



**MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON CIRCUIT COURT  
COURTROOM REQUIREMENTS ANALYSIS  
FINAL REPORT**

**May 2012**

**National Center for State Courts**

Chang-Ming Yeh, Principle Judicial Facility Planner, Project Director  
Gordon Griller, Principle Court Management Consultant  
David Sayles, Project Analyst

Daniel J. Hall, Vice President  
Court Consulting Services  
707 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2900  
Denver, CO 80202



|   |      |
|---|------|
| Executive Summary.....  | ES-1 |
| I. Introduction .....   | 1    |
| II. Overview of the Court .....   | 1    |
| A. Multnomah County Judges and Referees .....                                       | 3    |
| B. Staff Assigned to Judges and Trial Court Administrator .....                     | 4    |
| C. Multnomah County Court Facilities .....  | 4    |
| III. Case Filing Trend Analysis and Projections .....                               | 6    |
| A. Historic and Projected Population Estimates.....                                 | 6    |
| B. Future Court Case Filing Projection .....  | 8    |
| i. Total Criminal and Civil Case Filing Projection .....                            | 10   |
| ii. Criminal Cases – Felony Case Filing Projection .....                            | 11   |
| iii. Criminal Cases – Misdemeanor Case Filing Projection .....                      | 12   |
| iv. Criminal Cases – Infractions, Violations and Other Case Filing Projection ..... | 13   |
| v. Civil Cases – Civil and Small Claims Case Filing Projection.....                 | 14   |
| vi. Family Court.....   | 15   |
| 1. Family Cases Re-opened.....  | 16   |
| vii. Family Cases – Domestic, Probate and Mental Health Case Filing Projection..... | 17   |
| viii. Juvenile Cases – Delinquency and TPR Case Filing Projection .....             | 18   |
| ix. Juvenile Cases – Dependency Case Filing Projection .....                        | 19   |
| 1. Juvenile Dependency Hearings .....   | 20   |
| x. Juvenile Hearings – Dependency Hearings Projection .....                         | 21   |
| xi. Circuit Court Projection Summary .....  | 22   |
| IV. Circuit Court Performance on Managing Its Caseload .....                        | 22   |
| V. Future Requirements of Adjudication Facilities.....                              | 23   |
| A. Historic County Courthouse Facility .....  | 24   |
| B. Outlying Court Facilities .....  | 25   |
| C. Jury Deliberation Spaces .....   | 25   |
| VI. Future Court Service Delivery Impacts Physical Environment .....                | 27   |
| A. Adjudication Space .....   | 27   |
| B. Judicial Chamber Space.....  | 30   |
| C. Public Access Space .....  | 32   |
| D. Court Operational Space.....   | 35   |
| VII. Facility Planning Principles.....  | 40   |
| A. Future Court Facility Planning Concepts and Goals .....                          | 40   |
| Appendices .....  | 46   |

## I. Executive Summary

This study updates an earlier space analysis done for the Court by the National Center for State Courts 12 years ago. The primary focus of the study is to project the future court case filing levels by year 2030 and to examine the resulting impacts and needs on the County Courthouse facility utilization. Respective court adjudication processes and court management procedures impact use of the Courthouse facility. The study also identified a series of applicable modern court service delivery practices and the associated building planning guidance principles that should be factored in the future facility solutions addressing the future needs of the Court.

### Current Staffing and Adjudication Space Allocation

The majority of Multnomah County Court functions and services are located at the Historic County Courthouse, including civil and criminal trial activities; a unified Family Court handling domestic relations, juvenile dependencies, probate, and mental health; jury administration, as well as the administrative offices for the court and chief judge. Satellite court facilities in the County includes a Juvenile Court and Detention facility handling juvenile, dependency, delinquency, and traffic cases; a Justice Center at the downtown County jail processes in-custody felons and misdemeanants arraignments, ordinance violations and infractions, and community courts matters; and a recently completed East County Court building for criminal misdemeanors, traffics, and small claims cases.

**TABLE E -1: SUMMARY OF CURRENT ADJUDICATION SPACE BY LOCATIONS**

| Location                            | Number of Judicial Officers | Number of Court Rooms/<br>Hearing Rooms | Number of Chambers | Number of Jury Rooms |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--------------------|----------------------|
| Downtown – Main Courthouse          | 41                          | 40                                      | 40                 | 29                   |
| Juvenile Justice Center             | 3.8                         | 6                                       | 6                  | 3                    |
| Downtown Justice Center             | 4                           | 4                                       | 4                  |                      |
| East County Courthouse<br>(Gresham) | 0.5                         | 3                                       | 3                  | 2                    |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>49.3</b>                 | <b>53</b>                               | <b>53</b>          | <b>34</b>            |

### Population Demographics and Court Case Filing Projection Analysis

Statistical forecasting models were developed to simulate possible court workload situations and estimate the resulting requirements of judges and court adjudication space, i.e. courtrooms and hearing rooms, in Multnomah County. Planning data used in the development of the simulation models include historical and projected regional population as well as historical court case filing data by major court case types. The population information considered in the study cover a three-county geographic planning region including Multnomah County, Clackamas County, and Washington County, since citizens in the area engage in court services in various degrees.

**TABLE E-2: PROJECTED THREE COUNTY METROPOLITAN AREA POPULATION**

| Year   | Multnomah<br>County | Clackamas<br>County | Washington<br>County | Metropolitan Area<br>Total |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>2010 – State Estimate</b>                 | 711,909             | 391,536             | 542,678              | 1,646,124                  |
| <b>Projected Year 2030</b>                   | 800,565             | 536,123             | 788,162              | 2,124,849                  |
| <b>Percent Growth from Year 2010 to 2030</b> | <b>12.45%</b>       | <b>36.93%</b>       | <b>45.24%</b>        | <b>29.08%</b>              |

**Analysis:** Population in the three-county metropolitan area by year 2030 is expected to be at the 2.1 million-level, which is equivalent to a 29.08% increase from the 2010 US Census population. By year

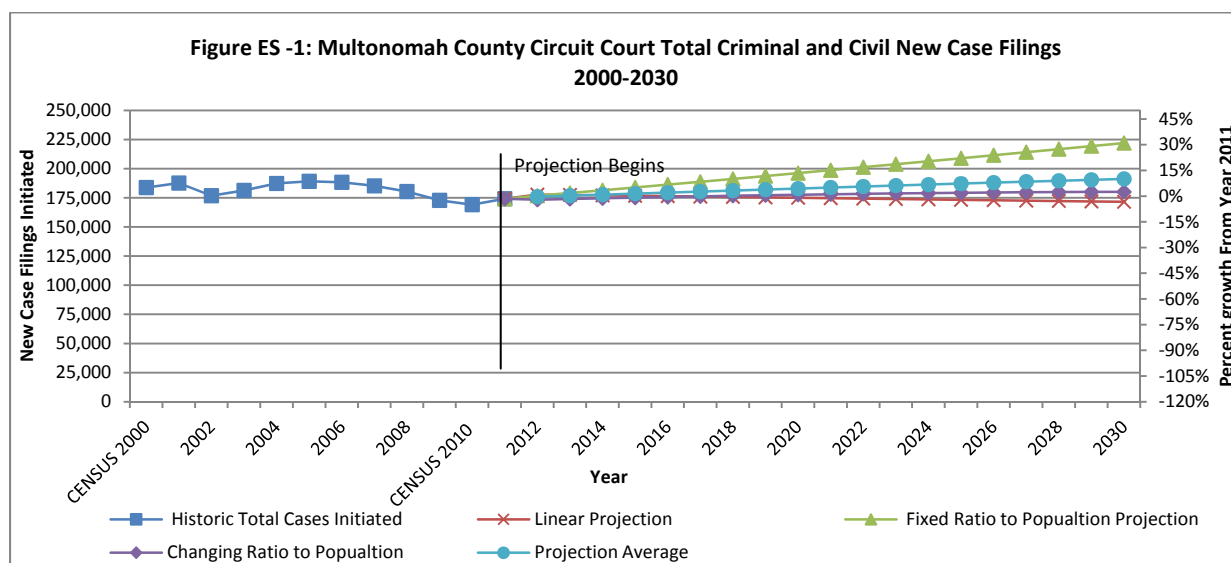
2030, Multnomah County would account for 37% of the regional population, decreasing from the 43% level in year 2010.

TABLE E-3: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CASE FILING PROJECTION SUMMARY

|   | Actual         | Projected      |                |                |                |                       |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|
|   | 2011           | 2015           | 2020           | 2025           | 2030           | Growth From 2011-2030 |
| <b>New Filings</b>                                |                |                |                |                |                |                       |
| Criminal – Felony Cases                           | 5,187          | 5,326          | 5,567          | 5,819          | 6,075          | 17.12%                |
| Criminal – Misdemeanor Cases                      | 15,827         | 16,507         | 17,670         | 18,866         | 20,077         | 26.85%                |
| Criminal - Infractions and Violations Cases       | 113,898        | 115,680        | 118,763        | 121,974        | 125,256        | 9.97%                 |
| Civil and Small Claims Cases                      | 38,554         | 42,909         | 45,554         | 48,274         | 51,033         | 32.37%                |
| Family Court – Family Cases                       | 16,016         | 16,567         | 16,961         | 17,371         | 17,790         | 11.08%                |
| Family Court - Juvenile Dependency Hearings       | 7,173          | 8,137          | 8,318          | 8,491          | 8,650          | 20.59%                |
| Family Court - Juvenile Delinquency and TPR Cases | 614            | 631            | 661            | 693            | 725            | 18.00%                |
| <b>Total Circuit Court Filings</b>                | <b>197,269</b> | <b>205,757</b> | <b>213,494</b> | <b>221,488</b> | <b>229,606</b> | <b>16.39%</b>         |

TABLE E-4: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CRIMINAL AND CIVIL CASE FILINGS

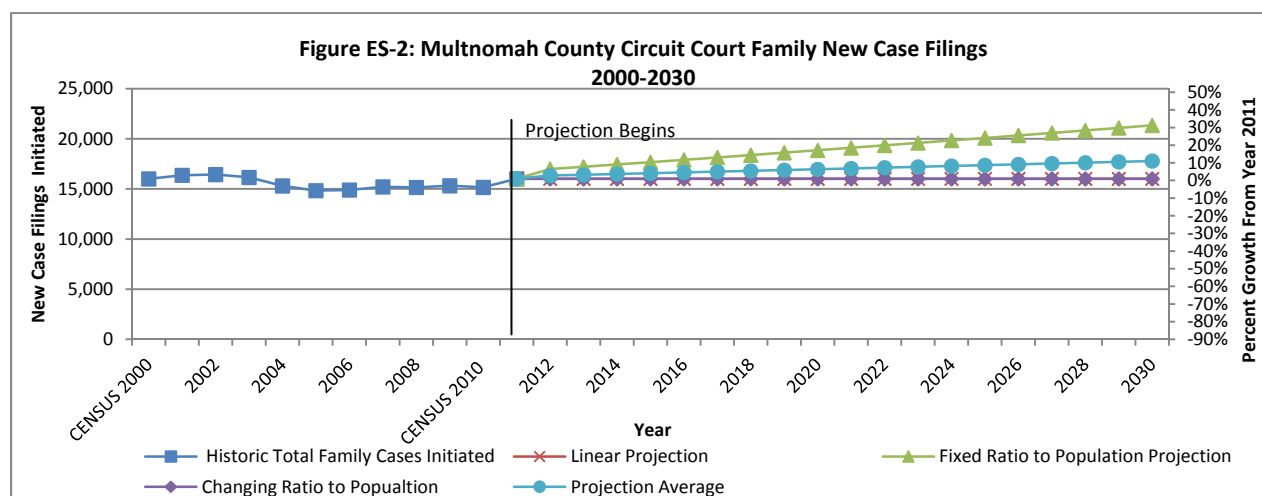
|                 | Actual  |         |         |         | Projected |         |         |         | Growth from 2011-2030 |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------|
|                 | 2000    | 2005    | 2010    | 2011    | 2015      | 2020    | 2025    | 2030    |                       |
| Planning Target | 183,893 | 189,198 | 169,186 | 174,185 | 178,610   | 182,945 | 187,213 | 191,247 | 9.80%                 |



**Analysis:** The circuit court criminal and civil case filings levels fluctuated and slightly decrease over the past decade. They are expected to see some modest growths in the next twenty years with an increase around 9.8% above the filing levels in year 2011.

TABLE E-5: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT FAMILY CASE FILINGS

|                 | Actual |        |        |        | Projected |        |        |        | Growth from 2011-2030 |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------------|
|                 | 2000   | 2005   | 2010   | 2011   | 2015      | 2020   | 2025   | 2030   |                       |
| Planning Target | 16,010 | 14,836 | 15,160 | 16,016 | 16,567    | 16,961 | 17,371 | 17,790 | 11.08%                |



**Analysis:** The family court cases filing levels and the volumes of court hearings fluctuated but remained stable over the past decade. It is expected to see some modest growth in the next twenty years with an increase approximately 11.08% above the filing levels in year 2011.

### Future Judgeship and Adjudication Space Requirements

TABLE E-6: ESTIMATED YEAR 2030 ADJUDICATION SPACES REQUIREMENT BY FACILITY LOCATION

| Current Judge FTE/<br>Adjudication Space |                                |                      | 2030 Estimates                 |                      |                                |                      |                            |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
|  |                                |                      | Low Range                      |                      | High Range                     |                      | Jury Deliberation<br>Space |
|  | No. of<br>Judicial<br>Officers | No. of<br>Courtrooms | No. of<br>Judicial<br>Officers | No. of<br>Courtrooms | No. of<br>Judicial<br>Officers | No. of<br>Courtrooms | Criminal/civil<br>Dockets  |
| Main Downtown Facility                   | 41                             | 40                   | 44.26                          | 44                   | 47.48                          | 47                   | 16                         |
| Outlying Facilities                      |                                |                      |                                |                      |                                |                      |                            |
| East County Courthouse                   | .5                             | 3                    | 3                              | 3                    | 3.50                           | 3                    | 2                          |
| Downtown Justice Center                  | 4                              | 4                    | 4                              | 4                    | 4.67                           | 4                    | N/A                        |
| Juvenile Justice Center                  | 3.8                            | 6                    | 4.19                           | 6                    | 4.73                           | 6                    | 3                          |
| System-Wide Total                        | 49.3                           | 53                   | 55.45                          | 57                   | 60.37                          | 60                   | 21 (29)                    |

#### Analysis:

- Currently, there are 38 judges and 11.3 FTE court referees serving Multnomah County Court.
- The Multnomah Circuit Court could expect future total court system growth from year 2011 to be within the range of 12.47% and 22.45% by year 2030 - representing a future need for the number of judicial officers, including judges and referees, to be within the range of 55.45 and 60.37FTE.

- Within this range, the NCSC project team suggests a planning target growth of 17.46%. This growth represents a need for an additional 8.61 FTE judicial officers by year 2030; and a need for an additional five courtrooms system-wide.
- The number of adjudication spaces needed in the Historic County Courthouse could be within the range of 44 and 47. The adjudication spaces considered include jury trial courtrooms, non-jury bench trial courtrooms, and hearing rooms.
- The Historic County Courthouse facility currently has 29 jury deliberation rooms for the 30 courtrooms that are typically assigned to the civil and criminal dockets; the remaining ten courtrooms are used by the family court judges and referees who have a less frequent need for jury accommodations.
- The Court should consider a more efficient deployment and use of jury deliberation facilities in the future. Given the fact that jury trials have become less frequent in the court system around the nation and the rarely seen jury cases in Family Court proceedings, the twenty-nine jury deliberation facilities currently provided in the Historic County Courthouse could be reduced.
- The Court may consider sharing jury deliberation rooms with multiple courtrooms for civil and criminal trials. A two-to-one ratio between the number of civil/criminal courtrooms and the number of jury deliberation rooms should be considered in future building plan. With the projected 32 judicial officers/courtrooms estimates for the criminal and civil dockets in the Historic County Courthouse, 16 jury deliberation suites would be sufficient to meet the needs of the court by year 2030.

### **NCSC Recommended Future Facility Planning Considerations**

#### **Adjudication Space**

- Cluster Similar Court Assignments Together in the Courthouse
- Standardize Courtroom Size around Two Basic Models
- Vary the Configuration of the Courtrooms Depending on their Use
- Dynamic Assignment of Courtrooms among Judges
- Provide Shared, Multi-Purpose Jury Deliberation Rooms

#### **Judicial Chamber Space**

- Develop Collegial Chambers
- Collectively Group Judicial Support Staff near Judicial Officers

#### **Public Access Space**

- Locate Domestic Violence and Self-Help Family Court Assistance in Secure, Lower Floor Areas
- Increase Attorney/Client/Mediation Private Conference Space
- Enhance Public Way-finding in the Courthouse
- Update the Infrastructure to Accommodate WI-FI, High-Tech, and e-Court Services
- Improve Juror Comforts and Space in the Jury Assembly Room

#### **Court Operational Space**

- Place High Use Administrative Functions Lower in the Courthouse
- Intensify, as Possible, Modern Records Management Plans and Actions
- Downsize Physical Book Storage and Re-purpose the Law Library Space
- Relocate Traffic, Parking, Landlord/Tenant Cases Outside the Courthouse

## **I. Introduction**

The Circuit Court of Oregon in Multnomah County (Greater Portland), a state-funded, unified judicial system handling all general and limited jurisdiction case types, occupies a number of facilities owned and operated by the County of Multnomah. The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) has been contracted by the County to determine the Court's 20 year judicial staffing needs regarding the Court's principal location, currently located at the Historic Multnomah County Courthouse in downtown Portland.

This study updates an earlier space analysis done for the Court by the National Center 12 years ago. As with all trial courts, adjudication processes and caseload management procedures affect space; often changing space requirements over time as case law, statutes, filing volumes, technology, and new programs and scheduling approaches develop. Along with these changes nationwide, the NCSC has identified a series of best practices and space design strategies that the team concludes are important guiding principles to take into account when designing a courthouse facility.

## **II. Overview of Court**

The Circuit Court of Oregon for Multnomah County is a single-county district and is Oregon's Fourth Judicial District. The Court has general jurisdiction for all cases arising in the district with the exception of two limited jurisdiction municipal courts operated by the Cities of Troutdale and Fairview. The Court serves as the Municipal Court for the City of Portland and the Municipal Court for the City of Gresham; the first and fourth largest cities in Oregon.

The Court has 38 circuit court judges. There are 36 judges with offices and courtrooms in the Historic County Courthouse; these judges may hold court at various other locations within the county – the Juvenile Justice Center (six courtrooms), Gresham (one courtroom, but soon to have a three courtroom facility), and the Justice Center (four courtrooms). The Justice Center has one judge and courtroom assigned on different days of the week to serve as the Community Court for North-Northeast Portland, Southeast Portland, and Central Portland. These Community Courts have been in operation since 1998. There is also a Gresham Community Court operated one day a week from that court facility. A fourth Portland Community Court will open in the Bud Clark Commons, a shelter for the homeless and a low income housing site, in May, 2012. This court will focus on the intercity homeless population.

The Court operates under the direction of the Presiding Judge. The Presiding Judge manages directly a hybrid master calendar system which relies on individual assignments in some areas. The Presiding Judge retains assignment authority over 27 of the court's 38 judges directly, and assigns to the Chief Family Court Judge assignment responsibility for 9 of the courts judges. The Presiding Judge also is assisted by and appoints the Chief Criminal Judge who develops and oversees the court's case management strategies for most nonperson felony and misdemeanor offenses. The Presiding Judge

directly manages the civil actions that come before the circuit court and maintains control over all civil case management processes and assignments.

Many of the court's civil and criminal cases are managed generally through the master calendar system, but complex cases are specially assigned to provide individual judicial attention to one or a class of cases which either benefit from continuity in oversight or common issues across multiple similar cases. In civil actions, these cases are usually a grouping of torts around a product or procedure, but also can individual cases with highly complex subject matter or party structure. In criminal cases, capital murder cases are assigned to a member of a team of judge who oversee all of these cases, and non-capital murder cases are specially assigned to judges.

While under the control of the Presiding Judge, many cases on filing are routed through case management processes which put them into subject matter queues to disposition without direct involvement by the Presiding Judge except to assign judicial officers to preside over all aspects of these matters. These cases generally arise from the former limited jurisdiction of the district court, abolished in 1998 – parking, violation offenses, misdemeanor offenses, civil small claims (claims up to \$10,000), and landlord-tenant matters. These cases also include nonperson felony property and drug cases. These cases may, but rarely, have issues which bring them before the Presiding Judge for assignment. The majority of such cases, however, move from filing through disposition, which may include moving through a treatment court, along documented case managed steps which have been developed in working with the various appropriate groups and are presided over by judges whose assignment is given by a weekly, monthly, or quarterly rotation shared by all of the judges other than the Family Court.

The Chief Family Court Judge manages the work of the Family Court's ten judges including the Chief Judge. The Family Court is responsible for all matters arising within the court's Domestic Relations, Probate, Protective Proceedings (Guardianship and Conservatorship proceedings), and Juvenile (Delinquency, Dependency and Termination of Parental Rights) jurisdiction. This work is managed within a master calendar environment, but the one judge-one family model is followed both in domestic relations and juvenile dependency cases as much of the court's workload consists of "retained" cases where a judge may work with a family over years of time. The Family Court also presides over all misdemeanor domestic violence cases which arise as contempt or as misdemeanor crimes. The Family Court judges preside over jury trials on the domestic violence misdemeanor criminal cases, and oversee probation sentences imposed in the contempt or misdemeanor adjudications.

The Court is served by 11.3 FTE referees. This currently gives the Court 49.3 judicial officer FTEs; roughly the same number of courtrooms in and outside of the courthouse. Except in juvenile court, the referees sit as judges pro tempore of the circuit court and handle the high volume calendars in the main courthouse, specifically those for traffic, small claims, landlord-tenant, parking, and infractions and violations. Referees provide 15 to 20 percent of the judicial officer time on adult misdemeanors and accept pleas. They bear the major responsibility for mental health cases. The referees handle the bulk of juvenile delinquency and juvenile dependency cases, but do not handle serious felony matters or terminations of parental rights. The Court's referees do not sit in civil actions and have only a small role



to play in domestic relations cases – usually only when there are co-occurring juvenile dependency and domestic relations matters in a family assigned to a referee.

Attorneys serve pro bono as pro tem judges to hear summary judgment motions in civil cases. This assistance to the Court is not included in the 49.3 judicial FTE and provides an estimated 0.25 in judicial officers each month (there are nine attorneys currently hearing motions). Unlike many courts that have a motions calendar run by one or two judges, most judges on the master-civil-criminal calendar hear civil motions in the opening hour of the court day between 8 and 9 AM. Judges hear about half of the summary judgment motions, and volunteer attorneys hear remaining motions.

### A. Multnomah County Judges and Referees

**Criminal and Civil Judges** The judges assigned to Criminal and Civil Court hear all criminal cases (misdemeanors and felonies) and civil actions (lawsuits).

**Family Judges** The judges assigned to Family Court hear all domestic relations (divorce and child custody) cases, juvenile court matters (dependency, delinquency, and termination of parental rights), as well as probate and civil commitment cases. The Family Court judges also hear misdemeanor criminal cases scheduled in Domestic Violence Court.

**Criminal and Civil Referees** The referees are judicial officers who serve as pro tempore circuit court judges under appointment from the Oregon Supreme Court. During their appointments, they have the same authority as any other circuit judge. The referees usually sit in on small claims, landlord and tenant, civil commitments, traffic arraignments and trials, and the Community Courts. The referees also preside over misdemeanor criminal cases, including jury trials, in the East County Court facility.

**Family and Juvenile Referees** The referees serving in the Family Court are judicial officers. They serve both as referees and, on occasion, as pro tempore circuit court judges under appointment from the Oregon Supreme Court. Decisions they make while serving as referees may be reviewed by a circuit court judge. The referees usually hear the following matters: juvenile dependency and juvenile law violation (delinquency) and when co-occurring with a dependency case, domestic relations matters involving the family.

TABLE 1: EXISTING JUDGESHIPS, 2012

| Judicial Officer Type       | FTE         |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Presiding and Chief Judges  | 4           |
| Criminal and Civil Judges   | 26          |
| Family Judges               | 8           |
| Criminal and Civil Referees | 7.5         |
| Juvenile Referees           | 3.8         |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>49.3</b> |

**B. Staff Assigned to Judges and Trial Court Administrator**

In the Historic County Courthouse, there are 78.5 employees who serve the judiciary directly, primarily judicial assistants and courtroom clerks; there is one stenographic court reporter assigned to a judge, and one calendar coordinator to assist the Presiding Judge. The Trial Court Administrator has 210 persons assigned to perform administrative tasks for document filing, data entry and calendar management. The bulk of these employees are in the Historic County Courthouse, but there are 47.5 FTE positions outside the courthouse with 16.5 FTEs allocated to the Juvenile Justice Center, 20 FTEs allocated to the Downtown Justice Center, and 6 FTEs allocated to the Gresham facility. The employees in the office of court administration are divided between those who are performing general administrative functions and those assigned to specific court functions. All non-judicial employees are supervised by the Trial Court Administrator including staff assigned to judges and the court's referees.

**C. Multnomah County Court facilities and Space Allocation**

Many of the primary functions of the Court are located at the Historic County Courthouse, including civil and criminal pretrial and trial activities; case calendaring and judicial officer assignments; a multi-judge unified Family Court handling dissolutions, domestic violence, juvenile dependencies, terminations of parental rights, and all post-trial work such as child support and visitation modifications; probate, mental health, conservatorships, guardianships, and elder law issues; jury assembly and administration, law library, and legal references activities; self-represented litigant services, court clerking functions such as filing, recordkeeping, and fines/fees payment/management; traffic, small claims, and landlord/tenant adjudication; and professional as well as clerical staff support services including the executive administrative offices of the court and the presiding judge.

Court functions physically housed elsewhere include a separate Juvenile Court and Detention facility where juvenile, dependency, delinquency, and traffic cases are handled; a front-end criminal case processing center housed at the downtown County jail where in-custody felons and misdemeanants are initially processed; a new, separate East County Courthouse with three courtrooms where criminal misdemeanor and small claims adjudications will take place as of May 2012; and a variety of problem-solving or therapeutic courts targeting drug and alcohol addicted defendants.

The adjudication space – including courtrooms, judicial officer chambers, and jury accommodations are divided among the four locations as follows:

TABLE 2: INVENTORY OF COURT ADJUDICATION SPACE AND LOCATIONS: HISTORIC COUNTY COURTHOUSE

| Court Floor   | Courtrooms | Hearing Rooms | Chambers  | Jury Rooms |
|---------------|------------|---------------|-----------|------------|
| First Floor   | 3          |               | 3         |            |
| Second Floor  | 5          | 1             | 5         | 3          |
| Third Floor   | 9          |               | 9*        | 6          |
| Fourth Floor  | 6          |               | 7         | 6          |
| Fifth Floor   | 8          |               | 7         | 7          |
| Sixth Floor   | 3          |               | 3         | 2          |
| Seventh Floor | 5          |               | 5         | 5          |
| Eight Floor   |            |               |           |            |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>39</b>  | <b>1</b>      | <b>39</b> | <b>29</b>  |

\*Note: 3<sup>rd</sup> floor chambers includes office for Referee

TABLE 3: INVENTORY OF COURT ADJUDICATION SPACE AND LOCATIONS: JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER

| Court Floor  | Courtrooms | Hearing Rooms | Chambers | Jury Rooms |
|--------------|------------|---------------|----------|------------|
| First Floor  |            |               |          |            |
| Second Floor | 6          |               | 6        | 3          |

TABLE 4: INVENTORY OF COURT ADJUDICATION SPACE AND LOCATIONS: DOWNTOWN JUSTICE CENTER

| Court Floor  | Courtrooms | Hearing Rooms | Chambers | Jury Rooms |
|--------------|------------|---------------|----------|------------|
| First Floor  |            |               |          |            |
| Second Floor |            |               |          |            |
| Third Floor  | 4          |               | 4        |            |

TABLE 5: INVENTORY OF COURT ADJUDICATION SPACE AND LOCATIONS: EAST COUNTY COURT - GRESHAM

| Court Floor  | Courtrooms | Hearing Rooms | Chambers | Jury Rooms |
|--------------|------------|---------------|----------|------------|
| First Floor  | 1          |               |          |            |
| Second Floor | 2          |               |          | 2          |
| Third Floor  |            |               | 3        |            |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>3</b>   |               | <b>3</b> | <b>2</b>   |

TABLE 6: INVENTORY SUMMARY OF COURT ADJUDICATION SPACE AND LOCATIONS IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY

| Court Location                   | Courtrooms | Hearing Rooms | Chambers  | Jury Rooms |
|----------------------------------|------------|---------------|-----------|------------|
| Historic County Courthouse       | 39         | 1             | 39        | 29         |
| Juvenile Justice Center          | 6          |               | 6         | 3          |
| Downtown Justice Center          | 4          |               | 4         |            |
| East County Courthouse (Gresham) | 3          |               | 3         | 2          |
| <b>Total</b>                     | <b>52</b>  | <b>1</b>      | <b>52</b> | <b>34</b>  |

### III. Case Filing Trend Analysis and Projections

The planning process for court facilities involves the projection of future growth and the determination of its architectural implications, in terms of the operational work environment of the Court. The decision to invest and plan for future court facilities involves the need to determine the requirements that will serve the Court over the next 20 years. These decisions will clearly be affected by the number of individuals expected to use the Court, the various types of court services to be provided by the Court, and the estimated caseload volume and growth trend for the Court. To provide a realistic and reasonable basis for estimating future requirements for adjudication facilities, the NCSC project team compiled and analyzed Multnomah County case filing data as well as regional demographic information.

#### A. Historic and Projected Population Estimates

In order to develop a basis for future growth of the Court, it is necessary to first analyze the demographic makeup of the public served by the Court. From discussions with the State's Office of Demography and through the Court's experience, the Court's customer base is not strictly derived from the City of Portland or Multnomah County, but from a larger regional area. For this reason it was determined that population trends of a three-county metropolitan area including Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties as a whole may be useful in understanding the likely demographic impacts on future caseload growth of the Court. The NCSC project team obtained and reviewed historic population estimates from the U.S. Census and projected County population data prepared by the State of Oregon Office of Economic Analysis, Department of Administrative Services. Historic population levels are shown in Table 7 while population growth projections are shown in Table 8.

**TABLE 7: HISTORIC METROPOLITAN AREA POPULATIONS MULTNOMAH, CLACKAMAS, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES, 2000 -2010**

| Year  | Multnomah<br>County | Clackamas<br>County | Washington<br>County | Metropolitan Area Total |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>CENSUS 2000</b>                                  | <b>660,602</b>      | <b>338,407</b>      | <b>445,256</b>       | <b>1,444,265</b>        |
| <i>End-Year ESTIMATE 2000</i>                       | <i>661,654</i>      | <i>339,223</i>      | <i>447,980</i>       | <i>1,448,857</i>        |
| <b>2001</b>   | <b>669,690</b>      | <b>343,444</b>      | <b>460,622</b>       | <b>1,473,756</b>        |
| <b>2002</b>   | <b>676,653</b>      | <b>348,951</b>      | <b>468,549</b>       | <b>1,494,153</b>        |
| <b>2003</b>   | <b>679,348</b>      | <b>352,032</b>      | <b>474,336</b>       | <b>1,505,716</b>        |
| <b>2004</b>   | <b>672,526</b>      | <b>355,758</b>      | <b>480,207</b>       | <b>1,508,491</b>        |
| <b>2005</b>   | <b>674,862</b>      | <b>359,308</b>      | <b>490,773</b>       | <b>1,524,943</b>        |
| <b>2006</b>   | <b>683,767</b>      | <b>363,508</b>      | <b>502,226</b>       | <b>1,549,501</b>        |
| <b>2007</b>   | <b>697,799</b>      | <b>366,808</b>      | <b>508,842</b>       | <b>1,573,449</b>        |
| <b>2008</b>   | <b>712,989</b>      | <b>371,103</b>      | <b>515,815</b>       | <b>1,599,907</b>        |
| <b>2009</b>   | <b>727,721</b>      | <b>374,085</b>      | <b>524,699</b>       | <b>1,626,505</b>        |
| <b>CENSUS 2010</b>                                  | <b>735,334</b>      | <b>375,992</b>      | <b>529,710</b>       | <b>1,641,036</b>        |
| <i>End-Year ESTIMATE 2010</i>                       | <i>737,902</i>      | <i>376,891</i>      | <i>531,744</i>       | <i>1,646,537</i>        |
| <b>% Growth From 2000 Census to<br/>2010 Census</b> | <b>11.31%</b>       | <b>11.11%</b>       | <b>18.97%</b>        | <b>13.62%</b>           |

Source: U.S. Census, 2011.

- The City of Portland acts as the commercial hub of a larger metropolitan region. This region includes the neighboring counties of Clackamas and Washington Counties. The City of Portland encompasses a large portion of Multnomah County. Much of the land in the City has been developed. It is observed that, due to the limited expansion capacity and relatively higher cost of living in the City, a significant portion of the regional population growth is outside of Multnomah County. Population engaging business and social activities within the city limits of Portland includes people living inside as well as outside of Multnomah County boundaries. Population in the larger metropolitan area, which includes Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties, is used to examine its effect on future court case filings of Multnomah County.
- Individually, between years 2000 and 2010, Multnomah County experienced an 11.31% growth in population.
- Clackamas County experienced a very similar growth to that of Multnomah at 11.11% population growth between years 2000 and 2010.
- Washington County, however, has developed at a much higher rate with a population growth of 18.97% between years 2000 and 2010.
- The Metropolitan Area has seen a total of 13.62% growth in population between year 2000 and 2010.

**TABLE 8: PROJECTED PORTLAND METROPOLITAN AREA POPULATION MULTNOMAH, CLACKAMAS, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES, 2010-2030**

| Year   | Multnomah County | Clackamas County | Washington County | Metropolitan Area Total |
|--|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>2010 – State Estimate</b>                 | 711,909          | 391,536          | 542,678           | 1,646,124               |
| <i>2010 – US Census</i>                      | <i>735,334</i>   | <i>375,992</i>   | <i>529,710</i>    | <i>1,641,036</i>        |
| <b>2015</b>                                  | 735,445          | 424,648          | 599,377           | 1,759,470               |
| <b>2020</b>                                  | 756,390          | 460,323          | 660,367           | 1,877,080               |
| <b>2025</b>                                  | 778,028          | 497,926          | 723,669           | 1,999,623               |
| <b>2030</b>                                  | 800,565          | 536,123          | 788,162           | 2,124,849               |
| <b>Percent Growth from Year 2010 to 2030</b> | <b>12.45%</b>    | <b>36.93%</b>    | <b>45.24%</b>     | <b>29.08%</b>           |

Source: 2010 population: U.S. Census Bureau; 2015-2030 populations: Prepared by Office of Economic Analysis, Department of Administrative Services, State of Oregon. April 2004.

- Recognizably, the population projection created in year 2004 by the State of Oregon's Office of Economic Analysis slightly underestimates the year 2010 population of Multnomah County by 3.29% and over estimated the populations for Clackamas and Washington Counties, by 3.9% and 2.3% respectively. For this project, however, the three-county metropolitan area is analyzed, where the total state estimate is 0.3% higher than that of the actual 2010 US Census. Because this total difference is negligible, the NCSC project team determined that the State Population projections are still valid for the purposes of this project.
- The three counties have significantly different growth trends over the next twenty years. Multnomah County is expected to have the smallest growth, and the two neighboring counties, Clackamas and Washington Counties, are expected to continue experiencing significantly higher growth rates than that of Multnomah County. The three-county metropolitan area is expected to grow as much as 29.08% by year 2030.

## B. Future Court Case Filing Projection

The primary purpose of the forecasting process is to provide a realistic and reasonable basis for estimating future facility needs for the Court. The caseload projections represent the trends of what may be expected in the future, assuming that current trends and practices continue unchanged. The projections become more tenuous the further into the future they extend, regardless of the estimating technique used.

The first step necessary to produce case filing projections for the next 20 years is to analyze recent historical case filing data and growth trends for the Court. A wide variety of methodologies and criteria are available for use to assess future court workload levels. For courthouse planning purposes, an analysis of the number of cases filed, by case type, over the past 12 years, provides sufficient guidance for estimating growth of the court system and inferring the resulting long-term judgeship and space needs. Admittedly, raw case filing data do not indicate how much time and resources are required to process all cases. Cases vary in complexity, and different types of cases require different amounts of time and attention from judges and court support staff. For example, felony cases having jury trials have a much greater impact on the workload of the court than some of the more administrative types such as, violation cases. Furthermore, divorce, custody, and juvenile dependency cases may require continuous post judgment judicial attention over a long period of time –work that may go on for a decade or more which is not reflected in the mere counting of cases filed.

Multiple forecasting techniques are employed to generate projection models of future case filing growth:

1. **Linear Regression** – This model uses an equation that measures, for a series of data, how much one data variable changes in relation to a second (regression only works for two or more variables). As a forecasting technique, linear regression equations find the relationship that best expresses the trend between two variables (in this case, case filings), and then extends the trend by that amount into the future.
2. **Fixed Ratio to Population** – This model analyzes how case filings trend in relation to population, with the assumption that case filing levels will change in proportion to changes in the populations with the number of filings per population remaining constant over the time frame examined. The range of ratios for historical filings is calculated to create a mean average for forecasting. Forecasts based on this ratio can be useful, especially when historical trends are not suited for regression or exponential smoothing techniques.
3. **Exponential Smoothing / Changing Ratio to Population** – This model, based on past filing trends, implicitly assumes that caseloads change fairly consistently over time, and that the factors that influenced caseload growth in the past will continue to affect case filings in the future. Exponential smoothing is a two-variable forecasting method and is used to project case filings based on historical trends between both population and case filings; however, rather than a fixed ratio between the two variables, this model calculates the annual changing ratios of number of cases in relation to yearly population and projects that changing average forward.

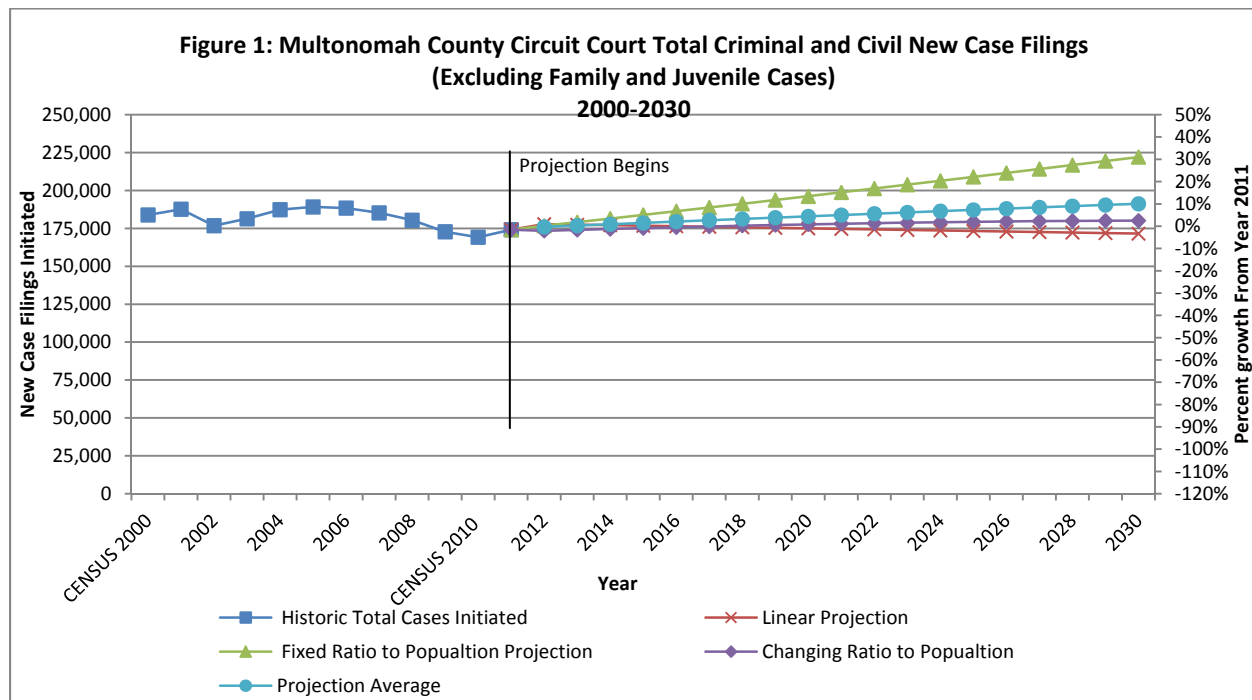
4. **Projection Average** – This model calculates the mathematical average of the three previous models. Understandably, each model has its own inherent strengths and weaknesses, the averaging of the three in this fourth model attempts to counter the weakness of one model with the strength of the others.

Historic case filing statistics from 2000 to 2011 were provided by the Court Administration's Office. Case Filing Projection for all four models for the Multnomah Circuit Court follow:

## i. Total Criminal and Civil Case Filing Projection (Excluding Family and Juvenile Cases)

TABLE 9: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CRIMINAL AND CIVIL CASE FILINGS (Excluding Family &amp; Juvenile Cases)

|  | Actual    |           |           |           | Projected |           |           |           | Growth from<br>2011-2030 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
|  | 2000      | 2005      | 2010      | 2011      | 2015      | 2020      | 2025      | 2030      |                          |
| <b>Three County Metropolitan Area Population</b> | 1,451,650 | 1,540,055 | 1,646,124 | 1,668,793 | 1,759,470 | 1,877,080 | 1,999,623 | 2,124,849 |                          |
| <b>Case Filings</b>                              |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |                          |
| Linear Trend                                     | 183,893   | 189,198   | 169,186   | 174,185   | 176,774   | 175,042   | 173,309   | 171,577   | -1.50%                   |
| Fixed Ratio to Population                        | 183,893   | 189,198   | 169,186   | 174,185   | 183,869   | 196,160   | 208,966   | 222,052   | 27.48%                   |
| Changing ratio/ Exponential Smoothing            | 183,893   | 189,198   | 169,186   | 174,185   | 175,187   | 177,634   | 179,363   | 180,110   | 3.40%                    |
| <b>Projection Average</b>                        | 183,893   | 189,198   | 169,186   | 174,185   | 178,610   | 182,945   | 187,213   | 191,247   | 9.80%                    |



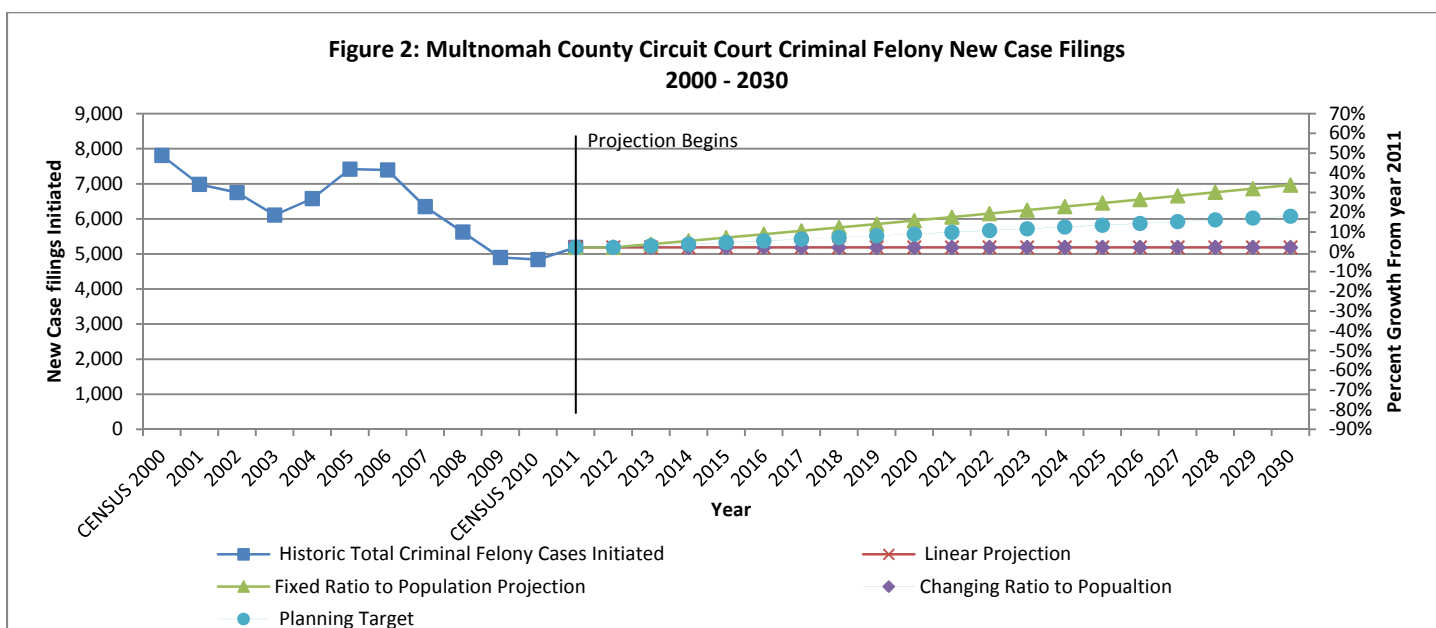
- Total Criminal and Civil Case Filings (excluding Family and Juvenile) historically have seen steady fluctuation between years 2000 and 2011.
- From year 2011, the Circuit Court could expect new criminal and civil case filing growth to be as much as 27.48%. Due to the limited fluctuation of the historic new case filings trend, however, most likely future trends will be similar to those seen in the past. The projection average is estimated to see fluctuation in the future with new case filing growth of 9.8% by year 2030.



## ii. Criminal Cases – Felony Case Filing Projection

TABLE 10: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CRIMINAL FELONY CASE FILINGS

|  | Actual    |           |           |           | Projected |           |           |           | Growth from<br>2011-2030 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
|  | 2000      | 2005      | 2010      | 2011      | 2015      | 2020      | 2025      | 2030      |                          |
| Three County Metropolitan<br>Area Population | 1,451,650 | 1,540,055 | 1,646,124 | 1,668,793 | 1,759,470 | 1,877,080 | 1,999,623 | 2,124,849 |                          |
| <b>Criminal Misdemeanor</b>                  |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |                          |
| Linear Trend                                 | 7,812     | 7,417     | 4,839     | 5,187     | 5,187     | 5,187     | 5,187     | 5,187     | 0.00%                    |
| Fixed Ratio to Population                    | 7,812     | 7,417     | 4,839     | 5,187     | 5,466     | 5,948     | 6,450     | 6,964     | 34.25%                   |
| Changing ratio/ Exponential<br>Smoothing     | 7,812     | 7,417     | 4,839     | 5,187     | 5,187     | 5,187     | 5,187     | 5,187     | 0.00%                    |
| Planning Target                              | 7,812     | 7,417     | 4,839     | 5,187     | 5,326     | 5,567     | 5,819     | 6,075     | 17.12%                   |

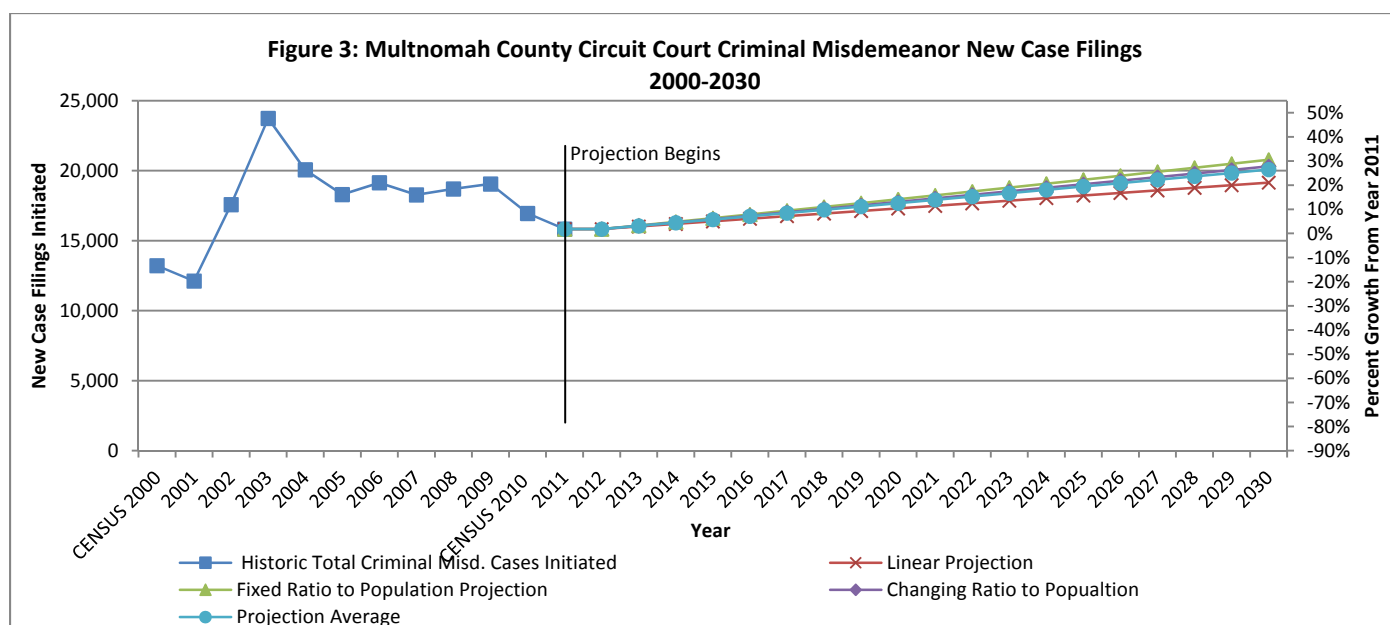


- Excluding a spike in years 2005 and 2006, Criminal Class C Felonies (3<sup>rd</sup> degree assault, 1<sup>st</sup> degree theft, DUI 3<sup>rd</sup> offenses, hit and run) have had a fairly steady decline since year 2000, dropping by 41 percent by year 2011. This can partially be attributed to the fact that DUI has been the focus of the DISP Program since about year 2001, which is a multi-year (3 to 5) treatment court for repeat offenders. Resultantly decreasing the number of new case filings entered into the Court.
- From year 2011, the Court could expect new criminal felony case filing growth to be as much as 34.25%. The planning target is estimated to see fluctuation in the future with new case filing growth of 17.12% by year 2030.

## iii. Criminal Cases – Misdemeanor Case Filing Projection

TABLE 11: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CRIMINAL MISDEMEANOR CASE FILINGS

|  | Actual    |           |           |           | Projected |           |           |           | Growth from<br>2011-2030 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
|  | 2000      | 2005      | 2010      | 2011      | 2015      | 2020      | 2025      | 2030      |                          |
| <b>Three County Metropolitan Area Population</b> | 1,451,650 | 1,540,055 | 1,646,124 | 1,668,793 | 1,759,470 | 1,877,080 | 1,999,623 | 2,124,849 |                          |
| <b>Case Filings</b>                              |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |                          |
| Linear Trend                                     | 13,216    | 18,298    | 16,947    | 15,827    | 16,381    | 17,303    | 18,226    | 19,149    | 20.99%                   |
| Fixed Ratio to Population                        | 13,216    | 18,298    | 16,947    | 15,827    | 16,872    | 17,946    | 19,345    | 20,775    | 31.26%                   |
| Changing ratio/<br>Exponential Smoothing         | 13,216    | 18,298    | 16,947    | 15,827    | 16,538    | 17,762    | 18,866    | 20,308    | 28.31%                   |
| Projection Average                               | 13,216    | 18,298    | 16,947    | 15,827    | 16,507    | 17,670    | 18,866    | 20,077    | 26.85%                   |

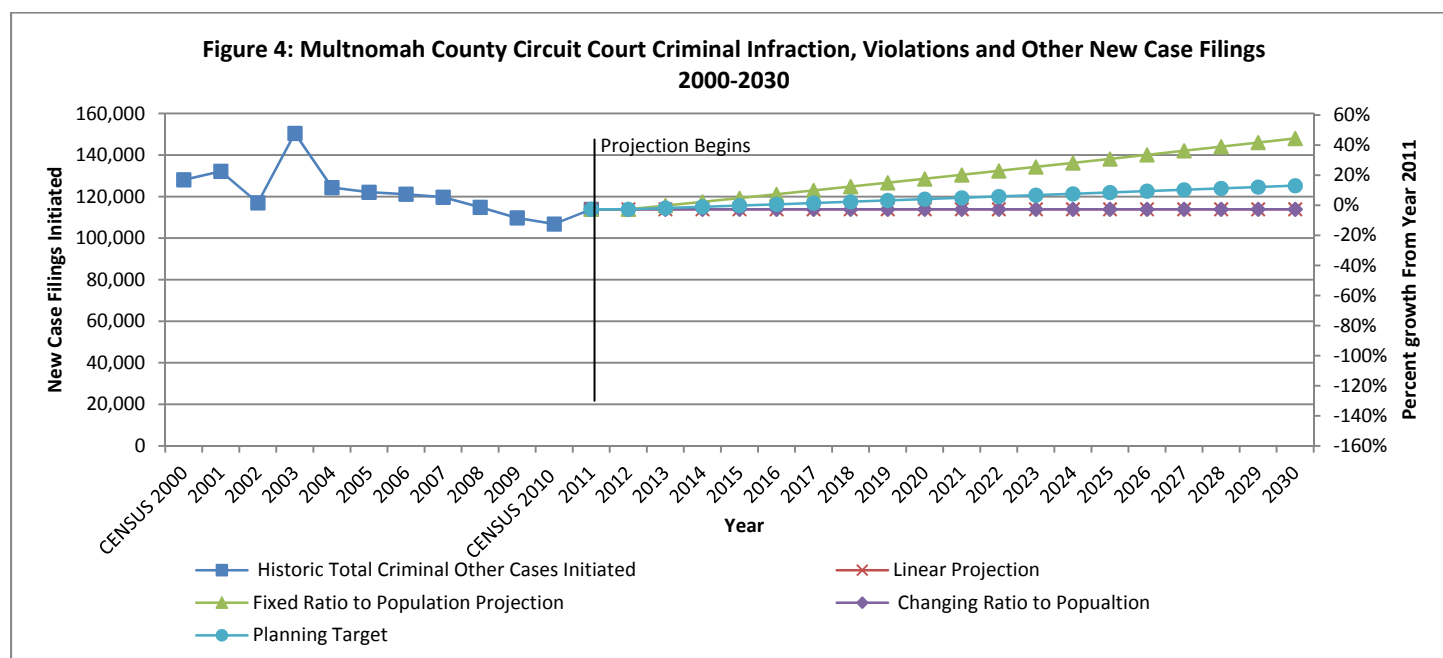


- Criminal Misdemeanor Cases have seen a 33% decline in recent years. Criminal Class A Misdemeanors (3rd degree theft) have dropped by 49% since year 2003, as the District Attorney has taken to issuing these as violations.
- The case category Other Criminal Misdemeanor has seen significant growth since year 2002. These would be municipal ordinance offenses - unclassified offenses which have sentences of up to one year in jail. These are more routinely used by the District Attorney to handle lifestyle and neighborhood problems including drug use and prostitution.
- From year 2011, the Circuit Court could expect new criminal misdemeanor case filing growth to be within the range of 20.99% and 31.26%; with a projection average of 26.85% by year 2030.

## iv. Criminal Cases – Infractions, Violations and Other Case Filing Projection

TABLE 12: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CRIMINAL OTHER CASE FILINGS (Infractions, Violations, Other)

|  | Actual    |           |           |           | Projected |           |           |           | Growth from<br>2011-2030 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
|  | 2000      | 2005      | 2010      | 2011      | 2015      | 2020      | 2025      | 2030      |                          |
| <b>Three County Metropolitan Area Population</b> | 1,451,650 | 1,540,055 | 1,646,124 | 1,668,793 | 1,759,470 | 1,877,080 | 1,999,623 | 2,124,849 |                          |
| <b>New Filings</b>                               |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |                          |
| Linear Trend                                     | 128,081   | 122,097   | 106,805   | 113,898   | 113,898   | 113,898   | 113,898   | 113,898   | 0.00%                    |
| Fixed Ratio to Population                        | 128,081   | 122,097   | 106,805   | 113,898   | 138,339   | 147,586   | 157,221   | 167,067   | 46.68%                   |
| Changing ratio/ Exponential Smoothing            | 128,081   | 122,097   | 106,805   | 113,898   | 113,898   | 113,898   | 113,898   | 113,898   | 0.00%                    |
| Planning Target                                  | 128,081   | 122,097   | 106,805   | 113,898   | 115,680   | 118,763   | 121,974   | 125,256   | 9.97%                    |

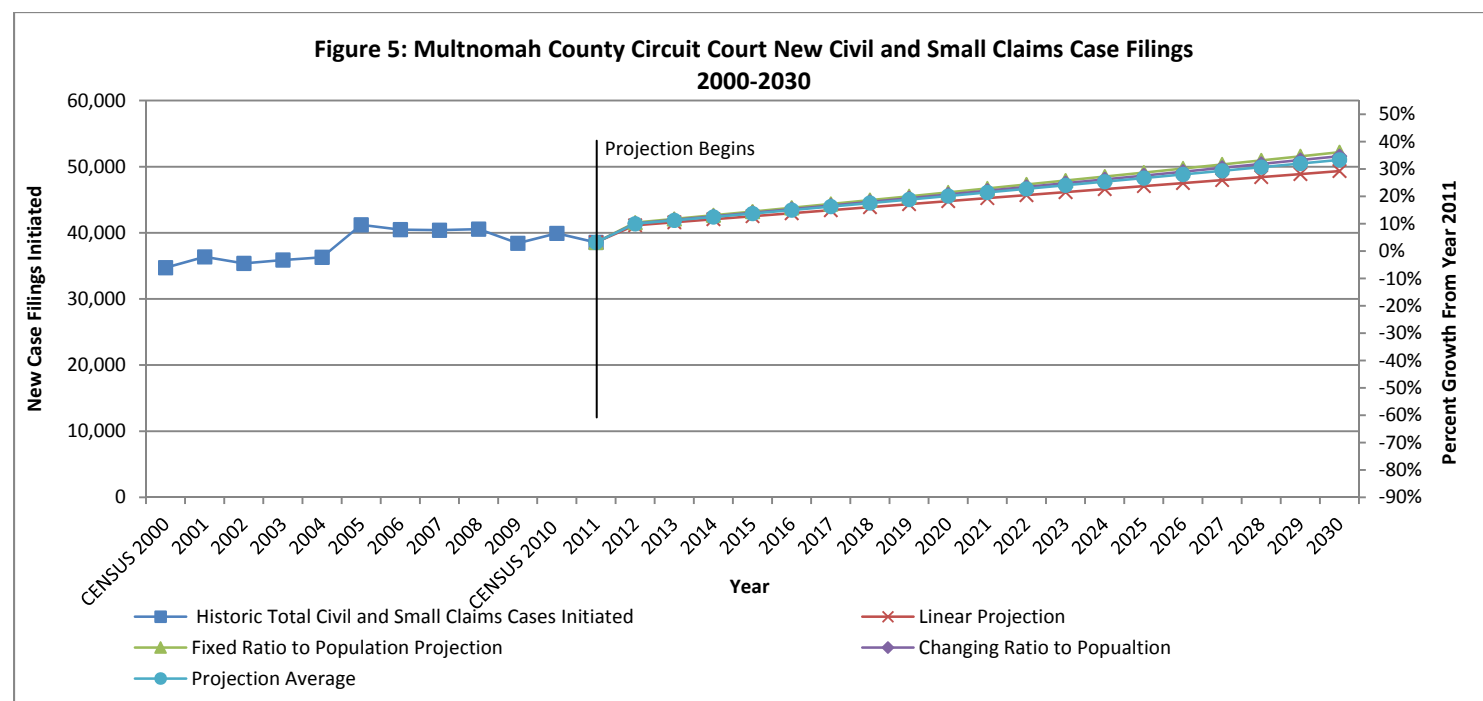


- Criminal Infraction and Violation Cases have seen a decline in recent years, declining by 11% from year 2000 and 2011. This case group did however see a surge in filings in 2003 with 150,464 new case filings; however, this is an anomalous year. The 12-year historic, new case filing average is 121,697 cases. This average is a more accurate depiction of the yearly new case filings.
- From year 2011, the Circuit Court could expect new criminal infractions and violations case filing growth to be as high as 46.68%; with a projection average more reasonably estimated at 9.97% growth by year 2030.

## v. Civil Cases – Civil and Small Claims Case Filing Projection

TABLE 13: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL AND SMALL CLAIMS CASE FILINGS

|  | Actual    |           |           |           | Projected |           |           |           | Growth from<br>2011-2030 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
|  | 2000      | 2005      | 2010      | 2011      | 2015      | 2020      | 2025      | 2030      |                          |
| Three County Metropolitan Area<br>Population | 1,451,650 | 1,540,055 | 1,646,124 | 1,668,793 | 1,759,470 | 1,877,080 | 1,999,623 | 2,124,849 |                          |
| <b>Case Filings</b>                          |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |                          |
| Linear Trend                                 | 34,722    | 41,213    | 39,913    | 38,554    | 42,509    | 44,786    | 47,064    | 49,342    | 27.98%                   |
| Fixed Ratio to Population                    | 34,722    | 41,213    | 39,913    | 38,554    | 43,206    | 46,094    | 49,103    | 52,178    | 35.34%                   |
| Changing ratio/ Exponential<br>Smoothing     | 34,722    | 41,213    | 39,913    | 38,554    | 43,014    | 45,781    | 48,655    | 51,580    | 33.79%                   |
| Projection Average                           | 34,722    | 41,213    | 39,913    | 38,554    | 42,909    | 45,554    | 48,274    | 51,033    | 32.37%                   |

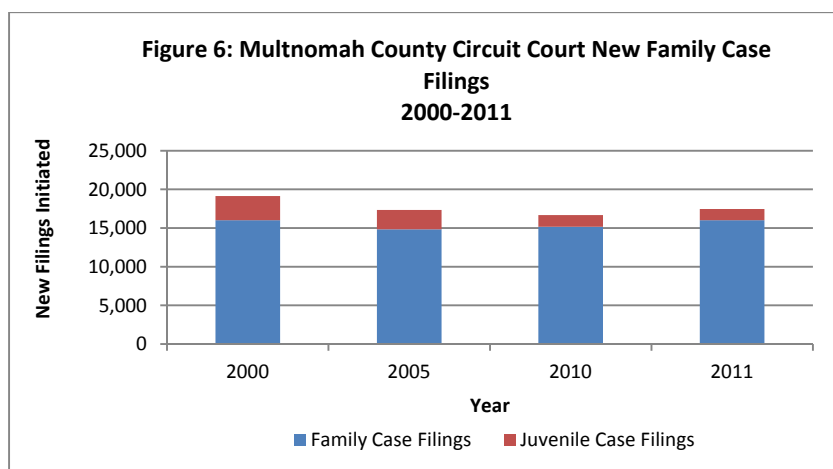


- Historically, between years 2007-2008, civil case filings saw a large increase in Contract Cases from under 7,000 cases annually in year 2006 to over 10,000 cases annually by year 2008; subsequently dropping to just over 600 cases annually by year 2011. Also during this time, Money Action cases increased from just over 800 cases annually in year 2006 to nearly 9,000 cases annually by year 2011.
- From year 2011, the Circuit Court could expect new civil and small claim case filing growth to be within the range of 27.98% and 35.34% by year 2030; with a projection average of 32.37%.

## vi. Family Court

The Fourth Judicial District has a Family Court to which 10 of its 38 circuit judges are assigned. One of the judges, appointed by the presiding judge, serves as the Chief Family Court Judge and one serves as a Chief Probate Judge. The judges assigned to Family Court have a mixed caseload hearing all domestic relations (divorce and child custody) cases, juvenile court matters (dependency, delinquency and termination of parental rights), as well as probate, and civil commitment cases. The Family Court judges also hear misdemeanor criminal cases scheduled in Domestic Violence Court. Because of their jurisdiction, Family Court judges do not typically hear jury trials except for the misdemeanor domestic violence cases and when they are occasionally assigned a jury trial from the circuit court's civil and criminal jurisdiction when time is available on the Family Court calendar. The availability of other judges in the same location allows the court flexibility when help is needed. As much as possible, the Family Court follows a "one judge to one family" philosophy both for all current juvenile, domestic relations, and even criminal actions on probation supervision involving one family, and that judge gets the family if it comes back into the system on new proceedings or modification of existing orders and judgments.

The following figure and table present the percentage of cases filed as family or juvenile cases within the family court in five year intervals.



**TABLE 14: TOTAL FAMILY COURT NEW CASE FILINGS, 2000-2011**

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Family Case Filings</u> | <u>Juvenile Case Filings</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Percent Family Case Filings</u> | <u>Percent Juvenile Case Filings</u> |
|-------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2000        | 16,010                     | 3,120                        | 19,130       | 83.69%                             | 16.31%                               |
| 2005        | 14,836                     | 2,505                        | 17,341       | 85.55%                             | 14.45%                               |
| 2010        | 15,160                     | 1,515                        | 16,675       | 90.91%                             | 9.09%                                |
| 2011        | 16,016                     | 1,436                        | 17,452       | 91.77%                             | 8.23%                                |

- In year 2011, 91.77% of cases filed into the Family Court were family case filings, composed of domestic relations, probate, and mental health cases. The remaining 8.23% were juvenile cases, composed of dependency, delinquency, and TPR cases. Family cases are the major statistical driver of the Family Court's total case filing matters. Because of this, and the understanding that 91.77% of the case load is

family cases, statistically, the filing trends of the family cases are used to assess future Family Court growth requirements.

### **1. Family Cases Re-opened**

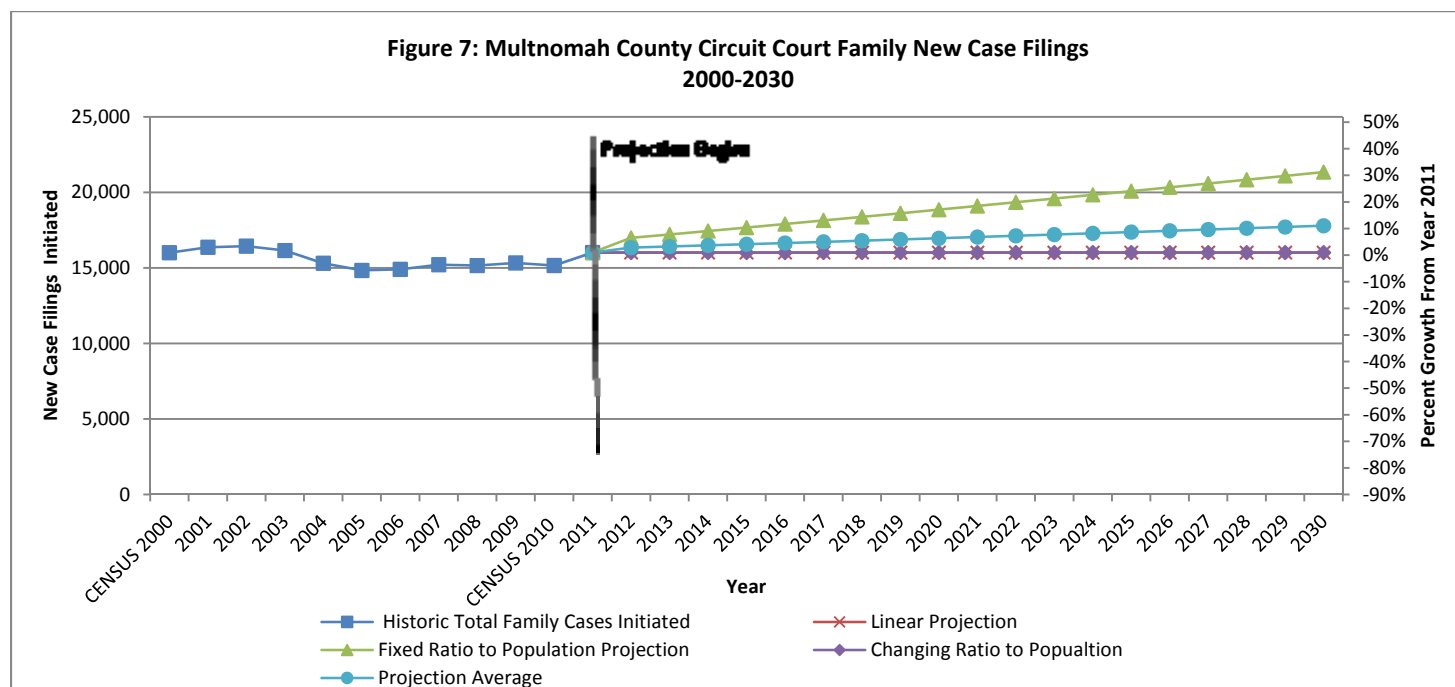
In addition to new filings, the NCSC project team also attempted to locate the trend in cases closed by judgment and later reopened to assess their workload implication to the overall Family Court operations. Because of the lack of statistical data on the actual time accounting and frequency of court hearings resulting from the re-opened family court cases, the team considered a simple count of the number of cases reopened each year, which was derived from an OJIN standard report, Summary of Activity in Post Original Cases. This report is not used regularly in measuring court workload by the Office of the State Court Administrator. The report did provide counts of Domestic Relations cases “reopened”, but there was no available documentation to reveal what were the selection criteria for cases to be included in the report. A 10 year history using this report revealed a negative trend to the annual observations of cases reopened, but that number could not be reconciled to current processes in the Family Court. Given this situation, the data derived from the OJIN Summary of Activity in Post Original Cases is not included in the report. While the NCSC project team knows from the Family Court judges that in domestic relations cases the post judgment activity is a significant part of their work, as it is in Juvenile Dependency cases, data was unavailable to measure with certainty the volume of that work in the time provided for this study. Under this circumstance, the NCSC project team’s observation for Domestic Relations workload must be limited to new cases filings.

The NCSC project team conducted analysis for the individual case groupings (Family, Juvenile Dependency, Juvenile Delinquency and TPR) in the Family Court to further understand the unique trends and changes within the new initiated case filings of the Family Court.

## vii. Family Cases– Domestic Relations, Probate and Mental Health Case Filing Projection

TABLE 15: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT FAMILY CASE FILINGS (Domestic Relations, Probate, Mental Health)

|  | Actual    |           |           |           | Projected |           |           |           | Growth from<br>2011-2030 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
|  | 2000      | 2005      | 2010      | 2011      | 2015      | 2020      | 2025      | 2030      |                          |
| Three County Metropolitan Area<br>Population | 1,451,650 | 1,540,055 | 1,646,124 | 1,668,793 | 1,759,470 | 1,877,080 | 1,999,623 | 2,124,849 |                          |
| <b>Case Filings</b>                          |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |                          |
| Linear Trend                                 | 16,010    | 14,836    | 15,160    | 16,016    | 16,016    | 16,016    | 16,016    | 16,016    | 0.00%                    |
| Fixed Ratio to Population                    | 16,010    | 14,836    | 15,160    | 16,016    | 17,670    | 18,851    | 17,371    | 21,339    | 33.24%                   |
| Changing ratio/ Exponential<br>Smoothing     | 16,010    | 14,836    | 15,160    | 16,016    | 16,016    | 16,016    | 16,016    | 16,016    | 0.00%                    |
| Projection Average                           | 16,010    | 14,836    | 15,160    | 16,016    | 16,567    | 16,961    | 17,371    | 17,790    | 11.08%                   |

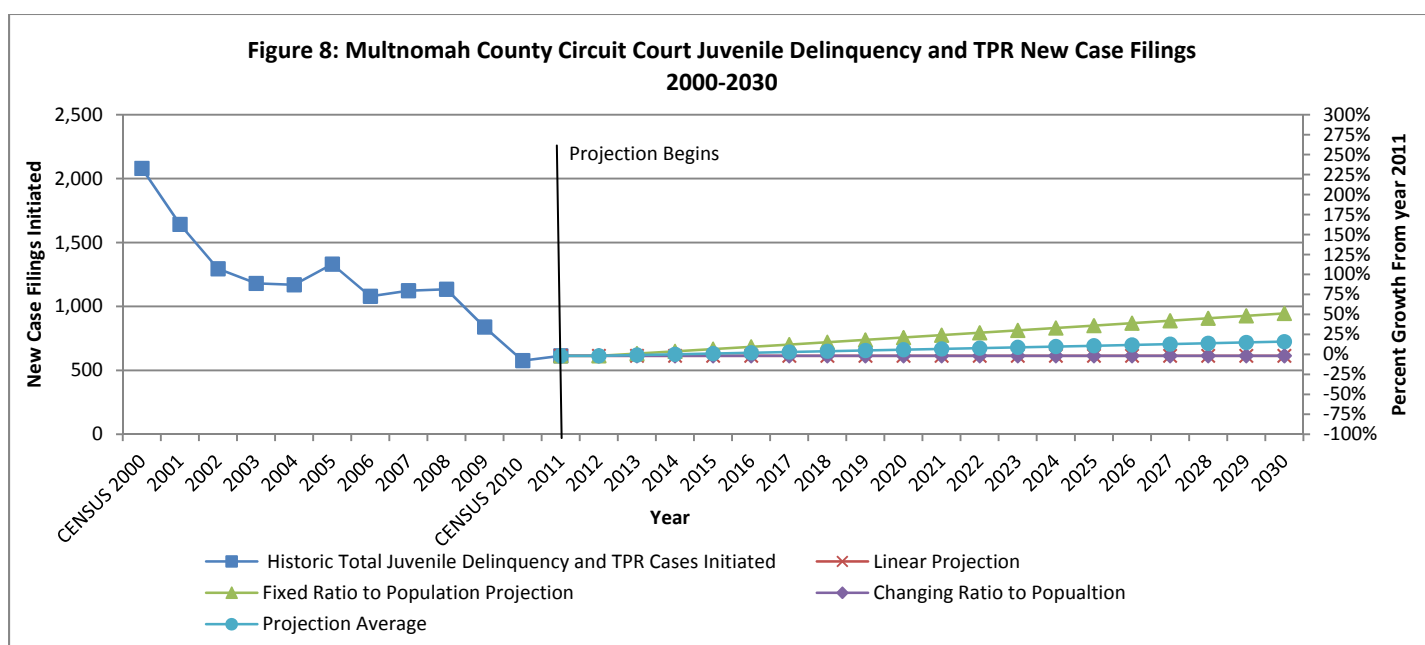


- Historically, year 2000 saw an increase in terminated abuse prevention cases entered into the Court. Between years 2003 and 2005 abuse prevention new filings dropped by half as did filiations. Between years 2008 and 2010 abuse prevention and filiations pending increased, but there was no corresponding increase in new filings in these case types.
- From year 2011, the Circuit Court could expect new family case filing growth to be within the range of 0% and 11.08% by year 2030. The projection range is estimated to see modest fluctuation in the future, similar to the trend seen over the last 12 years.

## viii. Juvenile Cases – Delinquency and TPR Case Filing Projection

TABLE 16: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AND TPR CASE FILINGS

|   | Actual    |           |           |           | Projected |           |           |           | Change from<br>2011-2030 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
|   | 2000      | 2005      | 2010      | 2011      | 2015      | 2020      | 2025      | 2030      |                          |
| Three County Metropolitan Area Population | 1,451,650 | 1,540,055 | 1,646,124 | 1,668,793 | 1,759,470 | 1,877,080 | 1,999,623 | 2,124,849 |                          |
| <b>Case Filings</b>                       |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |                          |
| Linear Trend                              | 2,080     | 1,331     | 576       | 614       | 614       | 614       | 614       | 614       | 0.00%                    |
| Fixed Ratio to Population                 | 2,080     | 1,331     | 576       | 614       | 666       | 756       | 850       | 946       | 54.00%                   |
| Changing ratio/ Exponential Smoothing     | 2,080     | 1,331     | 576       | 614       | 614       | 614       | 614       | 614       | 0.00%                    |
| Projection Average                        | 2,080     | 1,331     | 576       | 614       | 631       | 661       | 693       | 725       | 18.00%                   |



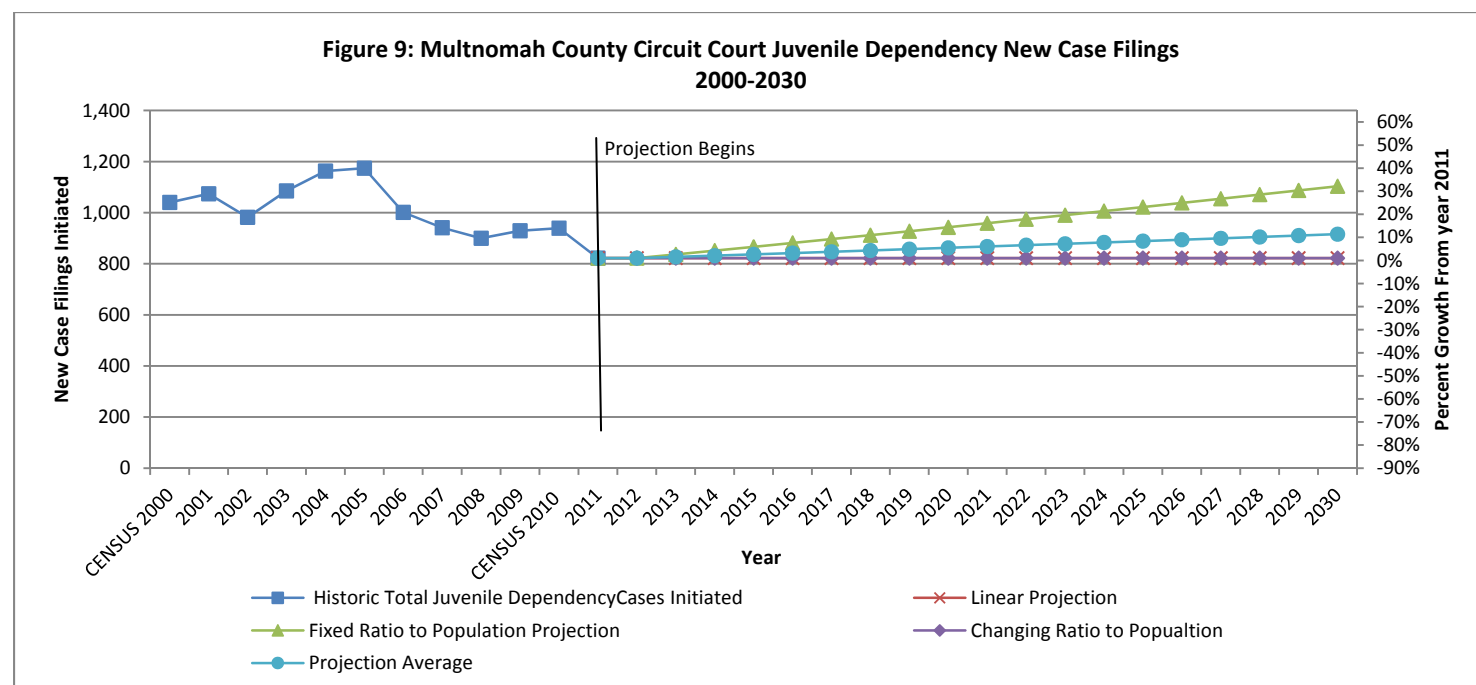
- Juvenile Delinquency cases have had a dramatic decline over the years reviewed for this study. Since year 2000, new case filings have dropped by 70.5%. While it is not likely that these case filing will continue to decline indefinitely, future filings do not anticipate a quick return to the historical levels soon. The growth average is projected to be 18% by year 2030.



## ix. Juvenile Cases – Dependency Case Filing Projection

TABLE 17: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUVENILE DEPENDENCY CASE FILINGS

|  | Actual    |           |           |           | Projected |           |           |           | Change from<br>2011-2030 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
|  | 2000      | 2005      | 2010      | 2011      | 2015      | 2020      | 2025      | 2030      |                          |
| Three County Metropolitan Area<br>Population | 1,451,650 | 1,540,055 | 1,646,124 | 1,668,793 | 1,759,470 | 1,877,080 | 1,999,623 | 2,124,849 |                          |
| <b>Case Filings</b>                          |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |                          |
| Linear Trend                                 | 1,040     | 1,174     | 939       | 822       | 822       | 822       | 822       | 822       | 0.00%                    |
| Fixed Ratio to Population                    | 1,040     | 1,174     | 939       | 822       | 866       | 942       | 1,022     | 1,103     | 34.22%                   |
| Changing ratio/ Exponential<br>Smoothing     | 1,040     | 1,174     | 939       | 822       | 822       | 822       | 822       | 822       | 0.00%                    |
| Projection Average                           | 1,040     | 1,174     | 939       | 822       | 837       | 862       | 889       | 916       | 11.41%                   |



- Juvenile Dependency cases have had periods of increase, however, since year 2005 new case filings have declined 30% in seven years. While it is not likely that these case filings will continue to decline indefinitely, future growth projections do not anticipate that new case filings will return to the levels seen historically.

## 1. Juvenile Dependency Hearings

Historically, juvenile cases entering into the Court have seen significant decreases since year 2000, dropping 53.97% by year 2011. The Court has described some reasoning for this decline, including the impact of the Adoption and Safe Families Act on dependencies and the implementation of Evidence based practices in handling juvenile offenders; as well as Measure 11 in 1994 for serious felonies where 16 and 17 year olds are prosecuted as adults.

The new case filing data may not necessarily depict an accurate and complete picture of court workload, particularly in juvenile cases. Juvenile cases have a long court-life, in particular, dependency cases which made up 57.24% of all juvenile cases in year 2011. These cases include many hearings even after the case has reached permanency and it is because of this that the project team also examines the number of review and permanency hearings held for dependency cases. Understanding the frequencies of hearings per case is critical to the analysis of courtroom utilization and future requirements.

The annual statistics of review and permanency hearings scheduled for dependency cases for years 2003 to 2011 listed in the following table are provided by the Court.

**TABLE 18: NEW DEPENDENCY CASES AND ANNUAL REVIEW AND PERMANENCY HEARINGS, 2003-2011**

| <b>Year</b>                          | <b>Dependency Cases</b> | <b>Review and Permanency Hearings Scheduled</b> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| <b>2003</b>                          | 1,085                   | 7,601   |
| <b>2004</b>                          | 1,163                   | 7,326   |
| <b>2005</b>                          | 1,174                   | 7,824   |
| <b>2006</b>                          | 1,001                   | 8,293   |
| <b>2007</b>                          | 941                     | 8,441   |
| <b>2008</b>                          | 900                     | 8,099   |
| <b>2009</b>                          | 929                     | 8,023   |
| <b>2010</b>                          | 939                     | 7,647   |
| <b>2011</b>                          | 822                     | 7,173   |
| <b>Percent Change From Year 2003</b> | <b>(-24.24%)</b>        | <b>(-5.63%)</b>                                 |

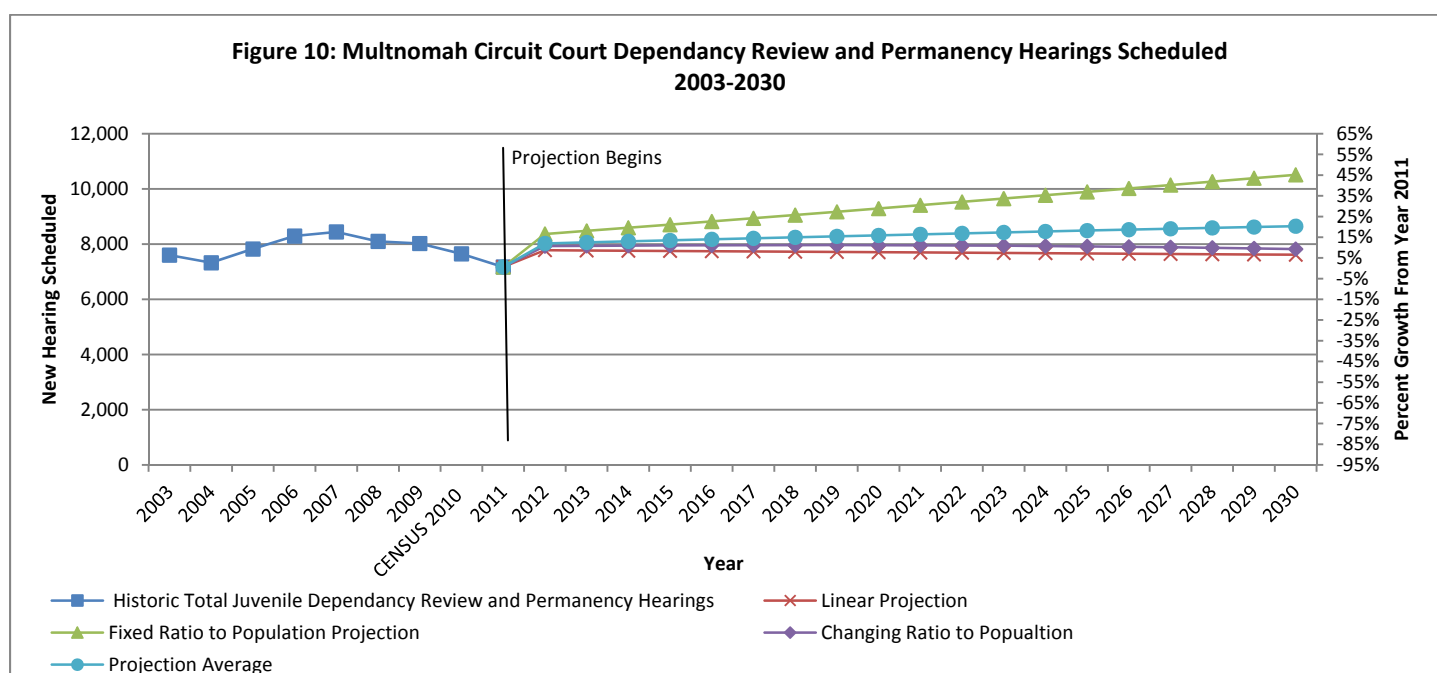
Without supplementary information on court hearing time statistics to quantify the actual judicial time expenditure for the review and permanency hearings, the scheduled court hearing statistics were studied to infer the juvenile dependency workload trend. The number of court hearings conducted over the past nine years remains stable and stays within the range of 8,441 and 7,173 hearings annually. The relative ratio, i.e. hearing frequency, between total number of hearing scheduled and the number of new dependence cases filed in the year increase 24.6% in nine years,.

The increase of hearing frequency may have contributed to the stability of the court hearing workload and the use of courtrooms, in spite of a downward case filing trend. In 2005, a nationwide emphasis was placed on the courts to examine the processing of juveniles in the court system. The result of this has been continuous interaction of the court and its partners in the life of a juvenile case; significantly increasing the workload of a case throughout the court system.

## x. Juvenile Hearings – Dependency Hearings Projection

TABLE 19: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUVENILE DEPENDANCY HEARINGS SCHEDULED

|   | Actual    |           |           |           | Projected |           |           |           | Growth from<br>2011-2030 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
|   | 2003      | 2005      | 2010      | 2011      | 2015      | 2020      | 2025      | 2030      |                          |
| Three County Metropolitan Area Population | 1,451,650 | 1,540,055 | 1,646,124 | 1,668,793 | 1,759,470 | 1,877,080 | 1,999,623 | 2,124,849 |                          |
| <b>Review and Permanency Hearings</b>     |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |                          |
| Linear Trend                              | 7,601     | 7,824     | 7,647     | 7,173     | 7,753     | 7,707     | 7,662     | 7,616     | 6.18%                    |
| Fixed Ratio to Population                 | 7,601     | 7,824     | 7,647     | 7,173     | 8,705     | 9,286     | 9,893     | 10,512    | 46.55%                   |
| Changing ratio/ Exponential Smoothing     | 7,601     | 7,824     | 7,647     | 7,173     | 7,952     | 7,959     | 7,920     | 7,821     | 9.04%                    |
| Projection Average                        | 7,601     | 7,824     | 7,647     | 7,173     | 8,137     | 8,318     | 8,491     | 8,650     | 20.59%                   |



- The Circuit Court could expect the increase of hearings to be within the range of 6.18% and 46.55% by year 2030; with a projection target at 20.59%.
- Although a small proportion of cases, considerations for the increasing frequency of review and permanency hearings of juvenile cases should be made as it is expected that the need for more frequent review hearings of juvenile cases will continue to grow.

## xi. Circuit Court Projection Summary

TABLE 20: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CASE FILING PROJECTION SUMMARY

|   | Actual         | Projected      |                |                |                | Growth From<br>2011-2030 |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|
|   | 2011           | 2015           | 2020           | 2025           | 2030           |                          |
| <b>New Filings</b>                                |                |                |                |                |                |                          |
| Criminal – Felony Cases                           | 5,187          | 5,326          | 5,567          | 5,819          | 6,075          | 17.12%                   |
| Criminal – Misdemeanor Cases                      | 15,827         | 16,507         | 17,670         | 18,866         | 20,077         | 26.85%                   |
| Criminal - Infractions and Violations Cases       | 113,898        | 115,680        | 118,763        | 121,974        | 125,256        | 9.97%                    |
| Civil and Small Claims Cases                      | 38,554         | 42,909         | 45,554         | 48,274         | 51,033         | 32.37%                   |
| Family Court – Family Cases                       | 16,016         | 16,567         | 16,961         | 17,371         | 17,790         | 11.08%                   |
| Family Court - Juvenile Dependency Hearings*      | 7,173          | 8,137          | 8,318          | 8,491          | 8,650          | 20.59%                   |
| Family Court - Juvenile Delinquency and TPR Cases | 614            | 631            | 661            | 693            | 725            | 18.00%                   |
| <b>Total Circuit Court Filings</b>                | <b>197,269</b> | <b>205,757</b> | <b>213,494</b> | <b>221,488</b> | <b>229,606</b> | <b>16.39%</b>            |

\* Note: Family Court Juvenile Dependency projection is based upon number of review and permanency hearings scheduled not new case filings.

## IV. Circuit Court Performance on Managing Its Caseload

The Multnomah County Circuit Court adheres to the ABA time standards in civil cases – 90% disposed within one year and 100% in 18 months and has been quite successful in meeting this goal. Medical malpractice cases are being disposed in a median time of 14-15 months. Some major multi-defendant civil cases run beyond the time norms and require a courtroom adaptable to the number of parties and lawyers but there are few options for this requirement.

Studies of felony case processing indicate that this court is one of the fastest of the mid-size urban courts, ranking third among 17 urban courts with a median case processing time of 105 days for felony cases. This study also showed the Court had the highest percentage of dispositions by jury trial (11.5%). This unusual combination of early dispositions and a high number of jury trials is locally attributed to the relative shortness of jury trials in the area, a phenomenon also found in the civil area.

The Court attributes its success in resolving cases to having the judges concentrated in a single location and the use of a master calendar that is made credible by the availability of judges and courtrooms on a flexible basis. Both civil and criminal cases are assigned from the same master calendar. Often, the certainty of a trial leads to settlement. The presiding judge conducts calendar calls and assigns cases to courtrooms for trial and also handles ex parte and emergency proceedings. A calendar secretary for the presiding judge keeps track of judicial availability staying in touch with the personal employees of the judges who can indicate the availability of the judge. Not all cases are placed on the master calendar, however, with some complex cases assigned to a singular judge for all purposes.

Understanding that the Court is meeting its statutorily required time frames for processing cases, the NCSC project team determines that the court has an adequate number of judicial officers to handle the current caseload and no adjustments need to be made; the current staffing will be used as the threshold for future judicial officer staffing requirements.

## V. Future Requirements of Adjudication Facilities

This section of the report contains the requirements for future adjudication space projections through the year 2030 for the Court. These projections are to be used solely for long-range planning purposes, as they are estimates of the *likely* needs that might be expected over the planning time span, based largely upon historical trends and qualitative assessments of the future. These estimates should not be construed as being justification for funding additional staff positions. Before any personnel or staff is added to any court, a thorough staffing analysis should be done and that staff should be added only if the additional positions can be justified.

Historically, new case filing entered into the Court have seen growth with steady fluctuation in civil/ small claims, and family cases; while criminal felonies and misdemeanors, infractions and violations, and juvenile cases have seen declines. While data is not available to determine exactly why cases have decreased over the recent past, it is not likely that the downward trend will continue indefinitely. New case filings coupled with a growing metropolitan population suggests that eventually any downward trending of new filings will self correct and the Court will see growth in the resulting workload. It is with this assumption that the NCSC project team creates the future planning growth range.

Future system growth estimates are viewed in terms of physical adjudication space required for courtrooms/ hearing rooms and judicial officer chambers, as well as spaces allocated for jury deliberation. Additionally, the future growth estimates for the Court are distributed based upon current facility locations and adjudication resource allocations. The Court currently utilizes the following judge and adjudication spaces:

**TABLE 21: CURRENT ADJUDICATION SPACES BY FACILITY LOCATION**

|                                      | Current Judicial Officers | Adjudication Spaces | Jury Deliberation |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Historic County Courthouse</b>    | <b>41.5</b>               | <b>40</b>           | <b>29</b>         |
| <i>Outlying Facilities</i>           |                           |                     |                   |
| <b>East County Court</b>             | <i>0.5</i>                | <i>3</i>            | <i>2</i>          |
| <b>Downtown Justice Center</b>       | <i>4</i>                  | <i>4</i>            | <i>N/A</i>        |
| <b>Juvenile Justice Center (JJC)</b> | <i>3.3</i>                | <i>6</i>            | <i>3</i>          |
| <b>System-Wide Total</b>             | <b>49.3</b>               | <b>53</b>           | <b>34</b>         |

Judicial officer Full Time Equivalent (FTEs) and adjudication space estimates apply the applicable growth trends in future case filing estimates to each of the judicial officer categorizations, as follows:

1. Presiding and Chief Judges – Constant positions
2. Criminal and Civil Judges –Criminal felony, criminal misdemeanor, civil, small claims
3. Family Judges – Family cases including domestic relations, probate, mental health
4. Criminal and Civil Referee – Criminal misdemeanor, infractions and violations, civil, small claims
5. Family/Juvenile Referee – Juvenile dependency, delinquency, TPR

Synthesizing quantitative case filing projections and qualitative planning elements assists in projecting future staffing requirements for the Court. The projections consider future workload increases within a high and low range of expected growth. Quantitative analysis translates the workload increase into equivalent staffing and adjudication space needs. The resulting needs are adjusted to reflect qualitative considerations and input from on-site interviews and NCSC's experiences.

TABLE 22: ESTIMATED YEAR 2030 ADJUDICATION SPACES REQUIREMENT BY FACILITY LOCATION

|                                | Current Judge FTE/<br>Adjudication Space | Year 2030 Estimates |                 |            |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------------|-----------------|------------|
|                                |  | Low Range           | Planning Target | High Range |
| Historic County Courthouse     |  |                     |                 |            |
| Presiding Judge                | 1 / 1                                    | 1 / 1               | 1 / 1           | 1 / 1      |
| Chief Criminal Judge           | 1 / 1                                    | 1 / 1               | 1 / 1           | 1 / 1      |
| Chief Probate Judge            | 1 / 1                                    | 1 / 1               | 1 / 1           | 1 / 1      |
| Chief Family Court Judge       | 1 / 1                                    | 1 / 1               | 1 / 1           | 1 / 1      |
| Criminal and Civil Judges      | 26 / 26                                  | 30.60 / 31          | 31.76 / 32      | 32.92 / 33 |
| Family Judges                  | 8 / 8*                                   | 8 / 7*              | 8.44 / 7        | 8.89 / 8   |
| Criminal and Civil Referee     | 3 / 1                                    | **1.16 / 1          | 1.17 / 1        | 1.17 / 1   |
| Family Referee (Mental Health) | 0.5 / 1                                  | 0.5 / 1             | 0.5 / 1         | 0.5 / 1    |
| Sub-Total                      | 41.5 / 40                                | 44.26 / 44          | 45.87 / 45      | 47.48 / 47 |
| Outlying Facilities            |  |                     |                 |            |
| East County Courthouse         | 0.5 / 3                                  | **3 / 3             | 3.25 / 3        | 3.50 / 3   |
| Downtown Justice Center        | 4 / 4                                    | 4 / 4               | 4.33 / 4        | 4.67 / 4   |
| Juvenile Justice Center        | 3.3 / 6                                  | 4.19 / 6*           | 4.46 / 6        | 4.73 / 6   |
| System-Wide Total              | 49.3 / 53                                | 55.45 / 57          | 57.91 / 58      | 60.37 / 60 |

\*Note: Two Family Court judges rotate to the Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) on a monthly basis. Primary offices for these two positions are permanently housed in the Historic County Courthouse as well as an office in the JJC for use by rotating judges. The courtrooms in the Historic County Courthouse facility which are associated with these rotating judges become available as the judge holds their rotation at the JJC.

\*\* Two criminal/civil referees currently located at Historic County Courthouse will be moved to the newly completed East County Courthouse.

The Multnomah Circuit Court could expect future total court system growth from year 2011 to be within the range of 12.47% and 22.45% by year 2030. Within this range, the NCSC project team suggests a planning target growth of 17.46%. This growth represents a need for a total of 8.61 FTE judicial officers by year 2030 and need for an additional five courtrooms system-wide.

#### A. Historic County Courthouse Facility

The Historic County Courthouse facility should be planned to accommodate 45.87 FTE judicial officers by year 2030 with a total of 45 courtrooms; representing expansion by 10.5% and 12.5% respectively. Currently, the Historic County Courthouse facility has some expandability in terms of the use of existing courtrooms. With the opening of the East County Courthouse, two judicial officer positions will be relocated thus leaving two courtrooms vacant for use. Using the concept of dynamic courtroom assignment and the existing master calendar, these two courtrooms may absorb the calendar of the future addition of two judicial officer positions. The remaining number of required courtrooms will need to be added to the existing facility.

## B. Outlying Court Facilities

The three outlying court facilities – East County Courthouse, Downtown Justice Center, and the Juvenile Justice Center – should be able to absorb the expected growth of the estimated FTE judicial officers. The Court should expect a total need for an additional 1.74 FTE to handle the expected caseload growth among the three outlying court facility locations by year 2030. The NCSC project team also determined that the number of supplemental courtrooms throughout the three facilities should be able to accommodate the future growing caseload if the current efficient calendar practices are continued with judges being rotated as needed.

## C. Jury Deliberation Spaces

In addition to the adjudication spaces of the judicial chambers and courtrooms, future needs for jury deliberation spaces are also be analyzed. The following table outlines the number of jury deliberation spaces currently programmed in each of the Court's facilities:

**TABLE 23: CURRENT JURY DELIBERATION SPACES BY FACILITY LOCATION**

| Facility Location          | Current Number of Jury Deliberation Rooms | Current Number of Courtrooms/<br>Hearing Rooms | Current Percent of Courtrooms with Access to Jury Deliberation Rooms |
|----------------------------|---|--|--|
| Historic County Courthouse | 29  | 40   | 72.5%  |
| <b>Outlying Facilities</b> |   |  |  |
| East County Court          | 2   | 3  | 66.6%  |
| Downtown Justice Center    | N/A                                       | 4  | N/A  |
| Juvenile Justice Center    | 3   | 6  | 50%  |
| <b>System-Wide Total</b>   | <b>34</b>                                 | <b>53</b>                                      | <b>64.2%</b>   |

A typical guideline for calculating the number of jury deliberation rooms required in a facility is to provide juror deliberation rooms on the ratio of not more than one for every two jury capable courtrooms. In the Historic County Courthouse, jury deliberation suites are typically located by jury trial courtrooms handling criminal and civil trials. Family Court rarely see jury proceedings other than the four judges who try the misdemeanor domestic violence cases and do not need a jury deliberation room by courtroom. Currently, there are 29 jury deliberation suites attached to the 30 jury courtroom assigned for criminal and civil case dockets in the Historic County Courthouse, which exceeds the recommended ratio of courtrooms to jury deliberation rooms.

**TABLE 24: 2030 ESTIMATED JURY DELIBERATION SPACE REQUIREMENTS BY FACILITY LOCATION**

| Facility Location          | Year 2030 Planning Target Number of Jury Deliberation Rooms | Year 2030 Planning Target Number of Courtrooms/<br>Hearing Rooms |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Historic County Courthouse | 16  | 45   |
| <b>Outlying Facilities</b> |   |  |
| East County Court          | 2   | 3  |
| Downtown Justice Center    | N/A   | 4  |
| Juvenile Justice Center    | 3   | 6  |
| <b>System-Wide Total</b>   | <b>21</b>   | <b>58</b>  |

Additional consideration should be given to the number of jury deliberation rooms in the Historic County Courthouse. It may prove prudent to consider further reducing the total number of jury deliberation rooms limited only to a ratio equivalent to fifty percent of the judges who carry a caseload which allows for jury trials. The Court should consider in the future facility a dedicated or private corridor connecting the shared jury deliberation suites and the jury trial courtrooms, so jurors moving between courtrooms and deliberation suites won't be intimidated by the general public or litigants.



## VI. Future Court Service Delivery Impacts Physical Environment

Courts are process-driven organizations. Their products are decisions, orders and directives. As such they are required to apply prescribed rules, procedures and methods outlined in the law to the facts of individual cases. Some of those adjudication procedures directly impact courthouse and courtroom space ranging from how it is used to how visitors and the public access services. For the purposes of this study, the NCSC project team identified operational issues that may potentially impact space at the Court both now and over the next 20 years. These issues include:

### A. Adjudication Space

- **Cluster Similar Court Assignments Together in the Courthouse**

Due to the incremental expansion of adjudication space in the Historic County Courthouse, judges and courtrooms handling similar case types are scattered throughout the building making it difficult to obtain economies of scale, achieve efficiencies, and accommodate unique space requirements required by different types of cases. Contemporary courthouse design strives to congregate courtrooms handling similar case types within close proximity of each other. This does not necessarily mean that courtroom sizes vary dramatically based on different types of cases, but it does imply that the arrangement, distribution, and adjacency needs can differ. For example, courtrooms which typically handle in-custody prisoner transportation should be located near one another to minimize the number of access points required to bring in-custody defendants to the courtroom. Courtrooms used typically for civil proceedings have a lesser need for access to secured prisoner circulation or holding facilities.

- **Standardize Courtroom Size around Two Basic Models**

Based on the building layout and its historic character, two basic courtroom sizes appear most appropriate. First, each of the historic corner two-story courtrooms should be restored as the largest courtrooms in the building. One of those should remain as the master calendar assignment space. The remaining three can be used as multi-purpose jury courtrooms or as spacious courtrooms for large volume or high profile cases allowing for an enlarged litigation well area and spectator seating.

Secondly, all remaining civil, criminal and family courtrooms should be standardized as to size. To do so permits maximum flexibility in reconfiguring space in the future should calendaring change or case volumes vary. Generally, such flexibility can be provided by systematizing the bench and courtroom well size and reducing or enlarging the spectator seating space as necessary.

- **Vary the Configuration of the Courtrooms Depending on their Use**

Family courtrooms do not require a jury box, but do necessitate space in the well of the courtroom for a variety of advocates involved in domestic relations and dependency matters who represent the parents, the state, the children, and other interested parties. Frequently court appointed counselors and social service professionals are also present to provide reports and advice to the judicial officer.

Courts dealing with felony and general civil cases must have space for jurors both in the courtroom and nearby for private, protected deliberations. Attorney/client conference rooms close to family, civil and criminal courts are very helpful in negotiations related to case processing. Criminal courts routinely deal with in-custody defendants and require secure holding cells, separate pathways for law enforcement and inmate movement to and from the courtroom, and safe space for victims and witnesses.

- **Dynamic Assignment of Courtrooms among Judges**

A national trend toward shared courtrooms and away from permanently assigned courtrooms is fast becoming a best practice from both management efficiency and space economy standpoints. The concept necessitates new thinking in courthouse planning and design as it relates to dynamic courtroom assignments, involves discontinuing courtroom entitlement customs among judges, and requires willingness on the part of judicial officers to change and adapt to new work patterns.

A shared courtroom is one used routinely by more than one judicial officer based on the nature of the matter litigated and/or the calendaring system utilized by the court. Master calendaring, as operated by the Circuit Court, is uniquely suited to a shared courtroom approach where criminal and civil cases can be channeled to courtrooms configured for specific case types; an in-custody defendant to a courtroom equipped with holding capacity, a civil case to a courtroom that does not require high security and prisoner transit accouterments.

Considerations in a shared courtroom design include the need for adjacent, secure, dignified space (e.g. available conference rooms, non-used jury deliberation rooms, etc.) for meet-and-confer sessions between lawyers and their clients, discussions between the judge and attorneys, and witness waiting as necessary. Also, additional small, private work areas for judicial officers to use during short breaks and recesses to make telephone calls, consult with staff, check email, use the restroom or perform quick legal research are necessary. This judicial space may be used as a robing station and be within a secure zone accessible only by judges and authorized court staff. Often it is adjacent to a restricted judicial/staff hallway and secure elevator that services multiple permanent chambers on another floor.

In many shared courtroom environments, there are more judges chambered in the courthouse than there are courtrooms. This is based on the fact that most cases settle prior to formal adjudication. True, pre-trial proceedings (i.e. settlement conferences, trial readiness meetings, motions, summary judgment rulings, etc.) can require courtroom space to promote case resolutions, but many case dispositions only occasion smaller hearing or conference room space. Resultantly, some courts factor that litigation reality into the design of space and move away from a one to one chamber to courtroom ratio. That certainly could be a consideration in the planning and design of chambers and courtroom space at the Multnomah County Courthouse.

Determining the ratio of courtrooms to chambers requires both an understanding of the judicial resource management issues within the court as well as an awareness of the operational benefits afforded by this new configuration of adjudication space. In a traditional courtroom/chambers arrangement the number of courtrooms is equal to the number of judicial officers. To determine the number of courtrooms in a shared environment, however, requires a more sophisticated understanding of the judicial work circumstances, caseload practices, settlement points and rates, and local legal culture regarding case dispositions.<sup>1</sup> Although there is no simple, universal formula for determining courtroom sharing patterns, the Circuit Court in Multnomah County is positioned well to accommodate fewer courtrooms than judicial officers by virtue of two important factors.

1. **Jurisdiction Size.** Larger courts, like the Circuit Court, generally have a greater ability to segregate and delineate case types among a bigger resource pool. This in turn can result in more efficient utilization of judicial and facility resources, especially where the majority of proceedings for civil, criminal and family court matters occur in one building as they do in Portland.
2. **Court Calendaring.** The master calendar system presently used by the court for civil and criminal case assignments facilitates the flexible allocation of judicial resources among courtrooms. It could be much more effective where judges do not have permanently assigned courtrooms and cases could be assigned based solely on how case types and scheduled proceedings match available courtroom space.

- **Provide Shared, Multi-Purpose Jury Deliberation Rooms**

Jury deliberation rooms, along with other support spaces, may in the future accommodate staff offices or functions different than the original program. It is suggested that the time-honored model of a jury deliberation room attached to each jury courtroom be avoided in favor of a ratio

---

<sup>1</sup> A commonly seen ratio of chambers to courtrooms for general jurisdiction matters – essentially the family, civil and criminal caseloads handled at the Historic Multnomah Courthouse – is 1 to 0.75 or 1 to 0.80; 4 chambers to 3 courtrooms or 5 chambers to 4 courtrooms. It is speculated that for the Circuit Court in Multnomah, given the slow caseload growth patterns predicted over the next 20 years and a high potential for the more economical use of space, the initial design of space could be for an equal number of courtrooms and chambers together with shelved out space for additional chambers without adding additional future courtrooms.

of not more than one deliberation room for two jury courtrooms<sup>2</sup>. Also, it is acceptable (sometimes even desirable depending on space conservation) to group jury rooms together in strategic locations provided they allow security and privacy for jurors. The rooms should serve three functions: They should provide a protected location for deliberation; provide a gathering place and waiting area for impaneled jurors and alternates when trial is not in session; and provide a space for staff meetings and training when not used by a panel. Clustering jury rooms can permit reduced remodeling and construction costs by sharing amenities (e.g. restrooms, coat closets, small kitchen area).

## **B. Judicial Chamber Space**

- **Develop Collegial Chambers**

Concurrent with shared courtrooms, judges' chambers should be grouped together in a protected section of the courthouse rather than scattered throughout the building and attached to individual courtrooms. Similar to a law office environment, collegial judicial suites typically allow the joint, economical use of common areas for support staff, conference rooms, reception/visitor/waiting space, break areas and restroom facilities. Typically, collegial chambers are located in secured areas on the upper floors of a courthouse; permitting high volume customer service activities to occupy the more publically accessible lower floors. Such a layout increases judge and judicial staff safety, allows the court to pool support staff, promotes cross training and job sharing among staff, economizes space (i.e. break rooms, supply/copying center, etc.), and encourages collegiality among judges in what tends to be a rather isolated profession.

The application of collegial chambers is not a recent development and has a long-standing tradition in appellate courts. Collegial chambers have appeared regularly in limited jurisdiction courts because of a need to pool limited staff resources and the relative ease in substituting judges on calendars.

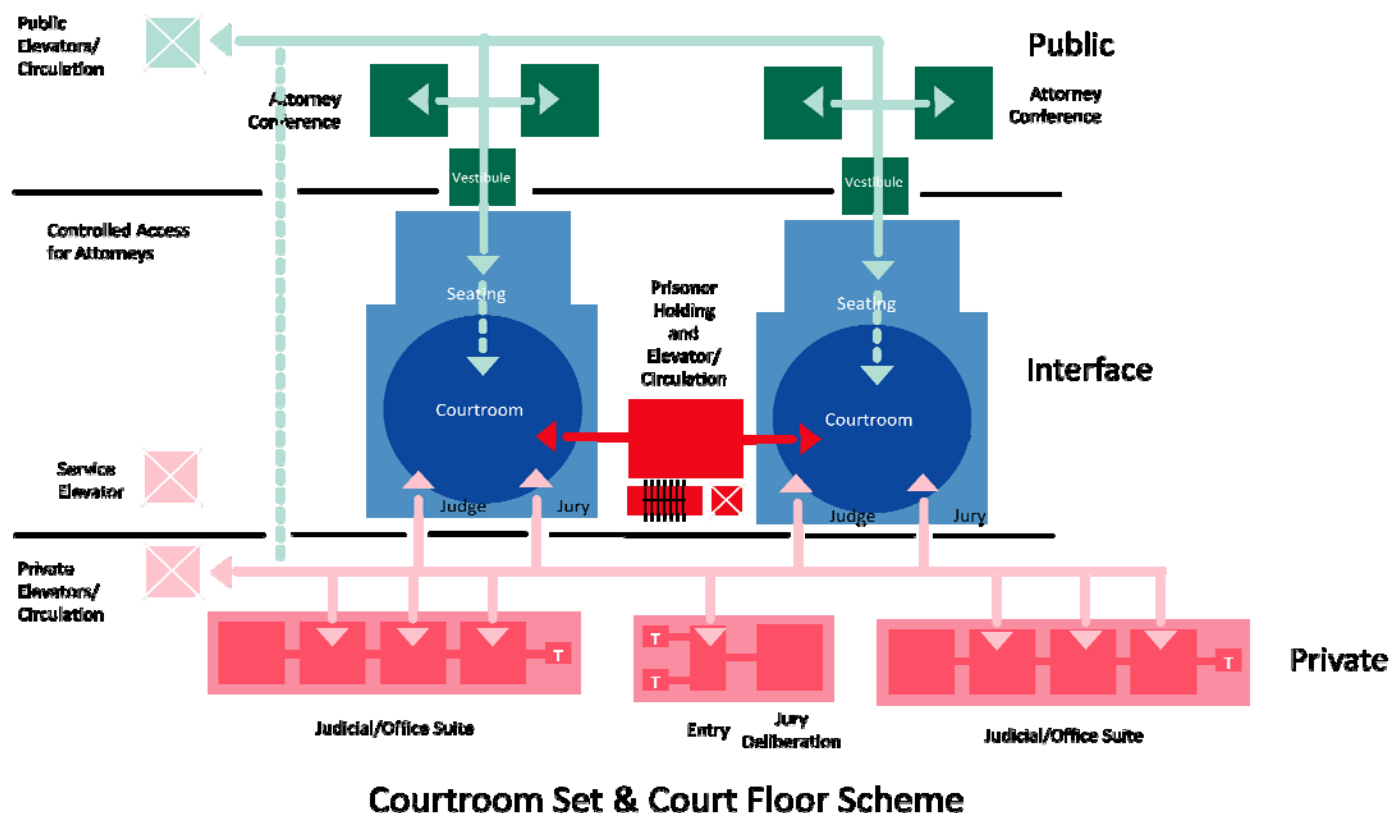
The design of collegial chambers for broader application in a general jurisdiction court, while relatively new, is increasingly being viewed as a means for implementing dynamic courtroom assignment patterns since it builds in flexibility for the calendaring and allocation of judicial officers and provides an opportunity for increased utilization of staff and facility resources. Traditional arrangements of courtrooms and chambers fundamentally depend on new facility resources becoming available along with increases in judicial officer positions. Collegial chambers arrangements, on the other hand, remove the direct physical linkage between courtrooms and chambers providing an opportunity to dynamically adjust courtroom assignments. Over time, this may allow courts to better accommodate additional judicial

---

<sup>2</sup> See Judicial Council of California – Trial Court Design Standards, 2006 edition for additional design considerations.

positions and service demands given a fixed number of courtrooms. The following figure diagrams efficient court floor layouts with collegial chambers and support spaces.

Figure 11: Courtroom Set and Court Floor Scheme



- **Collectively Group Judicial Support Staff near Judicial Officers**

All judicial and suite support staff (i.e. judicial assistants, law clerks, etc.) would office in a common area with modular office cubicles in close proximity to the judicial officers. Team-building, cross-training, and ease in covering staff absences is generally enhanced. Sharing resources are more achievable as well.

It is expected that the Court Administrator would exercise management oversight and day-to-day supervision of judicial support staff to the extent court policy and rules permit. Controlled access to the judicial suite of offices and support staff areas is important, including a private elevator and stairwell. Modern law office space designs provide models for adoption including efficient traffic flow patterns such as a secure reception area with adjacent conference rooms where judges can meet visitors without bringing them into the chambers/office area.

### C. Public Access Space

- **Locate Domestic Violence and Self-Help Family Court Assistance in Secure, Lower Floor Areas**

In Portland and Multnomah County, self-represented litigants involved in family court matters, including domestic violence issues, top 8 out of 10 people seeking redress from the court. Where abusive issues are involved, victims are generally vulnerable, frightened, and intimidated by the environment they encounter in many courthouses nationwide. Multnomah Circuit Court judges and staff have a reputation as an approachable, caring justice system, sensitive to the problems in the community. To that end, court officials have developed a unified family court, created do-it-yourself (DIY) forms and instructions for litigants without lawyers to file cases in the Court and represent themselves, and streamlined rules and procedures to assist non-lawyers in processing cases.

Space in the courthouse should be formatted to better serve victims of domestic abuse and self-represented litigants in DIY matters while simultaneously maintaining the neutrality of the court. The primary responsibility of the Court is to provide information about the judicial process and useful access to the necessary court forms, instructions and procedures in welcoming, secure, dignified space.

Many courts have found such services are best provided and least disruptive if placed on or near the first floor of the courthouse. In doing so, some courts furnish segmented space for children who accompany parents on the contention that not to do so may be more distracting to other courthouse users. Although it is a court policy decision to provide space for children, the National Center has found courts that offer such an option are frequently able to processing litigants quicker and more successfully.

- **Increase Attorney/Client/Mediation Private Conference Space**

Presently, there are a limited number of private conference rooms for attorneys and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) neutrals engaged in pre-adjudication settlement discussions at the Historic County Courthouse. The planning of the court facility should target the expansion of the number of these spaces and place them in accessible locations near courtrooms. Where possible, a ratio of at least one interview room for every courtroom should be provided.

Years of data collected by the NCSC on caseload management indicate nearly all cases settle prior to either bench or jury trials, yet most litigation is prepared and proceeds through the judicial process as if there is no other alternative. The percentage of dispositions by trial vis-à-vis the total number of cases filed for both civil and criminal general jurisdiction cases has been dropping steadily over recent years. NCSC research among general jurisdiction courts in 16 states over a 33 year period (1976-2009) shows a drop in civil jury trial dispositions from 3.5% to

0.5% and for civil bench trial dispositions from 15.4% to 4.7 percent. Declines for criminal trials are equally dramatic; jury trial dispositions dropped from 3.1% in the mid-1970's to 1.1% in 2009, and criminal bench trial dispositions showed a reduction from 4.5% to 0.9 percent over the same time period.<sup>3</sup>

It is important to provide easy access for attorneys, neutrals and litigants to conference room space from public hallways or vestibules that enter into the courtrooms given the fact that most cases settle. Often these conference rooms are self-monitoring or labeled in such a way to clearly identify their purpose and use. Some courts schedule the use of such conference facilities on a first come, first serve basis, but admittedly in large urban courts with numerous matters scheduled daily it places an extra burden on the limited numbers of court staff. Attorneys and neutrals that frequent the Court are generally quite capable of independently managing the space provided the court provides workable rules for doing so.

- **Enhance Public Way-finding in the Historic County Courthouse**

Way-finding refers to the concept of how people move within building space and how building design and signage assist people to orient themselves, find directions and identify their locations on their own without staff help. People use numerous cues to indicate where they are located, determine how to get to a specific destination, and conclude they have finally arrived at it. In confusing structures such as the Historic County Courthouse, the task is much more difficult due to poor building layout, a myriad of functions and services in the building, and the large number of public users. To most people, the courthouse is an unfamiliar and intimidating place.

Designing a building in patterned and consistent ways from floor to floor will help traffic flow and ease the anxiety of visitors. A welcoming and informative lobby area should be developed. The public lobby serves as the focal point for the building and provides visual orientation to other areas through directional cues and signage. The architectural configuration of lobby space should allow the public to be presented with simple, clear, legible information graphically linked to complementary floor directories providing first-time visitors with instructions about where to find various functions and how to get there. Color-coding and familiar directional displays are often useful. Avoid court jargon, confusing legal terms, excessive repetition and poor signage placement.

---

<sup>3</sup> States included in the trend analysis were Alaska, Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Vermont

- **Update the Infrastructure to Accommodate WI-FI, High-Tech, and e-Court Services**

As public institutions, trial courts are process-oriented organizations historically using massive quantities of data in paper form to understand, manage and decide a variety of disputes brought to them for resolution. Complex legal processes traditionally require lawyers to advise and shepherd litigants through a maze of confusing procedures to a final result. Although many of these same dynamics will continue to exist, the speed of change in digitizing data/voice/images and business processes will revolutionize the way trial courts operate and interface with the public and justice system communities. In anticipation of these changes, infrastructure in the courthouse should allow for widespread wireless communication, high-tech devices within the courthouse to speed the movement of cases and business processes, and electronic connections with court users from afar.

To this end, building design decisions must be made regarding wireless and fiber-optic cabling throughout the courthouse to enable both encrypted and open public electronic access systems. Bench and staff computer use will be widespread in courtrooms, hearing/conference rooms, and offices. Electronic filing and paper-on-demand will permit increasing amounts of electronic information to be transmitted and utilized without conversion to hard copy.<sup>4</sup> Paper records storage both on and off site will stabilize and eventually shrink to a minimal level. Electronic signage and digitized case display information have proven helpful regarding way-finding in many courthouses. Video and audio recording in courtrooms, hearing facilities, and chambers is becoming more widespread among trial courts nationwide. Some courts are using touch-activated kiosk check-in systems outside courtrooms to identify parties and lawyers present and ready for a proceeding; daily calendars automatically are re-sorted avoiding wasted time calling the calendar in the courtroom. Effectively programming technology use within the building will require judges, staff and architects to strategize how the Court envisions the increased employment of high-speed electronic data, voice and images.

- **Improve Juror Comforts and Space in the Jury Assembly Room**

The Court uses a modern “one day, one trial” juror summoning and length-of-service system in lieu of requiring jurors to be present for longer periods of time. Jurors check-in and wait in an assembly room (juror lounge) on the first floor prior to being called to a courtroom for the selection process (voir dire). Depending on the day of the week, approximately 100 to 190 potential jurors per court day come to the central jury assembly area in the courthouse. They may serve on either a civil or criminal jury, and may be assigned to serve at the East County Courthouse in Gresham. Grand jurors, as well as petit jurors, are also selected from the jurors summoned; the District Attorney has three grand juries in operation at all times with those

---

<sup>4</sup> Many courts aspire to be “paperless” as the electronic revolution advances. National Center technology experts, however, conclude it is more plausible to expect the progressive, limited use of paper by courts over the next few decades. They refer to this immediate future period as one in which courts will issue “paper-on-demand.”



jurors serving for a one month period. In summoning and using petit jurors, the NCSC project team recommends that court officials periodically monitor their yield and utilization rates. It is important to keep both within reasonable limits.<sup>5</sup> Access to the Historic County Courthouse by public transport is quite good; a high number of jurors use public transportation because of the good connections to the downtown area but parking downtown is limited and expensive.

Jury duty is a public service obligation. For many, jury duty is the citizen's only contact with the judicial system. The jury assembly area presents potential jurors with a physical symbol of the importance of their duty, and orients them to the process of the courts. The existing jury assembly room space is inadequate for the number of jurors summoned and appears to be uncomfortable for those waiting when crowded and at full capacity. Physical facilities provided for jurors should be a key focus in conveying a sense of dignity and importance to the core role played by jurors. The assembly room presents problems in seating and acoustics. Certainly theatre seating can accommodate large numbers of people, but group seating is often more comfortable insofar as allowing jurors work areas or areas for small groups to communicate socially. Within the general space allocation for the juror lounge, a separate quiet room or work/study space should be provided. Audio/video feeds and multiple viewing stations within the juror lounge can facilitate effective juror orientation without having all the jurors sitting theatre style.

The jury assembly area should be located near the main court entrance as well as near vertical circulation. The entrance to the jury area should be immediately identifiable and accessible from public corridors. Circulation for jurors who have been impaneled should be planned as well.

#### **D. Court Operational Space**

- **Place High Use Administrative Functions Lower in the Courthouse**

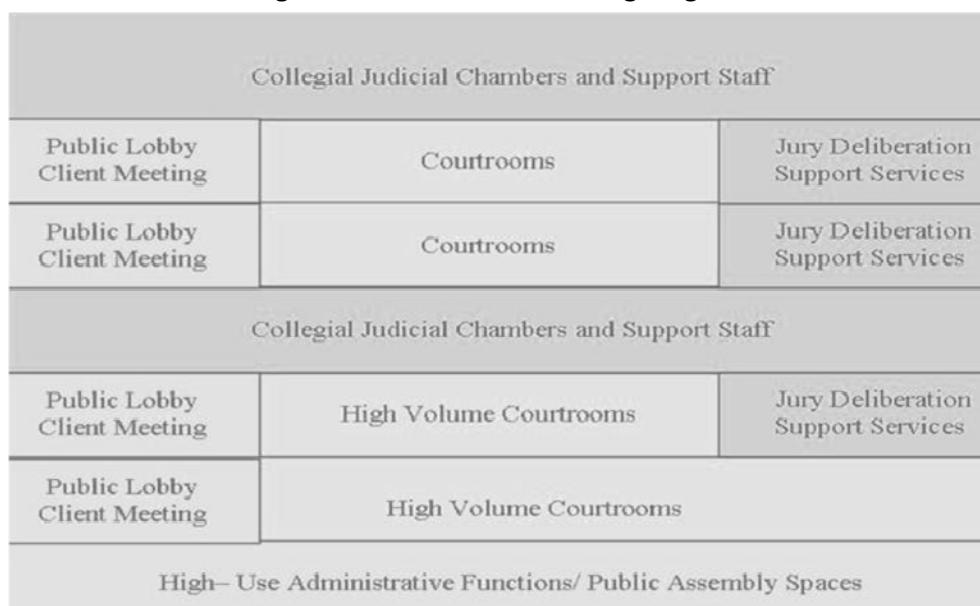
Courthouse organization is segregated both horizontally and vertically. High-volume public spaces and services are typically located on the lower floors directly adjacent to the public lobby. Currently, filing, fine/fee payments, and court records access is on the first floor and the court's administrative and calendaring offices are on the second floor along with the presiding judge's administrative courtroom where master calendar cases are assigned daily. This is an effective spatial arrangement commonplace in many trial courts. Functions requiring less public contact, including courtrooms, court administration, and judges' chambers should be located on

---

<sup>5</sup> See National Center CourTool Measure 8, Effective Use of Jurors. Trial courts should strive to minimize the number of unused prospective jurors; the number of citizens who are summoned, qualified and report for jury service – the yield – and who report to the courtroom – the utilization rate – and are not voir dired.

upper floors. The following figure diagrams a typical stacking arrangement for multi-story court facilities

**Figure 12: Courthouse Stacking Diagram**



Office layouts, public/attorney/litigant waiting areas, counter and transaction interfaces, and business process efficiencies could certainly improve through space redesign efforts, however. In doing so, walk-in, phone and Internet traffic patterns should be assessed. Electronic filing and web-based fee/fine payment capabilities will likely grow in the future. Many courts are proactively encouraging customer contact via the Internet by taking aggressive actions to update and revamp court websites as more useful and efficient ways to interact with the court.<sup>6</sup> To the extent court leaders can encourage the state Judicial Branch to move in this direction, since it is driving the advance of technology in Oregon trial courts, would be helpful.

- **Intensify, as Possible, Modern Records Management Plans and Actions**

The physical system for storing and retrieving documents for cases is substantial and has outgrown the courthouse facility. A strategic plan for the movement of paper files and records to more appropriate archival mediums (scanned, microfilmed, etc.) where they cannot be destroyed is necessary.

Today, court documents are grouped in the files by case descriptors. Paper case files are heavily used; no judicial proceedings are conducted without the file. There is a great movement of records within the building and to the outlying facilities to link the file with the scheduled proceeding. Currently all files are maintained under the control of the File Room staff. The

<sup>6</sup> See the article "Usability is Free: Improving Efficiency by Making the Court More User Friendly," by John A. Clarke and Bryan D. Borys, pp. 76-81, Future Trends in State Courts: 2011, National Center for State Courts, Williamsburg, VA. (2011).

exception to this is that the current active files for probate proceedings, juvenile proceedings, and small claims and FED (landlord-tenant matters) are kept by the clerical staff with responsibility for calendaring and data entry for those cases. With the exception of Small Claims and FEDs, when these current files reach disposition they are forwarded to the File Room for archival storage. Currently, the main file room and the Historic County Courthouse basement are at maximum for file storage. There are two off-site storage areas and the Court operates a shuttle to them on a daily basis. For files in the off-site locations, there is usually a one-day turn around to bring a file into the courthouse. Small Claims and FEDs are managed in a paperless environment where no paper files are maintained; all documents are scanned, boxed, and held for destruction. All other archived court files should be targeted for scanning pending available funds and staff.

- **Downsize Physical Book Storage and Re-purpose the Law Library Space**

Many trial courts are moving away from housing sizeable legal book collections in courthouse law libraries and transitioning instead to electronic legal research capacities that require significantly less space. In the process, released library space can be reclaimed for more critical trial court functions including courtrooms or office space.

Nationwide, courthouse law libraries are undergoing dramatic change. Traditionally, law libraries had large service desks, massive book collections, and were principally used by attorneys and law clerks for legal research. Today, most public and law libraries provide Internet access. Patrons can download, store, organize, and access books, appellate cases, and legal materials electronically creating a seismic shift in library services. This digital shift has transformed the book industry and with it, legal research. The rise of e-books and research materials in American legal culture is part of a larger story about a change from printed to digital data. Using a broader definition of e-content, a survey by the Pew Research Center's Internet and American Life Project in December 2011, reported that 43% of Americans age 16 and older said they have either read an e-book in the past year or have read other long-form content such as magazines, journals, news articles, and research documents in digital format on an e-book reader, tablet computer, regular computer (laptop or desktop), or cell phone. It is speculated by the NCSC project team that the percentage of lawyers and judges is much higher than 43%.

Resultantly, many law libraries are redefining their role as information hubs for self-represented litigants, digital sites for lawyers to obtain legal data (i.e. Lexis, Westlaw), public information locations to access legal/judicial processes and programs, and conference facilities for attorney/client and ADR/client interactions. This is the direction the Historic County Courthouse library should follow.

- **Relocate Traffic, Parking, Landlord/Tenant Cases Outside the Courthouse**

High volume limited jurisdiction matters, namely misdemeanors and small claims matters will soon (May 2012) move to the new East County Courthouse provided state Judicial Branch funding for staff, furniture, fixtures and equipment can be obtained. Strategically, it would be prudent to eventually move other numerous, short-cause, non-jury cases from the Historic County Courthouse, including traffic, parking, and landlord/tenant matters.

Trial courts adjudicate and decide these cases differently than they do felony, general civil, and family cases. Management and case processing procedures are different as well targeting the delivery of justice to large numbers of people in relatively routine matters. Facts are clear and rapidly established. Proceedings are informal. Stakes are low and the Court's primary objective is to apply the law expeditiously and move on to the next case. Speed in the disposition of a case is a highly valued virtue. A common sense approach to case disposition reigns. The sentences and financial awards which can be imposed tend to be limited. Often, dispositional orders are either temporary or subject to automatic review.

Rules and procedures are usually simple and easy to understand by non-lawyers. Many litigants are self-represented. The public view of these courts is that they often sacrifice fairness for efficiency, becoming in the process, revenue-generating or bill-collecting agencies for a city, county or state government. To ensure that processes retain a semblance of justice, the judge's role in protecting the rights and interests of the accused takes on a defining feature, separating what could be a strictly administrative tribunal from a court of law.

Rapid turnover of cases and the importance of documents outlining the issues in the case enhance the role of administrative staff. Clerical staffs predominate rather than legally trained personnel. A close partnership of administrative staff with the bench is generally evident. The judge has an active role characterized by aggressively managing case processing in the courtroom.

Many cases are handled administratively by non-judicial staff according to a pre-determined decisional formula with little or no supervision by the judges. In some instances, senior non-lawyer employees act as hearing officers and dispose of routine matters without an appearance before a judge.

The need for support in processing paper work or people, and identifying facts/charges is not a function of volume (total case load), but rather of rapid turnover in cases. Even in rural areas which have few cases, the hearings are brief and require a steady movement of files.

The litigant (customer) is the primary client, not lawyers. There are few buffers between the Court and the litigant in the image of a "people's court." These types of courts often struggle to remain free of undue influence by prosecutors and law enforcement. Although, where the Court is tightly tied to a state Judicial Branch through governance and funding as it is in Multnomah County, that influence is greatly mollified.

Those who see justice compromised in decisional adjudication are typically holding it to the standards of procedural adjudication. To do so is unfair and unrealistic. The simpler proceeding is sometimes confused with disregard for due process because judges may take a more active role in all phases of the adjudicatory process even when lawyers are present. In fact, since many of the attorneys appearing in a decisional adjudication court are handling a high volume of cases themselves, the judge may be the only guarantee of real fairness in the proceedings by assuring that the lawyers have not overlooked a critical issue.

These types of cases generally require judicial officers to take a more active role in all phases of the adjudicatory process even when lawyers are present to help establish the facts of a case, monitor proceedings, and ensure a record is made of the matter (where records are required). In fact, since many attorneys appearing in these matters handle high volumes of cases themselves, the judge may be the only real guarantee of fairness in the proceedings by assuring the lawyers have not overlooked a critical issue. In misdemeanor and traffic matters where the state is represented by a lawyer and many litigants are not, judicial officers must be even more watchful to ensure procedural fairness and a balanced playing field exists. It is common to portray judicial officers in these settings as intoxicated by the power their position gives them. Many judges handling these limited jurisdiction case types, however, are uncomfortable with the proactive responsibility required of them, much preferring that lawyers be present so role confusion is lessened.

## VII. Facility Planning Principles

As a means of guiding development of future facilities for the Court, facility planning principles were developed based upon future court system growth expectations, operational considerations, functional space needs, as well as accepted planning standards and precedents seen around the country in similar jurisdiction court operations and courthouse designs. The following planning requirements are a response to both the functional/operational assessments and physical assessments conducted for this project and describe the overall programming concepts and goals, future functional space requirements and planning considerations.

### A. Future Court Facility Planning Concepts and Goals

The various court facilities should serve the citizens of Multnomah County for many years. In consideration of the present and future needs of the Court and the citizens of Multnomah County, the court facilities should be designed to address the following goals:

1. To convey an image of dignity and solemnity and a sense that the facility is one in which justice is done.<sup>7</sup>
2. To represent careful thought and consideration of the Court's operational and spatial needs.
3. To maintain flexibility to accommodate both short- and long-term space needs and contribute to the effective administration of justice.
4. To offer an environment that is easily accessible to the public and user-friendly.
5. To offer a safe and secure environment for all citizens who utilize the facility as well as for the judges and court employees who work within the facility.
6. To equip all courtrooms, offices, and other functional space with advanced technologies to facilitate the efficient administration of justice and improve the quality of service to the public.

In the preparation of the future requirements of adjudication facilities, these goals are presented as follows:

**Goal 1: The court facility should be designed to convey an image of dignity and solemnity and a sense that the facility is one in which justice is done.**

- The architecture throughout the interior and exterior of the court facility should convey the image of the judicial system: dignity, strength, respect, and a sense of importance of the judicial system in the community.
- The appearance and ambiance of the courtrooms should be dignified and business-like. Consideration should be given to proper sight lines, acoustics, lighting, properly functioning heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems.

---

<sup>7</sup> See American Bar Association, Judicial Administration Division, *Standards Relating to Trial Courts* § 2.46 (1990).

- The selection of finishes should be made with a view to the future. The materials selected should be functional and durable for use over time and should contribute to the overall image of dignity and institutional permanence.
- The architecture should represent an expression that is responsive to local context, geography, climate, culture, and history, and should improve and enrich the site and community in which the facility is located.

**Goal 2: The architecture should represent careful thought and consideration of the Court's operational and spatial needs.**

- The spaces should promote efficient operation of the Court with consideration to workflow, adjacencies, and proper zoning of functions.
- The architecture should promote streamlined communication and interaction between justice partners involved with the Court and result in more efficient processing of cases.
- The Court's jury assembly function should be located in a dedicated area easily accessible to both the public and court employees. The jury area may serve as a flexible space for a large staff meeting or training room when not in use by jurors.

**Goal 3: The court facility should maintain flexibility to accommodate both short- and long-term space needs and contribute to the effective administration of justice.**

- The design should provide for flexibility to anticipate future changes and enhance building longevity.
- Provisions for future expansion of the court system should exist including additional space for courtrooms, chambers and support spaces.
- Courtrooms, hearing rooms, and ancillary spaces should be constructed to accommodate a broad range of growth or policy changes by the Court in order to enhance the facility's flexibility and long-term usefulness.
- Judges' chambers should not be immediately attached to the courtrooms to allow adjudication space to be utilized by multiple judges if necessary. However, in order to promote easy movement between offices and courtrooms, chambers and courtrooms should be located in close proximity.

**Goal 4: The court facility should offer an environment that is user-friendly and easily accessible to the public.**

- The court facility should be a barrier-free, accessible facility in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act Title II requirements for governmental facilities.
- A simple and clearly displayed public directory and signage system should be provided so visitors are able to find their way around the courthouse easily. The layout of spaces should

be designed for simplicity so that way-finding throughout the facility is readily apparent. The use of architectural features to serve as landmarks and the provision of exterior views are also important features to be considered to improve user orientation within the building.

- High public traffic areas should be located near the public entrance of the building so that the public visiting these offices can be served quickly.
- An easily accessible public self-service area equipped with public access computer terminals or kiosks should be provided. Clear and easy access to staff should be provided for the public to seek assistance in answering questions or preparing forms or other documents.

**Goal 5: The court facility should offer a safe and secure environment for all citizens who utilize the facility as well as for the judges and court employees who work within the facility.**

- Provide an integrated solution for security. The facility security planning should incorporate structural elements, architectural barriers, traffic pattern and access controls, weapons detection and screening, security surveillance devices, and properly trained security personnel and effective security operations planning in a balanced way. Security provisions should be cost-effective and developed with an understanding of the impact on operational costs and security staffing needs.
- Separate circulation systems should be provided for court employees and the public in the building to maintain proper security and work privacy. The facility should be organized into zones that are similar in function, operational needs, physical characteristics, or access requirements. Proper circulation and access control should be designed and provided at individual space zones to maintain an efficient and safe court environment.

The various circulations zones include:

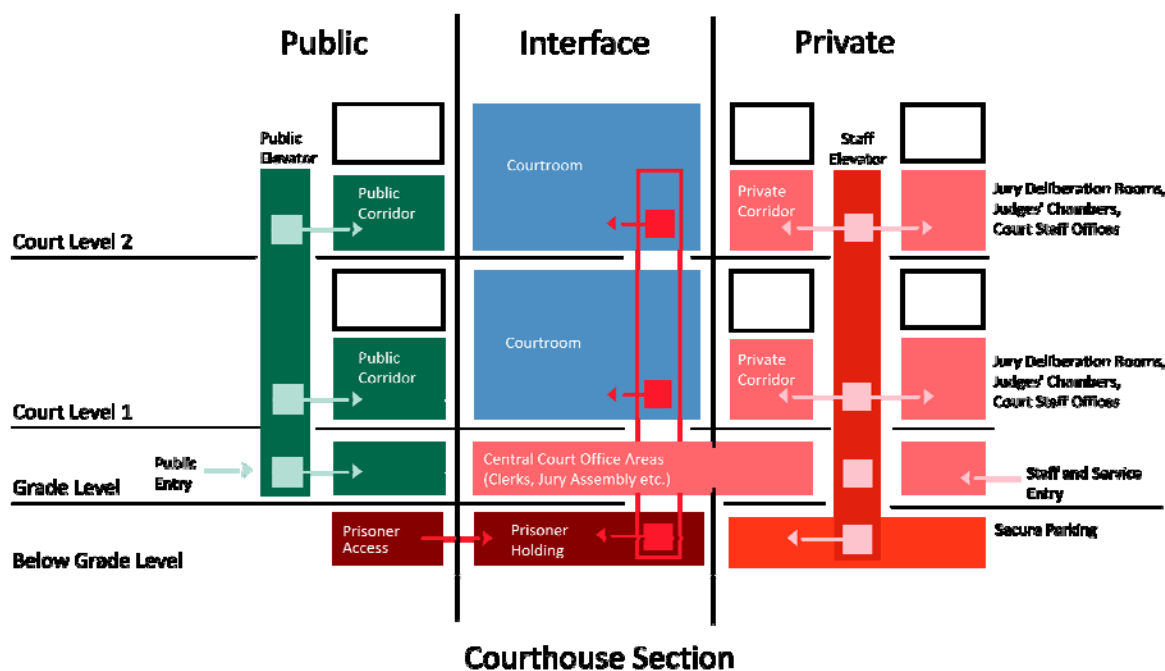
- **Public Zone:** The public circulation system provides access from the public point of entry to the controlled access points for the restricted and secure areas of the courthouse. All areas that require access by the general public should be accessible from the public circulation system including courtrooms, public counter areas and court service functions, court administration, public restrooms, public elevators, and chambers reception areas. The public circulation system also includes the public waiting areas immediately adjacent to courtrooms and attorney conference rooms. Efforts should be made to maximize natural light and views in the public lobby, waiting areas, and circulation spaces to improve the quality of the environment and to promote an image of judicial transparency. Oftentimes due to volume and/or protracted proceedings, lawyers and parties may be required to wait in hallways and alcoves. Consequently, these public spaces should provide comfortable seating, considerate levels of conversation, safety of the parties, and respect for the adjudication process.
- **Restricted Zone:** The restricted circulation corridors provide access to court staff, judges, escorted jurors, and security personnel to courtrooms, chambers, court support space, and jury deliberation rooms. Judges and court employees should be able to



move into work areas or courtrooms through private corridors and a private elevator without going through the public area.

- **Secure Zone:** On the occasion that prisoners need to appear in Court, special provisions for the escorting of in-custody persons to and from the courtrooms should be made. For the purposes facilities planning criteria, a secured prisoner circulation system should be designed. Within the secure zone, sight and sound separation of different in-custody populations (adult male and female) should be provided and the design of these areas should prohibit unauthorized access by the public and escape by persons in custody.
- **Interface Zone (Courtrooms):** The interface zone is the focus of all court facilities and is the destination for judges, court support staff, jurors, attorneys, witnesses, and public spectators to conduct their business in a formal courtroom setting. Access to the courtrooms should be carefully considered and planned as separate entrance approaches need to be provided for all the participants listed above. The following figure diagrams the circulation zones through a multi-story building.

Figure 13: Courthouse Section



- Security in the facility should be visible but not obtrusive. The image of the Court should convey an open and transparent judicial process while simultaneously promoting a sense of safety for all building occupants. Visitors should be aware of security controls and the presence of uniformed security personnel. Security equipment and systems are important parts of appropriate design; however, their presence in the facility should not unduly conflict with the efficient operation of the Court or compromise the citizen's perception of a fair and open judicial process.

- A shared staff and public entrance point should be provided to reduce operational screening requirements. An additional entry point may be provided for inconspicuous access for judges. Protected pathways from the judges' secure parking area to judges' chambers should be provided.
- Adequate space should be provided at the main entrance for queuing of court visitors with special attention to problems caused by extreme weather. The design should allow fast and efficient processing of those entering the court facility through a main entrance where security staff use a magnetometer and an x-ray scanner to screen for weapons and contraband. After clearing the checkpoint, visitors should enter into a larger area (lobby) of the building to allow people to become oriented for way-finding purposes.
- Building systems should be designed and maintained to protect public health and life safety, as well as provide direct egress routes for rapid and safe evacuation of building occupants to the outside in cases of an emergency.
- Accommodations should be made for the installation of security surveillance and monitoring systems throughout all facilities. These systems should be controlled through a central security command station and should be connected at all times to a law enforcement remote dispatch function.
- The building design should incorporate building security and operational considerations for having programs and activities held in the building during non-regular business hours.

**Goal 6: The court facility, including all courtrooms, offices, and other functional space, should be equipped with advanced technologies to facilitate the efficient administration of justice and improve the quality of service to the public.**

- The facility should be designed with provisions for the extensive use of computerized, advanced technologies at all functional areas for efficient operations and a secure work environment.
- Provisions for video/audio recording technologies should be planned and pre-wired in all courtrooms and hearing rooms to provide a convenient, accurate record of court proceedings, requiring a minimum of human intervention.
- The facility should be planned for video arraignment technology to arraign in-custody defendants more efficiently. Video arraignments have the potential to reduce length of detention stays and also reduce prisoner transportation and improve courthouse security.
- Video arraignment technology should be incorporated into the design of one of the courtrooms and be linked to the police department's communications network (and Multnomah County government's communications network, as feasible). The location of the cameras, video monitors for the respective participants, and the public should be planned.
- Computerized evidence display capabilities should be provided and integrated in the courtroom audio/video system.

- Security surveillance cameras should be installed in courtrooms, hearing rooms, access control locations, and secure parking areas. Court security should be monitored and managed by the Court's designated security personnel.
- Document imaging technology should be available throughout the facility to reduce paper circulation and storage requirements, improve record dissemination, and facilitate effective information sharing.
- The general public should be able to access court services through the use of telecommunications and self-service information display technology. Public information and public access terminals should be provided in the public lobby or at the public self-service center for the public to access court information. The facility should be designed with provision to allow public access to court information and services remotely through web portals.

## Appendices

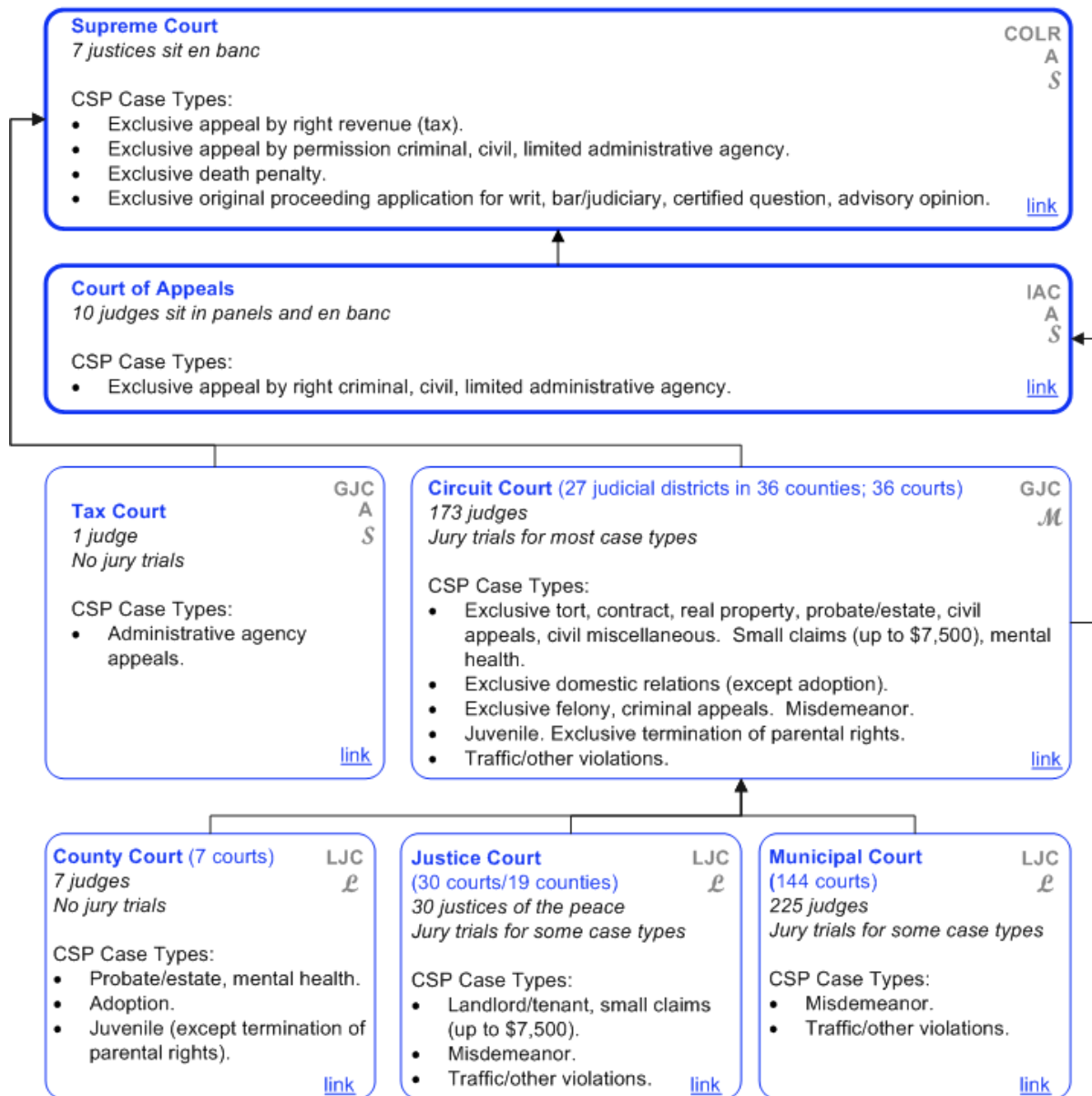
---

## Appendix A - Judiciary Organization

---

# Oregon

(Court structure as of Calendar Year 2009)



Note: Effective January 15, 1998 all District Courts were eliminated and District judges became Circuit judges.

AOC Web site:

[www.courts.oregon.gov/OJD/courts/index.page](http://www.courts.oregon.gov/OJD/courts/index.page)

## Legend

  = Appellate level  
  = Trial level

COLR = Court of Last Resort  
 IAC = Intermediate Appellate Court  
 GJC = General Jurisdiction Court  
 LJC = Limited Jurisdiction Court

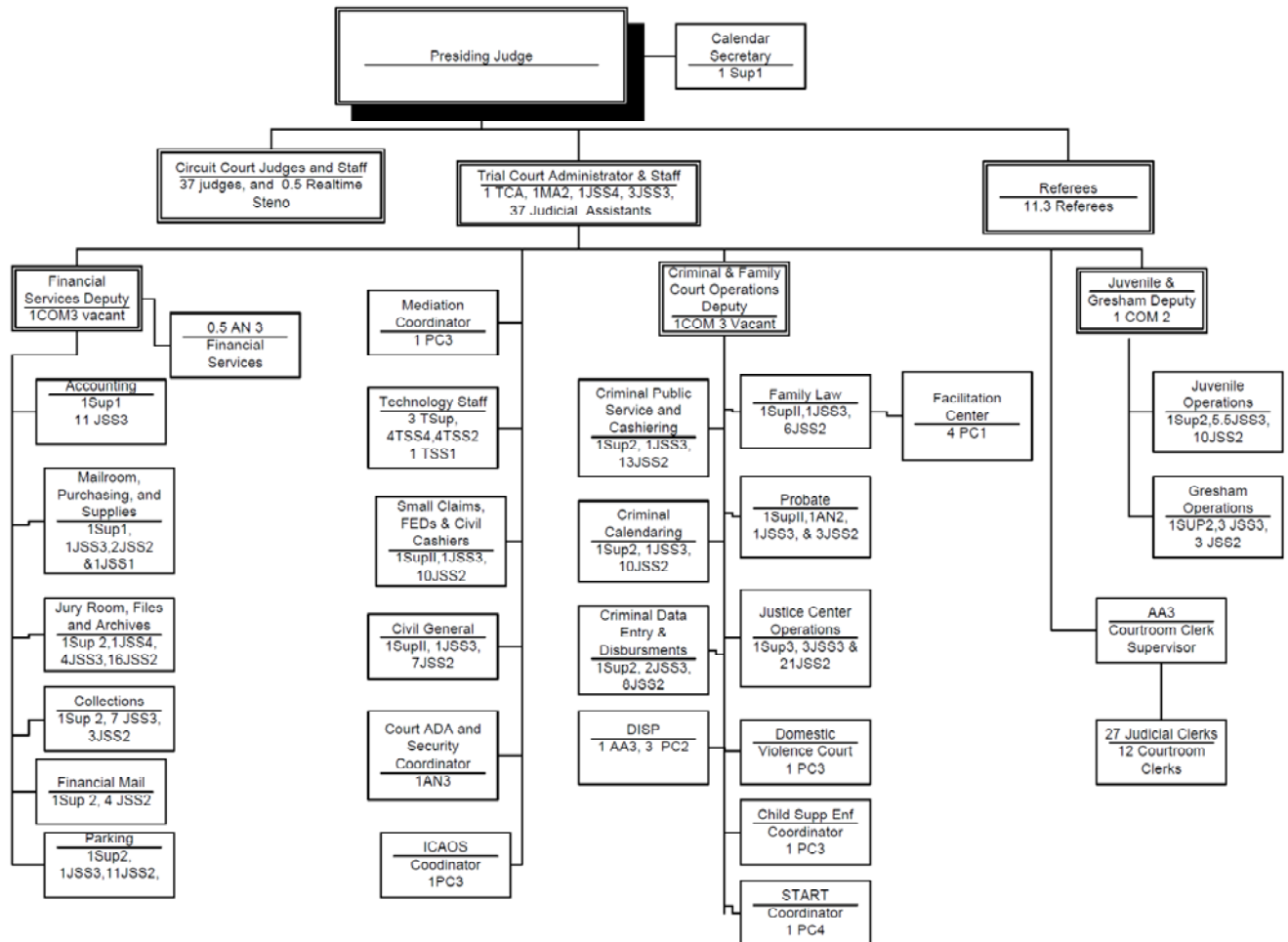
A = Appeal from Admin. Agency  
 S = State funded  
 L = Locally funded  
 M = Mixed: state and locally funded

↑ = Route of appeal

## Appendix B – Fourth Judicial District Organization

## Fourth Judicial District Organization

January 1, 2012

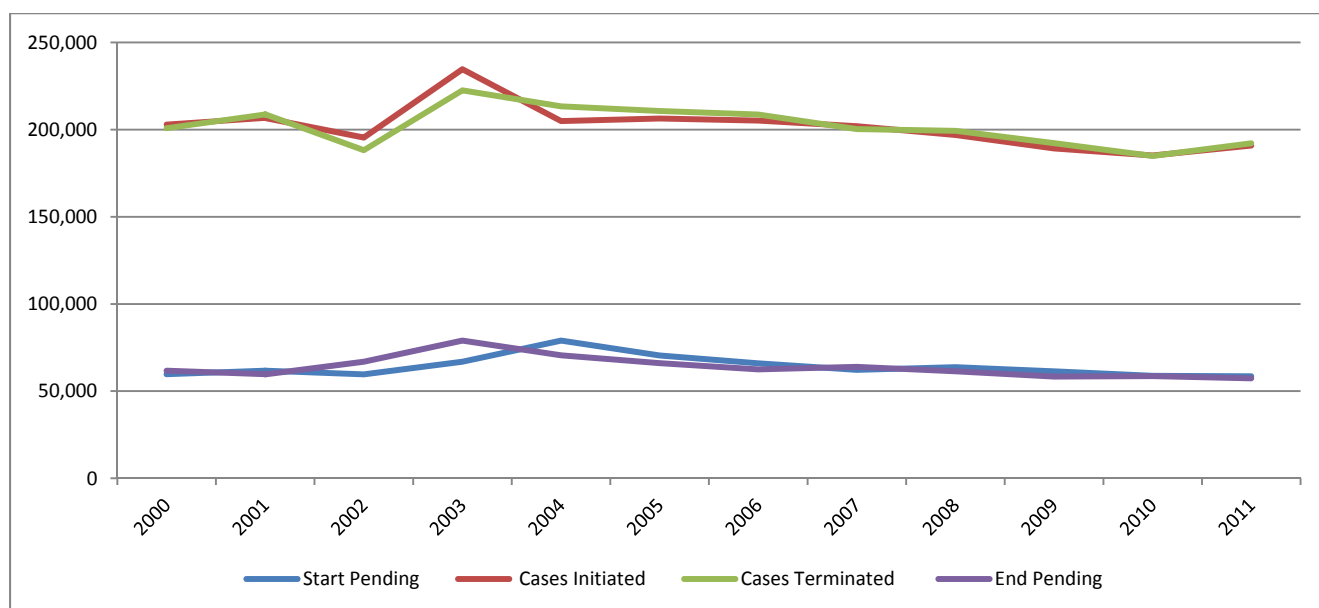


\*Note: Since the publication of this organizational chart, the Court has further reduced clerical staff positions due to budgetary restrictions. Total judgeship and referee counts however were not affected.

## Appendix C – Total Case Filings

**Total New Case Filings by Case Category**

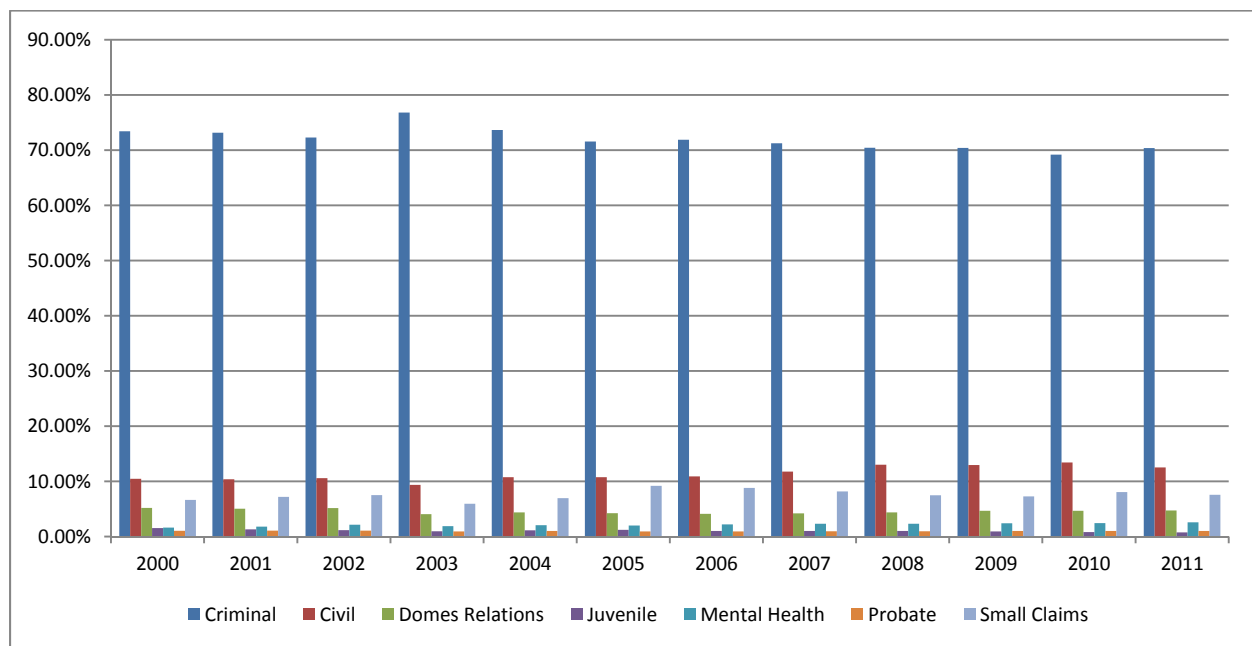
| <u>Year</u> | <u>Criminal</u> | <u>Civil</u> | <u>Domes<br/>Relations</u> | <u>Juvenile</u> | <u>Mental<br/>Health</u> | <u>Probate</u> | <u>Small<br/>Claims</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| 2000        | 149,109         | 21,260       | 10,530                     | 3,120           | 3,328                    | 2,152          | 13,462                  | 202,961      |
| 2001        | 151,267         | 21,494       | 10,455                     | 2,716           | 3,694                    | 2,219          | 14,865                  | 206,710      |
| 2002        | 141,358         | 20,695       | 10,105                     | 2,277           | 4,224                    | 2,113          | 14,678                  | 195,450      |
| 2003        | 180,310         | 21,958       | 9,557                      | 2,265           | 4,436                    | 2,157          | 13,932                  | 234,615      |
| 2004        | 150,976         | 22,032       | 9,002                      | 2,332           | 4,218                    | 2,090          | 14,269                  | 204,919      |
| 2005        | 147,812         | 22,226       | 8,763                      | 2,505           | 4,129                    | 1,944          | 18,987                  | 206,366      |
| 2006        | 147,691         | 22,359       | 8,448                      | 2,080           | 4,546                    | 1,908          | 18,125                  | 205,157      |
| 2007        | 144,341         | 23,814       | 8,538                      | 2,064           | 4,711                    | 1,965          | 16,581                  | 202,014      |
| 2008        | 139,179         | 25,757       | 8,651                      | 2,037           | 4,580                    | 1,924          | 14,794                  | 196,922      |
| 2009        | 133,708         | 24,591       | 8,851                      | 1,768           | 4,556                    | 1,921          | 13,824                  | 189,219      |
| 2010        | 128,591         | 24,948       | 8,707                      | 1,515           | 4,549                    | 1,904          | 14,965                  | 185,179      |
| 2011        | 134,912         | 24,021       | 9,081                      | 1,436           | 4,967                    | 1,968          | 14,533                  | 190,918      |





**Percent of Total New Filings by Case Category**

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Criminal</b> | <b>Civil</b> | <b>Domes<br/>Relations</b> | <b>Juvenile</b> | <b>Mental<br/>Health</b> | <b>Probate</b> | <b>Small<br/>Claims</b> |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 2000        | 73.44%          | 10.47%       | 5.19%                      | 1.54%           | 1.64%                    | 1.06%          | 6.63%                   |
| 2001        | 73.16%          | 10.39%       | 5.06%                      | 1.31%           | 1.79%                    | 1.07%          | 7.19%                   |
| 2002        | 72.30%          | 10.58%       | 5.17%                      | 1.16%           | 2.16%                    | 1.08%          | 7.51%                   |
| 2003        | 76.83%          | 9.36%        | 4.07%                      | 0.97%           | 1.89%                    | 0.92%          | 5.94%                   |
| 2004        | 73.65%          | 10.75%       | 4.39%                      | 1.14%           | 2.06%                    | 1.02%          | 6.96%                   |
| 2005        | 71.57%          | 10.76%       | 4.24%                      | 1.21%           | 2.00%                    | 0.94%          | 9.19%                   |
| 2006        | 71.90%          | 10.89%       | 4.11%                      | 1.01%           | 2.21%                    | 0.93%          | 8.82%                   |
| 2007        | 71.25%          | 11.76%       | 4.21%                      | 1.02%           | 2.33%                    | 0.97%          | 8.19%                   |
| 2008        | 70.43%          | 13.03%       | 4.38%                      | 1.03%           | 2.32%                    | 0.97%          | 7.49%                   |
| 2009        | 70.41%          | 12.95%       | 4.66%                      | 0.93%           | 2.40%                    | 1.01%          | 7.28%                   |
| 2010        | 69.19%          | 13.42%       | 4.68%                      | 0.82%           | 2.45%                    | 1.02%          | 8.05%                   |
| 2011        | 70.40%          | 12.53%       | 4.74%                      | 0.75%           | 2.59%                    | 1.03%          | 7.58%                   |

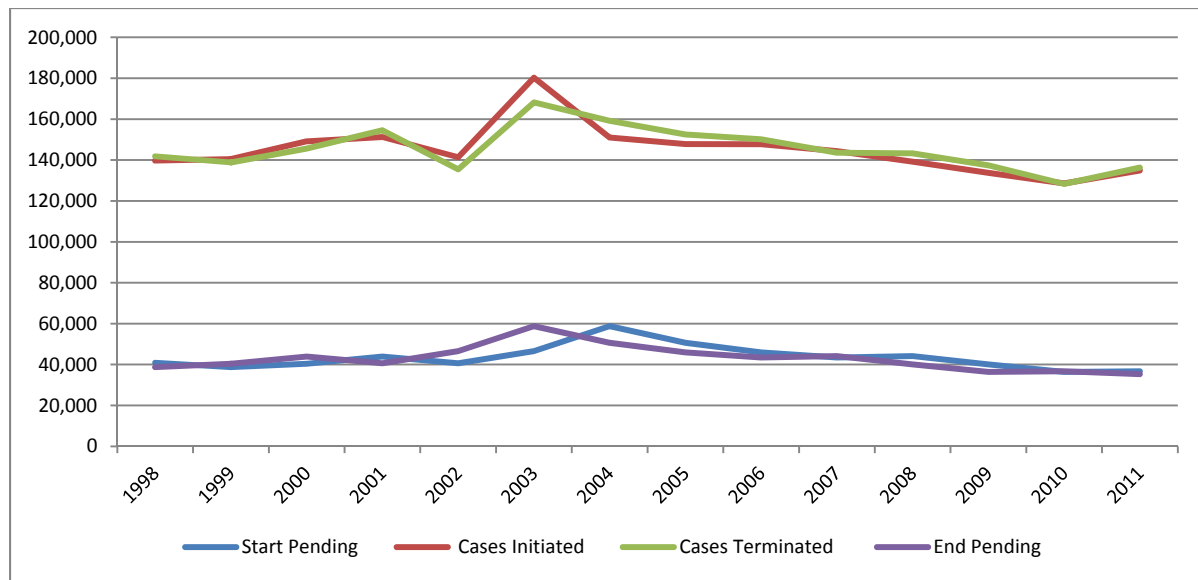


## Appendix D –Case Filings by Case Category

### Criminal Case Filings

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Total<br/>Start<br/>Pending</u> | <u>Total<br/>Cases<br/>Initiated</u> | <u>Total Cases<br/>Terminated</u> | <u>Total<br/>End<br/>Pending</u> |
|-------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2000        | 40,358                             | 149,109                              | 145,590                           | 43,877                           |
| 2001        | 43,877                             | 151,267                              | 154,508                           | 40,636                           |
| 2002        | 40,636                             | 141,358                              | 135,410                           | 46,584                           |
| 2003        | 46,584                             | 180,310                              | 168,119                           | 58,775                           |
| 2004        | 58,775                             | 150,976                              | 159,132                           | 50,619                           |
| 2005        | 50,619                             | 147,812                              | 152,527                           | 45,904                           |
| 2006        | 45,904                             | 147,691                              | 150,188                           | 43,407                           |
| 2007        | 43,407                             | 144,341                              | 143,595                           | 44,153                           |
| 2008        | 44,153                             | 139,179                              | 143,228                           | 40,104                           |
| 2009        | 40,104                             | 133,708                              | 137,424                           | 36,388                           |
| 2010        | 36,388                             | 128,591                              | 128,296                           | 36,683                           |
| 2011        | 36,683                             | 134,912                              | 136,322                           | 35,273                           |

| <u>Percent<br/>Terminated</u> | <u>Percent<br/>Start<br/>Pending</u> | <u>Percent<br/>End<br/>Pending</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 97.64%                        | 27.07%                               | 29.43%                             |
| 102.14%                       | 29.01%                               | 26.86%                             |
| 95.79%                        | 28.75%                               | 32.95%                             |
| 93.24%                        | 25.84%                               | 32.60%                             |
| 105.40%                       | 38.93%                               | 33.53%                             |
| 103.19%                       | 34.25%                               | 31.06%                             |
| 101.69%                       | 31.08%                               | 29.39%                             |
| 99.48%                        | 30.07%                               | 30.59%                             |
| 102.91%                       | 31.72%                               | 28.81%                             |
| 102.78%                       | 29.99%                               | 27.21%                             |
| 99.77%                        | 28.30%                               | 28.53%                             |
| 101.05%                       | 27.19%                               | 25.87%                             |



## Criminal Case Filings By Case Type

## Total Initiated Cases

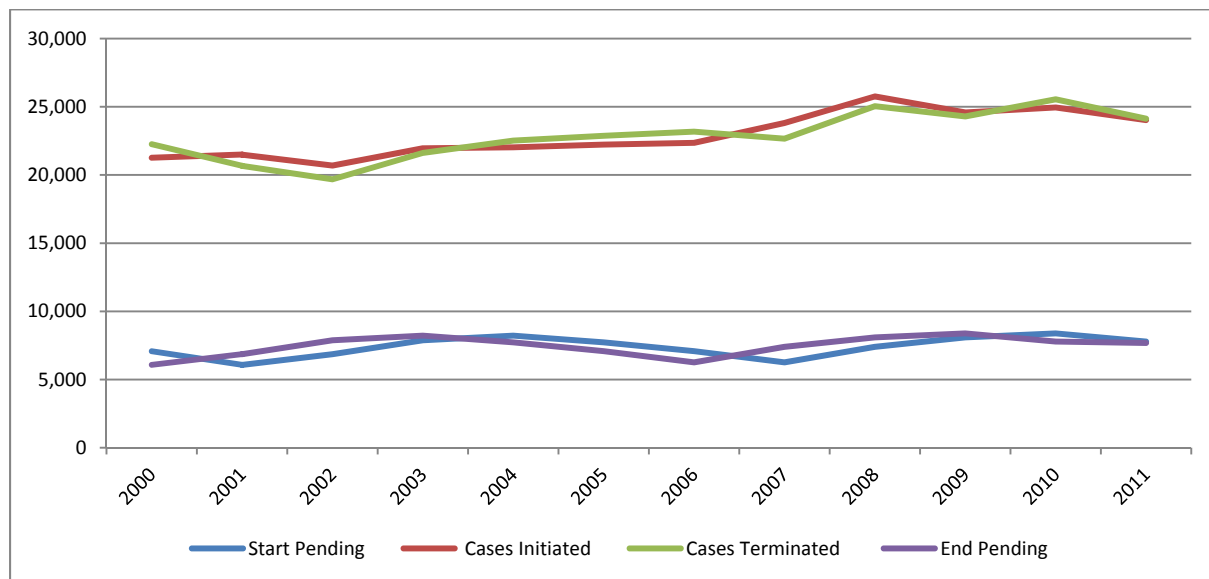
| <u>Year</u> | <u>Extradition</u> | <u>Felony</u> | <u>Infraction</u> | <u>Misdemeanor</u> | <u>Violation</u> |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 2000        | *                  | 7,812         | 7,164             | 13,216             | 120,916          |
| 2001        | 951                | 6,986         | 854               | 12,119             | 130,357          |
| 2002        | 496                | 6,750         | 28                | 17,575             | 116,509          |
| 2003        | 446                | 6,109         | 34                | 23,737             | 149,984          |
| 2004        | 417                | 6,578         | 44                | 20,062             | 123,875          |
| 2005        | 409                | 7,417         | 26                | 18,298             | 121,662          |
| 2006        | 392                | 7,394         | 24                | 19,139             | 120,742          |
| 2007        | 344                | 6,349         | 18                | 18,276             | 119,354          |
| 2008        | 340                | 5,626         | 15                | 18,699             | 114,499          |
| 2009        | 304                | 4,900         | 12                | 19,049             | 109,443          |
| 2010        | 303                | 4,839         | 11                | 16,947             | 106,491          |
| 2011        | 297                | 5,187         | 11                | 15,827             | 113,590          |

\* Not available

## Civil Case Filings (Excluding Small Claims)

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Start Pending</u> | <u>Cases Initiated</u> | <u>Cases Terminated</u> | <u>End Pending</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 2000        | 7,068                | 21,260                 | 22,257                  | 6,071              |
| 2001        | 6,071                | 21,494                 | 20,674                  | 6,861              |
| 2002        | 6,861                | 20,695                 | 19,685                  | 7,871              |
| 2003        | 7,871                | 21,958                 | 21,614                  | 8,215              |
| 2004        | 8,215                | 22,032                 | 22,526                  | 7,721              |
| 2005        | 7,721                | 22,226                 | 22,870                  | 7,077              |
| 2006        | 7,077                | 22,359                 | 23,181                  | 6,255              |
| 2007        | 6,255                | 23,814                 | 22,669                  | 7,400              |
| 2008        | 7,400                | 25,757                 | 25,040                  | 8,087              |
| 2009        | 8,087                | 24,591                 | 24,291                  | 8,387              |
| 2010        | 8,387                | 24,948                 | 25,547                  | 7,788              |
| 2011        | 7,788                | 24,021                 | 24,130                  | 7,679              |

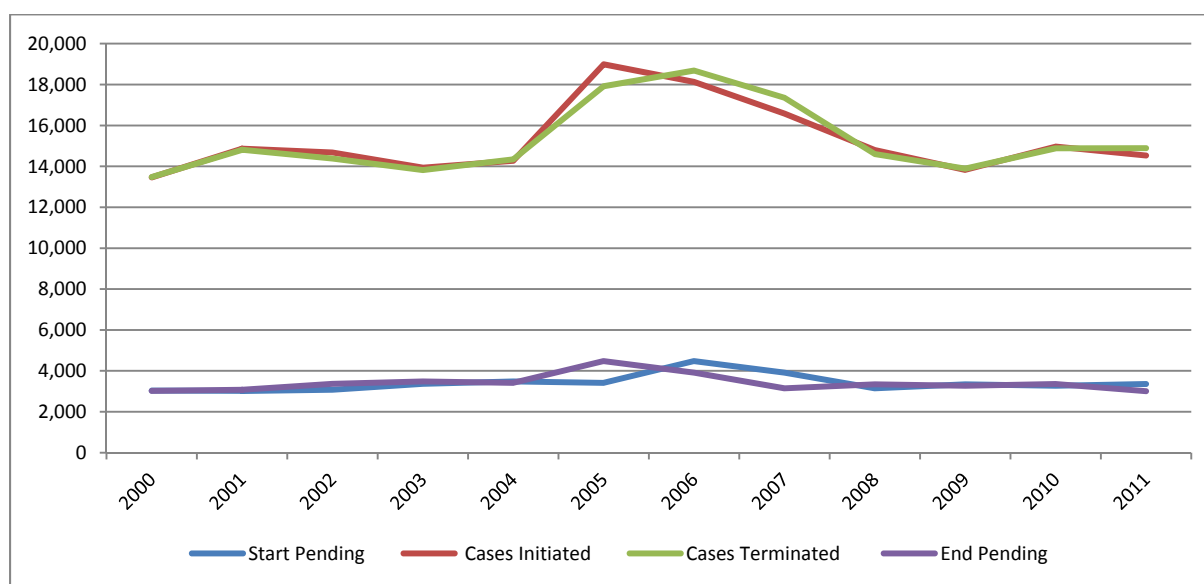
| <u>Percent Terminated</u> | <u>Percent Start Pending</u> | <u>Percent End Pending</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 104.69%                   | 33.25%                       | 28.56%                     |
| 96.18%                    | 28.25%                       | 31.92%                     |
| 95.12%                    | 33.15%                       | 38.03%                     |
| 98.43%                    | 35.85%                       | 37.41%                     |
| 102.24%                   | 37.29%                       | 35.04%                     |
| 102.90%                   | 34.74%                       | 31.84%                     |
| 103.68%                   | 31.65%                       | 27.98%                     |
| 95.19%                    | 26.27%                       | 31.07%                     |
| 97.22%                    | 28.73%                       | 31.40%                     |
| 98.78%                    | 32.89%                       | 34.11%                     |
| 102.40%                   | 33.62%                       | 31.22%                     |
| 100.45%                   | 32.42%                       | 31.82%                     |



## Civil – Small Claims Case Filings

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Start Pending</u> | <u>Cases Initiated</u> | <u>Cases Terminated</u> | <u>End Pending</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 2000        | 3,036                | 13,462                 | 13,481                  | 3,017              |
| 2001        | 3,017                | 14,865                 | 14,809                  | 3,073              |
| 2002        | 3,073                | 14,678                 | 14,382                  | 3,369              |
| 2003        | 3,369                | 13,932                 | 13,816                  | 3,485              |
| 2004        | 3,485                | 14,269                 | 14,343                  | 3,411              |
| 2005        | 3,411                | 18,987                 | 17,921                  | 4,477              |
| 2006        | 4,477                | 18,125                 | 18,685                  | 3,917              |
| 2007        | 3,917                | 16,581                 | 17,351                  | 3,147              |
| 2008        | 3,147                | 14,794                 | 14,599                  | 3,342              |
| 2009        | 3,342                | 13,824                 | 13,892                  | 3,274              |
| 2010        | 3,274                | 14,965                 | 14,880                  | 3,359              |
| 2011        | 3,359                | 14,533                 | 14,889                  | 3,003              |

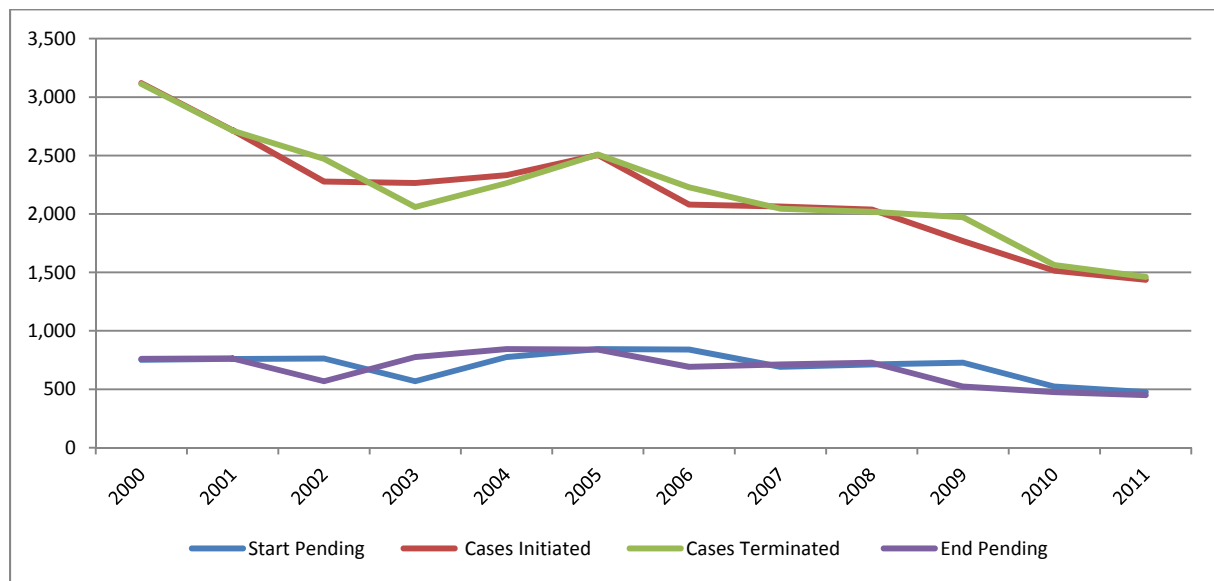
| <u>Percent Terminated</u> | <u>Percent Start Pending</u> | <u>Percent End Pending</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 100.14%                   | 22.55%                       | 22.41%                     |
| 99.62%                    | 20.30%                       | 20.67%                     |
| 97.98%                    | 20.94%                       | 22.95%                     |
| 99.17%                    | 24.18%                       | 25.01%                     |
| 100.52%                   | 24.42%                       | 23.90%                     |
| 94.39%                    | 17.96%                       | 23.58%                     |
| 103.09%                   | 24.70%                       | 21.61%                     |
| 104.64%                   | 23.62%                       | 18.98%                     |
| 98.68%                    | 21.27%                       | 22.59%                     |
| 100.49%                   | 24.18%                       | 23.68%                     |
| 99.43%                    | 21.88%                       | 22.45%                     |
| 102.45%                   | 23.11%                       | 20.17%                     |



## Juvenile Case Filings

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Start Pending</u> | <u>Cases Initiated</u> | <u>Cases Terminated</u> | <u>End Pending</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 2000        | 751                  | 3,120                  | 3,112                   | 759                |
| 2001        | 759                  | 2,716                  | 2,712                   | 763                |
| 2002        | 763                  | 2,277                  | 2,471                   | 569                |
| 2003        | 569                  | 2,265                  | 2,059                   | 775                |
| 2004        | 775                  | 2,332                  | 2,264                   | 843                |
| 2005        | 843                  | 2,505                  | 2,508                   | 840                |
| 2006        | 840                  | 2,080                  | 2,228                   | 692                |
| 2007        | 692                  | 2,064                  | 2,044                   | 712                |
| 2008        | 712                  | 2,037                  | 2,019                   | 727                |
| 2009        | 727                  | 1,768                  | 1,972                   | 523                |
| 2010        | 523                  | 1,515                  | 1,563                   | 475                |
| 2011        | 475                  | 1,436                  | 1,461                   | 450                |

| <u>Percent Terminated</u> | <u>Percent Start Pending</u> | <u>Percent End Pending</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 99.74%                    | 24.07%                       | 24.33%                     |
| 99.85%                    | 27.95%                       | 28.09%                     |
| 108.52%                   | 33.51%                       | 24.99%                     |
| 90.91%                    | 25.12%                       | 34.22%                     |
| 97.08%                    | 33.23%                       | 36.15%                     |
| 100.12%                   | 33.65%                       | 33.53%                     |
| 107.12%                   | 40.38%                       | 33.27%                     |
| 99.03%                    | 33.53%                       | 34.50%                     |
| 99.12%                    | 34.95%                       | 35.69%                     |
| 111.54%                   | 41.12%                       | 29.58%                     |
| 103.17%                   | 34.52%                       | 31.35%                     |
| 101.74%                   | 33.08%                       | 30.80%                     |



## Juvenile Case Filings by Case Type

## Initiated Cases

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Delinquency:</u><br><u>Felony</u> | <u>Delinquency:</u><br><u>Misdemeanor</u> | <u>Delinquency:</u><br><u>Violation</u> | <u>Dependency</u> | <u>Determination</u> | <u>Emancipation</u> | <u>TPR</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|
| 2000        | 847                                  | 713                                       | 158                                     | 1,040             | 3                    | 6                   | 353        | 3,120        |
| 2001        | 640                                  | 573                                       | 140                                     | 1,074             | 4                    | 2                   | 283        | 2,716        |
| 2002        | 587                                  | 459                                       | 42                                      | 982               | 8                    | 6                   | 193        | 2,277        |
| 2003        | 573                                  | 302                                       | 3                                       | 1,085             | 31                   | 6                   | 265        | 2,265        |
| 2004        | 633                                  | 317                                       | 1                                       | 1,163             | 31                   | 2                   | 185        | 2,332        |
| 2005        | 661                                  | 375                                       | 2                                       | 1,174             | 50                   | 6                   | 237        | 2,505        |
| 2006        | 510                                  | 296                                       | 1                                       | 1,001             | 26                   | 6                   | 240        | 2,080        |
| 2007        | 573                                  | 280                                       | 10                                      | 941               | 20                   | 2                   | 238        | 2,064        |
| 2008        | 436                                  | 328                                       | 136                                     | 900               | 11                   | 3                   | 220        | 2,034        |
| 2009        | 410                                  | 177                                       | 74                                      | 929               | 17                   | 0                   | 161        | 1,768        |
| 2010        | 248                                  | 119                                       | 3                                       | 939               | 16                   | 1                   | 189        | 1,515        |
| 2011        | 258                                  | 153                                       | 0                                       | 822               | 18                   | 0                   | 185        | 1,436        |

## Percent of Total

| <u>Delinquency:</u><br><u>Felony</u> | <u>Delinquency:</u><br><u>Misdemeanor</u> | <u>Delinquency:</u><br><u>Violation</u> | <u>Dependency</u> | <u>Determination</u> | <u>Emancipation</u> | <u>TPR</u> |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------|
| 27.15%                               | 22.85%                                    | 5.06%                                   | 33.33%            | 0.10%                | 0.19%               | 11.31%     |
| 23.56%                               | 21.10%                                    | 5.15%                                   | 39.54%            | 0.15%                | 0.07%               | 10.42%     |
| 25.78%                               | 20.16%                                    | 1.84%                                   | 43.13%            | 0.35%                | 0.26%               | 8.48%      |
| 25.30%                               | 13.33%                                    | 0.13%                                   | 47.90%            | 1.37%                | 0.26%               | 11.70%     |
| 27.14%                               | 13.59%                                    | 0.04%                                   | 49.87%            | 1.33%                | 0.09%               | 7.93%      |
| 26.39%                               | 14.97%                                    | 0.08%                                   | 46.87%            | 2.00%                | 0.24%               | 9.46%      |
| 24.52%                               | 14.23%                                    | 0.05%                                   | 48.13%            | 1.25%                | 0.29%               | 11.54%     |
| 27.76%                               | 13.57%                                    | 0.48%                                   | 45.59%            | 0.97%                | 0.10%               | 11.53%     |
| 21.44%                               | 16.13%                                    | 6.69%                                   | 44.25%            | 0.54%                | 0.15%               | 10.82%     |
| 23.19%                               | 10.01%                                    | 4.19%                                   | 52.55%            | 0.96%                | 0.00%               | 9.11%      |
| 16.37%                               | 7.85%                                     | 0.20%                                   | 61.98%            | 1.06%                | 0.07%               | 12.48%     |
| 17.97%                               | 10.65%                                    | 0.00%                                   | 57.24%            | 1.25%                | 0.00%               | 12.88%     |

## Family Court – Total Case Filings

Cases Initiated

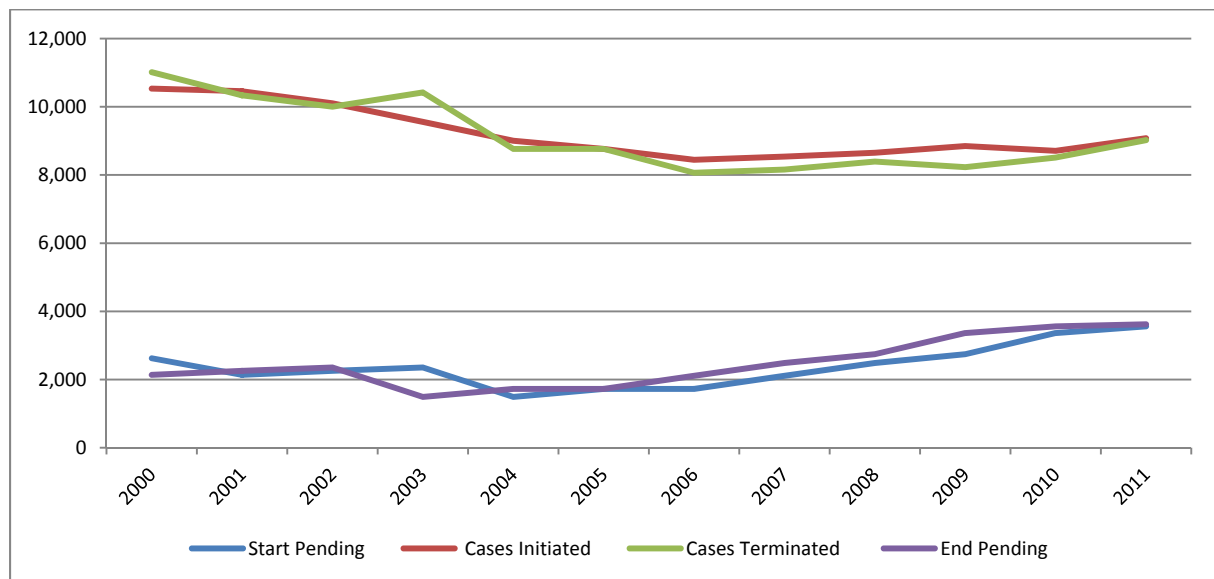
| <u>Year</u> | <u>Domes<br/>Relations</u> | <u>Mental<br/>Health</u> | <u>Probate</u> | <u>Total Family<br/>Cases</u> |
|-------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 2000        | 10,530                     | 3,328                    | 2,152          | 16,010                        |
| 2001        | 10,455                     | 3,694                    | 2,219          | 16,368                        |
| 2002        | 10,105                     | 4,224                    | 2,113          | 16,442                        |
| 2003        | 9,557                      | 4,436                    | 2,157          | 16,150                        |
| 2004        | 9,002                      | 4,218                    | 2,090          | 15,310                        |
| 2005        | 8,763                      | 4,129                    | 1,944          | 14,836                        |
| 2006        | 8,448                      | 4,546                    | 1,908          | 14,902                        |
| 2007        | 8,538                      | 4,711                    | 1,965          | 15,214                        |
| 2008        | 8,651                      | 4,580                    | 1,924          | 15,155                        |
| 2009        | 8,851                      | 4,556                    | 1,921          | 15,328                        |
| 2010        | 8,707                      | 4,549                    | 1,904          | 15,160                        |
| 2011        | 9,081                      | 4,967                    | 1,968          | 16,016                        |



## Family Court - Domestic Relations Case Filings

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Start Pending</u> | <u>Cases Initiated</u> | <u>Cases Terminated</u> | <u>End Pending</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 2000        | 2,622                | 10,530                 | 11,016                  | 2,136              |
| 2001        | 2,136                | 10,455                 | 10,337                  | 2,254              |
| 2002        | 2,254                | 10,105                 | 10,006                  | 2,353              |
| 2003        | 2,353                | 9,557                  | 10,423                  | 1,487              |
| 2004        | 1,487                | 9,002                  | 8,766                   | 1,723              |
| 2005        | 1,723                | 8,763                  | 8,763                   | 1,723              |
| 2006        | 1,723                | 8,448                  | 8,064                   | 2,107              |
| 2007        | 2,107                | 8,538                  | 8,161                   | 2,484              |
| 2008        | 2,484                | 8,651                  | 8,394                   | 2,741              |
| 2009        | 2,741                | 8,851                  | 8,231                   | 3,361              |
| 2010        | 3,361                | 8,707                  | 8,510                   | 3,558              |
| 2011        | 3,558                | 9,081                  | 9,021                   | 3,618              |

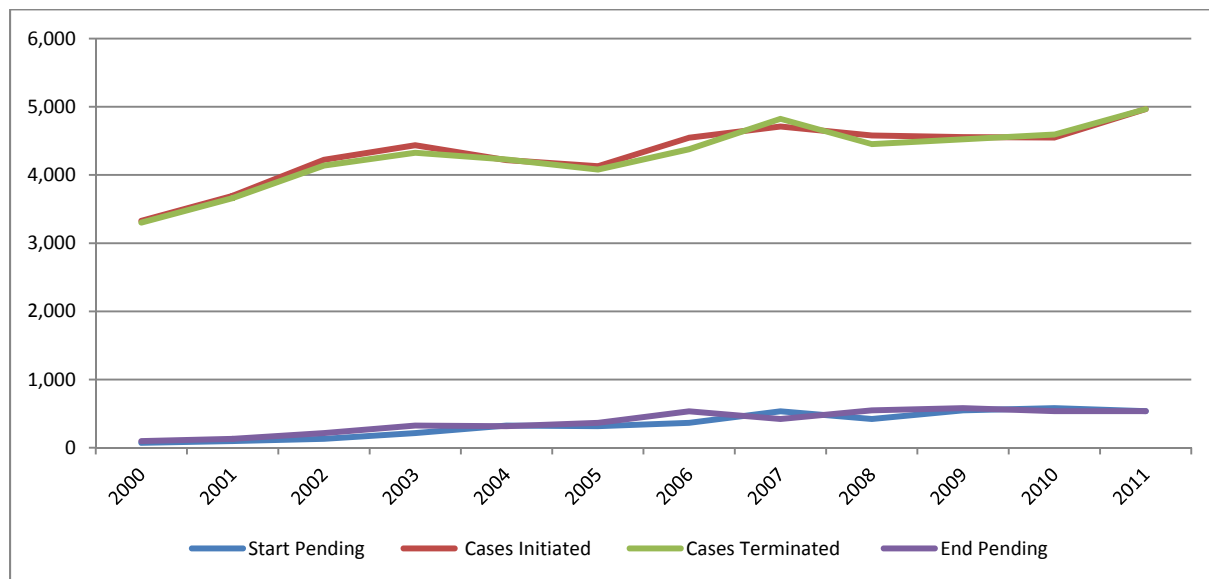
| <u>Percent Terminated</u> | <u>Percent Start Pending</u> | <u>Percent End Pending</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 104.62%                   | 24.90%                       | 20.28%                     |
| 98.87%                    | 20.43%                       | 21.56%                     |
| 99.02%                    | 22.31%                       | 23.29%                     |
| 109.06%                   | 24.62%                       | 15.56%                     |
| 97.38%                    | 16.52%                       | 19.14%                     |
| 100.00%                   | 19.66%                       | 19.66%                     |
| 95.45%                    | 20.40%                       | 24.94%                     |
| 95.58%                    | 24.68%                       | 29.09%                     |
| 97.03%                    | 28.71%                       | 31.68%                     |
| 93.00%                    | 30.97%                       | 37.97%                     |
| 97.74%                    | 38.60%                       | 40.86%                     |
| 99.34%                    | 39.18%                       | 40.11%                     |



## Family Court – Mental Health Case Filings

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Start Pending</u> | <u>Cases Initiated</u> | <u>Cases Terminated</u> | <u>End Pending</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 2000        | 69                   | 3,328                  | 3,301                   | 96                 |
| 2001        | 96                   | 3,694                  | 3,661                   | 129                |
| 2002        | 129                  | 4,224                  | 4,138                   | 215                |
| 2003        | 215                  | 4,436                  | 4,326                   | 325                |
| 2004        | 325                  | 4,218                  | 4,227                   | 316                |
| 2005        | 316                  | 4,129                  | 4,080                   | 365                |
| 2006        | 365                  | 4,546                  | 4,378                   | 533                |
| 2007        | 533                  | 4,711                  | 4,823                   | 421                |
| 2008        | 421                  | 4,580                  | 4,454                   | 547                |
| 2009        | 547                  | 4,556                  | 4,523                   | 580                |
| 2010        | 580                  | 4,549                  | 4,593                   | 536                |
| 2011        | 536                  | 4,967                  | 4,967                   | 536                |

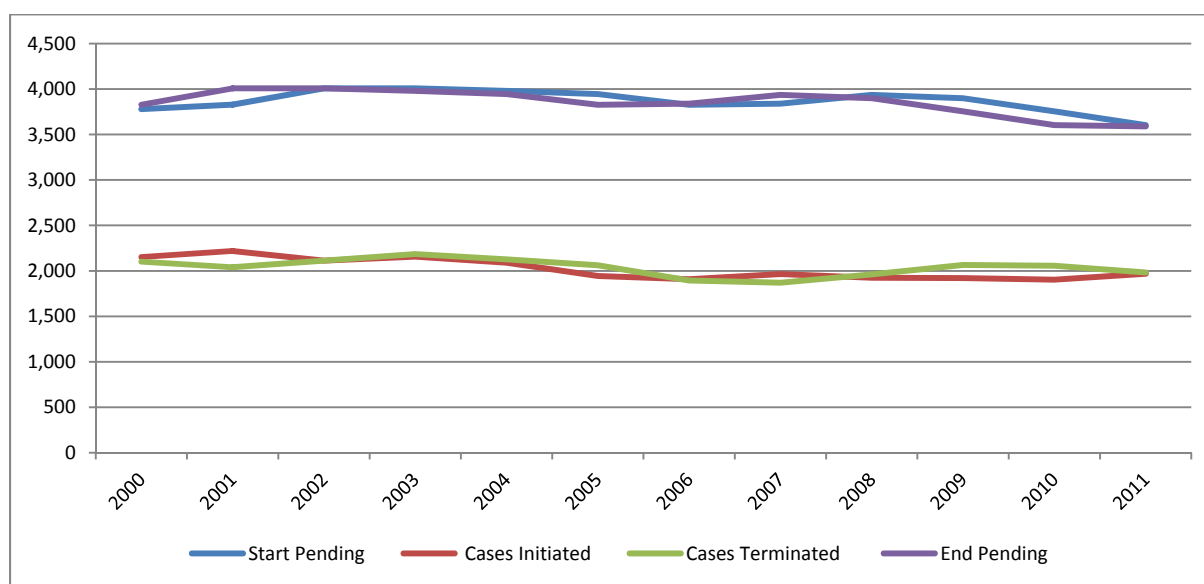
| <u>Percent Terminated</u> | <u>Percent Start Pending</u> | <u>Percent End Pending</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 99.19%                    | 2.07%                        | 2.88%                      |
| 99.11%                    | 2.60%                        | 3.49%                      |
| 97.96%                    | 3.05%                        | 5.09%                      |
| 97.52%                    | 4.85%                        | 7.33%                      |
| 100.21%                   | 7.71%                        | 7.49%                      |
| 98.81%                    | 7.65%                        | 8.84%                      |
| 96.30%                    | 8.03%                        | 11.72%                     |
| 102.38%                   | 11.31%                       | 8.94%                      |
| 97.25%                    | 9.19%                        | 11.94%                     |
| 99.28%                    | 12.01%                       | 12.73%                     |
| 100.97%                   | 12.75%                       | 11.78%                     |
| 100.00%                   | 10.79%                       | 10.79%                     |



## Family Court – Probate Case Filings

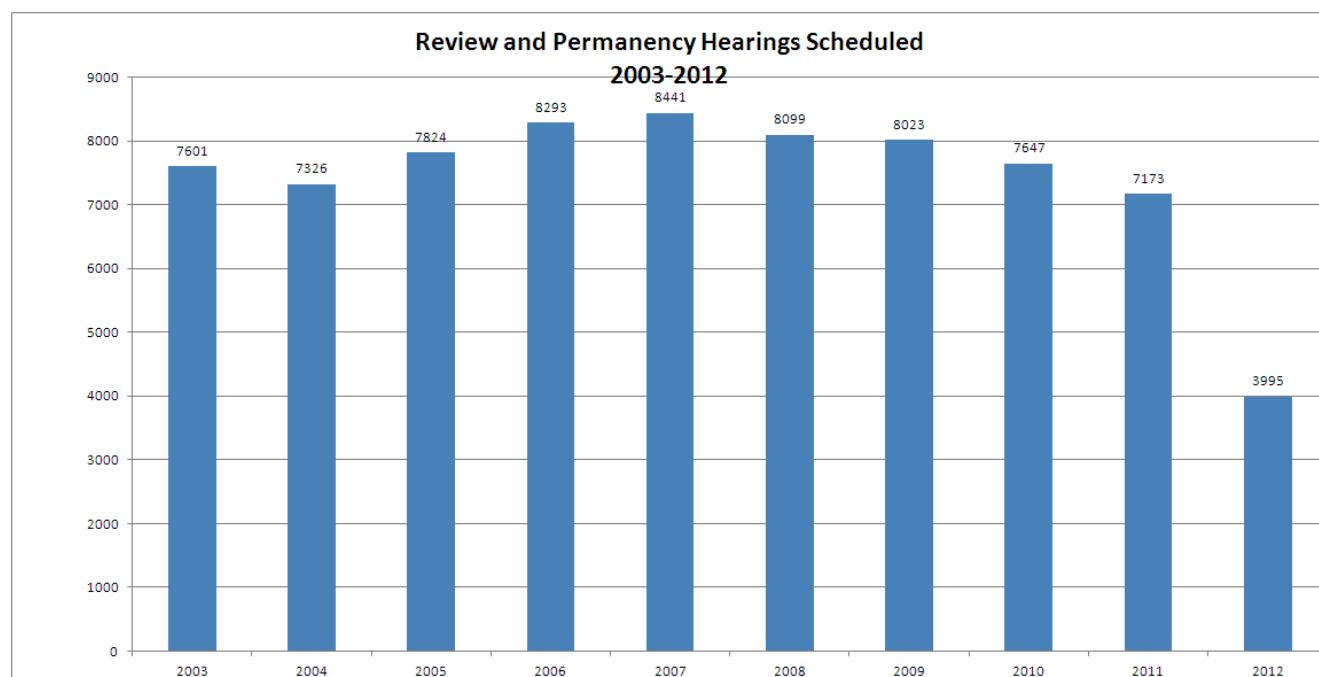
| <u>Year</u> | <u>Start Pending</u> | <u>Cases Initiated</u> | <u>Cases Terminated</u> | <u>End Pending</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 2000        | 3,779                | 2,152                  | 2,102                   | 3,829              |
| 2001        | 3,829                | 2,219                  | 2,040                   | 4,008              |
| 2002        | 4,008                | 2,113                  | 2,112                   | 4,009              |
| 2003        | 4,009                | 2,157                  | 2,185                   | 3,981              |
| 2004        | 3,981                | 2,090                  | 2,126                   | 3,945              |
| 2005        | 3,945                | 1,944                  | 2,062                   | 3,827              |
| 2006        | 3,827                | 1,908                  | 1,895                   | 3,840              |
| 2007        | 3,840                | 1,965                  | 1,869                   | 3,936              |
| 2008        | 3,936                | 1,924                  | 1,961                   | 3,899              |
| 2009        | 3,899                | 1,921                  | 2,065                   | 3,755              |
| 2010        | 3,755                | 1,904                  | 2,056                   | 3,603              |
| 2011        | 3,603                | 1,968                  | 1,982                   | 3,589              |

| <u>Percent Terminated</u> | <u>Percent Start Pending</u> | <u>Percent End Pending</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 97.68%                    | 175.60%                      | 177.93%                    |
| 91.93%                    | 172.56%                      | 180.62%                    |
| 99.95%                    | 189.68%                      | 189.73%                    |
| 101.30%                   | 185.86%                      | 184.56%                    |
| 101.72%                   | 190.48%                      | 188.76%                    |
| 106.07%                   | 202.93%                      | 196.86%                    |
| 99.32%                    | 200.58%                      | 201.26%                    |
| 95.11%                    | 195.42%                      | 200.31%                    |
| 101.92%                   | 204.57%                      | 202.65%                    |
| 107.50%                   | 202.97%                      | 195.47%                    |
| 107.98%                   | 197.22%                      | 189.23%                    |
| 100.71%                   | 183.08%                      | 181.08%                    |



## Appendix E – Historic Juvenile Dependency Review and Permanency Hearings Scheduled

| Individual Cases                         |       |        |       |         |       |        |        |        |        |       |
|--|-------|--------|-------|---------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Year                                     | 2003  | 2004   | 2005  | 2006    | 2007  | 2008   | 2009   | 2010   | 2011   | 2012  |
| Review and Permanency Hearings Scheduled | 7601  | 7326   | 7824  | 8293    | 8441  | 8099   | 8023   | 7647   | 7173   | 3995  |
| Change +/-                               |       | -3.62% | 6.80% | 5.99%   | 1.78% | -4.05% | -0.94% | -4.69% | -6.20% |       |
| Average                                  | 39.02 | 39.97  | 40.17 | 41.4144 | 41.65 | 42.97  | 43.60  | 44.52  | 44.09  | 44.12 |
| Standard Deviation                       | 13.41 | 15.91  | 13.89 | 16.187  | 15.77 | 18.30  | 17.69  | 20.04  | 16.87  | 16.90 |
| Median                                   | 45    | 45     | 45    | 45      | 45    | 45     | 45     | 45     | 45     | 45    |
| Mode                                     | 45    | 45     | 45    | 45      | 45    | 45     | 45     | 45     | 45     | 45    |
| Max                                      | 210   | 210    | 240   | 210     | 210   | 210    | 210    | 210    | 210    | 225   |
| Min                                      | 5     | 5      | 5     | 5       | 5     | 4      | 5      | 5      | 5      | 15    |



---

**Appendix F – 2012 Legislative Points for Multnomah County**

---

**Overview of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Multnomah County 2012**

1. The circuit court serves a population of 741,925 (19% of the state's total).
2. The circuit court serves the people of Multnomah County from four locations: the Juvenile Justice Center, the Gresham annex, the adult Justice Center, and the Multnomah County Courthouse. In September, 2011, the court reduced staffing by 34.3 positions to meet the 2011-13 Legislatively Approved Budget (LAB), and will be required to reduce staffing by 24.5 positions for each additional 3.5 percent step reduction in the LAB.
3. The circuit court serves as the municipal court for Portland (population 585,845) and Gresham (population 105,795). These are the largest and fourth largest cities in the state.
4. The court collected \$49,651,427 in revenue in Calendar Year 2011. This revenue is distributed to municipal governments, Multnomah County, the State General Fund, and other state funds and agencies as determined by statute. The court collected on average \$197,029 of revenue per business day in 2011.
5. In 2011, the daily operating expense charged to the circuit court's allocation of the 2011-13 LAB was \$87,351 per business day, \$22,012,591 for Fiscal Year 2011- 2012. This expense does not include compensation paid to judges which is managed centrally by the Office of the State Court Administrator.
6. The circuit court had filed 424,988 actions in calendar year 2011. Of these filings, 4 % are Family Court matters (juvenile, domestic relations, probate and mental commitments), 4 % are civil actions, 5 % are small claims and Landlord & Tenant (FED) cases, 29 % are felonies, misdemeanors and violations, and 57 % are parking violations. Considering all of the judicial time (49.5 FTE, 38 circuit court judges and 11.5 hearing referees sitting as judges pro tempore), 29% of the time is spent on Family Court actions, 26% is spent on civil, small claim and FED actions, 43% is spent on criminal actions, and 2% is spent on parking violations.
7. The court is one of the most efficient metropolitan trial courts in the nation, especially in the area of civil litigation. In 2011, 99.36 percent of cases closed were closed within 2 years of filing.
8. The court continues to be a national leader in innovative programs for the management of criminal actions and the rehabilitation of defendants with alcohol and drug abuse problems. Since 1991, the court has run a drug treatment court (STOP). The court also operates an intensive DUII program for repeat offenders, the community sentencing program known commonly as the "community court", a domestic violence court, a problem solving approach child support enforcement, a mental health court, and, in 2009, opened another treatment court based on felony property crime offenders who are affected by drug abuse (START).

9. The circuit court was one of the first in the state to implement a Family Court, in 1993, and the “one family-one judge” model for providing services to family members across domestic relations, juvenile, and criminal case lines where appropriate. The Family Court acts as a focal point for the coordination of services across state and local agencies for families and family members with cases within the court’s jurisdiction. The Self Help Center for individuals proceeding without attorneys on domestic relations matters and the child care facility (CourtCare) for children age 1 to 6 whose parents are appearing in court proceedings were both created to provide support for people without means but who need Family Court services.

10. Immediate Greatest Need. In 2010, Multnomah County Commissioners approved the construction of a \$21 million dollar courthouse to serve the 200,000 people who live in the eastern reaches of Multnomah County beyond 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. A separate courthouse is required under ORS 3.014 and it replaces a dilapidated one courtroom facility. The new East County Courthouse will be opened in April, 2011. Although requested in 2011, and supported by the Multnomah County delegation, there was no money specifically identified in any budget note for furnishing this facility, and none was provided. There is a need for \$716,000 for the furniture (\$207,000) and equipment (\$509,000) for this new courthouse as required by ORS 1.187.

## Appendix G – State of Oregon County Locations

