



Judicial Council of California · Administrative Office of the Courts

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

For business meeting on: December 12, 2011

Title	Agenda Item Type
Judicial Workload Assessment: Updated Caseweights	Action Required
Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected	Effective Date
Government Code 69614(b)	December 12, 2011
Recommended by	Date of Report
Senate Bill 56 Working Group	November 7, 2011
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Executive Summary

The Senate Bill 56 Working Group recommends that the Judicial Council approve new caseweights for evaluating the statewide need for judicial officers. Government Code section 69614(c)(1) requires the Judicial Council to report “to the Legislature and the Governor on or before November 1 of every even-numbered year on the factually determined need for new judgeships in each superior court using the uniform criteria for allocation of judgeships.” If approved, the new caseweights would replace caseweights approved by the Judicial Council in 2001, thus updating the estimates of judicial need to reflect current law and practice. The new caseweights would be used for the 2012 report to the Legislature and Governor on the need for new judgeships and would also be used to “provide to the Legislature a special assessment of the

need for new judgeships in the family law and juvenile law assignments for each superior court” (Gov. Code, § 69614(c)(2)).

Recommendation

The Senate Bill 56 Working Group recommends that the Judicial Council, effective December 12, 2011:

1. Approve the 2011 judicial officer study caseweights for use in evaluating statewide judicial workload, including for use in the biennial judicial needs assessment and to meet the requirements of Government Code Section 69614(c)(2); and
2. Direct the Policy Coordination and Liaison Committee to seek cleanup legislation that would update Government Code section 69614(b), which currently states that the methodology to be used to allocate new judgeships is based on standards approved by the Judicial Council in 2001 and 2004.

In addition, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) recommends that the Judicial Council, effective December 12, 2011:

3. Approve the *Special Assessment of the Need for New Judgeships in Family and Juvenile Law: Report to the Legislature as Required by Government Code Section 69614* for transmittal of this report to the Legislature as directed by Government Code Section 69614(c)(2).

The 2011 judicial officer study caseweights and the *Special Assessment of the Need for New Judgeships in Family and Juvenile Law* are included in this report as Attachments A and B, respectively.

Previous Council Action

The methodology for determining the number of judgeships needed in the trial courts was approved by the Judicial Council in August 2001 and later modified and approved by the council in August 2004. The August 2001 council action, among other things, approved a set of workload standards (caseweights) to be used to conduct statewide assessments of judicial need. The council also directed AOC staff to develop a process to periodically review and update the workload standards so that they continue to accurately represent judicial workload.

In 2006 the Legislature incorporated the workload standards into statute when it created 50 new judgeships and established that new judgeships would be allocated according to the assessed judicial need and prioritization methodology approved by the Judicial Council. Government

Code section 69614(b)¹ states that judges should be allocated according to uniform standards that are based on, among other criteria, “[w]orkload standards that represent the average amount of time of bench and nonbench work required to resolve each case type.”

Further updates of the assessed judicial need were approved by the Judicial Council, first in 2007 and then, as directed by statute, in 2008 and 2010.

Rationale for Recommendation

Updates to the estimates of judicial need to date have been conducted exclusively by updating filings data and, thus, capture changes in trial court caseloads over time. These updates have not changed the underlying caseweights, which were approved by the Judicial Council over a decade ago. Caseweights reflect the average amount of time that is required for case processing and allow for an evaluation of workload that distinguishes among case types of differing levels of complexity. For example, on average, infractions cases require very little judicial work while felonies require considerably more judicial work. Thus, caseweights allow for the case mix in different courts to be taken into consideration when evaluating judicial workload.

Caseweights require periodic review because changes in the law, technology, and practice all affect the average amount of time required for case processing. Periodic review, and where necessary revision of caseweights, ensures that the allocation formulas reported to the Legislature and the Governor reflect the current amount of time required to resolve cases.

With the support of the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) and the guidance of the SB 56 Working Group, the AOC’s Office of Court Research (OCR), partnering with the AOC’s Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC), has undertaken a two-year study to update the judicial officer workload model.² The 2011 proposed caseweights that result from this effort build and improve on the well-established methodological foundation employed in the 2001 study. Both studies were overseen by the NCSC, which recently conducted studies using a similar methodology in Florida, Michigan, and Minnesota. A final report detailing the California judicial workload study methodology will be completed by NCSC at the end of 2011 and made available to Judicial Council members at that time. The study methodology and resulting caseweights are summarized below.

SB 56 Working Group

The SB 56 Working Group was formed in August 2009 to provide advice and recommendations to the OCR on both the judicial officer and staff workload studies. The working group, consisting of judges and court executives from 15 courts, determined that the first priority for the

¹ All further code references are to the Government Code unless otherwise specified.

² The court staff workload model is also being updated as part of this project, but the data will not be available until early 2012.

working group should be to update the caseweights used for both the judicial and staff workload assessment models. The working group has evaluated the project methodology and preliminary findings and has reviewed the draft caseweights in detail. The working group charter and most recent membership roster are included as Attachments D and E.

Time study data collection

The NCSC used a time diary data collection method, in which judicial officers were asked to record their daily activities using a web-based, password-protected interface. Both case-related and non-case-related time was captured over a four-week data collection period. Case-related time was documented by 23 case types and according to three phases of case processing (predisposition, disposition, and postdisposition). Non-case-related time included various activities such as administrative duties, education, sick leave, or community outreach.

Data were submitted directly to NCSC's servers in Williamsburg, Virginia, and NCSC project staff subsequently analyzed the data.

Study participation. A study of such magnitude requires significant investment of time and resources, and the courts who volunteered to participate in the study should be recognized for their significant contribution. The following 15 courts participated in the data collection; unless otherwise indicated, the entire bench participated:

- Alameda
- Butte
- El Dorado
- Fresno (sample of judges)
- Glenn
- Imperial
- Inyo
- Lake
- Merced
- San Benito
- San Bernardino
- San Francisco
- Santa Clara
- Siskiyou
- Sonoma

The study courts included large, medium, and small courts from all regions of the state. Courts with different levels of judicial and staff resource need were also included to ensure the representativeness of the sample.

Time study participation rates among judges in the study courts were excellent, with an overall participation rate of 92 percent. In cases where judges were not able to participate fully, NCSC weighted the results received so that the time reported represented full participation. Table 1 shows the number of courts and judicial officers in the study, compared to the 2001 study. With NCSC and AOC staff jointly managing the study logistics, the 2011 study was able to include a considerably larger sample of courts and judges than the 2001 study.

Table 1: Judicial Officer Study Participation Statistics

	2001 Study	2011 Study
Number of courts	4	15
Number of judges	139	337
Number of subordinate judicial officers	198	196
Total judicial officer participants	337	533
Weighted minutes of time study data collected	4,782,037	37,433,679

Quality adjustment phase

Time studies invariably measure actual resource levels. As a result, the initial estimates of time per case derived from a time study must be evaluated carefully to avoid inferring that actual resource levels are appropriate. Many participants in the time study expressed their concern that the time study methodology would capture only what they currently do under the existing resource constraints without allowing them to indicate where more or less time might be needed for effective case processing.

To overcome this inherent limitation in the time study methodology, a second phase of work is required to adjust the caseweights to ensure that they represent effective and efficient case processing. Consistent with the previous study of judicial workload and with nationally recognized standards for the evaluation of judicial workload, this phase of the study consisted of two quality adjustment steps:

- *Supplemental survey:* Judicial officers in all of the study courts were given the opportunity to indicate particular case-processing steps or functions where they believed additional time would allow them to improve the quality of justice or quality of service to the public. As with the time study data, the responses were submitted directly to the NCSC and compiled by NCSC staff. Anonymous responses from 175 judicial officers were received.
- *Delphi sessions:* Time study data and supplemental survey results were used to inform a series of “Delphi” sessions held over a two-day period in May 2011. Judicial officers in case-type-specific groups of 8 to 10 participants reviewed the time study results and recommended some adjustments to the caseweights. Forty-four judicial officers from 19 courts participated in the sessions, which were facilitated by NCSC staff and subject matter experts at the AOC.

Impact of new caseweights on assessed judicial need

Section 69614(c)(1) requires the Judicial Council to report on the statewide need for judicial officers in November of even-numbered years. The 2010 calculation, based on a three-year average of filings from FY 2006–2007 through FY 2008–2009, showed a statewide need of 2,351.9 judicial officers. To evaluate the impact of the new caseweights on statewide judicial need, we apply the same set of filings data used in the 2010 judicial needs calculation. Using the same filings data holds constant any changes in the estimated judicial workload that might result from changes in the number and type of filings and, thus, allows for a clear comparison of the implications of the new caseweights relative to the old.

The resulting calculation shows an increase in statewide assessed judicial need of about 15 judicial officers, or a difference of 0.07 percent (see Table 2). Judicial need estimates by court

are provided in a series of three tables as Attachment F. The first table shows the need by court and by major case type using the 2001 caseweights and filings from FY 2006–2007 through FY 2008–2009 (the 2010 judicial needs assessment); the second table shows the court-by-court results using the draft 2011 caseweights and the same set of filings data. The third table shows the difference between the two tables. Negative numbers in the final table indicate that the need for judgeships in a case type or court declines using the new caseweights while positive numbers indicate that the new caseweights produce an increase in need relative to the old caseweights.

Table 2: Statewide Need for Judicial Officers, Holding Filings Constant

Year	Assessed Judicial Need (AJN)	Authorized Judicial Positions (AJP)³	Net Need (AJN Minus AJP)	Need as a Percentage of AJP
Statewide need using 2001 caseweights	2,351.9	2,022	329.9	16.3%
Statewide need using 2011 DRAFT caseweights	2,367.3	2,022	345.3	17%
Change	+15.4	0	+15.4	+0.07%

If the Judicial Council approves the new caseweights, the assessed judicial need will be recalculated in 2012 pursuant to section 69614(c) using these caseweights along with the most recent three-year set of filings data. Therefore, the need estimates that are calculated in 2012 will differ slightly from what is shown in Table 2 and Attachment F.

Impact of new caseweights on *Special Assessment of the Need for New Judgeships in Family and Juvenile Law Assignments*

Section 69614(c)(2) requires the Judicial Council to submit a special assessment of the need for new judgeships in family and juvenile law assignments for each superior court. Staff from CFCC have partnered with OCR and NCSC on the judicial workload study, collaborating extensively with judicial officers, court administrators, and subject matter experts to design, implement, and review the results of the study. Their findings indicate that there are insufficient resources allocated to family law and juvenile cases and that the time required to process family law and juvenile cases has increased since the last workload study. The *Special Assessment*, containing their methodology and findings, is included as Attachment B.

³ Includes the 50 judgeships that were authorized by AB 159, but are not yet funded.

Comments, Alternatives Considered, and Policy Implications

The methodology used in the current study is codified in section 69614(b). The recommendation to approve the new caseweights is also consistent with the Judicial Council's previous direction to periodically review and update the workload standards so that they continue to represent judicial workload accurately.

In addition to the oversight of the workload studies provided by the SB 56 Working Group, staff have regularly updated court leadership about these studies. The Court Executives Advisory Committee and Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee were given study updates in August 2009, September 2010, February 2011, and November 2011. The Trial Court Budget Working Group has also been updated periodically.

At the direction of the SB 56 Working Group, staff organized a series of conference calls to review the proposed judicial officer study caseweights with court leadership in September 2011. There were 18 participants on the calls, all of whom either offered favorable comments about the caseweights or made suggestions for future avenues of study. There were no comments in opposition to the proposed caseweights.

Implementation Requirements, Costs, and Operational Impacts

If approved, the new caseweights will be incorporated into the model used to calculate the statewide need for judicial officers. There is no associated cost for implementation.

Relevant Strategic Plan Goals and Operational Plan Objectives

The workload study update is consistent with Goal II, Independence and Accountability, of the strategic plan, and related operational plan Objective II.B.2.d, in that a statewide workload model creates "nonpartisan mechanisms for creating new judgeships" (Objective II.B.2.d).

Attachments

1. Attachment A: 2011 Judicial Officer Workload Study Case Types and Caseweights
2. Attachment B: *Special Assessment of the Need for New Judgeships in Family and Juvenile Law: Report to the Legislature as Required by Government Code Section 69614:*
3. Attachment C: Gov. Code, § 69614
4. Attachment D: SB 56 Working Group Charter
5. Attachment E: SB 56 Working Group Membership Roster
6. Attachment F: Judicial Officer Need by Court Using 2001 Caseweights, 2011 Draft Caseweights, and Difference

2011 Judicial Officer Workload Study Case Types and Caseweights

Case Types	2011 DRAFT Caseweights (minutes)
Felony	177
Misdemeanor – Traffic	8
Misdemeanor – Non-Traffic	29
Infractions	1.10
Asbestos	628
Unlimited Civil – Motor Vehicle	142
Unlimited Civil – Other PI	246
Unlimited Civil – Other	170
Lower Court Appeals	152
Limited (Without UD)	8
Unlawful Detainer	11
Small Claims	12
Probate	106
Mental Health	144
Dissolution/Separation	100
Other Family Law	46
Juvenile Dependency	269
Juvenile Delinquency	106

Special Assessment of the Need for New Judgeships in Family and Juvenile Law

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE AS
REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT CODE
SECTION 69614



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS

Special Assessment of the Need for New Judgeships in Family and Juvenile Law Assignments

Report to the Legislature as required by Government Code section 69614

December 2011



JUDICIAL COUNCIL
OF CALIFORNIA

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS

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Special Assessment of the Need for New Judgeships in Family and Juvenile Law Assignments

Report to the Legislature as required by Government Code section 69614

December 13, 2011

Introduction

This report is submitted to the Legislature as required by California Government Code section 69614, as amended by chapter 690 of the Statutes of 2010, which requires the Judicial Council to prepare a special assessment of the need for new judgeships in family and juvenile law assignments for each superior court. The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC) partnered with the AOC's Office of Court Research (OCR) and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to conduct the judicial needs assessment. In order to make the most efficient use of available resources and ongoing data collection efforts, the work of the special assessment was integrated into the 2011 Judicial Workload Study, with the special assessment becoming one section of that study. The AOC collaborated extensively with judicial officers and court administrators experienced in family and juvenile law to design, implement, and review the results of the study.

The results of the judicial workload assessment reflect the continuing trend of insufficient judicial officers in family and juvenile courts to appropriately handle current caseloads. This is compounded by the fact that, as the assessment found, the time required to process family and juvenile law cases has increased since the last judicial workload study in 2001. Family and juvenile law represent 28 percent of judicial workload, yet only 21 percent of judicial resources are assigned to these case types. The total statewide deficit in judicial positions for family and juvenile law is 262, as detailed further below:

- 239 judicial FTEs are devoted to family law. An additional 58 percent, or 378 FTEs, would be needed to handle the caseload;
- 83 judicial FTEs are devoted to juvenile dependency. An additional 81 percent, or 150 FTEs, would be needed to handle the caseload; and
- 96 judicial FTEs are devoted to juvenile delinquency. An additional 58 percent, or 152 FTEs, would be needed to handle the caseload.

Juvenile and family law judicial officers who participated in the study indicated they needed more time to address critical tasks such as:

- Reviewing files and preparing for hearings;
- Conducting both short and long cause hearings;
- Preparing findings and orders;

- Ensuring that parties feel their concerns have been addressed;
- Conducting settlement conferences; and
- Encouraging all interested parties to participate in the proceedings.

It is important to note that there is an overall shortage in the number of judicial officers needed to handle the current caseload and that courts may need additional resources in case types other than family and juvenile law. The current study found a need for 2,367 judicial officers, as compared to 2,022 authorized judicial positions.¹

The updated judicial workload assessment underscores the lack of judicial resources for family and juvenile courts that was recognized by the Legislature in enacting Government Code section 69614(c)(2) and the Judicial Council when receiving the findings and recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care and the Elkins Family Law Task Force, and other advisory bodies. These entities have all recommended the use of workload studies that take into account the unique nature of cases involving children and families and the courts' evolving role in resolving them, to assist courts in assigning appropriate resources to family and juvenile departments.

Overview of This Reporting Requirement and Related Provisions

As part of the ongoing effort to create new judgeships and in recognition of the importance of having sufficient and appropriate judicial resources in the critical case types of family and juvenile law, Government Code section 69614 was amended in 2010 to require the Judicial Council to provide the Legislature with a special assessment of the need for new judgeships in family and juvenile law assignments for each superior court (Stats. 2010, ch. 690). The special needs assessment was requested in response to concerns that the past judicial officer time studies undercounted the time it takes to properly handle family and juvenile law matters, in turn understating resource needs in these areas.

Methodology

This section details the activities undertaken to assess the need for new judgeships in family and juvenile law. The overall description of the study process and data collected will be described in NCSC's final report on the Judicial Workload Assessment, to be completed in late 2011. As a result of the special focus on family and juvenile law as part of the overall judicial workload assessment, we have established a more accurate measurement of family and juvenile case processing.

Time study data collection

The NCSC used a time diary data collection method, in which judicial officers were asked to record their daily activities using a web-based, password-protected interface. Both case-related and non-case related time was captured over a four-week data collection period. Case-related time was documented by 23 case types and according to different phases of case processing.

¹ Includes the 50 judgeships that were authorized by AB 159, but not yet funded.

Non-case-related time included various activities such as administrative duties, education, sick leave, or community outreach.

Quality adjustment phase

Time studies invariably measure actual resource levels. As a result, the initial estimates of time per case derived from a time study must be evaluated carefully to avoid inferring that actual resource levels are appropriate. Many participants in the time study expressed concern that the time study methodology would capture only what they currently do under existing resource constraints without allowing them to indicate where more or less time might be needed for effective case processing.

To overcome this inherent limitation in the time study methodology, a second phase of work is required to adjust the caseweights to ensure that they represent effective and efficient case processing. Consistent with the previous study of judicial workload and with nationally recognized standards for the evaluation of judicial workload, this phase of the study consisted of two quality adjustment steps:

- *Supplemental survey*: Judicial officers in all of the study courts were given the opportunity to indicate particular case-processing steps or functions where they believed additional time would allow them to improve the quality of justice or quality of service to the public. Anonymous responses from 175 judicial officers were received.
- *Delphi sessions*: Time study data and supplemental survey results were used to inform a series of “Delphi” sessions. Judicial officers reviewed the time study results and recommended some adjustments to the caseweights. Forty-four judicial officers from 19 courts participated in the sessions, which were facilitated by NCSC staff and subject matter experts at the AOC.

Wider participation by family and juvenile courts

The number of courts participating in the 2011 judicial workload study was substantially larger than the number participating in the original study in 2001, which also increased the participation of family and juvenile law judges. The previous workload study, in which 337 judicial officers participated, collected data from four counties representing small, medium, and large courts: Butte, Los Angeles, Sacramento, and San Mateo. The present study included 533 judicial officers from a much larger array of courts in 14 counties, again covering small medium, and large courts: Alameda, Butte, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Imperial, Inyo, Lake, Merced, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Siskiyou, and Sonoma. This larger sample also included a more diverse set of courts in terms of the characteristics of the populations they serve and local issues and practices.

The increased focus on family and juvenile proceedings, along with the inclusion of many more courts in the study, allowed for the measurement and examination of a wider range of practices

in family and juvenile cases. In addition to filing, taking evidence, holding hearings, and issuing decisions, family and juvenile courts employ a range of other dispute resolution methodologies such as mediation, arbitration, and collaborative or problem-solving court models. These were more thoroughly accounted for in this data than in the prior study. The inclusion of a broader range of courts also allowed us to examine the use and impact of nontraditional practices on judicial need. These practices include the use of case managers in family law, the flexible assignment of judges and court staff across case types when needed to address fluctuations in workload, the integration of court databases in juvenile cases with justice partners such as the local probation department, effective use of technology to deliver self-help assistance in family cases, and the formation and maintenance of strong working relationships between the court and justice partners in family and juvenile cases.

Involvement of family and juvenile law subject matter experts

In order to ensure accurate measurement of judicial workload in family and juvenile law, subject matter experts with extensive knowledge of current court operations and policy and practice directions were involved in the study, from designing the data collection instruments to participating in the quality adjustment process to reviewing the study results. Subject matter experts included members of task forces, advisory committees, and working groups focused on family and juvenile law issues—the Elkins Family Law Task Force, the Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care, the Juvenile Delinquency Court Assessment Working Group, and the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee—as well as judicial officers with extensive family and juvenile law experiences and AOC staff who specialize in family and juvenile law issues.

Development of time study reporting categories that better reflect the work of family and juvenile court judges

The majority of cases in court, primarily criminal and general civil, proceed using a traditional, adversarial litigation model in which each side is represented by an attorney and a complaint and answer are followed by preliminary motions, discovery, stipulations, and negotiations leading either to an out-of-court settlement or trial. After judgment, the court's limited role centers on sentencing, collections, or other forms of postjudgment enforcement of its order. While some vestiges of this trajectory remain in family and juvenile cases, it is far from the norm. Most litigants in family law matters, and many interested parties in juvenile cases, are not represented by counsel. Myriad procedures, including collaborative court models, child custody and other forms of mediation and alternative dispute resolution, and various evaluative services are employed to assist parties in reaching an agreement and/or help the court monitor the party's ongoing behavior. In addition, the majority of work on these cases often happens after judgment if children under 18 years of age are the subject of court orders. Consequently, data collection instruments designed to capture the workload of courts following a traditional, adversarial model of litigation are not well-suited to capturing the full range of court activities in family and juvenile law cases.

As a result of the increased focus on family and juvenile law cases in this judicial workload analysis, changes were made in the data collection categories that more accurately reflected the work of family and juvenile law judges. The case types under which family law judicial officers were asked to record their time were expanded from dissolution/separation/nullity and other family law to dissolution/separation/nullity, child support, Domestic Violence Prevention Act, or other family law.

Judicial officers who participated in the time study were asked to record the phase the case was in. Case phase names were expanded to better reflect the nomenclature used in family and juvenile cases, and to account for nontraditional litigation trajectories that do not involve “trials,” “pretrial,” or “posttrial” activities—which were the only categories available in previous studies. The phase of the case was recorded according to one of four choices: (1) pre-disposition; (2) nontrial/uncontested disposition; (3) trial/contested disposition; or (4) post-disposition. Special case characteristics were also recorded if the case was in one of three “alternative” types of court: (1) collaborative court; (2) drug court; or (3) complex litigation. Taken together, these categories more accurately captured the types of work done in family and juvenile law cases.

Supplemental survey addressed areas in which family and juvenile judges may need more time

Following the time study, a survey was sent to judicial officers who participated in the study asking them to identify areas in which they felt they needed more time to perform certain key tasks in cases. Family and juvenile law judicial officers were specifically included in this survey, and tasks in those case types were identified among the list of tasks judicial officer could report as requiring more time than they currently devote to such tasks. Important areas in family and juvenile case processing such as whether judicial officers had enough time to review case files, hear from all interested parties, and/or explain rulings and orders to often unrepresented litigants or minors were included in large part due to the focus on family and juvenile cases.

Caseweights

The average number of minutes per filing a judicial officer spends on case-related work is referred to as the judicial caseweight.² The caseweight does not include the minutes spent on a case by other court staff. A common concern or misconception about the judicial needs assessment is that it only counts time spent on the initial filing and therefore underestimates the time needed to process family and juvenile cases, which involve a lot of post-disposition or postjudgment activity. In fact, initial filings are simply an anchor for the model because they’re the only number that can be reliably produced on a consistent, statewide basis. The time study asked judicial officers to record—and the caseweights incorporate—not only time spent on the initial filing, but all subsequent activity associated with that filing, including post-judgment motions.

² While the caseweights can be thought of as the average number of minutes spent per filing, this does not mean that the judicial officer averages that number of minutes on each case. Many cases will take less time, but some will take much more time because of their complexity, longevity, and the need to have trial-like long cause hearings.

Caseweights for family law (dissolution and other), juvenile dependency, and juvenile delinquency are set out below. Comparisons between the 2001 and 2011 caseweights should be interpreted with caution due to the improvements in methodology, sample size, and filings data used to build the model in the 2011 study.

Family law: Dissolution

For dissolution cases, the minutes per filing as measured strictly through the time study decreased slightly, from 84 to 77 minutes. However, after adding time to account for tasks for which judicial officers reported not having sufficient time (also referred to as a quality adjustment), the minutes per filing increased from 77 to 100 minutes, and the “quality-adjusted” caseweights actually increased 19 percent from 2001 to 2011.

The areas in which judicial officers reported needing more time, which contributed to the upward adjustment in the 2011 caseweights, were largely consistent with the recommendations of the Elkins Family Law Task Force and recent related legislation and included:

- Needing more courtroom time for contested custody matters;
- Allowing time for greater participation of the parties and more explanation of the proceedings;
- Allowing more time for settlement discussions and active case management;
- Adding more time to review files and generally prepare for hearings and trials;
- Adding more time to interview children; and
- Allowing more time to make findings and orders.

The majority (15 minutes) of the 23-minute upward adjustment in the caseweight came in the pre-disposition phase.

Family law: Other

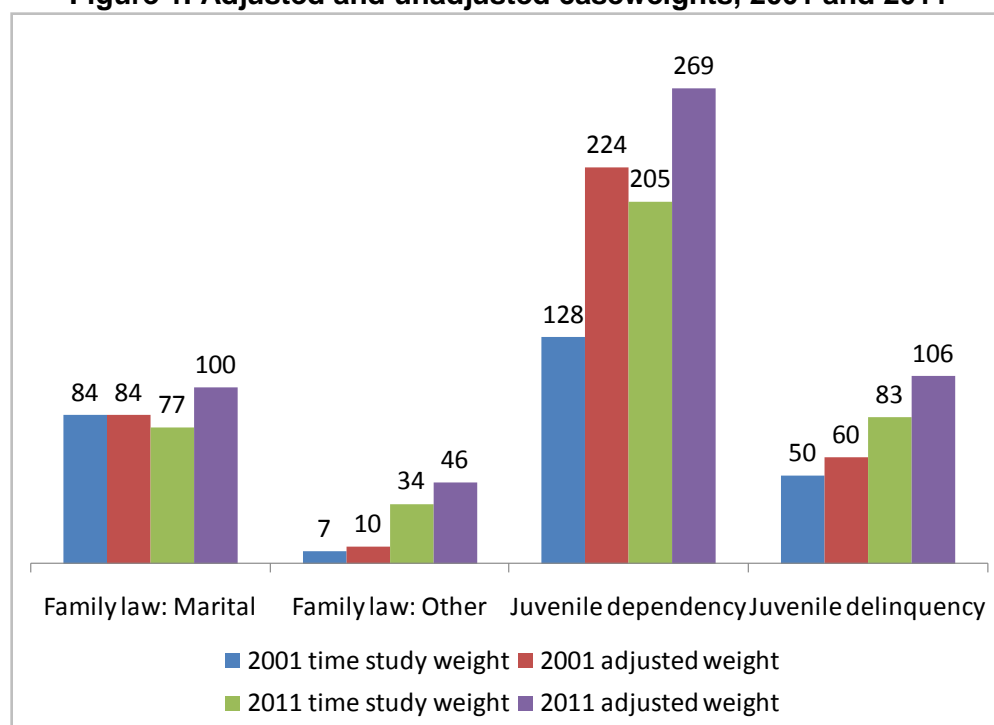
For family law–other (i.e., non-dissolution) cases, the minutes per filing as measured strictly through the time study increased from 7 to 34 minutes. The quality-adjusted caseweight, on the other hand, decreased from 70 to 46 minutes. These changes, however, are due solely to technical issues with the filings data in 2001. At the time of the 2001 study, “other civil petitions” filings (which includes family law–other) were sometimes reported under the “other civil complaints” category, and vice-versa. As a result of the inability to disentangle the two categories, both were assigned the “other civil complaints” quality-adjusted caseweight of 70 and the filings were split evenly between the two case types. This resulted in artificially inflating the time needed to process family law–other cases, which had a quality-adjusted caseweight of only 10. Therefore, while it appears that the family law–other case weight has declined, it is an artifact of issues with the underlying filings data; in fact, the original quality-adjusted case weight shows a substantial increase from 2001 to 2011, from 10 to 46 minutes per filing.

The areas in which judicial officers reported needing more time, which contributed to the upward adjustment in the 2011 caseweights, were, again, largely consistent with the recommendations of the Elkins Family Law Task Force and recent related legislation and included:

- More courtroom time for contested custody matters;
- More time for greater participation of the parties and more explanation of the proceedings;
- More time for settlement discussions and active case management;
- More time to interview children; and
- More time to make findings and orders.

As was the case with family law–marital, the majority (9 minutes) of the 12-minute upward adjustment in the caseweight came in the pre-disposition phase. The additional 23 minutes in the family law–marital subcategory, combined with the additional 12 minutes in the family law–other subcategory, results in the need for 92 more judgeships statewide hearing family law cases.

Many of the areas in which Delphi group participants reported needing more time, in both dissolution and nondissolution cases, are closely related not only to the recommendations of the Elkins Family Law Task Force, but also to the enactment of Assembly Bill 939 (Assembly Committee on Judiciary; Stats. 2010, ch. 352) and Assembly Bill 1050 (Assembly Committee on Judiciary; Stats. 2010, ch. 187). AB 939 requires courts to receive all live, competent, and relevant testimony on orders to show cause and motions, absent a good cause finding to refuse to hear the testimony. AB 1050 requires courts “to consider . . . the wishes of a child in making an order granting or modifying custody or visitation, if the child is of sufficient age and capacity to form an intelligent preference as to custody or visitation,” and requires courts “to permit a child who is 14 years of age or older to address the court regarding custody or visitation, unless the court determines that doing so is not in the child’s best interests.”

Figure 1. Adjusted and unadjusted caseweights, 2001 and 2011

Note: Figures represent what the family law–other caseweight would have been if it were possible to disaggregate the “other civil petitions” and “other civil complaints” filings.

Juvenile dependency

For juvenile dependency, both the time study and the quality-adjusted caseweights rose from 2001 to 2011. The time study caseweight increased from 128 to 205, while the quality-adjusted caseweight increased from 224 to 269 (20 percent). The quality adjustment in 2001 was proportionally much higher than in 2011, but that is at least in part because the time study caseweight significantly increased.

The areas in which judicial officers reported needing more time, which contributed to the upward adjustment in the 2011 caseweights, were largely consistent with the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care and included:

- More time to deal with removal requests;
- More time to deal with probable cause showings for interview requests;
- More time to read and review reports and case plans;
- More time for initial hearings;
- More time to review jurisdiction notices; and
- More time to make findings and orders pursuant to AB 12.

The majority (59 minutes) of the 64-minute upward adjustment came in the pre-disposition phase. The adjustment results in the need for 36 additional judgeships statewide hearing dependency cases.

Juvenile delinquency

Similar to juvenile dependency, juvenile delinquency time study and quality-adjusted case-weights rose from 2001 to 2011. The time study caseweight increased from 50 to 83, while the quality-adjusted caseweight increased from 60 to 106 (77 percent). The quality adjustments both 2001 and 2011 were in the 20 to 30 percent range.

The areas in which judicial officers reported needing more time, which contributed to the upward adjustment in the 2011 caseweights, were largely consistent with the recommendations of the Juvenile Delinquency Court Assessment and included:

- More time to inquire about services;
- More time to explain the process to parents and minors;
- More time to explain expectations and consequences;
- More time to promote resolution and settlement conferences;
- More time to review conditions of probation;
- More time to discuss and track education issues; and
- More time for findings and orders in title IV-E cases.

The majority (19 minutes) of the 23-minute upward adjustment came in the pre-disposition phase. The adjustment results in the need for 30 additional judgeships statewide hearing juvenile delinquency cases.

Implied Judicial Need and Current Allocation of Judicial Time

Applying the caseweights to court filings allows for an estimate of judicial need by case type, expressed in terms of full-time equivalent (FTE) judicial positions. To supplement the judicial needs assessment, the AOC conducted a census of judicial officer allocation (herein referred to as “judge census”), which asked courts to outline how many judicial FTEs³ are currently devoted to each of the major case types.⁴ This allows for a comparison of how the judicial officer time was actually being allocated to what the model estimates will be needed.⁵

According to the 2010 judge census, approximately three-quarters of judicial time is devoted to hearing criminal and civil cases (54 percent and 23 percent, respectively). Family and juvenile

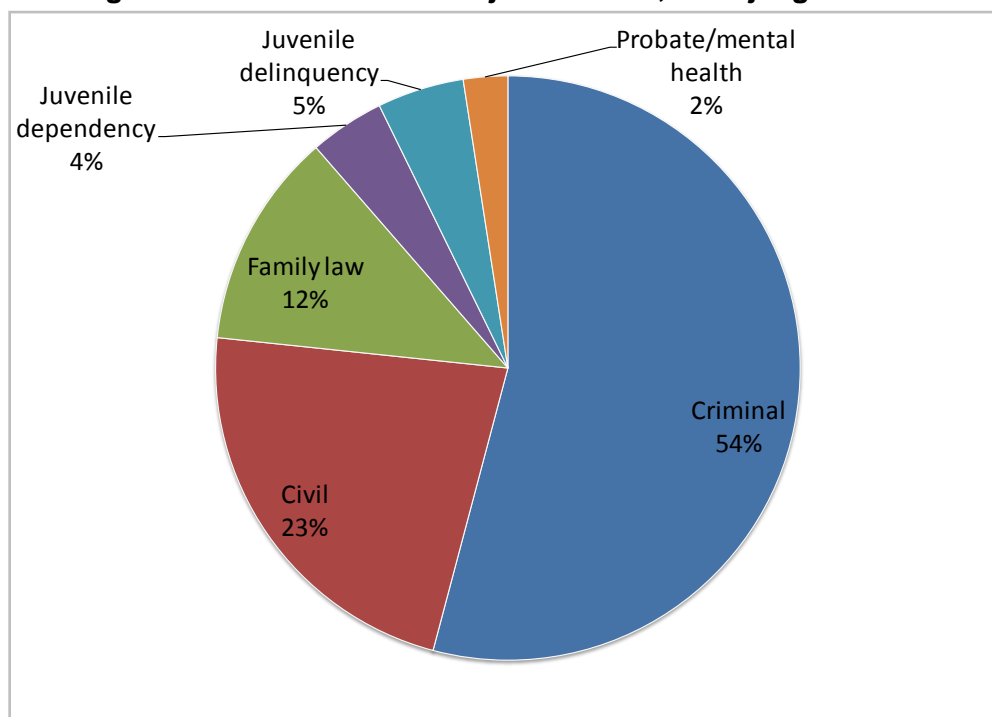
³ The census asked courts to report all judges, subordinate judicial officers, and long-term assigned judges. It did not include pro tems.

⁴ It is important to note that judicial assignments may have changed since the judge census was conducted in 2010. The AOC expects to update the census in 2012.

⁵ Although the caseweights are expected to remain the same, the implied judicial need will change, as the model will be updated with more recent court filings for the 2012 report to the Legislature. To the extent that family and juvenile filings change, judicial need will be somewhat different relative to the figures presented in this report.

cases account for 21 percent of judicial time—12 percent for family, 4 percent for juvenile dependency, and 5 percent for juvenile delinquency. As explained in more detail below, family law, juvenile dependency, and juvenile delinquency are under-resourced, in terms of both absolute numbers and the proportional allocation of judicial time.

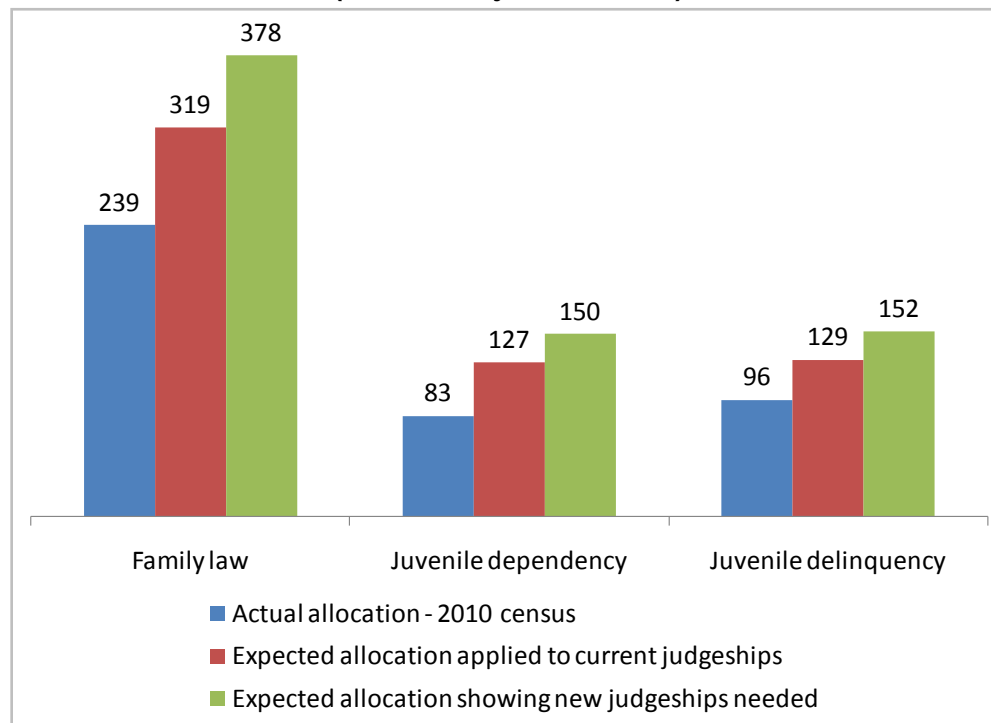
Figure 2. Actual allocation of judicial time, 2010 judge census



Family law

According to the new caseweights, statewide, 378 judicial officers are needed to handle family law cases (both dissolution and other). Currently, 239 judicial FTEs are hearing family law cases, reflecting a need for 58 percent more judicial officers to handle the current caseload. Proportionally, the judicial needs assessment estimates that 16 percent of total judicial officer time is needed to handle family law cases. According to the judge census, currently 12 percent of judicial officer time is devoted to family law cases. If we were to apply the 16 percent to the total number of judicial officers reported in the census—i.e., without increasing the total number of judicial officers in the state—one would expect 319 judicial FTEs to be hearing family law cases—80 additional judicial positions, or 33 percent more than are currently hearing family law cases.

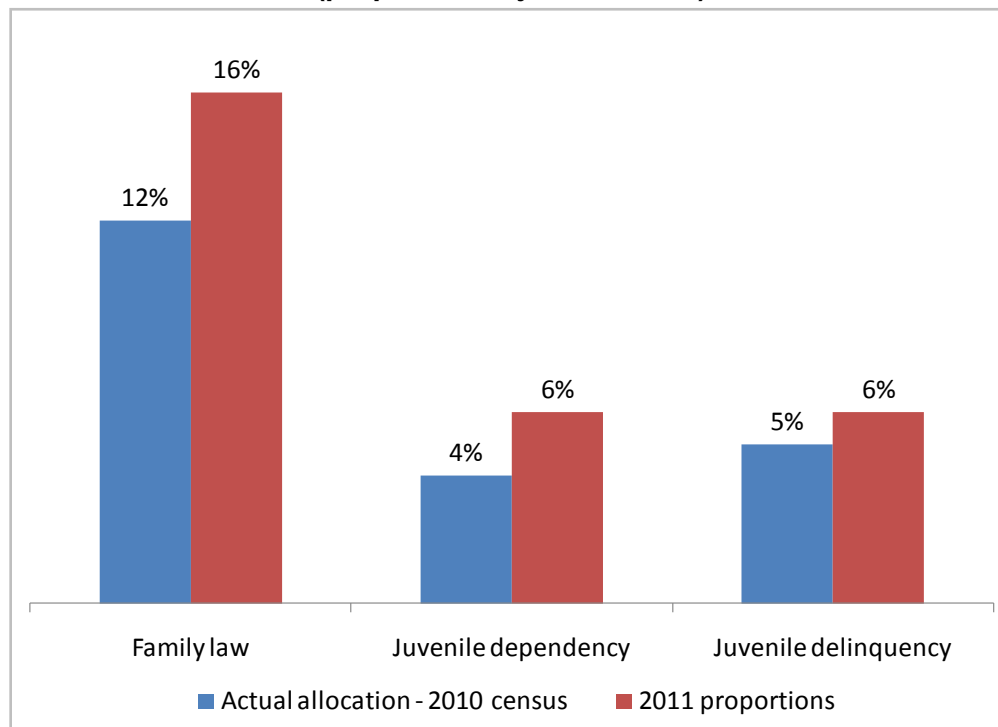
Figure 3. Actual allocation of judicial time compared to implied need (number of judicial FTEs)



Juvenile dependency

Statewide, 150 judicial officers are needed to handle juvenile dependency cases. Currently, 83 judicial FTEs are hearing juvenile dependency cases, reflecting a need for 81 percent more judicial officers to handle the current caseload. Proportionally, the judicial needs assessment estimates that 6 percent of total judicial officer time is needed to handle juvenile dependency cases. According to the judge census, 4 percent of judicial officer time is devoted to juvenile dependency cases. If we were to apply the 6 percent to the total number of judicial officers reported in the census—i.e., without increasing the total number of judicial officers in the state—one would expect 127 judicial FTEs to be hearing juvenile dependency cases—44 additional judicial positions, or 53 percent more than are currently hearing juvenile dependency cases.

Figure 4. Actual allocation of judicial time compared to implied need (proportion of judicial FTEs)



Juvenile delinquency

Statewide, 152 judicial officers are needed to handle juvenile delinquency cases. Currently, 96 judicial FTEs are hearing juvenile delinquency cases, reflecting a need for 58 percent more judicial officers to handle the current caseload. Proportionally, the judicial needs assessment estimates that 6 percent of total judicial officer time is needed to handle juvenile delinquency cases. According to the judge census, 5 percent of judicial officer time is devoted to juvenile delinquency cases. If we were to apply the 6 percent to the total number of judicial officers reported in the census—i.e., without increasing the total number of judicial officers in the state—one would expect 129 judicial FTEs to be hearing juvenile delinquency cases—33 additional judicial positions, or 34 percent more than are currently hearing juvenile delinquency cases.

Trends That May Impact Judicial Time

Caseload/filing trends

The most recent data available regarding caseload (filings and dispositions) filings comes from the *2010 Court Statistics Report* and covers fiscal year 2008–2009. For that year, filings across all case types totaled approximately 10.2 million. Of these, about 5 percent (458,814) were family law filings. Just under 3 percent (137,960) were juvenile filings.

Over the past 10 years, family marital⁶ filings have remained fairly flat at around 150,000 filings per year. Recent years have shown a slight decline in this area but there is no evidence that this is a trend as opposed to part of the normal fluctuations from year to year. Family law petitions⁷ have shown a slight decline overall and have hovered around 300,000 per year since 2005–2006. Juvenile delinquency⁸ filings have fluctuated around 100,000 per year over the past decade with a slight decline early on, an upward trend from about 2004–2005 through 2007–2008, and more recently a downward trend with the 2008–2009 filings just under 100,000. Juvenile dependency⁹ filings fluctuated around 40,000 per year from 1999–2000 and started an upward trend in 2003–2004, peaking at 45,000 in 2006–2007 and trending downward since then to the most recent year available at just under 40,000.

Case-processing trends

Despite the relatively even, or slightly declining, number of family and juvenile cases being filed each year, going forward, several factors drive the finding of increased need for judicial time for these cases.

Judicial officers in family and juvenile case types have been historically underresourced.

Historically, family and juvenile courts have not had an adequate number of judicial officers to appropriately handle their caseloads. The 2006 CFCC Family Law Judicial Officer Survey¹⁰ estimated that there were 175 judicial FTEs devoted to family law, while the judicial workload study reflected a need for 459. The 2005 *California Juvenile Dependency Court Improvement Program Reassessment*¹¹ estimated that there were 81 judicial FTEs hearing juvenile dependency cases, while the judicial workload study reflected a need for 119. Although there appeared to be more judicial positions assigned to juvenile delinquency (95) than needed (75), the 2008 *Juvenile Delinquency Court Assessment*¹² found that only about one-half of the judicial officers reported always or almost always getting through their juvenile delinquency calendars and hearing each case to their satisfaction.

⁶ Family marital filings are defined as proceedings in which a petition has been filed for dissolution or voiding of a marriage or for legal separation.

⁷ Family law petitions are defined as family law cases other than marital cases, such as domestic violence petitions and petitions filed by the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) for reimbursement of child support.

⁸ Juvenile delinquency proceedings are defined as petitions filed under Welfare and Institutions Code section 602, alleging violation of a criminal statute, and petitions filed under Welfare and Institutions Code section 601, alleging that a minor is beyond the control of parents or guardians but has not violated any law. An *original petition* begins a delinquency proceeding. A *subsequent petition* adds allegations against a minor child who is already subject to the court's jurisdiction.

⁹ Juvenile dependency proceedings are defined as petitions filed under Welfare and Institutions Code section 300, seeking to make a minor child a ward of the court because of abuse or neglect. An *original petition* begins a dependency proceeding. A *subsequent petition* adds allegations regarding a minor child who is already subject to the court's jurisdiction.

¹⁰ http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/FLJOResearchUpdate_Final10-6-09.pdf

¹¹ <http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/CIPReassessmentRpt.pdf>

¹² <http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/JDCA2008CombinedV1V2.pdf>

Judicial officers in family and juvenile case types do not have time to hear cases. In large part due to the historical underresourcing of the family and juvenile courts, judicial officers hearing these case types consistently report not having adequate time to hear their cases, as reflected in research conducted to support the development of recommendations by the Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care and the Elkins Family Law Task Force. Juvenile dependency and delinquency courts are not meeting statutory hearing timelines.¹³ Family courts are reporting large backlogs and active pending caseloads.¹⁴

As previously noted, most judicial officers who responded to the supplemental survey or participated in the Delphi groups indicated they needed more time to address exactly those kinds of tasks that the evolving case-processing standards in family and juvenile cases are suggesting they spend even more time on. These include:

- Reviewing files and preparing for hearings;
- Conducting both short and long cause hearings;
- Preparing findings and orders;
- Ensuring that parties feel their concerns have been addressed;
- Conducting settlement conferences; and
- Encouraging all interested parties to participate in the proceedings.

The importance of judges having more time to become familiar with individual family and juvenile cases early in the process, review, consider, rule on preliminary and other pre-disposition matters, and hear from all interested parties not only at disposition hearings but also at temporary custody or placement hearings and post-placement review hearings is underscored by research such as the Public Trust and Confidence Study (the findings of which are themselves supported by independent empirical research on procedural fairness), that public perceptions of fair court processes are driven in no small part by whether litigants feel they had adequate time to present their cases to judges who are paying attention to them. While this is in some measure driven by judicial attitude and temperament, it is also strongly influenced by the amount of time and attention the court has to devote to hearing cases.

Cases are becoming more complex. At the same time that new laws, rules, and standards have contributed to an increase in the amount of time and attention that must or should be devoted to many of the cases, there is evidence that the cases themselves are becoming more complex and perhaps difficult to resolve. Rising numbers of self-represented litigants, need for interpreter or bilingual services, changing demographics and family structures, a wider range of cultural and linguistic backgrounds, economic stress, and increasing understanding of the many issues that should be considered in family and juvenile cases all add to the workload of the court.

¹³ <http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/CIPReassessmentRpt.pdf>

¹⁴ <http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/elkins-finalreport.pdf>

There is widespread recognition of the deficit of judicial officers in family and juvenile law. The Legislature, in enacting Government Code section 69614(c)(2), and the Judicial Council, through the work of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care and the Elkins Family Law Task Force, among other advisory bodies, have formally recognized that there is not a sufficient number of juvenile and family law judicial officers to satisfactorily handle current caseloads. These entities have all recommended the use of workload studies—that take into account the unique nature of cases involving children and families and the courts’ evolving role in resolving them—to assist courts in assigning appropriate resources to family and juvenile departments. The current judicial workload assessment underscores the lack of judicial resources for family and juvenile courts.

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Government Code section 69614

69614. (a) Upon appropriation by the Legislature in the 2006-07 fiscal year, there shall be 50 additional judges allocated to the various superior courts pursuant to the uniform criteria described in subdivision (b) for determining the need for additional superior court judges.

(b) The judges shall be allocated, in accordance with the uniform standards for factually determining additional judicial need in each county, as approved by the Judicial Council in August 2001, and as modified and approved by the Judicial Council in August 2004, pursuant to the Update of Judicial Needs Study, based on the following criteria:

(1) Court filings data averaged over a period of three years.

(2) Workload standards that represent the average amount of time of bench and nonbench work required to resolve each case type.

(3) A ranking methodology that provides consideration for courts that have the greatest need relative to their current complement of judicial officers.

(c) (1) The Judicial Council shall report to the Legislature and the Governor on or before November 1 of every even-numbered year on the factually determined need for new judgeships in each superior court using the uniform criteria for allocation of judgeships described in subdivision (b), as updated and applied to the average of the prior three years' filings.

(2) On or before November 30, 2011, the Judicial Council shall provide to the Legislature a special assessment of the need for new judgeships in the family law and juvenile law assignments for each superior court.

(3) The Judicial Council shall report, beginning with the report due to the Legislature on November 1, 2012, on the implementation and effect of subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 69615.

SB 56 WORKING GROUP CHARTER

In 2006, the California State Legislature passed Senate Bill 56 (SB 56) directing the Judicial Council to adopt and report to the Legislature concerning “judicial administration standards and measures that promote the fair and efficient administration of justice.” Improving the administration of justice is one of the founding purposes of the Judicial Council enshrined in Article VI of the California State Constitution. Since the advent of state funding of the trial courts, the Judicial Council has adopted standards and measures that allow for the equitable allocation of resources across courts and to prioritize the allocation of those resources.

The Judicial Council has approved two essential tools for these purposes: the Judicial Workload Assessment and the Resource Allocation Study (RAS) model. The Judicial Workload Assessment was approved by the council in 2001 and updated in 2004, 2007, and 2008. In 2006, the basic parameters of the model were incorporated into statute under SB 56, which mandates that the trial court workload estimates be updated every two years. Since 2006, 100 new judgeships have been created by the legislature in SB 56 and Assembly Bill 159 (AB 159) using the judicial workload model to estimate the number of new judgeships needed by the courts and to prioritize where new judgeships are most urgently needed.

The RAS model was approved by the council in 2005 to use in the budget allocation process and is updated annually to identify the most underfunded courts and supplement their budgets to adjust for historic underfunding. Since 2005, using workload estimates derived from the RAS model, the AOC Finance division has allocated approximately \$31 million to the baseline budgets of the most severely underfunded courts in the state using a portion of State Appropriations Limit (SAL) funding.

The *SB 56 Working Group* is established to ensure that these models are regularly revised to adequately capture standards and measures that promote the fair and efficient administration of justice and to provide input from the trial courts on these and other measures and standards of trial court performance.

Charge

The AOC Office of Court Research (OCR) is responsible for developing a comprehensive model for a discreet number of performance measures for court systems and developing an implementation plan for performance measurement in a timely, efficient manner. OCR is also responsible for preparing amendments to the Judicial Workload Assessment and the Resource Allocation Study models as they relate to standards and measures of court administration. The AOC will present final proposals in these areas to the Judicial Council.

The *SB 56 Working Group* is responsible for responding to proposed performance measures and implementation plans and modifications to the Judicial Workload Assessment and the Resource Allocation Study Model by providing advice and suggestions to improve and to effectively implement the plans and models. Specifically, the *SB 56 Working Group* will review and provide advice to the OCR on proposals for instituting performance measures and implementation plans in areas such as:

- Processes, study design, and methodologies that should be used to measure and report on court administration; and
- Amendments to the Judicial Workload Assessment and the Resource Allocation Study models as they relate to standards and measures of court administration.

Members will also advise the AOC on studies and analyses undertaken to update and amend case weights through time studies, focus groups, or other methods.

In addition to the working group, OCR may employ other means of gathering information, analyses, and perspectives through interviews with national or state experts on relevant topics or roundtables of judges, lawyers, and court staff with experience in specific subject matters, as needed.

Membership

Accounting for the dual focus of the working group, addressing both judicial workload and court staff workload issues, membership in the *SB 56 Working Group* consists of both judicial officers and court executive officers (CEOs). The working group will have sixteen members, with approximately half of the membership consisting of judicial officers and half CEOs. The membership will include both representatives from courts that have participated in previous workload studies and members from courts that have not previously participated.

SB 56 Working Group members will serve for staggered renewable four-year terms. The length of the term is slightly longer than that of other AOC working groups to allow for a member to serve through an entire workload model update cycle.

The judicial and court-executive membership of the *SB 56 Working Group* will broadly reflect the diversity of the Superior Courts, taking into account:

- Participation of urban, suburban, and rural courts;
- Diversity in size and adequacy of court resources;

- Participation of both small and large courts, expressed by the number of judgeships;
- For judicial officer members, diversity of case-type experience; and
- Recent service on the Civil and Small Claims, Collaborative Justice Courts, Family and Juvenile Law, Criminal Law, Probate and Mental Health, and/or Traffic Advisory committee.

No fewer than four courts will represent each of the AOC's three regional groupings.

Membership may include a judge and court executive from the same court.

SB56 Working Group membership also includes AOC staff from the Center for Families, Children & the Courts, the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee, the Criminal Law Advisory Committee, and others with knowledge of and experience with standards and measures of court performance.

The Manager of the Administrative Office of the Courts' (AOC) Office of Court Research will serve as the chair of the working group. In addition to the sixteen rotating members discussed above, the Regional Administrative Director of the Northern Central Regional Office is a permanent member of the working group.

Appointment

Members will be appointed by the Administrative Director.

Frequency of Meetings

The working group shall meet twice a year as a full body, with at least one meeting annually to be held in person.

SB 56 Working Group Roster (updated August 25, 2011)

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Judicial Needs Assessment Using 2001 Case Weights							
	Criminal	Civil	Family Law	Dependency	Delinquency	Probate/MH	Total
Alameda	39.2	19.4	13.8	3.6	2.8	2.9	81.6
Alpine	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Amador	1.5	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	2.6
Butte	7.8	2.1	3.6	1.3	0.7	0.5	16.0
Calaveras	1.3	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.1	2.9
Colusa	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.6
Contra Costa	17.1	11.6	10.5	3.5	1.3	1.5	45.4
Del Norte	1.7	0.7	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.1	3.4
El Dorado	4.8	1.9	2.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	10.3
Fresno	46.9	9.6	14.2	2.7	3.3	1.4	78.1
Glenn	1.3	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	2.3
Humboldt	5.2	1.4	2.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	9.8
Imperial	7.4	2.1	1.2	1.2	0.4	0.2	12.5
Inyo	1.1	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.7
Kern	32.7	7.8	11.3	3.2	2.4	2.1	59.5
Kings	7.5	1.3	2.2	0.6	0.3	0.3	12.2
Lake	2.4	0.9	1.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	5.2
Lassen	1.7	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	3.2
Los Angeles	293.2	142.3	110.2	39.6	24.1	10.5	619.8
Madera	7.0	2.1	2.7	0.6	0.7	0.3	13.3
Marin	5.3	2.8	2.2	0.1	0.5	0.6	11.5
Mariposa	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1
Mendocino	5.3	0.6	1.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	8.2
Merced	12.3	2.4	3.9	1.2	0.7	0.3	20.7
Modoc	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.9
Mono	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2
Monterey	13.2	3.8	4.1	0.6	2.0	0.4	24.1
Napa	4.4	1.4	1.6	0.2	0.5	0.4	8.5
Nevada	3.2	1.0	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	5.8
Orange	83.1	40.2	29.9	5.5	4.9	4.4	168.1
Placer	9.8	4.3	4.5	1.6	1.0	0.5	21.8
Plumas	0.9	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.6
Riverside	67.1	28.0	28.5	16.2	4.3	2.3	146.4
Sacramento	48.7	32.3	23.8	5.9	2.8	1.6	115.0
San Benito	2.0	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.0	3.6
San Bernardino	84.2	25.1	33.3	6.5	5.3	2.3	156.7
San Diego	79.4	35.8	36.6	6.0	4.2	3.6	165.6
San Francisco	22.9	14.9	8.1	3.0	1.0	4.2	54.1
San Joaquin	28.7	8.4	9.7	1.8	1.7	2.8	53.2
San Luis Obispo	9.7	2.3	2.6	0.7	0.5	1.5	17.3
San Mateo	13.3	6.1	6.0	3.6	2.7	1.0	32.6
Santa Barbara	13.1	4.4	3.8	1.0	2.4	1.0	25.7
Santa Clara	40.9	16.3	13.4	3.0	2.6	2.3	78.5
Santa Cruz	8.0	2.5	2.3	0.8	0.6	0.3	14.5
Shasta	9.1	2.6	3.2	0.8	0.8	0.3	16.9
Sierra	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Siskiyou	2.2	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.1	3.9
Solano	18.5	4.9	6.7	0.6	1.1	0.8	32.6
Sonoma	14.5	5.4	4.6	0.8	1.7	1.0	28.0
Stanislaus	23.8	5.5	7.6	0.9	1.3	0.8	39.8
Sutter	4.5	1.1	1.8	0.4	0.2	0.4	8.4
Tehama	3.2	0.6	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	5.6
Trinity	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.2
Tulare	18.1	6.0	4.9	1.4	1.2	0.9	32.5
Tuolumne	2.1	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.2	4.3
Ventura	18.9	9.3	8.0	1.2	2.4	1.1	40.9
Yolo	8.2	1.7	2.3	0.6	0.4	0.3	13.5
Yuba	3.1	0.8	1.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	5.8
Total	1,164.9	478.4	440.3	125.0	86.0	57.3	2,351.9
<i>% of Total</i>	<i>49.5%</i>	<i>20.3%</i>	<i>18.7%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>3.7%</i>	<i>2.4%</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

Judicial Needs Assessment Using 2011 DRAFT Case Weights							
	Criminal	Civil	Family Law	Dependency	Delinquency	Probate/MH	Total
Alameda	34.4	25.2	12.1	4.3	5.0	4.1	85.0
Alpine	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Amador	1.3	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	2.6
Butte	6.4	2.3	3.0	1.5	1.3	0.8	15.4
Calaveras	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	3.0
Colusa	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.7
Contra Costa	15.1	14.3	9.1	4.2	2.3	2.4	47.5
Del Norte	1.6	1.1	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.1	3.9
El Dorado	4.0	2.2	2.1	0.6	0.8	0.5	10.2
Fresno	40.7	9.9	11.6	3.2	5.8	2.1	73.4
Glenn	1.1	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	2.1
Humboldt	4.4	2.0	1.7	0.4	0.7	0.7	9.8
Imperial	7.0	3.1	1.2	1.4	0.7	0.3	13.7
Inyo	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	1.7
Kern	31.6	7.1	9.3	3.8	4.2	2.9	59.0
Kings	7.1	1.4	1.9	0.7	0.5	0.5	12.1
Lake	2.3	1.3	0.9	0.3	0.5	0.4	5.7
Lassen	1.8	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	3.6
Los Angeles	282.6	152.0	94.2	47.6	42.7	18.7	637.7
Madera	6.3	2.2	2.1	0.7	1.3	0.4	13.0
Marin	4.7	3.3	2.0	0.1	0.9	0.9	11.9
Mariposa	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.2
Mendocino	4.9	0.8	1.2	0.5	0.4	0.2	8.0
Merced	10.4	2.7	3.1	1.5	1.2	0.5	19.4
Modoc	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.0
Mono	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2
Monterey	12.8	4.6	3.5	0.7	3.6	0.7	25.8
Napa	3.9	2.0	1.4	0.2	0.9	0.5	8.9
Nevada	2.7	1.3	0.9	0.2	0.3	0.3	5.8
Orange	69.7	47.2	26.3	6.7	8.7	5.9	164.5
Placer	9.1	5.4	3.9	1.9	1.8	0.8	22.9
Plumas	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	1.5
Riverside	58.2	37.2	24.1	19.5	7.5	4.3	150.8
Sacramento	42.3	28.3	19.6	7.1	4.9	2.8	105.0
San Benito	1.8	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.1	3.6
San Bernardino	74.0	27.4	27.4	7.8	9.3	4.1	150.0
San Diego	64.7	41.4	32.3	7.3	7.5	6.1	159.3
San Francisco	20.2	20.2	7.1	3.6	1.8	4.9	57.8
San Joaquin	24.6	9.7	8.0	2.2	3.0	3.3	50.9
San Luis Obispo	8.3	2.6	2.3	0.8	0.8	1.8	16.6
San Mateo	12.5	6.5	5.4	4.3	4.7	1.8	35.2
Santa Barbara	12.0	5.6	3.3	1.2	4.3	1.4	27.8
Santa Clara	38.9	20.8	12.5	3.6	4.6	3.6	84.0
Santa Cruz	6.3	3.3	2.1	1.0	1.0	0.6	14.2
Shasta	8.5	3.3	2.7	1.0	1.4	0.6	17.5
Sierra	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Siskiyou	2.0	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	3.9
Solano	16.1	5.6	5.6	0.7	2.0	1.2	31.2
Sonoma	13.4	7.0	4.2	0.9	3.0	1.6	30.2
Stanislaus	21.7	6.4	6.4	1.0	2.3	1.3	39.1
Sutter	4.1	1.3	1.5	0.5	0.3	0.5	8.2
Tehama	2.8	0.8	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.2	5.6
Trinity	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.3
Tulare	15.9	9.4	4.4	1.7	2.1	1.2	34.6
Tuolumne	1.9	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.3	4.5
Ventura	17.5	10.8	7.3	1.4	4.2	1.8	43.0
Yolo	7.3	2.2	2.0	0.7	0.8	0.5	13.4
Yuba	3.0	0.9	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	5.9
Total	1,050.3	548.1	377.5	150.2	152.3	88.9	2,367.3
<i>% of Total</i>	<i>44.4%</i>	<i>23.2%</i>	<i>15.9%</i>	<i>6.3%</i>	<i>6.4%</i>	<i>3.8%</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

Change from 2002 to 2011 Case Weights							
	Criminal	Civil	Family Law	Dependancy	Delinquency	Probate/MH	Total
Alameda	-4.8	5.8	-1.7	0.7	2.2	1.2	3.3
Alpine	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Amador	-0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Butte	-1.4	0.2	-0.6	0.3	0.6	0.4	-0.6
Calaveras	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Colusa	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Contra Costa	-1.9	2.7	-1.4	0.7	1.0	0.9	2.1
Del Norte	-0.1	0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5
El Dorado	-0.8	0.4	-0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	-0.1
Fresno	-6.2	0.3	-2.6	0.5	2.5	0.7	-4.7
Glenn	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2
Humboldt	-0.8	0.6	-0.4	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.0
Imperial	-0.5	1.0	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.1	1.2
Inyo	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Kern	-1.1	-0.7	-2.0	0.6	1.8	0.8	-0.5
Kings	-0.4	0.1	-0.4	0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.1
Lake	-0.1	0.4	-0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.5
Lassen	0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.4
Los Angeles	-10.5	9.7	-16.0	8.0	18.6	8.2	17.9
Madera	-0.7	0.1	-0.6	0.1	0.5	0.2	-0.4
Marin	-0.6	0.5	-0.2	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.4
Mariposa	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Mendocino	-0.4	0.2	-0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	-0.2
Merced	-1.8	0.3	-0.8	0.2	0.5	0.2	-1.3
Modoc	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Mono	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Monterey	-0.4	0.8	-0.6	0.1	1.6	0.3	1.7
Napa	-0.5	0.6	-0.2	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.4
Nevada	-0.4	0.3	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Orange	-13.4	7.0	-3.7	1.1	3.8	1.5	-3.6
Placer	-0.7	1.0	-0.6	0.3	0.8	0.3	1.1
Plumas	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Riverside	-8.9	9.1	-4.4	3.3	3.3	2.0	4.4
Sacramento	-6.3	-4.0	-4.1	1.2	2.1	1.1	-9.9
San Benito	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
San Bernardino	-10.2	2.3	-5.9	1.3	4.1	1.8	-6.6
San Diego	-14.8	5.7	-4.3	1.2	3.2	2.5	-6.4
San Francisco	-2.7	5.3	-1.0	0.6	0.8	0.7	3.8
San Joaquin	-4.1	1.3	-1.7	0.4	1.3	0.5	-2.3
San Luis Obispo	-1.5	0.3	-0.3	0.1	0.4	0.2	-0.7
San Mateo	-0.8	0.5	-0.6	0.7	2.1	0.7	2.6
Santa Barbara	-1.1	1.2	-0.5	0.2	1.9	0.3	2.1
Santa Clara	-2.0	4.5	-0.9	0.6	2.0	1.3	5.5
Santa Cruz	-1.7	0.8	-0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	-0.3
Shasta	-0.6	0.6	-0.4	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.7
Sierra	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Siskiyou	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Solano	-2.3	0.7	-1.1	0.1	0.9	0.4	-1.4
Sonoma	-1.1	1.6	-0.4	0.2	1.3	0.6	2.1
Stanislaus	-2.0	0.8	-1.2	0.2	1.0	0.5	-0.7
Sutter	-0.4	0.3	-0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.2
Tehama	-0.4	0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0
Trinity	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Tulare	-2.2	3.3	-0.6	0.3	0.9	0.3	2.1
Tuolumne	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Ventura	-1.5	1.5	-0.7	0.2	1.8	0.6	2.1
Yolo	-0.9	0.5	-0.4	0.1	0.3	0.2	-0.1
Yuba	-0.1	0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	-114.6	69.7	-62.9	25.2	66.3	31.6	15.4
<i>% of Total</i>	<i>-5.2%</i>	<i>2.8%</i>	<i>-2.8%</i>	<i>1.0%</i>	<i>2.8%</i>	<i>1.3%</i>	<i>0.0%</i>