SMART Act
Presentation to
the
Joint Judiciary
Committee

Chief Justice Monica Márquez

State Court Administrator Steven Vasconcellos

January 13, 2025





Colorado Supreme Court

Demographics of the Bench

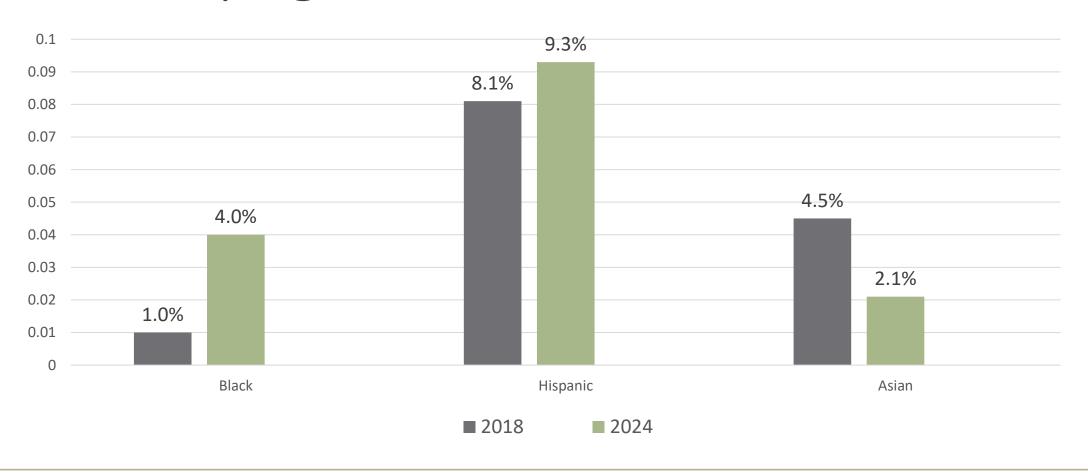
70 percent of judges are ages 40 to 59

20 percent of judges were the first in their family to graduate from college

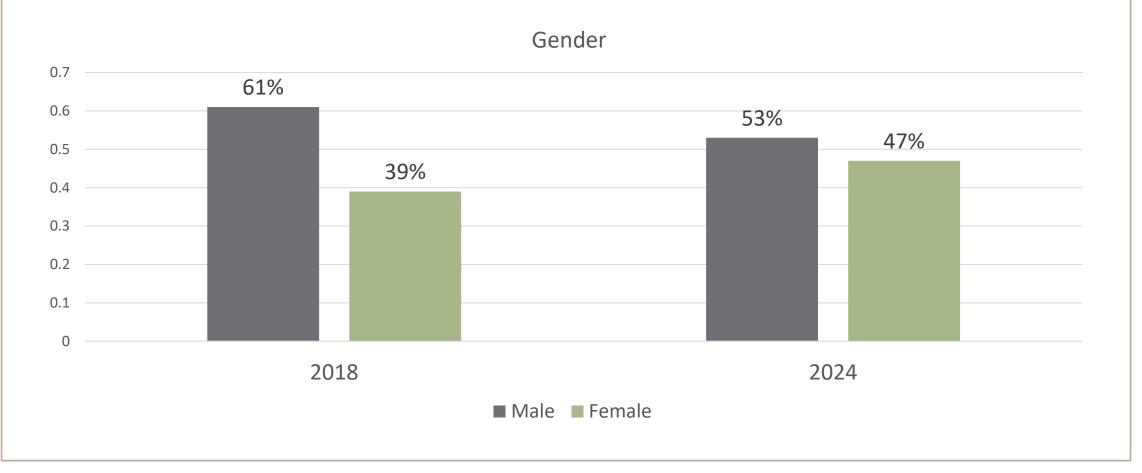
43 percent of judges have children at home

33 percent of judges worked full-time while attending college or law school

Diversifying Colorado's Bench



Gender balance



New Trial Court Filings, FY 2023-24

County Court		
Civil	135,607	
Traffic	84,984	
Infraction	74,769	
Misdemeanor	64,441	
Felony	16,713	
Small Claims	5,342	
Total	381,856	

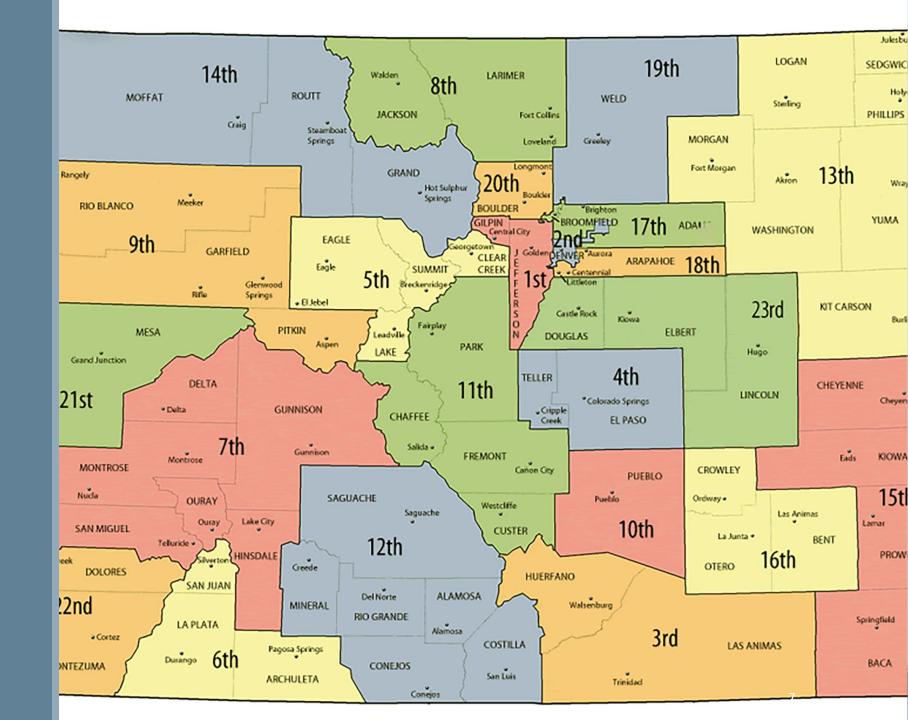
District Court			
Civil	93,083		
Criminal	39,621		
Domestic Relations	31,081		
Probate	17,939		
Juvenile	16,555		
Mental Health	7,648		
Total	205,927		

Twenty-Three Judicial Districts

23rd Judicial District goes live tomorrow

Partnered with counties, DAs, PDs, and others

One final legislative clean-up needed











Ralph Carr Judicial Center Update

Amendment H

Working with the Judicial Discipline Commission and Governor's Office

Appointments made to new Rulemaking Committee

Appointments made to new Adjudicative Board



Workplace Culture Initiative

- Embedding Mission, Vision, Values
- Launched Employee Well-Being Committee
- •Overhauled CJD 95-01 (chief judge responsibilities)
- Developing evaluation/feedback process for chief judges
- Launching Safe Reporting System

Judicial Education Initiative

Onboarding

Ongoing Training/Transitions to New Docket Assignments

Professional Development/Mentoring

Retention Evaluation Support

Well-being Support

2025 Legislative Agenda

SB25-024 Judge Bill: The Drivers

Increasing case complexity

Virtual proceedings

Review of police body camera footage

Implementation of legislative reforms

Aurora domestic violence cases

Growing contention among litigants

SB25-024 Judge Bill: The Scope

Two-year plan, 29 positions:

- 18 judges in FY25-26
- 11 judges FY26-27

18 District Court judges

8 County Court judges

1 Court of Appeals panel

\$9.3M in first year, \$6.3M in second year

SB25-024 Judge Bill: The Scope Request based on workload model

All counties engaged regarding space

New docket assignments will vary by district

14 of the trial court judges will hear criminal cases

Court Security Reauthorization

SB24-187 GA granted temporary POST status to new positions

POST Board endorsed the expansion of positions

POST Board called for limits on court security officers' roles

Reauthorization necessary

FY26 Budget Request



Extend the Case Management System project another year

Discovery and planning phase, through Summer 2025 to 2026

Design phase, through 2026 to 2027

Development phase, into early 2027 to 2028

Testing phase, spring and summer 2028



Courtroom disruptors

25,000 virtual hearings per month in 500 virtual rooms

Need a modern virtual court solution

Combine virtual, livestream, and recording systems into single platform

Probation officers to respond to Aurora DV

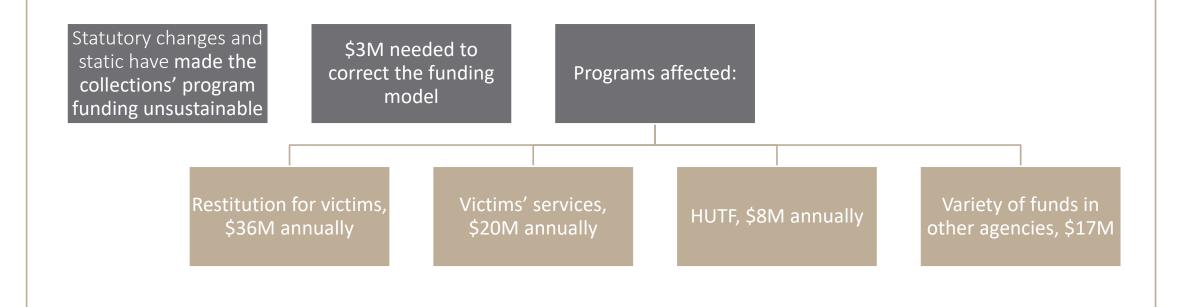
Aurora decided to stop handling domestic violence cases in muni court

Approx. 850 new probation cases expected this year

Adams and Arapahoe counties affected

\$2.9M for 24 probation staff needed

Collections program



Performance Measures: Courts

Question	Average Rating	Agree or strongly agree	Responses
Did you find the webpage you needed quickly?	4.04	74.0%	622
Were you treated fairly?	3.95	69.6%	7,646
Did the judge listen to your side of the story?	3.87	67.4%	4,522
Do you trust the courts to handle business you may have in the future?	3.75	66.8%	8,078

Court User Survey

Online survey on a five-point scale

(1 of 2)

Question	Average Rating	Agree or strongly agree	Responses
Was it easy to use Webex?	4.53	87.7%	1,953
Did you receive the language resources you needed?	4.25	79.3%	299
Did you receive prompt help?	4.21	77.9%	7,514
Did staff understand your needs?	4.14	75.8%	7,566
Were the resources you needed available to you?	4.12	74.7%	7,503

Court User Survey

Online survey on a five-point scale

(2 of 2)

District Court time standards

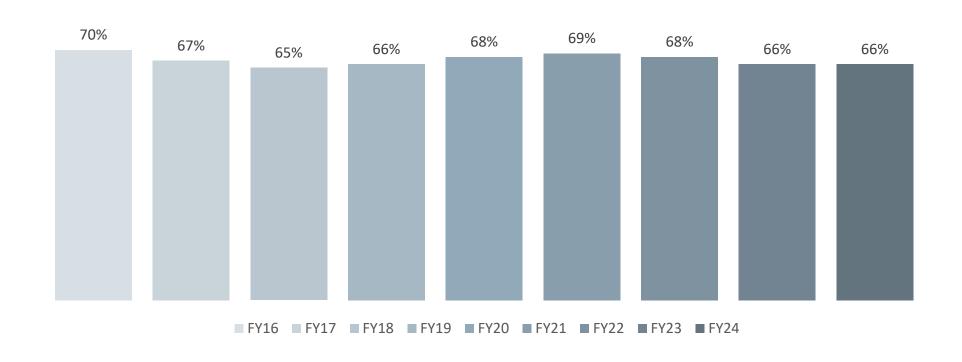
TYPE	TARGET	2024
Civil (cases open more than 1 year)	10%	15.6%
Criminal (cases open more than 1 year)	5%	9.0%
Domestic (cases open more than 1 year)	5%	7.8%
Juvenile Delinquency (cases open more than 1 year)	5%	6.0%
D&N (cases open more than 18 months)	5%	10.9%
Expedited Permanent Placement (cases open more than 1 year)	10%	12.9%

County Court time standards

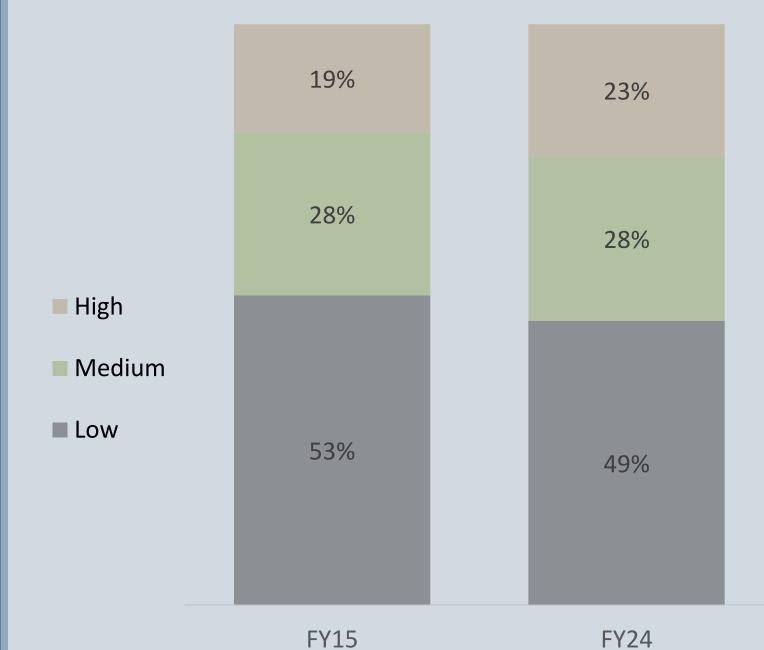
Туре	Target	2024
Civil (cases open more than 6 months)	5%	5.6%
Misdemeanor (cases open more than 6 months)	10%	18.7%
Small Claims (cases open more than 6 months)	1%	11.8%
Traffic (cases open more than 6 months)	5%	13.2%
DUI (cases open more than 7 months)	20%	17.1%

Performance Measures: Probation

Probation Success Rates

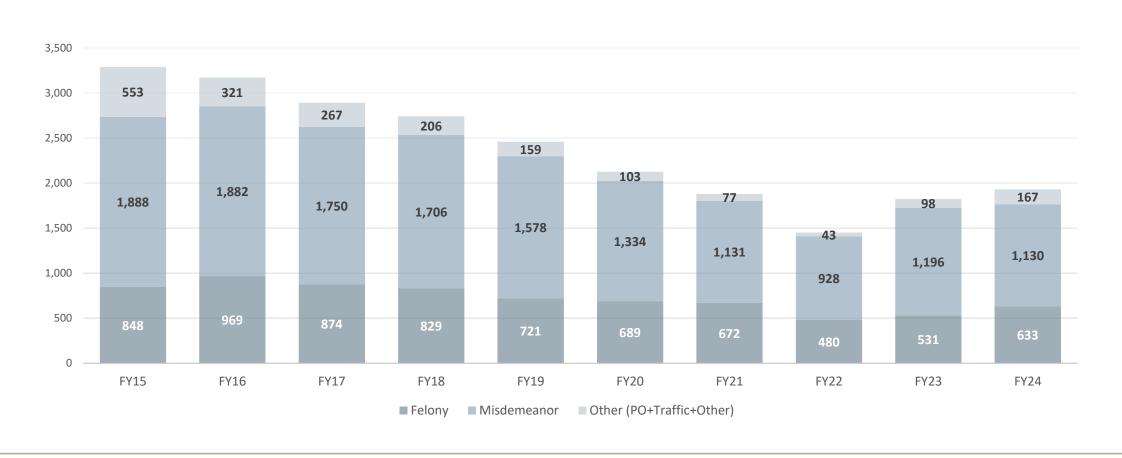


Adult probation risk level: 10-year comparison



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Juvenile Probation Population Creeping Up



Probation Fees

HB24-1445

Total persons assessed: 51,835

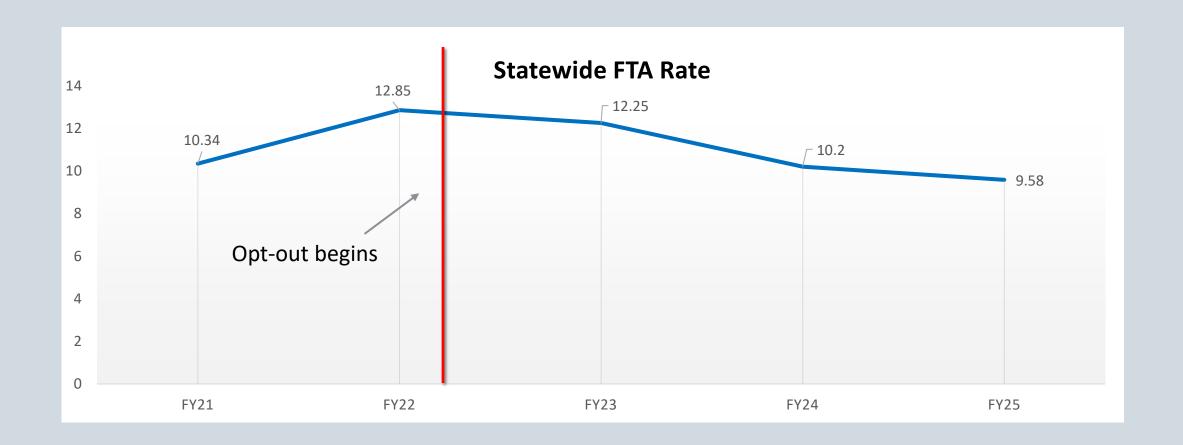
Monthly Supervision Fee Assessed: \$50

Total Receipts: \$19,915,906

Other reporting requirements

Child Family
Investigators
and
Parental
Responsibility
Evaluators

	CFIs	PREs
Appointments	1,699	207
Eligibility Roster	132	60
Complaints	37	7
Pending	2	0
Dismissed	32	4
Unfounded	2	0
Founded	1	2
Sanctions	1	1



Text Reminder Program

Eviction data dashboard data from 7/1/24 to 12/31/24

Total closed cases: 31,592

Total cases filed due to non-payment: 18,160

Cases filed due to lease violation: 9,519

Cases where the defendant filed an answer: 5,022

Not filed an answer: 27,496

Eviction data dashboard data from 7/1/24 to 12/31/24

Closed cases with plaintiff represented, defendant not represented: 21,125

Closed cases with both plaintiff and defendant represented: 8,393

Closed cases with defendant represented by not plaintiff: 70

Closed cases with neither party represented: 2,217

Mediation in evection cases

Mandatory mediation in certain cases involving people who receive public benefits

June 2023 to October 2024

	Total	Monthly Avg
Sessions	1,576	92.7
Full Agree	649	38.2
Ongoing	167	9.8
Full agree success rate	42%	42%
Overall success rate	52%	\$2%

Extreme Risk Protection Orders

7/1/23-6/30/24

HB19-1177 requires reporting on TERPOs and ERPOs 168 cases filed statewide 147 filed as TERPOs 121 TERPOs issued 25 TERPOs denied 98 ERPOs issued 21 ERPOs denied 20 criminal cases filed within 30 days of an ERPO or **TERPO**

Email

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Thank You

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