



RESEARCH AND PLANNING

SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS Fiscal Year 2014–15

Contracts

15 counties and municipalities
84.0 FTEs
~\$5.3 million

Grants

65 federal and local entities
70.375 FTEs
~\$8.6 million

Fiscal Year 2013–14

Contracts

15 counties and municipalities
82.75 positions
~\$5.4 million

Grants

62 federal and local entities
68.25 positions
~\$9.2 million

WHO WE ASSIST

Court officials and support staff
News and trade media organizations
State agencies
Local government entities
Academics and researchers
Citizens of North Carolina



The North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC) Research and Planning Division is responsible for conducting research and generating reports on court statistics, managing grants and contracts, maintaining the Court Performance Measures System (CPMS), and developing and analyzing workload data.

The purpose of the division is to expand access to research and planning in support of the NCAOC mission of helping the courts operate more efficiently and effectively. The major responsibilities and initiatives of the division include

- Conducting research to provide insight on issues facing the Judicial Branch, including extracting and analyzing data from NCAOC databases (CCIS-CC, ACIS, VCAP, JWISE, etc.)
- Generating reports to answer requests for data from Judicial Branch customers and external customers (media, other state agencies, etc.)
- Maintaining court performance measures system (CPMS) data
- Managing the Judicial Branch grants and contracts process
- Working with Judicial Branch staff to analyze workload and staffing needs throughout the Judicial Branch

STATE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

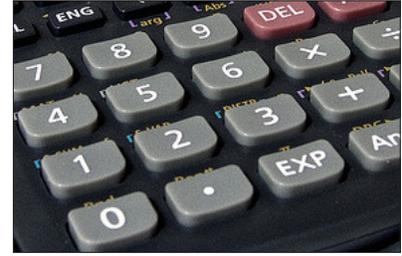
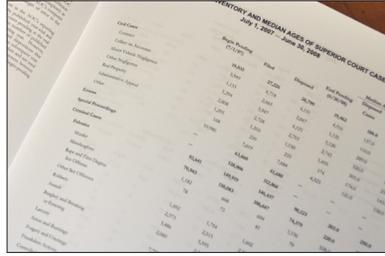
The State Judicial Council is an advisory and oversight body for the Judicial Branch, chaired by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and consisting of representatives from every component of the court system, the bar, and public, non-attorney members. In fall 2014 each of the standing committees presented recommendations to the Council on initiatives to further efficiency, stated priorities, and improvements to support the judiciary. Two of these initiatives are highlighted below.

■ Information Technology Governance Structure

The Technology Committee, tasked with setting strategic direction and providing financial oversight, reviewed principals of governance and best practices and recommended to the Council for adoption a high-level governance structure to serve as a tool for decision making, problem solving, and resource allocation that will improve judicial system performance and efficiency.

■ CourTools Performance Measurement

The Budget and Performance Committee, tasked with analyzing and prioritizing the implementation of CourTools, a nationally-accepted court performance measurement system developed by the National Center for State Courts, recommended to the Council for approval the statewide implementation using existing trial court data, of the following three measures as soon as practical: Clearance Rate, Time to Disposition, Age of Pending Cases.



ABOUT RESEARCH AND PLANNING

SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Grant and contract administration	Coordination, information, assistance, and oversight are provided for all grants coming to and/or through the Judicial Branch. Common partners are federal government agencies, state government agencies, county governments, local municipalities, and nonprofit agencies.
Legislative requests	Responses are provided to legislators and North Carolina General Assembly staff ranging from workload, staffing, and fiscal impact matters to long-term policy research projects.
Statistical analysis	Data is extracted and analyzed from the following NCAOC databases and is used in policy analysis, media and legislative requests, and court performance management ACIS, VCAP, JWISE, and NCAWARE.
Workload analysis	Workload models have been developed and maintained for district court judges, assistant district attorneys, victim witness/legal assistants, clerks of superior court staff, family court coordinators, and magistrates. Staffing ratios have been developed and maintained for district court judicial support staff, superior court judicial support staff, and trial court administrators.



JUDICIAL BRANCH STATISTICS ACCESSIBLE ONLINE

In conjunction with NCAOC's transparency and accountability efforts, the Research and Planning Division provides access to data and information online to the general public. In addition to producing hundreds of custom reports for court officials, media organizations, and the public each year, the division annually updates and publishes numerous reports on the web, available at www.NCcourts.org/Citizens/SRPlanning/Statistics/Default.asp.

- Domestic relations cases not involving child support (Non-IVD)
- Domestic violence
- Felony convictions
- Foreclosures (residential and commercial)
- Impaired driving charges
- Matters alleged in juvenile petitions
- Statistical and Operational Summary
- Trial court caseload

www.NCcourts.org

