



SOUTH DAKOTA UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Annual Report

State Fiscal Year 2024



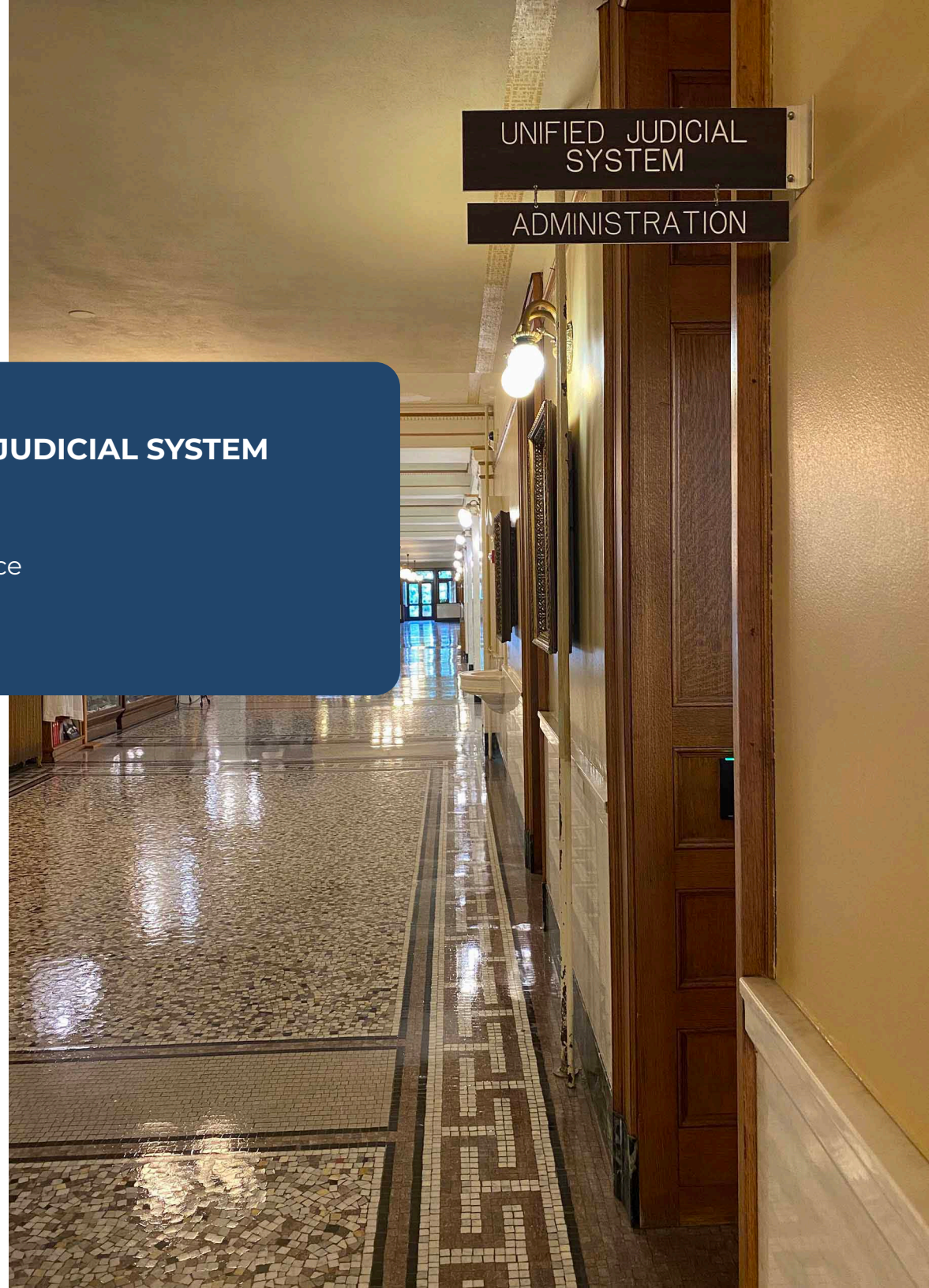
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UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM



State Fiscal Year 2024

SOUTH DAKOTA UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM ANNUAL REPORT

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South Dakota Unified Judicial System

South Dakota Supreme Court Justices

L-R: Justice Patricia J. DeVaney, Pierre, Third District; Justice Janine M. Kern, Rapid City, First District; Chief Justice Steven R. Jensen, Dakota Dunes, Fourth District; Justice Mark E. Salter, Sioux Falls, Second District; and Justice Scott P. Myren, Mound City, Fifth District

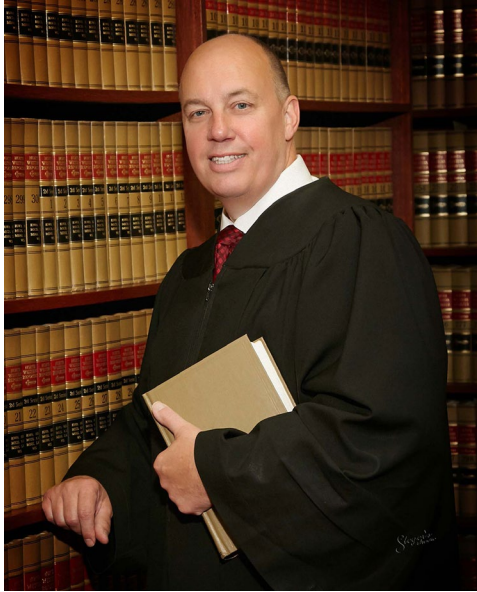


Our Mission
Justice for All

Our Vision

We are stewards of an open, effective and accessible court system, worthy of the public's trust and confidence.

Chief Justice Message



I am honored to present the FY2024 Unified Judicial System's Annual Report, highlighting the work carried out by the South Dakota Supreme Court, circuit courts, magistrate courts and the State Court Administrator's Office from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

This report provides a comprehensive overview of the past year's court activities through tables and graphs. Yet, behind each figure lies a deeper story—each number represents an individual whose life was directly touched by South Dakota's court system. Our judicial officers and employees remain committed to upholding the principles of fairness and impartiality in every case that comes before us.

I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the dedicated individuals who make our court system function day in and day out. Your hard work, resilience and unwavering commitment to justice often go unnoticed but are vital to the integrity of our legal system and its ability to serve the public effectively.

As we move forward into another year, we will continue to prioritize transparency, efficiency and accessibility within the courts. Our focus remains on ensuring that every person who interacts with the South Dakota court system receives the fair treatment and respect they deserve, reaffirming the trust and confidence placed in us.

Steven R. Jensen

Chief Justice, South Dakota Supreme Court

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South Dakota Courts | At a Glance

The South Dakota Unified Judicial System (UJS) consists of the Supreme Court, circuit courts and State Court Administrator's Office. The Supreme Court is the state's highest court and final decision maker on South Dakota law. The circuit courts are the state's trial courts where criminal proceedings and civil litigation are handled. The State Court Administrator's Office provides centralized administrative assistance and support services for the South Dakota judiciary.

SUPREME COURT FILINGS

Appeals	280
Intermediate Appeals	24
Original Proceedings	45
Orders, Writs and Judgments	1,248
Bar Applications Submitted	161
Bar Admissions	116

CIRCUIT COURT FILINGS

Criminal*	131,036
Civil	59,145
Domestic Relations	7,809
Search Warrants	5,828
Juveniles	5,074
Drug, Alcohol and Mental Health Commitments	4,496
Probate	2,263
Total Circuit Court Case Filings	190,181

* Includes municipal ordinances and petty offenses.

Year in Review | July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024



Second Judicial Circuit Presiding Judge Robin J. Houwman administers the oath of office to Magistrate Judge Jonathan R. Leddige at the Minnehaha County Courthouse on Aug. 25, 2023.

July 14, 2023 | The Barriers for Emerging Adults Task Force, created by HB 1063 during the 2023 South Dakota Legislature, held its first meeting to examine barriers to service for “emerging adults” involved in the justice system.

Aug. 2, 2023 | South Dakota State Court Administrator Greg Sattizahn was elected president of the Conference of State Court Administrators. Sattizahn assumed the position's one-year term following the group's annual conference in New York City.

Aug. 25, 2023 | Jonathan R. Leddige was officially sworn in as a magistrate judge at the Minnehaha County Courthouse in Sioux Falls. Judge Leddige filled a newly-created magistrate judge seat for the Second Judicial Circuit.



The South Dakota Supreme Court holds its October 2023 term of court at the University of South Dakota's Knudson School of Law in Vermillion on Oct. 4-5, 2023. (Photo Credit: Dakota News Now)

Sept. 24, 2023 | Judge Christina Klinger replaced Judge Bobbi J. Rank as presiding judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit.

Oct. 4-5, 2023 | College and high school students got a closer look at how the judicial system works when the South Dakota Supreme Court held its October term of court at the University of South Dakota's Knudson School of Law in Vermillion. The Court heard oral arguments in four cases both mornings.

Oct. 5-6, 2023 | The Community Response to Child Abuse Conference in Sioux Falls brought together more than 430 people from across the state, including court employees, stepping up to fight child abuse.

Year in Review | July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024



Judge Christina Klinger, Sixth Judicial Circuit, and Magistrate Judge Abigail A. Howard, Third Judicial Circuit, speak at the Treatment Courts Statewide Conference.



Supreme Court Justice Scott P. Myren, Justice Janine M. Kern and Chief Justice Steven R. Jensen with treatment court graduates prior to the Chief Justice's 2024 State of the Judiciary message.

Nov. 7, 2023 | The Barriers for Emerging Adults Task Force, created by HB 1063 during the 2023 South Dakota Legislature, issued its Final Report and Recommendations to the Governor, Chief Justice and South Dakota Legislature.

Nov. 7-9, 2023 | More than 170 professionals, experts and stakeholders in the treatment courts community came together in Deadwood for the South Dakota Treatment Courts Statewide Conference: South Dakota RISE23. Hosted by the South Dakota Unified Judicial System, the biannual event provides education and networking for public safety and public health leaders working to expand treatment for people with substance use and mental health disorders who become involved in the justice system.

Dec. 20, 2023 | A steering committee appointed to study the bar admissions process in South Dakota issued its final report and recommendations to the South Dakota Supreme Court. The Supreme Court appointed the steering committee after considering the existing challenges and increasing interest and discussion about bar admission in South Dakota.

Jan. 10, 2024 | South Dakota Supreme Court Chief Justice Steven R. Jensen presented his 2024 State of the Judiciary at the State Capitol. During his message, Chief Justice Jensen shared the stories of three treatment court graduates and their sobriety and recovery. Watch or read the 2024 State of the Judiciary at https://uj.s.sd.gov/Supreme_Court/Messages.aspx.

Year in Review | July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024



Julia Dvorak was sworn in as a judge for the Fifth Judicial Circuit following Judge Tony L. Portra's retirement.

Jan. 26, 2024 | Julia Dvorak was officially sworn in as a judge for the Fifth Judicial Circuit in Aberdeen. Judge Dvorak filled a vacancy after Judge Tony L. Portra retired from the bench.

Feb. 9, 2024 | The South Dakota Supreme Court issued an advisory opinion in the matter of interpretation of the South Dakota Constitution and state laws regarding state legislator interest in state or county contracts. The opinion followed the Supreme Court hearing oral arguments on Jan. 8, 2024, for Gov. Kristi Noem's request for an advisory opinion on nine individual and fact-specific questions concerning the constitutional restriction upon legislators contracting with the state of South Dakota.



Supreme Court justices meet with honor students as they hold traveling term of court at Northern State University in March.

March 19-21, 2024 | The South Dakota Supreme Court held term of court at Northern State University (NSU) in Aberdeen. Area high school government classes, NSU students and members of the public observed two mornings of oral arguments before the Court. The Court also met with NSU honor students, spoke to NSU criminal justice students about the Rural Attorney Recruitment Program, and conferenced to discuss cases before the Court.

April 1, 2024 | Judge Robert Gusinsky replaced Judge Craig A. Pfeifle as presiding judge of the Seventh Judicial Circuit.

Year in Review | July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024



Sixth Circuit Treatment Court celebrates the accomplishments of seven graduates during National Treatment Court Month.

April 16, 2024 | The South Dakota Commission on Access to Our Courts held an organizational meeting virtually via Zoom. The Commission, which is authorized by South Dakota Supreme Court Rule 24-03, will work to promote equal access to and a higher level of trust and confidence in South Dakota's court system.

May 15, 2024 | The remarkable accomplishments of seven people completing Sixth Circuit Treatment Court were celebrated in the State Capitol Rotunda in Pierre. Treatment courts across South Dakota held special events in May to celebrate National Treatment Court Month.



Megan Fankhauser, the daughter of former Judge Jeff W. Davis, speaks during the dedication ceremony of the courtroom named in his honor at the Pennington County Courthouse.

May 16, 2024 | The South Dakota Commission on Indigent Legal Services authorized by the 2024 South Dakota Legislature held its first meeting in Sioux Falls. The new statewide office is charged with improving how legal representation is provided to those who cannot afford an attorney and have a right to counsel under state or federal law.

June 20, 2024 | A dedication ceremony was held to rename Courtroom C2 in the Pennington County Courthouse to Jeff W. Davis Memorial Courtroom. Former Judge Jeff W. Davis was integral to several courthouse addition and remodeling projects, including the recent renovation of Courtroom C2 to reflect a historically accurate courtroom in the building.

SUPREME COURT

South Dakota Supreme Court

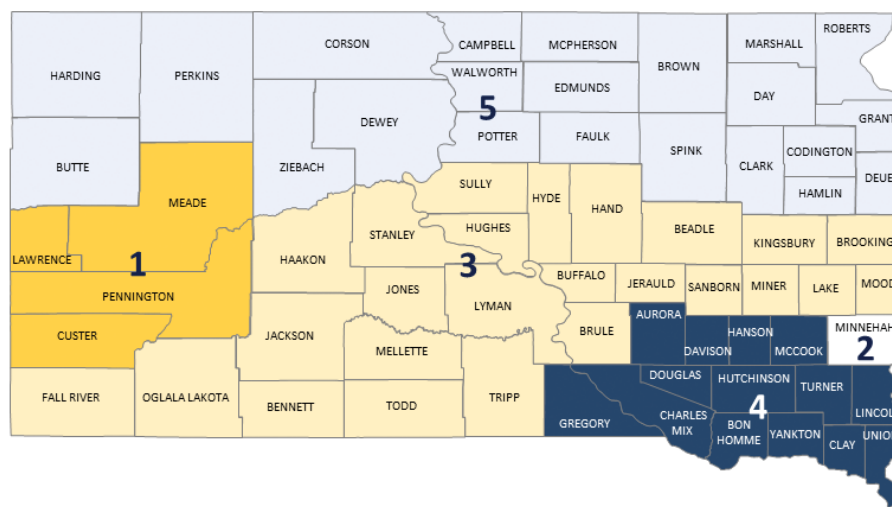
The South Dakota Supreme Court is the state's highest court and the court of last resort for state appellate actions. The Supreme Court is comprised of the Chief Justice, who is the administrative head of the Unified Judicial System, and four justices who are the final judicial authority on all matters involving the legal and judicial system of South Dakota.

Supreme Court justices are appointed by the Governor from a list of nominees selected by the South Dakota Judicial Qualifications Commission. Justices must be licensed to practice law in South Dakota, and permanent justices must be voting residents of the district from which they are appointed at the time they take office.

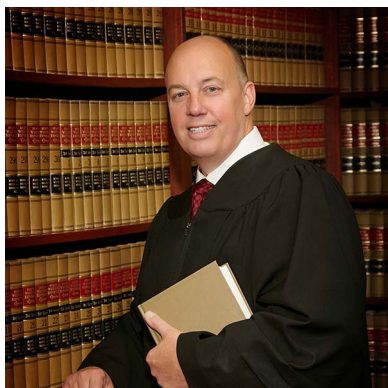
One justice is selected from each of five geographic appointment districts. Justices face a nonpolitical retention election three years after appointment and every eight years after that. The justices select their own chief justice for a four-year term.

SUPREME COURT DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Original jurisdiction in cases involving interests of the state.
- Issues original and remedial writs.
- Renders advisory opinions to the Governor on issues involving executive power.
- Appellate jurisdiction over circuit court decisions.
- Rule-making authority over court practice and procedure.
- Administrative leadership for the legal and judicial system.
- Controls admissions to and disciplines members of the State Bar.



Supreme Court Justices



CHIEF JUSTICE STEVEN R. JENSEN

Place of Birth: Wakonda

Home: Dakota Dunes

Education: Undergraduate degree Bethel University in St. Paul and juris doctorate University of South Dakota School of Law

Joined the Supreme Court: Appointed in 2017, selected as chief justice in 2021

Supreme Court District: Fourth

Prior Experience: South Dakota Supreme Court law clerk, private law practice, First Judicial Circuit judge and presiding judge

JUSTICE JANINE M. KERN

Place of Birth: Lake Andes

Home: Rapid City

Education: Undergraduate degree Arizona State University and juris doctorate University of Minnesota Law School

Joined the Supreme Court: Appointed in 2014

Supreme Court District: First

Prior Experience: South Dakota Attorney General's Office (appellate division, drug prosecution unit, litigation division) and Seventh Judicial Circuit judge

JUSTICE MARK E. SALTER

Place of Birth: Huron

Home: Sioux Falls

Education: Undergraduate degree South Dakota State University and juris doctorate University of South Dakota School of Law

Joined the Supreme Court: Appointed in 2018

Supreme Court District: Second

Prior Experience: Minnesota State District Court law clerk, U.S. Navy and Naval Reserves, private law practice, U.S. Attorney's Office (appellate), Second Judicial Circuit judge

Supreme Court Justices



JUSTICE PATRICIA J. DEVANEY

Place of Birth: Polo

Home: Pierre

Education: Undergraduate degree University of South Dakota and juris doctorate University of Virginia School of Law

Joined the Supreme Court: Appointed in 2019

Supreme Court District: Third

Prior Experience: South Dakota Attorney General's Office (appellate, litigation, administrative matters) and Sixth Judicial Circuit judge

JUSTICE SCOTT P. MYREN

Place of Birth: Mobridge

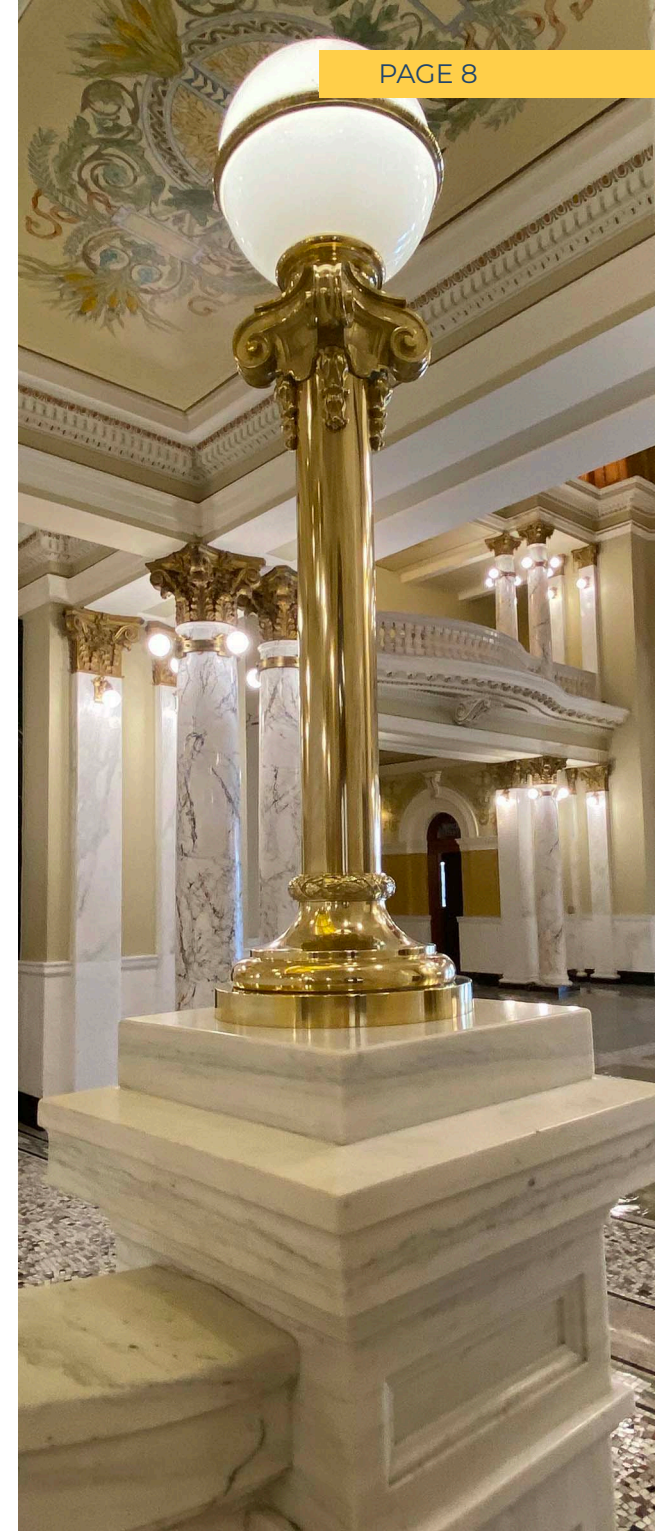
Home: Mound City

Education: Undergraduate degree University of South Dakota and juris doctorate Rutgers University

Joined the Supreme Court: Appointed in 2021

Supreme Court District: Fifth

Prior Experience: Private law practice, SD Supreme Court staff attorney, Office of Administrative Hearings administrative law judge, Sixth Judicial Circuit magistrate judge, Fifth Judicial Circuit judge and presiding judge



Supreme Court Workload

The South Dakota Supreme Court's workload is shown on the next page. The following categories are used within the Supreme Court.

Intermediate Appeals

Appeals made during the progress of a case in circuit court. Intermediate appeals are accepted at the discretion of the Supreme Court.

Notice of Review

Filed by an appellee (party against whom an appeal is taken) seeking review of a judgment or order entered in the same action from which an appeal has been taken. A notice of review is a separate filing but not a separate disposition since it is disposed of as part of the original appeal.

Certificates of Probable Cause

Required before an appeal can be brought in a habeas corpus case.

Summary Dispositions

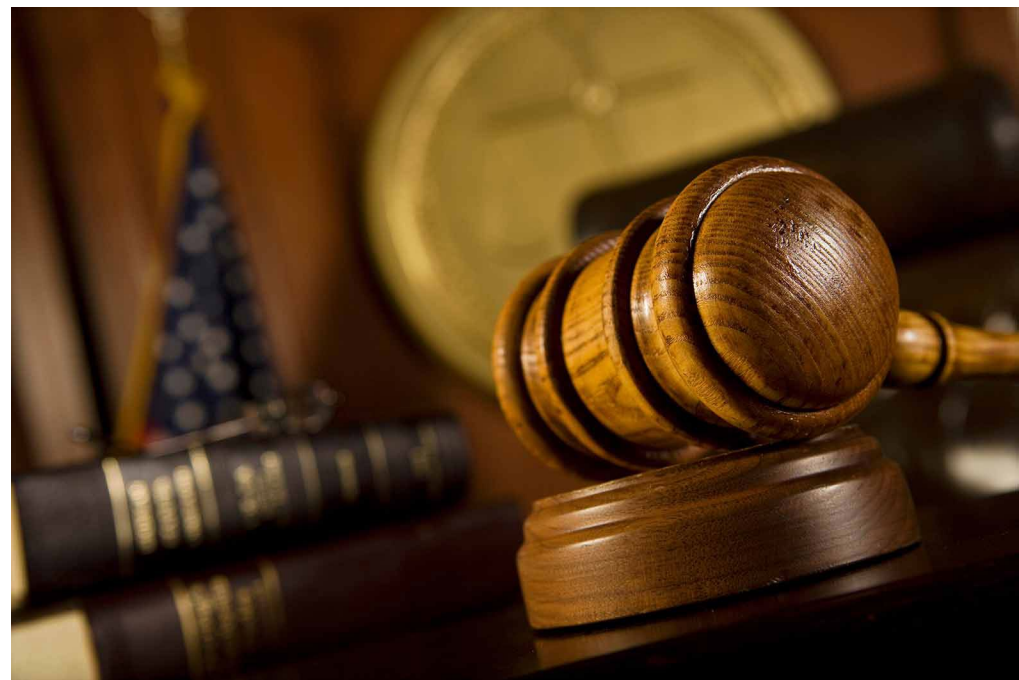
Appeals that have been summarily affirmed or reversed on established grounds set forth in SDCL 15-26A-87.1. In these proceedings the Court, on its own motion, may affirm or reverse the judgment or order from which the appeal is taken. The Court must be unanimous in its decision to render a summary disposition, and the decision is set out in an order or memorandum opinion. The term "expedited appeal" is sometimes used because it usually takes less time to process appeals under this rule.

Pending Cases

Cases which have been filed with the Court but in which no decision has been entered.

Administrative, Judicial, Legal Research, Law Library and Bar Admissions

Part of the workload within the Supreme Court.



Supreme Court Caseload

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Filings					
Appeals	244	242	240	255	280
Intermediate Appeals	24	36	40	32	24
Original Proceedings	31	34	44	43	45
Notice of Review	10	6	7	17	15
Certificates of Probable Cause	8	12	9	10	13
Reinstatements	0	0	0	0	0
Rehearings Granted	0	0	0	0	0
COMBINED FILINGS	317	330	340	357	377
Dispositions					
Appeals/Original Proceedings	78/90	80/89	78/83	73/84	79/87
Orders of Dismissal/Dispositional Remands	108	98	119	120	119
Denial of Intermediate Appeals	18	22	26	30	21
Original Proceedings (by Order)	32	20	27	33	32
Dispositive Remand	0	0	0	0	0
Summary Dispositions	89	80	77	76	88
COMBINED DISPOSITIONS	337	309	332	343	347
Pending Cases					
Submitted and Pending	44	51	50	51	54
Ready for Submission	42	22	29	45	22
Not Ready for Calendar	88	89	82	94	106
Other (in Suspense)	5	5	3	4	2
TOTAL PENDING CASES AT YEAR END	179	167	164	194	184

Supreme Court Caseload *continued*

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Administrative					
Hearings on Rules and Related Matters	2	3	3	4	3
Internal Procedure Rules Adopted or Amended	2	3	1	3	5
Supreme Court Rules Adopted or Amended	6	9	16	22	5
Administrative Conference	25	24	25	25	24
Judicial					
Orders, Writs and Judgments Entered	1,180	1,200	1,220	1,215	1,248
Bar Admissions (includes reciprocity)	92	95	121	107	108
Bar Admissions (pursuant to SDCL 16-18-2)	15	10	4	4	8
Cases for Oral Arguments	51	41	35	39	42
Cases Submitted on Briefs Only	122	112	106	102	131
Case Conference Days	23	24	23	24	23
Legal Research					
Appeals Screened	317	330	340	357	377
Cases that Briefs Were Received In	173	185	189	176	195
Per Curiams Assigned	23	29	27	30	29
Bar Admissions					
Applications Submitted	122	136	230	150	161

Judicial Qualifications Commission

The authority for creation of the Judicial Qualifications Commission is granted by the South Dakota Constitution.

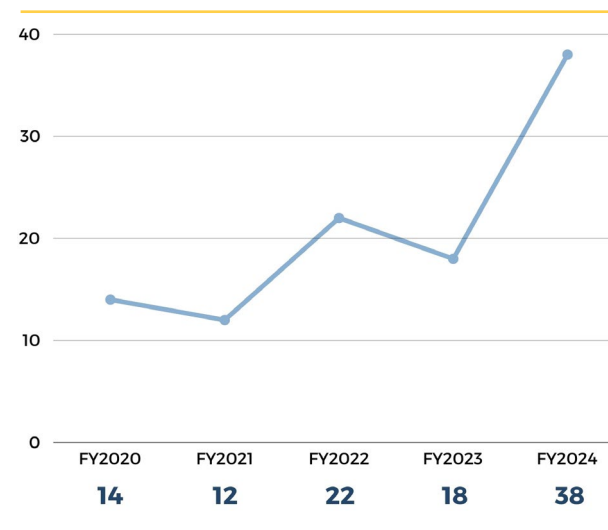
The seven-member commission is comprised of two circuit court judges, elected by the judicial conference; three members of the bar practicing law but no more than two of whom may be of the same political party and who must be appointed by a majority vote of the state bar commissioners; and two citizens, who are appointed by the Governor and who are not of the same political party.

The term of office for a commission member is four years. No person may serve more than two terms as a member of the commission.

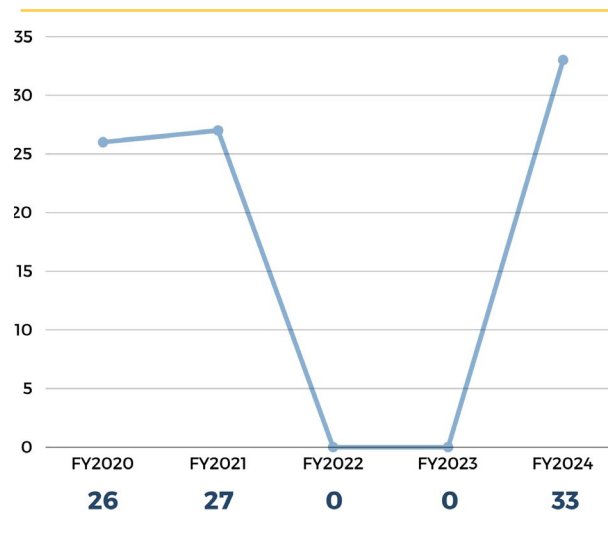
COMMISSION DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Receive and investigate complaints against justices or judges.
- Conduct confidential hearings to determine whether complaints are justified.
- Recommend censure, removal or retirement of a judge to the Supreme Court.
- Investigate applicants for vacancies on the Supreme Court or circuit court bench.
- Nominate two or more of the most qualified applicants to the Governor.

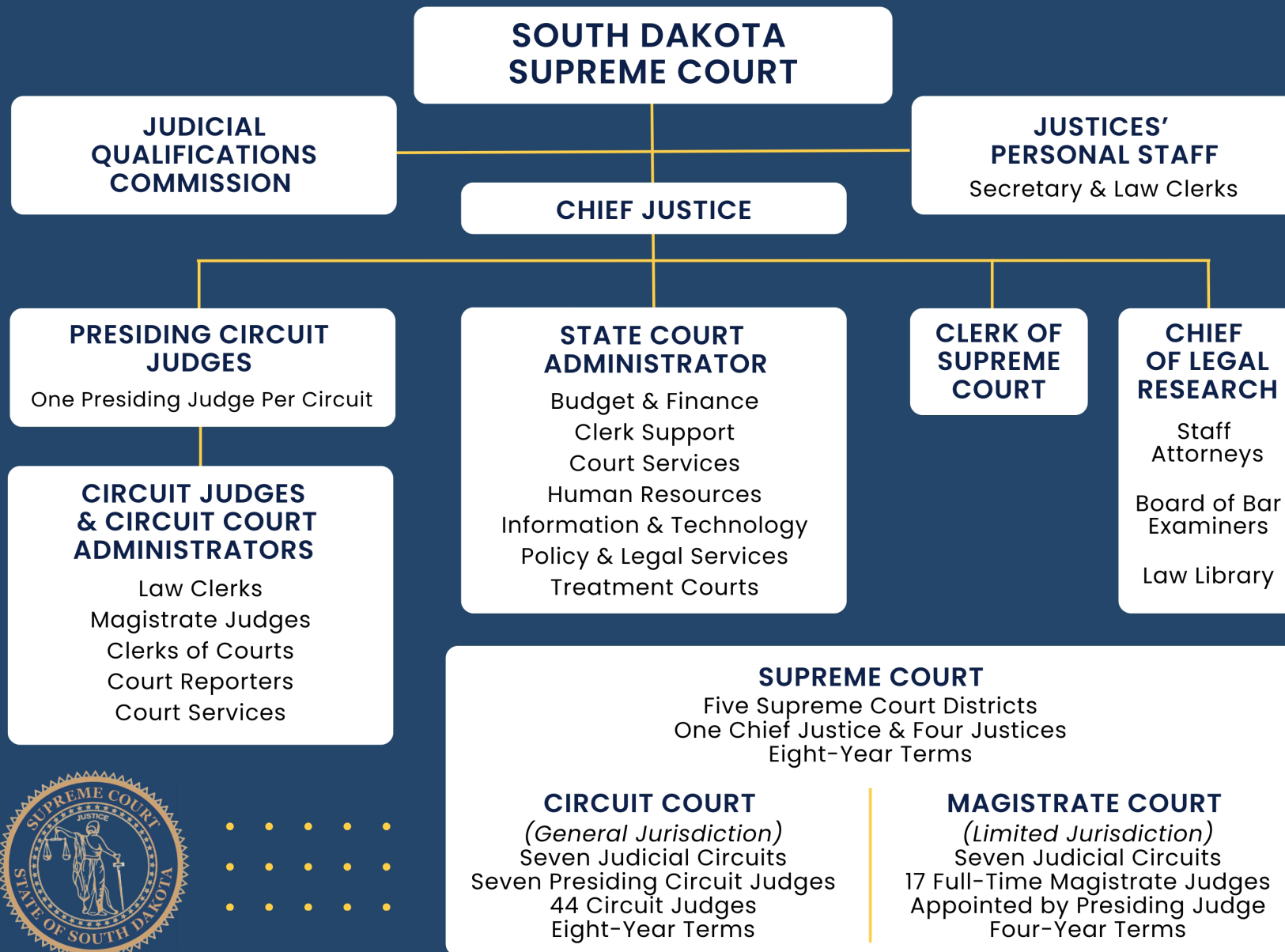
Written
Complaints
Received



Investigation
of Applicants



SOUTH DAKOTA UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM



South Dakota Courts | Staffing and Budget

FY2024 Staffing (FTEs)

Supreme Court Justices	5
Circuit Judges	44
Magistrate Judges	17
Supreme Court	16
Clerk of Courts Offices	198
Circuit Administration	41
Official Court Reporters	40
Court Services (Probation)	150
Treatment Courts	38
State Court Administration	53
Total UJS Staff	602

EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM

Circuit Court	\$20,714,036	29.4%
Court Services and Treatment Courts	\$20,002,641	28.4%
Clerk of Courts	\$14,632,581	20.7%
Information and Technology	\$6,390,701	9.1%
State Court Administrator's Office	\$3,882,964	5.5%
Supreme Court	\$3,701,813	5.2%
Community-Based Services	\$596,891	0.8%
Training	\$586,525	0.8%
Judicial Qualifications Commission	\$19,116	Less Than 0.1%

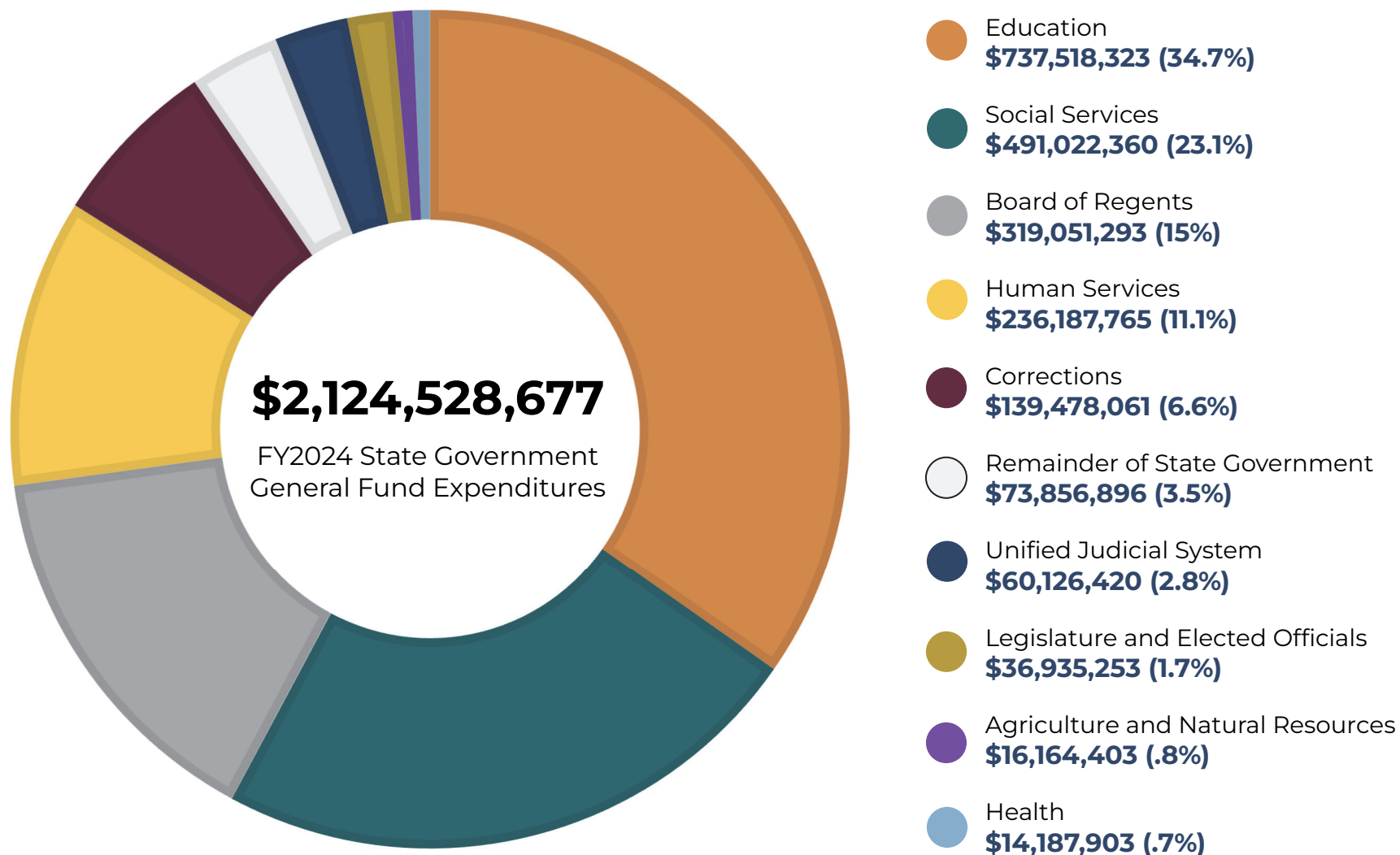
EXPENDITURES BY FUND SOURCE

General Funds	\$59,636,903	84.6%
Court Automation Fund	\$9,629,801	13.7%
Law Enforcement Officer Training Fund	\$507,504	0.7%
Child Support Referees Fund	\$429,892	0.6%
Federal Funds	\$281,825	0.4%
Drug Screening Fund	\$41,343	Less Than 0.1%

\$70,527,268 FY2024 Budget

South Dakota Courts | Portion of State Budget

\$60,126,420 (2.8%) UJS Share of FY2024 State Government General Fund Expenditures
(Includes Equal Access to our Courts and encumbrances.)



Justice in the Balance | Courts Work for South Dakotans

There is much more to the work of the courts than the occasional high-profile case that attracts public attention. The bulk of work involves everyday issues that affect South Dakotans.



EVERYDAY ISSUES

In FY2024, South Dakota's courts handled:

2,638	Divorce and annulment cases
1,153	Child support modification proceedings and Uniform Interstate Family Support Act actions
333	Drug/alcohol committals
4,163	Mental illness cases
409	Adoption and termination of parental rights
4,018	Protection orders

To assist these families, the UJS provides self-represented litigants with UJS-approved forms, which include divorce and parenting time implementation and enforcement forms.

ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN

South Dakota courts play a life-altering role for abused and neglected children.

They decide whether to:

- Remove a child from a parent
- Place a child in foster care
- Reunite a child and parent or terminate parental rights
- Allow adoption of a child

There is no greater responsibility of the judiciary than determining the best interest of a South Dakota child.

In FY2024, South Dakota courts presided over:

541 Juvenile abuse and neglect cases



1,004 Children involved in abuse and neglect cases

Justice in the Balance | Courts Work for South Dakotans



JUVENILE JUSTICE

South Dakota’s court services officers (CSOs), staff and judges continuously work with youth and their families to:

- Ensure community safety
- Hold young people accountable for their actions, including paying restitution to victims
- Influence behavioral changes
- Provide resources to assist families

In FY2024, South Dakota courts worked with the following youth to address their conduct:

822 Youth supervised on formal probation

205 Youth receiving informal supervision (diversion cases)

51 Youth case service monitoring *

In total, South Dakota courts handled **995** juvenile citations, **2,724** juvenile delinquencies, **769** child in need of supervision (CHINS) cases, and **45** CHINS and delinquencies.

**Case service monitoring is used when the judge does not order formal probation supervision and wants any conditions monitored or any other type of supervision that is not considered formal supervision.*

Youth Committed to Department of Corrections



Justice in the Balance | Statewide Caseloads

CIVIL JUSTICE



South Dakotans from every walk of life, whether in their private or business relationships, rely on the courts to resolve their civil legal problems. Providing a forum for the effective resolution of these disputes is an essential part of the mission of the courts. During FY2024, circuit courts handled:

18,409	Small Claims Cases
9,443	Civil Litigation Cases
2,263	Probate Cases
881	Guardianship and Trust Cases

Civil cases can take anywhere from months to years before they are resolved, leading to an overlap in cases from year to year.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE



Criminal cases dominate court time and resources. Judges and court staff spend more time on criminal cases than on any other type of case. Clerk of courts offices are responsible for case processing and ensuring a sufficient pool of jurors are available for trials. During FY2024, circuit courts heard:

11,982	Felonies
18,823	Class I Misdemeanors
25,882	Contested Class 2 Misdemeanors <i>(includes municipal ordinances and petty offenses)</i>
74,349	Non-Contested Class 2 Misdemeanors <i>(includes municipal ordinances and petty offenses)</i>

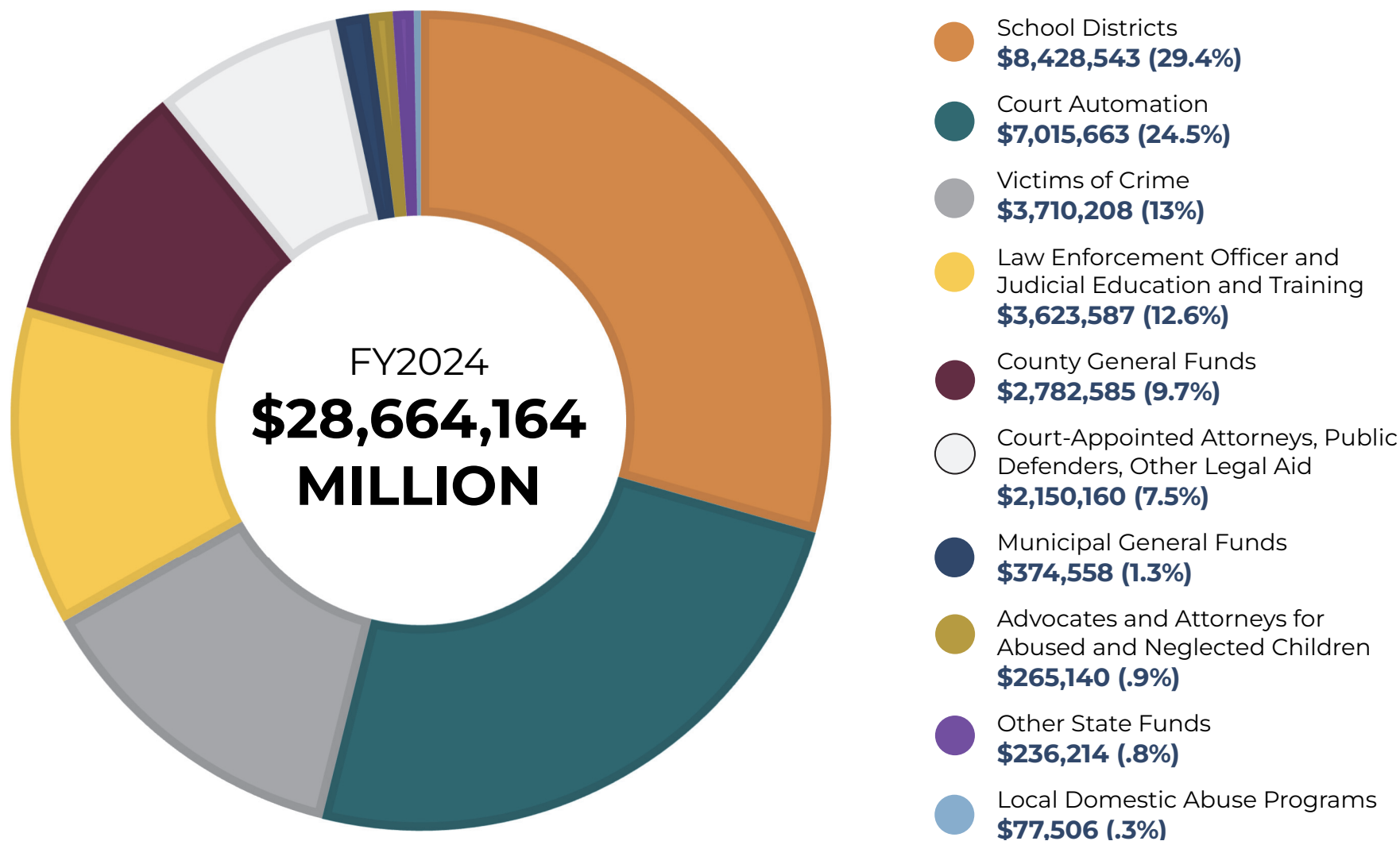
Court services officers formally supervised **6,031** cases in felony matters, **297** cases on misdemeanor matters, plus informally supervised another **128** cases via case service monitoring.

Employers, landlords, media and the public rely on South Dakota's clerk of courts offices for accurate information about criminal defendants, sentencing histories and money owed on judgments. During FY2024, the court system performed:

564,244 Record Searches | **5,828** Search Warrants

Justice in the Balance | Collection of Money

It is the responsibility of the court system to take in and distribute fines, fees, penalties and costs owed to victims, cities, counties, school districts and the state.



Courthouse Security Grant Program



With grant funding, upgrades were made to the court security deputy's screening area at the Brookings County Courthouse.

The South Dakota Unified Judicial System Courthouse Security Grant Program allows counties to address courthouse security measures to improve the safety and security of the public, litigants, witnesses, attorneys and courthouse staff. Grants provide a 75% UJS match for approved projects, with counties responsible for the remaining 25% of the costs.

- Tier-One Grants: UJS match up to \$10,000
- Tier-Two Grants: UJS match more than \$10,000

A courthouse security committee must be in place to be eligible for tier-two grants. Grant applications must identify projects and equipment that are essential to enhance security measures at the courthouse location.



\$1,766,820.75 in grants

More than \$1.7 million in Courthouse Security Grants have been awarded for projects since July 1, 2022.



42 site assessments

Forty site assessments of courthouse locations have been completed, with more scheduled for completion by the end of calendar year 2024.



42 security committees

Forty-two Court Security Committees have been formed across South Dakota, with many of the committees meeting regularly the past two years.



51 threats/incidents

Fifty-one threats or incidents were reported by UJS judges and employees during FY2024.

Indigent Legal Services

The Indigent Legal Services Task Force issued its final report and recommendations to the Governor, Chief Justice and South Dakota Legislature on October 10, 2023. The Task Force made three recommendations:

1. Statutorily create a statewide indigent defense commission and state public defender office.
2. Evaluate alternatives for funding and cost-containment in indigent defense.
3. Contract with Sixth Amendment Center to perform a thorough review of representative counties to gather further information to inform the work of the proposed commission.

Legislation passed during the 2004 Legislative Session authorized the Commission on Indigent Legal Services to oversee indigent legal services in South Dakota's court system where there is a right to counsel under state or federal law. The Commission will oversee a new Office of Indigent Legal Services to provide statewide indigent representation services in appeals of criminal, habeas corpus, and abuse or neglect of a child cases.

The Commission held its first meeting on May 16, 2024. One action from the meeting was a job announcement to hire a chief defender to lead the new Office of Indigent Legal Services. This person will direct a team of public defense professionals to provide statewide indigent representation services in appeals of criminal, habeas corpus, and abuse or neglect of child cases in South Dakota.

The Commission is comprised of nine people: three people appointed by the Governor, three appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one appointed by the speaker of the House, and one appointed by the executive director of the South Dakota Association of County Commissioners.



The Commission on Indigent Legal Services holds its first meeting on May 16, 2024, in Sioux Falls.

Commission on Indigent Legal Services

Dean Neil Fulton (Chair)	USD Knudson School of Law
Betsy Doyle	Sioux Falls
Eric Erickson	Sioux Falls
Rep. David Kull	Brandon Valley
Heather Lammers Bogard	Rapid City
Retired Judge Larry Long	Sioux Falls
Judge Bobbi Rank	Winner
Sen. Lee Schoenbeck	Watertown
Dick Travis	Sioux Falls

Interpreter Pilot Program

In FY2024, the UJS launched an iPad interpreter pilot program to increase language access for court-adjacent encounters.

Clerk of courts offices in Aurora, Beadle, Brookings, Minnehaha and Yankton counties each received an iPad equipped with various interpreting tools, ranging from translating apps to live video interpreting services. These resources are intended to help clerks better serve people with limited English proficiency during front counter interactions.

In the fall of FY2025, the UJS will evaluate the pilot program to determine if the iPads qualitatively increased language access and if the pilot should be expanded to additional counties.

The UJS remains committed to providing language access services to people with limited English proficiency at every access point in the justice system.



Samuel Uwizeyimana (left) and Rachel Scaperotta (right), employees with the Minnehaha County Clerk of Courts Office, have a conversation in Spanish and English using resources available on an interpreter iPad. The device is part of a pilot program to improve language access in the state court system. (Photo Credit: Makenzie Huber/South Dakota Searchlight)

South Dakota Bar Admissions

A steering committee appointed to study the bar admissions process in South Dakota issued its final report and recommendations to the South Dakota Supreme Court on December 20, 2023.

The Supreme Court appointed the steering committee after considering the existing challenges and increasing interest and discussion about bar admission in South Dakota. The group engaged in a collaborative and inclusive process over the past year with active participation from the judiciary, State Bar, Board of Bar Examiners and the University of South Dakota Knudson School of Law.

In its final report, the steering committee recommended an alternative pathway that incentivizes public interest law practice. This pathway would offer law students seeking to practice public interest law or serve underserved rural areas of the state a fast track to admission without examination. The students must complete required curriculum and an externship with one or more training attorneys, along with committing to two years of public service post-graduation.

The public interest pathway, if adopted by the Court, would build on South Dakota's work to address unmet legal needs and would immediately help public defender's offices, attorney general's office, state's attorneys, civil legal aid providers and other local government legal departments.

Other steering committee recommendations are to continue with the current bar examination on a short-term basis and to study and consider adopting the NexGen Bar Examination when it becomes available in 2026 or 2027. The committee also recommends maintaining a requirement that all licensed South Dakota attorneys demonstrate knowledge of Indian law through a course of study or through the bar examination.

"The South Dakota legal community is at a crossroads, trying to ensure that new admittees to the South Dakota Bar have the minimum competence to practice law while also addressing the growing unmet justice needs of South Dakotans.

Public defender offices across South Dakota report large and growing case sizes per attorney, civil legal aid providers are turning away as many indigent people with unmet legal needs as they can serve, and other public service agencies share the challenges of filling attorney vacancies.

These challenges are experienced statewide, but there are also acute challenges in meeting the legal needs of rural communities across South Dakota."

— *South Dakota Bar Licensure Assessment Final Report, December 20, 2023*

Proposed rule changes are being developed, and the Supreme Court will take public comment on these proposals at a formal hearing on a date to be announced.

Rural Attorney Recruitment Program

The Rural Attorney Recruitment Program provides qualifying attorneys an incentive payment in return for five continuous years of practice in an eligible rural county (population of 10,000 or less) or municipality (population of 3,500 or less). Attorneys must enter into a contract with the UJS, State Bar, and the eligible county or municipality. Program participants receive five annual incentive payments of \$12,513.60 per year (equivalent to 90% of one year's resident law school tuition and fees)—a total of \$62,568 over five years. The program was established in 2013.

33 Attorneys have participated in the program.

9 Actively Practicing in Rural Communities

3 Contracted to Begin Practicing in Rural Communities Upon Passing the Bar

18 Graduates from the Program

6 Contracts Terminated Due to Different Job Opportunities

14 Graduates have stayed in their communities.



Supreme Court Chief Justice Steven R. Jensen speaks about the Rural Attorney Recruitment Program with criminal justice students at Northern State University in Aberdeen on March 20, 2024.

Circuit Courts

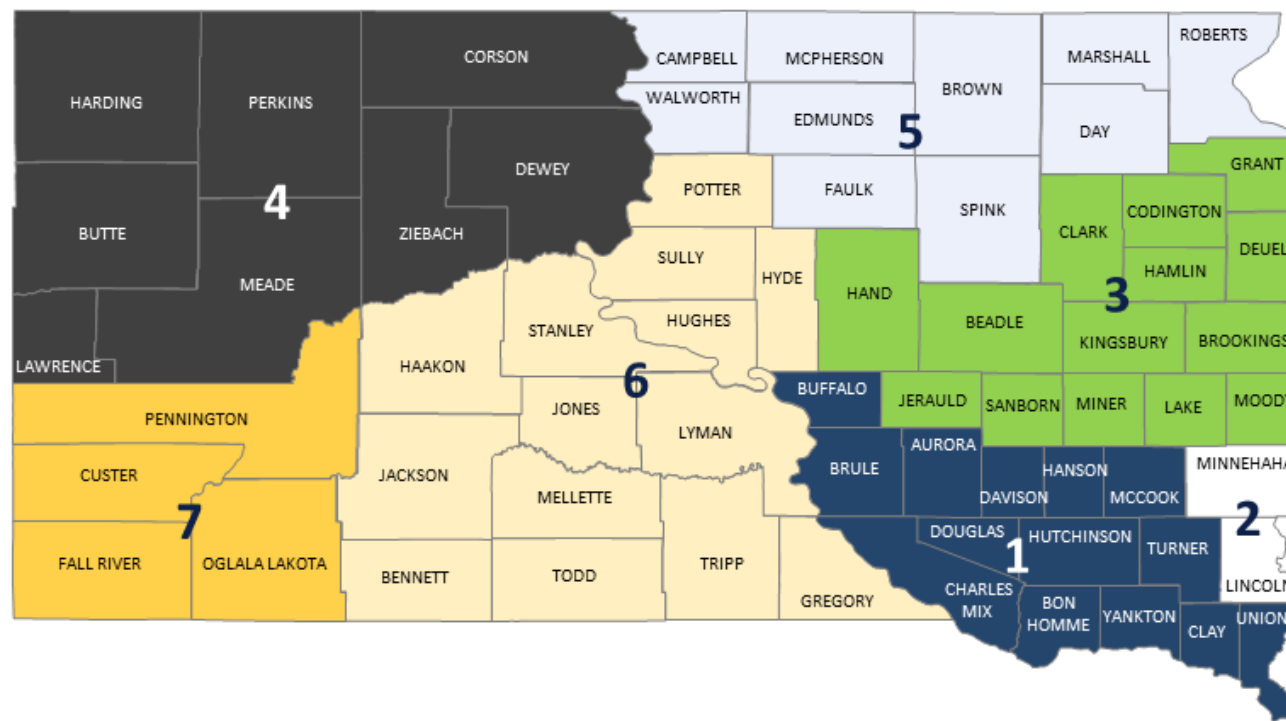
Circuit courts are the state's trial courts of general jurisdiction through which the bulk of criminal proceedings and civil litigation are processed. South Dakota has seven judicial circuits, 44 circuit judges and 17 magistrate judges. Circuit court judges are elected by the voters within the circuit where they serve. The judges must be voting residents of their circuit at the time they take office. In the event of a vacancy, the Governor appoints a replacement from a list of nominees selected by the Judicial Qualifications Commission.

7 Presiding Judges | **44** Circuit Court Judges | **7** Circuits

South Dakota Judicial Circuits

CIRCUIT COURT DUTIES

- Original jurisdiction in all civil and criminal actions.
- Exclusive jurisdiction in felony trials, arraignments and all types of civil actions except areas of concurrent jurisdiction shared with magistrate courts.
- Appellate jurisdiction over magistrate court decisions.
- Appellate jurisdiction over final decisions, rulings or actions of administrative agencies.




Miles Traveled by Circuit Court Judges


South Dakota is an expansive state at 77,116 square miles. As they conduct the Court's business, circuit court judges must travel to the counties that they serve. South Dakota circuit court judges traveled a total of **198,880 miles** in FY2024. To put this into perspective, this is **eight times around the world**.

45,656	First Circuit	18,489	Fifth Circuit
18,758	Second Circuit	45,991	Sixth Circuit
39,679	Third Circuit	8,090	Seventh Circuit
22,217	Fourth Circuit	198,880	STATEWIDE TOTAL


Judicial Circuits | Presiding Judges and FY2024 Caseloads



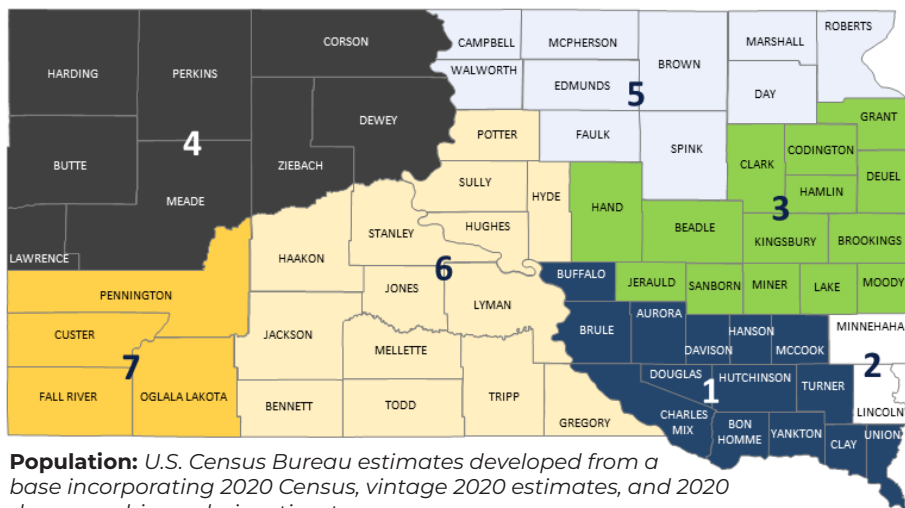
FOURTH CIRCUIT
Judge Michael W. Day
 Criminal Filings: 10,896
 Civil Filings: 4,443
 Population: 84,181



FIFTH CIRCUIT
Judge Gregory C. Magera
 Criminal Filings: 12,017
 Civil Filings: 4,910
 Population: 79,423




THIRD CIRCUIT
Judge Gregory J. Stoltenburg
 Criminal Filings: 18,964
 Civil Filings: 8,305
 Population: 137,784




Population: U.S. Census Bureau estimates developed from a base incorporating 2020 Census, vintage 2020 estimates, and 2020 demographic analysis estimates.




SECOND CIRCUIT
Judge Robin J. Houwman
 Criminal Filings: 44,179
 Civil Filings: 22,100
 Population: 274,958



FIRST CIRCUIT
Judge Cheryle Gering
 Criminal Filings: 18,924
 Civil Filings: 8,164
 Population: 130,140



SEVENTH CIRCUIT
Judge Robert Gusinsky
 Criminal Filings: 17,423
 Civil Filings: 8,318
 Population: 144,356



SIXTH CIRCUIT
Judge Christina L. Klinger
 Criminal Filings: 8,633
 Civil Filings: 2,905
 Population: 58,982

Magistrate Courts

Magistrate courts assist the circuit courts in disposing of misdemeanor criminal cases and minor civil actions. These courts have limited jurisdiction but make the judicial system more accessible to the public by providing a means of direct court contact for the average citizen. The jurisdiction of the magistrate court varies depending on whether a magistrate judge or a clerk magistrate presides. Clerk magistrates are not attorneys but are clerks who receive specialized training. They provide functions that need to be handled expeditiously. Both magistrate judges and clerk magistrates are appointed by the presiding judge and approved by the Supreme Court.

17 Full-Time Magistrate Judges | **7** Circuits

MAGISTRATE JUDGES

Committing magistrates for all courts

Magistrate judges conduct:

- Preliminary hearings for all criminal prosecutions
- Trials of criminal misdemeanors
- Trials of civil actions if the debt, damage, claim or value of the property does not exceed \$12,000
- Small claims proceedings if the debt, damage, claim or value of the property involved does not exceed \$12,000

CLERK MAGISTRATES

Specially trained

Concurrent jurisdiction with magistrate courts to:

- Receive depositions
- Issue warrants
- Conduct certain preliminary hearings
- Set bail
- Appoint counsel
- Accept pleas for Class 2 misdemeanors
- Conduct hearings for petty offenses
- Render judgments for uncontested small claims
- Perform marriages



Bench Personnel by Judicial Circuit (as of June 30, 2024)

FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Presiding Judge: Cheryle W. Gering *(appointed 2011)*

Circuit Judges:

Bruce V. Anderson *(appointed 2006)*
 Tami A. Bern *(appointed 2017)*
 Chris S. Giles *(appointed 2017)*
 David D. Knoff *(appointed 2018)*
 Patrick Smith *(appointed 2012)*

Magistrate Judges:

Donna L. Bucher Kasey J. Sorensen

SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Presiding Judge: Robin Jacobson Houwman *(appointed 2009)*

Circuit Judges:

Douglas Barnett *(elected 2023)*
 Natalie D. Damgaard *(appointed 2016)*
 Sandra Hanson Hoglund *(appointed 2018)*
 Douglas E. Hoffman *(appointed 2007)*
 Jennifer Mammenga *(appointed 2021)*
 John R. Pekas *(elected 2015)*
 James A. Power *(appointed 2018)*
 Rachel R. Rasmussen *(appointed 2019)*
 Susan M. Sabers *(appointed 2013)*
 Jon C. Sogn *(appointed 2015)*
 *Vacant Judge Position

Magistrate Judges:

Eric C. Johnson Andrew T. Robertson
 Jonathan R. Leddige Wade W. Warntjes
 Sara T. Pokela

THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Presiding Judge: Gregory Stoltenburg *(appointed 2013)*

Circuit Judges:

Dawn M Aman-Elshere *(appointed 2017)*
 Carmen A. Means *(appointed 2015)*
 Patrick T. Pardy *(appointed 2015)*
 Kent A. Shelton *(appointed 2018)*
 Robert L. Spears *(elected 2015)*

Magistrate Judges:

Abigail A. Howard Noel R. Pesall

FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Presiding Judge: Michael W. Day *(appointed 2013)*

Circuit Judges:

Michelle K. Comer *(elected 2015)*
 John H. Fitzgerald *(elected 2023)*
 Eric J. Strawn *(appointed 2017)*

Magistrate Judges:

Chad R. Callahan Francy E Foral

FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Presiding Judge: Gregory C. Magera *(appointed 2021)*

Circuit Judges:

Julia Dvorak *(appointed 2024)*
 Marshall C. Lovrien *(elected 2023)*
 Richard A. Sommers *(appointed 2014)*

Magistrate Judge:

Cullen P. McNeece

SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Presiding Judge: Christina L. Klinger *(appointed 2019)*

Circuit Judges:

M. Bridget Mayer *(appointed 2019)*
 Margo D. Northrup *(appointed 2019)*
 Bobbi J. Rank *(appointed 2016)*

Magistrate Judge:

Tara L. Adamski

SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Presiding Judge: Robert Gusinsky *(appointed 2013)*

Circuit Judges:

Matthew M. Brown *(appointed 2015)*
 Jeffrey R. Connolly *(appointed 2017)*
 Joshua K. Hendrickson *(appointed 2019)*
 Eric Kelderman *(appointed 2024)*
 Heidi L. Linngren *(elected 2015)*
 Scott Roetzel *(appointed 2024)*
 Stacy L. Vinberg-Wickre *(appointed 2021)*

Magistrate Judges:

Scott M. Bogue Sarah E. Morrison
 Todd J. Hyronimus Janki W. Sharma

Statewide Case Workload by Circuit

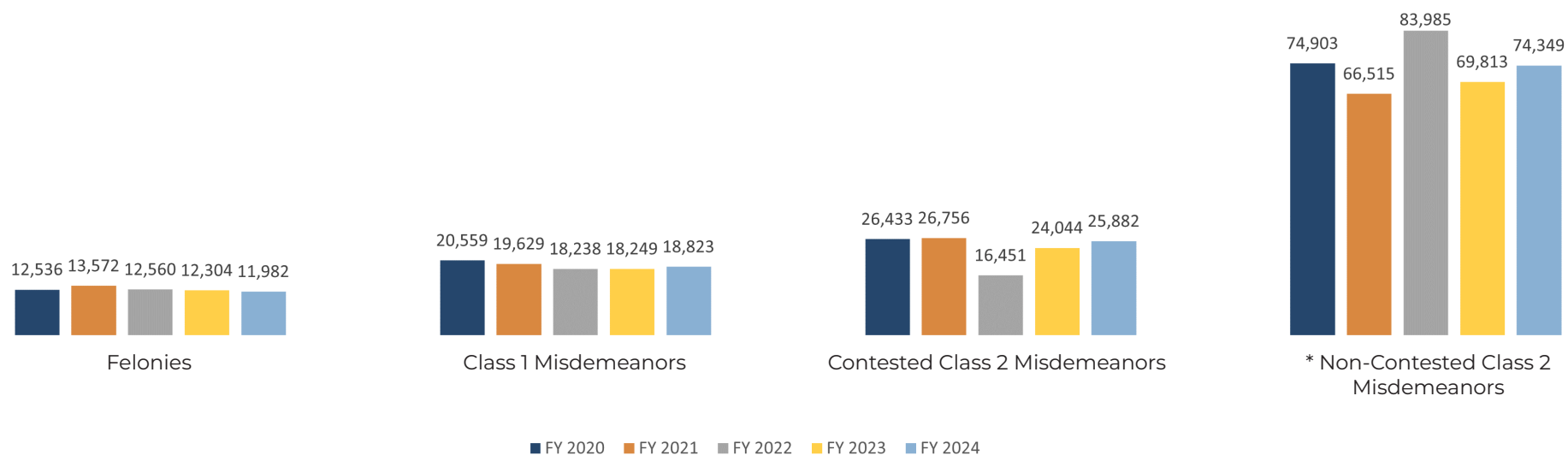
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Statewide
Class 2 Misdemeanor Non-Contested Filings	12,930	20,276	12,885	6,800	8,175	6,537	6,746	74,349
Class 2 Misdemeanor Contested Filings	2,128	13,591	2,202	1,058	1,057	784	5,062	25,882
Class 1 Misdemeanor Filings	2,406	5,831	2,628	2,031	1,696	863	3,368	18,823
Felony Filings	1,460	4,481	1,249	1,007	1,089	449	2,247	11,982
Total Criminal Filings	18,924	44,179	18,964	10,896	12,017	8,633	17,423	131,036
Divorce & Annulment Filings	320	853	342	273	193	132	525	2,638
Protection Order Filings	478	1,404	489	300	214	204	929	4,018
Modification Proceedings/UIFSA Filings	145	356	109	56	127	62	298	1,153
Juvenile Dependency & Neglect Filings	40	222	40	23	44	21	151	541
Juvenile Delinquency & CHINS Filings	353	1,656	334	172	234	161	628	3,538
Juvenile Citations	129	270	226	78	95	143	54	995
Adoptions & Termination of Parental Rights	42	129	60	32	37	20	89	409
Guardianships & Trusts	93	372	108	67	63	31	147	881
Miscellaneous	2	11	1	3	1	1	16	35
Probate (Informal) Filings	302	468	341	218	261	162	277	2,029
Probate (Formal) Filings	38	38	42	26	30	14	46	234
Mental Illness/Drug & Alcohol Commitment Filings	1,003	2,716	267	89	292	32	97	4,496
Civil Filings	1,706	5,551	1,739	1,016	1,162	670	1,976	13,820
Small Claims Filings	2,493	6,445	3,292	1,206	1,567	907	2,499	18,409
Search Warrants	999	1,575	902	872	582	335	563	5,828
Administrative Appeals & Expungements	21	34	13	12	8	10	23	121
Total Civil Filings	8,164	22,100	8,305	4,443	4,910	2,905	8,318	59,145
Total Criminal and Civil Filings	27,088	66,279	27,269	15,339	16,927	11,538	25,741	190,181

Statewide Case Workload Comparison by Year

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Class 2 Misdemeanor Non-Contested Filings	74,903	66,515	83,958	69,813	74,349
Class 2 Misdemeanor Contested Filings	26,433	26,756	16,451	24,044	25,882
Class 1 Misdemeanor Filings	20,559	19,629	18,238	18,249	18,823
Felony Filings	12,536	13,572	12,560	12,304	11,982
Total Criminal Filings	134,431	126,472	131,207	124,410	131,036
Divorce & Annulment Filings	4,061	4,056	3,729	2,542	2,638
Protection Order Filings	4,223	4,072	4,205	3,987	4,018
Modification Proceedings/UIFSA Filings	6,032	5,365	4,432	1,076	1,153
Juvenile Dependency & Neglect Filings	590	602	525	532	541
Juvenile Delinquency & CHINS Filings	4,573	3,756	3,213	3,487	3,538
Juvenile Citations	1,338	1,183	1,088	1,157	995
Adoptions/Guardianships/Trusts/Termination Parental Rights	1,491	1,420	1,337	1,337	
Adoptions & Termination of Parental Rights					409
Guardianships & Trusts					881
Miscellaneous					35
Probate (Informal) Filings	2,077	2,333	2,439	2,247	2,029
Probate (Formal) Filings	269	246	313	272	234
Mental Illness/Drug & Alcohol Commitment Filings	4,893	4,759	4,373	4,570	4,496
Civil Filings	12,949	13,021	11,786	11,888	13,820
Small Claims Filings	26,630	25,938	20,425	18,244	18,409
Search Warrants	4,173	4,646	5,108	5,325	5,828
Administrative Appeals & Expungements	203	216	199	167	121
Total Civil Filings	73,502	71,613	63,172	56,831	59,145
Total Criminal and Civil Filings	207,933	198,085	194,379	181,241	190,181

Criminal Caseload Five-Year Comparison

Criminal Caseload



** Includes municipal ordinances and petty offenses.*

Civil Caseload Five-Year Comparison

Civil Caseload



Court and Jury Trials

FY2024

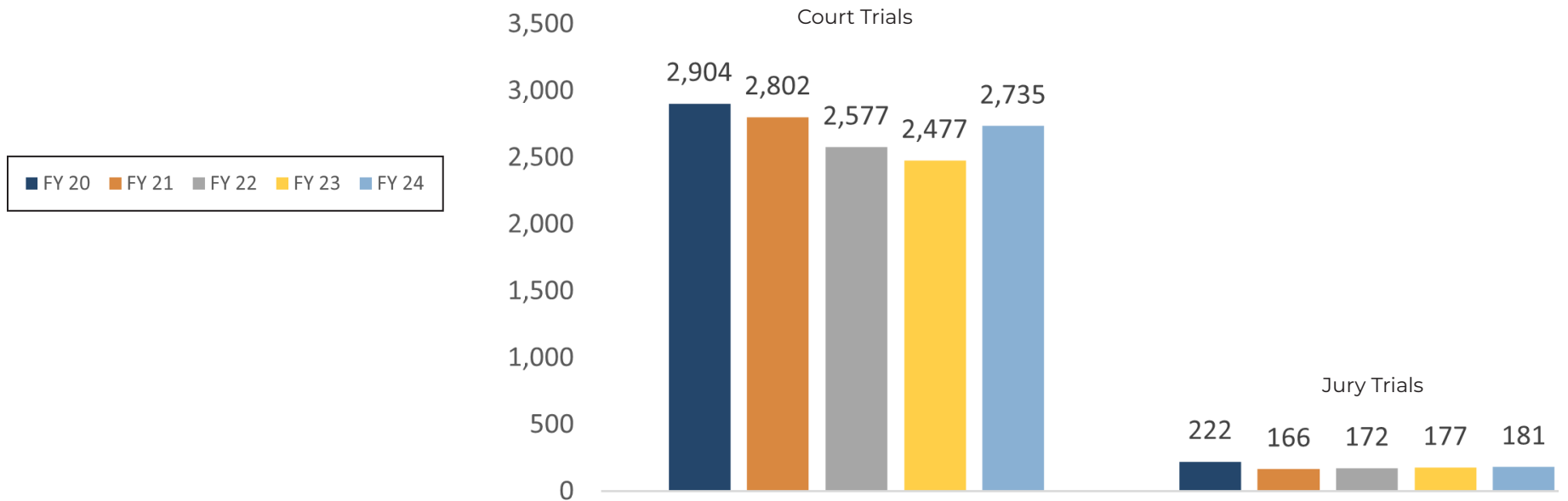
	Court Trials	Jury Trials	Total Trials
First Circuit	241	18	259
Second Circuit	1,254	81	1,335
Third Circuit	304	13	317
Fourth Circuit	228	13	241
Fifth Circuit	146	10	156
Sixth Circuit	122	2	124
Seventh Circuit	440	44	484
Statewide Total	2,735	181	2,916

	Criminal	Civil	Total
Court Trials	447	2,288	2,735
Jury Trials	138	43	181

Court and Jury Trials

Statewide Five-Year Comparison

	Court Trials	Jury Trials	Total Trials
FY2020	2,904	222	3,126
FY2021	2,802	166	2,968
FY2022	2,577	172	2,749
FY2023	2,477	177	2,654
FY2024	2,735	181	2,916

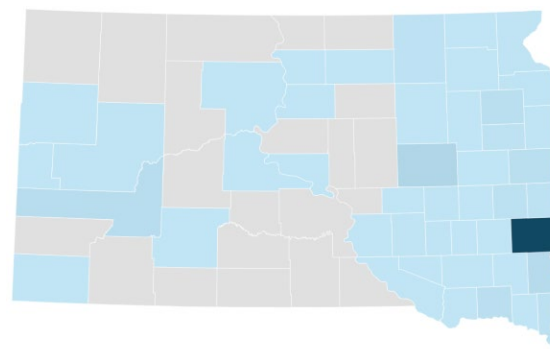


Language Access in the Courts

If someone has limited English proficiency, interpretive and translation services are provided at no charge. In FY2024, interpreters were used in the courtroom 5,970 times. Seventy-one percent of the requests came from the Second Circuit.

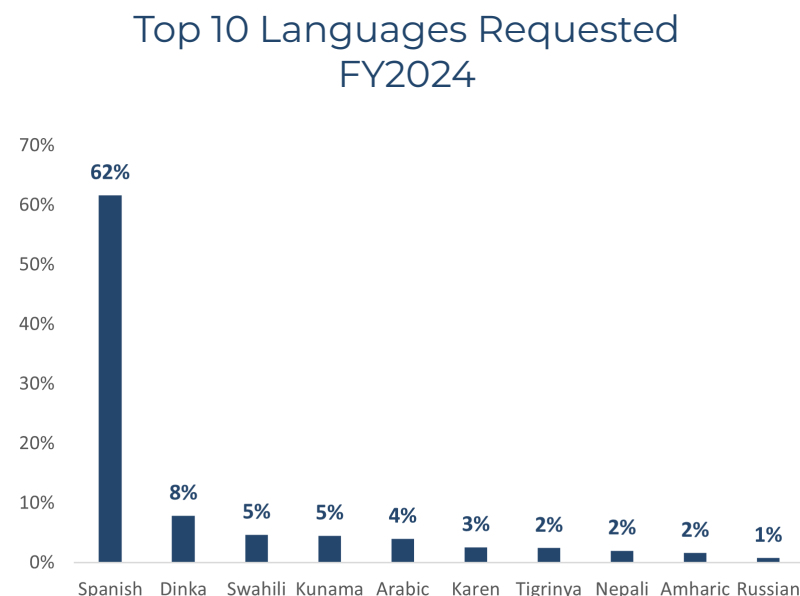
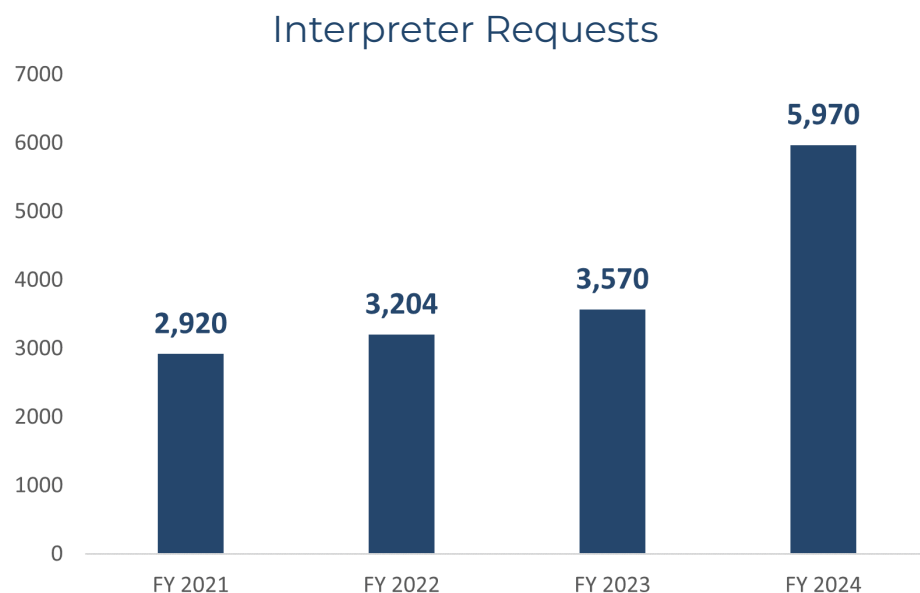
While there has been a steady increase in the number of interpreters each year, part of this increase can be attributed to enhanced data collecting measures implemented by the UJS in FY2024.

More than 55 different spoken languages were requested in FY2024. Spanish remains the most requested language.



71% of interpreter requests came from the Second Circuit, which is Lincoln and Minnehaha counties.

5,970 Interpreter Requests in FY2024 | More Than **55** Different Spoken Languages Requested



State Court Administrator's Office

Under supervision of the Chief Justice, who is the administrative head of the Unified Judicial System, State Court Administrator Greg Sattizahn is the non-judicial officer who implements the rules and policies of the Supreme Court as they apply to the operations and administration of the courts.



The State Court Administrator serves as the liaison between the judicial branch and the other branches of state and local government.

To ensure efficient and responsive operation, the State Court Administrator's Office (SCAO) provides centralized administrative assistance and support services to the entire UJS. The office also provides support to various committees in the UJS, media information and legislative direction during session.



Budget and Finance Division

The Budget and Finance Division assists the Unified Judicial System with fiscal questions and budgets. The Division manages travel regulations and processes travel reimbursements for employees. The Division also assists clerk of courts staff with end-of-month processing and financial questions.



Clerk Support Division

The Clerk Support Division provides statewide oversight, direction and training to clerk of courts staff. The Division reviews legislative changes impacting clerks of courts and develops necessary procedure changes accordingly. Staff process record searches for large group entities such as landlords and assist merge and search centers. Staff also maintain and update the clerk of courts procedural manual and forms.



Court Services Division

The Court Services Division provides statewide oversight, direction and training to court services staff. The Division interprets legislative changes impacting court services and creates and interprets statewide probation services-related policies and protocols. Staff maintain and update the court services manual, provide guidance and direction on interstate compact issues for both adult and juvenile programs, and provide guidance on diversion programs.

State Court Administrator's Office



Human Resources Division

The Human Resources Division oversees human resources for the Unified Judicial System. The Division's roles include:

- Answering paycheck and benefit questions.
- Staff training and development.
- Assisting the circuit courts and the State Court Administrator's Office with security and emergency preparedness.
- Assisting applicants in the recruitment process.
- Maintaining and implementing UJS personnel rules, policies and procedures.
- Assisting UJS employees and supervisors with employment law issues.
- Managing employee compensation and classification structure.
- Assisting with worker's compensation claims.



Information & Technology Division

The Information and Technology Division oversees IT training and the Unified Judicial System Help Desk, network services and development. The Division purchases, manages and supports computer hardware, software, security, data retention and networking needs. Staff also manage security and disaster standards for UJS systems.



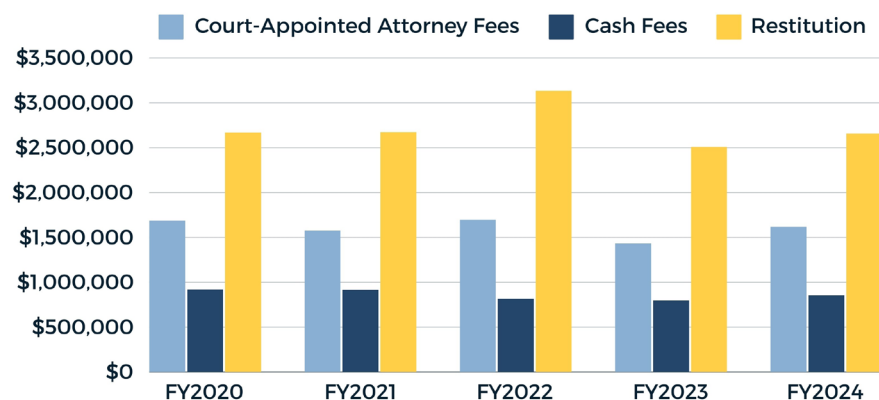
Treatment Courts Division

The Treatment Courts Division is responsible for overseeing treatment courts statewide to include monitoring, oversight, training and data collection in compliance with Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards. Staff create partnerships and provide representation with outside agencies on the treatment courts team. The Division identifies and coordinates training and technical assistance needs for all treatment courts team members. Staff also compile and interpret statewide data and statistics.

Unified Judicial System Receipts

Clerk of courts offices take in fines, fees, penalties and costs owed to victims, cities, counties, school districts and the state. For definitions of receipt categories, see the Appendix.

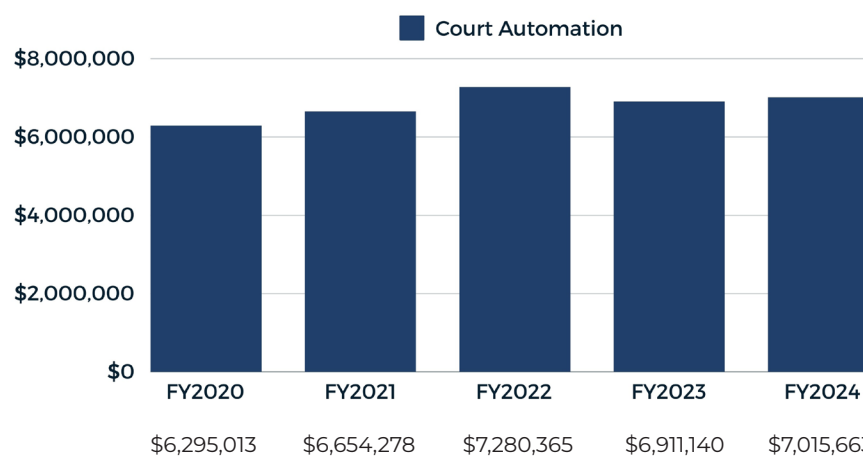
Court-Appointed Attorney Fees, Cash Fees and Restitution Receipts



Court-Appointed Attorney Fees	\$1,686,367	\$1,577,627	\$1,697,950	\$1,434,452	\$1,619,880
Cash Fees	\$920,437	\$918,260	\$818,207	\$799,101	\$855,384
Restitution	\$2,669,530	\$2,673,607	\$3,135,535	\$2,508,538	\$2,657,808

Court automation is a surcharge assessed on all criminal prosecutions and civil actions to fund court automation costs.

Court Automation Receipts



Court Automation	\$6,295,013	\$6,654,278	\$7,280,365	\$6,911,140	\$7,015,663
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Unified Judicial System Disbursements

Disbursement State

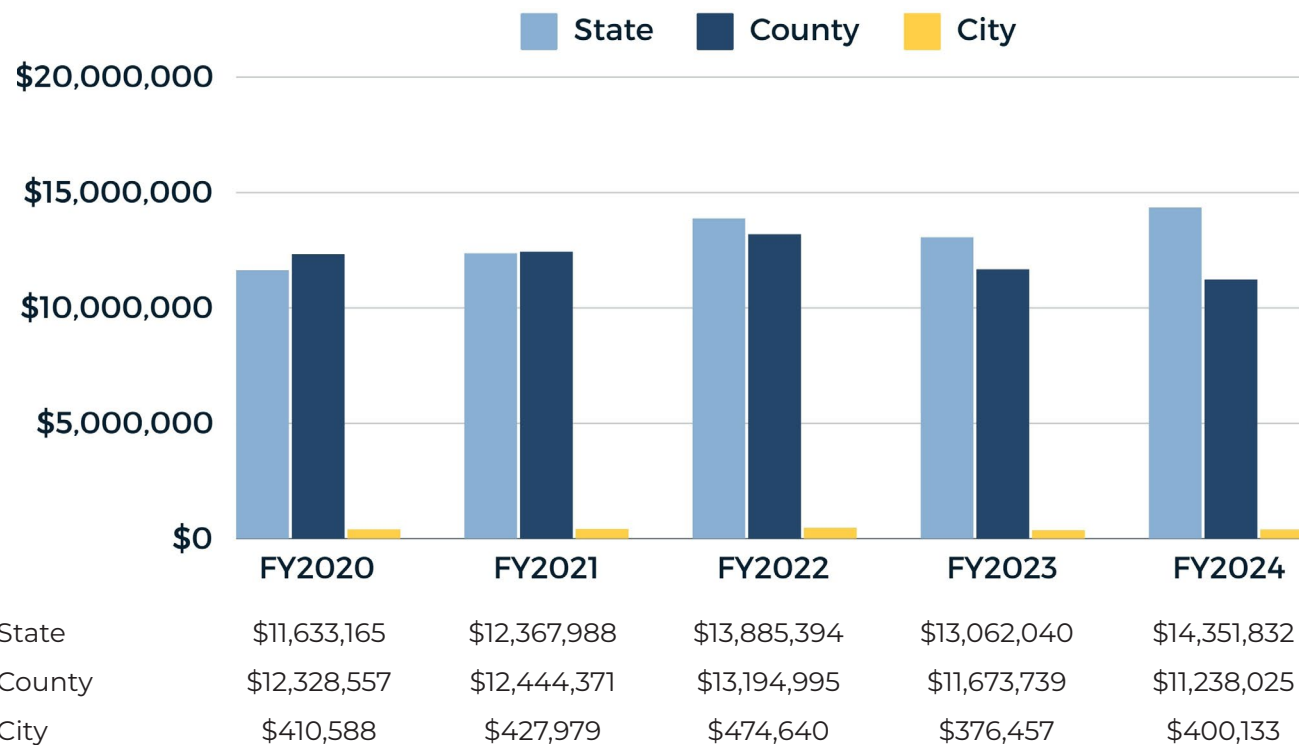
Disbursements to the state include liquidated costs and 35% of city fines.

Disbursement County

Disbursements to counties include state fines—including funds returned to school districts in accordance with Article VIII, § 3 of the South Dakota Constitution—costs, forfeitures and various fees for civil filings.

Disbursement City

Disbursements to cities are primarily city fines collected by the court system. The amount remitted to the cities is 65% of the total city fines, forfeitures and penalties and 100% of city costs. The remaining 35% is remitted to the state general fund.



Probation Services

120 Court Services Officers | **822** Juvenile Cases Under Supervision | **7,217** Adult Cases Under Supervision

* Numbers as of June 30, 2024

Standard Probation Supervision Costs (Personal, Operating, Community-Based Services)

Total Cases Under Supervision: 8,039

FY2024 Expenditures (actual)

Personal Services:	\$12,885,343
Operating Services:	\$646,399
Community-Based Services:	\$372,641
TOTAL:	\$13,904,383

Cost of Court Services Officer per Hour: \$55.70

- **255 Juvenile Social Histories** (11 hours each):
\$612.70 per social history = \$156,238.50 total
- **2,896 Adult Felony Pre-Sentence Investigations** (11 hours each):
\$612.70 per investigation = \$1,774,379.20 total
- **33 Misdemeanor Pre-Sentence Investigations** (3 hours each):
\$167.10 per investigation = \$5,514.30 total

Total Cost of Prepared Reports: \$1,936,132

FY2024 Cost for Supervision: \$11,968,251

Standard Probation Supervision Average Daily Cost

JUVENILE	
Intensive Probation	\$22.28
High Supervision Probationer (2.89 hours per month)	\$7.43
Medium Supervision Probationer (2.45 hours per month)	\$6.30
Low Supervision Probationer (.91 hours per month)	\$2.34
Administrative Supervision Probationer (.32 hours per month)	\$.82
Informal Diversion Case (.36 hours per month)	\$.93
Case Service Monitoring Case (.23 hours per month)	\$.59
ADULT	
Intensive Probation	\$17.82
High Supervision Probationer (1.81 hours per month)	\$4.14
Medium Supervision Probationer (1.27 hours per month)	\$3.26
Low Supervision Probationer (.60 hours per month)	\$1.54
Administrative Supervision Probationer (.08 hours per month)	\$.21
Case Service Monitoring Case (.08 hours per month)	\$.21
AVERAGE DAILY COST SUPERVISION ALL CATEGORIES	\$5.22

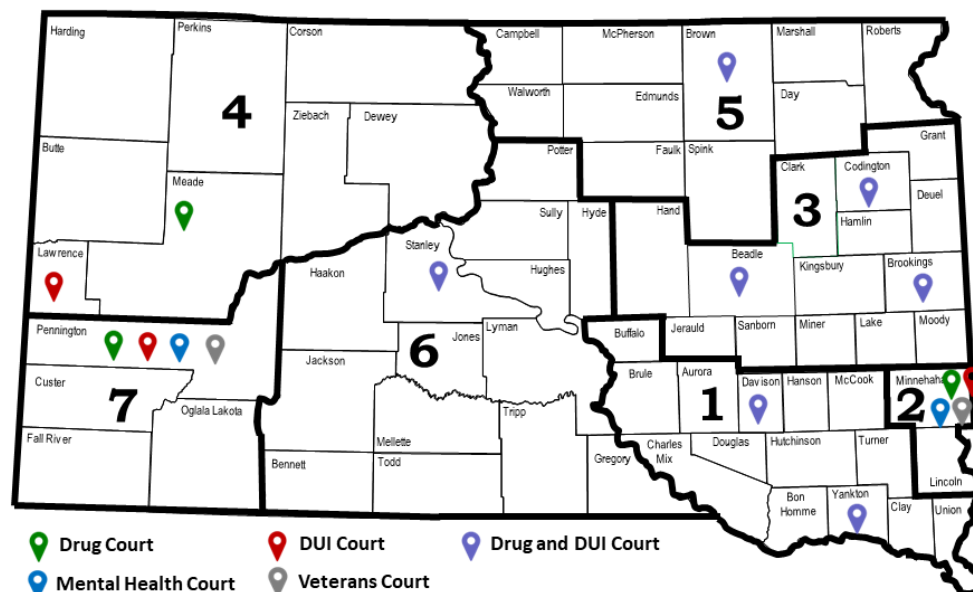
Treatment Courts

Changing Lives, Improving Communities

Treatment courts provide an innovative approach to rehabilitating those substantially impacted by a substance use disorder or mental health disorder who are likely to continue to commit crimes without intervention. These courts have proven that a combination of supervision, treatment and support can lead people with substance use and/or mental health disorders into lives of stability, wellness and recovery.

This is a public health approach to justice reform in which treatment providers partner with probation, defense, prosecution, law enforcement and the judge to ensure individuals before the courts receive personalized and evidence-based treatment, ongoing support and recovery services.

In South Dakota, treatment courts include drug court, DUI court, veterans court and mental health court. There are 17 treatment courts operating in South Dakota.



* Numbers from inception of treatment courts in South Dakota through June 30, 2024.

Treatment Courts Success Story

During his 2024 State of the Judiciary message before the South Dakota Legislature on Jan. 10, 2024, Supreme Court Chief Justice Steven R. Jensen shared the stories of three treatment court graduates and their sobriety and recovery. One of those stories was about Kaitlin Schriever, who at age 20 was struggling with significant substance use, homelessness and family issues when she pled guilty to felony possession of controlled substances. She was sentenced to drug court on July 16, 2014.

Kaitlin had a long history of family, social and emotional issues. She began smoking, drinking alcohol and using marijuana at age 12. Kaitlin completed her education at an alternative school, but lacking structure and accountability, she soon spiraled downward. Opiate use led to methamphetamine use and stealing to support her drug use. She was in and out of jail and put on probation. When Kaitlin was sentenced to drug court, she faced the potential of several years in prison.

Despite her struggles, Kaitlin successfully completed drug court on March 17, 2016. She has frequently shared with others that the real test was not making it through drug court; it began the day she graduated. Today, Kaitlin is assistant general manager of hospitality at a large event center. She is married and has two children. She and her husband are first-time homeowners. Kaitlin is a recovery support mentor and meets with new clients of drug court, talking to them about the program and telling them about her journey. She openly speaks about her addiction, was part of a documentary about drug use, and participates on a housing grant steering committee in her community.



Treatment court graduates, their family and treatment court team members visited the State Capitol on Jan. 10, 2024, to attend Supreme Court Chief Justice Steven R. Jensen's State of the Judiciary message before the South Dakota Legislature. Kaitlin Schriever, holding her youngest child, is in the front row.

SUCCESS STORY UPDATE:

On July 26, 2024, Gov. Kristi Noem granted a full and complete pardon to Kaitlin Schriever. Kaitlin is now pursuing a degree at a South Dakota university.

Appendix

Judicial Qualifications Commission: Complaints Received and Dispositions | **45**

Receipt Category Definitions | **47**

Statewide Cash Receipts and Disbursements | **50**

Court-Appointed Attorney Cases

- Misdemeanor 1 and Felony Dispositions | **52**
- Abuse and Neglect Cases | **54**
- Juvenile Delinquency and CHINS Cases | **58**

Court Services Activities | **62**

Judicial Qualifications Commission: Complaints Received and Dispositions

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Written Complaints Received ¹	14	12	22	18	38
Complaints Disposed of ²	11	10	15	18	37
Type of Cases					
Prisoner Complaints (includes Habeas Corpus)	2	0	1	0	1
Divorce/Child Custody/Child Support Issues	2	5	5	4	5
Protection Order Cases	1	0	1	3	4
Civil Trial Issues (includes decisions)	2	0	5	1	12
Criminal Trial Issues (includes sentencing)	5	5	3	8	15
Personal Conduct	0	0	3	0	0
Small Claims	2	2	2	1	0
Guardianship/Conservatorship	0	0	0	1	0
Other	0	0	2	0	1
Nature of Claims in Complaints					
Inappropriate Conduct/Abuse of Position	5	2	7	4	4
On Bench Abuse of Authority	0	1	4	1	9
Lack of Demeanor/Decorum	0	0	1	0	1
Bias/Appearance of Bias	5	2	5	5	10
Unhappy with Result	7	7	5	8	14
Commission Dispositions					
1. Dismissal due to:					
a. Insufficient Evidence to Proceed (unsigned complaint and/or complainant uncooperative)	0	0	2	1	0
b. Lack of Jurisdiction ³	0	0	0	0	0
c. Resigned Due to JQC Investigation	0	0	0	0	0
d. Unsubstantiated	0	0	0	0	0
e. No Violation Found	11	9	15	17	37

Judicial Qualifications Commission: Complaints Received and Dispositions *Continued*

2. Private Reprimand	0	1	0	0	0
3. Deferred Disciplinary Agreement	0	0	0	0	0
4. Public Censure	0	0	0	0	0
5. Recommendation for Suspension	0	0	0	0	0
6. Recommendation for Removal/Retirement	0	0	0	0	0
Judicial Qualifications Commission Applicants					
Judicial Vacancies	5	4	1	0	4
Applicant Interviews	26	27	0	0	33
Investigation of Applicants	26	27	0	0	33

¹Written Complaints Received, Type of Cases and Nature of Claims in Complaints reflect complaints received in that fiscal year.

²Complaints Disposed of and Commission Dispositions reflect some complaints received in that fiscal year but not disposed of until the following fiscal year and some complaints that were both received and disposed of in this fiscal year.

³JQC does not have the authority to direct a judge to take legal action or to review a case for judicial error, mistake or other legal grounds. Those functions are for the State Supreme Court. Therefore, allegations stemming from a judge's ruling or exercise of discretion do not provide a basis (jurisdiction) for JQC action.

Receipt Category Definitions

Adult Compact Fees: A fee of \$50 charged to all South Dakota supervised felony and applicable misdemeanor cases/clients who request a transfer of their probation supervision to another state.

Alimony Payments: An allowance for support made under court order to a legally separated or divorced person by the former provider. Monies received are receipted and disbursed to the person as provided by the court order.

Cash Fees: Fees charged for filing various civil actions. This money is paid into the county general fund.

Child Support: Payments ordered by the court from one party in a divorce action to the other party as financial support for the children involved. Child support payments are processed through the South Dakota Department of Social Services.

Civil Pass Through: Payments ordered by the court from one party to be paid to the court for the benefit of another or a third party in a civil action.

Child Support Modification Fees: A \$50 fee for any petition or motion to modify a child support order. This fee is deposited into the “equal access to our courts” fund to be awarded as grant funds to legal services entities.

City/County Fines/Penalties: Fines/penalties collected for city/county ordinance violations. City/county fines/penalties are paid into the city/county general fund (65%) and state general fund (35%) for services provided by the Unified Judicial System.

City/County Costs: Costs levied in conjunction with city/county fines as reimbursement to the city/county for an identifiable amount spent by the city/county in prosecuting a case. These funds are paid into the city/county general fund.

City/County Forfeitures: Forfeitures of bail bonds posted for violations of city/county ordinances. These funds are paid into the city/county general fund (65%) and state general fund (35%).

Collection Agency Pass Through: Payments received from a party that is passed through the courts to the Obligation Recovery Center.

Court-Appointed Attorney Fees: Costs recovered from defendants to reimburse the county general fund for payment of the defendant’s court-appointed attorney. The money is paid to the county treasury.

Divorce Fees: A fee of \$95 charged for filing a divorce action. Half of the fee is deposited in the county domestic abuse program fund and the remaining half in the county general fund.

Domestic Abuse Surcharge: A fee of \$25 assessed to any defendant convicted of a crime involving domestic violence or domestic abuse. Costs are remitted to the county to deposit into the county domestic violence program fund.

Draw Down Accounts: Deposit accounts created by law firms, businesses and other individuals to pay for filing fees, small claims fees, postage, record searches and other miscellaneous charges.

Drug Control Fee: Fees paid to the Attorney General to be deposited in the Drug Control Fund for the purpose of assisting local law enforcement agencies in drug control and drug offender apprehension efforts.

Drug Testing and Monitoring Fees: Fees charged to probationers to cover the cost of drug testing or monitoring while on probation.

DUI Costs (32-12-48): If a defendant is convicted driving under the influence, at the conclusion of the period of revocation ordered by the court and if future proof is filed with the Department of Public Safety as required by chapter 32-35, the defendant may submit an application for a driver’s license, accompanied by a fee of \$75 if revocation of the license was for a conviction under § 32-23-2, \$125 if revocation of the license was for a conviction under § 32-23-3, or \$175 if revocation of the license was for a conviction under § 32-23-4, 32-23-4.6, or 32-23-4.7.

Interest-Bearing Trust Funds: Interest-bearing money deposited with a clerk pending a decision regarding ownership.

Receipt Category Definitions

Law Library Fee: A fee of \$2 or \$5 charged in addition to the civil case filing fee and used to support the county law library.

Liquidated Costs (23-3-53: Collection by clerk of courts-Transmittal to State Treasurer-Disposition): After a determination by the court of the amount due, the clerk of courts shall collect the amount due and transmit monthly to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall place \$37 of the \$50 fee into the Law Enforcement Officers Training Fund, \$7.50 of the \$50 fee into the Court-Appointed Attorney and Public Defender Payment Fund, \$2 of the \$50 fee into the Court-Appointed Special Advocates Fund, \$2.50 of the \$50 fee into the 911 Telecommunicator Training Fund, and \$1 of the \$50 fee into the Abused and Neglected Child Defense Fund.

Marriage Fees: Fees collected for processing marriage license applications. These funds are paid into the state general fund.

Modification Petitions and Motions Fees (except Title 28 benefits): A fee of \$50 for child support modification filings. These funds are paid into the state general fund.

NSF Check Charges: A fee of \$40 charged to a person who issues to the state or a political subdivision a check or other draft that is not honored by the person's bank.

Other-Overpayments: Collections that do not fit any of the foregoing categories.

Passport Fees (16-2-27.1. Fees collected for processing U.S. passport applications): These funds are paid into the state general fund.

Petty Offense Judgment: A judgment of \$25 assessed for minor state violations designated as petty offenses. The money is deposited in the county treasury.

Postage-Small Claims: Postage fees charged for processing small claims actions.

Posted Bonds: Bonds are posted in conjunction with a criminal case. This money is either forfeited, used to pay subsequent fines and costs, or returned to the defendant or depositor. Undertakings are posted in civil cases and appeals. Non-interest trusts are posted until the legal

owner is determined or located. Court appointed attorney fees are posted as pre-payment for future CAAF costs incurred.

Restitution: Money which the court collects from a defendant to reimburse the victim for monetary loss caused by the crime. The money is paid to the victim.

State Costs: Money which the court collects from a defendant to reimburse the victim for monetary loss caused by the crime. The money is paid to the victim.

State Fines/Penalties: Fines/penalties collected for violation of state laws. These fines and penalties are paid to the county treasury for eventual transfer to the school district of the county in which the violation occurred.

State Forfeitures: Forfeitures of bonds posted for violations of state law. This money is paid into the county general fund.

Surcharge-Court Automation Fund (16-2-39): A fee on all criminal prosecutions and civil actions to fund court automation costs. The following is the court automation fee schedule (updated June 30, 2015):

- **Civil Actions, Probate Proceedings or Other Judicial Proceedings:** \$40
- **Small Claims:**
 - amount in controversy is less than \$4,000: \$6
 - amount in controversy \$4,000 to \$12,00: \$8
- **Felony Criminal Cases:** \$61.50
- **Class 1 Misdemeanors:** \$41.50
- **Class 2 Misdemeanors (violation of state law):** \$23.50
- **Violations of County or Municipal Ordinances:** \$17.50
- **Violations of Administrative Rules with Criminal Penalties:** \$17.50
- **Appeals, Original Actions or Other Actions Filed with Supreme Court:** \$50

Electronic Filing Fees: A fee of \$1 per page (\$10 minimum) for incoming fax filings. A fee of \$1 per page (\$5 minimum) for outgoing electronic transmission of any opinion, record or paper from an active or inactive file in the clerk's custody.

Receipt Category Definitions

Record Searches (16-2-29.5): A fee of \$20 for each name search of court records if the search is requested by a person who is not a party named in a state or federal action. \$15 of the \$20 fee goes to the court automation fund, and \$5 goes to the law enforcement officers training fund. A fee of \$5 for each name search of court records if the search is being conducted in conjunction with a state or federal court action and the person making the records search request so certifies.

Web Judgment Searches: A fee of \$4 for each name or date search for civil judgments and \$1 per judgment card.

Non-Resident Attorney Admissions: A \$100 portion of the \$200 admission fee is paid to the Supreme Court, and the remaining \$100 is paid to the State Bar.

Surcharge-Victims Compensation Fund: A fee of \$5 assessed in any criminal action for a violation of state law or county or municipal ordinance, in addition to any other liquidated cost, penalty, assessment, surcharge or fine provided by law; it shall be levied a crime victims compensation surcharge on each Class 2 misdemeanor, Class 1 misdemeanor or felony conviction.

** Most receipts collected according to SDCL 16-2-29, unless otherwise noted.*

Statewide: Cash Receipts and Disbursements

RECEIPTS	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Adult Compact Fees	\$20,217	\$18,273	\$16,250	\$13,805	\$16,470
Alimony	\$12	\$12	\$774	\$0	\$1,074
Cash Fees	\$920,437	\$918,260	\$818,207	\$799,101	\$855,384
Child Support	\$6,380	\$20,471	\$7,720	\$17,900	\$35,411
City Costs	\$6,980	\$6,285	\$7,489	\$9,575	\$8,649
City Fines	\$615,890	\$651,165	\$618,808	\$561,307	\$559,189
City Forfeitures	\$153	\$0	\$408	\$0	\$49
City Penalties	\$6,869	\$3,241	\$2,341	\$1,205	\$3,700
Civil Pass Through	\$12,144	\$1,916	\$3,695	\$86,025	\$186,364
Civil Penalties	\$55	\$5,673	\$4,212	\$2,655	\$1,855
Collections Agency Pass Through	\$34,115	\$19,964	\$18,638	\$12,890	\$14,278
County Costs	\$614,894	\$624,329	\$659,103	\$2,316	\$1,173
County Fines	\$6,107	\$6,702	\$9,190	\$6,273	\$10,107
County Forfeitures	\$1,710	\$2,450	\$500	\$0	\$1,500
County Penalties	\$240	\$571	\$1,158	\$3,125	\$208
Court-Appointed Attorney Fees *	\$1,686,367	\$1,577,627	\$1,697,950	\$1,434,452	\$1,619,880
Court Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$594,078	\$647,234
Divorce Fees	\$119,100	\$122,800	\$117,600	\$115,770	\$121,300
Domestic Abuse Surcharge	\$14,576	\$16,600	\$15,873	\$18,781	\$16,856
Drawdown Accounts	\$5,773,131	\$6,340,119	\$7,400,086	\$6,744,383	\$6,736,025
Drug Control Fee	\$134,117	\$103,183	\$96,162	\$79,341	\$91,633
Drug Test Fees and Monitoring Fees	\$8,552	\$5,593	\$10,952	\$8,309	\$11,698
DUI Cost	\$193,505	\$185,603	\$205,232	\$192,575	\$204,579
Interest-Bearing Trust Funds	\$1,043,593	\$552	\$37,385	\$352	\$127,325
Law Library Fees	\$139,679	\$135,310	\$122,983	\$132,329	\$132,522
Liquidated Costs	\$3,288,225	\$4,115,047	\$4,413,186	\$4,023,239	\$4,419,008
Marriage Fees	\$7,300	\$6,940	\$8,760	\$8,770	\$8,740
Child Support Modification Fees	\$112,632	\$107,126	\$102,725	\$98,064	\$104,290
NSF Check Charges	\$2,821	\$2,510	\$2,143	\$1,745	\$2,739
Other - Overpayments	\$29,470	\$33,610	\$38,093	\$19,975	\$25,341
Passport Fees	\$13,405	\$9,415	\$14,175	\$19,225	\$7,105
Petty Offense	\$212,498	\$249,302	\$340,450	\$296,406	\$296,825
Postage (Small Claims)	\$242,988	\$239,615	\$198,890	\$207,478	\$211,205
Posted Bonds	\$7,871,342	\$12,545,786	\$12,443,134	\$14,478,176	\$12,510,787

Statewide: Cash Receipts and Disbursements

RECEIPTS	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Restitution	\$2,669,530	\$2,673,607	\$3,135,535	\$2,508,538	\$2,657,808
Search Fee - Law Enforcement Officer Training Fund	\$1,087,404	\$1,194,775	\$1,383,315	\$1,331,613	\$1,266,163
Sioux Falls Police Department Drug Fee	\$22,288	\$23,192	\$22,585	\$18,579	\$20,591
State Costs	\$80,382	\$84,902	\$77,257	\$99,169	\$52,231
State Fines	\$7,016,550	\$7,289,914	\$7,633,263	\$6,886,185	\$7,550,181
State Forfeitures	\$388,980	\$358,755	\$540,612	\$459,372	\$524,008
State Penalties	\$782,307	\$1,014,578	\$918,748	\$640,252	\$878,362
Surcharge - Court Automation	\$6,295,013	\$6,654,278	\$7,280,365	\$6,911,140	\$7,015,663
Surcharge - Victims Compensation	\$391,559	\$415,087	\$435,464	\$394,936	\$434,769
Trust Fund	\$2,143	\$721,057	\$25,475	\$2,433,425	\$383,585
STATEWIDE TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$41,875,662	\$48,506,195	\$50,886,888	\$51,672,833	\$49,773,862
DISBURSEMENTS	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Alimony	\$12	\$12	\$762	\$12	\$1,074
Bond Refunds (Converted Bonds, Odyssey)	\$7,666,101	\$7,733,397	\$7,137,457	\$11,819,978	\$9,876,807
Child Support	\$6,380	\$20,471	\$7,720	\$17,900	\$35,411
Civil Pass Through	\$25,744	\$2,559	\$3,695	\$86,025	\$186,364
Collection Agency Pass Through	\$31,258	\$22,589	\$17,624	\$14,072	\$11,912
Drawdown Accounts	\$5,770,754	\$6,273,708	\$7,329,095	\$6,716,554	\$6,617,839
Interest-Bearing Trust Funds	\$7,501	\$1,039,407	\$37,383	\$0	\$0
Overpayments	\$27,996	\$36,461	\$34,723	\$16,673	\$26,354
Remitted to Sioux Falls Police Department	\$23,184	\$22,478	\$23,126	\$18,633	\$20,378
Remitted to Attorney General (Drug Fund)	\$135,546	\$105,643	\$97,425	\$77,447	\$64,644
Remitted to City	\$410,588	\$427,979	\$474,640	\$376,457	\$400,133
Remitted to County	\$12,328,557	\$12,444,371	\$13,194,995	\$11,673,739	\$11,238,025
Remitted to State	\$11,633,165	\$12,367,988	\$13,885,394	\$13,062,040	\$14,351,832
Restitution	\$2,885,701	\$2,557,526	\$3,047,879	\$2,595,642	\$3,275,439
Small Claims Postage	\$243,416	\$240,673	\$201,998	\$190,344	\$482,222
Trust Fund	\$174,325	\$609,665	\$65,652	\$64,073	\$384,253
TOTAL DISBURSED	\$41,370,226	\$43,904,926	\$45,559,568	\$46,729,588	\$46,972,686

* Court-appointed attorney fees include only those amounts collected by UJS and do not include payments made directly to county auditors or treasurers, city collection agents, or sums recovered by counties pursuant to a statutory lien.

Court-Appointed Attorney Cases: Misdemeanor 1 and Felony Dispositions

First Circuit Counties	Appointment Cases
Aurora	27
Bon Homme	77
Brule	152
Buffalo	6
Charles Mix	359
Clay	315
Davison	688
Douglas	20
Hanson	41
Hutchinson	32
McCook	122
Turner	103
Union	356
Yankton	837
First Circuit Total	3,135

Second Circuit Counties	Appointment Cases
Lincoln	1,385
Minnehaha	8,876
Second Circuit Total	10,261

Third Circuit Counties	Appointment Cases
Beadle	253
Brookings	507
Clark	37
Codington	1,167
Deuel	33
Grant	75
Hamlin	37
Hand	32
Jerauld	7
Kingsbury	21
Lake	195
Miner	14
Moody	214
Sanborn	13
Third Circuit Total	2,605

Fourth Circuit Counties	Appointment Cases
Butte	325
Corson	30
Dewey	16
Harding	6
Lawrence	769
Meade	766
Perkins	28
Ziebach	3
Fourth Circuit Total	1,943

* Appointments include public defender cases. Data for misdemeanor 1 and felony dispositions is by disposition date.

Court-Appointed Attorney Cases: Misdemeanor 1 and Felony Dispositions

Fifth Circuit Counties	Appointment Cases
Brown	1,037
Campbell	14
Day	80
Edmunds	24
Faulk	11
Marshall	22
McPherson	11
Roberts	661
Spink	62
Walworth	187
Fifth Circuit Total	2,047

Sixth Circuit Counties	Appointment Cases
Bennett	141
Gregory	60
Haakon	14
Hughes	573
Hyde	2
Jackson	64
Jones	27
Lyman	66
Mellette	42
Potter	22
Stanley	78
Sully	9
Todd	7
Tripp	105
Sixth Circuit Total	1,210

Seventh Circuit Counties	Appointment Cases
Custer	110
Fall River	267
Oglala Lakota	7
Pennington	5,319
Seventh Circuit Total	5,703
Statewide Total	26,904

* Appointments include public defender cases. Data for misdemeanor 1 and felony dispositions is by disposition date.

Court-Appointed Attorney Cases: Abuse and Neglect Cases

First Circuit Counties	Total Abuse and Neglect Cases Filed	Number of Children Involved in Cases Filed	Number of Attorneys Involved in Court-Appointed and Public Defender Cases
Aurora	1	1	2
Bon Homme	1	3	3
Brule	2	2	5
Buffalo	1	2	0
Charles Mix	5	11	14
Clay	8	12	17
Davison	2	2	4
Douglas	0	0	0
Hanson	0	0	0
Hutchinson	2	5	3
McCook	0	0	0
Turner	3	5	6
Union	1	1	0
Yankton	14	33	43
First Circuit Total	40	77	97

Second Circuit Counties	Total Abuse and Neglect Cases Filed	Number of Children Involved in Cases Filed	Number of Attorneys Involved in Court-Appointed and Public Defender Cases
Lincoln	13	27	23
Minnehaha	209	375	291
Second Circuit Total	222	402	314

Court-Appointed Attorney Cases: Abuse and Neglect Cases

Third Circuit Counties	Total Abuse and Neglect Cases Filed	Number of Children Involved in Cases Filed	Number of Attorneys Involved in Court-Appointed and Public Defender Cases
Beadle	9	12	20
Brookings	6	11	19
Clark	1	2	3
Codington	14	31	30
Deuel	0	0	0
Grant	4	14	12
Hamlin	1	2	2
Hand	1	1	2
Jerauld	0	0	0
Kingsbury	0	0	0
Lake	2	2	6
Miner	0	0	0
Moody	2	3	5
Sanborn	0	0	0
Third Circuit Total	40	78	99

Fourth Circuit Counties	Total Abuse and Neglect Cases Filed	Number of Children Involved in Cases Filed	Number of Attorneys Involved in Court-Appointed and Public Defender Cases
Butte	7	11	12
Corson	2	4	3
Dewey	0	0	0
Harding	0	0	0
Lawrence	7	11	21
Meade	4	9	7
Perkins	1	1	2
Ziebach	2	1	1
Fourth Circuit Total	23	37	46

Court-Appointed Attorney Cases: Abuse and Neglect Cases

Fifth Circuit Counties	Total Abuse and Neglect Cases Filed	Number of Children Involved in Cases Filed	Number of Attorneys Involved in Court-Appointed and Public Defender Cases
Brown	24	43	66
Campbell	0	0	0
Day	0	0	0
Edmunds	1	1	3
Faulk	0	0	0
Marshall	0	0	0
McPherson	0	0	0
Roberts	1	4	2
Spink	2	2	5
Walworth	16	38	43
Fifth Circuit Total	44	88	119

Sixth Circuit Counties	Total Abuse and Neglect Cases Filed	Number of Children Involved in Cases Filed	Number of Attorneys Involved in Court-Appointed and Public Defender Cases
Bennett	0	0	0
Gregory	1	1	3
Haakon	0	0	0
Hughes	16	28	49
Hyde	0	0	0
Jackson	0	0	0
Jones	0	0	0
Lyman	1	2	0
Mellette	0	0	0
Potter	1	1	3
Stanley	0	0	0
Sully	0	0	0
Todd	0	0	0
Tripp	2	5	7
Sixth Circuit Total	21	37	62

Court-Appointed Attorney Cases: **Abuse and Neglect Cases**

Seventh Circuit Counties	Total Abuse and Neglect Cases Filed	Number of Children Involved in Cases Filed	Number of Attorneys Involved in Court-Appointed and Public Defender Cases
Custer	1	2	3
Fall River	4	5	10
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0
Pennington	146	278	355
Seventh Circuit Total	151	285	368
Statewide Total	541	1,004	1,105

* Data for abuse and neglect cases is by file date.

Court-Appointed Attorney Cases: **Juvenile Delinquency and CHINS Cases**

First Circuit Counties	Total Juvenile Cases	Court-Appointment and Public Defender Juvenile Cases
Aurora	5	1
Bon Homme	7	4
Brule	10	6
Buffalo	7	1
Charles Mix	69	27
Clay	41	27
Davison	42	24
Douglas	3	2
Hanson	4	4
Hutchinson	19	5
McCook	8	1
Turner	10	7
Union	60	14
Yankton	70	39
First Circuit Total	355	162

Second Circuit Counties	Total Juvenile Cases	Court-Appointment and Public Defender Juvenile Cases
Lincoln	152	69
Minnehaha	1,503	665
Second Circuit Total	1,655	734

Court-Appointed Attorney Cases: **Juvenile Delinquency and CHINS Cases**

Third Circuit Counties	Total Juvenile Cases	Court-Appointment and Public Defender Juvenile Cases
Beadle	33	9
Brookings	55	24
Clark	1	1
Codington	156	45
Deuel	14	2
Grant	15	1
Hamlin	8	5
Hand	1	0
Jerauld	0	0
Kingsbury	1	1
Lake	17	9
Miner	2	1
Moody	31	2
Sanborn	0	0
Third Circuit Total	334	100

Fourth Circuit Counties	Total Juvenile Cases	Court-Appointment and Public Defender Juvenile Cases
Butte	57	39
Corson	0	0
Dewey	2	1
Harding	0	0
Lawrence	64	38
Meade	47	17
Perkins	1	0
Ziebach	0	0
Fourth Circuit Total	171	95

Court-Appointed Attorney Cases: **Juvenile Delinquency and CHINS Cases**

Fifth Circuit Counties	Total Juvenile Cases	Court-Appointment and Public Defender Juvenile Cases
Brown	114	48
Campbell	0	0
Day	3	2
Edmunds	9	6
Faulk	1	1
Marshall	10	0
McPherson	0	0
Roberts	62	29
Spink	8	3
Walworth	26	17
Fifth Circuit Total	233	106

Sixth Circuit Counties	Total Juvenile Cases	Court-Appointment and Public Defender Juvenile Cases
Bennett	24	19
Gregory	13	11
Haakon	0	0
Hughes	71	53
Hyde	0	0
Jackson	3	3
Jones	2	0
Lyman	5	3
Mellette	17	8
Potter	1	1
Stanley	6	4
Sully	0	0
Todd	0	0
Tripp	19	14
Sixth Circuit Total	161	116

Court-Appointed Attorney Cases: **Juvenile Delinquency and CHINS Cases**

Seventh Circuit Counties	Total Juvenile Cases	Court-Appointment and Public Defender Juvenile Cases
Custer	4	4
Fall River	24	11
Oglala Lakota	0	0
Pennington	597	372
Seventh Circuit Total	625	387
Statewide Total	3,534	1,700

** Data for juvenile cases is by file date.*

Court Services Activities

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
JUVENILE SERVICES					
Pre-hearing Social Case Studies	270	223	199	342	255
Informal Diversion Services Added	409	287	330	265	205
Placed on Probation During Fiscal Year	1,296	1,039	1,054	1,219	1,309
Active Probation Cases at End of Fiscal Year	656	572	600	772	822
CASE SERVICES MONITORING					
Placed in Program During Fiscal Year	99	66	73	175	193
Active Cases at End of Fiscal Year	59	18	48	95	51
Interstate Compact Cases-In	15	8	17	7	13
Interstate Compact Cases-Out	18	22	16	18	17
INTENSIVE PROBATION					
Placed In Program During Fiscal Year	104	73	78	84	80
Transferred In	0	0	0	0	0
Transferred Out	0	0	0	0	0
JIPP Unavailable	4	1	10	0	1
Successfully Completed Program	48	53	31	29	43
Failed Program and sent to DOC	24	20	15	27	17
Failed Program (Other)	18	22	19	18	24
Active Cases at End of Fiscal Year	82	59	63	73	68
ADULT SERVICES: MISDEMEANOR					
Pre-Sentence Investigation Reports	23	20	18	18	33
Placed on Probation During Fiscal Year	198	154	170	157	229
On Probation at End of Fiscal Year	348	311	299	287	297
ADULT SERVICES: FELONY					
Pre-Sentence Investigation Reports	3,336	3,101	3,001	2,980	2,902
Placed on Probation During Fiscal Year	3,775	3,055	3,363	3,499	3,477
On Probation at End of Fiscal Year	6,383	5,819	6,034	6,304	6,031
CASE SERVICES MONITORING PROGRAM (Felony & Misdemeanor)					
Placed in Program During Fiscal Year	94	55	4	18	48
Active Cases at End of Fiscal Year	198	148	84	106	128
ADULT INTERSTATE COMPACT CASELOAD (Felony & Misdemeanor)					
Total Placed on Probation - In & Out	251	223	253	232	213
On Probation at End of Fiscal Year	1,029	932	913	839	771



State Fiscal Year 2024
SOUTH DAKOTA UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM ANNUAL REPORT

Compiled by the
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The South Dakota Unified Judicial System FY2024 Annual Report is only available online.
Questions or comments regarding this report should be directed to the State Court Administrator's Office at 605-773-3474.