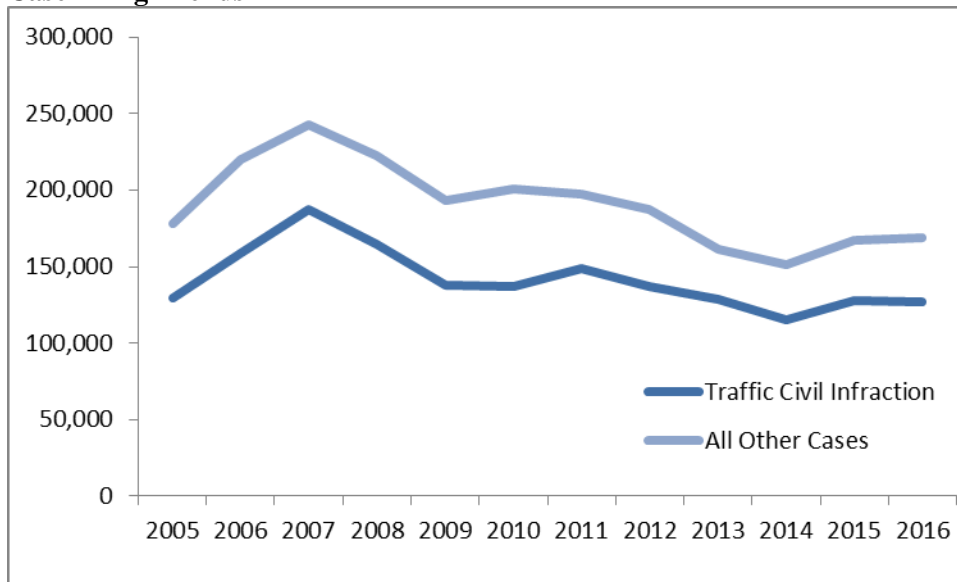
The caseload in this court, excluding traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has remained at less than 200,000 since 2010. The population in Detroit has decreased from 713,777 in 2010 to 672,795.

Case Filings

Year	Traffic Civil Infractions	All Other Cases
2005	129,368	178,122
2006	159,224	219,747
2007	187,216	242,458
2008	164,678	222,488
2009	137,719	192,981
2010	137,442	200,634
2011	148,584	197,319
2012	136,707	187,633
2013	128,411	161,541
2014	114,956	151,523
2015	127,471	167,136
2016	126,762	168,834

All Other Cases excludes Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Case Filing Trends



Year	Population
2010 Census	713,777
2011 Estimate	704,135
2012 Estimate	698,558
2013 Estimate	689,596
2014 Estimate	679,903
2015 Estimate	676,336
2016 Estimate	672,795

Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2016.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

Baraga, Houghton, and Keweenaw Counties

Using the larger case weights with both sets of judicial proportions and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the courts in Baraga, Houghton, and Keweenaw Counties can operate with 1.6 to 2.0 judges and has a judicial excess of 2.5 to 2.9 judges.

Recommendation:

The SCAO recommends the creation of a probate court district of Houghton and Keweenaw Counties and the elimination through attrition of the Keweenaw County Probate Court judgeship. As an alternative, the SCAO recommends the reduction through attrition of one district judgeship.

Current Judgeships	4.5
2017 SCAO Recommendation	Create probate court district of Houghton and Keweenaw with 1 probate judge or -1 district judgeship ¹⁵
Remaining Judgeships	4.0 or 3.5

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Current Judgeships
12th Circuit Court	Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw Counties	1
Baraga County Probate Court	Baraga County	1
Houghton County Probate Court	Houghton County	1
Keweenaw County Probate Court	Keweenaw County	0.5 ¹⁶
97th District Court	Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw Counties	1

History of Recommendations:

In 2003, the SCAO recommended that the part-time probate judgeships in Baraga and Keweenaw counties be converted to full-time with district court jurisdiction upon elimination of the district judgeship through attrition, if Houghton and Keweenaw counties did not form a probate court district. The counties did not form a probate court district and the Legislature converted the Baraga County probate judgeship to full-time, however, the Legislature did not eliminate the district judgeship.

In 2007, the SCAO and the Michigan Supreme Court recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship.

In 2009, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship. The SCAO also recommended that two district courts be created, one for Baraga County and one for Houghton and Keweenaw counties. As an alternative to eliminating the district judgeship and creating separate district courts, the SCAO stated that the counties could create a probate court district of Houghton and Keweenaw counties, which would result in the elimination through attrition of one part-time probate judgeship.

¹⁵ MCL 600.807 (a) permits the counties of Houghton and Keweenaw to form a probate court district when a majority of electors voting on the question in each affected county approves. As an alternative to a probate court district with one judge, SCAO recommends the reduction of one district judgeship.

¹⁶ The Keweenaw County Probate Court judgeship is the only judgeship in Michigan where state law permits the judge to also engage in the practice of law. It is shown as 0.5, instead of 1.0, in this report.

In 2011, the SCAO recommended the reduction through attrition of one judgeship.

In 2013, SCAO recommended the elimination by attrition of one district judgeship. As an alternative to eliminating the district judgeship, the SCAO also stated that the counties could create a probate court district of Houghton and Keweenaw counties, which would result in the elimination through attrition of one part-time probate judgeship.

In 2015, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship. The SCAO also recommended giving the probate judges district court authority. *MCL 600.8162*.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

The Legislature converted the Baraga County probate judgeship from part-time to full-time effective January 2, 2007. *2004 PA 492, MCL 600.810a*.

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

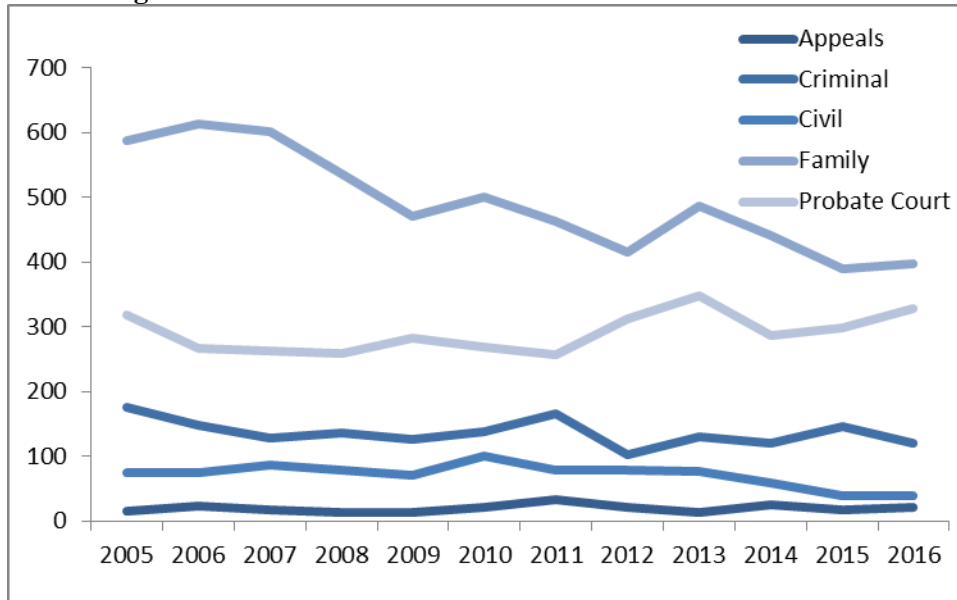
The caseload in these courts, excluding traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, peaked in 2005 at more than 4,000 and decreased to less than 3,000 in 2016. The population in these three counties has remained steady at more than 47,000 since 2010.

Case Filings

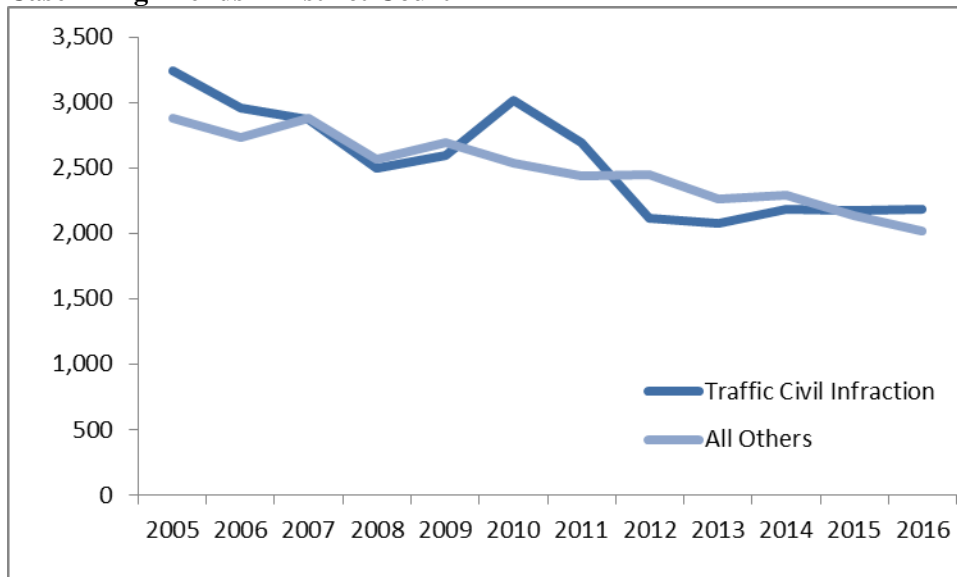
Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court		Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Civil Infractions	All Others	
2005	15	176	75	588	319	3,244	2,878	4,051
2006	23	149	75	613	268	2,954	2,735	3,863
2007	18	128	87	601	264	2,870	2,881	3,979
2008	13	137	79	537	259	2,501	2,571	3,596
2009	13	127	71	472	283	2,592	2,693	3,659
2010	21	139	101	500	269	3,018	2,537	3,567
2011	34	167	79	464	258	2,690	2,438	3,440
2012	21	103	80	415	312	2,119	2,453	3,384
2013	13	130	77	487	349	2,077	2,267	3,323
2014	26	121	59	441	287	2,182	2,294	3,228
2015	17	146	39	390	298	2,175	2,135	3,025
2016	21	121	39	397	329	2,181	2,021	2,928

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Case Filing Trends – Circuit and Probate Courts



Case Filing Trends – District Court



Year	Population
2010 Census	47,644
2011 Estimate	47,816
2012 Estimate	47,645
2013 Estimate	47,535
2014 Estimate	47,321
2015 Estimate	47,101
2016 Estimate	47,257

Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2016.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

Saginaw County

Using the larger case weights with both sets of judicial proportions and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the courts in Saginaw County can operate with 9.5 to 10.1 judges and has a judicial excess of 1.9 to 2.5 judges.

Recommendation:

The SCAO recommends the elimination through attrition of one circuit judgeship.

Current Judgeships	12
2017 SCAO Recommendation	-1 circuit judgeship
Remaining Judgeships	11

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Current Judgeships
10th Circuit Court	Saginaw County	5
Saginaw County Probate Court	Saginaw County	2
70th District Court	Saginaw County	5

History of Recommendations:

In 2003, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship.

In 2005, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship.

In 2007, the SCAO and the Michigan Supreme Court recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship.

In 2013, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one district judgeship.

In 2015, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one probate judgeship.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

The Legislature eliminated through attrition one district judgeship effective March 27, 2014. *2014 PA 60, MCL 600.8135.*

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

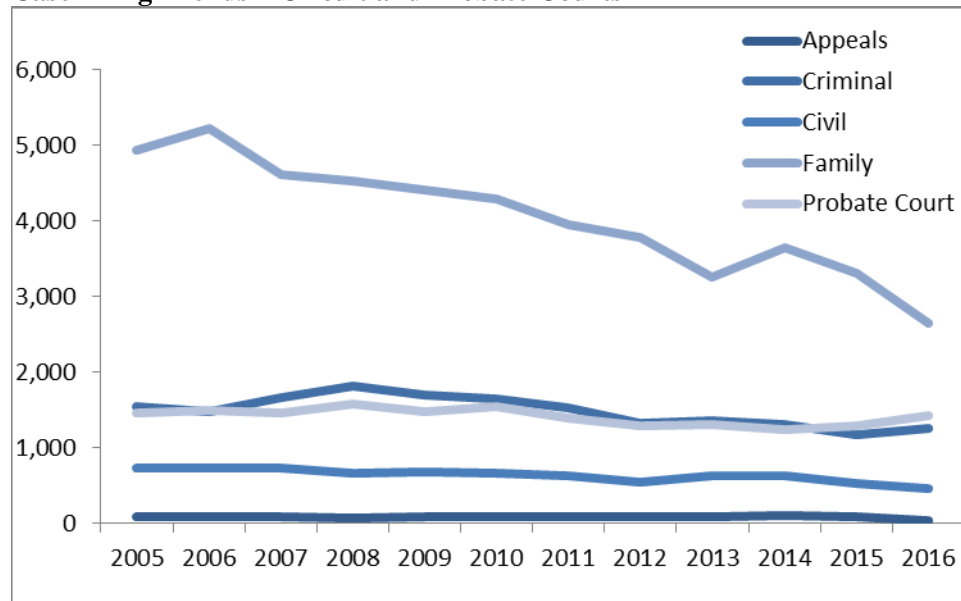
The caseload in these courts, excluding traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, peaked at more than 39,000 in 2007 and decreased to less than 26,000 in 2016. The population in Saginaw County has decreased from more than 200,000 in 2010 to less than 193,000.

Case Filings

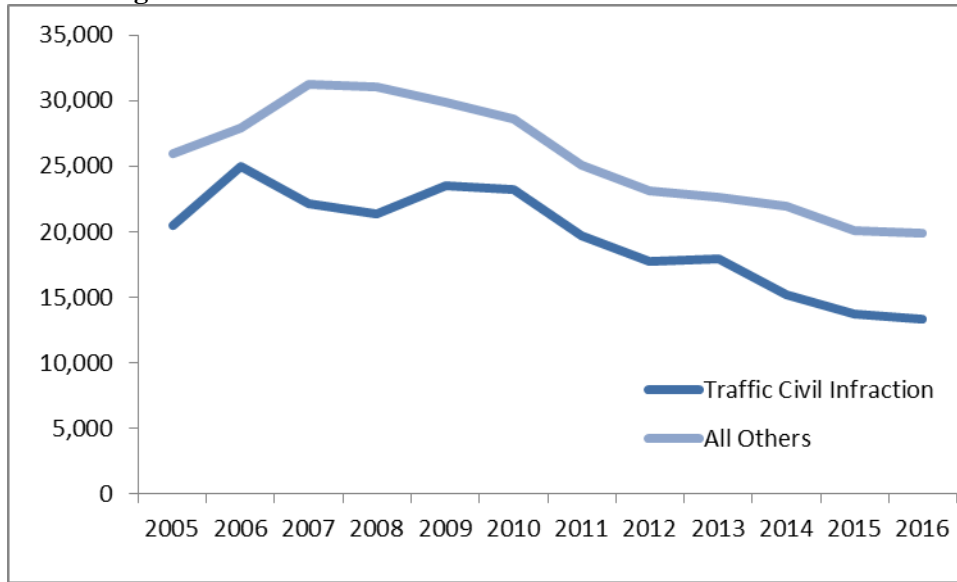
Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court		Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Infractions	Civil Others	
2005	80	1,537	724	4,944	1,463	20,524	25,982	34,730
2006	90	1,483	737	5,221	1,497	24,998	27,930	36,958
2007	80	1,670	723	4,620	1,463	22,175	31,206	39,762
2008	62	1,816	664	4,536	1,581	21,371	31,013	37,672
2009	76	1,704	673	4,419	1,484	23,562	29,858	38,214
2010	88	1,647	660	4,293	1,542	23,259	28,601	36,831
2011	83	1,531	632	3,948	1,387	19,684	25,101	32,682
2012	79	1,328	549	3,781	1,289	17,783	23,143	30,169
2013	77	1,361	624	3,265	1,298	17,968	22,680	29,305
2014	96	1,314	629	3,651	1,242	15,254	21,993	28,925
2015	90	1,174	532	3,308	1,290	13,758	20,108	26,502
2016	39	1,263	459	2,642	1,420	13,391	19,937	25,760

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Case Filing Trends – Circuit and Probate Courts



Case Filing Trends – District Court



Year	Population
2010 Census	200,169
2011 Estimate	198,838
2012 Estimate	198,352
2013 Estimate	196,785
2014 Estimate	195,252
2015 Estimate	193,290
2016 Estimate	192,326

*Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2016.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division*

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONS

44th District Court – Cities of Royal Oak and Berkley

Using the larger case weights with both sets of judicial proportions and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the 44th District Court needs 1.8 to 2.0 judges to operate and has a judicial need of 0.8 to 1.0 judges.

Recommendation:

The SCAO recommends that a judgeship scheduled for elimination through attrition not be eliminated.

Current Judgeships	1 ¹⁷
2017 SCAO Recommendation	+1
Remaining Judgeships	2

History of Recommendations:

In 2011, the SCAO recommended the consolidation of the district courts in Oak Park and Berkley and elimination through attrition of one judgeship. Also, the SCAO recommended the elimination by attrition of one judgeship in Royal Oak.

In 2015, the SCAO recommended that a judgeship scheduled for elimination through attrition not be eliminated.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

The Legislature consolidated the Oak Park and Berkley courts, and provided for the elimination of one judgeship through attrition from the consolidated court and one judgeship through attrition from the Royal Oak court. *2012 PA 37, MCL 600.8123.*

The Legislature subsequently reversed the consolidation of the Oak Park and Berkley courts, provided for the consolidation of the Royal Oak and Berkley courts, and eliminated two judgeships through attrition from the consolidated Royal Oak and Berkley court. The Legislature also provided that a judgeship not be eliminated from the Oak Park court. *2012 PA 624, MCL 600.8123.*

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in this court, excluding traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, has increased from less than 7,000 in 2004 to more than 9,700 in 2016. The population in these two cities has increased from 72,206 in 2010 to more than 74,000.

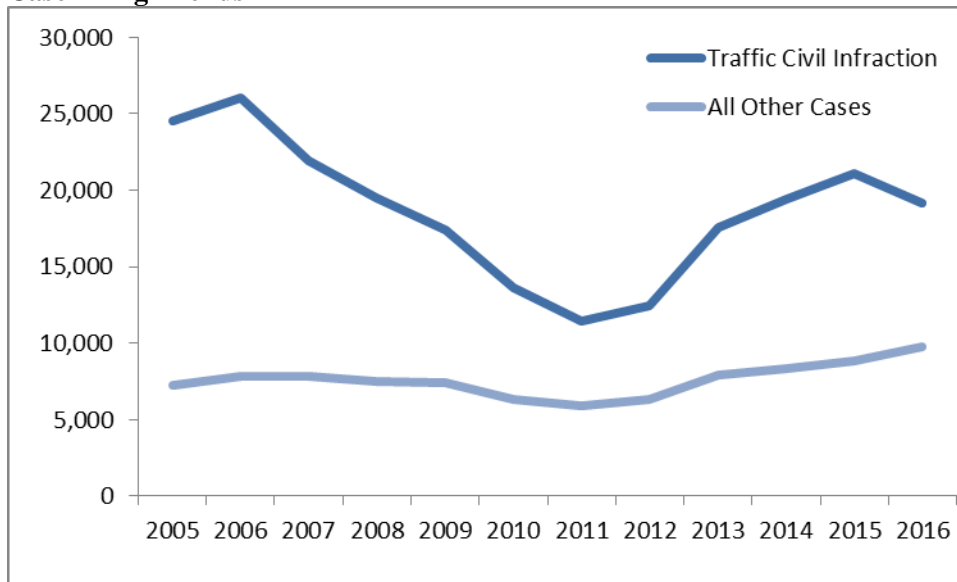
¹⁷ As of June 1, 2017, the 44th District Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition.

Case Filings

Year	Traffic Civil Infractions	All Other Cases
2005	24,526	7,269
2006	26,051	7,840
2007	21,959	7,807
2008	19,525	7,465
2009	17,420	7,454
2010	13,598	6,299
2011	11,455	5,945
2012	12,425	6,365
2013	17,536	7,946
2014	19,391	8,345
2015	21,109	8,812
2016	19,130	9,726

All Other Cases excludes Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Case Filing Trends



Year	Population
2010 Census	72,206
2011 Estimate	73,186
2012 Estimate	73,612
2013 Estimate	74,070
2014 Estimate	74,235
2015 Estimate	74,174
2016 Estimate	74,278

Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2016.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

Clinton and Gratiot Counties

Using the larger case weights with both sets of judicial proportions and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the courts in Clinton and Gratiot Counties need 4.4 to 5.8 judges to operate and has a judicial need of -0.6 to +0.8 judges.

Recommendation:

The SCAO recommends that a circuit judgeship scheduled for elimination through attrition not be eliminated.

Current Judgeships	5 ¹⁸
2017 SCAO Recommendation	+1 circuit judgeship
Remaining Judgeships	6

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

Court	Jurisdiction	Current Judgeships
29th Circuit Court	Clinton and Gratiot Counties	1
Clinton County Probate Court	Clinton County	1
Gratiot County Probate Court	Gratiot County	1
65A District Court	Clinton County	1
65B District Court	Gratiot County	1

History of Recommendations:

In 2011, the SCAO recommended the elimination through attrition of one judgeship.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

The Legislature eliminated through attrition one circuit judgeship effective May 20, 2013. *2013 PA 33, MCL 600.530.*

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

The caseload in these courts, excluding traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, peaked at more than 14,000 in 2007 and decreased to nearly 11,000 in 2016. The population in these two counties has increased from 117,858 in 2010 to more than 119,000.

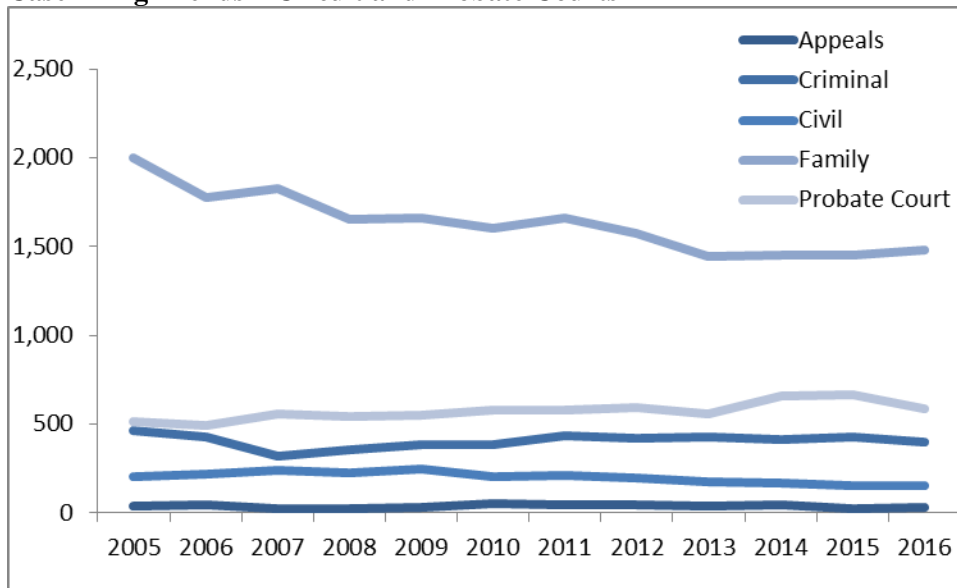
¹⁸ As of June 1, 2017, the 29th Circuit Court has two judges, but this court is scheduled to lose one judgeship by attrition. This would reduce the number of judges in these two counties from six to five.

Case Filings

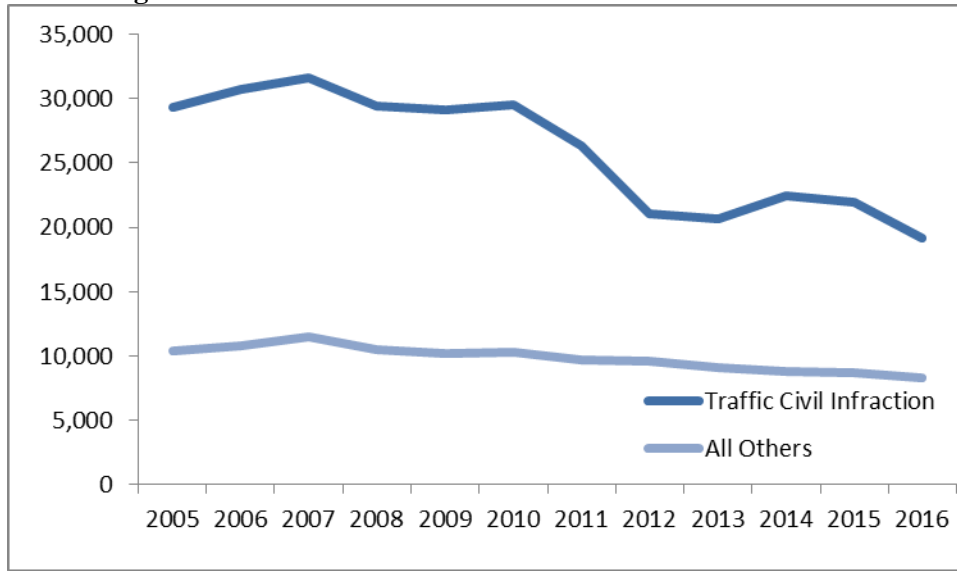
Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court			Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Infractions	Civil Others	All Others	
2005	35	461	203	1,997	512	29,294	10,335	13,543	
2006	42	428	216	1,774	496	30,710	10,735	13,691	
2007	24	317	237	1,823	556	31,578	11,483	14,440	
2008	24	354	227	1,652	546	29,403	10,473	13,276	
2009	31	381	244	1,660	552	29,176	10,175	13,043	
2010	52	381	207	1,606	576	29,522	10,254	13,076	
2011	47	434	212	1,659	579	26,363	9,698	12,629	
2012	47	424	194	1,576	595	21,024	9,607	12,443	
2013	36	431	178	1,447	558	20,649	9,127	11,777	
2014	43	414	168	1,454	658	22,429	8,777	11,514	
2015	26	428	155	1,452	667	21,984	8,655	11,383	
2016	34	399	155	1,481	588	19,111	8,315	10,972	

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Case Filing Trends – Circuit and Probate Courts



Case Filing Trends – District Court



Year	Population
2010 Census	117,858
2011 Estimate	118,357
2012 Estimate	118,498
2013 Estimate	119,146
2014 Estimate	118,977
2015 Estimate	118,896
2016 Estimate	119,090

Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2016.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

RECOMMENDED CONVERSION

Livingston County

Using the larger case weights with both sets of judicial proportions and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the 53rd District Court needs 2.1 to 2.2 judges to operate and has a judicial need of -0.8 to -0.9 judges. Using the smaller case weights with both sets of judicial proportions and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the 44th Circuit and Livingston County Probate Courts need 1.5 to 3.6 judges to operate and have a judicial need of -1.5 to +0.6.

Recommendation:

The SCAO recommends the elimination of one district judgeship on December 31, 2018, and the creation of one circuit judgeship on January 1, 2019. This recommendation is based on the expected vacancy of a district court judgeship on December 31, 2018, due to the mandatory retirement age for judges.

Current Judgeships	6
2017 SCAO Recommendation	-1 district judgeship & +1 circuit judgeship
Remaining Judgeships	6

Courts, Jurisdictions, and Judgeships

The three courts in Livingston County have a total of six judgeships. The 44th Circuit Court has two judgeships, the Livingston County Probate Court has one judgeship, and the 53rd District Court has three judgeships. The term for one district judge ends on December 31, 2018, and the sitting judge will not run in the 2018 general election due to the mandatory retirement age for judges. The recommendation is for the circuit court to have three judgeships, the probate court to have one judgeship, and the district court to have 2 judgeships.

Court	Current Judgeships	Recommended Judgeships
44th Circuit Court	2	3
Livingston County Probate Court	1	1
53rd District Court	3	2

History of Recommendations:

None

Legislative Action Since 2001:

None

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

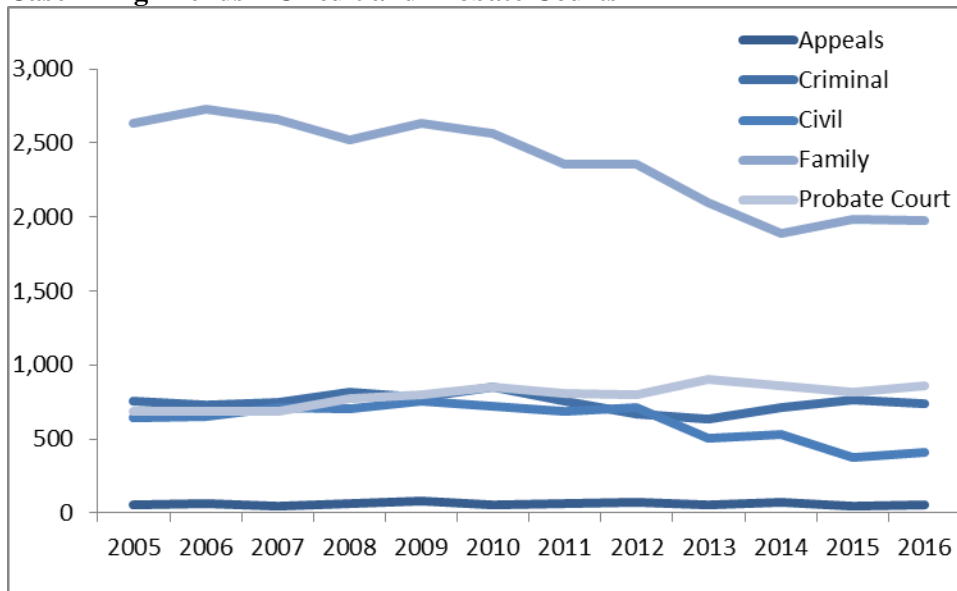
The caseload in these courts, excluding traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, peaked at more than 19,000 in 2010 and decreased to less than 15,000 in 2016. The population in Livingston County has increased from 180,967 in 2010 to more than 188,000.

Case Filings

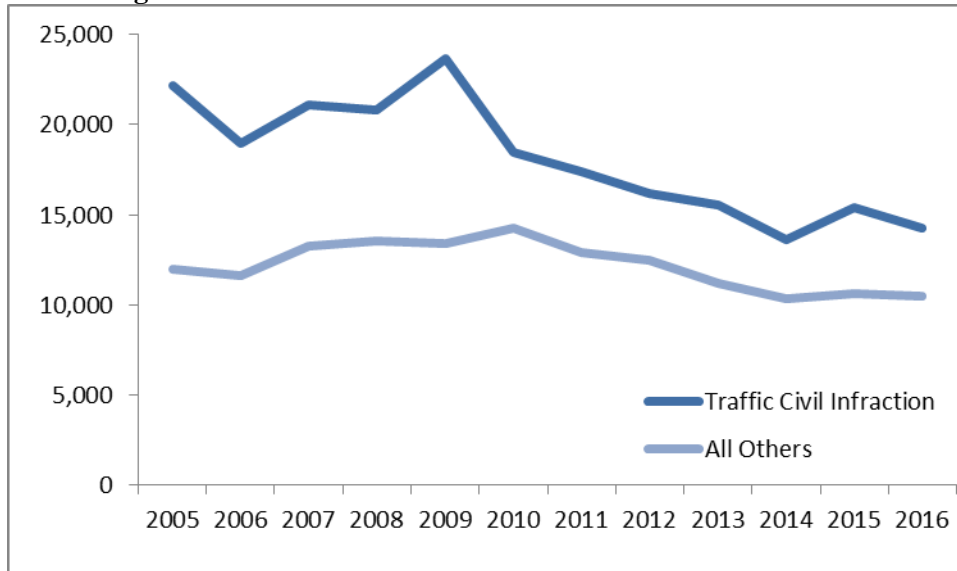
Year	Circuit Court				Probate Court	District Court		Total Caseload
	Appeals	Criminal	Civil	Family		Traffic Civil Infractions	All Others	
2005	51	753	645	2,634	682	22,179	12,006	16,771
2006	66	730	651	2,727	683	18,956	11,582	16,439
2007	47	744	709	2,656	688	21,097	13,243	18,087
2008	63	819	700	2,522	772	20,775	13,527	18,403
2009	78	778	758	2,632	797	23,679	13,433	18,476
2010	57	852	719	2,565	847	18,445	14,280	19,320
2011	67	755	689	2,355	808	17,423	12,901	17,575
2012	76	672	715	2,354	798	16,212	12,460	17,075
2013	54	635	502	2,094	904	15,505	11,197	15,386
2014	72	709	528	1,889	860	13,617	10,345	14,403
2015	45	765	371	1,984	817	15,398	10,583	14,565
2016	51	741	412	1,978	862	14,277	10,467	14,511

All Others and Total Caseload exclude Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Case Filing Trends – Circuit and Probate Courts



Case Filing Trends – District Court



Year	Population
2010 Census	180,967
2011 Estimate	182,380
2012 Estimate	183,059
2013 Estimate	184,445
2014 Estimate	185,727
2015 Estimate	187,350
2016 Estimate	188,624

*Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2016.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division*

RECOMMENDED MERGERS

18th District Court – City of Westland and 29th District Court – City of Wayne

Using the smaller case weights with both sets of judicial proportions and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the 18th District Court needs 3.0 to 3.2 judges to operate and has a judicial need of +1.0 to +1.2. Using the larger case weights with both sets of judicial proportions and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the 29th District Court needs 0.9 to 1.0 judges to operate and has a judicial need of -0.0 to -0.1.

Recommendation:

To balance the workload, the SCAO recommends that the governing bodies of the cities of Westland and Wayne approve by resolution the consolidation of the 18th and 29th district courts and retain all three judgeships.

Current Judgeships	2 district judgeships in 18th District 1 district judgeship in 29th District
2017 SCAO Recommendation	Consolidation
Remaining Judgeships	3 district judgeships in one court

History of Recommendations:

In 2015, the SCAO reviewed the judicial need in the 18th District Court, but did not recommend an additional judgeship due to the active concurrent jurisdiction plan with the 29th District Court.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

The Legislature allowed the governing bodies to consolidate these two courts, if both cities approved the consolidation by January 1, 2016. *2014 PA 58, MCL 600.8121(3)*. The governing bodies of the cities of Westland and Wayne did not approve this consolidation.

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

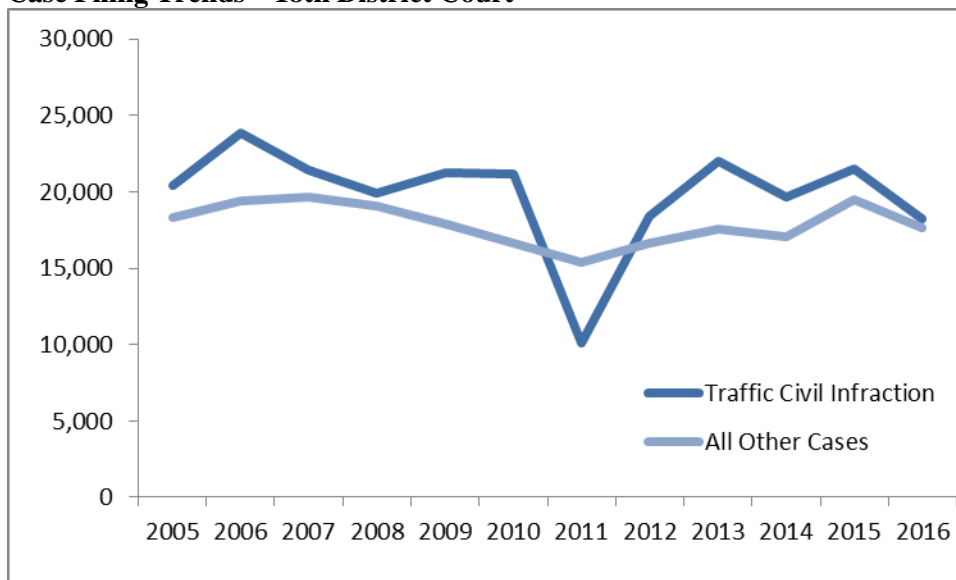
The caseload in the 18th District Court, excluding traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, remained at more than 17,000 since 2012. In the 29th District Court, caseload remained at less than 5,000. The population in Westland has decreased from more than 84,000 in 2010 to less than 82,000 and the population in Wayne City has decreased to less than 17,000.

Case Filings

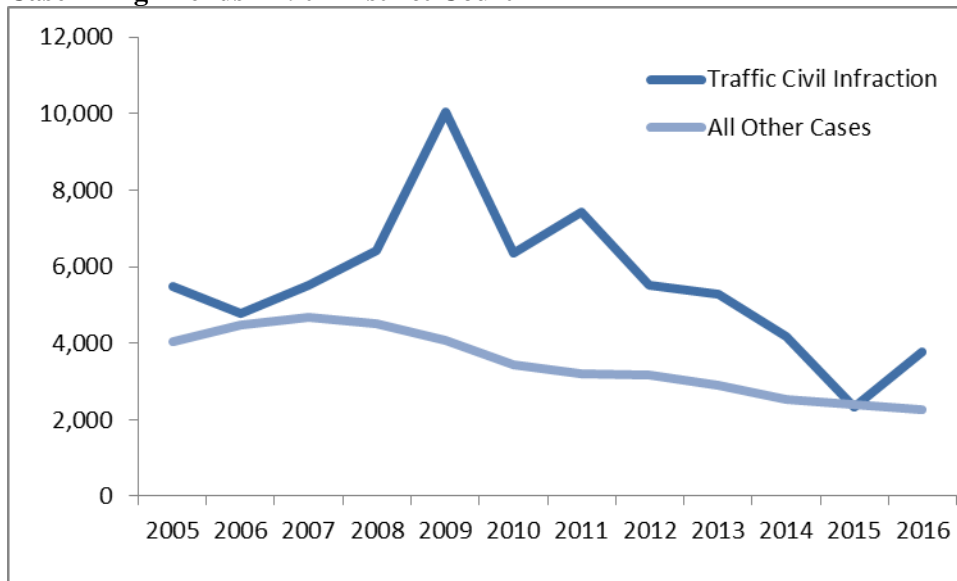
Year	18th District Court		29th District Court	
	Traffic Civil Infractions	All Other Cases	Traffic Civil Infractions	All Other Cases
2005	20,448	18,312	5,484	4,055
2006	23,831	19,388	4,791	4,468
2007	21,400	19,693	5,529	4,690
2008	19,932	19,047	6,415	4,498
2009	21,268	17,913	10,040	4,085
2010	21,125	16,672	6,351	3,424
2011	10,111	15,391	7,422	3,217
2012	18,376	16,610	5,506	3,168
2013	21,970	17,527	5,297	2,913
2014	19,648	17,084	4,161	2,531
2015	21,490	19,528	2,341	2,385
2016	18,242	17,674	3,769	2,254

All Other Cases excludes Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Case Filing Trends – 18th District Court



Case Filing Trends – 29th District Court



Year	Westland Population	Wayne City Population	Combined Population
2010 Census	84,094	17,593	101,687
2011 Estimate	83,352	17,429	100,781
2012 Estimate	83,090	17,358	100,448
2013 Estimate	82,340	17,199	99,539
2014 Estimate	82,250	17,158	99,408
2015 Estimate	81,904	17,061	98,965
2016 Estimate	81,545	16,954	98,499

Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2016.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

38th District Court – City of Eastpointe and 39th District Court – Cities of Roseville and Fraser

Using the smaller case weights with both sets of judicial proportions and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the 38th District Court needs 1.5 to 1.8 judges to operate and has a judicial need of +0.5 to +0.8. Using the larger case weights with both sets of judicial proportions and a secondary analysis, the SCAO estimates that the 39th District Court needs 2.2 to 2.4 judges to operate and has a judicial need of -0.6 to -0.8.

Recommendation:

To balance the workload, the SCAO recommends that the governing bodies of the cities of Eastpointe, Roseville, and Fraser approve by resolution the consolidation of the 38th and 39th district courts and retain all four judgeships. As an alternative to consolidation, the SCAO recommends that the courts enter into a concurrent jurisdiction plan to balance the workload between the two courts.

Current Judgeships	1 district judgeship in 38th District 3 district judgeships in 39th District
2017 SCAO Recommendation	Consolidation
Remaining Judgeships	4 district judgeships in one court

History of Recommendations:

In 2015, the SCAO reviewed the judicial need in the 38th District Court, but did not recommend an additional judgeship due to the lack of space.

Legislative Action Since 2001:

None

Trends:

The raw case filing and population data is used in the secondary analysis only for the purpose of projecting future case filing trends. This data alone is not a substitute for a weighted caseload analysis, so caution should be used when considering this information.

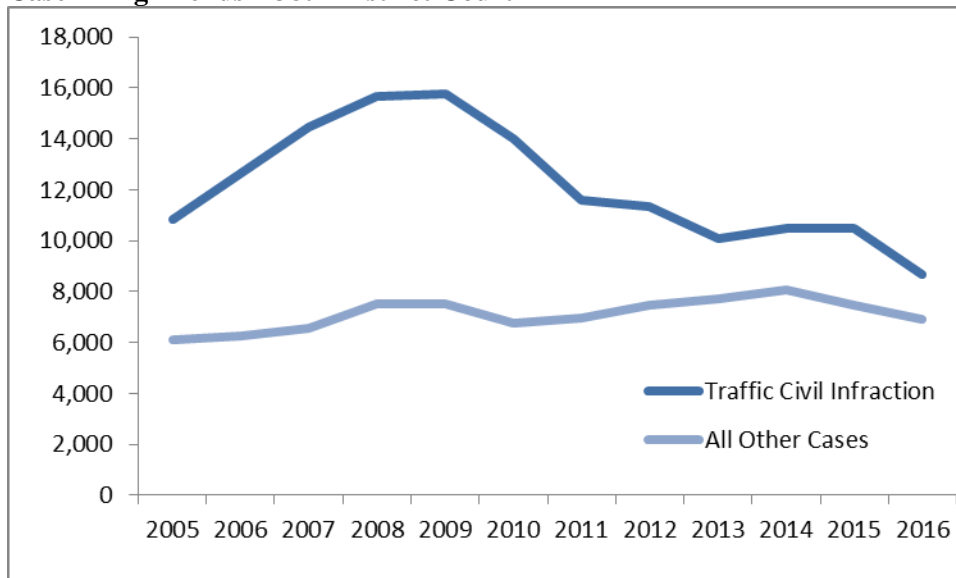
The caseload in the 38th District Court, excluding traffic civil infractions and parking tickets, peaked at more than 8,000 in 2014 and decreased to 6,927 in 2016. In the 39th District Court, the caseload increased to nearly 11,000 in 2016. The population in Eastpointe has remained at more than 32,000 and the population in Roseville and Fraser has remained between 61,779 and 62,273.

Case Filings

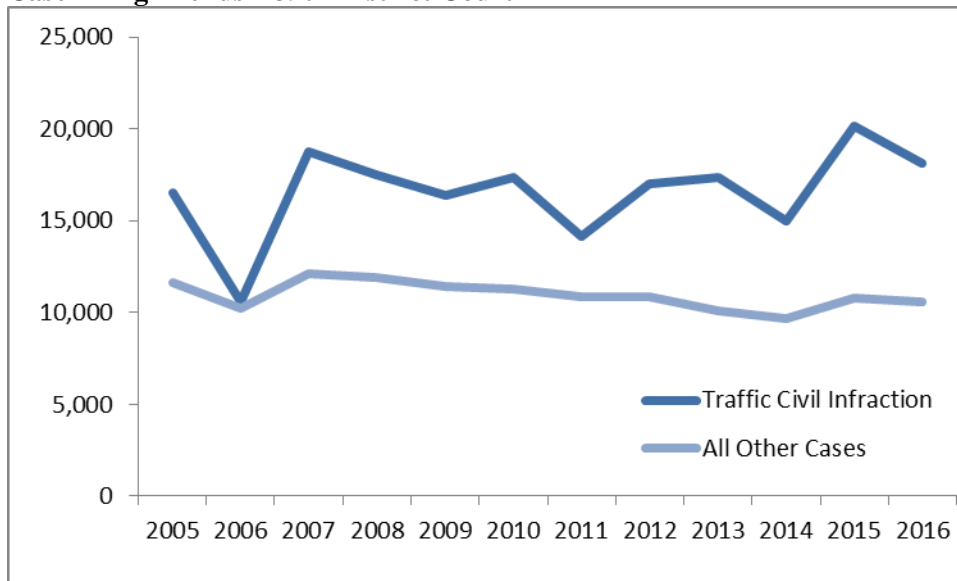
Year	38th District Court		39th District Court	
	Traffic Civil Infractions	All Other Cases	Traffic Civil Infractions	All Other Cases
2005	10,855	6,101	16,487	11,635
2006	12,627	6,272	10,592	10,206
2007	14,464	6,561	18,732	12,135
2008	15,668	7,535	17,534	11,890
2009	15,779	7,521	16,413	11,438
2010	13,999	6,742	17,387	11,286
2011	11,583	6,969	14,165	10,860
2012	11,338	7,482	17,042	10,853
2013	10,102	7,697	17,362	10,081
2014	10,485	8,067	14,958	9,684
2015	10,470	7,456	20,128	10,817
2016	8,696	6,927	18,095	10,596

All Other Cases excludes Traffic Civil Infractions and Parking.

Case Filing Trends – 38th District Court



Case Filing Trends – 39th District Court



Year	Eastpointe Population	Roseville and Fraser Population	Combined Population
2010 Census	32,442	61,779	94,221
2011 Estimate	32,412	61,753	94,165
2012 Estimate	32,508	61,953	94,461
2013 Estimate	32,664	62,263	94,927
2014 Estimate	32,737	62,386	95,123
2015 Estimate	32,646	62,252	94,898
2016 Estimate	32,673	62,224	94,897

Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2016.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

APPENDIX A – CASE WEIGHTS

Case weights reflect the average number of minutes needed to perform the judicial work associated with a case. The following case weights were established during the [Michigan Judicial Workload Assessment](#) and adjusted by the Judicial Resources Advisory Committee. The case groups with two weights were further adjusted in 2017. The smaller weight was used in the 2013 and 2015 JRR reports and when assessing judicial need in this report. The larger weights and new problem-solving court case weights were used in this report for assessing judicial excess and possible reversals of pending reductions.

Circuit Court	Case Weight
Capital Felony and Felony Juvenile (FC, FJ)	670
Noncapital Felony (FH, AX)	104 and 104.8
Adult Circuit Problem-Solving Open Cases	171
Auto Negligence (ND, NF, NI)	122
Medical Malpractice (NH)	545
Other Civil (NM, NO, NP, NS, NZ, PC, PD, PR, PS, PZ, CB, CC, CD, CE, CF, CH, CK, CL, CP, CR, CZ)	184
Business Court Cases (CB)	184 and 854
Divorce without Minor Children (DO)	71
Divorce with Minor Children (DM)	342
Non-Divorce Domestic (DP, UF, UI, UM, UN, UT, UW, DS, DC, DZ, UD, UE, NB)	86
Juvenile Guardianships Created (JG)	86 and 134
PPO (PP, VP, PH, PJ)	25
Adoption (AB, AC, AD, AF, AG, AM, AN, AO, AY)	54
Other Family (EM, ID, NC, PW, VF)	20
Juvenile Delinquency and Designated (DL, DJ)	81
Juvenile Problem-Solving Open Cases	169
Juvenile Traffic (TL)	4
Child Protective Proceedings (NA)	Per Child: 353 and 406
Family Dependency Problem-Solving Open Cases	417
Appeals (AR, AV, AA, AE, AL, AP, AS, AH, AW)	148

Probate Court	Case Weight
Supervised Estates (DA)	662
Unsupervised Estates (DE)	43
Small Estates (PE)	14
Trusts (TT, TV)	319
Conservatorships and Protective Orders (CA, CY, PO)	187
Adult Guardianships (DD, GA, GL)	85
Minor Guardianships (GM, LG)	95
Civil Cases (CZ)	399
Judicial Admissions and Mental Commitments (JA, MI)	27
Other Probate (ML, BR, DH)	215

District Court	Case Weight
Felony (FY, FT, EX)	46
Felony Pleas Accepted in District Court	9
Misdemeanor (OM, SM)	28.3 and 30.4
Adult District Problem-Solving Open Cases	70
Non-Traffic Civil Infraction (ON, SN)	4 and 4.01
Traffic Misdemeanor (OT, ST)	9 and 10.4
Traffic Civil Infraction (OI, SI)	1.3 and 1.31
OUIL Misdemeanor (OD, SD)	46.1 and 47.5
Sobriety Problem-Solving Open Cases	70
OUIL Felony (FD)	34.1
General Civil (GC, GZ)	9
Small Claims (SC)	12
Landlord-Tenant/Summary Proceedings (LT, SP)	6

New Problem-Solving Court Case Weights

Swift and Sure Sanctions Program Open Cases	227
Mental Health Problem-Solving Courts Open Cases	454
Veterans Treatment Court Open Cases	521

APPENDIX B – STRATA AND JUDICIAL PROPORTIONS

In 2017, for the first time, SCAO used two sets of judicial proportions to calculate how many judges should be available to each court. As in prior reports, SCAO used the average proportion of judicial workload performed by judges compared to quasi-judicial officers during the 2010 Time Study. These proportions are shown below and reflect the average for the courts in each stratum. SCAO also used a second set of judicial proportions based on the amount of judicial workload performed by judges compared to quasi-judicial officers in each court during the 2010 Time Study. These are unique to each court.

Stratum 1 – 39 Smaller Counties

Alcona	Cheboygan	Houghton	Luce	Ontonagon
Alger	Chippewa	Huron	Mackinac	Osceola
Alpena	Clare	Iosco	Manistee	Oscoda
Antrim	Crawford	Iron	Mason	Otsego
Arenac	Dickinson	Kalkaska	Menominee	Presque Isle
Baraga	Emmet	Keweenaw	Missaukee	Sanilac
Benzie	Gladwin	Lake	Montmorency	Schoolcraft
Charlevoix	Gogebic	Leelanau	Oceana	

	Judicial Proportion	Quasi- Judicial Officer Proportion
Case Type		
Circuit, Family, and Probate Cases	.78	.22
District Cases	.63	.37

Stratum 2 – 33 Medium Counties

Allegan	Clinton	Isabella	Midland	St. Clair
Barry	Delta	Jackson	Monroe	St. Joseph
Bay	Eaton	Lapeer	Montcalm	Tuscola
Berrien	Grand Traverse	Lenawee	Newaygo	Van Buren
Branch	Gratiot	Livingston	Ogemaw	Wexford
Calhoun	Hillsdale	Marquette	Roscommon	
Cass	Ionia	Mecosta	Shiawassee	

	Judicial Proportion	Quasi- Judicial Officer Proportion
Case Type		
Circuit, Family, and Probate Cases	.56	.44
District Cases	.75	.25

Stratum 3 – 11 Largest Counties

Genesee	Kent	Oakland	Washtenaw
Ingham	Macomb	Ottawa	Wayne
Kalamazoo	Muskegon	Saginaw	

	Judicial Proportion	Quasi- Judicial Officer Proportion
Case Type		
Circuit, Family, and Probate Cases	.50	.50
District Cases	.86	.14